

The School Magazine

OF THE

McCABE  
COMMERCIAL  
SCHOOL  
MAIDSTONE



*Vol. 1. No. 1.*

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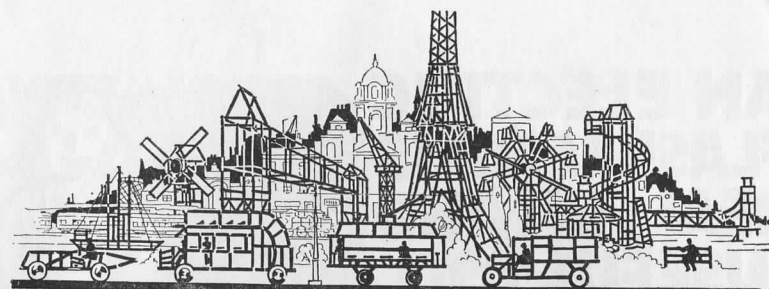
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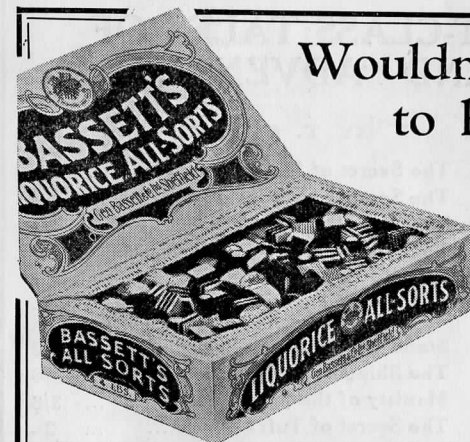
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and

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*Secretary and Assistant Secretary for the Aeronautical Research Committee.*

FOREWORD BY

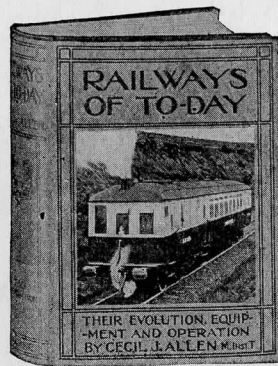
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## THE McCABE COMMERCIAL SCHOOL MAGAZINE

VOL. I. No. 1.

DECEMBER, 1930

### SCHOOL HISTORY.

The School has experienced momentous changes this Term. One of the lesser changes is the fact that this School Magazine is now appearing. We hope that it will deserve and obtain plenty of support.

\* \* \* \*

Mr. McCabe's death on Wednesday, 10th September, came as a shock to the whole School. It was very fortunate that Mr. Piper had already arranged to become our new Headmaster. We learn from the Old Boys that he and Mr. McCabe were staunch friends in days gone by, and we wish him every success in the School.

\* \* \* \*

The Preparatory Class has been started again, and we welcome Miss Stubbs on to the Staff. On Saturday, 1st November, a presentation of a Shaving Set was made to Mr. R. L. Marshall by W. Beale, to mark the occasion of his birthday, on Sunday, 2nd November.

\* \* \* \*

Poppies were sold at the School on Armistice Day, and the sum of 16s. 7d. was realized. About 40 boys attended St. Peter's Church for the Armistice service, conducted by the Rev. Martyn. The services consisted of a few short Prayers, two Hymns, the National Anthem and a short Address. The rest of the School attended the service at the War Memorial.

\* \* \* \*

On the annual day for the election of the Mayor, 10th November, the Senior Boys attended the Town Hall, to witness the ceremony. Mr. H. G. Tyrwhitt-Drake was proposed by Alderman Epps and seconded by Councillor Shrubsole. After the meeting the boys were all invited into the refreshment room!

L. Morgan and E. Bowler are the Commercial School representatives of the Maidstone and Mid-Kent Philatelic Society. A good number of boys attended Mr. Stanley Philip's lecture on "Stamp Collecting: The World's Hobby," on the 19th November. We should like to see more boys joining the Society.

\* \* \* \*

There has been a slight alteration in the School cap. It was found that the light blue bands became discoloured very quickly. The new caps are very attractive and proving much more satisfactory.

\* \* \* \*

The alteration in the School hours seems to be a great success. It saves waiting about in the morning, and we are able to get away 15 minutes earlier in the afternoon.

Next Term we hope to resume the Physical Exercise classes at the Church Institute.

\* \* \* \*

On behalf of the R.S.P.C.A., the sum of 3s. was collected and also tin foil and silver paper is being collected in aid of the West Kent General Hospital.

A School library has been organized with P. Woollard as librarian. There are already about 130 books in the library, and further gifts of books will be welcomed as the present books become worn out. The following have contributed books this Term: F. Walkling, S. Reynolds, R. Bushby, B. Finn, J. Pierce, W. Spurgeon, G. Lynn, J. Elbourne, R. Wood, J. Piper, L. Pierce, J. Beale, W. Beale, F. Vidler, L. Morgan, F. Tolputt, K. Whibley, Mr. Marshall, and Mr. Piper.

\* \* \* \*

The lighting of the Schoolrooms has been improved. Electricity is now available over the whole of the premises, and a projection plug has been fitted in the large Schoolroom for the purpose of lantern lectures. The large tree which has been an obstruction for so long, has been cut down.

\* \* \* \*

We were sorry to hear of the death of an Old Boy, R. H. Billingham, in a motor-cycle accident. The funeral took place within a few hours of Mr. McCabe's funeral.

\* \* \* \*

Our best thanks to all who have contributed to this magazine. We have been obliged to omit some items for reasons of space. K. Wills and F. G. Stone sent in some excellent illustrations, which we are reluctantly compelled to hold over for the present.

It is hoped to enter a number of boys for the Cambridge Local Examinations next Mid-summer, and we wish the candidates every success.

\* \* \* \*

A Debating Society is being organized, and there is no reason why it should not prove to be a very great success. We understand that lantern lectures are also to be arranged for certain evenings next Term. Perhaps some day we may even aspire to a School concert.

\* \* \* \*

The beginning of next Term has been provisionally arranged for Thursday, 8th January; Term ends on Wednesday, 1st April.

\* \* \* \*

The following are the new boys for this Term:  
N. Brooker, IVb; F. G. Stone, IVb; G. H. Goodchild, IVb;  
J. H. Piper, IVb; R. Wood, IVb; E. Haywood, III;  
S. Farman, II.

F. RANDALL.

F. TOLPUTT.

### MR. McCABE'S DEATH.

(The following account is reprinted from the *South Eastern Gazette*, to whom our thanks are due.)

There passed to his long rest at 9.15 p.m. on Wednesday last, Mr. William John McCabe, for many years the principal of one of Maidstone's best-known private schools for boys. Mr. McCabe, who had attained the age of 74 years, came to Maidstone from South Newington, London, where he was head of Lonsbury College, in 1888. In that year he took over St. Augustine's College, which was conducted in what is now the Parish Room at the Old College, close to All Saints' Church, and worked it up from 13 boys to 80, and continued to run his school there until 1898, when he sold out and for a time was in London again. Returning to Maidstone in 1901, Mr. McCabe founded the Commercial School at the Masonic Hall in Brewer Street.

\* \* \* \*

### Started with Three Pupils.

On the opening day he had only three pupils, but he was a successful schoolmaster and soon raised his number to 76, and at one time had a waiting list on his books three years ahead. The School remained in Brewer Street until 1910, when Mr. McCabe transferred the establishment to London

Road, where it was conducted with continued success up till the present day. Although not of robust physique, the deceased gentleman enjoyed remarkably good health, never missed a day in school, and was on the active list right up till the School broke up for the summer holidays last month. After he dismissed the school, Mr. McCabe, that day, took to his bed and never got up again. He had intended to retire next Christmas, and Mr. H. Piper (University of London), who was with him for some five years before he went to Streatham Grammar School, had accepted Mr. McCabe's invitation to come and take over the Commercial School. Mr. McCabe had an eye to the future for the boys leaving his school, and always interested himself in finding them a career.

A devoted Churchman, the deceased was a strong pillar in support of Queen's Road Mission, and took a leading part in raising a fund for the restoration of the mission building and in providing a new organ there. He was also a pioneer of the Barming Heath Mission some 34 years ago, with Mr. Stephen Ashby.

### ***Coached Maidstone Police.***

For many years Mr. McCabe was scholastic coach to the Maidstone Police Force, and at Christmas used to invite his pupils from the Force to a party in the schoolroom. As a Freemason, he was a member of the Robinson Lodge.

Mrs. McCabe, who was a Devonshire lady, predeceased her husband in 1922. Five sons and two daughters survive. The eldest son, William John, is a Channel pilot; Reginald Victor, the second son, is engaged in the paper-making industry in Canada; and the third son, Howard, is departmental manager of a large store in Winnipeg; Colin, the fourth boy, is H.M. Inspector of Taxes at Stone-on-Trent; and the youngest son, Stanley, is with Messrs. A. E. Reed and Co., Aylesford; whilst the eldest daughter is matron at the Military Hospital, Edinburgh Castle, and the other surviving daughter, Annie, is the wife of Col. Harvey Knapp, resident in Johannesburg.

### ***The Funeral.***

The funeral at St. Peter's Church, on Saturday, was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. W. Martyn), who came especially from Bexhill to pay "a last personal tribute to an old and loved friend."

The processional, played by Mr. M. Bowles at the organ, was "I Know that my Redeemer Liveth." The hymns were

"Lights Abode, Celestial Salem," and "Who are These like Stars appearing?" The Psalm, "The Lord is my Shepherd," was chanted. The mourners were: Mr. W. J. McCabe and Mr. Stanley McCabe (sons), Mr. and Mrs. Colin McCabe (son and daughter-in-law), Miss Mary McCabe (daughter), Mrs. H. Wadkinson and Mr. H. I. Piper.

Among those who also attended the service were the following of the late Mr. McCabe's brethren of the Robinson Lodge of Freemasons: Mr. B. Lockyer (Worshipful Master), Mr. E. A. Avery (Director of Ceremonies), Alderman F. E. Wallis, Councillor S. J. Lyle, who was also a pupil of the Commercial School, Captain H. Rogers, Messrs. W. J. Beecher (Past Master), A. J. Wood, Goodman, H. Small, J. Cloke, R. Sharpe, W. V. Brett, G. Starnes, and A. Jarrett (Steward), members of other Lodges being: Messrs. J. W. Solman, F. W. Vidler (Belvidere), and R. A. Haywood (Perfect Ashlar, London). Old pupils of the School present included Messrs. L. W. Busbridge, S. Gascoine, F. G. E. May, W. Weeden, A. J. Wood, E. Wood, K. F. Fowles, C. Beale, W. Love, V. Whibley, V. Langley, W. Bloor and F. Wicken-den. Others who also attended were: Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Haslewood, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Wallis, Mrs. Masters, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Haywood, Mr. F. J. Whibley.

### ***An Old and Loved Friend.***

The Vicar, just before the close of the service, paid an eloquent tribute to Mr. McCabe's memory. He was a very old and loved friend, he said, and a familiar figure in the life of the parish. But especially would he be remembered for his work at the Queen's Road Mission. It was a work he always had very much at heart, and when his health and strength permitted no duties were too arduous for him to undertake. In the life of the town, too, he had made his mark. His wonderfully successful school had sent out pupils throughout the country, and perhaps throughout the world, and not a few of them, perhaps, owed their position in life to the steady work and kind influence of their old master.

The cortege left the church to the strains of "O Rest in the Lord."

\* \* \* \*

We cannot realize what a great loss Maidstone has had, and we would like to quote an extract from a letter of sympathy received from one of his many friends. The letter says: "The world is going to be very much the poorer for such a loss. I sincerely hope all the boys will be loyal and

keep up the splendid name the School has got. Such would be his greatest wish could he but tell them so."

The suggestion has been made that it would be a fitting memorial to the memory of Mr. McCabe and his work in Maidstone to place his portrait in the schoolroom. A fund to this end has been opened, and it is hoped that we shall be able to arrange a short unveiling ceremony in the New Year.

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL.

It is impossible to write a message without prefixing to it an expression of extreme regret and sorrow that Mr. McCabe did not live to see the change of leadership at the School. We all owe to him and his influence a tremendous debt, and the sterling worth of his character affords an ennobling ideal and a shining example to all.

It is a great responsibility to take up the reins of leadership in the wake of such an one. Certain changes are inevitable, but we trust that good results will accrue from the innovations and alterations now being made, after due consideration.

The foundations of the School as laid by Mr. McCabe were well and truly laid. We desire to continue to build with the same lofty aims and ideals, and in due course, by the help of God, we may see a not ignoble building in which every member of the School forms a lasting stone bearing the imprint of a noble character and sound scholarship.

The work of the School is being overhauled and revised. The staff has been augmented and more recent text-books and methods of work are gradually being introduced.

We shall be pleased to hear from Old Boys who have the time and opportunity of writing to us, and news concerning Old Boys will be published in the magazine. We hope to publish an issue every Term, but to do so it will be necessary for the School to give it every support, especially for the first few numbers. In due course a list of all boys who have passed through the School will be published.

### FOOTBALL.

The present Officers are: President, Mr. R. L. Marshall; Captain, W. Beale; Vice-Captain, R. Ashby; Secretary, G. Lynn. Selection Committee, the above and H. Bradford and L. Pearce.

M. Langley and R. Norley were originally elected as captain and vice-captain, but a second election became necessary as Norley left School to go to business and Langley was frequently unable to play on Saturdays. Our Secretary has arranged a good list of matches, but the bad weather has interfered with some of them. Unfortunately we have not yet met with a great deal of success, but we are hoping for more victories next Term.

The results of the matches are as follows:

1st Oct.	v. Beale's XI.	Home.	Lost, 6—2.
11th Oct.	v. Boxley Scouts.	Away.	Won, 7—1.
25th Oct.	v. St. Peter's Choir.	Home.	Lost, 7—3.
8th Nov.	v. Boxley Scouts.	Home.	Lost, 9—3.
15th Nov.	v. King St. Scouts.	Home.	Lost, 6—4.
25th Nov.	Town v. Country.	Home.	Town won, 7—0.
5th Dec.	Town v. Country.	Home.	Town won, 1—0.
6th Dec.	v. King St. Scouts.	Home.	Drawn, 5—5.

W. BEALE (Capt.).

G. LYNN (Hon. Sec.).

### TELEVISION.

Television, or seeing at a distance, is the invention of a Scotsman, Mr. I. L. Baird. The history of television is very romantic, on account of the circumstances under which the inventor worked; he had to make use of the queerest things imaginable in order to perfect his invention, but when once it was well grounded, it made remarkable strides forward. It would be of great value during a war, because it would be possible to watch from headquarters the movements of the enemy by the means of televisions carried by aeroplanes. Speaking-television has already been demonstrated on a large screen, so that it can be watched by a large number of persons. The photo-electric cell is the main part of it; this can consist of a potassium-coated glass bulb with an electrode sealed in, or a strip of the metal selenium. Selenium was discovered by Mr. May, an operator on the Atlantic cable.



Television has been operated across the Atlantic, to the United States, and the demonstration was very successful. The essential parts of a television apparatus are (1) the light cell, (2) the disc, and (3) the motor to rotate the disc. The cell is placed in a position to pick up the light, reflected from the object to be televised; behind the disc is a powerful arc lamp, which shines through holes made in the disc; each hole is made slightly to the side of the preceding one, and they are bored all round the disc. The motor rotates the disc at a given speed, and the object is scanned by a beam of light. The principal thing is synchronism; that is, for the transmitting and receiving motors to be exactly in step. The receiver has a disc similar to the one above, and behind it is placed a neon tube, which is connected to the output terminals of the receiver (the neon tube acts in the same way as a loud speaker, but instead of producing sound waves, it produces light waves), and an image is built up of strips of light on the screen.

F. WALKLING.

### OVER 6,000 DAILY PINTS OF MILK.

What a tremendous amount of milk this is! One can hardly realize that this amount of milk is sold by one dairyman, whose business in London I had the pleasure of visiting. This dairy has a very elaborate machine that washes the bottles; it is driven by steam, which forces boiling water into the bottles at an extraordinary pressure.

The bottles are put into a tray and are taken through a machine, which only needs one man to work it, thus saving both labour and time. Then they are taken into the filling room, where they are put on to a revolving platform and are so conveyed to the machine which fills them. This is done by the bottles going round on a small platform, which in turn rises, and in so doing the milk is allowed to pour into the bottles; when filled, they are automatically lowered and go on to another platform, where the cardboard disc is pressed on. Next they roll down a platform out into the yard, where the milkmen are waiting to put them in their carts. Consequently, neither the bottles nor the contents are handled by human hands until they reach the carts.

It is surprising how one man can make headway as the owner of this dairy did. He started by selling two pints the first day (1906), and now his daily average is 6,070 pints.

F. VIDLER,

### THE GREAT QUESTION.

The village of Brickhurst had already become a suburb of the busy manufacturing town of Radlington, on the West Central Railway, noted for its cakes, its boots and its straw hats. Great things were expected of its incorporation in the extended borough. Gas they already had, but there was to be electricity, a better water supply, and drainage for the first time. Of course, there were some who looked askance at these things, and predicted higher rates: but still——

It was the evening of Friday, 29th October. It had been a stormy and rainy day, and though the heavily-laden sky had cleared a bit, it was still chequered by clouds, driven before a brisk breeze which came hurrying in from the Bristol Channel, and a half-moon, low down over the southwest, chased in and out among the scurrying clouds.

It was ten minutes to 8 when a group of some half-dozen men, mostly brick-makers, having passed through the iron gate of the Rectory garden, walked slowly up the broad pathway to the semi-circular stone steps of the front door. The leader of the group was a short, thick-set man with red hair and a freckled face. He was well known in the village as the Radical of the brickyard. His voice was heard on every conceivable question that could be called politics (incorporation included). If anybody in Brickhurst suffered the misfortune of failing to be informed of that politician's views on the government of India, or as to the position in which the Brickhurst parish pump ought to be, it would not be the fault of Mr. Tom Jenkins. He was always putting up for the Parish and District Councils, but instead of being voted on to the local Councils, he was generally voted a cantankerous fellow.

Meanwhile, Canon Smythe-Cowper, his wife, and daughter (aged 19), were sipping their post-prandial coffee, when a very neat maid, all black and white, knocked at the room door. "Some men from the brickyard would like to see you, sir." "Tom Jenkins?" queried the Rector. "I think so, sir," answered the discreet maid, and promptly disappeared. "Wants my vote, does he?" murmured the Rector, as he hurried from the room; "not if he comes to church twice next Sunday."

"What a nasty day. Cleared up a bit, eh?" said the Rector. "Anything I can——" But here the leader of the group cut him short with—

"Look here, Mister, *we* want to know what happens when the breath of man goes forth."

For the moment Rector and parishioners stood facing

each other, the man in the doorway taken aback by the unexpected question, the men on the semi-circle all expectation.

Presently, recovering himself: "I deal with these questions in church, not here," answered the Rector, icily.

A pause. "Anything else?" queried the Rector. No answer. "Then good-night," concluded the Rector, and closed the door.

R. L. M.

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### GLIDING.

The world's glider champion, Herr Robert Kronfield, says emphatically that Britain is as good a country for gliding as could be found.

To show that, he glided from Itford, Sussex, to Portsmouth, a little over seventy miles.

Amazing progress has been made in Germany, where glides of several hours' duration are common-place. Kronfield has won two records, distance and height. He glided 95 miles at an altitude of 6,000 feet.

When you start to learn gliding you are placed in a machine known as a "primary trainer," and towed behind a car. This is to give air sense and a height of 40 feet is thereby obtained. Then you are allowed to fly one of these machines without the aid of a car.

You are catapulted off the top of a hill by means of an elastic rope.

There are over 50 British gliding clubs, of which the Kent Gliding Club was the first, founded by Mr. Lowe Wilde, its star pilot.

R. BODIAM.

---

### WIT AND WISDOM.

Employer, to Applicant: "No, I don't require a boy. I do all the work here myself."

Applicant: "Yes, sir; then the job would just suit me."

\* \* \* \*

There was an old glutton of Duns,  
Who said: "I'll eat ninety-three buns";

At the seventy-first  
He unluckily burst,  
So the rest were consumed by his sons.

H. PEARCE.

All things come to the man who waits—especially whiskers.

\* \* \* \*

The hide of the cow is very useful, because it keeps the animal together.

\* \* \* \*

The Frenchman said: "Terrible place, zis London! Everywhere you must tip. Even when you wash ze hands it say, 'Tip ze basin'."

W. SPURGEON.

\* \* \* \*

A man and his wife had been shipwrecked and had escaped on a raft. As no land or ship came in sight, they decided to post a last message in a bottle. The bottle had just been flung out to sea when the wife shouted: "Oh, Alfred, fetch back the post! I have forgotten a P.S."

S. REYNOLDS.

\* \* \* \*

A recent advertisement stated: "Wanted, a chair for a man with a padded seat." "A watch has been lost by a lad with a luminous dial." "An antique table to be sold by a lady with twisted legs and a polished surface."

W. BEALE.

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### CORRESPONDENCE.

No. 28 (A6) Squadron,

Royal Air Force,

Risalpur,

N.W.F.P.,

India.

15th October, 1930.

Dear Mr. Piper,

I have just received a "Kent Messenger" dated about a month ago, and in it I was very sorry to read of the death of Mr. W. J. McCabe; and also I read that you are taking over the old School, and in this connection I would like to wish you unqualified success.

It is possible that you will not remember me as an old student at the Commercial School, but I was a pupil there (with my brother) in 1919-20; others that I remember at the same time were Veitch, Hubble, Ewin, the Leavers, and Wood (who later went to Argles, Solicitors).

I shall always have pleasant memories of No. 8 London Road, as I am sure that the short time that I had there, constituted the best of my school days.

Perhaps in reading this, you will find no excuse for my writing, but as one gets a little older, one thinks about school-days and school-day acquaintances (possibly more so if abroad) as a definite link with home and childhood, and as I do not know any of Mr. McCabe's sons and daughters (I remember Mr. Stanley, but he would not remember me), would you please express to them my very sincere sympathy in their sad bereavement? This is perhaps enhanced by the fact that the late Mr. McCabe and my father were great friends, and fellow-members of the old R.A.M.C.

In conclusion I will again wish you the greatest good fortune as Principal of the old School.

Yours very sincerely,

GEORGE W. VIGGERS,

Leading Aircraftman.

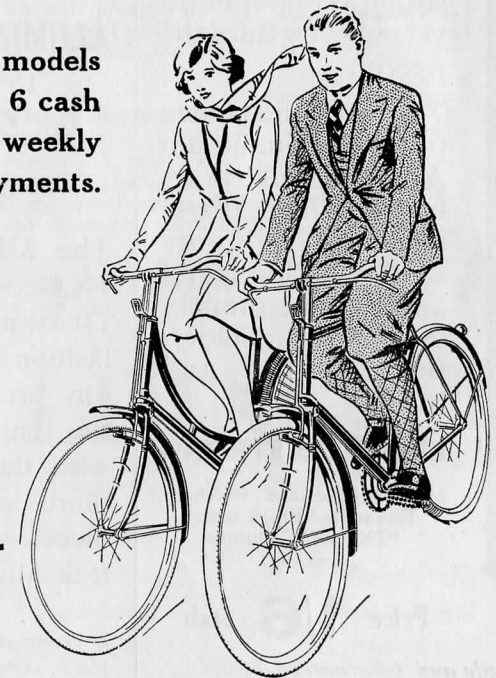
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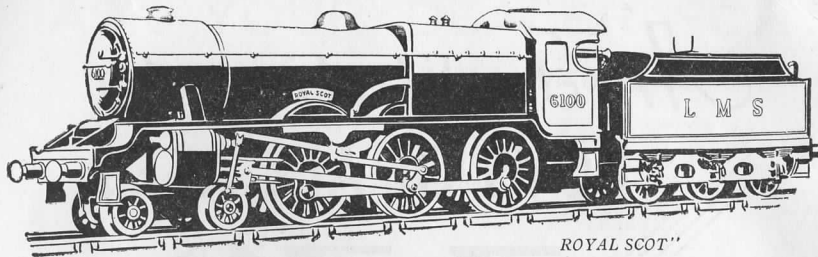
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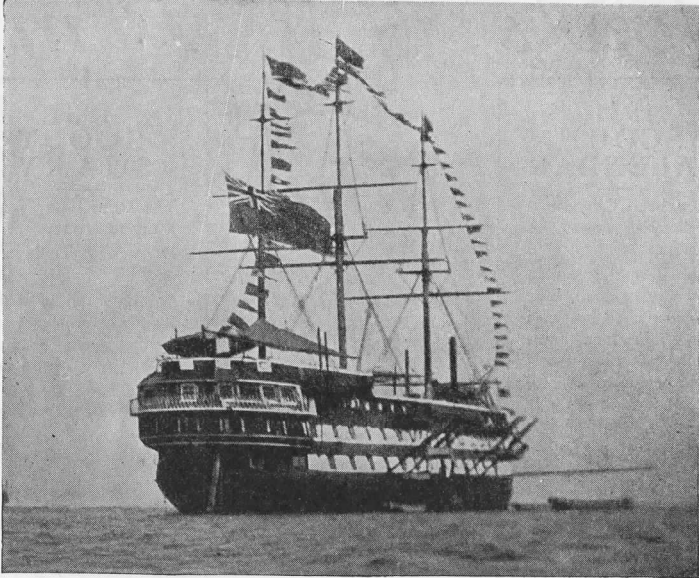
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