

Hold Fast

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

EDITORIAL

Perhaps many of our readers consider this an inopportune time, owing to the conditions at home and abroad, to begin the publication of a monthly school paper. We consider, however, that now is the time for such a paper, to unite us to face the new world, and allow us to widen our outlook on life by reading the opinions of others.

We trust, however, that you will not regret your purchasing it, for in future years you will read it and remember your school days and their associations.

For this reason we hope to attain a high standard in Hold Fast with your co-operation. Consequently we ask you to submit articles of common interest, criticisms in the form of letters and these contributions, above all to continue to purchase your school paper.

We are proud to present in our first issue a poem by Will Lawson. We should like to mention that it is the only article not written by a student of the school except the "Joys of being an Editor," which speaks for itself.

We hope you will like our first issue. But you must realise that the paper cannot continue without your support, so don't delay those letters and articles.

In conclusion, we desire to thank Mr. Carlton and his staff for their generous co-operation and help.

C. CURTAIN and P. WEATE,
Joint Editors.

CHALK DUST

(By "Bored")

An English class was in progress, and logic was the topic under discussion.

The class was asked to look out the window, and when asked what they saw, some said, "trees," "fence," but Mitchell said, "a young lady?"

Teacher: You all saw the things which interests you most.

§ § §

Why does Murfett do his pri- studies in Room 19?

§ § §

Gault would go well in the 880.

§ § §

My first detention break was easy.

A girl in the cookery centre sent one of her scones to me with a file inside. Having previously tasted these, I ate the file and sawed my way out with the scones.

§ § §

Churchill was thinking of us when he nearly said: "Never has so few taught so little to so many."

§ § §

Was the "Mystery Man" at the social, such a mystery after all?

§ § §

"Bored" inquired from a junior: "Do you believe in the Divine Right of Prefects?" He replied: "Hath not a Prefect eyes? Hath not a Prefect hands, organs, dimensions, senses, passions? Fed with the same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to the same diseases, healed by the same means, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer, as I?"

VISIT TO HIS MAJESTY'S AUSTRALIAN DOCKYARDS

This article is abridged from an essay submitted by Eric Willis to the officials at the Dockyard.

We left school at 10 a.m., and the first thing we saw were the two merchantmen, then under construction, and were told by our guide—an engineer lieutenant—that the more complete one, River Loddon, had a rudder 15ft. 6in. and a propellor weighting 7 to 8 tons, and that the ship itself had a displacement of 9000 tons.

The ship rested on a slipway, thickly greased with tallow, and was supported by a row of wedges about 6 inches above the slipway



Launching of River Loddon.

and along the centre of the ship and by other rows of blocks and wedges. When the vessel is to be launched, the centre row of blocks is knocked away, and the weight then rests on the outside row just above the slipway. Then these wedges are released simultaneously, and the force of the weight of the ship when falling on the slipway compels the ship to slide down the floats surrounded by numerous other blocks and wedges, which it has forced down with it. This is accompanied by a lot of smoke from the friction which the sliding vessel has caused.

The plating on these ships is

half an inch thick and is rivetted on in slender lines. To make the rivets as flush as possible with the plates, a pressure of 125 lbs to the square inch is exerted on them. Its propellor when tested was adjustable so as to obtain a high peak of efficiency. The bows are 50ft. high, and are marked in feet.

Beneath the water, near the centre of the hull are gratings to admit water to cool the engines. Also there are 290ft. cranes for haulage purposes. Many smaller ones can be seen on rail trucks, tractor chassis, etc.

When we had seen the ship, we visited the shop where the angle irons are bent to form the ribs of the ship. In this shop there is a large furnace—operated by oil—which reaches a temperature of 1100 degrees Centigrade, and at this temperature the metal is heated red hot. It is then drawn from the furnace into a stud floor, fitted with large round holes about two and a half inches in diameter, in which poles are inserted, and around these poles the iron is bent by a small hydraulic pressure machine.

The men in this shop have to be accurate and quick, and the metal cools quickly, and the slightest inaccuracy would involve serious complications in the hull. They assured themselves of accuracy by their frequent use of the "T" square.

We then visited the shop in which they produce the plates for the side of the ship from the unshaped steel plates which they buy. Various machines are used to do this, some punching holes, others cutting it into various shapes and sizes, and these processes require a machine which can exert an enormous pressure.

The next phase in the ship-building industry which we saw was the engine-testing room, where the ship's engines are thoroughly tested before being installed in the hull. When we entered this large room the smell of oil and friction between belts and steel was prevalent, and the dull, monotonous throb of the engines could be heard in every corner of the room.

The last department which we

visited was the shop where the funnels are made. Funnels, contrary to popular opinion, consist of two elliptical cylinders, the outer having a major axis of about 15 feet and a minor axis about 10 feet.

We then assembled at the entrance to the docks and Mr. Townsend thanked the engineer-lieutenant, who showed us around.

GIRLS' SPORTING SECTION

On Wednesday, May 10, our girls' tennis team played against U.H.S. at the Liston Courts, Williamstown.

Against such experienced opposition, the girls played an excellent game, the final scores being 40-7, in favor of U.H.S.

This was their first match of the year, and with the knowledge gained from playing against such superior quality, it should improve their play immensely, thus rendering them more capable to try again.

§ § §

EX-STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

The "Exies" have secured the Talbot Hall, Ferguson Street, Williamstown, for future dances. This change will be welcomed by the locals, but those living along the line will suffer no inconvenience, owing to its proximity to North Williamstown station.

Two dances have been arranged for June, Friday, June 9, and Friday, June 30, but from July 8 the fourth Friday in each month will be maintained as a regular function.

Arrangements are proceeding to hold a series of monthly lectures in the school hall commencing on June 23. Watch notice board for further details.

§ § §

MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSION

Exacting cross-examination by Mr. Charles, revealed little light on the subject of a mysterious explosion which occurred on a Tuesday some time ago, at dinner-time at about 12.21 in the school yard.

There were many suggestions made as to its origin, and they all agreed that a bottle was shaken

by some individual, which exploded—the bottle, not the individual.

Although Mr. Curtain, an authority on explosives, doubts the probability of such an explosion without other contributory factors, there is no doubt the explosion did occur, for it was heard at Rowdon's corner.

When it was discovered that one member of the Fifth Form was missing, rapid and careful investigations were made, which eventually solved the problem.

§ § §

IV C TOFFEE DAY

On Friday, the last day of the term, the members of Form IV C, who are all girls, held a very successful toffee day from which they raised about £3/10/- for patriotic purposes. We congratulate them, and hope others do likewise.

§ § §

The following poem was generously contributed to "Hold Fast" by Mrs. Lawson, wife of the famous Australian poet. It was written by one of that family and has not yet been published. We thank Mrs. Lawson for allowing us to present this poem in our first issue.

LIFE'S THEATRE

We are a gallant company
Which acts great plays or parts,
And some are slaves and others
free

And some have breaking hearts;
But each one has his destiny
Though low or high he starts.
We strut as kings or crouch as
knaves

Or as true lovers pose;
It matters not how each behaves
So that his part he knows . . .
Nor whether in the mart of slaves
His value ever grows
From faintest dawn to set of sun
Much mirth or woe comes true,
Tragic or sweet the stories run,
Or comedies construe . . .

I wonder when the plays are done
What all the actors do?
Does each one wait with eager
face

For his last curtain call
From that vast theatre of space
So misty to us all?
Who listens in that splendid place
Whose very stars appal?

FIRST TERM SOCIAL

The senior pupils' social evening was held in rooms eleven and twelve on the evening of May 18. It was attended by about two hundred members of the fourth and fifth forms, all of whom had a very enjoyable time, dancing to the music of Mrs. Greasley's orchestra.

It was pleasing to note that most of the dances were performed very well, especially the Barn Dance, and other similar favorites.

Our thanks for the success of the evening are due largely to Mr. Archer's untiring efforts as M.C., also to Mr. Townsend, Miss Cook and the prefects, for their many suggestions furthering its enjoyment.

Invitations to attend were sent to Miss Burns, Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie, and Mr. and Mrs. Southey, but unfortunately none of these were able to attend owing to a previous engagement. However they all expressed a desire to be present on some future occasion.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Townsend, Miss Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Brittain, Mr. and Mrs. Hosey, Mr. and Mrs. Archer, Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson, Mr. and Mrs. Grieve, Miss Facey, Miss Byatt, Miss Northey, Miss Gritton, Miss Peatt, who we understand is to resume her position on the staff early next term. Mr. Donavon and Mr. Sinclair, who arrived late. We were very glad to see so many of the staff there, and especially those who brought their husbands and wives, and we hope they all enjoyed themselves.

The supper was most enjoyable, and the girl prefects must be congratulated on the splendid fashion in which they decorated rooms three and four.

The social was also a great success financially, for we received a total profit of about £1/12/-, which will be used to improve the school.

Getting out this journal is no picnic.

We would also like to apologise for the former delays in production.

FIFTH FORM SUGGESTION

It has been suggested to the students of Form V that they should make some contribution to the school at the end of the year as a memento. This usually takes the form of a work of art, bought directly from the artist at a cut price, which is then placed in the drawing room.

We think this is a splendid idea, and hope that you will act upon it.

If we print jokes people say we are silly.

If we don't, they say we are too serious.

If we clip things from other magazines, we are too lazy.

If we don't we are struck on our own stuff.

If we don't print some contributions,

We don't appreciate true genius.

And if we do print them the paper is filled with "junk."

Now, like as not, someone will say we

"Swiped" this from some other journal. We DID.

There has been opened a campaign for waste—especially rags, from Monday, June 5 to June 12, and we want you to back it up to your utmost as they are most necessary for warfare.

They require sheets, curtains, or any other cloth which has very little or no fluff, and by bringing them to school, the relief fund will benefit by 17/- for every cwt. They do not require any old carpets.

ROWDEN'S

THE BETTER DAIRY

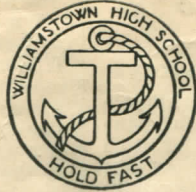
FOR

BETTER MILK

51 Verdon Street,
Williamstown Beach

PHONE:

WILLIAMSTOWN 260.



Hold Fast

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

EDITORIAL

You are now reading the second issue of "Hold Fast," and we hope you like it as much as the first. We had no difficulty in selling the first issue, and hope that we have the same experience this time.

We are also considering, with your sanction, the publication of a "Record of News" on all the main events of the term at the end of each term. If you think this is a good idea or if you have any improvements, write and tell us.

Despite the pessimistic attitude of some who consider it impossible to create a school yearly magazine as well as the monthly one, we think otherwise. Our informers quoted as an example the unsuccessful attempt in that direction some years back. However, that was during the critical stage of the war, and we think the possibilities better this time.

At the beginning of most of the sections we have extended an invitation to contribute in these sections. We hope you avail yourself of the opportunity. As can be seen, this edition is no bigger than the last, simply because of the lack of contributions. We are sure that a school of this size should be able to present a better job than this.

This issue will also be distributed through the third forms, and we invite them to make any contributions they desire.

The Editors—

C. CURTAIN and P. WEATE.

"CHALK DUST"

(By "Bored")

"Two's company, three's a crowd." This social law may be also applied to certain persons riding home from school along Melbourne Road. If I remember rightly, they were three abreast.

Should the members of Form V. designate one of their private studies to the signing of forms?

Heard of a lad in 4B who cut off his fingers so that he could write shorthand; killed his parents in order to go to the orphans' picnic; and took his bike to bed so that he would not have to walk in his sleep.

After accurate and patient scientific research it has been definitely established that the "squander bug" is a grounded gremlin.

The door of Room 20 should be identified as such, and one would not have innocent juniors struggling frantically to open the wall.

It has been suggested from certain quarters that the school badge—an anchor—should be changed to a ship's bell.

I notice Form IVa has taken an increased interest in pinning up pictures of aeroplanes (?) on the wall.

SCHOOL NEWS

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

We, the editors, are contemplating the formation of a club, comprising members of the Fourth and Fifth Forms, as yet. As can be seen, there is a questionnaire accompanying this paper which we ask you to consider carefully and then to fill it in. These forms will be collected later (i.e., the separate ones).

The girls also should not hesitate to place themselves in any group they desire. The method of answering will be for you to number each group in the order of preference, number one being most preferred. There are a number of other things also required of you. When we have accumulated sufficient evidence, we can submit definite facts to Mr. Townsend for his consideration. You will then be told of all the results at a meeting which will be held later.

We hope and encourage you to co-operate in this movement, for through it you will become more closely acquainted with your fellow students and teachers on the ground of common interest. You will also profit by the experience gained in expressing yourself and thinking for yourself, and be trained for participating in the functions of democracy.

The Editors.

The list of subjects available to you is given here, as well as on the accompanying sheet:—

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| (a) Aeronautics. | (f) Nautical. |
| (b) Art. | (g) Political. |
| (c) Horticulture. | (h) Scientific. |
| (d) Literary. | (i) Social. |
| (e) Musical. | (j) Sporting. |
| (k) Theatrical. | |

The student is also invited to add to this list any other group he or she desires, and include this group in his or her selection.

THE MYTH OF MR. MCGILL

It has been stated in some quarters, and even in the Press, that Mr. McGill is expected to be leaving the school soon. From most reliable authority we can deny that statement, and only hope that he will continue his splendid work as teacher and sports master.

"RING THE BELL SEXTON"

We have great pleasure in announcing the promotion of one, William Thompson, who is our representative in the Sea Scouts. After many years of faithful service of breaking the flag of a Monday morning, he has been elevated to the coveted position of striking the hour on "Big Ben," our new addition to the school.

IIIId EFFORT

The students of IIIId did an excellent job on Monday last in the organising of a novelty sale, and should be a great financial success. At the time of writing definite figures were not at hand.

Commodities sold were hot dogs, sausage rolls, cakes, sponges, confectionery and other edibles. The proceeds are for Social Service. They were assisted by Miss Virtue.

LATEST STATISTICS

Here are the latest statistics concerning school work which has come to hand:—War Savings, £3096; War Relief Direct Giving, £80 (this year); Social Service, £31.

EX-STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

On July 21, at 8.15 p.m., in the School Hall (rooms 11 and 12) there will be held the first of the lectures arranged by the Exies. The speaker will be an English chemist now employed at I.C.I., Deer Park. He will relate his experiences on the journey from England to Australia during the most critical period of the war. Supper will be provided and admission will be a silver coin for the Ex-Students' Scholarship Fund.

Next dance, July 28, Talbot Hall. On future occasions they will be held every fourth Saturday in each month.

ROTARY CLUB LUNCHEON

Although it is not commonly known, the school was asked to send two representatives to a luncheon which they held recently. It was also stated that they should have some connection with the Y.M.C.A.

Two members of the Fifth Form were chosen, J. Urquart and Alex Grant, and they left for Footscray in the mid-morning recess.

They had a most enjoyable time, receiving an interesting talk from a Presbyterian clergyman and an

excellent lunch. They met many eminent men of Footscray and Williamstown, and were very interested in the organisation of the club. It is usual for the school to receive an invitation from the Rotary Club at least once in a year, and it can only be hoped that they continue to do so.

CONTRIBUTIONS

We would like to thank those who have already contributed to this edition and those who have helped to make it possible.

We invite anyone else in the school to make some contribution—poetry, form notes, articles on any subject, which will be printed under this section if satisfactory.

The Editors.

A "NOW" ON LAST PERIOD

(By Dorothy J. Hughes, IVb)

With apologies to Leigh Hunt.

Now the bell is ringing and the students listen to the master as he begins his long lecture. Now they hear the sound of the gut as it meets the ball, the crack of willow, the smack of the leather and the buzz of the bee. Soon they will be outside.

Now the teacher gives notes the students write spasmodically. They pay some attention now, for in the hands of their master lies the power of retribution—to pass or fail.

Now the bell rings, they collect their books and stand. Now the teacher says "We will wait until we have finished this interesting problem." They sit aghast.

Now it is five of the clock, they hear the sound of the players as they depart, the dusk is dropping slow, and now the last bell is ringing.

Now we won't have any sport!

SOCIAL FINANCE

We have now at hand the final report on the social—that is, the financial side. We stated last time that about £1/12/- was the balance to our credit, but as can be seen this will need revision.

Receipts—£12/13/-. Expenditure—Music, £3; Supper, £6/11/-; Sundries, £1/3- (prizes, paper, etc.); Total Expenditure, £10/14/-; Balance, £1/19/-.

SOCIAL NEWS

Last month there have been a number of dances and other social functions at which members of the school attend. The Scouts, ex-Students, and the Life Saving Club each put on at least one good turn in the month. These are all well attended and an excellent atmosphere prevails.

PICTURE SHOW

Tcm Malios, of 4b, is planning to hold another picture show this term. We hope that all will view it, and that it will be as great a success as the last one which was held. This raised nearly £8/10/- for the War Relief Fund.

TELL ENGLAND

(J. MacKinley, IVc)

Tell England how her soldiers fought for her across the sea;
Tell England how they won for her with their fidelity;
Tell her that some perished, you who conquered and returned.
Tell her when you meet her how the Torch of Freedom burned.

Tell her when you go there, how their thoughts returned to home;

To Dover, with its white cliffs, and St. Paul's Cathedral dome.

Tell her of her youths, who have learnt to grow up free;

Of their trials, as they brandished high their freedom, liberty.

How the rose of England's youth cast petals on the flame

Of war; how her horde of gallant youths upheld her royal name.

Tell England, if she needs it, how 'in peace as well as war,

Her children's souls go marching on to victory as before.

If her colours need upholding on some strange and foreign sand;

Tell her "Keep her courage high," don't forget it—tell England.

Stab Kicks—M. MacPherson has been elected captain and S. Andrews vice, but the latter will not be playing as yet owing to an injured ankle. We wish them both luck.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

We invite any of our readers, whether they be students or not, to contribute to this subject, either as criticism or some new thought.

We do not of necessity endorse any of the views expressed here.

—The Editors.

Dear Sirs,—In recent weeks the job of the Prefects has been magnified by the foolishness of the Fifth Form. In past years the Fifth Form has given the Prefects its fullest support, but this year is an exception. There have been several instances where a Prefect has been reprimanding a junior, but along came a Fifth Form "HERO" and rescued the junior.

The Fifth Form must realise that the Prefects cannot work properly and effectively without their undivided support. I appeal to the Fifth Form to support the Prefects, and to make their job a little easier.—(Signed) "Just Another Stooze."

Dear Sirs,—Among my reading I came across a rather interesting paragraph on education and the teaching aspect. It is from "Straight and Crooked Thinking," by Robt. Thouless—"This is the spirit we want through all education—not teachers who use their prestige to force meek acceptance of what they say, but those who retain to the end of their days the spirit of students, always ready to learn more, and expecting from those whom they have to teach, argument, contradiction, and above all, the impartial testing of the truth."

It is a very interesting passage, and I trust that none of our staff are guilty of such a fault. We must, nevertheless, be prepared to accept some facts in some cases, from those who know better than us. We must be careful to see what statements we are to accept and what we are to question.—Yours, etc., "Foo."

Dear Sirs,—I would just like to make one comment while passing by. Why do members of the senior football team have to go without a hot shower after a strenuous match? Williamstown supplies this, Newport doesn't.—Yours, etc., "Sport."

SPORTING SECTION

Girls' Basketball—The result of this season's play so far is as follows:—

Koalas, 27; Possums, 24; Dingoes, 21; Wombats, 13.

It is hoped that Wombats will pick up in time to compete in the finals.

Boys' Junior Football—Last Wednesday week the junior football team played Hampton team at Brighton Beach. The scores were:

Final:—	gls.	bd.	pts.
Williamstown ..	6	9	45
Hampton	3	8	26

The goalkickers were: Bolitho, 4; Mundy, 1; Henderson, 1.

The best players were: Bolitho (captain), Mundy, McMeaken, Henderson, Knight and Mackay.

SENIOR FOOTBALL

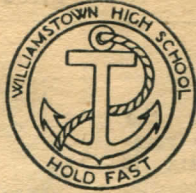
Prospects for this Season—The senior football team is very hopeful for a successful season. Although the team is weakened by the absence of such players as Buchanan, and several others, Buchanan being the captain last year. It is also on the small side, but despite these factors it should make the other teams fight extremely hard.

The back line is efficiently led by Jones and Burkit, and is solid. With Angwin picking up the crumbs it should stand an even chance against opposing forwards.

The forward line, with Abberton in the strategical position, is strong, and the team pins its hopes in the full forward to hold his own in attack. Helping Abberton are Noye and Sutherland on the half-forward flanks. Sutherland has been transferred from the wing position, which he held last year.

The centre, with Taylor in the pivot, and Mann and Twist on each side, is small, reliable, intelligent and speedy. They should prosper in this position.

As can be seen from this description the team is in a fairly good position, although Chambers, Martin, Garnett and Elliot have left, who were the main constituents of the ruck. We hope that with the help of MacPherson, Ashmole and Giles, that this weakness will, however, be removed.



Hold Fast

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 Editors—P. Weate and C. Curtain. PRICE 3d.

The Ball was a Great Success

The Balls held on Monday and Wednesday some little time ago, were a huge success, or at least from eight—ten. They were also a success financially, for about £180 was collected.

During these two hours the junior pupils of the school gave an exhibition of dancing, taught to them by Madame Bindley. Her pupils enjoyed themselves immensely, and the dresses of the girls and the "hair-dos" of both sexes, showed these young dancers to their best effect.

The individual items were also excellently rendered, proving that we have plenty of good talent in, or has passed through, the school. The finale was especially attractive, and it was to the Madame's credit.

From the visitors' point of view, however, the Balls did not seem to run so smoothly. After ten the floor was still overrun by hordes of juniors, which added to the congestion already caused by the multitude packed between the numerous rows of seats.

Other irregularities tended to support this impression of poor organisation; times were not strictly adhered to, band rather poor, and the programme was rather inefficiently arranged. Otherwise it was enjoyed very

much, which is the chief thing, but mainly by the Senior Football team, who found that it was excellent training.

Mr. Townsend, Mr. Sinclair, Mr. McGill, Mr. Grieves, and the prefects all assisted in the organisation. We would also like to thank Mr. Donovan and Mr. Charles for helping to swell the numbers present.

SECOND TERM SOCIAL

The Second Term Senior Social was held last Thursday evening and it was an excellent dance, as it usually is.

Everyone joined in the fun, and during the more popular dances, everyone shouted for more. Unfortunately it stopped at 10.30, but it could have continued until 2.0 without any difficulty.

We would like to thank Mr. Archer, who was M.C., the form captains for collecting the money, the prefects, and Miss Cook.

MOVING PICTURE SHOW

IVb — IVb

Room 2, Second Week, Third Term, Forms 1—5, Admission Silver Coin.

IN AID OF SOCIAL SERVICE

T. Malios, D. Cameron
 Joint Managers.

EDITORIAL

We have just concluded the second term; we are now commencing the third term, and it gives us great pleasure to be able to present to you this larger edition on such an occasion. We must thank our contributors for this increase in size, for it is they who have made this increase possible. To maintain this present size, all of you will have to make some effort in the form of articles or jokes. The editors only direct the production of a paper, they do not write it.

It is hoped that the slight increase in price will not inconvenience any of you.

When writing your articles make them as good as possible, for this paper reflects your attitude to the world, and it is only by giving us your best that it can create the correct impression.

Mr. Yates, of "The Herald," and an ex-student, also deserves our thanks. He made a special journey to Williamstown to see us about the paper, and has taken a keen interest in it.

Hoping you all enjoy "Hold Fast,"
—The Editors.

EX-STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

The experiences of Mr. A. H. Ayling, related elsewhere in this issue, were originally recounted at the July gathering held by the "Exies."

The August feature was conducted by the Shell Co., whose representative showed a number of short educational and amusing films—complete with sound.

Unfortunately, neither of these excellent features were very well attended, but we hope to see you, your parents and their friends, on Friday, September 15th in the School Hall. The lecture will be conducted by Capt. Hartley Watson.

Next dance: Fourth Friday (September 22nd), Talbot Hall.

THE FIRST STEP

(By F. T. Yates of the "Herald")

"A very commendable effort," was Mentor's comment after he had read the second edition of Hold Fast. Mentor has for many years been writing and visiting school happenings, including both sport and social, therefore his opinion, whether commendable or otherwise, is valuable.

A school magazine should reflect the "spirit" of the school, which is no more than the thoughts, actions and reactions of the students. The most obvious way to reflect those opinions is through the school's magazine.

"Has the school any organisations or clubs?" queried Mentor. I pointed out to him that the editors were desirous of forming clubs and had asked students to submit their preference. Taking into account other schools' organisations, sport and social clubs should have the largest following. A sports club should embrace all school sports, and a social club could be furthered into a discussion group, where other suggested clubs could be inaugurated.

Public schools may score in that they have facilities provided for them, but that is not to say that a High School cannot provide itself with outside school-room advantages. The formation and development of the school magazine is the first step, clubs the next.

You have the magazine . . . what about the clubs?

LORD HAW-HAW

Perhaps you have heard of him. He was popular and dangerous. The story of his death is amazing, and is told by Brett Rutledge, a British spy. The reasoning behind it is fascinating and brilliant.

Brett Rutledge was a spy who specialised in food. He had convicted many enemy agents because of their lack of vigilance in selecting their menu. He was

visited by Mr. Henri Henri, a French code specialist, who regarded the broadcasts of Lord Haw-Haw, or the Peer of Zeelson, from Berlin, as being extremely dangerous to the morale. He was popular because he sounded "English," and generally told the truth about such things as war profiteers.

When Mr. Rutledge commenced to study the "Peer's" speeches, he discovered a number of interesting things. He was sometimes impersonated by someone else, and he seldom used notes. The latter was most important, because it proved that he was high in Nazi favor.

After carefully tabulating Haw-Haw's speeches, he gained a mental picture of him, from the speeches. He then vainly combed Berlin for a person who might answer to his description.

He then made records of all the "Peer's" speeches at New York, Spain, England, France and Germany. From these records a number of interesting conclusions were drawn. When the broadcasting from Berlin to France was not clear, Haw-Haw was clear at Paris. When Berlin to New York was not clear, Haw-Haw was heard in New York clearly. They then assumed that the Peer of Zusen was in New York.

They also discovered that in an attempt to throw off any such disclosure, the broadcasts were occasionally performed by a "blind" in Berlin, and artificial static was often used—produced from a record. He then proceeded in two directions, firstly to find the man, secondly to find the place from which he broadcasted.

To find the man he studied his speeches, and from them he concluded that the "Peer" hated women, hated sport, was rich, knew five to six languages, liked good beer, was well read, but knew little of military and scientific affairs. Brett then sent watchers into the best beer-gardens in New York, in an attempt to find a middle-aged,

educated, rich man, with male companions.

Rutledge used spotters in cars and planes to detect the station from which he broadcasted. They narrowed their search to a fair sized block. In that block there was nothing which could be used as an aerial in sight.

Meanwhile they had detected a man who might have been Lord Haw-Haw, and after carefully watching, it was decided it was he. Tall, 45 years old, well groomed, and a Van Dyke beard.

It was also discovered, by accident, that whenever Haw-Haw broadcasted, there was a large butter van in the vicinity of the block which they had detected previously. Then they discovered that a tall, white flagpole, in the middle of a square, was the antenna. From it there radiated wires underground to the road, and they stopped in a box, under the surface of the road. The butter van would come up, transmitter inside, a trapdoor under it open, the wire be connected into the road wire, and the broadcast commence! A most ingenious arrangement.

Lord Haw-Haw was then followed, and in an ensuing fight, killed.

WHAT THEY ARE READING NOW

(By "Colomba.")

- "Utility Hose," by C. M. Runn.
- "The Invisible Man," by I. C. Nuthin.
- "The Famine," by Henrietta Horse.
- "The Gym. Instructor," by Ben Downe.
- "They Slugged Him," by M. T. Saddle.
- "A Yank at Footscray," by L. O. Sister.
- "Windy Days," by Watt A. Kite.
- "The Second Pint," by Phyllis Glass.
- "The Closed Door," by Enock Dwice.
- Famous last words—"But I disagree, Mein Fuhrer."

EDITOR'S POST BAG

Dear Sirs,—

In comment of Rooms 16, 15, 14 and 13, we, of Room 16, have the inconvenience of a leaking roof, rattling walls, and draughty boards. Since the need is so great, we think that something should be done to make the room more habitable. We are sure the pupils of Rooms 13, 14 and 15 think likewise.—Yours, etc.,

"FED UP."

(Dear "Fed Up,"—We understand that there is a possibility of five new buildings being constructed instead of the ones about which you are complaining.—Eds.)

Dear Sirs,—I wish to know why the Prefects pick on first and second formers, mostly to gather up the rubbish scattered through the yard at lunch hour.

"ONE OF THEM."

Dear Sirs,—It has been mentioned in the last issue of "Hold Fast," that the ship's bell should be inscribed on the school badge instead of the anchor.

If this is done, why shouldn't the motto be changed to "Ring True?"—Yours, etc.,

(Signed) FUMF" (Foo's brother).

Dear Sirs,—I think it is a good idea, and I am sure others will agree, that we, the senior students of Williamstown High School, should form a students' committee which could act in conjunction with the School Advisory Council in the matter of a new school, which we are told is to be erected in the very near future.

For who are better fitted to know the wants of the students than the students themselves.—Yours, etc.,

"AMBITIOUS."

(Editorial Comment: Could such a function be performed by the club, which was mentioned previously?)

Dear Sirs,—Whilst passing the North State School on my way back to school one recent lunch hour, I observed that the news was being broadcast to the pupils through a system of loud speakers.

I was amazed to think that the pupils at the "North State" (the eldest of whom comes only to our second form) are thus kept informed of current events, while the students at our "higher elementary" school, who take such an interest in affairs at home and abroad, are left without such a convenience.

Incidentally, the same system of loud speakers is used by the headmaster when he addresses the pupils at assemblies, so that his words are not inaudible in the back row.—Yours, etc.,

"SINBAD'S SON."

Dear Sirs,—We were thrilled to read the second edition of your paper; in fact so thrilled that we thought it fitting to write and tell you how much we appreciated it.

We also want to praise your initiative and trust that the size of the paper and its circulation will rapidly increase. We also hope that you will gain added support from the staff so that dear old W.H.S. will produce a paper worthy of such a fine school.

With all best wishes for continued success,—Yours, etc.,

Irene Burkitt, Jill Rendall, Betty Dolphin, Daphne Shilton, Peggy Clark, and Melva Booth.

SIX EX-STUDENTS.

Dear Sirs,—May I crave space in your worthy paper to protest against the petty, but irksome disciplinary measures lately imposed upon us. Perhaps time has proved that the iron rule of the rod acts swiftly and surely, but for a change why not use a bit of tact and persuasion with the higher forms at least?

About the hat measures: Australians are usually considered hot headed enough without add-

ing to it. I would sarcastically suggest, during the summer months anyhow, ice packs as a substitute.

It would be better to get down to more arterial matters such as a quicker and better organisation of the various clubs arranged not to take up school time; a larger supply of seats for the yard, and adequate accommodation during wet weather.

"U. GRUMBLER."

Dear Sirs,—May I inform you of a new menace which looms on the horizon of our fair school? Not prefects or teachers on yard duty, but an omnivorous monster, which hungrily devours the contents of that almost unobtainable commodity — the common paper bag. He is quite disconcerting as he has often been seen nonchalantly nibbling a corner of 'Symons.' For a that we hope he does not get indigestion. The rattling season will soon start, and "D" day will be with us.—Yours,

"LA PETITE SISTERS."

MR. AYLING'S INTERESTING EXPERIENCES

Before Mr. Ayling came to Australia as a fuse expert, he was employed at Woolwich Arsenal in England. At 1930, there were 75 people employed there, six months after the war, there were 1200 people.

During the tremendous Nazi thrust into France they were kept in the arsenal for seven days, all working feverishly filling fuses for the anti-aircraft guns. As soon as they were filled they were transported to the post without any testing. They received the latest war news by radio and telephone.

Then came Dunkirk and the blitz. More untested shells were

sent out. One small area of Woolwich alone received 700 bombs, five of which hit buildings. Some distance from Woolwich was a useless two-acre field. That field was plastered with bombs for some reason, and two Nazi fighters were shot down in it.

It had been decided to shift the arsenal to Chorley, and the staff for it were chosen at random with no distinction—manager to office boy.

A small way from Mr. Ayling's residence was a huge barn used for storing wooden patterns. The barn itself was coated with tar, as is done each year in England as a preservative. The barn was hit by incendiaries and it blazed away furiously. Then some high explosives were dropped into the conflagration. The result was astounding. The windows of Mr. Ayling's house were hurled in at a terrific rate, and the window frames went with them.

When he was told that he had to go to Australia, as we intended to make armaments which we had not made previously, he prepared to go on 12th May, 1941, but his ship was sunk by a bomb.

While waiting one day during a thunderstorm he saw eight out of 273 barrage balloons explode from lightning—an amazing sight. The cable must have been deadly as it snaked earthwards!

He set out two weeks later and reached Panama. There he was continually questioned about England. Some of the guards inquired about the hand-to-hand fighting which allegedly occurred during the invasion of Southern England!

Leaving Panama he made a warm but uneventful trip to Melbourne, where it immediately commenced to drizzle! That was not what he expected, but he reconciled himself to his fate, and commenced his employment at L.C.I., and later at Deer Park.

SCHOOL NEWS

Suggestion from Ex-Student
(Maggie)

This ex-student wishes to voice his disapproval of the way in which sport is lost on a Wednesday afternoon, if the weather is wet. The afternoon is usually spent in dull and uninteresting private studies.

He suggests three remedies for this fault. Firstly, dismiss the school, secondly, substitute Thursday's or Friday's afternoon period and have sport on any of those days, or thirdly, have some indoor sport—wrestling or boxing.

What do you think?

Gruesome Excursion

Two fourth form boys, Spencer and McGrath, have achieved an ambition by having their names mentioned in "Truth," but by a different means to which we expected!

While having dinner near the Yarra, these lads observed a dead body floating on the surface of the river. They finished their lunch and then searched for a policeman. McGrath and the policeman went out in a boat, with the policeman rowing. McGrath hooked the body and it was dragged to the shore.

It Pays to be Smart

"Muffles" recently won a small sum for successfully challenging a question asked during Manton's "Battle of the Sexes."

Promotion

It is with pleasure that we announce the promotion of Alex (Sandy) Grant to the exalted rank of a prefect. On behalf of the school we congratulate him on his new office.

And Yet Another Promotion

This time it is not a new prefect, Morris Gordon (more affectionately known as "Maggie")

a member of the A.T.C., has gone one step up—he is now a Corporal. We congratulate this fine achievement, as this is the first promotion among fifth form A.T.C. lads this year.

LIBRARY NEWS

Many new volumes have been added to the form libraries, and we trust that you will make full use of them. If there are any books in your reading list which are not in your library, and are obtainable, please notify Miss Facey at once.

The libraries have been centralised, and here is the time table of library periods:—

Form V, Room 17, Friday,
12.30-12.45.

Form IV, Room 19, Tuesday,
12.25-12.45.

Form III, Room 14, Wednesday,
12.25-12.45.

Form II, Room 12, Thursday,
12.20-12.50.

Form I, Room 6, Friday, 12-
12.22.

The rules of the library are as follows:—

1. All borrowers must possess a library card (price, one penny), obtainable from girls of 4D. This suffices for the entire year.

2. Not more than one volume may be borrowed at the one time.

3. Subject to Rule 2 above, a volume may be borrowed each week, but borrowers retaining a volume for longer than a fortnight, will have a fine of one penny per week imposed upon them.

4. Borrowers must not interchange volumes with one another, or lend a volume to a non-borrower.

5. Volumes lost or damaged must be replaced by the borrower concerned or the price of another copy paid.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Again we invite all to contribute something in this column.

ENGLISH SHIPS

Across a watery waste of sea,
The sea that's God's domain,
The sturdy ships of English oak,
Will rule the seas again.

Britain's men and Britain's freedom,

Never shall be lost again;
Never meant for over-ruling.
But to rule the "Glorious Main."

Glory! Glory to them all,
Men that sail the seven seas,
Through the mountainous, towering billows,

Or rocked and cradled on the breeze.

Knights that do not wear an armour,
Like the grand old knights of old,

Fearless fighting—onward ever!
Brave and daring, great and bold.

England's men who fight for England,

Men who give to us a name;
England's Glory, England's Honour.

England revered fighting name.
(Mary Wolstenholme, III.d.)

"TEMPUS FUGIT"

(By "Asmodeus.")

The truth of the above motto is pointedly illustrated by glancing through that condemnatory record of unpunctuality—the late book. In it is recorded the name and form of the late-comer, but the most exacting and exhausting particular which has to be supplied, is the REASON.

As one travels through life, he is continually met with the question, why this? why that? So it is, when on arriving late at school, you are sent (never voluntary) to "sign the late-book," and thus explain one's irregularity. The name and form is

easily supplied, but the reason presents some obstacle.

Many of the offenders make such an enlightening statement as, "Late for school"! What depth of meaning and compassion is expressed in those words—an excellent reason. But reader, never degrade yourself by using such an excuse. This statement is obviously meant to evade the issue, and is therefore treason.

Others make some attempt at an excuse. But such phrases as these: "Had a puncture," "Missed train," "Crowded locker," or "Jambled locker," should all be regarded with contempt and suspicion by any intelligent person.

But through these crudities there can be discerned excuses which force us to agree that we have some intellectual late-comers. "The bell went before I got here," and "Ineffective alarm," are two excuses worthy of congratulation. However, "Not back in time from morning swim," as an excuse, should be treated very tenderly, in case of a "check-up."

I therefore urge you to ponder, deliberate and consider, very seriously, before making your witness in the annals of procrastination. For always remember this, a school's late-book should be its monument and testimony of originality and individuality.

HISTORICAL JOTTINGS

(By "Cats.")

Elizabeth never married and had a peaceful reign. Her face was thin, but she was a stout Protestant.

Perkin Warbeck said he was the son of a king, when all the time he was born of respectable parents.

Guy Fawkes thought out the plot to kill the King and Parliament. It is still done on 5th November.

Julius Caesar was a great man—for he threw a bridge across the Rhine, divided Gaul into three parts, and when he died it took six men to carry the beer.

USEFUL HINTS FOR PIGEON BREEDERS

In visiting many pigeon lofts, I have noticed in many cases, that the pigeons are unnecessarily enclosed. They need a little shelter, but not much.

The Fantail

This is one of the most common varieties of fancy pigeons. It is an attractive bird, with a tail of many widely spread feathers forming an arc. A very good Fantail should hold its tail about vertical to the ground, and its head well back. It has a large chest, and appears awkward in flight.

Formerly only white Fantails were bred, but now, although white is the most common and also the most beautiful, reds, blues, yellows and blacks are bred. There are two kinds of Fantails, the Lace Fantail and the plain. The Lace Fantail has feathers which curl, and the little threads forming the feathers are wide apart, so forming a lace-like appearance.

A Fantail is often looked upon as a sturdy breed, but like others it needs attention if it is the owner's intention that it should compete in pigeon shows. Wire perches are a great asset to the Fantail. If only narrow perches are used, the bird becomes bobtailed and is generally ruined as a show bird.

If anyone would like any information about pigeons, please notify the Editors.

BRUCE LITTLE, 3B

DANCE OF THE CLOUDS

Frothy mountain, drifting by
In the ranges of the sky,
Changing with the changing
wind,
Chasing others of its kind.
Dancing, leaping, prancing past,
Never wishing to be last;
Hurrying, scurrying in their way,
Drifting clouds in the wild winds
sway.

By "GENERAL MUCK," IVc

SPORT

FOOTBALL

MacPherson, the captain of the Senior team, has been our sporting reporter during the year, and we take this opportunity to thank him. Owing to his reports which were published in "Hold Fast," he received mention by "Mentor" in the "Herald" on Saturday evening, and we congratulate him.

Naturally he has been rather modest in estimating the best players and in his article, "Summary of this year's players," but we can include him here. He has shown all through the year a keen sense of sportsmanship, set a splendid example to the rest of the team, and played an excellent game of football.

Latest Football Activity

Our first match was against Northcote High School on the almost circular oval of the Fitzroy Cricket Ground. Owing to our failure before the goal, victory eluded us, and this bad kicking made the brilliant play further afield valueless. Only three majors came from twenty three scoring shots!

Visiting Royal Park we engaged University in a match full of thrills. Superior only in the second quarter, the "Green and Tans" defeated us after a great struggle. Throughout the match we battled continuously, and University admitted that we were the best team which they had yet encountered.

Victory came to us playing home against Essendon. The game was one-sided throughout, although our position was becoming serious in the third quarter, but we picked up and then scored at will.

Game at Geelong

We had a very enjoyable trip to Geelong on August the 18th.

Travelling by the Flier, on arriving at our destination we were immediately taken by bus on an interesting tour of Ford's motor works. The factory there is huge, and it handles tremendous quantities of materials. Leaving by bus we arrived at the shopping centre of Geelong and went to the oval by tram.

At the oval we had dinner and witnessed the match between the Juniors. Geelong showing dash, good kicking and marking and were too fast and vigorous for our lads. Though they made a splendid effort to pick up near the end, they just could not make it.

The big match began at 2.45. Geelong won the toss and chose the end favoured by the slight wind. We commenced brilliantly using pace and system to our advantage, so that Geelong remained scoreless until near half time.

The "Pivotonians" were the favorites with the large crowd which had assembled, and it included the girls of the Geelong High School.

The third quarter was more evenly contested, though the fast pace was maintained. The speed and long journey told on us in the last quarter, and Geelong was able to reduce their leeway. We were saved by our play in the first quarter, and the game concluded with us still in the lead.

Then we were supplied with hot pies and speeches. The latter item was given by the teachers and captains. We next caught the 5.30 train, thus ending an enjoyable game. Scores:

Seniors

Williamstown, 11.4 (70) d. Geelong 8.10 (58).

Goal-kickers: MacPherson 5, Abberton 2, Ashmole 2, Sutherland, Deever.

Best players: MacPherson (capt.), Jones, Abberton, Sutherland.

Juniors

Geelong, 9.6 (60) d. Williamstown 6.6 (42).

Goal-kickers: Beamish 4, Fowler, Bolitho.

Best players: Jamieson, Beamish, Mackay, McMeeken, Jones, Bolitho.

Summary of this Year's Players

Abberton, our leading full forward, marked well, collected many goals, and led out intelligently, thus showing his prowess. Ashmole and Malbon both played an inspiring and unselfish game and were able to support Abberton on many occasions. Owing to this co-operation and unity, our forward line was our strongest position.

Jones and E. Burkitt, assisted by Sholtze and McIntyre, were the mainstays of the backline. Their kicking in was also very good.

Taylor has played a good, consistent game throughout this year, in the centre. His height is a slight disadvantage to him, but he has done a splendid job.

Sutherland has been a good utility man and has filled many vacancies. Angwin and Noye have also assisted in this sphere.

The rucks, Moller, Wilcox, E. Burkitt and C. Birkett (playing alternately) also did fairly well, although there is yet room for improvement.

From this brief summary it can be seen that our team was in a fairly strong position. It was composed of eight of last year's Senior team, six of last year's juniors, and several promising new players.

BASEBALL WIN!

On Wednesday, August 2nd, our baseball team had its first victory. We played Essendon High and defeated them, the scores being 24—9. This was mainly due to the excellent hitting of Parry and Willis, who both secured a home run.

Best players: Willis, Andrews, Parry and Bistrup.

scale refrigeration for houses, which is done by airmen in Irak.

To do all this research, Professor Haldane says that we must plan science, but plan it sensibly and democratically. For example: consider the problem of eradicating the prickly pear by the use of an attacking caterpillar. This specialized program would require a long term of lengthy investigations into all types of caterpillars.

We must also assure that our research is democratic, by providing avenues so that the administrators and research workers can learn from their seniors and minors.

"CONTENDATUM."

We have often heard English teachers remind us that English expression covers, not only the written word, but the spoken word. Alas, for beyond reminding us they make little effort to improve our speech further.

Admittedly people of Leaving Standard should be able to, and generally can speak correctly. But when they become involved in an argument all this polish vanishes, and they may just as well be wild beasts.

Obviously, there is only one way to solve this problem, that is, to include debates in English Expression. Debating not only teaches us to speak decently, but also trains one in the art of dignified argument, an art sadly lacking in most people.

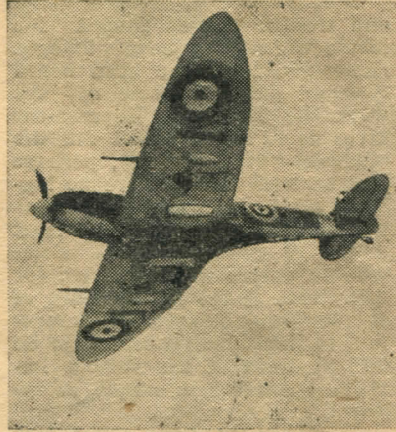
Finally it must be remembered that the boys of Ancient Rome were instructed in public speaking.

APOLOGY.

We are sorry that we cannot present "Chalk Dust" in this issue. However, "Bored" will be on the job again next month.

News has come to hand that Mr Spottiswood has been blessed with a fine son. The baby was born last Friday week.

Williamstown "Chronicle" Print.



SPITFIRE. — A particularly fine shot of this famous machine. Although designed ten years ago, this machine still ranks foremost amongst the world's first-line aircraft.

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Have you at any time taken a portrait which you think is excellent? If so, send it to us.

We are holding a portrait competition with the art section of the yearly magazine. The entries will be judged impartially by an outside judge, and the winning effort will appear in the magazine art section.

CRAZY HOP

Something Different.

Organised by Ex-Students'
Committee.

TALBOT HALL

Ferguson St., Nth. Williamstown

Full of Surprises.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.

ADMISSION, 2/-.



Hold Fast

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Editors—P. Weate and C. Curtain.

PRICE 3d.

House Captains Discuss Their Chances

Athletics Preview

The Athletics seem to be the main topic under discussion in this school at the present moment. Therefore we devote the front page of this issue to the opinions of the Captains of the various Houses.

Malcolm MacPherson, Captain of the Wombat boys says: "Our chances are extremely bright this year. We have some good athletes in both the open and under 16 age groups. With these runners and several promising juniors, we should finish well up in the list. The tug-of-war team is solid, and our tunnel-ball boys should hold their own. I think that our greatest rivals will be the Possums or Koalas."

Steve Andrews, Captain of Dingo boys: "Although we have lost R. Harvey, one of the promising runners of last season, Dingoes can be expected to fight to the end in an effort to obtain the Championship Cup."

John Urquhart, Captain of Koala boys: "The Koala boys' chances in the sports? Well, I think that we stand as good, if not better, chance as the other houses. Although the juniors are not strong in the under 16 sec-

tion, C. Birkitt and R. Stevens should carry all, while in the open A. Grant and J. Murfett should run well."

Dick Giles, Captain of the Possum boys: "Although the Possums are sure to be weakened by the absence of Buchanan, they are still able to enter a fairly strong team. The seniors are shaping well, while Smith and Bolitho and a few other juniors feel confident of success."

Jean Barwell, Captain of Possum's Girls: "Although this year the Possums have lost their senior champion, Gladys Birkitt, it is to be hoped that with some practice the seniors will have a reasonable chance. The juniors in basket-ball passing, hockey dribble and running are shaping fairly well."

Joan Reed, Captain of the Wombat Girls: "The Wombats have not had the best of luck in the athletics in previous years; it is hoped that the much desired improvement will be shown. It was hard to choose the cross-ball teams, most of the entrants being of the same high standard. But if enthusiasm could help, all of the entrants should make a good effort on October 4th."

Betty Law, Captain of Dis-

go Girls: "The forthcoming athletics are stirring great interest amongst the scholars, who should be well entertained on October 4. The Dingo girls, having several promising juniors and some excellent relay teams, expect to put up an impressive display and have high hopes of victory."

Marie Masters, Captain of the Koala Girls: "We hope that this year the athletics will hold as many thrills as usual. Our teams are formidable and we should put up a staunch fight against our opponents. The strongest individual entrants are in the intermediate section. We are confident of another successful year."

EDITORIAL

When our last issue appeared the victorious Allied armies were racing through France, hot on the heels of that disorganised rabble which was once the German 7th Army. For the first time in a century war has been brought to German soil. As this is being written the forces of liberation are sweeping through Holland, and are now on the Rhine. Even before this paper is published the war may be over in Europe, thus clearing another obstacle from the pathway to a new world order of justice and freedom.

It is we, now students, who will be called upon to uphold that new found freedom which has been bought at such a terrible price. One way of guarding our liberty is by making our thoughts vocal through the medium of the daily press. However, many people are too apathetic to make use of this means of expression. Therefore, it is your duty to learn to express yourself and to follow the opinions of others by both contributing to and reading your own

school paper. In doing this you will be training yourself to participate in the functions of the virile democracy, which we hope the Australia of the future will be.

There are some people in our school who have recognised this and have contributed freely to this paper; however, others have taken the attitude of "let the other fellow do it," and have left it at that. These lazy people are of the type responsible in a great part for the world's evils. If people, ten years ago, had not said "Let someone else get rid of Hitler," that monster and many other pernicious sores on the face of our fair civilisation could not have existed today.

It is a blessing that the apathetic mind does not exist to any great extent amongst the seniors, but in the lower part of the school there is a high percentage of people who have no pride in their school whatsoever.

It is to these people that we say "Wake up!" and lead your school life as if you were really alive, instead of these spiritless lumps of clay as which you now appear. Contribute freely to the next edition of "Hold Fast" and you will be able to take pride in the fact that your thoughts have penetrated to the innermost corners of this school.

THE EDITORS.

FIFTH FORM DEBATE.

Last Wednesday week the Fifth form held a debate on the question of "equal pay for the sexes." Although the debate was better than expected, it fell short by far of the standard to which we are accustomed from young people in debates over the air. The debate was won by five points by the affirmative side who could have scored a better victory had they made more use of their opponents' weaknesses. The girls on both sides performed excellently, but even they lacked fire and conviction.

THE SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

You have all probably heard by now that this school will have a big magazine for the end of the year. It has been tentatively decided to name this magazine "The Anchor." This name was decided on partly because of the anchor appearing on our school badge and partly because of its brevity.

We desire to make the magazine of about 30 pages, which space we hope will give plenty of scope for the literary talent of this School. Of course the space available for articles and various other creations will be somewhat reduced by the number of photographic illustrations which we hope to have in the magazine.

The magazine will consist of a number of sections. These sections will be Social Events, Sporting, Art, an Ex-students' page, and finally, a general literary section. The size will naturally vary with the amount of material available for each section.

As you know "Hold Fast" itself has received considerable attention outside this school, having been mentioned at least twice in the Melbourne daily press. From this we can see that a much bigger effort like the "Anchor" will attract an even greater amount of attention from the outside public. These people will tend to judge our school by the matter appearing in our yearly magazine. Therefore, it is up to us to make as good an impression on these people as possible so that our school will show up in its best light.

CRAZY HOP.

The "Crazy Hop" held by the "Exies" last month was well attended, all present having a very enjoyable evening. We were pleased to see that several Fifth form boys were present; however, we should have liked to have seen a higher percentage of senior girls.

The programme included a "Conga," along with a bright tie competition and the "Hoki Poki." These caused much hilarity and helped to further the atmosphere of jollity which already filled the hall.

At one point it was suggested that the Conga ring principle should be utilised to brighten up our Melbourne cigarette queues.

The next dance will be held on Friday, October 20, at the same hall.

"CHALK DUST."

(By "Bored.")

Why do some people, particularly boys, show no objection to the Socials ending at 10.30?

"Pluto," of Newport, and "U. Grumbler" have something in common, even if it is only a departmental regulation.

Why does a certain Fifth form lad eagerly prick his ears when any liquid of a volatile combustible nature is mentioned?

I hear that a Third form lad, if he is promoted to the "New Building" from Room 13 next year, is going to write a book entitled "From Log Cabin to White House."

Why have the senior boys, lounging in front of shelter 18 in the lunch hour, been annoyed at anyone who obstructs their view of Pasco Street during recent weeks?

The Fifth form Latin students (?) have decided to call a certain fellow Fifth Former, unblest by Leaving Latin, "Flacus."

I observed during a lunch hour a few weeks ago that the 2A lads have a very poor "taste." I hope that they learn to appreciate the "good things of life" by the time they reach the Fifth form.

The girls who have sport at the Williamstown football ground seem to be rivalling Arthur Olliver and Norman Ware at their own game.

WHAT DO YOU SAY

Readers Ask About "Matric" Form.

Dear Sirs,—As a member of the Fifth Form, I want to know whether there will be a Matriculation form at this school next year. Could not room 21 be used for Sixth Form classes? Failing this, here is another suggestion. With the introduction of "Free Rail Travel" many would be Footscray pupils will have to attend Hyde Street instead of W.H.S. next year.

At the entrance exam a smaller number of pupils could be chosen. This would result in a reduced First form, thus making room for the Matriculation class.—Yours, etc.,

"INTERESTED."

Dear Sirs,—Some of our teachers have been of late discussing the possibilities of our school having a "Matric" form. We sincerely hope that this is true. It seems a pity that the school, which has fostered us since we were First-formers, cannot have us in our last year of High School education.

When our school had an "honors" form, several Senior scholarships were won by Sixth-formers. I am sure that if we re-instituted the Sixth form our school will soon boast of its Senior Scholarship and Exhibition winners.—Yours, etc.,

"TWO FIFTH-FORMERS."

Editorial Comment. — Both correspondents have failed to realise that some of the First form will desire to matriculate one day. It is our duty to see that these youngsters have every possible chance to do so.

However, we hear that it is intended to make a Junior Technical school at the Williamstown North State School. It would be a far better idea to have two High School Junior forms there, thus relieving the pressure on the local High School.

ORCHESTRA SUGGESTED.

It is suggested that those who have any musical talent should organise themselves into some form of orchestra. This school, up to date, has no outstanding organisation. Therefore it is only right that it should strive to maintain a higher standard in some form of activity.

AN ENTHUSIAST.

We hope that 'Hold Fast' is an "outstanding organisation." It has already been twice mentioned in the daily press.—Editors.

FRETFUL AND FROZEN.

Dear Sirs,—Some weeks ago I, along with a number of others, was caught at school without my coat by a sudden downpour of rain. Having been evicted from the school building, we sought the shelter (?) of the bicycle shed. Soon, however, we were deprived of even this meagre protection and turned out into the wintry streets. Before facing the icy blast I had to fish my bike out of a miniature lake which lay on the other side of the shed. All this resulted in my taking two hours to thaw out that night with the further result that I had less time in which to do my home-work.

FRACTIOUS FIFTH-FORMER

QUESTION OF CLUB EXHUMED.

Dear Sirs,—Some months ago you mentioned in your paper about a club being formed at this school. I would like very much to know what has happened to this admirable project.—Yours,

"QUESTUS."

Dear Questus,—We have too much work on our hands editing "Hold Fast" as it is. We only wanted to initiate the club, hoping that the staff would take an active interest in the furthering of the idea.

SCHOOL NEWS

IVb. PICTURE SHOW— £9/3/- RAISED.

On Friday, 15th, a picture show was held by Tom Malios and Don Cameron, of IVb. This show, which ran throughout the day to a packed house, raised the magnificent sum of £9/3/-.

We attended the first period, at which many members of the Fourth and Fifth forms were present. The show was enjoyed immensely by all. During the session many comparisons were made between different characters from the pictures and various people of the school; sad to say these sometimes included members of the staff. Notwithstanding this, the audience on a whole were quite well behaved, and we hope that all the performances ran as well as the one which we visited.

Credit must be given for the fine work of Mr. Brittain for his arrangement of the time-table. As the result of the efforts of all concerned this show made an improvement of 13/- over the proceeds of the first term performance.

News has come to hand that Tom and Don will hold another show, this time a talkie, at the end of this term.

A TRAGEDY IN 4C.

One day, during the first weeks of third term, a certain member of the ladies' staff entered room 18 and whispered to the teacher in charge.

This teacher then asked if any girl in the form owned a school-bag hanging on a certain peg in the senior girls' locker room. After a short pause, a bewildered girl raised her hand. To the amazement of the silent 4C, she was told to go and see to her lunch.

Shortly afterwards a rather dejected girl returned to inform the tense class that all that remained of her lunch was the

U GRUMBLER ASSAILED.

Dear Sirs,—It is easy to see that U Grumbler is a boy. He seems to forget that some girls take a pride in their school uniform. If boys were to have their heads covered it would at least hide their untidy hair.—Yours, etc.,

"JUST A GIRL."

Dear Sirs,—Articles in "Hold Fast" that point out the inefficiency of prefects and the faults in school rules are not only causing pupils to lose their trust in them, they are also unjust.—Yours, etc.,

A STAUNCH LOYALIST 2A.

COMPLAINT

Dear Sirs,—In reference to playing football in the school yard after school, I think the allotted time might be somewhat extended. The caretaker, Mr Grieve, would be there to see that the footballs were brought in when the game has finished.—Signed,

"ONE OF MANY."

THEATRICAL CLUB SUGGESTED.

Dear Sirs,—Having read in the last issue of "Hold Fast" about the talent of various scholars at the Ball, I have a suggestion to make. Why not form an Amateur Theatrical Society in the School? It would be possible to charge a small fee and enlist the aid of the staff. I think this would be a valuable asset to the School and a good start for talented pupils.—Yours sincerely,

M.W.

Such a function could be performed by a School Club, if we had one. We tried to start one some time ago, but received little encouragement, so we dropped the idea.

brown paper bag, a few crusts and a rather squashy orange.

A dog, name unknown, owner unknown, had partaken of the contents, and then mysteriously disappeared. (I do not mean that it was the result of the sandwiches!) while 4C was studying Larcombe and Freeman.

"He even ate my biscuits!" she was heard to remark when the period, concluded with hardly any grammar ascertained.

Consequently, owners of dogs in the vicinity of Williamstown are asked to keep them home. Closed gates have no effect on some ill-mannered members of that tribe who even enter by the main door in the new building, proceed down the corridor and out into the school-yard.

J. LODINGTON, 4C.

FORM NOTES

2A.

2A is often unjustly accused of untidiness in room 2. Other forms using this room please be careful and do not give us the unnecessary work of tidying it.

2A direct giving has once again started to function. For quite a while our figures had been very low.

Last month the form's genius, Alan Gray, thought that the "Hold Fast" tin was for money and dropped threepence in.

3C.

Our form room, 15, is in a rather hopeless condition. It has been made attractive, however, during the last month by spring blossoms brought by some of the girls.

Almost everyone in our form has heard that Joan Farrar has a new baby sister.

Direct giving is improving slowly, although there is still room for improvement.

F/O ANDREW TAYLOR

"Andy," who was the first Air Training Corps cadet to receive the blue uniform and A. T. C. badge, is also the first cadet to have been wounded in air operations with the R.A.A.F.

He was wounded in the leg while serving with an army co-operation squadron in the Ramu Valley.

He was a 'Town prefect, and was captain of both the school eleven and eighteen, in addition to being a house captain.—(F. T. Yates).



"THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS." (By "Ixion.")

Where is the new bicycle shed we were promised? There was considerable discussion about it a few months ago, but like many other projects at this school it has been buried in the pit of oblivion.

On a wet day one feels akin to the Trojan hero at the gates of Hell. Before the interior of the shed can be gained, a wide lake resembling Acheron in every respect except, unfortunately, it has no Charon, must be crossed.

Having negotiated this gloomy swamp, the traveller is relieved to find no Cerberus awaiting him on the other side. We would think now that the would-be cyclist's trials were at an end. However, the unfortunate is faced with the Herculean labor of extricating his machine from the tangled mass of iron which overlays it. Woe betide him if he possesses headlamps, mudguards or any of the other amenities which distinguish a bike from a mere hack. For, after he has hauled his steed from the "junk heap," he will find these baubles bashed, battered, buckled

or bent far beyond recognition.

After surveying and valuing the damage, the poor fellow is faced with the dread prospect of getting out. For him there is no Ivory Gate, or even a Gate of Horn. It is his miserable lot to once more cross the Styx. If he knows his Aeneid he will recall that only a few egregious souls have ever made a return journey across that dreaded torrent. But grimly setting his teeth he mounts his bike and charges the flood. For one awful moment his back wheel spins. Will he stall? No, he is safely across the fearful marsh.

Now he has yet another labor to perform—that of finding a path through the swamp which besets the school gate. This calls upon all his resources, for he has to make a right-angled turn in three inches of mud. After many spine-chilling skids and stalls he reaches the comparative safety of the road.

The rider now speeds homeward through the rain. He reaches the Perry Street subway and rides full tilt down it. As he rounds the bend he sees before him a sheet of water; the subway is flooded. He reaches for the brake; it moves limply in his hand, for it has been damaged in that chamber of horrors—the bicycle shed. Passers-by hear a terrified yell, an ominous splash, and then dead silence.

Perhaps I have exaggerated a little, but the point of my story is that much distress and damage could be avoided by the provision of a decent bicycle shed. As matters stand at present one is afraid to bring a decent machine to school for fear that it may be irreparably damaged. It is to be hoped, at least, that a shed will be provided by next year.

CRICKET

(By "Mid-on.")

Review of Season 1944.

The Senior Eleven had a very good season, winning five out of

six games. The only defeat suffered was in an unofficial game played against Melbourne High, who were a very strong side. The members of the team throughout the season were: 1, S. Andrews (capt.); 2, MacPherson (vice-capt.); 3, J. Mann; 4, R. Giles; 5, K. Abberton; 6, K. Taylor; 7, A. Inglis; 8, G. Ashmole; 9, R. Moller; 10, K. Angwin; 11, L. Noye; 12, S. Jones; 13, C. Burkett; 14, E. Burkitt.

The batting of all these players was above average. MacPherson and Andrews often gave their side a quick start by their intelligent and quick scoring opening partnerships. Mann, Ashmole, Abberton and Giles also did well, with Moller, Jones, Noye and Inglis. Angwin usually carefully kept up the tail.

In the bowling, Giles and Mann opened the fast attack, with Ashmore's cunning slows and MacPherson's medium paced deliveries also getting wickets.

All the team fielded well, especially Andrews at mid-off; Ashmole in the out-field, and Keith Taylor at point. Most of these players will be leaving this year, but with a few of the more experienced men returning and some promising juniors, a good side should be fielded for the 1945 season.

BASEBALL REPORT, SEASON ENDING 1944.

We commenced the season with a very crude team, having many inexperienced but enthusiastic players. As time grew on the team increased, both in number and in skill, gaining with each match a better knowledge of the game.

Our first game was against the Footscray Technical School Diploma team, and we were over-run by very brilliant and dashing play, aided by many mistakes on our side. I must mention here that before the season commenced we lost our captain and catcher, Roy Harvey, who really pioneered the team.

Our second game was against

Northcote High School, away, and we were again defeated. There was, however, a marked improvement in the play generally, the faults not being so conspicuous. It is interesting to note here that their captain was formerly a pupil of this school, Lindsay Leaman; do you remember him?

The next match was played with University, and this time we were favored with the services of Andrews, a splendid third-bagger. Although we put up a stiff fight we were again defeated, 18-6. We were then to play Hampton, but the game was postponed owing to bad weather conditions.

THEN THINGS LOOKED UP!

We played Essendon High School at Spotswood and defeated them 24-9. Greene, our brilliant pitcher, was absent on that day, but a good battery still ensued, and we outplayed Essendon on all parts of the field. During the match Eric Willis succeeded in securing a home run.

After a few weeks spell to recover from our win, we were defeated by Footscray Technical School B grade in a very close game. Our loss was due to the partial absence of our able catcher, Charles Young, who was called away prior to the end of the game. Our scores were 11-5.

The final game of the season was against Sunshine Technical School who were defeated 12-1. This was due to the brilliant pitching of Greene and the classy play of James Mann, who replaced Steve Andrews, unavailable, on third.

On a whole the season has satisfactory I am sure that the team would like to express their deepest appreciation to Messrs Charles and McGill, who so ably assisted in this branch of school sport.

The captain was E. Willis, field position; N. Greene, pitcher; E. Young, catcher; E. Willis, first; K. Abbey, second; S. Andrews, third; Massey, short stop.

"THE SECRET WEAPON."

Some weeks ago one of the editors brought his car over to the shops at dinner-time, thus exciting considerable comment. Below are given the impressions which the machine made upon Norman Bernard, a 4a boy:—

A certain tribe of students have been menacing the inhabitants of Willimastown by ripping along the roads at the dangerous speed of 10-30 m.p.h. in a vehicle which threatens to blow up at any moment. The driver of this secret weapon has a special method of his own for starting the thing. He fills the carburettor with the best Jamaica rum, and then begins to ruthlessly pound the engine with a hammer, meanwhile swearing with the diligence of a bullocky, "Start up, you dirty (CENSOR-ED)." By this means he achieves great results.

A gigantic explosion shakes the nearby dwellings; she's off! The result of such an explosion is 24 cats died of fright, 30 Japanese terriers committed Hari Kari, and shattered windows for about 400 yards around the scene of the start.

For a brake, someone leans out the back and pushes a piece of iron piping through the rear wheel. When the terror machine is turned, the front wheels often lock, thus resulting in spectacular skids. The result of such skids is the destruction of fences, telegraph poles and people's front lawns.

The cost of running the dreadful weapon is quite low. A mixture of Flytox, kerosene, boot polish and jungle juice provides an excellent fuel. One of his friends is seriously considering the proposition of fitting a huge rocket onto the stern of the "Doodle Bug." This may cause amazing results, so don't forget to watch the local press for proceedings at the Williamstown Court of Petty Sessions.



Hold Fast

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE WILLIAMSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Editors—P. Weate and C. Curtain.

PRICE 3d.

W.H.S. Fourth in Combined Sports

GIRLS FOURTH—BOYS THIRD

The combined sports which were held recently were a great success. Despite the dust and heat everyone had a good time, and there was an agreeable atmosphere of goodwill between the schools present.

Below is given the total points gained in each section, and the number of points this total gave us when placed against the other schools. Eight points mean a first place, 5 points a second place, 3 points a third place, and 1 point a fourth place.

There are two columns for each school. The left-hand one gives the total number of points in that grouping, and the other figure gives the number of points obtained from the placing of the total number of points in that section, e.g., in Over 16, Williamstown 15 points, equal total number of points obtained from the over 16 long jump, over 16 75 yards, etc.

The three points equals the number of points we got by coming third in that section (Melb. first with 8 points, U.H.S. second and we third).

It can be seen from the boys that they did particularly well, especially in the under 13 and the under and over 16. In these

groups we got a first and second and two thirds respectively.

The under 15 and under 12 groups are not as strong as the others.

In the girls' grouping, however, it is the under 13 and under 12 groups which are the strongest, the higher groups being rather poor.

Perhaps this letter we received will bring some light on this matter:—

Dear Sirs,—The annual sports meeting is over, and for some it will be the last they will be attending. Everyone undoubtedly did their best and I congratulate those who succeeded in gaining points for their school. To those who did not do so well, I say better luck next time. Many thanks to those members of the staff who individually showed their interest by the help they gave. The girls' basketball and relay events, however, could have been considerably improved if a little more help, guidance or interest had been shown. This was the case last year, when Miss Northey and Miss Peart were on the scene every lunch hour and after school. Surely we do not have to ask for help in these matters. Those who leave the school will depart with the feeling that although they have done their best in previous years,

there is nothing more they can do to bring home victory. There is as fine a body of youth at W.H.S. as anywhere else; why then is it that we never win? Surely it is not lack of enthusiasm. So wake up, W.H.S., and Hold Fast.

"Extremely Disappointed."

Unfortunately we could only obtain the boys' names for the sports, and were unable to get the girls' names in time. We

A SECTION — BOYS.

	Essendon	Hampton	Melbourne	Northcote	U.H.S.	W'mstown
Over 16	10½	1	34	8	24	5
Under 16	3½	0	25	10	28	15
" 15	24	8	14	9	6½	15
" 14	9	3	18	5	6	7
" 13	4	8	4½	8	1	9½
" 12	3	8	5	4½	6	8
" 11	7	6½	7	1	6½	2
Totals	72	26½	181	44½	64½	56½

have therefore decided that it would be better to print none.

Results: 1, Hampton, 64½; 2, University, 31; 3, Essendon, 28; 4, Williamstown, 25.

A SECTION — GIRLS.

	Essendon	Hampton	Mac Rob.	U.H.S.	W.H.S.
Over 16	3	10	26	17	7
Under 16	13	32	12	19	10
" 15	6	24	20	4	3
" 14	14	14	12	4	8
" 13	19	20	2	3	10
" 12	8	8	17	17	4
Totals	60	108	72	70	42

EDITORIAL

We would like to commence this Editorial with an apology. In the last edition we made a statement to the effect that school spirit existed mainly in the upper forms, and seemed to be stagnant in the lower forms.

This statement was made from

our experience in selling Hold Fast, which sold in far greater quantities and more quickly, in the fifth form than in the lower. We realise that this was because we catered mainly for their tastes, and have endeavored to alter this.

As Mr. Russell pointed out—for it was he who protested, it is the lower forms that pull their weight and do more than the others in most school efforts. Look at the chart of the Egg Appeal printed elsewhere, 2b first, 2a second, 1a third and 5 fourth. Now look at the Sports Chart, in both boy and girl sections; it is in the younger age groups in which we have done best.

Therefore, boys and girls in the lower forms, continue this fine record. In the higher forms strive to raise your standard of behaviour and co-operation.

Once more we would like to thank all the contributors and correspondents for their help and interest in this issue. The form captains are also to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which they distributed the last issue, and we hope they will do similarly with this.

The Editors.

CHALK DUST

(By "Bored.")

When is the cannon reclining outside the men's staff room destined to go off? (Ask Cyril).

We trust that Mr. Townsend has made full allowance for one of those "35 ton mechanical brains" in the new school. The only unfortunate thing about such contrivances is that they can't do Latin.

During the combined sports no one of the W.H.S. lost their ticket—because they didn't have one.

In the Monday morning pledge the boys do not say "obey the

laws" as heartily as the other obligations.

It would be advisable if the form occupying Room 8 should include a "C" in their "direct-giving."

Suggest Tuck Shop theme song, "Fight the Good Fight."

Anyone requiring training in the noble art of basketball passing should see the editors immediately.

EDUCATION WEEK

I must first congratulate all those who encouraged their parents to attend the school on the day chosen, and I am sure we were all pleased at the number of parents present. I think Mr Townsend, Miss Cook and the staff were particularly gratified and proud that such interest should have been displayed by the parents of the pupils.

I have no doubt but that they will realise the urgency of our case, and I am sure that with their co-operation and agitation they will attain the additions necessary.

But as to education itself. In the Argus Week-end Supplement there was an interesting article on intelligent quotient, something about which I am sure all our staff are familiar.

Why not carry this knowledge to the pupils in an effort to gain a more complete knowledge about them and the job for which they are best suited. It is not lack of time, for a textbook has been published, written by Giles, giving information about vocations through civics. Geography, Latin, Chemistry and Algebra can also be used.

All these subjects are taught at the school, and their use would provide a far more accurate and intelligent data as to the most suitable occupation for the scholars.

WHAT DO YOU SAY

REGULATIONS DEFENDED

Dear Sirs,—I have now read your third Hold Fast and enjoyed it very much. I think an even larger Hold Fast would sell very easily. The students of this school should be encouraged to write little articles for their magazine, for it will help them in later years.

I don't agree with the attitude of some people towards the law enforced to wear our hats. Surely if we come to W.H.S. we are prepared to wear the uniform. School ties and badges are hard to obtain, but a tunic, blouse and blazer are easily bought and always looks neat. So, girls, let us make a final effort to make the school proud of us and we will be proud of it when we leave.

SCHOOL LOVER,

SABOTAGE.

Dear Sirs,—I am pleased (?) to inform you that a secret society exists within the portals of our very school. Their object is not to blow up bridges, kill senators or poison our water supply, but to irritate our olfactory organs. This society, composed mostly of fifth formers, plots in the first, darkest half hour of their chemistry period (the darker the period, the deeper the plots); works in the latter, and put their well laid plans into execution at playtime.

One can imagine these fanatical scientists at work in 3A and then carrying the object of their success to their instructor in the arts of sabotage—Mr. Charles. He scrutinises the contents of the flask, airing his satisfaction at his pupils' aptness.

This is quite all right for the alchemists concerned, but I, as a sufferer at their hands, feel sure that others will join with me in pleading to them to "pull down the CURTAIN." (Very classical and subtle allusion.)

STAUNCH LOYALIST, 2A.

PRIVILEGED?

Dear Sirs,—Why should Fractious Fifth Former of your last edition protest against his eviction from the school premises during a little rain. The majority of the school were able to arrive home safely straight after school, the attendances on the next day proving this. Does he consider that being a Fifth former he is privileged in his office and should be permitted to wait for the sun to shine, thus inconveniencing others? This attitude is only too prevalent in the upper forms.

DISGUSTED COLONEL.

Dear Sirs,—Now that such great interest is evident in tennis, I suggest that something should be done as to the condition of the tennis court. It requires lining, and in the grass around the edges we lose the balls and it threatens to render the court useless by overgrowing it.—Yours sincerely,

QUIST.

[Ed.—I think when I last saw the court Mr. Grieve had this in hand.]

Dear Sirs,—I would like to write and complain about the attitude of Ixion writing in the last edition. He has totally overestimated the situation. While our brothers and sisters are swimming in mud in N.G., he complains about a little slush in the yard, which can easily be circumnavigated. At a time like this we should be thankful of a roof, a bed and three meals, and not squeal.—Yours,

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA.

Why does a sculptor die a most horrible death? Because he makes faces and busts!

If William Penn's aunts kept a pastry shop, what would be the current prices of their pies? The pie-rates of Penn's aunts (Pirates of Penzance).

CONTRIBUTIONS

Did you hear about the Moron who—

Was locked out of his house so ran around it until he was all in.

Pushed the cow over the cliff so he could hear the Jersey Bounce.

Moved to the city because he heard the country was at war. Jumped through the wire door and strained himself.

Backed off the bus to keep the lady from grabbing his seat.

Put bird seed in his shoes to feed his pigeon toes.

Cut a hole in a rug so he could see the floor show.

Went into the living room because he thought he was dying.

Put his nose out the window so the wind could blow it.

Pulled out his teeth so he could chew gum.

Saluted the refrigerator because someone said it was General Electric.

Made three socks for her son because he had grown another foot in the Army.

Ran around the top of a Weeties box because it said "Tear round here."

Took milk and sugar to the pictures because he heard there was a serial (cereal).

Wanted to die with his boots on so he wouldn't stub his toes when he kicked the bucket.

Sat on a corner with two slices of bread waiting for the traffic jam.

Wanted to make his pants last so he made his coat first.

HAPPY HEARTED, 3C.

"SWOTTING."

(By "Asmodeus.")

I am writing on a subject of which I am sure you are all familiar—swotting, or studying—even if most of you have experienced it in its milder forms only.

Nevertheless, if after a tiring day or exhausting night any of

you have not the originality or inspiration to think of a respectable excuse, I humbly offer a few suggestions:—

(a) Have swotted too much lately, need a rest. (Use this one carefully.)

(b) Haven't swotted at all lately—out of practice. (This should prove more popular.)

(c) Too early in the evening. (Dad and Dave on next.)

(d) Too late in the evening.

(e) Too hot to work.

(f) Too cold to work.

(g) Temperature too comfortable, doesn't stimulate me enough.

(h) Plenty of time before the exam. Needn't start yet.

(i) Too late in year. Couldn't make it.

However, I am sure that the most unprincipled of you make some pretence of swotting and it is with a great air of importance that you announce your intentions at the dinner table. You also command that under no circumstances are you to be disturbed.

The more ignorant your associates the greater will be the effect of this proclamation on their uninformed minds.

When the reader has attained the solitude (having excused himself from doing the dishes), he relaxes and hears the rest of the household creeping around and talking in subdued whispers.

One of the more daring occupants turns on the radio, and the restful strains of "boogey-woogey" choke the room. This is immediately silenced by father who also wants to read the paper.

You then produce the "Saint," whom you left at a most critical moment in the science lesson, and find him still staring from his "cold, mocking, and blue eyes."

Having finished this, you grope your way to bed at 12 o'clock, and Mum gives you your breakfast in bed because you did such a lot of studying.

FORM NOTES

FORM 1b.

At the sports on Friday Fay Cutting represented our form in the relay and an individual running event. In the former she reduced the lead of her opponents sufficiently to give us a second place.

Our direct giving is rising steadily. Some of the girls are keeping Room 4 nice with flowers.

EGG APPEAL.

(We obtained this report from Dorothy Page, V., and we would like to thank her for it. She showed great interest in the appeal, and contributed in no small way to its success).

The egg appeal for the Williamstown District Hospital, held between 3rd-12th October, was a great success. All the forms showed a keen interest in the appeal, and their efforts were very pleasing.

The totals, which exceeded last year's, were 1917 eggs and £3 13/9 (last year 736 eggs and £5 15/6). The four forms which received the greatest number were: 2b, 228 eggs, 9/10; 2a, 222 eggs, 8/; 1a, 161 eggs, 1/6; V., 129 eggs, 7/6.

W.H.S. War Cry.

During the recent combined sports the younger members of our school were extremely ignorant of ANY of the war cries our forefathers shrieked on such momentous occasions. Only a few of the elder students were able to raise their voices to any avail.

So, for the next edition, would you please submit anything in this line for general publication, and in the next combined sports we will "howl 'em down."

Remember, something original or ancient, but with a catchy tune, modern or ancient.

CATASTROPHE.

Form V. Chem.

Enter Mr McGill. "Mr Charles, could I speak to Inglis?"

Mr Charles nods.

Mr McG.: Inglis, pack your books and report at the office.

Inglis departs; Mr Charles and McGill converse. Mr Charles laughs and Mr McGill retires.

On with the lesson.

The significance of the above dialogue was learnt the next day from Adam himself. It is necessary for the story to realise that the day on which this occurred was the day during which the wind acquired a velocity of 70 m.p.h.

Inglis was called home, and it transpired that the wind had threatened to blow the verandah from the Inglis mansion. Adam promptly chocked up the verandah posts and retired for refreshments.

When he again arrived on the scene he found the verandah again threatened, and while chocking up the posts further a gust of wind caught the galvanised iron and hurled one of the posts through the bedroom window.

Adam surveyed the desolation and when he decided that no more harm could be done he retired for refreshments!

To a Pencil.

Here is a significant poem reprinted from H.M.A.S.:-

I know not where thou art,
I only know
Thou went on my desk,
Oh comrade of my solitude.
A moment back,
Lo! as I turned my head
To view the tardy clock,
Some scurvy knave
Went west with thee.
I know, not who he was,
Nor shall I ask,
Perchance
It may have been
The man I stole it from!

INTER-HOUSE SPORTS

We made an attempt to print a special edition for these sports but unfortunately the printer could not cope with the job. We therefore make a brief summary below, remembering that it is better, late than never.

POSSUMS.

GIRLS.—These were the winners of the sports in the girls' section, and they did a remarkably good job. M. Lambert and Eva Smith ran well, and they also succeeded in a number of the group events—hockey, basketball and relay.

BOYS.—Here the boys also made a good contribution to the Possums' victory, especially Bolitho, Abberton and Smith.

WOMBATS.

GIRLS.—The second place gained by the Wombats was well earned, for they trained hard. The girls won the march past, two relays and under 13 skipping. G. Price came second in two races.

BOYS.—The boys fared well by winning tug-o'-war and by MacPherson and Wilcox both winning a number of events. Cairns made a close second in the 880 yards open.

DINGOES.

GIRLS.—J. Woolley and F. Cutting helped the Dingoos considerably to maintain their third place. The girls also gained a number of seconds in the skipping, hockey and basketball passing.

BOYS.—Here Dever did an excellent job. He won the 100 yards under 15, 220 yards under 15, and tied in the high jump. They also gained a second in relay, siamese and open walk.

KOALAS.

GIRLS.—Although the Koalas were last, their girls ran brilliantly, especially Peggy Grant, who won under 15 years 100

yards and under 15 years 75 yards. P. Wiltshire also won the 75 yards under 16 years. They also came second in the march past, basketball passing, relay and two hockey events, amongst other things.

BOYS.—In the boys Stevens showed excellent form in the 880 open, which he won, and Munday and Hearman, who won the under 15 years and under 14 years 75 yards respectively. Jamieson jumped well, and Jones came second in the 75 yards under 15 years.

Throughout the day there was an excellent air of sportsmanship and gaiety, and all enjoyed themselves.

TOMORROW.

When this great war has ended,
And peace is signed at last,
Oh, the music will be splendid,
And the bugles blow their final blast.
But there will be some sorrow
For the ones who shall ne'er return
Not even on the morrow,
And for the lost we shall yearn.

B. HANMER, 2A.

"YARNS OF A SKIPPER."

Many interesting and amusing experiences were related by Captain Watson in the last lecture, or "yarn" as he preferred to call it, of the Ex-students' Association. There was a slight increase in the numbers present, and the Exies trust that this is an indication of increased interest. He also sang a number of old sea-shanties on all manner of subjects, much to the enjoyment of the audience.

EX-STUDENTS' DANCES.

Two last dances for the year:
November 24, Talbot Hall.
December 15th, Talbot Hall.

A LIVING DYNAMO.

(By Bill Bolitho.)

At New York City Zoo the famous eels are no longer giving public performances, running through their repertoire of tricks that used to delight all the onlookers.

Instead, in secret war experiments, scientists from four American universities and the Brazilian Government are exploring the secrets of their animal electricity.

It is apparent that any living thing which can create 600 volts of electricity, pack it into a single wallop, and keep it up for hours has some secret principle of nature which man ought to know.

If, for instance, a shipwrecked sailor, or an aviator downed at sea, could only have a shocking apparatus half as good as that of the electric eel he would have no worry about sharks.

In their native haunts in South America electric eels hunt in packs, quite like German submarines. The eels lie close together in the water, and when one of them shoots out a powerful current of electricity, all the others close in for the kill. The eels seem to have the power of following the electrical lines of force created.

Despite this name electric eels are not true eels. They are more related to the cat fish. Their long, thin eel-like body consists of a head and a tail. Twenty per cent. of the body contains the head and all the vital organs. The rest contains electric cells to create the high voltage.

The shock of electric eels and electric fish is man's earliest electric discovery. The ancient Greek, Galen, said that the shock from electric fish was good for severe headaches. This is a forerunner of modern mental therapy.

The shock from an electric eel is no minor matter. Six hundred volts can be produced by some of the larger eels, and they can create a current of 60 amperes, 12 times as great as can be

tolerated in a house lighting circuit.

Weight for weight, the electric eel rivals the best achievements of modern aviation engines in power output. Only in the latest 'planes has the goal of "one pound per horse power" been reached. In the electrical organs of the eels this was attained thousands of centuries ago.

How do the electric eels do it? . . . that is the question which some of the best scientific brains are trying to answer.

NEW SCHOOL

During the visit of the parents at the school they signed a petition which was sent to the Minister of Education, which had about 90 names on it. It requested that the old wooden buildings should be replaced by a new brick building which was promised to us 12 months ago.

The Minister wrote to Mr Lemmon, and in his reply said that he had already approved of the necessary expenditure to enable the Public Works Department to have this work carried out. He said that working drawings and specifications are at present in the course of preparation with a view to the calling of public tenders as early as possible.

SPEECH NIGHT, DEC. 4th.

This year we are to have a Speech Night in the Williamstown Town Hall. It is unfortunate that the date should be a night during the fifth exam, but it is unavoidable, the 4th being the only free night for the hall.

XMAS HOLIDAYS.

Some of the more energetic of our boys are going to do National Emergency work during the coming "hols." They intend to occupy their time allegedly picking fruit, but we have our doubts as to the "picking" part of it. Others are going to chop wood, an occupation of which they will soon be tired.