



The Southern Cross

TERM NEWSPAPER OF THE EPPING BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

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FROM THE HEADMASTER

One of the most important events during the term was the introduction of the Sundin Shield Competition.

The Shield, which was presented by one of our parents, Mr. D. G. Sundin, will be competed for each year by the four Houses. It will be won by the House which gains the greatest number of points for Scholarship, Sport and Service. At Epping High School we want boys to be keen about their work, keen about their games, and keen to help both the school and worthy charities. The idea behind the Sundin Shield Competition is to encourage every boy to do his best in all three of these activities.

An outstanding feature of the competition is that **every** boy—not only the clever boys and those who are good at games—can win points for the House.

For example, a pass in four subjects (that is not asking overmuch, is it?) at the half-yearly or yearly is worth 5 points. Again, a win in the lowest grade of an inter-House match in football or cricket or any other game means points for the winning House. This gives the youngest boys and the weakest players a chance to do something for their House. The same principle applies in connection with Service. All appeals will be made in such a way that it will be possible for every boy to make his contribution.

As Headmaster, I am grateful to Mr. Sundin for his generosity. I am confident that you are all equally appreciative. The best way to show your appreciation is by doing your very best for your House—in Scholarship, in Sport, and in Service.

H. E. M.

The Official Opening

After the addition of a combined gymnasium assembly hall, our school will be second to no Australian school, stated Mr. Heffron, Minister for Education, in his opening speech, during the official opening of our High School on 17th March, 1959.

The opening was well attended by over five hundred visitors and, as Mr. Heffron said, it was good to see so many parents taking such an interest in the school.

Mr. W. E. Stewart, president of the P. and C. Assn., spoke first, addressing his remarks mainly to the members of the school.

Mr. E. Hearnshaw, M.L.A. for Eastwood, welcomed his parliamentary colleague, the Hon. R. J. Heffron, and thanked him for providing our excellent school. He also mentioned both the proposed Dence Park Swimming Pool and Assembly Hall, expressing the hope that both would be erected and completed in the near future.

Other speakers were Rev. E. R. Rogers, a representative of the Clergy, and Mr. McGregor, our headmaster, who gave special thanks to Mr. Sundin, Mr. Walters, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. Caletti and his family, who were responsible for our picturesque, new fountain.

At this juncture the Hon. R. J. Heffron stepped forward to unveil a plaque, thus officially opening the High School. Before unveiling it he said that our school was excellent, but for the missing assembly hall, for which contracts were being signed that very day. The cost of the school is, to date, £270,000, and with the addition of the assembly hall that figure will rise to £300,000. He pointed out that the school is very well equipped, having twelve classrooms, four Science rooms, a library, fine manual training rooms and facilities, and a complete

P.E. change-room. He quoted the surprising figure that four classrooms are completed daily in N.S.W.

Another surprising quotation was that over the last decade education costs have risen from £6½ millions to £53½ millions. Four hundred teachers are now being trained and the number of teachers' training colleges is rapidly increasing. He then paid a tribute to Moniers, the builders, and said that when the finishing touches are added to our School it will be comparable to any in the world.

Then Mr. Heffron moved towards the flag and pulled it aside, officially opening Epping Boys' High School.

PREFECTS 1959

As a result of an election by 3rd and 2nd year pupils the following boys were elected as Prefects for 1959.

B. Pulsford, G. Bennie, P. Carter, G. Allen, J. Goodin, F. Hargreaves, T. Henry, D. Kearns, J. Lego, R. McIntosh, J. Mudge, T. Palmer, J. Roddom, P. Tierney, D. Whetham.

Congratulations to these boys who have accepted such a responsible position in our School organisation.

Congratulations too to Barry Pulsford and Gibson Bennie who have been chosen by the Prefects to fill the position of Head and Deputy Prefects.

I would remind the School that you have shown your confidence in these boys by electing them. Remember they have responsible duties to perform and will often seek your co-operation. Only by giving them your support will our School develop along the lines it deserves.

S. MACKAY, Prefect Master.

ANYBODY'S COLUMN

Here is an Eastern puzzle to test your brains.

An old Persian died, leaving seventeen camels to be divided among his three sons in the following proportions: the eldest to have half, the second a third and the youngest a ninth. Of course camels cannot be divided into fractions, so, in despair, the brothers submitted their problem to a very wise old dervish. "Nothing easier!" said the wise Ali. "I will divide them for you." HOW DID HE DO IT?

(See Answer elsewhere in this issue)

* * *

An Arabian proverb which contains a lot of meaning very closely packed runs as follows:—

"Who knows not, and knows not that he knows not, is foolish; shun him.

"Who knows not and knows that he knows not, is humble, teach him;

"Who knows, but knows not that he knows, is asleep, wake him.

"Who knows, and knows that he knows is wise, follow him." Think it out.

* * *

A student's criticism of the Assembly Hall proposal:—

"The contracts have been let for the building of the Assembly Hall, estimated to seat nine hundred people. But what use is there in building a hall accommodating only nine hundred when the school is already attended by nine hundred pupils. In two years time, when an assembly is held, fifteen hundred pupils will have to be put into a hall holding nine hundred persons. When build-make allowance for pupils who will attend the school in an assembly hall, the Education Department must when it becomes a full high school. It would surely be worth the added expense to make the assembly hall of a suitable size."

* * *

One day the English teacher was giving a Spelling Bee. After two boys had managed to get their words wrong, he asked the third boy to spell tobacco. The boy promptly replied:—

"Part of a cross and a circle complete,
Two semi-circles on an upright meet,
Isosceles triangle standing on feet,
Two semi-circles and a circle complete."

Tobaccoitis?

* * *

No, it's not a tribal dance in progress! It's the Dance Band having a practice. This is one of the keenest and most active groups within our school, and is ably led by Peter Carter. The band will have an outing in the last week of term when it plays at the Social to be attended by third year students from Cheltenham Girls' and Epping Boys' High School.

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Russell Dainty's tribute to an important and useful household article:—

"See that little masterpiece,
The one forged out of tin;
That's not Cupid and his bow,
That's our garbage bin."

TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Our thanks go to those boys who submitted articles for publication. We are sorry we could not print more of the stories and poems offered. Some of these were very good but others, while including some very worthwhile sections, did not maintain that standard throughout. Keep it up writers! You have made a good start.

When writing for our paper, please write neatly on one side of the paper only.

CRICKET

GRADE TEAMS

3rd GRADE

During the first half of the cricket season the 3rd grade cricket team played Meadowbank "B", Meadowbank "A" and Granville in the first three rounds of the competition. The team lost all three of its matches on the first innings. The team played against boys who were mostly older than ourselves but we gained valuable experience which should help towards improved performances in the second half of the season. Results:—

Meadowbank "B" 5-95 (dec.) defeated Epping 6-84 and 6-42, on the 1st innings.

Meadowbank "A" 3-104 (dec.) defeated Epping 47 and 2-3 on the 1st innings.

Granville 1-105, defeated Epping 5-85 on the 1st innings in a one-day match.

The team's best performances during the season were: In batting: W. Wheeler 33 and F. Hargreaves 15 against Meadowbank "B"; J. Farr 11 and T. Palmer 10 against Meadowbank "A"; T. Palmer 29 and L. Ward 17, against Granville. There was only one outstanding bowling performance, that being J. Farr's 4-44 against Meadowbank "B".

4th GRADE

The first match which was played against Carlingford at Rydalmere was won by Epping. R. Moon scored 43 and A. Ahearn 33. Epping scored 150 and Carlingford 112. R. Warwick took 3 wickets for 24 and A. Ahearn 3 for 35.

The second match which was played at Epping against Meadowbank was drawn. Epping scored 170 and Meadowbank 6 wickets for 85. R. Warwick top scored with 56. R. Ward took 4 wickets for 13, R. Hadfield 1 for 2 and R. Warwick 1 for 19.

The third match was played against Granville at Auburn. Epping scored 6 for 126 and Granville 5 wickets for 99. Top-scorer was R. Warwick with 56 while R. Moon scored 49. Price took two wickets, R. Ward and A. Ahearn taking one each. Epping won on the first innings.

5th GRADE

During the first half of the cricket season this team played Hunter's Hill, Meadowbank and Granville. It performed reasonably well, losing the first match, drawing the second and winning the third.

There were some good batting performances by Matthews, 44 against Meadowbank and 29 not out against Granville. J. Hibbard scored 21 against Hunter's Hill and 22 against Meadowbank, while B. Stoddart scored 31 against Hunter's Hill and 16 not out against Granville.

The best bowling performances were by M. Moulton, 3-34 against Hunter's Hill and 4-18 against Granville; Williams 3-16 against Hunter's Hill and Elsley 3-17 against Granville.

6th GRADE

The 6th XI has had a very successful half season, registering two 1st innings wins and a draw.

Six times in his eleven year career Burke batted right through five and a half and six hour days. His longest innings lasted nine and a half hours before he was proved to be human. He was then dismissed, having scored 189. Twice he had scores in the 190's and once he reached 220, his highest score. Once he played through the New South Wales innings, for 132 not out, and had he not run out of partners he would almost certainly have remained to double his score, so soundly had he batted.

His most brilliant century was on the 1956 tour of England, when he made a glorious 125 not out including 100 before lunch, an extremely rare feat. This innings showed that he could play the brilliant, attacking game just as well as May, Cowdrey and Harvey, and he played several other innings of that type. His concentration was such that he was able to score a century in his first Test match.

No longer will the crowd be able to yell out, "Have a go, Burke!" No longer will Burke, the world's best opener, be able to keep the crowd waiting half an hour for his next run.

Burke will be able to look back on a very successful career, and the crowd will have to reserve their endurance for someone else. And, finally, the Australian team will be considerably weakened by the retirement of this excellent 28-year-old fieldsman and batsman.

P. Gordon, 1A.

ANZAC DAY

Anzac Day was celebrated at a School assembly on Friday, 24th April.

The main address was given by John Prowse (2A). John Osborne (1A) recited "For the Fallen." The choir, with the orchestral group, rendered "Ave Verum", and the boys joined in singing "The Recessional", "Land of Mine", and "Advance Australia Fair."

Gilbert Lambert (2C) played the "Last Post" while the school stood in silence.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

A constant stream of new books is finding its way into the Library. Boys evidently appreciate this fact by the manner in which they are borrowing. A record for borrowing was established on Thursday, 16th April, when 163 books were taken out on the one day. It is interesting to compare this figure with that for the first borrowing day of the year when nineteen books were taken. All connected with the library are pleased with this development and hope that it continues.

HOUSE NEWS

During this term a great deal of progress has been made in the Houses. The headmaster has encouraged inter-House competition, and he has mentioned that he intends starting inter-House debates and other scholastic competitions in the near future. Staff members have generously given up their spare time to arrange the Houses and various House teams.

The success and future of the House system depends mainly on the efforts of the House members, and if the energy applied in the first term is sustained throughout the year a great deal of pleasure and benefit will be derived by all pupils.

Our Writers

DISCOVERY (by Alan Wildman, 1A)

John, a sturdy boy of twelve, lived near the bush on a two-hundred-acre farm with his parents and his brother, Tim, who was fourteen years old. The bush around the farm was a peaceful sanctuary for the wild birds and animals that lived in that district. Hunting rabbits, the rodents and scavengers that were such a nuisance to the farmers, was John's favourite pastime. He knew the bush exceedingly well and hunted with his brother's gun in its vast expanse whenever he was able to get away from the tiring chores that were his responsibility.

Even now, as he walked along the bush track towards the farm-house, he could see numerous movements in the bushes and scrub as small animals made their way back to their well-hidden homes, above and below the ground. Dusk was falling, and the sky was changing slowly from blue to grey. The movements in the bushes gradually ceased, until the only sound that could be heard was the shuffling of John's shoes on the grass and leaves. The occupants of the bush around him seemed to be waiting for something to happen, and it did, in rather a small way.

Ahead of him, hopping out of the bushes, John saw a grey rabbit, its ears bent down behind its head. At the sight of him, it loped back into the undergrowth, and John, having caught only a small number of rabbits that day, followed it, with the hope of adding it to his catch. The rabbit after a while sensed John behind him, and hopped speedily ahead. Suddenly it disappeared altogether and John realised where he had been led.

The rodent had led him to a rocky hillside where rabbit-runs criss-crossed each other at various points. Their burrows could be seen everywhere on the side of the hill. At the top a cave was situated and John thought as night was approaching, it would be better for him to stay in the cave until morning. He climbed the hill and entered the dark forbidding cave, feeling in his pocket for some matches as he did so. Lighting one, he saw the cave wound further back into the hill; so, anxious to explore, he walked ahead. He hadn't been walking long, when suddenly the cave sloped downward. At the bottom of the slope he came upon a small underground spring that left the cave through an opening in the wall. A glint came from the walls, and after careful examination, this glint proved to be the glint of silver ore. Thrilled at the sight of this, he began to make his way out when he saw something not so thrilling. These were two animal skeletons, which later proved to be the bones of extinct creatures that had lived in the area.

Then, John, satisfied that he had looked around enough, made his way to the top of the cave, wondering what his parents would say about his discoveries.

PRIZE-WINNING POEM —

BUSHFIRE

There's a roaring and a crackling as the fire comes racing through,
Burning old gnarled tree and sapling, but the firemen they are few.
The volunteers are called upon, to help control the flame,
But the creatures which have perished count so many, who's to blame?

Was it you who had a camp-fire, and forgot to put it out?
Or did some other person bring this awful fire about?
Or was it just sheer laziness on some-one else's part
To extinguish cigarette butts, and so cause this fire to start?

P. HERRING, 2A.

ANSWER TO PROBLEM

The old dervish divided the 17 camels into the desired proportions by adding one of his own to the number making 18. The eldest brother then took his half—9, the second his third—6, and the third his ninth—2, making 17 in all, and giving back the one camel to its owner, the dervish.