

NHS
230

E. V. CAMPBELL
CHEMIST

Tighe's Hill



Phone
Ham. 67



D. EVANS

1A

78
THE NOVOCASTRIAN



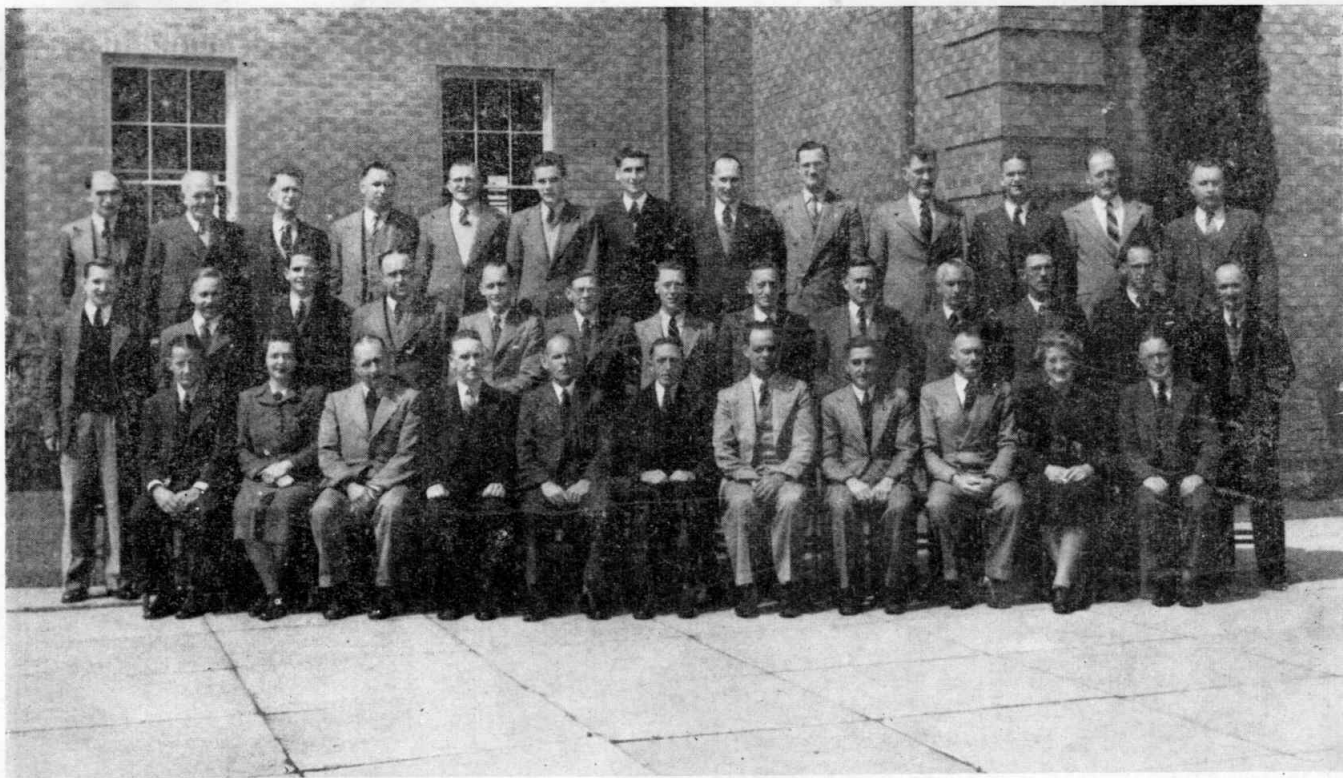
THE MAGAZINE

OF

NEWCASTLE
BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL



AUGUST, 1948



THE STAFF, 1948.

Back: W. Anderson, A. W. Bates, A. E. Denham, H. Doughton, J. P. Quinlan, A. M. Clarke, A. A. Hilton, T. Neuhaus, E. M. Ingram, F. W. McNeil, C. R. Goffet, L. S. McRae, W. I. Storer. **Second Row:** F. B. Sievert, J. T. Simpson, R. Jear, W. MacDonald, R. J. Grierson, F. R. Saunders, J. E. Burrows, D. Davies, H. B. Abrahams, D. L. Bailey, F. W. Hyland, J. D. Hainsworth, F. W. Gray. **Front:** R. C. McFarlane, A. J. Morison, H. G. Fountain, A. H. Hodge, H. E. McGregor, (Deputy Headmaster), F. H. Beard (Headmaster), E. G. Evans, T. P. O'Connor, M. W. Brown, H. McIntosh R, J. Cochrane (Absent: H. F. Berriman).



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SCHOOL DIRECTORY — 1948

Headmaster: Mr. F. H. BEARD, M.A.

Deputy Headmaster: Mr. H. E. MCGREGOR, M.A.

Department of English:

Master: Mr. H. E. MCGREGOR, M.A.

Assistant Masters: Messrs. J. E. BURROWS, B.A., F. W. HYLAND, B.A.,
E. M. INGRAM, B.A., R. C. McFARLANE, B.A., F. W. McNEIL, B.A.,
J. P. QUINLAN, B.A.

Department of Mathematics:

Master: Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR, B.Sc.

Assistant Masters: Messrs. D. L. H. BAILEY, B.A., A. W. BATES, H. F.
BERRIMAN, B.Sc., D. DAVIES, B.Sc., F. R. SAUNDERS, B.A.,
A. A. HILTON, B.Sc.

Department of Modern Languages:

Master: Mr. M. W. BROWN, B.A.

Assistant Masters: Messrs. H. B. ABRAHAMS, B.A., A. E. DENHAM,
B.A., C. R. GOFFETT, B.A., L. S. McRAE, B.A.

Department of Classics:

Master: Mr. E. G. EVANS, B.A.

Assistant Master: Mr. T. NEUHAUS, B.A.

Department of Science:

Master: Mr. R. J. COCHRANE, B.Sc.

Assistant Masters: Messrs. F. W. GRAY, B.Sc., F. B. SIEVERT, B.Sc.,
J. T. SIMPSON, B.Sc., W. I. STORER, M.Sc.

Department of Commerce, Social Studies and Geography:

Master: Mr. A. H. HODGE, B.Ec.

Assistant Masters: Messrs. W. ANDERSON, B.Ec., R. J. GRIERSON,
B.A., B.Ec., W. MacDONALD, B.Ec.

Department of Technical Drawing and Woodwork:

Messrs. H. G. FOUNTAIN, A. CLARKE, J. D. HAINSWORTH,
A.S.T.C. (Mech.).

Department of Music: Miss H. McINTOSH, D.S.C.M., L.Mus.A., L.R.S.M.

Department of Physical Culture: Mr. R. JIEAR.

Teacher Librarian: Miss A. J. MORISON, B.A.

Sportsmaster: Mr. L. S. McRAE, B.A.

Careers Adviser: Mr. A. E. DENHAM, B.A.

School Magazine:

Editor: Mr. J. E. BURROWS, B.A. Advertising: Mr. R. JIEAR.
Committee: J. BROOKS (Sport), W. DERKENNE, R. WILLIAMS
(Literary), B. GRIMMOND, R. CORNWELL (Drawing).

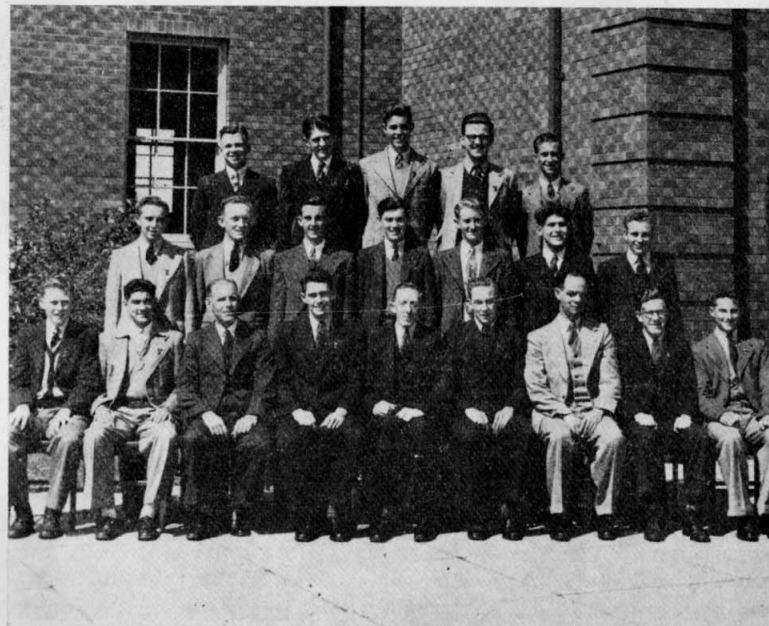
School Captain: L. FAIRBAIRN. Vice-Captain: R. CLEMENTS.

Prefects: L. ABELL, B. BAIRD, N. BEATH, R. BEATTIE, R. DENHAM,
A. DOWEY, B. EDWARDS, A. FISHER, N. HARDEN, J. HOOK,
A. KING, R. MEEHAN, K. NEWBERT, D. OLDHAM, A. PETTIGREW,
G. POWRIE, E. QUINN, D. SPARKE, F. STONE, P. WARD, K.
WATKINS.

Parents and Citizens' Association: Mr. T. S. PREECE (President),
Mr. A. MARTIN (Sec.), Mr. J. S. CAMPION (Treas.).

Ladies' Auxiliary: Mrs. N. BUXTON (President), Mrs. F.
FLANAGAN (Sec.), Mrs. S. PEMBERTON (Treas.).

Telephones: Headmaster: War. 939. Staff: War. 330.



PREFECTS, 1948.

Back: A. King, A. Fisher, K. Watkins, B. Edwards, N. Beath. Second
Row: B. Baird, E. Quinn, R. Meehan, K. Newbert, R. Denham, A. Dowe,
N. Harden. Front: L. Abell, D. Sparke, H. E. McGregor (Deputy Head-
master), L. Fairbairn (Captain), F. H. Beard (Headmaster), R. Clements
(Vice-Captain), Mr. E. G. Evans, A. Pettigrew, R. Beattie.



THE HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE



Dear Novocastrians,

I welcome this opportunity of speaking to you through our school magazine. You may think that I have spoken plenty to you since returning to take charge of the school. But perhaps you have forgotten the greater part of that! The journal gives permanence to what goes into it and I hope you will read it not once but many times. You, individually, may have gained immortality by contributing to this issue. In the Mitchell Library in Sydney—our greatest national storehouse of history—the files of "The Novocastrian" contain the efforts and record the achievements of your predecessors. Yours will be added to them if they appear in this or later issues; and so grow the traditions of a great school.

Now to my message! It is a two-fold but a very simple one.

First of all, I want to record my delight at coming back to the school and to appeal to you for co-operation in working to make it better and better. I can't think of anything more needed in every sphere to-day than co-operation. Lack of it could destroy the world. Let us work together then, and you will be the gainers—for the school exists solely for you. Remember that the old teacher-scholar see-saw belongs—if it belongs anywhere outside the pages of so-called "school" stories—in the distant past. You know very well that your success in life depends on the kind of education you acquire and that your teachers are helping you to get what you want, and what your parents want you to have.

Secondly, I want to remind you that you have to live with yourself all your life. This is the time when you indulge in hero-worship and form ideals. Whether you realise it or not, your heroes and your ideals are all the time forming your own character. Are they the ones that will make you a decent man in your own eyes, the sort of fellow you won't be ashamed of when you are fifty? Remember that your future—and indeed the future of the nation and the world itself—depends on what you really are. The world has never known such change and upset before as we have seen in this century. But some things don't change. Love of truth, consideration for others, appreciation of the beautiful things round us—these will always have value. Include them in the make-up of that most important person of all to you—yourself. Then, collectively, you can go on to the task fate has thrust into your hands—the building of a better world.

A Message from the Captain of the School

During the second term our Headmaster, Mr. Beard, introduced a new kind of activity to the pupils of the school. It concerns the study of Current Affairs, and we were asked to get a book in which to keep newspaper clippings and notes on the topics which are of interest in the world to-day.

Each fortnight a five minutes' quiz is given to each class, and we are questioned on subjects which have been allocated to us for study during the preceding two weeks. The average for each class is obtained, and then the results are forwarded to Mr. Beard's office, where the positions in the school are tabulated. Even though this scheme has just begun to operate, keen rivalry exists among the various classes.

There is an assembly in the school hall each Thursday morning. There we have community singing, and thus each week the school is becoming more and more united in a family spirit. Moreover at these functions affairs of general interest are discussed, and so our knowledge of the world and its peoples is greatly increased. The senior school attends the assembly on one Thursday; the junior school on the following Thursday. Thus while one half of the school is in the hall, the other half is engaged in inter-class debates. This is something which is absolutely necessary in a modern school; for apart from the study involved in preparing arguments, we are trained to develop confidence and are taught the basic requirements of public speaking.

I feel sure that, if we co-operate enthusiastically with Mr. Beard in these matters, we shall become better equipped to face the outside world when we leave school. I would remind all the juniors of our school motto, "Remis Velisque," for it is only by using "oars and sails" that they may obtain any degree of success in life.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you all for the help which you have given the prefects, for without this assistance it would be impossible for us to carry out our duties.

L. FAIRBAIRN.

EDITORIAL



I

At Newcastle Boys' High School the importance of sport has long been recognised. Wednesday afternoon is devoted to sport alone, and the boys are well catered for with many types of games at their disposal. This, together with the fact that we have the best of equipment and many fine grounds, makes the afternoon a very enjoyable and profitable occasion. Practically all in the school are active participants in sport, the exceptions being those who are physically unable to play, and so physical education is developed by means of an afternoon's sport. As well as the physical aspect, training in team work and leadership is stressed, and class, house and school spirit are engendered. During the many inter-school visits that take place friendships are formed and happy memories stored up for the future. The playing field undoubtedly makes a vital contribution to the development of the modern boy.

However, an element of danger may creep into school sport. Over-emphasis on sport, too much time spent on games, will lead to neglect of school studies. Apart from the set Wednesday afternoon, time is often lost from class work through travelling and through the devoting of whole days to various sporting activities. Teachers accompanying teams as coaches disrupt the day's working programme, and so time is lost for all the classes concerned. A boy who concentrates on sport to the detriment of his studies produces a lack of balance, the mind not being given an equal chance to develop along with the body. This may even have fatal results on a boy's prospects for a successful career, for one has to be particularly outstanding in sport to gain prominence in that sphere in later years. So, if the scholastic side has been neglected at school, the sportsman may find a career out of the question.

Which is the wise course? The old Greek maxim, "a healthy mind in a healthy body," stresses that the body should be developed but that the mind must be nourished too. The school offers rich opportunities for satisfying both these needs. Let there be sport by all means; but the prudent boy will give earnest attention to his studies and participate enthusiastically in the many cultural activities of the school. If this is done, then, with school work and sport being given an equal chance to exert their influence, the development of well-balanced students will be achieved. This in its turn will result in the making of future citizens of real worth to the community; for they will be mentally equipped to confront and to play an intelligent and valuable part in the solving of the many perplexing problems of the modern world.

J. BROOKS, 4A.

II

Our modern world differs in many ways from the world of our grandfathers and even from that of our fathers when they were young. Changes have come about in every sphere of human activity, including methods of education.

The difference in the relationship between the teacher and the pupil at the start of the present century and that existing at the present day is almost incredible. No longer is the teacher regarded as a despot whose own little kingdom is the classroom in which he wields supreme and awful power over terrified subjects. We laugh at the thought. Yet, if we are to believe what we are told and what we read, the picture painted above steps out of the realm of make-believe and serves as a grim reminder of past conditions. To-day the pupil has ceased to be a bludgeoned victim of a tyrant and has become an individual with a character of his own. He is treated as such and is given every chance possible under prevailing conditions to develop normally and to make the most of his particular capabilities. Teachers give all the help, guidance and encouragement they can to their students; and this is as it should be.

What is the result of these remarkable changes? Naturally enough boys will be boys. In the past the slightest infringement of established rules and regulations would meet with severe and merciless punishment. Now we so frequently escape with no more than a reprimand or a sincere appeal to our sense of what is right that the tendency is to take unworthy advantage of this lenient treatment. Consequently we sometimes adopt quite the wrong attitude. We are treated very well. The responsibility is ours to develop the essential quality of self-discipline so that we may show that we appreciate and merit the wonderful freedom we enjoy.

How may this be done? For the most part it will merely be the obeying of the dictates of that spirit of manliness inherent, I hope, within us all. Senior pupils naturally should set the example for junior pupils to follow. Self-discipline does not mean the transforming of a healthy, vigorous boy into something quite foreign to his nature. It means reducing the noise that often accompanies walking in corridors, being more attentive at assemblies, proceeding more promptly to lines, being orderly in classrooms when teachers are not present, refraining from disfiguring desks or other school property, keeping the playground as tidy as possible. Out of school in the trams, trains and buses that transport us to and from our daily toil, it means conducting ourselves at all times in a manner worthy not only of the fine traditions of our school but also of ourselves as future citizens of a civilized community.

The exercise of self-discipline will, of its own accord, develop our school spirit. This is one of the finest things we can develop, for it produces such marvellous effects upon our school, upon all who observe

our activities, and upon our own characters. Let us face up to our responsibilities. Let us show quite clearly that we prize our heritage of freedom and that we are capable of disciplining ourselves. Are we big enough to fulfil our obligations? I am convinced that we are.

W. DERKENNE, 4A.

III

It is universally agreed that environment is of vital importance in the development of outlook and character in the young.

What is the position at Newcastle Boys' High School? It may be said that we do not fare so badly. The school itself is a satisfactory building. It is close to the tramline and to the railway station, and is thus well situated as regards the problem of transport. At the same time it is in a locality free from disturbing noise. Adjacent are a park and a fine oval available for our use. The rooms are large and well-ventilated. Seating accommodation is satisfactory. Science rooms are stocked with necessary apparatus and chemicals. We have a library, a hall and a tuckshop.

However, many features need improvement. Of these the most glaring is the fact—so often stressed—that the tuckshop and the lavatories are under the same roof. Apart from any other considerations it is obvious that this arrangement is not in the best interests of health. The tuckshop itself is much too small to cope with the needs of the school. We have an assembly hall, but it is also far too small. As a rule two sessions of any function have to be held, one for the seniors and the other for the juniors, or else, as on Empire Day, those who cannot gain admittance may follow proceedings by means of the school amplifier set up outside. The hall is not satisfactory for music owing to faulty acoustics and is poorly equipped for dramatic work. Another serious deficiency is the lack of bicycle sheds. Our machines are exposed to all weathers. There is little gymnastic equipment at the school, although the Parents and Citizens' Association has generously tried to remedy this by providing a springboard and vaulting boxes. We need a properly equipped gymnasium. In wet weather some sections of the playground become bogs and remain in that state for many days. Another bad feature is the lack of heating and drying facilities. On cold or rainy days pupils experience unpleasant conditions which are not at all conducive to health or effective work. Technical Drawing rooms are merely portable sheds.

Such deficiencies have an adverse effect on students, on their sense of pride, their school spirit, their general attitude. As members of a High School for Australian boys, we are surely justified in feeling that improvements in the matter of school amenities have been too long delayed. We are deeply grateful to the Parents and Citizens' Association, the Ladies' Auxiliary, and all other organisations and individuals

who work so hard for our well-being. Only recently a piano was acquired through the efforts of the P. and C. We realise that much good work can be done, as it has been done, under existing conditions. We know that we have an obligation to do all we can to make the surroundings in which we spend so much of our lives something to be proud of. We feel, however, that the effect of improvements on the impressionable minds of young students would far outweigh considerations of cost. How can the best be expected from the youth of the nation if the best in the matter of amenities is not available for their use?

R. WILLIAMS, 4A.

STAFF NOTES



STAFF CHANGES

There have been several staff changes since the last issue of "The Novocastrian" appeared.

Mr. W. Pillans, Headmaster, went to Sydney Technical High School. Mr. J. A. Orme, Deputy-Headmaster, became Headmaster of Grafton High. Mr. A. W. Taylor, Science Master, is now Master of Science and Geography at Randwick. Mr. E. A. Sweaney was promoted to Master of Classics and Modern Languages at Armidale. Our Manual Department lost Mr. L. Rogers. Early this year Mr. H. L. Jones, of our Modern Languages Department, was transferred to Newcastle Technical High.

New members of the staff include Mr. F. H. Beard, Headmaster, and Mr. H. E. McGregor, Deputy-Headmaster and English Master. Mr. Beard is not, strictly speaking, a newcomer, for he was Deputy-Headmaster of the school several years ago. Mr. J. J. Forster, who was Acting-Headmaster during the first half of the year, left us in June to take up his duties as Headmaster of Newcastle Technical High. Other newcomers were Mr. R. J. Cochrane, Science Master, Mr. E. M. Ingram, Mr. T. Neuhaus, Mr. A. Clarke, Mr. A. Hilton, and Mr. W. MacDonald.

PERSONAL

We are very glad to know that Mr O. F. Carrick, who was so critically ill late last year and early this year, has made such a remarkable recovery, and we extend him our very best wishes.

THE LATE MR. V. H. WALKER

On Thursday, 19th August, the school was stunned when news arrived that our Sportsmaster, Mr. V. H. Walker, had passed away.

The late Mr. Walker was born about fifty-two years ago in a small cottage in Perkins Street, Newcastle, close to the old site of this school. He devoted his life to his home, his church and his school, for in a special sense this school was his school. His long association with it, first as a student, then as a member of its staff, dates back almost to its foundation. Although many famous educationalists have presided over its destinies, we are sure that they would be the first to agree that Mr. Walker did more than any other person to raise it to its present proud position.



A most capable and inspiring Maths. teacher, Mr. Walker early in his career was offered several opportunities for advancement. These he rejected on account of his attachment to his home and his old school. Imbued with a deep love of sport he realised the wonderful opportunities to influence his pupils' development through their sporting activities, and he dedicated his life to service as a Sportsmaster. On joining our school staff in 1924 he assumed that office, which he filled with signal honour and distinction for nearly 25 years. His was a record of service of which we are justly proud, and we think it must be a record for any school.

To attempt in this brief article an appreciation of Mr. Walker's qualities as a Sportsmaster would be unjust to its subject. Suffice it to say that he inculcated in two generations of Novocastrians the highest principles of manliness and fair play, and at the same time won the respect and love of his charges and all his colleagues. As an organiser he was without peer: the Northern High Schools' Sports Association with its diverse competition was his creation and will serve as his memorial. A lover of every game, athletics was, however, dearest to his heart, and he was recognised throughout N.S.W. as a great coach. At C.H.S. meetings he was a figure of veneration, and no official luncheon at these gatherings ever passed without reference to his work for school sport.

The school and its old boys are also indebted to him for his work in compiling the Honour Roll of ex-students who served with the armed forces.

What made him proudest of all was to be hailed anywhere and everywhere by old boys for a yarn about the good old days at school. It was this infinite capacity for friendship, we think, more than any other quality that made him not only a great Sportsmaster, but a great man. His kindly heart knew no limits in its range. Unmarried himself, he had a great love of mankind, especially children. Generous to a fault, his purse was open to old and young alike, and he was equally lavish of his time and strength. That he carried on his duties when not fit to do so has now become tragically apparent to us all.

Mr. Walker's virtues were those of a simple man—goodness, kindness, honesty, joined with a great zest for life and a fund of wit and humour. To his superiors, colleagues and students, present and past, he was and always will be known affectionately as "Vince." No son of hers stands higher in the school's estimation, for he, more than any other man, moulded her tradition and created her spirit. We who knew him will not forget him, nor will his school, for truly may it be said of him:

"He was my friend, faithful and just to me."

F. W. McNEIL.

THE LATE MR. C. E. JACOBS

The school was deeply shocked to learn on Wednesday, 28th July, of the death of Mr. C. E. Jacobs.



As a mark of respect the school's athletic carnival was postponed. Arrangements were made for the staff and the pupils to attend the services at the church and at Beresfield Crematorium on the following Thursday afternoon. Members of the Cadet Corps, of which Mr. Jacobs had been Commanding Officer since its inception, formed a guard of honour under the direction of Captain H. G. Fountain.

In paying tribute to the sterling qualities of Mr. Jacobs both as a man and as a teacher—qualities of which he gave abundant proof during his fourteen years as a member of the staff of this school—we feel that special praise must be accorded to his work as Treasurer of the School Union and Commanding Officer of the Cadet Corps. It was in these two spheres of activity that his strong, cheerful personality and his efficiency as a leader and an organiser were so consistently displayed. The fact that owing to ill health he must often have carried out his duties under most difficult conditions bears eloquent testimony to the spirit that animated him throughout his long and valued association with the school.

To his family and his relatives we extend our deepest sympathy.

NEWCASTLE BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL PRIZE LIST 1947



UNIVERSITY EXHIBITIONS:

Arts: E. REES, T. R. WORSLEY. Science: E. JACOBS. Engineering: K. POOLE.

University Bursary: K. FOOLE.

SPECIAL PRIZES:

James Meikle Memorial Prize for Best L.C. Pass: T. R. WORSLEY
Ross Mearns Prize: W. HURDITCH.

Captain James Cleary Memorial Prizes: W. PATEY (English),
K. KAUFER (History).

W. V. Cochrane Memorial Prize for Chemistry: E. JACOBS.
Allan J. Way Prize (Physics): K. POOLE.

BEST PASSES AT LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION:

T. R. WORSLEY, K. POOLE, E. JACOBS, E. REES, K. KAUFER,
W. HURDITCH.

SUBJECT PRIZES:

English, W. PATEY; History, K. KAUFER; Geography, P. BROWNIE;
Latin, K. KAUFER; French, T. WORSLEY; German, T. WORSLEY;
Mathematics 1 and 2, K. POOLE; General Mathematics, J. KERR;
Combined Physics and Chemistry, K. KAUFER; Physics, K. POOLE;
Chemistry, E. JACOBS; Economics, A. PARKER; Technical Drawing,
D. COWELL, P. WARREN (aeq.).

HONOURS AT L.C.:

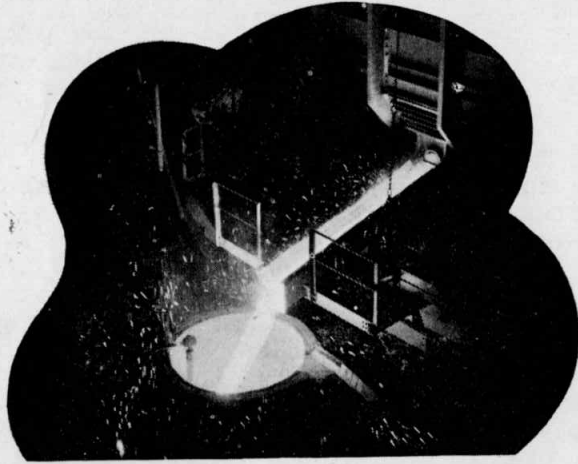
English, W. PATEY, W. RAINE, E. REES, W. SMITH; French, T.
WORSLEY; German, T. WORSLEY; Mathematics, K. POOLE; History,
A. DOWEY, K. KAUFER, W. PATEY, E. REES; Physics, E. JACOBS, K.
POOLE; Chemistry, G. DREWE, K. ELLIS, J. FAIRLEY, E. JACOBS;
Geography, P. BROWNIE, A. PARKER, T. QUIGLEY.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Garton Scholarship (French): T. WORSLEY (shared).
Lithgow Scholarship (German): T. WORSLEY.

TEACHERS' COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS:

A. BUCKLAND, D. COWELL, R. CUMMINGS, W. DUNLOP, M.
DAVIES, R. FABIAN, W. GARRY, J. GERRARD, N. GRIMMOND, R.
HADDRILL, T. HIGGINS, W. HYSLOP, J. KERR, J. LYNN, J.
MASKEY, A. PARKER.



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FOURTH YEAR:

Alian J. Way Prizes: Physics—R. DAVEY, A. DOWEY, F. STONE (aeq.). Chemistry—F. STONE.

General Proficiency Prizes: R. QUILL (Dux), F. STONE, H. PATERSON, A. FISHER, R. BEATTIE, K. NEWBERT.

Certificates: English, J. TAYLOR; History, E. QUINN; Geography, C. LLOYD-OWEN; Latin, R. QUILL; French, B. BAIRD; German, B. BAIRD; Maths. I, R. BEATTIE; Maths. II, R. QUILL; General Maths., E. QUINN; Combined Physics and Chemistry, D. TREWARTHA; Economics, E. QUINN; Technical Drawing, R. TABNER.

THIRD YEAR:

Intermediate Bursaries: B. ENGEL, C. HARRISON, D. REID, J. SMITH, R. WHITE, R. WILLIAMS.

Basil Helmore Prize: J. BROOKS.

Proficiency Prizes: 1, I. MACKIE, R. WILLIAMS (aeq.); 3, J. BROOKS; 4, C. HARRISON; 5, R. WHITE; 6, R. WYATT.

Certificates: English, H. CLARKE; Social Studies, C. HARRISON; Latin, I. MACKIE; French, I. MACKIE; German, P. GITTOES; Maths. I and II, R. WILLIAMS; Combined Physics and Chemistry, R. WHITE; Business Principles, G. INGRAM; Technical Drawing, D. McCAIG; First in 3B, R. WHITE; First in 3C, B. ENGEL; First in 3D, N. THOMPSON.

SECOND YEAR:

Proficiency Prizes: J. CLEARY (Dux), W. STEEL, D. DOUGLAS, J. ALLEN, R. BEAL, R. ALLEN.

Certificates: English, R. BEAL, J. CLEARY (aeq.); History, G. HILL; Geography, D. CROSS; Social Studies, T. SHEEDY; Latin, J. CLEARY, J. HANLEY (aeq.); French, J. HANLEY, W. STEEL (aeq.); German, J. ALLEN; Maths. I and II, D. DOUGLAS; Combined Physics and Chemistry, J. CLEARY; Business Principles, W. MYLES; Technical Drawing, A. BROWN, R. CORNWELL (aeq.); First in 2B, C. TAYLOR; First in 2C, T. SHEEDY; First in 2D, J. HETHERINGTON; First in 2E, A. PATTISON, T. CUPITT (aeq.).

FIRST YEAR:

Proficiency Prizes: D. BARNES (Dux), J. MILES, C. GITTINS, G. JENKS, B. WHITEHEAD, R. BOYD.

Certificates: English, J. MILES; History, C. GITTINS; Social Studies, K. MORANTE; Latin, B. WHITEHEAD; French, G. JENKS, B. WHITEHEAD (aeq.); Maths. I, R. HOLDSTOCK, G. JENKS, P. SNEDDON (aeq.); Maths. II, F. WYATT, D. BARNES, R. HOFF, B. MORROW, R. MAGIN (aeq.); Combined Physics and Chemistry, D. BARNES, M. SMITH (aeq.); Woodwork, D. STEWART; Technical Drawing, D. STEWART, D. BARNES (aeq.); First in 1A, C. GITTINS; First in 1B, D. BARNES; First in 1C, B. BODDY; First in 1D, B. LOBB.

EXAMINATION RESULTS



Leaving Certificate — 1947

KEY TO SUBJECTS:

1, English; 2, Latin; 3, French; 4, German; 5, Mathematics I; 6, Mathematics II; 7, General Mathematics; 9, Modern History; 12, Combined Physics and Chemistry; 13, Physics; 14, Chemistry; 18, Geography; 19, Economics; 25, Technical Drawing; 29, Physiology and Hygiene. The letters H1 signify first-class honours; H2 second-class honours; A first-class pass; B second-class. The sign X denotes those who have gained honours in Mathematics; an asterisk those who have shown merit in two pass papers and one honours paper. The sign O denotes those who have passed in the oral tests in French and German.

Avery, Colin Charles, 1B 5B 6B 14B.	Ellis, Kenneth, J., 1A 5B 6A 13A 14H2 18B.
Baber, Leslie Raymond, 1B 6B 13B 14B 25A.	Fabian, Ronald E., 1B 5B 6B 13B 14B 25A.
Bacon, Graham Scott, 1B 5B 13B 14B.	Fairley, James, R., 1B 3A(o) 5B 6B 13A 14H2.
Beach, John, 1A 5B 6B 13B 14B.	Gain, John C., 1A 13B 14A 18B.
Bell, Raymond William, 1B 7B 9A 12B 18B 19A.	Gardner, Francis J., 1B 5B 6B 13B 14B 25A.
Blaxland, John C., 1B 7B 9B 18B 25B.	Garry, William A., 1B 5A 6B 13A 14B
Boswell, Leonard V., 1B 5B 6B 14B 19B.	Gerrard, John F., 1B 9A 18B 19B.
Bradshaw, James B., 1B 5B 14B 18B.	Greaves, Joseph A., 1B 3B(o) 7B 9B 13B 14B.
Brownie, Peter, 1B 7B 9B 18H1 19B	Griffiths, John N., 6B 13B 14B 18B.
Buckland, Alan W., 1A 3B(o) 7B 9A 19B.	Grimmond, Neville G., 1B 5B 6B 13A 14B.
Butler, Geoffrey D., 1A, 3B 5B 6B 13B 14A.	Haddrill, Raymond J., 1B 3B(o) 5B 6B 13B 14B.
Church, John A., 1A 5B 6B 13A 14B 25B.	Hawkins, Alan David, 1B 9B 12B 18B
Cowell, George D., 1A 5B 6B 13B 25A	Helmere, Michael C., 2B 3A(o) 7B 9B 12B.
Cross, Allan D., 1B 3B 5B 6B 13B 14A.	Higgins, Thomas W. R., 1B 7B 12B 19B.
Davies, Maurice S., 1B 5B 13B 14A.	Hill, Sydney H., 7B 9B 12B 18B.
Dowey, Arthur W., 1A 2B 3B 9H2 14B.	Hurditch, William E., 1A 3A(o) 5B 6B 13B 14A.
Drewe, Geoffrey R., 1A 5B 6A 13B 14H2.	Hyslop, Warren J., 1B 5B 6B 13B 14A.
Dunlop, Winston C., 1B 5B 6B 18A 19B 29B.	Jacobs, Edward B., 1A 3A(o) 5A 6B 13H2 14H2.
Edmonds, Kenneth E., 1B 7B 9B 14B 18B.	Kafer, Kevin, 1A 2A 3A(o) 7A 9H1 12A.

Kerr, John A., 1A 3B(o) 7A 9A 12B 19B.	Raine, Walter J., 1H1 3B 5B 14A.
Lloyd, Victor Stanley, 1B 9B 18B 19B	Rees, Esmond J., 1H2 3A(o) 7A 9H2 12B.
Long, Frederick C., 1B 5B 6B 13A 14B	Reeve, Robert E., 1B 3B(o) 6B 13B 14B.
Longworth, John A., 1B 6B 13B 14B 18B.	Ross, Russell M., 1A 2B 3B 7B 9B 12B.
Lynn, John E., 1B 9B 18B 19B.	Scott, Dennis N., 1B 5B 13B 14A 18A.
McGuirk, Kevin F., 1B 5B 6B 13B 14A 18B.	Smith, John D. C., 1B 13B 14B 25A.
Maher, David B., 1B 7B 9A 12B 19B.	Smith, William N., 1H2 3A(o) 7B 9B.
Mansini, James, 1B 3B 5B 6B 13A 14A.	Sneddon, Wallace, 1B 3B(o) 5B 6B 13B 14A.
Maskey, William J., 1B 5B 13B 14B.	Spiller, Geoffrey P., 1A 7B 9A 12B 19B.
Mathwin, Harry, 1B 3B 6B 14B.	Stephenson, Rodney H., 1B 5B 13B 14B.
Meletios, James M., 1B 7B 9B 18B.	Swan, Colin N., 1A 7B 9A 12B.
Mills, Allan McL., 1B 3B(o) 6B 13B.	Tooth, Richard M., 1A 3B 5B 6B 14A 19A.
Mitchison, Raymond, 1B 7B 9B 12B.	Warren, Peter A., 1B 6B 13B 14B 25A.
Neilson, James D., 1B 5B 6B 13B 14B	Warren, Timothy J. H., 1B 3B(o) 5B 6B 13A 14B.
Oldham, Kevin A., 1A 3A 7A 9B 12B 19A.	Woodington, Sydney S., 1A 7B 9B 18A 19B.
Owens, Robert E., 1B 9B 18A 19B.	Worsley, Thomas R., 1A 2B 3H1(o) 4H1(o) 7A 9B.
Parker, Athol T., 1A 9B 18H2 19A.	Yarham, Colin L., 1B 5B 6B 9B.
Patey, Warren J., 1H1 2B 3A 7B 9H2 12B.	
Paul, John W., 1A 9B 12B 19B.	
Pierson, William R., 1B 3B 5B 13A.	
Pinkstone, Donald R., 1A 3A(o) 5B. 6B 13A 14A.	
Poole, Keith, 1B 5A 6A(x1) 13H2 14A	
Quigley, Terence P., 1B 5B 6B 14B 18H2.	

Intermediate Certificate — 1947

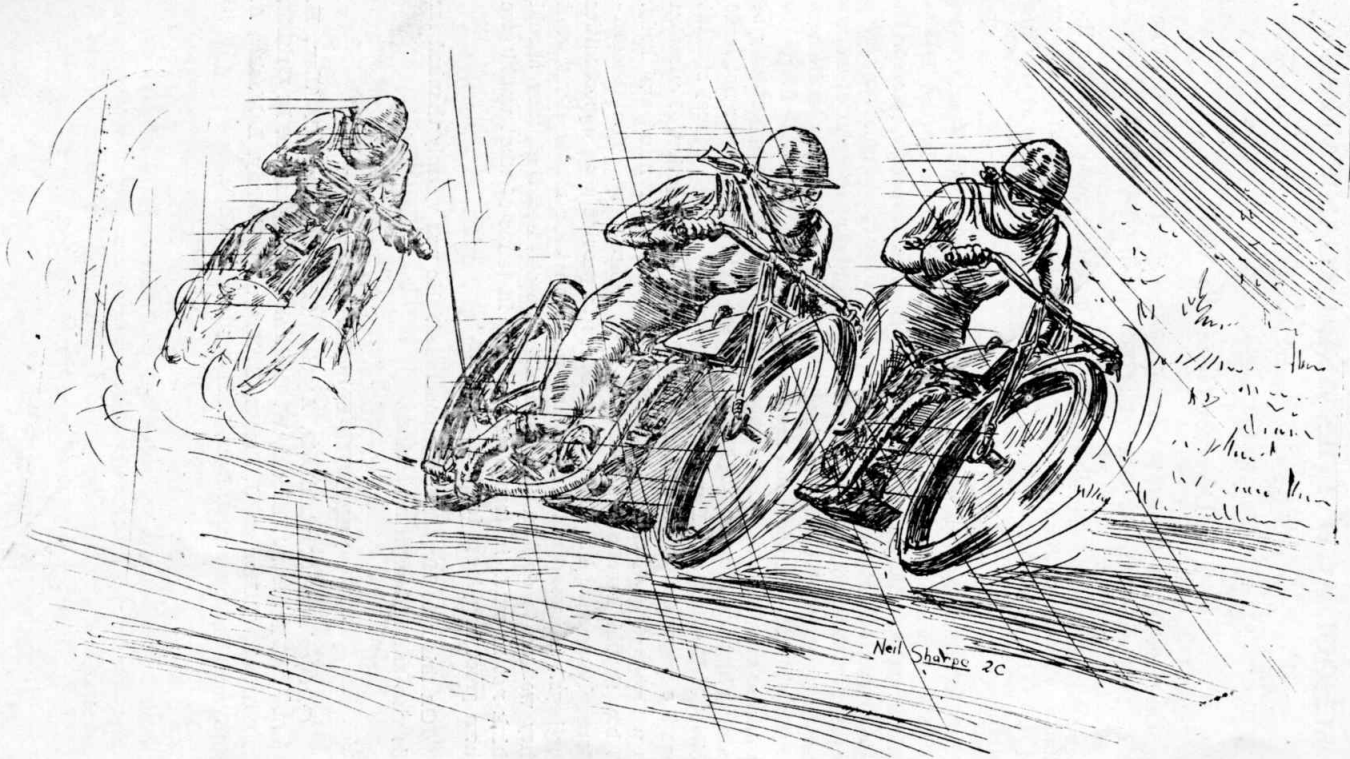
Ambler, H. M.; Asquith, D. G.; Barrie, G. P.; Barry, O. J.; Bell, G. A.; Blackwell, C. J.; Brisley, W.; Broadbent, G.; Brooks, J.; Brown, G. G.; Bull, R.; Butt, E. A.; Cameron, J. D.; Carter, A. J.; Charker, K. W.; Clarke, H. J.; Cooper, A. A.; Coulson, J. W.; Cowan, W. B.; Craig, R. G. M.; Dennewald, B. J.; Denniss, R. Q.; Derkenne, W. G.; De Vere, R. F.; Donald, R. C.; Dunkley, E. E.; Dyer, R. F.; Ebbeck, F. N.; Eggington, A.; Engel, B. A.; Farquharson, S.; Field, P. T.; Fitts, K. B.; Gibson, C. A.; Gittoes, P. T. E.; Gleghorn, G.; Gore, I. W. B.; Hamilton, H. B.; Harrison, C.; Haywood, A. C. J.; Hurst, R. G.; Ingram, G. W.; Jacobs, J. A.; Jones, D. G.; King, R. F.; Laurie, R. E.; Leishman, D. H.; Lindgren, S. J.; McCaig, D. W.; McDonald, H. W.; McKenzie, A. C.; Mackie, I. J.; Mitchell, P. R.; Moase, W. D.; Morrison, F. J.; Morrow, R. S.;

Murray, J. H.; Nelson, J.; Nicholls, W. W.; Oldham, D. L.; O'Toole, B. T.; Payne, R. O.; Pepper, N. R.; Perring, J. I.; Piper, J. F. A.; Prowse, R. A.; Reay, H. F.; Rees, J. A.; Rees, L. W.; Reid, D. G.; Richards, G. D.; Robertson, D. A.; Sheedy, B. P.; Smith, J. E.; Smith, W. G.; Stone, C. G.; Talbot, M.; Tasker, J. H.; Taylor, E. E.; Thomson, N. J.; Tiffen, D. V.; Tinkler, B. R.; Todd, J. J.; Turnbull, N. R.; Turner, F. C. D.; Tyler, D. J.; Vidler, A. J.; Wallace, T. T.; Weathered, R. J.; White, R. A.; Wilkinson, K. G.; Williams, R. C.; Winney, N. R.; Wyatt, R.



A1 SOCCER TEAM—P.S.A.A.A.

Back: B. Reay, B. Davey, W. Hicks, R. Meehan, W. Woodward. **Front:** J. Brooks, W. Fullick, A. Pettigrew, R. J. Grierson (Coach), L. Abell (Captain), A. Noyes, J. Arthur.



Neil Sharpe 20

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND ORGANISATIONS

The Director-General's Visit

On Friday, 13th August, the school was honoured by a visit from Mr. J. G. McKenzie, Director-General of Education.

There were two assemblies in the hall on this occasion, one for the junior school, and the other after lunch for the senior school. Later in the afternoon, Mr. McKenzie addressed an audience of visiting parents.

Proceedings opened with the singing of the School Song. Then after appropriate words of greeting and introduction by the Headmaster, Mr. F. H. Beard, and by the District Inspector, Mr. J. H. Cartwright, Mr. McKenzie began his address by speaking of improvements at the school, of the cost of education, and of the aim of education to give boys and girls experiences so that they may grow to the best of their capacity in body and mind and soul. The duty of the Department, he said, is to see that young people are given the opportunity of gaining higher education. A boy should see to it that he does not leave school half-educated. Hard work is essential. A high school student has the responsibility of leadership because of his education. Education is a means of developing character and control over mind and body. A boy should have a goal, an aim that is first-rate. The Director-General expressed his hopes for facilities to provide good opportunities for boys. He wondered if they had made up their minds about what they wanted to do. In this connection he stressed that they should think not so much in terms of money as in terms of what would give them great happiness for their "service."

On this note Mr. McKenzie concluded. He was warmly thanked for his visit and his inspiring address.

PREFECTS-ELECT FOR 1949.

G. Gleghorn (Captain), D. Asquith (Vice-Captain), C. Allan, H. Ambler, W. Brisley, J. Brooks, W. Derkenne, A. Eggington, D. Griffith, C. Harrison, G. Hughes, J. Jacobs, R. King, W. Lindsay, I. Mackie, A. McKenzie, F. Morrison, J. Rees, D. Robertson, R. White.

Speech Night

The school's annual Speech Night, held on 27th May at the City Hall, was a memorable occasion and was thoroughly enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience.

After the Headmaster, Mr. J. Forster, had extended a cordial welcome to the visitors and had invited Alderman H. D. Quinlan, Lord Mayor of Greater Newcastle, to occupy the chair, the usual procedure of alternating musical items and speeches was followed; and this arrangement together with the high quality of both the music and the speeches resulted in a splendid programme.

Except Peter Newey's three piano solos the musical items consisted of songs. The first year choir gave a delightful rendition of "Hark, Hark the Lark," "Who is Sylvia," "Ye Banks and Braes," and "Bluebells of Scotland." The school choir sang "Orpheus and His Lute" and "The Blacksmith." This fine choral work and an entertaining presentation of "The Gendarmes' Duet" created a deep impression and reflected great credit on Miss McIntosh, who trains and conducts the singers. Peter Newey proved a very capable accompanist. The rest of the school joined heartily in the singing of "Drink to Me Only," "Wandering the King's Highway" and the School Song.

The speeches began with the chairman's address delivered by His Worship the Lord Mayor. This was followed by the Headmaster's report on the school for the year 1947—a record of achievement of which the school is justifiably proud and which must surely have inspired pupils in the audience to do as well, if not better, this year. The sports report was presented by Mr. L. McRae in the absence of the Sportsmaster, Mr. V. H. Walker. Two further addresses were given: one by Mr. P. G. Price, Staff Inspector, who, after warmly congratulating the school on its progress, told the audience of his past association with Newcastle and of his special interest in its affairs; the other by Mr. T. S. Preece, President of the Parents and Citizens' Association.

Keen interest was shown in the presentation of prizes. Special prizes were presented by Mr. Basil Helmore, Mrs. Chichester, Mrs. Cochrane, Mrs. Cleary, and Dr. Allan Way; prizes and certificates for school work, by the Lady Mayoress, Mrs. H. D. Quinlan; sports prizes (to the accompaniment of loud applause), by Mrs. J. H. Cartwright.

After the vote of thanks had been moved by Mr. J. H. Cartwright, Inspector of Schools, the programme was concluded by the singing of the National Anthem.

We welcome this opportunity of expressing our gratitude to all those who helped to make this function such an outstanding success and also to those ladies and gentlemen of whose keen and practical interest in the school we are so forcibly reminded each Speech Night.

J. LYNCH and J. MURRAY, 4C.

The School Concert

The School Concert, organised by Miss H. McIntosh and Mrs. R. Bates and presented at the City Hall on 20th July to raise funds to provide amenities for the school, proved to be an outstanding success.

The excellent programme consisted of items not only by pupils of the school, but also by some of Newcastle's leading artists. Delightful singing by our first year, second year, and school choirs; violin solos by Kevin Murray; dancing by Jeffery Smith and his partner, Vivianne Gray; piano solos by Peter Newey; a melodramatic sketch presented by our Dramatic Society (their first performance)—these, our own part of the concert, were all enthusiastically applauded by the audience. The very talented artists who kindly helped us on this occasion were the dancers, Miss Carmell Stafford and Mr. Les. Griffiths, soprano Miss Norma Wood, whose singing of "One Fine Day" was so much appreciated, contralto Mrs. R. Bates, who was thus a performer as well as an organiser, and Mr. T. Bevan, who generously acted as substitute for Mr. Allan West.

We look forward keenly each year to our School Concert. Let us not forget how much we owe to all who contributed to the success of this year's fine effort either as organisers or as performers. Announcements were made by Mr. M. Brown. The extremely important matter of the sale of tickets at the school was undertaken by Mr. E. Evans. It is very gratifying to learn that, in addition to providing us with an evening's excellent entertainment, this function resulted in the raising of £61/15/-.

J. CAMERON, 4C.

Father and Son Dinner

On Friday, 31st October, 1947, at Shortland Hall, Newcastle, fifth year boys held a very happy and successful dinner to which they invited their fathers.

The departing fifth year students were wished every possible success by the Captain and the Vice-Captain Elect. The staff and the parents were thanked for their help and guidance. Toasts were drunk to the King, to the School, to the Ex-Students, and to the Visitors.

Community singing gave the function a friendly atmosphere. It was a pity that more appropriate songs were not sung. There are, I believe, a few parodies of well-known songs—parodies native to our school. These used to be sung at similar functions in years gone by. If they could be revived, they would be much more in keeping with the spirit of this annual function. Surely some of the Old Boys of the school would be only too glad to give us the words of these parodies so that in future boys leaving the school will take with them the memory of these traditional songs.

G. POWRIE, 5A.

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Captain Clarence Jeffries, V.C.

On Monday, 26th July, Mrs. Jeffries, mother of Captain Clarence Jeffries, who was killed during the 1914-18 war and was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross, presented the school with the personal citation from the King and the plaque which accompanies the Victoria Cross.

Mr. Beard introduced Mrs. Jeffries to the assembled students and then described the incident for his part in which Captain Jeffries received the Victoria Cross. The youngest officer of his battalion, the 34th, he was serving with the A.I.F. in France. His company was held up by enemy machine gun fire from concrete emplacements. He organised a party which rushed one emplacement and captured four machine guns and thirty-five prisoners. He led his company forward under extremely heavy fire to its objective. Later he organised another successful attack on a machine gun emplacement. It was silenced, but during the action the gallant officer was killed. For his heroism, Captain Jeffries, a former student of our school, received the highest award for valour in the British Empire, the Victoria Cross.

The plaque which Mrs. Jeffries presented is circular and is made of bronze. It bears the figures of the lion and of Britannia, is mounted on a polished wooden disc, and is inscribed with the words: "He died for freedom and honour." The citation begins with the words. "He whom this scroll commemorates was numbered among those who at the call of king and country left all that was dear to them, endured hardship, faced danger, and finally passed away," and ends with the words, "Let his name be never forgotten."

The school deeply appreciates the honour which Mrs. Jeffries has conferred upon it by making this presentation.

E. QUINN, 5A.

Anzac Day

Anzac Day was commemorated at the school on Friday, 23rd April. As a prelude to the observance of the two minutes' silence the Headmaster, Mr. J. Forster, gave a moving address to the assembled students. He explained the meaning of the term Anzac, the significance of the occasion, and how they as young people could give truest expression to the feelings of reverence and gratitude evoked at that solemn moment by maintaining in all their activities an honest, courageous and purposeful spirit.

Empire Day

On 24th May an assembly was held in the school hall to celebrate Empire Day. Because of the smallness of the hall an amplifier was fitted up outside to enable the proceedings to be heard by those who did not gain admittance.

Mr. Forster, the Acting Headmaster, opened the function by explaining in a very impressive way the significance of the occasion. Then followed a speech by L. Fairbairn, captain of the school, on the development of the British Empire. At the conclusion of his remarks the school sang "Land of Hope and Glory." After this spirited singing we listened to two very fine speeches by I. Mackie and W. Derkenne. The subjects which they chose to discuss were "How to increase unity in the Empire" and "Australia and its relations with the Empire." Both speakers received well-merited applause.

The function concluded with the singing of the National Anthem, and we filed out of the hall faced with the discomfiting prospect of a half holiday, for lessons had been suspended for the afternoon.

L. FAIRBAIRN, 5th Year.

Education Week

The Centenary of Public Education was celebrated at our school, as in all public schools in the State, during the week ending Friday, 23rd April.

An invitation was extended to all interested persons to come and observe the activities of our school. Many availed themselves of this opportunity, and it was no uncommon sight to see visitors peering at us through the corridor windows of classrooms.

The celebrations culminated in a school function held in the hall and attended by both parents and pupils. On this occasion we were again honoured by the presence of Mr. Basil Helmore. In his usual attractive style he gave us an amusing and informative address based on reminiscences of his own experiences as a pupil of the school. It was most interesting to contrast conditions as they were then with those we experience to-day. In keeping with the school's policy of encouraging its pupils to participate in proceedings, Donald Greenaway and Gordon Hughes also delivered addresses befitting the occasion. The former spoke of the implications of modern education; the latter of the significance of public education in Australia. Their speeches reflected credit not only on themselves but also on Mr. Ingram, for whose guidance they express their gratitude.

A number of boys competed in an essay competition which was also a feature of the celebrations. As a result Jack Nelson, of 4th year, won an enjoyable trip to Sydney. Our choir contributed to the school's activities by presenting a broadcast from 2KO.

Last but not least came the announcement that a holiday had been granted to all public schools in the State on the following Tuesday, 27th April.

G. HUGHES, D. GREENAWAY, 4th Year.

Book Week

Book Week, beginning on 2nd August, provided a stimulus for much worthwhile activity in the school.

Interesting classroom discussions were held on such topics as Books Bring Adventure, A Library of Your Own, Why We Have Libraries, How a Library Is Started, and What a Library Should Include. In the School Library itself, under the supervision of Miss Morison, there were special talks about books. Prominently displayed was a large number of Book Week posters, many of them coloured. These, drawn by our pupils, featured for the most part the main theme of Book Week—Books Bring Adventure. On the tops of book cases were arrayed colourful book folders. About fifty books donated to the school by pupils and arranged on one of the tables aroused particular interest. Mr. Denham presented to the library a collection of "Spectator Essays," Volume 2, published in Glasgow in 1757. Two other interesting books on loan for inspection were a copy of Thomson's "Seasons," dated 1826, and Carey's "Survey of High Roads from London" (dated 1790) containing a map of London and coloured strip maps of the routes from that city with all the inns and turnpike gates marked.

At a special function in the hall on Thursday morning two instructive addresses were given, one by Mrs. Cotton, in charge of the Children's Section of Newcastle Library, the other by Mr. Miller, Newcastle City Librarian. Mrs. Cotton told us about the history of Book Week and the growth of children's libraries. Mr. Miller explained what a library is, what its functions are, how it carries them out, what the proposed organisation is for the future Newcastle library, and what qualifications are necessary in an efficient librarian. Both speakers commented on the splendid posters displayed in the hall and congratulated the school on the high standard of its library and on the use made of it by the pupils. There were two sessions of this function—one for the senior school, the other for the junior school. Owing to lack of time the seniors were denied the pleasure of hearing Mr. Hodge, who had intended to give an address on the production of books.

Health Week

On Tuesday, 29th June, Dr. Graham Drew visited the school and gave another of his interesting and instructive addresses on various aspects of that important subject, good health.

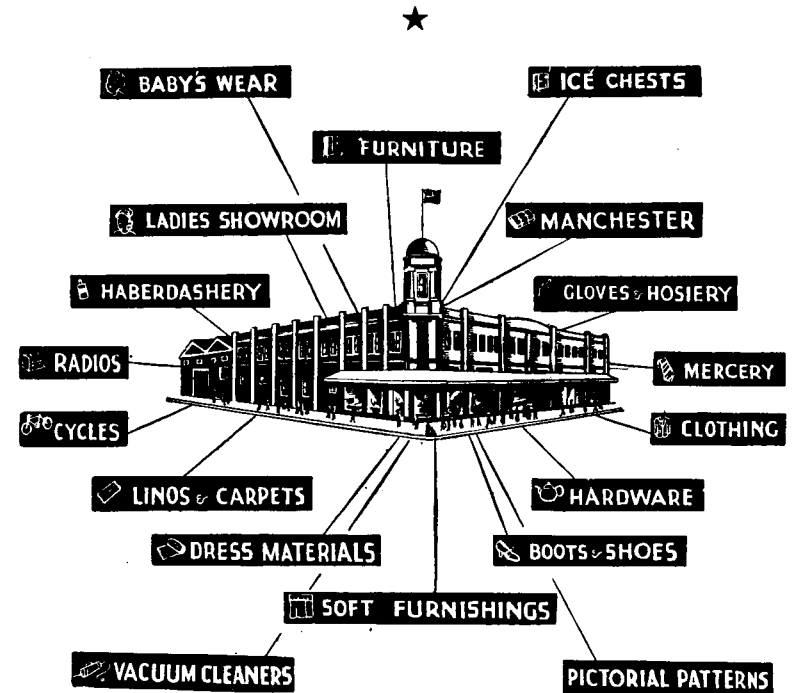
During the week a limited number of Health Week booklets were made available for distribution.

On Thursday afternoon the school attended a screening of special health films at Waratah Theatre and thoroughly enjoyed a programme that presented much vital information in a very entertaining way.

A memorable feature of the week was the assembly of the school to watch a most impressive march-past ceremony performed by a number of our school cadets. These lads, representing the school, later went to Newcastle to take part in a special Health Week activity.

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Piano Recital

Early in the second term the school was visited by the distinguished Austrian pianist, Paul Schramm, who is at present touring Australia. Mr. Schramm gave a forty minutes lunch time recital attended by students and members of the staff. His light, familiar manner of presentation was pleasing and novel when compared with the aloofness of many visiting celebrity artists. He announced the items himself in an interesting and at times amusing way, giving a background of information to each and thus keeping interest keen throughout the recital.

The programme was in the form of a brief survey of the development of music since the time of Bach, whose work was represented by "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring." Then followed music by Beethoven and Schubert's "Carnival Ball" from the "Rosamunde Ballet." Chopin's very popular Polonaise in A major was played with masterful ease and dexterity. "Golliwog's Cakewalk," a delightful piece by Debussy, won loud applause, and two pieces in the modern style were thoroughly enjoyed.

These lunch time concerts are planned to bring music to the people, and this one brought to Boys' High music at its very best. Mr. Schramm used his own piano, an excellent upright grand, and was thus able to reveal his artistry and to do full justice to the music. The pieces were not chosen to display virtuosity, as is too often the case, but for their musical value and popular appeal. No one could call the recital highbrow in the derogatory sense. It was a most enjoyable performance by a very competent pianist, and it merited the fine response it won from the audience.

E. MANNING, 5th Year.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream"

On Wednesday, 7th April, under the supervision of members of the English staff, the third year students attended the City Hall to see a presentation by the Roland McCarty Company of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which at least some of us are diligently studying for the Intermediate Certificate Examination.

The large audience, which included boys and girls from all the Newcastle schools preparing pupils for the examination, thoroughly enjoyed the performance, although some of the parts they might have thought they could act as well, if not better, themselves. The pranks of Robin Goodfellow, and the comical remarks and actions of Peter Quince and his friends, particularly their "lamentable comedy," Pyramus and Thisbe, were especially entertaining. The boys in the audience were chiefly interested, of course, in the fairies.

There is no doubt that seeing Shakespeare's comedy acted has been of great benefit to us. After all our reading and discussion in the classroom we have seen the characters come to life for us on the stage, and we have been able to return to our study of the play with renewed interest. Indeed, after the performance one of our third year boys was heard to ask in a puzzled tone of voice whether the juice of a pansy really did have the power that Oberon claimed it had.

B. COBB, 3C.

The Library

Since June, 1947, four hundred new books, including forty pamphlets and a number of periodicals, have been added to the School Library. The tendency has been to build up the non-fiction section, to which two hundred and seventy-five new books have been added. Fiction was not forgotten, one hundred and twenty-five new books being placed on the shelves. Altogether £150 was spent.

Miss Morison merits congratulation for the excellent work she has done to bring the library to its present high standard. Books on all subjects are available. The most popular are those dealing with sport, and magazines such as Popular Science, Popular Mechanics and The National Geographic. However, there is an increasing demand for books and magazines dealing with current affairs. This is due to the introduction of the Current Affairs Book.

Each class, except 5th year classes, is allowed one period a week in the library. Large scale use is made of the numerous encyclopaedias. Each boy, after his first year, is allowed to take home two books per week—one fiction, one non-fiction. Fifth year boys avail themselves of the resources of the reference section during the lunch period.

Thanks are due to Government Departments, to students and to friends who have contributed over a hundred books and pamphlets to the school during the last twelve months. The Manual Department of the school has been of great assistance by constructing cases and drawers by means of which access to books has been made so much easier.

G. SANDERS, 4C.

The Debating Society

The Debating Society has functioned very successfully this year, and much valuable experience has been gained by its members. Meetings are held every Thursday at 20 past 11 in room 20 by the juniors. The seniors debate at other suitable times.

Both senior and junior teams were runners-up in the northern zone of the Hume-Barbour Trophy competition. The senior team, C. Grahame, N. Pryde, J. Taylor and W. Tyler, convinced the adjudicator

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YOU would never dream of letting your team-mates down, because you recognise that in a game, in friendship, in life generally you have a responsibility to others.

YOU have a responsibility to yourself to make the best of your life, for your own sake and for the sake of those who are, or may some day be, dependent upon you. Money does, and will, very largely determine your rate of progress; and you cannot too soon consider what you are going to do about gaining financial independence. Already, however, it will be evident to you that, if you are to spend wisely later, you must, as wisely, save now. "A little and often"—let that be your savings plan, and open an account now in the



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that Technical High School was wrong in opposing the statement that education has failed to bring happiness to the world. The scores were 225 points to 210 points. A very strong Cessnock team defeated our seniors by a narrow margin in a debate on the topic, "U.N.O. has failed to create world peace." Our team affirmed and gained 237½ points. Cessnock's score was 245.

G. Hughes, G. Gleghorn, W. Derkenne, and J. Cameron, the junior team, were defeated by Technical High when opposing the proposition, "Immigrants should not be encouraged to come to our shores under present conditions." The points were 85 and 80. However, the juniors won 73 to 69 in the debate against Cessnock, who affirmed that medical services should be nationalised.

The Society provided speakers for the Empire Day functions and for the Education Week celebrations. C. Grahame, speaking on "Australia's Empire Obligations," was a close runner-up at the Empire Day function at the City Hall, while W. Derkenne and I. Mackie made speeches at our own school function. During Education Week G. Hughes and D. Greenaway delivered addresses at a special school function.

Much advice has been given to the members of the society by Mr. E. Ingram and Mr. F. Hyland, who have corrected many faults of the younger debaters and have brought both the debating teams to a high pitch of efficiency. Our patron is the Deputy-Headmaster, Mr. McGregor.

We suggest that any boys interested in debating should make inquiries of Mr. Ingram with a view to joining the society; and we wish the debating teams for next year success in their competitions and the honour of winning the Hume-Barbour Trophy for the school.

W. DERKENNE, 4A; J. TAYLOR, 5th Year.

The Dramatic Society

The Dramatic Society was founded in June this year by a number of enthusiastic boys. The president is John Tasker, who is ably assisted by the secretary, Robert White. Our aim is to present to the school independent productions by world famous authors. Our first venture was a melodramatic sketch, which we performed on the night of the School Concert. We are now preparing two plays for Play Day, a comedy and a tragedy, one of which will be produced by a member of the society. The two factors influencing our work are the enthusiasm of the members themselves and the encouragement we receive from our patron, Mr. H. E. McGregor. It is not an exclusive society, and the only claim we make upon new members is that they show a genuine interest in dramatic work. If this short article interests you, if you would like to join the society, come to our meetings or speak to the president or the secretary about the matter. You will be very welcome.

JOHN TASKER, 4A.

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DO YOU KNOW ?

The buttery taste of margarine is obtained from milk which is treated with lactic acid bacteria, the same bacteria which give butter its distinctive flavour.

A family of five needs about 3,000 pounds of fruit and vegetables a year.

A nylon rope only half an inch in diameter will lift a weight of three tons.

During the period of 40 years, from 1900 to 1940, when the population of U.S.A. was roughly doubling, attendances at secondary schools increased tenfold, and in colleges and professional schools sixfold.

While a blowtorch, used for "cutting" circus elephants' hair does not seem to bother them, they are very sensitive to wind and weather, and must be given oil massages frequently.

At the home of rich men in certain sections of China, it is proper when dining to toss chicken bones and olive seeds over your shoulders on to the floor. You pay your host a compliment by showing that you realise he is wealthy and has plenty of servants to tidy up after the meal!

The death rate of heavy smokers is more than double that of non-smokers. These figures were compiled by Professor Raymond Pearl, of Johns Hopkins University, U.S.A., from a study of 120,000 life histories.

The Tasmanian wolf is one of the strangest animals alive to-day. It has a head similar to a large wolf, the body of a dog, with broad stripes on the back, and a thick tail that does not wag. When pursued, it will cover the ground on its hind legs, like a kangaroo. Because of the havoc it causes among Australian sheep a County has long been on its head, and as a result it is now almost extinct.

Soil erosion by wind and water removes 20 times as much soil fertility annually as is required by agricultural crops.

The oyster is equalled or excelled only by liver in the amounts of iron and copper that it furnishes in an average serving at a meal.

By Courtesy HEMINGWAY ROBERTSON INSTITUTE.

Choir and Orchestra

During the past twelve months our school choir and orchestra have assisted at several important functions.

Last year the choir and the orchestra took a prominent part in Newcastle's Sesqui-Centenary celebrations by performing at the Music and Drama Festival and by giving a broadcast from 2KO. This year the choir presented a broadcast from 2KO during the Centenary of Education Week and performed on Speech Night and at the School Concert.

Owing to various difficulties the conductress, Miss McIntosh, has had to postpone the formation of the orchestra this year but hopes to have it functioning shortly.

The School Choir consists of about seventy boys from first, second and third years, and, though not as large as in former years, it has certainly lost nothing in quality. In fact it is said that this year's choir is the best that the school has produced. First year boys have formed a separate choir, which has been artistically rendering Schubert lieder and descant arrangements of Scottish airs. Boys from second year have formed another choir, which is already well-known for its delightful performance of operatic excerpts. Both these choirs have been assisting at school functions and in radio programmes. Dr. Ostinga, a former pupil, was so impressed by the singing of the choir at the School Concert that he suggested that a permanent record be made, and he has generously offered to contribute to the cost of making such a record. We thank Dr. Ostinga for his generosity and hope that we shall soon be able to avail ourselves of his offer.

P. NEWEY, 5C.

(Note by Miss McIntosh: Good luck, Peter Newey. Peter has been our choir accompanist for a considerable time. He has proved most willing and helpful as well as thoroughly efficient, and we would like him to know that we have appreciated his contribution to our success. We shall be very sorry to lose him next year, and we wish him every success in his Leaving Certificate Examination.)

The Cadet Corps

Once again the detachment has many successful activities on which to report.

As usual the annual camp of ten days was held during August. This year it was held at Ingleburn, which is one of the most modern and highly developed camps in the State. The high reputation the detachment possesses was upheld in every way, particularly by the guard, which was praised and congratulated by many good judges on its dress, its steadiness, and its general efficiency.

Schools for potential N.C.Os. and Officers were held at Ingleburn during the Christmas vacation. All three candidates attending the officers' school were successful in their examinations, while all sixteen candidates were successful at the school for N.C.Os. Three Cadet Lieutenants were also chosen to attend these schools as instructors.

Apart from the camps which are attended by many different schools, several field and range days have been held for our detachment alone. These aim at giving the cadets the opportunity of putting some of their training into practice and of gaining confidence in the use of their arms.

The enrolment this year has decreased by about 25 per cent. However the numbers are expected to grow when the proposed alterations in the administration of the Corps come into operation. These alterations include the formation of battalions in the different areas and the setting up of central stores from which all personnel in the battalions will be directly issued. To ensure the smooth running of these changes additional staff has been appointed to the Cadet Corps. Another proposed alteration is the issue of a completely new uniform, the exact design of which has not yet been decided. Many additions to the training syllabus will soon be made. These will be mainly due to the fact that our detachment is to be affiliated with the Northern Rivers Lancers, which is an armoured unit. As a result of this affiliation the detachment will also be permitted to wear the well-known black beret and badge of the Armoured Corps.

These improvements coupled with a growing public interest in the Cadet Corps movement should ensure an even more successful year in 1949, not only for our own detachment, but for the whole Corps.

A. SMITH, 5B

Careers

Aptitude tests took place in May this year. About 150 boys were tested, and it is hoped that no boy will leave school without considering what these tests suggest.

They are not all that matters, however, and those choosing their life occupation will do well to take into consideration their character, interests, school results and attitude to work. Then the work itself should be investigated as far as possible, its conditions, its good and bad points, the rate of pay, the opportunities for advancement.

A new feature of the careers work this year is the organisation of groups of boys to visit local industrial concerns to gain a first-hand knowledge of some of the jobs available.

Information on different opportunities for those gaining the Leaving Certificate was typed and distributed last year, and it is hoped that this year it will be possible to do the same for those likely to leave from Intermediate classes.

Mr. A. E. DENHAM, Careers Adviser.

The Parents and Citizens' Association

(Extracts from the Reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer
for the Year Ending 16th March, 1948.)

"The total membership is now 395 (136 life members and 259 annual members), compared with 427 last year (81 life members and 346 annual members). Attendance at our meetings dropped to 17, compared with an average of 28 for last year. This position is very disconcerting, but appears to be a common complaint throughout the district."

"The total sum of £450/2/5 was expended during the year for payments to school funds, the school secretary, school jerseys, the Magazine, and gymnastic equipment."

"We pay tribute to the substantial co-operation of the Ladies' Auxiliary. Their donation of £180 is a remarkable effort, this amount being greater than our credit balance at the bank, £161/5/5."

"Just before the close of last year our Association invited the teachers and their wives to a social evening held in the school hall. It is felt that such functions will tend to create a better understanding between the Staff and our Association."

Mr. A. MARTIN (Secretary).

Mr. J. S. CAMPION (Treasurer).

The Ladies' Auxiliary

Once again the Ladies' Auxiliary has been busy throughout the year raising funds for the benefit of the school.

The fortnightly dance, which has been a feature of our activities for the past twelve years or more, still retains its popularity, and proceeds from this source brought in approximately £180 during the past twelve months. Other directions in which the Auxiliary was active were the providing of refreshments on the day of the Athletics Carnival and the preparation of supper on Speech Night and on the night of the School Concert.

Students past and present have given good patronage, and we hope that they will continue to do so and thereby show their appreciation of the efforts of the ladies who are always so willing to help the school.

Mrs. I. FLANAGAN, Hon. Secretary.

Our Advertisers

Your attention is directed to the advertisements in this issue of "The Novocastrian." These well-known firms have helped the school. Members of the school can best express their thanks by buying from the advertisers.

SPORT

Foreword

A review of the year's activities shows that our school representatives have performed creditably in all spheres. Apart from players participating in inter-school games under excellent conditions, our school attempts to cater for all other boys by arranging intra-school fixtures. It is unfortunate that the outer grounds are not kept in first-class condition. The lack of more swimming pools also makes it impossible for boys to develop as much as they should in this branch of sport in the Newcastle district.

The school's performances in athletics have been very good, with a win in the Northern District's Combined Carnival and a fifth in the aggregate at the C.H.S. meeting in Sydney, a meeting attended by nine metropolitan and eleven country schools. There has been a general improvement in athletics due mainly to training on the oval after school and to participation by schoolboys in competitions arranged by outside clubs in the district.

In football and cricket the school has maintained its standard. The cricket competitions are not yet over, but in football two teams won undefeated, while four were runners-up.

In tennis the school had perhaps its best year, winning the first grade after a play-off with Maitland High and the second grade undefeated.

The school thanks North Sydney High School for billeting a large contingent of athletes, and also thanks the parents of all boys who billeted visiting players during the year. But for the generosity of these parents the trips simply could not be arranged.

I wish to thank the members of the staff who devoted so much of their time to the training of teams and who co-operated to make all competitions run smoothly.

Mr. L. S. McRAE, Sportsmaster.

Award of Blues — 1947

Athletics: E. REES, A. KING, R. CLEMENTS, J. McCOURTIE.

Cricket: R. ROSS, G. SPILLER.

Rugby League Football: R. TOOTH, F. LONG, R. ROSS, J. McCOURTIE, J. HOOK, W. SNEDDON, J. GAIN, K. KAFER, K. POOLE, C. YARHAM, J. BEACH.

Soccer: J. LEE, A. PETTIGREW, L. ABELL, D. ROXBY.

Swimming: R. TOOTH, J. GAIN, J. BEACH, J. MELETIOS, D. COWELL, P. PLUMSTEAD.

Tennis: E. JACOBS, C. SWAN, G. SPILLER, A. EGGINGTON.



1st XIII, RUNNERS-UP, EVANS SHIELD, 1948.

Back: J. Meletios, L. Fairbairn, T. Tresidder. **Second Row:** A. King, R. Clements, K. Braye, J. Davies. **Front:** J. Murray, N. Harden, J. Hook (Captain), F. W. McNeil (Coach), F. Long (Vice-Captain), B. Baird, D. Sparke.



FIRST XI, 1948.

Back: B. Baird, K. McLennan, J. O'Brien. **Front:** N. Beath, J. Hook, J. Burrows (Coach), L. McRae (Sportsmaster), D. Robertson, D. Sparke. (Absent: D. Oldham (Captain), D. McMurray, J. Thompson, B. Osborne).

Rugby League Football

First Grade: At the start of the 1948 season a search began for new talent for our first thirteen. The backs almost selected themselves, but our coach, Mr. McNeil, gained many grey hairs choosing a pack of forwards, one of whom unfortunately broke his arm in a trial game. Our win of 11 to 2 against Cessnock in the first match for the Evans Shield was very gratifying. Although Maitland defeated us by 16 to 3, the scores did not indicate the closeness of the game. We scored one try and one goal to their two tries and five goals. This was our only first round defeat. In the second round the best match of the season was played against Maitland and revived memories of a similar game last year. On that occasion we won. This time we had bad luck in having to play with a greasy ball, and, though we did everything but score, were defeated 2 to nil.

Another defeat, 10 to 9, in a hard fought game against Newcastle Technical High, left us in the position of runners-up for the Evans Shield. In the University Shield competition we received forfeits from Newcastle Technical and Lithgow and thus reached the semi-finals without playing a game.

The team is looking forward to a trip to Brisbane during the spring vacation at the invitation of Brisbane Industrial High and hopes to add fresh laurels to our school's reputation for good football. (J. Hook, 5th Year).

Second Grade: The seconds captained by N. Beath had a successful season although handicapped because some players left during the competition. Trips were made to Gosford, Maitland and Cessnock for matches of high standard. The team, composed of an outstanding back line but rather inexperienced forwards, failed to co-ordinate in the first round, but with keen training and coaching by Mr. Evans attained the honour of being undefeated in the second round. Good sportsmanship was shown by all. The final game against Marist Brothers was a hard match right from the bell, but owing to co-operation between forwards and backs and to some brilliantly intercepted passes we achieved an 18 to 6 win and became runners-up in the competition. (G. Henry, 3A).

Third Grade: This team's record for the season was six wins, two games drawn, two defeats. In the first round we were undefeated, scoring 57 points against 7 in five matches and having our line crossed only once. In the second round we lost the first two games and drew the third against one of the weakest teams in the competition. This we feel was entirely due to the constant reshuffling of the team as players were claimed by the second grade. After this blow to our prestige the able coaching of Mr. Bates began to reassert itself. We finished the season with two wins and thus were runners-up. (J. O'Brien, 4B).



7th GRADE RUGBY LEAGUE, UNDEFEATED PREMIERS, 1948.

Back: N. Dunn, D. Dyer, K. King. **Second Row:** L. Ellis, J. Jacobs, R. Munro, P. Martin, A. Davidson. **Front:** D. Chisholm, L. Adams (Captain), A. H. Hodge (Coach), T. Wallace (Vice-Captain), R. Magin.

Fourth Grade: We gained only fourth place this year. We did not maintain the form we displayed in the early part of the season. when we won two matches 32 to nil and 18 to nil and had hopes of winning the competition. We congratulate the premiers, Cessnock, who defeated us twice. The team was ably coached by Mr. Storer. (D. Robertson, 4B).

Fifth Grade: Only one game was won by this team during the season. The win was a great achievement, because Technical High had beaten us by 14 to 10, and we replied by defeating them 2 to nil. We crossed their line five times, but the referee ruled against us. Without the coaching of Mr. Cochrane we would not have had even one victory. (D. Clarke, 3C).

Sixth Grade: In the first round the sixth grade competition developed into a struggle for first place between Technical High and Marist Brothers, our team coming fifth. In the second round we showed how well we could combine and defeated all our opponents except Marist Brothers. At the close of the season we were third. (R. Davis, 1B).

Seventh Grade: The seventh grade team was undefeated this year. Our two hardest games were against Marist Brothers, who provided stiff opposition, for we won on both occasions by only two points. Mr. Hodge ably coached us, and only three points were scored against us during the season—a very fine record. On July 28 our team spent a very enjoyable day at Manly, where we won a hard match at Keirle Park by 11 to 3. We returned Manly's hospitality on August 4. In a fast, open game at the oval our backs proved much too brilliant and we won by 33 to 3. However, we did our best to make the visitors happy at a party in the hall after the match. (T. Wallace, 4C).

Eighth Grade: Although we won only two games this season, we made our opponents play hard on all occasions and were often beaten by only a couple of points. Our best win was against Maitland High. (C. Gibson, 4A).

Ninth Grade: This team lost three out of ten games and came second in the competition. For this very satisfactory result we owe a great deal to our coach, Mr. Saunders. (N. Scotman, 2E).

Colour Competition: This year the colour competition was conducted in two divisions, the lightweight (four teams) and the heavyweight (two teams). Outstanding players in the former were Smallman, Wallis, Lewis and Bint (forwards), and Streeter, Ingall, Moore, Magin and Lauder (backs); in the latter Coco, Holmes, Fawcett and Cameron (forwards), and Macgregor, Moore, Quill and Haines (backs). Three teams went to Gosford. The lightweight teams lost, but the heavyweight team won by 8 to 3. When Gosford visited us on August 4, our two lightweight teams lost again, while our heavyweight team won by 11 to nil. (N. Ellis, 3A).

Soccer

P.S.A.A.A.—A1: Although our A1 team performed very well, defeat in a vital match prevented it from entering the finals. The teams against which we played were Technical High, Central, Plattsburg, Swansea Junior High, and Cook's Hill. Our game with Central was the most interesting. Of our players I think A. Pettigrew proved the most outstanding. (W. Edminson, 3C).

P.S.A.A.A.—A2: The A2 team maintained a high standard of play. Their coming sixth in the competition was due to some of their best players being transferred to the A1 team which, with the proposed Brisbane visit in view, was anxious to field the best possible combination. (R. Inglis, 3A).

P.S.A.A.A.—B: The B grade team did not meet with success in the early part of the season mainly because some players were selected for the High Schools' competition. Towards the end of the season the team did show improvement, but not enough to win a match. (J. Mills, 3A).

P.S.A.A.A.—C2: My report on our games is not a favourable one, but they were wonderful experiences and good fun. The most interesting game was played at Plattsburg Oval. We were putting up a remarkably good fight. Plattsburg scored the first goal at the end of the first half and won by 4 to nil. Our best players were R. Booth, R. Kennedy, J. Penn and K. Miller. (K. Ostinga, 1A).

High School B Grade: The B grade team won three games, drew three and lost two. One of the most exciting matches was against Kurri at Kurri, where we were defeated 3 to 2. Our players showed fine combination and have good prospects for next season. We thank Mr. Sievert and Mr. O'Connor for the instruction they gave us during the season. (K. Talbot, 2E).

High School C Grade: Our C grade soccer team played through the season undefeated. The hardest and most interesting game was against Marist Brothers. We won by two goals to one, but only for centre-forward Scott and goalkeeper Pilcher the game might well have ended in Marist Brothers' favour. Our coach was Mr. T. O'Connor, for whose help we are very grateful. (J. Mitchell, 1C).

Colour Competition: The results of this competition, in which the standard of play was not as good as could be desired, were:—A grade: Winners, White, 39 points; runners-up, Green, 30 points. B grade: Blue, 31 points; Red, 29 points. C grade: Green, 34 points; Blue, 33 points. A representative A grade team went to Gosford for a special annual game and won by 2 goals to one. In a return match at Newcastle we defeated Gosford again by 2 goals to one. The ground position was poor this year, the A grade having to play for most of the season on a ground without goal posts. (G. Powrie, 5th Year).



TENNIS TEAMS A (Premiers) and B (Undefeated Premiers), 1948.
Back (B): M. Fuller, M. McGuinness, K. Newbert, D. Fitzgerald (Captain). **Front (A):** I. Mackie, A. Eggington, A. M. Clarke (Coach), A. McKenzie, A. Smith.



C GRADE SOCCER TEAM, UNDEFEATED PREMIERS, 1948.
Back: J. Mitchell, G. Hughes. **Second Row:** C. Maughan, H. Brown, J. Weston, H. Pilcher, S. Jones, G. Dobson, W. Sheehan. **Front:** T. P. O'Connor (Coach), T. Icton, G. Westbrook (Captain), K. Scott (Vice-Captain), R. Taylor, F. B. Sievert (Coach).

Cricket

First Eleven: The school's first eleven has not been defeated so far in the 1948 season, and only three matches remain to be played.

In the first match we easily defeated Cessnock on the first innings. J. O'Brien scored a fine 53, while D. Oldham contributed 24 and K. McLennan 21. N. Beath and D. McMurray, our two slow bowlers, soon dismissed the opposing batsmen. Maitland almost defeated us in the next match which, owing to lack of time, ended in a draw. Maitland batted first and declared late in the day after compiling a large total. Our batsmen wilted under the speed attack of the Maitland openers, but we succeeded in playing out time mainly owing to a patient 17 not out by K. McLennan.

Cessnock provided much stiffer opposition in the second round. However, although they scored freely, they declared too late in the afternoon, and the match was drawn. D. Oldham captured five wickets. Our first match against Technical High had been abandoned owing to rain; rain caused the second game to end as a draw. We batted first on a damp but easy wicket. When rain stopped play we had 76 on the board for the loss of only one wicket, B. Baird and D. Robertson being not out for 39 and 35 respectively. Our second victory of the season was achieved against Maitland. We were dismissed for 121, of which N. Beath made a vigorous 27, including two sixes, and J. Hook 28 not out. Maitland just failed to reach our total. J. Hook was again to the fore in capturing four wickets with four balls in his last over.

Most batsmen have performed well on occasions; and this is borne out by the fact that most have averages of over ten runs per innings. In bowling, J. Hook and D. Oldham with their fastish deliveries, and N. Beath, D. McMurray and D. Robertson with their slows, have all returned good figures. In 1947 G. Spiller and R. Ross were included in the Combined Northern High Schools' Eleven. D. Oldham and J. O'Brien were our representatives in the match against the Sydney team at Waratah Oval early this year.

With two wins, three matches drawn, and no defeats at the end of the second round, the first eleven hopes to remain at the head of the points table and to restore to the school some of its lost cricket prestige. (B. Baird, 5D).

Second Eleven: We have been defeated only twice so far this year, our opponents on both occasions being Maitland. No outstanding performance has been registered, but each player has given of his best. With keen practice and with the boys playing as a team we should be able to reach the head of the competition table by the end of the season. (K. McDonald, 3C).

P.S.A.A.A.—A1: Under the supervision of Mr. Gray the A1 grade team has so far had a very successful season. As the games have been two day fixtures, only a few matches have been played, but we have not yet been defeated. Two outstanding performances were recorded,

both by bowlers. J. Chappell took 6 wickets for 12 runs against Cook's Hill, while H. Marjoribanks took 6 for 17 against our own A2 team. Of our batsmen, K. Fraser did very well. Fielding throughout was very good. To top the season's achievements three of our players, J. Chappell, H. Marjoribanks, and A. Moore (the captain) were selected for the combined Newcastle team to visit Sydney. (A. Moore, 3C).

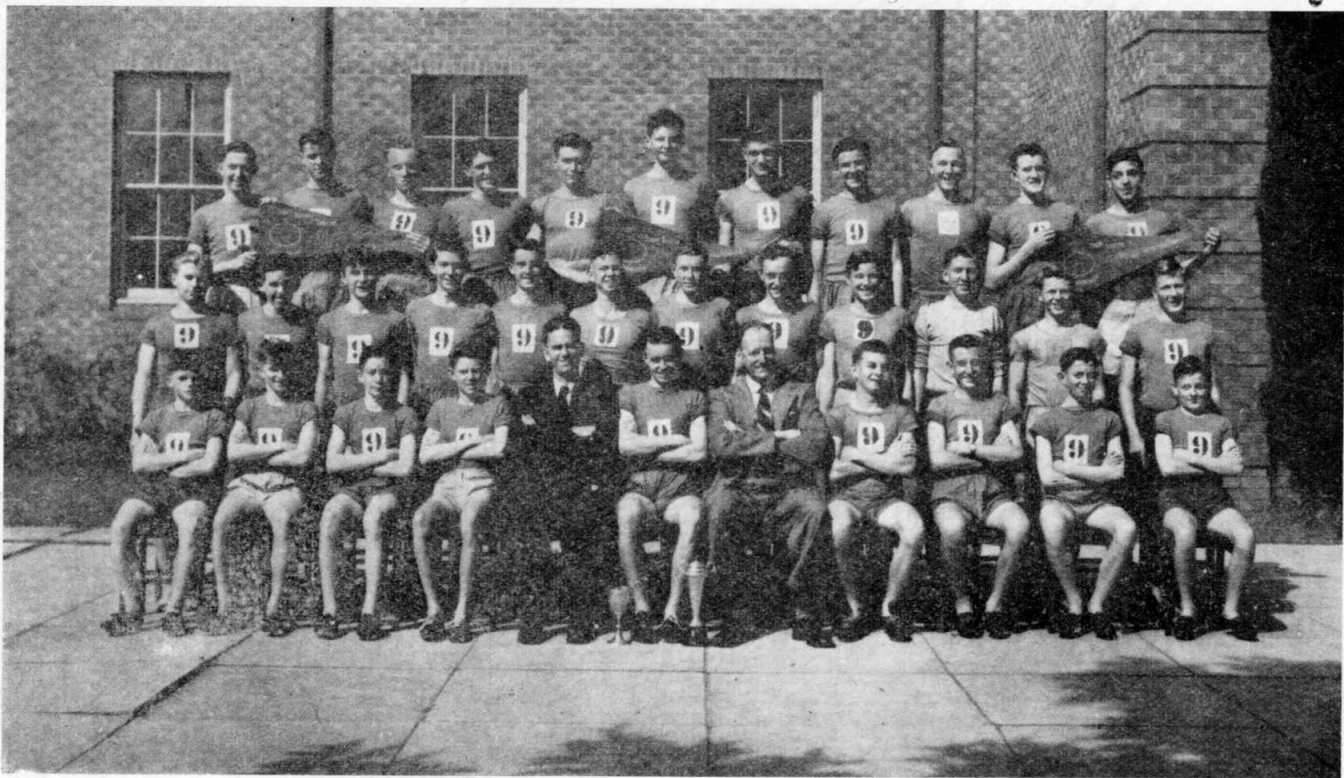
P.S.A.A.A.—A2: This team was arranged to accommodate the increased numbers taking cricket as summer sport this year. It has so far played only three games. Plattsburg beat us on the first innings by 3 wickets and 30 runs. Our score was 47. G. Sheehan took 5 for 8 off 4 overs and achieved the coveted hat-trick. Central defeated us by 5 wickets and 59 runs. We just managed to play out time in our second innings and averted an outright defeat. In this match G. Sheehan took 4 for 30 off 6 overs. In an exciting game against our own A1 team we lost by two runs, the totals being 75 and 73. Our best performer was again G. Sheehan, who captured 9 wickets for 38 runs, and was promoted to the A1 team. (L. Abell, 5th Year).

P.S.A.A.A.—B: So far this season our B grade team is undefeated, mainly owing to the coaching of Mr. McRae. Our hardest match was against the Church of England Grammar School, but fine bowling by Ken Hungerford and Doug. Ryan enabled us to win. An asset to the team is Don Willis, who is a good opening bat and has figured in many fine partnerships with the other opener, Basil Jones. We have high hopes of winning the competition undefeated. (R. Campbell, 3C).

P.S.A.A.A.—C: So far the C grade team coached by Mr. Atrahams has not been defeated, and its prospects of winning the competition are very bright. Our hardest match was against Technical High's second team, for we had to score nearly two runs a minute to win. Good bowling by A. Rymer (who has taken the hat-trick) has helped us considerably. (A. Davidson, 2B).

Tennis

Our tennis teams were more successful this year than they were in 1947. Once again our most difficult opponents were Maitland High players. The other schools did not extend us greatly. In the first match against Maitland our first grade team won by four games, sets being equal, while our second grade team won comfortably. In the next match Maitland's first grade team won by two games, the sets being once more equal, while our second grade team won and so became undefeated premiers. In the play-off for the premiership of the first grade competition one of our players was absent, and a second grade player was promoted to fill the vacancy. The team performed splendidly and by achieving an easy victory became premiers. The A grade team included A. Eggington (captain), A. McKenzie, I. Mackie, A. Smith; the B grade team, D. Fitzgerald (captain), M. Fuller, M. McGuinness, K. Newbert. (A. Eggington, 4B).



ATHLETICS TEAM, WINNERS OF LINTOTT CUP AND KERR CUP, 1948.

Back: A. Rymer, J. Smith, R. Poulton, N. Fisher, D. Tennant, D. Brown, A. Eggington, K. Gosper, C. Harrison, G. Gleghorn, J. Coco. **Second Row:** J. Murray, D. Smith, A. Braye, J. Holt, R. Meehan, A. King, I. Griffiths, G. Jones, N. Palmer, A. McKenzie, A. Spitzkowsky, W. Derkenne. **Front:** K. Davies, K. Scott, B. Alcorn, B. Jones, C. R. Goffett (Coach), J. Taylor (Captain), L. S. McRae (Sportsmaster), H. Ambler, J. Brandrick, K. King, R. Pullinger.

Swimming

At our own swimming carnival this year Smith House was the successful house. R. Pullinger was the outstanding swimmer, breaking two records in the Under Fourteen Division, while H. Hammond broke the Under Sixteen 55 yards breaststroke record.

At the Northern Districts Carnival, Maitland was the successful school, and we extend to our old rivals our hearty congratulations. Three of our swimmers, T. Tresidder, N. Harden and D. Tennant, upheld our reputation by securing wins in second division events.

At the Combined High Schools Carnival held at North Sydney Olympic Pool one championship was won by D. Tennant in the Under Sixteen 55 yards Freestyle, while N. Harden won the corresponding second division event. Congratulations to Sydney High School on winning the carnival.

The school had a very successful season as regards life-saving. Two hundred awards were gained, including an Award of Merit won by A. Brown and five Bronze Crosses. We are looking forward keenly to the next swimming season, during which we hope to achieve much better results. (N. Harden, 5D; D. Tennant, 4D).

Athletics

The school has just completed a fairly successful Athletics season. At our own carnival nine records were broken, the age divisions being won by J. Taylor, G. Gleghorn, K. Gosper, G. Crawford and K. Scott. We also won the Lintott Cup, with firsts in each division. At the Sydney C.H.S. carnival we gained eight first places and won the Kerr Cup for the seventh year in succession. K. Gosper set a new record of 19.10 $\frac{1}{2}$ for the under fifteen broad jump, A. Rymer a new record of 16.8 $\frac{1}{2}$ for the under thirteen broad jump, and the under thirteen team won the relay in the record time of 53.4. Other Sydney winners were J. Taylor, J. Smith and G. Crawford.

It is pleasing to note that we have a number of very promising athletes in the junior and juvenile divisions. All students interested in this sport are strongly urged to join one of the excellent Amateur Athletics Clubs which are doing such good work in the district. An effort will be made to improve training facilities at the school next season, so that those interested in field games may be better provided for.

We are still searching for a sprinter to approach "evens," a miler to approach 4.40, and a philanthropist to approach with a fine new set of hurdles.

Mr. C. R. GOFFETT.



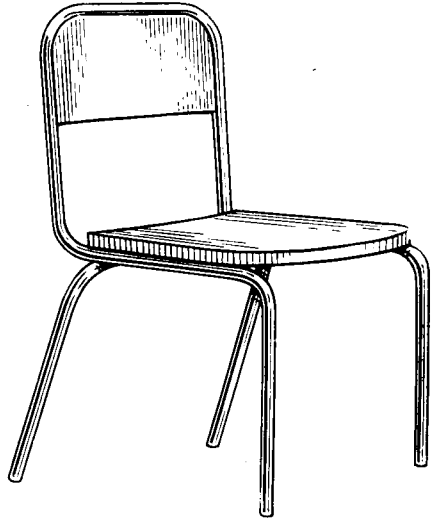
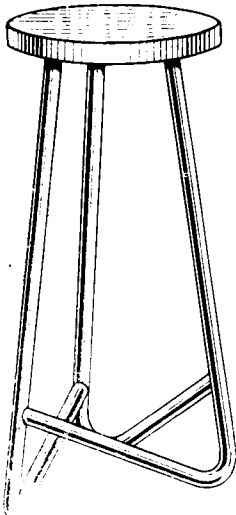
SWIMMING TEAM, 1948.

Back: N. Harden, D. Asquith, J. O'Brien, J. Meletios, D. Tennant, T. Tresidder, J. Mould, R. King, B. Carlin. **Second Row:** J. Wallis, K. Ostinga, W. Hicks, R. White, G. Sanders (Captain), B. Reay, A. Brown, H. Hammond, G. Bell, J. Reeves. **Front:** B. Morton, R. Pullinger, L. Gilmore, D. Stoddart, R. C. McFarlane (Coach), H. G. Fountain (Coach), J. Carruthers, L. Adams, P. O'Brien, D. Deans.

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Australia's Sporting Heritage

A little more than forty years ago surf bathing during the hours of daylight was permitted in Sydney. Soon some provision became necessary to assist bathers in difficulties, and so groups of swimmers formed clubs. These clubs were the foundation of the present Surf Life Saving Association of Australia, whose activities now extend throughout the Commonwealth.

Owing to the vigilance and heroism of the 6329 active honorary lifesavers in the 137 affiliated clubs around the Australian coast, there have been very few deaths by drowning on surfing beaches patrolled by lifesavers. In the 1946-47 season surf club members rescued 2,800 persons, making a total of 63,300 lives saved since the inception of the Association in 1907. This represents more than 40 lives saved each day in the past 40 years, yet does not take into account those rescues made while patrols were not on duty. Surf clubs also provide first-aid services for the injured, while methods of resuscitation of the apparently drowned have been developed to the greatest possible efficiency.

The Surf Life Saving Association of Australia, which co-ordinates the efforts of these club units through the State centres and district branches, is the only humanitarian, sporting, or national organisation in the world in which men pay for the privilege of risking their lives. Financial assistance to a limited extent is given through certain State and Local Government channels and through donations received from well-wishers. Proceeds from carnivals and local appeals play a tremendous part in making available finance which enables clubs to purchase the necessary equipment for their men to use. The most prominent donor in recent years is David Jones Limited. The 1947-48 season is the third in which this firm has presented to the Association a fully-equipped surf boat and two fully-equipped reels for competition among Sydney clubs.

The work of Australian lifesavers is known the world over. It is largely due to them that our beaches are such an attraction to visitors and local residents alike. However, these men are often overlooked, not because the surfing public is unaware of their work, but because it has been the habit to take them for granted. There have been many brave actions carried out by lifesavers, and there will certainly be many more. The most recent of these gallant acts was the attempt made by Albert Linich of Stockton Surf Club to save one of his club mates from a shark attack. This young lifesaver, seeing his club mate being attacked by a shark, immediately donned a lifebelt and with utter disregard for his own life went to the rescue. He succeeded in bringing the unfortunate swimmer ashore, but the wounds inflicted by the shark were fatal. This was undoubtedly an outstanding act of heroism.

The sporting activities carried out by the surf clubs present themselves as purely characteristic of Australia. In the various carnivals that are held throughout the summer months, clubs compete in swimming, rowing, surfboard and ski riding, and beach events. It is due to these particularly strenuous sports that the lifesavers are always fit and able to carry out their duty with the greatest efficiency. When one ponders over the daredevil stunts the lifesavers do for sport, it becomes apparent what dangers and risks they will face in order to save lives. Each year championships both for Australian and State titles are contested, and it is then that we see the cream of Australia's surfers. Swimming, rowing, and beach events for competitors who include most of the outstanding athletes in Australia make these championships the most noteworthy carnivals of the year. No matter what the results may be, the verdict is always taken in that wonderful spirit of sportsmanship that is so evident among all surf life saving clubs throughout Australia.

In the early stages of the reconstruction of the surf life saving movement following World War I, the larger clubs in the Sydney Metropolitan Area dominated most of the more important Surf Championship titles for many years. The presence of so many men of Olympic Games swimming standard gave these clubs a decided advantage. However, it soon became evident to others that the application of a good surfing knowledge coupled with plenty of stamina could generally counteract their superior swimming ability, especially under rough water conditions. The more enterprising of the country clubs soon seized the opportunity of enlisting the services of prominent competitors by finding employment for them in their own particular districts, and gradually some of the important titles went to these clubs. Swansea-Caves has taken one Australian and several State surf boat titles, while the sister club, Swansea-Belmont, has also been prominent. At the 1947-48 Australian Championships the open surf race was won by Bob Newbiggin, of Ballina Lighthouse-Lismore, the junior surf belt championship by John Bartlett, of Cook's Hill Club, and the senior rescue and resuscitation, carrying the Premiership Pennant, by Surfers' Paradise, Queensland.

This carnival was characterised by very boisterous seas which made it a thrilling spectacle for the onlookers as well as hazardous for the competitors. The surf boat and surf ski events were extremely exciting. There were many collisions. The most spectacular crash occurred when Swansea junior boat crew took a huge wave and nose-dived to the bottom. On the next wave the Collaroy boat bore down on them, and the Swansea crew dived as the bow of their boat was torn apart. One of the Swansea crew was hurt when trapped in the boat after it had overturned, but his injuries were not serious.

Australians have every reason to be proud of the selfless service of the lifesavers. These men, whose heroism is so common that we sometimes fail to appreciate it, give up their time freely and often risk

their lives for folk they have never seen before and may never see again. For leavening our age with this spirit of the "Good Samaritan" we give these men our grateful thanks.

K. WATKINS. 5B.

The Reaper

Servant of Lucifer, crueller than your master,
Stealing from all the priceless gift of life—
Vindictive monster who must ever mock
Man's ineffectual efforts to escape—
You have made life a travesty of joy,
Have made of man a plaything for yourself
Whereon to vent your all-consuming hate;
Your jealousy of life's sweet pleasure knows
No bounds; your bloodstained scythe forever sweeps
The globe on which we mortals live and die;
You have made captives of our stumbling minds,
Our thoughts polluted with forebodings dread
Of what our soaring souls, at last set free
From earthly bonds, may learn whilst wandering
Through Paradise or depths of Acheron.
The truth of life and other wondrous things
May be made known to us when once the door
Of life has been forever closed upon us.
This do you fear, O Death, knowing full well
That man detests you as a thing accurst.
O odious spectre, though you are abhorred,
Yet are you pitied for your joy in hate
Which will itself cause man to know and love
The sweet and painless life that follows death.
O monstrous Spirit of Hatred, thus you shall
Be vanquished by the glorious power of Heaven.

J. NELSON. 4A.

The Barrington Tops

Situated only eighty miles from Newcastle are the southern foothills of the Mt. Royal Range which rise 4000 feet in the next 12 miles to become the lofty heights of the Barrington Tops.

The Barrington Tops are reached by taking a train to Dungog and then a bus to Barrington Guest House. The guest house is situated

on the fringe of the brush. On the one hand there are the open pastures and farming land baking in the blazing midday sun, while on the other hand is the coolness of the brush with numerous short walks to the shady reaches of the Williams River. These short walks are all right for old people, but to the young "The Tops" issue a challenge urging them to assail the rocky heights and be rewarded by the new and wonderful scenery and enthralling views with which "The Tops" abound; so let us shoulder the rucksacks and answer the challenge.

After we leave the guest house, the track is comparatively flat for the first five miles, and the sun is for the most part shut out by a canopy of overhanging vegetation and the broad trunks of the towering gums. On most of the trees lithe lianas and monkey ropes have coiled their tortuous ways up the massive trunks and hang in tangles and loops from the huge limbs. Stag-horns, palm trees and fern trees grow in great profusion, while here and there the parasitic Moreton Bay Fig has entrapped a forest giant. Over all there pervades the cool, bracing earthy scent of decaying vegetable matter. At intervals along the track the turnoffs to the Slippery Dip, The Pool of Reflections, Lion Rock and the Allyn Valley are marked by neat signs.

Eventually, after we have walked for two hours and covered about five miles, the turnoff to Rocky Crossing is reached, and a much-needed rest is taken. At Rocky Crossing the Williams River falls over a 20-foot drop into a deep, broad pool and swirls through a narrow channel to broaden out again. Many small streams join the river at Rocky Crossing, and these form waterfalls and cascades as they tumble down the steep mountainside.

The Barrington Tops break off abruptly on their southern side in a number of great step faults, and it is up these step faults that we now ascend, climbing steadily upwards, 2,500 feet in four miles to the top of the plateau. As we ascend higher the track becomes stony and the vegetation thins out. At an altitude of between 2,500 and 3,000 feet a grey-green moss is seen hanging in festoons from many of the trees, and at points on the track it is possible to see on your right down into the Williams River valley and on your left into the Allyn River valley. Just beneath the summit of the aptly named "Corker," a huge gum tree lies over the track, its bole shattered by lightning. Awe-inspiring indeed must be the spectacle of a thunderstorm over "The Tops" at night with the darkness accentuated by the blinding blue flashes of brilliant lightning which illuminate the forest and the granite capped peaks with an eerie phosphorescent light, while the valleys act as natural amphitheatres to echo and re-echo the reverberating roar of the thunder. The summit of Mt. William, capped with pinky-grey granite boulders, is eventually passed, and still the track leads upwards until quite suddenly the top of the plateau is reached. The vegetation is different again from that in the valley or on the mountain-side. We are walking through a fairly dense scrub consisting of hardy snow gums, and, while the average height of trees in the valley is about 100

feet, the tallest trees on the plateau seldom reach more than 30 ft.

A walk of two miles through the scrub brings us to O'Grady's hut, which is surely one of the strangest huts ever constructed for hikers. To make the walls wire netting was nailed to each side of the posts which support the roof. Between the lengths of wire netting gravel and clay was packed, but now it has all crumbled away, and only the wire netting nailed to the upright posts remains for walls.

Many forms of animal life abound on "The Tops." Wallaroos, wallabies, dingoes, foxes and wombats are plentiful, but to venture off the track to seek them is to run the risk of becoming hopelessly lost in the vastness of the dense scrub.

Two miles from O'Grady's hut we reach Carey's Peak, a small knoll about 100 feet higher than the level of the plateau. "The Peak" is situated at the head of the Allyn River valley and affords a magnificent view of the valley and beyond. Leaving our packs at the tin shed at the bottom of the peak we rush to the summit to view the enthralling spectacle spread out below us. On our right and left, steep, thickly-wooded mountain spurs separate the Paterson, Allyn and Williams Rivers. About 6 miles down the valley the forest ends abruptly and gives way to the golden, undulating pastures which stretch towards the distant horizon. Faintly visible beyond the summit of Mt. William are the sandhills near Stockton, 60 miles away. Carey's Peak falls away sharply on the southern side in a mass of great granite boulders, and in these are eyries of several eagles. These great birds of prey may often be seen circling around the peak in seemingly effortless flight. Beyond Carey's Peak the plateau opens out into vast tracks of marsh and parkland, and in wintertime snow often covers these for fairly long periods and is deep enough to afford good ski-ing.

As we leave the peak great billowing clouds of mist surge up from out of the valley, completely obliterating the view. When we reach the broad, lonely expanses of marsh land and see the mist in weird, wraith-like shapes drift slowly across the marsh to dissolve in the trees on the other side, the loneliness and remoteness of our surroundings are conveyed to us very forcefully.

However, by following the track along the fringe of the marsh we soon leave the vicinity of the peak. The mist disappears and with it the oppressive sensation of loneliness. We reach a fence cutting across a marshy paddock. At the other end of the fence is the Barrington River, at this point only one or two yards wide, and on following the river to the left we come to Crosbie's House. This is the only real house on "The Tops." It contains six rooms, a fuel stove, a chip heater and bath and several pieces of furniture. Built about ten years ago, it was for some obscure reason never lived in by its builder and has been open for the use of hikers ever since. Naturally it is the worse for wear, but it affords a comfortable abode for a stay on "The Tops."

Too soon, however, the food in our packs is almost gone, and so with light packs but heavy hearts we descend the track towards the cares and worries of city life; yet always in our memories will be the reminiscences of the joys of our first trip to the Barrington Tops.

F. TURNER, 4B.

Idle Philosophy

Basking on a lawn in sweet repose,
I dim my tired lids and think perhaps
In this strange world we all are much too prone
To wrap ourselves in cold reality.

I wonder if we should but stop awhile,
And, deep in drifting mists of reverie,
Forget the dull routine of daily life
And go in thought to some Utopia.

Once there we might cut off all human ties
And live a life in calm seclusion,
Wherein all jealousy and hate of man
Would find no path—nay, would not dare—to enter.

But now I start and waken from this dream,
And realise how useless it would be
To sever thus my soul from all things real,
To dwell apart in my imagined bliss.

Our role on earth is not to sit and dream
And shackle life with narrow, selfish view;
It is a role in which we teach each other
To help the struggling fellow at our feet.

C. GRAHAME, 5A.

The Coming of the Sun

Night's inky blackness has faded as on the horizon a dado of crimson rising from the purple ocean gradually advances into a steely-grey sky. A few stars peep out from their cloudy canopy, weak and listless like the last weary couples at an all-night dance.

Through a patch in the black hills the purple splash which is the sea gradually turns to a vivid aqua blue. The trees, which till now have looked like low-lying clouds, gradually take shape as their trunks, faintly pencilled against a blushing sky, join leafy masses to the dewy earth.

A magpie down the stream is calling. Out rolls the lusty laughter of the kookaburra. Pitched high above these basses of the forest ascends the song of myriads of smaller birds filling the hyaline heavens with music far sweeter than the clumsy imitations of man. The bush is still asleep. The colours range from the black of the hills to the icy blue of a sky whose brittle lucidity has not yet surrendered to the infiltrating rays of pink which are sweeping silently above the clouds. The kookaburra choking his hoarse cackle rockets from a branch and wings his way into the sky. High above a solitary eagle glides majestically in a sweeping arc, a hanging speck; yet he seems to be just above the stately blue gums, so massive are these giants.

At last the heavens split, letting through the piercing rays of gold as Phoebus drives his chariot of flame over the crimson sea and up, up into the dancing, fleecy clouds.

R. INGLIS, 3A

Wandering Thoughts

When I gaze out across the sea,
Fierce wanderlust sweeps over me:
I'm driven by a mighty urge
To try my fate on the ocean's surge.

I'd steer my craft by a twinkling star
And come at last to lands afar;
I'd ride a camel to the Sphinx
To see if old King Ramses blinks.

I'd sail my boat to India's shore,
And ancient temples I'd explore;
To far Cathay I'd wend my way
And at the Great Wall spend a day.

But then methinks, my wandering o'er,
With treasures from the whole world's store,
I'd learn to be content at last
To leave my ship with its towering mast.

In Austral's heart I'd make my home,
Nor yearn for life upon the foam;
For after wandering east and west
In my own land I'd find my rest.

J. MELETIOS, 5th Year.

The Hi-Y Club

Are you a member of the Hi-Y Club? Possibly you do not know what the Hi-Y movement is. You know, of course, of the Y.M.C.A. and the wonderful work it is doing all over the world. Well, the letters Hi-Y are an abbreviation of the words High Schools' Y.M.C.A.

In August, 1947, a conference was held in Canberra of boys of High School age from all over Australia. Some members of our school and boys from other schools made up a party of eleven representing the Newcastle Y.M.C.A. The boys had a wonderful time. The programme included visits to places of public interest, sightseeing tours, and a trip to Mount Kosciusko. Among other things the boys discussed a number of questions concerning the Hi-Y in Australia. There was already a large movement in America and one in New Zealand, and the conference had been called to discuss ways and means of establishing the Hi-Y in Australia. Back in Newcastle Mr. Symonds, the general secretary of the Newcastle Y.M.C.A., soon organised the Newcastle Boys' High School Hi-Y club. It held its first meeting in March, 1948, and since then has had continued success.

The Hi-Y club meets at the Y.M.C.A. building, King Street, from 4-15 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday afternoons, the club programme being held till 5 p.m. and a gymnasium session from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. The club programme consists of visits to places of public interest, games of cricket or football, swimming, debates, impromptu speeches, and a "beano" to celebrate the end of the year. The cost is moderate. A member of the Hi-Y club must be a Y.M.C.A. member (12/6 per annum—and believe me, it's worth it) and must also contribute a penny a week towards club funds.

If you would like to join, contact one of the members. He will be only too pleased to present you with a programme and bring you into this world-wide organisation.

D. DOUGLAS, 3A

The Race

Flashing past the tuoys she went
On her way to sea.
Then her lead was threatened;
She was followed on the lee.
The captain was excited,
He gave his orders fast
And sent another wind-whipped sail
Scurrying up the mast.

The other closer, closer drew;
 They were running now abreast.
 The crew of each was thrilled to see
 How hard the other pressed.
 All the halyards they were straining,
 And the shrouds were fit to break,
 But the better craft drew forward,
 Left the conquered in her wake.

J. CAMPBELL, 2D.

Cricket Crisis

I am about to listen to the Fourth Test. This may sound very ordinary and simple, but what a laborious task it proves to be. It is the third day (or night) of play, and the situation is very interesting.

First I must do my homework, commencing with English. The prospect of the Test, however, will not let me do it in peace. "Captains Courageous" makes me think of Yardley batting on a sticky wicket, and "The Merchant of Venice" reminds me that I shall hear that fellow selling scorecards again. I try Geometry. Circles change to ovals, so I decide to do this at the luncheon adjournment. I turn to History. The Convict System is horribly disfigured to Bedser's leg field, and so thinking I cannot solve Bradman's average by quadratic equations, I pass to Algebra. But factors change to fast bowlers, and to-morrow's examination cannot resist being called a Test. So I put down my pen and wonder why Wright was not selected.

The time is twenty-nine minutes past eight. I throw my books into my bag and race inside, get my scorecard and sit down to find I have left my pen outside. After ten minutes' frantic searching I find it in my scorecard. I snuggle down in the lounge for my mother to tell me that I have left the light on in the kitchen. I switch it off but have not even reached the lounge before I am told to bring in some coal for the fire. It is one minute to nine before I again settle down. The commentator says excitedly, "Loxton bowls to Hutton, who hits the ball hard to Johnston at mid-on. Johnston gets his hands to it. He's——" and now another voice breaks in, "With the score none for fifty-four we shall return to Leeds in fifteen minutes. Stand by for the National News."

I grind my teeth in dismay, anger and agony. I recommence my homework. I have translated the first Latin word when back comes the announcer. I have had enough of the National Station and I turn to a commercial one. The scoring is very slow, so I say something which I must not write, and Washbrook hears me. He tries to accelerate the scoring and is caught breath-takingly by Harvey at long leg off Johnston. I then say the same thing to myself, and, if Washbrook did hear me, he must have said it too.

I am very tired. I try to keep awake, but my eyelids are heavy. I am startled by a terrific roar. I jump at least a foot from my chair. The crowd is cheering the players as they come off for lunch. I try to go to sleep again, but of course, now that I may sleep, I cannot. Just as the players come onto the field I do fall asleep knowing very well that I shan't wake till it's all over. The homework is still not done. Curse this cricket! However, the future must take care of itself.

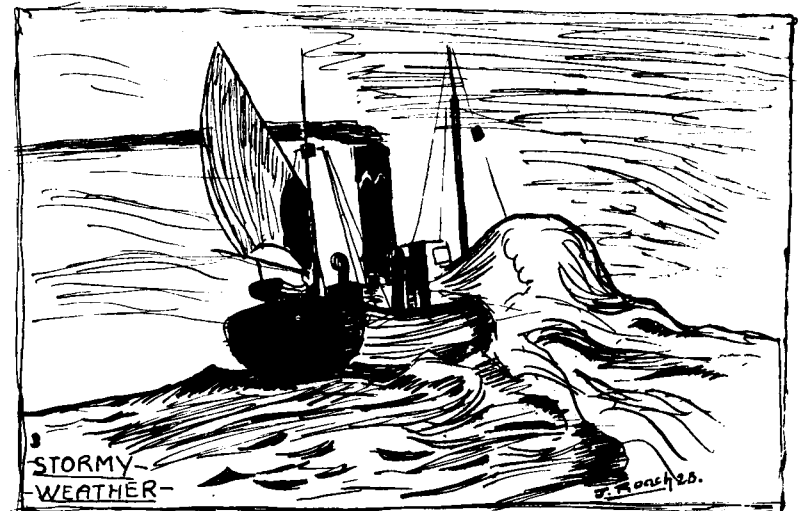
J. MILES, 2A.

That Woman

She sang—and joyfully I felt
 My soul in admiration melt.
 What bliss, I mused, would fill my life
 With such a songbird for a wife.

While thus enchanted by her voice
 I took the chance, I made the choice;
 But now my days in sorrow drag—
 Oh, heavens! How that voice can nag!

D. CROSS, 3D.



The Hardest Job I Have Ever Done

The hardest job I have ever done, I think, is writing a composition entitled "The Hardest Job I Have Ever Done." The minimum, a page, is more than the maximum of my thoughts. While the real maximum, a page and a half, seems like sowing an acre of land with a handful of seed. However, I shall try to write a page and a quarter. If I write a page of not "baby" sentences but sentences improved by using relative pronouns and co-ordinating conjunctions, I may get off with it, for our teacher especially likes these parts of speech.

I have thought of various themes: the time my bicycle tyre was punctured nine miles from home and I had to walk all the way; the time I filled in the hole where our war-time air raid shelter had been; the time when a ten-shilling note blew out of my hand when I was on my way to a shop and I had to stop it from going into the storm-water drain, with all the dogs in the district after it too; or—what? My life has been a fairly easy one, with a few hardships, but certainly not one important enough to fill a page and a half.

What will happen if I cannot produce a composition or an excuse? I visualise long detentions of an hour and a half for weeks on end, my back breaking while I pull up weeds or use all my power to make the lawn mower move a few inches (they never oil the machine, of course) and the slave driver schoolmaster's rasping, imperative voice pounds on my brain. Oh, I must write something!

I look back to see just how much I have written and find that I have over a page. The visions of cruelty fade, and I lay aside my pen with a sigh of joyous relief.

J. MILES, 2A.

Down Lambton B Colliery

We had just arrived at the pit-head, and the manager was greeting us. When we had obtained our lamps from the Lighting House, a building containing two large dynamos used for recharging lamp batteries, we were shown the cage. I was horrified. It was like a large box with two opposite sides pushed out. What if the cable should break? I thought as I peered down the seemingly bottomless shaft. When we were all in the guard rang the all clear signal, and quickly we descended. Twenty seconds later we were 400 feet below the pit-head.

We were taken to a waiting car, and we started on our three-quarter mile trip to the coal face. The car is an interesting machine. It is worked by 240 electric batteries, each twice the size of an automobile battery. Its speed is regulated by the electric power lever and the brake. It is used mainly for hauling skips, but it is also used for carrying people. During our journey we passed through several air locks. These are massive doors used for ventilation. When we reached the coal face I was surprised to see that none of the miners had picks or shovels. I soon realised that these were not needed.

The process of cutting and loading the coal is very interesting. The miner drills two rows of holes, four holes in each, with an electric drill. He then brings the cutting machines, a series of pick heads on an endless belt, and cuts across a sixteen feet radius, eight feet deep. After plugging the drill-holes with detonators the miner retires to a safe distance and touches off the detonators by means of an electric battery. If the detonation is successful, about forty tons of coal are released. Then the loader come along. This is a series of plough-share-like objects also on an endless belt. The coal is scraped into a shoot and from there into a skip. When one skip is full the next one comes along and takes its place. So forty tons of coal are cut and loaded in seventeen minutes.

On the return journey the manager let me drive the car, and I am pleased to say that we did not meet with an accident. On top of the pit we learned that Lambton B produces two hundred tons of coal a shift. It is a B.H.P. mine and produces the best by-product coal in New South Wales. Needless to say I enjoyed my trip down the coal mine immensely, and I wish I could go through the same experience again.

B. DAVIDSON, 2A.

Govett's Leap and The Valley of the Grose

When I visited Katoomba last year I saw what must surely be one of the most beautiful sights in the world.

From a rugged expanse of rocks at the south of the chasm I looked to the right and saw Govett's Leap Falls pouring headlong over a perpendicular wall about two hundred feet in sheer descent to a mass of dark fragments of stone. The plunging cascade of water, as pure as driven snow, sprays like the veil of a bride as the wind blows it to and fro. The whole valley is hemmed in by titanic walls of red and grey rocks from four hundred to eight hundred feet high, with rich vegetation on all sides.

The vast height and the beauty of the waterfall and the strong contrasts of colour produce a most enchanting effect.

B. MUNRO, 2D.

Evening

The evening steals across the forest still,
The fleecy clouds are fretted round with flame,
The sun sinks tired behind the purple hill,
And drifting, sleepy mists the world reclaim.

A fir tree shakes 'neath night's approaching hand,
A cricket choir is chirping merrily,
A furtive mouse creeps out across the land,
And night birds wake from their long lethargy.

J. WHITTON, 1B.

Off To School

Eight o'clock chimed, and I knew it was time I was off.

"John, don't eat so much, and go to school," came Mum's urgent tones.

"I don't eat more than any other chap as fat as I am," I replied as I vanished through the door.

Hurriedly opening the shed door I nearly kicked the life out of a rooster that had been put in the shed for the night. It squawked and scurried for its pen. At last after much pushing and heaving I manoeuvred my bike onto the road.

Turning the corner I noticed a double-decker bus coming from town. This seemed of no importance to me until, when it was about a dozen yards away, the chain came off my bike and I veered madly across the road. I gritted my teeth thinking, "This is it." Imagine my feelings as I heard the screech of the brakes and was pushed clear by the mudguards. The bus driver thrust his head out and bawled, "You fat fool! Where are your eyes?" Wiping the sweat from my brow and blushing furiously I answered, "I'm sorry, but the chain came off my bike." He replied that I was lucky he put his foot down hard and in time.

Righting my bike and adjusting the chain I made a second start. Perhaps I was thinking of my narrow escape, or perhaps I was wondering how to get the grease off my hands. I heard a voice yell, "Hi! You there on the bike!" and I realised with horror that I had ridden against the lights at Tudor Street. I pulled up. Slowly the policeman strolled over to me. My brain was working furiously. How could I explain my stupidity? My friend the policeman asked in no uncertain manner if I was blind, colour-blind, or just dumb. I took tremendous pains to explain all the trouble I had been in. "You'll be in much more trouble," he growled, "if you don't obey the traffic rules." Gee, what pals some policemen can be!

Glancing up at the Hamilton clock I noticed that I had ten minutes to get to school in time. I rode like a demon towards Donald Street gates. Fate must have been against me, for as I neared them they closed. Impatiently I waited, and presently, puffing slowly as if it had all the time in the world, came a long goods train. Once through the gates I really sped along. With the school almost in sight there was a report like an anti-aircraft gun: my tyre had blown out. I wheeled my bike to the nearest garage and left it there.

Shouldering my bag I hastened on. Luck was still against me, for as I neared the school I saw the classes entering the building. I ran as fast as my exhausted state would permit and reached the corridor hoping to slip in unnoticed. Could you imagine my bulk being unnoticed? Of course not—and so down to the Headmaster's office.

J. FERGUSON, 2B.

A Busy Street

Saturday morning is usually the busiest day of the week, as most people do their shopping on this day. For some it is the only day available for purchasing their requirements.

The roar of the buses and the clang of the trams add to the din and confusion caused by pedestrians, lorries, trucks, cars and horse-drawn vehicles.

Here and there small groups of people are clustered having a friendly chat and making it difficult for passers-by to move along the footpath. A small boy beams with pleasure as he comes out of a toy shop and proudly displays an imitation koala bear which his fond mother has just bought for him. Brakes are hastily applied by motorists at the intersection nearby as the lights change from green to amber and then to red. High above the street a workman is busily employed repairing the hand of the Town Hall clock. As I look up at him many people seeing me gaze skywards follow my example.

Presently, I think, it will be closing time. Shop assistants will pour from all the exits and mingle with the last minute shoppers, and there will be a rush for the buses and trams that transport all these people to their homes. Theatre crowds will be lining up as starting time draws near and will gradually disappear inside the various places of film entertainment. The street will become quiet and strangely lonely for a while until the evening crowd of pleasure-seekers stirs it to life and glittering movement again.

J. TAYLOR, 1B.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The editor congratulates the following boys who won prizes for contributions: J. Nelson, 4A (Verse); A. Smith, 5B (Report); N. Sharpe, 2C (Drawing); K. Watkins, 5B, F. Turner, 4B, R. Inglis, 3A, J. Miles, 2A, J. Taylor, 1B (Year prizes for prose). Contributions were judged in the form in which they were submitted, not in their present printed form, the result in most cases of much correction and revision. The editor specially commends R. Cornwell, 3C, for his excellent Magazine poster, and B. Baird, 5D, for handing in the best Sports Report. Boys whose contributions do not appear in the Magazine are commended for the interest they displayed.



GABBY

(from GULLIVER'S
TRAVELS)

R.B. seen 10

NHS

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E. V. CAMPBELL

CHEMIST

Tighe's Hill



**Phone
Ham. 67**