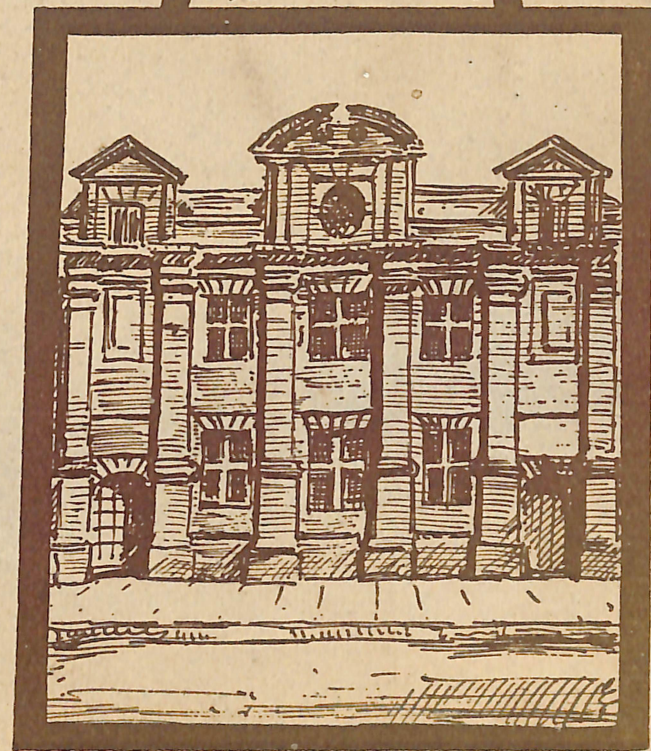


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MAGAZINE OF RYE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

SPRING
1959

EDITORIAL

The present edition of 'Rya' is as a messenger before the face of its successor, which to mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of the admittance of girls to Rye Grammar School is to be very much larger and more enterprising. It is therefore fitting that this issue should be so depleted, as it minimises the chance of out-Heroding Herod, and by drastically reducing the number of original contributions trusts to build up a store of inspired articles for the Jubilee Edition. This, all being well, will be published before the end of July. Critics must accordingly reserve their judgement and comments for then.

Of all the many aspects of school life, the Magazine receives the most criticism—criticism, moreover, of a singularly unhelpful and destructive nature. The main argument appears to be that the tone is not light enough. For this, the Editors are blamed. 'Whoi can't some of the Good Chaps be Editors?' is a question frequently asked. The answer is that the primary purpose of a school magazine is not to amuse its readers, but to publish school news on the one hand, and a selection of the best literary efforts on the other. The job of the Editors is to select the original articles—(these are judged purely by literary standards; no prejudices as regards subject matter are permitted)—and to correct any errors which may occur. To judge by the articles submitted by Good Chaps, the individuals in question have but the slightest acquaintance with English Grammar and Syntax, much less with the orthography of their native tongue.

The real responsibility for the popularity of the School Magazine lies with each and every member of the School. If amusing articles are desired, it is the business of the authors to see that they are acceptable. To be at all amusing, an article must be well written. Most of the 'funny' contributions received by the Editors are so pathetic in their revelation of the writers' mentality that even if all other things were equal—and they never are—it would be unkind to print them.

No, those who thrive only on 'jokes' must look elsewhere for their entertainment. The fact that they want this sort of amusement is in itself sad evidence of the lack of maturity of their outlook and intellect. But it is a poor prospect facing England when pupils of her Grammar Schools cannot bring themselves to read serious articles, much less to have any regard for the basic qualities of literature.

All this is not to say that the Editors would not welcome criticism, but it must be constructive. This is your magazine: it is up to you to write it as you want it, and as befits the public manifesto of Rye Grammar School.

HOUSE REPORTS

PEACOCKE

House Master : Mr. Thompson
House Mistress : Miss Allen
Boys' Captain : J. Ellis
Girls' Captain : Patricia Gear
Secretary : P. Saville
Treasurer : R. Waters
Prefects :—Pat Gear, Audrey Wisdom, Judith Walker,
J. Ellis, A Bromham (School Captain), R. Harrison,
R. Seeley

The House has not distinguished itself this term. After many unforeseen difficulties, we are now sharing with another donor the support of a leper boy. This was made necessary by the increase of the subscription from five guineas to ten pounds. It has been proposed that we should buy a House Honours Book, in which the names of officers and any members gaining special awards will be inserted. The cost, however, will be about fourteen pounds, and if this is to be realised, there must be a marked improvement in the collections next term. We also hope to see an improvement in our position in the Work and Merit Competition, as we have been at the bottom for a considerable length of time. In the only House Match played this term, the senior football team lost one-nil to Sanders, but the boys must be congratulated on winning the Cross-country Running Shield.

Finally, we owe our thanks to Miss Allen and Mr. Thompson for their support and encouragement throughout the term.

MERYON

House Master : Mr. S. H. Allnutt
House Mistress : Miss M. Topliss
Boys' Captain : M. A. Jarvis
Girls' Captain : Faith Wigzell
Secretary : N. J. Hance
Treasurer : Geraldine Saunders
Prefects :—Faith Wigzell, Geraldine Saunders, Barbara Ashbee, Monica Pearson, Linda Dixon, M. A. Jarvis, N. J. Hance, R. Stanton

Meryon began the term well, by winning both the Upper School football matches and gaining second place in the netball competition. The boys must be congratulated in gaining second place in the Cross-country running finals, an improvement on recent years. We have not been so fortunate in receiving ideas for raising money for the Pavilion Fund. The Secretary has received a further letter from Miss Lumb,

to whom we send our best wishes. The House especially congratulates Roy Stanton, who has won a Flying Scholarship, and is to go on a five weeks' training course during Easter. We thank Miss Topliss and Mr. Allnutt, for their unfailing support to the house.

SANDERS

House Master : Mr. D. P. Darby
House Mistress : Miss H. Dann
Boys' Captain : M. Greenhalgh
Girls' Captain : Margaret Harris
Secretary : Mary Small
Treasurer : H. Bourn
Prefects :—Norma Carr (School Captain), Margaret Harris ; Hilary Ripley, Mary Small, H. Bourn, M. Greenhalgh, R. Tracey, R. White

The House has not been very successful this term, but this has not been due to any lack of effort. We were placed third in the Cross Country and in the football matches so far played, the 1st XI beat Peacocke 1-0 and lost to Meryon 3-2.

We are continuing to send the 'Spectator' to John Beckingham, and are now contributing £5 to the upkeep of the leper child. We have been forced to share our support with another donor now that the contribution has been raised from 5 guineas to £10.

With the promotion of Norma Carr to School Captain, Margaret Harris was elected to the post of full Captain of the House.

We would all like to thank Miss Dann and Mr. Darby for their continued help and support.

Before this went to press it was announced that Sanders had won the Hockey Shield. We wish to congratulate all players, especially those in the 2nd Eleven who won both their matches.

SALTCOTE PLACE REPORT

This term, the boarders of Saltcote Place were pleased to welcome, as assistant Housemistress, Miss M. Hayter, whose white sports car has been a blessing to the injured, drenched, and heavily laden, besides providing an alibi for certain small boys with buckets of water and cleaning rags to visit their girl-friends at the House. The two prefects' posts vacated at the end of last term have been admirably filled by Vicki Davies and Pamela Sheppard.

Colds have been very prevalent this term but, with fewer girls, there has been a reduction in the consumption of Gee's Linctus.

After a frantic but very successful needlework effort it was felt that a change in the staple diet was necessary and so for the next few days we existed on Victoria Sandwich of several varieties, dry, soggy, flat, tasteless and occasionally risen.

This term we have been playing table tennis matches for the Leasam-Saltcote cup, kindly presented by Miss Warren and Mrs. Binnie. Out of the kindness of our maiden hearts, we have lent it to the Leasam boys before it becomes a permanent fixture on our mantelpiece.

During the last few weeks we have been pleased to entertain Miss Frear and Miss Wiggins who, we hope, have gained a favourable impression of life in a girls' boarding school; also Miss Nelson's niece who judged a fancy dress competition we had a few weeks ago, helping to make it a very enjoyable evening.

The cat has caused us some expense at half term by announcing its presence during a train journey and thus we received a bill for one shilling and ninepence from British Railways.

Our thanks, as always, are due to Miss Nelson, Miss Turner and Miss Hayter for their unfailing help and assistance.

LEASAM HOUSE REPORT

This term has been quite successful in both work and sport, and members of the house have represented the school in both cross-country and football teams. The table-tennis matches against Saltcote have been very enjoyable, and in spite of the handicap, we have kept our heads above water. It was hoped that Leasam would be able to play football and table-tennis against the School, but owing to unfavourable circumstances this was not possible. Perhaps they will accept our challenge at some later date.

This term the house prefects have been Walden, Boon, Jones, Reedman and Metianu. The last two were newly appointed this term. The Farm has been doing very well this year. At present lambing is in progress; this appears to be very successful. We have been helped by the good weather during February. Pig, poultry and dairy departments are also paying their way. We are co-operating with the Biology department in carrying out an experiment in sowing barley at different seed rates. It is hoped that this will be interesting educationally and may also indicate that less seed can be used while maintaining good yields.

We were glad to hear from Baker J., Baker S., Goodman and Standing and were pleased at their individual successes. We are always pleased to hear about the experiences of old Leasamians. As usual, our thanks are due to Mr. Anderson, Mr. White and Mr. Allmond for their unfailing help and guidance during the term, and to Matron and Mr. and Mrs. Mitson for providing such good food.

R. Walden

EDMUND RICE PIGROME, 1883-1959

I first became acquainted with E.R.P. when I was appointed to R.G.S. in 1922. E.R.P. as Senior Master took me under his wing, showed me great kindness, and we became and remained firm friends throughout.

He was born in 1883 at a time, it is now difficult to realise, when, even elementary education was not free. He was a man of great ability and pertinacity. He was educated at Horsham Grammar School, where he covered most of the work required for the Intermediate London Science Degree, and at Borough Road Training College. Soon afterwards he was teaching at the Varndean School, Brighton, having been rejected as unfit for military service. While at Brighton, he studied privately to complete his London Science Degree in 1919. He was appointed to R.G.S. in 1920. He continued his private studies to obtain the London B.A. Degree in 1922, and later attended vacation courses at Oxford to obtain his Education Diploma.

In spite of all this he still found time to make himself an accomplished pianist. But it was not a case of work only, for he was a useful member of the Rye Cricket XI in the 20's and early 30's and played chess for Sussex in County Contests. In his early years after leaving College he played Rugby for a famous club. He was a very sensitive and rather shy man and this made him appear to be rather aloof. Once this aloofness had been overcome E.R.P. became a warmhearted and loyal friend. He was the embodiment of solid achievement, and he hated shams, and abominated shallowness and "window dressing."

He could not "suffer fools gladly" and was capable of a cutting or scathing remark, but during the whole of the 25 years I was his intimate colleague, I never once saw him when he had not complete control over his emotions—he never lost his temper. He never, or very rarely, offered unsought advice, but was willing to give his opinion, after mature consideration, if required. His pupils always respected him and have cause to be grateful that they came under his influence.

It is difficult to realise that E.R.P. is gone. May he rest in peace.
J.J.B.

GIRLS' GAMES REPORT

Hockey

There have been few matches this season and considering the lack of practice in the former weeks, the 1st XI has been fairly successful.

The defence have played reasonably well, although sometimes they have been inclined to panic in the goal area. The forwards do not press the opposing defence enough, and consequently fewer goals than expected have been scored. The Team has been chosen from:—

B. Clarke, J. Maynard, J. Watkins, Y. Tinker, A. Dobbie (captain), G. Sewell, G. Lauder, M. Saunders, S. Roser, M. Cooke, A. Wisdom and B. Gorham.

The 2nd XI did not do well until the tournament at Ancaster House, where they came first in their section. They were chosen from the following :—

J. Cooke, V. Davies, F. Scott, H. Starns, J. Day, K. Eldridge, M. Bather, M. Barden, F. Rook, V. Sales (captain), J. Burton, L. Bates.

An Under 16 Team, picked from the First and Second XI's, played at the East Sussex Tournament, winning one match, drawing the second and losing the third. The Under 15 XI have played one match against the Convent of the Holy Child, which they lost 5-1. They also competed in the tournament at Southlands, and were placed 3rd out of eight teams. The team was chosen from :—

S. Mott, N. Inkpen, N. Leopold, L. Baker, P. Griffiths, V. Sales, L. Roberts, M. Townson, J. Bather, K. Hole, G. Foy.

The Under 14 XI also played at Southlands and tied for 7th place. They were chosen from :—

A. Saunders, M. Vidler, S. Morley, A. Norris, P. Horner, J. Horner, E. Clay, S. Lambert, G. Richardson, J. Grout, V. Kirkman.

Results	1st XI	2nd XI
v. Hastings High School . . .	Won 1-0	Drew 2-2
v. Ancaster House . . .	Lost 3-0	Lost
v. Bexhill Grammar . . .	Won 6-1	
v. Hastings High School . . .	Drew 1-1	Lost 2-0
v. Charters Towers . . .	Drew 3-3	Won 5-1

Tournament at Ancaster House

Results	1st XI	2nd XI
v. Charters Towers . . .	Drew 0-0	Won 1-0
v. Winceby House . . .	Drew 0-0	Won 1-0
v. Beehive . . .	Lost 1-0	
v. Convent of Our Lady . . .	Drew 0-0	
v. Ancaster House . . .		Drew 0-0

Colours were awarded to :—Gillian Lauder, Yvonne Tinker, Elizabeth Clarke, Alison Dobbie.

Netball

The Under 12 Team have played one match against the Convent of the Holy Child, losing it by 11 goals to 5. The team was chosen from :—E. Duncan, S. Wood, A. Leahy, M. Richards, M. Jones, S. Mitchell and J. Marriott.

Under 14 VII

A. Mephram, B. Moon, L. Cornwell, S. Morley, J. Grout, J. Taylor and P. Horner.

Under 13 VII

J. Roser, E. Duncan, R. Murdil, K. Hagan, D. MacLean, B. Dunn, R. Ward, H. Bather, L. Moth, D. Williams, M. Richards.

Results

	U.14 VII	U.13 VII
v. Hastings High School . . .	Lost 13-6	Lost 17-4
v. Southlands . . .	Won 12-10	Drew 8-8
v. Heathfield Secondary School . . .	Won 20-13	Won
v. Convent of the Holy Child . . .	Won	Lost
v. Ancaster House . . .	Lost	Lost
v. Bexhill Grammar School . . .	Lost 18-7	Lost 12-2
v. Hastings High School . . .	Lost 14-5	Lost 9-3

For the first time there was also an Under 12 VII. They were quite successful, winning two matches and losing one.

Colours were awarded to Janet Taylor.

FOOTBALL REPORT

This has been a very successful season for the First XI. Thirteen matches were played—nine were won, two were drawn and two were lost. The team has been handicapped by injuries throughout the season ; Fort was unable to play at the beginning of the season, and Jarvis M. and Seeley were unfit during the latter half of the season.

Consequently, the full team was only fielded on two occasions.

At Christmas we lost our goalkeeper, Goodman, as well as Baker S. and Baker J. who filled vacancies when necessary. For the first time for many years, we defeated both Hastings Grammar School and the Duke of York's School. Fort must be congratulated on playing for the Sussex Grammar Schools' Team for whom he scored two goals.

The team was selected from Baker J., Baker S., Blacklock, Bourne G., Clark (9), Ellis, Fort (5), Goodman (5), Goundry, Greenhalgh (2), Hills (2), Jarvis A., Jarvis M., Pennell, Reedman (1), Seeley (10), Swaine (7), Turner (2), Waters. (Goals in brackets. One own goal).

We are indebted to Mr. Allnutt for arranging the fixtures, and to Mr. Jones for giving up his time to coach us, and for his assistance with refereeing.

Results

First XI			
Ashford Grammar . . .	Away	Won	3-0
Eastbourne Grammar . . .	Away	Lost	0-4
Hastings Grammar . . .	Home	Drawn	1-1
Bexhill Grammar . . .	Home	Drawn	2-2
Hastings Grammar . . .	Away	Won	3-0
Bexhill Grammar . . .	Away	Won	7-0
Eastbourne Grammar . . .	Home	Lost	2-3
Brickwall . . .	Home	Won	9-0
Goudhurst . . .	Home	Won	10-1
Hastings Grammar . . .	Away	Won	3-2
Hastings Grammar . . .	Home	Won	2-1
Duke of York's . . .	Away	Won	2-0
Old Scholars' XI . . .	Home	Won	6-1

Second XI				
Ashford Grammar	.	Away	Won	6-0
Eastbourne Grammar	.	Away	Lost	3-4
Hastings Grammar	.	Away	Won	5-1
Hastings Grammar	.	Home	Won	3-1
Bexhill Grammar	.	Away	Lost	1-6
Bexhill Grammar	.	Home	Won	4-3
Eastbourne Grammar	.	Home	Lost	0-4
Goudhurst	.	Home	Won	4-3
Ashford North	.	Away	Drawn	2-2
Brickwall	.	Away	Drawn	1-1
Goudhurst	.	Home	Won	5-0
Goudhurst	.	Away	Won	3-2
Hastings Grammar	.	Away	Lost	0-3
Hastings Grammar	.	Home	Drawn	2-2
Ashford North	.	Home	Won	4-2
Duke of York's	.	Away	Lost	1-3

'A' XI				
Southlands	.	Home	Lost	0-2
Hastings Secondary Modern	.	Home	Lost	1-2
Homewood	.	Home	Lost	1-4
Homewood	.	Away	Lost	1-7
Southlands	.	Away	Lost	1-5
Goudhurst	.	Home	Won	6-0
Goudhurst	.	Away	Won	3-1
Bexhill Downs	.	Home	Lost	1-5

Under 15 XI				
Willingdon	cup	Away	Won	1-0
Heathfield	cup	Home	Drawn	0-0
Heathfield	cup	Away	Lost	0-4

Colours were awarded to :—Clark, Fort, Greenhalgh, Jarvis A., Swaine and renewed to Seeley and Jarvis M.

EAST SUSSEX SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

On Saturday 7th February, the first East Sussex Schools Cross-Country Championships were held at Heathfield County Secondary School. The championships were divided into three Sections—Juniors, over a $2\frac{1}{2}$ mile course ; Intermediates over a 3 mile course and Seniors over a $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile course. The races started and finished on the school field, and the courses included roads, fields and woodland tracks. Each team consisted of six runners but only the first four scored points. The scores were as follows :—

In the junior event there were 96 competitors ; Bexhill Grammar School won this section, and the school team was placed 8th. The

individual placings were :—Russell 15th, Searle 16th, Lavender 49th, Courage 54th, Polhill 59th and Catt 70th.

There were 25 runners in the Intermediate section, and our team did very well in winning by one point. The individual placings were :—Hayes 2nd, Metianu 3rd, Bourne 9th, Waters 12th, King 13th and Boon 14th. The Seniors were poorly represented, Bexhill only having a complete team. Greenhalgh, running as an individual, finished third.

INTER-SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP

On Wednesday, 4th March, the annual Inter-Schools Cross-Country Championships were held at Bexhill Grammar School. There were teams from Bexhill, Eastbourne, Gillingham, Hastings and Rye Grammar Schools and Eastbourne College. Each team consisted of six runners but only the first four scored points. Bexhill easily won the team event and we were placed 5th. The individual positions were :—Hayes 5th, Metianu 16th, Greenhalgh 22nd, Bourne 27th, Blackhall 29th and Waters 33rd. Hayes ran very well, finishing only 35 seconds behind the winner, in a time of 31 minutes 32 seconds. We should like to thank Mr. Boulwood for his help and encouragement.

THE CROSS-COUNTRY CLUB

At the beginning of the Spring Term, a Cross Country Club was formed by Mr. Boulwood. It met on Monday evenings, and its object was to stimulate interest throughout the school in his field of sport. The Club not only welcomed boys who were interested in racing across country but also those who wanted to achieve a peak of fitness for other sports. Although only a small number of boys attended regularly, it is felt that it will not be long before all members of the school realize the benefit gained from participating in this strenuous, but enjoyable pastime.

Several films on athletics, swimming and tennis have been shown this term during the long breaks. No admission fee was charged but those who attended contributed to a general Sports Fund, and over two pounds profit was made.

A.T.C. REPORT

At the present time, the squadron is only twenty-five strong. For a school in which there are 200 boys, this is a very small number indeed, and it is hoped that more recruits will join at the beginning of the new school year. The advantages and privileges offered to boys joining the A.T.C. are many and varied. There are opportunities for flying and gliding, and visits to various R.A.F. stations on Field Days and during Summer Camp. For instance, this year we shall be visiting

R.A.F. Kinloss in Scotland. All this is in addition to instruction given on interesting and useful subjects such as navigation, airmanship, meteorology and morse signalling.

This term has been fairly eventful with preparations for the Probationers to take their basic examinations, and the First Class Cadets to take their Proficiency examinations. A new rank has been introduced into the A.T.C., namely that of Cadet Warrant Officer. Flt./Sgt. R. Stanton was selected for this promotion, and is the first W.O. that the unit has ever welcomed. Congratulations to Mr. Stanton. As a result of this promotion Sgt. J. Ellis is promoted to Flt./Sgt.. W.O. Stanton has been awarded a Flying Scholarship, and his training commences during the Easter Holidays. During the course, he will be attached to Shoreham Flying Club.

Reciprocal Visits. Stanton, is now in the running to be included in a party of A.T.C. cadets, drawn from all over the British Isles, who will be selected to go on a three weeks visit to either the U.S.A. or Canada. He is due to appear for a final interview in the very near future. We wish him the best of luck.

We extend a very hearty welcome to Mr. Huxstep, who has joined us as a commissioned officer with the rank of Flying Officer. Mr Huxstep was a wartime navigator, gaining the D.F.C. while on active service. This officer will be giving instruction in navigation, meteorology and airmanship.

Field Day.... The Squadron visited Sussex Wing H.Q. After they had been inspected, the cadets were given a talk by the Wing Adjutant, Flt./Lt. Webster-Grenlin, M.B.E. The Cadets were then allowed some free time in which to look around Worthing. In the afternoon they were shown an interesting and entertaining film.

This month (March) marks the end of twelve years' service with the A.T.C., by the C.O., Flt./Lt. Mitchell. This period of unbroken service, if approved by the Air Ministry, qualifies the C.O. for a Long Service Medal.

The Annual Inspection will be held on Friday, 1st May at 4.30 p.m., and it is hoped that parents and friends will come along to witness the ceremonial parade.

SCOUT REPORT

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Mr. S. Jones as Treasurer of the troop and hope he will spend many years with us in this capacity. The continued growth of the troop has rendered the Scout Hut useless for meetings, but full use has been made of the facilities granted by the school. We are also grateful to the Headmaster of the Secondary Modern School for the use of his Assembly Hall.

A Senior Patrol has been formed and has proved its worth by taking over the organisation and the running of the troop meetings. It is

hoped that all members of this patrol will have attained 1st Class status by April of this year and will press on determinedly to be Queen's Scouts.

Monday, March 9th saw thirty-five scouts en route for Fairlight Glen, for Field Day activities. As far as is known, all had an enjoyable time. We hope the weather will be kinder to us this year than last, so that many week-end camps may take place.

Skip

GUIDE REPORT

This term we welcomed Miss Hayter as our new Lieutenant. As we are a large company, her arrival has proved very beneficial. Thinking Day was celebrated with the 1st Rye and Winchelsea Guides, with a party. Thinking Day pennies were collected during a ceremony at the end of the evening, and both Guides and guests enjoyed a camp fire.

Field Day was spent at Camber, where we all had a very enjoyable time although it was rather windy. Games were played on the sands, while the dunes proved very useful for stalking and other guide activities. On the whole, this term has been very successful, and we are now becoming a much stronger company, as a number of recruits have been enrolled.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

Our first meeting of the term was on February 4th, when the Rev. J. S. C. Miller, M.A., General Secretary of the Student Christian Movement in Schools, gave a talk on "What proof is there of the existence of God?" A number of interesting questions were asked afterwards.

Continuing our series of talks on the different denominations of the Church, the Rev. D. Brook, M.C., spoke on Methodism, on March the 11th. The last meeting of the term was held on March 18th, when Miss P. Hugill gave a talk, illustrated by lantern slides, on a journey she had made through the Holy Land.

We have sent off more milk tops and silver paper during the term and have forwarded the money received for them to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. We would like to thank all collectors. We all wish to thank Miss Getley and Mr. Gaunt for their unfailing support.

H. Ripley (Secretary)

LIBRARY REPORT

There have been many new books put into the Library this term, of which a number were presented by Mrs. Greenhalgh. We are very grateful for this kind gift. Amongst the other books were the following:

'The Story of the Second World War'—Katherine Savage

- 'Elephant Bill'—J. H. Williams
- 'Voyage of Mayflower II'—Warwick Charlton
- 'The King's War'—C. V. Wedgwood
- 'Greeks'—Grant and Pottinger
- 'The Lifeboat Story'—Patrick Howarth
- 'The Crossing of Antarctica'—Fuchs and Hillary
- 'Smoking and its Effects'—Sidney Russ
- 'English Parish Churches'—John Betjeman
- 'My Early Life'—Sir Winston Churchill
- 'Long Day's Journey into Night'—Eugene O'Neill
- 'Johnny Tremain'—Esther Forbes

BALLROOM DANCING SOCIETY

The members of the society would like to express their gratitude to the Headmaster for giving his consent to the formation of a Ballroom Dancing Society, following a recommendation passed by the School Committee. The main object of the society is to teach the boys to dance. The number of people wishing to join was so large, that there are now two groups attending classes on alternate Wednesdays. Group 'A' consists mainly of Upper School pupils and Group 'B' of Upper Middle School.

The first dancing session was held on Wednesday, 4th February, for group 'A' and the following week for group 'B.' A large percentage of the boys and all the girls of group 'A' knew the basic steps of the waltz and the quickstep, and so they have made more progress than the 'B' group where those that can dance are in the minority.

The seniors have been learning the natural and reverse turns of the waltz and quickstep, and the lockstep. In addition, one session was spent learning the cha-cha-cha. Meanwhile the Middle School have learnt the basic steps of the waltz and quickstep.

In order to obtain new records for future dances, a subscription of 3d. per session is collected from all members. We have bought two long-playing records by Victor Silvester and a cha-cha record. On Wednesday, March 11th, we held a final extended session for both groups. The Society will function again next winter.

We would like to thank Miss Redgwell and Mr. Gaunt for all the work they have put into the running of the society. Our thanks are also extended to Miss Wiggins and Miss Freear for their help, especially with the cha-cha-cha.

R. Tracey

WOODWORK SOCIETY REPORT

The Spring Term has proved most successful for the Woodwork Society, which has gained several new members, including six girls. The society is open to members of the Upper and Middle Schools, and now has a full complement of eighteen people. The six new girl members—Kay Eldridge, Margaret Bather, Kathleen Hole, Jennifer Bather, Gillian Foy and Sheila Buchan, are the first girls to join for over six years. Having completed their first job, a letter rack, they have started making a tray. Proficiency in handling tools has been reached and a high standard of work is kept. The other society members are making articles ranging from letter racks to a multi-purpose cabinet. These articles are the members' own design and are generally very good. The society would like to thank Mr. Thompson and Mr. Allmond for the time they give to help and advise us.

P. Hobson

THE METALWORK SOCIETY

The Metalwork Society has been running successfully this term. The numbers have increased to twenty members since last Spring and two members of staff have joined recently. Many different articles are in varying stages of construction. They include wheels, fireside companion sets, log baskets, small tables, copper bowls and a wrought iron jardiniere.

During the Summer Term the Society hopes to visit the Ford Motor Factory at Dagenham. We owe our thanks to Mr. Hawes for running the society so well and for giving up his time so freely.

G. Jones

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Unfortunately this term has been very short, and since it has also been interrupted by examinations, we have had very few meetings. The main work has been processing, mostly the enlarging of photographs, but some photographs of still life have been taken. The main activity in next term's meetings will be camera work, and we are planning our various visits now. During the Summer term we intend to hold some photographic competitions in which the whole school may take part. We wish to thank Mr. Jones and Mr. White for their unfailing help and support.

D. Beckerson

CHESS SOCIETY REPORT

In the Junior section of the Chess Society, nothing of importance has taken place. The meetings have been held as usual on Monday evenings. In the Senior section, however, a Tournament and two matches have been held. The Tournament was won by Waters, with Pope as runner-up. The first match we played was against the Secondary Modern School at home, and we lost by $4\frac{1}{2}$ points to $1\frac{1}{2}$. The team consisted of Stevens, Swaine, Clark, Buchan, Pope and Waters; the points were gained by Swaine, who won and Clark, who drew.

The other match was played away against the Rye Chess Club. In this match, a team of seven players took part, Bourn being the additional member. We lost the match very convincingly by $6\frac{1}{2}$ points to $\frac{1}{2}$. Buchan gained the half-mark by drawing his game. A 'Lightning Tournament' was then held, in which fifteen seconds was the maximum time allowed for each move. In the final, Waters beat Swaine, and was presented with a book on Chess as a prize.

Another match is to be arranged with the Secondary Modern School next term, and we are considering entering the local Chess League next term.

R. I. Waters, L.VI.

THE SIXTH FORM SOCIETY

Committee :

Geraldine Saunders (Secretary)

Faith Wigzell (Treasurer)

Norma Carr, Pat Gear, Barbara Ashbee, A. Bromham, M. Jarvis,
M. Greenhalgh

The Sixth Form Society has held several successful meetings during the last two terms. The first meeting of the Autumn Term comprised a visit to 'The Brothers Karamazov'; the film proved to be well worth seeing, and the theme, acting and production formed a useful basis for discussion.

On October 9th, Mr. Boulwood gave a most interesting and informative talk on the West Indies, where he has been teaching for the last three years. This was followed by a debate, 'That the Education of Backward Races is more Dangerous than Useful!' The motion was proposed by Hilary Ripley and R. Waters, and opposed by Monica Pearson and H. Bourn. The motion was defeated after a vigorous discussion.

On October 25th, the Society visited the Globe Theatre, London, for the production of 'Long Day's Journey into Night,' the famous play by Eugene O'Neill. After the performance, three members of the committee were given the privilege of an interview with one of the stars, Anthony Quayle. This visit, which was in the nature of an experiment, proved so successful that we hope to establish it as an annual event.

On October 21st, we were fortunate enough to be given a talk by Herr Tiedemann, the Senior Master of a German Grammar School, or Gymnasium, in Bad St. Peter, near the Danish border. His theme, 'Education in Germany,' proved extremely interesting, as did the juxtaposition of their system with our own.

This term J. Ellis described his hiking holiday, during the course of which he visited Holland, Belgium and Germany; and H. Bourn gave a very interesting talk on Belgium, illustrated by coloured lantern slides of the Brussels Exhibition.

N.V.C.

A VISIT TO THE IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION

This visit, which was inaugurated last year by Mrs. Paling, is already proving very popular, and this year, a party of sixty girls, under the supervision of Mrs. Paling, Mrs. Cooper and Miss Dann, took part. As last year, we were allowed to leave our school uniforms behind, a privilege we greatly appreciated. It enabled us to gain the attention of many stallholders, who tended to ignore parties in school uniform.

We thoroughly enjoyed the exhibition although after four exploratory hours we were very foot-sore. The main attraction this year was a reconstruction of the British Pavilion from the Brussels Exhibition. It was a combination of the ingenuity of contemporary British architecture, highlights from our traditional past, and the fine results of our recent advances in the fields of Science and Medicine.

Max Factor's Hall of Beauty was another popular exhibit. Several of us took advantage of the free advice and ten minute make-up sessions. We found, however, that it took more than ten minutes to remove it.

The International Section was both colourful and interesting. The Spanish Handicraft display was one of the highlights; a beautiful tiled table especially caught our attention, and one of our party was unable to resist buying one of the unique, hand-made, palm-leaf baskets.

There were many opportunities to obtain food samples, and of course, you may be sure that these were not ignored! We gazed hopefully, but alas in vain, at stalls displaying a tempting variety of

drinks. The end of the day, although finding us tired and thirsty, came all too soon, and there was a mad rush for the meeting-place which, all of a sudden, had become completely unrecognisable.

Our thanks are due to Mrs. Paling, Mrs. Cooper and Miss Dann, for arranging such a pleasant day.

V. Davies

ENGLAND v SOUTH AFRICA

On Saturday 14th March, a party of nearly sixty girls assembled at Rye Station to travel to Wembley for the England versus South Africa hockey match. At 9.15 p.m. we boarded a special train which had already picked up other groups of girls. On reaching Wembley Stadium at about 1.30, we bought programmes and found our seats. At 3.0 the teams appeared on the pitch, England in red and white, South Africa in green and gold. They bullied off after they had been presented to Lady Dorothy Macmillan; they were to play thirty five minutes each way.

During the first half the teams were fairly evenly matched and the score was 1-1 at half-time. After five minutes the game continued and England seemed to have the upper hand, South Africa appearing rather tired. Two more goals were scored by England within a short time of each other, South Africa then seemed to fight back more strongly but in spite of this England scored another goal before full time, and so the final score was 4-1 to England.

We arrived back in Rye at about 9.0 p.m., having watched a very good game of hockey.

M. Barden

MR. JAMES BLADES

On Friday, March 13th, the School heard a most interesting lecture-recital on 'Percussion in the Orchestra' by Miss Goossens (piano) and Mr. Blades (percussion). On first reading the subject of the lecture, many of us had wondered how on earth anyone could keep going for an hour with no more than a drum to speak about, but before Mr. Blades had been on the platform a few moments, we began to realise. Indeed, the view of the instruments arranged on the platform, before he began, had already given us an inkling that there was a little more to percussion than just one drum.

The talk ranged from African drums, West Indian rhythms, and Chinese gongs to the timpani of the classical orchestra. No matter what the instrument—a notched stick, a dried gourd, a triangle, or a snare drum—Mr. Blades showed complete mastery of it. And his virtuosity was backed up by a personality which had established complete control of his audience within a few moments.

Among the most memorable parts of his performance were the impressions of a satellite passing over (on the huge Chinese Gong), a military band coming towards us from a distance and then receding,

and a 'rock 'n roll' enthusiast. To me, the greatest pleasure came from his demonstration of a roll on the snare drum, which went from a crescendo down to a 'pp' which was just audible—an astonishing piece of technique. There were other fine moments too—a part of the 'Emperor' piano concerto accompanied on the timpani, which suddenly burst, unexpectedly, into the Grieg Piano Concerto, beautifully played by Miss Goossens.

It was indeed a memorable recital, and even though Mr. Blades made it all look almost too easy, most of the audience probably realised that they were listening to a master of his trade, and a very fine artist too. Thank you very much Mr. Blades and Miss Goossens.

PREFECTS' PUDDING

Ingredients :

2 Pats of New Gear Butter
1 Violet eye
1 Snitch of Ashes of Bash
Small portion of Dixon Maryland
A Gerry Can of Min Cream
1 Gammy Knee
2 Legs of Bug
1 Pot of Laurie's Chunky Marmalade
2-lbs. of Fats
A Bobsworth of Harrison

Method

Baste with rashers of Brom Ham, brush with Monikar Tears, using a Stanton Moustache—Brush. Decorate with Grated Wisdom Teeth. Bake in the Nick O'Time in the Pound Cupboard. Paid for by Chequesfield.

Har Har Har

WINTER

Now do the leaden skies encase us round
And shroud the Summer's blue expanse of sky.
Now in the Winter air we hear the sound
Of wind and rain, that homewards as they fly,
Beat on the birds, on whom the year once smiled,
But which is angry, des'rate as death nears,
And on it summer friends not now breaths mild
Bestows, but piercing, freezing sighs and tears.
They who rejoiced as rose the blooming sun
In half of heaven's high hemispheric face,
And spread its petals pink of light to grace

Her cheeks, from hostile scowling skies now run.
The year, inconstant friend, draws to its close,
And on its once beloved a coldness blows.

Anon.

CALM

Oh for a little peace and quiet,
Oh for a shady nook
Where I can think, and hear the sound
Of the water in the brook.

Oh for a place to reconsider
The happenings of the day ;
To think things over on my own
Away from the noise and the fray.

To see the kingfisher with his fish
In his beak for him to eat ;
The calm and the whispering of the trees
By the lane where lovers meet.

The corner where I sit and think,
When anything is troubling ;
The corner that I know and love,
Beside the brook that's bubbling.

P. Leeper, M III

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

One need not look far to find reasons for the unqualified success of the school production of **The Importance of Being Earnest**. A very small cast—"The cream of the school's acting talent," as Mrs. Curran put it in her speech on the last night—colourful costumes, Mr. Thompson's excellent scenery and a fine production all drew a splendid response from appreciative audiences.

Artificial comedy needs to be played in a carefully calculated, mannered style to be effective. Oscar Wilde's lines are, on paper, often surprisingly long and involved when set alongside the terser "drawing-room comedy" dialogue to which we are accustomed nowadays. There were moments when one felt that perhaps the effort of sustaining these mannerisms slowed down the pace of the play somewhat ; and certainly the actors occasionally seemed to be beating time with their heads ; but the delight that both audience and players derived from the sustained absurdity cancelled out any such doubts.

It is only right to say that the "Persons in the Play" (as the programme has it) were truly persons. Each character was sharply and delightfully defined. In such productions it is all too easy to confuse the playing of, for example, a manservant and a butler ; but J. H.

Ellis as Lane and R. W. Tracey as Merriman presented quite distinctive characterisations. Michael Rogerson's interpretation of Canon Chasuble will be remembered for a long time, carried along as it was by the actor's own obvious relish of the part. A. A. Bromham and M. Winter played to and at one another in a manner which brought out every one of the dialogue's finer points, and Bromham's effortless handling of the muffin scene deserved the show-stopping merriment it aroused.

The ladies—and how magnificently ladylike they were !—swept all before them. Bronwen Burke aged a startling number of years to produce a terrifying Lady Bracknell who dominated the stage and the rest of the cast whenever she appeared. Faith Wigzell's characterisation of Gwendolen Fairfax was superbly over-drawn, Lesley Bates made the sweetness of Cecily Cardew thoroughly convincing, and Judith Burton was the prissiest of Miss Prisms.

The first act set was adequate, but one might possibly have expected a little more Victoriana. The garden scene was perfect, and well deserved its rounds of applause.

All these elements were brought together—and, what is more important, held together—by Mrs. Stella Curran, assisted by Miss Dann, in a production which sets an exacting standard for all future presentations.

OLD SCHOLARS' NEWS

Miss Turner has, this term, received a very large number of letters from old scholars, mostly girls, in reply to her appeals for help for the Shrovetide Festival. Many of these date back to pre-war years and even to the years before the First World War. Most of this news is being saved for the next issue and I am, once more, trying to concentrate, in this number, on the more recent leavers.

The youngest of these is Vicki Reed who, her sister Marianne writes, would have liked to come to the Girls' Jubilee Festival had she not been prevented by scholastic duty and influenza. She has settled into her new school at Maidstone and is learning to play the violin, but has found it rather strange getting used to an all girls' establishment. Marianne herself has finished at the Preliminary Training School and is now enjoying night duty at Rush Green hospital.

Vivienne Paine regretted she was unable to come on Shrove Tuesday, but she was busy making pancakes for about six hundred people at her hospital—St. Mary's, Carshalton.

Sylvia Cresswell visited the school after Christmas, to tell us of her life in London where she is a typist for John Lewis Co. and Glenwyn White brought news of her sister André, who with her husband and daughter had spent her holiday in Sussex last year.

Linda Duncan, a very recent leaver, has joined the W.R.N.S.. Hugh Fennell, who is in the Royal Sussex Regiment, is now stationed at Chichester after visiting Germany, Korea, Gibraltar and Hong Kong.

Many of the other letters came from people at College and University. Angela Bailey, at St. Mary's, Cheltenham, has taken up swimming and

badminton, and says she has put on weight despite the fifty-nine stairs she has to ascend to reach her room. So that she can specialize in Physical Education, she has decided to change from Junior to Modern School teaching.

Susan Smith, at the College of Domestic Subjects, Bath, is evidently making her mark, for she represents the Second Year Students on the Union Council and is Senior Student of her hostel. She has met Christine Love who was at Saltcote Place with her.

Ruth Carey, Margaret Twidale and Jennifer Southerden have been doing teaching practice this term and thinking about their future teaching careers. Ruth has been appointed to teach General Subjects—mostly languages—at a comparatively new school, Carlton-le-Willows Grammar School, near Nottingham; Margaret and the others who, with her, painted murals for Iden church some years ago, will be interested to know that these are temporarily on the walls again, while the Chancel is being repaired.

Jacqueline Cox is finishing her two years' Teachers' training at Goldsmith's College, and John Tidy at St. Luke's, Exeter.

Barbara Diaper writes from Malden, Essex where she has made the acquaintance of Mrs. Tait (Joy Hulett) and where, she reports, she now has her largest ever group of German pupils.

The National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs have awarded a three months' scholarship to Joy Baker, to study development and agriculture in Israel. She will return from there in July and then intends to take a post teaching Biology and Geography at a school in Hatfield. We may even see something of her at Rye at the end of July.

Philip Fincham is trying to gain a University entrance in order to study electrical engineering; Sylvia Button is to be married on March 28th and will live in Harrogate, but will continue studying singing under Robert Naylor; and Gillian Pratt is moving from Warwickshire to Wiltshire where she will continue her County Library work.

More domestic news to finish with:—Judith Pratt is engaged, Margaret Jempson, Jennifer Waters and Madge Wood are now married; and Monica and Norman Glass now have a daughter, and so have Bridget and Donald Diaper.

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS TO PAVILION FUND

1st Week £1-17-6; 2nd Week £1-16-6; 3rd Week £1-14-0; 4th Week £1-16-9½; 5th Week £1-7-5; 6th Week £1-7-9½, 7th Week £1-3-2½; 8th Week £1-1-10½, 9th Week £1-1-2.

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