

New Plymouth
Boys High School
Magazine.



EDITED BY THE BOYS AND PUBLISHED AT
THE END OF EACH TERM.

No. 1.—Vol. 1.

May, 1912.

The New Plymouth Boys' High School Magazine.

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New Plymouth High School.

[ESTABLISHED 1882.]

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1911.

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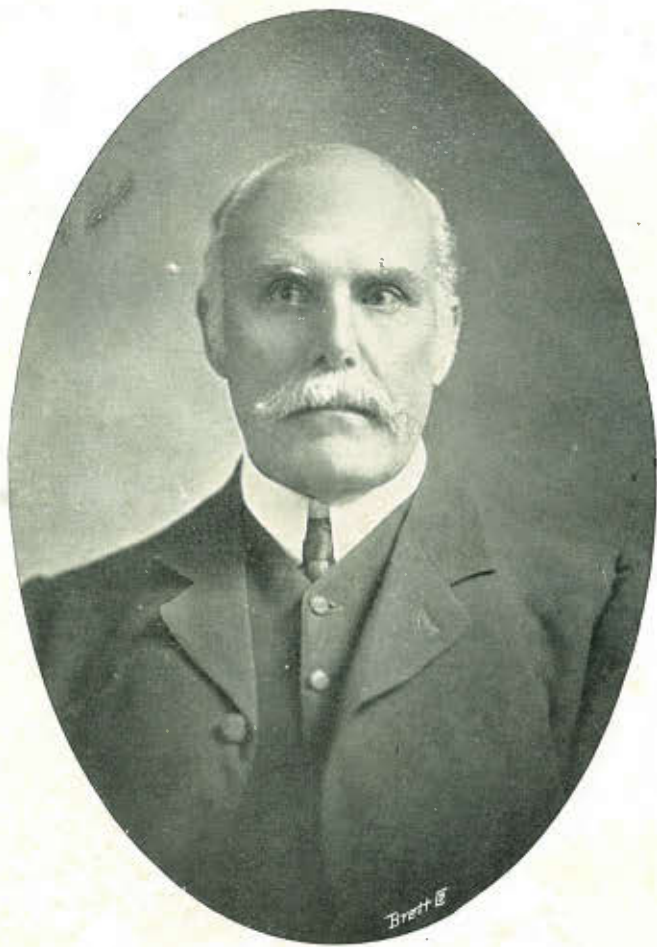
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E. PRIDHAM, ESQ., M.A.
(PRINCIPAL FROM 1882—1911.)

The New Plymouth Boys' High School Magazine.

Edited by the Boys of the School.

PUBLISHED AT THE END OF EACH TERM.

MAY, 1912.

No. 1.

Subscriptions (3/- per annum) will be received by the Business Manager,
H. H. WARD. Address "High School, New Plymouth."

EDITORIAL.

IT is unnecessary to enlarge upon the various reasons for justifying the existence of a school magazine, but a few words on the causes that bring such a journal into being may not be out of place in an inaugural number.

Modern school life is made up of numerous activities, of which study, though by far the most important, is only one. In order to have a flourishing school, all the various institutions must be maintained with enthusiasm. To knit all these organisations into one concrete whole, is the function of every school magazine, and its work is therefore of paramount importance. It also acts as a powerful stimulus among the ever increasing ranks of the old boys, by keeping them in touch with the institution which guided their first intellectual footsteps.

Any school which is nothing more than a mere cram shop, falls far short of the ideal. Work is, of course, the reason for its existence, but we hold that the main end of a secondary school's aim is the cultivation of strong self-reliant characters; and the more a boy throws himself with energy into every department of school life, the more will he succeed in his work, and the more fitted will he be to take his part in the strenuous life to follow.

Experience has taught us that a school magazine is of incalculable value in encouraging a spirit of esprit de corps, without which no school can attain a high standard of usefulness.

Our school has many advantages; the site is unrivalled, the climate here is a good one, and the district has great possibilities before it, while the school is well endowed. The number of boarders is on the increase, and now that the new building is rapidly nearing completion, our prospects altogether are bright.

We trust that the Magazine will have a wide circulation among old boys, and will enable them to increase the interest which they have always taken in the school. The response met from them to the circular, calling attention to the starting of a magazine, has been splendid. As we grow older and gain a wider connection with those old boys who are scattered over the world, we hope that they will before long, form a corporate entity, full of determination to advance the interests of the school.

An Old Boys' Association which is formed merely for the sake of social intercourse is never successful. The main object of such a body should be to help along the institution where they were taught. This can be done in numbers of ways, of which the founding of a scholarship could be one.

It would, however, be quite a wrong conception of the functions of an Old Boys' Association to look upon it as simply a milch cow. The tie is essentially one of sentiment, and is simply an extension of national patriotism. A rather saddening part of a master's life is that at the end of every year he must part with numbers of boys whom he has come to look upon as friends. This is inevitable, and where there is no means to keep in touch with these old boys, they drift further and further from memory. A magazine helps to bridge over this gulf, and any old boy who looks back with feelings of affection to his school can by the aid of such a paper, keep up his interest.

We may conclude by urging on the present boys to keep before them the high standard of thoroughness of work and upright conduct, of which they have had a notable example since the inception of the school,

FOOTBALL.

The season was opened immediately after the Easter holidays, but owing to rehearsals for the play, practices have been somewhat interfered with. It is too early to venture an opinion as to what form the first fifteen will show, but we can say this much, that it will be strong in the forward division and weak in the back. The forwards as a whole are a weighty lot, with plenty of dash, but the backs are sadly in need of a few sprinters.

As the cricket pitch has been ploughed and levelled, practices are being held in the racecourse, and we take this opportunity of thanking the Star Club for their kindness in granting us the use of their ground. We are indeed fortunate in having such an extent of land as the racecourse adjoining the school property, for, as the school grows and more practice grounds are necessary, we can always avail ourselves of this.

The first fifteen has been entered for the Second Junior Competitions, and it is only natural to suppose that a strenuous season's work is ahead of it.

Our thanks are due to the Taranaki Rugby Union for allowing us to become affiliated to it. We can assure them that we fully appreciate their action, and that we will do our utmost to show that we are worthy of their consideration.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL.

In the past Junior Football has, to a certain extent, been neglected in the school, and our younger players have had to be satisfied with practices against the Seniors, and with a scratch match, on rare occasions, against some of the Primary Schools.

Last year things improved somewhat, and a definite time for practice was allotted, which enabled the Juniors to get in three half-hour practices per week. Some of the members of the first XV. took a keen interest in our "embryo" footballers, and on occasions they superintended the practices. However, it must be admitted that the Juniors did not receive the attention they merited. The committee of the Primary Schools Competition kindly allowed us to enter a team for their competition, and in this our team did very creditably, playing a draw against each of the Central and Stratford teams, and defeating West End.

This year Junior Football promises to be more interesting. The new boys are a likely-looking "lot," and, even though they are rather "on the small side," are already showing that they are going to produce some good footballers.

We hope to have next term an Inter-Junior Team Competition in the school, besides some matches against the Primary Schools. So far the Juniors have been classed into two groups, viz., the "A," consisting of boys of more than one year's standing, and the "B," consisting of first year boys.

Practices at the end of last term were unavoidably interfered with to a certain extent by concert rehearsals, but nevertheless some good training has been carried out. More dash is wanted only in the case of a very few players, the main faults being a tendency to tackle too high, to get out of position in the game, and an inability to handle the ball well.

At such a time as this, when the season is just commencing, it is inadvisable to criticise players too harshly, but it may be well to pen a few remarks concerning the individual play.

Of the A team, Avann is undoubtedly the pick of the backs. He is handling the ball well, and is setting a fine example in his tackling and kicking. Should he continue to improve as he is doing at present, he should find a place for himself next year in the Senior XV.. Hawkes is doing good work, but has a tendency to get off-side to a pass. He will undoubtedly rid himself of this fault by practice. Grant is not keeping up the reputation of his brothers, does not make sufficient use of his pace, and is inclined to lose his head when he gets the ball. White is playing a much improved game, but for a half-back plays the ball too much with his feet, and so does not feed his backs sufficiently. Of the forwards, Clemow is showing very promising form. King is playing much better than formerly, and when he knows the game better, should make a good forward. Putt, Fair, and Teed are the medium members of the pack, and should strive "to get into" the game in better style. Hempton plays a good, hard-working game, and shows plenty of pluck, but should get out of the habit of running wildly, as Marfell did found out one afternoon on discovering Hemp-

ton's head pitted in his stomach. Matthews is playing a solid game, but rehearsals have prevented his attending many practices.

Of the B team, mention can be made here only of those boys who have practised regularly. Some boys have been prevented from playing in the past by their parents, but we are pleased to say that now the majority of these boys are taking up the game. Of the backs, it is difficult as yet to pick out the best players, but Hill, Oliver, and Sykes are playing fine games. Lack of combination and poor line kicking are at present the main faults of the backs, and the forwards show them a much better example in this respect. Hill and Oliver both handle the ball and also tackle well. The former, however, must learn to run straight. Sykes has a very bad habit of collaring an opponent round the neck. Brokenshire at half is improving wonderfully in the game, and Grayling on the wing is playing very well. The forwards are, on the whole, a good lot, and Marfell, Paterson, Terry, and M'Hardy, are all showing fine form. For his size Marfell is, without doubt, the pick of the forwards. He is never wanting in pluck, and his tackling and following up are all that could be desired. Paterson and Terry will both, from present appearances, find places for themselves next year in the first XV., but they both possess the fatal habit of running across the field instead of straight. Terry, too, has a habit of getting in front of the ball at a kick-off. M'Hardy is one of our best forwards, and plays a sterling game. While mentioning our best players, we should not forget the "try-hards." These include Herbert, Luxton, and Ellerm. Herbert is a little lacking in dash, and for a wing-forward is not aggressive enough. Ellerm is showing wonderfully improved form, and for a new player is doing well.

Some of our new boys have an idea that practices mean a practice match every afternoon. This, however, is wrong, and every junior should clearly understand that these scratch games will be rare. Practice is meant to be practice, which includes tackling, passing, following up, and the hundred and one things which fit a team to compete with success against outside schools.

The authorities governing Primary School football have decided that teams from Secondary and from District High Schools shall not be allowed to compete.

We can see their point of view, but still we think it a pity that the number of teams should be curtailed, especially when the competition can hardly be described as alive even under the conditions of last year. At all events, whether the committee's action in barring the teams is a wise one or not, it is unfortunate that our Juniors are to be deprived of regular matches.

CADET NOTES.

1910

CAPTAIN: Mr. A. R. Ryder.

SENIOR SUBALTERN: F. E. Clarke.

JUNIOR SUBALTERN: H. M. Norris.

COLOUR-SERGEANT: C. V. Day.

SERGEANTS: D. A. Lusk, L. G. Goss, W. Whitton, G. Martin.

CORPORALS: J. H. Mander, E. Grant, N. F. Little, A. T. Bacon.

BUGLER: L. Richards.

1911

CAPTAIN: Mr. A. R. Ryder.

SENIOR SUBALTERN: C. V. Day.

JUNIOR SUBALTERN: L. G. Goss.

COLOUR-SERGEANT: G. Martin.

SERGEANTS: J. H. Mander, E. Grant, N. F. Little, J. M. Box.

CORPORALS: E. Colson, A. F. Little, I. Pott, W. Mulloy.

BUGLER: R. W. White.

DRUMMER: G. Beck.

1912

CAPTAIN: Mr. A. R. Ryder.

SENIOR SUBALTERN: L. G. Goss.

COLOUR-SERGEANT: N. F. Little.

QUARTER-MASTER SERGEANT: H. M. Lepper.

SERGEANTS: A. Bruce, E. Colson, I. Pott, A. F. Little.

CORPORALS: B. Sinclair, J. Grey, C. Hamblyn, G. Chong.

BUGLER: R. W. White.

DRUMMER: G. Beck.

It will be noticed that the names of the officers and non-commissioned officers for the last three years are given, the reason being that this is the first magazine we have published since the Cadet Corps came into existence.

The corps had for its first year a roll of 50 all told. The second year's roll was 60, and this year the number stands at 71. Although we have not nearly a full company, we have plenty with which to do satisfactory work. Some of our keenest Cadets have left

us, and we would be sorry to lose many more of the type of Lieut. Day, Sergts. Grant, Mander, Adlam, and Corporal Mulloy. Still, with the remainder of last year's Cadets as a nucleus, we have great hopes of making a good corps this year. The recruits were a rather raw lot at first, but they settled down to it quickly, and are now drafted into the company, where they are doing their best to keep up with the "veterans." Their greatest difficulty was in the mastering of the bayonet exercises. One lesson was spent in teaching one boy that it is absolutely necessary to place the rifle between the legs when unfixing bayonets.

As our corps is a recently formed one, the last two years have been spent to a large extent in recruit drill, although some more advanced drill has been taken to relieve the monotony of this rather dull work. The boys have evidently seen that this is absolutely necessary, for they have entered into it with a good spirit, and have now the consolation of knowing that all the drudgery is behind them.

Great improvement is noticed by the officers in the general drill of the corps this year. The drill of former years has been very satisfactory; but what we want is something which may be described as excellent, and if the boys go on improving as they are at present, we need have no fear of having a corps of which we will be ashamed at the end of the year. The most marked improvement is in the marching. This is, no doubt, due to the fact that we have had a drum added to our property. The drummer was rather out of practice at first, but he has improved wonderfully of late, and is now a great help to the company.

The non-commissioned officers have of late shown great improvement in their manner of giving commands, and the fact that they are learning to use their voices has greatly improved the drill.

The corps looks very neat in the new school uniform. The original uniform was after the same style as that of the Territorials; but now this is used only on state occasions.

The drill has been to some extent affected on account of the great difference in the size of the boys. Some of the bigger boys in the school are over six feet, and some of the smaller ones are barely four feet, so it will be seen that the "Dreadnoughts" have rather a job to regulate their pace to suit that of the "youngsters"

When the big chaps forget that their smaller friends are "plugging along" behind, they begin to stride out, with the obvious result that large gaps are made between the lines. Some of the smaller ones have a great difficulty in hoisting the rifles up and down, and show great pluck in the way they tackle it. Although small, these boys are by no means the worst in the company.

At the end of each term a competition for the sections is to be held, points to be given for general and squad drills, appearance, and word of command of the sergeant. Great interest is being taken in this matter, and each sergeant is making the best of the short time in which he is left with his section during each parade, for the purpose of training it for this competition.

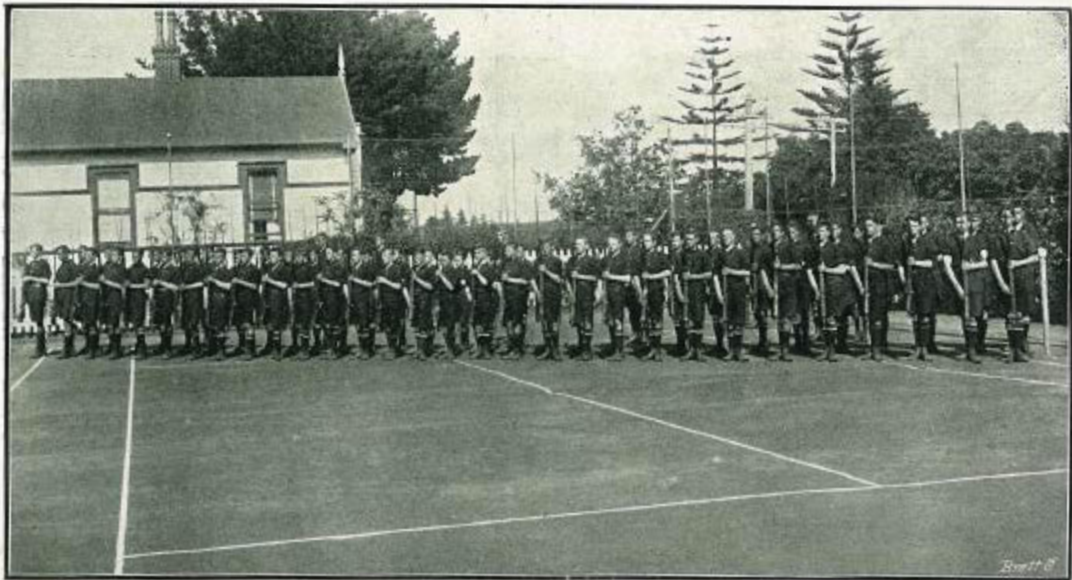
Most of the drill this term has been done on the road and in the racecourse, on account of the ploughing up of the school ground. Nothing very startling has happened, except one small incident. This trifling circumstance was a little war of words which took place between a farmer with a flash horse and one of the officers. While this little battle was being waged, the recruits saw a good opportunity of turning round and laughing, but they were quickly brought up by the responsible party, and the farmer, seeing that his language was being wasted, decided to drive on.

There is a great likelihood of a camp being held at the end of the year. This, as anyone who has the least knowledge of drill knows, is the best opportunity for getting into form. If it is as successful as the last camp we held, great improvement should be noticed in all branches of the training.

We hope to be inspected at some early date by Colonel Malone, officer commanding XI. Regiment, and we are also hoping that we may be chosen as guard of honour to the Governor on the occasion of his visit to New Plymouth for the purpose of opening the new Agricultural Hall.

At the beginning of the term, the Board of Governors built us a set of lockers in the Gymnasium for the storing of uniforms. These have proved of great use to us, and we are grateful for the addition.

The corps is armed with the old "Martini Enfield" rifles and the old triangular bayonets. These are very awkward to work with, and consequently the fixing and unfixing of bayonets takes about twice as long as it should.



CADET CORPS—1912.

The first section competition was held on the last day of the term, May 3rd. The drill as a whole was very satisfactory, and the rather low marks are due more to the fact that points were given very sparingly than on account of bad drill. A few marks were lost by each of the sections on account of the nervousness of some of the smaller boys. A feature of the competition was the word of command of the section commanders, and especially that of Sergeant A. Little, who scored 12 marks out of the possible 15.

	Rifle Exercises.	Marching.	Firing Exercise	Total.
	POSSIBLE 30	POSSIBLE 30	Command, Appearance. POSSIBLE 40	100
No. 4 Section:				
Sergt. A. Little ...	21	25	26	72
No. 3 Section:				
Sergt. Pott ...	22	23	24	69
No. 2 Section:				
Sergt. Colson ...	18	23	26	67
No. 1 Section:				
Sergt. Bruce ...	18	20	24	62

No. 4 section showed that they had been well drilled by their sergeant (A. Little), and we here congratulate Little on his success. The general appearance of the corps was good. The boots were a little muddy, but this was no doubt due to the fact that it had been raining for several days.

SHOOTING.

We have been severely handicapped both this term and the last through the non-arrival of the Government ammunition. We were, however, able to borrow sufficient to complete the 1911 championship. The ranges over which this was fired were 200yds., 300yds., and 500yds. The shooting was not of a brilliant order, but this was partly due to the tricky winds, which seemed to wait for us on Saturday mornings, and also to the fact that we were shooting with Martini-Enfield rifles which were not of the most recent issue. The championship fell to Sergeant Pott, and to him we offer our congratulations, for undoubtedly he set a fine example by his keenness and doggedness.

N. and A. Little, Grey, Hamblyn, and Lepper showed up prominently at the beginning of the matches, but fell away later on.

The following are the scores of the first five in the competition:

1	Sergt. Pott	...	...	130
2	Sergt. A. Little	...	...	117
3	Corp. Grey	...	...	109
3	Qtr.-Mstr.-Sergt. Lepper	...	...	109
4	Corp. Hamblyn	...	...	102

We should like here to take the opportunity of expressing our thanks to Captain MacDiarmid, who presented the Champion Belt to the corps. Captain MacDiarmid is an enthusiastic volunteer, and as an old boy, has shown the keenest interest in the welfare of the corps.

A miniature range has now been completed in the gully by the boys, and will undoubtedly be a great benefit to those Cadets who intend to improve themselves at shooting. A Junior and a Senior Championship is to be commenced next term, when we hope to have our Morris tubes. Already some of the boys are showing very fair form with the pea-rifle on the range, Pott having made 33, Candy 34, and Crone 31 out of a possible 35.

We are looking forward to the arrival of our Lee Enfields from the Defence force, and then we hope to enter a team in the "Schools of the Empire Competition."

Lieutenant Willis, of the A Company, New Plymouth Territorials, has kindly consented to coach our shooting team. We are very lucky to have the help of such a fine shot.

SWIMMING SPORTS.

The swimming sports were held about the half term. It was the first meeting of the kind held at the school, and naturally the boys all looked forward very eagerly to having a good day's sport. The following committee was elected:—N. Little, E. Colson, C. Crone, L. Goss, I. Pott, J. Grey, and A. Little.

It was at first intended to hold the meeting in the Municipal Baths, but the Council decided that as they were the custodians of the public, who pay for the upkeep of the Baths, they would be unable to accede to our request to hold them there. We now began to look about for a suitable place. It was suggested that we

should go to the "Meeting of the Waters," but the prospect of being bitten by sandflies caused this proposal to be ruled out of court. A large majority decided in favour of Pukekura Park, which the Board kindly put at our disposal.

Mr. Smith, the curator, helped us by his extremely useful advice, and was very generous in allowing us the use of tools and other requisites, not the least of the latter being the boats, which proved invaluable to the tired competitors after their races.

While all this preliminary work had been going on most of the boys had been assiduously training. The "Rec." was much frequented in the early hours, and the splashing and shrieking of a number of excited boys must have very much startled the finny denizens. The solitary swan which cruised around at the lower end of the lake was not much startled. It accepted the situation with the easy mien of a bird that is interested only in "grub." Those venturesome youths who entered for the long dive, found abundant occupation in taking headers off the bridge, and a few idle youths (we regret to say) spent their time in frolicking about in boats instead of attending to the more serious business of training. The position of those boys who were on the swimming committee did not prove a sine-cure. All the course had to be measured, a temporary springboard had to be constructed, flags had to be placed round the edges of the lake, and even a starting-off platform had to be constructed. Arrangements were made for a supply of coffee and biscuits for the boys between each race, and this was perhaps the most highly appreciated action of the committee. Marquees were erected for the boys to undress in, and an attempt was made even to run a flag up the flagstaff, but there being a stiff breeze and we being not exactly experts at climbing the slippery pole, the attempt fell through. We had intended to hold our sports on the previous Thursday, but owing to the bad weather we postponed them to the 21st March. The outlook did not look promising in the morning, but the boys would not hear of the meeting being again postponed, and perhaps as a reward a truly delightful day resulted. The large crowd present proved very enthusiastic. Gay dresses were much in evidence, and even the camera fiend was not a defaulter. Under the influence of all these auspicious circumstances the sports could not come off otherwise than successfully. The boys swam very well,

though they had to contend with a strong southerly wind. However, in most of the races very creditable times were attained. Messrs. W. Lints, L. B. Webster and A. R. Standish kindly acted as judges. All present were unanimous in praising the boys' swimming and the management of the meeting. Perhaps from the standpoint of the expert and experienced swimmer, a swimming bath is a more satisfactory place for a meeting, but given a fine day, the beautiful surroundings more than compensate for any technical disadvantages, which were in any case of a very trifling nature. It would be advisable, however, to hold the next meeting earlier in the year. Although the day was an exceptionally fine one, inasmuch as no rain fell, yet the coldness of the water was very trying to the competitors, and prevented any fast times being recorded. Of those who swam, perhaps Pott, Goss, S. Ewing and Hooker stood out by themselves. Pott in particular has the makings of an exceptionally fine long-distance swimmer, while Hooker's steady, powerful stroke was much admired. S. Ewing, too, deserves special praise for the way in which he stuck to his formidable opponent Goss.

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The Championships were held on the same day as our sports. The results proved interesting, and the swimming was fairly good.

The programme was well arranged, so that the would-be champions did not have to swim several races one after the other.

The results were as follow:

SENIOR CUP.

25yds.—Ewing, 1; Goss, 2; Pott, 3. This was a fight right through between Ewing and Goss, Ewing winning on the rope. Pott swam out of his course.

50yds.—Goss, 1; Ewing, 2; Pott, 3. Goss and Ewing fought it out, Goss winning by a yard; Pott being just behind, third.

100yds.—Goss, 1; Ewing, 2. As these were the only starters, this race was rather disappointing. It was a neck-to-neck contest, Goss just winning.

220yds.—Pott, 1; Ewing, 2; Goss, 3. One of the best races of the afternoon, Pott winning easily. Goss tired early, but swam the distance.

The points gained in the Senior Championship were: S. Ewing, 9 points; Goss, 9 points; Pott, 5 points.

JUNIOR CUP.

25yds.—Kelly, 1; Ewing, 2; Bruce, 3. Very hot finish, Kelly just touching the rope first.

50yds.—Kelly, 1; Bruce and Ewing ii, dead heat, 2. The most exciting race of the day, all three boys touching the rope almost at the same time. The judges were unable to separate Ewing ii and Bruce.

100yds.—Kelly, 1; Ewing ii, 2; Bruce, 3. Kelly was far too fast for the rest, and won by 10 yards from Ewing.

The points gained were:—Kelly, 9; Ewing ii, 5; Bruce, 3.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Ewing i, Goss and Kelly. Ewing i and Goss will be given a cup each, and their names will be bracketed together on the challenge cup.

The following are the results of the other races:—

30yds. (Open).—Hooker, 1; Day, 2; Claridge, 3.

30yds. (New Boys).—Sykes, 1; M'Hardy, 2; Broken-shire, 3.

30yds. (on Back).—Guild, 1; Lepper, 2; Salt, 3.

50yds. (Open).—Hooker, 1; Kelly, 2.

50yds. (Breast Stroke).—Kelly, 1; Beck, 2; Jenkinson, 3.

100yds. (Open).—Pott, 1; Mason, 2.

220yds. (Open).—Pott, 1; Ewing i, 2; Mason, 3.

Long Dive.—Grey, 1.

Neat Header.—Howell, 1; Brokenshire, 2.

Diving for Plates.—Sykes, 1; Leech and Guild, 2.

Old Boys' Race, 100yds.—N. Howell (4sec.), 1; R. Okey (5sec.), 2.

THE GYMNASIUM.

As is always the case at the end of the year, there has been a big clearing out of many of the older boys, with the result that several of the more prominent gymnasts, including two of the squad leaders, had to be recruited from the next generation.

Since C. Day and E. Grant left, two leaders had to be chosen to fill their places. These were A. Little and C. Hamblin, the others being as they were the previous term.

In the selection of the teams for the current year, the annual relay race from Waitara, the champion gymnastic squad competition at the end of the year; and the swimming relay race, had all to be taken into account.

The new boys are a very enthusiastic lot; before and after school, and during the recesses, they can be seen putting in hard practice. D. Sykes seems to be one of the most promising of the new comers, and will be a very capable gymnast before long.

A special team of performers for trick work had to be selected, and judging by the display they made, they seem to have put in assiduous practice.

For a few weeks, Mr. Lints, our instructor, was unfortunately unable to continue his classes through illness. We are glad to see him about again, as vigorous and keen as ever.

Another drawback to regular work was the want of a horizontal bar, as the one we had was broken. It was impossible to get one in the town. One has now been procured, but in the meantime the exercises in that particular department have suffered.

Two new ropes for the rings have been put in, and in consequence this fascinating part of gymnastics has been flourishing. Perhaps it is the swinging that makes this branch popular, but at all events this particular apparatus is rushed.

Cupboards have been put in this term for the gymnastic togs, a want which for a long time had been much felt.

Several boys are keeping the championships at the end of the year well in view, and are practising hard. The new pair of parallel bars is a useful addition to the appliances, especially to the smaller boys, as the other pair was rather too large for them to work on effectively.

Now that winter is approaching, the punching ball has been used a great deal, and during every part of the day it can be heard in motion. A few spells at this useful exercise is a wonderful invigorator on a cold day.

As the field has been ploughed up and sown in grass, we are unable to have the exceedingly useful runs round the track before beginning the actual gymnastic work. Some enthusiasts are making up for this by turning out in the morning for a run round the race-course. Their ardour after the first few days was somewhat cooled, however, by the extremely squally weather.

AGRICULTURAL CLASS.

This class is working enthusiastically, and though it has been in existence a short time, is doing very valuable work. It is expected that in the future more prominence will be given to this very useful department of school work. The Department especially has a soft spot in its heart for this particular branch of education, and does all that it can to foster it by liberal capitation. In a pastoral community such as ours, it is of the utmost importance that boys who intend to take up farming should have a more than rule of thumb knowledge of their work. The University Senate is giving the matter more attention than hitherto, and proposes to establish scholarships to encourage the study. As yet, however, the marks given in the Matriculation and Junior University Scholarship examinations are such that a boy who wishes to gain success in either of these examinations, is barred if he takes the agricultural course. The consequence is that a lad of exceptional abilities, by taking this course, cuts himself off from the chance of distinction both on his own account, and that of the school. Until, therefore, secondary schools cease to be judged by the amount of success in the University examinations, or until the Senate alters its curricula, promising boys must be discouraged from entering upon any course other than the ordinary.

The roll of boys in the class is as follows:—1911: L. Avann, H. Lepper, A. Little, R. Campbell, C. Kirton, S. Hooker, R. Matthews, A. Marfell, N. Skelton, L. King, T. Bates (left in first term). 1912: L. Avann, H. Lepper, A. Little, R. Campbell, C. Kirton, R. Matthews, A. Marfell, L. King, F. King, S. Candy, N. Ellerm.

The following subjects are taken:—Chemistry, Botany, English, Arithmetic, Agriculture, Physical Measurements, Drawing, Woodwork.

The school ground is peculiarly fitted for a class of this kind. The gully which was the spot selected gets the sun during the greater part of the day, and the steep cliff around protects the young plants from the searching sou'-easter. As the ground was shoulder high in fern and blackberry, a start was made in clearing, by putting a fire through it.

In order to make the plot reasonably accessible, a path was cut round the hill down to the garden. This took some time, as at first the class had to work with borrowed tools. The track was carefully planned to run down by a gradual slope, so that barrow work would be possible. It winds round the side of the gully in a spiral form. By cutting away the bank, and by throwing the earth so obtained down the side of the hill, a track was made about four feet wide. About half-way down a heap of ash was found from the grass that was taken off the ground some four years ago, and burnt there. This very fine soil we kept, and afterwards used with our potatoes, and also for putting round the fruit trees.

When the path was finished, a beginning was made at fencing in a piece of the level land at the bottom.

By this time the class had its own tools, and work was in consequence less intermittent. The tools were, five each of the following: spades, shovels, Dutch hoes, push hoes, rakes; and also two grubbers and a wheelbarrow.

As the piece of land that had been fenced in was not well drained, it was necessary to dig, along the southern boundary, an open drain about five feet deep. The lower part of the plot had then to be dug up. This was hard, uninteresting work, as the soil was matted with blackberry and fern roots.

After this plot had been dug and partly levelled, it had to be dug over again, in order to kill the roots. This piece was then dug up into plots, each plot being worked by two boys. Each strip was about seventeen by twenty feet, and the strips were separated from one another by a path of about two feet in width. The next few days were spent in completing the levelling, and in breaking up the ground ready for the sowing of the first seeds. As the ground was rather rough, this work took some time.

Up to this time there were only slip bars at the entrance to the garden, but now a gate was put up, which the class had made at the Technical School,

On July 4th—auspicious day—the first seeds were put in, consisting of a row of broad beans and some dwarf peas. The beans were, however, not a success, as they were ruined by the humble bees, which took the honey by breaking in through the spur at the back of the flower. Another curious fact is that these bees did not touch the peas in the next row.

During the course of the next few months the following seeds were planted:—One row of turnips, two of peas, two rows of climbing beans, a row of carrots, one of parsnips, two rows of beet, two rows of swede turnips, one row of early and two of late potatoes, two rows of mangolds, and two beds of marrows.

As the horses did a great deal of damage to the path, it was decided to enclose a much larger piece of land—about a quarter of an acre. Great difficulty was experienced in moving the fence, but eventually it was managed. The Board then made a present to the class of twelve fruit trees. These were planted on the terrace that had been cut out of the hill below the path. For each tree, a hole was made about four feet deep, and about two feet in diameter. These were filled in with the good soil kept from the path. Thus ended the year's work.

This year, the time of the class has been occupied in digging the potatoes and storing them in a pit. Sand was put at the bottom of the pit, and over this was put a layer of potatoes. Over them was placed a layer of rushes; then another layer of potatoes, and so on. In this pit the whole crop was stored.

The crops last year were rather poor, but considering that it was the first time that the ground had been worked, things might have been worse.

The plots have been levelled and made smaller, each being about eight feet square. In the eight beds thus made have been planted Timothy, Cocksfoot, Perennial Rye, Italian Rye, Lucerne, White Clover, Red Clover, and Alsylke.

A small flower garden has also been made, and this branch has succeeded fairly well.

Some exceptionally large broad beans have been grown, the pods of which are over a foot long. The work as a whole is having the effect of taking off from the gully the desert-like appearance it formerly presented.

BOARDERS' NOTES.

The Boarding establishment is as yet in its infancy; but we cannot grow "tout-a-coup" (as the French would say) into manhood; and now, indeed, our period of infancy is almost at its end, for in a month or two we are going to blossom out into the ties and socks of youth. We are, in short, about to leave "Niger House," in which we have been for the last two and a half years, and to take up our abode amidst the concrete walls and the electric light globes which are now being rapidly built up and polished off. "Niger House" was built only as a private residence, and so has not the fittings nor, indeed, the general design, suitable for a boarding school. The new building, however, of which we shall be able next issue to give a detailed description, will in general up-to-dateness, healthfulness, and suitability of design, compare favourably with any similar institution in the Dominion.

The house began in 1910. That year four boarders (N. Little, Lusk, Bayly, and A. Little) played for the first fifteen, and two (N. Little and Lusk) for the first eleven).

The event of the year was the farewell concert to Leech, who left before the end of the third term. Murphy's brewery, which had been raided the day before, supplied a liberal amount of ginger-beer. An exhaustive list of toasts was gone through, interspersed with musical items and recitations. The lack of a piano did not spoil the fun. Beyond a rather dubious feeling in the front middle region of the abdomen, the boys suffered no harm from this dissipation.

At the beginning of 1911 we were strengthened by the advent of Lepper, Bruce, and Blundell, none of whom gained places in the eleven or the fifteen.

At the beginning of the year we were increased by Guild and Luxton, and later by Goss, White, Monteath and Sykes. Three of us (N. Little, A. Little, and Goss) were in the first eleven.

Burkhardt was this season captain of the B Junior eleven, and distinguished himself by coming out with an excellent bowling average (twenty-five wickets for sixty-four, or an average of two and a half) and a good batting performance (average, eleven and a half). N. Little, who captained the first eleven, distinguished himself by coming out with the worst batting and bowling averages in the team.

At the end of 1911 the house was done up, and an enormous clay bank levelled off, giving us a far wider view of the town and harbour. Ample fire escapes were also fitted up. At the beginning of the year the house was painted inside and out; for some time in New Plymouth turpentine was at a premium.

The last term of last year our House Master was presented by a friend with a fine Cocker Spaniel. It was a very nice dog, but it did not know the difference between shoes or "quinine-and-iron" tonic and dog-biscuit. They all went the same way. Early this term it developed symptoms strongly suggestive of hydrophobia, so was dispatched by some boys told off for the purpose with three pea-rifle bullets and a brick-bat.

As the weather became more nippy, some of the more timid began to shirk the responsibility of the cold shower. This temporary backsliding was soon settled by a prefect, who shall be nameless, but whose stentorian tones and Hercules-like proportions cowed the recalcitrants into facing the music.

The conversation at the meal table keeps up its old-time briskness. We no longer hear the evergreen argument as to the respective merits of the "Mountaineer" and "Triumph" motor bicycles, for the two loquacious and mercurial youths who never tired of this subject have left. There are, however, still brilliant scintillations of wit and eloquence when the debate as to whether the "westerly" or the "southerly" is the more fiendish wind of the two, holds the floor.

The political and cricket enthusiast is as vigorous and keen-witted as ever. Repeated calls for salt, and his dreamy pre-occupation are a continual source of amusement. Although our volatile friend has gone, the dreamy one has still a doughty opponent in combating his statement that Inglewood is a more thriving metropolis than Waitara. His rooted objection to plum duff is still a matter of wonder and scorn.

In view of the cold winter nights to come, a wood-chopping carnival was held; one mighty knight of the axe, whose prowess might well vie with Dave Pretty or Gus Blanc called forth the admiration of the spectators. The choppers chose a time when the boys were coming up to school, so that they could display their skill and muscle to more advantage.

We have no conspicuously unpunctual member. One boy who generally cut things rather fine, and who sometimes entered the dining-room in the act of arranging his tie, has been put on the exempted list, owing to his daily duty of milking the house cow.

CRICKET.

This season has been most disastrous for the summer games, and although Taranaki has been no worse in this respect than other provinces, the weather has not encouraged enthusiasm. It is, however, a pleasing feature, that the Junior boys are being considered more every year, and consequently the interest in cricket has been steadily growing.

With the recent addition to our games fund, consequent on the increased subscription, we have been able to buy more material, and thus every boy in the school has had the opportunity of at least seven minutes' net practice every day.

The group system, introduced this term, has succeeded admirably, and many boys who had hitherto showed no fondness for the game have found attractions in it, which they did not before realise.

Our main difficulty so far has been the ground. When it was ploughed up and sown some three years ago the want of a mower and roller was soon seen, for the grass began to grow in tufts, until the whole was a waste of rat tail. By the end of the current year a mower and a roller will be bought, and the boys will thus be able to take a pride in their own ground, and look after it themselves. With a fine sward to practise on, we shall be able to devote more attention to that very important branch of cricket—fielding. In the former state of the ground, it was positively dangerous to "go down" to a fast ball.

The Seniors were divided into the A and B teams. The A team was composed entirely of boys, and the B team of both masters and boys. This is, we are sure, a wise move, as the boys are thereby made more self-reliant, and in the matches they have played have as a rule more than held their own—the match against Inglewood being a disastrous exception.

Next season we intend to enter a team for the senior Saturday competition. This team—to begin with at all events—will need the aid of the masters, but we hope that before long the boys will be able to hold their own by themselves.

Great care must be taken with our Junior groups. It is from their ranks that future cricket teams must be recruited, and therefore they must be encouraged in every way. Cricket has a great advantage over football in this respect, namely, that a boy can play the game many years after he leaves school, whereas anyone is foolish who takes on football much after twenty-five years of age.

Last year, the games for the Whittle Shield made matters exciting, but owing to one or two of the teams dropping out, the competition was narrowed to our two elevens and one eleven from the Central School. This latter team, which won the shield, was the best team playing, and certainly deserved its victory.

This competition will not take place next year, so far as we are concerned, unless the conditions are altered; for it is considered undesirable to have boys playing against their own school, as is the case at present with those boys who come to us from the Primary schools, at the beginning of the year:

Many of the Seniors are coming on well in the game, especially those whose attendance at the nets has been most regular. Two boys, Colson and Monteath, who are particularly keen, played in the Saturday competition and did very well. The confidence they gained in these matches stood them in good stead, when they played for the school. Lack of confidence is certainly the greatest obstacle with which young players have to contend. In practice they play with freedom; but when pitted against men, their nerve forsakes them, and they scratch about feebly, and finally go out for a few runs. They seem to think that men are terrible creatures, who bowl with the speed of a cannon ball, and knock sixes every over. Once their minds can be disabused of these morbid imaginings, they should do well. The only remedy for this disease is frequent matches, and next year, playing two matches a week, they should develop the confidence so much to be desired.

As pointed out above, the ground has made good fielding impossible. For this reason the habit of boys of standing around the net, waiting for a chance to bowl, has been overlooked; next year, however, regular work at fielding must form an integral part of the game; and no boy will be considered to have put in a satisfactory practice, or will, in fact, be marked present, unless he has done 10 minutes of hard fielding.

All boys must realise that no cricket ground can be made perfect without a lot of work being put into it. This they must do for themselves, and consequently the school must be divided into groups, coincident with the practice groups, to look after the wicket and the outfield, which must be cut and rolled continually.

In spite of the failure of the season as far as matches went, the boys put in a great deal of keen practice at the nets, and showed considerable improvement under the coaching of Mr. Bain, who very kindly gave up an afternoon a week for us. We take the opportunity to congratulate him heartily on the really magnificent averages, both in batting and bowling, with which he has finished up this summer.

Compulsory net practices for the seniors were held on Mondays, on Tuesdays (when Mr. Bain came up), and on Fridays. On Thursdays, if possible, a match was played. On several Wednesdays, free days, some of the boys had a few games of tennis on the girls' asphalt tennis court, which they were allowed to use for one afternoon a week.

At the end of 1911 the A team lost the services of Hooker and Grant, two of their best men, and of Box, while the B eleven lost Newell, a promising bowler.

The register of attendances at net practice shows a very satisfactory state of affairs. Certainly since the holidays the attendances have been compulsory; but the majority of the practices were held before Christmas. Out of twenty boys, only six have missed more than three times.

On account of the few matches played, the batting, and also the bowling, averages are no certain representations of the form shown by the various players. Those who, having played in only one or two matches, have been lucky enough to make one fair score, or one "not out," have come well up the list. Still, there are some near the bottom who ought not to be found below the fives and sixes.

Colson, Monteath and Grey, all of whom have been playing on Saturday, have shown the most consistent form.

Very much the same remarks apply to the bowling averages. Colson undoubtedly comes out with the best performance; if at Inglewood he had not been hit about to the tune of none for forty-one, he would have had a "fair snorter." H. Hooker and A. Little have also come out well.

DETAILS OF MATCHES PLAYED.

A SENIOR v. B SENIOR (not a Competition Match).

This match, which took place before the opening of the Thursday competition, was won by the A eleven by the wide margin of five wickets and eleven runs. The B eleven batted first, but none—except Grey—could stand up to Colson, who came through with the fine average of six for twelve. Grey, however, lasted right through the innings, finishing with twenty-five (not out). Sinclair hit out rather luckily for fourteen. Six "ducks" were registered.

For the A eleven Monteath amassed fourteen in careful style; but, later, Chong and Hooker hit out confidently, bringing the score from twenty-eight to sixty-five, when the innings was declared closed. Scores:

B SENIOR.

Richards, b. Colson	...	...	...	...	0
Grey, not out	...	...	...	...	25
Crone, b. Colson	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. Wills, b. Colson	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. Ward, b. N. Little	...	...	...	...	1
Sinclair, c. Chong, b. N. Little	...	...	...	...	14
Weston, c. Chong, b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	3
Newell, st. Goss, b. Colson	...	...	...	...	8
Ewing, c. Crone, b. Colson	...	...	...	...	0
Kirton, l.b.w., b. Colson	...	...	...	...	0
Campbell, c. Colson, b. A. Little	...	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	...	.3
Total	...	...	...	...	54

Bowling Analysis.—Colson, six wickets for 12 runs; N. Little, two for 9; Pott, none for 12; Hooker, one for 11; A. Little, one for 7.

A SENIOR.

Colson, b. Grey	...	...	...	5
Monteath, b. Campbell	...	...	...	14
Box, c. and b. Mr. Ward	...	...	...	1
N. Little, b. Ewing	...	...	...	4
Grant, c. Crone, b. Ewing	3
Chong, retired	13
Hooker, retired	22

(Innings declared closed)

Extras	3
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Total (for 5 wickets)	65
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Bowling Analysis.—Mr. Ward, one wicket for 11 runs; Grey, one for 12; Newell, none for 19; Ewing, two for 7; Campbell, one for 13.

THURSDAY JUNIOR COMPETITION.

A SENIOR v. CARRINGTON ROAD.

This match, which took place on the School grounds, proved rather a farce, as the Carrington Road team could muster only five men. They, however, selected six "substitutes," and batted first. The beginning was rather disastrous, but L. Richards (19, not out) and A. Richards (14) made a stand for the fourth and last wicket.

Grant, for the A eleven, knocked up thirty-one in brisk style, while A. Little (18, not out) also made a good stand. None of the others reached double figures. P. Hooker (six for 22) was the most successful of the visitors' bowlers. Scores:

CARRINGTON ROAD.

M'Ewen, b. Colson	...	...	...	0
W. Hooker, run out	...	...	...	9
P. Hooker, c. Sinclair, b. N. Little	...	...	...	1
L. Richards, not out	...	...	...	19
A. Richards, b. Colson	...	...	...	14
Extras	...	...	...	4
Total	...	...	...	47

Bowling Analysis.—Colson, two wickets for 20 runs; N. Little, one for 19; Grant, none for 4.



PREFECTS—1912.

STANDING—J. GREY, L. GOSS, I. POTT.

SITTING—A. LITTLE, N. LITTLE (Head), E. COLSON.

A SENIOR.

Monteath, b. L. Richards	...	...	...	6
Grant, c. M'Ewen, b. P. Hooker	...	...	...	31
Grey, b. L. Richards	...	...	...	2
N. Little, l.b.w., b. P. Hooker	...	...	...	3
Colson, c. M'Ewen, b. L. Richards	...	...	...	6
A. Little, not out	...	...	...	18
Ewing, b. L. Richards	...	...	...	0
Sinclair, b. P. Hooker	...	...	...	2
Chong, b. P. Hooker	...	...	...	0
Goss, c. W. Hooker, b. P. Hooker	...	...	...	9
Hooker, b. P. Hooker	...	...	...	6
Extras	...	...	...	7
Total	...	...	...	90

Bowling Analysis.—L. Richards, four wickets for 48 runs; A. Richards, none for 13; P. Hooker, six for 22.

B SENIOR v. FIRE BRIGADE.

Played on the School ground. School won the toss, and elected to bat first. The first partnership yielded 26 runs. Hooker registered the highest score, hitting out well for 18, while Richards batted well for a slowly compiled 9. Goddard (four for 13) and Bray (four for 8) were the best of the Brigade's bowlers.

For Fire Brigade, Bray (16), Goddard (11) and Wigley (12) reached double figures, but the tail failed miserably, producing only two runs. The Brigade were 8 behind their opponents' score. Hooker (three for 5) secured a good average in the bowling. Scores:

HIGH SCHOOL B.

Mr. Ryder, c. Gunson, b. Wigley	...	...	...	15
Mr. Ward, c. Bullo, b. Wigley	...	...	...	11
Mr. Wills, b. Goddard	...	...	...	6
Hooker, b. Bray	...	...	...	18
Richards, c. Gunson, b. Goddard	...	...	...	9
Newell, c. Bullo, b. Bray	...	...	...	0
Hamblyn, b. Bray	...	...	...	1
Lepper, c. I. Bullo, b. Bray	...	...	...	0
Campbell, not out	...	...	...	5
Burkhardt, b. Goddard	...	...	...	6
Weston, b. Goddard	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	6
Total	...	...	...	77

Bowling Analysis.—I. Bullo^t, no wickets for 21 runs; Goddard, four for 13; Wigley, two for 19; L. Bullo^t, none for 10; Bray, four for 8.

FIRE BRIGADE.

L. Bullo ^t , b. Mr. Ryder	...	...	...	6
Bray, c. Richards, b. Mr. Ward	...	...	...	16
Goddard, b. Mr. Ryder	...	...	...	11
I. Bullo ^t , c. Hooker, b. Mr. Ward	...	...	...	8
Wigley, c. Newell, b. Mr. Ward	...	...	...	12
Gunson, b. Mr. Ward	...	...	...	5
Petty, c. Newell, b. Hooker	...	...	...	1
B. Bullo ^t , b. Hooker	...	...	...	1
Hose, st., b. Hooker	...	...	...	0
Brabant, not out	...	...	...	0
Whitaker, b. Mr. Ward	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	9
Total	...	...	...	69

Bowling Analysis.—Mr. Ryder, two wickets for 22 runs; Mr. Ward, five for 33; Hooker, three for 5.

A SENIOR v. INGLEWOOD JUNIORS.

School batted first. The first four wickets fell quickly, producing only about a dozen runs, but Colson and A. Little for the fifth added about forty. Both men, especially A. Little, played with great caution for over an hour; when at length dismissed, Colson had scored thirty, and A. Little only twelve, mostly in singles. The fielding of the local men was keen. J. Harris (four for 24), Allen (two for 11), and B. Sutherland (two for 17) secured all the wickets.

L. Sutherland and Fowler opened for Inglewood. Scoring was at first slow, but the batsmen after a while hit out confidently, and scored at double-quick time, completely demoralising the fielding. Sutherland, and then Allen, began to hit wildly, and were dismissed for fifteen and fourteen respectively, but Fowler kept going consistently till he reached fifty-eight, when he retired. De Launey (twenty-seven, not out) was following hard in his footsteps, when the innings was declared closed. A. Little secured both wickets for nineteen runs. The other averages speak for themselves.

Scores:

HIGH SCHOOL A.

Monteath, c. Allen, b. Harris	...	...	...	0
Colson, c. Nicolls, b. Sutherland	...	...	...	30
Grey, c. Sutherland, b. Allen	...	...	...	6
N. Little, run out	...	...	...	0
Sinclair, c. and b. Allen	...	...	...	0
A. Little, b. Harris	...	...	...	12
Goss, c. Nicolls, b. Harris	...	...	...	4
Chong, run out	...	...	...	3
Ewing, c. B. Sutherland, b. L. Sutherland	...	...	...	8
Hooker, b. Harris	...	...	...	0
Blundell, not out	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	7
Total	...	...	...	70

Bowling Analysis.—J. Harris, four wickets for 24 runs; Allen, two for 11; L. Sutherland, none for 3; Fowler, none for 4; M. Harris, none for 4; B. Sutherland, two for 17.

INGLEWOOD.

L. Sutherland, c. Goss, b. A. Little	...	...	...	15
Fowler, retired	...	...	...	58
De Launay, not out	...	...	...	27
Allen, b. A. Little	...	...	...	14
M. Harris, not out	...	...	...	5
(Innings declared closed)				
Extras	...	...	...	14
Total (for two wickets)	...	...	...	133

Bowling Analysis.—Colson, no wickets for 41 runs; N. Little, none for 26; Monteath, none for 13; A. Little, two for 19; Grey, none for 8; Chong, none for 12.

A SENIOR v. CARRINGTON ROAD JUNIORS.

School batted first, and put up a very poor showing. Monteath (13) and Ewing (11) alone reached double figures, and then not without some luck. Hodge (four for 13) and Hooker (three for 9) had things pretty much their own way.

Perry (10), Skelton (11) and Billing (17, not out) reached double figures for the Road.

Colson (three for 13) bowled very consistently throughout the greater part of the innings. Chong (one for 4) and Goss (one for 6) also bowled well near the end.

The school's fielding was, for once, keen, Sinclair at long-on holding a difficult catch from Renner in brilliant style. Quilliam, whose services the eleven was lucky enough to obtain for the match, was, of course, very good behind the stumps. Scores:

A SENIOR.

Colson, b. Hodge	...	...	...	2
Monteath, b. Hodge	...	...	...	13
Quilliam, c. Hooker, b. Billing	...	...	...	4
N. Little, b. Hodge	...	...	...	2
Grey, c. Healy, b. Hooker	...	...	...	0
Sinclair, c. Billing, b. Hooker	...	...	...	0
Chong, b. Hooker	...	...	...	1
Goss, c. Billing, b. Hodge	...	...	...	1
Ewing, c. Billing, b. Healy	...	...	...	11
Day, b. Billing	...	...	...	3
Hooker, not out	...	...	...	5
Extras	...	...	...	5
Total	...	...	...	47

Bowling Analysis.—Billing, two wickets for 22 runs; Hodge, four for 13; Hooker, three for 9; Healy, one for 2.

CARRINGTON ROAD.

Renner, c. Sinclair, b. Colson	...	...	...	0
H. M'Ewen, b. Colson	...	...	...	8
Perry, c. Quilliam, b. Little	...	...	...	10
H. Hooker, b. Chong	...	...	...	9
Healy, st. Quilliam, b. Colson	...	...	...	4
Billing, not out	...	...	...	17
Skelton, b. Goss	...	...	...	11
Hodge, b. Monteath	...	...	...	1
W. Hooker, run out	...	...	...	1
W. Healy, c. and b. Grey	...	...	...	6
Knauff, b. Monteath	...	...	...	4
Total	...	...	...	71

Bowling Analysis.—Colson, three wickets for 13 runs; Little, one for 19; Chong, one for 4; Monteath, two for 15; Grey, one for 6; Goss, one for 6.

NET PRACTICES.

The number of practices attended by the members of the senior net for 1911-12 are:

(1.) Total 23.		(2.) Total 14.		(3.) Total 9.	
N. Little	... 23	Newell	... 14	Candy	... 9
Chong	... 22	E. Grant	... 13		
Colson	... 22	H. Hooker	... 12		
Monteath	... 22	Box	... 2		
A. Little	... 21				
Campbell	... 21				
Ewing	... 20				
Hamblyn	... 20				
Pott	... 20				
Sinclair	... 20				
Weston	... 18				
Richards	... 17				
Crone	... 16				
Goss	... 14				
Grey	... 11				

NOTE.—The boys of column (1) practised right through the season, those of column (2) left the school at the end of 1911, while Candy came to the school only this year.

BATTING AVERAGES FOR SEASON.

	No. of Matches Played	Total No. of Runs	Highest Score	Average
H. Hooker	... 2	40	22*	40.0
A. Little	... 2	30	18*	30.0
Grant	... 2	34	31	17.0
Grey	... 4	33	25*	11.0
Colson	... 4	43	30	10.7
Monteath	... 4	33	14	8.2
Chong	... 4	17	13*	5.6
L. Hooker	... 3	11	6	5.5
Campbell	... 2	5	5*	5.0
Ewing	... 4	19	11	4.7
Goss	... 3	14	9	4.6
Richards	... 2	9	9	4.5
Sinclair	... 4	16	14	4.0
Newell	... 2	8	8	4.0
N. Little	... 4	9	4	2.2
Weston	... 2	3	3	1.5
Hamblyn	... 1	1	1	1.0

*Not out.

BOWLING AVERAGES FOR SEASON.

	No. of Matches	No. of Wickets	No. of Runs	Best Performance	Average
Ewing ...	1	2	7	2 for 7	3.5
H. Hooker	2	4	16	3 for 5	4.0
Goss ...	1	1	6	1 for 6	6.0
Colson ...	4	11	86	6 for 12	7.8
A. Little ...	2	3	26	2 for 19	8.6
Grey ...	3	2	26	1 for 6	13.0
Campbell ...	1	1	13	1 for 13	13.0
Monteath ...	2	2	28	2 for 15	14.0
Chong ...	2	1	16	1 for 4	16.0
N. Little ...	4	4	73	2 for 9	18.2

RESULT OF MATCHES OF A AND B ELEVENS.

Eleven	Matches Played	Won	Lost	Total Runs made	Total Runs made ag't	Average Runs per inn'gs
A	4	2	2	272	312	68.0
B	2	1	1	131	134	65.5

JUNIOR CRICKET.

The above notes are from the pen of a youthful and enthusiastic member of one of the Junior elevens. As his copy has been subjected to very lenient sub-editing, we hope that our readers will excuse juvenile eccentricities of style.

Everybody is familiar with the proverb, "The boy is father to the man," which is generally applied to work and ideas. It may just as well be applied to games, and especially in school games such as cricket or football. There is always a senior team in any game in any school, and generally the junior teams are not given much attention until a man for the senior team is wanted. About three years ago the seniors were the only team which practised at the cricket nets, while the juniors had to wait for a chance, with the result that a fairly even first eleven, excluding the masters, could not be got together. Two years ago two junior teams of equal strength were chosen, and two nets were obtained, where they could practise. In the same year Mr. Whittle offered a shield for competition among the different schools, and so High School put in two teams called A and B teams respectively. Bayley was elected captain of the A team, and Crone of the B team. The competition began with six different teams, namely, High School A, High School B, Central, Scouts, West End,

and Fitzroy. There were some very good matches. West End and the two High School teams were very even in the first round. In the second round High School B won every match, and so won the shield. Their win was mainly due to their fielding and to Little's bowling, whose best average in a match was eight wickets for 4 runs. The following are the points gained by all the teams:—High School B, 22 points, 1; West End, 20 points, 2; High School A, 14 points, 3; Boy Scouts, 8 points, 4; Central, 4 points, 5; Fitzroy, 0 points, 6.

This year the competition commenced with four teams: High School A, High School B, Central School, and West End School. The following played in the High School teams this year:—High School A: Hooker (captain), Mander, Day, Ewing, Kidd, Clemow, Fordyce, Hawkes, Hempton, Evans, Kirton, Leech, Paterson, and Putt. High School B: Burkhardt (captain), Avann, Adlam, Blundell, Bruce, Grant, Kirkby, Lepper, Hirst, Hill, Skelton, Wilkie, Marfell, Mason, Terry, and White.

In the first round Central was too good for any of the other teams, and so won every match, with High School B second. It was thought that Central were going to win the shield without losing a match, but in the next round they beat High School A, and were beaten by High School B by a wicket and 12 runs. Now the teams were equal, and so had to play again a fortnight afterwards. Central won this match by 27 to 22 runs, their win being mostly due to their good fielding and High School B's bad fielding, six catches being dropped. The position of teams came out as follows: Central, 10 points, 1; High School B, 8 points, 2; High School A, 4 points, 3; West End, 0 points, 4. West End did not play in the second round.

THE GROUP COMPETITION.

The groups are called A, B, C, D, and two groups practised on the same day. On Monday and Wednesday A and C practised, and on Tuesday and Friday B and D. The first match was between A and C, their captains being Burkhardt and Hooker respectively. C won the toss and put A to bat, Clemow and Oliver opening, but Clemow was bowled before a run was scored. After that the batsmen kept their wickets up, although runs were made slowly, and by half-past five all the team were out for 103 runs, Oliver making 34 runs by sound batting. It was too late for the C to bat; so the match

was finished a fortnight afterwards. They made 76 runs, and so A won by a big margin. B and D then had a match, and B batted, making 40 runs, no man making a great show, but when D batted two of its men won the match for them, Jenkinson making 21 and Terry 18, while the rest of the team made 4 runs. To decide which was the best group, A and D played off. D batted and made 16 runs; five of the team made 3 runs, and there was one extra. Lepper and Clemow opened for A, and Clemow was bowled when eight runs had been made. Hirst and Lepper had made 32 runs when Lepper retired with 13 runs, and when Oliver made a run, stumps were drawn, A thus winning by 8 wickets and 12 runs.

SCHOOL COMPETITIONS.

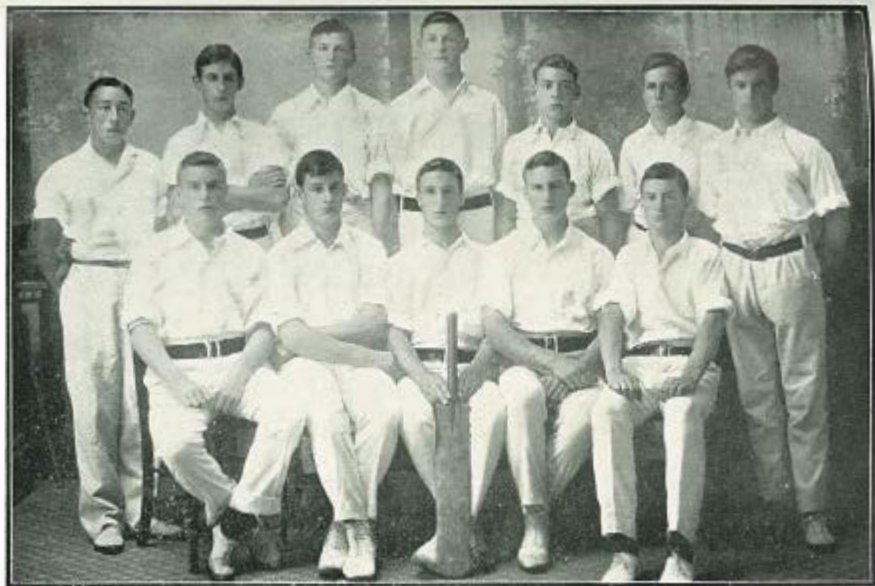
HIGH SCHOOL A v. HIGH SCHOOL B.

(First Round.)

This match, which was played on the School cricket ground, caused some excitement, because it was to show which team had to be looked to to win the shield which the B team won last year. A won the toss and batted, making 22 runs, of which Mander made 9. B batted and made 66 runs, Adlam making 21 of them. Scores:

A.					
Day, run out	...	...	...	...	1
Ewing, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
Fordyce, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
Hooker, c. Bruce, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
Mander, not out	...	...	...	...	9
Clemow, c. Avann, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	2
Kidd, c. Skelton, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	5
Hempton, b. Mason	...	...	...	...	0
Leech, c. and b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
Hawkes, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
Putt, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	...	5
Total	...	...	...	...	22

Bowling Average.—Wilkie, no wickets for 4 runs; Burkhardt, eight for 7; Mason, one for 6.



FIRST ELEVEN—1912.

STANDING—G. CHONG, R. MONTEATH, B. SINCLAIR, E. COLSON, C. CROXE, S. EWING, L. HOOKER.
SITTING—J. GREY, L. GOSS, N. LITTLE (Captain), A. LITTLE, I. POTT.

B.

Blundell, b. Day	...	...	...	...	0
Wilkie, c. Mander, b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	1
Bruce, b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	7
Kirkby, c. Mander, b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	0
Avann, c. and b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	3
Lepper, b. Day	...	...	...	...	8
Burkhardt, c. Mander, b. Ewing	...	...	...	...	11
Adlam, b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	21
Skelton, b. Ewing	...	...	...	...	3
White, not out	...	...	...	...	3
Mason, b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	...	9
<hr/>					
Total	...	...	...	...	66

Bowling Analysis.—Day, two wickets for 12 runs; Hooker, six for 25; Fordyce, none for 9; Mander, none for 2; Ewing, two for 12.

Won by B team by 33 runs.

HIGH SCHOOL A v. CENTRAL (First Round).

Everybody at school wished to see how good the Central were, because they were supposed to be very good, which, indeed, they were. They were better in every part of the game than the A team. Central batted, and made a good score of 52, Milne being top scorer with 16. When the A team batted they looked as if they were beaten from the start, but when Mander and Clemow were batting things looked hopeful; but Mander was bowled, and the match lost by seven runs. Scores:

CENTRAL.

Smith, b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	0
Hawes, b. Ewing	...	...	...	...	2
Boswell, b. Ewing	...	...	...	...	7
Oliver, run out	...	...	...	...	7
Jenkinson, c. Mander, b. Ewing	...	...	...	...	2
Lealand, c. Hawkes, b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	4
Kirkby, b. Day	...	...	...	...	0
Milne, b. Hooker	...	...	...	...	16
Turnbull, b. Day	...	...	...	...	8
Crone, not out	...	...	...	...	1
Grayling, b. Day	...	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	...	5
<hr/>					
Total	...	...	...	...	52

Bowling Analysis.—Hooker, two wickets for 16 runs; Ewing, three for 18; Day, four for 12.

HIGH SCHOOL A.

Day, b. Oliver	...	...	...	...	4
Ewing, b. Oliver	...	...	...	...	5
Kirton, c. Kirkby, b. Lealand	...	...	...	...	4
Fordyce, b. Lealand	...	...	...	...	0
Mander, b. Turnbull	...	...	...	...	10
Hooker, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	...	4
Clemow, not out	...	...	...	...	12
Leech, b. Turnbull	...	...	...	...	0
Kidd, c. Crone, b. Turnbull	...	...	...	...	1
Evans, b. Smith	...	...	...	...	0
Hawkes, b. Smith	...	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	...	5
Total	...	...	...	...	45

Bowling Analysis.—Oliver, two wickets for 8 runs; Milne, none for 12; Lealand, two for 7; Kirkby, one for 9; Grayling, none for 3; Turnbull, three for 1; Smith, two for 0.

WEST END v. HIGH SCHOOL B.

For this match the books were not kept properly, and so we do not know the individual scores or averages of the West End team. We played this match at Western Park on an asphalt pitch without matting. West End batted and made 19 runs, Hughes making 9 (not out). When B batted Wilkie and Lepper were the only ones to make a stand, each making 17 while the rest of the team made 8. Scores:

B.					
Avann	...	...	...	...	2
Wilkie	...	...	...	...	17
Blundell	...	...	...	...	2
Bruce	...	...	...	...	0
Lepper	...	...	...	...	17
Skelton	...	...	...	...	0
Mason	...	...	...	...	3
Marfell, not out	...	...	...	...	0
White	...	...	...	...	0
Adlam	...	...	...	...	1
Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	1
Extras	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	45

High School Bowling Analysis.—Burkhardt, two wickets for 7 runs; Wilkie, seven for 8; Bruce, one for 1.

HIGH SCHOOL A v. WEST END.

In this match West End's individual scores and averages are not available. The teams played on the Recreation Grounds, and West End made 11 runs, but the A team made 43, Day making 21 and Ewing 9, and Ewing took seven wickets for 4 runs. Scores:

HIGH SCHOOL A.

Kirton	...	...	...	...	0
Day	...	...	...	...	21
Ewing	...	...	...	...	9
Clemow, not out	...	...	...	...	4
Kidd	...	...	...	...	1
Hempton	...	...	...	...	5
Hooker	...	...	...	...	0
Mander	...	...	...	...	2
Evans	...	...	...	...	0
Leech	...	...	...	...	1
Fordyce	...	...	...	...	0
Total	...	...	...	...	43

High School Bowling Analysis.—Ewing, seven wickets for 4 runs; Day, one for 3; Hooker, two for 4.

HIGH SCHOOL B v. CENTRAL.

This was the first defeat of the B team. Central won the toss and batted against Wilkie and Burkhardt. They played a very good game, especially Oliver and Boswell, who made very good scores, and the innings ended with the score of 72. The B's then batted, but could not do anything against Central's bowling, and were all out for 30 runs. Scores:

B.					
Wilkie, c. Francis, b. Boswell	...	...	...	...	4
Avann, run out	...	...	...	...	1
Bruce, b. Turnbull	...	...	...	...	1
Kirkby, b. Turnbull	...	...	...	...	7
Lepper, c. Turnbull, b. Oliver	...	...	...	...	4
Burkhardt, l.b.w., b. Oliver	...	...	...	...	0
Adlam, c. Francis, b. Turnbull	...	...	...	...	2
Skelton, not out	...	...	...	...	3
Mason, b. Turnbull	...	...	...	...	2
Marfell, b. Turnbull	...	...	...	...	2
Blundell, c. Smith, b. Turnbull	...	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	...	4
Total	...	...	...	...	30

Bowling Analysis.—Boswell, one wicket for 1 run; Oliver, two for 11; Turnbull, six for 11; Milne, none for 4.

Schools Competition (Second Round.)

HIGH SCHOOL A v. HIGH SCHOOL B.

This match was played on our own grounds on a bowlers' wicket, and so the scoring was low. Sometimes a ball with a little spin would break right across the wicket. A batted and made 14, of which their captain (Hooker) made 7, but B made 18. Bruce and Hirst making 5 each. The whole match took about an hour, and B won by four runs. Scores:

A.				
Day, run out	...	...	...	3
Ewing, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	0
Clemow, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	0
Hooker, b. Avann	...	...	...	7
Hempton, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	1
Leech, b. Avann	...	...	...	1
Kidd, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	0
Hawkes, c. and b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	0
Evans, b. Avann	...	...	...	0
Paterson, not out	...	...	...	0
Grant, st. Lepper, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	14

Bowling Analysis.—Burkhardt, six wickets for 8 runs; Avann, three for 4.

B.				
Marfell, b. Paterson	...	...	...	0
Avann, c. Hooker, b. Ewing	...	...	...	0
Burkhardt, c. Ewing, b. Hooker	...	...	...	3
Hirst, c. Hawkes, b. Hooker	...	...	...	5
Lepper, b. Hooker	...	...	...	2
Bruce, b. Day	...	...	...	5
Kirkby, b. Patterson	...	...	...	0
Mason, b. Patterson	...	...	...	0
Blundell, b. Day	...	...	...	0
King, not out	...	...	...	0
White, b. Ewing	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	3
Total	...	...	...	18

Bowling Analysis.—Ewing, two wickets for 6 runs; Hooker, three for 5; Day, two for 2; Paterson, three for 5. Won by B by four runs.

HIGH SCHOOL A v. CENTRAL.

This match was played on our grounds on a fair wicket. Central batted, and some made good scores, Oliver (14), Jenkinson (15) and Sutherland (18) being the best. The innings closed with 72 runs, which were made in two hours. When A went to bat three wickets went one after the other, and the whole team made 28, Day with 7 being highest scorer. Scores:

CENTRAL.

Milne, c. Clemow, b. Ewing	...	...	...	3
Lawn, c. Ewing, b. Hooker	...	...	...	2
Oliver, c. Day, b. Hooker	...	...	...	14
Wilson, b. Day	...	...	...	5
Jenkinson, c. Paterson, b. Day	...	...	...	15
Sutherland, b. Ewing	...	...	...	18
Kirkby, b. Paterson	...	...	...	4
Grayling, c. Hawkes, b. Ewing	...	...	...	1
Crone, not out	...	...	...	0
Cole, run out	...	...	...	3
Sheppard, b. Ewing	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	7
Total	...	...	...	72

Bowling Analysis.—Hooker, two wickets for 5 runs; Ewing, four for 29; Paterson, one for 21; Day, two for 9; Kidd, none for 3.

HIGH SCHOOL A.

Day, c. Cole, b. Sutherland	...	...	...	7
Kirton, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	0
Ewing, c. and b. Oliver	...	...	...	1
Paterson, b. Oliver	...	...	...	0
Clemow, c. Oliver, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	6
Kidd, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	0
Hempton, not out	...	...	...	2
Hawkes, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	0
Evans, b. Oliver	...	...	...	3
Hooker, c. Jenkinson, b. Oliver	...	...	...	3
Leech, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	4
Extras	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	28

Bowling Analysis.—Kirkby, five wickets for 9 runs; Oliver, four for 8; Sutherland, one for 9.

CENTRAL v. HIGH SCHOOL B (Second Round).

This was one of the most interesting matches in the competition, because for one thing Central were two points ahead of High School B, and if Central won they would be holders of the Whittle Shield. Central won the toss and batted. Their first two batsmen made 25 between them (Crone 15, Wilson 10). Nothing startling happened during the rest of the innings, except that one ball from Hill hit the matting half-way down the pitch, and bowled the batsman. The innings ended for 53. Then the B's went to bat. The first ball bowled Lepper, and soon there were four wickets for 16; then the batting became exciting. When eight wickets were down there were 17 to make. Burkhardt and Mason had together passed the Central's score, when Mason went out. Then time was played out, High School winning by a wicket and 12 runs. For High School, Hirst made 16 and Burkhardt 27. This made them even with 8 points each. Scores:

CENTRAL.

Wilson, b. Bruce	...	...	...	...	10
Crone, run out	...	...	...	...	15
Boswell, c. Mason, b. Bruce	...	...	...	...	2
Oliver, c. Terry, b. Bruce	...	...	...	...	1
Jenkinson, c. Hill, b. Bruce	...	...	...	...	2
Sutherland, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	5
Milne, c. Kirkby, b. Hill	...	...	...	...	9
Lawn, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
Kirkby, b. Hill	...	...	...	...	4
Sheppard, not out	...	...	...	...	0
Goss, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	...	5
Total	...	...	...	...	53

Bowling Analysis.—Burkhardt, three wickets for 16 runs; Hill, two for 8; Avann, none for 9; Bruce, four for 17.

HIGH SCHOOL B.

Lepper, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	...	0
Hirst, b. Wilson	...	...	...	...	16
Avann, c. Sheppard, b. Oliver	...	...	...	...	0
Hill, run out	...	...	...	...	3
Kirkby, c. and b. Oliver	...	...	...	...	0
Terry, b. Oliver	...	...	...	...	1
Burkhardt, not out	...	...	...	...	27
Bruce, c. and b. Sutherland	...	...	...	...	6
Blundell, c. Sheppard, b. Sutherland	...	...	...	...	1
Mason, c. Boswell, b. Oliver	...	...	...	...	7
Marfell, not out	...	...	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	65

Bowling Analysis.—Oliver, five wickets for 21 runs; Kirkby, one for 24; Wilson, one for 16; Sutherland, two for 2; Milne, none for 6.

High School B won by one wicket and 12 runs.

CENTRAL v. B TEAM.

This match was to decide which team was to win the shield; they had both scored 8 points through B winning the last match. B won the toss and fielded, and put Central out for 27, their tail making 10 runs. The B team then batted, and when four wickets were down it looked like a win, but the last six wickets made two runs, and so the shield was lost by seven runs, the scores being 27 to 20. B fielded well at first, but at the end it was disgusting. Scores:

CENTRAL.

Crone, b. Hill	...	...	...	...	1
Wilson, c. Bruce, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	5
Oliver, b. Hill	...	...	...	...	1
Milne, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	...	5
Sutherland, b. Hill	...	...	...	...	0
Jenkinson, c. and b. Hill	...	...	...	...	3
Kirkby, c. Kirkby, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
Cole, b. Burkhardt	...	...	...	...	0
F. Sheppard, b. Hill	...	...	...	...	1
P. Sheppard, c. Avann, b. Bruce	...	...	...	...	7
Bridger, not out	...	...	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	...	...	2
Total	...	...	...	...	27

Bowling Analysis.—Hill, five wickets for 15 runs; Burkhardt, three for 5; Kirkby, one for 4; Bruce, one for 1.

HIGH SCHOOL B.

Hirst, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	3
Terry, c. Kirkby, b. Oliver	...	...	...	2
Hill, b. Oliver	...	...	...	0
Kirkby, c. Sheppard, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	2
Lepper, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	8
Burkhardt, c. Jenkinson, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	4
Avann, b. Kirkby	...	...	...	0
Bruce, b. Wilson	...	...	...	0
Blundell, b. Wilson	...	...	...	0
Marfell, c. Sutherland, b. Wilson	...	...	...	1
Mason, not out	...	...	...	0
Total	...	...	...	20

Bowling Analysis.—Kirkby, five wickets for 12 runs; Oliver, two for 2; Milne, none for 4; Wilson, three for 2.

BOWLING AVERAGES IN THE A AND B TEAMS.

Name	Runs	Wickets	Average per w'kt
Burkhardt (B)	63	25	2.5
Wilkie (B) (left)	—	—	—
Skelton (B) (left)	—	—	—
Kirkby (B)	3	1	3.0
Bruce (B)	19	6	3.1
Hill (B)	23	7	3.2
Day (A)	38	11	3.4
Ewing (A)	69	18	3.7
Hooker (A)	55	14	3.9
Mason (B)	6	1	6.0
Paterson (A)	26	4	6.5

BATTING AVERAGES FOR THE A AND B TEAMS.

Name	Total Runs	No. of Innings	Times Not Out	Avg'e
Mander (A)	21	3	1	10.5
Burkhardt (B)	46	6	1	9.2
Adlam (B)	24	3	0	8.0
Hirst (B)	24	3	0	8.0
Wilkie (B)	22	3	0	7.2
Day (A)	36	5	0	7.2
Lepper (B)	39	6	0	6.5
Clemow (A)	24	5	1	6.0
Bruce (B)	19	6	0	3.1
Ewing (A)	15	5	0	3.0
Skelton (B)	6	3	1	3.0

Hooker (A)	...	14	5	0	2.8
Mason (B)	...	12	6	1	2.4
Hempton (A)	...	8	4	1	2.3
Kirkby (B)	...	9	5	0	1.8
Marfell (B)	...	5	5	2	1.6
Hill (B)	...	3	2	0	1.5
Terry (B)	...	3	2	0	1.5
Kidd (A)	...	7	5	0	1.4
Kirton (A)	...	4	3	0	1.3
Leech (A)	...	6	5	0	1.2
Avann (B)	...	6	6	0	1.0
White (B)	...	3	3	0	1.0
Evans (A)	...	3	4	0	0.7
Blundell (B)	...	3	6	0	0.5
Fordyce (A)	...	0	3	0	0.0
Hawkes (A)	...	0	4	0	0.0
Paterson (A)	...	0	2	1	0.0
Grant (A)	...	0	1	0	0.0
King (B)	...	0	1	1	0.0

THE GROUP COMPETITION.

A v. C.

A.

Clemow, b. Hooker	...	...	...	0
Oliver, c. and b. Paterson	...	...	...	34
Lepper, b. Day	...	...	...	7
Kirton, b. Grayling	...	...	...	12
Burkhardt, b. Hooker	...	...	...	9
Salt, b. Sykes	...	...	...	9
Medway, b. Hooker	...	...	...	2
Marfell, b. Sykes	...	...	...	9
King i, run out	...	...	...	7
Evans, not out	...	...	...	0
Fair, b. Sykes	...	...	...	14
Extras	...	...	...	—
Total	...	...	...	103

Bowling Analysis.—Hooker, three wickets for 28 runs; Day, one for 22; Grayling, one for 4; Paterson, one for 19; Sykes, three for 19.

C.

Grant, c. Hirst, b. Mr. Ward	0
Sykes, c. Hirst, b. Burkhardt	2
Patterson, st. Hirst, b. Hirst	11
Jones, c. Lepper, b. Burkhardt	3
Ellerm, b. Burkhardt	0
Luxton, run out	0
Herbert, b. Oliver	0
Grayling, b. Burkhardt	0
Mr. Moyes, b. Mr. Ward	46
Hawkes, b. Burkhardt	2
Hill, not out	8
Extras	4
Total	76

Bowling Analysis.—Oliver, two wickets for 20 runs; Burkhardt, five for 17; Mr. Ward, two for 34; Hirst, one for 5.

B v. D.

B.

Ewing, b. Avann	4
Guild, b. Kidd	7
Beck, b. Avann	3
Mason, b. Avann	2
Brokenshire, b. Avann	2
M'Hardy, b. Avann	4
Lepine, b. Avann	2
Claridge, not out	1
Extras	15
Total	40

Bowling Analysis.—Avann, six wickets for 16 runs; Jenkinson, none for 13; Kidd, one for 11.

D.

Blundell, b. Brokenshire	0
Avann, b. Brokenshire	1
Putt, b. Brokenshire	0
Jenkinson, b. Mason	21
Kidd, c. and b. Ewing	0
King, b. Mason	2
Terry, not out	18
Marfell, b. Mason	0
Hawkes, st. Ewing	1
Extras	0
Total	43

Bowling Analysis.—Ewing, two wickets for 12 runs; Brokenshire, three for 21; Mason, three for 10.
Won by D.

D v. A.

Kidd, c. Clemow, b. Oliver	0
Terry, b. Burkhardt	3
Jenkinson, b. Oliver	3
Hill, l.b.w., b. Oliver	0
Avann, run out	0
Blundell, not out	3
Marfell ii, b. Burkhardt	3
King ii, b. Burkhardt	0
Sykes, b. Burkhardt	3
Wood, b. Burkhardt	0
Medway, b. Burkhardt	0
Extras	1
Total	16

Bowling Analysis.—Burkhardt, six wickets for 7 runs; Oliver, three for 8.

A.

Lepper, retired	13
Clemow, b. Avann	4
Hirst, not out	11
Oliver, not out	1
Extras	4
Total (for 2 wickets)	33

Bowling Analysis.—Avann, one wicket for 20 runs; Hill, none for 9.

THE LIBRARY.

The necessity for a fair knowledge of English literature is now being recognised by modern educationalists, and in consequence, every boy who wishes to succeed in examinations in English must be acquainted with the standard writers. In many cases, the taste for reading good books is inborn, but if not it can be developed. Without reading, no extensive acquaintance can be gained of one's own language; grammar alone will not enable one to write a good essay or to speak with fluency. Reading not only broadens the mind and widens our knowledge of the language, but also teaches us History and Geography, to say nothing of the insight it gives into human nature.

Every boy should read for pleasure, and not from a sense of duty; for, indeed, much pleasure is to be gained from reading the stirring tales of chivalry and adventure by Sir Walter Scott and Charles Kingsley.

Those boys who are more advanced, and who like to dip into the more serious works of such writers as Addison, Burke, and Macaulay, will find plenty of food for reflection; those, again, who love to dwell on the beautiful side of life, will find their literary taste cultivated by reading Tennyson, Wordsworth and Shelley.

In order to promote a love of reading, the school library has recently had a substantial addition of books. More will be added from time to time through the year. Judging from the way in which the librarians are kept busy, boys are availing themselves eagerly of their opportunities.

Works by the following authors have been added this term:—Burns, Bunyan, F. Cooper, Cowper, Defoe, Dickens, Dumas, George Eliot, Farrar, Fitchett, Mrs. Gaskell, O. W. Holmes, Kingsley, Jane Austen, Charles Lamb, Macaulay, Milton, Longfellow, Emerson, Newbolt, Olivant, Scott, Thackeray.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The bicycle racks which have been put in the shed behind the Gymnasium have proved a boon to those boys who cycle to school.

The new school uniform introduced this year looks very smart. It consists of a blue shirt, blue shorts, and stockings with blue and white stripes at the top. The whole lends a very smart appearance. One noticeable feature about the uniform is the immunity from colds it gives. On one morning some of the fifth and sixth form boys formed a party to insist on some of the younger boys rolling up their sleeves, and undoing the top button of their shirts. One of the delinquents became so excited, that several of the junior boys carried him over to the ploughed ground, where he "bit the dust."

Notwithstanding the poor summer, swimming was very popular with some of the boys during the holidays. The East End beach was especially well patronised.

Some few weeks ago Mr. Lints, our gymnastic instructor, was laid up with an attack of mumps. We are pleased to see that he has now quite recovered.

We are glad to see that Bruce, our fast wing three-quarter, has lost none of his pace since last year.

J. Grey had rather a nasty accident, just before one of the first football practices. In rushing through a gate with some others, he was thrown against a post, and hurt his head badly. Some stitches were put in, and now he is quite himself again.

The Cup for General Excellence presented by Dr. Fookes has been won twice in succession by N. Little, who has thus established a record.

The installation of electric light in the Assembly room is a great convenience, especially for rehearsals and school socials.

Some time the passion for Paranomasia was rampant in the school. Some of the specimens perpetrated possess the power "o' amaz(in') yer (?)" in a startling degree—but (for we are too humane) we will not print any of these common or garden varieties here. Here, however, is a more genteel one:

THAT LATIN LESSON.

Why does he Terence in his chair
And why he Livyd look
His Caesar glare, but may not dare
The Horace of his look.

Ain't it owid? Whew-w-w! Badger!!

The fifth form was recently increased by one, through the advent of young Master Grimm Alkin. The unfortunate youth had, however, been at the school only a few days, when he was expelled, too harshly we think, for catachresis (vide dictionary).

For a very obvious reason, E. Colson had considerable trouble in getting a High School suit to fit him. It is rumoured that he had to send away and get one made to order.

An amusing incident took place the other day. It was in connection with some eels in the pond. One of the boys, a most ardent fisherman, had taken off his boots, and was standing in a small pool, feeling about for some eels. He was rather confused by the cries and gesticulations of the onlookers, who were every moment in imminent danger of falling in themselves.

At last he threw an eel out on land; but that was only the beginning of his troubles. He could not hold it, so he cried out, "Quick! A slasher—axe—a spade!" Two or three of these implements were offered to him; he took one, and after sundry misses and cries of "Look out, it is getting back," he managed to chop it into three or four pieces. Then he proudly held up the mutilated remains of what had once been an eel.

We have to congratulate I. Pott on winning the Champion Belt presented by Mr. Alec. MacDiarmid.

The number of candidates going up for the Matriculation examination is a good deal in excess of previous years. They all seem to be working hard.

The "Pound" which was instituted this term is under the capable management of Lepper and Guild. It is doing very well in the matter of small articles, and on the last day of the term an auction sale was held, at which Goss mounted the rostrum. The proceeds of the sale resulted in a substantial addition to the funds of the Library.

The head boy of the school is now N. Little.

Since the pond in the gully has been drained, the carp and gold fish placed there at odd times have been captured, and many of the boys have taken them home and built aquariums for them. One boy with a business turn of mind sold two of the carp for half-a-crown.

The various Principals of Secondary Schools in New Zealand have received notification from the New Zealand University Senate that the Matriculation examination is now intended to cover a course of four years at a secondary school. This departure will have the effect of materially raising the standard of the exam. in question.

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

With this—the opening number—it was thought that some notes on the history of the school would not be out of place. They should prove of interest to all old boys both ancient and modern.

The New Plymouth High School was formally opened in February, 1882, by the late Ven. Archdeacon Govett, who was then chairman of the Taranaki Board of Education, by which body the school was managed in place of a Board of Governors of its own.

The first, and only Principal until December, 1911, was E. Pridham, Esq., M.A., formerly of Wellington College. At the outset Mr. Pridham was in sole charge of the school, which opened with a roll number of thirty boys. At the beginning of the second term Mr. Toms was appointed assistant. Three years later girls were admitted into the school, and Miss Ramsay was appointed Mistress. The number of girls was limited to 25, and they were taught entirely separately from the boys.

Soon afterwards there was an agitation on the part of one or two members of the Board that girls and boys should be taught together. This proposal was carried out in spite of the vigorous protest of the Principal and Miss Ramsay. The latter soon afterwards resigned, and was succeeded by Miss Montgomery, now Mrs. Baker Gabb, who is teaching near Pahiatua.

Mr. Toms shortly afterwards resigned, and Mr. E. Clarke was appointed. The latter gentleman left some time afterwards, to take up a position on the Wanganui Collegiate staff.

About this time the management of the school was taken away from the Education Board, and placed under a special Board of Governors, nominated by the Government. Mr. Clarke was succeeded by Mr. Kitchingman.

As time went on, it was noticed that whereas the number of girls did not increase much, the number of boys fell off steadily, until there were only 16 or 17 on the roll.

This naturally engaged the attention of the Board of Governors, with the result that it was decided to separate the sexes, and another teacher was appointed. Miss Drew joined the staff about this time.

After the separation of the boys and girls, a slow but steady increase in the numbers took place. Mr. Kitchingman was succeeded by Mr. H. D. Mahon, B.A., who is now occupying a position on the Auckland Grammar School staff; he was succeeded by Mr. Traill, and the latter by Mr. H. H. Ward.

On Miss Montgomery resigning, Miss C. D. Grant, M.A., was appointed, and for some years the staff consisted of the Principal and Mr. H. H. Ward on the boys' side, and Miss Grant and Miss Drew on the girls'.

Other teachers who were for a short time on the staff were Miss Inkster, M.A., Mr. Blain, Mr. Severne, B.A., and Mr. Jardine.

On the death of the latter Mr. G. H. Wills was appointed on the staff. The staff, which in 1910 consisted of five, was increased by the appointment of Mr. A. R. Ryder, M.A., as Science Master, and Miss R. Livingstone, M.A., who was appointed primarily with the view of teaching Domestic Science to the girls.

In December, 1911, Mr. Pridham resigned, and Mr. Moyes, M.A., B.Sc., formerly of Nelson and King's Colleges, was appointed Principal.

SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

In the early part of the term it was decided that an entertainment should be held at the Theatre Royal, in order to raise the necessary funds for the School Magazine. It was thought desirable that the entertainment should be of a mixed character, and that there should be two dramatic representations, a gymnastic display, solos, and part singing.

The item chosen as the "piece de resistance" was the Trial Scene from *Pickwick*, while, for the sake of variety, a purely farcical Plantation Scene was added, to make a foundation for the second half of the programme.

Accordingly, when the term was about a month old, rehearsals were started, and everyone seemed to take a keen interest in the work in hand; nor did the interest flag for a single day. The necessary costumes were soon forthcoming, and a good deal of fun was occasioned by the members of the company appearing on the scene on Friday evenings—on which the dress rehearsals were held—in their war paint and feathers; every Friday evening adding one picture to the incomplete collection of works of art.

In addition to all this, a certain number of the boys were getting into training for items on the "rings" and horizontal bar.

At length, all being in readiness, the date for the performance, April 25th, was fixed, and everyone was prepared to do his utmost to make the evening a success.

A carefully selected number of the girls were ready with a part-song; and Mr. Ernest Clarke was kind enough to oblige with two or three charming solos.



TRIAL SCENE FROM "PICKWICK."

The following is a resume of the critiques published in the two local papers:

"Despite the bad weather prevailing, the Theatre was crowded, and judging by the hearty applause which was accorded the performers, everyone spent a most enjoyable time. The principal attraction on the evening's programme was the Trial Scene from "Pickwick." The performers wore the dress of the period (1827), and the whole thing was splendidly portrayed, the boys entering into the true spirit of their work.

"A. Little, as Mr. Pickwick, had very little to do so far as dialogue was concerned, but his mannerisms during the progress of the trial were a realistic representation of an excitable old gentleman.

"N. Little, as Mr. Winkle, was admirable. His movements when in the witness box, and under examination by Sergeant Buzfuz, were those of a very nervous individual, and his evidence was given with reluctance; but when he was cross-examined by Sergeant Snubbin (E. Colson), and thus had an opportunity of bearing testimony favourable to his friend Pickwick, his nervousness disappeared in a wonderful manner, and he almost took up the position of an advocate. The parts of Mesdames Bardell, Cluppins, and Sanders, were capably handled by G. Bendall, I. Pott, and H. Lepper respectively. They created a great deal of amusement, and were greeted with hearty rounds of applause. J. Grey admirably represented Mr. Justice Stareleigh, and the minor characters were all well sustained.

The performances on the horizontal bar by a squad of seven boys, and on the rings by a squad of ten boys, were decidedly clever, and some of the 'turns' were really feats of strength.

"The Plantation Scene, which occupied the greater part of the second half of the programme, was greatly enjoyed. Coon songs intermingled with amusing 'patter' were well rendered by L. Day, Luxton, Sykes, and Sinclair; and a cake walk proved a very popular item with the audience, the performers being recalled again and again.

"Mr. E. Clarke contributed a number of vocal items in his usual excellent style, and for his last item, 'Come, My Love,' received an enthusiastic recall.

"The part-singing by the girls was very sweet, and was really not long enough. The audience wanted more."

The following was the cast of characters:

BARDELL v. PICKWICK.

Mr. Pickwick	...	...	...	A. LITTLE
Mr. Winkle	...	...	...	N. LITTLE
Mr. Snodgrass	} (his friends)	...	...	R. HORSUP
Mr. Tupman		...	...	L. RICHARDS
Mrs. Bardell	...	...	...	G. BENDALL
Mrs. Cluppings	} (her friends)	...	...	I. POTT
Mrs. Sanders		...	...	H. LEPPER
Dodson	} Solicitors for Mrs. Bardell	...	...	L. DAY
Fogg		...	...	R. MONTEATH
Perker (Pickwick's Solicitor)	...	...	...	B. KELLY
Sergeant Buzfuz	...	...	Mr. H. H. WARD	
Mr. Simkin (his junior)	...	...	...	G. CHONG
Sergeant Snubbin	...	...	...	E. COLSON
Mr. Phunky (his junior)	...	...	...	C. CRONE
Mr. Justice Stareleigh	...	...	...	J. GREY
Tommy Bardell	...	...	...	R. LEPINE
Tony Weller	...	...	...	L. GOSS
Sam Weller (Pickwick's Servant)	...	...	Mr. G. H. WILLS	
Foreman of the Jury	...	...	...	B. SINCLAIR
Clerk of the Court	...	...	...	H. HIRST
Usher	...	...	...	H. JENKINSON

JURORS: S. Ewing, W. Ewing, Blundell, White, Guild, Grant, Matthews, Medway, Hill, Luxton, Sykes.

Scene: Law Courts, London.

Time: 1827

It remains now only to add that from a financial standpoint, the entertainment proved a great success, so that the School Magazine will receive substantial benefit.

CAMERA CLUB.

Owing to the want of a dark room, very little work has been done during the term. A photographic room is, however, in the course of erection, and before the summer weather is with us again, the "camera fiends" will have ample opportunity of indulging in their favourite pastime.

Quite a number of boys are in possession of good cameras, and we are in hopes that, by the end of the year, they will be assisting us to illustrate the School Magazine.

We are pleased to hear that the school will soon possess an arc lantern, and that sets of suitable slides have already been ordered. The latter will treat of scientific, geographical, and other interesting subjects, and they should be of great value from an educational standpoint.

We might point out here, that the Camera Club could do much towards decorating the walls of the class rooms, and a few framed enlargements would tend to give the school a more home-like appearance.

In this connection we desire to thank Mr. D. E. Hutton, our Drawing Master, for his kindness in presenting the school with a fine engraving of "The Death of Nelson."

THE NEW BUILDINGS.

The much-talked-of boarding house is rapidly nearing completion, and a few months will see us in our new home. Nor shall we have cause to feel ashamed of it. The buildings when finished will consist of 21 rooms, in addition to bath rooms, linen room, cloak room, and boot room. No expense is being spared in the effort to make the building complete in every respect, and we can confidently state that it will bear comparison with any other building used for a similar purpose in New Zealand.

Each room will be lit by electric light, and special attention has been paid to the system of ventilation. The site, overlooking as it does the Mountain on one side, and the sea on the other, is unequalled in New Plymouth.

The Board will, we feel sure, have every reason to feel satisfied with this new venture, for although some time must necessarily elapse before the buildings are ready for occupation, there is every indication that their progressive policy will meet with the success it deserves. It is our intention to publish, in the next number of the Magazine, a detailed account of the buildings, and to insert a series of photographs illustrating the various rooms. For the present we need only remind our readers that the buildings will be ready towards the end of the second term, and that it behoves them to do what they can towards building up a large boarding school, which will be of the greatest benefit to the younger generation, and to the citizens of New Plymouth.

MR. PRIDHAM'S FAREWELL.

The close of the year 1911 marked an epoch in the history of the New Plymouth High School, which is, we believe, without parallel in New Zealand. On that occasion all the present pupils, as well as many old boys and girls who could attend, assembled to pay a tribute

to Mr. Pridham, who had guided the destinies of the school for thirty years. All those who were intimately acquainted with Mr. Pridham were filled with admiration at his great strength, high moral character, and absolute integrity of purpose. Though possessed of great natural ability, he was a despiser of display, and always hid his light under a bushel; and though a keen observer of human nature, his own mind was the essence of simplicity. There was no man to whom the term "affectation" could with less propriety be applied. The keynote of his nature was his intense earnestness, and a realisation of the sacred duties entrusted to him. I well remember a conversation I had with him on the subject of inattention in class, and his remark was, "If you were pleading for your life you could not be more in earnest," and so it was with him. When he had a class before him he was almost above himself from the overpowering feeling that he must do his utmost. Never has the writer seen any teacher throw himself into his work with the same vim and determination; not to gain kudos for himself by a long list of scholastic successes, but simply and solely from a deep-seated feeling, that no other course of conduct was conceivable. "You must have worked very hard," I heard someone say to him, when speaking of a class that had done exceptionally well. "Work hard!" was the answer. "If you don't work hard you are no good at all."

He hated untruth as he would a pestilence; his own mind was incapable of prevarications and evasions, and any appearance either of a direct lie or shuffling, would call down his wrath in a way which would wither up the object of his contempt.

He was a man of deep religious convictions, which, however, he was never guilty of obtruding on others. He was always a scorner of the doctrine that all wrongdoing could be argued away, by reference to some cause of heredity or environment; holding that every man could discriminate between right and wrong, and no excuse for not following a right course could be entertained.

Kind and loving husband and father, loyal friend, true Christian gentleman, no one followed more than he the motto, "To thine own self be true," and of no one can it with more truth be said that he was not false to any man.

We take the following account of the farewell meeting from the "Taranaki Herald":

MR. PRIDHAM'S FAREWELL.

The ceremony arranged on Friday night in connection with the breaking-up of the New Plymouth High School for the Christmas vacation was of more than ordinary interest, inasmuch as advantage was taken by present and past pupils of the opportunity of making presentations to Mr. and Mrs. Pridham, who contemplate leaving New Zealand for England—Mr. Pridham having resigned his position as Principal of the school, which he has held since its inception—and Miss Pridham. The proceedings were of a very interesting character, and among the large number of present and old pupils present many were visibly affected on bidding farewell to their old friend and teacher.

FROM PRESENT PUPILS.

The first presentations were to Mr. and Mrs. Pridham from the present pupils of the school, and consisted of a travelling-rug for each. They were presented by Master Norman Little and Miss Spence. Master Little said: "Mr and Mrs. Pridham,—I have been entrusted by the present girls and boys of this High School with the mission of presenting to you these two travelling-rugs as a small, and, I am sure, very inadequate, material embodiment of their esteem for you, and of their regret, or, rather, their great sorrow, that you are now leaving for good the school at which you have been so long; and I am certain that during the last thirty years, and more especially the last two or three years, in no secondary school of the Dominion has there existed a truer feeling of esteem and loyalty of pupils to their headmaster than in the New Plymouth High School."—(Applause.)

FROM THE OLD GIRLS OF THE SCHOOL.

Miss Clarice A. Douglas then read the following letter addressed to Mr. Pridham by the Old Girls of the school: "New Plymouth, New Zealand, December 15, 1911. Dear Mr. Pridham,—It is with mingled feelings of sorrow and gladness that we, the Old Girls of the New Plymouth High School, address this letter to you. To us, school days are but memories, a part of our lives gone, never to return. We said good-bye to them easily and naturally, though regretfully, too; but to say farewell to you is not so easy, and to know that our beloved school will no longer be able to claim you for its head makes us feel that another link with the past is broken. For this we sorrow. But as we look back, and remember

that when our feet trod the steep and rocky road called 'Education' there was one at hand to guide and direct our faltering footsteps, one who never wearied of his oft-times wearisome task, and that one you, our friend and teacher, we are glad in the days that are gone. We realise now, as perhaps not then, how truly privileged we were, during those most receptive and impressionable years of our lives, to come in daily contact with so cultured a man as yourself. Inasmuch as you led us to value aright thoroughness of work, logical reasoning, beauty of literary form—in short, all that is expressed by that much-abused word 'culture'—you will ever have our grateful remembrance. But for much more than all this do we now write to thank you. Always you held up before us the loftiest ideal of character, and we learned, both by precept and example, that honour and integrity are much more to be desired than learning, position, or wealth. Remembering all these things, we are proud to call you teacher and friend, and gladly take this opportunity of telling you some small portion of what is in our minds. We can never forget one who has always been so true a friend, and we do not think you will forget us, whatever seas may divide. It was our first intention to ask your acceptance of a gift chosen by ourselves, but as we learned that you will shortly leave New Zealand, it seemed wiser to ask you to use the accompanying cheque in making the choice for us on your return to England. Whatever the choice may be, it is intended to represent the good wishes of the Old Girls of each year from the foundation of the school, and to be a token, though not a measure, of our respect and affection. Our earnest hope is that before you and Mrs. Pridham lie very many useful and happy years.—We are, on behalf of the Old Girls, yours sincerely, (signed) Gertrude M'Kellar, Agnes Wilson, Clarice A. Douglas, Grace Fookes, Bertha Webster, Gabrielle D. Shaw, Ina Dempsey, Freda Perry, Ernestine Howell, May Arthur, Elsie E. Andrews."

Miss Shaw, on behalf of the old girls, handed to Mrs. Pridham a gold bracelet watch, and Mrs. Noble (nee Miss Bayly) to Miss Pridham a handsome photo frame.

Miss Douglas then handed the letter and cheque to Mr. Pridham amid great enthusiasm.

The contents of the letter had been nicely printed and illustrated by one of the old girls, and therefore was really in the form of an illustrated address. The cover page was illustrated with the school motto and badge.

FROM THE OLD BOYS.

Dr. Fookes said he was representing a large body of old boys of the school, and felt proud to occupy the position. It was with very sad feelings he stood there to say good-bye to Mr. Pridham, but he must to voice what was the very kind feeling of all those old boys who had been associated with the school from its inception to its present age. In standing there as an old boy he represented one of the families that had been more associated with the school than any other family in the district, for no fewer than nine of the Fookes' family had been instructed by Mr. Pridham, and he was quite sure that Mr. Pridham's instruction had been very largely responsible for what measure of success they had achieved in life.—(Applause.) Mr. Pridham as a teacher they had all honoured and respected; Mr. Pridham as a man they had all admired and aspired to copy, and he was quite sure that what he was now going to do on behalf of the old boys was a tangible token of the very great regard and esteem felt for Mr. Pridham both as a teacher and a man, and he felt sure he was only voicing the feelings of the old boys when he said how sorry they were that they had to say good-bye to Mr. Pridham as a citizen of this town. He would like to impress upon them that he (Dr. Fookes) was there purely as an old boy, and also that it was the wish of the old boys that he should make these remarks. The age that he occupied in regard to the old boys was rather young, but unfortunately most of the older ones were so far removed from the district that they had found it impossible to be present. He read letters, and also a large number of telegrams received from old boys, to give some idea of the regard they had for their teacher, and then expressed pleasure in handing to Mr. Pridham some small token of their regard, and just as the old girls of the school had decided, the old boys had also thought it best not to encumber him with anything he would have to carry away from New Plymouth, but rather to give him the wherewithal to purchase something himself in memory of the old boys of the school, to remind him of their very great regard for him. He then handed to Mr. Pridham a purse of sovereigns amid applause. In addition to this presentation from the old boys here and in other parts, the old boys in Auckland had also requested him on their behalf, to present Mr. Pridham with a small address and a case of pipes.

Dr. Fookes then formally handed over these gifts. The text of the address was as follows:

Auckland, Nov. 26, 1911.

Ernest Pridham, Esq., M.A.,

New Plymouth.

Dear, Sir,—

Having learnt with sincere regret that you are about to retire from the position of Principal of the New Plymouth High School after pleasant and useful hours spent at your school, we trust that Mrs. Pridham and yourself will long continue to enjoy good health during your well-earned rest, and ask you to accept the accompanying small gift as a slight token of the esteem in which you are held, and appreciation of your efforts in so successfully conducting that school since its inception thirty years ago. We, your old pupils now resident in Auckland and Hamilton, cannot allow this occasion to pass without expressing to you our appreciation of your tuition and of the way you are held by your old pupils."

There were fifteen signatures attached to the address.

Mr. Austin Bewley, as one of the younger old boys than Dr. Fookes, also made a few appropriate remarks. He spoke of their regard for Mr. Pridham, and said how deeply sorry they were not only that he was leaving the school, but also that he was leaving New Plymouth. They would all have liked him to remain among them.—(Applause.)

Mr. Herbert Ford, another old boy on a visit to New Plymouth, said it was 29 years since he left the school, and since then he had been away until the present time. He was not ashamed of the position to which he had attained, and he was proud to say that he had still got the prizes he won whilst a pupil of the school. The speaker was visibly affected, particularly when he referred to Mr. Pridham and to the fact that of the six boys in the top form when he was a pupil of the school he was the only one that was left.

The Chairman endorsed everything that had been said by Dr. Fookes. The latter had said that nine of the Fookes family had passed through the school. He could not say that nine of his family had passed through the school, but seven had. The school owed him nothing. He was very thankful for the education that his boys had received at the school, and felt that he could say the same for most of the parents present.—(Applause.)

MR. PRIDHAM'S REPLY.

Mr. Pridham, in his reply, said he was sure none of them would expect a speech from him, for they all knew perfectly well that among the many things he could not do, public speaking was one. But he thought even if he were an orator he might find it difficult to get words to express his feelings at the kindness shown to Mrs. Pridham and himself. It was no small thing to pull up roots that had been growing for thirty years in one soil. He was not so conceited as to suppose that he was appreciated by all who knew him, and he had no doubt that he had made some official enemies in New Plymouth, as well as some official friends. He did not, however, think that he had ever made a personal enemy in New Plymouth, and was quite sure he had made several personal friends.—(Applause.) He thanked them most heartily on behalf of Mrs. Pridham and himself for their very kind and handsome gifts—exceedingly valuable in themselves, but much more valuable to him as a token of their goodwill.—(Applause.) He should watch with very keen interest the careers of all those he had known as pupils of the school. He would add one final word to the past and present pupils, and he wished his words could reach the future pupils also—"Be loyal to your school." And he would say to the parents of Taranaki—and would promise never to say it again—"Be loyal to your headmaster; trust him, consult him, and complain to him if necessary, but do not let the school be the subject for outside gossip."—(Laughter and applause.)

Ringling cheers were then given for Mr. and Mrs. Pridham and Miss Pridham, after which the gathering sang "For he's a jolly good fellow."

At the request of Mr. Pridham cheers were also given for the High School, the Board of Governors, teachers, and pupils.

During an interval in the proceedings Mrs. Basham (nee Daisy Taylor) sang a solo, for which she was heartily encored.

After the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," those present were entertained to refreshments by past and present pupils.

TARANAKI SCHOLARSHIPS.

The question of the Taranaki Scholarships is one which is engaging at the present time the notice not only of the educational authorities of the province concerned, but of other provinces in the Dominion.

As probably many are unaware as to what the Taranaki Scholarships are, it would be as well at the outset to acquaint our readers with a brief account of the facts.

Several years ago, a reserve known as the Opaku reserve was set apart by the Legislature for the purpose of providing "higher education for the Taranaki district." Had the province in question been the possessor of a University College, the purposes of the Act would have obviously been satisfied by devoting the revenues arising out of the reserve to maintain that college. In the absence of such an institution the funds were allowed to accumulate, until they now almost reach the very handsome sum of £10,000.

In order to carry out the spirit of the original statute, the Taranaki Scholarships Act was passed, which made provision for scholarships open only to Taranaki candidates, each being of the value of £60 a year for three years, with a further extension of another year, dependable on a satisfactory report of the scholarship holder's progress—practically a four years' tenure.

The examination is identical with the University Entrance Scholarship Examination, and Taranaki candidates who gain a place on the credit list of that examination, are awarded scholarships; only one candidate from each school can hold a scholarship.

Up to the present time, only three candidates have qualified for a scholarship, and consequently inquiries have been made in the House as to the advisability of diverting this very valuable fund towards the maintenance of Victoria College—a suggestion which bears no justification whatever.

Readers can get a pretty clear idea of the development of recent events in connection with this subject, from excerpts taken from the local papers, which show how the matter has been before the public lately. But before quoting these extracts, it would be as well to put before our readers—and of those the parents especially—the importance of allowing any of their sons who display unusual ability to stay on at school with the view of gaining one of these scholarships. Taranaki

children have a splendid asset in this fund—an asset which places our secondary schools at a most unique advantage over others in the Dominion.

But our very wealth causes our poverty, since so long as Taranaki scholarships continue to be awarded, we can never hope to gain University Entrance Scholarships. The reason for this can soon be made plain.

Probably few people outside those actually connected with secondary school work, are aware of the course which goes to produce a Junior University Scholar. The position is briefly this. All the smart boys are at once drafted into a form of their own, and put under masters with a special knowledge of the work required. After they have passed the Matriculation Examination, they sit next year for a University scholarship, merely with the idea of trying their paces, so to speak. They are then generally under 17 years of age. They take quite a low place, and probably matriculate on the Junior Scholarship papers. The next year they try again; and come well up in the Credit List. The next year—they are now just under 19 years of age—they gain scholarships. Of course, in the case of exceptionally brilliant boys, scholarships are sometimes gained before the age stated above; but we are now dealing with normal cases.

Now a boy from Taranaki who in his second attempt, suppose, gains a place on the Credit List, becomes eligible for a Taranaki Scholarship, and off he goes to the University. It would obviously be too great a risk to keep the boy another year at school, for the sake of putting a feather in the cap of his school, by gaining a University Scholarship, which carries with it more honour, but less money. And so we in Taranaki, in our endeavour to compete with other New Zealand schools in the gaining of University Scholarships, are trying to do in two years, what others do in three.

If the prestige of a school were not estimated by its passes, this would be of no moment. But as it is, our reputation must suffer in this respect; though even so, we would, since we cannot have both, rather have the substance than the glory.

The following is the report of a conference held between representatives from the New Plymouth High School Board of Governors, and representatives from the Taranaki and Wanganui Education Boards. This account appeared in the "Taranaki Herald" a few weeks ago:

A conference was held at the Town Hall, New Plymouth, to-day to consider proposals to extend the Taranaki scholarships by amending the Education Act of 1908, to allow of more than one scholarship being awarded to a school in any one year, and other questions. There were present: Mr. N. K. MacDiarmid (in the chair), Hon. T. Kelly, M.L.C., Messrs. H. Okey and J. B. Hine, M.P.'s, Mr. D. Hutchen (New Plymouth High School), Messrs. Morton, Trimble, and Ballantyne (Taranaki Education Board), and Messrs. O'Dea, Braik, and Dickson (Wanganui Education Board).

The following resolutions were carried:

"That section 79 (a) of the Education Act, 1908, be amended so as to allow of more than one scholarship being awarded in any one year to a school; provided that if scholars from different schools qualify, each school supplying a qualifying scholar shall be awarded a scholarship, before a second is awarded to any school."

"Seeing that the provincial district of Taranaki is mainly dependent on the dairying and grazing industries, it is desirable that a scholarship or scholarships be offered for a knowledge of biology and chemistry calculated to promote these industries."

"That three scholarships per annum in dairying and agriculture be awarded."

"That a committee consisting of Mr. O'Dea, Mr. Braik and Mr. Ballantyne be set up, to prepare suggestions as to the qualifying examination for the dairying and agricultural scholarships."

"That the conditions requiring scholars to pass a section of the degree of bachelor of science, or to take up a course of study in a branch of applied science be recommended for deletion."

The committee, appointed as above, subsequently recommended "That the qualifying examination be the matriculation with elementary agriculture, and either botany, chemistry or zoology as compulsory subjects to the course followed thereafter by that of bachelor of agriculture."

The report was adopted.

The following report of a subsequent meeting of the High School Board is taken from the "Daily News":

Mr. D. Hutchen, chairman of the sub-committee appointed to attend the recent conference re the Opaku reserves, reported on the result of the conference, a report of which has already appeared in the "Daily News."

Mr. H. Trimble, chairman of the Taranaki Education Board, forwarded the extract recently published in the "Hawera Star" to the effect that the members representing the Wanganui Education Board at the conference had waited on the Prime Minister with a view to establishing an agricultural school at Moumahaki. He trusted that the High School Board would make every endeavour to bring the result of the conference before the notice of the Minister of Education, as it was evident that the Hawera people were going to use their efforts towards getting the funds diverted from university purposes in order to use them for merely secondary work at a school at Moumahaki. He pointed out that the reserve was set aside originally for higher education when there was no University in New Zealand, and it would be monstrous to allow it to be diverted at this late date. Higher education, he continued, was sadly needed among the farming community, especially amongst the host of inspectors and instructors now among them. He added that it was only following out the spirit of the Education Act in setting some of the scholarships aside, especially for agriculture, for the provision compelling students to take the course leading to the B.Sc. degree was the nearest approach to agriculture that could then be made, as the degree of agriculture had not then been established. He would certainly protest on behalf of the Taranaki Education Board to a diversion of the funds.

It was resolved to forward a copy of the minutes to the Minister of Education at Wellington.

We clip the following from the leading columns of the "Daily News":

TARANAKI SCHOLARSHIPS.

If the Taranaki Education Board controlled, as it should control, education throughout the provincial district, instead of only about two-thirds of it, the cause of education in Taranaki would greatly benefit, and, incidentally, we would be spared the exhibition of wrangling that has lately been going on between the Taranaki Education Board and certain members of the

Wanganui Board over the proposal to vary the terms of the Taranaki Scholarship Act. At the conference held at New Plymouth the other week to discuss the position in regard to these scholarships, resolutions were adopted recommending a modification of the conditions governing the present literary scholarships and widening the scope of the endowment to embrace the awarding of dairying and agricultural scholarships. At present the scholarships are practically going a-begging, only three scholars having so far qualified, and consequently the funds are rapidly increasing. They now stand at nearly £10,000, are accumulating at the rate of £750 a year, and when the reserve leases fall in, as they will shortly, the revenue should be more than doubled. Attempts have been made to appropriate the funds to Victoria University, and, judging by the tone of the discussion when the subject was last before Parliament, it is certain that unless something is done soon to make better use of it, the endowment, or a part of it, stands a good chance of being diverted. The members of the Wanganui Board who attended the New Plymouth conference, took it upon themselves to interview the Premier in regard to establishing an agricultural school or college in connection with the Moumahaki State Farm, using the funds of the Taranaki scholarships for the purpose. The Taranaki Education Board hold that they had no right to do this, and at its meeting this week carried a resolution protesting against the proposal to divert any portion of the fund to establishing an agricultural college, the Board holding that the funds should be used only for the purposes set out in the Act, viz., to provide a university education for Taranaki children. The Wanganui delegates retort that in interviewing the Premier they had simply taken time by the forelock, and that the Taranaki Board are too parochial and "dog in the manger" in their attitude. It appears to us that the South Taranaki delegates acted somewhat hastily and perhaps indiscreetly in the matter. The interviewing, if any interviewing was to be done, should have been left to a delegation of the bodies concerned, and not effected by any section that chose to arrogate authority to itself. But, of course, this is a small matter. What is of deep vital concern to Taranaki is utilising most advantageously the magnificent educational endowment it possesses, but which so far has been practically unavailed of. The conference's suggestions offer a way out, and are deserving of the sympathetic consideration of all who have the interests of higher

education in this province at heart. It is certain, as pointed out by the New Plymouth High School Board Special Committee prior to the conference, no great increase in the number of scholarship-holders can be expected under the present conditions of secondary education in Taranaki, and unless something is done soon to vary the conditions attaching to the scholarships, Taranaki stands a good chance of having no small portion of the endowment diverted elsewhere.

To show that the matter is creating some stir, we reprint the following Press Association telegram sent to the local papers:

WANGANUI, April 24.

The extraordinary position in regard to the Taranaki agricultural scholarships was again referred to at the meeting of the Wanganui Board of Education to-night, when the Chief Inspector (Mr. Braik) mentioned that Messrs. Dixon and O'Dea, members of the board, and he had recently attended a conference in Taranaki, regarding this most important matter, which the inspector stated was without parallel in the Dominion. It appears that the accumulations from endowments now amount to about £10,000, which, owing to absence of educational institutions to prepare pupils with the necessary scholarship qualifications, have not been taken advantage of, and owing to this an attempt has recently been made to try to obtain a re-vesting of these endowments in Victoria College, Wellington, the granting of which would rob the whole of the Taranaki district of a special endowment granted to them years ago.

At the meeting of the board, consideration of the matter gave rise to some straight talk and indignation. Messrs. Dixon and O'Dea, the delegates, reported that the conference recently held at New Plymouth unanimously resolved that three scholarships per annum should be set aside for the encouragement of agriculture and dairying, and that the remaining scholarships be literary ones, as at present. In this way it was considered that there would be a reasonable chance of using the funds derived from the Opaku reserves. It is felt that unless something of the kind were done an attempt would be made by Parliament to divert the revenue to other purposes.

The report then stated that Mr. Dixon had introduced the question of establishing an agricultural school at Moumahaki State Farm, but the proposition did not meet with the general approval of the conference. Then next day the company, with Mr. Braik and the Wanganui delegates, met the Premier at Hawera and discussed with him the recommendation of the conference, mentioning at the same time the suggestion re Moumahaki.

Now it seems that the Taranaki Board appears to have taken umbrage at the Wanganui delegates subsequently meeting the Prime Minister, one member referring to this as a contemptible action.

Messrs. Dixon and O'Dea considered that the Taranaki Board did not properly realise the position. The delegates did not wish in any way to affect the literary scholarships. There was no intention whatever to divert the whole of the revenues from reserves to the proposed college at Moumahaki.

Messrs. Dixon and O'Dea spoke in support of their conduct, and both indignantly protested against the remarks made at New Plymouth. The latter said that it seemed as though there was a reign of calumny and vituperation against Wanganui Education Board, particularly when their action in Taranaki was characterised in New Plymouth and Hawera as back-door business. In interviewing the Premier they had simply taken time by the forelock. Mr. O'Dea said that unless something was done very soon these fine reserves would be lost, as Parliament would not allow them to remain as at present and support only one scholarship. There was already an accumulation of £10,000, and when the reserves fell in there would be £20,000. It seemed to him that Taranaki people were too parochial. In any case the reserves were in the Wanganui education district, so that in their conduct there was nothing of the back-door business. He felt exceedingly sore at the unjust imputations.

The Chairman of the Board, Mr. Pirani, characterised the policy of the Taranakites as a dog in the manger policy.

The Board decided, on the motion of Mr. Dixon, that the chairman and Mr. Guthrie, M.P., interview the Premier on the matter.



GROUP FROM PLANTATION SCENE.

FORM AVERAGES.

FIRST TERM, 1912.

Third Form, 60.2. Top boy: Brokenshire, 87.2.

Fourth Form, 62.3. Top boy: Avann, 85.5.

Fifth Form, 62.2. Top boy: Hirst, 77.2.

Sixth Form *(B), 60.9. Top boy: Weston, 63.8.

*This does not include N. Little.

THE GROUNDS.

Frequent references to the grounds will be found in other parts of the Magazine, and a description is here given, to give those who are interested in the school, some idea of what is being done.

Four years ago, the playing field was ploughed up and sown, but as the school had no horse roller or mower, the grass was kept short by grazing, and consequently grew in tufts.

This year the Board has made a handsome donation towards putting the ground in order. At the time of writing the seed has been in some days, and we are looking forward to a fine sward in the spring. A mower and roller must be bought, otherwise the ground will relapse into its former state. A wire netting fence has been put down on the school side of the ground, and it is intended to train a hedge upon it.

THE GULLY.

The Gully, which some time ago was a wilderness, is beginning to assume a more cultivated appearance, and in the course of another year or two, will be quite a miniature park. All the fern and gorse has been cleared away, and the shrubs planted by the Board four years ago have been dug around. During the winter more shrubs will be planted.

The lower end of the gully will be made into a Swimming Bath, and the boys have been very busy all through the term excavating for the purpose. Numbers of them have been working in the holidays. The water will be supplied by two good springs.

The middle of the gully has been cleared of raupo, and turned into a miniature rifle range. On one side, a mound has been made, and targets have been erected on the other. We take this opportunity of thanking the Board, for presenting us with these. Already a good deal of practice has been put in, and application has been made to the Department for a supply of Morris tubes.

The upper portion has been fenced off, and asphalt tennis courts are to be placed there. The site is exceptional for the purpose, as the high sides of the gully keep off the prevailing winds.

On one side—near the range—are the agricultural plots, which are gradually being cleared, and by the end of the year will all be under cultivation.

The Board has generously voted funds for carrying out a proper system of drainage. Already a drain has been made, running the whole length of the Gully. Although it will be some time before all this work is completed, the enthusiasm with which the boys have entered into it, will soon make the whole place a real beauty spot, as well as a fine recreation ground for those who come after.

OLD BOYS' NOTES.

It is to the Old Boys that a school magazine must look for a main part of its support; and accordingly, when this periodical was set on foot, all the Old Boys whose addresses could be obtained were circularised. A great majority of these circulars necessarily went astray, but the response from a great many Old Boys has been most gratifying and encouraging. As time goes on we hope to enlarge our connection among the Old Boys—now scattered all over the world, and we should feel very grateful if any Old Boys or others connected with the school would forward us particulars as to the addresses, and the occupations of the various old pupils. The informants need not wait for their friends to do anything of note. If only the address is procurable, the information will be of value. Any one who could tell us anything of the whereabouts of the following Old Boys, would confer a great boon on the management:—

Roger Burke, Walter Bayly, George Bird, Edward Barclay, Henry Barclay, Oscar Busche, Fred Bentley, William Bayly, Reginald Blackburn, Alex. Binnie,

Fred. Batten, Charles Brookes, Geoffrey Bollard, Charles Cooper, Harold Coates, Alfred Cox, James Conway, Chas. Croucher, Frank Caverhill, Clement Caldwell, Charles Douglas, Ernest Darnell, Laurence Downes, Harold Dingle, S. Fraser, Gore Foote, Wm. Franklyn, Alfred Farquhar, Alex. Fogwill, Alex. Greig, Arthur Gayne, Albert Gray, Wm. Hutcheson, John B. Hirst, Harold Heslop, Arthur Hawkins, Fred. Humphries, Alfred Hunt, Irvine Hunter, Edward Halse, Percy Jackson, Harold Johnston, Wm. Rowland Moore, Wm. E. Moore, Fred. Marshall, Arthur M'Intyre, George Marshall, Arthur Manners, Ernest Manning, Frank Morgan, John M'Niece, James Morey, David M'Millan, Albert Newsham, Harry Neild, John Nixon, Ernest Nathan, Owen O'Brien, Hugh O'Loughlen, Herbert O'Loughlen, Eustace O'Carroll, Dermot O'Carroll, Felix O'Carroll, Claude O'Carroll, Fred. Pearson, Walter Patterson, Arthur Priestly, Sydney Paynter, Harry Patterson, Wm. Runciman, Julian Roope, P. Roope, L. Roope, John Rickerby, Gordon Rundle, John Scully, Arthur Stapp, Wilfrid Skeet, Chas. Shaw, Stanley Syme, Harry Scholfield, Edmund R. Scott, Reuben Seon, Arthur Seccombe, William Stead, Sidney Smith, James Thomas, Richard Thomas, George Watkins, Albert Wood, Wm. Weston, Francis Whitcombe, Wm. Wheeler, Cyril Youngman.

The "Old Boys' Notes" which follow are necessarily imperfect, and not nearly so full as we would have liked. Such notes, for an inaugural number, are difficult to compile. Any mistake, therefore, we hope will be overlooked.

George Pott, better known as "Joe," is farming at Te Puke. He is at present spending his holiday here.

Harold Clarke is practising as a dentist at Whangarei.

Percy Blanchett is in the Napier branch of the Union Bank.

Arthur Hempton is manager of the Greymouth branch of the Bank of New Zealand.

Walter Rawson, Judge of the Native Land Court, is stationed at Wanganui.

Raymond Ambury is studying for the Church at Dunedin University.

Howard Bayly is farming at Tutukawa.

Eric Grant has joined the local branch of the Bank of New South Wales.

I Grant, of the staff of Messrs. Roy and Nicholson, has passed the second section of his law exams.

N. Day is teaching at Toko.

Albert Bayly is working on his father's farm at Omata.

W. Beck is a railway cadet at Ohakune East, on the Main Trunk Railway.

Trevor Simpson has taken up the profession of journalism at the "Herald" office.

Charlie Pridham is practising dentistry at Temuka.

Ronald Adlam has gone in for Pedagogics, and is teaching at the Inglewood School.

Walter Messenger, one of the "old" Old Boys, is in the land agency business at Inglewood.

Edward Messenger is an engineer in the Freezing Works at Masterton.

Leslie Mace is in the Bank of Australasia, Feilding.

Leslie M'Allum is in the Union Shipping Company's office in Auckland.

A. G. Monk is on the staff of the "Herald" office.

Geoffrey Osborne has completed his medical studies, and is at present practising temporarily at Mangaweka. He intends to settle somewhere in the North Island.

Norman Healy is in the New Plymouth branch of the National Bank.

Gordon Rundle is farming at Bell Block.

H. Johnston is in the office of Messrs. Govett and Quilliam, solicitors.

W. Mulloy is in the New Plymouth branch of the Union Bank. "Wattie" Mulloy is in the Bank of New South Wales.

D. Newell, S. Hoby and F. Brown are all in the Bank of New Zealand, New Plymouth.

L. P. Sole is on the literary staff of the "Taranaki Herald" office.

C. Day has joined the staff of Newton King.

W. Whitton and G. Martin are on the staff of the New South Wales Bank, New Plymouth.

Gordon Salway is farming at Bell Block.

E. Dowling has joined the firm of A. E. Sykes, chemist.

Hugh Fraser has rejoined the literary staff of the "New Zealand Herald."

C. Norris is in the office of Mr. H. Gillies, solicitor, Hamilton.

G. Hooker is in the office of the Borough Engineer.

G. J. Hawkins is on the staff of Messrs. Archibald Clark and Sons, Ltd., and is one of the Star Club's best forwards this season.

Jack Stohr is captain of the Tukapa Football Club this season.

Newnham Cornwall, R.N.R., is captain of s.s. Kaipara.

Charlie Cornwall is mining in South Africa.

Newton Matthews (Tim) has just passed his final examination for the degree of Medicine. He is now engaged in walking the hospitals.

Campbell MacDiarmid is practising as barrister and solicitor at Hamilton. He is also a member of the Hamilton High School Board.

Howard Mackie passed the examination for partial C at the last teachers' examination. He is now attending classes both at the Training and Victoria Colleges, Wellington.

Stanley Paul is in England studying new methods connected with his profession of chemist. He intends to set up for himself somewhere in New Zealand.

Austin Bewley, who is practising in New Plymouth as a solicitor, won the golf championship of the Ngamotu Club last year. His putting was a marked feature of the game.

Alf. Grant has been transferred to the Wellington branch of the Bank of New South Wales.

C. P. Bates is in charge of a school at Rewa, near Feilding.

H. Strauchon, who is a dentist at the Lower Hutt, was married in December, 1911, to Miss Allport.

Millington, Gilbert and Box are in Wellington.

S. Griffiths is in the Bank of New South Wales at Perth, W.A.

At the last November examination, P. Grey passed a section of his LL.B. degree in four subjects and W. B. Glasgow in three subjects.

H. L. Cook passed in three subjects and completed his LL.B. degree. He was admitted in March last as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court.

W. M'Arthur in January last passed in four subjects of the Senior Civil Service examination.

At the camp of the 5th (Wellington) Regiment, held at Trentham at Easter, the following Old Boys were present: R. H. Quilliam, W. B. Glasgow, W. M'Arthur, R. Coker, D. Harle, W. Millington, and H. L. Cook.

R. H. Quilliam and P. Grey are in the Victoria College first fifteen. Quilliam is vice-captain of the team.

The following Old Boys are attending law lectures at Victoria College: R. H. Quilliam, W. B. Glasgow, P. Grey, D. Harle, J. N. Bullard.

W. M'Arthur is in the Drawing office of the Railway Department, Wellington.

R. Coker is in the Wellington office of the Bank of New South Wales. He is playing for the Wellington Club's senior fifteen.

E. Day has been transferred to the Wellington branch of the Union Bank of Australia.

H. Philpott is in the Dairy division of the Agricultural Department, Wellington.

J. Dockrill has passed his third medical professional examination at Dublin.

G. N. MacDiarmid has passed his second medical professional examination at Dunedin. He hopes to complete his medical course next year.

Leslie Hill has gone into a solicitor's office at Hawera.

Norman Heppell is farming near Sentry Hill.

G. Hurle is in the office of L. D. Nathan, Auckland.

Rupert Laing is in the Auckland branch of the Bank of Australasia.

George Mander is purser on the s.s. Manuka.

Ernest Stanford is in the Cable Company's service at Singapore.

Joe Ambury is farming at Hawera.

Gordon Addenbrooke is farming at Uruti.

Arnold Atkinson is practising the profession of lawyer in Wellington.

Reg. Brokenshire is in the office of Messrs. Standish and Standish, solicitors, New Plymouth.

Francis Billing is in the Bank of New Zealand at Waitara.

George Bollinger is in the service of the Bank of New South Wales at Hamilton.

Ronald Baily is in the Town Clerk's office, New Plymouth.

Henry Billing is managing the Inglewood business of Messrs. Weston and Weston, solicitors.

Harry Bauchope is farming near Napier.

Hyam Brasch is practising at the law in Dunedin.

Douglas Collis is in the Government Buildings, Rotorua.

We are extremely sorry to state that J. R. Sinclair, who was pursuing his medical studies at Glasgow, met with an accident which made amputation of his leg necessary. His medical studies have thereby been suspended, and he is sailing for New Zealand in June next. We shall be exceedingly pleased to welcome him home, though we regret exceedingly the reason that brings him. We here take the opportunity of extending our heartfelt sympathy to his mother and friends.

Lewis Warren is in the Inglewood branch of the Bank of New South Wales.

Percy Ambury has gone to the Dunedin University, where he is going to study for the Ministry. He intends ultimately to go in for missionary work in Bengal. He was accorded a hearty send-off by the Baptist Tabernacle, Auckland, in which town he was working.

The following Old Boys are playing for the Rovers team this year: Ian Grant, Eric Grant, R. Reid, Trevor Ellis, Wattie Mulloy, Monk, and Reg. Quilliam.

Cecil and Philip Wright are at Stratford, where their home is now situated.

Wm. Wright is in the Manaia branch of the Bank of New Zealand.

George Russell is in the Valuation Department at Christchurch.

Percy Thompson is in the Blenheim branch of the National Bank.

Davie Brown and Eric Grant passed the matriculation examination this year.

Russell Baker is in the Auckland branch of the N.Z. Insurance Company.

Harold Blyth is in the office of Sargood and Son, Auckland.

Arthur Cliff has been appointed secretary of the Taranaki Agricultural Society.

Dick Davies is practising law at Taihape.

Fred Heldt is living at Apiti, near Feilding.

Samuel Hill is in the Land Tax Department at Wellington.

Leonard Horrocks is practising dentistry at Feilding.

Truby King, who has passed all his examinations, is gaining experience in the office of Mr. A. H. Johnstone, New Plymouth.

Maxwell Lepper, who has for some time been in Australia, is now on his father's farm at Lepperton.

W. Monk has been transferred to the Christchurch branch of the National Bank.

Old Boys are invited to send in correspondence, articles, reminiscent anecdotes, etc., which will be gladly received.

A. Gray is farming at Okato.

P. Hobson is in the employ of Messrs. Bellringer Bros.

Aubrey Harle is in the Union Bank, Auckland.

R. Halse is in the Bank of New Zealand, Hastings.

F. D. Jeffries is in the Bank of New Zealand, Auckland.

Roy Jackson is in the office of E. Griffiths, New Plymouth.

W. King is in his father's office—Newton King.

F. Callaghan is a clerk in the office of Newton King.

E. Carthew is in business as a land agent in New Plymouth.

W. Dockrill is managing his father's business in New Plymouth.

E. Ellerm is in the service of the A.M.P. Society, New Plymouth.

T. Ellis is in the firm of Messrs. Govett and Quilliam, solicitors.

E. C. Evetts is teaching at the West End School.

Dr. E. F. Fookes, who has been practising here for some time, is a member of the New Plymouth High School Board of Governors.

H. Fookes is in the Post Office Department, New Plymouth.

B. Fookes is in the Bank of Australasia.

R. George is secretary of the Crown Dairy Company.

W. Saxton is in the electrical department of the Auckland Tramways.

J. Stoddart is in the chemist's business in Wellington.

E. Stanley is farming at Egmont Road.

Farrell Sole is clerk in Messrs. Nolan and Co.'s office.

Stanley Smith has given up farming, but is still living in the Old Hospital Road. He is one of the recent converts to golf.

G. Sykes has gone into his father's business.

T. Tuohy is in the Railway Department, New Plymouth.

P. Tunbridge is in the clerical department of the Railway, New Plymouth.

Percy White is in his father's business—White and Sons, New Plymouth.

Clem Webster is agent for the Northern S.S. Co., New Plymouth.

J. E. Wilson has been appointed New Plymouth delegate to the conference of Acclimatisation Societies to be held shortly in Wellington.

Thos. Wilson is farming at Makuri.

Percy Webster is in business as accountant in New Plymouth.

L. Asher is in the office of E. Griffiths, New Plymouth.

F. Bellringer is the Town Clerk of the New Plymouth Borough Council.

N. Bewley is in the land agency business, New Plymouth.

F. Barnitt is farming near the Old Hospital Road.

H. Bollinger is in the Railway Department, New Plymouth.

L. Berry is a clerk in the New Zealand Express Co., New Plymouth.

H. Bocock is in the New Zealand Insurance Co., New Plymouth.

J. Blyde is in the employ of Messrs. Smart Bros., New Plymouth.

N. Chappell is in the Bank of New Zealand, Waitara.

E. Cutfield is in the office of Archibald Clark, New Plymouth.

A. Cartwright is in the Dairy Factory, Waitara, Road.

Sydney Cottier is in the legal office of Messrs. Weston and Weston, New Plymouth.

H. Cutfield is in the office of Newton King.

G. Carter is in his father's business, New Plymouth.

A. Callaghan is working in the office of H. Brown and Co.

G. Morey and H. Smith are learning the profession of chemist with W. Fraser, New Plymouth.

R. Matthews is in the office of Messrs. Medley and Rundle, New Plymouth.

Alex. MacDiarmid has recently taken over the dentist's business of Mr. A. Gray, late of New Plymouth.

D. MacDiarmid is studying for the Church at the Dunedin University.

A. M'Isaac is in the office of the U.S.S. Co., New Plymouth.

W. Noble is in the Railway Department, Wellington.

S. Okey is in the office of Archibald Clark, New Plymouth.

Arthur Osborne is in the New Plymouth office of the N.Z. Insurance Co.

R. Paul has begun business as hardware merchant in New Plymouth.

G. Ryan is practising law at Hawera.

C. S. Rennell is secretary of the Harbour Board and the Gas Company.

R. Reid is on the staff of Roy and Nicholson's.

F. Rowland is farming at Kent Road.

H. Sole is in the New Plymouth office of the N.Z. Insurance Co.

J. Noble is in the Post and Telegraph Department, Hamilton.

Alan Matthews is in the office of E. Griffiths, New Plymouth.

Eric Shaw has gone into the office of Newton King.

Reg. Quilliam is in the office of Messrs. Govett and Quilliam.

F. Clarke is in the office of the N.Z. Flourmillers' Association, New Plymouth.

Harold Blyde is in the office of Sargood, Son and Ewen, New Plymouth.

Archie MacDiarmid is mine manager at the Thames.

The following article from Mr. W. F. Kelly, Awa-kino, should prove of interest to those boys who intend to follow a farming life when they leave school:

There is no doubt that there is a craving in a large number of people to get out into the unsettled and unknown places of the world; and very fortunately so for the progress of the world; if it were not for these wanderers the march of civilisation would be very much retarded.

I suppose there is in each of us some touch of romance lying dormant, perhaps for years, or perhaps brought into being very early in our career; and when that points to the back blocks and the unknown country about them, either in our own or in other lands, it behoves us to think out the matter seriously for ourselves, and not to rush too lightly into what must lead to hard work and a long wait for any monetary gain.

Taking our own country for an example, the weary wait for roads, the isolation (and all it stands for—no cricket, no tennis, no football, and no society), is enough to daunt the stoutest heart, and would, if it were not for Hope, who ever points to the time when settlement will be away beyond you, when the rough bush hills will be covered with grass, and you can afford to take life easier and enjoy the fruits of past work and self denial.

I would advise any boy who has a hankering for the back blocks to get on to a good sheep station somewhere in the bush country for seven or eight years before taking up land for himself; he will then gain experience at some one else's expense, and when he starts for himself will probably make £1 go as far as two would have done had he started on his own place without that experience.

This would also give him plenty of time to know whether he can stand the life, and if not to take up something else before it is too late.

It is very necessary to change every two years, say, from one locality to another, so as to gain a good knowledge of the different soils, grasses, and methods of working stock in the various districts, and pick out the best points of each.

MARRIAGE.

CUTFIELD—LEPPER.—At St. Mark's Church, Lepperton, on March 4, by the Rev. C. F. R. Harrison, Ernest, third son of W. Cutfield, of Fitzroy, to Clara Maxwell, elder daughter of H. B. Lepper, of Lepperton.

In Memoriam.

On FEBRUARY 4th.

EDGAR BRIDGEMAN

Son of Thomas Henry and
Charlotte Anne Bridgeman,
Inglewood.

AGED 15 YEARS.

Ivon Standish, who is in England, has passed the captain's examination for the Royal New Zealand Artillery. He is at present gaining experience in the practical part of the work. He hopes to be out in New Zealand at the end of the year.

REMINISCENCES.

(By W. RAWSON.)

In the famous Tichborne case the claimant was severely cross-examined as to the relative positions and interior arrangement of the buildings forming the school where the real baronet had been educated, the argument being that whatever else a man might forget he would always have the very clearest recollection of the place where his early schooldays were spent. And there is no doubt this reasoning is correct.

Although it is more than thirty years since the New Plymouth High School was first opened, I have no difficulty in bringing before my mind's eye the whole scene, and even the faces of many of the boys who, while waiting the arrival of the appointed hour, climbed the tower for the first time that day, and saw before them that glorious view of town and country, mountain, hill and dale, sea and island.

And a big sturdy lot those first High School boys were, for many of the settlers' sons who had been away from school a year or more on their fathers' farms, were sent back for another term or so. I remember that old veteran, Major (afterwards Colonel) Stapp, remarking to Mr. Pridham during his first inspection of the school Cadet Corps, that "there was plenty of real bone and muscle there."

So it is not to be wondered at that in that first year we had a football team that twice defeated the New Plymouth Club seniors. In the first game both Mr. Pridham and Mr. Toms, the second master, took part, and victory was attained after a hard struggle by the narrowest of margins. In the second game, the win was a substantial one, though this time we had not the assistance of the masters—and in those days Mr. Pridham was a back hard to stop when he got fairly into his stride. One of our smallest boys, though—Frank Lever—used to tackle him with certainty, and "the head" used to laugh with the rest of us to find his downfall brought about by the small lad clinging to his shins.

In cricket, too, the school more than held its own in those early days, and its athletic career, therefore, had a most auspicious beginning.

Some of the fellows then at the school were Alf. Bayly, well known for his football prowess in later years, and his brothers Charlie and Walter, Tom Hempton—the most popular boy in the school, and one of the best footballers that ever represented Taranaki—Kenneth and Luff Skeet, Tom Furlong, Fred Pearson, Walter Messenger, L. Webster, E. Hursthouse, R. and J. Wilson, Giddy, Humphries, Henderson, Manners, Brooking, Cunningham, T. and E. Elliott, J. M'Niece, J. Connett and Hunt, whilst a little later came the Fookes, Websters, Carthews, Cornwalls, and others from various New Plymouth schools.

In the second year the boys were not so old nor so big, but still I think there was no school in the province that could have been a worthy rival at either winter or summer game. It was in the years following that we had to come down and look lower than the town clubs for our opponents, and, during the remainder of the five years I was there, we had some strenuous struggles with the Central and Waitara schools.

In one football match with the latter in 1886 our opponents scored a goal in the first ten minutes of the game, and it was only during the last twenty minutes that Charlie Cornwall pulled the match out of the fire by scoring three tries, which, according to the rules then in existence, put us ahead by one point.

On Mr. Toms leaving to go, I think, to Canada, his place as second master was taken by Mr. Clarke; and it was about this time that an addition was made to the school buildings, and the Girls' High School commenced its career under Miss Ramsay, who was followed a year or two later by Miss Montgomery.

The school had many difficulties to contend with—one of the greatest being that boys were taken away to work at too early an age, the result being that the number on the roll dropped considerably lower than it should have done. Had it not been for this I think the Girls' High School would not have found a home in the same building. There is no doubt that their being under the one roof has injured both schools in the estimation of the public.

There were also other difficulties I was too young to understand at the time, but which have been brought home to me since, and I think Mr. Pridham has hardly been given the credit due to him for the manner in which he met them. One little instance of these: Most

boys are proud to wear their school colours, but, when Mr. Pridham, with the idea of encouraging a proper feeling and esprit de corps amongst us, made it a rule that we should wear a school cap, a great outcry arose, and many of the boys, backed up by their parents, refused to comply, and some of those who did would, immediately on leaving the school grounds, substitute another hat. However, Mr. Pridham was firm and tactful, and in course of time we were all wearing the caps.

This was only a small matter, but it is instructive as showing what a conservative community we were in those days, and how a man, eager to do his best for the boys, found obstacles where they were least to be expected.

The first dux of the school was James Wilson, and he held that position for two years, though he had a close race once with I. W. W. Hunter.

Jim has gone now to "that bourne whence no traveller returns," and as we were both engaged in the practice of the same profession in the same city for some years, I speak with some authority when I say that no one was ever more respected or left a cleaner record behind him than Jim Wilson.

Robert Pardy was another who came out at the top of the school, and, in addition to his ability in class, was a fine runner and footballer. He had learned the Victorian game in Australia, and his wonderfully clever kicking was an eye-opener to us. Never have I seen anyone quite equal to him in this respect.

Miss May Fookes was the first dux of the Girls' High School, and she maintained her hold on the position till she left; Miss Kathleen Thompson following after her.

Most of the boys used to bring their lunch to school with them and, at the mid-day interval it was a favourite plan to race over to the swimming hole in the Henui River at the back of the Cemetery for a dip. An hour did not leave too much time, and we usually returned much hotter than we left, and many a small youth heard the bell ring before he had climbed the last ascent to the playground.

At another period it became the fashion for parties of us to dig caves in the sides of the gully to the eastward, and, when these were finished, to defend them

against attack by all comers. So much trouble arose out of these struggles that the authorities closed down on the game, and also on the shooting craze, commenced by Fred Pearson, with an old pistol whose faulty hammer spring was replaced by an ingenious arrangement of elastic bands. This and several other dangerous "guns" were confiscated and placed in the school museum for safe keeping.

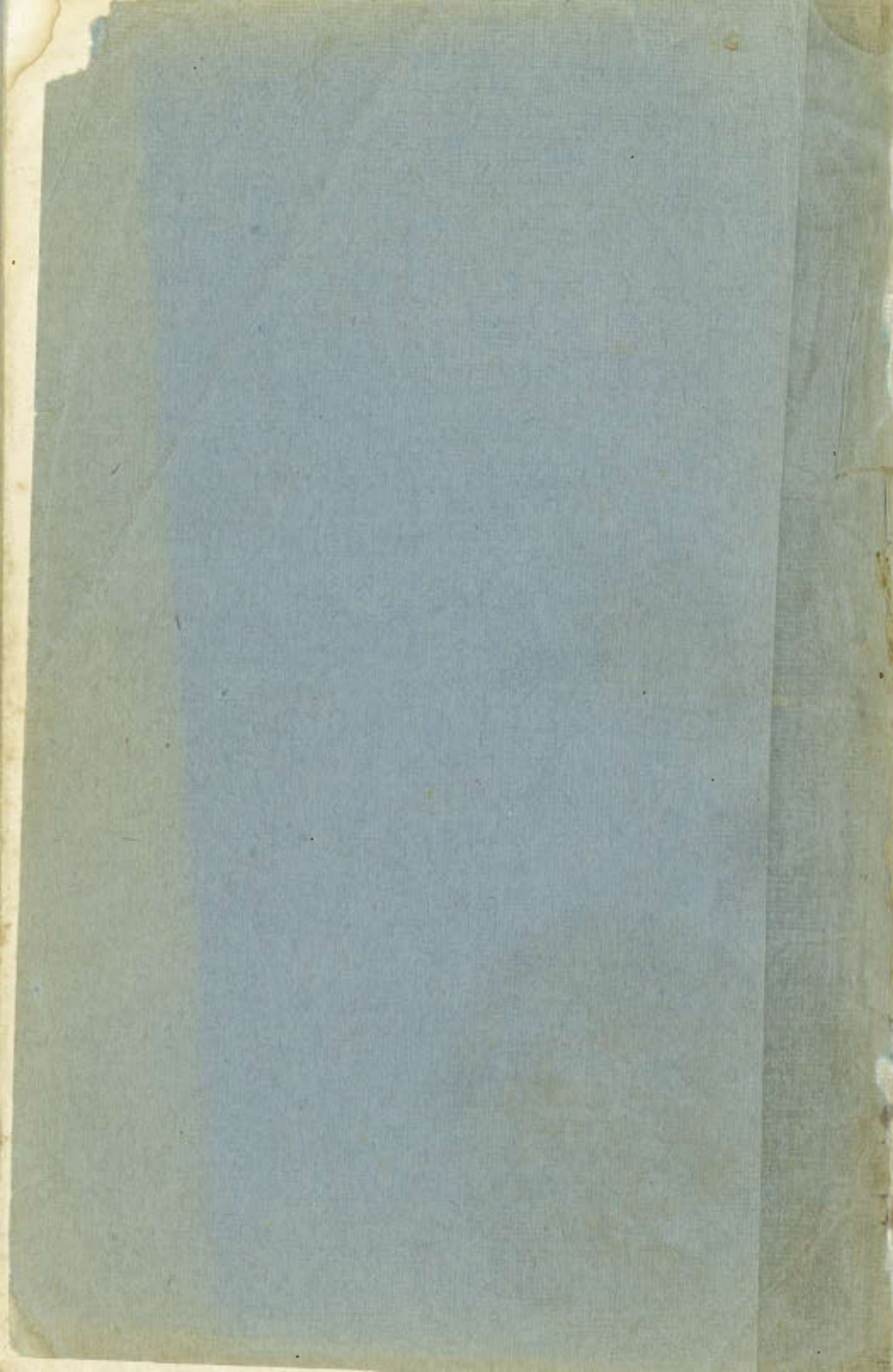
The Cadet Corps was never a flourishing institution in my time. Part of the drill time was taken out of our luncheon hour, and consequently the work was never popular, but shooting practice at the old butts on Woodleigh farm was another thing altogether, and was really most enjoyable for all except the master in charge. Everyone would turn up on these occasions with his lunch, prepared to make a day of it, and the fun would be fast and furious. We were armed with the old Snider carbine, and it was said that one of the masters once fired away his ramrod that had been dropped into his gun at the last moment by some young scamp; but I cannot vouch for the truth of this. Any way, looking after 30 or 40 lads with guns in their hands could have been no sinecure, and it would not have been surprising if, at the end of the day, the master had not only lost his ramrod, but some his boys as well.

The last two years of my stay I look back on as one of the best times of my life. I was old enough and big enough to take my place in the teams, and the school work was becoming of more interest to me owing to my removal into the senior class. I was also beginning to believe that masters were friends and not enemies, and learning to regard Mr. Pridham with affection as well as with respect.

My greatest chum at this time was Arthur Hempton, now manager of the Bank of New Zealand at Whangarei, and though we used to fall into many scrapes together, he was usually equal to getting both of us out again.

Some of those in the cricket and football teams with me at this time were Stan Humphries, Will Webster, Fred Thompson, Charlie Cornwall, Arthur Hempton, Will Robson, David Teed, Fred Brooking, Ernest Fookes (who afterwards represented both England and Taranaki at Rugby), Kingdon, Olsen, W. Irvine, F. and J. Carthew, H. Rawson, A. Rennell, and others.





New Plymouth Boys High School Magazine.



EDITED BY THE BOYS AND PUBLISHED AT
THE END OF EACH TERM.

No. 2.—Vol. 1.

September, 1912.

Carthw Morris

The New Plymouth Boys' High School Magazine.

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New Plymouth High School.

[ESTABLISHED 1882.]

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The New Plymouth Boys' High School Magazine.

Edited by the Boys of the School.

PUBLISHED AT THE END OF EACH TERM.

SEPTEMBER, 1912.

No. 2.

Subscriptions (3/- per annum) will be received by the Business Manager
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EDITORIAL.

IN publishing our second number, we have, before everything else, to thank all those old boys who have given us their loyal and generous support. It could not have been a matter for wonder if, after so many years of separation from the school, the response had been lukewarm. This, however, has not been the case. All the old boys who have been asked to assist have done so with great generosity. In only one case has the management met with an actual refusal. We have therefore the greatest confidence that the old boys will do their part, and it only remains for the present boys to show, by their enthusiasm for all school institutions, that the interest taken in them is justified. All the various matters in connection with the school are dealt with at length in other parts of the magazine. It will, perhaps, not be out of place to give a short commentary in our editorial pages on some of the subjects treated.

It is proposed to hold an Old Boys' Reunion on Sports Day, and we are looking forward to seeing a great number present. Keen as the old boys certainly are, it will add to their interest to attend a school function and fight their battles over again. The importance of an innovation such as this to the welfare of a school

is hard to overestimate. A gallery of photos. of old boys would be another step in the right direction; and it would materially increase the interest to the visit of any old pupil to the school, to see portraits of contemporaries of his, whom probably he has not seen nor heard of for years.

As yet the old boys' notes are a long way from being as full as they might be. Such must inevitably be the case, until the magazine has increased in age. The management is in correspondence with several, but there are a great many more whose whereabouts and doings have yet to be noted. It is to be hoped that in writing, correspondents will speak about themselves with freedom, and we hope that many will do what they can to send us notes of any old boy of whom they may have heard. The smallest details will not be out of place. Many old boys are already doing so, and we here express our thanks to them, but we should like the ranks of our correspondents largely increased.

As will be seen by the reports of the last meeting of the Board of Governors, it has been decided to establish a Preparatory School such as many of the other schools in New Zealand possess. The formation of a lower department would be a most invaluable aid to us. At present, under the departmental regulations, no pupil can enter the school, even by payment of a fee, unless he has passed the V. Standard. We are thus debarred from receiving pupils who otherwise wish to attend. The hardship comes especially in the case of boarders. But apart from the question of numbers, it is most important to a school to have a lower department, as a boy would come to us at an early age, and would grow up under our ways. His affection for the school and his enthusiasm for all school activities must increase with the greater number of years that he is thus enabled to attend the school.

The entry of the Senior XV. into the grade competition this year has been a good thing for us. Although the teams we met were much heavier than we were, yet we managed to hold our own, and these matches were of great assistance in preparing us for the schools' tournament. Though not successful in retaining the shield, we put up a respectable fight, and in any case take second place.

The widening of the scope of the Agricultural Course by the cultivation of four additional acres will be of the utmost benefit to the school, especially in these days when vocational education is in the air. In an agricultural district such as ours no school would be fulfilling its functions that did not provide adequate means for giving rural instruction. Next year the course will be even more characteristic of the province, when means will be taken to give instruction in milk testing.

We are looking forward to having a successful cricket season, and as the ground is getting in first-class order, our hopes will no doubt be realised. The football will be banished from the ground altogether. With such a wide space at our disposal in the Racecourse for the winter game, there is no need to use our own ground for anything but running sports and cricket. Owing, moreover, to the generosity of the old boys, the money placed at our disposal by them will enable us to buy a first-class mower, and with the heavy race-course roller, we shall be able to get the grass in tip-top order. We shall probably play in both the Thursday and Saturday competitions this year, and being therefore matched against the best cricketers in the town, our form will very rapidly improve.

The main work of the present term will be, of course, preparing for the public examinations at the end of the year. Those who are going up for the Matriculation examination will remember that the standard has been considerably stiffened. It therefore behoves all to put out a special effort, and do credit both to themselves and to the school.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

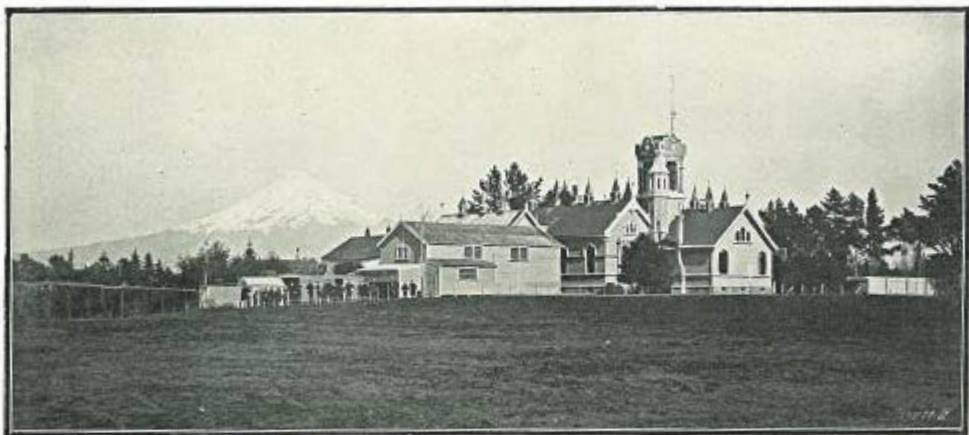
Readers of the Magazine will probably agree that not the least attractive of our illustrations in this number is that of our agricultural plot. The work done in this department of the school we feel is of the utmost value from an educational as well as from a practical point of view. Those boys who intend to take up farming when they leave school will have a solid foundation to work upon, as their practical work outside is supplemented by lectures on the theory of the science in school. But not only do these benefit, for many boys whose tastes do not lie towards the professions, and yet do not intend taking up agriculture as a living, can reap great benefit from taking this course. The Education

Department have made, and are still making, a strong point of this part of school work, their idea being to foster those studies which fulfil the needs of the district in which the school is placed. In fact all over New Zealand as judged by the deliberations of Education Boards and other scholastic bodies, the note has been sounded, and without a doubt agricultural instruction is in its infancy in the Dominion. Such being the case, it certainly behoves us to be one of the leading schools of the country in devoting a large portion of our syllabus to rural education. We have therefore much pleasure in stating that owing to the enterprise of the authorities, a portion of the school ground, comprising four acres, in addition to that part already composing the agricultural plot, is to be ploughed up and devoted to agricultural experiments. This work is to be put in hand at once, so that a beginning may be made this term. The site of the new plot is an excellent one, and as it is virgin soil, the various seeds and plants put in should thrive well. Next year we hope that the agricultural course will be even further developed, as we are probably getting some plant for dairy instruction. In a district such as this, where dairy produce is the staple, the rural side of the school should go rapidly ahead.

The practical side of our agricultural work has, during the second term, been divided under the following headings:

1. Digging, trenching, and manuring.
2. Pruning, grafting, cutting, planting trees.
3. Work with grass plots.
4. Storage of crops.

Vegetable Garden.—Owing to bad weather, our work has suffered to a certain extent this term, but on fine days our time was occupied in the work mentioned above. The character of the soil, being light and porous, is such that work could be continued at very short notice, even after a heavy fall of rain. A large piece of new ground has been trenched, and is now planted in vegetable seeds. In the early part of the winter some lettuce and cabbage plants were planted, but they proved to be too much of an attraction to our feathered friends, and the result was a loss to us. Later on we sowed our main crop of vegetables, which will, however, be later than usual, owing to the wet winter. Onions, carrots, beans, parsnips, and potato has so far been sown. Nine



VIEW OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

different kinds of potatoes have been planted, and we intend carrying out further experiments with regard to their adaptability to this class of soil, as well as to their power of resisting the blight.

One of the horses made a raid on the plots during the vacation, and did a lot of harm; but such an occurrence as this also does us good, in that our fencing is not first class; and, moreover, it teaches us to make the best of our bad luck.

One day during the term was occupied in pruning, and the trees in our plots suffered more or less as the result of our work. One apple tree had not the courage to face the knife, and died a few days before the pruning took place! The young buds are now beginning to sprout, and already a Burbank Japanese plum is in bloom. All the trees look healthy and free from blight. We have commenced our fruit-growing on a small scale, but next winter we hope to have another terrace of trees planted. At present we have the following:

1. Apples—Reinnette du Canada, Cleopatra, Irish Peach, Early Rivers, Northern Spy, Ruby Pearmain, Black Prince.
2. Pears—Howell, Burre-diel.
3. Plums—Satsuma, Japanese Sultan, Burbank.

Cuttings of carnations and pansies were planted, and a practical lesson was carried out in "layering." The cuttings appear to have "taken" very well, as do also the plants which were layered.

Matthews presented us with some strawberry plants, and these we have planted in a temporary position where the soil is poor. We deemed it inadvisable to plant them in a position in which they are likely to fruit heavily until we have a brick wall, surmounted with broken bottles, surrounding the plots!

Tomato seeds have been sown in our hot frames, the soil used coming from our compost heap. We are anxiously awaiting results, since this is the first soil used from the compost heap.

Storage.—The roots obtained from last year's crops were stored, the results of which were in some cases successful. The potatoes, mainly Gamekeeper, were stored in sand, covered with raupo leaves, the whole being covered with earth and raupo. The tubers near

the surface sprouted, but those deeper down in the mound were in a good state of preservation. The carrots and parsnips stored well, but a complete test was not carried out with them owing to the ravages on the storage heaps to supply the needs of the boarding establishment. The beet kept well, although the roots near the surface tended to become soft during storage.

Grasses.—The grass plots sown at the end of the first term have on the whole turned out fairly successfully. Ravages by birds on the newly-sown seed, and by horses on the sprouting plots, have somewhat spoilt them, but top-dressing improved some of them wonderfully. We have to thank Messrs. Rowe and Nicoll, also Messrs. E. Griffiths and Co., for their donations of seeds for experimental purposes. Half of each grass plot has been carefully rolled in order to test the effect of compressing the soil around the roots of the young plants. The following is a list of some of the grasses sown, quality of the soil, and the result of growth to date:

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Quality of Ground.</i>	<i>Growth.</i>
Westernfield ...	Clay ...	Fair height 1ft.
Fine leaved Fescue ...	Clay ...	Good
Timothy ...	Clay ...	Fair (sown late)
Prairie Grass ...	Clay loam ...	Good, 18in. height
Crested Dogstail ...	Loam ...	Very fair
Poa Trivialis ...	Loam ...	Fair
Sheep's Fescue ...	Clay loam ...	Fair
Italian Rye ...	Loam ...	Good, splendid growth
Timothy ...	Loam ...	Fair
Cocksfoot ...	Loam ...	Poor
Danthonia ...	Loam ...	Poor
Paspalum ...	Clay ...	Did not strike
Perennial Rye ...	Loam ...	Good
White Clover ...	Clay ...	Very fair, spreading well
Colonial Trefoil ...	Clay ...	Very fair
Alyske and Cocksfoot (Mixture)	Clay ...	Alyske fair, Cocksfoot patchy
Colonial Trefoil ...	Clay loam ...	Fair (late sown)
English Trefoil ...	Clay loam ...	Poor (late sown)
Red Clover and Hard Fescue (Mixture)	Loam ...	Good, especially Clover
Lucerne ...	Loam ...	Fair, leaves attacked by insect or fungus
Lotus Major ...	Loam ...	Fair
Crimson Clover and Italian Rye (Mixture)	Loam ...	Good
Lotus Major ...	Clay ...	Very poor

Samples of Garton, Dun, Sparrowbill, and Tartar oats were planted, but were almost completely demolished by the birds.

Some of the boys brought native trees for planting during the winter, but with all our care they did not seem to be able to adapt themselves to their new surroundings. Some nikau palms brought by Lepper, however, are thriving well.

We spent one day previous to our breaking up in planting garden seeds on the slope, and we are hoping to have a good show of flowers later on. Sykes' horse, however, still plays the part of the villain. Nuff said!

CADET NOTES.

The work in connection with the Cadet Corps this term has been interfered with to a great extent by the weather. Last winter we were obliged to abandon only one out-door parade, but this winter we were not let off so lightly, and, as a result, lectures filled up a fair proportion of the time devoted to military work.

At the beginning of the term we received orders to parade with the Territorials on the occasion of the King's Birthday. The corps had undergone severe training for the event, since it would be the first occasion on which the school corps would appear in public in the new school uniform. Previous to this parade the corps held a rehearsal with "A" Company Territorials on the Central School grounds, the battalion being under the command of Major Bellringer, an old boy. The usual ceremonial parade was practised under difficulties to a certain extent, as the ground was rather slippery, and our corps had a run of bad luck in nearly always completing a movement in a pool of water or mud. Later in the evening deploying movements were carried out, and considering that the occasion was the first on which our recruits had been present at a battalion parade, they did very creditably.

On the King's Birthday we paraded at the school at 10 a.m., and marched to the Drill Hall, where we took our place as No. 3 Company in the battalion. After inspection the battalion, headed by the Garrison Band, moved off in fours, marching via Gill, Egmont, and Devon Streets to the Recreation Grounds, where the battalion was inspected by Lieutenant-Colonel Okey. Our company numbered 70 all told, which represented a greater strength than any other company on parade. In the movements previous to the March Past, while wheeling in fours, the movement of our company was

somewhat hampered by a company which tried to take a short-cut through our centre. In the March Past the boys did very creditably. When advancing in Review Order we unluckily had to march over a piece of ground in the state of a quagmire, but the boys stuck to their guns in spite of the fact that they were almost ankle deep in mud, and the line kept very steady throughout the advance. After a short series of speeches we were marched back to the Drill Hall, where we were dismissed. Our officer commanding was congratulated on the appearance and work of the corps by Major Bellringer on the above occasion.

Extra drills were not given up even then, for shortly after this parade we received orders that we were to parade as Guard of Honour to his Excellency the Governor on his arrival in New Plymouth, for the purpose of opening the Agricultural Show. The company worked hard right up to the day on which the Governor was to arrive, when word was received saying that the Governor was indisposed, and would be unable to attend. It was very disappointing for us, but we are looking forward to an early visit from our future Governor. We sympathised with his Excellency in his indisposition, and he surely would have sympathised with us, had he known what pent up feelings we had, as we were informed that the ordinary school routine would be followed for the day!

The work this term, after the ceremonial parades, consisted mainly of musketry, company drill, and skirmishing. The skirmishing was carried on over the race-course, the sections being practised first of all in extending, then in advancing in lines of sections, and finally advancing in two lines in skirmishing order, using blanks. The first two or three attempts at this work were rather ludicrous. On one occasion the front line, extended, were given the signal to open fire. They opened fire on their scouts, one of whom, resenting this, returned the fire vigorously. Meanwhile the second line of skirmishing had by mistake taken up the signal, and were beginning to open fire on the first line. The officer in command was astounded by this somewhat unusual form of attack (?), but by means of a few words and gesticulations managed to quieten his second line. The recruits, however, soon took to their work, and the following practices were more successful.

We also had another rather unusual attack during our term's work. On one of the days on which the

section commanders were left to instruct their own sections, one of the sergeants received a quite unexpected rear attack. He himself was the only one to suffer from this onslaught. He felt what he thought to be two bayonets in the small of his back, but on turning round he beheld an old cow, which had evidently taken exception to something connected with him. This something has been a matter for debate ever since; some say it was a German cow, and did not approve of our military schemes; others hold that the colour of the sergeant's hair (which I might say is not jet black) must have attracted her. I am not prepared to give my opinion on the matter.

Practices were also held in gauging distance, and in locating men firing from certain unknown positions. Most of the company could pick up these hidden attackers fairly easily, but one secreted in the school tower was a thorn in their sides.

In connection with company drill No. 3 Section has shown wonderful improvement. Sergeant Pott has brought this section, which consisted mainly of recruits, up to a very creditable standard. A few of our section commanders are apt to allow a slovenly movement to pass unnoticed, but they must remember that if they wish our company to be an excellent one, such a state of affairs cannot be tolerated. The subalterns, too, should have their eyes on every member of their half-companies.

In future the company will have the services of Sergeant-Major Bond once a week. We hope to have the Sergeant-Major especially for musketry. It is, perhaps, worthy of note to state here that the sergeants-major who have been selected from the British Army are always well informed on "care of arms." Need we say more?

Signs of the times seem to show that we will have a large increase in the number of boys attending school next year. If such is the case, we hope to have a school contingent, and thus make ourselves thoroughly efficient in battalion drill. We must not, however, pride ourselves yet that we know everything in company drill, for we still have a few boys who could do well with further instruction in the elements of recruit drill.

We hope to complete our year's work next term with a camp. It seems probable that the Defence Department will supply us with tents, etc., but we expect to have to supply our own "tucker." There will doubt-

less be no trouble in making arrangements for this, since boys who are unable or unwilling to supply the necessary cash will come forward with offers to supply vegetables, meat, or groceries. Cadets who remember the last camp we had will, I fancy, inform the new boys of the joys, and of course the pains, of a year-end camp. Although we should not say it, we should like many of the cows to go dry for that week, and so enable some of our cadets to be entirely free; but we hope for the best, and trust that every boy will be there.

The marching of the company has of late improved wonderfully. Drummer Beck has been of great service in this respect, and we hope to have in the future more assistance from the bugler. We are looking forward to a time when we will have a drum and fife band of our own.

SHOOTING.

As was expected, little work has been carried out on the range this term, owing to the unsettled state of the weather.

The opening stages for this year's championship were fired towards the end of the term, but with the defective rifles still in use the scores were low. Pott registered 31 at the 200yds., but the light and wind were tricky, and prevented high scores at the 500yds. We were pleased to see several of this year's boys enter for the championship, and some of them shot very promisingly, Candy and Wood both holding their own with last year's team.

We received an invitation from the Palmerston North High School to a competition to be held while at the football tournament at Napier. We were, however, unable to accept the invitation, since we are not armed with Lee-Enfield rifles, which are necessary for such a competition. We hope, however, to be able to compete next year. Word has been received from the area officer of the district saying that the rifles are on the way, but according to a full military definition the term "way" may mean anything from defence stores to a promise.

Next term miniature range championships will be carried out, namely, a junior and a senior championship. Cadets who intend to gain a place in the team to shoot in the Schools of the Empire competition should bear in mind that practice on the miniature range is invaluable. Such practice would be more valuable than the slaughtering of birds.

BOARDERS' NOTES.

It was an auspicious day for the boarders, and a day which, doubtless, will in the future be looked back upon as a great landmark in the history of the school, when, about the middle of the term, we moved from the temporary quarters which we had occupied for the last two and a half years into the fine new building erected near the school for our possession. As the building is described elsewhere in this issue, I shall not proceed to any detailed dissertation on it here, but merely remark that we are very snugly berthed and excellently fed: and what more—unless, perhaps, some of the more restless spirits wished the rules committed to the flames—could any boy desire than this?

Since nothing of great importance (except the formal opening ceremony of our new quarters, which is described in another part of this number) has happened this term which concerns the boarders particularly, and not the school generally, our notes must, of necessity, be mostly scraps and anecdotes of a personal nature.

One Saturday night at the beginning of the term, as a special treat, some of the boys were allowed to pay a visit to "the Pictures." Instead of buying the usual lollies (without which one never thinks of visiting "the Pictures"), one youth conceived the original idea of investing in a string of small German sausages (saveloys) and in half a dozen pigs' trotters, which, along with some bakers' buns, were devoured under cover of the darkness, and voted far more enjoyable than mere chocolate creams.

Part of the library has been moved from the school and erected in the "Prep." room at the house. This the boarders, who are necessarily the most frequent users of it, find a great convenience. I am afraid, however, that some of the younger boys, who should, of course, be improving their minds by digesting Webster's Dictionary and other useful books contained in it, prefer using their spare moments in playing "Ping-pong."

Towards the end of the term we experienced a succession of sharp frosts. It was wonderful, on those mornings, when a prefect "roused them out" for their cold shower-baths, how few boys were awake enough to hear the 6.45 a.m. bell! There was at least one youth, however, who always enjoyed the shower-bath in spite of the cold (the reason for this I could never quite see—perhaps it was because of the liberal supply of

"blubber" with which nature had provided him). While half-a-dozen other poor wretches were shivering in the frosty air waiting for their turns, he would calmly go on soaping himself, singing over and over again in stentorian tones these remarkable (and now popular) words: "Get off me neck; me collar cost a deenar!"

We possess another songster. This youth, being smaller than the above-mentioned, suffered some persecution for his incessant rendering (I will not say "singing," for, like the more famous youth of former days, "I cannot tell a lie!") of "Way Down upon the Swanee River." Now, however, he has wailed forth his last sad melody and become for ever silent—at least, I hope so!

We hear (among numerous other facts about it) that the Kaimata cheese factory is nearing completion. We sincerely trust that, by next term, this odious erection will be consumed by fire to the last cheese, or otherwise utterly destroyed, and returned to the happy oblivion from which it sprang!

We all do half-an-hour's gymnastics before we go to bed at night, and again before breakfast in the morning, and consequently are—or should be—expanding (or, in one case, contracting) into veritable Sandows. Those of us especially who are in the First Fifteen find it grand training for the matches. Nothing like a dozen "sharkers" morning and night to get you fit!

As the result mostly of the football trip to Stratford (that abomination of cold sleet and mud—judging by the days we have "struck" there on our trips), we have had lately a great run of colds in the house. "Jimmy," especially, was very bad, and confined to the "sick room" for several days. Four or five of the most miserable of us were one day rounded up and presented to the matron to be dosed. After we had gargled out our throats with Jeyes' Fluid, we were given some Ammoniated Quinine (Ugh!!) and a decoction compounded, it seemed to me, of castor oil, liquorice, and turpentine. Whatever it was, those colds got well again remarkably quickly, and did not need another dose, thank you!

A more serious illness also has, unfortunately, kept the "sick rooms" with always some occupant or other—namely, mumps. First Paterson, then Lepper and Campbell contracted them. Lepper, luckily, was so little infected with them that he soon recovered "form," and was able to travel with the First Fifteen to Napier.

Hamblyn, however, the fifteen's half-back, caught them less than a week before the team left, and so could not accompany them, thus forming one of the several gaps in their ranks from this cause. All these, though their beauty was for a time impaired, and (what was worse!) they had to miss school for a week or two, were not really ill. Poor Blundell, however, as if to make up for this, got them very badly, and was seriously ill. We hope that next term he will be quite himself again.

An indulgent parent one day sent up to his hopeful son a brace of pheasants, which were distributed one Sunday dinner among the boarders. One of the boys had the misfortune to break off a tooth.

For a few minutes before breakfast every morning, but especially on fine Saturdays, the asphalt tennis court was much patronised.

One bright youth was remarked to retire regularly for a few minutes every night, before going to bed, into the inmost recesses of his cupboard. This remarkable action caught the eagle eye of a prefect, who one night followed the suspected one cautiously and opened the door. His worst suspicions were confirmed, for the boy was disclosed seated on a broken-down portmanteau, his eyes shut, and a seraphic expression on his countenance, gulping down slowly the contents of a dubious-looking bottle! With the spring of a tiger, the prefect seized the offender, and confiscated the bottle; as he retired with it down the dark corridor he was much exercised in his mind as to what it contained. Thinking, however, that it must be good, he tilted it up and took a gulp, as a sample. With a groan of despair, as he felt the unknown trickle down into his interior, the deluded youth dropped the bottle with a bang, and staggered for the window. When he felt better he returned slowly to the fiendish bottle, to see if it really was arsenic; with bleared eyes he slowly deciphered by the light of a match this legend, "Lane's Emulsion: Take no other."

The dancing class held every Friday night in the school has been well patronised by the boarders, who went over to it practically "en masse." It is wonderful how soon the boys drop that awkward, blushing, self-consciousness of the youth of fifteen or sixteen (I speak with feeling), and attempt, under the intoxicating influence of the merry Lancers, to do "the basket" (that odious, but popular, emanation of the kitchen) under the very nose of our lady instructor.

The dance which wound up the class, and which we all appreciated so much (especially, you may be sure, the elaborate supper, with its fruit salads, trifles, and claret-cup), is described elsewhere; but I should just like to chronicle here the number of zealous day-boys who appeared next morning to help the boarders clear up the decorations and move back the forms and tables: two! Not a single day-boy, too, helped us on the night of the dance itself (at about 2 a.m.) to clear up the superfluous fowls and lemonade—but we are not growling about that! Beyond a bit of a headache next morning (due, no doubt, to the cold fowl), none of us suffered any harm from our dissipation.

A small and very select tea-party was held on the afternoon of the opening of the House "far from the madding crowd" in the prefects' study. The fair visitors were by some escorted in and snugly ensconced in the prefects' arm-chairs, while other attentive youths, placing themselves at the dining-room door, diverted a steady stream of cakes, sandwiches, and lemonade into the room. These, judging from the giggles and subdued screams (those ever-faithful barometers of the female mind), were appreciated to the full. The capacity which boys possess for absorbing nourishment (so to speak) became long ago proverbial: but that proverb has grown rusty. The modern maiden (judging from what happened that afternoon) as far surpasses the modern youth in this respect also as, it is averred, she does in most other ways.

One splendid Sunday afternoon we all strolled along the Esplanade to the Breakwater to scale the rocky pinnacle of Paritutu. One "fine young fellow" was, during the ascent, so struck with terror at the sight of the waves rolling some hundred feet perpendicularly below him, that he had to be pulled up in front and pushed up in the rear to bring him safely to the top. When there, too, he at first refused to stand on his feet, his vivid imagination conjuring up visions of sudden earthquakes or cyclones which should hurl him as from a catapult from his airy perch (some seven hundred feet up) right out into the middle of the blue Pacific. As, however, he did not "funk" it, but was always willing to go on, he was helped up with a good grace, and now feels quite keen to tackle it again.

The boarders have recently had the use of a fine little pea-rifle, which, however, can only be fired within the high protecting earthen walls of "the gully." At

first there was a considerable rate of mortality (from nervous break-down) among the sparrows which inhabit the laurel hedge, one fine cock-sparrow in particular turning a back-fit into a cabbage, and being picked up insensible, when "Jimmy" discharged the weapon close to his ear; but now they have become quite hardened to the noise, and some even cannot get to sleep comfortably without it! The rifle, though, was put to a better use in partially slaughtering a poor, innocent, stray cat, which had somehow or other incurred "the Head's" displeasure, and by him condemned to summary execution. Though its only crime consisted in holding with the midnight moon those cat-concerts in which cats by nature will join, the sentence was executed rigorously; within two days, three bullets and a brick-bat had disposed of four of its lives; and, at the time of writing, we learn that the ninth and last is slowly ebbing away through continued doses of phosphorus in its morning porridge.

We cannot conclude these notes without paying a tribute to the great care that Miss Seward, the matron, has taken of our physical welfare. Miss Seward, who came here from Melbourne, has had a large experience in matron's duties. We hope that she will long be with us.

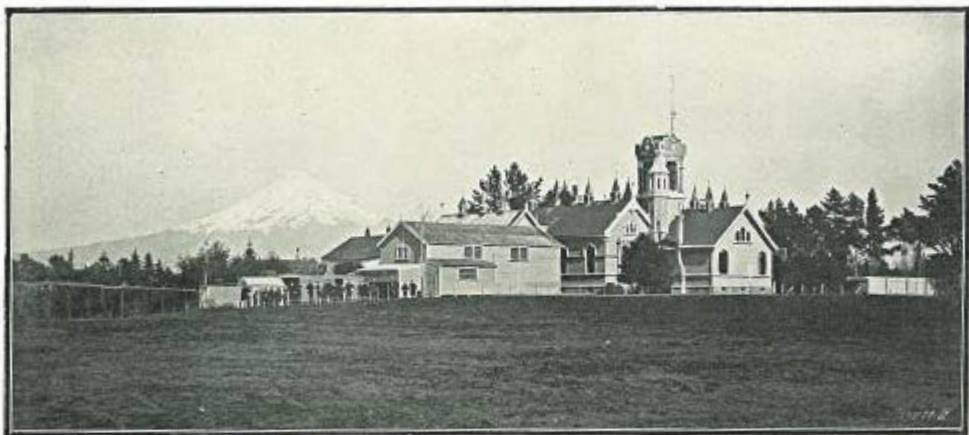
DEBATE.

A beginning was made with a series of debates last term, when the subject selected was, "That a farming life produces a better type than the city." Sinclair, in moving the motion, cited in support of his contention cases from the football field. The Waimate Club, which won all its matches, was composed mainly of farmers. They no doubt attained their splendid physique from having no temptation to hang about the streets of a city. Moreover, the country produced some excellent rifle shots; Roots, of Kaponga, being champion of New Zealand. In discussing the mental side of the question of general all-round excellence, he pointed out that Burns, the poet, was a product of the country, which was free of the ordinary temptations to vice so rampant in the city. People from the country had more nerve for physical effort than those bred in the city. The speaker further emphasised his arguments by quoting from Cæsar's account of the Germans, who were remarkable for their great bodily strength; these attributes were the outcome of hardships and life in the open air.

In taking up the opposite side, Grey viewed the question from three standpoints: (1) The moral; (2) the mental; (3) the physical. The speaker instanced the Romans and Greeks, who though bred in cities were distinguished by their military prowess. In considering the merits of the arguments, it seemed to him that it could be divided into a question of the greater and smaller vices. The farmer is less far-seeing than the townsman; the farmer, moreover, is the less open-handed of the two, and practises a niggardly penny-wise-and-pound-foolish policy. Farm life tended to a coarsening of type, and there was more immorality in the country than in the town. The cases of drunkenness were more often caused by country people coming into the towns to "blow" the cheque. The speaker contended that the presence of slums in a city was no argument against the vicious tendency of town life, for a statistician had shown that 75 per cent. of slum dwellers came from the country. Discussing the matter from a mental point of view, Grey pointed out that the narrowness of country people was proverbial. Walpole's progressive measures were always opposed by the Tory squires. Such men as Garfield, it was true, were country born, but they went to the city at an early age. Lincoln, for example, qualified as a lawyer in his early youth. All the praises of a country life had been written by men who had lived most of their lives in the town and had retired into the country. It might be said that farmers were physically the superior of town dwellers, but such was by no means the case, for they break up earlier, and their manual toil destroys their reserve force.

Goss, in supporting Sinclair, touched on the bad habits contracted in a city. A country boy leads a more natural life, and in reference to the ancient Germans, cited by Sinclair, he did not think that they smoked or played billiards. He pointed out that the Romans built up a great name as country dwellers, and became degraded when they came to live in cities. Honesty in the country was on a higher level than in the town. The farmer may knock down his cheque occasionally, but the bar lounge is spending his money daily.

Colson pointed out that gymnastics and athletics freed the townsman from the charge of being undeveloped. The hard work of the country precluded the chance of pleasure. The simplicity of the countryman was proverbial, and his slowness at grasping business methods made him an easy prey. In traversing the



VIEW OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

arguments of former speakers, he said that the town offered many facilities of bringing out fine traits in men which the country was unable to do.

Burkhardt supported the motion. Larrikinism, said he, was in the country an unknown quantity—notably at Kaimata. In the country the rights of property were sacred, but not so in the town. The most prominent members in the House were those from the country. He combated Grey's assertion that farmers were short-sighted. They might be slow in business, but they were sure. Boarders came from the country, and they formed the best element in a school.

Leech pointed out that the town could not exist without the country. He denied that the countryman drinks more than the townsman. The countryman did not produce poetry, nor did he want to.

Jenkins, speaking against the motion, referred to the superior polish acquired by the city dweller, which aspect of the question, said he, must not be overlooked in considering the question of general superiority.

W. Ewing opposed the motion. He, too agreed with a former speaker, that athletics made up for the lack of manual labour. It was not just to the city dweller to take the bar lounge as a type of what the city produced.

Kirkby, in supporting the motion, said that those who took part in games in a city were in the minority.

Kelly divided mankind into two classes; men of action and men of thought. The country produced the man of action, which was the type the world needed. He thought that country dwelling made work less irksome than the close brain work done in a town. He ridiculed the idea that the manners of those in towns were better than the countryman's. He denied that slums were the product of the country, as Grey had said. The amount of drinking done by country people was but a small fraction of that done by city dwellers. It was almost a truism to say that country people were much healthier.

A. Little brought up the question of Home Rule for Ireland, with which question he is evidently in sympathy. The Irish, he said, supported that measure because they were an agricultural community. The money-grubbing in the towns was much worse than that in the country—not the reverse, as Grey had stated.

Hempton opposed the motion. The Bayly scholarship was won by town boys on the two occasions it had been open to competition. Sandow was a townsman. He severely criticised Burkhardt's statement that there was no larrikinism in the country. Professional burglars certainly were a town product, but they had brains at all events, and in any case were not a normal type.

Grey, in his reply, pointed out that the ancient Germans, although undoubtedly good fighters, were wiped out by the city-bred Romans. He also pointed out that honesty was not exclusively a virtue of the country. Root's performance, as cited by one speaker, did not count for much, and even if it did, he would point out that the championship of Scotland was won by an industrial worker. Farrar, another English champion, was an office worker. Discussing Kelly's remark as to the division into two classes, men of action and men of thought, the speaker contended that both action and thought came from the town. All captains of industry, those who control our commercial and industrial future, came from the town. Moreover, all subscription lists for benevolent objects originated in the town, as did all schemes for man's moral and social elevation. The speaker ridiculed A. Little's suggestion with regard to the initiation of the Home Rule movement. He maintained that his claim as to the superior intellect of the city man had not been controverted.

Sinclair, in replying, defended the sobriety of the man from the country. The statement that the slums were recruited from the country was open to question. True, many countrymen come in for a few days' spree, but only occasionally, and in any case examples were the exception. In answering Grey's argument with regard to benevolent institutions being set on foot in the town, the speaker pointed out that the more frugal and abstemious life lived by people in the country made such institutions unnecessary.

During the progress of Sinclair's speech, Grey rose to several points of order, which rather had the effect of nonplussing the speaker.

At the conclusion of the debate the question was put, with the result that the motion was carried by fifteen votes.

BREAKING-UP DANCE.

On the last Friday of the term, as a wind-up to the dancing class, a breaking-up dance was held at the school, and proved a great success. A good deal of time was naturally spent in preparation on the previous day, not the smallest part of the work being the continuation of the electric light connection to the various rooms to be used. The boys worked very hard in making the dancing and sitting rooms as attractive as possible. Supper was laid in the dining-room of the new building. The music from a piano and two other instruments was everything to be desired. Owing to the floor having been prepared for dancing throughout the term it was in very good order, and even if the hall was rather crowded, it did not seem to interfere with the general enjoyment. The night was cold and fine; a dance is one of the occasions when a sou'-easter is welcome. The sixth and third form rooms were reserved for the sitters-out. Those who had the management of the dance are to be congratulated on the great success with which it was attended.

FOOTBALL.

Although we have failed to bring home the Shield, we must on the whole feel satisfied with the result of the football season. Our matches in the Second Junior Grade have all been evenly contested, and with a little more weight in the forward division we could certainly have held our own with the winners.

Perhaps the most noticeable feature of our football has been the marked improvement in the back play, and with a little more experience our backs will compare favourably with those of any other school fifteen.

It is gratifying to note that quite a number of likely youngsters are included in the junior teams. Junior football in the school has undoubtedly shown great improvement, and provided the smaller boys remain at school for a few years, the future should produce some first-class combinations.

HIGH SCHOOL v. STRATFORD

(Lost, 14—6).

This match, played at Stratford, was our first this season, and coming as it did immediately after the holidays, we were rather out of form; we were also handicapped by the absence of Bruce. In the first spell Stratford scored twice, while Colson, following up his own kick, scored for School. Goss failed with the kick, and at the end of the spell the score was 6—3 in favour of Stratford.

In the second spell Stratford again scored twice, one try being converted. For School, Grey scored near the posts, after a scramble. The try was not converted, and the game ended with the score: Stratford 14, High School 6.

HIGH SCHOOL v. ELTHAM

(Match drawn; no score).

This match was played at Eltham. Although there had been several days' rain, the ground was in a very fair condition, and a good game resulted. The teams were very evenly matched during the first spell, but in the second School had slightly the better of the game, and were attacking strongly when no-side was sounded, with no score on either side.

HIGH SCHOOL v. CLIFTON.—First Round.

(Lost, 9 to 3).

This was the third match that we played this season, and the first on our own ground. Clifton won the toss, and soon had School defending; their forwards being too heavy for our forwards to hold. Soon play was back again into their twenty-five, and Goss had a shot from a penalty kick, but it failed. School still pressed, and had numerous shots at goal, but all failed. We gradually lost ground, through tiring, and at last Old scored for Clifton, but his try was not converted. Clifton again attacked, and after a great deal of forward play M'Donald scored. In the second spell our backs got going, but could not score, and though our forwards could not hold theirs they could hook better, and so gave the ball to the backs. At last Bruce, who played his usual game, broke away, and passed to Hirst, who scored his first try since he played Rugby. School were working hard,

but did not use their heads enough, it being their third match; and just before time, Clifton forwards broke away and one of them scored a try in the corner, which was not converted, and the match was thus lost by 9 points to 3.

HIGH SCHOOL v. INGLEWOOD.

Play for the first five minutes was on the Inglewood line. Some good passing between Hamblyn, Bruce, N. Little and Hirst took place, from which the latter scored near the posts. Goss kicked a goal from the try. Score 5—0. Hamblyn fumbled the kick out, and the School was penned in their twenty-five; a free kick, followed by a good dribbling rush, relieved the pressure. Passing took place between Little and Colson. Little got away and passed out, but the ball was fumbled, and play centred. A dribbling rush, headed by Pott, took play to the Inglewood twenty-five flag, where Colson marked, and Little had an ineffectual shot at goal. Passing rushes took place, in which N. Little, Bruce and Colson shared, and from a free kick Goss had a shot at goal, which missed. Some ragged play followed in Inglewood's twenty-five; the latter's forwards then removed play to the middle of the field, but a good run and kick by Colson forced the Reds down. Shortly after Bruce nearly scored, but lost the ball in crossing the line. A free kick was awarded to Inglewood, and Crone fumbling the return, the Reds gained some ground. Pott and A. Little then got away with a good dribble; Inglewood replied with a rush, and Crone saved. At this stage Pott relieved Hamblyn at half. Bruce got well away, but lost a good chance of scoring by holding on to the ball too long. School had a shot at goal from a free kick, without scoring. Scrums took place at the Inglewood end, but a fine dribble relieved. Inglewood were now playing much better, and at times looked like scoring. Goss got the ball away to Little, who threw to Hirst, who was collared in the Reds' twenty-five, where a shot was made at goal from a free kick, without the score being increased. After a series of loose scrums, A. Little got the ball away to Goss, who scored. No goal resulted. After the kick out, some smart play took place between Pott, N. Little and Hirst, the latter scoring. Colson took the kick, and placed a goal, the score ending: School 13, Inglewood 0.

HIGH SCHOOL v. STRATFORD D.H.S.

(Won, 14 points to 0).

This match was played in a strong westerly wind, on the Racecourse ground. Shortly after play began, Goss had a free kick, but failed to score. Colson, from a good pass, ran well down the line, and play was in the visitors' twenty-five. Stratford forced from a kick by Hirst. A pass from Hamblyn to Bruce enabled the latter to score behind the posts after a fine run. Colson took the kick, but failed. Passing between Bruce, Hamblyn and Little took place to the twenty-five flag. A bad fumble by one of our backs caused the play to be moved to the middle of the ground. Some good passing by Stratford was stopped by Little; another Stratford rush was well saved by Crone. The same player got right through the Stratford forwards, and centred the play. A passing rush between Bruce, N. Little and Colson saw Little nearly in, but a knock-on spoilt a score. Stratford were forced twice in succession. Colson got away with a dribble, and picking up well, scored. Richards took the kick, and landed a goal. At this stage Hamblyn got in, the Stratford team stopping play owing to some misunderstanding. It was an unfortunate incident, but the Stratford team took the reverse very well, and in any case the mistake had been made by their own line umpire. No goal was kicked from the try, the score now being: School 11, Stratford 0. The Stratford forwards now livened up, and took the play to School's twenty-five, where they looked like scoring. After the half-time spell, Belcher, who had been playing a fine game for Stratford, took the play to our line, where N. Little relieved. Play now for the greater part of this spell had become most painfully slow. Things brightened up when Fryday got away, and was brought down by Grey. Play took place in the School's twenty-five, where Crone saved. Stratford were now getting the better of the game, and confined play to the forwards. Some hard play took place on our line, but Pott, with a fine dribble, took the play to the Stratford twenty-five, and Grey nearly scored. A passing run took place between Bruce, N. Little and Hirst, resulting in the latter scoring. Richards took the kick, without increasing the score. The play was not of a particularly brilliant nature. The Stratford forwards were superior to ours, and nullified the passing of our backs to a great extent. The tightness of the game in the first part

of the second spell, though satisfactory from the visitors' point of view, did not materially enhance the attractiveness of the game.

HIGH SCHOOL v. CLIFTON.

PLAYED AT WAITARA.

(Clifton 19 Points, School 3 Points.)

When the match began it was cold and windy, but after half-time the wind died down. Clifton won the toss, and played with the wind, but just after the kick-off a free kick was awarded to School, but was of little use, because the ball was blown back again. Clifton pressed very soon, and were very nearly scoring, when one of them kicked the ball accidentally into touch-in-goal. From the kick from twenty-five, School immediately attacked, and were in their opponents' twenty-five, when Wickham got the ball, and beat several School men before he was collared. From that time Clifton attacked so hard that they were only stopped from scoring by A. Little forcing. Clifton attacked again, until their wing-forward (M'Donald) dodged several of our team, and scored a neat try, which was converted by Fulton with a very good kick.—Five to nil. Again they attacked, and after play was up and down a little, M'Donald again dodged and scored, but the kick failed.—Eight to nil. Then School attacked with all their strength, and Grey, who was playing very well, led a forward rush right up to the line, when someone kicked it over, resulting in a hard run between Hirst and their three-quarter to the ball, but School was forced. From a free kick, Fulton failed to land a penalty goal, but Clifton soon made up for it, because M'Donald again scored, and Fulton again converted.—Thirteen to nil. Afterwards play was near the half-way line for some time, and then half-time was whistled.

School attacked from the start and took the ball near to the scoring line, when it was kicked over, and their full-back and Pott had a run, but the former reached it first and kicked it over the dead-ball line. School again attacked, but one of their three-quarters changed a defence into an attack, and was almost on the line, when Fulton scored with a short run, but his kick fell short.—Sixteen to nil. School immediately attacked, and had a free kick in front of the goal, which Richards took, and put the ball over nicely.—Sixteen to three. Play was up and down the field for a good while, until Smail made a good run and just managed to score, but

Fulton's kick again failed.—Nineteen to three. When again in front of the goal, School received a free kick, which Richards failed to put over; play after this was fairly even. Goss also failed to kick a goal from a free kick. When time sounded play was in the middle of the field.

The game was characterised by sound defence on the part of the School backs, whose tackling showed great pluck. The Clifton pack proved altogether too weighty for the School, and the result was that very little back play could be indulged in.

HIGH SCHOOL v. STRATFORD DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL.—RETURN MATCH.

(Score, 3 all.)

This match was played at Stratford. In the morning, the ground had been made more like a sheep-yard than a football field by the junior match. Stratford had the heavier pack, and the ball was too greasy to get good back play. In the first spell it was thought best to keep the ball among the forwards, but our forwards were too light for such a ground, and Stratford kept us on the defence nearly all the first spell, and Fryday scored when the ball came from the scrum. In the second spell there was some very hard play, until half-way through, when Stratford seemed to tire, and we attacked again and again, forcing our opponents several times, until Bruce scored at the corner.

Stratford won the toss, and played with the wind and sun behind them. Right from the kick-off a forward scramble took place, in which the Reds had the advantage, and Crone "speculated" before the forwards were on him. Pott led a good forward rush for about twenty yards, before Stratford forced the School back, but Stratford were given a free kick for one of our forwards being off side. From a scrum, Hamblȳn found the line, gaining some ground, and next time he let the ball out to Bruce, who made a dashing run, but the ground was too wet to allow of his swerving. Our forwards were pressing hard, when Stanners relieved, and Crone found the line. Reds were now pressing, and tried a place at goal from a mark, but although a very good kick, no score resulted. A passing rush by Stratford was smothered, and soon after from a scrum Fryday got the ball, and scored at the corner. Gibson failed to convert. Reds again pressed, but N. Little brought the ball back to half-way. A kick by Stratford brought play back to



THE FIRST FIFTEEN.

BACK ROW—C. Crone L. Hooker J. Pott E. Colson H. Lepper A. Bruce A. Marfell
 MIDDLE ROW—H. Hirst L. Goss N. Little (*Captain*) A. Little S. Ewing
 FRONT ROW—L. Marfel
 ABSENT—C. Hamblyn A. Sykes J. Grey

our twenty-five, where Bruce saved. A kick from a mark by the Reds failed to increase the score. The Blues now began to attack, and after some uninteresting play Colson marked, but the kick gained little ground, and we were pressed into our twenty-five again. Half-time then sounded.

Right from the kick off the Blues pressed the Reds, and from a scrum on the line Stratford forced; but the Blues again attacked. A free kick to Stratford relieved; the Blues pressed again, but a good kick by the Stratford full-back sent play to the half-way. School kept up the attack, and forced Stratford several times. From a scrum Bruce obtained the ball, and passed to Ewing, who was brought down close to the Stratford line. A succession of force-downs followed. From a scrum, Bruce secured the ball, and scored in the corner. Richards failed with the kick, which was a difficult one, especially with the heavy ball. Stratford made one last effort, when Lepper marked, and the School pressed again. The game thus ended three points each.

The ground was in such a fearful condition that no attractive play was possible. Stratford had all the best of the first spell, as we had of the second. How the game would have resulted had the day been a fine one, it is impossible to say.

HIGH SCHOOL (19) v. OLD BOYS (8).

We take the following account from the "Taranaki Herald":

This game was played on the racecourse ground on Saturday, and after a good hard go resulted in a win for the School, whose combination proved to be much superior to that of its opponents, who, of course, it must be remembered were playing together as a side for the first time. The department in which the boys held the greatest ascendancy was the three-quarter line, for the Old Boys held them fairly easily in the scrums, their extra weight standing them in good stead. The boys passed much better than in their match with Stratford School some time back, and seemed to have to a large extent eliminated their bad habit of passing across the field without running. On Saturday some of their passing rushes were very well executed, and the team showed a great improvement all round, which speaks volumes for the coaching they have received.

The Old Boys started off with a rush, Reid making a nice opening and scoring a try within a minute or two of the start, Osborne converting with a good kick. The boys then rallied and scored three times in the first half, Ewing, Hirst and Bruce getting over, and Colson converting one of the tries. The second spell was a repetition of the first, Clarke scoring for the Old Boys, after a fine run through the School team, but Osborne failed to add the major points. Goss then scored for the School, and Colson converted, and later on the same player got over the line again, but no goal resulted. Little added a further try before time was called, and the game ended: School 19, Old Boys 8.

SENIOR FOOTBALL.

SEVEN-A-SIDE COMPETITION.

TEAMS.

A	B	C	D
Bruce	N. Little	A. Little	Hirst
Crone	Lepper	Goss	Pott
Colson	Ewing i	Marfell i	Hamblyn
Kirton	Ewing ii	Sykes	Hooker
Richards	Chong	Evans	Weston
Marfell ii	Guild	Jenkinson	Monteath
Blundell	Day	Leech	Hine

A v. B.

(Draw, 3 all.)

From the kick off by A, Ewing caught the ball and immediately found the line. Little got the ball from the line-out, and headed a good forward rush, but Bruce getting down to it snatched up the ball, beat the forwards, and by swerving nicely, beat all the backs and scored in fine style. Colson failed with the kick, which was low and not straight. B pressed right from the kick, but Bruce saved by his "dash" before being collared by Ewing. From a scrum right in front of the goal Ewing got the ball and tried to "pot" a goal, but failed miserably. Colson made a good run down the line, but was collared by the last man, and soon from an "off side" a free kick was given to B, off which they gained little advantage. In the second spell Little broke away, and scored a pretty try, but Ewing's kick, though a good one, failed. With a few minutes to go the game became open, some good play resulting, but mostly near the half-way line. It thus resulted in a draw, three points each.

C v. D.

(D, 3 points; C. 0.)

C kicked off, and Hamblyn returned to Sykes, who then found the line. After this play was limited to the forwards for some time, until Jenkinson let the ball out to Goss, to Little, who made a fine dash but unfortunately knocked the ball on. The scrum did neither side any good, but C pressed and were almost scoring, when one of the D's saved by finding the line. Hirst, while defending, received a kick on his nose, which necessitated his retiring. Ewing took his place, and after a good deal of hard play on either side, D was awarded a free kick through Marfell being off side, which gained for them a good deal of ground. Pott got the ball from a scrum on the line, and passed to Weston, who scored in good style, but Hamblyn, although making a good attempt, failed with the kick. C immediately pressed, but was unable to equalise matters before time sounded, with a win for D by three points to nil.

A v. C.

(A, 14; C. 0.)

A set C defending from the beginning, but was unable to score, until Colson intercepted a pass and scored with plenty to spare. Richards converted with a powerful kick, making A's score five. Goss kicked off, and Richards found the line, and after the throw out the game was smart, and some good play was shown. Bruce, A's mainstay, got away, and passed to Colson, who again scored, but Richards failed with the kick. After some more even play Colson again broke loose, and passed to Crone, who scored after a very good run, but Colson failed with the kick. A seemed far too good for the C's towards the end, and Bruce again distinguished himself by scoring, but Richards failed to convert the try. Again Bruce broke away, but A. Little collared him nicely by making a dive at his legs, after which time sounded, A winning by fourteen points to nil.

B v. D.

(B, 9; D, 0.)

B kicked off, and play was rather against D, and after some hard play Ewing ii. scored from near the line, but he failed to add the extra points. Lepper and Little were playing hard games, Lepper nearly always heading the rushes. At last Little broke away, and scored near the goal posts. Lepper's kick, which was

a poor attempt, failed to convert. Little returned the kick off, and immediately pressed D, who were weakened by the loss of Hirst, when Lepper got the ball from the D forwards, and dodged several D backs before scoring, but Chong's kick was a failure. Little again got the ball, and forced through the forwards, but Hamblyn caught him by the jersey, which enabled the rest to bring him down; but again he broke away, only to be collared by the last man. Then time sounded, leaving B victorious by 9 to nil.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL.

Junior football has this year firmly established itself in the school, and, even though outside matches have been few, the season has been a very successful one. The practices, which have been held on the Racecourse three times a week, have always been well attended, the attendances being particularly good in the case of the B team. Hill, the captain of this team, deserves credit for the way in which he has kept his team up to the mark, but the enthusiasm shown by these first year's boys was such that very few required "rounding up" for their practices. The A team did not always turn out for training with their full strength, but this was in many cases due to the fact that some of the boys were required to fill places in the second fifteen for practice against the first.

With regard to the work carried out in practice, the juniors have, throughout the season, shown that they were keen to learn the game, and have been only too anxious to pick up any new points. Their main fault in this respect, however, was that, on learning some new trick, they carried it to excess, and did not vary their style of play sufficiently. To some of the boys, at first, it may have seemed tiresome to continue, night after night, with the regular routine work of passing, scrumming, following up, lining out, etc., but it was pleasing to see that there was not a single "shirker" at this part of the game.

The outside matches played by the juniors all resulted in wins for our teams. Against Central School neither of our teams was superior in weight, but the B team's backs were superior, and the A team relied on Ewing ii. for most of the work. The B team which played West End was much heavier than its opponents, but was playing two short in the scrum, so that the backs played behind a beaten pack. It was not until our boys

found that it paid them to open up the game and "let Sykes have it," that they asserted their superiority. In the first spell the West Enders more than held their own. It was unfortunate that Fitzroy could not see their way to play us, since their team was one of the best in the junior competition. However, we are looking forward to a game with them next year.

The A team played the B at the beginning of the term, and were beaten after a good game by 6 to 3. Next year, with more junior teams in the field, we hope to have a regular competition in the school. A junior seven-a-side tournament turned out a great success, and we offer our congratulations to the winners, Hill's team, who played fine games throughout.

Some of the juniors during the season gained places for themselves in the second fifteen, and it was pleasing to note that many who gained these places were not the bigger boys in the juniors. Marfell and Sykes further distinguished themselves by obtaining a place in the team which travelled to Napier. Both these players have played remarkably well throughout the season.

The A team consisted of White, Hawkes, Avann, Weston, Campbell, Ewing (captain), Blundell, Clemow, Day, Fair, Grant, Hempton, King, Teed, Putt, Matthews.

The B team was composed of Lepine, Grayling, Sykes, Luxton, Oliver, Hill (captain), Brokenshire, McHardy, Marfell, Paterson, Hine, Terry, Ellerm, King, Martin, Horsup.

SCHOOL SECOND XV. v. STRATFORD D.H.S.

(School, 28; Stratford, 0.)

A cold wind was blowing across the ground, which made it difficult to field the ball accurately. School kicked off, and were soon at work in the enemy's twenty-five. The forwards were working well, and Monteath, picking the ball up in the loose, scored the first try. Paterson failed with the kick.—School 3, Stratford nil. From the kick-out, Stratford attacked. They were obtaining the ball in the scrum on almost every occasion, but did not make sufficient use of their backs. Later on the backs essayed a passing rush, which was spoilt by a knock-on. Campbell relieved with a good line kick. Hooker soon afterwards obtained the ball and made a good run, but was tackled when in a likely position for scoring. He was playing a sterling game, and kept well on the ball at all times. Chong obtained the ball

from the scrum, and instead of letting it out to his backs, whom he was feeding poorly, went on his own, and finally passed to Hooker, who was off side. Stratford kicked high, and had Hawkes in trouble. Later Monteath got off side, and from the free kick Campbell relieved. Paterson obtained the ball from the line-out, and passed to Avann, who was run out. Soon afterwards Marfell made a good run, but lost the ball, and a Stratford player relieved with a speculator down the field into the School's twenty-five, but Paterson came to the rescue. Hooker and Kirton then took the ball back to the Stratford end, but Campbell mullied a pass in front of the goal. Later Hawkes tried to get over, instead of passing. From the throw-in the ball was returned to Kirton, who fell over. The kick failed.—School 6, Stratford nil. Soon afterwards the School forwards got going again, and Sykes, picking up the ball, scored, and the try was converted.—School 11, Stratford nil. Stratford came to the attack again, but Kirton broke away and took the ball down the field. The School backs were now showing better form, but still the half and five-eighths persisted in running across the field. Hooker kicked high and followed up, but Stratford relieved with a good line kick. Later on Hooker, taking the ball well on the line-out, broke through, and got close to the line. Stratford backs again relieved with line kicking. School soon returned to the attack, and Sykes made a fine run, and was grassed close to the line. From a loose scramble, M'Hardy picked up and scored. Hooker failed with the kick.—School 14, Stratford nil. From the kick-off Chong began a very nice passing rush, which was blocked on the line. Soon afterwards the same player obtained the ball, and after a dodgy run scored. Monteath converted with a good kick.—School 19, Stratford nil. Paterson and Kirton headed a good forward rush, and Evans, picking the ball up in the loose, dived over. Ewing failed with the kick.—School 22, Stratford nil. Soon afterwards Hooker got away with the ball, but was well tackled, and Stratford worked play well down the field. Their forwards had Campbell in trouble, but Paterson relieved. Paterson then got away and passed to Hooker, who was tackled in the Stratford twenty-five. From a scrum the ball went to Ewing, who cut in and scored. Hooker failed with the kick.—School 25, Stratford nil. Hooker and Hempton took the ball back from the kick-off, but Chong, receiving the pass, held on too long. Later

Paterson broke through and passed to M'Hardy. Sykes obtained the ball, but was tackled on the line. From the scrum the ball came out to Campbell, who scored. The kick at goal failed.—School 28, Stratford nil.

Among the backs, Sykes and Oliver were the best. Both Campbell and Chong got through a lot of work, but made several mistakes. All the forwards worked well, Paterson, M'Hardy, Kirton, Hempton, Marfell and Hooker all playing fine games.

B TEAM v. WEST END SCHOOL.

(Won, 21 points to 9.)

This match was played at Western Park on a fine Thursday afternoon. B's played with 13 men; consequently the forward pack was weakened. Soon after the kick-off Ward scored for West End, making a fast run down the line, but he failed to convert. From the kick-off Sykes snatched up the ball and, running through the whole team, scored between the posts, but he failed to convert. We attacked with a good passing rush, when West End got the ball, and forced us back, and Sykes scored again, Paterson converting. All the rest of the spell West End had the better of the game, and were playing hard when they scored a try, which they failed to convert.—Eight to six. West End were forced three times before Brokenshire scored for them, and Ward failed to convert the try.

In the second spell Blues began attacking, and pressed until Sykes scored between the posts, and then converted. Marfell, who played a good game all the time, headed a forward rush, but West End forwards beat him, and they pressed, but were forced. School attacked again, and Hill miskicked the ball over the dead-ball line. From a line-out Paterson threw the ball right out to Sykes, who scored a good try, he again converting. Marfell got the ball, and ran down about twenty yards through the West End team before he was collared. From another line-out Sykes scored, and Paterson failed to convert. Sykes beat the whole team again, and mistook the scoring line, putting the ball on the ground, and then Luxton got the ball and made a good run before being collared. School pressed again, but were forced, just before time was up.

FOOTBALL.

A v. B.

(Won by B, 6 to 3.)

A Team: Campbell, Weston, Hempton, Day, Grant, Avann, Hawkes, Putt, Ewing ii., White, Blundell, Clemow, King and Matthews.

B Team: Hill, Paterson, Luxton, Marfell ii., Jones, King, Terry, Hine, Grayling, M'Hardy, Oliver, Sykes, Martin, Ellerm, Horsup.

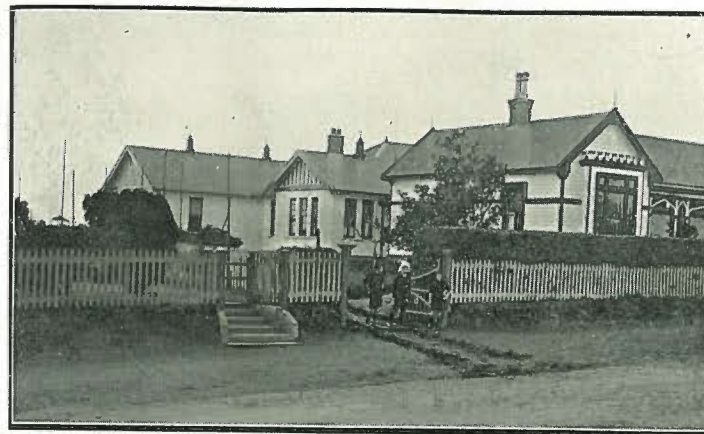
It was on the third day of this term that this match was played, and, contrary to expectations, it was very fast all through. After the kick-off A were in B's twenty-five, and were a few yards from the scoring line when Sykes took a pass from Hill and ran up and kicked to touch nearly up to half-way. From the throw-out B attacked, and Campbell saved with a kick, and Hempton following up, got the ball and rushed along near to the scoring line, when he passed to Blundell, who scored in the corner. Campbell's kick, which was a good one, lacked distance. Again the B's attacked, but they could not score, because Campbell was too good for their forward rushes, and at half-time there was no further score.

After the kick-off B pressed for some time, when Grant at wing three-quarter got the ball, and took it back to half-way. A were soon forced back, and an off-side gave B a kick in front of the posts, from which Paterson scored a fine goal. After the kick-off B attacked, Paterson, Sykes, Hill and Grayling opening some fine passing rushes, but when Paterson or Sykes broke away there was nobody backing up; some good chances were thus thrown away. During some forward play Paterson got the ball and started a smart passing rush. He transferred to Terry, to Grayling, who scored after a fine run. Sykes kicked, but the ball fell just short of the cross-bar. Play was up and down, and then A tried in vain to get through the B's, but were stopped every time. Grant made some fine runs, but when he was collared play went back again. When time was up A was pressing B as a final effort.

SECOND XV. v. STRATFORD.

(Won by 9 points to nil.)

It was a fine morning until just before the match, when a cold rain came from the mountain, and softened the ground so much that it was hard to run without falling. Stratford team as a whole was heavier than



THE SCHOOL HOUSE, SHOWING SOUTH SIDE OF BOARDING SCHOOL.



SECOND FIFTEEN.

BACK ROW—Avann Hooker Monteath Evans Jenkinson Kirton Hawkes
MIDDLE ROW—Patterson Sykes Ewing ii Hill Hempton
FRONT ROW—Marfell ii Clemow Oliver

ours, but was not in such good condition for a hard game. The game was mostly confined to dribbling and speculating because of the greasiness of the ball. Several times a boy would be running along with his hand near the ground to get the ball, but the leather almost invariably slipped when he wished to pick it up.

Stratford won the toss, and Chong began by heading a good dribbling rush, and Stratford were immediately pressed, when a free-kick saved them, and forced the Blues back to the half-way. Campbell saved by speculating. Stratford attacked, but were forced back when the Blues received a free kick, and gained about five yards, but were pressed until they were forced, after a hard forward tussle. Stratford forced the Blues into their own twenty-five, when Campbell marked, and Chong kicked well up the field near touch. The forwards, headed by Chong and Marfell, were soon on the ball. Terry made a run before being collared. Blues' forwards were on the ball again, but were forced. Stratford began a forward rush, and went down the field, and after some hard play were forced; but again they pressed, when Oliver saved, and Chong turned the game from defence to an attack by a dribbling rush, but the Blues were forced for the third time. Jenkinson made a good run, and Sykes failed to kick a penalty goal. M'Hardy followed up the kick with Marfell, and scored a good try. Monteath failed to convert, the ball being too heavy and greasy. Blues attacked again until half-time sounded.

Blues pressed again and Stratford were relieved through a free kick, which gained only about five yards, which was soon made up for by the forwards, among whom Chong and Marfell were doing most of the best play. Blues attacked again, but were forced, and next time Sykes got the ball and ran about a quarter of the field and scored, but he failed to convert the try. Blues had the Reds defending again, and from a line-out near the scoring line Clemow got the ball, and passed to Campbell, who scored. After this try the Blues were forced twice, and the game was all in Stratford's twenty-five. It was miserable both to play and to look on, as the biting wind swept down the field. Everybody was wishing that time would soon be up. The game ended with a win for New Plymouth by 9 to nil.

SEVEN-A-SIDE.

TEAMS:

A	B	C
Terry	McHardy	Hill
Campbell	Hawkes	Oliver
Brokenshire	Avann	Marfell
Grayling	Ellerm	Fair
Horsup	Grant	Clemow
Luxton	King ii	Matthews
Putt	White	King i

These matches were played on the Racecourse ground for the purpose of selecting the second fifteen to play against the Stratford School. Two points were given for a win and one for a draw. C came first with 4 points, B second with 2 points, and A last with 0 points.

A v. B.

(B, 5 points; A, 3.)

B kicked off, and Terry headed a forward rush which put B's on the defence, when Hawkes snatched up the ball and passed to Grant, who scored a pretty try between the goal posts, which Avann converted. A good deal of fast play continued among the backs, and Luxton picked up the ball as it came from the scrum, and passed to Terry, who, after running down the field, passed to Campbell, who scored, but failed to convert. Time was then called.

B v. C.

(C, 3 points; B, 0.)

Hill secured the ball from the kick-off, and was just stopped from scoring by being collared by Grant. Play was in B's twenty-five nearly all the time, and after a great deal of hard play Matthews scored. Hill failed to convert, though the attempt was a good one. C pressed again, but were unable to increase the score, and B's were relieved by a free kick. After a hard ten minutes' play, "time" was sounded.

A v. C.

(C, 10 points; A, 0.)

C began right away, and were rushing down the field, when A were awarded a free kick for off-side play. Hill got the ball, and scored; he also converted the try. A pressed very hard, and Oliver made a fine run. The same player again made a good run, but was collared by Grayling. Marfell, who was backing up, made a dashing run and scored. Oliver placed a goal from the kick. After this C's had it all their own way.

A v. CENTRAL.

(A, 9; Central, 3.)

This match was played on the Racecourse ground after heavy rain. The game was slow and dull; there was no combination among either set of backs, while the forwards got the ball on most occasions, but it stayed half-way out in most of the scrums. A won the toss, and played with the sun at their backs, and from the start pressed their opponents. A forward rush was set on foot, which went down to the opposite goal, where Oliver forced. This was repeated, and Bellringer eventually scored for the Central, but Milne failed to improve on the kick. After resuming, Ewing broke through the Central's backs and scored, but he failed to convert, the ball hitting the cross-bar. A's again attacked, and Grant scored after a scramble. Ewing failed to convert.

In the second half A was forced again and again, but once Day scored from a passing rush. No goal resulted. After this the A's made several good attempts at scoring, which were lost either by force downs or by some infringement of the rules.

B TEAM v. CENTRAL SCHOOL.

(B, 17 points; Central School, 0.)

On Thursday, July 4, a fair game was played on the Racecourse between the Central School and our eight-stone fifteen.

Terry kicked off with the wind in favour of the Central School fifteen, and soon a scrum resulted in our boys getting the ball, and the referee gave Central a free kick for off-side play, but it was answered by Sykes. A scrum ended in some good passing by the backs. One of our opponents was off side, and a scrum was given, out of which our antagonists got the ball; but to no advantage, and Avann got in a good run. Brokenshire, the half, got the ball from a scrum, and he passed to Oliver, who passed to Hill. It then went to Sykes, who scored. Terry failed to goal.—School 3, Central 0. Central School kicked off, and Avann found the line. Soon we found ourselves hard pressed; but the ball was got from a scrum formed five yards from the line, and we were relieved. A good run was spoilt by Terry's running across the field, and we again found that we

had to force the ball. Grayling gave a good kick, and thus relieved the Blues. Sykes passed to Avann after a long run, and we were in our opponents' territory once more, only to lose ground again. One of the Central School team was off side, and a scrum was formed in front of the goal. Another scrum resulted in our getting the ball, and we were once more out of trouble. Central had a kick from a mark; but Grayling returned it, and Hill nearly scored. A scrum, out of which we got the ball, was formed, and Sykes got away, only to be brought down within a few yards of the line. Our opponents got the ball out of a scrum; but to no advantage, and Marfell broke loose and scored. Sykes failed to convert.—School 6, Central 0. Central School still found themselves in trouble, and the Blues got the ball out of a scrum, and Grayling passed to Sykes, who scored, but Terry made a poor attempt at goal.—High School 9, Central 0. Sykes returned our opponents' kick-off; but soon the latter was given a kick for off-side play, and Hill marked and passed to Avann, who was brought down after a long run. Oliver nearly scored, but Central relieved by a big kick, after which the ball travelled up the field, and the first spell ended.

Our opponents kicked off with the wind against them, and Sykes carried the ball a long way up the field. After some hard play between the forwards, the ball was let out to Sykes, who passed to Avann, but a try was prevented by Lepine. Hill marked a fine kick, and Terry sent the ball well up the field. We were pressed for a short time, but then gained ground. Hill got the ball, and passed to Sykes, who passed to Terry, who fell over the line and missed the ball, but Hill following up well, scored. Sykes kicked a good goal, making the score—School 14, Central 0. Broken-shire marked the kick off. Sykes took the kick, and our opponents were again pressed. Oliver marked another big kick, but we were being gradually pressed. A scrum was formed for off-side play, and we relieved by getting the ball. Some more off-side play resulted in a scrum, out of which we got the ball, and some good passing ended in a try scored by Sykes. No goal resulted.—School 17, Central 0. Mr. Sullivan refereed.

THE NAPIER TRIP.

The much-talked-of trip to Napier has come and gone. Not mumps, nor influenza, nor the fact that some of the best players had to be left behind, could sup-

press the eighteen who left by the express on August 21. Palmerston was reached at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and as it was impossible to make Napier until the following day, it was decided to remain here over night. Comfortable quarters were obtained at the Railway Hotel, and having got rid of our luggage, we sallied forth to see the sights.

An early start was made next morning, and after an uneventful journey we arrived in Napier early in the afternoon. We were met at the station by Mr. Polson and the Napier boys, who kindly marched us off to The Trocadero, where we did justice to a sumptuous dinner. This over, we hurried to the Recreation Grounds to witness the match between Palmerston and Napier.

In the evening a concert was held in the school gymnasium, and we also had the pleasure of listening to the debate between Palmerston and Napier. The subject was "War versus Arbitration," and the representatives of both schools handled it in a very creditable manner. We take this opportunity of congratulating Palmerston on their well-deserved win.

One very noticeable feature of the concert was the absence of any attempt on the part of New Plymouth boys to contribute an item. It is certainly a matter for regret that out of eighteen boys not one could be found to give a song or a recitation. We sincerely hope that this is the last occasion on which it will be necessary for us to call attention to such a state of affairs, and those who have any chance of visiting Palmerston next year, will do well to put in a little practice beforehand. We are well aware of the fact that the average boy who represents his school at football is not a musician, but we feel certain that every member of the team could contribute an item of some sort if he would only overcome that feeling of false modesty that characterises New Plymouth High School boys.

Friday morning dawned dull and gloomy. At 11 a.m. a practice was held in the Recreation Grounds, and the afternoon was spent in looking over the printing works at the office of "The Daily Telegraph." In the evening the Napier boys took the visiting teams to the pictures, and we all felt a little envious of the fine picture theatre that Napier possesses.

Saturday was the day set apart for our match against Napier High School, and it was with very depressed spirits that we saw the rain coming down till within a few minutes of the time for starting. Fortunately,

however, it was fine overhead during the game, though the ground was in anything but a satisfactory state.

In the evening all hands visited the skating rink, where a tug-of-war between a team of Maoris and a team from the gas works was witnessed.

On Sunday morning a special sermon was preached for us at the Cathedral by Canon Mayne. The text chosen was "I will not let thee go unless thou bless me." In the evening the Rev. Asher preached to us at the Presbyterian Church, taking for his subject "The Game of Life." Both services were much enjoyed by those present.

Monday was the day of our great struggle with Palmerston. We had realised long before that it must be a closely contested game and that our only hope lay in our backs. It was with feelings of disappointment that we saw there was apparently no chance of the weather clearing. A visit to the Recreation Grounds caused us to decide upon another ground. Mr. Polson very kindly arranged for drags, and by 10.30 a.m. we were all driving to Farndon Park, which is situated a few miles out of Napier. The ground here proved to be much better than we expected, and although slippery, was really in good condition considering the amount of rain that had fallen. The match was easily the most exciting of the three, and until well on in the second spell the issue was in doubt. Palmerston eventually were victorious by 7 points to nil, and we have no hesitation in saying that the best team in the competition won. We offer them our hearty congratulations on winning the Shield for 1912.

The weather now cleared, and we were thus able to get a glimpse of "Sunny" Napier under favourable conditions.

At 6 p.m. we were the guests of Mr. Polson at a dinner at The Trocadero. Needless to say this was much enjoyed, and with the business part of the tour over, everyone did full justice to the good things provided. Dinner over, we all assembled once more at the school, where what was probably the most enjoyable function of the week was held. This was a dance given by the Napier High School prefects. The large gymnasium had been tastefully decorated with flags, and dancing was kept up till about 1 a.m.

Tuesday was the day of our departure, and it was a tired but happy crowd of boys that assembled on the railway station in the morning.

On the way home we broke the journey at Wanganui, where most of us spent an enjoyable day on the river.

We wish to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. and Mrs. Polson and the Napier boys for the very pleasant stay we had in Napier. We can only assure them that we are not likely to forget their kindness when it is their turn to visit us in two years' time.

Following is an account of the matches:

NEW PLYMOUTH (13) v. NAPIER (3).

The second match in connection with the annual triangular tournament between the High Schools of Napier, Palmerston North, and New Plymouth, eventuated on the Recreation Ground on August 24. As the result of the rain the day before the ground was soft but in very fair condition.

New Plymouth kicked off against the wind and sun. From a scrum near the line, New Plymouth started a good passing rush, which resulted in Bruce scoring. Colson converted. Shortly afterwards, from a scrum five yards out, another passing rush ensued, and Crone scored. Goss converted. Half-time ended—New Plymouth 10, Napier nil.

From the kick-off, Napier attacked, and on one occasion Geddis ran through but was grassed on the line. A free kick was given to Napier, and the oval was deposited over the bar by Geddis a few minutes later. Hirst was the next to score for New Plymouth, Goss failing with the kick. The game thus ended:

New Plymouth	...	...	13
Napier	...	...	3

Mr. Mullany refereed. New Plymouth were much the heavier team, but seemed to lack training. As in the former match, a lot of Napier's passing was wild.

PALMERSTON (7) v. NEW PLYMOUTH (0).

The final match in connection with the High Schools triangular tournament took place at Farndon Park on August 26. The ground was in very fair condition, and the weather was fine most of the time.

Palmerston won the toss. The game was very even during the first spell, no score being registered on either side. In the second half, from a scrum on New Plymouth's line, Chapman secured the leather and shot over, scoring a neat try. Bennett failed to convert. Towards the end of the game Luxford potted a magnificent goal for Palmerston, and the game ended—Palmerston 7, New Plymouth nil. The play was mostly among the forwards.

Mr. Ivan Logan ably carried out the duties of referee.

Palmerston have thus won the secondary schools' shield. This is the second occasion on which they have secured the shield. Napier and New Plymouth have each held it one season.

The results of this year's matches are: Palmerston 12 v. Napier 6; New Plymouth 13 v. Napier 3; Palmerston 7 v. New Plymouth nil.

BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT.

We take the following description of the new Boarding building from the "Taranaki Herald":

The question of providing boarding accommodation in connection with the New Plymouth High School has been before the Board of Governors for some years past, but the lack of funds prevented anything definite being done until a few months ago, when finances improved, and then the board lost no time in consulting with its architect, Mr. Frank Messenger, and as the outcome plans were prepared for a suitable building. The much-talked-of boarding house is now completed. New Plymouth is particularly well situated to possess a large boarding school. It is admittedly one of the finest health resorts in New Zealand, is bounded on the one hand by a lovely sea beach and on the other by a particularly fine stretch of undulating country. A more delightful site for a boarding school than that now occupied by the High School and new boarding house it would be impossible to find. The buildings are situate on the higher levels just on the outskirts of the town, and from them one obtains an uninterrupted view of the sea front for miles, and a fine panoramic view of the picturesque town itself, and in the other direction Taranaki's sentinel—Mount Egmont—rises majestically before one's gaze. The new buildings are of concrete,



BOARDING HOUSE—FRONT VIEW.



JUNIOR A. FIFTEEN.

BACK ROW—Leech Matthews King i Day Guild Grant Hawkes
FRONT ROW—Avann Teed Ewing ii Fair White Clemow
(Two absent.)

the outside walls being finished in a rough cast face and painted. In all the boarding house will consist of 21 rooms, all admirably lighted and ventilated and fitted up in a most elaborate manner. In fact, when one enters the building one hardly realises it is part of a school institution. It resembles from the exterior a large commodious country residence of the bungalow style of architecture, and everything is being so beautifully fitted up inside that the impression is still more pronounced. No expense is being spared in the effort to make the building complete in every respect, and it reflects the greatest credit on all concerned. It can be said without the slightest fear of contradiction that it will bear comparison with any other building used for a similar purpose in New Zealand. In fact we can go further and say that no town in the Dominion possesses such an up-to-date boarding house, and there is every indication that the progressive policy which has been adopted by the board will meet with the success it deserves.

The front portion of the boarding house comprises the residence of the principal, and the main entrance to the new building is situate immediately opposite the school, and there is also an additional entrance from Hendrie Street. Both lead into a hall 8ft. by 20ft., which is also provided with a recessed cloakroom. From the hall corridors run both to the right and the left. To the right of the entrance is the dining hall, 30ft. by 20ft. with recessed fireplaces, and adjoining this room is the resident master's room, 16ft. by 10ft., also fitted with fireplace and wardrobe. The fireplaces are tiled and of very effective design, and the hearths are also tiled. There is also a prefects' study 13ft. by 12ft., with fireplace, cupboards, book shelves, etc., an office 13ft. by 12ft., and a large linen room 12ft. by 6ft. 6in. To the left are the dormitories which provide 14,000 feet of floor space, and all fitted with wardrobes, etc., a boarders' sitting-room 37ft. 6in. by 12ft., containing book shelves, etc., and at the end of this corridor are two bathrooms. Hot and cold water is laid on, and the whole building is connected with the borough sewers. All rooms are nicely furnished. The ceilings, doors, wardrobes, etc., are all of oiled rimu, all specially selected by the builders, Messrs. R. L. Roberts and Son. of New Plymouth, who have made an excellent job of the structure. The subcontractors were: Electric light and plumbing, Smart Bros.; painting, Nippert Bros.; plastering, Mr. Read; and bricklaying, Mr. Beck.

It is satisfactory to note that already half the accommodation provided has been taken up, and there is every prospect that the institution will in the near future grow to such an extent that it will be able to compete with other large schools in the Dominion.

Under the following headings the "Taranaki Herald" reports:

THE BOYS' BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT.

SOME PLAIN TALK.

The invitation extended by the Board of Governors to parents of past and present pupils of the New Plymouth High School and their friends to inspect the newly-erected boarding establishment was largely responded to on Thursday, August 15, and the visitors spent a most enjoyable afternoon. The opening of the boarding department marks an important event in the history of educational matters in Taranaki; and, as was pointed out by the Principal, if parents will only take that interest in the institution which it is their duty to do, in the course of a few years the boarding school will so expand that it will become one of the leading and most popular educational institutions of the Dominion. Previous to inspecting the new building, the assembly gathered in the school, where short speeches were delivered by Mr. E. Dockrill (chairman of the Board of Governors) and the Principal (Mr. Moyes).

Mr. Dockrill, after extending the thanks of the board to those present for their attendance, referred to the importance of the gathering, which was to celebrate the opening of the boarding department. The board for many years had been anxious to erect a boarding establishment in connection with the school, but owing to the financial difficulties which stood in their way it was totally beyond them. They had tried again and again to overcome these difficulties, but found it to be impossible until such time as the Government passed legislation which would allow the board to borrow on its endowments. When that power was given the board lost no time in endeavouring to bring the scheme to a successful issue. They at once placed the matter in the hands of Mr. Messenger, who had designed the building, which, he thought, was admirably suited for

the purpose for which it had been erected, and the nature of the work reflected great credit on the architect and the contractors. In the past the attendance at the school had been rather small, but notwithstanding this fact they would have seen by the first issue of the school magazine which the Principal (Mr. Moyes) had introduced since taking charge that very many of the old boys were occupying some of the highest and best positions in the Dominion and discharging their duties not only with credit to themselves but also to the school at which they received their education. The speaker, in conclusion, paid complimentary reference to the Principal, who, he said, had occupied important positions in the highest scholastic institutions in the Dominion, and had performed very successful work in those institutions. He expressed the hope that equally successful work would be accomplished by Mr. Moyes at this school.

Mr. Moyes, in a few remarks, congratulated the board on the progressive policy that had resulted in the erection of the boarding establishment, and sincerely hoped that it was the beginning of greater things, and that the next few years would see the buildings expand into a much larger boarding school. There certainly was no reason why it should not do so. The school was well endowed, the site was a particularly fine and healthy one, and the school was situated in a wealthy and prosperous district. "The future, however, lies to a great extent," he said, "in your hands. Whether the institution stands still or goes ahead rests a good deal with you." Since coming to New Plymouth one thing that had struck him very forcibly was the indifferent attitude of the people towards educational matters. He ventured to assert that not one in fifty—in fact, not one in a hundred—of the people of New Plymouth could tell the difference between a Junior University Scholarship and a Taranaki Scholarship, which was the greatest asset that school possessed. He hoped they would pardon him if he outlined briefly what it was to the school. The New Zealand University awarded ten scholarships, each of the value of £50 per year, for three years, open to all secondary schools. It also awarded twenty scholarships of the value of £20 per annum for three years, known as the Senior National Scholarships, and which were also open to all secondary schools. Thus, in order to win one of those scholarships a pupil had to come within the first thirty in order of merit all over New

Zealand. Now, with regard to the Taranaki Scholarships, their endowments enabled them to offer scholarships of the value of £60 a year for four years, and in order to win one of these scholarships a pupil did not have to come within the first thirty, but merely gain a position on the merit list of the Junior University Scholarship examination. Parents may say their boys could not win a scholarship. Why? Because they were not prepared to send the children to school until they were old enough. A perusal of the scholarship lists would show that the majority of the successful candidates had reached the age of 18 years—they had been expecting their children to gain scholarships when they were 16 or 17. He had no hesitation in saying that pupils of that school could and would win scholarships provided the parents were prepared to send them to school until they were 18 years of age. Mr. Dockrill had spoken of the past, and he (the speaker) thought the future must speak for itself. He could only say that next year he hoped to have in the school three courses—classical, agricultural, and commercial. The agricultural course in particular he hoped to see developed more than it had been in the past, and in this connection a large block of land at the rear of the school was shortly to be prepared. He also had hopes that the board would next year erect and equip an up-to-date dairying laboratory. He felt sure it would be a good thing to develop the agricultural course as much as ever it was possible. He would not have time that afternoon to enumerate all the things that he hoped for, and if the school was going to the front the necessary money to provide most of them at any rate must be found. He appealed to the people to take a pride in the school—it seemed to him they had not been too proud of it in the past—and what he desired above all things was 200 boys. If they would send him 200 boys he assured them that the school would soon be competing against the very best in New Zealand.

Subsequently the company were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Moyes at afternoon tea, and afterwards the boarding department was inspected. The visitors were agreeably surprised at the nature of the buildings and the particularly comfortable manner in which they were furnished.

SCHOOL NEWS.

The dancing class which was instituted this term has been a most pronounced success. The floor of the assembly room was rather rough at first, but the boys set to work on it with energy, and soon had it in a very fair state. The classes were held every Friday evening until nine o'clock. About forty pupils availed themselves of the instruction given by Miss Humphries, and by the end of the term a noticeable improvement in the dancing and deportment generally was seen. No doubt those members of the team who had not been previously taught found the advantage of learning when they went to Napier.

One of the English periods has been considerably livened up by the introduction of "original contributions." These consist of short stories or verses on any well-known quotation. The poems are next day read out to the class, and a vote is taken upon them. Some of the effusions were rather crude, but several showed fair promise. "A Guide through Cupid's Snares" and "Ye Ringworm" caused much amusement. Ringworms were at that time in every eye—not literally—and the word is now practically a household one. The idea of these original compositions was to get some passable poetry for the Magazine. Most of it, however, was fitter for the waste paper basket than for our literary organ.

The grass has come on well, and is beginning to have a sward-like appearance. It is still rather patchy, but when sheep have been put on to eat off the long shoots and harden the ground, the mower will be put on it. Mr. Blewman, the caretaker of the Racecourse, who has had a lot of experience with grasses, says that we may expect a fine turf at the end of the year. He has been most obliging in helping us in every way, and we are lucky in having the advice and assistance of one so near the school.

The boy who rejoices in the soubriquet of "Janicus" is now completely wound up with red tape. On parade days the unfortunate members of his section are more familiar with the toe of his boot than his praise. But his section is a smart one notwithstanding.

One of the noble Fifth Formers, during the holidays after the first term, wrote a melodrama which he called "Betraid," but was more generally known as "Ber-

linda." The plot was rather amusing. The hero, "Charles," in one act is driven from home, and in the next finds himself on a desert isle. He cries for help, and "enter two carrier pigeons with dispatches from 'Berlinda.'" A sail appears on the horizon at the same minute. Disguises play a great part in the play; in one of which the hero is a pastry cook, and eats all sorts of delicacies. The main idea of writing "Betraid" was to play it in the gym., and charge admission, the proceeds to go towards a Cocoa Club. "Betraid" was never put on, and the idea of melodramas was taken up by another boy in a lower form. His "play" was acted at one of the Saturday evening concerts, and went "good-o."

We all sympathise with the accident which befel "Cocky" on the football field. It was a decidedly nasty one, necessitating several stitches, but "Cocky" came up smiling at the beginning of the next week to face the music of the examination room. It is a pity, by the way, that more boys do not take a leaf out of "Cocky's" book. Many of them are too prone to cry out at the least bump they get in the field.

The far-famed Kaimata Cheese Factory has its representative in the school in the person of "Dreamy." If reports are true, the cheese produced there is of varying quality. At all events, those wishing for samples should apply to A. P. B. "Dreamy," N.P.H.S.

During the term all the gymnasium and football togs were inspected, for the purpose of seeing if the owners' names were on them. Several articles of human attire seemed to have neither name nor owner, so they were handed over to the pound-keepers to be sold by Mr. Auctioneer "Chesty." The pound therefore will by that time have done exceptionally well, and we expect that the library will also benefit.

Owing to the fewness of the entries, the Boxing Championships could not be held as expected on the 17th of August. This is rather rough on those who trained with a view to fighting. This year we did not have an instructor, but next year we hope to get a good man to teach us the art of self defence. His advent will be a great boon to all, as at present we have to slog along as best we can, so that the scrapping is not altogether of the standard it might be.

During the term a craze set in for rinking, which at first was pursued to excess. Owing, however, to the vigorous denunciation of this folly by the authorities, the pastime has been kept within due limits.

The monotony of the usual drill routine has been somewhat relieved this term from at least two causes. The first was the repeated attempts of one nameless person to play the drum. The noise seemed to be a cross between a bull roaring and the crack of a bullocky's whip. (No insult meant to either.) The second was the taking away of the officers and non-coms. and putting the "Tommies" in charge of the sections. Some of the attempts to command in a deep, awe-inspiring voice were rather ludicrous.

The epidemic of mumps, which has run through the school, has necessarily caused some dislocation of the work of those who went under. It has also played havoc with our first fifteen. We have no doubt, however, that the other schools have had similar drawbacks, and can therefore not urge that as a reason for our failure to retain the shield.

During the cold weather nothing warmed us up so much as the "scraps" for the ball, which took place almost every day, between the Gym. and the Fifth Form Room. These "scraps" were not of the gentle order, as the gravel did a good deal of damage to bare knees and arms.

The pun-fiend is still going in a small way, but most of the jokes are rather hoary. An example will explain. A certain person was telling a crowd of fellows that he never asked his "boss for brass," but lived by his WITS. Upon this one present yelled out, "Well, old man, you must live very 'cheaply.'" Rather cheap wit, isn't it? Badger! Isn't that absolute tripe? Putrid, in fact.

The photos. by A. Little of the boys plucking the fowls for the dance have come out rather well, and would, we believe, command rather a good price if they were on sale.

The carp which one of our fellows, who had the "beeziness enstinct," sold to the proprietor of the Golden Grid are still alive, and are on show in the window every day.

The continuation of the electric light into the gymnasium has proved a boon to the day boys, who, before the lights were put in, had to don their ordinary clothes—after football practice—in the dark.

The horses of some of those who ride to school caused a good deal of annoyance by getting on to the cricket ground. If this goes on, they will have to be relegated to the gully.

Not much work has been done with the excavation work in the gully during the past term, owing to the bad weather and the short days. The clay in the swamp is of a very sticky nature, and when one's boots are covered in it it is a case of "once on—never off."

During the term the day boys took their khaki uniforms home, and we now use the lockers they were in for football and gymnasium togs. These lockers fill a long-felt need.

Kidd had the misfortune to break his collar-bone, and consequently was absent from the school for some weeks. We have been very fortunate in having few mishaps of this nature.

On Saturday night, July 20th, a concert was held in the big room at 7.30 p.m. There was a fair attendance of boys, and an enjoyable evening was passed. The concert was commenced by White's solo on the piano, which received great applause. It was followed by a little play called "Between Two Fires." Fair played the part of Mrs. Simkins, W. Guild acted as post-boy, Lepine as the dummy man, and C. Putt as "Burglar Bill." This took up about a third of the concert, and was preceded by a violin solo, "Melody in F," by H. Jenkinson. N. Little then gave a long piece of recitation, and received hearty applause. Comic songs were sung by Goss, Sykes, Day and Little. Then followed coon songs by Goss, Day, Sykes, Matthews, Fair and Putt. The night's entertainment was then ended by a dance, and everybody seemed pleased with the way in which he had spent the evening.

On the evening of Saturday, the 10th of August, some of us gathered together for the purpose of holding the second of our Saturday night concerts. This time we had rather bad luck, as, owing to certain "res improvisae," several of the boys who were billed to appear were unable to attend. Hence it was left to a few to do the best they could to provide some entertainment for the audience. Colson and Salt obliged two or three times—the former playing first violin; the latter, second. The best of their items was a portion of the Tannhauser March. Crone read an amusing skit, giving Mr. Dooley's views on recent Arctic and Antarctic exploration, and we may add that Crone gave it in really good



JUNIOR B. FIFTEEN.

BACK ROW—E. Ellerm	Patterson	Terry	Hine	Eorsup	Martin
MIDDLE ROW—Grayling	Marfell II	Hill	Sykes	Oliver	King II
FRONT ROW—Luxton		McHardy	Lepine		

“Dooley” style. In Teed we have among us what may be termed a useful member. He reads music well and is able to play a good deal of up-to-date light music. He is also able to tackle most accompaniments; so that on this occasion he was in special demand in the chorus music which was introduced on the spur of the moment as a substitute for the items which were set down on the programme, but, as noted above, not given. White also gave an item on the piano. It is hoped that more boys will join the ranks of the entertainers, and we are sure that we are only voicing the sentiments of the majority when we say that we should like to see the concerts develop into quite a feature of the boarding life at the school.

On July 12th, after the roll call, Crone was presented with the medal which he had won in connection with the Bayly Memorial Scholarship. The medal is a very handsome one. We hope that this scholarship will be retained in the school, as it has been so far. It behoves the candidates for this year to train hard for the coming sports meeting, to be held next term, in order to award the points for the athletic department of the scholarship.

Owing to the counter attraction of football and gymnastics, very little work has been done on the miniature rifle range during the last term. No doubt as the days get longer there will be a good deal of practice indulged in during the coming season.

The test examination held at the end of last term should stimulate boys for the real struggle at the end of the year. The papers were pretty stiffly marked, so that boys will have a fair idea of their chances. A similar test will be held this term, just before the outside exam.

Hawkes had the bad luck to cut his hand rather badly in the Science Room while cutting up a specimen.

Our thanks are due to the Borough Council for closing the road at the side of the school house. There was little enough ground actually adjoining the house, and this addition will be most welcome.

A departure has been made this year—in connection with the football tour—in dropping the debate against the Palmerston School. It was thought that after all the chief object in the tour was football, and that it was unwise to crowd too many competitions into one week. The shooting match was also dropped, as until we get the regulation rifle for shooting matches, the test would be quite an unfair one.

In the course of the term we received a visit from the departmental inspector, Mr. T. H. Gill, M.A., LL.B. Besides inspecting the school generally, he gave the boys of the Fourth Form an examination to see if any were good enough to be granted "credit passes," and therefore to gain exemption from the Senior Free Place Examination. The test was a most satisfactory one, as nearly all the candidates obtained the necessary "credit."

We received a visit also from Mr. Bligh, travelling secretary of the White Cross League. Mr. Bligh, who has given up his life to the work of helping boys over difficulties, gave an earnest address to the whole school on matters of vital importance to their welfare. He was listened to most attentively, and afterwards he interviewed many of the boys individually. We are sure that several feel better in mind from his manly and kindly words, and are now armed for many of the difficulties with which life is beset.

Shortly before the school broke up, a paper-chase was held. A good run was made across country in the direction of Vogelstown. No doubt as a result the members of the team felt in better nick for the Napier tournament.

A reminder is given to those boys who are going up for the examination held by the department, that all fees must be in by the first week of the present term.

We are very pleased to state that owing to the generosity of the old boys, we have been given by them the sum of £30, which fund has been lying to their credit at the Post Office Savings Bank. Up to this time we have been receiving the benefit of the interest on the amount, but now the old boys have generously handed over the whole fund to us. It will probably be spent in the purchase of a mower for the ground.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The sports this year will be held at the school on Thursday, October 24th. All those interested in the school are invited to be present, and it is especially hoped that there will be a large muster of Old Boys. Two Old Boys' races will be included in the programme.

In the evening an Old Boys' dinner will probably be held at the school, and this, it is hoped, will become an annual function.

It behoves all present boys to go in for hard training in view of the various races. Nothing is more exhilarating than the presence of a big field, and it is to be hoped that no boy will draw out after his nomination because "So-and-so" has got such a big handicap that the race is a "monty." Persistent training will make a better runner of a boy than one who trusts to his natural advantages, and who cannot be bothered to exert himself to become fit.

MR. BALHAM.

Just before going to print we were glad to hear that the board had appointed Mr. F. Balham, of Auckland, to a position on the staff. Mr. Balham has been for the last two years first assistant at the Dilworth Ulster Institute, and was for some years an assistant master at King's College, Auckland. Mr. Balham, who was educated in France and Belgium, is an accomplished French linguist, and should be a decided acquisition to the school. He has for some years past been a prominent member of the Auckland French Club, and in 1906 was awarded the silver medal of the "Alliance Francaise" in recognition of his services.

He has also had considerable experience in military work, and holds the rank of captain in the Territorial forces.

We take this opportunity of extending to him a hearty welcome to New Plymouth, and we trust that he will long remain with us.

GYMNASIUM.

We have just finished the second term of the year, the term in which the mettle of the various boys has begun to differentiate, especially as the cold weather makes one keener than in the other two terms of the year. The division into squads has resulted in the following boys being placed in the senior group: N. Little, A. Little, D. Sykes, S. Ewing, H. Jenkinson, I. Weston, C. Hamblyn, H. Hirst, G. Chong and L. Hooker. There was a great deal of rivalry for the last place or two in this squad. A very good ladder has been put in to replace the old one, and is a decided improvement on the latter. A new horizontal bar has also been procured. All the squads have been putting in a good deal of hard work, and the extra time given to the first squad has enabled its members to come on splendidly. In view of the football tournament, the

first fifteen has been putting in a good deal of extra work, prominent among which has been a series of vaulting exercises, both over the bar and the horse. The vaulting has been followed by a dozen "sharkers" and also by a series of leg-raising exercises. One member of the team seemed to have too much fat somewhere on his anatomy, for while descending, in a way of his own, from the horizontal bar, he broke a piece of "mother floor." Some sparring practice has been indulged in in preparation for the boxing competition which takes place this term.

THE LIBRARY.

We are glad to say that there has been an ever-increasing demand for library books. The boarders especially have devoted a considerable amount of their spare time to reading, though we regret to say that the standard works do not appear to be the most popular. The library has now been shifted to a room in the new buildings. The old bookcases are still in use, but we have no doubt the board will soon replace these by more suitable ones. Our thirteen-stoner from Wellington has developed quite a taste for auctioneering, and we have to thank him for the able manner in which he conducted the pound sale. The funds derived from this source are quite respectable, and will enable us to purchase a number of new volumes next term.

The following new books have been added during the term:—

By Thackeray: "The Newcomes" (2 vols.), "Vanity Fair" (2 vols.), "Roundabout Papers," "Pendennis" (2 vols.), "Henry Esmond," "The Virginians" (2 vols.), Tales, Sketches, etc., and Critical Reviews, Christmas Books, "The Adventures of Philip" (2 vols.), "Yellow Plush Papers" and "The Irish Sketch Book," "Contributions to Punch," "The Rose and the Ring," "Sketches and Travel in London," "The Life of Thackeray" (2 vols.), "Cornhill to Cairo," "Lovel the Widower" and "The Four Georges," "Burlesques," "The Book of Snobs," "Cox's Diary," "Barry Lyndon."

By Scott: "The Fortunes of Nigel," "The Bride of Lammermoor," "Fair Maid of Perth," "The Pirate," "Kenilworth," "The Monastery," "The Talisman," "Lockhart" (2 vols.), "The Surgeon's Daughter,"

"Woodstock," "Quentin Durward," "Betrothed" and "Highland Widow," "Guy Mannering," "Peveril of the Peak," "Red Gauntlet," "Waverley," "Old Mortality," "Rob Roy," "Montrose and Black Dwarf," "Ivanhoe," "St. Ronan's Well," "Count Robert of Paris," "The Heart of Midlothian," "The Antiquary," "The Abbot," "Anne of Geierstein."

The following have also been added: "Poetical Works" (Longfellow), "Robinson Crusoe" (Defoe), "The Heroes" (Kingsley), "Shakespeare" (Maxfield), "Adam Bede" (Eliot), "Sesame and Lilies" (Ruskin), "The Deer Slayer" (Cooper), Milton's Works, "Cranford" (Mrs. Gaskell), "Two Years Ago" (Kingsley), Essays of Emerson, "Golden Treasury," "Reminiscences of the English Lake Poets," "The Life of Nelson" (Southey), "Christmas Stories" (Dickens), "The Letters of Charles Lamb," "Adventures in the Rifle Brigade," "The Vicar of Wakefield," "Greece Under the Romans," "Guy Mannering" (Scott), "Peveril of the Peak" (Scott), "The Swiss Family Robinson," "Pickwick Papers," "Westward Ho!" "Mungo Park's Travels," "Gulliver's Travels," "White Company" (Conan Doyle), "Oliver Twist" (Dickens), "Kenilworth" (Scott), "Tanglewood Tales" (Hawthorne), "Geoffrey Hamblin" (Kingsley), "Tale of the Great Mutiny" (Fitchett), "The Pathfinder" (Cooper), "Our Fellows at St. Mark's," "The Sowers" (Merriman), "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table" (Holmes), "Our Island Home," "Lorna Doone."

"Fry's Magazine," "The Captain," and "The Bookman" are also taken.

We desire to thank Mr. and Mrs. Ewing for kindly presenting "Freckles" to the library, and also Mr. W. W. Smith for copies of "The Mid Pacific Magazine."

FORM AVERAGES.

SECOND TERM, 1912.

Third Form, 61.3.	Top boy: Brokenshire, 85.2.
Fourth Form, 57.3.	Top boy: Avann, 77.8.
Fifth Form, 43.9.	Top boy: Hirst, 57.9.
Sixth Form, 41.1.	Top boy: N. Little, 58.7.

CAMERA CLUB.

We are at last able to boast of a dark-room—small, it is true, but fitted with everything necessary for successful photographic work.

Those interested in this hobby have already been hard at work, and the illustrations in this number have all been supplied by members of the Camera Club.

The weather during the past term has been against good work with the camera, and the natural result has been that little success has attended the efforts of those boys who possess the snapshot variety.

Good work has, however, been done with stand cameras, and G. Salt in particular has turned out some very creditable photos. We have to congratulate him on winning first prize in the Agricultural Show competition. We hope that next year more boys will follow his example and send in entries.

THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL.

At the last meeting of the Board of Governors, it was decided to begin a Preparatory School. - This progressive action will mark an important epoch in our history. Owing to the regulations of the Education Department, we have hitherto been unable to admit boys until they have passed the Fifth Standard. This has deprived many of the chance of coming to us until a comparatively late age. As things are at present, boys who reach the Fifth Standard at a primary school would naturally continue attending that school in order to gain a certificate of proficiency. We have therefore been at a disadvantage as compared with other Secondary schools, in not possessing a lower department, since the school life of our boys begins so late.

For the information of parents and others, it would be as well to point out that the Preparatory School will comprise the same curriculum as that obtaining at the primary schools. It will be under the charge of teachers who have had special training in primary school work, and the pupils will have a separate part of the building and playground reserved for them.

The school will carry with it all the advantages and privileges of a primary school. Any boy will be enabled to obtain from it a certificate of proficiency, carrying free education, and will also be eligible to sit for the usual scholarships.

But over and above this, any boy who attends the Preparatory School will have the benefits of a secondary school training, in the way of gymnastics, drill, and supervision at all the school games. The fact that a boy's life with us will be considerably lengthened, owing to his entering at a much earlier age, will enable him with greater facility to become permeated with all the traditions of the school, and therefore imbibe a much stronger feeling of "esprit de corps" than in the case where his loyalty is shared by two institutions instead of one.

A boy who attends one school from the Second Standard up to the Sixth Form of a secondary school will therefore have a continuous education extending over the most impressionable part of his career.

We are therefore looking forward with the greatest interest to the formation of a lower department, which we expect to see in vigorous working order at the beginning of the year.

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

We reproduce as frontispiece for this number a photograph of Mr. N. K. MacDiarmid, formerly for many years Chairman of our Board of Governors. Mr. MacDiarmid was a very old member of the board, having been appointed in October, 1891. In the year 1900 he was elected Chairman, and continued in that position until 1907. He was reappointed Chairman in 1910, and remained in that office until 1912, when he resigned from the board. Mr. MacDiarmid has always been most enthusiastic in all matters connected with the school, and has devoted a very great deal of his leisure in doing all he could to forward its interests. Though no longer officially connected with the governing body, his interest in the school is undiminished, and his absence at any of its functions is a rare occurrence.

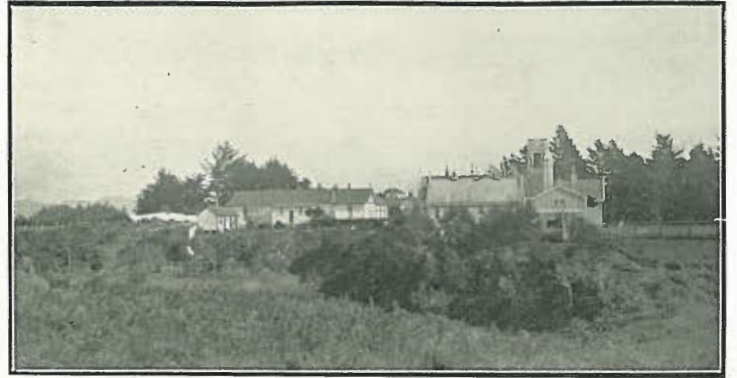
Mr. MacDiarmid has been succeeded as Chairman by Mr. E. Dockrill, who has had a wide experience in public life. Mr. Dockrill has now retired from business and will have ample time to devote his energies to High School affairs.

The vacancy on the board, caused by Mr. MacDiarmid's retirement, has been filled by Mr. Grey, of the legal firm of Messrs. Wilson and Grey.

OLD BOYS' NOTES.

All Old Boys are reminded that a reunion will be held at the school on the evening of sports day, which will take place some time in October, particulars of which will be duly made known. We cordially invite those Old Boys who can to attend. It had been intended to hold the function last term, but owing to the bad state of the roads on account of the wet weather, it was felt that those Old Boys who live in the country would find it more convenient to attend later on in the year. Unfortunately it is hardly to be expected that many Old Boys who live in other parts of New Zealand will be able to leave their work to be present, a circumstance all the more to be deplored owing to the fact that among their numbers are to be reckoned some of our most loyal supporters. Needless to say, the more we have present the better pleased we shall be, and we confidently expect to see a large muster. Thanks to the initiation of the Magazine, we are getting into touch with scores of Old Boys who otherwise would be entirely lost to us from a school point of view. And here we wish to express our most hearty appreciation for the magnificent response from the Old Boys to our request for support. It has shown us that with proper organisation we can present a very strong roll of past pupils, full of loyalty and determination to bring their old school to the front rank. We are full of gratitude for their direct assistance, and we hope that by the aid of a reunion such as we propose to hold, the Old Boys' Association will be a solid body with unity of aim. Later on we shall consider the question of publishing a school list, when we have found out particulars about more Old Boys whose whereabouts for the present we are unable to discover.

We hope that Old Boys in writing to us will be less reticent about themselves. Perhaps they do not realise that what may seem to themselves trivial details will be of interest to others, who have not seen them nor heard of them since leaving school. Our great aim is to make the Magazine as much an organ for the Old Boys as for those in actual attendance at the school.



VIEW OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND BOARDING HOUSE.



THE MOUNTAIN.

We should be very pleased if Old Boys would send us photos. of themselves for enlargement. A number of these placed in the Assembly Hall would considerably add to the attractiveness of the room, and would be very interesting for other Old Boys to see when they visit the school.

Captain N. de la Cour Cornwall, who was formerly captain of the New Zealand Shipping Company's steamer Kaipara, has been appointed to the s.s. Tongariro.

Gore Foote, who is a partner in the firm of Abbott, Foote and Jones, Auckland, has been on an extended business trip to England and the Continent. He returned home last month.

H. Dingle is farming near Huntly, Waikato. He has ridden in several Hunt Club events at the Auckland races.

C. Eric George is chief assistant to J. Rogers, Esquire, consulting and civil engineer, Auckland.

L. B. Horrocks is in the firm of Messrs. Brownlow Horrocks and Son. He has succeeded in building up a large business, and now contemplates taking up the quieter pursuit of farming.

Julian and Dick Roope are in business as agents in Auckland.

Lavington Roope is engaged in teaching music.

Davie Brown, who is in the firm of Messrs. Weston and Weston, solicitors, New Plymouth, has gone to Inglewood to assist in the firm's branch in that town.

Some few months ago Gordon MacDiarmid went under an operation for appendicitis. We are pleased to hear that he has now quite recovered. He is at present taking the medical course at Dunedin University.

H. Boccock, who was in the New Plymouth branch of the New Zealand Insurance Co., has been transferred to Invercargill.

Word has been received from Home that Lieutenant I. Standish has passed his promotion examination for the New Zealand Territorial staff.

J. E. Wilson has been appointed to the council of the New Zealand Acclimatisation Societies.

A. R. Standish and L. B. Webster have been appointed to the committee of the Taranaki Racing Club. Dr. E. F. Fookes has been appointed hon. surgeon to the same body.

We have two Old Boys in the Taranaki football representatives this year—L. J. Stohr and G. Hawkins. In the newspaper comment on the match against the South Island team the following notes appear: "Hawkins was, on the day, the best forward on the field. First in the rushes, breaking through repeatedly on his own, and often taking part in the back rushes, he quite excelled himself. Stohr, whose record this season both in club and representative fixtures has been a brilliant one, left nothing to be desired, and is evidently at the top of his form, and with Cameron and Roberts, who was not available on Thursday, will make a three-quarter line unequalled by any in New Zealand to-day. In this match Stohr scored two tries, a goal from a mark, and two goals from tries." His wonderful kicking in the recent match against Wellington is too fresh in our minds to call for much comment.

We are very pleased to welcome back home "Jimmie" Sinclair, who, despite his recent sad accident, is in excellent spirits. He was met at the wharf at Wellington by several Old Boys. He intends to take a rest for some months here, and then return to Glasgow.

R. English is married, and is in business as an accountant at Hamilton.

S. Griffiths, who is in the Bank of New South Wales, has been moved from Perth to Katanning, in Western Australia.

J. N. Bullard has gone into the office of Messrs. Buller, Anderson and Rundle, barristers and solicitors, Feilding.

Hugh O'Loughlin is in the National Bank, Onehunga.

Charlie Douglas is practising medicine in California.

Denis Woodhouse, who has been for some time in Chicago, intends to be in Dublin for the Horse Show in September. From there he hopes to come on to Australia and New Zealand.

Ronald Mackenzie is in the District Survey Office, Wellington.

W. Nicholson is in the Lands and Survey Department, Wellington.

Reg. Quilliam is attending law lectures at Victoria College, Wellington.

Ron. Quilliam is on the executive of the Victoria College Students' Association, and took a prominent part in running the procession on Capping Day.

H. Cook, who is associate of his Honour the Chief Justice, was recently in Auckland at the sessions held there.

Don MacDiarmid has been appointed secretary to the Sudan United Missionary Society, the general secretary of which is Karl Kumn, Africa, explorer and missionary. Donald's headquarters at present are at Melbourne.

F. Batten is practising dentistry at Rotorua.

F. Humphries, who has been in the office of the U.S.S. Co., Sydney, has been transferred to Oamaru.

Dr. Irwin Hunter is practising in Dunedin. We had an exceedingly interesting letter from him, reminiscent of the old days of the school.

Fred. Marshall is doing exceedingly well as the proprietor of large paper mills in Bolton, England.

Frank Morgan is sub-editor of the "New Zealand Times," Wellington.

John M'Niece is farming at Awakino.

Fred. Pearson is a farmer at Toko.

Percy Ambury, who is taking lectures at Knox Theological College, writes to say that he hopes, when through his course, to proceed to Tipperah, a province to the north of Calcutta, in order to under take mission work.

Ernest Olson is accountant in Nicholls and Sons, Inglewood.

Innes Halcombe is a partner in one of the principal auctioneering firms in Auckland.

David Teed is in business as chemist in Newmarket, Auckland; he has been elected mayor of that borough.

Wilfrid Fookes is also a chemist in Newmarket.

R. Bourke is in the Civil Service, and is engaged at the Magistrate's Court, Auckland.

H. Bramley is living at Stanley Bay, Auckland.

Percy Foote is travelling for Messrs. Briscoe and M'Neil, Auckland.

We regret exceedingly to state that J. Noble has been in the Auckland Hospital for some time.

W. Bayly, who is conducting a motor garage at Palmerston, recently underwent an operation for appendicitis.

Guy Shaw, who is a dentist at the Thames, is now the proud possessor of two children.

We are glad to hear better news of Wilfrid Beckett from his brother Gilbert. Wilfrid has been removed from Stradbroke Island, off the coast of Queensland, to Toowomba. Since he has been there he has shown signs of improvement.

Fred. Heldt is in the Union Bank, Auckland.

Jack Heldt is living at Devonport.

Douglas Harle gained a Senior National Scholarship at the New Zealand University exams. last year.

Arthur Seccombe is in the Railway Department at Taihape.

J. Mackay is farming at Marakopa, King Country.

Sydney Paynter is farming at Tarata.

W. Avery is storekeeping at Awakino.

Clement Caldwell is farming at Kaimata.

Arthur Hawkins is in the chemist's business of C. Perrett, Wellington.

Percy Jackson is manager of the Union Bank, Wairoa, Hawke's Bay.

Arthur M'Intyre is in the Treasury Department, Wellington.

Reuben Spear intends going up for the Senior Civil Service exam. this year.

Allan Hill, who has been very ill, has been transferred to Auckland under his doctor's instructions. Prior to his departure he was presented by the Wellington F.C., of which he was hon. secretary, with a purse of sovereigns.

Herbert O'Loughlen has been in the Te Puke branch of the Bank of Australasia; he is to be transferred to Auckland, and Rupert Laing takes his place.

Hugh O'Loughlen is in the National Bank at Onehunga.

Stennett Hurle is in the Labour Department, Wellington.

W. M'Arthur, who has been in the Locomotive Drawing Office, Wellington, has gone into the Petone works.

W. Nicholson is in the Survey Department, Wellington.

Charles Shaw is practising at the law in Hawera.

Russell Baker, who is in the New Zealand Insurance Office, has been travelling the Auckland district in the company's interests.

Fred. Bently is farming at Kaponga.

Howard Bayly has left Tututawa, and is farming on the Bird Road, near Stratford. He was married a few months ago.

Jack Gibbons is at Te Aroha.

C. Cooper is farming at Mangatoki.

Wilfrid Skeet is in the Survey Department, Nelson province.

F. Standish is farming at Tarata.

Gerald Paul is in London, buying for several firms in the Argentine.

Tim Matthews, who is gaining experience in the hospitals at Home, recently won a golf match, with a handicap of 7, from 247 competitors.

Roger Burke is in the Land Transfer Office, Auckland.

W. E. Moore is practising at the law in Auckland.

J. Rickerby is in the Railway Department at Frankton Junction.

The following note appears in "The Sportsman": "G. Foote has recently returned from a trip to the Old Country, where he had the opportunity of seeing the ideal conditions under which golf is played on the courses around London. When visiting Richmond he met J. H. Taylor, who complimented him on his style of play." For the benefit of the uninitiated it may be stated that J. H. Taylor is one of the three greatest living exponents of the game.

A. M'Intyre is in the Public Trust Office, Wellington.

Dr. Geoffrey Osborne is at present at Waipiro, taking temporary work.

Wattie Mulloy, of the local branch of the Bank of New South Wales, has been transferred to the Hawera branch.

N. Kyle represented New Zealand in the recent match against the New South Wales team.

We were pleased to meet H. Bauchope when on our football tour. He is now residing in Napier, and still takes a live interest in his old school. His stentorian voice was much in evidence at both our matches, and we have an idea that he felt like rushing into the fray and once again donning the blue and white. It is now twenty years since he played for the school.

Sydney Avery is following the trade of printing in New York.

Harry Avery is at present in Canada acting as travelling representative of the Remington Typewriter Company. From there he intends going on a walking tour over England, where he will probably be joined by his brother Sydney. Harry, and possibly Sydney also, afterwards intend returning to New Zealand.

MARRIAGES.

Joseph Ambury to Miss Vosper, of Cambridge.

R. Reed to Miss Ethel Simpson, of New Plymouth.

The "Taranaki Herald" had the following notice in its columns some weeks ago:

BARNITT—SMITH.

A quiet but very pretty wedding was solemnised at Whiteley Church this morning, when Mr. Fred. Barnitt, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Heslop Barnitt, of Old Hospital Road, was married to Miss Florence Smith, fifth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Smith, of New Plymouth. The Rev. J. W. Burton was the officiating minister. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a pretty cream dress of Empress silk, trimmed with ruchings and a panel. She wore a very pretty veil and a wreath of orange blossoms, and carried a large bouquet of flowers. Miss Elsie Smith attended her sister as bridesmaid, and was attired in grey taffeta, trimmed with ruchings of grey silk. She wore a large black hat and carried a heliotrope bouquet. Mr. Mark H. Barnitt was best man.

BIRTH.

HEMPTON.—On May 30, at their residence, Aubrey Street, Whangarei, to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hempton—a son.

A TRIP TO RAROTONGA.

[BY AN OLD BOY.]

In writing a book or an article upon the islands of the South Seas, it seems to be the custom, now more or less hallowed by time, for the writer, in his enthusiasm for his subject, to give way to a certain floweriness of expression, which no doubt is intended to convey to the reader that here at last he has found the land of the Lotus. We are told about the dazzling white sands, the coral reefs, the bearded cocoanut, the smiling native and the friendly shark. To put things in their proper setting we have references to dusky maidens, halcyon days, the Islands of the Blest, and the blooming hibiscus. Then the writer never fails to work in a quotation from some hackneyed poem, and that done, he can sit still and contemplate the finished article. No doubt, to the reader who has never been to the Islands, these descriptions seem, to say the least, a little far-fetched, but once one has seen one of the islands, one cannot but admit that a writer has no slight justification for the display of so exuberant a fancy. For my part I must crave pardon for what is to follow, for the simple reason that I am not possessed of the necessary degree of imagination, and that I desire as far as is consistent with arousing a little interest, to adhere as nearly as possible to the truth. With this by way of excuse I propose to begin.

After five days spent on the "Aorangi" in a desire to get out and walk, we caught our first glimpse of Rarotonga. In a few hours more we dropped anchor in clear water opposite the little settlement of Avarua. On the bottom were visible many forms of life, while highly-coloured fish slowly glided round the vessel and an octopus came up from the depths to pay the intruder a visit. Looking shorewards we saw a small steam launch slowly wheezing its way towards us, towing half a dozen lighters full of natives, who were coming out to unload the cargo. The Government boat with the health officer on board followed. From the hilltops right down to the shore was one vast mass of green foliage of cocoanut, orange, banana and other native trees. Along the shore ran the white road that encircles the island, while here and there through the trees peeped out the white houses with their red roofs. In a very short time we reached the shore and wended our way to that building of pretentious name, the Great Eastern Pacific Hotel, but known locally as "The Whare."

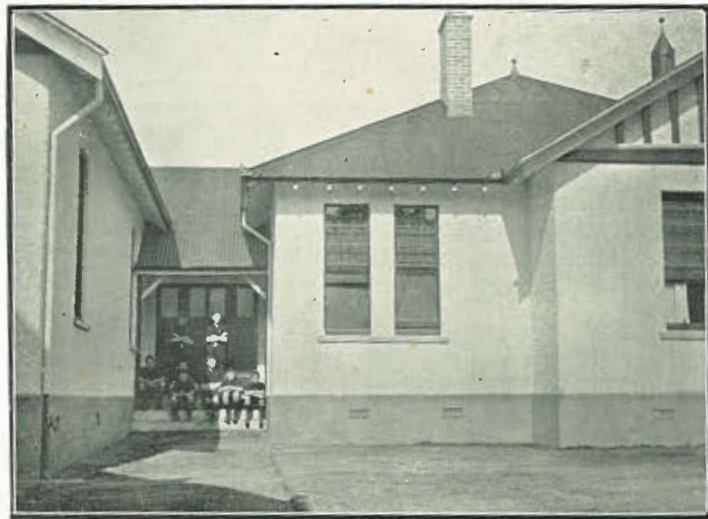
Rarotonga is the most important island of the Cook Group, and is situated some 1700 miles to the north-east of Auckland, on the run to San Francisco. The Cook Islands belong to New Zealand and are under the control of a Resident Commissioner, who is appointed by the New Zealand Government. Rarotonga has a native population of about 2600, while the whites number some 130. The total native population of the group is about 10,000. Some of the white inhabitants have fruit plantations, and fruit-growing is the principal occupation of the natives. The land all belongs to the natives, and as they are restrained by law from alienating the freehold, a white man cannot obtain any greater interest in land than leasehold.

Rarotonga is fairly well cut off from the outside world. The mail steamers to and from San Francisco each call once a month, and once a month a fruit boat comes from New Zealand. However, when wireless telegraphy is extended a little further, the Rarotongans will not have anything to complain of on the score of not hearing the latest news.

When one goes to Rarotonga, whatever else one does, one must hire a buggy with a horse (two if possible, for they are poor beasts at best) and a native boy to drive round the island. The road round the island is about 23 miles long. The way is not, therefore, particularly long, and though not old, the horses are decidedly infirm. More miserable specimens I never saw. They certainly looked as if their bones might cut through their skins at any minute. The harness rather baffles description. No doubt it had originally been made of leather, but the material that caught the eye first and last was string. In accordance with custom and tradition, we entrusted our valuable lives to the tender mercies of a native Jehu, against whom no charge that "he driveth furiously" could with truth have been made. With the assistance of a few bystanders the horses were persuaded to move off, and later they so far forgot themselves as to break into a gentle amble. This slow pace was not, however, altogether a disadvantage, as it gave us a good opportunity of seeing the sights. We drove through groves of orange trees and long avenues of cocoanuts, while ever on our right was the clear lagoon, and further seaward the breakers crashed and roared incessantly upon the coral reef. One of the things that struck us most was the number of cemeteries by the roadside. Every mile or so there were to be seen the



ANOTHER GENERAL VIEW OF SCHOOL—BOARDING BUILDINGS IN FOREGROUND.



SECTION OF NEW BUILDINGS—SIDE VIEW.

concrete slabs which mark the resting-places of the departed. We saw many half-finished stone houses too, around which the grass and other vegetation grew in undisturbed luxuriance, and we learnt that when anyone died while his family were building a house, the place was abandoned and no one would live in it. Superstition certainly dies hard. Most of the villages have a water supply, and this no doubt is responsible for the great number of bath-rooms that we saw. When the Rarotongan wishes to have his bath, he does not seek the seclusion of his cottage. He strolls out into his garden to a small wooden enclosure, with walls about five feet high and no roof, and there performs his ablutions, all the time keeping a curious eye upon what is going on around. The native is a cheerful person, and when you attempt to speak his language he greets your efforts with a good-natured grin. To say "Kiaorana" (the equivalent of "How do you do?") at once breaks the ice. We found the natives most friendly and generous, and on waking in the morning we not infrequently found offerings of fruit at our windows. It was by no means unpleasant to stroll about the stone verandahs in our pyjamas, improving our acquaintance with the luscious orange or deep in converse with a fascinating cocoanut:

The small children are not greatly unlike those in this country. The boys play tops and marbles, and the girls talk. If you go for a stroll through the settlement at about four in the afternoon, you will find groups of children at play after their school hours are over. When we were there, marbles were in, and very entertaining it was to see the little fellows squatting about at their games and often clad in the scantiest of raiment. One Sunday we went to a native service at the church—a large stone building with a gallery running round three sides. The older people sat downstairs, while the children sat in the gallery. All the small girls sat together, and so did the small boys. The latter behaved well, as, I understand, is usual with boys, but as I have already remarked, girls are given to talking, and these small girls ably upheld the reputation of their sex. When they became too noisy an elder arose, in his hand a long bamboo, and smote the young idea upon the head. Whereupon silence reigned—for perhaps ten minutes, and then the performance was repeated. After Church on Sunday mornings a good number of the men retire to the bush and spend the day in drinking bush beer,

which is made out of bananas, oranges, or pineapples, according to the season of the year. To have anything to do with this bush beer is, by law, an offence. A former English inspector of police was very energetic in his efforts to put an end to it. On one occasion, however, he was seized by a gang of drunken natives, who were just about to crack his skull with a boulder when help came. But it must not be gathered from this that the natives are at all a warlike people. On the contrary they are very peaceable and most inoffensive, except after one of their drinking bouts. Unfortunately the example set them by a section of the white community is anything but what it should be, and until the law is enforced against the whites, there is little or no hope of checking the natives in their excesses.

The Rarotongan has not a great variety of evening entertainments. Once a week there is a picture show, which is owned by an enterprising Chinaman. Some time before it begins a procession marches through the village amid great beating of tom-toms, or whatever may be the native equivalent of these instruments. The natives have the pleasant habit of anointing themselves with cocoanut oil, so, as may be imagined, they are not at their best as next-door neighbours at the theatre. Most evenings are, however, spent at the "Imine" houses ("imine" is a native corruption of "hymn"), practising hymns for the next Sunday. The people are very fond of singing hymns, but as they sing in a minor key, it takes some time to get used to the sound.

We were at several native feasts, and if the native is hospitable, he also expects the pakeha to do the utmost justice to the good fare provided. On one day duty demanded that we should visit two chiefs. Each had provided a huge feast. At the first all went well, though the native vessels were, to say the least, dry and mealy. At our second place of call we found the tables literally groaning under the piles of roast pork, fowls and vegetables of every kind, so that the stoutest heart might well have quailed. But as Caesar would have said, if my recollection of the days when I was in the fifth form is correct, "memores pristinae virtutis," we nobly upheld that high name for dogged endurance for which our race is so justly famous.

Though Rarotonga is the most important island of the group, there are several other islands of about the same size. One of these is Aitutaki, which we should

have liked to visit, but owing to lack of time we were unable to do so. Aitutaki is perhaps best known for the form of sport in which the natives indulge, namely, tickling sharks, a sport, I understand, somewhat akin to tickling trout. Aitutaki, which is the nearest island to Rarotonga, is over 100 miles distant from it, and as the only means of going from one island to the other is by a small copra schooner, whose presence could be detected some considerable time before she was visible, we were not altogether sorry that circumstances compelled us to forego the pleasure of making the trip.

A fortnight only too quickly slipped away in these pleasant surroundings, and when the time came to say a last "Kaiorana" we did so with feelings of very real regret at having to leave this land of sloth and ease and return to the arid world of work and bustle.

CASUAL RECOLLECTIONS.

[BY ARTHUR HEMPTON.]

My earliest recollection of the High School was in 1882, when, as a very small boy, I witnessed a football match on the school ground between the school and a New Plymouth team. The notable remembrance of that game was a memorable "maul-in-goal" between the late Alf. Bayly and Ted White, the last-named being captain of the town team, and now a successful dentist in Brisbane. A "maul" has so long disappeared from the good old Rugby game that to the younger generation of players some brief explanation may be necessary. If the ball went over the goal-line in the possession of opposing players a struggle took place between these until one wrestled the ball entirely from the other's hold. These "wrestling matches" often lasted several minutes, and in the one in question the superior strength of my old friend Alf. Bayly gained the day. "Mauls" disappeared from the game about twenty years ago, and rightly so, too.

It was not until 1886 that I attended the school as a pupil, and this period of the school's history has been so fully and well described in the "Reminiscences" in the first number of this magazine that I fear it is but going over the same ground to refer to that time. My old chum Walter Rawson, the writer of the said "Reminiscences," is good enough to refer to my aptitude for getting us both out of some tight corners, but those who remember the genial "Walt" of those days will

readily realise to whom the credit is due. Were it not for the respect I have for the high judicial position he now occupies, I could recount many escapades of which he was the ringleader and hero.

It is interesting to read that the gully has now been transferred into a beauty spot. In the early days of the school it was the recognised battle ground for the settlement of boyish differences, though during my time nothing of the sort occurred, but older boys told with bated breath of Homeric contests of the Tom Browne and "Slogger" Williams type.

Reference has been made to the mixed classes of boys and girls, and while these may not have made for general efficiency, I have kindly recollections of many a friendly "boost" from the "dux" of my day, now a lady well known in New Plymouth social circles. It is rather a reflection on the ability of the boys of that period that during the time I was at the school the position of "dux" was always held by a member of the gentler sex.

A favourite amusement for some time was the composition of sorry doggerel verse dealing with current school events, and I am sure we thought these verses worthy of comparison with the works of the master poets.

The present Mayor of a leading Auckland suburb was a budding poet laureate, but has forsaken the muse, and now interests himself in street formation experiments, etc.

At the Christmas break-up of 1886 the prizes were presented by the late Sir Harry Atkinson, then Major Atkinson, and Premier of the colony. I remember how we cheered this distinguished man, whose name will ever be held in high esteem in Taranaki and throughout New Zealand.

In 1887 there was a Jubilee Exhibition in Wanganui, and special arrangements having been made for the purpose, a large proportion of the girls and boys made the trip under the supervision of Mr. Pridham and Miss Montgomery, and a noisy party it was. The unfortunate hotelkeeper who boarded the pupils at specially low rates must have been a heavy loser by the transaction, as he had not reckoned with the appetites of a number of healthy school boys out on a holiday.

During the same year the girls of the school presented the Football Club with a very handsome banner of blue silk with silver fringe and the inscription "L'union fait la force." The making of this banner was a striking refutation of the old saying that women cannot keep a secret, as I do not think a boy in the school had the faintest inkling of the matter till Miss Adelaide Rennell, carrying the banner and followed by the rest of the girls, walked into the boys' class-room and made the presentation. I hope this banner is still in existence.

The use of nice-names was common in my time, and presumably the custom exists to-day. In looking back to the long ago many of these names come vividly to mind. "Mick Doolan," the Adonis of the school, "Tomcat," how well I remember thy old Tam-o'-shanter, "Fungus," "Brit," "Tar," "Conkey," "Bus," and many others, while one diminutive youngster, now following the same occupation as this scribe, rejoiced under the incongruous cognomen of "Bullock."

It is not known to the writer what form of punishment is now in vogue at the school, but when I was there it was per medium of a stout "supplejack," a varied assortment of these instruments of torture being kept in the Principal's study. If a more merciful but less impressive mode of correction is now the practice, I can only say that we deserved all the canings we received and dodged a good many we richly merited, and I do not suppose boys' natures have changed since then.

I left the school in 1888, and have not since revisited it, but hope some day to have the opportunity of seeing all the improvements made since my time.

To any of the present pupils who may trouble to read these rambling notes I would say: Do not take it too seriously when grown-up friends or relations tell you that your school days are the happiest of your lives. My own recollection is that our boyhood sorrows and troubles are as real and serious at the time as those greater cares we meet going through life, so be of good courage, and realise that your school days are but a preparation for the wider school of life wherein we are learning all the time.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(The Editor, School Magazine.)

Sir,—As an Old Boy of some years' standing, I have been very pleased to see the forward movement in connection with the school. Although late in the day, will you accept my congratulations on the excellent manner in which you turned out the first number of your Magazine.

Old Boys are waking up to the fact that they have a school in which to interest themselves; and this being so, will you allow me to make a suggestion, viz., that some form of board be obtained on which could be printed a record of scholastic successes gained by former pupils. When walking through the class-rooms recently, I was struck by the absence of any such record. Such a board need not be expensive, and I have no doubt an appeal to the Old Boys would produce the necessary funds. I enclose one pound as a nucleus.—I am, etc.,

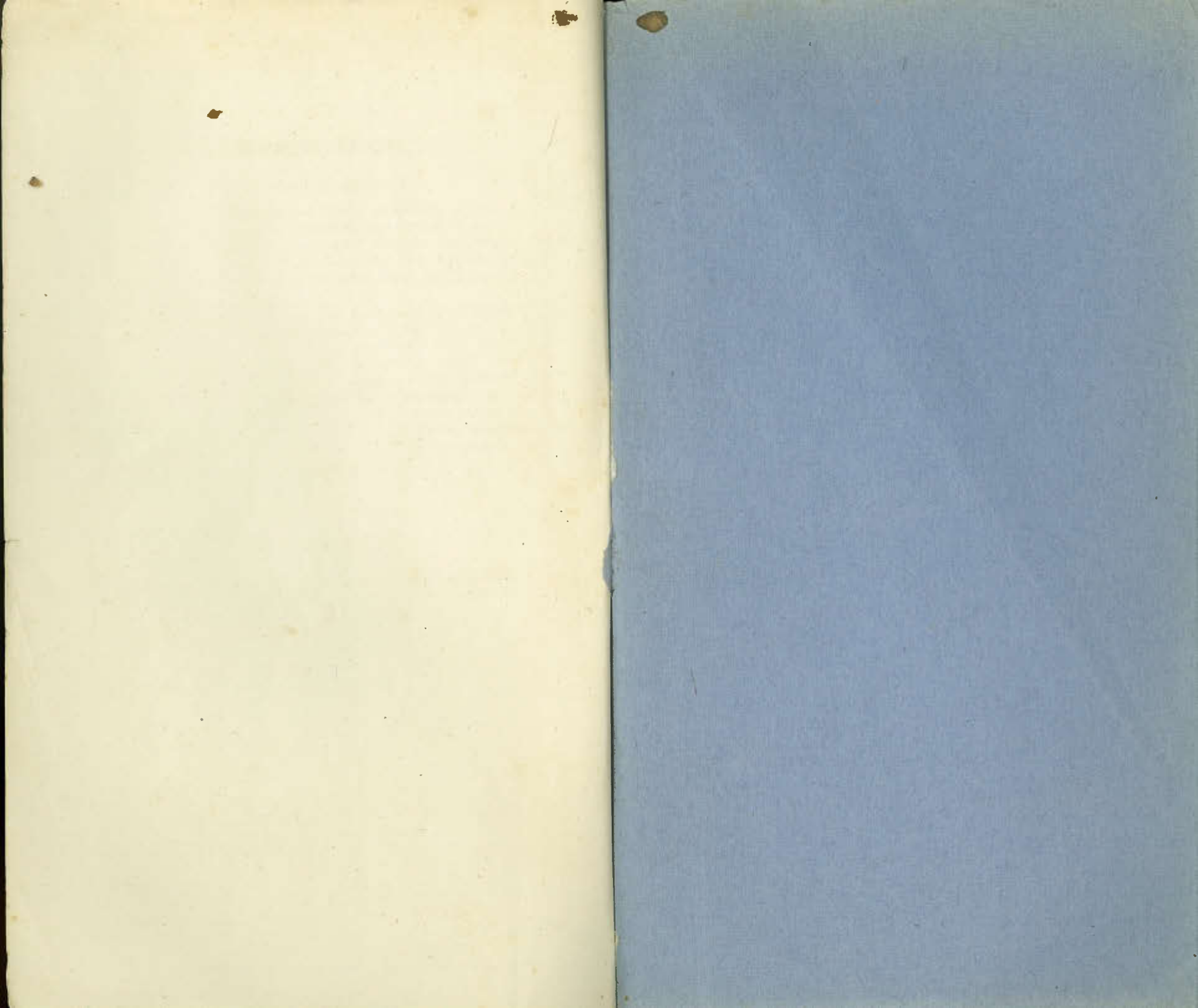
AN OLD BOY.



SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The management beg to gratefully acknowledge the following additional subscriptions. If any is omitted, the subscriber will oblige by letting us know at once: J. Bullard 1yr., Hon. T. Kelly 1yr., A. Bewley 1yr., S. Hoby 1yr., M. Lepper 1yr., Ian Grant 1yr., A. R. Standish 3yrs., F. Clarke 1yr., A. G. Monk 1yr., P. Grey 1yr., D. Collis 2yrs., J. S. Dockrill 1yr., R. Broken-shire 1yr., Allan Hill 1yr., J. Wilson 7yrs., H. Smith 1yr., N. Bewley 2yrs., C. O'Carroll 1yr., E. C. Day 1yr., Alec. Reid 1yr., Eric George 1yr., E. Humphries 1yr., J. B. Roy 3½yrs., Don MacDiarmid 1yr., E. Stanley 1yr., Cyril Bates 1yr., R. Baker 3½yrs., S. Griffiths 5yrs., I. Hunter 7yrs., R. Jackson 1yr., S. Paul 1yr., F. Bentley 1yr., F. Billing 1yr., W. M'Arthur 1yr., A. Bayly 1yr., Lindsay Horrocks 2yrs., Percy Ambury 1yr., G. Beckett 1yr., Herbert O'Loughlen 5yrs., H. Stocker 2yrs., A. Harle 1yr., R. George 7yrs., H. Bauchope 7yrs., W. Roope 3½yrs., N. K. MacDiarmid 7yrs.

The above list does not include those bought by members of the staff, and a few extra copies sold to present boys.



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— 1912 —

