

1950-52

EAST 50
JULY 52



HAMPSHIRE TRUST

Telephone: (01329) 234294

EASTER 1950

Thursday 30 ~~April~~ ^{March}
Dry
Advance party by car: G.W. Phillips, T. Reader, E.A. Faulkner. Open camp, air packages, check groceries. After tea to town in search of -- cement.

Fri 31 ~~April~~ ^{Mar.}

Dry, cold,
windy.

By 8 22 train: E. Merriman, J. May, A. Jordan and twelve boys, viz. — Kibbler, Woods, Horton, W.D. Jones, ~~L. Shirley~~, Eastwood (VI); Roberts, Jelf, McDermott; Payne, Hopkins, Spencer (V); Talboys (IV).

[C. G. Thomas was to have travelled also, but was ill]

1. Shirley arrived by bicycle, from Shrewsbury, about 6 p.m. Work began as soon as lorry arrived from town, unloading, stowing cement under cover, rearranging timbers and metal sheets. After late meal, work began again: Start made on levelling the site, old floorboards taken from Miners' Cottage beams and some "shutters" made for ~~steel~~ concreting.

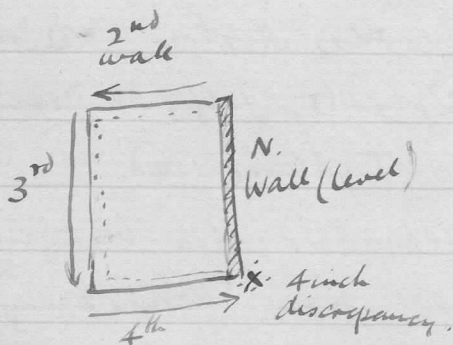
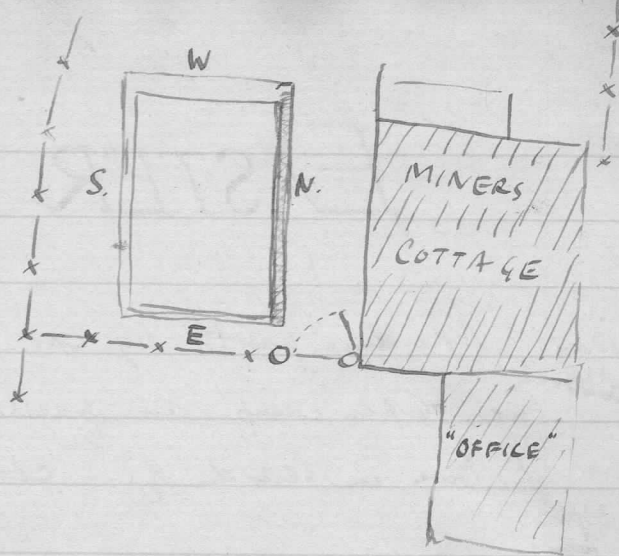
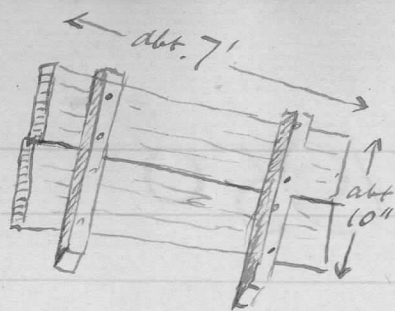
Sat. 1 April

Very windy
and cold,
but dry
until
dark

We had been busy until dark on Friday and not even the boys found any difficulty in going to sleep, and today work went on until it was too dark to see.

Work: a trench was dug and roughly levelled where the four foundation-walls were to be. Meanwhile

A
SHUTTER



Woods (karapunter) had made five pairs of shutters from the floorboards of the tent that was "lost" in 1947. The trench for the North foundation-wall was finally levelled, shuttering placed in position, concrete mixed and then put in and covered over for the night.

Nobody seems to have remembered "April Fool"-ing.

Sunday

2 Apr.

Windy;
cold;
many
short
showers
of rain
and hail.

WORK :- More levelling (the N.E. corner was originally 4 ft higher than the S.W. corner). The latter was today built up with 3 or 4 tons of rocks, red shaly soil being then washed into the crevices with many buckets of water. This made a solid bed for the concrete to lie on. When the last bed was levelled, it was found to be 4" too high; but as the discovery was made at the end of a long day, nothing was done then.

Other incidental jobs included: creosoting timbers (beams and purlins); painting curved sheets inside with "Bitumastic" (tar), and knocking several tins of it over; digging out and wheeling several tons of rocks and red shale.

Monday

3 Apr.

Wind
veered
from

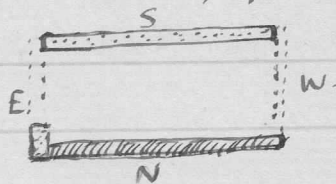
This afternoon Sir Rodney & Lady Pasley with Malcolm Pasley and Miss Sheldon visited the camp and stayed for tea. Later TR, GWP, EM, and JM visited the Lion where the aforementioned were staying and had dinner and convers-

Went to
North-West.
Cold but
sunny;
only 2 or
3 showers.

ation. Alan Wood (1934-37) who is now staying at home was also of the party. He recently became "Personal Assistant" to R. G. Mills of the Foundry and in the following week was quite useful to the Bryantair Construction Company.

WORK :- "Shutters" removed from N wall. "South" wall finally levelled, shuttered and built, of concrete as before. NE corner turned also.

We reached this stage:



Tuesday
4 Apr.

E.M. returned by 11.25 train this morning.

Wind West
again.
Wet morn;
fairly dry
after.

WORK: Mainly odd jobs, while waiting for concrete to set. Ends of hut cleaned of old nails, staples, roofing-felt, old firewood, etc. Curved girders scraped, scratch-brushed, painted; nuts loosened. Sunk sheets cleansed of loose rust. Levelling inside the hut (i.e. the floor) went on.

Wed
5 Apr.
Less wind
but cold.
Fine a.m.
but some
heavy
showers
p.m.

TR seedy, but worked most of morning. Left his dinner and went to bed. Temperature up; GWP diagnosed tonsillitis. 102.6 at night and rambling.

Spencer also shivering and feverish (102+) at supper time; he was put to bed in dining-room.

WORK: Further levelling of floor. More small

EASTER 1950†

sheets straightened, scratch-brushed and painted.

Afternoon: the third foundation wall made. Only half a bag of cement now left.



Woods spent most of the day repairing windows.

Thurs 6 Apr.

FINE and
MILD!
SUNNY
much of
the day!

TR slightly better, but no food. Temp. 100.6. "To-day is Maundy Thursday - the maundiest Thursday I ever spent." Spencer abed in O.C.s Room all day; much better.

Shirley, shopping, fell off his bicycle on "Quarry Hill" (a thing never before known). Superficial but bloody injuries.

WORK: - An easy day. Straighten the kinks, clean, and paint a good number of five-foot sheets and the "clips" for holding the same. Knock off about 3, tea 3.30, ten boys to pictures.

Friday
7 Apr.

A fine, warm
morning.
Wind soon
increased,
and brought
rain abt.
6 pm.

Good Friday. Old Boys began to arrive: W. Talboys by car 7 pm; K. Hall with C Westwood pillow 10.30; V. Sanders 11.30, both having met some mishaps and much rain

WORK: J.M. cycled to town - W. Vaughan - to foundry where loaded 10 net cement and nearly 2 tons of Rhayader sand (after "seeing" Gwynn Harris). Then to

Arthur Meredith's for another 10 bags cement. On return to camp, work quickly began. The East wall was completed and earth dug away, by North wall, in a slope. This left a space so as to make that side of the hut accessible for painting etc.

After tea, fitted beams (wooden brace-plates) along the long walls, and found that instead of being 36 feet long, they were about 36'6". So concrete was mixed and the West foundation extended some seven inches, making it about twice its original width. This work was finished in wind and rain and gathering gloom.

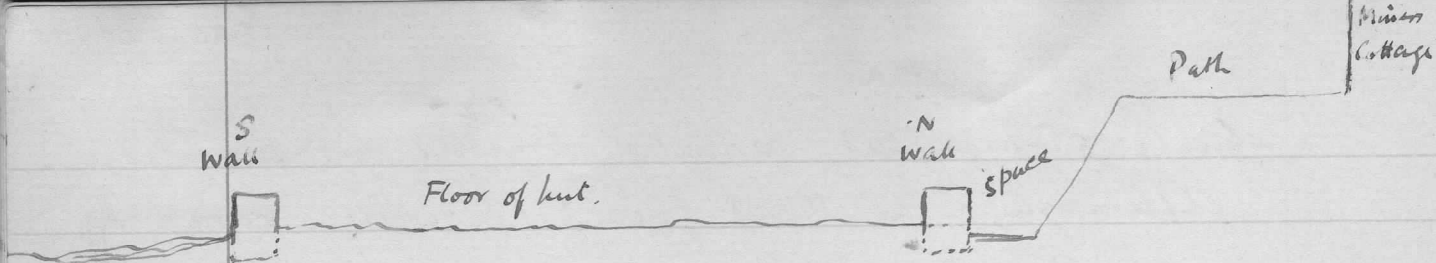
SOCIAL: T.R., having supped last night on 10 grains of aspirin and a double dose of Dr Armstrong's Influenza Mixture (hot) was much better and spent much of the day out of doors. Spencer up and patterning indoors.

In the afternoon two young misses were observed wandering in the farm plantation and contiguous field, ostensibly looking at lambs. There was a slight movement of campers in that direction, and a cry, perhaps derisive, of "Kibbler can't find his glasses!" The young ladies disappeared as mysteriously as they had arrived.

Sat 8 Apr.

Wind,

Departures: TR + GWP by car, with Woods (slightly debilitated) as passenger to station where ^{he} joined Horton and Jones on 11.25.

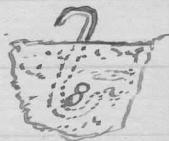


wind,
wind,
showers.

Shirley on wreckage of bicycle, his derailleur gear fixed on 92!
Arrivals: G. Jackson (left 1938) by train and taxi; J. James
by train and walking; L. Billingham, train to Salop and
bicycle thence; K. Bromage, bicycle to Salop and train
thence; E. Hodgson by train.

The fact that the two cyclists took to the train is explained
by the Gale; this day was the windiest, in Dick's memory,
for at least 3 years. On "the Site" it was difficult to
stand, conversation was carried on in shouts, and
concrete was whisked off the trowel in a spray. The
speed of the wind was estimated by V. Sanders at 80-90 mph.

WORK: Beams bedded on wet concrete on top of the
long walls; soil levelled round the outside; hooks
anchored in reinforced concrete along each wall.



Sunday
9 Apr.
Wind less
strong.
Cold.
Rain,
hail,
snow.

Easter Sunday.

Fried breakfast of bacon and egg; a precedent.

Cherry cake, from Mrs Talboys, for tea.

Only one visitor: Alan Wood.

AESTHETIC: the theme of this camp has been the first
16 bars of the well-known Eugen Onegin waltz (some
say Polonaise).

WORK: It was decided at supper on Saturday that if
there was no prospect of calm weather we should
abandon hopes of erecting the hut, and if possible complete

the concrete floor. There was no such prospect, so while some levelled the soil ~~for~~ ^{of} the floor and cast soil, or rather loose red shale, thereon, others began demolishing the wall in the old mine workings and wheeling the bricks up the field to the Site. After dinner, when the work was proceeding, and a quarter of the floor covered with bricks, John Evans Bryntail came down and, after twenty minutes' general conversation, expressed grave doubts about the advisability of continuing demolition. Consternation! When this had subsided, a new plan was adopted: to space out the bricks already on the floor, and fill up the spaces with small hard shale. This was obtained near the old shaft above the Tool'us — hard work with buckets and barrow on the steep hillside.

After half an hour of this it was reported that "We and my brothers" had talked over the question and relented (C.W.P. and a tractor magnets seem to have counted for something in the matter). So, tho no further demolition was done, we hauled up several hundred bricks through rain and slush, and by dark (about 8 p.m.) the floor was nearly finished.

A hard day of heavy work in trying conditions.

Mon 12

Easter Monday.

Apr.

A. Jordan returned by foot and train; V. Sanders by motor cycle.

Rain,
wind, etc
all morn.

EAF by car to see Billy Vaughan after tea; others to

Better
in
evening.

pictures and so forth.

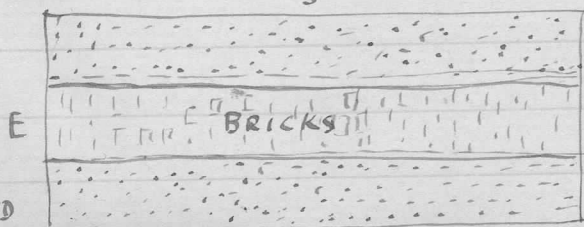
WORK: Very, very, VERY bad weather, with the camp and Site a quagmire, kept even the most enthusiastic indoors. After dinner there were some breaks in the weather, which enabled us to wheel more bricks from the mine-shaft and finish bricking the floor.

Tue. 11 Apr.

Still cold
and
breezy
but more
fine than
Wed

WORK: As a result of the negotiations with W. Vaughan, we were all up early, had our second fried breakfast, and sent off W Talboys, G. Jackson, C. Westwood and EAF to town. There, below the Long Bridge, they shovelled 3 tons of river sand into W.V.'s lorry, which was quickly off-loaded on its arrival at Camp. By 11 o'clock we had mixed the first load of concrete (1 bucket cement, 1 of Rhayader sand, 4 of river-sand, water quant. suff.) and begun laying the floor. The first strip was laid

FIRST



SECOND

under the expert guidance of Ken Hall who will do a pretty and delicate trowel.

EASTER 1950.
9

However, after dinner K. Hall and Westwood left by motor-cycle, and G. Jackson and EAF continued the second strip, more than keeping pace with a depleted gang of concrete-bashers. By tea-time it was about three-parts finished, and then Jackson (who had already stayed some hours longer than he had originally intended) walked down with J. James to catch the last train to Birmingham - 7.28. Work was held up by a heavy shower, but at last the Rump was able to make a start and by the time darkness fell the second strip was completed and carefully covered with 5 foot sheets.

K. Bromage and L. Billingham left by bicycle after breakfast; W. Talboys and E. Hodson after dinner.

"Pa" Whitehouse looked in, saw we were busy, so gave us his blessing and disappeared again.

J. Broadhurst (ca 1934-39), sometime assistant cook, with his wife, two children, and two friends, called and stayed to tea.

Wed 12 Apr.

Fine but
Cold am.
Frequent
showers
later in
aft. and
evening.

We woke late (feeling that we had had enough the day before), to see the higher ground covered with snow. Not much work, as we must wait for outer strips to dry before filling in - a pity to waste one of the rare fine mornings! The WORK was mainly tidying:

clean out "office" (tools, nails etc, tables, timber); clear Miners' Cottage and stack pulvis, curved and straight sheets, ~~put~~ curved T-girders; tidy and mop Store and Cooks' Room. P.m. some sand-riddling.

Boys ^{were} turned out of camp until 5 o'clock, During this time N.H. Leaker and Mrs Leaker paid a brief visit (their first) to Camp.

Turn in early, the plan for tomorrow being to get Coacking as early as possible so as to get the final strip laid and under cover for 24 hours, or thereabouts, before lifting off and storing the sheets on Friday.

Thursday
13 April.

Quite cold
with N.
wind.

Sunny at
times but
long show-
ers of rain
and hail.

Up at 7.15. Began preparations after breakfast — collect materials, including medium-mesh riddle from farm, clear protecting sheets off the two concreted strips, find, measure and cut a suitable "joggling-board".

The night had been wet (rain and snow) and the camp and Site ^{were} two inches deep in mud, but we were able to begin the job in sunshine. Not for long however, and the rest of the day was as much wet as fine.

The work was divided as follows: Laying the floor, EAF assisted by Roberts and Jelf; Mixing and wheeling concrete, J.M., Kibbler, Payne; Supplying water and cement, Talboys; Riddling and wheeling grit, Spencer

X. Also with a couple of buckets of sand and
3 or 4 bags of cement (though unlimited
water) to spare

EASTER 1950 "11

and Mc Dermott; Cook and assistant, Eastwood and Hopkins.

In spite of the rain, work went well until the last piece — there was still a foot to lay when an exceptionally heavy hail-storm sent everyone into the office, and kept us there a quarter of an hour. The last few shovelfuls were laid (in water and melting hailstones) at about half-past four.

x. So, with about two hours to spare, we reached our "limited objective" and emerged defeated, but with the Honours of War, from our battle against the weather.

The barrow, shovels, trowels, boots were all washed for the last time and a start made on the tedious process of clearing up.

Friday
14 Apr.
1950

J.M. and E.M.F. returned with boys. As so often happens we were quite lucky with the weather and had a mainly dry morning for our clearing up and camp and getting ourselves to Llanidloes.

THE END (for now).

SUMMER 1950

Wed:
26 July.

Fine

Advanced party: TR, GWP, EAF by car. A busy day opening camp

Thur:
27 July.

Main party by 8.22 - J.M., J. Abbey, and 11 boys, viz:
Eastwood (VI) Payne and Watson (V) Harris, Warren, and
Hall (IV) Frankham, J. Smith, Croft, Tilt, and Burman (all
of Form III)

A fine
sunny
calm
day.

Spencer and MacDermott had left Birmingham by bicycle
on Tuesday, stayed at Youth Hostels, and arrived shortly
before the main body.

Light
breeze.

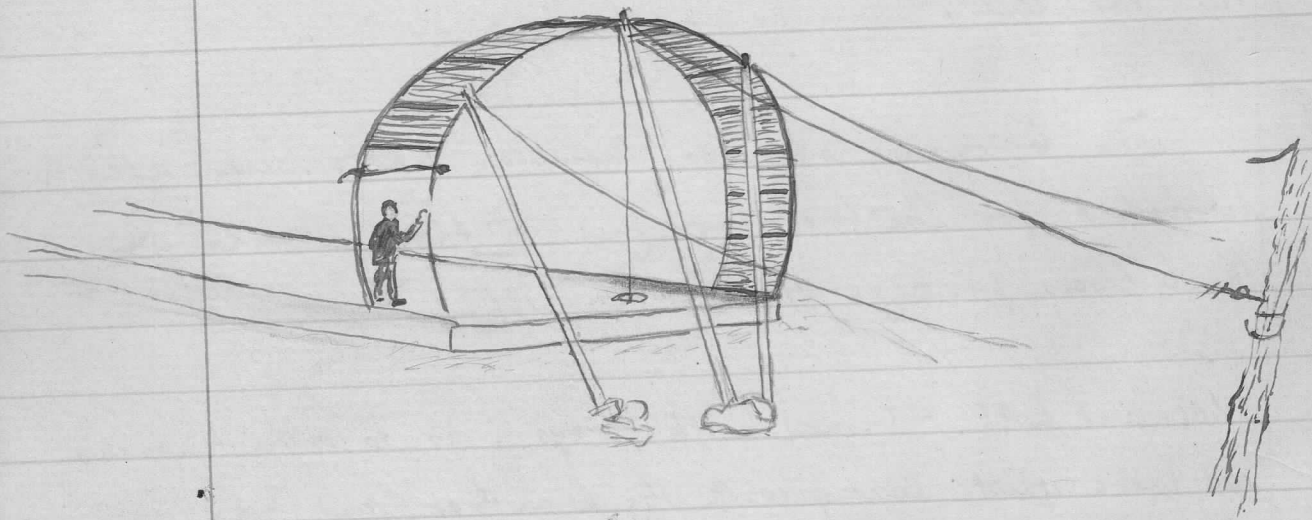
Two squads: one for working on the hut; one for "veg."
and all Camp duties.

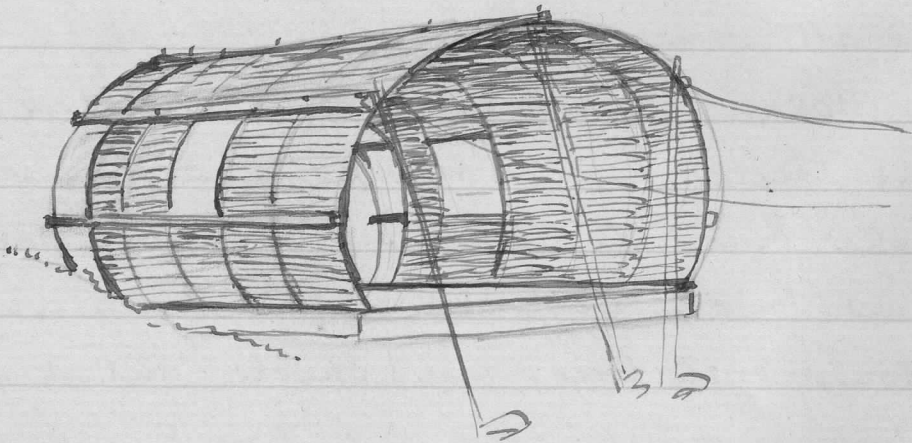
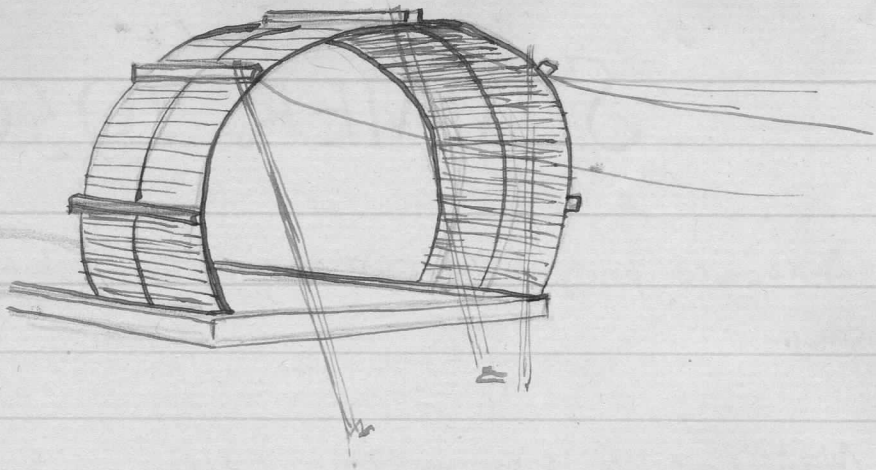
Cold at
night.

WORK. From mid-afternoon until dark. Assembled
and erected last two ribs, strained them with wires and
pushed them with 12 foot purlins until straight (one way)
round (the other way) and vertical. Then with great
labour, brute force, many checks and a number of
unlucky inspirations, we got 7 or 8 inner sheets in
place. To bed, for the time being despondent and frustrated.
(18 in camp)

Fri.
28 July.
Weather
as
Thursday.

Almost as soon as we laid a hand on our
ignominious efforts of yesterday, the sheets rattled down





So
[scribble]

Fin
WA

and collapsed in piles at the foot of the girders. But nobody cared much, for it pointed to the way we had to go and saved us the distasteful job of destroying our own handiwork. Feeling much more confident, we erected our third rib or girder, fastened the three firmly with pulleys and then, feeling much more solid and secure, placed the inner sheets in position. We finished the two sections by ~~the~~ nightfall.

In the late afternoon TR took Bathing Parade. A dozen boys went in; water comfortable tho' not exactly warm.

Sat., 29

July.

After The Engineer had "seen to" the farm tractor, he set off for Birmingham with Burmah Tom and the Camp Courier (Spencer) who was going to town for me etc.

Fine and
warm.

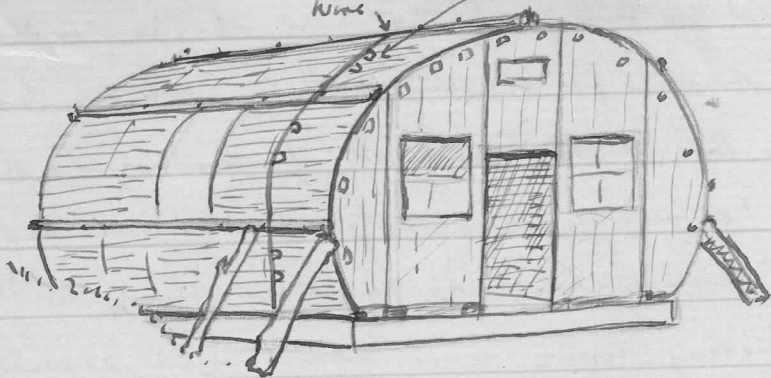
We regretted our excellent colleagues' departure, but were glad to welcome eight Old Boys, viz: Hodgson, Fowler, Jordan, Sanders, Tracy, Bromage, Brennan, and Flavell.

WORK: completed framework (ribs and pulleys) and fitted all inner sheets except for last section.

Bathing at 5 p.m. 12 boys, J.M., 4 Old Boys. War (24 in camp.)

An Hornet observed flying round Miners' Cottage.

Strappings and Wedges



Sunday
30 July

The wind shifted, bring^{ing} a dull day with intermittent drizzle, which was not enough to interfere with the work. Peel, who left from a junior form about 1939 (brother of Head Prefect Peel (R.A)) came with three friends and worked until dinner, tightening the straining wires. Besides this we fitted the remaining inner sheets, forced the lower, or West, end of the hut into a circular shape, and fitted that end of the hut into place. For the first time work was finished before it was quite dark.

Payne and Eastwood took boys for a walk to B.G., top of Van, Van Pool, Bidffald.

Monday
31 July.

The weather was still unsettled, with slight morning drizzle which gradually eased to give us a warm and sunny afternoon. But about 4.30 just as the half-dozen bathers were finishing their dip - as warm as on Saturday - the rain began again and continued most of the evening, with very heavy showers at times.

WORK: This was one of the best days. A variety of jobs went on, and at least 15 people were kept busy nearly all the time. The following list gives some idea of what was done.

Hodgson, assisted by Warren: fitting side window
Eastwood, Frankham, Harris, Warren: cleared away part of earth-bank at the East end, to enable -

Bromage, Sanders, Brennan, Flavel, Fowler, and Tracey to adjust and fasten the end of the hut.

Meanwhile Frankham was cleaning ex-shuttering (ex-floor-boards) to prepare them for Hall and Mc Dermott who sawed and planed them ready to fulfill what must surely be their last function before they end up as firewood: they are now serving as sills and other parts of the two side-windows.

Eastwood and Harris made a rock platform for the proposed door-step at the West end of the hut; EAF did 25 jobs at the same time; JM took photographs and cold-chiselled concrete (2nd an hour extra); the rest were mostly occupied in Domestic Economy.

Tuesday

7 Aug.

The day was fine but rather cloudy with a cool-to-cold breeze.

WORK: fastened outer sheets over the first 2½ bays, working down from the East end, i.e. about 21 curved sheets.

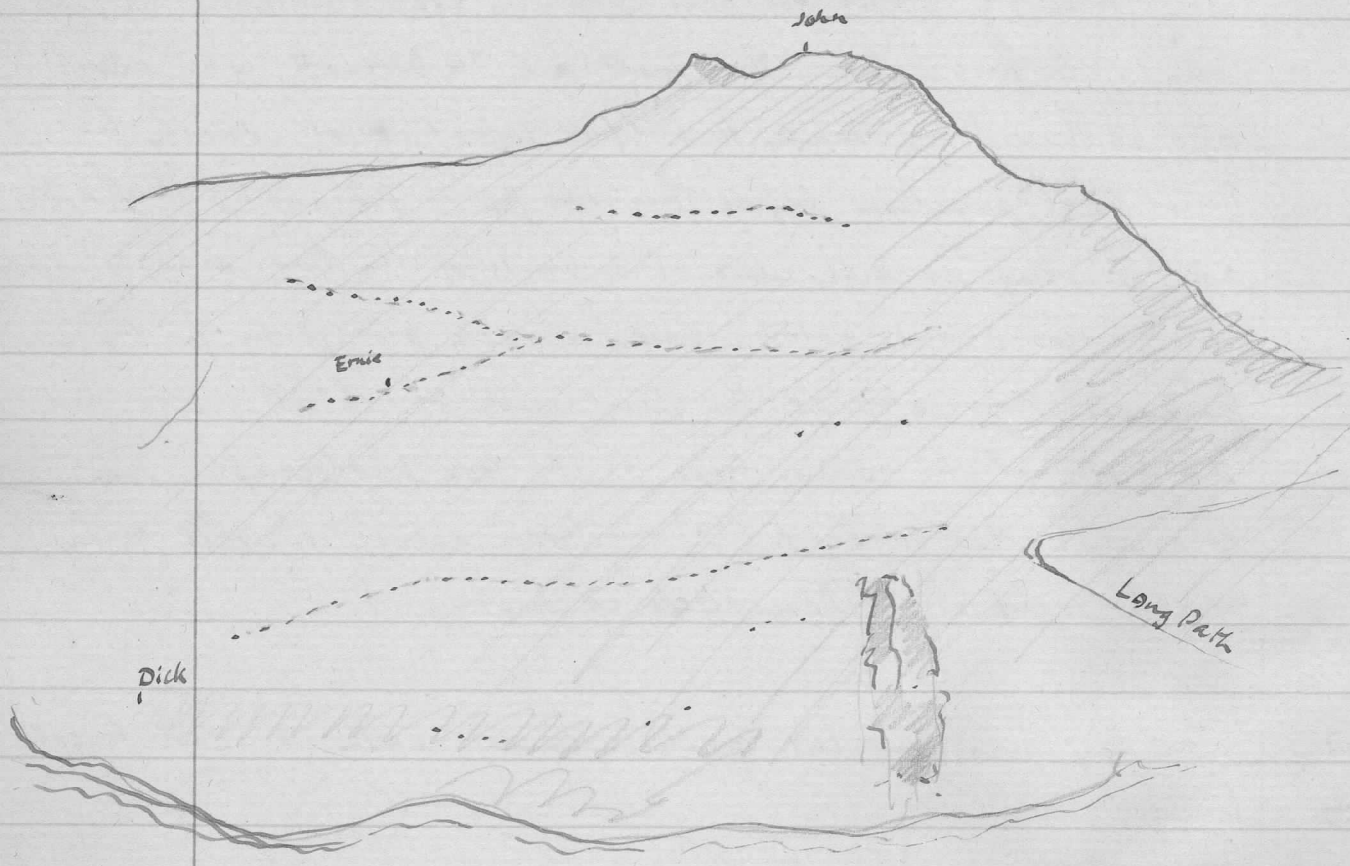
This seems little enough, but work was held up by some shortage of good tools and ladder, by the necessity of cleaning, painting and straightening edges of sheets, and by a lot of "fiddling" to fit sheets against, and under, the first window.

Still 24 in camp.

Wed.

2 Aug.

It rained hard at night and at intervals until tea-time.



John

Ernie

Long Path

Dick

After an early tea, Old Boys to town, camp for a walk. We went to Crowlun, Cuon, steeply up by the fence to the road, on to Penybanc Llystrad Hynod, Deildre Chapel. At the Cuon we met R. Pridcaux the new farmer, a young man who has been sheep-farming in Skye for some years. Seems intelligent and tough, as he will need to be to look after his farm, stock, and house alone.

As we descended Crowlun we saw the sheep being gathered in on "Bryn". Long white lines of them converged on the narrow tracks that contour round the mountain-side. On top John was shouting at the dogs, the sheep, and the universe (within 2 miles radius): "Bonnie, Bonnie, come year Bonnie. Diawl! Get over, get over!" Then we saw Ernie, half-way up the slope, driving the ~~the~~ main line of sheep. Finally Dick the Shepherd came in sight on the bottom path. By the time we reached camp, the sheep were all by the gate, ready to be driven into the farm copee to await the morrow's dipping. The rain began about then, with very heavy showers.

WORK: A few more outer sheets were cut to shape and fitted, including the one with the stove-pipe hole. Tedious work, in the cold and rain. Even more tedious work was done by the "Hat Squad" and assistants; ~~the~~ cleaning the rust, dirt, tar, and black oil off the

inner sheets to make them fit to paint. Tiring, monotonous, dirty, boring work; in fact, a Rotten job. We did about 20 sheets.

Thursday
3 Aug.

Wind between NE and NW gave us a fine bright rather cool day.

WORK: The Old Boys worked until nearly dark, and finished the outer sheets. In the morning, Flavell, who had been responsible for the concrete sill under the West end, was assisted by Tracey in ~~making~~ finishing the doorstep at that end. The rest of us cleaned about 50 inner sheets. Boys played an unorthodox variety of football after tea, in the field opposite the cottage.

Friday
4 Aug.

Precariously fine all day.

WORK: Finished cleaning inner sheets. Cleaned part of outer sheets with scratch-brushes. Windows finished. Roofing-felt fixed (stuck and nailed) to lower part of W. end.

Boys to town after dinner, Old Boys after tea
Hodgson and Eastwood to Staylittle by river, back by road.
G.E. Jackson arrived for supper (25 in camp).
Painted set of number-plates (3) for farm tractor.
Roy Brocombe paid flying visit, his first since 1932 or so

Sat. 5
• Aug.

Fine all day; sunny but cool wind.

WORK: Finished scratching outer sheets. Painted them with green "Bitumastic". More felt on W. end. Concrete sill under E. end walk.

CRICKET: V. Tracey, Smith and Harris to Blunfyllin with town cricket team, which won by 96 for 7 to 95. Tracey made 1 (out to dubious L.b.w.), but others did not bat. Smith bowled three overs for 7 runs, but was then taken off.

J. James arrived for supper (26 in camp).

Hall in bed with headache and bellyache - no temperature. L. Birbeck (camper about 1925) visited a.m.

Sunday
6 Aug.

A fine, sunny day, rather close but not oppressive.

WORK: Painted inside of hut, first coat, cream.

Fastened anchoring wires across hut and strained them. Levelled ground at E. end and faced bank with large stones. Completed felting on W. end.

To chapel for 6 pm. service - 20 all told. An abstract, rather thin and repetitive sermon by Rev. - Roberts, but exemplary conduct by all, even when a cow began to make its way into the chapel.

F. J. Mills (camper about 1925 + brother of E.V. the cook) visited + stayed for tea, accompanied by Miss Weston.

Monday
7 Aug.

Bank Holiday. William Postman thought it would be a fine day when he brought the letters (very few again; seldom more than half-a-dozen this camp). He was right; it was a perfect day.

WORK. Fowler, Jordan, Brennan, Tracey, and Jackson left on 3.46 train, but in spite of this a good deal was done. Inside received its second under coat; East end of the hut was covered with felt; projecting outer sheets were cut at 12-inch intervals, hammered over, ~~#~~ overlapping, and nailed to hut ends; two doors hung; walling by E. end of hut completed with some really big stones, some of more than 2 cwt; stove assembled; concrete base for it laid down on hut floor.

Besides this the boys had bathing at 3.30 - water quite warm - and a curious brand of baseball after tea. Some took soap down to the river.

One of our most satisfactory days.
(21 in camp to-night. No visitors except half a dozen "strangers" or trippers).

Tuesday
8 Aug.

After a fine clear night with shooting-stars, planets and all, and a fair morning we developed a "real Bryntail" afternoon. Rain fell steadily

all day, after dinner.

Vic Sanders left in the rain with "Len" Hodgson on his pillow-seat; J. James walked down in the rain after tea. (18 in camp tonight). Visitors were Vic Watson, his father and a friend who arrived from Borth by motorbike and sidecar, about 2.30, and left after tea.

WORK. Main job was painting inside with its final coat — the Glossy Third. Various odd jobs included painting the cowl and outside portion of the stove-pipe, and digging up a length of old tram-rail from below the big shake-heap. It was then sawn into two five-foot lengths (1,150 complete strokes of the hacksaw) for stakes, to which we intend to attach the anchoring wires for the hut end.

The day's proceedings ended with a "whist-drive".

Wed. 9
August

A mainly fine day, with increasingly strong westerly wind.

Bathing parade; mine went in, and swam and splashed and washed themselves in the peaty water (after the rain, the colour of dilute porridge, or "weak black coffee").

WORK. Floor painted, as far as the insufficient

amount of undercoat allowed, with two coats of "Glast". This leaves about $\frac{1}{5}$ of the floor to be done later.

The hut was stayed with four wires from the W. end strained to convenient taces and a wire round the E. end fixed to lengths of old tram-rail embedded in concrete about halfway along the sides of the hut.

A good deal of clearing-up was done, and the mine-shaft had its best meal for weeks.

Thursday
10 Aug.

Clearing-up was continued; a sad little ceremony when J.M. consigned his faithful old Army boots, 1944 vintage, to the mineshaft (retaining the laces, which still seemed pretty good).

As usual it was a reasonably dry morning and as usual there was a tremendous rush by the rear-guard, extending even to Claidloes itself, where Miss Francis could not be found, but at last turned up to receive the money in payment of the Grocery Bill — just in time to allow EAF to join the rest on the familiar platform.

EASTER 1951.

Wed. 21st
March.

First day of "Spring". Advance party - E.A.F., Eastwood, and McDermott by 8.22 train. The usual work of "opening up", airing paillasses, etc., was complicated by the taps being completely dry. After removing a very dead slug, unscrewing the tap, and poking a wire some 25 feet up the pipe, the engineer was unable to report progress. At the farm he was told that the inlet had been plugged to prevent a burst through freezing, but when John had removed the plug there was still no flow. Another attempt was made to clear the ~~part~~ pipe with wires, but without effect so, as it was now snowing, blowing hard, and very cold, work was suspended.

Weather report from farm: "The worst day this year".

Thurs. 22nd
March.

28 boys, accompanied by N.C. and J.M. travelled (on 8.22) arriving without incident. Meantime John spent most of the day digging up the water-pipe and clearing it section by section - a most necessary operation, as ~~the~~ it was solid with rust, etc. The flow began again as the party reached camp, claiming to have walked from Longbridge in 45 minutes.

After settling in, and tea, a "Camp walk" to Miners' Bridge, Crowloun Farm, top of Crowloun, Miners' Br., top of Bryn y Tail. A short but fairly strenuous walk,

Two-Mile Relay - Massed Start.

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 2. Randell ✓ | 4. Hughes ✓ | 1. Payne ✓ |
| 5. Mc Dermott ✓ | 9. Gibbs ✓ | 6. Coft ✓ |
| 10. Andrews ✓ | 11. Jones ✓ | 3. Wells ✓ |
| 28. Green ✓ | 25. Blackman ✓ | 8. Scott ✓ |
| 18. Heath ✓ | 19. Broadbent ✓ | 15. Shuttleworth ✓ |
| 24. Wishlade ✓ | 17. Arkinstall ✓ | 20. Marston ✓ |
| 27. Crook ✓ | 13. Newey ✓ | 14. Gessley ✓ |
| 21. Moore ✓ | 23. Cotton ✓ | 22. Horton ✓ |
| 12. Adams ✓ | 16. Kite ✓ | 7. Barlow ✓ |

(Reserve, to travel: May 26.)

Team Results (first 6 home)

Payne's	39
Randell's	68
Hughes's	71

battling against a very strong wind which seemed to attain the force of the 90 mph winds of last Easter.

Weather: Fairly warm in spite of the wind; no rain until ~~the~~ about 9:30 pm, and then only a shower.

Good
Friday
23 March.

33 in camp.

A.m.: the usual jobs, including wood. In the hut, a wire line was fitted ~~the~~ length from end to end, supported from the "ribs" above by simply (but cunningly) designed, home-made clips. 11:30 - walk down to river.

P.m.: A marked-start run round the Two-mile Relay course. Payne and Randal arrived at the Miner's Cottage, splashed with mud to the eyes, in 12 (twelve) minutes, closely followed by the rest. The last boy was back within 3 or 4 minutes of the leaders, everyone having quite clearly put out his best effort. A wash down in hot water, and change into dry clothes, put all into a pleasant frame of mind.

W.J.R and C.H.H. arrived by car, and Ken Bromage by motor-cycle, during the afternoon.

Weather: all night a full gale had been roaring up from the West, but by breakfast time had died out, and a steady rain was falling. The wind then began to blow from the North and the rain changed to snow. A trying afternoon. Later the heavens dried up and the evening was clear but cold.

Easter
Saturday
24 March.

An eventful day.

Arrivals and Deps. CHH left after breakfast. L. Hodgson arrived during the morning, A. Flavell later, J. James at supper-time. Joe Banks looked in during the afternoon, Roy Brocombe and Leonard —?, motoring from Yorkshire to West Wales, in the evening.

Casualty Ward. Marston, on wood-duty at the top of Gelli Wood, spilt a pair of trousers and made a neat gash on top of his knee-cap, fortunately without ^{damaging} touching the bone. He was carried up on the stretcher, and taken down to the hospital by "Monty" Morgan, returning about 3pm. with three or four stitches and a long splint to prevent knee-bending. Put to bed in O.C.'s room.

Fortitude. Ken Bromage stripped, plunged into the icy and turbulent Clywedog, and climbed out after a minute or two, to dry himself under a North wind and hail-snow shower.

Archaeology. Descending, with the aid of a doubled clothes line, into the old level by the "Hammer Pool", Payne and others found an old earthenware vessel of a kind which, apparently, was used in the lead-washing process a hundred years ago.

Walk. 28 boys, WJR, NC, JM, to the Cwm (a wood with Pridcaun) up the little valley to "Old Aber." road, to Pen y Banc, Ystrad

Hynod, Deildae Chapel, and back down Crowlum. Most of the lads missed the path and two or three, becoming crag-bound, were assisted down to it.

Met. Wind pretty steady from the N-W. Quite cold, but a fair amount of sunshine, punctuated by fifteen-minute blizzards.

(38 in camp).

Easter Sunday
25 March. Partially fine morning. Heavy and continuous rain all afternoon and evening, driven by strong West wind.

The Fortitude Prize was shared by W.I.R. and Ken Bromage.

Pilgrimage. At about 4.30 (after an early mug of tea and slice of cake, preceded by an early dinner, after a late breakfast) thirty-six pilgrims set off for Deildae Chapel. Rain was driving and wind howling, and most of the pilgrims were wet by the time they reached the Miners' Bridge. After wringing out shorts, and hanging macks and capes in the little porch, they were sitting (and ~~saw~~ the wetter ones standing) in the little chapel by 5.15. At 5.30 the minister, Deacon Vaughan, and seven or eight natives came in and worship began. The temperature was raised and ~~circulation~~ circulation temporarily restored by the four hymns, requested by EAT and led by J.M. — fairly successful, except Trisagion (H., H., Holy) where he struck a note about a tone and a half too low.

The return began about twenty to seven. It was still raining and blowing, but now from astern, as the pilgrims floundered and slipped down Crowlum path in the deepening gloom.

Jimmy James had got the lamps and oil-stove lit, bread cut and buttered, and supper well on the way. This Supper was :- Shredded Wheat with hot milk, biscuits, butter and cheese, jam, b. and b., mug of tea. Very good, very good.

The rest of the evening, and much of the next day, was spent in drying boots, shorts, shirts, pants, coats, and so on.

(38)

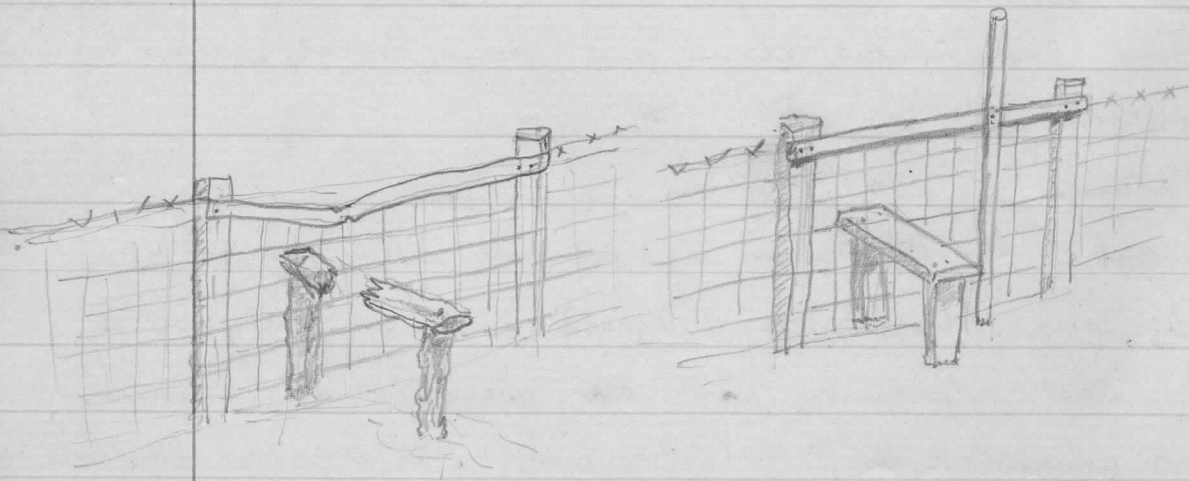
Monday Met. A sort of Welsh Scotch-mist a.m. Three hours
26 March. rain. Fairly clear, but cold and windy after that.
Departures. N.C. and Payne walked down for 1.54., Payne to play for North Midland schools v. London schools.
Casualty Ward. Marston to hospital for new dressings; wound pronounced clean and doing nicely, come again on Wednesday.

Bathing. No bathing.

Visitors. Mrs Blackman and relatives after dinner.

Dr and Mrs (Winifred) Davies-Jones at teatime: a guarded interview, with ~~the~~ oblique hints, imperceptible but unmistakable, that they would like Bryntail for their week-end camps, met by E.A.F. with the well-known

Tues
Ma



BEFORE

AFTER !!

EASTER 1951

27

Bryntail-farm technique of saying nothing. (The point had already been made, and conclusively dealt with, by correspondence).

Walk. To Brwlch-y-gle by the orthodox path and then back via the S-bend. Dry, some sun, and a strong, cold wind from N-W.

Nunc est Bibendum. Brouage, Flavell, and WJR to Clauddoc.

(36)

Tuesday 27
March.

Weather: Sometime between 2 and 7 a.m., an inch or two of snow had fallen, and a North wind was blowing which lasted all day, giving a crisp, clear day with blue skies and bright sunshine. Quite warm, for anyone who could find a 'leu corner'.

Activities. Snowballing, not long but murderous while it lasted, before breakfast. After dinner, a walk. After tea, some "whist". Before, during, and after supper, a fierce argument, circling around the Nature of the Universe.

The Walk. 28 boys, W.S.R., and E.A.F. to B.y.G., along Staglittle road, to Dinas summit, down to the river (some via Mwybr y Madyn), and back to camp over or round Bryn y Tail. From two to two and a half hours.

Job. On the Saturday walk we had finished off the decrepit stile by the footbridge which crosses the

Andrews, Heath, and J.M. put in a pleasant couple of hours renovating of it: two new uprights and a new plank (from Crookhorn) one new top rail and a post for pulling-up and over (from Gelli Wood).

Departures. J. James and L. Hodgson after dinner, also A. Flavell on an elderly and untrustworthy Velocette 250.

Visitors. Harolda Liggins brought his wife, two of his children, and a large fruit-cake. Stayed to tea.

Mrs Liggins helped to butter 150 slices of bread for the absent walking party.

Recurrent Fortitude: W.J.R. and K. Bromage again.

(33)

Wednesday
28th March.

Met. A cold night; there was a good coating of ice on standing water. A North wind, quite cold, though there was plenty of sun between the hail and snow showers.

Arr. and Dep. Kim Bromage took W.J.R. to Aberystwyth, on his way to West Wales. Payne returned on the early train after his N. Midlands Schools game. T.R. and G.W.P. walked up, having travelled by 8.22.

Dip. No dip.

Civilization. After 12.30 dinner, all but J.M. and Marston walked to town via Glyn Farm. Four came back to tea, the rest stayed to tea and cinema, arriving back at or before 9.15 pm.

Casualty Ward. Marston had splint removed, 'hobbles round with stick, returned to Nissen to sleep. Various wounds were dressed, and thorns extracted from septic fingers.

Job. New second-hand handle on outside of tent door.

35 in camp.

Thursday

29 March.

An unpropitious day. There was an inch of wet snow at breakfast time, and more fell during the day, to melt as it came to the ground. Sun obscured by low, dirty clouds. North-east wind, moderate.

Activities: Wood-duty as usual. A walk in the afternoon. A whist-drive at night. 28 walkers and one lumbago-stricken crawler went to Butch y Gle, up Van, down to the broken dam, and back via Penclun.

The whist-drive was most formally conducted, and resulted as follows, namely, viz:-

Gents. 1. Mc Dermott. Loser: Shuttleworth

Ladies. 2. Arkininstall. Loser: Jones; Scott.

Job: T.R. and G.W.P. had been busting to get weaving, ever since their arrival, and it did a body good to see their smiles of pure happiness when they were handed a barrow, pick, shovels, and gang of labourers. By nightfall they had got a pathway dug ~~round~~ across the lower side of the mound, between the garden gate and the Projected Copse Gate. They had also cleared out

The mud and some soil from the narrow space between the East end of the Nissen and the Rookery, caused loads of shale to be spread over mud by the dining-room, and — most glorious and spectacular feat of all — procured and erected a pair of thick, solid, and unshakable gate-posts for the recently mentioned Projected Copse Gate.

Friday
30 ~~April~~
March?

Hard frost: there was half an inch of ice on bowls not emptied at night. This was followed by a very fine day — brilliant sunshine and light air from East. After tea ~~at night~~ a bitter west wind sprang up and made it very cold indeed.

Dip. This morning nine dipped. Ken Bowrage, Blackman, Broadbent, Arkinstall, Crook, Shuttleworth, Scott, Wells, and Wishlade.

Arrival. E.M. by car after tea.

Activity. 25 played Prisoners. Release in the afternoon.

Visitors. Hordes of fourteen-year-old girls appeared round about camp, cruised round in flotillas, struck the attitude of scenery-admirers on different vantage-points, and finally rushed up, twittering and with downcast eyes, between the Nissen and Miners' Cottage, to disappear in an Easterly direction.

Job. The work proceeded. First thing after breakfast,

After a late breakfast, 17 lots of sandwiches - dunnies and tea - were prepared with great speed and efficiency, and the first or "Pennant" party were off by 11: Wells, Scott, Wishlade, Gessy, Blackman, Jones, Andrews, Gibbs, Green, Heath, J.M. At B. y G. the rain began and at the Van road junction most of the party were cold and pretty wet in spite of capes and macks. Here the Glaslyn party overtook the Pennant group: Payne, Eastwood, Randell, Hughes, McDermott, Croft. At Staylittle the rain and snow cleared up, and the rest of the day was a succession of sleet and rain, with dry intervals and a little sun.

At Pennant Falls the Glaslyn party were overtaken, mucking about under the waterfall, and the others went on to Dylife and had sandwiches in the shelter of a ruined house, whence they saw the other party walking past for the last time. They then took the direct track over the moors to Staylittle, and back by the river, Eblid and Llangybr y Madyn. Arrived back about a quarter to six (15 miles)

The others took the track by the lead-mines and gorge of the Clywedog to Glaslyn, then back by road to Dylife, Staylittle and home (about 20 miles)

At camp, the intention had been for EAF to take the little boys to Craig y Dlo, but the weather was bad enough to change this into a whisk-dove. Those who stayed behind performed the noble and really

humanitarian job of providing the weary walkers with hot water and a most excellent tea on their return. Sunday tea, with jelly and tinned strawberries (in thin syrup). No coal in the coales, so much time was spent in splitting and drying wood.

Visitors: Mr and Mrs Heath, who provided sweets and some buns for tea - a very good line.

Departure: Ken Bromage after dinner, by motor-cycle.

Monday
2 April.

Weather: West wind continued, giving another cold day, but with only a couple of brief showers in the morning.

Bathing: Crook and Broadbent.

Jobs: More of the low side of the mound was dug out and wheeled away and the fence repaired and strengthened.

Activity: Dinner was late, partly owing to the fact that E.M.'s car would not start, until it had twice been towed up the hill by the Dutch (or Scotch) barn and allowed to run down again.

After dinner, walk to Penclun, Van Pool, Pen y Banc, Cukes. Below Penclun, a motley crowd of fox hunters, accompanied by various dogs and smallish light-coloured hounds, were trying to dig out a fox from the steep bank of the gully. At Pen y Banc, the

farmer chid Scott in good coarse English for trying to climb over a fence instead of going through the gate. The mud in the lane was feet deep - not inches.

Tea was so late that supper was not taken.

[Pen. of Bane now farmed by one Powell, a bachelor, who lives there with the relict of the former tenant].

(35)

Tuesday
3 April.

The day began well; sunny and perhaps less cold than before, though the wind was strong from the West. Some drizzle drifted in about tea-time and wind got stronger.

Bathing: Crook, Shuttleworth, Scott, Andrews, Gibbs, Buskley (3 times, of course), Horton, Cotton. Others who waded at the shallow end, up to the middle or so (an appalling thought) were Adams, Arkinstall, May, Barlow.

Free afternoon, though several boys volunteered to help T.R. and G.W.P. on the JOBS. This was completed by tea-time, a fitting memorial to a week's hard work. Oak fence-posts, up to six inches diameter, were put in to replace the old ones, the old wire netting and three strands of barbed-wire stretched across, new gate-post and catch by Miners' Cottage, and a trench dug on the hither side of the new fence to direct water off the road and hill away from the hut altogether.

Meantime other jobs were going on - preparations for breaking camp tomorrow. Green and Wells had

won themselves the privilege of cleaning the outside boiler and all available pots and pans. The kitchen was scrubbed, huts again thoroughly cleaned, and various tools and utensils packed away in the store.

Departure, after more tumble with the motor, E.M., a.m. He took Marston to hospital ~~and~~ for final treatment and brought him back to Cakes.

Visitor. A young man who claimed to have "bought the Van mines" came in a battered Riley from Machynlleth to look for pyrites (in two syllables). After five minutes prospecting and ten minutes converse with J.M. he drove away again.

(34 in camp)

SUMMER 1951

Wednesday
25 July.

Advance-party: Eastwood, GWP, EAF, by car. Welcomed by
K. Bromage!
Water reported to be very scarce; the farm almost
without. Fine day.

Thursday
26 July.

Main body by train: C.T., JGH, TR, JM, 32 boys.
After tea, an ill-organized walk to the river; S-bend,
Bwlch y Gŵ, was interrupted by a steadily increasing
drizzle. Later, J.M. was Severely Admonished by the C.O.
A mainly dull, cool day, with a little sun and
a little rain.

(40 in Camp)

Friday
27 July.

Bathing for all; chilly "in", dull and windy "out", but
tolerable. Washing being forbidden in camp, soap was taken, and used.
After dinner a good walk; to Kioukece, "Muddy Lane"
to Pen y Banc, Van Pool, Bwlch y Gŵ, the 'new' bridge,
Daidre Chapel, down Crawlun. Salisbury achieved a
highly spectacular double somersault but was lucky
enough to land in thick bracken.

After tea, Baseball in big field behind farm.

Another dull day, with rain late at night.

(40)

Saturday
28 July.

Damp and misty after the night's rain. But by 10 o'clock the sun broke through and the clouds rose higher and higher to give a brilliant summer's day.

Bathing for all (with soap)

After dinner a dispatch-run, fifteen a-side, with some of the runners displaying rather more cunning than usual.

After tea another good game of Baseball.

Through the day, Old Boys had been arriving on motor-cycles: V. Sanders, G. Jackson; A. Flavell; V. Tracey, R. Brennan. D.O. Davies arrived at tea-time by bicycle.

JOBBS. IR and GWP, with CT, Ken Bronage, and other assistants, ~~had~~ have since Wednesday made, painted and hung a new gate into the copse, made and painted with "Presomet" (or tar) a new platform to go by the tap, and repaired a dining table.

(46)

Sunday

29 July.

Another hot, bright day, the heat slightly tempered by an Easterly air.

There was a particularly efficient scrubbing and polishing and tidying-up to-day, in preparation for the visitors. They arrived about 11 a.m.: Jimmy Broadhurst and family, with — Mrs Tracey.

As it was her gift, in memory of Charles Tracey, that formed the nucleus of the Nissen Hut fund, and, indeed,

made the fund possible, we had to make the camp as presentable as we could for this first visit of hers. Hence the furbishing heretofore mentioned.

General bathing (with soap)

Free afternoon.

The visitors stayed to tea, which was also distinguished by the presence on the table of cake and jelly.

After tea a walk to Crowlum, up to "Old Aber" road and along to the fence where one descends to the Cwm - which we did, pericolosso - and so back via Crowlum.

Monday

30 July.

Two events today, interdependent.

The main job was to repair the kitchen fireplace, the other, to get all non-workers out of camp for the day, so that cooking would be unnecessary.

Though early in the fortnight, it was decided to go to Pennant. 32 boys with CT and JM left about 11 a.m. and went by road and easy stages to the falls. The longest halt on the way there was at the Stones, ^{at Staylittle} an ex-Home Guard hut opposite the Board School (1872). We were served with pop by the fair-haired village schoolmistress who praised the boys' deportment in two languages.

At the Falls, about half the party scrambled down

Picked up injured kestrel or buzzard in field not far from Llwybr y madyn; carried it to camp in haversack. There it was put in field and managed to fly off quite well, evidently refreshed by its ride.

the steep, loose bank to the river. (Future organizers, note well: the obvious way down is a shallow gully, but this should not be used. Warn the boys to take the grass or moss at either side, to move very slowly, and to avoid sending any stones down. Wilcox, 3K, was halfway down when, hearing a shout "Look out", he turned round and was forthwith hit in the mouth by a two-pound stone which loosened one tooth and broke a corner off the next. No further ill effects, very luckily).

Some 40 or 50 yards below the bottom of the main fall is another about ten feet high, dropping into a rock pool. There, some dozen of the boys splashed happily for half an hour in the warm but unclean water.

After a foolhardy mountaineer had climbed the opposing cliff and come down the scree with, perhaps, exaggerated caution, the party went on to Dyflife then turned sharp left over the hill, about 1450', to Staylittle. More pop, and a bucket of water, at the tin "Stores", then over a stile by the school house and down to the Clywedog.

On the way back via Eblid, Slwybrymadyn, and B.y.G. we had another dip (some went in twice) in an open stretch of the river above Aber-Briga.

Arrived back at 8.30.

At camp the remaining four masters, assisted by Old

Boys and primed with tea by Warren, had taken out the kitchen mantelpiece, cleaned soot and rubbish from the chimney and fire-back, built up the back of the fireplace with fine clay below, bricks and mortar above. The mantelpiece had been firmly attached to new plugs, and replastered, ~~with~~ ^{the} gaps filled in first with concrete. Various cracks in the kitchen walls had been delicately filled with concrete, and the paint on walls and ceiling ~~scrubbed~~ scrubbed with 'vim', soap and water.

Weather: a scorcher, slightly cooled by E wind.

About 2 a.m., a thunderstorm, with heavy rain.

Tuesday

31 July.

There's a nasty old morning it was after the rain — one of those mornings when the mist do hang about lit-ter-ally for hours:

Bathing (with soap) about 12 o'clock; during this activity, in which the majority joined, the Sun broke through and shone for the rest of the day although a strong breeze — now from the West — kept it fairly cool.

After dinner the return Dispatch Run. Of the runners (Croft's team) 11 got home; last time 10 of Warren's team got home.

After tea, baseball: Old Boys and masters X, versus

a School X. School won 44-25 after a very poor start by Old Boys.

Jobs: work on the kitchen fireplace was carried a stage nearer completion and a good start made on the new frame for the front door.

Wednesday

1 Aug.

Weather still dry and sunny, but a freshening west wind discouraged loungers.

General bathing (with soap).

After dinner a walk to B y G and Van summit, conducted by the boys, no master being present.

After tea, Prisoners' Release, played in a timid and unenterprising way. Of Warren's team only three were in the Jug after half an hour, of Watson's team, only one: this meagre result ~~was caused by~~, because the runners' idea was to pick a spot in high bracken and remain there motionless until the whistle blew.

JOBS: Further painting of the Messen outside (rusty places); further touching up in the kitchen; door-jamb repaired, fixed to wall, and new front door hung; old front door hung in doorway between kitchen and passage.

SUMMER 1951 ⁴²

Thursday
2 Aug.

A strong S.W. wind all day, with alternate sun and cloud, but no rain.

The majority bathed, with soap. Water still good. Dinner just after 12, followed by preparations for the walk down to Slanidloe for the match — the irregularly annual cricket match between Bryntail and Mr Tudor's XI.

Starting about 3.15, Bryntail batted first. Though the bowling was only moderate, the batsmen seemed unable to get going; only Lynch and Kilborn, at the end of the innings ~~seemed~~ showed any freedom or confidence. They raised the score from 20 for 8 to the much more respectable total of 31.

Bryntail began well, having three Slanidloe wickets down for a dozen runs, but when G. Vaughan and R Tudor both in the Slani. town team, came together they clouted our bowling with much vigour though little science, and by half-past four declared the innings closed at 77 for 5. They then put us in again, obviously hoping to skittle our batsmen again and win by an innings.

However the game took on a different appearance. The practice we had had in the first innings seemed to inspire some confidence and everyone hit out freely yet not recklessly. The chief scorers were Abbey (43) and Ashworth (15) and the rest did so well that after

Friday 3 August : Visit.

Dr Roberts, from Congressbury, to view his property and take note of any major repairs that may be needed. Favourably impressed both by the efforts we have made and are making; also by the general organization.

50 minutes Bryntail decreased at 81 for 8. Then the tail-end of Llaidloes started their second innings. They were out for very few runs, scored very slowly, but then the opening batsmen came in again and by the end of their 45 minutes had scored some 38 for 6.

Thus Llaidloes won by 4 wickets.

An innovation today was to take down 16 mugs, a Primus stove and other tea-making paraphernalia, and brew Bryntail Nectar in the pavilion. There was a short tea-interval during which players and spectators were refreshed.

After the game the campers walked back, some via Cringoed, the Glynn bridge and Glyn farm.

Departures: TR and JGH on 1125 train.

Friday

(44)

3 August.

Rain fell fairly heavily in the night and continued as a drizzle, which swelled into occasional showers. This died away in the afternoon, and about 6 p.m. the sun actually shone for a few minutes.

The only outside activity in the morning was wood-duty.

After dinner a great and formidable paper-chase. The hares, Croft, Watson, Lynch, went by Crowlun Aber-Dennant, Deildae, Chapel, round under "Coppice Llwyd"

across river, back by S-bend. Arrived some seven minutes before first hounds.

After tea (round about 7.30) a Bathing-parade (with soap).

Arrivals: Mc Dermott from the Paris trip, about tea-time; Harry Webb during afternoon evening. He is a very old camper, having been up first as a schoolboy in 1917 and last as an Old Boy in 1924.

Jobs: CT and GP continued on the fitting and painting of the front door.

(46)

Saturday

4 Aug.

A warm sunny day with slight W. wind.

Bathing.

After dinner, a Gate-Hunt; the first since about 1930, I suppose. The gate was not very cunningly chosen, for about half the hunters found it, and 15 prizes were distributed after tea.

After tea, a Baseball tourney for three teams who played each other in turn; result was: Watson's 17, Abbey's 17, Cooft's 7.

Departures: CT by 11.25.

Jobs: Front door (continued); painting Nisim.

(45)

Sunday
5th August.

Dull morning, sunny and close in afternoon,
dull and cool in evening.

As it was Sunday morning breakfast was a little late. Then, as it had not been possible to arrange for an English service at Diddoe, the problem arose of how to occupy the time. The solution was to clear the boys out for as long as reasonably possible and give the kitchen one coat flat white, door a second coat, Nissen a complete suit of green Bitumastic. And this indeed had been done by the time the walkers returned. The Nissen particularly looked very much better since both ends had been coloured green, disguising the previous untidy appearance.

The walk: 34 boys with JM to Bwlch y Gle, the church at Llarry Glyn, along the bank of the Trannon, up a tributary stream via Cwm and up to Derw Llwydion farm. Thence to Staylittle road near the Eblid gate, up ridge of Dinas to the top (bilberries, Cader Idris and the Arans) down to sleeper-bridge, left on the road to B y G and home. 8½ miles.

Jelly and blancmange for tea.

After tea all to river for optional bathing (with soap)

Departure: Harry Webb, par. by car.

Visit: Meredith builder to see the front wall of

the cottage; again he said it had sunk but would sink no further, and that all would be well if it were grouted with sloppy concrete. We wonder

(44)

Monday

Bank Holiday.

6 Aug.

A thick and misty morning; clouds rose before a light South wind about 11 am., after which it was sunny and rather close until the clouds gathered again and about 6 o'clock we had the first real steady rain this camp. It went on intermittently all evening.

Bathing, cum saponis.

Free afternoon.

Whist drive: 28 players. Prize-winners, Ladies: 1. Lines, 2. Watson, Booby Broadbent; Men: 1. Goodman, 2. Harris and Lynch, Booby Cooke

Visitors: Mrs and Mrs Brookes.

Jobs: a few feet of concrete path outside the new gate, using the remainder of our one bag of cement; gave the kitchen ceiling a first coat of paint, the windows and part of the walls a second.

Departures: R. Brennan and V. Tracey by motor-cycle.

Dictum (by Harper, 2A) On their Brytail application forms, Old Boys have to state their trade, and unless they are builders, plumbers, etc., they are rejected.

(42)

TWO-MILE RELAY: TIMED (in minutes) BY CAMP ALARM-CLOCK

Start 3.15 p.m.

Mann	14 $\frac{1}{4}$	Abbey	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Mc Dermott	14 $\frac{1}{4}$	Eastwood	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Warren	12	Wilcox	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ashworth	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	Hopkins	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Broadbent	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	J.M.	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Davis	12	Hall	17
Crisp	14 $\frac{1}{4}$	Salisbury	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	Speake	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	Lines	12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cooke	11	Nicholson	11	Barlow	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Scott I	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Balmond	13	Brookes	14 $\frac{1}{4}$	Burman	13	Harper	13 $\frac{3}{4}$
Hilborn	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Belcher	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	Findlater	12	Goodman	12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Newey	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	D.O. Davis	10	Scott II	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	Harris	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lynch	11	A. F. Lovell	10	Croft	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	Watson	11
Finish	5.3 $\frac{3}{4}$ p.m.		5.4 p.m.		5.7 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.		5.12 p.m.

Tuesday
7 Aug.

A wet day. We had been informed by Eonie that the weather thermometer was very low, and we could well believe it when we heard it pouring down all night. It continued, usually only light, until about tea-time. We saw the sun for a time in the evening.

Bathing (mit Seife): 14 boys went in, during a comparatively dry interval.

Two-mile relay in afternoon - for results see opposite.

After tea (8.15-10.30) camp sing-song. This began a little slowly but accelerated and ended with thirty or forty improvised verses of The Quartermaster's Store.

Visitors: Hopkins family and friends.

Departures: after dinner, V. Sanders and G. Jackson by motor cycle. Before dinner, K. Bromage.

(39).

Wednesday
8 Aug.

A fine day again, sunny, with white clouds driving before a ~~strong~~ strongish west wind.

Bathing in the morning, also after tea (8 p.m.); thus the majority of campers will go home tomorrow considerably cleaner than usual - ambiguous, but let it pass.

Baseball for 2 hours or more after dinner. The result of a three-cornered battle, in which each team had five innings, was that Watson's team scored 11,

F

The oven, supplied by J. James and standing on two bricks over a Calor gas-ring, was highly efficient, and provided roast meat — a thing never before known at Bryntail.

Abbey's 7, and Davis's 19.

Job: more painting in kitchen.

Departure: Flavell, after breakfast, by motor-cycle.

Before tomorrow's evacuation (leaving EAF, GWP, Eastwood and D.O. Davis to do more decorating for these days) a few impressions.

Good weather: one mainly wet day; three on which it rained a little; the rest fine and generally warm.

Partly as a result of the good weather, a good spirit in camp of cheerfulness and activity.

Most of the normal camp activities could be carried on: walks to Penant and Slawry Glyn, two Dispatch News, Paper chase, Two Mile Relay, Baseball, Cricket-match, Prisoners Release. We missed the service at Deildoe, but a pre-war feature was revived - the Tuck-Shop.

Washing in camp discouraged; this had the unexpected result that several boys who took soap to the river (and used it freely) were considerably cleaner than they would have been during a normal camp with unlimited water in the tap.

Visits by Mrs Tracey and Dr Roberts.

Thursday
9 Aug.

Last day. A fine day. There was the usual rush

to clean and tidy up — pots and pans and enamel-ware, sleeping quarters, precincts, bodies. In future camps it would be well to do some of this, particularly Baa-Lamb Parade, the night before. A pious hope.

J.M. and 33 boys arrived without incident at Snow Hill, a few minutes late as usual. The wait at Shrewsbury enlivened by a droll humorous ticket-collector, who astounded a crowd of smaller campers by his skill ~~at~~ in arithmetical problems of an unorthodox kind.

EASTER 1952

Thursday
3 April

Advance party: Eastwood, Mc Dermott, EAF.
by 8.22 Snow Hill. Fine, dry: rather cold.
Opened up, checked up, swept up, cleaned up,
and had all ready for

Friday
4 April

Main party. 27 boys, GWP, Gwyn Jones, TR.
by 8.22 from Snow Hill - one incline and G.J.
just making it! Journey uneventful: usual quantity
of tea consumed at Innesburg. Quality unchanged.
Last weekend's snow still to be seen on the hills and
in patches in the fields.

Party met at Llanyddoes by EAF, Billy Vaughan & Son,
and truck: boys, luggage, EAF, Billy & Son,
all to Bryntail: GWP, G.J. and TR given
the freedom of Llanyddoes for one hour, to await
the return of the truck and shovels. The
return was to hire, and a ton or two of
pavel was lifted from the river bed: a good
introduction for G.J., Then, mounted on sacks
of coke, heads sticking above the cab of the
truck, & a bitter wind about our ears, we
brought him to Bryntail.
We entered the kitchen. Or, where the kitchen

2 MILE MASSED START RACE (Being Grand National Day)

Wells	2	Abbey	19	Parry	7	Croft	1
Scott I	6	Eastwood	5	Thorne	3	Gessey	8
Gordman	18	Scott II	24	Broadbent	4	Williams	13
Newey	9	Harston	28	China	23	Williamson	14
Cook	27	Salisbury	20	Wishlade	17	Ashford	22
Wright	11	Willis	10	Brunshaw	26	Luglis	16
Haskins	21	Wilkinson	12	Trigg	25	Wood	15
	67		90		79		67

Time 10 minutes. Heavy going.

*

W. Meyrick-Evans, the Post;

W. M.-E., the Insurance Book;

W. M.-E., the Rates for Landlords Without;

W. M.-E., husband for Mrs M.-E., the pianoforte teach

used to be. For this was not the same place - I would not have thought it could have been made so fresh & bright & pleasing: good work; medals or honourable mention to the painters & decorators - the renovators - of last August!

After tea, a walk, [EAF, G] and the beds, to beat the boards; Crowden, Biddle etc.

Weather: overcast, no rain: windy.

33 in camp.

Saturday
5 April.

Dirty weather. Raining hard. And cold. And many beds up too early - veg. squad finished vegging before breakfast! Another fresh post man. (Welsh)*
Weather clearing by afternoon; and a massed relay race requested. Why 'relay'? Every boy runs the whole course! A very good race run, good timing, and close finish: all boys in in good time, even the smallest. Not snippets, but whippets.

After tea, all boys taken for a walk by EAF. Before the cucumbers could be reached, a terrific downpour slipped them: and another ten minutes before they reached camp.

Tuck shop opened today.

McDermott - a lone journey into Blaiddys - to Register for National Service.

Teacher

Odd jobs: concern shown by EAF for the property in his keeping: cracks (some wide) have long been with us in the plaster on the inside of the front wall. Now they appear on the outside wall, & the suggested repair is grouting, with maybe a buttress. So much sanding made of the old (lime) plaster by the engineers & pines (W.P., G.) + T.R., much removed, rafter points for pointing made, & a mixture made & some pointing even begun. Much mess made in the gangway, twist kitchen & dining room. Much.

The Hole. A hole has come to be with us, just behind the rockery, above the coal shed. Opening little more than a foot square, but below it opens up, deep dark & dangerous & of unknown extent, though obviously considerable. Theories as to origin:-

- i. Old lead workings, before the days of maps & public conscience
- ii. A by-way to Hell.
- iii. Part of that then secret passage wot I told you of (entrance to be seen, outline of, at least) from Miners Cottage to the Farm. Proves it, if proof needed.

We miss J. M.: Sunday Night, & nobody to play the fluke, to please the staff & annoy the cooks. Now sing us

a song. And I would rather read than write the log book!

Sunday
6 April

Better looking weather: better time keeping for several
leaves. EAF on a long & lone pilgrimage to Pen-y-banc
to the Vaughan, Deacon, doing no manner of work in his
Sunday suit, who will write to the minister and
"instruct him for a sermon in English" next Sunday:

[Joke. Lost in
the layman,
alas.]

he wades the hymns with judicious care that the
kids may hear a burden.

While he was away: Wood Squad wooded with GJ.

Bathing Parade paraded but did not bathe: escorted
by GJ. The engineers mixed much concrete, and poured
great quantities into wall cavities, from without, working with
funnel (specially designed, & made from large jaw tin) and
iron rod. Aided and abetted by Cook, much ka
unreceptively bored & drunk.

Weather sunny but cold, growing warmer in afternoon: EAF
led expedition to climb Van mountain. The engineers
engineered, pouring in much concrete & patching the front of
the cottage: delighting to find mixture poured in here
leaking out there, & the chimney; in outside, out
inside.

We still miss J.H.: Sunday night, & nobody to be pious
and sing us hymns. There are one or two who preach a
fine tale, but I name no names.

* It seems they have always been the same. | quote (17cent):—

" Mr. Gwyn.

Surlinesse and inurbanitie too common; chastise these very severely.

A better instance of a squeamish and disobligeing, slighting, insolent, proud, fellow, perhaps cant be found then in Gwin. No reason satisfies him, but he overweenes, and cuts some sower faces that would turne the milke in a faire ladies breast."

Monday
7 April

blow that Aprille with his shoes sock — the drought of
March was well pieced this morning & during the night,
and the camp began wet, cold, & muddy. Very muddy.
Sun broke through during the morning; afternoon very bright
and pleasant.

Morning activities: — wood squad laboured with pick
axe and wheelbarrow, filling the Hole. The engineers
at concrete & plaster & wall repair, making more mess.

Bathing parade: 8 boys went in: — Scott i, Scott ii,
Salisbury Wright Willis Abbey Hurston Brunsden.

Visitors: a.m. Two ladies & a gentleman, to see
Willis. Entertained to tea and biscuits: staff finishing
off pot to avoid waste. p.m. H. Walker & Son.
given tea: staff joining in that there might be no
embarrassment thinking it a special bus.

Afternoon free (by request) for boys: more converting
by engines, trench digging & general tidy up by
D.F.

Evening: dining room cleared, & organised sing song:
request when sing song announced: 'May we sing modern
songs please, not the hey nonny nonny stuff?' — from
the smallest wch in camp.

* The staff pairs up with Latin tags and abuse in Welsh.
I have had to threaten to write their names in the logbook.

Three times named, and down the mine shaft, as they well
know.

Despatch Run (runners to Van School, then in by speed
or guile: catchers to catch fair, both hands at once)

Teams: Runners:		Catchers
Croft	In	McDermott
Abbey	caught	Scott i
Wells	In	Thorne
Godman	In	Wishlade
Geney	caught	Scott ii
Broadbent	"	Newey
Houston	In	Williams
Williamson	caught	Willis
Salisbury	In	Wilkinson
Harries	Late	Burndown
Crook	caught	Wright
Inglis	In	Ashford
Chinn	Late	Twigg
Woods	In	Parry

Score Nil, 7 up and 7 down.

Whist Drive: Winners: 1. Newey Williamson 2. McDermott Twigg. Booby Williams Ashford.

J. H. missed at the singing, with his natural advantage for reaching the high notes. We had to stand up.

Tuesday
8 April.

Dull morning, but no rain. Bright in afternoon.

We were unharmed, & they gave us no meat, only apologies on paper stamped by appointment to His Majesty King George V. Time drops in Umidles, & EAF had to journey down, in hope to bring them up to date. He was successful in getting a lift down & back, and we ate what was left of yesterday's meat, with sossidge for to-morrow.

The wood squad filled in more hole, shovelling, dragging, wheeling, with hideous arteries. Incredible amounts of concrete slop were poured into the front wall of the house by the engineers, work not without hazard when racial animosity is aroused. (see illus. opp)

A Dispatch Row was run this afternoon, in good weather. Whist drive to-night, 16 players.

Camp had promised fair in the matter of accidents, & Dr. GWP has been troubled little. But Williamson fell & hurt his arm this afternoon, and after supper Scott ii fell and caught the stove pipe to save himself. Hand burned, not very badly, but very painful: dressed by GWP, Scott looked for shock, & brought to sleep in the cottage in case of a troubled night.

Bathing Parade: 5 swam: Scott i, Scott ii, Parry, Willis, G.J.

Wednesday
9 April

The day promised fair, & excursions were planned:—

- a. For stout hearts and strong legs, Plinlimmon.
- b. Craig-y-llw. for the young
- c. Stay in and work; the engines. And mind the injured, Scott & d. And Williams.

The sun shone, the sandwiches were cut & wrapped, the juniors set off, shepherded by G.J.

lquote.

The stalwarts guided their loins, & donned their armons: the kitchen rang sharp switten with the dint of armed beel. A heavy shower slapped down, & they donned their capes, & away.

A pleasant day, wind S.W. warm, bright most of the time, a few heavy showers. The engines mixed their concrete & set about it.

Craig-y-llw Interesting walk: stayed at the falls for sandwiches: a dam successfully built across the stream. Back along left side of River; long route back over Cradle, home at 5.30. Tea, clearing up, boiling up etc ready for next party home: Very honourable mention for hard work, organising and use of the Hoop:—

- D. Parry
- K. Crook

Plinlimmon: EAF. Eastwood McDermott Abbey Scotti Broadbent Croft Wells Jersey Goodman.

left others at Craig-y-llw, & went on. Walk now harder.

because of ridges & ditches made by Forestry Commission, but top reached, wet & windy, not a good view to-day. On return journey EAF had speech with Richard Davies (aged 85) genuine Plinlimmon type (Neanderthal stock) & speaks very little English. In years gone by he had worked for Dr. Roberts (Misses Foulkes) in taking timber from old mines & buildings from structures elsewhere. Asked who has the Office now; told we have had for 30 years. Oh yes, he said, you're a citizen now. Leaving Rhyd-yr-oren returned by Brithtyr and Aber Dyfanant [There is some argument about the spelling of this name: more about the pronunciation. I am offered Dyfanant Dinant Decanant, and they say Welsh is insistent, each letter has a sound, & always the same sound, not like English, & it's pronounced as it's spelt. I could pronounce it, and I could comment, but I should be accused again of prejudice bias bigotry & bad language. I don't know why they can't label the places in English like Christians.] Back at camp, 8.30, all a weary, but the pot was boiling. EAF partook of a dish of tea (in his pride bowl, to make up for losses during the day).

EAF birthday, but no celebration. TR broke a tooth on Llanidloes sausage at supper, & is peeved,

it being a front tooth, + used for holding his pipe, Scott is very cheerful all day, getting over his mishap. Many blisters + cuts + scratches on legs + knees for GWP's attention to-night.

Anecdote by Gwyn Jones: coming home along banks of Severn, he spoke with a native in his native language, asking where the bridge was, & could he give the lads a drink of water. The man told him exactly where the bridge was, + to go to the farm for water, also in Welsh.

Willis of 2F exclaimed upon it all, and his surprise that the Welshman could speak French.

Others + older asked quite seriously what the language was. He told them Greek.

Thursday
10 April.

Gwyn Jones left to-day, going on to S. Wales for Easter. The best day of the week, for weather: warm, bright, sunny, + all the camp gay, except Newey, sick: left his breakfast, evoked at dinner, abandoned ka. Sent to lie down by GWP, having no symptoms of any orthodox major disorder.

Morning diversion: There are two pieces of complicated apparatus, bought with government subsidy, which have filled the ~~shed~~ shed by the Miner's Cottage to the exclusion of anything else this twelve months. The wonder being

Second Dispatches Run.

Runners		Catchers
Mc Dermott	In	Croft
Parry	Caught	Abbey
Scotti	In	Wells
Thome	Caught	Goodman
Wishlade	"	Jersey
Williams	"	Broadbent
Willis	"	Marston
Wilkinson	Late	Williamson
Bruncken	In	Salisbury
Wright	In	Haskins
Ashford	In	Crook
Twigg	In	Inglis
Chinn	Caught	Woods

Score -1 6 up 7 down

how they got them in. To-day, in solemn order, came past the front door 4 of the 5; John, Evan, Soly, Ernie. Slowly and deliberately they took the door of the shed off its hinges, and proceeded to get the canal through the eye of the needle. Eventually, with assistance from GWP + TR, the major contraption was turned and Lifted out, inch by inch. Where will they go with it? Is there any gate on the farm big enough for it to go through? And how will they get it back? And what will they do with it? It is a dill. What, we asked, were they going to plant? John: - wheat. Evan: - potatoes. Soly: - Swedes. Ernie - abides the question.

To-day the engiers, GWP + TR, took out more well, put in much more concrete, built up the wall again, finishing the worst section (we hope) from outside. Having finished & having no sense of propriety, dignity, or regard for the feelings of the sheep or the Welsh, they adorned the front wall with a gargyle. A gargyle is the same as a paralyze without the Ole or aifice. They ought to be ashamed.

Return Dispatch run this pm, in good weather. First old boy arrives, J.A.R. Gibbs, of recent vintage (Lancelot Gibbs)

Bathing Parade: 22 swam: (2 in town, 1 sick, 1 burnt)

Good Friday

A fine sunny though windy day
Bathing Parade - in lieu, a race up Crowlem:
prizes awarded to Inglis, Williams & Croft; a
consolation prize was awarded to Wright who was first
but beat the gun.

The Chinn family arrived by car about 12:30 with
J.G.H. & departed after lunch (cold roast mutton)
leaving J.G.H. & removing T.R.

Walk in afternoon B.y.G., to top of Dinas, down
to sleeper bridge & along road back to B.y.G. Thence
by Old Mill Race & up to camp. Saw Owen
of Coppice ^{blow} "broadcasting" in the small Δ
field just below his farm on the river side of
the road - told us that the English service at
the chapel had been cancelled owing to "revocation"
of preacher. Walkers led by J.G.H. & Croft - Plaza Toro fashion.

Whist in evening: 4 tables: 12 hands.

Winners 1 Croft 2 Scott II Boobies Inglis
Gersey Crook Pabry

M.I. room. Scott II new dressing, Wells with boil
on knee & 3 cases of Bryony tummy.

No more Old Boys yet.

Saturday
12 April

A dull day all day, but little wind.

Slow start in morning. O.C. insisted that all stoned wash & saw that they did.

Bathing - all except sick paraded but no baths.
The "tenters" stayed & explored the small pool on the higher level of the mill - found it full of life - tadpoles, newts, a frog, numerous kinds of beetles.

Baseball in afternoon, in field on Bryn, past the wood on the 2-mile relay course [Reuel Abbey's team 19, McDermott's team 5]. Parry & Croft to Whanny in the farm cab to see to extra goods from Francis the shop - The message in postman's pocket on the way down passing the van on the way up!!

All 6 housed
in M. Cottage.
ping pong in
open air.

→ Gut of O.B.s - Bridge, Clements, Porter, Weedon Griffiths (London) & friend Stevens just too late for lunch [too engrossed in game to notice stop at Shrewsbury so were taken round by Oswestry]. J James in evening. W.R. in afternoon having come up from Cardigan to take part in big game on Monday - lifted to stay little fork by fair damsel in car. He brought a large box of homemade teacakes which were toasted & eaten with chunks of marg. at tea - all gone.

Walk in evening - round Bryn in clockwise direction - all went except Jimmy.

Work carried a stage further on the wall in the corridor.

Easter
Sunday

Another fine day after a slow misty start. Bathing parade put back to 4 pm. All went in some, very reluctantly. Verdict: - very if not too cold. W.R. took 7 boys further downstream to another pool.

Wood squad out in morning. Extra vegging because of extra mouths on the morrow.

Jobs (engineering) Work almost completed in corridor. Concrete path from the white gate at Tracey belt extended to its limit - an effort which failed to use up all the remaining cement.

Concert in evening - attended also by Harriet Megan, Ernie + John from the farm. height's out in consequence rather latish.

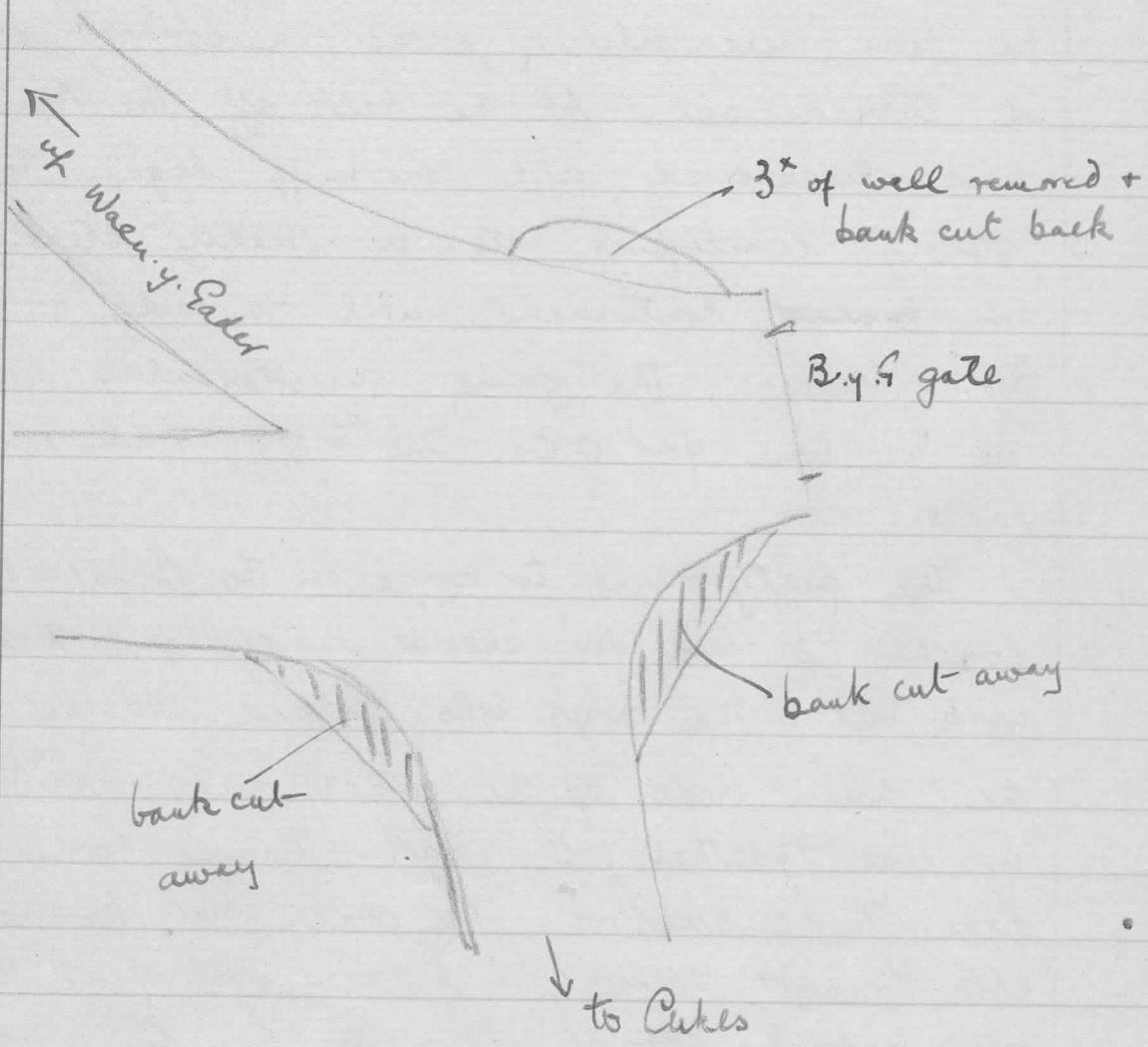
Query: Will it remain fine for our walk to town to see the Big game?

Easter
Monday

The day of the Big Game! This, the revival of the prewar annual fixture, old Central v Klandloes XV. The kick off fixed for 11.30, The O.C. wanted all boys out of camp by 10, well started on the walk down into town. With

reville at 7.15 - and meaning it - & a quick clean up of the camp after breakfast. This was almost achieved. The O.B.s had arranged to come from Bruun by motor coach & the inevitable late start made them late ^{at} our end. The pitch was in a field not far from the museum & down by the river - the props, scaffolding poles, correctly spaced on the advice of Guerra - The chronicler has it on excellent authority that G. was rather worried as the measurements he gave were only a guess, a correct one as it turned out. At the kick off the rain wh. had threatened all morning began to fall, slowly developing into a really steady downpour wh. ~~lasted~~ continued until no side & well into the afternoon. The game incidentally resulted in a win for O.C.s. 22-8. E.A.F. was the referee.

The party was to come on to Bryntail by coach in time for second lunch but this didn't work out. The boys who walked all the way & the main body of the coach party arrived more or less together, the latter having had to walk from the culumbers, the coach not having been able to get through. A message from the O.C., who took the coach down to B.y.G. to see



whether it could be turned there, suggested feeding ladies + boys first, others second, + this worked out very well, quick washing + borrowing of utensils + croons being necessary.

The rain, bad enough for the game, was a major problem at the camp. We had hoped for another day ^{like} yesterday but 'il tempore est mobile' as Dai Verdi, the ice cream man, says. With O.C.'s room full of drying off ladies, ≠ the kitchen full of O.B.s + browned off cooks + the overflow in the dining hall, the organisation, always elastic, was stretched almost to breaking point. But we got through.

In the meantime, the coach. Still no sign of E.A.F. Johnny Harrison was beginning to look like the man in G.W.P.'s story about the set of jig handles. Then swift footed Mervyn - Vic Sanders - + his lady or wife. with news that the £3000 coach was stuck across the road at B.Y.G. + they were digging it out. Having got there + explored the road up Wael-y-Cader the only way out was to dig back the banks on each side of the road + take down about 3 yards of Davies' wall. The coach was pointed up W.Y.G. then backed into B.Y.G. + finally out back up the hill. Here the credit goes to

Whist Drive: 4 Tables: 12 hands

Winners. G. 1. Williamson 2. Haskins. Robbies. Marslow
L. Parry Scott II Ashford

Hudson Rockcliffe + Westwood who changed back into wet kit to do the bulk of the digging - They were pretty cold + miserable when it was all over.

Back at camp lunch was followed by a quick cuppa all round + then cards, conversation + clothes drying.

4.30 approx. Buffet tea for the visitors + then as they left - The Sun!

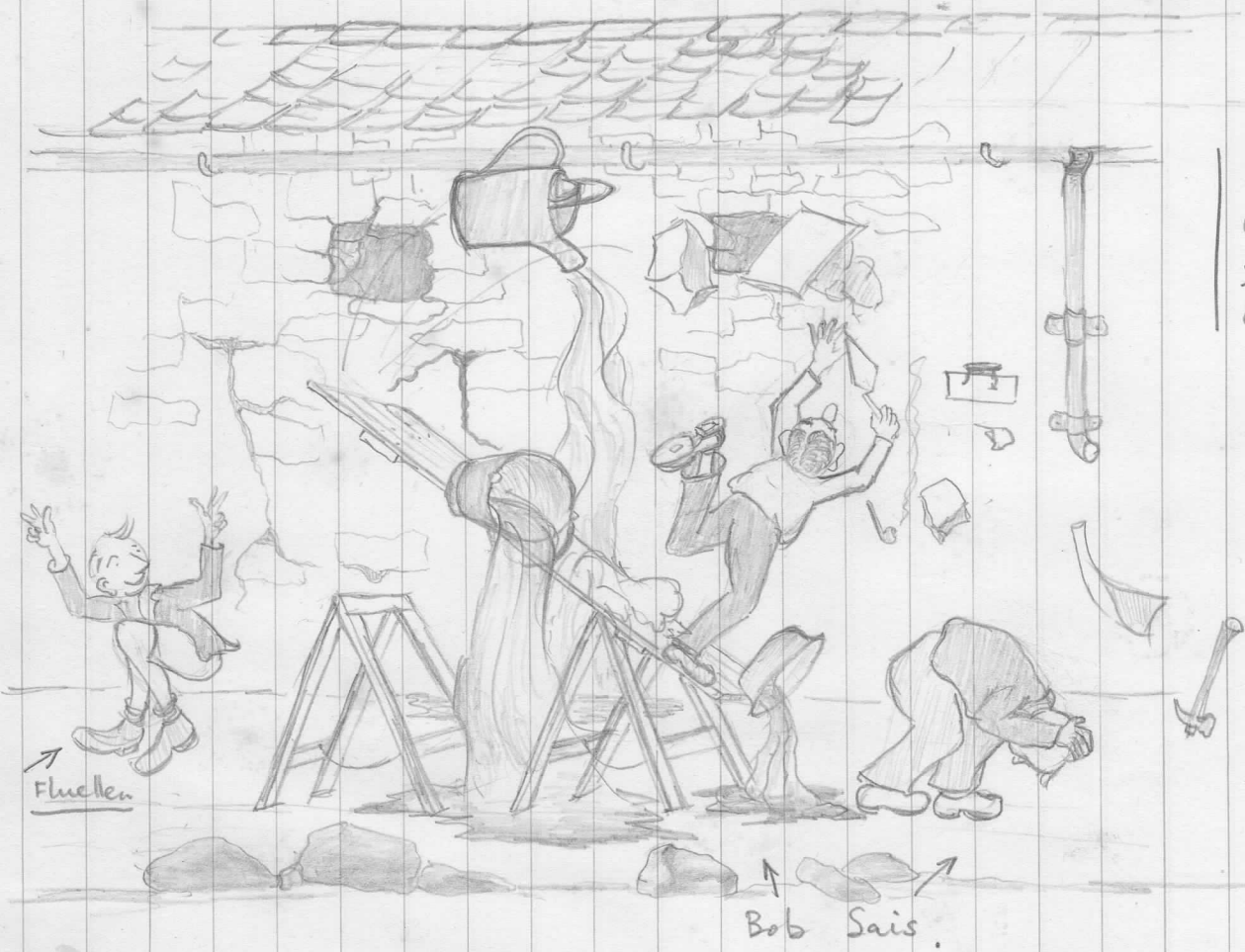
F.W.P. + W.R. also departed in the coach, the former with his ~~lost~~ luggage on the wheelbarrow as far as the cucumbers.

Meanwhile we had lost the 6 stalwarts who had arrived on Saturday.

Mentions in despatches. The cooks covered themselves with glory. Cook did yeoman service in the kitchen. The Officers' Orderlies - Salisbury + Twigg - cheerfully washed mountains of enamelware + irons during + after lunch, were ^{then} absorbed into the Camp squad's activities + were, if they had not been packed off to bed, ~~were~~ quite willing to carry on after supper. May they both have many more Bynntails before them!

In the evening a whist drive for details see opposite.

Example of Calculated Sabotage: or Revival of Racial Prejudice.



What happened when Gwyn Jones jumped off his end of the trestle table.

Tuesday
April 15.

Another fine day.

Many jobs in morning

Cementing in corridor finished off.

Path outside - sacks + shuttering removed, sides tidied up.

Remaining ballast removed from hill to work by side of mine's cottage.

Dining hall walls washed down + floor + tables washed. The party was complimented at lunch by the O.C. who said the floor was cleaner than within living memory.

Bathing - all in, some reluctant. Some of the older boys went to the pool "hlyngrodd" with J.J. The parade was later than usual owing to length of time spent on jobs. Some returned through the woods + up the fields.

After lunch the camp squad cleared the big dishes inside + out - they had been used for the last time this camp. Then a free afternoon until late tea-cum-supper. At this we were briefed for the move tomorrow.

Just after dark a party with stretcher was organised to help two young persons who had fallen off bicycles on the hill down to Bidfald. Abbey on one of the bicycles was sent for the Dr. + the injured taken into the farm. Minor cuts, abrasions, shock.

The Dr. took the opportunity of thanking EAF for his considerate reffing of the game on Monday, & said he hoped we hadnt minded them playing 16 men - one man had come from Rhayader & rather than disappoint him, The Welsh had said "Oh play, the others will never notice" we didnt!

Wednesday. Up early - breakfast over all jobs done pretty quickly
 April 16 Weather again fine for the walk down into town.
 The rearquerd sat on the loaded truck in the farm yard while Billy Vaughan & John discussed the price of cattle in general & the worth of the 4 young bullocks in partic. B. V. made an offer for two of them but eventually we came away nothing having been decided.
 In town 14 boys & EAF & JCH had 3/6 lunch at Francis ~~the~~ cafe. So to the train & an uneventful journey to Birmingham.

SUMMER 1952

Thursday
24 July

As this is The Year the School was Painted, E.A.F. must have been more than ever pleased to be speeding away with his accomplices Eastwood and Abbey, what time his fellow-toilers were handling not only the normal end-of-term irritations but also the dusty and tedious job of emptying cupboards and stacking their animal contents in some kind of order and security.

This advance-party opened camp with their usual efficiency; the job was in effect the exact reverse of what was going on at Busbridge Road, but How Different the Surroundings!

Friday

25 July.

The main party by train: 35, including J.M. and G.W.F., D. Weedon and R. Watson, and 31 boys. We arrived at Bryntail to find that McDermott (motor-cycle), J. Smith and Goodman (bicycles) had arrived the previous day.

After settling in, we bathed before tea — river quite warm
Baseball after tea, in the field beyond the fir-spinney.

Job: the grass and nettles in the cottage garden were unusually long this time, and a good start was made at clearing them away with a sickle.

Farm: today finished haymaking in the Penclun fields.

41 in camp.

Davis	0	C	.	.	0	.	Abbey	1	.	.	0	.
Lynch	C	.	0	.	.	.	Newey	0	.	.	1	.
Payne	.	1	1	.	.	1	R. Watson	1	0	.	1	C
Eastwood	.	1	.	.	.	1	Croft	0	.	.	1	.
McDermott	.	1	C	.	.	0	Smith J.	0	.	C	0	.
Ashworth	.	1	.	0	.	0	Scott I	.	.	.	1	.
Wells	.	1	.	.	.	.	Burman	.	.	.	1	.
Goodman	.	1	.	C	.	C	Broadbent	.	0	.	1	0
Thorne	.	1	.	.	0	.	D. Weedon	.	0	.	0	.
Frankham	.	.	.	.	0	.	Williams	.	1	.	1	.
TOTALS	0	7	1	0	0	2		2	1	0	7	0
GROWING TOTALS		7	8	8	8	<u>10</u>		3	3	10	<u>10</u>	

Saturday
26 July.

The third fine hot day.

After a cloudless night the river was somewhat cool.

After dinner, a walk, led by Payne, whipper-in Eastwood.
Route: Glyn bridge, Crowlam farm, Crowlam top, the ridge to Coppice Lloyd, B. y G. and back. This, combined with the dryness of the Camp Square led to a late tea and an 8 o'clock swim for those 25 or 30 who desired to swim. Water reported to be hot.

Jobs: the front wall near the kitchen window is beginning to crumble, so GWP removed loose stuff and with assistance began to pour concrete down into the cavity. The back door and posts were treated with "Quikstop" and a partially successful attempt made to scrape them. In the end the door was taken off and a blowlamp used with much greater effect.

Arrivals: Smith (P.J.) arrived with family, by car from Beedgelert. R.F. Jones by motor-cycle from Birmingham.

43 in camp

Sunday
27 July

Overcast, and distinctly cool and draughty, until mid-afternoon, when the sun broke through and cloud slowly retreated.

The morning was devoted to a few quiet odd jobs, unlikely to provoke adverse criticism from the Sabbath-respecting Natives, and to a twenty-minute Bathing Parade:

all at the bathing-pool, and not as yesterday divided between there and Llyn yr Ordd. It had seemed unduly risky to have 15 or 16 in the latter pool, especially as they had developed the habit of going into a small cave behind the waterfall and remaining there - invisible - for some time. So EAF laid down the law at supper yesterday, and re-instituted the old rule: Top Pool for Old Boys only.

Chapel. It had been arranged some weeks previously that WYN EVANS, "the son-in-law for Davies Bulch y Gle", should preach at Deildre to-night. But we learnt, late last night, that a last-minute change in plans was necessary; it seems that a student was to preach at Old Hall in the morning and at Deildre at 6 o'clock. As the sermons were in the nature of test-pieces it was clearly advisable that they should be delivered in the vernacular (the Welch tongue); consequently our intended pilgrimage was postponed until next Sunday.

The afternoon and evening were therefore devoted to a little rough walking: over Bryn y Tail to B. y G. (call on Davies family) and "The Hill" and steeply down through the woods to LLAWR Y GLYN; then through fields and ex-woods to eat sandwiches opposite the Bap. Chap. (7 or 8 rather severely wasp-stung shortly before this). A hundred yards further, on the road that follows Nant Cwm Cidyn we split: EAF took 17 up this road,

RUNNERS

CATCHERS.

Abbey	IN	Salisbury	x	Croft	Cooke
Payne	IN	Williams	x	McDermott	Hopkins
R. Jones	IN	Smith P.I.	x	R. Watson	Scott II
Scott I	x	Bond	x	Wells	Newey
Broadbent	IN	Wright	x	Lynch	Phillips
Thorne	IN	Pitcher	x	Davis	Barlow
Frankham	x	Harper	v	Goodman	Wilcox
Burman	x	Hall	x	Ashworth	Kyte
Nicholson	IN			Lewis	Wilkinson

IN 6, CAUGHT 11; SCORE -5

BASEBALL: MONDAY EVENING, 28 July.

Williams	0	.	.	1	1	Ashworth	0				
Newey	0	c	.	1	1	Hopkins	c	.	.	0	
Harris	0	.	1	1	0	Bond				0	
Lewis	.	0	1	0	1	Parry		c	.	.	c
Barlow	.	1	0	.	1	Wright			0		
Harper	.	1	.	0	1	Hall			0		
Kyte	.	1	c	.	11	Phillips			0		
Wilcox	.	1	.	1	10	Scott II				1	
Salisbury	.	1	.	0	1	Wilkinson				0	
Pitcher.	.	0	.	1	1	Smith P.I.				0	
		5	2	5	10					1	0
			7	12	22						1

Monday 28

and so back to Capel Rhos-fawr, B. y G., and Camp, while JM took 19 along, and at times in, the brook that flows down from below the farm Derw Llwydion. It was much drier and less greasy than last time, but still tangled and sweaty in places and a few were able to find soft spots where they sank in over the boot-tops. Back along Staylittle road, with a diversion by ten or eleven to the tops of Waen y Gader (*white Stonecrop).

Jobs: filled hole in wall as far as supply of grit and cement allowed (GWP and assistant Ingeniers); began construction of a sawing-horse.

43 in camp.

Monday

28 July.

Another fine day, though cloudy with good sunny periods; coolish, with NNE wind.

Eastwood left this morning for Birmingham where he is to "have his Medical", and G.J. arrived in his stead.

A dozen and a half bathed, all except Scott I finding conditions too inclement to allow more than a few moments' contact with the watery element.

P.m. a Dispatch Run; for names and result see opposite.

After tea, tick-shop, post-office, and Baseball for those, mainly juniors, who had not played last time; for teams and scores, see opposite.

Jobs: More burning off of doors, scraping, glass-papering;

DESPATCH RUN Tuesday 29 July.

CATCHERS : yesterday's RUNNERS, swapping Smith J. for Payne

RUNNERS :

Croft	..... IN	Davis...	IN	Hopkins	*	Wilcox	*
McDermott	*	Goodman	*	Scott II	*	Kyte	.... IN
R. Watson	*	Ashworth	*	Newey... IN		Wilkinson	*
Wells	.... IN	Lewis...	IN	Phillips	*		
Lynch...	IN	Cooke	*	Barlow... IN			

IN, 8 ; NOT IN, 10 ; SCORE, -2

BASEBALL, Tuesday evening 29 July.

Davis	C	.	.	1	.	Abbey	.	11	.	1	.
Newey	.	1	.	1	.	R. Watson	1	11	.	1	C
Payne	.	1	.	0	.	Croft	.	11	.	1	.
Lynch	.	0	.	1	.	Smith J.	C	10	.	1	.
McDermott	.	C	.	0	.	Scott I	.	11	.	.	.
Thorne	.	.	0	.	.	R. Jones	.	01	.	0	.
Ashworth	.	.	1	.	C	Goodman	.	11	C	.	0
Parry	.	.	0	.	.	Broadbent	.	11	.	1	1
Weedon	.	.	.	.	.	Nicholson	.	11	.	0	1
Wells	.	.	0	.	.	Frankham	.	11	.	0	1
Lewis	.	.	.	0	.	Burman	.	10	.	1	1

0 2 1 3 0

1 19 0 6 4

2 3 6 6

20 20 26 30

GWP and labourers concreting wall immediately behind Store-room door; Sawing-horse completed.

43 in Camp.

Tuesday
29 July

A bright sunny morning, draughty and rather cold for standing about, with a wind somewhat East of North. The weather-thermometer was reported to be going down fast, and, sure enough, the wind backed to West ward by evening and brought clouds and damp mist to us, as well as a milder air.

EAF to town, riding on a 'gambo' drawn by the farm tractor. Gambo, we are credibly informed, is the S. Wales name for a sort of flat, two-wheeled cart with few, if any, springs, used for carting hay, ect-etc. John drives the tractor, even on the road, as if it were a horse capable of finding its own way while the driver inspects the neighbours' crops or turns to gaze, astonished, at a female Hiker in brief red shorts (or vice versa).

The river was again chilly, tho' not paralyzing.

After dinner a return Dispatch Run, in the course of which a catcher, climbing over a Bryntail wall, dislodged "a few stones".

After tea the seniors to baseball, juniors to Camp Squad job, then to inspect the hole in the wall, which it took about 20 minutes to rebuild.

Between baseball and supper, a new game which was invented yesterday. You climb the side of Bryn y Tail immediately above the cottage, grapple some friend or enemy of comparable size, and come rolling and tumbling down through the bracken (and if you're unlucky, the gorse) until, battered, scratched, and breathless, you fetch up against a rock or other obstacle. A little pointless, unless gorse is included.

Visitors: 1. Mr and Mrs Rooke. Rooke, a contemporary of Roy Brocombe, was a camper about 1922 (bell-tents in the garden) and recently entered The Profession under the emergency scheme; now at Elliott Street school, Nechells.

2. Mr and Mrs Payne and family (box of rock-buns for tea!)

3. Mr and Mrs Frankham and friend, from Aberrule, where they are staying.

4. Police-sergeant from Clavidon, come to inspect the proper mixing of the sheep-dip, with due regard to amounts and Druidical incantations (Bob Sais rigorously excluded). Tea and intelligent conversation in kitchen.

Jobs: In view of the invasion, it is not surprising that the only serious work was done by G.W.P. (grouting) and his assistants (mixing; pointing outside of wall with concrete).

Wednesday
30 July

A Fico, Sirs, for your square-cut Pens, your pretenciose Writings - maysters with theyr Slavish copying of those finickall Italianate handes, in short, sirs, away with your Calligraphers; and return to the faithfull Prop and Hand-maiden of all Xian Schoole-maysters, honest olde Fountayne-Pen. Which hath but one Faulte, as now indeed appeareth, namely that as he runneth doye, so he sullieth the Page with fowle Blott~~s~~.

Today promised foul but turned out fair, so that our original idea of walking to Penant would have been a Good Thing. But the sky both far and near looked so threatening before breakfast that we called it off.

Bathing distinctly better than yesterday; the milder air and blanket of cloud had kept the warmth in.

After a late dinner, Payne led a walk to the top of Van mountain, keeping all except three or four boys (sick and employed) out of camp for a gratifyingly long period of time.

Late tea and free evening. Some dhoby-wallah work in preparation for tomorrow's visit to Stanidles (cricket-match)

Visitors: "Pa" and Mrs Whitehouse, daughter, and friend.

Jobs: GWP and labourers went on with pointing, building-up, and concrete pouring, having obtained a fresh supply of grit, as will shortly appear.

Undercoats of paint on the four kitchen doors and door-posts.

The following paraphernalia was taken down to the river this morning: the wheelbarrow, a length of rope, the riddle, spade and two shovels, and eight buckets. After some prospecting, the old waste heap that slopes down to the river by the fence was attacked, the material carried in buckets and riddled into the barrow and finally carried or wheeled back up the Long Path and so to the ~~the~~ Coach-House (also known ~~and~~ as the Registered Office of the Cambrian Mining Company)

Hard work, but tackled with enthusiasm by two dozen willing workers. How willing they would be on a second or even third trip is problematical.

Thursday

31 ~~Aug~~ July

Cricket-match Day. The weather broke slightly — little more than a shallow crack — and most of the day was a succession of light drizzling showers, each lasting five or ten minutes.

An early breakfast had been planned, in order to allow of

Llanddole Grammar School.

FIRST INNINGS.

SECOND INNINGS.

W. Bound	b Ashworth	7	b. Ashworth	6
B. Jones	b. Smith	2	b. Smith	0
Don Jones	b. Smith	2	b. Ashworth	0
I. Davies	b. Smith	0	b. Ashworth	8
B. Jenkins	b. Ashworth	6	b. Smith	0
- Tudor.	not out	6	c. Watson b. G. Jones	19
B. Pearce	l.b.w. b. Ashworth	0	c. Watson b. G. Jones	0
G. Williams	b Ashworth	0	b. Abbey	1
A. Lewis	b. Smith		e. Jones b. Abbey	19
R. Meredith	b. Smith	0	not out	0
M. Owen.	b. Smith.	0	b. Abbey	1
Extras.		10		8
Totals.		<u>34</u>		<u>62</u>

BRYN PAIL

Abbey (capt.)	l.b.w. b. Tudor	12	Thorne	not out	2
Payne	c.D. Jones, b. Tudor	20	Payne	not out	0
Ashworth	run out	1			
Davis	c. B. Jones, b. Davies	30			
Smith J.	run out	19			
G. Jones	not out	10			
R. Watson	not out	1			
Extras	2. Total for 5	<u>95</u>		for no wicket	<u>2</u>

[Frankham, R.F. Jones, Croft, and Thorne did not bat.]

FOR BOWLING ANALYSIS
SEE NEXT PAGE

a 12 o'clock dinner, and the latter was, in fact, very nearly achieved, the bathing parade and wood duty having been performed accelerando.

We were leaving camp from 1.15 onwards, mostly on foot, but a few by Brinton, and EAF, bringing up rear, on Blue Zephyr. This is a bicycle presented to the camp by Jimmy James.

The game was timed to begin at 2.30. Llanidloes went in first, and were all out in less than an hour. Smith and Ashworth were in deadly form, hitting the stumps nine times, and disposing of the opposition for 34.

Bryntail innings opened with a six (on to the railway, second bounce) by Abbey, and we were able to declare at 95 for 5. Llanidloes did better at their second attempt; thanks to 19 by Mr Tudor and 19 by A. Lewis, they made 62, just passing our total by one run. The formality of taking the field a fourth time was carried out with due ceremony, Payne and Thorne appeared fully padded and Thorne made the required two runs off his first ball.

Thus Bryntail won by ten wickets. It should be explained that Mr Tudor had picked a weaker team than usual, restricting his choice to the Grammar School and not as before stiffening his side with older players.

BOWLING.			O	M	W	R
L Lomid loss C.S.	1 st innings	Ashworth	5	1	4	18
		Smith	4.4	0	6	9
	2 nd innings	Ashworth	6	0	3	16
		Smith	4	0	2	15
		G. J.	3	0	2	16
		Abbey	4.1	1	3	11

Bryntail .	1 st innings	Lewis A.	5	0	0	25
		R.D. Tudor	9	1	2	33
		Davis	9	2	1	24
		Jenkins	1	0	0	10

Frid.
1 A

tea & sugar

We took down, 1 primus, bottle paraffin, bottle meth, large teapot, large aluminium soup saucepan (Sospan Fawc).
 Boys took one mug between two and 3 sandwiches:

ham, fish, jam; so the inner man was filled. Match finished at abt. 6:15; juniors previously to the pictures (5.30 "house"), players and seniors to 8 o'clock "house", etc, etc. It is said that eleven passengers came up in Monty's large taxi that night.

• Arrivals: the electricall Engineers, John Lowridge and Tom Williams in a 1926 Morris.

45 in camp.

Friday
1 August.

Another day of Plynlimon weather - the reasonable sort, with cloud and sunshine, a pretty scorching wind, and a few light showers.

Juniors and non-walkers: bathing parade in morning, free afternoon, walk with G.J. via high path above 'S-bends' to B.y G., Van Reservoir, and Penclun.

Glaslyn walkers: Fourteen elders and J.M. to Staylitt, Fford Fawc, Dylife and Glaslyn by road. Six broke new ground by continuing a hundred yards or so towards Machynlleth past the Glaslyn fork, then climbing Fael Fadian (1850') before descending to Glaslyn. They claimed that the view from the top was vastly superior to that from Glaslyn, including

as it did a down-circle view of Cader Idris and a large slice of Cardigan Bay, as well as the cliffs and scree that mark the western edges of Plynlimion's foothills.

Picnic meal, and a swim in Glaslyn for half-a-dozen. After this R. Watson and R.F. Jones began the return journey by the Clywedog gorges to Stay Little, accompanied by Abbey, Nicholson, Wells, Scott I., Davis, Smith J., and Lewis. They got back to camp at 7 p.m. (about 20 miles).

Payne, McDermott, Croft, Lynch, and Broadhead, with J.M. usually some distance behind, went on to Bugellyn, and along the west bank of the lake, crossing the new-born Afon Hengwm and then climbing up towards Bryn Coas (Future walkers note that it will probably be far better to take the East bank of Bugellyn and then climb the ridge towards "Carn-fach Bugellyn.") We then went in a right-handed curve, along the W. shoulder of Arowystli and so to the 2468 or Cardigan peak. The last of the precious crumbs of our sandwiches disappeared here, as we sheltered in the cairn while clouds drove across the top, intermittently hiding the view - a sea of knobbly mountains to the South; a deep trough to the West, with a rim of dark mountains beyond which the sea stretched for many miles, a sheet of dazzling silver in the evening light,

Not Black Hagen, but the crumbling
house above Afon Horror

with cloud shadows, like horizontal pencil-strokes, moving across it.

It was now 7.15 so we hurried down to the saddle above Llyn-Llygad-Rheiddol, over the wire fence, down past the source of the Wye (where George Borrow drank so long ago) and over rough going to the Christmas trees near Severn source. Blaen Hafren 8.30; down the old track to Rhyd y Benwch, now deserted. From there we "bashed on" doggedly along the tarmac, past ~~the~~ Rhyd-yr-onen, where we were surprised to see a bull-dozer on the further bank of Severn. We missed the Brithdir fork and were directed, at the Forestry cottages, up the woods and on to the cart-track. It was now quite dark, but the $\frac{3}{4}$ moon gave enough light for us to pick up the path to Aber-dennant. When we arrived in camp at 11 p.m., very weary, EAF welcomed us with bowls of broth, hot coffee, apples and custard. A very goodly sight.

Time: 12 hours; distance $26\frac{1}{2}$ or 27 miles.

See back cover for particulars.

Arrivals: G.S. Griffiths, M. Chambers, M. Porter, J. Clements, and Eric Such (a Gentile)

50 in camp

Saturday

2 August.

Another showery day, much more fine than wet, but

It should be understood that the writers of these *Mémoires* observe certain conventions: for instance, boys are named without benefit of initial, as "Wilkes", "Dilkes", or for purposes of differentiation "Gilkes, W." Old Boys, like Gentlemen in cricket, are entered as "W. Gilkes", "J. D. St. C. Jewkes", etc, etc.; Masters usually by initials only according to the time-table style.

A Gentile is usually a camper who is an Old Boy of some other school.

Also
from
(10/-

S
3

rather cold because of the draught.

Activities: bathing parade, Prisoners' Release, bathe after tea. Some twenty-a-side took part in the game, but the bracken was thick, the runners were content to couch in it in small groups, and in consequence only 5 were caught first innings and 6 second innings.

Also Satisfying
family.
(10/- contribution)

← Visitors →: Miss McDermott and her young man, on the way to some walking in the Black Mountains (Mon.)

Arrivals: L. Davis, RAF, and - Stephens, a Gentile.

Jobs: GWP continued his very tedious work of filling the abyss with concrete, one mug-full at a time.

A stile was erected to enable short-cutters to cross the fence between copse and Reading Rock (A Stoy-ul for the Byes)

Further Arrivals: K. Bromage and Mr Rees, making ~~at~~ a record total of
54 in camp.

Sunday

3 August.

Weather again patchy: windy, long sunny intervals, brief showers.

In view of the early hour of Divine Service, meals were a little earlier today, especially tea (with jelly and blancmange) which was started soon after 4 p.m.

The whole camp made the pilgrimage, some of

the more mature finding the path up Crowhorn as much as they wanted.

When the service started at 6 o'clock the little chapel was almost full — 54 of us and some 30 to 35 local people. Preacher: the Rev. J.T. Jones from Booth; he gave us a discursive sermon, full of good advice and like 'Hamlet' full of quotations, but he had so many points to make that he developed none of them and laid so little emphasis on his main theme that he was not at all easy to follow. Nevertheless the conduct and attentiveness of his young congregation were exemplary. The simulation of interest is clearly one of the lessons taught in Grammar Schools of which the value has often been under-rated.

Equipped with the hymn-booklets made by EAF, and offered a selection of familiar words and tunes, all sang lustily and in tune. They were even able to defeat a formidable female voice which "led off" half a beat ahead of everyone else (including Mrs Rowland's Harmonium) and went badly astray in Rock of Ages.

Further liaison with local characters, and some good stories, regarding Salop and ear-marking, about the Bad Old Man of the valley.

BASEBALL, AUGUST MONDAY, 1952.

Mon
A

SCHOOL

OLD BOYS.

Holley	1	c		1		1		M. Chambers				1	0		
Payne	1		0	1		1		L. Davis	c		-	1	0		
Croft			0	1		1		G. Griffiths	1			0	1		
Ashworth	0					1		K. Bromage				0			
Davis	0		0					E. Suck	0						
Thorne	c			1.0				Clements	0			0	1		
Scott I		1		1.c		c		R. Jones	0				unfinished		
Lynch				1		0		R. Watson		c		0			
Broadhurst	0		0	0	c	0		D. Weedon			0	0			
Smith J.				1		1	c	W. Rees.			c				
	2	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{0}{3}$	$\frac{7}{10}$	$\frac{0}{10}$	$\frac{5}{15}$	$\frac{0}{15}$		0	$\frac{1}{1}$	$\frac{0}{1}$	$\frac{0}{1}$		$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{0}{3}$	$\frac{1}{4}$

Monday
4 August.

Bank Holiday Monday. The weather was again patchy, beginning with wind sunshine and clouds, going on to a few SH ^{out} _{lowers}, and ending, after dark, with prolonged and heavy rain. This was the first "real rain" we had seen this camp.

There was bathing in the morning and a grand baseball match in the afternoon — School v. Old Boys — which ended suddenly when Payne, catching, was struck on the bridge of his nose by a snicked ball. The result, transcribed from a blood-stained score-sheet, may be seen opposite.

The day concluded with games on top of the tip by the mine-shaft and buildings — known to this year's juniors as "the old abbey". They were various games of involving strength, skill, or cunning, which WJR had introduced from the R.A.F. and elsewhere, and included the Round-the-Stamp-Ten-Times race, another ball-carrying race, in which the callipygeous were at an advantage, and Leg-wrestling.

It was a bruised and breathless company that came in to supper (Shredded wheat; bread; cake, supplied by Smith P.J.'s father).

Visitors: Mr and Mrs T. Caldicot; Familie Bond; Familie Hopkins; Familie Smith (P.J.).

Departed: John Lovelidge and Tom Williams,

M. Porter and — Stephens, leaving us
50 in camp.

Tuesday

5 August.

A dull, close, windless day, with two or three insignificant showers.

The usual morning activities of wooding, bathing and so on, plus some extra cleaning, scrubbing and floor-mopping, as well as forays by motor-cycle to the shops and the doctor. Payne went down with Ken Bromage to see Dr Shimmis and later to Newtown for X-ray: report was "bone broken — a star-shaped fracture — but all the bits nicely in position, and all going well".

After dinner, a walk. 35, with WJR, GJ, and JM went to ByG, up WyG road, to top of Dinas, down to Eblid and over the bridge, back by the Foel, Ystrad-hynod and Deildre Chapel. Some delay caused by gathering bilberries (i.e. whinberries) on the Eblid side of Dinas, and raspberries along a short hedge where the footpath to the Foel first leaves the cart-road.

After tea the suggestion of a sing-song had little support, sixteen voted for whist, the rest for bathing. It was so; those who went down to the river, however, were rained on gently but persistently,

and no doubt for that very reason found the water warmer than at any other time this holiday.

The prize-winners in the Whist-Drive were:

GENT'2 : 1st Frankham - last, Smith J.

LADIE'2 : 1st Abbey — last, Ashworth

Jobs: The concreting went on relentlessly, as it had done every day. Old Boys and others wheeled grit from the tip below the "old abbey", labourers mixed, GWP poured into a hole in the wall above Stone window, and finally reported that at last he had found the bottomless pit, the Hole communicating directly with the Mine Shaft. But after a hot mug of engineer's comfort, he was heartened to go out and pour in his final bucket of "nix". His persistence was rewarded, for lo! — as he poured the last murgfuls, so it issued from the top of the Hole.

EAF, with part-time assistance, put the final coat of paint on the four kitchen-door. Colour, a rather sickly greyish green, but when you think of it as a new pastel shade (say, Californian Sage) it can seem more attractive.

50 in camp.

Wednesday

6 August

- A wet day, with a couple of hours' respite in the morning. Bathing parade. After dinner it

rained so heavily, that four teams ran the Two Mile Relay. The record has been mistaid so that the result cannot be entered here and may indeed remain a mystery.

Free evening

Departures: J.M. by train to Birmingham; R.F. Jones by motor-cycle to Newquay, Card.

48 in camp.

Thursday
7 August

Better weather.

Walk: WJR, Payne, McDermott, Broadbent, Croft, Lynch, G.S. Griffiths, M. Chambers, Eric Sack — on 10 15 to Rhayader, up "side-road to second dam, down to first dam (whence three walked to within sight of Clawson) and back by 6 50 train.

After dinner EAF led stay-at-homes to Glyn Farm, down Glyn road to a bend then sharp and steeply left through woods, across The Road to Golegoed, Van Pool, By G, and back by road.

Work. G.W.P. used up his cement, sealed the various holes on which he had been working; however, like a Christian Gentleman and Ingenieur, he left enough work to employ TR next Easter.

Friday

The last day

8 August

A slight shower about midday, so once more the lads were able to get down dry to Claidloes.

Summary: Record number in camp, 54. Previous recorded highest, 52, though H.G. claimed to have had more when he had the four stal tents.

No camp concert or sing-song!

Glaslyn and Plynlunio in one day; the biggest walk since the war, though Roy Brocombe (and probably others) did it twenty years ago or more.

Work:

The Gaffers.

1915 - 1927	Henri Guerra.
1928 - 1939	Norman Loveridge.
1947 - 1972.	Arnold Faulkner.
1972 - 1974	Peter (P.S.) Smith.

Jerman, Cwmstorddy (? Cwm ystorddy = storehouse)
Williams, Bwlchryllyn.

Walk 1 Aug 1952

Distances. fairly accurate.

Leave Camp : 11.0 am.
Stay little : 12.10 - 12.20.
Fford Fawr : 1.0 pm.
Glaslyn : 2.20 - 3.30.
2468 : left 7.15
Horror Hall
Blaen Hafan : 8.30
Camp : 11.0 p.m.

Camp - Fford Fawr $6\frac{1}{2}$
Ff. fawr - Glaslyn $3\frac{1}{2}$
Glaslyn - Bugiblyn 1
Bug. - 2468 $4\frac{3}{4}$
2468 - Blaen Hafan $3\frac{1}{2}$
B. Hafan - Camp $6\frac{1}{2}$

1952

Notable residents:

- ** Higgs, Ty'n y Fron (Uchaf). Third generation
Roger Pridmore, Cwm (since 1930)
Rowlands, Crowlwm, temporary, or rather, intermittent
Deacon Vaughan, Penybanc Third generation.
" Hughes, Ebled.
Jones, Ty'n y Fron (Isaf) only since 1951.
** Jones (J.P.) Glyn.
Davies, Cefn Penarth Isaf
Davies, Cefn Penarth Uchaf.
D. Owen, Cofychlwyd.
Jones from Llambrynair, Britkedin (since alt 1950).
Evans, Bryntail, since August 1903.
* Davies, Bulchyggle