

THE

Oldham Quilmerian.



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The Oldham Hulmeian.

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No. 20.

IN MEMORIAM.
The Rev. George Herbert Lees, M.A.,
DIED 28TH JUNE, 1912,
AGED 31 YEARS.

To our limited vision it appears that a faithful and devoted life has been untimely ended.

Called to the Master's service he spent the last few years of his life amongst us as curate at St. James' Church, and his simple, quiet earnestness of life, and pleasant companionship, will continue in our memory, an influence for good—a noble monument.

In response to a call for men to relieve the Mission Clergy on the West Coast of Africa, and to allow them to come home on furlough, he had volunteered for six months' service, and died out there at Secoundee of enteric fever. He has gone down on active service, and his death does honour to the School, of which living he was so worthy a member.

School Notes.

THIS Term we welcome H. K. and W. T. Winterbottom, T. W. Brierley, F. Page, S. Whitaker, H. N. Moore, and D. Hargreaves. Soon we must lose some of our senior members, to them we wish success in their future careers, at the Universities, in professional or commercial life.

Many of our Old Boys are gaining honour for themselves and for the School at the Universities, and we congratulate them most heartily. Several have taken their degrees this year, and we hear that J. W. Bradbury and W. K. Slater, and other Old Boys, are doing well in College Examinations, and are likely to obtain good degrees.

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After days of anxious suspense under wet skies we were able to hold our Sports in fine weather, and were exceedingly grateful for the almost unexpected opportunity.

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Cricket was sadly spoiled by the weather earlier in the Term, but the latter half of the Term has been more satisfactory, and we have had some good cricket, including the very pleasant Form Matches (and teas) arranged by Mr. Edwards.

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The Speech Day is Thursday, July 25th, and Lord Emmott of Oldham, Chairman of the Governors, has kindly consented to distribute the School Prizes.

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The Athletic Sports.

THE Athletic Sports were held this year on Thursday, May 23rd, and were highly satisfactory. After many days of extremely showery weather we managed to get one fine half-day—the day chosen for the Sports. A fair wind was blowing, and this put the turf into excellent condition. Some good times and distances were made on this account, though lack of competition spoiled them in at least two races.

The Cricket Ball Throwing was rather poor, the results being: Junior, 1st Billington, 2nd Winterbottom F., distance 50yds. oft. Senior, 1st Roseblade, 2nd Scawthorn, 3rd Clynes,

distance 69yds. 1ft. In the Junior only three boys, and in the Senior only four threw over the minimum of 45yds. and 60 yds. respectively.

The time for the Mile was poor: 1st Gill, 2nd Ashton Hy., 3rd Bunting, time 5mins. 33½secs.

Both Long Jumps were fair and closely contested. In the Senior Clynes and Gill were held to tie after three jumps for the first place, but at a fourth jump Clynes cleared the previous mark by six inches, whilst Gill fell behind. The results were therefore: Junior, 1st Chaloner, 2nd Billington, distance 12ft. 9ins. Senior, 1st Clynes, 2nd Gill, 3rd Bunting, distance 16ft. 2ins.

The Junior High Jump was about the average, whilst the Seniors improved on last year by four inches: Junior 1st Marlor, 2nd Vickars, 3rd Shaw S., height 3ft. 8ins. Senior, 1st Gill, 2nd Swales, 3rd Clynes, height 4ft. 8ins.

For the Half Miles no times were given owing to the failure of the stop watch. These, however, are the places: Junior, 1st Bradley J., 2nd Carrington, 3rd Noble. Senior, 1st Gill, 2nd Ashton Hy., 3rd Hudson.

The Quarter Mile results are as follows: Junior, 1st Marlor, 2nd Shaw S., 3rd Bradley J., time 71½secs. Senior, 1st Clynes, 2nd Bunting, 3rd Whittaker F., time 67½secs.

In the "220's" a great reduction in time will be noticed: Under 12, 1st Smethurst, 2nd Bovill, time 32¾secs. 12-14, 1st Shaw S., 2nd Hodgkinson, time 31¾secs. 14-16, 1st Ashton Hy., 2nd Hudson, time 30secs. Over 16, 1st Clynes, 2nd Bunting, time 26¾secs.

The time for the "100" in the Senior Scratch was rather good, and would have been substantially better in the 100 Yds. Handicap (over 16) had there been more competition, and also in the 220 Yds. Handicap (over 16). The results are given below: Under 12 (Handicap), 1st Smethurst, 2nd Jackson

W., no time. 12-14 (Handicap), 1st Broadbent, 2nd Hodgkinson, 13 $\frac{1}{5}$ secs. 14-16 (Handicap), 1st Ashton Hy., 2nd Schofield J. A., no time. Over 16 (Handicap), 1st Clynes, 2nd Ross, 12 $\frac{2}{5}$ secs. Under 14 (Scratch), 1st Marlor, 2nd Smethurst, 3rd Hynes, no time. Open (Scratch), 1st Clynes, 2nd Gill, 3rd Halliwell F., 11secs.

The new venture—the introduction of the Hurdle Race—was satisfactory, though we are looking out for an improvement next year. The results are: Junior, 1st Carrington, 2nd Marlor, no time. Senior, 1st Clynes, 2nd Swales, 3rd Gill, no time.

The Obstacle Races were well thought out this year, and were much appreciated. The under 14 event was won by Booth S., who ran exceedingly well, closely followed by Chadderton. The winners of the 14-16 event were 1st Schofield J. A., 2nd Fletcher S.

The Egg and Spoon Race was won by Bovill, with Weston second. Instead of the Steeplechase of former years a School Handicap of 600 Yards was introduced, resulting as follows: 1st Ashton Hy., 2nd Wallace C. E., 3rd Bradley J., time 97 $\frac{1}{5}$ secs.

The Old Boys' Race was won by C. Fort, with T. Robertson and B. Robertson second and third respectively.

The final for the Tug-of-War was pulled between Assheton House and Lees House. It was won by the Lees House Team, which was so much bigger than that of Assheton as to be commented upon by the visitors.

There was also a Tug-of-War between two Old Boys' Teams, which was keenly contested, and was won by C. Fort's Team.

The Senior Championship Cup, presented by Mrs. Lees, was won by Clynes (Lees House) with 26 points, Gill also receiving a cup for being runner-up with 25 points.

The Junior Championship Cup, presented by Lord Emmott, was won by Marlbor (Assheton House) with 21 points.

The House Challenge Shield, presented by Dr. Gill, and the Football Shield were both won by Lees House.

Tea was served in big School from 3-45 to about 4-15, and an hour afterwards all assembled there to see the distribution of prizes by Miss Denniss. Mr. Pickford presided. After giving the cups, medals, and prizes, Miss Denniss made a very interesting and appropriate speech. She congratulated all who had competed in the sports, and expressed the belief that the healthy pursuit of games would fit the boys to take their part well in the work of life. Mr. Cockell then appropriately thanked Miss Denniss for so kindly coming to distribute the prizes, and moved that our very best thanks be given to her for so ably performing the duty. Kershaw seconded, and the vote was eagerly carried. Miss Denniss, in responding, thanked everyone present, and expressed her willingness to come on any future occasion. Mr. Pickford proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Cockell and Kershaw, upon whom the work of the preparation for the Sports had fallen, and spoke flatteringly of them. The vote was heartily carried and Mr. Cockell responded. S. Y.



Gymnasium.



MANY eager enthusiasts have availed themselves of the use of the Gymnasium during the past session, and during the second half of the summer term at no time could one venture into the Gym. without finding a House Captain putting two rather unruly "Eights" through their paces.

HANDBALL.—During the past winter session, to stimulate enthusiasm, Form Matches have been introduced, and we are

pleased to say have achieved their object. There has always been a more or less friendly rivalry between the opposing teams, sometimes the rivalry has been too keen but no serious injuries have resulted. Form Matches :

Thursday, February 8th. IVA v. IVB.—This resulted in a good win for IVA by 7 goals to 2.

Tuesday, February 13th. IVB v. IV.—After a very even game IVB just won by 3 goals to 2.

Thursday, February 15th. IVA v. IVB.—On this occasion IVB managed to avenge their previous defeat at the hands of IVA, and won by 3 goals to 2.

Tuesday, February 20th, IVA v. III.—Some good play was shown, and IVA were surprised to lose by 2 goals to 1.

Thursday, February 22nd. IVB v. II.—Form II showed a good defence, and IVB used some brisk tactics, winning by 7 goals to 6.

Tuesday, February 27th. VI v. V.—Some feeling was shown between these old rivals, Form VI won fairly easy by 6 goals to 3.

Thursday, February 29th. II v. I.—This game was keenly fought and some remarkably good play shown, the result being a goalless draw.

Thursday, February 29th. II v. III.—Although somewhat tired after their first game, Form II were capable of defeating Form III by the odd goal in 5.

Tuesday, March 5th. I v. II.—Form I just managed to win after good play throughout by the only goal of the game.

On the same afternoon these two Forms united against Form III, but were not quite equal to winning, the result going in favour of III by the only goal.

An Un-Official Report of the Old Boys' Soiree, HELD FEBRUARY 16th, AT THE SCHOOL.

I HAD feared it all along, and it came to pass in this fashion. The brains of the Old Boys' Association (*the Council*) had assembled after the Soirée to perform the operation known as settling up. The result was awaited with interest. Had the Soirée been as successful financially as it was socially, could we declare a dividend? or (perish the thought) should we, as representatives of the Association, have to visit that obliging relative, "Uncle," in order to balance accounts? I am not going to tell you the result. The higher realms of finance must ever be preserved from the intrusion of the curious. After the announcement the Editor of this Magazine asked for an official account of the Soirée for insertion in the next publication. As I said at the beginning, I had feared it all along, I wished to shrink, to become as little noticeable as possible, but all that I could do was to gaze as one hypnotised at our Hon. Secretary, who turned to me and said briefly, as if the matter were settled, "That is your work." Of no avail my protesting, nor making excuses, I was down to write an official account. Now, if there is one thing I detest, it is writing official reports. They are so bald, so uninteresting, so Bradshawy. Why not simply copy the programme? The trained intellects which peruse this journal could easily tell from a short study all that took place (and all that did not). However, I am going to disobey orders, I am going to write an unofficial account, and in any style I am pleased to adopt. You know I have no easy task. How am I, a young and inexperienced journalist, to write an account of a social function which took place in winter, and surround all with the correct cold-outside, bright-and-warm-insidy atmosphere necessary, when it will be read in mid-summer to hot breezes and a blazing sun. I wish I had never been born.

Of course we did not keep to the times on the programme. Nobody ever does in a successful affair. We made

a good start, quite a number of people arriving at the correct time. The guests were received in the hall by our president and his wife, who must have found it a more arduous and protracted service than they anticipated, as visitors continued to arrive until the hall was comfortably filled by more than 300 people. Never before had the animals carved on the rafters above looked down on such a brilliant spectacle. The spirit of complete enjoyment seemed already to have taken hold of everybody present. It seized you the moment you entered the hall, which is so admirably suited for such an event as this Soirée. You had only to lean back in one of the many comfortable lounge chairs provided, close your eyes, and listen to the splendid orchestra and the cheery hum of innumerable conversations, to feel perfectly contented and happy. Dull care was banished for one evening.

Our guests were provided with plenty of diversion in the way of entertainment. The first being a series of humorous sketches and musical illustrations by Mr. Harrison Hill, who, though accustomed to entertaining London people, proved himself quite equal to amusing the more stolid and critical Lancastrians.

After this they were invited to visit the numerous attractions to be found in the different schoolrooms, amongst which were the wireless telegraph demonstrations, and various electrical experiments conducted by Dr. Potter. A brief lecture on "Negative Heat," by Professor Adem, served to convince this gentleman's audience that his name was indeed appropriate. I noticed that the programme had his name down for two lectures during the night. When the second came due the guests *adin*, for he *adn't em*. I regret to have to admit it, but about this time many of us showed less desire for mental enlightenment than for personal sustenance. A visit to the refectory disclosed numerous people (quite nice people too) enjoying the refreshments provided there. We Old Boys do these things well you know. Though I did not see him myself, I am told that our artistic friend, Mr. A.

Mellor, in one of the classrooms, was affording all an opportunity of studying the features of our chief statesmen in a series of lightning sketches. For the entertainment of those who disliked gravitating from one room to another, a small company of talented and home-grown artistes gave a dramatic performance in the hall, entitled "Advice Gratis," which from all points of view was an interesting affair, showing us these people in an entirely new light. Great, to me, seemed the contrast between their ordinary ways and their actions and sayings in this play. In this, no doubt, lies the charm of amateur dramatics. It became apparent, as the evening progressed, that some events would have to be omitted for want of time. Of a considerable programme arranged to follow the dramatic entertainment we heard only a short musical recital by Mr. Hill, a song by Miss D. Pickford, entitled "Good-bye," and another, "The Young Royalist," by Mr. H. Mitton. We (the Old Boys) always like to hear Mr. Mitton sing. He is one of us, and no doubt we feel that he is our production, that his present high musical standard is due to our encouragement. What Mr. Mitton thinks I know not. After this we separated, feeling especially grateful to all who had, by their exertions, contributed to a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

H. A. CLOUGH.



Old Boys' Notes.

AT a meeting of the Council, held at the end of last year, it was decided not to arrange an Old Boys' Dance, but to have some other function, which would, perhaps, bring more of the members together.

This led to our first Soirée, which was held at the School on 16th February last, and proved a great success, the number present being about three hundred.

From 7-30 p.m. to 8 p.m. the guests were received by our President and Mrs. Pickford, and then proceeded to enjoy a

long programme whose items were provided by Mr. W. Lawton's Orchestra, Musical Recital by Mr. Harrison Hill, Sketches by Mr. A. S. Mellor, Dramatic Entertainment by Messrs. F. N. G. Griffiths, C. E. Garfitt, S. Pickford, Jonn. Fletcher, and Misses B. Garfitt, O. Garfitt, Songs by Mr. H. Mitton and Miss D. Pickford, and also Scientific Exhibits and Demonstrations under the direction of Dr. L. F. Potter, M.A. One of the best received of Mr. Harrison Hill's items was an impromptu topical song in which the School, the Association, its President, and the Stewards received in a humorous manner their several due meeds of praise.

Swimming Notes.

THIS season's Swimming promises to be a success, inasmuch as several improvements have been effected. Hitherto, the day for Swimming has been Thursday, but now Monday is the day, an improvement easily seen. Also the number of boys is smaller, and this is really an advantage, for they can consequently be better attended to, and this year they seem to be more in earnest and are progressing most satisfactorily under the able guardianship of Mr. Marriott. The Swimming Sports, which are quite apart from the Athletic Sports of the School, have not yet been held, but will be held before the end of the Midsummer Term, and we look forward to them with eagerness, as from the collection of swimmers to be found in the School this year we may expect great things.

J.H.C.

The Debating Society.

DURING the winter months the eighth annual session of the Debating Society has been held. The session has, on the whole, been successful, and affords much cause for satisfaction. The membership of the society has increased on last year, and the meetings have been well attended

and the debates often well sustained. The senior members are to be congratulated on their opening speeches. We cannot this year complain of a scarcity of speakers, for most of the new members have, voluntarily or otherwise, taken part in the discussions, but at the same time a large number of their speeches have been more noteworthy for their brevity than for their style. But much improvement has taken place in the debates during the session, and several new members promise to do credit to the society in future sessions. The society has also benefitted by the keen interest which Mr. Forder has shown in all that pertains to its welfare. The session was closed by the annual tea, which proved very successful.

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THE DEBATES.

November 13th, 1911. The session was opened by a most interesting paper from Dr. Potter on "The Problem of Turkey and the Balkan States." Dr. Potter traced for us the relations between Turkey and the Balkan States from the time of the capture of Constantinople to the present time. A vote of thanks to Dr. Potter, proposed by F. Whittaker and seconded by J. Kershaw, was heartily carried.

November 20th, 1911. A large number of members were present on this date, when the motion that "The Earth is the only inhabited body" was discussed. J. Kershaw, in proposing, dealt mainly with the planets of the solar system. He declared that with the telescopes which we now possess it was not possible to obtain any direct evidence of life even on the nearest planet, Mars. The notion that the canals on Mars were made by inhabitants was false, for the conditions of Mars could not support life. On the more distant planets, such as Uranus and Neptune, life was impossible. In opposing the motion, J. Swales said that in Mars there had been found evidences of an atmosphere and of water, which made habitation possible, while the changing signs on the planet's surface pointed to the fact that Mars was inhabited by intelligent

beings. It was very probable that other planets were also inhabited. In the debate which followed G. Ross, J. Clynes, G. Halliwell, Whitehead, Swallow, Harding, H. Cheetham, Wallace, and Whittaker took part. The motion was defeated by 28 votes to 14.

November 27th, 1911. Impromptu Debate. The first motion to be discussed was that "Latin should only be taught to those to whom it is useful," proposed by Eatough and opposed by Park. The proposer took it for granted that Latin could not be useful to schoolboys, and therefore showed that to teach Latin in schools was a waste of time. Park objected to this, and even went so far as to say that Latin should be taught to everybody. The ambiguous nature of the motion caused some confusion in the debate which followed, and on being put to the meeting the motion was carried by 32 votes to 2.

Young then proposed that "Welsh should be taught in English Schools." He seemed to think the necessity of such teaching too obvious to need any explanation. Watkinson opposed the motion, saying that the number of languages already taught was sufficient for most schoolboys, while in speaking Welsh there was also a danger of lock jaw. Many members then declared their disapproval of the motion, but Jones was decidedly in its favour. The members who spoke were Lees, Bunting, Ingham, Swales, Wallace, Jones, Stott, F. Halliwell, Harding, Cheetham, and Clynes. The motion was lost by 23 votes to 10.

Barlow proposed and W. R. Cooper opposed the motion that "A holiday of six months was necessary for schoolboys." Barlow showed the necessity of a long holiday after the strenuous work of school, if only for the sake of one's health. The opposer protested that the motion was not a fair one, but declared that he, at any rate, would become tired of so long a holiday! The motion was carried by 22 votes to 9.

That "Beecham's Pills are not worth one guinea per box" was proposed by Bullough, who refused to believe in anyone giving anything away. G. T. Lees, in opposing, showed their value by giving examples from his own experience. The motion was carried by 29 votes to 5.

December 4th, 1911. At a large and enthusiastic meeting, W. Sankey proposed that "Strikes ought to be stopped either by law or by force." He spoke on the loss caused by strikes, not only to strikers themselves, but also to the whole country. Misery and poverty were invariably attendant upon strikes, and often rioting and bloodshed. At such times, too, the country was in danger of attack from unfriendly states. G. Ross, the opposer, said that it was impossible to prevent strikes by law, for no law could be made which would meet every dispute. Although strikes were undesirable they could not be stopped. They might be quickly terminated by fair dealings on the part of both employers and employed when questions of dispute arose. Swales, Cheetham, G. T. Lees, Barlow, Schofield, Eatough, Cleverley, Watkinson, Billington, Whitehead, Stott, Harding, Clynes, G. A. Lees, F. Halliwell, Bunting, Whittaker, Gartside, Bullough, and Wallace spoke on the motion, several members speaking twice. When put to the meeting the motion was defeated by 7 votes to 34.

December 11th, 1911. At this meeting Mr. Marriott read a paper on "Charles Stuart Calverley." Mr. Marriott gave a most interesting account of the life of the poet, and read to us a number of selections from his works. J. H. Clynes proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Marriott, which was seconded by F. Whittaker and carried with applause.

December 18th, 1911. At this meeting the motion "The present system of punishment is ineffective in suppressing crime," was proposed by G. T. Lees and opposed by H. Ratcliffe. The proposer said that the state officials were mostly incapable of dealing adequately with the punishment

of the criminal class. By long periods of imprisonment prisoners lost all sense of remorse, and became hardened to their crimes. Prisons were making criminals by their semi-civilized methods of punishment. The opposer showed how the state of the prisons and the conditions of prison life had improved during the past generation, and how it was the aim of the state to reform as well as punish. He proved also by statistics that the number of crimes and criminals were decreasing. A good debate followed, in which Swales, Cleverley, Barlow, Vipond, G. A. Lees, Bunting, Clynes, and Mr. Forder took part. The motion was carried by 25 votes to 7.

January 15th, 1912. A paper was read to the Society on this date by the Headmaster on the subject of "Genius." The paper, which was most interesting and instructive, treated the subject in quite a new way, and was greatly appreciated. A vote of thanks was proposed to the Headmaster by J. Clynes and seconded by G. T. Lees, and heartily carried.

January 22nd, 1912. "Modern Machinery is a curse to mankind" was debated at this meeting. J. H. Clynes proposed the motion, and read to the meeting a most interesting paper, in which he depicted the evils which he foresaw would be the ultimate result of the machinery of modern times. J. Swales opposed the motion, and shewed the great benefits derived from the use of machinery. Man's labour was often made easier and more healthy, and his comforts increased. Ross, Cleverley, Wallace, Barlow, J. A. Schofield, Stott, Whitehead, H. Cheetham, J. Kershaw, and Mr. Forder took part in the debate. The motion was carried by 21 votes to 7.

January 29th, 1912. On this date the motion that "The action of Italy in seizing Tripoli is justifiable" was discussed. The proposer was A. E. Scawthorn, and the opposer G. Halliwell. The proposer stated that Italy proposed to raise Tripoli by introducing Western Ideas.

The Turks had shewn themselves incapable of ruling Tripoli, while if Italy was to hold her own in Africa against the other European powers, it was necessary that she should occupy Tripoli. The opposer declared that Italy had no real grounds for declaring war. Moreover, Italy could not hold herself up as the champion of good government. It was to be doubted whether the Italian occupation would improve the state of affairs in Tripoli. Italy had also broken the treaty of Berlin. Swales, G. T. Lees, Clynes, Cleverley, Ratcliffe, Harding, Gartside, Swallow, C. Eatough, Platts, Mr. Forder, and Whitehead spoke on the motion, which was defeated by 24 votes to 5.

February 5th, 1912. Impromptu Debate. The first motion to be discussed was that "Modern Music is deteriorating." Wallace, in proposing the motion, said that most of the music produced in our time was not music! The comic songs of to-day could not be compared with the productions of the classical composers of last century. Owen, in opposing, said that he did so "with much pleasure." The motion was lost by 17 votes to 8.

Taylor then proposed that "Pomeranian Puppies should be provided with Fancy Socks." The importance of the question, however, quite overcame the member in question, and after several vain attempts to express his feelings in suitable language, he retook his seat. Gartside, the opposer, objected to the motion from a financial standpoint. The result of such a procedure, he said, would be a greatly increased laundry bill. A lively discussion followed, which ended in the motion being carried by 15 votes to 10.

"The Modern Schoolboy is Effeminate" was the next motion for debate. J. A. Schofield proposed, declaiming against the wearing of fancy socks, the use of oils for the hair, and other similar practices of persons of his acquaintance. Ogden, the opposer, declared that he could never admit the truth of the motion so long as he remained at school. The motion was defeated by 17 votes to 12.

G. T. Lees next proposed that "A Knowledge of Sanskrit is useful in acquiring the Lancashire Dialect." He said that the Lancashire Dialect was a most expressive and eloquent one, and by a knowledge of Sanskrit it was much easier to understand it. Cleverley, in opposing, thought that—er-er- Sanskrit— might be helpful for anyone studying the Yorkshire dialect. The attitude of the meeting, however, was unfavourable to Sanskrit, and the motion was lost by 20 votes to 4.

February 12th, 1912. "The Yellow Race is destined to take the place of the White Race" was proposed by J. A. Bunting and opposed by A. W. Midgley. The proposer mentioned the great advance made by the Chinese of late years. They had adopted the best part of Western civilization, and had begun to abolish many of the barbarisms of the East. In the crusade against national evils, China had shown the characteristics of a great nation. Japan, too, had become a great power in a very short space of time. The opposer said the advance made by China had been very slow considering the length of time she had been a nation. True, the Japanese were now a great nation, but it was absurd to think that they would become powerful enough to dominate the world. Swales, Harding, Vipond, Gilbert, Wallace, Watkinson, Clynes, Stott, Cleverley, Mr. Forder, Whittaker, Halliwell, and G. T. Lees took part in the debate. The motion was defeated by 15 votes to 11.

February 26th, 1912. The last debate of the session was held on this date, when the motion of debate was that "The Disintegration of the Empire is threatened," proposed by F. Whittaker and opposed by A. Ingham. The proposer showed how the Dependencies of the British Empire were growing stronger and acquiring greater powers of self-government. In India there was much unrest and dissatisfaction with British rule. The union of the United States and Canada was nearer than ever before. At home the country

was divided into factions and parties, while Ireland, Scotland, and Wales were demanding home government. The opposer said that the principle of self-government in the Colonies strengthened the Empire since the central government was relieved. The danger of Canada uniting with the United States was very small indeed. The state of affairs in India had been greatly benefitted by the recent visit of the King G. T. Lees, Forster, Barlow, Harding, G. Gartside, Bunting, Ross, Clynes, and Mr. Forder also took part in the debate. The meeting was equally divided on the motion, each side obtaining 20 votes. The chairman gave his casting vote in favour of the motion.

March 26th, 1912. Annual Tea. On this date a large number of friends and members of the Society partook of tea which Mrs. Pickford had kindly prepared for the Society. After tea, a concert was held in the hall, when songs were sung by Mrs. Cockell, Mr. Pym, Mr. Woode, and members of the Society. Pianoforte solos were rendered by Mr. Ingham and Clynes, while Dr. Potter acted as accompanist. Recitations were given by Bunting and Ross, and to conclude the entertainment, an amusing farce, entitled "Schlöenharfzimmerachterbürgwäalheerengracht Canal," the joint production of Clynes and Swales, was enacted by those two members, together with Bunting and Gill. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent by everyone present.

F. W.



Natural History Society.

WHILE the practical work done by the Field and Microscopical Sections has left room for improvement, the number and quality of the various papers read at the weekly meetings of the combined section have been considerably above the average, and had been highly encouraging. Below we append reports of meetings:

Tuesday, January 16th, with Harding in the chair. At this meeting Swales read a paper, entitled, "The Cuckoo." He demonstrated how the bird, not hatching its own eggs, left this duty to other birds, thus necessitating that the eggs should bear some resemblance to those of the intended foster-parents. He explained that this was the cause of the great varieties of cuckoos' eggs, and then gave a somewhat lengthy account of the habits and characteristics of the bird from the hatching of the egg to the commencement of the migratory period.

Tuesday, January 30th.—At a general meeting, over which Mr. Pym presided, Sankey read a paper on "The Weasel Family." He included in a comprehensive and well-written paper most members of this family, and stated their characteristics, showing how and in what way they differ. A vote of thanks, proposed by Kershaw, seconded by Swales, and passed with acclamation, concluded a highly-instructive meeting.

Tuesday, February 6th.—On the above date, with Swales in the chair, Ratcliffe read a good paper on "Ants." He drew a good picture of the civilization of the Ant, a civilization which he compared with that of bees. He also described their mode of life, concluding a well-written paper with remarks about their appearance and structure. After a short discussion and a few questions, a vote of thanks was proposed by Harding, seconded by Swallow, and carried, and then the proceedings terminated.

Tuesday, February 13th.—On this date, with Mr. Pym in the chair, Lees G. T. read an interesting paper on "Sea Horses and Sea Dragons." The paper, detailed and well written, dealt particularly upon the points of similitude and of difference between the two classes, and described their favourite haunts. Mr. Pym gave further valuable information on the subject. To emphasise his remarks he made a sketch of a Sea Horse, which unfortu-

nately had its tail curled the wrong way. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks, proposed by Swales, seconded by Harding, and passed with thunderous applause.

(Our correspondent might have added that the error in the sketch would have passed unnoticed had not Mr. Pym himself observed it and called attention to it.)

Owing to special work the winter session terminated somewhat earlier this year, and several valuable papers (and promises) were perforce held over.

Owing to the Sports being held before Whitsuntide it was decided that no Rambles should take place during the half-term. On Tuesday, May 2nd, a committee meeting was called to decide routes for Rambles. The following were suggested:—The Wessendale Valley, Delamere Castle, and Taxal.

Mr. Pickford, who unfortunately could not be present at the meeting, afterwards suggested that Poynting be added to the list. Other business at the meeting: Lees G. T. was elected to the Field Section, vice Sankey, on the proposal of Mr. Pym, with Kershaw as seconder. J.S.

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THE CHAFFINCH.

The Chaffinch, which is the commonest of the finches, is one of the handsomest of our native birds, and his loud joyous song may be heard among the trees and hedges all through the Summer months. It is quite safe to say that he is one of our favourite songsters. In the South of England he regains his song early in February, but this takes place quite a month later in the North. For the first few weeks his is the most characteristic short song of the season. Though short, it is strong and fresh, and the bird seems to throw its whole soul into its music. He sings continually till the middle of July, when the moult commences. One of the peculiarities of the Chaffinch is, that his song is a strong incentive to

combat, and often two may be seen furiously fighting whilst singing loudly all the time, until their songs bursts out into mere harsh screams of defiance. Though they pair in February or March, nest building does not usually commence till April. The nest, when finished, is a wonderful piece of work, made of very varying materials, such as sticks, straw, feathers, wool, moss, and roots, all fearfully and wonderfully woven together to form a compact little home, and nearly a fortnight is taken up in its construction. The eggs vary from four to six in number, and are pale bluish green, spotted with purplish brown. Two or more broods are reared in a season. In Summer, the food of the Chaffinch consists largely of insects and larvæ; in Winter, grain, seed, and beech-mast form the principal fare. In the Autumn and Winter, Chaffinches often become gregarious, and the sexes separate to a certain extent, some flocks consisting of cocks only, and others entirely of hens. W.E.H.

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METROLOGICAL NOTES.

The work of the Metrological Society of the School has, for some time past, been somewhat varied, and rather of an experimental nature. The meetings of the Society have been rather broken up and irregular, owing to the mid-term holidays, the attractions of cricket, and the exacting business of exams.

A new system of weather forecasting has been tried, and M. Guilbert, the author of it, claims great efficiency for it. At first, peculiar results were obtained, owing to mis-application of the principles, but now the weather forecasters find M. Guilbert's system very helpful.

Among the recent additions to the School Library, is a book on "Weather Forecasting," by W. N. Shaw, and the book, which is most valuable and exhaustive, has been sought for and read with interest by most members of the Society.

As the weather for some time past has been in such a chaotic state, the forecasting and general recording of its

behaviour, though somewhat difficult to cope with, has been rendered much more interesting and attractive.

We are also pleased to welcome E. W. Whitehead, S. Stott, G. E. Wallace, and J. L. Bradbury as new readers for the Society. J.H.C

Football Notes.

THE Football season of 1911 12 has scarcely been as successful as the preceding one, but nevertheless it has shewn that if the same members again take the field the 1912-13 season ought to be a success.

The team this season has been badly handicapped in the matter of "old colours," only two members of last season's team remaining, and this necessitated a number of untried players being introduced into the team. In spite of this handicap, however, one or two notable successes have been achieved. The School for the first time gained a clever victory over Fairfield College, who perhaps provide us with our strongest opposition. They also defeated the Old Boys, drew with Bolton Grammar School, and succeeded in defeating a Masters XI. It is noticeable also that in those games in which the XI have suffered defeat, they have very often lost by the narrowest possible margin.

The Second XI have done rather badly, but have some excuse due to the heavy calls made upon them by the 1st XI.

With reference to the "House" matches the competition for the shield, unlike previous years, has been somewhat one-sided, Lees House carrying all before them.

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CRITIQUE.

Ingham A. (Goal). Not discovered until late in the season. Has kept a brilliant goal, and has greatly assisted in the team's later victories.

Swales (Left-Back). Has played fairly steadily throughout the season, and was notably successful against Bury G.S. Should practice long-range kicking.

Clynes (Right Back). An erratic, but at times brilliant back. Rather weak with the left foot, but is possessed of good pace.

Scawthorn (Left Half). A very steady half, particularly strong in defence. When attacking ought to keep the ball on the ground more, and not indulge in ballooning.

Lees, G. T. (Centre Half). A very hard worker. Should develop into a very good half with more practice.

Whittaker F. (Right Half). A robust player with plenty of dash and enthusiasm. Must practice placing the ball.

Midgley, A. W. (Left Outside). One of the best outsides the School has ever had. Must not imagine he is a centre forward, although in that position he has several times assisted the team.

Desden (Left Inside). A consistent player, and the best shot in the team. In the early part of the season appeared to be slow, but towards the end improved tremendously.

Gill, C. I. C., Captain (Centre Forward). Has been the emergency man of the team. Starting from back, to finish at centre forward.

Roseblade (Right Inside). The pattern weaver of the team sometimes indulges in this pastime to excess. Plays a nice combination game with his wing man.

Halliwell, G. (Right Outside). A speedy and plucky winger. His centres this season have not been perhaps quite accurate, but his cross shots have been very effective.

Of others who have assisted the team Bunting is worthy of special mention. He is an outside left, who except for a lack of weight, plays a very good game.

HOUSE MATCHES.—FIRST XI. MATCHES.

	First Round.			Second Round.			Total
	Assheton	Platt	Lees	Assheton	Platt	Lees	
Assheton	*	0	0	*	0	0	0
Platt	10	*	0	10	*	0	20
Lees	10	10	*	10	10	*	40

SECOND XI. MATCHES.

Assheton	*	4	0	*	0	0	4
Platt	0	*	0	4	*	0	4
Lees	4	4	*	4	4	*	16

Final result : Lees 56, Platt 24, Assheton 4.

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SCHOOL MATCHES.

Sept. 27th. v. Mr. COCKELL'S XI.—This was the first match of the season and neither team was in a very fit condition. The game nevertheless was fought at a great pace, and the result was in doubt until the final whistle. Mr. Cockell's team, however, definitely settled matters by scoring two good goals in the last five minutes. Result : Mr. Cockell's XI 5, School 4.

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Oct. 4th. v. BOLTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Away. School took a very disorganised team away with them, and there seemed little hope of victory. From the outset Bolton attacked, but the defence kept them out. However, after about twenty minutes Bolton registered the first goal. This was quickly succeeded by four more. In the second half School

had more of the game, Midgley making several praiseworthy efforts to break through the Bolton defence. But, as before, the Bolton forwards were too clever for us, and succeeded in registering five more goals. Result : Bolton 10, School 0.

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Oct. 11th. v. Mr. EDWARD'S XI. — This game was practically a repetition of the game with Mr. Cockell's XI. A tremendous pace was kept up throughout the 90 minutes play. The last few minutes were very exciting, School drawing level practically on time. Result : Mr. Edward's XI 5, School 5.

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Oct. 14th. v. BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Home. Bury brought a very strong team with them and we were badly overweighted. From the commencement School were hopelessly outclassed and never looked like scoring. The game needs no comment. Result : Bury 6, School 0.

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Oct. 18th. v. Mr. WOODE'S XI.—Another good game was produced although the ground was in a rather bad condition and all against accurate football. Our opponents were too heavy for us and their weight told against us in the heavy going. Mr. Cockell played a very good game for Mr. Woode's XI, and our halves were quite unable to hold him. Result : Mr. Woode's XI 8, School 3.

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Oct. 21st. v. BOWDON COLLEGE.—Home School had a full side out and a good game was expected. We won the toss and played with the wind, Clynes opening the scoring with a good shot. Shortly after this we registered a second goal, and at half-time had a comfortable lead of three goals. The second half saw a complete change in the game. Bowdon woke up to the fact that they were three goals down, and made several hot attacks on the School goal, from two of which they succeeded in scoring. With ten minutes left to play

excitement ran high. School defended desperately but Bowdon were not to be denied, and drew level with still five minutes for play left. In the last minute they were awarded a penalty kick from which they scored. Result : Bowdon 4, School 3.

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Oct. 25th. v. MANCHESTER 2nd. XI.—Away. This game was played on a heavy ground and in dull weather. Neither team played particularly good football, but the rushing tactics adopted by our opponents completely disorganised the School defence. School in the second half played much better, Roseblade in particular distinguishing himself. We did not, however, enjoy the best of luck, and retired beaten. Result : Manchester 6, School 4.

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Nov. 4th. v. WARRINGTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Away. School went away with a very weak team, only nine members being available. Warrington very kindly lent us two men and a very good game ensued. At half time we were four goals down, but in the second half we made a very determined effort and only just failed to equalise. The game was a very enjoyable one, and was played under splendid conditions. Result : Warrington 4, School 3.

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Nov. 8th. v. DR. POTTER'S XI. Dr. Potter had got together a very strong team for this game, and we expected a very hard struggle. The School ground was again in a very bad condition, and we were handicapped by a rather strong wind. The game was of a ding-dong character, first one side and then the other taking the lead. The attack on both teams was superior to the defence. Dr. Potter's team however eventually ran out winners. Result : Dr. Potter's XI 9, School 8.

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Nov. 11th. v. OLD BOYS. The Old Boys brought a fairly representative team, but it was quite obvious that the

members of it all sadly lacked practice. At half-time the score stood at one goal each. In the second half the School played very nice football, and shortly before the final Halliwell scored with a clever cross shot giving School their first victory of the season. Result: School 2, Old Boys 1.

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Nov. 22nd. v. STAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Home. This game was played under wretched conditions, rain and fog being on the ground the whole of the time. School played very badly, and lost the game mainly through our inability to accept the easiest of chances when they presented themselves. Result: Stand 2, School 1.

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Dec. 2nd. v. BOWDON COLLEGE.—Away. Bowdon placed a very strong team in the field, whereas School were not at full strength. The opening exchanges were fairly even, but gradually Bowdon found their feet and took command of the game. School were not at all sorry when the final whistle sounded. Result: Bowdon 4, School 2.

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Dec. 9th. v. MASTERS' XI.—Home. At this match the School team were deprived of their Captain, Gill, and in his place G. T. Lees was introduced at centre half. A stern fight was expected, and the eleven turned out determined, if possible, to make amends for their former defeats. The forwards especially showed great improvement and soon had the ball in front of the opposing goal mouth. They kept up a vigorous attack, and at half-time had succeeded in obtaining five goals, while School goal remained intact. During the second half, however, School backs were hard pressed by the forwards of the Masters' Team, but with one exception successfully repelled their attacks. Meanwhile School forwards had added another four goals to the score. Result: School 9, Masters 1.

Dec. 13th. v. STAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL. — Away. School team were further weakened by the absence of Clynes in addition to that of Gill. Sankey was played as right back, but was unfortunately disabled in the early part of the game. Stand played well and succeeded in scoring, but Bunting equalised before half-time. Early in the second half Midgley scored after a fine run up the field, but the constant pressing of the opposing forwards told on the backs, who were weakened by the loss of Sankey, and Stand succeeded in scoring three goals near the end of the game. Result: Stand 4, School 2.

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Jan. 20th. v. MANCHESTER 2nd XI.—Home. Cancelled.

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Jan. 27th. v. FAIRFIELD COLLEGE.—Away. This game requires no comment. Fairfield were far and away the superior team and School could never at any point of the game be said to hold an advantage. Result: Fairfield 6, School 0.

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Feb. 3rd. v. WARRINGTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Home. Cancelled.

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Feb. 17th. v. FAIRFIELD COLLEGE. — Home. This game, unlike the previous one, produced a very stern struggle, and the result was in doubt right up to the end. At half-time we were one goal down. Right from the commencement of the second half School attacked. A fierce bombardment of the Fairfield goal resulted in Desden scoring with a splendid shot, thus equalising. Not to be denied School again bore down on the Fairfield goal, and from a pretty passing movement the ball was passed to Desden, who scored for the third time with another splendid shot, and also gave School the lead. We maintained this lead to the end and ran out winners. Result: School 3, Fairfield 2.

Feb. 24th. v. BOLTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL. — Home. The School team displayed good form and looked very much like winning. They were not, however, fortune's favourites, and this, coupled with the fact that Roseblade and Gill both missed easy chances of scoring, allowed Bolton to equalise in the last minute. A draw was the result of a very pleasant game. Result : School 2, Bolton 2.

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Mar. 2nd. v. BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Away. This was one of the most enjoyable games we have had with Bury for some years. The game, despite the score, was remarkably even, and, but for some weak shooting by the School forwards, might have resulted in a draw. Result : Bury 4, School 2.

C. S. C. G.

The Four Gods.

ONCE had Gernulf, gaunt red Gernulf, been happy, wandering over the world with brother Hysloyk, but now was there unhappiness in his life. Unhappiness and emptiness had there been ever since Hysloyk came to the black abyss of Nyr, and, with a far-away look in his eyes, and a cold smile on his lips, stepped into its depths.

And Gernulf could wander no longer now, for now was the very salt of his life gone. Hysloyk, his twin brother, in the black depths of Nyr, looking up at the cold stars far away. So Gernulf mourned day and night, and stayed in one place, for he could not tread the world without Hysloyk.

And the place was a solitary sea shore, where weary birds called night and day, and the sea never rested in its beating of the rocks. And every day Gernulf went high up, to the top of a wind-swept hill where were his four Gods, for Gernulf and Hysloyk, being wanderers, had for

Gods none other than the North, the South, and East and West, and the four Gods were on four sides of the hill at its summit. The God of the East was nearest the Dawn, and was of silver, and gleamed coldly at the first touch of day. The God of the South was of gold. The Western God of copper, blood red in the rays of the sun falling low in the sky. And there was the North God, of cold dark iron; frowning, for he was Death. Hysloek in his wanderings had found and cherished him, Gernulf the other. And when Hysloek was gone Gernulf set up his temple of four Gods on the wind-swept hill top, and the dark North God had a red wand in his hand, for he was Death, and far away in the North, among the hills, was the chasm of Nyr and Hysloek.

And here came Gernulf every day, and looked upon the Iron One with grief in his heart, and thought of the lost Hysloek, and beheld the red wand of death and the grim frown.

Until one day and after that day he came never again, for when he looked at his four Gods, as the setting sun burnished the Western one, "O Hysloek!" he cried, suddenly—for the red wand was gone, and the Iron God's hand was empty, "O dark Iron God, I go North, for there is Nyr, and there shall I find my brother." And thus he saw the four Gods for the last time, with the Western God glowing red in the setting sun.

And Gernulf went North that very evening, he left his solitary sea shore, and the grinding sea and calling birds. Over stones and rocks, over roaring rivers, over rough mountains, higher he climbed until he reached the bleak mountains where was the abyss of Nyr.

And his ever-repeated cries of "Hysloek! I am coming!" grew weaker and fewer as he pressed on, haggard with strained haste and desire. And the fifth evening after

the evening he set out, he stood trembling on the very lip of the great black chasm of Nyr, with the bleak dark hills around. "Here shall I find my brother, Hysloyk!" he cried, and the hills gave back the cry of the moist-eyed Gernulf. Down in the chasm it rolled and rolled, "Hysloyk! Gernulf has come for you, I am here!" and, very faint, down in the blackness, the straining eyes of Gernulf saw the form of his long-gone Hysloyk, looking up to him and appealing "my brother! my brother! you are here at last!"

And Gernulf saw the face, and heard the voice of Hysloyk, and swayed weakly on the edge of the black abyss, as Hysloyk floated up towards him through its blackness, and became clearer and nearer.

Swayed to and fro, and then, as the dizzy world reeled about him, went down swiftly, down to his brother, with the same far-away look in his eyes, and the cold smile on his lips.

Gernulf and Hysloyk in the black depths of Nyr, looking up at the chill stars, and far away, the dark Iron God of the North frowned into the night. J.H.C.



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