



THE OLDBURIAN

OLDBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MAGAZINE

1958

THE OLDBURIAN

OLDBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

MAGAZINE

1958

Vol. IV. No. 12.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P., C.C. (*Chairman*)

G. W. ROSE, J.P. (*Vice-Chairman*)

MRS. N. M. BARNETT, B.A.

COUNCILLOR J. D. BEARD, M.B.E., C.C.

DR. F. ERIC DAWES, M.A., F.R.C.O.

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. E. GARRATT, J.P.

ALDERMAN J. F. GOODE, O.B.E., C.A.

ALDERMAN A. GUNN, C.C.

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. M. J. GUNN, J.P.

ALDERMAN J. W. HOLLAND

COUNCILLOR MRS. D. M. HOLLYOAKE

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. PINE

COUNCILLOR MRS. R. STARKIE, C.C.

ALDERMAN F. W. THOMPSON, J.P.

Borough Education Officer and Clerk to the Governors:

J. H. C. MARSH, B.Sc., A.R.I.C.

SCHOOL STAFF

C. C. HOWARD, B.A., B.Sc., Ph.D. (*Headmaster*)

J. B. RICHARDS, M.A., B.Sc. (*Deputy Headmaster*)

MRS. M. JONES, B.Sc. (*Senior Mistress*)

F. L. HAWLEY, M.Coll.H.	MISS F. D. TWEEDIE,
W. D. MORRIS, M.A., M.Sc.	Dartford P.T. Dip.
J. S. EACOTT, B.A.	MISS G. M. FIRTH, B.A.
E. G. SWAIN, B.Sc.	MISS H. C. SENDELL, B.A.
A. A. L. PEARCE, B.A.,	MISS W. M. HORTON, B.A.
B.Sc. (Econ.).	MISS H. GOUGH, N.D.D., A.T.D.
H. LAYCOCK, B.Sc.	MISS L. A. BULLEN, D.S.Dip.
B. R. LAWTON, B.A.	MISS M. J. S. WOODBURN, B.A.
K. C. HUDSON, B.Sc.	MISS P. TURNER, B.A.
H. G. DAVIES, Carnegie P.E.Dip.	MRS. S. M. PIERCY, B.A.
J. D. R. TOWNSEND, M.A.	MRS. L. M. PEARSON, B.A.
E. JONES, B.Sc., A.R.C.O.	MISS N. G. PRICE, B.A.
R. J. CLARKE, B.Sc.	MRS. M. WARWICK, P.C.T.
J. C. DICKENS, B.Sc.	MISS M. SANDERS
T. B. HETHERINGTON, B.A.	(<i>Headmaster's Secretary</i>).
J. G. BARBOUR, M.A.	
J. G. JAMES, B.Sc.	
D. A. PUGH, B.Sc.	
K. V. FARMER	

SCHOOL NOTES

AMONG the many and various matters reported in this issue of the Oldburian, three may well be mentioned particularly on this opening page: the resignation of Miss French, the revival of our school dramatics and the outstanding performance of our football team!

Miss J. M. French, B.A., was appointed to the staff in 1921 and had completed 37 years of service in the School by the time she left in 1958. She taught in the old school building for five years and so was one of those who came to our present buildings in 1926. Although primarily a specialist in French, which she taught throughout her long period of service, Miss French also made valuable contributions in other departments, Scripture, English and Latin being among them. More recently she has been completely responsible for the teaching of Scripture, of which she had considerable experience earlier. In all her teaching, Miss French has displayed a real devotion to her work and a most kindly personal concern for all her pupils. Her interest extended beyond the classroom to our various school activities. Many will thank her specially for starting the school tuck shop many years ago. The School owes much to Miss French and wishes her great happiness in her well-earned retirement.

To many the news that our dramatic activities have restarted will come as a source of real pleasure. In the past Miss G. Jones did magnificent work in producing a play each year until 1937, after which this traditional activity was discontinued. At the time of her retirement Miss Jones generously requested that her leaving gift should go towards a new stage, and she expressed the hope that the annual play should be revived. Mr. Laycock came forward as producer, and, assisted by many enthusiastic colleagues and pupils, presented "Caesar's Friend" by Campbell Dixon and Dermot Morrah, at the end of the Spring Term, 1958. This was an outstanding success, and all concerned deserve hearty congratulations. It is to be hoped that this most successful play will be followed by a production each year.

The record performance of our 1957/58 First Eleven Football Team also merits hearty congratulations. It is referred to later in these pages, but it must be recorded here that the School is justly proud of this year's team which won the Birmingham and District Grammar Schools Cup, and of the fact that our teams have appeared in the final three times in the last four years and have now won the cup twice. Moreover, this year our team has a remarkable record in inter-grammar schools matches for the whole season: - Played 24, won 23, lost 0, drawn 1; goals for 149 and goals against 29. These successes are well matched by the football of our old scholars, for the Cresconian Football Club records this year that they also have had a year of outstanding successes, bringing them a trophy comparable with that of the present scholars.

Among staff changes during the year we record that Mr. H. Metcalf, B.Sc., left us last July for an appointment in Saltley Grammar School, Birmingham. After coming to our Biological Department as a student of the Education Department of Birmingham University, Mr. Metcalf joined our staff in 1950. During the period of eight years of service here, he has not only taught Biology but has taken a keen interest in games. Teams in both cricket and football owe much to him for his coaching and organizing matches. He leaves with our sincere good wishes for success in his new post.

We record also that Mr. E. Nurse left last December for a new appointment in Nottingham. As a part-time teacher of music, he had for some years past worked enthusiastically to improve our standard of music. A skilful musician himself, especially as a viola player, he taught our classes in violin and viola playing and led the viola section of our School Orchestra. His enthusiasm for music was infectious, inspiring many of our pupils who might otherwise never have developed any musical ability, and his knowledge of musicology was really outstanding. We are sure that his good work will continue wherever he goes. He left with our best wishes.

Miss M. M. Goalby, M.A., who joined our staff in 1956, left in December 1957 to take a post as Lecturer in English in the Charlotte Mason Training College, Ambleside. Her short stay here revealed remarkable ability and enthusiasm for her work in her subject, English, as well as in the school library and in connection with our school magazine. Good luck to her as a lecturer!

We welcome Mrs. L. M. Pearson, B.A., as a new member of our staff. She joined us last January and has readily taken up her work here as a teacher mainly in French. Mrs. Pearson is no stranger to the School, having been with us on many social occasions in the past and on many school excursions. We particularly appreciate having her now as a full-time teacher and we wish her much satisfaction and success in all she is doing for us.

We also welcome Mr. J. G. Barbour, M.A., now responsible for Scripture, Miss N. G. Price, B.A., a teacher of English, Mr. J. G. James, B.Sc., a teacher of Mathematics, and Mr. D. A. Pugh, B.Sc., a teacher of Biology.

The pages which follow will show that our pupils still maintain the high standards now traditional in the School. Our work and our various activities continue to flourish. What is even more important however in these days is that the general character and reputation of our pupils as individuals and of the School as a whole are well maintained, thus making, we hope, a useful contribution to the community of which we are a part.

THE CRESCONIANS

President: DR. C. C. HOWARD

Vice-Presidents: - Messrs. L. N. BOWLEY, T. L. DAVIES, J. S. EACOTT, G. HACKETT, F. L. HAWLEY, J. V. LEWIS, J. MANTON, W. D. MORRIS, R. A. F. NEWTON-HEARN, W. PEERS, G. H. PRICE, J. B. RICHARDS. E. A. RICHARDS, G. W. ROSE, C. SPALDING, Mesdames C. T. BARLOW, M. JONES, J. MANTON, L. QUAYLE, G. W. ROSE, Misses G. JONES, B. WILLIAMS and D. WILLIAMS.

Hon. Secretary: J. M. TURNBULL,

75, Manor Abbey Road, Birmingham 32. Tel. woo 5597.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: M. L. FRANKS.

Hon. Treasurer: R. R. HORTON.

WHETHER or not a brief visit to the Arctic from Edinburgh justifies a place for John Jennings (1949-55) in a short account of the activities of a few old scholars abroad, he does serve to introduce a collection of wonderful and varied careers. If we journeyed from the Arctic to British Columbia across North America to Toronto, Montreal, Detroit and New York we could find several ambassadors of the School. There is no reason why we should lose touch in Africa once we have persuaded Anthony Brown (early 1940's) to fly us over the Atlantic in his beloved jet aircraft, given permission of the Royal Navy. If we choose to travel from Ghana to Kenya, Northern Rhodesia and Natal before we take a steady swim across the Indian Ocean to Malaya, Indonesia and Singapore and south to Sydney and Geelong in Australia we can trust that at every point there is the possibility of meeting an old scholar of the School. To come home will be difficult but we must assume that we shall, otherwise we should be unable to call in to see Edward Cook (early 1940's) who has lived and worked in Spain for several years.

To retrace our steps in British Columbia, we may meet Gilbert Bunch (early 1940's) who at School was interested in dramatics and later in the Oldbury Repertory Company before going to Canada. We understand that he is a school teacher. In Montreal James Grainger and his wife Pauline Clifford (1940's) were recently visited by Mrs. Grainger who was taken to Niagara and New York during her three months stay. James

was a prominent member of the Cresconians' football section and has recently gained success in his architectural examinations. G. V. Raxter (1947-53) went to Canada in 1957 and is employed by the Northern Electric Company, a post which may take him to all parts of the continent. He continues his studies in mechanical engineering. Arthur Rickers (early 1940's) is also known to be in Canada.

In the U.S.A. Eric Green (1927-33) has lived in New York for the last five years. He has had a remarkably varied career. He is a chartered accountant who, after the war, studied Hotel Managership at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London, the Plasa Athene in Paris and the Ritz in Madrid. For four years he was assistant manager at the Reina Custina at Algeciras in Southern Spain. In New York he is the Accountancy and Business Manager of a chain of hotels where he is also studying for a degree in economic sciences. He was recently cordially received by the President at School.

The entire Goode family which includes Fred, Dorothy and Mary, who were at School during the 1930's are believed to be living near Detroit. We understand that Mary is married with three children. She was an exceptionally fine actress who played the major role of Jane Eyre in a School Play and later became a member of O.R.P. Dr. Stanley Taylor (early 1940's) is expected to go to the U.S.A. soon and Dr. Valerie Williams (Pharmacy) has been resident there for some time. J. W. G. Davies is surveying in Western U.S.A. for the Fairey Aviation Company.

If Anthony Brown is ready with his aircraft we may visit David, the son of the late Mr. B. C. Pearson, in Ghana. David (1945-50) qualified M.B., Ch.B. at Birmingham University and then took a short service commission in the R.A.M.C. He married Brenda Westwood in 1957 and later took his D.R.C.O.G. before going with his wife to the Military Hospital in Accra. He is in charge of the families wing of the Hospital and is enjoying the adventure of life in a country which has recently acquired independence. His mother lives at 49 York Road, Edgbaston and David and Brenda are expected home in the Spring. He would certainly remember Maurice Round (1942-49) who took his degree in Zoology at Sheffield and is now in Kenya as a Tsetse Fly Control Officer. Maurice has a baby daughter and is expected on leave in March. Mr. and Mrs. Macrae Wilson, late of Clent Hall, Worcestershire, are also in Kenya.

Kenneth Mallin (1939-45) and his wife Margaret Pollard (1944-50) live in Kitwe, Northern Rhodesia, in the copper belt on the southern border of the Belgian Congo. Kenneth, a chartered quantity surveyor, is interested in Round Table organization and is an Anglican lay reader. Margaret is a Girl Guide officer who has found new interests in pewter

work and dress-making. Very recently they addressed a School Joint Societies Meeting.

Beatrice Taylor (1930's) is happily married in South Africa to an engineer who is a prospector for railways. At School she was Head Girl and a Guide Leader. José Jephcott (1931-37) was also a prefect and a Guide Leader and still continues her piano music and interest in dramatics in Natal, where she is married with two children. Her husband has an agency for English china and he travels into Zululand and other remote areas. She met Nina Rigby (1930's), whose father was the Managing Director of Barlows Ltd. in Oldbury, in South Africa.

Dr. John William Field returned to Malaya in January 1957 and has taken up an appointment as Medical Adviser to the Malayan Rubber Association. His years at School were 1912-16. We can be proud of the entry in "Who's Who" giving the career of Dr. Field.

Richard Jones (1930's), brother of Kenneth Jones (1930's), is also in Malaya as a Captain in the Worcestershire Regiment and he recently distinguished himself by a certain hazardous adventure in a helicopter over the jungle, which was reported in the national press. Margaret Bridge is now living in Indonesia and is married. Robert Butler (1940's) works for the James Miller Company in Singapore.

In Australia Keith Pirie (1940's) Philip Doughty (1930's), Clive, Derek, David and John Shaw (1940's), Janet Cooper and Patricia Thomas, have all settled down, in most cases completely with the whole of their families. Australia may yet win the Ashes.

On the way back after our call on Edward Cook in Spain we may visit Jean Hale (1940's) with her husband and son in Hampshire recently returned from Queensland, Australia, and perhaps Colin Cashmore (1940's), ex-Squadron Leader in Germany, now Engineer in charge of the Breadalbane Hydro Electric Scheme in Scotland. Colin apparently has a sailing boat, a Land Rover, fishes for trout and still wears red socks.

A short account of the activities of old scholars abroad is bound to miss many who have had equally distinguished careers. The Secretary of the Cresconians would welcome information at any time, not necessarily to keep his records intact but for the joy of learning of the achievements of old scholars so that he may pass on this knowledge to those he knows who are similarly interested.

V. B. Hale.

SPEECH DAY 1958

Chairman: ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P., C.C.
(Chairman of the Governors)

The School Song

Chairman's Remarks

Girl Captain's Report NORA C. REYNOLDS

Boy Captain's Report D. MATTHEWS

Instrumental Item: "Sonata in G Minor for Two Violins" (*Handel*)
S. R. HAINE, J. N. GOSLING

The Headmaster's Report

Speech and Presentation of Prizes by

COUNTY ALDERMAN K. H. WILSON, O.B.E., J.P.

Alderman Wilson's Speech

Alderman Wilson began by informing us that he was unused to public speaking of this kind and that, as he knew it would have been rejected, he had not prepared a speech. However he ably continued, telling us that, though he had not been on the education authority, like his uncle Alderman J. W. Wilson, M.P., he had always had an interest in our school. At this point Alderman Wilson spoke of education. He said that, after leaving school, it is now possible to continue our technical education, which is most important in this technological age, with the help of many industries, including his own firm of Albright and Wilson. Alderman Wilson concluded with some advice. He urged that, having attained our basic education and learnt self-reliance at school, we should carry our learning with us when we 'Launch out into the Deep.' We must not work solely for reward but with thought for others. If we maintain this outlook on life, he said, we would not only gain five hundredfold but would carry on the good name of Oldbury.

Margaret D. Taylor, 6A.

Vote of Thanks

Proposer: HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF OLDBURY
(Alderman J. W. Bright, J.P., C.A.)

AWARDS 1958

Form Prizes for General Proficiency

Form 1C.	M. A. Aston. Joan E. Hadley.	Form 3C.	Alison R. Cooke. A. Lane.
Form 1B.	A. J. Stacey. Pamela L. Moss.	Form 3B.	A. H. Yates. M. A. Bragg.
Form 1A.	Joan H. Plimley. D. Griffin.	Form 3A.	Marion B. Jones. Judith Rollason.
Form 2C.	Gillian M. Haycock. Gillian F. Smith.	Form 4C.	Jacqueline Shipstone. J. Aston.
Form 2B.	I. J. Parkes. Patricia Hawkins.	Form 4B.	T. B. J. Hughes. Pamela A. Brian.
Form 2A.	Roberta D. Beardmore. Marjorie A. Weston.	Form 4A.	Jennifer M. Turner. D. R. Stephens.

General Certificates of Education at Ordinary Level

R. A. Baggott.	R. J. Currier.	D. J. Holloway.
D. Bailey.	P. C. Graham.	P. Johnson.
R. M. Daley.	P. S. Hackett.	P. Jones.
F. W. Dawes.	J. Jenkins.	A. G. Lacon.
R. F. Graham.	R. N. Jones.	G. H. Perry.
D. J. Hadley.	P. Ludlow.	D. Reardon.
D. P. Isherwood.	R. G. McDonald-Gibson.	Myra G. Langley.
P. R. Medhurst.	R. J. Payne.	Christine D. Lewis.
M. F. Moore.	R. D. Plant.	Betty E. Powell.
A. D. W. Pardoe.	M. Stone.	Maureen E. Rawlins.
D. Spooner.	E. H. Templeton.	Janet A. Smith.
D. G. Stevens.	F. W. Webb.	Valerie Wallace.
D. W. M. Sutton.	Judith M. Bagley.	G. T. Brown.
Janice A. Bagnall.	Veronica K. Bishop.	B. W. Davies.
Janet Barnsley.	Linda Charles.	G. R. Davies.
Pamela A. Bradley.	Jacqueline Craig.	C. H. Glover.
Frances M. Cutler.	Diane J. Driver.	A. Healey.
Chloë Daniels	Mary J. Gittins.	N. G. Holden.
Jacqueline D. Dawes.	Hazel M. Griffiths.	J. S. Hollyoake.
Curigwyn D. Dittrich.	Margaret A. Hadley.	P. E. James.
Angela M. Downs.	Sheila Hall.	R. G. Kite.
Jean Hall.	Judith M. Harper.	D. C. Owen.
Brenda L. Harrold.	Kathleen A. Hateley.	H. W. Robertson.
Judith S. Hemming.	Elizabeth C. Leadbeater.	K. A. Vaughan.
Barbara C. Jarratt.	Barbara A. Martin.	Diana T. Holtom.
Margaret King.	Patricia D. Norville.	Hazel D. Mansell.
Veronica Kingsnorth.	Janet E. Pointing.	Dorothy Westwood.
Pauline M. Marlow.	Janice I. Scrivens.	R. Smallwood.
Luned M. Morris.	D. Biggs.	M. J. Smith.
Gillian R. Newman.	J. E. Campbell.	R. Townsend.
Brenda L. Webb.	P. R. Cartland.	G. Wellings.
J. Bate.	D. A. Coles.	Hilary Edwards.
M. Biddlestone	B. Cotton.	Valerie M. Evans.
A. P. Bristow.	V. D. Detheridge.	Rosemary Kenwick.
R. C. Broadbent.	R. H. Fox.	
B. T. Burns.	J. E. Hebberts.	

General Certificates of Education at Advanced Level

W. J. M. Barrie.	F. Matthews.	Wendy J. Gardner.
V. C. Brown.	A. J. Newey	M. Ann Huxley.
J. D. Clements.	J. F. Richards.	Elaine Jones.
D. F. J. Dagley.	F. K. Sandell.	Joan E. Maneylaws.
F. Darby.	P. D. Sloan.	Jillian C. Payne.
K. W. Field.	J. S. Smith.	Judith M. Rose.
A. G. Franklin.	J. Spittle.	Dianne Round.
A. T. Harold.	O. Tudor.	Pamela D. Rowe.
D. H. Horton.	M. J. Wharton.	F. Ann Russell.
J. H. C. Maltby.	June Bevington.	Irene Walker.
D. Matthews.	Sylvia M. Fletcher.	

Special Awards

O.S.A. Prize for Best Academic Achievement ...	...	J. S. Smith.
Frank Dawes' Prize for Leadership ...	...	J. S. Smith.
Lydia Dawes' Prize for Leadership ...	...	Irene Walker.
Best General Certificate of Education—Girls ...	...	Angela Downs.
Best General Certificate of Education—Boys ...	...	A. D. W. Pardoe.
Pearson Memorial Prize for English ...	...	Wendy J. Gardner.

University Scholarships and Awards

Worcestershire County ...	...	W. J. M. Barrie.
		D. F. J. Dagley.
		F. Darby.
		K. W. Field.
		Sylvia M. Fletcher.
		J. E. Gibbons.
		Sheila F. Harrison.
		Elaine Jones.
		Joan Maneylaws.
		F. Matthews.
		J. F. Richards.
		J. S. Smith.
		J. F. Smout.
		Irene Walker.
		D. A. Westwood.
		M. J. Wharton.
		D. A. Wood.
County Borough of Smethwick ...	...	F. K. Sandell.
Oldbury Educational Trust (1957-58) ...	...	E. J. Morgan.
		D. A. Westwood.
		Olwen A. Llewellyn.
		Norma Satchwell.
Oldbury Educational Trust (1958-59) ...	...	To be announced.

Prizes for the Best Use of Leisure

Boys' Prize, awarded by the late Mr. A. P. Hands ...	...	A. G. Webster.
Girls' Prize, awarded by Mrs. C. T. Barlow ...	...	Nora C. Reynolds.
		Christine Gregory.
Junior Prizes, awarded by the late Mr. C. T. Barlow ...	...	T. Swallow.
		Judith Rollason.
Certificates of Merit in Leisure Time activities ...	...	92.

Awards for Games, Athletics, Swimming, etc.

Girl Guides' Prize	...	...	...	...	...	Irene Walker.
Games Prize	...	...	...	...	...	P. D. Sloan. J. S. Smith. Christine Gregory. Pamela Rowe.
Boys' Athletic Champion, awarded Vernon Cup	...				...	K. W. Field.
Girls' Athletic Champion, awarded Albright Cup	...				...	Christine Gregory.
Parents' Cricket Match	...	...	...	...	...	The School.

House Cups

The Howarth Cup for Inter-School Games	...	...	...	...	...	KING'S HOUSE.
The Jephcott Cup for Athletics	...	...	...	...	...	SCHOOL HOUSE.
Swimming Cup	...	...	...	...	...	QUEEN'S HOUSE.
The Beard Cup for National Savings	...	...	...	...	...	SCHOOL HOUSE.
The Davies Cup for Music	...	...	...	...	...	SCHOOL HOUSE.
The Davies Cup for Junior and Middle School Studies	...	...	...	...	...	TRINITY HOUSE.
The Hadley Cup for Academic Achievement of Seniors.	...	...	...	...	...	KING'S HOUSE.

Trophies Won by the School

Birmingham and District Grammar Schools Challenge Cup for Football.
 Junior Cricket Shield (St. Philip's) of Birmingham and District Grammar Schools.
 Oldbury and Langley District Guide Swimming Shield.
 County of Birmingham Girl Guides—Ranger Swimming Cup.

Some Old Scholars at Universities and Colleges 1958

Cambridge University

Queen's College

I. D. Howard,
 B.A., B.Sc.

P. T. R. Brown.

R. Kitchen.

Selwyn College.

G. Brindley,
 F.R.C.O.,
 A.R.C.M.

Cavendish Laboratory and Harwell Nuclear Physics
 Research. Degree of M.A. conferred.

B.A. Mechanical Engineering Tripos Part I, Class II.

Natural Science Tripos Part I, Class IIA.

Music Tripos Part I, Class III.

Birmingham University

Faculty of Medicine.

R. J. Oakey.

D. M. Chaplin.

School of Dentistry.

G. Walker.

Faculty of Science.

J. S. Jennings.

R. W. Simmonds.

M. P. Osborne.

A. W. Pooler.

H. S. Ward.

A. F. Price.

B. Bailey.

Completed fourth year of course for M.B., Ch.B.
 Passed 2nd M.B., Ch.B., Part II.

Passed B.D.S., Part I. Passed L.D.S., R.C.S., Part I.

B.Sc. Hons. Class II(i) Geology. Awarded Panton
 Geological Prize.

B.Sc. Hons. Class I, Chemical Engineering.

B.Sc. Pure Science.

B.Sc. Hons. Class II(ii), Civil Engineering.

B.Sc. Hons. Class II(i), Civil Engineering.

Awarded Research Scholarship.

Completed second year of course in Chemical Engineer-
 ing.

Completed first year of course in Chemical Engineering.

- D. Edge. Completed first year of course in Chemical Engineering.
 G. H. Eaton. Completed first year course in Honours School of Physics.
 T. W. Eaton. Completed first year course in Honours School of Physics.
 D. Morrall. Completed first year of course in Engineering.
 R. M. Edge. Continuing research in Chemical Engineering.
- Faculty of Social Science.*
 Doreen Pugh, Completed second year of course for B.Soc.Sc.
 S.R.N., S.C.M. (Economics, Politics and Sociology).
 Jean Whitehouse. Completed second year of course for B.Soc.Sc.
 (Social Studies).
- Faculty of Arts.*
 Margaret A. Grieve. B.A. Hons. Class II(i), General Subjects.
 Joy V. Howard. B.Mus. Hons. Class II(i). Awarded Barber Post-Graduate Scholarship.
 Ann Elsdon. Completed second year of course in General Subjects.
 G. K. Withington. Completed second year of course in Honours School of Theology.
- Faculty of Law.*
 R. F. Bayliss. Completed second year of course for LL.B. Won the Holdsworth Club Debating Prize for second year in succession. Student of Grays Inn.
- Bristol University**
 D. A. Westwood. Completed first year of course in Accountancy.
- London University**
University College.
 M. D. Spooner. Completed second year of course in Chemical Engineering.
- Leeds University**
 D. E. M. Price. Completed third year of course in Medicine.
 Mavis D. Letts. Completed second year of course in Geography.
- Manchester University**
 Kathleen Hadley. Completed second year of course in History.
 M. T. Wyld. Completed second year of course in Honours School of Mathematics.
- Nottingham University**
 J. Hawkins, B.Sc. Completed second year of research work in Electrical Engineering.
- Sheffield University**
 A. J. Benbow. Completed second year of course in Zoology.
School of Dentistry.
 R. M. Savage. Passed 2nd L.D.S., Parts II and III.
 K. W. Parkes. Passed 2nd L.D.S., Parts II and III.
- Southampton University**
 R. T. Hancox. Completed second year of course in Chemistry.
- University of Wales—Aberystwyth**
 Jane Martin. B.A. (Wales). Economics and Education.
- Edinburgh University**
 Sarah Martin. Completed first year of M.A. course.

Training Colleges*Cheshire.*

Janet Greaves. Completed Two Year Course for Teacher's Certificate.

Kesteven.

Wendy Billings. Completed Two Year Course for Teacher's Certificate.

Durham.

P. Anne Lavill. Completed Two Year Course for Teacher's Certificate.

Matlock.

Eunice Painter. Completed Two Year Course for Teacher's Certificate.

Furzedown.

Dorothy Costin. Completed Two Year Course for Teacher's Certificate.

Leeds.

Sandra Davies. Completed first year of course.

Sheila Smith. Completed first year of course.

Worcester.

Ann Marshall. Completed first year of course.

Chelsea Physical Training College, Eastbourne.

Norma Davis. Completed Three Year Course for Teacher's Certificate in Physical Education.

Battersea College of Domestic Science.

Mary Watson. Completed Three Year Course for Teacher's Certificate in Domestic Science.

Olwen Llewellyn. Completed first year of course.

Birmingham College of Technology*College of Bakery, Domestic Science and Associated Studies.*

Ann Darlington. Completed second year of course in Institutional Management.

Gillian Smith. Completed second year of course in Institutional Management.

Ann V. Ward. Completed second year of course in Institutional Management.

St. David's College, Lampeter

J. E. Chalk, B.A. Passed final year examinations of the Four Year Course. Qualified for exemption from the General Ordination Examination. Ordained as Deacon.

Harper Adams Agricultural College

K. E. Comley. Passed first year finals for Agricultural Diploma.

B. Ashby. Passed qualifying examination of the Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents Institute, 1957. Elected as an Associate of the Institute.

P. J. Wilcox. Passed the Intermediate Examination of the Society of Incorporated Accountants.

JOINT SOCIETIES**SESSION 1957-58**

President: DR. C. C. HOWARD.

Vice-Presidents: MEMBERS OF THE STAFF.

Chairman: D. H. HORTON

Secretary: SYLVIA FLETCHER.

October 3rd.—The President of the Society opened the session by welcoming the new members and installing the new officers, D. Horton as chairman and Sylvia Fletcher as Secretary. The meeting then took the form of a series of talks given by members of the 5th and 6th forms on the Girls' Easter Holiday in Norway. A vote of thanks was proposed by K. Field and seconded by Ann Russell.

October 10th.—Members of the Society told us about the boys' holiday abroad. P. Ludlow described the outward journey; Hollyoake continued by describing Montreux giving the Society some idea of the spectacular beauty of the lake and the surrounding countryside. The four excursions from Montreux were recounted by R. Currier. The return journey was related by Hollyoake. After the account of their holiday, Ludlow and Currier gave commentaries on the colour slides shown to us by Mr. Swain. A vote of thanks was proposed by J. Barrie and seconded by Judith Rose.

October 23rd.—Instead of the more usual meeting we had the privilege of a visit from Dr. Cyril S. Christopher. The evening was not limited to members of the society; parents, friends and other members of the school were invited to listen to the organ recital given by Dr. Christopher. He was assisted by the choir.

October 31st.—Members of 6A Physics group gave a series of talks and practical demonstrations on various topics. They dealt with Liquid Air, the principals of photography, and two experiments, the first to show the principles of the induction furnace, and the second, the 'jumping ring' which demonstrated the effects of Eddy currents. There followed a short account of X-rays and discharge tubes, and an explanation of how the tape-recorder worked. A vote of thanks was proposed by Christine Gregory, and seconded by J. Spittle.

November 7th.—The society had the pleasure of a visit from Dr. Adie who in connection with the geophysical year gave a talk on Antarctica. He began by giving the general background of the work being done. He explained how the difficulties besetting the work of the different nations was being overcome, and he ended by saying that much more will be known about the virtually new continent

Antarctica when collaboration took place between the different countries. A vote of thanks was proposed by J. Smith and seconded by Irene Walker.

November 14th.—The meeting took the form of a Balloon debate. Eight members of the Society each representing a profession strove to prove to the audience that their profession was of most value to mankind in order to ensure that they were the one person left in the balloon. The eight members were:- Joan Maneylaws, a nurse, Wendy Gardner, an organ-grinder with hot potato machine attached, Pauline Marlow, a farmer's wife, Veronica Kingsnorth, a lady engaged on a secret mission, J. Spittle, an Archbishop, Clements, a journalist, Harrold, a geographer, and Smith, an engineer. A vote of thanks was proposed by A. Newey and seconded by Nora Reynolds.

November 21st.—The gramophone Society presented a programme of unusual records and musical oddities. Sylvia Fletcher, Luned Morris, Lacon and Haine introduced the records, which included Alfred Deller, Kathleen Ferrier, Dame Clara Butt, Chaliapine, Ewen McColl, Eva Turner, and Florence Foster-Jenkins. The programme ended with the finale of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. A vote of thanks was proposed by D. Matthews, and seconded by Dianne Round.

November 28th.—Mr. D. Butler, an old boy of the school, told the Society about his impressions of the United States of America. He illustrated his talk with colour slides, and gave us some idea of life in America. A vote of thanks was proposed by Wendy Gardner and seconded by P. Sloan.

January 16th.—Members of 6A Biology group gave a talk on "cutting your finger." Elaine Jones began by explaining the importance of skin in relation to its internal medium. Harrold told us about the mechanism of blood clotting. The defence mechanism to combat invading bacteria was described by K. Field. Ann Russell concluded by telling the Society how white cells leave the blood stream and accumulate in an inflamed area in order to destroy bacteria. A vote of thanks was proposed by Joan Maneylaws and seconded by D. Owen.

January 23rd.—A series of films on petroleum was shown to the Society by Mr. Jones and was introduced by J. Smith. A vote of thanks was proposed by Hollyoake and seconded by Ann Murray.

February 19th.—The Society had the privilege of listening to a talk given by Professor Pierls on the Violation of the Conservation of Parity. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dagley and seconded by Dorothy Westwood.

February 27th.—Mr. E. G. Wheeler gave a talk on the rival religions, Hinduism and Mohammedanism. He had been a missionary for 27 years. He contrasted the two religions and explained why they were so opposed to each other, how they were alike in their attitude towards religion and then contrasted it with the Christian one. A vote of thanks was proposed by Carole Watton and seconded by Templeton.

March 6th.—Members of the Senior Art group dealt with the controversial subject Modern Art. A vote of thanks was proposed by Newey and seconded by Margaret Taylor.

March 16th.—A. Newey and V. Brown presented a programme on aircraft. They dealt with all types of flying machines ranging from the first primitive aircraft to the modern ones of to-day. A vote of thanks was proposed by Holloway and seconded by Rosalind Beard.

March 27th.—Traditionally the last meeting of the session took the form of a very enjoyable dance.

Sylvia Fletcher, VIA.

THE ANNUAL OUTING OF THE JOINT SOCIETIES.

THE annual outing of the Joint Societies took place on Thursday, 17th. July, when a visit was paid to Guildford New Cathedral and Windsor.

Three coaches left school at 7-30 a.m. arriving back some fourteen hours later. Our original intention of picnicking on the famous view point in Surrey, the Hog's back, unfortunately had to be abandoned, but our first sight of Guildford Cathedral was all that had been expected.

A large, modern, red-brick building surveying the countryside for miles around seemed incongruous with preconceived ideas of Cathedral architecture. Whatever one's personal views of the architecture, colour schemes, and decoration of the Cathedral, the romantics amongst us must have felt some excitement, some affinity with the past. Here in the twentieth century this cathedral was being created. It would make its mark in the Book of Time, just as other famous buildings of bygone ages had done.

Unfortunately lack of time made it impossible for us to see much of Windsor. We had high-tea at the Thames Hotel, and all too soon it was time to return home.

During the return journey we passed through such places of interest as Oxford, Banbury, and Kenilworth.

Our grateful thanks must be given to Mr. Hetherington, who organized and made possible this pleasurable day.

Sylvia Fletcher, VI.A.

MUSIC REPORT, 1957/58.

IN accordance with former tradition, music has again played a major part in the non-academic life of the School.

There has been one change in our music staff this year. Mr. E. Nurse, who had taught violin and viola playing here for some nine years, left in December, 1957, to take up a new post in Nottingham. Mr. Nurse was more to us than just a music teacher. As a musicologist he was really outstanding and he excelled in all branches of theoretical music. Moreover he was a true friend and adviser, and those of us who knew him well were sorry to see him go.

Mr. K. V. Farmer came in January, 1958, to fill the vacancy. He is a violinist of great skill; he teaches our pupils in violin and viola playing in a most expert way, and he has taken his place as leader of our school orchestra. We extend a hearty welcome and our best wishes to him.

The Christmas Concert took place as usual on two evenings, in order to accommodate all who wished to attend. Each performance was divided into two parts, the second part being devoted to Christmas music. During the first part the Orchestra played three selections and accompanied the large Choir in their singing. The Four-Part Choir sang two excerpts from the Messiah with great success; the Girls' Choir also maintained its high standard in two songs, while an instrumental trio performed Handel's Sonata in G Minor. In the second part of the programme the Four-Part Choir and the Girls' Choir again sang two items each, and there were two organ solos, expertly performed by P. Sabin and Dr. Howard, who deputised for Mr. Jones, our organist, unfortunately incapacitated for keyboard work at the time of the concert. The Orchestra accompanied the carol singing of the Large Choir, the audience being invited to join in the better-known carols included.

All through the year the Orchestra and Choirs have held regular practices under the supervision of Dr. Howard and Mr. Jones. At the Organ Recital given in our School Hall in October by Dr. Cyril Christopher, an Old Boy of the School, the Four-Part Choir assisted by interspersing some delightful items. The Organ Recital was extremely well played and was very well attended.

The instrumental trio of our Christmas Concert also played on the occasion of our Speech Day. The members of this trio, S. R. Haine, J. N. Gosling and Maureen Rawlins, merit special praise. They, together with several others of our musicians, attended the Blackpool Musical Festival, which is a festival of national repute, and there they did well, gaining third place in their competition, and also performing creditably in their individual items.

Our musical appreciation group, the Gramophone Society, has continued to flourish, meeting regularly during the Friday lunch hours of the Autumn and Spring Terms, under the guidance of Mr. Richards and Mr. Laycock. All types of music were presented during the season and the meetings were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended them.

A comparatively new venture must here be mentioned. The Joint Societies are indebted to Mr. Eacott and his School Dance Orchestra for so ably providing music for our dances. We know that they all worked hard in preparation for these functions and we express the hope that they will continue to provide as much enjoyment in the future as they have on these occasions in this their first year.

Thus once more it is pleasing to be able to say that music is a prominent feature in our school life. We thank most sincerely all those who give so much of their time in organizing and participating in our various musical activities.

D. C. Owen, 6A.

OLDBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL DANCE ORCHESTRA.

OLDBURY Grammar School has for some time been very much interested in music, and its string orchestra and excellent choirs bear witness to the fact. However, as far as we know, music of a lighter kind has not been played so much, the music at Christmas parties, and on other occasions being provided by gramophone records.

To remedy this state of affairs, Mr. Eacott and several pupils gathered in the Gymnasium one evening last autumn and started to practise. From such a humble birth the dance orchestra has grown until it is now composed of a saxophone, trumpet, guitar, piano, bass, drums, and two violins, and has a steadily growing repertoire of various types of dance music, now numbering about thirty pieces.

The first engagement of the orchestra was at the fifth and sixth form parties, where it aroused great interest. Accordingly, at the Joint Societies dance, it again provided some music, which was well received and highly successful. By now it would appear that the dance orchestra is a firmly established institution, and it is hoped that it will continue for many years to come. This, however will only be possible if new members come forward to replace those who leave each year. Those interested in joining, particularly players of brass instruments, should contact Mr. Eacott or any member of the Dance Orchestra.

J. N. Gosling, 5G.

THE SCHOOL PLAY.

A NEW venture is always exciting. It is also one in which excitement is mingled with apprehension, and the apprehension is all the more potent when memories of past glories come floating down the years. Those memories remind us that twenty years ago Oldbury Grammar School was the yearly venue of an important dramatic event, which was hailed, by those who remember, as one of the highlights of the year.

The school plays of those years earned such a reputation that today they are still talked of with pleasure. The war years saw the cessation of dramatic activities in our school. A portable stage used in those past productions has disintegrated, the curtains have been visited by moths, and dust, rust and decay have lain heavily on the remaining equipment.

Thus the new venture began with nothing more than our platform plus a group of willing members of staff and a group of pupils whose enthusiasm was kindled from a glimmer into a glow of interest which, it is hoped, will shine for all the school years to come.

Our task was a great one. A play had to be chosen which would inspire, enthuse and entertain, a play which would give scope for enterprising stage technicians, designers and electricians, which would be spectacular and colourful, and yet which would not be too difficult for young actors and actresses new to the art.

"Caesar's Friend", I believe, fulfilled these requirements. Its theme, taken from the most wonderful and moving story of the Christian world, was the necessary inspiration. The play is a well written drama with keenly drawn characters whose loves and hates, doubts and passions are vividly impressed on an audience. The action builds up to a tremendous climax in Act III with the priests and the people calling for 'justice' before a bewildered and troubled Pontius Pilate, and its final scene, as noonday light fades at the time of Calvary, is intensely moving.

Financially our play was a success. We were able, despite heavy expenses for stage and costume materials, to add a little money to our stage fund. But the production of a school play is much more than a way to make money. It is a corporate effort and as such inspires a spirit of purpose and a comradeship which has a profound effect on all who take part. We become richer people because we have taken part and our wealth, gained from working and striving together, will remain with us always.

The final responsibility lies with the producer, but so many people are able to share in the activity and in so many different ways that it becomes a campaign. For months before the production, members of staff, pupils and parents were at work. They worked with enthusiasm and skill — there were setbacks: all successful campaigns must have their retreats — but in the end we were able to face an enquiring audience with the confidence that we had won through. Some of the problems we had to face were immense. Lighting the play was just one of them. It caused many headaches and hair-tearing sessions in the Physics department but our valiant band of electricians succeeded and even achieved lighting *effects* which surpassed all our expectations. The set, the costumes and the properties were all designed and made by our experts — endless hours of patient toil went into their preparation and the final results were in no small measure due to that hard work and enterprise.

The greatest joy in doing a play is in its preparation. As the time of performance draws near the feverish activity builds up towards its climax, until almost before one is ready, dress rehearsal and first night have arrived. The cast queues for make-up, the wardrobe mistress hurriedly sews on a missing tassel or adjusts a head-dress, the electricians test their switches and dimmers, and the stage manager primes his stage hands and makes a last tour of the set. It is time for the producer to retire he knows not where, and his greatest effort is in trying to stay still. The house staff usher the audience to their seats and in the assembly room behind the stage butterflies fly low.

Then quite suddenly it is all over. The cast makes its final bow, the audience disperses, the lights go out and the new venture has made its mark, leaving its participants happy in the acclaim that they have received, and perhaps a little sad too that the comradeship of the campaign must for a little time, at least, be severed.

The activity which produced "Caesar's Friend" has been stilled, but already we are at work on our next production. Once more in March the lights will go up; and from the lowest bough on the smallest cedar tree of the Emperor's garden in old China the "Nightingale" will sing, and the School Play will be with us again.

H. Laycock.

SPRING AND SUMMER VISITS TO EDMOND HALL.

ON Thursday, 3rd April, a party of twenty pupils left Oldbury for Edgmond Hall School, the Borough's 'Camp' School near Newport, Salop. The party was divided into three groups: the first, which comprised sixth form pupils, was given the task of investigating anti-tuberculosis measures on the farms, and the local Public Health services, with a view to comparing them with similar measures in our own Borough; a second group spent the whole of the week bird watching; and the last group, 'potential vets: and meds' visited farms and institutes studying animal husbandry.

On Good Friday and Easter Sunday the party attended St. Peter's Church Edgmond, or the Methodist Church. On Sunday afternoon we were visited by parents and friends. On Saturday afternoon we did the traditional 'walk', on this occasion to Caynton Old Mill; fortunately, half way round the circuit we were met by Mr. Barker and a picnic tea which was eaten at the road side. On Easter Monday the party visited Trentham Gardens where even the coldness of the day did not prevent our hardy members from boating.

The remainder of the week was spent investigating our set problems. The bird watchers had a most successful week in spite of Easter's being so early this year; among rare species seen were Whimbrel, Black Throated Diver, and Red Breasted Merganser. We were all most impressed by the co-operation shown by the people of Edgmond, in particular the local farmers who cheerfully tolerated our group wandering over their farms. The 'vets and meds' spent a whole evening digging a tunnel about fourteen feet long and were exhilarated when at its end they 'unearthed' a vixen and four cubs, which had accounted for at least sixty hens during the previous week.

G. Davies, 6A.

THE second visit to Edgmond in the 1957-58 School year took place during the last week in July. We had forebodings due to the appalling weather of the previous few weeks, but the Fates deemed that our visit should be a pleasant one, and we had a reasonable admixture of sunshine and showers.

The usual biological activities were carried out, but these completed, individuals pursued their various interests. Even in the rain the ardent bird watchers would crouch to observe the bird life, while indoors enthusiastic collectors of wild flowers would press their specimens; those fond of country life enjoyed the many interesting walks along country lanes. The recreational activities were an unending source of pleasure, and full advantage was taken of playing tennis in these delightful surroundings. Visits were made to Harper Adams Agricultural College and to the National Poultry Institute, where this adventurous party descended upon the Piggery. Here the breeder was quick to note interest and keenness and conducted us around indicating the development of the piglets from birth to the marketable animal.

On the fifteen mile 'trek', a longstanding feature of Edgmond Visits, the party soon became expert at judging imminent weather changes — the disappearance of the Wrekin from view heralded a rush for shelter of the hedgerows! Five miles from Edgmond we visited a pea factory where newly harvested peas were shelled and processed to be marketed as 'frozen peas'.

The day trip of this week was again to Trentham Gardens, choice being dictated by the uncertain weather. Some of the party visited the lido and trips were taken on the lake steamer and model railway, while others attempted to acquire the skill of rowing and after extricating themselves from tangled weeds and islets seemed to develop more prowess as they progressed through hazardous waters.

Both parties thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and this enjoyment was in no small measure due to Mr. and Mrs. Baker, Mr. Sykes and Mr. Swain. We thank them all very much.

Luned Morris, 6B.

A VISIT TO THE ISLAND OF SKOKHOLM.

WE arrived on the rocky Island of Skokholm, off the coast of Pembrokeshire, on the morning of August 9th, after a crossing which had been abnormally rough in spite of the heavy mists.

Skokholm is one of the many Bird Observatories scattered about our shores, and during our stay we saw many birds which are never seen inland: Gannet with their six foot wing span, and hundreds of Manx Shearwater were quite common. We were fortunate in being able to join

two night expeditions carrying out a survey of Shearwater and Petrel. These birds were ringed by the Warden and his assistant.

At this time of the year the Autumn Return Migration is just beginning and one of the highlights of a most exciting week was the occasion when a Melodious Warbler was trapped and ringed. Less than twenty birds of this species have been recorded in and around the British Isles. Skokholm is also rich in other forms of life: here there are still hundreds of rabbits, many species of butterflies and moths, slow worms (limbless lizards), seals, edible fungi, and this year Portugese Man O'War.

Our week's stay was too short, and it was a sad moment when Skokholm disappeared from view behind St. Ann's Head as we headed towards the mainland.

R. C. Broadbent, 6B.
J. E. Campbell, 6X.

GIRLS' HOLIDAY IN ITALY, EASTER 1958.

EARLY on Good Friday morning, an excited crowd gathered outside the school for the first stage of our much anticipated holiday. We had a comfortable journey to Victoria, where we took the boat train to Folkestone and here we embarked on the "Cote d'Azur." We soon arrived at Calais, which was for most of us our first experience abroad. Customs formalities over, we began our long overnight train journey to Basle.

After enjoying our first continental breakfast, we left by train for Lugano, crossing the snow-capped Alps of Switzerland, through the St. Gotthard tunnel. On arriving at Mennagio, our first glimpse of Bellagio, "The Pearl of the Lake," awaited us. It is situated on a promontory in the middle of Lake Como, where the three arms of the lake join.

We were met at the landing-stage by the proprietress of our hotel, Excelsior-Splendide, which proved to be vast and impressive. Very soon we began to enjoy Italian dishes such as spaghetti and ravioli, and on Easter Sunday we had a special Easter Cake.

Bellagio is a quaint town, rising steeply from the waters'-edge. From every view-point the Alps, towering above the lake, may be seen. The lower slopes are terraced for the growing of olives, vines and almonds, the latter displaying their beautiful pine blossom during our stay. Arcade shops, with their colourful displays, lined the staircase streets and the waterfront.

A number of short excursions were made during our stay at Bellagio, including the fishing villages of Pescallo and Varenna, both of which are situated on the Lecco branch of the lake. In the gardens of the Villa Carlotta there were many tropical and sub-tropical plants. We were intrigued to see the oranges and lemons, and at first somewhat puzzled by the tall stick-like objects which we discovered were pruned banana trees! A visit was also made to the capital of the province, Como, where we visited the large cathedral. As Como is the centre of the Italian silk industry, our tour around the Silk Institute proved to be a unique experience. Here we saw the various processes involved in the production of silk, from the cocoon stage to the finished article. During the tour we were also shown the laboratories and the art rooms, where students paint their designs, and are also taught how they must be constructed.

During our stay at Bellagio we went on two full-day excursions, one to St. Moritz in Switzerland and the other to Lake Maggiore on the fringe of the Plain of Lombardy.

Monday, 7th April dawned bright and at 8-30 a.m. we boarded the steamer for Menaggio on the opposite side of the lake. Here a brightly-coloured green and white coach was waiting to take us the fifty miles to St. Moritz. The sunshine became brighter and as we sped along the lake-side through Gravedona the scenery became more and more impressive. At first the lower slopes were clothed with vineyards and from great heights huge pipe-lines swept down the mountains to hydro-electric power stations but as we approached the Swiss frontier the luxuriant vegetation gave way to larches and firs.

At the frontier town of Cassaccia the snow was piled some five feet high on either side of the road and the driver put chains on the wheels. Ahead lay the steep Maloja Pass with its fourteen hairpin bends. At the top, the glare of the white snow was so intense that we were compelled to wear our sun glasses. From here we passed lakes covered with snow and ice and dropped very slightly to St. Moritz nestling among the magnificent mountains.

St. Moritz with its cobbled streets was full of skiers of many nationalities and its shops displayed the intricate products of Swiss workmanship. In the fifty miles from Menaggio we had climbed from 600' to 6000' above sea level; from warm sunshine to the snows of St. Moritz.

For the second excursion to Lake Maggiore a still earlier start was made. We boarded the 6-30 a.m. steamer and from Menaggio our route lay southwards to the Plain of Lombardy. En route the first town of any interest was Como. On entering we saw a statue, a memorial to Volta! We passed through Como with its silk factories to sweep along the straight arteries of the plain towards Varese leaving Milan on our left. At Varese



The All-Conquering Football Team.

we turned towards the Alps and hence to Lake Maggiore. As the lake was approached it looked enchanting and the Borromean islands were set like jewels in its peaceful waters. Taking a small boat we landed on one of them, Isola Bella, where the villa and gardens of the Borromean family were visited.

On reaching the mainland again we were taken to Stresa, a town notorious in the early '30's for Fascist political meetings. The return route to Bellagio lay through Varese, a pleasant town with beautiful gardens.

Our thoughts were directed towards home on Saturday, April 12th, and at 2-27 p.m. we left Bellagio to make our way through Menaggio, Lugano, the St. Gotthard Pass, Basle, Mulhouse, Strasbourg, Metz, Lille and Calais to London, a journey that was to take until 3-25 p.m. on Sunday. It was a grand experience and one we shall never forget.

To Miss Firth, Miss Sendell and Miss Horton we offer our sincere thanks, for without their efforts and thoughtfulness such a wonderful holiday would not have been possible.

Judith Bagley and Luned Morris, VI.B.

BOYS' HOLIDAY IN SPAIN, AUGUST 1958.

AT our meeting early in the Autumn term it was decided to visit Zarouz on the Atlantic Coast of Spain as a change from what had almost become an annual visit to Switzerland. No-one realised at the time the extent to which 'change' was to become the keynote of this excursion. An itinerary was drawn up staying overnight at Tours on the outward journey, the main venue was Zarouz, and an overnight stay at Poitiers on the return journey. 1958 being the Lourdes Centenary, hoteliers were even at Christmastide limiting tourists to a four day stay, and this spread outwards from the centre of pilgrimage so that an overnight stay at Tours was impossible and the itinerary was changed via Poitiers. Early in the year the hotelier at Zarouz found it impossible to accommodate such a large party for so long, and we changed our venue to Zumaya a small fishing village some ten miles along the coast and to the West of Zarouz. It was on August 15th, three days before we were due to leave, that we learned of the final change. It was now not possible to accommodate our coach on the night ferry from Dunkerque to Dover on the night of August 31st, and the party was to stay overnight in Paris, taking the evening ferry the following day. This change excited everyone as also did the state of the weather as soon as we had crossed the English Channel. We proceeded southwards in brilliant sunshine through Abbeville, Rouen, Tours, Poitiers, Bordeaux, and Biarritz to cross the frontier at Irun.

Our Hotel the Gran Hotel Amaya was an enormous modern building quite out of keeping with the humble fishing village of Zumaya. The hotel had its own swimming-pool and tennis court, both much in demand by the party. Nearby were two beaches where we swam, sunbathed and played football. The local diet was rich, unusual, plentiful, and to some, rather disturbing.

In addition to the informal games and beach parties we had a number of organized excursions, the first to Tolosa, a small town in the hills, to see a local bullfight, a small affair which followed the traditional ritual but without the colourful costumes we had all expected. Our second excursion was sightseeing and shopping in Bilbao where in addition to buying a large number of souvenirs we were also fortunate to buy cheap tickets for a full-dress bullfight during their *Semana Granda*. Although these bullfights cannot be enjoyed we were pleased that we had seen two examples of the national sport, which has become a 'must' for every tourist.

A very enjoyable visit was made to San Sebastian some miles along the coast, perhaps the best known holiday resort in this area. It was here that we were able to see another national sport — a Pelota game. This resembles our own games of Squash and Fives. Pelota is played indoors on a very long narrow court separated from the spectators by a stout grid. A wooden ball is hurled at great speed to strike the end wall, hurled from and trapped in a banana shaped wicker basket strapped to the player's wrist. Equally vigorous and fascinating were the antics of the commission agents who acted as intermediaries between supporters of the respective teams. The locals seemed more interested in Chance than the game of skill being played out on the other side of the grille.

The final visit was to Zarouz, 'the Queen of Beaches', an expanse of golden sand which allowed excellent bathing in the heavy swell from the Bay of Biscay. Bathing is permitted at certain times only as indicated by a variety of coloured flags, and only under the supervision of life-guards.

The sadness at leaving the Amaya was soon forgotten as all eyes eagerly sought the first sign-post for Paris, which we reached mid-afternoon on Saturday. The evening was spent exploring this wonderful city, and the following morning, there was a short tour of the main sights, before we made our way towards Boulogne and the ferry that was to take us back to Oldbury.

Finally to Mr. K. C. Hudson and Mr. E. G. Swain we would say a very sincere 'thank you' for organizing and conducting this memorable holiday.

John Hughes, 5.M.

VISIT TO LUDLOW.

ON Thursday, June 26th, a Sixth Form English group visited Ludlow Castle to see a performance of Milton's 'Comus'. The party travelled in two cars, one of which had been hired for the day. The weather was fine and the group was able to stop for a picnic lunch on the Clee Hills, during which the local sheep tried, one of them successfully, to snatch a few sandwiches.

The group arrived at the castle with about three minutes to spare, but the start of the performance was delayed for fifteen minutes, during which everyone was able to survey the setting for the masque.

The open-air stage was fairly large and was so placed that there were several convenient entrances to it through the ruins, and these were put to good use during the performance.

The masque was well acted, the most impressive character being the wily Comus, whose *début* was preceded by a weird dance of people who had already fallen under his evil control. These people had been changed into a variety of pitiable animal forms. As Comus approached for the frenzied and eerie night rituals, his subject creatures cowered low, fixing their eyes upon his point of entry. The Attendant Spirit made a dramatic appearance on the dizzy summit of the ruins. The First Brother had the air of giving the Second Brother a stern lecture on the main theme of the masque, and was unable to conceal a too obvious didactic flavour which is undoubtedly present in this work.

When the performance had ended and the party had just set out from Ludlow, the hired car driven by Mr. Hetherington broke down in one of the main streets and had to be pushed to the kerb. However, after several anxious but amusing minutes, matters were righted, and the cars once more took to the road without further mishap.

All arrived home at about 6-30 p.m. and agreed that it had been a most enjoyable day.

Ann Murray, 6A.

VISIT TO STRATFORD.

ON Thursday, July 3rd, a party of sixth-formers visited the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon to see a performance of 'Hamlet'. We travelled by diesel train to Stratford, and sat on the lawns outside the theatre to eat our packed lunches.

Shortly before the commencement of the play, we ascended the seemingly interminable staircase to our seats on the front row of the gallery.

The house lights were dimmed and the curtain rose to reveal a partly darkened stage, with the figures of Francisco and Barnardo just visible. The gloomy setting and the tense air of expectancy which hung over the sentries provided the beginning of the play with an atmosphere of half-fearful anticipation. From then, until the final duel and Hamlet's dramatic death, we were entranced by this brilliant production of Shakespeare's masterpiece.

Michael Redgrave was a most convincing Hamlet, and his performance reached its peak during the chapel scene. The part of Horatio was skilfully interpreted, and emphasised Mr. Redgrave's expert acting. Googie Withers as the Queen was disappointing, but Dorothy Tutin was excellent as Ophelia, particularly in the mad scenes. Cyril Luckham was an amusing Polonius, especially in the scenes with Hamlet. Among the smaller parts, Osric, with his enormous plumed hat, and the extraordinarily cheerful grave-digger were outstanding.

We were all delighted by the attractive performance of the 'play within a play' presented by the travelling actors. The Court was grouped around the back of the stage, their rich costumes providing a blaze of colour, and in the foreground, the players in their simpler clothes unfolded their story. The scene in the Queen's room was disappointing. The royal bed looked in grave danger of collapsing every time Mr. Redgrave stood on it to pronounce some important speech, and to see him standing on one side of a curtain, attempting to remove his sword from the body of Polonius on the other side, could only be called ludicrous. The Chapel scene was extremely effective, and we could feel the tense atmosphere in the theatre, as the sword was poised over the King's head. The mad scenes and the graveyard scene were both well presented, as was the final duel between Hamlet and Laertes.

When the play was over, we left the theatre, and discovered that we had just missed our train. However, one member of the party had to return to the theatre to collect her school hat, which she had (accidentally?) left under her seat. When we eventually reached home, we discovered that all the Birmingham area had that afternoon experienced a thunderstorm, whereas we had not felt a spot of rain until we reached Birmingham on our homeward journey.

Nora C. Reynolds, 6A.

GUIDES.

Captain: F. D. TWEEDIE.

Lieutenants: B. PINE, M. COXILL.

Cadets: I. WALKER, C. GREGORY, D. HOLTOM, D. WESTWOOD.

Leaders:

BRENDA WEBB (Bullfinch), JUDITH POWELL (Chaffinch),
ANGELA DOWNS (Clover), NORA REYNOLDS (Daffodil),
SUSAN PHIPPS (Hawthorn), NINA ROGERS (Orchid),
BRENDA HARROLD (Swallow).

GUIDE meetings were held as usual throughout the year on Monday evenings after school. During the meetings many inter-patrol games and competitions were held, the latter on almost every subject from camping to first aid, and there was always keen rivalry. Several groups, under the leadership of the Cadets and senior Guides, worked for their tenderfoot, second class and first class badges, the last mentioned being none too popular with the others when candidates were practising rope-throwing and bed-making! Many proficiency badges were gained, varying from camper and map-reader to cook and minstrel. Two Guides won their First Class badges during the year and one of them also gained her All Round Cords. One Guide won the highest and most coveted award in the Guide Movement, that of Queen's Guide. This test contains many sections including overseas and home service, organising a week-end camp and carrying out a "Be Prepared" Test, in which the candidate may be called upon to do anything within her Guiding experience. The meetings were always concluded with a camp fire, ending with "Taps".

The enrolment of new Guides and investiture of Cadets was held in early November. The ceremony took place in horseshoe formation between the Company and Queen's Colours, and the Guide Creed was sung.

On November 15th the Annual Sale of Work, for which we had been preparing for most of the autumn term, was opened by Councillor Mrs. Pine, a Vice-President of the Local Association of Girl Guides. Apart from the usual samples of needlework and home-cooking for sale, there were freshly-cut flowers and potted plants, which proved very popular. A record amount of over a hundred pounds was raised. We were pleased to welcome Mr. Hudson, who was selling Christmas cards in aid of the N.S.M.H.C.

The Autumn term concluded with a very enjoyable party.

The Company attended several church parades during the year, the first of which was the Armistice Parade in November. The Annual

Division Parade was held on May 11th at Edgbaston Old Church, and we also attended the Mayor's Sunday Parade in June, when the Colours were presented at the Sanctuary.

The tuck shop has again flourished throughout the year, both providing the School and the Guides with a source of funds and the pupils of the School with a means of warding off hunger until dinner-time!

At the end of the Spring term, several of the Guides prepared and served refreshments during the three performances of the School Play, "Caesar's Friend".

On April 1st, two senior Guides and a Cadet attended a Cadet open evening at County Headquarters. They were entertained by a very interesting account of life in British Guiana, given by a Guider who had just returned. The talk was illustrated by many beautiful colour slides. Our Cadet was unexpectedly asked to propose a vote of thanks, which she did very ably on the spur of the moment. The talk was followed by a discussion on Guide tests, and the evening concluded with an enjoyable camp fire.

When we returned to school for the Summer term we learned the sad news that Miss Tweedie had been taken ill during the holidays and would not be returning for some time. We were all very sorry to hear this, but, aided by our Lieutenants and Cadets, we forged ahead.

After Miss Tweedie's return, the Guides presented to the School a fine cut-glass vase, which now, filled with well-arranged flowers bought weekly from the proceeds of the tuck shop, adorns the Headmaster's table in the School Hall.

On the evening of Friday, July 4th, a number of Guides went to Lordswood Technical School to see Lady Baden-Powell, the World Chief Guide. Three of our Company, forming part of the Guard of Honour, shook hands with the Chief on her arrival.

The Company was again represented in the District Swimming Gala at Langley Baths in July. Our Girl Guides did extremely well, winning every event, and thus returning the shield to the Grammar School for the eighth time in succession.

The Cadets were also successful in the Birmingham County Rangers' Gala, although here the fight was harder, the first three companies being separated by only two points.

And so to the highlight of the year, our annual camp at Beer, Devon. For the first time ever, we arrived in heavy mist and rain. However, we kept our spirits up, according to the eighth Guide Law, and the field soon took on its familiar form, as tents were pitched and a fire lit. After this poor start, the weather improved, and we enjoyed our usual activities:

camp duties, shopping, swimming and eating. As usual a fabulous number of sausages were demolished, and the general high standard of eating was maintained! A patrol competition was organized, each patrol compiling a nature log book. These were later judged by Mr. Swain and a prize was awarded to the winning patrol. The patrol stunts performed were again highly amusing. One patrol expressed their ideas of Early Camping with many vain attempts at tent pitching, in comparison with Camping in the Future, when tents were a thing of the past, meals were administered in tablet form and transport was by means of 'flying saucers'. Another patrol gave a realistic impersonation of the television programme "What's My Line?" with Hilbert Garding, Navid Dixon, Marlene and Karbara Belly. All too soon, the fortnight was at an end, and we journeyed home-wards with many happy memories of a wonderful holiday.

We are sure that all Guides wish to join with us in offering our sincere thanks to our Captain, Miss Tweedie, our lieutenants, members of the staff, and other friends who have given so much of their time to make these activities possible.

Angela Downs and Chloë Daniels, 6B.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

THE activities of the S.C.M. this session have been many and varied. They included film strips, brains trusts, discussions and play readings, the latter being taken from 'The Man Born to be King'.

The highlight of this year was a visit during the Spring Term of the Lord Bishop of Aston. He gave a short talk entitled 'What is Religion?' which was interesting and enlightening.

During the Spring and Summer terms, the junior branch of the S.C.M., led by members of Form 6b, held an exhibition illustrating the 'Spread of the Gospel' from the time of St. Paul right up to the present day. The exhibition was held in the Library on Friday, May 30th, and was highly commended by all who saw it.

The climax of the Spring Term was a visit to the synagogue in Birmingham for the Senior S.C.M., and an excursion to Lichfield Cathedral for the junior branch.

We should like to extend our grateful thanks to Dr. Howard, Miss Sendell, and Mr. Barbour for making these meetings possible and for all the help and encouragement they have given to us.

Diana Holtom, 6A.

GIRLS' ATHLETIC SPORTS, 1958.**HIGH JUMP**

- 11-12 years. 1, J. Parsons (Q); 2, P. Rogers (S); 3, (J. Plimley (T)
(3' 7") (M. Tranter (K)
- 13 years. 1, S. Hadley (T); 2, G. Smith (S); 3, M. White (Q).
(3' 10")
- 14 years. 1, P. Webb (S); 2, L. Moores (T) and M. Moore (S).
- 15 + years. 1, C. Gregory (S); 2, V. Beardmore (S); 3, (J. Parkes (T)
(4' 5") (J. Brookes (T)

LONG JUMP

- 11-12 years. 1, J. Parsons (Q); 2, A. Smith (K); 3, J. Hunt (T).
- 13 years. 1, M. White (Q); 2, S. Taylor (K); 3, P. Bevington (K).
(12' 10")
- 14 years. 1, L. Moores (T); 2, P. Webb (S); 3, H. Bolton (K).
(13' 8")
- 15+ years. 1, C. Gregory (S); 2, C. Edmunds (K); 3, R. Beard (Q).
(14' 1")

ROUNDERS BALL

- 11-12 years. 1, S. Wise (K); 2, M. Tranter (K); 3, M. Chalk (Q).
- 13 years. 1, S. Taylor (K); 2, P. Bevington (K); 3, M. Harvey (S).
- 14 years. 1, P. Webb (S); 2, H. Bolton (K); 3, L. Turner (K).
- 15+ years. 1, P. Rowe (T); 2, C. Gregory (S); 3, B. Jarrett (S).

100 YARDS

- 11-12 years. 1, J. Parsons (Q); 2, A. Smith (K).
- 13 years. 1, S. Taylor (K); 2, M. Smith (T); 3, M. Walton (K).
- 14 years. 1, M. Moore (S); 2, L. Moores (T); 3, L. Turner (K).
- 15+ years. 1, R. Beard (Q); 2, J. Fletcher (K); 3, N. Reynolds (Q).

220 YARDS

- 11-12 years. 1, J. Parsons (Q); 2, P. Rogers (S); 3, A. Smith (K).
- 13 years. 1, S. Taylor (K); 2, M. Grout (T); 3, M. Smith (T).
- 14 years. 1, L. Moores (T); 2, M. Moore (S); 3, P. Webb (S).
- 15+ years. 1, C. Gregory (S); 2, R. Beard (Q); 3, J. Fletcher (K).

100 YARDS SKIPPING

- 11-12 years. 1, J. Parsons (Q); 2, A. Smith (K); 3, R. Deakin (K).
- 13 years. 1, S. Taylor (K); 2, M. Grout (T); 3, M. Smith (T).
- 14 years. 1, L. Moores (T); 2, H. Bolton (K); 3, L. Turner (K).
- 15+ years. 1, C. Gregory (S); 2, J. Fletcher (K); 2, V. Beardmore (S).

440 YARDS

Open. 1, L. Moores (T); 2, C. Gregory (S); 3, C. Watton (S).

JUNIOR RELAY

1, Kings; 2, Queens; 3, School.

SENIOR RELAY

1, School; 2, Queens; 3, Kings.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS

Junior: Jean Parsons (Q) 30 points.
Runner-up: Angela Smith (K) 14 points.
Intermediate: Lilian Moores (T) 31 points.
Runner-up: Stella Taylor (K) 28 points.
Senior: Christine Gregory (S) 32 points.
Runner-up: Rosalind Beard (Q) 12 points.

GIRLS' GAMES 1957-58.

Hockey

THE 1st XI hockey team had quite a successful season. They won 8 out of their 10 matches, losing only 2. The team scored 34 goals and had only 14 scored against them.

The permanent members of the team were:- Pamela Rowe and Christine Gregory (Joint Capt. and Sec.), Judith Harper, Judith Rose, Brenda Harrold, Patricia Webb, Sylvia Bradshaw, Gillian Newman, Sylvia Fletcher and Joyce Fletcher.

Colours were awarded to:- Judith Rose, Judith Harper, and Brenda Harrold.

The 2nd XI hockey team were less successful, because they unfortunately lost both their matches, having 13 goals scored against them and scoring only 3.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT.

Sylvia Fletcher, Pamela Rowe, Christine Gregory, Brenda Harrold and Sylvia Bradshaw were all chosen to enter the final trials. Pamela Rowe was chosen as centre-half and captain, Sylvia Fletcher as right-inner, Christine Gregory as left-wing in the County 1st XI and Sylvia Bradshaw as left-half in the County 2nd XI.

Rounders

THE senior rounders team had a successful season winning all their 4 matches. Rounders for the school were 20 with 8½ against.

The team was:- Janet Parkes, Brenda Harrold, Janice Bagnall, Margaret King, Betty Leadbeater, Patricia Webb, Jacqueline Dawes, Margaret Stanaway, Pat Norville.

Colours were awarded to:- Brenda Harrold, Janet Parkes, Janice Bagnall, Margaret King, Betty Leadbeater.

The junior team did not have quite such a successful season, losing the first two matches but then winning the last two. Rounders against them amounted to 16½ and for them, 17.

HOUSE MATCHES.

Trinity House won the championship worthily, winning all 3 matches. King's followed them closely, only losing 1 and winning 2. Queen's were next, winning 1 and losing 2; and School House failed to win any.

Tennis

UNFORTUNATELY weather conditions only enabled the team to play 3 matches, two of which they won, losing only one. Games for the School amounted to 18 and 9 against.

The team members were:- Judith Rose, Pamela Rowe, Christine Gregory, Vivien Darlington, Judith Hemming, Christine Mallard.

Colours were awarded to: Vivien Darlington and Christine Mallard.

HOUSE MATCHES.

After a keen competition Trinity finally won first place, winning all 3 matches, School followed closely, winning 2 and losing 1. Then came King's, winning 1 and losing 2; with Queen's failing to win a match.

Christine Gregory, 6A.

BOYS' ATHLETICS

100 YARDS

- Group A & B.—1, Barnsley (K); 2, Currier (S); 3, J. Swallow (Q).
Time: 12.8 secs.
- Group C.—1, Harvey (S); 2, Bywater (T); 3, Oakes (Q).
Time: 11.8 secs.
- Group D.—1, Whittaker (T); 2, Whitehouse (S); 3, Pardoe (S).
Time: 11.7 secs.
- Group E.—1, Field (S); 2, Glover (Q); 3, Hughes (T).
Time: 10.6 secs.

220 YARDS

- Group A & B.—1, Harris (K); 2, J. Swallow (Q); 3, Clarke (Q).
Time: 32.0 secs.
- Group C.—1, Harvey (S); 2, Bywater (T); 3, Haywood (Q).
Time: 27.8 secs.
- Group D.—1, Pinson (T); 2, Whitehouse (S); 3, Griffiths (Q).
Time: 27.8 secs.
- Group E.—1, Glover (Q); 2, Darby (S); 3, Hughes (T).
Time: 24.4 secs.

440 YARDS

- Group C.—1, Grigg (S); 2, Walters (S); 3, Russell (K).
Time: 70.9 secs.
- Group D.—1, Whittaker (T); 2, Downing (K); 3, Pickering (Q).
Time: 65.3 secs.
- Group E.—1, Field (S); 2, Burns (Q); 3, Robertson (K).
Time: 59.1 secs.

880 YARDS

- Group D.—1, Pinson (T); 2, Wyton (S); 3, Hall (T).
Time: 2 mins. 38 secs.
- Group E.—1, Templeton (S); 2, Bristow (Q); 3, Lacon (T).
Time: 2 mins. 21 secs.

MILE

- Group E.—Individual.
1, Field (S); 2, Lacon (T); 3, Wellings (S).
Time: 5 mins. 13.5 secs.
- Team: 1, Trinity; 2, Queens.

RELAYS

Group A & B.—1, School; 2, Trinity; 3, Queens.

Time: 62 secs.

Group C.—1, Trinity; 2, Queens; 3, Kings.

Time: 92.3 secs.

Group D.—1, Trinity; 2, School; 3, Queens.

Time: 84.2 secs.

Group E.—1, School; 2, Kings; 3, Queens.

Time: 4 mins. 19.8 secs.

HIGH JUMP

Group A & B.—1, Billingham (S); 2, Barnsley (K); 3, Harris (K).

Height: 4 ft. 1 inch.

Group C.—1, Jones (T); 2, Hall (Q); 3, Bywater (T).

Height: 4 ft. 7 ins.

Group D.—1, Trickett (T); 2, Pinson (T); 3, Parsonage (Q).

Height: 4 ft. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins.

Group E.—1, Freeman (S); 2, Currier (S); 3, Glover (Q).

Height: 5 ft. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins.

LONG JUMP

Group A & B.—1, Billingham (S); 2, Gray (T); 3, Barnsley (K).

Distance: 13 ft. 5 ins.

Group C.—1, Latham (K); 2, Jones (S); 3, Oakes (Q).

Distance: 14 ft. 11 ins.

Group D.—1, Wyton (S); 2, Downing (K); 3, Hall (T).

Distance: 14 ft. 5 ins.

Group E.—1, Templeton (S); 2, Burns (Q); 3, Darby (S).

Distance: 17 ft. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL

Group A & B.—1, Currier (S); 2, Chambers (K); 3, Houghton (Q).

Distance: 171 ft.

HOP, STEP AND JUMP

Group C.—1, Hall (Q); 2, Jones (S); 3, Latham (K).

Distance: 29 ft. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

Group D.—1, Pardoe (S); 2, Downing (K); 3, Wyton (S).

Distance: 29 ft. 6 ins.

Group E.—1, Templeton (S); 2, Darby (S); 3, Sandell (Q).

Distance: 38 ft. 2 ins.

PUTTING THE SHOT

- Group A & B.—1, Robinson (S); 2, Parkes (T); 3, Chambers (K)
Distance: 24 ft. 2 ins. Harris (K).
Group C.—1, Gethins (Q); 2, Jefferson (K); 3, Parker (Q).
Distance: 24 ft. 4 ins.
Group D.—1, Wyton (C); 2, Griffiths (S); 3, Trickett (T).
Distance: 31 ft. 3 ins.
Group E.—1, Sloan (K); 2, Spittle (K); 3, Cotton (T).
Distance: 38 ft. 10½ ins.

THROWING THE JAVELIN

- Group C.—1, Harvey (S); 2, Grigg (S); 3, Jefferson (K).
Distance: 92 ft. 11 ins.
Group D.—1, Pibworth (K); 2, Jones (S); 3, Trickett (T).
Distance: 86 ft. 1 inch.
Group E.—1, Sloan (K); 2, Field (S); 3, Spooner (K).
Distance: 126 ft. 7 ins.

THROWING THE DISCUS

- Group C.—1, Hall (Q); 2, Yates (T); 3, Currier (S).
Distance: 69 ft.
Group D.—1, Whittaker (T); 2, Lewis (T); 3, Chapman (K).
Distance: 80 ft.
Group E.—1, Sloan (K); 2, Bristow (Q); 3, Spooner (K).
Distance: 111 ft.

A system of standards gave every boy a chance to score points for his house during the season. When these had been added to those made during Sports Day, the final result gave a victory to School House with 471 points; Trinity were second with 375 points, followed by King's and Queen's with 361 and 340 points respectively. When these points had been added to those of the Girls, the overall result was :-

1, SCHOOL; 2, KINGS; 3, TRINITY; 4, QUEENS.

When individual points had been totalled, it was seen that Junior Champion was Billingham of School, Intermediate Champion was Whittaker of Trinity, and Field, another School House boy, was Senior Champion.

A downpour made the field slippery, which adversely affected performances in many cases.

BOYS' SWIMMING GALA

The Boys' Swimming Gala was held at Langley Baths on Friday, 19th July. Results were as follows:-

Junior Events.

- One length Free Style.—1, Smith (T); 2, Currier (S); 3, Jackson (T).
Time: 17.5 secs.
- One length Breast Stroke.—1, Bayliss (K); 2, Swallow (Q); 3, Cooper (S).
Time: 24.6 secs.
- One width Back Stroke.—1, Smith (T); 2, Eaves (Q); 3, Jackson (T).
Time: 9.6 secs.
- One width Beginners.—1, Elliott (S); 2, Merrel (K); 3, Grinnell (K).
Time: 10.1 secs.
- Dive.—1, Currier (S); 2, Swallow (Q); 3, Limbrick (T).
- 4 x One length Relay.—1, Kings; 2, Queens;
Time: 1 min. 51.3 secs.

Intermediate Events.

- Two lengths Free Style.—1, Trickett (T); 2, Hall (Q); 3, Moore (K).
Time: 36.2 secs.
- Two lengths Breast Stroke.—1, Trickett (T); 2, Pinson (T) 3, Mitchell (Q).
Time: 43.3 secs.
- One length Back Stroke.—1, Moore (K); 2, Pibworth (K); 3, Harvey (S).
Time: 19.9 secs.
- One width Beginners.—1, Bridgen (Q); 2, Flowerdew (T); 3, Flavell (S).
Time: 12.1 secs.
- Dive.—1, Trickett (T); 2, Hall (Q); 3, Moore (K).
- 4 x One length Relay.—1, Queens; 2, School; 3, Trinity.
Time: 1 min. 18.9 secs.

Senior Events.

- Two lengths Free Style.—1, Page (K); 2, Currier (S);
Time: 33.6 secs.
- Two lengths Breast Stroke.—1, Currier (S); 2, Ludlow (T).
Time: 44.7 secs.
- Two lengths Back Stroke.—1, Medhurst (Q); 2, Currier (S); 3, Lloyd (Q).
Time: 47.0 secs.
- Plunge.—1, Newell (T); 2, Medhurst (Q); 3, Clements (K).
- Dive.—1, Currier (S); 2, Sutton (S); 3, Newell (T) Stevens (K).
- Relay.—1, Queen's; 2, Trinity; 3, King's. Time: 1 min. 9.2 secs.

The final placings of the houses was Queen's first with 36 points, Trinity came second with 34 points, School gained 27 points and King's 26 points.

Individually, the senior swimming champion was Currier. Trickett was champion of the intermediate section and the junior champion was Smith.

THE GYMNASTICS CLUB

This club is in need of more team gymnasts. The boys who attended regularly enjoyed themselves and reached a good standard in vaulting and agility.

The outstanding performer was A. Harrold who earned for himself the first Gymnastic Colours ever presented in the school. Colours will be presented annually to the best gymnasts in the club.

ROAD RACE

Nearly all the boys in the school took part, and everyone managed to finish the course. The time-lag from first to last was so considerable that it is suspected that some went home for tea on the way.

The first runners home completed the course in very good times.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Junior.—1, Barnsley (T); 2, J. Swallow (Q); 3, Billingham (S).
Time: 1 min. 42 secs.

Intermediate.—1, Whittaker (T); 2, Reardon (T); 3, Jones (S).
Time: 12 mins. 15 secs.

Senior.—1, Vaughan (S); 2, Lacon (T); 3, Kite (T).
Time: 11 mins. 47.5 secs.

HOUSE RESULTS

Junior.—1, Trinity 179 points; 2, King's 201 points; 3, School 221 points; 4, Queen's 251 points.

Intermediate.—1, School 164 points; 2, Queen's 194 points; 3, Trinity 216 points; 4, King's 239 points.

Senior.—1, King's 123 points; 2, Trinity 194 points; 3, School 263 points; 4, Queen's 320 points.

BOYS' GAMES 1957-58.

Football

THIS has been the most brilliant season for Soccer in the history of Oldbury Grammar School.

The full record of the 1st XI reads:—

Played 24; Won 23; Lost 0; Drawn 1.

Goals for 149; Goals against 29.

Only once before has an Oldbury Grammar School first Team played right through the season without defeat and that was in 1936/7 when Douglas Hadley captained the team which won 13 of the 17 matches played, the other 4 being drawn, scoring 86 goals against 29. A comparison shows that the record of the present team is undoubtedly superior, both as regards the number of matches played, the proportion won and the number of goals scored.

But, in addition, the present team had the honour of winning the Birmingham and District Grammar Schools' Cup, beating Wednesbury Grammar School in the final at the Hawthorns by 3 goals to 2, on March 8th: the record of the School in the Cup is remarkable; within the last 4 years they have appeared in the final 3 times and won the Cup twice.

The players were:- Field; Glover; Kite; Vaughan; Spittle; Smith; Richards; Darby; Stubbs; Sloan (capt.); Templeton. The reserves were: D. Matthews and Ellis.

Stubbs with 65 goals and Sloan with 29 have been the chief scorers; and here it is worthy of note that in the 1926/27 Season Harry Jennings scored 96 goals.

Several members of the team have gained representative honours: Sloan, Vaughan, Darby, Stubbs, Field and Spittle have played for Worcestershire and Sloan (capt.), Stubbs, Field, Darby and Spittle for the Birmingham and District representative side.

The record of the School 2nd XI is also worthy of mention:

Played 10; Won 9; Lost 1; Drawn 0.

Goals for 49; Goals against 21.

Cricket

DURING the Cricket Season the 1st XI played 11 matches. They won 5, drew 4 and lost 2. The 2nd XI played 8 matches, won 0, drew 2 and lost 6. The Colts played 2, winning 0 and losing 2. The Under 13's XI played 6 matches, winning 3 and losing 3. They are to be especially congratulated on winning the St. Philip's Shield, a competition open to Grammar Schools of the district.

Smith was captain of the 1st XI and Horton captain of the 2nd XI. Darby was top of the 1st XI batting with an average of 18.6, Smith had an average of 15.6 and D. Matthews an average of 13.6.

Spoooner topped the 1st XI bowling, taking 25 wickets at an average of 5.76, F. Matthews took 22 wickets at an average of 6.54 and Sandell took 20 wickets at an average of 9.25.

The annual fixture with the Parents was won by the School who scored 70-1 in reply to the Parents' total of 69.

The House matches resulted in a tie for the first place between King's and Trinity each of whom won two of their three matches.

The full results were:-

King's beat School and Trinity.
Trinity beat Queen's and School.
Queen's beat King's.
School beat Queen's.

At the end of the season Sandell, Spooner, Smith and D. Matthews were awarded their cricket colours.

During the summer vacation D. Matthews was chosen to play for the Worcestershire Grammar Schools XI.

FOOTBALL IN THE PRE-CRESCONIAN ERA.

PRIOR to 1910 there was very little in the way of a recognised eleven at the Oldbury Secondary School (the O.S.S.) and at that time G. Hugh Crisp arrived as Head Master at this gaslit School, cleaned by one Joseph Smalley, and guarded by a gigantic bull mastiff. The personnel was not as now — the top formers were men 18-20 years of age, and some came to school in bowler hats and with Gladstone bags. The school colours were navy blue with scarlet (O.S.S.) cap badges. The rucker eleven played in almost anything — when we could get a ground. Changing was done in the cloak room, there were no showers, baths, or training, first aid or amenities, but we got stacks of fruit cake and some tea (for 4d.) after a home match. Travel to away matches was under a person's own steam — no buses, etc. Mr. Crisp soon took these matters in hand. The strip became pale green shirts with white collars and cuffs, blue nicks and stockings. After seeing the 'team', (a misnomer) in action for the first time, it was stated that the Head wept bitterly. Training took place and he addressed the team in the lecture room. On his own initiative he negotiated the rental of a big field at Smiths Farm, Oldbury, and one of our first mensuration lessons was the marking out of two full-sized pitches, using theodolite, etc. In two seasons the men's team was very good, and had the edge of most Grammar Schools in the area. This team contained such stalwarts as Tatton, Price, Parkes and Bill Jackson, and were assisted by J. Malone (Master) and W. J. Howell (Master) at times, also Peters, Peers and others I have forgotten. They commanded good 'gates', eventually bigger than the town team. The colours were then changed to navy blue, emerald green and white striped shirts (vertical stripes), blue shorts and stockings. I was picked (to make up the eleven) for my first game, at outside left against Stourbridge Grammar School (away) in 1911. We lost, and my general nuisance value was such that the opposition was glad Oldbury had played me. Mr. Crisp then approached West Bromwich Albion, concerning proper coaching (1912-13), and their captain, Jesse Pennington (England's peerless left back) was asked to view us and coach. His activities precluded him from doing much, but he spotted the talent. Bill Jackson and two other were given immediate trials with West Bromwich Albion and two of them played for that Club till the war (1914). At this time many of the 'men' had left and a new team was forming which, it is maintained,

was the best the School ever had (or is likely to have !!!)* This team kept together, trained hard, and beat every School (and others) in the Midlands. One half term holiday was sacrificed to beat both Stourbridge and Dudley, and a charity match was even played in Langley Park against a team then known as the Langley White Stars who were local celebrities. Tickets were printed for this match, which got us into hot water as Mr. Crisp had not sanctioned it. They went for I think 21 matches without defeat and beat Waverley Road (away), who had not lost on their own ground for three seasons. An enjoyable match each year was against the Blue Coat School. Then we lost a match — and on the Monday following, every man in the team was sent for to the lecture room and we were 'addressed' by the Head, who gave us a verbal castigation which made Cullis of the Wolves seem as mild as a lamb by comparison. Red faces galore !! Mr. and Mrs. Crisp came to the matches afterwards and their small daughter, with green, white and blue hair ribbon on top, was a mascot. Still the gates grew, and the team, which was alleged to have the fastest forward line of any school in the Midlands and the steadiest defence, was as follows:

PEERS

	DYAS		ATTWOOD	
	LEIGHTON		BALL	FIELD
SPENCER	ALLEN	WOOD	PARRY	WHITEHEAD

Other alternating players in these years were

Goal: Eric Adams, B. Wakeman.

Backs: E. Parry, R. Gee.

Halves: Caddick, Boras, E. Richards, Palmer, Ellis.

Forwards: Waterhouse, Sargent, Morse, and several others.

As student left, the settled team became:-

B. WAKEMAN.

	E. PARRY		R. GEE	
	W. LEIGHTON		R. BALL	J. FIELD
K. SPENCER	L. ALLEN	J. WOOD	J. WATERHOUSE	W. WHITEHEAD

The war came and caused trouble — Mackintosh (French and Latin), Malone, Bill Jackson, Gee, Peters and others died in Flanders, Tommy Ellis died of wounds after Naval Service, J. Field was severely wounded and the war almost brought to an end what had been a most successful run of some years. Our field became the testing ground for army tanks. After leaving the school I still played for the above team for two seasons till one day Mr. Crisp sent for me and said I could not play again for the School, as some of the opponents objected to the School playing old boys, and fellows who were playing in league football (I had played for Coventry by then), and also it did not give the current scholars much

chance. This was right and fair. Then came my Navy service and I lost touch for a time, but played for the Navy eleven against Brazil and French Navy (1917). After the war I met Jack Richards at the new ground, Moat Road, the site of the present school, and played my first match in borrowed shoes which nearly crippled me for life (1920-21). This was I think the beginning of the Cresconian Club. I was elected Captain at right back, and our colours were halves green and blue and blue shorts. I travelled from Foleshill, Coventry, to Moat Road for each match and back at night. The team was successful; one of the best wins was 5-0 against Birmingham University Eleven on their ground — this should have been 6-0 but I missed a penalty (shame!). I was now playing at Coventry and in the Birmingham Combination as well, and later my duties precluded my regular visits to play. I believe I was the first Cresconian Captain.

The old cry was — “Now the Greens” — and still is for —

A. E. Parry.

*[See this year's results!]—Ed.

ENGLAND

MOUNTAINS, rivers and rolling hill,
Shining lakes, calm and still,
This is England.

Grime and noise from mill and mine,
The sound of traffic on road and on line,
This is England.

A seafaring nation from galleons to tankers,
Trawlers and liners off our coast drop their anchors,
This is England.

London Town, with its pageant and splendour,
Through war and strife she did not surrender.
This is England.

Many the faces she does possess,
Yes, this is the land that I love best,
England.

David Bytheway, 2A.

A BOUQUET

ROSES are red,
Violets are blue,
Carnations are pink,
And lupins are all sorts of funny colours.

Chloë Daniels, 6B.

THE SEASHORE

THE majestic waves broke into a mass of foam and bubbles as they crashed against the jagged rocks. Amongst the seaweed could be found shallow rock pools glistening in the sun. In these pools were beautiful sea anemones, tiny sand spiders and now and again a silvery fish could be seen darting into the safety of the masses of seaweed. The sun beat down upon the rocks and only deep caves and crevices escaped its glare.

How different from quiet coves where the tiny waves lap gently on to the sandy shore and seagulls swoop and glide over the crystal water. The sun shines gently on to the tufts of grass sprinkled with hoary dew which edge the chalky cliffs. A yacht is seen on the horizon, and the whole scene gives an atmosphere of solitude.

Joan Hammond, 2C.

NATIVITY

THE Stable was darkened
 Though the angels gleamed bright
 Casting their brilliance
 On the Christ Child that night.
 As He lay in the manger
 Without any care
 His Mother watched over Him
 Patient and fair.
 While up in the heavens
 Upon Christmas Morn
 One bright star was twinkling
 Lord Jesus was Born.
 The news to the shepherds
 By the angel was told
 Who at once went to view Him
 Forgetting their fold.
 Kings came to see Him
 From countries afar
 And all through their journey
 Were led by the star.

Valerie Batten, 3A.

THE SEA

IN winter, a swirling, angry mass of grey, turbulent water, pounding against the rocks as if trying to batter them to pieces. A magnificent yet awesome sight, completely devoid of life save for the occasional seagull hovering uncertainly over it. Pounding and roaring across the

deserted beach, the sea seems like some ferocious monster seeking its prey, and, finding none, returning to its lair disappointed and angry.

But, as summer comes along, the sea gradually changes from grey to blue-green; from an angry mass to a delightful vista of white-capped waves, running gently in lacy fronds on to the golden beach; no longer deserted and friendless, but now affording shelter for all kinds of marine life and resounding with the cries of birds and children alike.

And so it goes on, from winter to summer; summer to winter; and so it will go on until the end of time.

Brenda Walter, 4B.

LOGARITHM

"THERE'S a square on my hypotenuse," said a triangle one day,
"I've tried so hard to move it, but it just won't go away.
It worries me immensely, and I don't know what to do,
It's driving me isosceles, and equilateral too!"

"There are angles in my segments," a circle sadly sighed,
"They lie on my circumference, and stand on chords inside.
They're held up by my radii, how I wish they'd go away,
For I'll be having cyclic quadrilaterals if they stay!"

"There's nothing 'right' with me now," cried a rhombus in despair,
"All my old friends sat on me because I was a square.
So now I'm leaning to one side, and as you see, my friend,
I'm a poor old parallelogram that's going round the bend!"

Jennifer Turner, 5G.

WINTER

AWAY towards the darkened skies,
The snow flakes fall like butterflies,
I watch them as they gently alight,
Turning the grass to gleaming white.

The snow has stopped, we all go out,
Around a snowman we dance and shout,
Now begins a snowball raid,
And nearby friends rush to our aid.

Soon beyond a snow-white hedge.
Down the hill will come a sledge,
And laughing children all aglow
Will gambol in the clear, crisp snow.

Janet Hutchinson, 1A.

THE LAST STROLL BY THE RIVER

I HEARD the ripple of water,
 The screech of the owl above.
 The sigh of the wind in the willows,
 As I strolled by the river I love.

I saw the moon in her glory
 Shine down on the River Wye.
 And a mouse scurrying home to his family
 As he sensed that danger was nigh.

I smelt the sweet corn in the meadows
 As I walked by the River Wye.
 I recalled the times I had strolled here.
 Now I remembered to say just "Goodbye".

Would this be the last time I'd walk here?
 The last time I'd hear the owl's cry?
 The last time I'd see the moon shine above me
 Upon the river Wye?

I hope to return again one day,
 To the wind and the owls above
 And then, I will never more wander
 Away from the Wye that I love.

Margaret Bagley, 3B.

BOOKS

IS it not frustrating to think one can never read all the books one wishes to? Think — out of the infinite variety of literature in the world today, even the most prolific reader only copes with the tiniest fraction, a negligible proportion of the rich whole. The older I get the more conscious I become of the abounding sources of knowledge, gifts of intellect and reason that are just round the corner, with their hidden depths waiting for me to explore. How thankful we must be to those who have provided us with truly "living" books, whose contents can and do become the furnishings of our minds, the corner-stones and framework of our outlook!

Of course, there are "books and books," some to be tasted, others to be swallowed. Unfortunately most people look first for entertainment value in a book, and read it for its sheer superficial pleasure that does not affect or interrupt their own ideas or thoughts, or provide any serious food for reflection. Perhaps everyone has such a phase in their lives but with some it does not pass, it becomes a habit. I regret such a period in my life but gradually "my eyes are opening" and I know now the deep and lasting satisfaction of having read a book that not only requires my concentration but requires something else from my intimate thoughts: an

adjustment here, a re-assessment there and always the eternal questions, "Why is this so?", or "What does this mean, does it mean anything to me?" I am told this is a healthy attitude. Certainly it is if it gives me a literary appetite, a taste for wider experiences and, in time, a natural philosophy.

To be brief and to quote the words of Bacon, books
". . . . are not to contradict or confute, nor to believe and take
for granted; but to weigh and consider."

Veronica Kingsnorth, 6B.

CONTEMPLATION IN SOLITUDE

HE sits alone, bereft of inspiration, while a clock ticks in the corner. Near to his feet, on the floor, lies a pencil; paper is scattered over the shabby, bare floor and the keys of the piano are silent. He gazes vacantly out of the small window into the silver, moonlit street far below, deserted except for a cat that lopes silently along in search of food. His long sensitive fingers lie motionless on his knees and the moonlight flooding in through the window falls upon the mean furniture, enveloping it in an eerie, cold light or submerging it in the obscurity of deep still shadows.

How different a few minutes ago, when, thrilled with the excitement of new discovery, his hands flew over the submissive keys, filling the whole room with rippling, laughing music. Then, the notes fitted mystically together in a pattern and his pencil scratched the paper hastily as the thoughts crowded in. His heart leapt to express his feelings in music that might bring joy to many people. But now all is still except for the ticking of a clock in the corner.

Christine Gregory, 6A.

ON VISITING PLYMOUTH

OUT of these bomb-scarred streets and desolate ways,
Stark emblems of a city's tragic fate,
New life is bursting, as in earlier days
The phoenix proud emerged in regal state
Out of her own charred embers, and regained
Her splendour, even lovelier than before.
So has this city, through her strife, retained
Her solemn majesty, as, more and more,
New conquers old, and, as in towering might,
Great edifices strive to touch the sky.
War's dark confusion changes into light;
New buildings rise, as crumbling ruins die,
Until o'er all the landscape now is spread
A city, risen from a city dead.

Nora C. Reynolds, 6A.

DAWN SONG

THE light which spears the shadows of the night,
Proclaims once more a dawn so pure and bright.
While yet the sun arising o'er the crest,
Awakens nature's creatures from their rest
Which night provides.

Then song-birds chant their melodies so clear,
Which mingle with the piping of the weir;
And down the valley winding streams do flow,
Their water, gleaming in the morning's glow,
Swollen by tides.

And dawn heralds each pretty flower's birth;
While all such wondrous beauties of the earth,
Now show once more to all the human race,
Their colours, like the yellow daisy's face,
Which each night hides.

D. R. Stephens, 5G.

MARY-JANE

ONCE I knew a little girl,
Mary Jane.
You might try her hair to curl,
All in vain.
On her cheek no tint of rose
Paled or blushed or sought repose:
She was plain.
But each thought was full of grace,
Pure and true,
And in time the homely face
Lovelier grew,
With a heavenly radiance bright,
From a soul's reflected light,
Shining through.

Eileen Cross, 5G.

EDITOR'S NOTE

THE response to our request for contributions was encouraging, and we should have liked to publish more. The following particularly deserve congratulations for their efforts:-

Richard Walker, Dorothy Sutton, Reginald Noble, Gillian Blackham, Mavis Howell, Penelope Daniels, Margaret Clarke, Sandra Hadley, Barbara Harris, T. Daniels, Pamela Bradley, Christine Mallard, G. H. Neale, Valerie Beardmore, Nina Rogers, Brian Russell, Joyce Allen, Lilian Moores, Marjorie Weston, Margaret Newman, P. Rogers, Christine Foster, Janet Townsend, J. Harris, Jennifer Ekins, and the anonymous contributor of 'The Fisher'.