

THE

Oldham Quilmerian.



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# The Oldham Advertiser.

Vol. I. (New Series). DECEMBER, 1904.

No. 6.

## School Notes.

THE new boys this term are Dawson S., Hughes J., Claughton W., Tonge W., Wilde W. R., Phillips C. R., Taylor G. T., Rennie F., Clark A., Quinn S., Wood F. Jackson V., Newbould A. T., Taylor W., Fray C. H., Bell H., Parker J., Harrison J. S., Moore S., Young W., and Pickford F.

We hope these boys will prosper and bring prosperity in studies, games, and all parts of our School life.

We note with pleasure a growing tendency for boys to remain at school until the completion of the school course, and this is having its effect in increasing success in games, as well as in other directions. The strength of the School lies in those boys who stay until they are 17 or 18.

But with regard to games, we must not omit to congratulate our indefatigable captain, J. West.

We congratulate Mr. J. A. Harrison on his appointment as (first) Headmaster of the Municipal Secondary School at Whitehaven. Mr. Dinsmore has also left us to undertake Art teaching at Salford Municipal Schools. Our loss is their gain.

We welcome Mr. R. B. Wight, of Brighton Grammar School and Cambridge University; also Mr. W. Earnshaw, of Preston Grammar School and Oxford.

The School was inspected in November by J. Fletcher, Esq., H.M. Chief Inspector of Secondary Schools, assisted by five other of H.M. Inspectors. Mr. Fletcher was well pleased with the tone and good form of the School.

Prefects are J. West, Viner, Hutchinson, J. Fletcher, Horsfall, Bagot, and Whitham. Sub-Prefect, Lawton.

Term ends on Wednesday, 21st December, and next term begins on Friday, 13th January, 1905.



## Cricket.

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### FIRST XI'S VISIT TO DERBY.

**M**R. and Mrs. Progdgers had invited our 1st XI to go and play against the local cricket team at Elvaston, and Saturday, June 25th was the date fixed. Accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Pickford and Mr. Williams, we started from Oldham at about 9-30 in two engaged carriages. After a most enjoyable journey we reached Derby at about 12-45 where a conveyance was waiting to carry us to the village of Elvaston. After a drive of about 5 miles through the country we reached Elvaston, and were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Progdgers, who were very glad to see us. Lunch was immediately served, and everybody did full justice to it. After inspecting the gardens round the Grange, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Progdgers, we walked slowly to the Cricket Ground. The ground was in excellent condition, but we had the misfortune to lose the toss.

Our opponents commenced to bat, but owing to good bowling by Whitham and smart all-round fielding, they were dismissed for the paltry total of 22 runs. Our start was none too brilliant, but Hartley and West both obtained useful scores, and when the score was 98 for 7 wickets, West declared our innings closed, and our opponents went in to bat again. This time they fared worse, and were all out for 8 runs. The whole team excelled themselves in this match.

Mr. Progdgers then took us round the old Church and gave us a description of it, which was most interesting. We were then taken to the racquet court, where a strawberry feast

awaited us. Both teams had tea together and we were joined by some of the villagers, so we had a jolly party. After thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Prodgers, and three hearty cheers, we drove away amidst the cheering of the villagers, and after a good journey reached home at about 10-15.

The greatest surprise of the day awaited us at the Grange, for after lunch Mr. Podgers presented us with a Cricket Shield on behalf of himself and his wife. The Shield is made from designs suggested by Mr. Prodgers, and is a most handsome present. West briefly thanked Mr. and Mrs. Prodgers, and called for three cheers, which were heartily given.

We were all very thankful to the Headmaster for his kindness in looking after the arrangements for the day.

\* \* \*

The following are the results of the 1904 cricket season :—

1st XI.—Played 12, won 8, lost 3, drawn 1. The matches lost were against the Masters and Werneth 3rd (twice). These satisfactory results are chiefly due to good batting by J. West, and really excellent bowling by several members of the team, notably Whitham. The latter also by plucky batting won our match v. Manchester G. S. 2nd XI.

2nd and "under 14" elevens.—Played 8, won 4, lost 4. The detailed account of matches appeared in our June issue.

#### BATTING.

	No. of Innings.	Runs.	Times Not Out.	Highest Score.	Average.
West J.	12	346	2	101	34·6
Hartley	11	188	1	55	18·8
Barber	5	47	2	39*	15·6
Whitham	11	142	1	42*	14·2
Mellor J.	7	53	2	15	10·6
Whitehead J. E.	6	46	1	22*	9·2
Ormrod	5	38	0	18	7·6
Lowe	11	69	1	18*	6·9

Ogden	10	68	0	17	6·8
Hutchinson	6	20	0	13	3·3
Newton	11	30	0	7	2·7
Birch	7	8	2	4*	1·6

\* *Not Out.*

## HIGH SCORES.

Barber	...	...	39	not out	v. H. G. S., Manchester.
Whitham	...	...	42	"	v. " "
Hartley	...	...	55		v. Manchester G. S. 2nd.
West J.	...	...	54	not out	v. Warrington.
"	...	...	66	"	v. Stand.
"	...	...	101		v. Warrington

## BOWLING.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Averages
Whitham	73·5	16	172	40	4·3
West J.	91·4	26	218	43	5·07
Birch	30·9	10	74	14	5·2
Twyerould	14	2	31	5	6·2
Hutchinson	16·3	6	34	5	6·8
Hartley	16·3	0	58	7	8·2
Lowe	22	7	38	4	9·5

## BEST BOWLING.

Whitham	...	...	5	wickets	for 2	v. Elvaston C.C.
West J.	...	...	5	"	"	4 v. "
Birch	...	...	2	"	"	1 v. Stand G. S.

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**Speech Day.**

**W**AS held on the 29th July, the last day of term. The Hall was well filled with parents and friends of the School, who were received by the Headmaster and Mrs. Pickford. The afternoon was given up to the performance of speeches from Molière, Plautus, and Sheridan, interspersed with the following selections by the choir, under the direction of Mr. T. H. Ingham, Mus. Bac. :—"With a

laugh as we go round" (solo, F. W. Faulkner), "Bring we the blossom," "Hark, hark, the Lark!" "When the swallows homeward fly," and "The Merry Rataplan." The above items were excellently rendered, and appeared to give great pleasure to the audience.

The scenes for the French play, which was given first, were taken from Molière's "Le Médecin malgré lui."

The parts were filled as follows :—Sganarelle, G. Ormrod ; Lucas, H. Hassall ; Valère, H. W. Hall ; Géronte, W. H. Bagot ; Lucinde, P. C. Jones ; Léandre, S. Taylor.

For the Latin play recourse was had to Plautus' "Asinaria." The following was the cast :—Libanus, W. Smith ; Leonidas, W. S. Booth ; Demaenetus, J. A. Lees ; Argyrippas, L. W. Sparrow ; Philaenium, J. G. Mellor.

Some well-known scenes from "The Rivals" concluded the dramatic part of the performance, and were perhaps the most enjoyed. The following boys took part :—Captain Absolute, J. West ; Sir Anthony Absolute, J. Fletcher ; Mrs. Malaprop, L. Newton ; Lydia, E. Viner. All the above are to be heartily congratulated on their very successful acting.

Before the later songs Mr. Pickford gave a short address on School topics, thanking both masters and boys for the work done and progress made during the past year. He was glad to find that boys were staying on to a later age than formerly, and hoped that soon more boys would be found at the Universities. In that connection he mentioned that many parents did not seem to know of the funds which were at the disposal of the School for that purpose, and begged to commend the matter to their notice.

By the kindness of Mrs. Pickford and the Headmaster tea was subsequently provided for both visitors and boys.



*It all depends on the tide and the sea,  
 On whether she pitches or rolls ;  
 (This has as much to do with the subject in hand,  
 As goal posts have with bowls.)*

The gentle Zephyr we sang of above,  
 Though also a harmless thing ;  
 Has brothers and sisters who're perfect fiends,  
 And this is the way they sing.

We come from regions of ice and snow,  
 Regions no man has seen ;  
 We envy your smiles, O sky and sea,  
 We envy the peaceful scene.

Blow from the north, N.W. by N,  
 Blow with your icy breath ;  
 Scurry the storm-clouds over the sky,  
 Harrow the yacht to death.

Storm-clouds sweep o'er a heaving sea,  
 Moaning winds around her shriek and wail,  
 Tossing and pitching the yacht steams on,  
 Straight in the teeth of the gale.

*On land our pleasures and our woes are mingled very thickly,  
 A boy chews toffee in a class ;  
 The spansks come all too quickly,  
 In weightier matters indeed, the hiding is severer,  
 E'en then a Chronicle tucked in somewhat protects the wearer.  
 The moral which I strive to draw,  
 Is never look behind before :  
 Enjoy the present while you can,  
 A worthy worshipper of Pan.*

The blustering winds now slowly die away,  
 The moon breaks out upon a sea at rest ;  
 The dancing yacht, bathed in the silvery light,  
 Speeds safely on her journey to the west.

W. X. Y. Z: (in a hurry).



## Library Notes.

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**T**HE Library now consists of 310 books. We are completing the fireside edition of Dickens' works. The following books have also been added:—Prisoners of Zenda (by Anthony Hope), Rupert of Hentzau (Anthony Hope), Allan Quartermain (Rider Haggard), Dutch Republic (Motley), Robbery Under Arms (R. Boldrewood), Under the White Cockade (H. Sutcliffe), Odd Craft (W. W. Jacobs), Story of Japan (D. Murray), Mr. Verdant Green (C. Bede), Rodney Stone (A. C. Doyle), Micah Clarke (A. C. Doyle), Abbess of Vlaye (S. Weyman), Around the World in 80 Days (J. Verne), Farthest North (F. Nansen), Deerslayer (F. Cooper), Frank Fairleigh (F. E. Smedley), Lewis Arundel (F. E. Smedley).

The following books have also been presented to the Library:—The Golden Magnet, presented by L. Newton; The Disputed V.C., presented by E. Viner; Stories of Old Rome, presented by Rowbotham; A Vanished Nation, presented by J. T. Littler; Peter the Whaler, presented by R. Bardsley. A volume of the "Captain" has also been lent by R. Wilde.

It would be a very graceful act, and we should soon have a very efficient Library, if each boy on leaving School were to present the Library with one or more volumes.

A new addition has been made to the Library in the shape of a Reading Room. At present the sixth form and the two top boys in each of the other forms are allowed the privilege of using this room. The papers that are now placed in it are the *Manchester Guardian* (daily), *Black and White Budget* (weekly), *Athenaeum* (weekly), *C. B. Fry's Magazine* (monthly), *Windsor Magazine* (monthly) *The Captain* (monthly).

## Football.

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AT the beginning of term opinions varied as to the probable success of the present season's 1st XI. On the one hand most of last year's very successful side had left, but, luckily, J. West was not of that number. With him still in the centre the team would still have a tried and capable pivot. A successful goalkeeper was soon found in Lowe. For the five back positions there were plenty of aspirants, but none of tested capacity. However, Whitham and Birch have done very fairly at back, though the former is rather slow and the latter uncertain. At centre half Newton has played consistently hard and well, while the other two half-backs have been variously selected from Grime, Burton, Thompson, and Hague. The completion of the forward line has proved a difficult task. At outside right J. Mellor has made a great advance since last year, and is quite one of the most reliable members of the team when not overweighted. The inside right position is filled by Hutchinson with varying success. He is obviously more suited to the outside, and spoils his undoubted pace by never going straight through. West, at centre, cannot be said to be in quite his last year's form, and, though as tricky as ever and scoring as many goals, he makes the mistake of trying to do too much himself, apparently because he thinks his other forwards weak. Obviously such a tendency is doomed to aggravate rather than remedy the evil. E. Hall makes a better outside left than Hague, who shows more promise at half. The inside left position has not yet been satisfactorily filled.

It is certainly an encouraging sign that this year there are more candidates for each position than in 1903, when the team seldom underwent the healthy alteration which is calculated to make boys not in the eleven try to get there, and keep up to scratch those who are.

Up to date the record is:—Matches played 8, won 5, lost 3, drawn 0.

Turning now to the doings of the 2nd and “under 14 elevens we are confronted with a by no means so satisfactory record. It is true that of the 4 matches played by the former team, the 3 lost have been by no great margin, and the defeat of Waterloo Science School by 6 goals to 0 was obtained by good play throughout, but promising juniors for next year’s 1st XI are not conspicuous by their numbers. Of these we may mention H. Stott, T. West, J. Fletcher.

The “under 14” team has won one match and lost 4. These defeats may be largely attributed to the fact that, firstly, its members do not play together often enough, and, secondly, that there is an absence of that keenness necessary to win matches. In future years it will probably be found advisable to abolish this team and devote more energies to the formation of a really good 2nd XI.

Perhaps the most satisfactory feature of the present season is the increased number of boys who play at least once a week. This is the express and laudable desire of the Headmaster, and has been ably seconded by the Prefects, who are to be congratulated heartily on their efforts.

\* \* \*

V. MANCHESTER G. S. 2ND XI, October 1st, Home.—As this was our first match we were in grave doubts as to the ability of our team, however our fears were groundless, for each man performed creditably. We had the fortune to win the toss, and of course, played with the wind. Soon after the commencement West opened our score with a good shot, and having the advantage of the wind, we completely over-played our opponents, and added 4 more goals through Hall, 1, and West, 3. In the second half, against the wind, we had to play considerably harder, and our defence was taxed to its utmost ability, however, Lowe, Newton, Whitham and Burton proved capable defenders. Our opponents scored twice, but

we added 3 more goals, and eventually ran out winners by 8 goals to 2. Newton at centre half worked very hard, and Lowe gave a splendid exhibition of goal-keeping, shot after shot being stopped by him. Whitham was rather off form, but Burton made a good first appearance. Scorers:—West 6, Hall 1, Jackson 1.

\* \* \*

V. GLOSSOP TECHNICAL SCHOOL, Oct. 15th, Home.—School were without West and Whitham, Burton and Grime taking their places. In the first half the play was very even, we managed to score twice, whilst our opponents scored once. In the second half our play improved considerably, and we simply overplayed our opponents. The result was that we won by 7 goals to 1. Mellor, at right outside, played a splendid game, and Birch played a sound game at back. Scorers:—Jackson 2; Hall, Newton, Hutchinson, Mellor, and Wilkinson, 1 each.

\* \* \*

V. "1903" TEAM, October 22nd.—School were without Whitham. Mr. Williams and Mr. Wight kindly assisted the "Old Boys," who were not at full strength. No description need be given of this game, as the play throughout was very scrappy. The School defence had decidedly an off-day, whilst the defence of the "1903" team was also very bad. The forwards on both sides were very good. The result of the game was that we won by 12 goals to 8. Scorers—West 10; Hall and Jackson 1 each.

\* \* \*

V. MANCHESTER G. S. 2ND XI, October 29th, Away.—After our easy win at the commencement of the season we felt rather confident of victory when journeying to Manchester, however we were mistaken. School was at full strength, and Manchester, remembering their beating on our ground, turned out a very strong team. The play was good throughout, the only weak point being the shooting of our forwards. At half-time we were losing by a goal. In the second half our play

was very much better, and Mellor, on the right wing, made some very fine runs. From one of these runs Mellor forced a corner, and placing it well, West headed our first and equalizing goal. After this we pressed hard, but were unable to score. Just before the end the Manchester forwards broke away and scored a very soft goal, thus beating us by 2 goals to 1. Newton, at centre half, played a splendid game.

\* \* \*

V. WARRINGTON G. S., November 5th, Home.

We looked forward to this match, as we generally have very close games with the Warrington School. We won the toss, and of course, played with the wind. After a short time West scored, and Hall followed with another a few minutes later. At half time we were leading by 3 goals to 1. In the second half our play improved wonderfully, especially that of the forwards, goal after goal being put on. Towards the end darkness came, and owing to the slackness of our defence, Warrington were enabled to score 3 more goals, one of which was a very fine one. However, we ran out winners by 9 goals to 4 goals. There was a great improvement in the combination of Mellor and Hutchinson on the right wing. Hall showed that he could play much better inside left than outside. Birch also played a good game at back. Scorers :—West 8, Hall 1.

\* \* \*

V. DUKINFIELD ASTLEY, November 12th, Away.—

In this match the ground was decidedly against us, as also was the weight of our opponents. We played with the slope first, and ought to have scored more than once, but the state of the ground prevented accurate shooting. However, by an individual effort, Mr. Williams got our first goal. Our opponents were much quicker on the ball than we were, and taught us a lesson in this respect. At half-time the score was 2—1 against us, and the end of play found the score doubled. Thus we retired beaten by 4 goals to 2. The backs had a tremendous amount of work to do, and the majority of our team were over-weighted. We

were assisted by Mr. Williams and Mr. Wight, the latter of whom played a hard game at right half. Scorers :—Mr. Williams 1, West 1.

\* \* \*

V. HEATON MOOR COLLEGE, Nov. 19th, Home.—School were without Lowe and Hall, but good substitutes were found in Stevenson and Fletcher. Our opponents were a heavier team than we were, but we adapted ourselves better to the state of the ground, which was on the soft side. We were playing against the wind, but registered the first goal. Our opponents quickly retaliated by scoring two goals in quick succession. However, just before the interval, by an individual effort, West scored our equalizing goal. In the second half, playing with the wind, our play improved considerably, and we quickly added 2 more goals. This roused our opponents and for a short time the game was very even, but gradually our combination asserted itself, and we added another goal. Our defence then somewhat relaxed their efforts with the result that Heaton Moor again found our net. Time was called leaving us winners of a very pleasant game by 6 goals to 4. Newton, as usual, played a good game, and there was a great improvement in the play of the backs. Scorer :—West 6.

\* \* \*

V. HULME G. S., MANCHESTER, Dec. 7th, Away.—We looked forward to this match with a great amount of interest, as we had hoped to have a good game with our neighbours at Manchester. The ground was in a shocking condition, and it was raining for the major part of the first half. Coming to the play the less said the better. The School XI has never played worse, and cannot possibly do so in the future. The absence of Newton rather disorganised our half-back line, with the result that the opposing forwards, who were themselves none too brilliant, were left entirely to do as they wished to. The forwards hardly ever received the ball, and when they did there was too much wild passing amongst them. The backs had too much work to do, with the result that mis-kicks were very

frequent. Coming to the goal, Lowe could not be blamed for any of the shots that beat him. At half-time we were losing by 1 goal to 2, and, playing as bad in the second half as in the first, we were beaten hollow by 6 goals to 1. West scored our goal. Besides being short of Newton, we also lacked the services of Hague. Our policy is now to practice hard and to have as sweet revenge on our neighbours in the next match as we had last season.

### The First Prop.

I've got a younger brother,  
 Exactly such another  
 As I was when I came in '95 :  
 A trifle less aspiring,  
 A great deal less retiring,  
 But still a sort of relative of mine.

He's a sprightly little chap,  
 Wears a stylish jaunty cap,  
 And treats me in a lordly kind of way ;  
 He calls me "good old buffer,"  
 And varies it with "duffer,"  
 And wishes that I knew "the time of day."

He isn't great at study,  
 His mind's a little muddy,  
 And every now and then he stays to tea ;  
 But he doesn't seem to care,  
 Says it's jolly to be there,  
 And of the two he rather likes P.D.

He's not afraid of working,  
 Nor is he fond of shirking,  
 Though grammar isn't equal to a "bike"  
 His work gets fair attention,  
 Though one thing I may mention,  
 For "Euclid" he has taken a dislike.  
 He knows the definitions,  
 And now the propositions

Are standing like a bogey in his way ;  
 In vain he tries to learn them,  
 While wishing he could burn them,  
 And blesses poor old " Euclid " all the day.

He even condescended  
 Before the first was ended  
 To ask for help to fix it in his head ;  
 I tried all my ways to teach him,  
 But nothing seemed to reach him  
 Until a thought occurred to me in bed.

I would put the proof in rhyme,  
 So in very little time  
 I rattled off a kind of doggerel verse ;  
 This was the stuff I made him  
 In my desire to aid him,—  
 I'm sorry if I made the matter worse.

A B and A C  
 You'll surely agree,  
 As radii of B C D  
 Are equal as they ought to be,  
 In just the same way  
 It's as plain as day  
 That the line B C equals B A.  
 But do not forget,  
 You're not finished yet,  
 There still remains another set,

For you have to say  
 B C and C A  
 Are each as long as the line B A.  
 And you bear in mind  
 Whenever you find  
 Two such things are so inclined  
 To equal a third of a similar kind,  
 It's perfectly true  
 Without more ado,  
 That number one equals number two.  
 So now you are free  
 To say that A C  
 Is just as long as the line C B,



Which does the trick for all the three,  
 To do it in style  
 You may sweetly smile,  
 And gently murmur Q. E. D.  
 I never thought a minute  
 That there was danger in it,  
 I simply hoped my rhyme would be of use :  
 But all the boys are laughing,  
 But I've had endless chaffing,  
 Because the little duffer was a goose.  
 When asked the proposition,  
 He gave my new edition,  
 And made a hash of that from what he said :  
 You may guess the master roared,  
 For the figure on the board  
 Was labelled with the letters XYZ.  
 I've given up the notion  
 Of causing a commotion,  
 By bringing out a "Euclid" done in rhyme :  
 I don't think it's my mission  
 To publish an edition,—  
 My first attempt has knocked me out of time.

S. E. H.

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### Old Boys' Notes.

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**T**HE Annual Meeting of the O. H. G. S. Old Boys' Association was held at the School, on 4th October, 1904, at which the Hon. Sec. read the following report, the adoption of which was passed unanimously.

In presenting the third Annual Report of the progress of the O. H. G. S. Old Boys' Association it is very gratifying to be able to announce that the membership is still increasing, there now being 80 members, an increase of 11 over last year.

A new feature this year is our list of Hon. Vice-Presidents, which consists of Mr. Andrew, the first Headmaster, and the Governors of the School.

These gentlemen have honoured us, and also shown in a practical manner their interest in this Association, which is very encouraging to the Committee.

There are also six Hon. Members of the Association, consisting of past and present members of the School staff.

At this year's School Sports it was very pleasing to note so many Old Boys present, but it is hoped that in future years there will be a still further increased number of both spectators and competitors for the medals.

An Old Boys' Race was won by Mr. Arthur Broomhead, and in the Tug-of-War Mr. Harry Hirst's team were the victors, and thus won the bronze medals.

The annual fixtures in football and cricket with the School have taken place as usual, and have been very popular.

In the spring, a General Meeting, concluding with an impromptu Smoking Concert, was held.

It is the intention that there should be periodical meetings of this kind during the year, when all members can meet together and discuss matters in relation to the Association, and also have a social evening.

At this meeting a very good start was made, it being decided to form Choral and Dramatic Societies, also a Gymnastic Class. Sub-Committees have already been formed to make all preliminary arrangements.

These societies are receiving the utmost support and assistance from our President, Mr. Pickford, who has kindly proposed an "Old Boys' Evening," when the School will be open one evening each week for the various meetings of the societies. Tuesday evening was considered to be the most convenient. The School will therefore be open on that day at 7-30 p.m.

During the summer the first picnic in connection with the Association took place on 4th June, when a visit was made to Alderley and Prestbury, which was very much enjoyed by the party, consisting of Mr. Williams and fifteen members, who were delighted with the beautiful country through which they passed. In fact it was such a great success that on the home-ward journey another picnic was arranged to Hardcastle Crags

for 16th July, which also was enjoyed by the party, accompanied by Mr. Pimm.

The Committee has fixed the subscription for Life Membership of the Association at the sum of £1 10s. 0d. It is therefore hoped that our members living at a distance from Oldham will avail themselves of this opportunity, as it will save them further trouble of forwarding their subscriptions annually, as is now the case.

During the New Year it is earnestly desired that more members will attend the Gymnasium Class, as a very capable instructor, Staff-Sergeant J. C. Knowles, has been engaged. The subscription to this class is only 2/6.

The Old Boys' Football Match v. The School takes place on March 4th, 1905, when a strong team will be selected.

Mr. Wight and Mr. Earnshaw, new members of the School Staff, have been elected hon. members of the Association.

It is the desire of the Headmaster, Mr. Pickford, that an Old Boys' Register should be formed, in which full particulars will be recorded of the honours and distinctions gained at the Universities or elsewhere, and the business successes of all Old Hulmeians, and it is hoped, for the honour of the School, that every assistance will be given to the Headmaster in the compilation of such a register.

The Hon. Sec. wishes to inform the present boys that on leaving School they will be eligible for Membership of the Association as "Associate Members," at the age of sixteen. This entitles them to join all the Societies under the Association, and when eighteen years of age, they will be able to enjoy the full privileges of the Association.

By this new rule the majority of boys on leaving School will at once be eligible, and not have to wait until they are eighteen years of age as formerly.

# O.H.G.S. OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO 30th NOVEMBER, 1904.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.
Balance forward from 30th November, 1903 .....		0	5	4	Magazines .....		4	2	9
Governors' Donations :	£	s.	d.		Printing and Stationery .....		1	8	9
H. Booth, Esq. ....	1	1	0		Postage .....		1	18	1
J. Letham, Esq. ....	0	10	6		Cheque Book .....		0	1	0
G. W. Needham, Esq., J.P. ....	0	10	0		Sundries .....		0	6	0
G. B. Taylor, Esq., J.P. ....	0	10	0		Annual Dinner .....		8	6	8
A. G. Pickford, Esq. ....	0	10	6		Balance in Bank carried forward .....		4	1	7
R. H. Pardoe, Esq. ....	0	5	0						
		3	7	0					
Annual Subscriptions .....	10	0	0						
Unpaid .....	1	10	0						
		8	10	0					
Subscription for 1903 .....		0	2	6					
Balance received from Cycle Club .....		0	6	0					
Dinner Subscriptions .....	7	14	0						
		7	14	0					
		8	20	4					

£20 4 10

£20 4 10

## Natural History Notes.

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**T**HE Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on Saturday, November 12th, 1904. There was a very fair muster, including several new boys, who were duly elected members of the Society. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year. The Headmaster to be President. Mr. Pimm to be Treasurer. H. Bagot to be Secretary. The Committee consists of the Headmaster, Mr. Pimm, Mr. Williams, J. West, E. Viner, P. H. Broadbent, and A. Maw.

During the the present year the Society has made progress. Early in the year we had our first Tea Party, followed by a Social Evening during which Mr. Ingham played a pianoforte solo (one of Mendelssohn's lieder), various songs were sung, and Mr. Pimm read a paper on the objects of the Society. From a botanical point of view the paper was a capital one, but more might have been mentioned from the zoological side of the question. The reading of the paper was preceded by a capital exhibition of lantern slides, mostly zoological and geological, lent by Mr. W. J. Harrison, of Birmingham.

At the next meeting of the Society J. E. Whitehead read a capital paper on the Frog. During the spring we had obtained a quantity of frog spawn, which was most assiduously watched for weeks by our members, till in about the third week the tiny tadpoles made their appearance. Their gradual development into frogs was a source of general wonderment to our younger members.

At the next meeting we studied the circulation of the blood in the tail of the tadpole. As we had no fewer than six microscopes at our disposal, every one of our members was well able to watch the actual course of the blood through the veins.

The next meeting found us at work on those minute organisms the Infusoria. Mr. Pimm had carefully prepared a decoction by pouring water on hay and keeping it in a vessel

for some time. When a drop of this liquid was shown through the microscope, we were astounded at the number and variety of the organisms which we found inhabiting the drop.

Unfortunately we had only one Ramble, as on the other days fixed the weather proved unpropitious. However, we very much enjoyed the one we took to Moston and neighbourhood, where we studied pond life. We were much surprised to hear that our old friend "Jack Sharp," or Stickleback, was such an interesting little fish. We thought it a pity, that with all his abilities in nest building, he should be such a quarrelsome little fellow.

Our collection now includes numerous fossils and rock specimens from many sources, an adder and a green lizard presented by F. Kempsey; and, also many examples of germinating seeds at various stages, all of which are our own work.

We have again to thank Mrs. C. E. Lees for the privilege of viewing her collection of chrysanthemums and orchids.

Our next meeting will be on December 20th, when we shall have our second tea party, and it is hoped that we may have the pleasure of hearing a lecture.



### **Debating Society.**

**I**N accordance with the wishes of many of the boys in the upper part of the School a meeting was held on Nov. 7th, to discuss the project of forming a debating society. Mr.

Pickford took the chair, and it was very encouraging to see the enthusiasm displayed by the members of the two top forms, most of whom were present at the meeting. Mr. Pickford was elected President, with the Assistant Masters as Vice-Presidents. Hassall and Smith were appointed Assistant Secretaries to Mr. Earnshaw, the Honorary Secretary; Viner and Hall, Whips; and Lowe, Sergeant-at-Arms.

On Nov. 21st, the President, Mr. Pickford, opened the first session of the society with an address on the relations

between Russia and England. He dwelt on the long-standing hostility between the two countries, and showed the tense relations now existing. This makes it necessary to study carefully the conditions and probable results of a war, and we ought to ask ourselves "would war with Russia benefit us?" We could not use our navy to any great extent against the land forces of Russia, and the result of a war between a land and sea power must of necessity be doubtful. In addition to this we should gain little even by a defeat of Russia.

Russia on the other hand has plenty of men but little money, and as she only wants a port free from ice during the whole year, she would gain little by a war with England. Since, therefore, we have nothing to gain and much to lose, we ought to make an effort to maintain the peace between the two countries.

Nov. 28th, West proposed "That modern civilisation is a failure." He lamented the decay of the nations, and contrasted the present condition with that of the happy past, when the whole race was strong and active. The decline of labour has been followed by a decline of sports, and men are now contented to watch teams exert themselves in the national pastimes, and do not themselves care to take part in them. Hassall opposed the motion, and taking the points in West's speech tried to show their weakness. He further added that pleasure was impossible under the conditions of life of the past. Men dwelt in mud huts without lamps or ventilation, and had no comforts with which to soften the hardships of their time. W. Smith, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Wight, Newton, Bagot, and Mr. Earnshaw also took part in the debate. The motion was lost by 9 votes to 13,

On Dec. 5th, Whitham moved "That bachelors, after a certain age, should be taxed." He supported this motion by arguments both political and humanistic. Bachelors have, as a rule, no fixed residence, but live in lodgings. In this way they escape many of the taxes that married people have to pay. This motion was opposed by Lowe, who said that it was

unfair to tax bachelors. In the first place some men follow a calling that prevents them from having a fixed home. With such men marriage is impossible. Others are not rich enough to support a wife, while there are many who have tried but cannot find a partner for themselves. Mr. Ellison, West, Mr. Wight, Fletcher, Mr. Pardoe, and Bagot also spoke. The motion was lost by 8 votes to 14.

Dec. 12th, Fletcher moved "That arbitration succeeds better than war." He called attention to the importance of the subject by bringing forward the horrors of the present Russia-Japanese war. War can never be noble. It is the height of human depravity, and, moreover, fails to reach its object, as arbitration is necessary when the war is over. We must, therefore, conclude that arbitration succeeds better than war. It causes no loss of life or money, and it leaves a feeling of satisfaction in the minds of all. In opposing the motion Hall denied that arbitration ever gave satisfaction. It needs force behind it to make it of any service whatever. Lawton, Broadbent, Viner, Sparrow, Lees, Hassall, Smith, and Platt also spoke. The motion was carried by 9 votes to 8.

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### **Old Boys' Dinner.**

**T**HE Fourth Annual Dinner was held on Wednesday Evening, December 14th, in the Princes' Restaurant. The attendance numbered 43, an excellent muster. Letters of regret at inability to attend were read from Messrs. Andrew, Greenhalgh, Harrison, and Wight.

Mr. B. W. LEES, in proposing the "Health of the School," remarked, in the course of an excellent speech, that the social side of the Association was only secondary to their duty as a body to further the School's interests. To some people the term "Oldhamer" was synonymous with "rough diamond," and this stigma must be removed by the enlightened conduct of the Old Boys. He looked forward to the time when many of their members should occupy the leading positions in the town, and thus be able in many ways to promote the welfare of their old School.



In reply, Mr. PICKFORD, the Headmaster, having congratulated Lees on his speech, stated that boys educated in a School such as this naturally grew into their places in the life of that town. Old Boys were always an example to those still at School—theirs was the solemn duty and privilege of setting a good example. Old Boys might help to make the School better known, and in a few years might, as members of the Municipal Authority, be placed again in close relation. He referred with pleasure to the favourable report of H.M. Inspector on the morale of the School, and to the continued success attending the School Athletics.

The toast of "The Association" was proposed by Mr. ELLISON, who said he realised the great work of which the Association was capable. He hoped that one day they might have Clubrooms of their own. They were fortunate in having an energetic Secretary and Committee, but the enthusiasm must be shared by all, even at the cost of some personal inconvenience. The future success of the Association rested largely on the present members of it.

Mr. COLLINS briefly replied. He begged to state that in his opinion, owing to the slackness of members, the Society was not such a success as it might be. Mr. Winston Churchill had recently made the remark that Oldham was the heart of the Empire. Whether that was so it did not become the modest Oldhamer to say. The town was, however, undoubtedly prominent in the political and industrial life of the Empire, and as such demanded of the Old Boys' of its Grammar School a lofty ideal and a whole-hearted patriotism.

A long Musical Programme, well rendered by the various gentlemen who so kindly contributed to it, brought to a close a most enjoyable evening.

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The Editor begs to acknowledge the receipt of the "Savilian," "Manchester Hulmeian," "Sheffield Royal Grammar School Magazine," "Leodiensian."