



**THE
OLDBURIAN**

**OLDBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MAGAZINE**

1954

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VOL. IV., No. 8.

EDITORIAL

THIS year, 1954, is the Jubilee Year of our School. It is therefore appropriate to make a few brief references to the fifty years now past.

Established in 1904 as Oldbury Secondary School, it functioned in Flash Road until it was moved to Moat Road in 1926, being then renamed Oldbury County High School. More recently it has been known as Oldbury Grammar School. True to its motto, it has developed in many ways, establishing a worthy tradition and gaining a reputation for sound scholarship and loyal service.

There have been five headmasters, Mr. C. H. H. Walker, appointed in 1904, Mr. P. Henderson, appointed in 1908, Mr. G. H. Crisp, in 1911, Mr. J. G. Howarth in 1920, and myself, appointed in 1936. The School first opened with only two classes, with two assistants (paid salaries which appear impossibly low to us now), and with very few facilities. There are now 29 assistants on the staff and one visiting teacher, in addition to whom we have assistance from several members of the Worcestershire County music staff. There have in all been 140 staff appointments, of whom some have given very long service. Mr. T. L. Davies was here 30 years, Miss A. Massey 31 years, Miss D. Williams' service extended over 33 years, while Mrs. L. G. Quayle holds the present record with over 39 years to her credit. There are on the present staff also teachers who have already given comparable long and loyal service, but whose time here, fortunately, is not yet ended.

During its 50 years the School has educated about 4,000 pupils, of whom probably only a minority are now in the immediate neighbourhood. They are scattered far and wide and are met in most unexpected places. We know of some who are in distant

parts of the world, but we learn from them that, wherever they may be, their ties with our School still remain strong. In recent years the average number in attendance has been about 550. A noteworthy feature of the School is the growth of advanced work in the Sixth Form. In this present year 1954/55 we have a Sixth Form of 70 pupils, this being a very satisfactory proportion of our total.

Two world wars have unfortunately taken place since our School was founded, and, looking back, we recall with respect the masters and Old Boys whose names are on our two War Memorial Tablets. The fine stained glass window over the platform is a constant reminder of their courage and sacrifice. We remember also the internal educational difficulties of those days of war, and the voluntary services rendered by so many then in the School.

Equipment and amenities have improved stage by stage as the years have passed. It was a great day for our School when, on October 26th, 1926, Principal Grant Robertson, of Birmingham University, opened these present buildings. Since then much more has been done. The new gymnasium was built in 1937 and was opened by Miss Dorothy Round, the famous tennis player, in November of that year. During the next two years our playing field was doubled in size by a drainage scheme which turned a marshy swamp in to an expanse of turf. In that same period additional buildings were erected, including a Domestic Science Room, an Art Room, and an exceptionally fine Library, while improvements were carried out to all our Science Laboratories, and two hard tennis courts were laid down. More recently additional land to increase our playing space has been acquired and is about to be developed.

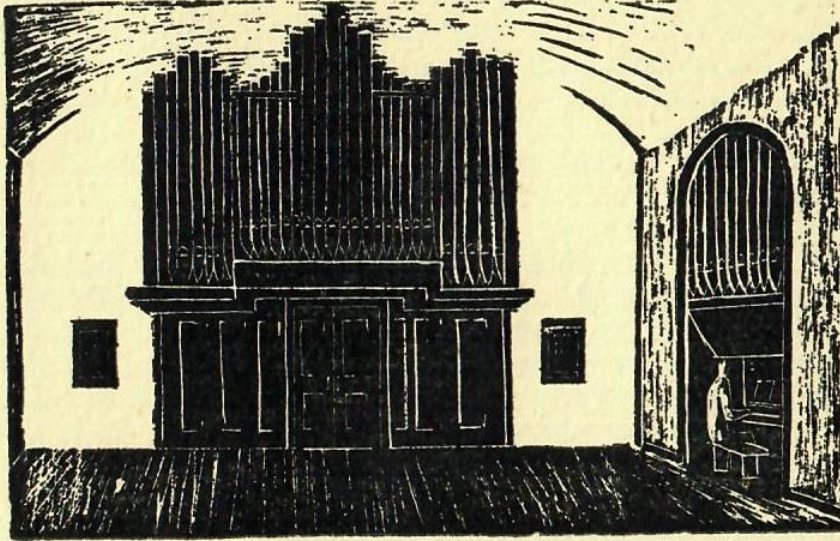
The School owes much to the generosity of various benefactors. For many years past the Oldbury Charity Trust has given financial assistance to pupils while in the School and, later, for their university courses of study. It has made education possible at both levels for scores who would otherwise have been debarred by lack of means. The late Mr. George Albright gave the swimming pool to the School and two endowments for the Library and the brothers George and William Albright established the Albright Trust for university scholarships. Dr. Dawes founded the Dawes Memorial Trust in memory of his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dawes, themselves such generous friends, and has also given an additional endowment for the maintenance in perpetuity of the Prizes for

Leadership which his parents were in their lifetime accustomed to give annually. The late Mr. C. T. Barlow, Mrs. Barlow, and the late Mr. A. P. Hands also have established permanent prize funds for annual awards. Still more recently Dr. Dawes has kindly added to his earlier benefactions by providing us with a fine pipe organ to be built in our Assembly Hall. The installation of this organ, involving the building of an annexe to the Hall, is our Jubilee Year project and is referred to later in this issue of our magazine.

There have been three full inspections of our School during its fifty years. That of 1925 made many necessary suggestions and led to the removal to these present premises in 1926. The report of the 1937 inspection was good, while the recent visit of Her Majesty's Inspectors early this year, 1954, has given us all very great satisfaction and encouragement to continue the work we are doing. The School is justifiably proud of the Inspectors' unqualified conclusion, "This is a good school." We have advanced with the times and I hope we shall continue to advance in all matters concerning the welfare of our pupils.

C. C. HOWARD.

OUR JUBILEE YEAR PROJECT



TO mark this Jubilee Year, 1954, the Governors of the School, supported by the Oldbury Borough Council and the Worcestershire County Council, have sponsored a proposal to instal an organ in the Assembly Hall. Dr. Dawes, a Governor of the School, who founded the Dawes Memorial Fund in memory of his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dawes, has generously arranged for a sum of about £4,000 to be made available to purchase a two manual and pedal pipe organ. This has been accepted with great appreciation and thanks.

To supplement this generous gift, an appeal for £1,200 has been launched, to cover the cost of the installation and the construction of an organ chamber in the Assembly Hall. The response to this appeal has been most encouraging, and it is hoped that, before the fund closes, all who are interested in the progress and welfare of the School will make a contribution according to their means. The Trustees of the Oldbury Charity have generously offered to give towards the cost of the installation of the organ a sum not exceeding £500, £1 for every £1 otherwise contributed.

The organ will be erected, in two sections, the Great and Pedal Organs being at the back of the Assembly Hall, over and around the doors leading into the Lobby, while the Swell Organ and Console will be placed in an annexe to be built in the quadrangle on the girls' side, where the end window of the Hall has been.

The organ will be a great and lasting asset to our School, adding to the dignity of Morning Assembly and being useful for our many musical activities. It will be a magnificent memorial to the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dawes and a worthy addition to our amenities to mark our Jubilee. The School thanks the large number of subscribers to the Jubilee Fund, and, in particular, expresses its gratitude to Dr. Dawes for his great generosity.

The organ will be built by Messrs. Nicholson & Co., Ltd., of Worcester, to the specification which follows:—

OLDBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL ORGAN

Manual Compass 61 notes.
Pedal Compass 32 notes.

Great Organ—

- | | | | | |
|----|---------------------|--------|-----------|---------------------|
| 1. | Quintation | 16 ft. | 49 pipes. | Bass from Pedal 20. |
| 2. | Open Diapason No. 1 | 8 " | 61 " | |
| 3. | Open Diapason No. 2 | 8 " | 61 " | |
| 4. | Hohl Flute | 8 " | 61 " | |
| 5. | Dulcians | 8 " | 61 " | |
| 6. | Octave | 4 " | 61 " | |
| 7. | Wald Flute | 4 " | 61 " | |
| 8. | Quartane 12.15 | 2 Rks | 122 " | |

- I. Swell to Great.
- II. Swell Octave to Great.
- III. Swell Sub to Great.

Swell Organ—

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|
| 9. | Geigen Diapason | 8 ft. | 61 pipes. | |
| 10. | Lieblich Gedeckt | 8 " | 61 " | |
| 11. | Echo Gamba | 8 " | 61 " | |
| 12. | Voix Celestes T.C. | 8 " | 49 " | |
| 13. | Gemshorn | 4 " | 61 " | |
| 14. | Mixture | 2 Rks | 122 " | |
| 15. | Contra Oboe | 16 ft. | 73 " | |
| 16. | Trumpet | 8 " | 61 " | |
| 17. | Oboe | 8 " | | From No. 15. |

- IV. Tremulant.
- V. Octave.
- VI. Unison Off.
- VII. Sub Octave.

Pedal Organ—

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| 18. | Open Diapason (metal) | 16 ft. | 32 pipes. | |
| 19. | Sub Bass | 16 " | 32 " | |
| 20. | Lieblich Bourdon | 16 " | 32 " | |
| 21. | Quint | 10-2/3 " | | From No. 20. |
| 22. | Bass Flute | 8 " | 12 " | Ext. of No. 19. |
| 23. | Lieblich Gedeckt | 8 " | 12 " | Ext. of No. 20. |
| 24. | Octave | 8 " | 12 " | Ext. of No. 18. |
| 25. | Contra Oboe | 16 " | | From Swell. |

- VIII. Swell to Pedal.
- IX. Swell Octave to Pedal.
- X. Great to Pedal.
- XI. Great to Pedal Pistons.

Accessories—

- Six Thumb Pistons to Great Second Touch Pedal.
- Six Thumb Pistons to Swell Second Touch Pedal.
- Reversible Piston Swell to Great.
- Reversible Piston Great to Pedal.
- Reversible Piston Swell to Pedal.
- Six Pedal Toe Pistons to Pedal Organ.
- Six Pedal Toe Pistons to Swell Organ.
- Reversible Toe Piston Great to Pedal.
- Balanced Swell Pedal.

Wind Pressures—

Swell Organ $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. Great Organ 3 in. Pedal Organ $3\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Console—The Console to be of the Stopkey type, with Stopkeys of solid ivory and Manual Keys covered with thick ivory, laid in one piece without surface joint. All Thumb Pistons to be of solid ivory and adjustable by means of a miniature switchboard behind the music desk.

Pipework—All metal pipes to have Trebles from 1 ft. C up of Spotted Metal and all Stops to be liberally scaled where required to give adequate build up of Full Organ.

Reservoirs—Four wind Reservoirs to be supplied, made with the best timber and double leathered with best white sheepskin.

Action—To be electric with low tension current, supplied from a Transformer/Rectifier, adequately protected by a suitable Contactor with overload release.

Electric Blower—A suitable Electric Blower, manufactured by the British Organ Blowing Company, Derby, to be supplied together with Automatic Starter.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE EARLY DAYS OF THE SCHOOL

THE chief guest at the Speech Day of 1954 is reported to have used the words, "happiness and friendliness," in connection with the School and immediately on reading them, my mind went backwards to 1904, when a very small number, between 50 and 60 boys and girls, met together in the Technical School, Flash Road, Oldbury, to take part in the great adventure—the first Secondary Education in Oldbury. There, 50 years ago, that tradition of happiness and friendliness was spiritually born, for if there has ever been a happy family, it was there among "those few, those

happy few," who formed the nucleus of the present School. No doubt some of the more fortunate ones of that company might have gone to other districts for further education, but, for the majority, that would have been impossible and so I mention that 1904 was a very important year in the lives of many boys and girls in the Oldbury area.

You present pupils come to your own very beautiful School, with traditions already formed, and you carry on those ideals as faithfully as possible. We had no traditions; we had to make them for posterity.

You come to a School with an inspiring school song—we had no school song. Perhaps, after 50 years, another verse may be added to those already existing. Although no Churchill has arisen from those early ranks, the neighbourhood is richer for their example and service to the community, wherever duty called — some to give all on the battlefield, some to serve as first citizen or as councillors, and others in a less spectacular walk of life, where, however lowly the calling, "they gave of their best."

You come to a School with a Motto, "Cresco," I grow. How well that motto has been carried out when we think of our small numbers! Though we were so few and did not know the word, "Cresco," we lived the word in that our lives became fuller and happier as a wider vision of what education meant was given us, when Secondary Education began in Oldbury, under the able and kindly guidance of our first Head Master, C. H. H. Walker, M.A. (Oxon.).

Often when I hear the screeching brakes of the Midland "Red" 'buses and see such numbers of youths and maidens alighting from or boarding these vehicles, in my mind's eye I see a different picture, when no 'buses plied the district and only a short train ran from the far side of Langley station and emerged near the Iron Works (colloquially known as "Split the Liquor"). This however, was no real help in the journey to Oldbury and consequently from Beeches Lane (now Hagley Road West), Warley, Causeway Green and Langley, we converged, with packs of heavy books on our backs and took the shortest route through what was euphemistically called The Oxfords, between two chemical works. We had plenty of odours, but, at least, the latest offensive smell had not been produced 50 years ago for our discomfort. Of course scholars from Oldbury were more fortunate than we who lived in outlying

areas. Or were they? For many friendships were forged on that two mile climb from Flash Road to Warley and district, and happy memories still persist.

The present well-equipped gymnasium and lightly clad performers there in particular make me realise how times have changed. I hear again the stentorian tones of Colour Sergeant Instructor Pickerell in the old Art Room, cleared once a week for Physical Exercises and see us girls in our cumbersome pleated tunics trying to carry out the barked commands of the imposing military figure of ample waistline. Looking back I am sure he would far rather have commanded a company of soldiers than us girls and was possibly more afraid of us than we were of him. But perhaps our walk of four miles a day to and from School helped to give us enough exercise.

In those early days we had no School playing fields and yet we managed to "hold our own," as the phrase goes, against Halesowen, West Bromwich and other schools, in hockey and cricket. Thinking of hockey, I must mention Mr. Towle, our first master, and later Mr. Allen, so soon to lose his life in the First World War, who played with us on our borrowed field and gave us a good grounding in games and sportsmanship. That we learned to play cricket at School proved an asset to me personally, for, when teaching in Australia, I was able to enter fully into the enthusiasm for the game out there. I was often wakened at 7 a.m. to be told by boys and girls, under my window, of yet another Bradman century against England.

As dinner time approached, in the old school, no succulent scents emerged from the kitchen, no meals van ever called, but, in addition to books, our packs of sandwiches took their place on our backs and these were consumed in Room 10. At this point I must pay tribute to the mistresses, Miss Richards, Miss Massey and Miss Blenkarn, who gave their time to sit with us, as one of us, and who made that time really interesting. What discussions we had! Today we remember them so vividly. Yes, it was a happy family and many were the voluntary out-of-school activities they never wearied in arranging for us.

I am sure that the names of Mr. and Mrs. Smalley, caretakers at the Oldbury Technical School, will always be remembered. Mrs. Smalley, with her motherly heart, felt sorry that we had no hot drink at mid day and decided to make us cups of cocoa at 1d. per cup, something very much appreciated, I can assure you. Not

being fond of this particular drink and so accepting only the tiniest bit of cocoa, I was charged $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per cup. Of Mr. Smalley, it is the fear we had that we should make a dirty mark on his immaculately cleaned floor that we remember. How beautifully polished it was and, as he followed us round with cloth and duster, life became very difficult for us on wet mornings. It was a good fault and his job was well done.

It is good to look at the Honours Board in the Assembly Hall at the present School and see that "we few" are represented on it. Academically, great changes have taken place in 50 years, but the fact that some of the first entrants found a place on that board signifies that intellectual ability was there ready to be developed to the same extent that we find it in the School today.

Naturally during a long period of time there must be some sadness and at this Jubilee we remember many who have not been permitted to continue so far along the course of life. Of the Memorial Window mention is made elsewhere and we honour the names of those who began with us in 1904. Unfortunately there are also many other gaps in that first register, far too many who never reached the allotted span of life. We remember them with kindest thoughts.

Now may I wish the School and all who are concerned with it every happiness and success in the years to come. In doing this I feel quite certain that I am expressing the desire of all Old Students, wherever they may be.

Bertha Williams (1904-1908).

SPEECH DAY, 1954

Chairman – Alderman B. T. ROBBINS, J.P., C.C.
(Chairman of the Governors).

The School Song

Chairman's Remarks

Boy Captain's Report – – – – R. J. OAKLEY

Girl Captain's Report – – – AUDREY K. BRADLEY

Instrumental Trio: "Gavotte—Madrigal" (Thomé)

JOY HOWARD, JANET CUTLER,
MAVIS LETTS

The Headmaster's Report

Speech and Presentation of Prizes by

THE REV. CANON BRYAN GREEN, B.D.
(Rector of Birmingham)

Girls' Choir: "A Madrigal of Spring" (Fletcher)

Vote of Thanks

Proposer: HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF OLDBURY
(Councillor J. D. Beard, M.B.E., J.P., C.C.)

CANON BRYAN GREEN'S SPEECH

IN his speech, Mr. Green congratulated the School on its success during the past 50 years. It was, he said, "a friendly School," something of which we could be extraordinarily proud. He believed that on the whole co-education in schools of this type was a good thing. It was valuable to have men and women on the staff, and for music and drama, the cultural side of the School, there was great gain.

During his lifetime, continued Mr. Green, it was at least a possibility that he would be involved in three world wars. No one wanted war; no one gained by it. Men were not meant to be divided by race, creed or colour, and the biggest task for the future was to establish right relationships between people.

The reason people and nations were unable to live satisfactorily with each other was not that they were not clever enough. The

trouble was due to a flaw of character. Quoting from Ovid he described the moral history of every man and woman in these words:

“ We approve the better though the worst is what we choose to follow.”

So it was that jealousy, ambition, self-centredness and aggressiveness forced nations apart and made individuals unable to live together.

The intelligentsia had come to believe in sin. The old idea that the evils of man were brought about by his environment had gone. “ If you don't worry about sin, you are out of fashion,” he added. The solution was to allow the Spirit of God to guide our actions.

In his speech, he included a number of humorous illustrations, which contained a great deal of wisdom.

“ While I wish you the best of success in sport and work, happy marriage and happy home life, I hope you will allow the Spirit of God to take control of all your lives,” he concluded.

AWARDS 1954

Form Prizes for General Proficiency

FORM 1C R. C. BROADBENT JUDITH M. BAGLEY	FORM 3A J. S. SMITH J. F. RICHARDS
FORM 1B JANET BARNESLEY F. W. DAWES	FORM 4C JOAN HOLLYHEAD A. R. MARTIN
FORM 1A ANGELA M. DOWNES LUNED M. MORRIS	FORM 4B SHEILA F. HARRISON J. A. RUSSELL
FORM 2C MARGARET F. BISHTON SYLVIA M. CREES	FORM 4A JEAN W. McLELLAND D. H. HORTON
FORM 2B GILLIAN M. ELSTON DIANA T. HOLTOM	FORM 5S MARGARET PHIPPS K. A. MOORE
FORM 2A NORA C. REYNOLDS D. E. G. HATHAWAY	FORM 5M M. D. SPOONER T. E. PORRITT
FORM 3C PAMELA A. BATES H. R. HALL	FORM 5G A. F. PRICE MAVIS LETTS
FORM 3B F. DARBY M. J. WHARTON	

**General Certificates of Education
at Ordinary Level**

R. F. BAYLISS
D. E. BULLOCK
D. M. CHAPLIN
N. C. T. ELSTON
R. T. HANCOX
T. J. HARRIS
B. W. HYDE
M. R. KIRK
D. W. KNIGHT
G. M. LAGO
A. F. PRICE
L. E. SADLER
G. V. SMALLMAN
JILLIAN A. BURNELL
BETTY DREW
ANN ELSDON
IRENE M. FOSTER
MAUREEN GRIPTON
MARJORIE A. SMITH
ELIZABETH A. STOREY
G. A. AHLBERG
E. BUTWELL
T. A. CLEVELEY
G. L. CORBETT
J. T. B. HARDING
J. A. JACKSON
B. J. TEALE
G. E. P. WILLIAMS
M. T. WYLD
JANET A. BRECKNELL
NOREEN M. COX
JEAN A. EDWARDS
JANET A. GREAVES
MARY GRIEVE
GILLIAN M. HAINE
ANN M. KELLY
PATRICIA A. LAVILL
MAVIS D. LETTS
SARAH MARTIN
URSULA H. MASON
HILDA M. PEARSON
MARGARET A. PLANT
JANET SHELDON
JANET M. SUTTON
L. BARBARA ULBRICH
VYVIAN M. WELCH
ANN WESTWOOD
DIANE WILLIAMS
E. J. BANT
J. W. BROMWICH
H. J. T. COTTON
S. DAVIS
E. W. H. GLOVER
B. W. GRIGG
D. C. HANDY

T. W. HARRISON
P. HIPKISS
G. N. HOLLOWAY
P. J. KESSELER
K. A. MOORE
D. MORRALL
D. T. MOUNTFORD
A. SPITTLE
D. L. THOMPSON
VALERIE K. BARNETT
WENDY A. BILLINGS
NORMA C. GRIFFIN
S. PATRICIA HULSE
EILEEN KENT
LINDA KING
ALMA O. LANGLEY
EUNICE B. PAINTER
MARGARET A. PHIPPS
GILLIAN SMITH
HAZEL J. SPRIGGS
PHYLLIS WAPLINGTON
VALERIE WOOD
A. J. BENBOW
R. G. BIRCH
B. J. BLAGDEN
R. J. OAKEY
M. P. OSBORNE
K. W. PARKES
D. E. M. PRICE
B. T. WILLETTS
AUDREY K. BRADLEY
PAMELA A. GRANT
GILLIAN M. HANCOX
CYNTHIA M. HARROLD
JUENNETTA E. P. HORNE
MARGARET JORDAN
JANET A. READ
T. E. PORRITT
G. D. RUSSELL
W. C. SANDELLS
J. F. SMOUT
M. D. SPOONER
P. J. STOKES
M. SUFFIELD
A. R. G. WOOD
JANET BATE
JANET E. RICHMOND
KATHLEEN A. SHENTON
JEAN M. WHITEHOUSE
M. ANN WHITTINGHAM
B. J. BABINGTON
B. S. PYNE
GLORIA B. WHITE
JEANNE PALMER

**General Certificates of Education
at Advanced Level**

A. P. BENNETT
J. G. LINES
R. M. SAVAGE
D. W. D. SLIM
L. D. STEVENS

CHRISTINE M. COX
DIANNE E. HARPER
JUNE D. SAUNDERS
MARY WATSON
JANET M. TURNER

Special Awards

Worcestershire University and College Awards :

A. P. BENNETT
J. G. LINES
L. D. STEVENS
J. A. STEVENTON
JANET M. TURNER
G. J. WALKER
VALERIE WOOD
AWARD DEFERRED

Albright University Scholarship :
Dawes Memorial University Scholarship :
Oldbury Educational Trust Scholarships :

NO AWARD

CHRISTINE M. COX
PAULINE GOREHAM
DIANNE E. HARPER
PATRICIA NEWMAN
JUNE D. SAUNDERS
MARY WATSON

O.S.A. Prize for Outstanding Achievement :
Frank Dawes' Prize for Leadership :
Lydia Dawes' Prize for Leadership :
Best General Certificate of Education —Girls :
Best General Certificate of Education Boys :

A. P. BENNETT
B. J. BABINGTON
PAULINE GOREHAM

MAVIS LETTS

A. F. PRICE

Prizes for Best Use of Leisure

Senior Boys' Prize, awarded by the late Mr. A. P. Hands :
Senior Girls' Prize, awarded by Mrs. C. T. Barlow :
Junior Prizes, awarded by the late Mr. C. T. Barlow :

B. T. WILLETTS

JUDITH A. GREEN

NORAH REYNOLDS
S. HAINE

Certificate of Merit in Leisure Time Activities :

107 AWARDS

Awards for Games, Athletics, Swimming, Etc.

Girl Guides' Prize :
Games Prizes :

MARGARET JORDAN
B. S. PYNE
L. D. STEVENS
ANN ELSDON
MARY WATSON
SYLVIA MOSS
GILLIAN PARTRIDGE
T. WALTERS
MAUREEN BREHAUT
A. HARROLD and P. SLOAN

Girls' Junior Champion :

ANN ELSDON

Boys' Junior Champion :
Girls' Intermediate Champion :
Boys' Intermediate Champion :
Girls' Senior Champion, awarded Albright Cup :
Boys' Senior Champion, awarded Vernon Cup :
Parents' Cricket Match, Cricket Shield :

M. SUFFIELD

MATCH DRAWN
(Shield retained by School)

House Cups

Davies Cup for Music :
Swimming :
Howarth Cup for Inter-House Games :
Jephcott Cup for Athletics :
Davies' Cup for Junior and Middle School Studies :
Hadley Cup for Academic Achievement of Seniors :
Winning House in National Savings Campaign :

QUEEN'S HOUSE
KING'S HOUSE
KING'S HOUSE
KING'S HOUSE

KING'S HOUSE

QUEEN'S HOUSE

SCHOOL HOUSE

Some Recent Successes of Old Scholars, 1954

Cambridge University

I. D. HOWARD, B.Sc.

Awarded B.A. Degree with Double First-Class Honours in Natural Sciences Tripos Examinations. Elected to a Munro Studentship for Nuclear Physics Research and Prize for Theoretical Physics at Queen's College.

Birmingham University

Faculty of Medicine

J. M. SHEPHERD

Passed Final M.B., Ch.B. (Distinction in Forensic Medicine and Toxicology).

D. C. PEARSON

Passed Part II Final M.B., Ch.B.

School of Dentistry

G. J. WALKER

Passed Part I Examination for B.D.S.

Faculty of Arts

R. L. DITTRICH

B.A. Hons. Class II History. Awarded Baxter Prize in Local History.

L. N. GREEN

B.A. Class II Geography.

G. E. BROWN

Passed 2nd year Examinations in Honours School of English.

OLWYN RUSTON

Passed 2nd year Examinations in Honours School of History.

PATRICIA C. NEWWEY

Completed 1st year of Course in Honours School of History.

Faculty of Science

ENID PHILLIPS

B.Sc. Hons. Class II, Zoology.

ANNE NEWTON-HEARN

B.Sc. Hons. Class II, Chemistry.

R. M. EDGE

Passed 2nd year Examinations (First-Class).

I. G. BETTELEY

Awarded Nash Memorial Prize.

A. C. POOLE

Passed 1st year Examinations in Honours Mathematics.

Passed 1st year Examinations in Civil Engineering.

University of London

S. H. HEATH

B.Sc., Honours Chemistry. Gained A.R.I.C. and A.C.T.

University of Nottingham

W. G. K. TAYLOR

B.Sc., Honours Chemistry.

D. R. PARKES

Completed 2nd year of Course and passed B.Sc. Engineering Part I.

T. E. SMITH

Completed 1st year of B.Sc. Engineering Course.

J. HAWKINS

Completed 1st year of B.Sc. Engineering Course.

J. ROBERTS

Completed 1st year of B.Sc. Engineering Course.

B. E. S. TRUEMAN

Completed 2nd year Honours Course in History.

University of Sheffield

H. J. H. DUNN

Passed 2nd M.B., Ch.B. Examination.

University of Manchester

JANET C. HAWLEY

Completed 2nd year of Hons. Course in Politics and Modern History.

University of Wales—Swansea

J. M. LOMAX

Completed 1st year of Post-Graduate Research. Awarded prize by Institute of Structural Engineers.

Edinburgh University

D. E. JOHNSON

Passed 3rd year Examinations in the Course for M.R.C.V.S.

Durham University

H. B. HEATH

B.A., History and Spanish.

Liverpool—I. M. Marsh College of Physical Education

KATHLEEN M. LEWIS

Awarded Diploma of Liverpool Institute of Education.

Training Colleges

Dudley

RUBY ASHFIELD

Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.

BARBARA COMLEY

Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.

JUNE HALL

Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.

JANET WATSON

Completed First Year of Course.

DORIS ELLIS (Mrs.)

Completed First Year of Course.

Birmingham

BERYL HILL

Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.

MARGERY PEART

Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.

JEAN WHITE

Completed Two Year Course for Teaching Diploma.

The Diocesan Training College, Salisbury

BARBARA GREGORY

Completed First Year of Course.

Birmingham College of Technology

P. STACE

B.Sc. (London).

M. G. SPENCER

Passed Pharmaceutical Chemists' Qualifying Examination.

J. B. THOMAS

Passed Final Examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Birmingham General Hospital

ELIZABETH MORGAN

Awarded Medal for Best Student Nurse in the Birmingham area, 1953.

Birmingham School of Architecture

G. B. MOORE

Completed First Year of Course.

Leicester College of Domestic Science

MARGARET BENTLEY

Completed First Year of Course.

MARJORIE COXILL

Completed First Year of Course.

JOINT SOCIETIES
Session 1953-54

President	...	...	Dr. C. C. HOWARD
Vice-Presidents	...	...	MEMBERS OF THE STAFF
Chairman	...	...	R. SAVAGE
Secretary	...	...	JANET TURNER

September 24th.—The first meeting of this session was opened by the President who spoke of the interests and value of the Joint Societies and introduced the new officers.

The Chairman thanked the Society for the honour bestowed upon him and welcomed new members. The meeting took the form of an inter-house quiz. Questions were asked on a variety of subjects by Miss Scriven, Mr. Laycock, Miss Bryant, Mr. Swain, Mr. Smith, Mr. Bennett, Miss Busby, Mrs. Nash and Mr. Lawton. The quiz resulted in a draw between School and Trinity, King's were third and Queen's fourth.

A vote of thanks was proposed by John Lines and seconded by Christine Cox.

October 1st.—An account of the girls visit to Switzerland at Easter was given by members of the Sixth Form. It was introduced by June Saunders, the outward journey was described by Margaret Jordan, impressions of their stay in Interlaken were given by Beryl Fanthom, excursions of the party were described by Pamela Grant and a description of the homeward journey was related by Gillian Hancox.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Barry Pyne and seconded by Gloria White.

October 8th.—The meeting took the form of a series of short debates. Fullwood and Mary Ruston spoke on "Cricket is becoming a national obsession," Bayliss and Ursula Mason on "Money is the root of all evil"; Oakey and Janet Cutler on "Sponsored television is desirable"; Suffield and Ann Elsdon on "Spare the rod and spoil the child"; Franklin and Gillian Smith on "Boys should study housewifery"; and Kitchen and Bennett on "Compulsory games are not necessary."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Stevens and seconded by Mary Watson.

October 15th.—Mrs. Shenfield, an old scholar, gave a most interesting talk on the West Indies, from where she had recently returned.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Kitchen and seconded by June Saunders.

November 5th.—The boys' holiday abroad was described by members of the Sixth Form. Oakey described the outward journey, Benbow gave his impressions of their stay in Switzerland, Smith and Jennings gave accounts of some of their excursions, and Oakey concluded with a description of their homeward journey.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Pooler and seconded by Dianne Harper.

November 12th.—The Society was fortunate in having Mr. David Stevens, a former member of the School to give a very interesting lecture on "Law and order."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Babington and seconded by Jeanne Palmer.

November 19th.—A formal debate took place at this meeting. The motion was "In the opinion of this house, there is a grave danger of man's position becoming insignificant as woman attains her rightful position in the country."

The speakers for the motion were Kitchen, Audrey Bradley and Bennett, and they were opposed by Price, Christine Chadbourne and Cook.

After the debate had been opened to the house and the final summing up given by Kitchen and Price, the motion was defeated by a small majority.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Hancox and seconded by Vyvian Welch.

November 26th.—The Fifth Form Geography Group told "A Tale of Mystery." Morrell spoke on "The formation of the earth and moon"; Bromwich on "The development of land and animals"; Suffield on "The ancient civilisations of Brazil"; and Ritchie on "The exploration of the seas and oceans."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Jillian Burnell and seconded by Russell.

January 21st.—5M and 5S presented two one-act plays. "Cox and Box," a comedy acted by 5S was introduced by Wendy Billings. The characters were:

Mr. Cox—Morrall.
Mr. Box—Ahlberg.
Mrs. Bouncer—Gillian Smith.

5M gave an excerpt from Thackeray's "Vanity Fair" and this was introduced by Jillian Burnell. The caste was:

Captain Osborne—Suffield.
Rawdon Crawley—Spooner.
Becky Sharpe—Ann Elsdon.
Amelia Osborne—Marjorie Smith.
Mr. Joseph Sedley—Smout.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Jennings and seconded by Audrey Bradley.

January 28th.—The Society was entertained by the 6B History Group. Their subject, "A Journey into the Past," was introduced by Kathleen Shenton. Margaret Siviter described the clothes of the ancient Greeks, Diane Allbrooke their architecture, Kathleen Hadley their system of education, Janet Richmond the Olympic Games of that time, Beryl Fanthom their religion, and Mary Ruston described their theatres.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Corbett and seconded by Linda King.

February 4th.—The Sixth Form Biology Group gave three talks which were introduced by Audrey Bradley. Price spoke on "Potato blight"; Oakey on "Typhus fever"; and Audrey Bradley on "Biochemistry."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Bennett and seconded by Beryl Fanthom.

February 11th.—The Society welcomed an old scholar of the School, Detective Inspector Mobbs, to speak about "The development and responsibility of the Police Force."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Stevens and seconded by Christine Chadbourne.

February 18th.—The Upper School Physics Groups arranged this meeting to show the uses of "Physics in the Home." Members of the Society were allowed to walk around the laboratories where apparatus was being demonstrated and explained by members of the Physics Group.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Bayliss and seconded by Margaret Jordan.

March 3rd.—The Joint Societies was honoured by the attendance of H. M. Inspectors.

Various departments illustrated the Puritan and Cavalier aspects of life. Janet Sheldon, as a Puritan maid, and Suffield, as a Cavalier, began with a dialogue from "1066 and All That," Kathleen Shenton and Beryl Fathom described the historical background, and Margaret Jordan dealt with colonisation in North America. Stevens gave an account of the life and work of Isaac Newton, the great 17th century scientist, Jeanne Palmer outlined the influence of Puritans and Cavaliers on literature and introduced poems and prose passages read by Cynthia Harrold, Ann Lavill, Kirk, Christine Chadbourne, Bayliss and Judith Green. Songs of the period were sung by the School Choirs with details of 17th century music given by Janet Turner.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Cook and seconded by Pauline Goreham.

The last meeting of the session, on April 1st, took the form of a dance, which proved very enjoyable.

THE ANNUAL OUTING OF THE JOINT SOCIETIES

THE annual outing of the Joint Societies took place this year on July 2nd.

Four coaches left School at 7-30 a.m. and set out for Blenheim Palace, breaking the journey at Stratford. We went for a tour of the Palace, which was built by the Queen for John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, in reward for his services in the army. There are some wonderful collections of Chinese and Sevres china there, valuable carpets and chandeliers, and many other rare and exquisite antiques. Sir Winston Churchill was born at Blenheim and in his birthroom there are three of his beautiful golden ringlets which were cut off at the age of five! After a short time spent in the grounds we left Woodstock and had a picnic lunch near Oxford.

At Oxford, we visited the Cathedral, hall and kitchen of Christ Church, then went on to Magdalen College. Then we visited the Sheldonian Theatre where the degrees of all the colleges are presented.

We had high tea at The George Restaurant, and came home via the Cotswolds.

Our sincere thanks are expressed to Miss Jones who organised the outing so well, and also our regret that she was unable, for the first time, to accompany us.

Christine M. Chadbourne.

VISITS TO STRATFORD, 1954

THIS year the members of the Fifth and Sixth Forms were fortunate in witnessing the results of a very interesting experiment at Stratford-upon-Avon: Mr. Anthony Quayle and Mr. Glen Byam Shaw assembled for their 1954 series of Shakespeare productions, a cast composed of young, and, for the most part, unknown young actors, all of whom have responded wonderfully to this fine opportunity.

On May 8th, we went to Stratford by coach, and, after much revelry on the river attended a matinee performance of "Romeo and Juliet," produced by Mr. Glen Byam Shaw.

Both Laurence Harvey and Zena Walker gave fine and pleasantly youthful performances in the leading roles. Tony Britton deserves a mention for his humorous portrayal of Mercutio, and Rosalind Atkinson for her sympathetic portrayal of the nurse.

The young cast enthusiastically supported the leading players. Costumes and lighting contributed cleverly to a production which never flagged.

In the first half of the autumn term the Sixth Form English Group went to an evening performance of "Othello," produced by Mr. Anthony Quayle, and in which he himself played the Moor. His portrayal of Othello was, throughout, effective and polished, but not, perhaps, outstanding.

Raymond Ustwell was delightfully villainous as the evil genius Iago and contrived to inspire the hatred of the entire party. Barbara Jefford held her audience throughout the production with her excellent portrayal of the misjudged and pathetically faithful Desdemona. Emilia, played by Joan Macarthur, was a little too harsh, but Muriel Pavlow deserves special credit for the way in which she handled the very small part of the provocative minx, Bianca. Indeed, when she popped up to harangue Cassio, the whole performance seemed to receive a 'shot in the arm.'

The lighting, under the direction of Julia Wootten, was very intelligently used in changing the scenes and creating atmosphere.

One small point did arouse some adverse criticism, and that was the surprising dowdiness of the costume, which did not seem in keeping with the character of the gay Venetian gallants; although perhaps it is fitting that the sombre atmosphere of this, one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies, should be reflected in the dress of the players.

The general impression conveyed by the two performances is that Mr. Anthony Quayle's experiment in youth has been outstandingly successful.

Finally, our thanks are due to Miss Jones who organises these annual visits, which we always find so enjoyable.

R. Bayliss, 6B.

" THE PRINCESS AND THE SWINEHERD "

ON Wednesday afternoon, January 20th, Form 1 made their first visit to the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, where they saw " The Princess and the Swineherd."

The scenery and costumes were delightful, and the actors and actresses spoke very clearly, especially Dominic, the king's elder son, and Eborie, the Spanish princess. The leading lady was Clair-de-Lune, the emperor's daughter.

The best scene, in my opinion, was in the Market Place. In this scene, Clair-de-Lune was trying to sell pots for her husband, the swineherd, who was really Prince Dominic in disguise. Her three ladies-in-waiting were looking for her. When they found her, she decided she loved Dominic, and did not wish to go back to her father's palace.

At this moment, Dominic came in. He had a fight with Etienne, his conceited, selfish younger brother. Dominic won, and threw Etienne into the pig-sty, a punishment which Etienne well deserved.

At this point the king arrived on the scene. The play ended happily, as all fairy stories do, with Prince Dominic marrying Clair-de-Lune and taking her back to his father's palace.

Afterwards we all descended the winding stairs, which led us into the dull streets of Birmingham and on to the coach. We then went home, thinking about the play, after having had a very enjoyable afternoon.

Angela Downes, 1A.

MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

MMUSIC still flourishes in the School. Its cultural influence is probably greater now than ever before, for there is ever-growing interest in both performing and, also very important, listening intelligently and appreciatively.

The orchestra has met each week, supported unflinchingly by all its members, both staff and pupils. These meetings for rehearsal are enjoyable in themselves, there being an inspiration in corporate music quite impossible for the individual working alone. We have lost some members, but have welcomed others in their place, so that, at the time of reporting, there are 8 first violins, 10 second violins, 6 violas, 6 'cellos, 1 double bass, 1 timpani set and the pianoforte, making a total of 33 players, which is about our normal number.

Several chamber music groups have played effectively during the year, and as in the case of the orchestra, have found pleasure in rehearsing.

The Girls' Choir has maintained its high standard throughout the year, as has the Four-part Choir, while the Assembly Choir and the Large Choir have also done good work.

The Christmas concert of 1953 was judged by many to be the best so far in our series. We continued our custom of performing only as groups, trained in the School, and including no solo items. The Carol Service, also, was most enjoyable.

Musical interest in the School is not merely confined to these special functions, however, and it is not limited to performers. There is developing in the School an interest in music as such. This is particularly pleasing, for all too often appreciation of music is lost by concern about the individual player, or his marks for a performance, or the grade he has reached, or the great occasion. Even in the highest musical circles is not the performer often the centre of greater attraction than the composer and his music? Some genuine understanding of music is displayed in connection with our lunch-hour meetings for musical appreciation, however. The School owes a great deal to the staff who take such an interest in arranging lunch-hour programmes of good music, and to the pupils who take part also. The rapt attention of our growing audiences at these lunch-hour recitals is proof of their genuine appreciation of the music.

The visit of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and of the County Quintet during the year have undoubtedly contributed in no small measure to the enjoyment of good music. On the occasion of both these visits, the whole School enjoyed programmes of first-class music played in first-class style.

The classes in singing are doing good work, and the voluntary classes in playing violin, viola or 'cello are also proving most successful. Our choirs and orchestra, therefore, need fear no lack of recruits.

Our pianists, playing in turn at Morning Assembly, are rendering good service, and at the same time gaining valuable experience.

This report on our musical activities would be incomplete if reference were not made to the pipe organ which is to be installed in our Assembly Hall. This gift of Dr. Dawes in our Jubilee Year will add greatly to our facilities for music, and we musicians in particular greatly appreciate the gift.

It is encouraging to know that Her Majesty's Inspectors were impressed by our various musical activities, and not only gave a good report, but came to share in the enjoyment of our lunch-hour rehearsals. May our music continue to flourish!

Joy Howard.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

DURING the Summer Term, 1954, a branch of the Student Christian Movement was started in the School. Our first meeting was held on 4th May to which the Rev. Carlisle Patterson, the Birmingham area secretary of the S.C.M. came. He told us about the work of the S.C.M. and how various groups were conducted and proved most helpful to their members.

On 11th May we met at 4-10 p.m. to hold a business meeting. B. T. Willetts was elected as chairman and we decided to hold meetings, lasting half an hour, once a fortnight, after school on Tuesdays. We opened and closed our meeting with prayer and arranged the topic for the next meeting.

"The Colour Bar" was the title of our subject for discussion on 25th May. After a short prayer B. T. Willetts opened the discussion by setting forth the problem and telling us about various

incidents connected with the subject. We discussed the problem but reached no definite conclusion because there was a great diversity of views. We agreed that the major part of the problem was bound up with intermarriage. Most of us felt a very real difficulty here but one member seemed quite willing to marry a black man—if she fell in love with one!

Only one more meeting was held this term because the examinations were almost upon us. This meeting was held on 1st June when A. P. Bennett started a discussion on "Capital Punishment." We all put forward our views and came to the conclusion that this type of punishment was justified in the case of dangerous criminals.

We would like to extend our grateful thanks to Dr. Howard for his help and encouragement in our project and hope that as we grow God will bless us and make us good and helpful members of our School.

Diane Williams.

GUIDE ACTIVITIES

OFFICERS:

Captain—F. D. TWEEDIE.

Lieutenants—

B. PINE. M. MORRIS. D. NICHOLLS. C. BAGLEY.

Cadets—

M. JORDAN. A. BRADLEY. A. WHITTINGHAM. N. DAVIS.
H. SPRIGGS. D. DAVIS.

Leaders—

JEAN EDWARDS	...	Hawthorn.
SHEILA HARRISON	...	Daffodil.
CYNTHIA HARROLD	...	Purple Heather.
OLWYN LLEWELLYN	...	Blue Tit.
JOAN HOLLYHEAD	...	Chaffinch.

FOLLOWING in chronological order from the 1952-53 issue the first important date was the annual Guide Sports in which our Company, unfortunately, lost the Shield which we had won the previous year.

The next event was the customary Remembrance Service and Parade.

In December, the Guide Bazaar was held. We were pleased to welcome Mrs. Quayle who came to open the bazaar, and by 9-30 p.m. seventy pounds had been raised.

The Jumble Sale was held on the Parish Hall, Oldbury. The attendance was not as good as usual but fifteen pounds was raised for Guide Funds.

Audrey Bradley had the honour to be chosen as the Cadet from Birmingham to be in the Guard of Honour for H.R.H. Princess Margaret on her visit to "Sinbad the Sailor on Ice," at the Empress Hall on 17th December.

On Empire Youth Sunday a service was held at Edgbaston Old Church at which, once again, our Company formed the choir.

The Youth Swimming Gala was held on July 21st. Our Guides won four out of five races, Ann Whittingham and Christine Gregory winning cups in the open breast-stroke and free-style events respectively.

As we approached the end of term, we all looked forward more and more to our annual camp which was held again at Beer in South Devon. Although the weather was disappointing with rain, mist and high winds, our spirits had not been damped and we passed a very enjoyable holiday.

In conclusion, we offer our sincere thanks to Miss Tweedie, the rest of the Guiders and our friends for making this a very enjoyable and memorable year for us all.

Ann M. Kelly.

A HOLIDAY IN BRITTANY

AT 12-36 p.m. on August 20th this year, a small awestruck group of O.G.S. boys stood spellbound by the breath-taking architectural splendours of Snow Hill Station. The same evening, in rather dreary weather, we boarded the ss. Falaise at Southampton. The Brittany excursion had begun.

We settled down quite comfortably for the night and arrived in St. Malo about 7 in the morning after a very good crossing. I think that all our spirits lifted at the blue skies, the sparkling water and the unintelligible stream of French from the dockers on the quay.

We were conveyed from the dock in the travel agency 'bus, a lethal relic of pioneer motoring, which was driven, with charming French abandon, up to, and almost into, the Hotel du Jardin, Paramé.

A member of the party had jokingly remarked, before the excursion, that the 'grand jardin' probably consisted of a window box. We should now like to compliment him upon his remarkable psychic powers.

The Hotel du Grand Jardin had, in fact, two window boxes, which together with a rather sordid little yard at the back, full of dirty washing, and an unendearing smell of 'les égôts,' formed the advertised horticultural magnificence in its entirety. The hotel, however, proved quite tolerable and did not in any way spoil our holiday.

Paramé is like many English holiday resorts, with its little shopping centre and its long front lined with hotels. We spent the first day exploring.

The next day, Sunday, we went for a sea trip to Dinan, past magnificent coastal scenery, and up the river, but unfortunately we could not go ashore because of shortage of time.

The first few days of our holiday gave us the impression that the French were a somewhat noisy race. The whole day was filled with the noise of American jazz from the loudspeakers on the hotel opposite, while we were often awakened by an hour's long recital from the bells of the nearby church, which would last until it was time to stagger, bleary eyed, down to the 'petit déjeuner.'

On Tuesday we went by coach to Mont St. Michel, passing on the way Hotel Montgomery, and Rue General Patton. The mount, towering up out of the sea, with its winding steep streets, its massive towers and walls and crowned by a massive grey stone abbey, is indeed a fairly-tale town. We climbed to the summit of the mount, and had a French picnic of ham, hard boiled eggs and huge hunks of the two-foot loaves. Although the weather was poor, we managed to see most of the mount, visit a 13th century French church and watch the tide race in over the mud flats at 10 miles an hour. We were fortunate in visiting the Cathedral at Pol which I can only describe as very like Worcester or York Cathedral, except for the surprising vividness of French stained glass.

We visited St. Malo regularly by 'bus. The original town was destroyed by American bombing, but the new town, built within the old walls, is very charming, and the docks are interesting although the fishing fleet has gone.

While in St. Malo we were amazed to discover that casual groups of men, lounging about in various oddments of military attire, were a guard of honour for a Liberation Day ceremony.

In between excursions we spent our time shopping, lounging on the beach, or sitting in one of the many little cafés in Paramé, drinking coffee and airing our French with the locals. In the evenings we played billiards or table tennis, and once we went to a French cinema to see "Anna" which we found we could understand quite easily.

Our last trip was to the island of Czembri, which, although its beaches are warm and beautiful, inland is a desolate bomb-smashed fortress. While some of the party swam and sunbathed, others aided Mr. Swain in his quest for lizards, and a few clambered among the wrecked blockhouses and shattered guns inland.

We left on Saturday evening at 9-15 p.m., again crossing by the Falaise. After another good crossing we eventually arrived in Birmingham at about 2-30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, after a week of sunshine and happiness in Brittany.

R. Bayliss, 6B.

VISIT TO THE ISLE OF JURA, Easter, 1954

JURA is a barren, almost treeless isle in the Inner Hebrides; a land of wild moorland and hillside, of peat-bog and bare quartzite mountains; the habitat of red deer and golden eagle. The eagles inhabit the inaccessible west coast of the island, where even the deer find life too difficult, and are rarely seen except at lambing time. Apart from the eagle, Jura is of no special interest to the ornithologist even though it is held by some authorities to be the most southerly haunt in Britain of the ptarmigan.

To the laymen from Birmingham, however, the bird-life of the island was fascinating, so fascinating in fact that one member of the party, as he stood watching the birds, only became aware of the fact that the tide was rising when he realised that his feet were wet. Any number of waders or sea birds were to be seen along the shore or on the calm waters of the bay. Amongst the most common were eider duck, shell duck, oyster catcher, curlew, lapwing, ringed plover and wild duck, while there were occasional visits from heron, red-throated diver and a flock of wild geese.

Even more common than the sea birds were Jura's magnificent red deer, for which the island is duly famed. Many thousands of them roam the hillside and moorland and are only prevented from encroaching upon the island's small area of cultivated land on the east and south coasts by miles of ten foot high fence. Behind the shelter of this fence the tiny population of 260 have their crofts and small farms and tend the shaggy Highland cattle with their long curving wicked horns, and their sheep which are as wild and unapproachable as the deer.

The journey to Jura began at 6 p.m. Friday, April 16th, by the all-night coach from Digbeth to Glasgow. As arranged, three of the party, John Jennings, Roy Oakey and I arrived at Digbeth at 5-40. The fourth member of the party, Mr. Laycock, whose appearance was necessary as he held the tickets, arrived at 5-58 to relieve great anxiety.

Some 13 hours later we arrived at Glasgow. Here, at the Central Station, we met the fifth and last member of the party, Mr. Rex Blackledge. We travelled by train to Gourock, and from there by steamer to Jura, where at 3 p.m. we disembarked at the modern steel and reinforced concrete quay of Craighouse, the island's main settlement. Craighouse is comprised of a row of white-washed cottages, a few larger brick and stone houses, a general store and the gutted ruins of the once famous Jura Distillery. Despite these ruins, Jura is now a temperance isle, having no licensed premises. Finally we obtained one of the island's two taxis which was to take us four miles round the bay to Corran House, where we were staying. The taxi was a pre-war saloon, with battered coachwork, no footbrake and a general air of decay, and gave off an indescribable collection of noises as it went along the rough track graced by the title of A846.

Corran House, a white-washed small house, stood at the mouth of the River Corran some 15 yards from the sea, which, we were told by Mr. and Mrs. Darroch, our hosts, often invaded the tiny front garden in rough weather. Nothing like that happened while we were there. The water in the bay was as calm as the proverbial mill-pond and was more like the Mediterranean than the North Atlantic. There was only one other person staying at Corran House, a wee Scots boy aged about 11, who came from Glasgow. Willy was a cheerful, friendly lad who wished to be a space-pilot and had the quaint habit of contemptuously referring to England as the "wee dominion." Mr. and Mrs. Darroch were a friendly warm-hearted, middle-aged couple who owned a small croft. Mrs.

Darroch was an excellent cook and made fresh scones and short-bread for the day before breakfast every morning.

Jura is dominated by its three mountain peaks known as the Paps of Jura. They are bare quartz mounds which have weathered into scree which rolls away underfoot as an ascent is made. Here and there scattered patches of moss bind the stones and afford blessed relief in the arduous plodding. We attempted first Beinn Shiantaidh (2,477 ft.) and had our packed lunch on the summit, before descending the other side. Here the party split up, Mr. Laycock and Mr. Blackledge returning to Loch Ant-Siob which lies at the foot of Beinn Shiantaidh, whilst Roy, John and myself went on to climb Beinn au Oir (2,571 ft.), the highest of the three Paps. On a clear day a large part of the Scottish coast, most of the Inner Hebrides, part of the Ulster coast and the Coolins of Skye can be seen from the summit, and ordnance survey engineers have surveyed a large area from here.

On another occasion we visited the southern coast of the island. This is by far the most prosperous area of the island, the small crofts of the east coast giving way to larger, more prosperous farms with Ayrshire cattle and acres of crops. Here stands Campbell House, which was at one time the residence of the Lairds of the island. The third major journey we made was northwards to Loch Tarbert which almost cuts Jura in two. Loch Tarbert is famous amongst geologists for its raised beaches and its coves which are so large that lobster fishermen from Islay and Colonsay often live in them for several weeks. On the shore of Lake Tarbert is a hunting lodge belonging to Lord Astor, who owns a large area of Jura. It was here that a certain member of the party who had claimed that he would beat the Corran at low water, had a practice run wearing heavy boots and haversack over a stream narrower but deeper than the Corran. Needless to say the Corran was never attempted.

Looking back, I must praise the weather, for in this most disappointing of summers, we had paradoxically a glorious week in a region where rain is more common than anywhere in Britain.

B. J. Bailey.

VISIT TO HAGLEY HALL

PROMPTLY at 2-30 p.m. on the afternoon of Friday, November 20th, 1953, a party consisting of nineteen prefects accompanied by Dr. Howard and two members of the teaching staff, left

School for Hagley Hall, the country residence of Viscount and Viscountess Cobham. This visit was an unusual privilege, and was being paid on the invitation of Lord Cobham, who hoped to conduct us personally around his home.

Although we were disappointed when we were told that Lord Cobham was unfortunately away from home, we were charmed with the welcome given to us by Lady Cobham.

We were received by Mrs. Molyneux, who afterwards took us over the Hall. We saw many fine pictures by famous painters, although some very cherished ones had been destroyed in the fire of 1925, with many manuscripts and books and many pieces of furniture, but much has been restored by skilful care and loving attention.

The finest room in the house is the Long Gallery which has been recently restored by Lord Cobham, and is now resplendent. The mirrors in this room and the finely carved picture frames are in natural and stained pines. We were told that it was in this room that the Lyttletons of the Victorian age played cricket as children, and by some miracle seldom damaged the delicate carvings. Also in the Long Gallery are two fine side-tables of satin wood inlaid in coloured woods with the coat of arms of George, Lord Lyttleton, and his motto "Ung Dieu, Ung Roy."

Along one side of the house is the Tapestry Room, hung with very fine arabesques by Joshua Morris, which were saved from the fire. The ceiling of this room has four of Stuart's panels and a centre-piece copied after Cipriani, as his original masterpiece was destroyed in the fire. Also on this side of The Hall is the Library, which includes a first folio of Shakespeare's Works, besides many other rare books. In the Library are busts of Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton and Dryden by Peter Scheemakers. These busts stand out from the remainder of the collection, as do the two fine busts of Rubens and Van Dyck, by Rysbrack, in the White Hall.

Van Dyck is represented in the Hagley Picture Collection which is particularly strong in portraits by Sir Peter Lely and his contemporaries.

The main entrance to the house is the White Hall, in which the work of the Italian stucco-artists is immediately apparent. Above the fireplace is a fine panel signed by Vassali, representing the offering of a Fleece to Diana. This entrance hall is really most impressive, and it delighted everyone in our party.

From here we went into the Dining Room, which is adorned by some really beautiful plaster-work by Vassali. It was in this room that Lady Cobham presided over a most enjoyable and very welcome tea. Babington, the boy captain, expressed our thanks for the delightful afternoon we had spent, and the privilege of visiting such a gracious home. We were thrilled when Lady Cobham told us she knew that Lord Cobham hoped we would make a visit to Hagley Hall an annual occasion, as we felt that future pupils of the School would benefit greatly from such a privilege, and the glimpse it gave of a different and dignified way of life.

After saying goodbye to our hostess, Lady Cobham, and to our excellent guide, the whole party returned to School, thrilled by their experience.

Pauline Goreham.

A VISIT TO HAM'S HALL POWER STATION

ON the 13th July a party of six members of the Upper Sixth Science Group, accompanied by Mr. Smith — and by Mr. Williams, a former member of the staff — met in Birmingham to visit Ham's Hall Power Station.

We reached our destination at 11 a.m. and were met by a guide who conducted us on a tour around Section B of the plant. Here we saw the cooling towers, boilers, grid system, the main control room for the Midlands, and other essential features of the complex mechanisms.

On the homeward journey we had the misfortune to miss our 'bus which only ran every two hours. However, we were fortunate enough, after considerable effort by Messrs. Savage and Babington, to "thumb a lift," and eight of us piled into the back of a small van, which took us into Birmingham. Eventually we arrived at School 2½ hours late. The kitchen staff co-operated so that we were able to have our dinner in time for tea.

Janet Turner, 6A.

FLIGHTS INTO FRENCH COMEDY

ON 23rd February a party of Sixth Form French students went to the Debating Hall of the Birmingham University Union to see a performance of "Le Misanthrope" by Moliere, given by the Cercle Français. The production was excellent and for many of us it meant a new insight into French classical literature.

Later in the year, on Thursday, 25th June, the same group saw "Le Tartuffe," by the same writer, although this time adapted, in English, by Miles Malleson—which probably accounts for the even deeper insight into French classical literature shown since by 6A French students. The performance was of the same high standard we have come to expect of the Birmingham Repertory Theatre Group.

On the evening of Speech Day, Thursday, 4th November, a group of Sixth Form students of French went to Stourbridge, accompanied by Miss Horton, Mr. Woodward and Mr. Laycock, to see a performance of Moliere's comedy "Le Malade Imaginaire" given by La Troupe Française, a touring French group.

This was the first time the group had had the opportunity of hearing real French spoken by real French actors on a stage. Although they spoke quickly the acting, particularly the mime, was of such a high quality that none of the comedy was lost.

K. Shenton and G. K. Withington.

O.G.S. EXPLORES THE NETHER REGIONS A VISIT TO A COAL MINE

ONE misty afternoon in December, 1953, a party of eighteen senior boys, accompanied by Mr. Eacott and Mr. Laycock, paid a visit to Walsall Wood Colliery, Staffordshire, to discover at first hand how that most precious relic of our past is plundered from the depths of the earth.

The first introduction to the mine was in the form of a model which was shown to us by the Colliery's Training Officer. He explained to us how the mine is worked, using the model to show us where the main coal faces were, those which are now being worked, and those which have already been ravaged to the full.

The Training Officer then put us in charge (and very gratefully, I think!) of the Safety Officer, who was to conduct us around the colliery. The first very necessary task was to change into "working clothes"—we had brought with us the oldest we could find—and our clean ones were stowed away in lockers provided for us in the changing room. Then, to add to our already unusual appearance, we were fitted with miner's helmets, a very necessary part of miners' equipment, which until we became used to them,

gave us a peculiar feeling of top-heaviness. Two individuals had difficulty in finding helmets large enough, and it is not necessary to comment on the reason why! Finally, to equip us as human glow worms, lamps were fitted to the helmets and batteries strapped to our waists. (The completed party ready to set forth on their unique experience was a sight I shall not quickly forget—I have never seen Oldbury Grammar School boys looking so full of purpose—H.L.)

Before descending the shaft, we toured the surface works, and discovered how the coal brought to the surface is washed (!) and graded into different qualities by an arrangement of shaker sieves. As a last precautionary (?) task we inspected the engines and the colliery winding gear—it was in splendid working order. Now we were ready to make the descent!

The shaft cage is no "Grand Hotel" lift. It is a **cage** divided into an upper and a lower section by an iron grid. We occupied our respective sections, the feet of the upper party very near to the heads of the lower. I think the "liftman" was particularly kind to us, as the cage descended with very little of the customary rocketing which miners experienced have to suffer. The cage came to rest at a depth of 1,200 feet—the deepest level is 2,100 feet but the lowest seams—the better coal—are not worked now—and present mining policy is to work up gradually towards the surface into the poorer thinner seams, as the lower ones are either worked out, or too difficult. Grumbles about the present day poorer quality coal are quite justified—the poorer coal is all that is left!

It was explained to us that the mine is continually fed with fresh air, which circulates in one direction along the tunnels. Our first impressions were therefore of being met with a current of not too pleasantly smelling air on its way out, and also of the dusty nature of it. Grit and sand is purposely laid down on all the mine roads as a preventive measure against fire—and we ploughed through miles of this dry dust on our wanderings below. The word "miles" is not an exaggeration, because between the shaft bottom and the coal face we walked, crouched, climbed, crawled up hills, along long stretches of low tunnelling, or roads which were properly bricked and reinforced with steel girders—for miles! To be tall and a miner is not a good thing, I think, as in many places the roof is little more than 4-5 feet above the ground.

Throughout most of our journey we walked alongside the moving conveyor belt carrying coal to be taken to the surface, and at one place we climbed over it into a branch tunnel. Eventually,

however, we arrived at the coal face, which was not being cut into at that time. The miners who work on the night shift do the coal cutting—now with mechanical cutters, and it is the task of the day shift workers to clear the coal, and to prepare the roof. This is supported by props of wood, or more usually now by steel girders. Our guides explained to us how all the mechanical equipment works, pointing out that on the average one man can cut out three tons of coal per shift—this is a piece of coal from the seam, 4 by 6 by 12 feet in dimension.

On the return journey we visited those creatures of the underworld—the pit ponies—and sympathised with them in their plight, although the men informed us that they were perfectly happy, well fed and did not have to work too hard in these days of mechanical transport. But we sympathised with them all the same.

The return to the wet, muggy December afternoon which was still going on in the world above, was made with a feeling of mixed pleasure. One feeling was a feeling of thankfulness to be in the open air again, but we had also a pleasant tiredness upon us. Dirt and grime clung to us in great layers—we really looked like miners—we were miners—we had been to the coal face—we had actually mined a little bit of coal for ourselves.

The dirt was removed, or most of it, under the showers which were made available to us. The tiredness soon left us, as we were entertained with mugs of sweet tea and cakes, which refreshed and strengthened our tired bodies.

But one thing has remained—a better and fuller understanding of the work that is going on at full pressure in hundreds of our British collieries every day of the week, and we remain extremely thankful to the mining community for their hard, hazardous and very necessary work which is for the well-being of us all.

One of the "Colliers."

FIELD STUDY IN THE S.W. ARDEN REGION

ON July 7th, 1954, Miss Firth and a party of sixth formers set out, with members of the Geographical Association, on an excursion to the S.W. Arden district. We were to study the valleys of the Rivers Arrow and Alne which are tributaries of the River Avon.

Some of us were very interested in the geological aspect of the area, and at Rowney Green we left the coach to see some glacial

drift. At Sperrall we walked up Round Hill to see an outcrop of Arden Sandstone, and from the top of this hill we had a view of part of the Arden Forest.

Our attention was called to the human geography of the area too. Farming is still an important occupation. The heavy marl, once more thickly wooded than it is today, is still mainly used for cattle rearing. In addition to farming some industries grew up in this area as a result of the water power provided by the rivers. We were told about the needle-scouring industry in Studley, which has extended to Redditch and the surrounding area. Another old established industry is flour-milling and we were able to look round a small flour-mill in the Alne valley where we saw the water-wheel, although this is now disused.

The return journey took us through Aston Cantlow, Wootten Wawen and Henley-in-Arden. There was abundant evidence of the use of local building materials in the numerous half-timbered houses, and in the use of local stone, especially in the churches, as at Wootten Wawen, where some of the original Saxon church still remains. We noted too the contrast between the rapid development of Henley-in-Arden and the decline of other settlements away from the main lines of communication. We arrived in Birmingham with more intimate knowledge of local geography and we would like to express our thanks to Miss Firth and the members of the Geographical Association for this interesting excursion.

Judith Green.

SPORTS RESULTS—Boys

FOOTBALL

The four teams played a total of 55 matches, winning 31 and losing 19. The School scored 243 goals and conceded 172.

The 2nd XI was the most successful team, losing only 2 of their 16 matches.

1st XI.—Played 22, won 14, drawn 2, lost 6; for 76, against 59.

2nd XI.—Played 16, won 12, drawn 2, lost 2; for 127, against 30.

Colts XI.—Played 13, won 4, drawn 0, lost 9; for 29, against 67.

Junior XI.—Played 4, won 1, drawn 1, lost 2; for 11, against 16.

HOUSE MATCHES

King's: Played 3, won 3, lost 0; for 12, against 6.

Trinity: Played 3, won 2, lost 1; for 13, against 9.

Queen's: Played 3, won 1, lost 2; for 11, against 14.

School: Played 3, won 0, lost 3; for 8, against 15.

Six of the School team played for a Worcs. County XI. These are to be congratulated and also Parkes and Harris who were awarded their football colours.

The School did well to reach the semi-final of the Grammar School Cup Competition. They were defeated by West Bromwich G.S. by 2 goals to 6.

ATHLETIC SPORTS—July 15th, 1954

BOYS' EVENTS

The day of the sports was dull and cool with occasional rain showers. Although the grass on the track was wet and slippery, the events were all keenly contested.

100 YARDS

Group A and B (13-)

1, Walters (K); 2, Burns (Q); 3, Currier (S). 12.85 secs.

Group C (13-14)

1, Stubbs (T); 2, Ashley (K); 3, Cox (T). 11.70 secs.

Group D (14-15)

1, Harrold (K); 2, Field (S); 3, Smith (K). 10.95 secs.

Group E (15+)

1, Dodson (Q); 2, Hancox (S); 3, Sadler (Q). 10.90 secs.

220 YARDS

Group A and B

1, Walters (K); 2, Burns (Q); 3, Spooner (K). 29.95 secs.

Group C

1, Stubbs (T); 2, Ashley (K); 3, Eaves (K). 27.0 secs.

Group D

1, Harrold (K); 2, Field (S); 3, Sloan (K). 25.10 secs.

Group E

1, Dodson (Q); 2, Harding (T); 3, Osborne (S). No record.

440 YARDS

Group C

1, Cox (T); 2, Eaves (K); 3, Barlow (S). 65.70 secs.

Group D

1, Harrold (K); 2, Rollason (S); 3, Blewitt (Q). No record.

Group E

1, Lane (Q); 2, Suffield (K); 3, Kessler (Q). 61.0 secs.

880 YARDS

Group D

1, Rollason (S); 2, Blewitt (Q); 3, Langford (S). 2 mins. 29.3 secs.

Group E

1, Suffield (K); 2, Lane (Q); 3, Holloway (Q). 2 mins.

1 MILE TEAM RACE

Group E

Individual Result—1, Suffield (K); 2, Kessler (Q); 3, Lane (Q).
5 mins. 19.80 secs.

Team Result—1, Queen's; 2, King's; 3, School.

RELAYS

Group A and B

1, King's; 2, Queen's; 3, School. No record.

Group C

1, King's; 2, Trinity; 3, School. 89.00 secs.

Group D

1, King's; 2, School; 3, Queen's. 2 mins. 49.40 secs.

Group E

1, King's; 2, Queen's; 3, School. 3 mins. 0.20 secs.

HIGH JUMP

Group A and B

1, Currier (S); 2, Glover (Q); 3, Sutton (S). 3 ft. 10.5 ins.

Group C

1, Ashley (K); 2, Storer (S); 3, Vaughan (S). 4 ft. 5.5 ins.

Group D

1, Sloan (K); 2, Taylor (Q); 3, Parker (T). 4 ft. 8 ins.

Group E

1, Suffield (K); 2, Taylor (Q); 3, Sadler (Q). 4 ft. 9 ins.

LONG JUMP

Group A and B

1, Walters (K); 2, Burns (Q); 3, Allen (Q). 13 ft. 5 ins.

Group C

1, Eaves (K); 2, Ashley (K); 3, Stubbs (T). 14 ft. 3 ins.

Group D

1, Sloan (K); 2, Taylor (Q); 3, Reynolds (K). 16 ft. 9 ins.

Group E

1, Dodson (Q); 2, Suffield (K) and Taylor (Q). 18 ft. 1 in.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL

Group A and B

1, Cotton (T); 2, Hackett (T); 3, Spooner (K). 167 ft. 7 ins.

Group C

1, Moore (T); 2, Vaughan (S); 3, Kite (T). 187 ft. 9 ins.

PUTTING THE SHOT

Group C

1, Eaves (K); 2, Moore (T); 3, Pearce (S). 33 ft. 0 ins.

Group D

1, Sloan (K); 2, Law (T); 3, Field (S). 47 ft. 4 ins.

Group E

1, Cotton (T); 2, Lines (K); 3, Dodson (Q). 41 ft. 11 ins.

Senior Champion—Suffield. Intermediate—Harrold and Sloan. Junior—Walters.

Total House Points—Kings, 92½; Queen's, 57½; School, 38; Trinity, 34.

SWIMMING

The boys' swimming gala was held on Friday, 9th July, at Langley Baths.

Six records were broken, indicating the improved standard of performance.

JUNIOR EVENTS

1 length free style—1, Glover (Q); 2, Bristow (Q); 3, Currier (S). 17.3 secs. (Record).

1 length breast stroke—1, Graham (K); 2, Currier (S); 3, Cotton (T). 27 secs.

1 width back stroke—1, Bristow (Q); 2, Currier (S); 3, Graham, R. (K).

1 width beginners—1, Reardon (T); 2, Hebberts (K); 3, Graham, P. (S).

Dive—1, Cotton (T); 2, Glover (Q); 3, Dawes (K).

Squadron Race—1, Queen's; 2, King's; 3, School. 1 min. 27 secs. (Record).

INTERMEDIATE EVENTS

2 lengths free style—1, Downsby (T); 2, Harrold (K); 3, Ashley (K). 47.5 secs.

2 lengths breast stroke—1, Lewis (T); 2, Reynolds (K); 3, Dagley (K). 43.9 secs.

1 length back stroke—1, Harrold (K); 2, Downsby (T); 3, Walmsley (Q); 21.35 secs. (Record).

1 width beginners—1, Barlow (S); 2, Brookes (T); 3, Idoine (Q).

Dive—1, Knowles (K); 2, Walmsley (Q); 3, Ashley (T).

Squadron Race—1, King's; 2, Trinity; 3, Queen's. 1 min. 19 secs.

SENIOR EVENTS

3 lengths free style—1, Fardon (K); 2, Suffield (K); 3, Smith (Q). 55.87 secs.

2 lengths breast stroke—1, Cook (K); 2, Lane (Q); 3, Oakey (T). 41.75 secs. (Record).

2 lengths back stroke—1, Suffield (K); 2, Smith (Q); 3, Russell (Q). 43.05 secs.

Plunge—1, Smith (Q); 2, Cotton (T); 3, Cook (K). 45 ft. (Record).

Dive—1, Jennings (T); 2, Fardon (K); 3, Mountford (S).

Squadron Race—1, King's; 2, Queen's; 3, Trinity. 1 min. 6.6 secs. (Record).

The greatest number of points was gained by King's with 51 points. They were followed by Queen's with 35 points, Trinity with 28 points and School with 12 points.

The Junior Champion was Glover of Queen's. Intermediate Champion was Harrold of King's; Senior Champion was Smith of Queen's.

CROSS COUNTRY

There were four meetings and the School did well to obtain second place on two occasions and a third place.

Meeting at Moseley—Team unplaced (two members failed to complete the course due to faulty marking).

Meeting at Holly Lodge—Third place.

Meeting at Oldbury—Second place.

Meeting at West Bromwich—Second place.

ROAD RACE

Senior—I, Barratt (Q) 11 mins. 36.4 secs.; 2, Kessler (Q); 3, Suffield (K).

Intermediate—I, Rollason (S) 12 mins. 21.1 secs.; 2, Blewitt (Q); 3, Harrold (K).

Junior—I, Burns (Q) 11 mins. 31.6 secs.; 2, Webb (T); 3, Smallwood (S).

HOUSE RESULTS

Senior—I, Queen's; 2, King's; 3, Trinity; 4, School.

Intermediate—I, School; 2, King's; 3, Trinity; 4, Queen's.

Junior—I, School; 2, Trinity; 3, Queen's; 4, King's.

GYMNASTICS

Result of competitions based on gymnastic tests:

Individual—I, Franklin & Horton; 2, Mountford; 3, Derek Taylor.

House—I, School; 2, Queen's; 3, King's; 4, Trinity.

Form Competition—I, 3A; 2, 4C; 3, 2B.

CRICKET, Season 1954

In spite of the wet summer only one match had to be abandoned, but the 1st XI did not come up to expectations. Winter practice and coaching again took place but boys who had shown much promise in the nets failed to score many runs during the season. Scoring was again low—Edge, Spooner and Harris, all of whom had the ability to make runs, often lost their wickets

through carelessness. Later in the term Oakey played two good innings and finished the season with an average of 22.0.

The bowling was, as usual, good and Cotton returned the excellent figures of 40 wickets for 5.25 runs each, being well supported by Spooner and Stevens, who took 22 and 23 wickets respectively for an average of 8.5 runs per wicket. When playing on good wickets Stevens looked the most effective bowler, keeping an admirable length and not being afraid to make the batsmen play at his slow off-spinners. Cotton is to be congratulated on taking all ten wickets against West Bromwich G.S.—a rare feat in any class of cricket.

The fielding was generally keen and the throwing in reached a reasonably high standard. However, three matches were not won solely because easy catches were missed! Harris proved himself a very capable wicket-keeper and took some good catches. His "keeping" to the slow bowling of Stevens improved immensely and he achieved some good leg-side stumping.

1st XI results—Played 13; won 2; lost 5; drawn 6.

Cricket Colours were awarded to H. T. Cotton and T. Harris.

During the summer holidays D. Edge played regularly for Worcestershire Schools County Cricket XI as an opening batsman. Playing on good wickets he found his form and scored 144 runs in eight innings against bowling of a much higher class than that experienced in ordinary school matches. Cotton played in two matches but, despite conditions unfavourable to bowlers, did not look so effective a bowler in this class of cricket. It was unfortunate that Stevens, who had proved an enthusiastic School captain, was not available for some of these matches.

Two 2nd XI matches were played and won and it is hoped next season to have more matches, thus providing an opportunity for a greater number of senior boys to play organised cricket.

The pressing need is still for first-class practice and match wickets if the standard of cricket is to be raised from its present mediocre state. It has become increasingly evident that those grammar schools with good facilities for the game produce better players. They manage to complete a very much fuller fixture list—some twelve matches during a term do not enable a promising boy to gain much experience!

UNDER 15 XI

This team had a useful season this year, middle-school boys being able to gain valuable match experience and although the

results were not brilliant much good cricket was played. The team was capably led throughout by K. Field and it would be invidious to single out for special mention individuals in a team which showed keenness in all departments, both during matches and at practice. Several boys showed promise with the bat and ball but there is still room for more variety in the bowling.

Results—Played 7, won 2, lost 3, drawn 1. One abandoned.

UNDER 14 XI

Several matches were played against other grammar schools, mostly in the evenings during mid-week. Much keenness was displayed and some promising cricketers were found in the Lower School. This eleven had a very successful season and rapidly changed from looking like a "rabble" to a well organised team in the field. Stubbs proved a more than useful fast bowler and took 28 wickets for 3.1 runs each. Moore took 14 wickets for 2.2. runs each. If these two concentrate on length and direction they should prove useful in later years.

Results—Played 9, won 6, lost 3.

HOUSE MATCHES

There were some keen games played and King's was the Champion House, winning their three matches. Trinity were runners-up with two matches won. These two Houses were very much stronger than School and Queen's.

The Rest defeated King's in a low scoring match in which Stevens bowled well for King's as did Cotton and Mountford for the Rest.

In conclusion, our thanks are due to Mr. Lawton and Mr. Metcalf for the amount of their free time which they have devoted to the Under 15 and Under 14 XI's—their enthusiasm has been reflected in the keenness displayed by these juniors.

J.S.E.

SPORTS RESULTS—Girls

ATHLETICS

100 YARDS

11 + 12 yrs.—1, H. Griffiths (S); 2, C. Watton (S); 3, J. Parkes (T)

13 yrs.—1, M. Brehaut (Q); 2, P. Green (T); 3, G. Elston (Q).

14 yrs.—1, I. Walker (S); 2, J. Powell (K); 3, J. Horton (Q).

15 + yrs.—1, A. Elsdon (K); 2, P. Hulse (S); 3, J. Barratt (Q) and Linda King (K).

100 YARDS SKIPPING

- 11 + 12 yrs.—1, C. Savage (S); 2, G. Partridge (Q); 3, S. Moss (S).
13 yrs.—1, M. Brehaut (Q); 2, M. Rawlings (S); 3, G. Elston (Q).
14 yrs.—1, J. Powell (K); 2, I. Walker (S); 3, J. Horton (Q).
15 + yrs.—1, A. Elsdon (K); 2, P. Hulse (S); 3, J. Barratt (Q).

220 YARDS

- 11 + 12 yrs.—1, G. Partridge (Q); 2, J. Parkes (T); 3, N. Reynolds (Q).
13 yrs.—1, M. Rawlings (S); 2, M. Brehaut (Q); 3, P. Green (T).
14 yrs.—1, I. Walker (S); 2, J. Cox (T) and C. Mellichap (Q);
3, J. Maneylaws (S).
15 + yrs.—1, A. Elsdon (K); 2, S. Fletcher (K); 3, J. Fenton (T).

HIGH JUMP

- 11 + 12 yrs.—1, C. Watton (S); 2, J. Parkes (T); 3, M. King (T).
13 yrs.—1, M. Brehaut (Q) and J. Currell (T); 3, C. Elvins (Q).
14 yrs.—1, J. Powell (K); 2, V. Price (T); 3, I. Walker (S).
4 ft. 3 ins.
15 + yrs.—1, J. Barratt (Q); 2, M. Millward (T); 3, P. Hulse (S)
and J. Sheldon (K). 4 ft. 5 ins.

LONG JUMP

- 11 + 12 yrs.—1, S. Moss (S); 2, G. Partridge (Q); 3, G. Newman (Q). 13 ft.
13 yrs.—1, M. Brehaut (Q); 2, R. Beard (Q); 3, J. Currell (T).
13.9 ft.
14 yrs.—1, J. Powell (K); 2, K. Downing (K); 3, I. Walker (S).
13 ft. 5 ins.
15 + yrs.—1, A. Elsdon (K); 2, P. Hulse (S); 3, S. Smith (S)
and D. Costin (Q).

ROUNDERS BALL

- 11 + 12 yrs.—1, S. Moss (S); 2, J. Bagnall (T); 3, B. Leadbeater (K).
13 yrs.—1, J. Currell (T); 2, C. Gregory (S); 3, A. Tyler (Q).
14 yrs.—1, P. Rowe (T); 2, J. Powell (K); 3, J. Poston (S).
15 + yrs.—1, L. King (K); 2, P. Hulse (S); 3, A. Ward (K).

RELAYS

11 + 12 yrs.—1, School; 2, Queen's; 3, King's.

13 and 14 yrs.—1, School; 2, King's; 3, Trinity.

15 yrs.—1, King's; 2, School; 3, Queen's.

GIRL CHAMPIONS

Junior—Sylvia Moss (S) and Gillian Partridge (Q) 7 points;
Intermediate—Maureen Brehaut (Q) 13½ points and Joyce Powell
(K) 13 points; Senior—Ann Elsdon (K) 12 points and Pat Hulse
(S) 8½ points.

ORDER OF HOUSES (Girls)

1, School (62 points); 2, King's (47 points); 3, Queen's (43 points); 4, Trinity (29 points).

FINAL ORDER (Boys and Girls)

1, Kings (126 points); 2, School (98 points); 3, Queen's (86 points); 4, Trinity (63 points).

HOCKEY. Season 1953

The 1st XI Hockey team had a successful season, winning 9 of their 14 matches, drawing 1, losing 3. Goals scored for the School amounted to 52, goals against the School 33.

The 1st XI Hockey team consisted of Audrey Bradley (captain), Mary Watson (vice-captain), Margaret Jordan, Ann Elsdon, Jillian Burnell, Christine Cox, Gillian Hancox, Beryl Phillips, Pat Sealey, Jean Sherwood, J. Powell.

Hockey Colours were awarded to Jillian Burnell and Jean Sherwood.

At the Worcestershire schools final county trials three girls were chosen to play for the county.

These were Audrey Bradley and Ann Elsdon for the County 1st XI and Jillian Burnell for the County 2nd XI.

ROUNDERS

The senior Rounders team played 3 matches, they won 2 and lost 1.

Rounders for the School = 13½, against the School = 6½.

Girls who have played in the team include Ann Elsdon (captain), Linda King, Eileen Kent, Pat Hulse, Norma Davis, Naomi Northall, Janet Sheldon, Marjorie Smith, Margaret Pickerell.

The Junior Rounders team played 3 matches, they won 2, and lost 1.

Rounders for the School = 11½ rounders. against the School = 4½.

Girls who have played in the team include Joyce Powell, Kathleen Downing, Pamela Rowe (captain), Ann Tyler, Pat Greene, Caroline Elvins, Gillian Carter, Doreen Tether, Christine Gregory.

Rounders Colours were presented to Ann Elsdon, Pat Hulse, Eileen Kent, Linda King, Janet Sheldon.

TENNIS TEAM. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Couple

The 1st couple, Mary Watson and Jean Whitehouse played 13 matches, winning 9 of them and losing 4.

The second couple, Pat Wilcox and Barbara Ulbrich played 13 matches, winning 8 of them and losing 5.

The 3rd couple, Jean Palmer and Dianne Harper played 9 matches, winning 5 of them and losing 4.

Tennis Colours were awarded to Jean Whitehouse and Mary Watson.

HOUSE MATCHES—HOCKEY

King's played 3 matches, won 3. Goals for King's = 12, against = 3.

School played 3 matches, won 2 and lost 1. Goals for School = 6, against = 7.

Queen's played 3 matches, won 1 and lost 2. Goals for Queen's = 6, against = 7.

Trinity played 3 matches, won 0, lost 3. Goals for Trinity = 1, against = 8.

TENNIS

Queen's played 6 matches, won 5, lost 1. Games for Queen's = 44, against = 23.

School played 6 matches, won 5, lost 1. Games for School = 43, against = 25.

King's played 6 matches, won 1, lost 5. Games for King's = 29, against = 45.

Trinity played 6 matches, won 1, lost 5. Games for Trinity = 24, against = 49.

SWIMMING

GIRL CHAMPIONS

Junior—Betty Leadbeater (K) 6 points; runner-up, Angela Downes (S) 4 points. Intermediate—Joyce Powell (K) 11 points; runner-up, Christine Gregory (S) 8 points. Senior—Eileen Kent (T) and Sheila Smith (S) 10 points.

ORDER OF HOUSES

1, School (40 points); 2, King's (34 points); 3, Trinity (28 points); 4, Queen's (24 points).

VALETE

FORM 6A

Pauline Goreham—School Captain 1953-4; Queen's House Captain; G.C.E. (O) 1951, (A) 1953—Dudley Training College.

June Saunders—Prefect; Trinity House Captain; G.C.E. (O) 1952, (A) 1954—Dudley Training College.

Gloria White—Prefect; King's House Secretary; G.C.E. (O) 1952, (A) 1954—Nursing, Dudley Guest Hospital.

Christine Cox—Prefect; 1st XI Hockey; Queen's House Hockey Captain; Guide Cadets; G.C.E. (O) 1952, (A) 1954—Leicester Domestic Science College.

Mary Watson—Prefect; School House Captain; 1st XI Hockey; Tennis Team; G.C.E. (O) 1952, (A) 1954—Battersea Domestic Science College.

- Janet Turner**—Prefect; Choir; Joint Societies Secretary; G.C.E. (O) 1952, (A) 1954—Birmingham University.
- Dianne Harper**—Prefect; Tennis Team; Queen's House Swimming Captain; G.C.E. (O) 1952, (A) 1954 — Leicester Domestic Science College.
- B. J. Babington**—School Captain, 1953-4; Chairman of Joint Societies 1952-3; School Orchestra; Choir; G.C.E. (O) 1951-2, (A) 1954—Royal Air Force.
- R. Kitchen**—School Captain 1952-3; Choir; 2nd XI Cricket; Trinity House Captain 1952-3; G.C.E. (O) and (A) 1952, (A) School 1953—Queen's College, Cambridge.
- J. G. Lines**—Vice-Captain; 1st XI Football; King's House Secretary; Choir; G.C.E. (O) 1952, (A) 1954 — Birmingham University.
- A. P. Bennett**—Prefect; G.C.E. (O) 1952-3, (A) 1954—Birmingham University.
- L. D. Stevens**—Prefect; 1st XI Cricket Captain; 2nd XI Football; King's House Captain; G.C.E. (O) 1952, (A) 1954—Liverpool University.

FORM 6B

- Christine Chadbourne**—Prefect; King's House Captain; Librarian; G.C.E. (O) 1953—Insurance Office.
- Margaret Jordan**—Prefect; 1st XI Hockey Team; Games Secretary; Guides, Patrol Leader, Cadet Leader; King's House Sports Captain; G.C.E. (O) 1953—Secretarial College (City Road, Birmingham).
- Gillian Hancox**—1st XI Hockey; G.C.E. (O) 1953—Orthopaedic Nursing and Physiotherapy, Woodlands Hospital.
- Mavis Harris**—Prefect; G.C.E. (O) 1953—Barclays Bank.
- Cynthia Harrold**—Prefect; Choir; Guide Patrol Leader; G.C.E. (O) 1953—Stourbridge Art School.
- Juennetta Horne**—Choir; G.C.E. (O) 1953 — Birmingham Corporation Trainee.
- Janet Read**—G.C.E. (O) 1953 — Radiography, Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton.

- Janet Richmond**—G.C.E. (O) 1953 — Wesleyan and General Assurance Co., Clerk.
- Patricia Wilcock**—Tennis Team; G.C.E. (O) 1953 — Commercial work.
- Diane Davis**—Cadet; G.C.E. (O) 1953—Insurance Office.

FORM 5G

- Janet Brecknell**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—College of Commerce.
- Noreen Cox**—Choir; G.C.E. (O) 1954 — Personnel Department, Albright & Wilson.
- Jean Edwards**—G.C.E. (O) 1954 — Birmingham Corporation Trainee Shorthand Typist.
- Ursula Mason**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—College of Commerce.
- Hilda Pearson**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Nursing, Dudley Guest Hospital.
- Margaret Plant**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Midland Bank.
- Janet Sutton**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Avery's Offices.
- Barbara Ulbrich**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Martins Bank.
- Ann Westwood**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Cadbury's Office.
- D. Bullock**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Electrical Engineering.
- N. Elston**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Architect.
- T. Harris**—1st XI Football; 1st XI Cricket; G.C.E. (O) 1954—Apprentice, I.C.I.
- B. Hyde**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Public Health Dept., Birmingham.
- M. Kirk**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Paper Manufacturer.
- L. Sadler**—G.C.E. (O) 1954; 2nd XI Football—Accountant.
- G. Smallman**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Architect.
- B. Teale**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Draughtsman.
- D. Knight**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Apprentice, Avery's.

FORM 5M

- Betty Drew**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Kunzle's (Broad Street).
- Barbara Faulkner**—Hockey Team; Rounders Team — Laboratory Assistant.
- Irene Foster**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Telephone House, Birmingham.
- Maureen Gripton**—Hockey Team; Rounders Team; G.C.E. (O) 1954—Kenrick & Sons, Clerk.
- Judith Hadley**—Manifoldia Co., Clerk.
- Margaret Pickerill**—Clerk.
- Marjorie Smith**—Rounders Team; G.C.E. (O) 1954 — Neuro-Surgery Clinic, Smethwick; Path. Assistant.
- J. Smout**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Architect.
- P. Stokes**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—G.P.O. Clerk.
- P. J. Kessler**—1st XI Cricket; 2nd XI Cricket Captain; G.C.E. (O) 1954—Metallurgy.
- S. Davis**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Lab. Assistant, B.I.P.
- B. Grigg**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Dudley Corp. Assistant Surveyor.
- A. R. G. Wood**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Accountant.
- E. Glover**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Lab. Assistant, B.I.P.
- E. Bant**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Lab. Assistant, B.I.P.
- T. Harrison**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Civil Engineering.
- J. Bromwich**—Accountant.
- H. Cotton**—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Inland Revenue Tax Accounts.
- G. Russell**—Laboratory Assistant.

FORM 5S

- Valerie Barnett**—G.C.E. (O) 1954; Guide—Welfare Office.
- Carolle Emson**—B.E.A. Office, (British Electricity Authority).
- Norma Griffin**—G.C.E. (O) 1954; Guide; Trinity House Hockey and Rounders—Midland Counties Dairy Laboratory.

Pat Hall—Guide—Sadler's Office.

Eileen Kent—G.C.E. (O) 1954; Rounders Team; Swimming Champion; Choirs—Midland Counties Dairy.

Linda King—G.C.E. (O) 1954; Rounders Teams; Choirs; King's Hockey Team—Thos. Howse, Laboratory Assistant.

Margaret Phipps—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Secretary to Doctor, Guest, Keen & Nettlefold.

Hazel Spriggs—G.C.E. (O) 1953; Guide Patrol Leader — Bio-chemistry.

Phyllis Waplington—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Insurance Office.

Valerie Wood—G.C.E. (O) 1953; Guide; Orchestra; Choirs — Music, Midland Institute.

E. Butwell—2nd XI Football; 2nd XI Cricket; G.C.E. (O) 1953-4 Quantity Surveyor.

T. Cleveley—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Tool Maker.

J. Harding—G.C.E. (O) 1954—G.P.O., Electrical Engineers.

D. Mountford—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Chemist, Paint Industry.

R. Robertson—G.C.E. (O) 1954—Lab. Assistant, B.I.P.

A. Spittle—G.C.E. (O) 1953-4—Surveyor.

D. Thompson—G.C.E. (O)—Police Force.

I. Ritchie—G.C.E. (O)—Technical College.

Flowers

In the merry month of May,
Where'er the eye is glancing,
In the breeze so light and gay,
Flowers are gaily dancing.

In the morning wet with dew,
Their perfume scents the air,
These flowers of every shade and hue,
Can drive away all care.

They lift their faces to the sun
As through the trees it gleams,
But when the summer day is done
Droop gently into dreams.

Paul Isherwood. Form IA.

Dai Roberts

I go for my holidays to a village in Wales. The general handyman is an old native, Dai Roberts, one who has probably never ventured far beyond the valley itself. Dai never walks, he trots. To everybody, old and young alike, he has a smile and a pleasant word. He is the village postman, the village grave digger, the village bell-ringer and recites for the vicar some of the last rites at a burial.

At 7-30 a.m. each morning, I used to hear Dai the postman, trotting down the village. If he had a postcard, it would always be well read before he pushed it through the letter box. At mid-day, after having walked some miles, Dai calls for his daily paper, and goes home to enjoy his dinner and the daily news.

His bell-ringing activities are many. He rings three bells alone. He sits on a three-legged stool in the belfry, with a loop from one bell around one foot, and the loops from the other two in his hands. Dai rings for Sunday services; he tolls for funerals, and rings for weddings. How he enjoys himself when he rings in the New Year!

Most afternoons we see him toiling away with his spade and clippers in the village churchyard tidying up the grass. At Easter he is particularly busy making the churchyard pretty with spring flowers.

I have never seen Dai unpleasant. He does all his jobs as well as he can, and is always pleased to have a word of praise. When I leave to come back to Birmingham, Dai Roberts always says, "Don't be long before you come again."

Luned Morris. Form IA.

A War Poem

The sea was raging white with foam,
The waves were fierce and strong,
Some pirates were on board a ship
Singing a gruesome song;
The song was how much blood they'd shed,
The men that they had killed;
They came on board with guns and swords,
The bodies they had filled
With ammunition red with fire,
With bullets hard and red,
The men they struck they writhed with pain
With pain till they fell dead;
And when this shameful deed was done,
And when they'd slaughtered all,
They went around and searched the ship,
For those who failed to fall;
And now this gruesome song they sing
As onward they are sped,
Of how they named the faithful ship,
"The faithful ship of dead."

Margaret Bloomer. 2A.

The Man and His Head

I know a man from Mantaboo,
Who had a bad attack,
He put his head in a lion's mouth,
And could not get it back!
He struggled fiercely for a while,
And now do not alarm.
For now he walks silently,
His head tucked 'neath his arm.
He hired a boat and sailed away,
Till he came to a distant land,
There waiting was a Chinaman,
Squatting on the golden sand.

“ Velly good, velly good,”
Said the Chinaman.
“ I will come and cure you,
So catch me if you can! ”

He chased the Chinaman to shady glade,
Where he produced a pot of glue,
Then he glued his head back on,
And now he looks like new.

Thelma Snape. 2A.

Under the Sea

Swirling waters, then a dim view.
Plants in profusion, fishers few.
Caverns of coral, caves of shell.
Fairies riding on the swell.

Measureless depth to the human eye.
Flowers small, plants so high.
Seaweed waving in turmoil
Little flowers like tin foil.

But now, up, up to land
Away from the palace of ferns and sand.
The music slowly behind us dies,
And soon we will only offer sighs!

Joan E. Donachie. 2A.

The Old Fisherman

His was a sun-tanned, weather-beaten face,
Tanned by breezes warm of many summer days,
Beaten by the icy winds of many winter storms,
Brown and tanned
Like the sand.
It was often creased into a smile of welcome
For the village children.
They all loved him,
For the stories he told
Of the days of old.

Not only the children loved his voice,
Which was soft and clear,
Seeming to bring warmth like the summer sun,
And to mingle
With the waves upon the shingle.
It was a familiar sight to see him
Sitting on the rocks, smoking his old clay pipe
And looking out to sea,
With deep blue eyes,
Like reflected skies.

Now a retired sailor, a fisherman is he,
Always in sight or sound of the sea.
It was part of his life and his living.
Happy,
Contented,
And free.

Eileen Lewis. Form 4A.

The Severn Swan

When summer gilds the rippled pool,
And flecks her sheen on waters cool,
When crested trees hang low to trace
The mirrored contours of their grace,
And willows, supplicating, lean
To brush the tide with fingers green,
A white swan, nestled in the sedge,
Dreams long beside the water's edge.

He hears the warblers of the glade,
And cuckoos call from screening shade;
He sees the bright kingfishers skim
In jewelled flight, the lapping rim,
And, wakening all to summer's gold,
The dragonflies their wings unfold;
While roving butterflies delight
Where lady-smocks gleam tall and white.

He sees, within the crystal tide,
The mottled fishes dip and glide,
With fitful fin and winnowing tail,
Then wraith-like rise through waters pale,
To flash their gleaming silver high
To seize an unsuspecting fly;
Till widening rings much fainter grow,
And pass to where the rushes blow.

And so he dreams, till shadows shake
Across the quiet and brooding lake;
Till westering sun, in glory flings
Its amber beams on snowy wings;
Then rising, stately in his grace,
He smooths his ruffled plumes to place;
While welcoming waters rise in spray,
Till, deep-embraced, he floats away.

V. M. Welch. 6B.
