



**THE
OLDBURIAN**

**OLDBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MAGAZINE**

1960



'Double, Double Toil and Trouble;
Fire Burn and Cauldron Bubble.'

Macbeth, Act IV.

THE OLDBURIAN

OLDBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MAGAZINE

1960

Vol. V. No. 1.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

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

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

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

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

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

COUNCILLOR F. GILES, C.C.

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

ALDERMAN A. GUNN, C.C.

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

ALDERMAN J. W. HOLLAND

COUNCILLOR MRS. D. M. HOLLYOAKE

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. PINE

G. W. ROSE, J.P.

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*)

MISS F. D. TWEEDIE, Dartford P.T.Dip. (*Senior Mistress*)

F. L. HAWLEY, M.Coll.H.

W. D. MORRIS, M.A., M.Sc.

J. S. EACOTT, B.A.

E. G. SWAIN, B.Sc.

A. A. L. PEARCE, B.A.,
B.Sc. (Econ.)

H. LAYCOCK, B.Sc.

B. R. LAWTON, B.A.

K. C. HUDSON, B.Sc.

H. G. DAVIES, Carnegie P.E.Dip.

E. JONES, B.Sc., A.R.C.O.

T. B. HETHERINGTON, M.A.

J. G. BARBOUR, M.A.

J. G. JAMES, B.Sc.

D. A. PUGH, B.Sc.

I. T. DAVIES, B.Sc.

A. R. SANT, B.Sc.

R. T. HANCOX, B.Sc.

F. L. SUTTON, B.Mus.

K. V. FARMER, L.R.A.M.,
A.B.S.M

MISS G. M. FIRTH, B.A.

MRS. H. E. SPRINGER, N.D.D.,
A.T.D.

MISS M. J. S. WOODBURN, B.A.

MISS P. TURNER, B.A.

MRS. L. M. PEARSON, B.A.

MISS S. M. D. WALTON, B.A.

MISS R. B. KNIGHT, B.A.

MISS V. I. SIRMON, D.S.Dip.

MISS J. C. CUTLER, B.Sc.

MISS M. A. FREEMAN, B.A.

MISS N. HARDING, B.A.

MRS. L. BURROWS, A.R.C.M.

MISS M. SANDERS
(*Headmaster's Secretary*).

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

Editor: T. B. HETHERINGTON.

Art Editor: HAZEL E. SPRINGER.

Assistant Editors: MARION B. JONES, JUDITH TRANTER, JOHN GOSLING.

Frontispiece by MARJORIE WESTON.

PUSILLANIMITY.

Coward,
Who quakes when the bugle calls,
And stops up his ears to the gun?
Unwilling participant;
Shrinking from the forward line
And the drum.
History despises him;
Yet no coward.
Craven?
Emaciated,
Palsied,
Fearing to die.
Death with her yellowed hand
Covets him.
Crouched by his decaying frame,
His brow feverish and frail,
She watches.
He fights her, reviles her, repudiates her;
Still she watches.
The grave is a long, cold home.
He is afraid,
But no coward.
Where then is the true-bred coward?
There he crawls;
Fettered by convention,
Imprisoned in her domain.
Once he too owned his thoughts;
Individuality, once.
Ideas riotous and free pounded his brain.
Revolution beat against stagnation,
Their horns locked furiously.
His feet on the precipice swayed —
To the right lay the old land,
Smooth and safe;
To the left fell the new land,
Rugged and dangerous.
His thoughts were the new land,
But the old held his courage
And enticed him,

Pusillanimous,
Afraid to break away,
He followed her;
A coward.
The new land is struggling within me;
For her the night-long agonies,
The days of meditation.
I have shunned convention;
She has fallen away like a cloak;
Conflict, silence and bitterness have set in.
Revolution is my master!
For her I will endure all these;
I will follow her and my thoughts shall be free;
I will keep my self-respect.
I may fail on the military field,
I may cower from the clutching arms of death,
When she comes to me;
Yet I am no coward.
I shall be no craven-heart to my thoughts,
Wavering,
Hesitating.
Life cannot degrade me;
Revolution spurs me on,
My captain.
Courage is burning within me,
Courage to fight for our cause.
If I win, it will be a brave battle.
If I lose, there will be no shame.
I shall have been no traitor to myself,
I shall have shown no pusillanimity.

Judith Tranter, 6B.

SCHOOL NOTES

THIS issue of the Oldburian records some details of life in the School during its 56th year, 1959/60. There is much good to report, showing that we are as progressive and successful as ever.

It is however with profound regret that we first report, early in our pages, the death of the Senior Mistress, Mrs. M. Jones, B.Sc., during the Spring Term. Twenty years of loyal service had resulted in Mrs. Jones's becoming an established part of our community. Her loss from our midst was deeply felt by one and all, whether colleagues, present pupils or old scholars.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to her husband, Mr. D. Jones, B.A., and to other members of the family. The verbal tribute which follows these notes leaves a feeling of inadequacy, but the innumerable benefits of the personal influence and teaching of Mrs. Jones, on so many who were fortunate enough to know her, are a more worthy tribute to her memory.

During the year several teachers have left us to take appointments elsewhere. Miss H. C. Sendell, B.Sc., a teacher of Mathematics, has taken a post as lecturer in Shenstone Training College; Mr. J. D. H. Townsend, M.A., has gone to take charge of the History Department in the Thomas Bennett School, Crawley, while Miss W. M. Horton, B.A., a teacher of French, has left us to take up teaching in Australia. We are grateful to these teachers for their good work here, and we wish them well in their new posts. New members of our staff are Mr. R. T. Hancox, B.Sc., a teacher of Chemistry, Miss J. C. Cutler, B.Ss., whose subjects are Mathematics and Physics, Miss M. A. Freeman, B.A., a teacher of French (also interested in Music), and Miss M. Harding, B.A., a teacher of History. We welcome them all, and we wish them great happiness and success in their work with us. It is pleasing to note that all four of our new teachers are ex-pupils of Worcestershire Grammar Schools, one from Redditch, one from Halesowen, while two are our own Old Scholars, now returned to their own school as teachers.

We are very glad to report that Miss F. D. Tweedie, who has rendered long and valuable service to the School during past years, is now Senior Mistress. Her thorough knowledge and wealth of experience are of inestimable value in connection with her increased responsibilities for our girls. We wish her continued success.

Concerning our premises, it is encouraging to see, day by day, the new laboratory block taking shape. The four new laboratories will greatly facilitate our work in science, as from 1961. Our output of pupils specialising in science is increasing. The new building will therefore supply a real need, enabling us to play our part more fully in the national effort to meet the present day demand for more and more scientists. Apart from the building work now in progress there are various other plans for extending and improving our school buildings. We hope that satisfactory progress on these will be reported in later issues of this magazine.

Academic successes of our pupils are set forth elsewhere in these pages, but we must express here our congratulations to Malcolm Biddlestone for his Open Scholarship to London University, and to three girls who have won State Scholarships, Angela Downs, Pauline Marlow and Nora Reynolds. We also congratulate those of our Sixth Formers who have reached Distinction Level in the G.C.E. Advanced Level Examinations, Malcolm Biddlestone in Chemistry, Angela Downs in Chemistry, Veronica Kingsnorth in English, Pauline Marlow in English and Scripture, Luned Morris in Biology and Nora Reynolds in Latin. We wish them continued success in their university work. Our best wishes are extended also to all others of the large contingent going up to the various universities this year from our Upper Sixth Form, as well as to those going to training colleges, or to colleges for Technology, Agriculture, Art and other specialist courses.

Details set out under the various headings will show that our out-of-school activities continue to flourish, the Joint Societies, Dramatics, Choirs, Orchestra, Gramophone Group, Dance Band, Girl Guides, Student Christian Movement, Games, Athletics, Swimming and many other interests. Special praise is due on the boys' side, to our footballers who have again brought the Birmingham and District Grammar Schools Cup into our School, after a cup-tie with Handsworth Grammar School, and, on the girls' side, to the Guide Company for their trophies won in athletic and swimming competitions.

"Cresco" is our motto. To that we hope and believe we are true.

C.C.H.

MRS. M. JONES.**An Appreciation.**

MR. M. JONES, B.Sc., was a member of the staff of Oldbury Grammar School for 20 years, throughout which time she gave devoted service in many ways. She will always be remembered, not only as an outstandingly successful teacher of Chemistry, but, during her last years, as Senior Mistress, in which capacity she did excellent work for the girls.

News of her death, on March 23rd, 1960, came as a great shock to us all, for she had been actively engaged on her normal school duties until a few days before her untimely death. The whole school paid respect to her immediately in a special assembly, called for the purpose, in the form of a short service.

Mrs. Jones was a graduate of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, where she gained her degree with Honours in Chemistry. She followed that course with a year of training in the Education Department in Aberystwyth and was then appointed as Science Mistress in Bristnall Hall Secondary Modern School, Oldbury. In 1940, during the war, she came to the Grammar School, to undertake responsibility for the Chemistry Department, and quickly displayed her ability to replace the master absent on war service. She continued to teach Chemistry throughout her 20 years of service, combining it during her last three years with the duties of Senior Mistress.

The fact that Mrs. Jones was a most interesting and capable teacher of her subject is evidenced by the achievements of her pupils and their very considerable success in scientific careers following her teaching. She was, also, deeply interested in the welfare of the girls who passed through the school during her time; they owe much to her for innumerable acts of kindness and help. In many ways Mrs. Jones made a great contribution to the progress and welfare of the School, and will long be remembered with gratitude for her devoted work.

C.C.H.



SPEECH DAY 1960

Chairman:

ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P., C.C.

(Chairman of the Governors)

The School Song

Chairman's Remarks

Girl Captain's Report NINA ROGERS

Boy Captain's Report A. D. W. PARDOE

Violin Solo: 1st Movement of Violin Sonata, Op. 12, No. 1.

Beethoven. J. N. GOSLING

The Headmaster's Report

Speech and Presentation of Prizes by

PROFESSOR M. STACEY, Ph.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.

(Mason Professor and Head of the Department of Chemistry at
Birmingham University)

Professor Stacey's Speech

Professor Stacey spoke of the great strides made in science recently, and of the "changing world" in which we live. He referred to advances in travel, medicine and education, and said that he believed space travel was not far away, owing to the development of atomic power. Professor Stacey put forward a plea for better speech and more reading:

" . . . one of the biggest gaps in the education of these clever sixth formers is that they cannot read; they can very rarely talk; and they certainly cannot write the Queen's English in the way we want it written."

He said that in his experience, many young people became almost speechless when interviewed, and that it was vital for pupils to give the best impression they could. This was often only a matter of practice.

"The scientists," he continued, "are having a lot of boosting, and we are now getting the material we want." However there was a growing need for arts people to undertake the commercial and managerial commitments associated with scientific advances, and he added that in Russia, anyone connected with a scientific department was considered a scientist, and was paid as such.

A vote of thanks for Professor Stacey was proposed by the Mayor, Councillor G. H. Price, J.P. J. N. Gosling, 6A.

Illustration by Marion B. Jones, 6A.

AWARDS 1960.

Form Prizes for General Proficiency

Form 1C	Cynthia R. Woodhall D. V. Smythe	Form 3C	Barbara Fitch Penelope J. Daniels
Form 1B	B. Percival J. T. Rose	Form 3B	B. A. Roberts J. E. Williams
Form 1A	Barbara H. Bagley June A. Clewley.	Form 3A	Gillian A. Blackham Joan H. Plimley
Form 2C	Celia N. Jones Hilary Morrall	Form 4C	Gillian M. Haycock Jennifer Brown
Form 2B	J. M. Plant P. Withers	Form 4B	I. J. Parker Margaret R. Bagley
Form 2A	Christine V. Richards Susan M. Baker	Form 4A	R. Trevis. Marjorie A. Weston

General Certificates of Education at Ordinary Level

Akers, J. M. A.	Griffin, P. W.	Hadley, P. B.
Chapman, M. P.	Harvey, D.	Hughes, G.
Childe, R. W.	Hurst, P. A.	Hunt, J. W.
Flavell, I. H.	Jones, R.	Lane, A.
Francis, J. G.	Lewis, B. A.	Pibworth, M. E.
Gethins, T.	Limbrick, J.	Pinson, M. E.
Griffiths, R. E.	Oakes, M. L.	Walker, L. J.
Hall, J.	Palmer, J. D.	Walters, A. J.
Oakes, J. W.	Parsonage, T.	Westwood, P.
Olden, D. W.	Trickett, J. F.	Williams, M. D. J.
Russell, B.	Wakeman, A. C.	Wyton, B. D.
Turner, M. J.	Whittaker, R. J.	Bennett, E. Amy
Walker, R. T.	Yates, A. H.	Brown, Sylvia M.
White, R. T.	Allen, Joyce A.	Buckley, Sandra A.
Allen, Joan M.	Beach, Jennet S.	Cooke, Alison R.
Child, Barbara M.	Bowen, Diana	Daniels, Lynnette
Deakin, Joyce R.	Britton, Gloria A.	Hembrough, Margaret J.
Harvey, Marilyn A.	Comley, Margaret A.	Lawson, Joyce R.
Hawley, Susan	Darlington, Rosemarie E.	Mills, Jacqueline
Jones, Christine C.	Derricott, Janet A.	Slater, Sandra L.
Jones, Margaret	Fisher, Ruth M.	Smith, Kathleen A.
Jones, Margaret A.	Grant, Angela K.	Somers, Janet M.
Jones, Marion B.	Harris, Barbara J.	Tarr, Patricia A.
Layton, Josephine A.	Idoine, Janet	Thompson, Diane L.
Moore, Marilyn	Jones, Janet M.	Lester, R. D. N.
Parkes, Susan A.	Mills, Vivienne	Bates, Susan J.
Rollason, Judith	Moore, Lilian	Cutter, Susan
Smith, Yvette E.	Sulley, Teresa A. M.	Gould, Gillian M.
Storey, Veronica A.	Taylor, Joan E.	Haynes, Joan M.
Totney, Maralyn E.	Turner, Linda A.	Shipstone, Jacqueline
Tranter, Judith A.	Walter, Brenda J.	Bristow, A. P.
Wright, Audrey E.	Clemson, S. C.	Payne, R. J.
Bragg, M. A.	Edwards, J. F.	Smallwood, R.
Bywater, B.	England, A. S.	Spooner, D.
Downing, P. W.	Griffiths, F. G.	Lewis, Christine D.
		Martin, Barbara A.

General Certificates of Education at Advanced Level

Baggott, R. A.	McDonald-Gibson, R. G.	Dawes, Jacqueline
Bailey, D.	Moore, M. F.	Dittrich, Curigwyn D.
Biddlestone, M.	Pardoe, A. D. W.	Downs, Angela M.
Broadbent, R. C.	Stone, M.	Kenwick, Rosemary
Campbell, J. E.	Bagley, Judith M.	Kingsnorth, Veronica
Daley, R. M.	Bagnall, Janice A.	Langley, Myra G.
Fox, R. H.	Barnsley, Janet	Marlow, Pauline M.
Hadley, D. J.	Bradley, Pamela A.	Morris, Luned M.
Haine, S. R.	Charles, Linda	Reynolds, Nora C.
Isherwood, D. P.	Daniels, Chloe	Webb, Brenda

Special Awards

O.S.A. Prize for the Best Academic Achievement ...	Angela M. Downs
Frank Dawes' Prize for Leadership ...	S. R. Haine
Lydia Dawes' Prize for Leadership ...	Veronica Kingsnorth
Best General Certificate of Education—Girls ...	Marion B. Jones
Best General Certificate of Education—Boys ...	T. Gethins
Pearson Memorial Prize for English ...	Pauline M. Marlow

University Scholarships and Awards

State Scholarships	Angela M. Downs
	Pauline M. Marlow
	Nora C. Reynolds
London University Open Scholarship ...	M. Biddlestone
Worcester County	D. Bailey
	M. Biddlestone
	R. M. Daley
	Chloe Daniels
	P. J. Darlington
	S. R. Haine
	M. D. Jukes
	Veronica Kingsnorth
	M. F. Moore
	Luned M. Morris
	Shirley A. Snelus
	Jean Wiggins
City of Birmingham	R. G. McDonald-Gibson
County Borough of Smethwick	Jacqueline Dawes
	Curigwyn D. Dittrich
Oldbury Educational Trust (1959/60) ...	R. F. Bayliss
	L. Comley
	D. W. D. Slim
Oldbury Educational Trust (1960/61) ...	To be announced

Prizes for the Best Use of Leisure

Prizes awarded by the late Mr. A. P. Hands ...	J. N. Gosling.
	R. Stevens
Prizes awarded by Mrs. C. T. Barlow ...	Irene Abell
	Judith Rollason
Prizes awarded by the late Mr. C. T. Barlow ...	Ann Draper
	Joyce Downing
	D. Bytheway
	R. Hawkins
Certificates of Merit in Leisure Time Activities ...	59

Awards for Games, Athletics, Swimming, etc.

Girl Guides' Prizes	...	...	...	...	Angela M. Downs Nora C. Reynolds
Games Prizes	...	...	...	...	T. B. J. Hughes Janice A. Bagnall Veronica Kingsnorth Nora C. Reynolds
Boys' Athletic Champion, awarded Vernon Cup	...	...	...	...	M. E. Pinson
Girls' Athletic Champion, awarded Albright Cup	...	...	...	...	Stella Taylor
Parents' Cricket Match	...	...	...	...	The School

House Cups

The Howarth Cup for Inter-School Games	...	...	...	...	QUEEN'S HOUSE
The Jephcott Cup for Athletics	...	...	...	...	KING'S HOUSE
Swimming Cup	...	...	...	...	TRINITY HOUSE
The Beard Cup for National Savings	...	...	...	...	QUEEN'S 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.
- Birmingham and District Grammar Schools Six-a-Side Knock-out Football Competition—awarded Green Pennant
- Oldbury and Langley District Guide Swimming Shield.
- Oldbury and Langley District Guide Athletics Shield.

Some Old Scholars at Universities and Colleges, 1960

Cambridge University

Queens' College

I. D. Howard,
M.A. (Cantab.),
B.Sc. (Lond.)

Awarded Ph.D. (Nuclear Physics Research)

University of Malaya

J. W. Field,
C.M.G., M.D.

Awarded D.Sc. (Director of Medical Research)

Birmingham University

Faculty of Medicine

D. M. Chaplin
R. J. Oakey
D. C. Owen

Passed Final M.B., Ch.B.

Passed Final M.B., Ch.B.

Completed first year of course for M.B., Ch.B.

School of Dentistry

W. J. M. Barrie

Completed third year of course for B.D.S.

Faculty of Science

B. J. Bailey
D. Edge
G. H. Eaton
T. W. Eaton
D. Morrall
D. F. J. Dagle
F. Darby

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

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

B.Sc. Hons. Class II, Physics.

B.Sc. Hons. Class I, Physics.

B.Sc. Hons. Class II, Electrical Engineering.

Completed second year of B.Sc. Mathematics course.

Completed second year of course in Honours School of Geology.

J. F. Richards

Completed second year of course in Civil Engineering.

J. S. Smith

Completed second year of course in Chemical Engineering.

Awarded A.I.M.L.T.

Pamela Grant

Faculty of Social Science

Doreen N. Pugh
Margaret Taylor

B.Soc.Sc. Hons. Class IIA.

Completed first year of course for B.Soc.Sc.

Faculty of Arts

Ann Elsdon, B.A.
Jean McLelland

Awarded Post-Graduate Certificate in Education.

Completed second year of course in Honours School of French.

K. W. Field

Completed second year of course in Physical Education.

Bristol University

D. A. Westwood
I. P. Smith

B.A. Class II(i), Accountancy.

B.Sc. Hons. Class I, Engineering. Awarded O.S.I.R. Studentship for Post-Graduate work.

Leeds University

J. D. Clements
Carole Watton

Completed first year of course in Mining Engineering.

Completed first year of course in Accountancy.

Liverpool University

Sylvia Fletcher

Completed second year of course in Honours School of History.

Joan Maneylaws

Completed second year of course in General Studies.

A. J. Newey

Completed first year of course in Honours School of Mathematics.

Rosalind Beard

Completed first year of course for B.Soc.Sc.

Nottingham University

- B. E. S. Trueman M.A. Economic History.
 Ann Murray Completed first year of course in Social Science.
 O. Tudor Completed first year of course in Honours School of
 Zoology.

Sheffield University

- M. J. Wharton Completed second year of course in Honours School of
 Physics.
 D. J. Corbett Completed second year of course in Mechanical
 Engineering.

School of Dentistry

- R. M. Savage L.D.S.
 K. W. Parkes L.D.S.
 F. Matthews Completed third year of course for L.D.S.
 D. Matthews Completed second year of course for L.D.S.

University College of North Wales—Bangor

- Elaine Jones Completed first year of course in Bio-Chemistry.

Edinburgh University

- J. S. Jennings, B.Sc. Research work in Geology, holding a Shell Research
 Scholarship.

Training Colleges*City of Birmingham*

- Judith Rose Completed two year course for Teacher's Certificate.

Dudley

- D. C. Handy Completed two year course for Teacher's Certificate.
 Vyvian M. Welch Completed two year course for Teacher's Certificate.
 J. Spittle Completed first year of course.

Loughborough

- A. T. Harrold Completed second year of course in Physical Education.

Saltley

- P. Hipkiss Completed two year course for Teacher's Certificate.
 W. Sandells Completed two year course for Teacher's Certificate.

Worcester

- M. Ann Huxley Completed two year course for Teacher's Certificate.

Stafford

- Sylvia Street Completed first year of course.

Battersea College of Domestic Science

- Olwen Llewellyn Diploma in Domestic Science.

Dartford Physical Training College

- Pamela Rowe Completed second year of course.
 Christine Gregory Completed first year of course.

Battersea College of Technology

- D. W. D. Slim Completed second year of course in Honours School of
 Mathematics.

Birmingham College of Technology

- Ann Darlington Diploma in Institutional Management.
 Gillian Smith Diploma in Institutional Management.
 Ann V. Ward Diploma in Institutional Management.
 F. K. Sandell Completed second year of course for Dip. Tech.
 (Mathematics).

- T. E. Porritt Passed Part I B.Sc. Physics (London).

College of Arts and Crafts

- G. M. Lago National Diploma in Design.
 S. Joliffe Diploma in Architecture (1959).

Harper Adams Agricultural College

- K. E. Comley Diploma in Agriculture.

CHINA

HAVE you smelt the burning incense
Of that far off, distant land?
Have you heard the mystic music
Of an ancient Chinese band?
Have you seen the little junk boats,
The deep blue sea, the sand?
That is China!

Have you seen the pagan idols
In the temples dark and bare?
Have you seen the Chinese coolies
As they scurry everywhere?
Have you smelt the lovely flowers
As they perfume the night air?
That is China!

Have you heard the pitter-patter
Of the rickshaw boy's hot feet?
As they hurry down the roadways
Greeting everyone they meet.
Have you felt the burning sunshine
In the noon day heat?
That is China!

Valerie Batten, 5G.

JOINT SOCIETIES

SESSION 1959-60

President: DR. C. C. HOWARD.

Vice-Presidents: MEMBERS OF THE STAFF.

Chairman: A. D. W. PARDOE.

Secretary: NORA REYNOLDS.

October 1st—Dr. Howard, as President of the Society, welcomed the new members and installed A. D. W. Pardoe as Chairman, S. R. Haine as Vice-Chairman and Nora Reynolds as Secretary. The meeting took the form of a Balloon Debate, in which Isherwood, a hop-picker, finally proved to be of supreme importance to the human race. A vote of thanks was proposed by R. McDonald-Gibson and seconded by Janice Bagnall.

October 8th.—Members of the Society gave an account of the boys' holiday in Brittany. Hollyhead described the outward journey by air to Dinard, and Round and Palfrey spoke of the excursions to St. Malo, Mont St. Michel and Cap Frehel. Finally, Mr. Swain showed some delightful colour slides and described a religious festival which takes place annually at Dinard. A vote of thanks was proposed by Pauline Marlow and seconded by B. Hunt.

October 22nd—A group of senior girls entertained the Society with a programme on their Easter holiday at Blanes on the Costa Brava. Linda Turner recounted the outward journey, and Diana Bowen described Blanes itself. Marion Jones, Josephine Leyton, Susan Parkes, Jacqueline Shipstone and Susan Hawley gave an account of some of the highlights of the holiday, illustrating their talks with colour slides. A vote of thanks was proposed by M. Biddlestone and seconded by Brenda Webb.

November 19th—6A History group presented a programme on the rise of Hitler. The speakers were Rosemary Kenwick, Linda Charles, Janice Bagnall, Pamela Bradley, Veronica Kingsnorth and Brenda Webb, and the talk was illustrated by a film strip. Margaret Comley proposed the vote of thanks which was seconded by P. Isherwood.

November 26th—This Session's Chemistry Night took a slightly unusual form. 6A Chemistry group had carried out some unorthodox research into the history of Chemistry, and recorded the results in the form of a revue called 'At the drop of an H-bomb.' We were shown the true circumstances of such events as the discovery of fire, beer and chloroform. A vote of thanks was proposed by T. Daniels and seconded by Rosemary Kenwick.

December 3rd—The Gramophone Society presented a programme called 'Musical Customs House.' A succession of overseas visitors were attempting to pass the watchful eyes of two Customs Officials. Each sketch was followed by appropriate music, ranging from 'Swan Lake' and 'Finlandia' to 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer', 'China Tea' and 'Sous les ponts de Paris.' Pamela Bradley and D. Bailey proposed and seconded the vote of thanks.

January 21st—The meeting took the form of a debate on the motion that 'This house believes that the Sciences are supreme and the Arts are too 'alf-'earted.' S. Haine and Luned Morris spoke on behalf of the motion, while the principal speakers for the opposition were J. Gosling and Veronica Kingsnorth. After much interesting discussion, the motion was defeated by fifty-seven votes to forty-three with three abstentions. A vote of thanks was proposed by R. Baggott and seconded by Angela Downs.

February 25th—Members of the Society debated the motion that 'This house believes that the present enthusiasm for launching artificial moons is an advanced form of lunacy.' M. Prestidge and C. Parkes proposed the motion, and the opposition was provided by T. Daniels and Janet Picken. Eventually, the motion was defeated by eighteen votes to eight, with eight abstentions. Barbara Martin proposed the vote of thanks, which was seconded by T. Bradford.

March 3rd—The Society had the privilege of a visit from Professor Maurice Stacey, an eminent scientist, who is a Fellow of the Royal Society. Professor Stacey had visited Russia some years earlier, and gave a fascinating talk on the Soviet Academy and other aspects of life in Russia. The account was illustrated by a large number of delightful colour slides of Moscow, Kiev and Leningrad. A vote of thanks to Professor Stacey for such an enjoyable evening was proposed by M. Biddlestone and seconded by Veronica Kingsnorth.

March 17th—Members of the Society gave an account of their visit to Rhum, in the Inner Hebrides. Haine described the outward journey and Gosling, Pardoe, Neale and McDonald-Gibson commented on various aspects of the island itself. Next, Hollyhead related several expeditions and Haine concluded. The programme was made all the more enjoyable by Mr. Laycock's colour slides. Nina Rogers and M. Stone proposed and seconded the vote of thanks.

March 24th—6B French group presented a film called 'La France est un jardin.' Gosling introduced the first part of the film and Christine Haines continued with a description of the gardens of France, particularly those of Versailles. Parkes gave an account of the gardens of Paris, and Irene Abell introduced the famous Loire Valley. A vote of thanks was proposed by R. Jones and seconded by Luned Morris.

March 31st—The meeting took the form of Officers' Night. The Secretary, Nora Reynolds, described her visit to a Semaine de Culture Française held near Paris. Stephen Haine, the Vice-Chairman, spoke on the subject of rock-climbing and mountain rescue, and the Chairman, Alan Pardoe, concluded with an account of life in India. All three talks were illustrated by slides and photographs. Curigwyn Dittrich and K. Page proposed and seconded the vote of thanks.

As is customary, the last meeting of the session took the form of a most enjoyable dance.

Nora C. Reynolds.

ANNUAL OUTING OF THE JOINT SOCIETIES.

SHORTLY before 8 a.m., on Friday, 15th July, 1960, the majority of the pupils in the Fifth and Sixth Forms assembled outside the school gates, eagerly awaiting the start of the annual Joint Societies' Outing.

This year our destination was Chester. Our first stop was to be at the charming little Welsh town of Llangollen, and thus the early stages of our journey took us through Bridgnorth and Much Wenlock and past that famous Shropshire landmark, the Wrekin. Leaving Llangollen, we followed the winding road up to the Horseshoe Pass. At the summit of the pass we stopped to enjoy a picnic lunch. After admiring the rugged Welsh scenery, we continued our journey towards Chester.

On arrival at this ancient city, we were taken to the riverside, where we crowded into motor launches. The weather was surprisingly good, and the trip to Eccleston Ferry and back proved most enjoyable.

No fixed programme was arranged for the next two hours, and we were able to wander around the city. Most people visited the magnificent Cathedral and the famous Rows, or walked along the City Walls.

Next we travelled by coach to Chester Zoo, where we arrived in the midst of a torrential shower of rain. After tea, we visited the Zoo itself, observing all the animals, both unusual and amusing.

As is customary, the homeward journey was enlivened by the singing of innumerable gay vocal items, certainly not taught at Four-Part Choir practices. After a short break at Newport, a town well-known to countless Edgmond Hall parties, we continued our journey, arriving at school at about 10 p.m.

Once again we offer our thanks to Mr. Hetherington for organising another successful Joint Societies' Outing.

Nora C. Reynolds.

REFLECTION

IN weather hot, or weather cool,
To be alone beside a pool,
Forget all trouble, forget all hate
Just lie alone and meditate

Let all affairs slip far away,
Into the past so dim and grey,
A past of fighting, toiling strife,
Which takes up much of my small life.

But now I leave my pool, subdued,
For I have lost my morbid mood,
I've lost the hate, instilled in me,
Beside that pool so trouble-free.

Stuart Harris, 4B.

MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

AS in previous years, different branches of music have continued to play an important part in the life of the School.

The School Orchestra meets each week in the Monday lunch hours, ably conducted by Dr. Howard. The meetings have been most enjoyable and instructive to all members, and items were rehearsed for the concert at the end of the year. Quite apart from the musical benefit derived from it, the orchestra also provides a means whereby members and staff of different departments can work together for a common end. Several members are, alas, no longer with us, having left the school to take up appointments elsewhere, but gaps in the ranks have been filled with new players from further down the school.

Mention of new members calls to mind the fact that many pupils of the school have taken advantage of the facilities offered for instruction in the playing of violin, viola and 'cello, by Mrs. Burrows, Mr. Farmer, and Mr. Sutton, who give lessons at school each week.

The Christmas concert repeated its success of previous years and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. All sections took part, pieces being played by the orchestra and a string sextet, with violin solos by Mr. K. Farmer, and items played by Mr. Jones and Michael Pegg on our Dawes Memorial Organ. The school choirs once again played an important part, and their items were warmly appreciated by the audience. The concert ended with the singing of carols, in which the choirs, audience, orchestra and organ all participated, in particular "Good King Wenceslas," singing of which has become almost a tradition.

The Gramophone Society, under the guidance of Mr. Laycock and Mr. Richards, has met regularly during Friday lunch hours in the Christmas and Easter terms, and has been well-supported by its members. Varied programmes of music of all periods and of many types have been presented by both the pupils and the staff.

This year's leisure time activities exhibitions have shown that pupils continue their musical activities outside the school, and that many are regular concert-goers. From the above report it would seem that music will continue to be practised and enjoyed by pupils of the school for many years to come, especially since it is supported by so many of the staff, who spend much time in giving instruction and advice.

THE SCHOOL DANCE ORCHESTRA



SINCE its inception two and a half years ago, the school dance orchestra has provided music for many of the end of term dances and other social activities of the school. Worthy of particular mention are perhaps the occasion of the Cresconians' New Year Dance, when the orchestra played for the whole evening, and the fact that it has twice played at the dances of a nearby grammar school.

Quite apart from public performances, the members have derived considerable enjoyment from their weekly rehearsals, and practising further items for their ever-widening repertoire. In the time that has elapsed since the first rehearsal, the orchestra has undergone a considerable change. Of the pupils and masters who played at the first performance, only two remain. This is, of course, due to staff changes, and pupils leaving the school.

Several former members now play in orchestras outside the school, which is very gratifying, and shows that as well as providing entertainment, the dance orchestra fosters useful accomplishments, which serve pupils well in later life. It can however continue only if new artists can be found to replace those who have left the school. Accordingly, any pupils interested in joining, are asked to contact Mr. Eacott or any of the members of the dance orchestra.

J. N. Gosling, 6A.

Illustration by D. W. Olden, 6B.

CWM BYCHAN

THE black waters of the lake contrast vividly with the grey of the early morning sky. Here and there fluffy clouds race across the sky. To the sides of the lake the mountains rise steeply, thickly wooded at the bottom but, higher up, clothed only with sparse grass. Here and there are large outcrops of rocks. Scattered about are sheep, their white coats relieving the monotony of grey and green. The only person to be seen is a fisherman casting his fly from a punt.

Down the valley the road winds a lonely way, bordered on one side by the mountains and on the other by the river and its green velvet pastures. This, the river Artro, is known in the locality for its fine trout. It winds its way through overhanging trees and here and there is a deep pool where the fish rest. On it rushes and frets, swirling under the bridge at Llanbedr and finally emptying itself into the sea.

At the lake the sun turns it from black to blue blessing every ripple with its countenance. It gilds the edges of the clouds with pink and lights up the ancient Roman steps. Here and there an old willow dapples the surface of the lake with its shadow. A cloud scurries across the sun and for a moment all is cold and foreboding but then again the sun smiles down. The farmer rises and turns loose the animals and feeds them. A moorhen swims across the lake. The fisherman packs his tackle. The first holiday-maker's car winds among the towering peaks and a new day is born at Cwm Bychan.

Ian Hall, 2B.

VISITS TO THE THEATRE, 1959-60

ON March 22nd and 23rd a party of senior pupils visited Birmingham Repertory Theatre to see productions of Shakespeare's *Henry IV*, Parts 1 and 2. We were exceedingly fortunate to secure seats for the second part whilst the first part was still fresh in our minds and thus we obtained an overall impression of the plot. Arthur Pentelow gave a very convincing portrayal of Sir John Falstaff. The change of atmosphere between the two parts was skilfully conveyed to the audience. Great effect was gained by the use of the revolving stage, the change of scenes being accomplished with the utmost dexterity. The opening lines of the play:- "So shaken as we are, so wan with care . . ." were particularly fitting since the stage had been inoperative up to an hour before the performance was due to commence, and the cast had laboured feverishly to repair it in time.

On the 11th May the sixth form English Groups visited Stratford Memorial Theatre to see Shakespeare's comedy "Two Gentlemen of Verona." After a somewhat garbled rendering of the National Anthem the curtain rose and we settled down for a most enjoyable evening's entertainment.

Later in the year we revisited the Repertory Theatre, this time for a comedy of a completely different nature, Simpson's "One Way Pendulum", two hours of "artistic goonery". We were perplexed by the apparent lack of dramatic structure, but this did not mar our enjoyment and we soon abandoned ourselves to paroxysms of mirth.

We wish to extend our sincerest appreciation to those members of the staff who have made these theatre visits both possible and enjoyable.

6A English Group.

VISIT TO THE BELGRADE THEATRE, COVENTRY

ON Thursday, 25th February, a party of fifth formers, under the supervision of members of staff, set out in a double decker 'bus and a coach, their destination being the Belgrade theatre, where they were to see the matinée performance of "The Merchant of Venice."

The theatre was found to be a very modern one, having a contemporary design with wood panelled walls and unusual lights. Although sitting at the rear of the steep circle, our viewing was not hampered.

The set was rather an unfortunate one for there was a bridge in the centre, with steps on either side of it which the players constantly ascended and descended for no apparent reason.

Shylock (Robert Marsden) was portrayed excellently, and Antonio and Nerissa were quite well acted, but the rest of the cast were generally mediocre. The Belgrade company is a comparatively young one and that is probably why the production seemed amateurish.

However, this was not noticed at the time, and the outing was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants, especially since it was the first one in which this particular year had taken part. We should like to take this opportunity to thank the members of staff who organised this excursion for us.

Josephine Layton and Susan Hawley, 6B.

'ST. JOAN'

ON the fifth of March a party of 6A girls, encouraged by Miss Woodburn and Miss Walton, were to be seen pushing a reluctant Mini-bus down one of the more respectable roads of Harborne. Eventually the trouble was over-come and we made our way to London via the M.1. The rest of the journey was accomplished without major incident except that first gear always seemed elusive.

The purpose of this expedition was to see Shaw's 'St. Joan' at the Old Vic. Barbara Tefford gave a convincing performance as the Maid and her Gloucestershire accent was well sustained. Alex McCowen extracted much humour from his part as the effeminate Dauphin and Donald Houston played an amiable Bastard. The scenery evoked the medieval atmosphere perfectly, using the cross of Lorraine as a recurrent symbol.

At times the play seemed to drag, particularly during the scenes of debate when it was not always possible to hear clearly. We thought that the epilogue (which is not always performed) with its skilful, eerie lighting, its comedy and its pathos, added significance to the rest of the play. Everyone enjoyed the performance, and after a meal in an Italian restaurant, we returned home in safety. P.T. and S.W.

'THE BEAUTIFUL ONE'

JUST as 'Caesar's Friend' marked the beginning of a new era of school dramatics, so 'The Beautiful One' by T. B. Morris has been an equally significant milestone.

Gone were the improvised scenery, the makeshift lighting and the absence of curtains, and in their places was a magnificent new stage complete with intricate lighting and luxurious, velvet curtains.

At 7.30 p.m., on February 9th, the houselights faded, the audience grew silent and another school play was in progress. After the Prologue, spoken by Janice Bagnall as the Goddess Isis, we were transported back through the ages to the house of the sculptor Thutmis in Ancient Egypt. From then on our interest was never allowed to wander: in a few moments we passed from the intoxicated revelry in the 'Golden Disk' Wine Shop to the mounting tension in the Council Hall at Akhnaton.

Irene Abell, as Queen Nefertiti, gave an excellent performance which had the polish of an experienced actress, while Roderick Stevens performed creditably in the difficult part of King Akhnaton. Gerald Neale, as Merira, the High Priest, skilfully portrayed the conflict of a man torn between loyalty to his King and to his religion. Paul Isherwood also deserves congratulations since at one performance he took over this rôle at a few hours notice. Linda Charles and David Olden both gave pleasing performances as Neferure and Thutmis, while comedy was added to the play by Veronica Kingsnorth and Malcolm Williams as Ty and Ay.

Sincere congratulations are due to Mr. Laycock and to all those who helped in this excellent production.

Nora C. Reynolds.

JUNIOR DRAMATICS.

EACH Wednesday evening during the past year an enthusiastic group has been meeting with the intention of learning something about mime and drama. The meetings of the autumn term culminated in two productions. On the last Monday of term a Nativity Play was performed before a larger audience than the actors had anticipated. Nevertheless they were not deterred by the situation and impressed all by the simple sincerity of their acting. "St. George and the Dragon" was a more boisterous enterprise performed at the first and second year Christmas parties with gusto. A visit to the Birmingham Repertory Theatre's production of "The Enchanted Forest" completed an enjoyable season.

It was unfortunate that the longer play "Oliver Twist" proved too cumbersome for effective performance and had to be abandoned. Credit must be given to all who were to take part for they worked well.

Two plays are being rehearsed this term. Again there will be a Nativity Play at Christmas and in the New Year a play comprised of extracts from Galsworthy's play "Escape" is to be performed at a Joint Societies' evening.

R.B.K., S.W.

THE STAGE

THE big hall lay level and empty. I stood at one end in an eerie twilight absorbing the lofty darkness above and the thick swathings of shadow embracing the distant stage. My skin began to creep with loathing for the pearly light let through the open door beside me and I gazed hypnotised at the depths of healing darkness round that stage. Quite involuntarily I was compelled towards it; all was expectation. With pace quickening and tendons twitching I sped soundlessly into the close blackness and bounded onto the stage.

Pacing taut-nerved to the centre, every perception alert, I felt a surge of nausea. It was like the momentary anguish experienced by a tense actress before she pours forth her soul into a fine speech.

But the darkness overwhelmed me with a disquieting peace.

That enclosing, black atmosphere pressed upon my limbs like a rough, warm animal breathing and heaving with me. A quick fear startled me but only with great effort would my heavy body rotate — and no human was near, I felt partially paralysed, sick with the portentous.

Suddenly the air teemed with transparent, flame-like spirits who hung enthralled, row upon silent aerial row. They shimmered with the reflected grey light from the empty, polished floor-space. Long and serious they were, beautiful, cruel, intense and shining; they watched intently and waited.

As my vision slowly accommodated itself to this strangely familiar gathering my voice began a low, quaint chant and I must have wandered into the darkening hall. I recall a glorious elation and hearing my voice soar to unprecedented and unsuspected beauties. I warbled weird, wordless melodies. I sang with the emotion of one who is no more than a voice. The sound reverberated against invisible hindrances in the air: while I, in an acute bliss, sang harmonies to the echo, strolling blindly in the gathered gloom.

. . . . of leaving the hall I remember nothing.

Marion B. Jones, 6B.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

THIS year SCM has undergone certain radical changes. We commenced the session with a Bible study of Paul's epistle to the Romans. Each member contributed by taking a chapter and analysing the content in an attempt to delve deeper into St. Paul's message.

Each meeting aroused vigorous discussion and many opinions were put forward on points of doctrine and on the interpretation of the book with the result that members began to think more deeply. Unfortunately in the Spring term some of the meetings were rather drawn out and eventually at the end of the term it was decided to change the topic.

On the last Friday of the term Sixth Form members of the group together with other interested parties took part in the annual SCM conference held this year at Kidderminster Girls' High School. At the conference a Methodist Minister gave two talks on the application of Christianity to Youth in a new and fast moving World. Following each talk discussion groups considered the content of the talk and questions for the speaker, Mr. O'Gorman, were formulated. In the late afternoon the conference was rounded off by a panel of speakers answering questions of general interest posed by the various groups. Finally the day was declared at an end with a short assembly and we dispersed.

The end of the Spring term will also be remembered in that it ended our association with Miss Sendel who had been one of SCM's most ardent and hard-working supporters. In consequence therefore on the last agenda of the term time was set aside for official tribute to her by our Chairman, Veronica Kingsnorth, and Mr. Barbour.

In the Summer term Miss Walton took control of senior SCM and the group was enriched by the presence of a 'ginger group' which provoked extremely vigorous arguments. The term commenced with two discussions on the moral and religious aspects of Apartheid, the racial policy of the South African Government. The first meeting was concerned with a general outline of events leading up to the situation and the second with a possible answer to the policy. Following these two we commenced a study of other religions, a study which we have not yet completed.

The Junior SCM has this year made great progress and is now in a very strong position. It is open to Forms 1-3 and has met throughout the year on Tuesdays. Members have made a study of the life of Christ and to help in the assimilation of fact have built an excellent tableau concerning Our Lord. On June 14th the tableau was exhibited in the Library and was seen by many pupils of the school, a fitting tribute to Mr. Barbour's hard work and to the Junior members.

Thus this has been a good year for us, one filled with interest and variety in which the society has gone from strength to strength.

In conclusion may I point out that the movement depends on you and whether you are in the upper or lower school we cordially invite you to join us.

M. Biddlestone.

THE NINETY-NINE POINT NINE

NINETY-NINE point nine per cent
 Say it wrongly.
 Say what?
 The seventh line.
 What seventh line?
 Of the prayer.
 Of what prayer?
 The Lord's Prayer.
 And what is wrong?
 The punctuation.
 But where is it wrong?
 Is there anything missing?
 A comma is missing.
 But where is it missing?
 After three words.
 What are the three words?
 'And lead us,'
 But where is it wrong?
 With the words that come after.
 And what are these words?
 'Not into temptation.'
 But why is it wrong?
 'Tis a question of meaning!

What meaning is wrong?
Does He ever **lead** anyone
Into temptation?

No!

Then why ask Him not to?

Why!

But how is the meaning
Changed by a comma?
We ask, with a comma,
That he should lead us,
Lest into temptation
We stray of our free will.

I think I agree
With your argument here.
Of course!

Now ninety nine point eight per cent.
Say it wrongly!

Say what?

The seventh line.

What seventh line?

Of the prayer.

Of what prayer?

The Lord's Prayer.

Margaret Jones, 6B.

THE WRITERS' CIRCLE.

THIS year a new group was started under the direction of Mr. Hetherington. Its objects were to develop the members' approach to literary criticism, to provide material for the school magazine, and, in exceptional instances to submit outstanding work for publication. The only qualifications for membership are enthusiasm and having had an article accepted or on the 'short list' for the magazine.

We have met each week since the Spring Term to discuss and criticise manuscripts contributed. Every member is expected to hand in at least one piece of work per term.

Until she left, Nora Reynolds acted officially as secretary, and now J. N. Gosling has taken over this responsibility.

New recruits from any form will be gladly welcomed to swell the ranks of this new-born cultural society.

Judith Tranter and Marion B. Jones, 6B.

JURA — EASTER 1960

THE Encyclopaedia Britannica describes Jura as “an island of the inner Hebrides, the fourth largest of the group, on the west coast of Argyllshire, Scotland.” It goes on to state, among other facts, that the island is twenty-seven miles long and two to eight miles wide and in 1931 had a population of 382. To the Oldburian group who approached the island from Glasgow, the Clyde and the Kintyre peninsula, it appeared rather different, and certainly in a much more delightful form than that described by the Encyclopaedia.

At first it was a grey, corrugated line, set in a warm haze on the horizon. As the boat drew nearer it became an undulating line of hills with the three Jura paps standing out as a climax; and a headland, separating the islet dotted sweep of one bay from the narrow opening of another, began to appear. The hills were brown merging into grey screes and barren rock; there were the odd patches of cultivated green and yellow near the sea, and the large bay was edged with a rim of pink-white sand. To the South, the island’s capital of Craighouse was a dusting of houses spread along the shore-line. In the lee of the headland was a wee ‘clachan’, higher, a white house, and set at the edge of the rim of sand, another white house, Corran house.

It was in the two white houses, at the mouth of the river Corran and at Ardfarnal on the headland, that the group stayed for nearly two weeks last Easter. The aim was to try to see and to learn something of the island — of its wild life, its human life and its natural features. But also, to have an enjoyable time, a holiday and a break before the storm of oncoming exams.

Most days were spent walking to various places or areas of the island which might be of special interest. These ‘expeditions’ were to such places as Glen Batrick — to see the caves, the raised beaches and the hunting lodge of Lord Aster; Inver cottage — via Glen Asdale with its adders just awake from winter sleep, to see the eagles; Ardfin — to look across the straits to the “land of my own, my Isla,” — the whisky island of Islay; Earnadail, the daffodil-covered graveyard set in a hill hollow by the side of a rushing burn; Lowlandman’s Bay to see the seals lying on the rocks. Daily there was an enthusiasm for observation and curiosity which resulted in the conversation’s being interspersed with such comments as, “Had it got a red beak, black head and pink feet?”; or, “The silvery flecks in your rock specimen are undoubtedly mica.”

Between the north of Jura and the island of Scarba are the famous straits of Corry Vreckan where at High Spring tides, two opposing streams of water swirl together to form the whirlpool of Corry Vreckan. Having decided it was a phenomenon worth seeing, the group procured a lift in Charlie's van (Charlie being one of the island's three postmen) for twelve miles along the road to the north. Then, by way of road, moor, stream, bog and mountain, the party walked to Glentrosdale a small bay very close to the Corry Vreckan. There we explored and afterwards camped during a rather wet and windy night. The whirlpool proved to be rather a failure. Although large masses of water could be seen rushing through the straits no noisy, swirling vortex was apparent.

The three Paps, once used by the Druids for sun worship, stand out as the culmination to the island's hills. For us to climb the three Bens, was to be the climax of our holiday. On one day we were defeated by low cloud, cold and drizzle. But the next morning dawned fine, and so we climbed them beneath a Mediterranean blue sky to find ourselves almost on top of the world. To the south, beyond Islay, was the dusky edge of Ireland; to the north, Mull and some of the nearer Hebrides; to the east, Kintyre, Arran and a hazy, central Scotland; and to the west, far beyond Colonsay was the blue Atlantic.

With the climax of our holiday over, we gently returned home by way of the sea, the Kyles of Bute, the Clyde and a grimy Glasgow — a journey of gradual acclimatisation for the not-so-pure air of England. For we had to return to the ups and downs of school life and work — to a land where bread and butter take the place of oat cake and scones, and where only the 'lassies' wear skirts.

S. R. Haine.

MOTORWAY.

FASTER, faster,
 Gather speed,
 Road and road are split asunder
 As the bridges we pass under,
 Hurry, haste
 No time to waste.
 Endless grey monotony
 Without a village, house, or tree;
 Green embankments
 Stark, severe,
 Ceaselessly appear.
 None of the peaceful solitude
 Of Warwick's leafy lanes,
 Northampton's plains,
 Nor Bedford's pleasant ways
 Through which we drove all unaware;
 Instead there's speeding
 — Time we're heeding —
 On England's great new thoroughfare.

Majorie Weston, 5G.

THE GIRLS' HOLIDAY ABROAD.

EVERY year the girls' holiday abroad is taken in a new country. Recently, Norway, Italy and Spain have been chosen, but this year the choice was Switzerland. It was a choice which pleased the girls, particularly as our centre was on the delightful Lake Lucerne, famed throughout the world for its scenic beauty. We stayed at Weggis, a small town on the northern shore of the lake, which faced, to the south, the High Alps towering to some 10,000 feet.

The journey from Oldbury to Weggis was partly by coach, steamer and train, the total time taken being twenty-six hours. The route from London took us through Dover and Calais and

involved a night journey across France to Basle on the Rhine, where at 5 a.m. we enjoyed a continental breakfast. From Basle we skirted the Jura mountains with their limestone peaks turreted against the sky. We crossed the River Aar, the main water artery of Switzerland to reach Zurich, an industrial German-speaking centre and arrived at Lucerne at 10.30 a.m. From here, a lake-steamer took us to Weggis.

The Lucerne region is heavily glaciated, the lake itself being of glacial origin; the northern end is dammed by morainic material. The sides of the lake are sheer, the lake itself being over-deepened, but it is not regular for it extends with finger-like protrusions between steep mountain spurs, and, at the head of each inlet one finds small villages, exquisitely picturesque. It is, indeed, the real heart of Switzerland; it is the country of William Tell — the national hero; it was the county of bitter struggles for freedom. One could not help but appreciate the historical significance of the area and the great diversity of scenery. The wild, forbidding mountain scenes contrasted beautifully with the picturesque charm of the villages dotted along the lake shores. The mountains, wrapped in their girdle of clouds and snows contrasted also with the warm, sunny lake shores, with their flowering shrubs and cherry blossom, and grassy banks studded with crocuses, daffodils and primulas.

Towering behind Weggis is a long mountain ridge, known as the Rigi. It rises to 6,000 feet above sea-level and one day the journey to the top was made by electrified railway. It was cold and the snow lay deep on the ground. Our mountaineering capabilities were shown by the fact that we walked down it!

The highlight of our excursions was a visit to the Bernese Oberland. Frank Smythe once wrote, "The Oberland is unique, there is nothing like it in the world." The Oberland is a region of great mountains, heavily fretted by glacial action and dotted with glacial lakes. Coniferous forests covered the lower slopes and above them could be seen the verdant alpine pastures where the cattle feed and where their milk is processed to cheese and butter. The main industries of the local inhabitants were based on dairying and wood-carving. At the village of Brienz on Lake Brienz we were able to purchase articles made by wood-carvers. We paid a visit also to Interlaken, well-known to English tourists; to Lauterbrunnen, situated in a narrow U-shaped valley. Here, the sides of the mountains ascended steeply into the mists and waterfalls

cascading from hanging valleys, one of these falls being the Trummelbach Falls. We visited Grindelwald and a chair-lift was taken to the first mountain station of the Faulhorn. From the chair-lift we saw the famous Upper and Lower Grindelwald glaciers.

A visit was also made to the mountain village of Engelberg, nestling beneath snow-capped peaks, in the upper valley of the Aa. From Engelberg, a funicular was taken to Gerschnialp and from that point a cable railway took us to the beautiful mountain lake of Trubsee. We were unfortunate here not to be able to witness the beauties of the Alpine meadows around the lake for they were still snow-covered. This meant that the gentian and alpine roses were not to be seen.

Half-day excursions were made to Lucerne itself and to other smaller towns along the lake, such as Flüelen. As far as Lucerne is concerned, we were interested in the two old wooden bridges — the Mill and Chapel Bridges, crossing the River Reus. The town itself is partly enclosed by a wall rising into towers at intervals.

One cannot leave a place without reflecting on the hotel and the local inhabitants. Our hotel, surrounded almost entirely by cherry orchards and magnolia trees, overlooked the lake. The staff were friendly, and on our last night they invited local farmers to demonstrate to us their skill in yodelling and the use of the Alpine horn.

Our return journey retraced the outward except that we spent about eight hours in Zurich visiting places of interest in this, the largest of Swiss cities. Although it is an important industrial centre producing electrical goods and textiles, there is no smoke because of the extensive use of hydro-electric power. We left Zurich at 9 p.m. on 19th April and arrived back at school about 9 p.m. the following day.

All the girls of the party fully realised the extent of the planning and effort that must have been involved in a holiday of this nature. Consequently, to Miss Firth, Miss Sendell, Miss Woodburn and Miss Sirmon, we extend our sincere thanks. There was one regret, that Miss Firth, at the last moment, after all her efforts, was unable to make the journey with us.

Luned M. Morris.

Illustration by Marjorie Weston, 5G.

AN ALPINE PASS

THE jagged, storm-scarred mountain-slopes are veiled
Beneath a white, translucent gentleness,
Clad in their pallid, ice-encrusted shroud.
The gloomy firs whisper a sad lament,
Stirred by the dying wind.

A timorous deer
Leaps terror-stricken through the frozen whiteness,
Pauses to gaze with fearful, pleading eyes
Upon a scene of hollow desolation.
Death and despondency brood everywhere.
The earth alone dreams, in its icy tomb,
Of Spring, of joy, of re-awakening.

Nora C. Reynolds.

BOYS' SUMMER EXCURSION TO BRITTANY, 1960.

THE boys' continental holiday this year followed the pattern of our holiday in 1959. Last year a party of thirteen flew from Gatwick airport to Pleurtuit, and stayed for nine days at an anglicised hotel in the centre of Dinard; this year a party of thirteen flew to Pleurtuit to stay at a French hotel at St. Enogat a short distance outside Dinard, where we enjoyed a very warm spontaneous Breton hospitality. The diet was truly continental, appreciated to a varying degree by members of the party. Neither the Manager of the hotel nor his staff spoke English so that we were compelled to draw, with success, upon our O Level French. The beaches are extensive and of fine sand; bathing is safe, and there is excellent boating and canoeing. With the exception of one day when the weather was truly appalling, it was hot, with long hours of sunshine.

Football on the beach is inevitable, and we were fortunate in making friends with a group of schoolboys from Rennes, excellent footballers, with whom we played seven-a-side most mornings. A most interesting visit was made by vedette to the ancient town of St. Malo, almost devastated during the war but now almost completely rebuilt.

St. Malo is excellent for shopping, being less tourist, and therefore less expensive than Dinard, and this party returned with the usual crop of presents and souvenirs. Our next visit was to the historic city of Dinan on its market day. In error we were

allocated seats on the local market day bus, and eventually arrived in Dinan having made a long detour through numerous Breton villages. Dinan has a splendid aqueduct, the famous castle of the Duchess Anne, and carefully preserved narrow alleys of mediaeval dwelling houses. As it was market day, the city was invaded by people from the surrounding towns and villages, and on these occasions Breton ladies are to be seen, sitting in arches, or in the market-place, making and selling their famous hand-made lace. Since some of the boys were making their second visit it was decided to omit the 'tourists' must' visit to Mont St. Michel, and instead we joined a coach excursion to the Arc d'Ouest and the Ile de Brehat, via St. Briac, St. Briec, and Paimpol. The outward journey gave us excellent views of the rocky coast and sandy bays. Having taken a picnic lunch on the rocky promontory of the Arc d'Ouest, some stayed behind to sunbathe, while others crossed by vedette to the Ile de Brehat, famous for the remains of a mediaeval monastery (devastated by English invaders under one of the Dukes of Kent), for its smugglers' caves and for its spectacular pink rocks. Since our visit included the penultimate Sunday in August we were again fortunate in seeing the biggest fete of the year, Le Grand Pardon de la Mer, comprising morning service conducted outside the parish church, followed by a procession of traditional Breton costumes headed by a band emitting sounds reminiscent of the skirling of the bag-pipes. During the afternoon all manner of sea-going vessels congregated in the harbour to be blessed by the Archbishop. After sunset there were more processions, folk-dancing and a firework display.

Our visit to St. Enogat was most enjoyable and memorable and the party thank Mr. Swain most sincerely for organising and conducting it.

T. B. John Hughes, 6A.

FIRST FLIGHT

A great, grey monster loomed before me, the door was open, all was ready and so I stepped for the first time into an aeroplane. The door was firmly shut and when all safety belts were fastened the expressionless vehicle of flight moved majestically to the end of the runway. The engines roared as they gathered power for the rush which would separate them from the earth, from which they were made; then suddenly houses, trees

and gardens flashed past at an alarming speed; then the ground was below; further and further it receded. The aeroplane rocked: it bumped up and down in the air but finally it rose smoothly into a bank of clouds; thick swirling mist which enveloped and cut off inexorably the land and sea. Then higher it rose until, above the clouds everything was reversed with billowing cumuli below; I almost expected rain to ascend. Then the coast appeared between the clouds; the aeroplane hovered and circled like a bird of prey, finally swooping down on the runway, and rushing along as if it never would stop. Safety-belts were unfastened and I descended, looking affectionately back on that now friendly giant who had shared my first adventure off the earth with me, my 'First Flight.'

Christine Norris, 5G.

TOWN TWINNING

1. VISIT TO ARGENTEUIL

AT eleven o'clock on a bright Tuesday morning at the beginning of August ten Oldbury secondary school children alighted from a B.E.A. Viscount to set foot on French soil for the first time. They were part of an exchange scheme between Oldbury and the French town of Argenteuil, a suburb of Paris.

I was fortunate to be in the party, the first exchange between the two towns. For the next four weeks after our arrival in France we were to be the guests of the town of Argenteuil.

Our first week was spent visiting the sights of Paris. During the week we saw the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame and Sacre Coeur and many other notable buildings in Paris and the surrounding region.

After our first week we went by train from Paris to St. Hilaire-de-Riez, a small village on the Atlantic coast about forty miles south of St. Nazaire in a district called the Vendée, where we were to spend three enjoyable weeks at the French equivalent of our Edgmond Hall. From St. Hilaire-de-Riez we made several excursions into the surrounding country side, which is predominantly flat. There is extensive market-gardening of such exotic fruits as melons and grapes. Contrary to our British summer we had glorious weather and most days we were able to bathe in the sea.

Near to St. Nazaire we traversed a road from the mainland to the island of Noirmoutier which at high tide is entirely covered by the sea.

Mostly we had French food, but as there were also Italian children with us, it was arranged for us all to have one day of Italian food and one day of English food, which did not quite have the approval of our French hosts.

To complete our holiday we returned to Paris by coach, stopping at most places of interest such as Nantes, Tours, Blois and Chartres.

D. Griffin, 4A.

2. THE FRENCH VISIT TO OLDBURY

ON August 8th a party of ten French children arrived in Oldbury from Argenteuil, a town on the river Seine about five miles north of Paris. They were welcomed and entertained to lunch at Oldbury Grammar School by the Mayor.

Each French child stayed in the home of an English boy or girl of the same age, after which a combined party departed for a fortnight's stay at Edgmond Hall in Shropshire. Outings from Edgmond were arranged, and some of the most notable were those to Liverpool, New Brighton and Snowdonia.

After returning from Edgmond, the French children again spent one week with their English hosts. A farewell ceremony took the form of tea in the Mayor's parlour. On Friday, 2nd September, they left for France, leaving behind many new friends. It is hoped that these visits will continue for many years to come, making the bond stronger between Oldbury and Argenteuil.

Judith Rollason, Dorothy Jones, Peter Griffiths, David Cooper.

THEN WE WERE APATHETIC.

(**A**PATHY not only numbs the mind but seems to deaden even the flesh. It is an experience whose value is afterwards inestimable.

We caused our own apathy by a gradual process, in which we lost our beliefs slowly. Unfortunately indifference was very difficult to cast off. At length however, we ceased to be insensible and are now learning from our experience.

Of one thing we are certain: in future we prefer to cling to the wrong conviction, rather than to none at all.)

We paused on the flint and listened
To the choir — 'Who is this God?'
The sounds fell, meaningless sounds,
Unable to graze our impenetrable numbness.
God?

The time of belief was almost forgotten,
The rejection but a memory;
We were no longer convinced of Him,
No longer doubted Him.
Emotion had departed from us,
Had given place to apathy.

Carved statues of men;
Dead as the effigies we seemed.
Art could not pierce our insensibility:
We saw only a canvas and a frame.
Love became a stranger — 'Did we know love?'
For stone has no passion.
Even hate passed us by —
Only convinced men hate.

Indifference had wrung all feeling from us,
Had spilled it in the dust,
Drop by drop.

For existence itself we had ceased to care;
We did not love it,
We did not hate it.
Spectators of life. — 'Is life not for us?'
Exiled in our own apathy.

We crouched on this grey, barren plain
Helpless and pitiable.
Once desire stirred, only to be stilled
By consuming lethargy.
Apathy seemed eternal. — 'Will conviction ever
come?'

Our flesh now as numb as our minds,
Arms hanging feebly.
Winds were never chill here and the sun
Had lost its warmth.

The choir's hymns faded behind us,
And we stumbled on.

Someday we would struggle from this void,
Return to the world we knew.

To live,
No more in mockery,
No more in apathy.

Judith Tranter, 6B.

BIOLOGY GROUP VISIT TO EDGMOND HALL 1960.

THERE were two visits of the Biology group to Edgmond Hall during 1960, the first during the Easter holidays, and the second during the last week of July. The parties were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Eric Sorrill who have undertaken the onerous duties of Headmaster and Matron. Prior to their present appointment Mr. and Mrs. Sorrill were in charge of the Mere Home, Stourbridge, where they were 'foster parents' to as many as two hundred children annually, children from broken and unsuitable homes. Their welcome was warm and their treatment of both our parties sympathetic.

The groups consisted of younger pupils than has been customary in the past, the Easter group being in the main pupils of Form 4A, and the summer group boys and girls of Forms 3B and 3C. The weather was favourable for both our visits, so that most days were spent in the open air. Many informal walks were taken and in addition there were formal visits to Harper Adams Agricultural College, and to the Poultry Research Institute, as well as to a variety of local farms. The night treks during our Easter visit were very popular, and all three parties succeeded in bringing back the unique information required by Mr. Sorrill; for example, one party enjoyed its stumbling progress over ditch and pasture to read the name, by match flare, on a post box situated at a lonely unlighted crossroads. A full day's pleasure excursion was made at Easter to Trentham Gardens, but during the July visit the excursions were of an entirely different nature; a short coach ride to the foot of the Wrekin; a scramble up its steep sides to take a picnic tea at the top; a very rapid descent after a shower of rain; then the walk back to Edgmond via Wellington and along the Shropshire Union Canal, a distance of some thirteen country miles. On another occasion we made a full day's excursion to the Breiddens, the coach leaving us at Criggion for a conducted tour of the Wireless Transmitting Station. This station, second only to Rugby, transmits messages to all parts of the world. Although we did not hear any messages transmitted, the very technical apparatus was explained to us, we heard call signs from ships and overseas stations, and verbal intercommunication with Rugby and London. Most interesting was a C.R.T. demonstration of the method used to distort the wave form of messages transmitted so that they cannot be intercepted and their business content understood. The ramble over the Breiddens which followed this tour of the station was most enjoyable, although for a variety of reasons we did not manage all three 'peaks'.

I would like to express the sincerest thanks of both parties to Mr. and Mrs. Sorrill for their kindly hospitality, to Staff and parents who visited us on Sundays, and to Mr. Swain for organising the visits.

T. B. John Hughes, 6A.

PEACE

THE heavy, dark veil of night is lifted, and all is calm. No more does the strong, howling wind blow across the moors, tearing, ripping and choking all of nature's work which dares to intervene. The rain lessens. What was once a deafening torrent between the flash and crackle of the thunderstorm is now a steady, misty drizzle, hardly stirring the surface it falls on. The fog and mist swirl around the foot of the moors and encircle the lonely figure as it climbs the steps to the cliffs above.

Slowly and quietly through the mist he walks, not noticing the surroundings, his gaze fixed on the edge of the cliff. The setting is perfect on this murky day and as he nears the edge this fact encourages him.

But he hesitates, just long enough to see the sun come through from behind a cloud and light up the sky and earth. Immediately the moors become a thing of beauty, not of destruction, the mist clears and a rainbow forms. Suddenly everything becomes clear and bright, and the figure turns, very slowly, still uncertain, and then walks back across the moors, down the path and home to civilisation again, just as a lark rouses and sings his joyful song.

Betty Basterfield, 5G.

THE SCHOOL AQUARIUM.

THE cold-water aquarium in the biology laboratory was set up last July, but we, Richard Trevis and I, were unable to introduce the plants and fish until September.

Firstly the plants, an essential part of water life, were introduced. A mass of water plant was taken from a nearby canal and planted in one end of the aquarium. This formed a natural underwater forest which will provide a suitable breeding ground for the fish next year. A few plants which are more decorative were purchased from an aquarium dealer for a few pence.

The aquarium being planted we started to think about fish.

A few small Sticklebacks, caught in a park pool, were introduced first.

From the dealer we bought two Catfish, which will keep the aquarium clean because they are scavengers, and two more handsome goldfish. These fish cost very little.

Two rather expensive Crucian Carp were then introduced.

Next spring we shall take out the fish and transfer them to our aquarium at home and attempt to breed the Sticklebacks in the School aquarium.

We hope the aquarium and its inhabitants will provide interest to the pupils of the school.

P. Limbrick, 5G.

THE STORM

A CRASH of thunder and rivers of rain,
Tearing against a window pane,
Awoke the old man from his sleep,
Who to the window arose to peep
On a forest of swirling rain and mist.
The last few embers spat and hissed
As rain-gems fell on to the fire,
And the sea outside gulped higher and higher;
The bed he drew against the door
As drums of thunder were heard to roar
And fiery forks athwart the sky
Signified the storm was nigh.
In vain he tried to steal a wink
Of sleep; but at the very brink
His craving eyes were dazzled by
A murderous slant; and drawing nigh
The fire he sat and thought
Why this hell-like battle was ever fought.
And then his weary soul he put to bed.
The storm had done its worst;
The man was dead.

Sandra Hadley, 5G.

GUIDE ACTIVITIES.

Captain: MISS F. D. TWEEDIE.

Lieutenants: B. PINE, M. COXIL.

Cadets: NORA REYNOLDS (*Leader*), ANGELA DOWNS, CHLOE DANIELS, NINA ROGERS, SYLVIA BROWN, JANET SOMERS.

Leaders: C. JONES (*Chaffinch*), J. SHIPSTONE (*Bullfinch*), J. BEACH (*Kingfisher*), S. SABIN (*Daffodil*), L. DANIELS (*Orchid*), B. CHILD (*Hawthorn*), J. DERRICOT (*Swallow*), M. JONES (*Clover*).

THE school guide and cadet companies met regularly throughout the year. We had eighteen recruits, a record number, who were enrolled in November, and two cadets were invested.

The first event of the year was the cadet swimming gala, in which we unfortunately lost the shield. Five cadets and two guides represented us at the cadet and senior guide parade at St. Paul's in Birmingham. Most of our guides attended the Armistice parade in Oldbury, and later the mayor's Sunday parade.

Our annual sale of work was held on Friday, November 20th, and once more a very high standard was attained.

The year 1960 marks the Golden Jubilee of Guiding, and our company joined in the Birmingham celebrations: Lynnette Daniels and Jennet Beach attended the Jubilee parade; all the cadets and three guides attended a county camp-fire at the central Hall in Birmingham; and Jennet Beach, Angela Downs, Sylvia Brown and Janet Somers attended the Jubilee camp at Lapworth.

On Thinking Day, 22nd February, we had an investiture followed by a Jubilee Thinking Day ceremony presented by the cadets.

Our company was well represented at the Edgbaston Division parade, where the cadets acted as Stewards, and afterwards served tea to visitors and extension (handicapped) guides.

Once again we were victorious in the guide swimming gala, which we won for the tenth time, and also in the annual guide sports in which we again won the shield.

The cadets were very active this year, at Christmas carol singing for the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and later in the year they had several hikes including an overnight one.

As usual we ended the year with an eagerly anticipated camp in Beer. We were glad to find that Diana Holtom and Christine Gregory, two of our cadets who are no longer at school, were able to come with us.

Once again we welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Mitten as helpful additions to our camp, and we were honoured to find that our senior master, Mr. Richards, was able to spend ten days with us, when he qualified for his second class badge, with which he was duly presented by the cadets. I think it can be safely said that he had a very enjoyable time, as did everyone who was present, including Pat, Miss Tweede's ever-popular collie.

So ends another year, an interesting and enjoyable one, for which I am sure all the guides and my fellow cadets will join in thanking Miss Tweedie and our other guiders very much.

Janet Somers, 6B.

A WALK IN THE MIST

AS he walked along the bank he stared into the inky darkness that was the river, swiftly slipping by him, the mist embracing it until it was no more than an eerie whispering voice. It seemed to call out to him from some far and distant land. Soon he was past the river and had started his ascent of the hill. The hill was before him, that he knew, but it could not be seen for the mist surrounded it like a heavy grey mantle. He looked around him and listened, there was nothing but the whispering of the river in the distance. He started up the steep winding path, the mist becoming thicker, closer, he felt horribly cold and damp.

Suddenly he turned a sharp bend in the path and he was there, in another world, a world of singing voices, and infinite beauty. He stood motionless and looked about him and stared at the white mist everywhere. It was like a drifting sea of gossamer-thin chiffon, wafting past him, he felt that warmth, and peace that this world can not give. There in the very heart of this sea of mist, shone a lonely light, like a star that had fallen from heaven. This little light of a farmhouse deep in the valley below, shone with all the brightness of a new-born planet. The very air about him tasted sweet like the breath of many angels. How peaceful, how serene it was standing there, but the hour was late and he must go. Again he turned a sudden bend and the sea had gone.

Pamela Moss, 4B.

HOCKEY

FEW matches were played this season, owing to the bad weather and to the fact that part of the front pitch was re-seeded for the cricket pitch halfway through the Spring term. This also meant that no House matches could be played.

The 1st XI had a fairly successful season, winning three of their six matches, drawing one and losing two. The team scored thirteen goals but nineteen were scored against them.

The 2nd XI played only three matches, winning one and losing two. However they scored twenty-two goals and only twelve were scored against them, (mainly due to a 19-0 victory against Churchfields Comprehensive School).

The 1st XI was usually chosen from the following:- Nina Rogers, Curigwyn Dittrich, Nora Reynolds (Captain), Marilyn Harvey, Lilian Moores, Marion Jones, Maureen Grout, Rosemary Kenwick, Janet Picken, Stella Taylor, Joyce Fletcher, Janice Bagnall, Susan Cutter, Jean Parsons.

Hockey colours were awarded to Curigwyn Dittrich, Rosemary Kenwick and Nina Rogers.

At the County Trials, Joyce Fletcher and Nora Reynolds were chosen as reserves for the Worcestershire Grammar Schools' Teams.

Nora C. Reynolds.

ROUNDERS, SUMMER 1960

THE School played two rounders teams last summer. The senior team played six matches, won two and lost four. The Junior team also played six matches, winning five and losing one.

Colours for good play were awarded to Hazel Boulton. Janice Bagnall was captain.

Nina E. Rogers, 6A.

TENNIS

THIS season has been a successful one for the tennis team. All seven of the arranged matches were played, of which four were won and three were lost. The team won 34 games and lost 29 games. Members of the team were Veronica Kingsnorth (captain), Nora Reynolds, Susan Cutter, Irene Abell, Christine Haines and Josephine Layton. Tennis colours were awarded to Susan Cutter, Irene Abell, Christine Haines and Josephine Layton.

Irene A. Abell, 6A.

THE FORLORN LOVER

THE wind tore on apace that restless day;
 The rocks and craggy hills looked threatening.
 A maiden stood alone, and she was young
 And fair; she seemed to care not for the wind
 Which blew around her face, and cut
 Across her bare and lovely feet. And then
 She turned; her face was sad and tho' her eyes
 Were dry, yet were they lonely as the hills
 With thinking of her long departed love.

Jane Nash, 5G.

GIRLS' INTER-HOUSE SPORTS**HIGH JUMP**

- 11 yrs. 1, Linda Biddulph (T); 2, Carole Brown (S); 3, Margaret Rollason (T).
 12 yrs. 1, Sylvia Jones (K); 2, Janet Skitt (S); 3, Janis Hughes (S).
 13 yrs. 1, Pamela Wilkins (K); 2, Gillian Read (Q), Diane Birch (S).
 14 yrs. 1, Lindy Ranford (S); 2, Jean Parsons (Q); 3, Carole Millard (T).
 15 yrs. 1, Lilian Moores (T), Gillian Smith (S); 3, Stella Taylor (K), Sandra Hadley (T).

LONG JUMP

- 11 yrs. 1, Linda Biddulph (T); 2, C. Walwyn (Q); 3, Jean Cooper (Q).
 12 yrs. 1, E. Wall (K); 2, Janet Skitt (S); 3, Jennifer Ekins (K).
 13 yrs. 1, Gillian Read (Q); 2, P. Wilkins (K); 3, Christine Richards (T).
 14 yrs. 1, Jean Parsons (Q); 2, Carole Millard (T); 3, Joan Hadley (Q).
 15 yrs. 1, Stella Taylor (K); 2, Mary White (Q); 3, Marion Jones (S).

ROUNDERS BALL

- 11 yrs. 1, C. Walwyn (Q); 2, L. Yates (S); 3, Glen Waldron (S).
 12 yrs. 1, Janet Skitt (S); 2, S. Askers (K); 3, J. Downing (T).
 13 yrs. 1, Susan Wise (K); 2, Margaret Chalk (Q); 3, Margaret Poole (K).
 14 yrs. 1, Margaret Tranter (K); 2, Maureen Grant (T); 3, Jean Parsons (Q).
 15 yrs. 1, Hazel Bolton (K); 2, Lilian Moores (T); 3, Janice Bagnall (T).

100 YARDS

- 11 yrs. 1, Linda Biddulph (T); 2, Cynthia Walwyn (Q) 3, Jean Cooper (Q).
12 yrs. 1, Janet Skitt (S); 2, S. Jones (K); 3, E. Wall (K).
13 yrs. 1, Gillian Read (Q); 2, C. Jones (T); 3, H. Hopkins (K).
14 yrs. 1, L. Ranford (S); 2, Maureen Grout (T); 3, Joan Hadley (Q).
15 yrs. 1, Lilian Moores (T); 2, Stella Taylor (K); 3, M. Smith (T).

220 YARDS

- 11 yrs. 1, Linda Biddulph (T); 2, Cynthia Walwyn (Q); 3, Jean Cooper (Q).
12 yrs. 1, Janet Skitt (S); 2, S. Wall (K); 3, Jennifer Ekins (K).
13 yrs. 1, Gillian Read (Q); 2, Susan Baker (T); 3, C. Jones (T).
14 yrs. 1, Lindy Ranford (S); 2, Maureen Grant (T); 3, Jean Parsons (Q).
15 yrs. 1, Stella Taylor (K); 2, Lilian Moores (T); 3, M. Moore (S).

100 YARDS SKIPPING

- 11 yrs. 1, Linda Biddulph (T); 2, Cynthia Walwyn (Q); 3, C. Brown (S).
12 yrs. 1, E. Wall (K); 2, Janis Hughes (S); 3, Jennifer Ekins (K).
13 yrs. 1, Gillian Read (S); 2, P. Wilkins (K); 3, C. Jones (T).
14 yrs. 1, Lindy Ranford (S); 2, A. Chapman (S); 3, Jean Parsons (Q).
15 yrs. 1, Stella Taylor (K); 2, Hazel Bolton (K); 3, Margaret Comley (S).

CHAMPIONS

- Junior: Linda Biddulph (T), 30 points.
Janet Skitt (S), 26 points.
Intermediate: Gillian Read (Q).
Lindy Ranford (S).
Senior: Stella Taylor (K).
Lilian Moores (T).

GIRLS' SWIMMING GALA

ONE WIDTH — BACKSTROKE

- 11 & 12 yrs. 1, Joyce Downing (T); 2, Janet Skitt (S); 3, Susan Jones (Q).

ONE LENGTH — BACKSTROKE

- 13 yrs. 1, Margaret Chalk (Q); 2, Ann Horner (S); 3, Gillian Read (Q).
 15 yrs. 1, Maureen Grout (T); 2, Angela Downs (S); 3, Janet Somers (T).

BEGINNERS WIDTH

- 11 & 12 yrs. 1, Margaret Edwards (T); 2, Susan Akers (K); 3, Pat Quin (S).
 13 yrs. 1, Rana Bharier (Q); 2, Helen Morton (Q); 3, Diane Birch (S).

DIVING

- 11 & 12 yrs. 1, Janet Skitt (S); 2, Susan Jones (Q); 3, Anne Mortimer (K).
 13 & 14 yrs. 1, Gillian Read (Q); 2, Alwynne Dickens (K); 3, Lynette Postins (T).
 15+ yrs. 1, Jennet Beach (T); 2, Beryl Walker (S); 3, Janet Somers (T).

ONE LENGTH — BREAST STROKE

- 11 & 12 yrs. 1, Kathleen Goode (Q); 2, Joyce Downing (T); 3, Jacqueline Fox (Q).
 13 yrs. 1, Joan Willetts (K); 2, Anne Horner (S); 3, Lynette Postins (T).
 14 yrs. 1, Rona Spencer (T); 2, Lindy Ranford (S); 3, Joan Hadley (Q).
 15+ yrs. 1, Janet Somers (T); 2, Sandra Hadley (T); 3, Beryl Walker (S).

ONE LENGTH — FREE STLYE

- 11 & 12 yrs. 1, Joyce Downing (T); 2, Janet Skitt (S); 3, Jacqueline Fox (Q).
 13 yrs. 1, Gillian Read (Q); 2, June Huckfield (Q); 3, Margaret Chalk (Q).
 14 yrs. 1, Pamela Downing (T); 2, Lindy Ranford (S); 3, Ann Smelt (Q).
 15+ yrs. 1, Janet Somers (T); 2, Angela Downs (S); 3, Maureen Grant (T).

ONE WIDTH — SCULLING

- 11 & 12 yrs. 1, Joyce Downing (T); 2, Glen Waldron (S); 3, Kathleen Goode (Q).
 13 & 14 yrs. 1, Lynette Postins (T); 2, Celia Jones (T); 3, June Huckfield (Q).
 15+ yrs. 1, Beryl Walker (S); 2, Janet Somers (T); 3, Maureen Grant (T).

RELAY

Junior: 1, Queens; 2, Trinity; 3, Kings.

Senior: 1, Trinity; 2, Queens; 3, School.

HOUSEBOAT RACE

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

CHAMPIONS

Junior: Joyce Downing, 22 points.

Runner-up: Janet Skitt, 14 points.

Intermediate: Gillian Read, 14 points.

Runner-up: Lynette Postins, 10 points.

Senior: Janet Somers, 20 points.

Runner up: Beryl Walker, 12 points.

1st. TRINITY, 121 points.

2nd. QUEENS, 82 points.

3rd. SCHOOL, 65 points.

4th. KINGS, 20 points.

Janet Somers, 6B.

THE OLD OAK

IN the heart of Sherwood forest stands an old old oak tree, dating back from Robin Hood's time. In the course of the many years it has stood there it must have seen many varied and interesting things. If only able to speak what tales would it tell! Perhaps of stirring fights between outlawed Saxons and vicious, evil Norman men-at-arms, of grand lords in all their splendour passing by with servants and horses laden with gold and jewels worth a king's ransom. It must have seen ambushes on such nobility and all their wealth carried off by outlaws and robbers.

The King himself, surrounded by all the pomp and glory of his retinue, could have passed by without even glancing at the old tree which would see and remember him down through the ages.

Knights in full armour astride magnificent war horses, with great jewelled swords at their sides and the plumes of their helmets waving majestically in the breeze may have ridden by on their way to jousts or tournaments in towns nearby.

A fox pursued by men in red and black, riding pure white horses after a pack of barking hounds enthralled in the excitement of the chase of the poor victim has perhaps galloped by, then back again carrying their now dead victim.

All these things the oak tree may have seen but it will never speak or tell anyone of them.

K. Minchin, 3B.

CRICKET

TO commence the opening of the new cricket season the school was presented with a fine new wicket which was to help to produce higher standards in performance. Four XIs were formed to fulfil a complete fixture list.

The 1st XI played fourteen games of which four were won; eight were drawn and two lost.

Spooner captained the 1st XI throughout the season and was re-awarded his colours. Hughes received his colours also for his outstanding batting display. His average was 24.2 runs per innings with one notable score of 72.

The parents' match was played on July 9th and resulted in a victory for the school XI.

Page took three wickets for 4 runs and Harvey three wickets for 20 runs. Congratulations to Mr. Male for a fine innings of 23, and to Mr. Palmer, who was also the Parents' Captain, for taking 3 wickets for 11 runs. Thanks must be accorded to A. D. W. Pardoe for his scoring on this occasion and throughout the season.

2nd XI results were also good. Captained with enthusiasm by Round they played ten games of which six were won, one drawn and three lost. Outstanding bowling was shown by Bragg.

The under 15 XI, captained by Currier, played five games of which one was won and four lost. Best batting performance was by J. Hadley, best bowling by G. Hadley.

The under 13 XI, captained by Jarrett, played six matches of which three were won and three lost. There was an outstanding all-round performance by Jarrett.

The House Matches resulted in a win by Kings House, who completely dominated the field of play. Trinity, School and Queens all won one match and lost two.

Persons successful in representative games outside the School were as follows:—

Representatives for Oldbury:- Oakes Merrell and Harvey.

Representative for the County:- Oakes.

A revived event long awaited in the school fixture list was the match against the Cresconians which the school hopes to keep as a regular, future battle of wits.

K. C. M. Page.

HAPPINESS

EVERYONE'S cheerful and dancing and gay
The world is a wonderful place.
Everyone's dancing and skipping about
With a smile of joy on his face.

They all have just heard a beautiful sound
As lovely as songs of a bird,
More lovely still than a tinkling stream
Oh what, oh what have they heard?

I know I'll always remember that sound
How ever far I may roam.
What is it, that sound? why it's just the bell
Saying it's time to go home.

Susan Day, 2A.

FOOTBALL SEASON 1959/60.

Captain: D. BAILEY.

Vice-Captain: M. STONE.

Secretary: T. B. J. HUGHES.

Results.

1st. XI — Played 25; Won 13; Lost 8; Drew 4; Goals for 67; Goals against 45.

2nd XI — Played 16; Won 8; Lost 4; Drew 4; Goals for 55; Goals against 39.

U 15 XI — Played 11; Won 3; Lost 7; Drew 1; Goals for 32; Goals against 60.

U 13½ XI—Played 13; Won 7; Lost 6; Drew 0; Goals for 58; Goals against 35.

1st XI Team: Wyton, Bywater, Fox, Stone, Bristow, Smallwood, Whittaker, Baggott, Spooner, Bailey, Campbell.

Birmingham and District Grammar Schools' Cup.

Round 1 Oldbury 3 Caledon Castle 2.

Round II Oldbury 2 St. Philips 0.

Round III Oldbury 3 Wednesbury 2.

Final: Oldbury 2 Handsworth 2. (after extra time).

The 1st XI achieved a very high measure of success this year, again reaching the final of the Birmingham and District Grammar Schools' Cup for the fourth time in six years: a most notable achievement.

Also during the season Oldbury entered two teams in a six-a-side competition held at Kings Norton, five other schools also entering two teams. Both Oldbury teams reached the semi-final and the 'A' team deservedly won the final, receiving a pennant in honour of their victory.

The final of the Birmingham and District Grammar Schools' Cup was held at the Hawthorns. Both Oldbury and Handsworth gave a thrilling display of football, Oldbury dominating the first fifty minutes during which they scored two goals, by Baggott and Bailey. Handsworth then gained superiority and also scored two goals, Bristow and his fellow defenders playing extremely well. No further goals were scored by either side during the extra time so that the cup is being shared by the two schools.

During the year, representative honours were gained by Bristow, Wyton and Aston who played for the Worcestershire XI and Bristow also played for the Birmingham and District representative side.

Intermediate representative honours were gained by Oakes, Harvey and Hall (W) who played for Oldbury, and Harvey also played for the Worcestershire Intermediate team.

Junior representative honours were gained by Burford, Stalker and Jarrett, all playing for Oldbury.

House Matches.

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	For	Against
1. School	3	3	—	—	17	3
2. Queens	3	1	1	1	9	7
3. Trinity	3	1	1	1	7	12
4. Kings	3	—	3	—	3	14

T.B.J. Hughes, 6A.

THE SILENT WOOD

THE last of the picnickers depart. All is silent. The last rays of the setting sun filter through the branches of the needle-clad trees. The stream gurgles on its winding way past clumps of yellow primroses and wild violets. The evening breeze gently stirs the trees sending down a shower of needles onto the already carpeted ground. Somewhere a cuckoo calls his note as he flies to his nest. Somewhere a thrush fills the air with music before the dark night steals over all. Their songs fade away; all is quiet and serene ready for the oncoming night. Peace reigns over the silent wood.

Jennifer Harding, 2A.

BOYS' ATHLETICS, MAY 1960.



Illustration by R. Robinson, 4A.

100 YARDS

Group A/B.—1, Letts (S); 2, Baldwin (K); 3, Hutchings (Q).

Time: 13.6 secs.

Group C.—1, Withers (S); 2, Jarrett (S); 3, Clarke (Q).

Time: 11.8 secs.

Group D.—1, Harris (K); 2, Barnsley (K); 3, Jones P (S).

Time: 12.2 secs.

Group E.—1, Harvey (S); 2, Hughes (T); 3, Moore (S).

Time: 11.2 secs.

220 YARDS

Group A/B.—1, Letts (S); 2, Baldwin (K); 3, Hutchings (Q).

Time: 30.6 secs.

Group C.—1, Withers (S); 2, Clarke (Q); 3, Jarrett (S).

Time: 26.8 secs.

Group D.—1, Harris (K); 2, Barnsley (K); 3, Gray (T).

Time: 27.3 secs.

Group E.—1, Harvey (S); 2, Hughes (T); 3, Whittaker (T).

Time: 25.4 secs.

440 YARDS.

Group C.—1, Bell (S); 2, Plant (K); 3, Stalker (Q).

Time: 66.4 secs.

Group D.—1, Sadler (Q); 2, Merrell (K); 3, Jones P. (S).

Time: 67.4 secs.

Group E.—1, Baggott (K); 2, Russell (K); 3, Bywater (T).

Time: 58.1 secs.

880 YARDS

Group D.—1, Swallow (Q); 2, Merrell (K); 3, Houghton (S).

Time: 2 mins 32 secs.

Group E.—1, Pinson (T); 2, Baggott (K); 3, Page (K).

Time: 2 mins. 14 secs.

MILE

Individual.—1, Pinson (T); 2, Baggott (K); 3, Bridgen (Q).

Time: 5 mins 6.8 secs.

Team.—1, Trinity and Kings; 3rd Queens.

RELAYS

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

Time: 64.2 secs.

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

Time: 86.6 secs.

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

Time: 1 min. 55.6 secs.

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

Time: 4 mins 15 secs.

HIGH JUMP

Group A/B.—1, Smyth (Q); 2, Smith (T); 3, Leavy (S).

Height: 4 ft. 0 ins.

Group C.—1, Withers (T); 2, Green (K); 3, Whittall (T).

Height: 4ft. 2ins.

Group D.—1, Billingham (S); 2, Robinson (S); 3, Percival (Q).

Height: 4 ft. 5½ ins.

Group E.—1, Pinson (T); 2, Jones (T); 3, Moore (S).

Height: 5 ft. 1½ ins.

LONG JUMP

Group A/B.—1, Letts (S); 2, Smyth (Q); 3, Strode (T).

Distance: 12 ft. 11 ins.

Group C.—1, Bell (S); 2, Stalker (Q); 3, Hicks (T).

Distance: 13 ft. 4 ins.

Group D.—1, Billingham (S); 2, Richards (Q); 3, Barnsley (K).

Distance: 14 ft. 4 ins.

Group E.—1, Harris (Q); 2, Jones (T); 3, Moore (S).

Distance: 16 ft. 6 ins.

THROWING THE JAVELIN

- Group A/B.—1, Acutt (K); 2, Gray (T); 3, Fisher (T).
Distance: 81 ft. 6 ins.
Group C.—1, Hadley (S); 2, Hicks (T); 3, Hemming (Q).
Distance: 81 ft. 6 ins.
Group D.—1, Currier (S); 2, Robinson (S); 3, Ashcroft (K).
Distance: 111 ft. 0 ins.
Group E.—1, Harvey (S); 2, Spooner (K); 3, Baggott (K).
Distance: 136 ft. 3 ins.

THROWING THE DISCUS

- Group C.—1, Bell (S); 2, Hadley (S); 3, Hemming (Q).
Distance 77 ft. 3 ins.
Group D.—1, Currier (S); 2, Houghton (Q); 3, Richards (Q).
Distance: 68 ft. 9 ins.
Group E.—1, Page (K); 2, Bristow (Q); 3, Spooner (K).
Distance: 104 ft 0 ins.

HOP, STEP AND JUMP

- Group C.—1, Clarke (Q); 2, Jarrett (S); 3, Chambers (K).
Distance: 28 ft. 7 ins.
Group D.—1, Merrell (K); 2, Billingham (S); 3, Houghton (S).
Distance: 27 ft. 2½ ins.
Group E.—1, Stone (K); 2, Hughes (T); 3, Moore (S).
Distance: 32 ft. 10 ins.

PUTTING THE SHOT

- Group A/B.—1, Lealand (K); 2, Hughes (S); 3, Smyth (Q).
Distance: 28 ft. 5 ins.
Group C.—1, Chambers (K); 2, Franks (K); 3, Hadley (S).
Distance: 30 ft. 3.5 ins.
Group D.—1, Currier (S); 2, Bird (S); Ashcroft (K).
Distance: 34 ft. 3½ ins.
Group E.—1, Page (K); 2, Spooner (K); 3, Wyton (S).
Distance: 37 ft. 7 ins.

Before Sports Day, every boy was enabled to earn points for his House by a system of high and low standards. The points earned by the Houses in this way were as follows:—

Kings 120; Queens 104; School 90; Trinity 84.

When these points were added to those obtained on Sports Day itself, the final order of the Houses was this:—

- 1st. Kings with 288 points.
- 2nd. School with 280 points
- 3rd. Queens with 206 points.
- 4th. Trinity with 176 points.

The following boys were individual champions and runners-up:-
 Junior Champion: Letts of School with 36 points.
 Runner-up: Baldwin of Kings with 26 points.
 Intermediate Champion. Bell of School with 40 points.
 Runner-up: Withers of School with 35 points.
 Senior Champion: Pinson of Trinity with 47 points.
 Runner-up: Harvey of School with 38 points.

Birmingham and District G.S. Athletic Sports.

The school team managed to attain three high standards and several low.

The outstanding performances were by Harvey who came second in the Intermediate 100 yards, and Russell who came third in the Intermediate 880 yards.

As a final note to this Athletics Report, the School is delighted to be able to say that Sports Day, 1960, despite the fact that it was held unusually early, was graced by excellent weather.
 Alan D. W. Pardoe, 6A.

BOYS' SWIMMING GALA

Friday, July 8th., 1960.

THIS year three records were broken, two in Junior events and one in the Senior events. Other events had high standards but too many people were prepared to watch rather than win points for their house, especially amongst the seniors.

JUNIOR EVENTS.

- 1 length Free Style — 1, Griffiths (K); 2, Gray (T); 3, Smyth (Q).
 Time: 17.8 secs.
 1 length Breast Stroke — 1, Bayliss (K); 2, Smyth (Q); 3, Cooper (S).
 Time: 21.0 secs. (Record).
 1 width Beginners — 1, Strode (T); 2, Percival (Q); 3, Powell (K).
 Time: 9.4 secs (Record).
 1 width Back Stroke — 1, Griffiths (K); 2, Fisher (T); 3, Strode (T).
 Time: 9.2 secs.
 Dive — 1, Fisher (T); 2, Brown (S); 3, Smyth (Q).
 Relay — 1, Trinity; 2, School. Time 125 secs.

INTERMEDIATE EVENTS

- 2 lengths Free Style — 1, Bell (S); 2, Smith (T); 3, Handy (T).
Time: 35.1 secs.
- 2 lengths Breast Stroke — 1, Hatton (S); 2, Williams (S); 3, Prideaux (S). Time 50.9 secs.
- 1 length Back Stroke — 1, Hadley (S); 2, Smith (T); 3, Bell (S).
Time: 19.4 secs.
- 1 width Beginners — 1, Clarke (Q); 2, Withers (T); 3, Frost (T).
Time 12.0 secs.
- Dive — 1, Stevenson (K); 2, Bell (S); 3, Currier (S).
- Relay — 1, Trinity; 2, Queens. Time 81.4 secs.

SENIOR EVENTS

- Two lengths Free Style — 1, Page (K); 2, Neal (S); 3, Pibworth (K)
Time: 33.2 secs (Record).
 - 2 lengths Breast Stroke — 1, Pinson (T); 2, Wyton (S); 3, Neal (S).
Time: 48.9 secs.
 - 2 lengths Back Stroke — 1, Oakes (Q), Pibworth (K); 3, Parker (Q). Time: 45.0 secs.
 - Plunge — 1, Harris (Q); 2, Biddlestone (T); 3, Page (K).
Distance 36 ft.
 - Dive — 1, Whittaker (T); 2, Limbrick (T); 3, Lester (K).
 - Relay — 1, Kings; 2, Trinity; 3, School. Time 74.6 secs.
- Champions.**

- Junior: Griffiths (K) 12 points.
- Inter: Bell (S) 12 points.
- Senior: Page, (K) Pibworth (K) 8 points.

House Results.

- 1st. Trinity 90 points.
- 2nd. School 60 points.
- 3rd. Kings 55 points.
- 4th. Queens 39 points.

J. Trickett, 6B.

SUNSET

WHAT a beautiful evening! The sky was aglow with the dying embers of a perfect day. The far horizon was tinted with pink rays. The clouds above glistened with rain drops from the recent shower, and they seemed like the frothy white horses that one finds on a choppy, blue sea. The sun in the west was just disappearing beyond the horizon. The seven-coloured rainbow in the sky looked like a fairy's bow waiting to be strung. How peaceful the scene looks, as one lies in bed, gazing at the moon rising from behind the clouds, feeling the peaceful drowsiness of sleep overcoming one's eyes.

Margaret Rollason, 2A.

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-HEARNE, W. PEERS, G. H. PRICE, J. B. RICHARDS, E. A. RICHARDS, G. W. ROSE, C. SPALDING.

Mesdames C. T. BARLOW, J. MANTON, L. QUAYLE, G. W. ROSE.

Misses B. WILLIAMS and D. WILLIAMS.

Hon. Secretary: R. BROADERWICK,
40, Dog Kennel Lane, Oldbury. Tel. BRO 2585.

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of Bessie Turnbull who has been keenly associated with the Cresconians for many years. Her natural grace and charm will be deeply missed by all who knew her. To her husband, Roland Horton, and the children, and to the Turnbull family, we can say only, but so inadequately, that she has been and will remain in our thoughts.

Bessie was by profession a school teacher as so many Cresconians are. Recently the staff at Titford Road School was joined by Roger Broadbent who quickly learned that his colleagues, Reg Keyte, Janet Perry, and Nancy Poole, had a fund of stories relating to the Grammar School equal to, if not better than, his own. These stories, of course, do improve with time. The one about Norman Jackson's mighty hit for six eventually dropping into Mr. Morris's coat pocket has never been believed, but Tony Lee's description of the tasty tea brew concocted by Mr. Hawley, for a group of his schoolboys farming at Pershore during the War, has been verified so frequently that it could be true. Raymond Broaderwick, who used to be a boy, has lately found that several young Cresconians at present playing in one of the football teams under John Campbell's leadership, were not born when he was a pupil at the School during the War. This must be one of the few things our enterprising Secretary can do little about.

However, he can and does enjoy getting to know former pupils of the School, A few weeks ago we were pleased to meet Norman Green and his wife, Kathleen Homer (late 1940's) who will be leaving shortly for the West Indies. Norman is a Captain in the Ordnance Corps and has seen service in the Paratroops and the Education Corps. He is a Birmingham University graduate. He would be at School at the same time as Edward Grosvenor, who has completed a long service engagement with the Royal Navy during which time he has visited many countries. A native of Blackheath he remembers well the school 'bus. It was said at one time that all the prettiest girls got on the school 'bus but perhaps this would be somewhat difficult to verify.

We are certain of our facts on Brian Waterhouse. A very keen cricketer, he is now an Assistant District Auditor, which in the complicated ranking of the Civil Service is equivalent to that of a Higher Executive Officer, in the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in London. He and his wife, Audrey Bright, were at School during the early 1950's. They would be pleased to learn that the Cresconians' cricket section has enjoyed another good season. His old friend John Perry secured a useful 65 wickets for 515 runs while young Hale captured 42 of the better wickets. Gordon Russell headed the batting with Bob Kimberley but the success of the season was Fred Darby who claimed 36 victims as a wicket keeper.

Fred is also enjoying his football. In the first two months of the season he has twisted an ankle, suffered concussion and broken a collar-bone in the Cresconians' second team. The left wing pair of Rowley and Hale in this team first saw the light of day in the Trinity House team of 1937. We cannot say that we are surprised. During the football season we lost the services of Roy Oakey who has regularly played as a right winger since 1956. He and his wife Ann are now living in a flat at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Roy qualified M.B., Ch.B. at Birmingham University and following a brief period at the General Hospital he expects to go to Canada. From Canada during the Summer, James Grainger and his wife, Pauline Clifford (early 1950's) visited home for a short holiday.

Bob Turnbull (1930's) would welcome Cresconians as guests on holiday to his hotel, "The Errington Arms," in Stagshaw, on the line of the Roman Wall between Newcastle and Carlisle. He recommends the fishing and the shooting. We trust that Bob will make the long journey down to join us at the Jubilee Dinner (1911-1961) of the Cresconians to be held at School on the 25th March, 1961. The Mayor of Oldbury, Councillor G. H. Price, who is a Cresconian and a Vice-President, is expected to be present, as he was recently at the Annual Ball at the T.I. Ballroom. We intend to put more time and effort into the preparation for a successful Jubilee Dinner than we have done for any social event since the War, and we are indeed grateful to the President and the School for permitting the Cresconians to use the premises on this important occasion.

There are many who may find it impossible to be at the Jubilee Dinner. John Shaw (1940's) who has been in Australia with his family for several years has a good position with the Sydney Evening Post. Stanley Taylor (1940's) is now a lecturer in Medicine at Edinburgh University and Derek Waterhouse

(1940's) could be visiting any Atomic Energy Establishment in the British Isles on behalf of Tube Investments. Ian Howard, after nine years in Cambridge University, has been appointed to the staff of the State University of Florida, where his special knowledge of nuclear physics should be useful, and where even the winter weather is reported to be as good as that of our glorious summer of 1959. Terry Cook and his wife, Christine Slim (1950's) are resident in Bedford and Norman Jennings and his wife, Lucy Hopkins (1950's) are in York where Norman is a Flight Lieutenant and Physical Training Officer in the R.A.F. John Comley (1940's) expects to go to Mexico for 3 years as a technical representative for B.I.P. Molly Howells, on the other hand, is expected home from Uganda soon. Sylvia Waterhouse (1950's) married during the summer holidays and will shortly be leaving her teaching post in Oldbury for Australia.

We trust that, when our friends abroad eventually come home on holiday or to stay, they will quickly contact the Secretary and join us at our numerous social events.

V. B. Hale.

NOCTURNE

THE immense fiery orb in the west sank slowly beneath the purple hills. This ball of crimson, for one moment, hung suspended in the emerald heavens sending forth darts of strange, mystical colours. As the flame died so the colours faded until only a dim, red light fell onto the darkening skyline. The dull gleam dashed the black river with blood as it wended its way through the violet vista.

A dark pall covered the fruitful valleys and prised the last glowing fingers clutching at the horizon from the earth. The twisting stream was enveloped in a thick, black shroud of darkness as the night sky pressed down on the hill-tops as the lid of a coffin closed over a dead body.

From the east a wind arose. There was a rustle, a stirring in the long, secret grasses, a slight movement in the bushes, a swaying of the tree-tops, the lapping of water against mossy banks, and then, silence. The lonely crescendo and diminuendo echoed softly through the silent skies like a fugue over the grave of those lost to the world of mankind.

The purple of the night had closed in. Soon the heavens would lighten and become a shimmering sea of blues and pinks, of yellows and violets and the glory of the Lord would spring forth in a new awakening of life. Gone the funereal shroud and dark pall. Here the baptismal robes of a renewed existence.

Joan Allen, 6B.

EDITORS' NOTE

THERE is a limit to the number of contributions which can be included in the magazine, and we have picked what we believe to be the best of the material offered to us. However, there were many other worthy contributions, and we should particularly like to congratulate the following on being in the 'short list' from which the final selection was made: Carol Oakes (5G), Margaret Hollyhead (5G), Jean Hunt (5G), M. Trueman (5G), R. Green (5G), Valerie Gilbert (5G), D. Cooper (5G), Dawn Stopp (4B), Joan Hadley (4B), A. Stacey (4B), Alison Chapman (4B), Roslyn Deakin (4B), Wendy Hadley (4C), M. Goode (4C), Christine Richards (3A), Diane Birch (3B), Judith Newbitt (3B), Pamela Wilkins (3B), Jacqueline R. Edwards (2A), Barbara Bagley (2A), D. Fisher (2B), R. Hawkins (2B).

Contents

	Page
Pusillanimity	Judith Tranter 4
School Notes	Dr. C. C. Howard 5
Mrs. M. Jones	Dr. C. C. Howard 8
Speech Day, 1960 ... ..	... 9
China	Valerie Batten 16
Joint Societies	Nora C. Reynolds 17
Reflection	Stuart Harris 21
Musical Activities	J. N. Gosling 21
School Dance Orchestra	J. N. Gosling 23
Cwm Bychan	Ian Hall 24
Visits to the Theatre	6A English Group 24
<i>St. Joan</i>	P. Turner and S. Walton 26
<i>The Beautiful One</i> ... ..	... Nora C. Reynolds 26
Junior Dramatics	R. B. Knight and S. Walton 27
The Stage	Marion B. Jones 28
Student Christian Movement	M. Biddlestone 29
The Ninety-Nine Point Nine	Margaret Jones 30
Writers' Circle	Judith Tranter and Marion B. Jones 31
Jura—Easter, 1960	S. R. Haine 32
Motorway	Marjorie Weston 34
Girls' Holiday Abroad	Luned M. Morris 34
An Alpine Pass	Nora C. Reynolds 37
Boys' Summer Excursion to Brittany	T. B. J. Hughes 37
First Flight	Christine Norris 38
Town Twinning:	
I. Visit to Argenteuil	D. Griffin 39
II. French Visit to Oldbury	Judith Rollason and Dorothy Jones 40
Then We Were Apathetic	Judith Tranter 40
Edmond Hall, 1960	T. B. J. Hughes 42
Peace	Betty Basterfield 43
School Aquarium	P. Limbrick 43
The Storm	Sandra Hadley 44
Guide Activities	Janet Somers 45
A Walk in the Mist	Pamela Moss 46
Hockey	Nora C. Reynolds 47
Rounders	Nina E. Rogers 47
Tennis	Irene A. Abell 47
The Forlorn Lover	Jane Nash 48
Girls' Athletics	Janet Somers 48
Girls' Swimming Gala	Janet Somers 49
The Old Oak	K. Minchin 51
Cricket	K. C. M. Page 52
Happiness	Susan Day 53
Football	T. B. J. Hughes 53
The Silent Wood	Jennifer Harding 54
Boys' Athletics	A. D. W. Pardoe 55
Boys' Swimming Gala	J. Trickett 58
Sunset	Margaret Rollason 59
The Cresconians	V. B. Hale 60
Nocturne	Joan Allen 62
Editors' Note ... ..	... 63



OLDBURY G.S. FIRST XI 1959-1960