

The Nantonian

The

Nantonian.

June, 1943.

Vol. II,

No. 7

The Nantonian

Nantwich and Acton Grammar
School Magazine.

Editorial Committee.

Headmaster: Mr. J. Lodge, M.A.

Mr. R. Gowanlock, B.A., Miss S. Evans-Hughes, B.A.,

Mr. D. R. Hughes, B.A., Mrs Gowanlock, B.A.

The Nantonian

June, 1943.

New Series.

Vol. II., No. 7.

The Nantonian

Contents.

	Page.
1. EDITORIAL	5
2. SCHOOL NOTES	5
3. PREPARATORY SCHOOL NOTES	9
4. CONTRIBUTIONS TO GOOD CAUSES	10
5. PRIZE LIST, 1941-2	12
6. HOUSE NOTES	13
7. HOCKEY NOTES	15
8. FOOTBALL NOTES	16
9. CROSS COUNTRY RACES, 1943	17
10. "TWELFTH NIGHT."-AN APPRECIATION	18
11. EPILOGUE TO "TWELFTH NIGHT"	20
12. PHOTOGRAPHIC	SUPPLEMENT.
13. SCHOOL SOCIETIES AND CLUBS	20
14. LITERARY ARTICLES	25
15. OLD GRAMMARIANS' NEWS	32
16. NEWS FROM MESSRS. CAREY AND LEWIS	33
17. VALETE ET SALVETE	36

Editorial

MUCH of the material of this Magazine concerns our main activity of last term--the School production of Twelfth Night, In order that our record might be complete, the photographs of the production have been incorporated in a Supplement, for which we are again indebted to Mr. Bailey. The rest of the illustration of this issue is the work of enthusiastic contributors under the supervision and able direction of Miss Evans-Hughes.

Other aspects of School life are revealed in the literary articles; for in them we have appreciations of our fine collection of pictures and photographs, and of the varieties and disposal of the trees on the School grounds which enhance the beauty of our surroundings.

SCHOOL NOTES, May, 1943.

Last term was the mildest winter term which we have experienced for at any rate the last ten years. Although great care was exercised with the central heating, there was not a single complaint about cold rooms. Usually there are scores.

The term nevertheless "went out like a lion," for on Wednesday, April 7th, within two days of the end of term, we experienced the full fury of the gale which then "o'er pale Britannia past." At about 12.40 p.m. there was a mighty crash, and the boys' bicycle shed was blown down level with the ground. On a normal day there would have been about 100 bicycles under the shed, but on this day, owing to special time-table arrangements in connection with the matinée of Twelfth Night, only 13 bicycles were there. These unfortunately were very seriously damaged—some beyond repair. The collapse of the bicycle shed has opened up a very pleasant view from the windows of the hall. Can this view be retained by setting up the bicycle stalls elsewhere?

Congratulations to Miss B. J. Whitworth on her marriage, and our best thanks to her for her many good works for the School. We extend a hearty welcome to her successor, Mrs. V. N. Lea,

6

The Christmas term concluded with the functions which have become usual with us at that time—Carol Concert, School Parties and Presentation of prizes. The Carol Concert, which, after having been confined to the School for several years, was this year again performed in public, was very greatly appreciated by a large audience. In addition to the main items of the concert, admirably sung carols, there were two short plays, Laurence Housman's *Sister Clare* and a nativity play in French by Miss Trentham, both performed with rare delicacy and charm.

School Prizes were presented on the last afternoon of the Christmas Term by Lt.-Col. J. Wesley Emberton, the Vice-Chairman of our Governors. He is an Old Grammarian and has won distinction in many fields of activity, and we were very grateful to him for kindly coming to perform this important function. We much regretted the long accident which caused the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Wilfred Harlock, and we are very glad to record his complete recovery.

As we go to press, we learn that Mr. Harlock has resigned the chairmanship, after having held that office for some 20 years. It is difficult to associate the title, Chairman of the Governors, with anybody else, such a wise and good friend has Mr. Harlock been to the School throughout those many years. He knows how grateful we are to him for all that he has done for us and we are assured of his continued interest. We warmly welcome his successor, Lt.-Col. J. Wesley Emberton.

As usual, Doctor Barnardo's Homes benefited from collections at the well-organised and much-appreciated School Parties. On another page of the Magazine will be found a statement of funds raised at the Our School for good causes during the Christmas and Easter Terms. warmest thanks are due to the enthusiastic organisers and to those who have keenly and generously responded to their appeals.

Charities will benefit very substantially from the profits made on the four performances of Twelfth Night, which took place on April

7th-10th, and were enthusiastically received by large audiences. We were particularly pleased to welcome a party of pupils from the Nantwich Church School to the Wednesday matinée.

Thorough rehearsals by an exceptionally keen and loyal cast resulted in a presentation of Twelfth Night on which the School can be most warmly congratulated. The many strands of this most harmonious of plays were woven together into a most charming dramatic pattern by the appreciative handling of the young actors, alike in the scenes of poetry and romantic love and in the scenes of merrymaking, foolery and high comedy.

The producer was deeply indebted to those two experts, Messrs. Ford and McGraw, for most generously placing at his disposal their time and skill in devising and executing a most artistic and harmonious setting, the result of an imaginative use of lighting and colour and design, which provided an ideal framework for Miss Uttley's lovely Jacobean costumes. He has sought to express his sense of gratitude to these three, and to all those who contributed to the success of the play. in an Epilogue which was charmingly spoken by Viola at the conclusion of each performance and is printed on another page of this Magazine.

On Saturday, April 3rd, Miss Knowelden took a choir of girls to participate in the Music Festival then being held in Chester. They are to be warmly congratulated on the criticism which they received from Dr. Armstrong, the adjudicator, particularly on his remark: "They sing with enjoyment."

On other pages of this Magazine will be found articles in appreciation of our School trees and our School pictures. Nearly every variety of common English tree is represented (many of them many times over) on our School grounds: inclusive of fruit trees there are over 50 varieties. Perhaps in the near future we will publish in the Magazine a diagram showing the positions of these trees.

8

A count of our pictures revealed the fact that in the Senior School building alone there are over 700 pictures, of one kind and another, on the walls. This is a collection of which we may well be proud and which should not be passed by unheeded.

In connection with our pictures it is fitting at this time to call attention to the fact that, apart from the collection of coloured Medici prints in the Art Room, practically all the pictures in the School were framed by a very fine Nantwich craftsman, Mr. J. France, of Beam Street, whose death we noted with deep regret last month.

On Wednesday, March 10th, we received a surprise visit which we can regard as a compliment to the School. The Director of Education, Mr. F. F. Potter, brought along Colonel Burnett, of the United States Army, to have a look at the School and its activities. The Colonel was most interested in everything he saw, particularly perhaps in the Physical Education, in which he is an expert at a school of 4,000 pupils in Texas. He addressed the School most interestingly and entertainingly about his country, and he was undoubtedly very touched by the cordial reception which he had among us here. It was indeed a most happy exchange of good feeling and reminded those, whose memories went back so far, of the visit which another American, Dr. Brandt, made to the School on Empire Day, 1935.

Hearty congratulations to Enid Owen on obtaining her B.A. degree with First Class Honours in Modern Languages at the recent examinations at Manchester University.

We congratulate Raymond Whittle on his becoming a Fellow of the Meteorological Society—a well-earned reward for his interest in and study of the weather since his early years at School.

Finally our very best wishes are always extended to those Old Grammarians who are serving with the armed forces or doing other work of national importance at this time. We have recently had interesting letters from Mr. Carey and Mr. Lewis (whom we include in

our good wishes), and selections from these are printed on another page. We are always glad to welcome Old Grammarians home on leave, and we would here remind them to be sure to sign the visitors' book (the gift of Hilda Wright) which is now placed in the office.

As we go to press the news has just reached us that Mr. Hughes (now Major D. R. Hughes, R.H.A.) has been mentioned in despatches for "gallant and distinguished services in the Middle East during the Our warmest congratulations period November, 1941, to March, 1942." to Mr. Hughes on winning this fine recognition of his services.

J.L.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL NOTES.

Since December when the last notes were written the children have continued to make their small contributions to the war effort. Knitting for the Forces continues, and the youngest pupils are to be commended for their share in it. Contributions to the Red Cross Penny-a-Week Fund for the last two quarters have amounted to £5 5s. and £4 10s. Respectively. At the end of December £1 19s. 9d. was sent to the Lord Mayor of London's Relief Fund and a further sum of £1 12s. 1d. at the end of March.

A special effort for Prisoners of War was made in the Autumn Term, with the result that we were able to send to headquarters a cheque for £29 2s. 10d. Form ILL. made a collection of books and magazines for the men of H.M.S. Rapid, a new destroyer recently commissioned. An original verse competition held at the commencement of the Spring Term, with Mrs. F. Haighton as adjudicator, was won by Wilbraham with 73 points. Hodgkin came second with 65 points and

The Nantonian

Thrush third with 58. Mrs. Haighton kindly presented the winners with a small shield which Hodgkin and Thrush each aspire to hold at a later date. At the end of January Mr. A. D. Tobler gave us a very interesting talk on birds, and afterwards was good enough to present us with a case of stuffed magpies. This is a very fine addition to the wonderful collection

10

of birds the School already possesses, and which was largely the result of Mr. Tobler's labour when a master at Willaston College. Several children have commenced their collection of wild flowers. It is a happy experience to see how interest in this work is stimulated by the few enthusiasts who make the first start and how the number of collectors grows. Nothing in the School is more pleasing to watch than a group of these young children eagerly endeavouring to identify uncommon specimens during their lunch or dinner hour, with the help of a Skene's Flora, and occasionally aspiring even to a "Bentham and Hooker."

We closed the Spring Term with an afternoon concert, in which each form presented a playlet. They were very commendable efforts, and as usual, dressing up was not the least part of the children's excitement and enjoyment.

E.M.G.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO GOOD CAUSES.

Amounts as set down below have been contributed by the School to various charities, good causes and national efforts during the Christmas and Easter Terms.
CHRISTMAS TERM. Senior School:-

£ s. d.

RED

CROSS.-

The Nantonian

(a)	Boxes	and	Country	Dance	Party
					4 4 5
(b)			Penny-a-Week		Fund
					13 0 0
(c)	Prisoners	of	War	Fund	(Harvest Festival Sale
by				Form	RA.)
					12 0 0
FRUIT					COLLECTIONS.-
Rose		Hips		(2	cwts.)
					7 8
Horse		Chestnuts		(3	cwts.)
					1 2 6
(Proceeds		to		Red	Cross).
FRENCH					CHARITIES.-
Sailors'					Home.
Babies'					Home.
(Collections at French classes)					3 11 0
TUBERCULOSIS	(National		Society	for	Prevention
Sale			of		of).-
					Stamps
					3 2 6
					11
DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES.--				£	s. d
(a) Members of Helpers' League				12	14 11
(b)	Collected		at		Parties:--
Seniors				1	10 7
Middle School				1	5 2
Juniors				0	16 2
LIVERPOOL			RADIUM		INSTITUTE.-
Collection started by Form RA. at Half Term				1 0 0	
WAR					SAVINGS.-
School Group				337	10 0
Preparatory					Department:--
RED					CROSS.-
(a) Penny-a-Week Fund				5	5 0
(b) Prisoners of War Fund				29	2 10
LORD	MAYOR		OF		LONDON.-
General Relief Fund				1	16 2
DR.			BARNARDO'S		HOMES.-
Members of Helpers' League				20	8 0
HUMANE SOCIETY (R.S.P.C.A.).—				0	7 6
KNITTING.--For the Three Forces (43 articles).					
WAR					SAVINGS.-
School Group-included in total for Senior					
School	(52		11		6)
EASTER	TERM.		Senior		School:-

The Nantonian

	£	s.	d.
RED CROSS.-			
(a) Boxes	1	16	0
(b) Penny-a-Week Fund	17	11	0
(c) From proceeds of "Twelfth Night"	15	15	0
(d) Prisoners of War Fund-Form RA. "Twelfth Night"	2	0	0
DR. BARNARDO'S			HOMES.-
Members of Helpers' League	3	12	7
LIVERPOOL RADIUM			INSTITUTE.-
Form RA.	1	15	0
BRITISH & FOREIGN BIBLE			SOCIETY.-
Testaments for the Troops	3	1	0

12

	£	s.	d.
EMIGRATION & EDUCATION FUND.--			
War Resistance International	1	16	0
PROCEEDS FROM "TWELFTH			NIGHT."-
R.S.P.C.A. Special Branch.-Fund for the Relief			
of Russian Horses	2	2	0
Nantwich Cottage Hospital	5	5	0
Nantwich Boys' Club	2	2	0
Nantwich G.T.C.	2	2	0
KNITTING.-37 pairs socks, 15 pairs gloves.			
WAR SAVINGS.-			
School Group	282	14	6
Preparatory Department:			
RED CROSS.-			
Penny-a-Week Fund	4	10	6
LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.-			
General Relief Fund	1	12	1
DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES.-			
School Box	1	9	9
KNITTING.-36 garments for the three Forces.			
WAR SAVINGS.-			
School Group included in total for Senior School	(61	1	6)

PRIZE LIST, 1941-1942.

At the informal distribution at the end of the Christmas term we were delighted to welcome a distinguished Old Boy of the School- Lt.-Col. Wesley Emberton-who, as Vice-Chairman of the Governors, presented prizes to the following pupils:-
VIA.-Personal Service as Head Prefect: Bostock, H. D.; M. Smith; Doody, R. (Form Prize, Speech); Williams, F. J. (Form Prize); M. Smith (Domestic Subjects).
VIB.-B. Gowdrige (Form Prize, Religious Knowledge); Craighead. J. (First Aid Service).
VU.A.-Form Prizes: Dutton, F. A., Hughes, R. W., Purcell, J. H., Williams, P., K. A. Chadwick, L. Jackson, M. Wych. Special Prizes: Ramsay Smith Latin Prize, L. Jackson; Music and

13

Library Service, M. Wych and L. Jackson: Speech, M. Woodhall; Handicraft, Bennion, W. J.
VUB Form Prize: Thompson, H. Special Prizes: English, M. Wilcock; Handicraft,, Millington, E. S.
VLA Form Prizes: T. Done, Cooke, B., Peake, R., N. Lloyd. Magazine Prize, E. Jolly.
VL.B. Form Prize: M. Proudlove.
R.A.-Form Prizes: Flynn, T., G. Haslam; French Prize, G. Haslam; Magazine Prize, M. Storey.
R.B. Form Prize, C. Hopley.
IVA-Form Prizes, N. Wright, P. Bailey, Woodhead, N.
IVB-Form Prizes, D. Jackson, J. Birchall.
IIIA Form Prizes, Smith, J. D., D. Atkinson, Steele, A. A.
IIIB-Form Prizes, Jones, A., Cowap, J. B., Jones, K.
IIW. Form Prizes, R. Bailey, M. Macdonald, P. Vickers: Special Prizes: History, Brown, T., Holinshead, R., MacGraw, S.; Nature Study, R. Bailey, B. Stafford.
IIL-Form Prizes, Taylor, B., Whittingham, R. I-Form Prizes, K. McClelland, Brazendale, P.

HOUSE NOTES.

Captains: Girl-S. Jones: Boy--J. Craighead.
Vice-Captains: Girl-M. Proudlove: Boy-J. Bonell.
We regret to say that our fortunes have not changed yet, although the boys were second in the

The Nantonian

Cross-Country and were unfortunate in losing to Thrush in the football matches. The House was well represented in the First Hockey and Football XI's., and M. Proudlove obtained her Colours. We hope that all members of the House will do their utmost this year in the Sports and Music Competition and endeavour to make Hodgkin Champion House.

S.J., J.H.C.

14

Captains: Girl-M. Smith; Boy-J. B. Mulliner.

Vice-Captains: Girl-L. Jackson; Boy-F. A. Dutton.

The boys are to be congratulated on gaining first place in both the Senior and Junior Cross Country Races, with special congratulations to our boy Captain, J. B. Mulliner, winner of the Senior Race, and C. Sanders, winner of the Junior. Although we did not manage to obtain the Hockey Shield this year, the boys gained the Football Shield, while the girls tied with Wilbraham for the Country Dancing trophy. Thrushes still retain their supremacy in the intellectual sphere, although their conduct does not appear to be irreproachable. The House has been well represented in both the Hockey XI. and the Football XI. Greater effort, however, is needed if Thrush is to retain her position as Champion House, and it is to be hoped that in the future Thrushes will be seen flocking to the many practices needed for the various activities of the Summer Term.

M.S.,

J.B.M.

Captains: Girl-B. M. Gowdridge; Boy-E. H. Cooper.

The Nantonian

Vice-Captains: Girl-E. Adams; Boy-G. R. Robinson.

So far this year we have achieved only very limited success. The girls are to be congratulated on taking first place in Hockey and tying with Thrush for first place in Country Dancing; but the boys have been unsuccessful in both Football and the Cross-Country Races. From these results it is evident that a much greater effort is required from everyone in the House, especially the boys, in order to win the House Championship this year. To this end we would urge everyone to attend the music practices regularly and to avail themselves of every opportunity of practising for both the Athletic and the Swimming Sports. With such an effort and with improved spirit in the House we feel assured of success.

B.G.,
E.C.

15

Hockey Notes.

The First XI. Hockey Team has enjoyed a fairly successful season. Sixteen fixtures were arranged; of these 11 were played. The following have represented School: M. Smith, M. Proudlove, A. Bennion, I. Steele, P. Ogden, O. Dodd, E. Adams, C. Jones, L. Jackson, Flemington, E. Wilkinson, M. Hilton, N. Maddock. E.

Results: Played 11, 5 won, 5 lost, 1 drawn. Goals for 37, against 31.
FIXTURE LIST.

Opponents.	Where played.	Result.	Score.
Girls' High School, Whitchurch	Home	Lost	6-0
Crewe Training College	Away	Lost	4-1
Sir John Deane's School, Northwich	Home	Won	5-2
Crewe Secondary School	Away	Lost	6-2
Market Drayton Grammar School	Home	Won	5-2
Girls' High School, Whitchurch	Away	Lost	2-1
Verdin Grammar School, Winsford	Home	Won	4-0
Crewe Secondary School ...	Home	Lost	5-4
Sir John Deane's School, Northwich	Away	Won	4-1

The Nantonian

W.A.A.F. XI., Nantwich	Home	Won	8-0
Verdin Grammar School, Winsford	Away	Drew	3-3

M.T.

16

FOOTBALL NOTES

This season the First XI. Foot- ball Team has played eleven With only one Sixth matches. Former, and half the players from Lower V. we have not been able to hold our opponents. Our players have been small in stature and other teams, having older and heavier players, have had a big advantage. However, the School has won on several occasions. The Second XI. and Junior Teams have

won all their matches. The following have represented the School:- Craighead. Bonell. Lloyd, Rowlands, Moulton, Bate, Fossick, Ham- bridge, Sanders, King, Bostock, Boyer, West, Walker, Fox, Peake, Mottram

Results: Played 11, won 4, lost 6, drawn 1: goals for 38, against 57.

FIXTURE LIST.

Opponents	Where played.	Result	Score
Cresve Secondary School	Away	Lost	
Market Drayton Grammar School	Home	Won	

The Nantonian

Winsford Grammar School	Home	Lost
Bunbury Boys Club	Home	Won
Old Boys XII	Home	Won
Air Training Corps XI	Home	Draw
Cresve SA XIL	Home	Won
City & County Grammar School, Chester	Away	Lost
Winsford Grammar School	Away	Lost
Cresve: Secondary School	Home	Lost
City & County Grammar School, Chester	Home	Lost

Goal scorers: Lloyd 17, Sanders 7. Hambridge 6, West 3. King 2. Bostock 2. Bate 1.

J.C..
EL.

Cross Country Races.

The Cross Country Races were run this year under good conditions on In both races Friday, April 2nd..

Thrush won comfortably; Hodgkin was second and Wilbraham a poor third. Thrush must be congratulated; in the Senior race they had five 'home' in the first six and all the team was placed in the first thirteen; in the Junior race their team were in the first twelve. Hodgkin put up a fine fight in the Senior race and all their team finished in the first dozen. We heartily congratulate Mulliner and Sanders, the Senior and Junior Champions respectively. The individual positions were:-

The Nantonian

Seniors.

1. Mulliner (Time: 25 mins. 35 secs.).
2. Allsop.
3. Entwistle.
4. Boyer.
5. Bate.
6. Shaw.
7. Craighead.
8. Colgate.
9. Svendsen.
10. Walker.

Juniors.

1. Sanders (Time : 18.0 mins.)
2. Aston.
3. Keeley.
4. Jones, R.
5. Mitchell.
6. Edge.
7. Birchall.
8. Lloyd.
9. Boyer.
10. Rowlands.

18

House Placings.

House.	Placings.	Totals.
SENIORS.-		
1. Thrush	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 13	30
2. Hodgkin	4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	49
3. Wilbraham	12, 17, 26, 28, 29, 35	148

The Nantonian

JUNIORS.-

1. Thrush	1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 12	44
2. Hodgkin	3, 4, 7, 13, 15, 24	66
3. Wilbraham	5, 6, 9, 14, 16, 17	67

R.G.

"TWELFTH NIGHT."

For the second annual production in the new School Hall the Grammar School has indeed made an apt choice. This "golden-tongued romance" offers its charms to every kind of spectator; the dreamy music of its verse enchants the ear as in hardly another play of Shakespeare's, and its other-worldliness is counterbalanced by the hearty and ageless fun of the two knights. The production succeeded admirably in bringing out these two contrasting themes. The beautiful but unreal love of the two noble ladies, Olivia and Viola, and the poetical Duke Orsino, was handled with fitting delicacy; and the players must particularly be praised for their obvious appreciation of the rhythm and melody of the long and sustained imaginative passages of these scenes; which are often mal-treated even on the professional stage. In particular the difficult and subtle scenes of the nascent love and final declaration of Olivia to "Cesario" were portrayed with both tact and ardour. The glorious scenes of foolery and merry-making between Sir Toby, Sir Andrew and the "lighter people" were interpreted with such evident gusto on the part of the players that it was a delight to watch them;

As the Camera sees it.

The Nantonian



Antonio: An apple, cleft in two, is not more twin. Twelfth Night, V., i.



Sir toby: Dost thou think, because thou art virtuous, there shall be no more cakes and ale? Twelfth Night, II., iii.

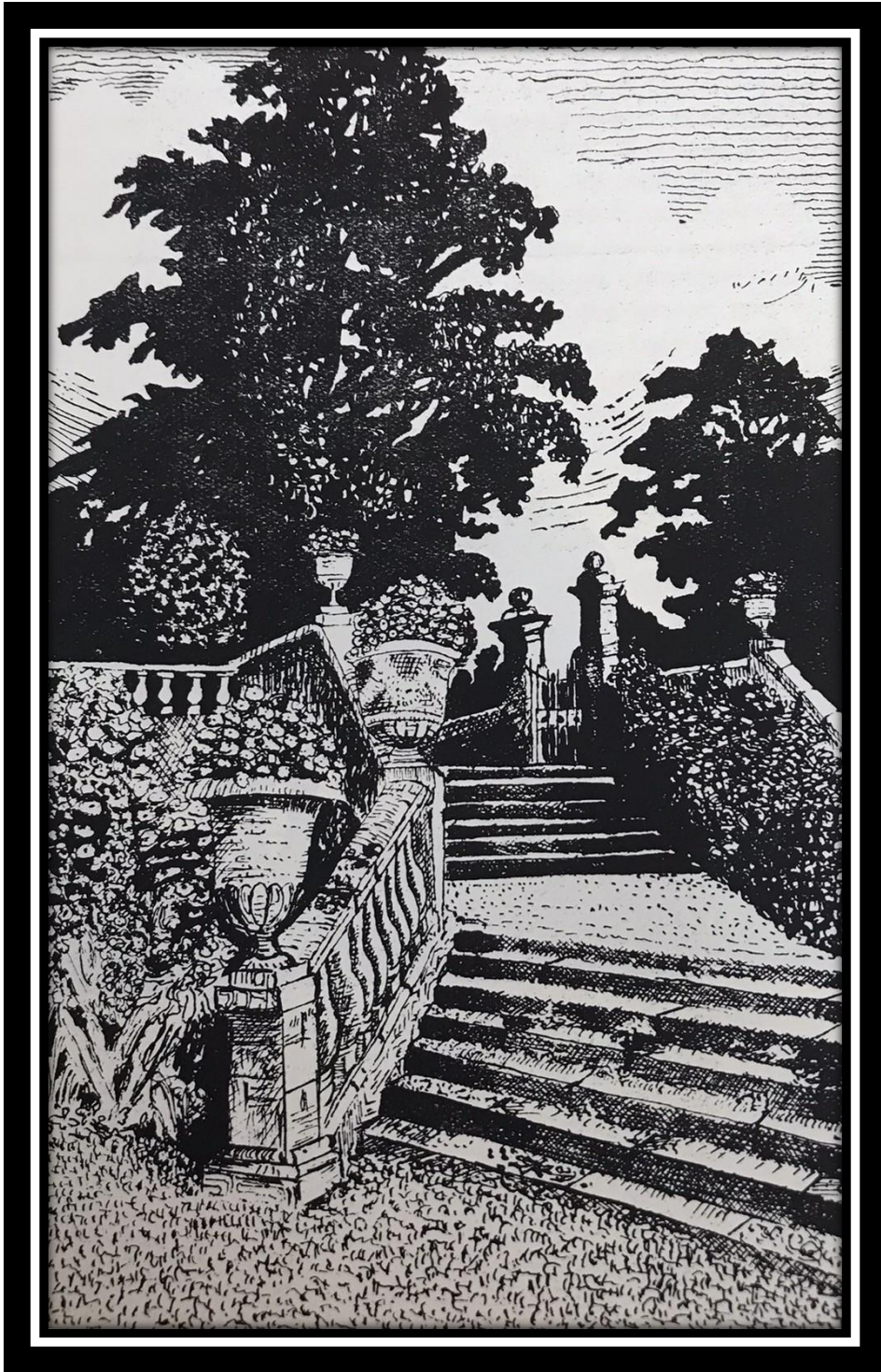
The Nantonian



Viola: Some mollification for your giant, sweet lady. Twelfth Night, I., v.



Malvolio (reading): "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them." Twelfth Night, II., v,



“My Garden is a Lovesome Thing. . . .”

Josf Walley,
Form V.L.a.



“But in the shroud of silence like the dead I heard a sudden harmony of hoofs.”

Diana Benoy,
Form V.L.a.

The Nantonian

the famous carousing scene was particularly enjoyed by the audience. They were well supported by the feminine gaiety of Maria and by the faithful Signior Fabian. A unique and lonely position in the plot, aloof from both master and man, is held by Malvolio; this acid and somewhat unsympathetic figure was played with wit and satire, and the superb letter-scene before the box-hedge was received with universal enthusiasm. The Fool, Feste, ready to oblige with a catch below-stairs or a song of good life in the hall, and yet beholden to neither, wove a thread of song and airy quip around the whole, and brought down the curtain in fitting style with his haunting ballad of "the wind and the rain."

All these varying threads were bound together by a production which aimed at a swift narration, though no individual scene was hurried. This was achieved by the appropriate technique which, it is now recognised, can hardly be dispensed with in Shakespeare: the alternation of short scenes on the apron stage with scenes on the full stage. For example, the apron stage enabled Viola's twin-brother, Sebastian, and his robust friend, Antonio, to give due emphasis to their brief appearances before they are drawn into the main plot. Beautiful and appropriate settings were secured by a skilful use of lighting; while a cyclorama and a simple but imaginative décor created a garden of great charm. An innovation was the use of Stuart costumes, instead of the usual neo-Elizabethan; a Puritan Malvolio with steeple-crowned hat was particularly apt. Finally a word must be said as to the musical introductions and accompaniments, fit adornment to the most musical of plays.

The cast was as follows: Orsino, R. C. Peake; Curio, G. S. Mottram; Valentine, M. A. Grindrod; Viola, Lorna Jackson; three sailors, J. L. Boyer, J. R. Steele, B. D. Oliver; Sir Toby Belch, F. J. Williams; Maria, Gwendoline Haslam ; Sir Andrew Aguecheek, E. H. Cooper; Feste, G. R. Robinson; Malvolio, R. F. G. Davenport; Olivia, Joyce Thomasson; two ladies, Patricia Ogden, Julia Flemington; Antonio, F. A. Dutton; Sebastian, J. B. Mulliner; Fabian, B. Cooke; two officers, E. Lloyd, B. West; a priest, T. Flynn.

A.L.

Epilogue to "Twelfth Night."

Spoken by Lorna Jackson, as Viola.

Kind audience, may I ask you, ere you go,

To hear another hundred words or so?

My words are words of thanks-and first of all

To you, good friends, assembled in this hall,

For your most kind acceptance of our play,

Wherein "we'll strive to please you every day."

Next, we who've strutted here like clowns or queens

Would thank our friends who've toiled behind the scenes;

And we would think especially of two

(Old friends) to whom especial thanks are due,

Whose time and skill and art, in wondrous wise,

Have made this magic garden to arise,

Fit setting for this gem of purest ray,

Our Shakespeare's loveliest and most gracious play.

"Tis beauty truly blent," and we record

Thanks without measure to McGraw and Ford.

J.L.

SCHOOL SOCIETIES AND CLUBS.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

The Society has met regularly during the winter months and the attendance at most meetings has been good.

The season opened with a debate, when the motion "That life was happier a hundred years ago than it is to-day" was carried by so large a majority that it might give rise to the belief that the members are weighed down by the cares of modern life, which, believe me, is far from being the case!

A growing interest in music led us this year to include two musical evenings in the programme. In November a number of enthusiasts presented favourite gramophone records ranging from the Egmont Overture to the Warsaw Concerto, each record being introduced by its admirer.

For the last meeting of the Christmas term we had a very enjoyable hour when one of our Old Boys, Mr. Albert Jolly, who is a very fine pianist, gave a delightful recital to an appreciative audience.

Perhaps it was because music was 'in the air' that the choice of subject for the opening debate of the Spring Term was "That Jazz is preferable to classical music"-a motion which we regret to record was carried by the House, owing, we feel sure, not to a lack of appreciation of the classical variety, but to Miss Knowelden's witty and spirited defence of jazz!

The first
During the season we have had three most interesting lectures on subjects so widely different as poetry, acting and stamps. was given by the Rev. P. Fisher, whose talk was aptly named "Adventures in Poetry," for we were indeed taken to many new 'realms of gold' and our enjoyment of the subject matter of his talk was rivalled only by that of his reading of the poems. "Acting" was the title of Miss Trentham's talk at a later meeting when much valuable and practical help was given to all aspirers to the histrionic art, and, judging by the size of the audience, there are many such in the School at present. The last talk was given by Mr. Pepler on a subject until then outside the scope of the Literary Society, but which showed that among the members are many ardent philatelists-a number increased as the result of the interest aroused by Mr. Pepler, who communicated his enthusiasm to those not already infected and accompanied an admirable talk by exhibits of beautifully arranged stamps of a fascinating variety. We are hoping to have at least one meeting this term, but subject and date have not been definitely arranged as yet.

F.A.G.

MUSIC NOTES.

Since our last issue of the Magazine we have had the pleasure of three first-rate C.E.M.A. concerts. which, while not actually School functions, have enabled members of the School to hear such outstanding performers as Iso Elinson, Arthur Catterall and Louis Cohen's string orchestra. We hope these facilities for hearing good music may continue.

22

A carol concert, given on December 16th to an audience of parents and friends, gave every form in the School an opportunity of performing Christmas songs and carols learnt during the term. At the same time a choir of girls drawn from all sections of the School sang part songs of a more difficult nature. This choir was invited to lead the singing at a special Red Cross Service in the Parish Church in December, and during the Spring Term continued practices to prepare for a Festival at Chester. We enjoyed very much the opportunity of hearing other school choirs. We listened to them with a critical ear, ready to match our opinions with those of Dr. Thomas Armstrong, the director. When ... it was quite lively and well our turn came he said of one song A good in tune except for a tinge of flatness at the ends of the verses. Of "Brother James's Air" tone here, and they sing with enjoyment." he said, "The soloist (L. Jackson) gave them an excellent start, and they responded keenly...

There are other musical activities, confined to smaller groups. Some boys and girls have given promising performances of piano music in the hall at Assembly, and we hope to hear more of them; a group of non-performers have enjoyed music in another way by hearing favourite gramophone records some afternoons after school. Coming to individuals, we must not forget Lorna Jackson's songs, accompanied by Barbara Gowdridge, representing the School at a members' evening of the Nantwich Musical Circle. Several of our Seniors attend meetings of this Society.

On the whole we should be very grateful that we have so many opportunities of hearing and making music, in however humble a way, and the critical interest shown in music amongst our community is most satisfactory.

M.C.K.

COUNTRY DANCING.

During the Spring Term country dancing was held for the Junior and Middle School boys and girls on Wednesdays and for the Seniors on Tuesdays. Mrs. Boughton from the Modern School and several members of staff came to dance with the Seniors and we are indebted to Mrs. Boughton for teaching us many new dances.

JUNIOR RED CROSS LINK.

The Staff and the Removes have been knitting for the Forces and have sent 38 pairs of socks and 15 pairs of gloves to the Nantwich Knitting Circle. In the Red Cross Boxes was £1 16s., and £1 2s. 6d. was made from the sale of horse-chestnuts. R.A. have sent £2 to the Prisoners of War Fund.

E.M.U.

FIRST AID CLUB.

Our meetings last term were unfortunately irregular, but we managed to complete our prescribed syllabus. This term we hope to consolidate the work we have done in the two previous terms and we are trying to arrange for a visit of a member of the local R.C.S. to lecture and demonstrate to us.

R.G.

THE CARAVAN.

There are now thirty-six members of the School branch of the Caravan. Of these, nine describe their correspondence as satisfactory. while many others, including the seventeen new members are patiently awaiting replies to letters sent to "Unknown Friends" in many parts of the world. This year these first letters were well written they were interesting and the English, writing and spelling, were good. Some of the older members have been corresponding with the same people for a long time now and Sheila Gaudern and Mary Pace are to be congratulated on writing such interesting letters that they have kept the same pen-pals since 1938.

E.R.C.J.

BOOK CRAFTS CLUB.

Meetings have been well attended by enthusiastic junior girls who have done some excellent work. In addition to the preliminary exercises of binding single section books and making reading cases for magazines, they have repaired some library books. Most of the work has been neat and accurate and some of the cover designs are highly decorative.

E.R.C.J.

24

GUIDE NOTES.

The meetings last term were spent in working for the Tenderfoot and Second Class tests. In addition five Guides obtained Red Cross Certificates in Home Nursing (Junior). This term we welcome several recruits to the Company and we are looking forward to some out-of- door activities.

J.M.

NATIONAL SAVINGS GROUP.

The total for the year ending March 31st, 1943, was £767, which compares very favourably with last year's total of £839-the Warships Week accounting for £320 of that.

F.C.P.

RED CROSS PENNY-A-WEEK FUND.

Last term we collected £17 11s., making a total of £31 11s. since the scheme was adopted in the School.

F.C.P.

AIR TRAINING CORPS.

The A.T.C. continues to be represented at School, alongside now with the khaki uniforms of the Army Cadets and the dark blue of the Sea Cadets. An A.T.C. camp has been arranged at an R.A.F. station near Carlisle, commencing August 28th. changed and we may expect visits to aerodromes in the Wirral during Our affiliation has now been this summer. A number of past cadets are now serving in the Air Force, but we have as yet no news of the first cadet to receive his wings.

C.H.B.

25

A Dissertation on Pictures.

By Ignoramus.

Before attempting to write an essay on pictures, I hasten to assure the Honourable Reader that I am no authority whatsoever on the subject, and that my only insight into the pictures about the School is from what I see of them out of the corner of my eye when passing by them. Nevertheless, even from this slight acquaintance it is obvious that the eye of the expert would be delighted with the collection.

Since I am no expert, some of the pictures are unfortunately apt to strike me as rather peculiar, particularly those in which a rather imaginative artist has sought to put his imagination into a form that others can see. I remember that in the days when I used to take art (those days, alas, are past) we-I'll mention no names--we used to be particularly annoyed by one of the Medici prints in the Art Room, called "Rain, Steam and Speed," which to our unknowing minds did not seem half as good as our own efforts.

There are one or two portraits around the School which have always impressed me, because the artists who painted them have left a most realistic impression that these people really are self-confident and do not care two pins what anyone says about them. Need I mention that the Laughing Cavalier is one of them? In my opinion Henry VIII., whose portrait by Holbein is to be found opposite the top of the boys' staircase, also ranks with these. To go to the other extreme. there is a certain gentleman, wearing a peculiarly shaped "tin hat" ["The Gold Helmet," by Rembrandt], to be found in the girls' vestibule, who looks horribly under-nourished, and might well have taken a lesson or two in smiling, from the Laughing Cavalier.

The Nantonian

A few weeks ago I took part in a most heated discussion as to the hidden meaning in the picture [Michelino's "Dante, and his Book"] in the boys' vestibule, in which a melancholy-looking gentleman in a long pink night-gown stands reading a book. No one could read the Latin inscription under the picture, so it was left for us to debate the question One theory which and attempt to deduce what the picture meant. seemed to fit the picture quite well was that it was a scene taken from when the pyramids were being built. The structure at the back, which resembled in shape a many-tiered wedding-cake, was taken to be a partly-finished pyramid, the man in the nightgown was the builder's

26

architect studying the plans, with a small-scale model of the finished buildings on his left; and the mine on his right was the quarry from which the building materials were being brought. Finally, however, acting on a second theory, an empty stomach, and a dinner bell, it was decided that it might possibly be a portrayal of Dante's Inferno or something to do with it, the pyramid with its many steps being the road to Heaven, and the quarry the road to Hades.

If the Honourable Reader has ever had his photograph taken he will no doubt remember that before the tell-tale click of the shutter the photographer invariably says: "Smile, please." I feel sure you will agree with me when I express my opinion that this ought to have been a regulation with artists as well as photographers. Admittedly, some of the posers have smiled, and that most admirably; for instance our old friend the Laughing Cavalier. He even had the picture named after his smile. Even Mona Lisa tried her best, but was not over-successful. No better example of gloominess could, I think, be given than the picture on the top corridor of that master musician, Beethoven. Whether he was "camera-shy" or not I don't know, but he certainly does not look too pleased with life. One man who I think ought to have smiled the least bit more than he did do is Hogarth, who is to be found along with fifty-six other notables in the hall. For some inconceivable reason he has been painted with a dog by him, and it is all too unfortunate that the expression on Hogarth's face is just like that on the dog's face. I don't mean any insult to Hogarth by this, but it just struck me that either the poor dog ought to have been removed, or Hogarth ought to have' smiled a little. As for the other misérables-"The melancholy God protect them."

To be consistent with the ignorance of the artist's skill which I have shown in this brief discourse, it would be foolish of me to close it by declaring what a wonderful collection of pictures we have

The Nantonian

here, lest someone should think I am still writing with my fingers crossed, but the least I can say is that they certainly give me a very good impression, and they are one of the things which make me proud to say I have been a pupil of N.A.G.S.

F. DUTTON,
Form VI.

27

PICTURES AND PHOTOGRAPHS AT N.A.G.S. AN APPRECIATION.

According to the School prospectus, "Every effort is made to give the pupils bright and pleasant surroundings for their work and play." Behind this plain statement there lies the story of the untiring efforts of many people, by no means limited to present members of the School, who have worked to make both the interior of the School and its grounds compare favourably with any other in the country. The activities of many of these people have been directed to the collection of a large number of pictures and photographs, with the result that no corridor or classroom is surrounded by plain walls, but contains some- thing of interest for almost any type of person.

To attempt a detailed account of all the pictures and photographs we have at School would take up more space than is at my disposal, so I would just like to mention those that are of general interest, or which, for some reason or other, always stick in my memory.

The first of the 'mural decorations' one meets on entering the School by either the girls' or boys' entrance is the set of photographs of old School Teams, whose chief attraction seems to be for reminiscing on wet days and for old pupils to return and brag of them. Upstairs there are more

The Nantonian

School groups, which always seem to provoke laughter when we see what we-and the Staff-used to look like. The group of 1905 is rather interesting-the first term with girls. The bottom corridor is interesting chiefly for its pictures of days gone by, days when Welsh Row was a cobbled street, when the Lamb Hotel had the sign "Inland Revenue Office" hanging outside, and when places such as Beeston and Chester castles and Nantwich Churchyard looked very different from what they do now. Modern times are not forgotten, however, for there is an aerial view of the School and a photograph of Mr. Mather at work on the School lectern. In the vestibule at the end of the corridor is Botticelli's immortal "Spring" and along the Hall are pictures of famous people-authors, artists, religious reformers, inventors and great politicians. Of the rooms downstairs, III.B. attracts the most attention with pictures of Venice, Loch Morar and Salisbury Cathedral, but chief interest is centred on Walter Harrowing's beautiful picture "The Frugal Meal."

Along the boys' stairs are hung a series of old maps of Cheshire, whilst at the girls' end there is an imposing array of famous Greeks and

28

Romans, of which, perhaps, Cæsar, Archimedes and Pythagoras get most attention, though not of the type which is probably hoped for. Outstanding for works of art upstairs is the Art Room and its surroundings, for it contains a complete set of the Medici coloured prints. Each of these prints is an object of real beauty and it is almost impossible to pick out single titles, for there are so many favourites there, although one especially always comes to my mind, "The Angelus." In a somewhat lighter vein the Art Room also makes me think of another picture, that of "William of Orange," for it always seemed to look at me with a supercilious smile during my own attempts at being an artist.

Along the top corridor various photographs of Nantwich, by an expert Old Grammarian photographer, Dr. Williams, are exhibited, entitled "Sunset," "Winter Scene," "Lovers' Lane" and "Sweet Briar Hall," whilst farther along are the portraits of British poets and famous musicians of all times and nationalities. At the head of the corridor is the famous picture, "Mona Lisa," which looks down on all who enter VU.A., in which room are more portraits, this time of famous Frenchmen, of whom Alexandre Dumas always attracts my attention, possibly because he is so different from the person I imagined as the author of "The Three Musketeers." In VL.B. are depicted the ideas of various artists of the characters in "The Canterbury Tales," and English Literature is further represented in R.B. with pictures from "King Lear" and "The Lady of Shalott." Neither does R.B. neglect Classical Literature, for it contains a picture of Ceres and Persephone and also the ever popular "Last Watch of Hero," and "The Last of the Garrison." In the History

The Nantonian

room are the pictures of many of the people about whom we frantically scribble notes, together with larger portraits of Charles I., John, and Richelieu.

I must not forget to mention the fine photographs taken by S. Ellerton, which are now hanging in the VIth form room or the pictures that appear from time to time in the Labs.; and for those titles which I have omitted, and which deserve a place here, I hope the reader will forgive me, for, I must confess, I did not realise how rich the School really was in this direction till I began to gather together all my notes. To all who are responsible for our pictures and photographs is due a hearty and sincere "Thank you."

B. COOKE,
Form VU.A.

29

AN APPRECIATION OF THE PICTURES IN THE SCHOOL.

For the past few days I have been studying the pictures around the School while waiting to enter some room or after hurriedly collecting my books for the afternoon lessons. The pictures which appeal to me most are those in the Art Room, where they are arranged in four groups. As these paintings are many, on various subjects and by different artists, I have chosen one which I admire most from each group.

Among the pictures by English artists, Turner's "Ulysses Deriding Polyphemus," is in my opinion the best. It illustrates Ulysses sailing away from the island, where he had destroyed the one eye of Polyphemus, so enabling him and his followers to escape from the giant's cave.

The Dutch painting by Van de Velde entitled "Shipping in a Calm," which attracted my attention in this section, shows several large 18th century ships and a cluster of smaller vessels, all with their sails hanging loosely and waiting for the slightest breath of wind.

The Nantonian

From here I wandered to the Italian paintings, where I selected "St. George and the Dragon" by Fra Franca, which portrays that saint, mounted, slaying the dragon with the princess, who was to have been the monster's next meal, in the background.

"The Duke of Wellington" is the title and subject of a painting by F. J. Goya depicting the head and shoulders of the great general, wearing all his medals and decorations. There are many other pictures in the School, such as the row of famous men like Cook, Drake and Luther along one side of the Hall, the musicians (Beethoven, Handel and Elgar as examples) on the Top Corridor, and famous Frenchmen in VU.A. room, but they would take too long to describe here.

I am sure that these pictures add to the pleasure of life in School and they give us an opportunity of seeing some of the masterpieces of the world's great painters.

N. WOODHEAD,
Form R.A.

30

THE TREES IN THE GROUNDS OF NANTWICH AND ACTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The grounds of Nantwich and Acton Grammar School contain a most interesting selection of trees. The majority of these trees are in their early youth and have only been planted perhaps six or eight years ago, so that the gardeners' (and pupils') jobs of clearing away the fallen leaves in autumn has, up till now, been a comparatively light one, but what this work will be like in twenty or thirty years time must be left to the imagination. One can watch a gradual change taking place in these trees, as the seasons of the year advance. In Spring, the fresh, shiny buds are to be found on the branches, forecasting the approach of sunshine and warmer days. A little later in the year these buds commence to open and gradually the green leaves appear, until every tree in the grounds is a mass of fluttering leaves. Summer has arrived, and these leafy arbours afford shade for weary combatants from the cricket fields or tennis courts. But these bright days pass, the

The Nantonian

leaves begin to change colour, first one or two drop to the ground, then as the weeks go by the earth becomes covered with softly tinted leaves, while the branches are left bare.

In front of the School are eight Lime trees, which were planted about twenty-two years ago. On the right hand side of these are eight more which began their school lives eleven years later. The Lime is a tall, stately tree, with many slender branches closely covered with leaves. The flowers are a great attraction to the bees in summer, and lime tree honey is much prized for its fine flavour. The 'Lime' is not the correct name for this tree; its real name is the 'Line' or 'Linden.' It is so called because from its bark gardeners' string or line is obtained.

As one walks round the corner of the newly added wing, the whole extent of the grounds comes into view, and it must be a very pleasant sight to a person visiting the School for the first time. This portion of the drive is bordered by a rapidly growing young privet hedge, behind which are several small trees, including a Tulip Tree. On one side of the main drive is the orchard, a small but varied collection of fruit trees, looked upon very enviously at a certain season in the year. Three quarters of the way down this drive a three sided hedge is to be seen. This is interesting, because it was set up as an experiment. One side was planted with Myrobella Plum, the next side with Oval Leaf

31

Privet and Hornbeam, and the third with Common Privet. Myrobella Plum was found to make the most successful hedge. Around the main playing field there is a hedge which is made up of Hawthorn and Beech. This is interposed at intervals by the trees, Silver Birch, Mountain Ash, London Plane and Black and White Poplar. The Mountain Ash is reputed to have the power of scaring away demons and witches. I don't know whether it was for this purpose that it was planted in the School grounds.

From the lily pond, the most picturesque corner of the grounds in summer, many types of trees can be observed, including the Spanish Chestnut, a tree which is grown much on the continent for its fruit, which is served in many different ways by the French and the Italians. From this point a Walnut tree, which never bears any fruit, can be seen, also Black Poplars and White Poplars, Hazel, Alder, Lime, Larch, Hornbeam, Golden Oak, Horse Chestnut, English Yew, and Acacia,

The Nantonian

which is sometimes called the Locust Tree. These are a few examples of the different species to be seen. The White Poplars around the tennis courts were all grown from the suckers of one old Poplar tree which has since been cut down. It is probable that the only trees which were not actually planted in the School grounds are the Elms which are situated in the old hedge on the Henhull Lane side of the School.

The pupils of the Grammar School can be justly proud of being able to attend a School where such a great interest is shown in arbori-culture.

R. DAVENPORT,
Form VU.A.

APPRECIATION OF TREES IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS.

If, in our School grounds, we had no trees at all, we should certainly notice a difference. In the summer trees provide shade for us, and in the autumn they delight us with their gorgeous colours. In Spring, catkins, buds and flowers tell us of the approaching summer. On a tour of the School grounds, at the front one sees Silver Birches, Black and White Poplars, Box Trees, Limes, a large Sycamore tree, Scotch Pines, Firs, and, near the two main gates, Cypress trees. Lombardy and White Poplars edge the tennis courts.

32

On coming down the drive the first tree one notices is the rather uncommon Sumach, whose leaves turn a brilliant red in the autumn. In the orchard are Pear, Plum, Damson and Apple trees (and how our mouths have watered at the sight of their tempting fruit!) and at the far end a Quince tree is seen. By the tool shed are the Elderberry, . Honeysuckle and Hazel and along the privet hedge by the plots a Tulip Tree grows. The little hockey pitch is bordered by Black Poplars, and by its gate is an Ash tree.

By the entrance to the shelter field are two Aspens, which have very fine catkins, and near the stream are Willows, and Alders. The lily pond and its surroundings are sheltered by Elms, White Poplars, Willows, a small Oak tree, Limes, Yews and Horse Chestnuts, while by the rubbish

dump is a small bush of Blackthorn, which is flowering gaily, although it is only February. We have nearly every kind of tree that grows in England in our School grounds and are very proud of the fact.

PAMELA BAILEY,
Form R.A.

OLD GRAMMARIAN NOTES.

Since our last Magazine the following Old Boys serving with the Forces have visited the School and signed the new visitors' book:- Ashley G. Cooper, Ian Allwood, Len Ollier, D.F.C., A.F.M., W. E. Porter, Sam Johnson, Joe Pickerill, Antony Gowdridge, Roy Morgan, John Cook, Ronald Hobson, Donald Hinde, Eric Burgwin, Wesley Emberton, J. Blagg, T. Batho, E. Howarth, A. M. George, R. C. Probert, D. H. Tomkinson, P. Williams, K. Hope, W. Welch. We look forward to many more visitors in the near future.

We are sorry to learn that the following have been wounded in action (Middle East) and wish them a speedy recovery: Peter Carr, Peter Pepler.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to the following Old Boys: Dr. I. Jenner Powell-promoted Lt.-Colonel in the Indian Medical Service.

H. Johnson on receiving the King's award of the Police and Fire Services Medal,

33

Peter Pepler, Colin Edwards, Percy Edwards-awarded commissions while on Active Service in the Middle East.
Alec Hinde-promoted Captain (Indian Army).
Bert Garnett-Chairman of the Nantwich Urban District Council. John Barnett-on election to the Cheshire County Council.
Special Inspector E. H. Steventon, Special Sgts. C. W. Riches, G. A. Hinde, W. Smith and Special Constables S. Parton and J. A. Sadler on receiving Long Service Medals (Special Police).

The Nantonian

No doubt there are many other Old Grammarians who should appear in our list. We are always grateful for news of Old Boys. Recently we heard that Ronald Owen and Wilf Davies (Dabber) had met in Iraq, that Ronald Crosby saw Peter Pepler in Cairo and that C. Johnson (who preceded W. M. Carey on the School Staff) had dinner on Christmas Day with Harry J. Dickenson, now a Headmaster in East London (S. Africa). Many other happy 'reunions' must have taken place we all like to hear of them.

B.M.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS FROM MR. CAREY AND MR. LEWIS.

The Headmaster has received letters from Mr. Carey and Mr. Lewis, from which we print the following extracts.

Dear Mr. Lodge,
20/10/42.

This letter should reach you some time around Christmas, so I want to take the opportunity of wishing you and Mrs. Lodge, and all the others at N.A.G.S. a really Happy Christmas and a cheery New Year.... My life has been pretty normal all things considered, though I have been in strange places and done strange things at times. I have not yet witnessed Mr. Hughes's scene of dying donkeys in the streets of Cairo, but I am quite prepared to find that around any corner; how- ever, to get deep into the old native quarter of the city is an experience! Smells and filth, disease and complete poverty are rampant among man and beast, yet nothing seems to be done about it. Outside of every village is a mound in which the dead are buried and the "City of the Dead," is as much a part of the community as is the "City of the Living." Parts of Cairo are splendid-modern, wide roads, capable

34

of taking all types of traffic from camels to aeroplanes; new sweeping blocks of flats and large private residences, and a business quarter of new and smart European type. Cinemas and clubs, theatres and dance halls, hotels and cafés all abound and flourish on the crowds of people who flock to El Caire for relaxation. But in spite of all this modernity, Cairo itself is still very Oriental- the great majority of the inhabitants are extremely poor and live in squalid conditions, eking out

The Nantonian

a meagre existence in all manner of ways: some by cunning, others by a craft handed down the family through generations, others work in the fields and estates around, others beg, borrow or steal, or live on the refuse which "falls from the rich man's table"! I have seen "wogs" working along a gutter with a bag collecting all manner of scraps together, which they cover with water and boil up. The resulting dish is food for men and beast...

When the chance arose I went along to visit the Giza Pyramids.. They are of course most interesting, but I should have felt terribly disappointed if I had travelled from England especially to see the Pyramids and Sphinx. The verbal accounts given and the usual pictures shown of the tombs produce altogether too romantic a conception. Without What did thrill me more was the sight of the Nile in flood. visiting Egypt it is quite impossible to realise the extent to which the country relies on the river. I can quite understand why the river was a god in the eyes of the ancients. .

In the country districts the original raising of water from the canal or ditch is done by Shaduf or oxen water wheel, or even by hand. The crops are prolific as a rule, consisting mostly of maize, with fruits of all kinds (tree and bush and plants), some cotton, flax and yams, etc. The tilling of the soil is done by wooden plough, which only scratches the surface, drawn very largely by oxen, camel or ass.

Much of our life is right out in God's open air, a life which you know appeals to me; and we have many amusing incidents to enliven our more serious work-for example our cooking arrangements. But the life here gives me great opportunities to see Nature in these parts --both by day and by night. The owls, glow worms, and the stars, sunsets and sun rises, birds and flowers, lizards and snakes and chameleons have all been objects for me to watch, sometimes at close quarters.

We are now in much more entertaining countryside and from some high ground recently I have looked over territory not unlike parts of N. Wales. I have had a wealth of correspondence from folk in N., and the school news they gave me, as well as "extras" outside, made me realise that

The Nantonian

N.A.G.S. is more than just "keeping the flag flying." Good luck to you all and may the time soon come when I am again able to be with you all.

Yours sincerely,
W. MICHAEL CAREY.

Dear Mr. Lodge,
I read your letter with avidity, and the School Magazine too, twice so far. I am particularly pleased to hear about the grand piano -school aesthetic activities will now have a literal nucleus. I cannot really tell you much about myself. My life out here so far as you will have guessed, I am in North Africa (and short of writing paper) has been all my job and little else. And my job, of course, I can write very little about. To-day I have taken the day off (my third free day since we landed). I walked this morning about twelve kilometres. The weather here at this time of the year is about what I should like it to be always and so I thoroughly enjoyed myself. walked a fine road and the country was reminiscent of some of the One can This is a strange country in that way. finest in England. ride along and say to oneself-ah! Derbyshire, Dovedale, and then Cornwall-after that the English lakes or Scotland; it really is most varied; but never Lincolnshire, and I cannot really claim to have found Cheshire yet. The sorrow is that one never finally arrives at that little English village with its steeple showing proudly round the countryside, with its half timbering winning the immediate glance at the expense of the proud reticence of the time of Anne and the early Georges; one never finds that little bar parlour with its pint of foaming A little while ago though I made a find ale, its bread and cheese... in a local town some "Disques phonographiques," "La Voix de son Maître." But a strange collection-never a whole work. I bought up everything worth having in the shop, about twenty records. Ravel, Debussy, Bach, Berlioz, a Haydn minuet, a lovely song by Gabriel

The Nantonian

Fauré, which I thoroughly recommend to you, "Clair de Lune." Please give my regards to everyone, and as you know, I include my best wishes for the School.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT LEWIS.

VALETE ET SALVETE.

The following pupils have left or joined us since our last issue:-

Left:-

HODGKIN HOUSE:-

Boys: Burgess, J., Morgan-Wynne, M.

Girls: H. Bowyer, D. Pitt, M. Proudlove.

THRUSH HOUSE:-

Boys: Stillwell, J., Williams, R.

Girl: J. Turrell.

WILBRAHAM HOUSE:-

Girls: M. Cook, J. Henderson.

New Comers:-

HODGKIN HOUSE:-

Boy: Cogher, C.

Girls: P. Hickman, E. Hulse.

THRUSH HOUSE: -

Boy: P. Lover.

Girl: H. Storey.

WILBRAHAM HOUSE:-

Boys: S. Abdullah, P. Farmer

Girl: P. Sleightholme.