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NOVEMBER, 1900.

No. 7.



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MAGAZINE.



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Brisbane Grammar School

MAGAZINE,

Published Three Times a Year.

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Subscriptions, 1s. 6d. per annum, or 1s. 9d. posted, are payable to the Business Manager, K. CARSON, Boys' Grammar School

The Editor will welcome contributions or correspondence from present or past members of the School.

Subscribers are requested to inform the Business Manager of any change of Address.

Editorial.

WITH this number we start our third volume. Since the last issue of this magazine there has been a change of staff in the editorial department, our late editor, S. Kingsbury, having left school. Our thanks are due to him for his untiring efforts in bringing this magazine as near as possible to perfection. We have received a continuous flow of letters from past members of the school, but we have been compelled through lack of space to let them stand over until the next issue. A. McKie, Hon. Sec. of the Old Boys' Association, and E. Fitzpatrick, Hon. Sec. of Past Grammar Football Club, have sent reports of the doings of their respective clubs. As will be seen further on, Dr. J. E. F. McDonald, an Old Boy, has written an interesting account of the Cocos Islands and their inhabitants. We publish extracts from a letter received from Mr. Campbell, formerly a master at this school, now a War Correspondent for some N.Z. papers. Through the courtesy of Mrs. Roe we are allowed to reproduce parts of Mr. Roe's letters from England, which arrive every week.

EXTRACTS FROM MR. ROE'S AND CLAUDE'S LETTERS.

Mr. Roe and Claude left Brisbane on June 7th, by train. Mr. Roe writes:—"We have seven or eight passengers in this car; one has a big trumpet, and has been a bandsman evidently. At the station (Central), there was a band, which played, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot," as we went out of the station. I was thinking how very attentive it was of my military friends to have paid Claude and me such a compliment, when the sight of our companion's big trumpet solved the mystery—it was his fellow bandsmen seeing him off.

"We had a very hearty welcome from the Sydney old boys. Tozer, Marsh, Lethbridge, and McDowall met us at the station. We went to lunch at the A.B.C. rooms, in Pitt street; there were about a dozen "old boys," and we had a very pleasant time together.

"At Melbourne, "Chucky" Fowles had arranged for a Queenslander's dinner, in father's honour (writes Claude), at the Reform Club, and it went off very well, the enjoyment of the evening being marred, in my case only, by having to try to make a speech."

MR. ROE: "Our day at Colombo was a delightful treat, the palms, the native life, the swarms of men, the picturesque bullock waggons, all made a picture which I shall never forget; but still the impression left upon me was a feeling of thankfulness that I had not cast my lot into Indian life, and that I had not learnt that contempt for my fellow men which would be inevitable if I had had to live long amongst the black race."

CLAUDE: "I forgot to tell you about the curry we had at the Bristol Hotel for breakfast—it was quite an experience. Under the direction of the waiters we went on having a little out of every dish—I suppose we must have had about ten ingredients, besides rice. Among these were: Curried beef, Bombay duck, coconut, chutney, wafers of flour and water, and many other things I don't know the name of—everything was then mixed up well and was ready for eating. It was not half a bad dish—perhaps a little too spicy, but the great thing was, it was the *correct* thing to eat in Ceylon."

Between Guardafui and Babelmandeb Mr. Roe writes about the misery of the monsoon through which they had passed—"We are both looking something between green and yellow and unable to do any heavy mathematics. However, I could always read and enjoy my light books which Watson and Ferguson sent me, and they have proved a great blessing to the ship."

AFTER ENTERING THE RED SEA: "I can quite understand now that the Red Sea is a dangerous place—islands and reefs cropping up everywhere just alongside of the route and no lighthouses to

warn the captains from them. There is a nasty haze all over the sea even in the daytime, so that the course has to be steered by compass almost entirely."

OFF MT. SINAI: "We shall not reach Suez till 9 o'clock to-night, so that there is no chance of our starting up the Canal until to-morrow morning. This morning's sail has been most interesting—mountain ranges on either side of us, perfectly barren, but showing a variety of colouring in yellows and browns which makes very beautiful pictures with the deep blue sky as a foreground and a pale blue sky above. Such barren hills I never saw—not a blade of grass to feed a rabbit, or a shrub for a goat—but if no rain falls here nothing can very well grow. There is a beautiful cool breeze this morning, and taken as a whole our trip from Gardafui has been very pleasant, except for the time when we could not get lemons or ice. We are much excited as to which of the mounts on the right is Sinai—but we are all agreed that if Moses got to the top of any of the high ones he performed a creditable feat of mountaineering."

AT NAPLES. "Owing to the war in China, the continuous stream of men-of-war going through the canal had used up nearly all the coal at Port Said, so that we could only get 600 instead of 1,000 tons, and had to get the balance at Naples. The spectacle of these descendants of the Cæsars putting the coal on board was the most laughable thing I have seen for years—children about Toby's size were working amongst the others, and did as much work as their elders. They had no order or method, but when the spirit moved someone, he would take up a hod, and fill a tiny little basket with coal, which basket was then passed along a line of men who had been standing waiting for it. There was plenty of jabbering and shouting, but very little work—such a contrast to the Arabs and Cingalese."

OFF THE COAST OF SPAIN.—"We got into Gibraltar about 4 o'clock, and were only one and a-half hours there, so there was no going ashore, but we bought apricots and plums from the boatmen, and made ourselves happy. My bosom swelled with pride as I looked at the stronghold we have held so stoutly now for 200 years. There were only three English men-of-war there, as the Mediterranean fleet is now somewhere up the Adriatic, but there were two American cruisers on their way to China lying outside the break-water, just alongside of us—one was the *Baltimore*, which took part either in the battle at Aiba or at Manilla, for I remember her name. At 9 o'clock we passed Cape Trafalgar, and I induced a rowdy party to shout 'Twas in Trafalgar's Bay' at the top of our voices on the deck—as much as we could remember, but we only got through the first verse properly. Then I smoked a pipe and thought of the mighty deeds of our forefathers all along this coast, of Nelson at Trafalgar, and Blake at Cadiz (which we could see the lights of), and this morning we passed Cape St. Vincent, so I am

still bubbling over with patriotic fervour from new memories of Nelson and Jervis, and the bosun tucking the bundle of swords under his arm on the quarter deck of the *San Nicolas*. I am afraid I become a regular jingo directly there is a thought of a fight, though really I am a most peaceful individual."

FROM BLANDFORD. "I am at present lying on my back with an attack of lumbago, which I attribute to my being in such a fever of happiness during the first twenty-four hours that I lay the first night with the windows open and insufficient clothing upon me."

FROM CLAUDE AT OXFORD. "Mr. S. showed us all over Balliol, at least the greater part of it. It is a grand place. All the colleges in Australia would look like little huts alongside of it—and although I am not given to gushing over anything, I must say it is a beautiful old place, and looks most impressive and venerable with its grey stone and ivy and Virginia creeper growing all over it. Of course I am fully persuaded that there is no college like it in the world—that would be superfluous to say, beautiful as many of the others are—but I must stick up for *my* college."

MR. ROE: "The examination for the mathematical scholarships into Balliol is not until the first week in December, but the results will be out before I leave. I shall send you a cablegram if Claude gets it."

FROM SWANAGE MR. ROE WRITES: "It was very cold at Oxford, the thermometer being down at 48 deg. And now it is up at 84 deg.—a temperature at which three men fell dead from sunstroke in London, and 60 more were carried off to the hospital. To me it was simply balmy here."

AFTER FIVE WEEKS IN ENGLAND CLAUDE WRITES: "I am convinced already about English weather. Except for about half an hour last Sunday (to-day is Thursday) we haven't seen the sun for over a week, though luckily it hasn't rained every day. And this is supposed to be the hottest month! I nearly forget what a good old Queensland sun is like."

MR. ROE WRITES: "I am going to run down to Marlborough for a day or two. At Clifton I shall see the school there and at Uppingham I shall learn all that I can. I want to pick up any wrinkles that can be found, especially with regard to the "Modern Side," in which these schools are strong, and the question of "State Inspection."

MR. ROE WRITES (September 13th): "Claude has seen his rooms in College, and I am glad to say that I have got him excused the College entrance examination on account of his Sydney pass, so that he will not have to bother himself about that in the first fortnight."

[We are greatly indebted to Mrs. and Miss Roe for their kindness in supplying the above extracts.]

In Memoriam.

THE LATE MR. W. WELSBY.

Since the issue of the last number of this Magazine, another Old Boy has passed from the ranks. The late Mr. W. Welsby, who was employed as accountant to the Colonial Sugar Refinery Coy., was a most enthusiastic supporter of athletics. Cricketing and sailing men have cause to mourn his loss more than others, for it was to these branches of sport that this member of the Welsby family—who are known so well in Brisbane for their whole hearted regard for athletics—particularly devoted his attention. Mr. Welsby caught typhoid fever, to which he succumbed after a week's illness. He was a member of the Amusement Committee of the O.B.A. for this year. We offer our deepest sympathy to his relatives in their sad bereavement.

Annual Athletic Sports.

THE Annual Sports Meeting was held at the Exhibition Grounds on Friday, October 5th. The weather was fine, but slightly hot. There was a good attendance of visitors, who were supplied with afternoon tea through the kindness of Mrs. Roe. The entries for the several events were very large. Much interest was taken in the Old Boys' Races. The 22 events were well contested, and altogether the meeting was highly successful. The Officials were as follows:—Referee, F. S. N. Bousfield, Esq.; Judges, Messrs. J. G. Cribb, G. Gross, A. J. Mason, and W. Unmack (O. B. A.); Starter, T. E. Jones, Esq.; Timekeepers, Messrs. A. J. A. Dakin and B. Porter; Clerks of the Course, J. Cowan, Esq., and K. Carson, Esq.

The following were the results:—

- Kicking the Football.—1, Forrest; 2, W. Roe; 3, E. Campbell.
There was a good display of kicking, the winning kick (63 yds. 4 in.) being a very good one.
- 100 Yards (scratch), under 14.—1, Hertzberg; 2, Parkinson and Blanshard tie. Won easily in $13\frac{2}{5}$ secs.
- 130 Yards (scratch), under 16.—1, Whitman; 2, Nicholson; 3, Irving. Whitman won with a good many yards to spare. Time, 15 secs.
- 100 Yards Championship (scratch).—1, Parker; 2, Davis and Graham tie. This was the finest race of the afternoon. A very close finish. Time, $11\frac{1}{2}$ secs.

High Jump, under 16.—1, S. Roe; 2, Nicholson; 3, C. G. Miles.

This began at 3 ft. 6 ins. and was ended by Roe at 4 ft. 6½ ins.
Open High Jump.—1, Amos; 2, Graham; 3, Phillips. Amos jumped 5 ft. 2 ins. and Graham 1 in. less.

One Mile Bicycle Handicap.—1, Mactaggart (118 yds.); 2, Ferguson (150 yds.); 3, Billington (78 yds.) Only five started in this race which was won easily. Dixon's bicycle met with an accident before the race. Time, 2 min. 28 secs.

School Handicap, 130 yards (in heats).—First Heat: 1, Parker (scratch); 2, Graham (3 yds.); 3, H. B. Wilson (6 yds.) Time, 14½ secs. Second heat: 1, Davies (2 yds.); 2, Nicholson (6 yds.); 3, Story (7 yds.) Time, 14½ secs. Third Heat: 1, Whitman (3 yds.); 2, Appleton (4 yds.); 3, Lea (7 yds.) Time, 15 secs. Final: 1, Davies (2 yds.); 2, Whitman (3 yds.); 3, Parker (scratch). Davies got well off the mark and won by about a yard. An exciting race. Time, 13½ secs.

Long Jump.—1, Graham, 18 feet; 2, Parker; 3, Whitman. This result was not unexpected.

220 Yards Cadet Handicap (in heats).—First heat: 1, N. McKenny (5 yards); 2, Davies (scratch); 3, S. Roe (10 yards). Time, 26½ secs. Second heat: 1, Lea (10 yards); 2, Appleton (4 yards). Time, 26½ secs. Final: 1, Appleton (4 yards); 2, Lea (10 yards); 3, Davis (scratch). Won easily. Time, 25 secs. This race would furnish more excitement if each runner carried a cadet's equipment.

Throwing the Cricket Ball.—1, Appleton; 2, Graham; 3, Dixon. Distance, 97 yards 2 feet 3 inches. Appleton showed that he was a very fine thrower.

440 Yards Handicap.—1, W. Roe (5 yards); 2, Story (17 yards); 3, Amos (8 yards). This was won in fine style. Second and third men were separated by a foot or so.

Half-mile Bicycle Scratch Race.—1, Billington; 2, Mactaggart. Only a few started in this race. Time, 1 min. 14½ secs.

130 Yards Hurdle Race (in heats).—First heat: 1, Graham (scratch); 2, Williams (5 yards); 3, Whitman (4 yards). Time, 19½ sec. Second heat: 1, E. T. Campbell (3 yards); 2, Marchant (7 yards); 3, J. G. Avery (5 yards). Time, 21½ secs. Final: 1, Graham (scratch); 2, Williams (5 yards); 3, E. Campbell (3 yards). Graham had a few yards to spare. He is a good hurdle racer. Time, 20secs.

Pole jump.—1, Amos; 2, J. G. Avery; 3, E. Campbell. Amos jumped 8 feet.

½-Mile Walking Race.—1, Story; 2, McNab; 3, Noel. This is the first time for many years that we have had a walking race. Story won by a yard. Time, 4 mins. 16 secs.

880 Yards Handicap.—1, Amos (10 yards); 2, W. Roe (6 yards); 3, Sapsford (24 yards). This was a fine race. Amos won by 3 yards; second and third man were separated by a few inches. Time, 2 mins. 24secs.

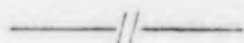
Old Boys' 130 Yards Handicap.—1, A. Scott (5 yards); 2, H. L. Montefiore (6 yards); 3, K. P. Mackenzie (5 yards). Scott getting away well at the start won easily. Time, 13 $\frac{3}{5}$ secs. This time was only a $\frac{1}{5}$ of second better than the time for the School Handicap.

Old Boys' 2-Mile Bicycle Race.—1, R. Wilson (50 yards); 2, E. J. Dixon (95 yards); 3, J. Mortimer (290 yards). Much interest was centred in this race, which was won by about a length. Time, 4mins. 54 $\frac{3}{5}$ secs.

220 Yards Handicap (under 16), in heats.—1st heat: 1, Whitman (scratch); 2, Jones (10 yards); 3, C. G. N. Miles (12 yards). Second heat: 1, Noel (14 yards); 2, C. Pennefather (7 yards); 3, Peterson (9 yards). Time, 27 $\frac{2}{5}$ secs. Final: 1, Whitman (scratch); 2, Noel (14 yards). Won easily. Time, 26 $\frac{2}{5}$ secs.

Siamese Scratch Race, 75 yards.—1, Graham and Curtis; 2, Sheldon and Hiscock. This was a good finish, 1st and 2nd pairs being separated by only a few inches.

220 Yards Consolation Race.—1, J. Pennefather; 2, E. Campbell; 3, Beale. This was a good race. Time, 27 $\frac{1}{5}$ sec.



THE CADETS.

J. E. N. OSBORN.

The annual inspection of the Cadets took place in August, when Colonel Finn came up to the school grounds to inspect the corps. After going down the ranks and making several kindly inquiries of the boys, he asked to have them put through a little drill, after which he spoke a few words, saying that, although on the whole he was very well satisfied with the work done, still he thought there was room for some improvement, and urged the boys to pay good attention to their drill instructor.

In September the Q.R.A. held their annual meeting. In the Cadet matches we did not do quite as well as we expected. In the Government Open matches, however, we quite made up for this, as we obtained 2nd prize in the Rapid Independent match at 400 yards, and 7th out of ten prizes in the Extended Order match, in which about 40 teams of the Q.D. Forces were competing.

The members of the team have subscribed out of their winnings for another trophy to be placed amongst those already in the school hall.

The thanks of the corps are greatly due to Captain Gross and the officers of the cadets for their energy both during the practice and the matches.

Football.

FIRST FIFTEEN.

School *v.* Red Stars.—This match was played on the School turf and resulted in an easy win for the Grammars by 34 to *nil*. The Red Stars arrived with the reputation of only having been beaten once and that by the Milduras, who defeated them by 13 to 3. The combination of the School Team was splendid and completely nonplussed the Stars. Tries were obtained for the School by W. Roe, Dennis, Davies, Appleton, Weedon, and Amos; two were converted by Dennis and Dixon. The School Team played well to a man.

School *v.* Crescents.—This match was played on the Crescent's pitch on the Kangaroo Point Cricket Ground. The Grammars were greatly weakened by the loss of Dennis, who was playing for the Past Grammars. Just before half-time the Crescents scored a try but the kick at goal was unsuccessful. In the second half W. Roe managed to score and Dixon converted. Near the end the ball was kicked out of bounds and one of the Crescents picked it up and scored. The Crescents thus won by 6 points to 5. The "barracking" element was very strong.

1st Grammars *v.* Alhambras.—This match was played on the turf, and resulted in a draw, both sides scoring. The Grammars had a very weak team out. Only about seven of the proper firsts played. In the first half the Alhambras scored. This put the Grammars on their mettle, and in the second half they also scored. The Grammars were very close to scoring a good many times, but owing to their having so many new men on who did not know when to pass out, they missed opportunities. The Alhambras had their best team out, and were sure of winning.

1st Grammars *v.* Elswicks.—This match was also played on the turf, and resulted in another win for the Grammars by 8 to *nil*. In the first half the Grammars were playing two men short, and in the second half one man short. Everyone of the Elswicks brought his lady friend, and consequently the school turf looked very gay. Graham scored both tries for the Grammars, and Dixon converted one. Jones, an old Grammar boy, who was playing with the Elswicks, got his head split open against one of the boundary flags. This is the last match we played, as it was too hot to play football any longer.

SECOND FIFTEEN.

We have played 8 games, winning 5 and losing 2.

B.G.S. *v.* Cambridges. Played on the Brisbane Cricket Ground and resulted in a win for the Cambridges, 14-3. G. Murray scored.

B.G.S. *v.* Windsors. Played on Union Ground, School winning by 3 to nil. Story scored.

B.G.S. *v.* Avondales. This and the three succeeding matches were played on the school turf, school winning by 6 to nil. G. Murray and Story each secured a try.

B.G.S. *v.* Pirates, School won. 43 to nil.

B.G.S. *v.* Arfomas. The School team won, 9 to 3.

B.G.S. *v.* Red Stars. Won by Red Stars, by 17 to nil.

B.G.S. *v.* 2nd Excelsior. No Union umpire turned up. A scratch match was played.

B.G.S. *v.* Rainsworths. Won by 51 to nil.

THIRD FIFTEEN.

This team has had better success this year than last. Last year we did not win a match; this year we did not lose one. Parkinson captained the team. This team secured the medals for the School Matches.

Kelvin Grove, Leichhardt Street, and St. James' Schools forfeited.

School *v.* Normal School. Drawn. Neither side scored.

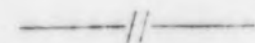
School *v.* Normal School (semi-final). Won by 3 to nil.

School *v.* Woolloongabba School (final). Won by 6 to nil.

Beale secured a try and kicked a penalty goal.

FOURTH TEAM.

This team, captained by Leslie, played 8 games, winning 1, losing 5, and gaining 1 forfeit. One match was drawn. This is not a very bright record, but still the team is gaining experience.



Cricket.

E. T. CAMPBELL.

Summer is again upon us, and the blue jersey has given place to the flannel. During the recess between football and the summer game, a new wicket has been formed, and those who have played on it consider it far superior to the concrete wicket which was formerly there. Four teams will probably be placed in the field this year again. The firsts are captained by H. Frew, and though three of the best of last year's team, W. Drane (bowler), A. T. Dennis (wicket-keeper), and S. Lightoller (last year's captain), have gone, there are still some very fine players in the team. Only one match has been played as yet, but good form has been displayed by some of the team at practice, and it is confidently expected that they will render a good account of themselves during the coming season.

The seconds are captained by C. Pennefather. One match has been played, in which the school team secured an easy victory over the "Bothwells."

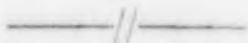
The third and fourth teams, though small, will no doubt be a good team in their own division.

As there has been but little practice as yet, it is impossible to give an opinion about the individual members of the team, but criticisms of the team will be made in the next issue of the Magazine.

1ST CRICKET TEAM, 1900 (Latter part),

1, Frew (Capt.); 2, Sapsford; 3, Irving; 4, Parker; 5, Campbell, J. A.; 6, Oxley; 7, Graham; 8, Osborne, N.; 9, Pennefather, J.; 10, Pennefather, C.; 11, Leslie; 12, Joice; 13, Hindmarsh; 14, Campbell, E.; 15, Curtis.

1st B.G.S. v. Wooloongabba B Team.—This was the first match of the season, and it is to be hoped that the other matches will not prove so disastrous. The match was played on the new wicket on the turf, and the difference between the present wicket and the old concrete one was very marked. Frew, our energetic captain, won the toss, and decided to bat. The result was 84 runs, of which E. Irving, the most consistent batsman in the team, played a faultless innings for 48 not out. He batted beautifully and never gave the slightest chance. The 'Gabbas then went to the wickets, and at the end of the first day's play had 5 wickets down for 80. On resuming on the following Saturday, they increased the score to 191 (T. Henderson, 61 not out; P. Scott, 32; Woodward, 26; Beard, 18; Foster, 16; Berry, 11). In their second innings, the School team did much better, only two wickets falling for 89 (E. Irving, 36 not out; and J. A. Campbell, 28 not out; played good cricket and showed signs of careful practice. The 'Gabbas thus won the match by 97 runs on the 1st innings. Bowling—For School: E. Irving, 3 for 74; Hindmarsh, 4 for 72; G. Graham, 1 for 17. Against School, 1st Innings: Foster, 5 for 30; Woodward, 3 for 11; Beard, 1 for 17. 2nd Innings: Foster, 1 for 17; Scott, 1 for 5. Four other bowlers were tried.



Lawn Tennis Tournament.

DURING August the Annual Tennis Tournament in connection with the school was played, and was in every way a great success. About 20 entries were received for the events, which consisted of the Championship of the school and the Single and Double Handicaps. The play on the average was greatly above the standard of the last two or three years, and showed signs of careful and consistent practice. Great interest was taken in the

tournament, and there was generally a large number of spectators present. On several occasions two or three of the masters were spectators, and this infused interest in the game, which interest was maintained until the conclusion of the tournament. The various rounds were played off with great promptitude and accordingly the whole tournament was quickly got through.

The Championship of the school attracted, of course, the greatest attention. The two left in the semi-final were O. G. Oxley and Nicholson, and the final was a great tussle, Nicholson beating his opponent by 6-4, 6-1. The play was almost entirely from the back lines, many of the strokes being very nicely placed, but neither of the players indulged much in "volleying," and this was about the only fault to be found in the play.

The Single Handicap was a very interesting event, the handicaps being very well arranged, and the games even. The "final" competitors were A. S. Roe (scratch) and Nicholson (owe 15½). This also was won by Nicholson, who played a very steady game, his "placing" being too good for Roe, who, however, gave very hard returns, and scored off every chance. The scores were 6-3, 5-6, 6-4.

The Double Handicap was not so interesting, the handicapping being a little too severe. The "final" pairs were: Joice and Nicholson (owe 15½) and A. S. Roe and F. N. Miles (receive 15½). Roe and Miles won after a fairly good game by 6-3, 5-6, 6-4. The losers played a good uphill game, but seemed to make too light of the handicaps. The play, again, was mostly from the back lines, but at times some interesting bits of play took place at the net.

On Friday, 31st August, Mr. Bousfield presented the prizes to the successful competitors, who received in addition clapping and stamping "galore." The prizes for the Championship and Single Handicap were racquets presented by Mr. Bousfield and Mr. Porter respectively.

The Committee who managed the tournament consisted of W. Roe, A. S. Roe, and E. T. Campbell, and these were presided over by Mr. Porter, who deserves our greatest thanks for his untiring efforts to make the affair a success.

Jennis.

BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL v. IPSWICH GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

This long-delayed match was played on Saturday, September 8, at Ipswich, and, after an exciting and evenly contested game, resulted in a win for the Brisbane Grammar School by two games. The play commenced at about half-past nine, and as each pair had to play only four sets, it was finished in good time for the Brisbane

players to return by the mid-day train, as they wanted to see the Intercolonial Football Match. The victory was to be decided by the number of sets, and if the sets were equal, by the number of games. In the first round W. Roe and S. Roe played Bell and Palmer, and Nicholson and Oxley played Myers and Greenham. The former pair were beaten, 6-4, 6-2, while the latter pair tied their opponents, 4-6, 6-4. After a short rest the second round commenced, none of the players feeling tired, as the games were not very fast. In this round Roe and Roe beat Myers and Greenham, 6-4, 6-0, and Nicholson and Oxley tied Bell and Palmer, 6-5, 5-6, the Brisbane players thus winning by 39 games to 37. Neither of the schools seemed to have advantage over one another in the matter of strokes. The Ipswich players played a very steady game, and placed the balls well.

TENNIS MATCH.

OLD BOYS *v.* PRESENTS.

BY "AN OLD BOY."

"Now, DON'T bring up an intercolonial team," said Mr. Porter, when at his suggestion I agreed to get a team of Old Boys together for a friendly match with the "Presents"—with an idea of encouraging the tennis at the school. So, on 6th September, Messrs. H. N. Berry (Carlton), McCormack (Bundaberg), Edwards (W.T.L. T.C.), Monteith (Ivy), A'Court (Toowong), and A. H. Scott (Y.M. C.A.), all of us from the ranks of the "B" grade of the Q.L.T.A., visited the school courts to try conclusions with F. Nicholson and O. Oxley, C. W. and S. Roe, and C. Bernays and E. Campbell—who had been chosen to represent the school. It was a beautiful afternoon, an ideal one for tennis, although at times the wind was a bit strong and spoilt "lob" shots very frequently—the courts were fast and true, and as we expected, the match resulted in a very close finish—the Old Boys only winning by the narrow majority of 2 sets or 13 games. Nicholson and Oxley were by far the strongest pair, and only lost one set in the whole of the match. Berry and Monteith beating them 6 to 3, although the tables were turned on them, the next set going to Nicholson and Oxley 6 to 2, so that this pair carried every match before them, and got the substantial record of 33 games won and 17 lost—a record to be proud of and speaking well for the future tennis careers of these players—the other "Presents" all showed signs of promise, and with more practice the school should have a fairly strong team next year—the present boys must not forget that the colony looks to the school for tennis representatives—many old boys having gained intercolonial honors and it is significant that the Premiership of the Queensland Lawn Tennis Association for 1900 was won by the Carlton Club, whose team

was entirely composed of Old Boys, viz., E. and C. Crouch, F. J. Berry, Foster, E. E. Edwards, and A. D. Graham—so that every effort must be made to keep up the reputation of the B. G. S. in the tennis world. The game is a grand one and well worth following up, and only practising assiduously will gain efficiency in one of the most enjoyable of outdoor sports. All concerned in this match owe their best thanks to Mr. Porter for working hard to bring this event to a successful issue, and the result was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and a really good game throughout. Mrs. Roe, with her usual thoughtfulness and kindness, dispensed afternoon tea to the players, and needless to say her hospitality was very much appreciated.

Following are the details of the match :—

H. N. Berry and Monteith	lost to Nicholson and Oxley	6-3 and 2-6
"	beat C. W. Roe and S. Roe	5-6 and 6-3
"	beat Bernays and Campbell	6-3 and 6-1

Record : 31 to 23.

McCormack and M. Edwards	lost to Nicholson and Oxley	0-6 and 3-6
"	beat Roe and Roe	6-0 and 4-6
"	beat Bernays and Campbell	6-0 and 6-3

Record : 25 to 21.

A. Court and Scott	lost to Nicholson and Oxley	2-6 and 4-6
"	beat Roe and Roe	5-6 and 6-3
"	beat Bernays and Campbell	6-5 and 6-3

Record : 29 games to 29.

Totals : Old Boys—10 sets, 85 games.

Presents— 8 sets, 72 games.

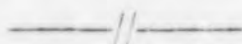
Of course the "Presents" want their "revenge," and it is to be hoped that a return match can be arranged for an early date.

At the tournament held on the Woolloongabba Cricket Ground in connection with the Queensland Lawn Tennis Association, last September, Grammar School boys carried off both Junior events. F. Nicholson won the Junior Championship, and A. S. Roe won the Junior Handicap; F. Nicholson coming second in the latter event.

By "E.G.M."

Lovers of the game of Lawn Tennis will be pleased to learn that a movement is on foot to form a club in connection with the Old Boys' Association, and judging from the large number of entries for the "double event" held in connection with the President's "At Home" last Saturday afternoon, this should be a very easy matter. Should endeavours in this direction be successful, Mr. Roe will be approached as to allowing the four courts at the school to be

used by the club. The number of teams into which the club will be divided, and the grades in which the same will play will depend on the number of members and their standard of play by next season. The above movement should prove a golden opportunity for members of the Association to indulge in this scientific and healthy pastime, and should be the means of causing several young colts to make their debüt at the next annual tournament of the Queensland Lawn Tennis Association. We feel sure that Mr. Roe on his return from his holiday trip will give the heartiest support to the movement, as he has always been a great lover and follower of the game, and (though the fact is unknown to many) brought the first set of lawn-tennis material to Brisbane. The formation of such a club as this should prove a marked event in the annals of lawn-tennis in this Colony, and it will soon become a popular boast to say that one is a member of that club.



Library.

Another addition has been made to the already long list of books in the library. Ten volumes of "English Men of Letters" have been presented by C. W. Roe, and we take this opportunity of thanking him for the large number of books presented by him.

The number of books taken out for use during the last three months is largely in advance of the number for the preceding three, but there are still a large number of boys who do not make use of this valuable institution, and the librarians will be glad to welcome any new boys.

The most popular authors with the boys are Jules Verne and Captain Marryatt, the former especially. There is scarcely one of his numerous books left in the library, as they are taken out as soon as they are brought in. One thing we would ask the boys to be careful of, and that is to see that their names are crossed off before they leave the book, as a number of books have gone astray through the carelessness of the boys in this respect.

E. T. CAMPBELL	}	LIBRARIANS.
J. H. BURGESS		

THE COCOS ISLANDS.

THEY were discovered in 1821 by Commander Ross, of the Indian Navy, who came and settled there with his family in 1823. He was a Jacobite, and his father had fought at Culloden, and he wanted to get away where he could do as he liked. His eldest son married a Malay half-caste, and his son is the present king. In 1886 the islands were annexed to the Straits Settlement, and once a year a gunboat comes down. But Ross is an absolute despot, though he is, I should imagine, a just one; he has power of life and death over any of the islanders. The present king, George Ross, is a man of about 60 years of age, though he does not look more than 48. He is a good height, and well built, with a fine moustache, and no suspicion of half-caste about him, at least to the uninitiated eye, though his brother is very pronounced. He has travelled all over the world, and talks Piccadilly and Yokohama in the same breath; seems an intimate friend of Joe Chamberlain—Colonial Office, you see—and has a very high opinion of him. Talks familiarly of Ripon and Derby, and altogether seems to have plenty of *savoir faire*. He possesses a lot of shrewd common sense, and is intensely proud of being Scotch, being Cluny-cluay, McPherson, and Clanquhatten, is an old St. Andrew boy, and used to have golf links on the island, but says it is too tame to play by oneself. He is married to a dark lady, and has a son of about 28, who is a typical half-caste. At present he is building a palace out of glazed bricks, specially imported from Scotland. Neither his mother nor son has his force of character; he seems really a fine man, and I suspect he is the last of the Mohicans. Every two or three months his lugger of 200 tons goes to Batavia for his mails and rice for the Malays. Altogether Cocos is one of the most interesting places, and added to that it is one rarely visited. The islands lie in about 12 S. and 96 E, and Batavia is about 800 miles N.E. They lie in the form of an atoll, which is more or less round, the lagoon in the centre is about six miles long and nearly four miles across, and has a ship's passage to the north by which we entered. The lagoon is fairly deep, but is gradually shallowing up, as also are the intervals between the islands forming the atoll ring. Like most coral islands they are only a few feet above the sea level, and are thickly covered with graceful cocoanut palms. Somewhere about a million palms, producing copra, the dried cocoanut, worth 2s. annually from each tree. The palms have all been planted, as about 15 years ago a terrific cyclone levelled nearly the whole of them, it takes 10 years for a palm to reach maturity. There is very little undergrowth amongst the palms and scarcely any grass. The average palm is about 50 feet high, but some of the old ones reach 120 feet. The nuts are only gathered as they become ripe and fall, the kernel dried and shipped. About 600 tons are at present waiting shipment. A great deal of

copra is sold to Italian ports when, with the addition of a few drops of olive oil, cocoanut is converted into the commercial olive. The tusk is not used at present, as freights are too high to allow its shipment to pay. There are practically no indigenous animals on the islands, but a few of the old English rats, which came when the islands were first settled; they exist though they have been mostly eaten out by the ordinary rat which came here from an old wreck. To get rid of these rats Ross naturally turned to cats, and as he had a ship chartered for his copra coming down from Batavia he told the captain to purchase as many cats as he could at 2s. apiece, which he did, and filled the ship up to the hatches. As she was a 500-ton boat she could carry a good many. On arrival at Cocos the captain reported that the cats were getting obstreperous and were eating one another. Then they started to discharge them, and to do this they sent men well wrapped up in bags down into the hold, and they bagged the cats and sent them up: as fast as they did so boats took them off to the different islands. The result was a total failure, the rats are far worse than before, and the cats have killed off all the jungle fowl and pheasants, to say nothing of tame fowl not shut up on the islands. There is now a standing price of £1 a head for all cats caught, but the cats are too cunning and none have been caught for years. Rabbits, too, were introduced, but burrowed into ground under the palms and made them easy to fall over, so Ross induced the Malays, who are Mahomedans, to eat rabbit, and now there is not a rabbit left. One of the islands was stocked with deer but they got badly hunted when a man-of-war was down some years ago, and none are left. The famous tree-climbing crab lives on these islands; he grows to a size 18 inches in diameter, climbs up the palms, cuts off a cocoanut, and then comes down and eats it; they have immensely powerful claws. The place seems wonderfully healthy and they have managed to keep out all diseases. They never get colds, except just after the boat has come down from Batavia and they are soon blown away. Beri-beri occurs occasionally, and is regarded both as infectious and contagious, and is said to break out when a new lot of coolies have arrived at the islands and brought it with them. The climate is very regular, S.E. winds 300 days in the year; cyclones occur every four or five years, but bad ones only every ten or twelve. The population of the islands is about 700 Malays, and they are increasing fast, as the average family numbers 23 or 24. There are practically no Chinese here, owing to the fights between them and the Malays. Indians cannot live here as it gets too cold for them. They are splendid boat-builders, under the direction of the Ross's, and have some lovely boats carved and finished off in a marvellous way. They built a 100-ton schooner, and the two Ross's, with a crew of seven Malays, took her to England, *via* the Cape, 18 years ago. They lost her under somewhat mysterious circumstances. A ship was wrecked

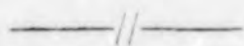
on Cocos, and the Ross's sent her crew, principally Greeks and Italians, in the schooner, with a crew of islanders, to Batavia, and the boat was never heard of again. In all probability the shipwrecked crew murdered the Malays—20 against 7—and sailed off to the Pacific. You can imagine it is pretty warm up here in the tropics, though it is winter; this evening it is 88 degrees in the cabin, and we are all in white clothes. We have had some deep soundings on our way across from Fremantle, our deepest was 3,500 fathoms—4 miles.

J. E. FANCOURT McDONALD.

CABLE SHIP "SHERARD OSBORNE,"

COCOS ISLANDS,

20TH JUNE, 1900.



School Notes.

We must congratulate the 3rd and 5th for going through the season without being beaten once.

We are sending five boys up for the Senior Exam., all of whom are trying to obtain Exhibitions. We wish them success; they deserve it, since of late they have been working like Trojans.

We sent four boys up for the Civil Service Examination, Scott (67·8 %), A. B. D. Brown (63·3 %), and Parsons (62·3 %) were in the first thirty successful candidates, while Story qualified for admission into the Post and Telegraph Department.

Our Annual Entertainment will take place on November 2nd. The performers are busily practising their respective parts. The English play is in the hands of Mr. Mason, the French in those of Mr. Porter, while the German play and the gymnastic display are under the management of Mr. Gross.

Handball is again becoming popular. A so-called "tournament" was held last week. Now and then a ball refuses to return to mother earth, preferring to squeeze itself in some convenient nook, but this does not materially affect the game (except, perhaps, for lack of material).

The present Civil Service Class numbers 16 boys. Let us hope they will render a good account of themselves in the forthcoming examination.

The Law Class is double its usual size this half-year. *i.e.*, it now consists of two members instead of 1 as hitherto.

Apropos of the proposed visit of the Duke and Duchess of York to Australia, it is interesting to note that one of the two fig-trees, between the boarding-house and the school, was planted by

the Duke of York on the occasion of his last visit to Australia. The other tree was planted by the late Duke of Clarence. They are distinguished by the white fences which surround them.

"George" has helped the Magazine funds along by collecting subscriptions from the old boys; so also has C. G. Webster.

EXCHANGES.

The editor acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following magazines:—Lux, The Coorwill Magazine, Aurora Australis, The King's School Magazine, Wesley College Chronicle, Torchbearer, Patchwork, Newington and Sydneian.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO B.G.S. MAGAZINE.

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Any Subscriber whose name is omitted from the above list please notify the Manager.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

BY C. G. F. MURRAY.

AS an infant I had a most miraculous escape from sudden death and a watery grave. On a voyage from New Zealand to Australia, my mother had left me for a few moments lying on one of the cabin bunks. Previous to this I had given a good deal of trouble, crying and screaming with rage at not being given

an orange that my brother Ebenezer was greedily devouring; and my mother had threatened, if I did not cease weeping, that she would put me through the porthole. This was of course said with intent to frighten me, but Ebenezer understood my mother's unfortunate remark as being actually meant; and thus it came to pass, that as I still continued to weep, after my mother's departure, my cruel brother, who was at that time six years of age, seized me in his arms, and in spite of my shrieks of agony, forced my pulpy and palpitating little body through the open porthole. In an instant more I would have dropped into the angry sea, when, by great fortune, a sailor who was leaning over the vessel's side, witnessed my awful predicament, and skilfully threw the loop of a rope's end round my fat little neck, and hauling me up the ship's side, half strangled and black in the face, finally landed me kicking and struggling on the upper deck at my mother's feet. This may be considered a very narrow escape, but "All's well that ends well."

NEWS FROM AN OLD MASTER.

Mr. Campbell writes of his experience in South Africa as follows:—When I was in Africa I often saw the Queenslanders and frequently had a yarn with them about old places. Many of them (I didn't find out their names because you met such a lot) were old Grammar School boys, and use to recall school escapades in which "Bobby" generally figured. One of the Q.M.I. was an old friend of mine and was the owner of a Cape cart which he had commandeered somewhere. He gave it to me along with two sets of harness and an alleged horse, but I was a day late in going for it, and merely found a few spokes sticking out of a fire, which was all that remained of it. As I daresay your own papers told you the Bananalanders upheld the reputation of the colonials in the field, and were instrumental in the capture of a "long tom" outside Johannesburg. I was engaged on a more peaceful errand than were the contingenters, having gone over as correspondent for some New Zealand papers. I managed to get over a good deal of country during the five months I was in South Africa. I went up with an expedition from Victoria west to Kenhardt through rebel country for a start, but there was no fighting there and I only got laid out with the fever a bit, and lived on crushed wheat for most of the time. I recovered in time to join Lord Robert's force at Bloemfontein, and saw all the fights between there and Pretoria, which I entered some hours before the troops. When I had seen the Union Jack go up over Oom Paul's capital, I had had enough, and decided to return to New Zealand as I was about played out, and I came down on a troop train to Bloemfontein, and had a day's fight on the way with

one of De Wet's commandos at Homing Spruit. He shelled us for eight hours and as we had no guns it was pretty sick. However, we were relieved and I got away alright.

I shall be very glad to hear from you when you have time to write.—Yours sincerely,

W. D. CAMPBELL.

MR. J. B. HENDERSON.

The news has reached us of the marriage of Mr. J. B. Henderson, an old Science Master of the school. Mr. Henderson, now Queensland Government Analyst, was sent home by the Government in the interests of science, and marked the importance of the occasion by taking unto himself a wife.

O.B.A. Notes.

The Club Rooms have lately been well attended by the members, the chief source of attraction being the billiard-table. It is pleasing to see so many of the younger members making such improvement in their play. The billiard marker, George Hunter, keeps his table in good condition, and members can always rely upon having a good game from 3 p.m. till 10 p.m. Great interest was shown in the Handicap Tournament (250 up), the House Committee having received 34 entries, a good number of which were from old members. The results have proved that the handicaps were rather small; as a consequence the scratch men, with the exception of Mr. J. H. Carson (50 on), are the only competitors left in the finals. Mr. A. D. Graham (40 behind scratch) has been most consistent in his play, and he will undoubtedly win the Tournament. He awaits the result of two games to meet his opponent in the final. Mr. T. R. Hall without doubt showed the greatest improvement among the younger members.

The House Committee received with regret the resignation of Mr. G. S. Crouch, owing to his being transferred to Townsville, and thus for a time we will lose his genial presence in the Club Rooms. His many friends will be glad to hear that he is doing well in his new sphere, and that on Saturday, 20th inst., he made his first century for his Cricket Club.

There is a flourishing club in connection with the Association, viz., the Whist Club, which meets every Thursday evening at the Club Rooms. Members of the Association who desire to join this club will be heartily welcomed by the present members, who are always willing to teach new members the game. As the financial year has just begun, intending members should join at once. The annual is only 5s.

The Annual Dinner in connection with the Whist Club takes place at the Café Eschenhagen on Wednesday, November 7th, when no doubt there will be a full meeting of members.

BRISBANE
Grammar School Magazine.

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