

**Llandoverly
School Journal**



Christmas, 1918.

59.

The Wandoverly



VOL. XVIII.

CHRISTMAS, 1918.

No. 59.

Editorial.

NOT even the advent of peace can save us from the difficult, nay, unpleasant task of penning an Editorial. This has always been the hardest, and, at the same time, least read part of our *Journal*, and only sub-Editors can fully realise the greatness of the labours of their predecessors, and the debt of gratitude which the School owes to them.

We have been greatly handicapped, both in work and play, by the prevalence of the influenza which visited us soon after half-term. In a very short time there were many cases, including three masters, but most of them were not serious, because 'suspects' were immediately interned. Mr. White was dangerously ill, but, owing to the careful and personal attention of Mrs. Poole-Hughes, he gradually gained enough strength to proceed to his home. He takes with him our best wishes for a steady recovery. Our deepest gratitude is due to Miss Gould and her nurses for their continual care and attention during our sickness. We extend our deepest sympathy to the parents of V. D. Thomas, who died during his absence from School.

During the term the nucleus of a band has been formed

under the baton of the Rev. A. R. Warburton, who has made every effort to make it a success. It reflects great credit on the boys for having taken such an interest in its formation, and for having adapted themselves so well to the instruments. We have visions of a complete and efficient band in the near future. Dancing classes have also been revived, and are attended by the majority of the School.

The general epidemic of influenza has made it necessary to postpone the annual match with Christ's College, Brecon. Our team this term showed great promise, and we were greatly disappointed at being deprived of the opportunity of testing our mettle. However, we hope to meet them again next term.

The Rev. A. R. Warburton and Mr. Clarke have as usual provided us with excellent sing-songs, three in all, a detailed account of which appears later. The greatest enthusiasm was shown, and the choruses were sung with great gusto, while the individual items were excellent.

This humble effort of ours would be incomplete without reference to the topic of the day—the Armistice. We were all naturally in ecstasies when the news arrived, and the way some of us spent 'Armistice night' would make good reading, but space will not permit. Nor must it be thought that in our joy we have forgotten those to whose efforts victory was due. Some of them will return full of honours, but many sleep their last sleep beyond the seas. Such must be remembered, and we suggest to readers of this issue that Llandoveryians should establish some memorial worthy of them and of their great sacrifice, that they may live in 'columns and inscriptions' as well as 'in the hearts of men.'

Old LI. Society.

Promotions and Corrections.

Lt. L. G. Burgess to be Captain.
 Sub-Lt. P. W. Brace, R.N.
 2nd Lt. C. E. P. Davies, A.S.C., M.T.
 2nd Lt. W. G. Menhinnick, R.W.F.

Decorations, M.C.

Capt. I. T. Evans, D.S.O., M.C., bar to M.C.
 Capt. D. Pole-Evans, R.F.A.
 Capt. R. Bowen Jones, R.W.F.
 Capt. Guthrie Morgan.
 Lt. H. Livesey, D. of Well. L.I.
 Lt. H. W. Spurrell, M.G.C.
 2nd Lt. E. B. Beech, Welsh.
 2nd Lt. J. R. Ll. Jones, S.W.B.

Wounded and Prisoners.

Capt. H. A. Morgan, 1/1 Breck. Batt. S.W.B., invalided from service.
 Capt. S. V. Swash, M.C., Welsh.
 Lt. E. M. Nicholas, R.A.F., prisoner.
 Lt. Glyn Williams, Welsh.
 2nd Lt. Basil James, Shrop. L.I.
 2nd Lt. H. Livesey, M.C., Duke of Well. L.I.
 W. D. Evans, prisoner.
 Horace Jones.

In Memoriam.

Capt. J. A. Jones, S.W.B.
 Capt. Gus Owen, M.C., S.L.I.
 Capt. T. W. Powell, M.C., Tanks.
 Capt. H. R. R. Weeks, S.W.B.
 Surg.-Lt. J. F. Howells, R.N.
 Lt. J. S. A. Jones, R.F.A.
 Lt. C. A. Loveluck, R.W.F.
 Lt. R. H. O. Roberts, A.I.F.
 Sub-Lt. P. W. Brace, R.N.
 2nd Lt. N. E. Evans, R.F.A.
 2nd Lt. L. N. L. Snape, R.Ir.R.
 Dr. D. J. Morgan, M.D.
 F. W. Humphreys.
 V. D. Thomas.

MARRIAGE.

Surgeon-Lt. John Francis Howells, R.N., to Miss Dora Gwendoline Miles, of Cardiff, at Llanishen Church.

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I. R. Snape has contributed £2 2s. to the O.L.I. Society.

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L. Prosser Evans has joined the Society.

School Notes.

AERM began on Sept. 18th, and ends on Dec. 20th.

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There are 35 new boys this term; these make a big increase in our numbers.

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W. M. Williams is Head Prefect and Captain of the XV.

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The prevalence of influenza has caused the annual match with Christ's College, Brecon, to be cancelled. We hope, however, to meet them next term.

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We welcome the Rev. T. J. Rowlands, M.A., B.D. (Oxon); A. F. Wood, Esq., B.A. (Oxon); J. H. White, Esq.

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The Prefects this term are—W. H. Williams (Gwent); D. R. Phillips (Seniors); T. G. Jones (College House); E. A. Evans (Classroom); T. J. Griffiths (College House); A. S. Lewis (College House); and C. E. Davies (Evans).

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Owing to the extraordinary influx of new boys this term, a new dormitory has been fitted to accommodate seven boys.

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The party of boys who volunteered for land work during the Summer Vacation are to be heartily congratulated on their successful enterprise in the cause of King and Country.

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On Sunday evening, Dec. 8th, a Sacred Concert was given by the band in lieu of the usual evening service, and was a complete success.

The School broke up on Wednesday, Nov. 6th, for a period of nearly three weeks owing to the general epidemic, and all who were not affected went home on that date. The remainder followed as soon as they had recovered.

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The Sub-Editors of the *Journal* this term are W. H. Williams and E. A. Evans.

Prize Distribution.

AHE Annual Prize Distribution took place on July 19th in the Gymnasium. Certificates were presented instead of prizes, the money usually devoted to these being given to the various war funds. The Warden presided, and presented the certificates.

The Warden in the course of his short address referred to the death on service of two Old Boys, who were with us only a year ago, to wit, G. T. Jones and R. L. J. Davies. He deplored the loss of so many gallant Old Boys, but was proud to think that the School was so well represented in the great cause.

Then he gladdened the hearts of all present by stating his intention of reviving the annual School House supper. The war, he said, had made it absolutely necessary to curtail these annual feasts. Another old custom to be revived was dancing. He also informed the boys of Mr. Warburton's intention to form a School band, and dwelt at length on the advantage to be gained therefrom. He thanked the Rev. Warburton and Mr. Clarke for working so assiduously in the cause of music in the School, and expressed his gratitude to the Revs. H. O. Williams and Warburton for having taken such keen interest in the welfare of the School cricket.

In conclusion he thanked the School prefects for maintaining such good order and discipline during the past term, and especially W. M. Williams, who had always been ready to help him in every way, and who had spent much time and energy in bringing the standard of our cricket to a high level.

On next page we append the list of prizes:—

Matriculation Form.—English: R. G. James. Latin: W. M. Lloyd-Roberts. French: A. G. Greatrex. Cefnfaes: W. M. Lloyd-Roberts.

Form Vb.—Latin: H. W. Jones. French: H. W. Jones. Mathematics: H. W. Jones. History: H. W. Jones. Chemistry: H. W. Jones. English: W. G. Evans.

Form IV.—Latin: J. G. Rees. French: D. R. Jones. Divinity: R. T. Jones. Cefnfaes: G. H. Morgan.

Form IIIa.—Latin: I. A. Rees. French: I. A. Rees. History: I. A. Rees. Geography: D. R. G. Davies. Divinity: W. H. K. Deans and I. A. Rees. Cefnfaes: I. P. G. John.

Form IIIb.—Latin: D. M. Rees. French: C. D. Thomas. History: T. A. Morgan. Geography: E. P. H. Thomas. Divinity: J. T. Went. Cefnfaes: W. H. Davies.

Form II.—Latin: F. G. Evans. French: G. Howell. Divinity: F. G. Evans. History: G. Howell. Geography: I. G. Brown. Cefnfaes: C. Lewis.

English.—Set I.: M. W. H. Nicholls. Set II.: W. H. Craven. Set III.: G. G. Jones. Set IV.: A. N. Parkes and T. A. Morgan.

Mathematics.—Matriculation: R. G. James. Set IIb.: R. T. Jones. Set IIIa.: N. G. Jones. Set IIIb.: D. R. G. Davies. Set IVa.: I. A. Rees. Set IVb.: A. N. Parkes and D. W. Thomas. Set V.: W. H. Mason.

Chemistry.—Set I.: R. G. Michael. Set II.: A. G. Greatrex. Set III.: J. D. Hargreaves.

Sing-Songs.

THREE very successful Sing-Songs have been held during the term, and have been the means of passing some pleasant Saturday evenings. They were characterised as usual by vociferous and ear-splitting renderings of the choruses, and very successful individual singing. We miss Miss Rhys and her violin, and earnestly hope she will soon return to entertain us with her incomparable manipulation of the 'human voice.' However, the Rev. A. R. Warburton and Mr. Clarke did their utmost to entertain us, the former with his quiet and dignified music, the latter with his breezy, free, comic songs, and our best thanks are due to them. We are also indebted to those other masters and boys who kindly did their best to make them as interesting and enjoyable as possible.

Now that the band has been initiated, we hope to see it figure prominently in the forthcoming Sing-Songs with inspiring martial music.

A brief list of the various items is given below. The first was held on Oct. 12th.

Chorus—'A-Hunting we will go'	.. .. .	..
Song—'The Village of the Mirili' (written for the occasion)	.. .. .	..
	The Rev. A. R. Warburton.	
Chorus—'Old Folks at Home'	.. .. .	Foster
Song—'Y Deryn Pur'	.. .. .	..
	The Rev. H. O. Williams.	
Chorus—'The Mermaid'	.. .. .	..
Vocal Trio—'Dame Durden'	.. .. .	Harrington
	Mr. J. G. Clarke, E. A. Evans, W. N. Evans.	
Chorus—'The British Grenadiers'	.. .. .	Boyce
Song—'The Animals' Band'	.. .. .	Yorke
	Mr. J. G. Clarke.	
Song—'Dumb, dumb, dumb'	.. .. .	Old English
Chorus—'The Land of my Fathers'	.. .. .	Trad.
Carmen .. .. .	.. .. .	..

NATIONAL ANTHEM.

The second Sing-Song was held on October 26th. Programme—

Chorus—'The Golden Vanity'	.. .. .	..
Song—'Barbara Allen'	.. .. .	Old English
	The Rev. A. R. Warburton.	
Chorus—'The Island'	.. .. .	..
Song—'Who is Sylvia?'	.. .. .	Schubert
	The Rev. H. O. Williams.	
Chorus—'Forty Years on'	.. .. .	Farmer
Song—'The Deathless Army'	.. .. .	Trotère
	Mr. T. W. Hewlett.	
Chorus—'The Poacher'	.. .. .	..
Song—'Setting of the Helston Furry Dance'	.. .. .	Moss
	Mr. J. G. Clarke.	
Instrumental Sextet—'The Merry Peasant'	.. .. .	Schumann
	Pfte, J. M. Hopkins, J. R. Davies; Violins, A. G. Greatrex, F. S. Vaughan; Viola, The Rev. Warburton; Cello, Mr. Clarke.	
Chorus—'The Land of my Fathers'	.. .. .	Trad.
Vocal Duet—'Frère Jacques'	.. .. .	Old French
	W. D. Fell and W. D. B. Hopkins.	
Carmen .. .. .	.. .. .	..

NATIONAL ANTHEM.

School Sing-Song, Dec. 7th, 1918. Programme—

Chorus—'A-Hunting we will go.'	.. .. .	..
Song—'The Harp that once through Tara's Halls'	.. .. .	Old Irish
	The Rev. A. R. Warburton.	
Chorus—'Old Folks at Home'	.. .. .	Foster
Song—'Caller Herrin'	.. .. .	Old Scotch
Chorus—'British Grenadiers'	.. .. .	Boyce
Song—'Looking for a Job'	.. .. .	..
	Mr. A. S. Newbold.	
Chorus—'Tarpanlin Jacket'	.. .. .	..
Song—'No, Johu'	.. .. .	Old English
	Mr. J. G. Clarke.	
Song—'The Rest of the Pay's your own'	.. .. .	David & Long
	Mr. J. G. Clarke.	
Chorus—'The Land of my Fathers'	.. .. .	Trad.
Carmen .. .. .	.. .. .	..

NATIONAL ANTHEM.

The above Sing-Songs were held in the School Hall, and were of a private character. However, we all look forward eagerly to the time when our numerous friends will come and join us in our revelry.

The Band.

SUNDAY, Dec. 8th, heard the first performance of what the School is pleased to call 'the band,' on this occasion a septet of brass instruments. The idea of a band had been in the air for quite a long time. But it received two fillips at the beginning of this term. D. R. Phillips was found to have an uncanny facility in playing tunes on any instrument put into his hands, and the facility proved catching; and secondly, T. J. Griffiths put his ineluctable industry behind the idea, and compelled it to take shape. H. W. Jones remembered that he possessed a clarinet at home which he had never touched, and was playing what he liked on it within a few days of its arrival in college, and E. D. A. Thomas followed suit with another clarinet. Then the Town Council of Llandovery very kindly placed the available instruments of its band temporarily at the School's disposal. The Head Prefect immediately acquired the technique of the euphonium, D. R. Phillips became a cornet-player, T. J. Griffiths a trombonist.

It was accidentally discovered that D. W. Thomas could wheedle a very ill-conditioned old cornet for which there was not much competition, and a good many others were making good progress when we were dispersed by the great epidemic, some for the rest of the term. We disinfected the instruments, and started again, and on the above date, accompaniments to three hymns were played for the School to sing, the other players being E. A. Evans (tenor horn); R. E. Isaac (baryton); and Mr. Warburton (bombardon). Dr. Johnson said of a dog walking on his hind legs 'he does not do it well, but you are surprised at his doing it at all.' There were defects in 'the band,' notably in the bass part;

but the fact remains that the accompaniments to the hymns were played, and that correctly, and people said, with pleasing effect. Mr. Warburton, who expected some difficulty in teaching people to play, had a light task in that respect; but necessary repairs to the instruments, which had been lying unused for years, have made him a better tinker than he was.

Any boy who might fancy joining 'the band,' which should have strings and wood-wind as well as brass, should get hold of one of the instruments now in the College to try, and then, if possible, buy one for himself. The cost does not seem much if considered, as it spreads over a life-time, and it is possible that some people may have instruments lying unused that they might be willing to lend to the School if they were asked. Enough has been done to show that if we have the instruments themselves, players will not be wanting who can get the music out of them.

Our 'Bit.'

LAST summer, in response to an appeal from the Warden, upwards of 50 boys offered themselves for work on the land. The number required by the Government was 25, but this was eventually reduced to 12. Accordingly, 12 of the more able-bodied and strong amongst us were chosen to represent the School in this novel enterprise. Later on we were told that our destination was 'somewhere in Pembrokeshire,' and that we should probably have to be there on or about the 15th of August. We received official intimation of this in a short time from our able Commandant, J. Ll. T. Evans, Esq., to whose untiring energy and able administration much of the success of the enterprise is due.

When we arrived at Llangwm, we found our billets at the National Schools, and promptly took possession. Our troubles had indeed commenced, for on looking round we found nothing wherewith to satisfy the 'inner man'; our rations it seems, had been wrongly addressed, and were now waiting for us

at Neyland about 9 miles away. There was nothing for it, but to set out to fetch them immediately. Accordingly, the Commandant and an N.C.O. set out in a cart, kindly lent us by the local Rector, and arrived back at 11.30 p.m., minus a few loaves: these latter had mysteriously disappeared on the return journey!

Meanwhile, we others had not been idle. From Llangwm's main street (of whitewashed cottages) we wandered to the shores of the haven, and there came upon a 'Mr. Morgan,' who offered to take us out on the water in his boat. After an enjoyable ride of about two hours, during which the pedantic 'Mr. Morgan' held forth in eloquent terms on the fallacy of Home Rule, etc., we set foot on *terra firma* once more. After much soliloquising and debating in his mind he fixed the charge at a shilling each (eight shillings in all), stipulating that he would not be paid if we had any objection. However, we 'forked out,' and returned to camp to await the arrival of the rations, which eventually arrived in a strangely chaotic state—sugar inter salt—the whole concoction embalming a juicy joint of beef. Later that night our equipment arrived, and we forgot our hunger for the time being in examining the cooking utensils, and filling our beds with straw, and to fill our cup of joy, a rumble as of a cart was heard outside. Then there followed a general rush to the door, and behold, there were the cart, horse, drivers, and food. We soon had a meal prepared, and then retired to bed, having eaten sufficiently if not luxuriously.

We awoke early next morning, but conveniently dozed off again until the Commandant came to wake us; he came at about 10 a.m. The next two hours we spent in preparing a meal, and by mid-day breakfast was ready, and justice was done to it. There were more rations to come, so a party of four including the Commandant set out to fetch them in the same conveyance as yesterday, while the others took out the boat (also kindly lent us by the Rector) and visited Neyland.

About a mile from 'home' we were pulling steadily, with the sun tipping the horizon, and the water like a sheet of glass, when a bathe from the boat was suggested. Now it so happens that, according to Mr. Morgan, there exists in this very spot where we were now a fabulous sea-lion which

wrought havoc among the fish, and occasionally among the fishermen and their boats, and one of the party reminded us while we were in the water of its presence.

'Reveille' was called next morning (Friday) at 7.30, and responded to half-heartedly. However, the aroma of frying bacon soon revived the backward ones. Eight o'clock saw us all on our way to our farm of which we had been informed the previous night. A few persons experienced some difficulty in finding their farms, but all returned satisfied with their new masters.

That night we assembled round a log fire, and related our day's experiences. A slight altercation ensued as to who was the most fortunate, but all ill-feeling was dissipated by the warmth of the fire and the novelty of our surroundings.

The next day was Saturday, and everything went on smoothly, our work consisting for the most part of 'shocking' corn in the fields, and digging potatoes. We all attended Service next morning at the quaint little Church of Llangwm.

Work began in earnest the next day. We were now fairly settled down with enough food, especially of bread (36 loaves in all) which we never lacked, while our billets now presented some semblance of order. The schools consist of 3 classrooms and 2 cloak-rooms. Our billets were, therefore, roomy enough, and well equipped with cooking utensils and food, if the latter was not exactly palatable at first, the blame must be laid not on the food itself, but on our amateurism. Our first efforts in this direction were decidedly a failure. A kind old lady next door, calling in to see us one evening, and seeing the unfortunate cook trying in vain to extinguish a blazing joint of meat, immediately went into hysterics, and when she had sufficiently recovered to express herself, kindly offered to do our cooking for us. We were naturally very grateful to her, and accepted her offer on the spot. We were not afterwards troubled with burnt meat.

The rules of the camp were strictly enforced, and to our credit fairly adhered to. The dull monotony of work was broken now and again by trips to various places, including Milford Haven, whither a party of eight of us went one evening on bicycles. We had obtained special leave to set off at 6 p.m. to arrive there at 7 p.m. We spent a pleasant evening

in various ways (such as eating chips in dark corners), and then began the return journey. It was now dark, and only one member of the party had a lamp. So we deputed him to take the lead and on meeting the 'arm of the law' to give the signal to alight. Thus we proceeded and arrived back in camp, having fortunately avoided all collision with the above official.

On one occasion four of us went down to Neyland by boat to fetch rations—who the four were is immaterial. We started off at 8.30 a.m., and arrived there safely, and having moored the boat we went off to the A.S.C. Depôt, and there witnessed with mingled feelings of amusement and disgust the way in which they treated our rations. The meat, being slippery and wet, they slid on the floor, to a corner; the bread, sugar, salt, etc., followed, and there were bundled into a sack and handed over to us—with compliments! We took them back to the boat, which by the way we had moored on the advice of a fisherman under the pontoon bridge.

The sea by this time had become decidedly 'choppy,' as we could judge by the way the boat rocked. However, with the aid of a sympathetic fisherman we managed to bring the boat out from underneath the bridge, but despite all our efforts we failed to row against the current. It was getting serious, so a mighty effort and a little strategy landed us in mid-stream, where, owing to the strength of the current we nearly ran into a buoy, although we had about a mile of water in which to manœuvre. Now we were in mid-stream with the wind and tide in our favour, and the voyage home was done in record time. This gives an idea of the daily routine of our camp life at Llangwm. The rest of the time passed off in much the same way.

A few remarks in conclusion. The whole enterprise was very successful in view of the numerous drawbacks with which we had to contend. The chief drawback was that we had to cook our own food, but 'Mrs. John' kindly took that responsibility off our shoulders. The authorities might also have been more generous in rations, and taken into consideration the extraordinary appetites of public School boys! Another general complaint was that we were all placed on different farms, and were, therefore, rather grumpy

during the day, and heartily glad to leave work and return to camp. However, it reflects great credit on all the workers—on the School in fact—for having volunteered and borne up under such unfavourable circumstances. That the authorities were satisfied (and they are hard nuts), may be seen from the appended from the Secretary of the Harvest Committee, London, while the farmers all expressed themselves exceptionally satisfied. So we came away on a Friday in Sept., bearing with us the best wishes of the inhabitants of Llangwm.

Copy of the letter from the Ministry of National Service.

I beg to thank you for your letter received on the 28th, ult., together with reports, etc. I am passing your claim for expenses and railway vouchers through for settlement.

Considering the indifferent help you got from the Authorities in Pembroke Dock, you are to be congratulated on running the camp so successfully, and I shall be very grateful if you can publicly convey to the boys the hearty appreciation of the Ministry of National Service of their most valuable assistance in their country's cause. Yours faithfully,

(Signed) W. C. FARNWORTH,

Sec. Harvest Committee, London.

E. A. E.