

*The
Wathonian*



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House Notes.

ATHENS.

Athens has at least one improvement to report: the detention list has decreased. If only the Middle and Junior School boys would content themselves with still less, the number would soon become quite reasonable.

The girls have responded admirably to the appeal for a larger circulation of the magazine. Almost everyone of them has ordered a copy. Unfortunately, this cannot be said of the boys. Such appeals apparently leave them entirely unmoved. They have as yet provided no more orders than they did last term. However, we still cherish faint hopes that they will begin to support the magazine better than they have done in the past.

Although the games have been tolerably satisfactory, they have not been spectacular. Both boys and girls have lost approximately the same number of matches that they

have won. The boys are at present engaged in practising for the cross-country run, to be held at the end of this term.

The House-party, at the end of last term, proved quite successful, being well supported by both girls and boys.

We regret Mr. Orgill's decision to relinquish his post of housemastership, but extend a hearty welcome to his successor, whoever he may be.

CARTHAGE.

During the term a general slackness has been evident among the boys, especially in the Middle School, in turning out for working parties. Keeness in games is not enough, but must be supported by honest endeavour in other spheres. In magazine sales, Carthage had a relatively good record, but a far greater response is necessary among the boys. The keynote of Carthaginian policy next term must be "Effort," in sport, work, and voluntary activities.

ROME.

More Roman energy has been spent this term on "Civil Engineering" than last term. The boys have also been spending their time and energy in strolls round Abdy under the title of "Cross-country Practice." We appear to have a good chance of winning the Work Cup this term, though our chances of winning the Games Cup are more remote. The boys have put up an average performance in their matches. The Senior girls seem to be Rome's drawback in our running for the Games Cup. All our hopes are in the direction of sport. We hope to win the cross-country on March 31st. We hope to produce a strong cricket team next term. We hope to win the Sports Cup next term. An all Roman effort can satisfy these desires.

SPARTA.

This term Spartans have not answered the call for magazines as gallantly as they did last term. May we ask all Spartans to save up for next term, so that we can make a record sale.

In hockey, the girls have tried hard to attend the practices, with the result that Senior girls have won one match and lost one, and the Juniors have won one match, lost one, and drawn one. The boys are as willingly practising for the cross-country. We hope they will be as successful as they were last year. We are all looking forward to the Sports at the beginning of next term, when Spartans are earnestly requested to turn out to all practices.

Spartans have again been making themselves famous on the detention list. We hope that next term they will improve and so help Sparta to get nearer the Work Cup.

THEBES.

The Theban report this term is, on the whole, quite satisfactory, but there are still a few minor faults which need correcting before we can be really sure of getting the Work Cup in our grasp. They are, the number of detentions accumulated by the boys, especially the Juniors, and the seeming hostility of the Middle boys of the School towards civil engineering. These may not seem to you to be serious offences, but they can, and have proved very detrimental to the progress of the House.

We must congratulate the Theban Junior "15" on having won all their matches, and the girls on having put up quite a good show in spite of the many drawbacks. The girls have also bought a maximum number of magazines, whereas the boys are well behind with a mere fifty per cent., which is not nearly so good as last term.

Since the examinations are drawing quite near, I ask that all Thebans should do their best and try to make next term a model term, so that it may be looked upon in the future as a fixed standard, and so that no one will have any cause to grumble.

TROY.

This term has not been very eventful for the House, as there is no special occasion for which preparations are necessary. The House Party was a great success last term, and for this we must thank the House representatives.

We were very sorry to lose Boyd this term. He has proved an excellent House Captain, and was always very enthusiastic and full of ideas for the benefit of the House.

The navvying teams have been working well this term, as Trojans should, some teams doing especially well. The "rugger" and hockey teams have not been very successful on the whole. The Junior boys have done well, but the Senior girls have let the House down badly, as they are unable to produce enough members to form a team and consequently cannot play any matches. Next term the whole House must make an effort to retain the Sports Cup.

To those who are taking the Higher School and School Certificate examinations next term, we wish every success.

Senior Literary Society.

A large audience gathered in the Hall at the first meeting of a very successful term to hear a Spelling Bee between the VIth Science and Literary. The standard of spelling on both sides was high, although some of the words demanded imagination as well as courage ; but the VIth Literary gradually drew ahead, and won by a fairly comfortable margin.

The second meeting consisted of a paper by Knutton of the VIth Science on "Evolution." The audience was smaller than the merit of the lecture deserved, but those who attended gained a great deal of information on a subject which was no less interesting through being unfamiliar to most of them.

On February 27 the Vth Forms presented scenes from Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice." Outstanding in a capable cast were Schofield as the Jew and K. Disley as Portia. Other parts were taken by Carman, Woods, Miller, R. Farlow and M. Bentcliffe. Especial credit is due to Dexter, who learnt the part of Bassanio in one day.

On Monday, March 13, the VIth Literary gave "Coriolanus." The chief parts were taken by Curran, Phillips, Buckley, Hargreaves, Mann, B. Staton and M. Wragg. Barker, besides taking a small part, appeared on the stage to summarize such essential developments of the plot as had, through lack of time to be omitted.

The last Senior Literary event of the term will be the full presentation of Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer." It is hoped that all members of both Literary Societies will not only attend themselves, but make an effort to persuade others to come. Programmes, which are obtainable from any member of the cast, are priced at 4d. for scholars (3d. for members of the Literary Societies) and 6d. for old boys and girls.

Junior Literary Society.

This term has been chiefly remarkable for low attendances. At the first meeting we had several impromptu debates ; these were badly supported.

At the second and fourth meetings we had inter-house debates between Troy and Athens, and Rome and Carthage, which resulted in Troy and Rome passing into the semi-finals. At the third and fifth meetings we had two first form debates which were both won by Ib.

At the sixth and seventh meetings we had the semi-finals of the inter-house Debates. Troy opposed Sparta, and Rome



opposed Thebes ; these resulted in Sparta and Rome entering the final.

At the eighth meeting we had the inter-house debate final. The subject was, "Truth is stranger than Fiction." This was proposed by Sparta and opposed by Rome. Rome eventually won by three votes.

At the ninth meeting we hope to have a discussion on films. This term's full members who have been re-elected are : R. Wyer, Rose, Phillipson, Malyon, D. Evans, and Probert (secretary). The new full members are : Beardsall, Stephenson, Halton, Fearn, Scholey and B. Hough.

The Science Club.

Chairman : J. A. Corby. Secretary : H. Knutton.

Registrar : J. D. Simpson.

This term the Club has enjoyed almost unprecedented success. The large variety of subjects dealt with has

attracted a great number of people, including several members of the staff, so that our attendances have soared far above the average, and we are proud to say that the Science Club has become the most flourishing Senior Society in the School.

At the first meeting F. W. Higgs, of the VIth Science, gave a demonstration on "Colloids." This was described as an orderly and scientific lecture.

Two weeks later, on January 31st, D. Dexter, of Upper Va, gave a paper on "How do you know." He talked about psycho-analysis and psychology. Many interesting questions were asked.

On the 14th of February we were privileged to welcome to our meeting a member of the Literary VIth in the person of C. J. Curran. He read a paper on "Hormones," making special reference to the hormones influencing sex, growth and appearance.

Many amateur photographers came to the next meeting to hear a paper by Mr. Pratt on "Colour Photography."

On March 14th, Strelsa Searle of the VIth Science read a paper on "What we should eat and why." The speaker ably described the benefit we receive from the different foods we eat.

The final meeting was held on March 21st, when R. V. Hughes, the wireless expert of the VIth Science gave a paper and also demonstrations on "Wireless Telegraphy and Telephony."

Members of the VIth Form transmitted a programme from the Junior Laboratory which was broadcast to the audience in the Lecture Room.

Thus ended the most successful session in the history of the Society. It has reflected great credit on the abilities of the Sixth Science, whose efforts have been extraordinarily well supported.

The Orchestra

This term has been spent in practising for "She Stoops to Conquer," the Easter play to be presented by the Senior Literary Society. After trying various new pieces, the following were selected and practised :

Norwegian Dances	..	..	..	<i>Volti</i>
The Barley Mow	..	..	..	<i>Traditional</i>
Allegretto from the "Fire Music"	..	..	..	<i>Handel</i>
Berenice (Minuet)	..	..	..	<i>Handel</i>

Minuet and Trio	..	..	..	<i>Mozart</i>
Drink to me only	..	..	..	<i>Traditional</i>

It is unfortunate that Strelsa Searle and Kenning are unable to reinforce those who will be playing at the Easter performance. We must console ourselves with the thought that both have big parts in the play itself.

Guide Notes.

Our activities this term, apart from our weekly meetings, have not been very numerous. Early in the term an important Patrol Leaders training was held at Barnsley and was very well attended. A representative of the National Fitness Committee gave us a very interesting and a very energetic twenty minutes.

Meetings this term have been well attended, and we are pleased to welcome so many new recruits. We should also like to congratulate F. Nicholson and H. Hepworth on gaining their Second Class badges. Camp this year is being held at Grange-over-Sands, and has great hopes of being well attended. Meanwhile we are still a comparatively small company, and would be pleased to see still more in the Gym. on Thursday evenings.

Junior Gym Club.

The attendance during the two terms has been about 60%. The House practices interfered last term, while cross-country practices interfered this term. There have been numerous detentions this term also. The full members have attended much more regularly than the half-members. We have tried our utmost to succeed in performing the stiff gymnastic tests set by Mr. Smith. We have enjoyed many a fierce game of handball, and succeeded in building some fine pyramids (with boys, not bricks!) Fortunately there have been no accidents so far this term.

Art Club.

No artist ever was balanced. From a club that was almost the sole preserve of the Senior School, we have swung this term to a club, the happy hunting ground of the First Forms. Of seven full members, one Renée Chandler has been elevated to the committee as a successor to R. Barker, and only one other has merited a House point. Hilda Owen, Margaret Blanchard, and Joan Martin have been made full members.

Work as usual has been as usual. Juniors still persist in cutting yards of lino and covering themselves with ink. Girls are incorrigible in their devotion to the Great God of the Leather Purse. Some members are as idle as ever. A number of books are being made, a lengthy process, necessitating skill in penmanship, illuminating and book illustration, as well as in bookbinding. Subject matter has invariably been taken from the minor works of standard poets. One day somebody will use their own verse. At present they have been bitten by the National Fitness Bug. Not that they have started dozing daily or become devotees of the weekly bath. Rather, with the true Yorkshire spirit, the desire to be in on "Owt for Nowt" they have started work on the posters that are to win all the prizes. By the way, what are the prizes to be?

Last summer term one or two of us went one Saturday morning on a sketching outing. Is it too much to hope that this idea may this year be taken up by the whole club, and that sketching outings may become a permanent feature of our summer activities? It rests with you!

K. D. BARKER.

Football

1st XV.

Jan. 21st—School 1st XV. v. Old Boys. At Wath.

Result : Draw 0—0.

The ground was very heavy when the Old Boys and the School met once again for another hard "battle." The School won the toss and decided to play uphill, and, during the first half exchanges were even, and it was mostly a forwards' game, since the ball was very slippery. During the second half Bateman crossed the line, but the try was disallowed, and Knutton failed with a penalty kick from a good distance out. The forwards played an excellent game all through, tiring somewhat towards the end due to the speed of play.

Jan. 28th—Wath 1st XV. v. Barnsley 1st XV. At Barnsley.

Result : Won 11 points—0.

Knutton acted as captain in the absence of Simpson, and he won the toss, gaining very little advantage by so doing. Barnes proved an opportunist by scoring two snap tries during the first half and although the ball was wet and heavy

the Wath backs made several good movements. The School pressed strongly towards the end and Barnes eventually scored by a fine individualistic effort and Woods converted.

March 4th—Wath 1st XV. v. Pontefract Kings School 1st XV.
at Pontefract. Result : Won 8 points—0.

Rain fell for the first half while the School played uphill into the wind, after winning the toss, at Pontefract. There was no score during the first half, although both sides had many fine three-quarter movements, but during the second half the Wath forwards kept the game very much in the Pontefract "territory." Towards the end of the game a converted try was scored by Simpson, playing on the wing in place of Stones, who accidentally dislocated his shoulder in a practice, and another by Barnes brought the score to eight points for the School.

March 11th—Wath 1st XV. v. Morley 1st XV., at Wath.

Result : Won, 19 points—3 points.

A fierce, clean game was the general comment of both teams as they left the rugger field. Morley lost the toss and the School decided to play uphill. Exchanges were even for a while, then we took the lead when Woods kicked a penalty awarded a few yards in front of the Morley posts. Morley retaliated by an unconverted try, and then Higgs went over for the School for a further five points. There was no further score during the first half, but after the change round, Morley seemed to weaken, and our forwards broke through often. Further efforts by Bateman Barnes and Simpson resulted in bringing the School score to 19 points.

2nd XV.

At Morley. Result : Morley 0—Wath 23.

Backs : Hughes, Aram, Bourne, Miller, Watson, Glover, Jones. *Forwards* : Parkes, Bishop, Shaw, Curran, Cooper, Hyland, Bond, Harwood.

Clean but shivering, fifteen players clad in red shirts ran the three hundred yards to the pitch in the rain. The pitch was flat and there was hardly any wind, so it was hard to understand the opposing captain's conference with his men



before choosing the direction on winning the toss. The scoring was soon opened by Hughes, and was quickly followed by Aram's try, which was converted by Jones. Though the ball was slippery, the score mounted to twenty-three, through further unconverted tries by Bourne, Glover and Parkes. Off from the field trooped the fifteen warm but muddy Wathonians as the whistle blew for time.

At Wath. Result: Wath 14—Thorne 6.

Cooper was put into Hughes' place from the scrum, Hargreaves and Simpson replacing Parkes and Cooper in the scrum. The School lost the toss and started playing downhill. Miller opened the scoring to be followed by further unconverted tries by Curran and Aram, in opposition to Thorne's three point score before half time. In the second half a cleverly intercepted pass resulted in another unconverted try to Thorne. A second try by Miller was converted by Jones, and no other score was obtained to leave the result at 14—6 in our favour.

Hockey.

1st XI. v. Rotherham. Away.

Result : Won 1—0.

Despite an exceptionally muddy pitch, the School team was in very good form, and played together better than at any other time during the season. L. Newsham played well on the right wing, giving good passes to the centre, especially in the goal circle, thus enabling H. Hill to score the only goal of the match. L. Stewardson proved invaluable as left half-back.

1st XI. v. Thorne. Away.

Result : Lost 4—2.

Both teams were very evenly matched and the ball was constantly in both circles, occasioning very hard work for both defences. The Thorne half-backs marked exceptionally well, but this was counterbalanced by the brilliant defence put up by the School backs and goal.

1st XI. v. Penistone Home.

Lost 2—1.

The School field had only ten men, feeling the loss of L. Stewardson. Having won the toss, the School elected to play uphill first. There were many ardent and sometimes demonstrative supporters. Penistone scored the first goal, but the School soon equalised. R. Chandler in goal, and H. Nicholson, as centre-half, were outstanding.

1st XI. v. Maltby. Away.

Result : Lost 5—0.

Never before has the School team played so badly. The absence of the captain, N. Hill, was felt keenly. On the other hand, the Maltby team played excellently, particularly the defence, which was almost impenetrable. However, the School forwards managed to reach the goal circle several times, but failed to score.

2nd XI.

2nd XI. v. Thorne. Away. Result : Lost 1—0.

2nd XI. v. Penistone. Away.

Result: Draw 3—3.

Wath won the toss, but played with the wind behind them for the first half. At first, most of the play was in Penistone's half of the field. The score at half-time was 3—1 in the School's favour. As the whistle blew, Wath were just going to shoot again, but too late. H. Hepworth and R. Farlow scored for the School.

2nd XI. v. Maltby. Away.

Result: Lost 6—1.

This was a very hard game, the Wath backs playing very well. Wath forwards were often in the opponents' circle, but were not quick enough in shooting, therefore only managed to score one goal.

“ Nil Desperandum.”

In vain do I nibble and chew my pen,
And rack my poor brain o'er again,
And hour after hour I worry and nag,
But nought can I write for the old School “Mag.”

Not a wink of sleep do I get all night,
And soon I grow so wan and white,
And my half-term does most wearily drag,
Yet nought can I write for the old School “Mag.”

“Why do you bother,” perhaps you may say,
“To spend your time in thought all day,
And worry, and fret, and feel such a fag”—
It's all for the sake of the old School “Mag.”

J. PARKIN (Lower VI. Lit.)

In the Iranian Oilfields.

At the head of the Persian Gulf, about 50 miles south-east of Basra, is the small island of Abadan, unmarked on most maps, and situated in the Shalt-el-Arab, the outlet to the sea of the great rivers Tigris and Euphrates. Abadan is about 20 miles long and 7 miles wide, and on it is the largest oil refinery in the world, which deals with the entire output of the country's oil. The climate from October to March is about

the same, or rather better, than English summer weather, though heavy rains come in January and February. From March the temperature gradually increases, until June, when it reaches about 120° in the shade, and remains about there until September, when the autumn commences. This temperature is quite bearable with a northerly wind, but with the wind coming from the south the humidity rises to about 93, and it then becomes a little uncomfortable.

The main oilfield is at Masjid-i-Sulaiman, and the oil is "degassed" here. That is, leaving the ground at very high pressures, the oil is released to atmospheric pressure and gives off large quantities of gas which is burnt at flares, which at night provide one of the most picturesque and imposing sights to be seen out here. The oil is then conveyed across some very rugged country to the refinery at Abadan, where it is passed to the stills with the production of crude petrol, kerosene, gas oil, diesel oil, waxy distillate and asphalt. The heavier fractions such as waxy distillate are then treated at high temperatures and pressures which breaks down the molecular structure and forms petrol and gas oil. These products are further treated at the "washeries" before finally being blended and shipped to England by tanker.

The company employ about 25,000 natives, under the supervision of 1,700 Europeans, whose vocations include: geologists, drillers, engineers, refinery operators, chemists and administrative staff. The European staff are accommodated in bungalows or flats, but a few, such as geologists, must, of necessity, live in tents. Their spare time is well catered for, including cinema, library, and practically any sport from darts to polo, including Rugger, which has a few brave adherents who play on a ground devoid of grass and baked hard. There are no newspapers apart from those sent out here, and very few wireless sets, so all news reaches us about a fortnight old.

Apart from their business of oil refining the company take an active interest in the welfare of the natives, and provide them with houses, lighting, roads and a bus service. The hospital, which is very well equipped, is open to all, whether employee or not, and schools have been built for the education of the children. Most of these pass into the refinery and learn a trade, but the brighter ones are sent to European universities to complete their studies.

Little do people think when filling their motor car tanks with petrol, of the people who handle it, or the processes through which it passes before it is finally ready for use.

G. PEACE (1925-30).

A Silent Rebuke.

I am weary of prayer in the little old church,
 And my eyes through the windows impatiently search.
 The pious around me are all wrapped in prayer,
 But of someone outside, with a start I'm aware.
 There's a leer on his face, of the deepest contempt,
 His eyes are protruding ; his hair is unkempt ;
 His features are grey, like a man's long since dead,
 And a long pair of horns come from out of his head.
 But strange though it be, in that insolent stare
 There's something that makes me remember my prayer.
 I'm closing my eyes, for he's dreadful to see,
 Staring so silly, mocking at me.
 Unholy, pitiless, godless, alone,
 Who carved thee out, dreadful gargoyle of stone ?

G. E. HUGHES, L.VI.Lit.

Bacon Visits the Sixth Form.

"What is all this trouble about ? Hm ! What is the matter with modern youth ? It seems to me that they are unable to understand the simplest of language. Let me see what I can do with them.

"Now, boys and girls, you are all seventeen years old and should be able to understand what any boy or girl, who could read and write, could understand in my days. After all, these essays, which appear to puzzle everyone of you, are written in English, and, without boasting, I think I might say good English.

"Before studying them for their subject matter, let me explain the art of writing an essay. After having decided upon the theme, a plan must be made, and strictly adhered to. Each point must be dealt with extensively, so that the writer's personal experience and knowledge is not lost to the readers. After all, what is the use of writing an essay if it does not convince those who read it that you are by no means ignorant ? For instance, I considered that I was fairly well versed in

Latin, so, to convince my readers of the fact, I introduced Latin tags where-ever and whenever I could. Perhaps these Latin tags annoy you, but I see that they are translated at the bottom of the page, so that difficulty is easily overcome.

“Of course, considerable attention must also be paid to punctuation. I spent a great deal of my time on punctuation, and I am sure you will find that all great writers do likewise. Ah! I see you have Bernard Shaw’s ‘St. Joan’ on the table. I expect he is one of the great modern writers, so I will illustrate from this play which he has written. To prove my statement to you, I will read aloud the first passage upon which my eyes alight. Hm! page one hundred and seven!

The Soldier : ‘You won’t find it so bad, sir. Jolly. Like as if you were always drunk . . . They chip me about giving that young judy the cross ; but I don’t care . . .’

“Good gracious! What kind of man is this writer? He uses slang, with which I am not familiar, and pays no attention to punctuation. What! you say he is one of the most famous of modern writers? Thank goodness I lived three hundred years ago! If this is what your modern authors write, I will forgive you for not understanding the essays that I wrote—even though I used good English!”

F. LONGBOTTOM, U.VI.Lit.

A Sea Shanty.

By the side of the ocean in Skeleton Cove,

Yo ho, Yo ho.

An old buccaneer was accustomed to rove,

Yo ho, Yo ho.

And while ‘mongst the shells and the seaweed he’d walk,
A blasphemous Poll on his shoulder would squawk,

Yo ho, Yo ho, Yo ho, heave ho.

But he tripped on a rock on account of his squint,

Yo ho, Yo ho.

While loading his musket ; and swallowed the flint,

Yo ho, Yo ho.



His evil old face turned as pallid as chalk,
 And he hurried away to consult Dr. Rorke,
 Yo ho, Yo ho, Yo ho, heave ho.

The doc sterilized his penknife on the stove,
 Yo ho, Yo ho.

But to save the poor pirate 'twas vain he strove.
 Yo ho, Yo ho.

They interred him at sea in a shroud made of lint.
 Let's pray that the fish "es benigni sint."
 Yo ho, Yo ho, Yo ho, heave ho.

G. E. HUGHES, L.VI.Lit.

A Narrow Escape.

The day was gradually drawing to its close in the summer of the year 1651. Many worthy supporters of the king were fleeing from Cromwell and the dreaded Roundheads.

Among these was our hero, a certain Captain Gervais, who was riding furiously, escaping from these same Roundheads. Panting for breath, man and horse reached an old house, wrapped in darkness and silence.

Alighting at the house Gervais stealthily entered and climbed up the old rickety stairs. Halting before a certain door, he gave a gentle tap and entered. At his entrance the lady of the house whirled round and embracing him, cried: "Gervais, my darling! What are you doing here? And in this dishevelled condition?"

In reply, Gervais, her lover, hastily explained that he, wrongfully accused of betraying certain information, was fleeing from the Roundheads and that he had come to bid a last good-bye.

To this, the lady, Marie, replied that she would on no account let him go alone but would go with him.

At first reluctant, he eventually yielded. As they started off, they heard a cry behind them, and perceived the Roundheads about a mile away.

The thrilling race for life now begun, Marie, pale but determined, clinging on with all her strength. Gaining on their pursuers, their joy was turned to despair as they saw another party of Roundheads approaching. Despair in his heart, Gervais turned to Marie, pointing out another direction. To which she replied, "Better that than those behind," at which he turned the horse off the track in another direction.

The soldiers, crying out as they saw this, "The Quarry! My God, the Quarry!" strained their panting horses still more.

In despair, Gervais intended riding the horse over the edge of the quarry, flinging themselves to death, rather than face the Roundheads.

As the horse neared the quarry a shot rang out, the horse stumbled, shot, and the two riders were flung to the ground.

The soldiers, riding up, grasped Gervais, exclaiming "Thank God we are in time! Your innocence is proved to all."

Procrastination.

He heard the dread announcement
 The mag. needs contribution,
 He purposes to help it,
 His firmest resolution.

And yet these good intentions,
 However strong they are,
 Have an annoying habit,
 Of losing selves afar.

At first he thinks profoundly,
 His ardour flames still higher,
 A week he's meditated,
 He's certainly a trier.

At last he's disappointed,
 His brain's not worth a penny
 (His friends supply the reason)
 Because he hasn't any.

Nothing materializes,
 It is small consolation,
 To try to salve his conscience
 By "copy reservation."

A more effective solace
 Alleviates his pain:
 At first if not successful,
 At least, to try again.

J. K. BUCKLEY, L.VI.Lit.

All in a Day's Work.

A few yards off the Lydda Road, bordered on three sides by an orange grove, lies Salome village. Practically every house is constructed of disused petrol tins, presumably taken from a nearby dump. Salome has a bad name, and we decided to search it for fire-arms.

The Mukhtar met us on our arrival and offered us his full assistance. Every village has a Mukhtar, or chief, who is solely responsible for his subjects. The first house we entered was that of a farm labourer. Tall, dark-skinned and black-bearded, he looked more than a little villainous in the dark interior.

After a few questions we ordered him outside while we searched the place. In one corner lay a pile of sacks which served as a bed for the man and his family. A water pitcher and a box, containing some old clothes, were the only other articles of furniture to be found. Two suspicious looking bags hung on the wall. One was found to contain oranges, the other flat bread cakes, and greasy looking foodstuffs. Outside the door an unusual odour rose from some native concoction which was cooking over a small charcoal fire.

Twenty houses received our attention that afternoon, and much the same thing was found everywhere. In fact, one old fellow was quite upset because we insisted on turning his donkey out.

On the approach of dusk we gave up the search and lost no time in putting a good few miles between Salome and ourselves.

B/c. D. SCHOLDS.

One Saturday Morning.

The wretched captain sighed and shook her head.
"How many now?" she anxiously said.
"Only seven," a gloomy voice replied,
And on the missing four we most relied.

"Where's the reserves? Don't say they can't get."
"Oh, I don't know—they just haven't come yet."
The angry captain declared we must play,
Backward would not do so late in the day.

Hurrah! Four figures appeared above the hill;
Who dared to think of defeat six-nil.
The bus-driver, who had had to wait,
Gathered speed to prevent being late.

The captain contentedly sat back in her seat,
Hoping to return the enemy beat.

M. ABSON, L. VI.Lit.



To Holidays.

O holidays, I welcome you
 As one of life's enjoyments,
 For after toiling many a day,
 You free me from employments ;
 Come, come,
 For lo! I'm getting weary
 Of the tests,
 Exams., and lessons dreary.

To students, teachers, one and all,
 You bring such relaxation,
 When book and pen are placed away ;
 How great our expectation !
 To school,
 Our work, we bid adieu,
 Holidays !
 Life would be dull without you.

A. STEPHENSON, III.

