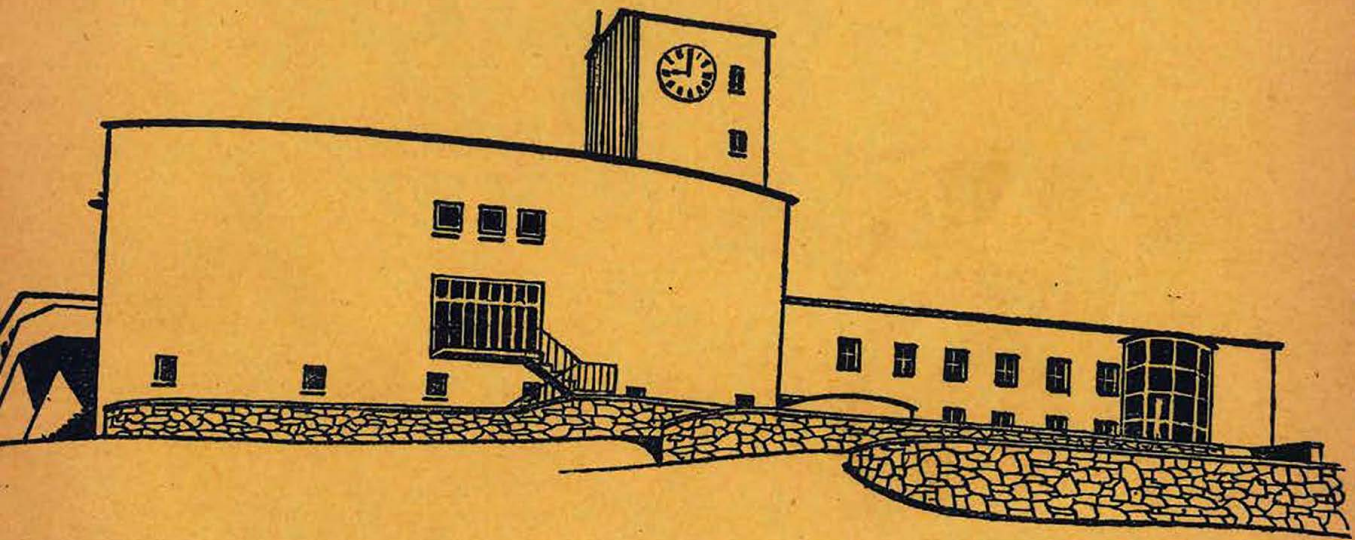


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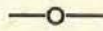
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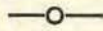
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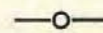
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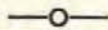
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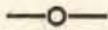
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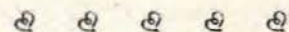
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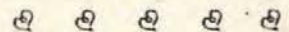
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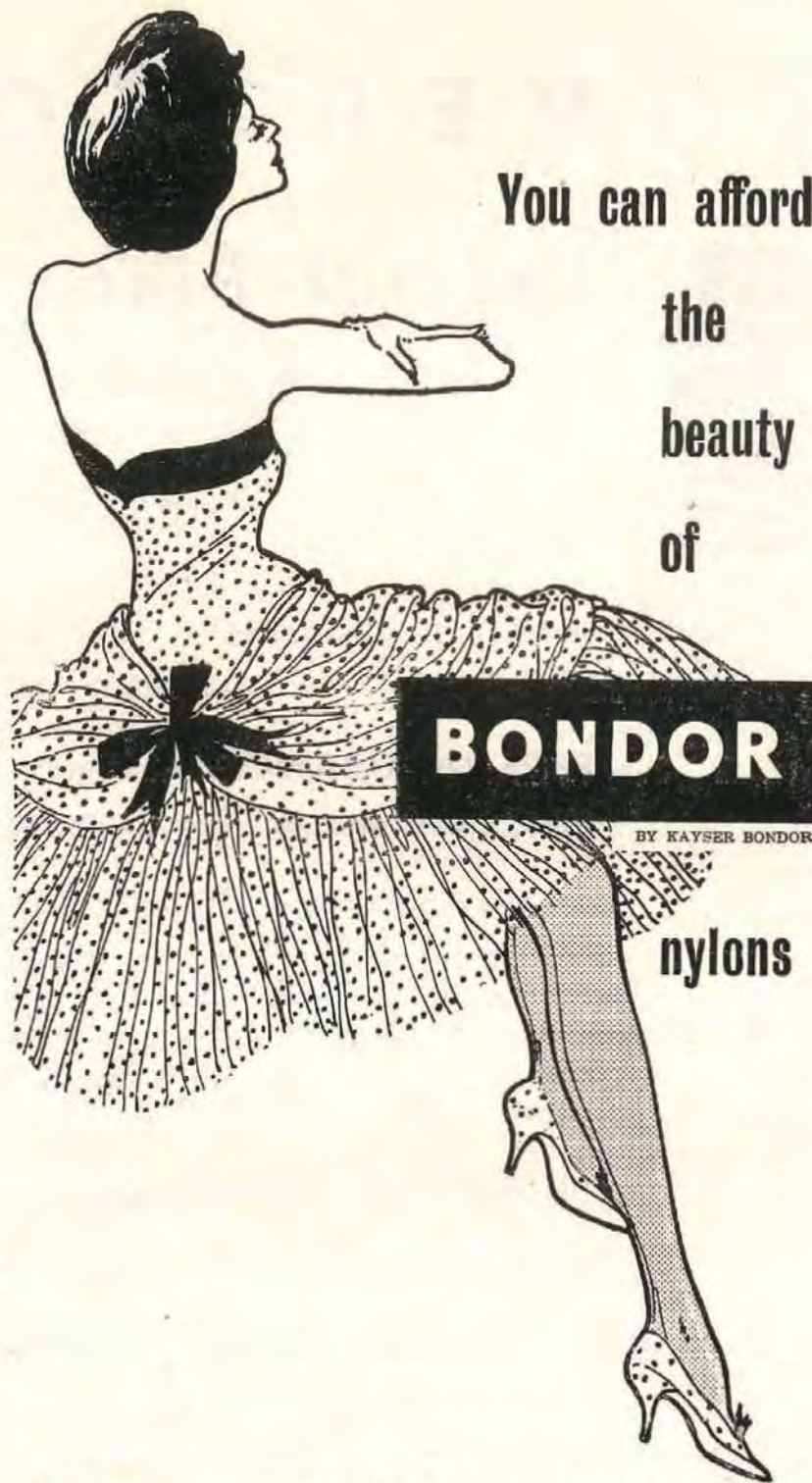


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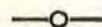
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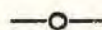


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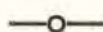
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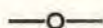
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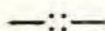
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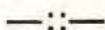
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June 1961



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Foreword

The opportunity of writing this foreword is welcome indeed.

Welcome for two reasons in particular. Firstly it affords me an opportunity of sending our warm greetings and good wishes to all former pupils, parents and friends, which groups, as I am well aware, are not mutually exclusive. Secondly, I can here and now put on record my sincere thanks and sense of profound indebtedness to the talented team whose ability, devotion and skill have made this publication possible.

Educationally we live in stirring times. The wind of change frequently blows hot and only seldom blows cold, or even cool. We must recognize, therefore, that it is more than ever necessary that all who have any connection with schools should be as fully aware as possible of what is taking place inside them. Our Gallic friends have it that "Tout comprendre, c'est tout pardonner". The production now in your hands reflects, I feel, tellingly and sincerely, the present state of our school. In its pages you will find much to entertain and inform. May you have much pleasure in reading it.

Sincerely,

FRANCIS T. KIDD, M.A.,
Rector.



M. FORREST 5A.

EDITOR

Editorial

*Some said, "John, print it"; others said, "Not so",
Some said, "It might do good"; others said, "No".*

A glance at our new editorial illustration and our quotation will perhaps give you some idea of the heart-searchings that another year has brought to another Magazine Committee. Please believe us, you contributors whose efforts do not grace the following pages, that none has been rejected without a sympathetic pang, and that some—perhaps too long or just out-classed by others on the same subject—have been put aside with real reluctance. Another cause for regret has been the failure of any humorous poem to reach quite the degree of funniness we considered worthy of a prize. Nevertheless, we all felt that your articles on the whole have not fallen short of those of previous years.

But the success of our Magazine depends on others besides the contributors, and we must express our gratitude to those members of the English and Art Departments who encouraged you; to Miss Stark for her editorial guidance; to Mr. Hampton for his supervision of the illustrative material; and to Mr. Gillies for the excellent photography. We must particularly mention the assistance of the Art Department in helping to realise a dream of ours—to see as great figures of fact and fiction in the past certain members of our staff (who sportingly co-operated). Miss Fotheringham is responsible for the drawing of the cartoon bodies.

Finally, we must, of course, express our grateful thanks to our advertisers, on whose support our Business Manager, Ewen Robertson, depends for making ends meet; and to our patient printers, Messrs. George Inglis & Co. Ltd., whose unfailingly excellent production makes our School Magazine, I'm sure, second to none.

CAROL A. YOUNG.



R. HANNAH, Class 5A.

JEST AND YOUTHFUL JOLLITY

LITERARY LIMERICKS

*There once was a bold Wyf of Bath,
Who had married five times without scath,
It was said that before,
She had sweethearts galore,
None knew better love's sweet primrose path.*

*There once was a gay drunken Friar,
Who was known as a bounder and liar;
But although on this earth
He found pleasure and mirth,
We're afraid Huberd's gone to the fire.*

*There once was a man called Macbeth,
Who did poor King Duncan to death;
But, sad to relate,
He was caught up by fate,
For Macduff took away his last breath.*

*There once was a girl called Belinda,
Who burned all men's hearts to a cinder.
The Baron, in despair,
Craved a lock of her hair,
And cut it before she could hinder.*

HIGHBROWS, Class 4A.

TOWARDS MORE PICTURESQUE SPEECH

*In a' the places I've ever been,
(Which arna' really many),
I've never heard a stranger tongue,
Than the accent o' James McLenny.*

*He wasna' a rovin' Heelandman,
Nor yet an English loon,
But his hame was on the River Clyde,
In dear auld Glesca toon.*

*Ane day he went for a sail on the Clyde,
To the bonnie Isle o' Bute,
An' as he stepped on tae Rothesay pier,
A muckle roar he let oot.*

*The pier resoondit wi' "Whaurzwurbag",
An' yet wi', "Whaurzaweans",
Which sent a happy thrill through us,
And guid Scots bluid through oor veins.*

*As he strolled along the promenade,
Efter sunbathin' in vain,
A Celtic lament welled up within,
An' he said, "Errarainoanagain!"*

*Gin he returned to his ain fair toon,
He was pleased and happy, but,
Whit was his anguish, grief an' pain,
When we telt him, "Rapubzizshut!"*

RAY WADDELL, Class 2D.

HOW I LEARNED TO TYPE

Oomph upom a tim, i decided two start-typing. i fisrt glot a tiprwiteree?s/s and vegan to practuce. I had two main Duffu-cilties. Mu spellong was not beery gppd and i muxed ip litters like "r" and "t", "b" and "v", "u"4@ y2, "m" amd "n", ect?½

Mu forst Effotr was Wordswirtg's ODE on the IMITATION OF IMMORALITY? vut hear i frailed miserly. Howeber, i petsebered, adn soom, as yoy Cna see, became quiet profuciemt.

Nwo, I sonetimes TRIPE busyness litters, thougg, strangley, i get bery few repies,

i have cpme to hte comclysion thar tippling is veru t5 sQeasy. adn heve decode too mack tripping mY carRier£&£££

TIE-PIN Class 5A.

THE HAIR CUT

*Ma mither she telt me it had tae be cut,
For ma hair was disgustin' an' aw ower ma shurt.
But the days wur fu' cauld an the sun was fu'
low
An I wasna that anxious to get up and go.
But doon tae the barber's I jist had tae gang.
"Come in, ma wee man, ye've been cheatin' me
lang.
Climb up on the stule, an I'll clip aff that hair.
Noo! Dinna be feart; ye ken it's nae sair!"
I could feel the cauld steel as it ran up ma neck,
An I felt the cauld blast as I hamewards did
trek,
But ma hert wis fu' gled wi' ma mither's warm
smile;
"Ye're a bonny wee loon, if it's yince in a
while".*

DAVID BLAIR, Class 1A.

THE "FRIAR"

*Ancient abbey,
Pile of coke.
Careless monk,
Holy smoke!*

WILLIAM JAMIESON, Class 2A.

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R. GAULT, Class 4A.

TOPICAL LIMERICK!

*The rocket to Venus is weary,
The Russians are not very cheery,
She has stopped her bleep, bleep,
And has gone to sleep, sleep,
On a planet going round like a peerie.*

WILLIAM SMITH, Class 1A.

GLESCARENTO

AWAURRAHLMELTYE—Be about your business or I shall be compelled to chastise you.
CUMOANGERRAFRACAUR—Would you be so kind as to descend from the tram-car?
ERRAPERRAFELLAS—I say, there are two dashing handsome young chaps.
YIFRUP?—May I have the pleasure of this dance?
DIGRABEAT—Does the music appeal to your cultural tastes?
GAUNYAWEENYAFF—Please be off, since I have a very poor opinion of you.
GERRAPOLIS—Secure the presence of the police.
HAUHEN, SEEHUR, RI'STUCKUPSO-SHEIS—I say, dear, do you see that lady over there? She is a trifle snobbish.
HAWYOUSEYINS—Now then, young people.
YUPYIT? MUPNOO—Have you risen? Yes, I undoubtedly have.
GIASASOOK—May I partake of your lollipop?
AWCLEYUP!—Be so kind as to be quiet!
WANMERRWURDOOTAYOOANAHLABOLISHYE—If you are so rash as to utter another syllable, I shall be under the painful necessity of effecting your extermination.

RA BARD, Class 5A.

A SAD TALE

*I bought a penny caramel
And relished it with glee,
But alas, alack, and sad to say,
I could not take my tea.
My mother got all worried
And to the doctor sped,
But when he came to our house,
I was already dead.
My stone was made of marble,
And on it they did write,
"This poor child ate a caramel
And lost her appetite".
There's a moral to this story,
As anyone can see,
Never eat a caramel
Before you have your tea.*

IRENE BLACK, Class 2B.

KENT PLACES

PEGGY'S PLANTING

In the Mid Barrwood there is a wood known to the older inhabitants of Kilsyth as Peggy's Planting. Where did the name come from?

Peggy Walker was a beautiful singer who unfortunately died young. Some body-snatchers dug up her newly-buried body but were seen by watching relatives and pursued along Manse Road and up Mid Barrwood. Here, finding escape impossible with their burden, they tipped it, unseen, in a nearby wood.

Later, some children found Peggy's body there and she was buried again. That is why the wood is known as Peggy's Planting.

WILLIAM BARROWMAN, Class 2A.

THE MAIN STREET

There are caurs noo gaun doon the cobbled street,

*Where aince there were horses and cairts;
An' the pavements are worn doon wi' countless feet,*

An' nae doot it's too nerra in pairts.

*Still oot frae the bakers come hot, steamin' pies,
Tae heat us in a' kind o' weathers.*

*An' still frae the dentists come yells an' cries,
An' still frae the store come the blethers.*

*This is the street, the street we a' ken,
The Main Street we'll aye wanner doon.
This is the street where ye'll hear them shout,
"Hen!*

It's years since ye've been doon the toon".

AGNES BINNIE, Class 2B.

THE COUCHES

Long ago when a piece of land was obtained in the town, the right to graze a cow on the couches accompanied it. This was later changed so that a piece of land on the couches as well as the piece in the town was held. Dry-stone dykes were put up on this hill to divide the grazing area into strips. Later still, the couches became more valuable because of the wealth of coal underneath them. But the couches are now a children's paradise where they play their games freely and gather wild flowers and brambles.

BETH MCCALLUM, Class 2D.

THE FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL

Since Charles II's time, people wanted to have an East-West Canal across Scotland. As early as 1723, people were making careful surveys of the land but it was not till 1768 that work was begun at the East coast. By 1775, the canal was fit for navigation from Grangemouth to Stockingfield. Here, a smaller canal was designed to go to Glasgow.

When cutting the canal through Dullater Bog near Kilsyth, many p stols, swords, and other weapons were found. People also found, preserved in the peat, a man and his horse, with the man still sitting on his saddle, victims of the Battle of Kilsyth. By this time, however, all the loans had been used up. Therefore the Government gave a loan of £50,000. In 1790, the canal had been cut from sea to sea. The total cost was £330,000.

The canal stretches from Grangemouth to Bowling. The approximate length is thirty-five miles. It was planned to have a depth of seven feet but it became eight feet. The average breadth of the canal is fifty-nine feet. It has thirty-nine locks altogether.

There were three kinds of boats in use in the first half of the 19th century, "Swifts", "Hoolets", and "Luggage Boats". The "Swifts" which were passenger boats, were the fastest. If a Swift went from Glasgow to Edinburgh, the cost would be four shillings, or if the passengers wanted a cabin, the cost would be six shillings. The journey generally took seven and a half to eight hours. These boats were drawn by horses on one side of the canal. Stables were kept all along the bank because the horses had to be changed frequently.

But in 1860 a new screw steamer was made.

"The Fairy Queen", which was used in the early twentieth century, ran from Port Dundas to Craigmarloch. It was a high ship but short in length. It sometimes had a band on it for dancing.

As the years passed, road and rail transport became more economical than the canal. Nowadays, only fishing boats and pleasure craft use it, but it remains an interesting and picturesque highway.

DAVID MCBRIDE, Class 2A.

THE WITCHES' LINN

Standing on the hot stones on the edge of the clear pool late last summer, I watched the children splashing about in the water. As the Garrel Burn gurgled over the tiny waterfalls and made its way down the hillside, my mind drifted back to an old book about Kilsyth I had read some time before which had mentioned the drowning of witches in the time of King James the Sixth, when witches all over the country perished by fire and water. Kilsyth was no exception for it is said they drowned no less than three witches in that pool alone. The pool which I was standing beside was then called "The Witches' Linn" though its modern name is "The Strawberry", so called because wild strawberries grow on its banks.

MARGARET BURNS, Class 3E.

THE COACH ROAD

At one time the Coach Road was the main road into Kilsyth. As Mal Fleming's Brae was too steep for some coaches to get up, some men and about one dozen horses waited down at the Lazy Hollow, so called because, while the men were waiting for a coach to come to help it up the Brae, they lazed about. The way they harnessed up the horses was by putting chains onto the horses which were to help take the coach up the Brae. These were then clipped onto a bar which was between the horses of the coach. This was called tracing. At the top of the Brae the men who helped take the coach up asked for a toll (money for helping to take the coach up the Brae).

When you come in from the Falkirk and Stirling area there is a road which branches off to the right of the Coach Road. This is called the Avenue (because many years ago, it really was a fine beech avenue) and leads up to Colzium House.

JEAN CLELLAND, Class 2D.

KIRK O' MUIR

The annual conventicle at Kirk O' Muir, on the banks of the Carron Dam, provides an opportunity of an annual pilgrimage to an ancient religious site, not far from Kilsyth.

The enclosure in which the Conventicle is held, marks the site of the Church on the

Moor, no doubt a church associated with the Celtic Missionary Movement of Iona.

It would be a small church originally with perhaps a preaching cross set outside. It is said that the Communion in the Protestant faith was here first celebrated in Scotland. At the Reformation the Church was served by a reader, William Darroch for a month or two. The next minister was David Dick or Dickson from 1574 to 1580. Later in 1698, Kirk O' Muir became a parish church.

All that now remains of Kirk O' Muir are the old grave stones, still bearing traces of local names. One of these has an iron cage over it, probably erected against body-snatchers.

This lonely historical spot, so near our town, is still remembered, at least once a year, by some people of our district, and the farming folk of the Carron Valley still provide splendid teas for their friends on the Sunday afternoon on which the service is held.

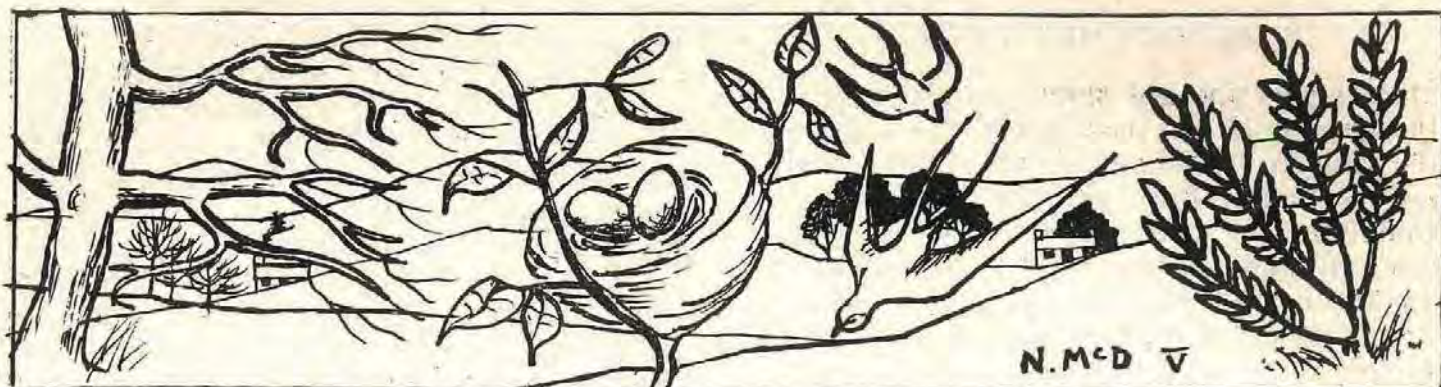
IAN POLLOCK, Class 3D.

CASTLE HILL

From the window of my room I often used to look out and see rising before me Castle Hill. My imagination was fired by the huge slab of rock which appears as a tiny speck on the summit of the hill. I became more and more interested as the days went past. All sorts of thoughts ran through my mind as to the origin of the stone. Perhaps it was a huge boulder erected by prehistoric man for sacrifices or part of the Roman garrison. I was so intrigued by my problem that I resolved to discover for myself the origin of this stone.

One fresh summer day my friends and I set off to climb Castle Hill and examine the stone. After a strenuous ascent we arrived, tired but undaunted, at the summit. On examining what we had supposed to be an ancient stone we found to our disappointment that it was a modern concrete obelisk with a brass plate in the centre of one of the sides and on top, dead centre, another brass plate, not, as I had imagined, with any ancient hieroglyphics or writing on it; only this brief statement: ORDINANCE SURVEY MARK No. 29.

JOAN WELSH, Class 2D.



NORMAN MACDONALD, Class 5.

SEASONS

SPRING

Spring is the time of the year when the flowers begin to bloom. The tulip and crocus are two of them.

Nearly every animal has a young one to care for now. The lambs are gambolling in their fields. There are calves and chickens. Even the birds are busy building their nests and sitting on their eggs. After the eggs have hatched the parents have a busy time teaching their young. The Cuckoo has none of this trouble because it just looks for a bird's nest and lays its eggs in it and the poor little bird has to feed the hungry cuckoo chick. The cuckoo is so large it pushes all the other eggs out of the nest.

Some of the birds which went away for the winter have come back again. We are glad to see them because it means that spring is really here.

ISABELLA COOK, Class 1E.

SUMMER TERM

*The room is full of sunny warmth,
I want to stretch out at my ease;
The master's voice goes droning on,
Like murmur of unnumbered bees.*

*A faint cry from the cricket field
Is all that tells me life persists;
The drowsy waves sweep o'er me now,
The master's fainter voice desists.*

*I feel fresh breezes on my brow,
I'm diving in the cool brown linn;
'Mid laughter of the class I wake,
To find I've landed on my chin.*

DOZY, Class 5A.

WINTER FUN

*In winter when the trees are bare,
And the wind is streaming through our hair,
As on the pond we gaily skate,
We know we won't be home till late.
The children play in the deep snow,
See how they make the sledges go,
Those boys are having a snowball fight.
They are enjoying themselves all right.*

ELIZABETH MACKENZIE, Class 1E.

AUTUMN

*It's Autumn, all the leaves are falling,
And Winter's coming near,
All the birds are flying home,
To end the happy year.*

*When we go walking through the woods,
The leaves lie golden brown,
They crumble crisp beneath our feet,
And make a crackling sound.*

CAROL ANNE WILSON, Class 2F.

SPRING FEVER

(With apologies to T. Hardy)

*This is the weather the schoolboys like,
And so do I;
When I dig out my rusty bike,
And dusters fly,
And I wheel it out for its first spring test,
And I pedal on brimful of zest,
Till my muscles feel they need a rest,
And I think my old bike's past its best,
And so am I.*

Class 3D.

UNUSUAL HOLIDAYS

PONY TREKKING

There are many ways of spending a holiday, but the most popular and unusual now, are sports' holidays. In the North of Scotland there are pony-trekking centres where you can own a pony of your own for a week, and ride it each day through some of the loveliest Scottish countryside. Every day you are responsible for grooming and feeding the pony as if it was your own. In the evening you return to a hotel where there are dances and socials to attend. Complete beginners can enjoy a pony-trekking holiday, as there are instructors at each centre, to help beginners.

LYNDA STIRLING, Class 1C.

THE CHEDDAR GORGE

While we were holidaying in England last year, my parents and I decided to visit the caves at Cheddar Gorge in the Mendip Hills in Somersetshire. After a short journey by car, we arrived in the Gorge. We walked up to the caves and joined a group of people who were waiting inside for the guide to conduct them through the caves.

The first object which we saw, was a pool of water lying in a basin hewn out of solid rock. Radiantly coloured stalagmites rose out of the water and interlocked with stalactites of the same brilliant hues, curving downwards from the cave roof. As we walked on, if we had looked back, we would have seen the reflection of a tiny village in the water.

The next two curiosities were amazing. The first was the mysterious shadow of a cat, which was caused by a large stone which had worn away through the years until it nearly resembled a cat. Next we entered a lofty chamber, and looking upwards, we saw two brilliantly coloured pillars of limestone rising up and up until they disappeared into the hills.

As we retraced our steps, we passed another wonder which looked like a river of molten lava. Our guide assured us, however, that this impression was given by the rocks, so shaped and mottled in colour that they looked very like a river. While we returned through the caves, we noticed

that they were filled with a deep, glowing, orange light. This was caused by the stalagmites and stalactites, not, as you might think, by artificial lights. Most of the party had already noticed that the caves were lit by any light which filtered through the crevices in the rocks. In the same way the caves are aired.

This was a wonderful experience for me, seeing where the Ancient Britons had lived, 500 feet underground and I will certainly return to Cheddar.

SHEILA MCGINNES, Class 3A.

PIONEERS

I wonder how many boys have a member of an advance party for a Guide camp? Last summer our family were assigned this very task—to go to a farm near Campbeltown, one week before the Guides were due to arrive, and pitch their tents. After pitching twelve tents and one marquee, erecting a flag-pole and preparing the kitchen, provisions for fifty Guides were brought into the store tent and wood was collected. The rain made this week a hectic week but we had spare time to admire the surrounding countryside and have a dip. An unusual holiday for any boy—but fifty Guides appreciated it, I hope.

MARSHALL PRENTICE, Class 4A.

HELPING AT THE PIER

When I was on holiday last year at the Kyles of Bute, I helped the pierman, who delivers all the parcels and suit-cases to the holiday-makers.

One of my other jobs was to catch the rope thrown from the steamer to the pier. After I had caught the small rope, I pulled it in, and put the big strong rope attached to it over the capstan. When the boat was tied up, the gangway was shuffled into position, and the people came off. Later the gangway was taken away, the ropes let go and the steamer—perhaps the *Jeanie Deans* or the *Loch Fyne*—started on its journey once more.

WILLIAM MARSHALL, Class 1C.

WHEN WE WENT TO . . .

STRATFORD-ON-AVON

"On such a night as this", when we left Glasgow last June for Stratford, sleep would not come. But with arrival of "jocund day", we had our first glimpse of Shakespeare's home town under a summer sky.

After breakfast, we found our way to the Tudor cottage which was his birthplace and here began the impression of being transported to the Elizabethan scene which never left us throughout our visit. After visiting Shakespeare's daughter's house, Hall's Croft, with its Elizabethan apothecary's shop, the half-timbered Grammar School, the period garden of New Place, we began to feel as if we might bump into the Bard himself round the next corner. And as we rowed on the Avon, as our hero himself must have done, we saw again the willows show "their hoar leaves in the glassy stream", and the swans "float double, swan and shadow".

In the afternoon, we visited the charming Anne Hathaway's cottage, with its perfect Tudor interior, and the garden where "oxlips and the nodding violets grow", and on our way to Warwick Castle caught a glimpse of the deer in Charlcote Park and, I'm sure, a shadowy Elizabethan youth stalking them. The castle itself, with its splendid furnishings, armour and paintings, was a fitting climax to the first part of our visit.

But, of course, the real climax was our attendance in the evening at the "Merchant of Venice" in the Memorial Theatre, a production memorable for the sensitive acting of Dorothy Tutin as Portia and Peter O'Toole as Shylock, and the delightful decor and music.

And if we "murdered sleep" on the previous night, we certainly enjoyed "the honey-heavy dew of slumber" on our way home.

FIONA KIDD, Class 6.

A VISIT TO A BALLET PERFORMANCE

Last year a number of pupils from the school went to see a performance of "Coppelia" in the King's Theatre, Glasgow. This was a very beautiful and colourful ballet and was beautifully danced. The scenery and cos-

tumes were very attractive, especially those of the girls who danced. The most noticeable thing about this ballet was the music which was the most beautiful I have ever heard.

BETSY BELL, Class 2B.

RATAGAN

At 10 a.m. on an April Sunday morning a party left Kilsyth under the leadership of Mr. Williams and Mr. Gray for Ratagan Youth Hostel. The bus took us up the side of Loch Lomond, through Glenco (where we saw skiers up Buchaille Etive) round Loch Leven, through Fort William and Spean Bridge to Ratagan where we were somewhat surprised to find that the hostel had been a hosiery factory. Nevertheless it was very comfortable and was set in most beautiful surroundings.

The next day we were told to prepare for a walk which led us up a practically vertical fire-break, over some steep moorland where we encountered snow.

On the Tuesday we went to Kyle and from there we sailed by ferry to Kyleakin on Skye. We had glorious weather and enjoyed ourselves thoroughly.

The falls of Glomach proved an attraction which was worth going to see as these falls are the highest in Britain and are even higher than the Niagara Falls. After this walk, we arrived back tired and footsore. That night, the Warden, Mr. Capaldi, organised a sing-song which included many Scots songs, the warden's favourites.

On the day before we returned, some of our party climbed the Saddle while some went to Glenelg and the least courageous walked along the loch-side to Totaig Ferry. It was a beautiful day and quite hot by the afternoon.

We were sorry to leave as it was a fine day and the loch was as calm as a mill pond. The Warden seemed sorry to lose such good patrons. Kilsyth seems very ordinary after Ratagan but we returned with many happy memories of our holiday.

ROSEMARY LE POIDEVIN and ALISON WHITE,
Class 4A.

A SCIENCE LECTURE

"They are usually very interesting", said our Chemistry teacher, referring to a lecture called "Throwing Light on Chemistry", which we were about to attend in the Technical College, Glasgow. Being somewhat diffident about my ability to be enlightened, I was a little less certain of its power to interest me.

But I need not have worried. From my first glimpse of the crowded lecture-room with its multifarious instruments and pieces of apparatus, I felt my interest awakening and before the end of the afternoon I had become completely absorbed. The lecture was simple and straightforward, covering various branches of chemistry. It really consisted of a series of demonstrations about the colour and beauty which chemicals unite to form, including light, nylon, washing-powder. Some of the experiments ended in delightful flashes and bangs. The afternoon concluded with a film which clarified details which it would have been very difficult to describe in words.

I am sure no one noticed the time go past and I left that lecture-room with more reluctance than I entered it.

ALAN MAXWELL, Class 4A.

KELVINGROVE ART GALLERIES

This is an awe-inspiring building whose interior is full of beauty and interest. We cannot be grateful enough to our History teacher for introducing us to it.

Mr. McCallum first turned our thoughts to archeology, on which he plied us with questions on what we had observed and what we had learned from a short film. After some discussion, we were given the freedom of the Galleries, and roamed from Geology, Natural History, Armour, Ships, to the Arts—glass silverware, pottery and painting.

I was lost in delight at the depth of Constable's landscapes and the splendour of Raeburn's portraits; but I'm afraid the modern French art was beyond my comprehension.

So much did I enjoy this visit that I was stimulated into returning on my own to Kelvingrove, not, I'm afraid, to appreciate modern art any better, but at least to discover

Salvador Dali's "The Christ of St. John of the Cross".

JEAN JOHNSTON, Class 2A.

SPORT

WATER-SKI-ING

Water ski-ing is a comparatively new sport in Britain, but it is rapidly becoming very popular. I first tried this novel form of exercise two years ago at the Mere in Scarborough. Before beginning the ordeal of the first attempt, you are instructed by an expert in the technique. The first time I tried, I took a dive from the edge; but the second time I managed to stand up on the skis and go around a bit before I fell again. The third attempt was a little better.

Water ski-ing is a very exhilarating sport. It is a wonderful sensation to skim over the water with a gentle spray blowing upon you. It is entertaining to watch, too—thrilling to see the grace and skill of the expert, and hilarious to see the frantic efforts of the beginner.

MARGARET MCFARLANE, Class 3A.

BOXING

Boxing is a great sport

One which I adore.

It's great how you can learn

To knock them on the floor.

If you are down for more than ten,

Then you are counted out.

And if you have the most points,

You are the winner of the bout.

JIM BELL, Class 1D.

THE CROSS-COUNTRY RUN

This "trek" is a sprint over open country to a certain point where the runners turn and retrace their steps. At the commencement a brisk pace is set, but on nearing the half-way point the pace slackens as the runners tire. As the end is neared perspiration flows down thick as rain and the runners' legs become wobbly. Eventually when the end is reached, the mud-covered runners struggle into the dressing-room relieved to have reached the conclusion of what they believe is just "sheer torture".

DAVID INGLIS, Class 1A.

TO BE SERIOUS

HEMOCRAFT DEPARTMENT

The variety of pursuits demonstrated in our centre pages will probably be something of a revelation to those who knew Homecraft as Domestic Science, for the aims and scope have widened with the change of name. The central aim of our department now is to teach the student to take her place in the community, as a useful citizen, and to this end we must not only train her in the domestic skills, but also develop her aesthetic tastes and sense of social responsibility.

In the practical sphere, she learns, of course, to cook, budget, launder, dressmake. But stress is also laid on the aesthetic aspect of these skills, and she is taught how to serve food, arrange flowers, appreciate designs of dress and material, choose furniture and even a home, and to make the most of her own appearance.

Social responsibility is developed as she learns about the woman's place in the family, the care of children, the role of hostess, the value of good manners and orderliness.

The Homecraft teacher's reward comes in witnessing her girls' sense of achievement when a dress is finished or a meal is cooked; her growing confidence in her ability to create with hands and mind; and her gradual development into a responsible citizen.

The teacher has a reward, too, if a girl decides that she wishes to make some branch of Homecraft her vocation. Provided the student can reach a certain level of proficiency, she has many careers to choose from; she can become a teacher, manageress, demonstrator, dietician, consultant for T.V. advertisers, tester in a factory, tailoress, or matron in a school; for just as the growing complexity of modern life has necessitated the enlargement of the scope of the subject in school, so it has multiplied the opportunities a course in Homecraft can offer.

NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF

We are glad to welcome this year the following additions to Kilsyth Academy staff:—

Classics Department. Miss A. R. Anderson, M.A., is a graduate from Glasgow University in Latin and Greek.

Science Department. Mr. H. Noble, B.Sc., graduated from Glasgow University in Physics and Mathematics.

Modern Languages Department. Miss J. Millar, M.A., is a graduate from Glasgow University in French and German.

Music Department. Mr. James M. Hunter, Dip. Mus. Ed., B.S.A.M., L.R.A.M., a former pupil of the school, studied at The Scottish National Academy of Music.

Art Department. Miss M. R. Fotheringham took her Diploma of Art at the Glasgow School of Art.

Geography Department. Mr. Hendry graduated M.A. (Hons.) in Geography at Edinburgh University.

English Department. Mr. Douglas Kilpatrick, a former pupil, graduated M.A. (Hons.) in English at Glasgow University.

IAN CAMPBELL and ROBERT BRYDEN,
Class 2C.

PRO PATRIA MORI

(From the Greek of Tyrtæus)

*Praise to the man who dies in the van of the
fight,
And shame to the coward who chooses
need and disgrace,
Fleeing his home with his dear ones in panic
flight,
Staining his glorious manhood, a beggar
base.*

*O youth, let none be the first to flee the foe,
Bitter the thought that an older man fall
dead;
That, because you did not stand firm and strike
your blow,
Low in the dust there lies a whiter head.*

THE GREEKS, Class 5A.



SCHOOL PREFECTS

Standing: A. Quail, J. Cowan, E. Nicholson, C. E. Robertson, F. Kidd, H. McDonald, M. Watson, D. Taylor, J. MacLaren, N. Robertson.

Sitting: A. Adam, M. Forrest, R. Bradford, Mrs. Maxwell, Mr. Kidd, I. Thomson (Girl Captain), A. McLaughlin, E. Allan.



CLASS CAPTAINS AND VICE-CAPTAINS

HOME CRAFT DEPARTMENT



Cookery



Assignment Work



Laundry Work



Housewifery



Mothercraft



Housewifery



Needlework



Dressmaking



Dressmaking



Dressmaking



SENIOR FOOTBALL TEAM

Standing: A. Adam, E. Wilson,
H. McDonald, E. Robertson,
J. MacAulay, B. Marshall.

Sitting: M. Prentice, M. Macniven,
I. O'Pray (Capt.), A. Thom.
A. McLaughlin.

SENIOR LIFE SAVING AWARDS 1960-61

Back Row: J. McAulay, B. Cree,
M. Bradshaw, S. Jackson, J.
Auchenvole, M. Anderson.

Middle Row: E. Anderson, M.
Burns, A. Jack, R. Carmichael,
M. Irvine, M. Laing, M. Cook,
S. Mowat.

Seated: J. Stewart, N. Patrick,
A. Gibson, S. Taylor, E. Kidd,
M. Addie.



INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL TEAM

Standing : I. McKie, J. Mac-
Donald, R. Cassidy, I. Caskie,
A. McIntyre, W. Bauld.

Sitting: E. Jones, R. Cardwell,
B. Patrick (Capt.) R. Barrons,
W. Mitchell.



BEAT GENERATION

BEATNIKS

Q. Like what is a beatnik, dad?

A. Like a beatnik is a guy who digs real cool music and T. S. Eliot, man. Like he don't get with the baby dump and the mushroom people with all that new baggage, dad. Like he keeps the eyeballs rolling for the slick chicks at the juke, man. Like he meditates, man, and he's way out or just with it. Like when he gets past his dark-sevens he's in joyville, man.

Like if you're not with it and you don't dig our jazz, cut your motors and exit to cubesville—you cubes!

Translation—(strictly for squares, man).

Q. What is a beatnik, sir?

A. A beatnik is a person who likes music with feeling and T. S. Eliot. He does not appreciate the children's nursery or those people who emerge at night to enjoy themselves and have bags under their eyes next day. He is always on the look-out for pretty girls at juke-boxes. He thinks things out slowly, and he is either a complete beatnik or only partly absorbed in the teenage cult. When his unlucky, miserable weeks are over, he is happy.

If you don't understand us and can't understand our language, then make yourselves ready and leave for the retreat of the conventionalists—you conventionalists.

REAL HEP CAT,
BRENDA WELSH, Class 4A.

THE TEDDY BOYS

*They wait in cafes in the street,
And when it's dark it's them you'll meet.
They'd sell their mother for a bob,
But never mention work or job.*

*At dance-halls you will see them fight,
They fight sometimes till dead of night,
And when out working they should be,
They lie in bed till half-past three.*

*Then once again they make their rounds,
Filling the street with ugly sounds,
Slouching about in gangs of ten,
To prove that all of them are men.*

ROBERT MCG. BATEMAN, Class 3C.

THE DESERTED HOP

*Sweet was the sound, when, oft at evening's
close,
The cool beat of the records from the hop
arose,
In all my wand'rings round the village square,
I finally found joy and jiving there.*

*No more the "Teds" their sweaty brows will
clear,
No more will strive, the scandals near, to hear,
No more the hop will be a nightly must,
'Cause that old record-player's gone and bust!*

HIGHBROW, Class 4A.

BEAT NIGHT

(Spoken by Orsino, man)

*If jiving be the food of life, rock on;
Dig me it deep; that, being sent,
The mood may change to dullsville and fall
short.*

*That beat again, heard in a real cool dive,
O it blocked up my wavelength like the jazz
stanzas,*

*Sending and flipping our lids. Enough, no more.
'Tis not so ginchie as it was before.*

*'Tis fallen into dripsville and gone square,
Because my populous clarinet is not there.*

D. P. and H. P., Class 4A.

THE SQUARE

*The Teddies with their crepes and drains,
And pony tails and jeans on Janes,
Call me a square, 'cause I can't prove
That my straight music's in the groove.
But on my stone when I pass on,
I hope that someone carves, "Real gone".*

HAMISH CAMPBELL, Class 1A.

LIMERICK

*There was a young man from Milan,
Who went on a trip to Japan.
He went to the races,
Lost even his braces,
And had to go home in a van.*

JAMES MARSHALL, Class 1F.

HOME SWEET HOME

HOME

"Home, sweet home" is a saying that many people do not appreciate until they have been away from their home for a while.

Home is a place that you are very glad to reach if you have been out in the cold rain and driving wind.

Home is a place where you can sit at ease in front of a big, red fire and dream in your favourite arm-chair.

Home is a place where you smell the aroma of fresh baking and polish and bath salts and garden flowers.

Home is a place where the memories, happy and sad, of your youth are stored up.

Home is a place where, by gentle degrees, you are fitted to make a home of your own some day.

SHIRLEY ROBERTSON, Class 3A.

MA FAITHER'S PIT CLAES

Ma mither sits each Sunday nicht,

A needle in her haun'

She takes it noo for granted,

Because she kens she maun'.

It's aye the same auld rigmarole,

A patch abune a patch,

It disna' really matter,

If the colours dinna' match.

For wha wi'd be a miner's wife?

Wi' pit claes aye tae mend,

Wi' a' this blasted sewin'

It wid 'drive ye round the bend.

SADIE CREE, Class 2A.

SOLICITUDE

There was a young lady who said,
When she found a thief under her bed,

"So near to the door,

And so close to the floor,

I fear you'll catch cold in your head".

NORMAN FERGUSON, Class 1C.

OLD FOLKS' HOUSES

When we look back years ago, and see how poor and humble people lived, we are glad to see old folks' houses springing up in every town. Our own town has provided, in John Jarvie Square, one of the finest examples of such groups of homes. These houses, with their large windows, let in plenty of

fresh air and sunlight; the living room is comfortable and cosy; the kitchen is a small apartment with a cooker, sink and cabinet for dishes; the bathroom has a seat attached to the bath which makes it easy for an old person to bathe. The nearness of the Square to the shops makes it convenient for the old people to do their own shopping. The tall trees and flowering bushes set the houses off, and each house has a box of flowers in season outside the door.

Comparing these homes with the houses of long ago, with their small living rooms, outside toilet, open fire cooking and no hot water, we realise that old people especially must have lived a very hard and uneasy life. We all owe a debt of gratitude to our Town Council for providing such convenient and attractive dwellings for the town's old folks.

ELIZABETH ANDERSON, JANET AUCHINVOLE,
Class 3E.

SPRING-CLEANING

People, rushing,

Scrubbing, brushing,

Soap and water,

Wot a pother.

Don't do this—

Don't do that—

They haven't time to sit and chat.

On goes the paint,

On goes the paper,

Ask me all those questions later.

Hither and thither,

The whole house quivers,

Spring-cleaning time gives me the shivers,

But after days of hectic bashing,

I must admit the house looks smashing.

JACQUELINE JOHNSTON, Class 1B.

HOMELESS

The poor tramp has no settled home,

He wanders anywhere,

With tattered clothes and worn-out boots

And patches here and there.

He tramples on through rain and sleet,

All shivering in the storm.

There is no cosy fire for him,

No home to keep him warm.

CHRISTINE LAW, Class 2F.

CONVERSATION PIECE

Saturday, 11.30 a.m. Our living room.

"You look tired, Mum. Come on, put your feet up and let me make the lunch".
(Ironic feminine laughter).

"Much as I admire your superior intelligence, son, you must admit to a limited experience in the kitchen".

"I can apply my superior intelligence to mere cooking, can't I?"

"I was never one to shrink from the unknown. Go ahead! But make it something simple and foolproof. Let's say an omelette and fried sausages, followed by rice pudding and stewed apples. Begin with the rice. It takes longest. And may God bless this ship and all who sail in her".

Saturday, 11.40.

(Some off-key but cheerful singing from the kitchen).

"That's the rice on. I'm switching the eggs. How do you keep the shells from flying all over the place?"

"You don't switch the shells, boy! How many eggs have you wasted?"

"Only three. There's plenty more".

"Make the omelette last, then".

"O.K. Mum. Feeling more rested?"

(Silence).

Saturday, 11.50.

"It's a tricky business, this skinning sausages, isn't it?"

"Skinning? Give me patience! You just prick with a fork! How many have you wasted?"

"Only three. There's plenty more. How many pricks?"

"Oh, three or four".

"Ow! Where's the Elastoplast? I was rather too enthusiastic with that last prick".

"In the table drawer".

"Thanks. I don't suppose an admixture of human blood would have improved our feast".

Saturday, 11.55.

"These sausages are burning! Have you used grease?"

"Grease? Where do I put it?"

"Rub it over the bottom".

"But I've my clean trousers on!"

"The bottom of the pan, fool!"

"I don't quite see the point. It's filthy!"

"The inside of the pan, fathead!"

"What do you do for a burnt thumb?"

"Baking soda. Top shelf". (Profound sigh).

Saturday, 12 noon.

"How do you keep the lid down on the rice pan? The stove's getting into a bit of a mess".

"How much did you put in?"

"I thought half a pound would be enough for two".

"Oh, no! (On a falling note). Put the gas out! The stewed apples will do by themselves. (Low moan).

Saturday 12.10 p.m.

"I say, Mum, these apples look a bit queer. The skins are all shrivelling up".

"Skins! Didn't you peel and core them?"

"Should I? Oh well, there's always the omelette".

(Deep groan from the living room).

Saturday, 12.15 p.m.

"By Jove, peeling these eggs is trickier than skinning sausages".

(Piercing shriek from the living room).

"Moron! Imbecile! Leave my eggs alone!"

"Oh well, I did my best! What about some bread and butter, then?"

"I couldn't eat a thing, boy! My throat's raw flesh. Come and put your feet up. I expect you're tired."

MUSTAPHA FAG, Class 5A.

HELPING MOTHER

I wash the windows,

I scrub the floor,

I polish the table,

I clean the door.

I sometimes wash up,

I help with the cooking,

But I help myself,

When no one's looking.

MARGARET HAGGART, Class 2F.

There was a young laddie called Blair,

Who thought he could cycle to Ayr,

But he found out instead

It was better to tread

As the road was in need of repair.

S. THOMSON, Class 1A.



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

FOOTBALL

Senior XI.—This year we had a sound senior team which played good football and finished well up the league table. At the time of writing we do not know our exact position but we hold the distinction of being the only team to beat league champions, Larbert High. Out of 14 games played we have won 9, drawn 1, and lost 4.

Intermediate XI.—The intermediate team did not make a very promising start to the season but later improved and must be congratulated in having so far reached the semi-final of the Falkirk Herald Cup. Out of 15 league games played they lost 9, drew 2 and won 4.

Staff v. Pupils.—The match between staff and pupils was held just before Easter and attracted its usual crowd. On a much drier pitch than usual the Staff put up an excellent first-half display and took an early lead through Mr. Hunter. In the second half, the pace began to tell on the Staff and a period of sustained pressure by the Intermediates was rewarded by a splendid equaliser by centre-half Patrick. The pupils were now up in arms and only good staff

defending and some excellent goalkeeping by Mr. Corbett kept the score down. The keenly fought match ended in a 1-1 draw.

HOCKEY

Owing to the appalling condition of the pitch it was found impossible to run a girls' Hockey team this year.

CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP— MCGHEE TROPHY

The race was held this year at St. Modan's High School over a wet course which was very sticky in places. An under 14 team was entered from the Academy and, considering their lack of years, the boys ran extremely well. Out of 164 runners, Ian Sloan, the first Kilsyth boy home was 16th and our last boy was 80th—even after losing his shoe. The race was won by Falkirk High with St. Modan's second and Denny High third.

COUNTY SPORTS, 1960

The County Sports were again held on Graeme High's playing fields and took place last June. Conditions were better than they had been for many years. The outstanding team entered was the Group B

Boys who won the Monrow Shield. The team was: A. Kennedy, J. Smith (Capt.), M. McNiven, M. Prentice, J. Kane, N. Beaton and V. Hamilton. The remaining boys' teams gave a good account of themselves.

The girls, not to be outdone, also excelled themselves with Sandra Marshall winning the Group C Girls' High Jump and Fiona Kidd taking second place in the Group A High Jump.

JOHN MACAULAY, *Sports Editor.*

DEBATING SOCIETY

This session, under the chairmanship of Marlene Watson, proved an interesting one, though our membership was somewhat depleted by the inability of pupils in outlying districts to obtain travelling passes. A promising feature was the enthusiasm of the younger members but we should have been glad of a readier response among the senior members to our pleas for speakers.

The programme was varied and included serious debates, hat nights and a Third Year symposium on "I would abolish . . .".

This year, for the first time, we took part in an Inter-Schools Debating Competition run by the English-Speaking Union and we hope that this will become an annual event.

Another innovation was the attendance of Debating Society representatives from other schools in the county at our most successful Easter Dance.

Our thanks are due to all who have helped to organise or have taken part in our programme this year.

FIONA KIDD, *Secretary.*

SCHOOL OUTINGS

English

Drama was well catered for by the English Department this session. There was a varied selection of acting, from the professional tone of the Old V.c in "Macbeth" and the Citizen's Theatre's creditable performance of "Hamlet" to the enthusiastic amateurs of Jordanhill College, also performing "Hamlet". In lighter vein were two modern plays produced by the Kirkintilloch Players—"The House by the Lake" by Hugh Mills, and "The Wishing Well" by Eynon Evans.

Science

The Science Department has had many outings this year, including visits to the St. Rollox works of the I.C.I. in February, to the Grangemouth British Hydro Carbon Chemicals Company, and to Fibre Glass Ltd. Nearer home, a visit was paid to Dumbreck colliery, and two lectures, one in Graeme High School and the other in the R.C.S.T. The highlight of the season, however, was the visit in May to the Marine Station at Millport.

Music

The Music Department managed to combine business with pleasure on the visit to "The Pirates of Penzance", and it is hoped that those pupils taking part in the first act of this opera, to be performed at the school concert, benefited by the visit. The visit to "Coppelia" in September, and a concert by the Scottish National Orchestra in Stirling Albert Hall in May, however, were purely for pleasure.

Technical

Boys from the technical department paid visits to the Mining Institute in Falkirk, the Sterne Frig. Company, and the Freyon Gas Company. About 700 boys from all over Scotland, including 35 from Kilsyth Academy, visited H.M.S. Caledonia in Paisley.

Art

Last June Art pupils from the third, fourth and fifth years saw a very representative collection of old masters in the Smith Art Galleries in Stirling, including works by Gainsburgh, Ramsey and Raeburn, and under the guidance of the Director of Art Education for Stirling, Mr. Semple, discussed the merits of the works on show. Also in June, a party from Kilsyth took part in a painting competition in the Glasgow Art Galleries, and while there, took the opportunity of seeing some of the paintings exhibited. The Homecraft and Art Departments combined on a visit to the Centre of Industrial Design, where an exhibition of furniture and furnishings was on show.

Miscellaneous

The History Department will visit the Art Galleries in June. It is also hoped

there will be an opportunity to visit Falkland Palace and Culross. Twenty-one pupils from the Geography Department spent an enjoyable five days of the Easter holidays at Ratagan Youth Hostel with Mr. Williams. The Homecraft Department visited the Needlework Development Centre, and some pupils with an interest in nursing as a career visited Falkirk Royal Infirmary and Bellsdyke Hospital, Larbert.

SHEENA BARROWMAN, Class 5A.

ART SOCIETY

The highlights of the session were a meeting when a staff panel and a pupil panel discussed paintings by the French Impressionists; and a combined meeting with the Film Society which discussed colour. Some of the important films shown included "The Art and Architecture of France", "The Art of Spain", and "Modern Architecture".

ROBINA THORNTON, Class 5A.

COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS

National Bible Society of Scotland Essay:—Each of the following Third year pupils will receive a Bible for writing the best essay in his or her class:—

- 3A, James Patrick; 3B, Kathleen Edwards
3C, Eileen Paul; 3D, George Torney; 3E, Jean Burns; 3F, Eleanor Neill.

James Patrick's essay has been forwarded to the Society as an entry for the special prize.

Burns Competition, 1960:—Marlene Watson, 6A, was the winning candidate.

Colzium Award for Public Speaking, 1960:—The cup was won by Marlene Watson, 6A.

Arts Competitions and Exhibitions:—The Corporation of the City of Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum School Children's Art Competition:—Russel Leich, Highly Commended; Muriel Irvine, Commended.

Art Competition sponsored by Brooke Bond Tea, 1960.—Alan Wilson, 2nd in Senior Group.

Paintings were sent to the National Exhibition of Children's Art organised by the Sunday Pictorial.

Exhibitions of paintings by Kilsyth Academy pupils have been held in Stirlingshire, Lanarkshire and Kincardineshire schools

Life Saving Awards:—Boys: 2 boys received Bar to Awards of Merit; 4 boys won Bronze Crosses; 10 boys won Bronze Medallions; 6 boys received Intermediate Awards; 2 boys received Instructor Awards. GIRLS: 1 girl received Bar to Award of Merit; 5 girls won Bronze Crosses; 26 girls won Bronze Medallions; 24 girls won Intermediate Awards; 2 girls won Bars to Bronze Medallions; 1 girl received an Instructor Award.

MAE FORREST, Class 5A.

FILMS IN THE SCHOOL

There have been many excellent films shown this year.

To interest the lovers of adventure the History Department showed such films as "Livingstone's Travels" and "Drake's Voyage Round the World". Some interesting films such as "The Young Chopin", "The England of Elizabeth" and "The Growth of London" are promised later in the term.

The Art Department showed films of France and Spain describing their art and architecture. For the more scientifically inclined pupils there were films about plastics, pre-stressed concrete and modern motorways.

This session the Science Department showed 26 films including nature films such as "Journey into Spring" (a film about animals of the countryside) and "Between the Tides" (a film about British sea-birds and sea-creatures). Other films included "What is Electricity?" "Rock of Industry" and "The Invisible Force".

ISABEL THOMSOM, Class 5A.

FONS BANDUSIA

(From the Latin of Horace)

*O crystal-clear Bandusian spring,
Worthy of Bacchus' very lip,
Of garlands bright and sparkling wine,
From which the gods might stoop to sip.
With budding horns in forehead white,
That nature meant for love and strife,
Tomorrow by thy waters pure,
A kid will sacrifice his life.*

*The weary bull, the wandering sheep,
Will find refreshment in thy stream;
In vain the Dog Star, Sirius,
Reflects on thee his blazing beam.
But with the dawn the crimson blood
Of this young creature full of grace,
Will stain thy babbling waters cool,
Which my song makes a famous place.*

MARY MACNIVEN, Class 5.

OUT OF DOORS

A STROLL IN COLZIUM

If you had been in the Lennox Estate about a month ago, you might have chanced upon a boy and a dog strolling along a leaf-strewn path. The dog raced through the evergreens flanking the path. That was when they broke cover—two beautiful roe deer, brown as the leaves beneath their dainty hooves, bounded swiftly towards the fence near the Tak-ma-doon road. The dog, hopelessly outrun by the deer, came to heel. The deer stopped as they neared the fence. Turning his head, the buck looked back. He gave a sharp bark and with one graceful leap, sailed over the fence. His doe followed. There had been three last year. Where was the third? That question was answered as a third deer headed for the fence. He had been standing in the shade of the bushes. As he jumped the fence, it could be seen that he was younger and did not take the leap so easily. After the last deer had disappeared, the boy strolled on.

A grey squirrel dashed quickly for a tree, sending the birds screeching for safety. The little dog could not pursue this new interest and had to be content with barking at it.

At the bottom of the tree the boy found two owls' pellets containing the bones of three mice. Altogether the pellets contained forty-seven bones including teeth.

By this time it was growing dark and the two companions set off for home. As they passed the fir tree, three bats fluttered eerily high in the branches. The boy and the dog moved more quickly homewards, content with their glimpse into Nature's secrets.

JAMES WYPER, Class 1A.

NESTING TIME

I write at a time of the year when a pair of keen eyes searching the heavily budded hedgerows of any country lane is almost certain to detect at least one nest. There are various types of nests, the most common including those of the blackbird, chaffinch and songthrush. By patient searching and memorising we soon learn to distinguish the eggs from one another.

From the hedgerows we can advance to more difficult discoveries if the interest still holds. Under a banking, in the root of a fallen tree, or amongst a patch of ferns we usually discover some type of nest. Perhaps it will be the fern-made dome of the wren or the ball of sedge and grass finely smoothed and feathered which represents the nest of the sedge warbler.

Hill walking is a pastime enjoyed by many people and this can be put to use in nest seeking. There are many nests of various birds concealed on the hillside to be discovered if we keep our eyes open and head down. There is no excuse for being unable to find nests for there are nests everywhere in hedgerows, on open water, on the hillside or open fields and, of course, in all types of trees. It is a clean, healthy pastime which almost anyone can take up, but we must be careful and cover up any tracks leading to the nest because there is a greater menace to eggs than "nature red in tooth and claw"—the egg collector.

JACK RUSSELL, Class 3A.

CLIMBING THE MUCKLE BIN

On a Saturday night we decided to climb to the top of the Muckle Bin, the highest hill of the Kilsyth Range.

We set off early next morning, taking the bus to Queenzieburn. The road we took from there gradually turned into a track and in the distance we, by and by, saw a small Kilsyth.

Soon we came to Johnny's-the-Dam, where we ate some of the things we had brought. Now came the most difficult part—the Bin itself. We made slow, steady progress, but on the last lap somebody suggested we race up to the top. From there, when we had caught our breath, we were able to enjoy the magnificent view.

Coming down by the more easterly route, we stopped at the Laird's Loup. I went under the waterfall there. We picked some primroses on the banks of the Garrel to press to remind us of the day we went to the Muckle Bin.

JANE PATON, Class 2F.

"THE BAIRNS ARE DAEIN' FINE"

OUR SCHOOL BADGE

Our school, Kilsyth Academy, has a badge in the shape of a circle. The background is black and the edge is embroidered in gold. At the top it has the name of our school and at the bottom the motto "*Spe expecto*", meaning "I await with hope". The circle is divided into four sections, two coloured red and the other two blue. On the left hand top corner is the Bible representing the Christian organisations of our town. On the top right hand corner are the crossed swords representing the battle in 1645. On the bottom left hand corner are the crossed shuttles representing the weaving industry in Kilsyth. On the bottom right hand corner is the miner's safety lamp representing the coal mining industry in and around Kilsyth.

JEAN HARTLEY, Class 2F.

THEY SAID IT FOR US

Room 29—

"To sleep, perchance to dream"—
Shakespeare.

Rector's Room—

"No louder shrieks to pitying heaven are cast"—*Pope.*

Staff Room (Male)—

Here where men sit and hear each other groan".—*Keats.*

Room 32—

"Where palsy shakes a few, last, sad grey hairs".—*Keats.*

The Cafe—

"Beloved of the distracted multitude—
Shakespeare.

School Soap—

"What, will these hands ne'er be clean?—
Shakespeare.

Chemistry Lab.—

"A foul and pestilent congregation of vapours".—*Shakespeare.*

School Uniform—

"Covering discretion with a coat of folly".
—*Shakespeare.*

Interval—

"Havoc, let loose the dogs of war".—
Shakespeare.

Latecomer—

"Some falsehood mingles with all truth".
—*I've forgot.*

Certain Member of Staff—

"O, villain, villain, smiling, damned villain".—*Shakespeare.*

The Highers—

"Fools can ask questions which wise men cannot answer".—*Old Proverb.*

I. DOANO, Class 5A.

THE SCHUIL

*They mak' us go against oor will
Ti' that awfu' place they cry the Schuil.
They don't treat us lik' humin bein's
You'd even think that we were demins;
An' then oor teacher gie's the belt,
The sairest thing yi' ever felt;
An a' because that wee lad telt*

*That we wur talking,
Instead o' swottin'
Fur the exams.*

*No' heedin' hoo the teachers try,
There's aye some smarties that are fly,
Who'd raither laugh an' play the truant
Than sit an lit thir life be ruin'd.
An' still there's mony a weary nicht
We're writin' lines wi' a' our micht,
Because, that day we'd hud a ficht,
Yon prefects came
An' ta'en oor name
Fur daein' wrang.*

JOHN DUNN, Class 1A.

OUR SCHOOL AQUARIUM

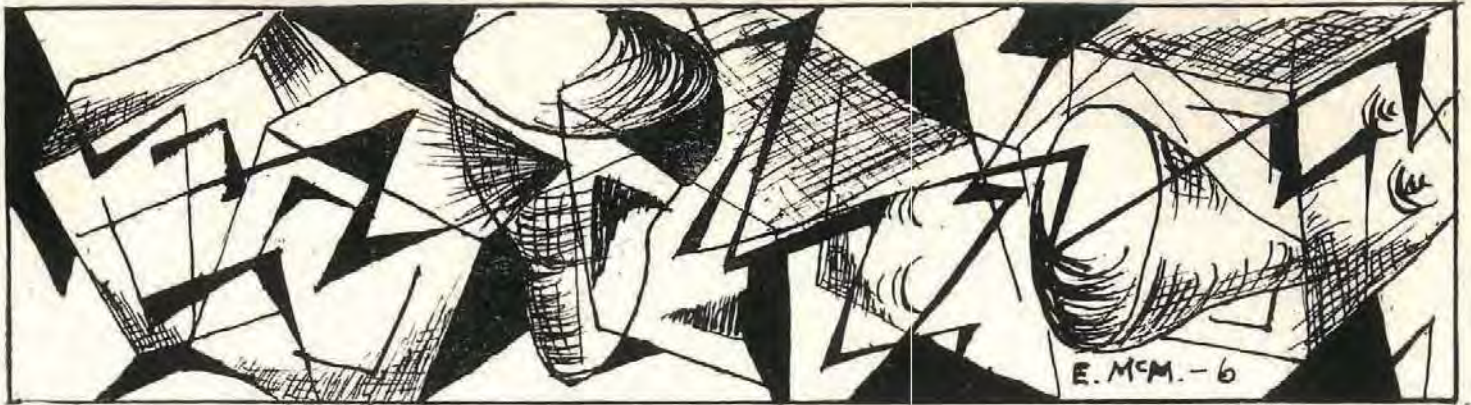
I wonder how many people know that there is an aquarium of tropical fish at the school?

The keeping of tropical fish was started in January of this year. Before this we kept cold water fish. Keeping these fish is a very interesting occupation. They have to be fed frequently, even at weekends, on a varied menu of fish food. The tank has to be kept clean at a temperature of 75°F.

We have a variety of tropical fish, some of which are very colourful and attractive, such as the zebra fish and rainbow fish; some are somewhat ugly such as the catfish, and some are rather unusual, such as the wormfish.

Our aquarium, however, depends on a constant supply of electricity and a power cut unfortunately would probably mean the death of our interesting fish.

EVELYN KIDD, Class 3A.



ELEANOR McMURRAY, Class 6A

THE GOGGLE-BOX

HOMEWORK v. THE TELLY

$x^2y^2b^2$. What does it mean? $x^2y^2b^2$ —Oh, this is a difficult problem! I gaze into the fire, falling into a deep trance and then suddenly remember the question— $x^2y^2b^2$. Yes, this is a puzzler all right!

My arm stretches over the side of the chair and "Click!" on goes Channel Ten. $x^2y^2b^2$ —you'll wonder where the yellow went—this is a difficult problem. Oh, I must remember to buy a tube of Pepsodent tomorrow— $x^2y^2b^2$ —I just can't puzzle this out—Yoo-hoo! Typhoo!—that's a good advert but it means hurry if I want to see "Wagon Train"— $x^2y^2b^2$ —I just don't understand it.

Slowly a magnetic force draws my eyes to the opposite corner of the room. Yes, it's mother. Not a word is spoken—one look is enough. Channel Ten must go.

JENNIFER JACK, Class 1B.

COWBOYS

*Cowboys, cowboys, cowboys!
And our ancestors did see
The gunsmoke and the bullets
Of the West Country,
The lowing of the cattle
As on the trail they ride,
The rolling of the waggons
As they cross the countryside,
Westward to the Rockies,
The Desert, parched for rain,
To the cities of Cimarron,
The land of rolling plain,
You can hear the ghostly bugles
As the cowboys ride again.*

MARY BLAIR, Class 2A.

HOW I GOT ON THE TELLY

*Bronco Lane had a pain,
So they sent for Wagon Train.
Wagon Train was too slow,
So they sent for Ivanhoe.
Ivanhoe couldn't get there,
So they sent for Yogi Bear.
Yogi Bear was a fake,
So they sent for Charlie Drake.
Charlie Drake was at Cologne,
So they sent for big Len Bone.
Big Len Bone was at his tea,
So at last they sent for me.*

ALISTAIR MILNE, Class 3D.

THE MET. MAN

*Who speaks of deep depressions,
Of banks of fog and snow?
Who never, never mentions
The sun? I'd like to know—
Our Met. man.*

*Who's heard of anti-cyclones,
Or wet and windy fronts
Will you concentrate on MY moans
And forget your rainy taunts?
Please, Met. man.*

*Who's studied posters painted bright
With sky and sea of blue
Or worshipped warmth and sunlight
Can I be wrong?—Not you,
My Met. man.*

MORAG MACDONALD, Class 2D.

WILD AND TAME

THE MONKEYS

*The parrots squall
And buffaloes bawl
But we, we all,
Sing and go,
Tail and toe,
Diddle-de-dee,
From tree to tree;
Scuttle in glee,
One after another,
Brother and brother
Dancing, swinging,
Falling, clinging,
You by the hand,
I by the tail,
Like boats on land,
We sail and sail
And the leaves are waves
on a green, green sea.*

IAN CAMPBELL, Class 2C.

FRISKY

*I had a lively little dog,
I called her little Frisky.
When I came home from school one day,
I found her drinking whisky.
My pet she had a little pup,
We called her Frisky, too.
But quite unlike her drunken Ma,
She just drank Irn Bru!*

JEAN MCAULAY, Class 3E.

A CORMORANT ON BANTON LOCH

I noticed this year, while walking round the loch, an unusual visitor. It was a cormorant. I was most surprised to see so far inland this big sea bird, but there it was, with its metallic greeny-brown plumage and conspicuous white patch under the chin. I confirmed what I saw with a few neighbours who had also remarked on this rather unwelcome visitor.

If I say unwelcome, it is from the anglers' point of view, for these large birds eat fourteen to twenty pounds of fish every day. Many of our local fishers would, therefore, like to see the bird depart as it takes away much of their sport. From my own point of view, I am glad to have a glimpse of this rare and beautiful bird.

DOUGLAS OLIPHANT, Class 3B.

WEIRDIES AND OOGIES

*I went down the garden,
And what should I see,
But an elephant's nest in the rhubarb tree;
And as I was watching the elephant's egg,
I stepped on a snake which had only one leg;
But when the sun rose at the end of the day,
The snake and the elephant both flew away.*

MARJORY LOCHRIE, Class 1E.

THE WILD THINGS

*We went to see the wild birds
which were singing and playing on the tree
tops.
Some were building their nests,
Because it was coming into the spring.
So busy they were,
the thrush, blackbird, wren and finch.
Below the surface of the water lay another
land,
where the fish were coming out from under
their stones
to look for food,
and the tadpoles were turning into frogs.
But the worms and insects were still fast
asleep,
For they had not realised it was spring.*

MALCOLM CALDWELL, Class 2E.

MY LITTLE BUDGERIGAR

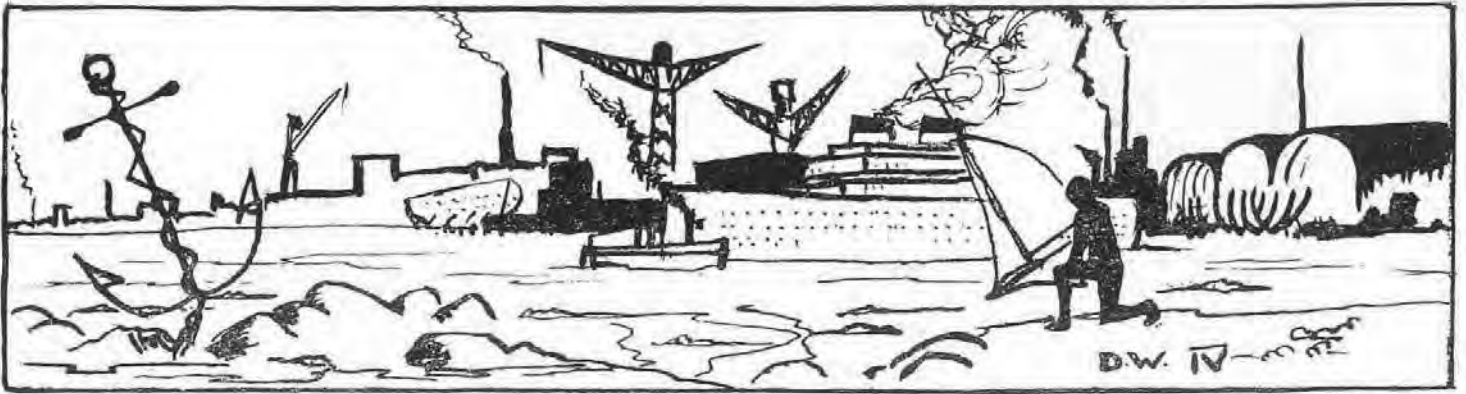
*I have a wee budgerigar,
He sits on a wooden spar.
He likes to play on his swing,
And make his silver bell ring.
He has a bath at night,
To make his feathers bright.
His eyes are blue,
His beak is brown,
He is the best bird in the town.*

ANDREW NIMMO, Class 2G.

THE LUCKY HORSE

*There was once a man from Kentucky,
Whose horse was exceedingly lucky;
For it slept in a bed,
With a sack on its head,
And its stable was not ever mucky.*

ROBERT BAMFORD, Class 1D.



DONALD WILSON, Class 4A.

DOWN TO THE SEA IN SHIPS

PROTEUS

*In the Holy Loch in Argyll,
A ship rides at anchor in style,
Stars and Stripes at its mast
And an atom Ballast,
Causes Kruschev to "fair go his mile".*

*The U.S. sailors have come to our shores,
Aby supported by their Marine Corps,
All our young girls are happy and glad,
But wish they'd brought Elvis their No. 1 lad.*

WILLIAM GRAY, Class 1C.

TRAVELLING ON A SHIP

When I go on board a ship, my heart bursting with excitement, I enjoy the hustle and bustle of people getting on board, packing luggage and taking tickets.

As the engine starts my pulse beats faster and I get that glorious feeling of moving through the water. Suddenly a flock of seagulls advances upon us, looking for titbits of bread, biscuits or sweet-meats. It is wonderful watching them glide through the air and dive for their spoil.

Drawing farther away from land, we leave the seagulls behind and meet a very cold wind right in our faces. Shoals and shoals of all types of curious fish swim alongside the boat, diving gracefully and swimming swiftly.

Seeing land again, I am overcome with a feeling of disappointment that the journey has come to an end. The engine stops, the gangway is lowered, and the people disembark. Suddenly everything is quiet; all the people have left; the ship has gone to its dock. Nothing is left but the ghostly sound of the sea.

ALEC. MCINTYRE, Class 2C.

THE WRECK

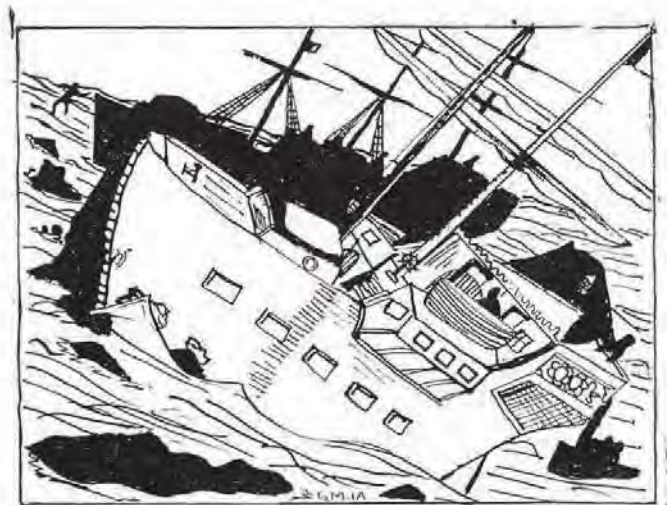
*Cargo hold, filled with gold,
Spanish galleon homeward rolled,
Dark'ning sky, seagulls cry,
Echoed as the land slid by.*

*One day out, heard a shout,
Pirates turn to go about.
Ships' high masts, quivered past,
Shaking to the cannon's blast.*

*Cannons pound galleon's frame,
Gilded masts were licked with flame,
Land drew nigh, wind rose high,
Blowing storm clouds o'er the sky.*

*Cargo hold, filled with gold,
Spanish galleon homeward rolled.
On a reef, came to grief,
Death it was that played the thief.*

GEORGE MORRISON, Class 1A.



G. MORRISON, Class 1A.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SCRIPTURE UNION

MADAM,

I should like to draw the attention of the pupils of Kilsyth Academy to our Scripture Union. Meetings take place on Monday for girls and on Tuesday for boys. At our girls' meetings, we have this year studied the work of the prophets from Samuel onwards.

Perhaps you contributed to the S.U. last year by buying some of our home-made cakes or sweets? As a result of the sale and a donation of £9 from the Debating Society we were able to send £45 to the refugees. This year we sent £7 15s. to help feed the starving Congolese children.

We have our lighter side, too. For instance at the beginning of the session the first year had their "squash", and at Christmas there was an enjoyable party for all members. For this, the boys kindly baked batches of shortbread under Miss Allan's supervision.

We owe these extras to certain members of staff whom we would like to thank heartily. Remember, everyone will be pleased to see you at the meetings if you decide to join us.

I am, etc.,

MORAG PRENTICE, Class 2A.

SCHOOL MEALS

MADAM,

I feel that when we receive good service it should now and again be acknowledged, and for that reason I should like to compliment the School Meals Staff on their efforts to provide us with good lunches.

I must honestly say I enjoy my mid-day meals and have only one small suggestion for their improvement. I may be exceptional, but I like something to drink with my food and, in fact, would gladly pay extra for this. There may be some good reason why a beverage cannot be supplied, but I must admit that, if it could, school lunch would be for me a perfect pleasure.

I am, etc.,

MORTON SHAW, Class 3A.

PROPOSED SHELTER

MADAM,

Why couldn't a glass roof be built from the extension to the main building? Then, in the summer, we could lie under it and

enjoy the heat of the "scorching" sun without burning our fair complexions. In the bleak winter days we could, as bidden, take a walk in the fresh air without feeling "the cauld blast", and the boys could play football without splashing about in puddles.

I am, etc.,

ANNE GIBSON, Class 3A.

PHILATELY CLUB

MADAM,

On February 23rd, 1961, under the direction of Miss Torrance, the librarian at Kilsyth Academy, a number of pupils interested in stamp-collecting met in the school library and decided to form a stamp club.

A constitution was drawn up and office-bearers were elected.

Since then we have had a meeting in the school library from 4 to 5 p.m. every Thursday. Members bring their albums and catalogues to compare and discuss stamps.

So far no girls have turned up, although I know there are quite a few who own stamp collections. I am sure I speak for all the members of our club when I say that we would welcome any girls interested in philately to become members of our club.

I would also like to appeal to any readers of our school magazine, former pupils included, who may have any stamps or collections, if they have no further use for or interest in them, to send them to me and I shall forward any items received to Miss Torrance for distribution among members. I am the Honorary Secretary of the club. My address is 22 Anton Crescent, Kilsyth.

I am, etc.,

PETER MCROBERTS, Class 2B.

ELECTRIC PYLONS

MADAM,

Much interest has been aroused among our school population by the erection of electric pylons immediately behind the Academy—part of a project transmitting a super-high voltage of 275,000 volts from Kincardine to Killermont Park near Glasgow. We thought we would try to satisfy their curiosity

by doing a little research into the ways and means of putting them there.

First the landowners had to give permission for erection, after which much planning and surveying had to be done.

Next the steel was brought from the Balfour Beatty depot to the pylon sites where they were bolted into sections, and hauled by powerful winches to their positions. Much heavy machinery was used to blaze a trail. The cable drums and porcelain insulators were transported by lorries from sidings to the anchor pylons. These are towers where the lines are tightened, turned in a different direction, and joined.

The cable drums were then drawn over country by a tractor-like machine, the cables lifted by "snatch-blocks", caught with a powerful magnet as they were swung towards the pylon, and secured. The hanging insulators are 20 feet long and consist of porcelain rings on a lead stalk.

Some think this method of transmission

spoils the scenery, but it seems to be the most economical way of conducting electricity.

We are, etc.,

JOHN RAE, JACK CUTHBERT, Class 3A.

PROPOSED SCHOOL ENTRANCE

MADAM,

Pupils from the old town and those from the west are well served by convenient gates and roadways to the school. But those living in the large Balmalloch scheme have either to make a wide detour, or take the route behind the football pitch. In wet weather this is full of muddy pits and is quite unsuitable for shoes.

Would it not be possible to provide a hard path between the football pitch and tennis court, linking the school and the east side of the scheme. I am sure mothers and school cleaners would be very grateful.

I am, etc.,

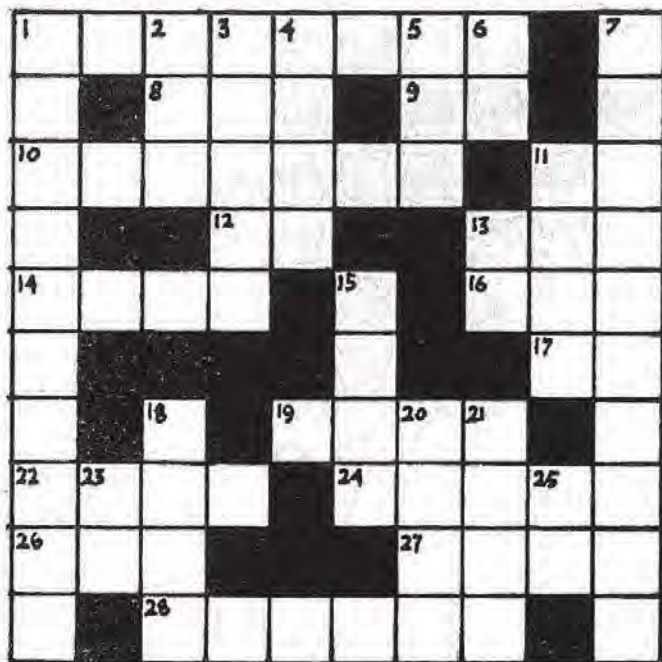
WILLIAM BAULD, Class 3B.

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8. Perceive.
9. If it had a stroke it would mean account (abr.).
10. Loosen.



Name:

11. Mother.
12. I would shortly.
13. Backward note.
14. One should hit this on the head.
16. This girl is backward in Geography.
17. Small thanks.
19. Out of.
22. Juice of the antjar tree, and a poison.
24. Separated.
26. "Are" turned round to hear.
27. Rearrange the vegetables to form this recess.
28. Are these the apples of the eyes of 1 across?

Down

1. Use this to stop bleeding.
2. Behead the girl for the beast.
3. — Rhodes—.
4. "The lowing — winds slowly o'er the lea".
5. Uncooked.
6. Degree without the B.
7. Dame's Heart (anag.).
11. Big ditch.
13. Sauce.
15. Home of the ancient Kings of Ireland.
18. David had one.
20. Orsino's mind was like one of these.
21. Cartographs.
23. Companion of 11 across.
25. It is a great honour to belong to it (abr.).

ELIZABETH PARK, Class IV_A.

Class:

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FORMER PUPILS' ASSOCIATION

Though its activities have perhaps been less in the public eye than usual during the last year, the Former Pupils' Association is still alive and continues to move quietly along its established way. It could be said that the exuberant days of its youth are now over, and that it has settled down into a steady pattern of life, content to carry on performing its useful everyday tasks.

The strongest sections have undoubtedly been the Art Section, which has had the benefit again of the skilled leadership of John Watson, and the Badminton Section, which has met twice weekly in the school gymnasium during the winter, and which has a very large membership. The Social Club has also had some very successful outings, one to an hotel in Stenhousemuir, and the others to the Plaza in Glasgow, and the small band of enthusiasts who comprise the Record Group have continued to meet and find pleasure in the harmony of the masters and the rhythm of the moderns.

We were very glad to see the Cricket Section get off to such a good start last summer under the able care of your Mr. Griffin, even although the weather was not very kind to it, and we are looking forward to seeing it in the future restore something of the cricketing glories of Kilsyth. The cricketers have shown the way. Is it too much to hope that next winter may see us with an F.P. Football Team and an F.P. Hockey Team? The answer to that question lies with the younger former pupils, and those who are about to become young former pupils. The Association would certainly give them all the help in its power.

I have one failure to report. As you know, the F.P. Association has been unable during the past few years to hold its annual re-union in the school hall, because of the ban on dancing there. This year we planned to hold a re-union dinner only in the school, but the attempt had to be abandoned because of lack of public support for such a function. This was unfortunate, but we live in hope that one day it may be possible to hold an occasion of the old sort again. I think it was Burke who said that patience achieves more than force. Of the latter, we have none, but we have plenty of patience, and we feel confident that with your support,

and I earnestly appeal to all of you to join us when you leave school, we will one day come into our own.

JAMES WHYTE, *President.*

BULLETIN

It is evident from this brief annual "Bulletin" that further study still commends itself to most of our fifth and sixth, and that is as it should be.

Marjorie Thom has embarked upon an Arts course and Robert Burns on a B.Sc. course, both at the University of Glasgow. Alan Wilson is studying Architecture and John Ferguson engineering at the Royal College of Science and Technology. Jessica Truten has gone to the University of Manchester to take a degree in Textile Technology. Alison Vaughan is a student in a London School of Art. Colin McMurray is in Quantity Surveying, Finlay Logan in Hotel Management. Robert Russell in Insurance. William Ralston has a post with the N.C.B. and William Cunningham is in the local Burgh Surveyor's office. Murielle Cameron is working in the Editorial Department of the University Press, while the Bank has been the choice of Sandra Shaw and also of James Paterson.

This month Alexander Binnie, our 1956 dux medallist, has passed his B.Sc. degree in Electrical Engineering with First Class Honours.

Last year, three of our former pupils graduated M.A. at the University of Glasgow—Harry Ashmall, Margaret Patrick and Ian Lindsay. The first two are training at Jordanhill and Ian has a post with an advertising firm in London. Frank Kidd has graduated B.Sc. and is now studying Municipal Accountancy with the Corporation of Glasgow. Jan. Morrison and Isobel Herbertson have finished their training at Jordanhill and both have teaching posts. Drew McFarlane is teaching in Galston.

We were happy to welcome to the English Department after Easter another former pupil—Mr. Douglas Kilpatrick, who graduated M.A. with Honours last year.

Greetings and good wishes to you all from pupils and staff of the ACADEMY.

Mrs. M. MAXWELL, *Lady Superintendent.*

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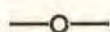
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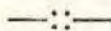


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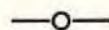
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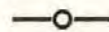
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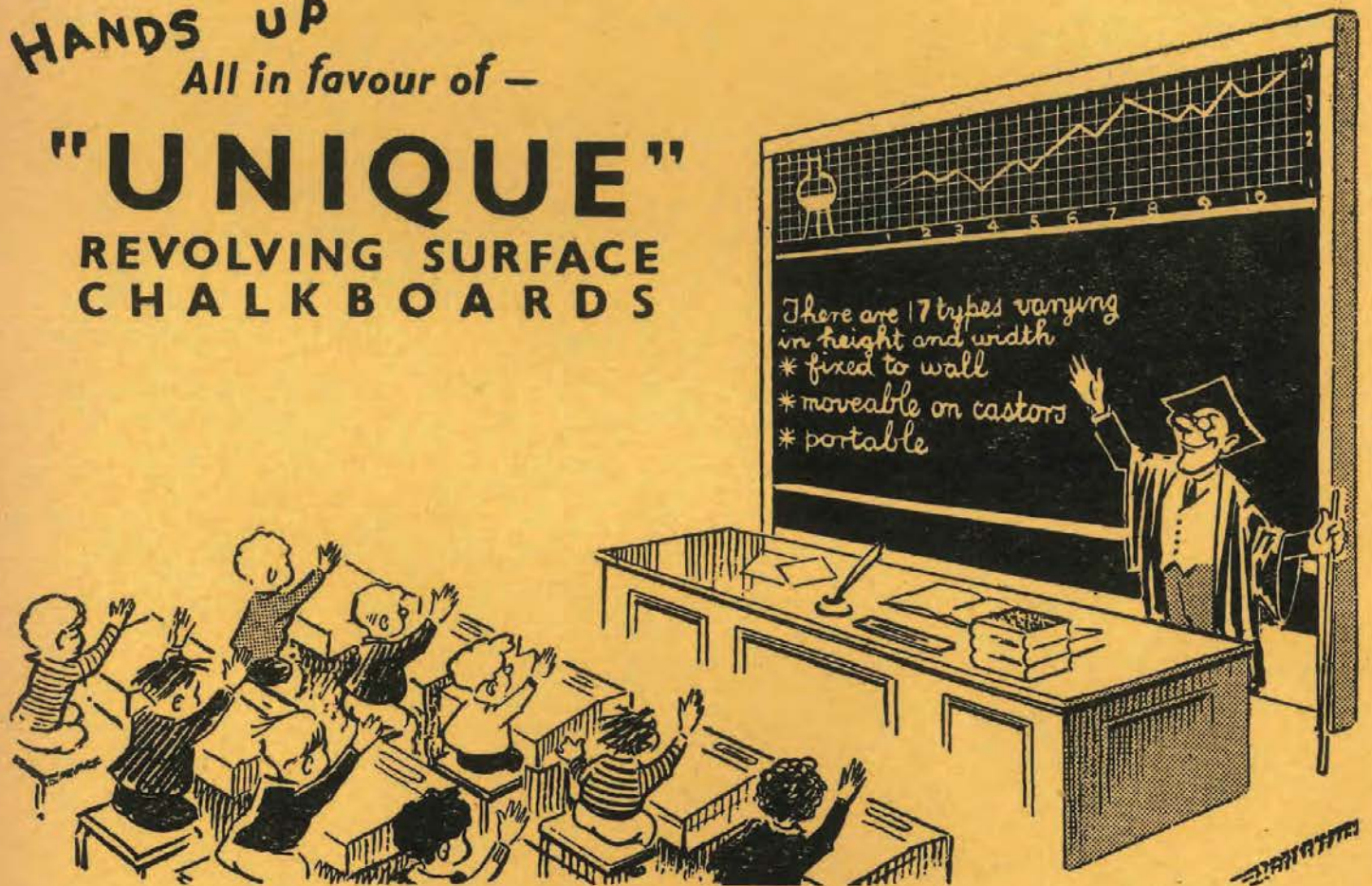
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