

Xmas 1930.

Mr. Chairman, Sir William, Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I preface my review of the year's activities,

with an expression of our pleasure in welcoming here this evening our distinguished guest - Sir William Prescott. Sir William has a great many engagements to fulfil, and his keen interest in education rather than any particular virtues of our own explains why he has made time to be with us to take part in our Prize-Giving proceedings.

*this my 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual report*

*The Rt. Hon. Geoffrey Locker-Lampson O.M. J.P.*

*Chairman of the School*

*I thank you Sir most sincerely for your gr. kindness in coming here to give away our prizes + what we shall also appreciate - your advice & counsel.*

I am happy to be able to record a year of continued progress and success. We are consolidating our position with the inevitability of gradualness - a prudential procedure in the case of a new Head. In the words of the Mikado "our object all sublime we shall achieve in time". The numbers have been maintained, more pupils are staying on after taking their matriculation certificates, and a general tendency to keep pupils longer at school is noticeable. This indicates I feel an increasing appreciation of the value of the education which the school provides, and a wider recognition of the importance of the later years of a pupil's school life.

Of our academic record I think we may justly be proud. In the Higher School Certificate Examination we presented nine candidates - all were successful - and three were awarded Intermediate Certificates in Arts:- Margaret Hughes, Mary Thompson, and Freda Jones, and one the Intermediate Certificate in Science - Evelyn Naish - who in addition was awarded the principal scholarship given by the Governors of Swanley Horticultural College - value £40 per annum tenable for four years. D. S. Barber has the distinction of being the first pupil of this school to gain the 1st M.B. Diploma. Before passing on to the General School results may I say that the Middlesex County Council has made the following awards to pupils of this school:- D. S. Barber £50 per annum for four years;

*On these occasions there is a temptation to jubilate. never to stop but for a plan in our heads. for below me no schoolmaster is an admirer. you just start of our lips. if this did it would be fine for us. I think I have too held the view. it*

*Last year I reported that more pupils were staying on but that in spite of this more were leaving. I will with some misgiving that a few more take away their children to other schools.*

*Satisfies*

*omit*

Evelyn Naish £60 per annum for three years; J. H. Tait £30 per annum for three years; Mary Stedman £20 per annum for two years. 82 candidates were entered for the General School Examination, 75 passed i.e. 91% as compared with 71.8% in the country generally for this examination. This is particularly gratifying as the average age of our pupils was exactly one year less than that for the country as a whole (our average age was 15 years 9 months; the country 16 years 9 months). 45 of the 75 qualified for the Matriculation Certificate; this number has once only been exceeded by the school and that last year - the retiring year of my esteemed predecessor. Honours Certificates were gained by 9 students; there were 101 distinctions gained in individual subjects, one pupil - <sup>Miss. Bennett.</sup> Joan Ennals, gaining <sup>15.7</sup> ~~6~~ 7 distinctions - a distinction in every subject in which she was examined - which is, as far as I can ascertain, a record for so young a student, her age being 14 years 11 months at the time of the Examination. The candidates for the School Commercial Certificate again did extremely well; 19 were entered and all passed, 5 of them in Honours. I have said that more pupils are staying on to take the Advanced Work, but may I again stress the desirability of allowing your sons and daughters not only to remain at school to obtain their Matriculation Certificate - a qualification increasingly recognized, and demanded by employers - but also to spend at least a year in the Sixth Form, in which the most valuable training of all is given. I hope to see still more of our students proceeding to Higher Education. This year the following have gone from school to pursue higher studies. C. L. Fairfield to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge; D. S. Barber to St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Mary Gowar to the Domestic Science Training College, Hampstead; Freda Jones to East London College; S. Millward and F.K. Willmer to Westminster Training College; Evelyn Naish to Swanley Horticultural College; J. H. Tait to University College, London;

For those unable to do  
Hope to arrange  
1 year course for  
Post G.S. or Matric  
on Commercial Unit  
- Spent. J. E.  
Presently should  
17/2/21. 15/2/21

Mary Thompson to Homerton College, Cambridge; Mary Stedman to Battersea Polytechnic. Given ambition and ability, a University training opens up opportunities for careers of wider scope and more adequate remuneration, especially in industry and public services. University Authorities tell us that for many posts there is a difficulty in meeting the demand for really good men and women.

Old Pupils continue to do well. <sup>see list of successes on back page of your Programme.</sup> During the last two years 5 Old Pupils have gained the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the University of London. If you will glance at the last page of your Programme you will there see the list - as complete as we have been able to make it - of successes gained by Old Pupils since last January. The striking feature of this year's list is the extraordinary range and variety of achievement there represented. Art, Science, Banking, Accountancy, Medicine, Surveying, Pharmacy, Music, Engineering and - that noblest of professions and sorriest of trades - Teaching.

In the school games - Cricket, Football, Hockey, Netball and Tennis - our teams have held their own with the schools with which we are in very friendly rivalry. Fortune has varied, anticipated victories and reverses, have falsified expectations. But I am happy to know that, whether winning or losing our pupils have learnt to play the game, and that our fixtures are welcomed by the schools we meet. There is much keenness in the games; this is desirable for games are more than recreation, they are of the greatest value to health and an important factor in general training, teaching as they do - grit, gumption, and grace - and the greatest of these is grace. In passing may I congratulate the parents on their victory this year over the school's first eleven on the Cricket Field. I am told

that this was the unkindest cut of all experienced by the first eleven during the whole of the cricket season. In Swimming both boys and girls have had successful seasons. The honours so far as trophies go resting with the girls. The girls again won the Barton Cup which is presented annually at the Broomfield Park Swimming Gala. They are also to be congratulated on their fine team work at the North Middlesex Swimming Sports, held at Wood Green Baths, where they were runners-up for both the Junior and Senior Shields. Later in the year a notable individual effort was that of Joan Deacock who won the one length at the Middlesex Secondary Schools Swimming Sports, held at the Westminster Baths and thus secured for the school the Howard Button trophy. At the Inter-School Athletic Meeting held at Stamford Bridge certificates of merit were gained by the following:- 5 Seniors - J. Huffington 220 yards; J. Ward 100 yards; R. Harman 1 mile and Relay; P. Duck Relay; G. Ling Long Jump and High Jump. 3 Juniors:- R. Lovell 440 yards; W. Slate Long Jump and High Jump; S. Butler 880 yards. W. Slate also won first place in the High Jump and was awarded a bronze medal.

*Slate  
High Jump  
5.1"*

The various school societies have continued to flourish. The Debating Society meetings have been characterized by more than a considerable degree of liveliness. The Verse Speaking Choir - a very hard working and enthusiastic body of workers - has been very successful in local competitions securing several Honours Certificates and one Silver Cup. The Dramatic Society, and the School Choir have been busy rehearsing the Play, and the musical items, which are to be presented tonight, and you will be able to judge with what measure of success. The School Orchestra, thanks to a generous gift of £14

from the Parents and Staff Association - for the purpose of buying instruments - has increased its instrumental strength by the addition of - one cello, a viola, a cornet, a flute, and two clarinets, and when the intricacies of these instruments have been mastered, by those to whom the instruments have been lent, the school orchestra which previously consisted of strings will be as complete as may be desired. May I here thank the Parents and Staff Association to whom we are further indebted for the latest addition to the unique collection of pictures which adorns the the walls of the school, for the (speaking) portrait of Mr. Warren, which hangs on the east wall of the Hall. I am much happier now that it is there, for while his guardian spirit smiles benevolently down on the school from its high altitude, I feel that we cannot go far astray. The Operatic Society presented in March Gilbert & Sullivan's Opera "Iolanthe" in aid of the Scholarship Memorial Fund, and we then realized a net profit of £81 which together with subscriptions received from the Staff and Old Pupils brings the total of this fund from £141 to £227. May I again commend this fund to all friends of the school. I am not begging, but if any one feels moved to contribute, any member of the Committee responsible for the fund - the Chairman of the Governors; the Chairman of the Parents and Staff Association; or the Headmaster, will be pleased to receive your donations. A capital sum of £1500 is required for the purpose of establishing a Leaving Scholarship. As a school we have made our annual contribution, in the confident hope that, others beside Providence will help those who first help themselves. In March of next year the Operatic Society hopes to present Gilbert & Sullivan's Comic Opera "The Mikado" when we trust that at least £100 will be added

*We are debt  
to the S. M.  
50 per  
Calendar*

to the fund. I should like to thank Mr. S. B. Walter Gay - a former Governor of the school - for the Silver Cup he has presented. We have decided that the Walter Gay Cup shall be competed for annually, at the Inter-House Musical Competition to be held each year towards the end of the Summer Term.

In referring at length to our various activities, I have wished to indicate in some measure, what the school stands for. Our aim is to develop individuality and self-reliance - two of the greatest needs of our time - to foster the social life of the school - to avoid that greatest of all educational sins viz., the waste of talent; by giving opportunities to develop the manifold faculties and abilities of the pupils entrusted to our care, combining with the more academic instruction of the classroom, the practical training of the workshop and of the laboratory, whilst stimulating their interests in different ways out of school. Our object is to fit your sons and daughters for their work in life; to train them to be useful citizens and to help them profitably to employ their leisure hours. The measure of our success must largely depend upon the extent of your co-operation, for the continuance of which I again appeal.

One impending change on the Staff has to be recorded. Miss Doris Tippett, in view of her forthcoming marriage, is leaving at the end of the term. Miss Tippett holds the unique distinction of being the first Old Pupil of this school to become a member of the Staff. Miss Tippett after a distinguished school and University career returned to us in 1927 as Junior Botany Mistress. She will be sorely missed by Staff and scholars alike as her enthusiasm both in the laboratory and

*Miss Slee.  
Mr. Sands.  
Miss House - 1/2 line  
- 3 lines*

on the playing field has been exemplary. We are indeed sorry to part with her, but as our loss will be another's gain we must take it philosophically. The heartiest good wishes of the Governors, Staff, and scholars, of Southgate go with her.

It now remains for me to thank the Governors for the deep interest they take at all times in the affairs of the school. We are particularly indebted to our Chairman - not least for his help in securing for us the Speakers for this year's Prize Giving - and now my biggest thank and my last, is to my colleagues of the Staff and my Secretary. I could say a lot about them but I will content myself by asking them to accept my sincere thanks for the splendid support they have given me, for the excellent work done on behalf of the school, for the time and trouble they have so ungrudgingly given to furnishing its various activities. I count myself indeed a fortunate man in having the co-operation of such an excellent Staff, Secretary, and I will add - although this is strictly between the parents and myself - scholars.

*Chief. To M.I.'s remarks - which gave me great satisfaction. of all the remarks made during the visit. You have a very loyal staff.*