

"NOVA RYA"

No. 4



"Aut Disce, Aut Discede"

January, 1942

IN MEMORIAM

During October, we were deeply grieved to hear the news that Paul Couch, who left the School four years ago, had been killed whilst on active service in the Forces.

Paul Couch joined the School in 1935, and immediately gained popularity as a hard-worker, a keen sportsman and an enthusiastic member of the Dramatic Society. He took School Certificate after he had been in the School a year and passed with distinction. Older members of Sanders House will remember his Captaincy and his undying energy in all House affairs, but perhaps above all in swimming, at which he was a star, and it was during his time that Sanders House pulled itself into the high position which it held for some time. His performance in "The Merchant of Venice" will be long remembered. After a short two years with us it was necessary for him to leave, before his school career was really completed.

Our sympathies go out to his father, mother, brother and sister in this, their sad loss, and we pray that they may be given the strength and courage to endure with fortitude the pain which Paul's death must have occasioned.

At the same time we also heard of the deaths of three other Old Scholars: J. Buchanan, C. Austin and H. Hinde.

They heard the supreme call—the call of Right to oppose Tyranny and Oppression—and they answered, even with their lives. It is a call that we ourselves shall have to face, and we will answer it thinking of those who have gone before. Let us start where they have ended. Let us take up arms where they have laid them down.

"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."

("For the Fallen" by L. Binyon).

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EDITORIAL

Once again the Editors of the august journal of Rye Grammar School find themselves at the end of another term and another magazine ready to put before the public. As each term advances and the fact that an Editorial must be written makes itself apparent, the Editors, who, after wracking their brains, find nothing to say which is not already included in the "numerous" articles already handed in, hold heated meetings—the electric stove in 7A having been repaired—in order to decide what they are to do. These usually are futile, as after "beating about the bush" and sidetracking, the meeting is adjourned and the Editors stagger home to refresh themselves bodily. But at last an Editorial is written and after congratulating the successful Editor on his "chef d'oeuvre" his colleagues signify their relief by heaving great sighs and once more looking on the world with kindly expressions.

If, when acting rather foolishly towards the end of term in a classroom or passage, you are pounced upon by one of the number of prefects, who is privileged to say "Editor sum," you should not take it amiss. Remember that he must write an Editorial, and weighed down by the hopelessness of his task he is apt to be peeved and irritated by any small thing which would otherwise be overlooked. So with this apology for the depressed spirits of the Magazine Staff, we leave you, dear readers, to decide for yourselves the merits of our toil.

THE EDITORS,

A. W. J. AMBROSE,
G. G. SMITH,
J. S. L. PULFORD,
IRENE HATTER,
JOYCE HULBERT.

EDITORS' NOTE

We are sorry that owing to a slight misunderstanding on the last day of term, a Scout Report which was written and handed in to a member of Form Six, did not reach our hands in time to be printed.

THE EDITORS.

OBITER DICTA

We were very sorry to hear that Mrs. Clothier, the Official Helper of the School, had been obliged to give up the work and return to Rye, but we are pleased to welcome Mrs. Broome in her place and wish her every success in her difficult and unceasing tasks.

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Ford, who left the School at the end of the last year, is now in the R.A.F., and is learning the trade of a wireless mechanic.

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Owing to the large number of new scholars, Form VI now finds itself with Room 7A as a form-room. Conditions are rather cramped but there is room for expansion in the Library. One wonders what will happen if there is a further influx of new pupils. There is still the summer-house left vacant.

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The race for supremacy in the House collections has not caused undue poverty or started a revolt in the Lower School, but members of Sanders and Peacocke *have* watched with envy while members of Meryon paid their milk-money without any qualms.

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In the place of Miss Biggs, our Domestic Science Mistress, who left at the end of last year, we are pleased to welcome Mrs. Bowen. We were sorry that she should have been obliged to be absent from the School through illness so soon after she joined the Staff, but we hope to see her back at the beginning of next term.

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We take the opportunity of extending our heart-felt thanks to Miss Glennister to whom we were indebted for so ably taking the place of Miss Thomas, while she was ill. We hope to see Miss Thomas amongst us again shortly.

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We understand that Form IIIA recently had a competition to see who could write the best poem and Miss Glennister offered to set it to music. Would it be possible to hear the new song in the near future?

One room at the Russell Club has been set aside for woodwork and handicraft, but there is only sufficient room for two carpenters to work at the same time. Careless wielding of tools may damage the walls or ceiling.

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For the benefit of non-Latin scholars the School Motto "Aut Disce, Aut Discede," means, "Either Learn or Leave."

A HISTORY OF THE EVACUATION

When those faithful members of the School, who left Rye on that memorable Sunday—I mean July 21st, 1940—arrived in Bedford it was a novel experience for them. Not many thought how long they might be stranded in Bedford and of those who did, many speculated on being back in Rye at the end of the School year. Time wore on; Christmas passed, Easter followed and the state of world affairs became worse. However, the School Year ended and nearly all were able to return to Rye; not as they hoped, for good, but only for a short holiday. The new School Year commenced and those who returned found the ranks in the Upper School sadly depleted. The School was reinforced by the large number of pupils who joined the second forms, and who thus started their Secondary Education. Fortunately, the number of new pupils far exceeded that of the people who had left and so the size of the School has increased. The large number of new arrivals necessitated the creation of a new form, which is now known as Form II Remove. Whether it will be necessary for those now in Form II to go into the Remove before becoming members of Form IIIB is a debatable point.

The School Captains this year are G. G. Smith and Paulina Metianu who have assumed their responsibilities with ease and who now take the lead in upholding the traditions of the School. They have been ably seconded by the Senior Prefects, A. W. J. Ambrose and Margery Smith. The new prefects have continued enforcing the rules. Prefects have also been attached to each form and attend Form meetings, which are held on every other Friday, in order to bring forward to the Prefects' Meeting suggestions in the interest of the School.

All of the School activities are now in full swing, except—as the Head Master pointed out at Speech Day—that the Dramatic Society is still not in existence. The A.T.C.—now nearly 100 per cent. strong—has advanced its organization greatly. Several visits have been paid to [redacted] and lectures and ordinary training have been continued. Morse practice, although rather neglected, forms a part of every week's rota. Many Cadets have passed the Elementary Mathematics test and hope to take the Advanced Mathematics test early next term. An A.T.C. Club has been formed and meets regularly on Saturday evenings. The funds have been supplied by the Cadets who hope to make it a success.

The Scouts have missed Apps's leadership, but the work is being continued by Mr. Douglas and the troop is now thriving. A Concert was given on the last Saturday of term, during which part of the Patrol Competitions was held. Each Patrol entertained the audience for a short period and their efforts were judged by Miss Turner, G. G. Smith and A. W. J. Ambrose. The result was as follows:—

- First*: Ravens' Patrol.
- Second*: Owls' Patrol.
- Third*: Hawks' Patrol.
- Fourth*: Eagles' Patrol.
- Fifth*: Woodpeckers' Patrol.
- Sixth*: Peewits' Patrol.

The Guides have had a large number of Tenderfoots and the Field Day was very successful, although this was accompanied by the usual heavy showers. Other Societies and Guilds have been functioning and membership of these has increased.

Besides the continuation of the Societies, the School has restarted its Inter-House Competition. On Wednesday, September 17th, the Swimming Sports were held at the Modern School Baths. The Competition was won by Meryon House. Football matches have been held, and both in Senior and Junior games, Meryon has been victorious. Hockey matches have been played and Peacocke is leading in this competition and is also well to the fore again in the Work and Merit Competition.

Shortly after the term had commenced, the School went to St. Mary's Church, where the Bishop of Lewes, who was visiting

evacuated Sussex Schools, held a short service. The Founders' Day Holy Communion Service and Commemoration Service were held on October 8th, in St. Andrew's Church. During the morning of that day the Vicar of Rye, the Rev. R. Moffat Wilson, M.A., visited the School and was introduced to all the pupils. In the afternoon the Service was held at which he preached. At the end of the Service, which was well attended by foster-parents and friends, a hymn-book trolley was presented to the Church and dedicated. It had been made by members of the Fifth and Sixth Forms.

A party was taken to the Corn Exchange during the first half of term for a concert given by the London Philharmonic Orchestra and during the last Friday afternoon a party of girls, from IIIA upwards, attended a recital at the Bedford High School, given by a musical trio from the Fleet Air Arm. On Tuesday, December 2nd, a few members of the string section of the B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra, led by Mr. O'Donnell, visited the School and gave a short concert, which included several items by request.

The School was sorry to hear that Mrs. Clothier had to give up her work as Official Helper, owing to a serious illness, but help has come from Mrs. Broome, who is now recognised as Mrs. Clothier's successor, and is very ably fulfilling her duties.

Miss Thomas and Mrs. Bowen, the Domestic Science Mistress, have unfortunately been absent from School owing to illness, and Miss Glennister has taken on the duties of the former. We hope to see a complete Staff at the beginning of next term. Mrs. Lyons has left the School and will return some time during the next term.

Periodically throughout the term, entertainments have been organized on Saturday evenings. These included a film show and a concert, while several socials have been organized. On the last Tuesday of term the Christmas Party was held. The Junior Party occupied the afternoon, and the Senior Party followed in the evening. These overlapped and during this time the entertainments took place. The parties were arranged by "P.A.L.S." who were assisted by members of the Sixth Form.

On Wednesday, December 17th, the Annual Speech Day was held. County Alderman Whitchurch, Vice-Chairman of the Bedfordshire Education Committee addressed the School and Mrs. Whitchurch presented the prizes, certificates and trophies.

From this account, it is obvious that despite evacuation the School functions as normally as possible, and the School motto could well be changed from "Aut Disce, Aut Discede" to "Rye Grammar School carries on."
A.W.J.A.

HOUSE NOTES

PEACOCKE HOUSE

CHRISTMAS TERM, 1941

House Master : MR. MORGAN.

House Mistress : MISS LETCHER.

House Captains : T. R. COWPER, PAULINA METIANU.

Prefects : MARGERY SMITH, IRENE HATTER, P. J. MEAD.

At the beginning of this term, T. R. Cowper was elected to be House Captain in the place of O. Schofield, who has left us in order to join the Royal Armoured Corps.

The term has been quite successful in most respects. On the whole the results of the Work and Merit orders have been very good, and it appears that most of the members of the House are pulling their weight. It is hoped that this will continue for the rest of the School year.

The Senior football results are rather disappointing, the House standing third place at present. This is partly due to the small number of Senior boys in the House. Nevertheless the Junior Football results were more promising.

In the Hockey matches the results have been very satisfactory, and we have hopes of future victories.

The Annual Swimming Sports were held earlier in the term. The girls put up a good show, but the boys did not excel themselves, and altogether the House gained second place.

Several new-comers to the School, some of whom have been living in the vicinity of Bedford since their evacuation from Rye, were welcomed to Peacocke House at the beginning of the term.

The members of the House have generously contributed to the Charity collection, and the Treasurer has sent thirty shillings to the Royal East Sussex Hospital.
P.J.M.

SANDERS HOUSE

House Mistress : MISS SEED.

House Master : MR. DOUGLAS.

Boys' Captain : M. S. LANSKY.

Girls' Captain : OLIVE PAINE.

Prefects : JOYCE HULBERT, J. S. L. PULFORD.

The term started well with a great deal of enthusiasm on the part of the House Captains, who were determined to liven up the House meetings. The people in the House backed them up nobly, and the meetings went of quite well.

A new system was introduced, by which the House Captains read out the interim orders to the House, and criticised positions both in work and merit. The first Interim Sheet turned out very well for us, but the standard seemed to deteriorate both in work and games during the term.

The results of the Swimming Sports at the beginning of the term were very disappointing, partly owing to over confidence in the House, and partly to keener competition.

This result served as a damper to all the rest of the sporting activities during the term, for with one exception, Sanders lost all the other matches. This was not due to lack of zeal and House patriotism, but a deficiency of real talent in the House.

The new Treasurer, J. Pulford, went equally determinedly about his task of improving the House Collections, and announced his firm intention to surpass our previous records, and, if possible, to exceed those of the other Houses. He succeeded very well indeed in that fifty shillings was collected during the term, averaging a little over seven shillings per meeting in comparison with an

average of about two shillings last term. On account of the large amount of money it was decided to send ten shillings to each of the following :—

Red Cross (Prisoners of War) Fund, Royal East Sussex County Hospital, R.A.F. Benevolent Fund and Mrs. Churchill's Aid to Russia Fund.

Five shillings was also contributed to the money for Mrs. Clothier and the surplus was retained for House expenses and for the following term.

This shining example has been followed by the other two Houses but has been attended with less success.

M.S.L., O.M.P.

MERYON HOUSE

House Master : MR. BROOME.

House Mistress : MISS TUNSTALL.

Boys' Captain : G. G. SMITH.

Girls' Captain : JOAN BEASLEY.

Prefects : A. W. J. AMBROSE, G. T. ASHDOWN,
P. J. ABBOTT.

All activities have been carried on during the term with the usual amount of enthusiasm and vigour but with varying success.

We find ourselves bottom in the Work Competition once again. It seems that this poor condition of affairs could really be remedied if everyone were to pull his weight in all subjects. At least it is impossible to believe that the members of Peacocke and Sanders are unbeatable even if their standard of work is very high.

Supposing, however, that all members of Meryon are working their hardest, as no doubt the majority are, the fact that the House has come bottom in the Merit Competition so far is certainly inexcusable. Lateness and bad behaviour in form account for many "black marks," and the remedying of these things should lie within the scope of every scholar, from the smallest "second-former" to the largest "sixth-former." Repeats and detentions can also be avoided; neither is given without an adequate reason and a little effort from some slack people would help to put the matter right.

We were pleased to be able to congratulate all the swimmers in the House for obtaining the first position in this year's Swimming Sports for us. For the first time since the Shield was introduced into the School it has been wrested from the jealous grasp of Sanders. Scholars may like to note that owing to the fact that the Swimming Sports come just before Speech Day, the House which won the Shield during the preceding year always receives the trophy. Owing to the "time lapse" we shall receive the Shield at the next Speech Day.

The House has gained the first position in football during the term, but hockey still remains undecided. Let us hope that we may see some improvement on last year's results.

Meryon was left far behind in the race for the highest collection for charity during the term. No doubt the quality of charity (like mercy) is not strained, but some improvement could be made in this field.

Perhaps the new term will see improvements in every field.
G.G.S.

THE SWIMMING SPORTS

The Annual Inter-House Swimming Sports were held on Wednesday, September 17th, at the Modern School Baths. Foster-parents were among the people who attended. Great enthusiasm was shown at the most spectacular events, despite the fact that on several occasions, especially at the diving, the spectators were splashed and the sides were covered with pools of water. The programme went off without a hitch and the announcements were clearly heard. The organizers should be thanked, on behalf of the School, for the work they put in in arranging such a successful afternoon.

Among some of the more spectacular events was the diving by Kennard, who also excelled in the Stunt Competition, when he swam a width under water. In the Plunge Competition, Foster attained a distance of 31.6 feet thus winning the event for Peacocke. Pat Barfoot is to be congratulated on her performance as a whole. It may be noted that although only in Form II Remove, she came third in the two lengths race for girls. This augurs well for

Meryon in the future. A week before the Sports, points were awarded for the lengths swum by pupils and these counted towards the Shield.

The results were as follows :—

| Event | Winner | House Order |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| LENGTHS— | | |
| Girls | — — | P, M, S |
| Boys | — — | M, S, P |
| BEGINNERS' WIDTH— | | |
| Girls | I. Farrant | P, M, S |
| Boys | Hood | M, P, S |
| LENGTH ON BACK— | | |
| Open | Ashdown | M, S, P |
| STYLE: BREAST— | | |
| Open | Douglas } Boreham } | P, S, M |
| STYLE: CRAWL— | | |
| Open | P. Wood | M, S, P |
| 100 YARDS— | | |
| Boys | Fellows | S, M, P |
| 2 LENGTHS— | | |
| Girls | Julia Smith | P, M, S |
| 1 LENGTH— | | |
| Junior Boys | P. Wood | M, S, P |
| Junior Girls | Julia Smith | P, M, S |
| DIVING— | | |
| Junior | P. Wood | M, P, S |
| Senior | Kennard | M (equal) P, S |
| 1 LENGTH— | | |
| Senior Girls | Margery Smith | P, M (equal) S |
| Senior Boys | Foster | M (equal) P, S |
| PLUNGE— | | |
| | Foster | P, M, S |
| STUNT COMPETITION— | | |
| | Kennard | S, M (equal) P |

TEAM RACE—

| | | |
|--------------|-----|---------|
| Junior Mixed | — — | P, M, S |
| Senior Mixed | — — | M, P, S |

During the whole competition there was keen rivalry between all three Houses, especially between Peacocke and Meryon, but Meryon maintained the lead gained in the swimming of lengths.

The final result was :—

| | | |
|-----|----------|------------|
| 1st | Meryon | 149 points |
| 2nd | Peacocke | 133 points |
| 3rd | Sanders | 88 points |

This is the first time that Meryon has won the Swimming Shield.
A.W.J.A.

THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

On Tuesday, October 7th, a group from the School paid a visit to the London Philharmonic Orchestra, to hear a programme specially arranged for the school children of Bedford.

The pupils met outside the Corn Exchange at 2 o'clock, where several members of the Staff joined them. The School was seated at the back of the hall, but that did not prevent those who attended from enjoying the music.

The programme was opened by the playing of the National Anthem, following which the conductor, Dr. Malcolm Sargent, gave a very enlightening, though brief, appreciation of the musician, Mendelssohn, whose works we were to hear during the afternoon.

The first item was "The Wedding March," an ever popular work. This was followed by "Night on the Bare Mountain," which, although not so well-known as the first piece of music, was enjoyed equally well. Other items were a Nocturne and Scherzo from "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and the last work was Mendelssohn's Minuet in A.

Dr. Malcolm Sargent, with his friendly manner, quickly won the hearts of the children, who, as well as adults, thoroughly enjoyed the musical hour.
I.J.H.

FOUNDERS' DAY IN BEDFORD

The Vicar of Rye (the Rev. R. Moffat Wilson), visited Bedford to conduct special services in connection with the 303rd Anniversary of the founding of Rye Grammar School by Thomas Peacocke. Through the generosity of the Rev. A. Thornton Down, the services were held in St. Andrew's Church. About thirty pupils and members of the Staff attended a corporate Communion at 8.30 a.m., at which the Vicar officiated, assisted by the Rev. A. Thornton Down.

There was a short session in the morning when the Vicar, accompanied by the Headmaster, visited the School and had a chat with every one of the one hundred and forty pupils, except one girl who was in hospital.

Foster-parents and friends were among the large congregation who attended the Commemoration Service in the afternoon, which opened with the singing of the National Anthem. There were special prayers for members of H.M. Forces, those from the School who were now serving their Country being specially remembered, and tribute was paid to J. Buchanan and P. N. Couch, who had given their lives in this war.

The lesson from Isaiah vi, 1-8, was read by the Head Master, who also read out the list of those from the School who were serving in the Forces, and three who had made the supreme sacrifice.

A book trolley, made by the pupils of the School, was presented to the Church and dedicated by the Rev. R. Moffat Wilson.

For his address, the Vicar took as his text, "If they say this, 'Come up unto us,' we will go up, for the Lord has delivered them into our hand" (I Samuel xiv, 10). He urged his hearers to go out bravely into the world, and to be ready when the call came. On behalf of the people of Rye the Vicar thanked all those who were showing kindness to the children during their stay in Bedford.

The service concluded with the singing of the School Hymn.

O. PAINE.

MR. O'DONNELL AND HIS PARTY VISIT THE SCHOOL

On Tuesday, December 2nd, the scholars of Rye Grammar School attended Russell Park Hall to hear a special programme given by a septet of the B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra. The septet under Mr. O'Donnell's leadership, consisted of three violins, one viola, one 'cello, one double bass and one piano. Among this party, we had the honour of hearing two ex-members of the Hastings Municipal Orchestra, the pianist and the second violinist; and also Mr. Hall, the greatest trumpet player in England appeared, not with his trumpet, but as the third violinist.

The programme began with an overture from "The Merry Wives of Windsor" by Niccolai, followed by "The Joy of Spring," a waltz by Strauss. Then came two movements from Mozart's "Serenade," and a selection from "Coppelia" by D elibes. After a short interval, the programme continued with the first movement from Schumann's Piano Quintet, and following this, two pieces which had been requested by scholars of the School, were played. First of all, Mr. O'Donnell himself played Boccherini's famous "Minuet" as a violin solo, and then the septet played Schubert's "Serenade." The final piece was the famous French march "Regiment de Sambre et Meuse."

Thanks were expressed by Mr. Jacobs for the kindness shown to the School by the visit of Mr. O'Donnell and his party to show us "what real music is like." Special thanks must be paid for the honour of receiving this most welcome visit, because Mr. O'Donnell and his party gave up their only free afternoon of the week to come and give us this splendid programme. Thanks were also expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Pigrome, who were responsible for arranging this visit to the School, and who afterwards provided the party with tea.
I.M.H.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

So the prefects are human!! This remarkable discovery was made by most members of the School on December 16th, when the Christmas Parties were held. They were organised by

"P.A.L.S.," who used this alias for two reasons. Firstly, because they are so—at least among themselves—and secondly, because they are Pulford, Ambrose, Lansky and Smith. These parties, because they led to the discovery of the marvellous fact stated above, will in all probability form part of the history of the School. However, this remains to be seen.

During the two or three preceding days, the "P.A.L.S." could be seen rushing about with curtains for the stage, decorations for the Russell Park Hall, and a multitude of other things. The Junior Party started at 2.30 p.m. and seemed to be progressing fairly well, until Sir Roger de Coverley had to be danced. Then it was found that neither "P.A.L.S." nor members of the Staff knew how to dance it. Mr. Broome came to the rescue and it seemed that the confusion spread, but that persevering man, at last, made himself understood and after a short demonstration by the organisers, the dance proceeded in an orderly fashion. Unfortunately, "P.A.L.S." had been given to understand that the Juniors would enjoy a certain amount of dancing, so they were prepared to indulge these young enthusiasts in their desire. The first dance was announced and the radiogram began to produce that amazing noise, commonly known as dance music. This resulted in a fiasco. When Mr. Broome told the organisers the obvious fact that this could not continue, they were able to assure him that they had already decided upon a substitute to take the place of dancing. The party once more commenced in such a way as to give satisfaction to all present.

Soon afterwards the Seniors began to arrive and at approximately 4.45 p.m., the entertainments began. The first was perhaps the most trying for those who took part. A Brains Trust had been formed, the brains being supplied by certain members of Form VI, with Olive Paine as the Questionmaster, and this was the first session. Many of the questions had to be left as they developed into long discussions, on which no decision could be reached. The standard of the questions was quite above that which had been expected and all of the questions came from pupils of the School, except one which was sent in from the Staff Room. Time did not permit for all questions to be answered.

This was followed by a short period of community singing while the stage was set for a play and the players were changing into

costume. Then "Old Moore's Almanac" was presented. This was a great success and many times hearty applause and laughter resounded throughout the Hall. J. S. L. Pulford and M. S. Lansky should be congratulated on their performances. After this another play was performed "at great risk to the actors"—I quote from the prologue—and was also quite successful. The last scene of "Hamlet" was presented, written as it might have been if Shakespeare had lived in modern times. We are indebted to G. G. Smith for re-writing this scene which ended up as the actual one does—I mean with corpses strewn all over the stage. The Juniors were unable to appreciate much of the subtleness of the script, but we have been told that other people thoroughly enjoyed it.

The Juniors then left and after a few games had been played, the dancing fans were able to try to satisfy their insatiable desire to keep moving in time with more of that mysterious dance music. There were prizes for a spot dance and an elimination dance, besides those given for Junior and Senior Spelling Bees. Towards the end of the evening, T. Pollard thanked Form VI for organising such an enjoyable evening. He was glad that prefects were able to lose their dignity for several hours on such occasions. It was evident that a certain member of the Staff—he shall remain anonymous—was anxious that this should not be omitted. In reply, G. G. Smith said that "P.A.L.S." had enjoyed organising the parties and obtained great satisfaction from the knowledge that the remainder of the School had likewise enjoyed them.

All good things have to come to an end and so do Christmas parties. It is to be hoped that everyone was able to include his or her party in the former category.

"P.A.L.S." would like to express their thanks to all members of Form VI who aided them in their arduous task. They wish to bring to the notice of the public the unending support which they received from Olive Paine, Joyce Hulbert and P. J. Mead, who helped them through innumerable difficulties. A.W.J.A.

SPEECH DAY

On Wednesday, December 17th, the School assembled at the Russell Club for the Annual Speech Day. By 2.30 p.m. (the

time for the opening of the proceedings), we were pleased to see that foster-parents and other visitors had once again shown their interest in School affairs by kindly attending in large numbers.

The guests of honour were County Alderman and Mrs. Whitchurch, who were supported by Mr. Richards, Mr. Negus and Mr. Lansberry. The ceremony commenced with the singing of the School Commemoration Hymn, after which the Head Master, who was in the Chair, introduced Alderman and Mrs. Whitchurch and explained the important work in which both of them were engaged. Mr. Whitchurch is the Vice-Chairman of the Bedfordshire Education Committee, and Mrs. Whitchurch is a member of the Sub-Committee for Higher Education. Mr. Jacobs then went on to give a brief review of the past year in Bedford. He thought the success of the first year of evacuation due primarily to the scholars themselves, but also to the perseverance and enthusiasm of the foster-parents who had been so willing to help wherever possible on all occasions. One scholar had been granted an Exhibition at Oxford; seven Higher School Certificates and fifteen School Certificates had been gained. The Head Master thought this a very fair record for our first year away from home. He continued by expressing his gratitude to the Senior members of the School ably led by Ford and Winnie Allen and added that the present Sixth Form were managing to carry on the traditions very well. Although many activities, such as House Competitions, and Guides had been carried on with much enthusiasm, the Scouts had been restarted and the A.T.C. introduced, it was to be feared that the Annual School Play had been allowed to drop, but Mr. Jacobs hoped that we should have the opportunity of putting a play before the people of Bedford in the near future.

After the Head Master had finished speaking, Mrs. Whitchurch presented the prizes to the winners, a list of whom can be seen below. School Certificates, Higher School Certificates and the trophies for House Competitions were presented in due course.

Alderman Whitchurch was then called upon to speak. He started by setting his watch on the table before him and assured us that the speech would not last long. However, there was no need for this assurance as the speech was both interesting and amusing. Mr. Whitchurch gave us a number of reasons why Rye was so similar to Bedford. Rye for example, was certainly near the sea,

but surely the River Ouse was much nicer than the "old Channel!" Again, both had a fine history; the Grammar School and the Bedford Schools had all been founded by great men, but whereas our own school was founded by "a bird" (Thomas Peacocke), the Bedford Schools had been founded by Sir William Harpur who was actually Lord Mayor of London at one time. Alderman Whitchurch then reminded us that Rye was a short name, but that was because it is such an important place, of course, for important places always have short names. But when we think of the name of Rye, we should also think of three other things, all of which begin with the letters R-Y-E. The first is "Right." One must always remember the right through life, for we all come to the earth for some special purpose and by "fearing God and honouring the King," the earth will be made a better place for all. The British Empire was founded on Right, and there must come a time when Right will rule the world. The second letter stood for "Yourself." The earth was composed of individuals, and if everyone were to look after himself and see that he improved himself the world would automatically become a better place to live in. "E" stood for "Enthusiasm," and enthusiasm both in work and play. Every time the ball was hit in cricket the batsman should try to score two runs. He should run up the pitch as fast as possible for the first run and then there might be time to make it two. If it were not possible, the batsman could at least feel certain that he would gain one run and would not fear being run out before he had reached the other wicket. Enthusiasm would help to carry us through life and should help to ensure success in all fields. With these points impressed upon our minds, Alderman J. Arnold Whitchurch sat down amidst great applause from all sides.

Mr. Pigrome then proposed a vote of thanks to Alderman and Mrs. Whitchurch, expressing the hope that they would come to see us in our own School when we had ceased to be "birds of passage," as Mr. Whitchurch had called us.

After the clapping had died down, G. G. Smith called upon the School to show its gratitude to all the foster-parents and Paulina Metianu called for three cheers for the Staff. Mr. Whitchurch was hardly satisfied with the volume of the cheering and started it again, this time with a far better result. It was a relief to find that the roof of the Russell Club was safe, in spite of some doubts on the subject.

At length everybody stood for the National Anthem and the assembly broke up to depart for home. Were the Bedfordians who were not "in the know" puzzled to see so many Rye Grammarians walking about with new books under their arms? G.G.S.

PRIZES AND TROPHIES

SPECIAL PRIZES—

Miss Prentice's Prize for Divinity : Jean Pope
 Art, Prize Label Design : A. E. Marson
 Form II : L. Allen, Pauline Baker, Irene Farrant, Sheila Houlston
 Form III B : Julia Smith, Betty Ford, J. Martin, J. Jury
 Form III A : Rosalie Green, Daphne Breeds, B. Dawson, Kathleen Batehup
 Form IV : T. Pollard, A. Marson, Gloria Bray, W. Colvin
 Form LVI : G. G. Smith
 Old Scholars' Prize : M. S. Lansky

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION PRIZES—

English Language : Peggy Dengate
 English Language and Literature : J. S. L. Pulford
 History and French : M. S. Lansky
 Geography and Science : R. T. Cowper
 Mathematics : P. Shearer
 Arithmetic and Handicraft : G. T. Ashdown
 Science : J. L. Green
 Handicraft and Art : P. J. Mead
 Art : Daphne Finch
 Domestic Science : Irene Hatter

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION PRIZES—

Mathematics and Science : V. I. Apps
 Geography : F. J. Ford
 History : Deslys Jones
 English : Joy Hulett and Noreen Baker
 T. Phillips Mathematics Prize : A. W. J. Ambrose
 Trollope Medal : Winnie Allen

SCHOOL CERTIFICATES GAINED IN JULY, 1941—

G. T. Ashdown, 7 Credits
 F. K. Breeze : 1 V.G. English Literature, 2 Credits

T. R. Cowper : 2 V.G. History, General Science, 7 Credits
 L. J. Green : 1 V.G. General Science, 6 Credits
 M. S. Lansky : 5 V.G. English Literature, History, French, Biology, General Science, 4 Credits
 P. J. Mead : 1 V.G. Handicraft, 6 Credits
 J. S. L. Pulford : 2 V.G. English Language and Literature, 3 Credits
 A. D. Renville : 7 Credits
 P. G. Shearer : 1 V.G. Mathematics, 5 Credits
 S. J. Vincett : 4 Credits
 Peggy Dengate : 1 V.G. English Language, 3 Credits
 Daphne Finch : 7 Credits
 Irene Hatter : 7 Credits
 June Hobbs : 3 Credits
 Joyce Hulbert : 5 Credits

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATES AWARDED IN 1941—

V. I. Apps : Principal Subjects—Mathematics, Biology ; Subsidiary Subjects—Chemistry, Physics ; State Bursary in Science
 F. J. Ford : Principal Subjects—History, Geography ; Subsidiary subjects, English
 Noreen Baker : Principal subjects—History, English ; Subsidiary subjects—Latin, French, Art ; Exhibition at Somerville College, Oxford—Senior County Scholarship
 Joy Hulett : Principal subjects—History, English ; Subsidiary subjects—French, Art ; Senior County Scholarship
 Deslys Jones : Principal subjects—History, English ; Subsidiary subjects—French (written and oral), Economics ; Senior County Scholarship
 A. W. J. Ambrose, gained his Higher School Certificate after one year's course.

Trophies for the House Competitions were presented as follows :—

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Football (Dunlop Shield) : | Meryon |
| Hockey (Old Scholars' Shield) : | Sanders |
| Netball (Hepworth Shield) : | Peacocke |
| Swimming (Gasson Shield) : | Sanders |
| Cricket (Heron-Wilson Shield) : | Peacocke |
| Tennis (Lady Maud Warrender Shield) : | Sanders |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Athletics (Bishop Shield) : | Peacocke |
| Gymnasium, Boys (Schofield Shield) : | Meryon |
| Gymnasium, Girls (Howlett Cup) : | Sanders |
| Speech and Music (Gwynne Shield) : | Peacocke |
| Work and Merit (Hanby-White Shield) : | Peacocke |
| House Championship : | Peacocke |

TROPHIES NOT PRESENTED WERE—

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Cross-Country Run (Senior Cup) : | Peacocke |
| Cross-Country Run (Junior Cup) : | Meryon |

The Guide Trophy was presented to Shamrock Patrol.

AIR TRAINING CORPS

The first parade of the new School Year took place on Saturday, September 20th. The C.O. (A.F/O Hutchings), spoke to us about the successes with which we had met since the flight was formed and gave some indications of the activities which we were to expect during the coming year. The regular visits to the air station at [REDACTED], which had been so elusive in the past, were to start in the near future without fail and F/O Hutchings mentioned with gratitude the hard work, in this respect, of F/L Wignall, the Co-ordinator for Schools. Soon after the beginning of 1942, he hoped that all Cadets would have an opportunity of flying. In the same way, the uniforms which had been on order for a long time for most of the members of the flight, had at last arrived and we were to be fitted at the earliest opportunity. The whole flight was to be divided up into classes, tests in mathematics would decide whether Cadets should be in the Advanced or Elementary Mathematics or Navigation Classes and tests would also be taken in signalling. F/O Hutchings gave some idea of the necessary conditions for becoming "efficient" and "proficient" in the A.T.C. It was hoped that some Cadets would have taken their Proficiency Tests by Christmas and that others would take them before Easter or the end of the School year. A certain amount of signalling apparatus had arrived, including a fair supply of Morse buzzers and Aldis lamps. In connection with this the C.O. announced that it might be possible to have a room in the Modern School specially wired for signalling work.

At the parade on the following Tuesday, we carried out our first part of the year's programme by taking a test in Mathematics and on the Thursday of the same week we went to the Modern School to be fitted for our uniforms. This took a considerable time and was attended with some amusement. When everybody had obtained his uniform, the flight was informed that in future every parade would be attended in uniform.

From this time onwards, the parades were held regularly and it was very satisfactory to note that all members turned up on nearly every occasion. The first Morse Test was taken and we found that quite a large proportion of the Senior Class (4-6 words a minute) was formed of R.G.S. Cadets. Later in the term Ashdown attained a speed of six words a minute and passed on to Aldis Lamp work.

The first visit to [REDACTED] by the School Section took place on Saturday, [REDACTED]. We were shown a "[REDACTED]" in some detail and then went to an "[REDACTED]" which we actually entered, and were given instruction in the various instruments on the panels by the Officer in charge. Some Cadets were lucky enough to sit in the pilot's seat. (It was not, however, very comfortable, as there was no parachute to use as a cushion.) The Cadets who could enter the [REDACTED] at the same time were necessarily only a small number, and the entire visit was therefore taken up in this way. The remainder were able to gain some interest by watching the various planes come into the areodrome and take off again. A "[REDACTED]" were in operation while we were there.

The second visit to [REDACTED] was on Saturday, [REDACTED], but this time the number was only limited and the remainder paid their visit on [REDACTED]. The Cadets were instructed in armaments this time, and attended a lecture in the Armaments Department where we were shown the composition of a Vickers gas-operated machine gun. Two guns were then put at our disposal and we were allowed to take them to pieces and reconstruct them at liberty. Those who tried to fix the drum and ammunition in place were not very successful. It had been hoped that the flight would have some firing practice on the range, but on this occasion it was not forthcoming, though we understood we should have some rifle practice on the next visit.

Towards the end of the term certain members of the R.G.S. Section of the A.T.C. began to discuss plans for the formation of a club to be held on Saturday evenings at the Russell Park Hall. The rest of the section were so overwhelmingly in favour of the suggestion that within a short time a Committee had been set up to organise the Club. Subscriptions were handed in to the Secretary (Cadet Cowper) and the Committee supplied equipment for indoor games such as table-tennis, chess, draughts and certain card games. The Committee hopes that it will be possible to arrange for the A.T.C. to have lectures on some occasions, and if this can be done, the Owen's School Section will also be invited.

On Thursday, December 11th, the last parade of term was held. F/O Hutchings repeated the conditions necessary for passing the Proficiency Examinations and announced his intentions of entering Cadets and giving them special coaching during the early part of the New Year. This would also be coupled with the training of prospective N.C.O.'s of which the Flight was allowed one Flight Sergeant, two Sergeants and two Corporals. Our visits to [redacted] had been interesting, edifying and successful, but he had suddenly been informed that in future it would be necessary to pay the cost of transport. This had caused rather a jolt as it used up the grants of rather a large number of Cadets, but it would still be possible to continue with two visits each term for every Cadet. The C.O. ended with a comment on the smartness of turn-out and saluting on parade, and added that he hoped there would be a little more consistency in the wearing of uniforms during the coming term. We then heard that all Cadets were invited to attend a show, given at the [redacted] Station Theatre, on the following Sunday afternoon. Several Cadets arranged to go. After F/O Hutchings' talk, P/O Olphin carried out another Morse Test as a basis of work during the next year.

So ended a term which, at last, had seen the real and full development of the School Section of the Air Training Corps.
G.G.S.

GUIDE REPORT

At the beginning of this term, the Guides welcomed to the Company sixteen new girls. This term we have a record, for every new girl who joined the School has joined the Guide Company.

But, on the other hand, we were very sorry to say good-bye to Joy Hulett, Cynthia Breeds, Kitty King, Daphne Finch and June Hobbs, and we wish them every success in their careers.

Now the Guide Company is stronger than ever before. We have a record number of fifty-eight guides in the Company. Thus the Company has had to be reorganised. A special meeting was held at the beginning of the term, to discuss this question. Paulina Metianu was elected Acting Lieutenant, and it was decided, at Miss Thomas's suggestion, to form a new Senior Patrol of the Sixth and Fifth Forms, and to divide the remainder up into six patrols. Thus the Senior Patrol could devote the whole of their time to first-class work, and also an opportunity would be given to the new Fourth Form to prove their character and ability as Leaders. Margery Smith was elected Patrol Leader for the Senior Patrol, with Irene Hatter as Second. The other Patrol Leaders and Seconds were chosen as follows:—

| <i>Patrol</i> | <i>Patrol Leader</i> | <i>P. Second</i> |
|---------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Swallow | Kathleen Batehup | Pamela Whiting |
| Shamrock | Helen Mills | Julia Terry |
| Robin | Maureen Samaden | Doreen Smart |
| Holly | Rosalie Green | Ruth Oyler |
| Kingfisher | Joan Hoad | Stephanie Orford |
| Red Rose | Daphne Breeds | Jean Pope |

Cynthia Cade was elected as the new Scribe.

Then another meeting was called soon afterwards, to discuss the Company's funds, which were getting very low. At Rye, each Guide's parents contributed a shilling a term to the Guide Fund, but now this contribution has died out, so it was decided to start a new system for raising funds on quite a different basis than before. First of all, Irene Hatter was elected Guide Treasurer; then it was decided that every Guide should pay a penny a week. This money was to be collected by the Patrol Leaders each week, and then paid in to the Treasurer, who would collect it and put it into the bank. This arrangement was received by the Guides with very good spirits and they must be congratulated on paying up regularly each week. The new system has started off exceedingly well, and I am sure the Guides will keep it up.

Throughout the term, all the Guides have been very busy working for First-Class, Second-Class, Tenderfoot and Proficiency Badges respectively. Naturally much time has been spent in both the teaching on one hand, and the learning on the other, of Tenderfoot work, for sixteen new Guides are eager to be enrolled. On Tuesday, December 9th, six new Guides were enrolled by Miss Hewetson, namely, Barbara Catt, Betty Chapman, Mary Foster, Rosemary Ray, Margaret Hibbs, and Margaret Best; and the other new Guides are to be enrolled at the very beginning of next term. Also Second-Class Badges have been gained by Ray Kirtlan, Margaret Kennard, Sylvia Mewett, Stephanie Gain, Betty Ford and Julia Smith. A great number of the Guides are taking Proficiency Badges very early in the next term.

On Tuesday, September 16th, our termly Field Day was held. Some Guides decided to walk and some to cycle, but about 2.30 p.m. all the Guides met in Putnoe Woods and had a jolly sing-song round the camp-fire. Margery Smith and Irene Hatter went on their First-Class Hike.

This term we were very unfortunate in losing the great help of Miss Thomas. She was taken ill just after half-term, and has not been able to join us again for the rest of the term, but we all hope she will be able to return next term. Miss Tunstall, the Guide Captain, has been helped by the Senior Patrol in Miss Thomas's absence.

This term has seen the re-organization of the Guide Company, which is now running on smooth lines, and, on the whole, we have had a very successful term, and there has been real all-round progress.

I.M.H.

GUIDE ENROLMENT

On Tuesday, December 9th, the Guide Company was visited by the District Commissioner, Miss Hewetson, and an Enrolment Ceremony took place. Those enrolled as Guides were:—

Betty Chapman (Swallow Patrol).

Margaret Best (Red Rose Patrol).

Barbara Catt (Holly Patrol).

Margaret Hibbs (Kingfisher Patrol).

Mary Foster (Shamrock Patrol).

Second-Class badges were awarded to Ray Kirtlan, Margaret Kennard (Swallow Patrol), Stephanie Gain, Sylvia Mewett and Betty Ford (Holly Patrol), and Julia Smith (Kingfisher Patrol). Stephanie Gain was especially congratulated on obtaining her Second-Class in a very short time.

The Horse-shoe was dismissed after the singing of the National Anthem, ably led by Joan Hoad on the piano.

The Guides then gathered round Miss Hewetson who gave a very interesting talk on the Guide Movement as one large family. She also gave examples of cases she had come across in which a knowledge of Guiding had been a great help to girls taking up a career. Miss Hewetson specially mentioned cases of girls going into the Forces and told us some very interesting tales.

Before leaving, she promised to return at the beginning of next term to enroll the remaining Tenderfoots and to invest the new Leaders.

O.M.P.

THE GUIDES' FIELD DAY

On Monday, September 11th, all the Guides met outside the Russell Club for the termly Field Day. We had to wait for Miss Thomas to come to tell us where to go, then Guides who were walking went off in their different patrols, Red Rose Patrol with Miss Tunstall and those who had bicycles with Miss Thomas. The Camp-fire was to be in Putnoe Fields. Before we started out we went into H——'s and bought some apples and toffee. We went through Bedford Park and some fields behind it. On the way we stopped to pick blackberries and crab-apples. We also went through Putnoe Woods and collected fire-wood on the way. When we arrived at the camping place the other patrols were there cooking their dinner. We had also brought some things with us for cooking. Our Patrol Leader, Daphne Breeds, had brought a billy-can in which to cook some dinner, while the other two patrols had a good stew made with carrots, onions, potatoes and a few pieces of meat. We soon had our fire going and were all running about trying to find wood to keep it ablaze. After we had had our dinners we were allowed to do what we liked for the next hour or so. Then Miss Thomas came with the cyclists and we all gathered round Holly Patrol's fire and had a Sing-song. After that we returned down Putnoe Street and along Goldington Road to our billets.

MARGARET BEST, Form II.

THE LIBRARY

During 1941, the School Library has been enlarged considerably. Towards the end of the Easter Term the much longed-for Encyclopaedia Britannica arrived, and, a few days later, about a hundred fiction and non-fiction books also came up from the Library at Rye. In the first few weeks of the Christmas Term about thirty-five books, chiefly history, arrived. Together with the hundred and fifty books acquired in Bedford (most of which are new) and the hundred and fifty sent up from Rye, various small bundles of books have been brought up by people from the Library at Rye. Thus over three hundred books have been added to the Library apart from those brought up in August, 1940. This expansion was not to be accomplished without a drastic revision of the arrangement of the books already in the Library. To do this successfully eight shelves (brought from the Library at Rye), were fitted into supports made by Mr. Morgan on one of the walls in the Library. With this extra accommodation, the books were arranged in a more satisfactory manner than before. It was owing, perhaps, to the more easily accessible positions of some of the books, that such a great interest was taken in the Library during the Christmas Term, but I think that the more likely reason is the presence in the Library of so many new and interesting books on such subjects as travel, scouting, adventure and aeroplanes. The books lent to us by Bedford County Library have been used to the fullest extent and thus appear to have been greatly appreciated.

Piles of rather tattered magazines in the rack demonstrate the great popularity of this section of the Library. New magazines for 1941 include "La France Libre," "World Review" and the "A.T.C. Gazette," the last of which is eagerly sought after by all keen members of the School Section of the A.T.C. Towards the end of the present term the magazines which are taken each week or month by the library became so popular that certain people retained them in their billets for either a period longer than the one allotted or an indefinite period. To prevent this habit from becoming rampant, P. J. Mead was placed in charge of the magazines and since then very few magazines have been lost.

In connection with the "Library Guild," a great deal of painstaking and valuable work has been done by an increased number

of members. There are now seven scholars in the Guild and all work with great diligence and efficiency during the Activities Period on Tuesday afternoons. Joyce Hulbert has proved herself to be an efficient and industrious librarian, as have also P. J. Mead and T. Pollard.

Altogether the Library is carrying on splendidly and will do so, if the librarians continue to endeavour to emulate the excellent functioning of the Library before evacuation.

We are very grateful for books presented to the Library by the Head Master, Miss Wadey, Miss Thomas and Messrs. Day, Ford, Payne, Tayleur and Third and whom we thank whole-heartedly.

J.S.L.P.

A FILM SHOW

A Film Show given by Mr. Douglas at Russell Park Hall on Saturday, November 1st, consisted of four pictures; "Smithy," "Sussex," "Felix," and "The Clash of the Wolves."

The first film, "Smithy," caused great excitement and much laughter, whilst many and great were the rounds of applause given to the second one. This was only natural, Sussex being our home county, for catching a glimpse of some of the ruins of "our home," brought a sense of reunion between us, in Bedford, and those so dear to us, waiting patiently in Sussex. "Good old Sussex," and "Sussex by the Sea," were among the ejaculations raised throughout this picture. The third, "Felix," caused great enjoyment especially among the younger members of the School. As the fourth film, "The Clash of the Wolves" progressed, everyone sat in suspense, wondering what would happen next. We were not disappointed for the third and fourth parts rose to a most exciting climax.

Thus the show proved to be a great success and the whole school would like to thank Mr. Douglas and Mrs. Lyons for giving up part of their half-term to come and entertain us.

RUTH MORRIS, Form IIIA,

IN APPRECIATION

When the School was evacuated in July, 1940, there were many difficulties which confronted the Staff. Naturally their duties were greatly increased, as during the first few weeks of evacuation at least, they had to act as foster-parents and comforters to homesick and discouraged pupils. It was not long, however, before the School was settled down in its new surroundings, the strangeness and the novelty of the experience wore away, and the pupils and Staff alike were prepared to start work again.

But even during evacuation youngsters catch colds that prevent them from attending School, and not long after our arrival in Bedford, an epidemic of chicken-pox and measles broke out. During such trying times as these, when the children were away from home in the care of friendly foster-parents, it was thought that a helper from the W.V.S. would considerably lessen the duties of the Staff, and be beneficial to the happiness of the children. It was necessary to keep a much closer watch on absentees while the School was away from home, for the Head Master and Senior Mistress are responsible for the welfare of the children while they attend School. A helper was badly needed to visit the billets of absentees to find the cause of their absence, and to aid the foster-parents by taking ailing children to the doctor.

Mrs. Clothier, a member of the Rye branch of the W.V.S., volunteered to undertake this task, and in August, 1940, she joined the School as a voluntary helper.

During the oppressive heat of the late summer, Mrs. Clothier walked from one end of Goldington to the other, visiting sick children, making arrangements with foster-parents for children to enter their homes, and doing a hundred-and-one other small jobs that were very necessary to the easy running of the School, although apparently insignificant.

It was not long before Mrs. Clothier became a "fixture," perhaps taken a little too much for granted. A cut finger, a toothache, a new pair of glasses required, a child to be taken to the doctor, or a few worrying pimples, all received her consideration.

In Mrs. Clothier, the younger children found a sympathetic friend—I almost said, "a substitute for absent mothers," but on

second thoughts, well, there's no one *quite* like your own mother, is there? But if a mother's substitute is possible, Mrs. Clothier certainly was one. A mother herself, and naturally fond of children, she could easily understand and sympathise with homesick youngsters, and I know how those on the sick-list have lain in bed listening and waiting for Mrs. Clothier's knock on the door. They were rarely disappointed. They may have had to wait for a few hours, but invariably she turned up, to be greeted with, "Oh, I *knew* you'd come, Mrs. Clothier!" to be immediately followed by a tale of woes. But who doesn't get down-hearted when sick in bed away from mother? But with her tact and sympathy and cheery outlook she would leave the patient—maybe still "blue," but at any rate a paler shade!

Mrs. Clothier soon became well-known to the foster-parents, who were thankful for the way she helped them, whenever possible, by saving their time by taking children to the doctor, and there were not many doctors in Bedford who had not been visited by her while carrying out her duties.

The girls will remember the invaluable aid which Mrs. Clothier gave them early in the Summer Term, while they were making their summer dresses. Some of the most unsatisfactory dresses were entirely re-made by her. In one week she made six complete frocks, often staying up until the early hours of the morning in order that the girls should not be disappointed. At the end of the term they presented her with a zipp-fastened writing compendium, to show their appreciation for her services.

Mrs. Clothier carried out her duties until her health made it impossible for her to continue. Never enjoying the best of good health, the tiring and unceasing work which she had undertaken began to tell on her strength, and it was with great reluctance that she obeyed doctor's orders and "went sick." But she did not even do this until she was too ill to walk.

And so on October 24th, 1941, after fourteen months faithful service, Mrs. Clothier returned to Rye, where she has been seriously ill for some time.

The School all heartily join in wishing her a speedy recovery, and extending sincere thanks for her help in the care of the children's health.
I.J.H.

POEMS BY FORM IIR

A FRIEND

Someone who always stands by you
When things don't seem to go well :
Someone to whom you can tell things,
Someone who helps you to tell.

Someone who may not agree with
Everything you have to say,
But someone who'll help and advise you,
And help you to go on your way.

Someone, who if you're in trouble,
You know will come when you send ;
Someone so kind, and so thoughtful,
That someone is, surely, a friend.

BETTY CHAPMAN, IIR.

GUY FAWKE'S DAY

Guy Fawke's Day once more has passed,
Although you'd hardly know,
Because this year, the same as last,
There was no fire-work show.

The war has spoilt this jolly fun
For all the girls and boys,
So Roman Candles have they none
To make that hissing noise.

Bangers, Jumping-Jacks and Rockets,
Will not be seen this year—
But still the money's in our pockets
For savings "give a cheer."

I. SMITH, IIR.

THE OFFENSIVE SWEEP

Anxious eyes are glued on the sky,
To watch the Spitfires roaring by,
Out across the Channel they go,
Seeking for Germans high or low.

Over France, up in the blue,
German 'planes are roaring too ;
Like vultures on their prey they swoop,
Then diving, roaring, looping the loop.

The fight is over, the battle won,
And homeward bound the Spitfires come.
Alas ! Alas ! one pilot brave
Has entered into a watery grave.

A. SHEARER, IIR.

THE MOORHEN

Where the lake is cool and green,
A little moorhen once was seen ;
And there upon her nest, all day
She sat, and seldom swam away.

Then, one day upon the lake,
Some baby chicks their first swim take ;
They were brown, and very small,
I counted nine of them in all.

The moorhen swelled her breast with pride ;
The little chicks came to her side
And chirped, as if they were quite strong,
And so they would have been, ere long !

But three small robbers full of tricks
Upset the nest with cruel sticks,
And when her home the moorhen found,
The baby chicks had all been drowned.

And so those boys with smirk and smile,
Had brought despair upon that isle.
I never saw the hen again,
Because she died of grief and pain.

P. KENNETT, Form IIR.

FIRESIDE SCULPTURE

The information contained in the following article is a summary of a chat recently given to a small section of the School. As considerable interest was shown in the subject the Editors believe an account of the process would not be out of place in this number of the School Magazine.

Many have at one time or another obtained from the ground a moist piece of clay and casually shaped it with the fingers into a round pellet or some realistic form. In doing so one becomes aware of a few of the remarkable features of this most fascinating material. It may be squashed, squeezed, flattened, rolled and bent, and separate pieces may be joined or "welded" together, thus enabling the building up of an indefinite number of shapes. By adding water it may be reduced to slime, and by the evaporation of its water content it is either reduced to dust or, under certain conditions, is turned into a hard, stone-like material, which, however, becomes once more soft and plastic with the addition of water. A most interesting feature is the fact that if the dry stone-like material is heated to a red-hot temperature it becomes permanently hard and retains any form given it before the heating process. That, briefly, is the process entailed in the making of bricks, tiles, earthenware and pottery. In addition, it is the sole secret of the making of those small terra-cotta (baked earth) figures so frequently found in Egyptian tombs and Roman remains. Excellent examples may be seen in the museum of the Modern School.

Anyone, by following these directions, should be able to make such interesting figures at no expense and with very little inconvenience.

There should be no difficulty in shaping the clay, which incidentally is found in abundance in the ditches and fields around Bedford and in most parts of Sussex. In order, however, to ensure successful models the following points should be noted. Don't attempt anything large. The best method is to take a piece of clay about the size of a walnut. Knead it carefully with the fingers. Small, hard, white particles of grit are sometimes present. These must be removed and the clay then rolled and compressed into a compact mass which should then be thrown forcibly on to a piece of news-

paper spread on a table. This eliminates all "pockets" of air and makes the clay much easier to handle. The orthodox method of shaping a figure in clay is to build up the form by adding one bit of clay to another. If such a method is used for making terra cotta, the figure is likely to meet with disaster in the fire. Instead, obtain the desired shape by squeezing and pinching the clay with the fingers and pushing it about with a piece of stick or metal. A pencil or nail-file does the trick excellently. The important point is to keep the mass homogeneous and so avoid the risk of pieces breaking away from the main bulk of the clay. Having worked the clay roughly to the required shape it should be left a few hours to roughen. In this condition it has the texture of chocolate or cheese and may be easily cut and carved with a penknife.

In a day or so the figure will become hard and brittle. Further detail may then be applied by scraping and scratching. It should be stressed that provided it is not moistened, an unbaked figure retains its shape, but firing "fixes" it, so to speak, and, besides, produces that delightful brick-like quality and colour so characteristic of terra cotta. Firing is usually done in special kilns—the process, however, is expensive and kilns are only rarely available. Fortunately, the baking can easily be done with the aid of an ordinary kitchen or dining-room fire. These fires give ample heat, but the difficulty is to apply it gradually enough. First make sure that the article is really bone-dry and leave it a few days on the mantel-piece or stand it on the hearth. Then place the figure in the ashes beneath the fire. A good plan is to completely bury it where the ash is coolest. Let it remain there for an hour or so and then push it beneath the heart of the fire, but still keep it covered with ash. By now the clay should be getting really hot and will turn black in colour. Make certain that the article is uniformly hot by occasionally turning it over. When completely black, leave it exposed to the full heat of the fire by placing it on the surface of the ashes. After an hour or so it can be removed with the aid of tongs and placed boldly in a clear glowing portion of the fire. Soon it should attain a dull, red heat. Apart from the cooling, which is best done slowly, the firing is then complete. In order to avoid losing small articles in the ash or fire, wire can be loosely attached to them.

Perhaps it is as well to state with emphasis that clay containing air-pockets or any trace of dampness explodes when put into an open fire. Make sure that the article is compactly made and completely dry before subjecting it to heat. Figures of birds, animals, grotesque heads and trays, model aeroplanes and cars have all been successfully made in the above manner.

G. L. MORGAN, ESQ.

MORE POEMS

RYE

There's an ancient town in Sussex
That goes by the name of Rye.
It's a quaint little town, with quaint little shops,
And a church with a steeple high.

It has cobbled streets, and a monastery,
And a wall to protect the town,
With a great stone gate on the North-East side
And a hillside sweeping down.

On one side of Rye lie the marshes,
On another the rolling sea,
And below the town the Rother flows
Slowly and silently.

The people of Rye are proud of their town,
And so they may justly be,
But the beauty of Rye, with the sea so nigh
Is this, that it's home to me.

Men's customs change with the passing years
But it's all the same to Rye,
She stands there still, on the top of her hill,
And the Rother's still drifting by.

E. ELLIS, IIIA.

ENGLAND

Three cheers for good old England,
The country of the free ;
For England is our Motherland,
The home of you and me.

Now England is in danger,
And so is Liberty ;
So let us all unite and break
The German tyranny !

So speed the "Tanks for Russia,"
And save waste paper, too,
For if you want to win the war
That's what you'll have to do.

So try economizing
And go without those treats,
That you want to go and see,
Those chocolates and those sweets.

Think of the many soldiers,
Sailors and airmen too,
Who have been killed or captured for
Their country and for you.

R. E. HULBERT, IIIA.

BIG BEN

Nine o'clock ! at Big Ben's chime
Our thoughts fly back to home,
Where our hearts are dwelling all the time,
Wherever we may roam.

We think of the fireside, bright and warm,
And the place that is our own,
And the chair where daddy always sits
Whenever he comes home.

And how we used to rush to fetch
His pipe and slippers old,
To put them down before the fire
When days were dark and cold.

And mother, too, who always rests
After the work is done,
Beneath that picture, of us the best,
Which brings us nearer home.

She looks at it each night and prays
That God may keep us safe,
And make us good, teach us what pays,
And keep us in His grace.

Oh! how we wish this war would end
That we might all go home,
To show we know who's our best friend
And never more to roam.

ANON.

This poem was found in the lobby. The Editors would be pleased to become acquainted with the author.

OVERHEARD IN THE EDITORIAL OFFICE

Good morning, Miss Fotheringay.

Good morning, Perkins.

Hullo, what's this?

Oh! I see we've been left our new collapsible air-raid shelter, have we? And it can be used as a table as well—that *will* be useful.

Well, now we can re-arrange the air-raid precautions.

When the "alert" sounds, Miss Fotheringay, you will stand this side of the chimney-place—so! Perkins, you can either shelter behind the filing cabinet or crawl underneath the easy-chair with the broken springs—er, so! No, I needn't bother to show you how to do that! And I-er-will use this new affair.

Let's set it up.

Bang with that hammer, Perkins, while I hold this crowbar in place. Ouch! That was my thumb! Try again! Ow! No, not on my thumb! Now Miss Fotheringay, *you* hold the crowbar for Perkins. Ha! ha! Hurts doesn't it? That's right, now let down the sides. Rather like a cage, isn't it? Gently does it—gently—quick, quick, lift it up again. My fingers—all caught in between—quickly, quickly. Phew! Good, now try once more. Perkins, you ease it from underneath. That's right, lad. Careful over your side, Miss Fotheringay.

Hullo! It's collapsed. Don't make a fuss, Perkins, we'll soon have you out.

Can you see any signs of him, Miss Fotheringay?

Ease it here, ease it here. There, now I think we've done it.

Come out, Perkins. You see that it's more pleasant under the easy-chair, eh?

Oh, no, no! I'm quite satisfied, you can have the pleasure of the chair, I don't mind!

Hullo, the shelter's collapsed again.

Hark! What's that noise? Heavens, the cat's squashed underneath.

Lift it up, lift it up. Heave-ho! Here we are, poor little pussy.

Now, let's fix the sides and I'll see what it's like inside. Not much room to move about is there?

Don't fix that side, Perkins, or I shan't be able to get out.

Miss Fotheringay, I forbid you to take the day off and go to the cinema. Undo this side immediately—come back, I say. Undo this side and let me out. Miss Fotheringay, Perkins! come back immediately! Immediately, I say—come back——.

SCHOLARS—OLD AND NEW

We are going to try to keep a record of all those scholars who were with the School during evacuation and shall be doing so by compiling lists as follows:—

Scholars who joined 1940-1941.

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Form II</i> | Catt, R. | Douglas, P. |
| Pauline Baker | Chappell, S. | *Payne, K. |
| Audrey Brakefield | *Cooper, P. R. | <i>Form IV</i> |
| Ethel Eldridge | Cutting, B. | Gloria Bray |
| Irene Farrant | *Dedman, E. R. | Andrews, R. |
| Mary Foster | *Ellis, G. | *Beale, R. |
| Sheila Houlston | Gutsell, P. | *Clark, K. |
| Iris Leeds-George | *Hay, T. | *Hillman, A. |
| Hilary Simmons | Hood, R. | Marson, A. E. |
| Doreen Standen | *Larkin, R. W. | *Oxley, R. |
| Philippa Turner | *Sage, E. | Pollard, T. |
| Kathleen Waterman | Samaden, L. | *Randall, D. |
| Allen, L. | Wells, F. | *Street, R. |
| Boyce, P. | Wood, P. | <i>Form V</i> |
| Brooker, J. | <i>Form IIIb</i> | Renville, A. D. |
| Butchers, C. | Margaret Nash | |

*Left before July, 1941.

Scholars who left before or during July, 1941.

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Form VI (Upper)</i> | Schofield, O. W. | Shearer, P. G. |
| Winnie Allen | Third, A. J. W. | Vincett, S. J. |
| Noreen Baker | *Watson, T. A. | <i>Form IV</i> |
| Cynthia Breeds | <i>Form V</i> | *Christine Baker |
| Joy Hulett | *Jean Blackman | *Rosemary Kerr |
| Deslys Jones | Peggy Dengate | *Barnden, J. D. |
| Kathleen King | Daphne Finch | *Peacham, R. W. |
| Apps, V. I. | June Hobbs | <i>Form IIIa</i> |
| Ford, F. J. | *Edna Sanders | *Patricia Martin |
| <i>Form VI (Lower)</i> | Breeze, F. K. | *Doris Stonestreet |
| *Margaret Bidauld | Cornner, A. J. | *Watson, M. O. |
| *Myrtle Dabson | Kempster, M. A. | <i>Form IIIb</i> |
| Burnett, R. G. | *Martin, B. D. | *Gillian Perring |
| Green, J. L. | Renville, A. D. | |

*Left before July, 1941.

Scholars who joined Autumn Term, 1941.

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| <i>Form IIIb</i> | Burt, G. | Joan Hobden |
| Fitch, T. | Franklin, H. | Rosemary Ray |
| <i>Form IIr</i> | Kennett, P. | Clara King |
| Patricia Barfoot | Metianu, M. | Boyce, M. |
| Olive Boulter | Robins, G. | Bullen, K. |
| Barbara Catt | Shearer, A. | Fletcher, R. |
| Betty Chapman | Sinden, R. | Funnell, J. |
| Kitty Dibley | Smith, I. | Morris, D. |
| Mary Frostick | Sweatman, J. | Paige, E. |
| Stephanie Gain | <i>Form II</i> | Parks, L. |
| Margaret Hibbs | Angelina Andrews | Pye, P. |
| Clare Rhind | Margaret Best | Roberts, G. |
| Apps, B. | May Breeds | Tickner, R. |
| Blackmore, G. | | |

OLD SCHOLARS

We have been kept well in touch with Old Scholars during the past term, as the School has received two letters full of news from Will Dunlop, the Secretary of the O.S.A., and one *Old Scholars' News Bulletin*. Moreover, the Secretary has visited us in person, accompanied by T. Shearer.

Other Old Scholars who visited us during the term were:— Olive Phillips, W. M. Smith, C. W. Bullett, R. M. Shearcroft and J. Ford.

As regards the *Old Scholars' Bulletin*, No. 14, we would like to point out that Miss Frances Biggs (now Mrs. Gentry) is no longer teaching in the School, as she left at the end of the last Summer Term. We hope that unskilled readers will not imagine from the *Bulletin's* "News from Far-away," that all Old Scholars live merely for beer.

THE EDITORS.

