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EDITORIAL.

THOUGH there is much to chronicle in the history of the term now ending, there is practically nothing that calls for comment, so we will spare our readers the pain of an editorial.

We are breaking up later than usual, our term being settled by Easter-tide, which is settled by the moon, which is settled by the astronomers, and has nothing to do with the Board of Educa-

tion. But we hope to reap the harvest of our patience, (1) in the benefit of a shorter summer term, and (2) in the luxury of fine weather for the Easter holidays.

CONCERT.

A most successful Concert was held in the Gymnasium on December 17th. Owing to the kindness of a few friends from the town we had the pleasure of listening to an orchestra, which helped immensely towards forming the excellent programme which Mr. Martell arranged for the occasion. Their production of Bizet's Grand March from "Carmen" and a Fantasia from "Lohengrin" was well worthy of the appreciation which the audience shewed. The ever-popular "Down the Vale" (sung on this occasion as a duet) was encored, as,

of course, was Mr. Nicholl's song, "Wanderlied," and N. Duncan's piano-forte solos were also well received. The second part commenced with a piano solo by P. E. Andrews, who, like Duncan, evoked well-merited applause amongst the audience. Mr. Martell's song, "Love the Pedlar," was followed by "The Old Black Mare," and for a second encore he sang "Little Red Fox."

P. C. Ackling was again among the soloists and on this occasion sang Lane Wilson's "Slighted Swain." Unfortunately minutes "pereunt et imputantur," as our School clock tells us, and for this reason the part-song (number 6 on the programme) had to be omitted, and the orchestra concluded with a fine selection from Wagner's "Lohengrin." The full programme is appended:—

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. Grand March "Carmen" *Bizet.*
Orchestra.
2. Part Song "The Gardener" *Brahms.*
The Choir.
3. Duet "Down the Vale" *Moir.*
E. A. Martell & A. M. C. Nicholl.
4. Piano Solo { (a) "Rustle of Spring" *Sinding.*
{ (b) "Volkslied" *Hambourg.*
N. Duncan.
5. Solo "Wanderlied" *Schumann.*
A. M. C. Nicholl.
6. Sextette "I hear the soft note" *Sullivan.*
P. C. Ackling, A. L. Edwards, H. A. Mills,
E. A. Martell, P. J. Aldridge, and A. M. C. Nicholl.
7. Part Song "Once I loved a maiden fair" *E. A. Martell.*
(*Old English Air*)
The Choir.
8. The Peer Gynt Suite *Grieg.*
Orchestra.

PART II.

1. Piano Solo "Minuet" *Paderevski.*
P. E. Andrews.
2. Part Song "When the King" *E. A. Martell.*
(*Old English Air.*)
The Choir.
3. Solo "Love the Pedlar" *German.*
E. A. Martell.
4. Quartette "Good Night" *Pinsuti.*
P. C. Ackling, H. A. Mills, E. A. Martell,
and A. M. C. Nicholl.
5. Solo "The Slighted Swain" *Lane Wilson.*
P. C. Ackling.
6. Part Song "Now all the Roses" *Brahms.*
The Choir.
7. Fantasia "Lohengrin" *Wagner.*
The Orchestra.

—
God Save the King:

The Orchestra consisted of:—

1ST VIOLINS:—Mrs. Fairthorne, Miss C. Hughes,
Mrs. Couldrey, Mrs. Humfrey.

2ND VIOLINS:—Miss Powell, Miss Hayman, Miss
E. Hughes, P. E. Mobbs, Esq.,
S. Cullen, Esq., E. A. H. Nicholls.

VIOLAS:—Miss Hughes, E. L. Shepherd, Esq.,
(Mayor of Abingdon.)

'CELLO:—Miss Payne, W. Winter, Esq.

BASS:—Miss Layng.

CLARINET:—A. M. C. Nicholl, Esq.

CORNET:—F. Tombs, Esq.

CYMBALS:—P. J. Aldridge.

DRUMS, &c.—W. O. Betts.

PIANOFORTE:—Miss M. Hughes.

—
CONDUCTOR:—E. A. Martell, Esq.

FOOTBALL.

A.S.F.C. v. Old Abingdonians.—This match was played on our ground on December 20th. The O.A.s had a very good and strong team out, and gave us one of our worst defeats of the year. The game opened very disastrously for us, for within five minutes of the kick-off Challenor opened the score for the O.A.s.

Play remained evenly contested for a while, but by good combination on the part of Gale, Challenor scored again. The School, now aroused, gave Saxby a good deal of work, but he was ready for all shots; whereas, an offside being given against the School, Gale secured the ball and notched the third point. At half-time the score was 3 to 0 for the O.A.s.

The School after half-time put more rush into the game, and within a few minutes scored their first goal through Habgood, and not long after scored again from a penalty. At this the Past pressed, and Deacon secured another goal for them. The game was now all against us, Brown and Gale scoring goals in quick succession. Towards the end of the game we had more of the play and visited our opponents' goal, but without result. A minute or so before time Deacon secured the ball and scored by a good shot, the match thus ending in our defeat by 7 to 2.

The following were the teams:—

Old Abingdonians: G. S. Saxby (goal); H. E. Mallam and R. G. Rice (backs); C. P. B. Montgomery, R. G. Brown, C. S. Louth (halves); J. R. Hewer, N. B. Challenor, L. F. Gale, G. S. Deacon, R. Louth (forwards).

School: R. F. Baker (goal); E. F. Berry and P. J. Aldridge (backs); T. S. Wilding, A. A. Brown (Capt.), M. G. Brinsmead (halves); N. Duncan, H. G. Habgood, F. D. Smith, R. V. Weaving, A. S. B. Payne (forwards).

A.S.F.C. 1st XI. v. Bloxham School 1st XI.—This match was played on the

School ground on February 4th. We were not quite at our full strength, Aldridge and Wilding being absent, Cooksey and Rice taking their places. The game throughout was keenly contested. Bloxham were the first to score, but soon after we equalized by Duncan. Play was very even, and at half-time the score stood at one goal all. Soon after half-time we put on another goal through Habgood. Bloxham now made great efforts to equalize, and were rewarded some ten minutes before time. For the last few minutes both goals were visited with no result, and the game ended in a draw of two goals all. Our team was as follows:—Goal, R. F. Baker; backs, E. F. Berry and G. B. Cooksey; halves, M. G. Brinsmead, A. A. Brown, A. G. C. Rice; forwards, F. D. Smith, H. G. Habgood, N. Duncan, R. V. Weaving, A. S. B. Payne.

A.S.F.C. 2nd XI. v. Bloxham School 2nd XI.—This return match was played away on February 4th. The second, though a good deal weakened by the ravages of influenza, secured a good victory by 5 to 3. Having won the toss we played against the wind, and in a few minutes Mortleman iii. managed to score, and not long after Leach scored our second goal. Bloxham soon retaliated and at half-time the score stood at 2 to 1. We now had the wind, and it was not long before Leach added another to the score. Bloxham then played up well, and secured two goals in quick succession; but Betts gave us the lead, and Harvey soon after added one more point, the game thus ending in a win for us by

5 to 2. Our team was as follows: Goal, H. R. Burge; backs, F. W. Holmden and E. A. H. Nicholls; halves, S. C. Adams, W. O. Betts (Capt.), and D. F. Mortleman; forwards, H. L. Neligan, E. H. Harvey, W. R. Mortleman, R. R. Parker, W. Leach.

A.S.F.C. v. Abingdon Town.—Played on the School ground on February 11th, and resulted in an easy win for the Town. The Town had a very strong team and showed their superiority throughout. By half-time they had scored three goals to our nothing. A little after half-time we scored our only goal through Mr. Rudd, and the Town before time had added four more goals to their total, so that we had to admit defeat by 7 goals to 1. A most pleasing feature of the game was the large number of Old Boys present in the Town team, no less than six of their eleven having been at the School. School team:—Goal, R. F. Baker; backs, H. H. Gibson, Esq., and P. J. Aldridge; halves, M. G. Brinsmead, A. M. C. Nicholl, Esq., A. G. C. Rice; forwards, A. A. Brown, F. D. Smith, W. A. Rudd, Esq., R. R. Parker, A. S. B. Payne.

A.S.F.C. v. Wallingford.—This match was played on the Wallingford ground on Wednesday, February 15th. The School team was greatly crippled by illness and accidents. The game was a very unsatisfactory one on the part of the School, since we lost by five goals to one. Mr. Martell was responsible for our only goal. School team:—Goal, R. F. Baker; backs, H. H. Gibson, Esq., and P. J. Aldridge; halves, E. F. Berry,

W. O. Betts, M. G. Brinsmead; forwards, E. A. Martell, Esq., H. G. Habgood, N. Duncan, R. Weaving, A. S. B. Payne.

SCRATCH SIXES.

These annual contests have again evoked a good deal of enthusiasm. Additional excitement was given to them by the fact that the Masters again put a six on the field, which did extremely well, winning five and drawing one out of their six games.

Wilding's Six won the Senior Competition, with three victories and one drawn game out of the four games they played; Habgood's Six, which was a very light one, came out second, winning three games and losing one.

Play in the Senior Sixes was much above the form shown in the games and matches of last term. Cooksey, Habgood and Smith call for special notice, whilst Burge i. in goal was all that could be desired.

The Junior Sixes were won by G. C. Rice's Six, which won four and drew one out of the five games played. F. B. Graham, however, made a good fight for first place, winning four and losing one of his games.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS.

	SENIORS.			
	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Pts.
Wilding ...	3	0	1	7
Habgood i. ...	3	1	0	6
Duncan ...	2	2	0	4
Payne ...	1	4	0	2
Brown ...	0	4	0	0

The winning Six was as follows:—T. S. Wilding (Capt.), F. D. Smith, G. B. Cooksey, R. F. Baker, E. A. H. Nicholls, A. G. Crook.

JUNIORS.

	Won.	Lost.	Drn.	Pts.
Rice iii. ...	4	0	1	9
Graham v. ...	4	1	0	8
Drewe ...	1	1	3	5
Burge ii. ...	1	2	2	4
Bridgwater...	1	2	0	2
Habgood ii.	0	4	1	1

The winning Six was as follows:—

G. C. Rice (Capt.), R. A. R. Townsend, K. G. Stevens, R. M. Cory, T. M. Layng, E. H. King.

 ATHLETIC SPORTS.

This year the School Sports were held on Saturday, April 8th, and it was a fine day. It is said that there is nothing new under the sun, but a fine sports' day, to us at least, was quite a novel occurrence. For several consecutive years we have been accustomed to associate overcoats and umbrellas with the Sports, but this year spring smilingly rose to the occasion and forbade April to shower down her tears. Indeed the day was almost an ideal one for the ceremony to which it was appointed. Æolus sat down heavily upon his hollow mountain and did not let a breath of wind escape. Apollo benignly graced the strivings of his satellites. The result was twofold. A larger attendance of visitors than it has been our lot to see for several years brightened by their presence the process of the events; while the times and distances were considerably better than those of last year, and no less than three champions

stepped forward to claim the challenge cup. The prizes, which were greatly admired, were distributed after the last event by Lady Gervais Glyn. The list of prize winners was as follows:—

LONG JUMP (open)

(Prizes presented by J. T. Harris, Esq., O.A., and H. H. Gibson, Esq.) G. H. G. Shepherd, 1; P. N. Graham, 2. Distance 17 ft. 11½ in. Shepherd, who is yet under 15, jumped exceedingly well.

LONG JUMP (under 15).

(Prizes presented by A. E. Preston, Esq., O.A., and A. M. C. Nicholl, Esq.) G. H. G. Shepherd, 1; G. C. Rice, 2.

PUTTING THE WEIGHT (16 lbs.) (open).

(Prizes presented by J. T. Morland, Esq., and A. M. Shepherd, Esq., O.A.) G. H. G. Shepherd, 1; R. F. Baker, 2. Distance 28 ft. 2 in. Shepherd again performed very creditably.

HIGH JUMP (under 12).

(Prizes presented by M. T. Tatham, Esq., and T. E. Graham, Esq.) J. G. Shepherd, 1; L. O. Burge, 2. Height 3 ft. 8½ in. Both boys jumped extremely well. Shepherd seems to be made of the same sort of stuff as his brother.

HIGH JUMP (under 14).

(Prizes presented by The Right Rev. The Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, and F. Legge, Esq.) G. C. Rice, 1; W. Cullen, 2. Height 4ft. 2½ ins.

HIGH JUMP (open).

(Prizes presented by E. M. Challenor, Esq., O.A., and Miss Davis). T. S. Wilding, 1; P. N. Graham, 2. Height 5 ft. 0½ in.

HURDLE RACE (open).

(Prizes presented by E. A. Strauss, Esq., and Player Isaac, Esq.) A. S. B. Payne, 1; N. Duncan, 2. Time 20 2-5ths secs.

HURDLE RACE (under 15).

(Prizes presented by E. Ross-Barker, Esq., and B. Challenor, Esq., O.A.) G. H. G. Shepherd, 1; W. R. Mortleman, 2. Time 21 4-5ths secs.

100 YARDS (open).

(Prizes presented by Mrs. Layng, and J. F. Downing, Esq.) N. Duncan, 1; W. O. Betts, 2. Time 10 4-5ths secs. Duncan ran excellently, reducing last year's time by one-fifth of a second. Betts was less than a foot behind him.

100 YARDS (under 16).

(Prizes presented by J. H. E. Morland, Esq., O.A., and J. N. Paul, Esq.,) G. H. G. Shepherd, 1; D. F. Mortleman, 2. Time 11 4-5ths secs.

100 YARDS (under 14).

(Prizes presented by E. J. Harris, Esq., and G. Saxby, Esq.) G. C. Rice, 1; R. F. Burge 2. Time 12 3-5ths secs.

100 YARDS (under 11).

(Prizes presented by A. H. Simpson, Esq., and P. Martin, Esq.) B. L. Kaye, 1; H. A. L. Donkin, 2. Time 13 4-5ths secs.

QUARTER MILE HANDICAP (open).

(Prizes presented by the Ladies of Abingdon.) P. N. Graham, 1; A. A. Brown, 2; F. D. Smith, 3. Time 59 1-5th secs. The time was two and one-fifth seconds less than last year's.

Graham and Brown both ran from Scratch, while Smith received 5 yards start.

220 YARDS HANDICAP (under 13).

(First Prize presented by H. W. Weaving, Esq.) L. O. Burge, 1; E. H. King, 2. Time 31 secs.

CHOIR RACE (300 yards handicap.)

(Prizes presented by E. L. Shepherd, Esq., Mayor of Abingdon, and E. A. Martell, Esq.) M. G. Brinsmead, 1; W. R. Mortleman, 2. Time 40 4-5ths secs. Brinsmead, who ran from Scratch, was easily first. Mortleman had 10 yards start.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

(Prizes presented by the Rev. T. Layng and B. Challenor, Esq., O.A.) R. F. Baker, 1; N. Duncan, 2. Distance 77 yds. 1 ft. 9 ins.

HALF MILE HANDICAP (open).

(Prizes presented by A. K. Loyd, Esq., M.P. and J. G. T. West, Esq., O.A.) F. B. Graham, 1; H. M. Lewington, 2; W. O. Betts, 3. Graham (170 yds.) was a good first.

OLD ABINGDONIANS' RACE (100 yards).

(Prize presented by Dr. H. S. Challenor, President of the O.A.C.) N. G. Powell. Time 11 3-5th secs. There was a large entry for this event, in which the competitors ran in their ordinary clothes. R. G. Rice was an excellent second.

CONSOLATION EGG & SPOON RACE.

(Prize presented by C. A. Pryce, Esq.) H. R. Burge.

"HEBER CLARKE" CHALLENGE CUP.

This was won by P. N. Graham, N. Duncan and G. H. G. Shepherd, with twenty points each. Each of the three will hold the cup for a third of the year.

When the prizes had been distributed, three cheers were given for Lady Gervas Glyn, for the Ladies of Abingdon, for the Prize Donors and for the Head Master.

A list of Officers and of the Committee is appended :—

President: The Rev. The Head Master.

Starter: E. A. Martell, Esq.

Judges: H. H. Gibson, Esq., and W. A. Rudd, Esq.

Referee: J. H. E. Morland, Esq.

Time-Keepers: E. Ross-Barker, Esq., and C. O. Wright, Esq.

Committee: (Chairman) A. M. C. Nicholl, Esq.; (Ex-officio) W. O. Betts, A. A. Brown and P. N. Graham.

(Elected) H. W. Weaving, N. Duncan, A. S. B. Payne, E. A. H. Nicholls, R. Haywood, F. D. Smith, L. O. Burge.

PAST *v.* PRESENT AT ATHLETICS.

The Athletic Meeting between the School and the O.A.C., which is fixed for Saturday, April 15th, will form the twelfth of an interesting series. The first meeting was held in 1894, "a new

idea at this school," as the recording *Abingdonian* remarks, "and moreover we do not know of any other school which has a similar meeting." "It is intended to make the meeting an annual one," we read, "and the great success of the first fully warrants this being done."

To the *Prosit* of our predecessors we may unreservedly subscribe our *Profuit*; for not only has the series been continued unbroken to the present time, but the interest taken in these contests has, if anything, increased rather than diminished, and they have come to be regarded as a prominent feature of the Easter term.

On the following pages we print a table of the results of the eleven meetings already held, with the names of the winning competitors, the "records" in each event being distinguished by italics. It will be seen that the Old Boys have been successful in every meeting hitherto, with an aggregate score of 75½ events to 23½ of the School.

The times given for the Hurdles are misleading as to the relative merits of the performances, as the hurdles have often been below regulation height; last year, for instance, the height was only 3 ft. 3 in. Perhaps that of C. A. W. Payne in 1900 is really the best performance, viz. 16 4-5ths seconds over hurdles 3 ft. 6 in. high.

	Long Jump.	100 Yards.	Weight.	Half-Mile.	High Jump.
1894	<i>H. A. d'Almaine</i> O.A.C. 21ft. 6in.	W. T. Morland O.A.C.	F. H. Pryce O.A.C. 30ft. 2in.	W. T. Morland O.A.C. 2 min. 18 sec.	M. G. Hannay A.S.A.C. 5ft. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
1895	P. H. Morland O.A.C. 18ft. 10in.	P. H. Morland O.A.C. 11 secs.	H. A. d'Almaine O.A.C. 28ft.	W. R. Noble A.S.A.C. 2 min. 37 sec.	F. O. Townsend O.A.C. 4ft. 11in.
1896	W. T. Morland O.A.C. 19ft. 9in.	F. O. Townsend O.A.C. 11 1-5th sec.	G. H. Morland O.A.C. 25ft. 2in.	M. G. Hannay O.A.C.	M. G. Hannay O.A.C. 4ft. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
1897	W. T. Morland O.A.C. 19ft. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	N. G. Powell O.A.C. 11 3-5th sec.	N. G. Powell O.A.C. 28ft. 4in.	M. G. Hannay O.A.C. 2 min. 25 sec.	M. G. Hannay O.A.C. 4ft. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
1898	W. T. Morland O.A.C. 20ft. 4in.	W. T. Morland, O.A.C. B. Challenor, A.S.A.C. Dead Heat. 11 1-5th sec.	E. E. Insley O.A.C. 28ft. 2in.	W. R. Noble O.A.C. 2 min. 23 3-5th sec.	<i>F. O. Townsend, O.A.C.</i> <i>P. L. Deacon, A.S.A.C.</i> <i>Tie</i> 5ft. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
1899	A. W. Morland O.A.C. 18ft. 1in.	N. G. Powell O.A.C. 11 secs.	N. G. Powell O.A.C. 31ft.	B. Challenor O.A.C. 2 min. 20 4-5th sec.	F. O. Townsend O.A.C. 5ft. 1in.
1900	C. A. W. Payne O.A.C. 20ft. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	C. A. W. Payne O.A.C. 11 1-5th sec.	J. E. Montgomery A.S.A.C. 26ft. 5in.	B. Challenor O.A.C. 2 min. 20 sec.	F. O. Townsend O.A.C. 4ft. 9in.
1901	W. T. Morland O.A.C. 19ft. 10in.	B. Challenor O.A.C. 11 2-5th sec.	C. A. W. Payne O.A.C. 28ft. 7in.	B. Challenor O.A.C. 2 min. 18 sec.	P. L. Deacon A.S.A.C. 5ft.
1902	W. T. Morland O.A.C. 18ft. 10in.	J. H. E. Morland O.A.C. 11 sec.	T. F. Bowman A.S.A.C. 29ft. 9in.	<i>B. Challenor</i> O.A.C. 2 min. 15 3-5th sec.	P. L. Deacon O.A.C. 4ft. 9in.
1903	H. J. A. Payne O.A.C. 19ft. 11in.	<i>J. H. E. Morland</i> O.A.C. 10 4-5th sec.	<i>P. R. Taylor</i> O.A.C. 31ft. 7in.	T. F. Bowman A.S.A.C. 2 min. 20 4-5th sec.	P. L. Deacon O.A.C. 4ft. 11in.
1904	H. J. A. Payne O.A.C. 20ft. 5in.	T. F. Bowman O.A.C. 11 sec.	C. S. Louth O.A.C. 29ft. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	A. A. Brown A.S.A.C. 2 min. 20 4-5th sec.	R. G. Rice O.A.C. 5ft. 1in.

	Quarter-Mile.	Cricket Ball.	Hurdles.	Mile.	
1894	B. Challenor A.S.A.C. 63 sec.	<i>M. G. Hannay</i> A.S.A.C. 90 yds. 2ft.	H. W. Anwyl O.A.C. 19 sec.	W. R. Noble A.S.A.C. 5 min. 38 sec.	Past ... 5 Present ... 4
1895	B. Challenor A.S.A.C. 65 sec.	M. G. Hannay A.S.A.C. 81 yds.	F. O. Townsend O.A.C.	B. Challenor A.S.A.C. 5 min. 58 sec.	Past ... 5 Present ... 4
1896	H. E. Mallam O.A.C. 62 2-5th sec.	M. G. Hannay O.A.C. 82 yds. 2ft.	H. E. Mallam O.A.C. 18 sec.	B. Challenor A.S.A.C. 5 min. 44 2-5th sec	Past ... 8 Present ... 1
1897	B. Challenor A.S.A.C. 59 1-5th sec.	M. G. Hannay O.A.C. 83 yds. 1ft. 8in.	W. T. Morland O.A.C. 19 sec.	B. Challenor A.S.A.C. 5 min. 23 sec.	Past ... 7 Present ... 2
1898	B. Challenor A.S.A.C. 58 1-5th sec.	A. P. Ward O.A.C. 86 yds. 4in.	W. T. Morland O.A.C.	W. R. Noble O.A.C. 5 min. 14 sec.	Past ... 7 Present ... 2
1899	P. L. Deacon A.S.A.C. 59 4-5th sec.	F. J. S. Baker O.A.C. 84 yds. 2ft.	C. A. W. Payne O.A.C. 18 1-5th sec.	B. Challenor O.A.C. 5 min. 25 1-5th sec	Past ... 8 Present ... 1
1900	B. Challenor, O.A.C. A. W. Stevens, ASAC Dead Heat. 60 sec.	J. E. Montgomery A.S.A.C. 80 yds.	C. A. W. Payne O.A.C. 16 4-5th sec.	R. F. Challenor O.A.C. 5 min. 20 sec.	Past ... 6½ Present ... 2½
1901	<i>B. Challenor</i> O.A.C. 55 sec.	F. J. S. Baker O.A.C. 90 yds. 5in.	P. L. Deacon O.A.C. 16 4-5th sec.	<i>R. F. Challenor</i> O.A.C. 5 min. 13-5th sec.	Past ... 7 Present ... 2
1902	B. Challenor O.A.C. 56 sec.	C. A. W. Payne O.A.C. 84 yds. 1ft.	C. A. W. Payne O.A.C. 17 sec.	R. F. Challenor O.A.C. 5 min. 10 3-5th sec	Past ... 8 Present ... 1
1903	A. O. C. Pryce O.A.C. 58 1-5th sec.	CPB Montgomery A.S.A.C. 83 yds. 2ft. 3in.	H. J. A. Payne O.A.C. 17 3-5th sec.	A. W. L. Graham A.S.A.C. 5 min. 24 2-5th sec	Past ... 6 Present ... 3
1904	B. Challenor O.A.C. 57 4-5th sec.	N. B. Challenor O.A.C. 85 yds. 1ft.	<i>H. J. A. Payne</i> O.A.C. 16 1-5th sec.	B. Challenor O.A.C. 5 min. 16 4-5th sec	Past ... 8 Present ... 1

STEEPLECHASES.

Monday, April 10th, proved a very wet day, so the Steeplechases were postponed until Tuesday. This proved equally wet, but further postponement being impossible the races were held, as usual, on the Abingdon Common.

Of the Juniors 5 started. The course was shorter than in previous years,—about half-a-mile,—but the ground was wet and heavy. Rice iii. led nearly all the way, closely pursued by Burge ii., who had better luck at the last hurdle and secured an advantage which Rice was unable to make up. Kaye i. was third, some way behind the others, being followed at no great distance by Burge iii. Time 4 minutes 20 seconds.

There were no less than 25 starters for the Seniors' race, which was run over a course somewhat shorter than usual, but rendered more difficult by hedges to negotiate as well as the ditches and hurdles. Berry made the pace at starting, being caught by Graham iv. at the first hedge. The latter maintained his lead to the end, winning by about 10 yds. in 6 mins. 10 secs. Smith was a good second and Betts an equally good third. These were closely followed by Long and Habgood i., the latter of whom had maintained second place until the second hurdle from home.

The prizes were presented by W. A. Burge, Esq., and W. Pierpoint, Esq., for the Seniors, and by W. R. Portal, Esq., O.A., and W. A. Rudd, Esq., for the Juniors.

LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

The last meeting of the October session was held on Thursday, December 15th, 1904, with the Vice-President in the chair.

N. Duncan was called upon to propose "That in the opinion of this house the ambition of the German Emperor is a menace to the peace of Europe."

The proposer said that the Kaiser had frequently shewn an apparent desire to involve Europe in war. At the time of the Boer War his sympathy with the Boers had almost ruptured the peaceful relations of English and German diplomacy. Again, the Baghdad Railway could only be regarded as a menace to English influence in Persia and the Persian Gulf.

R. J. Weaving opposed the motion. He maintained that the German Emperor's foreign policy need harm nobody and was intended only to increase German power by a strictly peaceful means.

A. G. C. Rice, the seconder, argued that it was England especially whose high position the Germans were trying to equal by all means in their power. He called attention to the rapid growth of the German Navy, and the fact that many ships were being built whose coal supply would limit their operations to the proximity of a home-base, such as a German port would supply for action against England in the North Sea.

A. A. Brown, seconded by W. O. Betts, proposed as an amendment "That in the

opinion of this house the ambition of the German Emperor, though a menace to European peace, is legitimate."

T. S. Wilding spoke against the amendment, which was then put to the vote and lost by sixteen votes to six.

Discussion on the original motion was then resumed, the following members speaking:—*Pro*: G. F. Moore, E. H. Harvey, F. B. Graham, T. S. Wilding. *Contra*: B. M. Challenor.

The House then divided and the motion was carried by twelve votes to ten.

The first meeting of the January session was held on Thursday, January 26th, 1905, with the Vice-President in the chair.

A. A. Brown was called upon to propose "That in the opinion of this house Professionalism is the ruin of Sport."

Brown argued that Sport was being more and more confined to the class of "hired gladiators," who by their extra training out-matched amateurs, and drew away by their exhibitions people who ought to be playing themselves.

A. G. C. Rice in opposing the motion said that there was no necessity for professionals and amateurs to clash, as they could each play in a class set apart for themselves.

N. Duncan in seconding said that there are distinct signs that most people nowadays take insufficient exercise, being drawn away by professional contests; and all this is detrimental to the national physique.

The following members also spoke:—*Pro*: W. O. Betts. *Contra*: H. H. Gibson, Esq., E. A. Martell, Esq., T. S. Wilding.

The House then divided and the motion was rejected by ten votes to seven.

The Society met on Thursday, Feb. 2nd, with the Vice-President in the chair.

W. O. Betts proposed the following motion:—"That in the opinion of this house a Court of Criminal Appeal should be established."

Betts dwelt on a recent case of miscarriage of justice to show how easily a similar case might occur again, and said there was nothing corresponding to the Civil Court of Appeal to which an innocent prisoner might proceed.

H. W. Weaving, in opposing, said the very fact of the non-existence of such a Court proved its non-requirement. There always must be a very small percentage of wrong verdicts, he argued, but these did not warrant the expense in time and money which the proposed court would entail.

T. S. Wilding, the seconder, pointed out that the present system of Police preferment by the number of a constable's arrests made a false arrest and conviction most probable. He gave details in the case cited by the proposer showing that the police had deliberately tampered with the evidence, and that the Home Secretary had not exercised his authority in allowing an appeal to be made to him.

The following members also spoke:—*Pro*: D. M. Johnston, E. H. Harvey,

W. R. Mortleman, J. H. Bridgwater.
Contra: H. H. Gibson, Esq. A. A. Brown.

The House then divided and the motion was carried by nine votes to seven.

The Society met on Thursday, Feb. 9th, with the Vice-President in the chair.

D. M. Johnston was called upon to propose "That in the opinion of this house the English race is deteriorating."

In his opening speech Johnston argued that deterioration, both physical and moral, was being caused by the invasion of large industrial centres by the agricultural classes. These latter formed the backbone of the country, but under the bad conditions existing in modern towns they were fast losing their usefulness as English citizens.

The opposer, E. F. Berry, asked if the Englishman of to-day was inferior in pluck and stamina to the man of fifty years ago? He did not think so, and as these were the essentials of any great nation, he thought we had little to fear.

E. B. W. Chappelow, the seconder, gave some interesting statistics showing the obvious deterioration of the class of men wanted for the Army. This all showed that the working classes, who were the wealth-producers of the country, were becoming more and more unfit to stand the strain of modern life.

The following members also spoke:—

Pro: M. G. Brinsmead, W. R. Mortleman.
Contra: Rev. T. Layng, R. J. Weaving, R. V. Weaving, P. N. Graham, E. H. Harvey, T. S. Wilding.

The motion was put to the vote and lost by twenty votes to four.

The Society met on February 16th, with the Vice-President in the chair.

T. S. Wilding read a paper on *Charlemagne*.

The essayist commenced by sketching Charles the Great's early diplomacy up to the invasion of the Lombard kingdom. He then dealt at some length with the king's wars against the Saxon Confederacy, until the final submission of these troublesome vassals in 804 A.D. The insurrection of Tassilo of Bavaria was next mentioned, and then the reader gave an account of the Frankish Renaissance. It was interesting to learn that Alcuin, the greatest European scholar of his day and the intimate friend and adviser of Charles, was an Englishman by birth and training. The great legislative reforms of the King were also mentioned both in ecclesiastical and secular politics. The paper was brought to a fitting close by a short account of the causes leading to the most brilliant event in Charles' career—his coronation as Emperor of Western Christendom in the year 800 A.D.—and his subsequent policy until his death fourteen years later.

After various questions suggested by the paper had been asked and answered, Mr. Ross-Barker proposed and N. Duncan seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the reader.

The vote was carried unanimously.

The Society met on Thursday, Feb. 23rd, with Mr. Gibson in the chair.

The Chairman called upon H. W. Weaving to propose "That in the opinion of this house the abandoning of the land by the working classes is a danger to the country."

In his speech the proposer dwelt on the inevitable results of the depopulation of rural districts. The manhood of the country, on which must fall its defence in war and advancement in peace, was becoming totally unfit for its duties owing to the unhealthy condition and size of the modern town. The yeoman class was fast disappearing, and if the matter was not soon remedied, a great social problem would be changed into a national calamity.

T. S. Wilding, in opposing the motion, maintained that the increase of industrial centres was but a natural and inevitable result of this country's manufacturing greatness. If gymnasia and rifle clubs were formed in our towns, we need have no cause for anxiety. There were workers, he reminded his hearers, who did not go into the towns, but emigrated to our colonies, there still further to strengthen the patriotic sentiment that bound our Empire together.

H. L. Neligan formally seconded the motion.

The following members also spoke:—

Pro: Mr. H. H. Gibson, Mr. E. A. Martell, D. M. Johnston. *Contra*: Rev. T. Layng, A. A. Brown.

The motion on being put to the vote was carried by seven votes to five.

The last meeting of the session, which was "The Ladies' Evening," was held on Thursday, March 9th, with the Vice-President in the chair.

The Chairman called upon T. S. Wilding to propose "That this house is in sympathy with Mr. Chamberlain's fiscal proposals."

Wilding dealt first with Home Trade. He shewed the vast difference between the conditions of sixty years ago, when Free Trade was established, and those of to-day. The rapid increase in the quantity of imported manufactured goods during the last twenty years was seriously damaging many English trades. "Dumping," he said, was not philanthropy, since prices must rise when home competition had been extinguished. In the second part of his speech, dealing with Foreign Trade, the proposer shewed that the latter had been practically stagnant for the last thirty years, and had only been prevented from falling by an increase in our colonial exports. It was precisely this colonial trade which Mr. Chamberlain was seeking to preserve for this country. If we did not bind our Empire together by something stronger than sentiment, we must inevitably drift apart. Injudicious policy had formerly lost us our American Colonies; it rested with the present generation to prevent a like thing happening again in the not very remote future.

H. W. Weaving opposed the motion. He pointed out the great benefits England had obtained from her policy of Free Trade. Protection would not help English agriculture as rural de-

population was not a phenomenon unique to England, but was common to all the great countries of the world. England's present position was due to Free Trade, and her future prosperity depended on its continuance.

A. A. Brown, in seconding the motion, dealt especially with the great damage Free Trade had done to the farmer. He shewed that Cobden's expectations had not been realised as regards the benefit that would accrue to the farmer. The only remedy, he argued, was to be found in a scientifically arranged system of Protection.

The following members also spoke:—
Pro: A. G. C. Rice, N. Duncan, W. O. Betts, D. M. Johnston, E. H. Harvey, E. A. H. Nicholls. *Contra*: The Rev. T. Layng, Mr. H. H. Gibson, Mr. Ross-Barker, R. J. Weaving, H. L. Neligan, E. B. W. Chappelow.

The house then divided and the motion was carried by thirteen votes to nine.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Lady Wantage has rendered very generous service to the School by a loan of £500 to defray the outstanding liabilities on the Additional Buildings Fund and to provide further equipment for the new wing. The loan, which is free of interest, is to be repaid by annual instalments of £50. The Governors, in recognition of her help, have agreed to give, as long as the loan lasts, a Lady Wantage Scholarship. It will be tenable for twelve months and will give exemp-

tion from the Tuition Fees. There will be no examination for the Scholarship: it will be awarded each year to a boy whose fees have been paid by his parents or guardians, to enable him to remain twelve months longer at School than would have otherwise been possible.

We record with deep regret the death of the Rev. Cresswell Strange, O.A., Canon Residentiary of Worcester, which took place on February 1st. The son of an old Head Master, an Abingdon Scholar of Pembroke College, and a Past President of the O.A. Club, his connection with the School was long and intimate. He had preached on more than one occasion upon Founder's Day, and was a frequent visitor to the School, which he regarded with great affection as his early home.

We have also to mourn the loss of a very constant friend and supporter in Mrs. Russwurm, who had taken a warm interest in all School doings for over twenty years. We shall miss her kindly presence and inspiring enthusiasm. She died very suddenly on Sunday morning, February 5th.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Wright on the birth of a daughter on Feb. 17th.

Rev. R. W. de la Hey, Vice-Principal of Bishop's Hostel, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and formerly Domestic Chaplain to the Bishop of Newcastle, has been appointed Vicar of St. Jude's, South Shields. Patrons, the Crown.

While we grieve most sincerely at the approaching loss to the School in the departure of Mr. Nicholl, at the same

time we congratulate him heartily upon his appointment to the staff of the Royal Naval College, Osborne.

It is pleasant to record that Mr. J. H. Franklin, who left us last summer for Felsted School, has also received an appointment at Osborne, so that he and Mr. Nicholl will again be associated, as they have been at Cambridge and at Abingdon.

Mr. Franzowitz, whose retirement from work among us we noticed in our last autumn number, has now officially severed his connection with the School. He had been a member of the staff for nearly 40 years, and many hundreds of Abingdon boys have had reason to remember his untiring help and unfailing sympathy. It is with sincere regret that we bid him farewell, and we trust that, with improved health, he may enjoy yet many years of comfort and happiness in Abingdon.

We are glad to note that Mr. E. W. Young has secured a post upon the staff of Colet Court School, the preparatory school for St. Paul's.

News comes at the last moment that Mr. P. F. Rowland, who left us in the summer of 1903 for Australia, has taken unto himself a wife, and has become headmaster of the Grammar School, Townsville, Queensland. Further particulars are wanting, but we congratulate both him and her and it, and offer them our very sincere good wishes.

Heartly congratulations to H. W. Weaving on his success in gaining the Pembroke Scholarship! We wish him a happy and prosperous University career.

We have also to congratulate E. F. Clark on his First Class in the London Matriculation Examination.

The following is from *The Daily Telegraph* of April 10th. "Alan M. Austin, promoted to the rank of assistant paymaster in His Majesty's Fleet, with seniority of April 3rd, 1905." April 3rd was Austin's twenty-first birthday.

T. R. Townsend, O.A., sailed last month for Canada to take up farming. R. G. Brown, O.A., and S. W. Brown, O.A., are shortly about to follow him to the same colony and for the same purpose.

Lieut. R. A. Sparkes, O.A., was presented at Court at a recent levée.

Abingdonians past and present will hear with interest of the publication of Mr. W. H. Richardson's "List of some distinguished persons educated at Abingdon School." It can be purchased from Mrs. Hughes, Market Place, Abingdon, for 1s. 1d., post free.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Richardson for his gift of a framed portrait of the Rev. W. Harte, M.A., formerly Abingdon Scholar and Fellow of Pembroke College, and Prebendary of Wells and Bristol. The picture has been hung in the Library.

W. O. Betts has been elected Captain of the Boats.

On Thursday, February 9th, the Boarders and several of the Day Boys were enabled to be present in the Corn Exchange at the performance of Mendelssohn's "Elijah" by the Abingdon

Musical Union. The concert was much appreciated.

On the following Monday evening many of us again visited the Corn Exchange to listen to a most interesting lecture, illustrated by excellent lantern slides, on "Wild Life at Home." The lecturer was Mr. R. Kearton, well-known as a student of Natural History and a contributor to the illustrated magazines.

The O.U.D.S. has this year revived the "Clouds" of Aristophanes, and the boys who learn Greek were excused afternoon school on Thursday, March 2nd, in order to enable them to travel to Oxford by the 1.13 train and attend the matinée performance. We can only say that we wish the O.U.D.S. would always indulge in classical revivals.

As this term is a longer one than usual, we enjoyed an exeat on March 4th to 6th.

The passages selected this year for the Meredith Composition Prizes are, for Latin, How & Leigh's "History of Rome," p.p. 171 and 172, and p.p. 229 and 230; and for Greek, Oman's "History of Greece," p.p. 48 to 51.

We are glad to record that H. Hughes and C. P. B. Montgomery have again rowed in their College first Torpids; and that H. W. Bate-Preston rowed also in the second B. N. C. Torpid.

There are this year four squads receiving instruction in Fire Drill, and we are pleased to be able to add that Mr. Hellyer reports very favourably on their proficiency.

The Past v. Present Athletic meeting is fixed for April 15th.

Term ends on April 19th. Next term begins on May 13th, boys in the two houses returning on the previous day.

The following boys have joined the School this term:—School House, L. O. Burge, F. W. Holmden, H. G. Louth; Tesdale House, R. M. Cory; Day Boys, W. N. Hooke, J. T. Milne.

The following have left: E. F. Clark, Sixth; D. M. Cobb, Modern Fourth.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the Aldenhamian, Bloxhamist (2), Chigwellian (2), Ipswich School Magazine (2), Laxtonian, Leightonian.

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