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Deputy Headmaster:
MR. W. H. MARTIN, B.A.

Supervisor of Girls:
MISS E. P. GLAVIN, B.A., Dip. Ed.

Department of English:
MR. W. H. MARTIN, B.A. (Master); MR. T. H. QUINN, B.A.;
MR. J. F. STARLING, B.A.; MR. E. W. DUNLOP, M.A.;
MR. M. A. TROTTER, B.A.; MISS J. R. DYCE, B.A.

Department of Modern Languages:

Department of Classics:
MISS I. KEOGH, B.A.; MR. J. F. STARLING, B.A.

Department of Mathematics:
MR. L. P. JOHNSTON, B.Sc. (Master); MISS M. BIRSE, M.A.;

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MISS M. TAYLOR

Department of Music: MISS Z. SAMPSON


School Treasurer: MR. F. V. LITTLE

Sportsmaster: MR. R. J. LEARMOUTH

Sportsmistress: MISS E. P. GLAVIN

"The Burr":

Editor, MR. W. H. MARTIN; Sports Editors, MR. R. J. LEARMOUTH
and MISS E. P. GLAVIN; Business Managers, MR. F. V. LITTLE,
DON WIBURD, G. PHILLIPS

The Prefects:

Boys: D. BOYLE (Capt.), J. HOLMAN (Vice-Capt.), D. BLISS,
J. COLEMAN, R. HOBSON, F. ROUGHLIE, T. SNAPE,
K. VINCENT, T. WILLMOTT, D. WIBURD.

Girls: J. MATTHEWS (Capt.), M. JACOBS (Vice-Capt.), B. COX,
F. HEAP, M. HILL, T. HOLLIS, D. PAINE, P. PRATLEY,
S. TOOLE.

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BATHURST HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 1946

Editorial

What is our policy within the School—our "Domestic Policy"? Have we one, or do we wander blindly without realising that there must be some common ideal guiding our every action? Within the School it may be claimed that this policy is determined largely by the attitude of the Headmaster, the co-operation of the Staff, and the efficiency and inspiration of a group of prefects. There is much more to it than that. It is the conscious and unconscious product, under the inexorable law of cause and result, of the character, comradeship, and earnestness of all the members of the School community. It is reflected in a pride in school activities, a sense of loyalty to all endeavours to make school life cleaner, and better, and happier, because we are part of it. It appears in the willingness with which we face the daily task, and in the occasional sacrifice of time or convenience for the sake of the common well.

Our Domestic Policy sets the standards within the school; it decides the plane on which we shall act and think. Thus it is your business as well as that of the other fellow to assist in formulating a definite policy towards all those things that go to make school life. Tidiness of rooms, conduct in corridors, condition of school grounds, support of internal school clubs and organisations, the care and repair of commonly owned equipment, the ethics of conduct within the School precincts, the chivalry and courtesy revealed in our attitude towards our fellows, a respect for authority whether irksome or not, and a worthy sense of the dignity and essential nobility of life lived at its best;—these are some of the factors in a school's domestic policy.

And what is our "Foreign" Policy? No, it is not merely the aiming at success in public contests, whether they be contests in the academic or sporting spheres: it is much more than that, if it is worth having. Rather is it to be jealous of the honour of the School, which is a far nobler ideal than that of seeking the "bubble reputation" in defiance of the efforts of brilliant students or skilful opposing teams from other centres. In the world outside the school, our policy must be to guard the name of the School from destructive criticism, to defend and uphold it, and to be sure that no act of ours would sully it.

Each year we send a group of seniors into the world. They are our ambassadors, they, by word and action, will tell the outside community something of the place this School holds. From them, men will decide what is our real policy towards the community as a whole. The tradition of the "old school tie" was attacked only when the tie became soiled with snobbery and self-centredness. There is nothing unworthy about the tradition if the "tie" retains the freshness of innocent and earnest enthusiasm for the School and the success of the School in the community. If our "domestic policy" is a worthy one, worthily carried out, our "foreign policy" will reflect it and gain the sympathy and support of those earnest citizens who know the power of good that a High School can be in the community life of to-day and to-morrow.
SCHOOL NOTES

To try to cover the period between the last issue of "The Burr" in 1939 and that which appears this year, would be an impossible task. We make no attempt to do so; yet one event stands out as demanding special comment. After serving as Headmaster of the Bathurst High School for twelve years, Mr. A. D. Fraser left us at the close of 1944. His departure to take charge of the Mascot High School was made the occasion of very sincere and eulogistic tributes from the school community in particular and Bathurst in general. Mr. Fraser had become part of the tradition of the school. At the same time Mr. H. Stewart left us after seven years as Deputy Headmaster and Science Master. His transfer to Sydney High School was another break in a leadership which had brought success to our school. The change was still further accepted by the transfer of Mr. J. Williams, our English Master, to a similar position at the Parkes High School.

Thus the new year of 1945 brought Mr. F. H. Beard as Headmaster. Mr. Beard's coming was really the return of a former friend, for he had previously been Deputy Headmaster of Bathurst High School for several years. At the same time Mr. W. H. Martin arrived from Wollongong to fill the combined role of Deputy Headmaster and English Master, while Mr. J. Peace, fresh from the A.I.F., filled the vacant position of Science Master.

The year 1946 saw several changes of staff. Mr. Peace left us for the somewhat similar climate of Tamworth High School, while Miss E. Pepper was transferred to Hornsby Girls' High. Miss J. McGriff joined the staff of Lismore High, and Mr. Duffy went off to Goulburn High. During the year Miss A. Copleton preferred the state of matrimony to continued service in the Bathurst High School. She carries with her the good wishes of the whole school community.

Particular reference must be made to the retirement of Mr. E. Barnes at the beginning of this year. The school places on record its appreciation of the kindly personality and the earnest service of one who returned to the teaching ranks in response to the national needs during a time of war. May the days that lie ahead deal kindly with you, sir!

Thus 1946 saw our ranks further augmented by the arrival of Mr. J. Starling (A.I.F.), Mr. E. Dunlop (A.I.F.), Mr. S. Mackey (A.I.F.), Mr. M. Trotter (R.A.A.F.), Mr. L. Parry, Miss N. Leavers, Miss M. Levy, and Miss Z. Sampson. To these members of the staff we extend a hearty, if rather belated, welcome.

Our Opportunity Classes have seen many staff changes. Mr. F. Middenway (A.I.F.) lent us his earnest co-operation for several months and then transferred his allegiance to the Bathurst Primary School. Mr. McCarthy (A.I.F.) came to our relief for a few weeks. Mr. Sperring (A.I.F.) hardly waited to be introduced before leaving us, while Mr. F. Yardy (A.I.F.) decided that Cronulla had more attractions than Bathurst.

We were pleased to welcome Miss Keogh back after her prolonged illness, and trust that the future days may hold a greater measure of health and strength for the task of directing unwilling footsteps along the narrow pathway to success.

The close of 1945 was marked by a very successful Play Day. All classes were represented, and the plays reflected great credit on all concerned. Our First Year students figured in "The Sovereign Remedy" (1A), "The Knave of Hearts" (1B), "Nothing ever Happens" (1C), and "Great Aunt Jemima" (1D). Second Years appeared in "The Play that was Damned" (2A), "A Perfect Holiday" (2B), and "The Maid was in the Garden" (2C). Third Years portrayed "The Dumb Wife of Cheapside" (3A), and "Granny's a Hundred" (3C), while Fourth Year presented "Fright," and Fifth Year "The Thread O' Scarlet.

Five of these plays, those by Fifth Year: Fourth Year, 3C, 2B and 1A, were received with great enthusiasm at a special evening performance. After the evening show, Mr. G. Bruce, our local Inspector of Schools, awarded the laurels to Fifth Year for the best play; to Neville Wilde and Margot Hill as the best actors among the seniors, and to Ruth Robinson and Max Anderson as the finest performers among the juniors. We shall long remember this night as one marked not only by fine acting, but by efficient presentations under the most difficult of circumstances. Lighting restrictions banned our use of normal electrical facilities, but we came through successfully, thanks to the willing co-operation of many friends in arranging temporary lighting. The school owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Short, not only for his efficiency in preparing and arranging the stage effects and properties, but for his prompt and expert scene-shifting under great difficulties.

We offer our congratulations to Neil Lewins and Margot Hill on gaining Intermediate Bursaries from the examinations of 1945. We also congratulate Lawrence Willingham as this year's winner of the Bathurst Returned Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Memorial Scholarship. The award carries a grant of £30 a year for three years, subject to regular and punctual attendance, good conduct, and satisfactory progress in studies. The fund behind this scholarship was originally established by a number of citizens who each gave £100 as a thanksgiving offering at the end of the 1914-18 war. The late Norman E. Suttor gathered the sum of about £2,500, which was invested partly in cottages (now occupied by war veterans at a nominal rent), and partly in bonds. The rentals and interest provide the Scholarship fund, which has since been extended to assist the secondary studies of the children of returned servicemen of two wars.

The beginning of the year saw us overflow our main building and have to seek additional accommodation. The result was that our First Year Opportunity Class found temporary housing in the old Hovick Street School Building. Their surroundings were not ideal, but Mr. Middenway and I.F. soon made a cozy little "home" out of what appeared the most unpromising of materials and situations.

Our School Cadet Detachment is still very active. Because of a Departmental ruling that a member of staff should be in charge, Mr. Howard resigned his position as Commanding Officer. His services to the School Corps are here placed on record, and we thank him for his assistance and enthusiasm in the early stages of the movement. A presentation was made by the members of the detachment as a token of their respect and
esteem for Mr. Howard. Mr. Dunlop has now taken over the command, and the activities of the cadets continue with unabated vigour. Our budding marksmen are finding the rifle range a really thorough test of their former claims of prowess as sharp-shooters!

Early in the year the school extended a warm welcome to Mr. George Farwell, President of the Fellowship of Australian Writers. Mr. Farwell, who was visiting Bathurst in connection with the Henry Lawson Memorial at Mudgee, gave a most interesting address on Australian literature and its beginnings. He appealed to his listeners to attempt to write down their feelings about the world around them, as simply and sincerely as Lawson, Paterson, and other Australian writers had done. As Editor of 'Australian New Writing,' he was always on the lookout for new writers who had something to say. He hoped some of these writers might come from among the students of the Bathurst High School.

At the conclusion of Mr. Farwell's address, advantage was taken of the presence of Mr. Bruce, our District Inspector, to present swimming certificates to a number of our juniors. These had been awarded by the Bathurst Swimming Club to pupils who had been taught to swim during the vacation and who qualified by swimming twenty-five yards.

The success of our ex-students is always a source of pride and satisfaction. The visit of Horace Klowers gave rise to such feelings. His name appears on the Honour Roll of Leaving Certificate passes for 1933, and since then he has graduated from Sydney University, and taught in church schools in Queensland and Tasmania. Prior to his departure to join the staff of a Missionary College in New Guinea, he stood once more on the stage in the Assembly Hall, but on this occasion as guest-speaker. His informal chat on the days that were was much enjoyed, and we trust that the school took note of his advice to make the best possible use of present educational opportunities.

A most impressive ceremony marked our Anzac Day celebration. In accordance with school tradition, our senior girls prepared the wreaths which adorned the Honour Roll and were later transferred to join the city's tribute at the Memorial Carillon. The Headmaster briefly but inspiringly addressed the school on the importance of the occasion, and our duty to uphold the ideals for which not only the men of Anzac, but also those of World War II have so freely offered their lives. His words were made the more impressive by the united singing of 'O Valiant Heart' and 'The Recessional.' It was one of those occasions when the very simplicity of the tribute seemed to make it more sincere and moving.

At the General Assembly of the school, Inspector G. A. Lucas, of the Bathurst Police, presented prizes won by our representatives in an essay competition organised by the N.S.W. Police Force and the Bush Fire Advisory Committee. This essay competition, conducted annually by the Police Force, took as its subject the serious matter of bushfires and their prevention. The Bush Fire Advisory Committee decided to co-operate and present special prizes to the first three successful candidates.

Colin Martin gained first prize in the Junior division of the competition and also first prize presented by the Bush Fire Advisory Committee. Alex Churches gained first prize in the Senior division, and also second prize presented by the Bush Fire Advisory Committee. For the Police Essay Colin Martin received one guinea, and from the Bush Fire Advisory
July was "inspection month." The School witnessed the arrival of one of the biggest delegations of Departmental representatives in its history. Those present included Messrs. Stephens (English), Henderson (Classics), Murray (Modern Languages), Anderson (Mathematics), Gollan (Commercial Subjects), Hindmarsh (Agriculture), and Bruce (English). We are hoping they were suitably impressed with our industry, earnestness, and scholarship.

The full reports of our "Astley Cup" activities are featured on a later page. Here we record our congratulations to the winners of the various events, whether at Bathurst, Orange, or Dubbo. We commend, too, the whole spirit in which the contests were carried out, and the mutual respect and goodwill which characterised individuals and teams from the three schools concerned. Our congratulations go to Dubbo as winner of the Astley Cup and to Mungee as present holder of the Mulvey Cup, even while we promise them keen competition in the 1947 series.

The school pays tribute to the action of Dr. McMahon of St. Stanislaus' College, in agreeing to act as adjudicator for all three debates of the Mulvey Cup. It has always been desired that one adjudicator should judge all debates, thus ensuring a uniform standard throughout. Dr. McMahon's experience and advice have proved most valuable to all the teams concerned, and we render our appreciation of his courtesy and assistance.

The last week of second term was School Fete Week. The Fete was what one of our juniors irreverently called "a howling success." But there was more than noise and excitement—there was unqualified success. The proceeds amounted to over £166. Our thanks are due to the Ladies' Auxiliary of the P. and C., for their grand effort. Many hours of planning and hard work preceded the afternoon of the fête. Stallholders held special little functions to raise money for their stalls, sought donations and assistance from everywhere, and left no stone unturned that might hold the secret of success. Our thanks and congratulations go to Mrs. Holman and her band of gallant helpers. A few mere male members of the association assisted, but Mr. Browne and his earnest associates will forgive us if we forget the names of such persons as Messrs.Davey, Jones, Kneale and Payne, and give all the credit to the ladies!

The school, too, played its part, and a great quantity and variety of goods were brought in by our students. All rallied to the cause—parents, friends, scholars—and the empty stalls at the close of the day were a token of the damage done to pocket-money during the afternoon. We would thank, too, the Diggers' Club for lending stalls, and Rev. Father Dunne for allowing us to borrow his hoop-la table with which Fifth Year and their worthy chief did such great business.

An occasion we shall not forget readily was the visit of Madin Baliosici, the fuzz-wuzzy from New Guinea, who was a close friend of the late Governor-General of Australia, Sir Frederick Schouler, and who presented to us a collection of his books and photographs. Madin was most enthusiastic in his reception by the students, and we hope to have another visit from him in the future. This visit was much enjoyed by the students, and a collection was made to help towards the purchase of a book for Madin.

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war years. Nor was there any doubt of the sincerity and earnestness of his Christian beliefs. He was a living testimony, and a worthy one, of the good work done by our Missionaries among those so far from the centres of civilisation to-day.

The presentation of 'Twelfth Night' by the Independent Theatre Company was another 'red-letter' occasion of this year. Our thanks are due to C.E.M.A. for making the occasion possible. Third Year students are especially grateful for this opportunity to see the play 'live,' and to come to know the characters as living men and women who have stepped from the pages of Shakespeare never to return as mere 'lines' in a dreary text.

Our seniors were given a pleasant surprise on the following morning when Miss Fitten and the whole cast visited the school. It was great fun trying to identify them without the costume and make-up of the previous night. At the special request of Fourth Year, the players agreed to act the final scene of 'Twelfth Night' in the Assembly Hall, to the delight of Third Year. It was a performance without scenery, costumes or stage effects, but the imagination of those present soon transformed everyday clothes and a drab stage into the colour and glamour of the presentation of the previous evening.

The presence of surveyors in the school grounds during September raised great hopes. As these officers of the Government Works Department proceeded with their task, wild rumours spread that the new Technical College and Home Science block was on the way. Alas! the gentlemen concerned were merely taking levels and measurements in connection with the re-grading of the school grounds. Old hands cynically claim it has happened before, without visible result. Still we are hoping.

We congratulate the Ex-Students on the revival this year of the Old Students' Union. A report of its activities appears elsewhere in this journal, but here we remark what a tower of strength such an organisation can be. Our students as they leave us should become more and more cognisant of the debt they owe the school. The school, too, should be interested in the progress of its Ex-Students. Through the medium of an Old Students' Union, acting in close co-operation with the Headmaster, not only can the Ex-Student assist the school in many practical ways, but the bonds which united in former days can be still further strengthened.

The report of the P. and C. Association also appears on a later page. The school offers its earnest thanks to this small band of friends for all that has been achieved during the year. We would be dull of soul if we failed to appreciate the enthusiasm and hard work of the Association and especially of the Ladies' Auxiliary. Their ready response to every suggestion for school improvements has been most encouraging to the Headmaster, staff, and pupils.

This year the 'Food for Britain' appeal was stressed very definitely in the school when, in addition to contributions in the form of fats and tinned foodstuffs, the sum of over £19 was donated by the various classes. 2D had the honour of heading the list with £3/11/-. A sale of badges for 'Mother's Day' also brought in £2.10/-, which was duly forwarded to the Benevolent Society of N.S.W. for its work amongst mothers and babies.

---

THE BURR

As we go to press we are in possession of the report of the School Treasurer concerning the principal items of expenditure in 1945 and 1946. This covers moneys paid in fees to the Text Book Fund and School Union Fund, together with collections at school for special purposes. It does not, of course, include the activities of the P. and C. Association.

**Year 1945**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Textbooks purchased</td>
<td>£203.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texts, Maps, Music for Library</td>
<td>10.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Material</td>
<td>75.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathurst District Red Cross</td>
<td>41.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewart House Preventorium</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>£334.18</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Year 1946 (to September)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Textbooks</td>
<td>£139.14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Picture</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Periodicals</td>
<td>5.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duplicator Material</td>
<td>17.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Aid Material</td>
<td>2.64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sports Material</td>
<td>73.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Food for Britain'</td>
<td>19.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mothers' Day Collection</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiator for Sick Bay</td>
<td>2.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>£266.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In their desire to support the Bathurst Eisteddfod to the full, many students of the school entered individually for music and dancing sections. The School Union entered students for a number of items prepared at school. Among these the following prizes were gained:

- First Year Boys' Verse Speaking Choir  First Prize
- Second Year Girls' Verse Speaking Choir First Prize
- Second Year Boys' Verse Speaking Choir First Prize
- Impromptu Reading, Maurice Beard       Second Prize
- Shakespearean Recitation, Elaine Hill  Second Prize
- One-Act Play, Fourth Year Students    First Prize

To these students and to those who were successful in individual entries the school offers its hearty congratulations.
THE HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE

* * *

Dear Boys and Girls,—

I speak to you so often, at Assembly and over our Public Address System, that it seems strange to write to you. But I hope that what is said to you in "The Burr" will have a more lasting effect than what is spoken from day to day. That is the great value of the school magazine. I urge you to guard this first copy of our revised journal jealously, for its value will increase greatly as years go by. It will always remind you of happy associations, of work and play, of the serious moments of your early life and the humorous ones. In these two years, we have lived through momentous times. I shall never forget that I had the privilege of announcing to the school the end of the war in Europe, and, later, the war in the Pacific. Then there were the poignant moments when we assembled to pay tribute to President Roosevelt and Prime Minister John Curtin at their passing. Speech Days, Play Days, Sports Days, the various anniversaries we have celebrated together—these become part of your treasury of memories largely because they were spent together in the place that should, with your church and your home, have pride of place in your gallery of the past. The truth of all this will become increasingly clear to you as time goes on, and "The Burr" will be, I hope, a constant reminder of your old school.

Now, the message that I would give you is this: "Live your lives to the full." As Stevenson said, "Do noble deeds, not dream them all day long." I know that youth is a time of dreams. But it wants to be a time, too, of work and effort to make those dreams into realities. You remember those lines recited by our Verse-Speaking Choir at the Eisteddfod—"Ever just over the top of the next brown rise / I expect some wonderful thing to flatten my eyes"—

and again—

"At the crest of the hill I shall hail the new summits to climb. / The demand of my vision shall beggar the largeness of time, / For I know that, the higher I press, the wider I view. / The more's to be ventured and visioned in worlds that are new." / And the world that you are entering is indeed new! We have grown used, now, to speaking of the Atomic Age. Like many oft-used phrases, perhaps it has begun to lose its meaning. But to you, it must bring a great challenge. You will live your lives in a period when the power that Science gives men, for good or evil, has been increased a millionfold. But Science is not a living thing. It is the instrument of men and women—just ordinary men and women like us. Democracy means that the kind of world we are to have will be the reflection of the people in the world. That is why we teachers do our best to inspire you with ideals—ideals of what I might call human decency: of unselfishness, of consideration for others, of fair play, of public service. The opposite of those ideals plunged the world into World War II and had its ghastly end in the Nuremberg executions. But the drama that the Nazi leaders played on a world stage is still being acted on the smaller one of every-day life. You, as individuals, are to help in the kind of life that you will lead. One leads to happiness and usefulness; the other to destruction and waste. I appeal to you to join the idealists of the world, who try to live up to the motto of the Rotary Club, "Service before self." Don't listen to the pessimists, who tell you that we shall have another World War, that things must still drift, that happiness is unattainable. The world will be what you make it. Strive to make it better—and the first step is to make yourselves better—and you will be living up to our school motto, "Alitora Peto."

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LEAVING CERTIFICATE RESULTS 1945

* * *


MEEK, B. J.—English 1st Class Hons., Latin 1st Class Hons., French B, Hist. 2nd Class Hons., Chem. A.


* 2nd position in State in Latin.

INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE PASS LIST 1945

* * *

ALLEN, Lorraine M.

AMBROSE, Charles W.

APPLEBY, Joan A.

BAILEY, Delmiah B.

BANNFIELD, Wilmia Y.

BEARD, Maurice K.

BIDDINGTON, William

BOURKE, Peter G.

BRYANT, Eric W.

CLAREMOND, Barry J.

CLARK, Valencia D.

CLLEMENTS, Stuart J.

CONSTABLE, Leonard J.

COX, Susan C.

CRAIG, Judith

DAVIEY, Bert H.

DAWSON, Laurence H.

DIBBS, Helen J.

GODDARD, Arthur R.

GODDEN, Malcolm G.

GOODFELLOW, Faye C.

HAMMOND, Joy

HARRIS, Gweneth H.

HEARNE, Linda J.

HILL, Elaine E.

HILL, John H.

HILL, Margot M.

HOPPER, Barbara F.

HOWELL, Margaret M.

HUMPHRIES, Neville

INGERSOLO, Donald B.

JACKSON, Gloria M.

JUDD, June M.

KING, Olive I.

LARKY, John G.

LENTHALL, David J.

LEWINS, Neil D.

McGEE, Barry A.

McGUINN, Barry C.

MCKELLAR, Beryl D.

MACHIN, Colina A.

MACKIE, Robert J.

MORGAN, Dorothy

NEWMAN, Donald

O’ROURKE, Barbara M.

PATERSON, George F.

PHILLIPS, Geoffrey C.

PRATLEY, Pamela J.

PURCHASE, Betty H.

PURDON, Brian S.

REDDING, Keith J.

RICHARDSON, Marion A.

ROBINSON, Edward J.

SHANNON, Gloria M.

SHED, Martin R.

SIM, Jan McH.

STOCKS, Valerie M.

TOOLE, John W.

VIVIAN, Harry K.

WALKINGTON, Thelma M.

WEBB, Colin MacG.

WIBURD, Donald A.

WILLIAM, Margaret A.

WOLSTENHOLME, Arnold F.

WOLSTENHOLME, Mary L.

WOLSTENHOLME, Richard
PRIZE LIST 1945

Dux of Leaving Certificate 1944.—BEN MEEK.
Dux of Intermediate Certificate 1944.—NOLA PIPER.
School Captain 1945.—ROBERT SINCLAIR.
School Captain 1945.—BESSION GLASSON.
Social Service Prizes 1945.—JUNE MATTHEWS, DULCIE PAINE.
ROY HOBSON, JOHN CHRISTISON.
Fifth Year.—1. (Dux) NEVILLE WILDE (Lapin Prize).
2. BEN MEEK.
3. BESSION GLASSON (Lapin Prize).
Fourth Year.—1. (Dux) IRIS SCHOFIELD.
2. TOM WILLMOTT.
3. WILLIAM KINNAIRD.
Third Year.—1. (Dux) MARGOT HILL and MAURICE BEARD (equal).
3. NEIL LEWINS.
Proficiency Prizes: LORRAINE ALLEN, WILLIAM BIDDINGTON, PATRICIA MCGEE.
Second Year.—1. (Dux) PHYLLIS GILMORE.
2. COLIN MARTIN.
3. DONALD BLISS.
Proficiency Prize: VALERIE ARMSTRONG.
First Year.—1. (Dux) NORELLE LICKISS and PAM SHORT (eq.).
3. GRAHAME HARVEY.
Proficiency Prizes: RICHARD HORNE, PETER BEARDWOOD, HEATHER PAINE, STAN RUSH, TERRY CLARK.
Improvement Prize: ALLAN HOLLIS.

Special Awards:
The Margaret Stirling Cup: BESSION GLASSON
The Len Nixon Cup: KEVIN PIPER
The Ross Cup: DONALD TURNER

Health and Temperance Certificates:
ALEX CHURCHES, JUNE JUDD, ALMA PORTER, PETA BOURKE,
LORRAINE ALLEN, WILLIAM BIDDINGTON, ROBERT CAMPBELL,
GRAHAME HARVEY, NORELLE LICKISS, DUDLEY GIBSON,
JOHN MCDONALD, ALEX GRANT, ELAINE AUBIN, KATH KERR,
FRANCES HOLMAN, ALAN SPEARPOINT

* * *

THE FAIRIES’ BALL

* * *

The little bush fairies were holding a ball,
So they sent out a message by horn pixie call
To the King and the Queen and the Princesses three,
To dance with the elves neath the old gum tree.

So the King and the Queen and the Princesses three
Attended that night neath the old gum tree;
And danced off their heels in the open air ball
Till the sun coming up sent them home, one and all.

HELEN GALLOWAY, IA.

* * *

THE BURR

SPEECH DAY, 1945

* * *

SOME EXTRACTS FROM THE HEADMASTER’S REPORT

* * *

Drawing attention to some of the more pressing problems for the future, Mr. Beardsley declared that the classes in the junior school were too big. “If there is a time when a boy or girl needs nursing, it is when the transition to High School is made. It is a tremendous step. From a class with one teacher for a whole year, and where the same subjects move up smoothly from year to year, pupils are suddenly thrust into a completely new environment. Teachers change from period to period in a most perplexing way.

“Then, more than half the subjects are new—algebra, geometry, science, languages—and what a terrifying array they seem at first! No wonder that some of the bright primary pupils are swept off their feet and scarcely retain them for the first year. If we only had classes of thirty, we could make it so much easier over the bumps.

“It is for you, as citizens, to demand the spending of more money on education, the training of more teachers, the provision of more and better accommodation. As a nation we are lagging behind the world. Children are, to some measure, being denied their educational birthright. We are perpetuating makeshifts and accustoming ourselves to the second-best. Why? Because the people as a whole are not yet fully awake to the urgency of educational needs.

“Most of our problems, of course, are material ones. You have heard of them every Speech Day for years. We know the force of environment, and yet in many ways we have to retain a very drab one. I need not tell you about the High School grounds. The Department has given permission for us to have the boxthorn cleared away, but the beautification of the grounds is still waiting.

“We still long for the Technical and Home Science block adjoining this building, with classroom accommodation above them. The gymnasium is still as urgently needed as it was years ago, when plans for its construction were made. I really feel that Bathurst people as a whole are too easily satisfied in these matters.

“Then, finally, there is a task in which you could all assist. Mr. Fraser suggested it last year. It is the interior beautification of the School. This is already becoming an old building—the School itself is an old institution. Now old schools usually have many things round which sentiment can cling—beautiful pictures, various adornments, some curtained windows, some carpeted nooks with scholarly atmosphere. This School, to my mind, still looks new. It lacks the moss that grows in sheltered places. It has a great tradition; a wonderful army of young men and women have gone out ‘flashing to the heavens the good old blue and gold,’ some alas, never to return. I invite you to help turn this, their old School, into a place where tradition and memory will love to dwell.

“The results of the public examinations of 1944 show that the level of scholarship in the School stands high. Of 20 who sat for the Leaving last year, 18 passed, and the other two were ‘near misses.’ Some fine passes were gained, outstanding being those of Ben Meek and Kevin Piper.

“At the Intermediate, 52 out of 54 passed, many of them in all sub-
jects. No longer can we talk of 'A' and 'B' passes at this examination. As you are probably aware, it has been considerably reformed. Some teachers would say that is hardly the right word, but I really believe it is. The reduction of the examination pressure here is a good thing. Candidates now take three subjects only externally, and their pass in the others depends on their school record over the three years. This puts a premium on steady work throughout and reduces the accidental factor, which always operates in a single examination. Moreover, it gives more weight to the opinion of those who know the pupils best and are best able to judge— the individual teachers.

"Before leaving the subject of last year’s examinations, it is pleasing to be able to report that those who went through the School are now well in the way to positions in which they can repay to the School in public service something of what it gave them in education. K. Ison, B. Hill, Y. Elliott, S. Demont, J. Goodfellow and I. Mowbray won Teachers’ College Scholarships; R. Johnson a Scholarship to the Conservatorium of Music; H. Mulvey has proceeded to the University, while B. Meek, after winning a University Exhibition, and K. Piper and N. Wilde Teachers’ College Scholarships, elected to repeat Fifth Year and are still with us."

"To-day’s prize lists show that we have fine scholars coming on to take the place of our seniors as they leave. But the success of the School is to be measured not so much by the brilliant pupil as by the mediocre one—the steady plodder—who is gaining an appreciation of the better things of life, some glimpses into the world of mind, and habits of work and reliability and tolerance, that will make him a good citizen and a good neighbour in a world that desperately needs more neighbourliness."

"The Community Singing Period has been introduced again, not because the students do not get a fine musical training from Mrs. McGuffie, but because I am a firm believer in the value of such assemblies to develop school spirit as well as a love of old songs. The choir, which derived benefits from these communal efforts, had certainly done fine work, and won great praise at the C.E.M.A. Festival last October."

"An innovation during the year was the establishment of a Senior Cadet Detachment, popular with boys over fourteen. Not only does this foster a sense of public duty but it increases smartness, improves health and deportment and provides training for leadership. At a non-commissioned officers’ camp in the September holidays our lads received much praise from the instructors; many of them gained ‘stripes’ while two boys have been selected to attend a school for potential officers. Mr. Howard is O.C., and Sergeant Woolley the permanent instructor."

"Vocational guidance was continued throughout the year by the School’s Careers’ Advisers, Miss I. Keogh and Mr. T. Quinn. In addition the School received a visit from a Department of Youth Welfare psychologist, who tested twenty-five students likely to leave school, and advised them on the choice of a career. The School has much valuable information about its boys and girls. It is a pity that more prospective employers do not realise this and get in touch with the School when requiring boys and girls. Too many still drift into unsuitable and dead-end positions, in spite of all our vocational guidance. It is those who leave from Second and Third years who are in danger of having their education wasted and their lives ruined by unwise choice."
THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

We offer our heartiest thanks to the P. and C. Association and the School Union for their generous financial support of the Library throughout the very difficult years of the war.

Value of Books added 14/6/45 - 30/9/46

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<td>School Union</td>
<td>14 7 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magazine Subscription (paid by School Union)</td>
<td>5 17 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated Value of Donations</td>
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<tr>
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Allotted thus

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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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This has enabled us to add considerably to our resources during the last fifteen months.

Present Position

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The Library policy has been to build up a Reference Section to assist pupils in their studies, and a Fiction Section for recreational reading.

In the Reference Section the aim has been to provide a bibliography suitable to the various subjects of the school courses that will encourage follow-up reading and individually directed study. The progressive outlook for example, in the new Geography Syllabus and the English Honours Syllabus make a fully up-to-date Library essential, though it is difficult and expensive to obtain much of the material in book form.

The magazine section, containing current issues of such magazines as "The National Geographic," "Walkabout," "Digest," "Strand" and "Pictorial Education," serve a useful purpose in this regard.

In the Fiction section the principle of selection is good sound recreational reading, with an enduring value in encouraging discrimination in reading.

The school response to these objectives has been good. At lunch hour our setting is more than comfortably filled, and a stream of borrowers awaits attention at mid-day and frequently after school each Monday and Tuesday.

Individual students come for guidance and help in preparing debates, class lectures, essays, talks on current affairs. In this work of individual preparation of subjects the Library offers every help by way of reading lists, subject index and the patient assistance of the Librarian.

In the success attending this branch of our work the Library is fulfilling its highest purpose and becoming the Mecca of student life in the School.

K. G. TEALE, Librarian.

A NIGHT IN A CEMETERY

The wind swept across the desolate plot of ground dotted here and there with a white headstone or the marble of a tomb, and lit up occasion-ally by a flash of lightning. Already thunder boomed ominously overhead. The cemetery was deserted in that strange calm which precedes a storm: and the eeriness of death hung heavily over all.

Suddenly out of the night emerged a covered truck, but instead of passing, it turned off the road near the cemetery entrance. In a few moments it had been driven into a clump of trees almost as if its occupants did not wish their presence to be known. As the next flash of lightning pierced the darkness two occupants jumped from the truck and, opening the rear doors, dragged forth a coffin-shaped box from its interior. Soon they were inside the gates and hurrying toward the centre of the graveyard, two ghostly figures with their coats flapping in the wind, casting furtive glances from side to side. Between them they carried the box, just large enough to contain the body of a man. Although no other living person was about, they seemed fearful lest even the spirits of the dead should see what they were about to do.

Obviously their crime had been premeditated, for without hesitation they came to a large grave and placed their burden down beside it. One of the two made a few hasty measurements: then they were seen to bend over the box as the first drops of rain commenced to fall. The lid was raised at the same moment as the lightning struck; it seemed that heaven itself had learned what was in that box. The figures drew forth a pick and shovel and hastily began to dig. Thunder rolled above, and the rain increased as a rectangular hole began to appear in the soft earth. Each man working feverishly as though his whole existence depended upon the outcome of the venture. The storm became more violent; rain, whipped along by the wind, lashed the tombstones round about, but the diggers continued.

Once a loud crash was heard nearby; both men looked up from their work with startled expressions. They were just in time to see an old yew tree, struck by the lightning, fall on to a vault in another section of the cemetery. Nature was attempting to instil fear into the hearts of the men and to prevent this desecration of holy ground. Suddenly they struck something with an implement. The sound given forth was almost audible above the noise of the storm. One figure jumped from the hole, handed another tool from the box to the other, and then watched him as he swung it at something in the bottom of the grave.

The storm began to abate and seemed to be passing over towards the large town in the east. The two living occupants of the graveyard had obviously not carried out their labours in vain, for the one in the grave hurriedly passed something up to his confederate who immediately placed it in the box. The other leaped from the grave with an air of triumph, put the tools in the box and assisted in closing the lid. Then the two figures, their clothes soaked by the downpour, set off, forgetting even to fill in the hole in their haste to be off. The lightning flashes were now less frequent, the peals of thunder receded in the distance, but as yet the wind had not dropped. Soon out of the cemetery and back in the truck with
their box safely stowed behind, the men made away as fast as possible.

The grave diggers of "Quality Funerals Pty. Ltd." had completed a grave in time for that funeral at daybreak next morning!  "ELIA," 5A.

THE MARBLE AND LIMESTONE QUARRIES

There are two quarries, one situated at Cow Flat and the other at Caloola. Both quarries are about seven miles from George's Plains. These quarries employ about fourteen men. Some of the men travel to and from Bathurst each day, while some camp at the quarries, and others live at George's Plains. During the war years the Caloola Quarry has been closed, owing to the manpower shortage, but it is due to open again very soon.

My father has a contract for transporting all the limestone to the factory at George's Plains. Every morning he leaves George's Plains at seven o'clock and takes the men to work. The roads to the quarry are very rough.

First of all a machine is used for boring deep holes into the face of the limestone or marble, and then it is loaded with explosives, which are lit by a fuse. At times twenty or thirty tons are blown out by one shot. Some of it is too large to be broken with a hammer, and has to be bored and loaded with explosives again so that it can be handled more easily. The stone is broken up with fourteen-pound sledge hammers, and then it is cleaned, because all stone must be white. The limestone is then loaded on the motor lorries, which transport it to the factory for crushing. This plant is worked entirely by electricity.

Four men work at the factory where the stone is crushed. It is then elevated up into a grader which grades the limestone into four different sizes. Each size goes into a separate bin. It is then bagged, each bag being marked with its own grade. One of these bags usually weighs about one hundredweight.

The bags are taken to the railway station by motor trucks and are sent by rail to different States in Australia. The average railway truck holds fifteen tons. Some of the stone becomes terrazo marble, which is used for the making of sinks, steps, graves etc. Even the fine dust goes into the making of "Aspros" and paint.

There is a Soldiers' Memorial dedicated to the soldiers of the last war, in Hyde Park, Sydney, which is made from the marble blocks from the Caloola Marble Quarry.

DAPHNE CHEW, 2B.

A STORM

The wind was an angry torrent
That swept the cloudy seas;
The night was a herald of darkness
That sheltered among the trees.

The creek was a ribbon of darkness
That tossed and turned and rolled;
Then through the turmoil of blackness
A tumult of thunder tolled.

The rain then came like an army
That battered and banked and tore:
Then hush! the rain had ceased—
The sky was still once more.

TRUDA HOLLIS.

AUSTRALIA

Australia is my birthplace:
I love her dearly, too—
With her golden wattle growing,
And her skies and lakes so blue:
I love her hills and mountains,
Her swaying gum trees tall,
Her scenes, and birds, and fountains—
Oh! I love them all!

MIRIAM WILLIAMS, 1A.
JUNGLE REVERIE

On a sandy beach, somewhere in New Guinea, a lone Australian soldier paced restlessly up and down, a rifle slung over his shoulder. His mind was not concentrated on his duty, but rather it was deep in thought on other matters. Resolutely he halted, then moved towards a beach palm, against which he leaned, and wiped the sweat from his brow. He cursed the burning jungle night and the nocturnal insects, then closed his eyes, relaxed his tired body, and began thinking, thinking... 

His thoughts flew to a place thousands of miles away—home, to a silver-haired mother, and to a gay sweetheart. He suddenly felt quite homesick and afraid—a stranger in a strange country—and he longed to return to his loved ones. Instinctively his hand felt the pocket containing the letter written to his mother that afternoon. But it was a false letter; it was carefree and gay, and told of a contented spirit; it expressed no love, no homesickness, no fear. Could his dear ones, he thought, have understood his present feelings: would they read between the lines and find there an aching heart crying out for companionship and love? Is a bitter, disillusioned man longing for his homeland? No; these things were better left unspoken and unrevealed. Could he forget that gnawing at his heart, that feeling of wanting to run away from it all? Yes, he admitted it—he was a coward. He felt just like a small boy awakening from a nightmare to find himself alone and in the darkness. He sought comfort: his heart was heavy and he wanted to cry—to confide his feelings to some understanding persons. He wanted to get away from all this butchery, this insanity and this bloodshed... Feverishly, he ran his lean brown fingers through his hair, straightened up, laughed hoarsely and commenced his patrolling once more. As he did so, his mind cleared, his hysterical mood passed, and he gradually became aware of his surroundings. As he gathered his thoughts together, with a saner mind, he became conscious for the first time of the beauty around him. A gentle, soothing breeze sighed through the thick jungle trees and cooled his fevered brow; the distant cry of a jungle bird echoed through the stillness of the air; bright stars winked in a friendly manner out of a clear sky, like sequins on a black evening gown; and beyond the soldier, the silvery waves of the Pacific rippled softly on to the beach, softly caressing the yellow sand. These indeed made a picture "no artist ever could paint."

Then the young soldier was greatly humbled by the wonderful scene, and paused for a while, awestruck by the surrounding beauty, while a few yards away laughter from the camp, and the sweet strains of a haunting melody added reality to the scene. The sound of laughter reminded him of his comrades, and of his duty on that beach. His thoughts once more turned to war, to chaos, and he was a little shocked by the contrast of this serenity and the battlefield. The gaiety reminded him of what he was there for. He wondered how his comrades could be so carefree and gay, not caring what unhappiness tomorrow would bring. They seemed to be living for every moment. Tomorrow, some would be killed, some injured, some battle scarred for life—these laughing men... but who cared? There was no time for sorrow in warfare—that came afterwards. They would all still go on fighting to the last man, to the last bit of ammunition, to secure freedom. 

A famous leader had recently said, "We shall fight on the land, on the sea and in the air, whatever the cost"... Whatever the cost... He slowly lifted his face heavenwards and silently thanked God that he had so far been spared, and prayed earnestly that peace might soon be given to him and his fellow-men. He prayed that he might soon return home to his loved ones and forget all this horrid butchery and bloodshed. All he wanted was peace.

A nearby noise stirred him from this reverie. The jungle became alert, and the young soldier stood tense as his eyes searched the darkness. A shot rang out, and a leering yellow face emerged from the jungle. The soft sand was red with blood, and death stirred on this silent scene. The young soldier was at last going home; he had found the peace he wanted, and there were only the rippling waves and the sighing breeze to carry his thoughts away.

JUNE MATTHEWS, 5A.

SHIRTS

Shirts! The very word sends a shiver of dread down my spine as I recall those past school-days. Only he who has suffered such privations as were mine will understand. I used never to wear a tie to school, but, as usual, there is a perfectly natural explanation. My shirts were either too small or too big. I was one of those unfortunate who had both a father and a—at least, I thought a—big brother! How this disadvantageous state of affairs came about no one knows—but the fact still stands. As my father grew older, his shirts would not fit him, and we passed them on to me. But so big were they that I could wear no tie with them and thus was forced, whilst wearing big brother's ex-shirts, to go without that adornment.

Then again, strange as the fact may seem, in those days of long ago I also had some shirts of my own. But at such a rapid rate did I grow that sooner or later I had to wear them, and (no matter how strong the neck-button) I was forced never to be seen in public with a tie on—thank God, when wearing my own shirts, Ah! how can you sympathise, you who have never known this? To be afraid to take off one's coat on a boiling hot day lest some teacher should ask why one had buttons on the sleeves of a short-sleeved shirt. How can you realise my feelings when, while doing P.T. I heard a sickening rip, and saw my friends—hoping for some fun—glancing at the seat of my trousers, when all the time the shirt that I wore to my christening was the offending article!

My father also had some shirts which I inherited, and since his birth was somewhat greater than my own, I was always in fear and trembling lest some one should notice the spare amount of cloth, and, taking it for a skirt, condemn me forthwith to sit among the opposite sex. Still, father's shirts were a little better than the rest, for I could at least wear a tie—after hiring one for three shillings and sixpence from that ever-present big brother.

The sight of a patch also brings to memory those days when I watched the tails of my shirts gradually being used up so that my mother might have material for her favourite hobby—patching! I can recall at least a dozen "passed on" shirts which, as soon as I took off my coat, dazzled the eye with the variety of patterns used to cover signs of wear and tear in those dear days gone by.

And yet I survived it all, and when, on my last birthday, I was duly presented with a new shirt, my big brother claimed it in recompense for the time he had spent searching Sydney for it. The result is, as I write this, I have what to all appearances seems to be an open-necked shirt. But my friends, do not be deceived, for it ends half an inch under my pullover!

C.M., 3AB.
OUR SCHOOL STATION — "C.C.C."

(Note: This topic was the subject of many articles for "The Burr." In some the style was too heavily didactic, in others the sense of humour was weirdly distorted, while a few were "dull, stale, flat and unprofitable." This represents the result gained by boiling them all together for three hours and examining the residue.)

One of the latest aids to education is the Public Address System. Bathurst High School is very fortunate that its P. and C. Association is sufficiently alive to the modern trend to realise the latent possibilities of such an adjunct to our school work. Several years have passed since the installation was decided upon, but during the war period shortage of equipment and the difficulty of securing the services of those able to carry out the necessary work proved an almost insurmountable barrier.

At last after many false alarms, we were delighted early this year to see the engineers at work actually placing amplifiers in the various rooms. The principle of the equipment did not prove difficult to understand. The master set is situated in the office. It consists of a dual wave wireless receiving set, side by side with amplifying equipment which enables the session to be heard in all rooms. In addition a turn-table is provided with a pick-up device so that gramophone records may be amplified also. A microphone attachment permits the "office" to speak to any or every room in the school. The array of switches (which "cut out" or "bring in" the various rooms) fascinates students at first, since they would love the privilege of playing with them, though they realise that familiarity lessens novelty and they soon would prefer to speak to all rooms rather than delay to cut out the rooms which the notice does not affect.

A further extension of the system permits the microphone to be carried into the hall and used on the stage for public gatherings. It has proved a wonderful asset, permitting speakers to be heard with ease at the back of the hall, and contributing in no small measure to the success of many assemblies.

By means of the equipment, recorded music is broadcast throughout the corridors and rooms for the five-minute period preceding the commencement of lesson sessions. During this period students steal on noiseless (?) feet to their respective places to the accompaniment of excellent and varied musical programmes. For the records used, the School is indebted to the generosity of Mr. Eric Sargeant, who through the agency of Max Ingersoll, has made available selections from his own fine collection. Our thanks are extended to Mr. Sargeant for this further sign of his interest in the School.

We trust that our students will remain "sound-conscious" and not lack an appreciation of worthy music played as a preparation for the stern duties of the day.

The avoidance of long periods of waiting in the biting winds on the Assembly Ground in winter is much appreciated by all, and the new system promises a speedy and effective means of conveying general instructions to the School at large.

After the luncheon recess each day except Wednesday, opportunity is taken for a ten-minute discussion of current affairs. In the main the Headmaster is the commentator, though on a Tuesday Mr. Martin is at the microphone and Friday is generally "Quiz-Day."

Much interest has been shown in the reactions of members of staff and of pupils on those occasions when announcements reach classrooms "over the air." As this is a semi-official publication we draw a kindly veil over this aspect of our domestic life—but still there have been some enjoyable and worth-experiencing moments. We shall always remember it as the one device that can successfully "talk" a teacher into silence!

Of course there could not be a broadcasting station without a call-sign. Hence the Bathurst High School has become "C.C.C.,” where the three consonants stand for “Courtesy, Consideration and Co-operation.” This is the moral lesson to be remembered each time its echo reaches a classroom.

THE BROOK

The brook, like a ribbon,
Comes down from the mountains,
Singing and chuckling with infinite glee.
Over the stones with a ripple of laughter,
Whirling and eddying, on to the sea.
The brook, never weary.
Flows on down the mountains.

Mingling its songs with the feathered birds’ trills,
Skipping and sliding through narrow rock ridges:
Tumbling in cascades down steep, verdant hills.
How sweet is the brook
As it tumbles down mountains:
How clear are its waters, how sweet is its song
As it slips over stones with a ripple of laughter,
Whirling and eddying, ever along.

JUDY MONAGHAN, 2A.
STUDY

I collect my books, arrange them in a neat pile along the table, and sit down before them. I scan the rows and decide to catch up on a bit of Caesar.

Now Caesar has a style of writing that I don't think much of, and with that radio personality, Jack Davey, blaring in my ear, it seems even dullest. The parts of a verb dwindle into insignificance, and my attention wanders. Finally, Caesar gives up the unequal battle and my attention speedily deserts him for more pleasant occupations. I listen peacefully for a while, until Dad realises that I am not giving full attention to my study, and clicks off the wireless. I stare at the pages for a while, read through a few words and am stuck. A thorough search reveals no translation, and as I can't translate without a translation I decide to do some English.

The English isn't hard; all I have to do is find the meaning of some words and write it down. As I flick over the pages I catch sight of a word that looks interesting and I just have to turn back and find out what it means. This takes a very long while, and by the time I have looked up five words it is rather late. I can't find a blotter so I close my book and throw it among the debris of my once neat pile. Shakespeare comes next. As I read it over, my thoughts wander to the night I saw it played.

All the rest of my study is work to learn off by heart, so I decide I had better get up in the morning and learn it while my mind is fresh. And so, to bed.

RUTH KERR, 3AB.

EISTEDDFOD SINGING

If you want to sing in an Eisteddfod, the first thing to do is to join a choir; that is, unless you feel like singing solo. Personally, I advise all ambitious fog-horns to join a choir. It does not sound so bad then, as you can always sing third part. If you can't keep the tune, wait until the person next to you can, then imitate her to the best of your ability. You practice at home as well as at school, of course, though practising at home proves dangerous after a week or so.

At last you find yourself trotting miserably "back-stage" together with hapless fellow choir members. Milling around you are members of other competing choirs, looking at once both superior and important, and trying to look bored because they consider it more dignified. The members of your own choir are either occupied in trying to find a gap in the scenery through which to peep into the hall, or are huddled in miserable groups. Some describe which nerve is jittering most, while the more experienced ones are looking down their noses as they declare they are not at all nervous.

Finally you are on the stage facing an expectant audience. Your friends and relations have sickly, irritating grins on their countenances, and you yourself feel like a guilty criminal. Your starting note is, of course, quite wrong, and for the rest of the ordeal you alternately squeak like a wheezy mouse and bellow like a cow in agony. At last it is over, and after what seems an age, you climb thankfully down off the stage. The judge passes sentence and you have been acquitted!

PAM SHORT, 2A.

THE BURR

"THE ALEXANDER"

The dull red paint peeling off her, the old dismantled boat lay with her nose lying in the shallow water. She had once been a fine medium-sized launch, but now she was almost a skeleton.

The children often climbed over her rotten stern and played in her dilapidated cabin. Mostly they played pirates and dressed themselves in brightly coloured rags, with sharpened sticks for cutlasses. Many were the battles in which they were engaged. Peter, the youngest, was usually chosen to be the captive, in which case he was tightly bound with scarves.

Mary usually had to take off her shoes and pretend to fall overboard so that Leon, the hero, could rescue her and restore her to consciousness.

On these occasions the old craft rumbled with the clash of cutlasses, with shouts of 'Bind him fast in the cabin,' and with stanzas of a bloodthirsty pirates' song.

On stormy nights the wind whistled through her ribs and out at the open spaces where windows once were, while the water lapped around her bow and sometimes covered her deck.

Shading her was a quaintly grated tree whose kind arms held the ropes which fastened her. On her bow was painted in faded blue and gold, the name 'Alexander.'

In autumn the tree carpeted the "Alexander's" floor with yellow and red leaves.

But when the holidays ended, the old launch was left to herself, and lived through serious storms in winter, and played zephyrs in summer, while her nose generally rocked in rhythm with the lapping water and the waves reverberated with the trills of the feathered songsters in the taiga and the old tree which shaded her naked ribs and cast its shadow on the crystal waters.

So will the 'Alexander' lie until her rotting sides fall away and till her bow, baked by the sun and weathered by the rain, crumbles under the feet of those ferocious pirates who board her in holiday time.

JUDY MONAGHAN, 2A.

NIGHT

The silhouette of fingers in the gloom of trees stripped of their verdant foliage by winter's infiltration;

The piercing eyes of cars stabbing through silver haze; silent wisps of cloud diffusing the clear light of stars behind.

While the moon, ever-watchful lantern, guardian of our terrestrial sphere, plays aimlessly with fleeting shadows.

A crisp, cool zephyr glides innocently over the grass, flashing into sight innumerable dew pearls sparkling elusively.

A deep sigh, throughout the earth, of gratitude sublime for everlasting, tranquil silence.
MULVEY CUP TEAM
Back Row: T. Roughley, J. Holman, M. Beard.
Front Row: M. Hill, Mr. F. H. Beard, J. Matthews.

SPRINGTIME

The world had been cold and dreary, the trees bare of leaves, and the lawns brown and dead-looking. Gradually as the days lengthened, anyone could see that Springtime was approaching. Soon the world would be full of beauty—beauty that nature herself would send to clothe the world in dazzling shades.

At last Spring came, filling the world with joy. The flowers were putting on their new frocks, making themselves look fresh and dainty. Lawns turned from brown to emerald green, clothing the earth with a huge carpet that protected it from the rays of the sun. The tall, slender trees waved their graceful arms about, sending down a cool refreshing breeze to the people below. The goldfish swam joyfully around in the ponds, playing hide-and-seek among the reeds. The birds were making their nests in order to bring their pretty young fledglings into the world. Others were singing their gayest songs, making the whole world happy.

Soon Summer would come, bringing the scorching hot days that would burn this beauty. Bushfires and droughts would leave a trail of sorrow and desolation where now was happiness and beauty.

DOREEN STOCKS, 1B.

THUNDERBOLT ROCK

To travellers along the New England Highway from Uralla to Tamworth, a high pile of rocks on the side of the road means little. Only local residents know that the rock sheltered one of the most notorious bushrangers in Australia. Within the gloomy passages among the rocks, Frederick Ward, otherwise known as “Thunderbolt,” had his hide-out.

In September 1863, Ward escaped from imprisonment on Cockatoo Island, to which he was sentenced for having in his possession stolen cattle. His chapter as a bushranger opened when a reward of £25 was offered for his capture.

He was not heard of until a few months later when he began to make a name for himself as a bushranger in the New England.

Two facts are remembered with the other tales of Thunderbolt—his courtesy to women, and his kindness to the poor.

Ward preferred to work single-handed, and only two accomplices are mentioned in records of his exploits—a half-caste aborigine and a young “apprentice,” Mason.

Thunderbolt, for almost seven years, terrorised the northern mailmen. His skill in rifling bags and holding up drivers was amazing.

There were times when he had narrow escapes from police, only the fact that his horsemanship was excellent and his horses pure-blooded and bred saving him from captivity. Because of his exploits, business of all kinds suffered considerably in New England. After a long series of hold-ups, ending with the robbery of the Tamworth-Singleton mail, the reward for his capture was raised to £200.

In May, 1870, his career came to a close at Blanche’s Inn, three miles from Uralla, following reports of a hawk that Thunderbolt was in the district.

Two constables, Mulhall and Walker, set out from the Inn. Walker was responsible for the death of Ward, nearly losing his own life in the chase.

The final encounter was in Kentucky Creek, where Walker, on entering the water, was fired at by Ward. The constable fired his last shot and it reached its mark, so ending the life of a man whose career was one of lawlessness. Ward’s name is remembered, even revered, throughout New England.

His grave is in the Uralla cemetery.

NED KELLY, 4A.

AURORA

I wonder how many people saw the “aurora” last Sunday night! When I first saw it, I could scarcely believe my eyes. At first, it appeared like the glow of a tremendous bushfire far to the south, but gradually it grew brighter and brighter as pale flashes of blue and white could be seen streaming upwards.

It seemed like a red-gold vapour hanging on the horizon, and in it the stars gleamed with a softer light. A cloud stood out black and gaunt against the brightness of the sky.

Named after the Goddess of the Dawn, this “Aurora Australis” looked very like a sunrise just before the sun appears over the mountains, save that the background was black and wintry instead of pearly-grey and blue.

It lasted only a few minutes, and then vanished as slowly as it had come, until there was but a faint, rosy tint in the sky.

ELAINE AUBIN, 3AB.
THESE DAYS

* * * * *

These are the days of thoughtfulness:
Days when we should acquire
A feeling of grave discontent,
And to higher things should aspire.
These are the days of weariness:
Days when we so much need
Rest from the world's great evils
Of war, and hate, and greed.
These are the days of loneliness:
Days when we seek new friends
To compensate for sorrows
Which time so slowly mends.
These are the days of loveliness:
Days when we should admire
The beauty of nature around us,
And all that our souls should inspire.
These are the days of happiness:
Days when the children should say,
"Let us be jovial and merry;
Life should be sunshine and play!"
These are the days of thankfulness:
Days when we should give praise
To those who have given their utmost
To bring us these peaceful days.
These are the days of consciousness:
Days when we should be alive
To the myriad tasks that confront us:
Days when we must work and strive.
These are the days of peacefulness:
Days when we all must be
Fitting ourselves for the future,
And the years of tranquillity.

DOUG. BLISS.

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DISCONTENT AS A MOTIVE FOR PROGRESS

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Contentment—what a glorious thing! Yet, when we consider it carefully, it is a very useless sort of quality. Few people are really content, and these are the people to blame for retarding progress. From the earliest times, man has been steadily climbing up hill—slowly but surely. What has been the cause of this progress? It can be attributed to several factors, the foremost being necessity and discontent.

PrIMITIVE man, no doubt, became discontented at having to live in the one place, and so commenced to travel. In time, I suppose, he became discontented at having to walk everywhere, and so the idea of using beasts of burden was born. So, bred from discontent, progress has been achieved.

It is all very well to know what part discontent has played in the past, but what is more important is what part it will play in the future. At present, contentment is one of the greatest evils, and unless there is the spirit of discontent in the people, what progress is going to be made? Many problems face Australia and the world to-day. In our own cities we have the great problems concerning social reform. If anything is to be done about slums, for instance, the person who sits by the fire in his magnificent mansion and says "I am content," has got to receive a rude awakening.

After all, this spirit of discontent is only the spirit which prevailed in the reformers throughout the ages. From Christ right down to the present day reformers, discontent has been the guiding principle of their lives. To make a peace which will last, people will have to stop saying "Things have been all right so far; let them be," and instead say, "Things are no good as they are; we are discontented; we want a better world, and we'll do our utmost for it."

If a person is really discontented he will lose himself in his cause and not be satisfied until he has reached his goal. In this way, discontent is very much like ambition, and surely everyone realises the importance of ambition. Bacon, writing in Shakespeare's time, points out the danger of ambition, since a man, if he cannot obtain his ambition, becomes dangerous to state, but to-day, in the age of democracy, the evil which comes from discontent is far outweighed by its good.

So the spirit of discontent has led to progress through the ages, and, for the future benefit of mankind, discontent must be a very potent force.

M. K. BEARD, 4A.

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THE LIGHTS

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The darkness came over the edge of the sun, and the daylight retreated behind the distant hills. In the harbour, life seemed extinct. Even the shadows were shrouded in darkness and only the lights remained. The Fleet was unseen except for the scuttle's gleam. The phosphorescent gleam as their bows cut the still waters of the harbour betrayed picket boats as they travelled on patrol.

Far above the world a brilliant star appeared and winked at the sea and land. Other stars of lesser brilliance also appeared and watched attentively, winking all the time.

Suddenly a light flashed from the Flagship below as if it sent messages to its sister ships concerning leave for those off duty. These lights came joyously, it seemed, but those following spoke monotonously as signalmen practised this art of conversing without speaking.

Light answered light, hour succeeded hour, watch took over from watch, and all around them the world seemed to sleep, shrouded in darkness.

ELIZABETH GRANT, 3AB.
P. & C. ASSOCIATION

The P. and C. Association has been very active during the past twelve months, continuing the tradition which had been built up over the war years. At the annual meeting the following officers were elected:—

Patron: The Mayor, Mr. Bruce, Dr. Mulvey.
President: Mr. Prowse.
Vice-Presidents: Messrs. Kneale, Paine, Ross, Russell, and Mrs. Holman.
Honorary Secretary: Mr. S. Davy.
Honorary Treasurer: Mr. E. Jones.
Finance Committee: Messrs. Prowse, Davey, Jones, Russell and Ross.

It may be explained that the function of the House Committee was to visit the School and investigate any urgent needs that might arise.

In addition, a Ladies' Auxiliary was formed during the year, and this band of ladies has given outstanding service in the interests of the School.

We have already recorded the activity of the P. and C. Association, and especially of the Ladies' Auxiliary in organising and carrying out a successful issue, the School Fete. The special functions held by private members to raise funds for stalls revealed the zeal and determination which characterised the Auxiliary. This latter quality was further revealed when so many of the ladies banded together to increase the revenue of the P. and C. Association by undertaking the catering at both halls during Eisteddfod week.

The new Gestetner that was purchased for the School was one of the many projects undertaken by the Association. Not only was a watering system provided for the Oval, but the sum of £100 was advanced to enable the School to purchase sporting equipment at exceptional prices from Army disposal stocks. The Association stood behind the School during Assley Cup contests, not only financing the incidental expenses incurred, but providing the dance and supper which marked that festive period.

Membership of the Association is urged upon all parents as a token of interest in the School, and attendance at the monthly meetings would be of material assistance and encouragement to those who are trying to improve the conditions under which pupils and teachers work. The Association still has as its aim the beautifying of the School grounds, the erection of a new Manual Training and Domestic Science Block, and the provision of a fully equipped gymnasium. These may be projects of many years' standing, but so was the Public Address System which this year was installed by the Association. The Association feels that the united voice of all parents would bring the other aims much nearer realisation.

The Old Students' Union

The Old Students' Union was formed in October, 1945, an active committee of the union was re-formed through the earnest co-operation of the P. and C. Association.

As a result we have had a very successful year. After conferring with our Patron, Mr. F. H. Beard, the task of adding to the comfort of the staff rooms and the office was undertaken by the union.

The great event of the year was the annual reunion held on Saturday, 24th August, 1946. Past and present students competed in football, hockey and tennis, for the Old Students' Cup. The result was a draw! The dinner at the Chelsea was a very happy affair, as we welcomed back all those who had been serving in the Forces. About 150 were present. A dance followed in the School Assembly Hall.

Our present membership is 165, and we appeal to all pupils leaving school to join the union and keep alive their interest in the old School. The membership fee is one shilling a year. At the annual meeting the following officers were elected:—

Patron: Mr. F. H. Beard.
President: Mr. A. Godfrey.
Vice-Presidents: Dr. Mulvey, Messrs. D. Cusick, L. Johnston, R. Learmonth, D. Prowse, H. Cranston, R. Baille, and M. King.
Honorary Secretary: Mr. A. Bedwell.
Honorary Treasurer: Mr. E. Hibble.

Our Advertisers

"The Burr" recommends to its readers the advertising section of the magazine. Our publication is made possible only by the support received from the business firms of the town. We appreciate their readiness to assist the School.
BOYS’ SPORT

FOOTBALL

This sport continues to occupy a major role in the school sporting calendar, and the standard of play is high. The teachers in charge of teams, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Middenway and Mr. Learmonth, have willingly given much of their time to training, with gratifying results.

On Wednesdays over 100 boys took part in the House competitions which were run in two grades—under 8st. 7lbs. and under 6st. 7lbs. This House competition was won by Blaxland (15 points) from Lawson House, which also scored 15 points. However, Blaxland was awarded the competition on averages. In addition each Wednesday afternoon, two teams of lads who were overweight for House teams played a match after the House matches. This proved invaluable for selection of the First XIII.

In addition to the Intra-School Sport, there has been a feast of football for school representative teams. In the League competition run by the Bathurst Schools’ Council on Saturday afternoons, the High Schools have had teams in the under 5st. 7lbs. grade, under 6st. 7lbs., under 7st. 7lbs., and under 8st. 7lbs. grade. Though not successful, they participated in many exciting matches, and the improvement in the standard of play was most marked. Several of these junior boys have displayed great promise. These teams also participated in the Group 10 Rugby League Schools’ Carnival, so that junior football has been well catered for.

The First XIII has had an exceptionally full season playing in eighteen matches, in addition to practice matches. The season has been marred to some extent by the number of injuries received during the year: so greatly did the team suffer that in no two consecutive matches did the School field the same side.

However, the team was noted for its brilliant combined football and was well up to the standard of past years. Its outstanding achievement was the winning of the Group 10 Schools’ Championship, defeating St. Stanislaus’ 2 to nil (the first time for many years). Orange High School St. Stanislaus’ 2 to nil (the first time for many years). Orange High School the Bathurst District League Competition (under 18 grade) in which eight teams competed.

* * *

INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS

Don Boyle (Capt.), Full-Back: Sound in defence; catches and kicks well, and proved an excellent captain. It was a pity that injuries kept him out of vital matches.

John Toole, Winger: The best flank man the School has had for many years. Runs hard and straight with a neat swerve. A serious injury against Dubbo kept him out for the remainder of the season.

Roy Hobson, Outside Centre: The utility man of the side. Hard running with a great fend. Defence is good. Should be a tower of strength again next season. Roy has been one of the School’s outstanding successes.

John Coleman, Inside Centre: Last year’s full-back who has adapted his game to inside centre, in a noteworthy fashion. An excellent handler with good football sense. Defence is sound but not brilliant. An outstanding goal kicker who was responsible for many of our wins. Should go a long way in the game. The team’s most consistent player.

Harold Jacobs, Winger: The most diminutive player in the team. Has...
The knack of being on hand to score tries. Game defender, but liable to injury through faulty methods.

James Holman, Winger: Keenest player in the School. Runs hard and fast but tackling is patchy. Filled the breach ably when injuries depleted the side—would play anywhere.

Tom Willmott, Five-eighth: Very fast off the mark and has a fast weaving run. Defence is good, but should learn not to "cut back" into the forwards when in attack.

Peter Burns, Half: The "baby" of the team, and its most improved player. Was only 13 years of age when first selected. Passes are good and well timed, while his defence is very solid. Has a tendency to lackadasical in open play. Should be a star player in future years.

Bob Vincent, Lock: A grand player. Remarkable for his cover defence and devastating tackling. Quick to seize an opening in attack, and combined well with the backs throughout the season.

Ted Robinson, Second Row: Another grand defensive player with a solid tackle. Always on the ball and prominent in ruck and close forward play. Will be a great asset to the team next year.

Kevin Wright, Second Row: Played his way into the team in the latter half of the season. Solid rucker, but handling is faulty. Also addicted to high tackles. Will improve.

Trevor Snape (Vice-Capt.), Front Row: An outstanding forward. Although heavy is fast, and became noted for his brilliant runs. Defence is good, and Trevor is exceptionally vigorous in the scrums. Should go far in the League game. Has led the forwards notably throughout the season.

Robert Schiemer, Front Row: Another big fast forward. Excellent in "tight" play. Addicted to high tackles, but played hard, rugged football.

Norman Ashford, Back: A very plucky forward, who was always on the ball. Good in defence and excellent at "dummy half." The hardest worker in the team.

William Biddington, Reserve Forward: Very keen footballer who improved greatly. Will be a tower of strength next year. Moves and handles well, and tackling will improve.

Douglas Bliss, Full-back: Was shaping well until injured. A sure handler and a goal kicker. Tackling must improve.

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**SWIMMING**

Owing to the condition of the local baths this sport occupies a very minor place in the School's activities. However, this year, an extensive "Learn to Swim" campaign resulted in over 30 boys and 25 girls learning to swim. It is a great pity that facilities are not available for the encouragement and development of this most beneficial and delightful sport.

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**CRICKET**

During the past five years cricket at the High School has shown a marked improvement. This is due in no small measure to Mr. E. Jones and Mr. W. Schofield, who constructed the turf wicket on the school oval. The School, with the advent of the turf wicket, entered in Reserve Grade competitions conducted by the B.D.C.A., and in each season reached the semi-finals. Last season the team was successful in winning the Reserve Grade competition, and is now playing First Grade.

The Juniors have also been well catered for, and take part in the
schools competition in both under 13 years and under 15 years grades. Two teams are entered in each grade, and at the present time High School A teams are leading in both competitions. Many Junior players show distinct promise and should soon prove worthy members of the First Grade team. Brian Johnson, Roy Hobson, Peter Ovens, K. Ovington, John Lloyd, of under 15 team, are worthy of mention. Brian Booth, Neville Dawson, Warren Blomfield, Hugh Ross, Don Turner, Graham Harvey, Lloyd Woodward, of the under 13 team, show distinct promise of developing into first-class cricketers.

The Senior and Junior House competitions held on Wednesday afternoons still play an important part in maintaining the standard of cricket in the school.

Lawson team is leading in the House Shield competition and appear to be certain winners for 1946.

The members of the first team were:-

W. Kneale: The outstanding player of the side. An excellent bat (average 28). Scored the only century of season. Quite a good medium paced bowler, having taken 30 wickets at a cost of 10.0 runs per wicket.
R. Schemer: The hard hitter of the side, and has many good scores to his credit.
N. Humphries: Showed promise of developing into a really good bat. Reliable in a crisis.
J. Coleman: A very good slow bowler and a brilliant field; is rapidly developing into a good batsman. Bowling average 34 wickets at 10.7 runs per wicket.
B. Purdon: A good field, and showed promise of developing into a good bat.
D. Bliss: Batting is improving and should do well this season. A useful change bowler. Best performance 5 for 32 in the final of the competition.
T. Willmott: The “Aunt Sally” of the side. Keeps particular well to Coleman’s bowling. Gives promise of being a good bat, but at present has a penchant for the “windy woosher.”
K. Piper: Now at Armidale University College. Could be relied on to get runs when needed. An excellent field close to the wicket.
E. Barnes: Very strong leg side bat, but often in difficulties to an “off” spinner. Good field.
R. Quarrell: A good bat who was inclined to be worried by the “occasion.” Safe field, and useful medium paced bowler.
Mr. Learmonth and Mr. Johnston, of the staff, also played with the competition side.

ATHLETICS (Girls and Boys)

This has been a full year for athletics, there being three major events—The Pacey Shield and Burlington Cup series; The Astley Cup; and the Annual School Sports Day.

1. BURLINGTON CUP AND PACEY SHIELD.

In this series, we competed against our old rivals, St. Stanislaus’ College, All Saints’ College and St. Patrick’s, in three divisions—Sub-Junior, Junior and Senior. The School team managed to be runners-up in both contests. St. Stanislaus’ proving too strong for our teams which, however, performed very creditably. Our congratulations go to “Stannies” on their retention of the trophies.

2. ASTLEY CUP.

Our athletics team in these contests acquitted themselves excellently, winning against both Dubbo and Orange. In the former contest, Bathurst defeated Dubbo by 53 points to 47, and against Orange scored 52 points to 48.

The girls’ relay team (Pam Pratley, Jeanette Duncan, June Matthews, Rona McKay), coached by Mr. Johnston, upheld their undefeated record by winning their two relays, while in the sprints, Jeanette Duncan was too good for all opponents. Against Orange, Pam Pratley filled second place.

The boys also performed well. The relay team won against Dubbo, but were defeated by inches in a great finish by Orange. Against Dubbo, B. Webb and R. Vincent filled both places in the broad jump, while we also filled second places in the mile and high jump. At Orange, the team gained first and second places in the mile (R. Hobson, B. Webb), second place in the 100 yards and broad jump, while we also won the high jump (T. Snape) with Bob Schiemer tying for second place.

Although our boy sprinters did relatively poorly, the spirit of cooperation shown by the whole team was of a very high standard.

ANNUAL SPORTS 25th SEPTEMBER

Once again, the Annual Sports Day proved a gala day, and enthusiasm was as great as ever. The keenness of the contests makes it the outstanding event of the school year.
Some excellent times were recorded, the best effort being that of Jeannette Duncan, who ran the Junior Girls 100 Yards Championship in the excellent time of 11 3/5 seconds, clipping 2/5 of a second from the previous record of 12 seconds held jointly by herself and Pam Pratley. Jeannette is only 14 years old, and is already the best girl sprinter in the School. This performance, and her feats in the Astley Cup show her to be an outstanding girl athlete. Brian Webb broke the School's 440 yards record, covering the quarter mile is 54 3/5 seconds. Brian was not pressed, and could have clipped even more time from the record; he is an excellent middle distance runner. Roy Hobson was the other record breaker, running the Junior Half Mile in 2 minutes 19 seconds—a really courageous performance.

The main contest, the House Point Score, was won by Wentworth, who totalled 240 points from Evans' 226 points, Lawson 185 points, and Blaxland 139. The pleasing features of the House competitions were firstly, the keenness displayed by the whole School in the point score, and secondly, the way in which the coveted first position alternated between Blaxland, last year's premiers, and this year unable to make any impression on the winners.

The House Ball Games Pennant was at last wrested from Wentworth's grip, that House having held it for seven years. This year, Evans were successful, with Lawson runners-up. Evans sub-junior team was particularly outstanding.

The individual championships provided no surprises, the champions being as follows:

Sub-Junior—Boys: A. Baillie (Wentworth); Girls, E. McLean (Evans)
Junior—Boys: J. McDonald (Wentworth); Girls, Jeannette Duncan (Wentworth)
Senior—Boys: B. Webb (Lawson); Girls, June Matthews (Lawson).

THE 1946 ASTLEY CUP

Although the Bathurst High School were unsuccessful in this year's Astley Cup, the closeness of all the major contests reflected the keenness of the rivalry and the even calibre of the teams from all schools.

The series commenced with Dubbo's visit to Bathurst. The mental Dubbo very quickly established their superiority, playing excellent tennis, and scoring 26 points to 26, winning 17 sets to 112 games to our 7 sets 83 games. Thursday opened well for Bathurst, when we notched our first victory by gaining the major place in the athletics. Followed the hockey—the Bathurst girls disappointed in this event. They dominated the play throughout but were unable to capitalise their opportunities, and Dubbo, who broke away on only two occasions, beat our team by 2 goals to 1, and our chances of winning the series were very slender.

The football match—Rugby League again for the first time for many years—was played in front of a large crowd. It proved to be one of the grandest games of the season, full of thrills from start to finish. Dubbo led 6 to 1 at half time, thanks to the magnificent play of B. Palmer at outside centre. However, Bathurst fought back in the second half when with twelve men (John Toole having suffered severe concussion) they kept up an almost continuous assault on Dubbo's line. Midge' Jacobs scored a try near the corner after a combined movement, and Coleman goaled from a glorious kick, and Dubbo led 6 to 5. Excitement was intense, especially when Tom Willmott crossed the try line and Bathurst supporters were in a fever of delight. However, they were disallowed. Palmer, of Dubbo, broke away with a great run and scored under the posts. The goal was kicked, and Dubbo led 11 to 5. Coleman then excelled himself, kicking a goal from near half-way. Bathurst continued to press, but the scores remained Dubbo 11, Bathurst 7, after a really great match.

The basketball on Friday morning was in a fitting climax to an exciting series. Bathurst girls led early, but gradually Dubbo crept level and finally gained the narrow lead of 13 to 12. With only minutes to go, they increased their lead to 14 to 12, but Bathurst, with a brilliant final burst, drew level with two magnificent goals from Valerie Armstrong, and the exciting game ended in a draw.

Dubbo had proved too good for us and ran out easy winners of the series.

The next week, Dubbo also added Orange's scalp to their belt and collected the coveted trophy for 1946—a very meritorious performance. Although our visits to Orange had no effect on the extinction of the Cup, the series held there were the most evenly contested of the series, with Orange the victors by 233 points to 207.

In the tennis, B.H.S. won by a narrow margin, the boys by 5 sets to 3, while in both mixed and girls' tennis, both sides were even on sets but Bathurst were just ahead on games. The even nature of the tennis was reflected in all other contests.
GIRLS’ SPORT

The year 1946 has been a very successful one for all branches of sport. This was made possible by the enthusiasm and ever ready co-operation of the staff. All senior girls, especially the House Captains, are to be congratulated on the manner in which they encouraged and inspired the junior members of the school to participate in all games. It is to be regretted that there were no House matches this year, but this was unavoidable owing to shortage of staff through middle term.

HOCKEY

This sport is most popular. Every Wednesday six hockey teams played at the Show Grounds. The A and B teams were ably coached by Mr. Parry. Both of these teams were entered in the town competition, from whence they gained much experience. The all important hockey matches were in the Astley Cup contests. The first match against Dubbo was disappointing, considering we had so much of the play in our favour. The result of this match was 2-1 in Dubbo’s favour. The most exciting match was played against the Orange High School. This team had not been defeated in inter-school or inter-town matches. At the outset Bathurst proved itself superior and played on to a sure victory of 3-1.

BASKET-BALL

Basket-ball is very well patronised. The A and B teams were fortunate in having competition matches with St. Mary’s and St. Joseph’s. The juniors for the first time played a match against St. Philomena’s. In all these matches we were defeated. In the Astley Cup our team did well to hold Dubbo to a draw, 14-all. The match against Orange was very keenly contested, the final result, 23-20, being in favour of Orange.

TEENI

This sport has suffered more than any other over the war years. We still have difficulty in obtaining sufficient courts. We are grateful to the Presbyterian and Methodist Tennis Clubs for the use of their courts. Unfortunately the Town Tennis Club is unable to assist us in this way. In the Astley Cup matches we defeated Orange, but Dubbo proved too strong for us. At present the Burge Cup is in progress to decide the champion girl player.

VIGORO

Vigoro is a very popular sport during the summer months with the senior and junior members of the School.

TEENI

Although the School failed to produce any brilliant individual players this year, it did succeed in fielding a sound and evenly balanced Astley Cup team. This was most evident in the first Cup match, against Dubbo. Dubbo had three unusually strong players in Keeley, Armstrong and Nita Edmunstone; but although the result of the match was never in doubt, our team more than held its own in the lower half of the draw. Against Orange the team had a deserved win, and once again it would be difficult to select any individuals for more praise than the others. Both boys pairs (K. Feebrey - W. Kneale and D. Newman - R. Mackie) played steady, determined tennis. Of the girls, Shirley Toole and Barbara Matthews were the more effective combination, but June Matthews and Margot Hill developed into a useful second pair. Possibly the most improved pair in the mixed doubles was R. Mackie and June Matthews.

The annual singles championships have not been completed, but should afford interesting competition. The winner of the boys’ championship is difficult to forecast, but the girls’ event may result in a win for Shirley Toole or Barbara Matthews.

During the war years the school courts have suffered from difficulty of maintenance. Top-dressing and extensive fence repairs are urgently needed. Further, there is an acute shortage of courts for use on Wednesday afternoons. The School is greatly indebted to the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches for so kindly placing their courts at our disposal, but it would also appreciate the co-operation of any parents who could make private courts available on Wednesday afternoons. In past years the Town Club has assisted in this matter, but this year the amount of help it has been able to give has been very limited. At the moment the regrettable position is that, unless more courts can be obtained for next year, it will not be possible for First Year pupils to take tennis as a regular sport.
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HOUSE NOTES

BLAXLAND HOUSE (Girls)

Because of the preparation for the Astley Cup contests, there were no Inter-House matches this year in hockey and basket-ball.

Although Blaxland came fourth in the Annual Sports this year, they acquitted themselves well and showed that they could lose in the same cheerful manner in which they had won in previous years.

Beryl Bryant, Meba Churches, Isabel Churches, Fay Heap, Pauline Inwood, Muriel Piper, Shirley Schofield and Betty Weal deserve special mention for their good sportsmanship and willingness to devote time to practice team games. We would like to thank our House Mistress, Miss Birse, who assisted in our training.

Though Blaxland girls were defeated in the ball games, they did not lose any prestige, but really gained it. They fought hard in each series, but the other teams were too good for them. We congratulate Evans House on winning the ball games banner and Wentworth House for winning this year’s annual sports.

MORIEN JACOBS, Captain.

BLAXLAND HOUSE (Boys)

Although Blaxland House has not been quite so successful during 1946 in the sporting activities of the School as it has been in years gone by, its reputation as the Premier House of the School still stands. Indeed its members can look back with pride on Blaxland’s record during the war years, since of the seven annual athletic contests held from 1939-45, Blaxland were the victors in no less than four.

Last summer the members of Blaxland’s senior and junior cricket teams entered with zest into the cricket competition. The juniors have been very successful up to the present, winning a majority of their games. Bad luck has dogged the seniors, who were defeated on several occasions by only a few runs. Mention must be made of the batting prowess of young Brian Johnson, a prolific scorer of centuries. In the 1946 Staff v Pupils match, he defied all efforts of the veterans to dismiss him and went on to be one of the top-scorers for the victorious pupils. The competition will be resumed in the coming summer months and Johnson, together with such stalwarts as Quarry, Ovens and Maclean, may yet bring Blaxland to victory.

In the winter months the chief sporting event was the football competition. At the beginning of the season Blaxland was not conceded a very great chance of winning, but the general opinion of all soon changed when Blaxland became the early leaders in the competition. At the end of the season it was found that Lawson and Blaxland were level on points, but as Lawson had scored only 70 in matches against our 109, Blaxland was declared the winners. Congratulations must be extended to W. Dean, whose inspiring leadership often converted defeat into victory. He was ably supported by J. Salcele, B. Claremont and M. Hallot. The under seven stone team was led by Brian Johnson, and on several occasions this group of “midgets” amassed virtual cricket scores against their rivals. Outstanding among them were M. Rivett, I. Purdon and B. Funnell. Don Boyle, of Blaxland, was captain of this year’s School First Football Team, which won
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the unrestricted weight section of the Group X schools’ football carnival in August. J. Holman was also a member of this team.

Bloxland House was, as usual, well represented in the Aston Cup teams this year. Of the athletics team (the only section of the 1946 Bathurst Aston Cup teams which went through the contests undefeated), D. Boyle and J. Holman were members. P. Ovens was prominent in tennis, while Bloxland figured in the reserves for the Aston Cup Debating Team.

J. HOLMAN, Captain.

EVANS HOUSE (Girls)

There was a great deal of excitement among the girls of Evans House as the news of the Annual Sports Day was passed around. Each girl showed much interest in these sports and helped to maintain the good name of the House. No girl neglected to enter some event even if it was only the egg and spoon race.

As usual the ball games were a very popular event. We succeeded in winning the Pennant for ball games this year after a great struggle with Lawson girls. Our girls revealed excellent sportsmanship throughout the day. We extend special thanks to our House Mistresses, Miss Keogh and Miss Leavers for their interest and help in training Evans for the relays and ball games.

ELAINE HILL, Captain.

EVANS HOUSE (Boys)

Throughout the year Evans House has put up a solid fight against the other Houses. In the cricket competition not yet completed, Evans House tied with Bloxland for third place, but we hope to astound our rivals with brilliant cricket when the season recommences. This may be possible with the help of our two first graders, R. Schiemer and D. Newman.

In the football competitions we came a close third, being beaten by the narrow margin of one point. There was no senior football competition, which is probably just as well for the other Houses, since Evans possessed six of the first grade football team.

Although Evans has virtually no outstanding athletics champion, we combined our athletic resources and gained second place. Before the sports, general opinion did not hold out much hope for us. The fact that a House contains a champion, leads the school to think that it must win, but we have demonstrated the fallacy of this belief. An example of our unity was the Senior 100 Yards Handicap, in which out of a field of nine, seven belonged to Evans. Our tug-of-war team was severely handicapped when they were forced to try to pull eight Lawsonites and one science teacher over the line. It appears that the rope also felt the strain!

T. SNAPE, Captain.

LAWSON HOUSE (Girls)

Although we were not successful this year in gaining first or second place in the House competition, we nevertheless put up a good fight at the Annual Sports and gained third place. It is necessary to make mention of the enthusiastic spirit of the Lawsonites, a spirit which prevailed even when defeat was facing them. It is really encouraging to find such good spirit and enthusiasm among the junior members of the House, who will, in future years, be the mainstay of the House. To you all, we 'veterans' say keep it up and keep the purple colours flying!

We congratulate Wentworth and Evans on their very-well-deserved win in the House and Pennant competitions. We managed to gain second
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place in the Pennant scores, losing to Evans by a narrow margin. This
has been our fate for a number of years, but we still keep trying, and
perhaps next year it will be our turn to hold the "Pennant."

We congratulate Lawsonite Brian Webb for his victory as Boys'
Senior Champion; his performances gained many points for the House.
We also congratulate one of our juniors, Joyce Maclean, on gaining second
place in the Sub-Junior Girls' Championship. Joyce and June Rivett are
our fastest runners among the juniors, but unfortunately June was unable
to participate in the sports. These girls show a lot of promise, and we
hope that they will do even better next year. We must also congratulate
Joyce Ovington who gained second place in the Girls' Senior Champion-
ship. Joyce was placed in the relay and ball games teams at the last minute
and we thank her for her co-operation.
Our relay teams put up a good performance on Sports Day. Joyce
Maclean, June Bray, Pam Goddard and June Rivett made a splendid effort
in the Junior, but were unable to gain a place. Our Seniors, June Dumbrell,
Trude Hollis, Norma Bennett, and June Matthews, gained third place.

JUNE MATTHEWS, Captain.

[June omits to state that she brought distinction to her House by
winning the Girls' Senior Championship —Editor.]

* * *

LAWSON HOUSE (Boys)

Undaunted by occasional defeat, Lawson has maintained its usual
position well to the fore in the field of sport this year. When jokingly
quizzed on our athletic ability and the futility of our furious practice,
we answered with more training and with even greater speeds maintained to
greater distances. This was the spirit in which Lawson entered into the
sports, and it was the same spirit that gained us a minor placing.
Congratulations go to our athletes for their daring and determination, especially
to Brian Webb and our sub-juniors.
In House competition football, our under nine stone team was un-
lucky to be beaten into second place. This team played excellent football
and must be congratulated.
As House cricket begins again we have great confidence in our senior
and junior teams. At the moment Lawson has a comfortable lead over
Wentworth, our nearest opponent. Much credit is due to the juniors, who
gained the majority of our points. The seniors, although occasionally
defeated in previous encounters, are determined to conquer all teams in the
coming battle.

W. KNEALE, Captain.

* * *

WENTWORTH HOUSE (Girls)

There were no House competitions in hockey or basketball this year,
but we congratulate all our members who participated in the Annual
Sports. Their splendid co-operation and enthusiasm was crowned with
success. Special thanks are rendered to Narelle Matthews who very ably
captained the sub-juniors in the ball games.
Evans House is to be congratulated on winning the Pennant for ball
games after very keenly contested events.
We are fortunate in having Jeannette Duncan as one of our members.
We congratulate her on winning the Junior Girls' Championship and
recognise in her an outstanding runner and a promising Inter-State champi-
on. Our congratulations go also to John McDonald and Arthur Bailey,
both of Wentworth, on their respective winning of the Junior and Sub-
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The girls of Wentworth House wish to thank Misses Dyne and Sampson for their keen interest in our progress. We thank Tom Wilmott (Wentworth's Boy Captain) for patiently coaching our relay teams. [This would be a pleasure to Tom!—Ed.]

SHIRLEY TOOLE, Captain.

WENTWORTH HOUSE (Boys)

In the cricket competition this year, Wentworth is running second. Our senior team has an undefeated record, but the juniors have so far won only one match. Two of our members, John Coleman and Tom Wilmott, are in the School XI.

In football we contest two grades. Our eight stone team won only one match out of six, and the under seven stone team did the same. All matches were keenly contested, which adds glory to the wins of the victors. Wentworth this year gave five members to the School XIII.

This year Wentworth won the Inter-House sports from Evans by 240 points to 223 points. Wentworth boys this year carried off the sub-junior title (A. Bailey), the junior title (J. McDonald), with T. Wilmott runner-up to B. Webb, of Lawson, for the senior title.

TOM WILMOTT, Captain.

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