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SOUTHGATE COUNTY SCHOOL MAGAZINE



December 1938



Photo by Elwin Neame

Miss D. E. BARHAM, B.Sc., Senior Mistress 1910-1937.

Southgate County School Magazine

December, 1938.

No. 35.

IN MEMORIAM.

We were all very sorry to hear of the death on Feb. 3rd of Mr. E. E. Hunt, who was Manual Master at the school from its opening until he retired in 1936. Many of us will remember the unceasing care and patience that Mr. Hunt gave to his work in the school and all regarded him as a dear friend, so that there were many anxious enquiries during his trying illness. Our deep sympathy goes out to Mrs. Hunt and other relatives.

At Morning Assembly on February 4th the Headmaster made reference to the late Mr. E. E. Hunt as follows:—

Yesterday I received the very sad news of the death of Mr. Hunt. The whole school with the exception of the Second and Third Forms will remember Mr. Hunt as it was only a brief 18 months back that we said goodbye to him from this platform on his retirement from the staff of this school after more than 26 years' loyal and devoted service. I then wished him in your name a long span of life in which to enjoy a richly earned retirement but by inscrutable decree long life and health were not vouchsafed to our friend and colleague. The days of his retirement have been indeed brief. To me the outstanding characteristic of Mr. Hunt was his serenity. His was a unified personality and by his splendid example and enthusiasm for his work Mr. Hunt influenced for good many generations of Southgate County School boys.

It is with deep regret that we record the loss of another young life through appendicitis. Gordon William Bennett, who died in the Passmore Edwards Hospital on 27th February last, was a pupil of Southgate County School from 1928 to 1935, when, after gaining a State Scholarship, he went to King's College, London, to continue his education. In 1937 he gained his B.Sc. Degree with Second Class Honours in Mathematics and he was to have taken the Degree of M.Sc. this year.

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Very great sympathy is felt with his mother in the tragic loss of so distinguished a son just at the beginning of what promised to be a brilliant career.

It was with deep sorrow that we heard of the death in hospital on February 19th of Harold Michaels, who was a pupil at the school in the year 1936-37, and we should like to express our condolence with his parents and family at the sad loss of so young a life.

SCHOOL NOTES AND NEWS.

This term we welcome a new member of the Staff—Miss E. M. Druce, B.A. We should like to express to Miss Druce our good wishes and our hopes that her stay among us will be long and happy.

Our best thanks are due to Mr. Ney for the gift of a sum of £3 3s. 0d. to purchase a cup to be awarded annually as a Musical Trophy. The first winner is D. N. Shea to whom the cup was awarded at the Inter-House Musical Festival last summer.

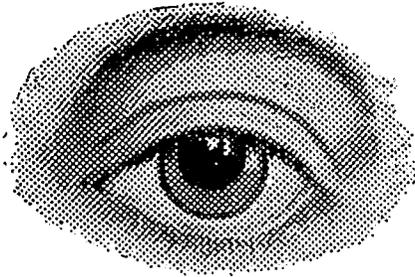
Mr. Paull has been busy again during the year with the school cine-camera and again we have a permanent record of many school activities. The film has already been shown to the parents and no doubt many pupils will have the opportunity very shortly of seeing themselves on the screen.

The total of the Memorial Scholarship Fund now stands at £862 9s. 7d., of which £800 is invested in War Stock. To this amount the production of the Mikado last Easter contributed £71 7s. 2d., a very fine result.

For its next production the Operatic Society returns to its first love—Iolanthe. The dates are March 28, 29, 31 and April 1, 1939. We have every reason to expect that the Society will maintain the very high level which it has established for itself.

In our last issue we expressed a *hope* that sometime in the not too distant future building extensions would commence. That hope still remains. We have not yet seen the bricks and mortar, but this term we have had several very welcome visits from the architect in charge. So we *hope* that in our next issue . . .

Many of us will envy Jack Gutteridge his good fortune in being appointed one of the crew of an auxiliary sailing yacht which recently started on a voyage round the world. Since leaving school Gutteridge has been in business selling office equipment, but he has always been deeply interested in sailing and



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fishing, hobbies which he will be able to enjoy to the full for the next two years at least. We understand that the outward route will take in Lisbon, the Azores and the Panama Canal. Good luck and a safe return is the wish of us all.

Another school society has been formed during the past year—a chess club. The club has been meeting regularly this term at 4 o'clock on Fridays and several members are already displaying some degree of skill and cunning. Any member of the sixth forms who would like to join will be very welcome.

During the year we have received visits from Miss Barham, Miss Philipson, and Miss House and we would assure them that we are always pleased to welcome them at any time. All will be glad to know that Miss House is in better health.

An old pupil, Amy Watkins, has gone out as a missionary to Northern China, and there was a Valedictory Service at the Congregational Church in Fox Lane on July 17th which was attended by some present scholars and staff. We convey our best wishes to Amy in her new sphere of work.

Cupid has been busy amongst old scholars this summer and on another page of the magazine a list will be found of the Old Pupils who have married. Best wishes to them all.

To Mr. Knowles, who has a second daughter, and to Mr. Johnston who has a son, we extend our congratulations.

The many friends, past and present, of Mr. A. T. Warren, will be sorry to learn that he has not been well for the past month. We all wish him a speedy return to his usual good health and spirits, and hope in the near future to welcome him again amongst us.

A parent who wishes to remain anonymous has very generously given to the school five guineas to be spent in awarding a prize for the next five years of one guinea. We offer our very grateful thanks and respect the wish expressed that this prize should be known as "An Appreciative Parent's Prize."

By the time this magazine is in print, the Chairman of the Governors, Mr. Robert Grant, J.P., will have succeeded to the Mayoralty of the Borough. Mr. Grant has given outstanding service in the cause of Education, and he has always been a good friend to the school. It is fitting, therefore, that we should join our wishes with those of others in the district in offering to Mr. and Mrs. Grant our hearty congratulations. May they have a very happy year of office.

We tender our best thanks to Miss F. Dowsett, who has voluntarily given help to the school for nearly three years. With the ever increasing amount of clerical work her generous help is much appreciated.

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EXAMINATION RESULTS.

General School.

In June, 1938, 100 candidates were entered for the University of London General School Certificate and of these 89 obtained General School Certificate; 44 gained exemption from Matriculation. Over 80 per cent. of those who passed took the Examination after four years here.

Higher School.

13 candidates were entered in the different groups. Group "D" Science—8 entered; 7 gained the Higher School Certificate, 6 in addition gained the Intermediate B.Sc. Certificate. Group "B" Arts—3 entered and one obtained Higher School and Intermediate Bachelor of Arts Certificate with Distinction in Latin and a Special Credit in Oral French. Group "E" Commerce—2 candidates entered and both obtained the Higher School and the Intermediate Bachelor of Commerce Certificate.

Open Scholarships Gained During the Year.

(1) Stella Schooling won a major scholarship in Science at the University of the South-West (Exeter), value £100 per annum tenable for three years; (2) Olive Bayley was awarded by the Board of Education on the result of the Higher School Examination a State Scholarship. These State Scholarships carry a grant of £80 per annum plus fees and maintenance for three years. This makes the Sixth State Scholarship gained by this school in recent years.

PAYMENT OF MAINTENANCE GRANTS.

For the information of parents of children who are approaching the age of 14 years attention is drawn to the following:—

With reference to the payment of maintenance grants and other financial assistance by the Middlesex Education Committee, applications may normally be submitted during the term in which the pupil attains the age of 14 years. If an application is made during the first half of any term it will be dealt with as effective for that term. If an application is made during the second half of any term it will not enable the pupil to receive any benefit until the commencement of the term following that in which application is made.

All applications should be in writing to the Headmaster, stating date of birth, and it will be wise to make such written application at the beginning of the term in which the pupil becomes 14 years of age. These grants or assistance with fees have taken the place of the old Junior Awards.

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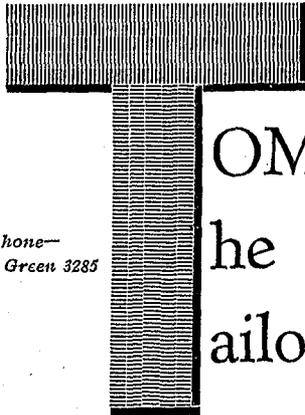
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CRICKET.

The cricket season was very enjoyable and also fairly successful. The 1st XI was not fortunate in having such good bowlers as last season, although the bowlers all tried hard, some of them being inclined to sacrifice length for speed. On the whole the fielding was good, although on occasions the throwing-in was weak.

The match with the parents was very enjoyable and the parents' side contained several fathers who were regular club cricketers. The school was successful in this match and thank all the parents who turned out.

The school and staff match was played this year with both teams including staff and school and the members of the staff again demonstrated to the school their youthfulness.

The Old Boys beat the school fairly easily but the atmosphere of the game was such that the school enjoyed the match in spite of the odds being against us.

Of the individual performances during the season, Simons bowled well throughout, his wickets being taken by bowling with a consistently good length. R. Smith supplied the high lights of the batting, his hard hitting being especially notable in the Old Boys Match.

We were fortunate in having Mr. Lee as coach, his friendly personality and expert coaching being materially helpful and enjoyable.

R. BENDER (Capt.).

DETAILS.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
1st XI	12	3	5	4
2nd XI	9	4	5	—
3rd XI	3	—	3	—
Under 14 XI	5	2	1	2
3rd Form XI	5	2	2	1
2nd Form XI	6	1	5	—

The following played regularly for the 1st or 2nd XIs:—

1st XI.—R. Benger, J. Simons, R. Hughes, L. Tenneson, D. Vandenberg, G. Watkinson, A. Whitaker, V. Benham, H. Green, C. Allday, D. Bartlett, B. Sunderland.

2nd XI.—J. Gay, B. Sunderland, R. Elliott, G. Jolliffe, J. Sterne, R. Watts, P. Greenwood, A. Ryder, M. Dalgarno, J. Morris, C. Pruden, H. Mills, B. Sunderland, J. Troughton, D. Turner, R. Jarvis, D. Taylor, A. Lowther.

Colours were awarded to A. Whitaker, H. Green, D. Bartlett, R. Smith.



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FOOTBALL.

The football season was quite successful although the second term was not so successful as the first. This was because several 1st XI players left at Christmas. The most memorable matches were those with our neighbours, Minchenden and Edmonton. The two matches with Minchenden resulted in one win and one loss, both matches being very keen and enjoyable. The home match with Edmonton County resulted in a loss by 4—1, but the score did not indicate the actual run of the play. Against a heavier team the school played good football and the match was thoroughly enjoyed in spite of our opponents' extra weight. Although the match with the Old Boys was rather a walkover for the Old Boys we had an enjoyable match and the school appreciate the spirit of the Old Boys in putting their 1st XI into the field.

During the first term the 1st XI were successful because the team played well together and it would not be fair to mention any individuals except the example both as a player and sportsman of Bob Gay, who unfortunately left at Christmas.

The team was considerably weakened during the 2nd term but the matches were fairly even and enjoyable. Throughout both terms the play of J. Simons was a notable feature. The number of wins during the season amounted to double figures and this was the best result for several years.

We were fortunate in having Mr. J. Meads, the F.A. coach, to visit us several times, and his expert advice was very helpful.

The house matches were won by the Red House in the Senior Competition and the White House in the Junior competition.

I should like to thank Mr. Fawcett for his encouragement which helped the team at all times.

R. BENDER (Capt.).

DETAILS.

		Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals	
						For	Against
1st XI	21	10	9	2	54	62
2nd XI	21	10	11	—	65	75
Under 14 XI	19	13	6	—	69	47
3rd Form XI	15	5	9	1	55	61
2nd Form XI	8	4	3	1	22	37

The following played regularly in the 1st and 2nd XIs:—

1st XI.—H. Gay, R. Benger, J. Simons, J. Charrot, V. Benham, T. Paine, D. Payne, R. Carter, D. Lovett, D. Ryan, R. Smith, A. Whitaker, E. Ryan, R. Hayward, R. Ward, R. Pruden, J. Andrews, D. Bartlett.

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2nd XI.—D. Drew, E. Ryan, T. Norris, C. Allday, R. Hayward, J. Sterne, R. Ward, L. Tomlinson, A. Whitaker, H. Green, R. Pruden, J. Taylor, N. Bradbury, R. Sherlock, J. Andrews, D. Little, J. Walker, G. Jolliffe, B. Sunderland, R. Mills, K. Cox, R. Kelly, D. Bartlett.

Colours were awarded to V. Benham, R. Smith, D. Lovett, and R. Carter.

PARENTS AND STAFF ASSOCIATION.

The Parents and Staff Association has held its usual meetings. In December, the evening of the Physical Training display by girls and boys of the school and music by the school orchestra was attended by a larger number of parents than last year, and the performances of all were warmly applauded by the company present.

The Social and Musical evening in January organised by Mrs. Clayton and Mr. Nisbett, and the Whist Drive in February were the same happy functions as in former years.

An additional Whist Drive in March for the Old Scholars' Association realised £16.

In October, a goodly company roamed round the building, inspected work, saw an excellent exhibition of films depicting various school activities, and then assembled for the Annual General Meeting under the Chairmanship of Mr. H. C. Wright. The chairman welcomed new members, and commented on the flourishing state of the association. He then announced that he wished to retire from office. The Headmaster expressed his regret at the chairman's decision and warmly thanked Mr. Wright for his service. The parents then elected as their representatives on the committee: Mrs. Clayton, Mrs. True, Mrs. Hobbs, Mr. Nisbett, and Mr. Watts. The committee later elected Mr. Nisbett as chairman.

£14 was voted to the Hall Equipment Fund.

The Whist Drive in October was attended by about 160 members. In the interval a presentation was made to Mr. Wright the retiring chairman. Mr. Wright was elected a member of the committee when the association was founded in 1919, was elected chairman in the following year and has been re-elected to that office each year since.

The Headmaster expressed the appreciation and thanks of all to Mr. Wright for the splendid service he had rendered to the school by his guidance of the association in its early days, and by his readiness to serve the school during his long tenure of office. The new chairman, Mr. Nisbett, added his word of praise and asked Mr. Wright to accept a silver cigarette case as a token

of appreciation and esteem. Mr. Wright thanked the association for the gift. He said that he had enjoyed his connection with the school and had found pleasure in giving his services.

Another social and musical evening is announced for January when we hope to have a large gathering.

WHITEHALL, 1938.

In Whitehall's grand and busy street,
For all the passers-by to greet,
There stands a monument on high
On which the brave old colours fly;
But women passing gently sigh,
Thinking where their dear ones lie.

The threat of war once more has passed:
Our greatest hope is peace will last.
Now all the people do rejoice
Giving thanks with heart and voice.
A wreath of poppies laid again,
A note, "They did not die in vain."

PHYLLIS WESTWOOD, IIIa.

DEEPENING SHADOWS.

Twilight was falling one September night,
The shadows of evening were dimming the light.
The pigeons and doves
Were calling their loves
To hasten home quickly and stop short their flight.

The daisies their petals had closed o'er their heads,
All wise little children had gone to their beds,
The dew had descended,
Flowers' troubles were ended,
The silvery moon her light on them sheds.

The bushes and shrubs and the leaves of the trees
Were shaken and rustled by a soft little breeze,
Birds flew home to nest,
To get a night's rest,
The heavens were silent, and earth at her ease.

And now night has fallen on valley and hill,
The whole world is sleeping, calm, peaceful but chill,
The moon casts her beams
O'er swift rivers and streams
All Creation is slumbering, silent and still.

CATHERINE FAWCETT, IVb.

SWIMMING (GIRLS).

Although the weather at the beginning of the season was not encouraging, there was generally a good attendance of girls at the baths every Wednesday—the school swimming day. However they were mainly juniors and there was a lack of enthusiasm amongst most of the seniors. Again we had the comparatively new feature of swimming lengths before the day of the Gala to gain House Points and this afforded more interest to those who could not swim very fast as the lengths could be swum at any speed. The Red House had the highest number of points for this, and in the School Gala they continued to keep their lead, thereby winning the inter-house cup.

The results were as follows: Red House 161 points, Green House 65½ points, White House 64½ points, Blue House 36 points.

The Senior Cup and the Junior Medal, awarded to the girls with the highest number of points, were won by Mary True and Jessie True respectively—both of Red House. The Senior runner-up was Jean Garner (Red) while Jean Chismon (Green) was runner-up of the Juniors.

In the North Middlesex Gala at Wood Green Baths, there were no outstanding results among the Seniors, but the Juniors gave a very creditable performance. Jean Garner came third in the Senior Back Stroke and fifth in the Free Style. Mary True came fourth in the Senior Diving. Although the Senior team, consisting of Enid Bugbee, Jean Garner, Alison Margetts, and Mary True, came third in the semi-final, they failed to gain a position in the final.

In the Juniors, Jean Chismon came first in the Breast Stroke, Jessie True was second in the Diving and third in the Free Style. The team consisting of Jean Chismon, Margaret Rendell, Winnie Spooner, and Jessie True gained second place.

In the combined Gala for North and South Middlesex, Jean Chismon upheld the honour of the school by winning a silver medal for gaining first place in the Junior Breast Stroke. Jessie True came third in the Diving; the Junior team, however, had the misfortune to be disqualified.

There is a general feeling that the results would be better if we had more time to practice together—particularly during the day when the baths are less crowded. However, we have been helped considerably by the coaching Miss Sperrin and Mrs. Pole have given us and this is much appreciated.

SOUTHGATE COUNTY OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION.

President: T. Everard, Esq., M.A. (Cantab) L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

Hon. General Sec.: G. H. Parkinson, 23, Meadway, N.14.

Hon. Ladies Sec.: Lorna Ray, "Maxwelton," Prince George Avenue, N.14.

The past year has been one of great activity for the association with its sections catering for all branches of sport and social recreation. Thanks to the splendid crowd of youngsters which Mr. Paull was able to introduce when leaving school, new life has been infused into all our activities, and it is hoped that the younger members will realise that it is to them that the Association looks for continued expansion, and will be prepared to give their full support to every undertaking.

Since the last magazine was printed many successful dances and socials have been run at which we have been pleased to see old scholars of all ages. School dances were held on 29th January, 7th May and 26th November where the enthusiasm of the new members was very heartening. The same happy spirit pervaded those held at the Church House on 26th March and St. Paul's Institute on 29th October and the one-time apathy to old scholars' dances now appears to be a thing of the past.

The Old Girls' Reunion this year took the form of a buffet supper in the School Hall and the new venture seemed to be greatly appreciated. This may now be considered a permanency on the first Friday in February. The Old Boys' Supper, held on 22nd February, although thoroughly enjoyed by all, was not as well attended as this festival deserves. Our chief guests were County Councillor Robert Grant and Mr. Warren, who replied to the toast of the "Visitors" in his usual inimitable style.

During the summer the Old Boys' Tennis Championship was revived with an entry of 23, and in the final D. A. Damant beat R. D. Grant, 8-6, 6-3; this tournament is open to anyone who ever attended the School, and is not limited to members of the Association.

The Summer Reunion on 9th July was in its usual form with a cricket match against the School and a tennis tournament in the afternoon and early evening, and a dance in the hall later. The fine weather and hearty hitting by the tail-enders of the School XI helped to make the day enjoyable for players and spectators alike, whilst the School took the honours in the tennis tournament in a win by Mr. Everard and Marion Braybrooks.

Events which are enjoyed by a privileged few are the Old Boys' Half Mile and Old Girls' Relay Race at the School Sports. It is hoped, however, that in future years there will be a greater number taking this opportunity to give evidence of retained stamina and physical fitness.

No mention has yet been made of the great benefit which our ground at Brackendale bestows. The pavilion is the meeting place of enthusiasts and friends all through the summer and over the winter week-ends and we are continually adding to its amenities.

The provision of a third hard court has been our latest move and we are ready to act on any suggestion made for its improvement or extension. In the Whist Drive which the Parents and Staff Association runs on our behalf they show clearly their appreciation of the type of help which is particularly welcome.

We face the New Year with confidence as we are convinced that members have the interests of the Association at heart and are eager to uphold the proud position we now occupy.

MARRIAGES.

L. G. Hawksworth and Miss Pamela M. Milton.
 Mr. W. G. Clemetson and Honor Tresise.
 Mr. D. V. Roderick and Margaret (Peggy) Allen.
 Mr. H. W. Clifford and Mary London.
 D. F. Spooner and Audrey Marchant.
 Mr. L. G. Rhodes and Dorothea Motley.
 Mr. David Barns and Mary Bourdon.
 Mr. G. H. Cleare and Glenn Hamilton.
 B. E. J. Potts and Miss E. M. Appleby.
 G. E. Pownall and May Cawkwell.
 Mr. J. W. Torkington and Doreen Ferry.
 Mr. J. Pettes and Peggy Sawyer.
 Mr. A. Stone and Hilda Whaley.
 Mr. C. D. Lear and Barbara Wesson.
 Mr. P. J. Graham and Irene Spriggs.
 Mr. R. B. Charsley and Margaret Whyte.
 P. Hawes and Grace Norris.
 Mr. H. W. Hill and Enid Callway.
 Mr. C. A. Kimbley and Gwendoline Haines.
 Mr. David Muir and Isobel Wylie.
 Jack F. Hinton and Miss M. H. Stevenson.
 Mr. F. Spooner and Joan Howitt.
 Mr. R. A. Wood and Margaret (Peggy) Robertson.
 Mr. Cecil Kimble and Gwen Haines.

BIRTHS.

A son to Mr. and Mrs. Fecci (Maud Want).
 A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. H. Baird (Phyllis Bateman).
 A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Hudson.

- A son to Mr. and Mrs. Ryder (Doris Forsaith).
 A son to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson (Inez Paterson).
 A son to Mr. and Mrs. S. White (Gladys Martin).
 A son to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wiggins.
 A son to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Spriggs.
 A son to Mr. and Mrs. Percy Wright (Winifred Holding).

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SUCCESSSES GAINED BY OLD PUPILS SINCE LAST JANUARY.

- A. V. Austen: L.D.S., R.C.S. (England); dental surgery prize at London Hospital.
- A. F. Alexander, B.Sc.: A.M.I.C.E.
- B. C. Benger: University of London B.Sc.
- Joan Carlton: University of London B.A. (Second Class Honours).
The "John Oliver Hobbs" Award of £20.
- N. W. Collop: Final Examination of the Society of Incorporated Accountants.
- Kathleen Cordingley: University of London B.A. (Second Class Honours).
- I. M. Henderson: Final Examination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.
- C. Howe: Civil Service Executive Examination (32nd out of 200 places).
- J. D. Janes: University of London B.Sc. Engineering, First Class Honours (bracketed First equal).
- Margaret Lacey, D.Sc.: The Huxley Memorial Prize.
- J. H. F. Mundie: University of London Second M.B. (Part 1).
- Joyce Newman: University of London Intermediate B.Sc. (Household Science).
- H. A. Nisbett: University of London B.Sc. (Second Class Honours General).
- Lillian Parsons: University of London B.Com.
- D. J. Robertson: University of London Second M.B. (Part 1).
- L. R. Rowe: University of London B.Sc., A.R.C.S.
- Hilda Schroder: Prize for Character Acting at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.
- M. Seppings-Lister: First Examination of the Librarian Association.
- N. Spoor: University of London Ph.D.
- B. D. Stutter: M.B., B.S. (London), L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

SOUTHGATE COUNTY OLD BOYS' CRICKET CLUB.

Secretary: D. C. Windle, 12, Meadowcroft Road, N.13.

Although we did not maintain the form shown in 1937, the Cricket Club had a quite successful season. As it was found impossible to play at Brackendale owing to the bade state of the wicket and outfield, all but five games were played away. This naturally reflected itself in the play of the teams: on occasions the strain of frequent travelling was felt, particularly when fielding. Despite this great disadvantage, however, an excellent spirit prevailed among the members, and it would be a great pity if the undoubted keenness shown were to be wasted through the lack of a ground.

The 1st XI played 25 matches, winning 12 and losing 10, with 3 drawn. The most interesting games were against Gravesend (on Whit-Monday, when a mixed eleven gave a very good account of itself), William Baker School, whose last wicket stand of 64 gave them the victory, Elstree, Boxmoor (a splendidly rustic fixture), and Southgate Adelaide, whom we just beat in an evening game.

S. H. Holloway scored the greatest number of runs for the 1st XI, and batted even better than in 1937. Westaway again opened the innings with great deliberation, and found a very capable partner in L. H. Wright, a newcomer from School, whose style fitted him admirably for an opening batsmen. Other successful batsmen were Penny, who was, however, not so prolific as in the previous season, and Parkinson, who displayed greatly improved form. The batting of the latter batsman was, to say the least, unreliable, and both the captain, Duck, and Rush failed to find their true form. The brunt of the bowling fell on Graham, who, after a season's absence, bowled consistently well to take 82 wickets, and on Berry. Berry's figures do not do justice to the worth of his bowling, as it frequently fell to him to adopt the role of stock bowler, and keep the runs down while Graham took the wickets. The attack was strengthened during June by the fast bowling of H. J. Hobbs, who returned from Singapore and took twenty wickets in five games. The bowling of D. G. Parr (as well as his batting) was sadly missed, however, and it is to be hoped that we shall discover another fast bowler for next season. The fielding was uniformly good throughout the season, and Duck kept wicket very soundly. We were glad to have the assistance on a few occasions of E. S. Voltz and F. S. Claxton, both of whom played some notable innings.

The 2nd XI, under the captaincy of C. V. Dean, showed remarkable progress, particularly in fielding. Out of 17 matches played, 11 were won and 6 lost (two of these while "extra time" was being played). Teams defeated include the second elevens of William Baker School, Tottenham G. A. S., Old Owens and Old Johnians. The most successful batsman was Dean, who shared

in a number of useful opening partnerships with D. J. Robertson. He was also ably backed up by S. P. Smith, with 253 runs in 15 games. The batting of the remainder of the side, if not prolific, was nearly always consistent and stubborn, and good innings were played by Spooner, Shaw and Dyer. Palfreman and Drews were the most effective bowlers, Palfreman in particular being devastating on occasion.

Of 12 matches played on Sundays 6 were won, 4 lost, and 2 drawn. Against Old Latymerians we won by 150 runs to 140, Graham taking the last five wickets for no runs, after the game had appeared as good as lost. We unexpectedly beat Upper Clapton by one wicket, and lost to G. E. C. in a very enjoyable game. For the first time for several seasons a country game was played against Ifield, in Sussex, which resulted in a tie at 152 runs each. Amid great excitement the last three Ifield wickets fell for no runs. We had a larger number of really close finishes this season than ever before.

Several times during the season we had to call on schoolboys to fill up teams depleted by members away on holiday, and the Club's best thanks are due to Mr. Fawcett, who put us in touch with a number of boys who proved useful players. It was frequently necessary to ask Mr. Fawcett to find someone at the last minute, and he never failed. Particular mention should be made of R. Bengier, who scored 169 runs in 5 innings, among them an amazing knock of 57 against Southgate Adelaide and 70 against Courtauld's C.C., and of R. Smith, whose hearty hitting brought him 120 runs in 10 innings. He had the distinction of helping in a last wicket stand of 61 at Upper Clapton, his share being 38 not out. J. Simons bowled steadily when called upon, and Whitaker batted usefully.

OLD GIRLS BADMINTON CLUB. Season, 1937-8.

The Hon. Secretary is pleased to report that the Badminton Club has regained its former strength of membership and has this season its full quota of playing members.

We were very glad to include six new girls in September, and to notice how happily they fitted in with the old members.

We still welcome any old girls who would care to come along to the school on Friday evenings as visitors, but play for them must necessarily be restricted according to the number of regular members present.

The Secretary is in the position to start a waiting list for next year as it is known that there will be a few resignations after this season.

It is a very comforting thought for the Secretary, who is resigning at Christmas after five years in office, to realise that there is now such splendid support in the Badminton Club and the task of electing a new secretary should not be a difficult one.

DORIS L. LONG,

Hon. Secretary,

17, Minchenden Crescent, N.14.



SOUTHGATE OLD SCHOLARS' DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

1937-38.

"The Middle Watch," by Ian Hay, was presented in February last, with Mavis Lee, Beatrice Dannell, H. Hawkes, and D. Parr in the leading parts. The play was considered an entertainment success by the spectators, who were not so numerous as desired; unfortunately the expenses of production were only just covered.

This year's production, on February 24th and 25th, will be "Berkeley Square," with Beatrice Dannell and G. Parkinson in the leads. We hope that this play, which is very different from anything yet attempted by the Society, will be a great success, and will gain your support in great numbers.

This year our producer, May Cawkwell, who has been with the Society from its start, has found it necessary to retire and her place has been taken by Irene Partridge, to whom go all wishes for success.

Anyone who is interested in either acting or work behind scenes will be given any information they might require about joining the Society if they care to call at rehearsals, which are held at the School on Wednesday evenings at 8 o'clock.

VERA ELSTON,

5, Boundary Crest,

Firs Lane, N.21.



SOUTHGATE COUNTY OLD GIRLS' NETBALL CLUB.

This season an Old Girls' Netball Club has been formed within the Old Scholars' Association. At the meeting held at the end of August to discuss the formation of a club there were seven prospective members. The membership has already reached sixteen, and we are running two teams. New members will, however, be assured of a warm welcome, as we should like to be able to form a third team as well. All available talent would be most useful.

We have not joined any netball league this season, but we have many good fixtures, chiefly with other old girls' clubs in the surrounding districts. Up to the time of writing this, we have not met with very great success in our matches, but that has been largely due to lack of sufficient practice, and I can safely say that the standard of play is improving steadily. All the matches have, however, been very enjoyable.

Our chief desire at the moment is to have a strong and flourishing club. Hockey, football, cricket, tennis and even badminton have all along been represented in the Old Scholars' Association, and it is time that netball came into its own. Come along and help us to make it a success. The subscription is only 7s. a year, so that need not deter you. Whether you left school yesterday or ten years ago you will be very welcome. Never mind if you have not played netball for some time or think that you have forgotten all you ever knew about it; come along and join us and you will soon get over that feeling. Except when we have away matches, we play at the School on Saturday afternoons—so at least come along and cheer sometimes!

If anybody interested in the club will get into touch with me, I shall be very glad to supply all particulars.

OLIVE BAYLEY, Hon. Secretary,
33, St. Georges Road, N.13.

SOUTHGATE COUNTY OLD GIRLS' HOCKEY CLUB.

During 1937-38 the Old Girls' Hockey Club enjoyed its most successful season since it started. Increased membership enabled two elevens to be run with ease—in fact several members had to stand down every week. The standard of play appreciably improved, partly due to the coaching given by Mrs. Samuels, an Old Girl and a Middlesex Player. At the beginning of the season the weather played its part splendidly, and excellent results were recorded as follows.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Scr.	For	Agst.
First Eleven	24	19	1	4	1	161	50
Second Eleven	19	11	3	5	7	80	47

Season 1938-39 promises to be even more successful. Last season's results have led to even better fixtures, and the Club is standing up well to keener play and stronger opposition. A new milestone has been reached, for with a further increase in membership the Old Girls are now fielding three teams every week, although our numbers are not really sufficient. We are just managing with the kind help of some of the girls still at School, but of course we are very keen to recruit new members and make

the Club self-supporting. So any Old Girls who have so far hesitated, do make up your minds now, and communicate with me immediately. Girls who are leaving School at Christmas will be welcomed, and we have a special subscription rate for them.

Finally I would like to mention the resignation of Jean Smith from the secretaryship of the Hockey Club, and to take this opportunity of recording our appreciation and gratitude for her splendid services in getting the Club started, and the very hard work she has put in during her years as Secretary.

MARION WOOLLASTON,
36, Beechdale, N.21.

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SOUTHGATE COUNTY OLD SCHOLARS' LAWN TENNIS CLUB.

During the past year the Tennis Club has fully maintained the high standard set up by the first year on the Brackendale Ground. Membership was retained at its maximum figures and several new members joined on leaving school. In accordance with the general opinion, no matches were played against other clubs but the men had two very enjoyable matches against the masters of the school (resulting in a victory each) whilst the ladies played two matches against the girls of the school (gaining two close victories). Tournaments were again revived and the results were as follows:—Ladies' Singles: Millie Sterne beat Eva Cox 2—6, 6—4, 6—4. Gentlemen's Singles: H. Gay beat A. J. Mills 6—4, 2—6, 6—4; Mixed Doubles: Millie Sterne and A. J. Mills beat Elsie Whiddon and F. Carpenter 6—0, 6—1.

The season opened with a flannel dance in the School Hall and this event was enthusiastically welcomed. Both at Whitsun and at August pleasant days were spent. At Whitsun the day concluded with a splendid Treasure Hunt followed by a supper in the pavilion and at August an American Tournament was held in the afternoon. The summer season ended with a party at the pavilion and the gathering was jolly in spite of the overhanging "war clouds."

We must extend our heartiest thanks to the ladies' committee for the splendid way in which the catering arrangements were carried out throughout the season. These ladies worked conscientiously to provide our every need at tea times—even the lemonade was home-made!

At the moment the small band of winter members is having enjoyable play on fine week-ends. A new hard court has been laid and this gives promise for an even more successful season next year.

We extend a hearty welcome to any prospective members who wish to join our "merry throng" for next season, for I am sure

they will also find a sincere friendliness and sociability that is so readily met with in the Club.

ARTHUR J. MILLS, Hon. Secretary,
18, Cheyne Walk,
Grange Park, N.21.

THE OLD BOYS' FOOTBALL CLUB.

Season 1937-38 can undoubtedly be recorded as one of the most successful and enjoyable seasons the Old Boys' F.C. has experienced. With the greatly improved conditions available at Brackendale, enthusiasm ran high and was reflected in consistently good results.

The First Eleven proved to be a strong combination and but for their inability to "find the net" at the crucial moment, would have finished in a much higher position than 5th in the Senior Division of the Secondary Schools' Old Boys League. Their record of 7 draws in a League programme of 20 games is convincing evidence of the weakness referred to. Of the remaining games 7 were won and 6 lost with the creditable goal aggregate of 46 for and 37 against. However, the outstanding experience of the season for the players (and the many spectators) was the team's first appearance in the Senior Section of the London Old Boys' Cup. In this new venture the First Eleven rose to the occasion and undoubtedly gave some of their finest displays. They were eventually defeated 5—3 by Old Uffingtonians in the semi-final at Brackendale, after having been successful against such sides as Old Ignatians (2—1) and Trinity County Old Boys (3—1).

The Reserve Eleven were equally successful in Division 2 North of the League, finishing 5th after winning 8 and drawing 1 out of a total of 18 games. Although the goal aggregate of 58 for and 63 against shows a "debit balance," the team produced a record breaker in E. Williams who scored 32 goals in League games—the highest total in one season by any member of the Club since 1932.

The Third Eleven again suffered from being the junior team of the Club, for they had to put up with the demoralising effect of constant changes in their ranks necessary to give all members a fair share of games. However, their record of played 18, won 5, drew 4 and lost 9 with 44 goals for and 48 against was nothing to be ashamed of even though it only gave them 8th position in the Junior Division North.

The games at Brackendale were attended throughout the season by a goodly crowd of spectators amongst whom we were pleased to notice a good proportion of boys from the School. This display of enthusiasm augurs well for the Club, as we found when we received a useful influx of "leavers" as new members for Season 1938-39

and were thus enabled for the first time to run four elevens all competing in the Old Boys' League and encouraged to enter for a more ambitious cup programme.

We do feel that at last the Old Boys' F.C. has attained the size and strength it deserves and is once again a real force in Old Boy and local football. Whilst it continues to receive the wonderful support accorded to it by the school and its many other friends, we feel confident of a happy and successful future.

So don't forget to support the "Blues."

ERIC G. GREENWOOD,
96, Maidstone Road,
New Southgate, N.11.

NETBALL, 1937-38.

Last season the School had four netball teams, the First Senior, Second Senior, First Junior and Second Junior. The games were very enjoyable both to winners and losers, and all were ready for a little light refreshment in the form of milk and chocolate afterwards. The teams played enthusiastically and used their brains to advantage. Before Christmas the captain was Joyce Shearer and afterwards, Joyce Blaver.

The results were as follows:—

First Senior Team: Won 4, lost 6, drew 0, scratched 2.

Second Senior Team: Won 5, lost 4, drew 1, scratched 2.

First Junior Team: Won 6, lost 1, drew 0, scratched 3.

Second Junior Team: Won 3, lost 2, drew 0, scratched 3.

This season all the teams are playing well. Joyce Blaver was re-elected captain and Joan Purnell vice-captain.

The teams are as follows:—

First Senior: J. Blaver, J. Kirby, M. Rendell, B. Kolthammer, J. Deex, J. Sanders, M. Spoor.

Second Senior: V. Grou, R. Middleditch, A. Goodger, J. Purnell, J. Garner, E. Bugbee, A. Spratley.

Reserves: J. True, P. Betts.

First Junior: G. Chipperfield, D. Smith, D. Gadan, N. Wood, E. Dunks, M. Cooper, J. Roach.

Second Junior: J. Brown, M. Fisher, E. Cooke, B. Langham, L. Stacey, F. Lord, A. Roach.

Reserves: A. Wood, P. Westwood.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS, 1937-8.

First: Reds, 8 pts. Second: Blues and Greens, 6 pts. Fourth; Whites, 4 pts.

THE CAGE BIRD.

As I was going past a house
 The other sunny day,
 I heard a bird a-carolling,
 To me he seemed to say:

“Why was I born a cage-bird?
 Why wasn't I born free?
 The robin, sparrow and the lark,
 Are happier far than me.”

“Perhaps they have to find their food,
 And feed their young as well;
 But they are free to roam the world
 While I'm locked in this cell.”

“In the sunny Summertime,
 My cage hangs in the sun;
 My jealousy's aroused, again
 Why can't I have some fun?”

MARGARET MILLER, IVA

THE SCARECROW.

There he stood, all tattered and torn,
 In the middle of that bare field,
 The birds just looked at him with scorn,
 As hunting to and fro they wheeled.

They just treated him with contempt,
 As among the brown furrows they pecked,
 He looked so forlorn, so ragged, unkempt;
 His hat so badly wrecked.

But he had one friend, a robin gay,
 Who upon his old straw hat would rest,
 He came to visit him every day,
 To steal the straw to build his nest.

Day after day the bird would come,
 To sing songs of Nature to him,
 He'd stay till dusk, and then fly home,
 To his warm nest so trim.

He came to see his friend one day,
 And saw, indeed, so sad a sight;
 He remembered he'd heard the wise owl say,
 That last night was Guy Fawks night.

But his scarecrow friend was missing,
 No hat was on his head;
 The morning rain fell gently, hissing,
 On the ashes in his stead.

JEANNE MATTHEWS, IVB.

HOCKEY.

The 1st and 2nd XI's were fortunate in retaining twelve out of their twenty-two players from last season's teams. Both teams maintained a good standard throughout the season, though special mention must be made of the 1st XI. The combination between the forwards and the defence was the chief factor of the success gained in matches.

Shooting remains a weak point throughout the School, and shooting while still moving forward, i.e., taking the ball on the run and shooting immediately the circle line is crossed, should be practised.

B. Braybrooks proved herself an able and helpful captain whom we were sorry to lose at the end of the season.

TEAMS.

First Eleven: D. Walesby, M. Alaway, R. Williams, B. Braybrooks (Capt.) B. Rae, E. Chivers, J. Harvey, A. Margetts, M. True, P. Austin, D. Heslop.

Second Eleven (Chosen from): D. Johnson (Capt.), I. Lowther, P. Pickard, D. How, D. Baines, M. Odd, J. Hobbs, D. Sentance, B. Broadbent, D. Tenneson, M. Bolton, S. Schooling, M. Griggs.

RESULTS.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
1st XI	12	8	4	0
2nd XI	10	5	4	1

Colours were given to E. Chivers, R. Williams, A. Margetts, and M. True.

HOUSE HOCKEY.

Great keenness was shown in the house matches. Last year's winners, the Greens, were beaten by a small margin of 1 point by the White House.

Seniors: 1st, White; 2nd, Green; 3rd, Red; 4th, Blue.

Juniors: 1st, Blue; 2nd, White; 3rd, Green and Red.

TENNIS.

This year we decided to run two tennis teams, 1st and 2nd VI, as it was felt that the school tennis should be represented by more than six players. Although the 2nd VI played only four matches their enthusiasm and standard of play fully justified the decision. As usual there was great competition in the matches played against

Minchenden School for the award of the rose bowl. The results were as last year. The school 1st VI was beaten on Minchenden school ground but played valiantly on the school ground to even the score.

Many girls are now fully appreciating the advantages which can be gained by playing on our hard courts at Minchenden. The juniors, especially, were eager to avail themselves of the opportunity to improve their tennis on the splendid surface which the courts offer. Increased enthusiasm has led many girls to join clubs and to play on public courts out of school hours. The standard of play would be still higher if it was generally realised that a certain amount of time should be spent in practising strokes. Next summer we are looking forward to using the new pavilion which was erected at the end of the summer term.

TEAMS.

1st VI.—B. Braybrooks (Capt.), B. Broadbent, M. True, M. Alaway, D. Sentance, R. Williams.

2nd VI.—J. Hobbs, D. Walesby, A. Margetts, E. Chivers, J. Blaver, J. Harvey.

RESULTS.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drew
1st VI.	7	5	2	—
2nd VI.	4	2	2	—

Colours: M. True, M. Alaway, D. Sentance, B. Broadbent.

HOUSE MATCHES.

Seniors.—1st Green, 2nd Blue, 3rd White, 4th Red.

Champion, M. True. Runner-up, B. Broadbent.

Juniors.—1st White, 2nd Blue, 3rd Red, 4th Green.

Champion, M. Rendell. Runner-up, P. Havlicek.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The Society's second year has proved extremely interesting and successful. The meetings have been well supported by both the Staff and the Sixth Form and several excellent papers have been read.

J. Blake (VIa Science) read an instructive paper on "Microphones," in which he described several common types and traced their evolution from the crude carbon-actuated instrument

of the early days of telephony. The paper was illustrated by a film.

Another very interesting paper on "Mendelism" was read by Stella Schooling (VIa Science) and was greatly clarified by a film which set out in simple language the work and theories of this great man.

Another interesting paper on "Fish" was contributed by R. Deacon (VIb Science) in which he differentiated between the various species and explained their habits. An excellent programme has been arranged for the coming year, the first paper dealing with "Photography," by P. Morgan (VIb Science).

A short-wave Radio Circle has been formed and all interested should apply to the Secretary for particulars.

Meetings of this Society are held from time to time and all members of the Sixth Form are cordially invited to attend.

R. MILLS (VIb Science).

Secretary.

SWIMMING (BOYS).

In order that everyone should have the opportunity of attending, practices were held this year on Mondays and Tuesdays. The response of the school was disappointing, however, and Mr. Fawcett and Mr. Pratt found difficulty in persuading boys to attend for regular instruction. With the strongest swimmers deep in examination studies, the team had little opportunity for practice and no one expected a high standard at the North Middlesex Gala. The Senior Team was placed sixth.

There was keen swimming at the Annual Gala and the trophy was again captured by the White House with 46½ points. The swimmers of the house, particularly C. Hayes and J. Bice, are congratulated on their success. The Black House, with 31 points, were runners-up. E. Ryan was unfortunately unable to take any part in the season's activities, but even with this stalwart a spectator, there was an exciting struggle for individual honours. J. Sterne eventually warded off J. Bice's strong challenge and thus carried off the Championship in his first year as a senior. C. Hayes was an easy winner of the Junior Championship.

Several second form boys showed promise and Dumayne is congratulated on setting up a new record in the 40 yards Free Style race for second form boys. J. Bice also did well to establish a new record in the Senior 45 yds. Back Stroke.

The following have represented the School:—

Senior Team: N. Calcraft, J. Sterne, J. Walker, J. Bice.

Junior Team: C. Hayes, D. Griffiths, B. Hyde, R. Hitchcock, R. Dumayne.

VERY TOPICAL

AFTER THIS,



AND AFTER THIS,



AND AFTER THIS,



AND AFTER THIS,



-AND THIS, PREFECT



IS IT SURPRISING THAT, ALTHOUGH TO THESE

WAR



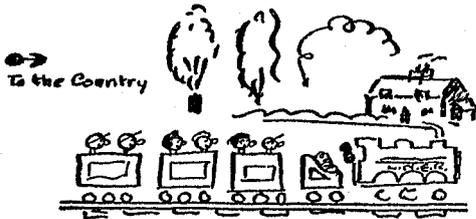
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WAR should make these,



HAVE THIS AS THEIR FIRST THOUGHT



TO WIMBLE OR NOT TO WIMBLE.

—that was the question;
 Whether 'twas nobler at school to suffer
 The slings and arrows of enraged teachers,
 Or to prepare against English weather—

I must apologise for this outburst. But it is because they have been giving me an overdose of Shakespeare and besides it was the B.B.C. Announcer's fault. On the evening of June 30th, Thursday, I was about to take a bite of toast and Bovril (this is not a scheme for advertising, by the way) when the cultured tones of Mr. Stuart Hibberd's voice struck my ears. As usual the weather forecast preceded the First News (copyright reserved, of course). I listened in suspense, for we were going to Wimbledon to-morrow. It ran as follows:—

Bright intervals, stormy, local showers and drizzle generally,
 Fog on the coast.

So now you understand the reason for my impassioned soliloquy at the beginning. I hope it did not frighten you off this account of our doings at Wimbledon. (I need not tell you that Mr. Hibberd's bright account of the weather for Wimbledon-day evoked shouts of laughter from my brothers—callous creatures, boys).

At quarter to nine the following day we established ourselves in two coaches outside the School and regarded with joy the faces of our fellow-comrades-in-agony (to quote a friend of mine). We started off a few minutes later and all went well until 9.30 a.m. when the first coach decided to stop. The driver climbed out, opened the bonnet, and hastily twiddled a few knobs and untwisted a few screws, and forty minutes later took off his hat and scratched his head. Anxious colloquies followed between the three mistresses accompanying us. Finally it was decided that our coach should proceed to Wimbledon, and that the others should be picked up later by another coach. So off we went, waving a cheerful good-bye to the stick-in-the-muds who were left behind.

We arrived at Wimbledon at 11.15. As we came up the road to the car park we got a grand view of the building. Some one in a previous account of a visit to Wimbledon remarked that, from the outside, it looks a cross between a railway station and Wembley Stadium. I can think of no better description.

Then we waited in a queue for an hour and a quarter. Being a collection of some forty girls we spent the time gossiping. Our talk ranged from tooth-paste to Hippopotami, though I am at a loss to explain the connection. We also played "ghosts," and I am afraid that some of our attempts at spelling would have shocked our professors of English.

At last, however, we passed through the turnstile and rushed to find our seats in the centre court. It was amusing to look round at one's fellow-spectators. I shall not soon forget the little man who toured the stands with "soft cushions!" It reminded me of Cries of Old London. We explored the building, hoping to catch a glimpse of Bunny Austin or Donald Budge, but not succeeding. So we had lunch.

Soon they put up the posts and net which was carefully measured. Then out walked the linesmen to take their places, which were at intervals round the outside of the court, followed by the ball boys, very smart in white flannels. Then the umpire ascended his "high chair." When the stage was set, the actors, Mme. Andres and Mme. Henotin, Mme. Mathieu and Miss Yorke walked out. Of course they were not the players we were waiting to see and so they did not get the attention they ought to have had. But to one who has seen only amateurish play they were marvellous. Their net play and Miss York's sharp volleys were particularly noticeable and the couples were well matched. The match went to Mme. Mathieu and Miss Yorke at 3—6, 6—3, 6—4.

At five to three Queen Mary and the Duchess of Kent entered the Royal Box.

Then came the match we had been waiting to see—the Men's Championship Final. They entered to enthusiastic applause—Budge tall and red-haired—Austin dark and slight. A sports critic in a daily paper described the American as a "red-haired typhoon" and the Englishman as a "gentle zephyr," and I am afraid that was no exaggeration. The "typhoon" kept our "last hope" running all over the court and simply did what he liked with him. He had a smashing serve and his placing was dead accurate. He tried for everything and got everything. Any point gained by Austin was loudly applauded by the crowd, whose sympathy was obviously with the Englishman, as was only natural, but it was a losing fight. A last rally at the end when Austin won three games in succession sent our hopes soaring, only to be dashed again as Budge won the set 6—3. He had won the previous two 6—1, 6—0. But whatever the result it had been a thrilling and interesting game.

Then for a change some of us went autograph hunting, returning to watch the mixed doubles. I must say that women's doubles are feeble compared with men's. Not that I want to make men any more conceited than they are, but it is bound to be so. But the Mixed Doubles were a real entertainment, even to one who does not know much about tennis. This was not a keenly contested competition, but a friendly game. It was good to watch the white figures dancing on the green turf. It was funny to see the rows and rows of heads moving from side to side watching the flight of the ball like a kitten watching a pendulum swinging.

The promised showers came late in the afternoon, but were not a serious hindrance and otherwise the weather was glorious.

Well, we were sorry to leave at seven. It had been a jolly day—a pleasant change from the routine of Latin, English, break, Geography, Maths.—and we are very grateful to all the Staff, and especially Miss Sperrin who arranged the expedition, and also to Miss Crabb and Miss McCollin who also accompanied us.

IRENE LOWTHER, 6 Arts.

PRESENTATION TO MISS HOUSE.

Mention was made in our last issue of the absence, through illness, of Miss E. P. House, and the hope was expressed that Miss House would soon be completely recovered and able to take her place among us once more. Unfortunately, Miss House did not make the progress for which we had all hoped and the doctors were quite emphatic in their verdict that Miss House must not return to teaching. At a gathering in the hall on February 18th the Headmaster spoke with deep feeling of our sorrow at losing Miss House and expressed our good wishes for a return of health and vigour, and a long and happy period of retirement. Mr. Everard stressed the utter devotion to duty that Miss House had always displayed and the very great ability shown by Miss House as head of the French department. He said that without a doubt it was by Miss House's quiet persistency and gentle persuasion that hundreds of pupils had been coaxed into success in the General School Examination.

Mr. Everard then asked Miss House to accept a cheque from the school which she had served so faithfully as a very small token of our regard and esteem.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

The presentation of the "Last War" last Christmas by the Dramatic Society was its biggest piece of work this year though its members participated in various ways to make our entries for the Enfield Festival a success.

The critical times through which we are passing emboldened the producer to choose a play which had some contribution to make to the solution of the most pressing problem of our times.

The author imagines the world after the last war, when mankind has been wiped out as a result of germ warfare. Only the animals remain and all are jubilant at the removal of this pest—man, who has made the world such an uncomfortable and dangerous

place to live in; all except the dog who cannot believe the awful truth. They are rejoicing in their freedom when their peace of mind is disturbed by the report that a man has been seen sleeping by a stream. The lion goes off to remove the nuisance but returns strangely upset, the microbe follows but with a little success; but the visitor now appears and turns out to be an angel who has been sent to report. While he is discussing the situation with the animals, Bill, the dog, hears a whistle and in comes a war-weary soldier, the last remaining mortal on earth who has somehow escaped. The animals are extremely hostile and only the intervention of the angel saves him from a violent death. But alone in the world with all his friends and relations dead he willingly follows the angel to his last home—the Kingdom of Heaven.

The acting in this play called for special qualities of adaptation and the cast is to be commended on their work. F. Tyler and Margaret Rollo made a convincing Lion and Lioness, Barbara Ching a most reliable horse, Alison Margetts a subtle and venomous serpent, Joy Rogers a most amusing monkey, Eileen Chivers, a sympathetic dog, while the microbe of Rita Lale was a beautiful skit on the Oxford accent. The angel of Sheila Chard was a beautiful piece of work, while C. Miseldine's soldier was excellently restrained and natural. Our thanks are again due to Mr. Paull for the lighting effect and Mr. Pratt for the scenery, which included a tree which the monkey actually climbed.

Since last Christmas the play has been given twice to the L.N.U. at Finchley, and also at the distribution of Prizes for the Peace Essay competition arranged by the Women's Arbitration Committee.

A VISIT TO GERMANY. AUGUST, 1938.

August 4th was, for my friends and me, *the* day. At 10.30 a.m. we left Victoria for a month in Germany. We were to stay with our German friends who had spent July with us. We were all very relieved when the train steamed from the station—the usual worries of packing accompanied by the fears of leaving something behind being over. The crossing from Dover was bad; the sea was rough and our equilibrium and state of well-being were much impaired, but without dire results. We were an hour late when the ship, the "Prince Leopold," arrived at Ostend, where we were met by an onslaught of porters, who, in their eagerness to secure passengers' luggage, had no thoughts for any obstacles in the way. The Customs presented no difficulties, and we were soon on the train for Cologne, and from thence to Hamburg, which we reached at 6.30 a.m. the next morning.

I think my first impression of the town was the number of flats which are seen from the train before it comes into the station. They are unlike the flats we are used to seeing here, in the fact that

every window has its own flower box, usually filled with red geraniums. The people of Hamburg appear to have a marked preference for geraniums, for there are boxes of them along the sides of the river Alster, which flows through the town, and they greatly add to the impression of cleanliness and beauty which is predominant in Hamburg.

The town is built round a central lake, which is very beautiful in the early morning with the sun shining on the water, and on the buildings on the far side. White ferry boats are used to go across the lake. The Town Hall is in "Adolf Hitler Platz", and is a fine building. A party of us were shown over it and we were much impressed by its general grandeur. But I think the building I remember the most vividly is the St. Michaeliskirche. There is a little platform at the top of the church's tower from which the whole of Hamburg can be seen. The tower is extremely high, and foolishly thinking to economise, we walked up the spiral staircase leading to it, instead of taking the lift. I shall never forget it.

By the side of the Alster is a great thoroughfare, the "Jungfernstieg", which is said to be the most beautiful street in the world. It is certainly very picturesque, with gardens leading down to the river on one side, wide pavements and roadway, and smart shops.

While I was staying in Hamburg I went to Cuxhaven to meet my friend, and was very much surprised when, upon the arrival of the "New York", of the Hamburg-Amerika line, the crowd waiting for the boat sang "Deutschland, Deutschland, uber alles" and gave the Nazi salute.

Berlin seemed more like London. It is busier and bigger than Hamburg, and the dull buildings and busy streets are more like those of London than of Hamburg. Hitler's "House" was disappointing. I had expected much more—scores of policemen and soldiers complete with drawn revolvers, etc., surrounding the house. Unter den Linden was not impressive, either. The old Linden trees are no more, and only young trees serve to remind one of its former glory. When I saw the street it was decorated with tall pillars surmounted by gilt swastikas in honour of the coming visit of the Hungarian President, Admiral Horthy. The tomb of the Unknown Warrior was guarded by soldiers. It did not seem so sacred as our own memorial. The Radio Exhibition was very fine and was on a very large scale. Films and television were shown and the progress of radio during the past few years.

Travemunde, near Lubeck, is a popular sea-side resort. Everyone was very sun-tanned; I think they knew we were foreigners because we were all so white! I was asked several times if we had any sun in London. The things that intrigued us most about Travemunde were the large waves and the not-so-salt as the English sea.

We experienced a "flood" while we were in Hamburg. Hail, "as big as marbles" as one of our party aptly described it, made a

rushing stream of the road, and a mosaic floor of the garden. The cellar of my friend's house was flooded, and everyone had to help to bail the water out, some frogs being found in the process.

We went *once* to the school. As it was the beginning of the term, the pupils all assembled outside the school where they listened to a speech by their headmaster, and then sung their national anthem, afterwards giving the Nazi salute. The school was much bigger than Southgate County School, yet they had only 600 people.

We saw several films while in Hamburg; the film of the Olympic games of 1936, a German film, an American film, and an American film with German dialogue. It was interesting to think what the characters were really saying, but the "dubbing" of the German was very well done.

I had the good fortune to visit Helgoland, a little island in the North Sea, seven hours' journey by boat from Hamburg. It is very small; in three-quarters of an hour the whole island can be seen. The island is hollow, ammunition being stored in it. There is a single line railway for trucks, which goes down into the island. It is well known that Helgoland is a munitions base. Photography, in some parts of the island is forbidden, and sailors stand guard over covered cannons. The cliffs are made of red sandstone and are gradually being worn away, although they have been re-inforced by cement bars. People who spend their holidays on the island bathe from a stretch of sand which they reach by boat, as there are no beaches. There is no milk or water; it has to be brought each day by boat from Hamburg. I counted about five chickens and about two goats. The island is without a road, therefore there are no means of transport, and the few houses are made of wood.

We were very fortunate to be in Hamburg when Hitler came on a visit with Admiral Horthy. The town was decorated entirely with red, oblong flags, with black swastikas on white circles, and the red, white, and green flags of Hungary. We had a good view of the way along which Hitler was coming, and also of the Town Hall where he was to lunch and then appear to the people, from a window facing the river. The square in front of the Town Hall was literally packed with people, and I have never seen so many soldiers as those who were lining the route. I should not have thought they were necessary. Everyone frenziedly gave the Nazi salute when Hitler arrived with Horthy in a very luxurious car. A Swedish girl who was with us nearly knocked my camera out of my hands with her frantic hand-waving. My friends and I were too busy trying to take snaps to shriek "Heil" with the rest. Hitler's car was followed by a train of smaller cars, contrasting strangely with the more historical pageantry which we, in England, are used to. When Hitler appeared on the balcony the enthusiasm reached its pitch, and the people sang folk-songs while waiting for him to return through the streets. Before he did so, there was an exciting incident when a man tried to escape, apparently with a

camera, by jumping into a canoe which lay at the bottom of some steps leading to the river. He was pursued by quite thirty soldiers and it was very enthralling, but the soldiers took him away and we heard nothing more about it. We had noticed earlier several policemen on the roofs, so evidently many precautions had been taken.

Hagenbeck's Zoo, which we saw later in the day, was very like our own Whipsnade but on a smaller scale. All the animals were, as far as possible, in their natural surroundings. We saw a lioness with three cubs, which were very amusing.

Returning to England, we stopped for an hour at Cologne and a party of us went to see the Cathedral, but as it was very dark, and the Cathedral was not flood-lit, we could not see much. However, we saw the historic bridge over the Rhine, and bought some picture postcards of the Cathedral.

At Ostend we had some marvellous coffee; and were much amused at the way the Belgians recognise English people on sight, before they have begun to speak. We had a good crossing to Dover, which, with its white cliffs and sunlit sea, must have seemed very inviting and promising to the foreigner. As we were with a party, the Customs afforded no trouble, although some of us experienced that "sinking feeling." All too soon we were at Victoria to be welcomed by fond relations and friends. Our holiday was over.

RUTH SMITH, 6 Com.



THE MIKADO.

The Operatic Society again scored a great success with its production of "The Mikado," in March last. We are greatly indebted to Dr. H. Bromley Derry, D.Mus., Dublin, Master of the Music at His Majesty's Chapel of the Savoy, for the following impressions.

In the ancient and historical Chapel of the Savoy, which belongs to His Majesty the King, there is a fine stained-glass window to the memory of Richard D'Oyly Carte; a few yards away, in the Embankment Gardens, stands the bronze memorial to Arthur Sullivan; a little further off, by the riverside, is the plaque commemorating W. S. Gilbert. To these three men the world owes the immortal series of "Savoy" Operas—as truly English in their every aspect as "the flowers that bloom in the Spring."

No matter where their action may be laid—in Venice or Penzance; on the heaving deck of a Man-o'-war or in the gloomy recesses of a pirates' cave; no matter what curious foreign garb their characters may assume, their dialogue—sparkling with native wit and subtle satire—is English to the core; and their music, like the Mikado's punishment, fits like a glove. There is

"atmosphere" too—one scents the chrysanthemums of Titipu, sniffs the garlic of Venice, or even the reek of the smuggler's contrabrand cheroot—and "all is right as right can be."

No wonder that amateur operatic societies all over the world delight in producing these masterpieces, and that audiences are ever so ready to welcome them over and over again. They are the finest antidote for "Hollywooditis" extant, and, thanks to the inflexibility of the producer's script, no garbled mutilations and "improvements" are possible, and thus we get "G and S" as an unadulterated, inexhaustible, and irrepressible tonic.

So, "G and S" has become a staple fare for scores of amateur societies, but, when it comes to a school production—well, even the authors could scarcely have envisaged such far-reaching popularity. The possibility of a Nanki-Poo of some twelve summers wooing and winning a Yum-Yum of equally tender years probably never occurred either to Gilbert or Sullivan; whilst a fifteen-year-old Lord High Executioner—despite his "big right arm"—might be expected to find some difficulty in wielding his formidable "snickersnee."

"EASE AND APLOMB."

Nevertheless, S.C.S.A.O.S. surmounted such trifling incidents with ease and aplomb. Of course, like C. Julius Caesar, one feels bound to mention (for the sake of historical accuracy) that a few of the parts—"pauci partium"—were allotted to "the staff," but what would you? I take it that this was purely in the nature of a concession! Even so, one cannot but marvel that the entire production of "The Mikado"—excepting dresses and wigs, and Koko told us we must "draw the line" somewhere—could be put on without outside aid. But S.C.S.A.O.S. has won a reputation which must, truly, be the envy of all other schools.

And now to the show; and let me say at once that the "casting" was altogether unimpeachable; how it was accomplished within the prescribed limits of "Present, Past, or Staff" amazed me.

The chorus work was excellent. The opening of Act I owed something to the "Staff" for its weight, for there is a limit to the compass of treble voices—even in Japan, but the same limitation did not, of course, obtain in the opening of the second act where the chorus of school girls gave us plenty of tone and a nice balance of parts. (By the way, what very rosy cheeks those little Jappy girls had!).

Of the principals, the Mikado (Mr. Armstrong) was one of the best I've seen in the part—he was humanly terrifying and sublimely convincing. Poo-Bah (Mr. Smith) did stupendous credit to the Poo-Bah ancestry—and incidentally, his excellent facial make-up was a particularly good corroborative detail. Pish-

Tush (Mr. Fawcett) made up with his inches, and his voice what the part lacks in dialogue. He was a veritable tower of strength in the madrigal. Katisha (Mrs. Long) was one of the great successes of the evening, for it is a part demanding great histrionic and vocal powers as well as some self-abnegation. The foregoing were "Staff" parts.

THE PUPILS.

And what of the pupils? Did they rise to the splendid leads of their elders? They certainly did, with a success almost uncanny. Young Nanki-Poo (R. A. Norton) was nothing if not at home in his part. He was able, with the insouciance of youth, to contemplate an early marriage or an ignominious death with equal complacency. He managed his vocal numbers with unaffected sangfroid, and even contrived to sustain a sort of treble "descant" in the madrigal, which was at all events refreshing in its unusual effect.

Of his "opposite number," Yum-Yum (Marguerite Griggs) both her singing and acting were mature and natural, and she soon conquered a tendency to overdo the "drooping eyelid" and boldly assured us "she was not shy" in her charming singing in Act II.

Her two sisters, Pitti-Sing (Ruth Williams) and Peep-Bo (Joyce Harvey) admirably supported her throughout—vocally, histrionically, and even physically at times. The surprise of the evening (for me, at any rate) was that old rascal, Ko-Ko (D. N. Shea); I could scarcely be persuaded that this part was sustained by a pupil, and I heartily congratulate Ko-Ko on being so ably portrayed by a boy of fifteen—it was a remarkable achievement indeed.

A word of approbation must certainly go to Go-To (R. J. Deacon) who spoke at least one pertinent line and appeared to be "thoroughly enjoying himself."

The orchestra, largely "Pasts," "Presents," "Staff," or "Collier," was, as usual, equal to all demands. Nothing was missed except, perhaps the second trombone and he was on the stage. Bach's organ fugue, "The Girl I left behind me," the Mikado's State tom-toms, and the ordinary music in the score—all was well done. Without doubt the school orchestra is a great asset. And so were those handy fellows, the scenery and lighting experts (Messrs. Toplis, Paull, Pratt and Co.) not forgetting the army, the labour corps, the State Umbrella-Bearer, and that diminutive but potent officer—the Sword Bearer. I've got HIM on the list.

TWO MORE WORDS.

And now, Mr. Editor, I've just two more words to say, that must be said. (1) Much of the foregoing might have been very different but for the work, skill, patience, and enthusiasm of the producer (Mr. Knowles) who deserves hearty congratulations and

thanks from both sides of the proscenium. (2) None of the foregoing could have been reported without "Inspiration"—with all that the word implies. As I am neither a pupil (present or past) nor a "staff" nor even a distant relative of either, I may perhaps say what I think. It is just this: S.C.S.A.O.S. is extremely fortunate in its musical director, with all that that implies.

P.S.—Let no churlish critic ask "What could the pupils have done without the "Staff?"—or even "What could the Staff do without the pupils?" The answer to both queries is "Inspiration and Co-operation," and both flourish at Southgate County School.

THE ZOO.

I'm going to the Zoo to-day,
And there I'll see the monkeys play.
The parrots say "How do you do?"
And I say "Just the same to you."

The elephant is giving rides
While the frightened rabbit hides.
The alligator winks his eye
And makes the little children cry.
The lion's roaring in his cage,
He looks so very full of rage,
He'll jump at you (that may be wrong),
But still the bars are very strong.

The kangaroo, he jumps so high,
It seems that he can nearly fly;
I'm going to the Zoo to-day
So I shout "Hip-hip-hip-hooray."

Mary Groom, IIc.

ENFIELD FESTIVAL, 1938.

The outstanding entry for the Enfield Festival this year was in Dramatic Group Work. Two scenes from "Jerusalem," a Bible drama compiled by Mona Swann, were set; but by an accident we prepared much more; the two groups competing, viz., ourselves and Enfield County were not marked but I think it is true to say we each enjoyed doing the work none the less, and were just as appreciative of one another's efforts. The adjudicator's comments (Miss Swann herself) showed us admirably just where we succeeded and also where we had still much to learn. The effort was tremendously worth while as a piece of team work for it was supported by pupils from the second forms to the sixth, and involved much choral and individual speaking, movement and miming.

Our appetite has been whetted for more of this sort of thing, for in spite of the difficulty of getting practices, the enthusiasm and intelligence of those taking part produced something really beautiful.

For Choral Verse Speaking we entered a Junior Choir composed of Second and Third Forms, boys and girls, whose renderings of Eleanor Farjeon's "The Swallows are Homing" and of the passage describing the launching of the Argo from Kingsley's "Heroes" won the first place and the silver cup. This was a very creditable performance as there were many choirs competing from Enfield County School and others.

The Senior Choir was not so lucky, but their rendering of Clare's "Song's Eternity" was a beautifully delicate piece of work, while Psalm 150 gave very interesting differentiation for the various instruments leading to a fine crescendo at the end. They fully deserved the certificate they won.

In the Shakespeare Scene Class other group efforts were a scene from "Romeo and Juliet" done by a mixed Sixth Form group, whose work suffered so much from insufficient rehearsal that it did not reach Certificate standard. Sheila Chard's Juliet was good but it could not redeem its unevenness and insufficient characterisation.

The Fourth Form Group's scene from "King Lear" was more successful, though the sisters Goneril and Regan lacked sufficient characterisation. Barbara Ching's Lear deserved special praise, the power and depth of character attained being all the more commendable in so young an actor. This group won a certificate.

The Third Form Group presented the time-honoured scene from "The Midsummer Night's Dream" of the workmen's rehearsal in the wood. There was here no outstanding character of individual work though the team work was good, and the actors with least to say pulled their weight well.

One enterprising group of Fifths and Sixths prepared a Mime representing the flight of Margaret of Anjou and her son to France after the battle of Towton. They made a commendable effort coming first out of three entries but did not reach certificate standard. They have yet to learn to use their imagination to the full in miming.

Barbara Ching and Margaret Rollo were the only two entrants in English Solo Verse Speaking. Both reached a high standard in their renderings of "Chesilbury" by Hardy, the former obtaining a certificate.

Barbara Millbourn entered for French Solo Verse Speaking and did very well, gaining a certificate for her recitation of "Berceuse d'Amorigue" by Anatole Braz.

Altogether the effort made this year was a very good one, and greater enterprise was shown in the choice of entries. Next year we must show our progress in mime as well as in Drama and

Verse Speaking, and everyone interested in this most delightful work is invited to get in touch with me when the Enfield Festival for 1939 is announced.

P. POLE.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The annual Athletic Sports were held under ideal weather conditions on the evening of Thursday, 14th July, in the presence of a good crowd of appreciative visitors.

The entries, about 350 in all, were as numerous as usual and the general athletic ability shown in the various events was up to a fairly high standard. The more successful of the competitors had gone through a good course of hard training which reflected itself in the keen competitive spirit in which the events were contested and in the records broken on finals day. *En passant* a glance at the School records shows that the record for the Long Jump—19ft. 2in.—made in 1921 by P. Bigg, one of the donors of the Bigg Challenge Cup for that event, still stands and has rarely been approached in recent years. The field events attract a good number of competitors every year and the standard reached since their inclusion in the programme has been good. It is, however, difficult to explain why the "Hurdles" always gets meagre support as hurdling proves one of the most fascinating and spectacular events in a sports programme.

Members of the Old Pupil's Association were well represented in the races for the Broomfield Challenge Cup and the Old Girls' Cup.

The 440 yards Invitation Race remains as popular as ever and in this year's race there were eleven competitors, representing six schools. These were decidedly good athletes and provided an exciting race for the Challenge Cup, which was won by Tottenham Grammar School.

The two trophies at the annual Inter-School meeting at the White City are still eluding us. The Senior Challenge Cup was won by us in 1922 and the Junior Challenge Shield in 1923. We have kept up a good average every year since that date and, at the present, hold the record for the Junior Quarter Mile and the Half-Mile won by R. J. Ward.

At the conclusion of the School Sports the Prizes were graciously presented to the successful competitors by Mrs. Massa, the Mayoress of Southgate, to whom the members of the School expressed their hearty appreciation and thanks.

RESULTS. BOYS.

The "Victor Ludorum" Cup was won by R. J. Ward with 12 pts. and the runners-up were L. Tenneson and K. Cox with 10 pts. each. The "Junior" Championship Cup was won by D. Brooker. The aggregate points for the House Championship were as follows:—

1, Black, 58½; 2, Blue, 45½; 3, Red, 35½; 4, White, 14½.

The teams representing the school at the White City Stadium in July in the Inter-School Athletic Meeting were as follows:—

(a). Senior.—L. Tenneson (220 yds., Relay, *Discus); R. J. Ward (*440 yds., Relay); D. Ball (*880 yds.); J. Aylard (*One Mile); R. Hayward (Javelin); K. Cox (Shot, Relay); R. Bengier (Hurdles); J. Andrews (Relay).

(b). Junior.—H. Collins (220 yds., *Relay); D. Brooker (*440 yds., Long Jump, *Relay); G. Plowman (880 yds., *Relay); D. Walton (*Relay); D. Taylor (*High Jump).

*Standard Certificates gained.

GIRLS.

Championship cups were awarded to the following:—

Senior, J. Ayling; 4th Forms, M. Rendell; 3rd Forms, A. Wood; 2nd Forms, J. Brown, E. Wilding.

The aggregate points for the House Championship were as follows:—

1, Red, 133½; 2, Green, 113½; 3, Blue, 107; 4, White, 98.

We regret that the complete list of results has been crowded out by pressure on the space available.

THE RETIREMENT OF MISS MARTIN.

We give below a summary of the Headmaster's remarks at the dismissal service on the last day of the Summer Term, 1938:—

This term, we, as a school and staff, are losing the services through retirement of another very essential member of the staff—Miss Martin. We are used to hearing the platitude that no one is indispensable, but this I know, that no one will be able to fill the important position that Miss Martin has for very many years occupied on this staff. She has laid the foundations of hundreds of successful academic careers and what is more important sound characters in the School. This success has been due to the fact that Miss Martin has been a great believer in the old saying, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might." There are three things a newcomer to this school requires; the first is discipline, the second is discipline and the third is discipline. Train up a second former in the way he should go and when he is a fifth former he will not depart therefrom. There must be many old scholars who have profited at Miss Martin's hands who at the time were not particularly grateful but now realize the benefits arising from her early training.

The Headmaster continued as follows:—Miss Martin on behalf of all scholars, past and present, who have benefited from your devoted and faithful services during the past twenty-two years, also on behalf of your colleagues of the staff, who have had the pleasure of your comradeship, your wit, and wisdom, I would tender their grateful thanks and the sincere wish that your days in the land of retirement may be long and radiant with the memory of the many strenuous years spent in the service of education at

Southgate, and that memory rather than anything I might say will be your exceeding great reward. An envelope containing a cheque was then handed to Miss Martin.

THE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA.

Once again we report a successful year which included performances at the Parents and Staff Association meeting in December, and at the School Prizegivings. The orchestra also provided entracte music at the performances of "The Middle Watch" given by the Old Scholars' Dramatic Society. In addition to this a number of our more experienced players helped in the orchestra during the production of "The Mikado."

One very thrilling afternoon in May was spent at Queen's Hall listening to the London Junior Orchestra, conducted by Ernest Read. This orchestra, one hundred and forty-five strong, is drawn from past pupils of Public and Secondary Schools and it gave, together with other good things, a fine performance of the César Franck Symphony in D minor. The playing of the great body of over a hundred strings was really inspiring. It only needs to be added that Albert Sammons played the solo part in Beethoven's Violin Concerto to realise what an impression this afternoon made on our own little orchestra, most of whom had never been to a real orchestral concert before.

The following have played in the orchestra during the past year:—

Violins: A. Ryder, Joyce Harvey, J. Simons, Esmé Nicholls, H. Bermon, K. Evan, Jessie True, Joan Colburn, Eileen Caparn, R. Norton, P. Dyer, R. Roberts, G. Ivatt, Yvonne Bouty, M. Cary, Audrey Jones. *Viola:* Mrs. Armstrong. *Cello:* Mr. Auger, Mrs. Everard. *Clarinet:* R. Widdicombe, D. Enright, K. Creamer, T. Norris. *Trumpet:* R. Benger, J. Clayton. *Drums:* A. Whitaker. *Piano:* P. Ney, B. Cornell.

Of these we have lost Joyce Harvey, J. Simons, H. Bermon, Eileen Caparn, R. Widdicombe, D. Enright, K. Creamer, R. Benger, A. Whitaker, and P. Ney since the beginning of the summer term. This is an exceptional number for one year and, at the moment of writing, the loss is being felt keenly. We have, however, obtained a few recruits this term but need still more if our past standard is to be maintained. In addition to the names of the playing members given above a number have taken advantages of the school offer to lend instruments to those willing to learn. This is good, but there are still more instruments which can be borrowed. It is understandable that a parent may be unwilling to purchase an instrument to encourage a passing whim or when there is a chance that the child may show no aptitude. But, when the instrument may be borrowed, this objection is no longer reasonable and we hope that after reading these notes many parents will encourage

their children to learn to play an orchestral instrument when such a good opportunity presents itself.

À PARIS.

A small party of girls and three boys, accompanied by two mistresses, gathered on Victoria Station on a certain memorable April 5th, 1938, to catch the boat train to take them to Newhaven, whence they were to cross to Dieppe and travel to Paris, their destination. As may be guessed this group consisted of some members of Southgate County School.

None of us had the ill-luck to suffer from "mal de mer" on board the "Rouen" that night. We arrived in Paris next morning, and at once "wasted" the next few hours sleeping in our new abode. However, we started our sight-seeing with a coach tour round Paris that same afternoon, seeing all the important buildings such as le Sacre-Coeur, l'Arc de Triomphe, and les Invalides, which is the last home of France's greatest soldier, Napoleon. Many of these buildings we visited again more thoroughly before we left the "Gay City." One of the oddest sights to us was the way in which the traffic raced along on the "wrong" side of the road.

The next day we inflicted the Louvre with our presence, and saw examples of many schools of paintings, although there was not time to see them all. The ascent of the Eiffel Tower after lunch was one of the most pleasant and thrilling of our experiences during our stay. The remains of the Paris Exhibition of 1937 were to be seen near this Tower, although the pavilions were being removed. In the evening we had our knowledge of the language tested at the cinema where we saw "La Marseillaise." This was spoken with a Provençal accent and was rather difficult to follow as it differed somewhat from school-learnt French, which, we have every hope, is Parisian.

On the following day we visited the Conciergerie, full of relics of the French Revolution, which reminded us of our history lessons. Our French was again tested and we succeeded in understanding our guide quite well as he spoke more slowly for our benefit. We also saw the "Palais de Justice" and the beautiful church, La Saint Chapelle, built by Louis IX, called St. Louis, where there are the most beautiful stained glass windows and most interesting carvings of Bible stories round the outside of the walls. These windows were removed during the Great War, sent to the South of France for safety, and later returned to the church. In the afternoon we went to St. Cloud and, while there, paid a visit to the Sèvres Pottery works. Here the guide spoke in very technical French when describing the making of the pottery and was very difficult to understand.

We visited the market on Saturday about 7 a.m. and were at once recognised as English visitors, chiefly, I think, by the school caps worn by two of the boys; and also by our tidy appearance (we hope) compared with that of the stall-holders at "Les riales." Following our customary breakfast of coffee and rolls, we set off in a coach, on a day trip to Versailles, stopping on the way at Malmaison, the home of Josephine, the first wife of the great Napoleon. This was an extremely pleasant trip, and the famous "Hall of Mirrors" in the Palace of Versailles again reminded us of our history lessons. There is no furniture in this famous palace, once the palace of Louis XIV, but there are paintings on all the ceilings representing mythological characters. We had lunch at a restaurant nearby and afterwards went to the hamlet in which Marie Antoinette lived as a dairymaid, enjoying herself in this rustic spot much more than in the perfectly cultivated gardens of Versailles, laid-out with such precision.

The next day we visited several places in Paris, such as the Panthéon, where many famous Frenchmen are buried, the theatre, seeing "Chatterton," by Alfred de Vigny; and we also climbed one of the towers of the most notable church in Paris—Notre Dame.

The most enjoyable and pleasant day of the whole sojourn was, in my opinion, that on which we went to "Le Chateau de Fontainebleau." It was a very warm day and the beautiful woods were shown off to their best advantage. The castle is very interesting, each room in it being different from the others and each fully furnished. It is a very old castle, nearly all the kings of France having lived there at some time and each having left his own mark, in the style of the various rooms. The evening was spent in visiting the largest opera house, where we saw "Samson and Dalila," following by ballet, "Alexandra the Great." Although the Opera House is so large, it does not hold nearly so many people as one would imagine from its size. Hanging from the centre of the ceiling is a large and beautiful chandelier, the greatest electrically illuminated one in the world, which immediately catches the eye of any interested spectators, such as we were.

The last day of this thrilling holiday was spent in various ways, the chief being shopping in the two large stores, "Aux Galeries Lafayette," and "Au Printemps." In the afternoon we revisited the Louvre, saw the "trésor" in Notre-Dame and in the evening set out for our journey back to the homeland, travelling all night and arriving at Victoria about 9 a.m. on Wednesday.

A holiday in "Gay Paris" was a most interesting and thrilling experience and our best thanks are due to Mrs. Pole and Miss Crabb for organising this exciting and enjoyable trip.

MARGARET CUE, 6a Arts.

CROSS COUNTRY.

During the last season the school undertook the most ambitious Cross-Country programme yet attempted, with considerable success.

In addition to winning matches against the Southgate Harriers Juniors by 21 points to 34, and against Minchenden by a narrow margin of 103 points to 107, we took part in three Inter-Schools races. In the first of these, the race promoted by Highgate Harriers in January, we were third out of nine teams, being beaten by Ilford and Wanstead.

The Southgate Harriers' Schools Race in March saw us improve our position against stronger opposition to gain second place out of ten schools. In this race we were again beaten by Wanstead but beat Ilford to third place. The season closed satisfactorily with a victory in the "Pulham Cup Race" promoted by the Shaftesbury Harriers early in April.

The team spent an enjoyable evening celebrating the victory, the only fly in the ointment being the smallness of the cup which had to be refilled two or three times with—was it cocoa, Aylard?

We hope that we shall be able to add to our laurels this year and no doubt if the seniors, who have already started training, continue to run regularly, we shall give a good account of ourselves.

The Inter-House Races were held in February and again the turn-out of the seniors was disappointing, one house—the Black—failing to field one representative.

However, there was very keen competition between Blues and Reds in the Senior Race, and in the Junior Race the Blacks retrieved their reputation by winning easily.

Colours were awarded to: J. F. Aylard, D. R. Ball, W. N. Brown, R. J. Johnson, R. J. Smith, L. H. Tenneson, R. J. Ward.

HOUSE RESULTS.

Senior: 1, Blue, 22pts.; 2, Red, 25 pts.; 3, White, 54 pts.

Individual: 1, R. Ward; 2, J. Aylard; 3, R. Smith.

Junior: 1, Black, 21pts.; 2, Red, 56 pts.; 3, White, 75 pts.

Individual: 1, D. Brooker; 2, G. Plowman; 3, P. Wieland.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE DISCUSSION OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

President: Mr. T. B. Everard, M.A.

We have lost two of our ablest and most valued supporters this year: our secretary, J. Aylard, and our treasurer, P. H. Mundy, both of whom contributed much to the success of the society since

its formation in June, 1937. Happily, our enthusiastic chairman, Mrs. Pole, is still with us, and Mr. Windross is still the deputy chairman.

The same subscription—2d. per term—covers admission to the S.D.I.A., and admission to the School branch of the League of Nations Union. The latter is optional; members of the society need not belong to the L.N.U. The society has a non-party basis and all members of the upper school are invited to express their opinions at the meetings, which are held once a fortnight.

THE YEAR'S WORK.

The past year has been specially characterised by the large number of talks that have been given to us, including ones on China, Germany, the Empire, Palestine, Russian Education, India, and—since this September—Czechoslovakia, Russia, and the International Labour Organisation. We obtained competent speakers, such as Miss Freda White of the L.N.U., and Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, the editor of "Pelican" books. Some speakers were foreign, as, for example, those on Germany.

A feature of many of these talks was the attendance, at our invitation, of several members of Trinity County School, who displayed great interest. It is also pleasing to note the interest taken by many of the staff.

In September, 1937, we raised a fund for the China Campaign Committee's relief work in China. In February we had a party in aid of a Basque Children's home at Barnet. Some of the Basque children themselves were present. By the time these words are in print we shall have had a film show, and next term we hope to repeat the venture of the party.

Some books from the L.N.U. Library are on loan in Room Three. Members may borrow these at no extra cost, and are earnestly encouraged to do so. Miss Pringle is the librarian.

In conclusion, our new treasurer, E. N. Watson, will be pleased to receive subscriptions from new members. We hope the Upper School will start the New Year well by rolling up in their hundreds to next term's meetings.

DEBATING SOCIETY.

It would be impossible in a brief account suitable for this publication to give all the details of all the meetings of the above Society so the reader must be content with some comments on a few of the more popular debates.

The largest attendance came to decide who, of several famous persons, should be thrown out of a balloon falling to destruction in order that the balloon would rise and take the others to safety.

The meeting moved that Epstein was least worthy of salvation so he was ejected leaving behind Lord Nuffield, Dorothy Round, Hitler, Greta Garbo and Henry Hall. One of the best appeals for life was put up by Hitler in the person of Sheila Chard.

Another popular meeting decided by an overwhelming majority that "Modern Manners are not Deplorable", despite several shrewd digs at the younger generation by L. H. Tenneson.

A discussion between a Motorist, a Cyclist and a Pedestrian on the causes and prevention of accidents aroused much lively exchange of ideas. The suggestion that the only cure was the reduction of the speed limit to the speed of the jay-walker was greeted with loud applause and a mixture of cheers, jeers and laughter.

This year's meetings are showing improving attendances and there are already a few members who are only too delighted to stand up and have their say. Several more of this type will be very welcome as well as those who come merely to listen. It has been noticed that nearly all the latter eventually summon up enough courage to join the former with the result that their enjoyment increases and the standard of debating improves.

INTER-HOUSE MUSICAL COMPETITION.

WEDNESDAY, 27th July, 1938, at 2.15 p.m.

Adjudicator Dr. H. Bromley Derry.

ADJUDICATOR'S NOTES.

The test piece for all House Choirs (Beethoven's "Creation's Hymn") although presenting some difficulty in respect of its low pitch, still offered ample opportunities for tasteful variation in expression, and at the same time demanded sharp contrasts in tone. The words gave scope for clear enunciation and careful breath control.

All the Choirs gave very fair renderings, and appeared to realise the possibilities. There was occasional slackness in attack—generally due to the inability of all the singers to see the conductor's beat (see "Hints" below). The pitch was well-sustained in every case, and the tone generally was very good. The correct points for the taking of breath were not always realised, and there was some tendency to take too small a breath which resulted in some of the longer phrases ending with a failing in tone. Rhythm was well marked in most cases. Blend was good considering the mixed composition of the Choirs—any tendency to "stridency" in a particular voice should be nipped in the bud, for blend is of more value than mere volume.

The following "Hints" may be useful for future efforts:—

To the Choirs:—Look happy and interested. For tone, sing the vowels roundly and openly. For distinctness, sound the consonants, especially the final ones. Sing out—and not down. Take a full breath for every phrase. Learn words and music by heart—you can then watch the conductor for attack and finish, light and shade.

To the Conductors:—Give a firm, steady and clear beat—and make sure that every singer can see it. (If you suffer from shortness of stature, borrow a box or some other "elevator"). Don't beat in wide sweeps, nor in jerks; and remember, the "beat" is where it ends and not where it begins. The first beat of the bar (the "down" beat) should end at a point on a level with your own shoulder. A small beat is best for quick passages; a larger beat for slow passages. The end of a "pause" note should be indicated by a swift cut downwards—this avoids a ragged finish. Watch your singers, and look to each set of voices just before they sing a "lead."

RED HOUSE.

- Unison Song.—Creation's Hymn (Beethoven); The House Choir:
Dramatic Item.—Scene from "Journey's End" before the raid;
P. Morgan, A. Tyler, C. Brown.
Vocal Item.—"Annie Laurie"; Irene Lowther.
Instrumental.—Violin Solo, Mendelssohn's "Spring Song"; Jessie True.
Surprise Item.—The House.

ADJUDICATOR'S NOTES.

Choir.—A firm and virile rendering, tone sweet and unforced, good attack and pitch well sustained, diction good. The conductor's beat was too low for all the singers to follow, which resulted in some guesswork (see "Hints").

Dramatic Item.—Showed some good characterisation and stage-sense. Diction good. Action moved well and smoothly, without hesitancy. The actual stage "business" seemed to require little beyond the dramatic (and effective) extinguishing of the candle, as a "curtain"—but taken altogether, a convincing portrayal of War-time psychology.

Vocal Item.—Showed considerable feeling for the somewhat "lovelorn" sentiment of the song. The high notes proved rather taxing for the singer's vocal range, but the effort was certainly commendable in so youthful a vocalist.

Violin Solo.—Nice style, a good bow-arm, and perfectly in tune throughout. A little more freedom would have improved a rather strict but correct rendering.

Surprise Item.—The twenty performers who contributed this clever skit on a village concert had obviously worked both hard and well—result, a very versatile production; stage-business, effects, dress, were all “in the picture”—the “compère” was an amusing and valuable asset. The “cultural” value of this item was bound to give way to its farcical idiom, so “laugh and be merry” was the motif, and it was put over with zest.

Total Marks, 80 (bracketed 2nd).

GREEN HOUSE.

Unison Song.—Creation’s Hymn; The House Choir.

Instrumental.—Minuet and Trio from Symphony in E Flat (Mozart); The House.

Vocal Item.—“Harlequin”; Ruth Williams.

Dramatic Item.—“It’s the Poor Wot ’elps the Poor”; The House.

Surprise Item.—The House.

ADJUDICATOR’S NOTES.

Choir.—A vigorous rendering. Not always unanimous as to breath marks. Blend suffered from one or two strident voices—probably due to the approach of “breaking” age. The conductor undoubtedly had a “flair” for his job, and got the best from his team.

Instrumental Item (Strings and Trumpet).—The strings played with great taste and unanimity and the trumpet was suitably restrained—a nice balance and a really artistic performance of considerable musical interest.

Vocal Item.—Rather an ambitious item, but well sung with a good platform style and a voice of mature quality. A more assertive accompaniment would have helped the singer and the song.

Dramatic Item.—One could have wished for something more healthily vigorous from these gifted youngsters than this rather morbid excerpt; but the acting was suitably sentimental and sympathetic, and obviously sincere.

Surprise Item.—An original sketch of “Six Little Fellers Filling up a Gap in the Programme,” which went with such zip and pep that the plot (if there was one) was lost in the speed of the action. A real “Cochran diversion of whirlwind rapidity,” which delighted everybody.

Total Marks, 81 (Winning House).

WHITE HOUSE.

Unison Song.—Creation’s Hymn; The House Choir.

Vocal Item.—“Summer Time on Bredon” (Graham Peel); D. N. Shea.

Instrumental.—Minuet, Trio and Finale from Haydn's Toy Symphony; The House.

Dramatic Item.—Scene from "Alice in Wonderland"; Margaret Rollo, Eileen Chivers, Alison Margetts.

Surprise Item.—The House.

ADJUDICATOR'S NOTES.

Choir.—Quite a nice rendering—no entries missed, tone good, time just right, and some nice expression effects. Conductor should look out for points in "rendering" and not be content with mere "time-beating."

Vocal Item.—Sung with mature and seasoned confidence, and displaying a voice of real masculine quality and pleasing timbre which secured the "Ney Challenge Cup" for this item.

Instrumental Item.—This item deserves every commendation for its sincerity and real musical intention. The eight players gave an excellent "team" effort, which would have made an even greater impression with more rhythm to give better point and greater precision in taking up "leads"—the pitch was a little "cloudy" in the higher positions.

Dramatic Item.—A very suitable and appropriate choice. The characters managed to obtain excellent contrast by purely vocal means, and the diction was particularly good.

Surprise Item.—"Goldy Locks and the Three Bears" (in 3 Scenes) proved to be a cleverly devised satire on modern advertising methods, and certainly proved humorous in the method of its presentation. One was reminded of Radio Luxembourg—and wondered if this little skit enjoyed a subsidy—it certainly merited one.

Total Marks, 79 (3rd place).

BLUE HOUSE.

Unison Song.—Creation's Hymn; The House Choir.

Instrumental.—Rondo "L'Agreable" (Marais); H. Bermon.

Dramatic Item.—Scene from "Hamlet"; Barbara Millbourn, Olive Bayley, L. H. Tenneson, J. F. Aylard, W. T. Barnard.

Vocal Item.—"Skye Boat Song"; W. Fussell.

Surprise Item.—The House.

ADJUDICATOR'S NOTES.

Choir.—This rendering was quite equal to the best in tone, expression, blend and breath-control. There was room for improvement in articulation and general unanimity.

Violin Solo.—Nicely, but unobtrusively, played and showed considerable promise. More rhythm and firmness would have given just that “grip” and vivacity which this piece seemed to call for.

Dramatic Item.—The “cultural” taste in this choice goes without saying, but its effect was bound to suffer by proximity to lighter items in a varied programme. Its sincerity, and the way in which its emotional and pathetic aspects were contrasted with the dramatic “high-lights” was worthy of every commendation. Despite its handicaps, it was well worth the doing.

Vocal Item.—The singer (a boy) did not quite achieve the true “lilt” of this song—but a boy soloist is so rare that one admired his keenness in entering the lists at all, and he sang with all the attractiveness of a boy-treble—and very few of the blemishes.

Surprise Item.—“Movietone News” was a smart and clever skit on a very modern amenity. In its five scenes we were given some witty and topical impressions on “Cricket News,” “The Royal Visit to Paris,” “S.G.S. New Buildings,” “Come Back to Erin,” and “The First Mirror”—the last, a prehistoric peep which brought to a close a very versatile and amusing item; well conceived and admirably produced, and compared to absolute perfection.

Total Marks, 80 (bracketed 2nd).

LETTER FROM CAPT. JONES OF s/s CHELDALE.

Dear Boys and Girls,

When I wrote from our loading port in the Baltic Sea, I said I would try and describe a full voyage. We will therefore assume that a steamer is lying off England with only the officers and catering staff on board and that preparations must be made for the coming voyage.

The chief officer, chief steward and the chief engineer make out the store lists which include food, paints, oils, rope, wire, and working tools; in fact anything they consider necessary for the length of the voyage, and the work they intend to do during that period. While this is taking place the captain must go to the shipping office and select sailors, firemen, etc., and after these men have been medically examined they are signed on the “Articles of Agreement.” This is a printed account of what the men are entitled to have with regard to food, hours of work, rates of pay and overtime, and fines which the captain can impose on any member of the crew should they be guilty of drunkenness or insolence, etc.

After this has been gone through the captain obtains from the Shipping Master a blue form, called an A.A. form, which states that he has signed on a crew and has conformed to the Board of Trade regulations.

He then takes this form together with the Ship's Register, Wireless Certificate and Load Line Certificate to the Custom House where he declares on special forms all the items that are included in the stores lists which is to be taken out of bond, so as to be obtained free of duty.

It may help you to understand better if I mention that the bonded stores are tobacco, cigarettes, flour, matches, sugar, spirits, tea, and various other items. Then after paying the Light Dues the captain receives the ship's clearance form from the Customs.

The Light Dues are a tariff imposed on every ship according to the tonnage, which enters a British port, and it is for the upkeep of the lights around the British coasts. For a ship of this size the Light Dues amount to about £40 every time we enter a British port.

After the bonded stores have been taken aboard they are checked by a Customs Officer who seals them in the store-room, and these cannot be used until the vessel is out at sea.

Now the crew come on board and although they are joining a strange ship they naturally fall in with the routine work. For instance, the cook can be seen preparing the food, the galley-boy peeling the potatoes and the sailors battening down the hatches, lowering the derricks and securing all movable objects on the decks in preparation for going to sea, while the firemen raise steam in the boilers. When the vessel is ready the pilot and tugs come alongside and the vessel sails.

As soon as the ship is out at sea and the pilot landed into the cutter, watches are set in both engine-room and deck departments, and this continues in rotation until the vessel arrives at a discharging port which we will say is Durban.

On arrival there the captain must complete forms declaring the nationality of everyone on board and must declare to the Port Health Officer any sickness amongst the crew. If all are well the ship is given free pratique which allows the vessel to begin discharging, and gives the crew permission to go on shore at leisure. Naturally everybody on board wants an advance in wages so that they may go to the pictures or sight-seeing, and the captain draws anything up to £150 from the ship's agents for the crew's use. I forgot to mention that when a crew is signed on they leave allotment notes payable every fortnight to their mothers or wives who draw the amount for the allotment from the owners.

After the vessel has been discharged and is loaded again the same routine takes place, and the steamer sails for England. On

arrival the crew are paid the balance of their wages due, after deducting allotments, advances and tobacco, etc.

I hope my attempt to describe roughly a voyage taken will be of interest to you but before I close I would like to tell you that after discharging at Durban we expect to load maize at Beira, in Portuguese East Africa, for Rotterdam, and we hope that this voyage will not be as long as our previous one.

The ship is now off Cape Town and my wife, who is making the round voyage with me is very interested in the Table Mountain which no doubt you have heard of. A few years ago, before the aerial railway was made, I climbed to the top of the Table Mountain which is 3,550 feet high. It happened to be a very clear day and on looking eastwards I could see for many miles across the Peninsula, and on looking down Cape Town appeared to be a small village, although it is a large town. The top of the mountain is flat with pebbles scattered here and there, and it affords a fine view for sightseers. I believe that now the railway is built, a post office has been built on the top so that holiday visitors can now write and post letters from the top of the Table Mountain.

While we are in Durban I intend to take my wife to see the Valley of the Thousand Hills. It is a wonderful place about 30 miles from Durban and can only be reached by car, and is a hard upward climb. The road to it runs between mountains and at one spot when looking down the valley, a thousand small hills can be seen, hence the name. I will try to get a picture of it and send it with my next letter.

On arrival at Durban I will send a box of the South African "Wonder Flowers" to the school. When you receive these they will appear to be withered, but if you closely follow the instructions given with them inside the box you will be surprised and delighted with the results for they will last for three or four months.

As I told you in my last letter, all the officers are new and I have explained to them about the ship being adopted by your school and they will, I hope, be as interested as your last officers were and write to you in due course.

As the officers are very often transferred from one ship to another at their own request, I suggest that when you write you address your letters to the captain or to whichever officer you wish to write to, mentioning no names. By doing this, new officers will reply to your letters, whereas privately addressed letters may go astray owing to the officers leaving the ship.

Well I must draw to a close, hoping to hear from you on our arrival at Durban.

Yours sincerely,

P. JONES (Captain).

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Between the rugged mountains flow,
From mountain springs neath mountain breeze
Started by the capping snow
Swift running streams that never freeze.

It is to these in Summertide
That goats and cattle come to drink,
Come from the farms on the mountainside,
And quietly graze upon the brink.

And as the rivers ebb and flow
Between the rugged hollows,
The fish are clearly seen below,
The meat of hungry swallows.

So onward flow the glimmering streams,
Until at last they reach
The foaming sea which brightly gleams
Upon the sandy beach.

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CHELDALE NEWS.

During the past year there have been several changes in the officers of the Cheldale. We were sorry to hear last November that the second officer, Mr. Smith, who had done so much for us, had left the ship. Captain Jones, who has also been very good to us, has not accompanied the Cheldale on her present voyage.

Captain Jones has written to us at every opportunity. He has sent us, among many other things, some very interesting postcards of the Valley of the Thousand Hills and a box of Chinkerchees, which lasted a long time and cheered up the gloom of Room 4. From India we received a book of pictures, strongly bound and printed in three languages. He also persuaded his two cadets to start a correspondence with us.

The ship was not so fortunate in its dealings, with us. The whole Christmas mail, consisting of more than a hundred letters, calendars and books, and a game of Monopoly from 4a, was sent to Sierra Leone, to be picked up on their return journey. Unfortunately, owing to engine trouble, the Cheldale called elsewhere, and we heard last August that this mail was waiting to be picked up at Port Said.

In October, a party from the fifth and sixth forms paid a visit to the Ship Adoption Society Exhibition at the Baltic Exchange. We saw many interesting photographs and models as well as some letters, exchanged between the schools and their ships. I understand that a certain number of schools are elected each year to contribute to the exhibition. Up till now, we have not been lucky, but perhaps we shall be asked to send our contributions next year.

Stella Hammond has very kindly collected the Cheldale's letters and photographs together, and made them interesting for us, by arranging them in book form.

The ship is at present in the Atlantic Ocean and at Christmas will probably be at Lorenco Marques.

Owing to the recent crisis she changed her usual course, going to Archangel for timber instead of to Gdynia. Captain Smith has taken over temporarily from Captain Jones, and we are hoping to hear from them from Durban. W. Fussell (4b) has undertaken to chart the ship's course every week in the place of W. Brown, who left the school in August.

MARJORIE CAPARN, 6 Com.

A VISIT TO KEW GARDENS.

One morning towards the end of the summer term about thirty Fourth Form girls and a few seniors packed themselves into a coach and set off for Kew. During the journey the weather was dull,

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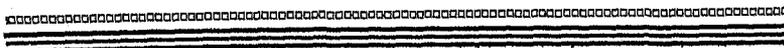
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but as soon as we reached the Gardens the sun came out and very soon all were wishing they had no coats to carry.

We were divided into two parties, one in charge of Miss McCollin and the other led by Miss Slee. We went first to see the water plants which were very interesting. They were in small shallow pools around a larger pool in which enormous gold-fish swam lazily about. Miss Slee filmed us looking at the water plants and in various other parts of the Gardens.

After the water plants we visited the Order Beds, where there are examples of nearly every Natural Order of flowers. When we had looked at these, most people were ready for lunch and we made our way to the refreshment house. A horde of cheeky sparrows descended upon us as we sat down to eat under the trees and greedily pecked up all the crumbs that we threw to them.

After dinner we were free to do as we liked so we split up into small groups and went off in various directions. The more energetic people went to look at Father Thames or made a tour of the Gardens, while the lazy ones preferred to enjoy the beauty of Kew as seen from under a tree. Everybody, however, visited the glass-houses where such wonders of nature as the giant waterfly could be seen. Especially interesting were the insectivorous plants which trap and devour insects.

All too soon the time to return arrived and we assembled at the gate. The coach was late, but nobody minded as an ice cream man was near at hand. We had a very enjoyable outing and I am sure everybody was grateful to Miss Slee and Miss McCollin.

AUDREY JAQUES, 5a.

WHITSUN AT WELLS, 1938.

After a tiring but enjoyable journey we reached our destination, Wells, at about 10 p.m. Our luggage was driven away in a taxi, whilst we trudged wearily up the hill in its wake. The parties were then taken to their respective houses, which were all quite near to each other, and all on a very pleasant hill slope.

The next day we assembled at Portway, and the local train (after much delay) took us to Burnham-on-Sea. Here we found walking along the beach rather difficult, but despite grumbles, the walk, plus a pleasant prospect of approaching respite, was really delightful.

Past the sand dunes and over the golf-links, we arrived at a very welcome tea-house, where we paused for lunch. After this short rest we returned to the dunes and salt marsh to study and pick specimens of the vegetation there. Once more we entered the

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town, this time to take tea and afterwards to explore Burnham, meeting at the station later. Thus we were carried back to our temporary abodes by the quaint single-line train, passing stacks of dusty peat blocks on the way. All had wind-blown hair and tanned faces as a result of the day's expedition.

Wells Cathedral was the objective of the morrow, and here we attended a beautiful choral service in the grand old building, which later proved to make a fine subject for the amateur photographer such as ourselves.

We then made a long tour of the grounds and cloisters, and made our way to the Vicar's Close, where we were held up by a sharp shower. This is one of the oldest streets in Europe, having been built in the 13th century.

The afternoon we had free to amuse ourselves about the town, and in the evening a sedate Sunday walk developed into an enjoyable ramble through fields and woods during which we saw a splendid view of the cathedral from the top of a hill. And so to bed.

On the Monday, our chaperon led us along the top of the Mendips, and thus on to Priddy Pool for lunch. After examining the flora of the heath and collecting horse-tails from a sphagnum bog, we retraced our steps and continued down to Wookey. On the way, we enjoyed ourselves clambering down Ebbor Gorge, which is the dried-up course of a waterfall.

After a delightful Somerset tea we went to Wookey Hole Caves, and made the acquaintance of the Witch of Wookey. It was all dark and mysterious, and provided much enjoyment. We were taken back to Wells by bus after a very energetic day, and all surely slept well.

Tuesday came all too soon, but with it a visit to Cheddar Gorge, where we were only able, through lack of time and a shower, to ascend the lower part of the gorge, before returning by coach to our respective houses to prepare for our departure, with cream cheeses for those at home.

After lunch we were photographed, before bidding reluctant farewells and starting on our homeward journey. We eventually arrived at Palmers Green, and took our various ways home, carrying with us many pleasant memories of our week-end at Wells, which are all due to the kind organisation of Miss Slee.

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