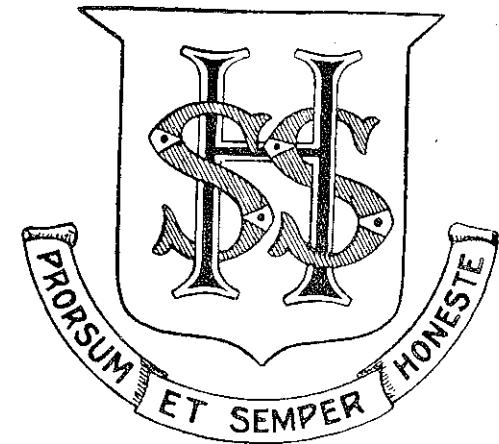


The Northern Churinga



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EDITORIAL FOREWORD.

OUR SPEECH NIGHT.

The long-looked-for speech night, at which we were to receive our prizes, look our best, sing our songs, and applaud the intellectual success of our comrades, took place in the Mechanics' Hall on Friday evening, February 12th, at 8 o'clock. The spacious hall was well filled with admiring parents, old scholars, friends of the school, and the officials of the department.

The Minister of Education (Hon. J. A. Lyons), who was accompanied by the Director (W. T. McCoy, Esq., B.A.) gave up some of his valuable time to be present, and to give us an address.

After the singing of the National Anthem the principal (Mr. R. O. M. Miller), on behalf of the school, welcomed the Minister, and then read his annual report, which gave a brief history of our successes in examinations and sport. Mr. Lyons, at the close of a short musical programme, gave an address, in which he outlined the policy of the Government in connection with the further establishment of High Schools in country centres. His idea is to establish schools in various centres at which pupils will take a two years' course of a composite nature, which will enable them to take the Intermediate Certificate. Any pupils who desire to go further in their educational development will have to attend either Hobart or Launceston High Schools.

Mr. Lyons eulogised the work of the staff in securing the fine record of 47 passes out of 49 entries for the Junior Public.

He further referred, amidst applause, to the brilliant success of Ray Atkinson in securing top place at the examination, and concluded a vigorous speech by expressing the hope that we would win further successes in the future. Mr. McCoy, who presented the prizes, in a breezy and entertaining manner, also congratulated the school on its initial success. After the singing of the school song the 1915 function was over.

Quite the most pleasing feature of the ceremony was the excellent conduct of the pupils, and the principal has been the recipient of several letters from various persons remarking on this fact.

The musical programme was as follows:—Overture, Chopin's Polonaise in "A" flat, Miss K. Bradshaw; song, Thelma Jacobson (encored); song, "I Know a Bank," Girls' Choir; song, Meleita Waldon; song, "Last Rose of Summer," Girls' Choir; song, Muriel Chick; song, "There's a Land," Girls' Choir. The accompaniments were played by Miss Kathleen Bradshaw and Len Daymond. Next year we hope to be able to hold our annual function in our own building in Patterson-street.

We take this opportunity to congratulate Ray Atkinson, Ethel Mann, and Len Daymond for their excellent Junior Public results last year. Ray's name stood out at the head of the whole Junior Public examination list, while Ethel and Len secured the two £5 prizes offered respectively for the best girl's result and the best boy's result amongst those who had attended a State High School for two years.

TO OLD SCHOLARS.

At our annual speech night last month the Principal, in his report, referred to the generous treatment meted to the school by the old scholars. A further statement was made that the establishment of an old scholars' association was contemplated.

With this in view it is the intention of the Principal, on April 16, to convene, at 8 p.m., at the school, a meeting of those old scholars who feel sufficiently interested in the matter. Whilst it is obvious that a school like ours, with its large percentage of country children, cannot expect to have largely-attended reunions, still, if a pleasant function, such as a social or dinner, were arranged, at such a time as show time, we might reasonably expect a large number to be present.

The functions of an old scholars' association are many, but the chief ones are to keep up the many pleasant associations that were formed during school careers; to foster the spirit of comradeship; to assist the school in various ways; to endeavour to maintain the ideals of the schools as symbolised in the school motto.

The school magazine, to which all old scholars should subscribe, would be the official organ of the association, and certain pages of our little paper will be devoted solely to the purpose of giving information concerning ex-pupils, to giving accounts of their successes in life and in sport.

The constitution of the association will be drawn up at the preliminary meeting, and a desire is here expressed that any ex-scholar who feels interested in the matter will write to the Principal, giving any suggestions for the establishment of a strong association.

Once more, the date of the preliminary meeting is April 16th, in Charles-street School, at 8 p.m.

OLD SCHOLARS' COLUMN.

Will all old scholars look at the important notice in another column?

Roland Rule (Ruland) writes, enclosing his sub. He is now living at New Town. We feel sure he will support us in our contests with the South, however.

Florrie Lees wrote a long letter just after we had gone to press last year. This year she sends her sub. and hosts of kind remembrances to all 1913 girls.

Bob Stephens paid us a visit at the cricket ground one Wednesday afternoon. He tells us he plays tennis well now.

Reg. Watson is now on board the "Tingara." We ought to sleep soundly, knowing that Reg. is one of our protectors.

Willie Mason, in sending his sub., congratulates the school on the Junior Public successes. He is still farming.

Eleanor Smedley sends along a contribution to our sports fund.

Norman Patman is working in the Commercial Bank at Devonport. He has secured an excellent position. He also forwards a donation to our funds.

Frank Taylor (the little man with the big voice) is in a bank at Hobart. So far we haven't heard of him, but we know he will barrack for us at the boat race.

Percy Fordham called to see us the other week.

Arthur Kilby adopts a businesslike air in paying his sub. He occupies an important position in a financial institution.

Reg. Barling is working in a city warehouse. We miss him on the sports' field.

Clyde Rowell is another whose presence at cricket matches would assist us very much in North and South matches.

News is just to hand that Roland Rule has topped the State Civil Service examinations.

Alison Bradshaw has left a place hard to fill. Some day when she is not too busy she will pay us a visit.

Bert Smythe has not yet sent in a line. We'll miss him in football this year.

Harry Monkhouse is still a Launcestonian.

Blin. Jensen called to see us recently. She still plays tennis with us on Saturday mornings.

We are all sorry to lose Lou. Collins, who has a position in a firm of accountants.

OBITUARY.

Quite a gloom was cast over the "B" and "C" classes when the Principal announced the sad news of the death of Dorothy Bennetts. Dorothy had endeared herself to her teachers by her winsome personality, and her willingness to co-operate with any movement appertaining to the welfare of the school. By her companions she was loved for her unselfishness, and her prowess at all sports made her quite a heroine.

We paid our last sad tribute of respect by forwarding two wreaths—one from the "B" and "C" classes, and one from her cricket team; and three of the prefects followed her remains to their last resting place.

DUCES OF SCHOOL (Fourth Term, 1914).

Class "A":—Bertha Layh (Dux of School).

Class "B1":—Raymond Atkinson.

Class "B2":—Eleanor Smedley.

Class "C1":—J. Turner.

Class "C2":—Alice Cunningham.

Class "C3":—J. R. Skemp.

PREFECTS, 1915.

Senior Prefect of Boys:—Jack Fahey.

Senior Prefect of Girls:—Pearl Berlowitz.

Boys.

J. Turner.
Eric Scott.
M. Munro.
S. Foot.
F. Johnson.
J. Simpson.
N. Howard.
V. Gill.

Girls.

L. Sampson.
S. Clarke.
A. Cunningham.
Z. Smith.
O. Kidd.
E. London.
M. Barrett.
J. Thellwell.

TIT-BITS.

By "The Tattler."

"Hefty One" asks why "C1" is known as the "Robinson" class. Perhaps it is because they're in the "crew so."

One contribution to these columns is not published. The Editor tried to read it; but, when he found the words "Echinocardium," "Prymnodesmia," and "Spatangina" in the first two lines, with eight more lines to follow, he gave up in despair.

The formula for Albumen is $C_{72} H_{112} N_{18} SO_{22}$. [Absolutely authentic statement made by our "C1" Professor.]

The trouble lies in the fact that "Weary Willie" needs must strive to win immortal fame by writing a chemical poem and seeking to find a word which would rhyme with the above formula. The result is ably depicted in the following noble ode from the pen of H2S:—

"O, Weary Willie's quite dead now,
From what he tried to do;
He bravely struggled with C_{72}, H_{112}, N_{18} .
But fell dead at SO_{22} ."

A certain member of "C1," no names need be mentioned, states that to make CO₂ you mix H and O. Well may the poet say "The Smith a mighty man is he!"

"Deer" writes to ask what would be a suitable quotation for the teacher to use on these hot afternoons. We would recommend the first line of the Hunting Song on p. 64 of the "Merry Archer":—"Waken, lords and ladies gay!"

We hear that Percy F. has been training for the sports, on dry toast. Perhaps he thinks that the only way to have the rest of us "on toast."

Teacher (to scholar)—"Why is this current called the Humboldt current?"

Scholar (who is utterly at "sea")—"Please, miss, it-cr-means yellow water!"—Total collapse of "C2."

Teacher—"There is too much talking aloud in the class. You must do this absolutely silently."

"C2" again.

Teacher—"What was the cause of Marlborough's recall?"

"C2" Girl—"The Duchess of Marlborough's wife quarrelled with Anne."

"If we sing songs we should but our hearts into them."

"He lived on the bare necessities of life."

THE PROGRESS OF ARGUMENT.

(By the Twin Brothers—Wise and Otherwise.)

"B1" and "B2" DEBATING SOCIETY.

Towards the end of this term "B1" and "B2" Classes formed a Debating Society. Six scholars—three girls and three boys—were elected to form a committee for the purpose of arranging debates. As yet, we have held only two meetings of the society, but it is pleasing to report that each has been very successful.

On Thursday, March 4th, we held our first meeting, when the subject discussed was "Are the United States right in adopting an attitude of neutrality in the present war?" The chosen speakers in support of Neutrality were Fahey (leader), Campbell, Atkinson, and Craw; while Daymond, the leader of the Opposition, was supported by Palamountain, McFadyean, and Trethewie.

Much interest was evinced by members in the proceedings. On the vote taken at the finish the Opposition proved victorious by a majority of two, and our first meeting was brought to a successful conclusion.

Our second meeting was held on Thursday, March 18th, when impromptu speeches were given by Campbell, McFadyean, Hope, Pullen, Atkinson, Trethewie, Palamountain, Daymond, and Thelma Jacobson. The addresses were most interesting and entertaining, and a very enjoyable and successful meeting concluded about 5 p.m.

Encouraged by the good show made by the speakers at our recent meetings, we hope to more than hold our own in debates with the "C1," "C2," "C3" Debating Society in the near future.

L.D., Hon. Sec.

"C1," "C2," AND "C3" DEBATING SOCIETY.

This quarter, owing to a diminution of the members of "C3" class, a meeting was held, with the result that "C2" class joined the society.

On the first Thursday Miss Walker delivered an address on "Speech-making, Etc.," which was attentively listened to. The next Thursday was an afternoon with humorous writers, and extracts from such writers and poets as Steele Rudd and Bret Harte were read.

Then came the impromptu speeches. It was curious to notice how this subject frightened many of the girls, and, alas! as many of the boys. However, there was a fair attendance this day, and speeches were made by A. Cunningham, B. Ponsonby, A. Traill, I. Douglas, M. Holloway, O. Wyllie, E. Barlow, and H. Watters.

The next subject was "Compulsory Training for Girls." The affirmative side consisted of B. Ponsonby (leader), B. Mullene, H. Watters, and I. Douglas; and the negative side E. Barton (leader), A. Cunningham, L. Stubs, and O. Wyllie. Towards the close of this debate the arguments became rather heated, and one member (we need not mention his name) called out, in a sudden burst of feeling, that "_____ didn't know what he was talking about." At any rate, the affirmative side won by a majority of 20 votes, despite interjections.

The last debate was "Which is the mightier, the pen or the sword?" The "pen" side consisted of J. Turner (leader), M. Holloway, B. Mullene, and I. Douglas; while the "sword" side was supported by W. Smith (leader), S. Clarke, G. Coleman, and A. Foote. The voting, after a keen contest, resulted in nineteen for the "pen" and five for the "sword" side.

The "B1" class has formed a society, and there is a rumour floating about that they will, some time "when they have had more practice," challenge this society. They are quite welcome, and we wish their society every success in its debates.

THE NOVELISTS' CORNER.

[A new and welcome addition to our columns.—Editor.]

An Account of a Concert arranged by the Senior Boy in the Grimsby Municipal College.

By "The Red Rose of England"—"Dr."

The seniors were very clever at concerts, and things like that—so they thought. Eason was the senior prefect, so of course he had the management of all the special meetings and entertainments.

A new play was introduced, with Eason appearing as the Duke of Devon. Stream was chosen to play the part of the duchess. He had a rather fair complexion, and was generally known as "Girlic." The pages were chosen from the third formers; of course this was a special favour.

Eason was gorgeously arrayed in a purple robe, cocked hat, and a sword. He came in view of the audience at last. Unluckily his sword got mixed up with his legs, and his grace ended in an entanglement on the floor. Amidst the laughter of the audience Hammond picked up the fallen hero, dusted him down, and left him to cool.

All went well for about ten minutes, then the audience heard noisy scufflings behind the curtain. Three times did Eason announce that the duchess was coming, and that "heaven walked on earth." Then came the reply from the dressing-room, in unmistakable brogue, "Faith, but she doesn't, for she's just been having a scrap with Sebastian, and is having her curls tied on."

At last her grace arrived. She bounded up the steps, and, recollecting that she was a girl minced haughtily to the centre. Poor Stream! a large sash intended to be tied at the back dabbled down in the front. His feet, instead of in dainty dancing shoes, were comfortably ensconced in dirty cricket boots. Still, at the close of the entertainment, when the Duke and Duchess went off the stage arm in arm, everyone declared that concert to be a success.—Everyone except Eason; but then, as we disgustingly remarked, some people never are satisfied.

"Dora and the Mermaid."

[A pretty little Fairy story which may prove useful to the Teachers amongst us.—Editor.]

By "The Red Rose of England."—"D1."

"Oh!" thought little Dora Daey, as she sat on the rocks at Marblethorpe and dangled her feet into the water, "I do wish I was a dear little mermaid, to live in a pretty coral castle, and dress myself in seaweed. Aunt Jane Evers told me not to go in the caves, but I'm going, all the same. That's where the mermaids live. I read in a book about a mermaid in a cave."

Dora sat on a rock in the Wondaleigh cave and thought about mermaids. Suddenly she saw a real live mermaid. Yes, the dearest, tweekiest thing imaginable. She took Dora down the cave entrance and gave her a shoe "which," said the mermaid, "will enable you to breathe in water."

"Oh, the splendour of it all," thought the little girl, "Aunt Jane Evers will have to believe me now." She went down some seaweed glens, led by fishes dressed in rainbows, into the palace of the Mermaid Queen. The queen had such a nice kind voice. She showed Dora all her beautiful jewels, and explained to her all the wonders of the sea.

Suddenly Dora felt homesick. She longed for her aunt's nice warm fireside, for the dear old tabby cat, and her own little cot. The queen read her thoughts and said, "Take this ring and give me the shoe. You will feel suffocated, but you will journey home. You are a nice little child, and if you are ever in trouble come to the mermaids."

Dora found herself. She heard a gruff voice saying "Good-bye, ma'am, I hope the little missie will be alright." Then she related all her adventures to Aunt Jane Evers, and showed her the key which the queen had given her. Aunt Jane believes in mermaids now.

Landing of a 6-Pounder.

By "Tiny Tim."

That's a likely looking place! Cautiously creeping up to a deep pool in the creek, you cast your line into the middle; scarcely has the fly, a "March brown," touched the water, than a swirl, a rush, and a tug at your line tells you that you've hooked a big one this time.

Gently, don't try to pull him to the surface, or he is lost! Hold tight, but let him go, he won't go far; look out! Reel in quickly, he's coming down stream now! Ah, back he goes. Keep the strain on your line. Tire him out, but you've got a good quarter of an hour's work before you.

Your line cuts its way up stream for about ten yards, and then your trout jumps clean into the air. His long body flashes back the rays of the sun, as, for an instant, he appears to be stationary in mid-air. But for an instant only, for half-a-dozen times are these leaps repeated; then downstream he goes again, like a streak of silver.

He's approaching the rapids now, so be careful. Don't let him get below them, if you can help it. Ah! too late, he's below them now. Run down the bank, for you'll never get him up the rapids; quick, but don't let your line get slack.

See, he tires; slowly he swims down stream, wondering what to do next. Look out, he's trying other tactics now! He comes to the surface, and makes an effort to break the line by dashing himself upon it, but 'tis his last struggle.

Here's the gaff; guide him into the bank. Steady, steady, keep him still; many a fish has been lost by bad gaffing. There, he's yours, and on the grass lies your first 6-pounder.

How well does every fisherman remember the ecstasy of catching his first large trout! The excitement, the mental and physical strain of those few minutes remain fixed in his memory for ever, and, with the age of the story, often does the size of the fish grow; but this is a well-known characteristic of fishermen!

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Jack Rob."—Yes, we noted that you are shaving. It is better than using pheminol.

"Pearl."—Hearty congratulations on your elevation to senior prefectship.

"River Murray."—Yes, batting is all right, but please improve your fielding.

"Len S."—Yes! it was hard work fielding in the wet, yet, like Dr. Grace, you got your diploma!

"Eric S-t."—Did it hurt very much? We understand you had gas. Even so, why did you bring the gas back to the school?

"Doris W."—Yes; we all agree with you that it is quite fashionable for young ladies of (whisper gently!!) 18 to have their hair up.

"Little Dill."—Don't use your weight so much next time. You are not a heavy-weight champ.

"Jesse."—Yes; we think it is time for you to cease showing your beautiful knees.

"Max M."—No doubt a swollen lip suits your particular style of beauty. It's a very inartistic method of personal adornment.

"J. Simp."—Possibly throwing acorns down from a balcony may amuse you, but it is not a fit and proper occupation for a High School boy.

"Len."—"After winning five pounds, part your hair in the centre" is an excellent maxim.

"Dan the Jew."—We all hope an English "Kropp" satisfies you when using a razor. If you are anxious to view the "Edge o' Beyond" try a German "Krupp."

"J. McF."—Your application for the position of wing man, rendered vacant by our coxswain, has been duly received. We would offer it but for your tender years. Besides, you might get your hair ruffled!! ("A.D.F." chimes in Hair! Hair!).

"Nigger."—Yes; it makes one feel breezy to know that there's something in the 'air—even if it's only a part in the centre.

"12 Inches."—Alas! The summer is too far advanced for sunshades!!

"Shrewdy."—Don't get anxious about "Hec." Remember "familiarity breeds contempt."

"Max."—We advise you to study the speedy effect of germs upon fruit. Otherwise something serious may happen.

"Mac."—The Muses are thrice glad, and are filled with happiness transcending as they hear you glory in the study of Virgil.

EN ROUTE FROM ENGLAND.

Father Neptune's Visit.

By "Rosa"—"Di."

Many amusing incidents occur on board ship to vary the monotony of the long voyage. I am going to relate the incident about Father "Neptune's" visit to us.

One evening I heard a great noise on the fore-deck, and hurried up to see what the commotion was about. Picture my surprise when I saw, in the centre of a large group of people, a man and a woman, with a bodyguard of policemen surrounding them. Oh! what funny people they were. The man was dressed in different coloured clothes, with a wig and beard of flaxen hair. The woman wore a tattered skirt, with a dirty blouse that looked as though it had seen better days, and a hat trimmed with a large feather. Her hair was long and flowing, and the same colour as the man's hair. The policemen were dressed like the usual policemen one sees, only their faces were a bronze colour.

After a tour round the ship, Father and Mother Neptune prepared to depart. By this time it was quite dark, and to give the departure a touch of reality, a lamp was fixed to the end of a rope and thrown out to sea, till at last it disappeared. This was supposed to be the boat taking Father and Mother Neptune to their abode under the sea.

The fun was not yet over, however, for next day they were to come again to perform their never-to-be-forgotten antics.

Morning arrived at last. All was bustle and excitement. On deck a large canvas tank had been erected; this I was told was to be filled with water. Some of the passengers were placed upon the third deck, and I, being one of the lucky ones, had a good view of the proceedings.

Some of the policemen brought some firemen from the stokehole, and others pretended to shave the unfortunate men, and then threw them into this tank filled with water, where they were thrown up and down till they were quite exhausted. Two Australians, who knew what was going to happen, dressed up ready for the occasion, and seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly. One poor man, who had dressed himself in his best clothes, was seized upon and ducked in the water, and came out a be-draggled heap.

When the end of the day came it was unanimously agreed (except, perhaps, by the men who were ducked) that the day had been a success, and I am sure I, for one, will never forget that day.

CLASS NOTES.

"B1" and "B2" (THIRD YEAR TEACHERS AND SECONDARY).
Supervising Teacher—Mr. A. J. Coombes, B.A.

Although rather depleted in numbers we began the first term of 1915 with enthusiasm, made bright by the excellent results of the Junior Public

Examination. Those pupils of the old "B2" class who returned to school have joined our class ("B1"), the remainder having commenced their struggle along Life's highway.

Trigonometry, our new subject, has been taken up with zest, while the stirring deeds related by "pater Aeneas" engross much attention (and occupy much time) at night.

We are proud of the fact that Bert Hope has been elected captain of the First Eleven, while two members of the crew—Fahey (stroke) and Craw—belong to our class. As the crew is shortly going to Hobart to row for the Clarke Shield, we take this opportunity of wishing it every success.

Every Tuesday afternoon the junior teachers visit the East Launceston Practising School, where they hear enjoyable lectures and receive lessons in drawing.

On February 12th, our first annual speech-night was held in the Mechanics' Hall. At the conclusion of this function the Director of Education presented the prizes and intermediate certificates won at the recent Junior Public Examinations. It is worthy of note that one of our boys—Ray Atkinson—gained nine credits, thus topping the 1st for the state, and gaining an exhibition; while both of the Education Department's £5 prizes were won by pupils of our class.

During the term a debating society has been formed, and although, through various inconveniences, we have been able to hold only one debate, several members have shown great promise as speakers, and we hope, before long, to more than hold our own in debates with "C1" debating society.

We were very sorry indeed to hear of the death of Dorothy Bennetts, who, until recently, was a member of our class. Besides being a good scholar, Dorothy was always to the fore on the field of sport as captain of the girls' cricket team, and one of our best hockey players. She was a great favourite with all, and will be sadly missed.

The splendid collection of pictures which adorns the walls of our room has been augmented recently by the addition of a photo, of last year's crew.

The peaceful studies of "B2" class, which occupies one end of the landing, were disturbed the other day by the advent of a cricket ball through one of the panes of glass. However, the resulting shock to the nervous systems of "B2's" members soon passed off.

We are now looking forward to the Easter vacation, when we hope to recuperate after this term's strenuous (?) work. Eh b'en! Au revoir, bons amis.

"C1" (SECOND YEAR TEACHERS AND SECONDARY).

Supervising Teacher—Miss Spotswood.

After trying in vain to think of an original opening for our class notes, we have decided such a thing non est, so perforce we must do without it.

The main topic of interest this quarter has been the trouble caused by Ariovistus to the Gauls. Our introduction to Caesar was a bad one, as we had to start on O.O. at the very outset, and one worried member of the class was heard to remark that he wished Cæsar had been one whom the gods loved, and consequently had died young.

But things are looking brighter now, and Stubbs is the only one who acknowledges that he doesn't understand chapter 31 still. Perhaps it is because Stubbs is more candid than some of the others.

This year Bridley has left us and entered the Industrial Class. Irene Cruse has left, and Hettie Shiner has gone into another class.

We have a new member, in the person of Harold Watters, who is proving himself an addition to our English class, and also to our debating club. In the latter sphere he is putting quite a different "complexion" on things.

In the region of sports we are proud to say that we have the captain of the tennis team in our class, and also two members of the crew.

During the last three weeks we have inaugurated a Belgian fund, and have subscribed 5s. a week so far, which we mean to continue raising until the need becomes less acute.

"C2" and "C3" (SECOND YEAR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL). Supervising Teacher—Miss Rockwell.

Our first quarter has slipped by very quickly. We scarcely seem to have started it—and here are the quarterly examinations crowding in on us once again.

We have changed our place of abode, and now look across the roofs and chimneys of Launceston to where the Tamar shines in his majesty—and mud.

A change of room is not the only alteration this term. "C2" and "C3" are now combined, and although the "Commercialites" have diminished in numbers the Industrial boys are still numbering thirteen, having lost Bert Smythe, the class prefect, and gained W. Bridley, from the Secondary.

This year a new order of things has been introduced with regard to floral decorations, the girls of the class taking a week in turn, and thus preventing the overworking of a few.

A Belgian fund has been started in our room, and we intend to contribute weekly.

In sport we are still holding our own, though Eva Balstrup is missed very much in the girls' cricket team.

The boys are still well represented in the various teams, Munro, Smith, and Masters upholding the honour of the room in the cricket field, while Jacques, we understand, is doing wonders at the swimming baths. We all thoroughly enjoyed our first speech-night, and felt very proud of last year's representatives at the Junior Public.

We mean to work for the same results this year, and would like to see one at least of the £5 prizes coming to "C2" or "C3."

"D1" (FIRST YEAR TEACHERS AND SECONDARY).

Supervising Teacher—Mr. Grace.

Our class is composed of 42 scholars, most of whom we, at any rate, consider rather bright and promising pupils. To us all the work at first seemed rather strange, but we have now fallen in line, and are carrying on our daily work as if we had been accustomed to the same for quite a long time.

We were all very pleased to learn that Myra Barrett's geography note-book had been selected as the best for the First Term out of 100 books. This is a distinction of which the class is very proud.

Our sports are progressing very favourably. Some of our number have learnt to swim, and others are becoming quite expert at tennis and cricket.

All the members of our class are endeavouring to save id. weekly in aid of the Belgian Fund. I am afraid the Honorary Treasurers think it must be rather an effort on the part of some who have not yet paid up to date.

We are all rather busy preparing for our quarterly exams., or at least we should be, as they begin next week. On the whole we have spent a very enjoyable quarter, and we trust it will not by any means be our best, for next Term we intend to aim for better results than those which have been already achieved.

Some of our boys are doing wonders at sloyd, and one of them has kindly offered to make a notice board, but as yet it has not arrived.

We have to thank Harold McElwee for his kindness in preparing the charts used in our class.

It is with much pleasure we look forward to our Easter holidays, but we intend to come back prepared for a Term of solid work, and hope we will make our class one of which the whole school will be proud—the best. To do this we will have to fulfil the words of our motto, "Prorsum et semper honeste," and thus uphold the honour of the school.

"D2" (FIRST YEAR COMMERCIAL). Supervising Teacher—

Miss Walker.

The Lower Commercial Class of 1915 has commenced the year with large numbers, and we hope to retain all our members till the end of the year.

At first the work seemed strange, but ere this all have settled down in earnest. We are shortly to be initiated into the mysteries of the quarterly exams., and hope to acquit ourselves well, and do our class credit.

As regards sport, we are well able to hold our own, Price having the "dizzy" honour of being a member of the "Firsts," while Belle Murray is doing excellent work in the girls' cricket team.

Early in the Term each member of the class subscribed a penny towards purchasing vases for our corner of the hall, and they are well supplied with flowers by the girls.

"D3" (FIRST YEAR INDUSTRIAL). Supervising Teacher—
Miss Stephenson, B.A.

We of Class "D3" are embarked on an industrial, and, let's hope, industrious career. Consisting entirely of the sterner sex, we have it in our hands to uphold the honour and superiority of man! Strange be it if our stalwart shoulders shirk the weight of a few a, b, c's of Algebra or some of the queer words of Talisman, because, forsooth, it is drill night.

For decoration our class-room depends on the generosity of the girls. We wonder if it is contrary to the by-laws of the city for boys to carry flowers, or is it an unwritten law of the boys of the city that is so much dreaded!

At our sloyd classes on Thursday mornings we have made many useful articles, including three notice-boards for the school. Morrisby and Cropp have made artistic thermometer and weather charts for our class.

Report has it that Gill bids fair to make a fine cricketer.

JUNIOR SCHOOL ("D1," "D2," "D3.") GEOGRAPHY AND
PHYSIOGRAPHY NOTE-BOOKS.

This Term great interest has been evinced by the above-mentioned classes in the care of Geography Note-books, though the marks awarded to a few should warn them that they still have much to accomplish.

Out of the 100 Geography Note-books of the three classes 17 were selected from which the final choice for first place was to be made. Out of these were selected the books of the following seven scholars:—Elmie London ("D1"), Myra Barrett ("D1"), Marjorie Rudge ("D1"), Clarice Ockerby ("D1"), Norman Howard ("D2"), Wilfred Stephens ("D2"), Ross Price ("D2").

These books were handed to the Principal, who awarded places as follows:—

First—Myra Barrett.

Second—Norman Howard.

Third—Ross Price.

"D3," though failing to obtain a place in the Geography section, has the section of Physiography all to itself, and for Physiography Note-books places were awarded as follows:—

First—Robert Bligh.

Second—W. Stroud.

Credit is also due to the following for the time and careful attention which they have given to the construction of wind, rain, thermometer, and barometer charts:—

"D1."—McCormack and McElwee.

"D2."—Stevens and Howard.

"D3."—Morrisby and Cropp.

WAR SPECIAL.

Modern Maxim: "The Censor's pen is mightier than the sword."
Europe has knocked the "H" out of the Hague, and left it the "Ague."

Greece is getting ready to sit on the Ottoman.

A riddle in rhyme:

"What do you take as an appetiser?"
"Haggis and sauerkraut a la Kaiser."

A teacher was giving a geography lesson. "Now," he said, "we come to Germany—that important country ruled by the Kaiser. What is a Kaiser, Tommy Jones?" "Please, sir," replied Tommy (who was thinking of a geyser), "a stream of boiling water continually bubbling up and disturbing the earth."

What proof is there of the fact that the Kaiser is colour-blind?—At the beginning of the present war he thought that Grey was green.

Why do Germans spell "culture" with a "k"?—Because England has command of the seas.

Dedicated to the Emden, and more especially to Ralph Anderson:

When the "Emden" hove in sight
Ralph got ready for the fight,
So he strove with "dash" and "go"
To assist her down below;
And because of Ralph's intent
Down below the Emden went.—L.B.D.

EXAMINATIONS: A PHANTASY

(COMPRISING, IN PARTEM, A CATASTROPHE.)

(By "Titus Wheat.")

"You have come prepared to enjoy yourself, I suppose," says the dentist. "Well, I guess, I couldn't exactly say that," I answer, "for I have rather come to do away with a couple of pet enjoyments, to wit, those wretched old molars of mine." "Did the pain trouble you much?" "Well, I wouldn't wake up in the middle of the night to cry for more of it!" He laughs, and moves away, and snatches of whispered conversation reach me. "Bring in that extra cylinder in case of emergencies. . . . Have you got that lancet sterilised? . . . Fit this on his nose." Then the dentist says, "Hold up your arm as long as you can, will you please?" "It's a cinch," says I, and then they start pumping the

nitrous oxide into my nostrils. I begin breathing heavily, the wall grows dim, I feel myself going, going, and then—

* * * * *

O, Julius Caesar, what's this awful figure, with the menacing face, so ghostly pale and, horrors! its shimmering white skin is covered with mysterious inscriptions, glowing dully red in the intangible mist which surrounds it, until they resemble brands made by a red-hot iron. Aye! and what is this odour which is wafted faintly to me? It is—it is, the smell of burning flesh! . . . The figure advances, slowly, and without apparent effort, gliding, as it were, upon the mist which follows it about as though it were part of its being. It halts before me, and now, for some unaccountable reason, it does not inspire me with such awful fear as before; intense curiosity alone possesses me. I am, therefore, at liberty to examine it, and in doing so soon discover that the head is formed by a clock, with the hands moving inexorably on, and, a moment later, the ticking becomes audible, filling me with a vague knowledge that something waits to be done, and that the time in which I have to do it is steadily becoming less and less. The body of this strange apparition is composed of a thin sheet of paper—like flesh—and, even as I gaze upon it, the meaning of it all flashes upon my mind like a stroke of "greased lightning"—it is the Ghost of Examinations! The instant I understand this the bells of the clock begin to chime, and in some wonderful way I know that they are speaking, and can interpret what they say. "Know, O mortal!" they toll out, "I am forced by the Gods to inhabit the earth and haunt all boys and girls; but, in thirty times three years I shall be liberated, and examinations will be no more!" All the time the ghost is speaking the hands of the clock are moving on. Suddenly they seem to acquire an extraordinary velocity, and, rushing round, point to 12 o'clock, and with a loud cry the ghost disappears.

Vague, drifting memories haunt me for a time, and then the scene changes. I am in the Examination Room, writing for dear life. The teacher in charge makes the dread announcement, "All writing must now cease." I hastily scribble "convenerunt," and prepare to pin my papers together. With a rush all the sheets of paper turn into one big Latin dictionary, provided with pen-like arms and a big clock for a head. It picks me up, and slowly throttles me. I feel myself slowly choking. Then the clock booms out, "Breathe deep!" "Breathe deep!" and I am thrown into a water-chute, like the one at Coney Island, and, rushing downwards, I strike bottom and bump—

* * * * *

"They won't trouble him any more," the dentist is saying. In a few moments I awake to the consciousness that there is an odd feeling in my mouth, and that the exams. are over, with the Easter holidays approaching.

But I'm still wondering whether in thirty times three years there will be any more examinations!

SPORTS COLUMN.—BOYS' SPORTS.

CRICKET.

Firsts.

The inception of the second part of this season saw many vacancies in the team which commenced the 1914-15 season. Such bulwarks of the team as Barling, Rowell, Sellars, Smythe, Geard, Taylor are sorely missed. Yet, despite the weakened strength, we have pulled together, and, although we say it ourselves, have put up some good fights against the various teams which have opposed us. Two First Year boys—Price and Archer—had the honour of being picked to play with the Firsts, and some who formerly played with the Seconds have been promoted to the Firsts.

Much regret was expressed when it was learned that the North v. South State High School match was not likely to eventuate this season. During the latter part of the season we have been practising on turf, and hope that this will put us more on a level with other teams.

MATCHES.

S.H.S. v. SCOTCH COLLEGE.

The first match of this year was one played against the Scotch College, on the Cornwall Ground. Scotch batting first, compiled the creditable score of 171, the chief performers with the bat being Maddox (85), Coles (41), Pitt (30). The most successful trundlers for the S.H.S. were Munro (six wickets for 51 runs), Collins (two wickets), Cunningham (one wicket). In their first innings S.H.S. veritably "tumbled over" for the enormous score of 27.

In the second innings S.H.S. became more accustomed to the intricacies of turf, and made a much better attempt, in losing only three wickets for 95, the chief scorers being Cunningham (32), Scott (32 not out), Hope (14).

With the exception of several catches missed the fielding was very creditable, and was favourably commented upon by our opponents.

S.H.S. v. GRAMMAR SCHOOL SECONDS.

This match was played on Glen Dhu Ground, and was won by the S.H.S. At the call of time, however, S.H.S. were 15 runs to the bad, with three wickets to fall. However, in consideration of the fact that S.H.S. had not had the same time in which to get the runs as their opponents, they were allowed an extra 10 minutes. In that time S.H.S. obtained 20 runs and lost two wickets, thus winning by 5 runs and one wicket. This was a good match, and, as far as our team was concerned, brought to light some very good work in the field and with the bat and ball. The bowling honours fell to Cunningham (five wickets), Dicker (two wickets), Hope (one wicket), Stubs (two wickets).

All the team fielded well, the service of Hope in the outfield, where he took three beautiful catches, being especially meritorious. In batting, two or three surprise packets were brought to light. Our first few wickets fell for a very small score, and it seemed as though defeat was imminent, as the fallen wickets included most of the best bats. Dicker seemed in good batting form, but was run out by the reckless Scott before he had reached double figures. However, Scott made amends by holding up his wicket and adding a run here and there as the chance offered, scoring in all 32 not out. The two who really pulled the match out of the fire were Rosevears with a nicely compiled 14, and Stubs, who heralded his appearance in First Cricket with a well-made score of 36, not losing his wicket till the run which evened the scores had been made. However, Archer, the next batsman, did not lose his wicket until our opponents' score had been reached, so the game ended in our favour.

NORTH v. SOUTH.

Our North v. South match was to have taken place on the 20th inst., but, unfortunately, had to be abandoned.

S.H.S. v. EVANDALE.

This match is in course of arrangement for the 27th inst., and we hope to have a very pleasant day in the country.

We regret to have to state that one member of our team, "Fatty" Collins, has left, and is now a knight of the pen in one of the city offices. We greatly miss his cheery presence, but hope to see him soon a fully-fledged accountant.

Seconds.

Drill has intervened to prevent our having as many matches as we would have liked. Nevertheless we have had one every "off-day," and have had some very pleasant contests. There are many changes in the Seconds team of December, 1914, some having left, others being honoured by selection with the Firsts. Their places have been filled by First Year pupils, some of whom show great promise.

Our first two matches were against East Launceston. The first match was won by our team, thanks to the services of Murray (23), Price (18 not out), Johnston (11), with the bat, and Turner (three wickets), Stubs (three wickets) with the ball.

In the second match our team suffered a reverse, this time S.H.S. being beaten by three wickets. The best performers with the bat were Johnstone (27) and Turner (23). The chief trundlers were Johnstone, Turner, Stubs, who captured two wickets each.

The third and last match was against Grammar School Thirds. In this we again suffered defeat, although our team strove hard to avert it. Our chief scorer was Turner (20), and Johnston secured six wickets, Turner two. The following were noted for their fielding—Turner, Johnstone, Challis, and Cobbet.

A match against the Evandale State School is in course of arrangement, but we are not certain yet whether the match will eventuate.

Thirds.

Although we started the season badly we finished it up very well. The selectors had very great difficulty in selecting the team to play the first game, but we are pleased to say that they selected a very good one, nearly all of whom played the remainder of the matches. Out of four matches that were played we won three, so there is no reason for complaints. At a meeting held on March 3 it was agreed that A. Traill should be captain, H. McElwee vice-captain, and N. Howard secretary, and that the above-named boys should comprise the collection committee. Our first match was played on the 10th and 17th of February against Charles-street Firsts, when we were defeated by 40 runs. The second was on the 24th of February and 3rd March against East Launceston Seconds, when we succeeded in defeating them by the narrow margin of 6 runs. The third was on the 27th of February against Charles-street again, when we defeated them by 10 wickets, and the last match was against East Launceston Seconds, again defeating them by an innings and 44 runs. There can be no complaint made against any of the boys who played, as they all did their best, and played for the honour of the school. Perhaps the best players right through the season were Gill, Craw, Mills, McElwee, and Wyatt. Duff played extra well in the first match, but for some reason did not play any of the remaining matches. Special mention should be made of Arthur Wyatt, whose one-hand catches and long throws are all that could be desired. He has easily proved the best fieldsmen of the team. Howard, our secretary, is a good player, and he has also done much to help us along.

ROWING.

After the Bourke Cup came a spell from rowing, but this Term a crew for the Clark Shield, at Hobart, was formed, and it has been training for some six weeks past.

The crew picked consists of W. Fahey (stroke), I. Douglas (3), H. Craw (2), R. Scott (bow), and J. Robinson (cox.). Scott has taken the place formerly occupied by Taylor; Fahey has been installed in his former position of stroke, his place being taken by Douglas; while Craw is still in his old position, and Robinson has taken the place of Collins, who has left.

Our thanks are due to Mr. C. Pattison, who, in spite of his many other duties, has found time to coach us. Our former coach, Mr. K. L. Hudson, has enlisted, and is at present training at Broadmeadows, where, he tells us, he is having a good time, despite the dust.

SWIMMING.

Much interest has been shown this quarter in swimming. Our party consisted of about 50 boys, the majority of whom are now able to swim. Collins, who went to rowing, put up a good performance by winning two

handicaps at the South Esk Swimming Carnival. At the State School Carnival Partridge won from Jaques by a small margin. Amongst the new boys, Walklate especially distinguished himself by winning the New Boys' Handicap.

Rosevears is the fastest swimmer, while Jaques, Bridley, Partridge, and Johnson are worthy of special note. During the Term a very fair number have learned to swim.

GIRLS' SPORTS.

CRICKET

Although we have lost some of our best players of last year, much enthusiasm has been displayed by those remaining. To take the place of those lost our newcomers supplied the gap, and show very good form. Our greatest loss is Dorothy Bennetts, whose memory will long remain "green" with the players of last year.

As no other Launceston school has a girls' team we have had no matches this Term. Nevertheless interest has not flagged. Among the "firsts" good work has been done by Alice Cunningham, Kathie McKay, and Doris Wylie, while Millie Solomon still remains our only over-arm bowler.

Among the newcomers, Olive Kidd, Belle Murray, and Corrie Laird show the best form.

TENNIS.

This year we have more members in our Tennis Club than we have ever had before, no fewer than ten First Year girls having joined our ranks.

The names of the newcomers are Mona Gurr, Muriel Chick, Clarice Ockerby, Clarice Malcolm, Maggie Lacey, Marjorie Tevelin, Mabel Curnow, Jennie Thelwell, Elsie Kerrison, and Marjorie Rudge. Of these several are already showing promise, and should make good players.

Among the older girls, Cecil Nash has attained to the position of captain, vice Belinda Jensen, who, however, still remains a member, although she has left school.

Pearl Berlowitz is developing a very nice service, although it still lacks the force necessary to make it really effective. Bertha is playing well, and hitting hard, although her serve needs more force.

On Saturday next we commence our Quarterly Tournament for Mr. Miller's prize, and the handicaps are as follow:

Cecil, owe 15.	Mavis, scratch.
Belinda, owe 3-6 15.	Jean, scratch.
Pearl, owe 3-6 15.	Sybil rec. 3-6 15.
Bertha, owe 3-6 15.	Marguerite, rec. 15.
Jessie, owe 3-6 15.	

SWIMMING.

This season the swimming baths have not been quite so popular, probably because cricket has been introduced as a summer sport among the girls. About a dozen girls have learnt to swim, five of whom are newcomers.

Ona Green, Hettie Shiner, and Bertha Merrick deserve commendation for the persevering effort they have shown, also Zillah Smith for the help she has given to beginners.

POET'S CORNER.

INFANTRY.

(Taken from "Punch.")

In Paris Town, in Paris Town—'twas neath an April sky—
I saw a regiment of the line go marching to Versailles;
When white along the Bois there shone the chestnut's waxen cells,
And the sun was winking on the long Labels,
Flic, flac, flic, flac on all the long Labels!

The flowers were out along the Bois, the leaves were overhead,
And I saw a regiment of the line that swung in blue and red;
The youth of things, the joy of things, they made my heart to beat,
And the quick-step lilt, and the tramp of feet!
Flic, flac, flic, flac, the tramping of the feet!

The spik'd nuts have fallen and the leaf is dull and dry
Since last I saw a regiment go marching to Versailles;
And what's become of all those that heard the music play?
They trained them for the Frontier upon an August day;
Flic, flac, flic, flac, all on an August day.

And some of them they stumbled on the slippery summer grass,
And there they've left them lying with their faces to Alsace;
The others—so they'd tell you—ere the chestnuts decked for spring
Shall march beneath some linden trees to call upon a king;
Flic, flac, flic, flac, to call upon a king.

A CONTRAST.

By "M. I. Mosa."

A breathless silence reigns around, but broken now and then
By a bird's loud song, a falling limb, or a cackling native hen;
For 'tis summer in the Bushland, near all is low and still,
And the gentle breeze's fragrant breath creeps slowly o'er each hill.

But now 'tis in the winter, a different scene we see,
For the howling wind, and the thunder's roar, both playing dreadful
glee;
A crashing roar, a hideous thud, mark the death of some great tree,
As torn from the ground by mighty hands, its roots break loose
and free.

EDITOR'S NOTES.

If our "Old Scholars" have read what we have to say to them earlier in our columns they will know that their absence from our present ranks in no way postulates that we have forgotten them, or that we are not anxious for their welfare.

As we have more than once told them through these columns, we will continue to watch their future careers with great interest. We will be the first to applaud if they are successful. We will chronicle their successes in our columns.

Once again we ask all "Old Scholars" who gain successes in such events as Musical or Literary Competitions, to inform us of the fact. Likewise we will be pleased to hear of any promotions gained in whatever life-work an "Old Scholar" has chosen.

We invite you to contribute to our columns. Contributions may take the form of Personal Notes, Short Stories, Accounts of Trips Made to Places of Interest, Poems, Sports Records, or any similar matter likely to prove of interest to our readers. You know that we require a certain standard to be maintained in our Magazine. Provided you maintain that standard, the greater the variety of any matter which you forward us, the more we shall appreciate it.

We solicit subscriptions to the "Northern Churinga" from all "Old Scholars." Regular subscription will keep you in touch with what we are doing. Furthermore, your subscription will help us to improve our Magazine, and make it a publication of which we can all feel proud.

To facilitate correspondence between those who have left our walls, we will endeavour to publish any change in address of which "Old Scholars" notify us.

The subscription to the "Northern Churinga" will be 3s. per annum, or 9d. per copy. An issue will be published quarterly, and lists of "Old Scholar" subscribers will be published in each edition. It would help the Editor if contributions to our columns reach him not later than the end of the second month in each Term.

The following friends, scholars, and "old scholars" are numbered amongst our subscribers for the current year:—Mr. K. L. Hudson, R. Stephens, P. Fordham, H. Monkhouse, H. Illingworth, E. Briggs, F. Taylor, R. Rule, C. Cunningham, W. Mason, A. Kilby, N. Patman, Florrie Lees, Blin Jensen, R. Watson, E. Smedley, J. Farmilo.