

A Look at Milton's Past

In this important year of Bulawayo's history the History Department of the School has devoted part of the year's work to local history, and we felt that the history of Milton was part of the history of the city. Form IIIa1 and Form IIa1 studied the old copies of *The Miltonian* from 1912, when it first appeared, and gathered so much of interest that we hope the History Department will be able to produce a book on Milton for the Jubilee in 1970. For this year's magazine the young historians selected extracts from the old records so that they could present a picture of the years since 1910.

We hope that the articles chosen from old magazines will entertain many Old Miltonians and that they will enjoy seeing their literary efforts appear in print once more. There was far too much of interest to be included in one edition of the School Magazine, so we concentrated on the earlier years and only touched on the later ones. The exercise was a fascinating one for the boys who did the research. They found great entertainment in seeing the names of their fathers in old magazines; they enjoyed reading about a much smaller school in what seems to them a far-off era; and, above all, they discovered that, despite great changes, there is a strong thread of tradition linking them with Miltonians of the past. It was with great pride that they realised that on every occasion of importance in Bulawayo the Miltonians played a part.

A. V. BODMER.

Milton School

Milton School was officially opened on 25th July, 1910, by His Excellency the Administrator, Sir William Milton, with an enrolment of 80 pupils and a staff of four—Mr. E. B. de Beer being the Headmaster.

Milton was started in 1896 with a small co-educational school which later moved to what is now St. Gabriel's Home, and from there to St. John's. There are many distinguished Old Miltonians still in town who attended this school.

Sir Patrick Fletcher's father prevailed upon the British South Africa Company's Administrator to build the School in Borrow Street, where Milton Junior School now stands, as the original mixed school became too large.

Cricket and rugby began as school activities and the teams acquitted themselves admirably. Indoor

societies also flourished. In 1914 a debating society was inaugurated and this has persisted to the present day.

One of the most important steps of these early years was the formation of the Old Miltonians' Association, which held its first meeting on 23rd February, 1922, and which has proved of invaluable service to the School to this day and which has its own extensive playing fields and luxurious pavilion adjacent to the School.

As Milton grew, so it became necessary to provide more accommodation and the School moved to a new site on Townsend Road at the corner of Selborne Avenue in 1927. The foundation stone was laid by His Excellency the Earl of Athlone G.C.B., G.C.M.G., High Commissioner for South Africa, on 5th August, 1926. On retirement of Mr. de Beer in 1925, Lieut.-Col. J. B. Brady, D.S.O., graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, was appointed Headmaster of the School.

The original buildings were the classroom block and Library, the dining hall, the two boarding houses, Pioneer and Charter, and the Beit Hall. The new gymnasium was completed in 1935. The next important innovation was the institution in 1938 of "modern" forms to run parallel with the "academic" forms. With the assistance of the School Council and the Old Miltonians' Association the new Sports Pavilion was opened in 1940. (Since 1957 the area on the north side of Selborne Avenue has been developed into rugby, hockey and soccer fields.)

Four years of hard work by many interested persons and organisations culminated in 1953 with the completion of Milton School swimming bath—one of the finest school baths in Africa.

The year 1957 was marked by the completion of a new Art Block comprising four classrooms.

In 1959, after years of careful preparation and tremendous labours of fund raising, the alterations to the Beit Hall were commenced, providing ultimately a scientifically acoustic proscenium and a large, magnificent stage. One of the most pleasing innovations is the building of the new Science Block, which provides ample facilities in the form of new laboratories, classrooms, study rooms and offices. This block, the first Sixth Form Centre in Rhodesia, now has 200 sixth-form students taking "A" and "M" Level examinations. Among them are over 60 girls from other high schools in Bulawayo who are on the sixth-form science side.

Milton has always been extremely fortunate in the quality of its headmasters, who have done so

much to foster and maintain the spirit of the School. Col. Brady was succeeded in 1931 by Mr. H. G. Livingston, who served until 1941. In 1941-42 the Headmaster was Mr. L. R. Morgan (afterwards Secretary for Education), the post then passing to Mr. W. Gebbie (1942 to 1946). From 1947 to 1952 the headmasterhsip was assumed by Mr. A. Ball, who was succeeded by Mr. J. H. Downing from 1952 to 1956.

From 1957 to 1964 Mr. C. R. Messiter-Tooze was Headmaster, and in 1964 the present Headmaster, Mr. P. M. Brett, took office. Rather sad to relate, no fewer than three of the headmasters—Mr. Livingston, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Ball—died within the last year.

In the boom years of the late 1950s and early 1960s (before the impact of the new high schools began to be felt) Milton was bursting at the seam with a school population of almost 1,200. After the break-up of Federation and the development of Hamilton High School, the Milton enrolment levelled off at about 900, with 60 girls in addition to this figure. It is again beginning to rise.

Academically Milton has, over the years, produced a goodly number of Rhodes Scholars, including, among others, the Hon. Mr. Justice Greenfield, and extending right up to this present year, when Peter B. Wilson won the Rhodes Scholarship. From 1960 to 1966 Milton repeatedly won seven or eight open Government scholarships, together with other major scholarships offered by private companies and foundations.

In all inter-school games the School has held its own, and Milton names have been found both on the Nuffield Cricket XI and the Craven Rugby XV and, of course, as Old Miltonians, on national rugby and cricket teams.

Leopold Amery, Colonial Secretary in the Baldwin Cabinet, paid a visit to South Africa and Rhodesia in 1926, which he describes in his book, *In the Rain and the Sun*. Mentioning a visit to Bulawayo, he writes: "I visited . . . Milton School, a fine public school of the English type—I was to see and be inspired by so many of these all round the Empire."

Milton, it is to be hoped, can still live up to the title, "a fine public school".

This notice appeared in the "Bulawayo Chronicle" every day for a month.

Preliminary Notice

BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL, BULAWAYO

Headmaster: Ernest de Beer, B.A.

(Classical Tripos), late of Jesus College, Cambridge.

THE HEADMASTER

is in attendance at the School daily to meet parents between 9 a.m. and 1 o'clock.

THE CURRICULUM

aims at providing instruction in all subjects of the high school code from Standard II, up to and including University Matriculation and Rhodes Scholarship. A specialised course is provided for pupils intended for commercial, industrial and agricultural pursuits.

THE SCHOOL

is directly under the control of the Department of Education, and will be conducted on strictly undenominational lines.

FEES

Standard II ...	20/- per term
Standards III and IV ...	25/- per term
Over Standard IV	30/- per term
All books and other school requisites supplied free of charge.	

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Large and well-equipped classrooms designed on most modern hygienic principles.
- A staff composed of trained certificated teachers of long and successful experience.
- Large, well-equipped woodwork room and science laboratory under the charge of a specialist in these subjects.
- Spacious playing fields and organised games under supervision of master.

THE BOARDING DEPARTMENT

in connection with the School is under the control of the Headmaster and Mrs. de Beer. Boarding fee: £10 per term.

There are a limited number of Government Boarding Grants of £20 per annum available, for which early application should be made.

Parents who are desirous of making arrangements for pupils or boarders are requested to communicate with Mr. de Beer at the Palace Hotel, or P.O. Box 11.

A notice appeared in the Chronicle on July 25th, 1910, that the

FORMAL OPENING OF THE SCHOOL

Would take place at 10 a.m.

All pupils are expected to assemble at the Eveline High School at 9 o'clock this morning.

The COMBINED SCHOOLS' enrolment on 1st August, 1910, was 280. Within a week it was 321 and within the first month 343.

The Opening of Milton School July 25th, 1910

July 25th, 1910, marked a great step forward in education in the Rhodesias, when the Eveline School and the Milton School were opened by Sir William and Lady Milton, after whom the schools were named. The honoured guests were received by the Mayor, Councillor E. Basch; Messrs. Ryk Myburgh, C.C. and R.M.; Gordon D. S. Forbes, D.S.O., M.L.C.; C. P. J. Coghlan, M.L.C.; G. Duthie, the Director of Education; J. D. Mackenzie, the Solicitor-General; and J. B. Brady, Esq., the School Inspector, and members of the Town Council and Advisory Committee.

The Mayor extended a hearty welcome to Sir William, the then Administrator, and Lady Milton. The opening of the two new schools, he said, was an important step in Rhodesian education, and it was extremely good of the Government to assist so much in the building of the two schools. As a memento of the schools that would in future be called by their names, His Worship presented His Honour and Lady Milton with silver keys to the schools.

Sir William, in his reply, stressed that he was

greatly honoured to be officiating at the ceremony.

Mr. Gordon Forbes referred to the generous donations of the Beit Trustees in the forms of boarding grants, scholarships and other donations.

Mr. Duthie, the Director of Education, proposed a vote of thanks to the Loyal Women's Guild, which had presented each of the new schools with a Union Jack.

When the ceremony was over, the doors were formally unlocked and the flag hoisted.

First Appearance of 'The Miltonian' - June, 1912

The following extracts are from the editorial of the first magazine. The editorial gave a brief outline of the history of the School:

August 25th, 1910: School colours were chosen—the plumbago of Mr. Rhodes' favourite flower and Oxford blue.

October, 1910: There were now 98 pupils and most of them were cadets.

November 22nd, 1910: The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Princess Pat visited the School.

Sport in 1910: In August the first football match, in December the first cricket match against Plumtree

1911

Distinguished visitors to the School this year included—

The Marquis of Hamilton, Sir Charles Coghlan, Mr. Newton, the Acting Administrator, Lord and Lady Gladstone.

1912

Tree planting began in the School grounds. There were now 150 boys in the School, eight teachers and 50 boarders.

Earl and Countess Grey, with Lady Eveline Grey, visited the School on August 7th. Earl Grey has kindly presented to the School a picture of "Raleigh's boyhood". The School roll now numbers 158, with seven teachers. The Standard I boys have been transferred to us from Eveline School.

Our thanks are due to the Committee of the Bulawayo Museum, who have kindly lent the School, on permanent loan, woodwork models made by the Boer prisoners of war. And also to Messrs. W. R. Smith and Crook, who have kindly presented the School with 400 trees.

. . . Another presentation to be acknowledged is one by the Municipal Council, of the address of King George to his people.

. . . School colours, etc., can be bought from Messrs. Haddon and Sly at the following prices: First team cricket blazers at 17/6; badges for blazers 4/6; School caps with badges at 3/6. All boys requiring any of these items must get a written order from the Principal.

FOR QUALITY MEN'S
AND BOYS' WEAR AT THE
LOWEST PRICES IT WILL PAY
YOU TO VISIT

DISCOUNT CENTRE

88a FIFE STREET

BULAWAYO

The House of "RUANN"

Guaranteed Garments

**Extracts from 'The
Miltonian' of
1912, 1913, 1914
—the last years of peace**

December, 1912

The Camera Club: Operations have been somewhat limited this term, as we did not feel justified in putting a big strain on the Bulawayo water supply; also, the great heat has brought about a certain annoying antipathy between the glass and the film.

From General Notes, December, 1912

The School is gradually being fitted up with electric light. The chemical laboratory, the wood-work shop and two other classrooms have already been lighted up.

Mr. Weinholt, of Rhodes Estate, Inyanga, very kindly offers a prize every year of two guineas' worth of books, for the best essay written by a boy attending the School, on "Imperialism" (the duty of one's country to the Motherland). J. Wilkinson, who is now an "old boy" succeeded in winning the prize for 1911.

June, 1913

Boy Scout Notes: The troop now consists of some 46—or six patrols. Early this term we had our first "field day".

The troop mustered at 6 a.m. at the hostel and started for Hillside, with the provisions in a small handcart.

Unfortunately, however, the cart broke down in the Suburbs, so it was left in a neighbouring house—and, the provisions having been distributed among the Scouts, the troop continued its march.

June, 1914

King's Birthday: Our thanks are due to Mr. Fraser, the Mayor of Bulawayo, for being the originator of a most pleasant picnic held on the King's Birthday, near the last hole of the golf course. Mr. Fraser kindly presented to each of the schools a sum of money instead of holding the usual Empire Day celebrations. The result was a very jolly day. Mr. Fraser came to see us in the afternoon. At the conclusion of the picnic three cheers were given for the Mayor, and then the picnic ended with the singing of the National Anthem.

June, 1914

General Notes: That the Rhodesian schoolboy is very businesslike can now be seen at this School, for we have now no fewer than two "cafes" in the grounds. Here one can obtain tea, cakes, biscuits and sweets at reasonable prices. The buildings (which are not generally entered by visitors, but seen from without) are made of iron and sacks and

are certainly quite unique. The one is known as the "Miltonian Cafe" and is under the proprietorship of H. Cooper, and the other as the "Milton Hotel", being under the proprietorship of W. H. Davidson.

The First World War

The magazine of September, 1914, seems to have been the last published until 1917. There are references to the boys seeing off a troop train, to a concert held by Eveline and Milton to raise funds for the Red Cross (they raised £59), and to the curtailing of rifle practice as all ammunition was needed for training at the Drill Hall.

This was the beginning of the War; the School chronicle printed in the issue of October, 1917, shows how Milton became more and more involved in the War. By the end of the War more than 70 Miltonians had gone on active service—a good record for a school not yet ten years old that had only 158 boys ranging in age from seven to 18 in 1913.

The following article was written by an Old Miltonian and appeared in the School magazine of June, 1918:

THE RELIEF

"Wypers"—August, 1917

Equipped for the lines, we leave our warm mess.

"All present, Sergeant?"

"Yes, Sir."

"Section, take up your loads . . . 'tion!"

"Move to the right in fours" . . . etc.

We are to meet our guide at the Menin Gate, but there's much to pass before we get there. On the Vlamertinghe road hundreds of tired and muddy men returning from the so-called trenches; endless transport, G.S. wagons, limbers drawn by fast-walking mules and ridden by steel-helmeted drivers with faces drawn and voices tense as they encourage their mounts; great lumbering lorries with no headlights; the swift motor tenders of the Flying Corps and the never-ending stream of ambulance cars.

Our section, now in single file, struggles on, each man anxious not to lose touch with his mate in front. Past shattered buildings, at length looms up an immense ruin, the Asylum, and, not yet being candidates for admission, we pass on until we arrive at that city which has been well called "The City of Dreadful Fear"—ruined Ypres, known to Tommy Atkins as "Wipers".

Past the dreadful mockery of the once-beautiful cathedral and the famous Cloth Hall, picking our way over shell holes and scattered bricks and stones, and occasionally a dead horse or mule, we come to

the notorious Menin Gate. Immediately from the shadows of ruins comes a soldier and we identify him as our guide. He takes us over the moat to the land where, for almost three years, we have withstood the efforts of the enemy to take the city. Now starts the most trying part of our journey, for there are no landmarks, roads or tracks to guide us, and we must rely solely on our guide and compass and the never-ending stream of Verey lights thrown up by the enemy. Circling round shell holes, scrambling in and out of old trenches, and tearing our way through remnants of barbed wire, there is an endless succession of muttered curses from the heavily laden men. We continue on our way and, after a couple of hours, reach our destination.

Identification established, the people to be relieved rush into explanations and details, only too anxious to get away. While the officers confer together the sergeant and N.C.O.s are also busy, handing over or taking on duties. New sentries are posted, final explanations are exchanged, a shouting of names to see that all the relieved party are present, and then they move off, exchanging "Good luck to you"—"Mind you don't stop one"—"See you in 'Pop' soon". Our relief is complete.

"EMMA GEE."

'The School Chronicle'
printed in
'The Miltonian' of
October, 1917

Events from September, 1914, to October, 1917

1914—

- October 5th: School re-opened.
- October 10th: Literary and Debating Society discussed "Conscription". News arrived of the fall of Antwerp.
- October 21st: 1st R.R. left for Salisbury, among them D. S. Judson, the first Milton boy to join up and Mr. R. Allan, a master.
- October 30th: Sir William Milton and Lady Milton came to bid the School good-bye.
- October 31st: Cadets formed a guard of honour for Sir William Milton.
- November 15th: Sunday. 1st R.R. left Bulawayo for the south.
- November 16th: Convicts began levelling School field.
- December 7th: Beit Examination began.
- December 10th: University Examinations began.
- December 11th: School broke up.

1915—

- January 25th: School re-opened.

- February 17th: Half-holiday in honour of T. A. Carnegie's Rhodes Scholarship, and R. L. Cranswick's Senior Beit Bursary.
- March 25th: H.E. the Administrator went over the School and boarding house.
- March 31st: School broke up.
- April 12th: School re-opened.
- April 24th: A bioscope exhibition by the brothers de Beer. £5 taken for the Children's Ambulance Fund.
- May 7th: The de Beer brothers gave another bioscope show. £10 11s. for the Ambulance Fund.
- May 24th: Empire Day. All boys went to bioscope pictures at the Palace Theatre as guests of the Municipality.
- June 19th: Cadets left for Gwelo Camp. School broke up.



Can anyone supply their names? — *Editor*

July 19th: School re-opened.
 August 4th: Boys attended public intercession service at St. John's Church.
 August 28th: The Mayor, Mr. Atterbury, gave a concert for the School.
 September 4th: Mock trial of Maritz for treason. Mr. A. R. Welsh as judge.
 September 11th: Annual sports. Mrs. A. R. Welsh presented certificates; no prizes for the first time.
 September 27th: Holidays were on and 47 cadets arrived with officers to camp on School grounds.
 October 4th: School re-opened.
 November 2nd: Performance of *Merchant of Venice* and *Trial by Jury*.

1916—

January 24th: Mr. A. J. Somerville took over as Acting Headmaster during the absence of Headmaster on leave. Commercial classes began, as alternative to Latin.
 April 3rd: In memoriam ceremony in honour of Major Frank Taylor and Privates T. Ely and R. H. Johnston, the first Miltonians to fall in the Great War. The Acting Headmaster, the Chairman of the School Council (Mr. A.R. Welsh) and the Mayor (Mr. Atterbury) addressed the School.
 August 4th: School marched to Drill Hall for a combined intercession service.

November 4th: Mock trial of the Kaiser. Mr. A. R. Welsh the judge.

1917—

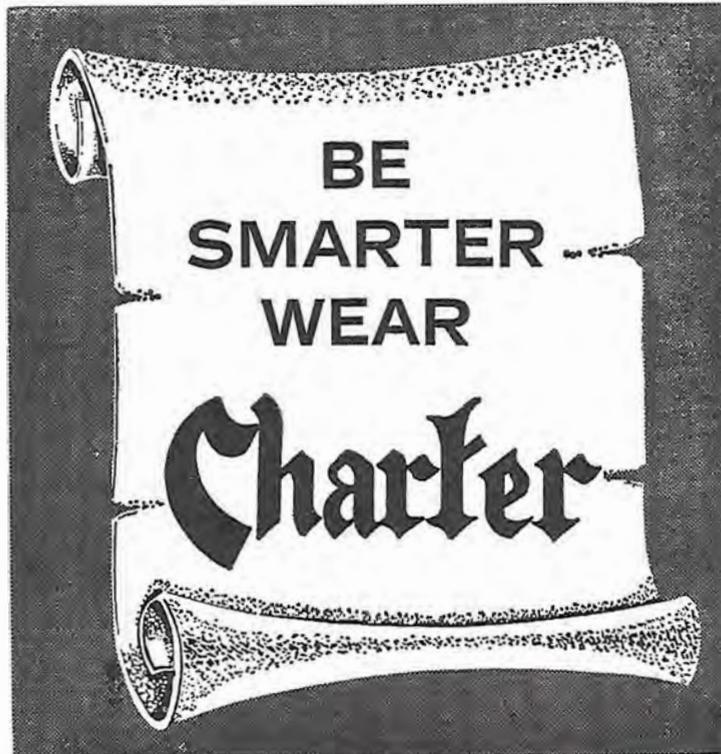
February 13th: Whole School marched to the Halt to see off Melvill, Clark, Voss and Phenix, who had joined the R.R.
 March 6th: School went to the Halt to see off S. Mackenzie, Byers and Carnegie. The Mayor and others were there.
 May 16th: R. L. Cranswick awarded a Rhodes Scholarship.
 May 23rd: Flag saluted for Empire Day.
 May 24th: Empire Day. Holiday.
 June 2nd: Paper chase.

* * *

December, 1917: In the magazine of December, 1917, there appeared the following news of Old Miltonians:

Heartiest congratulations to F. W. Thomas, of the R.F.C., for gaining the French medal, Croix de Guerre.

"Tommy" Lewis gained his pilot's certificate in the R.F.C.—the first Rhodesian, born, bred and educated, to receive this.



1920—

The funeral of Sir Leander Starr Jameson, May 22nd, 1920. The Milton Cadets were invited to attend the funeral in uniform and the following is an extract from an account of the funeral, written by one of the Cadets.

“... We entrained at 6.45 a.m., and in due course arrived at the Matopo Terminus and set out on our long trek under the command of Col. Brady, D.S.O. It was hot and dusty even for Rhodesia. . . . The march did not really worry us, and we were all ready for the ascent to the graveside after we had refreshed ourselves with a cup of tea.

“When we arrived at the summit of the World’s View, we were formed up on three sides of a square round the grave, over which the coffin, guarded by four members of the B.S.A.P. resting on arms reversed, was already in place. Suddenly there appeared at the foot of the hill the funeral procession, consisting of Bishop Gaul, formerly Bishop of Southern Rhodesia, who was to take the service at the graveside, the choir and the chief mourners.

“... The service ended, we made our way down and some of us were wondering what our work in this world of men and things was going to be. . . . Whatever our thoughts were, it is certain that we felt that we could all learn something of the lesson of ‘sticking it’, of doing all we take in hand with all our might, of unsparing service to our fellow men from the life of Jameson.”

March 5th, 1920: *The Silver Queen II.* The following is an account written by R. A. Beaton:

All the School turned out and marched up to the Racecourse, which was to be the aeroplane’s landing place. We arrived there about nine o’clock but the aeroplane did not arrive until nearly four hours later. We had a long and decidedly wearisome wait for that aeroplane. At last a peculiar whirring sound was heard. This sound continued in intensity for several minutes before the aeroplane put in an appearance.

At first it was a mere speck, which gradually grew in size until the full plane was seen. After some pretty banking the plane effected a graceful landing. All the efforts of the policemen on patrol to stop the inevitable rush were in vain. She was quickly surrounded by a crowd, the size of which must have surprised the people of Bulawayo. Col. van Ryneveld and Major Brand were warmly welcomed by the Mayor and the Town Councillors. They were entertained to dinner that night at the Grand Hotel.

On Saturday morning they decided to fly off to Pretoria in one flight, and consequently carried an extra cargo of petrol. Owing to atmospheric conditions and the overload, the plane refused to rise

any higher than the treetops, dropping continuously, until suddenly she struck a tree and crashed. Very fortunately none on board were seriously injured.

At a later date we had a most interesting address by Major Brand, who related some of his experiences met with between Cairo and Bulawayo. A rescue plane, the Voortrekker, arrived here ten days later and they completed their flight. We are pleased to hear that both men are safely back in England and eager to try their luck in some other trans-continental flight.

General Notes from the magazine of 1920

On Saturday, 15th April, the Milton Cadets took part in a ceremonial parade on the occasion of the presentation of medals to those who had won them for bravery at the front or for long service. **Sgt.-Major Myrtle** received a well-earned Long-service Medal.

Old Miltonians’ Association, 1922

The inaugural meeting of this society was held on February 23rd, 1922. A committee was elected:

President: Mr. de Beer.

Secretary: Mr. E. Raubenheimer.

Treasurer: Mr. A. R. Williams.

Committee: Messrs. T. Lewis, W. Melville, L. Playford.

Subscription was fixed at one guinea a year.

At the first committee meeting, held in March, 1922, it was decided that the colours of the Association be left the same as those of the School. The magazine of June, 1922, describes the blazer:

“The form of the blazer was decided as follows: one inch plumbago and one and a half inch navy stripes running perpendicularly, with two silver buttons and no vent.”

News of Old Boys, 1922

B. Baron and L. Townsend were both in their first year at Rhodes University College.

Old Miltonians, 1923

R. Cranswick passed top of Cuddleston Theological College. He has since been ordained. V. F. Robinson obtained a first class in Part 1 of the C.S. Lower Law exams. D. G. Lewis and H. Child passed Part 2 of this exam.

Old Miltonians, 1925

P. Baron and Julius Greenfield were awarded Beit bursaries. They are at Cape Town University. Baron is reading medicine, Greenfield law.

The visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, 1925

The unveiling of the War Memorial: Excerpt from “School magazine of 1925:

Then the Prince, speaking with deep feeling, addressed the School:

“I am very glad of this opportunity of paying

tribute to the memory of those Miltonians who fell in the Great War.

"Here at Milton, since the foundation of the School, a fine tradition has been gradually built up, and your record as regards Rhodes Scholarships, general efficiency and sport, is, I know, one of which any school might well be proud. Those whose loss we deplore and whose names are here commemorated have in the spirit of the School motto given you a tradition which will stand you in good stead in the years to come.

"I now unveil this memorial which, bearing the names of those gallant Miltonians who died that we might live, will, I trust, for ever enshrine their spirit of devotion and sacrifice in the School they loved so well."

Later the Prince laid a wreath of laurel and Flanders poppies at the base of the memorial and, at his own request, met relatives of those who had fallen.

August, 1925

The following extract from Form Notes of 1925

made us realise that things do not change much.

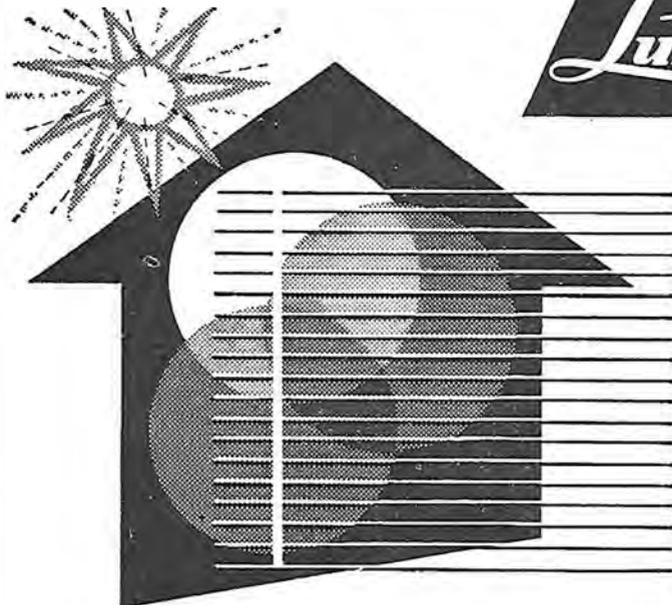
Form VI. A new era has started for the erstwhile Matric Class: we now shine in the reflected glory of the name, "Sixth Form", yet some bear their honours blushing and find the strain of living up to the cognomen a not-unmixed joy.

Hope springs eternal, and not even the shock of the recent London Matriculation papers appears to have roused from soporific contentment that happy band of brothers whose musical ear grows daily more acute as they listen for the one o'clock bell. The Afrikaans and French candidates in the recent exam, owing to their intense application to the study of these tongues, now speak English with difficulty and an accent.

In quality if not in quantity we contribute worthily of our physical resources to the Cadet Corps and the XV. Nor has our clarion note failed on occasion to rouse the passions of the unlettered Lower School in debate.

It is not true that the new form watchword is to be THE PACE OF AN OX.

SUMMERTIME IS



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Keep your home and furniture safe from the sun with washable, colourful Luxaflex Venetian blinds, and add a cool new enchantment too!



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The Laying of The Milton High School Foundation Stone

The old buildings in Borrow Street at last proved inadequate for the growing school, so in 1926 it was decided to build a new school for the seniors on the large site between Selborne Avenue East and Third Street, where the School now stands. As by August Mr. G. E. Fitzgerald, the architect, had finalised his plans, and Messrs. Macdonald and Macfarlane, the builders, had started the actual building of the new school, August 5th was set for the day of the great ceremony of the laying of the foundation stone. This date was particularly fortunate, for the Earl of Athlone and his beautiful wife, Princess Alice, were able to perform the ceremony.

The distinguished guests were received by the Headmaster, Lt.-Col. J. B. Brady, D.S.O., and the School Cadets formed a guard of honour while the band played the Royal Salute. His Excellency expressed himself most impressed by the turn-out and drill of the Cadets, and then joined the other guests of honour, the Acting Premier, Mr. P. D. L. Fynn, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. W. M. Leggate, C.M.G., the Director of Education, Mr. L. M. Foggin, and the Chairman of the School's Advisory Council, Mr. A. R. Welsh. The ceremony commenced with the singing of the School hymn. The Rev. Allan Munn, M.A., the Vicar-General, then read the lesson. Archdeacon Harker, M.A., offered prayer, after which Mr. Alan Welsh extended a welcome to His Excellency and Her Royal Highness. He reminded the company that several pupils of Milton had fallen in the Great War and that it was a fact that Milton was proud that she turned out men ready to make the ultimate sacrifice for their King and the Empire.

His Excellency replied, saying that he felt greatly honoured to have the privilege of laying the foundation stone of what was undoubtedly the leading boys' school in the Colony. He was then handed a silver trowel on behalf of the architect and builders, and laid the stone, which can be found in the entrance hall of the School outside the Headmaster's office. Under the School motto, the stone bears the following inscription: "This stone was laid by His Excellency the Earl of Athlone, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., High Commissioner for South Africa, 5th August, 1926. Builders: Macdonald and Macfarlane. Architect: G. E. Fitzgerald, A.R.I.B.A."

The Captain of the School, C. Perry, presented Her Royal Highness with a bouquet of violets, tied with ribbons of the School's colours, plumbago and Oxford blue. The visitors then signed the Visitors' Book, and the ceremony ended with the singing of the National Anthem. To celebrate the occasion, His Excellency requested Lt.-Col. Brady to award a holiday to the boys, which was taken on the following Thursday.

The Story of The School 1910 to 1927

Milton School was officially opened on July 25th, 1910, by H.H. the Administrator, Sir William Milton, with an enrolment of eighty pupils and a staff of four—Mr. E. B. de Beer, the Headmaster until 1925, and Messrs. Shepherd, de Lange and Gregory.

Milton can be said to have started in 1896 with a small co-educational school, which later moved to what is now St. Gabriel's Home, and from there to St. John's. It was known as St. John's School, and there are distinguished Old Miltonians still in the town who attended this school.

Much of the credit for the final building of Milton must go to Sir Patrick Fletcher's father, who, when this mixed school became too large, prevailed upon the British South Africa Company's Administrator to build the school in Borrow Street, where Milton Junior School now stands.

During these years the pupils and staff distinguished themselves both in the classrooms and on the playing fields, and this period saw the inception of many societies which helped to provide that wide diversity of interest and occupation which had always been such a feature of Milton life. Probably the earliest extra-curricular activity was that of the Cadet Corps, which has been a part of the School since its beginning. Another was a Scout troop started by the Rev. T. O. Beattie, which flourished in conjunction with the Cadet Corps to furnish each a different aspect of healthy outdoor discipline.

The pupils did not want for outdoor sports, as cricket and rugby began as school activities with the School, and the teams acquitted themselves admirably, not always winning, but never failing to maintain a high standard of sportsmanship.

Indoor societies also flourished. On seeing the interest that so many boys took in photography, Mr. Fenn one evening kindly lectured to them on the subject. It was then decided to form a Camera Club, a dark room was fitted up, apparatus was

acquired and several photographic excursions were undertaken.

In 1914 a Literary and Debating Society was inaugurated and so spirited was the response that it has persisted to the present day. 1914 also saw the beginnings of a Woodwork Club, which offered classes in fretwork and special carving.

Probably one of the most important formative steps of these early years was the institution of the Old Miltonians' Association, which held its first meeting on 23rd February, 1922, with Mr. E. B. de Beer as chairman and elected president. This important body has proved of invaluable service to the School from that day to this.

It was inevitable that when the Great War broke out in 1914 many Miltonians—masters and boys—flocked to the colours. More than sixty Old Boys and seven masters served, many of whom were accorded the highest praise and military decorations. Thirteen fell, fighting victoriously, and were commemorated on the War Memorial erected by the Old Miltonians.

Additions were made to the existing buildings in the form of further classrooms, but it was found necessary to provide more accommodation than was available, and the decision was made to move to a new site on Townsend Road at the corner of Selborne Avenue East in 1927. The foundation stone of the new Upper School was laid by His Excellency the Earl of Athlone, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., High Commissioner for South Africa, on 5th August, 1926. The exodus was undertaken during the September holidays of 1927, and the final term saw the School hard at work in its new surroundings.

Mr. E. B. de Beer, who had served the School so long and so well as Headmaster, retired in 1925 after 14 years of devoted service, and the headmastership devolved on Lt.-Col. J. B. Brady, D.S.O. who even then had a proud record of service to and association with, the School.

The Governor's visit, June 24th, 1931

On Wednesday, June 24th, the School was honoured by a visit from His Excellency Sir Cecil Rodwell and Lady Rodwell.

After an inspection of the Cadets and the guard of honour, the visitors toured the School. His Excellency gave the boys a holiday, which they celebrated on July 10th.

The School Council was appointed in this year to replace the old Advisory Board.

A telegram was received from Mr. de Beer, the first Headmaster, on the occasion of the School's twenty-first birthday.

The School's first cricket team, 1931

King, Streak, Payne, Ingram, Stevenson, Mansell, Stupart (captain), Burne, Ledebøer, Hesom, Meltzer.

The first XV

A. King, M. Heim, A. Flowerday, F. Payne, H. Streak, A. Sanderson, R. Brislin, E. Greenwell, A. Ralstein, G. H. Burne, R. A. Stupart (captain), C. Vogel, J. Meltzer, M. Kelly.

Poem in 1931 by R. Anderson, Form II

THE SUNRISE

Have you ever woken up before the sun at dawn,
And noticed when it rose, the golden rays—new
born,

The clouds with painted colours bright
Of gold and silver, red and white?
You watch a while with much delight—
The colours vanish from your sight—
And when the sun is up quite high,
You say "The day's begun", and sigh.

1935—Twenty-fifth anniversary of the School

Mr. de Beer, the first Headmaster, visited the School on this important occasion, which was marked by a commemoration service and a ceremony in the Beit Hall, at which the silver key with which Sir William Milton opened the School was presented to the school. His son sent the key and a portrait of Sir William.

Speech Night was held on November 30th and Sir Godfrey Huggins was the guest of honour.

An anniversary dinner and dance was held by the Old Miltonians and the Old Girls of Eveline School to mark the anniversary of the opening of both schools, and the Old Miltonians held a dinner at which Mr. de Beer was the guest of honour.

Taken from "The Miltonian" of 1935

Birchenough Geography Prizes—

Form V: J. Macdonald.

Form IV: S. Graaff.

Form III: J. Wordsworth.

Birchenough History Prizes—

Form V: A. Hutchinson.

Form IV: P. Porter.

Form III: R. Nevile.

*

The completion of the School gymnasium has made a very useful addition to the School buildings.

* * * *

The Wireless Club, 1935

Members of the Club have had opportunities of building sets from the old set built by Mr. Jackson. Pioneer House does not seem to appreciate our

efforts, if the nightly remarks are to be taken seriously. Wireless "calls" are very different from "cat" calls, which Pioneers of Dormitory Four do not seem to understand. We are hoping to build a super set next term which will be absolutely silent! Visits have been made to the Bulawayo Broadcasting Station and we realise how little we know of modern wireless. Noble is to be congratulated on building his own transmission set, and some day we hope to listen in to "NOBL".

The Second World War

In 1939 Milton School once again gave of its best. The following poem, written by a Milton boy who later served in the forces, puts into words the feelings of his generation of schoolboys:

WAR

'Tis come again, what once we strove to end.
Those heroes lying deep 'neath Flanders fields
Lie dead in vain. The lesson that they left
Was little use. For once more but one man,
In search of power to dominate the world,
Has brought to prosperous, happy men and lands
This endless, loathsome train of bloody war.
Once more the youth, the very cream of men,
Must rally to this foul and bitter strife.
No thought of glorious battle rises now,
Such things are long since past.
Today we go
Knowing full well no hope of glory lies
In this dread thing. But there's a task to do:
Please God we do it well.

As soon as war was declared, five masters went on active service—Messrs. A. D. Campbell, D. C. Ferrer, S. J. Sluce, A. J. Simpson and G. W. Ledebor. By the end of the war there were over 900 Old Miltonians serving in the forces.

Twenty Years Ago

1947

The Miltonian of 1947 has many references to someone well known to the seniors of the School—R. A. L. Suttle, who represented the School in the first teams of rugby, cricket, athletics, tennis, swimming and boxing.

We wonder if things have changed a great deal in twenty years. Perhaps some of the juniors at School now will say that they have not when they

read the poem that appeared in the 1947 *Miltonian*:

THE PLEASANT FORTY MINUTES

Then the thundery high school teacher
Roaring, sniffing, breathing lava,
Bounced into the spacious classroom,
Clawed the air and blew his cheeks out,
Stroked his walrus, fumed and spluttered,
Danced upon the front row tables,
Picked up primers, thumped them downwards,
Screamed and gurgled, choked and sniggered,
Cursed and walloped, kicked and strangled
Every tim'rous, wretched schoolboy.

J.A.R., IIIa.

The Fifties

1950—Forty years of the School's life

In this year Mr. Ball retired and the new Headmaster was an old friend of Milton—Mr. J. H. Downing, who first taught at the School in 1924 and served it well until he went to Salisbury in 1948 as Education Officer. Every copy of *The Miltonian* from 1924 to 1947 contains references to the active part taken by Mr. Downing in every sphere of School life, and to every Old Miltonian it was a great pleasure to see him return as Headmaster.

* * *

New Flags

Col. Sir Ellis Robins, on behalf of the B.S.A. Company, presented the School with a new Company flag of silk to replace the original one, which had been presented to the School in 1925. Mrs. Wilson Fox, widow of a managing director of the Company, presented a new Union Jack. Col. Robins placed the new flags in their positions on either side of the War Memorial plaques.

1951

This year saw the School growing faster than ever before. The post-war expansion of the whole country was reflected at Milton. The magazine of that year shows tents being used as classrooms. An Old Miltonian who was a builder in the city put up two new classrooms in twelve days. It says a great deal for his rushed effort that these two rooms are still in daily use.

* * *

This year saw the holding of Speech Night in the City Hall, as the Beit Hall was now too small to accommodate boys and parents comfortably.

1953—Coronation year: the Centenary Exhibition: formation of the Federation

The swimming bath was completed and opened

in the third term of this year, after four years of hard fund-raising on the part of parents, Old Boys and pupils.

* * *

Like the rest of Bulawayo, the Milton boys enjoyed the Centenary Exhibition and the visit to the city of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

The great political issue of the day was the formation of the Federation of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, and the School magazine of 1953 records the interest of the boys in the referendum and the formation of the Federation.

Ten Years Ago

1958 was the last year of the long service of F. G. Jackson—"Putt" to hundreds of Miltonians both past and present. Below is a tribute to "Putt", written by an Old Miltonian for the magazine of 1958:

Seldom does a man become a legend in his own lifetime. There are few humans so notable for devoted service, loyalty, wisdom and helpfulness as to become identified with the schools they serve. Yet it is remarkable that whenever Miltonians gather, the first question is, "How is old Putt?" and the second, "How's Milton?"

We all know that Mr. Jackson has been unremitting in his efforts for the School since 1924, and that almost all of his boundless energy has been focussed on the wellbeing and good reputation of the School and its scholars. It is doubtful if anybody in the long history of the School has done so much by direct precept or simple example to shape and guide all those who live and work in it.

. . . Generations would be able to trace some notion of conduct or sportsmanship to Room 8, Milton School. It is not an exaggeration to say that many of our most useful citizens in every walk of life owe their sense of responsibility and fair play in no small measure to Mr. Jackson.

Mr. F. G. Jackson retired in February, 1959.

Speech Night, 1958

The guest of honour was the Governor-General of the Federation, His Excellency the Earl of Dalhousie, who was accompanied by Lady Dalhousie.

* * *

The Happiest Days of Your Life was produced in April, 1958.

1961—The opening of the Sixth Form Block

This year saw the opening of the Department of Sixth Form Studies. Mr. Cowper was in charge of this department of the School, which catered for

Milton boys who went on to do post-"O" Level courses, and in 1964 a large number of girls came to do science at Milton. At present this department, now under the care of Mrs. Sibson, numbers 200 and we have girls studying the same wide range of subjects as the boys.

Naming of Hambly Field—10th August, 1968

Fred Hambly came from Australia to St. John's College, Johannesburg, in the early 1930s. He brought the first St. John's College team to play Milton in 1935 and there still is a photograph in the dining hall of the combined teams. He came up here to Milton to teach Latin in 1935.

He was greatly respected—and at times feared—by his Latin students; in fact, if you were in Fred's class you knew your Latin—or else!

He was always interested in rugby and was coach of the first XV for years. All his teaching career in Rhodesia was spent at Milton, except for a period of a couple of years before the break-up of Federation when he was Assistant Regional Director. So Fred has lived all his Rhodesian life in Bulawayo and is one of its best-known and respected citizens.

His interest in rugby has never waned and he has attended every Milton home game since he retired. In fact he has attended all home matches without a break for thirty years. So much so that, when his



Mr. P. M. Brett, 1964—

daughter was getting married, he insisted that the wedding should be on Saturday morning so he would not miss a home game that afternoon!

We can include Mrs. Hambly in this tribute, because in the interval she must have learned a lot about rugby and learned to like it, or alternatively must have been a martyr to duty for all these years. But I can say she dutifully accompanied her husband, even on the coldest of winter Saturdays.

Fred Hambly was always an excellent judge of how the game was going; so much so that he was constantly being asked at half-time to forecast the final score. This happened recently when we played Plumtree. At half-time he forecast 20-nil; the final score was 17-nil.

This year the Headmaster decided that it was time that the main Milton rugby field, which has seen famous matches for forty years, should have a name. It is only fitting that the name of one who has given so much of his time to Milton rugby and is known and loved by so many Old Miltonians should be the obvious choice.

In the knowledge that future Milton boys will honour and remember a great Milton schoolmaster, the field was duly named the Hambly Field.

AND OUR FATHERS

A great deal of entertainment was afforded to the boys who read through old copies of *The Miltonian* when they found news items about fathers of boys now in the School. We offer a selection of such items in the hope that they will be of use to those parents who wish to present a picture of themselves at school. It is often useful to have some concrete proof of such things when one gives one's son a lecture:

Debating Society Committee, 1917: H. Verwoerd (later he went to South Africa).

Beit Scholarship, 1915: H. Verwoerd (fifth in Rhodesia).

Eisteddfod winners (a selection):

1921: Violin under 14: C. Weinberg.

1923: Violin under 14: V. Wright.

1925: Elocution under 13: A. Painting.

1928: Violin under 12: Trevor Wright.

In the cast of "Trial by Jury", 1928: Bridesmaids: E. Walkden, H. Goode, O. Gibbon, I. Feigenbaum, F. Capon, M. Kelly.

Milton Extracts from "The Chronicle", 1968

January 11th

An ex-Bulawayo schoolboy, Mr. Leslie Wasserson, has been asked by Britain's Ministry of Technology for a copy of his Master of Science thesis on fluid dynamics, which has been hailed as a highly valuable and original work.

Mr. Wasserson (24), an ex-pupil of Christian Brothers' College and Milton High School, has been asked to submit the thesis for inclusion in the Ministry's technical library.

Mr. Wasserson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wasserson, of Bulawayo, graduated from Edinburgh University with B.Sc. Honours in physics in 1966.

He later wrote his Master's thesis with a research grant from the British Ministry of Aviation.

Now the Ministry of Technology has given him a research grant which he is using to study for a doctorate in aerodynamics at London University.

February 6th

Ten Rhodesian medical students at Cape Town University have passed their final examinations, and nine are from Bulawayo.

Six are Old Miltonians—A. Hercbergs, A. Segal, K. Phillips, H. Sacks, S. Messiter-Tooze and T. J. French (Head Prefect, 1961).

February 16th

Six of last year's "A" Level pupils at Milton

TELEPHONE 5111

M
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V
O

For
Stationery

BOX 1810 — BULAWAYO