# VIA CELEBRITIES

(Definitely NOT in order of importance)

#### (By L.E.D., N.G.D., J.K.L.)

NICKLIN.—As a form captain he would make a good herdsman. He has a remarkable capacity for forgetting homework and this appears to be his only redeeming feature. If he is not collecting money he is handing out subversive literature. A merciless "perfect" he is the terror of the lower school. At the bottom of popularity poll he often needs police protection to break clear from angry third-formers.

HENRY.—Would talk anyone and everyone stone crazy if it wasn't that nobody listens to him. Quite handy with excuses for not doing homework — he baffles the masters with science (baffles them anyway). A good hard working librarian who should go a long way if handled properly. We advise him to do something about it and see a psychiatrist.

JORDAN.—Definitely the highest literary figure in a form of geniuses. His ability has been recognised in that at an early age he was made honorary assistant deputy sub-editor of the school rag. As an English sportsman, by jove, he cuts a fine figure. (Colours 1935—a nice chubby baby pink.)

BRYAN.—Best described in the words of Nicholas Vachel Lindsay (all respect to N.V.L.):

"Fat black Bryan, in a Bousefield room,

Bousfield kid with his feet on the table,

Bashed and smashed as hard as we were able, Hard as we were able.

Beat his empty head with the handle of a broom, Hard as we were able,

Boom, boom, boom."

A very "STEADY" character not in the habit of chasing the skirts—in fact, he only really knows one. His classroom behaviour is highly recommended as an example (not to be followed), but his bullheadedness is dangerous (to everyone) on the football field.

STRINGFELLOW has a bad habit of snoring loudly on a football field—the larger the crowd, the louder the snoring. Always telling us about the "girl next door" but has not shown her to anyone. This phase marked a great change (for the worse) in poor old Stringy. (Quarter colours—sailing— 10 A.D.)

LESLIE.—The slowest fast bowler for centuries that some obscure team called the 1st XI has had the misfortune to harbour. He really deserves a game in much finer company. (It is suggested he apply for a vacancy in the ninths.) A cricketer with a good variety of balls, he has had moderate success on the tail end "rabbits" with his devastating long hops and wides. His famous late cut often sends the ball screaming into the stumps. Recently been made a member of the honourable society of good blokes commonly known as "Prees." His name has sunk very low on the popularity poll.

GREEN.—The old man of the school. Just about reached the bowl playing stage; but unfortunately the only opposition he can get from the school at present is from the masters. GAZZARD.—Likely to be the best cricketer in the form. A good all-rounder, he bumps down slow googly full-tossers which move very fast off the bat. He handles his bat like a crowkeeper. In a few years should make the 1st XI (as scorer). (Full colours 1949, half 1950,  $\frac{1}{4}$  1951, Q.G.P.S. 1952.)

WENCK.—Certainly the most likely member to fill the post of Prime Minister. Will argue that an equine quadruped is a horse till he is blue in the face and then will tell you his face is red. His prominent sport is chess, and he is down on the record as having played in a tennis team. (Double colours (red and blue) chess 1982.)

DIVETT.—This is what a great woman writer (one of his acquaintances) said of him:

"There was a young man called Neil,

Who acted a bit like a heel,

He reformed for a while,

Said good-night with a smile,

But his actions we cannot reveal."

An eggspurt on all our social problems he cannot solve his own. The sportsman of the form he should go a long way if he practises hard for years and years. (Quarter colours—dominoes—1985.)

SMYTH.—Our classical scholar who delights in a good, hard game of chess. (Full and a half colours 1900.)

REINHOLD.—The future Field Marshal who eats, sleeps (usually in English, Physics, Maths., and Chemistry) and drinks Cadets. Has a waddle, of which any duck would be envious (especially when ducking in late). Known affectionately as "Cactus," he is our star volleyball player whose best and favourite shot goes over the back of his skull towards B.G.G.S. somewhere.

DONALDSON.—Rare animal found only in VIA. As a sportsman he would be advised to take up marbles or (if he trains hard) croquet. He has a certain way with women (the wrong way). He is without doubt the great Romeo of the form, and there are many broken hearts to testify (all his own).

GIBSON.—A striking figure well advanced in the manly arts. As an actor he shows painful progress, but in his fencing his wild whirling swishes create nothing but vast holes in space. He is one of the leaders in the cult of crew cuts—more commonly known as "sucked mangoes."

SMITH.—The "voice" of the form. As yet he has made only one public appearance, but that was a howling success. Could go a long way and will probably eventuate a salesman (clothes props). His choral items, during geology and chem., are received with mixed feelings by the class. His striking natural tone will get him much detention. Is known locally as Ray (Sobbing Johnnie) Smith.

#### November, 1952

### VI a Celebrities—(Cont'd),

PEGG, M. M.—A boarder and the toff of the form. Dresses in immaculate style with elegant taste. His socks show through just the right holes in the shoes and the patches in his trousers are never creased. His pullover has a remarkable system of ventilation holes.



PEGG, R.—A cricketer whose straight drive through the wicketkeeper's gloves is a shot to be marvelled at. English clubs are wrangling eagerly for his services. The transfer fee goes into shillings. We are all eager to see what club will get his services as boot polisher. He is also a good change bowler who sets a strong attacking field outside the fence. His best ball is the grubber.



## LARRY!

(Drawn by J. C. Elms-IIId)

KIRKPATRICK.—Always recognizable by a snake hanging out of his pocket. If he hasn't got one he has got two. He has been bitten only once the snake died. Writes epics in his spare time which probably accounts for his insanity.

HODGE.—Could turn out to be a second Beethoven—or a third groundsman. Does his Maths. to the tune of a violin and writes English in crochets and quavers. Plays a good hand of marbles. (Full colours, 52 B.C.) VERESCHAGIN.—The quiet boy of the form, but we suspect he has a split personality. Carries out some diabolic experiments in Chem. Prac., which indicates a Dr. Jekyll strain in his character.

CLAPPISON.—A very reserved chap (probably by all the girls in the neighbourhood). Speaks only when asked to, but has really a very active brain. Won some obscure essay prize, known as Brunton Stephens.

CARTER, B.V., and CARTER, V.—Easily distinguished. Add to each volumes of cold weather. B.V. appears as a glossy white New Zealander covered by a sleeveless Grammar Shirt. V is covered by khaki precipitate of cadet jumper tinted black by army boots.



HAPPY

MacCOLL.—One of the more scholastic of the form, and with a bit of luck might even PASS senior. His memory is amazing, and he has been known to remember homework set the day before. With his high mental capacity he appears well suited to a position as a council worker.

WAY.—An unknown quantity judging by recent information received from our reporter, who tells us that he has a really smooth-lined little thing to whom he pays a lot of attention. Her name is "Janice," quite an armful we gather from her measurements. (Length 12ft. 0in., beam 4ft. 6in.) We hope this description doesn't take the wind out of her sails.

BELL.—A promising young golfer with a 101 to his record. (Handicap 200.) He is the most "bookie-ish" chap in the form, and is always ready with a hot tip for the next exam. Also one of our conscientious prefects, very high on the popularity poll.