

THE BEDEAN TIMES

VOLUME IV No.2

ST BEDE'S DAY

July 11th 1958.

Editorial: TODAY is an important day in the calendar of the year, for we are celebrating the feast of our learned and beloved patron, Saint Bede the Venerable. The glory of the English church, Bede was born at Wearmouth in the year 673 and from early youth was nurtured in the great monastery there, or the nearby abbey of Jarrow, where he was to spend the remainder of his saintly and fruitful life. His training for the priesthood was in the care of St. Benedict Biscop, and in due time, the young monk was ordained by St. John of Beverley. Even in his own day, Bede came to be revered as a model of learning, stability and deep piety. The keynotes of his life as a monk, were simplicity and industry. The scene of his death, well-known to us, where he hastens to complete a commentary on St. John's Gospel, before the end, is a faithful reflection of his whole life.

The choice of St. Bede as the Patron Saint of this College was a particularly happy one. Christchurch takes its inspiration from English customs and way of life, and even today the city retains many of its English associations. What could be more fitting, then, than to place our school under the powerful patronage of the greatest of England's many saints. And for a school, a centre of Christian learning, we have in St. Bede a saintly scholar of great renown - nay, a Doctor of the Church. He was without doubt the greatest scholar of his day, and beyond compare, its greatest historian, being author of a remarkable "Ecclesiastical History of England.", the first major work in Anglo Saxon. Yet the Sacred Scriptures remained Bede's principal study and the food of his mind.

So this is our Patron, Bede the Venerable, a giant of learning and sanctity. May he continue to guard and guide this College of ours, and watch over our lives. He is certainly worthy of us. May we be ever worthy sons of St. Bede. Bedeani semper, Bedeani ad finem.

FIRST FIFTEEN: We feel we are echoing the sentiments of the whole of the school in congratulating the Firsts on their really fine display against Christ's College. The final score seems of small importance beside the grand spirit and determination that was shown.

FOUR A IN THE FIRING LINE or "NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH."

- AMOS: Keen golfer, - but is rather worried about getting a low handicap.
- ASHTON: Member mainly "in absentia" - but prominent in the Social Studies sphere, where he likes doing extra "homework."
- BARNETT: Still finding it hard to obtain a divorce from Rudkin.
- BEARSLEY: An Egyptian fiend, but prefers the placid sport of gliding to engine power.
- BRADLEY: Excellent timer. Makes music lessons always coincide with the weekly Maths test.
- BROWN: One of the privileged few. Has secured hibernation space next to the heaters.
- BURNETT: Another keen golfing fan. Hails from Cheviot and believes that it is the only place on earth.
- BUSCH: A front bencher. A consistent swotter of French verbs.
- CALAGHAN: One of the more ardent students, and was actually given a back seat. "Friend" of Vince McBride.
- CASSERLEY: First year member of class. Should earn the soubriquet of "Copper-top" in Maths class.
- CONNELL: Hails from Mid-Canterbury. Member of the Library staff.
- CRADDOCK: Representative from the Wet Coast. Has some mysterious scientific theory up his sleeve.
- CREAN: Still in partnership with Moffat. Is a tub-thumper in the band, and would make a good tom-tom player.
- DYCE: TIMOTHY, one of the more enlightened members of the form. Winner of the First XI lottery. Also won the prize as an extension speaker in English class.
- EASTGATE: Seems he is either proud of Shakespear - or the morning serials - since he is known to his intimates as "Portia".
- FITZPATRICK: The Yehudi Menuhin from Rangiora. Perhaps could volunteer for Crean's tub-thumping practice!
- GIFFORD: The Winchester lad. Well favoured in French circles. Has ample supply of cigar boxes. (empty!)
- GILBERT: Former member of the Webfoot tribe. Has an oddly porcupinal look about him.
- GORDON: Small man who yet has plenty to say for himself. Seems to have belonged to the N.I. at one stage! - and has lately returned ibi.
- GRAY: One of the more prosperous looking members of the form. - Result of his partiality for cheese, no doubt.
- HORN: Hails from the far South. But a partner-in-crime with the boy from the busch.
- HOWARD: Three-in-one. -i.e. a wall supporter, a drum-whacker, and a fiddle scraper.
- JOYCE: Seems to labour under the illusion that royal blue and lamp black

are the perfect blend.

JUDKINS: Late resident of Gapes Valley. Now resides at Diamond Harbour.

Definitely one of the quieter types.

LE FEVRE: A new and, by appearance, successful wall-prop from whom queer sounds occasionally issue.

MCCARTEN: Though one of the Christchurch brigade, has already launched on a career as a French diplomat.

MILNE: The "bete noire" of several of the Fathers; Private address: "Fives Court", St Bede's College.

MOFFAT: Keen amateur radio "ham". However we have a suspicion that he occasionally listens in in class.

O'BYRNE: Lives in the same nest as one Ashton. Appears to have a controlling interest in the fives courts.

O'CONNELL: One who has been born ahead of his time - at least, is often accused of being in the moon!

PENDER: An ardent devotee of long distance running. Rather a shy bloom in this garden of hardy annuals - but sheds his repressions on the football field.

RUDKIN: Barrett's erstwhile Siamese twin. Seems to have many falls in the Math's homework of late.

SHERRY: Though reluctantly, belongs to the privileged class of front-benchers - elected by an overwhelming majority (of the Fathers.)

SIVERTSEN: Maybe it's just the specs, but is numbered among the "intelligentia" - has the honour of being called the "quiet one."

SOMERS: Country member from Fairlie, and suffers from seasonal complaints. Is Howard's co-pilot.

THOMSON: Answers to "Horace". Seems to be going grey-haired over Maths, though he can hardly be blamed for keeping his head in clouds.

TITHERIDGE: A frequent and generous contributor to the confiscation pool. Mr Griffith's assistant coach.

VAVASOUR: Expert aero-modeller. Gave fans a thrilling display with one of his models recently, despite the fact that it failed to leave the ground.

WRIGHT: Must be numbered amongst the burlier members of the form. Thinks that hydrogen sulphide is great stuff!

WYLIE: A successful back-seat driver in the rowing world. Gets carried around in the back of the skiff, and barks the orders.

LONG DISTANCE RECORD: The Walrus biscuit is awarded to Timothy Dyce this week, for his epic performance in 4.a English class. He managed to make a three-minute class talk spin out for over three quarters of an hour! The kings and queens of Merry England was the fertile ground for this dissertation. We are left wondering whether it was meant to be a breathing space for Fr Roberts or a breathing space for the boys. Maybe it will be a History of Man next time!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The prize for the Best Letter is awarded this issue to the following:
UNIFORMITIES

Sir,

It is with sadness that I take the pen to criticise the uniform of Bedeans. But this year, uniform trouble is particularly remarkable. I have seen Juniors wearing coloured scarves, and even balaclavas, and other foreign clothes. Slanting caps reveal unruly hair; socks hang around heels. Our colours are red and black - red, the symbol of our love for Christ, black, of death to self. Let us wear these colours proudly and correctly with the spirit of those who made the college what it is. We are falling behind the other schools in this matter. It is time we made amends.

SEVEN YEARS A BEDEAN.

'Tis sad to say	Let's hoist our socks
I saw today	Let's cap our locks
Boys on the street	Let's not be "loud"
Socks 'bout their feet	Wear colours proud
And caps not square	When gone our way
And colours rare	we'll gladly say
Yet Bedeans they claim to be !	Always true Bedeans were we.

DIM-BULB.

Sir,

Although there have been many recent improvements to the school grounds and buildings, there remains one serious defect that demands immediate attention, viz, the lack of adequate lighting in the Army classroom block. In 6.M. for instance, it is almost impossible for the blackboard to be read on a dull day. Even when the present feeble lighting system is actually working, the resulting pinkish glow merely serves to obscure most effectively anything written on the board.

A practical solution to the problem would be to install lights in the rafters after the manner of the chapel. If these were focused on the board then at least it would give the class an option of having something to watch or not.

LUX IN TENEBRIS.

MATCH ATTIRE:

Sir,

With the main College matches near at hand I hope that the tradition of wearing full school uniform to the games will be adhered to. On such occasions we represent the school as a body, and if the majority turn up in sports uniform and the rest in suits, this purpose is partly defeated. I would also urge those possessing boaters to wear them, as they undoubtedly lend an air of dignity to the scene.

UP BEDES !

THE PASSING PARADEFlashes from Hither and Thither.

HARMONICA BAND. This term a change of name to "Hi-Fi's" was made. With regular practices, the band is learning a number of new tunes, as well as developing a technique to give the old tunes a different style; guest artists will also be used. Any suggestions along these lines will be welcome. We were given an enjoyable performance last Saturday, with a good standard of entertainment.

CLASSICAL MUSIC CLUB: The meetings this term have not been as regular as last, owing to technical difficulties. However there have been three meetings so far. Discussion groups, debates and musical quizzes are being arranged, and meetings will resume when the gram. has been repaired.

FRENCH CLUB. The first meeting of the term was held on 29th June. There was a good attendance, with an encouraging number of Third Formers. Pere O'Flagan led the singing, and Pere Loft and a Third Form Group presented an interesting play. Talks were given on topical subjects by Messieurs Crispin and Catherwood. Monsieur Owens presided.

THE SUN CLUB: This latest growth in the field of clubs draws its membership from among the elect, and has a vague but none-the-less recreational function. Several meetings have been held, with discussions on topics of a serious nature. Alas, in the absence of the Rev. President last Monday, the meeting became rather riotous, and it is to be regretted that some of the more forceful methods of quelling a crowd had to be employed (to wit, a hose) The illustrious Mr Jim Johnston was well in the thick of things, ably supported by Glubb & Maxwell.

CONCERT COMMITTEE: It has been suggested by the YCS that a School Concert be staged towards the end of this term, with the aim of fostering school spirit. The idea was discussed and found to be workable. A committee has been formed, and two meetings held. The attendance was good, and several sketches are now under way. However more support is urged and further suggestions would be a preciated. So-if you think you have a good idea, or would just like to take part please contact Peter Owens, Peter Cartwright, Michael Hall or Edmund Turner, as soon as possible.

MODEL AERO CLUB. This club has taken a new and vigorous lease of life of late, largely thanks to the advantage of a room of their own. Membership is large and many good models have been constructed. Several control-line exhibitions have been given by Turner, Collins and Jones, and the latest is a radio controlled model, part of Dave Mitchell's extensive collection. May the Club prosper!

Excerpts from the DIARY OF THE SPECTATOR:

Wed. 25th June: He! He! Great glee! (Poetry) What an afternoon I have had! Me being a little devil, I have a certain low cunning and foresight. My old friend McGuinness, I felt, was overdue for a little attention from Yours Truly. I hear early about the new budget. Weeds are to go up 40% ! I give Mac the tip, and off he heads for the Barber's shop. But I have also engineered Cos's excursion to get a haircut. He is sitting hidden in chair when Mac arrives and makes his purchase. All is overheard by Cos. Fr O'Connor, my chief torturer, is informed. The sound of cane on flesh is music to my ears. One of my better coup de grâce, don't you think.



Sunday 29th.

Well, enemies, I've been rather grumpy of late over this football. So far I've had practically no success in the way of broken limbs or the like. And far too many teams have been winning. I got a nasty rap on the tail when the Minths won 50 nil (Can you imagine it?). However, the Firsts plan a picnic to Power's farm - the chance I've been waiting for. "Dad" Meates decides to go ice-skating. I weaken the surface and steer the unsuspecting "Dad" towards the gap. Alas, only one leg is submerged. - not the complete success I hoped. Still the borrowed cars provide a chance for some mischief. I get to work with my trident and do some tinkering, and hold the party up in the evening chill, somewhat.

Well, I must be off now - prolonging the outbreak of 24 hour 'flu keeps me busy these days - I've given the dormitory Fathers a few unpleasant moments late at night! (Sleh! Sleh!) With the free weekend so close, I must keep as many back as I can!

FILM REVIEW.....From our special Hollywood reporter.

JULY 12th:

BATAAN

H.G.M.

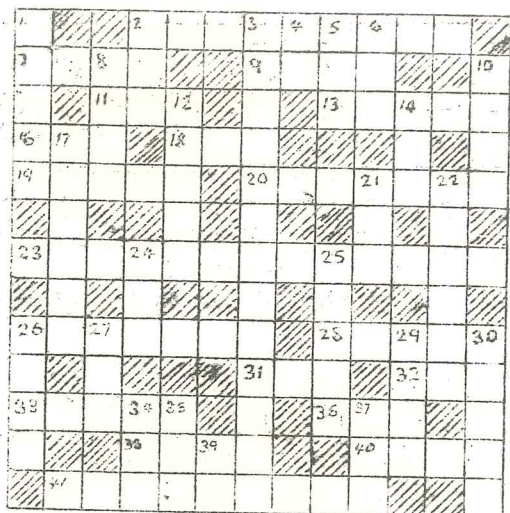
Starring: Robert Taylor, George Murphy, Thomas Mitchell.

The evacuation of America's brave but battered Army from Bataan, in a desperate, last-ditch struggle against the Japs during the early part of World War II. Just a handful of Uncle Sam's heroes fighting a rear-guard action behind enemy lines. Recommended for the Purple Heart.

JULY 19th: YOU NEVER CAN TELL: Universal- International.

Starring: Dick Powell, Peggy Dow, Charles Drake.

The riotous story of a police dog, who is left 6 million dollars by an eccentric millionaire, gets poisoned, goes to the animal heaven, and returns as "Private Eye" (Dick Powell.) As many laughs as a dog has fleas.



CROSSWORD CORNER

It is our modest ambition to satisfy all our customers, if possible, and so this week we have built a crossword for the MORE JUNIOR READERS, ie, for all those BELOW 4.a. 2/6 prize.

ACROSS:

2. The scene of our labours. 7. Native bird. 9. Conjunction of time. 11. --- and outs. 13. Hated at the end of our lives. 16. Animal foot. 18. It goes with eggs. 19. A grin. 20. Habits of behaviour. 23. Societies for public speaking. (8,5). 26. Wherein the clothes are cleaned. 28. There's a 3rd

One - of Mary. 31. Donkey. 32. Backward era? 33. A fight. 36. Speak.

38. Foolish. 40. Small island. 41. Big time chapel.

DOWN: 1. Barter with wasps. 2. Canton without the weight. 3. A popular resort in the summer term. (8,5). 4. Call to silence. 5. Colour of martyrs. 6. Not a pair. 8. NZ soldier. 10. Hits apronoun. 12. Four to the wind. 14. Tea all shook up. 17. Primitive form of life. 21. No score. 22. Eraser. 24. Fag end? 25. Angry - esp. with a double one! 26. Where the old timer urges us to go. 27. Mr Griffiths? 29. They're short in winter. 30. Make merry. 34. A limb. 35. Back nap. 37. What you take on the range. 39. As in reverse? Now, go to it - and no help from seniors, mind!

COINS IN THE BALANCE: Lest the seniors feel neglected, here is a little problem, which is harder than it sounds. In fact Father O'Brien has generously offered a 5/- PRIZE for the first correct explanation..... You are given twelve coins, which should be identical in weight as they are identical in appearance. One of them, however (and only one) is spurious and is known to differ in weight from the other eleven, though it is not known whether it is lighter or heavier than one of the standard coins..... You are given a chemical balance, & are allowed to make three weighings of one or more coins (ie, you weigh one or more coins against one another). In those three weighings, you must determine which is the spurious coin, and whether it is heavier or lighter than the others. How do you contrive to do this?

ESSAY OF THE MONTH: For those with a literary bent, it has been suggested that the BETTER TIES sponsor an essay competition. We think the idea a worthy one, and offer a 5/- order on the tuckshop for the most humorous article, not exceeding 500 words, on some aspect of school life. Entries close Friday 18th JULY.

FAG ENDS

The BEDEAN TIMES sympathises with its many readers over the severity of the Budget measures. To judge by the doleful facial expressions, many have been sorely hit. By way of consolation we affirm that your favourite paper remains at the old price, with an abundance of good spirits & a choice selection of "Fag Ends."

The tackling bag now in operation, is proving a popular instructor. Most can floor the monster at first attempt, but we notice Dave Bradley found the string hard to break the other night! Linklater and Duggan have been excluded on the grounds of undue hardship - to the bag!

The anti-climax of the St Kevin's match last week. The eagerly awaited debut of our celebrated "old-boy", Faustus, did not eventuate. An unexpected bout of illness cheated us of a brilliant performance. We are relieved to report that he is now out of the jaws of death.

The Infirmary of late has taken on the look of a Home for the Aged. Some of the better known characters about the College have sought rest and solace there. The honorary roll-call included Alan Cowan, Robin Donnelly and Mr Russell Goomes. Our sympathy goes out to Fr Devonport.

Golf, it appears, is the up and coming sport among the elite of the school - at least while the supply of Balls lasts. Mr John Taggart is a prominent hitter - and loser - of Dunlop 65's, while Cartwright, Rooney, Oliver, McCleary, Johnston and Corboy are some of the other notables.

The Mailbag recently contained a communication from a former Editor. We quote: "I have felt, though it is to be expected, that the extraordinary high standard of literary expression achieved by those of the by-gone era, has taken a retrograde step (pause for breath) and customers, if there are still any left, are now presented with eight pages of ad-umbral verbiage." (Unquote) Jealousy, Mr Gaffaney, jealousy!

The furtive appearance of Messrs Mark Meyer and Brady caught the eye of authority on the recent free Sunday. A thorough investigation, however, revealed in the pocket of the said Brady nothing more suspicious than a box of matches still untouched - which he always carries, it seems, in case of power cuts.

Which brings us, Playmates to the close of another issue of the BEDEAN TIMES. We wish you a happy feastday, and may God bless the free weekend.