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Swansea Municipal Secondary School Magazine.

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Editor—MR. T. J. JAMES.

Last term it was thought that we might, as a war economy, decide to discontinue the Magazine: but as a compromise, it has been decided to publish the Boys' and Girls' parts separately, and thus save half the paper. Hence the thinness of the present number.

Our Oxford Local candidates this year number 49 juniors, 24 seniors, and 3 supplementaries.

The School War Savings Committee, which has been in existence three months, has already collected over £50. It is hoped that the number of contributors will be greatly increased next term.

Back to the land! Boys of 4m have recently done 700 hours of agricultural work. There are 22 other boys and two masters who have offered their services under the Cavendish scheme for harvest work during the holidays, and 40 boys under the Glamorgan scheme.

The School has recently shown great interest in the Caretaker's "dug-out." At first sounds of hammering were heard, then barrow-loads of bricks and rubbish were brought up and deposited in the playground. Later a mason took down the doorway and part of the wall. Planks, ropes and chains arrived and at last the School boiler began to emerge from its underground lair. Slowly, inch by inch, this School "Tank" travelled through the opening, then barley-corn by barley-corn it turned and proceeded to mount the steps, with pulleys in front and screw-jacks behind. *Acriter pugnatum est* and the result was long in doubt. Would the Tank be drawn up

against its will, or would the office buildings join it in the glass-house? It was truly a war of exhaustion. However, one morning to the surprise of the whole school, the boiler, chipped and scarred, was seen lying by the wall in the upper playground. The details of that Titanic midnight struggle will never be known to us. The boiler now awaits its funeral escort and in due course a successor will be installed in its stead.

Gerald Phillips (Form V) has followed out his own suggestion and bequeathed four books to the School Library. To others who are about to leave, we commend this example and we further beg to state that the Editor (and later the School) is always glad to hear from Old Boys.

John Williams, who always visits the School, when back from the wireless world, spoke "mysteriously" of ships and submarines on his recent visit. Perhaps he will become more expansive when the war is over.

Capt. T. Llew. Davies, who called recently, spoke of Ypres, Messines and Vimy Ridge, and made us a present of the useful phrase "*na poo*," which may be freely translated as "all up," or "nothing doing." This is evidently soldier French for "*il n'y en a plus*."

Mr. Knight, after doing his bit at the front and losing, we hope only temporarily, the use of his left hand, has rejoined the Staff. Mr. Arthur Jones is reported to be down with fever in E. Africa. Mr. Bennett recently had a very exciting adventure on a sea-plane. The three other members of the Staff who are serving with the colours, Lieut. D. D. Phillips, Lieut. Glan. Powell, and Lieut. W. T. Davies, are said to be quite well. To boys in the Lower School these are quite unknown names.

In Memoriam.

By the death of Mr. James Burns the School has to mourn the loss of one of its most respected masters, of one who had served the School faithfully and well for more than 30 years. He died on May 25th, after less than a week's illness, and was laid to rest in Cockett Cemetery with every token of respect shown to his memory by the Staff, and by members of his Church. Mr. Burns' death will be specially felt by the many Old Boys, whose characters he endeavoured so patiently and conscientiously to cultivate, and in whom he always took an affectionate interest during his long tenure of office.

Mr. Burns was one of the band of Scotchmen who crossed the border in the eighties, when Higher Grade Schools began

to be established south of the Tweed. We cannot enter here into an account of the early struggles of the Swansea H. G. School. Suffice it to say that Mr. Burns was always at his post of duty, active and persevering, with a single eye to his pupils' welfare and with little thought of personal gain or advancement. He was a man of distinct ability, and a scientist of no mean order. He took a keen interest in Nature Study and his collection of marine and other specimens, gathered mainly in the Swansea District, adorn the school to-day and will remain to future generations a token of his patient industry and his enthusiasm for science.

Lieut. Herschell Williams, R.F.A., lost his life in France on June 17th. His C.O. wrote "One of my men was badly wounded and your son went with him to the dressing station to see that he was attended to. Whilst he was standing outside the dressing station, another shell came and burst close to him, killing him instantly. He was of such a cheery disposition that he will be greatly missed by everyone in this battery."

Lieut. Hywel Elias was killed on June 5 "whilst gallantly leading his men forward in the attack." "He was a brave officer, greatly loved by all his men and was never found lacking, when the path of duty called him." The Senior boys of the School will remember he was a Prefect when they were in the Lower School. He has twice contributed to the School Magazine since he joined the Army.

We deeply regret to state that our respected Head Master has sustained a very great loss through the death of his stepson, 2nd Lieut. E. W. Barton, M.A., South Lancashire Fusiliers. A brilliant career at the University College of Wales, Aberystwith, where he graduated with 1st Class Honours in Economics, culminated in his winning the Board of Agriculture Research Scholarship, value £150 per annum. He was subsequently appointed to an important position at the Board of Agriculture in London, where he laboured for a year. He then joined the Artists' Rifles, and later was gazetted to the South Lancashires. Unfortunately, he contracted an illness, which later proved fatal, and thus a career of great success and utility was cut short. It was our pleasure to have known Lieut. Barton for some years and we can testify to the respect and love which he inspired in all who came in contact with him. He was a brilliant student, a true gentleman, and a popular and respected officer. We offer, on behalf of the whole School, our heartfelt sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Beanland and the family.

BOYS' FORM NOTES.

FORM V.

Of the nine boys who originally composed the famous Fifth, six remain. One of us has already "joined up," and by the end of the summer holidays most of us will have done the same. This is our last term in school. We are all sorry to say good-bye to the Mun. Sec., and we greatly appreciate the kindness and the untiring efforts of the masters during our period at school.

The Matriculation Exam. is over (thank goodness), and we are awaiting the result with trepidation. Three of the boys are taking special subjects in the Senior Oxford, and are working industriously in all their spare moments. The remaining three have plunged into a further study of Trigonometry—a very "easy" and superlatively interesting subject!

The form wit sparkled forth in a most extraordinary manner quite recently. He begged us to buy two twopenny tickets. Falling into the trap we asked "What for?" The wit replied "for fourpence of course" and made a hurried exit.

By the way, the Fifth have shown their patriotism by volunteering one and all for harvest work during the holidays.

E. R. OLSSON.

FORM IVCL.

We are now in the Summer Term, and the atmosphere in our room, at times, is terrific. Imagine a class of youths studying "Pope's Essay on Man," with the temperature standing at 90 degrees in the shade! We are eagerly awaiting the Oxford Senior—to get it off our chests! Many things have happened since our last 'notes' reached the Mag. A basket-ball competition is in progress at the time of writing, and the winners of the semi-final were IVm and US (not U.S.A.). There is a good chance for a shield to hang up in our room in the near future. An Allotment scheme has taken on well with the Junior forms, while some seniors are themselves proprietors. Our form is again in evidence, inasmuch as Oswald Owen (with a partner from IIIm) won the Fives Tournament, and R. M. Jelley won a prize for the essay on St. David's Day. The joys of Term exams. are over and it behoves us to put forth a mighty effort, and stagger the Oxford Examiners with our knowledge! We are sure to do this if we follow one boy's logic: "Please sir, the Atlantic Ocean

near the Panama Canal, is a little higher than the Pacific, because the world is round!" 'Nuff said, by—

One of the Fourth.

FORM IVM.

This term is our last and it has been the best we have experienced during the four years. The form was in full strength at the beginning of this term but it has slowly dwindled down to "just-a-few" who are called by our respected Head, "Wall-flowers" by reason of their reclining against the cool, refreshing walls of the classroom. Our form has answered nobly to the call of "Back to the land." A few of us went down to Blackpill under the impression that it was going to be a holiday but the groans from the suffering weed-pickers was sufficient evidence of it not being so. To add to the agony there were big holes in the weeding gloves, and by some oversight situated in quite wrong places, so that when a thistle or a nettle had to be uprooted the victim's remarks were very emphatic and expressive. Our basket-ball team competed in the final against IVCL but we were beaten by 1 goal to nil. What could we expect when playing against a team of "Tanks?" We have arranged a picnic which two masters have agreed to honour with their presence. Let us hope it will be a very pleasant one because it will be the last time the whole form will have an opportunity of each other's company outside school.

A.B.D.

FORM IIIA.

We are writing three weeks before the Oxford Local which is hovering over our heads—at least over 13 of our number. Did you say 'unlucky'?

The non-Oxfordites know they would get through easily if they tried,—you note they don't say what they'd get through. Perhaps it is a tin of Pastels (not pastilles, as one of them called them), or it may be it is the Fat Boy in Pickwick Papers. But no! he'd take take some getting through—that's where we smile!!

Talking of fat boys, rumour hath it that a Baby Show is to be held early in July, some of our Form are keenly interested. Others wonder whether the new scholarship boys are concerned, remembering the surprise we got last September over some of the newcomers then.

Queries:—1. When does the beginning of a month end? (For solution apply to —(3a) who know it cannot be before the 29th!)

2. Was 20 minutes of Basket Ball worth the cash we paid as entrance fees? (This comes from a member of the team which failed to survive the first round of the B.B. Competition).

3. What does blowing down a gas pipe taste like, and what effect has it on the other Bunsen's on the same bench? (This is *not* an Oxford Local Science question).

4. What room in school had a 'bitter' experience on returning after Whit-holiday? Perhaps the cutters-up, etc., of the Co-op Congress Luncheons will offer due apologies to 3a for not leaving samples as well as splashes).

A Latin item:—On the B.B.—'The King led the people.'
Teacher: What is the subject? Boy: People. Teacher: Why?
Boy: The King cannot be a subject.

Don O'Tomit.

FORM III_M.

One of our number suggests the appointment of a Prefect of Dusters—as ours constantly disappears. Does the form snail run off with it?

In metalwork we have been manufacturing "murderous weapons" in the shape of toasting-forks and crab-hooks. We had a chance of using these once, when a small mouse appeared in a French lesson. But alas! our crab-hooks were not at hand and the mouse escaped into the preparation room, evidently preferring to be "gassed." One of our form has suffered from "home-sickness" rather frequently this term. Another has done some research work in Chemistry—in explosives, but has not yet been sent for by the War Office!

We were rather alarmed at the beginning of the year on counting the number of boys in our Form and seeing the number of our Room, for both were 13! Another superstition gone, for we have had a very happy time together. Our clock is "on its own" and can beat all the Electric clocks in the school, but we are not grumbling! You wonder why?

FORM III_R.

"What a smell!" Every Wednesday, when we go into the Lecture-room, we utter this exclamation. We know what causes it, as we have made the liquid from which it issues, in the Chemistry Lab. But when we made it, we allowed no smell to issue forth—we corked it down. We sincerely wish that the boys who make it on a Wednesday afternoon, would do the same. Even a master described it as the putrid smell of bad eggs.

But that is a mere detail. We have something of more importance looming up before us—"the Oxford." This exam. is the first of any importance that we are going to sit for, and so we are all slogging in at our work. Ahem! Most of us, at any rate. We were very unlucky in the Basket Ball competition, being knocked out by IVCL in the semi-final.

One boy, when asked by a master 'how to amass knowledge' suddenly woke up and replied 'put it in cold water.' Some answer! What? We are surprised to learn that Swansea has got a new Mayor. His name is Mr. Mond, M.P. This was the reply given by a boy (name unknown) who hoped to enter our School.

"Where is our Cadet Corps?" Echo answers 'Where?' I believe the idea would take a strong hold on the School if we were to think seriously about forming one.

We offer Mr. Beanland our thanks for reviving the Fives Competition. It is a happy diversion from lessons.

Good luck to the boys who play the Grammar School in Fives! May they be victorious! X.Y.Z.

FORM IIA.

This term we have had a few good games of cricket in which we were successful, among our victims being Ic whom we beat by 37 to 15. Towards the end of the term we are going to have a picnic and (Food Controller and other circumstances permitting) we intend to spend a jolly day at Parkmill.

We were "knocked out" in the Basket Ball Tournament, but we have our representatives still in the Junior Fives Championship. Our Form Library has been a blessing to us during the year, and we wish to thank our worthy Form Master for instituting the Library, and all the boys who contributed the books (we have 109) to make it so successful. We hope that next year we shall be as well catered for in this respect.

E.C.W., S.M., H.M.,

FORM IIB.

The first day we entered IIB our master showed us the importance of unity amongst boys of the same form. The lesson has been well learnt, for at the end of the session we are more united than ever, and it is with mixed feelings that we look

forward to the coming year when we shall be separated into III_R, III_M, or III_A. A fair amount of attention has been given to sports. We beat III_M by 4 runs. In Basket Ball we defeated I_c, II_A, and II_R, thus coming into the semi-final, when we were defeated by IV_{CL}, a much heavier and more practised team. It is open to doubt whether we should have been beaten in this match had we had our full team (Cockle was absent through a sprained wrist).
R.A.

FORM II_R.

It is with much regret that we approach the end of a very joy and beneficial year. The thought that we shall be separated next year is almost unbearable, but let us hope that the large majority of us will meet in 3_r, and spend another year together. One genius on being asked for a sentence containing the word 'alone' as an adverb, replied 'The boy stood alone in the crowd' (laughter). One morning this term a member of our Form could hardly be recognised owing to the fact that his nose was a mass of cuts and bruises, which must have been very painful. We afterwards learnt that he had been trying a few gymnastics on his bicycle the previous night, and had suddenly found himself face to face with the ground.
B.O.

FORM I_A.

Undoubtedly our form is the best athletic form in the first year. We beat I_B by one goal to nil, and I_c by three goals to one, thus succeeding in getting into the Semi-Final of the Basket Ball Tournament. Alas, we got no further. During the term we also beat I_B in cricket, under the able leadership of R. Evans and G. Boyle.

J. K. L.

FORM I_B.

The end of the year brings with it a little sorrow, for it may part many of us from the good friends we have made during the year. We offer a hearty welcome to our new history master, Mr. Knight, and to our new fellow scholar, A. Watson from Penarth.

In the Basket-ball Competition we played I_A and lost, the score being one goal to nil. Our Captain, D. N. Beard nearly scored, but fortune deserted us, and the ball rolled out of the basket.
W.J.

FIVES TOURNAMENT.

This year has seen the revival of interest in the game of Fives, in the form of a Junior and Senior Tournament. As usual the game attracted much attention despite various energies expended in other directions. Entries were quite up to the average and play much better than in previous tournaments. The boys are indebted to Mr. Beanland and to the enthusiastic spectators for their support. All understood the game and appreciated good points in the play. Keen competition was shown throughout and it must be admitted that the standard of play was very high.

RESULTS—		JUNIORS.	
A	Cole } Solomon }	v.	{ D. Lewis 15—11 { Atkins 15—12
B	Curran } L. Ford }	v.	{ Boyle 15—7 { Charles 15—9
C	V. Davies } G. Evans }	v.	{ Cutcliffe 1—15 { W. Ford 8—15
D	Bodycombe } T. Rees }	v.	{ C. Lewis 15—11 { Bowen 15—9

Semi-Final.

Winners :—	A v. C	15—8	15—3	
	B v. D	12—15	15—7	15—9

Final	Cole } Solomon }	v.	{ Curran 15—13 { L. Ford 10—15 17—19
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SENIORS.

A	Barter } Roth }	v.	{ O. L. Jones 15—9 { E. Muxworthy 15—12
B	O. J. Owens } B. George }	v.	{ G. Gibbs 15—8 { Whyatt 23—21
C	W. Williams } E. Ball }	v.	{ T. O. Richards 15—5 { Bell 19—14
D	M. Lynn } J. Mason }	v.	{ R. Jelley 15—5 { C. Dickens 15—7

Semi-Final.

Winners :—	A v. D	7—15	9—15	
	B v. C	13—15	15 4	15 2

Final. Won by O. J. Owens and B. George after a very keen contest, the scores being 15—6, 15 7. O.J.O.

THE BASKET BALL COMPETITION.

Much interest has been taken by the School this year in the game of Basket Ball. Certain prominent Seniors seeing this, immediately organized a "knock-out" competition, in which a shield was offered to the team which came out victors in the Final Round. Every form in the school was represented in the competition. The Juniors entered under the following conditions :—

1.—That they should not be drawn against a Senior team until the Semi-Final.

2.—That if drawn against a Senior team in the Semi-Final they should be allowed to play seven players, while the Seniors had to play five.

The various matches were refereed by either Mr. Mendus, Mr. James, Mr. Williams, or Sergeant Bird. Some of the matches were very well fought out, others not so well.

The best match of the Competition was undoubtedly the Final, when IVcL managed to hold their unbroken record by defeating IVm (a very smart team) by 1 goal to nil. Thus IVcL are the first holders of the Shield. Only one match out of the eleven games played was drawn; it was between IA and Ic in the 1st Round. Each scored 3 goals and consequently, the match was replayed, IA running out victors by 2 goals to nil. The following table represents the various rounds of the Competition :—

1st Round.	2nd Round.	3rd Round.	Final.
3R 3 } 3A 1 }	3R 0 } 4Cl 4 }		
4Cl 3 } 3M 2 }	2B 5 } 2R 0 }	4Cl 7 } 2B 1 }	4Cl 1 } 4M 0 }
2B 3 } 2A 0 }	1A 1 } 1B 0 }	1A 1 } 4M 3 }	
1A 3 2* } 1C 3 0 }	4M 5 } V 3 }		

* replay.

T.D.G., IVcL.

COMING EVENTS CAST THEIR SHADOWS BEFORE.

I walked into the examination room, a little bit nervously, and settled down to try the Junior Oxford. The papers came round, and all the questions were as easy as ABC. I soon vanquished that first subject. I treated all the other subjects in the same manner, every question seemed so easy. History, I just looked at and turned my nose to the ceiling. "How easy" I said, "I cannot understand the Oxford Authorities giving such absurdly, silly, simple questions to US." By 4.15 I had finished all the papers and walked out, feeling quite pleased with myself. A few weeks later the results arrived. I came out with 1st Class Honours and distinctions in four subjects. Of course, my friends heartily congratulated me on my victory, and I replied to their remark "So you got through then?" with "Of course, what did you expect?" A bicycle was a reward for such distinguished success, and many minor things were added. My name was in the papers, and I can tell you I felt very elated to see my name in print. Of course, as I said at the beginning, the papers were very easy, and just to my taste. On Prize Day the Mayor was handing me a prize with the words "Well done my boy, here is a"—then I awoke. It had been all a rotten, hateful dream. This comes of a heavy supper and too much fagging. I have yet to go through the trying ordeal and the result—well, let's hope for the best.

J.T. IIIA.

THE SCHOOL ALLOTMENT.

The School, wishing to be patriotic, discussed the subject of taking an allotment and as the result of several meetings, a twenty perch allotment was taken. The "Allotees" of the various forms were placed under the charge of captains and vice-captains, and these were detailed to go up to the allotment during the Easter Holidays. Thus it was thought to have all the ground dug and limed by the end of the holidays. But many boys were more enthusiastic in theory than in practice, and sad to relate the attendance during the holidays was below expectations. Therefore during term much valuable schooltime had to be used in visiting the plot. However, by the beginning of May about 16 perches had been planted with potatoes and the remainder divided up among

the boys themselves, who have sown all manner of things,—carrots, parsnips, onions, cabbage, beans, lettuce, etc., and all these are to be seen on the allotment in profusion. (Weeds too are plentiful).

I am glad to say that the potatoes are progressing favourably and we hope to be able to devote a good sum of money to charity. A few boys of the IV and V have taken an allotment of their own (11 perches), and this has been dug and planted by a *few* of their noted company. This, like the school allotment had been allowed to run wild for three years, and was covered with a profusion of weeds, but these have now been removed owing to the energy and zeal of the noble *few*.

Thus on the whole the aspect of these allotments is very fine and it is much to the credit of the boys and Mr. Abraham (the director) that it is so. Soon the potatoes are going to be sprayed to prevent the produce from being diseased. In a future edition of the Magazine (if it is not dispensed with) I hope to announce that the result of our labours has been very gratifying.

KEN.

TO THE OXFORD CHAPS. (By one of 'em).

“ Once more into your desks, dear boys,
 Once more !
 To hereby sit the great O.J. exam.
 Hold up your heads.
 For he who hath the honour to o'ercome it
 Shall have his name put down in history.
 And when his jolly, youthful days are passed,
 He will look back upon those memorable days
 And slowly say,
 Upon that day I sat in III_R room
 And took the great O.J. exam.
 And overcame it.
 And as an honour I had my name put down in history.
 Long live those days ! ”

(With apologies to Shakespeare's Henry V)

A.E.S., IIIA.