



**THE
OLDBURIAN**

**OLDBURY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
MAGAZINE**

FEBRUARY.....1929

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Advertisement.

i.

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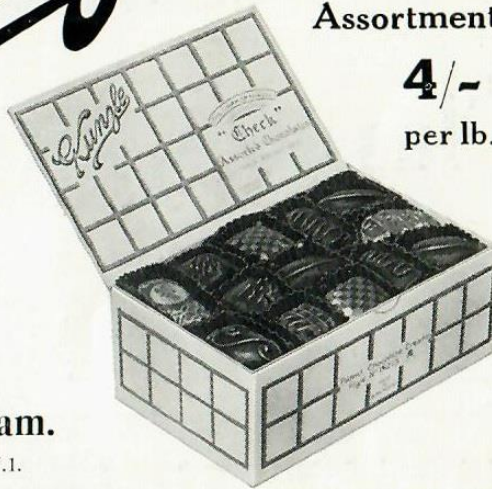
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THE OLDBURIAN.

OLDBURY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
MAGAZINE.

FEBRUARY, 1929.

Vol. II., No. 3.

Editor :
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EDITORIAL.

GREETINGS and Best Wishes to all our readers for 1929 and after, and the best of good fortune to those who are earnestly striving to fit themselves for the coming encounter with the Examiners of the Joint Board. May their efforts be crowned with success.

Our present number seems to be as full as its predecessors and the quality of the original contributions is improving. We regret very much that our space is limited, and that we cannot publish all the articles sent in to the editors, for most of those which have, of necessity, to be omitted, are worthy of publication.

Our congratulations are offered to Mr. A. H. R. Ball, M.A., on the publication of his book, "Ruskin, as Literary Critic," by the Cambridge University Press; to Mr. T. Morton, B.Sc., on his translation to Cambridge University to carry out important research work in Chemistry, and to Mr. Stanley Birch on the excellent results he obtained at his examination in electrical engineering. We are proud of our old students, and hope they will not forget to let us have full information with regard to their movements, work, and successes.

Notice of the Tancred Scholarships in Divinity, Physic, and Law has been received, and may be seen in the Library.

We are glad to hear that the Parents' Association is growing in numbers. The addresses recently given by Mr. A. G. Hackett and Mr. Garrett on careers were excellent, and should give those parents who were present, many new ideas. We wish this Association every success. Mr. C. S. Howells, M.A., the Secretary will be glad to hear from any other parents of our pupils, who are anxious to join.

Valete.

<i>Upper 6.</i>		<i>4R.</i>
E. MUCKLOW.		H. G. JONES.
M. ROLLASON.		M. SHENTON.
R. JAMES.		N. CORIN.
<i>Lower 6.</i>		<i>4A.</i>
W. POWELL.		F. FANTHOM.
J. EDGE.		<i>4B.</i>
		C. HICKS.
<i>5B.</i>		M. HOWSE.
W. GIBBS.		R. HOWSE.
P. DOWELL.		<i>2A.ii.</i>
K. HALE.		N. RIGBY.

Salvete.

W. BENNETT.		J. BEAUMONT.
A. MORRELL.		P. BEAUMONT.
J. MORRIS.		V. KEELING.
S. PALMER.		B. LAMB.
N. HUGHES.		
W. EVANS.		
R. WATTS.		
A. PUGH.		
R. UNDERHILL.		

Dates to Remember.

- February 25, 26.—Mid-term Holiday.
 Feb. 28—March 2.—Girl Guides' Display.
 March 29—April 1.—Easter Holidays.
 April 10.—Term ends.
 May 2.—School re-opens.

Speech Day, 1928.

THE annual Speech day was held on December 11th, our guest of honour being the Rt. Hon. J. W. Wilson, J.P.

The proceedings commenced with the National Anthem, and after an address by the Chairman, Mr. W. T. Davies, J.P., C.C. (Chairman of the Governors), the Headmaster read his report on the year's work. As most of the facts of the report have already been published in the magazines of the year, no further account is given here. Then followed the exciting event (to the pupils!), the presentation of the prizes.

Mr. Wilson then gave a most helpful and inspiring address. He thought that the great difficulty of the scholars at the end of their school careers was to get a right sense of proportion of the life that was coming to them. If they would take full advantage of their school training, they would acquire that true sense of values, and also lay the foundation of good character on which all success in the life after school must be laid. While at school they must set themselves high ideals and strive wholeheartedly and courageously towards them. True happiness would come with the realisation that they had done their best, and in the highest sense had played the game, so he would say to them "Look up, not down, out, not in, forward, not backward, and lend a hand."

Votes of thanks were then passed to Mr. Wilson and to the Chairman.

Speeches were made by the School Captains, E. Key and J. V. Lewis, and a pianoforte solo by J. V. Lewis, a flute solo by G. Lyman and songs by M. E. Boaler were greatly appreciated.

The meeting concluded with the passing of a vote of thanks to the Headmaster and the Staff for their loyal service which had resulted in a thoroughly satisfactory year's work.

D. Homer.

Prize List.

FORM I.—A. Smith (Geometry, Nature Study, Drawing); D. C. Johnston (Form, History).

FORM IIB.—G. D. Thomas (Chemistry, Handicraft); G. H. Ackrill (Form, English, French, History, Physics).

FORM IIA2.—F. W. Holden (French); G. C. Barnford (Physics); F. W. Rudd (Physics); T. Walton (Handicraft); A. B. Watt (Chemistry); E. Barratt (Form, English).

FORM IIA1.—E. Keyte (English); K. Howells (History); J. Lugg (French); W. J. Mason (Mathematics); F. A. Billington (Physics); H. Basterfield (Chemistry); B. Field (Form, Art, Geography).

- FORM IIIc.—B. Sykes (Geography); M. Wakeman (English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Natural History, Art, Form).
- FORM IIIb.—G. Weston (Mathematics, Physics); R. E. Howse (French, Chemistry); M. Green (Form, English, History, Geography).
- FORM IIIa.—W. J. G. Jones (Latin); E. Knott (German); T. Hale (Art); W. Branson (Physics); W. Knight (Chemistry); L. Cooper (Domestic Science); T. Oldfield (Handicraft); W. Cashmore (Natural History); J. Cope (History, Geography, Mathematics); D. C. Stevens (Form, French, English).
- FORM IVc.—M. Robbins (2nd in Form); F. Lowe (Form); H. Ryder (Algebra, Form).
- FORM IVb.—M. Shenton (Domestic Science); B. Wallace (Art); B. Tansley (Physics); R. Keyte (Chemistry); N. Corin (Natural History); M. Boaler (German); O. Wheale (Geography, Handicraft); C. Greenwood (History, French); M. Marshall (English, Latin); H. Betts (Form, Mathematics).
- FORM IVa.—M. Everett (Geography); A. T. Robinson (History); W. A. Robinson (Handicraft); D. Homer (Art); J. Vann (Mathematics); L. Davies (French); E. Rowley (German); N. Richmond (Natural History, Domestic Science); O. Smith (English); H. G. Barlow (Chemistry, Physics, Latin, Form).
- FORM IVr.—B. Lewis (English); M. Richardson (French); R. Oxborrow (Physics); J. Pardoe (Chemistry, Art, Mathematics); W. Stocker (History, Geography, Mathematics, French, Form).
- FORM IVb.—J. Edge (Form.).
- FORMS Va. AND VIb.—Joint Board of Northern Universities School Certificate Examination.—E. Pennington, D. Baldwin, L. Hinds, D. Homer, J. Morris, C. Bates, W. H. Greenwood, W. H. Newton, A. C. Webb, M. Rollason, K. Butler, S. G. Hale, G. A. Frearson, A. L. North, E. Nock, L. Blundell, R. James, E. Mucklow, C. Nock, B. Adams, F. Hollies, R. Stevens, C. Goodacre, F. Woodward, B. Greenway, E. Sambrooke.
- FORM UPPER VI.—Higher School Certificate Examination.—R. Everett, J. V. Lewis, M. A. Grigg, H. S. Mobbs.
- SPECIAL PRIZES.—A. Watts and R. Everett (Design for Cover of School Magazine); J. Manton (best original work in Magazine); L. W. Blundell (Silver Medal presented by Mr. A. Sadler for boys' open half-mile); E. F. Willetts (Silver Medal (presented by Mr. A. Sadler for boys' open 100 yards); W. H. Greenwood (Ball for best bowling average); J. C. Goodacre (Bat for best batting average); H. S. Mobbs (Bat for highest score); K. Boneham (Bronze Medal—girls' junior

championship in athletic sports); J. N. Vann (Bronze Medal—boys' junior championship in athletic sports); H. Mansell (Mr. Albright's Challenge Cup—girls' senior championship); E. F. Willetts (Mr. Vernon's Challenge Cup—boys' senior championship); W. A. Adams (Mr. Round's Championship Board for chess); P. E. Jones (Challenge Cup of the Lord Mayor of Birmingham for long jump at Joint Sports); M. Grigg and H. S. Mobbs (Special Prizes presented by Mr. and Mrs. Dawes to the boy and girl, who, in the opinion of the Headmaster and the Staff, have been of greatest service to the School during the year).

HOUSE CUP MARKS.

Year ending July, 1928.

Trinity 1900.	King's 1732.
Queen's 1868.	School 1497.

Trinity House.

<i>Captains</i>	-	-	A. E. KEY, J. C. GOODACRE.
<i>Sports Captains</i>	-	-	D. HADLEY, J. C. GOODACRE.
<i>Secretary</i>	-	-	D. G. HOMER.

CONGRATULATIONS to all members of Trinity House! We are proud to say that we have repeated our last year's success and have again been awarded the Inter-House Cup, due to the excellent "esprit-de-corps" shown throughout the House.

It may be said that in no branch of school life does Trinity House give up until the very last, and so by a great rally, the House-team was placed first in the football inter-House matches, though indeed by a narrow margin.

In the play, "She Stoops to Conquer," which was so great a success last term, Trinity was ably represented and we made up in quality for what we lost in quantity.

A. Adams has also brought us further honour by winning Mr. Round's Chess Board and the House congratulates him most heartily.

Though we regret the loss of several of our most prominent members, yet the House is fortunate in that there is no lack of enthusiasm and confidence, and in possessing such promising junior members on whom in future years the honour and fortune of the House will rest. We hope our members will continue to "play up and play the game," so that we shall retain our position as Champion House.

E. Key.
C. Goodacre.

Queen's House.

Captains - - L. HINDS, P. F. WOODWARD.
Sports Captains - J. MORRIS, H. G. BARLOW.
Secretary - - B. A. ADAMS.

DURING the past term Queen's House has been well represented in most of the important school functions and has always emerged creditably from its efforts.

In the play "She Stoops to Conquer" which was produced in November, M. Marshall as Kate Hardcastle, H. Barlow as Mr. Hardcastle, P. Woodward as Mr. Marlow, H. Wiseman as the drunken servant, and Jones as the servant boy, all played their parts well, and gained credit for the House.

Unfortunately the girls were unable to oppose the other Houses at hockey, as is the usual custom, but throughout the term the House has been well represented in both XI.'s.

The boys were not so successful at football against the other Houses as they have been in previous years. We had not a very strong team and consequently the results were rather disappointing.

We were defeated by King's House, 2—0, by School House, 5—0, but we forced a draw, 1—1, with Trinity after a very exciting tussle.

We offer a hearty welcome to all our new members who, we are sure, will work hard for the credit of their House during the ensuing year.

L. Hinds.

P. F. Woodward.

King's House.

Captains - - D. BALDWIN, G. LYMAN.
Vice-Captains - E. McALISTER, E. F. WILLETTS.
Sports Captains - K. BONEHAM, E. F. WILLETTS.
Secretaries - - M. MILLER, D. C. ADAMS.

THE House offers its congratulations to its members who so ably played their parts in the School production of "She Stoops to Conquer"—M. Boaler, E. F. Willets, A. Robinson, E. Griffiths, and J. Manton. Flute solos by G. Lyman delighted the audience during the intervals, and we would not forget our members who formed part of that valiant band of helpers behind the curtain.

We were unfortunate in losing most of our football stalwarts at the end of the Summer Term, and in the new team many junior members had to be included, but we congratulate all our players on the fine way in which they played, for only lack of size and experience necessitated our taking third place, and we did well to beat Queen's. As our team develops we hope to do better, and to regain our old position in school football.

It was gratifying to notice that on Speech Day a good percentage of the prizes was gained by members of King's House and we congratulate all our members who proved successful in the more serious part of school life.

We would remind members that the great day of next term will be the Musical Festival, and that we must not forget the lesson we learned last year, when we lost the Cup through lack of a sufficient number of competitors. We hope all our members will prove loyal to their captain and to the organisers of this festival when the time comes for practising. A little more enthusiasm and the cherished trophy is ours!

D. E. Adams.

School House.

Captains - - J. V. LEWIS, E. PENNINGTON.
 Vice-Captains - L. W. BLUNDELL, D. RUDD.
 Sports Captains - L. DAVIES, A. NORTH.
 Secretary - - B. ROBERTS.

THE main event during last term was the production of the play "She Stoops to Conquer" and this, of course, being a concerted effort, does nothing, officially, to advertise the merits or demerits of the respective Houses. School House, however, did its share towards providing the cast:—K. Butler as Mrs. Hardcastle, B. Roberts as Mr. Hastings, L. Davies as Sir Charles Marlow and J. Vann and R. Musgrave as "Drunks." We would also modestly mention that Miss Jones is in School House.

In the football House matches last term, School was placed second, for after losing, rather unexpectedly, to Trinity by the odd goal of seven, we beat Queen's House by 5 goals to nil and King's House by 4 goals to 1. The last named match was very keenly fought, and King's nearly equalised about ten minutes from the end when School were leading 2—1. If the goal had been scored, things might have gone differently, but the ball was cleared, and School then scored two goals in rapid succession.

We offer a hearty welcome to our new members and take this opportunity to send our best wishes for the future to those who have left us.

J. V. Lewis.
 E. Pennington.

Football.

Captain - - - 1st XI. E. F. Willets. 2nd XI. E. Griffiths.
 Vice-Captains - - - J. V. Lewis P. Woodward.
 General Committee - Captains, Vice-Captains, C. Goodacre, L. Davies.

1ST XI. MATCHES.

Opponents.	Result.	Goals for.	Goals against.
King's Norton	Lost	1	4
Wolverhampton	Lost	3	4
Lawrence's College	Won	3	1

Opponents.	Result.	Goals for.	Goals against.
Aston Commercial School	Won	4	2
Birmingham University	Drawn	6	6
St. Philip's G.S.	Drawn	3	3
Waverley Road	Lost	2	4
Handsworth G.S.	Lost	1	4
Wolverhampton	Drawn	3	3
Dudley	Lost	2	6

2ND XI. MATCHES.

King's Norton	Won	3	0
Lawrence's College	Won	4	2
St. Philip's G.S.	Won	4	3

It is with regret we learn that we shall not meet Halesowen on the football field, as they have forsaken Association for Rugby Football.

On the other hand we are pleased to add Redditch to our fixture list.

The boys of the 1st XI. played the girls at hockey on November 28th, and brute force overcame skilled science in an enjoyable game.

We are looking forward to a match with the staff next term. May the best team win.

E. F. Willets, Hon. Sec.

Girls' Games.

HOCKEY TEAM, AUTUMN TERM, 1928.

J. Morris (Captain). L. Hinds (Vice-Captain).

D. Hadley, D. Homer, K. Boneham, P. Williams, D. Rudd, E. Pennington, A. North, B. Wallace, E. Key.

ALTHOUGH at the beginning of this season we lost several members of our previous season's hockey team, nevertheless, by continual practice much excellent team-work has been accomplished. We only played six inter-school matches, of which we won three, lost two, and drew one. This term we have more matches, and we hope by dint of hard practice to surpass last term's result.

Formerly the Hockey Colours were awarded on the number of matches played, but it has been decided that for the future, colours should be given according to the merits of the various players.

On December 13th practically the whole school paid an afternoon visit to the Langley Cinema to see a special hockey film made by the All England Women's Hockey Association, which greatly benefitted all our hockey enthusiasts.

E. Key, Hockey Sec.

Junior Dramatic Society.

ALTHOUGH we are as yet only a young society, much good work is being done owing to the enthusiasm of our members. The following have been done very successfully :—

October 1st, 1928.—“ Campbell of Kilmhor,” by Form IIIA.

October 22nd, 1928.—The Forum Scene from “ Julius Cæsar,” by Form IVc.

November 20th, 1928.—“ A Night at an Inn,” by Form IVB.

January 28th, 1929.—The Quarrel Scene from “ A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” by Form IIIB.

Also, IIIC. are to give this term further scenes from “ A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

G. W. N. Marshall, Secretary.

Literary, Dramatic, Debating and Scientific Society.

President, Mr. J. G. Howarth, M.A.

Vice-Presidents—

Miss G. Jones, M.A., Miss J. Davies, Dr. R. W. Thomason,
Mr. K. D. Hopkins, B.Sc., Mr. B. C. Pearson, B.A.,
Mr. R. A. F. Newton-Hearne, B.A.

Chairman, G. Lyman.

Secretary, J. V. Lewis.

Vice-Chairman, A. E. Key.

Treasurer, E. F. Willetts.

Committee—

A. Bayliss, D. Hadley, D. Homer, L. Davies, B. Wallace, S. Bridge,
M. Marshall, J. Cope.

ONCE more this half-session has been a most interesting and successful one for the Society. The usual Tuesday meetings have been held, and the following is a brief survey of the term’s programme :—

Sept. 18th.—A business meeting was held, at which the officers and committee were elected and new members were welcomed.

Sept. 25th.—A most interesting address on the “ History of Secondary Education ” was given by the President, the Headmaster.

Oct. 2nd.—A large party visited the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, to see Fred Terry and Julia Neilson in “ The Scarlet Pimpernel,” and thoroughly enjoyed the play.

Oct. 9th.—Mr. Whitehouse, an old student, gave a most interesting lecture on Japan, where he has taught for many years. Articles on the substance of his lecture can be found in last term’s magazine and in the present issue.

Oct. 16th.—Two one-act plays were read : (1) A tragedy, “ Riders to the Sea,” by J. M. Synge. Cast : *Maurya*, M. Boaler ; *Cathleen*, F. Carr ; *Bartley*, A. Onions ; *Nora*, D. Homer ; *Villagers*, B. Tansley, H. Wiseman, H. Jones, H. Betts, M. Marshall. L. Cooper, E. Boots, D. Bridgewater. (2) A comedy, “ The

Old Bull." by B. Gilbert. Cast: *Charles*, L. Blundell; *Uncle William*, R. Stevens; *James*, C. Goodacre; *Tom Bones*, E. Willetts; *Sarah*, B. Adams.

Oct. 23rd.—A debate was held, the motion being "The League of Nations Should be Abolished." Speakers for the affirmative, B. Roberts, B. Adams. Speakers for the negative, P. Woodward, A. E. Key. The motion was defeated. We must not forget the speeches of W. Powell on this occasion!

Oct. 30th.—A lecture was given by D. Cutler on "Colour Photography," illustrated by lantern slides, and this proved most interesting to all.

Nov. 6th.—Half-term Holiday.

Nov. 13th.—This night was given up to the dress rehearsal of "She Stoops to Conquer," to which the juniors and friends of a similar age were admitted at a charge of sixpence each.

Nov. 15th—17th.—On these dates were given the public performances of "She Stoops to Conquer."

Nov. 20th.—No meeting was held, as most people were "recovering" from the stress of "She Stoops to Conquer," but on Nov. 23rd a party was given by Miss Jones for all who in any way assisted with the production, and a very jolly evening was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by all.

Nov. 27th.—A very interesting paper on "Arctic Exploration" was given by E. Adams.

Dec. 4th.—Scenes from "Abraham Lincoln," by John Drinkwater, were read by members of Form IVA. This was one of the most successful readings we have had, and our congratulations are due to IVA., since every member had a part and played it well!

December 11th was the School Speech Day, and since this was followed by terminal examinations and—slightly more pleasant—Christmas parties, no more meetings were held.

J. V. Lewis.

"She Stoops to Conquer."

ONCE again we have to record the most successful presentation of the School Play—"She Stoops to Conquer."

The parts of Mr. and Mrs. Hardcastle, always difficult for young amateurs, were excellently portrayed by Barlow and K. Butler. [The latter, by the way, will be greatly missed by the Dramatic Society, of which she was a most useful and versatile member.] Mrs. Hardcastle's son, Tony Lumpkin, that shrewd but engaging youth, was a lad after Willetts' own heart, and we feel sure that he enjoyed the rôle as much as any of his many friends in the audience.

Kate, a very charming and mischievous young lady, was played by M. Marshall, who is to be congratulated upon so well justifying



Photo]

"SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER." *Cast of the Play.*

[*Norris, Langley*

her selection as a new but important member of the cast. Kate's suitor, so diffident and yet so assertive in other company, was most convincingly represented by Woodward, whose elegance of manner, bearing and diction reveal a most promising young actor. The arrival of Sir Charles Marlow—played very suavely by Davies—was most opportune, and served to retain the good graces of Mr. Hardcastle for his old friend's son. Mr. Marlow's friend, Mr. Hastings, had much to endure, but withstood nobly the vagaries of fortune and of his friend, and finally won his lady, Miss Neville. In the former rôle we have to congratulate another newcomer to the cast, Roberts, and repeat our thanks and appreciation to M. D. Homer who, by now, must be quite an experienced "confidante." The mere mention of the rest of Mr. Hardcastle's household is sufficient to recall hearty laughter. There was Pimple—so much more attractive than her name, and played very naturally by M. Boaler, and Diggory—a servant quite unique in many ways, and certainly notable whether he spoke or moved or merely stood—and yet so genuinely funny that one scarcely knew whether it was Cutler playing Diggory or Diggory imitating Cutler. The other servants, too, Onions, Vann, Manton, and Jones, provided much good fun which is a more difficult achievement than the recital of a speech. In this respect, too, we would mention Mr. Marlow's servant, Wiseman, who so speedily and successfully became drunk to patronise the house in his master's stead.

Lastly, but by no means lastly in our thoughts, we would particularly mention the merry company at "The Three Jolly Pigeons." Stingo was a most kindly host, and no wonder such a merry jovial band were the friends of Master Tony. Here we would extend our congratulations to Robinson, Goodacre, Griffiths, Onions, Musgrave and Vann upon the rollicking good-humoured way in which they played a scene which could so very easily have been marred by over-acting.

As to other aspects of the production, we cannot fail to congratulate everybody concerned upon the scenic arrangements, costumes, and general careful attention to detail. The room in Mr. Hardcastle's house in which the greater part of the action of the play took place was a panelled hall in an old-fashioned manor house, with many pieces of furniture and ornaments which lent to the scenes a homely and attractive setting. As to the costumes, again designed and made by Mrs. and Miss Jones, they were greatly admired by all. The choice of colour, style, and fabric struck a very happy note throughout. As to the general precision of detail, it is sufficient to note that Mr. Marlow and Mr. Hastings wore dark-haired wigs and more sober attire for travelling, and changed into Court wigs and elegant apparel upon their arrival at their host's house. This is what would actually occur in the real life of the period.

It will be remembered that after last year's production of "The Rivals," the Dramatic Society gave to the school a piano, which has been greatly appreciated by all. Before this year's production, however, the Society undertook, at great expense, the raising of the stage, and for that great improvement our thanks are due to them.

Last year, too, the Society was able to give an additional performance of the School Play in aid of charity. This year, owing to the large amount of time necessary for a later performance, and to the pressure of examination work on most members of the cast, it was found impossible to do this, but a sum of money has been sent to the Oldbury Infants' Welfare Association to show our interest in the various local charity organisations.

And now it is but a truism to add that such a happy result would have been unattainable without the indefatigable enthusiasm and encouragement of Miss Jones, the willing service of her cast and helpers, and the goodwill of every member of the school.

E. M. F.

CAST.

Mrs. Hardcastle, K. BUTLER; *Mr. Hardcastle*, H. G. BARLOW; *Tony Lumpkin*, Son of Mrs. Hardcastle, E. F. WILLETTS; *Kate Hardcastle*, M. MARSHALL; *Constance Neville*, Niece of Mrs. Hardcastle, D. HOMER; *Stingo*, Landlord of the Inn, A. ROBINSON; *Fellows in the Inn*, C. GOODACRE, E. R. GRIFFITHS, A. ONIONS; R. MUSGRAVE, J. VANN; *Mr. Marlow*, P. WOODWARD; *Mr. Hastings*, B. ROBERTS; *Diggory*, Chief Servant of Mr. Hardcastle, D. CUTLER; *Pimple*, the Maid, M. BOALER; *Other Servants of Mr. Hardcastle*, W. JONES, J. MANTON, A. ONIONS, J. VANN; *Servants of Mr. Marlow*, C. GOODACRE, H. WISEMAN; *Sir Charles Marlow*, L. DAVIES.

Girl Guides.

Officers :—

Captain, F. D. Tweedie. *Lieutenant*, J. Davies.

Company Leader, D. Rudd

Patrol Leaders, E. Pennington, K. Goodwin, E. MacAlister, M. Green, B. Adams.

THE past term has been a successful one for the Guides, and for the first time in our history separate monthly Courts of Honour were arranged, and were attended by the leaders and seconds.

On October 12th several new members were enrolled. Many parents and friends of the Guides came to see how the meetings were conducted and to watch the Guides training for either second-class or ambulance badges.

On December 1st three Guiders from another company visited us to see how we worked. The rest of the meetings were spent in

training for second-class and ambulance badges and competitions among the patrols.

The Annual Guide Party was held on Friday, December 14th, and everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable time. With charades, games, and dancing the time passed very quickly until after camp fire, the cake, which was in the shape of a tenderfoot badge, was cut by the two oldest Guides, after which we dismissed.

On December 20th several of the Guides who were in the last display visited Wolverhampton and danced at an entertainment given to a gathering of about 400 "Flay Centre" children, and this was greatly appreciated.

B. Adams.

Cadet Corps.

Officers :—

Captain C. Knight-Coutts, M.C. Captain K. D. Hopkins.

Non-Commissioned Officers :—

Blundell, Q.M.S., Bill, Cpl.

Lance-Corporals Sadler, Hale, Jackson, Oxborrow.

DURING the recent Christmas term, under the tutorship of Captain Knight-Coutts and Captain Hopkins, the Cadets have taken up the study of a new branch of their training—perhaps the most beneficial of all, "First Aid."

During the first part of the term stretcher drill was practiced out on the school playing fields, the weather being fit, but towards Christmas, when indoor work became necessary, the Cadets began really to investigate the why and wherefore of "First Aid." At present all the members are acquainted with the numerous ways of treating fractures, dislocations, and the simpler methods of bandaging, together with the way to administer artificial respiration, and the several "lifts" to be applied on the field to an injured party. Every cadet is keenly interested in this branch of training, yet all look forward to the next term, when outdoor activities will again be possible.

Blundell, Q.M.S.

November 5th.

'T WAS a damp, dark, murky night, a night for sinister deeds, with the fog forming an impenetrable blanket, but nevertheless a stalwart band arrived to take part in the School Bonfire Celebrations.

From the school to the fire was "a long, dark, boggy, dirty, dangerous way," a way not to be undertaken alone, but when a band had collected with sufficient electric torches, they valiantly set out into the pitch black darkness, in the direction in which they supposed the fire to lie.

After sundry slips, and much wandering, there suddenly appeared what seemed to be a vision of the Inferno, as portrayed by Dante—a dim, red haze, strange dark figures, little imps running about with flaring torches and making weird noises like the pitiful cries of the lost souls. But it was only the bonfire; we had arrived!

And a lovely bonfire it was—well worth our struggles to reach it! And although the rockets vanished when they had risen about six feet, the rest of the fireworks were enjoyed, and the sense of being cut off from the rest of the world, hemmed in by a dense thick blanket, added to the enjoyment.

After all the firework demonstrations, Miss Jones and Mr. Newton-Hearn marshalled the band, and, led by the shepherd with a lantern, the little flock wound its way slowly and very carefully back to the fold.

A short, but much appreciated dance was then held in the Hall, until 9 p.m., when after a most exciting and enjoyable evening we once more set out into the “murk and the haze.”

D. M. Cutler, V.I.S.

The Visit of the Upper Sixth Science to the Brewery of Messrs. Mitchells & Butler.

BY kind permission of Messrs. Mitchells and Butler, the Upper Sixth Science, accompanied by Dr. Thomason and Mr. Davies, visited No. 2 Brewery at Cape Hill on December 3rd, with the object of seeing the application of science to industry.

We were provided with an excellent guide, and our tour of the brewery proved most interesting and instructive.

In the malting house were seen sacks of barley, the machines which clean and grade it, and the steeping tanks and drying kiln.

The cleaned barley is put into the steeping tanks, and water is forced up through the bottom of the tank to wash away any other seeds except the good sound grain. After being subjected to this treatment for one or two days, the grain, which is now swollen, is spread out on quarried floors, where it is watered and turned over and begins to thrust out rootlets and grow. This germination is arrested after two days by heating in the kiln, and the grain is passed through the sifting machine to remove the rootlets. It is then termed malt and is ready for use.

If the malt is not required immediately it is stored in huge square rooms called bins and as a certain amount of moisture is taken up while it is in store it is re-dried and crushed in a revolving drum before it is used.

The malt is passed into a circular wooden vessel, a mashing tun, about 12 feet in diameter, lined with gun metal, and fitted

inside with rods which are revolved quickly to stir the contents. It has a perforated bottom and a lid, fitted with an inspection glass.

Hot water (which the brewer calls liquor) is sprayed on to the malt with constant stirring, and, when properly mixed, the liquid in the tun, now called wort—is passed through a copper inspection sink into a huge copper boiler, where it is boiled with hops for five hours to give the wort a bitter-sweet taste. It then passes through a quarter of a mile of copper piping into a receiver, also of copper, at the top of an eight-story building. From the receiver the wort passes down the outside of numerous copper pipes through which cold water is running. This apparatus is known as a refrigerator, and its purpose is to cool the wort from 200° F. to 57° F. As the wort must not be infected, the room containing the receiver and the refrigerator has double windows and doors, and purified air is pumped into it.

The cold wort passes into copper lined vats, yeast is added and fermentation takes place. This is allowed to proceed rather rapidly, and the yeast removes any resinous and albuminous materials which may be dissolved in it. For further fermentation, the partially fermented liquor is drawn off into similar vats and more yeast added. In the middle of these vats there is a parachute like a filter funnel, and as the yeast multiplies it goes over the lip of the funnel and down into slate receivers. To remove all the yeast the parachute is lowered to the edge of the liquid which is now beer.

If the beer is required for bottling it is filtered and put into cold storage for about fourteen days. This makes it sparkle when the bottle is opened. If it is to be put into casks it is run into another tank to clarify, whence it passes into a main, to which nozzles for filling the barrels are connected by rubber tubing at regular intervals. Another length of tubing is attached to the nozzle and dips right down into the cask and prevents frothing which would mean that the barrel would not be filled with beer but with froth.

The barrels are cleaned mechanically, inside and out. They are picked up by a cradle and placed over a nozzle through which hot water shoots into them through the bung-hole. Again they are picked up and put over two other nozzles. After the third they roll under a brush, hot water pours on them, the brush comes down, the barrels are revolved, and so scrubbed. Once more a cradle picks them up and carries them over three more nozzles which cause the inside to be washed with cold water. They are allowed to stand for 48 hours and if they are not sweet they are re-washed.

The bottles also are washed mechanically. Women put them into a belt which carries them to one end of a machine in which they are washed inside and out with hot water, rinsed with cold, and dried by hot air. The machine passes them on to the filling apparatus which picks up the bottles and fills them and puts them

on to an endless belt which carries them along to more girls who put them into a kind of a press which corks them. They are labelled by hand at an incredible speed and put into the cases.

All the electricity used both for lighting and power is produced in a large power house by several large dynamos, but the ordinary main is connected in case of accident.

There are about 1,500 employees and about 2,000 public houses served.

Two Excise officers, one on night and one on day duty, are responsible for the Customs. For their benefit all the apparatus is numbered and a written statement of the quality and quantity of materials which will be there at a given time must be lodged with them 24 hours before the process begins.

Our hosts provided us with light refreshment during an interval in the afternoon and also with tea before we left, and we are very grateful to them, and to Dr. Thomason who arranged the visit.

E. F. Willetts, Form VI.

The Fairies.

Away in the hilltop, the fairies dwell,
In beautiful houses of gold,
They live quite near a pretty well,
Which very rarely is cold.

Fairies are very tiny things,
With rosy cheeks, and bright blue eyes,
With golden hair and gauzy wings,
And wands in which their power lies.

H. Richardson, Form II.B.

The Goblins.

When all children are asleep
And darkly falls the night,
The Goblins from their caves do creep,
To dance in the pale moonlight.

They dance and sing and run about,
At twelve o'clock at night,
But when the rays of dawn shine out
They all creep out of sight.

Once down within their caverns deep
They work the live-long day,
But when night shadows o'er us creep
It is their time for play.

Muriel Burnett, Form II.A2.

Summer.

In the happy summer days,
The sun shines down with mellow rays,
The lambkins skip, and frisk, and play,
And all in life is bright and gay.

The trees are neither thin or mean,
But fling around a foliage green,
All is quiet, and still, and calm,
But I hear the cows in a distant farm.

The flowers bloom in bright array,
The harvest is not far away,
Birds have set the woods aringing,
All are singing! singing! singing!

The clouds drift lazily o'er the sky,
All the earth is parched and dry,
The streamlet gushes on its way,
Flinging forth a silvery spray.

Vera Parkes, Form II.A2.

The Storm.

The breakers crashed down the white sandy beach,
The palms on the hill were far out of reach,
But the sea near the reefs was lashed into foam
By the fury and force of the oncoming storm.

The palms on the hills were battered and bowed
By the tempest which raged both furious and loud,
When the force of the storm had dwindled away
The sun uprose calm on a newly born day.

R. W. Pennell, Form 3B.

A Sea Mist.

A sea mist gathered round us like a wall,
Of grey impenetrable concrete,
The sea awakened and began to rage,
As if some angry god had stirred it up,
We pulled for shore with tired and aching arms,
But still we seemed no nearer than before,
Surrounded by this horrifying mist.

D. Thomas, Form 3A.

Summer.

When Flora passes on her way,
And Pan his fairy lute doth play,
Music comes from ev'ry bower,
While Cupid plucks from Psyche's dower,
A water-lily from the brook,
And sunbeams creep in every nook.

K. Howells, Form 3A.

The Navvies.

Bang goes the sledge hammer,
 Deep sinks the pointed spike,
 Three pairs of arms and hammer swing,
 Three voices sing to keep the time,
 Broad backs are bent and muscles strain
 In this their daily toil for bread.
 They languish not in stuffy rooms,
 For them the crisp, fresh air.
 Nor theirs is it to push the pen,
 They use the strength which God hath given,
 These navvies are Dame Nature's sons,
 From hand to mouth they live, but happy are.

G. Jones, Form 3A.

If Walls could Speak.

Beside a running, rippling river stands
 A ruined castle, with its grey old walls
 Deserted now, but once so full of life
 And joy, and children's voices sweet and low;
 And stately ladies with their 'broidery frame,
 Would listen to the aged minstrel's tale;
 Or welcome home the victor of the hunt.
 But if the grey old walls could tell their tale
 Of romance, chivalry, and daring knights,
 And unsheathed swords which many battles won,
 Such wondrous feats would pale the minstrel's tale.
 But now the birds have built their nests and homes
 Beneath the ivied caves of ancient walls,
 And sing their songs which echo through the woods,
 Breaking the silence of the sheltered home.

G. Marshall, Form III.A.

A Carol.

In a lowly cattle manger,
 Nestled in among the hay,
 Lay a tiny blue-eyed stranger,
 Born upon this Christmas Day.
 To the shepherds in the meadow,
 Came a messenger divine,
 "Leave your sheep, your Saviour follow,
 Lo! this star shall be your sign."
 Magi from the east did carry
 Gifts of frankincense and gold,
 To the heavenly new-born baby,
 As the prophets had foretold.
 Loud the stable rang with praises,
 Praises to our Lord on earth,
 Loud Hosannas each one raises
 On this day of our Lord's birth.

M. Marshall, Form IV.A.

A Carol.

In Eastern lands in days of old,
A simple tale of joy was told,
About a saviour to be king,
To whom we now our praises sing.

'Twas in a lowly stable bare,
A mother laid her babe so fair,
Who for the world should freedom win,
And die to save us all from sin.

The hills with frost were white and hoary,
When first was told that Christmas story,
And wise men travelled from afar,
There guided by the eastern star.

They brought great gifts of myrrh and gold,
And shepherds gladly left their fold,
To go and see the heavenly king,
To whom we now our praises sing.

Loud Hallelujahs we all raise,
The new born babe with joy we praise;
Loud Hallelujahs to our King,
Whose praises we will ever sing.

H. Betts, Form IV.A.

The Frost Sprite.

O'er the windy moorlands and the grey stone hills,
By rocky passes and chattering rills,
I come to jewel the bare gaunt trees,
And put a sting in the cold night breeze;
And while men sit in a cosy seat,
I spread the snow o'er the broad hard street,
And e'er the dawn again sees the land,
The stream is hard by the touch of my hand.

I come whence the wild black breakers roar,
Where the seagulls cry on the dreary shore,
Where the great whales spout and the wild ducks fly,
And forever is angry and leaden the sky;
And e'er I leave my home in the north,
Great icicles hang from the bridge o'er the Forth,
And e'er that I caper on Chester's high walls,
The fires are lighted in York's ancient halls.

I sing my ditty, the swallows all flee,
And the red breasted robin sings in his glee,
The leaves all fall in the cold sharp breeze,
And heavy with frost grow the evergreen trees;
Where ever I go by hills or by dales,
Whitecapped grow the peaks and wild blow the gales,
And long will it be e'er I end my hard reign
And the Spring Spirit's influence thaws my domain.

J. W. Manton, Form IV.A.

The Ballad of the Smithsons.

There lived a wife in Langley town,
Three stalwart sons had she,
She sent them to the Langley school,
That they might learned be.

Each morning at the hour of nine,
They to the school set out,
And every evening just at five,
She heard their lusty shout.

Alas, one night as she looked out,
Her children for to see,
They did not come, and thus she
mused,
"Oh, they must kept in be."

"Oh, they must be kept in," she
said,
"I wonder what they've done?
No doubt they have been doing
wrong,
And having too much fun.

Their father e'en must know of this,
And they will then repent,
They shall be tanned, and without
tea
They shall to bed be sent."

At last she heard their joyful cries,
And to the eldest said,
"Now tell me, Tom, what you have
done,
Before you go to bed."

"I had not spoken a word, a word,
A word but barely one,
When teacher heard me, and she
said,
'Of talking I'll have none.'

I had to stay in after school,
Till nearly half-past five,
The wonder is with all this work,
That I am still alive."

"Now, George, tell me where you
have been,
The tea is nearly cold,
Such naughty boys I never knew,
You, surely, I must scold."

"I only ate a sweet, a sweet,
A sweet but barely two,
When teacher from her book did
look,
'You surely this shall rue.'"

"Now, Jack, you surely have not
been
A naughty boy like these,
My youngest son, I surely hope,
Would try not to displease."

"Oh, mother dear, the truth I'll
tell,
Though it will grieve you sore
To know how naughty I have been,
But I'll ne'er grieve you more.

I had but lit a squib, a squib,
A squib but barely three,
And all my classmates laughed and
cheered,
Rejoiced such fun to see,

When suddenly a silence fell,
A pen you might hear drop,
'Now, what are you doing you
graceless rogue?
Till six you here must stop.'"

"How sad I am, to think that you
Have been ill-treated so,
So now, you need not spanked be,
Nor e'en to bed need go."

When father heard their tales of woe,
He only laughed and said,
"Boys will be boys, what e'er I do
They need not go to bed.

But if it does occur again,
You will not let off be,
But will be tanned and sent to bed,
Before you have your tea."

This is the tale of the Smithsons,
As true as is the sky,
He who believes it may prosper,
He who denies must die.

C. Greenwood, Form IV.A.

Signs of Autumn.

The Summer months have now passed by,
And Autumn time at last draws nigh,
Behold the leaves do fall;
See them there as fairies dancing,
In the breeze so gaily prancing,
Beneath the trees so tall.

The leaves are every shade and hue,
From russet brown to purplish blue,
And red and bronze and gold;
'Neath the trees the squirrels working,
Search for nuts where they are lurking,
In places known from old.

And now is cut the golden corn,
The robin red-breast wakes at dawn,
And trills his cheerful lay;
Berries in the hedgerows glowing,
Tempt the swallows southward going,
" 'Tis Autumn!" all things say.

J. Morris, Form IV.R.

Autumn Woods.

Along the winding roadway that leads you through the wood,
Beside the rippling streamlet,
Where often I have stood
Under the stately oak trees to watch the great sunset,
The Autumn breeze is whirling the last few leaflets down
In clouds of red and yellow and richest russet brown.

The berries in the hedgerows blaze forth in glowing hues,
The robin pipes his merry note,
The peaceful pigeon coos:
Among the leafless branches clothed in his furry coat
The squirrel gathers hazel nuts to fill his winter store
Before the long dark days shall come, when storms and winds
shall roar.

M. F. Boaler, Form IV.R.

The Poplars.

Tall, gaunt poplars,
Either side my gate,
Leafless, colourless,
Sighing at their fate.

Naked, ghostlike,
In the pale moonlight,
Sleepless, restless,
Waiting all the night

Sombre, sullen,
In the gloomy dawn,
Hopeless, cheerless,
Weeping all forlorn.

Sad, grey poplars
In Summer time you'll be
Glad, gay poplars,
Dancing in your glee.

A. Richmond, Form V.A.

October.

The passionate heat of Summer now is o'er,
 Warm reds and brown replace cool, soothing green,
 West winds and freshening gales and night frosts hoar
 Give zest and glamour to the changing scene.
 Tho' misty is the dawn and close of day,
 Benignly shines at noon the mellow sun,
 Beneath the trees the dancing shadows play,
 And streamlets sparkle as they onward run.
 No longer lilies blow and roses sweet,
 But trees and plants in glowing garments dight,
 The leafy carpets rustling 'neath our feet,
 The landscape brilliant in the bright sunlight,
 All Nature decked in gorgeous pageantry,
 These hide the year's decease defiantly.

D. Homer, Form V.A.

To Peace.

Sweet Peace, long sought, reign thou for evermore,
 Bestow thy precious gifts on all mankind,
 So may thy joys be known from shore to shore
 That man may grow peace-loving in his mind.
 Cast out fell strife and reign thou in its stead,
 Dispel grim war, bring harmony along,
 All glorious, lift up thy almighty head,
 Cause man to love, and praise thee in sweet song.
 Between the nations binding friendships weave,
 "Unto all, peace!" may everyone proclaim,
 All petty ends may we for ever leave
 And 'neath thy sway unite in common aim.
 Peace, dearly bought, for evermore reign thou,
 To thee glad hymns of praise we offer now.

R. James, Form VI.

Sleep.

Come, sweet Sleep, soother of human sorrow,
 Lock fast our eyelids, charm away our woe,
 Let all evil rest until to-morrow
 As by your spell our troubles we forego.
 Watch by the sick, give them your kindly aid,
 And grant them short respite from racking pain,
 To those whom ceaseless care has restless made,
 Restore sweet calm, refresh them once again.
 From your fair realm on downy pinions fly,
 Through gate of horn, true visions bringing;
 To none in need your precious gifts deny,
 As through the world your way you're winging.
 Thus, Sleep, delay not your accustomed hour,
 And for the troubled form a restful bower.

B. Adams, Form VI.

Repose.

O Peace celestial, Heav'n sent Repose,
Blessed herald of fair dreams and reverie,
Thou rescu'st man from life's most bitter woes,
And stillest, for a while, all misery.

Glad summoner of visions pure and bright,
How welcome is thy care-destroying calm,
How fearful are the sombre shades of night
'Till sorrow's dirge gives place to thy sweet psalm!

To prince and beggar art thou just as dear;
Both languish when their eyelids may not close;
Both tire of never-ending darkness drear,
If thou delay'st thy visit, sweet Repose.

Bless'd spirit, shed alike o'er young and old,
Thy gift, more precious far than crowns of gold.

J. V. Lewis, Form VI.

I had a cat and the poor cat died,
And I had thought it died of grieving,
But now, to my sorrow, I'm satisfied,
That it died through a lust for thieving.
"Poor little pussy, what did you steal?
Analyse, please, that fatal meal."
"You crept unseen up those dreaded stairs?
Into the larder you slipped unawares?
It WAS unwise to utter defiance
To sausages made in Domestic Science!"

J. V. Lewis, Form VI.

The Disappointed Ghost.

THE night was still: not a branch of the bare gaunt trees stirred,
not a bird fluttered. The unrippled surface of the mill pool
shone like a sheet of glass, in which was reflected a perfect image
of the full wintry moon.

The mill had long fallen into disuse, and at the slightest step
the boards creaked and crumbled. But no steps came near it now;
it was deserted: deserted even by rats and mice, though it was a
favourite resting place for birds, especially owls.

To-night an old owl, huddled up as if trying to keep out the
cold, sat on the crumbling window sill, forgetting to call his mate
as he stared at the image of the moon in the pool.

Suddenly a whirring of wings broke the stillness of the night,
and with a shrill, piercing "Tu-whit! Tu-whoo," the owl flew

from his perch to a nearby tree, where he settled and stared through the window of the mill.

There could be seen the ghost of old Isaac Stone, slowly groping his way to the flour chute, with thumb and fore-finger ready to feel the flour. He waited, and waited, but no flour came, and sighing deeply, he turned away, passed the window and disappeared.

With a relieved "Tu whit, Tu whoo" the owl flew back to the window sill. He had witnessed this scene often before, but it never failed to scare him, and always forced from him a shrill "Tu whit! Tu whoo"—the cry that scared chance passers-by, and kept villagers away from the mill.

W. Knight, Form IV. A.

An Otter Hunt.

OTTER hunting is a most interesting sport. The hunt I saw took place at the Salwarpe, one of the tributaries of the River Severn. The huntsmen and hounds drove up to the bridge in a van, and they formed a most brilliant and animated scene.

The huntsmen wore very striking costumes of royal blue plus fours, red stockings, red waistcoats, and red berets with an otter paw pinned on one side, while the master of the hunt wore a scarlet coat, and carried whip and horn.

After some consultation between the huntsmen, the signal was given, and one of the hounds having found the scent, he set off followed by the others, barking noisily. Some of them plunged into the water, dashing here and there in a very agitated manner, while the huntsmen ran among them shouting to them and flicking them with their whips.

Then the hounds found the trail of a fox and started after it, and though the master blew his horn it was some time before they could be brought back again.

The hunt continued along the banks of the Salwarpe until they came to a drain pipe joining the Salwarpe and the canal, and a small terrier was put down this to rout out the otter. Some of the huntsmen lay flat on the ground to listen in which direction the otter was going and soon the otter appeared closely followed by the terrier. The hounds sprang at the otter and killed him.

The huntsmen dashed into the midst of the dogs, thrashing them with their whips, and picked up the otter; the master of the hunt cut off the paws and the head, and threw the body to the dogs.

He presented the paws to the first four ladies and handed the head to one of the huntsmen to be stuffed and mounted.

D. Jones, Form IV. R.

Sunset.

AS the great red ball slowly sank below the horizon, the sky and sea seemed to merge in a blaze of golden splendour. The waves shimmered and quivered in the path of gold that stretched from sun to shore, and overhead hung clouds of fiery red, vivid orange and dazzling gold.

Slowly the colours faded, the sky darkened, the shadows lengthened, and only a faint mellow radiance in sky and sea remained of its glory.

M. Knott, Form V.A.

In Remembrance of Christmas.

THE festive season has departed and the last lonely carol-singer has imprinted the last muddy trace of his spoor on the unresponsive doorstep. For nigh on a twelvemonth his tribe will remain seemingly extinct, though the rasp of a file on an empty tin-can will serve to remind an experienced zoologist of the manner in which the advent of December invariably brings forth these strange creatures; their raucous voices become suddenly obvious, like the growls of a bear emerging from his liberation.

My dictionary informs me that a carol is "a song; especially one expressive of joy." I am reluctantly forced to the conclusion that the gentleman who compiled my dictionary was either idealistic or stone deaf; possibly he was both.

No doubt, the first part of his statement—a carol is a song—is true, though I have hitherto been unable to distinguish any words. Perhaps this is because a letter box is acoustically unsuited for the propagation of the human voice. Perhaps the intricate, not to say blood-curdling, harmonies used by the youthful performers render words unnecessary. It is a moot point.

Then, however, the lexicographer continues "especially one expressive of joy." To whom? The dogs of the neighbourhood certainly do not find it so, and as often as possible express their disapproval by removing portions of the offending musicians' nether garments. I am very fond of the dogs of the neighbourhood. May they never be muzzled!

There are, happily, several ways of dealing with carol-singers, apart from the primitive method of waiting behind the door with a mallet. A very old established one is to present the leader of the band with a penny which, in the language of the alchemists "hath withstood the cupel." This idea, to my mind, has two pronounced disadvantages. Firstly, the mere fact that the proffered coin is held with a pair of tongs may excite the gentleman's suspicions,

and secondly, a piece of hot copper held in the hand, does not disconnect the vocal apparatus ; in fact it often has exactly the opposite effect. No! a hot potato, provided that it is manipulated by an ex-grenadier, will have a much more certain effect.

Also, one can be "not at home," but this system, too, has its disadvantages. Firstly, one has to listen all through the singer's renderings (or rendings!) and secondly, the bill for repairing the electric bell will be in considerable excess of the sum which the choir would accept as literal "hush money."

Perhaps, since mantraps are illegal, and Alsatian wolf hounds (even dangerous ones) are expensive, the easiest way out is to pay up and look pleasant, when one can at last have the satisfaction of hearing the song grow fainter and fainter in the distance, until the breeze no longer blows back fragments, and, for the few short minutes ere the next batch arrives, quiet reigns.

J. V. Lewis, Form VI.

In Praise of November.

"The melancholy days are come, the saddest of the year
Of wailing winds and naked woods and meadows brown
and sear."

IN such strains wail the poets. How inappropriate this dirge seemed to me as I was awakened one lovely morning in early November by my dear friends, the birds ; for you must not imagine that in the country we are deserted by our feathered friends during the more inclement months of the year.

I should like to take one of our pessimistic poets for a walk with me through the country during the late Autumn. The poet who wrote

"No birds, no flowers, no trees, November"
can only be excused if he penned the words in the centre of some murky city, enveloped in a dense choking fog rising from a darkly flowing sluggish river, and surrounded by the nerve racking hoot of steamers and ceaseless traffic.

I have at length lured one of these poets from his dingy city den and have induced him to take the trouble of making his way to us in the country. It is with much trepidation that he does so, for he fully expects to see the landscape bare, lifeless and uninteresting.

It is a chill November morning as we set briskly out on our walk. We walk along a field path, bordered on one side by a

rolling meadow, still green, and on the other side by a well kept hedge. Away in the distance over the meadows can be seen through the clear air the beautiful brown and purple tops of the distant hills, glorious in the light of a mellow autumnal sun. The hedgerow, almost free from leaves is bedecked with glowing scarlet berries, food for the birds, and there is certainly nothing sad in the appearance of,

“ The one red leaf, the last of its clan
That dances as often as dance it can
Hanging so light and hanging so high
On the topmost twig that looks up to the sky.”

The birds' nests, more obvious now, attract our attention, and as we watch a thrush flying from his nest we hear the plaintive cry of the blackbird, so different from his summer song, though still very beautiful. From the unploughed fields, still covered with stubble corn, a couple of partridges rise whirring into the air and robin red-breast cheekily hops on the path before us and defiantly chirps at us from the hedgerow when we have passed.

We stand for some minutes watching a squirrel carrying nuts from the hedge to his store in a large oak tree, a scene never before witnessed by my poet, although he had once seen a squirrel in a city park. In the distance we see a hare scurrying to his hole among the dried grasses of some sheltered hollow, and shortly afterwards I point out to my friend the hare's enemy, the stoat, moving slyly along the ditch and as yet unaware of our presence. His coat is still brown although it will shortly be turning white as camouflage against the whitened landscapes of Winter.

A faint breeze floats over the pine trees bearing to us the sweet aroma of pine cones and needles. But the frosted ground and cool air do not encourage dallying, so we expand our chests with deep breaths of the sweet air and, stepping briskly to the swing of a captivating marching song we both are humming, we turn our steps homeward, for the poet is growing weary from this unwanted exercise.

On our arrival home we are greeted by the crackling of a wood fire and the delicious smell of roast beef—fit food for men whose appetites have been sharpened by the autumn air in the English countryside.

But need you ask if our dismal pessimist of November is converted? His first duty was to burn completely and thoroughly a long poem written in deprecation of November, and the rest of the day he spent in an endeavour to find adequate words to describe the glories of this much maligned month.

D. E. Adams, Form VI.

The Cresconians.

SINCE the last report of the Old Students' Association in the October issue of the magazine the number of members has further increased and in all ways the association is living up to its motto. The monthly dances are most popular and the matter exercising the minds of the Committee is not how to get members to attend but how to restrict the attendance to the accommodation. Various experiments in this direction have been tried and the present system of limiting it to one invitation ticket for a friend, coupled with the membership card seems likely to prove a solution.

As mentioned in the October issue the Session commenced in September with President's Evening, a Dance was held in October and another in November, this latter owing to the stage being rigged up for the School play so that the Old Students' had to postpone their Entertainment to December. The Concert given by the Dramatic Section of the Association was very much enjoyed by all present, but unfortunately the audience was not large, whether from the nearness to Christmas or a preference for dances on the part of members we cannot say.

The Carnival on January 12th broke all records, 245 members and friends being present. The fancy costumes were all of a very high standard, and Mr. and Mrs. Howarth, Mr. and Mrs. Dawes and Dr. Kerr had great difficulty in deciding to whom to award the prizes.

E. J. Anderson.

**News of Old Students who left the School
in July, 1928.**

M. GRIGG, E. SMITH, and C. N. NOCK are studying at the Birmingham University, and R. EVERITT at the Birmingham School of Art. H. MOBBS has been appointed to the Worcestershire County Police Force. F. HOLLIES and W. ROBINSON are apprenticed in the Austin Motor Works.

The following have situations as clerks :—

S. G. HALE	...	...	Bank at Leicester.
B. GREENWAY	...	...	Bellis and Morcom.
A. TAYLOR	...	...	Spalding.
A. WEBB	...	...	Kendrick, Spon Lane.
C. NIGHTINGALE	...	...	Birchley Rolling Mills.
L. OAKES	...	...	Britannic Insurance Company.
J. PEYTON	...	...	Chance and Hunt.
T. MALLARD	...	...	Accountant's Office.
S. C. BATEMAN	...	...	Danks, Oldbury.

E. DANIELS	...	...	} Accles and Follock.
E. SAMBROOKE	...	...
H. EVITTS	...	...
H. BILLINGTON	...	...
A. ERRINGTON	...	...	Hunt, "The Brades."
			Auster Works, Birmingham.

P. JONES is in the Drawing Office at Philip Harris and Co. Ltd. J. FORD and W. H. GREENWOOD are in the Surveyor's Office, Oldbury. J. C. BATES is testing at a Chemical Works (Beetle Products), and G. A. FREARSON is Laboratory Assistant at the Technical School, Birmingham. C. ELLIS and A. E. KELLEY are training for electrical engineers, Ellis at Lucas, Birmingham, and Kelley at Roberts, Langley. A. BIRT, L. PICKUP, K. RICHARDS, M. RICHARDS are studying at Commercial Schools in Birmingham. M. PARTRIDGE is learning dressmaking. R. BISHOP is learning carpentry. M. MORRIS is saleswoman at Bell and Nicolson.

A History and Geography Lesson— mainly about Japan.

(Continued from page 86, October magazine.)

As I have said, some people think of Japan as an uncivilised country, and on the contrary some think and write of Japan as though it were the greatest nation of the world. Such people draw attention to the tremendous advance which Japan has been able to make in the last fifty years or so; that in twenty years she was able to defeat China; ten years later to defeat Russia; that she then became a valued ally of Great Britain and takes rank to-day as one of the Five Great Powers of the world. Certainly Japan has been able to make tremendous progress in material things. To-day we see in Japan a great material civilisation worthy of comparison with European countries. We see for instance in medical work, world-famous Japanese research specialists whose work is equal to the best European specialists. Certainly she has made a wonderful advance, an advance which no other non-European country has been able to make, an advance which is only understandable when we study the past history of the country.

The Japanese are proud of the fact that the same dynasty has ruled over Japan from the earliest ages. The Japanese legends, put into writing about 700 A.D., say the first Emperor of Japan was Jimmu Tenno, the grandson of the Sun Goddess (the

greatest among the Gods) who became Emperor of Japan in 660 B.C. To the Japanese of old time, Japan was the "Land of the Gods" and the rest of the world of no account, as having no connection with the Gods.

At the time of writing these legends and chronicles, about the year 700 A.D., the present dynasty was ruling, and I think that it is fairly safe to say that since the time of the beginning of the Christian Era, members of this same family have ruled over Japan. Of course it does not follow that always the eldest son succeeded to the throne of the dead Emperor, rarely perhaps the eldest son came to the throne, not always even did a son of the last Emperor succeed, but often only an adopted son. Yet nevertheless there were no breaks in the history as in England in 1066, 1649, 1689. However, except for very brief periods, the Emperor has never ruled personally, but always in the periods up to 1870 through Mayors of the Palace (called "Shogun") who concentrated in their families the supreme power. Often there were great sanguinary wars, like our Wars of the Roses between rival Shogun, but they never indulged in Emperor-making; they were completely satisfied with possessing the realities of power and had no desire to usurp the name and dignity of Emperor.

So to-day we find the influence of this history in the fact that Japan is the strongest and most united and most fervently patriotic nation outside Europe. Their established religion "Shinto" is one invented expressly for the sole purpose of glorifying the State and its rulers. There is no moral teaching; it simply teaches the divine origin of the Emperor; the sole virtue is patriotism. Patriotism is and has always been the chief "virtue" of the Japanese. You will perhaps be able to see that clearly in the history of the introduction of Christianity into Japan—to us, perhaps—one of the most interesting episodes in the whole of Japanese history.

It was in 1549, an easy date to remember, that Saint Francis Xavier and his associates of the Society of Jesus landed in Japan to begin this work, and under his successors from 1551 onwards the enterprise was phenomenally successful. In fifty years whole provinces of the south had been converted with their lords, in spite of the determined resistance of the Buddhist priests. From the annual reports which the Jesuit fathers sent home to Europe, we can get excellent ideas of what Japan was like then, and their shrewd estimates of the Japanese character are useful to-day. So, instead of writing at length on the habits, customs and manners of the Japanese I will give one or two quotations from these reports. Saint Francis himself says, "The people we have met here surpass in moral qualities, all people discovered in Asia up to this

time. I think that there cannot be a nation superior to the Japanese. The intelligence is bright and open, and they prefer honour to everything else." Another famous priest, Francis Cosme de Torres, the companion and successor of St. Francis describes the Japanese thus " They are very discreet and are led by reason only. They wish for salvation and like to discuss the means of saving their souls. They have good manners and habits, and are full of politeness to each other, as though all of them had had an education at the King's Court. They very seldom speak evil of their neighbours. They are not envious, nor are they gamblers. Gambling and stealing are punished by death. Their sport is in exercising themselves with weapons and they are very clever in this. Their special hobby is composing poetry. They are proud and self-confident in their cleverness with bow and arrow and with sword They are excellent archers They think very little of all other nations. They govern their state without any law-courts and trials—a fact which deserves admiration. Both small and large crimes are punished by death, for they say that if a man can make a small basket, he can make a large one, if he has the opportunity. . Servants serve their masters with great zeal and are very loyal, for every master has the power of life and death over his slaves. . . . The Japanese are very friendly in their character and allow themselves to be guided only by reason. . . . "

About 1603, Japan was in a fair way to becoming entirely Christian, when the Shogun began to discourage the spread of Christianity, and finally with a terrible martyrdom of thousands of native Christians, Japan was closed to the intrusion of foreign Gods, for the Japanese patriot has always looked on Christianity as a " foreign " religion. Christianity was destroyed and terrible penalties attached to adherence to the " foreign heresy," penalties which remained in force till 1870. But even then Christianity was not entirely eradicated, for in 1870 when Christianity was again allowed freedom, villages were found which had kept sacred objects, who baptised their children and were as far as they could be Christians. So Patriotism ended the spread of Christianity just when it seemed to be on the point of success.

The persecution had other results. It also prevented all intercourse with foreign countries from about 1630 to 1850 and Japan was unknown to the rest of the world. Japan fell back while Europe progressed in material civilisation. Japan came out of her self-imposed seclusion to find the whole world parcelled out among the European States—a fact which resulted in the present great problem—apparently insoluble—of what to do with her surplus population. The population of Japan is increasing, and there are

no colonies for them to emigrate to. But on the other hand, her history and the character of the people developed through the course of ages has enabled her to make the advance she has made with astonishing rapidity and without falling into the abyss of revolution as so many states have done in making such revolutionary changes.

W. J. WHITEHOUSE.

Parents' Association.

AT a meeting of the society held on 15th December, 1929, Mr. C. S. Howells was elected secretary in place of Mr. Icke, who, according to rule, had to retire since he no longer has any children in the school. Mr. and Mrs. Icke were elected vice-presidents of the association.

Mr. A. E. Hackett gave an address on "Careers for our Boys and Girls." This proved most interesting and instructive and was greatly appreciated by all.

A series of monthly meetings has been arranged and parents of scholars are invited to attend. The meetings for the Spring term are:—

Feb. 16.—"Some Aspects of the British Empire," by Mr. Goodwin (Headmaster of Holy Trinity School, Smethwick).

March 23.—"The Future of our Young People," by Mrs. H. B. Dewsbury, J.P. (Member of Walsall Board of Guardians).

R. C. Woodward (Chairman).

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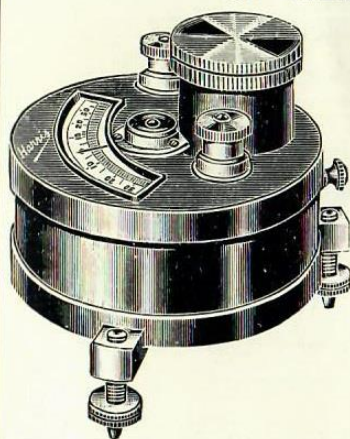
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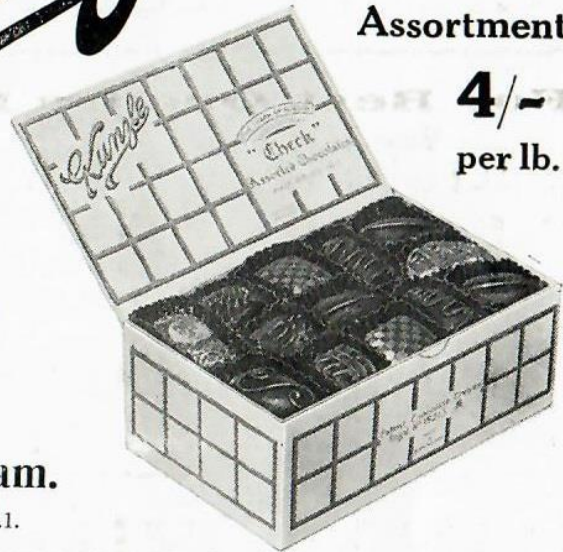
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# THE OLDBURIAN.

OLDBURY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL  
MAGAZINE.

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MAY, 1929.

VOL. II., No. 4.

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E. GREEN (II. A), D. SHORE, (II. A2),

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## EDITORIAL.

THIS number of our Magazine really contains a record of the doings and happenings of the Easter Term, but as it appears at the beginning of the Summer Term, we take this opportunity of wishing all members of our community the best of good fortune in their work and their games. There are good records of work done in past examinations, and it should be the aim of our candidates to do a little better this year than has been done before. In cricket, tennis, athletic sports and swimming we hope to see our previous best performances once again improved upon, for even a slight advance is progress. So too with our Musical Festival, may it be better than the very good one of last year.

The Easter Term was an unusual term in many ways, and we should be glad to be spared a repetition of the bad weather, burst pipes, split radiators and sickness in the future.

It is with the greatest regret that we record that the Easter Term brought us the loss of two old friends, Frances Butler, one of our Old Students, and Mr. R. Dickenson, the Head Master of Halesowen Grammar School. Each leaves in our circle of friends a gap which cannot be filled.

We are glad to note that the school Debating Society has added to its usual programme an inter-school debate with Halesowen. An account of this meeting appears elsewhere, but the idea of bringing representative teams together in such a meeting, as well as in the playing fields, is excellent, and we hope that such meetings will long continue to be a standing feature of the society's list of events.



Since this Magazine went to press the school has suffered another loss through the death of one of our Governors, Mr. Robert Green. Our regret is great, for Mr. Green has been a good friend to the school and to the Old Students' Association. We sympathise sincerely with Mrs. Green, Mrs. Jephcott and Miss Green.

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### Dates to Remember.

May 21, 22.—School closes for Whitsuntide.  
 May 23.—Sports' Day.  
 May 25.—Musical Festival.  
 June 28.—School Certificate Examination begins.  
 July 1.—Higher School Certificate Examination begins.  
 July 15.—"Wilson" Holiday.  
 July 24.—Term ends.  
 September 12.—School re-opens.

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### The Burst Pipes.

O! keen is the wind and there's frost on the pane,  
 One would think we shall never see summer again;  
 And people remark, 'twixt a sneeze and a cough,  
 "We wish that this weather would take itself off."

One sees nothing else, wherever one goes,  
 But the blue-tinted end of many a starved nose,  
 And the owner of each thinks he's rather a hero  
 For shewing that much when the temperature's zero.

Everyone hopes that the cold will disperse,  
 Save one little band, where 'tis quite the reverse;  
 If anyone calls upon these to explain  
 Why they love arctic weather, they'll shout this refrain:

"The pipes have burst! The pipes have burst!  
 We hoped they would, right from the first.  
 Of course, we don't want any extra vacation,  
 We merely find joy in this fine demonstration.

We learn from our Physics that water expands  
 With great force, when it freezes, and breaks iron bands,  
 So we're happy to have such an excellent proof  
 'Neath the shade of our own educational roof.

We hope you applaud our aversion to sloth  
 But though we assure you we'll be nothing loth  
 To return to our studies, we feel that we oughter  
 Give thanks for the curious behaviour of water."

J. V. Lewis, Form VI.

Valete.

K, BUTLER.  
A. NORTH.  
B. LEWIS.  
V. MARSHALL.  
ROBERTS, B.  
STOUT, B. J.

LAMB, C.  
BRIDGE, J.  
ADAMS, E. J.  
WISEMAN, A. H.  
CULWICK, E.  
MILLWARD, A.

Salvete.

HALL, R.  
EDGE, J. (returned).  
M. BEST.  
ROWE, F.

M. BUXTON.  
RICHARDS, T. E. G.  
MUCKLOW, T.

Trinity House.

*Captains* - - A. E. KEY, J. C. GOODACRE.  
*Sports Captains* - D. HADLEY, J. C. GOODACRE.  
*Secretary* - - D. G. HOMER.

LAST term Trinity House succeeded in winning the Inter-house Hockey Competition. The results of the matches were as follows:—

Trinity 3, Queen's 0.  
Trinity 3, King's 0.  
Trinity 1, School 0.

By this victory, Trinity cleared another hurdle in the keen race for the House Cup, which we hope to retain for the third year in succession.

Among the several inter-house events in the future, in which we trust all our members will do credit to the honourable name of Trinity is included Sports' Day, on which we must try to exceed all previous years' records. Then there is the Musical Festival, the cup for which we hope to add to our other trophy. Then last, but nevertheless most important, though possibly the least interesting event of school-life, come the July Examinations for which the Fifth and Sixth are preparing. In these we must endeavour to uphold the reputation which our stalwarts of past years have set up.

We hope all our members will continue to exhibit in every branch of school-life that enthusiasm which is always such a good start along the road to success.

A. E. Key.  
J. C. Goodacre.

### Queen's House.

*Captains* - - L. HINDS, P. F. WOODWARD.  
*Sports Captains* - J. MORRIS, H. G. BARLOW.  
*Secretary* - - B. E. ADAMS.

LAST term was not a very busy one as regards House competitions. There were no inter-house football matches although the girls did compete against each other at hockey. Unfortunately Queen's House was beaten 3—0 by Trinity House, and 1—0 by King's House. The match with School House will be played next term.

Already the musical Festival looms ahead. Copies of the set pieces have been distributed and practises have been arranged for the holidays. It is sincerely hoped that the House will be as successful this year as it has been at the last two festivals. The Summer Term is sure to be a very busy one and we shall need all the help that our members can give us if we are to do well in the competitions

L. Hinds.  
P. F. Woodward.

### King's House.

*Captains* - - D. BALDWIN, G. LYMAN.  
*Vice-Captains* - E. McALISTER, E. F. WILLETTS.  
*Sports Captains* - K. BONEHAM, E. F. WILLETTS.  
*Secretaries* - - M. MILLER, D. E. ADAMS.

THE Magazine is here again once and I find very little on which to comment, except to thank all the members of King's House for their loyal support of captain and officers.

Only one public performance took place last term, this being the display by the Girl Guides, and I take this opportunity of congratulating the members of King's House who took part. The boys of our House were unable to prove their powers on the football field as no matches took place, but the girls did excellently at hockey by losing only to Trinity, and obtaining second position in the contest.

I would remind our members that this term should be one of hard work for either public or terminal examinations so that the honour of King's may be upheld in the more serious part of school life.

D. E. Adams.

### School House.

*Captains* - - J. V. LEWIS, E. PENNINGTON.  
*Vice-Captains* - L. W. BLUNDELL, D. RUDD.  
*Sports Captains* - L. DAVIES, A. NORTH.  
*Secretary* - - B. ROBERTS.

THE main event during last term was a display given by the School Girl Guides, in which several members of School House played important parts. K. Oxborrow's piper's dance was deservedly popular with the audiences, and the dances in which

D. Rudd, M. Tavener, and B. Wain appeared were also appreciated. In the one-act play "The Golden Doom," K. Oxborrow and N. James represented the Old Gold, and played their parts excellently. Also, J. V. Lewis acted as accompanist for the dancing, and Mr. T. L. Davies, in addition to accompanying, composed several of the "Nursery Rhymes." Last, but most decidedly not least, Miss Tweedie is a member of our happy band.

The girls' hockey team has not been so successful as one might desire, but though defeated, we are very far from disgraced. We lost by the only goal scored to both King's and Trinity, and against Queen's, we imagined we had scored the only goal. The ball was centred and the match finished but, unfortunately it has to be replayed owing to a subsequent dispute concerning the legitimacy of our goal. Dare we hope for such a harvest in the replay that a few illegitimate ones will be immaterial?

The boys have had no outstanding event during the past term, but they have brought honour to the House in the football elevens, where they are well represented.

In conclusion, we would like to take this opportunity of congratulating one of our past members, Rex Herbert, who has been successful in the Intermediate examination of the Law Society for admission as a solicitor of the Supreme Court. We wish him all success in his final examination, and trust he will long live to practise as what he himself calls "a fully qualified blood-sucker."

E. C. Pennington.  
J. V. Lewis.

### Football.

|                            |                                                  |               |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------|
|                            | 1st XI.                                          | 2nd XI.       |
| <i>Captain</i> - - -       | E. F. Willets.                                   | E. Griffiths. |
| <i>Vice-Captains</i> - - - | J. V. Lewis                                      | P. Woodward.  |
| <i>General Committee</i> - | Captains, Vice-Captains, C. Goodacre, L. Davies. |               |

During the Spring Term the following matches were played:—

| 1st XI.                     |         |            |                |
|-----------------------------|---------|------------|----------------|
| Opponents.                  | Result. | Goals for. | Goals against. |
| Redditch S. S. ....         | Won     | 6          | 4              |
| Lawrence's College ....     | Won     | 10         | 1              |
| Smethwick M.C. ....         | Won     | 10         | 0              |
| Redditch S.S. ....          | Won     | 2          | 0              |
| St. Philip's G.S. ....      | Won     | 6          | 1              |
| West Bromwich M.S.S. ....   | Won     | 9          | 1              |
| Waverly Road S.S. ....      | Drawn   | 1          | 1              |
| Smethwick M.C. ....         | Won     | 8          | 1              |
| Kidderminster K.C.G.S. .... | Won     | 10         | 1              |
| Stourbridge K.E.S.S. ....   | Lost    | 3          | 5              |

## 2nd XI.

|                           |      |    |   |
|---------------------------|------|----|---|
| Lawrence's College .....  | Won  | 15 | 1 |
| Smethwick M.C. ....       | Won  | 8  | 1 |
| St. Philip's G.S. ....    | Won  | 6  | 4 |
| Smethwick M.C. ....       | Won  | 16 | 1 |
| Stourbridge K.E.S.S. .... | Lost | 2  | 9 |

## Junior XI.

|                         |       |   |   |
|-------------------------|-------|---|---|
| Holly Lodge H.S.B. .... | Lost  | 1 | 4 |
| Holly Lodge H.S.B. .... | Drawn | 2 | 2 |
| Oldswinford .....       | Won   | 7 | 6 |

The complete results of the season are as follows:—

|                | Played. | Won. | Lost. | Drawn. | Goals<br>for. | Goals<br>against. |
|----------------|---------|------|-------|--------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1st XI. ....   | 20      | 10   | 6     | 4      | 93            | 52                |
| 2nd XI. ....   | 9       | 7    | 2     | 0      | 59            | 26                |
| Junior XI. ... | 3       | 1    | 1     | 1      | 10            | 12                |

On the above results the following deserve our congratulations for the excellent way in which they have performed their duties in the School teams.

1st XI.—Lewis; Vann, Adams, W. A.; Musgrave, Goodacre, Willetts; Adams, D. E., Waterhouse, Davies; Cashmore, Franklin, and also Bayliss, Blundell, Butlin, Griffiths, Millward, Powell and Woodward.

2nd XI.—Butlin; Bayliss, Griffiths; Pardoe, Wiseman, Woodward; Rowley, Blundell, Millward, Davies, Ryder, and also Barlow, Greenwood, Hughes and Newton.

Junior XI.—Smith, A. W.; Playdon, Morris; Hale, Cope, Knott; Hadley, Greenwood, Palmer, Banford, Betts and also Horton and Keyte.

Football colours have been awarded to J. V. Lewis and L. Davies. Colours are awarded to those in the 1st XI. who have shown particular merit and have done exceptionally well in inter-school matches and it should be the ambition of every boy to get his "Colours."

The second eleven score of 16—1 against Smethwick is a school record for the second team.

The most interesting match of the season was that played by the 1st XI. against Stourbridge on their ground. Stourbridge won the toss and we had to play facing a bright sun. From the moment Davies kicked off the play developed a speed which not only drew comments from the spectators but surprised our opponents to such an extent that during the first half-hour Oldbury had nearly all the play and kept up a killing pace. In this period the ball was netted twice; once by Willetts from a centre by Adams and once by Blundell after another shot had been charged down. A few minutes before the interval Stourbridge replied with a good goal and the half-time score was Oldbury 2, Stourbridge 1.

Oldbury were refreshed by the "breather" and right from the kick-off kept up the fast pace set at the beginning, but guardian angels seemed to protect the Stourbridge goal. Three or four almost open goals were missed in succession and that began the chapter of accidents. The ball rebounded from the back of Vann's head from a goal-kick, thus giving Stourbridge an easy goal. We soon regained the lead through Adams scoring an almost runaway goal but this was shortlived. Stourbridge had a sequence of three goals and we could make no further impression. Our opportunity had been missed but it was a great game, although we lost.

The final score was Stourbridge 5, Oldbury 3.

E. F. Willetts.

### Hockey.

Captain—J. Morris.

Vice-Captain—L. Hinds.

Team—

D. Hadley, D. Homer, K. Boneham, P. Williams, D. Rudd, L. Hinds, E. Pennington, A. North, J. Morris, B. Wallace, E. Key.

WITH the finish of last term we came to the end of another successful Hockey season. During the Easter Term, the 1st XI. won 4 matches, drew 0, and lost 2, with a total of 16 goals for us and 5 against, making in all a total of 22 goals for us and 21 against us. The results for the season were as follows:—

For. Against.

#### Autumn Term.

|                                     |    |   |     |   |
|-------------------------------------|----|---|-----|---|
| Oct. 6.—Waverley Road .....         | A. | 3 | ... | 1 |
| „ 13.—West Bromwich .....           | H. | 3 | ... | 0 |
| „ 27.—Walsall .....                 | H. | 3 | ... | 1 |
| Nov. 7.—St. Paul's, Edgbaston ..... | A. | 0 | ... | 9 |
| Dec. 1.—O.S.S. Old students .....   | H. | 1 | ... | 2 |
| „ 5.—Halesowen .....                | A. | 3 | ... | 3 |

#### Spring Term.

|                                        |    |   |     |   |
|----------------------------------------|----|---|-----|---|
| Feb. 9.—Redditch .....                 | A. | 2 | ... | 1 |
| Mar. 13.—Wolverhampton Secondary ..... | A. | 5 | ... | 0 |
| „ 16.—Wolverhampton High School .....  | A. | 0 | ... | 1 |
| „ 20.—Halesowen .....                  | H. | 0 | ... | 3 |
| „ 23.—O.S.S. Old Students .....        | H. | 2 | ... | 0 |

At the end of the term, colours were awarded to five members of the eleven, namely, to:—D. Homer, D. Rudd, K. Boneham, P. Williams and B. Wallace.

E. Key, Secretary.

### A Visit to London.

ON March 4th and 5th, twenty-six senior boys and girls visited London, under the charge of Mrs. Quayle and Miss Green. We started from Snow Hill by the 9 o'clock train, arriving at Paddington at 11 o'clock. We had a whole coach reserved for us, which pleased us very much.

From Paddington we went on the Metropolitan Railway to Portland Road Station for the Zoo, which we entered by the South Gate. As we were near the Aquarium we decided to go and see the fishes before lunch. The chief interest for most of us lay in the wonderful colouring and shapes of the tropical fish, and the beautiful arrangement whereby they appear in their natural surroundings.

After lunch we wandered round, meeting periodically, to see the various animals fed at their appointed times. The most interesting animals were the sea-lions, which took up their positions and caught the fishes which the keeper threw to them, liked trained acrobats.

We left the Zoo about 5-15 p.m. after having our tea and walked to Regent Station to entrain for Olympia, to see the "Ideal Home Exhibition." This we found very interesting, especially the gardens where we could forget that London was frozen up and revel in the masses of spring and summer flowers. At 9 o'clock we met at the Café in the Exhibition, as arranged, for supper and at 10 o'clock, tired out, we left the Exhibition and went straight to our rooms for bed, the girls to the Clifford Hotel, Russell Square and the boys to the Y.M.C.A. Hostel, Tottenham Court Road.

The following morning we had to get up at 7-45 so that we could have our breakfast at 8-15. By 9 o'clock we were all ready to set off again and we went from Russell Square Station on the Underground Railway to Piccadilly Circus, where the boys were waiting for us. After walking about two hundred yards we were at Burlington House where the Dutch Art Exhibition was being held. Here we found our party one of the many school parties and heard foreign languages on all sides. By noon the Gallery was crowded, and we went down to the restaurant for lunch as previously arranged. The rest was a very pleasing respite to practically every member of the party.

When we had finished lunch we set off again bent on sight-seeing. First of all we passed St. James' Palace and walked to Buckingham Palace and on our way past Wellington Barracks we saw a large crowd of people and so thought there must be something exciting happening. We waited and learned that Lord Ruthven's daughter was being married at the Guard's Chapel. When we had seen the bride arrive we moved on towards Westminster and the Houses of Parliament. From Westminster Bridge we could just see the outline of St. Paul's Dome. Leaving Westminster Bridge we went down Whitehall, past the Cenotaph to the National Gallery, where our stay was unfortunately very short. When we came out we boarded a 'bus outside St. Martin's which took us to St. Paul's Cathedral and after watching the pigeons, we went in to find we were just in time for a 4 o'clock service. The singing was particularly beautiful, especially the anthem. After the service we looked round the Cathedral but, as repairs were still in progress, much of the most interesting part was boarded up.

Then we had tea in a nearby café, after which we travelled by Underground to Paddington. At 7-10 we glided out of the station and wished London good-bye for another year, having spent two very enjoyable days.

We all thank Mrs. Quayle and Miss Green very much for taking us to London and hope we may go again next year.

M. Kings.

### Literary, Dramatic, Debating and Scientific Society.

*President*, Mr. J. G. Howarth, M.A.

*Vice-Presidents—*

Miss G. Jones, M.A., Miss J. Davies, Dr. R. W. Thomason,  
Mr. K. D. Hopkins, B.Sc., Mr. B. C. Pearson, B.A.,  
Mr. R. A. F. Newton-Hearne, B.A.

*Chairman*, G. Lyman.

*Secretary*, J. V. Lewis.

*Vice-Chairman*, A. E. Key.

*Treasurer*, E. F. Willetts.

*Committee—*

A. Bayliss, D. Hadley, D. Homer, L. Davies, B. Wallace, S. Bridge,  
M. Marshall, J. Cope.

THE Scientific, Dramatic and Debating Society has, during the past term, held another most interesting series of meetings, of which the following is a brief synopsis:—

22nd Jan.—Act I. of “What Every Woman Knows,” by Sir James Barrie, was very ably rendered by the following:—*Maggie*, K. Goodwin; *Alick*, Onions; *David*, Tansley; *James*, Hughes; *John Shand*, Wiseman.

29th Jan.—A debate was held, the motion being “That Capital Punishment should be abolished.” Speakers for the affirmative, Daisy Homer, Dorothy Homer. Speakers for the negative, Vann, Richardson. The speakers for the negative made a valiant attempt, but it was obvious from the beginning that their case was unpopular, and the motion was easily carried.

5th Feb.—A very interesting lecture on Mendelssohn, illustrated by gramophone records, was given by C. Goodacre.

12th Feb.—R. S. O. Stevens gave a very instructive paper on Heraldry, which, together with his many interesting illustrations, was thoroughly appreciated.

19th Feb.—Inter-School Debate. Oldbury v. Halesowen. An account appears elsewhere in the Magazine.

26th Feb.—Half-Term.

12th March.—Two one-act plays were read. (a) A Scotch comedy, (a) “Rory Aforesaid.” Cast: *Rory*, Stocker; *Prosecutor*, Robinson; *Judge*, Vann; *Lawyer*, Pardoe; *Witness*, W. Cowell. (b) An Eastern play in verse, “Poetasters of Ispahan.” Cast: *Hallaj*, Dixon; *Guleesh*, Stevens; *Nejrihal*, Cope; *Ibn Hassin*, Keyte; *Alladin*, Jones; *Silvermoon*, D.



Bridgewater; *Sulliman*, Greenwood; *Slave Boy*, Wheale. All are to be congratulated on their performance, but we would extend our special congratulations to Stocker, Pardoe, W. Cowell on the success of their first appearance on the stage.

19th March.—A paper on Music in Shakespeare's Plays was read by P. Woodward. This was freely illustrated by K. Goodwin and M. Boaler (vocalists), Blundell (pianist), and by gramophone records, and it proved most enjoyable.

26th March.—A Mock Trial was held by members of IVR., who are all to be congratulated on the interesting and amusing entertainment which they provided for us.

9th April.—We were very pleased to welcome Miss Webb and Mr. Church (of the Labour Employment Bureau, Birmingham), who came down to address the Society on Careers for Boys and Girls.

J. V. Lewis.

## The Inter-School Debate.

HALESOWEN *v.* OLDBURY.

**A**N interesting experiment was made on Thursday, March 7th, when our Debating Society had the pleasure of meeting in debate members of the Halesowen Grammar School Debating Society.

The Halesowen party, consisting of several members of the Staff and about sixty pupils, arrived at about 4 p.m., and after we were all labelled with our names and general introductions were made, we proceeded to the Dining Hall for tea. This was indeed a "scrumptious" feast, thoroughly enjoyed by all!

At 5-10 we assembled in the Hall for the business. The motion before the House was "The Study of Science is a better preparation for life than the study of the Humanities." The chairman was G. Lyman and the motion was proposed by Oldbury, our speakers being Barlow, E. Key, Adams. Halesowen's representatives to oppose the motion were Dunn, Tilley and M. Ball.

These six speakers all spoke clearly and to the point and their speeches were greatly appreciated. Since each did so well in his or her own particular way it is rather invidious to single out any particular one, but perhaps there does stand out most clearly in our memory the forcible and witty style of Dunn and the assured self-confident manner of Barlow.

At about 6 o'clock the debate was thrown open for discussion, and the opportunity was quickly seized by members. Never for one moment did the debate flag, and many excellent speeches were made. On the whole, Halesowen were smarter at rising to

speak than we were, but our members who did speak acquitted themselves well.

After the final speeches of Dunn and Barlow, both excellent, the House divided for the count, the result being 87 for the motion and 54 against.

A much enjoyed impromptu dance followed until 8 o'clock, when our visitors departed.

It was a most successful and enjoyable meeting. We hope there may be many more.

B. E. Adams, VI.A.

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### A Visit to the Assizes.

ON March 12th, under the guidance of Miss Jones, the whole of the Upper Sixth Form paid a visit to the Victoria Courts at Birmingham to witness the opening of the Winter Assizes. Unfortunately time was precious and we only found time to visit the Crown Court. The party were early seated in the front row of the gallery, and ample time was found to view the interior of the courts themselves. The Grand Jury, of which Sir William Bowater was the foreman, was the first to appear, and after the Recorder had sworn them all in, these gentlemen retired to give up their places immediately facing the Judge to the solicitors and barristers.

After the reading of the King's Proclamation by the Clerk of the Assizes, the Judge himself addressed the Court. The calendar was comprised of only twelve cases, and in his charge to the Court Mr. Justice Horridge described it as one that was very creditable to the Birmingham Division.

The Recorder then swore in the Common Jury, who were accommodated at the side of the Judge's chair. The members of the Grand Jury then suddenly appeared in a little alcove high up in the side of the Courts, and handed down, by means of an enormous long handled fishing net, certain documents, which are termed true bills, to the Clerk of Assizes. The latter personage in turn, after having questioned the foreman as to whether there was a case against the prisoner, handed them to the Judge. The Clerk of the Assizes then called upon the warder in charge of the dock to surrender the prisoner at the bar. Then followed the usual cross-examination, the decision of the Jury, and the passing of the sentence by the Judge.

Time however was pressing and we had to leave the Court rather early, but time was found to witness at least five prosecutions. After a very interesting morning indeed, the party left Birmingham at about 12-45 and returned home for afternoon school.

L. W. Blundell.

**Girl Guides.***Officers :—**Captain, Miss F. D. Tweedie      Lieutenant, Miss J. Davies.**Company Leader, D. Rudd**Patrol Leaders, E. Pennington, K. Goodwin, E. MacAlister, M. Green,  
B. Adams.*

**O**N Thursday, 28th February, and Saturday, 2nd March, the Girl Guides gave in the School Hall a display, consisting of dancing and two short plays.

The first item was "God Save the King," sung by K. Goodwin and the audience. D. Jones and N. Glegg, with their escort, and followed by the other Guides, marched into the hall and presented colours.

"The Golden Doom, by Lord Dunsany, followed, and each character did her very best. The play was quite a success and enjoyed by everybody.

After a short interval three dances representing China were very well executed. J. Lugg and B. Wallace made a delightful shepherd and shepherdess in "Dresden China," and were very picturesquely dressed. B. Lewis, D. Jones, and E. Macalister, dressed in white, now danced before the "Wedgewood China" vase, and were followed by M. Jackson and M. Phillips as a Chinese lady and gentleman in "Chinese China."

Spring was heralded by K. Oxborrow as a very dainty "Piper of Pan." P. Butler and I. Blackband, as two "Spirits of Spring," dressed in delicate shades of yellow and green, showed to the audience a delightful and airy dance.

A "Summer Night" was very effectively rendered by moths and a butterfly who danced around them on her toes, while Summer was represented as six maidens in long pink ballet frocks.

Autumn was shown by our smallest guides, dressed in Autumn tints, who gave a very light dance, representing swaying leaves.

R. Everett, as "Spirit of Winter," with her four "Frost Spirits," ended the dancing of the "Seasons." This dance was very gracefully and excellently performed.

Perhaps the most appreciated part of the programme came next, namely, the dancing of the nursery rhymes.

The first was "Oranges and Lemons," danced by four oranges and four lemons. This was followed by "Little Miss Muffet," and K. Oxborrow as Miss Muffet charmed the audience, as also did B. Wheatcroft as the Spider performing her gymnastic tricks.

"The Grand Old Duke of York" was the last of these nursery rhymes, but by no means the least enjoyed. K. Oxborrow, as the Duke, very smartly led her uniformed men "up the hill and down again," and the entire youth and smartness of this was very pleasing.

An interval followed, and then came the final play, "The Crier by Night." Cast: *Hialti*, N. Clegg; *Thorgerd*, F. Carr; *Blaid*, R. Everett; *The Crier* (the Spirit of the Marsh), M. Green.

The Guides were helped by Mr. T. L. Davies, J. V. Lewis, and G. Lyman, who arranged the music; by Mrs. Quayle, who designed the costumes and scenery, and by other members of the Staff.

Apart from the display the Guides have had a busy term working for second class and sick nurse badges.

Each month a "Court of Honour" has been held, attended by leaders and seconds, to arrange programmes, etc.

On February 8th two new members were enrolled, and parents were invited to the ceremony and to see the work carried on by the Guides.

Miss Norman, Captain of Tettenhall Guides, came to enrol three new members on March 22nd and to watch the usual parade.

E. Macalister.

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### Winter.

Now Winter is here with its cold and dark,  
Into bed early, not out in the park;  
And when it is over and Summer draws near,  
We shall shout hoorah! for a happy new year.

What with the wind and the ice and snow,  
What's in store for us we do not know;  
There will be hockey and skating galore,  
So what does it matter what's in store?

M. Phillips, Form II.A.2.

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### Autumn.

Now Autumn with its colours bright,  
And leaves of every hue,  
Sheds o'er the world a golden light,  
And gently falls the dew.

The harvests now are gathered in,  
And all the fields are bare;  
The farmer rich reward will win  
For all his toil and care.

The farmers still must busy be  
To till the fertile soil,  
And guide the plough across the lea  
For next year's harvest spoil.

K. Wakeman, Form II.A.2.

**The Sunset.**

The sun is setting in an azure sky,  
 Our little feathered friends begin to fly;  
 For in the West the heav'ns are burning red,  
 And all the clouds are scurrying overhead.

The vault of heav'n is flecked with roseate hue,  
 And here and there are streaks of wond'rous blue;  
 Exquisite mauves merge into dusky grey,  
 As misty twilight bids good-bye to day.

G. Ackrill, Form III.A.

**A Storm.**

Oh! bend ye tall proud ships your gallant masts,  
 And ye old seadogs bow your hoary heads,  
 The storm clouds gather, while the western sea  
 Doth wreck its vengeance on the rock-bound coast,  
 And billows dash against the tall proud cliffs.  
 The lightning flashes o'er the scene,  
 And sailors on the wet and slipp'ry decks,  
 Tho' brave their boasts, yet in their eyes show fear.  
 The water wraiths are shrieking in the foam,  
 And Neptune in his coral caves looks on,  
 While the rain streams and swirls about the rocks  
 As though the clouds in sympathy do weep.

E. Keyte, Form III.A.

**The Shipwrecked Mariner.**

Hark how the wild waves beat upon the shore!  
 The sea brings in some little shipwrecked boat,  
 And, clinging to some piece of wreck, a man  
 Hangs, nearly freezing in the bitter sea.  
 A crowd has gathered on the sandy beach,  
 Now in the nick of time a lifeboat comes.  
 "Ah! saved at last," the people cry with joy,  
 As gallant lifeboat-men just drag him in.  
 The lifeboat makes a sudden dash, and soon  
 The shipwrecked mariner is brought to land.

\* \* \* \* \*

When he revived he'd some fine tales to tell;  
 How many village children gathered round,  
 With int'rest and excitement in their eyes.  
 He told them of the wreck and stormy seas,  
 Of many strange and lovely things he'd seen.  
 In truth, they liked him very well,  
 And all were sorry when he had to leave.

N. Pickering, Form III.A.

**Lullaby.**

The sun is sinking in the west,  
 'Tis now the time for you to rest;  
 The shades of night are falling fast,  
 The wintry moon her beams doth cast,  
 So sleep, my baby.

Now, to their nests tired birds do fly,  
New stars are twinkling in the sky;  
The owl doth cry "Tu wit, tu whoo,"  
Which means "to bed, to bed with you."  
So sleep, my baby.

R. Keyte, Form IV.A.

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**Lullaby.**

Now, my child, 'tis time for sleep,  
Night is nigh :  
And the stars begin to peep  
In the sky.

Now the birds no more will sing,  
For 'tis night :  
They will wait till morn doth bring  
Warmth and light.

Now the shepherds, tired, come home,  
With their sheep :  
Every day the fields they roam,  
Then they sleep.

Though the sun has gone from view,  
Do not fear :  
Soon he will return to you,  
Bright and clear.

So, my baby, go to sleep,  
Night is nigh :  
Angels watch you while you sleep,  
From the sky.

D. Stevens, Form IV.A.

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**A Lullaby.**

Sleep, little babe, in your pretty blue nest,  
Your mother is near you, the birds are at rest,  
The sun's slowly sinking away in the west :  
Sleep, little darling, sleep.

Sleep, little babe, while the shadows do creep,  
The pale moon is rising, the twinkling stars peep,  
The angels above you their watches do keep :  
Sleep, little darling, sleep.

Sleep, little babe, your father is here,  
He comes to the baby he loves so dear ;  
So go now to dreamland, have nothing to fear :  
Sleep, little darling, sleep.

Sleep, little babe, and close your eyes,  
The dark night is only the day in disguise,  
To-morrow the dawn will soon bring the blue skies :  
Sleep, little darling, sleep.

D. Bridgewater, Form IV.A.

**Spring.**

Sweet Spring has come and waved her wand,  
 All Nature hastens to respond;  
 The trees which gaunt and bare have been  
 Now wear a coat of verdant green.

In corners that were dull and chill  
 Now blooms a golden daffodil;  
 The wind with sudden elfin mirth  
 With snow-white blossom strews the earth.

In treetops tall the birds are gay,  
 You hear their song the live long day;  
 A gladsome song the song they sing,  
 A joyous welcome to the Spring.

J. W. Manton, Form IV.A.

**A Triolet.**

"Tu-whit, tu-whoo,"  
 Shrieks the old owl;  
 "Good-bye to you  
 Tu-whit, tu-whoo,  
 I'm off to woo,  
 A nice brown owl,  
 Tu-whit, tu-whoo,"  
 Shrieks the old owl.

W. Evans, Form IV.A.

**May Day.**

Yes, May day is a happy day,  
 And always has been too,  
 The fairest maid of all is found,  
 And crowned with flowers and dew.

She holds a posy in her hands,  
 And wears a dress pure white,  
 Her court of dainty maidens fair  
 Wear dresses clean and light.

Then round the Maypole they all dance,  
 And have a happy time,  
 And sing, and laugh, and feast themselves,  
 And sadness is a crime.

This custom old, and tried, and true,  
 From Roman times we get,  
 By Flora fair, goddess of flowers,  
 The stage for us is set.

This custom old, and tried, and true,  
 Once in the bygone days,  
 Was censured by the Puritans,  
 As marks of heathenish ways.

And then the hated Government,  
 Did pass a wicked law,  
 Forbidding Maypole dancers fair,  
 From dancing any more.

But with the Restoration good,  
When Charles came to the throne,  
The Maypole dancing tried, and true,  
Came back into its own.

And now in England every May,  
So early in the morn,  
The people old and young alike,  
A-maying go ere dawn.

A-maying in the woods so free,  
And in the fields as well,  
They gather flowers still wet with dew  
From every single dell.

With them they crown the May queen's brow,  
With them they make a wreath,  
With them they make a bower fair,  
To seat the Queen beneath.

I. Morris, Form IV.R.

### A Ballad of Broadcasting.

The Wireless Imp, on mischief bent,  
To play a prank one day  
Stopped up the wireless microphone,  
And then he flew away.

He peeped in through a window small  
And in the room saw two,  
A wife and her old husband grey,  
Uncertain what to do.

The poor old husband sore distressed,  
To tune did try in vain,  
The wife, with gestures stern and cross,  
Her tongue could not restrain.

With joy the imp flew off once more,  
"What fun is this!" quoth he,  
And turned towards another house,  
A bit more fun to see.

And what this time did he perceive?—  
A youth with puckered brow,  
With stamping foot and angry word,  
He tried to stop the row.

He did but turn a knob, a knob,  
A knob he turned but twice,  
His set gave forth a fearful shriek,  
He switched off in a trice!

Away the imp did fly once more,  
With laughter roaring loud,  
To see the fun right through, right through,  
He to himself had vowed.

This time he saw a woman old,  
Who sat with puzzled mien,  
No sound the headphones gave to her  
And sorrow marked the scene.



At this the imp felt sore ashamed,  
 In sadness turned away,  
 His own fell work once more to test,  
 Flew on with parting day.

This time he saw a kiddie small,  
 Who cried with all her her might,  
 For she'd not heard the Kiddies' hour  
 Before she said " Good-night."

Off flew the imp, in haste, in haste,  
 In haste the imp did fly,  
 Off to the wireless studio  
 And did the spell untie.

Again he flew the circuit round  
 To see what should befall,  
 And joy, sheer joy he found  
 Upon the face of all.

K. Goodwin, Form IV.R.

### Ode to Wireless.

Attend, all ye who listen-in, to our old England's praise;  
 I tell of these thrice wond'rous things she's done in recent days,  
 Since those great masts at Daventry, our matchless 5XX,  
 Have sent out songs to Fiji, Africa, and Mex.  
 The minstrel of the music hall, 'mid London's central roar,  
 Is heard, perhaps, by cannibals on Papua's sunny shore,  
 And dwellers in fair Bournemouth, or in Swansea, or in Notts,  
 Can send their sport and music round the globe by kilowatts;  
 The singing of a cathedral choir, the funning of a fool,  
 Can be exported daily from the port of Liverpool,  
 While shepherds on New Zealand's plains can don their dancing shoes  
 When a band in Piccadilly plays the Charleston or Yale Blues.  
 Ho! strike the great masts deeper yet! Ho! make 'em loftier still;  
 Ho! give us higher frequencý! Ho! listeners, foot the bill.  
 No atmospherics conquer us, no distance proves too vast,  
 No oscillation baffles, and e'en fading cannot last.  
 A crystal set the Eskimo shall have in his igloo,  
 And hear the barking of the seals a-fishing at the Zoo.  
 The dusky kids who dive and swim around Pacific isles  
 Shall join the kids of Britain in their chuckles and their smiles.  
 And we are so progressive, that, it may be very soon,  
 We'll wish a Merry Christmas to the Old Man in the moon.

H. J. Ryder, Form IV.R.

### Sunset.

Behind the purple pine-clad hills,  
 The sun now sinks to rest;  
 A glowing ball of fire, it fills  
 With splendour all the west:  
 The trees, aflame with golden light,  
 Do shine against the sky,  
 And clouds, all tinged with colours bright,  
 Are radiant on high.

But soon these glories fade away,  
All Nature turns to sleep;  
The shepherd, tired by the toil of the day,  
From pasture leads his sheep.  
The birds now fly to the darkening trees,  
The cattle homeward go,  
The pine trees sway in the evening breeze  
And sigh to the flowers below.

A. Smith, Form V.A.

---

### Pygmalion and Galatea.

This story of a sculptor's love is told  
By Ovid, poet of the days of old.  
In far-gone days there lived this man of art  
Who gave unto a sculptured form his heart.  
Pygmalion of Cyprus was the king  
And all the island with his fame did ring,  
For he a clever sculptor was, and oft  
He carved an image of a god aloft.  
From earthly women he withdrew away,  
But from a piece of ivory one day  
An ideal woman's beauteous form he made;  
And then his earthly life did seem to fade,  
For to this sculptured form he gave his love.  
So he a prayer sent to the gods above  
That to this lifeless shape they life should give  
That she on earth with him as wife might live.  
The Cyprus ruler, clasping to his heart  
The icy form from which he cannot part,  
Astonished feels the marble lips grow warm,  
And trembling holds the beauteous living form.

V. Marshall, Form V.A.

---

### The Evolution of Geometry.

Darwin's man-monkey, the day he hopped from a tree,  
Took his first lesson in simple geometry;  
Since that event in the world's remote history,  
Boys with large compasses exploit its mystery.

Euclid the Tormentor, wrote many books of it;  
Old Mrs. Euclid did not like the looks of it;  
She, satisfying her passion for drolleries,  
Started a fire with a bunch of corollaries.

Next old Pythagoras must not be forgotten, whose  
Main aim in life was to square a hypoteneuse;  
Also remember that dear old chap Ceva,  
Whose works cause much suffering from chronic brain fever.

Last, but not least, come the teachers of theorem,  
Long may their pupils respect 'em and fear 'em;  
Woe to those pupils who can't understand 'em!  
Sad is their lot, *Quod erat demonstrandum*.

J. V. Lewis, Form VI.

### Ludlow Castle.

**T**HE old castle of Ludlow makes one wonder at the battles which have taken place on and round its peaceful looking turrets, when brave knights clad in suits of armour rode on their chargers down the lists and armour clashed as they practised fighting.

The archers practised shooting in the courtyard, and the lords, barons, and knights feasted in the great hall until an enemy was sighted.

Then the knights armed themselves for battle and the archers took their stations, and the gates were bolted and all waited for the fray.

The enemy attacked and the archers shot out of loop holes, and the knights strode up and down the ramparts hurling their spears till the enemy withdrew.

In Ludlow Castle lived the two little princes who were killed in the Tower of London. They went hunting with stately nobles for the king's deer which roamed the forests round about.

On feast days, when nobles led fair damsels to the banquet, or escorted them through the castle grounds, all would be gay and light-hearted.

D. Johnston, Form II.A.2.

---

### A Foolish Adventure.

**I**T was a cold rainy night, and the bitter wind howled through the trees, causing the ancient ruins to seem to be alive with weird sounds.

As I strode through the old castle grounds I had a feeling of uneasiness, and I soon began to regret leaving a warm bed for this midnight adventure. It came about like this—one of my friends had dared me to explore the castle grounds, and I had replied that I would do so, and that was what brought me here.

“ Whoo-oo ! ”

“ What was that ? ” For a moment I stood tense, the perspiration pouring down my face with fear. Then I pulled myself together, for common sense told me that it was only an owl. But though I tried to put my fears aside my imagination got the better of me, and scenes of bygone days, of murders and tortures, flashed across my mind, and without another thought I turned and ran with all my might.

W. R. Evans, Form II.A.2.

### The Capture of Zilva.

" Dick," said my father, " I want you to go into town for me to-day."

My hurrah was cut short by my mother, who said, " Let Tom go father. He is older than Dick, and you know that scoundrel Zilva is in this district."

" I can look after myself, mother," I replied hotly, the thought that I was not as good upon such an errand as Tom making me angry.

But my father cut short my fears by saying that he needed Tom, and that I must go. Quickly I harnessed the horse to the buggy, and proudly drove off. This was the first time I had been allowed to drive by myself so far. The thought that I could not be trusted still rankled in my mind. I soon reached the town, and called for the large chest which my father had purchased. It turned out to be larger than I had expected. The assistants soon had it in the cart, and I turned round and started back, and was well into the hills when it happened.

All of a sudden he turned out of a side-track; a big broad shouldered man he was, with a dark beard. " Zilva!" thought I, and Zilva it was, as I could tell by his dark beard. While these thoughts were passing through my mind he had approached and was asking me if I knew where Halton's farm was. " He is going to our farm," thought I. Then quickly I recovered my composure, and replied that I was going there. " Good," he said, " may I have a lift?" " Certainly," I replied, and then as he turned his back to me to get into the waggon I picked up a loose piece of wood, and hit him over the head. With a groan he dropped stunned, and quickly I pulled him to, and dropped him in the big chest, closing the lid, and drawing the bolts. I whipped the horse to a run and droved to the farm.

My father, and Tom stood in the yard by the house as I drew rein and I said as easily as possible, " Dad, I have captured Zilva." " What!" they both cried astounded. I repeated my statement, adding " and he is in the chest."

They both rushed to the chest, and opened it. My captive clambered out and faced my father, who managed to say " John." " Yes George, it's John; my ship is laid up for repairs in the harbour, and I thought I'd come across and surprise you but my fine nephew has surprised me." And that is how I captured my uncle in mistake for that villain Zilva.

A. W. Onions, IV.R.

### Old Students' Association.

**T**HE Cresconians are pleased to be able to report that the Session 1928-29 has been an entirely successful one, both socially and financially. In addition to the President's Evening, 6 other dances have been held and 2 Entertainments.

When you return to School after the summer vacation it is probable you will be greeted with the sight of our Memorial window in the Assembly Hall. It is a source of regret to the committee that this has not been finished sooner, but it really is near completion now and the beauty of the design and colouring should more than compensate for any delay which has occurred. The object to which we are now turning our attention is the acquisition of a sports ground of our own. Some time ago there appeared a likelihood of our being able to purchase a piece of land quite close to the School for this purpose but, unfortunately, it needed a lot of levelling, the cost of which was estimated at over £2,000 so that even if the purchase price had been within the means of the Association the cost of levelling certainly was not. However, we are still on the look out for a suitable piece of land and some day perhaps the football and hockey pitches, the tennis courts and pavilions of which at present we only dream, will be realised.

The committee trust that in September we shall have the pleasure of welcoming to the Association all pupils who have left the School during the present year, so that if you leaving in July don't forget that the President's Evening will be in September and that we want you to be there to help to swell our ever increasing numbers.

Eleanor J. Anderson.

---

### Football.

THE membership during the past season has been good and we have been able to play two teams. H. Hobbs and N. Farrington again represented us in the League Association team.

1st XI. in successive League games won fifteen points and was placed sixth in the League.

Games won, 7; lost, 10; drawn, 1. Goals for 32; against, 54.

In friendly matches the team won 2; lost 3; drawn 1. Goals for 13; against 18.

2nd XI. finished fifth in the Junior Section:—

Games won 10; lost 7; drawn 1. For, 21 points; against, 36 points. Goals for 54; against 52.

In friendly matches they won 6; lost 3; drawn 1. Goals for 44; goals against 22.

The last game of the season was played against the School XI. when the Old Boys won by five goals to one.

This season we have lost the services of H. Mobbs who has left goal-keeping to take on the custody of law and order.

A. Taylor, Kelly, Nightingale and Bradley during their first

season with us have shown exceptional promise. T. Sleeman, L. Ballard, and A. Richards have become regular members of the 1st XI. and are doing very well.

A. E. Richards.

---

### Hockey.

**T**HE Cresconians Old Students' Hockey Club has enjoyed a very prosperous season and the following results will shew that everyone is keenly enthusiastic:—

Played 18 matches—Won 14 and Lost 4.

The most enjoyable match of the season was when the Hockey Club met the 1st XI. Football Team in a mixed match. Although the Ladies had rather a rough time their opponents did not get it all their own way and all agree that this must not be the last mixed match.

For the time being the financial difficulties of the Club are at an end thanks to the generous donation of £5 by the Association.

We all very much regret the death of "Frankie" Butler who was a valuable and enthusiastic player. We shall all miss her very much.

The Club has 14 members and extends a hearty welcome to all girls leaving school who may be interested.

E. York.

---

### Dramatic Section.

**T**HE Cresconians' Dramatic Society wound up their Winter season with a combined dramatic and musical evening at the County High School on March 20th. Three one-act plays were chosen to form the dramatic section of the programme and these with the names of the persons taking the respective parts were as follows. "The Monkey's Paw" (Jacobs) presented by F. Turner, B. Greenaway, F. Smith, R. Herbert and M. Squires. "Between the Soup and the Savoury" (Gertrude Jennings) presented by W. Busby, D. Hackett, and D. Price; and "Postal Orders" presented by E. Icke, M. Winwood, M. Bowen, I. Thornton, and H. S. Mobbs. The intervals were filled by musical items by M. Squires and Headley Chamberlain.

The audience although a very attentive and appreciative one, was very small and it is to be feared that viewed from a purely financial viewpoint the entertainment was no more profitable than either of the Society's previous productions. In spite of this however the members have no cause to feel discouraged for the standard of the production showed that the Society has made definite

progress since its last venture. This it owes in no small measure to Miss Jones who very kindly found time to help the Society by supervising the production of the March effort. It is as yet too early to make any conjectures as to the Society's programme for next season but it is fairly safe to say that it will attempt something on an even larger scale. For that reason it is hoped that all old students with a flair for dramatic work, particularly former members of the School Dramatic Society will try and join. Miss M. Squires, the present Secretary or Mr. C. Bagnall, the Treasurer will be pleased to give information to would-be members.

M. Squires.

---

### News of Old Students.

K. BUTLER is a clerk at Danks', Oldbury; M. ROLLASON at Albright and Wilson's; A. NORTH at the Standard Vinegar Company; B. LEWIS in an Accountant's Office, W. POWELL in the Council Offices; J. BRIDGE at Simpsons', Oldbury and F. FANTHOM at the Oldbury Carriage Works.

B. ROBERTS is taking a Student Apprenticeship Course at the works of Chamberlain and Hookham, Electricity Meter Manufacturers, Birmingham.

C. LAMB is in the Draughtsman's Office at the works of his father, C. Lamb, Jeweller.

E. CULWICK has transferred to the Royal Grammar School, Worcester.

V. MARSHALL is in the Warehouse at Fletcher Hardware Company.

G. ROBBINS is a clerk in a Bank at Wolverhampton.

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### Parents' Association.

THE second meeting of the session was held on March 23rd, when Mrs. M. B. Dewsbury, J.P., of Walsall, addressed the parents on the "Future of Our Young People." It has been decided to offer four medals for competition at the Annual Sports.

#### FUTURE EVENTS. CRICKET MATCHES.

June 22.—Parents *v.* Staff.

June 29.—Parents *v.* School.

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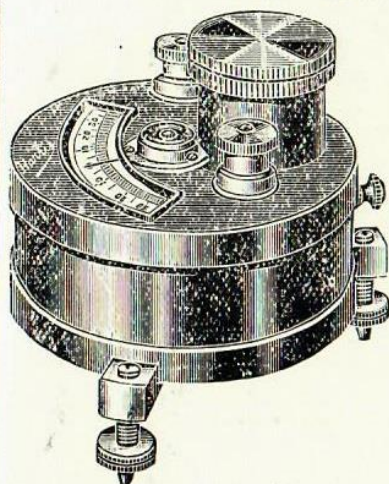
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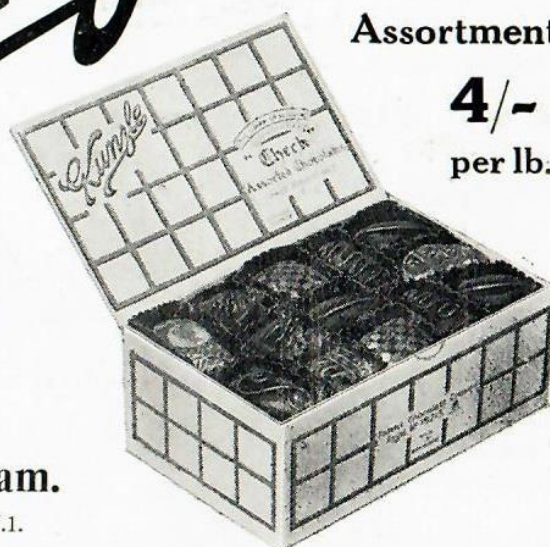
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OLDBURY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL  
MAGAZINE.

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OCTOBER, 1929.

VOL. II., No. 5.

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E. GREEN (II. A), D. SHORE, (II. A2).

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## EDITORIAL.

ANOTHER school year has come to a close, and we have, with much regret said "goodbye" to those whose school life has ended. We wish them all happiness and success in the careers they have taken up. At the same time we welcome our new pupils, and hope that they will all strive to equal, and if possible, surpass the good records made by their predecessors, for it is thus that the school grows in strength and usefulness.

We congratulate most heartily those whose efforts in the Joint Board Examinations were crowned with success, and sympathise with those who did their best, but who owing to some slight difference of opinion, between them and the Examiners, failed to please those autocratic people, and especially do we condole with those who missed their certificates by an exceedingly small number of marks. It is pleasing to note that on percentages our results are distinctly above the average for the whole list of over 12,000 candidates.

The beautiful Memorial Window, so generously given to the School by the Old Students' Association, is now complete and in position, and is to be unveiled immediately. The raising of the necessary money for the window has been achieved by the Association, which has been so ably led by the Chairman, Mr. G. Rose, and his committee. We hope to give a full report of the ceremony of unveiling, and a description of the window in our next issue.



The Summer Term, of which this number is a record, has again given us some most satisfactory details of our School story, amongst which we must mention the transfer of our old student, T. Morton, from the Birmingham University to Cambridge, under most gratifying circumstances and in the world of sport, too, our representatives have brought honour to the School. We must also mention the interesting letters which we have received from J. Whitehouse in Japan, and from Jack Chambers in Prague, Czecho-Slovakia. Our present pupils will be interested to know that Mr. Jarratt is now at work in Cyprus. News of all Old Pupils is always very welcome, for we like to know where they are and what they are doing.

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### Dates to Remember.

- October 27.—Unveiling of the Memorial Window.  
 November 4, 5.—Half Term.  
 November 14, 16.—“ Marigold ” performed by School Dramatic Society.  
 December 20.—School closes for Christmas Holidays.  
 January 14.—School re-opens.

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### Valete.

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| EILEEN KEY.       | J. W. GRIFFIN.    |
| H. H. CORK.       | E. R. GRIFFITHS.  |
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| J. PARDOE.        | A. W. MILLWARD.   |
| A. T. ROBINSON.   | VIOLET GILBERT.   |
| W. A. STOCKER.    | HILDA SAUNDERS.   |
| KATHLEEN BONEHAM. | T. MUCKLOW.       |
| FLORENCE CARR.    |                   |

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FLORENCE M. BURBOROUGH  
FLORENCE M. DYAS.  
GRACE F. GILBERT.  
FREDA OAKES.  
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FREDERICK BIRD.  
VICTOR W. GOODE.  
JAMES W. JONES.  
NORMAN K. MASON.

RAYMOND B. SMITH.  
DENIS H. WOODWARD.  
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FLORENCE FIGG.  
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Public Examinations, 1929.

THE following successes were obtained in the examinations of the Joint Board of the Northern Universities:—

Higher School Certificate.

D. E. Adams, H. H. Cork, J. V. Lewis.

Matriculation by Higher School Certificate.

Doris Rudd, G. Lyman, E. F. Willetts.

Matriculation by School Leaving Certificate Examination.

Freda Breakwell (distinction in English and History), Dorothy Homer, Marjory Knott, Olive Smith (distinction in History).

H. G. Barlow, H. Daniels (distinction in Mathematics), R. W. Musgrave, H. Newton, R. G. Oxborrow, W. Stocker (distinction in History).

School Leaving Certificates.

Winnie Cowell, Edna Pennington, Noreen Richmond.

A. B. H. Bill, W. Butlin, L. Davies, R. M. Everett, J. Pardoe, E. Rowley, J. Vann.

**Trinity House.**

*Captains* - - A. E. KEY, J. C. GOODACRE.  
*Sports Captains* - D. HADLEY, J. C. GOODACRE.  
*Secretary* - - D. G. HOMER.

ONE more year has been completed—a year of hard work in all branches of school life. During the last two years Trinity has been the proud possessor of the Inter-House Championship Cup, due to the labours of its members, many of whom have left and are now upholding the honour of the House outside the school. However, those still at school are following the example of its former members and in their turn are creating a record worthy of the House.

In the Football, Hockey, Tennis and Girls' Swimming Inter-House competitions, the fair name of Trinity adorns the highest position on the list. At Cricket, after many years, the House has relinquished its proud position of first for that of second, while in the Athletic Sports and Boys' Swimming Competition the House was placed third.

Trinity House extends congratulations to its successful candidates in the external examinations, whose names cannot be mentioned because the name of Trinity represents a united body rather than a number of individuals.

A. E. Key.

J. C. Goodacre.

**King's House.**

*Captains* - - D. BALDWIN, G. LYMAN.  
*Vice-Captains* - E. McALISTER, E. F. WILLETTS.  
*Sports Captains* - K. BONEHAM, E. F. WILLETTS.  
*Secretaries* - - M. MILLER, D. E. ADAMS.

LAST term King's House proved itself capable of maintaining its high position in athletic sports. We retained the House Championship, and the Senior Boys' Championship went to our Sports' Captain for the second time. The House was represented in the Joint Sports by Willetts and Stevens, both of whom did excellently. We feel sure that the younger members of our House will do their utmost to uphold the high standard in athletics which has been set up by the older members and those who have left us.

Although the athletic sports were so gratifying, things did not turn out so well in the House cricket matches. We had very few men from the 1st or 2nd XI's. so that our team was composed largely of fourth formers. Lack of size and experience told against them when facing 1st XI. bowlers. The form shown,

however, by some of these young players shows promise for future years.

Considering the few who took part, King's did very well to gain second place in the Swimming Sports, and our thanks are due to those who did their best in this branch of Sport.

We had to be satisfied with third place in the Musical Festival, but it was pleasing to notice that more enthusiasm was shown this year than last, and next year it is hoped that a still further increase in interest will bring King's to the top.

By the results of the examinations it was proved that King's House can hold its own in this department of school life. In the Higher School Certificate examination D. E. Adams succeeded in gaining the certificate, while the two other candidates, G. Lyman and E. F. Willetts, did very creditably. R. M. Everett obtained his School Certificate.

To new members the House offers a hearty welcome, and to those who are leaving us we extend our heartiest thanks for past services, and our sincerest wishes for future happiness.

D. E. Adams.

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### School House.

*Captains* - - J. V. LEWIS, E. PENNINGTON.  
*Vice-Captains* - L. W. BLUNDELL, D. RUDD.  
*Sports Captains* - L. DAVIES, A. NORTH.  
*Secretary* - - B. ROBERTS.

THE past term has been a particularly full one, as far as House activities are concerned. Immediately after the Easter vacation, the Annual Musical Competition was at hand. In this event, School House achieved the distinction of being the first House to wrest the trophy from the hands of Queen's. The individual successes of our members included Greaves, winner of the Junior Boys' Solo, "All Through the Night"; Stanley, who for the second year in succession was placed first in the open violin solo; and D. Bridgewater who, in addition to winning the Junior Girls' Solo, was bracketed first in the Senior event. Also we were bracketed first in the Girls' Unison Song, occupied second place in the Junior Pianoforte Solo, second and third places in the Senior Pianoforte Solo, and second, third and fourth places in the Old Students' Solo.

The next item on the term's programme was the Athletic Sports, held, as usual, on the Wednesday following Whitsuntide. We were favoured with fine weather and the School House boys were seen to advantage. Through no lack of enthusiasm, the girls, owing to an almost complete absence of senior members,

were unable to compete successfully against their more fortunate rivals. For the boys, Blundell won the Half-Mile and Steeplechase (the fifth time in succession) and the honours in the Relay Race and Tug-of-War also went to the Old Gold.

The girls' tennis also suffered rather from youth than any other cause, as may be gathered from the fact that the first team consisted of the only two seniors we possess. This team won two matches and lost one, but the second team, playing against more experienced opponents was defeated in all three.

The boys won all their cricket matches this term, having four first team men and including no one in the team who had not represented the School in the First, Second or Junior team. Trinity were our most formidable rivals, but we had the fortune to dismiss their two best batsmen for "ducks" and won comfortably.

The Swimming Sports were postponed until September, since the Baths had been emptied for cleaning, and the dry weather prevented them from filling. In the Boys' event, School House was placed first with 57 points, the other three Houses mustering 28 points between them. Oxborrow was Senior Champion, followed closely by Blundell, Vann and Knott, all four being in School House.

In the Girls' Swimming Sports we occupied the third position.

Last but not least of the term's events came the External Examinations, and we would like to congratulate every one—especially the members of our happy band—who was successful this year.

We wish the best of luck to those who are leaving, and since we ourselves must lay down the reins of office, we would like to take this opportunity of thanking all who have loyally served the House during our captaincy. We cannot do more than wish our successors the same support which has been accorded us.

E. C. Pennington.

J. V. Lewis.

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### Queen's House.

*Captains* - - L. HINDS, P. F. WOODWARD.

*Sports Captains* - J. MORRIS, H. G. BARLOW.

*Secretary* - - B. A. ADAMS.

**T**HIS term has not brought with it any really outstanding success, save some in the External Examinations, for Queen's House; but although we have not exactly distinguished ourselves, we have done our best in all our competitions.

The "Swimming Sports" were held this term and while the girls came second in the final result, the boys came bottom and unhappily did not score a point.

The tennis matches in which the girls played, proved very enjoyable, although we did not do quite so well as in the previous year.

In cricket, although they were defeated rather easily by School and Trinity House, the boys accounted for King's House and thus came third in the list. We were not able to field a very strong team and only had three representatives from the school elevens.

The achievements of the House in the Annual Athletic Sports were attributable to our girls who gained most of our points for us and produced the runner-up for the "Senior Girls' Championship" and the "Junior Champion."

Our best achievement in the Inter-House competitions was when we came second to School House in the Musical Festival. We are especially proud of the fact that we were judged first in the set piece for the "Mixed Choirs," and that our choir was complimented by the Adjudicator.

In the School Certificate Examinations seven members of the House were successful, Dorothy Homer, Olive Smith, Freda Breakwell, Barlow and Daniels gaining matriculation, and Noreen Richmond and Pardoe gaining School Certificates.

We hope that next term we shall improve upon this term's results and end up in a more favourable position.

L. Hinds.

P. F. Woodward.

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### Athletic Sports, 1929.

ONCE again the weather was kind and our Annual Sports on May 22nd were highly successful.

Seven new records were made. Norma Clegg did something really outstanding by winning the Junior 100 yds. in 11  $\frac{4}{5}$  secs., better than anything previously accomplished over the same distance by any girl, senior or junior. Willetts and Blundell each made two new records. The former improved on his previous records by 5  $\frac{4}{5}$  sec. in the Mile and by 3  $\frac{3}{5}$  sec. in Quarter-Mile, while the latter reduced his time in the Steeplechase by 28  $\frac{4}{5}$  sec., and in the Half-Mile by 2  $\frac{1}{5}$  sec. Knott was unfortunate in the Junior High Jump, his jump being  $\frac{1}{4}$ " only below the record.

The House relay races were very interesting. Queen's House girls broke their record of last year by 2  $\frac{2}{5}$  sec., and School House boys, despite a very bad change-over, improved on their record of 1927 by 1  $\frac{1}{5}$  sec.

Including the Steeplechase, the final House points were:— King's 93, School 73  $\frac{1}{2}$ , Trinity 40  $\frac{1}{2}$ , Queen's 39.

| Results.                  |                    | 1st.            | 2nd              | 3rd.                   |                  |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 100 yards ...             | Girls under 12 ... | B. Farrow ...   | M. Woods ...     | D. Sumner ...          | 14 3/5"          |
| 100 yards ...             | Boys under 12 ...  | Watts ...       | Green ...        | Murray ...             | 14 1/5"          |
| 100 yards ...             | Junior girls ...   | N. Clegg ...    | E. Barratt ...   | J. Lugg ...            | 11 4/5"          |
| 100 yards ...             | Junior boys ...    | Elliott ...     | Edwards ...      | Thomas ...             | 12 1/5"          |
| 100 yards ...             | Senior girls ...   | M. Kings ...    | K. Boneham ...   | D. Hadley ...          | 12 1/5"          |
| 100 yards ...             | Senior boys ...    | Willets ...     | Stevens ...      | Hughes ...             | 10 4/5"          |
| 220 yards ...             | Junior girls ...   | N. Clegg ...    | J. Lugg ...      | I. Johnston ...        | 32 1/5"          |
| 220 yards ...             | Junior boys ...    | Plowman ...     | Orchard ...      | Greenwood ...          | 31 1/5"          |
| 220 yards ...             | Senior girls ...   | M. Kings ...    | K. Boneham ...   | D. Hadley ...          | 31 4/5"          |
| 220 yards ...             | Senior boys ...    | Stevens ...     | Musgrave ...     | Willets ...            | 26"              |
| 440 yards ...             | Junior boys ...    | E. Greaves ...  | Coates ...       | W. Westwood ...        | 69 4/5"          |
| 440 yards ...             | Senior boys ...    | Stevens ...     | Willets ...      | Blundell ...           | 57"              |
| 880 yards ...             | Junior boys ...    | Cope ...        | Betts ...        | Morris ...             | 2min. 51 3/5sec. |
| 880 yards ...             | Senior boys ...    | Blundell ...    | Tansley ...      | Musgrave ...           | 2min. 19 1/5sec. |
| One mile ...              | (Open) ...         | Willets ...     | Blundell ...     | Tansley ...            | 5min. 5 1/5sec.  |
| Steeplechase ...          | (Open) ...         | Blundell ...    | Willets ...      | Vann ...               | 10 min. 0 sec.   |
| High Jump ...             | Junior girls ...   | N. Clegg ...    | G. Ackrill ...   | J. Lugg ...            | 3' 11"           |
| High Jump ...             | Junior boys ...    | Knott ...       | Hadley ...       | Keyte & Morris ...     | 4' 4 1/2"        |
| High Jump ...             | Senior girls ...   | M. Knott ...    | K. Boneham ...   | E. McAlister ...       | 3' 11 1/4"       |
| High Jump ...             | Senior boys ...    | Goodacre ...    | Willets ...      | Blundell & Stevens ... | 4' 8 1/4"        |
| Long Jump ...             | Junior girls ...   | P. Williams ... | G. Ackrill ...   | I. Johnston ...        | 13' 6"           |
| Long Jump ...             | Junior boys ...    | Hadley ...      | Mason ...        | Bowley ...             | 13' 11"          |
| Long Jump ...             | Senior girls ...   | K. Boneham ...  | D. Hadley ...    | M. Kings ...           | 13' 11 1/2"      |
| Long Jump ...             | Senior boys ...    | Blundell ...    | Willets ...      | Vann & Goodacre ...    | 16' 7"           |
| Throwing the Cricket Ball | Junior boys ...    | Cope ...        | Everett ...      | Betts ...              | 68yds. 0' 9"     |
|                           | Senior boys ...    | Vann ...        | Davies ...       | Musgrave ...           | 84yds. 0' 10"    |
| Skipping Rope Race        | Girls under 13 ... | E. Barratt ...  | H. Richardson... | ---                    | ---              |
|                           | Junior girls ...   | ---             | ---              | ---                    | ---              |
|                           | Senior girls ...   | M. Kings ...    | K. Boneham ...   | ---                    | ---              |

## CHAMPIONSHIPS.

|                             |           |                              |             |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Senior Boys.—1, Willetts    | 20 points | 2, Blundell                  | 14½ points. |
| Senior Girls.—1, K. Boneham | 14 „      | 2, M. Kings                  | 11 „        |
| Junior Boys.—1, Cope        | 6 „       | 2, Hadley                    | 5 „         |
| Junior Girls.—1, N. Clegg   | 9 „       | 2, { J. Lugg<br>G. Ackrill } | 5 „         |

J.B.R.

## Joint Sports, 1929.

ONCE again, unfortunately, we took no part in the team races so that our entries were confined to individual competitors. Although we did not succeed in winning a trophy, we obtained second place in three events.

Goodacre did very well at his first appearance in these Sports and was second in the High Jump with a jump of 5ft. 1in.

The final of the Mile will not readily be forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to see it. Keeton, of Waverley Road, S.S., the winner in 1927 and 1928, was again a competitor. Willetts and Blundell were our representatives and they decided that our only hope of winning lay in forcing the pace from the start. In this Blundell succeeded so well that he was leading by 20 yards at the half-mile in 2min. 18sec. (approx.) and by 30 yards at the end of the third lap. In the last 300 yards, however, Keeton made a really wonderful effort and gradually overhauled Blundell, passing him 50 yards from the tape and eventually winning by 12 yards in 4 min. 48  $\frac{3}{5}$ , no less than 5  $\frac{2}{5}$  seconds better than the old record. Willetts, who was obviously not at his best, was fifth. Blundell's time was 4min. 51sec., so that he was well inside the old record. It was due to his splendid pace-making that a new record was made possible and it is obvious that he is one of the best "milers" the Joint Sports have produced, second only, perhaps, to Keeton.

In the Quarter-Mile, Willetts and Stevens reached the final. Willetts was out to show what he really could do and led nearly all the way, but once again Keeton made a fine spurt and won by 2 yards with Willetts second and Stevens seventh. Willetts' time was about 56sec., much better than he has ever done at School. Stevens ran well and was third for a long time, but fell away towards the finish. We expect him to do well next year.

J.B.R.

## Swimming Sports.

## BOYS.

THE Sports held on September 12th were very successful and gave to those who witnessed them an enjoyable afternoon's entertainment. The standard, it is gratifying to note, was higher than last year and some very exciting finishes were seen.



The following were the results:—

OPEN EVENTS.—6 Lengths, Oxborrow (S.); 2 Lengths Hip, Musgrave (S.); 2 Lengths Breast, Oxborrow (S.); 1 Length Back, Oxborrow (S.); Dive, Oxborrow (S.); 1 Length in Clothes, Musgrave and Blundell tied (S.).

JUNIOR EVENTS.—2 Lengths Hip, Hall (S.); 1 Length Breast, Jackson (T.).

TEAM RACES.—Junior: 1 School, 2 Trinity, 3 King's. Senior: 1 School, 2 King's, 3 Trinity.

SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP.—Oxborrow (S.) 24 points.

RUNNER-UP.—Musgrave (S.) 13 points.

#### HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP.

1, School, 69 points.

2, King's 15 ,,

3, Trinity, 13 points.

4, Queen's —

P. Woodward.

#### GIRLS.

We were again fortunate in choosing a fine day for our swimming sports, which were held on Friday, September 13th. Trinity House gained first place with 39 points and this was partly due to the excellent performance of I. Johnson; Queen's House gained second place with 26 points; School House third with 23 points, and King's House fourth with 17 points.

Results:—

1 Length.—1st I. Johnson (T.); 2nd E. Nelson (S.); 3rd E. Pennington (S.), K. Oxborrow (S.).

Width.—1st M. Frost (T.); 2nd M. Hadley (Q.); 3rd V. Humphrey (S.)

2 Lengths.—1st I. Johnson (T.); 2nd K. Goodwin (Q.); 3rd E. Pennington (S.).

Diving.—1st M. Miller (K.); 2nd M. Knott (T.); 3rd K. Goodwin (Q.).

4 Lengths.—1st I. Johnson (T.); 2nd D. Jones (Q.); 3rd K. Goodwin (Q.).

#### RELAY.

1st Trinity.

2nd Queen's.

3rd School.

4th King's.

D. Rudd.

**Cricket.**

|                            |                                     |                  |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
|                            | 1st XI                              | 2nd XI.          |
| <i>Captain</i> - - -       | J. C. Goodacre.                     | E. R. Griffiths. |
| <i>Vice-Captain</i> - -    | P. F. Woodward.                     | H. G. Barlow.    |
| <i>General Committee</i> - | Captains, Vice-Captains, L. Davies. |                  |

THE season was not so successful as some of its forerunners has been. Three matches were won and nine lost, but the games were, in most cases, very keenly fought.

Hearty congratulations are offered to A. Adams for having gained his colours and also for his score of 62 not out against Handsworth, which score came at a very critical period and undoubtedly won us the game. J. C. Goodacre was responsible for the highest score of the season, when he ran up the total of 93 against the Parents.

The following are the results of matches played this season:—

|                          |          | 1st XI.        |  |       |
|--------------------------|----------|----------------|--|-------|
| Opponents                | H. or A. | Result.        |  |       |
| West Bromwich .....      | H.       | 28 — 55        |  | Won   |
| Handsworth .....         | A.       | 87 — 90 for 8  |  | Won   |
| St. Philip's .....       | A.       | 110 for 6 — 68 |  | Lost  |
| Dudley .....             | H.       | 38 for 6 — 34  |  | Lost  |
| Aston Commercial .....   | A.       | 61 for 8 — 55  |  | Lost  |
| Aston Commercial .....   | H.       | 44 — 43        |  | Lost  |
| Dudley .....             | A.       | 118 for 4 — 69 |  | Lost  |
| Halesowen .....          | A.       | 34 for 4 — 27  |  | Lost  |
| King's Norton .....      | A.       | 81 — 49        |  | Lost  |
| Parents .....            | H.       | 29 — 169 for 7 |  | Won   |
| Staff .....              | H.       | 105 — 26       |  | Lost  |
| Philip Harris' C.C. .... | H.       | 84 — 74 for 3  |  | Drawn |
| Cresconians .....        | H.       | 110 — 36       |  | Lost  |

The best averages for the season were:—

**BATTING.**

|                | Total. | Highest Score | Average. |
|----------------|--------|---------------|----------|
| Goodacre ..... | 170    | 93*           | 15.4     |
| Adams .....    | 135    | 62*           | 13.5     |
| Griffin .....  | 73     | 29            | 8.1      |
| Davies .....   | 72     | 14            | 7.2      |

\* Not out.

**BOWLING.**

|             | Overs. | M'd'ns. | Runs. | W'kts. | Average. |
|-------------|--------|---------|-------|--------|----------|
| Goodacre    | 31.7   | 9       | 66    | 12     | 5.5      |
| Griffin ... | 51     | 15      | 108   | 17     | 6.2      |
| Davies      | 75.1   | 12      | 216   | 28     | 7.7      |

In the 2nd XI. 4 matches were played, 1 being won and 3 lost.

1st. XI.—Goodacre (capt.), Woodward (vice-capt.), Davies, Adams, Cutler, Butlin, Griffin, Greenwood, Lewis, Willetts, Musgrave and Bayliss.

2nd XI.—Griffiths (capt.), Barlow (vice-captain), Blundell, Stevens, Bill, Adams, Hughes, Cope, Betts, Palmer, Vann, Bayliss.

E. F. Willetts (sec.).

### Tennis.

THIS season tennis was very popular owing to the gloriously fine weather. At the end of term the inter-House Tennis Matches were played, and results were as follows:—

#### B TEAMS.

|         | Trinity. | School. | King's | Queen's. | Total Games. |
|---------|----------|---------|--------|----------|--------------|
| Trinity | —        | 12      | 12     | 12       | 36           |
| School  | 0        | —       | 7      | 7        | 14           |
| King's  | 6        | 12      | —      | 8        | 26           |
| Queen's | 8        | 12      | 10     | —        | 30           |

#### A TEAMS.

|         | Trinity. | School. | King's | Queen's. | Total Games. |
|---------|----------|---------|--------|----------|--------------|
| Trinity | —        | 12      | 12     | 12       | 36           |
| School  | 9        | —       | 12     | 12       | 33           |
| King's  | 2        | 5       | —      | 12       | 19           |
| Queen's | 3        | 6       | 5      | —        | 14           |

The playing was of a good standard and much credit is due to the representatives of each House, who fought gamely for the victory.  
N. Richmond.

### Musical Society.

THE third Annual Musical Competition for the W. T. Davies Challenge Cup was held in the School Hall on Saturday, May 25th, 1929. The adjudicator was Alfred Prince, Esq., Mus.Bac., and the accompanist Mr. T. L. Davies. The keenness displayed by the competitors for their various Houses deserved a larger audience. The various events were judged as follows:—

JUNIOR PIANOFORTE SOLO—"Tone Picture No. 5" ... Grieg.  
1, M. JACKSON, Trinity. 2, M. LEWIS, King's.  
3, M. HART, King's.

JUNIOR BOYS' SOLO—"All Though the Night" ... —  
(Traditional Welsh Melody).  
1, GREAVES, School. 2, LEE, Queen's. 3, MASON, King's.

GIRLS' UNISON SONG—"Hark, hark, the Lark" ... *Schubert.*  
 1, King's. 2, School. 3, Queen's. 4, Trinity.

SENIOR PIANOFORTE SOLO—"Arabesque No. 2" ... *Debussy.*  
 1, E. MACALISTER, King's. 2, LEWIS, School.  
 3, WHEALE, School.

BOYS' UNISON SONG—"O, Who Will O'er the Downs" ... *de Pearsall.*  
 1, School. 2, King's. 3, Queen's. 4, Trinity.

JUNIOR GIRLS' SOLO—  
 1, D. BRIDGEWATER, School. 2, W. COWELL, Trinity.  
 3, H. RICHARDSON, Trinity.

VIOLIN SOLO—"Sonata No. VIII. Prelude" ... *Codelli.*  
 1. STANLEY, School. 2, BRIDGE, King's.  
 3, F. WILLIAMS, Queen's.

SENIOR GIRLS' SOLO—"The Lass with a Delicate Air" ... *Arne.*  
 1, D. BRIDGEWATER, School, and M. BURNETT, Queen's.  
 3, B. WALLACE, King's.

OLD STUDENTS' SOLO—"Where e'er You Walk" ... *Handel.*  
 1, CHAMBERLAIN Trinity. 2, L. PICKUP, School.  
 3, E. HADLEY, School.

MIXED CHOIRS—"Haste thee Nymph" ... *Watts.*  
 (Words by Milton).  
 1, Queen's. 2, King's, School and Trinity.

On the result of this competition the Challenge Cup went to School House for the first time.

D. E. Adams.

### To Music.

O Muse divine, how many hours of sorrow  
 Are banished by thy mellow tunefulness!  
 What fears and vague misgivings for the morrow  
 Dost thou dispel with thy belov'd caress!

Thou bringest joy to every humble heart;  
 Thy chords are prized by all who give thee heed.  
 How soon are sorrows set by thee apart,  
 The spirit from earth's base encumbrance freed!

What man can set thy harmonies aside,  
 When those pure joys thou off'rest unto all?  
 When thou thy lyric gates fling open wide,  
 Can human ear be deaf unto thy call?

Thou fairest cherub of th' Angelic throng,  
 Pour forth the blessing of thy song.

J. V. Lewis, Form VI.

**Girl Guides.***Officers :—**Captain, Miss F. D. Tweedie      Lieutenant, Miss J. Davies.**Company Leader, D. Rudd**Patrol Leaders, E. Pennington, K. Goodwin, E. MacAlister, M. Green,  
B. Adams.*

**T**HE past term has been a particularly interesting one for the Guides. For the first few meetings all expected the Commissioner who was to inspect us for the shield we won last year. If we were the best company she saw, then we kept it, if not some one else had it. For several weeks we were kept waiting and then on June 21st she arrived, stayed for about half an hour and departed. Later we learnt that we had lost the shield but we hope to regain it next year.

On Empire Day we, with many other companies, attended a most interesting service at St. Peter's Church, Wolverhampton.

The most enjoyable meeting of the year was conducted on entirely new lines for us. Each patrol had its own fire in the field and about five o'clock savoury odours of baked potatoes, sausage, cheese dreams and salmon and green peas proceeded from various quarters! The meeting finished with songs around a real camp fire.

Of course the outstanding event of the Summer term is camp. This year it was held at Cromer, there being sixty Guides and Guiders altogether, including members of several Wolverhampton companies.

The advance party arrived at Cromer on July 26th, and by the time the rest arrived on July 29th all the tents were pitched. After spending a happy week, on Sunday we attended the service at Norwich Cathedral. The next day was spent on the Norfolk Broads and all thoroughly enjoyed this outing. The rest of the week sped only too quickly and on Thursday, after striking camp, we left for home. It was a jolly camp!

B. Adams.

**Cadet Corps.***Officers :—**Captain C. Knight-Coutts.      Captain K. D. Hopkins.**Non-Commissioned Officers :—**Q.M.S. Blundell, Corporal R. Oxborrow, Sergeant Bill,  
Lance-Corporal Jackson.*

**T**HE whole of the past Summer term was spent in eager preparation for the forthcoming camp at Marlborough, in Wiltshire, under the auspices of the Public Secondary School Cadet Association. Owing to the small numbers of our contingent, it was arranged that we should join with the Stourbridge King

Edward's Grammar School, who were commanded by Major Gibbs and Captain Calvert.

On Saturday, 27th July, we arrived at Marlborough about tea time. The camp was situated on the common next to the Golf Links at the northern end of the town, and some four hundred bell tents were erected together with several dozen large mess tents. Luckily, at least for one night, the weather was kind and by dusk we were all comfortably accommodated with our blankets and other requirements.

Reveille was sounded every morning at 6 o'clock, Church Parade was at 7, breakfast followed and then the Battalion Parade at 9, and the commencement of the day's duties. The morning's work was completed by 1-0 o'clock in time for dinner. From dinner time until 9-15 p.m. the majority of the cadets were free to go where they wished. After the first few days the Sports Ground, the large swimming bath and the rifle range of Marlborough College were available in the afternoon. It was in these magnificent grounds that the swimming and athletic sports were held. At 8 o'clock every evening a variety concert was held in the large concert tent; these concerts were splendid successes and the artistes were all boys at camp.

Every afternoon for a certain time, cadets could have a little firing practice within the precincts of the camp, at a very small charge, and the money thus obtained was spent in buying several prizes, which were awarded to the cadet with the highest score of the day. Luckily, both Sgt. Bill and Q.-M.-Sgt. Blundell won the first prizes on the first and second days of the contest.

The annual cross country race was an important fixture of the camp which consisted of at least 2,500 cadets with scores of officers, and the number of competitors was exceedingly high, upwards of 50 runners leaving the camp, and representing about as many schools from all over England. The course of about 5 miles was very difficult, as it had been raining for the past few hours, but the first man home was Blundell, followed by two fellows from Southampton Merchant Taylor's. Blundell was presented with a blazer badge and was complimented at Battalion Parade the next morning.

Perhaps the event most enjoyed by the cadets was the visit to Tidworth to the Torchlight Tattoo, and although after witnessing this magnificent sight, it was nearly 3 o'clock in the morning, everyone was perfectly satisfied with the visit. During the second week too, a mock battle and night manœuvres were held and thoroughly appreciated by all. A Demonstration Platoon of Regular Soldiers of the Cheshire Regiment was present during the whole of the camp and they impressed everyone by their smart and effective manner in demonstrating the manner of attacking, etc., in active warfare, and in mounting guard. A guard of about a dozen was chosen each day, and after the

proper formalities, were considered as the police of the camp from 6 p.m. until Reveillé at 6 a.m. next morning. On two occasions the camp was visited by a party from the War Office, and one of the visitors was Viscount Allenby. On one occasion we had two Generals inspecting at the same time, a very rare occurrence, at least for a cadet camp.

When at last the two weeks came to an end, although the weather had not been very satisfactory, all Oldbury, at least, had thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and the experience gained was most beneficial. Our greatest thanks are due to Major Gibbs and the Stourbridge cadets for including our little band in their gallant party.

Q.-M.-S. Blundell.

### The Redditch Party.

ON Friday, July 26th, the examination forms paid a return visit to Redditch Secondary School. We set out from School by Private 'bus at 2-30 p.m., and after an enjoyable journey arrived at the Redditch school at 3-30 p.m., where we were given a hearty welcome by the fifth and sixth formers.

Having changed into tennis attire we went to the hall where Colonel Scothern, the Redditch headmaster, gave a short speech of welcome, to which Mr. Howarth replied on behalf of the school, and added that he hoped to see them at Oldbury again next summer.

We were each presented with a ticket, partnering us with a Redditch pupil of the opposite sex, and having found our partners we proceeded to the playing fields, about a hundred yards from the school. A mixed cricket match took place, while those not engaged in it as players or spectators played many exciting sets of tennis till 5 p.m., when lost partners were collected and all adjourned to a neighbouring hall where tea was awaiting us.

After tea, the head boy of each school made a short, yet appropriate speech, and while the room was being prepared for dancing we were shown around the school itself.

An obliging impromptu band was formed by our Redditch friends and dancing was the programme for the rest of the evening. Cooling refreshments were provided at frequent intervals and these were greatly appreciated by all. About 8-15 p.m. dancing came to an end and preparations were made for a reluctant return, and after a series of adieux and wishes for a re-union in the coming year, the laden 'bus, together with several enthusiastic cyclists, sallied forth on the return journey.

We returned to Moat Road about 9-30 p.m., regretful that the pleasant afternoon was a thing of the past. Everybody is now looking forward to spending another jolly afternoon with our Redditch friends next July.

N. Richmond, Form VA.

### Seasons.

I can see through the window-pane  
Dewdrops glistening bright;  
The sun shines with his great big flame  
Down on the wond'rous sight.  
The birds are singing in the air  
Beautiful songs of morn;  
As happy as the roses fair,  
Glad as the golden corn.  
Dewdrops, roses, grass, hay and corn  
Help to make happy times,  
For summer laughs such things to scorn  
As the tall snow-clad pines.  
Fresh buds and flow'rs are in Spring's courts,  
Summer has bathing gay;  
Autumn brings Rugby football sports,  
Winter has Christmas Day.

G. Marrison, Form I.

### A Dream.

I dreamt I was a pirate bold,  
And sailed the seven seas;  
I roved the seas in search of gold,  
I did not find it at my ease.  
One day just off Jamaica's Isle  
I saw a vessel sail;  
Now was the time to make my pile,  
So up went ev'ry sail.  
I followed it all night and day,  
And I with glee did smile;  
And so the merchantman did pay  
The price of my smart guile.  
I then woke up with such a start,  
The sweat lay on my brow;  
Late supper and some apple tart—  
But I am wiser now.

K. Jackson, Form 3C.

### The Country of Nursery Rhyme.

When twilight falls on a wintry day  
I should love to travel far, far away,  
When I should not be told I must go to bed  
As soon as the stars peeped out overhead—  
When the moon shone out as clear as day  
I'd go with the girls and birds to play,  
We'd frolic and dance and have some fun  
To the music of Tom the piper's son.  
When twilight falls on a wintry day  
I should love to travel far, far away.  
I want to travel with Miss Bo-Peep,  
I'd teach her how to guard her sheep,  
Or go for water with Jack and Jill,  
I'm sure I wouldn't fall down the hill.



I'd rest 'neath the hay-stack yith poor Boy Blue,  
 I'd visit the lady who lived in a shoe;  
 When twilight falls on a wintry day  
 I should love to travel far, far away.

M. Hart, Form 3B.

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### The Spanish Inn.

Oh! for that inn in sunny Spain  
 Where I used to roam,  
 And kings in gorgeous garments reign  
 And gaze at the sky and the foam.  
 But I was happy in my inn  
 With the toreadors and their kin.  
 But one day when I was dancing  
 By the wishing well,  
 A knight on a steed came prancing  
 And he bade me say farewell;  
 And we left my Spanish inn  
 To the toreadors and their kin.

E. Darley, Form 3B.

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### Thoughts on April.

Soft spreads the rainbow across the vault of heaven,  
 Rain is descending as light as summer dew,  
 Sunshine, like the moonshine, is gleaming dimly golden,  
 Mirrored in dewdrops on flow'r's of every hue;  
 Grasses are spangled with iridescent crystals,  
 Dappled sky is changing from pearl to amethyst;  
 Milky white clouds are building fairy castles,  
 Heav'nly ramparts seem to glow, enshrouded in blue mist.  
 Velvet the shadows that quiver 'neath the birch trees,  
 Cascades of amber are formed in sparkling streams;  
 Checkered are the pathways that lead through sylvan grottoes,  
 Nightingales trill where sequestered pools court dreams;  
 Yellow green creeper is cradled in the west wind,  
 Earth's own azure canopy is specked with larks on high;  
 Flow'rets awake and smile at laughing sun, for  
 Ghostlike fades the rainbow from the radiant blushing sky.

G. Ackrill, Form 3A.

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### The Call of the Country.

I must go down to the country to the meadows and the trees,  
 And all I ask is a sunny day and a soft and lulling breeze;  
 And a bird's song, and the wind's moan, and the light clouds fleeting,  
 And broad fields of waving corn and the young lambs bleating.  
 I must go down to the country, for the call of the open field  
 Is a strong call and a clear call to which one has to yield;  
 And all I ask is solitude and night birds calling,  
 To sit at last around the fire when night is falling.  
 I must go down to the country to the life that is so free,  
 To the babbling brook and shady glen, aye, that's the life for me;  
 And all I ask is a starlit sky above my bed of clover,  
 As there I lie in deep repose when the tramp is over.

E. Knott, Form 4A.

Nature's Music.

I wandered far from haunts of men  
Into the countryside,  
And heard the tiny babbling brooks  
That o'er the meadows glide;  
The breeze was crooning in the trees,  
The lark sang forth above,  
And on his bough the wood-pigeon  
Was cooing to his love.

Men say the organ's sonorous note  
Inspires noble feeling,  
But how much more must inspire thought  
The dreadful thunder pealing;  
From where Niagara's waters crash  
To where Zambesi's fall,  
The elements shall ever sing  
Dame Nature's clarion call.

Up on the craggy mountain top,  
Deep in the forest's heart,  
Shall every stream and bird and breeze  
Sing forth its chosen part.  
Thus for a million years and more  
Till Gabriel's trumpet blast,  
The song that is and was of yore  
Until God wills shall last.

J. W. Manton, Form 4A.

Nature's Music.

Can you hear the cuckoo calling  
In the woodlands far away?  
Can you hear the blackbird singing,  
Bidding summer always stay?

I can hear the brooklet babbling,  
Trilling always to their song,  
And can hear the fishes splashing  
In the brook that runs along.

Can you hear the leaflets rustling  
In the early morning sun,  
As the wind is softly murm'ring  
Teasing with his carefree fun.

I can hear the ocean dashing  
'Gainst the cliffs beyond the church  
And the seagulls shrilly calling  
From their rocky wind-swept perch.

Can you hear the sparrows twitt'ring,  
Now the night clouds all have flown,  
And the doves commence their cooing,  
And the busy bees their drone?

Yes—I hear all nature singing  
Free from discord and from strife,  
And I bless the music soothing  
Many cares of busy life.

M. Marshall, Form 4A.

If you can learn your nouns  
 And tell when they are neuter,  
 If you can take advice  
 From your learned tutor;  
 If you can learn your Latin  
 When those around are grumbling,  
 In Geoger take your whacking  
 Without so much as mumbling;  
 If you can pass your Chemmy test,  
 In History not get nought,  
 In Physics please your master,  
 In Maths do as you ought;  
 If you can play at footer  
 And score so many goals,  
 If you can keep your end up  
 Against H——'s bowls;  
 If you can wield your racket  
 And win you every game,  
 But not forget the school work,  
 Which is the basis of your fame;  
 If you can learn to act  
 The part allotted to you,  
 And in debate maintain your point  
 And win your audience too;  
 If you can dodge detentions  
 Keeping their number few,  
 And getting awful impots  
 Shush! (learn to dodge them too!);  
 If you can be a joker  
 And joking not get caught,  
 Then at school you'll meet success  
 And finally reach the Sixth, I guess.

B. Tansley, Form 4R.

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Pink and purple asters,  
 Daisies red and white,  
 Sweet smelling lavender;  
 Grown for bees' delight.  
 Beds of gay sweet williams,  
 Rows of fragrant stocks,  
 Borders of mignonette,  
 O'er topped by hollyhocks.

Homely herbs in plenty,  
 Mint and thyme and sage,  
 Apple trees well laden,  
 Knarled and bowed with age.

Fountain of clear water  
 On the daisied lawn,  
 Rocky, cobbled pathways,  
 Old, o'ergrown and worn.

Aged and mossy sundial,  
 Close beside the bower,  
 Once a tryst for lovers,  
 Marking still the hour.

N. Richmond, Form 5A.

How lovely is the garden, so colourful and gay,  
Where roses red and sunflowers grow,  
And dancing shadows play.  
Where snowy phlox  
And scented stocks  
Sway gently in the breeze,  
And golden eyed  
The daisies pied  
Are 'nestling 'neath the trees.

How restful is the garden, so full of fragrance rare,  
Where scarce a breeze disturbs the flowers,  
And peace is everywhere.  
Where droning bees  
And shady trees  
Invite the weary rest,  
And cooing doves  
Invite their loves  
To share their downy nest

D. Homer, Form 5A.

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### To Aurora.

Hasten, Aurora, ope the gates of morn,  
Speed on Apollo with his fiery steeds,  
Bring back to earth the light of day new-born,  
And give us strength sufficient for our needs.

Since sunset o'er us night has held her sway,  
For long has darkness all around us been;  
Then come, thou messenger of glorious day,  
Bring back thy light for hours unseen.

Bring hope unto the mourner, soothe his pain,  
Give courage to the traveller still hard spent,  
Let health and beauty follow in thy train,  
Help all to start new day with good intent.

Then, hasten Aurora, swift be thy flight,  
Make way for day, and with it bring delight.

B. Adams, Form VI.

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### Forgotten Homework.

Why so pale and wan, fond scholar?  
Prithee, why so pale?  
Dost thou fear thy master's cholera  
When he hears thy tale?  
Prithee, why so pale?

Why so dull and mute, young bounder?  
Prithee, why so mute?  
Has not thy young mind yet found a  
Yarn he can't refute?  
Prithee, why so mute?

Quit, quit for shame, 'twont satisfy;  
This will not take him.  
If thy excuse he calls "my eye"  
Nothing will shake him:  
The devil take him!

J. V. Lewis, Form VI.

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### An Adventure at an Inn.

THE common room at the "Royal George Inn," was long but not very wide. There was a fireplace at one end of the room and a window at the other. Scattered about the room were small tables and rather high stools, and at the sides of the fire were two settles. The ceiling was very low; so low that one could touch the beams with one's hand. Round the walls were hung jugs and on a shelf in one corner were plates of various sizes.

The room was deserted for the moment, and my friend and I were seated on one of the settles when we heard a low moan, which ended in a piercing shriek. We both started and moved nearer to the fire. "What was that?" said my friend. "I think it was only the wind," I replied.

We both walked over to the window and peered out. It was pitch dark, and all that could be heard was the howling of the wind and the patter of the rain drops that were driven with great fury against the window panes. I had forgotten to mention that the window was situated in a deep recess, and that it contained a window seat. We were seated in this recess when the door opened and three persons entered, one of whom we recognised as the innkeeper, but the other two were strangers to us. They both wore cloaks and three cornered hats, and masks half covered their faces. They could not have noticed us in the dim light given by the two candles on the mantelpiece, for the innkeeper said "It is quite alright, for you will be alone in the house except for my wife and I and two young ladies who are in their room now." "All right Jack," said one of the men, "and we will pay you well when we get those jewels her ladyship is carrying."

At these words we knew that the inn keeper was hand in glove with highwaymen, and that it would not be pleasant for us if we were caught, so we decided to keep quiet for a little while and hear what they had to say.

The inn keeper then returned carrying a tray loaded with food and bottles of wine. When he had departed one of the men said "We must not stay here too long." "No!" replied the other, "and I think that narrow lane just before you reach the turnpike would be the best place, don't you?" "Yes," answered his comrade. "I daresay there are a few thousand pounds worth of jewelry in that casket, and it is a piece of good luck that Jack told us about it."

In the intervals between their conversation the two men had been drinking wine as fast as they could, and now their laughing and talking was hysterical. One of the men began quarrelling over something and this began a fight, until at last both men fell down exhausted.

It was now our chance to get out, and so stepping very carefully, we went upstairs to our room. We had hastily decided that the best thing to do was to go out of the inn very quietly, run to the appointed spot and warn the lady. Just when we were hastily donning our cloaks we heard a step in the passage, and a voice said "I think everything will be quite safe now," and the next we knew was that the key had been turned in the lock by the innkeeper. I ran straight to the window and looked out, and I saw something that gave me an idea. The ivy was very thick round the inn, and it would be quite easy to climb down to the ground. I told my friend of the idea and so, opening the lattice window, I climbed down and then helped my friend to descend. When we had reached the ground we ran as if an army were chasing us. We managed to get to the place just in time. I need not say how pleased and grateful her ladyship was, for she would have us return to the manor with her, and guards were sent to arrest the innkeeper and the two highwaymen.

We stayed at the manor for a long time and we returned to our parents in London only on the promise that we would return again shortly to the manor. N. Stevens, Form IV.C.

### "Nothing."

**N**OTHING is neither a chemical compound nor an element; it is transparent, colourless and odourless; it is not soluble in water or any other solvent, its relative density is 0.00 and it has no physical properties. Nothing is not a solid or a gas, it is not combustible and it is not a supporter of combustion. It has no physical or chemical properties therefore it is of no use, value or importance. If a person has four apples and someone else takes them off him the value of the apples to him is nothing. Nothing may be multiplied by a thousand and divided by five hundred and then squared and will still be of no value. Nothing is what some boys say when they are caught talking instead of attending to what the teacher is trying to teach them.

W. Westwood, Form 4B.

### Rain after a Drought.

**H**OW welcome is the rain after a long dreary period of drought; how the people rejoice to see once more the rain, clear as a crystal fountain, drenching the countryside and spreading over all a delightful verdure. The hearts of the plants are filled with joy at the delightful clearness, covering everything with a dewy

crispness that puts new life in the things that live. The trees, grass, flowers, and all the beautiful things of the earth glory in the adorable drops of water that soak into their very hearts, refreshing them as they have never been refreshed before. Thirstily the dry earth that has so long been laid waste by the cruel scorching sun drinks in the cooling moisture that pours down upon it in a pleasing shower. How sincere it is to behold and feel the natural beauties of the earth. Does not a feeling creep up within you that transports you, that soothes, that delights?

And when the welcome rain ceases to fall, the woods, the groves, the rivers and all the plants are covered with a relishable sheen that preserves and renews our love and welcome of that lovely element of nature "*Rain!*"

T. Westwood, Form 4B.

### Seaside Holidays.

I WOULD welcome any theory which explained precisely why, at the seaside, one not merely "puts up with," but actually enjoys things which at home would bring one's mind to a most uncharitable state.

Perhaps the greatest of these trials is the beach. From a cursory study of the Railway Company's posters, one learns that there are two methods of taking one's ease upon the sandy stretch. In the picture one sees multitudes reclining comfortably in deck-chairs, while the less conventional folk lie, equally peaceful, on the sand itself.

I have, however, been convinced by bitter experience that the design for the first deck chair was submitted by the gentleman who invented the rack, so I usually confine my attention to the bare sand, which has not the bad habit of suddenly collapsing. In spite of this, though, I need not be "barren of accusation" against it, for though sand serves a useful purpose in hour glasses and egg timers, it is, so far as I can see, entirely wasting itself when it finds a home in my hair, eyes, pockets or shoes. I do not know whether the stuff wishes for a free passage to Birmingham, but it is a fact that large quantities obtain one every time I go away for a holiday. I am still emptying from my pockets sand which was inadvertently transported in August.

Then, there are pierrot shows. For each performance crowds sit; again in those fiendish devices known as deck-chairs; while a doleful-faced comedian in baggy trousers relates stories which doubtless caused each member of the audience to fall out of his or her cradle with mirth, when he, or she first heard them, but which, having lost the freshness of youth, would fail to conjure up a smile at a local music hall. At the seaside, however, sallies of laughter greet every fresh effort, and the comedian who, however much his looks belie him, is not entirely devoid of intelligence, realises that now or never is the chance to get the one about

his mother-in-law off his chest; he does so amid positive explosions of mirth.

Even those who do not go to the seaside cannot entirely escape from its spell. Their more fortunate friends bring them sticks of rock! Now, I firmly believe that if material employed in seaside rock were made up into ordinary sweets, without any indication that they were "a present from Blackpool" (the name guaranteed to continue all through), discriminating children would refuse to pay three pence a quarter for the confections. What child, however does not enjoy a stick of seaside rock! It is hugged and exhibited to the family and neighbours until it has acquired the requisite degree of stickiness, and is then artistically plastered round the recipient's features until one wonders how much really gets eaten at all.

I myself have no theory to offer as to why these things should be, but we are becoming such a critical race, expecting our amusements to be just to our taste, that it is, perhaps, just as well that we should occasionally determine to enjoy what is put before us without any grumbling.

J. V. Lewis, Form VI.

### News of Old Students.

The following Students have gone to College :—

- E. KEY, J. V. LEWIS, H. H. CORK, G. LYMAN to Birmingham University.
- E. F. WILLETTS to Saltley Training College.
- L. HINDS to Leicester Domestic Science College.
- E. PENNINGTON to Portsmouth Training College.

The following are in offices :—

- MILLWARD, STOUT, EDGE, NICKLESS at Messrs. Aceles & Pollock.
- B. WALLACE at The Brades, Ltd.
- J. PARDOE at Pazo, Ltd.
- D. CUTLER at The Council Offices, Smethwick.
- F. CARR at Northern Aluminium Works, West Bromwich.
- H. DAVIES in a Draughtsman's Office.
- A. E. ROBINSON in a Solicitor's Office.
- J. MORRIS in a Solicitor's Office.
- E. R. GRIFFITHS Civil Service.
- E. HALE and M. BLUNDELL are apprenticed to the British Stamping Company and OLDFIELD to the R.A.F.
- WATERHOUSE is working for Messrs Chance and Hunt, and W. A. STOCKER at the Credenda.
- J. W. GRIFFIN, before his accident, was working at C. A. White's, Chemist, Oldbury, and R. G. OXBORROW in the Laboratory of Messrs. J. and E. Sturge, Ltd.
- N. RICHMOND is sailing on ss. California on 22nd October to Bombay, to join her parents in Simla.



- H. CHAMBERLAIN has been appointed to the Staff of Colchester Grammar School, and S. HOTCHKISS to the Staff of Shebbear College, North Devon.
- H. CLARKE is teaching in Smethwick.

### Old Students' Successes.

WE offer congratulations to the following old students who have been successful in examinations at the University of Birmingham:—

- F. G. LEWIS, Final Examination for the Degrees of M.B., C.H.B.  
 A. G. NOCK, Degree of B.Sc. with honours (Mathematics).  
 KATHLEEN BROWN, Degree of B.Sc. with honours (Mathematics).  
 GRACE I. JONES, Degree of B.Sc. with honours (Bio-chemistry).  
 ETHEL M. CHORLEY, Degree of B.A.  
 JOSEPHINE HEBBARD, taking degree after further year's approved study.  
 P. E. ICKE, taking degree after further year's approved study (Distinction in Physics).  
 ETHEL D. JOHNSTONE, School of German, 2nd examination.  
 C. W. GREENWOOD, School of History, 2nd examination.  
 PEGGY M. A. SWINBURNE, 2nd examination (English, French, Geography).  
 C. N. NOCK, Commerce Degree, 1st examination.  
 H. T. CHAMBERLAIN, Diploma of Education.  
 E. C. ATKINS, Diploma of Education.  
 H. A. CLARKE, Diploma of Education.  
 S. J. HOTCHKISS, Diploma of Education.  
 MARJORIE E. PINE, Primary Teacher. Credit in Music.  
 C. R. WOODWARD, Primary Teacher.

### The First Day at a School of Art.

I AM in the train on my way to Birmingham where my first day awaits me as "fresher" at the School of Art. One by one the stations pass by. I feel a thrill of expectation, together with one of awe, almost of fear. What will the work be like? How shall I compare with the rest? Will there be many other new students? These and many similar questions flash through my brain.

My imaginations of the future are based mainly upon experiences related to me by others. I think of a School of Art as a den of "time-wasters"—an institution erected for the benefit of the idle rich, where sincere and serious-minded aspirants *may* succeed providing that they are strong enough to swim against the tide of frivolity.

My thoughts are cut short, for I have reached my destination. I mount the steps at the main entrance of the School.

I mingle with the crowd in the entrance hall and drift with the stream into one of the cloak rooms. A girl with a pale face and long coils of fair hair speaks to me. She is a second year student and offers to show me round. Her name is Marguerite. We go down to the material store to get drawing requisites. Here my fair companion greets a tall stately girl with brown hair twisted at the back of her neck in some artful manner. Marguerite introduces me to "The Duchess" (as the other has been nicknamed).

Everyone chatters—about holidays, sketches, news of old students, new courses—everyone is excited.

The store is one mass of colour. There is a dark gipsy-looking girl near to me, in a dull yellow smock—another in crimson—others in greens, mauves, pinks, blues, gold, and various multi-coloured floral designs.

The men—especially the architects—have a weakness for the most fantastic smocks. There is a black creation with red devils, and the man in front of me has a huge blue-bottle drawn in ink on the back of his overall with the words "No Parking Here" scrawled underneath.

At last we get our materials. The two girls pilot me upstairs and question me all the time.

Up, up — up ——— and still higher—until we reach the topmost story of the building.

It is the Life Room. The atmosphere is hot and stuffy. There are no windows open. A man with a pale, lined face, straw-coloured hair, and a red beard is coming towards me. His eyes are very keen and blue, but kindly-looking too. I am thrilled. He looks so artistic. He tells me what to do and we all set to work.

A quarter of an hour later two more students appear. Mr. Stubbington shouts across the room, "Why are you so late? The class commences at nine!" They give some glib but feeble excuse which is utterly wasted. "Well, see it doesn't happen again," is the sharp reply, and the blue eyes flash with anger.

Mr. Stubbington has gone out. Everyone works, works . . . works. . . . A second year student makes some disparaging comment upon Epstein. A second boy disputes the idea. A hot argument follows which soon develops into a fight. A pale youth with watery eyes and a neurotic temperament, together with a mauve and pink smock, glares angrily at the disorder. "I-I say you chaps," he stammers in a high pitched, shaky voice, "I-I'll be obliged if you'll make a-a little less noise!" They pause merely to flash back some contemptuous reply.

Mr. Stubbington appears.

What a lecture they get!

Enough to make an ordinary mortal turn green! But they are 2nd year students.

After this episode we work steadily through the morning until 12.45. Our drawings are criticised and pulled to pieces, although some mercy at least is shown to new students.

Afternoon work commences at 2-15, during which the Principal pays us a visit to criticise us. He is not too ferocious, for which we "freshers" are extremely thankful. We realise how weak we are compared with the rest.

All too soon the afternoon is over and it is time to go home. There is no evening school this first week of the new season.

So again I mingle with the picturesque crowd in the cloak-rooms, where still the continuous chatter prevails.

My first day is over.

R. Everett.

### Parents' Association.

**P**ROBABLY some of the readers of this excellent Magazine have not realised the value or understood the necessity for the Parents' Association. In these days of Rationalisation and Machinisation in the commercial life of our time, it is imperative that parents should realise that they have parental responsibility. This responsibility should start from the birth of the child, but in any case the responsibility should start with school age, particularly when the child goes to Secondary, Grammar, or Public School.

The County High School is composed of four sections, the Headmaster and Staff, Scholars of both sexes, the Governors, and the Parents. Each in their different spheres do their share to characterise, to mould, to build up the educational side of the scholar's life. This is the most important duty for all to do, and as we all do it, so in the future years the scholars will live and have their being, either as machine robots or useful thinking citizens of the British Empire. The aims of the Parents' Association is to *co-operate* with the Headmaster, Staff, and Governors in all things concerning the welfare of our children, *and especially in helping them to suitable careers, to co-operate not to interfere.*

To this end we are providing "P. A." prizes for sports and school, arranging suitable lantern and other lectures by experts, social amenities, and an Annual Cricket Match with scholars, the winners holding a shield, provided by the parents.

The Secretary, Committee and myself heartily invite any parents who have, or have had, scholars in the School to become members, membership fee being 1s. per year. During the last two or three years much good has accrued. There are many openings at home and in our Colonies for our boys and girls at present unknown to the average parent. Why not join us in the quest for a suitable career for our children? This quest is and should be, a serious problem to be solved happily, if we get the necessary knowledge. R. C. Woodward, J.P., President.

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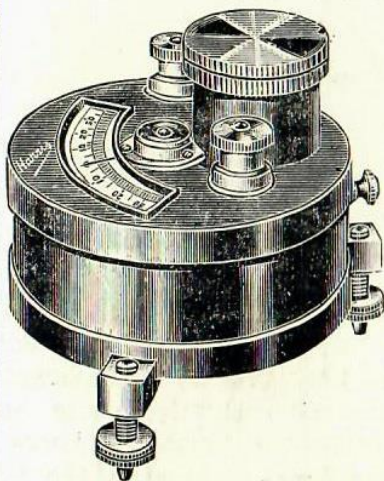
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