



**THE
OLDBURIAN**

**OLDBURY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
MAGAZINE**

SPRING TERM, 1931.

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Advertisement.

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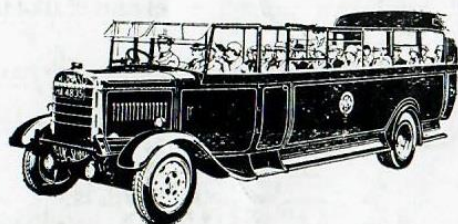
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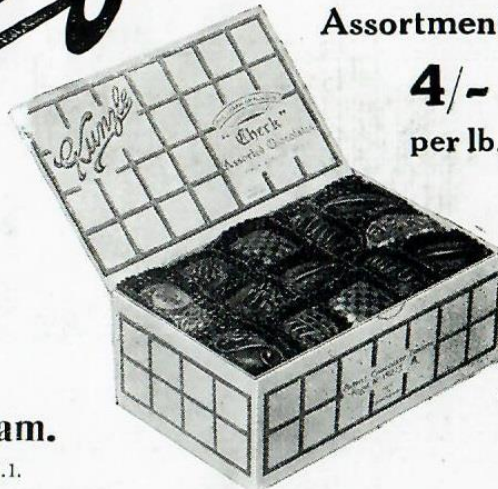
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THE OLDBURIAN.

OLDBURY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
MAGAZINE.

SPRING TERM, 1931.

VOL. II., No. 9.

Editor :
THE HEADMASTER.

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EDITORIAL.

AT the beginning of this New Year we wish all our readers the good old wish, "A Happy New Year," and may it be the best and happiest you have had—so far, with many still happier to follow. The beginning of the new year also would appear to be the time for making a new set of good resolutions, and we hope that those of our readers who are still pupils at this School, will include a resolution to the effect that this year shall certainly be a better school year than any previous one. Of course the main thing about a good resolution is to keep it, there's the rub. Still a lot can be done by a whole-hearted sporting effort. In a recent newspaper article, the Head Master of Harrow points out that the curriculum of the modern secondary school has gradually become the best means of preparation for the career of a boy or girl after leaving school, whatever that career may be, so that at least one resolution should be made, and carried out, that we may all take away with us the very best that the School can give us, and at the same time learn the lesson of service to the general good of our community, without which even the most successful business lives are very incomplete.

The past year was an exceedingly good one for the School, and the list of successes constituted a school record. Now it is the turn of our present pupils to improve on the previous best, so "Carry on."

Dates to Remember.

Feb. 19 and 21.—Guide Display.

Feb. 23 and 24.—Half Term.

April 1.—School Closes for Easter Holidays.

April 23.—School Re-opens.

"Professor Hearnshaw's Holiday" will be in June.

Valete.

- E. G. ROWLEY.—Form VI. Sub-prefect; 2nd Eleven Cricket; 1st Eleven Football; Matriculation.
Working in the office of Messrs. Birch, Birmingham.
- E. MACALISTER.—Form VI. Sub-prefect; Guide; Matriculation.
Working in office of Phoenix Assurance Company.
- W. BENNETT.—Form VA.
- M. FROST.—Form VB. Guide; Hockey Eleven.
- G. BANFORD.—Form VB. 2nd Eleven Football.
- W. LOWE.—Form IVR.
- S. WALTON.—Form IVR. Training as Horticulturist.
- M. SECKERSON.—Form IIIB. Removed to Suffolk.
- J. PARSONS.—Form II. Removed to King's Heath.

Salvete.

- R. A. COLLINS.
K. G. BRINTON.
C. H. MILFORD.

Speech Day.

TWO new features marked our Speech Day this year—it was held in October instead of December, to bring the date as near as possible to Foundation Day, and it was an evening instead of an afternoon function.

Our guest of honour was the eminent scholar, T. J. E. Hearnshaw, Esq., M.A., LL.D., Professor of History at King's College, London, and a great personal friend of our Headmaster.

Most of the Governors were present and there was a large gathering of parents and friends of the School.

After a short opening address by the Chairman, Mr. W. T. Davies, J.P., C.C., an account of the School life during the past year was given by the two School Captains and the Headmaster. B. Adams, the girl captain, reported on the Hockey, Tennis, Guides, Swimming, Literary, Debating and Dramatic Society and the League of Nations' Union and Blundell, the boy captain, followed with the report of Football, Cricket, Cadets and Musical Festival. The Headmaster read a full account of the School life from the "in the classroom" point of view and the report showed that the School as a whole had done a highly satisfactory year's work and that the Senior Forms had been very successful in the external examinations.

Professor Hearnshaw then distributed the prizes, after which he gave a most interesting and valuable address.

He pointed out the profound changes which had taken place in all branches of life during the last thirty years, with the correspondingly great changes in education. Just as in the time of the Greeks and Romans the aim of education must be the training for citizenship, but good citizenship involved much more for us than it did for the ancient Greeks and Romans. Education must develop the intellectual and moral qualities of the students so that they could consider intelligently and unselfishly the pressing and complex

social and political problems of the day. They should have a right sense of proportion to put first things first and should be able and willing to be of service to the community and to improve the inheritance which they had received from their ancestors.

The business part of the evening was then brought to an end by votes of thanks to Doctor Hearnshaw, the Chairman and the Headmaster.

A short but much enjoyed musical programme followed, arranged by Mr. T. L. Davies.

E. MacAlister played a pianoforte solo—Debussy's Arabesque, and F. Bridge a violin solo "Sonata" (Correli). The boys' choir sang the two carols, "A Babe is Born" (13th Century) and "God Love the World."

The proceedings closed with the singing of the School Song and the National Anthem. During the singing of the last verse of the National Anthem, the memorial window presented by the Old Students, was illuminated from the outside and the hall darkened, and the very beautiful effect filled all with a sense of reverence.

Thus another Speech Day came to an end—a Speech Day which was thoroughly successful and enjoyable, even as was the year of School life which it represented.

R. S. O. Stevens.

Prize List.

- FORM 1.—Joan Hobday, E. T. G. Day (equal).
FORM 2B.—(1) D. H. Woodward, (2) F. Bird.
FORM 2A.—Dorothy L. Parkes, J. Cole (equal).
FORM 3C.—(1) W. M. Bird, (2) F. Adams.
FORM 3B.—(1) W. Horton, (2) A. E. Smith.
FORM 3A.—(1) C. E. Greaves, (2) J. A. Birch.
FORM 4C.—M. Wilner, J. Howell (1 equal).
FORM 4B.—(1) F. W. M. Bridge, (2) F. Rudd.
FORM 4A.—(1) G. D. Thomas, (2 equal) Grace Ackrill A. Watt.
FORM 4R.—(1) B. Harper, (2) R. Horton.
2nd year Latin Prize, M. Green.
2nd year German Prize, G. D. Thomas.
- FORMS 5 AND 6B SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION :—
D. Bridgwater, W. Hodgetts, A. W. Onions, W. Cowell,
W. Cashmore, J. W. Hadley, Edna Boots, W. A. Adams,
Doris Hadley, J. W. G. Jones, H. Betts, O. Wheale,
W. Butlin, V. Dancaster, M. Marshall, R. Keyte, F.
Williams, A. G. Bayliss, G. W. Smith, L. Cooper, N.
Murray, J. Cope, M. Dixon, E. MacAlister, C. Green-
wood, E. Knott, J. W. Manton, E. G. Rowley, D. C.
Stevens, R. M. Everett.
- UPPER SIXTH, HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE :—
L. Davies, J. C. Goodacre, D. Homer, P. Woodward,
D. Rudd, L. W. Blundell, B. Adams, R. S. O. Stevens,
D. E. Adams.

SPECIAL PRIZES: *Girl Guides Life-Saving Certificates and Medals, with Cup for Folk Dancing*:-

J. Alger, M. Errington, I. Johnston, E. MacAlister, K. Oxborrow, B. Wain, M. Frost, K. Jackson.

Best Original Magazine Work, G. Ackrill.

Girls' Junior Sports Champion, Phyllis Williams.

Boys' Junior Sports Champion, H. D. Orchard.

Girls' Senior Sports Champion and Albright Cup, Norma Clegg.

Boys' Senior Sports Champion and Vernon Cup, R. S. O. Stevens.

Open 100 yards at Birmingham Joint Sports, D. E. Adams.

Mrs. Dawes' Prize, Daisy Homer.

Mr. Dawes' Prize, Old Students' Medal, and Sports Medal,

L. W. Blundell.

Cricket Prizes, W. A. Adams, L. Davies, and J. C. Goodacre.

Mr. Davies' Prizes, Beatrice Adams and R. S. O. Stevens.

School House.

Captains - - E. BOOTS, L. W. BLUNDELL.

Vice-Captains - - R. MUSGRAVE.

Sports Captains - D. BRIDGEWATER, L. W. BLUNDELL.

THE Christmas term was once more a very successful one for School House. The members are to be heartily congratulated on winning both the House Cup and the Music Cup for the second year in succession.

In the play, the "Admirable Crichton," produced by the School society, the House was well represented. Eight of the members of the cast including: *Crichton*, F. Duffield; *Ernest*, R. Musgrave; and *Agatha*, G. Marshall; are members of School House.

The boys acquitted themselves well in the football matches at the end of term, and successfully defeated Trinity, Queen's and Kings.

L. W. Blundell.

King's House.

Captains - - E. MACALISTER, R. S. O. STEVENS.

Vice-Captains - - E. M. EVERETT.

Sports Captains - P. WILLIAMS, W. CASHMORE.

Secretaries - - L. COOPER, D. C. STEVENS.

ALTHOUGH this term has provided less in the way of House competition than did last, we succeeded in maintaining our old prestige in at least one event, namely, the swimming sports.

In this event we gained both boys' and girls' individual championships, B. Sykes carrying off the girls' and Harper the boys. J. Alger and E. MacAlister were also awarded medals.

On Speech Day we were well represented in the prize list. Many of our members had gained form prizes and examination certificates; in the sports we had gained the Junior Girls' Championship and both Junior and Senior Boys' Championships; and

to crown it all D. E. Adams had obtained a State Scholarship, a thing done only once before in the annals of the School.

Not many King's House members were in the cast of the last School play, but those who were played their parts well. These were M. Green, J. Lugg, L. Cooper, Horton, Basterfield and Keyte.

The results of the inter-house football matches at the end of term were rather discouraging for us, as we had to be content with fourth place, but we attribute this to the unkindness of fortune rather than to our own failings, and intend to do better next time.

D. C. Stevens,
Secretary.

Queen's House.

Captains - - H. G. BARLOW, B. ADAMS.
Vice-Captains - H. PALMER, D. R. B. G. HOMER.
Sports Captains - H. G. BARLOW, B. ADAMS.
Secretary - - F. WILLIAMS.

THE past term proved to be a very crowded one and we are pleased to note that in the many functions that took place the House did very creditably.

The swimming sports were held this term at Harborne baths. The girls did very well and were placed first, although the boys were less fortunate and only succeeded in obtaining fourth place.

"The Admirable Crichton" was, of course, a school production, but it is pleasing to note the many members of Queen's House who took part, all of whom did their share towards enhancing the reputation of the House.

Unfortunately the girls were unable to play any inter-house matches owing to the state of the field, but the boys did quite well in their football matches, winning, drawing, and losing one.

We would like to congratulate all those whose hard work was rewarded by a prize on Speech Day, and to offer a hearty welcome to the new members whilst sending our best wishes for the future to all those who have left us.

B. Adams.
H. G. Barlow.

Trinity House.

Captains - - D. HADLEY, W. A. ADAMS.
Vice-Captains - N. MURRAY, W. N. BUTLIN.
Sports Captains - D. HADLEY, W. A. ADAMS.
Secretary - - W. N. BUTLIN.

THIS term has been quite successful for the members of Trinity House. On Speech Day it was found that by last year's work, the House gained second place. This was quite satisfactory, but as new captains we would like to ask for a little perseverance on the part of the members of the House so that at the next Speech Day we may proudly receive the Cup.

The House was well represented in this year's play, "The Admirable Crichton," which proved a great success.

The chess tournament was again won by W. A. Adams, and the House had far more entrants than any of the other Houses.

There were no other important events except the boys' House matches. There were no girls' House matches, but they hope to play them at the end of the Spring Term.

Trinity finished second in the football matches. We defeated King's 2—0 and drew with Queen's 1—1, but were defeated by School House 6—1. This heavy defeat may be accounted for by the fact that the right-back was injured early in the game, but we played pluckily against great odds. Special congratulation is due to Blair, who played very well at right-back.

D. Hadley
W. A. Adams.

Literary, Scientific, Debating and Dramatic 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 - - B. E. ADAMS.
Vice-Chairman - L. W. BLUNDELL.
Treasurer - - R. S. O. STEVENS.
Secretary - - W. R. B. G. HOMER.

Committee—

B. ADAMS, L. BLUNDELL, J. LUGG, P. DUFFIELD, K. JACKSON,
R. FARROW, K. ATKINS, W. PLAYDON, M. TAVENER,
F. BODENHAM, S. KNOWLES, MARMONT.

THE recent half session has proved most interesting and eventful for the Joint Societies. The following is a record of the meetings held:—

- Oct. 7th.—This meeting was purely for business purposes, the committee and officers were elected and a hearty welcome extended to the new members.
- Oct. 14th.—At this meeting we were to have been addressed by our President, but at the last minute he was unfortunately called away to another meeting. Mr. Hopkins, our vice-president, kindly consented to fill the breach and gave us a most inspiring address. I am sure none of us will forget his text, "The game is more than the players, and the ship is more than the crew." After votes of thanks had been passed the meeting was closed.
- Oct. 21st.—This meeting took the form of a debate, the motion being—"The continual search after pleasure is ruining the British Nation." The speakers were: For the affirmative—M. Marshall, R. Stevens, Duffield. For the opposition—K. Howells, Everett, Branson. The motion was defeated by 57 votes to 35.
- Oct. 28th.—This meeting also took the form of a debate, the motion before the House was "The Conservative idea of men towards dress is to be deplored." The speakers were, for the affirmative—B. Adams, E. MacAlister, M. Green; for the opposition—Cope, Knott, Marmont. The motion was defeated by the narrow margin of 49 votes to 41.

Nov. 4th.—Half term.

Nov. 7th.—We had the pleasure of entertaining about 60 members of the Halesowen Debating Society. The visitors arrived at 4 o'clock, and after assembling in the Hall for the purpose of welcoming our guests, we proceeded to the Dining Hall for tea, which was appreciated by all. After tea we re-assembled in the Hall and the debate commenced. The subject before the House was, "The Emancipation of Women has wrecked British home life." The motion was supported by Halesowen and opposed by Oldbury. Speakers for the affirmative—O'Connor, Rose and H. Lane. Speakers for the opposition—B. Adams, M. Marshall and Duffield. The principal speakers were eloquent and forceful in their arguments, and when the debate was thrown open for discussion by the House many interesting speeches were made from the floor. The House divided for the count and the motion was defeated by the substantial majority of 116 votes to 49. The debate was followed by a short impromptu dance, which lasted until 8-30 p.m., when our visitors were forced to leave us.

Nov. 11th.—This meeting proved most enjoyable. Miss Foster gave us a most interesting account of the Passion Play at Oberammergau—how it originated and a description of it, as performed in 1930. It was made, if possible, more interesting by coloured illustrations, and many of the audience were so inspired they made a resolution to try their very best to attend the next performance, presumably in 1940. After votes of thanks had been passed, the meeting was closed.

Nov. 25th.—The Dramatic Section presented "The Admirable Crichton," by Sir J. M. Barrie (dress rehearsal), to which performance the Junior School was invited.

Nov. 27th and 29th.—Public performance of "The Admirable Crichton."

Dec. 2nd.—Although no meeting was held in order to allow members to recuperate from the excitement of the past week, on Friday, December 5th, all who helped in any way with the production of the play, thoroughly enjoyed a jolly party given by Miss Jones. No more meetings were held after this owing to exams and the usual Christmas parties, and we are looking forward to an equally interesting programme next term.

R. B. G. Homer.

"The Admirable Crichton."

"THE Admirable Crichton," by Sir James Barrie, was the School play selected for 1930.

By general consent this play was the most ambitious and also the most successful of all the productions of the School Dramatic Society, who are all to be heartily congratulated upon having given a thoroughly "admirable" performance.

The opening scene was in the drawing room of Lord Loam's town house where we met the various members of this noble family, their friends and household.

His Lordship, played very faithfully by Barlow, was indeed a worthy host yet very very dependent upon his admirable butler. His daughters Lady Mary, Lady Catherine, and Lady Agatha (very distinctively and attractively portrayed by Marguerite Marshall, Dorothy Homer and Geraldine Marshall) were obviously somewhat pampered young ladies who also enjoyed gaining any slight advantage over one another. The Honourable Ernest Woolley was spontaneously and convincingly played by Musgrave, who deservedly scored an immediate success with his audiences on each appearance. The part of the Rev. John Treherne was played by Smith (W. M.) with a very attractive restraint and natural dignity throughout. Lord Brocklehurst, alias Branson, was a young man *très comme il faut*, as to bearing, voice and monocle.

This scene was further reinforced by the introduction of the entire household staff, Crichton, "the admirable butler," admirably played by Duffield, easily dominated the scene. He is to be very sincerely congratulated upon his correct bearing, precision of utterance and dignity of action throughout.

We had the pleasure of meeting the very composed and dignified Mrs. Perkins, Monsieur Fleury, truly a credit to his noble uniform, Mr. Rolleston, the dignified valet, Mr. Tompsett, the outspoken chauffeur, Thomas and John, who did his utmost to chastise the "Odds and Ends." We met, too, the ladies' maids—the haughty Miss Fisher, the demure Miss Simmons, and the elegant Mlle Jeane and—but very far removed from these—Gladys and Jane from below stairs. Last but not least, Tweeny was a great favourite with everybody; she played her part so naturally and yet with such obvious sincerity and enjoyment. To put such a large company upon the stage, with their entrances and exits so correctly and so quickly managed was indeed a great accomplishment. But what a very different party from our last one at Miss Thirza Tapper's!

In the second act we saw the island upon which the party was wrecked. The scenery was most effective and greatly admired by the audiences who also expressed great appreciation of the sunset tableau at the end of the scene. Crichton, upon landing, was soon indispensable and the unacknowledged master in spite of the arrival of Lord Loam.

In two years' time the island home was a comfortable, well equipped log cabin. Crichton, more "admirable" than ever, was now "the Gov.," Lord Loam was "Daddy," and the proud disdainful Lady Mary was just "Polly" to all alike.

Then, when all seemed happily resigned to life in their own island community, a ship's gun was heard and a naval officer (none other than Horton) soon arrived to admire their home and take all on board his ship.

And the last scene was set once more in the drawing-room of Loam House and all had resumed their original rôles in life;

yet not quite the same. Lady Mary was far more human—there was still a trace of "Polly"—and Lord Loam was certainly not inclined to resume his household gatherings. Lady Brocklehurst, with her high-bred scorn and the "feelings of a mother," was anxious to enquire as to how they had lived and dressed upon the island. She even summoned Crichton and Tweeny before her, but, thanks to the ready wit of all, the danger passed and all ended happily. We all felt that to meet Lady Brocklehurst (a difficult rôle, excellently played by B. Adams) was just the touch required to convince us that we really had returned to every day life after all the excitement and romance of life on an island in the Pacific.

This time a new departure was made in carefully selecting music as an introduction to the various scenes. This proved a conspicuous success, and all thanks are due to Mr. T. L. Davies, E. MacAlister, G. Lyman, F. Bridge and G. Stanley, for the music so happily given. As for the scene painting, the Island Scene and the Log Cabin were both new adventures and reflect great credit on the amateur painters.

As in other years, all the characters were most carefully selected and all sustained their parts extremely well—from the long and important rôle of Crichton himself to the "Odds and Ends."

The Society was fortunate in still having so many old players, well known to their audiences; such as Barlow, Musgrave, D. Homer, M. Marshall, B. Adams and G. Marshall. Yet the amount of new talent discovered is highly encouraging to everybody. Among these new "stars" are Duffield, Smith, Branson and M. Barnett. Neither would it be possible to omit special mention of M. Green who, owing to sudden illness, was greatly disappointed at not playing "Tweeny"—of M. Burnett, who was called in unexpectedly to play this important part, and of Orchard, who was quite ready to play Lord Loam if Barlow had not been able to return after his illness.

It is only fair that, as most of the work and responsibility naturally fell to the share of Miss Jones as producer, so should a large measure of credit be hers too. To have given so much pleasure and encouragement to all members of the Dramatic Society, to their friends and to all friends of the School, must indeed be an added gratification.

CAST

Characters in the order of their appearance.

Crichton, the butler, P. Duffield; *The Hon. Ernest Woolley*, R. Musgrave; *Lady Catherine*, D. Homer; *Lady Agatha*, G. Marshall; *Lady Mary*, M. Marshall; *Mr. Treherne*, W. M. Smith; *Lord Loam*, H. G. Barlow or J. Orchard; *Lord Brocklehurst*, W. Branson; *Mrs. Perkins*, the housekeeper, F. Williams; *Monsieur Fleury*, the chef, H. Basterfield; *Mr. Rolleston*, the valet, G. Thomas; *Mr. Tompsett*, the chauffeur, E. Knott; *Miss Fisher*, maid of Lady Mary, J. Lugg; *Miss Simmons*, maid of Lady Catherine, L. Cooper; *Mademoiselle Jeanne*, maid of Lady Agatha,

E. Boots; *Thomas*, chef's assistant, R. Keyte; *John*, butler's assistant, R. Farrow; *Jane*, parlour maid, D. Bridgewater; *Gladys*, kitchen maid, E. Keyte; *Tweeny*, M. Burnett; "*Odds and Ends*," J. Greenwood, G. Banford; *Naval Officer*, R. Horton; *Countess of Brocklehurst*, B. Adams.

E.M.F.

Hockey.

Ist XI.—K. Jackson, J. Lugg, D. Hadley (Capt.), P. Williams, J. Alger, M. Frost, M. Hart, I. Johnson, B. Adams, D. Bridgewater, G. Jones.

The results of the Hockey matches are:—

Opponents	Goals for	Goals against	Result
Aston Commercial School	7	2	Won
Harborne College	9	2	Won
Redditch	2	2	Draw (unfinished)
George Dixon School	6	1	Won
Holly Lodge	5	2	Won
Kidderminster Ladies Club	1	6	Lost

Owing to bad weather a few of the matches had to be cancelled, including Halesowen and Old Students, but we are hoping for better weather next term.

All the members of the team are to be congratulated on their work, D. Hadley, P. Williams and G. Jones being worthy of special mention.

D. Bridgewater.

Football.

THE football of this term for the 1st XI. has not been very successful. The team could not manage to work together in the proper way. However, from the better form shown at the end of the term, we are expecting better results next term. The 2nd XI. had a more successful term than the 1st XI and ought to do even better in the next half of the season. The games played were as follows:—

	1st XI.					2nd XI.						
Dudley	9—3	Lost	...	...	7—3	Lost				
Waverley Road	2—1	Lost								
Redditch	2—2	Drawn								
Holly Lodge	2—2	Drawn	...	...	3—2	Lost				
Holly Lodge	5—1	Lost								
King's Norton	2—1	Lost	...	...	2—5	Won				
King's Norton	3—5	Won	...	...	2—4	Won				
Smethwick	2—2	Drawn	...	...	0—4	Won				
Lawrence's College	4—3	Lost	...	...	1—8	Won				
Lawrence's College	4—1	Lost								
Handsworth	3—1	Lost	...	...	4—2	Lost				
St. Philips	4—1	Lost	...	...	1—3	Won				
Played.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst	Played.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.	
	12	1	8	3	23	41.	8	5	3	0	31	20.

The teams were as follows:—

1st XI.

Capt., Adams; Vice-Capt., Musgrave; Butlin; Playdon; Horton; Greenwood; Everett; Palmer; Cashmore; Blundell; Harper, F.

2nd XI.

Capt., Branson; Vice-Capt., Cope; Blair; Harper, B.; Farrow; Edwards; Jackson; Betts; Male; Bowley; Keyte; Knott; Thomas; Rowley; Hadley; Bodenham; Smith, A. W.; Bamford; Harrington.
Howard G. Barlow (Hon. Sec.)

Swimming Sports.

THE Swimming Sports were held at Harborne Baths on October 2nd. The boys held their sports from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., and the events were keenly contested, the results being as follow:—

2 Lengths (under 13).—1, Johnson; 2, Green. Pts.—K. 2; T. 3.
1 Width (beginners).—1, Bloomer; 2, Humphries; 3, Jakeways. Pts.—Q. 6.
Team Race.—1, School; 2, Trinity; 3, Kings. Pts.—S. 8, K. 3, Q. 2, T. 5.
6 Lengths.—1, Harper; 2, Blundell; 3, Duffield. Pts.—S. 5, K. 5.
Dive.—1, Smith, W.; 2, Musgrave; 3, Haynes. Pts.—S. 3, T. 7.
2 Lengths.—1, Smith, A.; 2, Musgrave; 3, Smith, W. Pts.—S. 3, T. 7.
2 Lengths (breast).—1, Harper; 2, Blundell; 3, Smith, W. Pts.—S. 3, K. 5, T. 2.
Points for Swimmers.—S. 9 + 22; Total 31. K. 3 + 15; Total 18. Q. 5 + 8; Total 13. T. 6 + 24; Total 30.
HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP.—School, 31; Trinity, 30; King's, 18; Queen's, 13.
INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP.—Harper, 10pts.; Smith, W. M., 9pts.

When the boys had finished the girls took possession of the baths for their sports. Results:—

4 Lengths.—1, E. Nelson; 2, M. Frost.
1 Width (beginners).—1, M. Gittus; 2, J. Harrold.
1 Length Handicap.—1, M. Gittus; 2, M. Frost.
Diving.—1, K. Jackson; 2, B. Sykes.
House Teams.—1, Queen's; 2, School.
2 Lengths (Open).—1, B. Sykes; 2, E. Nelson.

On October 11th the boys entered for the Birmingham and District Secondary Schools Joint Swimming Sports. The School entered for seven events, including three team races. Although we were not successful in carrying off any trophies, it was pleasing to note the very plucky and sporting efforts by all swimmers and the interest taken in the sports by the School as a whole.

B. Adams.

Girl Guides.

THE whole system of guiding has this term been completely re-organised. Captain has realised for some time that the Company was paying most attention to the practical side of Guiding. We could drill, tie knots, dance, etc., but we were inclined to forget that we were still Guides when not in uniform. There was much room for improvement—consequently the leaders were asked to resign and new ones elected (many of the former being again chosen). All patrol emblems were taken away and it was decided to form the Company afresh into five new patrols under the newly appointed leaders. Another decision was that, in future, the number of members should be limited to forty. Other changes there were, too numerous to mention in detail.

The Wolverhampton Guide Swimming Sports, organised by Captain Miss Tweedie, took place early in the term, and were a great success. Six of the Oldbury guides gave a demonstration of life-saving in the water, together with methods of release and artificial respiration. An examiner, appointed by the Board, was present to examine the six candidates for the Royal Life Saving Society's Bronze Medal. The onlookers showed much enthusiasm during the test of diving for bricks, and even more when it was announced that all the entrants were successful.

The Guides are sorry for the temporary absence from the Company of Miss Chell, who for a time acted as a Lieutenant. We hope she will soon return.

At present the chief activities are connected with the annual Guide Display which it is hoped will be held early in February. The meetings last term have been particularly happy ones and "the powers that be" are glad to see, so soon, some results of the beginning-of-term re-organisation.

R. Everett.

Essay Competition.

MR. W. T. DAVIES, J.P., C.C., the Chairman of the Governors, very kindly offered a prize for the best essay on "How I Spend My Leisure Time." About ninety essays were submitted and of these four (B. Adams, R. Stevens, A. Watt, J. Harrold) were selected and sent to Mr. Davies, who very generously decided to give two prizes, one to B. Adams and one to R. Stevens.

How I Spend My Leisure Time.

WHEN one is at school and especially when one is a senior, leisure time becomes a most treasured possession. However, its rarity is really a blessing because in the short time at one's disposal only the worth-while things can be done, those of lesser interest having to be dropped since there is no time in which to do them.

Much of my own leisure time is spent in Guiding. I do not think that any Girl Guide ever found herself with nothing to do. As a hobby for girls this movement cannot be surpassed since it comprises so many things.

The weekly meeting is, of course, the item that takes most time. Here the first thing we learn is to be orderly and neat. Roll call and inspection ensure both of these while the elder guides have also to learn the elements of leading. Here we learn, chiefly by making mistakes, how to get the best out of our patrols, and it is surprising how useful this knowledge is in general life.

We also get a certain amount of recreation after a hard day's school work. One would hardly believe how exhilarating is the simplest ball game, or what shrieks of mirth arise when patrols, hanging on to each others' belts, race round the room. No doubt this sounds very childish but it is a great relief after a day of irregular verbs and mathematical inductions.

Then there are the numerous new fields of interest opened up in the badge work. It is very interesting, as well as useful, to learn all the things necessary for such badges as ambulance and sick nurse and extremely perplexing to try to remember how much suet goes in a steamed pudding while wondering if the stew you are making for cook's badge has boiled long enough.

It must not be supposed that all interest finishes when the meeting closes. There are always either patches to be neatly sewn for needle-woman's badge or songs to be prepared for camp fire or the log book to be written up. Then, too, each guide has to write her ideas on one of the laws every week. This is a good thing, for besides bringing in some very original thoughts, we are not allowed to forget the laws we promised to keep at our enrolment.

Once a year we give a guide display in which everybody helps. This naturally needs much rehearsal and for weeks before we are busy practising our dances and plays. It is quite an experience to appear before an audience as an ancient prophet or a Russian nobleman (both with beards) and to have to talk with quantities of cotton wool gradually entering one's mouth.

Every summer we hold a camp at various sea-side places. Here one learns more in a week through actual experience than in years over a book. Pitching tents, carrying buckets and buckets of water, gathering burnable sticks for the camp fire, hoisting the colours are but a few of the things one has to do there, not to mention cooking breakfast over a smoky fire with the tears running down one's cheeks.

Another society in which I am very interested is the school "Literary, Dramatic, Debating and Scientific Society." The society holds a meeting every Tuesday and very varied are the programmes we enjoy. Sometimes various members give papers on the subjects in which they are particularly interested and once or twice during the season we have had an outsider in to lecture. Many of these prove very interesting and lead us to take an interest in subjects about which we have scarcely heard before.

Personally, I am very interested in the debates. It is surprising how one grows to enjoy things which one started by fearing. I shall never forget the first time I ever spoke in a debate. How I shivered and was even too nervous to have any tea! Now those days seem far away, and although I still cannot suppress a tremor when the preceding speaker is drawing his remarks to a close, at least I am able to take active enjoyment in squashing the arguments of my opponents.

I am equally interested in the dramatic section of the society, and we have some very interesting readings of plays. It has been my good fortune to be in the last two plays produced by the society and naturally the rehearsals take up quite a considerable amount of time. Personally I think it time well spent, especially when it comes to the public performances.

Of course, one cannot spend the whole of one's time at such meetings, it is necessary to take a certain amount of exercise. During the summer I play a considerable amount of tennis, a game of which I am very fond. I discovered recently that swimming was a very pleasant pastime, but I don't claim any proficiency, a laborious width of the baths being my limit at present.

In the winter months exercise is usually confined to hockey on Saturday mornings. I like walking in the rain but owing to certain ideas prevalent in the family about getting wet unnecessarily it is very seldom I am able to indulge in this weakness.

Thus, in our climate, I have during the winter, a certain amount of time that must be spent indoors. We have a wireless and when alone I am very fond of listening in. When, however there is some kindred spirit near, I prefer to talk. Last winter to pass the time we learnt to play chess. Often however this game seems far too much like work and then we get out the tidley winks. I can recommend this as a pastime for all those weary people who want an exciting game with a rest from thinking. It is most thrilling when your counter will persist in jumping over the pot or some cruel creature tips one of her counters on top of your last one thus preventing you from moving.

In the fleeting minutes left of my leisure time I usually read. I am afraid that at present newspapers form a large part of my reading and such books as I do find time to read are chosen for their power to amuse and not for the beauty of their sentiments.

In the holidays there are of course more opportunities to do other things. I frequently go to the pictures then and possibly I enjoy it more because I never have time nor inclination to go during term. Since I go to be amused, my favourite pictures are light society ones like "Sunny Side Up." During the holidays I also do some embroidery, but I am afraid plain sewing only appeals to me as a means to this end.

In these ways I spend my leisure time, often vainly regretting that I have not more in which to do many other things which at present I may only admire from a distance.

B. Adams.

What I Do in My Leisure Time.

FOR any one at school, busy with preparations for examinations, very little leisure time is left, when the total time spent in studying is taken out of the week, excepting on Sunday, when a lot of the time is often spent in going to church, which cannot be classed as a leisure occupation.

There is a vast number of ways in which leisure time can be filled, some which appeal to the lazy, and some which appeal to the industrious. For the former class, the first and easiest way of spending a few winter minutes is to exconce oneself in a comfortable chair with an interesting book. This is a very pleasant, and sometimes not unprofitable way of spending a half-hour or so. Others of the less homely pleasure seekers, spend their spare time at the cinema or the theatre. Those who have hobbies, as many people have, are never at the proverbial "loose end," as any hobby takes the whole of the spare time of the enthusiast, if it is really a hobby and not merely a means of spending a few minutes pleasantly. Such hobbies can take various forms; for boys there is stamp collecting, birds' egg and coin collecting, also wireless set construction, woodwork, painting, drawing, and so on. Some industrious people even profess a liking for gardening.

To very few of these, do my personal inclinations or abilities lend themselves. When a little younger the joy of stamp-collecting came upon me, and I entered into the study of philately with great fervour. Few can appreciate the pleasure to be obtained from a serious study of postage stamps, their history, their peculiarities, the romance connected with many of the issues, until they themselves have been taken as slaves to the pastime, so that it becomes very much more than a pastime. This hobby, however, takes up a surprisingly large amount of time. So many little operations have to be carefully carried out before each stamp is cautiously and lovingly stuck on its page and each little operation takes so long that the hobby to be properly indulged in, takes far more time and money, than the average person can devote to it.

Of late, I am afraid the first mentioned pastime has held most favour with me, namely the reading of books, occasionally of the novel type, which I very much enjoy, but more often, either humorous essays or short stories, which make a very strong appeal. Such are the short stories of H. G. Wells, etc., the essays of Lucas, Lynd, Milne and Chesterton and the less "high-brow" but more amusing articles of F. W. Thomas, and similar humorists. This leads me on to speak of my chief hobby, the study of heraldry, the material for which is chiefly derived from books.

The study of this subject, heraldry, has been my main hobby for some years, and it makes an intensely fascinating means of passing time for anyone interested in the people and history of the middle ages. A knowledge of history, however, is not an essential for this subject, as many people suppose, for, if it were, I should not be able to pursue it very far, as I am sadly deficient in historical learning. Apart from the general interest in the subject, the reason

for which it is very difficult to define, there is its value as a means of artistic decoration, both on buildings and in windows. Some beautiful examples of most artistic coats of arms are to be found, such as, to give one example, the old arms of France which were silver fleur-de-lys on a blue ground. The development of the science, as most writers choose to call it, is quite involved and complicated and is far more interesting than one would imagine.

The books on the subject which I have been able to obtain to read, are of various kinds. One of the most interesting is called "A Grammar of British Heraldry," by St. John Hope, which is very neat, concise and useful. Another which deals with heraldry of a more restricted type is, "Heraldry for Craftsmen and Designers" by the same author. Again there is a book by J. S. Davenport, called "British Heraldry" which tells specially of the rise, development and the type of heraldry used in our own country, which is far more simple and beautiful than those of the continental countries like Germany and Italy. Apart from these books I have mentioned, are the old heraldic rolls, many of which date back for many centuries, and which can only be seen in museums and reference libraries.

It is difficult to discover whence my interest in this subject arose. It is probably a result of my imaginative games in my early school-days, which were in themselves due to reading legends of pomp and chivalry and war, such as delight the hearts of most boys. My favourite game was to have a castle or a fort in the garden, and to hold it with wooden sword and lance and cardboard shield, emblazoned with some weird home-made device, against all comers. I was probably led to desire to know more about the blazoning of shields and about heraldry, from my childish desire to make myself appear a valiant and chivalrous knight.

When the weather is too fine for one's conscience to allow one to stay indoors, walking and cycling, especially the former, give great delight during the short time at one's disposal. Walks, although far more interesting and enjoyable in my estimation than cycle rides, require both a pleasant countryside and a long time for each one, while even when one lives in a town, as I do, it is possible, with a cycle, to get quite pleasant glimpses of the countryside in a short time.

My favourite winter game is hockey, which I play on most Saturday afternoons. There is no game more exciting and exhilarating than this fine, healthy and thrilling pastime. It is the type of game in which the result weighs very little with the players. The fact that they have had a fast and enjoyable contest is of far more importance than if they have won or lost or drawn.

Tennis and crosscountry running take up a considerable amount of my spare time. It has been my practice to set out one night every week at 9 o'clock on a short crosscountry run, with several other enthusiasts, and the glow and feeling of exhilaration which it gives one is astonishing. In my opinion, crosscountry running at 9 p.m. on a frosty, starry evening, is one of the delights of life.

The majority of hard-working, industrious people of the world say that no time should be leisure time, i.e., unoccupied time, but that we should always be doing to help to be of use to the community and this is certainly true in the main, but I am inclined to agree with the poet W. H. Davies, in his poem "Leisure," when he says:—

“ What is this life if full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand beneath the boughs,
And stare as long as sheep or cows.
No time to see when woods we pass,
Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.

and then he concludes,

A poor world this, if full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.”

A few minutes occasionally, when we can stand and think about the things around us, are very beneficial, both to our state of mind and to our education.

Ralph S. O. Stevens.

The Exile.

The sun burns down on the desert,
And the scene is arid and bare,
The only bird is a vulture
Which flies from its mountain lair—
But the exile's thoughts are not there.

* * * * *

Do the harebells droop in the valley,
In the nook where they long ago grew?
Does the sky still weep o'er the heather,
And the nightingale sing all night through?

Do the early violets slumber
Moss 'twined, in the forest deep?
Do the lambs still play in the meadows,
And the sweet wild hedge-roses creep?

Does the cottage sleep in the sunshine,
Where I was born and was bred?
Do the myrtle and lavender mingle
With heartsease, and peonies red?

Do the waves roar 'gainst the headland,
And gently lap in the bay?
Does the seagull wheel from its eyrie,
O'er the sea at the break of the day?

* * * * *

He may see earth's greatest wonders,
And pass marvellous sights on his way.
But the exile lives for his dreamland—
The wind in gold corn, the sweet hay.

B. Keyte, V.B.

That Interesting Film.

(From the German by M. Proskaner.)

DEPUTY Police Inspector Terin of district 69, stepped in front of the little mirror which hung on the bare wall of his office, tilted his cap somewhat and brushed his moustache up jauntily. Then he left the station, and strolled with swaggering steps along the sunny street, happily conscious of a free afternoon, and pleasantly imbued with a sense of his own importance.

With quick glances he eyed each shop-girl and each little typist, hurrying from restaurant back to places of business. A workman who was already drunk in spite of the noon hour, came bawling along the road. The Inspector would have liked to have reprimanded him, but there was no "kudos" to be got thereby, and the constable at the next street corner would do it just as well.

So he turned up the Rue D'Amsterdam and suddenly took a startled step backwards as two powerful cars rushed at great speed round the corner and up the street. A second later they pulled up in front of a large grey house, and in an instant a crowd of people collected around them.

That was too much for the inspector. The inborn aversion of the police officer to big crowds, the urge to command and forbid, and a sheer, human, ordinary curiosity drove him on. He had just arrived when a well dressed gentleman pushed his way through the crowd, courteously greeted the inspector and handed him a visiting card.

"We are in the middle of shooting a cinematograph film, Inspector," he said. "We should be very much obliged to you if you would let us remain here for a few minutes." He made a gracious movement of his hand and pressed his way back through the crowd, which was standing in a narrow semi-circle around the cars.

The elegant representative of the cinematograph film called out, "You see, Inspector, it is a criminal film, à la Sherlock Holmes, you know."

The Inspector cast a glance at the visiting card, "Ah, you are from Priot and Fils, I know them of course." The well dressed gentleman bowed again. "The idea, then, inspector, is as follows. A banker, who is out driving on business, is attacked by thieves and plundered. The thieves take flight and are not recaptured in spite of the most zealous search by detectives. We are now at the second part."

The Inspector watched the proceedings with interest. Close to the edge of the road a big red car was standing. The chauffeur had a sack pulled over his head and was fastened with straps to the steering wheel, from which he tried in vain to free himself. In the car, thrown across the seat, lay an elderly gentleman, around whose face the pretended thieves had thrown a black cloth. One of the thieves held the old man's arm tightly, while another removed his watch and pocket book from his coat pocket.

On the other side of the street two operators were standing with the apparatus and were diligently turning the handles. Be-

hind the red car stood a second, a grey one, whose chauffeur kept the engine running and with his hands on the wheel, carefully followed the scene. Inspector Terin shook his head. By jove, the fellows were acting very realistically. The old gentleman in the red car had just got one hand free, and was laying about him, when one of the thieves struck him a blow which knocked him from his seat.

The well-dressed representative noticed it. "Our people work well don't they? A wonderfully natural piece of acting. We are nearly ready, however. Look! the thief is taking an attaché-case. That is the pièce de resistance of the robbery, and is supposed to contain about a hundred thousand francs.

The Inspector laughed, "You're deuced smart chaps, but what comes next," he asked.

"I'll tell you, Inspector, will you be so kind as to send the people a little further away, so as to give us a little more space.

The policeman nodded, and went up to the crowd. "Make way there! Move on!" he called to those nearest, who slowly pressed backwards, and made a passage. At the same moment the gentleman beckoned with his top hat, the rattle of the cameras stopped; the grey car drew up; the operators, actors, and the representative sprang in, and with a powerful jerk, the car shot through the gap between the people, and away down the street. An then, through the thick cloud which came from her exhaust, one could see the hat of the agent courteously waving farewell to the Inspector; then the shrill note of the horn was heard once at the next corner—and all was still.

The Inspector looked after them, surprised. Where could the cinema people be going at such a speed? And yet, the other car was still there. The chauffeur kept turning in his bonds, and out of the interior could be heard the struggles of the old man.

Inspector Terin went slowly up to the car. He was about to say, "You can take a breather now. Your people have just driven away," when he shrank back violently. The inconsiderate fellows had tied the cloth so tightly around the gentleman that he was blue in the face. He bent down and helped the old fellow out and then loosened the cloth.

The old gentleman swung his arms and legs around as though in pain, but he could make no sound and fell back on the seat. A couple of men had by this time released the chauffeur, and pulled the sack from his head. He had also gone red, and was coughing breathlessly. At last, the old gentleman, who had recovered his voice, cried out, "Help! Thieves! Stop them!"

"Quieten yourself a little now; the picture is finished," said the Inspector.

But the old man cried out desperately, "Picture! Oh, the swindlers! They have attacked me! I had over a hundred thousand francs of pay money with me! My watch, my attaché-case!"

The Inspector grew pale.

Then the chauffeur, who had been quiet up to now, but whose respect for authority had been undermined by the ignominy of discomfiture interposed, "But man! Inspector! They have stolen everything and have all got away! And in sheer daylight! Words fail me! And the police stand by and even help the thieves!"

His master broke in with shrieking accusation, and lamentations for the case and money. Gradually there dawned upon the Inspector the consciousness of what he had done. Suddenly he felt quite faint, looked round for some support, and gripped the horn, which under his touch cried out shrilly, just like that of the other car, which even now bore the thieves in frantic haste through distant streets.

Translated by Ralph S. O. Stevens, Form VI.

The Cresconians.

THE re-opening of the winter season of the Cresconians which should have taken place on the second Saturday in September was somewhat delayed owing, primarily, to the fact that the President, Mr. Howarth, was still on holiday on that date and so it was impossible to hold President's Evening then. The third and fourth Saturdays of September being occupied by Carnival festivities, it was decided by the Committee to combine President's Evening with the October Dance and this was accordingly done and proved to be a great success. The members, new and old, were received by Mr. and Mrs. Howarth and later in the evening the President made a short speech of welcome, in the course of which he referred to the great loss the Association had sustained in the sad death of one of their Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Jephcott, who had been such a whole-hearted friend of the Association and its individual members. The company stood for a minute in silence and the sympathy of everyone was with Mr. Jephcott and Miss Green.

The second Saturdays of November and December have also been occupied by dances, the enjoyment of which has undoubtedly been enhanced by the engagement of the excellent Cliftonians Band.

In order that Old Students' who are ordinarily away from home and unable to be present at the monthly dances should not lose touch with the Association, a special dance was, by the kindness of Mr. Howarth, arranged for December 27th and, judging from the crowded room was appreciated by the regular members as well as those Old Students' who were home for the Christmas holidays. In addition to the Dance a Whist Drive was also arranged on this occasion and, if the number of players were not large they all seem to have thoroughly enjoyed the game, especially Mr. Ted Richards who, instead of his usual seat in the entrance hall, had one in the card room and bore home the gentleman's first prize. It is hoped to arrange another Whist Drive later in the season and the Committee feel confident that a larger number of non-dancing Old Students' will be present at the next one.

E. J. Anderson.

A Perfect Day.

A flush, a dawn,
A sun, a morn,
A sky, a cloud, a heav'nly stretch of blue,
A glade, a rustic bow'r,
A pool, a perfumed flow'r,
A bird, a dove, a drowsy lulling coo,
A star, an ev'ning croon,
An owl, a hoot, a silver crescent moon.

Geraldine N. Marshall.

In Praise of the Broads.

Give me the tortuous Broadland around me,
A health-giving breeze wafted fresh from the sea,
Give me the glistening river before me,
Winding in moonlight through meadow and lea.

Give me the star spangled sky above me,
The ripple of waves on a reed-covered bank,
Give me the swish of the wind in the oak tree,
A sheltering willow for haven I thank.

Give me the vast golden grain fields of Wroxham,
The glamour of lakes 'neath East Anglian skies,
Give me the nestling village of Reedham
Scenes which no wise man would ever despise.

W. D. Bennett, Form IVA.

Heralds of Spring.

We know that Spring is coming,
Her touch is everywhere;
'Tis in the pearly dew,
And woods where ring doves coo;
In sunny beams,
On rippling streams;
In happy laughing showers,
That kiss the sweet May flowers;
In speckled eggs and meadows fair,
Impearled with rain like jewels rare.

K. Howells, Form VA.

Impressions of Czechoslovakia.

BEFORE I begin my subject, I should like to congratulate the School most heartily on its Magazine and to say that I feel no little diffidence in attempting an article for a publication in which everything attains so high a standard. The Magazine is one to be proud of; may it continue to flourish!

Since I have been, as yet, only ten months in Czechoslovakia, I propose just to give you an account of those differences between ordinary life in England and Czechoslovakia, which struck me most particularly.

I have been teaching in the capital, Prague, for the past School Year, my pupils being of various nationalities, the language of instruction, however, being English. This brings me at once to the fact that, in Bohemia at least, great interest is taken in the English

language. It is surprising how many people in the large towns have a useful smattering of English, while not a few have a really excellent knowledge. It is taught in the secondary schools and there are many Evening Courses for adults.

The official language of the country is, of course, Czech. This is a fearsome language before which the stoutest linguist might well quail! I may mention that the grammar admits of seven cases and three genders, and that whole sentences can be constructed without vowels in a manner calculated to be the most supple and dexterous tongue into knots, even, I believe, when its owner has been accustomed to the language from his cradle! However, quite 60 per cent. of the population of Prague speak good German, which language, by comparison with Czech, is like falling off a log. It is also possible to live in Prague without a knowledge of anything but English—a comforting reflection!

People on the Continent seem to have the distressing habit of early rising. Anyway, in Prague, school starts at 8 a.m., while most offices begin at 7-30 a.m. and some shops are to be found open at 7 a.m. Fortunately my time-table only once a week necessitated my getting up in time for 8 o'clock school, and this I achieved successfully by the use of a high-power alarm clock fully wound. School hours are from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on week days (including Saturdays) and from about 3 to 5 p.m. on not more than two afternoons a week. Afternoon lessons vary from school to school. Five hours in school, even with intervals of from five to fifteen minutes at the end of each of the five fifty-minute lessons, seems a long time. Still, there are compensations; thus a friend of mine who came last year from his home town in the mountains near the North-East frontier, to Prague in order to study at the "Technical High School," which corresponds to the Applied Science side at an English University, was wont to sigh for the many good times he and his schoolfellows used to have ski-ing and tobogganning during the Winter afternoons. And when I had paid a visit to his home, and had witnessed, if not actually experienced (a pleasure to come) the thrills of ski-ing, I agreed that his sighs were not unfounded. The Summer Holidays, by the way, are from the end of June to the beginning of September, during which time Prague is very hot and is an excellent place to get away from on that account.

The climate of Czechoslovakia is of course a "Continental" one; in normal years one gets a hot, fairly dry Summer and a cold Winter, the weather being fairly constant and reliable. Owing I suppose to the comparative dryness of the air and the absence of so much cloud as one gets in England, the sun has great power, though at the same time, the heat is not so depressing.

In Summer the people do an immense amount of sun-bathing and swimming. Prague lies on each bank of the Moldau, a tributary of the Elbe—it is this which makes the city so beautiful—and the river presents an extraordinary sight in the Summer months, being thronged with bathers, canoes, rowing boats, little yachts, an occasional speed-boat, river steamers taking trippers to beauty-spots up or down the river and sometimes a raft of logs sweeping slowly

along. Czechoslovakia has many lovely rivers and the people make use of them as we make use of the seaside.

The Czechs are great excursionists, and every Sunday witnesses an exodus to the country. (In Summer to the rivers and in Winter to the mountains for ski-ing.) In fact the railway stations at Prague at, say, 5 o'clock on a fine Sunday morning, present as crowded and animated a scene as at any "rush" hour during the week. One is reminded that one is in Bohemia by the fact that about every other tripper carries a guitar or a portable gramophone! As a consequence of the absence of that reserve peculiar to the English, a Czech railway carriage is not a particularly peaceful spot. For one thing, everyone talks to everyone else (the railway coaches are not sub-divided into small compartments like English coaches, but have a large compartment in the middle to seat about forty passengers—not that much regard is paid to seating accommodation, as very often trains are so loaded that people stand on the platforms at the ends of, and outside, the carriages—and perhaps small ones each end) and then someone is sure to strum on a guitar or oscillate a concertina, and raise a song which will be lustily taken up by those who can tear themselves away from the lures of conversation carried out "fortissimo" or the consumption of oranges, etc., so that after a few miles of this, coupled with the banging and rattling of the train itself as it crawls at a modest 20 m.p.h. on its way, one is inclined to wish that one could exchange the babel for the comparatively soothing sound of half-a-dozen pneumatic drills operating on a piece of concrete.

I have been assuming that one is travelling third class and by "ordinary" train. One pays more if one travels by "express" (so called expresses average about 28 m.p.h. and ordinary trains about 17 m.p.h., a speed which would not, I suppose, be beyond the capacity of even the local Blackheath trains). The great and shining virtue of the railways is that they are cheap.

Motor traffic is scarce as there are few good roads. As a consequence the country is largely unspoiled and is extremely pretty. Czechoslovakia seems to be the home of the "Christmas Tree," for the hills are clothed with them. This reminds me that at Christmas-time, a large Christmas tree, illuminated with coloured lamps, is erected in nearly every important square in Prague. The effect, if there is snow, as is usual, is delightful. "Good King Wenceslas," by the bye, is the Patron Saint of Czechoslovakia, and the 1000th Anniversary of his death (at the hands of his brother) was celebrated last September. What one misses at Christmas is the good old English open fire; on the Continent stoves are everywhere, and, though doubtless efficient, are not very cheerful or "homely." All buildings have double windows and doors.

Many buildings in Prague are very ancient; a Czech will tell you that every building in the old part of the town has a history. At any rate they are picturesque enough. One of the trials of living in an ancient house is, however, the size of the doorway one must carry about if one intends to be later home than about ten o'clock. Thus an American student whom I know,

showed me his "latch-key"—a dainty little affair about six inches long, constructed of half-inch iron, and weighing about a pound!

I suppose everyone entering a Continental town for the first time is struck by the number of cafés, usually extending on to the pavement in warm weather, where people sit and chat or read the newspapers. Prague has many lovely gardens (the penalty for treading on the grass being *hatt-a-crown*—an instance of the many things which, as in Germany, are "Verboten") each with its "Kavarna," and to these people resort in the Summer evenings to talk or listen to the band. Home life is not prominent; thus people rarely entertain at home, but invite their friends to a restaurant or "Kavarna," followed perhaps by the theatre.

As far as I have been able to observe, people prefer gymnastics to what we call "sport." Football is however, almost as popular as in England, and tennis is being taken up with enthusiasm, but is not nearly so widely played. Cricket is unknown. To my horror and disgust I have frequently been asked if it is anything like golf!!! There is a national organisation of gymnasts with branches everywhere and which is very popular and well supported, called the "Sokol." On the occasion of the anniversary of the formation of the Republic (October 28th, 1918), one of the features of the celebrations is an exhibition of organised gymnastics on a vast scale. The sight of hundreds of people, in colourful costumes, performing some movement in perfect unison, is a fine one. "Sokol" seems an innocent sort of word and yet whenever I pronounced it, people would look puzzled and then after reflection would exclaim: "Oh! You mean the *Sokol!*" And once more I should be ignominiously forced to the realisation of the difference between the English "o" round, and the Czech or German one.

Well, I fear I have already taken up more space than I should have done, so I had better conclude, after thanking the Editor for his invitation to me to write this article, and again wishing the "Oldburian" every success.

E. J. Chambers.

Parents' Association.

THE November meeting had to be abandoned owing to the alteration in the date of the School Play. The Christmas Party was a great success, about a hundred and twenty being present.

Mr. and Mrs. Day, Miss M. Warr, Mr. G. Lyman, Gordon Stanley and Frank Bridge contributed to the evening's enjoyment.

The first meeting of the New Session had to be abandoned owing to bad weather.

The next meeting is on Saturday, Feb. 28th, when Mr. W. Jackson will give an address on "The Law as a Profession."

Parents' who are unable to be present should send their subscriptions to the school. It might be mentioned that a hundred and forty joined the Association last season.

C. S. H.

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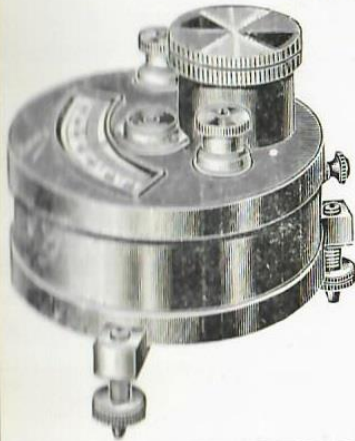
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**OLDBURY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
MAGAZINE**

JULY.....1931

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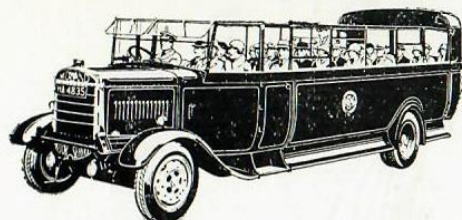
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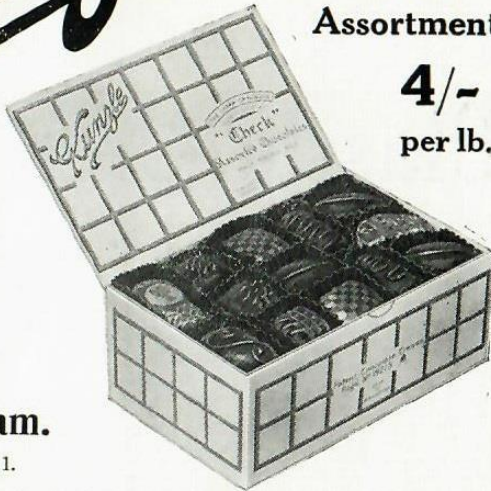
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THE OLDBURIAN.

OLDBURY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
MAGAZINE.

JULY, 1931.

VOL. II., No. 10.

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EDITORIAL.

THE Spring Term, shorter than usual, but full of work and interest is over, and now we have a long term before us, during which we hope that the County High School pupils, in work and in sport, will do their utmost to uphold and increase the prestige of their school. In cricket, tennis, swimming, and athletics, we would like to see the great improvement of recent years maintained, and in the School and Higher School Certificate Examinations, new and still better records made, in every department of school life, to set a yet higher standard for those who follow.

The coming of July ends the school year, and many of those who have been with us for some years will be leaving us, and we hope that this, their last school year, will be by far the best and happiest they have ever had in every way. We trust, too, that those leaving will all keep touch with the school and join the Old Students' Association, so that we may still see them occasionally, for our interest in our pupils never slackens, and we like to hear of, and from, them, no matter where the business of life may take them. We are delighted to offer our heartiest congratulations to Arthur George James, Ivy Hawkins, and John Kerr on their recent successes, particulars of which are given in the Old Students' notes, and to wish them long and continued prosperity. Also best wishes for health and happiness to Noreen Richmond, who is living at Bangalore, India, and who is to be married in June.

To our present pupils, best wishes for success in the highest degree to all your efforts of the present term, and afterwards.

Dates to Remember.

- May 25, 26, 27.—Whitsuntide and Half-term Holiday.
 May 28.—Athletic Sports.
 June 13.—“ Joint ” Sports.
 July 4.—School Certificate Examination begins.
 July 7.—Higher School Certificate Examination begins.
 July 28.—End of Summer Term.
 Sept. 16.—Beginning of Autumn Term.

Valete.

- W. N. BUTLIN.—Form VI. Prefect; 1st Eleven Football; 1st Eleven Cricket; Cast of School Play; School Certificate. Laboratory of Oldbury Gas Works.
 G. W. SMITH.—Form VI. Matriculation; Civil Service Examination. Training for business.
 J. COPE.—Form VI. Sub-prefect; 2nd Eleven Football; 1st Eleven Cricket; Matriculation. Office of an insurance company.
 J. W. HADLEY.—Form VI. 2nd Eleven Football; 1st Eleven Cricket; School Certificate.
 R. MARTIN.—Form V.A. Clerk at Manifoldia.
 N. D. ENSOR.—Form V.c. Apprentice to Engineering.
 M. ERRINGTON.—Form V.c. Guide. Comptometer School in Birmingham.
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 P. PARFITT.—Form IV.R. Training for Metallurgical Chemist at “Morris Commercial” Works.
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| D. E. FORSTER. | J. E. RICHARDS. |
| M. MOORE. | |

King's House.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Captains | - | - | E. MACALISTER, R. S. O. STEVENS. |
| Vice-Captains | - | - | R. M. EVERETT. |
| Sports Captains | - | - | P. WILLIAMS, W. CASHMORE. |
| Secretaries | - | - | L. COOPER, D. C. STEVENS. |

FOR yet another term the members of King's House have maintained the old high position of the House in all the many branches of school life.

The Guides' Display was held late in February, and many King's House girls played their parts very creditably on this

occasion; among these were B. Sykes, M. Green, E. Keyte, J. Alger, J. Harrold, K. Willetts, J. Farrow, J. Cook, J. Everett and K. Reynolds.

We were pleased to see two old House-captains in Rhona Everett, who was a prominent figure on the stage, and George Lyman, who accompanied on the flute with his usual skill.

Later on in the term the usual inter-House dramatic competition was held, each House presenting a one-act play. King's House drew "Rory Aforesaid," by John Brandane, and were successful in gaining second place. We wish to congratulate our cast, which was as follows:—*Rory*, J. Orchard; *The Sheriff*, R. Horton; *MacIntosh*, R. M. Everett, *MacCallum*, B. Harper; *Mrs. MacLean*, M. Green, *The Court Officer*, R. Keyte. The standard of the play was very high, and our cast rose admirably to the occasion.

In the football matches we were not so successful, and had to be satisfied with third place. We managed to beat Queen's but lost to School and Trinity. In spite of this, however, our hopes for the cricket season are high.

D. C. Stevens.

Queen's House.

Captains	-	-	B. ADAMS, H. G. BARLOW.
Vice-Captains	-	-	D. HOMER, H. PALMER.
Sports Captains	-	-	B. ADAMS, H. G. BARLOW.
Secretary	-	-	F. WILLIAMS.

LAST term, as far as actual results were concerned, was not exceptionally successful for our House, but the spirit evident in all spheres of activity was highly commendable.

The House plays which were held by the Literary, Debating and Dramatic Society one Tuesday evening were all most enjoyable. Although Queen's House was placed last there is considerable compensation to be found in the fact that we had the most difficult play to act and produce and were congratulated upon the result we attained.

In the hockey, although the matches were unfinished and definite results are not forthcoming, the team deserves congratulation upon its keenness.

In the football matches, although we were placed last, the excellent team spirit displayed, and the sincere hard-work done against superior forces, is indeed a credit to the House.

This promising spirit, however, must not be left idle and we earnestly call upon the juniors to "put their backs into it" and once again win the Cup for our House, which has won it the greatest number of times.

B. Adams.
H. G. Barlow.

Trinity House.

Captains	-	-	W. A. ADAMS, D. HADLEY.
Vice-Captains	-	-	W. N. BUTLIN, N. MURRAY.
Sports Captains	-	-	W. A. ADAMS, D. HADLEY.
Secretary	-	-	N. K. MURRAY.

WELL done Trinity! As we hoped, Trinity succeeded in carrying all before them last term.

The House produced "The Dear Departed," a comedy, for the Inter-House play competition, and by a unanimous vote gained first place. The whole cast deserve hearty congratulations, and Kathieen Jackson deserves special mention. The cast of the play was as follows:—*Mrs. Jordan*, J. Lugg; *Ben Jordan*, P. Haynes; *Mrs. Slater*, K. Jackson; *Henry Slater*, W. M. Smith; *Abel Merryweather*, W. A. Adams; *Victoria*, B. Taylor.

Only one of the girls' hockey matches was played. This was against Queen's House whom we beat 3—0.

By gaining 5 points out of a possible 6, Trinity also won the Inter-House Football Championship. The results of the matches were:—

Trinity 2 v. Queen's 0.
Trinity 1 v. King's 0.
Trinity 0 v. School 0.

We should like to congratulate W. N. Butlin who received his football colours at the end of the term. It was he, together with Blair and Playdon (full backs), and Adams (centre-half), that constituted the finest defence that has ever represented a House. This is signified by the fact that Trinity did not have one goal scored against them.

D. Hadley.
W. A. Adams.

School House.

Captains	-	-	E. BOOTS, L. W. BLUNDELL.
Vice-Captains	-	-	G. MARSHALL, R. MUSGRAVE.
Sports Captains	-	-	D. BRIDGEWATER, L. W. BLUNDELL.

THE activities of the House last term were confined to producing the House play, "The Old Bull," and participating in the Inter-House Soccer games. The result of the House plays showed that School were second only to Trinity, a very creditable performance indeed, and a great improvement upon last year's attempt. Trinity again were the cause of our downfall in the football ties. School drew with Trinity and Queen's and defeated King's; all three games were fought out with great vigour and proved very exciting. The girls played only one House hockey match—with Queen's—resulting in a goalless draw.

During the Summer term it remains for the members of the House to show the other Houses what School can really do on the Sports field. School House have been champion for the past two years, and it behoves us to look to our laurels and see that we do even better this year.

L. W. Blundell.

Football.

LAST term's football was a decided improvement upon that of the term before. The 1st XI., which had the poorer results in the Christmas term, played together better and worked more as a team. The 2nd XI. kept up the same standard of play as that of the previous term. The games played were as follows:—

	1st XI.		2nd XI.
West Bromwich	1—8 Won.	.....	3—8 Won.
West Bromwich	1—2 Won.	.....	4—1 Lost.
Birmingham University	0—7 Won.		
Birmingham University	3—3 Drawn.		
Waverley Road	5—3 Lost.	.....	0—3 Won.
Stourbridge	10—2 Lost.	.....	0—0 Drawn.
Stourbridge	2—3 Won.	.....	1—1 Drawn.
Handsworth	0—8 Won.		
St. Philip's	0—4 Won.	.....	1—3 Won.
Redditch	2—7 Won.		
Wolverhampton	6—2 Lost.	.....	1—9 Won.

1st XI.					2nd XI.				
Played	W.	L.	D.	For Against	Played	W.	L.	D.	For Against
11	7	3	1	49 30	7	4	1	2	25 10

The total for the whole season is quite satisfactory on the whole, the results of the matches played being:—

1st XI.					2nd XI.				
Played	W.	L.	D.	For Against	Played	W.	L.	D.	For Against
23	8	11	4	72 71	15	9	4	2	56 30

The teams were as follows:—

- 1st XI.—Captain, Adams; Vice-Captain, Musgrave; Butlin; Playdon; Horton; Greenwood; Everett; Palmer; Cashmore; Blundell; Male; Harper, F.
- 2nd XI.—Captain, Branson; Blair; Harper, B.; Farrow; Edwards; Jackson; Betts; Male; Bowley; Keyte; Knott, Smith, A. W.; Thomas; Bodenham; Rollason; Harrington.

H. G. Barlow (Hon. Sec.).

Hockey.

1st XI.—D. Hadley (Capt.), P. Williams, J. Lugg, K. Jackson, J. Alger, M. Hart, I. Johnson, G. Ackrill, B. Adams, D. Bridgewater, G. Jones.

THE results of the whole season are as follows:—

Opponents.	Goals		Result
	for.	Against.	
Aston Commercial School	7	2	Won.
Harborne College	9	2	Won.
Redditch	2	2	Draw.
George Dixon School	6	1	Won.
Holly Lodge	5	2	Won.

Opponents.	Goals for.	Goals against.	Result.
Kidderminster Ladies Club	1	6	Lost.
Kidderminster Ladies Club	0	5	Lost.
Walsall	8	1	Won.
Holly Lodge	4	2	Won.
Dudley High School	3	3	Draw.
Wolverhampton Secondary School	4	4	Draw.
Waverley Road	4	0	Won.
Halesowen	0	1	Lost.

During the Spring Term we played against the boys and, although losing 9—0, we had a thoroughly enjoyable game.

Many of the matches had to be cancelled owing to bad weather, but we were very successful on the whole in the matches played. The team are to be congratulated and we hope that the future members of the XI. will be even more successful.

D. Bridgewater.

Literary, Scientific, Debating and Dramatic Society.

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Mr. K. D. HOPKINS, B.Sc.; Mr. B. C. PEARSON, B.A.;

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R. FARROW, C. ATKINS, W. PLAYDON, M. TAVENER,
F. BODENHAM, S. KNOWLES, MARMONT.

THE recent half session has proved as interesting and varied in programme as the previous one for the Joint Societies. The following is a record of the meetings held:—

Jan. 20.—This, our first meeting, took the form of a debate, the motion being, “Man’s triumph in the realms of Science is becoming his greatest danger.” The speakers were, for the affirmative, M. Burnett and H. G. Barlow, and for the opposition, D. C. Stevens and Orchard. The motion was defeated by 60 votes to 21.

Jan. 27.—At this meeting we were entertained by the members of 4A, who gave a reading of scenes from Shaw’s “St. Joan.” We offer our congratulations to them for their excellent representation.

Feb. 3.—At this meeting Beatrice Adams gave a very interesting talk on “Bacteria,” which was illustrated by lantern slides. The lecture was very carefully prepared and ably delivered, and we thank our lecturer for the great amount of interesting information which she gave us.

Feb. 10.—This meeting took the form of a debate, the motion being that “ The policy of the present Government is directly responsible for the increase in unemployment.” The speakers were, for the affirmative, M. Burnett, Everett and L. Cooper, and for the opposition, Orchard, G. Ackrill and M. Green. The motion was defeated by 46 votes to 27.

Feb. 17.—This meeting proved unusually interesting, taking the form of an impromptu speech competition. The names of the speakers and the subjects were drawn for. The speeches which were to last for three minutes were on a wide range of subjects, and over twenty were made. The efforts were judged by Dr. R. W. Thomason, who selected Muriel Burnett’s speech on “ Homework ” as the best amongst the girls, and R. S. O. Stevens’ speech on the “ Trades’ Dispute Bill ” as the best of the boys. Through the kindness of Miss Jones, a box of chocolates was presented to each of the successful orators.

Feb. 24.—Half Term.

Feb. 27.—Although no meeting was held on Tuesday, 24th, on Friday, the 27th, we visited Halesowen Grammar School to debate on the subject “ That Free Trade is the basis of National prosperity.” The motion was supported by Halesowen and opposed by Oldbury.

The speakers were, for the affirmative, O’Connor, Male, F. Jones, and for the opposition, Barlow, B. Adams and Orchard. The principal speakers for both sides were enlightening and convincing in their arguments, and when the meeting was thrown open for discussion many interesting speeches were made from the floor. After the summing up the House divided for the count and the motion was defeated by 88 votes to 52.

On this occasion we were kindly entertained to tea by the members of the Halesowen Debating Society, and after the debate a short impromptu dance was held.

Mar. 3.—Annual meeting of the League of Nations’ Union.

Mar. 10.—This meeting proved very enjoyable. We were visited by an old student of the School, Mr. H. Evans who, as representative of the Kodak Co., exhibited some very interesting cricket films, which proved very helpful to the cricket enthusiasts of the audience. Mr. Evans also showed a short film of the school football 1st XI. made while playing a match against St. Philip’s Grammar School. After votes of thanks had been passed to Mr. Evans for his kindness in coming, and the care and time he must have taken in arranging the exhibition, the meeting was closed.

Mar. 13.—On this evening was held the House play competition which was keenly contested. King’s House presented “ Rory Aforesaid,” Queen’s House “ The Poetasters of Ispahan,” School House “ The Old Bull,” and Trinity House “ The Dear Departed.” The final judging resulted in Trinity being placed first, King’s and School second, equal, and Queen’s fourth.

There were no more meetings this term because of examinations, but on Friday, April 24th, after the holidays, a party of our members, chaperoned by Miss Jones, visited the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, to see J. B. Priestley's play, "The Good Companions." Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it, especially those who had read the novel from which it was adapted.

This theatre party was the last meeting of one of the most enjoyable sessions we have had.

D. R. B. G. Homer,

An Expedition to London.

ON February 9th, a number of the art students and other members of the School, approximately sixty, met on Snowhill Station, under the supervision of Mrs. Quayle, Miss Williams and Miss Allen. We left Snowhill by the nine o'clock train for London. A coach had been reserved in the train, so that each person was able to travel in comfort. We arrived at Paddington at eleven o'clock and we made our way by tube to Trafalgar Square.

It had been decided that we should spend the morning in the National Gallery, and when we arrived we were conducted round the Gallery by a guide. This made it much more interesting for us, for the pictures were explained and we were able to appreciate them to a fuller extent.

We left the Art Gallery at twelve-thirty and we then made our way to Lyons Café for dinner. A room was reserved for us, and we ate our dinner with much relish, in spite of the fact that a plentiful supply of chocolates had been devoured by the majority of us on the train.

After dinner we walked through Green Park, past St. James' Palace to Burlington House to see the Persian Exhibition. We arrived there at three o'clock p.m., and it was agreed that we should all meet in the main entrance at six o'clock, which gave us three hours to view the wonderful works of art.

One can hardly realise after seeing this art of ancient Persia that any human mind could create such wonderful immortality. One cannot possibly, by descriptions, conceive the magnificence of the carpets. They set the whole room aglow with colour. The jewels were gorgeous and the realisation of the value appals one, and the delicate colouring of the pottery was so beautiful in its simplicity. It was such a huge exhibition including, as it did, glazed tiles from the walls of the Palaces at Susa and Persipolis, paintings, metal work, embroidery and the wonderful manuscripts, that it was impossible to assimilate all in such restricted time.

At six o'clock we left for Paddington Station where tea was awaiting us. We returned home by the seven o'clock train and arrived at Birmingham at nine-thirty p.m.

Our thanks are due to Mrs. Quayle, whose organisation made it possible for us to enjoy such an eventful day.

N. Clegg.

Girl Guides.

Officers:—

Captain—Miss F. D. TWEEDIE.

Lieutenants—Miss J. DAVIES, Miss R. EVERETT.

Company Leader—B. ADAMS.

Patrol Leaders—B. ADAMS, N. CLEGG, M. GREEN, I. JOHNSON,
K. JACKSON.

SINCE the return from the Christmas holidays the Guides devoted their meetings to enthusiastic rehearsals for the annual display which was produced in the School Hall on Thursday and Saturday, February 19th and 21st respectively. Guide friends of the Royal Orphanage, Wolverhampton, visited the company on this occasion, together with Guides from Tettenhall Woods and other companies.

Two plays were produced. The first of these was the delightfully written extract from "Make-Believe"—"The Princess and the Woodcutter," by A. A. Milne, with its wonderfully precise characterisation—not forgetting the soulful ditties. The costumes and scenery here used were truly beautiful, and the Guides' thanks go out to Mrs. Quayle.

Next we come to the dancing.

There was a short prelude carried out in mime in which Mr. and Mrs. Gladsome, with their child Annabella, visited the toy shop in search of a "super-toy." The French shopkeeper and his assistants, so anxious to please, showed numberless dolls, but although Mrs. Gladsome was delighted with them all, they failed to satisfy her critical young offspring. At last, however, Columbine was brought in, and everyone was enraptured. Even Mr. Gladsome's bored expression vanished for one moment, and after negotiations as to price the family left the toyshop and Columbine was taken to be packed and sent away.

That night Annabella dreamed about all the wonderful dolls she had seen. In her dream she met again the small Nigger-like Jack-in-the-Box with the very black face, contrasting strangely with the two mediæval ladies who danced quaintly together in their long pointed headgear and little ermine-edged purple jackets and skirts.

Annabella watched a group of dolls dressed as playing cards—she even built a card house with them, but it soon collapsed! She saw a Georgian beau and his lady dance through the stately minuet. She saw Mr. and Mrs. Noah, too, and some very odd looking animals out of the ark—a weird donkey, and a frog, and an owl. And, of course, there was Columbine dancing on her toe-tips with her partner Harlequin. How exquisite, how graceful she was!

There was another attractive little doll, dressed in white and blue, who skipped and whirled to the inspiration of a Chopin waltz, and the Dutch dolls—how amusing were their quaint little flirtations!

The four young gypsy maids were gay and fine, dressed in black bodices with white frilling, and purple-banded emerald green skirts which twirled gracefully as they leapt and twisted. There

they were, jangling their tambourines in spirited rhythm with a Brahm's Hungarian dance. . . . And then Annabella woke up!

After a short interval "The Tents of the Arabs," by Lord Dunsany, was given. It is a play beautiful to read and at the same time possessing those dramatic qualities necessary for stage production. Mrs. Quayle was again responsible for the highly effective backcloth.

The programme closed with a dimly lit scene of the whole company around the "camp-fire."

R. Everett.

A Useful Hobby.

LIKE the majority of the twentieth century boys, my favourite pastime until a little while ago was wireless. There is so much one can do with wireless and there are even greater possibilities; I think that is why most boys are so keen on it. I have spent many happy hours with a piece of ebonite, a drill, and a screwdriver, plus a few spare parts, with quite good results, too. But shortly before Christmas my father had the chance of buying a small printing machine, complete with type and all accessories, for a very small sum. I think the chance of securing a bargain tempted him more at the time than the idea of it being useful.

After I had examined it and read the book of instructions it rather appealed to me, and a friend of ours in the printing trade came in one evening to show me how to set the type and the simplest way of doing it. He also taught me the various names and sizes, which, I believe, are universal throughout the trade.

When I had committed to memory his and the printed instructions, I sat down to set my first type. Setting the type is rather a tricky job and very tedious, too, as some of the parts used are so very minute and one has to be so careful with the spelling, punctuation, etc. The type has to be set upside-down which is rather confusing, but now I have got so accustomed to it that when I pick up a ticket or programme or a similar piece of printing I can almost read it backwards at a glance and it seems so strange that instead of reading the items I find myself classifying the various types.

My first job turned out quite good and I felt very proud when I looked at the finished copy. Previously, whenever I picked up a paper or magazine, I never gave a thought to the printer, with ink-smudged hands and bedaubed apron, and the wonderful work he had done. The printer selects a blank sheet, gathers the type, inks the press, and delivers to mankind, not merely a paper, but a living message; a tongue of meaning has been given the once dumb sheet. They say the pen is mightier than the sword, but I think the printing press is mightier still, and when the roll is called of the great ones who have sped this old world along the road to progress and civilisation, maybe one of the first in the line will be that same ink-bedaubed printer.

When I had had a considerable amount of practice I commenced to look for orders; I thought I might as well learn, and be paid whilst I was learning. In a very short time I had quite as many orders as I could manage with my home lessons, and a few spare hours to listen-in when there was an item that interested me.

There is one thing I have found printing does for you. It teaches you to be exact and tidy in even the smallest things, for if one does not carefully clean and put away all type in its allotted place after using, at some future time it may mean extra labour and probably spoilt copies.

I have not tried any two-colour work yet, but I am hoping to do so during the winter evenings, for practice makes perfect and I know I have a great deal to learn.

I have not made up my mind to take up printing as a career. There is one thing, it does not seem so overcrowded as some of the professions, and I do think that printing will always be one of the first and foremost of works of importance. Where should we be without it? Little did William Caxton, the English pioneer of printing, who founded the press at Westminster which produced the first English printed books, think of the tremendous benefit to humanity printing would be.

Quite a number of prominent men have started life in the printing trade; there were Edison, Humphrey Davy and Benjamin Franklin, whilst Michael Faraday took up book-binding. I once saw in a book, a picture of Caxton's printing machine, which looks very similar and seems to work on the same principle as mine; but what strides printing has made since his day!

I am pleased that I have taken an interest in such an instructive and profitable pastime. It has given me endless pleasure, and to any boy seeking a hobby I can strongly recommend it; not only is it an asset in précis, composition and punctuation, but with care and confidence can be made the foundation of a little nest egg.

A. B. Watt, Form V.A.

Hope.

AT the beginning of all things, Hope came speeding into the world, clad in robes of pure white and wearing a glorious golden head-dress which was blinding to the eye.

To every soul upon this earth she came. Although other spirits had come before her, she made the people so delighted by her cheerfulness, that they cast away her ugly cowering enemy "Despair" from their minds. The sick, the poor, and the dying were all visited by her, she helped them to be cheerful, and taught them how always to hope for the best.

It was wonderful to see how quickly the minds of those people had changed. Instead of "Despair," with his companions "Dullness" and "Unhappiness" ruling them, it was "Hope" and her elegant sister "Happiness," who, as fresh and as beautiful as

our English "Spring," were showing them the way to joy and beauty.

There came a time, not very long after the coming of "Hope" into the world, when there was a terrible war between all nations. Gradually, very gradually, some of the people began to lose sight of "Hope," in fact many of them would have nothing to do with her, but joined her everlasting enemy "Despair." "Hope," with outstretched arms implored them not to give up, but to have hope for the best, and believe in her, but it was all to no advantage.

This beautiful spirit was shattered and driven away by tears and wailings of despair, and those who still hoped, saw her with tears of pity in her eyes, slowly ascend into the heaven to join other spirits which had been driven away by the miserable soul of man. As she rose higher and higher she became enveloped in a thick mist and only her now smiling face could be seen as she said, in a voice which all could hear, "In all things hope for the best."

Then the mist obscured her from view, and those who had seen went away and tried to help their friends in despair to become a little happier.

Oh! what would this world have been like if none of those souls had believed and hoped? Despair with his sad moanings and wailings would have ruled, and forever have cast a shadow on the face of man.

M. Taverner, Form IV.R.

The Cresconians.

SINCE the last issue of the Magazine the winter season of the Cresconians has been brought to a successful finish and the only matter to report upon is the General Meeting which was held at the County High School, on Wednesday, June 3rd.

The chair was taken by the President, Mr. J. G. Howarth and, after the minutes of the previous general meeting had been read and confirmed and the apologies for non-attendance received, a short report on the work of the season was given by Mr. Rose, Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Rose said the season had again been a very successful one both socially and financially. In addition to the usual monthly dances two whist drives had been held with the idea of catering for the non-dancing Old Students', the first of these had been fairly successful but the second one was not well attended. Mr. Rose thanked the Officers and Committee for their work and co-operation and also Mr. Howarth for his kindly interest and help and the use of the School. Mr. Howarth briefly responded.

The Treasurer, Mr. Peers, read his report which showed quite a satisfactory balance in hand. The total profit on the season is not so large as previously, but this is probably accounted for partly by the donation of £10 10s. od. to the Carnival Fund, and, partly to the relaxing of our efforts to obtain funds now that the Memorial Window is paid for.

The Football Secretary, Mr. Richards, reported that the football season had again been successful, both first and second teams having

played very well. The first team had retained their position in the Second Division of the League although their play certainly merited a position in the First Division. Promotion to the First Division had not been aimed at, however, as older members of the club are continually leaving the district, thus weakening the team, and it was felt it was better to be at the top of the Second Division rather than at the bottom of the First.

The report of the Hockey Secretary, Miss D. Mansell acting for Mrs. Downing, showed that the hockey team had also been playing well all last season. The Club has been affiliated to the All England Hockey League and it is hoped to send several of the best players for the County Trials early next season.

There are no alterations in the Officers of the Association for the Session 1931-32 the only difference being the addition of the names of County Councillor W. T. Davies, J.P., Chairman of the Governors and County Councillor R. M. Hadley, J.P. to the list of vice-Presidents. The officers are therefore as follows:—

PRESIDENT: J. G. Howarth, Esq., M.A.

VICE-PRESIDENTS: T. L. Davies, Esq., M.A., B.Sc.; J. B. Richards, Esq., B.Sc.; H. L. Jones, Esq.; P. W. Ward, Esq.; W. T. Davies, Esq., J.P., C.C.; Miss A. Massey, B.A.; Miss S. A. G. Jones, M.A.; Mrs. G. W. Rose; A. C. Jephcott, Esq.; R. M. Hadley, Esq., J.P., C.C.

AUDITORS: Miss A. Massey, Mr. A. Tatton.

SECRETARY: Miss E. J. Anderson.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Mr. C. E. Bagnall.

TREASURER: Mr. W. J. Peers.

The three retiring members of the Committee were Mr. G. W. Rose, Miss L. Green and Mr. C. W. Greenwood. Miss Green and Mr. Rose were unanimously re-elected but Mr. Greenwood did not seek re-election owing to his having obtained an appointment at Newquay, Cornwall. Mr. Howarth offered the congratulations of the Association to Mr. Greenwood on his appointment. Mr. T. Nicklin was elected to serve on the Committee in place of Mr. Greenwood.

The following is the full Committee for 1931-32:—

Messrs. C. Spalding, G. W. Rose, J. S. Morse, S. Screen, T. Nicklin; Misses L. Green, A. E. Doyle, E. Watson, F. M. Bowen, W. Busby and the two School Captains.

Mr. Rose said he was sure all members of the Association would wish to offer their congratulations to Miss Massey on her completion of 25 years on the Staff of the School and he hoped that all members would be able to be present on President's Evening next session when it is hoped to give Miss Massey a small token of our appreciation.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Howarth was passed and the meeting brought to a close.

I should like to take this opportunity of extending an invitation to all students who will be leaving School this July to become members of the Old Students' Association next season.

E. J. Anderson.

Old Students' Successes.

HEARTIEST congratulations to Arthur George James on passing the Final Examination of the Incorporated Society of Auctioneers and Landed Property Agents. Last year it will be remembered that James won the Silver Medal at the Intermediate Examination, this year he has carried off the Pilkington Gold Medal for being placed First in the Final, the first time this award has been won by any one in the Birmingham area for the last four years. James has also won the Society's Prize of Seven Guineas, the Michael Faraday Prize of a book and Two Guineas, and the West Midlands Branch Prize of Five Guineas. He has also passed the Final Examination of the Auctioneers and Estate Agents of the United Kingdom.

To Ivy Hawkins, who has passed her Final Examination, and is now a Nursing Sister in one of our Midland hospitals.

And to John Kerr, who has passed the Board of Trade Examination for the Master Mariners' Certificate, and is now qualified to sail as Captain.

Well played, Oldbury!

Parents' Association.

THE annual cricket match will be played on Saturday, 25th July. The nets will be available for practice in the same week.

C. S. A.

A Serenade.

The purple hill is crown'd with gold,
And clouds of eve float o'er the sky.
And sheep are bleating in their fold.
And mother croons her lullaby.

Beneath the peaceful silent sky,
And twinkling stars that shine above,
And crescent moon that reigns on high,
The shepherd hastens to his love.

Amid the shimm'ring corn he goes,
Among the silver'd verdant leas,
And garden plots where flow'rs repose,
Whose scent is wafted on the breeze.

He halts beneath a maiden's bower
And in harmonious notes imparts
His love of Nature's fairest flower
And impish Cupid's poisonous darts.

Diana now supreme on high,
Illumines earth with tender rays,
While lesser stars encircling lie
And dance to lover's amorous lays.

M. Marshall, Form VI.

A Lullaby.

Bonny baby in thy cot,
Sleep sweetly, mother's near.
Harm shall never come to thee,
So young, yet, Oh so dear!

Sailing in the sky above
The moon sheds ghostly light,
Fear not this my little one
'Twill cheer dark hours of night.

See, a smile lights up thy face,
Thou seem'st to hear my song,
Lulling thee to slumber sweet
Through night hours dark and long.

While thou'rt dreaming in thy cot
I'm watching o'er thee still,
Dearest treasure I possess
With joy my heart doth fill.

D. Westwood, Form 3A.

The Heralds.

Celandines are blooming,
Though yet the air is cold,
Pushing out their pretty heads,
All glistening and gold.

They tell us Spring is coming,
Though slow and late she tarries,
And fragrant flowers and blossoms,
In her arms she carries.

Sweet little Celandines,
Despite the wind's loud roar,
Pushing out their pretty heads,
To tell us Winter's o'er.

B. Farrow, Form 3A.

Thoughts.

If I grow old as I would wish to do,
I'll seek a cottage on the windswept moors
Of Devon. Then will I, the whole day through,
Wander along the saffron coloured shores
Dividing heathered moor from tumbled sea,
And watch the gulls as with satanic cries
They wing their graceful flight, that I may see
Their snowy wings outlined against the skies.

Or maybe I will tramp across the heath,
When raindrops glisten still in heather bells,
And overhead a lark's cascade of sound
Falls through the clear air, to interweath
With the murmur of the sea as it tells
Of life restless, beautiful, profound.

G. M. Ackrill, Form V.A.

Nature.

Up here on the heath,
 Oh rustling trees,
 Speak softly, softly,
 And drown not the bees.

You blue seas below,
 Please sparkle the more,
 Break gently, gently,
 Upon the brown shore.

Gold primroses gay,
 And sunshine above,
 Smile brightly, brightly,
 On black bird or dove.

Oh robin and wren,
 And all birds that sing,
 Thrill out sweet music,
 On bough or on wing.

N. Poole, Form 3A.

Flowers.

The flowers which are in gardens sown,
 Are sweet and fresh and fair,
 But to those in a meadow grown,
 They cannot near compare.

What gaudy flowers in garden set,
 With violets can vie?
 What gaudy flowers can be met,
 So pleasing to the eye?

A dull place would this world be found,
 Without its flowers gay,
 Which in their thousands do abound,
 Especially in May.

A. W. Smith, Form 4R.

The Minstrel.

I sing at good King Arthur's court,
 My songs so sweet and rare,
 I play upon the harp I wrought,
 To banish pain and care.

I sing to noble dame and lord,
 Within the castle grand,
 While vassals from his acres broad,
 Around the vast hall stand.

I sing to comrades on the green
 Of tyrants overthrown,
 And justice now again is seen,
 The poor regain their own.

I sing of knights so brave and true,
 Who went to dragon's lair,
 And he the fiercest dragon slew,
 To rescue maiden fair.

K. Wakeman, Form 3B.

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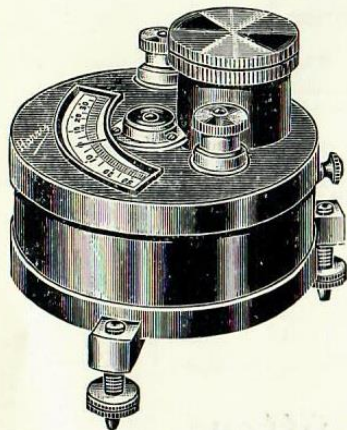
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AUTUMN TERM, 1931

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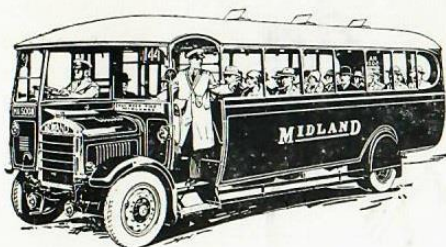
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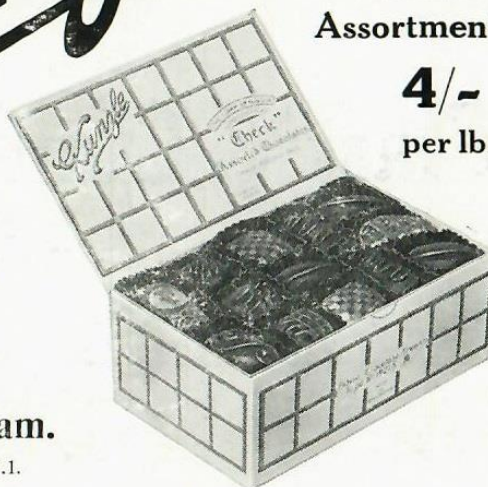
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THE OLDBURIAN.

OLDBURY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
MAGAZINE.

AUTUMN TERM, 1931.

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EDITORIAL.

THE School Year, 1930-31, ended at the close of the Summer Term, and once again we had to say "Good-bye" to many who have been with us for years, and who had become an important part of the School organism, and who are always missed when the new school year begins. We wish them all the best of good fortune and happiness in their new surroundings, and trust that their careers will be most successful. To all who succeeded in obtaining the Higher School and School Certificates, one or both, we offer our heartiest congratulations, not only on their success, but on the courage and determination which made that success possible. To those who did not manage to gain the certificate as a recognition of their efforts, we would say, "Try again, don't allow the examination to beat you, but stick to your job until you have beaten it." Congratulations to L. W. Blundell on his University Scholarship from the Oldbury Charity Trustees, and to R. S. O. Stevens on his Smethwick Major Scholarship, and to both on their splendid athletic record; also to all those who have striven to uphold the honour of the School in games and sports. For all those whose names appear under "Valeté," we wish success and true happiness, and to those whose names are grouped under "Salvete," we offer a very hearty welcome, and express the hope that they, in their turn, may add to the honour and prestige of the School, and obtain the rewards of hard work, courage, and perseverance. May

they one and all remember that the time to work and strive for excellence is NOW, and not wait and think that next term will do, but start at once, and stick to it. In the many branches of school work, and out-of-school activities, there is a chance for every one to excel, so settle down to work and do your very best. We hope that all those who have left us will join the Old Students' Association at once, and so keep in touch with the School. As this Association grows in numbers, and its members attain positions of responsibility and trust, in their own affairs, it can be of increasing assistance to the School in many ways, and by its loyalty to, and enthusiasm for, the School, helps to raise its prestige higher and still higher. To one and all, past and present, we would commend the sentiment underlying the School song, and trust that they will always, under all circumstances and conditions of life, "Carry on, and play the game."

We take this opportunity of offering our heartiest congratulations and best wishes to our Senior Mistress, Miss Massey, on her 25 years' devoted service to the School. Miss Massey joined the Staff on May 1st, 1906, and since that date has worked with 4 Head Masters, 72 Assistants, and 1,558 pupils, a fine record of work for anyone. The Governing Body, the Old Students' Association, and the the School, have each emphasised their appreciation of Miss Massey's service by a presentation of books, accompanied in the case of the Old Students', by an illuminated address. We hope that Miss Massey will not think that 25 years is enough for us, and that she may long be with us to carry on the good work.

Dates to Remember.

Nov. 9th, 10th.—Half Term.
 Nov. 26th, 28th.—The School Play.
 Dec. 22nd.—End of Term.
 Jan. 14th.—Spring Term begins.

Valete.

BEATRICE ADAMS.—Form VI. School Captain; Higher School Certificate; Chairman of Joint Societies; Hockey Eleven; Cast of 2 School Plays; Civil Service Examination; House Captain; Leader of Guide Patrol; Tennis "Six." Civil Service.
 EDNA BOOTS.—Form VI. Prefect; House Captain; Cast of School Play; School Certificate. Accountant's Office, Barrow's Stores.
 CHARLES H. GREENWOOD.—Form VI. Matriculation; Football Eleven; Prefect; Cricket Eleven and Cricket Colours. Civil Engineer.

- DOROTHY HOMER.—Form VI. Prefect; Matriculation; Tennis "Six"; Secretary of Joint Societies; Secretary for League of Nations; Cast of School Play. Training Dept., Birmingham University.
- DAISY BRIDGWATER.—Form VI. Prefect; School Certificate; Cast of School Play; Hockey Eleven. At home.
- MARGUERITE MARSHALL.—Form VI. Prefect; Cast of 3 School Plays; Matriculation. Training Dept., Birmingham University.
- LAWRENCE W. BLUNDELL.—Form VI. School Captain; Football 1st Eleven; Vice-Chairman of Joint Societies; Cast of School Play; Higher School Certificate; House Captain; Running Colours; Representative at Joint Sports, 1927-31. Medical School, Birmingham University.
- RALPH S. O. STEVENS.—Form VI. Prefect; Higher School Certificate; House Captain; Running Colours; Old Students' Medal; Holder of two Joint Sports' Trophies and 440 yards' record; Honours School Chemistry. Birmingham University.
- RUPERT W. MUSGRAVE.—Form VI. Prefect; Cast of 2 School Plays; Football 1st Eleven; Cricket Colours; Matriculation; Honours School English. Birmingham University.
- HOWARD G. BARLOW.—Form VI. Prefect; Higher School Certificate; Cast of School Play; Secretary for Games; House Captain; History Honours School. Birmingham University.
- JOSEPH H. BETTS.—Form VI. School Certificate; Cricket 2nd Eleven; Football 2nd Eleven. Laboratory Assistant.
- WALTER CASHMORE.—Form V.A. Matriculation; Football 1st Eleven; Cricket Eleven. Chemist.
- MARJORIE MURRELL.—Form V.A. School Certificate. Civil Service.
- BELTINE SYKES.—Form V.A. School Certificate. Commercial School.
- PERCY N. DUFFIELD.—Form V.A. Prefect; School Certificate; Cast of School Play; Cricket 2nd Eleven.
- WILLIAM H. EVES.—Form V.A. School Certificate. Chemist.
- JEAN ALGER.—Form V.B. Guide Patrol Leader; Hockey Eleven. Commercial School.
- DOROTHY GREEN.—Form V.B. Post Office, Oldbury.
- KATHLEEN JACKSON.—Form V.B. Hockey Eleven; Guide Patrol Leader. Commercial School.
- ISABEL JOHNSTON.—Form V.A. Hockey Eleven; Guide Patrol Leader; Tennis "Six." Commercial School.
- RONALD FARROW.—Form V.B. Cast of School Play. Political Agent's Office.
- ELLIOTT G. JACKSON.—Form V.B. Office work.
- WILLIAM F. SIDAWAY.—Form V.B. Royal Air Force.
- PAULINE M. BLACKBAND.—Form V.c. Office work.
- DORIS OWENS.—Form V.c. Civil Service.
- NANCY M. STEVENS.—Form V.c. At home.
- ELIZABETH WAIN.—Form V.c. Guide. At home.
- CHARLES T. HARRINGTON.—Form V.c. Office work.
- LESLIE R. PLAYDON.—Form V.c. Football 1st Eleven; Cricket 1st Eleven. Engineer.
- KATHLEEN OXBORROW.—Form IV.R. Guide.
- JOHN H. BARRETT.—Form IV.R. Fancy Goods Dealer.
- FRANCIS W. M. BRIDGE.—Form IV.A. Builder.
- GEORGE W. HARDY.—Form IV.B. Wholesale Drapery.
- SIDNEY J. PRICE.—Form IV.B. Wholesale Fruiterer.

Salvete.

PEGGY DOWNING.
 HILDA M. ADAMS.
 PETER ANDREWS.
 MARY G. BRIGHT.
 WINIFRED J. CLIFT.
 IRENE E. COWELL.
 DOROTHY J. DARBY.
 DORIS GARNER.
 WILLIAM L. HADLEY.
 ELSIE HARRIS.
 MAISIE HARRIS.
 BERYL LONES.
 KATHLEEN MOORE.
 MARGARET PARKES.
 PATRICIA PRICE.
 THOMAS REDFERN.
 GEORGE SAMBROOKE.
 RONE G. SIDAWAY.
 MARGARET STACE.
 KATHLEEN E. SUTTON.
 DORIS TAYLOR.
 NANCY D. TAYLOR.
 MARJORIE R. WITHERS.
 FRED SILLITOE.
 IRENE HADLEY.
 JOHN S. OAKES.
 JOHN W. PARTINGTON.
 DONALD B. POOL.
 ERIC N. SMITH.
 IRIS E. THORNTON.
 MARGARET J. WESTON.

ROWLAND J. BATES.
 WALTER J. ASKEW.
 CHARLES BEAUMONT.
 ROY D. CHILLINGSWORTH.
 MABEL CRADDOCK.
 ALBERT E. COX.
 MARY E. CUTHBERTSON.
 THOMAS ETHERIDGE.
 RICHARD W. HARDY.
 FREDERICK J. HARRIS.
 STANLEY HEWITT.
 SAMUEL E. HOBDAIY.
 LAWRENCE J. HOPKINS.
 MARY C. HOWELLS.
 THOMAS W. JOHNSON.
 RICHARD C. JONES.
 KENNETH H. HUNTING.
 HERMIONE A. McCALLA.
 JOHN R. MOLE.
 PEGGY J. OWINS.
 EILEEN M. PETERS.
 PATRICIA PHILLIPS.
 MARY POOLE.
 RALPH M. RICHARDSON.
 KENNETH C. ROLLASON.
 JOHN W. SORRILL.
 MARY P. WHITTINGHAM.
 JEAN WOODWARD.
 KENNETH G. FOSTER.
 WILLIAM H. HOSKINS.
 HOWARD DALLOW.

Examination Results, 1931.

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF THE JOINT BOARD OF THE
 NORTHERN UNIVERSITIES:—

H. G. Barlow.—Principal: English and History. Subsidiary:
 French and Latin.

D. Homer.—Principal: English. Subsidiary: Art and Zoology.

R. Musgrave.—Principal: History. Subsidiary: English,
 French, Latin.

R. Stevens.—Principal: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.
 Subsidiary: French, German.

MATRICULATION BY HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE:—

D. Hadley, M. Marshall, F. Williams.

MATRICULATION BY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE:—

W. G. Branson (Distinction in Mathematics), W. Cashmore,
 B. Field, J. R. Greenwood (Distinction in English), T. Hale, G. D.
 Thomas (Distinction in Physics and Chemistry), A. Watt, G. Ackrill

(Distinction in English), E. Barratt, W. Cowell (Distinction in English), M. Green (Distinction in English), M. Kings, M. Wakeman.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE:—

H. Basterfield, P. Duffield, W. Eves, W. Mason, W. Rollason, K. Worrall, K. Howells, J. Sugg, G. Marshall (Distinction in English), M. Murrell (Distinction in English), B. Sykes, B. Harper, G. Jones, E. Keyte, N. Pickering, B. Turnbull.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION FOR JUNIOR CLERKS:—

B. Adams.

ROYAL AIR FORCE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION:—

F. Sidaway.

King's House.

Captain - - R. S. O. STEVENS.
Vice-Captain - - EVERETT.
Sports Captains - P. WILLIAMS, W. CASHMORE.
Secretaries - - L. COOPER, D. C. STEVENS.

AS usual the Summer term has provided much in the way of House competition, and King's House has again been very successful. The chief event of the term was the Sports, and in these our members played very prominent parts.

The Senior boys' champion, R. S. O. Stevens, was a member of our House, and in addition to gaining for the second time Alderman W. F. Vernon's coveted challenge cup, he set up three new School records, namely, the quarter mile ($55 \frac{2}{5}$ secs.), the half-mile (2min. $14 \frac{1}{5}$ secs.), and the high jump (5ft. 1in.). The King's House relay team won the Inter-House relay race in the record time of $53 \frac{1}{5}$ secs.

In the Joint School Sports at Perry Barr, R. S. O. Stevens again brought honour to the House by winning the open 100 yards and the open quarter-mile. In the latter race he set up a new record of $52 \frac{4}{5}$ secs.

In the public examinations at the end of the term, the following King's House members were awarded certificates:—Matriculation—G. Ackrill, E. Barrett, M. Green, Cashmore. School Certificate—G. Jones, E. Keyte, Basterfield, Mason and Harper. R. S. O. Stevens gained a Higher School Certificate and was awarded a Smethwick Major Scholarship.

In the end-of-term cricket matches we had to be satisfied with third place, but all of the games were keenly played.

D. C. Stevens, Secretary.

Queen's House.

Captains	-	-	B. ADAMS, H. G. BARLOW.
Vice-Captains	-	-	D. HOMER, H. PALMER.
Sports Captains	-	-	B. ADAMS, H. G. BARLOW.
Secretary	-	-	F. WILLIAMS.

THE Summer Term has been quite a successful one for Queen's House.

The boys did particularly well in the Inter-House Cricket Matches, showing an immense improvement on last year and being placed head of the list.

The girls were not, however, nearly so fortunate in their Inter-House Tennis Matches.

At the Annual Sports at Whitsuntide, the House was placed second, the girls, especially, doing very well. Norma Clegg again won the Girls' Senior Championship.

In July the members of the House in the Fifth and Sixth Forms again proved themselves to be a credit to their House and their School in the Higher School and School Certificate Examinations.

F. Williams (Sec.)

Trinity House.

Captains	-	-	W. A. ADAMS, D. HADLEY.
Sports Captains	-	-	W. A. ADAMS, D. HADLEY.
Secretary	-	-	N. K. MURRAY.

THE Summer term has again been a highly successful one for the House. At cricket Trinity defeated Queen's and King's, but lost to School. In a deciding match with Queen's for the championship, we were unfortunately defeated and ended as runners-up.

We sincerely congratulate Bowley who carried off the Junior Championship on our Annual Sports Day. In the sports, Trinity also obtained first position in the tug-of-war.

The House was again successful in the girls' tennis matches which were played at the end of the term, for we won four of our matches out of a possible six.

In the external examinations many of our members did well and we offer them our congratulations.

D. Hadley.

School House.

- Captains - - E. BOOTS, L. W. BLUNDELL.
- Vice-Captains - G. W. H. MARSHALL, R. W. MUSGRAVE.
- Sports Captains - D. BRIDGEWATER, L. W. BLUNDELL.

ALTHOUGH we regret the loss of many of our old members who helped School House to gain her leading position, we extend a hearty welcome to newcomers who, we hope, will do their utmost to keep up the excellent position of the House and will be prepared to fill the place of the old members.

One of the main features of last term, which again was a very busy one, was the Athletic Sports, held at Whitsuntide. After three attempts (the old saying, "the third time pays for all," proved very true), we managed to conclude the sports. To the delight of all members of School House, we beat the other Houses after much keen competition. This victory was mainly due to the enthusiasm and team spirit shown, which, we hope will be prevalent throughout all future competitions. Besides individual successes we came first in the girls' relay team, second in the boys' and first in the leap-frog race. Unfortunately, we were bottom in the tug-of-war, but we attribute this to the smallness of the team, not to the lack of effort.

We congratulate L. W. Blundell and R. W. Musgrave on their splendid performance at the Joint Sports, for not only did they bring honour to the School, but also to their House, although they were not fortunate enough to obtain a cup.

The cricket and tennis matches were rather disappointing to a House which has to keep up its good name, but we hope to do better next time.

Turning to the serious side of School activities, namely, examinations, School House again acquitted itself very well.

The other Houses must look to their laurels for School House is out to break all records.

G. W. H. Marshall.

When I set out for lovely Looe,
Two hundred miles away,
It was the month of May,
And joyous thoughts alone I knew,
When I set out for lovely Looe,
Two hundred miles away.

I thought of all I'd heard of Looe,
The valleys and the sea,
The rivers and the lea,
The rolling downs and skies so blue,
I thought of all I'd heard of Looe,
The valleys and the sea.

Then I came back from lovely Looe,
 With gladness in my heart,
 Refreshed to play my part,
 In life's rough game with vigour new,
 When I came back from lovely Looe,
 With gladness in my heart.

W. G. Branson, Lower Sixth.

Athletic Sports.

HEAVY rain made it impossible to commence the Sports on Thursday, May 28th, and although a start was made on the following day, only twelve events had been contested when rain again interrupted. It was not until Monday, June 1st, that the programme of events was completed.

The standard of achievement was again very high, but the most satisfactory feature was the keenness shown by the Senior boys and girls. There were two outstanding individual performances, Norma Clegg winning all the four Senior Girls' Championship events, while R. S. O. Stevens won six senior events. Four new records were made. Stevens jumped 5ft. 1in. in the High Jump, reduced his own record for the 440 yards from 57 $\frac{1}{5}$ sec. to 55 $\frac{2}{5}$ sec., and Blundell's record of 2 min. 17 $\frac{3}{5}$ sec. for the Half-Mile to 2 min. 14 $\frac{1}{5}$ sec., and King's House reduced the Relay Race record by one second to 53 $\frac{1}{5}$ sec. The records made by Stevens are exceptionally good, and it will require an athlete of exceptional ability to surpass them.

The Steeplechase took place later on in the same week, and all the 68 competitors finished the course except two unfortunate runners who lost their pumps in the swamp near Moat Farm. Blundell won the race for the seventh year in succession.

The Championship results were as follows:—

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP.

School	...	...	...	88 points.
Queen's	...	...	...	67 ,,
King's	...	...	...	62 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Trinity	...	...	...	36 $\frac{1}{2}$,,

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

Senior Girls—Champion, Norma Clegg, 20 points. Runner-up, M. Kings, 9 points.

Junior Girls—Champion, Janet Morton, 6 points. Runner-up, M. Stokes, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ points.

Senior Boys—Champion, R. S. O. Stevens, 30 points. Runner-up, L. W. Blundell, 17 points.

Junior Boys—Champion, L. Bowley, 6 points. Runner-up, E. Greaves, 5 points.

GIRLS.	1	2	3	Time, Height Distance.
100 Yards Senior ...	N. Clegg ...	M. Kings ...	J. Alger ...	11 3/5 sec.
100 Yards Junior ...	J. Morton ...	M. Stokes ...	D. Parkes ...	12 4/5 sec.
100 Yards under 12 ...	J. Crump ...	J. Moore ...	J. Bird ...	14 2/5 sec.
220 Yards Senior ...	N. Clegg ...	M. Kings ...	J. Alger ...	29 3/5 sec.
220 Yards Junior ...	J. Morton ...	M. Gittus ...	B. Taylor ...	33 sec.
High Jump Senior ...	N. Clegg ...	G. Ackrill ...	J. Alger ...	4ft. 1 1/2 in.
High Jump Junior ...	B. North ...	D. Parkes M. Stokes	—	3ft. 11 in.
High Jump under 12 ...	J. Bird ...	J. Moore ...	M. Wilden...	3ft. 2 3/4 in.
Long Jump Senior ...	N. Clegg ...	M. Kings ...	I. Johnston...	13ft. 9 in.
Long Jump Junior ...	P. Beaumont	O. Hadley ...	D. Morgan...	12ft. 9 in.
Skipping Race				
under 12...	J. Crump ...	J. Bird ...	—	—
Egg & Spoon Race ...	I. Johnston..	B. Turnbull.	—	—
Leap Frog ...	School ...	Trinity ...	—	—
Relay Race ...	School ...	King's ...	Trinity ...	65 3/5 sec.

BOYS.	1	2	3	Time, Height Distance.
100 Yards Senior ...	Stevens, R. .	Musgrave ...	Blundell ...	10 2/5 sec.
100 Yards Junior ...	Hall ...	Birch ...	—	12 1/5 sec.
100 Yards under 12 ...	Richards ...	Campbell ...	Hadley ...	14 2/5 sec.
220 Yards Senior ...	Stevens, R. .	Musgrave ...	Blundell ...	24 2/5 sec.
220 Yards Junior ...	Laker ...	Birch ...	Jakeways ...	30 3/5 sec.
440 Yards Senior ...	Stevens, R. .	Stevens, D.	Blundell ...	55 2/5 sec.
440 Yards Junior ...	Birch ...	Greaves, E...	Hall ...	72 sec.
880 Yards Senior ...	Stevens, R. .	Blundell ...	Pardoe ...	2 min. 14 1/5 sec.
880 Yards Junior ...	Greaves, E...	Laker ...	Birch ...	2 min. 35 1/5 sec.
One Mile (Open) ...	Blundell ...	Pardoe ...	Bridge, L...	5 min. 4 sec.
High Jump Senior ...	Stevens, R. .	Knott ...	Everett Horton	5ft. 1 in.
High Jump Junior ...	Bowley ...	Jones, F. ...	Sykes ...	4ft. 3 in.
Long Jump Senior ...	Stevens, R. .	Musgrave ...	Blundell ...	18ft. 10 in.
Long Jump Junior ...	Bowley ...	Stanley ...	Jones, F. ...	14ft. 10 in.
Relay Race ...	King's ...	School ...	Trinity ...	53 1/5 sec.
Tug-of-War ...	Trinity ...	King's ...	School ...	—
Sack Race ...	Bradford ...	Tromlinson	—	—
Obstacle Race ...	Elliot ...	Turnbull ...	—	—
Steeplechase Senior	School ...	King's ...	Queen's ...	—
„ Junior	Trinity ...	Queen's ...	School ...	—
„ Individual	Blundell ...	Orchard ...	Edwards ...	10 min. 2 sec.

Birmingham and District Secondary Schools Joint Sports, 1931.

THE Joint Sports took place at the Alexander Sports Ground, Birmingham, on June 15th. The results were very gratifying from our point of view for we won two events and created a new record for these sports in the quarter-mile.

After a lapse of several years it was good to see a School team entering for the Senior team race and running well enough to secure third place in its heat. Among our individual competitors Musgrave was fourth in the Broad Jump with 18ft. 4in., and Blundell was fourth in the Mile with a time of 4 min. 58 sec. The winner's time in the latter event was 4 min. 45 sec., a new record for the Joint Sports.

All other performances, however, were eclipsed by the wonderful running of R. S. O. Stevens. After winning the 100 yards comfortably in 10 $\frac{4}{5}$ sec., he proceeded to make the opposition in the 440 yards look like "second-raters," finishing at least 25 yards in front of the second competitor. His time of 52 $\frac{4}{5}$ sec. set up a new record for the Joint Sports, the previous best being 53 $\frac{1}{5}$ sec., by Blija, of West Bromwich, in 1921. It is impossible to speak too highly of Stevens' performance. Careful preparation and constant practice over a period of several months made him thoroughly fit, while perseverance and a study of the methods of famous sprinters perfected his style so that his success was the reward of some really hard work.

Later in the Summer Stevens competed at Stamford Bridge in the first A.A.A. Junior Championships of Great Britain for competitors under 19. He won a fine heat in 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec. in the 220 yards, but was beaten in the cross heat by W. P. Heath, who went on to win the final. In the quarter-mile he was second in his heat in 53 $\frac{2}{5}$ seconds. In his comments in the "Daily Telegraph," B. G. D. Rudd, the famous Olympic Games Quarter-Mile Champion, spoke of the "fine quarter-milers" participating in the event, and added, "although he failed to figure in the final, I was more impressed by the style of R. S. O. Stevens than by anyone else in the race."

A Corner of a Garden.

The fragrant scent of the mignonette,
The lavender and the rose,
The haunting smell of the violet,
The flower with the shyest pose.
The sunflower with its golden head,
Towering above them all,
The crimson splash of the poppy bed,
Against the old stone wall.

R. W. Pennell, Form 5A2.

Cricket, 1931.

1st XI.—Captain: W. A. ADAMS. Vice-Captain: R. W. MUSGRAVE.
 2nd XI.—Captain: R. M. EVERETT. Vice-Captain: R. HORTON.
 Secretary - - H. G. BARLOW.
 Committee: Captains; Vice-Captains; Secretary and C. H. Greenwood
 and H. Palmer.

WE had a fairly successful season in spite of bad weather; 18 games were played, 7 won, 8 lost and 3 drawn.

Cricket colours were awarded to C. H. Greenwood for excellent batting and fielding, and to A. W. Smith and H. Palmer for consistent bowling.

The two annual matches against the Parents and Staff were very enjoyable. The School defeated the Parents and thus retain the Shield presented for this annual match. For the Staff there was an excellent first wicket stand by Mr. F. Richards and Mr. J. B. Richards which realised 125. The School replied with 49 for three wickets. The game had to be left drawn.

The following are the best individual averages:—

BATTING.

	Played	Highest Score	Average
Musgrave ...	15	39	15.2
Greenwood ...	14	38	11.7

BOWLING.

	Wickets	Runs per wicket
Adams ...	35	6.0
Palmer ...	37	6.15
Smith ...	44	6.8

The following were matches played by the 1st XI. :—

	Home or Away.	Result.
Oldbury 44	Holly Lodge 32 ... A.	Won
„ 105	Lawrences College 44 H.	Won
„ 9	Halesowen 113 for 6 H.	Lost
„ 46	West Bromwich 70 A.	Lost
„ 51	St. Philips 49 ... A.	Won
„ 75	Dudley 76 for 5 ... A.	Lost
„ 40	Holly Lodge 47 ... H.	Lost
„ 25	Wolverhampton 60 for 5 A.	Lost
„ 71	Halesowen 72 for 8 H.	Lost

Oldbury v.	Smethwick 7 for 3	H.	Abandoned
„	68 Dudley 42 for 8 ...	H.	Drawn
„	47 King's Norton 72 ...	H.	Lost
„	87 St. Philips 80 ...	H.	Won
„	78 Wolverhampton 110	H.	Lost
„	108 Smethwick 49 ...	H.	Won
„	64 for 4 Lawrences 19 ...	A.	Won
„	108 Parents 42 ...	H.	Won
„	49 for 3 Staff 125 for 0 ...	H.	Drawn

The following played for the 1st XI. :—

Adams, Musgrave, Greenwood, Palmer, Smith (A. W.), Branson, Bottrell, Bridge, Playdon, Keyte, Bodenham, Barlow, Farrow, Horton, Betts, Everett, Cashmore.

The 2nd XI. played 7 matches, won 4 and lost 3.

W. A. Adams.

Tennis, 1931.

UNFORTUNATELY, owing to prevalent wet weather, the tennis season has not been very successful. One match was played against our neighbours, Holly Lodge, in which we were defeated. Our team consisted of three pairs—Myra Hart, Edna Nelson; Dorothy Homer, Mary Blackband; Joan Lugg, Isabel Johnson. All of these played excellently, and we hope for better results next season.

Gwen Jones.

An Old Lady.

Sitting there in fading twilight,
With her strange and pensive gaze,
This dear old-fashioned lady
Dreams of her younger days.

She sees no speeding motor-car,
Or high-climbing aeroplane,
But only a man on horseback,
Giving his horse the rein.

A girl is waving her 'kerchief
To the disappearing guard,
Who urges on his gallant steed
And thinks how life is hard.

She is picturing these old times
And the things that she has seen,
Dreaming of her war-killed lover,
And that which might have been.

H. Basterfield, Form 5A.

A Visit to Oxford and Aldershot.

IT was decided, after much deliberation, that the annual "day out" arranged by the Joint Society for its members, should, this year, take the form of a day spent at Oxford and a night spent at the Aldershot Tattoo. No other arrangement could have met with so much satisfaction in the Senior School, and the great day chosen was Friday, 19th June.

We left School at 9-30, everyone comfortably settled with cushions and rugs (for which we were extremely thankful by the end of our journey), in two Midland "Red" motor 'buses. We travelled through delightful country until lunch time, when we ate our meal in real picnic style in the grounds surrounding Blenheim Palace. We were, however, unable to linger here, and another half-an-hour's drive brought us to Oxford itself; "That sweet city with her dreaming spires."

Here we left the 'bus and made our way to Christ Church.

We first visited the splendid old library, in which the guide pointed out as some of its most interesting contents, Wolsey's hat, many Chippendale chairs, famous pictures and old manuscripts. From a certain window here, we looked down on to the lawn on which "Alice in Wonderland" was written.

We visited the Tom Quad, the largest in Oxford, with its beautifully kept lawns, saw the Tom Tower, and then entered the college itself to be amazed by the beauty of the Hall staircase with its ceiling decorated with elaborate fan tracery.

Next we found our way to the dining hall, a very impressive room with its polished tables, silver candlesticks, and, ranged round its walls, portraits of great men who seemed to be keeping watch lest anyone might become too careless in their actions. From here we went down to the kitchens where the grid, used in olden days, was still to be seen.

The Chapel, which is also Oxford Cathedral, was visited. It is small, but seems to be aglow with colour reflected from its many stained glass windows, including one by Van Linge and another by Burne Jones.

From Christ Church, passing Oriel College on our way, we went on to Corpus Christi, where we found time to peep into the quadrangle and chapel, and to visit the quiet garden surrounded by part of the old city wall.

Walking along the Broad Walk, passing Merton College, we came to Magdalen Bridge and Magdalen College, with its chapel with the unusual but striking chiaros-curo window of The Last Judgment, its peaceful cloisters and delightful "Water Walks" by the river.

We then walked down the famous "High"—past Queen's, All Souls', University Colleges, turned by the historic St. Mary's

Church to Radcliffe Place with its Camera, to the world famous Bodleian Library, the interior of which we were unable to see owing to the shortage of time, though it had been included in our programme.

And then to Cornmarket Street and tea at the Cadena Café! Here everyone thoroughly enjoyed the good tea provided for them, after which the 'buses were again boarded and we set off for Aldershot.

We arrived here about eight o'clock and found our stand fairly easily. The night was kind to us, for though it had been showery while we had been at Oxford, there was no sign of rain then and the moon was bright and clear. It is impossible to tell what a thrill we felt as, at last, at 9-40, the programme was begun, and dark figures were seen emerging from the still blacker trees which bordered that portion of the arena. These marched down the centre with brilliant searchlights playing on them. The Tattoo had begun.

It would be impossible to tell of the many wonderful spectacles we witnessed and how we stretched our necks to get a last glimpse of the massed bands and the Cavalry as they marched, men and horses, into the darkness; and how we sat, breathless throughout the club swinging display and wondered if the men were as breathless as their display of endurance had left us; and how we longed to join the Britains and enforce discipline on them when they were being hopelessly defeated by the well ordered Romans who had invaded England; and how we all determined to uphold the League of Nations more enthusiastically when we were shewn "A Modern Army in Battle."

At mid-night it all ended and we once more boarded the 'bus which did, after much difficulty and long waiting, manage to get free from the rest of the traffic and start in earnest for home. We arrived at School about seven o'clock on Saturday morning and were welcomed by a hot cup of tea and biscuits which had kindly been provided for us.

The day which had been so long anticipated was ended, and we had only memories. For the possession of these we shall always be grateful to those who made them possible—Miss Lones, Miss Foster, Dr. Thomason and Mr. Hopkins.

Girl Guides.

Officers:—

Captain—Miss F. D. TWEEDIE.

Lieutenants—Misses J. L. DAVIES, R. M. EVERETT.

Patrol Leaders—M. GREEN, N. CLEGG, J. HARROLD, B. KEYTE.

THE usual weekly meetings were held during the term. We began each meeting with Roll Call Drill, Captain and Lieutenants taking charge week by week, and Badge work, dancing,

games, talks and competitions filled in the rest of our programmes, which usually ended with Camp-fire songs, Taps and prayers.

The most enjoyable meeting of the term took the form of a hike in the School grounds. Each Patrol made its own fire in the field, and the food which was provided, was bought out of Company funds. Each Patrol had the same amount of food, and they each chose their own recipe. We commenced our tea about 5 o'clock, and judging by the various odours which floated around the field, there were certainly some good dishes! Tea was followed by a Treasure Hunt and the meeting ended with songs around a real camp fire!

Another very interesting day was when the Tettenhall Guides and the Wolverhampton Royal Orphanage Guides paid us a visit. We had planned various exciting outdoor competitions, but unfortunately the day proved to be wet and dismal and so, except for the swimming, we had indoor competitions. At 5 o'clock we adjourned to the dining hall for tea—which was very enjoyable. At the close of the party, Miss Massey very kindly distributed the prizes to the lucky competitors.

At the end of the School year we unfortunately lost many Guides, who had finished their course at school.

The greatest item of all was—Camp!

This year we camped during the first ten days of September. It was a very small, but jolly camp, consisting of 15 Guides and 3 Guiders.

We again visited Stoke Fleming, S. Devon, securing the same field which we camped upon three years ago. The advance party went down on the 31st August and were very kindly taken by the Captain and Lieutenant in their cars. The camp was pitched when the rest of the Guides arrived (in the rain!) and after a delicious meal of liver and bacon, they went to bed! The first two days of camp were very rainy, but the brave ones did not miss their bathe—despite the weather! For the rest of camp, however, the weather was almost perfect. On Sunday afternoon we were shown round Dartmouth Naval College, which proved to be very interesting. Upon another occasion a party of Guides went on a charabanc tour through the splendours of Dartmoor to Plymouth.

During the morning, at 11 o'clock we had colours and prayers, and received our letters and parcels. After colours in the evening we sang songs round the camp-fire. Camp ended all too soon, and upon the 11th of September the Guides found themselves bound for Birmingham again.

Although Guiding has its various amusements, the Company have all worked for their various badges and thus it may be seen that we have had a busy and happy term.

Norma Clegg.

The Lights o' London—1931.

IT was the last Saturday of the holidays, and mother and I had been spending the day in London. It had been raining the whole of the day but, fortunately, at 8 o'clock, it cleared. The sky was very black, and there were no stars, which made a better background for the spectacle we were now looking forward to—London by floodlight. We travelled from Baker St. to Westminster by Underground, and as we walked out of the station the sight that confronted us was one I shall not forget for some time. It was Big Ben, which looked like a huge pillar of pink icing piercing the sky. There was the Thames flowing beneath us as we stood on Westminster Bridge, and the usual hurrying throng stood gazing spellbound at Big Ben in his new guise.

Dotted here and there in the sky were bright patches of light which were the reflections of the various important buildings which had been lit up to commemorate the International Illumination Congress and also Faraday's centenary. Across the water, Thames House looked almost like a huge glass building ablaze with light. Not being very sure of our way we decided to walk along the Embankment. Here we overtook a party of ladies and gentlemen carrying huge cameras and stands. We thought they would know the best places to see, and we decided to follow them discreetly. After winding in and out of one or two streets we found ourselves by St. Martin's Church. This looked very beautiful as the light seemed to show up the very fine carving in the stonework of the spire.

We then walked across to the Horse Guards' Parade, but I thought that this was the least effective. The stonework looked very patchy and dirty. Facing this was the monument erected in memory of the Guards who fell in the Great War. This was not illuminated, but several sightseers were using the base to steady their cameras for the long exposures necessary. Walking along, we found ourselves in St. James' Park. Each bed was laid out in one particular colour of either scarlet, pink, or yellow flowers, and with the background of the rich browns, green and copper of the trees, which were then a mass of foliage, the effect, with the lights thrown on to them was very picturesque. We could see our friends, the photographers, hurrying along the walks to get the finest views, but the photographs I have seen of the flood-lighting do not do it justice.

We then walked along the Mall where we soon reached the most wonderful sight of all—Buckingham Palace. Everyone, and there were thousands of people there, seemed thunderstruck at the sight. It gave one the impression of being carved out of a piece of pure white ivory; the white blinds were down and this seemed to add to the effect. I was sorry to walk away, the

sight was so impressive, and I could not help but wonder what Faraday would have thought if he could have seen it.

From there we went to see Westminster Cathedral. This was rather an unusual sight, the colouring of the brickwork was alternate red and yellow and it had a dome top. It looked like a minaret in an Eastern city. Last, but not least, was Nelson's column in Trafalgar Square; the tall slender column, blackened with age, was hardly visible, and the four searchlights focussed on the figure surmounting it seemed to give it an eerie effect.

I have read in the papers since that the installation at Buckingham Palace was the most lavish in the country; nearly two hundred kilowatt narrow-angle projectors were used. This was what made it much more brilliant than the rest, as the power used was greatly in excess of its requirements. Big Ben was lit on three sides with ninety-six kilowatt units. The twin towers of Westminster Abbey required only eighteen units. The landscape lighting in St. James' Park was with gas. The power was supplied free during the Congress. It is a pity that this form of illumination cannot be made permanent, but during times like the present, when economy has to be our watchword, we must be satisfied with the glimpse that we have had. The whole of it was a real joy, and I should like to take Faraday by the hand and say "Thank you."

Alex B. Watt, Lower Vith.

Holiday Joys.

The tingling air, the morning fair,
The trilling song of a lark;
The sun new risen, escaped night's prison,
The radiance after dark.

The wind's keen nip, the morning dip,
The battling waves afoam;
The sand's firm feel, under the heel,
The glowing dash back home.

The pearly mist, the land sun-kissed,
The screech of the seagull lone;
The springy turf, the dashing surf,
The sea wind's echoing moan.

The friendly trees, the verdant leas,
The rustling golden corn;
The babbling brook, the shady nook,
The wind swept moor forlorn.

Such joys as these, in days of ease,
Our hearts suffuse with gladness;
For nature's charms have soothing balms,
That chase away all sadness.

B. Keyte, Form 5A.

On the Other Side of the Door.

(“The Pied Piper of Hamelin.”)

Inside the mountain all was light,
 But some of the little one's soon took fright,
 And called for their mothers and fathers too,
 As all little children are fain to do;
 But the Piper cheered them by tales of adventure,
 Of beautiful lands where no one did venture,
 And soon did they come to that beautiful land,
 The cunning Pied Piper and all his band:
 The children sang, and laughed, and danced,
 As nearer and nearer they quickly advanced,
 Gone, were the thoughts of their fathers and mothers,
 Of their elder sisters and elder brothers;
 They saw the birds, and trees, and flowers,
 And fields, where they could play for hours,
 A wide spreading sky of azure blue,
 And orchards where apples and oranges grew,
 And all were pleased with this view so fair,
 So they and the piper lived happily there,
 And ne'er did they think of that land far away,
 From whence they came, that memorable day.

M. Adams, Form IV.A.

Beauty.

MANY years ago there came into the world a wonderful being called Beauty. It came in the form of a Chinese tobacco jar, and was owned by a Jew who kept an antique shop. Everybody who passed by was fascinated by its appearance; many went in to buy it, but the dealer named such an alarming price that, as yet, nobody, who knew about the tobacco jar, had been rich enough to buy it.

One day it chanced that a prince was passing by, when he saw the jar, and, being struck by its appearance, he bought it and put it in his bedroom.

One night a thief broke into the palace where the prince lived, and seeing the jar he at once realised that it was Beauty itself; so he broke it into little pieces, and with the help of his confederates, he scattered the pieces all over the earth.

The prince, who had been told the value of the jar, sent his men to every country in the world to try and regain the pieces. But only a few were found, and the rest are still abroad.

Occasionally a piece of real beauty is still to be seen, but never Beauty in all its completeness.

J. Richards, Form 2A1.

Beauty.

A certain family in Italy had in their possession a beautiful vase. This vase had been given to them by a mysterious old man, who had told them to take great care of it, and it must always be kept on an ivory stand. If removed from this place it would at once break into a thousand pieces and the offender would become as ugly as a toad. They did not know that the vase was Beauty.

All went well because the vase was kept on the ivory stand behind some curtains in a room with a locked door. But one day, in winter, they had some visitors come to stay all through the cold months, and they were very curious people, especially their little boy. Unfortunately their room was next to the room in which was the vase.

The people of the house went out one day, asking their visitors to take care of a bunch of keys. The keys were put away in a drawer. Thinking they would be safe there the visitors' minds were at rest.

When no one was looking the little boy took the keys, went to the next room and tried every one of the keys until he had opened the door. He walked round the room very disappointed, for it was only a dark bare room without a single piece of furniture in it. At last he came to the curtain. He pulled it aside, and there stood the wonderful vase. "Fancy keeping it in this dusty room," he thought. "I will show it mother."

He lifted it from its stand and took it to his room and set it down on the table. Immediately the vase broke into thousands of small pieces, and then all the pieces disappeared. But what was more astounding still was that the boy was as ugly as a toad.

The pieces of the vase scattered themselves about the earth, and now we only see glimpses of Beauty here and there.

D. Darby, Form 2A1.

By the mem'ry of the showers
Confiding in the dainty flowers
Am I gladdened,
Nor am saddened
By mem'ries of tumultuous rain
And sighing wind's low mournful strain.
To the mem'ry of the towns
Nestling in the rolling downs
Gladly I turn,
Nor do I spurn
Mem'ries of an angry sea
Dashing high o'er rock and quay.

L. Cooper, Form 6A.

News of Old Students.

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

J. HEBBARD,	}	Diploma in Education.
C. GREENWOOD,		
P. ICKE,		
E. JOHNSTONE,		

E. ICKE,	}	Teacher's Certificate.
E. F. WILLETTS,		

D. RUDD,	}	1st Year (Education).
D. HOMER,		
L. DAVIES,		

H. GRIGG, B.Sc., Zoology, 3rd Class Honours.

C. SMITH, M.A., Classics.

H. H. CORK, 2nd Year (Science).

G. LYMAN, 1st Year (Science).

D. E. ADAMS, 1st Year (Science).

P. WOODWARD, 1st Year (Arts).

The Unnatural Dream.

I dreamt that I died,
 And to Heaven I did go.
 What school did I come from
 They wanted to know.
 When I said "Moat Road,"
 St. Peter did stare,
 In fact, in amazement,
 He shouted out "Where?"
 He brought out his book,
 And he took a long look
 Through the short list of O's,
 Then opening the gate wide,
 Said, "Come quickly inside,
 For you're the first one of those."

M. Green, Lower Sixth.

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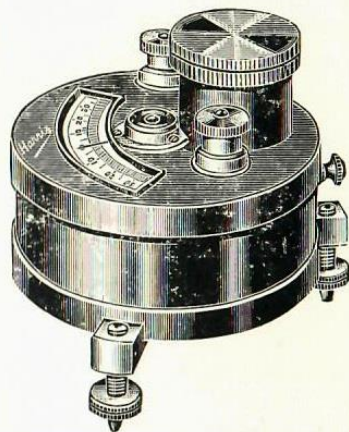
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