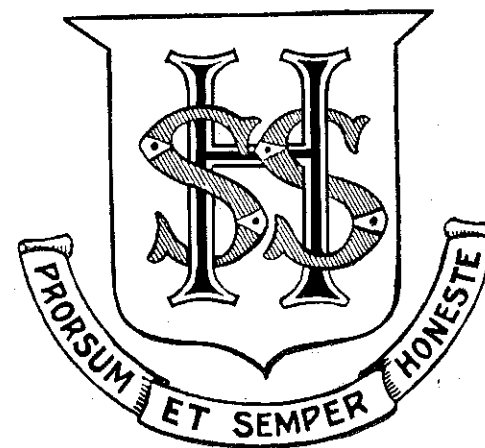


The Northern Churinga



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EDITORIAL.

"The best school of all," words we sing and say very lightly, words perhaps too often on our lips, uttered with a certain amount of earnestness, but thoughtlessly withal. Over and over again we see it—the youngster but newly arrived from the primary department—the youth of the third or fourth year—there is a certain type found at all stages of the school career fondly planting streamers of school colour and proclaiming that he belongs to "the best school in town."

It seems to me that bombast is a fault too often found in our midst, too ready are we to label ourselves as the most superior article in the market. Beware! for this indeed is the hall-mark of the pig. The man who is continually patting himself on the back soon comes to devote his whole energy to that task, with the result that before long there is nothing left to pat.

A man who is continually protesting that he is a gentleman surely must feel the necessity to do so. As with the individual, so it is with the community. True worth has no need to proclaim itself; it is very soon recognised. If you really wish your school to be the "best of all" do not talk about it, but do what you can to make it so; and do not forget the person to start with is yourself. See that you do your bit towards creating the school tone, and do it in the right direction.

Be earnest in your work, your play. The boy who is a "passenger" on the field is doing his best to degenerate to the weedy, unfit looking individual we too often see at various sports gatherings. An onlooker who knows every point of the game—who is ready to bet on the result with any chance acquaintance, but who would be of no earthly use to either side were he forced to take part.

No matter if your natural ability at games is but small, get out and do your bit. The last thing the school wishes to do is to make of you a professional sportsman; but it does want to put some good, red blood coursing through your veins and make you fit to carry on the more important work of the class-room.

While devoting the proper proportion of time to your physical development, see that the more serious business of the time is not neglected. Competition grows keener day by day, and pity help the ill-educated; such a hard fight before him, and so little to fight with.

And now, you people anxious for the welfare of your class, of your school, there is one last task I would lay upon you, and that the hardest of all, "Be glad for the other fellow." True, it is not the easiest thing in the world. No one expects you to be hilariously glad that you have been beaten. I am not asking that; but you both have known the zest of hard work, the joy of the struggle; both alike have striven—so respect an honest rival, and give him your hand in fellowship, with an heartfelt "Well done."

After all 'tis fellowship and love of human kin that make the world go round. "Love and fellowship," a doctrine that cannot be preached too often!

Of little use to claim precedence as the best class, best school, best anything, if you go on your way selfishly, idly, doing little else. Life is given to us as day at a time, the blessed interval of rest and darkness allows us to gather up our energies anew; then do your best each one as it comes, and do it in all humility, the shouting and applause may safely be left to the crowd.

SPEECH NIGHT.

Monday, March 5, was the School Speech Night, and for the first time in the history of the school it was commemorated in our hall. The hall, however, proved too small for the crowd of assembled parents and friends.

The Premier and Minister for Education, Mr. Lee, presided. The Director of Education, Mr. W. T. McCoy, made a short speech, and then presented the prizes and certificates.

Our first Senior Public results were recorded, and we have to congratulate Miss Bertha Jayh and Miss Doris Richardson—the former winning the medical scholarship, the Director's £10 prize, and the University prize for arithmetic, the latter the University prizes for shorthand and book-keeping; also Ray Atkinson, who gained eight credits, one pass, won the Director's £10 prize, qualified for a University literary scholarship, and gained the University prizes for Latin and Geography.

Our most successful junior candidates were Basil Telford, who tied for the first University scholarship, Carey and Stephens, who also gained eight credits, one pass, and Marjory Tevelein, with seven credits, two passes.

Several enjoyable items were rendered by the Girls' Choir, and we wish to thank Muriel Chick and Clarice Malcolm for musical items, also Claudia Sutherland and Connie Nichols, who accompanied the various songs.

The Principal, Mr. R. O. Miller, B.A., in his report, gave a brief account of the year's work, and stressed the importance of pupils completing their High School course. The evening then closed with the singing of the school song.

VALEDICTORY.

It was with great regret that we bade farewell to Miss Walker at the end of last year. Miss Walker had been with us for three years, and during that time had taken an active interest in the corporate life of the school. She will be sadly missed by both old scholars and present scholars. Whenever there was a social function we looked to Miss Walker, so that on this account, as well as for her work in the class-room, we are sorry to lose her. Previous to her departure she received a bevy of presents. Her debating class presented her with a volume of Browning; her class, with a manicure set; the school as a whole, with a handsome travelling case; and the staff with a fountain pen. We wish Miss Walker every success in New Zealand, her new home.

DUCES OF SCHOOL.

(Fourth Term, 1916).

- "A." Class—Ray Atkinson (Dux of School).
- "B." Class—R. Briggs, A. Davern (Aeq.).
- "C." Class—B. Telford.
- "C2" Class—F. Carey, W. Stephens (Aeq.).
- "D1" Class—Phyllis Harnett.
- "D2" Class—Ken Dallas.
- "D3" Class—M. Brown.
- "D4" Class—J. Jones.

"IT'S A FACT."

That 'B' Class think Ovid "Horrid."
 That among our platoon there are some "stars."
 That a certain person walks round his bat before every stroke.
 That we wish he wouldn't.
 That some 'A' Class pupils have taken a house.
 That Hec. has been criticising "Virginibus Puerisque" from the point of view of an expert.
 That we won the North versus South in spite of the yelling.
 That "Tom" is appointed Adviser-in-Ordinary to the School.
 That Peter came to school with flowers of sulphur in his coat.
 That "Johno" can tell a tale about pears.
 That 'Ackie' claims a medal for bravery.
 That there has been some discussion lately regarding the pronouncement of "Aries."
 That the Firsts are a "slip"-pery lot.
 That "Palla" and others travel in cabs.
 That the drilling of the cadets is now becoming more "uniform."
 That Len made a fine speech thanking the girls for dinner.
 That Dallas is sometimes called Atlas.
 That this is reminiscent perhaps of them 'appy days.
 That our historical experts have discovered that the Danes were a danger to England.
 That this is about on a par with the remark that the story of Bran is to be found in Pollard's History.
 That certain people stretch out their legs in class.
 That this is not an intellectual feat.
 That crayfish does not go well with ice-cream.

ON TOUR COLUMN.

A TRIP TO MOUNT BARROW.

Morning broke beautifully fine with every indication of a glorious day to follow—a day which will remain with us for ever. By 6.30 a.m. the whole party had gathered at the rendezvous, eager to start. A halt was made at Hobbler's Bridge to set the aneroid, which one of the party carried, and then the journey commenced in earnest.

The road is a steady climb the whole way, though here and there a downhill run gives a little rest to aching legs. The hilly country makes the road exceedingly picturesque, and about five miles from the city one gets a magnificent view of the upper reaches of the Tamar, and the Tiers behind Longford.

At St. Patrick's River a supply of milk obtained from the quaint, old post office proved most welcome, and seemed to pour new life into our veins. Here we left the main road and crossed the river, but a puncture (the only one of the trip) delayed us for a few minutes.

The road now aimed for the mountain, which could be seen towering above us and seemingly quite close. After riding about four miles we turned to the right, but this road proved a cul-de-sac, and we were forced to retrace our steps; then on again. As it was nearly 9 o'clock we decided to have breakfast at the first creek. Thereupon for the first time on the journey we seemed to be passing through desert land; longingly we thought of the creeks passed earlier in the morning; how beautiful seemed the cool water beside which we had rested an hour before. At last we reached the longed for creek. Packs were joyfully unstrapped, and bicycles leaned against the scrub. Soon the billy was boiling and breakfast ready.

The road now rose steeply. However, with a thought to the return we decided to push the bicycles as far as the going was good. When the aneroid showed an elevation of over 2000 feet the road became unfit for bicycles, so we left them in the scrub.

The track, entering the big timber at right angles to the road, now became very steep, and the aneroid dropped rapidly. Suddenly we emerged on to a plateau clothed with myrtle and studded with the weird, brilliant blossoms of the Waratah. One looked instinctively for the laurel and gorgeous blandfordia, but in vain. Having crossed this forest belt we were forced to scramble across a deep rift worn by some river of past ages; then on again, but now parallel with the huge cairn-like mound which forms the summit, and from which the mountain takes its name. Here the big timber gives way to stunted growth and twisted shrubs.

A rest now proved very welcome, and dinner more welcome still. Feeling refreshed we then attempted the steepest part of the climb, and very steep it proved.

The first member of the party to reach the mountain top was startled by a daring attack of two large eagles. The arrival of the other members frightened the birds, but they soon returned, and on one occasion the female bird came within a few feet of the mound, her gleaming eyes, grim, cruel beak and outstretched wings causing some consternation as she fiercely menaced the invaders of the mountain fastness.

On reaching the summit one is amply repaid for all toil, for a glorious stretch of land and water lies open to view. There right in front scintillate the glistening waters of Bass Strait, and far out on the horizon glimmer the Strezlecki Mountains, their base bathed in waters, their tops merging into the clouds. Right beneath us the silvery Tamar courses lazily in its valley, and in the purple distance can be seen Table Cape. The billowy lands round Evandale, the plains of Longford walled in by the Western Tiers, stretch at our feet, and there right beneath us is a narrow road winding over the hills, a road which passing through a little straggling village is lost amid the mountains. Then one's gaze rests on Ben Lomond, standing massive, rugged, grand, the silent monarch of the ages.

With feelings of awe inspired by the solitude of Nature and the magnitude of her work, we regretfully retraced our steps and soon reached the bicycles. Here we rested and had tea. Then homewards.

But the day had not yet given its crowning glory. We were yet to see a sunset such as is seldom allowed man to see, a sunset which one imagines is kept for the gods. The river valley was suffused with golden light, long streamers of gold from the sinking sun shot into the sky; the heavens were a blaze of colour such as Turner loves to depict; here was a red merging into a delicate orange, there a translucent blue softened the sterner colour; the distant mountains were transformed into temples of subtlest opal, their valleys a deep blue merging into a delicate purple, their summits a line of gold. Gradually the colours faded, and a sombre grey prevailed in the sky: the mountains lost their splendour, the valley its glory. A perfect finish to a perfect day.

THE ANNUAL PICNIC.

On December 18, 1916, the pupils and teachers of our school boarded the s.s. Bass, and prepared to spend an enjoyable day at Swan Point. The boat left the wharf at about 10 o'clock, and everyone had opportunity to admire the beautiful scenery on the banks of the Tamar as we went down.

Swan Point hove in sight at about mid-day, and we all wandered along the beach in search of a pleasant spot to partake of our mid-day

meal. After dinner the various classes competed in foot races, and a few lucky ones received boxes of chocolates as first or second prizes. These prizes were generously donated by Mrs. Petric. Then games were indulged in, some of us playing cricket and some playing baseball. After tea a flag race was run by members of the different classes, and "fill the gap," "all sweet beans," etc., were games which found ready devotees.

At half-past 6 we left the picnic ground, and returned to Launceston. On the way home a few of us are said to have shown symptoms of sea sickness, and certainly when the Loongana passed the river was little choppy. However, we arrived home tired and very sun burnt, but looking forward to the next annual picnic.

WARBLER'S NOTES

This term the Warbler's singing class has increased greatly in numbers, and the progress made has been very satisfactory. Tenors and the members' subscriptions are still found wanting though. We would be very pleased to welcome any boy who thinks he can make a fairly high-pitched noise. The subs. may be paid to Irvine Douglas or Cecil Nash.

We have attempted several new songs this quarter. "The Soldiers' Chorus," from "Faust," and "Mary Had a Little Lamb" are now great favorites. Mary has even ousted Mother Hubbard out of her place of preference. We hope to startle the community with a concert some day.

CLASS NOTES.

Class "A."—Supervising Teacher, Mr. A. L. Meston, B.A.

We begin our first term this year sadly conscious that many old friends and faces are missing. Ah, well, such is fate, and we are trying to adjust ourselves to circumstances. There have been various efforts made by "A." Class to awaken themselves to the dignity of their position. For instance, one day "A." Class comes into prominence with white bows; when the progressive "C." Class speedily follow their example, this custom is soon dropped. Next the girls come with their hair done in the marvellous Trojan—or is it Grecian?—manner. Then, for a diversion, several of the boys wear their collars upside down. Such are the vagaries of fashion!

The new arrangement of desks has brought about much satisfaction to some at any rate. Query: Who are the some? Evidently the arrangement is of educational value; and it is rumored that E.O.G. has quite recently made almost miraculous progress in the deaf and dumb language.

Events have moved rapidly during the last few days. Six of the first eleven belong to "A." Class, and in the annual North v. South match E. Scott (the Captain), O. Wyllie, J. Turner, and L. Stubbs performed notable service for the school. In the evening of the same eventful day A. Davern, who won the 100 yards Swimming Championship in fine style, and F. Partridge, the winner of the Breast Stroke Championship, covered themselves with glory. Now our crews are going to Hobart to withstand attacks on our possession of the Clarke Shield. Among the members of the first crew we are proud to count from among our members A. Scott (Stroke), H. Craw, I. Douglas, and H. Freeburgh (cox.). We wish them the best of success in their coming contest.

In class cricket we are having a successful season. Up to the point of writing we have been unbeaten. G. Dicker made the first

century in the history of the school (112 not out) against "B." Class. George has the excellent average in class cricket of 184, and E. Scott's average is 128.

CLASS "B."—Supervising Teacher: Mr. W. L. Grace, B.A.

On resuming school after the Xmas holidays we were sorry to find our class much diminished. Owing to this the "C." classes of last year have combined, and now the dignity of "B." weighs heavily on our shoulders. No more for us the wild delights of younger days.

We are pleased to welcome into our midst Berrie Campbell, Atkinson Junior, and Cutts, and hope they will do well in their new sphere.

The "B." Class has at last gained the distinction of having "several" members in the first teams.

The class wishes to congratulate M. Tevelein, Telford, Carey, and Stephens on their success in the J.P., wherein they kept up the H.S. standard of results.

Our girls' cricket team still has hopes of winning the shield, although they suffered defeat at the hands of the "D." Class with becoming grace. The boys also see in their dreams the boys' cricket shield adorning "B." Class walls.

CLASS "C1" (TEACHERS AND SECONDARY.—Supervising Teacher, Miss F. Bell, B.A.

Our first term in the "C1" Class is drawing to a close, and now that the quarterly examinations are upon us we realise that the weeks have been all too few for accomplishing the work set for this term.

Since the last issue of the "Churinga" the "C1" teachers have been joined by the Secondary boys, and we extend them a hearty welcome. During the quarter two of our members, Alf. Dickenson and Hope Rollins, have left, the latter having gone to the Devonport S.H.S.

We have a nice, sunny room upstairs this term, its only disadvantage being that it overlooks the gael, which we hope will soon be removed. We were very pleased when we heard that we were to have Miss Bell for our supervising teacher.

The teachers of "C1" have determined to do their best this year in order to secure a place among the first forty from the State High Schools in the Junior Public Exams.

The Debating Society has not been very active this term, partly on account of the girls' time at the beginning of the quarter being taken up in practising for Speech night.

We have received a visit from the Hobart S.H.S. tennis and cricket teams for the purpose of playing the annual North and South matches. While extending to them a cordial welcome, we hope that our own teams will be successful in defeating these.

This term has been a short one, but we have all enjoyed it, and though we are looking forward to the holidays, we will sincerely welcome the next quarter.

CLASS "C2."—Supervising Teacher, Miss Greaves.

"Never mind the weather,
Now we're all together—
Here we are! Here we are!
Here we are again."

Triumphantly and jubilantly we are now embarked upon our fifth term at "The best school of all," and our first term of the Junior Public classdom. We, the industrious "D4" Class of 1916, are now united with the upper commercial class, and form the "C2" Class. This year we are fortunate enough to have a goodly number of the fairer sex amongst us, and they have ably and successfully fulfilled their mission by keeping us well supplied with flowers of various kinds.

Through the agency of Stuart Maslin we have now a uniform covering for our ink wells, and now there is some talk of bringing a clock for the class. Many of us hope, however, that it will not be a "Big Ben," because the "row" they make (which is commonly called ticking) would be liable to keep us awake.

We now conclude by hoping that the best team—the "C." Class team—will win the class cricket tournament.

CLASS "C3" (COMM.)—Supervising Teacher, Miss Davies, M.A.

Who are we? What are we? Various names have been applied to us which are said to be appropriate, but we do not recognise ourselves under the said appellations.

Some of our class-mates of last year are now in C2, and there is a vague air of superiority in their leaning towards us, though they still condescend to join us in debate. We should like to remind them that "The race is not always to the swift;" and we hope to divide more credits among us than those who beat us at the end of last year. And now may we be permitted to say a few words in self-defence. You will doubtless admit that we are very small. We need only mention Honey, Mace, Walkeden, and Phillips; in fact it is only the presence of Lohrey and Malkin which gives us a certain feeling of security. It has been whispered against us that our sense of humor is somewhat difficult to arouse; but we feel sure that when a joke is fired at us we seldom allow more than half an hour to elapse before showing our appreciation of it. Not only is this the case, but we may state that some members of the class have during the term shown a considerable amount of originality. It was one of us who was the proud discoverer of the fact that the chief result of Gunpowder Plot was the Translation of the Bible.

We are quite at home in our new room, and shall like it even better in the winter, when sunshine is so welcome. Eric Tabart has busied himself in hanging pictures and otherwise adorning our walls.

We shall eagerly await the results of the Quarterly Exams. It would be difficult to foretell who will occupy the first place. We expect some surprises, as a few who made a poor showing last year are now making great efforts to obtain a higher position in class.

CLASS "D1."—Supervising Teacher: Mr. Callaway.

A term at school has passed away, a term full of both work and play, which all the children in "D." have tried to make a brilliant one.

Here we are at last! A bright, merry class we are. We worked very hard last year, but were rewarded by being admitted to the High School. We numbered forty-four, but our leading sportsman, Stanley Chisholm, has now taken "the stream" (he is already down "the Tamar").

During our short stay in "D." Class-room we have added to its already neat appearance by purchasing two vases and a waste paper basket. The former are kept well filled by Francis Murray; to the latter we all contribute. We thank Walter Sturzaker for the fine shield which hangs in the room.

During the term we have become acquainted with three previously unknown subjects, namely, Latin, French, and Chemistry. We are now able to translate whole sentences in Latin and French, and have discovered that oxygen is soluble in tomato sauce.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Laurie Hodges, Eileen Targett, and Reginald Chamley, who have been raised to the high honor of prefects. We have every confidence that they will prove successful.

The Exams. are over, and we are now anxiously awaiting the holidays, when we hope to see home, and at the same time our first reports. We are all hoping they will be good ones.

CLASS "D2"—Supervising Teacher: B. Wilcox.

As the end of our first quarter of High School life draws near we are just beginning to feel "at home." We now walk boldly, and no longer creep timidly about, starting at every shadow—or should we say black gown? Our experiences have been very varied, but at present the one subject occupying our minds is the Quarterly Exam., which, although we dread unspeakably, we are hoping it will give us an opportunity of showing our mettle. Some of our number are making our hopes run high. How Albert can interpret so unerringly that strange tangle of lines and letters put on the board, and labelled "Geometry," is quite beyond our ken; but we are assured it is not beyond our powers. And although a nameless one did once confuse "electric light" with "horse-power," we find that "business practice" is not so alarming as it sounded. We are now getting comfortably settled in our room; but, although some additions have been made to its equipment, there is still scope in that direction. Our pictures, for example may have quality, but scarcely quantity. At first we lacked both notice boards and vases, but we must thank Redvers McVilley and Adie Garrard for supplying the former, while combined effort procured the latter, and keeps them nicely filled. Jean and Edna especially are careful about this.

We have not yet done much in the way of sport, but these notes would not be complete without mention of our cricketers' talent in the persons of A. Baker and R. McVilley, the former taking his place in the N. and S. match.

Despite this, the Exams. loom so close that we can think of nothing else, and we only hope that the results will soon banish the worried looks at present marking the faces of most of the "D." Classes.

CLASS "D3."—Supervising Teacher: Miss Grubb.

There are only two boys among our forty-one pupils. They come in very handy for fixing the blinds and making the ink, and we do hope they will make a reputation for our class in Geometry, as we are told the subject is easier for boys than girls. We hope so, at least.

The monitors keep our vases looking fresh, and one of Miss Lawson's class, Max Von Bibra, has made us a notice board, for which we are very grateful.

Wednesday is the nicest day in the week for us, for half the afternoon is given to sport. We have several members of the 1st cricket team in our room, and we hope that the end of the term will see us victorious in the class matches.

We are now anxiously waiting to hear who has been chosen prefect, and each of us hopes to have that honor given to us.

CLASS "D4" (Commercial)—Supervising Teacher, Miss Stephenson, B.A.

"Nous voice," with one of our ambitions realised, for we have passed the "Qualifying Exam.," and are now enrolled as pupils at the High School. "D4" is a class of over 40 boys, and let us hope that every one of them will try to make his school and class the best in every way. The approaching examinations will reveal how our work compares with that of the other "D." classes.

Several of the boys have been very thoughtful in looking after the class-rooms. Hughes mended the blind, and McOmish procured a receptacle for ink; Jacobson donated a pot plant, and most of the class gave a small contribution towards a bowl for it. Unfortunately flowers are rather difficult to procure.

We conclude by congratulating all those who marched on to the platform for their prizes and certificates on the occasion of the Annual Speech night. May we be in their proud position in two years' time!

CLASS "D5."—Supervising Teacher: Miss Lawson.

We, the industrious industrial, consist of a class of thirty of the best boys in the school. Of course work goes along very smoothly, as we are not troubled by the fairer sex.

Our mates were soon chosen, and it was not long before the little class of "going-to-be" engineers or farmers were putting up a good fight against the other "D." Classes.

In the past our room has not been very well desksed, but the "D2" class have heard weird sounds, which indicate that new ones have been supplied. Contributions have been made of a pair of vases added; those are kept fairly well supplied by various members of the class. Before the termination of next quarter we hope to have everything our room requires.

All are anxiously awaiting to hear who has been chosen as prefect of our class.

Time flies! We are now wearing the end of the first quarter, and can safely claim that "D5" has been industrious, and tried to do its duty. Our Quarterly Examination has commenced, and all hope to show what the industrial "D5" really can do.

SCIENCE FROM AN ARM CHAIR.

SNAKES.

(By "Krinos.")

It is perfectly true that all branches of natural history are of interest, but it is also equally true that to most people some aspects of nature are much more interesting, and form more attractive spheres of work than others. Snakes can generally be placed in the class of "more interesting." The study of snakes seems to exercise an irresistible fascination for the public mind. In all ages snakes have been much in the thought of mankind. They have found their way into numerous religious myths, and become closely associated with mystical practices and rites. They form the groundwork of the plot of many an ancient legend. They have crept, so to speak, into almost everything. But it is not only in the domain of literature that snakes abound. They occupy also an important portion of the realm of art. Innumerable paintings, sculptures, and bas-reliefs depict them in strange profusion. Frequently they are represented coiled up or gliding along in sinuous lines.

The average man has very decided opinions about these reptiles as a whole, and particularly about those which, at the first grand distribution of prizes by the gods, were allotted to our island; decided opinions regarding details of habit, coloring and virulence, and size. Size seems to be the great virtue in a snake. If a snake is of a respectable size he is sure to enjoy (sic) post mortem fame.

Next time you meet a farmer or anyone who knows something about the country, ask him how many species of snakes there are in Tasmania. Do it innocently, as if you did not know. Nine times out of ten you will be told (after certain strange digital evolutions) that there are five or more. Enquiries further pursued, still with naive simplicity, will probably elicit the list, thus—Tiger, whip, copper, black, and carpet.

The known number of native snakes is three. They are (i.) the whip (*Denisonia coronoides*), (ii.) the tiger (*Notechis scutatus*), and (iii.) the black, copper, or carpet snake (*Denisonia superba*), as it is variously called. These complete our snakes. You may tell your farmer this if you like.

In addition to these, however, our fauna includes one reptile which, not altogether without cause, is often regarded as a snake. Most commonly it is described as a snake with two legs. The strange product of evolution in question is known scientifically (to those who concern themselves with such matters), as the *Pygopus*. It is really a lizard, but as it has no proper legs, being equipped with only two small flaps of skin, which during life are normally adpressed to the body, it is no wonder that it frequently is taken for a snake.

But, after all, in spite of the existence of the anomalous *Pygopus*, our gallery of snakes is still limited to three species; only three.

There is, as has been said, some excuse for people regarding the *Pygopus* as a snake, but there does not seem to be any for the strange ideas concerning the character of our lizards. Many of these unfortunate reptiles are considered poisonous, and killed at sight. The worst sufferer in this respect is the so-called "gnana." This lizard, whose correct name is "skink," is, by some wild stretch of imagination, commonly credited with possessing "poison fangs."

Like many other animals, the skink is the proud owner of a tongue. It is a very beautiful tongue, being of a bright blue color. Naturally enough the elegant member is often exhibited by the skink, and it is its protrusion that in most cases has led to fearful tales of death-dealing fangs. It certainly does sometimes bring death to flies, but it never exercises a biting or poisonous function. That is reserved for the highest primates.

I kept a skink once for a considerable time as a pet, and a very quaint and satisfactory pet he made, too. He was continually protruding his blue tongue, but he never bit anyone. It is a great pity that this harmful lizard should be regarded as poisonous, and killed.

Before finally leaving the fascinating subject of snakes, a word or two must be said about a true snake yarn, concerning a reptile that cats with its backbone. It seems a great pity that people should worry about labored fictions when such a gem lies right before them. It is like men going round the town declaring they have seen a tiger whelp, while round the corner a full-grown lion is attacking a terrified crowd.

The snake has a number of vertebrae—thirteen in all—which project down into the neck, and when the mouth closes upon an egg these "teeth" come into action, and, better to perform their unusual function, they are coated with enamel. It literally eats with its backbone. Some unkind people to whom the above has been related have stated that they wonder the snake has the backbone to do it. But they generally subside when they are told that it is an aboriginal ophidian called *Dasypelta muricatum*. Specimens of this snake have been kept for many years in the Zoological Gardens in London, and a number of very curious observations have been made on its habits. As an example of this we may mention that, although only as thick as a man's finger, the reptile is able to swallow fowls' eggs without breaking them until the haemal spines of the vertebrae are pressed upon them.

CADET NOTES.

(By "A.I.D.")

With the influx of a large number of new scholars our two platoons have grown considerably. We now have the honor of being the largest School Cadet Corps in the State.

Our appearance has been greatly improved by the fact that at last we have been issued with the new uniforms. It is whispered that several cadets got lost in their shirts, while some of the smaller ones got trousers large enough to serve as overalls.

On Saturday, March 2, our four-hour parade for this quarter was held. We fell in at school at 8.30, and made our way to the range.

On the way our more musical members favored passers-by with melodious songs, while the less musical ones tried to. On the range the 1899 and 1900 quotas fired, while the others were taken for company drill. Owing to lack of time we could not get much firing done. However, we did our grouping at 100 yards and the practise target at 200. On the whole the scores were rather low, very few on the 200 yards getting over 10 out of 20. The grouping was much better.

At the end of this month there is a Swimming Carnival coming off, in which the cadets have several events, including a Teams' Race. We are putting a strong team in, and we also hope to have some of our boys placed in the other races.

On Reinforcement Day a large number of our cadets took part in the procession.

For a long while we have heard rumors of an examination for promotion, but it still seems as far off as ever. There are still some who are working hard for it, but most have given up hope of it coming in their day.

At present our organisation is as follows: Company Commander, Lieutenant A. L. Meston; No. 6 Platoon, 2nd Lieutenant R. I. Douglas; No. 1 Section Commander, Sergeant L. Briggs; No. 2, Corporal E. O. G. Scott; No. 3, Corporal A. J. Davern; No. 4, Corporal R. C. E. Atkinson; Platoon Sergeant, Sergeant L. O. Stubs; No. 7 Platoon Commander, 2nd Lieutenant R. A. Scott; Section Commanders: No. 1 Corps, H. Fletcher; No. 2, Acting Corporal I. Phillips; No. 3, Acting Corporal J. Gourlay; No. 4, Acting Corporal J. F. Turner; Platoon Sergeant, Acting Sergeant H. Craw; Company S.M., Corporal P. Palamountain.

HOW IT'S DONE.

To the first year scholar who has never before delved into the pages of "The Northern Churinga" we particularly address this article. It is well that those to whom we look for future contributions should, at least, have some idea, some grasp of the meaning of the term "school magazine," and that they should know of the work that is entailed between the cover of this book.

In the first place, what is "The Northern Churinga?" It is a record of the work of the school—your school—and it is, we hope, a source of brief entertainment and enjoyment to the several hundred scholars—past and present—who peruse its contents.

A record of the work of the School . . . A few short words, which, nevertheless, mean much—to the compilers of that record, at any rate. . .

Think, readers, what has to be done. The Editor is quietly contemplating an article just sent in, or may be marking some history papers, when a frenzied note comes from the printer to say that he must have "copy." The Editor then has to find some "copy." Unfortunately, none is at hand. The contributors have been dilatory, the secretary of the—let us say, the first jumping team—has not sent in his report, and, like the dog of Old Mother Hubbard, the printer has to go without. Now this causes worry, loss of time, and anxiety. Many would-be contributors have "put off" sending in their matter till too late, and the result is that the magazine is very likely lacking in some good work, which, through sheer thoughtlessness on the part of the writer, has been left till it is too late for it to be published.

Then there is always the person who, when approached for a contribution, modestly says he or she "can't." To such as these, and to those who have previously had matter rejected, we would drop a reminder of the fact that Henry Lawson, one of Australia's best modern poets, had his first poems rejected time and time again.

So let us make this appeal for support from the members—A, B, C, or D Class—of the School. The magazine is yours, and in your hands is the making or marring of it. Certainly, every effort submitted cannot be published, but if every one in the School sent in something what a wealth of literary work would there be to choose from! And the talent is in the School; there can be no doubt of that. Therefore, let the next issue of "The Northern Churinga" eclipse all others in variety, in detail—in everything; and let everyone be able to look at some part of the magazine and say, "I did this," and feel that he has had some part in making "The Northern Churinga" what it should be.

BOYS' SPORTS.

ROWING.

BOURKE CUP SCHOOLS' RACE.

On the 16th December last the annual race for the Bourke Cup was held on the Home Reach course. The weather conditions were at first unfavorable, and it seemed at first as if the race would have to be postponed. Something like mountainous waves were on the river, and some of the passengers of the launch were thus somewhat incommoded. Later in the afternoon, however, the water became calmer, but insufficiently so to allow of the race being held over the usual course on the eastern shore. The course was on the Trevallan shore, finishing at a point opposite Town Point, being somewhat shorter than usual.

The race itself lacked some of the interest of former years owing to the non-entrance of several schools, but, on the other hand, the Devonport State High sent in their first crew, while we entered two crews. The crews got away to a fairly good start, and Launceston No. 1 crew immediately showed out to advantage, while the two remaining crews battled along on fairly equal terms. Fahey set a long, steady stroke, and slowly advanced his lead, and the chief interest centred in the struggle for second place.

When the gun went at the finish Launceston No. 1 crew were about five lengths in the lead of Devonport, who were followed by Launceston No. 2 about three lengths away. The Launceston crews were:—

No. 1 crew.—R. A. Scott (bow), H. Craw (2), I. Douglas (3), W. Fahey (stroke), H. Freeburgh (cox.).

No. 2 crew.—H. Watters (bow), F. Partridge (2), E. Wyllie (3), N. McLeod (stroke), M. Ridge (cox.).

After the race the Devonport boys were entertained at afternoon tea by their Launceston opponents, and the following toasts were honored: "The Coaches," proposed by W. Fahey, responded to by Mr. C. Pattison; "The Devonport State High School," proposed by Mr. Miller, responded to by Mr. Sharp; "The Losing Crews," proposed by I. Douglas, responded to by J. Levy.

TAMAR REGATTA.

The Tamar Rowing Club was represented in the Maiden and Junior Fours of the Tamar Regatta by our first crew, consisting of E. Wyllie (bow), H. Craw (2), I. Douglas (3), A. Scott (stroke), H. Freeburgh (cox.). It will be seen that Fahey's place has been taken by Scott, while Wyllie, of last year's second crew, has been placed bow. The regatta was held on the 24th February, and in the Maiden Fours we beat Lindisfarne by about four lengths, with Buckingham several lengths behind. In the Junior Fours, however, there was a fresh crew from North Esk, besides the crews which competed in the Maiden Race. North Esk got rather a better start than we did, and up to half-way were somewhat in the lead by about half a length. Sprinting,

however, our crew caught up their lost distance, and from here to the finish the race resolved itself into a series of challenges between the two leading crews, which were generally to the advantage of our crew. The finish was one of the most exciting of the day. In the final sprint our crew gained the judge's decision by about half a length. The other crews were some distance behind.

S.H.S. ROWING CLUB.

The annual meeting was held this quarter, and the following officers were elected: Captain, A. Scott; Vice-Captain, H. Crow; Secretary, I. Douglas; Committee, F. Partridge, Feutrill, A. Luck, N. McLeod. A number of new members have joined the club, and it is pleasing to note the number of new crews who are practising.

CRICKET.

FIRSTS.

At a meeting held in the beginning of the year E. Scott was elected Captain; G. Dicker, Vice-Captain; and J. Turner, Secretary. The only match, exclusive of the North v. South contest, was against the Ghurkas, whom we played with a weak team. We scored 105 to their 39. Stubs, McElwee, and Atkinson did well with the bat, and Turner and Brain were the most successful bowlers.

NORTH v. SOUTH.

The match was played on the Association Ground on Monday, March 19. McNeair, the Southern Captain, won the toss, and sent us in to bat on a fairly good wicket. The innings was opened by E. Scott and G. Dicker. Disaster soon overtook George, he being bowled by McNeair for 0. Scott, however, remained right through the innings, and was well supported by Stubs (12) and Wyllie (11), so that the innings closed for the respectable score of 110. South went in to bat on a good wicket, but their innings resulted in only 75 runs. This was mainly owing to the good bowling of Les. Brain (five for 27) and L. Stubs (four for 42). South's chief scorer was D. Green (23). North again went in to bat, but disaster overtook the team, the first six wickets falling for 35 runs. E. Scott, who had made 54 not out in the first innings, was again batting splendidly, and Wyllie (29) aided him to stop the rot. Scott was at length stumped by Crouch off Green for a flawless 58: his batting was quite the feature of the match. Wyllie's innings was also highly commendable, as his effort was made at a time when wickets were falling fast. The innings closed for 114, and South were set the difficult task of making 150 runs in under two hours. In this they failed rather badly, as they were dismissed for 69. G. Dicker (two for 16), L. Brain (two for 20), and J. Turner (four for 11) all bowled well for North. The fielding of both teams was good, but that of South especially so. The scores in detail were:

NORTH.—1st Innings.

E. Scott, not out	54
G. Dicker, b McNeair	0
L. Stubs, b McNeair	12
H. McElwee, b Lucas	1
A. Baker, b McNeair	2
J. Turner, b McNeair	9
O. Wyllie, b McNeair	11
F. Johnstone, c Stott, b Richards	5
R. Atkinson, run out	0
C. Cobbett, b McNeair	0
L. Brain, run out	9
Sundries	7

Total ... 110

Bowling.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
McNeair...	16	0	63	6
Lucas...	9.5	1	26	1
Richards...	6	1	14	1

Second Innings.

E. Scott, st. Crouch, b Green	58
L. Stubs, run out	0
A. Baker, b Lucas	4
Brain, st. Crouch, b McNeair	0
Dicker, b McNeair	6
McElwee, c and b McNeair	10
Wyllie, run out	29
Turner, run out	0
Johnstone, b Lucas	2
Atkinson, not out	0
Cobbett, b Green	0
Sundries	5

Total ... 114

Bowling.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
McNeair	12	—	58	3
Lucas	11	—	29	2
Green	7	—	19	2
Richards	3	—	3	—

South.—1st Innings.

D. Green, b Stubs	23
L. Stephens, lbw, b Brain	2
McNeair, c Atkinson, b Stubs	6
G. Lucas, run out	7
W. Gerlach, b Brain	6
D. Crouch, c Wyllie, b Stubs	1
M. Stott, c Cobbett, b Stubs	8
A. Willing, st. Scott, b Brain	8
H. White, b Brain	6
L. Locke, c Dicker, b Brain	8
V. Richards, not out	0
Sundries	0

Total ... 75

Bowling.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
L. Stubs...	12	2	42	4
L. Brain...	9	2	27	5
J. Turner	3	1	5	0

2nd Innings.

D. Green, c Turner	3
L. Stephens, c and b Brain	9
H. White, b Dicker	9
A. Willing, c McElwee, b Stubs	0
G. Lucas, b Brain	20
M. McNeair, c Turner, b Dicker	1
D. Crouch, b Turner	9
V. Richards, b Turner	0
Locke, c Baker, b Turner	1
W. Gerlach, run out	4
Stott, not out	11
Sundries	2

Total ... 69

Bowling.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
L. Brain	8	1	20	2
G. Dicker	6	1	16	2
L. Stubs	2	—	17	1
J. Turner	5	—	11	4

North won by 81 runs.

CLASS CRICKET.

A meeting was held early in the term, when it was decided to carry on with class cricket this season. The following officials were selected:

Supervising Teachers—Mr. Meston, Mr. Grace, and Mr. Callaway.

A. Class—E. Scott (Captain), G. Dicker (Vice), J. Turner (Secretary).

B. Class—F. Johnstone (Captain), H. McElwee (Vice), H. Cooper (Secretary).

C. Class—E. Tabart (Captain), G. Maslin (Vice), E. Wyllie (Secretary).

D. Class—W. Feutrill (Captain), Chisholm (Vice), R. McVilley (Secretary).

General Secretary—E. Scott.

The matches were played on the Cornwall cement wicket and the Glen Dhu Ground on Saturday morning. The following are the results (*signifies not out):

A. versus B.—Cornwall Ground.

B. Class—First innings, 29 (McLeod 7, Johnstone 5). Bowling: Dicker, five for 14; Wyllie, two for nil. Second innings, 54 (A. Atkinson 25, Johnstone 6). Bowling: Dicker, four for 22.

A. Class—First innings, 225 (G. Dicker 111*, E. Scott 51). Bowling: McElwee, four for 18; Johnstone, four for 64.

Result—Three-point win for A. Class.

C. versus D.—Glen Dhu.

C. Class—First innings, 86 (E. Wyllie 38, Cobbett 10). Bowling: Feutrill, seven for 21; Chisholm, two for 27. Second innings, 58. (Kerrison 18, E. Tabart 14). Bowling: McVilley, five for 14.

D. Class—First innings, 205 (Feutrill 91, Baker 74). Bowling: Tabart, four for 45; Maslin, three for 49.

Result—Three-point win for A. Class.

A. versus C.—Cornwall Ground.

A. Class—First innings, 250 (Dicker 74, E. Scott 74*). Bowling: Cobbett, six for 91.

C. Class—First innings, 45 (Cunningham 15, Maslin 10). Bowling: Stubs, three for 15; E. Scott, one for 4. Second innings, 47 (Tabart 23, McGuire 9). Bowling: Turner, four for 11; Stubs, one for 9.

Result—Three-point win for A. Class.

B. Class—First innings, 114 (McElwee 58, Stephens 12). Bowling: McVilley, three for 6; Feutrill, two for 29. Second innings 150. (McElwee 30, Brain 29). Bowling: Baker, two for 21; Chamley, three for 43.

D. Class—First innings, 148 (McVilley 43, Baker 41). Bowling: Brain, four for 4; Craw, three for 24. Second innings, 47 (Baker 13, Burnie 9). Bowling: Brain, seven for 25; Craw, three for 22.

Result—Three-point win for B. Class.

There is yet one round of matches to be played, when A. meets D., and B. meets C. The points now stand: A. Class, 6 points; B. Class, 3 points; C. Class, 0 points; D. Class, 3 points.

SECONDS.

At a meeting held on February 21 to elect officers for the season S. Ryan was elected captain, A. Atkinson vice-captain, and A. Williams secretary. The class matches have taken up most of our spare time this season, but we have, however, managed to play one match, and that against a composite team of the Scotch College firsts and seconds.

The Scotch College won the toss, and decided to bat first. They made 81, the chief scorer being Kaw, who made 27. Our chief bowlers were Stephens, who did the hat-trick, securing six wickets for 48, Williams, who secured three wickets for 24, and Maslin, one wicket for nine. We then batted and made 37; the chief scorers were Ryan, Stephens and Kerrison, who made eight each.

THIRDS.

Owing to the Christmas vacation extending up to the end of January, combined with wet weather, and holidays falling on several Wednesdays, the thirds have not been able to get very much practice.

Last Wednesday (the 7th) we played the Fourths, but were beaten by about twenty runs.

The most promising players are Towell (a good wicket-keeper), Birnie (a good bowler), and McGuire (our best batsman).

The position of Captain, Vice-Captain, and Secretary fall respectively to Cyril Towel, H. Dickens, and Andrew S. Burke.

FOURTHS.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, February 28th, for the purpose of electing a captain, vice-captain, and secretary. H. Williams was elected captain, M. Von Bibra vice-captain, and C. Mond secretary.

We number 26, and spend our enjoyable Wednesday afternoons at York Park. Owing to class matches, no matches have been played on Saturday mornings. However, we have played one match, which proved a pleasant surprise. The match was against the Thirds, whom we defeated by a considerable margin. Williams and Von Bibra assisted their team by scoring 18 and 14 respectively.

SWIMMING.

This term the fine sport swimming has come into far more prominence than it has ever known in the school before. This is a pleasing fact, as swimming previous to this has had practically no attention paid to it in the way of competitions. Last year the State Schools offered us a race in their carnival, but insufficient entries were received to carry it through. Again at their carnival, held a few weeks ago, they offered us another race. Eleven entries were received, and we had a good race, which resulted in a win for A. Davern, with I. P. Phillips a close second, and A. Luck third.

Some weeks previous to the North and South trip word was received from Mr. Stephens that the Hobart High School wished to compete for North and South Swimming Premiership. Accordingly our swimmers began to train, and when the Southerners arrived we were in good form to meet them. On Monday, the 19th March, the Carnival was held at the Victoria Baths. Six events were swum, and on totalling up the points it was found that North had run out winners by a margin of four points, gaining 29 points to South's 25. The following are the results of the six events held. In the 50 yards open championship B. Simpson swam a fine race and came first, with I. Phillips a close second, and A. Luck third. Then came the 50 yards breast stroke championship, which was won by F. Partridge in splendid style, with A. Dawson second and E. Burleigh third. Following this was the dive. In the first round J. Gough and B. Simpson ran out a dead heat, with Phillips third. In the diving off Gough came out first, both he and Simpson doing some excellent diving. The 100 yards

championship followed. The race was led for the first 75 yards by B. Cameron, with A. Davern close behind. However, on the last 25 yards the pace proved too fast for Cameron, and Davern took the lead, winning by a length or so, with Cameron second, and A. Tuck third. Then followed the 25 yards (under 15), which was won by Lipscombe, J. Gough coming second, and Johnson third. The teams' race brought the evening to a close. It was an exciting race, South winning by a very small margin.

Our thanks are due to the officials of the South Esk Swimming Club, who acted as starters and judges.

We are putting a team in for the cadets' teams race, which is coming off near the end of the term, and hope to gain a win. Several of our swimmers are also entering for individual races. We wish them success.

GIRLS' SPORTS.

CRICKET.

This term marks a new era in the girls' cricket world in so far as we have commenced playing class premiership matches. The winning team will hold a shield until the coming season, when it will again be contested for.

Teams have been picked to represent the various classes, each having their respective captains.

As yet only two matches have been played. The "C" Class met the "D" some time ago, securing an easy victory, good work being done by M. Ellis, F. Bailey, and L. Hodgetts.

Last Saturday the "B" Class played a match against the "D" on York Park. The "D" Class won by the small margin of two runs.

Before the holidays a team picked from all the classes will play a match against the Rowers.

TENNIS.

All were very much pleased when we knew that the Hobart State High girls were coming North to play against us. The match was played on the Royal Park courts. In some instances the sets were hotly contested, but in all except one victory went to the North. The scores were as follow:

- O. Jones beat E. Davis, 6—0.
- C. Nash beat G. Moore, 6—2.
- M. Rudge beat L. Turner, 6—1.
- L. Sampson beat C. Horner, 6—4.
- J. Nichols beat C. Underwood, 6—5.
- B. Wright beat A. Tuck, 6—4.
- M. Chick beat W. Smith, 6—5.

In the doubles:

- O. Jones and C. Nash beat E. Davis and L. Turner, 6—0.
- J. Nichols and M. Tevelein beat C. Underwood and M. Wright, 6—2.
- B. Wright and M. Chick beat A. Tuck and W. Smith, 6—1.
- While G. Moore and C. Horner won the only double for the South by 6—4.

The total number of games were: North, 70; South, 35.

The play of our girls was uniformly good, and the winning stroke was with us on almost every occasion, although the Southern girls put up a better fight than the scores show. The match was umpired by Miss Weaver and Miss Bell.

We hope that this win will make the younger tennis players more enthusiastic about their play, as there will be plenty of vacant places to fill up next year.

Unfortunately we could not procure the Margaret-street courts this term, but nevertheless Mr. Miller obtained the use of a second court for Saturday morning, which is much to our advantage.

POET'S CORNER.

DE TEMPORIS NATURA.

By D. K.

There is no time. That which to us seems so
Is but the limitation of our sense,
Immured within a prison house of flesh,
That binds the fancies of the restless mind,
And dulls the beauty of our higher selves.
There is no time in all the universe,
Whose ordered sequence stretches past the stars
In endless lines of beauty and of law.
For time is co-existent. Our blind brains,
Confined within a wall of misty dark,
Endeavor still to pierce the boding gloom,
And fruitlessly. Save that, as in a dream,
Illumined vaguely by an inward light,
We catch dim glimpses of what round us lies,
And fail to see the scenes which dwell afar.
We see the present, but the future stands
Obscure, unseen, beyond the range of sight,
Like lands of promise far beyond the hills,
Like promised lands beyond the sun-swept hills.

The mystic-eyed explorer, pushing forth
His shifting course in search of lands that lie
Far-off, beyond the setting of the sun,
Finds often times strange customs and strange things,
Discovers worlds that mankind knew not were,
And though, as fays, beneath a potent charm,
Must fail to pass beyond its shining spell,
We, too, are held more strongly than by steel,
By bonds that bind the roaming of the soul;
Yet some there are, a widely-scattered few,
To whom belong the power to range at will,
And briefly glimpse the things that are to be.
Such are the sages of antiquity;
Such, too, the clear-eyed seckers after truth,
Who nightly scan the skies in search of light,
And read the fates emblazoned 'mid the stars.

For all the universe is one great maze,
A pattern woven of bright whirling wheels
That interlock and spin in harmony,
Linked up by bonds most potent though unseen.

As in unknown and savage lands men dance
In groupings strange, and with a hidden plan,
Whereby, in honour of the mournful moon,
The counterfeited snake diverging glides
Along its winding pathway, long prepared,
And finds its victim at the promised goal;
While all around rise fiendish yells and cries,
And pale fires flash among the startled hills;
Just so the readers of the storied skies,
Deep-versed in occult law and magic spell,
Can see the goal to which our pathway tends,
And by the secret links which hold the world,
Can trace the journey of the drifting soul.
And though the jealous-eyed Dame Nature stands
Relentless keeper of our future deeds,
And shows her precious store but to the few
Who, by grim conflict, earn the right to draw

The shrouding veil that tricks the truth from view;
 Yet, by the fruitful mercy of the gods,
 We all may view the varied journey past,
 And linger over memories that gleam
 Deep graven in the whitened tomb of time—
 Dream-scented memories that, crowding, throng
 The busy portal of the mind, and bring
 The long sweet happiness of other days.

And thus, indeed, we know these things still are:
 Proud Rome still in her boastful vigour stands
 And casts her savage splendour through the world.
 E'en now the founders of the South Land roam,
 And feel their doubtful way to shores unknown,
 Although along three hundred times the sun
 Has traced his course among the pictured skies,
 And swung the seasons through the orb of change
 Since they, with prows adventurous burst forth
 Since they, with adventurous prows burst forth,
 Into the vastness of the virgin main,
 And, daring horrors of the unknown, sought
 The formless phantom land that lay beyond
 The misty curtain of the Southern Sea.
 And as we stand beneath untainted skies,
 Enamelled with the freshness of the morn,
 And fragrant with the glory of the spring,
 In some to us far distant vault there glares
 The boding menace of a comet's train,
 That brings strange sickness, and lean wasted years,
 And dull-eyed famine through the aching world.

There is no time. Time is of man, not God,
 The feared offspring of a finite mind.
 But in that blazing instant when two hearts,
 Deep-fraught with endless love, together fuse
 And fill the cycle of their destiny;
 In that clear-sighted moment when two souls
 Commune with tender thought and glad caress,
 Time fades into the mists of phantom thoughts,
 Like baseless fabric of a summer dream.
 And wafted o'er the boundless Sea of Being
 By winds that rise from out the morning star,
 There comes the ceaseless music of the spheres.
 And as a pilgrim, stained and worn with care,
 And toilsome journeyings in desert lands,
 Is cheered at length by fitful glimpse, that slants
 Across the sleeping bosom of the plain,
 Of long-sought mosque with heaven-searching spire,
 That glitters gilded by the evening sun;
 So must we treasure every passing gleam,
 Each trembling indication of that age,
 That age of higher thought and nobler deed,
 When man becomes with ampler vision armed,
 And on the Mount of Progress stands and sees
 Afar, time sink to nothingness and die.

CLARKE CHALLENGE SHIELD.

This race is to be held on the Derwent on 24th March. Two crews are being sent, the first crew being the same as above, while the second crew consists of J. Bentley (bow), P. Palamountain (2), F. Partridge (3), N. McLeod (stroke), M. Ridge (cox.). An account of the race will be given in our next issue.

OUR SPLENDID MEN.

LIEUT. W. L. GARRARD (ex-Master).
 CORPORAL H. GLOVER (ex-Master).
 PRIVATE H. EDE (ex-Master).
 SERGEANT S. LONERGAN.
 CORPORAL EDGAR BRIGGS.
 PRIVATE LINDSAY SCOTT.
 PRIVATE M'KIDD.
 PRIVATE P. RYAN (died of illness).
 PRIVATE W. MASON.
 PRIVATE R. RULE.
 PRIVATE ERIC M'IVOR.
 PRIVATE R. H. STEPHENS.
 PRIVATE JACK ROBERTSON.
 PRIVATE A. G. STOKES.
 PRIVATE C. E. ROWELL.
 PRIVATE H. ROSEVEAR.
 PRIVATE H. C. BAKER.
 PRIVATE W. W. CLARKE.
 PRIVATE J. C. SHAW.
 SEAMAN RAYMOND HAMENCE.
 SEAMAN RALPH ANDERSON.
 SEAMAN REG. WATSON.

OLD SCHOLARS' COLUMN.

President: Mr. W. L. G. Grace, State High School.
 General Secretary: Mr. T. G. Johnston, 163 Charles-street, L'ton.
 Assistant Secretaries: Ladies, Miss Amy Munro, Charles-st., L'ton;
 Gentlemen, Mr. Matt. Wise, Upper High-st., L'ton.
 Editor of "Old Scholars' Column": Mr. P. H. Fordham, Customs House, Launceston.

It is hoped that next term more contributions will be received for this column, especially from those members residing in the country, as it is pleasant for Old Scholars to hear of the welfare of each other.

During the term socials and evenings have not been held so frequently as during last term, although a pleasant outing was indulged in by means of an evening river excursion, partaken of early in the year. The s.s. Bass was chartered, and left the wharf about 6.45 p.m. The boat arriving at Rosevears about 8.15 p.m., the party landed, and games were held; then about an hour later the party again embarked for the homeward trip, during which supper was partaken of, and games were also played, whilst the singers showed their skill at the latest melodies. The boat arrived at the Launceston wharf about 11.30 p.m., and thus concluded a very pleasant evening.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING.

At the end of April the second Annual Meeting of the Association will be held. If any members have any suggestions or desire any alterations to the constitution they are requested to send same to the General Secretary not later than the 15th April, 1917. The amendments shall be in compliance with Rule 7 (a) of the Constitution, which reads as follows: "Proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Association shall be subject to the consent of the General Committee."

PERSONAL NOTES.

Clyde Rowell is in camp at Seymour, Victoria, with the Machine Gun Section. He says, "It is the life."

Hedley Rosevear enlisted some time ago, and is now in training at Salisbury Plains.

Ted Loone was seen in town last week, having been to Western Junction Camp training with the Militia.

Roy McCormack is now a clerk at the Launceston Marine Board office.

W. Smith—"Will" is often seen about the city with a notebook in his hand, being junior reporter for "The Daily Telegraph." We wish him success in his career as reporter.

W. Morrison—"Bill" is still doing clerical work. He looked very nice when marching out to the Militia Encampment.

M. Kidd—"Mac" wrote to us a few weeks ago from "Somewhere in France," stating that he is still with his battalion, the 52nd, in "Sunny" or "Muddy" France.

E. Briggs—Edgar is still keeping well, and is with his battalion. His photo, was in "The Courier" of February 22, taken with a group of Tasmanians in England.

V. Dwyer—Vern has been transferred from the Post Office at Derby to the G.P.O., Hobart.

Walter Lee has been transferred from the Commercial Bank of Tasmania, Launceston, to the Lovett (Port Cygnet) branch.

Reg. Brown still works at D. and W. Murray's. He has our sympathies during the recent bereavement, caused by the death of his brother, who gave his life for the Empire.

Stan Hutton works at the Glasgow Engineering Company. We will soon see Stan an engineer.

Vern Statton—Vern is employed as a mechanic at W. Hart and Sons.

R. Docking—Yes, you had hard luck, "Bob," but never mind, you have plenty of time "to attain the age and beat the Germans, too."

V. Sellers—"Alfy" must be keeping fit, as of old, winning Sheffield Handicaps, as he does.

R. Barling—"Bill" has made some good scores at cricket with the East Launceston Club this season.

F. Andrews—"Scotch" is now a "full blown" Second-Lieutenant in the Senior Cadets.

Will Clark is another old scholar who is destined to be a "militarist," as he is now a Sergeant-Major in the 92nd Battalion of Cadets.

Aubrey Wilkinson is Customs Clerk at Messrs. W. T. Bell and Co.'s. Reg. Watson is now on H.M.A.S. Australia.

R. Anderson—Ralph is still on H.M.A.S. Sydney "somewhere at sea," after having been cruising in the West Indies for several months.

Emily Barlow is now a clerk at the Tasmanian Soap and Candle Company.

Alfred Mathews is a clerk in the office of the Mount Bischoff Extended, Waratah.

John and Maggie Simpson, Beaconsfield, both sent their subs. They obtained their intermediate certificates.

Harry Monkhouse has been working at the railway for some months. He is now relieving at a country station.

Jack Robertson left Australia some months ago with the 57th Battalion.

G. Hutton—"Grat" is now working at Messrs. J. and T. Gunn's.

The following is a copy of a letter received from Ralph Anderson, who is on H.M.A.S. Sydney. Ralph was on the Sydney when she sank the Emden:

"H.M.A.S. Sydney, 'at sea,'

C/o G.P.O., London, 20/12/16.

"Having a couple of hours at my leisure I thought that now would be a favorable opportunity of telling you some of my experiences. By the way, at present the ship is doing her best in the way of acrobatics, so you will not have to complain about the style and neatness of this

letter. The mess deck is at present like a miniature wrecked and battered town, heaps of broken crockery, etc., lying about. We have been for some time out in the West Indies, with our base at Jamaica, and the heat was, as you may well imagine, well nigh intolerable. Sometimes the temperature has been so high that the thermometers have broken, so you can picture what a band of coolies and niggers, coating the vessel, would look like. The question of clothes, of course, did not present a very great difficulty, the least a man could wear being a singlet suit. Discomforts were, of course, many and various, but we had a good deal of leave, so that compensated for a lot. Once when at Jamaica, having received 36 hours' leave, a party of 14 of us went for a motor car jaunt, half-way round the island. We left the ship at 1.30 p.m., and two cars were waiting for us. We rolled out of Kingston at 20 miles per hour, but by the time we reached the Spanish town road the cars were each doing 45 miles an hour, and we soon came to Spanish Town. We stayed there for 'light' refreshments, but soon got on the road again, and about half-way to Moneague, at a place called the Mill Dam, we halted, for we had arranged to stay here for the night. The Dam reminds one somewhat of the Cataract Gorge, Launceston. After continuing our journey for another 80 miles we arrived at Moneague. After dinner we took a stroll around the village, all the houses of which are prison built; then proceeding to our hotel, we had an impromptu smoke concert till the early hours in the morning. After breakfast the next morning we started for St. Ann's, a distance of about 60 miles, and, excepting one puncture, reached St. Ann's safely shortly after 11 a.m. After lunch we started on our return journey, and reached Moneague about 7.30 p.m. We left the town at 8.30 p.m., and had to push on, as we had a good distance to travel, also a dangerous road to negotiate. As for the scenery on the homeward run, well, all we could see was a confused blur of trees, rocks, and valleys. The road was down hill nearly all the way, and a delay of half an hour was caused by the brakes of the leading car becoming red hot. We arrived at Kingston at 12.15 a.m., and 'turned in' to enjoy six hours' nap before our leave expired."

WHO'S WHO.

Principal—Mr. R. O. Miller, B.A.

Staff—Mr. A. J. Meston, B.A., Mr. W. Grace, B.A., Miss Bell, B.A., Miss Davies, M.A., Miss Stephenson, B.A., Miss Brown, Miss Greaves, Miss Wilcox, Miss Grubb, Miss McDonough, Miss Lawson, Miss Layh, Miss Richardson, Mr. Callaway.

Senior Prefect—Girls, C. Nash; Boys, I. Douglas.

Sports Prefect—G. Dicker.

Dux of School—R. Atkinson.

Captain of Cricket—Boys, E. Scott. Stroke of Crew—A. Scott.

State High School Rowing Club—Captain, A. Scott; Vice-Captain,

H. Craw; Secretary, I. Douglas.

Captain of Tennis—C. Nash.

Captain of Cricket—Girls, E. Kidd.

Debating Societies—Secretaries: "A." Class, E. Scott; "B." Class,

N. McLeod; "D1" Class, E. Wyllie; "D3" Class, E. Tabart.

Librarian—Miss Davies.

"Warblers" Singing Class—Conductor, Mr. Grace.

Old Scholars' Association—President, Mr. W. Grace; Secretary,

Mr. S. Johnstone.

Senior Cadets Half-Company—Commander, Lieut. Meston; No. 1

Platoon, 2nd Lieut. I. Douglas; No. 2 Platoon, 2nd Lieut. A. Scott.

"Northern Churinga"—Editor, Mr. Meston; Sub-Editor, I. Douglas;

Editor Old Scholars' Column, Mr. P. Fordham.

EDITOR'S SCRAP BOOK.

This being the first issue of the year, we extend to all the new scholars a most hearty welcome in this, their first, year of High School life. Some have come from far country districts, the "hinterland" of Launceston; others have come from the closer centres of pastoral and agricultural industry; while yet again others have come from the large town schools. But they all belong to one school, and already we feel that they are beginning to have imbued into them the growing traditions and sentiments and character of the "L.S.H.S."

This quarter we were favored by a fine address by Mr. Whitehorn, Principal of one of the Training Colleges of West Australia. Mr. Whitehorn, after expressing his admiration for the Launceston State High, gave an interesting account of his travels in Germany, Russia, Siberia, and Japan, where he was Professor of English at one of the Universities. His accounts of some of the Japanese customs provoked much mirth.

We extend to the first cricket team, the tennis team, and the swimmers our heartiest congratulation on their successes on the occasion of the North and South contest. We hope that by the time this is in the reader's hands the rowers will have met with success at Hobart in the race for the Clarke Shield, which we have this year to defend for the first time.

We take this opportunity of congratulating the successful candidates in last year's Junior and Senior Public Examinations. Especially we congratulate Ray Atkinson and F. Carey, W. Stephens, and B. Telford.

We were pleased to see W. Fahey at Speech Night. Surely, by the way he assisted at that function, he has not yet severed his connection with the school.

This year the staff of the "Northern Churinga" has been enlarged, and contributors and others would greatly oblige by assisting these in all manner possible. Remember, the magazine is in your hands and in your care.

We congratulate I. Douglas and C. Nash on being given the position of Senior Prefects of the boys and girls respectively.

SCHOOL LIBRARY.

During the term good use has been made of the Library, especially by the boys and girls of the Junior School. The girls very much appreciate the setting apart of the Reading Room for their exclusive use during the midday recess on Tuesday and Thursday. The Librarian is anxious to keep up the regular supply of periodicals and illustrated papers, which are suitable for boys and girls.

Donations of books and magazines will be of great benefit to all pupils of the State High School.

Special thanks are due to Elsie Barker, Evelyn Solomon, and others who have brought gifts to the Library.