

Statistics for Schoolboys!



By HARRY MANNERS

With the aid of ice and stimulants, Manners has worked out some startling statistics of St. Jim's. If you don't believe them, we shall not be surprised!

I FIND figures fearfully fascinating. To my mind, numerical intelligence is intensely interesting and intriguing.

What I mean to say is, I get a real kick out of contemplating, for instance, the fact that St. Jim's fellows write each year in impots a grand total of 1,000,000 lines.

I worked this out myself. Not content to leave it at that, I tied a block of ice round my head and worked out what it measured. The answer came to about 100 miles.

Think of it, lads! The lines written each year by the long-suffering inmates of our home for the sons of gentlemen, placed end to end, would stretch from St. Jim's to London and all the way back to St. Jim's again! Get a load of that solemn and awe-inspiring thought!

This little calculation of mine made me ambitious. I worked out other St. Jim's phenomena in statistical terms. I can now put before an eager world facts and figures that throw a lurid light on St. Jim's and its inhabitants.

To begin with, I have ascertained that the quantity of ginger-beer consumed in Dame Taggles' tuckshop during the summer months would fill a swimming-pool measuring 100 feet by 25 feet and having depths varying from 2 feet 6 inches in the shallow end to 10 feet in the deep end.

Again, if all the jam-tarts eaten at St. Jim's each year were used as a floor covering, they would cover an area sufficiently large to provide courts that would enable the entire school simultaneously to play games of "squash." (Loud laughter—I hope!)

If Baggy Trimble were presented with a penny every time he told the truth, he would probably, by trying hard, earn himself in the course of a year the sum of twopence.

If Knox were presented with a penny every time he appeared in public wearing a happy smile on his face, he would receive an average of one halfpenny a month.

Here are some more startling facts I have unearthed :

The quantity of ink used by the fags in decorating their fingers and faces is sufficient to give the entire woodwork of the school a brand new coat of blue-black once a year.

Herries' bulldog's playful little habit of fixing his fangs into fellows' bags keeps one Rylcombe tailor and two assistants in affluence for three months out of every twelve.

Supposing Grundy's improvement at football to be maintained at its present rate, he will become a really efficient player by the time he is 156 years old.

If Dr. Holmes fined himself a shilling every time he said " Bless my soul ! " he would be bankrupt within five years.

If wielding a cane for half an hour made a man one per cent stronger, Mr. Ratcliff would take half a term to become the strongest man on earth.

Assuming that the quantity of tact and judgment possessed by Arthur Augustus D'Arcy is measured by the size of his monocle, he would have to wear a monocle with a diameter of 6 feet before he possessed the average amount of commonsense.

If House differences were decided on the size of fellows' feet, New House would always be Cock House.

Considerations of space prevent me from going further into these illuminating statistical sidelights on St.

Jim's. Before I conclude, however, I should like to give you the results of a painstaking inquiry I have made to find out just what the average St. Jim's fellow is like.

THE AVERAGE ST. JIM'S CHAP

Is 5 feet 3 inches high.

Weighs 8 stone 6 pounds.

Has fair, brown-black, ginger hair and blue-grey-brown-green eyes.

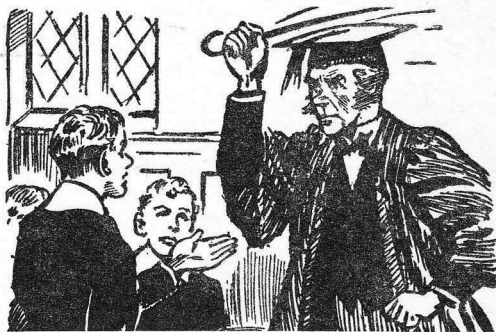
Belongs to the Fourth-and-a-half Form.

Plays $17\frac{1}{2}$ games of cricket and $26\frac{1}{3}$ games of footer each season.

Wears out $3\frac{1}{2}$ suits a year.

Receives annually $18\frac{1}{2}$ whacks with the cane.

Says " Yaroooooh ! " $78\frac{9}{10}$ times and " Ow ! By dose ! " $23\frac{1}{7}$ times a day.



If wielding a cane for half an hour made a man one per cent stronger, Mr. Ratcliff would take half a term to become the strongest man on earth !

Smokes $3\frac{1}{2}$ cigarettes and eats $243\frac{1}{2}$ jam-tarts every year.

Slides down the banisters $1\frac{1}{4}$ times a week.

If you correspond exactly with this exact scientific description, then, dear reader, you can fairly claim that you are the exact counterpart of the average St. Jim's man. That you'll feel no end bucked about it goes without saying.

I think that will be all for now !