



Higher School Results are the best in the county of Middlesex.  
13 candidates were entered in different groups - Group D Science  
8 entered, 7 passed the Higher School Certificate and in addition  
6 gained the Intermediate B.Sc. certificate.

Group B. 3 sat and one attained both the Higher School  
Certificate and Intermediate Bachelor of Arts, with Distinction in  
Latin and a Special Credit in Oral French.

Group E. Commerce. Two candidates sat and both obtained  
the Higher School Certificate and the Intermediate Bachelor of  
Commerce certificate.

OPEN SCHOLARSHIPS GAINED DURING THE YEAR. There have been  
two major scholarships gained this year, both by girls; (1) that  
of Stella Schooling who was awarded a major scholarship in Science  
at the University College of the South West. The value of the  
scholarship was £100 per annum tenable for three years at University  
College, Exeter. (2) That of Olive Bayley who was awarded a State  
Scholarship by the Board of Education on the result of the Higher  
School Examination. These State Scholarships carry a maximum  
grant of £80 per annum plus fees and maintenance for three years.  
This makes the Sixth State Scholarship gained by pupils of the  
School in recent years. I have one thing only to say about these  
results - I submit that they are in the same category as Mrs.  
Poyser's pork pies - You will remember that George Elliott's Mrs.  
Poyser said of her pork pies - "my pork pies don't turn out good by  
accident." Our results don't turn out good by accident.

SENIOR AWARDS. <sup>M.F.C.</sup> J. F. Aylard, J. Blake, Stella Schooling.

PRISCILLA INGRAM AWARDS. Joan Appleby, Grace Hatcher.

Other post-General School Examination results include those of  
our Southgate County Commercial Certificate; this <sup>certificate</sup> is of the General  
School standard, the subjects being selected from a curriculum  
which includes Accounting and Banking, Typewriting, Shorthand,  
Economics, French, English, Geography. This certificate was  
awarded to 13 pupils. In addition whilst at school there were 16  
candidates successful in Civil Service Examinations, one candidate  
being placed 6th out of 1500 successful candidates. There were  
also 9 successes in the Royal Society of Arts Book Keeping Examina-  
tion and 5 in Typewriting, and 8 Pitman Shorthand Speed Certificates.

Few know the educational limitations of Examinations better  
than schoolmasters, nevertheless I am a confirmed believer in their  
disciplinary value; and believe me to achieve anything at all worth  
while achieving one must learn to endure drudgery. Only an idiot  
~~word~~ try to play a Beethoven Sonata unless he has first learned to  
play his five finger exercises. ~~x~~ Roughly, very roughly, <sup>and elementary</sup> Examinations  
are to Education what five finger exercises are to Beethoven  
Sonatas. May I here ask for the co-operation of parents in helping  
us on the staff to give their children this invaluable training in  
the discipline of study by seeing as far as lies in their power  
that the strain which during adolescence must of necessity be con-  
siderable is not made greater by the curtailment of hours of rest,  
by allowing too many evening engagements, late nights, and visits  
to the cinema and that their hours of study shall not be invaded by that  
bugbear the blatant loud speaker. It may be a hard saying but in  
many cases it is a true one that very few adults (parents and non-  
parents) work as hard or as long as the <sup>students</sup> adolescent school boy and  
girl. (I had an idea <sup>was</sup> that that remark might be popular in certain quarters. but  
it only applies to a small fraction of the school - don't plume yourself.)

CORPORATE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL. It will make for brevity if I  
refer you to the current issue of the School Magazine for details  
of our activities in sports, games and athletics. I wish only to  
say that the year's record on this side of the school's activities  
has been satisfactory and that much valuable work has been accom-  
plished on this side of the school's activities. A word of

No 5 finger  
sonatas

appreciation of the Drill Display given at an Evening meeting of the Parents and Staff Association provides me with the opportunity of making the observation that if our pupils can give a display of such excellence whilst having to do their physical training in a Hall which is at times almost as busy a thoroughfare as Piccadilly Circus, then they thoroughly deserve the new Gymnasium they are to get, and furthermore this new Gymnasium will be a great consolation to the denizens of the Physical and Chemical Laboratories, for they will bless the day when they are able to get along a fervently desired peace and quietness from the vocal exuberance of the P.T. ites working off their superfluous animal spirits in the Hall.

The most notable <sup>development</sup> event of the year in Athletics I think has been our Cross Country Racing. In addition to winning matches against Southgate Harriers, (junior), and our neighbours of Minchenden, our teams took part in three inter-school races, the season closing with the winning of the Pulham Cup, the race promoted by the Shaftesbury Harriers.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY. The Dramatic Society has been busy throughout the year reading plays and repeating at local functions the play they produced for us at the last year's Prize Distribution - "The Last War". Their chief success at the Enfield Festival was the winning of the First Place and Silver Cup by the Second and Third Forms.

OPERATIC SOCIETY gave as their eighth Gilbert and Sullivan production "The Mikado". The proceeds of this production added £71. 7. 2d. to the Memorial Scholarship Fund, which now stands at £862. 9. 7d., £800 of which is invested in War Stock. My best thanks are due to the Staff and the operatic society for their fine effort and particularly to Mr. Knowles for his inspired production; nor must I forget those Dr. Derry describes as the handy fellows, the scenery and lighting experts - Messrs. Paull, Toplis, Pratt and company. Our next opera will be "Iolanthe" which was our first love. The dates are March 28, 29, 31st and April 1st 1939.

EIGHTH INTER-HOUSE MUSICAL FESTIVAL. was adjudicated by my friend, Dr. Derry, in July last. The competition between the houses was keen, three marks only separating the top and bottom houses. Winning House .... Green with 81%, Red and Blue bracketed second with 80%, White 4th with 79%. The "Ney" Cup was awarded for the first time to Dennis Shea for the best individual musical performance.

The ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY continues to give acceptable service to the school. Their programme has included weekly rehearsals throughout the greater part of the year, help with the Mikado, the Prize Givings and Old Scholars Dramatic Performances. Once again I appeal to parents to encourage their musical children to take up the study of some musical instrument. I am willing to supply any really musical orchestral instrument providing the parent is willing to pay for tuition. The latest recruit to the string department of the orchestra is a double bass.

*Phillips*  
*Club*  
CHESS CLUB. This is the only new society formed during the present year, Membership of which is restricted at present to members of the Sixth Form (as this is no game for callow youth.)

DEBATING SOCIETY. Under the chairmanship of Mr. Johnston this has held many popular debates. One such that appeared to arouse considerable interest was to decide which of several famous persons should be jettisoned from a balloon falling to destruction in order that it might rise and take the others to safety. It was decided that Epstein was least worthy of salvation but Lord Nuffield, Dorothy Round, Hitler, Greta Garbo and Henry Hall were to be saved. Alas! there is no accounting for the tastes of modern youth.

*I should have decided otherwise: there are others we could better spare I think!*

The S. D. I. A., that is the Society for the discussion of International Affairs which came into being last year has had a successful and useful year's work. Talks by competent speakers have been given on China, Germany, Palestine, Russia, India, and Czechoslovakia. Funds have been raised for relief work in China and Spain, the last effort being as recently as two weeks ago when £2. profit was made as the result of a Film Display.

accompanied  
Miss McCall

THE YEAR'S HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS have been two. (1) There was the usual visit at Whitsuntide when a party of senior girls under the leadership of Miss Sleejourneyed to Wells for Field Botany. (2) Visit to Paris of a small party of boys and girls at Easter. I understand that according to the School Magazine, this holiday in gay Paree was a most interesting and thrilling experience and our best thanks are due to Mrs. Pole and Miss Crabb for organizing this educational trip.

PARENTS AND STAFF ASSOCIATION. The most noteworthy event has been the retirement of the Chairman, Mr. H. C. Wright, after 19 years splendid service. We should like to congratulate the new Chairman, Mr. Nisbett and wish him a long and happy tenure of that office. I would like to thank the Association for its gift of £14 towards the new Hall Equipment Fund and their gift of £16 to the Old Scholars Association, the proceeds of a special Whist Drive held in March last.

Perhaps in this connection I might mention that on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Staff Association there was shown the third annual film record made by Mr. Paull of the chief social and athletic events of the school year.

GIFTS. This year I have to thank Mr. Ney for a gift of Three Guineas with which we have purchased a Cup to be awarded for the best individual effort at the Inter-House Musical Competition, I have also received a sum of Five Guineas from an appreciative parent to be spent during the next five years in book prizes.

THE OLD SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION have had a very successful year and their activities in the realm of sport and culture are recorded in the School Magazine. I understand that there are several secretarial changes impending in the personell of the minor clubs of the O.S.A. As President of this Association I should like the retiring officers to accept my sincere thanks for the excellent work they have done for this Association. There is one festival that does not receive the support that it deserves and that is the Old Boys Supper. This is held annually on the first Tuesday in December.

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STAFF. 1938 has brought severe losses to the Staff in the retirement of Miss House and Miss Martin. Miss House made an ideal Head of the French Department and her quiet persistency and gentle persuasion continued over a number of years resulted in coaxing hundreds of our pupils through the French section of their General School Examination. Miss Martin retired at the end of the summer term and I fear the loss is irremediable. There was only one Miss Martin - a great believer in the scriptural saying "whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might". She believed in training up a second former in the way he or she, mostly he, should go; then when he is a fifth former he will not depart therefrom. This term we welcomed a new member of the Staff Miss E. M. Druce, B.A. We trust her stay with us will be a long and happy one.

M. Baggaley



## TUESDAY'S ENDING

Finally - and with this I finish my Report. Quite recently I came across the following allegory, which expresses better than I can what Education at its highest might be:-

Once upon a time - I begin with the time honoured phrase - a young prince set forth on his travels and as he journeyed he came to a deserted palace. It was roofless, within on the mouldering walls, hung trails of ivy, its only inmates were the bats and owls. He passed through the Hall into the garden beyond. It was a wilderness of weeds and thorns and as he pushed through the thickest part of that tangled brake he came upon a young girl, lying sunk in a stony death-like slumber. Moved by her beauty he stooped and kissed the icy lips. Instantly she rose, a living, breathing, human being, The garden regained its order, and blossomed like the rose. The palace recovered its pristine splendour. What the kiss of the fairy prince was to the sleeping beauty, Education, in the sense in which I understand the word may be to every one of us. It is an awakening of the human soul, not merely to the wonder and beauty of the world, not merely to the value and significance of life, but to the part which you and I and every one else may play in it as men and women and as citizens of a great country.