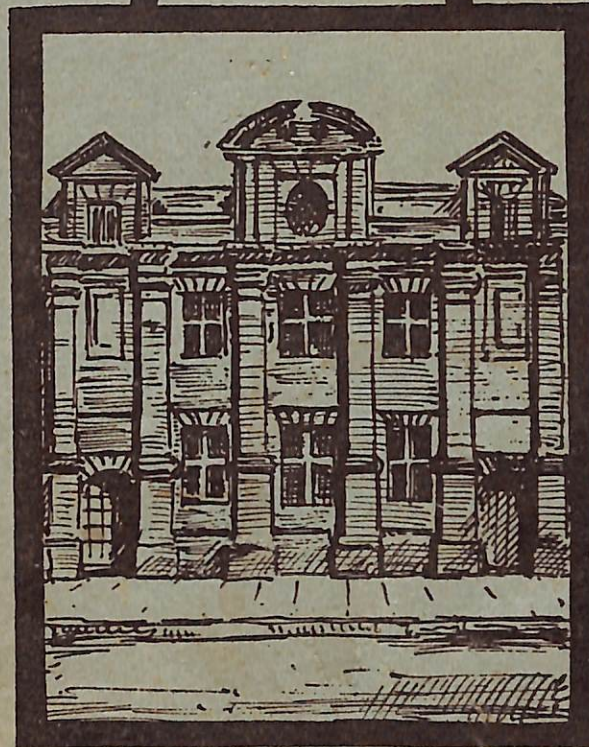


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“RYA”

AUGUST
1938

Editorial.

On the whole the School has had another successful year. Preparations for the commemorations of the Tercentenary next term have gone on apace, many socials and entertainments having been held in aid of the Fund. In work, the School Certificate results were again good. The football and cricket elevens had very successful seasons. The improvements to the School have gradually appeared, including a new Library, playing field and bicycle shed, and the improvements to the girls' lobby and geography room. The one which has been most appreciated has been the Library, and Miss Turner deserves the very greatest praise and thanks for all she has done in connection with this.

At the end of last year we bade a sad farewell to three members of the Staff—Mr. Waite, Mr. Graely, and Mr. Jezard. Perhaps the greatest loss was Mr. Jezard, who generously gave up much of his time for to help in School matters. He was always there whenever he was wanted; so much so, indeed, that his presence was almost taken for granted, and we did not fully realise his value until he left. Their places have been taken by Mr. Belton and Mr. Bagley, to whom we extend a hearty welcome.

During the year, we have been given many interesting lectures. These included films on Ford's Works at Dagenham, and on Bournville, a series of lectures by Specialists from Plumpton, and one on the History of the Bible by the Rev. John Hurst.

We wish the best of luck to all who are leaving.

We should like to thank all those who have written articles for the magazine, although, naturally, only a few could go in, and also J. Richards for his help in compiling the magazine.

The Editor of "Rya" has asked me in the Tercentenary year of the School to write a message to you. It is with very great pleasure that I do so, as I believe the great advantage of such a celebration is that it gives us the opportunity not only to look back, but also, and this is much more important, forward.

The first half of the Seventeenth century, when Rye Grammar School was born, was a period of educational revolution. A very real extension of higher education was being made by the founding of Grammar Schools in many parts of the country. And Rye was not behind in this spirit of educational adventure, for Thomas Peacocke showed his confidence in the future of Rye and its people by founding his School.

Three hundred years later a still greater educational revolution is in progress. By the Education Act of 1902, for the first time, County Councils were made responsible for higher education, and extensions never thought of before have come about. Again Rye was in the forefront of advance, for by 1908, only six years after the passing of the Act, a new School was built not only to replace the old building, which had done its job so well, but to make possible the extension of the benefits so long enjoyed by boys and girls. It is right that we should remember, at this time those who, thirty years ago, showing the same vision as Thomas Peacocke had, the courage to go forward to meet the new needs—C. H. Stenning, Esq, Chairman of the Governors; Walter Dawes, Esq, Clerk; and J. Molyneux Jenkins, Esq., Headmaster.

And what of the Tercentenary period itself? More great advances are to be recorded. The Education Committee has given us a new Playing Field, a finely stocked and up-to-date Library, and additional Staff. A new Mistress is coming, chiefly to help in the development of our work in languages. The changes show that the same confidence is being expressed in our future; and what finer contribution to our Tercentenary celebrations could have been made than these developments?

And now the future is in our own hands. In face of all this confidence expressed in us from Thomas Peacocke to to-day, we can only resolve bravely to make the very most of all the opportunities showered upon us. For the opportunities to-day are higher than ever they were and must lead to an ever rising standard of achievement in both work and games. Let us all develop the

habit of doing that extra bit of our own free will instead of being satisfied with a minimum. That is the spirit which is animating youth in many countries to-day and it is the spirit which I should like to see still more (there is I know a great deal already) in evidence at this School. Freely we have received, let us freely give.

It is the spirit which will enable the youth of to-day to build a better world to-morrow. But trained intelligence is needed for the work, which brings us back to making the very most of our educational opportunities, and never allowing lower standards to influence us than those which we meet at School.

A final word to Old Scholars. Congratulations are given elsewhere to recent successes. In the five years I have been here, one of my happiest contacts has been with your Association. Congratulations on the growth of your activities and may they continue to increase. A formation of a London Branch is a sign of the times.—The Headmaster.

Meryon House Notes.

House Mistress : Miss N. M. Tunstall.

House Master : Mr. J. J. Broome.

Prefects : Joan Morgan, Dunlop, Huxstep.

For Meryon, this year has not been quite as successful as last year. The boys came first in football, second in the cross-country run, and tied in cricket with the other two houses.

The girls came first in hockey and netball and third in tennis. The house came second in the swimming sports and we won the Inter-Athletic Shield by good team work. At the end of the spring term we were tie with Saunders for the Work Shield, but we dropped to second place during the summer term. However, we were successful in winning the House Championship Shield.

The following are to be congratulated on winning School Certificates:—Jessie Wenham, Beatrice Vincett, Madeleine Baker, Joan Morgan, Huxstep, Smith, Barham and Montague.

On 28th January we held a successful Fancy Dress Social and raised over £4 for the Tercentenary Fund.

At Christmas the juniors presented "The Oak Settle," and Meryon Swingsters gave an entertainment.

We wish a happy and prosperous future to those not returning next term.—J.M.

Peacocke House Notes.

House Mistress: Miss Turner.

House Master: Mr. E. R. Pigrome.

House Prefects: B. Winter, E. Kerr, Grummitt, Purkis.

Peacocke House has generally improved this year, chiefly owing to the efforts made by the juniors. Swimming was not one of our strong points, owing to the lack of good swimmers. Joan Challis, B. Winter and Margery Smith did well.

In football, cricket and cross-country running, the seniors were without success. However, the juniors were successful in all three.

Although unsuccessful in hockey and netball, the girls were quite successful in tennis, the seniors beating Meryon and losing to Saunders by a narrow margin only.

In the annual sports the House was third, the better results being gained by the juniors. We hope the juniors will realise the great help they have been and that they will continue to show their enthusiasm.

In the work the House did badly, being third in most forms.

At the Christmas Party the seniors produced the play "Blank Cartridge," and the juniors the play "Bloaters."

In the spring term we gave a very successful social in aid of the Tercentenary Fund, a play, "Old Moore's Almanac," and "In School To-Night" being produced.

During the year we were sorry to lose Beryl Winter, our girl's captain, Esme Kerr and Gameson, who were very useful members. Our best wishes go to those who are leaving school, and we are particularly sorry to lose

Grummitt, who has set a fine example as House and School captain.

Collections this year were in aid of St. Dunstan's, Chailey Heritage Craft Schools, and the adoption of a Spanish child.—M. Smith.

Saunders House Notes.

House Mistress: Miss Seed.

House Master: Mr. Stott.

House Prefects: M. Sands, P. Green, Mewse, Shearcroft.

This year has been rather disappointing for the boys; the seniors won the football, running and cricket, but the repeated failures of the juniors lost the competitions. The girls did exceedingly well in winning the tennis and coming second in hockey and netball. The House again proved its superiority in the water by winning the diving and swimming trophies. The House gained second place in the athletic sports.

A House Social in aid of the Tercentenary Fund realised £3. Among those leaving is M. Sands, who for a long time has been the little ray of sunshine about the House. Our good wishes follow her and all others who are leaving.

School Certificates were gained by P. Green, G. Richards, N. Kempster, W. Bullett (Matric.), R. Shearcroft (Matric.), J. Richards and J. Mewse.—R.M.S.

Speech Day.

Speech Day was held in the Monastery on Tuesday, 2nd November. The prizes were presented by Lieut.-Col. R. V. Gwynne, D.S.O., Chairman of the East Sussex County Council. Mr. H. C. Burra, Chairman of the Governors, presided, supported by Canon John Fowler, Mrs. Jacomb-Hood, Alderman J. Molyneux Jenkins, Captain E. P. Dawes, Mrs. Hacking, Mrs. Jacobs, Miss Stenning and Miss Dawes.

Mr. Burra paid tribute to the late Chairman of the Governors, Mr. Heron Wilson, who had resigned.

The headmaster, in his report, said that the number of pupils continued to rise. The improvements in the school were going forward rapidly. The new Library and Playing Field were realities and would be of immense importance to future development of the school. The work on the improvement to the girls' changing room was expected to begin at any moment. The headmaster thanked Mr. Heron Wilson for all his help as Chairman of the Governors. In connection with the Library, they had to thank Miss Turner, the librarian, for she had planned all the details. Twenty pupils out of twenty-five gained School Certificates, W. Bullett, J. Huxstep and R. Shearcroft reaching Matriculation standard.

"Our swimming received great encouragement from the generosity of Sir William and Lady Jowitt in putting at our disposal their private swimming bath," continued the headmaster. "The annual sports were again held at Hastings. A parents' race, arranged at the last moment at the swimming sports, produced an entry of eight fathers."

"Perhaps this suggests that a Swimming Bath in Rye would not be quite such a white elephant as is believed in some quarters.

The House Competition was again won by Meryon House. The Dramatic Society presented "The Merchant of Venice" with great success, and raised £25 for the Rye and District Ambulance Fund.

Three new members were welcomed to the staff in the past year, involving a considerable reorganisation. He thanked all the former members of the staff, especially Mr. Jezzard, whose willing service, inspiration and example would long be remembered.

An outstanding event of the year was the decision of the Education Committee to increase the percentage of school places awarded in their secondary schools to 50 per cent. The cost of career training was still a bar to many professions for secondary school pupils, and a system of loans would be of great benefit. He said that next year the school would celebrate its Tercentenary, and a fund had already been started.

Lieut.-Col. R. V. Gwynne then presented the prizes and gave a short, but excellent, address. He said that young people now had much greater opportunities than ever before, and he hoped that they would take every advantage of them. He urged the study of languages as a help to careers and enjoyment of life. He said that the pupils of the school had great advantages in living in such a beautiful town as Rye, as well as having so much money spent on their education. He asked for a day's holiday for the pupils, which was granted.—A.D.

Junior Party.

On 21st December the Junior Party was held. This important event began with tea, the participants decking themselves in carnival hats of all shapes, styles and sizes. During the actual tea there was little noise, jaws being needed for other work than talking. Then the juniors retired to the hall to watch three excellent plays given by the three Houses. By the end of the third play, tea was thoroughly digested and they were ready for anything. From then till the party ended there were games, with a little dancing. If noise is a proof of enjoyment, their cups of happiness must have been overflowing. Nothing short of cymbals could penetrate the uproar, and the radio had to be abandoned for the more strident piano. From the point of view of the juniors the party was a great success, and many thanks are due to the organisers, not forgetting the heroic pianist.—M.S.

The Senior Christmas Party.

This was generally considered to be a much more successful party than most recent ones. The House entertainments were much better than in the previous year. Peacocke did a play in which Beryl Winter and Law (in spite of his difficulty with the accent) and Eve Blackman were very good. The "Meryon Swingsters" provided musical (?) entertainment. Saunders did two very amusing shadow plays and Francis did some impersonations. The rest of the evening passed off very pleasantly with dancing, games, and an excellent supper.
A.D.

Founders' Day.

Founders' Day was celebrated on Tuesday, 28th September, by the whole school attending service at the Rye Parish Church, the preacher being the Rev. Paul Kingdon, Chaplain of Exeter College, Oxford.

Dealing with attempts to overcome ignorance, the Rev. Paul Kingdon said: "The discoveries of physicists were, perhaps, the greatest examples of the triumphs of mind over matter. Scientists were doing their job much better than those who were trying to guide us in the use of their discoveries. Our lives must be guided so that we did not blow one another to bits as was happening in Spain and China.

"Ideas that are accepted among intelligent people have to meet with a great deal of opposition from ignorance," continued the speaker. "We must always be prepared to find what we think certain truth to be wrong. The failure to realise this has led many people to give up the pursuit of truth as a hopeless quest."

"In politics," he continued, "some people are encouraging us to leave it all to the politicians. In countries such as Italy and Germany, that idea has been carried farther by the people having a blind trust in dictators."

He urged the pupils of the school to watch the phases of their own development. In the case of religion they were often told just to trust in God and do nothing more about it. That was ridiculous. Yet those who expected too much of reason are often bitterly disappointed. "Do your best," he urged, "to know God's spirit and be fortified by God."

The service included the commemoration hymn and the lesson was read by the headmaster.

Science Society.

The work of the society has been of a more constructive nature this season. Six of the members wired the laboratory benches for the distribution of current in the first term. 1,600 turns were put on a transformer, and a fruitless attempt to equip the school with electric

bells occupied the second term. The working of a field telephone and low-wave transmitter showed up the strangely contrasted leanings of two of the members. A light sensitive cell attracted attention, and a good talk on sound films, by Axell, took place in the summer term.
F. C. Stott.

The Chess Society.

This has been a most successful year. J. Richards won the Vidler Cup for both 1937 and 1938. There were several new players, and the standard of play was very encouraging. The great triumph was that we only lost to Brighton by one point in the final of the Wilson Cup, for which we have not entered for three years.

The result was:—Brighton, $3\frac{1}{2}$ points; Rye, $2\frac{1}{2}$ points.

1st board—J. Richards (Capt.)	... 0	By adjudication
2nd board—A. Dunlop	... $\frac{1}{2}$	By adjudication
3rd board—P. Grummitt	... 1	
4th board—J. Green	... 1	
5th board—J. Flanagan	... 0	
6th board—A. Ambrose	... 0	

Our thanks are due to Mr. Pigrome for running the society.—J.R. and A.D.

Swimming.

This year has seen a new experiment in swimming, which has been, on the whole, successful. Form II has been the subject of the experiment, and mightily they appear to have enjoyed it. Each Friday during the term they have paid a visit to the White Rock Baths, Hastings, where many of them have learnt to swim, and on our last few visits it was a common sight to see a queue waiting to precipitate themselves from the top board.

Towards the end of the series of visits, when the instructors took to the water with the instructed, the temptation of certain of the latter (who shall be nameless) to sink the former as they floated by was almost too great to be borne.

In addition to the swimming lessons, the whole form has gone through a course of life-saving land drill, including resuscitation, which was demonstrated on Open Day.—Mr. Belton.

The Magazine Rack.

In response to an appeal by Miss Turner, who was slowly being swamped beneath a flood of periodicals, an effort was made by the fourth form, and, as a result, the Library has been provided with a rack in which to keep the aforementioned periodicals. Three slaves were conscripted, and in spite of minor mishaps, a presentable piece of furniture slowly evolved. The slaves, on hearing a rumour that their names might possibly be enshrined on a brass plate, suggested that the rack should be completed by a wreath, to indicate how they felt at the finish of their labours.—Mr. Belton.

The Stamp Society.

A Stamp Society was re-formed at the beginning of the year, it having been defunct for a considerable time. The number of members has gradually increased, until at the last meeting sixteen were present. Many interesting lectures were given by members, these being illustrated by stamps and photographs projected by the epidioscope. At intervals, competitions have been held for the best stamps of a certain type, the winner receiving a small prize. At the recommencement of the Society in the Christmas term, we hope to welcome many new members.
Eve Blackman.

Running.

In spite of protests by many of the senior boys, the cross-country runs were held again this year. Peacocke House won the junior event, with R. Cowper (Peacocke) first. Saunders House won the senior run, although J. Huxstep (Meryon) came first. The general standard of running in the senior event was very high.—A.D.

Cricket—Season 1938.

Results—Played 7 ; won 4 and lost 3.

Date	Home Team	Score	Away Team	Score	Result
May 12	Eastbourne G.S.	160	Rye G.S.	64	Lost
June 8	Rye G.S.	91	Bexhill C.S.	48	Won
June 15	Rye G.S.	133	Old Scholars	162	Lost
June 22	Rye G.S.	169 for 8	Bethany House	48	Won
June 29	Bexhill C.S.	70	Rye G.S.	121	Won
July 6	Rye G.S.	70	Eastbourne G.S.	125	Lost
July 13	Rye G.S.	87	Hastings G.S.	38	Won

The school had a most successful season, winning four matches out of seven. The double win over Bexhill was a great triumph. Much of the credit for our successes must go to Shearcroft, who, besides being a good captain and wicket-keeper, made the immense total of 259 runs. Carey was an excellent attacking bat, making second largest total of runs, a useful bowler, and a brilliant fieldsman. Dunlop, Burnett, Stonham and Barden all improved considerably as batsmen.

The bowling was also very good. Stonham and Carey took most wickets, but Stirling, who was only brought into the team after the second game, was usually the most dangerous bowler. Barden was a useful change bowler, besides being an excellent fielder. The school should have another good team next year. Colours were renewed to Shearcroft and Carey and awarded to Stonham, Dunlop and Barden.

AVERAGES. BATTING (4 or more completed innings).

Position	Name	Innings	Runs	Highest Score	Times Not Out	Average
1	R. M. Shearcroft	7	259	86*	2	51.80
2	J. S. Carey	7	110	37	—	15.71
3	A. T. C. Dunlop	7	82	33	—	11.71
4	C. J. Barden	7	37	18	2	7.40
5	R. G. Burnett	7	51	21	—	7.20
5	F. P. Stonham	7	51	16	—	7.20
7	R. A. S. P. Stirling	5	20	10	2	6.66
8	A. F. Smith	7	34	10	—	4.85
9	P. C. Grummitt	5	14	6	—	2.80
10	A. E. Swain	5	13	8	—	2.60
11	J. Flanagan	5	6	2	1	1.50

Also batted—J. R. A. Huxstep, 1 ; T. H. Shearer, 3 and 0 ; J. F. Richards, 0 and 0 ; J. Mewse, 0 ; W. Bullett, 0.

* Signifies not out

BOWLING (5 or more wickets).

Position	Name	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
1	R. A. S. P. Stirling	34.5	10	90	14	6.42
2	F. P. Stonham	60.5	19	157	21	7.47
3	C. J. Barden	16	2	52	5	10.40
4	J. S. Carey	70.2	15	215	18	11.94

Also bowled—J. Flanagan, 2 for 12; A. F. Smith, 2 for 18;
R. G. Burnett, 1 for 10; A. E. Swain, 2 for 23.

CATCHES.

Position	Name	Number	Position	Name	Number
1	J. S. Carey	5	5	A. T. C. Dunlop	1
2	C. J. Barden	3		T. H. Shearer	1
3	J. Flanagan	2		A. E. Swain	1
3	P. C. Grummitt	2			

WICKET-KEEPING.

R. M. Shearcroft—Caught 3; Stumped 3; Total, 6.

A.D.

Records of Cricket Matches between R.G.S. and Bexhill C.S. (1931-38).

	BEXHILL C.S.	RYE G.S.
1931	85 (J. Moore 4-16)	101-4 (B. Stocks 44*)
	111 (J. Moore 6-57)	98 (M. Eldridge 30)
1932	182-5	31
	100	115-9 (T. Brann 28)
1933	54 (K. Stewart 5-19)	74
	124-7	68-6 (J. Moore 36*)
1934	191 (P. Barling 5-15)	50
	126 (G. Hickman 6-43)	53-7
1935	95 (G. Hickman 6-34)	42
	71 (D. Breeds 5-14)	36
1936	95 (D. Breeds 6-39)	73 (A. Stewart 28)
	168-7	30
1937	101-3	70-7 (J. Carey 32)
	178-6	120 (D. Breeds 53, J. Carey 46)
1938	48 (F. Stonham 6-15)	91 (J. Carey 30, A. Dunlop 33)
	70	121 (J. Carey 37)

* Signifies not out

SUMMARY.

Played 16—Won 5; Drawn 3; Lost 8.

BATTING.

	No. of Innings	No. of Runs	Times Not Out	Average
J. Carey	5	145	0	29.00
J. Moore	6	115	1	23.00
D. Breeds	9	118	0	13.11
R. Shearcroft	6	57	0	9.50

W.R.D.

LONG PARTNERSHIPS.

Wicket	Runs	Year	Players
1	53	1932	J. Moore and T. A. Brann
1	48	1931	M. Eldridge and T. Phillips
2	44	1931	M. Eldridge and J. Moore
2	37	1933	P. Allen and J. Moore
3	44	1935	A. Stewart and D. Breeds
4	60	1937	J. Carey and D. Breeds
4	41	1938	A. Dunlop and J. Carey
5	30	1938	R. Burnett and J. Carey
6	41	1933	J. Moore and R. Hackman

School Sports.

The School Sports were held on Wednesday, 1st June, on the Salts, but a heavy thunderstorm caused some of the later events to be postponed until Thursday. The trophies were presented at the school on Friday afternoon by Miss Stenning. Although no records were broken, the general standard was very high. The sports were again run on a House basis, the result being:—first, Meryon, 74 points; second, Saunders, 67½ points; third, Peacocke, 56½ points. An amusing innovation was the field telephone for the transmission of results, Thompson and McQue having fitted it up.—A.D.

The Library.

When last year's Library report was written it was hoped that before it appeared in print the transformation of the Physics Laboratory into the School Library would be an accomplished fact, but unforeseen delays prevented such hopes from being realised, and so it happened that the formal opening of the Library on 22nd January, 1938, marked the beginning of the year of the School's Tercentenary Celebrations.

The beginning of the Autumn Term, 1937, found the new Library cleared and redecorated, but still awaiting its furniture and shelving which arrived just before half-term and was in position by Speech Day. Then began the complicated process of classifying and arranging the existing collection of books and the new ones acquired with the year's special grant of £100. The VIth Form did the labelling of the books and, before the end of term,

when some order had been reached out of confusion, were rewarded by being able to use the room for private study.

By 22nd January, when the Mayoress of Rye performed the official opening ceremony, the room, complete with new fireplace and mantelpiece, new electric light fittings, armchairs, rug, curtains and electric clock, was ready for use by the whole school, who found also hanging over the fireplace a lovely watercolour of the "Château Gaillard," the work of Mr. Waite, a former Art Master of the school.

In spite of the judicious spending of the year's grant, by which new sections containing books on Art, Architecture, Music, Careers, Hobbies, etc., were added to the Library, and existing sections were enlarged, many shelves looked decidedly bare in the photograph taken at the time of the opening ceremony. However, through the generosity of many friends of the school, who have given books, or book tokens, or money, some of those spaces have since been filled. We have especially to thank Mr. Burra, Mr. Perugini, Rev. and Mrs. Hurst, Miss Sells, Mrs. Biggs, Mr. Hodson, Miss Stenning, Colonel Irvine, Mr. Prentice, Mr. J. G. Harvey, Miss Harvey, Mr. Wake, Mr. Ballard, Miss Bellhouse, Mrs. West, Mr. Neeves, Mrs. Sinclair, Mrs. Amon, Mr. Vidler, Mr. Brewis, Miss Curteis, and Mrs. Williams. Among old scholars and present pupils who have also given books are R. L. Bellhouse, Breeds, Dunlop, Apps, Jones, Stirling, Noreen Baker and Sylvia Jacobs. We are grateful, too, to Mrs. Mallam for a gift of Turner's "Liber Studiorum" and Vasanic prints of drawings by Old Masters.

Since January, the Library has been open for library periods in school time and for reading in the dinner hour and after school, as well as for the issue and return of books to be read at home. The "Encyclopedia Britannica," acquired in the Spring Term, has been well used, particularly by the IVth Form, and the supply of magazines and papers, now tidily arranged in the very useful magazine rack made in the handicraft room, is apparently much appreciated.

In addition to the permanent stock of books, there have been two extra supplies of County Library books

and these, it is hoped, will, in the near future, be more conveniently housed in a cupboard instead of in their usual boxes, so that the school may be able to examine them more easily.

The books in the School Library itself are now classified according to the Dewey system, which is used in many Public Libraries, and the method of the issue and return of books has been changed to a card-changing system. One important item of an efficient Library is still incomplete—the catalogue. But it is hoped that before the end of 1938 the card-index cabinet will be filled with catalogue cards and all the school will know how to use them.

The Suggestions Book was not filled during the year 1937-38. Only the VIth Form took it at all seriously and most of the books they suggested have been either ordered in this year's requisition or obtained from the County Library. I hope that Middle and Junior Forms will enter their suggestions in good time for the 1939-40 requisition which has to be ready in May, 1939, so that the books they want will be added to the Library before they leave the school.

I hope also that the present generation of pupils, who are blessed beyond the wildest dreams of their predecessors, as certain envious remarks of old scholars have made plain to me, will show their appreciation of their good fortune in being able to use so pleasant a room and all the books in it, by helping to fill up the empty shelves when they leave.

Members of the Lower VIth have acted as Librarians during the dinner hour and after school and have been responsible for the arrangement of the books in the different sections of the Library, while Form Librarians have been in charge of the issue and return of books in Library periods, and there will be more work for them in the coming year. Our thanks are especially due to Beryl Winter and Pat Green, who put in many hours of labelling and classification during the year; to Joan Morgan for supplying flowers; and to Braine, who gave up some of his summer holiday in 1937 to initiate the writer into the mysteries of classification.

A notice board near the Hall is now reserved for Library notices, and next term another one in the Library itself will give regular information to readers, while displays of new books received into the Library will ensure that everyone will have a chance of examining them before they go into circulation.—E. A. Turner, Librarian.

Scout Notes.

This has not been a very successful year for the Scouts, largely because the meetings were held out of School time and the majority of the members of the Troop either did not want to wait at all, or wanted to go at four o'clock. At the end of last year we bade a sad farewell to Mr. Graeley, to whom we wish the best of luck. We were extremely lucky to get such a good Scout-Master as Mr. Bagley to carry on the Troop, but he has experienced a difficult first year.

Two very successful Socials were held during the winter in conjunction with the Guides. One was in aid of the Troop funds and the other in aid of the Tercentenary fund. Those members of the Troop who went to the District Rally enjoyed it very much, in spite of the fact that it was literally a "wash-out."—A.D.

Guide Notes.

The Guides have had another successful year. In February, four Guides were enrolled by Miss Delves. The Company had thirty-eight members and it was found necessary to form a fifth patrol. During the year we have had three Field Days, each of which has been spent in outdoor activities and 1st class hikes.

Two successful Socials were held in conjunction with the Scouts.

The Company went to the County Rally, held at Brighton in May, which was attended by the Chief Guide and Princess Alice. A team of gymnasts took part in a mass display, and although the weather did its worst, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Unfortunately we were unable to attend the District Rally, as it came on the same day as the School Fete.

About fifteen Guides hope to go to camp this Summer.

Joan Morgan and Nancy Wyborn are to be congratulated on gaining their 1st class badges and six other Guides on winning their 2nd class badges. Shamrock Patrol have won the Patrol Cup this year.

The Company are very sorry to lose Lieutenant Margaret Sands and Acting-Lieutenant Joan Morgan.—J.M.

The School Entertainment.

This year the School produced Dekker's "The Shoemakers' Holiday." Although the dialogue and plot were difficult to follow, the acting was very good. J. Huxstep and E. N. Francis were very good in comic parts. A. Swain, Violet Vincett, R. Shearcroft, Patricia Green and Barbara Ellis were all very good. Scenery and stage effects were, thanks to Mr. Belton, exploited for the first time and proved a great success. The joint producers were Miss Turner and Miss Seed. The profits were given to the Tercentenary Fund.

Open Day and Fete.

The Open Day and Fete was held in the School Grounds on 25th June. It was opened by Sir George Courthope, M.P., who wished the Fete success, and hoped that the money to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the School suitably would be raised. Speaking to the pupils, he appealed to them never to forget the great traditions of the School.

Exhibitions included Art, Geography, Handicraft, Science, and the History of the School. In the Physical Training Displays, Form II gave a demonstration of Land Drill and Life-Saving, the Senior girls did exercises to music, and the boys gave a display of apparatus work. A Spelling Bee between the School and the Mayor's team, who were the victors, was held in the Hall. Form IIIa performed scenes from "Twelfth Night" on the new open-air stage. Stalls and side-shows were on the School field.

The evening entertainment was arranged by the Old Scholars' Association, and included an excellent Concert and Dance.

The proceeds of the day, which amounted to £27, went to the Tercentenary Fund.—J.R. and A.D.

Swimming Sports.

Last September, the School embarked on the Hastings train for its second Swimming Sports. Thanks to the very excellent management of Mr. Stott, everything went off without a hitch. The sports were not without thrills, there being two dead heats. Saunders won the Championship Shield, and then followed the competition for the Diving Trophy. The diving was "spectacular" rather than good, Kennard in particular trying conclusions with the bottom of the Baths at the expense of his nose. After an exceedingly entertaining performance, Saunders managed to win the Trophy also. The high spot of the Sports, however, was the Parents' race. This race was keenly contested and ended in a dead heat between Mr. Cowper and Mr. Hepworth. Let us hope the competitors enjoyed themselves as much as the spectators. Tired, but contented, the School wandered back to the station to catch the train back to Rye. Actually carriages were reserved on the 8.37, but a few people preferred to return in comparative solitude on the last train.—M. L. Sands.

Hockey.

The season started with an almost new hockey team, only one person with colours remaining. We lost both matches against Hastings, but did better against Brickwall, winning one and losing one. The match against the Old Grammarians resulted in a win for the School, 5-3. We played the best match of the season against Rye, when we lost 3-4. But the best performance of the team was really put up in the Sussex Schools Championships at Bexhill. We defeated St. Ives and Eastbourne Grammar School and drew with Bexhill County School, thus coming first in our section. The School was very ambitious to enter for the Championships, and their success was due to their enthusiasm and hard practice.

Margaret Sands had her colours renewed, while new colours were awarded to Barbara Ellis and Joan Morgan.—M. L. Sands.

Tennis.

All our old colours left last September and we had to begin with an almost new team. However, we did quite well under the circumstances, winning four out of six matches. Both matches were won easily against Brickwall, and we lost both against Hastings, the second one by one game only. Two matches were played against the Old Grammarians, one team comprising of girls and the other mixed. The School won both of these comfortably. The Singles Championships were won by Joan Brewis and the Mixed Doubles Tournament by Noreen Baker and Shearcroft.

Colours were awarded to Margaret Sands, Joan Brewis and Barbara Ellis.—M. L. Sands.

Results of House Competitions.

Work and Merit Shield—1, Saunders with 201 points; 2, Meryon with 195 points; 3, Peacocke with 152 points. Saunders thus won WORK AND MERIT SHIELD.

Football—1, Meryon; 2, Saunders; 3, Peacocke.

Cricket—*Seniors*: 1, Saunders; 2, Meryon; 3, Peacocke. *Juniors*: 1, Peacocke; 2, Meryon; 3, Saunders. All Houses were thus equal in this Competition.

Athletics—1, Meryon; 2, Saunders; 3, Peacocke.

Tennis—1, Saunders; 2, Meryon; 3, Peacocke.

Hockey—1, Meryon; 2, Saunders; 3, Peacocke.

Netball—1, Meryon; 2, Saunders; 3, Peacocke.

Swimming—1, Saunders; 2, Meryon; 3, Peacocke.

Boys' Gymnasium—1, Saunders; 2, Meryon; 3, Peacocke.

Cross Country Run—1, Peacocke; 2, Meryon; 3, Saunders; (decided on points).

The points for the House Championship Shield were:—Meryon, 165; Saunders, 140; Peacocke, 75. Meryon thus won HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP SHIELD.

A Journey through the Suez Canal.

I awoke one morning to hear the gabbling of natives and the banging of hatch covers on the deck. We had arrived at Port Suez, at the entrance to the Suez Canal, during our voyage from Australia to England. In 1854, a French company, headed by Ferdinand de Lesseps, obtained permission from Said Pasha to build the present Suez Canal. Attempts had been made by the Ancient Egyptians, and also by Napoleon, to build the canal, but without success.

The Suez Canal is really a linking up of three lakes by man-made canals. The size of the canal will not allow two large vessels, both under weigh, to pass one another, except in the Great Bitter Lake. Otherwise one of them must tie up to the bank. Preference is given to Mail Steamers, but sometimes wind and tide help to decide which of the two vessels is to moor.

Before going up the canal, we moored out in the stream to allow some passengers to disembark. Immediately about a dozen native dhows came up alongside and their dirty, bedraggled crew started to encourage people to buy their goods, such as baskets, embroidered goods, and curios. The ship's hoses quickly disposed of them, because they sometimes put their hands in people's portholes and steal their belongings. The Arabs started praying to Allah, and telling the sailors what good men they were, to try to get them to stop hosing them. On one side of the canal is a dhow canal and a road—sometimes a modern car will be seen going down the road at eighty miles per hour, and again an old Egyptian dhow peacefully sailing down the dhow canal. At intervals there are large patches of palms, with perhaps a house in the middle. Arabs with their camels are occasionally seen padding their way along the banks of the canal.

The weight of the ship passing through the canal made the water rise about two feet.

At the end of the Great Bitter Lake we had to wait for a new pilot to take us through the next link of the canal. Just here we looked out on the desert and saw what is called the Peak of Pihahiroth, where Moses

camped before crossing the Red Sea. A little further up we saw the Tomb of the Sheik called Ennedeck.

From here we chugged peacefully through the remainder of the canal, passing El Kantarou, the terminus of the railway to Palestine, till we reached Port Said, at the Mediterranean end of the Suez Canal.

By this time it was quite dark, there being no twilight in this part of the world. While waiting to go ashore we were entertained by a native conjuror, who produced chicken and lumps of iron from different passengers' pockets.

We walked from ship to shore on a floating pontoon—the only one on the voyage. After talking to the laughing Arabs in their fezs and gowns we went back to the ship, tired out after our long day's watching in the blazing sun, thus ending one of the most interesting happenings of the voyage.—R. Stanton (Form II).

R.G.S. Revisited.

"Journalism? Then can you write something for the School Magazine" pounced Mr. Broome, when, in an unwary moment, I divulged the profession to which I now devote the working hours of my life.

Next minute, under the influence of his persuasive tongue—now I know why Meryon was invariably the house of all the talents!—I found myself agreeing to write my impressions of R.G.S. as it confronts the world to-day.

It was not so very long ago that I left its precincts for the last time as a scholar with what seemed a rather gloomy prospect before me—gloomy because of that oft-repeated remark from well-meaning advisers to the effect that one's schooldays were the happiest of one's life. As though life after school could offer anything worse than the theory of Pythagoras or irregular French verbs!

I recall that when I first went to school the front overlooked two plots of grass—one became a tennis court and the other, as far as I remember, remained just a plot of grass with a bedraggled net-ball post standing in miserable solitude at one end.

Later, a long cherished dream of Mr. Broome's was realised and a concrete pitch was constructed on the edge of this piece of ground, and I was one of many who at different times of the day energetically wielded the willow.

But to-day one is not greeted by the sounds of bat and ball and one can approach the school without fear of meeting sudden death from a wild off-drive. The cricketers and their nets have been moved to a safe distance—the playing field to be exact—and hard tennis courts have, with the march of Time, appeared where formerly there was grass.

So much for outside impressions. Inside I was very soon shown two improvements never anticipated in my time. First, there was the geography room with every device for enlightening the youthful mind on the characteristics of foreign countries and races—including a large map of Ireland with "Very Boggy" printed in aggressively large type in the centre.

This room was once Miss Turner's, but to-day one samples the treasures of literature in comfort. In the new library, Miss Turner is now enthroned in a palatial setting of sumptuous chairs, rich carpets and polished oak—or so it seemed.

There were other evidences of the material progress of R.G.S., not forgetting the outdoor stage at the back, but I am afraid my impressions of these are rather hazy—the imagination can assimilate a certain amount, but after that it boggles!—K.S.

Replies to Letters.

Quite true, D-nl-p did consume thirteen helpings of jelly at the Christmas Party, but to be certain that thirteen would not be unlucky for him, he also cleared a dish.

No, the tennis netting standards did not come from W--lw-r-h's.

I am sorry; I do know the address of the pretty girl you talked to at the Fete, but I'll make certain you don't get it.

It is quite likely that Croydon did complain of wireless interference round Rye on 25th June.

No, El--i-k and H-x-t-p do not wave their hair, but I am not certain about Sw-in.

Certainly, do go along to see school matches when they are played at home. As you are small, go early and you will get a place in front of the crowd. P.S.—Mind you don't get lost in the mud on the way.

No, Gr-mm-tt has no longer a motor-bike, so you can rest assured, until he gets another.

Yes, the Athletic Sports were very interesting and well fought out. Even so, I heard a visitor say the day was a washout.
E. N. Francis.

Library and Workshop.

The seat was on a corner,
Beneath a high brick wall;
The night was dark and starless,
One could not see at all.

They sat down close together,
They felt secure, alone;
The party long had ended,
Most people had gone home.

This solitude was heavenly,
No one to peep and pry;
They rested close together,
Each gave a blissful sigh.

Then—both jumped up in horror,
A strong beam pierced the gloom;
The seat was bathed in radiance
From the lamps of Mr. Broome.

One Silent Witness.

A Winter Game.

(Dedicated to the Match v East Guldeford, at home).

The pitch was flooded,
The air was cold,
The ball felt as heavy as lead;
The players shivered
And whispered a prayer
As they thought of what was ahead.

The whistle blew,
The ball was passed,
And a player quickly said,
"What would I give
For a hot cup of tea,
A book, and a soft feather bed."

The water rose,
The water fell,
The "full-time" whistle went ;
The players' cry
Rose in the air
And was heard in a village in Kent.

The weary players
Went slowly away,
Their dry clothes felt just like heaven.
Now, whenever they play
Under "Leasam" way
They remember 5/12/37.

Right Wing.

The Guinea-Pig.

There was a little guinea-pig
Who, being little, was not big.
He always walked upon his toes
And never rested when he rose.

When from a place he ran away,
He never at that place did stay ;
And while he ran, so I am told,
He ne'er stood still for young or old.

One day, as I am certified,
He took a whim and fairly died.
And as I'm told by men of sense,
He never has been living since.

Breeze (Form IIIb).

Looking out of my Window.

As I look out of my window
I see a valley long,
Green fields, and woods and hedges,
With birds singing their song.

As I look out of my window
I see some flowers red,
Some children playing cricket,
And a horse's great black head.

I see a shepherd shearing
His many lambs and sheep,
His dog, who lies so patient,
And wool stacked in a heap.

I think of winds in winter
And freshening rains in spring,
Of shadowy summer evenings
When the owl is on the wing.

P. Shearer (Form IIIb).

A Motor-Bike.

My brother has a motor-bike,
It chugs from home to school,
And if the gear box keeps in place,
The engine keeps quite cool.

He takes the corners pretty slow,
Fearing to have a smash,
For if he takes them fairly fast
He's sure to have a crash.

The old bike's called an "Ariel,"
And what a bike it is,
It's always doing something wrong,
So he calls it "Tinny Lizz."

One Friday morn when he set off,
He didn't rattle far,
He had a tyre burst at the back,
And then returned by car.

M. Grummitt (Form IIIb).

Applied Quotations.

- "Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn"—Keats.
(Form II take a singing lesson).
- "Off, off, you lendings! come, unbutton here"—King Lear.
(Borrowed togs after gym).
- "'Tis the infirmity of his age"—King Lear.
(Why is P-rk-s not doing gym?)
- "Bare headed"—King Lear.
(Where's your school cap).
- "Does the world go round?"—King Lear.
(Example of VIth Form ignorance).
- "Masters, you ought to consider with yourselves"—A Mid-summer Nights Dream.
(When setting homework).
- "Full of vexation come I, with complaint"—A Mid-summer Nights Dream.
(After French homework).
- "You must wake and call me early, call me early, mother"—Tennyson.
(Homework left till morning).
- "Let us go in together, and still your finger on your lips"—Hamlet.
(Going into prayers).
- "He sweats, strains his young nerves, and puts himself in posture that acts my words"—Cymbeline.
(Touch your toes).
- "That strain again—it had a dying fall"—Twelfth Night.
(Violin class at practice).
- "'Tis a night of revels"—Othello.
(The VIth form party).
- "This is a sorry night"—Macbeth.
(VIth form boys at their dancing lessons).

W. Bullett (Form VI).

R.G.S. Old Scholars' Association.

The past year has been particularly successful; a social section during the winter was well patronised by darts and table tennis players; the London section has made a good start, but it is wisely being kept as informal as possible; the O.S.A. news bulletin has become well established, even if it is occasionally a little irregular in its appearances. The evening tennis section continues to flourish; and the number of subscription paying members, though still low, shows a slight increase. The January Reunion was held at School this year, and proved most enjoyable. A high scoring cricket match against the School resulted in a good win by 162-133, Ken Stewart and Geoffrey Cooke making the runs and C. H. Catt taking the wickets. The committee has proposals for an alteration in the O.S.A. constitution, which, if sanctioned at the next annual meeting, should result in a considerable saving of work. During the year, C. H. Catt, who had done valuable work as secretary, decided to retire, and the job is being carried on temporarily by J. D. Smith and W. R. Dunlop.

The notes on the doings of Old Scholars are in an abbreviated form in the interests of space:—

1937—P. W. N. Couch is with a firm of underwriters on Lloyds.

Margaret Baker has obtained her Intermediate B.Sc., Reading University.

Esmé Kerr is at Hastings Library.

T. Montague is at Rye Post Office.

1936—J. P. Munn is at Engineer's Office, Rother Catchment Board.

L. Beeney is at G.P.O. Engineering Department, Hastings.

R. Cooper is at R.A.F., Halton.

Joan Field is at Rye Post Office.

1935—Olive Phillips is teaching at Burgess Hill.

E. A. Morphy is at Boots', Rye.

G. B. Goodinge is at Phillips & Powis, Reading.

G. S. Braine is at Hendon Public Library.

- 1934—R. Hackman is teaching at Hove.
Eileen Elmes is teaching in Kent.
- 1933—J. Moore is in Surveyor's Office, Rye.
K. Stewart is on "Hastings Observer" Staff.
- 1932—J. D. Smith is in Rates Department, Rye.
R. H. Perkins has been recently admitted a Solicitor.
- 1931—G. P. Ashbee is at Rother Ironworks.

Congratulations and best wishes to J. Stickells, G. P. Ashbee and Gwen Reynolds on their recent marriages.

Maurice Neeves has been successful in obtaining his First Mate's Certificate. He is an Officer on the Bandar Shahpour (Strick and Ellerman Line).

Harold Cheesman has been awarded the diploma of the Royal College of Art in the School of Drawing and Painting and automatically becomes an Associate of the College. He is a prize-winner at the College and has been awarded a continuation scholarship of £100.

STOP PRESS.—Congratulations to Margaret Sands and A. Dunlop on their success in the Higher School Certificate Examination.