

THE PEVERIL

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



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VOL. II

1940

No. II

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EDITORIAL.

Any Editor of a school magazine will tell you that an editorial is a troublesome thing to write at the best of times. We are writing this one at a particularly unfortunate time.

It is customary to observe that little of interest has occurred since the previous issue, an observation which in the present case is singularly inapplicable. Again it is a recognised practice to mention the recent scholastic and athletic successes of the school. At the time of going to Press, however, the results of the external examinations have not been published, and athletics have been considerably curtailed. Furthermore we cannot complain, as numerous other editors are always doing, that contributions have been few, we have had plenty of material to choose from, and venture to suggest that the contents of this issue are of a standard not often attained in school magazines.

Thus we are limited in the things we can say, and as in addition, printers complain that the editorial takes up too much space, and readers seldom bother to read it, we can only close with the hope that the magazine will be read with approval.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

A National Savings Group has been started in the school. In the course of two months (since the group was registered), almost £40 has been collected by ninety-five members. We hope that the group will maintain this very praiseworthy effort and point out that new members are still welcomed.

Our heartiest congratulations and best wishes are extended to Mrs. Winship (*nee* Gater) and to Mrs. Pratt (*nee* Cole).

The girls of the school are still maintaining a large output of woollen comforts for the Navy. Since January, 164 articles have been knitted (38 sleeveless pullovers, 21 balaclava helmets, 39 pairs of mittens, 11 pairs of steering gloves, 48 scarves, 4 pairs of sea-boot stockings and 3 caps). This brings the total number of articles, knitted and despatched to the Navy since the beginning of the war, to 227.

Good luck to Bliss with the cricket-bat recently awarded to him for making a new school batting record 1

SPORTS.

It was found impossible to hold the sports this year, with the exception of the cross-country races. In the Junior race there was a record entry of 80.

Results. Senior Individual. 1, Carley (B) 17m. 52s. ; 2, D. Dalton (Pk.) ; 3, Currell (Pk.).

Senior Team. 1, Peak, 34pts. ; 2, Barton, 58 pts. ; 3, Peel, 83 pts.

Junior Individual. 1, Potter (Pk.) 16m. 47s.—new record ; 2, S. Dalton (B) ; 8, E. Page (Pk.)

Junior Team. 1, Barton, 46 pts. ; 2, Peak 63 pts. ; 3, Peel 64 pts.

FOOTBALL.

Three matches only were played in the Spring Term, all at home. There is little of interest to record except R. Phillips' feat of scoring at least once in every Colts' game. The Colts were a much improved team in the latter half of the season.

Results.

1st XI.—

Portsmouth N. Sec. School	(Home)	L	1-8
Gosport C.S.	.(Home)	W	8-2
Portsmouth S. Sec. School	(Home)	W	2-0
Gosport C.S.(Home)	W	7-0
Purbrook C.H.S.	.(Home)	L	1-4

Leading Scorers : Carley 8 ; Martin 6.

Colours awarded : Taylor (rapt.), Bliss, Light, D. Dalton, Martin.

Colts' X (-

Portsmouth N. Sec. School	(Home)	L	2-4
Gosport C.S.	.(Home)	L	2-7
Portsmouth S. Sec. School	(Home)	D	2-2
Gosport C.S:	.(Home)	D	2-2
Purbrook C.H.S.	.(Home)	W	10-1

Leading scorer : L. Phillips 8.

House Tournament-

Peak 8, Barton 1 ;	Barton 7, Peel 0.
Barton 8, Peak 0 ;	Peak 5, Peel 2.
Barton 5, Peel 2 ;	Peak 2, Peel 2.

Barton headed the table.

House Six-a-Si& Tournament-

In the Final Barton B beat Peak A by 5 points to 8.

CRICKET.

Four matches have been played, three of which were lost and one won. The home match against Andover could not be started owing to the late arrival of Andover, and for other reasons.

While the bowling has not been so good this year, the batting has looked very much better. A creditable game was played against Andover and *was* followed by a very weak performance against Purbrook. A good last wicket stand nearly brought victory to the School in the first game against Gosport, a match enjoyed by all who played or watched. The second game against Gosport was distinguished by a very sound innings of 72 by Bliss. This is a school record and Bliss's effort was suitably acknowledged by the presentation of a bat and his colours. Taylor was also awarded his colours.

The Colts played only two games, losing both, the first by the narrowest of margins.

<i>Results-1st XI.</i>		Runs—F.	A.
Andover G.S.	(Away)	L 72	113 for 8.
Purbrook C.H.S.	(Away)	L 41	115 for 3.
Gosport C.S.	(Fleming Pk)	L 107	110
Gosport C.S.	(Fleming Pk)	W 137 for 4	76
<i>Leading Averages—Batting—Miller 32.00 ; Bliss, 29.75 ; Dalton 16.33 ; Bowling—Taylor, 6.62 ; Bliss, 7.08.</i>			
<i>Results—Colts' XI.</i>		Runs—F.	A.
Andover G.S.	(Away)	L 61	62
Purbrook C.H.S.	(Away)	L 18	44 for 9.

TENNIS.

Owing to the evacuation of many of its usual opponents and to travelling difficulties, the tennis team has only played two matches this season. Both resulted in victories for the school.

The teams in the match against Southampton University College were very equal. The school team just managed to win by 5 sets to 4.

The match against Gosport was less exciting, and resulted in an easy victory for the school by 8 sets to 0.

The senior girls have now the good fortune to use the Fleming Park tennis courts during their games period. This, we hope, will greatly improve the quality of the school's tennis.

CHESS CLUB.

During the last autumn term a Chess Club was formed in the School which has been active since. The Headmaster very kindly provided some boards which have been supplemented by those of some of the members. A chess ladder was introduced in which the final positions were :-1, Newton ; 2, Vilela ; 3, Smith. The finalists in the knock-out competition were Croasdell and Smith who agreed to divide the honours. A competition between teams picked by Newton and Smith resulted in a draw of 4—4.

While during the summer term the Club fell rather into a state of inactivity and disuse, it has been reformed this term and it is hoped that the membership will be considerably increased. Meetings are held after School and during the dinner-hours in the Library. All pupils are eligible and tuition will be given to those who are at present non-players. The entrance fee is is., for new sets and boards are being purchased. For admittance apply to Newton, Smith, Taylor, Carley or S. Godden.

THE OLD BARTONIANS FOOTBALL CLUB.

After a very difficult period owing to the international situation the Old Bartonians started their League programme on 30th September last, and beat the eventual League winners, Colden Common Reserves, by three goals to one. The next three matches were won and the fourth was a draw. The next

two were won. The Old Boys then sustained their first defeat at the hands of Eastleigh Spartans by five goals to three. However, the remainder of the League programme was carried out very successfully, the final position in the League being third with the following record :—Played 20, won 15, drawn 1, lost 4, goals for 84, goals against 46.

On March 2nd the Old Boys met and defeated the then undefeated Chandler's Ford team by one goal to nil. To prove that this result was justified the Club again beat Chandler's Ford on March 16th by two goals to one.

This match proved to be the highlight of the season and was watched by a good many spectators. The Old Boys fielded a strong team as also did Chandler's Ford but the issue was beyond doubt by half-time. After the interval the Old Boys were attacking the whole of the time and in all justice it should be said that the score flattered the Chandler's Ford team.

The Cup matches were not so successful and the Club were defeated in each of the two competitions by the same Club, Flemings United.

The Eastleigh Benevolent Cup-tie was lost by four goals to two and the Hants Junior Cup-tie by seven goals to two. The second match was rather an unfortunate affair as the Old Boys were unable to field a very strong side and the fixture had been previously looked upon as *the* match of the season. However, the Old Bartonians avenged the reverses by twice beating Flemings United by five goals to two in League fixtures.

Eric Stone is to be congratulated on scoring thirty-five goals during the season, although owing to service ties he was unable to play every match. The remainder of the goals were scored by Rushworth (13), Bliss (10), Cannon (6), Bailey (5), Smith (4), Taylor (8), Martin (3), Light (2) and Furnell, Rogers and White 1 each. Two were scored by opposing defenders.

Two friendly matches were played against the winners of the coveted double, the first division of the League and the Benevolent Cup—Pirelli-General. The Club won one of these and lost one. The first was won by the Old Boys by three goals to one, Waller scoring two and Stone one (not included in the previous totals). The second was lost by four goals to three. Scorers were Rushworth, Bliss and Waller.

During the season the Old Boys' goalkeeper, Harold Reed, was selected to play for Southampton Reserves and apparently justified his selection.

This coming season will probably provide many trials, but if the Club faces it with a little extra support, with the same spirit as last season it should prove even more successful than last season.

At the General Meeting of the Club held at the School on August 30th it was decided that the Club should again enter the League and cup competitions and any Old Boys who are interested should get in touch with me at 19, Wilmer Road, Eastleigh.

REG. CANNON.

OLD BARTONIANS' ASSOCIATION.

Dear Old Bartonians,

To all those of you who are serving in H.M. Forces, the A.R.P. Services, the Home Guard or just keeping things going by "going to it" at your daily job, I should like to convey my best wishes and also congratulations to any who may have won promotion or distinction, thus showing that same spirit which was so evident in the "good old days" at school whether in the examination lists or on the playing field.

May I also express, on behalf of all members, the wish that any Old Bartonians who have become injured in carrying out their hazardous tasks in the defence of our country and freedom, will have a speedy recovery and better luck in the future.

During this year the Association has managed to hold several social functions in spite of the "black-out" difficulties, "early closing" of dances and the decrease in the number of local members owing to the Army, Navy and Air Force needs. As for the football section its progress during last season in spite of many difficulties, needs no comment from a mere female—its results are sufficient witness to the quality of its players, and the ability of its organiser.

On Wednesday, January 3rd, a Re-union Dance was held in the Eastleigh Town Hall and although owing to war-time restrictions this had to finish at 11 p.m., about 120 people attended and greatly enjoyed the programme of dances provided by the Barova Orchestra. Mr. J. Peppier was M.C.

Owing to the earliness of Easter the Re-union matches, tea and general meeting were held on Saturday, March 16th, and it was hoped that a dance could have been held the previous evening. However since the Town Hall *was* already booked for that date this dance was held on Friday, March 8th, from 8 p.m. till 2 a.m. Mr. Smithers' Orchestra provided a very enjoyable selection of dances and during the interval "Lester Lascelle" entertained the dancers with a varied selection of wizardry. About 100 people were present.

The annual Re-union matches were held in the afternoon of Saturday, March 16th, and these were attended by a number of Old Bartonians who joined the teams for tea in the Upper Hall.

The annual general meeting was held immediately after tea and was attended by the majority of those who had been present at the matches and tea. Mr. Moore was in the chair. Those elected to office for the year 1940-41 were as follows: President, Mr. B. J. Peppier; Secretary, Miss E. M. Betteridge (re-elected); Treasurer, Miss I. H. Talbot (re-elected); re-elected to Committee—Miss V. Somers, Miss N. Kenchington, Miss P. Trigg, Mr. L. Ludbrooke, Mr. W. J. Smith and Mr. R. Cannon. Newly elected—Mrs. W. Fish, Miss J. Newton, Mr. R. White, Mr. H. Collins and Mr. Newman.

At this meeting a decision was made to allow wives and fiancées (or vice-versa) of Old Bartonians to join the Association as associate members for the same subscription as old students. We hope that this decision will increase our membership and the attendance at social functions. It was also decided that as many social evenings as possible should be held during the summer. Accordingly, at the next Committee meeting, arrangements were made to hold Club evenings at the School on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 6.80 p.m. onwards till black-out time. These commenced at the end of April and facilities were provided for indoor games—table tennis, darts, card games, etc., and dancing. It is hoped that these evenings will be continued during the winter months so will all those who are interested please make inquiries from any member of Committee or myself.

On Saturday, July 6th, a Tennis Day was held at the Southern Railway Bowling and Tennis Club. Although the weather was a little showery a very enjoyable Mixed Doubles American Tournament was held. Tea was served in the Pavilion by the ladies of the Committee. A darts competition and a draw for a box of chocolates added to the enjoyment of those present.

Mr. Goodfellow (President of the S.R. Institute) presented the prizes and kindly offered the use of the Institute Hall for a social evening. This was joyfully accepted and some impromptu dancing completed a very jolly day.

It is hoped to hold the usual Re-union dances during the coming winter but, of course, such arrangements are subject to the decision of the Borough Council and the police.

Will all members who have friends amongst the Old Bartonians in the Forces either pass on their copy of the Magazine, or send me the new addresses of these members, so that a copy can be forwarded, and will all those who are in the Forces please send me any news of themselves and items of interest for future magazines so that I can pass on these to any other members who attend meetings, club evenings, etc.

Sincere wishes for good luck to all, and may we soon have the biggest Re-union on record.

Yours sincerely,

MAY BETTERIDGE

(Hon. Sec., O.B.A.).

183, Chamberlayne Road, Eastleigh.

September **28th, 1940.**

(To the Editor, "The Peveril")

Dear Sir,

The difficulty of writing to one's old School Magazine lies not so much in determining what to write about, as in beginning the letter. After going away to College one's correspondence increases with a hound, but nearly all the letters are to **old** friends. In writing to them the letter can always be begun

with a cheery "What ho, worm!" or (more conventionally) "Thank you for your last letter." I cannot thank the School for its last letter, but I can thank it for its last Magazine which, considering the difficulties under which it was written and published, was a very creditable effort indeed.

"What," it may be asked, "is this fellow doing at Aberystwyth?" Without entering into obscure philosophical considerations, I cannot answer this question, but I can tell you why I am here and not in London. The University College, London, fearing air raids, has evacuated itself to University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and I have gone with them, being attached to the Faculty of Arts of that University College. Thus it is, that together with about thirty-five other members of Westminster Training College, I am comfortably ensconced in a hotel on the water front of Wales' largest seaside resort.

The change from the exotic pleasures of the Metropolis to the more bucolic joys of Central Wales is all to the good, in that it is more conducive to work of an academic nature. This work is all the more necessary since I have to cram a three years' English honours course into about eighteen months—nine months of which have already fled away. To the cynic there may be matter for derision at the thought of "the disinterested pursuit of knowledge for its own sake" at a time when Europe is locked in a death struggle. Yet there is perhaps something of the heroic in devoting one's attention to the study of Beowulf, Middle English Grammar, the Jacobean dramatists, or the romantic poets, for the few months before one is called up. Though the majority of students consider it futile rather than heroic, there is yet commendably little of the "eat and drink and be merry for to-morrow we die" philosophy.

Sport here has necessarily been limited owing to lack of accommodation. Only the best at each particular sport (among whom I do not number myself) were therefore able to play with any regularity. But with the mountains of Wales to conquer one does not need games to keep fit. Last term a party of us climbed Plynlimon, which, as every schoolboy knows, is 2,468 feet in height. After an exhilarating climb we reached the summit in a swirling mist and the nearest equivalent to a blizzard which can be experienced within these shores. Next week we are going to try the ascent of Cader Idris.

Well, since you will naturally be pressed for space in this edition, I will not encroach further upon your space except to wish the whole School, together with its evacuees, the very best of fortune.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

R. REMINGTON.

Deva Hotel, Marine Promenade, Aberystwyth.
Saturday, May 18th, 1940.

L.D.D.S. REPORT.

The activities of the L.D.D.S. which were suspended during the Autumn and Spring terms, owing to black-out difficulties, were resumed again this term.

Currell was elected President, and Mr. Allen consented to retain the office of Treasurer.

The first general meeting took place on April 26th, when two one-act plays were read. The plays were " The Price of Coal " and " The Monkey's Paw," produced by M. Stevens and J. Maton respectively. The casts included P. Darner, A. Welch, P. Remnant, Hill, B. Noyce, Croasdell, Newton, Craig, Glasspool.

The next meeting on May 10th, took the form of a Magistrates' Court. The presiding magistrates were J. Capewell, Hill and Lawford. There were many amusing cases in which members of the Society were tried.

On May 24th a Musical Bee was held, in which a team of girls competed against a team of boys. The girls' team consisted of J. Capewell, B. Stares, O. Mann, J. Maton, J. Heath and P. Remnant. The boys were represented by Currell, Newton, Smith, Clark, Craig and Robinson. Musical general knowledge questions were put to the teams and the boys proved their superior musical knowledge. The judges were Hill, Lawford, Ashman, E. Carter. M. Stevens acted as scorer.

The meeting on June 7th took the form of a parlour game called " Truth." Statements were made by the judges, Currell and Smith, which the competitors were asked to declare true or false. The teams were : girls—S. Godden, M. Stevens, J. Capewell, M. Stone, E. Carter. Boys—Lawford, Ashman, Newton, Weeks, Bliss. The girls won by 33 points to 19.

A Debate was held on June 21st " That all Gambling should be made Illegal." The motion was proposed by M. Stevens, seconded by Weeks. The opposer was Smith, seconded by Vilela. Mr. Allen took the chair. After much interesting discussion the motion was defeated by 33 votes to 14.

THE 19th WINCHESTER AND COUNTY MUSICAL FESTIVAL,

The school Choir attended the Musical Festival at the Guildhall, Winchester, again this year. This event which took place on Wednesday, May 8th, was not the usual competitive festival.

Choirs from twenty different schools spent the morning in rehearsing the songs for the concert in the afternoon. The songs were more numerous this year, and the conductor, Cyril Winn, worked hard to overcome the few difficulties which arose. The choirs responded readily to his instructions, so that the rendering in the afternoon was delightful.

The song appreciated most by the audience was the " Pirate Story," set to music by the accompanist Harold Rhodes. Other unison songs were " My Heart Ever Faithful " (Bach)

and " The Little Sandman " (Brahms). Besides the two-part songs " Cuckoo " (Martin Peerson) and " The Keys of Heaven " (arr. E. Sharpe), there were four folk songs, "Three Little Tailors" (arr. C. Sharpe), " Our Ship she lies in Harbour " (Hoist), " Down by the Riverside " (arr. Vaughan Williams), and " O, Waly, Waly " (arr. C. Sharp).

The soloist this year, Dale Smith, sang some very unusual songs. The choirs especially appreciated " The Bold Unbiddable Child " (Stanford) and " A Souling Song."

The string orchestra conducted by Cyril Winn, entertained with " St. Paul's Suite " (Hoist).

At the end of the concert the audience joined in with the I massed choirs in singing that glorious song rendered at most Festivals this year, Parry's " Jerusalem."—D.A.J.

" THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."

After performing a Shakespearean play for the last two years, the School made a break and presented Oscar Wilde's witty social comedy " The Importance of being Earnest," on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 12th and 13th, at the Town Hall. A play of this type demands from its performers considerable mental alertness, and the members of the cast, under the very able direction of Mr. Slade, must be congratulated on the manner in which they appreciated and made the most of the brilliant dialogue and the humourous situations. Their enthusiasm and enjoyment of the play was evident and was speedily transmitted to the audience.

Currell and Olive Meakins are both seasoned performers and both increased their reputations by their performances in parts quite different from those which they previously played. Currell conveyed just the right air of faint rascality as the impecunious man-about-town, Algernon Moncrieff, and schemed easily and unashamedly.

As the loud-mouthed, snobbish and rather vulgar Lady Bracknell, so avariciously anxious to secure a suitable husband for her daughter, the Honourable Gwendolen Fairfax, Olive revealed an acting ability which cannot be said to have had full scope previously. In voice and demeanour she was indeed a " dangerous dowager," and her cross-examination of John Worthing was very enjoyable.

Three important parts were played by newcomers. Taylor had a long and exacting part as John Worthing, who desired to marry Gwendolen, and earned great praise for his efforts. He created an excellent impression of a rather bewildered young man harassed by the cares of love and other worries, not the least of which was Algernon, and endeavouring all the time to behave in a stiffly formal and proper manner. Elizabeth Carter was his ward, Cecily Cardew, and gave a very good performance as this highly romantic and soulful young lady. In praising her acting and diction we cannot but comment also upon her charming appearance. Pearl Darner as Gwendolen proved surprisingly good. She revealed a vivacity hitherto

unsuspected by us and acted admirably as the young lady, very much in love and determined to marry John and break from the maternal shackles as soon as possible. Both Elizabeth and Pearl acted particularly effectively in their quarrel scene, and displayed a convincing "cattiness."

Carley, the local Rector, was very amusing in his speech and appearance. The part of Canon Chasuble suited him well, a fact which he fully appreciated. Another newcomer, Kathleen Scivier, was Ciceley's governess, Miss Prism, and skilfully played a small but very important part. Her appearance was remarkably realistic. Were we receiving a glimpse of the future? Minor parts were taken successfully by Croasdell, as Lane, Algernon's servant, and by Newton as Merriman, Mr. Worthing's butler. The latter's appearance was very noteworthy.

We must mention again the producer. Mr. Slade's enthusiastic and forceful efforts were undoubtedly of great service in raising the cast to the high standard which all attained. The stage was managed most efficiently by Mr. Sansbury, to whom thanks are also due for the charming garden scene in Act II. Several hands helped with the very appropriate costumes, Miss Talbot and Mr. Slade being chiefly responsible. Mr. E. J. Tapley and the Eastleigh Dramatic Society were again very helpful, and the local Orchestral Society, conducted by Mr. E. H. T. Brown, played musical selections on Tuesday evening.

We welcomed among the audience on Tuesday evening the Mayor and Mayoress of Eastleigh. As announced by the Headmaster, the profits were devoted to the purchase of wool for knitted comforts for the Navy. A gratifying sum was raised for this deserving cause.

All concerned have every right to take due credit for their part in a very successful venture.
"SPECTATOR."

A VISITOR'S THOUGHTS.

Smoking chimneys,	Tooting horns,
Twinkling lights,	Streetside hawkers,
Beauteous women,	Cures for corns,
Painted sights,	Barges drifting,
Bright theatres,	Just like crabs,
Films, revues,	Drivers cursing,
Hoarse newsboys,	In their cabs—
Yelling news,	_____ London.
Traffic noise,	R. ETHERTON-BAKER, Mb.

ON ENTERING A WOOD IN SPRING.

A sea of blue, amidst a haze of green
The bluebells grow.
Ten thousand fairy bells are swaying to and fro.
A mossy bank with primroses and violets blue
Completes the picture fair.
No artist in this world. I'm sure, could paint a scene so rare.
SHEILA REITH, L.V.a.

DUSK IN THE DESERT.

The sun beat down pitilessly on the already scorched sand and sent red-hot arrows of fire into one's eyes. The leaves of the tall staid palm trees were still, mercilessly so it seemed, above my head as I lay on my back underneath them.

The heavy heat lingered and across the oasis the steady chant of the native boys reached my ears as samples of coffee were exchanged and packed to the backs of the ungainly camels.

It was somewhat cooler now and the golden orb of light was slowly sinking in the west, shedding a soft brilliance on the scene and the surrounding pink sky. Mingled with soft blue and pink, a blush red lay like crimson velvet. The palms were silhouetted against the curtain of fire and water glistened with the reflection.

Reluctantly I mounted my camel and moved slowly towards the village I had left, the chant of natives in my ears and a desert sunset before my eyes.

DOREEN BROWN, Ma.

ADVICE TO YOUNG AUTHORS.

Young people who to authorship are new
Should always hold important points in view.
Write upon pages of a single size ;
Cross all your t's and neatly dot your i's ;
Always correct with care all that you write,
And let your ink be black, your paper white,
For spongy foolscap of a ruddy blue
Betrays a mind of the same dismal hue ;
Punctuate carefully, for on this score,
Nothing will show a practised writer more.
Then send it off, and lest it merit lack,
Enclose a stamp with which to send it back,
But first pay all the postage on it too
For editors look blank at " twopence due "
And mutter as they run the writing o'er
" A shabby fellow and a wretched bore."
But ere it goes take off a copy clean
If you possess a copying machine,
For you don't know the time that's spent and care
Finding your entry, vanished who knows where.
Bear this in mind until you reach the end
And you shall make the editor your friend.

RONALD DARK, L.V.a.

THE LONDON RIVER.

" From the Cotswolds, from the Chilterns,
From your fountains and your springs,
Flow clown, oh London river,
To the seagulls' silver wings."

(Ballad of London River).

The Thames, described so often in song and story as the London river, rises in the glorious hilly country of Gloucestershire. It originates from two springs, one at Tewkesbury Head, near Cirencester, and one at Seven Springs. Tewkesbury Head is usually regarded as the head of the Thames although Seven Springs is marked by a tablet stating that it is there that the river rises.

The two streams from these springs join at Cricklade and flow on past such beautiful Berkshire villages as Techdale, Buscot, Kelmscott and many others, and on into Oxford. Here it is called the Isis, and University boats are to be seen as well as numerous punts, for both undergraduates as well as citizens of Oxford spend much of their time on the river, which is perhaps why they have a name of their own for it.

From here the river winds on to Abingdon, a delightful town, where the river is used for fishing rather than boating ; and on again through Dorchester, with its lovely Norman Abbey and mysterious Dyke hills ; through Wallingford and on between the Chilterns and the Berkshire downs to Reading, where is held every year a Working Men's Regatta. At Henley, further down the river, many regattas are held in the summer, although the town is sleepy enough during the winter.

Between Henley and Marlow, beside the river, lie two large abbeys, Medenham and Bisham. Bisham abbey was given to Anne of Cleves by Henry VIII, and Elizabeth was imprisoned there during Mary's reign. At Marlow itself are the reservoirs which form part of London's water supply, and below Marlow is the Cliveden Reach where the river is wide and the banks wooded and the Thames moves but slowly in its rushy bed. Then on it winds to Eton where the college may be seen from the river, and on again it meanders until it reaches London. as inseparable from the Thames as is Vienna from the Danube,

It is here that it enters into its real glory, with the seagulls and the docks, the barges, and the steamers, which, for a modest fee, will convey a passenger from Greenwich to Westminster. Past the Houses of Parliament it flows, past St. Paul's and the Tower, under the great bridges, Westminster, London and the Tower Bridge, past the great docks of Greenwich and Millwall, where every inch of muddy sand is used as a playground for the children, and on to Woolwich with its free ferry, used as much for pleasure by small boys as by people wishing to reach the other side of the river. From here the river widens out and flows past Gravesend, Tilbury and Southend, week-end paradise of the poor, into the open sea.

STELLA GODDEN U.V.m.

* FRIENDSHIP.

No pen of mine can e'er with faith portray,
Just what is hidden locked within my heart ;
Maybe your every word is stored away, And
every smile is surely set apart
To cheer the darkest nights, the tedious days,
And help me onward o'er the steepest hill ; To
find our friendship close in many ways, And
lighten every task that I fulfil.

No word of mine can e'er truly tell
What joys your friendly thought can hold for me ;
I only know within my head doth dwell,
A corresponding thought to each for thee ;
And visions of thy charm are lurking there,
That bid me smiling be, when need is dire,
And strengthen my resolves, when grim despair
Comes knocking at the gates of my desire.

PAMELA PHILIPS, 111b).

A WINTER'S DAY.

The sparrows in the garden bare
Are huddled all together,
They hope we have some crumbs to spare,
This cold and wintry weather.

The robin stares with black bright
eye And puffs his red breast out.
The blackbird hurries quickly by
And cries, " No worms about "

The little acrobats, the tits,
Their clever tricks perform,
And then to watching sparrows cry "
It's the best way to keep warm 1 "

R. S. KNOWLES, IVb.

SHAKESPEARE AND THE E.C.H.S.

Many of the plays of Shakespeare contain unintentional references to the daily routine of the Eastleigh County High School.

" My hour is almost come when I to sulphurous and tormenting flames must render up myself (Hamlet, i. 8) " thinks the average schoolboy as he tramps wearily along the road to school. Scarcely has he taken his seat at his desk when he is interrupted by the form prefect saying in the words of the mariners "..... to prayers, to prayers (Tempest, i. 1) " and *having* descended to the hall and started to converse with his neighbour, he is interrupted by the duty-master "..... Peace, count the clock " (Julius Caesar, ii. 2) " Bid every noise be still "

(Julius Caesar, i. 2), The headmaster then mounts the dais and announces the number of the hymn " This is a sleepy tune " (Julius Caesar, iv. 8) and " In his motion each like an angel sings " (Merchant of Venice, iv. 1). When he has returned to the form-room our hero is introduced to a new pupil and gives him some advice " Take no care who frets " (Macbeth, iv. 1), " To feed were best at home " (Macbeth, iii. 4). The lessons then commence, he descends to the laboratory whence proceeds " A very ancient and fishlike smell " (Tempest, ii. 1). After this the lesson is gymnastics " Where sighs and groans and shrieks that rent the air " (Macbeth; iv. 8), whilst others " Fill all their bones with aches " (Tempest, i. 2). Meanwhile the girls have a dancing lesson and are ordered by the mistress " Give room and foot it girls " (Romeo and Juliet, i. 5). Break now comes and after visiting the tuck shop " their breaths with sweetmeats tainted are " (Romeo and Juliet) The next lesson is mathematics and one pupil announces " My little spirit see, sits in a foggy cloud " (Macbeth, iii. 4), whilst from others " The lazy yawnings drone " (King Henry V, i. 2), the master then says " Youth whatsoever thou art, thou art but a scurvy fellow " (Twelfth Night, iii. 4). Now comes school lunch and the new pupil is informed that the school knives " . . . have leaden points " (Julius Caesar, iii. 1) and after lunch it is observed that still " Yon Cassius has a lean and hungry look " (Julius Caesar, i. 2). In the afternoon he has Latin and hears from his teacher " Alas, thou hast misconstrued everything " (Julius Caesar, iii, 8), and after hearing the boy's excuse he then observes " Excellent falsehood " (Anthony and Cleopatra, i, 1) and at 4 p.m. he is dismissed with " Hence, home ! you idle creatures, get you home " (Julius Caesar, i. 1).

PHILIP N. CLARK. U.V.

" PARAFFIN."

We should be very grateful
 To willing paraffin,
 Who hides so many talents
 Within her humble tin.

She may be thought old-fashioned.
 By those of us to-day
 Who like to run their houses
 In some more modern way.

But when such methods fail us
 We learn what she can do—
 Cooking, cleaning, filling lamps
 And making bright fires too.

She's very economical
 Hard tasks she doesn't mind—
 Indeed, as " daily help " she is
 Most capable, you'll find.

RICHARD RATCLIFFE, IV.

* " NOBODY'S FAULT . . . OF COURSE ! "

There was a great crash and hundreds of stars hit me—they vanished before I could hit back—and I found myself sitting by the side of the road with my belongings and pieces of my bicycle scattered around me. People seemed to be hurrying from all directions and a motorist who, I gathered, had the sun in his eyes, was looking at a sign-post and was not to blame, was *swearing* audibly and muttering "What a nuisance!" to himself. One woman was talking, "And I 'eard a crash, didn't see nothing you know, and my 'eart went bump. Very careless of 'im, I must say. Seen the young lidy go by every day, I 'ave, too." Then, to me, "Now come along, dearie and sit down. You must be all shook up like." I followed her, for there was nothing else to do, into a room where an old lady was sitting who immediately began to comfort me.

"Dangerous corner, that," she started. "Seen 'undreds of people knocked over there. Why, only last week a lidy was knocked off her bike, broke 'er leg and got concussion and 'ad to stay in 'ospital for a month," and so on with all the grisly details of every accident for the last ten years, finishing up "and you might 'ave been killed."

Then, to my relief, a beery policeman came in and started questioning me in his official manner until the motorist who glared at me in a distinctly unpleasant manner, entered, and then he questioned him. Then the motorist's wife arrived and began to ask me whether there was a short way to the nearest town as she had an important dinner there. "This is a great nuisance to me, you know," she said.

"And me?" I inquired politely, very politely. At this she laughed heartily and said that she did not think she would joke in my place and that I was a brave little girl. I could have wrung her neck cheerfully and it would only have been justifiable homicide.

The policeman then said that I could go home and he would follow in due course—to ask more questions, I supposed. He did arrive, after I had been bandaged and fed, and was met by an acrid, elder sister who was most annoyed when he took her for my mother. He then began his questions:

"You wasn't knocked out, was you?" he asked. "No." So he wrote:

"She was not rendered unconscious."

"Bin riding long?"—"Yes." So he wrote:

"She is a perfectly capable rider"—and so on.

After some time he departed, making some broad hints to the effect that he had had no dinner and was an ill-used man. And I went to bed pouring maledictions on *all* motorists, motorists wives, it-sign-posts and policemen.

B. CURRIE (U. V.).

" GINGER SAL."

When 'e was only quite a lad,
An' I was jest a gal,
'E used (0 gosh, it made me mad)
Ter call me " Ginger Sal."

An' though I only said " Gershaht,"
It sort o' made me stare,
When suddenly he said abaht
Me " sturring harburn 'air."

" Yer called it ' Ginger ' when A
boy," I sez quite cool,
" I see I wos," he answered " then
A silly-headed fool."

'E said, " I loved you from a gal ;
I've near a pound a week, S'pose
we splice, Gin—I mean, Sal? I
said, " Yer've got some cheek."

" We'll do it very quiet, see,"
'E says, " without no fuss.
No larks now, will you marry me?"
I ups and answers " Yuss."

EDITH POINTER (*U. V.*).

" MY OWN ? "

" The wind blows fair, the vessel feels
The pressure of the rising breeze,
And, swiftest of a thousand keels,
She leaps to the careering seas."

My own I The proudest moment of the life of anyone who loves the sea, is the one in which he weighs anchor for the first time on board his own vessel. She is the object of delight from the first minute of ownership, except perhaps when she is being paid for. If he is gripped by the proper spirit, he has plunged deep into a sailor's manual, with the hope of learning something about navigation ; he also amazes female relations by being seen busily tying and untying knots on short pieces of rope.

At last the vessel is ready to sail. The proud owner paces the deck with binoculars or telescope about his person, in the proud consciousness that he's absolute master of her movements ; and that with a wave of his hand he can direct her as his fancy may suggest.

But soon a most unwelcome humiliation, damps his exaltation. He discovers that for all practical purposes of command and government he is more incompetent than his own cabin boy ;

that the real ruler of the ship is her " master " whom his crew call " Captain " ; and that the only orders he can give with a certainty that they are not open to criticism are those he gives for his meals. Officially he is gratified with the ambiguous title of " owner " while he is painfully conscious that his real status is that of a mere passenger. He may, in course of time, become a better navigator than many of the splendid rough and ready sailor men ; but unless he has been able to spend more time on board than most owners of yachts do, he will never compete either in seamanship or experience with the man he employs to sail his vessel for him. In short, he remains an amateur to the end of his days and should always be ready to acknowledge himself the disciple of the professional sailor.

But in single-handed boat sailing the humiliating feeling of dependence and inferiority disappears. For the first time in his life, no matter how frequent may have been his cruises on bigger vessels, he finds himself complete master of his own ship and the possessor of unlimited responsibility.

PATRICIA E. CHAPLIN (*Upper V. Modern*).

BEND OVER.

Barer than a barren rock,
Smoother than the calmest lock,
Polished nightly,
Pink tinted—slightly.
The master's Head was shining brightly.

Like a bolt out of the blue
Like a dart aimed straight and true,
Like an imp,
Soaked in ink,
The wad of paper hit the pink.

Rose a roar, like the roar of waves,
In the roughest weather,
Rushing in amongst the caves,
Crashing all together.

(*10 minutes later*).

Just as a mouse caught by the cat,
Remembers he is not a rat,
Paler than a lily,
Feeling silly,
Before the head stood naughty Willy.

Dimly he heard the sentence passed, A
sentence whose sting for days would
last, Heard again those cheerless words,
Schoolboys never believe are true, "
This hurts me more than you."

ELIZABETH CARTER (*U. V.*).

* THE WOODS.

Great nature's own cathedral is the wood.

The trees that grow in stately majesty
Entwine their branches high above my head :

A vaulted ceiling patterned with the sky.

Tall pillars finely wrought are all those trees,
Yet strongly built, through ages to maintain
Solidity and uprightness and pride,

Through years and years of sun, and wind,
and rain.

The rustling of a breeze through foliage green,

Clear music from the birds up in the trees,

The whirl of wings *as* of a bird in flight,

The chirp of crickets and the hum of bees.

All make the sweetest music ever heard,

By day the sunlight flecks the carpet green.

At night the moonlight filters through the leaves,

A light, as that of candles, dims the scene.

Here one can sit in solitude, and rest,

And think of bygone days and happy hours. A
peaceful feeling steals into one's heart, For God is
nearest midst the trees and flowers.

P. PHILLIPS (*L. Ua.*).

THE SEASONS.

First comes Spring in robe of green,

Where she treads are flowers seen—

Leaves show on the boughs around,

Sunshine streams on all the ground.

Summer comes in dress of red,

Laughs to see Spring's flowers dead,

Roses blossom for a space,

Dainty fragrance fills the place.

Summer's flowers are fading fast,

Autumn brings her fruit at last,

Russet coloured is her gown She

makes all the leaves come down.

Now white winter spreads his spell,

Water freezes in the well ;

Trees and bushes bending low

Burdened with their load of snow.

JOYCE KERRIDGE (*L. Vb.*)

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