

Wilbur Jones

Llandovery School Journal



Christmas, 1915.

The Llandovery

School Journal



VOL. XVIII.

CHRISTMAS, 1915.

No. 53.

Editorial.

IN the last issue of the *Journal* a supplementary list of the Old Boys of the School now serving with the colours was published. Since then the list has been added to considerably, and slowly but surely the war draws nearer to us and becomes a more personal matter. In this number it is our sad duty to chronicle the deaths in action of several O.L.'s., and we also print a list of those who have been wounded in the service of their country since last term. Boys, who but a short while ago were of our number, are now in the trenches, and from reports which have reached us, it seems quite possible to form strong branches of the O.L. Society at several points in the various theatres of war.

Of matters directly relating to the School, the first which comes to mind is the Football Season now ending. There were only two matches, but the team acquitted itself creditably in both, that against Lampeter being won and the Brecon drawn. The forwards were the lightest the School has possessed for some years, but made up in dash for their lack of weight. A marked feature of both matches was the excellent play of the backs as a whole. A few League games were also played, when keen football was witnessed.

During the term a great deal of time was devoted to drill, so that the corps advanced considerably in efficiency. A few

weeks before the end of term we were inspected by Capt. Matheson, who expressed himself as highly pleased. The praise he bestowed bears tribute to the work of the members and their officers during the past year.

We regret the departure of several of last term's staff, but in view of present circumstances it is pleasing to think that the Warden has been successful in filling their places by masters well capable of maintaining the past high standard of the teaching staff and the honour of the School in general.

The health of the School has this term again been excellent, with the exception of a few isolated cases of sickness. In this connection it seems almost unnecessary to make any mention of our indebtedness to Miss Russell for her kind attention and careful nursing.

One grumble and we have finished. 'Tis an old one, true, but one that is ever green. Until the sub-editors receive better support from the School in the way of material for publication, the *Llandovery School Journal* cannot hope, to quote a previous editorial, 'to come into its own.'

Prize Distribution.

ON July 27th, the last day of the Summer Term, the annual Prize Distribution was held in the School Hall. This year the proceedings were of a private character, the Warden himself distributing the prizes. In the course of a short address to the School he announced his intention of forwarding the money usually spent on prizes as a subscription to the British Red Cross Society from the boys as a whole. Prize-winners, however, were to be given certificates in lieu of book prizes, stating the circumstances. This proposal was very favourably received by the School.

The Warden also spoke a few words concerning the prospects of the School and of Public Schools in general. Despite the fact that several members of the staff were leaving to join the forces, and that many boys who would otherwise have still been in our midst had left to do their duty, he denied that the School was going to the dogs in any way

whatsoever. If the School as a whole pulled together and looked on the bright side of things, the crisis in our history would be tided over with the greatest credit. Personally his sole concern was for the welfare of the boys who were leaving with no intention of doing their duty towards King and Country.

The answer to croakers was to be found in the splendid Roll of Honour which was being daily added to, and which compared very favourably with the rolls of schools of corresponding size. In a short time it might be found practicable to place in the School Hall a board containing the complete Roll of Honour, to serve as a permanent record of the patriotism of Old Llandoveryans when the very existence of the Empire was at stake.

With regard to the coming term, the Warden said that he had been fortunate in securing the services of a First Class Oxford Scholar. Academical distinctions were not much accounted for in those days, but he would note an Open Mathematical Scholarship at St. John's, Oxford (S. V. Swash), and a distinction in the Junior University Scholarship at Oxford (Lieut. G. M. Evans) as achievements worthy of the traditions of the School.

The Prize List was as follows:—

Matriculation Form.—English: R. M. Jones. Latin: L. R. A. Wells. French: R. M. Jones. Cefnfaes: L. R. Wells. Upper School Modern: Form Prize: Mansel Jenkins.

Form IV.—Latin: G. D. Oldfield. Greek: G. T. Jones. History: G. D. Oldfield. French: G. D. Oldfield. Divinity: G. T. Edwards. Cefnfaes: T. W. Howells.

Form IIIa.—Latin: J. Price. Greek: G. G. Protheroe. History and Geography: F. W. Rees. French: J. A. Rees. Divinity: T. R. John. Cefnfaes: D. L. Davies.

Form IIIb.—Latin: Mansel Davies. History and Geography: Mansel Davies. French: Mansel Davies. Cefnfaes: E. O. A. Thomas.

Form II.—Latin: H. V. Thomas. French: A. G. Greatrex. Cefnfaes: H. V. Thomas. Divinity: A. Williams.

English.—Set II.: H. G. Davies. Set III.: F. Thomas.

Mathematics.—Set IIa.: W. H. Williams. Set IIb.: E. O. Jones. Set IIIa.: G. T. Edwards and D. H. Jones. Set IIIb.: Mansel Davies. Set IVa.: T. R. John. Set IVb.: C. G. Jenkins and D. T. Reynolds.

Welsh.—Set I.: J. Price. Set II.: F. Thomas.

Cefnfaes.—Form VI. and Va.: R. H. Roderick. Form Vb.: E. J. Davies.

The School.

Term began on September 23rd.

* * * *

There are 29 new boys.

* * * *

The new members of the staff are :—D. R. Williams, A. Barker, B.A., J. Wilson, B.A., B.Sc., R. Schmidt, Phil.D. (Louvain), A. Spencer-Jones, L.R.A.M.

* * * *

The Prefects this term are—W. H. Williams (Gwent), S. M. Williams (Llandingat), W. G. Roberts (Evans), J. A. Humphreys (Llandingat), A. J. Bartlett (Cawdor), F. G. Nicholas (Seniors).

* * * *

Early in the term, the following were co-opted members of the School Committee—S. M. Williams, W. G. Roberts, A. J. Bartlett, H. G. Davies, and A. T. Worthington, W. H. Williams being the only old member remaining.

* * * *

W. H. Williams is Captain of Football, and S. M. Williams Hon. Sec.

* * * *

The XV. this year includes 5 old colour men.

* * * *

Owing to the War, there were only two matches, that against Lampeter was won and the Brecon was drawn. Rev. T. W. Thomas and W. H. Williams are to be congratulated on the results of their efforts during the term.

* * * *

Sunday Evening services held in the School Hall have proved a great success, especially during inclement weather.

* * * *

In the July examination of the Oxford and Cambridge Board, twenty certificates were obtained, with eighteen distinctions.

1st XV. colours were awarded to M. L. James, J. L. Evans, J. A. Humphreys, T. E. Owen, D. H. Jones, J. F. M. Phillips,

G. G. Protheroe, N. E. Evans, G. R. G. Timothy, and G. T. Jones.

* * * *

Earlier in the term, 2nd XV. colours were awarded to J. A. Humphreys, D. H. Jones, G. T. Jones, J. F. M. Phillips, R. P. Thomas, T. E. Owen, and N. E. Evans.

* * * *

The football captain wishes to take this opportunity of thanking those masters who have shown their interest in the game by turning out this term.

* * * *

Towards the end of term, a collection was made in aid of the British Red Cross Society, well over £5 being realised.

* * * *

The sub-editors of the *Journal* for the term are A. J. Bartlett and W. G. Roberts.

* * * *

R. M. Jones passed in the 2nd class, and L. R. A. Wells in the 1st class of the London Matriculation Examination.

* * * *

K. W. Maurice Jones has entered the R. M. A. Woolwich.

* * * *

A. E. Warhurst has gained a cadetship in the Indian Army.

* * * *

D. C. Muir secured a £100 Scholarship at Middlesex Hospital.

* * * *

Dudley G. Davies was placed 12th on the list of the Indian Civil Service.

* * * *

P. E. M. Richards, Barr. at Law, has accepted a post in the Nigerian Civil Service.

* * * *

A. W. Davies, Lt. R.E., has been appointed Clerk to the Magistrates at Lampeter, and Myrddin Evans, Clerk to the Central Welsh Board.

* * * *

D. O. Evans, Barr. at Law, has been appointed a member of the Munitions Tribunal for Wales.

I. O. Griffiths, Fellow and Tutor of St. John's College, Oxford, Lt. Oxford and Bucks L.I., has been granted a Fellowship for Research in connection with Aerial Warfare.

* * * *

S. S. Dillon, Capt. and Adjut, Roy. Irish Rifles, has been awarded the D.S.O. for services in France.

* * * *

The following O.L.I.'s have received appointments—

Rev. J. H. Watkin Jones, Vicar of Christ Church, Swansea, to a Prebendal Stall at St. Davids; Rev. W. E. T. Morgan, Vicar of Llanigon, to Rural Deanery of Hay; Rev. T. S. P. Griffith, Christ Church, Swansea, to Vicarage of Knighton, Radnorshire; Rev. Eben. Evans, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Oswestry; A. Goronwy Jones, ordained Priest in the Diocese of St. Asaph.

In Memoriam

Rev. H. Eaton Thomas, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Oswestry.

Killed in Action.

Leonard G. Cooper, 2nd Lt. 4th S.W.B., Dardanelles.

E. W. Davies, R.A.M.C.

G. O. Green, Capt. 9th Welsh, France.

John Nicholas Lewis, Lt. 8th Welsh, Dardanelles.

A. Gordon Reid, Capt. 9th R.W.F., Dardanelles.

Gilbert Bryan Francis, Wellington Infantry, New Zealand Forces, died of dysentery at Malta.

J. Cyril Rees, 2nd Lt. 3rd Welsh, died in Hospital at Malta.

Wounded.

R. M. Humphreys, Capt. 7th R.W.F.

G. Sinnett Jones, 2nd Lt. 8th R.W.F.

Frank Cooper, Roy. Fus.

E. A. Nicholas, 2nd Lt. 3rd Manchester Reg.

G. R. Beith, Lt. 5th Welsh.

T. Jeffrey Davies, 8th R.W.F.

T. J. Carlyle Davies, 2nd Lt. 3rd Welsh.

Dr. Arnallt Jones, Invalided Home.

Rev. Connop Price, Invalided Home.

W. H. Morgan, Prisoner of War, Dardanelles.

* * * *

The following have joined the O.L.I. Society—C. R. L. Humphreys, W. T. B. James, R. M. Jones, Hector Rees, S. V. Swash, W. H. Williams.

* * * *

The following have contributed to the *School Journal*—H. V. Mason, E. G. Lane-Roberts, W. G. Menhinick.

Old Llandoverians serving in His Majesty's Forces.

THIRD TERM, 1815.

C. F. Adnams, 2nd Lt.

A. L. Atkin, R.N. Instructor, Greenwich

T. M. Bevan, 2nd Lt. Glam. Yeomanry

S. L. Buckland, Inns of Court O.T.C.

C. C. Carter, Worcestershire Reg. Coombes, 2nd Lt. H.A.C.

Dudley Cornes, Lt. Oxford and Bucks L.I.

J. E. Core, 2nd Lt. 20th Welsh Regiment

Aneurin Davies,

A. P. Davies, P.S.U., R.F.

Rev. J. A. Alban Davies, Chaplain 38th Division

R. H. Davies, P.S.U., R.F.

T. Jeffrey Davies, 8th R.W.F.

W. G. Edwards, 5th Welsh

D. A. Evans, Cambridge O.T.C.

D. M. Evans, Oxford O.T.C.

R. Stanley Evans, 2nd Lt. 3/5th Welsh Regiment

J. V. Finn, 2nd Lt. Monmouthshire Regiment

G. B. Francis, Wellington Infantry, New Zealand Forces

Dr. H. W. Gabe, Lt. R.A.M.C.

F. C. Gibson, 2nd Lt. 20th Welsh Regiment

Dr. E. J. Griffiths, Lt. R.A.M.C.

H. T. Saunders-Griffiths, 2nd Lt. S.W.B.

I. O. Griffiths, 2nd Lt. R.F.C.
 B. C. E. Herbert, 2nd Lt.
 L. M. Hole, 2nd Lt. 3/1st Welsh
 Howitzers
 Stephen Hughes, 1st Life Guards
 E. James, 2nd Lt.
 J. E. Jenkins, Capt. 5th Welsh
 Regiment
 G. H. Jennings, 2nd Lt. Welsh
 Regiment
 A. W. B. Jones, Inns of Court
 O.T.C.
 J. H. Jones, R.F.A.
 E. Milner Jones, Canadian Ex-
 peditionary Forces
 D. S. Jones, 2nd Lt.
 R. Jones, Sgt. Welsh Horse
 R. M. Jones, Inns of Court O.T.C.
 C. J. B. Lewis, Artists Rifles
 J. B. Lewis, A.S.C.
 C. A. Liddbury, Lt. S.E.T. Indian
 Army
 C. L. Loveluck, R.A.M.C.
 W. G. Menhinick, 23rd Welsh
 Regiment
 C. G. Morgan, 2nd Lt. 4th Welsh
 Regiment
 C. G. N. Morgan, 2nd Lt. 3rd
 R.W.F.
 Jake Morgan, Artists Rifles
 W. B. Morgan, 2nd Lt. 20th
 Welsh Regiment
 W. N. Morgan, 2nd Lt. R.E.
 J. H. Morris, 20th R.W.F.
 Sir J. A. Owen, 2nd Lt. Somerset
 L.I.
 L. V. D. Owen, 2nd Lt. Oxford
 and Bucks L.I.
 T. E. Owen, 2nd Lt.
 H. Noyes, 2nd Lt.
 J. L. Parker, Capt.
 David Powell, Capt. R.G.A.
 J. E. Powell, Major R.A.M.C.

Protheroe, Pembroke Yeomanry
 T. J. Rees, 2nd Lt. School of
 Instruction, Oxford
 D. I. Rees, 2nd Lt. 18th R.W.F.
 J. Trevor Rees, Inns of Court
 O.T.C.
 W. R. Reynolds, A.H.S., A.A.M.C.
 W. H. Richards, Inns of Court
 O.T.C.
 L. E. Roberts, 2nd Lt. 20th
 R.W.F.
 C. F. Scott, 2nd Lt. T.E.E., R.E.
 K. M. Scott, 2nd Lt. T.E.E., R.E.
 Leslie N. Snape, 2nd R. Irish
 Regiment
 S. V. Swash, Oxford O.T.C.
 D. O. Thomas, 54th Batt. Can.
 Exp. Force
 W. H. Thomas, 2nd Sportsmen
 Battalion
 A. Tilly, Inns of Court O.T.C.
 D. E. Treharne, 2nd Lt. A.S.C.
 A. E. Warhurst, Cadet Indian
 Army
 L. R. A. Wells, Inns of Court
 O.T.C.
 D. G. Williams, 3/1st Welsh
 Howitzers
 D. O. Williams, 2nd Lt. Mon-
 mouthshire R.E.
 E. T. Williams, Despatch Rider,
 R.E.
 F. Williams, Major Welsh Horse
 Rev. F. R. Williams, Chaplain
 2/5th Welsh Regiment
 Hubert L.I. Williams, 2nd Lt.
 A.S.C.
 Dr. R. L.I. Williams, Lt. R.A.M.C.
 R. Williams, Inns of Court O.T.C.
 Rev. T. B. Williams, Chaplain
 W. I. Williams, Inns of Court
 O.T.C.
 Rev. W. S. Williams, Chaplain

Football.

THE present football season has, on account of the war and consequent absence of matches, lost much of its interest. This change also made it more difficult to select a team, because apart from practice games there was no test by which to find out the merits of respective players. Finally, a very light and fairly fast pack of forwards was selected, which held its own against superior weight in the matches against Lampeter College School and Brecon. Among the backs were four of last year's team including the Captain, and they were the mainstay of the side.

1ST XV. CHARACTERS.

W. H. Williams (Outside Half, Captain) possesses speed and resource: good in attack and defence. 1913-14-15-16.

S. M. Williams (Scrum Half, Hon. Sec.) has improved greatly since last year: gets the ball away from the scrum: a strong runner and safe in defence. 1914-15-16.

H. G. Davies (L. Centre).—A strong runner and safe tackler, but should learn to part with the ball a moment sooner. 1914-15-16.

W. G. Roberts (Full-back) kicks an excellent length and is safe in defence, but should learn to get in his kick sooner. 1914-15-16.

A. T. Worthington (F.).—A hard-working forward, good in defence. 1914-15-16.

M. L. James (F.).—A good forward in the line-out and scrum. 1915-16.

J. L. Evans (F.).—A very light forward who tackled well and made the most of his pace in the open. 1915-16.

J. A. Humphreys (F.).—A fair forward who did not improve much during the term. 1915-16.

T. E. Owen (R. Wing) tackles and takes his passes well. 1915-16.

D. H. Jones (R. Centre) passes with judgment and tackles well, but lacks pace. 1915-16.

J. F. M. Phillips (F.).—Good in the line-out and loose rushes, but must learn to tackle lower and do more work in scrum. 1915-16.

G. G. Protheroe (F.).—A front rank forward who ought to become a good hooker with more experience. 1915-16.

N. E. Evans (L. Wing).—A three-quarter with plenty of pace and a good swerve, but rather unsafe with his hands. 1915-16.

G. R. G. Timothy (F.).—A useful forward, especially in loose rushes, who improved towards the end of the term. 1915-16.

G. T. Jones (F.).—A young forward who ought to make a good hooker in another season. 1915-16.

FOOTBALL MATCHES.

SCHOOL v. S.D.C. LAMPETER.

The above game was played at Lampeter on Wednesday, Nov. 17th. Owing to severe frosts the ground was in a very hard state, so that it was deemed inadvisable to take any risks, especially as there was ice on the surface in many parts. The School won the toss and elected to play with the wind. Lampeter were at once penalised, and in an ensuing scrum it was seen that our forwards, though lighter, were far more scientific than their opponents. During almost the whole of the game we maintained control of the scrum, our backs thus receiving several opportunities. For some time play was in the Lampeter half, but Mr. Miles at last broke away on the right wing. N. E. Evans attempted to tackle him too high and failed, but H. G. Davies brought him down before he had progressed much further. At this point Lampeter looked dangerous, but good kicking and tackling by W. G. Roberts and W. H. Williams kept them out. From a series of 'scrummages' in mid-field S. M. Williams got the ball away on several occasions, and several fine rounds of passing were witnessed. The remainder of the first half proved uninteresting. In the line-out the Lampeter forwards were superior owing to their greater weight and height. They lost several opportunities, however, by loose kicking in the open, when they should have dribbled. The half-time score was—

School	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Lampeter	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

During the early stages of the second half our opponents played a far more vigorous game, but failed entirely to take advantage of their weight in scrum. Receiving the ball from the loose the Lampeter backs got going, and Mr. Miles breaking away had only W. G. Roberts to pass, but the latter brought him down with a clean tackle. At this point Lampeter were penalised for handling in scrum, but the kick was unsuccessful. The School backs then began another bout of passing, as a result of which S. M. Williams scored

far out. The kick at goal failed. A few minutes later our backs again got going, but with an open line before him N. E. Evans failed to take his pass, and a certain try was lost. This was followed by some loose play among the forwards, but S. M. Williams soon got the ball away, and after another really splendid round of passing, in which all the backs handled, N. E. Evans scored between the posts, the try being converted by S. M. Williams. Lampeter again began to look dangerous, but Mr. Stevens, their out half, was repeatedly tackled in possession. During the remainder of the second half our opponents fell off, but the School was unable to penetrate the defence further. Our forwards, however, made several determined rushes to the Lampeter line, and maintained to the end their superiority in the open. The final score was—

School	..	1 conv. goal 1 try (8 points)
Lampeter	..	Nil

The result of the game is exceedingly creditable to the XV., as this was the first occasion on which they played together. Our backs brought off some really excellent rounds of passing, and a further score seemed imminent on several occasions. Our forwards were terribly outweighed in the scrum, but nevertheless held their heavier opponents all through the game, and by falling on the ball stopped several rushes. In the open also ours was the more scientific pack. The tackling and touch-finding of the backs reached a high standard.

With regard to Lampeter, the game was, for their backs, one of lost opportunities, as they were repeatedly tackled in possession. In the line-out their forwards made good use of their weight, and sometimes looked dangerous. They spoilt all, however, by poor dribbling. On the day's play it may be safely said that the School deserved to win by a still greater margin.

Team—W. G. Roberts, N. E. Evans, H. G. Davies, D. H. Jones, T. E. Owen, W. H. Williams (Capt.), S. M. Williams, A. T. Worthington, M. L. James, J. L. Evans, J. A. Humphreys, J. F. M. Phillips, R. D. Thomas, G. T. Jones, D. H. Atwood.

SCHOOL v. CHRIST COLLEGE, BRECON.

This year's game, which was played at Llandovery on December 1, proved exceptional in many respects. The fixture was originally made for Saturday, Nov. 27th, but owing to the hard frosts of the previous ten days the ground was found to be utterly unplayable. Consequently the game was postponed indefinitely, and great disappointment was caused among the large number of O.L.L.'s and others who had come for the purpose of seeing the game. It was, however, found possible to play the match on the Wednesday following owing to a sudden change in the weather.

The School won the toss, and W. H. Williams elected to play towards the town end. A scrum was immediately ordered on the half-way line, when our forwards seemed to be holding their opponents despite the latters' superiority in weight. After some loose play, in which M. L. James and G. R. Timothy were prominent, the School backs received from a scrum, but the movement broke down. Up to this point play had been in the Brecon 25, but by a good forward rush our opponents carried the ball clear. The Brecon forwards repeatedly broke away from the line-out, and also tried heeling in the loose. A few minutes later S. M. Williams came round on the blind side, and after passing to N. E. Evans, who returned the pass, scored far out. The kick at goal was unsuccessful. Brecon then began to assume the aggressive, but were sent back by W. H. Williams and W. G. Roberts. The Brecon wing forwards were rather successful, but determined tackling prevented them from getting going. At this point Brecon were penalised for off-side play. A little later T. E. Owen intercepted a pass, and after a brilliant effort was brought down close to the line. This was followed by a determined attempt to break through on the opposite wing by N. E. Evans. Brecon repeatedly saved their line by long kicks, which were all well fielded and returned by W. G. Roberts. S. M. Williams then came round on the blind side again, and, passing with T. E. Owen, seemed almost over when the latter's pass went forward. The interval then arrived with the School pressing. Half-time score—

School	..	..	..	..	..	3 pts.
Brecon	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

During the interval rain fell heavily, and continued for the greater part of the second half, thus adding considerably to the difficulties of the backs. Brecon immediately began to press, and repeatedly pushed our forwards off the ball in scrum. The pressure on our line was kept up for several minutes, and, one of the School forwards mis-kicking, the ball was rushed over our line, and Henshaw scored for Brecon. The try was unconverted. From the kick-out the School forwards rushed to their opponents 25, but were again sent back. The School scrum seemed to be getting disarranged, Brecon repeatedly getting the ball. Their backs were several times dangerous, and it was only keen tackling that prevented a further score. Our forwards continually rushed the ball clear of our line, and in the line-out there was a distinct improvement, J. F. M. Phillips being especially prominent. W. H. Williams, receiving from a scrum, feinted cleverly and beat his man, but again failed to get away. The pressure on our line was well kept up, and E. J. Morgan, the Brecon in-half, made several attempts to get away on the blind side. They were foiled, however, by clean tackling by J. L. Evans and long touch-finding kicks. 'No time' was then called with Brecon still in our 25, the final score being—

School	..	..	..	..	..	1 try
Brecon	..	..	..	..	..	1 try

A drawn game is a fair indication of the day's play. The School deserved to win on their play in the first half, whereas no one would grudge Brecon a victory on theirs during the second. The heavy ground proved a very severe handicap to our backs, who, as a whole, are regarded as better than the School has possessed for some years. A marked feature of the game was the keen tackling of both sides, but the Brecon backs did not get going as much as they might have owing to their out-half being repeatedly tackled in possession. Our forwards, on whom the brunt of the work naturally fell, played a magnificent game, and made up in the open for their lack of weight in scrum. A. T. Worthington was especially prominent among a good pack, while on the Brecon side the wing forwards were most in evidence. The duel at in-half ended in favour of S. M. Williams, who, considering

the fact that the ball was hooked so often by Brecon, was extremely successful in preventing its being passed out more often. W. H. Williams was especially in evidence with his sure tackling and well-judged kicks. H. G. Davies and D. H. Jones also tackled and kicked well, but the latter seemed to be suffering slightly from stage fright. Our wings did not have much to do either in attack or in defence, but when opportunities came their way they acquitted themselves creditably. Finally, mention must be made of the brilliant touch-finding of W. G. Roberts, the way in which he fielded the ball being also really excellent.

The interest of the second half was marred by an unfortunate accident to a prominent member of the Brecon team, for whom great sympathy was felt.

School XV.—W. G. Roberts, N. E. Evans, H. G. Davies, D. H. Jones, T. E. Owen, W. H. Williams (Capt.), S. M. Williams, A. T. Worthington, M. L. James, J. L. Evans, J. A. Humphreys, J. F. M. Phillips, G. R. G. Timothy, G. G. Protheroe, G. T. Jones.

Referee.—Mr. T. D. Schofield, W.R.F.U., Bridgend.

LEAGUES.

League games were played this year during the Christmas Term instead of during the Easter Term as is customary. There were three leagues—A, B, and C—captained respectively by W. H. Williams, S. M. Williams, and H. G. Davies. The sides on paper seemed very evenly balanced, and keen games were anticipated. The football, however, proved of a very scrappy character, the brunt of the work falling on the old members of the 1st XV.

'A' and 'B' were the first to meet. 'B' kicked off with the advantage of a very strong wind, and attacked during the greater part of the first half. Keen tackling by 'A' backs, however, kept the score down to an unconverted try, the result of an individual effort on the part of S. M. Williams.

During the second half 'A' took far greater advantage of the wind, and by judicious kicking penned their opponents in their own 25. After some vigorous play J. L. Evans scored

between the posts, the try being converted by W. H. Williams. A few minutes later R. W. Brown scored as the result of a dribbling movement. The extra points were again added by W. H. Williams, and on the stroke of time the same player dropped a neat goal. Final score—

'A' 2 converted goals, 1 dropped goal (14 points)

'B' 1 try (3 points)

LEAGUE 'B' v. LEAGUE 'C.'

The field was in an exceedingly muddy condition for this game, which was for the greater part one of 'kick and follow up.' 'C,' who on paper possessed the stronger backs, were thereby considerably handicapped, especially as 'B' forwards seemed to adapt themselves better to the climatic conditions. Late in the 1st half 'C' were penalised under the posts for an illegality in scrum, and S. M. Williams was successful with a good kick. During the second half 'B' again pressed, being almost continually in their opponents 25. After scrappy play N. E. Evans scored far out, the try being unconverted. There was no further score, and the final whistle sounded with the score at—

'B' .. 1 penalty goal 1 try (6 points)

'C' .. Nil

'C' were unfortunately one forward short throughout the game, but we hardly think that this materially affected the score.

The Leagues were—

A.—H. C. Lloyd, R. W. Brown, E. J. Davies, D. H. Jones, A. P. N. Roberts, W. H. Williams*, C. H. Morgan, M. L. James, J. L. Evans, G. T. Jones, H. J. B. Phillips, D. K. Davies, W. T. Davies, D. C. Evans, C. E. Jones.

B.—W. R. Richards, R. L. Davies, C. Livsey, S. M. Williams*, N. E. Evans, W. H. Owen, I. D. Bowen, A. T. Worthington*, R. P. Thomas, O. D. Ballinger, A. J. Bartlett, D. H. Patey, D. H. Atwood, W. R. Bowen, J. P. Price.

C.—W. G. Roberts*, W. A. Edwards, T. E. Owen, H. G. Davies*, J. Price-Jones, W. D. Evans, E. Davies, J. A. Hum-

phreys, M. Phillips, G. R. G. Timothy, F. G. Nicholas, G. G. Protheroe, L. Rees, T. W. Hill, C. E. P. Davies.

* Denotes old Colour Men.

At the moment of going to press the Leagues have not been completed owing to inclement weather, but hopes are entertained of their being played off before the end of term.

General Report.

DURING the six days that we have occupied these trenches the enemy has shown little activity in patrolling—this I may mention has caused us no great sorrow. On the other hand he has displayed a certain amount of keenness with Minenwerfer, whose special werfing day is Tuesday. Percy the pip-squeak has kept very quiet, no doubt out of sheer jealousy of Minnie the Haba.

Several of the sausages falling in N trench, we walked delicately like Agog of old, and sought safety by some judicious side stepping round traverses.

Owing to the misty weather, we have had several opportunities of going out for a stroll before breakfast. Should 'stand to' be ordered, it would be necessary to go to the long listening post, and call in the men, thereby interrupting perhaps a cross-country run to the Poplar and back. Possibilities of an international marathon with our friends opposite have been discussed, the course being from ——— to ———.

On the night of Nov. 5-6, great disappointment was manifest among all ranks, when all attempts at illuminations were forbidden. Rockets were available, but these it was feared might cause our lynx-eyed artillery to plant a few duds in our trench. All we could raise in the way of fire was two wet matches supplied by a reluctant sentry. Despite the muddy state of the trenches, considerable amusement was afforded in F.T.2.L. (waterlogged) by boat-racing, when Pte. Jones' canteen beat Pte. Smiths' by half a length. Including side-bets, the winner pocketed three whole woodbines. Towards the close of the regatta, an altercation arose between two rivals who unluckily disappeared down a sumphole, to emerge on the Roll of Honour.

Draining. This has been carried on with utmost difficulty. During however slight a bombardment, the trenches, like the late Rachel of lachrymatory tendencies, weep copious mud-drops. The effect of a dud in N. trench has caused an M.G. Emp. (R.F.) in S. trench to collapse. Owing to the precarious state of the traverses in my left sector, hymns of hate, whistling, and strange language are strictly forbidden.

Mining. The enemy was suspected of having dug a mine which ran under the officers' dug-out. After many sleepless nights spent with our ears to the ground, we finally traced the thumping to the fire trench where No. 2 sentry was flattening the fire step with his boots : ankle : mark 6 : pair : one.

Patrols. Several patrols have been sent out to discover the number of the enemy, regiment, no. of M.G's. in front line, and the colour of the engine-driver's hair. Unfortunately, these parties, invariably over 20 strong, having encountered enemy patrols consisting of one man and a boy, have been forced to retire with difficulty. Nevertheless, the frequency with which they bring back such valuable information as 'Transport as usual' testifies to their good work. Cases, it must be mentioned, have occurred when, either through boredom or internal squabbling, interbombing matches have taken place. This must at once be stopped, and calls for more care on the part of the Platoon Commanders to see than no man gets more gyppo than another, as this undoubtedly leads to bad feeling.

On Friday, the 7th, at 10 p.m., I took out a small Army Corps, less one division, to look for gas pipes which were reported to be threatening our trench, and incidentally our peace of mind. We crawled out in this formation—3 pointers, 2 setters, 2 men as advanced guard, 12 men on each flank and in rear, 1 orderly, and one sandwich and flask carrier. The two latter I placed in the centre, detailing a corporal to look after them, while I took upon myself the task of looking after the three. We inspected the ground minutely up to the 2nd line of wires, but no one saw anything except the corporal who collided violently with a *cheval de frise* and saw stars. What I failed to see was the flask and sandwiches.

This, I think, ends the report of what has occurred during the six days. Let me end with a little suggestion. When

cleaning out your trench, leave your flasks and communication trench last, as this helps to keep away rats, Huns, and Brigadiers, who come to purloin your rations.

LEE ENFIELD,

2nd Lt. 8th Aerial Submarine Horse.

F.T.G.O.2.L.

[The above article, which is in the nature of a skit on the Report which officers have to make every six days they are in the trenches, was sent us by an O.Ll., Lt. C. R. L. Humphreys, who has been at the front for some time. Knowing the difficulties which must have been in his way, we are very grateful to him for it, and trust that it will give our readers a better insight into life in the trenches.]

F.T. = Fire Trench. M.G. = Machine Gun.

ED. LL. S. J.

Inspection.

ON Monday, November 22nd, an interesting function took place on the School Pitch, when the School Corps was inspected by Capt. F. C. Matheson, O.U.O.T.C. The day was an ideal one for purposes of drill, the ground being firm underfoot, owing to the recent frosts.

Armed with rifles, the sections were first of all drilled in platoon, and on the arrival of Capt. Matheson, he was greeted with 'Present Arms!' The sections were then drilled singly, and all acquitted themselves creditably. Indeed it would be unfair to bestow extra praise on any one section. After more platoon drill, including 'extended order' and other field operations, which were all perfectly executed, the march-past took place, the salute being taken by Capt. Matheson.

In a short address to the corps, Capt. Matheson expressed himself as very favourably impressed by what he had seen, remarking further that the 'doubling' was quite up to the standard of the University O.T.C. He deprecated the fact that lads of seventeen were to-day joining the colours as privates, for in a very short time, the Llandoverly Corps and others of a like character would be a valuable asset as officers of Britain's future armies. He hoped to have the pleasure

of meeting some of us at the Varsity in the near future, preparing either for a military or for a civilian career.

The whole of the proceedings reflected great credit upon the admirable training of Mr. C. B. Matheson and his N.C.Os., and the corps as a whole was gratified by the appreciation of its efforts during the past year, as shown by the presence, amongst others, of the Warden and Mrs. Poole-Hughes. It is hoped that this inspection will soon be followed by others of a like nature, as they tend to rouse enthusiasm and stimulate interest in the work. They may also serve to hasten the day on which we will be officially recognised.

Letters.

To the Editor of 'Llandoverly School Journal.'

DEAR Sir,—The following account of my experiences in Russia may interest your readers. I have just returned home after having lived with Russians, as a Russian, for about fifteen months. On the 17th of June last year, I left Cambridge to spend two months at the home of a Russian friend at Odessa. The outbreak of war prevented my return for many months, but better facilities at last enabled me to come, via Petrograd, after experiences easily the most fascinating of my life.

Of course, few Englishmen have had the facilities enjoyed by me for seeing the Russian as he is. The average Britisher remains with the English colony, but in the home of my friend, and with him on sporting expeditions on the Steppes, I was in most intimate touch with Russians, learned something of their language, and was greatly impressed.

On the outward journey things were difficult at Berlin with the customs officers, and people seemed excited. Arriving at Odessa, I went into the country, and it was after returning from a fishing expedition that I heard England had declared war. Cables, letters, everything was disturbed; it was impossible to get back to England, so we went back to the country. I had tried to get out as a volunteer, but a damaged knee cartilage prevented this, and my knowledge of Russian was insufficient to permit of my going with the Russian Red Cross.

One of the first things that impressed me was how little the Russian and English people knew of one another. Not only the peasants, but everybody who had not travelled asked me the most extraordinary and simple questions about England and the English, and I have come to the conclusion that the average Englishman's knowledge of the Russian, who is so vastly different to himself, is just as meagre.

Although Odessa is in the war zone, and has for some months been under martial law, the war is not the intimate thing to the population that it is in England. The people do not share in the details of it as we do. Not that they have not seen something of the results of the conflict. They have, but they are small compared with the magnitude of the struggle; the vastness of Russia is what strikes the outsider.

We have seen many thousands of Polish refugees and a few German prisoners. To one of these I spoke recently, and he was appalled at the prospect of another winter on Russian soil; he did not think their army could stand it. The bombardment of Odessa was not serious. It was looked upon as an attempt to scare the populace, and in this it did not succeed, and although there were questionings occasionally, there was never any doubt among the people I met that the Russians in the great retirement were simply getting cleverly out of the way of the enemy. As to the possibility of being ultimately defeated, it never entered their minds. It is obvious to an outsider that her resources in men are such that she cannot be beaten. The unconcern with which the men receive orders for the front and go with a spirit of 'We're called; well, we'll go,' compels admiration.

My most interesting experiences were in the heart of the amazingly fertile Steppes, where fish and game are as abundant as crops and fruit. I was in a village only 90 miles from Odessa, but as there is no rail or road to it—only a track impassable after heavy rain, and these villages are scores of miles from each other—I was, for four months, away from civilization, as I have known it. From the way in which the inhabitants flocked to see me swim one morning when they heard an Englishman had arrived, I imagined one had not been there before. These peasants are, I think, remarkably fine people. Their ideas of sanitation could not, of course,

please me, and they took a little knowing and were easily offended, but they would do anything for me. They liked to be definite and brief, and their 'Yes' and 'No' could be relied upon. The problem of selling their crops and fruits was, in consequence of the war, causing them concern, and they and everybody in Russia watched with great interest the Dardanelles fighting.

My journey to Petrograd, when I left alone for England, took three days and three nights. I was in one of two carriages at the end of a military train. Petrograd, where I stayed a day, was calm.

D. A. E.

School Committee.

A MEETING of the School Committee was held in the Prefects' Room on Oct. 9th, the Rev. T. W. Thomas being in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were first of all read, and adopted.

New members having been co-opted previous to the meeting, W. H. Williams was unanimously elected Hon. Secretary.

Business: To elect a Football Captain for the Season 1915.

On the proposal of S. M. Williams, seconded by H. G. Davies, W. H. Williams was unanimously elected Captain of the 1st XV.

S. M. Williams was elected Vice-Captain on the proposal of H. G. Davies.

To elect a Librarian and Sub-Editors for the *School Journal*.

The only name proposed for the post of Librarian was A. J. Bartlett, who was therefore elected.

A. J. Bartlett and W. G. Roberts were elected Sub-Editors.

The meeting then closed.

W. H. WILLIAMS,
Hon. Secretary.

School News.

WE have heard this term that Aluminium is a red liquid sold by chemists to cure tuberculisation, which is not the same as consumption.

* * * *

Uhlands are Japanese infantrymen, while Cossacks are Greek Admirals. Further, we learn from the same source that Jews are 'uncivilised negros.'

* * * *

The collars worn by certain members of the School on Brecon Day bore a distinct resemblance to aeroplanes out of order.

* * * *

A prominent Bible character once applied for, and received a commission.

* * * *

The modern interpretation of N.L. H.S. of Latin Grammar fame is 'Half penny stamp, Not to be licked.'

* * * *

A member of the XV ran 'as fast as the beasts in the Book of Revelations.'

* * * *

Syracuse was an Egyptian philosopher.

* * * *

The first city besieged by Richard II. was Zerubbabel.

Reading Room and Library.

DURING the term there was a marked increase in the number of boys availing themselves of the facilities afforded by the Library for extending their literary knowledge. Nevertheless the Reading Room is not used as much as it should be by the School in general.

We regret that the valuable Natural History Library is now practically disused, and we should like to see a revival in the study of Natural life, in a School which is so favourably situated for the purpose.

The copies of the more popular novels in the Library are now in rather a bad state, and the Committee would be glad to receive gifts of books second-hand or otherwise, in order to renew the old stock.

A School Run.

IT'S a drizzly Saturday afternoon, and the general opinion is that there will be a School Run, which opinion is alas! confirmed, 'midst groans and sighs, by the old-time legend pinned upon the notice board, 'School Run to Myddfai.' Half an hour later, having duly answered Roll, we start, followed closely by three School officials, armed with the stoutest of stout canes. Anxious to draw away, a would-be Dorando sets a rattling pace, while less ambitious spirits are content to risk being goaded by the afore-mentioned officials. Soon, sad to say, we pass the would-be Dorando prostrate by the roadside, the direct result of a too heavy dinner. As we trot along in silence some such remarks as these are dropped: 'Dash those chipped spuds,' 'A run on top of three deckos of jam-tart!' and 'Cheese and butter are 'nt extra good for training.' Having proceeded thus for a considerable distance, one or two refractory spirits shew a decided disinclination to proceed, while others, for some mysterious reason, ensconce themselves in a neighbouring plantation apparently for the purpose of bird nesting, fortunately for themselves evading the vigilance of the officials.

We pass some grinning rustics on the road, who, judging from their very expressive features, must have thought us mentally deranged in sporting ourselves in clothes highly suggestive of a wet bathing costume; our feeling on being encouraged by some such words as 'If you hurry up, you may catch up the ones in front,' can be better imagined than described, considering the plight in which we already find ourselves. On we plod, and Myddfai seems as far off as ever. Our disgust, however, with runs in general is increased considerably on seeing the 'bird-nesters' swinging along ahead of us; we think they must have out-distanced us by illegal means, but we dare not give utterance to these thoughts. At last to our great delight and satisfaction, on rounding the corner, we catch sight of the towering steeples of Myddfai. What European city could have so stirred our hearts, as did the welcome sight of this Welsh hamlet! The interest of our visit is, moreover, materially increased by the sight of an

ancient relic propelling a one-wheeled vehicle, also suggestive of prehistoric ages.

Seated on the church steps we plead for longer respite, but all in vain. At last the order to commence our homeward way is given, and recollecting the lines :

‘Theirs not to reason why,
Theirs but to do or die.’

we ‘homeward plod our weary way.’ Weary of foot, like Moses of old, we toil up the steep slope of a second Sinai, but, unlike Moses, encouraged by the shouts of ‘Run up there, No Slacking,’ uttered by the weary officials, apparently in quite as bad a plight as ourselves. In the far distance we catch sight of friends, whom hitherto we have considered laggards, forging ahead, and alongside us plod ‘certain’ other friends repeatedly protesting, with gasping breath, that they are ‘in the best of training.’ After thus traversing an apparently interminable distance, we at length, to our indescribable joy, catch a glimpse of the shining roofs of Llandovery. Anxious to display our athletic prowess, we immediately break into a swinging stride, and, in a short time, reach the town itself, where we are greeted by a mob of grinning urchins, who hurl at us such taunts as ‘Go it, lanky legs,’ ‘Two to one on Stumpy.’ Discussing amongst ourselves as to who is the butt of these complimentary remarks, our weary eyes light on a Cinema poster inscribed, ‘The Mystery of the blood-stained Putty Knife,’ to be produced in the town on Saturday evening, January 45th, 1910. In our weariness we envy those who part company from us at Llandinat House, for alas! we have still another hundred yards to run. With sighs of relief, we at length pass through the portals of the School and despite growing stiffness frantically deny that we are in the slightest degree tired. So ended a pleasant (?) run.

The Public Schools and the War.

‘WATERLOO was won on the playing-fields of Eton.’ This statement, said to have been uttered by the Duke of Wellington, at once suggests itself when we review the part played by the public schools in the present

war. When we have crushed Prussian militarism, when we have proved that might is not right, when we come to look back upon the course of the war, then will we realise fully what Eton has done in it. Yes, and not Eton alone, but Harrow and Rugby, Marlborough and Charterhouse, and all those other famous old schools. They have given of their best. Their sons are scattered far and wide, and thousands have already given up their lives in the cause of freedom and justice. Eton alone has a Roll of Honour of over 2000, a record worthy of the premier English public school.

Before the war many cynics and would-be reformers scoffed at the public schools. They were antediluvian old buildings where Latin and Greek were taught! The schoolboys were ‘flannelled fools’ who thought more of their sport than of their studies. Public schools were interesting old relics, and to be respected as such, but when regarded from a commercial point of view they were sadly in need of reform.

Commerce! And there we have it! Everything was to be a matter of intrinsic worth. Breeding, culture, that much abused word, were to be sacrificed to commerce. We were to become a nation of merchants. The Germans before the war had the reputation of being good business men. They were clear thinkers, splendid organisers, in fact they had all the attributes necessary to success in commerce. What is the result? We see that country to-day disgraced in the eyes of the world, pointed out as a nation which has reduced barbarism to a fine art.

When the criticism was at its fiercest, war broke out, and we saw the critics confounded. Then we began to realise the spirit of our public schools. Men at once rushed to the colours; comparative boys, half-way through their training, cut short promising careers and made sacrifices that have yet to be appreciated.

‘All very well,’ says the cynic, ‘but they obtained commissions and so merely adopted the Army as a career a year or two before they intended to.’ He forgets that not one-tenth were destined for the Army. He forgets, too, that there are thousands of public school boys in the ranks to-day. Look at the Public School Corps alone. Some of England’s most aristocratic families are represented in that corps. The ‘gentle-

man ranker ' no longer exists in fiction alone ; he has become a reality. I venture to say that there is not a single British regiment which has not a public school boy in its ranks.

Again there are hundreds, who, unable for some good reason to enlist, have joined the ranks of the munition workers, and are doing manual labour with the best.

And what of those who have obtained commissions ? Have they not proved worthy of them ? Take up a newspaper and see. Here is the tale of a young officer, fresh from a public school, who has gallantly rallied his men at a critical time and saved a portion of the trenches. There is the account of a subaltern, who has crawled out and under heavy fire succeeded in bringing his superior officer back to the lines. Wherever you look, you will be confronted with similar stories of heroism.

The public school boy is the best officer in the world. If you don't believe it ask the men. He is popular with them because he is what they term a ' sport.' His extreme youth is at first subject of much merriment, perhaps, but he takes it in good part, and soon the men who twit him will follow where he leads. Here is one of the secrets of his success, he can take a joke in good part. He learns to do so at school and it stands him in good stead in later years. When the time comes to charge who is the first out of the trench, leading his men on, not in the German manner from the rear, but from the fore and shouting ' Floreat Etona ' ? Why, the public school boy. He is the embodiment of that splendid spirit that breathed forth in Henry Newbolt's beautiful poem ' Vitai Lampada.'

VITAI LAMPADA.—*Henry Newbolt.*

There's a breathless hush in the close to-night,
Ten to make and the match to win—
A bumping pitch and a blinding light,
An hour to play and the last man in.
And it's not for the sake of a ribboned coat,
Or the selfish hope of a season's fame,
But his captain's hand on his shoulder smote :
' Play up, play up, and play the game.'

The sand of the desert is sodden red,
Red with the wreck of a square that broke ;
The Gatling's jammed and the Colonel dead,
And the regiment blind with dust and smoke,
The river of death has brimmed his banks,
And England's far, and Honour's a name,
But the voice of a school boy rallies the ranks,
' Play up, play up, and play the game.'

This is the word that year by year,
While in her place the school is set,
Every one of her sons must hear,
And none that hear it dare forget.
This they all with a joyful mind
Bear through life like a torch in flame,
And falling, fling to the host behind,
' Play up, play up, and play the game.'

That poem was never truer than to-day. The public school boy has always ' played the game,' and he is playing the greater game in a manner worthy of his school.

The scoffers may scoff, and the cynics may jeer, but the public school is one of Britain's most cherished institutions, and one which has not failed her in her hour of need.

Væ Orientalibus.

Nations, arise and your armour don quickly,
Buckle the sword on and fasten the helm ;
Strike at the Hun-driven legions of Turkey,
This is the day common foes to o'erwhelm.
Ne'er shall the land be polluted by Moslem,
Never again if you strike at the Turks ;
Warriors of Christendom, rout them, pursue them :
Such are your duties, and such be your works.
Richard has routed them often, O Britons ;
Thine was the isle whence he sailed with his bands ;
Follow now after him ; strength of thy oceans,
Cast at the foe with the strength of thy lands.
Canada, thine is a part in the contest ;
This is, Australia, a battle for thee,
Warriors of India and Africa's bravest,
Sons of the desert and mountain and sea.

Strike at them hard, as you struggled, O Frenchmen,
 Readily, bravely in Serbia's aid :
 Fight as your fathers so valiantly fought, when
 Led by St. Louis they joined the Crusade.
 Russians, how oft have your warriors assaulted
 Them by their Thracian or Caucasian shores !
 Strike once again that the conflict be ended,
 Strike with the numberless strength which is yours.

Italy, land of the greatest of empires,
 Smite once again at thy oft-smitten foe ;
 'Twas at Lepanto the might of your grandsires
 Did the great navy of Turkey o'erthrow.
 Spaniards, arise ye and arm for the battle,
 Was not a share of the victory Spain's ?
 Did not your fathers contend with this people
 Under Byzantium's emperors, Danes ?

Greece, art thou truly the nation whose fathers
 Routed the Persians 'neath Marathon's heights ?
 Vict'ries o'er Easterns were Great Alexander's ;
 Are ye too Hellenes, who flee from such fights ?
 Long did ye suffer in slavery living,
 Brave Montenegrin, invincible Serb ;
 This is, Roumanian, the day for avenging :
 Forward, let nothing your eagerness curb.

Rise from the North and across the Atlantic,
 Rise from the lands of the West and the East,
 Rise from the isles of the Southern Pacific,
 Rise from the dwellings of greatest and least.
 Would I were watching all Christendom's legions,
 Arming in answer to Christendom's call !
 Would that I heard the great trampling of nations
 Marching to hasten the Ottoman fall !

Σύμμαχος.