

## Football

**THIS** year's Football XI has proved itself worthy in every way to be classed with our best teams of the past; the XI of 1925-6, which a few of us still remember; that of 1937-8, captained by Billy Snowball; and the unbeaten team of 1948-9, captained by Melvyn Crawshaw. The XI this year has won seventeen matches and lost three, of which two were against strong St. John's College XIs. Thus the only defeat in an inter-school match was by Scarborough College away in the last game of the season.

The secret of success this year has been basic skill and unselfish team work. As one thinks back one remembers time after time when the ball was moved cleverly on the ground from backs to halves to forwards and past the opposing goalkeeper. We may at times at M.G.S. have had teams with more outstanding players, but never, I think, one that consistently played better and more attractive football. It is a pity that, as must always happen, such a delightful combination should be broken up. We can do nothing about that, however, except to perpetuate its memory in the pages of "The Maltonian":—

**Goal—Bower:** a stylish keeper, agile and intelligent in his distribution of the ball.

**Full Backs.—Flynn:** Very good with his head, an adequate tackler with a quick eye for an opening for a ground pass to an unmarked half-back or forward. **Read:** A sure kick with a good tackle—time and again his speed in interception and recovery have relieved dangerous situations.

**Half-backs.—Mason (centre):** Excellent in the tackle, good with his head, and a phenomenally long kicker, especially of a standing ball. **Cowen (left):** Makes good use of his "length" both in the tackle and when the ball is in the air—a clever dribbler with good ball control. **Milner (ma) (right):** A rough and effective tackler whose distribution improved noticeably during the season.

**Forwards.—Charlton (left wing):** A clever footballer with the ability to drop the ball in the middle from almost impossible situations. **Dyson (Captain and goal-scorer-in-chief):** A born footballer, fast with the ball, quick-thinking, unselfish, and a powerful and accurate shot with either foot. **Wilson (vice-captain and inside right):** A much improved footballer, fast, with reasonably good ball control, good with his head. **Rolls (centre-forward):** Reasonably fast, clever with the ball, quick to see an opening, and always willing to face a tackle. **Wardle, G. (right wing):** Very adequate though playing out of his position—a tireless worker who will be a real asset to the team next year.