

THE PEVERIL

**THE MAGAZINE OF
THE COUNTY HIGH
SCHOOL, EASTLEIGH**

•

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■

Vol. III

JULY, 1948

No. 7

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THE STAFF.

Headmaster : Mr. H. N. R. MOORE, M.A. (Cantab.), B.Sc., (Lond.).

Senior Master : Mr. S. E. BODEY, B.Sc.

Miss A. J. Cross (London University
Diploma in Physical Education)
Miss G. M. Davies (Domestic Science
Diploma)
Miss E. J. Grant, B.A.
Miss O. Meakins, B.A.
Miss F. W. Musselwhite
Miss A. O. Smith
Mrs. M. W. Stone, B.A.
Miss I. H. Talbot, B.A.

Mr. A. Almond
Mr. C. A. Beck, B.Sc.
Mr. G. D. Cox, B.A.
Mr. K. E. David (York College
Leeds Diploma of Physical
Education)
Mr. A. H. Habbitts, M.A.
Mr. I. Harvey
Mr. S. A. Lebern, B.A., B.Sc.
Mr. J. E. W. Percival, B.A.
Mr. W. Salter, B.Sc.
Mr. A. R. Sansbury, B.Sc.
Mr. R. H. Stone, B.Sc.

School Secretary : Mrs. D. M. Brown.

PREFECTS.

Vera Holloway (Head Girl)
Anne Carter (Deputy Head Girl)
Doris Broadfield
Sylvia Bunday
Gillian Cooper
Jean Dunn
Vera Geddis
Gillian Holloway
Olive Johnson.
Margaret Lee
Eunice Mills

W. Steam (Head Boy)
J. Tapley (Deputy. Head Boy)
J. Bailey
G. Bowling
R. Crabb
B. Dowding
J. Hounslow
D. Hurrell
D. Kerridge
G. Rodaway
J. Stubbs
J. White

HOUSE OFFICIALS.

BARTON

Staff :

Miss O. Meakins, Mr. S. A. Lebern.

Captains :

Gillian Cooper, W. Steam.

PEEL

Staff :

Miss E. J. Grant, Mr. A. H. Habbitts.

Captains :

Olive Johnson, H. Baxter.

PEAK

Staff :

Miss A. O. Smith, Mr. A. R. Sansbury.

Captains :

Eunice Mills, J. White.

THE PEVERIL

Vol. III., No. 7

JULY, 1948

EDITORIAL.

In this, the last editorial under the present " Peveril " staff, we consider it opportune to endeavour to satisfy at least one part of our extensive public. We are providing those readers who hope to improve their literary education by perusing our efforts, with a veritable gem of literature, worthy of their intellect. Our former efforts have, we feel, been overshadowed somewhat by the other magazine items—pithy prose, inspired poetry, accurate chronicles of noteworthy achievements and outstanding events, and lengthy and detailed accounts of former students. Now is our chance to print an editorial surpassing, and standing as a fitting preface to, the rest of the magazine.

All good editorials, we are informed, are headed by a classical couplet, which is scarcely ever understood, translated or appreciated. It is safe to follow custom, but even after long and tedious research, we find ourselves unable to see anything apt enough to match our written effort. Instead we are determined to be less trite, and institute a custom of our own—an entirely new mode of introduction, followed by uncopied subject matter and a concise and apt conclusion. We have now joined the ranks of harassed secretaries, ink-stained writers and pathetic poets, and deem it fit that we should be dubbed the original editors.

The quantity, if not the quality, of the magazine, however, has considerably improved during the last four issues. Now, just as we have in mind (and almost on paper) a work of art, we have been brusquely informed that, owing to monetary matters beyond our control, the space available is once more reduced. We are in a situation of anti-climax; once more our readers will have to wait in anxious trepidation till a future issue. We must revert to the commonplace, foiled again by an economic condition.

With profuse apologies to all who have been disappointed at the sudden blighting of their hopes, we return to the true and ordinary business of the editorial. That is to bid farewell to one of the best known members of our staff with wishes for future happiness, and comment on the otherwise comparative uneventfulness of the term.

With these words we conclude our editorial, leaving our readers to praise or blame the efforts of our learned colleagues and friends.

V.M.H.

SCHOOL NOTES

Miss Talbot.

We regret to announce the departure of Miss **I. H.** Talbot, the Senior History Mistress, who is leaving at the end of the Summer Term to take up a post in an Exeter school. Miss Talbot has been in her present position for many years, and her loss will be felt keenly by pupils, staff and Old Bartonians' alike. She was interested in everything concerning the school's welfare, and her achievements regarding the success of the Old Bartonian's Association are well known. We are sure that everyone will join us in wishing her the maximum happiness and success in her new school.

Other News._

We also regret that Mr. K. David is leaving us to take up another position in a school in the North. Although he has been with us only a year, he will be missed by all the school. We wish him success and good fortune in his new post.

We were pleased to welcome Mr. Salter, who replaced Mr. Grant as Junior Science Master, at the beginning of the Easter Term. We wish him many happy years at the school.

On June 15th a party travelled to Portsmouth to look over. H.M.S. Vernon, the naval training establishment. The visit proved instructive and enjoyable.

On July 19th a group of pupils went to Brockenhurst County High School to watch a performance of Milton's " Comus." They all fully appreciated the entertainment, which was expertly performed and produced.

The adjudicators at the Musical Festival, held in Winchester in May, were once again highly satisfied with the singing of our choir. Members of the choir also took part in a concert by the Schools' Music Association, held in July.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to G. Bowling and W. Stearn who obtained an open Exhibition and Borough Scholarship respectively to University College, Southampton.

Mr. Mardi Jones, M.P., gave an extremely interesting and enlightening lecture of Coal Mining to Upper School pupils in June. His talk was illustrated by a film about the mines.

SCHOOL COUNCIL.

Ex-Officio Members.

<i>Head Boy</i> : W. Steam (<i>Chairman</i>)	<i>Head Girl</i> :
<i>Football</i> :)	<i>Magazine</i> :) V. Holloway
<i>Cricket</i> : f H. Baxter	<i>Library</i> : G. Cooper
<i>Hockey</i> : J. Creed	<i>Netball</i> : E. Mills
<i>Rounders</i> :)	<i>Tennis</i> :
<i>Y.F.C.</i> : f A. Carter	<i>Spotters'</i> :) O. Johnson
<i>L.D.D.S.</i> : J. Stubbs	<i>Cadets</i> : C. Peach

Staff Representatives :-

Miss O. Meakins

Mr. J. Percival

Form Representatives :-

<i>VI Upper</i>	.. J. Tapley	<i>IV Lang.</i>	.. D. Hibbs
<i>VI Lower</i>	.. D. Kerridge	<i>IV (L) A.</i>	.. G. Wellby
<i>U.V.I.</i>	.. P. Waterer	<i>IV (L) B.</i>	.. J. Tryhorn
<i>U.V.M.</i>	.. H. Potter	<i>III. Barton</i>	.. R. Gandy
<i>U. V.L.</i>	.. P. Naylor	<i>III. Peak</i>	.. C. Vickers
<i>L. V.L.</i>	.. L. Greedy	<i>III. Peel</i>	D. Clarke-Jones
<i>L.V.M.</i>	.. P. Todd	<i>II Barton</i>	M. Abraham
<i>L. V.N.</i>	.. S. Buxton	<i>II Peak</i>	C. Capewell
		<i>II Peel</i>	B. Bunday

Council Officials :—

<i>Clerk</i>	: J. Bailey	<i>Treasurer</i>	: S. Bunday
<i>Deputy Clerk</i>	: G. Cousens	<i>Deputy Treasurer</i>	: G. Rodaway
<i>Assistant to Clerk</i>	: C. Butcher	<i>Technical Adviser</i>	: Mr. S. Lebern
<i>Postage Clerk</i>	: R. Humphrey	<i>Assistant Book-keepers</i>	f G. Cooper
<i>Calendar Secretary</i>	: G. Cousens		A. Carter

The Council's work this term has been almost entirely of a routine nature, attention being focused on the financial position of the Council. The expenditure which the Council has incurred during the past few months has been steadily increasing in volume and the reserve funds which had carefully been built up during the past two years were sadly depleted. The first economy measure introduced was the reduction of the amount paid to members of school teams to half only of their travelling expenses. This, however, was not sufficient to close the gap and the subscription has had to be raised to half-a-crown. This should be sufficient to meet all claims on the Council Fund if all pupils pay their subscription. If, as at present, a number fail to do so, expenditure will have to be cut still further and less amenities provided by the Council. The Finance Committee is watching all expenditure carefully and it is to be hoped that they will continue to administer the fund wisely and bring the Council safely through this difficult period. All other committees have dealt capably with any matters which concern them.

W.A.S.

CRICKET.

Captain: H. Baxter.

Vice-Captain: B. Dowding.

Secretary: J. Stubbs.

The cricket team has had a very unsatisfactory season. This was due not to a lack of keenness but to a lack of experience on the part of the players, who were for the most part, newcomers to the eleven.

In the field, bowling and fielding were good, and improved greatly towards the end of the season. In the latter aspect of the game, A. Knowles distinguished himself. On the other hand, batting was very inconsistent, and no player struck his real form.

The following played for the 1st XI : H. Baxter, B. Dowding, B. Gould, B. Russell, B. Narey, R. Bondsfield, P. Morris, P. Cassell, J. Reynolds, J. Moody and A. Knowles.

Colours were awarded to B. Narey and B. Dowding.

Colts.

The Junior Eleven has lost all the games played.

1st XI RESULTS.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Score</i>
April 24.	Purbrook C.H.S.	Lost	School 22, Purbrook 89
May 8.	Gosport C.H.S.	Lost	School 30, Gosport 84. (Narey 8 for 16).
May 15.,	St. Mary's College	Lost	School 38 (Baxter 15). St. Mary's C. 41 for 1 wkt.
May 22.	University College 2nd XI	Lost	School 38. U.C.S. 132 for 4 wkts.
June 12.	Andover Grammar School	Lost	School 48 (Gould 19). Andover 52 (Russell 4 for 10, Baxter 3 for 6).
July 3.	Price's School, Fareham	Drawn	School 39 for 8 (Baxter 10). Price's 112 for 9. (Russell 6 for 25*).
July 17.	Peter Symond's School, Winchester	Drawn	Peter Symond's 25 for 2 (Morey 2 for 11). Rain stopped play.
July 22.	Old Bartonians' Association	Lost	School 51 for 5 wkts. Mr. David 19, Dowding 21 not out). O.B.A. 54 for 8 wkts. (Mr. David 4 for 14).

* Includes " hat-trick."

TENNIS.

Captain : J. Creed.

Vice-Captain and Secretary : O. Johnson.

The tennis team have had a very successful season, having won all their matches. The victory over Winchester-the first time we have beaten this school since 1939-was a typical example of the form the team has been showing throughout the season. Jeanette Creed has proved an excellent captain and we would like to record our appreciation of the umpires' services for our home fixtures.

The team consisted of J. Creed, O. Johnston, E. Mills, J. Dunn, P. Glasspool, A. Carter, and S. Buxton; and V. Holloway played well for the team when required. Colours were awarded to J. Creed.

The tennis tournament was won by J. Creed when she defeated O. Johnson, 10-8, 6-5.

RESULTS.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Result</i>
May 8.	Itchen Grammar School	Home	42 games 37
May 22.	Gosport County High School	Away	44 " 37
June 6.	St. Anne's Grammar School	Home	53 " 28
June 19.	Gosport County High School	Home	46 .. 26
June 26.	Andover Grammar School	Home	59 " 22
July 8.	Winchester County High School	Home	48 ;; 33
July 10.	Petersfield County High School	Away	35 " 28
July 22.	Old Bartonians	Home	56 " 52

Boys' Tennis Tournament.

The boys' tournament resulted in a victory for I. Templeton who defeated C. Peach, 6-3, 6-3.

ROUNDERS.

Captain : D. Bixley.

Vice-Captain : R. Boyce.

Secretary : O. Johnson.

The rounders team had a very successful season, winning four matches out of six played. Fielding was good throughout the season, and, although batting was at first weak, it improved towards the end of the term.

Dorothy Bixley was outstanding as bowler, and her excellent captaincy contributed greatly towards the success of the team.

The Senior team consisted of Dorothy Bixley, Rosemary Boyce, Joy Angel, Sheila Flutter, Pamela Naylor, Margaret Williams, Pat Wilkins, June Girling and Barbara Berry.

The Junior team also had a fairly successful season, winning three matches, losing two, and drawing one. Marion Coombs made a very good Junior captain, and has been highly commended for her continued high standard of play during the season.

The Junior team consisted of Marion Coombs, Janet Dumbleton, Ida Reed, Judy Cudmore, Jean Colbourne, Joan Bayliss, Greta Harris, Margaret Betteridge and Pat Hooper.

Colours were awarded to D. Bixley.

RESULTS

Senior :

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Result</i>
May 8.	Itchen Grammar School	Home	Lost 6f-1
May 22.	Gosport High School	Away	Won 12-2
June 6.	St. Anne's Grammar School	Home	Lost 2-1
June 12.	Portsmouth Northern	Home	Won 2-4
June 19.	Gosport High School	Home	Won 5-1
June 26.	Andover Grammar School	Home	Won 5-1

Junior :

May 8.	Itchen Grammar School	Home	Drew 2-2
May 22.	Gosport High School	Away	Lost 2-1
June 6.	St. Anne's Grammar School	Home	Won 3-1
June 12.	Portsmouth Northern	Home	Lost 0-14
June 19.	Gosport High School	Home	Won 64-2
June 26.	Andover Grammar School	Home	Won 9-0

O. J.

ATHLETICS.

Captain : J. Stubbs

Secretary : D. Bixley.

Annual Athletic Sports.

The School Athletic Sports took place at the beginning of the Summer Term, in rather cold conditions. Several records were broken, and one equalled.

Trophies :

Senior House Cup .	.. Peak
Junior House Cup ..	.. Peak
Portal House Cup	.. Peak
Cross Country Cup	.. B. Gould
Mile Cup	.. I. Templeton
Victor and Victrix Ludorum Joint Shield	.. J. Stubbs and

Dorothy Bixley

Junior Boy	..	L. Gready
• Junior Girl	..	.. Joy Angel
Portal Boy	..	.. H. Lassiter D.
Portal Girl	..	Sawyer, J.
		Rowthorn, R.
		Pickford and
		J. Squibb (tie).

Results of Events.

Senior Boys :

<i>Event</i>	<i>Winnings</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Time</i>
100 yards ..	.. H. Baxter	.. Peel	10.6 sec.
220 yards ..	• D. Jefferies	.. Peel	25 sec.
Hurdles ..	J. White	.. Peel	19.4 sec.
High Jump..	J. White	.. Peak	4ft. 10in.
440 yards ..	• J. Stubbs B.	.. Peak	62 sec.
Long Jump	Gould..	.. • Peel	17ft. 3in.
Cricket Ball		.. Peak	75 yds.
880 yards ..	• H. Baxter	.. Peel	2 min. 28.6 sec.
House Relay		.. Peel	80 sec.
Mile		.. Peel	5 min. 27.2 sec.
Cross Country		.. Peak	
House Placing	I. Templeton	Peak	

Senior Girls :

100 yards ..	D. Bixley	• • Peel	13 sec.
220 yards ..	J. Coom J.	• • Barton	31 sec.
Hockey Ball	Creed R.	• • Peak	70 yds.
Hurdles ..	Boyce M.	• • Peak	21 sec.
Long Jump High	Williams	• • Peak	14ft. 8in.
Jump .. House	D. Bixley	• • *	Peel 4ft. 4in.
Relay		Peak	60.6 sec.

Junior Boys :

100 yards ..	.. P. Morris ..	• • Peak	11.8 sec.
220 yards ..	T. Hurrell ..	• • Peak	29 sec.
Hurdles ..	P. Morris ..	• • Peak	13.2 sec.
High Jump..	J. Thornton	• • Peel	
	j. Hunt	• • Barton	4ft. 3 1/2in..
Long Jump	.. V. Daly ..	• • Peel	15ft. 21/2in
Cricket Ball	.. L. Gready	• • ..	
House Relay		Peak	64 yds.
880 yards ..	.. L. Gready .	Peak	86.6 sec.
Cross Country	• L. Gready	Peak	2 min. 37
House Placing		sec. Peak	

Junior Girls :

100 yards ..	• • M. Cox	.. Peel	13.2 sec.
Skipping ..	• • M. Cox ..	.. Peel	14 sec.
Hockey Ball	• • J. Girling	.. Peak	52 yds. .
Hurdles ..	• • J. Angel	• Peak	14 sec. ..
High Jump..	• • J. Angel	Peak	4ft. 0in.
House Relay		(Peak	62 sec.
		Peel	

Portal Boys :

80 yards ..	H. Lassiter	Peak	10 sec.
Hurdles ..	D. Smith	Barton	14 sec.
High Jump ..	J. Young	Barton	4ft.
Long Jump	H. Lassiter	03/4in..	Peak
House Relay	— -	15ft. 7in.*	Peak
220 yards ..	H. Lassiter	62.4 sec.	Peak

Portal Girls :

80 yards ..	D. Sawyer	..	Peak 11.2 sec.
Skipping ..	J. Squibb P.		Peel 12.4 sec.
Hts	Pickford J.		Peak 14 sec. Peel
High Jump ..	Rowthorne		3ft. 11in.*
House Relay			Barton 48 sec.
* denotes new record.	I denotes		equals record.

Other Events.

At the Town Sports, held in May, many successes were scored by D. Bixley, J. Coom, M. Betteridge, J. Dumbleton, H. Baxter, I. Templeton, D. Jefferies, P. Hill, J. Stubbs and H. Lassiter.

Ten people from the school were chosen to represent Eastleigh in the County Sports at Aldershot on June 19th. Dorothy Bixley won the Senior Girls' 100 yards, and J. Stubbs gained a second place in the Senior Boys' 100 yards.

These two were chosen to represent Hampshire at the English Schools' Sports on July 17th in Bath. In this meeting, J. Stubbs gained Fourth place in the Senior Boys' 100 yards.

A Relay team, consisting of R. Crabb, J. White, I. Templeton and J. Stubbs took part in an Invitation race at King Edward's School Sports, whilst a Boys Under 15 Team ran in the Hants Constabulary Sports.

On July 24th, the girls had an Athletics Match with North End School, which they won by a good margin of points: Two School High Jump records were broken. M. Betteridge captured the Junior Girls' record with a jump of 4ft. 51/2in., whilst D. Bixley jumped 4ft. 10in. to break the Senior Girls' record. On the same occasion, the Boys' team was narrowly defeated by an Old Bartonians' team.

Once again we must pay tribute to Tapley and Co. for their efficient work for the school, in acting as groundsmen and in preparing the track.

Colours were awarded to D. Bixley and J. Stubbs.

THE ARMY CADET FORCE.

Since the last edition of the "Peveril" our training programme has been interrupted by the school examinations. Nevertheless, we had a very enjoyable Field-day at Portchester and were very tired after a treasure-hunt in the afternoon.

We also had an Annual Inspection at Headquarters and were complemented on our very smart appearance.

Now we are looking forward to a good P.S.S.C.A. camp at Borden.

C. R. P.

THE CERCLE FRANCAIS.

Chairman : Doris Bradfield.

Secretary : Gillian Cooper.

The lure of the open air and the demands of summer examinations upon our members have caused our fixtures to be curtailed this term, but we have held several useful meetings and hope that the autumn will again see a full programme.

Many members are visiting France this year, some as guests " au pair " and some, we hope, as members of a group staying in Paris under the same conditions as on the trip to Brussels last year.

At the end of the Spring Term (unfortunately after the " Peveril " had gone to press), we were very pleased to receive Professor Lawton of University College, Southampton, who gave us a talk on French Drama. He traced its development from the mediaeval mystery plays through Classicism and Romanticism to the modern stage, and gave examples taken from typical plays of each period.

The summer term began with a session of French songs, and was followed by a talk on " La Normandie " by Mademoiselle Jacqueline Guillemin. A fortnight later, Miss Grant gave a " Causerie " which was much appreciated by the few members who were able to attend. Another meeting was devoted to Charades, arranged by Margaret Greaves and friends and Eunice Mills and friends.

We hope to arrange for more talks from visitors during the autumn, and would welcome new members to the Music Room on Tuesday evenings.

G. M. C.

CHESS CLUB.

Chairman : B. Narey.

Secretary : B. Butcher.

Treasurer : R. Pavelin.

Since the last issue of the " Peveril " the Chess Club has, in spite of mild weather and light evenings, held its own. Although the ending of the school year will probably result in the loss of some of our members, it is to be hoped that this loss will be made up from new entrants to the school. It is also probable that the resumption of dinner time meetings will lead to increased membership.

The results of the games played in connection with the Junior Postal Chess League, which we joined recently, have been most satisfying. We have lost one, and won six.

The results of the inter-member tournaments for the Easter and Summer terms are now available. Last term, B. Narey won the trophy, and this term, B. Butcher is the winner.

Mr. Stone has helped the Club by giving advice and providing problems for the Senior members.

The Library has recently purchased " Chess Fundamentals," by Capablanca, and a monthly magazine, " Chess," is now available to club members.

We should like to inform pupils that they only need a current fixture card to be able to join the Club, a knowledge of chess not at first being essential, since members are willing to give any help in their power.

B.B.

THE L.D.D.S.

Chairman : W. A. Steam.

Secretary : Gillian Cooper.

Treasurer : Anne Carter.

During the debating fever prevalent in the school during March we hoped to arrange for more debates with other schools, but had to

postpone this plan because of crowded fixture-lists. We hope, however, to proceed with inter-school debating in the coming season, and to make this eventually a regular item on our programme.

The only full-dress debate held this term was on the motion that " the best way to obtain peace is to prepare for war," proposed by Jean Matthews, seconded by K. Griffen, opposed by Gloria Cousens, seconded by Gwendoline Capewell. The motion was lost, the principal speakers from the house being W. A. Stearn, B. C. Butcher, D. Kerridge, and Gillian Cooper.

Two meetings were spent on the reading of papers by members. D. Kerridge gave two, Gillian Cooper two, Gwen Capewell one, and J. Stubbs one. Among the subjects were " Nonsense " (Kerridge), " Fortune-telling," with a demonstration, (Gillian Cooper) and " Music," (Gwendolen Capewell).

Four plays have been produced, by Gillian Holloway, Jean Matthews, W. A. Stearn and P. Todd. We have begun to use the new play-books purchased last spring, and the production of " Fours into Seven Won't Go" and " Hyacinth Halvey " were very well received.

G.M.C.

THE LIBRARY.

Librarian : Gillian Cooper.

Assistant Librarians : W. A. Stearn, Jean Dunn, Vera Holloway, Anne Carter, G. M. Rodaway, Doris Broadfield.

As usual during the summer term, there have been fewer people using the Library, but the reference section is still in great demand. This is an encouraging feature as it means that more of the younger pupils are familiarising themselves with the Library, so to satisfy their wants an increased number of technical books has been added to the junior department, although other sections have not been neglected.

Each pupil below the Upper Fifth is allowed one fiction and one non-fiction. Upper Fifth may have a further two non-fiction tickets, and the Sixth two more, making five for non-fiction in all. Those who have not applied for their quota yet may obtain them from the Librarian during opening times.

G.M.C.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

Chairman : L. Stimson.

Committee : B. Narey (*Vice-Chairman*), B. Butcher (*Treasurer*), M. Greaves (*Secretary*), N. Morgan, H. Potter, R. Pavelin, P. Ruthen

During the past school year, this society—which was formed in September—has flourished with considerable success in its varied activities. We started with a handful of keen naturalists, and by now have reached a membership of about thirty.

Our indoor meetings have been held in the Biology Laboratory at 3.45 p.m. every Wednesday. During these meetings, there has been a good show of enthusiasm and, at times, friendly rivalry. This

indicates that we have accomplished our desire to catch and maintain the interest of pupils in Natural History.

At these meetings, we have organised quizzes, nature parliaments, film shows, mock trials, short talks and other similar subjects. Particular interest was shown towards Mr. Whitehead's excellent film on the Icelandic expedition of which he was the leader. The flower-collecting competition was also a great favourite, the prize being won by Margaret Greaves, who obtained one hundred and nine marks. We are very grateful to Miss Musselwhite and Mr. Salter, who have helped us during the Summer Term.

In addition to the indoor meetings, there have been some expeditions to various parts of the neighbouring countryside. Some typical examples of the places which we have visited are the New Forest, Shawford Downs, Twyford, the Itchen, Stoke Woods and Lee. Members have attended rather erratically by bicycle, train or bus. Unfortunately, however, these outings have not proved so great a success as was at first anticipated, owing to a lack of a sufficient number of members.

L.G.S.

SPOTTERS' CLUB.

Chairman : O. Johnson.

Secretary : W. Steam.

Treasurer : J. Tapley.

This is the last report which will appear of the activities of the Spotters' Club as the club was disbanded at the beginning of June. The reason for this was not any lack of support, but the fact that the members felt that a branch of the Ian Allan Locospotters' Club could not fulfil the function which they desired from a school railway club. With this in mind, efforts are at present being made to form a school branch of the Southern. Counties Railway Society.

The Spotters' Club's swansong was of a very vigorous nature, a full programme being well supported until the end.

On March 20th a party visited Fratton Loco. Railway Sheds where a mixed stud of ex-L.S.W.R. and L.B.S.C.R. locos. were inspected. Electric train operation was, of course, well to the fore here. The club was represented at the Spotters' Rally in London on April 1st, after visiting Bricklayers Arms and Stewarts Lane S.R. running sheds with the Romsey Spotters' Club. The programme consisted of a film, a quiz, a brains trust and talks by an R.H.D.R. driver and O. J. Morris.

May 1st was the occasion of a visit to Eastleigh by the Chichester County High School Spotters' Club. After visiting the running shed in the morning with our Club, they were entertained by us in a quiz-match. E.C.H.S. won by 241/2-15, due chiefly to the efforts of J. Harris (12 points) and J. Bailey (102). Other members of the team were R. Newland (3), J. Tapley (1), W. Steam and J. Bartlett.

A party consisting chiefly of junior members crossed to the Isle of Wight on May 8th. Visits were made to Ryde and Newport running sheds, the Locomotive, Carriage and Wagon Works at Ryde, the Ryde Pier Tramway and, a new departure, to Cowes Airport.

The next outing was on May 23rd when several members visited the L.M.R running sheds at Camden and Kentish town. At the former depot many large express locos were seen, the latter being rich in ex-Midland Rly. locos.

Another quiz match was held. on May 26th, a team travelling to Brockenhurst. Once again, E.C.H.S. won, this time by 311/2-41/2 the team and individual scores being J. Bailey (12), J. Harris (4), W. Stearn (61/2) J. Tapley (44) and J. Bartlett.

We were once again invited to send a representative to the Romsey Spotters' Club Annual Dinner on May 27th, W. Stearn representing the group.

The Club's final outing was to the running sheds at Brighton and Newhaven, Volk's Electric Railway also being visited on this occasion. This was a very successful outing and was a fitting close to the Club's highly successful three years of life.

W.A.S.

YOUNG FARMERS' CLUB.

Chairman : Anne Carter.

Vice-Chairman : W. A. Steam.

Secretary-Treasurer : Janet Pook.

The Summer term, as always, has been the season for farm-visits by the Club, the weather being kind on most occasions. Several farms in the district have been visited by parties from the Club and members have attended various shows.

The first event of the year was a lecture given by Mr. C. Curtiss on " Hide and Skins," on April 16th. Mr. Curtiss illustrated his talk by pictures and showed specimens of skins and hides.

The first farm-visit was held on April 24th, when members went round Greenwood Farm, Durley. On June 12th, Durnford's Farm, Bishopstoke, was visited by a large party. Four weeks later, Newhouse Farm and Uplands Farm were shown to members.

On May 15th, the Club gave a party for members and friends. The party, held in the School Hall, was a great success and raised sufficient money for the Club's subscription to the Young Farmers' Clubs' Rally. At the Rally, the Club brought the shield home in triumph. To win this, first place had been obtained in both the Rally competitions of the year before and the winter programme for the previous winter. The Club also won first place in this year's Rally competition. Teams won first place in Pig Judging, Table Decorating, Knitted Garments, second place in the competition for a useful article in wood or metal. The only fault with the Rally, held at Broadlands, Romsey, was that it rained all day. This deterred most spectators but many Young Farmers' attended.

In a poultry-trussing competition for individuals, F. Locke carried off first prize and was thus chosen to go to Reading to represent this area in a similar competition. There, he took first place and would have gone to York to represent Hampshire in an all-England competition, but was unable to do so. However, he is to represent Hampshire at the Dairy Show at Olympia in October next.

The Garden Produce Show was held on Southampton Common on June 18th and 19th, and members acted as programme-sellers and were also able to go round an extremely interesting show. The next week, the Royal County Show was held at Salisbury. Members attended it, and afterwards went round Old Sarum. •

J. P.



THE OLD BARTONIANS' ASSOCIATION

President : Mr. H. N. R. Moore.

Hon. Vice-Presidents : Miss I. H. Talbot, Miss F. W. Musselwhite, Mr. J. W.

Smith, Mr. E. W. C. Luke.

Chairman : Mr. J. E. W. Percival.

Vice-Chairman : Mr. R. Cannon.

Secretary : Mr. D. J. Hannah.

Treasurer : Mr. D. R. Baker.

By the time these words appear in print the Association will be more than half way through the current year, and this is, therefore, a very suitable occasion for reviewing our activities. Undoubtedly, the high spot of the summer has been the work of the Sports Committee. This Committee, under the very able leadership of its Secretary, Mr. Cecil Churcher, has organised both cricket and tennis teams and many enjoyable matches have been played. As usual there have been complaints against the organisation, the two most frequent queries being :-

1.—Why have strong players been dropped from the teams at times in favour of weaker ones ?

2.—Why have certain strong players not been given a game at all ?

I'll answer these complaints for you :-

1.—When people have been keen enough to write in and ask to play, Mr. Churcher has tried to give them a game whatever their capabilities. It is nice to play a strong team and win all your matches, but it is more important that as many members as possible be allowed to take part in whatever activities are going on.

2.—The answer to this question is simple—the players in question have not asked to play ! If they couldn't take the small amount of trouble needed to send in their form then the Secretary was certainly not going to them on bended knees and beg them to play !

At my request, Mr. Churcher has given a separate report on his Committee's activities which appears below.

As the only member of the Association who has found, or rather made time to attend all the functions arranged by the Entertainments Committee, it would perhaps not be out of place if I 'said a word or two about what has been going on.

Our first tennis tournament held at Fleming Park on 12th June, was well attended and took place in good weather. Competition was keen, but eventually we found Eric Page and Ken Marriner to face Ivan Creed and his sister, Jeanette, in the final. Eric and Ken won 6-3, 4-6, 6-4. A second tennis tournament was to have been held on 17th July, but it was cancelled owing to rain.

On the 20th June, there was a coach trip to Sandbanks. Those who came with me will question my use of the word " coach " but it was the only vehicle available and it did keep going—just about. It was a dull morning when we started off, but the clouds thinned out as we approached the sea and by the time we had staked our claims on the beach it was really warm. Several of the party went swimming and a number went for a long and interesting motor boat trip round Poole

harbour. The salt air had given some of us a thirst so on the return we stopped the coach at the " John Barleycorn " in the New Forest and enjoyed a drink in the cool of the evening. We arrived back in Eastleigh about 9.30 p.m.

There was to have been an outing to Ryde on Sunday, 4th July, but as you read in a recent circular, this was abandoned owing to rain, and the trip eventually took place on the 18th. We embarked on the S.S. " Upton " at 10.20 a.m. and came along side Ryde Pier just about noon. The natives in the Island were quiet friendly and, much to the surprise of one member of the party, spoke perfect English ! The sun came out soon after we reached the beach and a strenuous game of cricket was soon in progress. The outfield was a bit damp and the wicket was taking spin, but even so some fine scores were made. In the cool of the evening both fellows and girls adjourned to the boating lake for a spot of exercise with the oars and some of us followed this up with some light refreshments at the " local." We came home on the paddle steamer " Princess Elizabeth," a rather faster craft than the " Upton," and eventually reached Eastleigh just after 10 p.m.

It sounds as if we had a good time, doesn't it ? We did—all nine of us ! The outing to Sandbanks was almost as poorly supported which was very disheartening for the Committee who had gone to a lot of trouble to arrange it. Perhaps the weather didn't look too promising, but you've got to be a bit sporting about these things and take a chance on the English climate. It's your Association and it can never be a success unless you yourselves make it one. How about making a resolution now to give your Committees the support they deserve ? You elected them and they're doing their best to please you. It's up to you to give them a hand. Here's hoping that I shall meet many more of you at the functions we're arranging for the winter months.

D. J. HANNAH,
Honorary Secretary.

PRESENTATION TO MISS TALBOT.

A social evening was held at the School on Saturday, 24th July. The Eddie Gulliford trio, with Eddie himself on the drums, provided music for dancing and the evening passed all too quickly. A very fine supper was served in the lower hall at 9.30 and, when everyone had finished eating, the President, Mr. H. N. R. Moore, rose to address the assembly. He praised the good work done by Miss Talbot for the Association, and said that he thought it only fitting that a true Old Bartonian should make the actual farewell presentation. Mr. W. G. Waller thanked the President for his words, and said that no one regretted more than he did this " parting of the ways." " Miss Talbot," he said, " has always taken an individual interest in us all—we were not just names in a register. She has always shared our happiness and been sad with us in our moments of sorrow. We shall miss her very much." Mr. Waller then presented Miss Talbot with a wristlet watch and a travelling case as a token of the Association's esteem for her, their first Honorary Vice-President.

Miss Talbot thanked members for the great kindness which they had all shown her and said she would never forget the many happy years she had spent in their company.

Mr. Cannon asked the football club to give three cheers for one of their greatest supporters, and then members left the table and returned to the dance floor.

May I take this liberty of adding a brief footnote to convey the thanks of all present to Miss Meakins and her helpers for the superb job they did in arranging the supper. They worked all day that others might enjoy themselves for a few hours.

ATHLETICS MEETING.

The Old Bartonians' met the school in their first Athletics meeting on 24th July. The Old Bartonians' won by the narrow margin of 46 points to 40. About a dozen events were run. The Old Bartonian winners were Creed, Edney, Marriner, E. Page and Street and the School winners were Baxter, David and Stubbs (2 events). The school also won the relay.

The success of the meeting was mainly due to the hard work of Mr. David in marking out the track and planning the events, for which the Old Bartonians sincerely thank him.

The Sports Committee has been active indeed this season, and although at the time of going to press, "true" summer has yet to reach us, we are hoping that the coming "summer" months of July, August and September will be kind to us. Early in the season members were circularised, re : mixed tennis and cricket and the response, although not as great as I would have wished, was, I am told, somewhat of a record for the Association. In view of this the committee set hard to work and constructed a fixture list that would give everyone, both tennis and cricket enthusiasts "a run for their money."

Our season opened on 9th June—or nearly *didn't* open! in view of our English climate again. However, due to a stout effort by our own team and the School and Staff XI, the cricketers saw the evening through in anything but ideal conditions. It was an enjoyable game though, and did give us a victorious start to the season, winning by 55 runs for 8 wickets to the Schools' 36 for 5 wickets.

The ladies tennis against the School on the same evening was "washed out" and the next encounter will have been played by the time these words are in print—22nd July. The cricket team also have their return fixture with the School on this date.

A special word of praise here for the cricket team who played truly magnificently for their first match and equally so against the Eastleigh Boys Club on 30th June. The score on this occasion being 70 runs for 3 wickets to our opponents' 56 for 7 wickets. This latter fixture was arranged in place of the proposed match versus Old Bartonians' Parents, but no parents were forthcoming so the idea, for this year at least, had to be abandoned.

Although it has been a short season for the cricketers I can say that everyone has enjoyed himself to the full and an all-day match versus an Army Cadet Force XI at Winchester will close the season on a high note. I have heard that it is hoped to organise an Old Bartonians' Cricket Club for next season. An excellent idea, I must say, and I know that the Sports Committee would back this venture all the way.

The mixed tennis term also started well by beating a Pirelli-General team at Dew Lane by 6 games to 2, on 23rd June. There are at present a further nine matches to be played and full results and comments will reach members on a special end-of-season circular. Our opponents include the Bishops Waltham Tennis Club, S.R. Institute, Pirelli-General, Albion Tennis Club and the School, so you see that our mixed tennis teams have a full bill and I trust that by this time will be fully satisfied with the season's sport.

An Athletics Meeting was arranged between the School and ourselves for Saturday, 24th July and news of this will reach all members later.

I think that the Sports Committee can feel justifiably proud of a hard season's work and if you haven't been able to play cricket or tennis or run for us this season, then I can promise you that you *will* get a chance next year when we plan a bigger and better programme.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped me during the last months to organise our various events. I do so hope that you all enjoyed them.

CECIL H. CHURCHER,

Honorary Secretary,
Sports Committee.

OLD BARTONIANS' F.C.

The Club held its Annual General Meeting at the School on Saturday, 19th June, 1948.

Reports from the previous season were presented and arrangements for the coming season were the subject of much animated discussion. The following decisions were reached :-

- (a) That three teams be organised in the Eastleigh League, Southampton Junior League and Southampton Y.O.C. League.
- (b) That the Annual Subscription and match fee remain at 2/6d. and 1/- respectively.

The following officers were elected :-

President : Mr. H. N. R. Moore.

Vice-President : Mr. J. E. W. Precival.

Chairman : Mr. R. Cannon.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer : Mr. E. J. Parker, 9 Owen Road, Eastleigh.

Asst. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer : Mr. W. F. Rogers, 13 Church Road, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh.

Committee : Messrs. P. A. Bliss, C. H. Churcher, R. K. Edney, H. T. Furnell, E. Page and I. J. P. Taylor (to be increased when Captains and Team Managers appointed).

Hon. Auditors : Messrs. E. Page and R. Radford.

The coming season's programme is going to necessitate a lot of hard work. Last occasion was very successful and if it is to be repeated the club will need all the support it can obtain. Members of the Old Bartonians' Association who are in any way interested, either as playing or non-playing members, are, therefore, requested to contact either the Secretary or Assistant Secretary, who will be pleased to give them any information and show them ways in which they can help.

E. J. PARKER,
Hon. Secretary.

OLD BARTONIANS' NEWS.

Editor : Mr. A. Almond.

(Figures in brackets denote year of leaving school)

- J. Anderson (1948) is employed at the Ordnance Survey as a junior draftsman.
Garry Barclay (1945) has passed his Second Year Examination at the Southern School of Art, Portsmouth, where he is studying architecture.
Doris Brockwell (1944) is now training to be a dispenser.
Mrs. Frank Brown and her baby son returned by air from Karachi on the 26th July, 1948.
Doreen P. Brown (1940) is now a Dental Attendant to H.C.C.
Patricia Campbell nee Remnant (1941) served with the W.R.N.S. until 1946. She worked in the Bacteriological Laboratory at the Castle, Winchester, until May, 1947, when she was transferred to a new post at the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, also at the Castle. She married Gordon J. Campbell in September, 1947, and is now living at Stansted, Essex.
Gordon J. Campbell (1939) left the Merchant Navy, July, 1946. He took up flying for a living in September, 1946, and knocked around Europe, Africa and India. He is now working for a Johannesburg Company on the London—Johannesburg route via Eastern Med. and East Africa.
Jean Capewell (1940) is now a night sister at the Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester. She is joining the Colonial Nursing Service this autumn.
Josie Collings (1944) has completed her training at Bristol University. She commences teaching at St. Anne's Grammar School for Girls, Southampton in September, as Junior History mistress.
Margaret Cousins (1947) is working as a Social Welfare Trainee and is finding the work very interesting indeed.
Stanley J. Fray (1941) is engaged in the Scientific Civil Service and is working at the Telecommunication Research Establishment in Great Malvern, Worcs.
Margaret Francies (1945) is now working in the Argentine Railways' London Office as a typist.
Norman L. Goodland (1936) has recently had his first novel published entitled, " Garnett Daubenay's Pipe," Giving a review of this book, Ralph Staus of the *Sunday Times* writes : " Garnett Daubenay's Pipe is a story of a work-house boy, deformed, but by no means the simpleton he is thought to be, who escapes from the institution to turn tramp and thatcher, and afterwards becomes a caravan—missionary. The book has its disturbing moments, and its accuracy is never in doubt ! "
Kenneth Gray (1941) demobilised from the Navy, September, 1946, is now working as a Surveyor for the Ordnance Survey at Chessington, Surrey.
Kenneth Grayer (1944) has gained exemption from Intermediate A.R.I.B.A. He is a student at the Southern School of Art.
Eileen Greenaway (1944) is engaged to John Candy ().
D. Hawkes (1946) is gaining practical experience in Forestry prior to entry into a Forestry Commission School. It is possible he will be called up to H.M. Forces soon.

- Derek C. Humby (1947) is serving a four years' apprenticeship at J. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd., Woolston, as a fitter and turner. He is also studying for his National Certificate at the Southampton Technical School. Pamela Jukes (1941) is now employed at the Eastleigh Post Office.
- Martin A. Lee (1943) demobilised from the Royal Signals 22nd May, 1948, has returned to his old job at the B.B.C.
- Norman R. Lee (1946) has just completed his second year at Bangor. He is reading for B.Sc. (Hons. Botany) Degree.
- L. H. Ludbrook (1932) was in business in Southampton until March, 1940. He spent from 1940 to 1946 in the Army in France (1940), U.K. 1941-42, in Ireland and Algeria in 1943. He was with the 8th Army in Italy Oct. 1943-46. Demobilised as Captain in the R.A.S.C., April, 1946, he returned to his business in Bournemouth until 1947 and since then he has been back in Southampton. He married in May, 1940, and has one son.
- Thelma Lythgoe (1946) was teaching in an Infants' School in Southampton. She commences training in September at the Portsmouth Training College.
- Mrs. Olive Hodson (1942) (nee Mann) was employed by H.M. Postmaster-General up to November, 1947. She spent the last year of that service at a P.O. Training Centre in Taunton, Somerset, as an Instructor to new recruits and ex-service personnel.
- Winifred Monk (1943) is now teaching at Station Road Secondary Modern Girls School, Woolston.
- J. A. Mullins (1946) has completed 9 months Machine Shop Training at Vickers-Armstrong's factory at Newbury. He has now returned to the Experimental Hangar at Hursley.
- Grace Nancarrow (1946) took up Nursing after leaving school, but had to give it up after 10 months for health reasons. She has spent a few months teaching in an Infants' School and will enter Bishop Otter College, Chichester, in September for a two years' training course.
- Marjorie Payne (1944) is training as a nurse at St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.
- Maurice Payne (1946) is training as an Aero Inspector at A.S.T., Hamble.
- Dorothy Rendell (1944) is working at the Eastleigh Post Office.
- Timothy Robinson (1939) is also at the Eastleigh Post Office.
- Barbara Sawkins (1945) is a Clerk at the Eastleigh P.O.
- Joyce Shipp (1943) is teaching at Alresford Junior School.
- E. M. Stock (1933) is now Manager of W. H. Smith & Sons, Bookshop, Univerity College, Southampton.
- D. W. Taylor (1947) is an Aeronautical Engineering student at Saunders-Roe, Ltd. At present he is at the Training School, Osborne.
- G. A. Taylor is now working at Lloyd's Bank, Portswood.
- J. Trowbridge (1946) has completed his first year's course at the Southern School of Art, Portsmouth.
- Heather A. Venham (1947) is now attending Andover Grammar School. Ronald Ward (1945) is now Burroughs Machine and Computator Operator at Pirelli's Cable Works, Eastleigh.
- Gus Walters (1941) is now working in the Enquiries Office, British Railways at Eastleigh. He is a keen member of the Eastleigh R.F.C. Formerly he was a Bevin boy in a South Wales mine.

NEWS OF MEMBERS IN THE FORCES. .

- Pat Bugden (1946) W.R.N.S., joined up 16th March, 1948. She is a writer working in the Captain's Office, H.M.S. Heron, R.N.A.S., Yeovilton, Somerset.
- R. Bull (1945) is a Sergeant in the Education Corps. He is stationed at St. Athens, near Cardiff.
- T. A. C. Emery (1945) R.A.F. is due for demobilisation in the early part of August this year.
- F. J. M. Goldby (1947) is a L/Bdr. in the Army. He is swimming 100 yards Back Crawl and 220 yards Crawl for the Regiment group, and is now in for a. England A.A. Command Championship. He is a qualified Instructor in Gunnery and Instruments.

Geoffrey Hawkes (1944) spent two years at St. Mark's and St. John's College, Chelsea, 1945-7. He taught for a few weeks at the Crescent Primary School Eastleigh. He is now serving with the R.A.F. at No. 2 Radio School, Yatesbury. He may join an Education Branch or be posted overseas in the near future.

R. J. Hendley (1946) R.A.F. is stationed near Eastbourne.

G. A. Hewlett (1944) is doing an Officers' Training Course in the Royal Engineers.

Peter Morris (1946) R.A.F., was called up in March, 1948. He is a Pay Clerk stationed at Credenhill, Hereford. Formerly, he was at Lloyd's Bank, Southampton.

M. Newington (1946) is a Sgt. Instructor, R.A.E.C., at present stationed at Klagenfurt, Austria.

D. E. Oxford (1943) has spent 3 years in the Army Education Corps. He has signed on for another 4 years and is undecided whether to teach in the Army or out after this service.

David Pidgeon (1945) R.A.M.C., is a Medical Assistant on a Hospital Ship. R. G. Robbie (1944) is now at S.T.C.R.E., Warminster, having finished a course on Air Survey. He is expecting to be posted in the Far East.

Geoffrey Salkeld (1946) now in the R.A.F., was called up 29th June, 1948. Formerly he was at Lloyd's Bank, Eastleigh.

J. West (1945) is in the Navy, stationed at Portsmouth.

Winteridge (1945) was called up in June, 1948.

W. K. Wort (1945) R.A.F., is stationed near Portsmouth. He is expecting a move to Germany soon.

David C. Gibbons (1946) is in the R.A., 86 H.A.A. Regt., he is stationed near Havant, Portsmouth.

Peter Phillips (1945) is abroad in Asmara, Eritrea (R.A.S.C.).

Vic Wesley (1945) is abroad in Brussels (R.A.S.C.). Due for demobilisation in September, 1948.

Alan Baker (1947) was called up July, 1948, in R.A.

BIRTHS.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman R. Lee, a son, Roger Nicholas, 18th Oct., 1947. Mr. and Mrs. A. Trent (nee Lucie N. Lee) a daughter, Jennifer Margaret, 18th November, 1947.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Rogers, a daughter, April, 1947.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Ludbrook, a son, April 2nd, 1947.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis (nee Una Balch) have a son 6 months old.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stock (nee Joyce Maton) a daughter, Beatrix Hilary, 5th June, 1948.

MARRIAGES.

June Brookwell to Mr. J. Stanfield, 25th October, 1947.

Gordon J. Campbell to Patricia Remnant, 19th September, 1947. D. E. Oxford to Miss B. Roberts, June, 1947. Olive Mann to Mr. Harold Hodson, 6th September, 1947. Donald A. Bartram to Betty J. Swarbrick, 27th March, 1948.

Nancy Loveridge (1942) is to be married in August, 1948.

Betty Noyce to MT. Leslie Allen, 29th May, 1948. F. Ticehurst to Barbara Hyde, 24th July, 1948.

GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS

AMBITION (*Prize-winning Article*)

Whatever race or rank, all men
Must have a goal—an. aim,
Must fix their dreams on some bright star,
Burning elusively afar,

The stars of some shine warm and sure,
Fulfilment in their gleam, Yet
dreams of others seem to be
Doomed ne'er to know reality, So
high above they seem.

For these oft-times the way is hard,
The star a glimmering glow,
Stifled by clouds of grief and pain;
The world so far below.

Then misery draws near, and doubt,
And then to them is known
The bitter ache of tears unshed ; The
longing to give in; the dread Of
struggling on alone.

But time heals wounds, brings happiness ;
The sacrifice is sweet.
Though not with banners royal unfurled,
Yet will they reach the top of the world
With the bright stars at their feet.

BERYL MORRIS, *UVL* (16 years 3 months).

NURSERY NONSENSE (*Prize-winning Article*).

Last night, when I was in my bed,
Such fun it seemed to me; I
dreamt that I was grandpapa,
And grandpapa was me.

I thought he wore a powdered wig,
Drab shorts and gaiters buff;
And took, without a single sneeze,
A double pinch of snuff.

But he was such a tiny boy,
And dressed in baby's clothes;
I thought I smacked his face, because
He wouldn't blow his nose.

And I went walking up the street,
And he ran by my side ;
Because I walked too fast for him,
My goodness, how he cried !

And after tea I washed his face,
And when his prayers were said; I
blew the candle out, and left
Poor grandpapa in bed.

BRIAN FILCE, *II Peak* (11 years 11 months).

ON DOING NOTHING.

It is a great advantage to be able to enjoy doing nothing. It requires great skill, and practice, and art. Of course, there is no such thing as doing nothing at all ; one must be standing, or sitting, or thinking, or living, or something; but just to be able not to work, read, talk, listen, sleep, nor do anything else of that kind, just to sit and think (or perhaps muse, meditate and ponder are more professional-sounding words), and above all, not be bored by it, seems to me a great accomplishment.

I think I shall make a hobby of it, if I get time to practice. I shall just try it for a few minutes at first, and increase the time a little more each day, until I can sit for hours doing nothing. The trouble is, I may not be able to find enough pleasant subjects on which to meditate. Still, I can spend kits of time just meditating on what to meditate on. I wonder if one has to be conceited really to enjoy one's own thoughts. What a saving of trouble and money to be able to entertain oneself thus, and not be bored ! And how useful if one were where no other pastimes were available—in prison, perhaps.

But alas ! I am afraid I shall never have enough will-power, patience to practice, or imagination to reach the stage where I can rejoice for hours merely in my own meditations. When my favourite programmes are on the wireless, or my favourite books are waiting to be read, my practising will suffer (though not when there is work to be done which can still be put off for a while), and when there is really nothing to do but sit and think, I shall not have completed my training in doing this, and all I shall be able to muse on is how boring life is.

That is a pity. I should have enjoyed being able to do nothing (in the usual meaning of the phrase), instead of reading uninteresting books, or going to sleep, or writing uninteresting magazine articles.

VERA GEDDIS, *VI (Arts)*, (16 years 3 months).

DREAM AND REALITY.

O would I were an author,
With pen that flowed so free.
I'd tell you tales of love, and life,
Or stories of the sea,
And gruesome thrillers that would be
Best left upon the shelf,
As, writing them, I know I should
Completely scare myself.

O would I were a painter;
My brush would colours hold
Of summer flowers, and painted skies, Of
sunsets tinged with gold.
Those pictures surely would be shown;
Spectators I'd enthral.
My pictures now, I think, Miss Smith
Would hang face to the wall.

O would I were an actress,
Shakespearean for choice.
Those theatre crowds I'd hold entranced,
By gesture and by voice.
I'd stand behind the footlight glare,
My make-up getting hot;
For just suppose (O awful thought !)
My lines I quite forgot.

O would I were a tennis ace,
A modern Lenglen who,
Would save the game, when all seemed lost
By volleying straight through.
The crowd would cheer with loud applause,
And chair me from the match.
What did Miss Cross say ? " Ann, don't dream !
You missed an easy catch."

I may not be an author,
Or painter like Raphael ;
An actress I should never be ;
At sports I don't excel.
I'm one of Mr. Stone's despairs,
One of the Lower Fifth.
Please don't give up, though ; even I
May have some hidden gift !

ANN FRASER, L VM (15 years 8 months).

DAYBREAK.

The twitt'ring chorus rings o'er hill and dale,
The sturdy milkmaid swings her frothy pail,
The rabbit shivers in the dewy grass, And
down the muddy lane the horses pass.

The gaudy cockerel proudly struts around,
While fussy hens go scratching on the ground ; His
patronizing manner seems to say,
" Why hurry when we've scarce begun the day ?

The drowsy cat surveys her kittens gay,
Benevolently purring as they play ; She
watches as they frolic in the sun,
Enjoying every moment of their fun.

The smoke uprising from the chimney tall,
The farmer's wife prepares the meal for all
The busy folk who hasten to the door
While sunbeams weave their pattern on the floor.

ANNE E. WILLIAMS, LVH (14 years 8 months).

AN EMBARRASSING PET.

Not many people have such an extraordinary pet as a porcupine. I had, and it was not an ordinary porcupine either, because it had a prehensile tail; that is, a tail which curls round any object, and has no spines.

Honkey, the porcupine, arrived one morning in October, 1944. It was raining a little and a light breeze stirred the sodden, early autumn leaves. The postman announced his arrival by a loud " Rat-tat-tat " on the knocker. When I opened the door, he handed me a large box, from which came a series of grunts and bumps. There were holes punched in the top of the box. The postman informed me that it was " an hanimial from South America," which I could hear and see for myself. I thanked him for being so careful with it and he went off in his G.P.O. van.

I took the box indoors and put it on the table; the grunts and bumps had stopped now. The box was made of metal and had a large envelope attached to it bearing my name and address. I opened the envelope and the

first thing I saw was a note in large letters saying, "Get some bread and milk and let the animal out of the box." I prepared the bread and milk and put it on the table beside the box. I then made sure that the windows and doors were shut tight. Then I opened the box. I do not know what I expected, but what stepped out was far beyond my expectations, for it was a full-grown porcupine. I looked at him for a moment, and then picked him up with my bare hands and kissed him on the nose. It was really a dangerous thing to do, but the porcupine seemed to like it and asked me with its eyes to "do it again," so I did. He seemed to take to me from that moment onwards for he got on to my shoulder and started to nibble my ear gently. It was a queer sensation. After a while I put him down gently and he set off to explore his new surroundings. I then read the rest of the letter, It dealt mostly with how to look after him and what to give him.

Meanwhile, Honkey must have found his way into the kitchen. I had opened the door for him, because Uncle Bob had said that Honkey would bite his way through any wooden article if it got in his way. I could hear mother trying to get him out of her kitchen. You could tell Honkey was enjoying himself.

That night Honkey slept in my room, because his hutch was not ready for him. I could not get to sleep that night for a long time. Honkey had taken it into his head to make a complete tour of my bed. When he had finished, instead of going back to his box, he slept at the foot of my bed and nothing could move him.

We still have Honkey now, though he is not quite as frisky as he was. He still is naughty sometimes and is really embarrassing, but I shall always be grateful to Uncle Bob for sending him.

SHEILA WEST, *III Peel (13 years 5 months)*.

A SAD, SAD STORY.

A short while ago, a vivid word-picture was conjured up of the majesty of a cat. I should like to give an impression of another cat—but a rather different type.

I shall begin at the beginning and tell the whole sad story. One day, many moons ago, a knock came at the door of a house in Eastleigh. The door was answered, but before either the person who knocked the door or she who answered it could say "Good morning," or repeat the conventional openings, a scratching, fighting, frightened little black bundle pushed and bit his way out of a sack the "door-knocker" was carrying, fled past the astonished woman who had answered, slid down the polished passage-way, through an open door-way, and fled beneath the inviting sanctuary of an armchair. The next thing the woman knew was that she was talking to any empty porch. The man had gone.

That is how our cat came into our lives. He caused us more trouble than any baby could have done at the same age. The first glimpse the woman had was of an ugly little object which turned out to be mainly covered in the brown fur of kittens, with a long, lean hungry body and knock-kneed back legs. The last misfortune he never outgrew.

That cat—he never had a name—suffered one mishap after another. While still in his youth, he was caught whilst escaping from a dog whose favourite sport was killing unfortunate kittens, and who proceeded to duck him in a butt of water. When he was returned to us, gasping for breath, his fur, normally a thick black sheen, hung in dark feathers. Later on, he managed to knock down a heavy box on to his back legs. He pulled himself home, indoors and up to the softest resting-place he could find—the eiderdown on my bed. He had a luxurious time after these escapades, feeding on the best of our small meat ration.

He had courage, that cat, but mostly of a type similar to Dutch. He would attack another cat ferociously when we were watching, but otherwise he ran as fast as he could for home and safety. One day, however, we had to

separate him from another cat, with the aid of a rolling-pin and a bowl of water. We never saw the Other cat again, and ours had various lumps of fur missing, but most of the blood was the other cat's.

That little black cat endeared himself to us, whatever his faults. He was ugly, but had one redeeming feature, his beautiful coat of fur, which he cleaned assiduously until it shone with every glint of light. One of his loveliest little habits will always remain with us in memory—that of catching mice under the old kitchen range and bringing them up to us in bed to show how clever he was. The trouble was he did not kill them first.

JANET POOK, *UVL* (15 years 8 months).

OLDEN DAYS.

I wish I could have been alive, Way
back in day of yore, When
everybody seemed to have
Adventures by the score,

When pirates bold and buccaneers
Rode on the ocean blue,
And highway men on horses swift
Would stop, and rob you too.

Most children didn't go to school,
In those good old-fashioned times,
And kings would have their heads chopped off,
If they committed crimes.

Perhaps they'd bind them to a stake, O'
er a pile of blazing wood,
To show the other watching rogues
That it pays to be good.

I'd like to have met Francis Drake,
And if he'd let me choose,
I'd go with him to the Spanish Main, On
an adventurous cruise.

But now the world is "civilised,"
With laws to rule the state,
And I've missed all that jolly fun. I
was born much too late.

DAVID F. SMITH, *III Barton* (13 years 3 months).

ONLY ONE TON.

Since I wrote, a short while ago, a defence of people who are, as one famed philosopher puts it, "built for comfort, not for speed," I have been the butt of many bitter attacks from those who are built, or look as though they are built, for speed. Fearing that these attacks are the result of a jealous inferiority complex, I hasten (if possible) to assure them of my indifference and to offer them spiritual balm and consolation.

One cynic on one occasion was heard to remark in a loud raucous voice that fat (fat, mind you!) people have such queer senses of humour. I quite agree, but I should like to point out that thin people have much funnier senses of humour. And then he (of course, it was a he) said that fat people are fat because they have no worries, and it is worry that makes thin people thin. Worry, it must be agreed, induces people to commit suicide, and it is a well-known fact that more fat people than thin commit suicide. So much for that uninformed personage. My slimmer friends need not fear catching cold when they drown or

having tummy-ache when they poison themselves because they are not likely to do either.

My thin friends are constantly bewailing their lack of padding in the right places. But let them cheer up and think of the advantages of looking graceful and not ungainly, and appearing " as slim as a reed " (although I don't think it's quite as bad as that). Let them reflect on the joys of not having to wear skin-tight clothes. Some of them would look elegant in a drain-pipe. And another thing, they couldn't be told they look like the back of a bus, even if they could' see over other people's heads. The back of a bicycle would be much more appropriate.

Being thin gives people a good excuse for having queer hobbies. We expect thin people to have queer hobbies, such as astrology or polygamy or entomology. But if a plumper person were to have a queer hobby people would be horrified. Plump people are not expected to be interested in anything. They are thought to be lazy and their slimmer friends industrious and hard-working. But in truth they shirk their work and the plump people carry all the heaviest things and do all the " running-about " " It slims them," the optimists say. " Impossible," say the pessimists.

So, my divinely slim friends, don't be bitter. Think of what you gain by being angular and not angelic, and count your blessings one by one (if you can-count up to three !).

PAMELA WATERER, *UVL (15 years 3 months)*.

REPENTANCE.

When fortune's against me, and tempers are
frayed, I stray to my window, and bitter thoughts
fade. As I gaze on the peace and the beauty of life
The conflicts of mind seem to cease from its
strife, And the struggling emotions that rage in my
heart Grow weary of fighting, and slowly depart.

And there rises within me a feeling of shame,
That I should be guilty of playing a game
So childish, so useless, as striving to win
Over matters so trivial, that thoughts full of sin
Are harboured within me, and at last overflow,
Bringing harsh words more painful than physical blow.

And as I gaze out from my window, I pray That
God will forgive me, and help me to play A game
that is better, and much more worth while ; To
conquer all troubles, to bear them, and smile.

EDWINA M. FLINTHAM, *LVL (15 years 3 months)*.

A VISIT TO THE CIRCUS.

It was our first visit to the circus, and we were all very excited. We paid our money for tickets at the gate, and walked under a great placard bearing the name of the circus, passing numerous programme-sellers in brightly coloured uniforms. At last we were in the tent at the side of the ring, and were being shown our seats. We looked at the huge ring covered with sawdust, and watched the crowds teeming into the entrance. About five minutes before the show was due to begin, the band started to play the overture. Soon after, the spotlights were switched on, and the show had begun.

The opening act was taken by the clowns, who performed amusing acrobatics. Then came the display of the superb liberty horses, who performed remarkably intelligent feats and movements in time to the music of the band. The horses were beautifully groomed, and wore coloured trappings, which were hung with tiny bells. During each turn the clowns came into the ring, and never failed to make the people roar with laughter. Next came outstanding tests on the

tight rope by a youthful boy and girl. These two gained considerable applause from the audience, especially when they performed feats of skipping through a hoop, keeping their balance on the rope.

The next act was called the "Elephant Ballet" on the programme, and was by six elephants and six girls. The elephants were extraordinary clever, and put up one of their front legs to enable the girls to get up on their backs. Then came a graceful demonstration of bare-back riding by two men and a girl on three lovely horses. Next was a turn entitled "Louise and her Dogs," in which the dogs rode skilfully on horseback, and one performed some clever actions on its hind legs. The next turn was by a girl on the trapeze, who made the crowd gasp by hanging in mid-air by her teeth, her chin, and then her ankles.

During the interval, we ate ice-cream, and watched the cage for the lions being erected in the ring. The lions were the next turn, and everyone admired the coolness of the trainer as he stepped into the ring. Next were a couple of clowns who made everybody laugh at their funny antics. Then came a wonderful riding act by a troupe of artistes with superb horsemanship. An acrobatic turn came next, consisting of a family of three boys and a girl, who performed wonderful twists and turns and feats of balancing.

At last, after a wonderful and much enjoyed performance came the closing act. This was by two boys and a girl, who performed high up in the roof of the tent. It is difficult to describe such an enthralling act, which included a small aeroplane, driven by the girls, flying round and round high up in the Big Top. At times the girl would climb out of the 'plane, which was on the end of a pole hanging from the roof, and perform acrobats by herself. Loud bursts of applause for the trio came from the audience, as each turn became cleverer than the last. In the end, the 'plane slowed down, and the fearless three climbed down the rope ladders hanging from the roof. As we made our way home, sorry that it was all over, we all agreed how wonderful our first visit to the circus had been.

B. HOCKEY, *III Barton (13 years 3 months).*

MIDSUMMER NIGHT.

On midsummer's night,
There's a wonderful sight,
Under the moon.
The fairies come out,
And go dancing about,
Under the moon.

There's a dainty feast set,
Where the fairies have met,
Under the moon.
And the harebells ring,
As they hold hands and sing,
Under the moon.

They wear dresses of blue,
And other shades too,
Under the moon.
Fairies danced without rest,
With laughter and jest,
Under the moon.

When the bright stars fade,
They steal from the glade,
Under the moon.
Each one sleeps in a flower,
In some shadowy bower,
Under the moon.

GLADYS COOK, *III (Peak 12 years 0 months).*

THE FANCY DRESS BALL.

In the ballroom, glowing with a mass of gay colour, a fancy dress ball was in progress. Lights were gleaming, tinsel was sparkling. Even the judges were in fancy dress.

Then, up danced a pierrette, in white with black bobbles. With her long brown legs flying, her arms twirling, her white teeth gleaming, and her dark curly hair flowing, she skipped past me in a twinkling.

As I walked across the hall, I saw a dear little old lady. It was David Copperfield's aunt, Miss Betty Trotwood. She was dressed in a lavender gown, white apron, lavender shawl, and a mob cap with little grey curls peeping out from underneath. It was a very unusual and charming costume.

Then, well, what did I see? I really don't know and I don't suppose I will ever know what it really was, because all that I saw was a splash of bright colour. My own belief is that it was a clown, but I couldn't really say. It was so bright that it made me blink.

After a few dances the judges told the competitors to parade round the room for the judging.

The leaders were Prince Charming and Cinderella. As the procession moved slowly and gracefully round the room, I picked out a dashing young cowboy dressed in very light colours. Then I saw Miss Betsy, and a sweet little shepherdess with a toy lamb by her side.

Along came Bonnie Prince Charlie and his band of kilted Highlanders. A majestic figure came next, half surrounded by his six wives. Yes! it was Henry VIII. He was very well suited to the part. He was so fat and pompous. At the end of the procession the judges called out the names of the winners.

The first was Bonnie Prince Charlie, the second, Miss Betsy Trotwood and the third, King Henry. A consolation prize was awarded a little boy of six dressed up as a gardener with a barrow full of vegetables.

I loved the fancy dress ball. It was so bright and colourful and everyone was so happy. I came away after having a thoroughly good time and I would gladly accept an invitation to another like it.

JUDY CUDMORE, *III Peak* (13 years 3 months).

CHILDHOOD DREAMS.

Last night I dreamt of my childhood days,
When I was nearly three;
I used to think of plenty of ways
I could a nuisance be.

One day I thought I'd really cook
The dog a tasty meal.
I took butter, flour, sugar and spice
And mixed them up with zeal.

When this was done, I cooked it well,
Then gave it to poor Glen;
He didn't like it, and so instead
I gave it to our hen.

Another time I freed the cows,
Though quite by accident. I
just forgot to shut the gate, So
to the brook they went.

Another day I passed the cock, He
flew at me and pecked; I screamed
and screamed, and dashed indoors But
my poor doll was wrecked.

I dreamt too of many other things
Of when I was a child.
But most of all I'll remember these,
Cause they made my mother wild.

AFRA M. SCOTT, *LVL* (15 years 5 months).

A TALE OF MISFORTUNE.

When Tommy Smith had left his school,
And sought a situation,
He had a letter from a firm,
To call on approbation.

With mingled pride and nervousness, He
passed the night before,
Yet woke up late, and breakfastless He
to the station tore.

The train was slowly moving out,
But up the platform far,
Behind a gentleman, rushed Tom,
• And reached the final car.

Thought Tom, " I cannot wait for him,
Or I shall lose this race,
I'll bash this Josser ' on one side,
And so secure a place."

He did the deed, and reached his goal, A
minute late, or two,
And there with beating heart, he sat, To
await his interview.

He entered with a jaunty step,
Then out again he dashed, He
saw the owner of the firm Was
the Josser ' he had bashed.'

JOY P. M. ANGEL, *LVL* (14 years 10 months).

APPOINTMENT WITH FEAR.

I walked up the gravel path to the forbidding grey door. I opened it and walked slowly along the passage, my heart sinking lower every minute. At the end of the passage was another door, with these words painted across it, " Waiting Room," I opened it and entered a room with a gas-fire burning against the opposite wall, a room devoid of furniture, except for a row of stiff wooden chairs round the walls.

I sat down softly and looked up ; I saw two boys sitting against the adjacent wall. One was reading, the other was looking at the floor with an outward show of bravery, which probably covered an inward fear. Two of them—that meant half-an-hour to wait and then . . . it would be best not to think of that.

Oh, I was silly, it was only a filling, anyway ; and I thought I was so brave. It was girlish to be afraid of the dentist . . . I wonder how a murderer feels, half-an-hour before he is due to be hanged. I think I know now, I . . . the door creaked and I jumped, my heart beating so loudly that I thought " It must be heard by those two over there, and what a coward they will think I am ! "

The nurse took my card ; only ten minutes now, ten more minutes.

A scream I No, it can't be ! It must have been a cock crowing. But no—some-one coming round from gas screamed like that. It-it must have been,

Another scream, and it isn't a gas day to-day ! I felt sick, and looked up with a crashing heart at a slowly opening door. " Yes, my dear, it won't hurt—Did you know Mrs. Jones, when I used to go to the dentist they'd never use anaesthetic, and with a double tooth I once had out . . . " With these cheerful remarks, a middle-aged lady comes in . . . (No, the door didn't move again) . . . sits down beside me, and tells . . . (Did I hear a shout ?) . . . Mrs Jones all about her happy experiences at the dentist's . . . That door—It does not close properly—it annoys me. " In other words," said a still, small, voice, " it thoroughly scares you."

Perhaps it was right, but then, the dentist sometimes *does* hurt a lot . . . " Excuses ! " said the voice.

Why couldn't the nurse take me to the surgery and get it over ! I sat, transfixed with fear, as the door swung open . . . " Oh, Nicholls, you are the boy who had four teeth out, aren't you ? " said she. " I am, however, afraid " (so was I) " that the time is not long enough to fill the tooth, and so will you come again in three weeks' time . . . "

I waited to hear no more, but sprang through the door, down the passage back to school, rejoicing.

P. NICHOLLS, *IVL* (12 years 11 months).

THE BRIGHTER SIDE OF BELLRINGING.

Walking along the street one day, I found myself confronted with one of my friends, and feeling in a good humour, we started talking. For some unknown reason, the topic of conversation turned to bellringing, and after hearing his views on bellringing, I decided to join the happy band of Romsey Bellringers. Little did I know what I was letting myself in for, but I agreed to come the following night, just the same.

The great day arrived at last, and I traced my footsteps towards the abbey. Finding the door open, I crept inside and promptly found another door. Not a thing stirred in the abbey, until with a loud creak and a bang, the door sipped from my grasp. At last, I plucked up enough courage and started to ascend the spiral steps. After climbing what seemed to me to be about thirty or forty thousand steps, I cannot quite remember how many, I found myself lost. On retracing my steps, however, I found I had gone through the wrong door and was relieved to see another ringer, who acted as a guide for me, and we eventually came to the belfry.

Here, indeed, was a spectacular sight. I was suddenly conscious of loud clanging noises overhead and of human figures toiling on the end of long ropes. It was pointed out to me that they were pulling the bells up, preparing for the first peal.

The chief ringer came over to me and asked me if I would like a ring to-day. I gently declined this offer, upon which I was promptly told to " catch hold. " With a stiff upper lip, I walked resolutely to a rope, and with one frantic heave, pulled the bell right over, and with a loud clang, it jarred against the stay.

" Steady ! " said everyone simultaneously.

However, after several pulls, he said I was doing very well.

" Now," said the chief ringer, in a resounding tone, " you shall hear the experts ring," and so saying, he grasped a rope, and summoned the ringers to their ringing positions.

A voice from seemingly nowhere boomed " Treble going—she's gone " and they were off.

I listened for some time to " rounds," with the ringers ringing perfectly, all being well until the conductor shouted " Go Doubles," which signifies a change in ringing.

But now things began to go wrong. There were long, ominous silences, followed by discordant thuds and crashes, as the ringers all waited for someone to lead. " Go Rounds " thundered the exasperated conductor, and once more the ringing became normal. After bellowing " Stand," the conductor managed

to quell the noise, and the ringers stood back—that is to say, all but one ringer stood back. I could easily imagine myself in that same position, not being able to stand my bell. Once again, sarcastically this time, the ringer-in-chief called "Stand," to the now "red in the face" ringer. All the other ringers collected round him, and many witty remarks were made, making his task harder. At last it was stood and everyone pretended to sigh in relief, and all collected in a group round the table.

"It was all my fault," said everyone at once, upon which they all smiled genially at each other, and one or two grey-beards shook their heads sadly.

"Quite easy really, isn't it?" the chief ringer assured me afterwards. "I suppose it is," I faltered, and with that I descended the stairs, a sadder and wiser person.

IAN G. TEMPLETON, *LVM* (10 years 3 months).

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