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"NOVA RYA"

No. 6



"Aut Disce, Aut Discede"

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## EDITORIAL

In any school magazine much space is taken up by records of the immediate past. This is inevitable, for it is the task of a school magazine to make, as well as possible, a full and interesting document of the term's events. But sometimes one wonders whether this does not become a little overbearing. No attempt has been made in any number of *Nova Rya* to look into the future in preference to looking back at the past, and since the near or distant future holds a great amount of happiness in store for most of the people at present in the School, we thought it would not be amiss to try to catch a glimpse of the future for a few moments.

One day, we know, we shall return in very cheerful spirits to Rye, where our homes and our School building are waiting to receive us—not for the short elusive holiday, but for all time. For a multitude of reasons, more than those connected with our own personal happiness, we hope that the day of our return will be soon. Perhaps it will. The thought has been one which has kept up the spirit of the School during the two years that it has been evacuated. Would everybody who came away from Rye in July, 1940, have done so as willingly had they not thought that “we shall all be home again for Christmas”?

If absence makes the heart grow fonder, the first assembly in the Hall at Rye certainly ought to be a happy one, tinged, perhaps, just a little by regret in the fact that “things aren't the same as they were.” Of course they will not be. Nobody would want them to be *quite* the same. We must always be willing to accept changes and alterations as things that will improve and make for progress. We may miss the fine facilities for swimming which are ours while we are in Bedford, but the very fact that we shall miss them will give some incentive for a “swimming bath drive” when we return. And those people who joined the School in Bedford, leaving again on our return—and not forgetting the Fifth and Sixth Formers who left during evacuation—will be missed because they had gradually come to be looked upon as of an importance, which made them almost indispensable. But for all the small changes that the School may suffer in transit, much will be the same as it was before 1940.

One morning when the sun is rising in the east, when the sky is a very pale blue and the morning is cool as yet, when the birds are



trilling their cheery songs amidst the foliage of the familiar old trees in the Grove—on such a morning, children, travelling on bicycle and on foot, from 'buses and from trains, will come together once again within the School building. They will settle down in their form rooms, in the Science Labs., in the Art, Handicraft and Domestic Science rooms; and as they sing hymns and psalms at the daily Assembly, and glance through the windows on to the smooth, green tennis lawn behind the School, they will say, "Is it possible that we have ever been away? It is just the same." And they will look through the other windows and see the same scenes that they saw before they left—the old town rising upon its rock, crowned by the imposing mass of St. Mary's Church, the Tillingham Valley (what *was* the important geographical process which Mr. Broome used to illustrate by the river?) and the Grove.

Yes, things will seem the same, but to those who are leaving this term and who hope to see the School back in its rightful abode soon, many differences will be visible. There will be different faces, and such a lot of things will be altered. Old scholars always enter the School building with a half curious air, as if they were inspecting some totally strange place, instead of one which was, for several years, a second home to them. Perhaps they are wishing that everything was still as it used to be. Isn't it strange how we always have a longing for the "good old days?"

THE EDITORS.

G. G. Smith  
A. W. J. Ambrose  
J. S. L. Pulford  
I. Joyce Hulbert  
Olive M. Paine

## OBITER DICTA

Miss Tunstall returned to the School at the beginning of the term. We should like to say how glad we were to see her among us once more.

Mr. Allnutt joined the Staff this term and, besides carrying out his normal work, he has been coaching the junior boys in cricket. Before coming to this school Mr. Allnutt was a member of the staff of the Rye Senior School, and so he is an old friend of ours whom we are very pleased to welcome.

County Alderman and Mrs. Whitchurch have presented a shield to the Scout troop for the Inter-Patrol Competition, for which we would like to express our sincere thanks.

Football Colours have been awarded to G. Ashdown and H. Kennard.

Cricket Colours have been won by H. Kennard, J. Boreham and W. Colvin.

Tennis Colours have been awarded to Valerie Finch.

Gymnastic Colours have been won by Gloria Bray, W. Colvin, T. R. Cowper, F. Foster and H. Kennard. Gymnastic Stripes have been re-awarded to Helen Mills, Maureen Samaden, Joan Hoad, Julia Smith and Irene Farrant, and they have been gained by Pamela Whiting, Elizabeth Ellis, Margaret Kennard, Iris Leeds-George, Hilary Simmons, Kathleen Waterman, Margaret Hibbs, Rosemary Ray, Barbara Catt, Joan Hobden and May Breeds.

Instruction in Life-Saving has been given this term. The Bronze Medallion has been won by Joyce Hulbert, Daphne Breeds, Pamela James, M. S. Lansky, P. J. Mead, T. Pollard, A. E. Marson, E. A. Fellows, B. Douglas and J. Jury. The Intermediate Certificate has been gained by Paulina Metianu, Ruth Morris, Pat Barfoot, L. V. Samaden, R. Catt, P. Wood and M. Suttaby.

Miss Seed and the Fifth Form are to be congratulated on keeping the garden in such good order. The approach to the School and the garden at the back are quite gay in summer and this reminds us of Rye.

On April 28th a tree by the bicycle-shed blew down and had to be sawn up. The Headmaster was overheard to say to some Guides just back from their Field Day, "If some of you Guides hadn't been so late, you might have won your timber-cutter's badge this afternoon."



## A HISTORY OF THE EVACUATION

Another term has passed and once more it is necessary to bid farewell to those scholars who are leaving. Two years have been spent in Bedford and the third term of this year is yet another good example of how the School has settled down in its temporary surroundings. The term started on April 15th and the Sixth and Fifth Forms began at once with examinations—the trial run for the Oxford Higher School Certificate and the Oxford School Certificate respectively. The first papers of the Higher School Certificate were taken on July 2nd, and the first School Certificate papers on July 9th, while the ordinary school examinations for the other forms also began on July 9th. Half-term was observed—as is the School's custom—at Whitsuntide, both Whitsun eve and Whit-Monday, May 23rd and 25th, being holidays. Other half-holidays have been given, and the term ended at the very early hour of 8.30 a.m., on Thursday, July 23rd.

On May 8th the Cross-Country Run was held. Although the sun was shining, it was not too hot and at half-past three Bedfordians could see groups of scholars and members of the Staff wending their way towards the Bedford Park where the races were to end. The early arrivals saw the runners on the outward journey and later the tape was stretched across the finish. Soon a runner appeared in the distance, and after a matter of seconds, he was recognised as T. R. Cowper of Peacocke House. He completed the course of three miles in 19 minutes 43 seconds, and the second to reach home, B. Dawson of Meryon House, took 20 minutes 50 seconds. However, Sanders had a stronger team and won the House Cup. Owing to bad organisation, the junior run finished in another part of the park at the same time as the senior run. It is to be hoped that next year, as at Rye, arrangements will be made so that non-competitors can witness the finish of both races. P. Wood of Meryon House, who completed the junior course of two miles first, took 13 minutes and F. T. Wells, also of Meryon, came second. Meryon, whose team was superior, won the House Cup. The results were:—*Seniors*—Sanders 48 points; Meryon and Peacocke 36 points. *Juniors*—Meryon 57 points; Sanders 32 points; Peacocke 31 points.

The competition for the House Athletics Shield was held on May 27th, but jumping had to be postponed as the ground was in

an unfit condition. Meryon and Peacocke fought hard all through the competition, but Sanders lagged behind after a few races had been run. When the day ended Meryon were leading by a few points, but Peacocke established a lead during the jumping which was held about a week later and this decided the competition. The final result was: 1st, Peacocke; 2nd, Meryon; 3rd, Sanders.

On July 22nd, the Swimming Sports were held at the Bedford Modern School Baths, by kind permission of the Headmaster of the Boys' Modern School, H. W. Liddle, Esq., M.A. There was keen rivalry between the Houses, but Meryon gained the Shield by a few points. The shield was presented to the Meryon House Swimming Captains by Mrs. Liddle. A swimming exhibition was also given by boys of the Modern School.

On July 16th, the senior part of the Music and Speech Competition was held at the Russell Park Hall. Those taking part in the prose reading and poetry recitation were members of the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Forms, while the Fourth Form also produced the last scene of the "Merchant of Venice," in a slightly modified form. Meryon House won the senior part of the competition, [The results were:—Form IV. Poetry: 1st, P.; 2nd, M.; 3rd, S. Form IV. Bible Reading: 1st, M.; 2nd, S.; 3rd, P. Form IV. Scene from "The Merchant of Venice": 1st, M.; 2nd, P.; 3rd, S. Form V. Prose Speaking: 1st, S.; 2nd, M.; 3rd, P. Form VI. Prose Reading: 1st, S.; 2nd, M.; 3rd, P.] and the result of the junior competition reported in last term's magazine, *Nova Rya*, No. 5, was:—1st, Sanders; 2nd, Peacocke; 3rd, Meryon. These results, when added together, give:—1st, Meryon and Sanders; 3rd, Peacocke. Thus, Meryon and Sanders won the Shield.

Saturday, May 9th, was commemorated by the Girls' High School whose Diamond Jubilee fell on that day, with a service in St. Paul's Church. The Headmaster and the Heads of School, G. G. Smith and Paulina Metianu, represented Rye Grammar School. In the afternoon, the Staff of the Girls' Modern School presented "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme." This was the end of their week of celebrations for the Modern School Diamond Jubilee. A party, led by Miss Turner, went from Rye Grammar School, and were grateful to find that an English translation was being used. It was very nice to see a pupil of their school, Maureen Samaden, in the small string orchestra, which had been formed for the occasion.



A large party of music lovers attended the school children's matinee at the Corn Exchange, on Tuesday, June 2nd. The London Philharmonic Orchestra, led by Reginald Morley, and conducted by Dr. Malcolm Sargent, played a variety of works, the themes of which were first explained by Dr. Sargent. Arrangements for the School party were made by Miss Letcher.

School activities have continued to flourish in Bedford and it is good to know that debates have once more appeared on the School termly programme. This feature of School life held a prominent place at Rye, especially in the upper forms, and judging from the Sixth Form effort, there was evidence that this activity had been sadly neglected. When form debating has become established once more, there will be no reason why School debating should not begin again and become more successful than in the past.

The A.T.C. Unit has had a very full programme this term. Besides the normal indoor work and visits to a neighbouring Air Station, members have taken part in two ceremonial parades. Although the first was not up to the desired standard, the second was a praiseworthy effort and the A.T.C. need have no qualms when the next one is arranged. Two field days have been held this term, and during these, Scouts and Guides have cycled into the country to gain more knowledge of field work with practical demonstrations. A Scout Rally has been held by the District Commissioner this term, and afterwards our troop was congratulated on its smartness and willingness to help anybody in any difficulty, no matter how great or how small. Such praise, when so freely bestowed is very welcome, and shows that the true spirit of scouting is not yet a thing of the past. While congratulating this branch of School life we must not forget the societies which are less well known and which elude publicity so skilfully. Never do we hear of some outstanding achievement of any one of these groups, but Mr. Broome still perseveres in teaching young enthusiasts the rudiments of chess. It has become very apparent during the past weeks that the Library Guild has given way under the strain of its hard work, and now in place of the once tidy shelves we find biographies in the science section, and Scott next to Austen.

While dealing with the normal activities of the School, it is well to mention that this term's war effort has proved very satisfactory. Besides continuing to support the National Savings Movement, scholars have aided a local farmer, and he has stated that their help

was invaluable. Some enterprising pupils helped with the clerical work which had to be completed before new Ration Books could be distributed.

During the term photographs of the School, the Sixth Form and the A.T.C. have been taken. Many pupils have bought copies of these photographs, and the A.T.C. has been given the privilege of appearing in this issue, as it is so recent an addition to the School activities.

Confirmation Services have been held at St. Cuthbert's Church and at St. Martin's Church, and members of the School took part in both, as it seemed impracticable to hold a school service. Later in the term, however, the Right Rev. G. A. Wells, C.M.G., late Bishop of Caribou, and Chaplain-General to the Canadian Forces, conducted a service in St. Andrew's Church for the School. A few billetors were present.

All the scholars were glad this term to welcome Miss Tunstall, who had returned from convalescence after her recent illness, and they all looked forward to many more happy terms with her.

Mr. Allnutt who has also joined the Staff this term, was warmly welcomed as he has taught for many years in the Rye Senior School and is therefore an old friend of the School.

During the term the Headmaster visited Rye, where he met parents to discuss the return of the School to its home. Among the motions carried was one expressing the gratitude of parents to billetors for the many kindnesses shown to scholars. After many alternatives had been debated, it was decided that for the present the School should remain in Bedford, and the meeting ended. Another was held during August and these two were the first of a series of regular meetings to keep parents in touch with the School, and the School in touch with local feelings.

After several major alterations in the rules governing the Athletic Sports had been made by an emergency committee, and had been brought to the notice of the Headmaster, the Sports Committee, which had been non-existent during the past two or three years, was re-formed. The constitution of the committee was drawn up and was ratified by the committee, and later the sub-committee for swimming met to discuss the Swimming Sports.

After this brief outline of the major events of the term has been given, it might be well to call the attention of the reader to the fact



that this is the end of the second year of *Nova Rya*. People will agree with the Editors when they say that the standard of the matter printed has risen considerably, and it is to be hoped that more improvements will be made.

A.W.J.A.

## HOUSE NOTES

### PEACOCKE HOUSE

*House Master* : MR. MORGAN.  
*House Mistress* : MISS LETCHER.  
*Boys' Captain* : T. R. COWPER.  
*Girls' Captain* : PAULINA METIANU.  
*Prefect* : P. J. MEAD.

This term has been quite a successful one for Peacocke both in work and sport. In the cross-country running competition, which was held at the beginning of the term, we were unlucky in not gaining first place, but still we came a very close second. Once again, for the third year in succession, we carried off the Athletic Shield. The girls of the House should be especially congratulated here, as every one of them took some part in the Sports. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the boys.

Thanks to very good play by our Junior Cricket Eleven, we carried off the Cricket Shield also. Morris, who is a very promising batsman, deserves special congratulations.

The girls of the House have been pulling their weight all through the term, and did very well in winning the netball competition. It was very unlucky that they did not win the tennis competition as well, as the senior team beat both Meryon and Sanders. We did not do very well in the Swimming Sports as we have little talent in the swimming line. Paulina Metianu, Mead, Foster and Douglas put up very good performances in the actual Sports. We were very disappointed that we did not obtain the Cock House Shield once again this year, but there was only a slight margin of points between Peacocke and Meryon. Colours were awarded at the end of the term to Valerie Finch, for tennis, Joan Hoad, Julia Smith and Irene Farrant, for gymnasium; and Cowper and Foster for physical training. As usually happens at the end of the school year, we are losing our most valuable House members. Among these is Paulina Metianu, our very enthusiastic House

Captain, and we all wish her the best of luck and happiness in her new sphere of life.

T.R.C.

### SANDERS HOUSE

*House Master* : MR. DOUGLAS.  
*House Mistress* : MISS SEED.  
*Boys' Captain* : M. S. LANSKY.  
*Girls' Captain* : OLIVE PAINE.  
*Prefects* : JOYCE HULBERT, J. S. L. PULFORD.

This term's House meetings have been much more successful than usual, and a great deal more business has been got through. We are very glad to see that the general slackness usually so noticeable has been considerably decreased.

The term has not, on the whole, been a very successful one for the House. The standard of work has been maintained quite well, but we should be more satisfied if there were a more marked improvement. We have not done as well as we might have done on the sports side. We took third place in the Athletic Sports, partly owing to misfortune and lack of suitable entrants, and certainly not through any fault on the part of Marson, Joyce Bull, Cutting and Pauline Baker, the athletics captains, but we must make up our minds to work steadily throughout the coming year, and make sure we do not have to take third place again.

We were much more successful in the Swimming Sports, when we were second by a matter of six points only. All who took part must be heartily congratulated, and if we work hard, we should manage to be still more successful next year.

We took second place in the Cross-Country Run, and our runners are to be congratulated on their noble efforts.

Of the other sports competitions however, we have won only the Tennis, taking second place in Football and Physical Training, and third place in Hockey, Netball, Athletics and Cricket. We have not done as badly as this for some time, and when we see that we have not got even second place for either Work and Merit, or the House Championship Shield, I think it is time we decided to do something very definite about it. We very nearly won the Music and Speech Competition, and with a little extra effort we should have done so. Let us be quite certain then that we shall do much better than this next year.



Several individual members of the House must be congratulated this term, Kennard for gaining football, cricket and gymnasium colours; Boreham for gaining cricket colours; and Gloria Bray for obtaining gymnastic colours. Maureen Samaden, Pamela Whiting, Margaret Kennard, Kathleen Waterman, Rosemary Ray and Barbara Catt have also obtained gymnastic stripes. Joyce Hulbert, Pamela James, Lansky, Marson, Pollard and Fellows are to be especially congratulated on obtaining their Bronze Medallion, and Samaden and Catt for obtaining their Intermediate Certificates.

We had to bid farewell to several members of the House who are leaving us this term, and we wish them all the best of luck in whatever they do. Let us start next year with the determination that we shall hoist again the flag of Sanders House and keep it flying, so that those who have left us may never have cause to be ashamed of Sanders House.

O.M.P.

#### MERYON HOUSE

*House Master:* MR. BROOME.

*House Mistress:* MISS TUNSTALL.

*Boys' Captain:* G. G. SMITH.

*Girls' Captain:* JOAN BEASLEY.

*Prefect:* A. W. J. AMBROSE.

The term has been one of the most surprising for Meryon in the history of the House. We started the year in a mood of defiance which was far removed from exultation, and ended the year in the knowledge that we had gained the House Championship Shield, thus becoming Cock House again after an interval of several years. We had always been fully convinced that as the weakest House we could at best struggle for the second position, and were even, it is to be feared, resigned to holding the last place. The astonishment and delight of the senior members on hearing of the House's success (a point which was accidentally overlooked in the notices at the End of Term Assembly) can well be imagined.

We have won the Football Shield, an honour which has been ours every year that the oldest scholars have been in the School (*i.e.*, seven years), and we should be disappointed to see it pass into other hands after establishing such a record. In the cross-country run, physical training and swimming we also came first, with margins that show the keen rivalry displayed by the other Houses. The Swimming Sports, which were held twice during the year, were won

by Meryon on both occasions. In hockey, netball, athletics and cricket we obtained second position, but were third in tennis. The athletics were really a good show on our part and give rise to hopes that we may obtain once more the shield next year.

The seniors are to be congratulated on winning their half of the Music and Speech Competition, and a special word is due to the members of Form IV, whose zest made such a success of "The Merchant of Venice," though we feel sure that everybody else did his or her best. Our efforts managed to tie us with Sanders House for the first place.

A little exhortation still seems to be necessary in connection with the Work and Merit Competition; we are, indeed, only  $23\frac{1}{2}$  points behind Peacocke, but there is no excuse for resting there, and a return to the leading position would be a praise-worthy achievement.

At the last meeting of the term, the House said farewell to the retiring House Captain, G. G. Smith, who has held the position for two years, also to A. W. J. Ambrose, who has been a keen supporter of all inter-House activities, and to Joan Beasley (the Girls' Captain), Simpson (Swimming Captain, and indispensable to all sports and games), and Webb. They all wish their old House the best of fortune for the future, and know that next year's leaders will show every energy in captaining it to success and victory.

G. G. S.

#### RESULTS OF THE HOUSE COMPETITIONS, 1941-1942

Football	....	....	....	Meryon	Sanders	Peacocke
Hockey	....	....	....	Peacocke	Meryon	Sanders
Netball	....	....	....	Peacocke	Meryon	Sanders
Cricket	....	....	....	Peacocke	Meryon	Sanders
Tennis	....	....	....	Sanders	Peacocke	Meryon
Cross-Country Run	....	....	....	Meryon	Sanders	Peacocke
Athletic Sports	....	....	....	Peacocke	Meryon	Sanders
Gymnasium (boys and girls)	....	....	....	Meryon	Sanders	Peacocke
Swimming	....	....	....	Meryon	Sanders	Peacocke
Speech and Music	....	....	....	Meryon and Sanders	Peacocke	
Work and Merit	....	....	....	Peacocke	Meryon	Sanders
House Championship	....	....	....	Meryon	Peacocke	Sanders



Thus, Meryon has recaptured the position of Cock House once more.

There were two competitions for the Swimming Sports this year and both of these were won by Meryon House.

No points were awarded at the gymnasium lessons, but the points for Country Dancing, which now counts as Physical Training, have decided the competition. Apparently, both the boys' and girls' shields will thus have Meryon's name inscribed upon them, for junior boys as well as girls throughout the whole School took part in this new exercise.

The Scouts' Inter-Patrol Shield	Hawks
The Guide Trophy	Swallows

## THE CONFIRMATION SERVICES

On Palm Sunday, March 29th, Brian Lupton was confirmed by the Bishop of St. Albans, at St. Cuthbert's Church, Bedford.

At 7 p.m., on May 7th, St. Martin's Church, Bedford, was crowded with parents and friends who had come to witness the Confirmation, by the Bishop of St. Albans (the Rt. Rev. Michael B. Furse, D.D.), of candidates from all parts of the town. The opening hymn having been sung, the rectors from the various churches in Bedford, declared, upon the Bishop's request, that their candidates were ready and prepared for Confirmation. After these solemn assertions, the Bishop asked for prayers to be said before the confirming of the candidates. He then requested the latter to make the vow "I do," and reminded them of the solemnity of their declaration, for they were pledging themselves to a certain kind of life—to be loyal and trust God and to carry out his orders. The candidates were now of their own free will and choice, and knew what they were doing; the Lord demanded what was best and when they said "I do," they meant to do their best. They must carry out their promise trusting in the power of God.

The candidates then stood and, at the Bishop's request, their names were called, each candidate replying "I do." The boys and girls from the School were Frederick Foster, Peter Caister, Brian Dawson, Basil Jones, Ronald Adams, Sylvia Mewett and Pauline Baker. While the candidates knelt, the congregation stood and,

after saying some prayers, sang, in alternate lines with the Bishop, another hymn. After a prayer the candidates were confirmed, with the congregation still standing. When the "Lord's Prayer" had been said the Bishop entered the pulpit to the singing of "Soldiers of Christ, Arise!"

In commencing his address the Bishop repeated the words murmured over us at baptism. We had been marked with the sign of the Cross, that is the "I" crossed out, which meant service to God and Man. The Bishop declared that we should not be ashamed to confess our faith, to fight under Christ's banner and to remain good servants. Baptism was a time when we were launched out into the world; Confirmation was the beginning of the full life of a Christian. A great war was on, yet the real war was against the Devil and all his works, for the Devil was behind this war. If only people had ignored him there would have been no war.

Confirmation meant that we had to go on. What would help us? What had helped us? The realisation that we had given our word to Christ to be loyal. But there was a Devil, there always had been a Devil, and there would be even if we lived till ninety years, and it was he who tempted us to be slack. Evil was organized in the most ghastly way; the cleverest thing the Devil had ever done had been to make people believe that he did not exist. The point to remember was that if we heeded the Devil we would be selling our faith—we would be quislings. The Devil had his quislings to undermine Christian faith, and accordingly, there must be no neutrality in the Christian war. If we remembered that we should be all right, although knocked down sometimes, we should win through in the end. We had to watch out for the Devil, and, if we did not, we should be caught out, for the Devil was powerful and well-organized. The Bishop implored us to find out from our teachers, parents and clergy how to fight him. The Devil could not stand being laughed at or being made a fool of; he was unable to stand up to a real Christian life of suffering. We must not yield to the temptation to by-pass this life, or we would be yielding to the Devil. If we heeded God we should not want to run away, but would get into the fight, hit the Devil hard and get on with it. We must also stick to the Church in order to gain strength from that holy fellowship. The Devil had an insidious method of tempting: he agreed that we should say our prayers, but why not say them lying in bed, and, of course, it did not matter if we went to sleep before



we had finished them. The Devil enquired why we went to Church for the seats were not very comfortable—not half so comfortable as those at the local cinema ; it was nicer to remain at home and listen to the wireless, and, besides, there was a collection at Church ; the weather was rather bad too, and considering that we were rather weak in the chest, we should almost certainly get a sore throat. After this analysis and description of the Devil's methods, the Bishop asserted that having once lured us away from real worship, the Devil kept us from it, got us down, and held us down. Once we were away from the true fellowship we had no one to help us up, and therefore, we must stick to the fellowship. Men all down the ages had celebrated Holy Communion. They had not argued about it but had done it and gained strength from the action. Without Holy Communion we had not a chance against the Devil, and the Bishop, now at the end of his life, looked to the younger ones to carry on the fight. If we held on we should get there in the end.

After another hymn a collection in aid of the Furze Hospital in Africa was taken, and the service concluded with the Blessing.

On Thursday, June 25th, the whole School and a few parents and friends gathered in St. Andrew's Church, to witness a School Confirmation Service, conducted by the late Bishop of Caribou, now Chaplain-General to the Canadian Forces.

The Rector of St. Andrew's, the Rev. A. Thornton Down, announced the "Pilgrim's Hymn," which was to commence the service. After the singing of this hymn the Bishop said that when we were baptized we were placed in the priest's arms, and a statement was made to the effect that we would fight as soldiers of Christ. The latter declaration involved loyalty to the King and loyalty to those in authority over us. We must help the C.O. at all times, especially in time of trouble, for that was when he really needed our loyalty. We must also be loyal to the institution to which we belonged. The soldiers fighting in this war came from all parts of the Empire, but they all belonged to the British Army. When they met in after-life there was a kind of community feeling between them, and traditions such as the King's Toast were observed with loyalty. The soldiers were bound to live up to the honour of the regiment, just as we were to the "old school-tie." They were devoted to duty to the very last, as in the famous "Charge of the Light Brigade." Although they knew of the blunder they went on because discipline enforced

them to. There was the great tradition of the captain going down with his ship, but Christ had also made the supreme sacrifice, and so must we. Although at the moment we did not understand some things we had to do, we should later on. Confirmation was the first step, for we knew now what was right and what was wrong ; but the value of Confirmation would depend on our own actions. God did His part and we had to do ours.

The candidates, John Boreham, Bruce and Hugh Simpson, and John and Stephen Pritchard, then promised to ratify the vows made at their baptisms, after which, the hymn, "Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire," was sung in alternate lines by the Bishop and the congregation on their knees. After some prayers had been said the candidates were confirmed. The "Lord's Prayer" and the Blessing, repeated after a hymn, concluded the service.

J.S.L.P.

## ATHLETIC SPORTS, May 27th, 1942

Sports day dawned fine and clear. The weather during the day was watched with much anxiety, especially when ominous clouds covered the sun for a few minutes.

However, afternoon arrived, and the miscellaneous apparatus necessary for the activities was carefully conveyed from Ixworth Court to the Sports Ground.

Six p.m., and time for the Sports to begin. There was a goodly crowd of spectators, both in the grand-stand, and watching from the road. The first few events passed without anything extraordinary taking place, but soon the heavily clouded sky began to drop its burden on the Sports Field. The storm passed and the events continued. We were all very sorry to see A. E. Marson, the hope of Sanders House, drop out of the half-mile, owing to an injury to his leg, but in any case, it is hardly necessary to state that this event was won by our star runner, T. R. Cowper.

The Team Sack Race (mixed) was omitted for the simple reason that no sacks could be procured for the competitors ! By this time more rain had fallen so that the ground was unfit for the Boys' High Jump, junior and senior, and also for the Long Jump. These events were "jumped" off a few days later. The senior and junior Girls' Netball Shooting event also took place at a later date owing to weather conditions. Meryon won the Bishop Shield.



The detailed results of the Sports are as follows :—

100 yds Boys, Senior—Marson, A. E.  
 100 yds Boys, Junior—Gutsell, P.  
 100 yds. Girls, Senior—Helen Mills.  
 100 yds. Girls, Junior—Kathleen Waterman.  
 80 yds. Boys, II and IIR—Pye, P.  
 80 yds. Girls, II and IIR—Patricia Barfoot.  
 220 yds. Boys, Senior—Fellows, E.  
 220 yds. Boys, Junior—Adams, R.  
 Throwing the Cricket Ball, Boys, Senior (3 throws)—Butchers, P.  
 High Jump, Girls, Senior—Joyce Bull.  
 Throwing the Cricket Ball, Boys, Junior (2 throws)—Wood, P.  
 High Jump, Girls, Junior—Betty Ford and Iris Leeds-George.  
 Hop, Step and Jump, Boys, Senior—Fellows, E.  
 Team Standing Broad Jump, Girls, Senior—P., S., M.  
 Hop, Step and Jump, Boys, Junior—Samaden, L. V.  
 Team Standing Broad Jump, Girls, Junior—P., M., S.  
 Half Mile, open—Cowper, T. R.  
 Hockey Dribbling Team Race, Girls, Senior—P., M., S.  
 Long Jump, Boys, Junior—Morris, D.  
 Hockey Dribbling Team Race, Girls, Junior—P., M., S.  
 High Jump, Boys, Senior—Cowper, T. R.  
 Hop, Step and Jump, Girls, Senior—Helen Mills.  
 Form Team Race, Girls—M., S., P.  
 Boys' Relay, Senior—M., S., P.  
 Boys' Relay, Junior—M., P., S.  
 Potato Race, Mixed, II and IIR—Blackmore, G.  
 Long Jump, Boys, Senior—Cowper, T. R.  
 Throwing Rounders Ball, Girls, Senior (2 throws)—Joyce Bull.  
 High Jump, Boys, Junior—Adams, R. and Samaden, L. V.  
 Netball Shooting, Girls, Senior—P., M., S.  
 Netball Shooting, Girls, Junior—P., M., S.  
 Mixed Relay, open—M., S., Peacocke disqualified.

I. J. H.

## THE LONDON PHILARMONIC ORCHESTRA

On Tuesday, June 2nd, at 2.30 p.m. a party from the School assembled at the Corn Exchange, to hear another musical programme by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Malcolm Sargent. Nearly all the "home" and evacuated schools in Bedford were represented and consequently the hall was crowded.

The programme commenced with a brief introductory summary of the life of Mozart. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, whose pet name was "Mr. Woferl," made a concert tour at the age of six with his father and a sister who was only eleven years old. Even at this age, Mozart had composed music for the harpsichord and he also played the violin. When he died at the age of thirty-five, he left behind him a large quantity of beautiful music. Four pieces from his "Kleine Nachtmusik" ("A Little Night Music") were then played by the orchestra. This music was composed in England at a time when he was unable to play owing to his father's illness. As the title of the composition suggests, this lovely music was meant to be played at night in the open theatres of the period, when the soft, silver moonlight and the twinkling stars formed the only canopy for performers and audience.

This was followed by the "Fingal's Cave" Overture, a piece of programme music, which was inspired by a visit which Mendelssohn made to Fingal's Cave while on holiday in England. This great composer was very sensitive to surrounding beauty, and in this overture, the waves and the wind can be as plainly heard as if one were standing in the cave oneself.

An arrangement of the old but ever popular "Greensleeves," including the theme of "Pretty Joan" was then played. The arrangement was by Dr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, Professor of Composition at the Royal College of Music.

A précis of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet", followed by Tchaikovsky's tone poem of his impression of the play, concluded the programme. In this piece of music, the feeling of tragedy was predominant, while the atmosphere of battle produced by military music faded into a gentle softness, that portrayed perfectly the rustling of Juliet's silk gown.

This fine programme was very much enjoyed by all, and our thanks are due to Miss Letcher who so kindly arranged for us to attend the performance.

AUDITOR.



## THE MUSIC AND SPEECH COMPETITION

On Thursday, July 14th, the senior section of the Speech and Music Competition was carried out, and the 1942 Competition was thus completed.

The IVth Form Poetry Speaking was the first item. The set pieces were the sonnets, "On His Blindness," by John Milton, and "On First Looking into Chapman's Homer," by John Keats. Pamela Whiting recited for Sanders, Jean Pope for Peacocke, and Bull for Meryon. Peacocke came first, beating Meryon by half a mark only.

The IVth Form Prose Reading, an extract from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel, was won by Daphne Breeds and Dawson for Meryon, Rosalie Green and Maureen Samaden for Sanders coming second by half a point, and Joan Hoad and Green taking third place for Peacocke.

The IVth Form Dramatic Work, the last scene from Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice," was very successful in all three cases. Meryon came first, thanks to the good show put up by Daphne Breeds, Helen Mills, Cynthia Cade, Bull, Dawson, Frehner and Butchers. Peacocke took second place with Jean Pope, Kathleen Batehup, Joan Hoad, Wood, Marshall, Green and Button. Sanders came third with a cast of Maureen Samaden, Rosalie Green, Julia Terry, Caister, Hargrove, Pamela Whiting and Pritchard.

Vth Form Prose Speaking was the conclusion of Trevelyan's "Account of the English Revolution." Sanders, represented by Gloria Bray and Eileen Munday, took first place, Webb and Joyce Dunster won second place for Meryon, and Helen Metianu and Valerie Finch took third place for Peacocke.

The VIth Form Prose Reading, "Dream Vision of the Infinite," by Thomas de Quincey, was won for Sanders by Joyce Hulbert and Olive Paine. Smith and Ambrose brought Meryon second place, and Paulina Metianu and Cowper took third place for Peacocke.

The Senior part of the Competition was thus won by Meryon, with Sanders a very close second. In the whole competition however, out of a maximum of 350 marks, 250 marks for Speech and 100 marks for Music, Meryon obtained 186 marks for Speech and 96 for Music, while Sanders obtained 182 for Speech and 100 for Music,

so that Meryon and Sanders tied for first place. Peacocke came a very close third with 175 for Speech and 96 for Music.

This year's competition was much more successful and a great deal more enthusiasm was shown. It is to be hoped that next year there will be even greater success, and that the difficulties which have to be met will be more easily overcome. I. WITNESS.

## THE SPORTS COMMITTEE

On Monday, June 29th, all the Senior Sports' Captains from the three Houses assembled in Room 5, where they were to draw up a constitution for the new Sports Committee. Outside interests were represented by the Headmaster, *ex officio* members of the Staff, the School Captains, and the House Captains. Six points as basic proposals for the constitution had already been distributed to the representatives, and at the meeting these six points came under immediate discussion.

The Headmaster opened the meeting by calling upon Mr. Broome to take his place in the Chair, which he is to hold permanently, and Mr. Broome then proceeded to bring up the points one by one, and put them to the vote of the assembly.

Some confusion arose over the title of School Captains. It was decided that it referred to the School Sports' Captains and the Heads of School. Miss Thomas then instantly proposed that the Heads of School should not be allowed to sit on the Committee, and the proposal did not go unsupported by other members of the Committee. It is to be feared that some personal prejudices may have been responsible for this judgement, since recent Heads of School have not taken a very active part in sports and games, but the fallacy of the reasoning was pointed out by the Headmaster and Mr. Broome, who declared that there may come a day when the Heads of School would have a deep interest in such affairs, but be unable to sit on the Committee except by their positions as Heads of School. The proposal that the Heads of School should be allowed to sit on the Committee was therefore carried.

Colvin was elected Secretary to the Committee and took up his duties immediately.

The two points subjected to the fiercest criticism were the questions of control of finance, and the work of sub-committees to deal with individual games. It had been suggested that the Com-



mittee should have a certain control over the money to be spent on games and sports equipment during normal times, but since "normal times" was a rather ambiguous term, it was proposed, seconded and carried that the Committee should start work on the question of finance as soon as it had begun to function properly. (This first meeting, as Mr. Broome pointed out, was really a convention called to settle the constitution, not the first meeting of the Committee). The Headmaster very much favoured the scheme of allowing the Committee to help manage the finance, but the support of Mr. Morgan and the Chairman was tempered by the opinion that the difficulty of obtaining equipment was just as great as that of controlling the money.

In order to facilitate the working of the Sports Committee, it had been suggested that each term the arrangements for games and all questions concerning them should first be debated and settled by a special sub-committee and then brought forward to the main committee for its approval. The sub-committees were to consist of the House Captains, School Captains, and the Sports Master or Mistress concerned with each game (e.g., a cricket sub-committee would be composed of the House Cricket Captains, the School Cricket Captain, and the Master in charge of cricket); and the report to the Sports Committee was to be given by the captain of the School team.

The question of a swimming sub-committee to arrange the forthcoming Swimming Sports was immediately raised, and although hitherto the constitution had been strictly adhered to, it was decided that the sub-committee should have full powers in the matter, and no further meeting of the main committee should be called to discuss and approve their decisions.

In connection with the meetings of the Committee it was carried that it should meet during the first fortnight of each term, and that the Chairman should have the power to call an additional meeting during the term when and if necessary.

Perhaps the writer may be allowed to offer a humble suggestion in connection with the reformed Sports Committee. It is, in itself, a splendid thing, which will give the scholars experience in arranging and organizing, and every opportunity to take charge of their own affairs, but it will fail, just as the old School Committee failed, if it be not taken seriously. The Headmaster pointed out that sufficient notice of a meeting must be given to prevent representatives from

absenting themselves owing to previous engagements, and that a meeting of the Committee should have precedence over everything else. It is true that the notice for the convention was rather short, excusable under the circumstances, but it was very noticeable that by the time the meeting ended, barely a half of the original members was present—other claims had called the remainder away. We do hope that this will not arise in the future, for with the enthusiastic support of every member, the Sports Committee should attain the success it desires, and we wish it good luck in the days which lie ahead.

G.G.S.

## THE YEAR'S SWIMMING

### THE BOYS

Probably, never in our history have the boys of Rye Grammar School had so excellent an opportunity to learn to swim and to improve their swimming as they have enjoyed during the last six months. Owing to the generosity of the Headmaster of the Bedford Modern School, the Baths were made available throughout the Spring Term to the Senior boys who devoted one of their gym. periods each week to swimming. This term, all boys of the School have had an opportunity of attending the Baths in School-time, and, with the exception of one or two pupils, they have been glad of the facility. In addition, the Baths have been available an hour each evening and the enthusiasts have made wise use of their chance. As a result our swimming has very considerably improved since our early days in Bedford. There are, however, a number of Juniors who have still to make their first successful strokes, but even they have overcome their instinctive dislike of water in the main and are now able to jump or dive boldly in. With a little more perseverance they should soon become swimmers.

During the term, 16 boys have learnt to swim; 8 boys have swum a length for the first time; 19 boys have swum a quarter mile—no one should be satisfied until he has done this; 24 boys have had professional coaching in life saving; 12 boys entered for either the Bronze Medal or the Intermediate Certificate, and 11 of these have succeeded.

In spite of the enthusiasm of the majority, there are a number of boys—able to swim—but who have made little effort to improve their style and speed. It should be realized that the Modern School



Baths are not a Lido. An outdoor bath might fall under such a category, and idling and promenading are perhaps justified under such conditions. The bath we attend is essentially an instructional bath.

The system of awarding House points, revised by Miss Thomas, and the engaging of a professional coach have done much to encourage the reluctant ones. Perhaps the exhibition given us by the Modern School team will impress upon us that there is still much that we can learn, and induce still further effort and enthusiasm.

G. L. MORGAN, Esq.

### THE GIRLS

Many girls have learnt to swim this year, and now, in the Junior School, there are only about six girls who cannot yet swim, and one or two of these have already done several strokes.

In Form IIIb every girl can swim—in this they have beaten the boys—and between them they gained 77 points for their Houses. Pamela James is top with 30 points, which include 20 for her Bronze Medallion in Life Saving. In Forms II and IIr Pat Barfoot gained her Intermediate Certificate, and Claire Rhind passed all the tests except picking up the brick.

Six Junior girls have swum their quarter mile. Some of the Seniors have worked very hard indeed, but others have been very slack in their attendance, and of those who do come, one or two are content with a very low standard and seem almost afraid to try. They will have to get rid of this defeatist attitude before they improve. Of those who have worked really well, Daphne Breeds and Joyce Hulbert have gained their Bronze Medallion, and Paulina Metianu and Ruth Morris their Intermediate Certificate. Jean Pope has passed all her tests for the Bronze Medal except picking up the brick.

Seven girls have swum their quarter mile, and there are two beginners, one in Form V and one in Form IIIa, who swam their width for the first time this term, Gloria Bray and Sylvia Mewett. I hope they will get on to their length as soon as possible, for Rosemary Ray in Form IIr swam her length about a week after she first did the width. There is a tendency among the girls to think they cannot swim in the deep end, and it is not much good being able to swim at all if you can only swim in water so shallow that you cannot drown in it.

One or two girls have learnt to dive very neatly, and Paulina Metianu has improved her standard too. I hope the girls will now go on to further efforts, such as :

- (i) To improve their style. Julia Smith has a very good crawl stroke, but only one or two others can attempt it yet.
- (ii) To win some more medals and certificates in Life Saving and to keep up the good beginning.
- (iii) To practise and improve diving, so that next year we can have a girls diving event at the Sports. MISS O. M. THOMAS.

### THE SWIMMING SPORTS

The Swimming Sports were held on July 22nd, in the Modern School Baths. A delay was caused because the doors to the Baths were not opened in time, but after a number of quick changes had been made the races began. The School were very glad to see so many foster-parents present, also Mr. and Mrs. Liddle who attended. There were no delays between the events and competitors were always at the required places promptly. It is to be regretted that the length of L. Simpson's plunge was not measured, as he succeeded in out-plunging F. Foster who won the competition last time. F. Foster's plunge was 13ft. 6ins., on September 17th, 1941. The timing of certain of the events was also neglected, but the Editors used the second-hand of a wrist-watch, and thus obtained some record of the times. Naturally, the accuracy of the timing is not up to the desired standard, but it will give readers an idea of the speed of the races. Great enthusiasm was shown throughout the competition.

After our events were over, some boys of the Modern School gave a demonstration. This included two styles of breast stroke (the ordinary and the butterfly), also the crawl and the back crawl. The diving—although the coach described those who were taking part as rather inexperienced—was of a very high standard, and mention should be made of the swallow dives and the back somersaults. The exhibition ended with a water-polo match. The Head of School, G. G. Smith, thanked the Modern School, and called for three rousing cheers. The response was very great and surpassed all that had been expected.

The Headmaster introduced Mr. and Mrs. Liddle to the spectators and pupils, and thanked them for allowing us to use the Baths. He assured them that we were making good use of the



facilities given to us, for it had always been a sore point with the School that there was no swimming bath at Rye.

Mrs. Liddle said that she was greatly honoured in being allowed to present the Shield. The people of Bedford had been very lucky during this war, and when they thought of all the suffering taking place in the world they were glad to share their lot with less fortunate people. They were very glad that we found the Swimming Baths so useful, and were willing for us to continue using it. This was followed by great applause. Mrs. Liddle then presented the Shield to B. Simpson and Daphne Breeds, the Meryon Swimming Captains.

The results were as follows :—

Event	Winner	Time	House Order
100 YDS. FREE STYLE—			
Senior Boys	B. Simpson	1 m. 22½s.	M., S., P.
NON-SWIMMERS—	—	—	P., S., M.
2 LENGTHS FREE STYLE—			
Senior Girls	Julia Smith	1 m. 8s.	P., M., S.
BEGINNERS WIDTH—			
Junior Boys	A. Shearer	—	M., S., P.
Junior Girls	Rosemary Ray	—	M., S., P.
1 LENGTH CRAWL—			
Senior Boys	B. Simpson	21 secs.	M., S., P.
1 LENGTH FREE STYLE—			
Junior Boys	P. Wood	26 secs.	M., S., P.
Junior Girls	Pat Barfoot	35 secs.	M., S., =P.
25 YDS. FREE BACK STYLE—			
Senior Boys & Girls	M. S. Lansky	25 secs.	S., P., M.
Junior Boys & Girls	L. Samaden	27½ secs.	S., P., M.
LIFE SAVING—			
Senior Boys & Girls	—	—	S., P., M.
Junior Boys & Girls	—	—	M., S., P.
1 LENGTH BREAST STROKE—			
Senior Boys & Girls	M. S. Lansky	29 secs.	M., =P., =S.
PLUNGE, OPEN—	L. Simpson	—	M., P., S.
DIVING, OPEN—	—	—	P., S., M.
JUNIOR MIXED TEAM RACE	—	—	M., S., P.
SENIOR RELAY RACE—	—	—	S., P., M.

The final result was :—

Meryon 217 points ; Sanders 211 points ; Peacocke 160½ points.  
Thus, Meryon House won the Shield.

A.W.J.A.

## THE AIR TRAINING CORPS

At the beginning of term we were unable to start work immediately owing to the fact that Owen's School started their term considerably later than we did. Nevertheless, on Tuesday, April 28th, the first Field Day of the term, we had some practice in the recognition of aircraft, with the aid of the epidiascope, during the morning. It was a period which could have been of interest and value to all, but unfortunately, although there were many Cadets present who could recognise with ease every aircraft which was thrown on to the screen, there was nobody sufficiently skilled to point out its characteristics and peculiarities, and thus to help the unskilled and ignorant. In the afternoon, Pilot Officer Pigrome gave a short and interesting talk about some navigator's instruments, the Computer, the Air Speed Indicator, and the Altimeter, which he had brought with him, and later these instruments were placed at the disposal of the Cadets to inspect and manipulate at their will. Even with the instructions at hand it was at first difficult to bring forth any satisfactory results from the Computer, but we were assured that they were designed to speed and ease the work of the observer-navigator.

On May 6th, we attended the first full parade of the term. Flying Officer Hutchings spoke about the work which was to be done during the term, mentioned that Section 2 would be taking their Proficiency Examination, and gave some details concerning the new ruling for the examinations which had been issued recently. At the end of the talk he announced that Corporal Pratt (of Owen's School) and Corporal Smith had been promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and that Cadet Foulger (of Owen's School) and Cadet Foster had been promoted to the rank of Corporal. They were given their chevrons in accordance with their ranks.

The first visit to the aerodrome to which Squadron 691 is affiliated took place on Saturday, May 16th. All Cadets from Section 1 were present, and also the Grammar School Cadets from Section 2. The trip was arranged for the entire day and it was confidently expected that all Cadets would be able to fly. But low-hanging clouds in the morning raised many doubts and since nothing could be done until the afternoon, the period before lunch was spent in a room belonging to the Intelligence Department, where dozens of photographs and models of aircraft occupied the



Cadets for some time. Almost immediately after lunch (unfortunately for some) the first groups were ready for their trips. Parachutes and helmets were obtained and the Cadets walked out to the Blenheims which were to take them on their first aerial tour. By this time the weather was almost perfect, and as the 'planes roared into the sky one after the other, the sun could be seen breaking through the clouds, which were now much higher. Below the clouds, through the clouds, above the clouds, weaving and swooping, the Cadets certainly enjoyed their first experience of flying, some actually passing over Bedford, while others went further afield in the direction of Northampton. Meanwhile, the remainder of the Cadets had taken trips in the De Havilland "Dragon Rapide," and although not finding it quite so exhilarating they had at least the pleasure of being able to say that they had flown.

On Friday, June 5th, the Grammar School Cadets received a visit from Squadron Leader Bernard Shore, who spoke for some time about the different trades and flying duties in the R.A.F., also mentioning the methods of entering. After he had finished speaking he offered to answer any questions which Cadets cared to ask, and gave forms to a small number of Cadets who were seriously intent on taking up flying duties in the R.A.F. These forms were of no importance until the Cadets cared to hand them to the responsible person, when the machinery would be set in motion; if they really desired to fly, nothing and nobody could prevent it, once the form was handed in. While the Cadets were filling in their forms, Squadron Leader Shore spoke to some of the Cadets individually, and answered problems with which they confronted him.

Yugoslav Week in Bedford began on Sunday, June 7th. On this day there was a Church Parade for the Home Guard of the district, after which, King Peter took the salute at the War Memorial, on the Embankment. Various events and activities took place during the week, but the climax (for us) was to come on the Friday, when there was to be a parade of the J.T.C., the R.A.F., the W.A.A.F., and the A.T.C. The preceding Wednesday evening saw representatives from every Bedford squadron of the A.T.C. being put through their paces in the grounds of the Bedford School, under the command of Flying Officer Evans. There were about 150 Cadets and N.C.O.s taking part, and without a band it was very difficult to keep step, so at length, a number of N.C.O.s acted as guides with some slight improvement. Nobody could help wondering, however,

how the Parade would "go off," particularly since we knew that we were to bring up the rear and would therefore not be able to hear the band. Nevertheless, on Friday morning the A.T.C. contingent assembled in Bushmead Avenue and proceeded thence to Russell Park. It was indeed unfortunate that we were unable to hear the band, and the marching was certainly ragged through the streets of Bedford, but luckily, just as we approached the saluting base (the Howard Monument on St. Paul's Square), the Bedfs. and Herts. Regimental Band, which was stationed there, "struck up" and the Cadets pulled into step, with the result that we received a clap for our smart turn-out. The Parade was not a failure after all. H.M. King Peter of Yugoslavia took the salute, and later, the Headmasters of the Bedford School, Modern School, Owen's School and Harpur Central School, and the Commanding Officer of the Bedford Town Squadron, received letters congratulating the units on their smart appearance.

June 16th (a Tuesday) was the second Field Day of the term. A further visit to the aerodrome (this time by the R.G.S. section only) had been planned and it was presumed that all Cadets would fly once again. Many had the fortune to take a trip, but six were unable to, and returned home without having seen or done anything particularly spectacular. This visit only lasted for a brief three hours in the afternoon, and was destined to be the last for many of the Cadets.

It must not be assumed that the Flight has been doing no really serious work during the term. Section 2 took their Proficiency Examination during June, and many Cadets were awarded their stars. There was a very small number of Cadets from the Grammar School, most of whom were working under difficulties owing to the proximity of the School and Higher School Certificate Examinations, and to the fact that the thirty-hour Navigation Course had to be condensed into ten hours. Cadet Cowper is to be congratulated on obtaining his star.

On Tuesday, June 30th, the School Section sat for its photograph to be taken (an ordeal hardly more pleasant than sitting for a Proficiency Examination), and this was the last occasion upon which every Cadet was present in uniform, for even on A.T.C. Sunday, which followed closely after, some Cadets were not present.

We had had a rehearsal for the Church Parade on Thursday, July 2nd, and while on parade we learned that our own Flight would



take the lead—which might have been considered an honour, only it was discovered later that the position of every Squadron had been decided by picking the names out of a hat. Sunday dawned with a fair prospect of kind weather, and at 10.40 a.m., every Squadron was assembled in the grounds of the Bedford School, ready to proceed to St. Paul's Church. Before the Parade moved off, Flight Lieutenant Starey read messages from the Secretary of State for Air, the Rt. Hon. Sir Archibald Sinclair, and Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal. The R.A.F. band from Cardington Air Station led the way and at first we brought up the rear—the Squadrons marching in the opposite order to that which they were to take up in the parade round the town. The service in St. Paul's began at 11.15 a.m., and was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. Colthurst), the address being given by the Bishop of Bedford (the Rt. Rev. H. A. Skelton, M.A.).

"I ought, therefore I can," was the theme of the Bishop's address, and he went on to expand the words and to apply them to our everyday life, in particular to our work in the A.T.C. and our future work with the R.A.F.

After the service had ended we assembled in Horne Lane, and this time Flight 691 took its rightful position behind the band. From this time forward we were able to make the best use of our opportunities; the marching was good and as we came down the High Street we were handed over to the Band of the Bedfs. and Herts. Regiment, which was stationed at the saluting base. The Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Lord Luke of Pavenham, took the salute and the parade proceeded to Castle Road, where it was dismissed by the Commanding Officer, Flight Lieutenant Starey, who had also read the lesson at the service.

So ended the A.T.C. parades for the Summer Term of 1942. Members of the unit who were leaving have also had some practice in firing at the Miniature Range of the Bedford Modern School, under the charge of Mr. Baker, of the Owen's School.

SGT. G. G. SMITH.

THE SCHOOL SECTION, A.T.C. SQUADRON, No. 691.



Back Row—CADETS W. COLVIN H. KENNARD, D. P. WALKER, E. A. FELLOWS, P. CAISTER, J. BOREHAM.  
Centre Row—CADETS B. DAWSON, J. BULL, G. HARGROVE, G. GREEN, P. BUTCHERS, R. FREHNER, S. WOOD, C. WEBB.  
Front Row—CADETS J. S. L. PULFORD, A. W. J. AMBROSE, SGT. G. G. SMITH, PILOT OFFICER PIGROME, CPL. F. FOSTER.  
CADETS M. S. LANSKY, T. R. COWPER.



## SCOUT REPORT

The main object of the Troop this term has been to gain proficiency badges, which include Swimming, Artist, Electrician and Handyman. We have had two field-days at Hanger Wood, Stagsden, which have been a great success, and the wood has resounded with the clash of the axe, as budding First-Class Scouts tried their skill at tree-felling and trimming. As most of our troop are under fourteen years of age it is not surprising that no First-Class badges have been awarded as yet, but many of the tests which make up this badge have been passed, and at the end of next term, the troop should contain quite a few First-Class Scouts.

During this term a large Rally was held at Bedford, and the 2nd Rye Troop played a prominent part, by building a signalling tower (with wood which the farmer at Stagsden let us have *very* cheaply), which, although it looked none too strong, did not fall down—despite the fact (as some pessimist pointed out) that there was a ladder to go up by, but nothing by which to come down. The Mayor of Bedford went up and delivered a speech from the top of our tower, and the Headmaster also ventured up and declared that it was a fine piece of work. We collected over six shillings, charging people a penny-a-time to go up. The Rally was a great success, as was the Service following it on the Sunday, and we all hope to see another in the near future.

At the beginning of the term the number of patrols was reduced from six to four, owing to the decrease in numbers. We now have four big patrols, instead of six small ones, which in the long run is much better.

We were very sorry to lose our Troop Leader, Basil Jones, half-way through the term, and we all wish him luck in the A.T.C.

In concluding, I should like to say that at the moment the Scouts are being rather swamped by new movements which keep springing up, and thus scouting is very much in the background. However, at the end of the war most of these movements will fade away and scouting will return to its own. We are like the stream :—

“Corps may come and corps may go,  
But Scouts go on for ever !”

L.A.



## GUIDE REPORT

The best substitute for Camp is a field day and we have been lucky enough to have two during the term. We went further afield this time, to Wilden Shrubbery, where Mr. Swale kindly allowed us a very large field in which we could light fires. There was plenty of shelter from the wind, which was fortunate, as Wilden is on the top of the world (as Bedfordshire goes), and on our first visit there was a raging gale blowing. However, each patrol managed to cook a most appetising meal, and Daphne Breeds's pancakes were thoroughly appreciated by Miss Glenister and myself. The winners of the competition were the Robins, who even found a "refrigerator" for the milk bottles, but when Miss Glenister was kidnapped by a couple of "fierce bandits," the Red Rose patrol, led by Pamela James, were the first to trace and rescue her.

On our next field day, a month later, Miss Hewetson came to test thirteen of the Guides for their First Class hike. We are glad to report that eleven of them passed and the other two will try again next term, and will take care not to burn the turf.

During the term most of the Patrol Leaders and Seconds have been coming to Guides on Thursday evening, to practice for their First Class, and they have been successful in passing several sections of this test. We hope that, in the next issue, we shall be able to report that some of them have won the First Class Badge. Unfortunately, these tests took place during the first week of the Oxford School Certificate Examination, so that our Senior Patrol, who were hoping to pass all the tests were unable to attend every time.

We are a very large and unwieldy company—just about twice the size of a normal one—and I think the Leaders have tackled a difficult task with enthusiasm and insight. Their patrols have rallied round well and many of the Second Form especially have worked really hard for their Second Class test. On the year's work, Swallow Patrol came first with Robin and Holly close seconds.

Many badges have been won this term, including Cyclist, Child Nurse, Homemaker, Domestic Service, Health, Writer, Book-lover, Thrift, Laundress, Friend to the Deaf, and Friend to Animals. In the last week of term twenty-three Guides took their Country Dancers Badge, and all of them passed. We are looking forward to welcoming many new recruits next term, and we hope that they will enjoy Guiding with the 2nd Rye Company. MISS O. M. THOMAS.

## SENIOR CRICKET REPORT

This term's First XI has not been at all successful, owing to weak bowling and indifferent batting. The first match was played against Bedford Northern XI, when we were beaten easily. However, in the next match, which was against Mr. Blake's Senior XI we lost by only a few runs, but again our bowling lacked sting and steadiness. After having been beaten by Mr. Blake's XI in a return match, we were engaged to play against Bedford Northern XI, but owing to a misunderstanding, the opposing team failed to turn up. In all the matches Dawson bowled steadily, Kennard and Colvin bowled successfully, and Boreham managed to maintain a consistent hand at batting. The main cause of our poor season, however, was the shortage of Senior boys; indeed, if the fourth fixture had been played the School would have seen the startling sight of a First Year boy playing in the First XI.

## JUNIOR CRICKET REPORT

On the 21st of May, we opened our season by playing the London Bunyan, at Bedford Park. Our opponents batted first, but were soon in difficulties against the bowling of Fuggle, who took eight wickets for fourteen runs, and they were finally dismissed for fifty-one runs. We then batted and the fifth wicket fell for forty-seven runs, leaving us five runs to gain for victory; but a collapse followed, the last six batsmen failing to score. Although Wood and Fuggle had batted well, scoring nineteen and thirteen respectively, we lost by four runs.

Our next match was against Mr. Blake's Junior XI. We batted first, but owing to good bowling by our opponents, we were dismissed for thirty-one runs, Bullen being the top scorer with eleven runs. They then batted, but good bowling by Wood and Shearer dismissed them for forty-one runs, Wood taking five wickets for fourteen runs, and Shearer three wickets for four.

The third match was against the Owen's School, who won the toss and decided to field. Wickets began to fall quickly but a stand was made by Morris and Hood, Morris scoring twenty runs, and Hood fifteen runs, and thus the last wicket fell for fifty-eight runs. The Owen's team batted quite well but Wood bowled excellently,



and they were eventually all out for thirty-seven; our first victory thus resulted in a win by twenty-one runs.

Our fourth match was played at the Bedford School where we batted first. Wickets fell quickly, but after the ninth wicket had fallen for thirty-two runs, a stand was made by Simpson and Roberts, the latter of whom managed to keep his end up while Simpson scored. Roberts was finally caught, our score being sixty-two, of which Simpson had scored twenty-nine runs not out. The Bedford School then batted and reached the score of forty for only four wickets down, but three wickets then fell with only four more runs scored. Runs were scored slowly, but surely, and our total was passed with two wickets to spare, the tenth wicket falling at seventy-two, making the Bedford School the victors by ten runs.

Our next fixture was with Goldington Road School. We won the toss and batted first, scoring sixty-one runs. Fuggle, Bullen and Wood scored seventeen, sixteen and eleven respectively. The opposing team went in and were dismissed for fifty, Wood taking five wickets for seventeen, and thus we won by eleven runs.

On June 25th, we played a return match against the London Bunyan School, Wood, Simpson, Morris and Shearer batting well, and each managing to reach double figures. The London School then batted and were all out for sixty runs, Wood taking four wickets for twenty-one, and Fuggle five wickets for fourteen. As our score had been eighty-four, we thus won by twenty-four runs.

On July 7th, we played Mr. Blake's Junior XI for the second time, and batting first managed to gain seventy runs, Fuggle scoring twenty-six and Morris fifteen. Our bowling was better than usual, and Mr. Blake's XI was dismissed for thirty-seven, thus making us the victors by thirty-three runs. This was certainly one of our most successful matches.

Our last match of the season was played against Mr. Blake's Junior XI, and batting first we scored seventy-four runs, Morris scoring thirty-three and Bullen thirteen. The opposing team batted equally well, and after a thrilling finish we won by one run.

Out of the eight matches played during the season we won five, including the last four. At the beginning of the season our batting was erratic, but it greatly improved in later matches. Wood and Fuggle bowled steadily throughout the season, while Morris proved a reliable wicket-keeper.

L.F.

## TENNIS REPORT

SUMMER, 1942

This season has, on the whole, been a successful one, after a somewhat shaky beginning. The standard of play has certainly risen, and colours have been awarded to Valerie Finch, while mention must be made of Helen Mills who has well earned her place in the team, and of Joan Hoad's steady play during the latter part of the season.

The following girls have played in matches.

1st Team—J. Beasley (captain), J. Bull, V. Finch, H. Mills, E. Munday, J. Terry, J. Hoad, J. Dunster.

2nd Team—J. Dunster, B. Ford, J. Hoad, K. Batehup, J. Terry, R. Morris.

15 and Under Team—V. Finch, H. Mills, J. Hoad, K. Batehup, J. Terry, R. Morris.

Junior Team—B. Ford, P. Whiting, S. Gain, B. Catt, I. Farrant, P. Turner.

### MATCH RESULTS

#### 1ST TEAM :—

v. Modern School	Lost	38—61
v. Modern School	Lost	41—58
v. King's Warren School	Won	54—45
v. Convent School	Won	56—43
v. Convent School	Won	60—39
v. Eastbourne High School	Won	58—41
v. St. Andrew's	Draw	5 sets all
v. St. Andrew's	Lost	46—53
v. Owen's School	Lost	38—61
v. Owen's School	Lost	31—68
v. R.G.S. Boys	Won	65—34

#### 2ND TEAM :—

v. Modern School	Lost	43—56
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#### 15 AND UNDER TEAM :—

v. Modern School	Won	54—45
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#### JUNIOR TEAM :—

v. Modern School	Lost	28—53
	Miss O. M. THOMAS.	



## FARMING

As all pupils and most parents and foster-parents will know, the pupils of Rye Grammar School have been helping on the land, at the farm of Mr. J. H. Joyce. As a matter of fact, several boys have been going regularly since November, 1940.

The farm, which is called Woodfield Farm, is situated in the small village of Renhold, about three miles out of Bedford. It is largely an arable farm on heavy land of about 230 acres in extent, but it supports a dairy herd of about thirty head.

Last year quite a number of boys helped on the farm, but the numbers this year have greatly increased. Girls as well as boys have gone, and have proved themselves capable and efficient. The majority have been drawn from Forms IIIa and IV.

The chief tasks that had to be tackled were hoeing and weeding. The former arduous task was by far the greater, due to the large acreage of roots and market garden crops being grown, such as green peas, sugar beet, potatoes, brussels sprouts, flax and mangolds. Earlier in the season a stalwart few were engaged in manure carting—not so unpleasant as it sounds—and covered something like eight acres.

Such other jobs as horse-hoeing and hay-making have been tackled by boys who have proved themselves more capable than the majority.

On the whole, these pupils have been very useful and have contributed to the much-talked-of war effort, and it is to be hoped that they will continue. Also, the work is a useful outlet of spare energy, and a source of pocket money in spite of the insurance levy of one penny in the shilling.

P. J. MEAD.

## THE LIBRARY

The usual steady work has been done by the members of the Library Guild this term, a general book-check having been accomplished and much cataloguing done. Joyce Hulbert, who has worked so well and enthusiastically for the Library, will be greatly missed and the members of the Guild wish her success in her future undertakings.

New or second-hand books are always gratefully received by the Library, and we hope that the members who are leaving this term

will follow out the old tradition of presenting a book to the Library. Paulina Metianu has already presented *Britain's Mountain Heritage*, by Arthur Gardner, and H. E. G. Kennard has presented *General and Regional Geography*, by J. F. Unstead and E. G. R. Taylor. R. G. Burnett has kindly sent a donation for which we wish to thank him. Among other books bought during the term were several on American history and political affairs, which will be found valuable to all who wish to know more of our ally.

J.S.L.P.

## LETTERS TO THE SCHOOL

Woodfield Farm,  
Renhold, Bedford.

Dear Mr. Jacobs,

I am writing you to express my very deep appreciation for the help you have given me this year, and in the past.

I can assure you our programme of work this summer would have been impossible, but for your very generous help. Please accept my best thanks.

I would like also to extend my thanks to the Masters and Mistresses who have come out and co-operated so whole-heartedly under very arduous conditions.

I would like too, to express thanks to the girls and boys who have worked so hard and enthusiastically on some very monotonous work.

Some of the work done is pea hoeing, 4 acres; flax weeding, 20 acres; sugar-beet hoeing and singling, 7 acres; Kale weeding, 4 acres; mangold hoeing and singling, 4 acres; potato dropping and weeding, 8 acres; help given in horse-hoeing, pea-picking and hay harvest.

I trust you will all have a restful and good holiday.

Yours sincerely,  
(signed) J. H. JOYCE.

The Food Office,  
Town Hall, Bedford.

To A. R. Jacobs, Esq., M.A.

Dear Sir,

I would like to express my grateful thanks to you for allowing your pupils to assist in the issue of the new Ration Books.



This work they performed quickly and efficiently, which greatly contributed towards the accomplishment in scheduled time of a large amount of extra work undertaken by my staff.

I shall be obliged if you will convey my appreciation to the pupils concerned.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) H. DARLOW,

Food Executive Officer, Borough of Bedford.

## ON GOING TO BED

Now, most people find it difficult to appreciate the pleasure of leaving the games and freedom of a summer evening, or the cosy fireside of the winter evening, to retire to bed. "Bed-time," and one thinks of all the horrors of that crawl upstairs, the visit to the bathroom, and finally, the agonizing process of affixing one's curlers—and all this for what? The delight of tossing and turning on a heated bed on an oppressive summer night, or to shake and shiver with cold, as the rain patters against rattling windows, while thunder growling in the distance suddenly develops into most unnerving claps, and the wind whistling down the chimney calls to mind the most ghastly ghost story ever heard. It is not sleeping that one kicks against, it is *preparing* for sleep.

But what a difference there is when there are two people to perform this solemn ritual together! Listen—"Goodnight—Goodnight!" and the door is shut. At the foot of the stairs—"After you Claude," "No, after you Cecil." "No Claude, I trusted you last night, it's your turn to take your chance *en route*!"

"Oh, well—if my trust is misplaced—just remember that the water in the tap is *very* wet!"

That is the business of stair-climbing over, but that is only the beginning. The bedroom door is opened and with gasps of horror, Claudia and Cecilia realize that there is still the afternoon's muddle on the bed from "tidying the drawers"! And the feather bed will have to be made again (!) because either Claudia or Cecilia collapsed most forcibly (with a little assistance) right in the centre of the mattress. (If it was Claudia last time it will be Cecilia next!). Muddles are disposed of—don't ask how, when, or where—and the bathroom stage is nearing completion when Cecilia most suddenly

announces, "Claudia, I'm going to brush your hair to-night!" "W'are yer!" is the smothered retort from the depths of a bath towel. From the tone one would judge that Claudia fully understood the meaning of that remark. Two minutes later finds poor Claudia on her knees, and from the clashes of wood, and the cries of "Mercy!" one judges that Cecilia got her own way. After half-an-hour's torture, including mathematical precision as to the position of the parting, the last curler is securely if not comfortably fixed. All that remains to be done is to climb into bed and fall asleep. That's what Claudia thinks! With a wistful sigh she turns for a preparatory and loving gaze at the waiting softness of the feather bed—and what does she see? Why, Cecilia stretched across the width of the bed, defying admittance! With the speed and accuracy of a British dive-bomber over Bremen, Claudia scores a direct hit in the glucose manufacturing centre of Cecilia. The explosion is loud and long, resulting in immediate evacuation. The enemy takes possession—cautiously—anticipating a strong counter-attack. A sugary voice inquires "Claudia, did you hit me just now?" The reply (with great innocence), "I don't *think* so."

"Poor Claudia, your memory gets worse and worse, just try to remember whether you did or not, because I should hate to give you a swipe which you did not realize you deserved!" The bed began visibly to shake—especially the half which Claudia occupied! Cecilia jumped out of bed—*over* Claudia, immediately relieving the latter's fears by merely closing a rattling window. Then with the agility of a rheumatic ape she returns the same way, to Claudia's discomfiture, accompanied by a most expressive "Oof" followed by a forcible propulsion which lands Cecilia just a few inches too far in the other direction. The "All Clear" sounds five minutes later when the "Movement of the Law" is heard below, and an expositulating voice is heard from the head of the stairs.

Quietness reigns and the gentle drops soon lull the two girls to sleep. The hours of the night pass peacefully by, and occasionally Cecilia turns and mumbles in her sleep. Suddenly, Claudia is rudely awakened by the forceful removal of her pillow, and sitting up, watches it disappear under the head of the still sleeping Cecilia. Regretfully she gets out of bed, softly, so as not to wake Cecilia, and producing her dressing gown, prepares it to take the place of her pillow. Sinking her head into this harder softness Claudia is just dozing off again when the performance is repeated, and poor



Claudia receives a bang because the mattress is not where it ought to be. Again she gets out of bed, but flies back as she sees signs of Cecilia turning over, and lands in bed just in time to save her lawful share of bed. Bravely resolving to do without her share of pillow, Claudia merely requires a few bedclothes, which, when she tugs refuse to co-operate by complying with her requests. For all her valiant efforts Cecilia wakes, and starts grumbling because she has got a stiff neck through having too high a pillow—"and why in the deuce can't they do without the bolster?"

Claudia fainted on the spot, and with a look of great compassion Cecilia revived her with a pillow distributed evenly over Claudia's head. The result was instantaneous. Claudia declared and proved that she was perfectly fit. Pillows were restored to rightful positions after much shaking and bumping, and sleepy heads were only too glad to drop on to their softness.

The next sound to disturb the stillness was a gentle tap on the door, and a gentle voice is heard, "Come along girls." More mumbling—but I am forgetting, this was an essay on going to bed, not getting up!

GEMINI.

## POETS' CORNER

### AGE AND YOUTH

(With apologies to Lewis Carroll)

"You are old, Adolf Hitler," the young man said,  
 "And your hair has become very grey,  
 Yet your running, I hear, is as fleet as a deer,  
 Now what is the reason, I pray?"

"In my youth a Dictator was I," he replied,  
 "With the Russians I caused a great strife,  
 And the marvellous speed which the winter snows freed  
 Has lasted the rest of my life."

"You are ancient, my friend, and too weak are your teeth  
 To chew anything harder than fowl,  
 How on earth can your jaws crunch the bones, beak and claws  
 Of that solemn and wise bird the owl?"

"In that war with the Russians, I nearly was starved,  
 And I longed for a lovely beef stew,

So now, after that, I dare bet you my hat  
 I'd think nothing of eating a screw."

"You're a relic, old chap, as I mentioned just now,  
 Yet your voice is as loud as before.  
 Your moustache which was dark, is not worth a remark  
 'Twas a thing you once used to adore."

"In reply to the former, we all had to shout  
 When the English 'Cologne-ised' each city;  
 And as for the last, I am really downcast  
 'Tis the only way I can rouse pity."

"You are old and you're thin; almost bald is your pate,  
 And your grand-daughter's stronger than you,  
 So please tell me why you can jump six feet high,  
 Yet you faint at the sight of a Jew."

"I have answered four questions and that is enough,  
 You young monkey, don't try to be cute.  
 Such foolishness bores, so just get out of doors  
 Or you'll feel the full force of my boot."

R. E. HULBERT, FORM IIIa.

### TO THE MERCHANT NAVY

The Allies rarely think about the Allied Merchant Fleet,  
 Working in the freezing cold or else in scorching heat:  
 They sail where Nazi submarines are waiting to destroy  
 All unwary merchant ships, alone or in convoy.

They also risk the peril of the silent unseen mine,  
 And long range Focke Wulfe bombers that patrol each shipping  
 line;  
 Great is the joy in British homes for a mariner returned  
 To see familiar faces, take the rest so truly earned.

And so this famous service still strives to carry on;  
 To make quite sure that victory will certainly be won.  
 So when you think of the Forces, please don't forget these men,  
 The terror of our enemies, who sail and sail again.

A. SHEARER, FORM IIr.



## EXPOSTULATION AND REPLY

In the early hours of June 30th a few flares, H.E.s and incendiary bombs were dropped. We wonder if this was the type of thing heard next day.

"Sir, my homework is not done, sir, I'm afraid ;  
And the reason, sir, is last night's awful raid.  
But I always try to please, sir,  
And I'm certain you will see, sir,  
That my thoughts from off my homework often strayed."

"Then I'm very much displeased with you, my lad,  
And I think I'll write a letter to your Dad ;  
For by now you ought to know, boy,  
If your work you cannot show, boy,  
That it makes my feelings anything but glad."

"But the 'planes, sir, roaring over all night through !  
I could not concentrate on what I had to do ;  
And the bombs all raining down, sir,  
Over all parts of the town, sir,  
Were distracting, sir ; you must admit it's true."

"But the work set was as simple as could be ;  
You should have finished it before you had your tea ;  
So you really ought to try, lad,  
For I cannot pass it by, lad,  
As I'm certain that your father will agree !"

"Don't write a letter to my father, sir, I pray,  
For he went to join the Army yesterday ;  
And the reason is, you know, sir,  
Why my work I cannot show, sir,  
That he did my homework for me every day !"

G. G. SMITH.

## NATURE'S DAY

The bee flew into the mist of scent  
Around the linden tree.  
He lingered awhile before he went,  
And the hours of daylight were almost spent  
When he left the linden tree.

The yellow blossoms swung idly there ;  
The bee buzzed softly by ;  
Light and scent were filling the air,  
And the world seemed almost without a care  
As the bee again buzzed by.

The blossoms fell as the days passed by  
And the drowsy drones all died.  
The leaves blew down from the linden high,  
Summer was gone and winter was nigh,  
Nature wept at her eventide.

PAULINA METIANU.

## A FORTNIGHT'S TOUR

A few years ago I spent a very enjoyable touring holiday. We rose at five o'clock one morning and swiftly bundled into a car, which was to carry us many miles in the next fortnight.

Leaving London behind us, we crossed Surrey and, at about eight o'clock, halted for a picnic-breakfast on a common near Bagshot—just as the rest of the world seemed to be awakening and the mists of early morning lifted to reveal a lovely July day to come.

That morning we traversed Hampshire and entered that monotonous stretch of country known as Salisbury Plain. At last the long-anticipated Stonehenge was reached. We stopped here for lunch, and, while admiring the great monument, wondered however the Ancient Britons could have erected it. Leaving Wiltshire, we entered Somerset at the town of Frome, and, having refuelled the car, went on to the old cathedral town of Wells. After admiring the cathedral and its remarkable clocks, we walked round the moat protecting the Bishop's Castle, a formidable place.

Soon after leaving this town we came to grey cliffs flanking the road, and streams running across it, and knew that we were nearing our destination, Cheddar. After arriving there and paying justice to an excellent tea, we walked in such a direction as to gain the top of the cliffs from the back. After obtaining a wonderful, though frightening, view from the summit, we descended into the famous Cheddar Gorge, by way of a flight of steps known as "Jacob's Ladder" (I tried to count the steps, but abandoned the attempt after about two hundred). As we walked back towards the village,



we went into the caves, although they were very cold, in which marvellous effects were given by the stalactites and stalagmites. Walking back to the village, we noted that every single shop that Cheddar boasted, sold cheese, besides its own special wares. Even then we seemed not able to escape cheese, for entering the dining-room for supper, we found an eleven-pounder on the table.

Next day we travelled across Somerset, and in the evening arrived at Dunster, a beautiful little village, with its castle on a hill behind it, a stream running along the side of the village street and the ancient cloth-market in the centre of the village. We spent the night at a farm near this place, and next day went on to Minehead and Porlock.

We were getting into that part of the country where the plot of Blackmore's *Lorna Doone* is set. We lunched in the Doone Valley and afterwards went into the tiny church at Oare. Here we were shown a window, supposedly that through which Carver Doone shot at Lorna on her wedding day.

This country of Exmoor is covered with great hills and later we had the ordeal of descending Countisbury Hill. The road is but a steep, narrow ledge, for on one side of it the cliff rises sheer, and on the other side it drops hundreds of feet to the sea. At the bottom of the road is a narrow bridge at a treacherous curve. We had descended this hill to get to Lynmouth at its foot, but found the town a rather terrifying place, hemmed in by great tree-clad hills dropping to the encircling sea. Other places we visited were Woolacombe, a pleasant seaside town, and Barnstaple, which I did not like—a muddy, grimy place it seemed after the beautiful country we had just left.

Next, we entered some more lovely country, passing through Bideford, and that famous spot, Clovelly. This village consists of a winding, cobbled street which you may descend on a donkey to the jetty encircling the small harbour. This now peaceful village was once a notorious haunt of wreckers, who robbed the survivors of any wrecks, and then threw their bodies from the cliff-tops into the sea.

At this point we turned South East, and regretting that we were not to visit Cornwall, struck out across country to Lyme Regis. The country now became more like that to which I am used, and as we continued eastward along the South Coast I looked back thankfully to the West for an entirely new type of holiday, and for revealing to me so many strange and alluring places.

JEAN POPE.

## OVERHEARD IN THE EDITORIAL OFFICE

Really, Miss Fotheringay, I can hardly agree with you on this point. You claim three years and three months' back-wages, but the ledger definitely states three years and two months. After all, you can hardly deny that it is correct, since you look after the books yourself.

As for you, Perkins, I'm surprised that you should be asking for wages at this time. Why, you've only been working here for a mere two years—you're nothing more than a probationer. Asking for a rise, too! Well, well! I refer you to your common sense, Perkins, (if you have any, that is). How can you possibly demand a rise when you haven't yet started earning anything? It's beyond the bounds of reason—quite preposterous, in fact!

So, Miss Fotheringay, you would throw a bottle of ink at me, would you? Very well—that means a fine.

Of course, this is where all your wages disappear. I could add up quite an imposing list and you wouldn't be at all surprised that you never had any wages. There was the time, Miss Fotheringay, when you fell down the stairs, damaging one typewriter, one chair, and ruining seven ledgers and three files. That cost you just over ten pounds—not including the paint-work which had to be restored. Then there was the time, Miss Fotheringay, when you were the cause of my cheese ration being eaten by a mouse—that cost you three pounds ten; and the occasion when you both locked me in the air-raid shelter cost you thirty pounds combined wages and damages. There was also the time, Perkins, when you covered me with soot from the office chimney, and another when you dropped five paper-weights and two typewriters on my feet—one of your numerous daily "accidents." That cost you five pounds. This last frivolity of yours, Miss Fotheringay, will amount to three pounds and seven shillings, plus one clothing coupon for a new handkerchief.

Now, Perkins and Miss Fotheringay, do you still ask for back wages? I tell you that your demands are quite unreasonable.

So you will find work elsewhere, will you? Nobody else would ever stand for your whims and silly behaviour.



No, don't go, Miss Fotheringay and Perkins, I will try to get you some money, really I will.

Oh! Perkins has gone.

Miss Fotheringay, you can't leave me to do all the work by myself; you mustn't go. I beg you to remain. Please change your mind and close the door. Words fail me—for this crafty trick you will never rest easy.

Farewell! By the way, perhaps as you go out you will just throw in the cat!

## OLD SCHOLARS

The Old Scholars' Association continues to flourish and the Easter Re-union was held at the George Hotel, Rye, as usual. The Secretary displays much zeal in his efforts to keep all members in touch with one another, and the *Bulletin* plays a great part in connection with this difficult task. The School also serves as an important link and this term we are pleased to be able to acknowledge the following list of letters which we have received from:—P. Abbott, Winnie Allen, G. T. Ashdown, W. Dunlop (Secretary of the O.S.A.), C. W. Fowler, J. Green, Pat Green, Mary Isaac, Marjorie Jezzard, J. Mewse, A. F. Law, O. Schofield, A. F. Smith, Margery Smith, A. J. W. Third, and R. Trott.

Marjorie Jezzard's letter gave us the sad news that another of our Old Girls, Ivy Etteridge, was killed by a bomb while on duty in her capacity as nurse in the South West of England. With our deep grief we could not help mingling some pride that one of our ex-scholars should have given her life for such a noble work in such circumstances. In their sad loss our very deep sympathies go out to all the relations and friends of Ivy, and we sincerely hope that they will find every strength to help them through such distressing times.

Three old scholars have visited the School at Ixworth Court during the term:—Margery Smith, who left only a short time ago and who is now serving with the A.T.S., Barbara Ellis, whom we were pleased to see at our Athletic Sports, and O. W. Schofield, who has fulfilled an old desire, being now in the Royal Tank Regiment and hoping to be in action soon.

## THE SECOND WORLD WAR

### RYE GRAMMAR SCHOOL ROLL OF HONOUR

J. Adcock	R.A.F.	Pamela Dale	W.A.A.F.
P. Allen	R.A.F.	A. V. Delame	R.A.F.
W. Allen	R.S. Rgt.	W. Dennis	R.A.
C. J. G. Archer	R.E.	P. Douglas	R.N.
J. W. Archer	R.C.S.	A. Dunlop	R.A.O.C.
H. Ashbee	R.A.F.	M. Eldridge	R.A.F.
S. Ashdown	5th R.S. Rgt.	A. Ellis	R.E.
*C. Austin	R.A.F.	K. Ellis	R.A.F.
R. Axell	R.A.F.	A. Elphick	R.N.
D. L. Baker	R.A.F.	*Ivy Etteridge	
T. Baker	R.A.F.	H. Farley	R.A.F.
D. Baker		Joan Farley	W.A.A.F.
P. Barling	R.A.F.	G. Filmer	R.A.F.
C. Barling	R.A.	J. Flanagan	5th R.S. Rgt.
S. Barnard		F. J. Ford	R.A.F.
R. Barnard	R.S. Rgt.	J. Ford	
P. Barnes		G. Fowler	R.A.S.C.
A. Barnes		E. N. Francis	R.A.F.
R. Bates	R.A.F.	R. Gall	R.A.F.
L. Beeney	R.A.F.	H. R. Geering	R.A.F.
G. Bellhouse		A. Glazier	R.S.Rgt.
L. F. Belton	R.A.F.	E. Goddard	
T. L. Berry	R.S. Rgt.	H. Gower	R.A.O.C.
E. T. Biddle	R.N.	Pat Green	W.A.A.F.
G. Braine	R.A.	J. Green	R.A.F.
A. Breeds	R.N.	R. Hackman	R.A.F.
R. Breeds	R.A.F.	B. Hackman	R.A.F.
D. Breeds	R.S.Rgt.	A. Harrow	R.N.
R. Brown	R.N.	R. M. Hawkey	
*J. Buchanan	R.A.F.	W. Head	A.P.C.
G. Bumstead	R.A.M.C.	G. Hickman	5th R.S. Rgt.
L. Butler	R.S.Rgt.	*H. Hinde	
J. Carey	R.A.F.	Betty Hinge	W.A.A.F.
H. Cheesman		S. W. Hinge	R.A.F.
L. J. Clarke	R.N.	R. Hole	R.N.
Jessie Coley	A.T.S.	J. Hubbard	
Mable Collins	W.A.A.F.	A. Hunter	R.A.F.
F. Cooke	5th R.S. Rgt.	M. Hunter	R.A.F.
R. Cooper	R.A.F.	R. J. Huxstep	R.A.F.
*P. Couch	R.N. (A)	Marjorie Jezzard	A.T.S.
Mary Crisford	W.A.A.F.	Dorothy Jezzard	W.A.A.F.
R. D. Cumming	R.A.F.	C. Jones	R.N.
G. B. Cumming	R.A.F.	Esme Kerr	W.A.A.F.
J. Cunningham	R.A.F.	P. Kiley	R.N.



A. Law	R.A.F.	J. Smith	
R. Leeson	R.E.	G. Smith	R.A.S.C.
T. Luck	R.S.Rgt.	G. R. Smith	R.E.
J. Mewse		W. M. Smith	R.A.F.
H. Milham	R.A.F.	Margery Smith	A.T.S.
Christine Mills	W.R.N.S.	Jean Smith	A.N.S.
T. Montague	R.A.F.	H. R. Spedding	
*R. S. Morford	R.S. Rgt.	Betty Standen	W.A.A.F.
Betty Mouat	W.A.A.F.	K. Stewart	
*J. Nash	R.A.F.	A. E. Swaine	R.W. K. Rgt.
M. Neeves		F. Sylvester	
J. P. Nunn		T. E. Tighe	R.A.F.
L. Offen	R.A.F.	F. Tolhurst	R.A.F.
D. Pellet	R.A.	V. Tomlin	R.E.
T. Phillips	R.A.F.	R. Trott	5th R.S. Rgt.
A. N. Purkis	R.N.	H. Tunbridge	R.A.F.
J. Richards	R.E.	R. Turner	R.E.
F. Rook	R.N.	Rev. C. Ulliyat	A.C.D.
Helen Rook	A.T.S.	H. Waterhouse	R.A.F.
A. Sands	R.E.	H. I. O. Watson	
O. W. Schofield	R.T.R.	H. Watson	
R. M. Shearcroft	R.A.F.	Beryl Winter	W.A.A.F.
T. Shearer	R.A.F.	J. Woolven	R.A.F.
A. F. Smith		J. Worsley	R.A.F.

\*Denotes killed on active service.

## THE WILL OF ANDREW HATCHEN

Recent months have seen some interesting discoveries by Mr. L. A. Vidler, of Rye, who is still carrying on his research work into the history of the old town. An old document which has been found is the Will of one, Andrew Hatchen, who lived during the sixteenth century, and who is of special interest to the School as it may yet be proved that he was one of our earliest benefactors.

The passage of particular importance runs as follows :—

"May 10th, 1560. I give and bequeath towards the buildyng and furnishing of a Grammar Scoole to be erected with hyn the said Towne of Rye, the some of five Pounds of usual money of Englande, the same to be distributed when the said Scoole House shall be a buildyng."

It has always been considered beyond doubt that Rye Grammar School was founded in 1638, but since there is a mention of it

seventy-eight years earlier, we may be on the verge of further discoveries which will reveal that the School is even older than has hitherto been thought. In this case we can look forward to the day when, in the School Commemoration Hymn, we shall sing "five hundred years enduring" instead of "three hundred years."

## TO FRIENDS AND OLD SCHOLARS

Copies of back numbers of *Nova Rya* are still obtainable and the Editors are always pleased to forward copies to those who desire them. News of old scholars who have not recently figured in the magazine or the *News Bulletin* is always gratefully received.

Our address remains :—

Ixworth Court,  
41 Kimbolton Road,  
Bedford, Beds.



