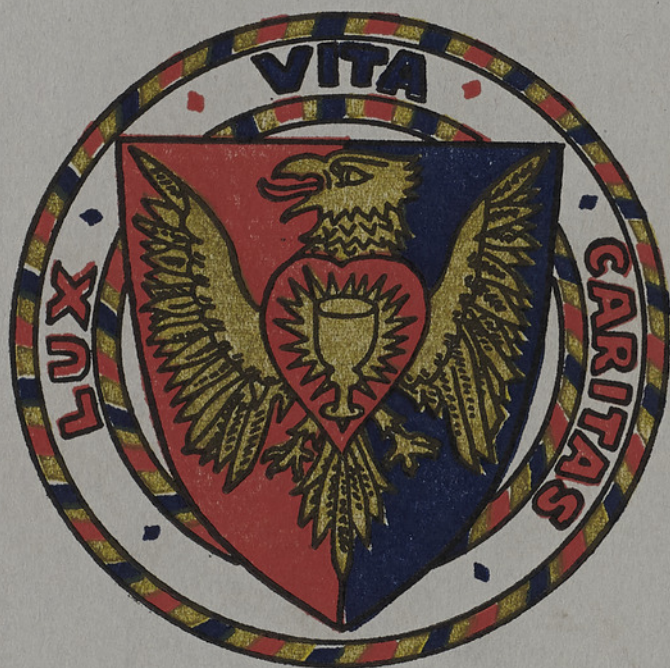


# The Johannian



VOL. 6 NO. 12

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# The Johannian

*The Magazine of St. John's College, Johannesburg.*

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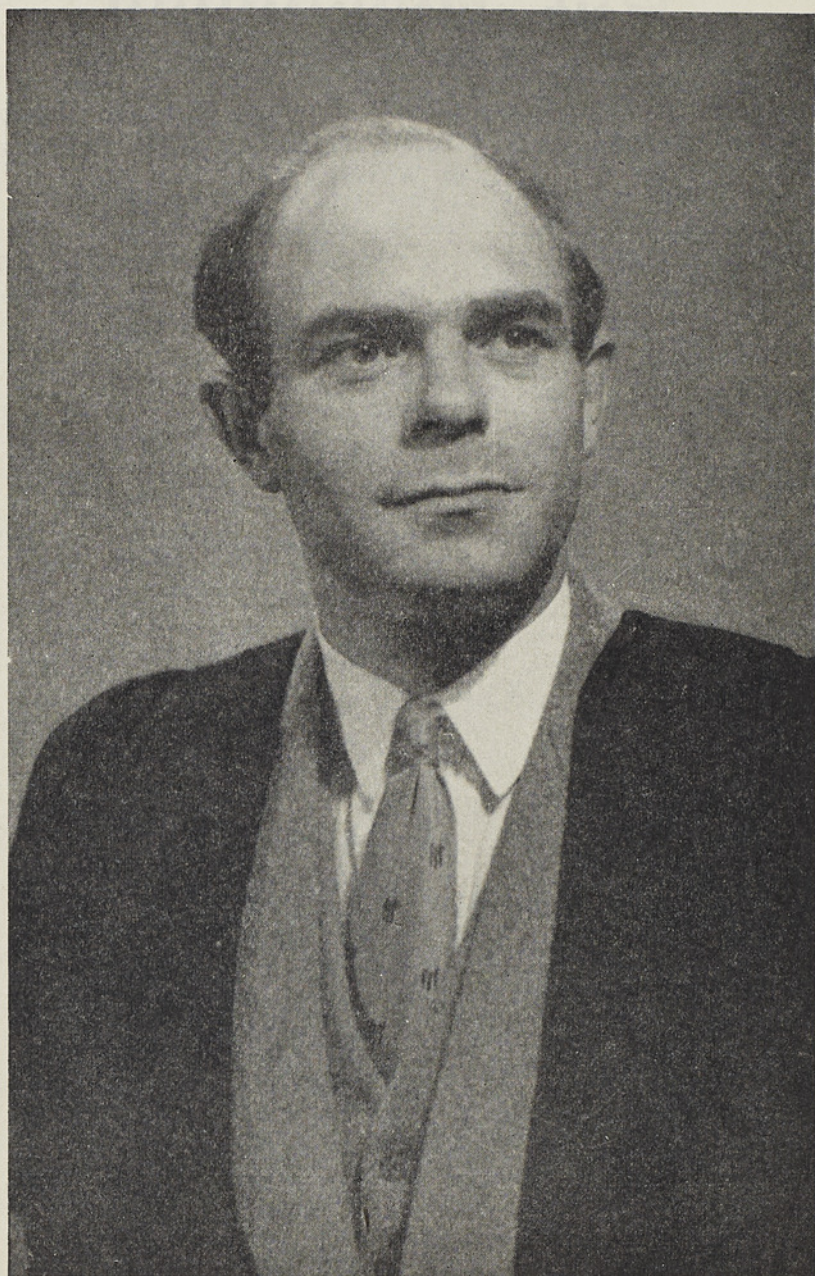
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## EDITORIAL

It is purely coincidental that this number of *The Johannian* should come at the end of a volume as well as at the end of a great era in the history of this College. On another page, an abler pen than this assesses the valuable service our retiring Headmaster has given to St. John's, but there can be no one connected with the School who does not realise that his term of office of twenty years has been one of complete dedication and high example.

A change of headmasters in a school always means a moment of uncertainty. It is a time when the whole set-up and tradition of a school are in the balance, and the school must be guided through a possibly difficult period by every means in our power. Criticism must be subordinated to encouragement and co-operation, and conservative minds must realise that the *status quo* is not necessarily to be maintained at all costs or in all respects.

When the Community of the Resurrection withdrew from St. John's College at the end of 1934, some people may have feared for the future of the School. Such fears were quite unfounded. Those who can look back over the last twenty years know how greatly during that time this College has grown both in fame and stature. Today again both masters and boys look to the future with high confidence in continued prosperity.

## MESSAGE FROM THE NEW HEADMASTER

Printer's requirements, in conjunction with the laws of time and space, must conspire to make my first contribution to *The Johannian* a meagre one. As this is written, my departure from London is imminent, but not yet a reality: St. John's has yet to be seen. For this reason, any remarks of mine about the School could have little worth or value. Indeed, to contribute anything which savoured of the particular would be impertinent, and it would perhaps be foolish to speak in general terms. Although I am a schoolmaster, I am not yet a South African schoolmaster.

Yet there is one topic on which I feel I can write even now with confidence, for it is common ground. In schools of this particular nature and constitution there are many varying traditions and practices, but there is one ideal which they have in common, and which is rooted in the very core of their existence. It is no accident that the centre of their life, around which all else revolves, is designed to be neither the library, nor the laboratory, nor the games field, nor (alas, for many) the tuckshop, but rather the Chapel. Of course, all these other places have their part to play, and an important one too (tuckshop included!), but what is derived or not derived from the one will influence what is derived from all the others. It is a great joy to know the rich traditions of which St. John's can boast in this respect. Many schools may have had a longer life, but few



can justly claim a greater heritage. It is a great privilege for me to try and maintain and foster this tradition in the service to which I have been called.

Finally, I should like to conclude on a more personal note. My wife and I have been astonished by the number of letters of welcome from so many people connected with St. John's—not only from those in positions of authority in the School, but also from Old Boys, parents, and friends of the School. To them all may I once again express our sincere thanks?

D. YATES.  
August, 1954.

### SCHOOL NOTES

New Appointments :

School Prefect : D. O. Nothard.

House Prefects :

J. F. A. M. Knight (Nash).

C. G. Cook (Thomson).

By the time these Notes appear, Mr. and Mrs. Yates will have been with us about a month. We wish them every happiness and success at St. John's.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Manby on the birth of their son.

The School now has a very efficient water-spray system for both cricket fields. The surfaces of these fields will thus be greatly improved for that sport.

The old diving-board has been replaced by an orthodox Olympic 1-metre springboard. This, it is hoped, will promote interest in diving, and also improve the standard.

The gardens are taking on a completely new appearance, thanks to the untiring efforts of Mr. van Wyk, aided enthusiastically by Mrs. Palmer.

An expert has given the tower clock a thorough overhaul, and it now keeps very good time. Mr. Jarvis sees to the winding, oiling, and minor adjustments.

Both Big School and Gate House have recently been painted, and various types of paint have been tested in the swimming bath for durability.

At an informal ceremony in Big School at the end of last term the retiring Headmaster was presented by the Head of the School, on behalf of the staff and boys of College and Prep., with a painting by W. H. Coetzer of the Sentinel Peak in the Drakensberg, an album of photographs of the School, a stole, and a cheque which the recipient was asked to spend on books.

### THE RETIREMENT OF MR. CLARKE

The Reverend S. H. Clarke became Headmaster of St. John's College in January, 1935. He has thus held the post longer than any of his predecessors. Moreover, he was the first



of our headmasters who was not drawn from the ranks of the Community of the Resurrection; what had been their collective responsibility became the headmaster's personally. These two facts alone would suffice to make his term of office noteworthy in the history of the School.

Behind him, when he entered upon his task, Mr. Clarke had a brilliant academic record at Cambridge and many years' experience as assistant master and chaplain at Tonbridge School. The years were to prove that he possessed two qualities indispensable in a headmaster—a firm grasp of the theory and practice of education, and a real flair for administration. Perhaps more noteworthy, and more characteristic of Mr. Clarke himself, has been his tireless devotion to his task. The cliché, "he gave the best years of his life," can hardly be bettered as a description of Mr. Clarke's relationship to St. John's. It is significant that during his reign of all but twenty years—which covered the anxieties of the difficult war and post-war periods—he only took long leave twice. All his activity has centred in the School, all his abilities have been exercised in its service, to the virtual exclusion of any outside interests.

He has always set himself the highest standards, and has demanded that the same high standards be aimed at by staff and boys alike. For the School only the best has been good enough; and if at times he has offended or hurt parents or masters in the execution of his plans, his actions have always been primarily prompted by his love of the School and his jealousy for its welfare and good name. This jealousy has added to the burden of his office by making him reluctant to delegate any part of his task which he felt he could perform better himself.

Mr. Clarke's love for the School has shown itself in a wide range of activities. He has never shirked hard work; in fact, he is clearly fond of teaching, and has spent many more hours in the classroom than most headmasters. As a mathematical specialist himself, he might have looked askance at, or at best accorded a minimum of tolerance to, other subjects. Mr. Clarke, on the contrary, has constantly stressed in both public and private utterances his belief in the necessity for the education of the whole man, and in the part that the Humanities must play in that education.

Mr. Clarke may be said to have put St. John's on the educational map of South Africa. Twenty years ago the College was very much a junior brother among its sister schools; today the general standard is at least as good as, if not higher than, theirs, and this is reflected in examination results. Our headmaster, while insistent on the highest possible standard of achievement in Matriculation, has always demanded recognition of the rightful place of the Sixth Form in the life of the School. In removing the J.C. examination from the curriculum—in which Mr. Clarke gave a lead subsequently followed by other schools—he exemplified his opposition to examinations as a fetish.



Mr. Clarke has always shown a keen and practical interest in the games of the School. Until very recent years he himself coached both Rugby and cricket.

Outside these walls, Mr. Clarke was for many years a member, and at one time chairman, of the Joint Matriculation Board. Other schools besides his own have reason to be grateful to him for his assiduous work in this capacity to ensure the maintenance and improvement of the educational standards and ideals embodied in the examinations. He has always been aware of the importance of maintaining friendly relations with the Transvaal Education Department, but without yielding to officialdom on any matter which he felt to be outside its jurisdiction.

St. John's is, however, first and last a Church school. It is not least because this essential characteristic has been preserved under Mr. Clarke's régime that he hands over St. John's as, in every sense of the words, a "going concern" to his successor.

*We append the essence of a speech, embodying many of his ideas and ideals, and delivered by Mr. Clarke in Big School at a farewell "At Home" which he gave to St. John's parents on 18th September:*

When I came to consider what form my farewell to parents should take, I decided that it would be most suitable if I could have the initiative. I have always been a little unhappy at such functions—probably most of us have been present when a speaker has regarded it as his duty to paint in fantastically glowing colours the work and character of the man who was retiring and to express deep sorrow at his departure. Meanwhile, however, the listeners were thinking: "Yes, he's a nice enough old thing" or "He's done some good work, but it's really quite time he left." So I thought I would save you from that embarrassing experience today by making the only speech which is to be made.

I have been here almost twenty years and it is time that there was a change. I have always regarded fifteen years as the ideal period for the rule of a headmaster; it is long enough for him to make effective any ideas and ideals which are workable, short enough for him not to "settle on his lees" in the complacency which is one of the commonest occupational diseases of headmasters. In case any of you is tempted to think I am leaving St. John's too soon, let me say at once that the loss of my going too soon is not so serious as the risk of my reaching the stage when "everyone knows the poor old thing ought to go, but no one has the heart to tell him!"

I hope that I have not quite got to that stage—though you would have seen signs of its arriving if you had seen me attempting on a recent holiday to get over a barbed-wire fence. When I did finally get on to the top of it, preparatory to getting over, the fence collapsed under my weight!

Seriously, I am glad that I was able to stay at St. John's long enough to solve most of the problems which resulted from



the war; but now that things are going well, I am very conscious that I should go.

St. John's is going well; in many respects, we are indeed on the crest of a wave. I am delighted that some at least of the ideals which I had for St. John's twenty years ago have been realised. I can, I think, say truthfully that St. John's is a school where boys really do try—that in schoolwork, in games, in the various other activities, a very large proportion of boys do their very best. On every recent Speech Day, I have commented on the number of boys of only mediocre ability who do manage to get Second Classes in Matriculation—simply because they work. Matriculation results are not everything, but our results do compare well with those of any school in the country—it is primarily the result of hard work, in co-operation, by staff and boys. And our best boys do very well indeed. A few months ago the Head of an Oxford College left for another post; he took the trouble to write to me and express his appreciation of the quality of the half-dozen boys from St. John's who had gone to that College during the past few years: they compared very well with the best boys from the best-known English schools.

Most of the credit is not really mine. It should go to the teaching staff. Sometimes a headmaster is in danger of over-estimating the part which he plays in the scheme of things. You know the pleasant story of President Paul Kruger when someone approached him to ask for a job for a son in the Republican service. The President replied (according to legend): "It's rather difficult. Your son is much too stupid for a clerk. I'd make him Head of a Department, but the Headships of Departments are all full." Like so many of Kruger's sayings there is an element of truth underneath. And I have high authority—no less than that of His Honour the Administrator of the Transvaal—for applying it to headmasters. It seems in line with the cynical saying of an acquaintance of mine—quoting an epigram of Bernard Shaw: "Those who can, do; those who can't do, teach." My acquaintance added: "Those who can't teach, become headmasters."

It was a very famous English headmaster who once said in an after-dinner speech that the necessary qualifications for a successful headmaster are "a capacity for business, social ease even to the point of agility and a flair for making an impression in public." The speech was, however, made after a very good dinner, and it may not entirely represent the speaker's considered—I had almost said "sober"—point of view of what is really necessary!

Seriously, however, I must put on record that the real achievements of the past twenty years have essentially been due to the staff. No headmaster has, I am sure, been more energetically backed up by the assistant masters and mistresses, both in the College and in the Preparatory School. I have never found it necessary to encourage them to do more work; my difficulty has been to prevent them from demanding too much



time for their activities from the unfortunate boys. We have built up here a really remarkable tradition of service on the part of the staff, and to them the very real success of St. John's is due.

Next, I must express my gratitude to parents for their very real readiness to co-operate with me in enforcing school rules and regulations. It has been said that while headmasters talk glibly about parent-teacher co-operation, the word co-operation to the headmaster invariably means that the parent is to do exactly what the headmaster wants. Probably that is what I really understand by the word, and I am extremely grateful to the many parents who have always co-operated in that way.

I am afraid that very often my decisions have caused inconvenience and sometimes distress to parents. Here I can only plead that I have always tried to consider the best interests of the school as a whole, and that in so doing I have never lost sight of the need of the individual boy. But a school can only be run by having rules and regulations—and rules and regulations must be enforced. "Hard cases make bad law." It always interested me that boys usually understood my decisions—parents were sometimes harder to convince. Inevitably the majority of parents' requests must be refused. You remember the description of two American generals: Marshall never understood the situation and always said "Yes"; Lee always understood the situation and always said "No." The headmaster's business is always to understand the situation; and I suspect that his answer nearly always ought to be "No."

I recognise that I have not always been as accessible to parents as some people would have liked; I have almost always refused invitations; for weeks at a time I never left the premises; my Secretary had instructions to keep people "at bay" if she possibly could. But I'm quite unrepentant about it—by that means I did find time to do a great deal of teaching and, until quite recently, a great deal of coaching of games, and I suspect that that contributed far more to the welfare of the School than my being a kind of "public relations officer."

What of the future of St. John's, and of private schools in general? On a long term view it is extremely difficult to say. I see certain very grave dangers.

First of all there is the attitude of the Government and its supporters. Whether or not the Nationalists have a long-term policy to destroy the private schools, I do not know; your guess is as good as mine about the distant future. I am, however, fairly certain that they have no intention of trying to destroy completely the private schools within, say, twenty-five years; if the private schools in the Transvaal shut down, at least £1,000,000 a year would be necessary to educate the 25,000 children for whom places would have to be found in Government schools. I do not see any Government finding that money at the moment. But what is more serious is this: they may by one regulation and another put pressure on us to become what they call "South African," making it difficult for us to recruit staff from overseas,



restricting our freedom in curriculum and syllabuses, interfering in a hundred trivial details. The Consolidating Ordinance on Education, which became operative at 1st January this year, does give the Director of Education tremendous powers, if he wishes to use them—regardless of whether we take a Departmental grant or not. This is, I believe, the real danger and against it there is no 100 per cent. secure defence. We can only go on quietly and calmly, trusting that the contribution we make to the educational system of the country will not be finally thrown away.

Perhaps, as some English Conservative politician said eighty years ago of the up-rising working classes: "We must educate our masters." Possibly in some ways that process has already begun. Part of the trouble, however, is that we have not only to fear the anti-British policies of the Government but the bureaucracy of the Education Department; and the bureaucrat may be a greater menace than the Nationalist.

There is an immediate danger—that schools like St. John's will not be able to make ends meet. Costs are increasing at a fantastic rate; our fees are going up too. This again is not only true of South African schools; at the English school I know best, the day-boy fees now are almost as high as the boarder fees of twenty years ago; and though that particular school has £30,000 a year endowment, its fees are a great deal higher than those of St. John's. And the experience of the African Mission schools shows what may easily happen if we let our financial solvency become dependent on Government aid.

Further increases of teaching staff salaries are long overdue; it is a little difficult for the schoolmaster of, say, fifteen years' experience to face calmly the fact that not very satisfactory boys who left school two years ago are earning as much as he is. A schoolmaster knows when he enters the profession that he will always be a poor man, but the poverty of the schoolmaster is nowadays sometimes almost intolerable. And teaching staff salaries can only be appreciably increased if fees go up to considerably higher levels. Parents are having to learn what many middle-class parents in England knew fifty years ago: that a good education of the St. John's type for their children is a privilege for which they must really be prepared to pay heavily—and to pay, possibly, by doing without many of the luxuries which are regarded by many people in Johannesburg as necessities of life. In England and still more in Scotland fifty years ago, parents with only £400 a year often had to pay school fees for two or three children at the same time. It is true that £400 a year went further then than it does now, but the real point is that parents then did really value education and that they were prepared to make very great sacrifices to send their children to really good schools. I realise that many parents here are making such sacrifices and I congratulate them and sympathise with their difficulties at this time.



There is a still more serious cause for alarm: our increasing difficulty in obtaining teaching staff. You have read the Press laments about the shortage of schoolmasters in South Africa; we have not felt that seriously yet because in the past we have been able to recruit from Great Britain. That is, however, becoming less and less easy, partly because there is a shortage of schoolmasters overseas, partly because, with the development of secondary education in Britain, there are more attractive openings in both English and Scottish schools, and partly because, for obvious reasons, men are less willing than they were a generation ago to settle in South Africa. Hitherto at St. John's we have always managed to fill our vacancies, but in recent appointments we have, I feel, been very lucky; for several recent vacancies there was only one good candidate—fortunately there has always been one. I am not saying that the position is impossible, but I do think we are like a mountaineer on a knife-edge of rock where a slip means disaster. I am not suggesting that we should give up our climb and retreat; I am only suggesting that we have to go ahead with extreme caution and that if we are careful the dangerous arête can be climbed.

Extreme caution, yes. An unfortunate controversy such as other schools have known; a rashly-conceived programme of building expansion, resulting in a big debt; a sharp drop in the number of boys—and very easily St. John's could go "over the edge." We must never forget that St. John's hasn't the endowments which enabled the English schools to weather their slump in the middle of the years of war.

Please do not misunderstand me: St. John's must live by faith. So it has done always. Faith built the school, and faith will preserve it. In spite of my warnings, I look to the future in hope. But we have to preserve a tremendously high standard; unless we can truthfully claim that in actual attainments—work, games, cultural activities and the like—St. John's is the equal of the best schools in the country, there is no case for our existence at all. Moreover, the real reason for the existence of St. John's lies still deeper: it is that we are a Church School, sending out generation after generation of boys into the life of South Africa, who should be imbued with a real liberal spirit and possessed by a consuming desire to serve their generation.

I do not wish to talk politics, but it is clear that one of the reasons why the Nationalist Government has so strong a hold is that so few English-speaking people in South Africa have any deep Christian conviction by which alone can be countered the deeply-rooted convictions of the Nationalist. The private schools at least should send out men and women who, for example, are on fire with the belief that a nation can only be great if it is built on a basis of righteousness and equality of opportunity between man and man.

The English public school of sixty years ago did send out hundreds and hundreds of men who were what Arnold of Rugby called "Christian gentlemen," men who became the Clergy, the



schoolmasters, the Colonial administrators, the social workers, the civil servants, the missionary doctors and the like—men who in spite of many failures did on the whole try to maintain the ideal expressed by Our Lord Jesus Christ in the words: "The Son of Man came not to be ministered unto but to minister . . . I am among you as He that serveth."

It is the failure of St. John's in this respect which does rather depress and discourage me. In its fifty-odd years of history, St. John's has sent out some men who have made that Christian ideal their own—though they haven't necessarily talked about it a great deal—but alas, they are very few. And so often when a boy leaves school with a Christian ideal of service, the combined influences of home and friends very quickly provide a corrosive acid which dissolves the ideal he had.

Again and again, for example, people talk of the shortage of English-speaking schoolmasters; newspaper articles suggest that the explanation is the inadequacy of salaries. They can't see the real reason—the real reason is the disappearance of the spirit of service which is the by-product of Christian faith. And St. John's, which should have got across this ideal to literally thousands of men in the last fifty years, has very largely failed. I am not going to elaborate my point: until this ideal has been got across, a Church School is not fulfilling its real function.

During the past twenty years St. John's has reached a high level in attainment; I hope that in the next twenty years it will show an equally great development in its underlying character and quality. Please don't misunderstand me. You cannot have a school with high character and quality without its having a high standard of discipline and attainment, but discipline and attainment in work and games are not enough. When I first spoke to the boys at St. John's almost twenty years ago, I reminded them of the saying that "the good is the enemy of the best." The saying is still true and still very relevant at St. John's today.

And so my time at St. John's comes to an end. Many of you have been kind enough to say that you are sorry; I am doubtful whether your sons all share your regrets. I feel that I should like to emulate the ancient Roman Emperor—I cannot remember who it was—who ordered that while he was being buried, 600 slaves were to be put to death, "in order," he said, "that there may be some real grief at my funeral." If you hear, next week, that I have urged Mr. Yates to begin by doubling the school hours or abolishing the tuckshop, you will understand the reason.

Obviously I am sorry in many ways to be leaving, but for many reasons I am looking forward with great joy to next year, to being an assistant master at Bishops. I hope that I shall not be disillusioned; ex-headmasters often cannot keep their forms in order! I hope therefore that Bishops boys will not put drawing-pins in my chair or mice down my neck!

I am tremendously grateful to all parents for their confidence in sending boys to St. John's and, as I have implied, for



their real readiness to accept unpopular decisions and for their readiness so often to accept advice. I am most grateful to many parents for the extremely kind things they have said to me in recent weeks.

Of the staff I have already spoken. To the Council, and especially to its successive Chairman, I owe so much—and the School owes so much—for their never-failing energy, their invariable courtesy and their continued readiness to find means of obtaining whatever I wanted in the way of buildings and equipment for the School. To the successive Chairmen of the Council I personally am indebted for much kindly advice, and I am especially grateful that that advice was always coupled with a resolute refusal to encroach on the Headmaster's ground. Good relations between the Council and the Headmaster are so important in a school; and St. John's has indeed been so much more fortunate than many schools in recent years!

Finally I must put on record my intense gratitude to His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Cape Town, then Bishop of Johannesburg, for his asking me to undertake the charge of this school and then asking me again after I had refused his invitation; to the late Reverend Father Keble Talbot, then Superior of the Community of the Resurrection, who persuaded me to reconsider my refusal to come here; and above and beyond all, I give thanks to God Almighty for all that has been done here, and I pray that He will continue to prosper St. John's College in days to come.

### CHAPEL NOTES

During the last two terms we have had several visiting preachers at Solemn Evensong. In the Easter Term, Fr. Speight, C.R., the Rev. G. A. ffrench-Beytagh, newly appointed Dean of Salisbury Cathedral, and Canon Walls, Rector of Yeoville, came. In the Trinity Term we had the Dean of Johannesburg and the Rev. Howard Palmer of Germiston.

Since the last issue of *The Johannian* we have had a memorial service to the late Walter Webber, who was for a long time a member of the Council. His obituary appears elsewhere in the magazine.

The long-awaited new edition of the South African Prayer Book is now in the Chapel and the choir are enjoying the use of new plainsong psalters; the old kneelers have been replaced by ones of sponge-rubber.

Mr. Iverson is hard at work coaching the choir in preparation for the Carols at the end of the term. They will be sung on Sunday, December 5th and Thursday, December 9th in the School Chapel, and on Tuesday, December 7th in the Cathedral.

L. H. Fleming, Esq., the present school architect, has presented a panel in memory of his late father, Frank Fleming. The latter succeeded Sir Herbert Baker as architect; "the credit for the buildings of St. John's as they stand today must go to Frank Fleming."



## LIBRARY NOTES

H. R. K. Gibson and D. M. Kinghorn have been appointed Assistant Librarians.

We are very grateful for the immense amount of work done in recent months by A. H. Parnell, who has spent many hours on light repairs to books whose condition is not quite bad enough to warrant their being sent to the binders, as well as on the making of a new Library Plan.

Mr. Clarke very kindly left us a large number of books from his personal library. Covering a wide range of subjects, these volumes are much appreciated.

## CADETS

### Musketry

The Detachment has been entered again this year for the Imperial Challenge Shield competition, and there has been a satisfactory improvement on the standard gained last year. Owing to the regrettable dilatoriness of the Defence authorities, confirmation of last year's results and badges has not yet been received, to the natural disappointment of those who competed.

The unconfirmed results for last year and the current year are as follows:

	Nominal	No. of marks- men to count for I.C.S.	Badges gained	Medals gained	Average score for Detachment
	roll				
1953 ....	321	160	98	2	88
1954 ....	333	166	110	5	89.3

Nash House repeated their remarkable performance of last year in winning all four musketry trophies.

Inter-House Musketry results (based on the I.C.S.) are as follows:

Paddon Shield (best 50 per cent. of seniors in each House): 1st, Nash (92); 2nd, Thomson (88.25); 3rd, Hill (87.93); 4th, Alston (86.29).

Shimwell Shield (best 50 per cent. of juniors in each House): 1st, Nash (82.42); 2nd, Hill (80.53); 3rd, Alston (74.13); 4th, Thomson (71.77).

King Cup (team of four senior marksmen): 1st, Nash (Thomas, P. E. 99; Armstrong 98; Brakenridge, J. 98; Lindsay 97). Total, 392. 2nd, Hill (Hartley 96; Featherstone 95; Heggie 94; Hawarden 93). Total, 378. 3rd, Thomson (Heyns 97; Formby 94; Babb 93; Newman and Brayshaw, P. 92). Total, 376. 4th, Alston (De Bruijn 91; Gibbard 91; Orpen 90; Wheal 90). Total, 362.

Moses Cup (team of four junior marksmen): 1st, Nash (Foot 95; Driver 95; Firman 93; Gass and Van Niekerk 92). Total 375. 2nd, Hill (Newth 92; Milne 90; Stevens 88; Dickson



and Gardner, J. 85). Total, 355. 3rd, Alston (Callie 88; Boa 87; Bulloch 85; Tucker 84). Total, 344. 4th, Thomson (Collins 90; Rice 84; Langdon 81; Watkins-Ball and Browne, C. 79). Total, 334.

Points awarded:

	Nash	Hill	Thomson	Alston
Paddon Shield	12	6	9	3
Shimwell Shield	12	9	3	6
King Cup	4	3	2	1
Moses Cup	4	3	1	2
Totals	32	21	15	12

It is interesting to refer to the Musketry Notes from *The Johannian* of November, 1950, which end with the sentence:

"If shooting is to be taken seriously in future, it will be necessary to select small teams of promising shots and practise them more frequently over a short period, rather than to try to enable every Cadet to fire ten rounds three or four times a term."

The progress made since then will be appreciated by the fact that under the present organization, not only does every Cadet shoot, and shoot twenty rounds each time, but the majority shoot more frequently than three or four times a term.

Once again the Detachment owes a very real debt of gratitude to Mr. W. J. Burger for his energy and enthusiasm, and for the tremendous amount of work that he has devoted to the musketry programme.

### Ceremonial Parade

On 24th April, the Witwatersrand Rifles were accorded the Freedom of the City of Johannesburg. This honour completed a distinction unique to a South African Regiment, in that the Regiment was accorded the Freedom of the City of Germiston in 1953. The Detachment extends its warmest congratulations to the Regiment.

The Detachment was honoured by the Regiment in being invited to send a Platoon to participate in the Ceremonial Parade at the City Hall, and we were represented by a Platoon under the command of the S.S.O., 2nd Lieut. Hornby. The following is an extract from the Wit. Rifles Newsletter:

"Reverting to Wits. Week, I'd like to let you know about the Cadet Detachments that paraded with the Battalion. Both are affiliated to the Wits and both put up a most creditable showing—they are St. John's College and Germiston High School. Their bearing and precision of movement were really terrific and well worth seeing. Captain Huggett, who looks after the training of the St. John's Cadets, was present and I'm sure that both he and the O.C. Germiston High were mighty proud of their chaps' turn-out."



### **Witwatersrand Command Band Competition**

The Competition was held at Wembley Stadium on the 25th August. Thirty bands competed, and there was a marked improvement in the general standard of performance. In consequence the Band is to be warmly congratulated on putting up what is probably its best performance to date in being placed fourth by a narrow margin. The Band put in a great deal of hard work, and full credit for the high standard of efficiency displayed is due to the enthusiasm and unsparing efforts of Drum Major D. H. Orr. The Band is greatly indebted to Lieut. Waterworth of the Witwatersrand Rifles for the time he has devoted towards helping to train it throughout the year.

### **Annual Inspection and Allen Cup Competition**

After a lapse of many years, a colourful feature was re-introduced in this year's March Past—the carrying of the Colours. The Parade was held on Saturday, 25th September, and the Detachment was inspected by Colonel the Honourable C. F. Stallard, D.S.O., M.C., E.D., Q.C., Honorary Colonel of the Witwatersrand Rifles. A team of judges under Commandant C. J. R. Nicholls, Officer Commanding Witwatersrand Rifles, adjudicated in the various competitions. We are very grateful to them for their continued interest in the Detachment.

The Artillery display with four twenty-five pounder guns immediately after the March Past and the Band display after the tea interval were efficient and spectacular, and both received well-merited applause for an excellent performance.

The results of the competitions were as follows:

Smartest N.C.O.: 1st, Sgt. Walker (Hill); 2nd, Cpl. Moreny (Alston); 3rd, Sgt. Matthews (Nash); 4th, Cpl. Gettliffe (Thomson).

Smartest Cadet: 1st, Cdt. van Belkum (Hill); 2nd, Cdt. Collins (Thomson); 3rd, Cdts. Engels (Nash) and Green (Alston).

Smartest Recruit: 1st, Cdt. Shimwell (Alston); 2nd, Cdt. Alexander (Nash); 3rd, Cdts. Stevens (Hill), Rademeyer (Thomson) and Marklew (Alston).

Best Solo Bugler: 1st, Sgt. de Bruijn; runner-up, Bgl. Maj. Martin.

Best Solo Drummer: 1st, Sgt. Heggie; runner-up, Cpl. Shinn.

Junior Solo Bugler: Tie between Cdts. R. Durward and G. Gresty.

Junior Solo Drummer: 1st, Cdt. Ludeman.

Paterson Cup for House Team of 4 Buglers: winners, Alston Team.

### **Drill Competition:**

Senior House Platoon Trophy (possible 120 marks): 1st, Nash, 89.25 marks; 2nd, Hill, 88.25 marks; 3rd, Thomson, 86.9 marks; 4th, Alston, 86.4 marks.



Junior (Recruit) House Platoon Trophy (possible 90 marks): 1st, Hill, 62.5 marks; 2nd, Nash, 61.5 marks; 3rd, Thomson, 54.25 marks; 4th, Alston, 50.75 marks.

Final Points for the Allen Cup: 1st, Nash, 79.15 points; 2nd, Hill, 69.45 points; 3rd, Thomson, 42.25 points; 4th, Alston, 30.75 points.

After the results had been announced, the O.C., Captain Huggett, thanked Colonel Stallard for inspecting the Detachment and congratulated the Witwatersrand Rifles on being accorded the Freedom of the City of Johannesburg.

Colonel Stallard then addressed the Parade. He congratulated the Detachment on its smart turn-out, saying that every Cadet had obviously put his best into it. A good turn-out sustains one in time of need; a Unit which is outstanding on the Parade Ground is outstanding in times of danger or distress. That is the real value of "spit and polish." The highest ideal in life is not to make it one's object to grab for oneself, but to set duty above reward. The old idea of duty is as potent today as ever—to serve God and honour the Queen.

The Parade concluded with Retreat.

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### WALTER SOLOMON WEBBER

At the age of 89, Mr. Walter Webber died at his home on Tuesday, May 25th. His death perhaps ends the final chapter of the first volume of the history of St. John's, for he was a member (and for the greater part of the time Chairman) of the Council throughout the period of the School's greatest development.

He was born at Bedford in the Cape Province and educated at the old South African College, going in due course to Trinity Hall, Cambridge. After he had obtained his degree, he returned to South Africa and was admitted to the Bar; later he practised at the Side-Bar. For five years he was South African Party member of Parliament for Troyeville, but in the 1924 general election he was defeated and returned to Johannesburg, where he became a director of several mining and financial companies. He took part in numerous charitable and social activities, was chairman of the Witwatersrand Agricultural Society and, in particular, took a keen interest in the Bantu Men's Social Centre.

We inevitably think most of his work on behalf of St. John's. He joined the Council in 1915 and was elected Chairman in 1921. Owing to his Parliamentary duties, he resigned in 1921, but returned in 1924 and continued as Chairman until 1939, when he felt that he could no longer carry the heavy burden of the Chairman's position. He remained, however, an active member of the Council until failing health precluded him from taking any part in our affairs, and then he was appointed an Honorary Life Member of the Council.



What his Chairmanship meant for St. John's is indicated by the fact that during that time £103,000 was spent on buildings, a sum corresponding, of course, to almost three times that amount today. The Chapel, the Darragh Hall, the Laboratories, the Tower, the whole of the North front of the College; the David Quadrangle, at least half the Preparatory School, the first masters' houses and the day-boy houses were all completed.

He used to tell of his first impressions on arriving, as an undergraduate, in England and seeing the English Schools and Universities, far surpassing in beauty and grandeur anything which he could have imagined from his experience in South Africa—especially the South Africa of sixty-five years ago. This experience gave him an ideal—which his later personal friendship with Sir Herbert Baker crystallised—to help to create a South African school with something of the quality of the English Schools at their best. It is not surprising therefore that on the Council of St. John's he always stood for the development of our buildings on a consistent plan, that he insisted always on the use of the best materials, that again and again when some enthusiast wanted a new building, he would say: "How does that fit into the general plan?" But he knew that a School is more than buildings and used to tell with approval how General Smuts quoted here the words of Thucydides that men, not walls, make the city. He wanted St. John's to be a school of first-class quality, above all else.

His wide experience of men and affairs combined with his natural shrewdness and wisdom to make him almost an ideal Chairman of our Council. When I came first to St. John's in 1935 I found that I could always discuss with him the problems which beset a new headmaster and that his counsel was always as understanding as it was sympathetic; yet he always fought strenuously against any who tried to destroy the essential independence of the Headmaster, on whom lies the final responsibility for the conduct of the School, alike in day-by-day running and in general policy; though he liked to know what I was doing about various problems, he never interfered. And when I asked the Council for money for this development or for that, his immediate reaction was to try to find a way to get for me what I wished.

Perhaps one of my first meetings with him stands out most clearly in my memory, a bachelor party in his house a week or so after my arrival, where I was introduced to a number of his closest friends and, after dinner, we sat on the stoep looking over Saxonwold to the distant hills. I still remember clearly an exceptionally brilliant conversation of some very able men but, behind it all, the gracious charm of our host.

He was interested in every side of life at St. John's; he often attended cricket matches and for many years almost every Rugby football match; every Carol Service; every Gilbert and Sullivan production. Always critical, always expecting the



highest possible standard, he was yet always appreciative and sympathetic.

And so we remember with gratitude the gifts of insight, knowledge and wisdom which he used in our service, and to GOD's holy keeping we commend his soul.

S.H.C.

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### GAUDY DAY

Thursday, May 27th, 1954

The day began well with an early Mass, which was well attended by the Old Boys. After breakfast, a series of tournaments in several branches of sport began, where the primary aim was to show that experience can still triumph over youth.

During the morning the Old Johannians were successful in beating the First Hockey XI and the Second XI aided by Mr. Pennington, but in the squash, a team consisting mainly of masters showed that they also had experience by winning the series of games. At tennis, the Old Boys were considered too strong for the School to take them on, and so several games were played with both present and past scholars mixed.

After lunch, the real business of the day began. The centre of the stage was first held by Messrs. Jarvis and Ferrandi, who gallantly, but in vain, tried to stave off the defeat of our 3rd XV. Our 2nd XV did not do much better—the Old Boys' three-quarters especially, with Patrick at fly-half, proved too much for them.

Then, after tea served in the main quadrangle, the big surprise of the day came. After a fast and exciting game our 1st XV succeeded in beating the Old Boys 13—8.

At 5.30 p.m. there was Solemn Evensong with Commemoration of Benefactors.

Then at last the long-awaited meal arrived, when for once there were no grumbles about School food, and the kitchen showed what it really could do.

Formerly Old Boys used to sit at supper with the School, and when the former did not come in sufficient numbers, masters took their places. This year, however, this arrangement was abandoned, and the masters sat on the dais as usual.

At a later date the School went to see the film "Malta Story" at the Curzon Cinema. This was enjoyed by everyone, and proved an admirable end to St. John's annual festivity.

### "MACBETH"

Two grave accidents—the first, during the July holiday, to the boy originally cast to play the part of Lady Macbeth; the second, a fortnight before the production was due to take place,



to the boy replacing the first Lady Macbeth—caused the postponement of the School's production of "Macbeth" until the first week of this term.

As this date was too late for any report on the play to appear in the present issue, a full account of the production will be given in the next edition of the magazine.

### SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Mr. D. H. Jeffrey.

CHAIRMAN: D. H. Matthews.

SECRETARY: A. H. Parnell.

COMMITTEE: C. S. M. Hornby, A. W. W. van As, D. S. Wright.

Even though our meetings were somewhat handicapped by rehearsals for "Macbeth" and attendances were necessarily low, we managed successfully to get in three lectures and a trip down a mine.

The first lecture was a joint one given by Wright and Rainier on Sunday, 24th April. Their subject was "Gold Mining." Wright dealt with the problems of shaft sinking, rope friction, blasting and the conveyance of the soil to the surface. Rainier spoke in detail about the methods used to extract the precious gold from the ore, and its eventual purification. These lectures were of great interest to us, for we took a trip down a mine the following week.

Crown Mines were reached by a group of twenty boys and a master on Friday, 30th April, by means of a hired bus. We were shown the layout of Crown Mines by the manager, Mr. Heywood, and supplied with brochures and booklets. We were taken down Shaft 17 in a skip and reached a depth of 3,000 feet below sea level, where we studied a section of the rock being cut.

On reaching the surface, we were escorted around the Native Compound, the Hospital, the Smelting Works and the Stamp Mills. Actual gold was then poured out for us.

The following lecture was also a joint one and was given by Lindsay and Blair on Sunday, May 22nd. Lindsay dealt with the subject of "Aeroplanes of the Second World War." He described in great detail all the various types of aircraft used and their functions. Blair spoke about "Aircraft Carriers," a subject on which he is an expert, and explained their structure and armour.

The usual annual exhibition was held in the College laboratories on the night of Saturday, 5th June. The Natural History Society exhibited an interesting show of flora and some dissections. Most of the interest, however, was caught by the Chemistry and Physics sections, particularly the latter. Exceedingly high praise must go to Mr. Jeffrey for the unceasing co-operation and help which he gave at all times to each and every boy. A large gathering of parents and friends attended the Exhibition and it was, without doubt, an enjoyable and successful evening.



Dr. Gilliland, Senior Lecturer of Botany at the University of the Witwatersrand, visited us again on Sunday, 29th August, and gave a very interesting and absorbing talk on the Union Conservation Service. He described the work of a conservation officer and all the steps to be taken in the conservation of an area of ground. Dr. Gilliland illustrated all his points with the aid of beautiful colour slides.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Mr. M. Peel-Pearce.

CHAIRMAN: R. G. Shinn.

SECRETARY: R. Barker.

COMMITTEE: D. H. Orr, A. B. Martin, F. W. Thomas.

Since the last edition of *The Johannian*, the Society has been rather inactive, owing to "Macbeth" rehearsals. Three meetings and three competitions have, however, been held.

On May 1st, Dr. Bensusan kindly criticised the prints he had judged for the April competition, expressing his disappointment in the small number of entries, and hoped this would improve in the future. On May 28th, Mr. Hill showed the Society some of his colour cine-shots. He showed two films of the Kruger National Park, and concluded the evening by showing some shots of the Hluhluwe Game Reserve. The latter included some excellent pictures of black and white rhino. On 7th August Mr. Pennington, who is a keen photographer, gave the Society a lecture on the fundamentals of photography. He introduced his lecture by saying something about the camera itself, and carried on to point out common mistakes in processing. A most interesting evening concluded with the showing of some lantern slides and the answering of some questions.

As the former secretary, R. N. Blair, left in June, R. Barker was elected in his place, while F. W. Thomas was appointed a committee member.

The Society's membership is at its maximum, and many have asked to join. A lack of senior members has caused junior members to be allowed into the darkroom by themselves on occasions.

Results of April competition:

1st: David's Domain—M. Benson.

Commended: Hyacinthus Orientalis—N. Duncan.  
African Concentration—R. N. Blair.  
Nature's Grandeur—R. N. Blair.

Results of June competition:

1st: Silhouette—P. Flinn.

Commended: Le Jardin de la Nature—T. N. Murfin.



### MUSIC SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Mr. S. Hylton Edwards.

CHAIRMAN: R. J. Smith.

SECRETARY: P. C. Goldsbury.

COMMITTEE: M. V. Gardner, J. O'Brien.

On Saturday evening, 29th May, Mr. Jos de Groen gave the Society a first-class bassoon recital. The programme was as follows:

Sonata in D minor (originally for 'cello) .....	Corelli (1653—1713)
Slow movement and Rondo from Concerto for Bassoon Weber (1786—1826)	
Air (the well-known "Air on the G string" arranged for bassoon) .....	Bach (1685—1750)
Moment Musical .....	Schubert (1797—1828)
Lucy Long (variations on an English air) .....	Godfrey (1868—1939)

We were also extremely grateful to Mr. de Groen for his very clear and precise explanation of how the bassoon worked. We all hope to have the pleasure of hearing Mr. de Groen again.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Mr. S. C. Crowther-Smith.

SECRETARY: C. J. Morgan.

During the past two terms the meetings were alternated with those of the Chess Club. They were well attended and the members keen and co-operative. At the meetings, stamps were exchanged and discussed. "Quizzes" were also held, sometimes being made up by the members themselves. These "quizzes" are very good for the people who set them as well as for the competitors, who gain much more knowledge about stamps from them.

### DEBATING SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Mr. N. C. H. Ferrandi.

SECRETARY: D. S. Wright.

COMMITTEE: T. B. C. Heath, C. S. M. Hornby, P. C. Goldsbury.

Although enjoying a maximum membership, the Society has had a rather lean season because the majority of the senior members had to attend "Macbeth" rehearsals, and several debates with other schools never materialised. However, the two debates that did take place were well attended and were enjoyed by all.

On Sunday, 28th March, the Society debated the motion that "The Integration of Natives in South Africa is Essential for our Future Welfare." We would like to thank Mr. Burger for coming to help us out when one of the main speakers was unable



to attend. Matthews, proposing the motion, defined integration as to "combine parts into a whole," which meant that absolute unity was necessary for integration. It was his opinion that this unity could never be reached until South Africa gave the franchise to the Natives. Goldsbury, opening for the opposition, declared that it was God's will that there should be no integration, or else there would be no difference in colour. Mr. Burger, seconding Matthews, said that integration was necessitated by the four factors of history, geography, culture, and politics. Blair, seconding Goldsbury, said that the inevitable result of integration would be a coffee-coloured race which would be South Africa's downfall. The motion was won by an overwhelming majority.

A debate was held in the Library against St. Peter's, Rosettenville, on Sunday, 23rd May. The motion before the House was, "Capital Punishment Should be Abolished." The motion was proposed by Messrs. Massondo, Neku, Montjane and Cingo, while Wright, Heath, Hornby, and Goldsbury opposed it. St. Peter's were ably represented, and the motion was carried by 45 votes to 15. It was gratifying to see that this was not merely an inter-school debate; for most of St. Peter's were on the side of St. John's and vice versa. We would like to thank Mrs. Nel for the excellent tea provided afterwards, and Fr. Speight for transporting the St. Peter's debating team to and from St. John's.

### NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Mr. J. A. van Wyk.

SECRETARY: S. M. Sara.

The joint exhibition of the Scientific and Natural History Societies was held at the end of the Easter term. The Natural History section included labelled specimens of all the plants in flower in the gardens at that time. The most popular exhibits in this section, however, were van As and O'Brien's dissections of rabbits and platannas and Foster's testing of blood groups.

The Society is still looking for a few really keen botanists. We are busy labelling all the plants on the terraces *in situ*. A few members who are interested can do some very good work here. Field's restoration of the fishpond below Hill's is a good example of what can be achieved by interest and hard work.

The fishpond between Long Walk and the tennis courts has also been completely restored. This pond is to be stocked with kurper and carp as soon as the necessary permit is obtained from the Conservator of Flora and Fauna.

We would like to express our gratitude to Drs. Berry and Gilliland for their help in the identification of the many plants growing on the terraces. Dr. Berry has been very generous with his gifts of seeds and plants from his own garden.



### PLAY-READING SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Mr. W. F. Andrewes.

SECRETARY: H. R. K. Gibson.

COMMITTEE: A. H. Parnell, J. C. Cundill, R. J. Smith, P. C. Goldsbury, J. J. Lapping.

JUNIOR SECRETARY: A. J. Dickson.

JUNIOR COMMITTEE: K. E. Walters, G. M. Frerichs, J. A. Gardner, P. H. Lapping.

A very pleasant play-reading was held in Mr. Pennington's house during the Easter Term, and we are most grateful for the hospitality we received. The play read was "The Sport of Kings," by Ian Hay. As no "Macbeth" rehearsal was being held at the time, the Society's best readers were available, making the meeting a great success. Mr. and Mrs. Pennington's reading was much enjoyed, and Goldsbury was particularly effective.

The Junior Section read Ian Hay's "Housemaster," which was greatly appreciated. Mr. Sulter kindly acted as president for all four meetings.

### CHESS CLUB

CHAIRMAN: Mr. N. C. H. Ferrandi.

SECRETARY: P. E. Brown.

Members have been keen and active, if not "professional." Meetings have been held regularly in spite of the rehearsals for "Macbeth." We are hoping that, in the near future, we will be able to play against other schools fairly frequently. Many members have benefited a great deal from joining the Chess Club, but few boys have joined without some knowledge of the game.

### RUGBY

#### 1st XV

Captain: G. C. Coxwell.

Vice-Captain: M. V. Gardner.

Secretary: C. S. M. Hornby.

#### Award of Colours

Full Colours: G. C. Coxwell, M. V. Gardner, D. H. Matthews, D. H. Orr, A. H. Parnell, A. W. W. van As, W. D. Wallers.

Team Blazers: J. B. Bowyer, B. T. Dangerfield, D. C. Lindsay, A. B. Martin, D. O. Nothard, P. J. Petyt, J. C. Robbertze, M. C. Spence, A. Walker.

The following also played for the 1st XV on at least one occasion: L. de Bruijn, D. C. E. Ferguson, R. Hartley, M. W. Hawarden, J. F. A. M. Knight.

The regular team was as follows: Dangerfield; van As, Coxwell, Walker, Spence; Wallers, Parnell; Nothard, Orr, Robbertze; Lindsay, Matthews, Martin, Bowyer; Gardner.



We had five colours of last year back and they formed the nucleus of a good side. They were Coxwell, Gardner, Matthews, Orr and van As. An attempt was made to keep the side together from the beginning. This attempt succeeded: but for injuries, more or less the same side played in all the matches right up to the end.

Our best matches were against Jeppe, Potchefstroom and the Old Johannians. It seems that we always play our best matches against schools who play our type of Rugby, and the question of winning at all costs does not seem to enter into the picture. There have been, however, far too many matches this year in which, owing to factors which we do not understand, the Rugby played has been less satisfactory than we had hoped for.

As usual in a small school, we suffered from injuries, and as usual we could not replace the injured adequately; in some important matches we missed either our captain or vice-captain as well as other good players.

The team did much better than was expected of them if junior records of the present 1st XV players are taken into consideration. The success of the team was mainly due to an exceptionally high team spirit which was evident in the majority of matches played.

Seven full colours were awarded. Gardner, our vice-captain, always led the pack well and he himself set a good example in his play. Matthews, especially in the line-outs, was a reliable player. Parnell and Wallers, our halves, formed a combination which any side could be proud of. Orr's hooking was of a really high standard and van As was a useful wing.

Coxwell, our captain, was not only one of the best players in the team but always inspired confidence on the field.

The open type of Rugby which we play in all teams makes us liable to defeat by sides which adopt very different tactics in order to win. Under these conditions we sometimes lose confidence in ourselves unless we have succeeded in getting on top early in the game. Nevertheless, it was heartening to see that in the best matches of the season we set the pattern of the good Rugby which both players and spectators enjoyed.

### Report of 1st XV Matches

#### vs. Forest High (Home), Saturday, May 1st (Won 8—3).

We played this match in rain and slippery conditions on our "B" Field. Wallers kicked a penalty and he was also responsible for a try when he kicked to the corner flag for van As to score. This try was converted by Wallers. Forest High scored when he kicked a ball against one of their loose forwards.

Although both teams tried on many occasions to open up the game, it was rather difficult to do so because of the conditions.

In spite of this it was a good match, with our forwards slightly superior and the halves, Parnell and Wallers, very promising.



**vs. Jeppe (Away), Saturday, May 8th (Lost 3—5).**

In our first encounter with a strong Jeppe team we lost narrowly. Jeppe scored first from a good movement which ended in a goal. We scored a try. In the second half of this match it started raining very hard, and although St. John's were on top during this time, conditions were so bad that we could not score.

During the match several penalties were missed, partly because of the wet ball.

Again the forwards held their own, but the backs were somewhat disappointing; owing especially to excessive kicking by the Jeppe three-quarters, their defence was not sound.

**vs. Krugersdorp (Away), Saturday, May 15th (Won 6—3).**

After a somewhat disappointing first half in which the only score came from a penalty by Krugersdorp, brighter Rugby was played by both sides after the interval. Walker, at centre, scored two excellent tries, and many other good movements by St. John's were only stopped by good defence on the part of Krugersdorp.

For the first time during the season the team settled down as a good combination in the last twenty minutes of this match and played delightful Rugby. Wallers, Coxwell and Walker must be especially congratulated.

Bowyer replaced Jack, who had broken his leg badly during a practice; and Petyt filled the scrum-half position adequately in place of Parnell, who had 'flu.

**vs. Parktown (Home), Saturday, May 22nd (Won 16—6).**

This match, peculiarly lacking in highlights, was a grim battle between forwards. For us Coxwell and Walker scored two good tries. Wallers succeeded with a drop goal and a penalty, while Matthews converted the two tries. Parktown scored two penalty goals.

The forwards played well, and the three-quarters showed plenty of speed but very little finesse.

**vs. Old Johannians (Home), Thursday, May 27th (Won 13—8).**

Against a strong Old Johannian side the School played exceptionally well. As usual, the Old Johannians played an open game and our opponents set the pattern of the Rugby to be played. They did not use any spoiling tactics and the tackling was hard and low.

Coxwell, Wallers and Parnell scored excellent tries, two of which were converted by Matthews.

For the Old Boys, McFarlane succeeded with a penalty and Owen Parnell scored luckily after a dribbling rush.

Our forwards played the best game so far and our centres found gaps in the opposition. Orr hooked very well, and Parnell was good at the base of the scrum.



**vs. Highlands North (Home), Saturday, June 5th (Won 43—3).**

This was a match marred by several injuries and some ill-feeling. Highlands North were far better than the score against them indicates, and several of our tries were very lucky.

Coxwell and van As were outstanding, carving their way through the defence for a good victory. The quick heeling from the loose allowed us to move the ball more quickly than was the case against other schools this term.

**vs. St. Andrew's, Bloemfontein (Away), Saturday, June 12th (Drawn 6—6).**

For us this match was very disappointing. Gardner, our vice-captain, was severely concussed twenty minutes from the end and Spence did not play because of an earlier injury. Spence's place was taken by Petyt.

We did not get going throughout the match and when a good movement looked like ending in a try, something went wrong at the last moment. Our place-kicking was poor and we found no counter to the storming tactics of their forwards in the loose.

St. Andrew's scored two opportunist tries; for us Matthews succeeded with a penalty, while van As scored a doubtful try.

**vs. Jeppe (Home), Saturday, June 19th (Lost 5—11).**

Our last match of the second term, against Jeppe, was again a good one. Until the last try scored by Jeppe from a blind side forward movement, there was very little to choose between the sides.

Van As scored a try and was unlucky with another, while Matthews kicked a penalty.

Owing to excellent loose forward play by Jeppe, our halves, particularly Wallers, could not get going. Hence our three-quarters either ran across the field or did not get the ball soon enough to be dangerous.

**vs. Pretoria Boys' High (Home), Saturday, August 7th (Lost 3—26).**

St. John's were completely swamped by a much better side, who played exceedingly well and whose hard running and good backing-up must be praised.

For the first time the captain, Coxwell, did not play, and his absence was felt long before the beginning of the match.

Although our forwards struggled grimly in the line-outs and set scrums, where they got an equal share of the ball, our three-quarters were always harassed by the fast-running centres of Pretoria, who succeeded in scoring several good tries, especially during the second half.



**vs. King Edward's (Away), Saturday, August 14th (Lost 8—9).**

In his last match for St. John's Coxwell, although again injured, scored a try which was converted by Matthews. Wallers put over a drop. King Edward's scored three penalty goals, while we missed an equal number of penalties. Although St. John's pressed dangerously for most of the match and lost many opportunities, K.E.S. succeeded in winning.

The match was the usual Charity Match and was attended by a fairly good crowd on the K.E.S. ground. The proceeds were again given to the Hope Home for Crippled Children.

**vs. Potchefstroom (Away), Saturday, August 21st  
(Drawn 9—9).**

Potchefstroom's left wing scored three good tries. For us Petyt (a try), Wallers (a drop), and Walker (a penalty goal) scored.

This match was again, as always in the past, a good, hard but pleasant one in which both sides tried to play an open game.

St. John's led until the last minute just as against King Edward's. The forwards, who were kept together throughout the season, proved again an excellent pack and the three-quarters, where Ferguson was brought in instead of the injured Coxwell, more than held their own.

**vs. Helpmekaar (Home), Saturday, August 28th (Lost 8—18).**

In a fast, good game which Helpmekaar deservedly won, our forwards played well, but the three-quarter line lacked confidence. This, together with the fact that Walker, at centre, was injured for most of the time, led to our defeat.

The heeling from the loose scrums and line-outs was quick. Wallers played his best game of the season and could have scored more often. He, however, was responsible for a really good individualist try at the beginning.

## 2nd XV

**Captain:** A. D. S. Buchan.

**Team:** Knight, J. F. A. M.; Hawarden, Petyt, Ferguson, D. C. E., Turner; Garrett, Lapping, R. J.; Hartley, Henderson, Clarke, J. W. B.; Richardson, Formby, Murphy, De Bruijn; Buchan.

The following also played: Davies, B. R., Walls, Smith, R. J., Stafford, Benson, Henning, A. S., Blair, R. N., Gettliffe, M. J.

The Second XV had a variable season: after a somewhat lifeless start the forwards, with a good back line behind them, improved greatly and the side played attractive Rugby in several matches. Injuries in the 1st XV back line unfortunately resulted in constant changes in the 2nd XV backs, and in the second term they never had the same line consecutively for practice or matches: the forwards were less affected, but illness and injuries depleted the pack on occasions. The general effect was unsettling to the team as such, and took the sting out of



the attack: the forwards gradually developed a defensive mentality, playing a loose covering game and tackling well, but not really concentrating on hard scrumming or getting into the loose scrums properly. As a result, the side became somewhat ineffective and, although never badly beaten, seldom looked like scoring tries. It must never be forgotten that Rugby is an attacking game in which the first objective is to gain possession of the ball: this was amply demonstrated in the last match when, with a depleted team, the side outscrumped Helpmekaar and therefore in the end outplayed them despite weaknesses elsewhere.

**Matches:** vs. Forest High (H) won 17—3.  
 vs. Jeppe (H) lost 0—6; (A) lost 0—9.  
 vs. Krugersdorp (A) lost 0—6.  
 vs. Parktown (H) won 3—0.  
 vs. Old Johannians (H) lost 10—11.  
 vs. Highlands North (H) won 35—0.  
 vs. Pretoria (H) won 9—6.  
 vs. K.E.S. (A) lost 0—6.  
 vs. Potchefstroom (A) lost 0—6.  
 vs. Helpmekaar (H) won 13—9.

### 3rd XV

**Captains:** R. N. Blair (2nd term), A. S. Henning (3rd term).

The following played for the 3rd XV: Stafford, Benson, Dwyer, Allen, Gettliffe, M. J., Penney, Dalling, Barrow, J. A., Durward, G. A., Morrison, Banham, Pope, Field, Cross, A., Mathews, R. A., Sherwin, Davies, B. R., Smith, R. J.

Although some very good matches were played, the team, on the whole, did not do as well as was expected. Lack of a proper team spirit was probably the most important single factor to account for this. Another factor that operated was that because of injuries in the 1st and 2nd XV's we seldom played the same team.

**Matches:** vs. Jeppe (H) drawn 3—3; (A) lost 3—6.  
 vs. K.E.S. (H) lost 8—11; (A) lost 0—11.  
 vs. Krugersdorp (H) won 19—0.  
 vs. Parktown (H) won 12—0.  
 vs. Old Johannians (H) lost 6—17.  
 vs. Highlands North (H) won 28—0.  
 vs. Forest High (H) won 23—0.  
 vs. Helpmekaar (A) lost 0—22.  
 vs. Pretoria (A) lost 3—12.

### 4th XV

**Captains:** I. F. Sander (2nd term); J. M. Torrance (3rd term).

The following played for the 4th XV: Cook, C. G., Mathieson, Hall, Dunlop, Davis, R. M., Wright, Page-Wood, Fleming, G. S., Shinn, Thomas, P. E., Norris, Coubrough, Rowe, Bates, M. C., Engels, Setchell.



This team was generally below standard. Tackling, especially by some of the backs, was very poor. The majority of players, however, tried hard and played to the best of their ability.

**Matches:** vs. Jeppe (H) lost 0—16; (A) lost 3—11.  
 vs. K.E.S. (H) lost 3—13; (A) lost 3—12.  
 vs. Krugersdorp (H) drawn 6—6.  
 vs. Highlands North (H) won 3—0.  
 vs. Helpmekaar (A) lost 0—14.  
 vs. Pretoria (A) lost 3—26.  
 vs. Parktown (H) won 14—0.

### 5th and 6th XV's

The following were the regular C Division teams:

5th XV: Thompson; Brakenridge, J. W., Bate, Blackmore (capt.), Featherstone; Gresty, G. S., Evans, A. C.; Duncan, A. V., Kinghorn, Thwaite; Durrant, Smuts, Newman, Armstrong; Hogg.

6th XV: Du Preez (capt.); Rankin, Sara, Ferguson, J. R. R., Flinn, Gresty, W. H., Coetzer, Kalk, Brayshaw, De Beer, W. A., Campbell-Pitt, Ludeman, Kingaby, King, Brodie.

Total points for, 19; total points against, 143; total number of players fielded during season, 51. The figures speak for themselves: no one could call this a distinguished season's Rugby. But the figures conceal a story of real improvement. Perhaps any kind of Rugby must have been an improvement on those early lackadaisical matches, but it is true that there was a major transformation by the season's end, when both teams were playing solid, robust Rugby with all the ability and gusto they had. Which (notwithstanding the figure-juggling of fact-finders and not to mention the blandishments of cold drinks) is what counts.

**5th XV Matches:** vs. Jeppe (H) lost 0—18.  
 vs. K.E.S. (H) lost 3—23; (A) lost 0—15.  
 vs. Parktown (H) drawn 3—3.  
 vs. Highlands North (H) won 13—0.

**6th XV Matches:** vs. Jeppe (H) lost 0—17.  
 vs. K.E.S. (H) lost 0—25; (A) lost 0—33.  
 vs. Parktown (H) lost 0—19.

### Under 15A XV

**Captain:** J. Heyns.

The following played for the Under 15 A: Babb, Barker, Borland, Bradney, Bulloch, Christie, Dalrymple, Du Rand, Foot, Gass, Gibbard, Hewitt, Lee, McLaverty, McLeod, Madsen, Matthews, G. M. M., Moreny, Morgan, Thomas, Young.

This team had a rather disappointing season: they ought to have won many more matches. They were very fortunate in that



they had few injuries, and only in the Potchefstroom match was the team really badly affected in this way.

The forwards were big, but did not always play together. Towards the end of the first term of the season the forwards were beginning to combine very well. In the second term, however, the play was very scrappy and the forwards were slow on to the ball. The backs were rather small, but nevertheless played good Rugby. Sometimes their tackling and handling were bad, but some of them played really well all the time.

The team lacked determination, and did not develop that extra push required to win. In nearly all their matches they were leading at half-time, but in the second half they seemed to lose interest in the game and were often beaten. The team also failed to take advantage of the mistakes of its opponents.

**Matches:** vs. Jeppe (H) lost 6—13.  
 vs. K.E.S. (H) won 6—3; (A) lost 5—6.  
 vs. Krugersdorp (A) won 6—3.  
 vs. Parktown (H) lost 9—15.  
 vs. Highlands North (A) drawn 3—3.  
 vs. Forest High (A) won 9—0.  
 vs. Helpmekaar (H) lost 8—24.  
 vs. Pretoria (A) lost 0—3.  
 vs. Potchefstroom (A) lost 3—11.  
 vs. St. Stithian's (H) won 32—11; (A) won 12—0.

#### Under 14A XV

**Captain:** T. T. Brett.

**Team:** Walters; Van Belkum, Brett, Pysden, Boa; Collins, Barrow; Woodhouse, Cownie, Quiding, Mitchell, Alexander, Boden, Langdon, Cooke.

The following also played: Goodyer, Jackson, Ozard.

This division had, on the whole, a very successful season. At the start, the large number of inexperienced players made correct selection of the side difficult, but all were very keen to learn, and once the right pack and backs combination had been found the team improved in every match and finally contained much promising material for future School XVs. Unfortunately, serious injuries to Brett and Van Belkum seriously disorganised the side in the first term and two heavy defeats resulted, both players being off against Parktown, while K.E.S. were played with fourteen men. In the second term the side got together again, and were a real pleasure to coach, all working with a desire and will to improve. We had much the better of the match with Helpmekaar, and only erratic place-kicking caused a narrow defeat; Pretoria were easily beaten, and a most exciting and hard last match resulted in a pointless draw with the strong K.E.S. side. The forwards were strong and willing, and the backs in the end ran hard. One weakness was the slowness of the halves: the fly-half in particular put much burden on the centres



by failing to start quickly. This, however, can be put right with more experience. The tackling and general keenness were excellent.

**Matches:** vs. Jeppe (H) lost 3—5; (A) won 13—9.  
 vs. K.E.S. (H) drawn 0—0; (A) lost 8—25.  
 vs. Krugersdorp (H) won 14—6.  
 vs. Parktown (A) lost 8—26.  
 vs. Highlands North (H) won 11—0.  
 vs. Forest High (A) won 14—3.  
 vs. Helpmekaar (H) lost 6—9.  
 vs. Pretoria (A) won 22—0.

#### Under 13A XV

**Captain:** R. B. Clarke.

**Team:** Fulton; Marsh, Wade, Marklew, Bowling; Lapping, van Niekerk; Gardner, J. A., Williams, Thomas, D. E.; Clarke, R. B., Baerveldt, Hamilton, P. B., Smith, C. J. B.; Oxley-Oxland.

The following also played: Blight, Geeringh, Barrow, R. G., Rademeyer, MacLeod, A. B., Ridley.

In this year, the first of their Rugby career, most of the above players developed as Rugby players and many have already a grasp of the fundamentals of a new game which they found extremely difficult to master after playing soccer in our Preparatory School.

The team did reasonably well, but like most boys learning something new, they lacked confidence in their efforts; also, when certain players, whom the team regarded as stars, were absent, the whole team played less well.

When young players in all team games realize that they are only members of that team and not individuals—like wheels driving the machine—then they may become good players. Every wheel in the machine should, however, be a reliable wheel.

**Matches:** vs. Jeppe (H) lost 0—11; (A) lost 0—12.  
 vs. K.E.S. (H) won 6—3; (A) lost 3—14.  
 vs. St. Stithian's (H) won 20—0; (A) won 6—3.  
 vs. Krugersdorp (H) drawn 0—0.  
 vs. Parktown (A) lost 0—3.  
 vs. Highlands North (H) won 11—0.  
 vs. Forest High (H) won 12—3.  
 vs. Helpmekaar (H) lost 3—13.  
 vs. Pretoria (H) lost 0—16.

#### House Matches

**Ages (taken as from 1/1/54):**

**Juniors:** 13 years 9 months and under.

**Middles:** 13 years 10 months—15 years 7 months (inclusive).

**Seniors:** 15 years 8 months and over.

In the Junior House Matches Nash beat Hill (22—3) and the combined Dayboys (10—6). They had a good side; the Rugby



played by all the juniors, however, was not of a high standard. Nash won this competition, the Dayboys came second and Hill third.

The Middle House Matches provided a very close contest, as can be seen from the results. Dayboys beat Nash (3—0); Nash beat Hill (5—3), and Dayboys beat Hill (6—3). The Dayboys were therefore extremely fortunate in winning this competition because in the three matches played any side might have been the winner. The standard of the Rugby played was not high, but it was keen and hard. It was also pleasing to see how lesser players held their own when it came to tackling certain 2nd XV players.

The Senior Rugby was again won by Nash. They have won this competition since 1948. They had a good side, but after having a convincing victory over the Dayboys (19—3) they only narrowly beat Hill (6—5), after Hill were defeated by the Dayboys (6—9). Hill were most unfortunate in having some key players on the injured list for both of their matches. It should, however, be said that in their match against Nash they played extremely well and almost won.

#### Summary of Rugby Results, 1954

	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Against
1st XV	12	5	5	2	128	107
2nd XV	11	5	6	0	87	63
3rd XV	11	4	6	1	104	82
4th XV	9	2	6	1	32	100
5th XV	5	1	3	1	19	59
U 15 A	12	5	6	1	99	94
U 15 B	7	2	5	0	22	74
U 14 A	10	5	4	1	96	85
U 14 B	8	1	6	1	22	43
U 13 A	12	5	6	1	61	78
U 13 B	8	0	7	1	6	101
Total	105	35	60	10	676	886

#### HOCKEY

Secretary: A. D. MacPhail.

In some ways this has been one of our most successful seasons. With thirty-five regular players practising twice a week and the Under 15B Rugby Division practising once a week, we have been able to arrange matches for three teams and could have put in another two if suitable opponents had been available. The effect of the scheme of including a Rugby Division will not be fully felt for some time; but judging by the enthusiasm displayed, the School XI will be very much strengthened in the future.

The record of the matches played by the 1st XI gives an entirely false impression of the standard of their play. After a



poor start and some positional rearrangements the team settled down well. In mid-field, both in attack and defence, their achievement was as good as it has ever been in the last ten years. Three factors are responsible for their failure to win a match. First and foremost, opposition has been stronger this year than ever before. The weaker sides we used to play have all dropped out of hockey and the rest have improved. To draw seven matches out of seventeen reveals that the School XI was only just not good enough. The other two factors were weaknesses in play: a slowness in shooting that deprived the team of many goals after good constructive movements, and an occasional and costly uncertainty in defence in the circle. There has been a tendency for the defence to follow the ball in preference to marking the man, with the result that quick passing and quick shooting by the opposition resulted in more goals than they should. Until the last match the 1st XI never flagged in their efforts, but there was evidence of staleness in the last match but one, and a lamentable loss of form in the last game. To play throughout a season without winning a match can have a devastating effect on morale, and the wonder is not that the last match was so bad but that the standard of play and endeavour remained high for so long. With a little more experience there is no reason why all the members of the 1st XI should not find a place in quite good League Hockey when they leave school.

The 2nd XI were scarcely more successful, but might well have had an unbeaten record if it could have been at full strength. Illness and injury always meant at least two reserves in the side.

The 3rd XI played one match against Pretoria B.H.S. 3rd XI and won by 2 goals to 1. For an inexperienced team they did well.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Kempster for umpiring on Saturdays and to Mr. Pennington and Mr. Lester for helping with coaching on Thursdays and Fridays.

Colours: R. R. Gettliffe.

Badges: P. C. Clarke, R. R. Gettliffe, J. Harrison, A. D. MacPhail, I. Odgers, D. C. Rous.

1st XI: Rous; P. C. Clarke, Goldsbury; Odgers, R. R. Gettliffe, Pinkerton; Hornby, J. Harrison, Heath, MacPhail (Capt.), J. Torrance.

Also played: Dawson, Gordon-Brown, Hall-Jones, Heggie.

2nd XI: Bosazza; Hall-Jones, Heggie; Thorburn-Humphrey, Veary, O'Brien; Gordon-Brown, Dawson (Capt.), Cundill, Dwyer, Foster.

Also played: Beart, Gee, Harris P. J. (1), Potgieter.



# Results

## 1st XI:

Wed.	May	5th v. Parktown B.H.S.	1st XI (H)	Lost	1—3
Fri.	"	7th v. S.J.C. Staff	(H)	"	1—4
Wed.	"	12th v. Normal College A	XI (H)	"	0—2
Sat.	"	15th v. Old Johannian	3rd XI (H)	"	0—4
Sat.	"	22nd v. An Old Johannian	XI (H)	Drawn	1—1
Thurs.	"	27th v. O.J. Gaudy Day	XI (H)	Lost	4—5
Wed.	June	2nd v. Parktown B.H.S.	1st XI (H)	Drawn	3—3
Sat.	"	5th v. Wilson's	XI (H)	Lost	1—3
Wed.	"	9th v. Normal College A	XI (H)	Drawn	3—3
Sat.	"	12th v. Pretoria B.H.S.	1st XI (H)	Drawn	1—1
Wed.	Aug.	4th v. Parktown B.H.S.	1st XI (H)	Lost	2—5
Sat.	"	7th v. An Old Johannian	XI (H)	Drawn	1—1
Wed.	"	11th v. Normal College A	XI (H)	Drawn	2—2
Wed.	"	18th v. S.J.C. Staff	(H)	Drawn	3—3
Sat.	"	21st v. Pretoria B.H.S.	1st XI (A)	Lost	1—2
Thurs.	"	26th v. Parktown B.H.S.	1st XI (H)	"	0—1
Sat.	"	28th v. Torrance's	XI (H)	"	1—5

Played 17, Drawn 7, Lost 10. Goals for 25, against 48.

## 2nd XI:

Wed.	May	19th v. Parktown B.H.S.	2nd XI (H)	Won	2—1
Thurs.	June	3rd v. Parktown B.H.S.	2nd XI (H)	Lost	0—2
Sat.	"	12th v. Pretoria B.H.S.	2nd XI (H)	"	0—2
Thurs.	"	17th v. Parktown B.H.S.	2nd XI (H)	"	2—3
Sat.	"	19th v. Pretoria B.H.S.	2nd XI (H)	"	2—3

Played 5, Won 1, Lost 4. Goals for 6, against 11.

## TENNIS AND SQUASH

Greater interest has been shown in tennis and squash this year than last, and it has been encouraging to note the number of boys who have been prepared to go out and practise by themselves. More frequent and more intelligent use has been made of the practice wall, boys really attempting to develop shots instead of trying to make the ball pass through it.

This has been reflected in a marked improvement in the House matches. In the seniors Alston were the winners, beating a strong Nash team by five games, largely owing to greater determination and more decisive stroke play. Thomson were third and Hill fourth.

The junior matches were keenly contested. Thomson won by five games from Hill, their "A" couple, Horne and Howe, proving too good for their opponents in all their matches. Alston were third and Nash fourth.

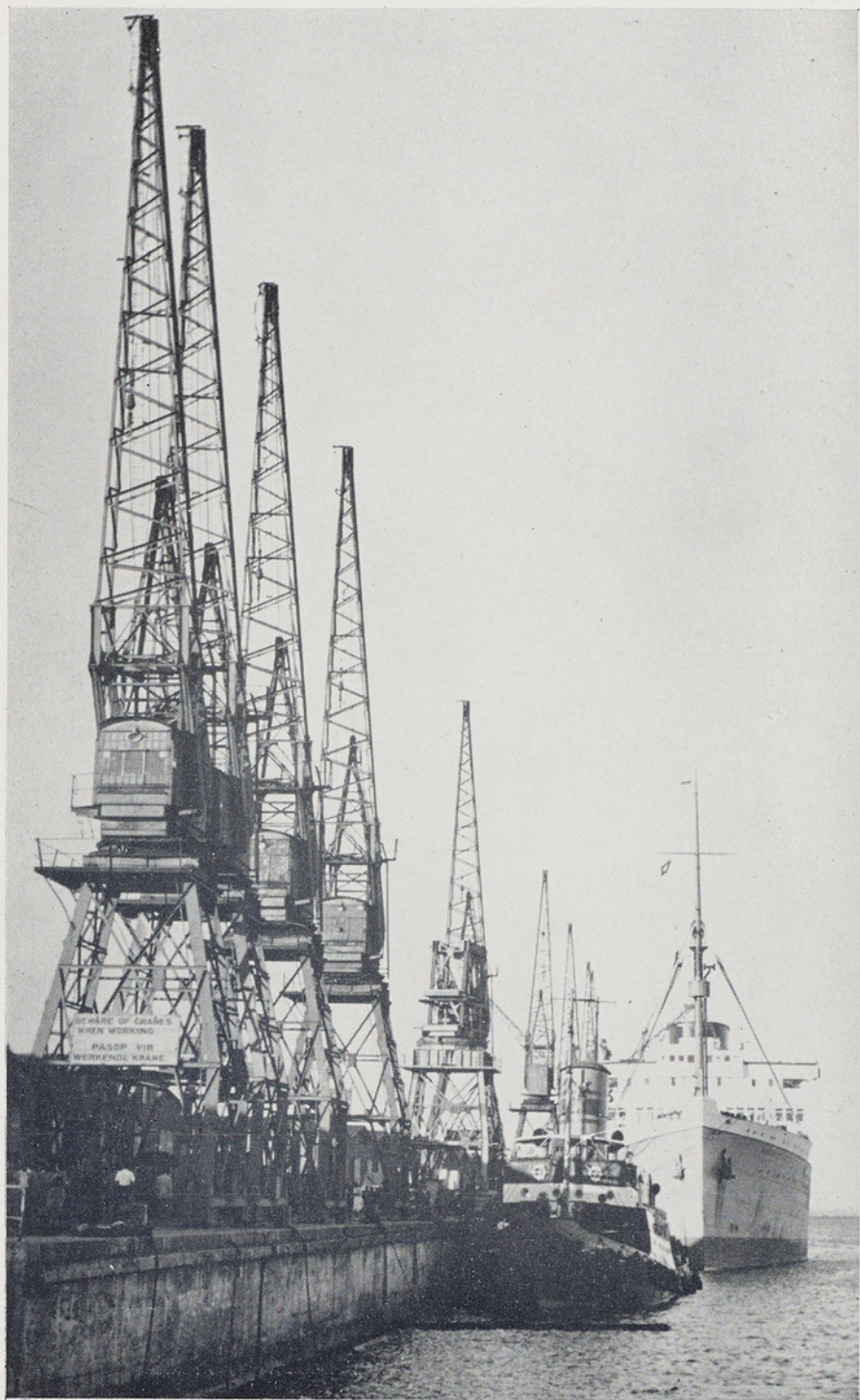




*1st XV, 1954.*

*Standing:* J. Robbertze, J. B. Bowyer, A. B. Martin, M. C. Spence, D. C. Lindsay, D. O. Nothard, A. Walker.  
*Sitting:* W. D. Wallers, A. W. van As, D. H. Orr, M. V. Gardner (Vice-capt.), G. C. Coxwell (Capt.), W. J. Burger, Esq., A. H. Parnell, D. H. Matthews.  
*Front:* B. T. Dangerfield, P. J. Petyt.

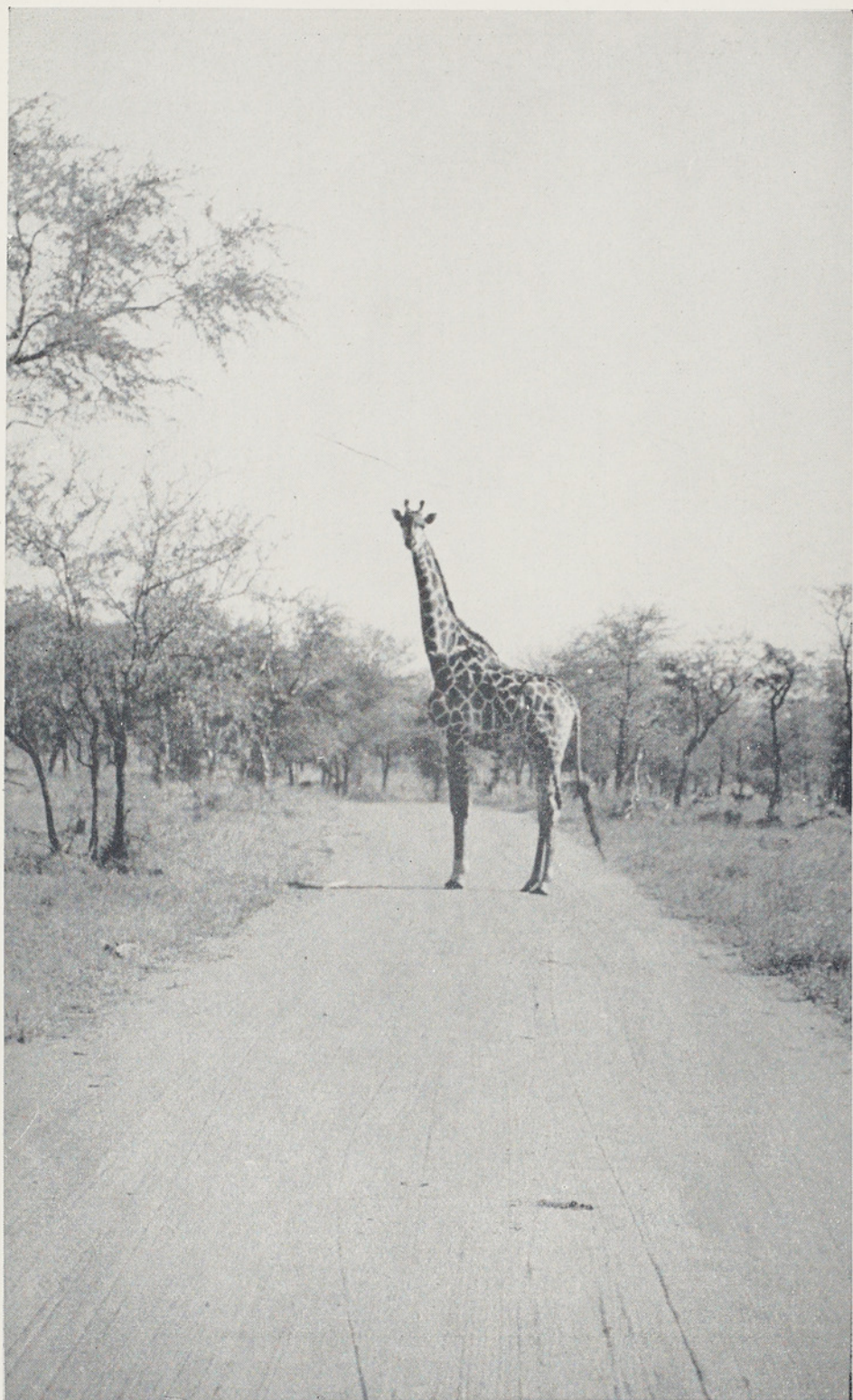




*PATTERN IN STEEL*

*R. M. Davis*





*RESENTMENT IN RESERVE*

*C. Hornby*





*BUSHMAN HUTS, KALAHARI*

*J. A. van Wyk*



### ALMA MATER

Farewell; how can I pay my debt to thee,  
 When I have been a child in thy fond care  
 Who grew to know that wondrous worth, so rare  
 That none may guess what thy true value be?  
 Forever in resplendent majesty  
 Be thou a mighty fortress, strong, severe;  
 Defend thou with a never-ceasing fear  
 The pillars of a sacred destiny.  
 Each year, like lambs departing from a fold,  
 Thy sons go forth their several ways to wend:  
 O grant that all, when nurtured in thy mould,  
 May keep that genial form until the end;  
 And ever in their mem'ries let them hold  
 The visions of their Guardian and their Friend.

T. B. C. HEATH (VI).

### ALLEEN

O land van volkslied en kore,  
 O veld van die geurende blom,  
 Ver in jou bosland, verlore,  
 Sal ek my ellende ontkom.

En daar in jou eensame skoonheid,  
 Waar die voëltjies saam sing met die wind,  
 Met die dringende pyn van my droefheid,  
 Sal ek biddend, alleen, my God vind.

Met gedagte aan stryd en verlange,  
 Na my veld van die treurwilgerbome,  
 Met sout trane wat blink oor my wange,  
 Sal ek vlug na die land van my drome.

O, ek bid U, my God van die lande,  
 Mag ek vrede en stilte weer vind;  
 Nooit weer sal ek wyk van U strande.  
 Ek sal hier werk, U slaaf en U kind.

A. H. PARNELL (VI).

### CLOUDS

As I behold them in the summer sky,  
 Stately with awe-inspiring majesty,  
 Changing their form, they ever and anon  
 Plunge recklessly, yet nobly, headlong on  
 Above the verdant meadows of our land,  
 Like racing Clipper ships in God's great hand.

O Clouds! While lightly, carelessly you play,  
 One man there is who longs to sail your way.  
 He too would live a joyous flying life,  
 Far from the heat and toil of earthly strife,  
 And soar to join you in your jocund mirth,  
 On the blue seas above the verdant earth.

G. A. DURWARD (L. V).



## THE CITY OF GOLD

Johannesburg, the City of Gold—has ever a more paradoxical epithet been applied to a town? We read in geography books of this great modern city whose streets are paved with gold, and automatically our minds conjure up the picture of a fabulous city—almost an earthly counterpart of the "City Beautiful." How wrong we are. The streets are not paved with gold, but by man's desire for it. This has seized the brain like a fever, sharpened the wits, given extraordinary powers of endurance—in short, this obsession has worked the miracle of Johannesburg's present-day existence.

We can hardly expect that Johannesburg, with a background of inhabitants intent alone on making money, should be like other cities.

Normally the growth from village to town, and town to city, is a slow process. But what has taken hundreds of years elsewhere has here taken less than seventy. Though the bare "Ridge of the White Waters" may have become the thriving industrial metropolis of to-day, the cultural standards of its people have been far outpaced by the phenomenal physical development.

Until very recently the only class distinction was between rich and poor, and this is still to a large extent true. In the past the lot of those who do not succeed in this sole purpose of life—the making of money—has scarcely even been noticed. The more the native and poor white has been exploited, the more his living conditions have deteriorated. Anyone who did have a vague feeling that all was not right applied the rules of the traditional "Wag 'n bietjie. Môre is nog 'n dag. Alles sal regkom" policy. The result—the appalling slums with which Johannesburg is infested.

But recently this attitude has begun to change. During the biggest building boom in the city's brief history, people seem to be realising that pecuniary value is not the only criterion. The tendency to believe that the best things in the world, whether one means the best painting, the best entertainment, or the best clothes, necessarily cost the most money is gradually dropping away.

When this transitional period is over, when all the slums have been demolished and replaced by decent houses, then the people of Johannesburg, warm, generous and friendly, may set an example to the whole of South Africa. Petty squables, and even racial differences, may be forgotten in whole-hearted striving to make our land a united nation. If this is achieved, then the Union of South Africa may really become a union. The prehistoric cradle of man may become a leading member of a greater and better civilisation.

N. G. DAWSON (VI).



## REHEARSALS

It is very peaceful here in the front row of this great hall. No, it is not—the lights are wrong again and the play has stopped. The poor remote fellow Smudge controlling a “spot” up there on the port side of the ceiling has not yet learned which is Lady Macbeth. There have been frequent changes in the cast—so he has directed his beam of light to a not very important object up right.

Now they have clearly told him which is Lady Macbeth. She is adequately illuminated and all is well. How much, by the way, I sympathise with Smudge! I sympathise with everybody at a rehearsal, which is one of the most prolonged and savage forms of torment known to the civilised world. But down here in the “house” and up there on the stage the sufferers at least have company and comfort. And on both sides of the footlights we have at least, after all these weeks of preparation and practice, some faint notion of what it is we are trying to do.

But Smudge and Weston and Hewlitt and all his colleagues are not interested in Shakespearian tragedy. They have not the remotest notion what it is all about. The deep psychological significance of Lady Macbeth's move from the rostrum to the throne is lost on them. Indeed, the whole spiritual message of the play is at present hidden from them. All Smudge knows is that Mr. Webster is continually bawling at him to aim his beam in a different direction, to take out his Number Ones and to put in his Threes, to substitute amber for blue, to illuminate Banquo's head and not his feet. At the moment he cannot imagine why. Mr. Webster, moreover, is blaming Mr. Fisher, who is in turn blaming Smudge, and the result of it all is rather chaotic.

Always on these occasions I have a mind to climb up to Smudge and comfort him, to take him sausages and a coke and ask him what he thinks of the drama. But Heaven knows that the moment I get up there, they would cry from below, “Smudge! bring up your Threes, check Number Two, put a gauze or something in your Sevens, and flood Lady Macbeth's face with a faint amber radiance. But no light on her knees.” And I should be in the way.

All is peaceful again, the rehearsal has lasted only six hours and we are already halfway through the play. Mr. Webster is shouting to Mr. Anderson that he cannot possibly change from the banquet to the sleepwalking scene on time, because of the table, or the cauldron or the underclothes—or what you will; the stage manager will then madly devise new “front” scenes to give everybody time to change everything.

Hullo! we cannot hear a thing. Is Mr. Anderson going to make a fuss? It would not, he thinks, be deemed a suitable time. The truth is there is no suitable time for directors to fuss about the audibility of words. At the first rehearsals the actors are too worried about their swords and properties to be bothered



about words; and the music has not had time to strike the proper balance. And at the later rehearsals the actors are saving their voices, so that we cannot judge. And anyway, it will sound quite different when the house is full.

So we will sit quiet and think about the House matches. Smudge is in trouble again. He was asked to put on his whites and the whole stage became flooded with blue. And now Weston has blundered: he has "spotted" the villain instead of the hero. Poor Weston. At least we can slip out when we want to, but Smudge and Weston can never leave their posts. We expect they too are thinking about the House matches.

But never mind. The Second Act is creaking along and soon, I hope, Weston and Smudge will get a coke.

We cannot hear a word. But does it matter? Smudge is in bad trouble again. All the lights have gone out, and Mr. Anderson is scolding the players for their apathy. We will slip out and have a coke.

P. C. GOLDSBURY (U. V).

### RHAMADI, DIE BUL

My kinders, luister!

Ek is nou oud en my hare grys. Dis nou lank, lank gelede dat ek laas in die lande geskoffel het of die ratse waterbok gejaag het. My arms is nou so swak dat ek skaars hierdie bierpot kan optel. Nou moet my fraai jong dogtertjie, kind van my kind, M'lende alles vir my doen: Sy skoffel in die lande, sy oes die mielies, sy maal die mielies, sy maak die bier, sy maak die pap —en sy gee my kos. Au 'mm, ek is nou oud en Rhamadi sal my kom haal.

Die winter was vanjaar baie koud. Auk! Ons het almal amper doodgegaan. Nooit vantevore het soveel beeste van die koue doodgegaan nie. Selfs Rhamadi—lank gelede was Rhamadi die leier van die trop: Rhamadi, die sterke, Rhamadi met die wit vel en die lang horings, Rhamadi is dood! Rhamadi is dood!

Voor die maan weer opkom en ondergaan moet ek Rhamadi volg. Vir ons volk is die winter die tyd van die dood. Die beeste vrek hot en haar, die mielies word gou-gou opgeëet, die grond word so hard soos Rhamadi se hoof; en al die ou mense van die volk word die veld ingedra waar hulle neergelê word om te sterwe. Ek kla nie. Ek weet. Anders is daar mos nie genoeg kos vir die kinders nie, vir die vrouens, vir die fris jong manne.

Ek het my vader ook na sy dood toe gedra toe hy oud was, en ek het niks daarvan gedink nie. Eers het ek die wortel van die Nakoboorn uitgegrawe. Toe het ek 'n poeier daarvan gemaak en toe het ek dit in sy bier gegooi. Toe het ek hom opgetel en vroeg daardie more voor die hek van die beeskraal neergelê. Die uitstormende vee het hom doodgetrap.

Waar ek hier sit kan ek party van die kleintjies in die kraal sien rondspeer, hulle met hulle ronde magies en blinkende wit tande. Nou verbeel hulle hulle is op jag. Kyk hoe stamp die



enetjie met sy voetjies, en daar lê 'n ander een plat op die grond met sy oor teen die mis. Hy is Umnyama se seun. Hy sal ook eendag 'n fris man word. Ek was ook so toe ek klein was. Ek was die sterkste en die ratste en die vinnigste van die kleinspan. Hulle het my „I-nyamazahn” genoem; ek was die bok wat saam met die hase kon hardloop. Aau! Hmm'm! „I-nyamazahn!” En nou kan ek nie eers opstaan nie. En toe was ek die eerste wat die leeu se tand om my nek kon dra en wat 'n gordel van die krokodilvel kon maak om om my lyf te dra. Ek kon die hardste met die knopkerrie slaan en ek kon die assegaai die verste gooi.

Toe ek grootgeword het, was ek een van ons leier se kapteins. En naderhand het my spiere vet geword en my hare het gryser geword, wit soos die vel van Rhamadi, die bul met die langste horings in die land, die leier van die trop, Rhamadi die sterke wat hierdie winter laat vrek het.

Netnou het ek 'n bietjie bier gedrink. M'lende, kind van my kind, het dit vir my gegee. Ek dink ek kon die bitter reuk van die Nakowortel ruik. Miskien is ek verkeerd maar ek dink nie so nie.

Ek voel koue hande om my hart gryp. My bloed is swak en my maer lyf begin bewe. Hai! Die tyd het aangebreek. Rhamadi, hoor my, my getroue ou bul! I-nyamazahn kom na jou toe, I-nyamazahn volg jou, volg Rhamadi die sterke na die land van ons voorvaders, na die land van die Ama-Zulu, na die land van sonskyn, van vrolikheid en jeug.

I. F. SANDER (L. V).

## THE WATER FESTIVAL

When the tinkling of the silver bells on the pagoda awakened Ba U, a young Burmese boy from Bhamo, he opened his eyes into the brilliant glare of the Oriental sun. He lay for a few moments wondering why he felt so excited, and a slow smile of happiness spread across his copper-coloured features as he remembered that it was the day of the Water Festival.

Springing lithely off his sleeping mat, he fastened his *longyi* about him and scampered off down the street to the river. Refreshed by his early morning plunge into the Irrawaddy, he dressed quickly whilst contemplating the part to be played by "Burma's Blood" in the day's forthcoming festivities. Then he ran to help several other zestful young Burmans erecting platforms for water tanks at each of the village gates.

By noon the preparations were ready. The Water Festival, the last day of the Burmese calendar, was about to start, and all over Burma, the peoples of Kipling's "cleaner, greener land" were awaiting the signal from the Buddhist priest for the cleansing-out of the old year.

Suddenly the bells on the pagoda rang momentarily with enchanting beauty, only to tail off as they had begun. Then the great pagoda, resplendent in her shining armour of gold and silver leaf, initiated the festival with the dull booming utterance



of her gong. Ba U and several of his playmates gaily filled their water squirts and directed their liquid fire on to each other. Then they joined the rest of the villagers, who, scantily dressed, were pursuing each other with vases and jugs of water, rushing from house to house soaking the occupants. Even the more timid spirits could hardly control their energy when the local Karen headman arrived in his ancient Ford, the pride of the district.

The Ford was taken by surprise. The driver was soaked to the skin and the headman purified with a bucket of muddy river water. The car swerved drunkenly; with a superb feat of manoeuvring, however, the driver narrowly avoided a steep alley leading down to the river and parked the indomitable vehicle in front of the pagoda.

Towards sunset, when the village folk had doused their high spirits to a certain extent with either water or opium, the playful children, wreathed in smiles, were ushered into the square, dressed in their best and garlanded with flowers. Each child took up a segment of a vividly animated dragon suspended on a stick. At a word from the elders the mouths of the Chintzes were lit and belched forth fire with an incandescent glow which devoured the evil spirits lurking in the alleyways as the merry children skipped through them holding coloured fireworks and throwing crackers to frighten mischievous imps away.

However, all festivities must come to an end and the feeble cries of protest were many as fond but strict mothers chaperoned Ba U and the other children home. Gradually the village relapsed into sweet silence and in the stillness of the night the old year made way for the new. Only the elders remained sleepless as they awaited "the dawn to come up like thunder out of China" in the East, to be heralded by the melodious whispers of the silver temple bells.

J. J. LAPPING (U. IV).

### LUCKY ESCAPE

We dropped our oars for a moment and turned to gaze upon our doomed ship. The black hulk, pierced here and there by tiny pin-points of light, made a dark silhouette against the dull glow of the sinking sun. We saw the two submarines, just shapes, emerging through the gathering dusk, their bows smothered in white foam as they turned to windward.

The sea was an opaque mass of water, rising and falling; one or two gulls swooped and screeched with an indifferent attitude, above the slowly sinking ship. The last rays of the sun shimmered into a thousand reflections as they struck the rippling water. The foam-crested waves washed in endless, watery hills to the horizon, and the stray boxes and tins from the ship bobbed and bowed in ludicrous solemnity to each other.

Our boat, weighed down by the weight of eighteen men, met the oncoming waves with a thud and a lift, burying her head deep



in the water, then rising proudly and shaking herself clear. The two submarines sank into the darkness, which closed like a curtain behind them, and the even murmur of their motors faded away, leaving a blanket of silence upon the scene.

"They'll be back. Just you watch, Coney!" said Bob Setchell the bosun.

"They're playing cat and mouse with us, they are. They'll be back to polish us off," ventured "Butch" Saunders, the South African.

He was right; again the two white streaks appeared, coming straight for the boat.

"The angels of death . . ." I began.

"Shut your mouth, Jan! None of your sentimental nonsense!" said the mate in a threatening voice.

"Grab your oars, and heave-ho to port. C'mon now, snap into it!" yelled Coney. "Give wa-a-ay!"

The eight of us hastily fitted the oars into the rowlocks, and on the word, eight strong bodies threw themselves back, sending the boat skimming along the water.

A finger of light stretched out into the now inky darkness, and searched round and round, finally lighting upon our boat, which it illuminated with brilliant intensity. Almost at once it was extinguished, leaving our eyes strained and staring. Suddenly a sheet of white flame shot up from the "Titania," followed by a smashing explosion. Another flash of white; the oil around the ship was alight.

"We're next on the list," I remarked.

"Shut up! will you?" and then turning to Coney, "What position did you say we are in, Coney?" asked David Mackenzie, chief engineer.

"Never mind the position; we're pretty near Rukana—the island paradise—and can easily row towards it in the dark. It's about eight miles away," replied Coney.

He set the course roughly, and ordered the rowers into their places. For two hours they tried to dodge the submarines and make a dash for it. But all in vain. The lurid glare prevented their slipping away, and each time they neared a submarine, they were faced with death from a machine-gun . . . Now they wearily waited for dawn, which they knew would bring life or death.

\*

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Slowly dawn broke, the grey streaks shooting out across the sky. Eighteen grimy and sleepy-eyed men looked with downcast faces at the fast sinking ship. The sun at last appeared above the horizon, rising like a copper ball, and casting sultry rays across the grey waste of ocean.

At this moment we heard the dynamos of the submarines start up, and the lookouts who had been posted the night before



went below for breakfast. The two captains climbed on deck, and proceeded to yell a lot of gibberish at us, which one of our men, who understood Japanese, translated. They declared that they would give us a chance of life or death, emphasizing "death" by firing the machine-gun at a box and smashing it to pieces. "Life" was to go as prisoners aboard the submarines, and this too was probable death. So we chose "death," which looked like being quicker.

They stood off a few hundred yards and then raced down on us. They rammed the boat, and it spun off the bows like a cork, throwing us into a heap. The staccato rattle and patter of the machine-guns added to the din of the racing motors.

Suddenly we heard an ominous sound; looking round, we perceived the "Titania" raising her stern into the air. The propeller showed as a queer contrast of symmetry against a background of twisted and torn metal. Slowly she slid into the depths, and with a last hiss from the boilers was gone. Only a boiling cauldron of bursting bubbles and eddying whirlpools marked her grave.

Again the machine-guns cut into the boat, leaving it holed like a sieve. We, that is to say the few who were left, leaped over the side into the water, which was diluted with blood. I felt the water tighten suddenly over my chest, and saw a great spout of water shoot up high next to the submarine. And then came a searing pain through my back and oblivion.

\* \* \*

Through a mist of waving blackness, I distinguished six uncertain figures, heard the intermittent roar of a gun, and answering gunfire.

"Rukana?" I enquired weakly.

"Yes."

I closed my eyes, and fell into a deep, deep sleep.

H. G. McLEOD (L. IV).

### PARIS, SELON MON IMAGINATION

Il y a beaucoup de grandes villes dans le monde, mais il y en a deux, Londres et Paris, qui sont le père et la mère de notre civilisation européenne. Je dis que Londres en est le père parce que c'est une ville sombre et masculine—on y trouve toutes les choses au sujet des hommes, leurs affaires, et leurs vêtements. Mais Paris au contraire est féminine. Quelle dame est habillée à la mode, si elle ne porte pas de nouvelles créations parisiennes? Ainsi trouve-t-on ces grandes capitales, séparées seulement par deux cents kilomètres, mais qui sont aussi différentes que possible.

Paris est une ville très jolie, légère et vive. Même les bâtiments sont construits d'une pierre calcaire, beaucoup moins sombre que celle de Londres. Tout le monde, et toutes les choses,



y vont très vite. Les taxis semblent être des chevaux à la course. Les nombreux cafés en plein air, les cabarets, les théâtres et les restaurants sont tous des lieux où l'on peut s'amuser.

Mais si les Parisiens sont gais, ils sont aussi très excitables. Ce sont les Parisiens, animés par leur grande faim et à cause des extravagances de l'aristocratie, qui ont fait la Révolution, suivie de la Terreur. A Paris seulement pouvaient avoir lieu tant d'horreurs, tant d'exécutions, tant de morts, pendant si peu d'années.

Même aujourd'hui la foule parisienne s'anime très facilement. Mais voilà une autre raison pourquoi Paris est la mère, car c'est toujours les femmes qui se fâchent les premières.

Voici en bref mes impressions de Paris—comme une jeune fille, belle, gaie, excitable, mais surtout toute pleine de joie de vivre.

N. G. DAWSON (VI).

## PREPARATORY SCHOOL

### HEADMASTER'S NOTES

It is my first pleasure to thank all those parents and staff who have welcomed me back to St. John's so kindly, and to give my particular thanks to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Frerichs, and Mr. Powis for their work before my arrival and for their help since, all of which has greatly helped me in taking over my new and unfamiliar duties.

Past Headmaster's Notes have contained a punctilious and usually phlegmatic reference to the numbers of the Preparatory School, and to continue the tradition we are 303 all told, including 112 boarders. We are living in hopes that in the not too distant future some steps will be taken to ease our problems of accommodation.

I was very glad to be able to report to parents of day-boys that the changing-room arrangements have been substantially improved and eight showers with hot and cold water provided. These have long been wished for, and we hope that more day-boys will take advantage of the showers and leave the premises both cleanly and godly. The problem of the time when day-boys arrive home is one of concern to me, and engages our thoughts for the future. Meanwhile a form-room has been set aside for those who have to wait before being taken home, so that some at least of their preparation can be done while waiting. I have already been asked for permission for other boys to do their homework there, but I am afraid I cannot agree to this request: the room cannot be supervised, and if the numbers of boys using it were to become too many the arrangement would have to be cancelled.

The School has had a very successful football season: the 1st XI has been defeated only three times, and these defeats were subsequently avenged. The number of wins was therefore quite impressive, and the defeats were sufficient to prevent



complacency. Mr. Dent and his assistants on the "A" Game are to be congratulated on the season, and also on the enjoyment of the boys in their games.

There have been certain changes chiefly affecting the lower forms. Form orders have reappeared, though percentage marks and positions have been retained in the major subjects. We feel that in a preparatory school a form position is of more significance than positions in individual subjects, and that it enables a boy better to judge his progress from his past standards. Next year the system will be extended to the Lower III forms, though the setting necessary in Afrikaans owing to the arrival of Rhodesians and other unilinguals introduces a complication. Some book changes for next year should provide more interest without increasing costs—which we do our best to keep down. The italic style of handwriting is being introduced in the lower forms, and its progress will be closely watched. It has obvious advantages of beauty and of speed. Its supporters claim that it is twenty per cent. faster than any other style, and we hope that it will be enjoyable and easy to teach and learn.

The hobbies evenings which are referred to in the House-master's Notes are an experiment which has had, like most new ventures, an enthusiastic start. Though it is easy to conceive ideas for spare-time occupations, the carrying out of them through the year is a heavy drain upon the energy and zest of the staff; nor is it easy for masters already committed to taking games three to five afternoons a week to find the time to give consistent encouragement to the boys in their spare time. We do feel, however, that if we can develop in at any rate a proportion of the boys an intelligent and constructive use of spare time—at present mainly consumed by running around and screaming—it will be a most rewarding triumph. A hobbies exhibition can be one of the tests by which the real merit of a school is to be gauged.

As St. John's has a great heritage in the beauty of its buildings and surroundings, it seems a desecration to strew the grounds with litter, and a campaign has been waged to improve the tidiness of the Prep. We hope that this elementary training in good citizenship will be successful, and make the boys more concerned with things of the eye; through the concern of the Community of the Resurrection for "high objects and enduring things" we have the opportunity to foster a love of beauty, and we shall do our best to succeed and to make the most of what we have.

I am sure that I speak on behalf of parents, staff and boys in expressing our sympathy to Mrs. Scruton on the death of her father.

As a final item we have a domestic though well-concealed piece of intelligence: we are all very pleased to congratulate Mr. Powis on his engagement to Miss Mead. Miss Mead teaches music at St. John's, and we wish them both all happiness in the future.



## PREPARATORY SCHOOL HOUSE NOTES

This year the freshness of the oaks in spring green has been remarked upon, even by the boys, who are not generally appreciative enough of their School grounds. The warmer days are welcome, though, thanks to Matron's vigilance and care, the incidence of 'flu during the winter was reduced to a minimum and there was no major epidemic of any description. This happy state was reflected in the improved attendance figures in school and contributed to the success of the football teams, which generally went on to the field well up to strength.

We have learnt quite a lot about plumbing this winter. To the boys the most interesting stage during the installation of a new hot-water system was the erection of the high, pressure-tank tower in the back premises. The tower is no ornament, but we have the satisfaction of an adequate hot water supply for boys and staff.

Film Saturdays have again proved entertaining and instructive. Mr. Labuschagne of the National Parks Board kindly paid us a second visit in June, when he showed us excellent films in colour on wild life in the Kruger Park. Interesting short films were borrowed from the Swiss Consulate and the Canadian Trade Commissioner, to whom our thanks are due. On the last film Saturday of the Trinity Term we were privileged to see "The Conquest of Everest," loaned to us by the United Kingdom Information Office. This fine film was enjoyed by an appreciative audience of staff, parents and boys.

Still in the experimental stage are the alternate Saturday evening programmes. In the place of quiz and debate, which interested a limited number, we plan the formation of several societies to encourage interest in art, handicrafts, stamp collecting, scientific subjects, musical appreciation, play-acting, and so on. At present demonstration evenings are being organised to make known to the boys the nature and scope of the proposed societies. It is hoped that day-boys will participate in their activities when they get under way.

## PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOOTBALL

**Captain:** R. G. Drewett.

**Vice-Captain:** A. G. Murray.

Colours were also awarded this season to: J. B. Gosteli, M. A. Thomas, B. H. Walters.

Every eleven this season has had a very successful and enjoyable series of matches, as can be seen from the results and summary printed below. It would seem a good opportunity to remind ourselves that wins are not everything. It is the spirit



in which the game is played that is really important, although, quite naturally, it is good to win as well.

In all but one or two of the matches the 1st XI played as a team, made many good passing movements, tackled well, and were quick on the ball. The left side of the field was the stronger both in defence and attack, but this by no means belittles the good work done on the right. Positional play and passing into the open spaces was noticeably good at times. The games against The Ridge were among the best, both sides maintaining a high standard of play throughout.

Such praise could not be applied to all matches. Our first few matches were won fairly easily, with the result that an air of complacency and a certain amount of selfishness became apparent. In the match against Yeoville this was the case. It was not until the last ten minutes, when Yeoville were one goal up, that we started to play as a team. Then it was too late. Towards the end of the season the dreadful habit of turning the back crept in with a few players. It is to be hoped that those concerned noted the plucky spirit of the St. Dunstan's players who, although much smaller, never once turned their backs on our attack in the game played at Benoni.

All who played in the 1st XI are to be congratulated on giving a good display of football on many occasions. At the close of the season we were glad to report that we had left no school unbeaten on the soccer field, Leicester Road and Yeoville being the last to "fall." Neither the 1st XI, B XI nor C XI lost a match in the Trinity Term.

The B XI played many good matches, finishing with a very creditable record. If there is any illness it is usually the B XI that suffers. Only too frequently one or two of their best players are taken to fill the gaps in the 1st XI. Nevertheless this has its advantages in that quite a few boys in the Upper Thirds have a chance of playing in an inter-school match, since the B XI is drawn from these forms only. It is therefore a little more difficult for this eleven to play as a team; even so, they have more than done themselves justice.

The C XI started by playing remarkably lively games, but had a rather unfortunate lapse in the middle of the season. This was mainly due to rather wild kicking and general lack of constructive play. However, towards the end of the season they were once again their former selves and showing good promise for next year. The Under Eleven side consisted of the C XI with three replacements for those over age.

This year has seen alterations in the general organisation of the games. The "A" game has become bigger and been divided into Junior and Senior sections. On the days "A" game plays, one section is practising while the other plays a game. A special practice goal has been much in use and also dribbling



circles, introduced to make the very necessary practising more enjoyable. This change has caused the other games to become less crowded, and it is hoped that there will be a general improvement in the standard of soccer played in the School. An Under Ten side has played two matches. This is an innovation that we hope has come to stay. It may well be that there will be a few more fixtures for such a side next season. Lastly, but by no means least, we now have an efficient water sprinkler to lay and bind the dust on B field. This has made the fields much more pleasant, particularly in the windy season. We are indeed grateful to the ground staff for keeping the B field in such good order for us.

In the House matches, played in the Trinity Term, the following were the results:

Seniors: 1st, Carter; 2nd, Bousfield; 3rd, Darragh.

Middles: 1st, Carter and Cullinan; 3rd, Darragh.

Juniors: 1st, Darragh; 2nd, Bousfield; 3rd, Carter.

Final positions: 1st, Carter (13 pts.); 2nd, Darragh (9 pts.); 3rd, Bousfield (8 pts.); 4th, Cullinan (6 pts.).

Once again we are indebted to all the kind parents who have provided transport and cakes throughout the season, for which we are extremely grateful.

### Results

#### Easter Term:

##### 1st XI

May 8th vs. Rosebank (A) won 6—0.

„ 12th vs. K.E.P.S. (H) won 6—0.

„ 15th vs. St. Peter's (H) won 4—0.

„ 26th vs. Pridwin (A) won 2—0.

„ 29th vs. St. Dunstan's (H) won 5—1.

„ 31st vs. The Ridge (A) won 4—2.

June 2nd vs. Yeoville (H) lost 0—1.

„ 5th vs. Leicester Road (A) lost 1—2.

„ 9th vs. P.T.S. (H) won 3—1.

„ 14th vs. Yeoville (A) lost 0—4.

„ 19th vs. St. George's Home (H) won 4—1.

##### B XI

May 8th vs. Rosebank (A) won 2—0.

„ 12th vs. K.E.P.S. (H) lost 0—2.

„ 15th vs. St. Peter's (H) won 4—0.

„ 26th vs. Pridwin (A) won 8—0.

„ 31st vs. The Ridge (A) won 1—0.



- June 2nd vs. Yeoville (H) won 2—1.  
 „ 5th vs. Leicester Road (A) drawn 2—2.  
 „ 9th vs. P.T.S. (H) won 3—0.  
 „ 14th vs. Yeoville (H) won 5—1.  
 „ 19th vs. St. George's Home (A) lost 2—4.

C XI

- May 8th vs. Rosebank (A) won 5—0.  
 „ 12th vs. K.E.P.S. (H) won 4—0.  
 June 5th vs. Leicester Road (A) lost 0—2.  
 „ 16th vs. St. George's Home (H) lost 1—2.  
 „ 19th vs. K.E.P.S. (H) lost 0—3.

Trinity Term:

1st XI

- Aug. 2nd vs. The Ridge (H) drawn 3—3.  
 „ 4th vs. K.E.P.S. (A) won 8—0.  
 „ 7th vs. St. George's Home (A) won 4—2.  
 „ 14th vs. Leicester Road (H) won 2—0.  
 „ 18th vs. Yeoville (H) won 1—0.  
 „ 21st vs. St. Peter's (A) won 2—1.  
 „ 25th vs. St. Dunstan's (A) won 4—1.  
 „ 28th vs. Rosebank (H) won 1—0.

B XI

- Aug. 2nd vs. The Ridge (H) drawn 1—1.  
 „ 4th vs. K.E.P.S. (A) drawn 2—2.  
 „ 7th vs. St. George's Home (H) won 1—0.  
 „ 14th vs. Leicester Road (H) won 3—0.  
 „ 18th vs. Yeoville (H) won 4—0.  
 „ 28th vs. Rosebank (H) won 5—1.

C XI

- Aug. 4th vs. K.E.P.S. (A) won 2—0.  
 „ 7th vs. St. George's Home (A) drawn 0—0.  
 „ 14th vs. Leicester Road (H) won 1—0.



## THE JOHANNIAN

Other matches:

### An Under Eleven XI

June 2nd vs. The Ridge (A) won 4—1.

Sept. 1st vs. K.E.P.S. (H) lost 1—4.

### An Under Ten XI

Aug. 28th vs. Rosebank (H) won 1—0.

Sept. 1st vs. K.E.P.S. (A) won 3—0.

### Summary of Results

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals for	Goals against
1st XI	19	15	1	3	59	19
B XI	16	11	3	2	45	14
C XI	8	4	1	3	13	7
Under Eleven XI	2	1	0	1	5	5
Under Ten XI	2	2	0	0	4	0
Totals	47	33	5	9	126	45

## PREPARATORY SCHOOL PHYSICAL TRAINING DISPLAY

Wednesday, 22nd September, 1954

Those who came to the end-of-term P.T. display prepared to be tolerant must have been surprised at the standard achieved.

First, each form showed a different style of exercise. Those of Lower I, Upper I, Lower II and Lower III covered the conventional types; Upper II demonstrated instructional games; and Upper III executed some co-operative pair exercises, whose complexity was matched by a very commendable performance.

Next, "special squads" were selected from each form. The skipping and head-stands of Lower II, the obstacle-race (complete with maze) of Upper II, the competitive pair-exercises and tug-of-war of Lower III and the medicine-ball work of Upper III—all were worthy of praise.

The display was ended by a finale, in which all the boys took part: the School pennant was raised by a small team on a supported pole surrounded by concentric circles of boys exercising with footballs. That so many boys could arrive, exercise and leave without chaotic results was remarkable, and reflected credit on their instructors—as did the whole display, marked as



it was by precision and, one believed, enjoyment on the part of the instructed; always a major consideration.

Warm sunshine brought some three hundred parents and relatives, who themselves generously provided an excellent tea to round off the occasion.



# Old Johannian Association



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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Club House on the evening of 16th June, 1954. The Chairman, Mr. J. F. T. England, reported:

I have pleasure in presenting the report of the Governing Committee for the year ended 31st December, 1953.

### Membership

The number of members as at 31st December, 1953, was made up as follows:

Ex-officio Honorary Members	46
Life Members	425
Partly-paid Life Members	3
Ordinary Members	610
Honorary Members	30

There has been a decrease of 31 members during the year. Of this number, there were four deaths of prominent members, namely Father Thompson, Father Hill, Dean Palmer and Mr. Morison Abel. The first two were Headmasters of the School and Mr. Abel was for many years Chairman of the Association and a member of the College Council. The Committee have been patient with members who were in arrear with their subscriptions, but it has been necessary to strike off a number of members during the year. It is a source of disappointment to your Committee that members have to be struck off. The subscription is indeed moderate and can cause no hardship to anyone.



## Finance

The audited Balance Sheet and Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1953, are before you.

It will be noted that there was a loss for the year amounting to £572. Most of this has arisen from the fact that a new bond was arranged on the Club premises during the year and a raising fee and legal charges had to be paid. In addition, the rate of interest payable on the new bond was higher and, until a new agreement was reached with the Club, this extra interest had to be borne by the Association.

After the last Annual General Meeting, a Special Meeting was held at which the Committee were given authority to dispose of the Club property on such terms and conditions as it thought fit. Subsequently representations were made to the Committee and, as the Committee was able to secure two new bonds to replace the existing bond, the Committee did not proceed with the disposal of the property. Your Committee wish to emphasise most strongly that the bonds they have secured are only fixed for a period of two years and members can, therefore, only regard this period as giving them an opportunity to arrange some more permanent method of financing the property. Your Committee has commenced discussions with the Club Committee to make a debenture issue but, owing to certain domestic difficulties, the Club Committee have not been able to give the matter proper consideration and the matter has been delayed. It will, however, be essential in the coming year to reach some decision and thus remove the uncertainty of the bond being continually called up and stopping your Committee from devoting its energies in other directions.

A new lease is being arranged with the Club and will be finalised shortly. Under this lease, the annual amount received from the Club will be £2,000 a year. On the other hand, the Association has waived the loans that it has made to the Club in the past amounting to £16,000, which loans the Club had used for expenditure on Club improvements. Altogether the new arrangement should prove satisfactory to the Association.

You will note that the funds of the Association have been depleted during the year. The reasons were mentioned earlier, whilst we have also been paying the instalment for the four stands that were purchased last year. The annual rent we are now receiving from the Club will be in excess of our commitments and it is hoped once more to build up our funds.

You will also note that during the year we received the sum of £400 from the Estate of the late F. J. Hamilton. We are indeed grateful to him, and your Committee hope that other members will also remember the Association when making their bequests.

## Bursary Committee

The existing bursaries have been examined and the reports received about the various recipients have been encouraging and show that the boys concerned are making good progress.



## Functions

The Annual Dinner was held at the Club on 23rd October. There was a good attendance and there is no doubt that this is a very popular function with members. The Committee would, however, welcome a larger attendance of Old Johannians at this affair, as it is an excellent way of renewing old friendships, and it is gratifying to see the number of members who come from far and wide. At the dinner we received a telephone call from Bulawayo, where a gathering of Old Boys were also holding a dinner, and greetings were exchanged. The principal speaker at the dinner was Mr. H. Flather, the Editor of "The Star," and in a witty and thought-provoking speech he held the attention of all present.

The Hon. Mr. Justice Ramsbottom proposed the toast of St. John's College, to which the Headmaster replied. Mr. D. G. Paxton proposed the toast of Kindred Associations and guests, to which Mr. Tom Griffin of Old Parks replied.

It seems as if the running of the dinner has become the right in perpetuity of Messrs. Lawther and Silcock. One can only thank them once again for all their hard work, and your Committee wish to thank the Club for one of the best meals we have had there.

## Bursary Scheme—St. Peter's School, Rosettenville

It is with regret that we have to report that little progress has been made apart from contributions by individuals. As soon as the Club's bonds have been finalised, the Committee will be able to deal with the bursary schemes.

## School Prizes

The Association's presentation bats for the best batting and bowling performances were presented to W. Patrick and D. Orr, and two debating prizes were also presented.

## Property

During the year the Club informed us that the four stands we purchased last year were not required by them. Accordingly, your Committee decided to try and dispose of them but to date it has not been able to do so. There are some members who consider it a pity that these stands should be sold and feel we should do our best to retain them, but your Committee feel that, whilst they would be pleased to keep them, the finances of the Association do not warrant their retention. The Committee will be pleased to hear the views of members on this matter as the stands have not yet been sold.

## The Old Johannian Club

The Club prospered during 1953 and many more members made use of the facilities that the Club had to offer. It was discovered early in 1954 that the Club Secretary had misappropriated a considerable sum of money, with the result that the Club has had a difficult time.



The members of the Club have rallied to the assistance of the Club and by means of a special levy they hope to make good the loss suffered by the Club.

### **Amendments to Constitution**

In the new Constitution of the Club, it is no longer necessary for the Chairman of a Sub-Club to be a Member of the Association and, therefore, the Constitution of the Governing Committee will have to be amended. As you are aware, Chairmen of all Sub-Clubs are ex-officio members of the Committee. It is felt that the whole Constitution of the Association needs revision and your Committee are at present considering the matter.

### **Magazine**

The Editor of the Magazine, Mr. Smale-Adams, has tendered his resignation owing to his departure overseas. Your Committee would like to thank him for all the hard work he has done and especially his efforts to gather news of Old Boys. We wish him every success at Cambridge.

### **General**

In concluding this report, my Committee wishes to pay a special tribute to the person who really does all the hard work for the Association, namely, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Hoar. Many of you probably have no conception of the hours of work that are involved in keeping the records and accounts of an Association which exceeds 1,000 members. I wish to appeal to members to keep this work to a minimum by replying promptly to all letters and accounts that are sent to them and notifying changes of address.

Finally, I wish to express my personal thanks to all members of the Committee for their support and the work they have done during the year.

### **Election of Officers**

The following members were elected to office for the ensuing year:

**Chairman:** Mr. Fred England.

**Honorary Secretary/Treasurer:** Mr. H. R. Hoar.

**Editor:** Mr. W. Lane—it being suggested that an informal sub-committee be formed consisting of Old Johannians of various generations to assist Mr. Lane.

**Functions:** Messrs. A. M. Lawther and B. Silcock.

**Bursary:** Messrs. R. Gettliffe and E. M. Brayshaw.

**Representatives on Club Committee:** Mr. E. M. Brayshaw.

**Additional Members:** Messrs. R. E. Somers-Vine, E. Thompson and R. Jarvis.

**Honorary Solicitors:** Messrs. Abel, Somers-Vine and Murray.

**Honorary Auditors:** Messrs. G. K. Tucker and Wilson.



## General

The Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Mr. Fred England, the Honorary Solicitors and Honorary Auditors.

## ROUND AND ABOUT

**Cyril Gettliffe** is practising as a doctor in Umtali and **Philip Gettliffe** is now at Williamson's Diamond Mine at Shinyonga in Tanganyika.

**Michael Strathern** is touring the country in his capacity as an internal auditor with the Electricity Supply Commission. His brother, **John Strathern**, who is a geologist on West Rand Consolidated Mines, Limited, was recently married.

**Eric Thomson** has gone to Kenya on long leave prior to retiring from the services of the Anglo American Corporation.

**W. F. Thomas** is Mine Secretary at Virginia in the Orange Free State.

**Frank Lane** is managing a factory for the United Tobacco Company in Blantyre, Nyasaland. With him is **Bob ("Tank") Ackermann**. Ackermann trained in England as a diesel engineer and brought an English wife with him out to Blantyre where he is working with a local firm of engineers.

**John Hipkin** writes from the College of Agriculture at Cedara to say that he is in his first year and that **John Thorburn**, **Peter Suttén** and **Erwin Gebers** complete their courses in October this year.

**E. O. Gibson** reports as follows about the activities of Old Johannians in Cape Town.

"It has always been the aim to hold a reunion of Old Johannians in the Cape on the evening before Gaudy Day in each year. As we see so little of each other for the rest of the year, it has recently been decided to hold a stag-party in addition at the beginning of October. The first of these "half-yearly" events took place in Rondebosch on 30th September, 1953, and was attended by 25 Old Johannians and 2 representatives of the Old Andreans Association.

"The latest reunion was a dinner-dance at Constantia Nek Restaurant on Wednesday, 26th May, 1954. This event was enjoyed by 15 O.J.'s together with their wives and five guest-couples (among whom were the Cuckow twins and two Old Andreans). Here is the list of Old Johannians who were present:

**Bourhill, J.; Bullock, M. H.; Clow, S. J. B.; Cuckow, P. E.; Davenport, T. R. H.; Finlay, M. J.; Gibson, E. O.; Jenkin, Dr. P. S.; Lawther, J. A.; Lucas, J. A.; Reitz, J. D.; Sim, J.; Stott, B. C.; Von der Karst, M. B.; Watts, S. W.**

"Regrets were received from about a dozen O.J.'s and our numbers suffered from a counter-attraction at U.C.T. for students.

"I am sorry that a dry list is all that can be sent, for I can assure you that we all enjoyed the party."



**Harold Currie** has gone overseas to further his studies in law at Lincoln College, Oxford.

**Basil Tredrea** was married to Miss Betty Thompson on 24th July, 1954. At present he is filling in time driving Safari cars but will be settling in the Copper Belt in December.

**A. R. Kirby** writes from Kitwe, Northern Rhodesia:

"**H. Battersby** was over in Ndola for a while and I ran across him once or twice. He told me that he was going back to the Union but I'm unable to remember whether it was permanently or just a spot of leave.

"A couple of months ago I ran into **D. Philcox** and **D. Anecke** who were on their way north. I take it that they were heading for the wilds of Central Africa.

"**Pat Yates** is working for the Rhokana Corporation and tells me that **Eric Thompson** is due up here shortly for a few days' visit.

"**Roger Bull** took a leading role in a recent production of 'Trial by Jury' at the local cinema-cum-theatre. He has now gone overseas and is, I believe, at Bristol University.

"My brother, **Harold Kirby**, is still stationed at Ysterplaat and was recently promoted to Major.

"I received a short note from **Mike Straker**, who was married in Scotland recently. He is now farming at Katrina's Rust in the Potchefstroom district.

"The most noteworthy event in my own career recently was my marriage to Doreen Askew of Johannesburg. We are now living out at Wusukili Sub Station, which is about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Kitwe.

"After a brief spell as the local Public Prosecutor, I am once again in charge of the Police Traffic Section. It keeps me pretty busy because this is now the third-largest town in the Federation and is expanding rapidly. Never a dull moment!"

**Basil Edge** writes: "After a prolonged period of liberation in the colder climes of Europe I am prompted by your circular letter—an excellent idea—to come out into the light. Since leaving St. John's in 1940, my contact with the School, the staff and the Old Boys has been negligible. This is due, not to lack of appreciation, but partly to circumstances and largely to sloth. One of the pleasures of senility is picking up old threads.

"Early in 1949, having qualified at Wits. and spent a year in the "General," I went overseas, with no purpose more definite than that of just going overseas. Once there it was not difficult to fulfil that ambition. For the first six months I did nothing. Nothing, that is, that one can put down on paper as being in any but the broadest sense profitable. The highlight of this period was a seven-weeks bicycle trip round the Continent—an exercise I strongly recommend to anyone in need of a mental or physical tonic.



"There followed a period of work, which we ignore, and go straight to 1951, which year I spent at the American Hospital of Paris. In an effort to expand my knowledge of modern languages (sadly deficient, I regret to say, in spite of an excellent schooling) I got engaged to, and duly—and most happily—married a French girl. There is much to be said for not knowing what one's wife is saying.

"Our return to England in 1952 was the beginning of another period of work, an unpleasant time of examinations, of temporary accommodation, food rationing, and so on. During this year we saw quite a bit of **Jean-Jacques Brossy**, who, after passing his F.R.C.S., became a Surgical Registrar at Hammersmith—a most coveted position, which he still retains. He intends returning to this country at the end of this year.

"We more or less settled in Durban a year ago and both like it immensely. There is, I gather, a good nucleus of O.J.s here, and I should be delighted to renew old acquaintances. As yet I have met only **James Davidson**, who, in between accidents, is building up a brave practice, **Lloyd Wellington**, and **Arthur Deale**. I am sure there must be more. We should be very glad to see them."

**Dennis Mason**, who is practising as an attorney in Johannesburg, gives us some information about the activities of his brothers.

"My brother, **Revil John Mason**, was down over the weekend. Revil graduated from the University of the Witwatersrand at the end of 1949 after obtaining a Bachelor of Commerce degree and was awarded the "Aiken Medal" for the best graduate in commerce for the year together with the Chamber of Industries Medal for Industrial Economics, and the Chamber of Commerce bursary. Archaeology had always been a hobby of Revil's, so much so that he decided to take a B.A. degree at Cape Town University in 1951 and majored in Archaeology and Anthropology. Revil is at present on the Archaeological Survey and is excavating the caves at Makapan which have recently come into prominence both in the Union and overseas as a result of the archaeological remains found there. Revil is at present writing his thesis for his Ph.D. and in between times has managed to do some mountain climbing at Ruwenzori in the Belgian Congo. Should time permit next year, Revil is hoping to do a trip overseas and perhaps do some climbing in India.

"My youngest brother, **Kennith Robert Mason**, is at present employed as a Geologist with the Premier Portland Cement Company at Colleen Bawn, Southern Rhodesia. Kennith majored in Geology and Chemistry at the Witwatersrand University and after obtaining his B.Sc. did a short trip overseas. On the boat he met his present wife, who was recently in Johannesburg. From all accounts being a Geologist in Rhodesia has its exciting moments. Wild life seems to be abundant and there is no shortage of venison for the occasional Sunday lunch!"



A very interesting letter was received from **Edward Brady**, who is at Newry, Co. Down, Northern Ireland.

"Quite a few years have gone by since I last wrote a few lines about myself for inclusion in "Round and About." In that time I have not had any contact with anybody connected with St. John's, but on the off-chance that some O.J.s of the 1924-29 vintage might be interested to learn that I am still alive and kicking, I am dropping you a line or two, which you can forward to the magazine editors if you think any part is worth a mention.

"I'll start off with domestic intelligence. My family has now risen to five—three boys and two girls. The eldest (a boy) is eighteen, and the youngest (a girl) is just two, so my wife and I have them in assorted ages and sizes! My eldest son has just finished his secondary school (high school to you) education. Like his father he runs to brawn rather than brains. In the classroom he has been the despair of his masters, but he is an Irish Schools' hockey international, having played inside-left for All-Ireland Schools, and also for Ulster Schools. A fortnight ago he won an international half-mile in an Irish Cadets v. Scottish Cadets match at Inverness. He won by a clear fifty yards, which is about the distance I came last in in the final of the half-mile at the Inter-High in 1929, so I doubt he's a better man than his Dad. It's a pity distance and circumstances prevented him from attending S.J. where he could have got more intensive coaching at athletics. Over here it's far too happy-go-lucky, which is the main reason why Britain as a whole does badly in international sport.

"So much for the family. Now about myself. I am still proprietor and editor of the local weekly rag. It is quite a famous little paper in its way, for a couple of years ago it was discovered by the B.B.C., and since then I have broadcast about it several times. Last year I broadcast a talk on "A Day in the Life of a Country News Editor" for the Overseas Programme, which was shortwaved to South Africa amongst other places. I don't suppose any of my South African friends heard it, and even if they did my accent would have prevented them from recognising me. It is Ulster Scots with a strong dash of South African. (Some mixture!)

"Considering my early aversion to all things scholastic, it is a strange trick of fate that about a year ago I was appointed to the Board of Governors of Newry Grammar School (the local equivalent of K.E.S. or Jeppe). At Speech Day on December 17th last I had the honour of moving the adoption of the headmaster's report in the presence of the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, Lord Brookeborough, who with Lady Brookeborough, had graciously consented to present the prizes. It was an exalted and unnerving occasion, but I understand I acquitted myself honourably. All the same I had the sneaking feeling that I was a bit of a hypocrite in so heartily endorsing what the Head said about diligently applying oneself to one's lessons!



"I am still interested in local politics, and have now represented the Donaghmore Division of Newry Rural District for over twelve years, for the last two of which I have been Vice-chairman of the Rural Council. As in the Union, politics can be pretty bitter over here. The two main parties are Unionist and Nationalist—those who want continued union with Britain, and those who want an all-Ireland republic. Unfortunately, religion increases the bitterness, because the Nationalists are 90 per cent. Roman Catholics. I dare say you have heard about the so-called repression of the Roman Catholic minority in the North, yet in my area the R.C.s, who number about 7,000, return 14 members to our Council, and the Protestants, with over 5,000, have only 7 members. That doesn't look much like repression.

"Well, that's about all the personal news, except that in a week or two my eldest son and I are going on a trip up into the Arctic Circle to within a few miles of the Soviet border. I am taking a camera with me, and am to write an illustrated article for an Ulster magazine. I hope that while we are up there the Communists won't be starting any rough stuff!"

**Euen Morrison** writes from Canada: "I am working for the Mineral Deposits branch of the Quebec Department of Mines at the moment and am engaged in mapping (geological) an area of some 30 square miles in the Gaspé Peninsula. The work has been undertaken as the result of recent copper mining activity in the area and is most interesting. I plan on staying here until the middle of October, when I shall return to Montreal to start studying for my M.Sc.

"I would be delighted to see any O.J.s, in particular those of a feather, for life in Montreal is worthy of close acquaintance.

"Canada is a wonderful country and though I have been here for only a short while I am particularly impressed with the speed and efficiency with which new mineral deposits are opened up. A remarkable contrast to Africa!

"My present set-up is ideal, a log cabin on the banks of a trout and salmon-infested river about ten miles from the small town of Murdochville. The geology is interesting and the fishing excellent. My only complaint is the extraordinary abundance and viciousness of mosquitoes and black flies, which at times make walking in the woods somewhat of an ordeal.

"One factor strongly in Canada's favour is the presence of a malt-hops extract in all stores which, with the addition of yeast, sugar and not too much water makes an excellent beer. There are three geologists in the party and we brew ten gallons a week at the cost of approximately 2d. a pint bottle. Life was never like this at home. The judicious addition of rice, raisins and malt to differing brews gives rise to a potent beer or "joy juice," not to be equalled by skokiaan or mampoer."

**Ian Macintosh** writes: "At the moment I am battling to try and get my Attorneys Admission. I wrote some supps. at the



half year but haven't heard the results. If all goes well I will be writing my finals in December. I am now doing my last year of articles and hope to come out of them at the beginning of the year.

"Meanwhile other things have been happening. The Bishop of Pretoria has accepted me as an ordination candidate and I will be going to St. Paul's at the end of January to start my theological training."

**Frank Kirk-Cohen**, who is practising at the Bar in Pretoria, was recently engaged to Sheila Cousins, who is herself a qualified and practising attorney.

**Denis Walwyn** recently announced his engagement to Miss Christine Watson of Johannesburg.

**Cedric Hicks** is engaged and hopes to be married in December to Miss Elva Cowan of Brakpan. He has recently branched out with his own business in what he calls "the building game."

**Tom Bothwell**, who received a Nuffield Travelling Scholarship, is furthering his medical studies in England.

Also engaged in furthering their studies overseas are **Robert Hyslop** and **Bud Lawson**.

**Ian Hodgkinson** who, with **Bill Mason**, has recently returned from a short trip to Europe, brings further news of **Brossy**. He is engaged but is apparently still uncertain whether he should return home now or go to America for further experience. Others whom Hodgkinson met in England were "**Copper**" **Purdy**, **Rex Wakely-Smith** and **John Richards**.

**John Harris** was married at the beginning of this year to Miss Joan Reid of Johannesburg. At his wedding was **Jim Cownie**, home on leave from the Handley-Page Aircraft Company in England.

**Air Commodore D. G. Morris**, R.A.F., whom we last heard of commanding a sector in Fighter Command in the South of England, later had the interesting task of commanding the air defences of London and South-East England. He is now attending a course at the Imperial Defence College in London. During August he was received by the Queen at Buckingham Palace and the Order of Companion of the Bath was conferred upon him.

**Peter Pirow** captained the Oxford Swimming Team this year and won two races in the Oxford versus Cambridge match. He is spending the long vacation in the United States, having been granted an International Research Fund Scholarship to study the American way of life.

**Noel Gettliffe**, who was previously first President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, was recently elected President of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce.



At the recent passing-out parade at the Saldanha Bay Naval Gymnasium, **Ordinary-Seaman J. C. Niemeyer** won the John Baard Cup for the most practical seaman of the year.

**K. D. Andrew** reports that he is living a quiet life running a bottle store in Sabie, spending his spare time trying to improve the local trout fishing, running a boxing club and assisting in Toc H and M.O.T.H. activities. He wishes more Old Boys would call in when they pass his way.

**A. M. Jenkins** was home on holiday from King's College, Cambridge, where he obtained a starred first in his history tripos. He has returned to Cambridge to do research work in history.

**Hugh Jackson**, who has joined the British South African Police, has been stationed in Bulawayo. While in Salisbury he met **Julian Scholtz**, who is now an assistant on Norton Estates.

**J. B. Dewar, J. Vieyra and J. ("Pop") Gordon** are articulated to Chartered Accountants in Johannesburg.

**David Paton**, who is at present lecturing in Psychology at the University of Natal, is leaving for Johannesburg at the end of the year with his wife. He is to start on a medical course at Wits. and his wife will teach in Johannesburg.

**Murray Yeats** of Maseru, Basutoland, was to be married on 9th October, 1954, to Miss Valerie Fleming, also of Maseru.

**Neil Yeats**, who graduated with a B.Sc. Civil Engineering, at the University of Cape Town at the end of last year, has been working in Canada for the last six months but intends to return to South Africa in the near future.

## REPORTS FROM SUB-CLUBS

### Squash

The Squash Section has had a very successful year and the court has, except perhaps during July, been fully patronised.

The Transvaal League is now over and the "A" Team has done even better than last year by finishing in third position in the Transvaal A League. The "B" Team has also done well and is placed above the middle of the B League although at the time of going to press exact log figures are not available.

The South African Championships were held this year in Natal, and two of the Jarvis brothers, Roger and Kendal, were our only representatives. Both did extremely well, Kendal winning the Plate event and Roger only being eliminated by national champion Brian Callaghan.

In the recent Transvaal Championships, however, we had eight players entered, and here we met with even more success. Four of our players managed to reach the last sixteen and Roger Jarvis caused the biggest upset of the tournament by beating



Brian Callaghan in the semi-finals. This avenged his earlier defeat in the South African Championships, but his fine effort took a great deal out of him and he was beaten 3—2 by Cecil Kaplan of Wanderers in the final. Kendal Jarvis again repeated his success of the S.A. Championships by winning the Plate event, and we would like to congratulate him on his two successes.

On Gaudy Day we sent a team of six to play a mixed team of boys and masters at the School. The match, which was a draw, was most enjoyable and we are looking forward to future Gaudy Days as this contest has now become a definite annual event. It was good to have John Massie from Tanganyika in our side and we sincerely trust that other Old Johannians who live too far away for normal league matches will be available for future Gaudy Days.

During the past six months we have also played friendly matches, notably doubles matches against Wanderers, which have been much enjoyed by all participants.

The Transvaal Knock-Out Competition and the Club Championship will be held during October and, in view of the current popularity of Squash, we are confidently looking forward to a record entry. As a climax to this year's Club Championships we are holding our first annual dance, on which occasion we hope that many new and old faces will make their appearance.

### Rugby

At the start of this season the Old Jeds 1st XV were placed in a Grand Challenge trial competition with seventeen other teams. Ten of these sides were to qualify for the Pirates Grand Challenge Reserve. The team started well but the lack of weight in the forwards and too few good backs told in the end and we were only admitted to the Reserve Competition. This, however, was promotion, and we eventually shared the last position with our old rivals Jeppe Old Boys. Peter Morgan, our loose forward, was selected as travelling reserve for the Transvaal XV.

Not only did our first team gain promotion but every other open side was promoted one league. None of these sides disgraced themselves; the 4th XV, in fact, finished in second place.

The U. 19 XV had a very enjoyable season and benefited greatly from the coaching of club members who have retired only recently. This team finished third in the strongest U. 19 league. We may truthfully say that the final result would have been much better had the injuries been less. Of these players Sid Goldsbury was a regular member of the Transvaal XV and Tom Hogan also played for this side until a knee injury put him out of the game for the season.

Our supporters will be pleased to know that the club is going from strength to strength and this past season fielded five open teams and one U. 19 XV.

As was expected, the teams took some time to settle down in their new leagues and the results might not at first glance



appear to be in keeping with the high standard expected. However, we now have the experience behind us and have learned from our mistakes. Next season we are confident that the results will be much improved and expect our teams to gain places near the top of their respective leagues.

### Hockey

The Club entered five teams this year and all fared moderately well. At the beginning of the season the 1st Team promised to repeat last year's success in the Transvaal League. Unfortunately it struck a bad patch during the middle of the season but recovered sufficiently towards the end to come fourth in the League.

The 2nd Team fared better and came second in its League.

The general high standard of play in the Club is reflected by the recognition given to individual members. Jacky James captained the Transvaal Team, in which the Club was also represented by Russell Endean. Stan de Vigne was selected for the Transvaal 2nd Team, whilst James, Endean and Clarke played for the Johannesburg "A" Team. The younger players in the Club were well represented in the Johannesburg Colts by Yvic Bosman, Geoff Moorshead, Colyn Else, David Mitchell and Charles Verity.

### Bowls

The Bowling Section has progressed steadily during the year under review and there are now approximately 100 men and 30 women bowlers.

The highlight of the season was the National Bowls Tournament at the end of April, for which the top green was utilised for rinks matches and both greens for singles matches. Several visitors to the Club during the course of the tournament commented very favourably—not only on the excellent playing condition of the greens but also on the attractive setting of the Club in general.

The usual Archie Thorburn and Hector Ogilvie competitions have been held, and in February we had the annual visit of the White River bowlers. Your bowlers will be returning the compliment by visiting White River during the long week-end holiday next month.

There is still room in the bowling section for experienced bowlers and beginners who are assured of a hearty welcome.

### Tennis

The Section has completed a successful year. Two mixed teams were entered in the winter leagues and two women's teams and three men's teams played in the Southern Transvaal summer league—all teams did well. Bad weather has stopped play on a number of week-ends. The annual tournament has just been completed and the annual dance was held recently.



Our greatest need is for younger players to join the Section, and we would especially welcome members from the hockey, cricket and squash sections. We are exploring the possibilities of starting a junior section for the children of members, provided enough children come forward and courts can be made available.

### ANNUAL DINNER

A record number of about 120 Old Johannians gathered for the Annual Dinner on Friday, 17th September, 1954, at the Club House. The remarkable turn-out was no doubt due to the desire on the part of many Old Boys to take formal leave of the retiring Headmaster, the Rev. S. H. Clarke.

The toast of "South Africa" was proposed by the Hon. Mr. Justice A. Faure-Williamson, and this was followed by the toast of St. John's, proposed by the Chairman of the Association.

There followed the presentation to Mr. Clarke of a cheque donated by the Association and, in handing over the cheque, the Chairman paid tribute to Mr. Clarke and wished him, on behalf of all the Old Boys, a very happy retirement.

In thanking the Chairman and the Association for the presentation, Mr. Clarke intimated his intention of handing the cheque over to the School's Development Fund. His speech about the School, its past, its future, and the duty of the Old Boys in supporting the School, was received with acclamation.

The Dinner as a whole was a tremendous success and it is hoped that many of the new faces seen on this occasion will be seen again at this most popular annual event.

### PERSONALITY

We extend our congratulations to Judge Arthur Faure Williamson on being elevated to the Bench in the Transvaal. This distinction, although the first in the Transvaal, is the second to be bestowed on an Old Johannian, Judge Selke of Natal having likewise been honoured some time ago.

A son of the late A. E. Williamson, a former Accountant, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the City Council and Member of Parliament for Yeoville, the Judge was at St. John's College from 1908 to 1916, and after leaving studied Law and was called to the Cape Bar in 1922. In 1940 he came to the Johannesburg Bar, where after a distinguished career he took silk in 1945. He figured as counsel in many prominent cases and was the leader for the Crown prosecution in the famous Erleigh and Milne trial.

Like his distinguished father, who was Chairman of the South African Cricket Association and Wanderers Club, Judge Williamson was on the Executive Committee of the Western Province Rugby Football Union for a number of years; he also served on the S.A. Rugby Board as a representative of the Transvaal until he came to Johannesburg, and at the moment he is



Chairman of a Special Tribunal of the Transvaal Rugby Football Union. The Judge has always displayed a great interest in the sporting activities and administration of the Association, and although we will miss him in this direction we know that his duties on the Bench will be of greater service to the public.

### OBITUARY

#### Prince Nicholas of Yugoslavia

H.R.H. Prince Nicholas of Yugoslavia was the second son of H.R.H. Prince Paul, Regent of Yugoslavia from 1934 to 1941, and H.R.H. Princess Olga of Greece, elder sister of H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent.

He was born in London on June 29th, 1928, and after attending school in England lived for a number of years in South Africa after his family left Yugoslavia. He attended St. John's from April, 1944, to December, 1945, leaving after he had obtained a First Class Matriculation Certificate with distinctions in Latin and in History. In 1949 he went up to Oxford, where he took up residence at Christ Church. He was a member of the Oxford University Air Squadron and on leaving Oxford in 1952 he joined a City banking house and continued flying training with the R.A.F. at Chobham, Surrey, holding the acting rank of pilot officer. He was killed in a motor accident on April 12th at Datchet, Buckinghamshire, England.

#### Colonel Hubert Patley

The death of Colonel Hubert Patley, son of the late Mr. Joseph M. Patley, occurred on 21st June, 1954, at his home in England.

Colonel Patley, who was 59, was one of the first Johannesburg boys to attend St. John's College when it was opened. He was the School's first "Victor Ludorum," and received the Royal Humane Society's medal for saving life when he was 13.

He devoted much of his life to the army, was a regular senior officer in the British Army, and was once stationed at Robert's Heights as a major in the Union Defence Force. He had a distinguished war record.

Colonel Patley leaves a widow and a son in England.

#### W. A. Morison Abel

We regret that we have not previously recorded our sense of loss at the passing of the late William Alexander Morison Abel on 30th June, 1953 at the age of 66.

"Mabs," as he was affectionately known to all his friends, was born in Aliwal North and commenced his distinguished career as a lawyer in 1905.

He was a Past Chairman of the Rand Club and was prominent in Masonic circles, having held Grand Lodge rank.



In the sporting world he was well known as Past President of the Transvaal Hockey Association, Past President of the Transvaal and South African Golf Unions and until his death a member of the Rules of Golf Committee at St. Andrews.

He served the Association, not only in his capacity of honorary solicitor to the Association since its inception, but also by his very keen interest in fostering sport in the Association. He was Chairman of the fete held in the City Hall in May, 1927 to raise the funds with which the old ground at Norwood was purchased, and the Golf Trophy, which is competed for each year, was presented by him.

A man of a quiet, retiring disposition, he will be much missed by those who were fortunate enough to be associated with him.

### ABOUT OURSELVES

It is pleasing to be able to publish letters from Old Johannians living in such distant places as Canada, Kitwe and Ulster, and not only the Editor but all readers of these pages are grateful to those who have taken the trouble to write. The "Round and About" column reveals the Association in its true nature as the instrument for uniting the hundreds of men scattered across Africa and the globe who are joined together by the same memories and the same loyalties. It is the means whereby, with a minimum of effort, old friendships may be kept alive even when distance and lack of time prevent more personal communications. We hope that an increasing number of members will make use of this magazine as a means of keeping in touch and exchanging news.

Unfortunately there are some with whom we are losing contact and this is usually due to their not notifying the Secretary of their changes of address. It would be much appreciated if members would please let the Secretary know when they change their addresses. His address is P.O. Box 1599, Johannesburg.

The Committee is considering the revival of the Annual Ball which was such a popular event before the war, and will be pleased to hear the views of members on the matter.



## PLACES WE HAVE LOVED AND TRUSTED

*Your life and mine are the better for the memory of somewhere where there is calm, where sunlight has poured across green lawns and there are majestic trees and beds of flowers rockeries and old quiet buildings.*

*Places where at any time we can wander and ponder on the things which are God's, where it will be the same tomorrow as today and no scurrying crowd presses on to a better view.*

*The world cries out for these lovely corners of our earth; the beauty of the seaside without buildings, enclosures, roads or man-made structures, the calm and majesty of the mountains, the sweep of mile upon mile of open veld, the protecting loveliness of deep-wooded ravines.*

*Old St. John's College is to many of us one of the lovely places in our lives and from it springs the memory of those lovely views and the old stone buildings which will give pleasure and love to generation after generation after we have gone and forgotten; the chapel where many of us learnt the meaning of closer communion with God; the playing fields where we learnt to compete and like it; the friendship of masters, whose main thought was for our good and the spirit of "Lux-Vita-Caritas."*

*J. Rex-Bowden.*

*St. John's. 1910-1919.*

*30.7.54*











