



# THE BRECONIAN.

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## CONTENTS.

Editorial.  
Roll of Honour.  
Letters from the War.  
A Few Questions from Inquisitive  
Quibblers.  
Football.  
Hockey—Season.  
Critique.  
Matches.  
House Shooting Cup.  
Fives.  
The Steeplechases.  
Cadet Corps.  
Archie: A Tragedy of Blue Paper.  
Passion Service.  
Occasional Notes.  
Correspondence.  
Acknowledgments.

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# The Breconian.

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## EDITORIAL.

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THE end of another Term sees the world still in the throes of War. For us this has meant, in the first place, the loss of a few more of our friends, and in the second, a modified games programme.

The Hockey Season has not been all that could be desired. The peculiar circumstances in which the Country is now placed have precluded any possibility of many matches, while the inclement weather almost prevented the few fixtures which had been arranged from being played. We therefore extend our sympathies to J. Evans, who though, filling the office of Hockey Captain with conspicuous success, has had many difficulties with which to contend. In place of the usual matches, a system of leagues, which proved highly successful, was organised.

At half-term the "A" Team played a return match with Ystradgynlais. Though beaten by a fairly substantial margin the team maintained our best traditions, and the match was noteworthy not for any startling performance, but for the possible talent that it revealed among the younger members of the team.

The Cadet Corps founded last term still flourishes. It was found impossible to persuade the War Office to register it as an

O.T.C. The thanks of the School are, however, due to Messrs. Robinson, Cryer and Isitt for the keenness they have displayed, and especially to the last for his kindness in providing materials for shooting. With a little more professional aid the Cadet Corps should certainly improve.

The much maligned choir, have been engaged in rehearsing Vinning's "Passion," and under the able leadership of Mr Large the high standard of previous years has undoubtedly been maintained.

As we write, the Sports are in the lap of the future. Although the older members of the School could have set a better example, training has on the whole been most keen and we anticipate a close competition.

Appeals for copy have in the past been most unfruitful, nevertheless, we would ask our indulgent readers to endeavour to make the "*Breconian*" more the united effort of the School than it has been in past years. So with this plea we will now bring to an end this useless but unavoidable contribution—the Editorial.



## ROLL OF HONOUR.

### DIED OF DISEASE.

Lloyd, E. D., Veterinary Army Corps (at leHavre).

### INVALIDED FROM THE FRONT.

Blackwood, F. H., 2nd Batt. Queen Victoria's Rifles.

### MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES.

Miers, Hammer J., Capt. 2nd Batt. Monmouthshire Regt.

### SERVING WITH THE COLOURS.

Banche, J., Staff Sergt. Royal Jersey Militia (Medical Corps).

Biggerton Evans, A. B. G., 2nd Lieut. 9th Batt. S.W.B.

Bond, E. R., 2nd Lieut. 18th Welch Regt.

Boothby, C. G., 2nd Lieut. 8th Batt. South Staffordshire Regt.

Bowen Hamer, W. T., "B" Battery, R.H.A. Honourable Artillery Company.

Cobb, J.C., 2nd Lieut. 5th Batt. Royal West Kent Regt.

Cooper, J., A.S.C.

Davies, J. Ll. T., 2nd Lieut. 10th Batt. Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Dobson, R. F., A.S.C.

Edwards, J. B., Royal Monmouthshire Engineers.

Evans Jones, P. D., 2nd Lieut. 6th Batt. Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Gibbon, J. W., 2nd Lieut. 1st Welsh R.A.M.C.

Gibbon, W. St. M., 2nd Lieut. 12th Batt. Welsh Regt.

Grant, N., 2nd Lieut. Lancashire Fusiliers.

Griffith, D. P. S., 2nd Lieut. 2nd Brecknock Batt. S.W.B.

Hodge, W. G., Sergt. 15th Batt. Middlesex Regt.

Howell, G., 2nd Lieut. Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

Jenkins, D. R., Capt. R.F.A. Glamorgan (Territorial).

Lance, G., Capt. 10th Batt. The Border Regt.

Lewis, P. S., 2nd Lieut. R.F.A.

Llewelyn, L. J., 5th Batt. Welch Regt.

Lloyd Rees, A. J., 2nd Lieut. 17th Batt. Welch Regt.

Macartney Filgate, T. T., 2nd Lieut. 4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Monk, W. A. Engineer Lieut. R.N.

Owen, W. D., P.S. Batt. Royal Fusiliers.

Phillips, W. G., R.E. Welsh Division (Territorial).

Powell, G., 2nd Lieut. Brecknock Batt. S.W.B.

Price, J. A. P., Major R.A.M.C. (Territorial) 3rd Southern Hospital.

Rich, S. G. C., 2nd Lieut. 3rd Batt. South Staffordshire Regt.

Saunders Davies, H., 2nd Lieut. 2nd Brecknock Batt. S.W.B.

Seaton, C. A., Lance Corp. No. 4 Siege Co., Royal Monmouthshire Engineers.

Seaton, S., No. 4 Siege Co., Royal Monmouthshire Engineers.

Thomas, T. G., Lieut. 30th Batt. C.E.F.

Thomas, W. R., Machine Gun Section, Collingwood Batt. R.N. Division.

Wake, M. H., Sub-Lieut., R.N.V.R., H.M.S. "Calliope."

Williams, H. A., 50th Regt. Canadian Highlanders.

Williams, M., 2nd Lieut. A.S.C.

This list is partly supplementary to, and partly in correction of, that published in our last number. We invite O.B.'s to supply us with further information.



## LETTERS FROM THE WAR.

[Owing to the kindness of O.B.'s and their friends, we are able to print some more extracts from the letters of Old Breconians.]

### I.

I am in the R.E., a motor cyclist despatch rider, and have been out here since Oct. 1st. I am having a very good time and like my work very much. I have seen several German shells flying about and was once blown over by one, but have never seen anything hit yet except buildings. I once watched them bombarding a Church near here. I went in afterwards and everything had been hit except the Altar. One despatch rider I know was in a room at Ypres with 13 other men, when a shell came in. He and one other were untouched; the rest were killed. Please remember me to everyone.

From Belgium. Dec. 19th.

### II.

I have got back not so very far from Brecon after all! I sent a card from leHavre to say I was being sent home. . . . however, the train for London got filled before my turn came; so I came to Cardiff. I have got "frost-bite" in both feet, one worse than the other. At first I feared that I might lose one, but I am glad to say that it has got much better, though it will be some time before I can walk again.

However, I am lucky to be home again alive or without being mangled like some poor fellows. I did six days in the trenches. The usual thing for the Company is 3 in and 2 or 3 out; but we happened to get 6 days on end this time. We must have looked funny sights when we came out—unshaved and covered with mud. We lost two men in my trench. I found Titho Jones again out there. He has got quite thin again, but doesn't worry much. We were in different companies, so that I didn't see him in the trenches. We had a "banquet" of boiled eggs and coffee the evening before we went up, and I was able to show him the list of O.B.'s which I had. We did not see each other again, because my feet gave out, and I was sent away to the base.

They kept me in hospital in France for a week and then sent me back on the "Asturias." On the way from Southampton I was talking to a wounded Grenadier Guard, who, it turned out, had played for Merthyr against the School in 1906 or 7. He wasn't sure of the year, but his football days are over now.

From a Cardiff Hospital. Feb. 24th.

### III.

Very sorry I have not written before this, giving a description of our travels and troubles. Regret to note by the Brecon papers that "the Coll." did not manage to pull off the match this time. Hope you had a seasonable Christmas, which, you may take my word for it, we didn't. I will now give you an outline of our wanderings, for such they were; no one could call them a definite journey anywhere.

We embarked from Southampton on the s.s. "Dilwara," a veteran of the South African War troopship days, in company with half a battalion of the 9th Middlesex Territorials, bound for India. In spite of having our bunkers on fire and our steering gear broken, we managed to find our way

through "Bay" to Gibraltar; a delay was made for repairs. We encountered a hurricane in the Mediterranean, which was anything but pleasant. We made Port Said on November 15th, and arrived at Suez the following morning. By this time it was getting really warm. After leaving Suez we were shown on our left, that is on the Arabian coast, Mount Sinai. We also had pointed out on our right (I cannot say whether true or not) a post or pillar, said to mark the spot where the Israelites crossed the Red Sea.

We reached Aden on Nov. 23rd, and were thankful that we had arrived at the end of our journey. Great was our disappointment when we found that we had come too early, or something equally not our fault, and that we had to go on as far as Bombay. Off Aden we were anchored beside troopships, which we were told contained 75,000 New Zealand troops bound for England. They shouted to us, "Where do you come from?" It would have made you smile if you could have heard our chaps reply, "South Wales, the place where the footballers come from. Ever heard of it?"

We disembarked on Bombay on Dec. 2nd, remained for a week, and then set out again for Aden, this time in a decent boat, "Grantully Castle," of the Union Castle Line. As we disembarked from one side of the ship at Aden, the Lancashire Fusiliers, whom we were relieving, embarked on the other side.

We have plenty of garrison work and drills to keep us busy; there are rumours we are to be sent back to France. We are glad to hear of so many O.B.'s at the Front, and hope they will all have the best of luck, and that we shall all meet again after the War is over. All Old Boys out here join in wishing you all a very happy and prosperous New Year.

Aden, Jan. 10th.

#### IV.

We are all together here now and have a fair job of work on as far as the training of the Battalion is concerned. We start physical drill at 6 a.m., and on and off do not finish with some companies till 8 p.m., and they have to do night work two days a week. Thursday is called a holiday but we have a Battalion parade at 7-15 until 8. Orderly Room work is M. F. Thomas' work and lasts pretty well all day, and every day except Sunday.

We have quite a nice little Church here, perched up on the top of a hillock, which does not hold more than 400. We have consequently two parade services, one at 10-30 and the other at 11-30; we have to run the whole show in the way of choir and organist, and have some capital singing. Leslie Heins plays in the morning, but he goes down to Steamer Point to play for the evening service there. We have also a voluntary service at 6-30 p.m., and there is also an early communion service at 7 a.m. Work of all description goes on on Sundays as on other days, most of the populace being Mahometans, with a good sprinkling of Jews and Roman Catholics.

Last Saturday week some of us journeyed to Lalig, an Arab town about 25 miles from here—an independent State ruled over by a Sultan. We had to get a pass from the Political Resident at Steamer Point, who notifies the Sultan, and a bungalow is put at our disposal on arrival. We went the first 8 miles to Sheikk Ofman by motor; there we got out and had to cross the desert on camels. By the regulations we have to take an interpreter with us and also go armed. Picture to yourself, 6 camels lying down waiting when we arrived; after loading up one with our baggage, we all got on with some misgivings, as the old brutes got up hind legs first, which gives one an uneasy cant forward; then comes the backward jerk; however, no mishap occurred and we all started off at a jog trot. Some of the other fellows

6

looked decidedly unhappy, but if you are used to riding a horse, you drop into it at once, except the steering part of the job; but there is not much difficulty about that, as they will all follow in a line one after another. The bridle consists of a rope halter, one end of which is fixed to a ring in the nose. It is quite disconcerting when the brute twists its neck round and bites a fly under its girth.

The journey over the desert was uneventful, but we passed and overtook several strings of camels going and coming, loaded up with merchandise, etc. The road, or rather the track, was in parts impossible for any traffic except camels or donkeys; it was flat and undulating with mimosa scrub dotted about and the ground covered with millions of young locusts, like large grasshoppers of a beautiful yellow and green colour, and unable to fly, because their wings were not yet fully grown; we saw also several tailor-birds' nests hanging in the trees. . . . After about two hours we sight Lalig, which has been built in an oasis; tall palm trees are dotted about and we tread our way between green fields of Indian corn and another green crop from which oil is extracted. They have 4 crops a year here. Natives were working in the fields; no fences of course, but small ditches or a bank only; some were ploughing with two oxen and the biblical wooden plough of very primitive description. The scene is quite picturesque; the natives are scantily garbed in wondrous coloured clothes.

We arrive at our bungalow, very hot and wet through with sweat. We get blankets, take off our clothes and lie down in our beds to sleep and to await our baggage. . . . After something to eat, we are informed that His Highness the Sultan will give us an audience. So we march off through a horribly narrow and dirty street to the palace, and on arriving at a huge gate guarded by several evil looking men, we are passed in and up another courtyard to the door of the audience chamber, from which is being removed a man in iron shackles. We had evidently interrupted what was equivalent to our Assize Court and we subsequently heard that the man was being tried for murder. However, we are ushered in, chairs placed for us, and we bow to the Sultan, who was sitting opposite on a divan with 4 other old men, probably his advisers or headmen, also sitting cross-legged and smoking hubble-bubble pipes. Our interpreter kisses the Sultan's hand, cigarettes are handed round, we seat ourselves and the audience begins. After formal salutations a long conversation about the present war takes place through the interpreter: this having lasted about 20 minutes I was beginning to think we ought to go, when a younger brother of the Sultan, Prince Moshin Fadl Aly, appears on the scene. We bow, he shakes hands with perfect courtesy and to our surprise talks to us in English. After another quarter of an hour's talk we are dismissed, bowing ourselves out, and the head constable is told off to take us through the town. I won't labour my letter with a description: it can be summed up in one word, filthy. Narrow streets (6 feet), mud houses, flies (by the million), and a gaping crowd of about 50 boys and men, and I was glad we had the head constable with us, of whom they appeared in great awe.

In the evening we were strolling out by our bungalow just before dinner, when we met the Prince and he took us through his private garden, where he has a sort of summer house bungalow with a piano (horribly out of tune), a small harmonium and a gramophone. He played a sort of mandoline and sang native songs to us in quite a pleasing voice and we talked for three-quarters of an hour.

On Sunday the Prince received us in the Palace . . . and we walked through the town to another garden some threequarters of a mile out.



On our way several of his subjects would run up and kiss his hand ; he said a word or two to them and on we went. A word as to rainfall might be interesting ; it appears they have several very heavy rains during the year, practically one every month and they have a system of irrigation from the distant hills. The garden, or rather wood, consisted of large cocoa-nut and date palms, pomegranates, soap trees and several other kinds of fruit with which I was not familiar. He sent a man up a cocoa-nut tree to get some nuts and collected a heap of other fruits and after he had been snapshotted by 3 of our party, we arrived at the end of the wood. Underneath the trees crops are grown and small cows graze, tended by boys.

After our mid-day meal we . . . . started back again, this time having our camel boys up behind us ; we jogged along all the way and arrived at Sheikk Ofman about 6, and motored back to barracks, having spent a most enjoyable and interesting week-end.

As far as I am concerned this is quite a healthy spot. We are right on the sea with a nice breeze blowing. I don't bathe, as I am taking no risks with sharks and sting rays. It is stoking up a bit now and will be pretty warm in a month or so. The mail this week will not be in till Wednesday ; it is due Sunday, but has been held up in the Suez Canal, on account of operations against the Turks.

Crater, Aden, Feb. 2nd.

## A Few Questions from Inquisitive Quibblers.

1. Is it true that the time-honoured institution still meets at a quarter-to-two, and that the oldest member is an absentee ?

2. What is the origin of the following :—"Murphy," "Baby," "Waddle-waddle," "Bobbers," "R-rip," "Heehaw," "Blackbird," "Curnel," "Chrem," "Crocodile," "Enoch," "Uncle Toothpick" ?

3. Is it correct that A Beautiful pair of "papiER-maché" feet have been destroyed somewhere in the School ?

4. Whether a raid is being contemplated by the Lower School on the premises of the "Blue Paper Co." ?

5. Is it true that "LOGS" were employed in the construction of a strange and wonderful box which has appeared since a recent date, when it was announced that there was "an Inkpot missing" ?

6. Breconians are undoubtedly *men* : who said that our Turkey was N-OTTOMAN ?

7. Who is the originator of "Aaah" !, "Health Salts," "Huh" ! ?

8. Is "SHWN" a term found in the Drill-Book ?

9. Who is the coward responsible for the suggestion that the Steeple-Chase Course should be lengthened ?

10. Whether it is true that the overwhelming majority of "bonnie Scots" we are burdened with are agitating to change the St. David's Day half-holiday for one on St. Andrew's Day ?

11. Whether it is correct that the energetic beast that pulls the cricket roller has to be forcibly prevented from offering its services to the military authorities ?



## FOOTBALL.

CHRIST COLLEGE "A" TEAM V. YSTRADGYNLAIS COUNTY SCHOOL.—On March 6th, the School "A" Team played the return match with Ystradgynlais County School at Ystradgynlais. Both sides seemed equally matched and from the start shewed great keenness. Directly from the kick-off, the School forwards attacked, but were feebly supported by their backs, who ran across the field instead of going straight for the line. They hesitated and so lost much ground. There were a few forwards also, who handled the ball far too much, and the result was that they prevented their halves getting it. Another favourite trick was to kick the ball back to their "threes" too hard, and throw it back without really looking where it went. These tactics proved fatal, for our opponents gained much ground by them. After several "scrums" on our line, one of the Ystradgynlais forwards scored. Thus at half-time the score was:—Ystradgynlais, 3 pts., The School, nil. In the second half the School forwards still continued to attack, but our backs could do nothing with the opportunities given them. Play was now for the most part in mid-field, and from a scrum Ystradgynlais got the ball and their half kicked across, from which they again scored—a doubtful try. The kick failed. After this, the School rallied, and made themselves quite dangerous. M. G. Thomas tried to drop a goal and just missed the mark. Shortly afterwards a penalty kick was given to the School, but this failed. Ystradgynlais again pressed, and from a scrum in our own "25," their outside-half broke away and scored a fine try. This kick failed also. Ystradgynlais played well throughout and their hard kicking proved rather fatal for us, because our "threes" were very slow in fielding the ball and in finding touch. In this way Ystradgynlais gained much ground. It was a good game, but rather on the scrappy side. Our forwards scrummaged well and had a good share of the ball—Arnott and Wilkinson being perhaps the most prominent. The threequarters were not up to their usual form. They lacked dash and determination. C. Thomas was the best; he ran straight on several occasions and almost scored, but nobody backed him up. T. Ll. Evans played fairly well, but was rather on the slow side. On the whole, the game proved rather disappointing for the School, who ought to have put up a better fight. Thus we lost: Ystradgynlais, 9 pts., The School, nil. Mr. Johns of Swansea was the referee. The School were represented by the following:—(Full-back) T. Ll. Evans; (three-quarters) G. Evans, C. Thomas, T. Akrill Jones, A. G. Henshaw; (halves) M. G. Thomas, E. J. Morgan; (forwards) E. Arnott, F. James, M. Roberts, J. Ll. Jones Davies, G. Wilkinson, C. Ll. Morgan, F. M. Pryce, and A. H. Johns.

## HOCKEY SEASON, 1915.

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"February fill-dyke" is a saying always amply demonstrated in Brecon, but this year the month has shamed all previous records in sheer aqueousness. We did not expect, owing to the War, to have many matches: the floods of February washed away all hope of them.

A Senior League was organised to supplement the ordinary games and the usual Junior Competition. It would no doubt have proved successful in itself and useful in training on players for the XI., had not most of the interest in it been destroyed by the recurring notice: "No games to-day—grounds unfit." Such combats as took place were generally fought out under conditions resembling the trench work in Flanders.

The 1st XI. had two trial games with a mixed 2nd XI. plus Masters' team, and one serious match. They naturally proved too strong for the Scratch XI.'s, though neither victory was very convincing, but lost the match v. Mr. Henshaw's XI. This was a strong side consisting of Neath and Swansea players, and afforded a good test of our capacity. A well contested game proved that our defence was both robust and skilful, and that our forward play was sadly deficient in enterprise and combination. It was only the insipidity of our front rank that stood between us and victory.

Individually, D. L. Jones, J. Evans, and D. J. Thomas were probably the best players. D. L. Jones is a very powerful and formidable right back, and J. Evans possesses abundant energy and skill. He was also a most worthy captain, and as such left the safe distinction of the half-back line to lead a forlorn hope among the forwards; unfortunately his success there has not been commensurate with his zeal. D. J. Thomas was absent from the last week of games and the one real match; but his previous play revealed pace, dash and thrusting power far in advance of his colleagues of the forward line. Of the rest it is enough to say that the half-back line, even without J. Evans, was thoroughly efficient, and that the other forwards, moderate as they were, did not fail for want of keenness.

In spite of all—Armageddon, The Deluge, and other minor catastrophes—we have enjoyed some pleasant games of Hockey. We have observed a growing development of skill throughout the School, and a creditable attempt to check excess of vigour in the form of “golf shots” and “shock tactics.” The game has been keenly played, as far as Fate has permitted it; the Leagues have done, and will do, much good, provided that they strictly serve to engender skill with the stick, pace and combination as the real factors of Hockey success.

A. E. D.

The “First Game” this season has been particularly marked with much more keenness and competition for places in the School XI. than usual. Both among the forwards and the backs there has been shown much ability. The latter have played with much perseverance, and the play has been of a sound and vigorous nature, while the former, although lacking in sufficient dash and vigour, have greatly improved towards the end of the season. The coaching of Mr. Donaldson has been invaluable. That he was still able to take part in our games has been most inspiring and encouraging to the School Team. We are also thankful to Messrs. Isitt and Robinson for turning out so regularly in the games.

The “Leagues” have proved most advantageous, and have afforded great opportunities for those outside the first team to show their talents at Hockey, and it is most gratifying to say that these opportunities have been taken and considerable talent has been revealed. T. Thomas has consistently played a sound and reliable game as “goalie.” R. L. Phillips deserves praise for his keenness and perseverance at full-back, while Saunders-Jones and C. Howells have clearly shown they can play good Hockey, and that they will be of great use in the future. The “Leagues” have not only assisted in preserving but also in increasing a keen liking for Hockey.

The School Team is really quite up to the standard, despite the fact that it has played under less encouraging conditions than usual. We possess a pair of good backs. The halves are very hard-working. The forward line, although lacking in dash, is composed of keen players.

In conclusion, then, the School XI. certainly had the making of a good team, which only needed greater opportunities and time to develop the talent that it undoubtedly possessed.

J. E.

## THE HOCKEY XI.

J. L. JONES-DAVIES (Goalkeeper)—1914--5.—Sound but not brilliant. From want of match practice has hardly improved on last year's form.

D. L. JONES (Right-back)—1913-4-5.—A very stalwart defender, particularly hard to beat except by sheer pace. Very powerful in his defensive hitting: a little more discretion at times would make him additionally useful to the attack.

E. ARNOTT (Left-back)—1915.—A determined and clean hitting back. Has certainly improved, especially in the recognition of the superiority of skill over mere vigour.

E. J. MORGAN (Right half-back)—1915.—Clever with his stick and very persevering. Equally sound in defence and attack.

T. Ll. EVANS (Centre half-back)—1915.—Except for want of pace is a most promising player. He tackles most persistently, has much resource and "stick" skilfulness, and is rapidly learning how to distribute his passes.

T. AKRILL-JONES (Left half-back)—1915.—Rather slow, but works very hard. His defence is excellent, and he feeds his forwards judiciously.

D. J. THOMAS (Outside Right)—1915.—Fast and dashing: centres hard and clean, and has certainly been the best attacking player among the forwards.

G. WILKINSON (Inside Right)—1915.—Has some skill in dribbling and shooting, but has hardly made the most of it. Hesitates too much in face of a determined defence.

J. EVANS (Centre Forward)—1913-4-5.—As a half-back was, as usual, untiring in defence and clever with his stick. His praiseworthy efforts as a forward have improved the combination of the line, but he has insufficient experience in cutting through the defence. A model of keenness both on and off the field.

G. EVANS (Inside Left)—1915.—Started with much promise, being energetic and individually skilful: has fallen off all round recently and seems to have lost nearly all his dash.

M. G. THOMAS (Outside Left)—1915.—A little lacking in finesse, but is quick and has a good eye. Often sends a capital centre across, and was by no means the least successful of the forwards.



## HOCKEY MATCHES.

CHRIST COLLEGE V. THE SCHOOL 2ND XI. AND THE MASTERS.—Such did our opponents in our first match of the season call themselves. This match was played on Wednesday, February 3rd, on the School Ground, which was not favourable for good Hockey owing to the effect of the recent rains. Our opponents were not strong, but formidable enough to give the School a hard tussle. This match admirably served the purpose of affording us opportunities for finding out the strong and weak points in the School XI. The School won by 7 goals to 4. Our goals were scored by Henshaw (3), G. Evans (3), and D. J. Thomas (1), while those of our opponents were mainly registered by Mr. Donaldson, who found the net with admirable shots. The game was of a keen and interesting nature, and not until the greater part of the game had been played did it become apparent which side was to emerge victorious. The School XI. showed promise. Our defence was, on the whole, quite firm and sound, but our forward line lacked combination and dash. Most of the goals were the outcome of individual effort rather than the result of a dashing combination. The game certainly showed where we were deficient, and where improvement was necessary. But on the whole the result was quite satisfactory. The School was represented as follows :—(Goal) J. L. Jones-Davies, (backs) D. L. Jones, E. Arnott, (half-backs) H. E. Thomas, J. Evans, T. Akrell-Jones (forwards), G. B. H. Jones, G. Evans, A. G. Henshaw, C. Thomas, D. J. Thomas.

CHRIST COLLEGE V. REV. A. E. DONALDSON'S XI.—This, our second match, was the third on our scanty fixture list. It was played on the School Ground on Wednesday, March 10th. The weather was fine, and afforded admirable conditions for Hockey. This match was greatly looked forward to owing to the fact that we had previously been sorely disappointed at the inability of Pontypridd H.C. to visit us, since most of the members of their team had recently gone to play a grimmer and nobler game against the Huns. The pleasant change in the weather was also a factor that added greatly to our eagerness for this game. But again we were not to go without some disappointment. At the eleventh hour most of the members of Mr. Donaldson's XI. were unable to play, so that our game now was a second "2nd XI. and the Masters," who this time were without the services of Mr. Donaldson, who acted as referee. It now remained to see how the School XI. would fare in comparison with its first game. After the bully off the School immediately attacked, and spent most of the time in our opponents' half, but repeatedly failed to score. Our opponents were playing an admirable defensive game. At last the School woke up to a more vigorous game, and before the first half of the game came to an end our efforts were rewarded by two goals from J. Evans. This "half" of the game had shown the lack of vigour among the forwards, and the successful defence of our opponents deserves great praise. From the commencement of the second

half matters took a different phase. The School attacked and pressed throughout the whole game. The forwards showed better combination and understanding, and put more vigour into their play. Some individual play by Wilkinson gave J. Evans an opportunity to score the third goal for the School. Three more goals were added by the same player, followed by two from the stick of Wilkinson, one by M. G. Thomas as the result of a run along the left wing, and two by Henshaw, who scored from the right of the ring with two powerful shots. The final whistle blew, leaving the School victors by 10 goals to nil. In comparison with the previous game, the School side showed improvement. Our opponents were decidedly weak, but their defence was for a long time admirable, especially that of Mr. Isitt at back and T. Thomas at goal. Our team was :—(Goal) J. L. Jones-Davies, (backs) D. L. Jones, E. Arnott, (halves) E. J. Morgan, T. Ll. Evans, T. Akrell-Jones, (forwards) A. G. Henshaw, G. Wilkinson, J. Evans, G. Evans, M. G. Thomas.

CHRIST COLLEGE V. A. HENSHAW'S XI.—Postponed from an earlier date owing to the wet weather, this match brought the Hockey season to a close on March 13th. Mr. Henshaw had been at some pains to collect a capable side, among whom we recognised many old friends from Neath and Swansea. We had distinctly the better of the first half and were generally in our opponents' twenty-five, but the forwards did not dash for the circle and hardly ever got in a shot. Still our halves and backs dominated the game, and J. Evans managed to score twice by energetic following up and so turning to account imperfect clearances. Just before the interval the visitors scored a neat goal. We started the second half very indifferently; the slowness of the forwards for a time seemed to infect the backs, and the visitors twice got through and scored. The defence speedily recovered, and more than held its own to the end. The forwards continued very ineffective, though they pressed hotly in the last ten minutes, and were not very lucky on one or two occasions. Still we had so many chances that it was only our own fault that the enemy retained their unexpected lead to the end. It was a very pleasant and well fought game. Our opponents were short of practice, but they lasted remarkably well, and their centre half saved them repeatedly. Our defence was really all that could be desired, D. L. Jones, Arnott and T. Ll. Evans shining, but the forwards can hardly be congratulated. They seemed to miss D. J. Thomas at outside right, and to suffer from nervousness and extreme slowness. The final score was 3—2 against us. Our team was :—Goalkeeper, J. L. Jones-Davies; backs, D. L. Jones, E. Arnott; halves, E. J. Morgan, T. Ll. Evans, T. Akrell-Jones; forwards, A. G. Henshaw, G. Wilkinson, J. Evans, G. Evans, M. G. Thomas.

#### HOUSE MATCHES.

A—M.	beat	N—Z.	5—2.
Hostel	„	N—Z.	9—0.
Hostel	„	A—M.	5—2.

## THE HOCKEY LEAGUES.

## SENIOR.

											Goals.			
											For.	Agst.		
		Won.		Lost.		Drawn.		Abandoned.		Points.				
1.	Russians .....	3	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	7	...	26	...	20
2.	Gurkhas .....	2	...	1	...	0	...	3	...	5	...	20	...	17
3.	Japs .....	1	...	1	...	1	...	3	...	3	...	12	...	12
4.	Cossacks .....	0	...	3	...	0	...	3	...	0	...	12	...	21

## JUNIOR (Under 16).

1.	Gurkhas .....	3	...	1	...	0	...	2	...	7	...	15	...	10
2.	Cossacks .....	2	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	5	...	15	...	9
3.	Russians .....	1	...	0	...	1	...	4	...	3	...	3	...	2
4.	Japs .....	0	...	4	...	0	...	2	...	0	...	7	...	19

The "Abandoned" Column tells its own tale, and reveals the extent of the weather's interference. It is not easy, therefore, to say how far the positions in the above tables represent a true standard of merit. Among the Seniors the Russians had a good set of forwards, and owed much to them and D. L. Jones at back. But the Gurkhas and Japs were, if anything, stronger in defence. The three leading Junior Sides were very equally matched. We hope another year that the weather will allow a full programme to be carried out.

## HOUSE SHOOTING CUP.

This Competition was won by A—M with a score of 487 out of a possible total of 630. The scores of the other Houses were :—

N—Z	...	...	...	464.
Hostel	...	...	...	453.

The best individual scores (possible 105) were as follows :—

R. Arnott	...	...	94.
Henshaw	...	...	89.
R. L. Phillips	...	...	85.

## FIVES.

## OPEN SINGLES.—1st Round.

H. E. Thomas	beat	E. Williams	...	15-2, 15-4.
Akrill-Jones	„	M. Roberts	...	15-1, 15-0.
K. G. Evans	„	L. C. Davies	...	15-5, 15-7.
Henshaw	„	M. G. Thomas	...	11-15, 15-6, 15-8.
J. Evans	„	Bevan	...	15-1, 15-2.
D. Leyshon	„	D. J. Thomas	...	15-8, 15-3.

The rest had byes.

## 2nd Round.

Akrill-Jones	beat	Gifford	... 15-3, 15-6.
J. Evans	"	D. Leyshon	... 15-8, 15-3.
Eynon	"	Scudamore	... 15-0, 15-0.
H. E. Thomas	"	Simon	... 15-0, 15-1.
Henshaw	"	O. H. Watson	... 15-4, 15-3.
Howells	"	R. S. Griffiths	... 15-4, 15-10.
K. Jones	"	C. G. Evans	... 15-10, 15-5.
K. G. Evans	"	Hunter	... 15-5, 12-15, 15-12.
G. E. Watson	"	B. W. Sims	... 15-0, 15-7.
Lloyd Rees	"	G. B. H. Jones	... 15-0, 15-8.
N. Evans	"	Tunbridge	... 15-0, 15-1.
C. Thomas	"	Wilkinson	... 7-15, 15-2, 15-5.
E. J. Morgan	"	E. Arnott	... 15-8, 15-7.
S. E. Lewis	"	S. Evans	... 15-12, 15-10.
D. L. Jones	"	R. L. Phillips	... 15-0, 15-3.
G. C. Thomas	"	E. T. Sims	... scratched.

## 3rd Round.

Lloyd Rees	beat	N. Evans	... 15-3, 15-4.
K. Jones	"	G. E. Watson	... 15-5, 15-8.
Henshaw	"	Howells	... 15-6, 15-5.
H. E. Thomas	"	G. C. Thomas	... 15-1, 15-3.
D. L. Jones	"	K. G. Evans	... 15-0, 15-1.
J. Evans	"	Eynon	... 15-3, 15-4.
Akrill-Jones	"	S. E. Lewis	... 15-2, 15-8.
E. J. Morgan	"	C. Thomas	... 15-9, 15-13.

## 4th Round.

D. L. Jones	beat	H. E. Thomas	... 15-6, 15-5.
Akrill-Jones	"	E. J. Morgan	... 15-7, 15-7.
J. Evans	"	Lloyd Rees	... 15-6, 15-10.
Henshaw	"	K. Jones	... 15-0, 15-7.

## Semi-Final.

Akrill-Jones	beat	J. Evans	... 10-15, 15-10, 15-11.
D. L. Jones	"	Henshaw	... 15-1, 15-0.

## Final.

D. L. Jones	beat	Akrill-Jones	... 15-4, 15-3.
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## HOUSE CUP.

Hostel (D. L. Jones and H. E. Thomas) beat School House (Akrill-Jones and J. Evans), 15-5, 15-1,



## THE STEEPLECHASES.

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The Steeplechases were run on Saturday, March 20th, in very fine weather, which favoured good running.

The Juniors started at 2-30. Bevan led the way into Llanfaes, but others soon began to out-distance him. At the gate near the Three Bridges, B. W. Sims was in front with C. Ll. Morgan, E. Williams, and L. C. Davies following close behind. Sims was running well and continued to increase his lead, which he maintained to the end. C. Ll. Morgan finished second, but L. C. Davies succeeded in outrunning Williams and finished third. The next in order were: E. Williams, W. M. Jones, Blackall, W. R. Richards, I. Ll. Evans, Marshall and Wilson.

Sims' time was 28mins. 22secs., a little below the average, but in spite of this it was a good race, and most of the runners finished well and fairly close together.

The Seniors started at 3-30. As usual in this race there was a sprint for the gate, D. C. Thomas and F. M. Pryce leading the way. Outside the gate, however, the order was very soon changed. J. Evans, Akrill-Jones, Henshaw, and G. B. H. Jones were in front at the Vicarage, where all four were running close together. They continued to run well, and at the Three Bridges J. Evans and Akrill-Jones were in company, with the other two a little way behind. J. Evans then began to forge ahead, and at the Smithy was leading by about 12 yards. Akrill-Jones was running strongly in the second place, and at the Three Bridges was again alongside Evans. Here, however, Evans seemed done, and Akrill-Jones passed him soon afterwards. Henshaw also passed him but was unable to overtake Akrill-Jones, who finished with a sprint in 36mins. 45secs. Henshaw was a good second, and J. Evans third. Next in order were G. B. H. Jones, E. Arnott, T. Ll. Evans, James, Roberts, A. L. Thomas, and Tyack.

This was a very good race, and the time was quite good. We offer our heartiest congratulations to the winners, and particularly to J. Evans. This was his first Steeplechase, and he ran very pluckily, although suffering from stitch from the Smithy to the end.

## CADET CORPS.

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With visions of resplendent uniforms and real rifles before it, the Cadet Corps set off in very cheerful mood this term. But alas! disillusionment soon came in the form of a letter from the War Office bidding us resign all hopes, if not of military usefulness, of military glory at any rate, until the vague future that should bring "the cessation of hostilities." This cruel blow was perhaps a little too much for the vainer spirits who had already clothed themselves in the khaki of their imagination, and life has become very grey for them again. However, the purpose for which the Corps was formed can still be fulfilled, and a fair amount of the term has accordingly been given up to drill and shooting. No doubt the joys of squad drill grows faint as time goes on, but I should like to take this opportunity to point out that squad, and other elementary drill—whether pleasant or the reverse—must go on for ever, unless boys are prepared to make an effort to acquire the proper soldierly spirit which is the end of mechanical drill, and without which further progress cannot be made. Not that one need be pessimistic, for a very fair proportion of the Corps is possessed of excellent military instincts, and may certainly in time leaven the whole lump.

Shooting, scenting as it does more of the real thing, has been taken up with great enthusiasm, and under the able tuition of Mr. Isitt has already—as the House Competition has shown—reached a very good level.

Both Mr. Isitt and Mr. Robinson have likewise done stout work in the ranks of the Corps.

The one route march we have had so far was very enjoyable, and quite good marching was done.

The Senior Corps now numbers 25 file, while the Juniors include, either as conscripts or volunteers, nearly all the rest of the School.

Next Term we hope to have an individual Shooting Competition (on a range of our own), and a House Drill Competition.

J. B. C.

## Archie : A Tragedy of Blue Paper.

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Archie was a good little bird who lived in a beautiful glass house. He was very lonely there : very often he used to wish for a position of greater freedom and less responsibility. Eventually he had his desire.

Joseph, a friend of Archie's, had travelled a *good* deal in his time and seen much of the world. But this had not taught him wisdom. Consequently he gave Archie a great deal of bad advice, which led to the latter's ruin.

Great reports reached Archie's ears from time to time of a new system of punishment that was about to be introduced. He knew something about punishment himself, for he was to all intents and purposes a prisoner in his glass house, and it had happened on occasion that he had been the innocent cause of punishment to others. In a state of some uncertainty he hurried off to consult Joseph.

"Wait and see," said Joseph, "How should it affect you?" Wily Joseph had made his own arrangements for escape, and did not want to be bothered with a travelling companion.

Joseph made his will, leaving all his earthly possessions—ropes, elastic and the like—to John Willie. Saying goodbye to no one, least of all to Archie, he rushed into the Inner Room, and vanished in a cloud of smoke. Regretfully Archie waited for his friend's return.

After a long period of waiting and seeing, Archie saw the new system introduced. Every day henceforward his peace was disturbed by vast hordes of sufferers under the new regime. Driven mad by this invasion, for which he feared he was in part responsible, he fled from his usual sphere of action, and, failing to find any trace of his former friend, vanished into the unknown, never—let us hope—to return. R.I.P.

[We are informed that this simple little tale conceals a deep and subtle meaning. We invite our readers to discover it, if they can. EDD.]

## PASSION SERVICE.

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On Thursday, March 25th, the Choir rendered Vinuing's cantata, "The Song of the Passion." There were two performances, at both of which the expectations of the audiences were quite realised. Both performances were extremely good, but, as is often the case, the evening rendering was a distinct improvement on that of the afternoon, though the latter was very nearly perfect. In his preface to the work the composer points out that the dramatic character of the Scriptural text requires an equally dramatic interpretation of the music. While keeping this well in mind, the Choir were well balanced as regards the different parts of the work, and their attack on the choruses was quite one of the best features of the piece. The softer semi-choruses were also sung with true musical taste, while the two renderings of the cantata, both afternoon and evening, were distinguished for the reverent manner in which they were given.

Mr. Heins presided at the organ, and assisted materially in the finished rendering of the work by his judicious accompaniment. Miss Morgan, as violinist, kindly rendered invaluable assistance to the Choir by sustaining the trebles in many difficult passages. Her rendering of Handel's solo, "He was despised," was remarkable indeed for the pathos and perfect technique with which it was played. The solo parts were taken by Messrs. Batey and Perrins, both of Hereford Cathedral. The bass parts were admirably sung by the former, while the latter, though suffering from a cold, rendered his solos in a pleasing manner.

Finally, where all was so good it is hard to point out any particular feature as being noteworthy. A few of the choruses were indeed quite electrifying. To the Choir, and above all to Mr. Large, the thanks of the School are due for a pleasant evening, and for proving in such an excellent way that the efforts of the School are quite as distinguished in music as they are in other branches of life.



## OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The Term began on Wednesday, January 20th, and will end on Thursday, April 8th.

At a meeting of the School on Wednesday, January 20th, J. Evans was elected Captain of Hockey, and G. Wilkinson and T. Akrill-Jones were appointed to the vacant places on the Games Committee. Mr. Isitt also has been chosen as the Headmaster's representative in place of Mr. Lance.

At a meeting of the Games Committee held on the same day it was decided to substitute Hockey Leagues for the usual Matches, and to add a House Competition in the Sports.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to G. B. H. Jones on his success in obtaining an Exhibition in Modern History at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

The following half holidays have been granted this term:—Friday, February 12th, in honour of G. B. H. Jones' Exhibition; Tuesday, March 2nd, instead of the usual holiday on St. David's Day.

On Monday, March 15th, the Choir received a half holiday.

The School Prefects this Term are D. L. Jones and J. Evans. House Prefects are:—W. S. R. Thomas, E. T. Sims, J. S. Eynon, F. James, and T. Akrill-Jones (School House), and G. B. H. Jones, G. Evans, and C. Thomas (Hostel).

The Editors of the "Breconian" are:—J. Evans, G. B. H. Jones, and G. Wilkinson.

Cadet Corps.—Drill has been carried on this term as usual under the able and efficient instruction of Mr. Cryer. Mr. Isitt and Mr. Robinson have joined the Corps as privates. Through the great kindness of Mr. Isitt we have been able to enjoy shooting practices. He very kindly lent us rifles and supplied ammunition and targets, and has been most persevering in his efforts to bring the Corps up to a proper standard of efficiency in this line: he has also arranged a House Shooting Competition to take place this term. The thanks of the whole School are due to these three Masters for their assistance in our military duties. We must also thank Miss Williams, of Penpont, for kind permission to use the Shooting Range.

H. T. Maddocks (O.B.) and A. B. Price (O.B.) played for the Public Schools Battalion XV. v. the Canadians.

The Rev. Maurice Jones (O.B.), late Chaplain of the Forces, has been preferred to the living of Rotherfield Peppard, Oxford.

Among the New Year's Honours occurred the name of C. T. Davis (O.B.). The King has been graciously pleased to make him a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George in consideration of his services at the Colonial Office.

W. Jones-Williams (O.B.) at present holds many temporary public appointments in the County of Brecon, viz., Deputy Coroner for Northern Division of County of Brecon; Clerk to Justices for Borough of Brecon; Clerk to Justices for Division of Merthyr and Pencelly; and Legal Adviser to Brecon Board of Guardians, Brecon Rural District Council and Assessment Committee.

J. C. Cobb (O.B.) has written a novel entitled "Struggles," which has been favourably criticised by the Press.

John Lloyd (O.B.) has very kindly presented to the School several more War Maps of his own designing.

Marriage.—At the Parish Church, St. Marylebone, London, on Monday, January 18th, Surgeon H. P. Price, R.N. (O.B.), H.M.S. Sheldrake, to Miss Elsie Bevan.

The engagement of Captain G. Lance, to Gladys, second daughter of the late J. A. Jebb, Esq., of Brecon, has recently been announced. Capt. Lance is at present stationed at Southend-on-Sea.

We regret to announce the death of E. D. Lloyd (O.B.) in France. He contracted pneumonia while serving with the Veterinary Corps, and died at Le Havre. He left the School in 1892, and was the elder brother of T. Lloyd (O.B.), now also serving in the A.S.C.

The Sports have been fixed for Wednesday, April 7th.

The following O.B.'s have visited us this Term:—A. W. T. Evans, G. M. O. Evans, A. Henshaw, J. W. Gibbon, J. N. Robson, L. Baker Jones, I. S. Jenkins, W. H. Smith, and A. J. Morris. Two former Masters have also visited us—Mr. R. D. G. Munns (in January) and the Rev. P. R. Bartley (in February).

A considerable number of new books have been purchased for the School Library. Mr. Isitt has also made a handsome gift of some 50 volumes of fiction, for which we offer him sincere thanks.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of *The Breconian*.

DEAR SIRs,—I have failed: nevertheless I will try again. The summer term is approaching. Straw hats will soon be in use. Is it not possible that a prefect's hatband could be instituted, beginning with next term? At present they have no mark of distinction whatever. Are not prefects factors of the utmost importance in a school such as this? Is it not only right, that they should have some distinguishing mark? At present they cannot be distinguished from the ordinary schoolboy. Are we to be put in the shade by other schools? No, it is simply a case of "Wake up Brecon."

Hoping this appeal will meet with more success than other previous letters on this subject have done.

I remain, yours, etc.,

"NON PREFECT."

To the Editors of *The Breconian*.

DEAR SIRs,—We have here, in Brecon, a cricket field of which Breconians, past and present, are justly proud. Cannot something be done to prevent it going to ruin? Every year it sinks on an average about one inch at the pavilion end, and is already quite against good running, hardly pleasant for fielding in the deep, and a constant hindrance to games. Surely something can be done with the assistance of the School. Could we not at least dig 'trenches' to drain it into a neighbouring stream? In its present state it will need a great quantity of earth to level—next year it will need more, unless steps are taken. Hoping that the school can be of assistance,

I am,

Yours truly,

"TOMMY."

[A good deal of levelling has been done in recent years. The assistance of the School would be heartily welcomed when further efforts in the same direction are made.—EDD.]

To the Editors of *The Breconian*.

DEAR SIRs,—A few terms ago a letter appeared in the *Breconian* suggesting that boys, on leaving, should present a book to the School Library. This custom does not seem to have been generally adopted. Why not?

Yours truly,

"READER."

To the Editors of *The Breconian*.

DEAR SIRs,—When a new boy comes to the School he is often punished for breaches of rules completely unknown to him. Is it not only fair that a book of rules should be compiled, and copies issued, as in the past?

I remain,

Yours truly,

“PUZZLED.”

[Ignorance is no excuse in the eyes of the Law, but we doubt whether there are so many *innocent* victims as you suggest.—EDD.]

To the Editors of *The Breconian*.

DEAR SIRs,—May I ask if the copy of the School rules, of which some extracts were given in your last number, is the most recent publication of the laws under which we are governed? This copy, it seems, is at least twenty years old. I should like to suggest that a rather more up-to-date collection and publication of the rules be made, since I should think it is probable that several new ones have been made since the year 1895. I think also that there are some rules at present in force of which some members of the School are entirely ignorant.

Yours, etc.,

“LEGISLATOR.”

[The extracts in our last number were not meant to be taken seriously.—EDD.]

To the Editors of *The Breconian*.

DEAR SIRs,—I think it would be a good idea if in future the School, to be like other Public Schools, had running clothes with the School Colours on them. All white, with a dark-blue and light-blue stripe round the bottom of the legs of the trousers and round the sleeves, with the crest of the School in blue on the jersey would, I think, look very decent. Hoping it will receive due consideration,

Yours sincerely,

“IANTO FULL-PELT.”

To the Editors of *The Breconian*.

DEAR SIRs,—Would it not be possible to have a few collections during the year for the Chapel expenses, so that it could be re-colour washed. Hoping this will meet with your approval,

I remain, yours truly,

“ONE OF THE CONGREGATION,”



To the Editors of *The Breconian*.

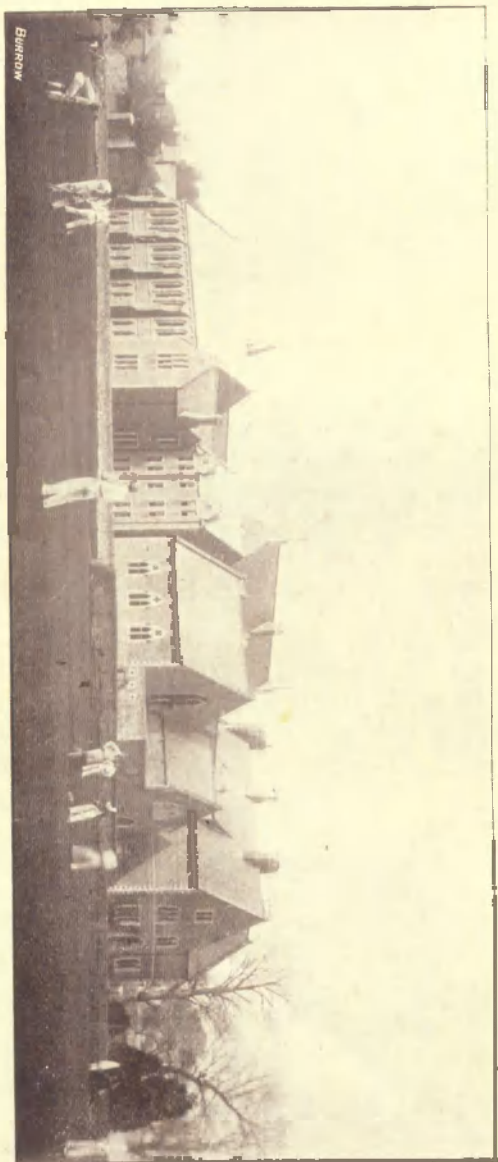
DEAR SIRs,—We have a noble “Roll of Honour.” May I, then, suggest that the names of those of our Old Boys who have given their lives for their Country, and those who are now serving with the “Colours,” be printed on a “Board of Honour,” which could be placed on the School gates.

I am, yours, etc.,

“UN SYDD YN CARU'R YSGOL.”

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the following contemporaries:—“The Dovorian,” “The Fettesian,” “The Newtonian,” “The Giggleswick Chronicle” (2), “The Portmuthian,” “The Luc-tonian,” “The Monmothian,” “The Bromsgrovian,” “The Ystwythian” (2); “The Tonbridgian,” “The Marlburian” (6); “The Malvernian,” “The Herefordian,” “The Llandovery School Journal,” “The Armachian,” “The Bristol Grammar School Chronicle,” “The Cheltonian,” “City of London School Magazine.”



BURROW