

Leaver. Red, white & Blue

1881-3
Y. A. Moffett says that her colours were
always red, white & blue

"Non scholae sed vitae discimus."

The Southland High Schools Magazine.

PUBLISHED TWICE A YEAR.

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Contributions from, and news relating to, old pupils will be thankfully received.

VOL. 1.

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No. 1.

Editorial.

WE have been accused of being rather adventurous in beginning a Magazine in the Southland High School. "Cold water pourers" are everywhere to be found. Having weighed the matter carefully, we have come to the conclusion that the accusation is a mistake. The attendance at our school has largely increased during the last year or two, and, in schools but little larger than ours, a Magazine has been successfully published. Our aim is a twofold one—to further the interests of the school both in the class-room and in the playground, and to create a closer bond of fellowship among our Old Boys, reminding them of the training they received within her walls and in her grounds, and urging them to take a lively interest in the welfare of their old school. Wellington said that the Battle of Waterloo was won on the playgrounds of Eton and Harrow; and some one has said of Oxford that she owes as much to her cricket grounds as to her class-rooms, and as much to her football grounds as to her studies.

Acting on good authority then, we uphold the banner of Sport—not that we deprecate study, for study must ever be the essential feature of school life, but that we rate highly the value of athletics of every description, to develop one's capacities both mental and physical. Many schools where great attention is paid to athletics affirm that the greatest factor in arousing interest in the games of a school is its Magazine, and there is no doubt that to have his name handed down to posterity as one who has nobly done battle for his school, has been the incentive to action for many a school boy. Perhaps we may go so far as to put down the non existence of a school paper as a probable reason for the lack of enthusiasm displayed in past years "by some of our fellows" for certain of the less popular games and pastimes. If we can arouse a greater delight in honest sport and prevail on those who have, until now, done nothing to help their school to emerge successfully from many a hard fought fight, to begin while yet there is time, we shall consider our first object not ill-attained.

There are many friendships formed at school, and few subjects can be of more interest than information of the fortunes of those who sat in the same class-room or joined in the same games. Our Magazine will seek to gather such news, and we trust that those who can will furnish us with any news of interest they may glean.

We are forced to acknowledge that we are almost entirely dependent on our Old Boys and Girls for the success of our Paper. Were we deserted by them, the Bankruptcy Court alone would await us. We rely on them for support and aid, and feel confident that, having gained their good-will, we shall give our Magazine as prominent a place among its rivals, as our old pupils have ever taken amongst theirs.

School News.

Perhaps the most noticeable change that has occurred this term is the fact that the school has suddenly "livened up." Football has not been compulsory; yet very prompt and telling measures were taken with those who made a point of going home immediately after school, and thus doing nothing to help the school in her contests with outsiders and to create a healthy state of affairs in the playground. We refrain from saying explicitly what this method was, but, for the benefit of those who are to succeed us, we may go so far as to state that it was as effective as it was harmless. Those who have given some attention to the study of chemistry, especially that part of the subject which deals with the extraction of metals from their ores, will not have read very far before they encounter the process which has stood us in such good stead this term. The Second Fifteen were rather more lax than they should have been in attending practice, but hardly a member of the First failed to put in his two nights per week. The paper chases, too, were quite a new addition to our list of sports, introduced, really, by the Rector himself. He explained how the sport was carried on at

Rugby, and expressed a hope, as the school showed signs of more vitality, that it would be adopted amongst us. The idea was taken up eagerly, and towards the end of the term the High jersey was recognised through the length and breadth of the country. The Rector's offer of a trophy to the boy who had the best record at these runs, was doubtless a further incentive. Fives was also fairly popular, especially at dinner time, and some really fast games were played. There is every probability that there will be a Fives Tournament early in this term.

The school has of late been more than usually successful in public examinations, S. Brown, E. Lindsay, and R. McKay winning junior University scholarships, while H. Wild and J. B. Baird gained "credit." All the boys who went in for matric. passed, viz., J. Mehaffey, N. Gil-mour, H. Clark, S. George, G. Macdonald. H. Macdonald, and H. Fannin. Miss K. McLeod also passed.

H. A. Wild and R. MacGibbon, who were second and fifth respectively in the Junior Civil Service examination, have both obtained good appointments in Wellington. To take up his position Wild left the Sixth at the beginning of this year, and MacGibbon the Fifth. Miss Morgan and Miss A. Kennedy, who also gained places of distinction in the same examination, have, by a strange freak of fortune, obtained positions in the same city. If we were to count the Old Boys also, who are in Government billets in Wellington, we should find that there is quite a colony of Invercargillites in that city.

We were granted a holiday by the Rector in honour of the three scholarships gained by our boys. (We had hoped—almost—for THREE days!)

On June 25th, after lessons were over, the whole school assembled in the Long Room, where the Rector spoke to us about the coronation, describing the ceremony and explaining its significance. He took the opportunity to say something also of the causes of the late war, and ended his very interesting address by expressing a hope that the better understanding that has arisen between the Boers and ourselves may be the beginning of an era of prosperity and happiness in South Africa.

The news of the postponement of the Coronation not being received in time, we were then dismissed for two days' holiday.

On Peace Day and the following day the school was closed. Coronation Day and the following day were also holidays.

The position of Mathematical and Science Master is being taken up temporarily by the Rev. W. White, who is well acquainted with the school, having acted in this capacity before.

At the beginning of the year Mr F. Foote, B.A., assistant master, obtained the appointment of first assistant in the Palmerston North District High School. He had been with us a little over two years and was justly popular both in and out of school. An old Otago Rep., he was a perfect godsend to our Football Club, for which he played in almost every match against outside teams. An enthusiastic cricketer

himself, he aroused a hitherto unknown interest in this game, and the consequence was that the Cricket XI. was more successful than for years past. Before he left we presented Mr Foote with a trifle to commemorate his stay amongst us. As Mr Foote had taken so much interest in our games, we were rather alarmed at the prospect of his departure. We are to be congratulated, however, on our luck at getting Mr McKay as his successor. His untiring efforts to improve the First XV, and the general way he has kept things going out of school, have not gone unnoticed amongst us. But for his presence at one of our paper chases, an accident that occurred would probably have turned out more seriously than it did. On our journey to Dunedin we had very grateful and pleasing evidence of Mr McKay's generosity, for which our three cheers but poorly expressed our gratitude.

Mr Hanna, son of the Gymnastic Instructor to the Dunedin High School, has been appointed Drill and Gymnastic Instructor to the Southland Schools. Before the new gymnasium is ready some of the apparatus is to be fitted up for us in the Zealandia Hall, where we may expect a trial before long.

Though the football season is over, and the weather will most likely be unsuitable for cricket for some weeks, the time need not lie heavy on our hands. There is every probability that "High School Sports" will come into being again next term, and, to make them a success, everyone must do his part. Good sports can be got only by steady and efficient training, and, as our sports will most likely be in November, it will not be too soon to begin a light course of training as soon as we return. There will be items to suit everyone, and no one can excuse himself of training by saying that he is not of an athletic turn, and so does not care to compete with those who are. A little training may bring out dormant excellencies in certain branches of athletics which the owner never dreamed he possessed. We expect a long list of entries for all the events.

REMARKS.

The Suggestion Book has proved a great success.

It is stated by an Invercargill stationer that he sells more rulers to the High School than to the rest of the public. Query! What becomes of the rulers?

There are no fewer than five Mitchells at school this year. Last year the school was noted for the number of McKays, and the previous year for the number of Macdonalds, all Scotchmen.

Fortunately the skull cap epidemic is spreading.

The Fives Courts have been in great demand for the last month or so.

The improvements made in the Science Room have filled the long-felt want of accommodation for youthful experimenters.

D. Smith, a prominent member of the Second Form, carried off the

championship of Southland at the recent Ping Pong Tournament. He played against the champions of Dunedin also. We hear that during the holidays he practised from early morn till midnight, and heartily congratulate him on his success.

Departure of Mr J. E. Vernon.

It was with mingled feelings that we heard of Mr Vernon's appointment to the Rectorship of the Palmerston North High School, to which, by a curious coincidence, Mr Foote had gone at the beginning of the year. We were all very glad that he had gained such well-merited promotion, but we were also extremely sorry to lose him. Mr Vernon had been in Southland about eight years. Mr Vernon had all the exactness with none of the dogmatism that is generally attributed to the mathematician, and all the scientist's precision with none of his obscure technicality. He possessed in a high degree the faculty of presenting the solution of a difficult problem in a simple manner. Clearly remembering the difficulties that must be encountered at the beginning of mathematics and science, he gave us the result of his experience and often told us his own methods of remembering difficult formulae. Many are the stubborn fights that the mathematician must wage with brain-addling problems and scientific calculations. We have seen Mr Vernon temporarily perplexed but never beaten. [We have not yet made the acquaintance of any deduction in Euclid, any problem in algebra, or any calculation in mechanics, chemistry, sound, light, or heat, that has come out on top after a skirmish with Mr Vernon]. The hero of a hundred fights, he was to leave us, and we put our shoulders to the wheel to present him with some mark of our regard for him. Every boy, with hardly an exception, subscribed to this worthy object, and before he left, the Rector, on our behalf, presented him with a tray—oak and silver—inscribed as follows:—

PRESENTED

TO

J. E. VERNON, Esq., M.A., B.Sc.,

as a slight token of their respect and esteem, by the pupils of the

SOUTHLAND BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL,

August, 1902.

In making the presentation, the Rector spoke very highly of Mr Vernon in his capacity as assistant, stating that he had always done his best to forward the interests of the school. The Rector also referred to Mr Vernon's connection with the cadets, of whom he had been captain. He had always taken great interest in the cadets, and, besides superintending the shooting during the summer, often at great personal inconvenience, had been in charge of the Company when it went to Christchurch last year. Mr Vernon suitably responded. The affair

was supposed to be a surprise to Mr Vernon, but from the way in which he worked in some time-honoured jokes of the science room, we are led to suppose that he was not altogether unprepared. The function ended by three cheers being given for Mr Vernon.

Athletics.

FOOTBALL.

Results of flag matches:—

Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Points for.	Points against.	Flag points. Possible 22.
11	7	4	0	63	21	14

Football Committee.—J. Mehaffey (captain), J. B. Baird (hon. secretary), A. B. Lindsay, H. McKay, A. Delargey.

REMARKS.—This year's football has been the most successful for some years past, as shown by the above table. The practices have been attended very satisfactorily, specially by the higher forms, who set a good example. The Juniors required a little coaxing at times, but the Puni Creek was always handy. The 1st fifteen have acquitted themselves most admirably, considering the weight they have had to play against. The following constitute the team:—

George—Full-back. This year received a well-merited promotion to the 1st fifteen; kicks well and tackles splendidly; has saved his team many a time.

Acheson—Wing three-quarter; good on defence, kicks, passes, and collars excellently, but lacks dash on attack.

Lindsay—Wing three-quarter; good on attack, but not so good on defence; fine kick; takes the ball and passes well.

Delargey—Five-eighths; the most reliable man of the backs; kicks, tackles, and passes splendidly; fair place kick.

V. Christophers—Five-eighths; a strong runner and uses his pace well; strong on attack and defence, but his passing is somewhat erratic.

Taylor—Half; although light is excellent all round; feeds his five-eighths well, and kicks well with either foot.

FORWARDS:

Mehaffey—Captain, front ranker; an excellent forward, splendid on line out; good tackler; a very hard worker.

Traill—A front ranker, a very strong forward; uses his head well; works hard from start to finish; good on line out.

H. McKay—lock: the mainstay of the forwards, pushes like Hercules; always on the ball; a fair place and drop kick.

Mears—A large forward of great gravity; might be more active; good on line out and tackles well.

Henaghan—A very hard worker; always on the ball; a fair tackler.

B. Gilmour—A strong player, might exert himself a little more; dribbles and follows up well.

Baird—A hard grafter, uses his pace well; weak in tackling; always in the thick; good on line out.

R. Hay—Wing-forward; originally played on wing; fast but not sure; is good in open and in attack.

L. Mitchell—Wing-forward; an honest worker; good in the open, plays with dash; weak in tackling.

During this season Mr McKay has played centre three-quarter for us, being all that could be desired.

Notes on the Flag Matches.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. WAIKIWI, April 29th.—This match, played on our ground, resulted in a win for the school by 6 to 0. Our opponents were heavier but lacked combination. All our forwards played excellently, while the backs showed good form. Mr McKay held our rear-guard together, while Delargey kicked and tackled well. Near the beginning Mehaffey scored from a forward scramble, but the try was not converted, and near the end Taylor ended up a fine dribbling rush with a score, which, however, was not converted.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. STAR, May 21st.—Postponed on account of the weather.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. BRITANNIA, May 28th.—This match was won by our team by 9 to nil. The team showed a decided increase of combination. Near the commencement H. McKay kicked a goal from a mark. The most brilliant piece of play was achieved by Lindsay, who from a line out near our line, made a dribbling rush right down the field through all the opposing backs and scored. Acheson converted. Christophers played well in the backs, while McKay was the pick of a set of dashing forwards.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. PIRATES, June 3rd.—This match, played on the Eastern Reserve, resulted in a magnificent victory for the School by 23 points to nil. The Pirates were the heavier team and this throws all the more credit on our team. The first spell was fairly even, but in the second, our good training began to show itself, and try after try was scored. Mr McKay, Delargey (2), Mehaffey, H. McKay, Hay, and Henaghan scored tries. In this match the forwards played specially well, their dribbling rushes being irresistible, while the passing of the backs was excellent.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. ATHLETIC, June 11th.—Won by default.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. WAIKIWI, June 18th.—This match was played against really the 1st fifteen of Waikiwi, and resulted in the defeat of our team by 4 to 0. The game was even all through, except at the very beginning, when Forde potted a goal from the field. From this point onward, the school set up a vigorous attack, which was maintained all through and our team was, time after time, on the verge of scoring. All our team played well, Mr McKay and Delargey showing

up well among the backs, while of the forwards H. McKay, Baird and Mehaffey were perhaps the pick.

After this match the school protested to the Union that the Waikiwi team had included several senior players. The protest was not upheld, but the Union added that second grade players must not in future play in third grade matches, which looks very much like a verdict of: "Not guilty, but don't do it again."

FIRST FIFTEEN v. CAMBRIDGE, July 2nd.—Our team was again defeated by 6 to 0. The Cambridge men were heavier and had good combination. But still the game was very even, and, had our back play not been spoiled by the muddy state of the ball and by the narrowness of the ground, it would have been more even still. Acheson and George showed up well in this match among the backs, while McKay, Mehaffey, Traill and Lindsay put in some good work among the forwards. The first try was scored near the commencement while the second was registered from a forward rush just on the call of time.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. STAR, July 9th.—In this match several players of the second grade were included in the opposing team, although, of course, it was useless to protest. The first try was obtained by Field, a first grade player, who managed to scramble over the line, although collared magnificently by George. The other was obtained by a passing rush near the line. Both tries were the result of bad tackling on the part of the backs. Our forwards and backs played well together, Henaghan, L. Mitchell, and Baird playing hard for the former, while, of the latter Taylor, Christophers and George worked excellently.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. PIRATES, July 16th.—Our team won by 6 (2 tries) to 0. In the first ten minutes the Pirates had to force frequently. From this to the end of the spell the game was fairly even. At the beginning of the second spell, the Pirates attacked vigorously for about twenty minutes, but the School's defence was too good, and at last they were repulsed. About five minutes from call of time, Acheson, on the wing, having secured the ball from a passing rush, scored after a beautiful sprint. The kick at goal failed. The Pirates kicked off, and, shortly after, H. McKay obtained a mark. He tried a drop kick but the ball hit the bar and rebounded, when he again caught the leather and passed back to Lindsay who scored. This was a well-deserved win, as our rally at the last showed what good training can do against weight. Hay played well at forward, while Mr McKay, Delargey and Lindsay were conspicuous among the backs.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. BRITANNIA, July 23rd.—In this match we were defeated by 5 to 3. In the first spell, the Brits, favoured with a strong wind, scored a try which was converted. In the second spell the School was attacking the whole time. Near the end Acheson kicked a penalty goal. Just on the call of time, Mr McKay, kicking over the line with a well-timed punt, touched the ball down, but the referee ruled that it was dead-ball. Without doubt fortune was against us on

this occasion or else we must have won, the Britannia forcing down time after time. Everyone played well in this match, specially the forwards. It can hardly be said that this match was played in the "friendly spirit" which usually characterizes our games.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. CAMBRIDGE, August 13th.—This match was played on the Eastern Reserve, and resulted in a win for us by 14 (4 tries 1 goal) to 6 (2 tries). This was an unexpected win, as the Cambridge, previous to this, had never had their line crossed, while they had put up 125 points against other teams. Immediately after the kick off, the Cambridge scored from a forward rush. After the kick-off the school attacked strongly, and Mears took the ball to the Cambridge twenty-five with an excellent dribbling rush. A scrum followed, from which Christophers scored from a pass from Taylor. At the commencement of the second spell the Cambridge again scored. The school again attacked, and Mehaffey scored by running over from a line out. The kick at goal failed. The Cambridge again forced us back to within ten yards of our line, when Taylor, the plucky little half-back, dribbled right through all the opposing backs to within three yards of their line, where one of our opponents meanly tripped him up, thus preventing a score. We, of course, obtained a free kick, but the angle was too great for a goal to be kicked. The school again attacked, and Mr McKay, taking a good pass from Lindsay, scored, but the try was not converted. Shortly after the kick off McKay, following up well, picked up the ball in the open and scored between the posts. Delargey registered a goal. A lot of uneventful scrummages followed, and then the whistle sounded for time.

The way our team played in this match is worthy of great praise; the backs passing, kicking and collaring excellently, while the forwards packed round, dribbled and followed up equally well. McKay, Delargey, Taylor and Lindsay, in the backs, and Mears and Baird in the forwards worked hard. This was the last match of the season.

OTHER MATCHES.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. BANKS' FOOTBALL CLUB, June 21st.—This match was won by the Banks by 10 to 4. The Banks were, of course, much heavier than we were, but nevertheless the first spell closed without any score, the play being very even. In the second spell, Berndstone potted a goal from the field. A penalty goal was also kicked by Taylor, an interprovincial, and a try was obtained by some good off-side play, which the referee did not see. Near the end Acheson kicked a beautiful goal from a mark by Mears. Our team played well together and showed good combination. There was a large attendance of Old Boys at this match, showing that they had not forgotten their old school.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. BANKS' FOOTBALL CLUB, June 28th.—This match was played on the Eastern Reserve, and was won by the Banks by 6 (2 tries) to 0. The Bank team included two representative and two senior players, but still had the man who scored the first try, not

weighed something over 18 stone, he could perhaps have been stopped. The school attacked for the rest of the first spell, but at the beginning of the second the Banks made a rush, and one of our backs, having been collared behind the line, blindly passed the ball, and one of our opponents fell on it, thus scoring. The play for the rest of the spell was of a very even nature, and no further score was registered.

HIGH SCHOOL v. INVERCARGILL FOOTBALL CLUB, June 20.—This was a seven-a-side match, and resulted in a win for the School by 29 to 3. The Invercargill team was much heavier but lacked fitness, that element so essential to a seven-a-side match. The School team was as follows :—

Backs—Mr McKay, Acheson, Lindsay, Christophers.

Forwards—Mehaffey, McKay, Traill.

This win may be accounted for by the good training of our team and by the accurate passing of our backs.

We here desire to thank Mr Luxford for the trouble he took in helping to arrange this and other matches.

HIGH SCHOOL v. COMBINED PUBLIC SCHOOLS, August 18th.—This game was played on the Eastern ground and resulted in a win for our team, which consisted of first backs and second forwards, by 8 to nil. The opposing team showed good form, the backs playing excellently. Delargey's long and well-timed punts into touch made quite a sensation, while the running of Christophers and Acheson was excellent. Both tries were scored by Lindsay who, each time, made a short dodgy sprint through several opponents. Among our forwards L. Mitchell and Hay were conspicuous, the latter for his fast following up.

FIRST FIFTEEN v. OTAGO HIGH SCHOOL 1ST.—After some negotiations, a match was arranged between the above teams, and we left by the Express on August 21 for the northern city. After an uneventful journey, we reached Dunedin where members of the Otago team met us and conducted us to their homes. The match was played on the Carisbrook ground and proved rather lopsided, the Otago team winning by 43 points to nil. A. Thomson captained the northern team. In the first spell there was but little difference between the sides, and the score when the whistle blew was Otago 13, Southland nil. In the second spell the weight of our opponents began to tell and tries were scored with monotonous regularity.

Reflecting on the result, we find we have nothing to be ashamed of. We tackled a team averaging quite a stone per man more than we did, and we expected to be beaten. Our forwards struggled manfully against great odds; our backs were handicapped by the Otago playing 7 backs while we had but 6. The result of the 1st spell shows that there was not so much difference between the teams as the final score would indicate. We do not minimise the victory of our opponents; they beat us in every point of the game; but we

venture to say that considering that our school is barely one-third the size of the Otago School, it was a very creditable performance. Of the school forwards it would be invidious to mention one as having played better than others. McKay and Mehaffey were their mainstay, while Henaghan, Baird, and L. Mitchell put in every ounce. George at full back tackled every man he could reach. Acheson had the greatest amount of work of all our backs to do, and played his part very well indeed. Delargey at centre was very noticeable on defence and saved tries time after time.

The Otago team played a winning game; consequently it would be hard to select any as very conspicuous. The passing of the backs was most accurate, fed as they were by their diminutive half. Gilray and A. Thomson were perhaps the pick of the backs while McKenzie was the most prominent in the sturdy pack of forwards.

Mr Cameron controlled the game and gave every satisfaction. T. Adams (Otago) and E. Lindsay (Southland) acted as line umpires.

We have to express our sincere thanks to the members of the northern team who so kindly entertained us during our stay, and also to Mr McKay for the way in which he looked after us on the journey.

SECOND FIFTEEN.

This year has been a most satisfactory one with the second fifteen. The players have attended practice very well, and have turned out to the paper-chases in a very satisfactory manner. Towards the end of the season they showed a good deal of combination, and played pluckily and well. Rowley has acted as captain, and has had his team well in hand. Out of six matches played they have won 2, drawn 1, and lost 3.

Notes on the Matches.

SECOND FIFTEEN v. SOUTH SCHOOL.—The South had the best of the first spell, scoring 2 tries, but towards the end of the second they were completely "done," and, had the game lasted ten minutes longer, the result would have been different. Taylor potted a neat goal for the school near the finish, thus making the score South 6 points, High 4 points. For our team Taylor, Rowley, Smith, Christophers, McAlister and Broad were conspicuous.

SECOND FIFTEEN v. SOUTH SCHOOL.—This match resulted in a draw, neither side scoring. In the first spell the South had the best of the game, but in the second our team was attacking the whole time. Rowley, Gilmour, Smith, and McAlister played well for the school.

SECOND FIFTEEN v. SOUTH SCHOOL.—This game, played on the South School ground, resulted in a win for our team by 36 points to nil. H. Mitchell, on the wing, proved to fast for his opponents, scoring eight times. Taylor and B. H. Gilmour also played well for the backs, while G. Mitchell, Bath, and McAlister were conspicuous in the forwards.

HIGH SCHOOL 2ND V. MARIST BROTHERS.—This match, played on our grounds, resulted in a win for us by 4 to 3. H. Mitchell kicked a goal from the field for us. The school attacked almost the whole time, except just at the end of the first spell, when the Marist scored a try which was not converted. Rowley and Martin were conspicuous in this game.

HIGH SCHOOL 2ND V. MIDDLE SCHOOL.—The match, played on the Eastern Ground, resulted in a win for the Middle by 4 to 0. The game was very even throughout, except just at the beginning, when Grant potted a goal for the Middle. Our team showed good form, Taylor, McAlister, and Smith playing well for the backs, while Christophers, Rowley, and Earle were noticeable in a pack of dashing forwards.

HIGH SCHOOL 2ND FIFTEEN V. MIDDLE SCHOOL.—This game was played on the Eastern Reserve, and won by the Middle by 12 to 3. Taylor scored a neat try for us just at the beginning of the second spell. The Middle School had rather the best of the game, but nevertheless our team attacked strongly at times, although they seemed to lack the art of scoring. Taylor, H. Mitchell, M. McAlister, and Spiers were the pick of the backs in this match, while B. H. Gilmour, G. Mitchell and Rowley played well in the forwards.

Football Notes.

We wish here to thank Mr McKay, for the unselfish and ungrudging way in which he came down, night after night, either to help us in our play or to referee in our Form matches.

This year, as usual, we had the annual matches between Town and Country. Two games were played, the Country winning both. This is the first year for a long time, that the Country have won, and even this year their success was chiefly due to their numbers.

We also had three matches between Form III and the rest of the school. The first game resulted in a win for the other forms. In the second match Form III won, while the third match resulted in a draw. There was considerable interest shown in these matches.

The weather has been fairly fine this season, except in the beginning of August, when it rained for about a fortnight, thus preventing much practice for our Dunedin match.

The football ground has been in a terrible state this season, being simply a mud puddle.

Lockers for the football togs would be a great convenience, and it is hoped the Board of Governors will put up something of this kind.

In our second match against the Waikiwi, just at the beginning, Delargey had the misfortune to sprain his wrist, but nevertheless he played pluckily on till half-time, when he was forced to retire; and, even then, his wrist having been bound up, he came down to "barrack"

for the school, in the second spell. Surely this is the spirit that every Southland High School boy ought to show.

Paper Chases.

This is the first year that this sport has been practised at the school, and it was started on the recommendation of the Rector as exercise for those who did not play football, and as training for those who did. It has turned out very successfully, although the attendance at the last paper-chases has not been so large as at the first. On several occasions the runs were held in pouring rain.

During the term 15 chases have been held, the last eight in competition for the trophy presented by the Rector. Points were counted as follows:—Attendance: 2, 1st 5secs., 3; 2nd 5secs, 2; etc. The Hares also placed ribbons of paper on suitable fences, and for any failure to jump these a point was deducted. Some very exciting finishes were witnessed, Baird, Hay, McKay, and L. Mitchell being always in a bunch for the final spurt.

The following is the position after the final chase:—Baird, 36 points; L. Mitchell, 33 points; McKay and Hay, 27 each. Baird has thus won the Trophy.

The total number of miles covered by the members of our Club was over 150—which gives an average of 10 miles per run. The longest run was 18 miles, the trail being laid by Traill and L. Mitchell round Myross Bush and back to town by Waikiwi. Several times during the paper-chases the swimming powers of the boys were tested, they having to cross the Waihopai in flood more than once.

On Tuesdays the second form has held its own paper-chases, which have on the whole been fairly well attended.

Drill Notes.

Notwithstanding the fact that there has been no trip to Christchurch to enliven the work in this department, the interest of the boys in cadet work has been well sustained. A large number of boys having left at the end of the year, as they invariably do, the first duty of the captain lay in selecting new officers. The "personnel" of the officers now is:—Captain, J. E. Vernon; Lieutenant, J. McKay; half-company commanders, H. McKay, J. B. Baird; Sergeants, Mehaffey, and Acheson; Corporals, Mitchell and Gilmour.

The usual weekly parade has been held every Thursday, and there has always been a good muster of cadets. The number on the roll now is over 60, and of these 46 are uniformed. Two special parades have been held during the term; on Peace day and at the celebration of His Majesty's Coronation. On the former occasion it was noticeable that our corps had the largest muster of all the companies present. One volunteer company mustered 5 all told; 1 captain, a bugler, a color-

sergeant, and 2 privates. Thirty-four cadets, 6 non-coms. under the command of Captain Vernon were present on both occasions.

We have been very unfortunate this year in losing two teachers who took a great interest in cadet work, Lieut. Foote and Captain Vernon. Both these officers accompanied the corps to Christchurch, and it was due to their efforts that, while other cadets were swimming about in the mud and refuse at the Normal School, we fared so well at the West Christchurch School. One noticeable thing about Mr Vernon's Captaincy was the neatness and order which prevailed on every hand. This may be due to some extent to note books which seemed to spring like magic from Mr Vernon's pocket. Perhaps the best known and most dreaded of these note books was the one in which the names of the unfortunate victims of the Detention room were imprinted. This book was, appropriately enough, of a black colour.

During the winter months, on account of the dreadful state of our recreation ground, the drills were held in the Zealandia Hall, where Mr Hanna, who has been appointed gymnastic instructor to the Southland Schools, has also exercised us in his gymnastic drill. A gymnasium is at present being built in the Girl's grounds, and, it is hoped, will be completed in November. Until then we shall exercise on the horse, parallel bars, horizontal bar etc., in the hall.

At the end of last year a consignment of Lee-Enfield rifles was received from the New Zealand Government. This was a welcome relief from the old Sniders which kicked like horses, and the rifles were used at the targets until the ammunition gave out. We received rather a meagre supply of ammunition from the Government this year, but we hope that more will be received next term in order that the customary competition may be carried out. Last year, owing to the altering and improving of the butts no target practice took place.

It is a remarkable fact that, when boys are numbering off, there is a tendency for each boy to give to the note of his number, a pitch different to that of the preceding boy. It certainly sounds much better to have an even tone throughout, and we would urge upon each boy the necessity of his learning to modulate his voice. If it is done merely for the sake of amusement, we do not doubt but that any perpetration in the future will receive swift and condign punishment.

Another improvement which has taken place during the year is the abolition of the glengarry. It has been replaced by the new forage cap, the appearance of the company being much improved.

At the end of the term Mr Vernon, being about to leave, decided to inspect the arms and accoutrements of the company; accordingly we had a busy time rubbing and polishing, and only a few miserable specimens were ordered off to a final rub up, after the inspection. Some of the rifles were very dirty after the Feu de Joie on August 9th. Thus ended the terms work. We regard the coming term with mingled feelings; of sorrow, for the loss of Mr Vernon; of expectation for the shooting—and the holidays.

Our Old Boys.

We are starting this column with the intention of making the Magazine as interesting to our Old Boys as possible. We have to apologise for this as our present number, because we fear it will not succeed too well in its object—a fact due principally to the small amount of information we have been able to get from the Old Boys themselves. Of course this is only natural, since most of them are unaware that such a Paper is being begun by us, and consequently did not send us matter, interesting to their old school-fellows. In the future, however, we shall rely on them, and are sure we shall not be disappointed.

About a month ago a preliminary meeting of Old Boys was held to consider the advisability of starting an Old Boys' Association. It was decided to do so, the Rector being appointed chairman and Mr McKay secretary pro. tem. until a regular meeting is called, of which due notice will be given, and at which we ask the attendance of all Old Boys.

An Old Girls' Association has also been formed; of this a notice will be found on another page.

We regret to have to announce the death of Robert Morton Erskine at the age of 23. "R.M.," as he was called, attended the school from 1895 to 1897, and gained at the end of that period a Junior University Scholarship. He then went to the Otago University and Canterbury College, where he gained many honours. While at school he played in the First Fifteen and was also Dux. He possessed uncommon abilities and a generous nature, and was much liked by his fellow-students. We deeply sympathise with his bereaved relatives in their hour of sorrow.

Many may not be aware of the success our Old Boys as a class have achieved.

To begin with we shall look at the field of athletics. Considering this year's Southland Representative Football Team we find three ex-High School boys occupying three of the most responsible positions in the team.

W. STEAD, who plays five-eighths, and has represented Southland from 1896 to 1902, is down on the books of the school as a member of the First Fifteen for 1892. He is recognised as one of the best five-eighths in New Zealand, and keeps up the credit of the school where he really learned the game.

J. TAYLOR, who played in the same team with Stead at school, has represented his province for this year and last. In the interpro. match against Otago he is said to have thoroughly justified his inclusion in the team. He plays in the most responsible position in the field—full-back.

J. CHRISTOPHERS.—In this player we take special interest, as some of us can remember playing in the same team with him for the school in 1900. Besides being the best back in the team when at school, he

was secretary of the Football Club, and spared no pains for the honour of the school. Leaving at the beginning of 1901, he was very nearly included in that year's rep. team. This year he has earned his place, and we cannot do better than quote of this player, of whom the school is justly proud, what was said of him in his first interpro. match, played on Saturday, August 23rd. "On the left wing, Christophers was as cool as a cucumber. He never made a single mistake throughout the game, and the way he ran, kicked, and collared already stamps him as a first ranker with a great future."

RODGERS, WHITAKER, MANSON, & TAPPER have also represented Southland in past years. Outside Southland Albert Acheson has been making a great name for himself. Acheson played three quarter for our school from 1897 to 1900, and at Canterbury College he has excelled his previous exploits. At the College sports he won the 220. He played wing three-quarter for the College, and his play was always characterised with dash, precision, and speed. We hear he has been included in the Canterbury Juniors.

B. Basstian, who is prominent in all athletic circles here, rowed in the Southland Interprovincial Match with Otago, in which his boat won.

Turning now to the field of study, we notice that the School's reputation is equally well maintained. In fact we are confronted with such an array of Old Boys and Girls who have made their mark in the Universities of New Zealand and Britain, that we hardly know what to tell and what not to. We must confine ourselves to the more recent of these honours:

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO, 1901.

- Miss E. L. Brown, M.A. degree.
- L. Thompson, M.A. degree.
- C. P. Brown, "Macandrew" prize in Political Economy.
- T. Neave, B.A. degree.
- V. White, B.A. degree.
- J. H. Baird, B. A. degree.
- T. A. MacGibbon, B.A. and B. Sc.
- A. Thompson, B.A. degree.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW. (Medicine).

J. A. Cowie, B.A., B.Sc., an old captain of the School XV. has passed his second M.B., Ch.B. with distinction.

J. H. Baird, B.A., passed his First Professional, and taking top place out of 150 who sat for the examination, gained the scholarship which that position carries with it. He also carried off sundry medals granted to the top man in separate subjects.

At the Edinburgh University, A. MacGibbon has gained his B.A. degree, also that of B.Sc.

F. W. Reid, an old school wing three-quarters, has been doing brilliantly at the Adelaide School of Mines. Sir L. Bonython, then president of this School, in his address at the annual demonstration said, "I think I am justified in mentioning that Mr Reid has established a wonderful record. He has passed first class in the six subjects of the second year mining course as well as in Statics, Dynamics and advanced Mathematics. He did just the same with the subjects of the first year with the exception that he took a second class in drawing at the School of Design."

We were pleased to hear of Mr George Cuthbertson's appointment to the position of engineer to the County of Vincent.

Herbert Collins, one of our Old Boys. left for South Africa with the Second Contingent in the troopship Waiwera. He went through all the marches of his Contingent, travelling over 2600 miles. He took part in the engagement at Rhenoster Kop, where just at the beginning of the battle he was wounded in the leg just below the knee; but nevertheless he fought to the end of the battle, thus making his wound of a much more serious character. In a letter home he describes how the excitement of the fight made him feel no pain, but that on being removed to the hospital he suffered acutely. His wound took three months in healing. He came back to New Zealand but returned to South Africa in the 8th Contingent, where he fought in several other engagements, under Major Craddock. He joined Baden-Powell's Constabulary for a time, but returned to the 8th, where he was promoted to the position of sergeant. He witnessed the magnificent entry into Pretoria of the thousands of Imperial troops, headed by Lord Roberts.

Frederick Collins has also been distinguishing himself. It will be remembered that he was for two years dux of the School. On leaving the High School he studied at the Mining School at the Dunedin 'Varsity. After this he attended the London School of Mines and gained the highest possible honours. Then he visited Klondyke, and is now in British Columbia.

The following letter from Lieutenant Selby, D.S.O., an Old Boy, gives a graphic account of the capture of Commandant Alberts and his commando. It is dated 4th February, but had been interrupted during writing, as the letter shows:—

"We are still engaged on the block-houses, and expect we shall not complete the line for another month. Colonel Hickie's (late Babington's) column has joined us. We are glad to get reinforcements, as our column is rather small and a large force of the enemy has now gathered in the district to try to prevent the completion of our work — [6th February.] I was writing the above when the order came to 'Upsaddle' at once. At 7. p.m. of the 4th our mounted troops (with Hickie's) and a pompom moved out in the pitch darkness. We swept round in a westerly direction and got north of Grai-span, where a few Boers had been reported. About three o'clock in the morning of the 5th we came to a farm where five horses were knee-haltered and grazing. We rushed the place and took five Boers asleep. This seemed an outpost, so another officer and myself, with 20 scouts, went forward to look for the main body. About a mile further

on we came to Graispán, and saw about 30 horses grazing. We calculated there would be only about the same number of Boers there, and as some dogs commenced barking we charged the place just at daybreak. We rushed into the awakening Boers, who were lying in the shelter of some mud kraals. Then we saw about 150 more horses and about 170 Boers, who began firing at once. My horse was shot under me at 10 yards, and I crawled into a hole and blazed away at the enemy. Eight horses of our party were killed at once and four men hit; the other men came up and took cover amongst the kraals, where the fun then commenced. We were mostly shooting with revolvers, and the Boers would not surrender, neither had they the backbone to rush us. Several of them got up on the walls beside us to get a shot at us, but my men kept their heads well, and knocked them over as they exposed themselves. They could not leave the kraals as we had a sweep of the ground all round. This lasted about fifteen minutes, when our main body came galloping up, but were met by a volley from the Boers alongside us. Our men naturally thought we had been outnumbered, so they drew off and opened a heavy fire *into us*. However, we had good cover, and kept quiet, but some Boers were exposed and rushed round to our side holding up their hands. We took their rifles, which we smashed; and then we got as big a scare as we want for the rest of our lives. Our pom-pom opened on us and the mud walls around were crashing down with shells. It struck terror into the caged Boers, and the commandant, Von Albert, rushed to me with his hands up and said he would get all to surrender if I would stop our people from shelling. I hoisted a white flag, the firing stopped, and the Boers were glad to get out of it so easily. The Boers' horses were lying dead in all directions. Our people came swarming down, and you can judge their surprise when they found us, with 12 men left out of 20, bailing up 128 Boers. The enemy had eight killed and eleven wounded, and I had eight wounded. You will be pleased to know that I and four of my men have been "mentioned" in Kekewiche's despatches, and this will be my second mention. The Boers in this commando are being paid £1 a day in paper money (I enclose sample), and they are so ignorant as to believe that they will get money for the notes.

We have to congratulate Mr J. A. Hanan on his election to Parliament, and on the popularity he has gained there. We are also pleased to hear of his marriage to Miss S. Murray of this town.

We are gratified with the success with which Mr Reed, an Old Boy, has carried on the duties of Mayor of the Bluff for so long a term.

It is a pleasing duty to convey our best wishes to Mr T. D. A. Moffett on the occasion of his marriage with Mrs Mosely.

Another of our Old Boys, Mr Alex. Thompson, B.A., is on his way to America, to continue his studies in theology at Yale University.

E. J. Wiseman, a former secretary of our Football Club, went to Africa before the war and obtained a good position in the Rand mines. At the outbreak of the war he joined Brabant's Horse, gaining a commission.

G. Rogers, A. Scandrett, and A. R. Macdonald have also gained positions in South Africa.

J. A. Hamilton has been distinguishing himself in his medical studies at the University of Dublin.

Lieutenant Alex. McNab, an officer in the Mataura Mounted Rifles, got a commission and went out with the 8th Contingent to South Africa. He was on the train that was wrecked on its way to the seat of war.

Dr Angus McNab, who spoke at our last break-up, was studying medicine in Edinburgh when the war broke out. With some others he volunteered to go in charge of a field Hospital and gained a mark of distinction for the way he performed his duties.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I should like to draw the attention of your readers to a few of the troubles to which we, the boys, are exposed. For a long time we have been agitating for lockers in the shed at the back of the school in which we might place our implements of war, jerseys, boots, etc. These lockers would not cost very much and would be appreciated by us very much. Frustra! the omens are not favourable nor the gods propitious. The second of our wants is a new ground, the measurements of the present one are about 2 by 4 chains and consequently in any game we have line out about once a minute, and one can with ease find the line on either side from any part of the old paddock. We hope that the S.R.F.U. will next year see the propriety of fixing all our matches on a full sized ground. We have not a heavy team and get pushed back inch by inch on our own ground. This season we have had to contend against an evil which is not peculiar to this town, namely, second grade players playing in 3rd grade matches. I think that if we had not had to contend against these 2nd grade players, we should have pulled off the premiership. The Union has now promised to look after this, and keenly will our eyes be directed on their actions. There is but one more evil I want to declaim against. A certain voluminous contributor to the suggestion book has advocated the advantages of making football compulsory; I desire to know why the game of cricket should be made compulsory if attendance at football is optional?—I am, etc.,

VERCINGETORIX.

Girls' School.

The first number of the Girls' Magazine appeared in December, 1901. As the question of expense prohibited printing, the contributions for each number have been written in a book kept for the purpose, and after being read aloud at the end of the term, they are placed in the Library to be read again at leisure.

At the beginning of the winter a "Cocoa" Club was started. The necessary crockery was bought, and for the modest sum of 1d per cup or 4d a week, girls staying for lunch can now have tea or cocoa. The Club has been a success in every way.

The Tennis Committee has decided that the Old Girls' Association may have the use of the Court on Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. and after 6 p.m., Fridays after 5 p.m., Saturdays after 4.30 p.m. The girls intend to challenge the Association at an early date.

The status list has again been made out, and vigorous practice should now begin. Next month a skipping competition is to be held.

The girls would like to place on record their appreciation of the kindness of Mrs Turner, Miss Aytoun, and Mr Gray for their help in the preparations for the entertainment. They would also thank Mr Hawke for the use of a room for practices, and the many kind friends who assisted with the music or by lending numerous articles required for the "tableau."

Tennis Committee—M. Palmer, D. Royds, J. Mackay, A. McGruer, H. Jamieson (treasurer), N. Hay (secretary). Subscription, 1s each term. School Librarian, H. Jamieson. Treasurer of Cocoa Club, D. Hamilton. School Prefects, H. Jamieson and M. Palmer.

Tennis Tournament.

The last tennis season was brought to a close by a tournament held in the beginning of May.

The members were divided into two groups, Senior and Junior, the former numbering 21 and the latter 16 members.

The entrance money went to provide trophies for the winners.

The finals were played off on Friday afternoon, 2nd May, resulting in Miss Boyd gaining the Senior prize and Miss B. Pilcher the Junior. The play on the whole was good; that between Misses Jamieson and Stewart providing the most interesting game to the onlookers. Great improvement was shown on the play of last season, and when the Juniors have had more experience in the game some interesting play may be looked for.

At the close of the Tournament afternoon tea was handed round and much enjoyed.

"For Auld Lang Syne."

Readers of the High School Magazine may be interested in hearing from time to time of the doings of old High School girls.

At the beginning of the present year Misses K. Morgan and A. Kennedy, who had taken good places in the Civil Service Examination, received appointments in the Wellington Post Office. They are finding life in the "Empire City" very interesting.

Miss Agnes Baird, an old pupil, has just taken her M.A. degree at Glasgow University. Her sister, Miss Nellie Baird, formerly Dux of the Girls' School, has been for some years studying medicine at Queen Margaret's College, and is expected here shortly to commence practice as Invercargill's first lady doctor.

Several of the girls who left at the end of last year have recently received appointments as pupil teachers. Miss Jane Kennedy is at East Gore; Miss Mary Baird is at the Gladstone, Miss K. McLeod at Riversdale, and Miss Vera Murdoch at the South School. The verdict of one of them, after a few weeks' experience, is: "Teaching is not so easy as it looks."

The Girls' Entertainment.

Through the kindness of their mistress the girls were enabled to finish their hard work of last term by spending a most enjoyable evening, the pleasure of which was also shared by some two hundred of their friends. Under the guidance of Miss Stevenson with the kind help of Miss Ayton who instructed them in dancing, and of Mr Gray who devoted much time to their singing, the girls worked hard in preparing the programme for what they were proud to call "Our Evening."

The guests who filled Ashley's Hall on the evening of August 22nd were greeted with a pianoforte duet by Misses E. Brown and Carr.

Tennyson's "Dream of Fair Women" was then illustrated in a moving tableau, Misses Mackay, Lynn, D. Royds, E. Young, Turner, F. Royds, Hay, and Erskine, representing some of the fair women of old, and being introduced as such, to the audience, by Miss M. Palmer, who recited the poem. Sixteen other girls, who evidently preferred to be fair girls of to-day, executed two movements in physical drill, one in marching and another in dumb-bell extensions. Both, under the instruction of Mr Hanna, were very effective, and were enlivened by the music Miss Pilcher kindly played.

The gavotte was gracefully danced by Misses Craig, McGruer, Brown, Mitchell, Millar, Steele, Green, and Hain; equally charming was the Snowflake dance in which the performers—Misses Millar, Steele, Simon, Pilcher, Macalister, Hawke, Hain, Green, Meredith, Gillies, Field and Pilcher—all dressed to represent as nearly as possible this flower so delighted the audience with their light and regular movements, that they were heartily recalled. The solos of Misses Simon and Fielding ex-high school girls, added much to the pleasure of the evening as did also the sweet part-songs sung by the girls under Mr Gray.

During the evening Miss Stevenson addressed the guests thanking them for showing by their attendance their interest in the school. She spoke of the entertainment as being the result of the girls' hard work, and said that she hoped they would be able to have such an evening annually, for it was not allowed to interfere with school work, and afforded enjoyment to the girls and their friends. Mr Longuet proposed a vote of thanks to the staff and pupils, at the same time referring to Miss Stevenson's good work among the girls, who thereupon showed their appreciation of her in three hearty cheers.

Pretty baskets of sweets were distributed among the guests by the girls, who also handed round supper, and as they made everything themselves it must have been exceptionally enjoyable to their friends. After supper there was a very pleasing sight, when the hall was thronged with High School girls dancing merrily. So great was their enjoyment that half-past eleven came round much too quickly, but as the agreed breaking-up hour was already past the happy evening was ended by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

Old Girls' Association.

In all the larger towns of New Zealand there are associations of old pupils of the High Schools, with the object of keeping up the interest of past pupils in the school, and of strengthening friendships made at school. It has long been felt that such an association might well be formed in Invercargill, and the idea was mooted more than a year ago, when a number of "old girls" met to say good-bye to their old teacher, Miss Billing. No definite steps, however, were taken for some months, but on July, 27th, the preliminary meeting of the association was held. The Provisional Committee appointed at this meeting sent out a circular to all "old girls" still in the neighbourhood, with such good results that, by the date fixed for the inaugural meeting, there were nearly 50 names on the roll of intending members. The inaugural meeting took place in the High School on Monday, September 8th, the attendance being good. The rules drawn up by the Provisional Committee were read and adopted with certain amendments. The following officers were then elected for the year:—President: Mrs Fowler; Vice-Presidents: Mrs Hendry, Miss Stevenson, Miss Perrin; Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Brown; Committee: Mrs J. Macalister, Mrs Ott, Misses Kilburn, Selby, and F. Carswell. The meetings of the Association will usually be of a social character, and the first of them will be held at an early date.



Non scholae sed vitae discimus."

The Southland High Schools Magazine.

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Contributions from, and news relating to, old pupils will be thankfully received.

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No. 2

Editorial.

WE have been encouraged to bring out a second number of our Magazine owing to the kind reception with which our first efforts were met. We tender our thanks to all who, by their subscriptions, have enabled us to make assets balance with liabilities—especially to those who used our columns as an advertising medium. If we may augur from our short experience, and may rely upon continued support from our friends outside of the school, our future success is assured, and we may confidently expect to enjoy immunity from financial worry.

Items of interest in the school life since our last issue may be briefly summarised. The gap between football and cricket was filled in by a Fives Tournament. Training for the sports and cricket kept us busy till the break-up. The presentation of prizes took place in the new Gymnasium, a special feature being the array of sports trophies. Mention might also be made of the special prizes for school work; the gold medal for dux (presented by the Old Boys' Association) and the prize for the best average in Mathematics and Science (presented