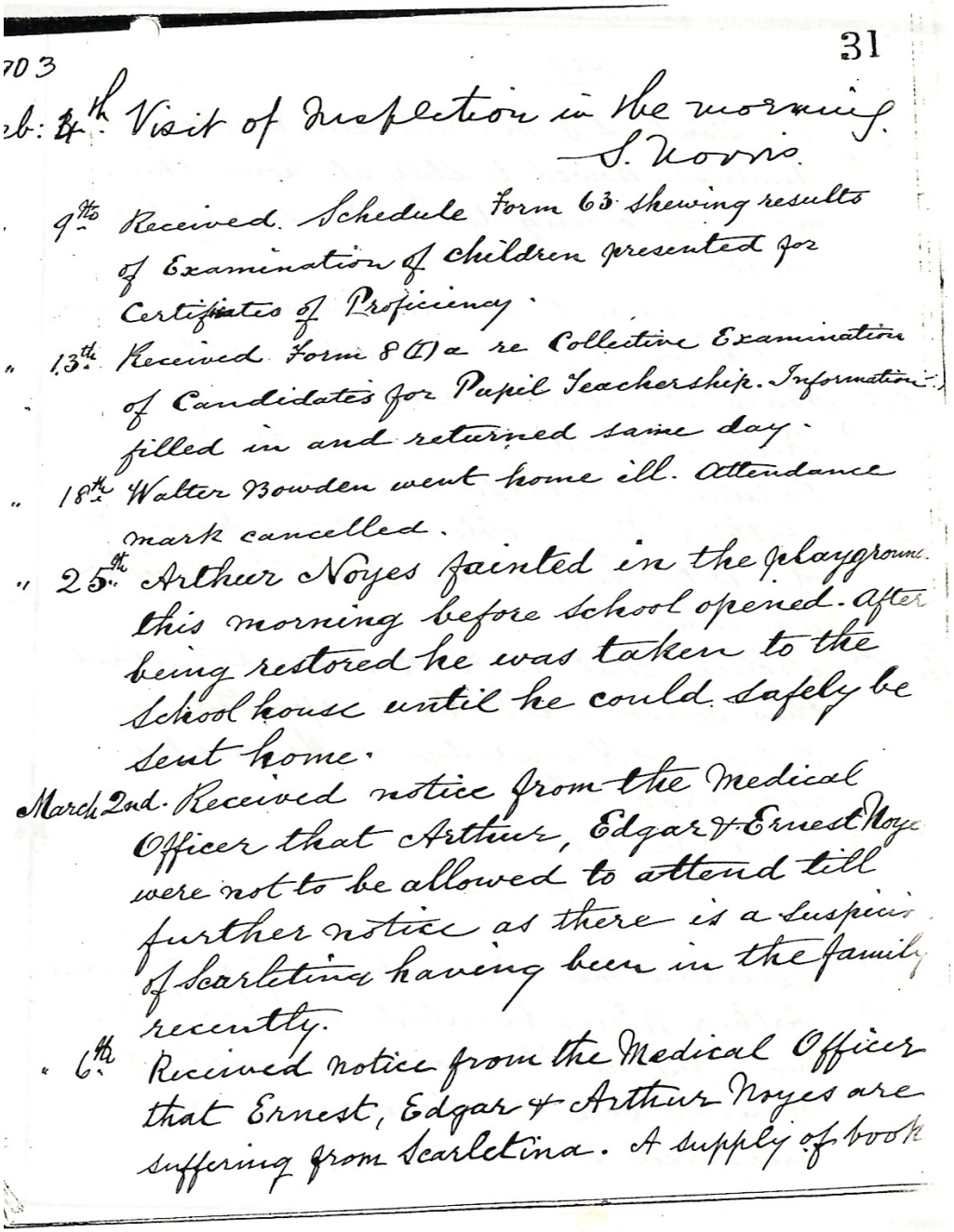
Poulshot School Log Book - school year 1903-04

Volume 2, pages 31-41 (11 pages)

Log book of Poulshot School kept by the headmaster, Hugh Leslie (1880-1915). Given to the Poulshot Village Trust by his granddaughter, with full rights to use and publish. Transcription: AWS Textract OCR corrected by Claude (AI) against the page image; it may contain errors - the page image is the authoritative record.

Produced 22 November 2026.


31

703

Feb: 4th Visit of Inspection in the morning.
S. Norris.

" 9th Received Schedule Form 63 shewing results of Examination of children presented for Certificates of Proficiency.

" 13th Received Form 8 (I) a re Collective Examination of Candidates for Pupil Teachership. Information filled in and returned same day.

" 18th Walter Bowden went home ill. Attendance mark cancelled.

" 25th Arthur Noyes fainted in the playground this morning before school opened. After being restored he was taken to the School house until he could safely be sent home.

March 2nd. Received notice from the Medical Officer that Arthur, Edgar & Ernest Noyes were not to be allowed to attend till further notice as there is a suspicion of Scarletina having been in the family recently.

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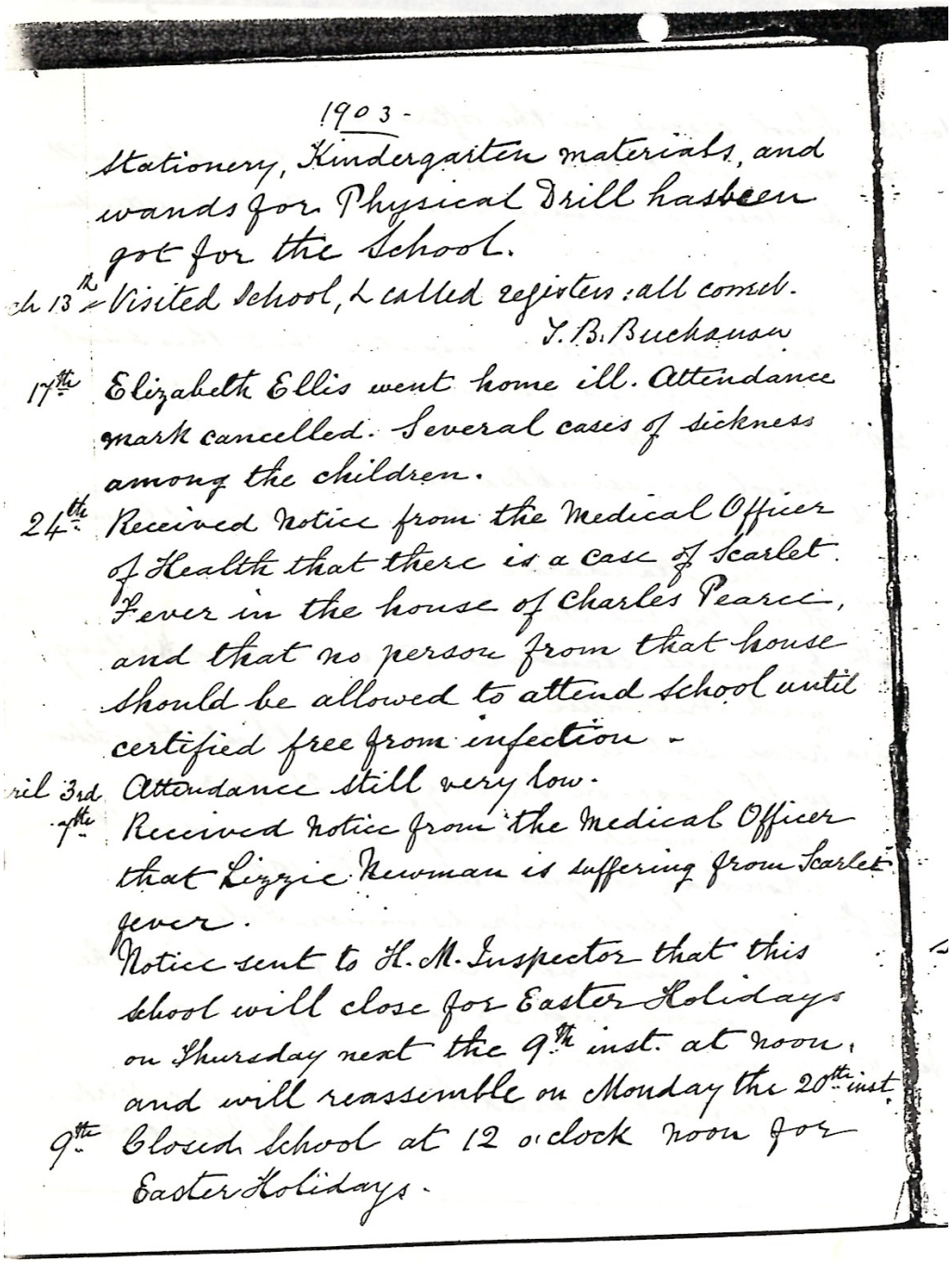
Uncertain readings: Year cut off at left edge: only '903' visible; read as 1903; Signature under 4 Feb entry read as 'S. Norris' (OCR 'S. Novis'); surname uncertain; 'suspicion' runs off the right edge (only 'suspicio' visible); 'playground' and 'Noyes' (2 March) partly cut off at right edge; 'Certificates' has a correction in the middle of the word; Final entry (6 March) continues onto the next page



1903 -

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T. B. Buchanan

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(continued from previous page)

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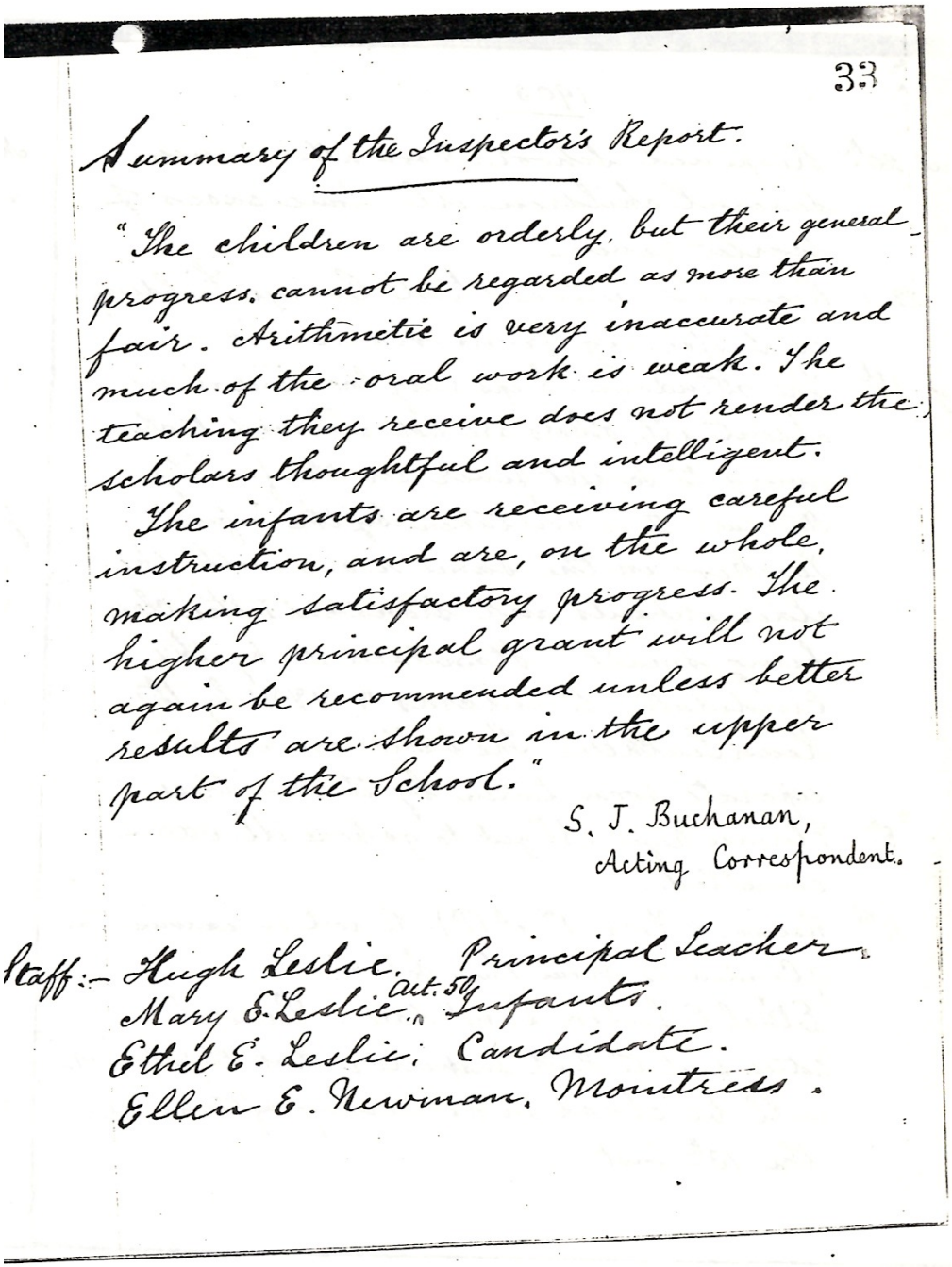
Uncertain readings: Signature initial read as 'T. B. Buchanan'; OCR gives 'J. B.' — first letter could be T or J; Margin dates cropped at left edge: '[Mar]ch 13th' and '[Ap]ril 3rd' reconstructed; 'has been' may be written run together as 'hasbeen'; Page number not visible in the photograph (top corner cropped)



33

Summary of the Inspector's Report.

"The children are orderly, but their general progress. cannot be regarded as more than fair. Arithmetic is very inaccurate and much of the oral work is weak. The teaching they receive does not render the scholars thoughtful and intelligent.

The infants are receiving careful instruction, and are, on the whole, making satisfactory progress. The higher principal grant will not again be recommended unless better results are shown in the upper part of the School."

S. J. Buchanan,
Acting Correspondent.

Staff:- Hugh Leslie. Principal Teacher.
Mary E. Leslie. Art. 50 Infants.
Ethel E. Leslie. Candidate.
Ellen E. Newman. Monitress.

Page 33

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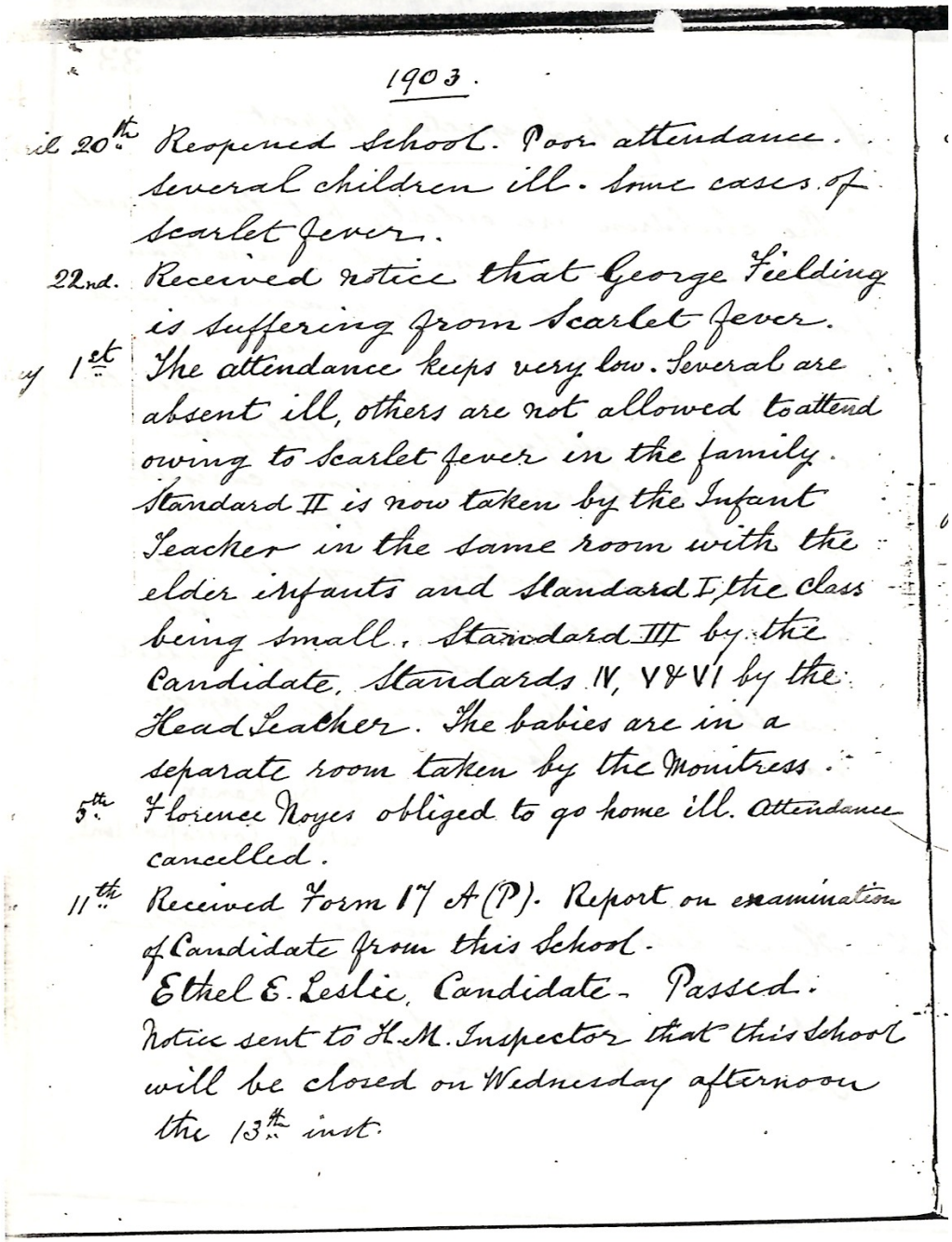
Uncertain readings: 'Art: 50' is written small and raised beside Mary E. Leslie's name; probably Article 50 of the Code (approved infant teacher); There is a full stop after 'progress' in 'progress. cannot', which looks like a stray mark; No year is written at the top of the page



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5th Florence Noyes obliged to go home ill. Attendance cancelled.

11th Received Form 17 A (P). Report on examination of Candidate from this School. Ethel E. Leslie, Candidate. Passed. Notice sent to H.M. Inspector that this School will be closed on Wednesday afternoon the 13th inst.

Page 34

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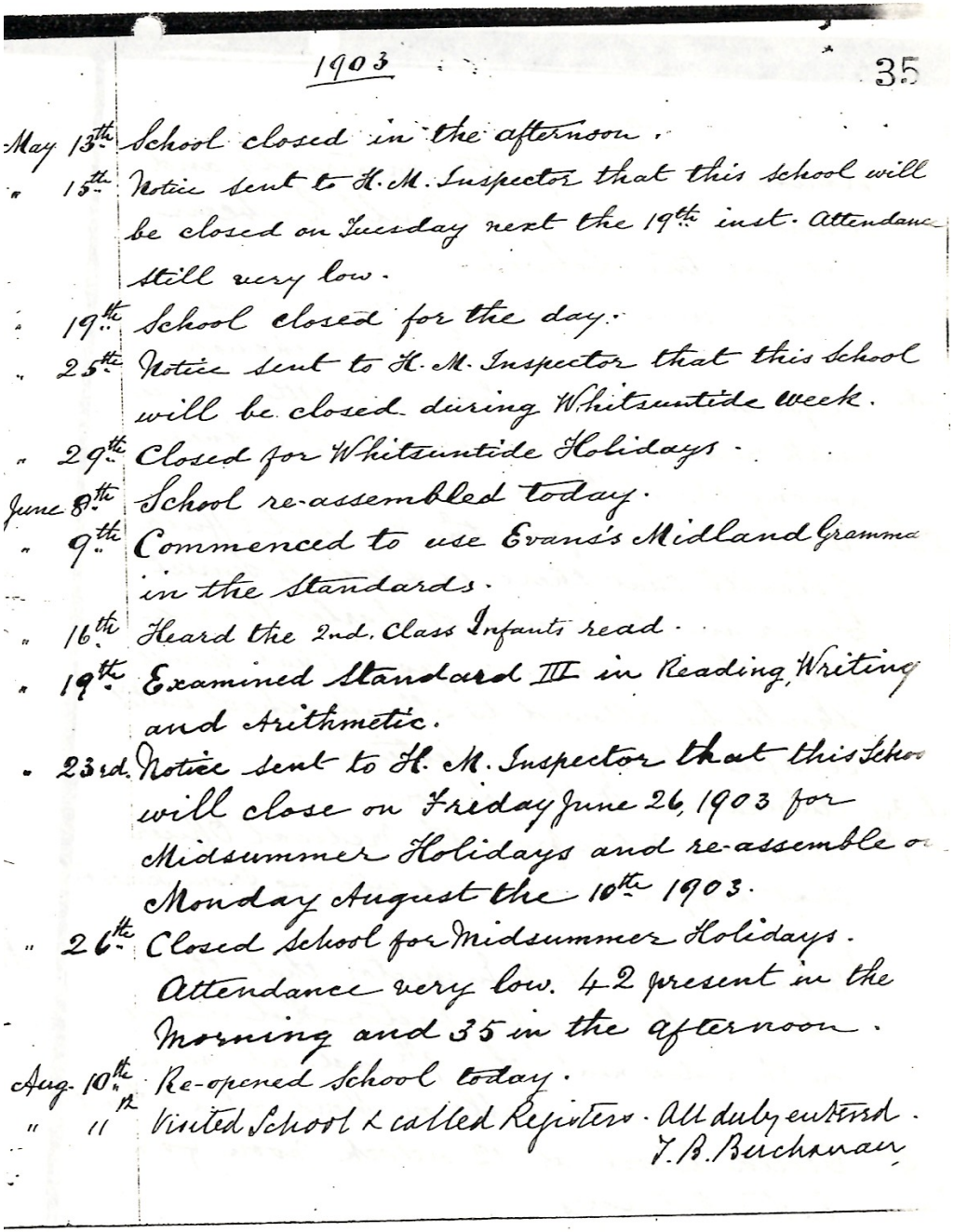
Uncertain readings: Margin dates are cropped at the left edge: 'il 20th' is read as April 20th and 'y 1st' as May 1st. This fits the calendar: Easter 1903 was 12 April, and 13 May 1903 was a Wednesday.; No page number is visible on this side of the scan.


1903 35

May 13th School closed in the afternoon.
" 15th Notice sent to H. M. Inspector that this school will be closed on Tuesday next the 19th inst. Attendance still very low.
" 19th School closed for the day.
" 25th Notice sent to H. M. Inspector that this School will be closed during Whitsuntide Week.
" 29th Closed for Whitsuntide Holidays.
June 8th School re-assembled today.
" 9th Commenced to use Evans's Midland Gramma in the Standards.
" 16th Heard the 2nd. Class Infants read.
" 19th Examined Standard III in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic.
" 23rd. Notice sent to H. M. Inspector that this Schoo will close on Friday June 26, 1903 for Midsummer Holidays and re-assemble o Monday August the 10th 1903.
" 26th Closed School for Midsummer Holidays. Attendance very low. 42 present in the Morning and 35 in the afternoon.
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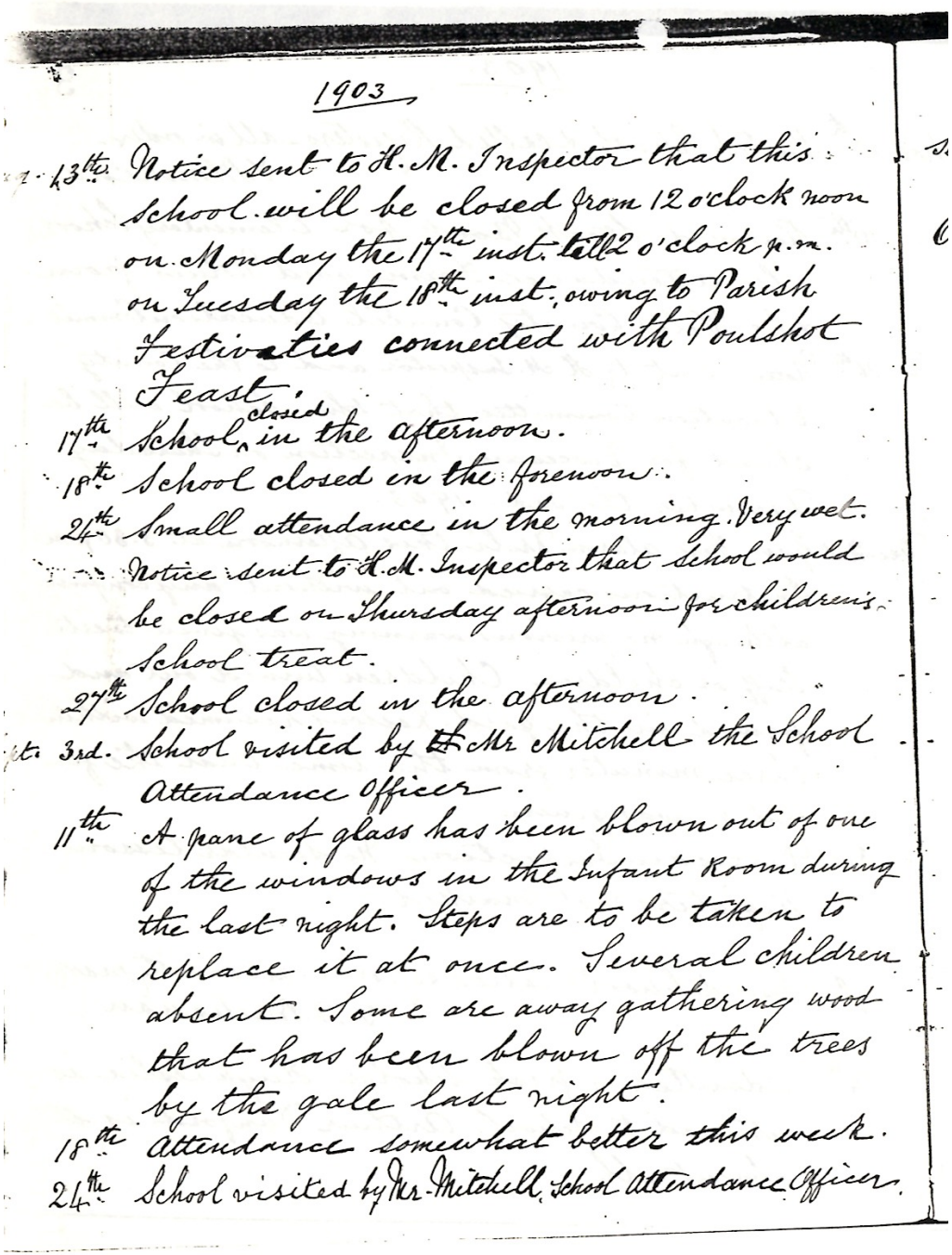
Uncertain readings: Words at right edge cut off by the scan: 'Attendanc[e]', 'Gramma[r]', 'Schoo[l]', 'o[n]'; 'entered' is squashed in the signature line and could be written 'enterd'; Signature read as 'T. B. Buchanan'. The initials are uncertain and the OCR gave 'J.B.'; Buchanan's role (manager/Rector) is assumed from the register-checking visit



1903

·13th. Notice sent to H. M. Inspector that this School will be closed from 12 o'clock noon on Monday the 17th inst. till 2 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday the 18th inst. owing to Parish Festivaties connected with Poulshot Feast.

17th. School closed in the afternoon.

18th. School closed in the forenoon.

24th. Small attendance in the morning. Very wet.

Notice sent to H.M. Inspector that School would be closed on Thursday afternoon for children's School treat.

27th. School closed in the afternoon.

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11th. A pane of glass has been blown out of one of the windows in the Infant Room during the last night. Steps are to be taken to replace it at once. Several children absent. Some are away gathering wood that has been blown off the trees by the gale last night.

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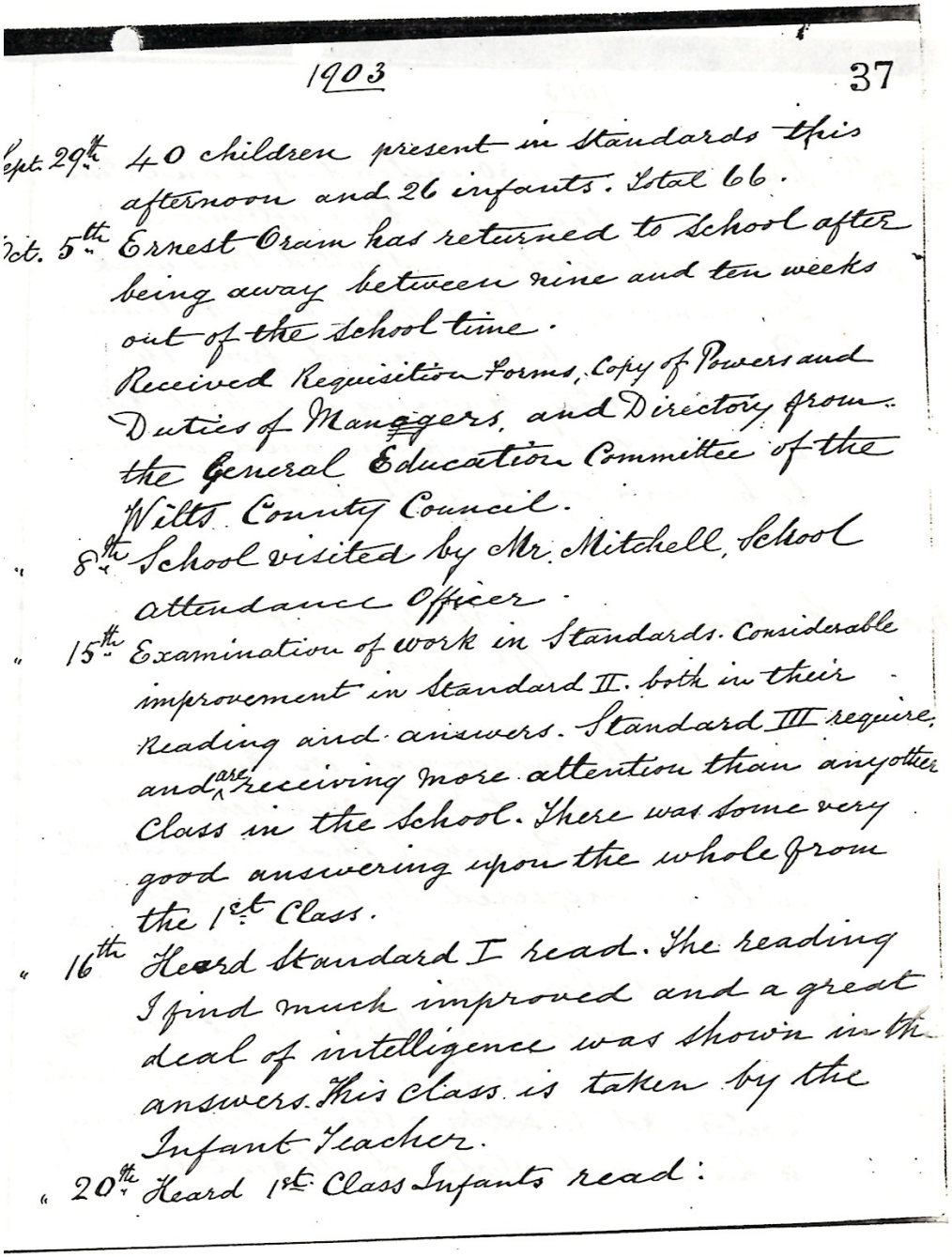
Uncertain readings: Month abbreviations in the left margin are cut off: before 13th only '1 ·' is visible, and before 3rd only 'pt.' I inferred August from the weekdays (Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th and Thursday 27th fit August 1903) and September from 'pt.' and the gale of 10–11 September 1903.; 'till' appears to be written over another word.; 'closed' is inserted above the line with a caret in the 17th entry.; Before 'Mr Mitchell' on the 3rd there is a struck-through letter, probably 'H'.; 'Festivaties' is spelled that way on the page.; The undated 'Notice sent' entry is marked with a dash in the margin and probably belongs to the 24th.



1903 37

Sept. 29th 40 children present in Standards this afternoon and 26 infants. Total 66.

Oct. 5th Ernest Oram has returned to School after being away between nine and ten weeks out of the School time.
Received Requisition Forms, Copy of Powers and Duties of Managgers, and Directory from the General Education Committee of the Wilts County Council.

" 8th School visited by Mr. Mitchell, School attendance Officer.

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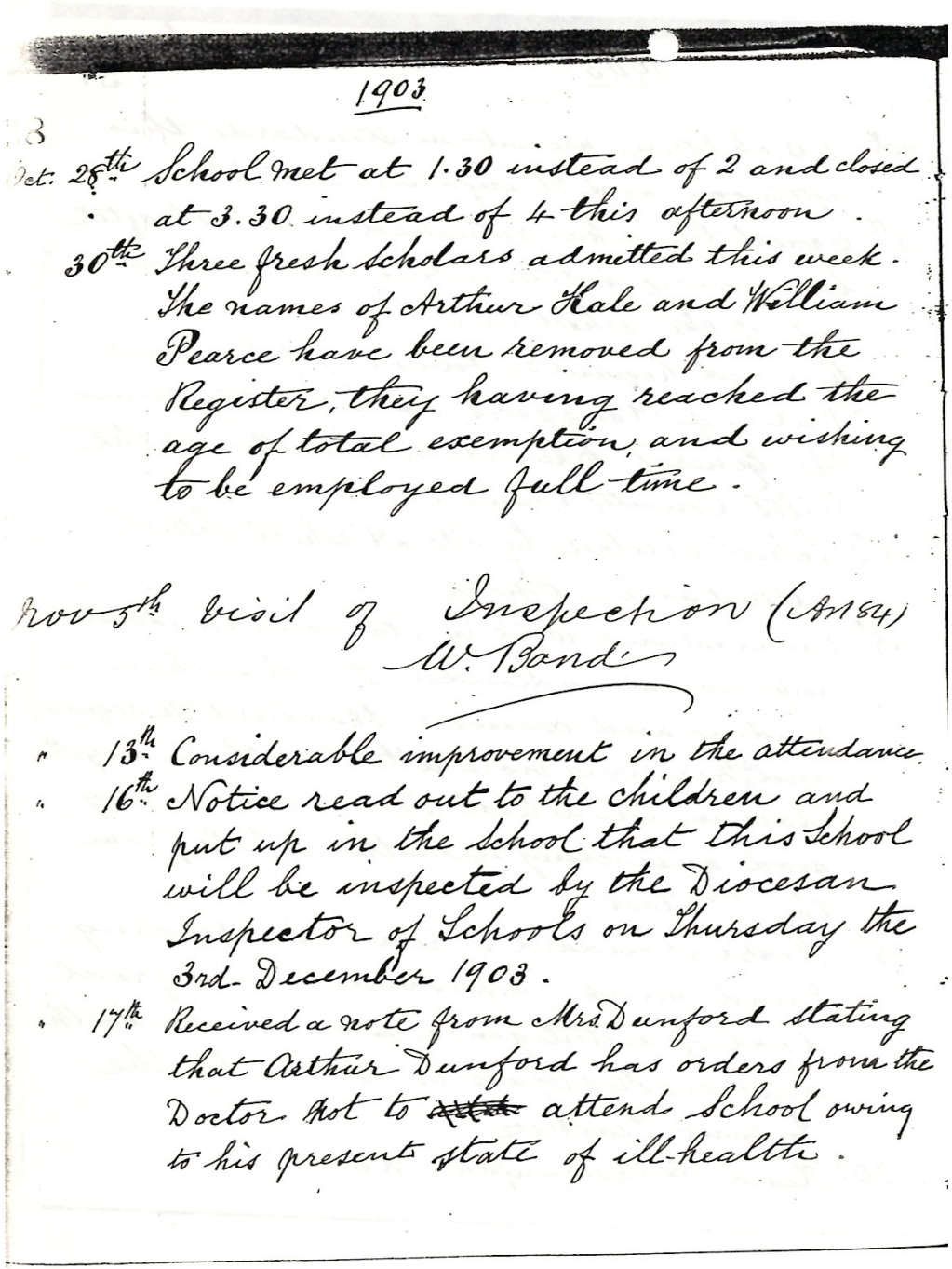
Uncertain readings: 'Managers' looks corrected or written over in the original (it reads roughly 'Manggers'); transcribed as 'Managers'; Start of the margin dates 'Sept.' and 'Oct.' is cut off at the page edge; 'are' is added above the line with a caret in 'and are receiving'; OCR 'Ernest Gram' is clearly 'Oram' in the image; OCR 'Standard I head' reads 'read' in the image; Last entry (20th) continues on the next page



1903

3

Oct: 28th School met at 1.30 instead of 2 and closed at 3.30 instead of 4 this afternoon.

30th Three fresh Scholars admitted this week. The names of Arthur Hale and William Pearce have been removed from the Register, they having reached the age of total exemption, and wishing to be employed full time.

Nov 5th visit of Inspection (Art 84) W. Bond

" 13th Considerable improvement in the attendance.

" 16th Notice read out to the children and put up in the School that this School will be inspected by the Diocesan Inspector of Schools on Thursday the 3rd December 1903.

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Page 38

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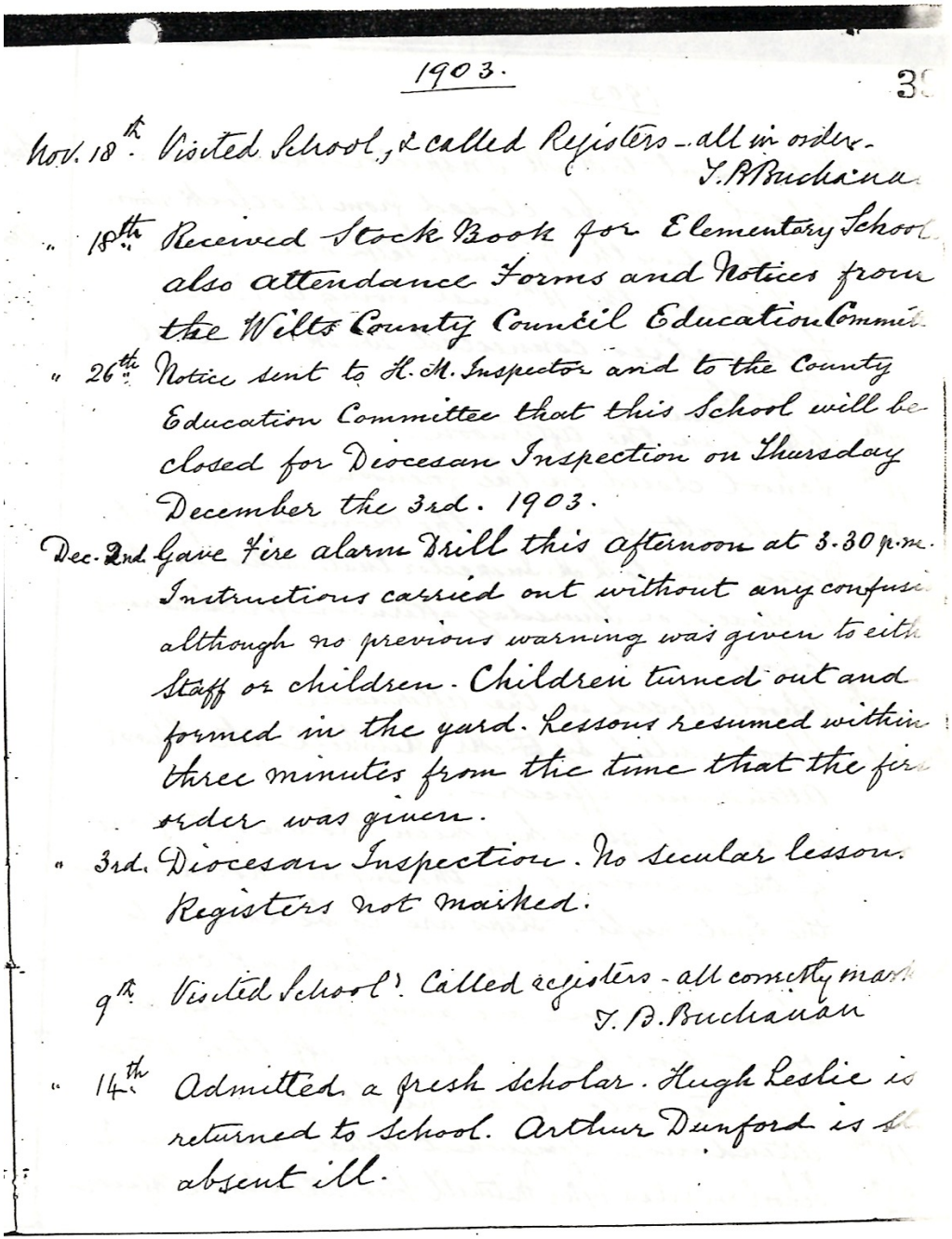
Uncertain readings: Page number '3' partly cut off at the top left edge; 'Oct:' partly cut off at the left margin; Word struck through before 'attend' in the 17th Nov entry is unreadable; '(Art 84)' reading of the bracketed reference after 'Inspection'; Role of W. Bond as HM Inspector inferred from the Article 84 visit



1903. 39

Nov. 18th. Visited School, & called Registers - all in order.
T. B. Buchanan

" 18th. Received Stock Book for Elementary School also attendance Forms and Notices from the Wilts County Council Education Commit.

" 26th. Notice sent to H. M. Inspector and to the County Education Committee that this School will be closed for Diocesan Inspection on Thursday December the 3rd. 1903.

Dec. 2nd. Gave Fire alarm Drill this afternoon at 3.30 p.m. Instructions carried out without any confusi. although no previous warning was given to eith. Staff or children. Children turned out and formed in the yard. Lessons resumed within three minutes from the time that the fir. order was given.

" 3rd. Diocesan Inspection. No secular lesson. Registers not marked.

9th. Visited School. Called registers - all correctly mark.
T. B. Buchanan

" 14th. Admitted a fresh scholar. Hugh Leslie is returned to School. Arthur Dunford is st. absent ill.

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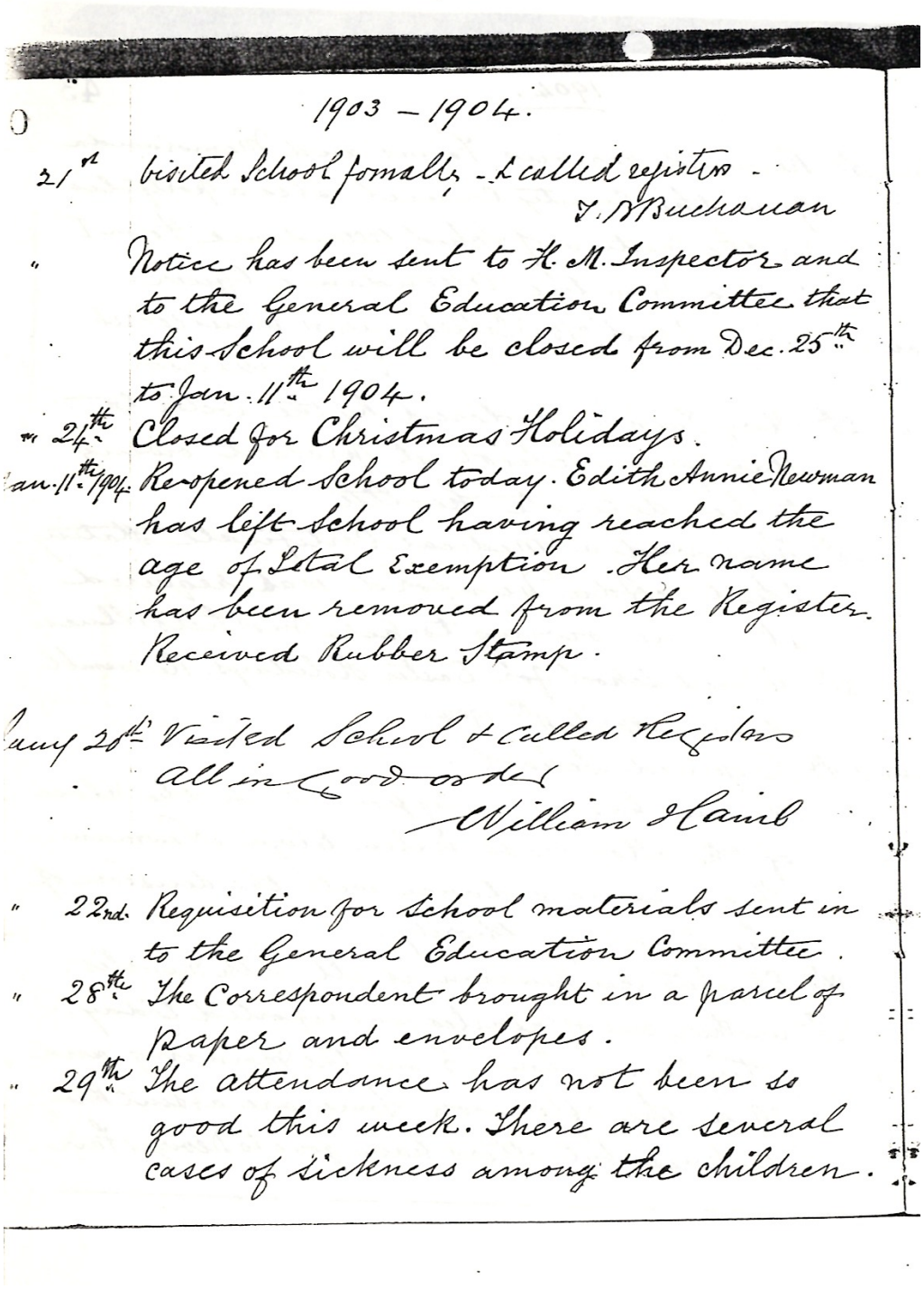
Uncertain readings: Page number: only '3' is visible at the cropped top right corner; a second digit (probably 39) is cut off; Right-hand margin is cropped, so line endings are reconstructed: 'Commit[tee?]', 'confusi[on?]', 'eith[er?]', 'fir[st?]', 'mark[ed?]'; 'Arthur Dunford is st[ill?]' - only 'st' or 'sh' is visible at the cropped edge; Hugh Leslie here is a pupil returning to school, probably the headmaster's son of the same name; T. B. Buchanan's role is inferred as manager from the register-checking visits



1903 – 1904.

21st Visited School fomally – & called registers –
T. A Buchanan

" Notice has been sent to H. M. Inspector and to the General Education Committee that this School will be closed from Dec. 25th to Jan. 11th 1904.

" 24th Closed for Christmas Holidays.

Jan. 11th 1904 Re-opened School today. Edith Annie Newman has left School having reached the age of Total Exemption. Her name has been removed from the Register. Received Rubber Stamp.

Jany 20th Visited School & called Registers all in Good order
William Hainb

" 22nd. Requisition for School materials sent in to the General Education Committee.

" 28th The Correspondent brought in a parcel of paper and envelopes.

" 29th The attendance has not been so good this week. There are several cases of sickness among the children.

Page 40

21st Visited School [formally?] & called registers. J. A Buchanan [?]

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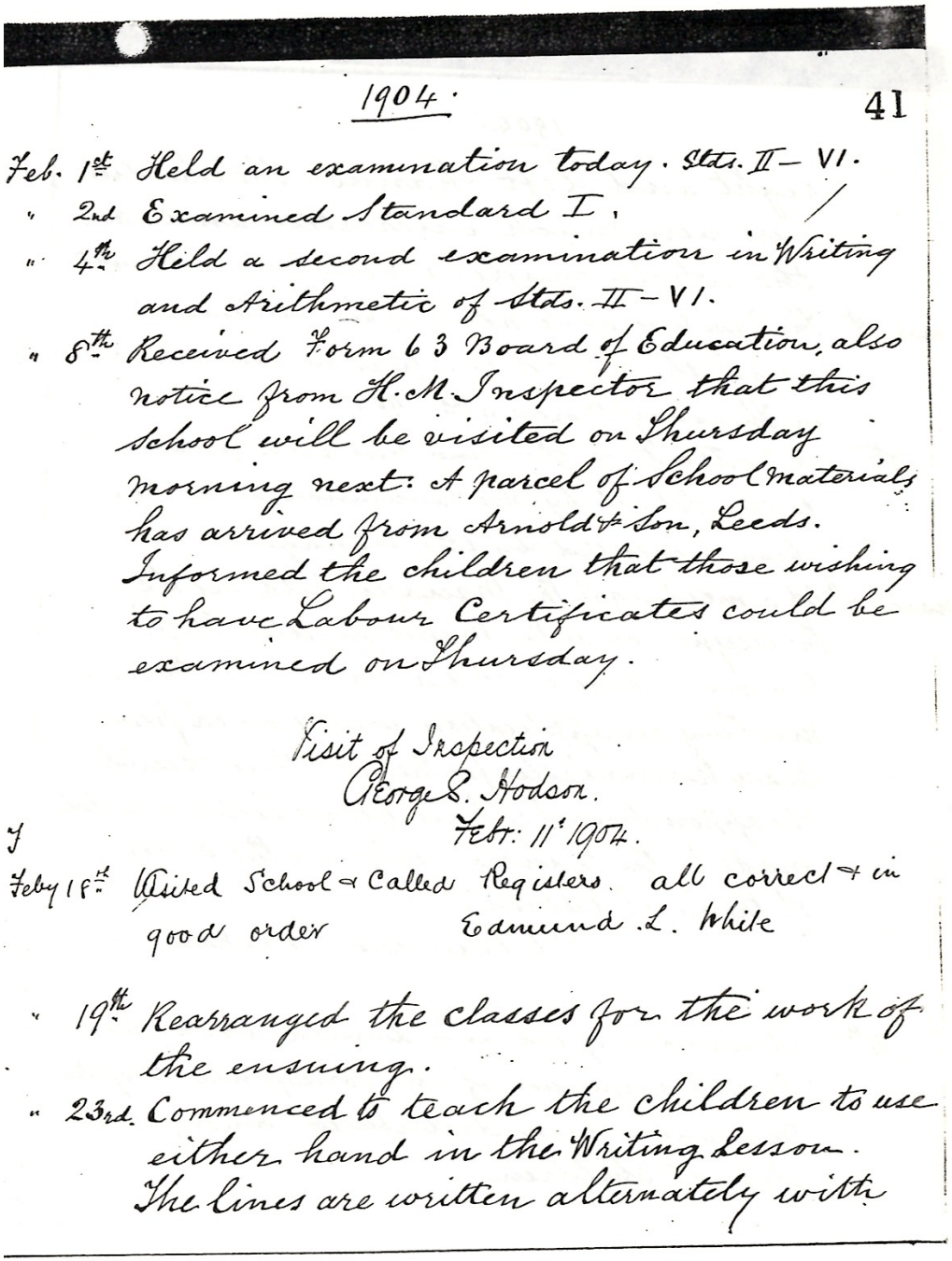
Uncertain readings: Page number: the top-left corner is cropped and only a final '0' shows; the facing page appears to be 41, so this page is taken as 40; Month of the first two entries (21st, 24th) is not written; taken as December 1903 from the context of the Christmas closure; 'formally' in the first entry: the writing looks like 'fomally'; First signature: initials could be 'J. A' or 'T. A' Buchanan; Second signature: surname reads like 'Hainb'; 'Lamb' is a guess; Second entry's ditto mark is assumed to mean the same date, 21st



1904. 41

Feb. 1st Held an examination today. Stds. II – VI.

" 2nd Examined Standard I.

" 4th Held a second examination in Writing and Arithmetic of Stds. II – VI.

" 8th Received Form 63 Board of Education, also notice from H. M. Inspector that this school will be visited on Thursday morning next: A parcel of School materials has arrived from Arnold & Son, Leeds. Informed the children that those wishing to have Labour Certificates could be examined on Thursday.

Visit of Inspector
George S. Hodson.
Febr: 11th 1904.

Feby 18th Visited School & Called Registers. all correct & in good order Edmund L. White

" 19th Rearranged the classes for the work of the ensuing.

" 23rd. Commenced to teach the children to use either hand in the Writing Lesson. The lines are written alternately with

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Uncertain readings: 'Visited' (Feby 18th) is written in a different hand and looks like 'Uisited'; read as 'Visited'; Feb 19th entry reads 'the work of the ensuing.' with no following noun (probably 'year' left out by the writer); Feb 8th: 'next.' could be 'next:'; Small mark beside 'Feb: 11 1904' in the left margin (looks like 'J' or a tick), not transcribed

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