

Old Bedfordians' News Column.

Lieut.-Col. Ronald Maclear very kindly sends us notes and other O.B. news items from various parts of the world. We owe him a great debt of gratitude for the trouble he is taking to make the O.B. News Column as informative as possible.

O.Bs in Madras.

At the Old Bedfordian Dinner, held at the Adyar Club, Madras, on February 9th, 1929, the following were present:—Brigadier R. B. Worgan, C.S.I., C.V.O. (1895-98) in the chair; J. H. Blackwell, M.C., 1905-11; Lt.-Col. R. F. D. Burnett, M.C., 1898-99; Capt. C. R. Campbell, D.S.O., M.V.O., 1884-1890; M. E. Columbine, 1908-11; A. D. H. Hickie, 1898-1906; Capt. R. K. Neale, M.C., 1908-15; Major C. A. Raynor, D.S.O., M.C., 1905-08; P. M. B. Wilkins, 1883-89.

The very latest news from this District Vice-Presidency is about the dinner held on February 9th, 1929, at which eight O.Bs were present, with Brig.-Gen. R. B. Worgan, C.S.I., C.V.O., D.S.O. (1895-98) in the chair.

A most enjoyable evening was spent, and cables were sent off, one to the Old Chief expressing sympathy over the death of Seppy; one of welcome to the new Headmaster, Mr. Grose-Hodge; and one of greetings to Mr. W. E. Smith. Greetings in writing, with a menu signed by all present, were sent to Col. Maclear, the Hon. Sec. of the Club. A wire received from Calcutta wishing them a successful evening was greatly appreciated.

J. H. Blackwell, M.C. (1905-11) was appointed District Vice-President in place of R. S. Milton, who found that Cocanada was too far away for him to do the work properly, and M. E. Columbine (1908-11) was appointed Hon. Sec.

The sum of £21 was subscribed for Bedford House, and a draft for that sum has been sent to the Hon. Treasurer, W. M. Liesching.

The annual dinner was arranged for October each year, to coincide with the Rugby Tournament which takes place in Madras, and which generally brings two or three O.Bs there.

In Chile.

The most recent letter from J. W. Murdoch (1906-12), Chile, was sent by Air Mail, and reached the Hon. Secretary in record time. Thus Chile, which was so far away, has been brought wonderfully nearer by this newest means of communication.

There are only a few O.Bs in Chile, but they are all loyal and keen Old Bedfordians. Horace Reid is a very popular figure in Santiago, and holds a very good position. He is an ex-Lieut.-Colonel, and is one of the leading enthusiasts of the Santiago British Legion. E. S. Compton, the manager of the Cia Chilena de Vaponeo, Valparaiso, is another well-known O.B. in Chile, and will, no doubt, be remembered by many of the older generation of Bedfordians.

The following are known to be in Chile; any other O.Bs in the country should communicate with the District Vice-President:—Alwyne M. Compton; *E. S. Compton, 87-93; G. H. Compton, 84-91; *P. B. Compton, 94-96; *E. J. Humberstone, 07-09; *F. H. Humberstone, 03-06; P. L.

Humberstone; *R. Jenkins, 05-09; *J. W. Murdoch, 06-12; *G. F. Reid, 00-10; *H. A. Reid, 00-08; *J. O. Vere-Stead, 24-26.

* Signifies Member of the Club.

In Nigeria.

From G. W. V. Pegge, Onitgha, Southern Provinces, Nigeria (16-24):—

I must compile a list of O.Bs in Nigeria. So far I have heard of these O.Bs.: Rt. Rev. B. Lasbrey (91-00), Bishop of Western Equatorial Africa, living, I believe, in Ilokoja; H. S. Aldred (01-05); he is in the Public Works Department; and D. R. Rosevear (15-19), an old Captain of School Boats, of the Forestry Department. It's strange sitting here looking over the Niger and thinking of the Ouse, which is so many times smaller, and yet I prefer the Ouse! My best wishes to the O.Bs' Club in all its activities.

In Hong-Kong.

The Old Bedfordians (Hong-Kong) dinner was held at the Hong-Kong Club, on Tuesday, November 27th, 1928. There were present: The Hon. Mr. H. T. Creasy, C.B.E. (Chairman), (1888-90, Crescent); The Hon. Mr. A. C. Hynes (1881-91, Crescent); C. R. M. Young (1889-92, Ashburnham), A. Murdoch (1889-96, St. Peter's, St. Cuthbert's); M. H. Roffey (1896-99, Bromham); R. E. H. Oliver (1898—, Crescent); Capt. H. D. Weir, R.M. (1900-11, Crescent, St. Cuthbert's); E. J. R. Mitchell (1906-11, St. Peter's); Dr. J. C. Macgowan (1909-14, Bromham); Capt. J. C. Preston (1908-15, Ashburnham); K. S. Robertson (1913-17, Crescent); Lt. G. R. Steel (1912-18, Paulo-Pontine); Lt. P. O. B. Sherwood (1913-21, Ashburnham); M. G. Mills (1917-22, Ashburnham); Rev. E. K. Quick (House Tutor), 1921-22, Bromham); Lt. E. D. C. Gunning (1922-25, Ashburnham).

The local O.Bs. hope to have a dinner in November, when the Fleet is back from the North, as there are one or two O.Bs in the ships up there now.

E. J. R. Mitchell (06-11), now Captain and O.C. Machine Gun Company, had the honour of receiving the King's Colour at the presentation of Colours to the Hong-Kong Volunteer Defence Corps by His Excellency the Governor. Dr. J. C. Macgowan (09-14) is a Lieutenant in the same Corps. A. Murdoch (89-96), a former Amateur Boxing Champion of England, is still the leading local referee for Boxing, and A. C. Hynes is manager of the Hong-Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Just as we are going to Press a letter has reached us from the District Vice-President describing the dinner held at the Hong-Kong Club on November 27th, 1928. It was very well attended, sixteen being there, four of whom came from the 1st Battalion Reds. and Herts. Regiment, whose band played throughout the dinner, and afterwards accompanied the School songs. The Hon. H. T. Creasy, C.B.E. (1888-90) made an excellent Chairman, and the company enjoyed swapping reminiscences of their school days.

After the dinner an adjournment was made to the Billiard Room, where Ashburnham challenged the rest at Snooker at two tables, and were badly beaten.

The following Saturday they went to the Races, wearing O.B. ties. The Hon. A. C. Hynes had a pony considered a rank outsider, but Capt. Weir, R.M., thought otherwise, and by backing him both ways made some profit.

The D.V.P. is alive to the interests of the Club, and is obtaining applications for membership.

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In Ceylon.

Ceylon O.Bs' Association held their meeting and dinner on March 13th at the Queen's Hotel, Kandy. The following cable was sent: "Old Bedfordians, Queen's Hotel, Kandy. Greetings from President and Bedfordians at home.—Maclear"; and the following cable was received:—"Old Bedfordians Ceylon heartily reciprocate good wishes Bedfordians at home; convey felicitations to Chiefs.—Cameron."

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In the Transvaal.

The Old Bedfordians' Club (Transvaal Branch) last year held two most successful gatherings and dinners in Johannesburg. The second was held at the end of the year at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, when the following were present:—The Rt. Rev. Walter J. Carey, D.D., Bishop of Bloemfontein (84-94), in the chair; Major H. M. Douglas (98-03), District Vice-President of the Transvaal Branch of the O.Bs' Club; Douglas Christopherson (83-86); E. R. Garthorne (83-86); F. S. Owen (82-89); U. S. Barrett (84-92); Mr. Justice Saul Solomon, K.C. (89-92); F. E. Ruddell (92-96); W. F. Kerr (95-98); C. J. Goldsmith (95-99); W. E. Turvey (98-00); J. A. F. Paley (85-92); D. G. Cherrington (94-03); B. T. Altson (03-08); C. B. Van Leenhof (06-09); St. J. B. Nitch (08-17); B. E. Saunders (17-19); J. M. M. Ewing (11-21); D. F. McJannet (12-22); L. Ward (19-23); C. Ferguson (16-24); J. C. Robinson (22-26); H. G. Stevenson (21-27); L. G. Osborne (18-27); L. B. Stent (91-95).

Messages of good wishes and regret were read from many O.Bs who were unable to attend, and considering the distances they had to travel it is most gratifying to see so many present.

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Sundry Notes.

E. V. Bevan (90-93), District Vice-President of the O.Bs' Club for New Zealand, writes:—"I shall always be pleased to help any O.Bs coming out this way, and whom the Club may wish to furnish with letters of introduction."

I have recently heard from Lieut.-Col. B. C. Judd, O.B.E. (86-91), who is now Commanding South African Garrison Artillery, South Africa, Cape Town. He joined the Cape Mounted Rifles in 1893, and served in the C.M.R. till 1912, when the Regiment was disbanded. He then transferred to the South African Artillery. He has seen considerable service in South Africa. He comes across O.Bs now and then, and recently saw Douglas Christopherson in Cape Town.

THE SLIPPERY SEAT.

The sliding seat, which Oxford has at last decided to adopt in her new boat now building for the centenary race, first came into existence in

the seventies, but its use was for a long time prohibited in public school races at Henley. The ban led to some ingenious subterfuges, as when, in 1881, the Bedford crew had slabs of shiny oil-skin sewn on the seats of their trousers and rubbed the seats of the boat with soft soap, thus getting much the same advantage as is given by a sliding seat. They wrote to the Regatta Secretary asking if this would be considered a breach of the law against sliding seats, and were told that the regulation merely insisted that the seats should be fixed, and said nothing for or against sliding on them. So Bedford slid merrily at Henley, and easily won the cup.—The above from the *Madras Mail*.

This was in the days before VIIIs, and I don't think we have ever won the Ladies' Plate for VIIIs.

P. M. B. Wilkins (83-89), the District Vice-President of the O.Bs' Club for Nilgaris, Coorg and Travancore District of India, sent the above interesting cutting from the *Madras Mail*. The 1st IV in 1881:—

- A. H. S. Scott (bow).
- 2 A. L. McIntire
- 3 D. F. Cary-Elwes
- S. L. Aplin (stroke).
- F. Copner (cox).

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From the O.Bs' Register, 1929:—

- Rev. A. H. S. Scott (78-81).
- *A. L. McIntire, Esq., J.P. (79-82).
- *D. F. Cary-Elwes, Esq. (74-83).
- Lieut.-Col. S. L. Aplin, C.S.I. (76-82).
- * Member of the O.Bs' Club.

A. L. McIntire and D. F. Cary-Elwes both regularly attend the O.B. Dinners and the O.B. Week.

The 1st IV of 1881 were all in the 1st XV: A. H. S. Scott, 1879 to 1881; A. L. McIntire, 1880 to 1882; D. F. Cary-Elwes, 1879 to 1883 and Captain 1882 to 1883; S. L. Aplin, 1880 to 1882.

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One of the first to attend all O.B. functions is F. S. Owen ("Jumbo Owen," 82-89), and is one of the many who gave almost all they had to give in the War, having lost the sight of both eyes, as well as one arm. Like so many others maimed in the War he does not allow himself to be totally incapacitated by his sufferings. This is surely the true spirit expected of all public school boys, and especially of the boys "From Bedford by the River." Owen was in the famous School 1st XV of 1888-89.

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O.Bs HOME ON LEAVE.

Sir Henry H. J. Gompertz (78-86), Supreme Court, Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, F.M.S., District President of the O.Bs' Club in Malaya, will represent the Malaya O.Bs at the O.Bs' Dinner in London on May 30th.

Captain H. M. S. Haughton (97-02), the District Vice-President of the O.Bs' Club in Northern Malaya.

H. St. J. B. Nitch (08-17) from the Transvaal, will represent the O.Bs' Club in the Transvaal at the O.Bs' Club in London on May 30th.

Brig.-Gen. R. B. Worgan, C.I.E., C.V.O., D.S.O., who took the chair at the Madras O.Bs' Dinner on February 9th, has served for many years on the Viceroy's Staff.

E. L. W. Cumming (11-21), District Vice-President of the Ceylon Old Bedfordians' Association, will represent Ceylon at the Old Bedfordians Dinner in London on May 30th.

Captain S. Acheson (06-08), R.A.S.C., Bimbashi, in the Sudan Defence Force, from El Obeid, Sudan.

Major C. L. Emmerson (02-06), R.A.M.C., British Troops in Sudan, from El Obeid Sudan.

C. G. Kay-Mouat (97-00), the District Vice-President of the O.Bs' Club for Burma, will be home on leave at the end of June.

Captain D. S. Frazer, 14th/20th Hussars, Cavalry Club, 127 Piccadilly, London, W.1, who runs the Old Bedfordians' Shooting at Bisley, is anxious to get in touch with all O.Bs. who were crack shots at School, in order to pick a good team to represent the Old Bedfordians in the Public Schools Veterans' Trophy at the Bisley Meeting.

The Hon. Sec. of the O.Bs' Club received from B. E. Herman (08-13), District Vice-President of the O.Bs' Club for Sind, India, a letter sent by the third "All Through" Air Mail to leave India. The letter was posted in Karachi, 5 p.m. on the 20th April, and received in Lewes on the 28th April. The Air Mail charge is six annas per half ounce.

Sir Aubrey V. Symonds, K.C.B. (86-93), Permanent Secretary to the Board of Education, is in Canada attending an Education Conference.

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Suggestion from an O.B. in India, dated March 4th, 1929:—"Provision should be made for O.Bs who happen to be in Bedford to have the opportunity for meeting and chatting with senior boys, those fellows intending going abroad, etc., who would often be able to gain first-hand information and possibly billets. I know of a certain Scottish School which has supplied one company in India with nearly twenty men during the last three to four years, mostly direct from the School!"

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WAR OFFICE APPOINTMENTS.

Colonel E. J. Skinner, D.S.O., to be Colonel, Royal Artillery, Northern Command.

Colonel H. M. Vandeleur, C.B.E., has been appointed Superintendent of the Design Department, Woolwich Arsenal.

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The annual match between the Old Bedfordians and the Old Alleynians in the Argentine took place on the 9th March at Palermo, Buenos Aires, and was left drawn. Scores:—

OLD BEDFORDIANS

P. A. Foy, retired	79
E. G. Holmes-Brown, retired	73
C. G. Bulman, b Cat	0

E. L. Rumboll, retired	83
G. Stanley Welsh, b Stuart	12
G. S. Anderson, lbw, b Cat	6
E. W. S. Thompson, not out	14
A. Webster, b Stuart	1
R. L. Makin, not out	1

Extras

Total (for 7 wickets, declared) ... 271

R. L. Makin, S. L. Makin and G. Mackern did not bat.

OLD ALLEYNIANS.

C. T. Mold, not out	121
J. M. Wigg, b Bulman	30
C. E. Cat, b Foy	5
G. A. Brougham, b R. L. Makin	12
P. T. Hawes, b Bulman	2
E. F. Moroney, b Makin	0
H. E. Moffatt, b Foy	33
R. Stuart, b Makin	15

Extras

Total (for 7 wickets) 245

R. L. Button, A. Churchill Browne and W. E. Mayne did not bat.

After the match the 12th annual Old Bedfordian-Old Alleynian dinner was held at the English Club, and, though it followed a strenuous day's cricket, it was distinguished by its usual cheerful atmosphere. It was the meeting of old school-fellows, who yarned about days gone by, when the two great schools used to meet in friendly contest on the cricket and football fields.

The following Old Boys attended or expressed their regrets at not being able to be present:— E. C. Bideleux (O.A.), 1897; G. S. Anderson, (O.B.), 1883-88; G. F. Morony (O.B.), 1884-87; E. L. Rumboll (O.B.), District Vice-President and Hon. Secretary, 1881-91; R. O. Sheward (O.A.), 1838-1904; H. G. Butt (O.B.), 1884-88; Vernon Cooper (O.A.), 1887-93; E. W. S. Thomson (O.B.), 1891-93; P. G. Hawes (O.A.), 1892-97; H. J. Henman (O.B.), 1893-97; A. F. Webster (O.B.), 1894-96; C. F. Genth (O.A.), 1897-99; C. D. Fowler (O.B.), 1897-99; C. T. Mold (O.A.), Hon. Secretary, 1898-1902; A. C. Churchill-Brown (O.A.), 1898-1902; Max Cooper (O.A.), 1898-99; C. H. Dudeney (O.B.), 1899-05; P. A. Foy (O.B.), 1900-06; J. M. Wigg (O.A.), 1900-03; R. Stanley Welch (O.B.), 1901-06; T. E. Lindsell (O.B.), 1901-06; G. A. Brougham (O.A.), 1903-06; J. D. Gardom (O.A.), 1898-1902; C. F. Damon (O.A.), 1903-08; A. E. Livock (O.A.), 1904-07; C. E. Cat (O.A.), 1909-15; G. Mackern (O.B.), 1910-13; G. H. W. Field (O.B.), 1910-13; H. W. Wyatt (O.A.), 1912-18; C. W. Dyson (O.B.), 1911-20; A. Dean (O.B.), 1912-20; E. C. Richardson (O.B.), 1914-19; J. J. Makin (O.B.), 1914-21; R. L. Makin (O.B.), 1914-24; R. L. Dutton (O.B.), 1916-19; D. T. G. Nordaby (O.B.), 1917-20; R. F. Pardo (O.A.), W. E. Mayne, R. Cortes (O.A.), 1916-20; J. Foster (O.B.), 1918-28.

W. B. Johnston has passed the 2nd M.B. of London University, and has won the Physiology Prize at St. Mary's Hospital.

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C. A. le M. Irving, after joining the Publicity Department of the Empire Marketing Board, is now on the staff of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, London.

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Canon T. W. Pym, Warden of the College of St. Saviour in the diocese of Southwark, and a Canon of Southwark, has been appointed a Canon (Residentiary) of Bristol.

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The Rev. E. A. M. Hawkins-Jones, Curate at Wimborne Minster (Dorset), has been presented by the Bishop of Salisbury to the Vicarage of Edington (Wilts.).

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J. D. P. Wheatley (O.B.) has been paired with C. H. Kingsley by the L.T.A. international match selection committee to make one of the five pairs to practice for the Davis Cup Competition. Wheatley and that other Old Bedfordian tennis star, S. W. Harris, are being coached by Kozeluh.

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T. G. Morton has been awarded a Cadet Scholarship at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and D. H. Andrews a similar scholarship at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

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W. A. Sime played in the Oxford University Freshmen's Match, and R. Kellett and C. A. B. McVittie at Cambridge. McVittie has since played for the University v. Glamorgan.

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In the Service Cadets' Athletic Match, held at Aldershot on Saturday, May 11th, D. B. D. Field (Cranwell) won the 100 Yards in nearly record time. In the Quarter-Mile Field came in fifth. In the Half-Mile R. B. S. Eraut (Woolwich) came in sixth.

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In a letter to us from Port Louis, Mauritius, R. D. Stein (O.B.) tell us that Captain A. S. Parkin (O.B.) took the part of Simon Bliss in a very successful recent production of Noel Coward's "Hay Fever." The same writer inquires who are the boys in the back row of the 1928 Rugby Football XV.? We give them from left to right: Fowler, Wylie, Potter, Pearson, Brown, Davies, Whittaker.

School Notes.

We welcome Mr. Holmes and Mr. Harcombe to the Staff this term.

The enlargement of the School field is now complete, and has been turfed over. The additional ground available is now about 3½ acres, though, of course, until the turf has settled, it will be impossible to use the ground.

On June 1st there will be a Fête on the Preparatory School Grounds at 2.30 p.m., to raise money for the Paulo-Pontine Chapel seats. Tea will be supplied in the Gymnasium at a small cost, and the proceeds of this will be given to the Ashburnham Chapel Fund.

W. F. Steven has passed the 1st M.B. Examination of Cambridge University in Biology.

D. B. Sinclair has been awarded a "Kitchener" Scholarship, tenable for three years, at Oxford University.

Our Contemporaries.

The Editor acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following, and apologizes for any omissions:—*The Elizabethan, The Lancing College Magazine, The Salopian, The Carthusian, The Alleynian, The Fettesian, The Sedberghian, The Pauline, The Leys Fortnightly, The Mill Hill Magazine, The Dovorian, The Reptonian, The Journal of the Royal Air Force College, Brighton College Magazine, The Hurst Johnian, The Taylorian, The Rossallian, Artists' Rifles' Year Book, Journal of the Honourable Artillery Company, The Berkhamstedian, The Cliftonian, The Haileyburian, The Meteor, The Marlburian, The King Edward's School Chronicle, The Shirburnian, The Edinburgh Academy Chronicle, The Fettesian, The Georgian, The Limit, The Log of the Nautical College (Pangbourne), The R.M.A. Magazine, The Haileybury Guild, The Taylorian, The Cantuarian, The Uppingham School Magazine.*

OLD BEDFORDIANS' CLUB.

Boys leaving school at the end of this term who wish to become members of the Old Bedfordian Club are requested to send in application on a special form to be obtained at the Bell Room to Mr. W. E. Smith, 142 Foster Hill Road, Bedford, before March 15th.

Mr. E. H. Swaine, 72, High Street, Bedford, has been appointed Photographer to the School for this year, from whom all groups may be obtained. The prices are as follows:—

Large size, mounted (with School crest)	3/-	each.
Large size, unmounted	...	2/9 "
Small size, mounted	...	2/- "
Small size, unmounted	...	1/9 "

The Subscription to *The Ousel* is 6/- per annum or 2/- per term, post free. Application should be made to THE BURSAR, Bedford School, or MESSRS. F. R. HOCKLIFFE, High Street, Bedford.

BEDFORD: F. Hockliffe, High Street and St. Loyes.