

The Nantonian

The
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June, 1939.

The Nantonian

Nantwich and Acton Grammar School Magazine

Editorial Committee:

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June, 1939.

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Editorial.

The present issue differs in one or two respects from any of its predecessors and it is our intention to indicate these changes and innovations—chief of which is the grouping together of various School activities under a general heading of School Societies and Clubs, with an appropriate sub-heading for each particular Society or Club. We desire to record the activities of every Society which functions out of School hours; and from the notes and accounts in this Magazine our readers will gain some idea of the extent and variety of our interests. The second feature, at which we hinted in November, is the curtailment of the number of literary articles. We are naturally anxious and ready to print as many as we consider of a high standard; but we are equally determined to exclude any which lack distinct literary merit. There is no desire to discourage; but rather an attempt is being made to encourage our contributors to put forth more effort to produce something original and “worth while.” Perhaps we aim very high; but there are some of us who believe the School can produce a Magazine of exceptional quality and we shall not rest content until we have achieved such a result.

Lastly, there appears the first of a series of articles which we hope to print on Careers. These accounts are sent to us by Wallace Attwood College and we shall print them in the hope that they may indicate to some of our pupils a possible vocation. We can assure readers that Mr. Gowdridge will be only too pleased to supply further information to those interested.

School Notes, April, 1939.

Work on the new buildings continues apace, and there seems some likelihood that it will be finished by the time the next Magazine appears. In the meantime School work is done under difficulties, and those difficulties are likely to increase during the ensuing term. But there is plenty of interest and excitement in seeing walls being pulled down and other walls put up—and, when part of your ceiling falls in, the excitement is even greater!

Armistice Day, November 11th, was observed at the School in the manner which has become customary with us. Speech Day was held on November 22nd, and the prizes were presented by Professor A. A.

Cock, of University College, Southampton, who gave an address which, we feel sure, proved equally delightful and inspiring to parents and pupils. We hope that our next Speech Day, may be held in our own buildings. The Carol Concert, possibly more moving and more finished than any previous such function, was held at the end of the Christmas Term, and is reported elsewhere.

In the course of the Easter Term we again welcome the English Players, who entertained us with a spirited performance of Shakespeare's "Henry IV, Part I." Another visitor was Mr. A. D. Tobler, who gave a most interesting lantern lecture on Sea Birds. Mr. Tobler's personal recollections were particularly delightful.

We have to thank two of our younger Old Grammarians for entertaining contributions to this number. Other such contributions will always be welcome.

It has been regretfully decided that conditions this term make it impossible to have an Open Day for Parents and a Garden Party for the School. We hope that parents will regard our Athletic Sports Day (May 31st) as a partial equivalent of Open Day. Founders' Day will be celebrated as usual on May 26th, and the service this year will be at Acton, by courtesy of the Vicar and Churchwardens. The Rector of Nantwich will preach.

It is a pleasure to record our continuous indebtedness to various benefactors, and to ensure them of our appreciation and gratitude. We have to thank our good friends, Mr. A. O. Bevan, Clerk of the Governing Body, for further valuable additions to the School Library, and Mr. J. E. Bowers for a picture of Mr. Wilbraham Tollemache; and we are also most grateful to Margaret, Douglas and Maurice Butt for providing us with a handsome silver cup for Boys' Senior Swimming Championship, and to Betty Clarke for a similar cup for Juniors.

We were very sorry that Mr. Pelper should have to be away during the latter part of last term owing to an unfortunate accident on the evening

Of the Nantwich Choral Concert. We hope that he will soon be quite fit again. We have to thank Mr. Ketley for taking Mr. Pelper's classes in his absence.

At the end of the term we lost the services of Miss Williams, who had been with us for over five years, and who left us to be married. Our parting gifts to her carried with them our warmest wishes for her future happiness. Miss Williams was a talented musician and an inspiring teacher, to whom the School is greatly indebted for the enrichment to its musical life provided by her skill and enthusiasm. She will be hard to replace, At present her permanent successor has not been appointed, but Mrs. I. E. Lweis is taking her place temporarily for the Summer Term.

We sympathise deeply with Crewe Secondary School on the sudden death of their Senior Mistress, Miss Preece.

The death of Mr. Henry Tollemache in his 93rd year has deprived the School of an old and valued friend. We have a charming permanent record of Mr. Tollemache in our School Film, which includes a picture of the School Sports, 1936, when he presented the prizes. He regularly attended the Sports until 1937.

Representatives of the School attended the memorial services which were held during the Easter holidays for Miss Preece and Mr. Tollemache.

We congratulate Dr. K. Mather on his being invited to broadcast in the series "What is inheritance?" on May 4th. His subject will be "The Problem of Plant Breeding."

A new chapter in the history of School football has been created by the enterprise of Mr. Arey, who arranged, for our very successful First XI., a two day tour, which took them during the early days of the holiday to Preston, Manchester and Bacup. A report of this tour appears elsewhere.

J.L.

Preparatory School.

The Autumn Term stated with an increase in our number, they are still mounting. There is a scheme afoot to enlarge our cloakroom accommodation, and to install hot water—which we hail with delight.

We planted our bulbs early in October (forty-eight bowls), and since December have had a continual show of blooms, which have made a lovely splash of colour on every cupboard and window-sill.

#On October 4th we kept World Day for Animals (St. Francis's Day) in the usual way. The children gave little lectures, made illustrated mottoes, and composed original verse on "Kindness to Animals."

On Friday, October 14th, we held our Harvest Festival and had a bigger collection of produce than ever. This was afterwards distributed as usual to the poor and unemployed of the district, most of the recipients being again chosen by Mr. C. Bradshaw, Means Test officer.

Mr. W. Plaskett kindly took the service, and gave a very interesting address on the fatal consequences of doing things by halves.

On Thursday, October 24th, Miss Johns addressed the School on the work of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, and opened the children's boxes. She congratulated them on a total collection of £2 13s. 10d. After her visit eleven new members were enrolled, bringing the number of Young Helpers up to twenty-five.

In November we collected £10 towards the fund for relief in Czechoslovakia, which was added to the contribution made at the Upper School. We also sent a subscription to the Animals' Friend Bazaar held in the Memorial Hall, Manchester, at the end of the month.

Our annual Christmas Party was a huge success. Visitors said the costumes were gayer than ever, and certainly everyone was in festive mood. This year we had two trees, one on which children's presents were hung, and one on which they were invited to hang an attractively-wrapped packet containing money towards Earl Baldwin's Fund for Refugees. Father Christmas opened the packages at 6 p.m. and counted the total. We made the amount up to £10 and dispatched it direct to London, receiving Earl Baldwin's acknowledgment and thanks by return.

We have again sent our yearly subscription to the Society for the Protection of Wild Flowers. A group of enthusiasts has started pressing their new collections and by the middle of March two pupils had already twenty-eight specimens mounted and named.

We are continuing our bird walks after school and have a keen group of observers this year.

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In March we had another Original Verse Competition, and Miss Constance Harlock kindly consented to help with the judging. Hodgkin won by a margin of eleven points.

The Spelling Plaque has been awarded after a series of weekly tests, and the honours go to Wilbraham, who have won by 1 point.

The House Mark Shield has also been carried off by Wilbraham with a margin of 142 points.

We have added the picture of "Sir Galahad" by Watts, and a statuette of "The Wavelet" to our collection, through the generosity of Mrs. Mills, to whom we are very grateful. We have also to thank Mrs. F. Bradshaw and Mrs. F. Davenport for decorative vases, and Mrs. McHale for money, with which we have purchased a statue of "The Boss."

We offer our best wishes to David Ludwig and Owen Williams, who are leaving the district.

Founders' Day.

The School Prospectus informs us that Nantwich Grammar School was founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth (c. 1560) by the brothers Thrush, woolpackers of London and natives of Nantwich, and that Acton Grammar School was founded on May 26th, 1662, under the patronage of the Wilbraham family. We still possess the original Book of Records of Acton Grammar School, and the first entry is read out in Hall annually on May 26th, which we now celebrate as our Founders' Day. Here is the entry:--

A true and perfect Register of Book of Records of all the Statutes lawes and ordinances of the free Schoole of the Parish of Acton in the County of Chester founded the six and twentyth day of May in the fourteenth year of the raigne of our Sovraigne Lord Charles the Second by the grace of God kinge of England Scotland France and Ireland defender of the fayth etc. And in the yeare of our lord God (according to the computation of the Church of England) One thousand six hundred sixty and two by oivers of the inhabitants of the so. Parish and of others which have willingly thereunto contriibuted to the honour of God and the good of the schoole by the advancement of religious education and learninge.

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We print the following account of our Speech Day Ceremony from The Guardian:--

In his seventh annual report, the head master (Mr. John Lodge) said the past year said the last year had been a lean one so far as successes in public examinations were concerned. The School had obtained an average number of Higher School Certificates, but the number of School Certificates was much below the average—only 16. For the second year succession a pupil had gained a State scholarship award, which was an exceptional achievement. There was no cause for complaint regarding the general standard of the work of the School, said Mr Lodge. It had always been his aim to give the pupils the best opportunities the School could offer in his aim to give the pupils the best opportunities the School could offer in tow closely related matters—in pursuing the ordinary school course which led them to the public examinations, and in securing a deeper significance for those things by means of out-of-school activities. In this connection Mr. Lodge referred to the acquisition by the School of the natural history museum from Willaston School, and mentioned the formation of ta Literary Society. Speaking on the School extension work, he said the extended School would be barley sufficient for their needs they had 420 pupils—50 per cent. More than they had six years ago. The preparatory department was in a flourishing condition.

Mr. W. Harlock said he was satisfied that the School was being built up along the paths of knowledge and character.

Professor A. A. Cock, of University College Southampton, who distributed the prizes, discussed the problem of what a school really was. The school buildings were not so important as the pupils, and he suggested that a school was a fellowship, a community, a society. It was not the place, but the people, who made a school. A school consisted of the parents, the authorities, the head and staff and the pupils. Nantwich Grammar School stood as a fellowship of earning and discovery.

The Prize List.

The prize-winners were:--

Vla.--A. Lodge (form prize, religious knowledge and State scholarship), Mary Munro and J. O. Green (form prizes), R. Owen (essay), J. B. Hamilton (personal service), Gwyneth Owen (personal service), Muriel N. Williams (elocution).

Vib.--Ena Carr (elocution), Enid Owen (form prize), joan Wych (form prize and magazine prize).

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VU.a.--D. Adams, A. Wright and K. Dodd (distinctions S.C.), B. N. Furber (elocution and woodwork).

VU.b.--Margaret Vernon (domestic science).

VL.a.--Ruth Stanley and D. Tomkinson (form prizes), Peggie Cowap (art), P. Mottram (elocution, R. Morgan (essay).

|VL.b.--Joan Bradshaw (form prize)

R.a.--F. Stubbs, R. Doody and R. Probert (form prizes).

R.b.--Joan Clayton (form, prize).

IVa.--Pamela Williamson and Ursula McHale (form prizes), Barbara Gowdrige (magazine prize), K. Hope (essay).

IVb.--Barbara Mather (form prize).

IIIa.--Joyce Stubbs, J. Purcell and J. Bennion (form prizes).

IIIb.--Kathleen Bromfield, Kathleen Maddock and D. Holgate (form prizes).

IIu.--R. Davenport and G. Charlesworth (form and nature prizes), Penelope Parsonage and Sheila Gaudern (nature prizes).

III.--Jan Williams and Betty Mills (form prizes).

I.--Charlie Welch and David Ludwig (form prizes).

At the conclusion of the proceedings the Head Boy (R. A. Owen) and Head Girl (J. B. Clarke) respectively proposed and seconded votes of thanks to Professor Cock and Mr. Harlock in the following terms:-- Ladies and Gentlemen,--I hope this vote of thanks will give Professor Cock some indication of our gratitude. In coming from Southampton to give away our prizes he has undertaken a long and tiring journey. But I trust he will not feel his time entirely wasted, for his most interesting talk has been of real and permanent value to all of us and has helped us to retain our mental balance in a distorted world. Moreover we feel that his endeavours have been especially fruitful in that he has been good enough to secure for us a holiday, for which we are very grateful.

I would, too, sincerely like to thank Mr. Harlock, Chairman of our Governor, for the part he has once again played, for his constant sympathy and his unswerving loyalty towards the School—but one instance of his diverse public services. And so I would couple the names of these

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Two gentlemen with the spirit of disinterested service, at the call of which one has readily come two hundred miles, whilst the other adding once more to our score of obligations has been here to welcome him, and on behalf of the School I would say to both, "Thank you."

Ladies and Gentlemen,--It is my privilege this afternoon to second the vote of thanks to Professor Cock and Mr. Harlock, proposed by the Head Boy.

She who speaks last must therefore speak least, if she is not to be tedious in repeating what has already been said. But the little the Head Boy has allowed me is yet sufficient for me to say, on behalf of the girls of the School, how grateful we are to our visitors for their trouble this afternoon.

Our thanks are due to Professor Cock for finding time in the middle of the term to come this great distance to present the prizes. I only hope that he has enjoyed being here, as much as we have enjoyed his visit. I feel this to be so, or else he would not have asked for a day's holiday for us; we are very grateful indeed.

I called Mr. Wilfred Harlock a visitor. Strictly speaking he is not in fact, as Chairman of our Governors, he is an old friend of the School. His presiding here this afternoon is only one instance of his great interest in the School and for this our thanks are due to him.

And so I have very great pleasure indeed in seconding the vote of thanks to Professor Cock and MR. Harlock.

Carol Concert.

For the annual carol concert the hall of the Nantwich Grammar School was decorated with evergreens and lit by candles, while carols were sung against a background of a silhouette representing the Virgin and Child. The efforts of men of good will to interpret the message of Christmas to a world full of warfare and strife formed the motif of a short reading, "Glory to God in the highest," by the headmaster (Mr. John Lodge), which was followed by a charming rendering of traditional English and Polish carols from the preparatory school. The junior boys and girls gave an excellent interpretation of certain less well-known English carols, including the folk song, "As I sat under a sycamore tree," the solos being particularly delightful. These items were connected by readings from Isaiah and the New Testament, which altogether told the story of the Nativity. The first part of the concert was brought to
a

Close by three carols sung by the senior girls, of which "He came alle so stille" was particularly impressive for the purity of its interpretation. After a short interval a play, specially written for the occasion by Miss W. Trentham, the senior mistress, was acted by certain of the younger members of the School. Entitled "With one accord," it showed the birth of Christ from a new and strikingly original point of view—that of the animals in the stable at Bethlehem. It formed a fitting conclusion to the programme, which ended by all the singers leaving the hall in procession, led by a boy and girl carrying candles, singing the old favourite, "Once in royal David's city." Miss M. M. Williams, the music mistress, it to be congratulated on her skilful training of the choirs, and the boys and girls on their response to that training. The proceeds of the concert were devoted to the Jewish refugee children from Germany and the Nantwich Boys' Club.

A.L.

House Notes.

Hodgkin House.

Captains: Girl—B. Shepherd; Boy—E. R. Myers.

Vice-Captains: Girl—J. Wych; Boy—D. Adams.

Last term our Girl captain, H. Jenkins, left us; we offer her our very best wishes. Her place has been filled by B. H. Shepherd, and Joan Wych has been elected Vice-Captain. The girls have been unsuccessful in the hockey matches, but the football team has gained the championship. Four Hodgkins have played in the Hockey 1st XI., three of whom are regular team members. There are six members of Hodgkin House in the Football 1st XI., and all have obtained their colours—five being presented with them this season: Brown, Hinde, Myers, Pickerill and White. In the Annual Cross Country Race the boys excelled themselves by gaining first, second and third positions in the Junior Race, and second and fourth in the Senior Race.

Finally, let us remind members of future events—Sports Day, Swimming Sports, the Country Dancing Competition, and last but not least the Examinations, in which we wish ourselves every success.

B.S.,

E.R.M.

Thrush House.

Captains: Girl—A. I. Carr; Boy—K. Dodd.

Vice-Captains: Girl—M. Munro; Boy—D. Smith.

The Thrushes proved themselves songsters indeed by capturing the first place in the Music Competition, though we must in honesty admit that it was by a very narrow margin that we beat Wilbraham.

At Christmas we played our part in the performance of "The Charcoal Burner's Son," which was produced by Ena Carr, who was given invaluable assistance by Mr. Gowanlock. Three successive audiences were entertained by the manoeuvres of the army, the wicked ogre, the vamping King and the handsome son of the Charcoal Burner.

The Thrushes may preen their feathers over their success on the hockey field. The Seniors beat Wilbraham 6—0 and Hodgkin 7—1, while the Middle School won all their matches, both hockey and netball.

We were not so fortunate in football and the cross country races and we must congratulate the other Houses on their successes in these events.

We are sorry to lose Dodd, our boy Captain, and we wish him every success in his future work.

A.I.C.,

K.D.

Wilbraham House.

Captains: Girl—E. E. Charlesworth; Boy—R. A. Owen.

Vice-Captains: Girl—M. Dane; Boy—B. N. Furber.

This school year has brought us the usual mixture of failure and success. The girls have achieved a second place in hockey; the boys—especially the Juniors—were unlucky in football. But they retrieved their fortunes in the cross country race, in which the Juniors ran a good second, whilst the Seniors achieved an outstanding victory, with Worrall as the winner, Hall third, and Carr and Andrews in the first twelve.

We are now eagerly awaiting the Athletic and Swimming Sports.

Indoor activities, though more limited, have been very interesting. In the Music Competition we lost to Thrush by one point. The Christmas entertainment, a co-operative venture, boasted a predominantly Wilbraham cast; but its inception, production and vocal training were due to the enterprise of E. Carr, a Thrush, whom we heartily congratulate.

At Christmas we have the ill-luck to lose our Head Girl and House Captain, Betty Clarke; now this is to be followed by the loss of her

Successor, Edna Charlesworth, and our House Mistress, Miss Williams. Though we are very sorry to lose them, we wish them all good fortune and happiness in their new occupations.

E.E.C.,

R.A.O.

Hockey Notes.

Though this season's hockey results have not been quite so good as usual, our enjoyment of the matches played has certainly not been impaired.

The bad weather has not allowed the consistent practice which a team requires and this year practice which was more essential, as eight new members had been introduced to the team.

We were unfortunate in losing H. Jenkins (who had made a very able Captain) at Christmas.

The following have represented the School: E. Carr (Captain), M. Wood,* E. Charlesworth, S. Fyles,* B. Shepherd,* S. Jones, Margaret Jolly, M. Smith, M. Howard,* M. Bromfield and S. Morgan. Ena Carr and M. Wood are to be commended for their good reliable play throughout the season.

*Indicates this season's colours.

Matches played 9; Won 4, Lost 4, Drew 1.

Fixtures List.

Opponents	Where Played	Result.
Verdin Grammar School, Winsford	Home	Won, 15—1
City and County School, Chester	Away	Lost, 0—3
Crew Secondary School	Away	Cancelled
Orme Girls' School, Newcastle	Away	1 st XI Won, 6—0
Orme Girls' School, Newcastle	Away	2 nd XI Won, 5—0
Sir John Deane's School, Northwich	Away	Lost, 1—3
Sir John Deane's School, Northwich	Home	Cancelled
Crewe Secondary School	Home	Won, 4—2
Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital	Away	Cancelled
Cholmondeley Ladies Club	Home	Drew, 4—4
Old Grammarians	Home	Lost, 1—6
Verdin Grammar School, Winsford	Away	Cancelled
Lymm Grammar School	Home	1 st XI Lost, 2—4
Lymm Grammar School	Home	2 nd XI Lost, 0—7
Lymm Grammar School	Away	Won, 5—4

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It must be very many years since the School football team enjoyed such great success as came its way during the 1938-39 season. With a fuller fixture list, eighteen matches were played, and only two games were lost, each under unfortunate circumstances.

The game at Chester, against the King's School, was the best match of the season. The scoring ability of the team can be gauged from the fact that on no fewer than three occasions did the score run into double figures, and in the course of the season the defence conceded only 37 goals.

The whole eleven combined well to achieve its success, but outstanding were Henshall and Appleton among the forwards, and Tomkinson and Myers in the defence.

Matches played 18; Won 12, Drawn 4, Lost 2, Goals for 90, goals against 37.

Fixture List.

Opponents	Where played	Result	Score.
Market Drayton Grammar School	Home	Won	10—0
Winsford Grammar School	Away	Drew	2—2
Wem Grammar School	Home	Won	12—2
Crewe Secondary School	Away	Lost	3—6
King's School, Chester	Away	Drew	0—0
Ston Grammar School	Home	Won	5—1
Market Drayton Grammar School	Away	Won	3—2
Old Boys XI.	Home	Won	3—1
Wem Grammar School	Away	Won	8—3
Old Boys XI.	Home	Won	4—3
Lymn Grammar School	Home	Won	10—0
Altrincham High School	Home	Drew	3—3
Crewe Secondary School	Home	Won	2—0
Lymm Grammar School	Away	Won	8—1
Stone Grammar School	Home	Won	6—3
Altrincham High School	Home	Won	4—2
Winsford Grammar School	Home	Lost	5—6
Old Boys XI.	Home	Drew	2—2

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The following have played for the team: Henshall* (20); Crosby A.* (14); Appleton* (6); Pickerill* (27); Hinde* (12); Carr*; Leedham (5); Brown* (5); Tomkinson*; Myers*; Steventon* (1); White*; Crosby, R. (5); Stubbs; Steele; Smith; Betts.

Henshall and Appleton received invitations to take part in a Cheshire County Schoolboys' Trial Match at Altrincham, Appleton being chosen to play on the left wing for Cheshire against Lancashire.

R.F.H.,
W.M.C.

* Indicates a school football colour.

The figures in brackets indicate the number of goals scored.

2nd XI. Notes.

Three matches were played, which resulted as follows:--

Won: 1 Drawn: 1 Lost: 1; Goals for: 15 Goals against: 6

Opponents'	Where played	Result	Score
Kings' School, Chester	Home	Won	11—1
Altrincham High School	Away	Drew	3—3
Altrincham High School	Home	Lost	1—2

Useful match experience was gained by several boys, who, it is hoped, will prove their worth in the future with the School First XI.

W.M.C.

Junior (Under 14) XI.

This season we have played seven matches and if the results have not been as good as was expected, we must hope that the experience gained by the players will prove valuable later on. Our players have been small in stature, and other teams, having older and heavier players, have had a big advantage. We have lacked forwards who were willing to shoot at every opportunity and our defence have not always marked dangerous opposition players carefully; whilst the whole team must learn to play all out from the first whistle to the last, tackling and kicking without hesitation.

Fixture List.

Opponents	Where played	Result	Score.
Hampton House School, Chester	Home	Won	11—0
Alleyne's Grammar School, Stone	Home	Lost	1—2
Market Drayton	Away	Won	3—0
Market Drayton	Home	Lost	1—3
Sandbach Council School	Away	Lost	3—7
Alleyne's Grammar School, Stone	Home	Lost	0—2
Sandbach Council School	Home	Lost	1—7

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Played 7: Won 2; Lost 5; Goals for 20, against 21.

The following have represented the School: Alltree D., Alltree J., Bonell, Bostock, Cooper A., Craighead, Ferns, Fox, Hope K., Hughes, Jones, Kitchin, Latham, Lee, Maden, Millington, Moulton, Nicholas, Price, Rainbird, Sadler, Ray, West, Westwell.

P.C.

The Cross Country Race.

The annual Cross Country Races were held on Thursday, March 23rd. The Junior course was the same as in former years; but an attempt was made to give the Seniors more 'country' and less 'road' to run over, though the total distance of the race remained much as in the past.

A strong head-wind on the outward run, and rather heavy conditions under foot did not help towards the return of fast times, but Worrall (who was last year's Junior vicor) did well to get home in 25 minutes 52 seconds; and Mottram and Hall were well to the front throughout the race.

In the Junior event Rainbird and Moulton had a close struggle, the former winning by one yard in 14 minutes 19 seconds.

Individual Positions.

Seniors.

1. Worrall.
2. Mottram, D.
3. Hall.
4. Adams, D.
5. Carr.
6. Crosby.
7. Andrews.
8. Furber.
9. White.
10. Pickerill.

Juniors.

1. Rainbird.
2. Moulton.
3. Hill.
4. Williamson
5. Horobin.
6. Vickers.
7. Hope.
8. Jones.
9. Masser.
10. Maden.

House Placings:

Senior:--

1. Wilbraham: 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 12. 39.
2. Hodgkin: 2, 4, 9, 10, 15, 17. 57.
3. Thrush: 6, 8, 14, 22, 23, 25. 98.

Junior:--

1. Hodgkin: 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 13. 38.
2. Wilbraham: 4, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15. 59.
3. Thrush: 5, 6, 12, 20, 24, 25. 92.

W.M.C.

Societies and Clubs.

Literary Society.

With the arrival of November the Literary Society celebrated its first anniversary, well established in its second season as a flourishing concern holding debates, hearing lectures and producing readings of plays and poems.

On September 27th the Society reluctantly admitted to itself that chivalry had declined to-day. Point was given to this decision by an engrossing lecture on Czecho Slovakia by Mr. Burr, of the W.E.A., on October 13th.

Our minds were directed to more peaceful and pleasanter matters when Mr. Woodhead, of Bangor University, gave us a description of a camping and climbing holiday in Switzerland, illustrated by Lantern Slides, on November 2nd.

The Autumn Term concluded with an unexpectedly long but enjoyable reading of G. B. Shaw's "St. Joan," by a cast of School and Staff, got together by Mr. Hughes. Miss Trentham earned our gratitude with a splendid reading of Joan's part.

The Spring Term's first meeting was on January 31st, when the Society heard an excellent lecture on Sea Birds by Mr. Tobler. We did not know which to admire most, the extraordinarily fine slides or Mr. Tobler's encyclopaedic knowledge, both admirably seasoned by his amusing anecdotes.

The Society was unable to resist the implications of the date of its next meeting, February 14th. Two papers were read by Mr. B. N. Furber and Miss A. Carr on St. Valentine's Day, one of which is reproduced elsewhere in this Magazine. The papers were followed by members' readings of literature bearing on this undoubtedly engrossing topic.

A fortnight later, after much hard work by the Head Master and the VIth form, came the production of "Coriolanus," by Shakespeare. The VIth 'mob' put over a fine effort, though one doubts if Il Duce would have sympathised with such independence and ingratitude in modern 'Romans,' evinced with no uncertain warmth.

For the last meeting Mr. Hughes produced a reading of "Paradise Lost," Book I., the parts of the fallen angels being read by the Head Master and Mr. Gowanlock. The burden of the reading was carried by a chorus of VU.a., who, though at first audience-conscious, put over their innovation rather well. Miss Trentham as Narrator read the connecting links of the story.

The Society celebrated the end of their yea's activities in conjunction with the Hockey and Football teams by means of a thoroughly enjoyable dance.

I. Rowe.

Dramatic Notes.

Two days before the Easter exams. The prospective victims of the latter were greatly cheered by a performance of Shakespeare's "Henry IV, Part I," which was presented by the English Classical Players. In spite of the fact that the stage and audience were appreciably smaller than usual, owing to the building operations round the School, the players gave no indication that they were handicapped. The humorous scenes were hilarious, and the dramatic scenes adequate, and occasionally much more than that. Most of the actors were very good indeed, but the occasional lapses somewhat spoiled the effect; King Henry, for instance, could have made his speeches much more effective by refraining from grimacing; the various earls who did not do much towards forwarding the action were a trifle lukewarm, even considering that their parts did not give them much scope; Hotspur, despite, or perhaps because, of his fiery wig, which looked somewhat unnatural, seemed as old as his father. Apart from this, however he played very skilfully the hot-tempered, impetuous youth. Henry, Prince of Wales, was very well cast, too, though at first he seemed too attractive and noble to lead the dissolute life of his first scenes in the play.

The most hilarious incident in the play was the bating by Henry and Poin of the unfortunate Francis. Henry's boyish mischief and Francis's dithering uncertainty were excellently done.

Joan Wych.

Music Notes.

Musical activities this Spring Term were not planned with a view to the usual concert. We are looking forward to a fine new hall in the future, but at present the space we are occupying is inadequate for entertainment on the usual scale.

The School was extremely sorry to lose the able and enthusiastic guidance of Miss Williams and we are glad to have this opportunity of wishing her every happiness in her marriage. To carry on the tradition she has established is the best way we can show our appreciation of her unflinching interest in the music of the School.

Science Club.

The Exhibition.

Once again the Science Club has enjoyed a successful year, and again we thank Mr. Bailey for all his help and encouragement in spite of the loss of a few of the older members, the Club has had no difficulty in providing excellent material (most of which has been made by the members themselves) for the annual exhibition. This year, for the first time, the exhibition has been extended to include work done during the dinner hour by the boys of IV.a., under the supervision of Dodd and Green. The Natural History Society, recently started by Mr. Mills, provided many interesting biological specimens. Other exhibits were shown by the Woodwork and Bookbinding Clubs. The exhibits of the Science Club included a burglar alarm, a new lantern, an oscillograph and a model gas works. The biological side of the exhibition included a model heart, a wormery, microphotographs and some excellent dissections. Thanks are due to Mr. Caunt and F. F. Roberts for their display of photographs, and to Furber and Owen for the screening of the School Film. The girls of IV.a. also showed a joint exhibit during the exhibition.

D.A.

Films.

During the Autumn and Spring Terms the School enjoyed, at frequent and regular intervals, a number of films on most interesting subjects. Below is appended the full list of films shown:--

Scientific: The Edinburgh Zoo, The Frog, Crystals, The Story of Disturbance, Blood, Circulation, Breathing, Vision, Body Framework.

Ornithological: Bonnie Scotland, Tour of North Wales, The Coast of North Wales, Galloway, Cargoes.

Miscellaneous: How to Bind a Book, Football.

C.B.

The Eclipse of the Moon.

On the evening of November 27th a party of pupils witnessed the total eclipse of the moon from the School grounds. Two telescopes were used, one being the recently purchased School telescope, while the other was Dodd's now famous home-made instrument. In addition to watching all phases of the moon's eclipse, we were able to see Jupiter's satellites and Saturn's "rings." We thank the Headmaster for kindly lending field glasses to the pupils not using the telescope.

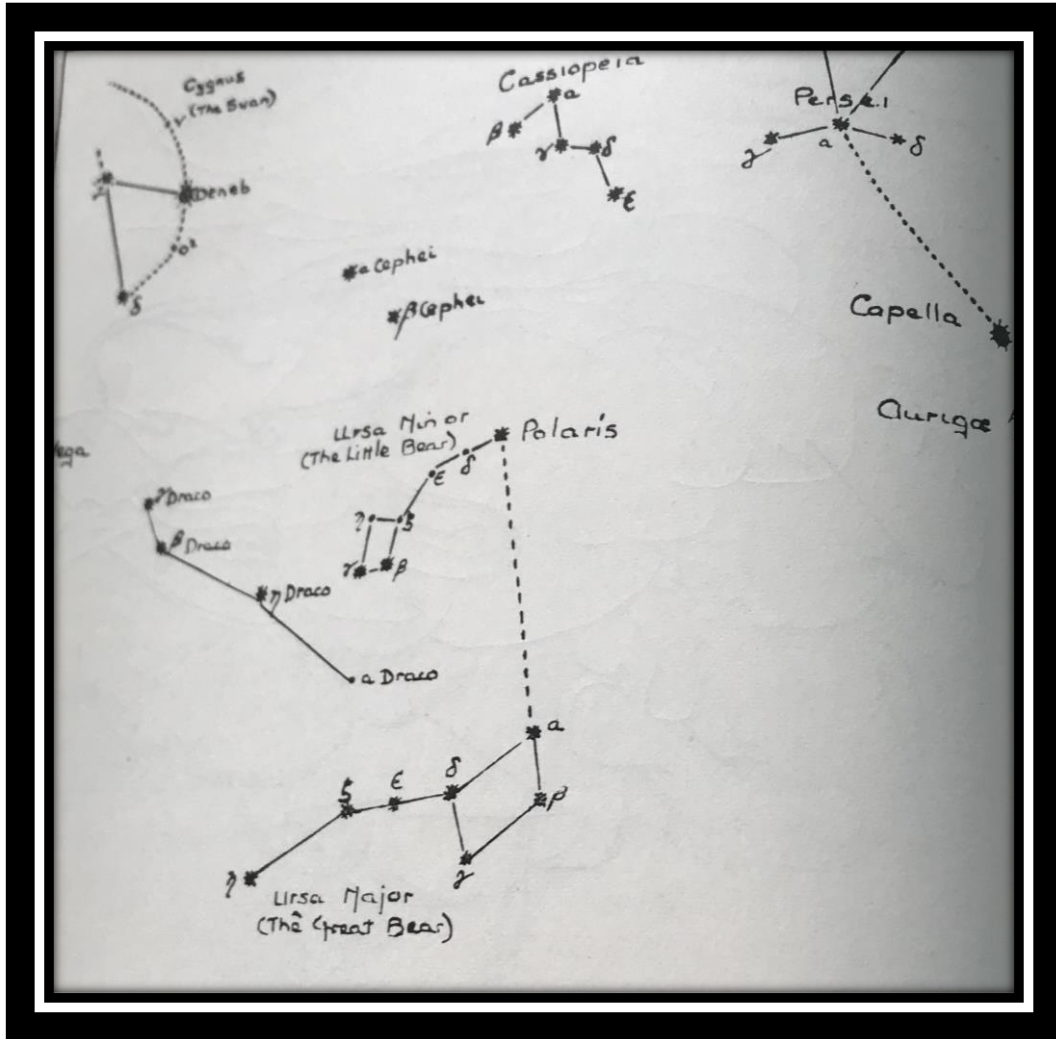
D.A.

Insert weird cloud thing



E. Garner,
Form VL.b.

"Angel of Rain and Lightning.



Circumpolar Stars, Visible all the year round.

S. Fyles,
Form VU.b.

The Nantonian

The Bookbinding Club under the keen supervision of Miss Jackson, has, on the whole, had a very successful session, terminating in a display of the craft at the Science Exhibition.

During the term a film was shown entitled "How to bind a book," which brought in a number of new members. At the present we are binding single section books, but will in the near future bind larger books and make photograph albums, as the more experienced members have already done.

Although the Club is small, the work done is of a high quality and covers a large range.

I.R.

The Caravan.

(Youth Section of the New History Society).

The Caravan is an international family; its membership has run into thousands of girls of all countries and races. Each month the family grows. Although its home is far away in New York, twenty-five Nantwich pupils, chiefly third formers, have decided to join. Already correspondence is going on with girls and boys in America, Canada and the Gold Coast, and soon we hope to have pen friends in nearly every English speaking part of the world. When we are older we shall perhaps be able to write in French or German and so widen our circle of friends. We welcome new members, who should be willing to write letters regularly for at least three years to their pen pals. Further particulars can be obtained from the Junior Leader, Howard Walker, of III.b., or from Miss Jackson.

E.R.C.J.

Woodwork Club.

The Club has met on Friday evenings in the usual atmosphere of hot tea and shavings, and about fifteen boys have either helped to furnish the home or managed to stay out late as a result.

There seems to be some doubt about membership to the Club. Any boy above Form III. is eligible—but obviously numbers are restricted by accommodation and convenience, while preference is given to those who have some definite projects to undertake or are in the examination form.

We lost three members this term owing to their anxiety to assist in the construction of the new buildings, but the rest survived and benefited by the example of our 'senior student.'

E.G.

Guides.

The Autumn and Spring Terms of this year can on the whole be considered to have been highly satisfactory, for we have more than doubled the number of guides who attended the first meeting in September. As a result of this, most of the time during the meetings of the first term was spent in preparing recruits for their Tenderfoot Test. In December Miss Tatton, the District Commissioner, very kindly consented to come and enrol our new members. Since then all Guides have been working very hard for their Second Class.

Although our numbers have increased, we still have room for new members, and would welcome anyone who wishes to join us.

We are all very grateful to Miss Uttley, who has been extremely kind in coming to our meetings to take 1st Aid and Bandaging.

At the end of the Autumn Term we were sorry to lose Miss Riley, whose help we miss very much.

M.G.

Folk Dancing Society.

The Nantwich and Acton Grammar School Junior Branch of the English Folk Dance Society has held its meetings during the Winter Terms of the last two years. Since Christmas we have danced with difficulty in the small space now left in the hall and we are looking forward to the time when we shall be able to have two sets of Durham Reel without a collision. Luckily our party was arranged for November before the hall was reduced in size, so we were able to accommodate all our visitors with comparative ease. We sincerely hope all our guests enjoyed themselves.

M.D.

Excursions and School Journeys.

Half-Term Walks.

On Monday, October 31st, Mr. Taylor conducted a party of seventeen in the Market Drayton—Cheswardine district. We proceeded via Alington and Hales to Cheswardine, whence, plodding through viscous mud, we continued along the canal to Tyrley locks, and then, via the main road, to Market Drayton. Once more we were favoured by fine weather and the exuberant spirits of the “Hikers” was proof that the walk was a success.

On the following day Mr. Carey and two remnants of the half-term walk (Hope and Roberts) cycled against a strong head wind via Cholmondeley and Malpas to Bangor-on-Dee, Ruabon and Wrexham, returning to Nantwich via Bangor, along the route taken on the outward journey. In all we covered about 58 miles—a most enjoyable excursion.

On Monday, 20th February, Mr. Taylor conducted a party of eleven in the Alsager-Audley district. Arriving at Alsager at 9.25 a.m., we proceeded via Audley to the Wedgwood Monument, from whence, after having lunch, we walked to Bignall End, where we watched the exterior activities at the collieries. Returning to Alsager at a steady 2 m.p.h, we caught the 4.0 p.m. train to Crewe. Once more, "Thank you, Mr. Taylor, for excellent hikes."

F.F.C.R.

Bird Walks.

These outings, which might perhaps be more accurately termed Ornithological Rambles, are excursions which are more comfortably and more profitably undertaken in the Summer Term than in the Winter Terms. Two walks were undertaken by members of Form VI. Just before Easter, but without any exciting moments such as we had last year when we heard our first Chiffchaff in Bull's Wood on March 31st. If we have not gone to the birds the birds have come to us by way of gramophone records and cinematograph pictures. Records of bird-song are regularly heard in the Hall and in March we saw moving pictures of the Great Tit and the Tawny Owl.

J.L.

Theatre Royal, Hanley.

Towards the end of the Spring Term various forms in the School took the opportunity of Mr. Harold V. Neilson's Shakespeare Festival Week at Hanley Theatre Royal to see "Hamlet" and "Macbeth."

Duncan Yarrow's performance as Hamlet was very sound, though many of us could have wished for a younger Prince of Denmark. Ophelia seemed far too pert and coltish, though her performance in the madness scene was unexpectedly impressive. We thought Polonius clowned too much. He can be dignified, but he certainly ought not to need so much prompting. Horatio was the best figure of a man on the stage, but seemed to have chronic 'catarrh of the wind pipe' to mar an

Otherwise competent performance. An uncertain Rosencrantz metamorphosised into a much more confident and pleasantly absurd Osric. Gertrude was another who earned our admiration for her acting, while we deplored her voice and delivery.

Like "Hamlet," the production of "Macbeth" was quite a competent performance, marred by the exigencies of such a company as this needs must be. The older actors, if they be not too old, give fine performances of the heavier parts, though the incongruity of ages may affect a young and inexperienced audience and the result is a production of unequal levels of excellence. In all fairness to the "Hamlet" production, it must be admitted that the actors were obviously tired by their previous matinee performance.

P.B.C.,
W.M.C.

Glasgow Exhibition.

In the early hours of October 8th thirteen stalwarts assembled at Crewe Station to set out upon an all night journey to Glasgow. En route, the Lake District, appearing by moonlight, presented an unusual picture. Breakfast, taken with the party, though due to begin at 6 a.m., did in fact for some members of the party occupy the greater part of the journey. Sleep? There was none!

7 a.m. . . . Glasgow. . . . Rain. . . . Wind. . . . Cold. . . . Hot drinks were indicated. . . . Café full. . . . Hot drinks become essential. . . . and. . . bang went sixpence (we were financially aware that we were in Scotland). At 8 a.m. we boarded a tram . . . a friendly argument with the conductor . . . and at 8.10 we left the tram after a free ride! Were we in Scotland after all?

At nine we left Glasgow for the Exhibition and made straight for the Tower, which, standing on an eminence, dwarfed all its surroundings. From its summit we had a very distant view of the Queen Elizabeth and of Glasgow University, whilst the Exhibition itself took on a Lilliputian appearance.

During the morning and early afternoon the party visited a number of the Palaces. Amongst the most popular were thought to be the United Kingdom Government Pavilion, Forestry and Fishing, and Engineering, whilst the Dominion and Colonial exhibits were most interesting. In the late afternoon the party broke up to pursue individual interests, but at dusk all reassembled prior to making for the amusement park for an hour. By seven we were outside the Exhibition grounds--

Sad at the thought of leaving for ever (?) such an Empire Showground, but admittedly a little wearied after so much walking around.

As it was now raining, we made our way to a cinema. Eleven of the party were able to obtain admission; then appeared the notice "House full." A little way down the street, in large red letters was seen the word "Coliseum" by the two unfortunates shut out of the cinema. Hurriedly we made our way to the alternative place of amusement, only to find that it was a Ladies' Outfitter's glaring sign!! For an hour the other theatres were visited, but all displayed "House Full" notices and so we resigned ourselves to walking the streets of Glasgow for three hours. At ten thirty the party was united once again and the last food partaken in a café near to the station; just before midnight our train seamed out of Glasgow and quickly the party went to sleep.

We were not really sorry to reach Crewe at 3.30 a.m., where we were met by several parents who had kindly arranged to transport us home—though one dauntless stalwart set off on his bicycle for a five mile ride. So ended the visit to Glasgow Exhibition, 1938.

P.B.C.,
W.M.C.

School Football Tour.

Easter Holidays, 1939.

In accordance with the programme, a party of thirteen left Crewe on Monday, April 3rd. It was a glorious Spring morning and Preston was reached by mid-day without mishap. At the station we were met by a Preston Grammar School boy, who conducted us to the school for lunch. Immediately afterwards we left by bus for the playing fields, two miles distant. A first rate game was enjoyed, and we were a little unfortunate to lose by the odd goal in five, Preston taking the lead thirty seconds from the end of the match. After tea, an hour or so was spent in playing games, or having a sing-song, or wandering over the school. Later the two teams attended an end of term concert, the entire production of sketches and jazz music being the work of the Preston boys. At 10 p.m. the party broke up, each of our boys spending the night with a Preston 'mate'.

By 10 a.m. on Tuesday we were en route for Manchester. After arrival, there was an hour to spend before lunch at Hill's Restaurant, where we were joined by Messrs. Taylor (F.A. coach), Ketley and Hope

(last year's captain). In the afternoon a heavy drizzle descended upon Manchester and district, so that the game against Chorlton Municipal High School was played in very unpleasant conditions; Nantwich,

however, proved to be the better team and deservedly won by six goals to two. Tea followed in a nearby café, and then we made for our hotel. Setting out at once, we went to see the film "It's in the Air." At 9 p.m. a very interesting and instructive visit was made to the Allied Newspaper Printing Works. We spent an hour and a half there watching the production of a "Racing Special" before returning to the hotel. Many of us were late to bed that night for a variety of reasons, and in the morning shoes, which had been put outside the door overnight, were in some cases found to have strayed.

Wednesday morning was dull but dry, and in comfortable time we left for Waterfoot. The train in places found the gradient rather steep, and when leaving a station always managed to slip back a little before deciding to climb further up the Rossendale valley. In Waterfoot we visited a slipper and shoe factory. The factory itself took a lot of finding, but once there, the processes seen were most intriguing, though not one of our party said he would undertake such work by choice. After a good hearty lunch, the third match was played; the pitch, to say the least of it, was "strangely difficult" to the Nantwich team. It had a very decided slope and was in places covered with water and mud to a depth of at least six inches. However, the majority of the Nantwich players rose to the occasion, and playing the only possible type of game, were by no means disgraced, though the game was lost by six goals to two. Myers, Hinde and Carr deserve special mention for herculean football. Once the game was over, it was necessary to hurry for the Manchester train. We had ten minutes in which to get to London Road Station from Victoria, and whilst seven of the party succeeded, Henshall, who had suffered an ankle injury, and three others were left in the centre of Manchester. However, the complete party eventually reached Crewe and there scattered for home.

It was a completely successful tour in every way, and for this satisfactory state of affairs, our thanks are due to all those who contributed towards making it possible—parents, the many hosts who generously entertained us, and the organisations which filled our spare hours so pleasantly.

W.M.C.

The Nantonian



"A careless herd. . . ."

G. Morris,
Form VL.b.



Is it a Goosander?

R. Doody,
Form VL.a.

The Nantonian



The Bearman

J. Williams,
Form VL.a.



“ . . . Wreaths of Smoke
Sent up in Silence. . . ”

D. Tomkinson,
Form VU.a.



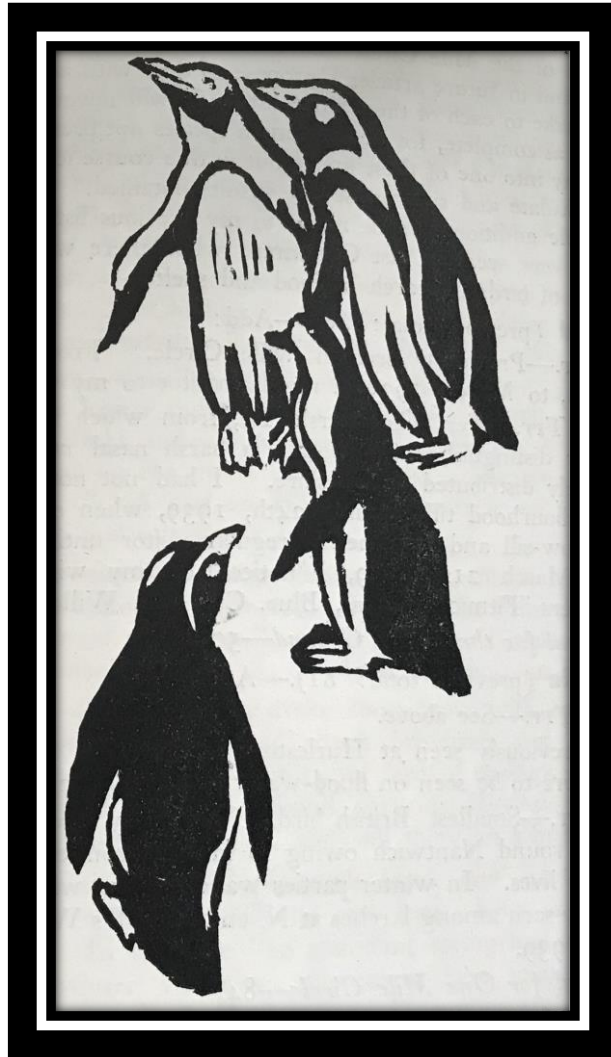
View Point.

G. White,
Form VL.b.



Aquarii.

T. Green,
Form VU.a.



Penguin Parade—Latest Edition.

D. Smith,
Form VL.b.

Seen at Hurleston Reservoir on November 29th, 1938. Mr A. W. Boyd had seen them there the day before and kindly let me know.

Curlew.--Large brownish wader, with very long decurved bill.

In Cheshire, as elsewhere, common on the coast in winter and on the hills in summer. Mr. Haighton tells me that they are seen every summer near Hack Green and Austerson. I heard their cry there on April 1st, 1939, and others saw them in March and April.

Present total for Three Mile Circle—98.

The half-century has thus been achieved for the School Ground, and by next autumn the century should have been reached for the Three Mile Circle.

J.L.

The Compleat Bird-Man:

Translated from La Bruyere (1645-1696): Les Carateres, XIII.

Diphilus begins with one Bird, and ends with a thousand; his House is not gladdened by them, but accursed. Court, Hall, Stair-case, Anteroom, Chamber, Closet—all is but an Aviary; 'tis no longer a Warbling, but an Uproar: not autumnal Gales, not Waters in full Flood, make a Sound so sharp and shrill; and Conversation can be no better heard,, than in those Chambers where one must needs wait, before paying one's Respects, till little Dogs have done with Barking. It is no longer for Diphilus a pleasant Pass-time, but a toilsome Task, and one indeed with which he can scarce contend. He spends his Days—those Days which pass and never come again—in pouring out Seed and clearing away Filth. He hires a Fellow whose sole Office is to whistle Serins with a Flute and to hatch Canary-birds. 'Tis true that what he puts out on the one Side he saves on 'tother, for his Children lack both Master and Education. He closeteth himself at Eventide, wearied with his own Pass-time, unable to enjoy the least Rest until his Birds are at Rest, and until this tiny Folk, which he loves but for its Song, has ceased to sing. In his Sleep he discovereth his Birds anew: he himself is a Bird—he hath a Crest—he twittereth—he percheth; at Night, in his Dreams, he moulteth or himself sitteth on Eggs.

A.L.

Careers.

[Our thanks are due to the Wallace Attwood College for the following information on "Accountancy."-ED.]

The Accountant.

We should not advise any boys or girls to contemplate a career in accountancy unless they had a natural aptitude for figures and unless they had shown promise in their mathematical studies at school.

The Chartered and Incorporated Accountants are the most widely recognised, but the costly premium which has to be paid by the parents of any boy or girl on the signing of articles is frequently an insurmountable barrier. But there are other bodies which are widely recognised and which do not insist upon Articles before a boy or girl can obtain the professional qualification; the most important of these are the Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants, the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants, the Institute of Municipal Treasurer and Accountants, and the Institute of Municipal Treasurer and Accountants, and the Institute of Book-keepers. A few particulars of these may prove helpful to boys and girls just leaving school.

Chartered Accountant.

The normal age for entry is from 16-18½. Articles of Clerkship in England and Ireland or an Indentured Apprenticeship in Scotland for five years with a Chartered Accountant must be entered into. A premium is payable to the principal of the firm when articles are signed—the amount of the premium varies considerably, being dependent upon the standing of the firm. A small salary is sometimes during the period of the articles or apprenticeship. In England three examinations have to be passed, although in most cases exemption will be granted from the Preliminary Examination, which is of a standard comparable with the School Certificate. The Intermediate and Final examinations, which must be taken during the period of Articles or apprenticeships, consist largely of professional subjects.

Incorporated Accountants.

The usual age of entry is from 16—18. Candidates must be articled to an Accountant for five years or employed in the Accountants' Department or a Corporation, Municipal Authority or Public Body for at least six years. A small salary is usually paid during the period of articles. The examination is similar to that of the Chartered Accountant.

Association of Certified and Corporate Accountants.

This is the title of a body formed this year by the amalgamation of the London Association of Accountants and the Corporation of Accountants. The examinations are open to anyone of either sex intending to adopt an Accountancy career, or at present engaged in the keeping of account books. No articles are required and a salary may be expected from the commencement of employment of employment. The Association is specifically named in Acts of Parliament, and its recognition extends to large municipal authorities, public institutional and other bodies, and also to the financial and business community, which generally accept the qualifications of members of the Association in respect of the audit and preparations of accounts and appointments to executive positions. Candidates may obtain exemption from the preliminary examination if they have passed Matriculation or similar school examination. The Intermediate and Final examinations must be passed to qualify for membership of the Association.

Institute of Cost and Works Accountants.

The main function of Cost Accounting is to provide and maintain an internal control upon every form of expenditure relating to an undertaking. Those who possess a mathematical aptitude with a learning towards mechanics and engineering will find the work congenial.

Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants.

<Membership of the Institute is confined to those employed in the Local Government service. It provides them with a recognised qualification in Accountancy, and should be the goal of those in the service of local Councils who aspire to promotion.

Institute of Book-keepers.

The Institute caters for those who keep books in the accounting houses of business firms. It makes a strong appeal to those who desire to secure recognition as qualified Book-keepers. The examinations are in three stages and are confined to Book-keeping and Accountancy.

It has only been possible to give a brief outline of the various careers in Accountancy, but such careers undoubtedly afford unlimited scope for the boys or girls who are keen and ambitious. The career of Accountancy is in the pioneer stage so far as women are concerned, but it can definitely

Be predicted that women accountants will be more and more in demand during the next few years. The boy or girl who enters an accountant's office, or, indeed, who enters any branch of the commercial world, should aim at acquiring the highest qualification within his or her means and capacity. This is the only sure road to a successful career.

Wallace Attwood.

Weight and Measures. I.

[This the first of two articles which Mr. Caunt has kindly promised to write for us on the origins of some of our more common standards of measurement.--ED.]

The necessity for weights and measures must have arisen at an early stage in the development of man. When he first began to till the soil, he cultivated only for himself and his family or tribe, but soon he began to produce too much for his own consumption and then came the idea of exchanging the excess for other commodities of which neighbouring families or tribes had an excess. Thus trade followed later, but it is obvious that primitive measures of capacity, e.g., for grain, would be some of the earliest. These may have been earthenware vessels, crudely shaped, and baked in the sun. Weights involving mechanical appliances came into use only when a considerable degree of civilisation had developed, but measures of length, based on the limbs of the human body, would be used at a very early stage.

The Old Testament contains many references to weights and measures. The earliest is Genesis XXIII., 16, which records that Abraham weighed four hundred shekels of silver in payment for certain land which he wished to use as a place of burial.

The book of Exodus contains detailed instructions for the building of the Tabernacle, with the dimensions stated in cubits, and when the Tabernacle was completed the numbering of the people was associated with the payment of tithes, reference being made to the "shekel of the sanctuary," i.e., a standard shekel deposited in the sacred building in the custody of the High Priest, who may therefore be regarded as the first "Warden of the Standards."

The Mosaic Law on the subject is terse and comprehensive:--

"Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in meteyard, in weight, or in measure. Just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just bin shall ye have."--Leviticus XIX., 35-36.

“Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers weights, a great and a small; Thou shalt not have in thine house divers measures, a great and a small; But thou shalt have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have.”--Deuteronomy XXV., 13, 14, 15.

It seems certain that the human body supplied the earliest practical units of measurement. The names, many still in use, speak for themselves: digit, palm, inch, span, foot, cubit, pace, fathom. The digit was a finger-breadth, the inch a thumb-breadth. The cubit was the distance from the elbow to the end of the middle finger. The name “ell,” used in cloth measurement, may be derived from elbow. The fathom was the distance covered by the outstretched arms.

The oldest tangible standard of length known to exist is now in the museum at Turin, Italy, in a collection of Egyptian antiquities. It is an end standard of hard wood, representing a cubit found in the ruins of Memphis, dating from B.C. 1657. It is 18.24 inches long, and has a large number of subdivisions. The Egyptians used two cubits, the Royal or Sacred cubit of 28 digits and the “natural” cubit of 24 digits. These and other subdivisions are shown, and the 16th digit is indicated as the “foot,” being two-thirds of the natural cubit.

The foot has survived, passing via Greek and Roman civilisations to the present time. The Greek foot, derived from the Egyptian, was equal to 12.16 inches, and was later introduced into Italy and incorporated into the Roman system. The Romans used a duo-decimal method of sub-division, the twelfth part of a foot being the “uncia,” the same term being used for the twelfth part of a pound. Our words “inch” and “ounce” are probably both derived from the Latin “uncia.” The Roman mile consisted of 1,000 paces, equal to 5,000 feet.

There is a strong foundation for believing that at a very early date the weight of a cubic foot of water was used as a standard weight known as the “talent,” a term frequently used in the Old Testament. A sixtieth part of the talent was the “minia,” from which is derived our “pound.”

There is a very remarkable series of standards in the British Museum, discovered in the ruins of Nineveh: a set of bronze weights, made in the form of a crouching lion; another set is in stone, oval in shape, with the representation of a duck. Other standard weights nearly as ancient as these are in the Louvre, in Paris, and are of Egyptian origin.

The Roman standard of weights was closely related to the earlier standards in use in Egypt and Greece. The unit was the “libra” or “pondus” (cf. “pound” and its abbreviation “lb.” and the French “livre”).

The “hundred-weight” of 100 pounds originated with the Romans. Edward I. increased it to 108 pounds to bring it into line with the standards then in use in France and the Netherlands, and Edward III. Further increased it to 112 pounds in order that it might be divided into 8 stones.

May Kittens:

A translation of Theodor Storm’s Von Katzen.

In may last year my cat became the mother
Of six entirely charming little kittens--
May-kittens, white as snow, with dusky tail-tips:
It really was the neatest of confinements;
And yet the cook—for cooks are so ferocious
And kitchens aren’t conducive to humaneness--
Five of the six was quite resolved on drowning--
Five small May-kittens, white, with dusky tail-tips,
The ruthless woman would have foully murdered!
I let her know my mind; on my humaneness
May blessings fall from heaven! The darling kittens--
They flourished, and at nights outside her window
They exercised their charming little voices.
But I—beholding how my kittens flourished--
I magnified myself and my humaneness.

A year has gone, and cats are now my kittens,
And May-day is it. How shall I describe it!
The spectacle that now appears before me!
My house, right from the cellar to the attic,
Has everywhere a miniature confinement.
For here lies one, and there another, kitten,
In cupboard, cellar, under stairs and table.
The old one—well, it hardly bears repeating--
Upon the cook’s own virgin bed is lying;
And each of those same carts, yea, all the seven,
Has seven, think of it, seven kittens,
May-kittens, white as snow with dusky tail-tips.

The cook is furious; I can set no limit
To the blind rage of that indignant female.
Drown them she will, the nine and forty of them.
As for myself, my head is fairly spinning.
How shall I vindicate thee, my humanness?
What shall I do with six and fifty kittens?

Early Days in a German Labour Camp.

Many of our readers met Margrete Grunewald who came from Germany to spend several months in England last year. In common with other German girls who have completed their secondary school course, she is now spending ix months in a Labour Camp, and here is her impression of the first days there:--

"I will now tell you what happens in the Arbeitsdienst, for you certainly cannot picture it for yourself. We live in a camp, which consists of for permanent wooden buildings of one storey, not far from the little town of Spangenburg, near Kassel, in Central Germany. The contingent consists of 46 girls and 5 leaders from every part of Germany. For the first three or four weeks we are staying in camp to get used to the work before we can go out to the farms. We have to get up at 6.15 a.m., do ten minutes' physical training, was, dress, make beds and tidy rooms, and at 7.30 hoist the flag with coffee and rolls we sing for half an hour, then we go to work, house and garden are kept in order, and there is washing and cleaning and cooking, with a short interval at 10.0 a.m.. After dinner at 12.30 we have theory lessons until coffee at 3.30 p.m. Then shoes are cleaned, clothes are tidied, and then from 4.0 to 5.0 off to bed for rest-period. Everybody has to sleep or at least to lie down, so as to be fit again for lessons or games. After supper we assemble for singing or folk-dancing and at 8.30 we lower the flag. At 9.30 "Good-night" is said, I.e., the leaders come to each bed and wish each girl a good night. Previously we have all had a bath, for the camps have quite up-to-date equipment for central heating, baths and shower-baths. This daily programme only holds if there are no special jobs to be done. This daily programme only holds is there are no special jobs to be done. During last week we were in the forest every day, planting a clearing with larch, fir and beech and sycamore. The work was very interesting, particularly as it was entirely new to us.

“As soon as I have snaps of myself and the camp I will send you copies, which will certainly interest you. We are dressed in a completely new brown uniform. Perhaps you know what it looks like. All that we need is provided for us—dresses, underclothes, shoes and stockings—so that our parents can save money during this half-year. I think that I shall have a good time in the Arbeitsdienst.

“When you next write to me you must put on the envelope A.M. (which means Arbeitsmaid), and no longer Fraulein, which I shall not be for the next half-year.”

St. Valentine’s Day, 1939.

Collecting information on the subject of St. Valentine’s Day has been an excellent subject of conversation. Not a person has visited me, not a person have I visited, not a person have I met in the street but he has been my victim. “Do you know anything about St. Valentine’s Day?” I have asked, looking demurely at my toes. It is a useful subject and often leads to higher things!

Strange and unbelievable as it may seem to my already fully initiated audience, one victim proceeded to air the view that he supposed there used to be an ancient Victorian custom connected with the day. I opened my mouth and gaped. “My man,” said I, fixing upon him a look of pity and contempt, “my man, are you not aware that the speed of the palpitations of the human heart increases on the average for at least a month before St. Valentine’s Day? Are you not aware that window of every shop worthy of the name is festooned with wicked, mischievous, sophisticated, tempting, altogether amorous, completely passionate and quite irresistible valentines?” “Are you?” said I, with a look to send him crawling back to his cheese, “are you not aware that you probably owe your very existence to St. Valentine’s Day?”

However, my audience are doubtless only too well acquainted with the import of this day of days. Far be it from them to dwell on heart bears which they themselves have experienced; far be it from me to speak of valentines concealed under pillows, packed into bottom drawers with the others, or, if very brazen, cherished in a blazer pocket; far be it from me to intone verses which they have doubtless been studying for weeks to describe customs which I fear they know too well.

Here, instead, is a little information exclusively for the girls. They will be thrilled to hear that if, on the night before Valentine's Day, they pin four bay leaves to the corners of their pillows and a fifth to the middle they will, if they happen to dream of their sweetheart, be married during the next year. If they are sceptical about this they can boil an egg hard, take out the yoke, fill it with salt and on going to bed eat it shell and all without speaking or drinking afterwards—then they will surely dream of their Valentine. Should they not feel disposed to waste a whole night on him, they can easily find out who he is by writing all likely names on pieces of paper, rolling each of them in clay and putting them into some water. The first to rise up—believe it or not—will be their Valentine.

To the boys I should like to point out that the custom of sending merely declarations to their Valentine is as bad as sending good wishes for Christmas or many happy returns for a birthday. In 1660 Mr. Pepys, I would inform them, spent forty shillings upon a "payre of embroydered and six payres of plain white gloves" for Mrs. Martha Batten. Sir. William Batten sent Mrs. Pepys half a dozen pairs of gloves, a pair of silk stockings and garters. One year Mrs. Pepys cost her Lord as much as £5. The Duke of York gave to his valentine, the Duchess of Richmond, a jewel worth £800. With such examples it is strange that modern youth cannot even rise to a stick of licquorice or an anisced ball. They evidently dismiss such things as humbugs.

But it is not only to human beings that St. Valentine's Day is a day of days. It is the mating day of birds. Who could fail to notice, as he "slunk like snail unwillingly to school" this morning, that there was something more than mere "chinksee, chinksee" in the song of the Great Tit, to which the Head Master had so opportunely drawn their attention? Who could fail to notice that the two rooks on the telegraph wire were carrying on more than ever this morning, that she was, in fact, looking as coy as a rook can look; that the robin was singing hymns of love, not hymns of hate, that the incorrigible starling had almost achieved an imitation of a crooner as he wooed his speckled bride.

. . . . All this and more I told to my victim, all this I related as I glued him with my steely eye to the pavement and now he will never again forget St. Valentine's Day—nor, I am sure, will you.

Ena Carr, Form VI.

Philip—Philosopher.

Philip liked going walks with his cousin Marjorie. She was almost the only grown-up—she was only sixteen, but that seemed positively antique to Philip, who was ten years younger—who would let him argue with her. Philip's family were all very fond of friendly arguments. Father argued about politics, Mother about the relative values of cod liver oil and castor oil, Big Sister about fashion, and Big Brother about sport. All these subjects bored Philip. He had been slightly interested in sport, and had once purloined the treasured autograph of a famous cricketer from his brother's drawer; this praiseworthy attempt to arouse interest in Sport, however, was followed by dire results when Big Brother discovered the loss, that Philip tearfully decided that the game wasn't worth the candle by whose light he had searched in his brother's drawer.

Philip's main grudge against life was that he was the only one in the family who was not allowed to argue. There were so many times when he would have liked to question the decisions of his parents. Take bedtime, for instance: why was he always so wide awake at bed-time, and so sleepy when it was time to get up? By an irreproachable logic Philip reasoned that a later bed-time and later rising would solve the problem. When he was Prime Minister he intended to see to the matter; till then, however, there was nothing he could do about it.

But to return to the walk and Marjorie. On this particular morning the sun was shining—a trifle uncertainly, to be sure, like a political speaker who is suddenly struck by the horrible thought that he is addressing the wrong meeting, but still very fond of him, and took his hand with a protective gesture as the two of them stepped into the road.

"Don't" said Philip, pulling his hand away. "Real men don't hold hands!"

"But you're not a man, real or otherwise," said Marjorie, who was a little by this independence.

"I'm older than you, anyways," retorted Philip. To this statement, height of silliness though it was, there was no satisfactory answer which would not develop into an exchange of "You're not's!" and "I am's!" Marjorie, knowing Philip's proficiency at such arts, wisely remained silent, and soon the little boy, forgetting his manly resolutions, slipped

His hand into hers. Marjorie seized this apparently propitious moment to ask:

“sShall we take Baby Roger out in the pram this afternoon?”

After a vehement “No!” had answered the question, Marjorie naturally enquired the reason for it.

“I think babies are silly!” was the prompt reply.

“But why?”

“All they do is gurgle and squawk—they cant even argue!” said the budding Prime Minister. “It’s nothing btu a nuisance having a baby in the house. They won’t let me shout, they won’t let me sing--”

Marjorie, who had heard Philip’s singing, didn’t wonder at this, but thought that she might give some grandmotherly advice at this juncture.

“You should count your blessings,” she said, with all the asperity she could muster.

“What blessings?”

Disconcerted by his, and discarding all obvious answers, since she knew Philip would have an answer for them all, she was at a loss for a moment. Her glance fell on a fat, furry caterpillar contorting itself across the path, and her face brightened.

“Be thankful you aren’t a centipede, and haven’t got a hundred feet.

You’d have fifty pirs of shoes to clean.”

Not a bit disconcerted by this brilliant example of logic and mathematic ability, Philip retorted:

“Yes, but I’d have a hundred feet to paddle with.”

“Well, you wouldn’t like to be a frog, and live in the mud all the time,” said Marjorie.

“Wouldn’t I!” cried Philip, who, alas, was not so fastidious as his cousin (he called it finnicky). “And they wouldn’t put soap in my eyes, then!” he added bitterly.

Marjorie, feeling that Philip had already learnt the fact which is generally accepted in England, namely that it was far more interesting to count one’s curses than one’s blessings, bought him an ice-cream to dame his flood of eloquence.

“I do like you, Marjorie!” followed a few minutes alter when the ice-cream was no longer visible. “I’m going to marry you when I grow up>”

Marjorie, repressing a natural inclination to give vent to her amusement, entered into a discussion upon bridesmaids. Philip finally decided

Un purple dresses with yellow sashes for the bridesmaids, and red velvet for the bride. Marjorie felt obliged to object, and a heated argument seemed imminent. Fortunately for her, at this moment Philip's bosom friend Tony appeared on the scene with a jam-jar, and all arguments were forgotten in an excited chase for newts.

Joan Wych, Form VI.

Peace.

\We all go rushing past with worried looks,
We glance askance at placards flaunting news,
Forget to think which team will win or lose
And gather every evening like the rooks
To talk; regard with loving eyes gas-masks
And let their radiant beauty warm our hearts;
Resolve in A.R.P. to do our parts
Or give our lives whene'er our country asks;
See each one's armament grow daily more
And wonder what will stop this awful race
Which daily saddens everybody's face,
And think our world is rotten at the core.
But no! We know we are mistaken, when
They say they're all such peaceful-minded men.

Enid Owen, Form VI.

The Ready-Corrected Essay System.

We have noticed that the staff have been looking very tired of late. Out of consideration for their wives we feel it our duty to co-operate with the Headmaster and his colleagues in establishing the vogue for the ready corrected essay.

Of course, we realise that the standard of proficiency which even the initiation of the staff involves can only be obtained by those bordering on the sixth form, but a systematic course in character study specialising in Shakespearian comedy and a thorough acquaintance with such monumental literature as Matthew Arnold's "Essays in Criticism" would soon acquaint the pupil with the type of comment necessary and its probable source. Good criticism, Arnold tells us, necessitates a certain "tact." Tactless remarks, such as "spelling very weak", or "writing past praying for," will not, therefore be required. In the correction of history essays the best policy is to let sleeping dogs lie and avoid further unrest and discontent

Content by such remarks as "More detail on certain points could have been given," which, while at once a piercing accusation to the painstaking, cannot be disputed even by those who consider their essays as models of perfection. "Creditable" and the frequent use of the word "effort" will be found invaluable, while such adjectives as "grandiloquent," "hackneyed" or "irrelevant" will never come amiss. Should the writer so much as venture to express his own opinion a curt reminder, such as "Less of Angela Appleby and more of William Wordsworth," will prove exceedingly effective, while the essay must be cleansed of all references to yo-yos or vanilla slices.

Suffixes to French essays must always, we fear, be limited by shortage of vocabulary to an occasional "Bien." "Tres bien!" may, however, be used in cases of exceptional merit, while in cases of extreme annoyance one may resort to the native English to make sure the remarks will not be misconstrued. It is realised that the production of the ready-corrected essay involves much self-sacrifice on the part of the pupil, but it is with the utmost assurance that I can state that we may depend on the co-operation of the school in this undertaking. We can only hope that the staff themselves will be willing to take advantage of this truly magnificent gesture. Particulars of the development of the scheme may be printed in the next issue.

Ena Carr, Form VI.

Day-Dreaming.

Tall palm trees line the sandy track
And camels pass with swinging pack
Of silk and rug and precious stone
Across the setting sun. Alone
Gleams, 'mid shady banks and near
The trees, a pool, the desert's tear
Of pity for the hordes of hands
That died enslaved in shaping sands
To pyramids—a screech of brakes
And with a hoot! My mind awakes
And to a street is changed the track;
The pyramids to shops are back.
Gone are the palm trees, gone the pool,
And I am walking—late to school!

Audrey Nall, Form VU.a.

Masquerade.

Who is this beautiful maiden who approaches? Dressed in a light green robe, whilst upon her head she wears a garland of flowers; where-ever she sets her feet flowers spring up in the velvet green carpet she has laid. Ice in the rivers, snow which covered the fields melt when she breathes upon them. To show their welcome at her coming, birds warble, choose their mates and build their nests; lambs frisk about her in merry gambols.

Who is she and what is her name?

Who is this that comes from the south, whose breath is hot and sultry? Clad in a light transparent garment she loves the cool shade. To bathe her languid limbs she seeks clear streams and crystal brooks, but the fly from her and are dried up at her approach. The haymaker welcomes her coming, likewise the sheep-shearer, who clips the fleeces off his flocks. When she is here it is a delight to walk with her in the early morning when the dew is on the grass; it is a pleasure to lie in the shade of a spreading tree, and to wander with her in the soft twilight when the evening star appears.

Who is she and what is her name?

He comes with a sober pace and steals upon us unawares. He is decked with a garland of ripe wheat; but his hair is thin and begins to fall and auburn is mingled with grey. He shakes the trees, from which the brown nuts fall. To sport he calls the hunters—the horn sounds, and “tally-ho” the panting fox flies to cover, a pack of hounds on his trail. The sound of the gun!—the trembling partridge and beautiful pheasant flutter bleeding in the air. Can you tell me who is the that is crowned with a wheat sheaf?

Who is that comes from the north, closely wrapping around him his garments of fur and wool? His head is bald, his beard is of sharp icicles. He loves blazing fires heaped in the hearth and sparkling wine in the glass. Binding skates to his feet, he skims over frozen ponds. His breath is piercing and cold, no little flower dare peep above the ground when he is near. In the early morning he weaves fantastic lace on the window panes; whatever he touches turns to ice. Should he lay his cold hand upon you, it is as the icy touch of death. Tell me if you know, who is he and what is his name?

K. Hope, Form R.a.

Old Grammarians' Notes.

Easter, 1939.

The Girls' hockey Team has again had a highly successful season, only two matches having been lost out of fourteen played (nine matches were cancelled). The last Boys' Football Match with the School was drawn (2—2).

The Annual Dinner and Dance was held in the School Hall on Friday, March 3rd. The Headmaster presided and about 100 members and their guests attended. Mr. Tom Wilson, introduced by the Chairman as "one of the most distinguished Veterinary Surgeons in this part of the county," was the principal guest and proposed the toast "The Old Grammarians' Association." Mr. Wilson said the object of the Association was to maintain those friendships formed at School, friendships which were the finest that could ever be formed, and which would remain through life.

Mr. J. Jackson, responding, appealed for greater interest in the Association, which he said could be of great value to the School and scholars. Mr. A. O. Bevan, in proposing the toast of "The School," said that he had that day received a telegram from Mr. S. A. Moore, who was Headmaster 1901-1907: "I send you hearty greetings. May your School flourish" (Applause). The reputation of any school was founded on the influence and character of its scholars and Old Boys. Scholars went out into the world as torch bearers of their town, county and country and their influence and character were noted by others. N.A.G.S. was a school of proud tradition and one to which it was an honour to belong. He urged Old Boys to serve the community, adding that life was not something mean and grovelling, but was a noble destiny. The Headmaster replied and was supported by the head boy (R. Owen) and the head girl (Edna Charlesworth).

"The Visitors" was proposed by Mr G. K. Evans, the Association's Treasurer. Mr. W. Harlock, in his reply, expressed the hope that Old Boys would take up public work, to the benefit of the town and district. The Headmaster, in conclusion, expressed appreciation of the work done by the Secretary (Mr. R. Welch) and also by Mr. E. H. Steventon, on whom most of the work in connection with the Dinner and Dance had

Devolved. Mr. C. H. Bailey was thanked for showing the School film during the interval between the Dinner and Dance.

Next year we hope the School Hall extensions will be completed and that the Association will be able to welcome a record assembly of old pupils and friends.

M.D.,
B.M.

Pages from an Oxford Diary.--II.

Bump Races.

February, 1939.

As you may already have learnt from the public prints (as Sherlock Holmes would say) this week is the Toggers or Torpids Week. In other words it is a miniature version of Eights Week. They started on Thursday, and you may be sure that your Special Correspondent was there in plenty of time; namely, on the towing-path just above Iffley locks. A number of boats were already there, some with young gentlemen, megaphones affixed to their mouths, yelling in very unsirenlike tones to their respective crews. As the hour of three drew near they all moved in to a line of punts drawn up beside the bank. I soon spotted Magdalen by their black and white, and the black stripe round the oar. At five minutes before three an air of nervous expectancy settled over the whole assemblage. I noticed in particular my friend, Mr. N-----, who removed his sweater, with the air of a prisoner on the scaffold removing his collar; and Mr. W-----, the cox, who grasped hold of a small cork float on the end of a light cord attached to the bank. As the 'minute' gun sounded a man pushed off the boat with a boat-hook, and the oars were gradually got into position. "Three-quarters of a minute," said their counsellor on the bank. ". . . half a minute . . . quarter of a minute"--at this point they all leaned forward ready for the first stroke--" . . . ten seconds—nine—eight—seven—six—five—four—three—two—one." Bang! The cox flung his "bung" clear of the boat, and the boat got under way with a powerful heave.

Crowds of moral supporters came dashing down the tow-path, some on bicycles, to the imminent danger of life and limb. A man armed with a hefty revolver ran level with each boat, and fired off several chambers with a loud report whenever he thought his crew had a chance of making a bump. Meanwhile the next crew were steadily overhauling Magdalen. "Come on, Magdalen, you've got 'em"--"Teddy Hall, Teddy Hall"--

Loud reports from guns on both sides--"One--out—Two—out—Three—out"--this last from the cox. But it was too late. As they approached the new cement bridge Teddy Hall's prow ran over Magdalen's stern, and after repeated shoutings from the bank, our cox, raising his hand, acknowledged defeat. Both boats drifted into the bank, and our cacophonists and our boats made way for the next college boats and cacophonists.

We have now been bumped three times in three days—our seconds crew, that is; and our first crew has been bumped too. Gone are our hopes of a Bump Supper and alcoholic oblivion!

May Day on Magdalen Tower.

May 7th.

The most important event of this week was May Morning, at least as far as the University as a whole is concerned. The college choir sings a psalm on the top of the tower to meet the dawn (Mr. Hey used to do this when he was in our choir) and many people are there to watch them. Those who had witnessed a recent film of which you may have heard, called "A Yank at Oxford," in which Mr. Robert Taylor glides along the Cherwell in a punt with his lady-love in a scene of Arcadian loveliness, with the choir chanting in the distance ("Gee, honey, aint it cute?"), were somewhat disappointed with the reality. I didn't go myself, and Perkins forgot to wake up at 6 those who had intended to go, but I am told that the morning was dark and chill, with rain. Mr. Freddie Grisewood was there. Complete with mike, telling Empire listeners all about it, and say that a recording was broadcast in the news at 10.0. Perhaps you heard it.

A.L.

A St. Albans Letter.

Hertfordshire Institute of Agriculture,
"Oaklands," St. Albans,
March 4th, 1939.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Pausing for a few hours from the toils of the land and the lecture hall, I felt an urge to write to you and tell you of the passing events at this Verulamian institution: wherefore I picked up my now rather neglected pen 'pour ecrire un mot.'

I feel rather more inclined to write an essay on Spring than to relate the local news: everything seems to be wakening at last in this monastery! The weather has been kind enough to allow of our playing tennis for several days. We are well equipped with two hard courts.

DDuring this term I have been dabbling in pigs, cattle, stable duty, and various cropping operations. Now I am on 'Workshop' roster, renovating the silage chopper and blower. I had one night on 'Sheep' duty, as all students do while the lambing season is in progress. I slept out in the travelling hut, and thoroughly enjoyed myself cooking my own supper of bacon and eggs! Up to date I think some sixty sheep have lambed, and most of them have had twins, so that now we are entirely surrounded by lambs. We were unlucky in losing six ewes, which died from 'pulpy kidney' disease. Thus we have become rather suspicious of the mutton we have at dinner!

Indoors, we have lectures on Farm Management, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Dairy, Veterinary Hygiene, Animal Nutrition, Engineering, and Crops. The Crops appeal to me most, of course. And least? Poultry!

I have managed to begin investigations in the flora of this neighbourhood. So far it appears to consist entirely of Chickweed and Buxbaum's Speedwell—not forgetting the Nettle. From the variety of seedlings already appearing in the hedgerows, there seems to be a good prospect for my botanising. I am going to see the Principal soon concerning the Senior Scholarship, for which I shall be applying before the end of next month. I am revising my H.S.C. botany, in addition to the work her (which, for me,

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If fairly straightforward) in order to keep myself in trim. Mr. Connold, our Crops lecturer, will lend me a microscope to do some of the cell study. Ah, me! Would that I were back in the Sixth Form: yet I am quite contented here.

I trust you are in good health. For my own part I have been troubled with ear-ache for a week past, and, having seen the doctor, I am just recovering. Give me toothache every time—there, one can have the tooth extracted, whereas an ear is a more permanent fixture.

And how are the birds? We have had an influx of thrushes just lately—forgive me, for I know not of what kind! Last autumn I noticed the gulls following the ploughs, but the Spring ploughing, for some reason, does not seem to attract them. Is it that they are mating at present? I'm afraid the rather decrepit hedges in this country will not provide much nesting room!

Oh, by the way, what do you think of this for an adornment of an Agriculture lecture-hall blackboard?

1939 Armaments

£580,000,000!

Agriculture

£ Faith : Hope s. : Charity d. !!!

The author of the above thinks that "that ought to bring it home to them!" Everyone is either a Socialist or some other form of 'agin the Government,' and we spend—perhaps I should say waste—hours arguing on subjects of which we know only too little: but, after all, it is 'only human nature,' as my philosophical dormitory-companion informs me!

As this is the last page of my writing pad, it will have to be the last of my letter. Please remember me to all my good friends to whom, I fear, I am too lazy, or too busy to write.

Yours, etc.,
Joe Green.

Valete Et Salvete.

The following pupils have left or joined us since our last publication.

Left:--

Hodgkin House:--

Boy: Adams, D.

Thrush House:--

Boys: Chapman, R.; Dodd, K.

Girls: B. Done; D. Mulliner; M. Wood.

Wilbraham House:--

Boys: Cooper, J.; Millard, P.

Girls: E. Charlesworth; B. Knowles; W. Leadbeater.

New Comers:--

Hodgkin House:--

Girls: R. Bailey; E. A. Haighton.

Thrush House:--

Boy: Dutton, R. W.

Girls: B. W. Hockenhull; A. Nall; R. Sims-Hilditch; A. O. J. Slawson.

Wilbraham House:--

Boy: M. P. MacDonald.

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