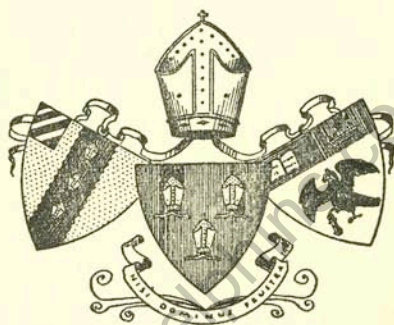


ST. ELPHIN'S MAGAZINE

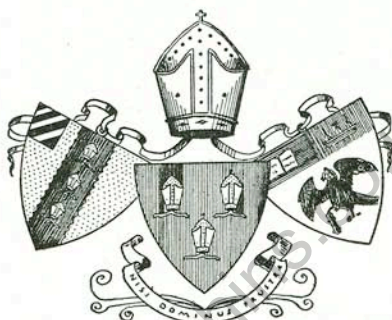


ST. ELPHIN'S SCHOOL
DARLEY DALE
MATLOCK

No. 77

November, 1959

ST. ELPHIN'S MAGAZINE



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The Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, guests of honour, with Archdeacon Bean (Chairman), Mrs. Bean, and Miss Stopford, Speech Day, July, 1958.

ST. ELPHIN'S MAGAZINE

No. 77

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SCHOOL OFFICE HOLDERS—1958-59

Head Girl: JUDITH HICK. Deputy: HELEN WRIGHT

PREFECTS — M. Else, R. Hill, M. Hilsden, A. Hodson, A. Howard, M. McBarnet, C. Tatlock, J. Tomlinson, J. Watson.

SUB-PREFECTS—R. Baker, A. Buxton, L. Kime, M. Knowles, F. Robertson, A. Savage, A. Thorne, A. Toone, E. Ward.

MY DEAR OLD GIRLS,

It is with great pleasure that I address you for the first time through this letter.

No Head Mistress could have had a warmer welcome from the Old Girls of her new School than I did: one evening in May last year, before I took up my office, I was entertained by the Old Girls of Dorset and Hampshire (my own home counties) in the lovely country home of Mrs. (Mary) Burt, at Broadstone. On another occasion, the Old Girls of the South-West Branch, under Miss Flood's presidency, invited me to be their guest at a luncheon party held at Taunton, in Mrs. Dorothy Fitch's charming house. I was delighted to meet Miss Flood for the first time on this occasion, as well as many others whom I knew quite well through the Log Book! It was a special pleasure, too, to meet Miss Thouless after 25 years. I have met other Old Girls at the Annual General Meeting and some have visited the School.

May I say how much I value Old Girls and how welcome you will always be whenever you come back to School. To me, Old Girls are the foundations on which the present generation is always building and every achievement by any girl in the past is somehow woven into the fabric of the place. I am all the more sorry, therefore, to find only four hundred names on the Guild Register. Our School has such deep roots and goes back a hundred years and we should have many more members. I should like to ask all of you to write to any whom you know that are not members and ask them to get into touch with me. It will give me great pleasure to add their names to the Register.

In 1960 I am planning a Jamboree of ALL Old Girls from as far back as possible to the most recent times. It will take

place at the end of the Summer Term (about July 23rd) at the School. I am sure you will enjoy exploring old ground and talking to friends; we shall hold Services in Chapel and I hope that we shall enrol many new members with the new form of enrolment we use now at the end of each term.

Here is some School news: the chief item of interest concerns our internal organisation. The House system has been re-established in its full significance; I am sure that the principle behind it is being understood and that its efficiency will develop steadily. There are four Senior Houses: School House, with Powys and Wilson (each keeping its separate identity) under its roof in Central; Orchards with Kennedy and Gresford under its roof; Selwyn, at present in Landings and Rotherwood; and Fletcher for the day girls. I have the greatest pleasure in telling you that the Junior House now bears the name of the "Margaret Flood House," after Miss Flood and her mother who, as you know, were chiefly responsible for the building of that wing. We are looking forward to Miss Flood's visit to us this term to inaugurate the new House.

It is always a sad duty at the end of the Summer Term to say goodbye to some of the Staff, to our Head Girls and to some of the senior girls. We have to say goodbye this term to Miss Jasper. Everyone knows the devoted service that Miss Jasper has rendered during her sixteen years here. She has shouldered a heavy burden of responsibility as Senior Mistress for eight years, as Head of the Mathematics Department, and as Senior Sacristan. In the multifarious activities of school life, Miss Jasper has played a vital part and her fund of knowledge is inexhaustible. I have not hesitated to draw largely upon this fund and she has been generous in her giving.

I am so thankful that Miss Jasper was able to stay to see me through this first year of my office: but for some time before I came, Miss Jasper increasingly felt it her duty to share with her sister the responsibility of looking after her mother, and therefore finds it necessary to work nearer home.

Her going will be a great loss to the School, to the Staff and to me personally, but she takes with her our gratitude for her faithful service and our best wishes in her future work.

Miss Lesley Thompson rightly desires to gain wider experience, after eight years in her first post. Miss Thompson has given herself to many sides of school life and her organisation of School and House Sports and Matches has given pleasure to many parents and friends.

Life goes on busily and happily with the multifarious activities of School and House life: Dramatic and Singing Competitions; Matches; visits to the theatre, excursions to steel works, coal mines and dairies.

Ascension Day picnics took place yesterday and a very pleasant afternoon was rounded off by a visit to the theatre to see a production of Gilbert & Sullivan's "Trial by Jury" and "The Pirates of Penzance" by the Matlock Amateur Operatic Society.

I have just come back from the cocktail party in London. It was such a pleasure to see Miss Stopford and many Old Girls there. We look forward to a visit to Miss Stopford in the near future. Miss Stopford takes a keen interest in all our doings and I enjoy writing to tell her all the news.

My love and best wishes to you all.

Yours affectionately,

P. M. ROBINSON.

MISS JASPER

I AM grateful to Miss Smith for giving me the chance of paying tribute to the many-sided contribution Miss Jasper has made to the life and work of St. Elphin's. I was lucky to have her as a colleague during much of my time at the school and for some years as my second mistress. This meant daily consultations with someone of complete integrity. When she disagreed with me—as did sometimes happen!—I knew that the only motive actuating her was how the school could best be served. With this integrity went an unfailing sense of humour which lightened many problems and meant that some of our most serious discussions ended in a welcome note of laughter.

As Sixth Form Mistress, Miss Jasper's wise influence has helped many girls holding office in the School and I feel sure that many of them have realised later in life how much they owed to her advice and example.

As befits a mathematician, Miss Jasper is gifted with accuracy and a sense of detail. This has been invaluable in her capacity as Careers Mistress in these difficult times when professional qualifications are constantly being changed or modified.

To Miss Jasper, too, fell the exacting task of making arrangements for public examinations. I know that the staff and I always felt that however complicated the demands of the examining bodies, if Miss Jasper was in charge all would be well.

I do not doubt that the task nearest to her heart and in which her influence has been most deeply felt has been that of Staff Sacristan in the School Chapel. Not everyone realises the day to day duties that must be faithfully observed if the Chapel services are to be carried out in a fit and seemly manner. Girls who have been Sacristans and Servers have had insight into this and will realise how deep their debt has been

to the sympathetic training given to them by Miss Jasper to enable them to perform their duties with quietness and confidence. Her own deep sense of religion has, of course, been the mainspring of this and of the entire wholehearted and unselfish service she has given to the school.

Now that for family reasons she feels she must accept a post nearer home, the value of her contribution to St. Elphin's can be assessed and a chance is given to us to express our affectionate gratitude. We wish her God speed and much happiness and success in her future work. .

E. E. STOPFORD.

VIA's FAREWELL TO MISS JASPER

WE heard with regret that Miss Jasper was leaving us at the end of this term and as she has always been part of our life here, we find it difficult to picture school without her.

We try to imagine her successor coming into VIA bolstering our feeble attempts at tidiness (though we admit after one year we have improved considerably!) and endowed with a sense that enables her to "hear the smell of toasting from the staff room!"

Not only will Miss Jasper be missed in school, but in chapel life also. Several generations of Sacristans, Servers and Chapel Readers have passed through her care. Many girls, both past and present have mixed memories of her rule in Chapel. The dusting, polishing and careful sweeping of the Sanctuary carpet and her admonitions addressed to the last-minute risers of the Server and Sacristans for the early service. We can imagine the laughs Miss Jasper must have had at the attempts of Chapel Readers to pronounce the names of Bible characters which seem to the poor reader full of extraordinary mixtures of vowels and consonants.

Although there is only one mathematician amongst the members of VIA, most of us can remember her valiant attempts to instil arithmetic, geometry, algebra and trigonometry into our dim senses. Although I myself gave up the fight in Middle V, the others can with joy add maths. to their G.C.E. list.

We should like to thank Miss Jasper for all that she has done for us this year and we are sure that everyone connected with the school will join us in extending our best wishes for her new life away from St. Elphin's.

J. WATSON (for VIA.).

SUCSESSES IN PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

Mary Hilsden : University State Scholarship (1959).

Northern Universities' Joint Matriculation Board General Certificate of Education, 1958

Passes at Advanced Level—

Norma Goodwin—English and History.
Judith Molyneaux—Geography and Zoology.
Mary Reeman—History, Botany at Ordinary Level.
Joy Shorland-Ball—Zoology, Botany at Ordinary Level.
Mary Rose Sockett—English and History ; Latin at 'O' Level.
Gillian Street—Chemistry, Botany and Zoology.
Judith Tuckwell—English, History and Music.
Jacqueline Watson (VI.B)—Art.

Passes at Ordinary Level : Form VI. (Additional Subjects)—

Joyce Elgar—Geography and Zoology.
Anne Mossdrop—Biology.
Mary Else—French and Physiology.
Rosemary Goward—History and Art.
Anne Howard—French.
Cecilia Lunn—Biology.
Kate Mossdrop—French and English Literature.
Gillian Randle—Geography.
Judith Wooliscroft—Geography, French and Physiology.

Form Upper V.—

The following have passed in four or more subjects :

Emma Cavendish	Maria McBarnet
Jill Dixon	Margaret McDonald
Meuros Dobson	Dorothy Owen
Oenone Dunkley	Joyce Perkins
Jean Geikie	Frances Robertson
Shirley Harwood	Vivienne Seldon
Janet Hill	Susan Tock
Anne Hodson	Joan Tomlinson
Lynn Kime	Hilary Toy
Marguerita Knowles	Elisabeth Ward
Karen Marker	

THE ASSOCIATED BOARD OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC—Examination Results

July 1958—

Grade I—

Isobel Murray (Distinction).
Roberta March Penney (Merit).
Marianne Stevenson (Pass).
Sylvia George (Violin) (Pass).

Grade II—

Marigold Milne (Merit).
Celia Jephson (Pass).
Catherine Spencer Richford (Pass).

Grade III—

Joyce Tanner (Pass).
Kathleen Williams (Pass).

Grade IV.—

Helen Wright (Organ) (Merit).

December, 1958—

Grade I—

Bridget Freeth (Merit).
Pamela Walton (Pass).

Grade II—

Lynda Qualters (Merit).
Diana Llewellyn (Pass).
Pauline Musson (Pass).

Grade III—

Jennifer de Gruyther (Merit).
Jane Bailey (Pass).

Grade IV—

Catherine Fielding (Pass).
Susan Mackenzie (Pass).
Faith Beard (Pass).
Erica Speakman (Pass).

Grade V—

Ann Glover (Theory) (Pass).

Grade VII—

Helen Wright (Pass).

March, 1959—

Grade I—

Elizabeth Davies (Distinction).
Pauline Whittington (Distinction).
Rosemary Barbour (Merit).

Grade II—

Christine Finney (Merit).
Judith Keal (Merit).
Rosalind Seville (Merit).
Susan E. Thomas (Pass).

Grade III—

Marigold Milne (Distinction).

Judith Carter (Merit).

Barbara Riley (Merit).

Rachel Taggart (Merit).

Grade IV—

Ann Coburn (Merit).

Erica Speakman (Pass).

Grade VII—

Helen Wright (Organ) (Merit).

At Matlock Music Festival, the following awards were made for music—

Piano Solo, under 15—

A. Coburn, 85 per cent. (Third).

M. Milne, 83 per cent. (Merit).

Piano Duets, under 13—K. Williams and S. E. Thomas, 84 per cent. (Merit).

Piano Duets, under 16—C. Fielding and M. Milne, 86 per cent. (First).

THE SCHOOL CHAPEL

DURING the year many traditional, and a few more unusual, ceremonies have taken place in the Chapel.

On Saturday, September 20th, at the end of Evensong, Miss Robinson was officially installed as Headmistress by the Chairman of the Governors, the Archdeacon of Manchester, who, in a short address, emphasised the significance of this impressive ceremony.

On October 11th many gifts were brought for the Harvest Festival service, which was conducted by the Chaplain. At the end of the term the traditional service of the Nine Lessons and Carols was held. This was, as always, one of the best-loved services in the school year, and we are greatly indebted to the organist and choir for the standard of music on this and many other occasions. As Easter came so early we were at school for Palm Sunday, when the beautiful service of Distribution and Procession of Palms took place before the Sung Eucharist.

The Bishop of Derby, Dr. Rawlinson, retired in April. He and Mrs. Rawlinson have been very good friends of the school, and we shall miss their visits very much. During the vacancy, Bishop Sinker was in charge of the diocese, and he came to take our Confirmation on the Wednesday after Whitsun. His moving address and friendliness were much appreciated. The Quiet Day was held on the following weekend and was conducted by the Rev. Paul Asher, of the S.P.G. Mr. Asher quickly put everyone at ease, and his addresses were most helpful. We are most grateful to him for sparing time to come to us for two

years running. On the weekend she spent at St. Elphin's, Miss Flood gave an address at Sunday Evensong, and her words made a deep impression on the school.

During the autumn term it was decided to hold a special service of admission to the Old Girls' Guild. This took place for the first time at the end of the Christmas term, and has continued each term ever since.

Among the priests who have taken services, we were glad to welcome our former Chaplain, the Rev. C. Storrs Fox, and we made a new friend in Canon Geoffrey Busby, who kindly came to take our Lent services. We are most grateful to all the priests who have taken duty, and especially to our Chaplain, the Rev. T. P. Symonds, for his unfailing interest and help.

Visitors to the School are usually struck by the beauty of the Chapel and its services. Sometimes we are apt to take these things too much for granted, and do not appreciate them at the time. During the year the week-day "voluntary" evensong has, on the whole, been well attended, but there has been some falling off in the number who use the Chapel for their private morning prayers. It is hoped that more of the senior girls will try to revive this tradition, which is of long standing, and has been found a great help to many who have used the chapel in this way, affording an opportunity for quiet which is often difficult in the rush of school life.

We have always been fortunate in having girls who have gladly undertaken the duties of Sacristans and Servers, and those who have held these offices, realise how much they have owed to their predecessors. Many senior girls have worked with new Sacristans, or helped train new Servers. One girl years ago made detailed "Servers' Notes" which are still used for reference. They and former staff Sacristans (one of whom drew up a sort of encyclopaedia) have left traditions and set standards which we have tried to carry on.

The duties may, at busy times, seem rather exacting, but the work is infinitely worthwhile, and those who have held these offices have valued them greatly. Their reward—if they want one—is found in the place the Chapel holds in the affections of the old girls of the School.

CATHERINE JASPER.

Sacristans—Judith Hick, Jacqueline Watson, Mary Hilsden, (Kate Mossdrop until Easter), Audrey Buxton, Jill Dixon, Oenone Dunkley, Anne Hodson, Maria McBarnet, Frances Robertson, Rosemary Thorne, Jean Tomlinson, Elisabeth Ward.

Servers—Judith Hick, Jacqueline Watson, Jill Dixon, Oenone Dunkley, Maria McBarnet, Joan Tomlinson, Faith Beard, Helen Brown, Susan Granger, Susanna Lane, Anne Thorne.

Staff Sacristans (if required)—Miss Lamb, Miss L. Thompson, and myself.

REPORT ON LIBRARIES

BOTH the Kennedy Reference Library and Senior Fiction have celebrated Miss Robinson's accession by a liberal acquisition of books in which every academic department has staked its claim. We have, therefore, valuable additions to Divinity, to literary criticism, modern drama and poetry, to recent historical biography, to distant fields of geography and, in the Science Section, to enticing realms of space and the atom as well as to Biology. There are new reference books for French and for Classics although in this last section, Greek will need to be expanded at no distant date.

The Fiction Libraries have been happy in fine gifts from Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Reston which have comfortably filled the recent new shelving with very welcome reading material. For these books we are most grateful. In addition, we have bought the most worthy of the requests sent in by each Form.

Early in the Autumn Term, we had a visit from the brother of the late Muriel Clayton, an Old Girl who left school in 1904 when St. Elphin's was still in Warrington, under Miss Kennedy as Headmistress. All the prizes Muriel had won at school, 24 volumes in all, were given as a gift to the Kennedy Library. This Clayton bequest makes a handsome gift to the Library from an Old Girl whose character and gifts had obviously meant much to the school when it was actually under the headship of the founder of our Library.

It is encouraging that there have not been distressing losses from either the Kennedy or the Fiction Library, thanks to the vigilance of the Library Committee members.

We thank all those whose time and care have kept the libraries in their present condition.

Kennedy Library Committee: Head Librarian, Jacqueline Watson; Committee—Judith Hick, Mary Hilsden, Mary Else, Anne Howard, Joan Tomlinson, Elisabeth Ward, Anne Hodson, Rosemary Baker.

Senior Fiction Library: Anne Hodson, Marguerita Knowles, Maria McBarnet, Frances Robertson; Junior Fiction Library: Miss Winder.

PREFECTS' REPORT

WITH the arrival of Miss Robinson at the beginning of the new school year, there began a series of important changes.

In the Autumn Term the School took up the modern trend of "Do It Yourself." With great industry we have painted the Sitting-Rooms and the Rec., which, owing to the effort of the girls, and the matrons to whom we owe much for making the window curtains, was finished and looking bright in time for the Drama Competition.

For many years Chapel has been cleaned by the domestic staff, but now we boast the high station of "Chapel Chars" who fulfil their duty admirably.

We decided at the end of this term that an increase in the number of Prefects and sub-prefects would enable the routine of the School to run more smoothly.

In the short Spring term we spent much of our energy on the Lent fund, raising quite a large amount of money for the various charities.

At the end of the term, Miss Robinson told us that a new House system was to be introduced. Wilson and Powys were to form "School House"; Gresford and Kennedy "Orchards," Fletcher would remain the same, and Selwyn is to be enlarged and will move to Darley Lodge in the Autumn Term.

This news was received with considerable apprehension. At the beginning of the Summer term we concentrated on settling into our new way of life with its emphasis on House rather than Form, and it was soon realised that there were indeed many advantages in this system.

With this greater emphasis on House activities, it was realised that the weekends were needed to be free for extra practices, so visiting weekends were reduced to three a term, including half-term.

The programme for Speech Day was changed this year. Sports were held on Parents' Weekend and after a rainy start were a great success. The afternoon of Speech Day is now to be taken up by a display of marching by the Senior School, dancing by the Juniors, and a play, "Alice Through the Looking Glass," performed by the L.IV.

SCHOOL HOUSE

THE summer term saw the inauguration of the House system. For several days before term began, school was a scene of wild confusion as the prospective House mistresses roamed around the building in search of furniture to make their House rooms as attractive as possible. The rule of the day became: "Possession is nine points of the law."

Many wild memories flew around school and girls viewed the new plans with suspicion! They co-operated very well and on finding that their worst fears were not realised they settled down to the new routine with the verdict that it was not as bad as they had expected. I myself have found much pleasure in the closer personal contact with the girls.

School House is a combination of "Powys" and "Wilson" with the following people in official positions:

Miss Robinson—House Mistress.

Miss Harrison—House Mistress.

Miss Parker—Assistant Housemistress.

Miss L. Thompson—Assistant Housemistress.

Miss Simpson—Head Matron.

Miss Jarvis—House Matron.

J. Hick—Head Girl.

House Prefects—

C. Tatlock, A. Buxton, M. McBarnet, A. Toone, S. A. Shannon, J. Perkins, M. Watson, J. Hill, E. Ward, A. Savage, O. Dunkley.

House Committee—

Housekeeper, A. Buxton; A. Thomas, U.V.; M. Brammer, M.V.; J. Keal, L.V.; U.IV., E. Roch.

Social Committee—

M. B. Barnet, P. Tuckwell, U.V.; B. Jones, M.V.; D. Llewellyn, L.V.; E. Qualters, U.IV.

Gardening Committee—

M. Morgan, J. Tanner.

School House is based on Central. Room 3 is our House Room with a view over the Tennis Courts and the House Garden. Dormitories are on Top Central with an overflow to Back Landing.

We had a House warming party on Saturday, May 2nd. This gave the Entertainment Committee and the prefects the opportunity of showing us how excellently they could organise a social evening. After toasting the House with a soft drink, we had a happy hour of dancing and games in the Recreation Room. On this occasion Miss Robinson kindly presented the House with wall plaques to hold flowers, for the House Room.

The junior members of the Social Committee and members of their forms organised a dance for U.IV. and L.V. one Saturday evening. They invited members of other Houses and gleefully received contributions to their House Fund.

"Orchards House" retaliated by a challenge to an "all-age Rounders match" where they took contributions to their fund from the spectators.

May 2nd brought a very important day in the Term's calendar. The following girls were confirmed in School Chapel by the Right Reverend Sinker, Assistant Bishop of Derby:

Grace Bews, Imogen Earle, Janet Elliott, Caroline Hare, Celia Jephson, Anne Lavin, Diana Llewellyn, Anne Osborne, Beverley Turner.

The House conspired to make this a happy and memorable day for the candidates. Quiet day was on Saturday, May 23rd, and they made their first Communion on Sunday morning, May 24th.

The House Fund looms large in our minds as we are ambitious in the matter of curtains and cushions and further comforts for our House Room. A good source of income has been a system of fines for various misdemeanours, but victims are now growing more wary. We hope to swell our Funds by various entertainments during the winter terms.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking all parents who have helped us by gifts of furniture or contributions to our House Fund.

Unfortunately we do not seem to have many enthusiastic gardeners in our House, and the garden is in danger of becoming

ing the Cinderella of the family. We have, however, one or two very able gardeners amongst the younger members, and with their help and a little "press ganging" the garden begins to look quite promising. I hope the sight of some colourful flowers will spur someone on to do a little much needed weeding. Here also we would like to thank the parents who have given us cuttings and plants.

Our minds are now fixed upon the serious matter of examinations. There are, however, pleasures ahead to lighten the load. On June 10th, we look forward to welcoming two Swedish girls who come to us for a few weeks. The Sixth Forms have a dance at Denstone to look forward to and the whole House eagerly awaits next visiting day.

We look forward to successes in work and on the playing fields and to many happy House activities when the dark nights of the winter terms are upon us.

W. G. HARRISON.

POWYS HOUSE

House Mistresses : Miss Harrison, Miss Parker.

House Captain : J. Hick.

Vice-Captain : A. Savage.

Committee—O. Dunkley, A. Thomas.

Summer—

Rounders—Captain, P. Jones : 2nd.

Cricket—Captain, J. Tuckwell : 3rd.

Tennis—Captain E. Morley : 3rd.

Sports—Captain, J. Hick : 3rd.

Gym—Captain, E. Morley : Not placed.

Autumn—

Drama—Captain, J. Hick : Not placed.

Hockey—Captain, A. Savage : 3rd.

Spring—

Netball—Senior Captain, O. Dunkley : Not placed.

Netball—Junior Captain, D. Llewellyn : Not placed.

Music—Captain, O. Dunkley : Not placed.

Badminton—Captain, A. Savage : 2nd.

WILSON HOUSE

House Mistress : Miss Harrison.

House Captain : Christine Tatlock.

Vice-House Captain : Audrey Buxton.

Prefects : Maria McBarnet, Anne Toone, Sally Anne Shannon.

Summer—

Gym—Captain, C. Tatlock : 5th.

Rounders—Captain, M. Brammer : 3rd.

Sports—Captain, S. A. Shannon : 5th.

Cricket—Captain, C. Lunn : Not placed.

Tennis—Captain, C. Tatlock : Not placed.

Work : 5th.

Autumn Term, 1958—

Hockey—Captain, C. Tatlock : 5th.

Drama—Captains, M. McBarnet and Joyce Perkins : 5th
Work : 4th.

Spring Term, 1959—

Badminton—Captain, A. Toone : 5th.

Music—Captain, S. A. Shannon : 2nd.

Netball—Senior Captain, A. Buxton : Not placed.

Netball—Junior Captain, A. Elliot : 4th.

Work : 3rd.

ORCHARDS HOUSE REPORT

House Mistress Miss Lamb

Deputy House Mistress Miss Elliott

Matron Miss Kovacs

AFTER a busy week of removals, with a wary eye on potential furniture-raiders from other houses, the Staff were ready to welcome Orchards House into its new home on September 22nd. There are fifty-four members, drawn from the Upper IVs and upwards in Gresford and Kennedy Houses, and with the exception of an "overflow" of eighteen in Back Landing and the Sanatorium the House sleeps in the Orchards Wing—as do the Staff, who have learned gradually to accept gurgling water pipes, wailing cats and hooting owls as normal sounds of the night.

The end room of Top Orchards is now the Housemistress's Sitting-Room and the end room of Bottom Orchards is the House Room for the Middle Vs and upwards. Lower Vs and Upper IVs have the sitting-room next to the Art Room. Top Orchards corridor has proved a useful place for depositing disturbers of the peace in order that they might find matter for reflection on the walls.

Money-raising has played an important part in House activities this term. Lower Vs and Upper IVs held a Talent Spotting Competition, won by Sally Donne, with a story, and Joan Walton, with a song.

A Rounders Match against "The Rest" was arranged on June 6th, but, true to the traditions of a British June, "rain stopped play."

Much of the House revenue comes from two collecting boxes. One contains contributions of generous donors and earnings of shoe cleaners, car washers and other manual workers (a system which has led to anxious wage conferences among Housemistresses). The other box, one records with misgiving, contains fines for various misdemeanours, but so far its takings have been lower than those of the contributions box.

Already the House has bought curtain and cushion material for the Senior House Room and a flower basket and stand for the wall outside the front door.

Wednesday, May 18th was a very happy day for the House when seven candidates were confirmed by the Assistant Bishop

of Derby, the Right Reverend George Sinker. The candidates—Ann Coburn, Christine Dunn, Gillian Howard, Kathleen Hoole, Gillian Hughes, Ann Niblock and Jennifer Stapleford—made their first Communion on Trinity Sunday.

The thanks of the House go to the many parents, friends and Old Girls who have sent or given gifts of money, material, pictures and plants to us. It has been a great pleasure to meet many of our friends on Visiting Days and to know of their support and kindness.

Our thanks also go to all who have held office in the House—to Jacqueline Watson and Rosemary Hill, House Captains, and to Anne Hodson, Frances Robertson, Joan Tomlinson, Mary Hilsden, Lyn Kime, Rosemary Baker and Rosemary Meadows, House Prefects.

We send good wishes to all leaving members of the House and hope that they will often come back to visit us.

We look forward to next year knowing that Orchards House is weathering its first term well.

M.L.

The records of Gresford House and Kennedy House are given below.

GRESFORD HOUSE

House Captain: Jacqueline Watson.

Vice-Captains: Jean Geikie (Autumn Term), Kate Moss-crop (Spring Term), Anne Hodson and Joan Tomlinson (Summer Term).

House Prefect: Rosemary Meadows.

Results of Competitions—Summer 1958 - Summer 1959

Work—Autumn Term 4th, Spring Term 3rd.

Rounders—(Captain, P. Watson), not placed.

Cricket—(Captain, M. Reeman), 1st.

Sports—(Captains: J. Watson, A. Hodson), 5th.

Tennis—(Captain, J. Geikie), not placed.

Gym—(Captain, M. Reeman), 1st (with Kennedy).

Drama—(Captains: J. Watson, K. Moss-crop), 1st.

KENNEDY

House Captain: Rosemary Hill.

Vice-Captain: Frances Robertson.

House Prefects: Rosemary Baker, Mary Hilsden, Lyn Kime.

Results of Competitions—Summer 1958 - Summer 1959

Work—Autumn Term 3rd, Spring Term 4th.

Rounders—(Captain, H. Jackson), 1st.

Cricket—(Captain, J. Woolliscroft), not placed.

Sports—(Captain, N. Goodwin), 1st.

Tennis—(Captain, F. Robertson), 2nd.

Gym—(Captain, N. Goodwin), 1st (with Gresford).

Drama—(Captains: R. Hill, M. Hilsden), not placed.

Hockey—(Captain, N. Goodwin), 1st.

Netball—(Senior Captain, R. Hill), not placed; (Junior Captain, A. Bond), 1st.

FLETCHER HOUSE

WHEN new arrangements in the house system were introduced at Easter, Mrs. Parry and I were delighted to become House Mistresses of Fletcher. This House, like the boarding houses, was also given its House Room, the sitting-room beside the Art Room, and its garden. We have formed a gardening committee with representatives from each year, and this committee, with help from the rest of the house, is now tending a bed of flowers beside the new form rooms.

We are making every effort to incorporate Fletcher into all School activities, and we hope that next year some members of our house will join the choir.

One of our most notable achievements during the past year was the production of "Antigone," which was placed second in the House Drama Competition. Much credit is due to Anne Howard who produced the play and took the part of Antigone.

This term we are making every attempt to retain the Work Shield which we won in 1958.

Five members of Fletcher were confirmed in May—Elizabeth Linnell, Rachel Medland, Jennifer Wright, Ruth Dean, and Jennifer Turner.

I should like to give our best wishes for the future to Mary Else, Anne Howard, Margaret McDonald and Jacqueline Gascoyne who are leaving this term; and thank them, together with all members of the committee, for the time and energy they have devoted to house activities.

Finally, Mrs. Parry and myself send Fletcher our good wishes for every success in the future.

B. H. BULL.

Fletcher House, 1958-59—

House Mistresses: Miss Bull and Mrs. Parry.

House Captains: Mary Else and Anne Howard.

Vice-Captain: Vivienne Seldon.

House Prefects: Margaret McDonald, Karen Marker,
Meuros Dobson, Rosemary Thornton, Kathleen Mosley.

Summer Term, 1958—

Tennis—Captain, Gillian Street: Not placed.

Cricket—Captain, Vivienne Seldon: 2nd.

Rounders—Captain, Jennifer Wright: Not placed.

Sports—Captain, Anne Howard: Not placed.

Autumn Term, 1958—

Hockey—Captain, Vivienne Seldon: 3rd.

Drama—Captain, Anne Howard: 2nd.

Spring Term, 1959—

Music—Captain, Mary Else: 4th.

Netball—Senior Captain, Meuros Dobson: 3rd.

Netball—Junior Captain, Jennifer Wright: 3rd.

Work, 1958: 1st.

SELWYN HOUSE

IN May, 1959, School returned to somewhat different conditions, and the Houses took a much more important place in School life. Our House Room is the old VIB Sitting Room, and we meet every day after dinner for roll call, to receive letters, and for routine matters. The majority sleep in Rotherwood, and the remainder on Back Landing. On May 20th, the following girls were confirmed by Bishop Sinker: Susan Blythman, Christine Clague, Philippa Dagger and Susan Thomas.

We are looking forward to Sports Day on June 27th, and hope Selwyn House will do well. On Speech Day, July 18th, we are hoping to see many Old Selwyn Girls and hope they will visit our new House Room.

H. THOMPSON (House Mistress).

Captain: H. Wright.

Vice-Captain: J. Dixon.

House Prefects: R. Thorne, M. Knowles.

Summer Term, 1958—

Tennis—Captain, J. Shorland Ball: 1st.

Cricket—Captain, H. Wright: Not placed.

Sports—Captain, J. Dixon: 2nd.

Gym—Captains, M. Knowles and H. Wright: 3rd.

Rounders—Captain, J. Bailey: 2nd.

Autumn Term, 1958—

Drama—Captain, M. Knowles: 3rd.

Hockey—Captain, H. Wright: Not placed.

Spring Term, 1959—

Badminton—Captain, J. Dixon: 1st.

Music—Captain, H. Wright: 1st.

Netball—Senior Captain, M. Knowles: 2nd.

Netball—Junior Captain, N. Cowman: 2nd.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

THE LITERARY & DRAMATIC SOCIETY

THE Literary and Dramatic Society, popularly known as the "Lit. and Dram.," has been, as many old girls will remember, a very flourishing institution with many dramatic successes to its credit. It was revived and ensured a more secure life under the patronage of Miss Robinson and Miss Smith. Membership was to be restricted to Sixth Form, as we decided after many warm arguments, and a committee was formed, with Jacqueline Watson as President, Mary Hilsden (Secretary), Marguerita Knowles, Joan Tomlinson and Anne Hodson; Judith Hick was enrolled as an honorary member.

We decided to read about two plays a term. The first was the subject of much controversy, but eventually we settled on a dramatised version of "Jane Eyre." The reading took place on Sunday, 17th October, in Miss Robinson's drawing-room and was a great success.

On the last Sunday of term we again met to read "Pygmalion," Miss Smith taking part. There was a good deal of enthusiasm as we had become familiar with it in the form of "My Fair Lady." Miss Robinson's room was not available, so we used V.I.B. Form Room, but the rather austere surroundings did nothing to hinder the performance, which was excellent.

Our only meeting in the short Spring term was on 29th February, to read "The Critic," by Sheridan. Unfortunately, neither Miss Robinson nor Miss Smith was able to be present for the reading, which was held in the rose gardens as it was one of the warmest days of the term, and we enjoyed the play very much, having great fun with the eccentricities of Mr. Puff.

We have not been able to hold a meeting at all this term as we have been very busy with other things, such as sports and marching, and many of us have had public examinations. It is a pity that "Lit. and Dram." has had to slip into the background before these momentous happenings, but it shall rise with renewed vigour next term.

We had hoped at first actually to produce a play during the year, but the first two terms were occupied with the House Drama and Music Competitions, and during this term we have been devoting ourselves to feverish study. We certainly do hope to produce something for the school in the not too distant future.

M. HILSDEN, V.I.A.

HOUSE DRAMA COMPETITION

THE SCHOOL this year was fortunate enough to have as adjudicator Miss Rowe, the founder of the Little Theatre, Bournemouth, where Miss Robinson produced "Medea" during the summer vacation. Miss Rowe's creative vitality and imagination along with her wide knowledge and experience of drama and dramatic production, brought to St. Elphin's a personality that the school will not readily forget. Her wit and humour made palatable her incisive judgment; for although no praiseworthy achievement of producer or cast went without commendation, she did not hesitate to make clear where the acting, costumes, voices or setting were at fault.

Her demonstration of how to achieve "crowd" effects gave the school a profitable and exhilarating experience. Our only fear was that she might be exhausted after her visit but Miss Rowe's vitality was unimpaired.

Gresford House, with first place, won the Drama Cup with a scene from Shaw's "The Devil's Disciple"; Fletcher came second with part of Sophocles' "Antigone"; and third was Selwyn with a dramatisation of scenes from Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." We can do no better than print the adjudicator's comments sent on after her return to Bournemouth.

GRESFORD

GRESFORD HOUSE chose Act I of "The Devil's Disciple" and had taken some trouble to provide the stage with farmhouse furniture (though a smaller centre table would have left more playing space and avoided crowding), and to dress their parts appropriately both to the period and to the characters. This performance gained greatly from the firm projection of the opening five minutes; we felt confidence and were ready to believe. Some of the actors were over-quiet in their speech, especially when they had passages with "Mrs. Dudgeon" or "Richard," both of whom made good use of powerful voices.

The less central characters were a little inclined to 'bunch' or stand in straight lines at the side, partly from lack of space. A better use might have been made of lighting; the strongest light fell on the table's front flap instead of on the faces of the speakers. Those who were supposed to look out of the window did not do so, and the lawyer, in reading the will, made no attempt to get the light supposedly coming from the window on to his document. As a minor point the married women should have been wearing wedding rings.

J. Watson won the cup for the best individual performance in the competition, as "Mrs. Dudgeon," and J. Geikie was specially commended as "Richard."

I congratulate this House on coming first.

FLETCHER HOUSE

FLETCHER HOUSE flew high in presenting "Antigone," and seemed at times more concerned to speak blank verse than to put over what it actually meant. Every character in this tremendous drama could have underlined his or her dominant emotion more.

Anne Howard as "Antigone" moved with dignity, and showed pathos, but not the triumph over Creon to which she was entitled. Creon made a solid and effective tyrant, but missed the chance of splendour in his costume which could have given colour to the stage. The brightest note was struck by the Messenger's scarlet, and the most pleasing by Haemon's russet. Teiresias made a brave effort at the blind prophet's passion, but should have held enough in reserve to rise to a climax.

The chorus spoke excellently in time and so were clearly audible, but seemed to be reciting rather than commenting and to have heard and seen it all before; their function as old men, constantly reacting to each fresh entry and guiding the reactions of the audience, needed far more emphasis.

Creon (Kathleen Mosley) received commendation for a firm and confident attack on the character of a tyrant.

SELWYN HOUSE

SELWYN HOUSE gave five lively scenes from "A Christmas Carol," set with a neat economy in furniture, though more use of decorations on the back wall would have differentiated the various rooms. The dresses were appropriate, but the old Dickens illustrations would have suggested details such as Scrooge's nightcap and period dressing-gown. Characters coming in from outside should have brought in a more wintry atmosphere, and again the warm friendliness of the Cratchits' household demanded much more noise, cheerful welcome, shouts and laughter. P. Storer as "Mrs. Cratchit" gave it a jolly liveliness, when it was not condemned to rather unnatural silences. It is well worth while to give the properties an air of reality; plastic basins, empty cups to drink from, and inadequate petticoats remind us that we are watching a pretence just when we are ready to accept a reality.

M. Knowles as "Scrooge" received special mention for a vigorous and well-varied performance which helped to hold together the rather disjointed sequence of the scenes, and Mrs. Cratchit a mention for a valuable liveliness.

THE MUSIC SOCIETY

AT the beginning of this year, the Gramophone Club was disbanded, and in its place the School Music Society was inaugurated, with Miss H. Thompson as President. Meetings are held each term, at which all music pupils are present. In the Christmas term we had a programme of gramophone records, and an organ recital by Miss Thompson, the highlight of which was Bach's "Toccata and Fugue" in D Minor.

Miss Harrison gave a piano recital in the Easter term, and towards the end of the programme, was joined by Miss H. Thompson in two duets from Grieg's "Peer Gynt." These were very popular and called for an encore.

We had a school concert on Fête Day and at the end of the Christmas term, in which the Orchestra and Choir played a prominent part.

James Maddocks and June Mills returned to give another interesting and varied recital on the violin, harpsichord, oboe and piano. Mitzi Lawton, an old friend of the School, gave us one of her enjoyable piano recitals.

We welcomed the St. Cecilia Trio for the first time. Their playing gave much pleasure and we hope for a return visit soon.

We did not go to the Philharmonic Concerts in Sheffield during the winter, but hope they will be possible again, another year.

As a finale to our Ascension Day half-holiday and picnic, we all went to see Gilbert and Sullivan's "Trial by Jury," and "Pirates of Penzance," produced by the Matlock Amateur Operatic Society. These were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

The Choir went to a concert in Bakewell Church given by Lady Manners School, under the direction of Mr. T. Mosely; and the Orchestra, by invitation, to Matlock Training College, to a violin recital by David Martin, with Wilfred Parry as accompanist.

The Orchestra has advanced considerably under the excellent instruction of Mrs. Trewin, to whose enthusiasm we owe a great deal. The School has now a tutor for woodwind instruments, and we hope that these will soon join the Orchestra.

H. WRIGHT, V.I.A.

THE BISHOP OF DERBY'S ENTHRONEMENT

WE were very fortunate to obtain good seats for Miss Robinson and four prefects at the Bishop of Derby's enthronement, when any seats at all were impossible to secure. It was a beautiful day for the occasion, yet we had surprisingly little difficulty in parking a few hundreds yards from the Cathedral, which was already packed when we arrived. We were led to our seats past row upon row of formidable clergy to a small block of seats near the High Altar where we could see most of what was taking place. The service was most impressive and dramatic, its splendid ritual, with the fanfares, the Bishop's formal entry into the Cathedral and the reading of the Mandate of the Archbishop of Canterbury, was reminiscent of the Coronation ceremony. The singing especially will form an unforgettable memory of this occasion.

The choir sang alone in Psalm 122, several lovely anthems and a glorious setting of the Te Deum, all of which were finely rendered, while the congregation joined enthusiastically in the stirring and well-known hymns. A particularly happy touch was the introduction of the trumpets into the Hymn for the Retiring Procession, "For all the Saints." The new Bishop, the Right Rev. Geoffrey Allen, preached a very good sermon.

We enjoyed the service very much. We appreciate how fortunate we are, as members of a Church of England school, to be present at such an important event of the diocese, and one which we shall very seldom have the opportunity and privilege to attend.

M. HILSDEN, V.I.A.

THE SIXTH FORM CONFERENCE

ON the fourth of March, pupils from Lady Manners Grammar School at Bakewell, Ernest Bailey's Grammar School at Matlock and Herbert Strutt's Grammar School at Belper arrived at St. Elphin's to take part in the Sixth Form Conference. The subject for discussion was "Christian Citizenship Abroad," especially in Africa.

At about 10 o'clock we all assembled in the Common Room and were divided into several groups, each with a group leader. After this the Conference was opened with prayers by Rev. R. J. Stamford, Vicar of St. Helen's, Darley Dale. Then we listened to an interesting talk by Mr. Hooper, of the Church Missionary Society, on the problem of the black peoples when they became Christians, particularly in Kenya, Africa.

Mr. Hooper had spent some part of his life out there and told us exactly what had to be done for these people before any attempt could be made to convert the African to Christianity. He explained that first, they had to be civilised in some way before they would relinquish their pagan practices and turn to Christ. After Mr. Hooper's talk, during which the groups made notes, we had a break and cups of tea and biscuits were handed round.

Then the second visiting speaker, Mrs. Russell, gave her talk on Nigeria. She too had spent part of her life in this part of Africa. She especially interested us in the position of women, according to primitive African laws, and the manner in which all the hard work was left to them.

One should not imagine that these talks were just long, dull narratives on a subject we are always hearing about; this was not so. Both speakers had an alive sense of humour, and made the talks amusing, as well as putting across the seriousness of the subject.

After Mrs. Russell's talk we adjourned for lunch, which our visitors highly praised, much to our amusement. Lunch having ended, we took our visitors to see various parts of the School: the Library, the Chapel and some of the dormitories. Because they came from day schools, our visitors were most interested in boarding school life and asked many questions about our daily routine and general life at school.

On returning to the Common Room, each group leader was presented with a sheet of paper on which were written questions concerned with the two talks we had just heard.

Then the groups dispersed to discuss as many of the questions as possible. Our particular group debated the questions in Selwyn House Sitting Room. At first everybody was naturally rather shy and it was difficult to get the group members to express their points of view freely. However, after a while, a sensible and interesting discussion resulted. At some points the conversation flagged somewhat, and I, as Group Leader, had to pick up the threads. However, all the Group members were

very helpful, especially Margerita Knowles, who acted as my secretary and recorded the fruits of our discussion.

Next, all the Groups returned to the Common Room, and each Group Leader read out the Group's opinions of the questions they had discussed, and Mr. Hooper and Mrs. Russell made remarks about their views and answered any questions they brought up.

At the end of the Conference, the speakers were warmly thanked for their interesting talks, and the pupils from the different schools for their co-operation in the debate. Then we closed with a short service in the School Chapel, taken by the Rev. P. T. Symmonds, the School Chaplain.

The Conference was most successful in that it not only gave us a clear picture of the difficulties of being a Christian in Africa, but it also gave us a chance to meet pupils from other schools, and gain a clear picture of their views on this subject.

Finally, I should like to thank Miss Robinson and the staff concerned, for making this most enjoyable conference possible.

KAREN MARKER, V.I.A.

PARIS HOLIDAY—Easter, 1959

THE school party, comprising members of the Upper Fifth and Sixth Forms (22 in all), with Miss Bull, Miss Parker and Miss Harrison, left London at 8.55 a.m. on March 30th, Easter Monday, bound for Newhaven. The crossing from Newhaven to Dieppe took about three hours and was calm and pleasant.

It was warm and sunny when we arrived in Dieppe and we noticed first of all the church standing on the hill, the shuttered windows and balconies of the houses and the gay signs outside the many cafés. The train journey to Paris was hot and tiring but the train itself was extremely comfortable. In spite of fatigue, we were not totally unaware of the French countryside through which we were passing, especially Normandy, which, being an important cider-producing area in France, has many orchards with dozens of pigs running loose in them.

At Sainte-Nazare, Paris, we were greeted by Mr. Lewis, who had arranged the holiday, and Jean, who was to be our guide. We boarded the coach and were soon speeding through the streets of Paris to the school at Mairie des Lilas, where we were staying. We passed through the gates of the school with its large sign, "La Villa du Rond Point" and were shown to the large, airy dormitory. Supper was welcomed eagerly and during the meal we tasted for the first time the crusty French bread that we had heard so much about. Afterwards we were shown round the school and then unpacked. Mr. Lewis offered to take us to see the lights of Paris, so we went by Metro to the Place de la Concorde, saw the magnificent fountains and obelisk lit up, then walked up the Champs Elysées and had coffee at a café near the Arc de Triomphe. At length, weary and footsore, we rolled thankfully into bed at about midnight. Needless to say, we slept like logs.

On Tuesday morning, after a typical Continental breakfast of rolls and coffee, we went on a coach tour of modern Paris. We saw the Opera, La Madeleine, the Arc de Triomphe, underneath which the flickering flame on the tomb of France's Unknown Warrior burns continually and although no less than twelve avenues meet at the Place de l'Etoile, it is never blown out. On we went to the Eiffel Tower and the Palais de Chaillot and then Les Invalides, where, for an entry fee of fifty francs, we saw Napoleon's tomb.

In the afternoon we went to Montmartre and Sacré Coeur and although the climb up to the latter was hot and slow, the interior of the Basilica was cool. After making a short tour of the building we came out again and took the dusty road to the Place du Tentre.

As we neared the square, the road became narrow and winding and the first thing we approached was an open-air café, where people sipped iced drinks in the brilliant sunshine.

The Place du Tentre is not very big and is the centre of the original village of Montmartre. It is practically the highest point of Paris, the name "tentre" meaning "hillock," and is surrounded by three-storied houses and picturesque antique shops.

Now, as we looked upon the crowded scene, we might almost have imagined ourselves to be in some small country town, owing to the old-world appearance of the square. Determined to see everything, we worked our way down past the café to the opposite side, where artists were painting at their easels; it was interesting to note the different impressions. The youngest artist was a little boy, who sat in the gutter painting the dome of Sacré-Coeur, all the time surrounded by his excited, chattering friends.

In the middle of the square artists were sketching portraits for about three hundred francs. Every few yards we were stopped and asked to pose, but we declined as our time for sight-seeing was limited. It was fascinating to watch the quick, sure strokes of the artist's charcoal, however.

Hearing the snipping of scissors, we turned round to see a man studying his model's profile and at the same time cutting out the silhouette on dark paper. The speed and accuracy of his work was really amazing.

A large crowd was gathering round a small, dark-haired man standing on an upturned soap-box near the café. Wondering what was about to happen, we joined the throng. Taking a large piece of paper, which he folded up, and a pair of scissors, he snipped away in silence; meanwhile, the crowd watched with mounting curiosity. After a few minutes he shook the piece of paper out and revealed a large, patterned circle. Holding it aloft he triumphantly announced, "The Rose Window of Notre Dame" amidst a round of applause from the crowd and those sitting at the tables of the café.

On the other side of the square, the youngsters, or "gamins," of the neighbourhood, presumably, were drawing attention

to themselves by throwing stones at an old man, who was sitting on the pavement eating his lunch out of a newspaper, his half-empty bottle of wine beside him. Their laughter soon ceased when the old man arose and seizing one of them, thrashed him soundly.

Then, taking one last look at the square, we walked down a small cobbled street leading from the Place du Tentre and explored the Antique shops on the way back to Sacré-Coeur.

On Wednesday morning we saw historical Paris, which included the Louvre and the Tuileries Gardens, the Place de la Bastille and the Panthéon, where we saw the tombs of many of France's famous men, including those of Victor Hugo and Louis Pasteur.

It turned very warm in the afternoon and we visited a large department store, "Au Printemps." Then, in the evening we went to Montmartre once again to see the famous "Moulin Rouge" lit up.

The visit to S.H.A.P.E (Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Powers in Europe), proved very interesting and after a warm welcome we were lectured on the work of N.A.T.O. We were not shown round at all as the work carried on there is top secret, but had refreshments in the Officers' Mess before posing for two photographers on the front steps.

Everyone had been looking forward to the fashion show, and on Thursday afternoon we arrived at the fashion house of Jeanne Fardeau for a show put on specially for us. The ascent of the Eiffel Tower followed and as it was clear, we obtained a breathtaking panoramic view of Paris. The Sacré-Coeur was one of the most prominent features on the landscape.

Friday dawned bright and clear and was, in fact, ideal for our day excursion to Versailles, which is about twelve miles from Paris. We walked through the courtyard and past the statue of Louis XIV to the entrance of the chateau and joined the large party assembled there in readiness to be taken on a conducted tour. The guide spoke French, of course, but with Miss Bull acting as interpreter and a little effort on our part we were able to understand reasonably well. The chateau boasts many splendid rooms and in particular the Galerie des Glaces (Hall of Mirrors) which was erected in Louis XIV's reign and where the 1919 Treaty of Versailles was signed, and the Galerie des Batailles, which contains large wall-paintings of famous battles.

When we had completed the tour of the chateau we split up into small groups and went off with our picnic lunches. The grounds cover many acres and one has to walk quite a way before coming to the Grand and Petit Trianons and Maria Antoinette's hamlet, a favourite spot with its thatched cottages and windmill.

In the evening we went to the Opéra Comique and saw four short ballets: "The Danube," "Unfinished Symphony," "The

Love Magician," and "Concerto," which were enjoyed by everybody.

A luxury coach came to collect us on Saturday morning to take us down to the Seine for our cruise in a 'bateau mouche.' Starting from the Eiffel Tower we went down the river past Notre Dame on the Ile de la Cité.

A visit to Notre Dame had been arranged for the afternoon and on the way there we visited the Sainte-Chapelle which is situated in the yard of the Palais de Justice and where the dazzling beauty of the stained glass windows takes one's breath away. We reached Notre Dame and climbed to the top of the towers to obtain our second panoramic view of Paris. The cathedral is a perfect example of Gothic architecture and has many gargoyles, which caused considerable amusement. The interior is imposing and contains three beautiful rose windows, which are magnificent works of art. After coming out into the glaring sunshine once more we walked along by the Seine and past Les Bouquinistes, the students' second-hand bookstalls, where various paintings and curios may be bought, too.

The Medrano Circus, Montmartre, provided our evening's entertainment and was well worth the visit. The chimpanzees gave a most amusing performance and had the audience in fits of laughter.

We attended morning service at the British Embassy Church on Sunday then visited the Louvre in the afternoon. It was obvious that we could not see all the exhibits in a single afternoon, so Miss Parker advised us to see the paintings. The world-famous "Mona Lisa" was a great attraction, also the Greek and Roman Section, the Pyramids and the Egyptian Section. Among the sculptures we saw the Venus de Milo and the Winged Victory of Samothrace.

We packed reluctantly on Sunday evening, for no one really wanted to go home. Lists of wines, spirits, perfumes, etc. we had bought were made for the benefit of the Customs and vainly we tried to squash down bulging suitcases; it seemed strange that a few souvenirs could make so much difference.

We were up early on Monday morning and after breakfast the coach came to take us to Sainte-Nazare. Little did we know as the train pulled out of Paris that a stormy crossing from Dieppe to Newhaven lay ahead of us. As the boat moved out of Dieppe we watched the French coastline gradually slipping from view; it was sad leaving it behind, for Paris held some happy memories.

Although the crossing was so terrible, one thought braced us: that we would soon be home and able to recount the varied experiences of a most successful holiday.

JOAN TOMLINSON, V.I.A.

VISIT TO A COAL MINE

ON Thursday, July 9th, Miss Robinson and Mrs. Rotter, with a party of ten members of V.I.B., visited Morton Colliery, near Chesterfield. We arrived at half-past nine and were met by Mr. Robinson, the under-manager, who with two other miners was to conduct our tour. We were shown a plan of the underground roads and saw where we were going. Then equipped with batteries and lamps, which could be attached to our helmets, we made towards the shaft, feeling weighted down, to await the cage which would drop us 250 yards to the pit bottom. We had been issued with checks which enable those on the surface to know how many people are underground.

We squashed into the cage, and, remembering our instructions, bent our knees slightly. As the cage dropped, slowly at first, but then with gradually increasing speed, we swallowed several times to prevent the change of pressure from affecting our ears.

It took us three minutes to reach the pit bottom. We followed our guide along roadways, similar in construction to the London Underground railways, but much smaller and rougher. The dust was thick on the ground, iron girders supported the roof. We walked along, stumbling occasionally owing to the unaccustomed roughness of the surface. Our objective was the little railway, or man-rider as it is called, which would take us three-quarters of a mile nearer the coal-face.

On the way we were shown a machine which bent twisted girders back into shape, giving them new life, and a spotlessly clean first-aid room. The pit-bottom had been lit by lamps, but now we had to depend entirely on our own miners' lamps for light. Eventually we reached the man-rider, and climbing up, seated ourselves on the tiny seats. We all enjoyed the ride which lasted about ten minutes. By now our faces had become smutted and we felt excited at the prospect of soon reaching the coal.

When we descended from the man-rider we found that the roads were smaller and rougher to our feet. We came to a conveyor belt carrying lumps of coal of varying sizes on their long journey towards the surface. We walked beside it for some distance; occasionally we were forced to bend our heads in places where the roof was low. We each picked a piece of coal from off the belt when it stopped once. Among the coal were a lot of pieces of stone which the miners called bine, which seemed to be the predominant rock at this level.

Soon we heard voices and saw lights glittering and flashing as the miners moved about. The conveyor belt came to an abrupt end, and through a hole we could see facing us the shining black seam of coal. Three of us climbed through, scrambling over a pile of chippings of coal and stone. We found ourselves in a long passage, horizontal to the road along which we had come and stretching for 140 yards to our left. It was

very small and low, and the miners were forced to crouch during the whole of their seven-and-a-half-hour shift. The seam of coal here was very thin, only 2 ft. 3 inches thick: this was the reason for the size of the tunnel. One of the miners very obligingly turned on the cutting machine for us, but unfortunately we had to shield our eyes because so much dust was raised. We picked some coal from the seam as a souvenir and unwillingly climbed out into the other passage.

After other members of the party had seen the coal-face, we started on the return journey. We went back a different way, our guide explaining that there were as many roads underground as on the surface, and visited the stables of the eleven pit ponies. These were very clean and the ponies are well looked after, but we were rather dismayed to find that they only go up to the surface twice a year.

We reached the man-rider and returned to the pit bottom, where after receiving back our checks we went up to the surface again. After a wash and a very enjoyable meal in a modern canteen, we were shown various interesting places outside. We went into a building housing a winding machine which lowers the cage down the shaft. Amidst great clanking and steaming the huge wheels wound and unwound the thin steel ropes.

We then visited the Washery, a very complicated place, where the coal is cleaned and graded according to size, before being loaded on to lorries or railway trucks.

Next we walked over some of the huge mounds formed entirely of the dirt and stone which come out of the pit with the coal. These are extremely hot inside and a constant watch is kept to prevent any outbreak of fire.

All too soon our tour was over and after thanking the manager, our guides, and Mr. Rotter who had very kindly arranged the visit, we sadly returned to school and a hot bath.

ROSEMARY BAKER (VI.B.)

FROM ST. ANNE'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

IN "Brideshead Revisited," the pompous cousin declared that one's second year was spent trying to evade the friends one had acquired in the first year. There is a certain amount of truth in this since the first year is really spent in discovering where one's real interests lie, in meeting many varieties of people, and generally experimenting to find out how to spend the rest of the time. Thus the second year, being, in addition, free of exams, is generally very happily organised.

I've been in three plays this year and read in play readings most weeks; the most interesting thing was probably a tape-recorded version of a dramatised "Song of Songs" which was a Balliol entry for O.U.D.S. Radio Coppers and to our amazement came fifth. I was also an inferior fiend in a very modernistic Strindberg; we had to rush up through the audience, and leap screaming on to the stage. We were almost as frightened

as the audience by then. In ordinary play readings what surprised me most was the very conventional plays many College Societies choose; quite a large proportion were what we used to do in the Lit. and Dram.!

In College the great excitement of the year has been the building of our dining hall, which is an enormous and very modern building with rather a fine ceramic on the wall facing into the Quad. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are coming to open it in January.

I am lucky to be at St. Anne's when it is developing very rapidly. Now that the houses in the four roads surrounding the main buildings belong to us we are taking on the more conventional appearance of a college, and are each having an outer wall built to hem us in more thoroughly.

The Library is being enlarged, as College was left 50,000 books by Canon Lenton, of Christ Church. I was among the people who helped to sort the books. His house was largely composed of books with a few little tunnels left to enable him to move from room to room in comparative safety. They were a fantastic selection, ranging from 5-volume Victorian novels to school texts and ecclesiastical law.

Two of the events I remember most clearly from last year are the St. Anne's Dance and May Morning. Four of my friends who all live in the same hostel, decided we would demonstrate our super-efficiency by giving a dinner party first. As we only have two gas rings and nowhere to keep things hot, the problem of producing an impressive, several course meal for ten people was rapidly solved by having everything cold; but we thought our escorts would be impressed. They were, until one asked how long it had taken us and we had to admit that practically the entire week had been taken up by false starts and swift reorganisation.

I read an article which described May Morning in very jaundiced terms. It was called, "Whisky bottles among the daffodils." Of course it can seem like that, but it is, I think, a badly distorted picture. Anyway, I shall never forget seeing dawn break and gradually perceiving the outlines of other punts gliding down the river through the startled swans, or the crowds under Magdalen Bridge, punts jammed nose to tail and broadside on, right across the river, and filled with singing, shouting, celebrating people, fall suddenly silent, and in the hushed morning, six o'clock struck and the old carols floated down from the top of Magdalen Tower: a sign that spring had come to Oxford.

Perhaps I should mention too, hearing John Betjeman reading his poetry, refer to himself as a modern Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Work, of course, is pretty constant, but it was quite exciting to go to Tutorials in Pembroke in rooms reputed to have once belonged to Dr. Johnson—a little overpowering too! But next year life grows more serious. However, at the end of this vac.

I am going to Spain for three weeks with some friends. We have hired a villa on the cheap end of the Costa Brava. We might even do some work there; it is sad really that there is only one of us who reads Spanish!

GILL SHORLAND-BALL.

THORPE CUP ESSAY—1959 "THE FUNCTION OF IMAGINATION"

"A MAN'S reach must exceed his grasp,
Or what's a heaven for?"

said Browning. Man is always striving after the ideal of perfection, for the true reality. He seeks it in different ways, according to his nature; through art, or poetry, or music, by exploration of the far corners of the earth, by working on great inventions; by trying to benefit humanity by finding cures for its physical ills, through medicines; for its social ills, by planning and statesmanship, and for its mental ills, by philosophy. He will search the stars for their secrets and discover the mathematical principles and hidden laws of the least things on earth. He does this, not for self-expression, for the more truly great a man is the more selfless he becomes, but to try to express something of the eternal vision which has been revealed to him. He never succeeds entirely, but his efforts are not to be judged by their effects; truth is perfectly expressed, not in the "broken arcs" which we see on earth but in the "perfect round" of heaven.

The realist claims to see things "as they are"; that is, as he sees them and imagines them to be. He will not allow that there is anything further.

"A primrose by the river's brim
A yellow primrose is to him
And nothing more."

He does not consider the infinite possibilities of good or ill in what he sees, and therefore does not trouble with them.

The idealist, on the other hand, has imagination. It is for him to say,

"To me the meanest flower that blows can give
Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears."

He can see the potentialities of what he looks at, and seeks after their substance—the true inner reality, the essence of things, not the mere outward appearance. Looking at a few grains of wheat, he sees what may eventually cover acres with rustling crops, and feed thousands of people. An acorn holds all the forests of the past, and all of the future.

So one cannot be aware of true reality without the imagination to see the potentialities of things and of people. A violin, to outward appearance, is only a contrivance of wood and cat-

gut, yet we find "sheep's guts drawing the souls out of men's bodies."

Your true man of action is not the plain, practical man, who sees no farther than the end of his nose, but the man of vision. The Greeks called a poet a "maker," in recognition of this; to make a sculpture, or poem, or piece of music, or a picture, was, indeed, to act. Matthew Arnold, in one of his poems, speaks of "the music-makers," "the dreamers of dreams," by whom empires are raised and cities brought down.

The artists in different media seek to express their vision in their own way. The poet, playwright, novelist, artist and musician, express the same thing in different ways: sometimes one feels that one can trace the likeness of spirit in a painting, a poem, and a piece of music. Within these media the artists have their own methods, so that the style of no two is alike. They express an individual vision.

Myths and legends, while not by any means true on the surface, are true insofar as they express the spirit of the race and country and age whence they come. The legends of King Arthur embody much of the ancient Celtic spirit, eternally dissatisfied; "Beowulf" forever echoes the adventurous, untamed, courageous wildness of the Anglo-Saxons. The early tales of 'Genesis' reveal not only the vivid imagination of minds groping for truth, but the deeply religious point of view of the men who set them down.

The Psalmists were men with the imagination to see hidden meaning in their surroundings and times. They set down, many thousands of years ago, in Hebrew verse, religious experiences that are true for all time and all people.

Imagination must not be taken merely as fancy. Keats pictured imagination as the rudder of poetry, while fancy was the sails. Fancy is ephemeral enough, and useless without the deeper force of imagination behind it; when it has that, it is of value; without it, its airy flights lead nowhere, it is merely "sweet nothings" that delight like a shining bubble and are gone as soon.

But imagination is altogether stronger and deeper, it is the rudder of poetry, necessary that poetry may be guided by the "polar star" of invention; it can turn the flights of fancy to some account. Imagination is a force from without and within; from without comes the vision, which is interpreted by the mind. It clothes things in "the consecration and the poet's dream"—in something of the depth of their reality; to the man with imagination, their potentialities and their truth shine out of them.

The artist portrays what he sees of them. A poet will find words, thought by those unable to use them fully, a clumsy way of expression, to tell what he feels; and we have what we call the great poetry of the world, or, more narrowly, we can delight in the treasures of our own language from Chaucer, who could

see the gay pageant of the world and Langland, who could see its tragedy, right down through our literature.

Shakespeare could see in a barbarous old tale the material for a "Hamlet," and in a few romances could pick out a "Twelfth Night" or "A Midsummer Night's Dream." We have the immortal pictures of the world, from the still lively paintings on old cave walls and the sublime art of the Greeks, to modern painters like Picasso. An architect sees the glory of line and shape and will produce a Durham Cathedral, a Notre-Dame, a Parthenon. Others will put the truth of human nature into novels, or echo the silent rhythms of the universe in great music. And all these will live. One cannot say precisely the quality that makes a great work; it is eternal. The last ruined columns of the ancient world preserve the dignity which was theirs when they were new; standing at the present day, for instance, in La Sainte Chapelle, one feels the immensity of its spirit. Without the marvellous stained glass, without the perfection of gilding and carving, were it a ruin, only a few pillars standing, it would still be beautiful. So it is with any great work—it is beyond time.

Vogel felt confident that the wonderful music he had improvised was not lost, though it would never be heard again; such things belonged to heaven where

"All we have thought or hoped or dreamed of good shall exist,
Not its semblance, but itself."

The work of imagination lives because it has the quality of eternity; it has apprehended something of the eternal-values of things. Truth seems, to our minds, to have many facets: we cannot see them all; but actually they are all drawn into the great unity of eternity.

So much can imagination do at its best. But an abused or distorted imagination is worse than nothing, and drives men to madness. Like anything which can be used in a supremely good way, as fire and water can, it can be turned to an account equally heavy on the other side. It may go no further than morbid reflections, which are really only fancy turned wrongly: it can go to untold lengths. Four hundred years ago the word "imagination" alone could be used for this distorted madness. "He waxes desperate with imagination," Hamlet's companions cry when he follows the ghost of his father; in the Magnificat we find, "He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts." Here the implications of the word are even more serious.

A diseased imagination does not see the truth of things through the medium of a man's individual nature; it throws out grotesque shadows upon them, from within.

Yet the vision of some artists and poets, especially today, seems to most of us almost as fantastic. Some of the work of Picasso and Blake is incomprehensible, for instance, even repellent, to the ordinary person; much of the latest music sounds harsh and chaotic. But this need not mean that the artists' imagination is distorted. May it be that they are in advance of their times, as so many in the past have been, or that they perceive our own day in a light which few others can perceive it?

Perhaps what seems to us chaos in their work is true of a world which itself is unnaturally distorted by fear. But art is more than a historical document. Almost certainly what we cannot understand now will have its beauty appreciated in the future, just as we now understand what was quite incomprehensible in its own day. Everything goes to shape the outlook of generations yet to come.

Clarity of vision is essential to understand things fully, the vision behind the action is the essential and makes for progress; a statesman must be able to grasp the possibilities of a situation to tackle it with lasting, creative effect; a great artist can seize a scene which many would not notice and make a great picture. Probably few who passed the mill Rembrandt has immortalised saw the impressive weight of the scene. A great musician can find a whole symphony's possibilities in the simplest of melodies.

Yet they always fall short of their ideal; they can never achieve complete satisfaction in anything. For all we see merely constitutes "the broken arcs." There must always be "The high for earth too high, the heroic for earth too hard." Man has achieved great things in all he has attempted, but never the whole that he has striven for. But without reaching for the impossible, he has never done anything.

The perfect truth is beyond, in eternity. And the fullness of achievement has been revealed, from beyond. For in Our Lord came the complete revelation of perfection, for once and for all, and the impossible was achieved. The height to which all the works of man try to attain, and never can, was attained once and for all; and the whole compass of all the possibilities of man's nature, and all his vision, was fulfilled, with more than he had ever been able to grasp; the whole reach of the sum of things, the complete interpretation of eternity, was perfectly expressed.

MARY HILSDEN, V.I.A.

SUMMER RESIDENCE

AFTER spending thirty-six hours crossing the North Sea on one of the worst crossings ever experienced we were at last in sight of the welcome flashing of a lighthouse. The powers of nature had, during this short period of time, combined to give torrential rain, dense fog and mountainous seas, which although were not what one had dreamt of for an ideal voyage, certainly provided great excitement for the non-suffering members of the party. The ship dropped anchor at Esbjerg, the main port on the west coast of Denmark and after passing through a pleasantly polite and welcoming Customs House, I was met by the family with which I was to spend my holiday. I was at once accepted as one of the family and as our crossing had been so rough it was decided that we should spend one night in Esbjerg so that I should be able to enjoy the journey to Copenhagen the following day.

We arose early and after partaking of a typical Danish breakfast of rolls and coffee set off on our journey. I was to stay with this family, a mother, father and two children, Inger, sixteen-years-old, and Jorgen, eleven-years-old, in their villa a few miles from Copenhagen on the north coast of the island of Zealand. The journey to Copenhagen was nearly two hundred miles through all the different types of scenery found in Denmark. We travelled from Esbjerg across the southern part of Jutland through countryside dotted with immaculately clean white farms and tiny villages in which all the houses were whitewashed and in this part of the country storks were found to be nesting in the chimneys.

The sea crossing from the mainland to the island of Fynen was spanned by the most wonderful bridge, the Little Belt. Crossing the island we passed through Odense, the birthplace of Hans Christian Anderson and I was most surprised to find the tiny white house unobtrusively situated in an old cobbled street. In order to reach Copenhagen we boarded a ferry which transported us from Fynen to Zealand and from there we drove through undulating land, at this time of year "waving" with the golden corn and the dark pine trees, always in the distance provided a background to the beautiful scene.

We entered Copenhagen from the west and I was immediately impressed by the numerous copper spires, glittering pale green in the evening sun. The spires varied from the spiraled spire of the Stock Exchange to the spires of the Carlsberg breweries and the Government buildings and the dome of the Marble Church. I caught only a glimpse of the beautiful city that evening as we sped on towards the villa. We passed through beautiful beech woods and on again through moorlands until we approached the drive gates of my temporary residence.

I was astounded at the wonderful house. The building was long and narrow with a wonderful balcony stretching the

length of the upper floor. The windows were enormous and overlooked a perfect garden and terraces. The Danish flag, as was the custom was flying in a corner of the garden and on a small lawn croquet hoops were erected ready for use and I was to learn that this game and badminton on the lawns, were very popular pastimes.

That evening I was shown my delightful room, which had huge french windows down the length of one wall, opening on to the balcony. I decided that I would sleep early that night as I felt exhausted after the excitement of my first day in Denmark and still had not completely regained my "land legs." My bed proved to be the most comfortable I have ever slept in. It was a feathered mattress and there were neither sheets nor blankets, only a gigantic eiderdown which covered the whole body and proved to be the warmest covering I have ever experienced.

The following morning I was awakened early by the sun pouring in through the open windows. We breakfasted on the terrace and I learnt that it was the custom for the maid to serve the meals first to the father of the family, then the mother, the visitor and last of all the children. At the end of the meal, before leaving the table, both Inger and Jorgen said, "Tak for Mal," to their parents, which meant "Thank you for the meal." I thought this was a very pleasant gesture.

Inside the house, as in most Danish homes, were many flowers and plants. In the sun lounge there were several plants actually growing out of small sunken parts of the floor filled with soil. Most of the windows were covered by Venetian blinds; this enabled us to leave all the windows apart at night and to ensure safety from burglars. A policeman patrolled the house during the night.

The first few days we spent exploring the sights of Copenhagen. I found it to be a most beautiful city and always fresh and clean, providing a contrast to most of England's large cities. One of my first visits was to the statue of the Little Mermaid in the harbour of Langelinie. I had heard so much about Hans Anderson's famous statue that I expected to find something very imposing, but I was very surprised when I eventually saw it, nestling in the rocks with the waves lapping round the base of the rock on which the mermaid sat. She was very small and one could not see her face as she faced out to sea, looking across the harbour, to the place, where story tells, she once came from.

The same day we visited the Amalienborg Palace, one of the four royal residences of the King and Queen of Denmark. This palace consists of four buildings which are placed to form a diamond around a square. In the square the King's guards parade, magnificently clothed in blue trousers, scarlet jackets

and busbies. Looking from the palaces to the harbour we noticed the hive of activity as ships loaded and emptied cargoes from all countries of the world.

As we walked through the city it was invariably impossible to move for the hundreds of cyclists who passed through the streets at tremendous speed. Copenhagen, unlike most modern capitals of today, still has a network of trams which run an extremely efficient service throughout the city.

From the Palaces we walked to the famous Marble Church. This is a magnificent building, being circular in plan and one is able to climb to the top of the dome, from where one looks over the whole city. The view is breathtaking as one looks over the tops of spires, canals and the beautiful harbour of the city.

Returning home, we spent the evening playing croquet on the lawn. Dinner consisted of dozens of varieties of the Danish "smørrbrød." These are delicious, consisting of a piece of rye bread, spread with butter covered with anything from fish dishes to salad or cheeses. There are frequently several layers to the sandwich but they are always open-topped.

The following weeks were spent swimming on the beautiful beaches of the north coast where the silvery sand-dunes and pine forests slope down to the edge of the beach. In the evenings, being further north, it remained light or dusk for almost the entire twenty-four hours and one evening we watched one of the most beautiful sights imaginable. As the sun set and dusk approached, the Northern Lights, renowned in Scandinavia, were seen. The sky was ablaze with colour, sunset red and gold and as one looked out to sea a small fishing vessel silhouetted against the colourful sky, "glided" across the sea. Many people had come to watch and there were numerous photographers "snapping" the never-to-be-forgotten sight.

The following morning, Inger told me to be sure to catch the postman when he arrived. At last a knock was heard on the door and I opened it to find a handsomely dressed man wearing a scarlet jacket and white trousers. This was the regulation uniform of Danish postmen. The postmen not only delivered the letters but also sold stamps and delivered the daily newspapers. He also took letters to be posted.

That day we were to travel the short distance to the famous Elsinore Castle, scene of Shakespeare's "Hamlet." The Castle stands on high cliffs overlooking the Sound, which separates Denmark from Southern Sweden. Elsinore is now a famous museum and one can easily imagine "Hamlet" taking place in and on the platforms of this ancient building.

Driving home from Elsinore we passed through hilly country with many pine forests. At one point we reached the top of a hill and looking down we saw a brilliantly blue lake, surrounded by pine forests and on the higher hill slopes the

heather was in its true glory. It was a glorious sight and reminded one more of the more northerly Scandinavian countries.

One evening we visited the famous Tivoli in Copenhagen. This is Europe's largest "funfair," but proved to be entirely different from my understanding of this word. Tivoli covers a very large area in the centre of Copenhagen and consists of an open-air theatre, variety shows, garden, marvellous fountains and over twenty-one restaurants. There are also ballrooms and a "funfair." The pantomime which is performed each evening is the only place in the world where the original pantomime still takes place. As the light fades Tivoli is fabulously illuminated, the premier attraction being the Chinese Pagoda. At midnight on certain days of the week a firework display takes place. The most wonderful fireworks are exploded and these provide a fantastic finale to an exciting evening.

At the end of my month's holiday I had met numerous people and made permanent friends of many of these ever-friendly, hospitable people. I had been very fortunate, as the great majority of Danes spoke perfect English and so there had been no difficult language situations. I had loved the Danish way of living and their country and my mind was crowded with hundreds of happy memories.

I was now relaxing on the sundeck of the "King Frederick" liner, enjoying the return voyage which was entirely different from the storm-battered journey to Denmark. Even now, though I was sailing away from Denmark I was still in the pleasant company of the Danish crew who were ever-willing to assist, bringing a glorious end to my holiday in a never-to-be-forgotten "Summer Residence."

VIVIENNE SELDON (V.I.B.)

MORNING

THE first grey morning light creeps to the sky,
Calling the trees to crown the western hill;
A thrush lets forth his first notes, and is still.
Low rustling tremors whisper, wave and die,
Fitfully stirring dewy darkened leaves,
The dreaming farms wreathed in mystery lie
Trailed with white wraith; cool hidden brooklets sigh,
While hung with mist, the rocky upland grieves.
Now as the shining rays flood with delight
The wide fields, so their grasses gleam anew,
All fair and joyful morns are in the sight,
Thronged in their hopes and with their light imbue
This day, in whose beginning, glorious grown,
The long hours silent lie, hallowed, foreshown.

M. HILSDEN, V.I.A.

SWITZERLAND

SWITZERLAND—Snow and sun. The day I arrived in Lausanne the sun was, in fact, shining; the sky was blue, the lake was blue and the town was hung with flags—not only to welcome me, but also for some local fair.

We stumbled sleepily from the train and peered at our watches with bleary eyes: 7.30 a.m.

Having roused the customs and got safely through, we went to have our petit déjeuner on the station. Since the first time I remember knowing that Switzerland existed, I can remember being told that I would be able to eat my breakfast on the station from cups set on a spotless, no doubt Surf-boiled tablecloth. I was thus agog to find this restaurant. In fact it **was** on the station, but it looked just like an ordinary British Railways Café, separated from the rails by the usual enormous windows, tight shut, which would have defied any smut, however determined.

The tables had no cloths and were very dirty. There were no cups or saucers, we were given coffee in glasses, and anyone who has had coffee from a glass knows how ghastly it tastes!

After this somewhat inauspicious start, we secured a taxi, gave the driver the address, to which he replied, "A Vennes?" Adding "Hein," as all French people do in novels, and we shot off up a terrific hill.

The first three months went by without leaving much impression, except that of being surrounded by people chattering French and of spending hours trying to formulate a really perfect sentence, only to find that I had been tutoying Mademoiselle who was the last person to whom I wished to use the familiar form of address.

When I came back from Christmas at home, the second three months made a little more sense. For one thing I could now understand pretty well and could say small, simple sentences.

It was during this time that I went to my first real opera, "La Bohème." The audience was very mixed, but fell into two main groups: those who had come straight from the office in scruffy sweaters and skirts or jeans and those who had come straight from the beauty parlour in full evening dress and with cut-glass hanging from every "coin of vantage." They all clapped madly, except at the end, since the auditorium was half empty by the time the last note was sung!

I also noticed a big difference in the attitude of the shop assistants: you might possibly have to open the door yourself, but quite often it was done for you. The assistants then surge forward and press their wares upon you. Having sold you rather more than twice the number of things you intended to buy at rather more than twice the price, they proceed to wrap everything with great care in beautifully colourful paper tied with curled string. They then usher you out of the door with

great ceremony, feeling, rightly, well pleased with their morning's work!

It was during these three months also that I went ski-ing. Having procured skis and boots of immense weight, seemingly guaranteed to sink through any depth of snow, we set off for the nursery slopes.

My first descent was from a tiny mound, descending at the rate of about 1 in 100. It seemed like 1 in 3, and I was amazed when I stopped without whizzing straight through the village and up the mountains on the other side. What I found most difficult to cope with was the lack of a handbrake. However, after a bit we learnt to slow down and eventually, to stop.

I think I fell in every conceivable position. The instructor said it was not possible to fall forwards, but I soon disproved that one. I returned from the mountains with six bruises on each leg!

At the same time I learnt to skate—it was marvellous. Again I fell in all directions. We went frequently to evade French lessons.

I hope this gives you some idea of Switzerland. I hope to meet some of you when I am nursing—please arrange to have your accidents outside St. Thomas's!

JOY SHORLAND-BALL.

SCHOOL GAMES

THE general standard of games has improved considerably this year and we are glad that the members of all four teams show an enthusiasm and team spirit which helps their standard of play.

Netball—Captain, M. Knowles; Vice-Captain, J. Watson; R. Hill, J. Gascoyne, S. Howard, M. Stewardson, F. Pemberton.

At the end of the Christmas term, we were sorry to lose Jean Geikie, both for her excellent play and her energetic captaincy. J. Geikie, M. Knowles and J. Watson were awarded their School Colours.

Hockey—Captain, H. Wright; Vice-Captain, J. Watson; J. Hick, K. Moss crop, A. Savage, V. Seldon, C. Tatlock, H. Lunn, J. Gascoyne, P. Watson, C. Watson.

The team entered for the North Midlands Schools Hockey Tournament and after several very close games was placed 3rd.

H. Wright, C. Tatlock and J. Gascoyne qualified for the final selection in the Junior County Hockey trials and H. Wright was chosen as a reserve for the team. C. Tatlock, J. Hick and J. Watson were awarded colours for their high standard of play.

Tennis—Captain, M. Knowles; Vice-Captain, C. Tatlock; F. Dagger, P. Dagger, M. Stewardson, J. Walker.

This year the team is a young one and with more experience and match practice should reach a high standard. There have been the usual number of fixtures, most of which have been close matches.

Cricket—Captain, H. Wright ; Vice-Captain, A. Savage ; J. Watson, V. Seldon, P. Tuckwell, J. Gascoyne, J. Howe, H. Lunn, K. Mosley, P. Wade, P. Watson ; 12th man, D. Llewellyn.

Having several strong bowlers, the team this year has reached a high standard. We have had few fixtures: the match against St. Ronan's was lost by one run, but St. Elphin's defeated Derby Ladies' C.C. by a large margin.

School Colours were awarded to H. Wright, A. Savage and J. Watson.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

I SHOULD like to thank Barbara Ward for all her help and support over the last two years as Joint Secretary of the Old Girls. We wish her every success in her new work in Uganda.

May I ask all members—life and annual—if they would be kind enough to send me a card when changing their address. This last year I have had 11 letters returned to me by the Post Office as "not known at this address." If anyone can help me with the addresses of these 11 (listed later) I should be most grateful.

Our A.G.M. will be held in London on Saturday, 10th October, 1959, at the Y.W.C.A., Great Russell Street, at 2.30 p.m. Please make a special note of this date.

MARY SAPWELL,

Hon. Secretary, S.E.O.G.G.

GAMES REPORT

THE annual O.G.'s tennis match was played on the evening of Speech Day. Time is always short on these occasions and we were only able to play seven games against each couple. A strong O.G.'s team had a resounding victory against a depleted School VI—the final score being 9 matches to nil.

In the autumn term a hockey match was arranged and was played despite the fact that we had to enlist the services of five girls still at school. Not surprisingly the O.G.'s team was easily defeated.

I tried to arrange a badminton match in the Spring term but the response was so poor that it had to be cancelled.

Throughout the year the response from O.G.'s has been poor and it is very difficult to raise a full team if people who are invited to play do not reply promptly. Please reply immediately, particularly if you are unable to play, so that I have time to write and ask someone else to play.

SALLIE C. HITCHEN,,
Games Secretary.



Miss Robinson, Headmistress, with two familiar friends.

ST. ELPHIN'S OLD GIRLS' CHRONICLE

TREASURER'S NOTES

AT the Annual General Meeting in October, it was reluctantly decided to raise the life subscription to 3½ guineas and the annual subscription to 7/6d. More by good luck than good management, the accounts just balance! However, with such a narrow margin, the inevitable increase could no longer be postponed. Many thanks to all those who have so cheerfully paid the extra half-crown.

The membership is increasing most encouragingly this year. At the time of writing, we have 372 life members and 107 annual members.

It was proposed at the October meeting that £500 of the life subscriptions account should be invested in trustee securities. Both accounts were transferred from the Post Office Savings Bank to the Midland Bank at the beginning of this year.

For my peace of mind—and yours—my cousin, a chartered accountant, has kindly agreed to audit the accounts. Many thanks to him.

Our "Friends of St. Elphin's" covenant expired in 1958, and is being renewed for a further seven years. Under this, the Guild subscribes £5 to the Fund each year.

Annual members, please note my change of address.

ELIZABETH LAVENDER,
Hon. Treasurer, S.E.O.G.G.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC & DRAMA ELOCUTION

Preliminary—Molly Guise (Merit), Deborah Clarke (Pass), Elizabeth Flemming (Pass), Veronica Stevenson (Pass), Kaye Allsop (Pass).

Grade I—Jane Blackwall (Merit), Elizabeth Mullett (Merit), Carolyn Owen (Pass), Jennifer Rachel Medland (Merit).

Grade II—Penelope Thornton (Special Honours), Penelope Gar-side (Merit), Anne Cropper (Pass).

Grade III—Rosalind Seville (Merit), Joanna Granger (Pass), Anne Lavin (Merit), Judith Reston (Pass), Felicity Pember-ton (Merit), Charlotte Macqueen (Pass), Ruth Dean (Merit).

Grade IV—Patience Tuckwell (Merit).

Grade IV.A—Helen Brown (Pass), Marguerita Knowles (Merit).

At Matlock Music Festival, the following awards were made for Elocution—

Penelope Thornton, 1st, 88 per cent.; Ruth Dean, 1st, 88 per cent.; Patience Tuckwell, 1st, 87 per cent.; Rosalind Seville, 3rd, 86 per cent.; Marguerita Knowles, 3rd, 85 per cent.

IN MEMORIAMs

Helen Margaret Thatcher

MANY generations of the Old Girls' Guild will remember how much they owe to Helen Margaret Thatcher, its first Secretary from October 1911, who died suddenly on 13th July, 1958. Helen came to the School in 1896 when Miss Kennedy became Headmistress and I myself came as a student. There was very little difference in age between Helen, a sixth form girl, and myself and we soon became close friends. I remember many a walk up and down the old terrace at Warrington discussing the affairs of our school life. Helen became a student mistress and later a full member of the staff under Miss Kennedy and shared in the change of environment from Warrington to Darley Dale in 1904.

The School Magazine records show how active a Secretary of the O.G.G. she was until she resigned in 1934. Helen was always a most devoted and loyal member of the School in whatever capacity she was serving it. After leaving St. Elphin's she looked after her father and later her elder sister, but also became a most important worker for her Church—St. Leonard's, Clent. She was Secretary to the P.C.C. and took a part in most of the Parish activities. Indeed it was her indefatigable work for the Church that seems to have been the immediate cause of her death. When she was far from well, she insisted on attending a P.C.C. meeting at which she collapsed, and after a few days' illness she died in hospital.

In the local paper account of her funeral, she is spoken of as "one of the staunchest and most enthusiastic workers . . . she raised substantial sums of money for Missionary Work . . . was Secretary of the P.C.C. . . . and was a much loved figure in the Village."

Truly we may be proud of this old girl, and I know how very many of us remember her with truly great affection. Our sympathy goes out to her sister Katharine and her cousin Evelyn Harry, both themselves Old Girls of St. Elphin's.

R.I.P.

MARGARET L. FLOOD.

Ellen Shepherd Robbs (née Moore)

MRS. ROBBS died on 21st October 1958 at the age of 93, exactly two years minus one day after her elder daughter, Dorothea. Although she was a pupil of the School in its early days at Warrington, and some years before Miss Kennedy became Headmistress, she was connected with the School both in Miss Kennedy's time and mine. Her two daughters were both educated at St. Elphin's, and for a time she herself was with me as Matron.

During the last days of her life, Mrs. Robbs was living at Springfield St. Luke, Caversham, one of the Wantage Community's Homes. I was able to see her a few years ago there, and enjoyed very happy exchange of School remembrances.

In October 1958 she had a fall and four days afterwards she died in a Reading Nursing Home. Marjorie tells me she was not in pain and did not seem to suffer much.

Mrs. Robbs was well-known to and loved by many old girls. She was full of motherly kindness for all those who came under her as Matron, and I myself had a very real affection for her, together with very great respect.

All old girls will wish to join with me in sympathy for Marjorie who has lost her mother so soon after her sister, and who has herself barely recovered from a serious illness.

R.I.P.

MARGARET L. FLOOD.

NEWS OF OLD GIRLS

KATHLEEN AYERS' (née Berwick) husband is head of the firm of architects responsible for building the University at Salisbury in Rhodesia.

MARY BEELEY has left St. Hugh's School, Woodhall Spa, and is hoping to do welfare work. She sends news of Margery Haywood (née Ball) who is a staff nurse at Harlow Wood Orthopaedic Hospital.

WENDY BERWICK has been in Borneo for two years, where her father is Director of Agriculture.

GRETA BUNTING (née Carson) was married last year, and is now leading a busy life as a farmer's wife at Alsop-en-le-Dale.

MARJORIE CARSON passed her S.R.N. examination in February 1958, and is now doing her midwifery training at Derby City Hospital. She sends news of Janet Oliver (née Rowarth) who had a son in March.

ANN DAWS qualified in May 1958 and is now doing a House Surgeon's post in London.

MARIE DAWSON is in her last year at Durham University reading Botany, with finals in June. She is getting married in July, and going to live at Aspley, near Nottingham, where her fiancé is to be curate. She plans to teach for a while near her home. She sends news of Dorothea Bean who is now teaching music in Newcastle.

ANNE DUNBAR-DEMPSEY (née Macfarlane) re-married in June last year. Her husband is a pilot in the Fleet Air Arm, and has recently been doing a cruise of the Far East, New Zealand and Australia in an aircraft carrier, H.M.S. Albion.

DOROTHY EDWARDS is the outdoor Moral Welfare Worker for Guildford and District, an area made up of 39 parishes.

PAMELA EDWARDS (née Gamble) went to Johannesburg last December, where her husband has an interesting and responsible engineering post. They are very happy there and love the climate. If any St. Elphinite is near Johannesburg, Pamela would be delighted to see them.

JANET FRIAR (née Eccles) qualified in May 1958 and now has a House Physician's post at East Ham Memorial Hospital, London.

ESTHER GREENSLADE (née Mason-Pooley) has recently moved to Walmer, Kent, owing to her husband's death in April 1958.

MARGARET GRIFFITHS (née Ashton) is the captain of the Cheshire Veterans' Golf Association this year. Many congratulations on this honour.

ALISON HALL is now in her first year at Homerton College, Cambridge, after having passed English, History and Music at Advanced Level at the City of Worcester Grammar School for Girls in July 1958.

JUNE HANNANT (née Burr) had twin daughters in February, so has her hands more than full with five daughters—she imagines she will have to keep her nylons under lock and key when they are all grown-up!

ANNE HEBDITCH is at present in South Africa and working as secretary to the senior partner of a large firm of shipping and travel agents in Durban. She thinks Durban is a fine city, and is seeing as much of the surrounding countryside at the week-ends before she leaves for Rhodesia.

BERTHA HEDLEY is flying home this summer via the "polar route" and is staying at 62 Broxbourne Road, Orpington, Kent, while in England. She has spent two winters recently near Los Angeles, and the summer of 1958 in Victoria "on a lucky sublet," where she saw the Princess several times.

MOLLIE HINDLE (née Cheese) has recently moved to Brock, which is a beauty spot north of Preston; she would be delighted to see anyone who called on her.

RUTH HUMPHREYS'S (née Tudor Jones) husband has changed his job and they have had to leave their beautiful new bungalow in Hertfordshire and move to Yorkshire.

MARGARET HUNT is leaving the Church of England College in Birmingham in July and going to a new Secondary Technical School for Girls at Broadstairs, in September, where she is going to teach English and Scripture.

STEPHANIE JONES is at present catering at Monmouth School for Girls.

WENDY LAMBERT (née Bainbridge) has her two eldest daughters at day school now. Most of her free time is taken up with Young Wives' Group, and learning to drive their car.

ROSEMARY LAPHAM (née Chadwick) and family are returning to England in June 1959 after six years in Canada. Her husband is to be curate at St. Hilary's Church, Wallasey. She sends news of Chris Ashby (née Gordon) who was married in November 1957 to a solicitor and now lives in Hale; and of Dina Plumley (née Selby) who lives in London and whose husband has recently passed his F.R.C.S.

MARYLYN LLOYD has been teaching in Leighton Buzzard for two years, but is hoping to move to Shrewsbury where her family now live. She sends news of Rosemary Line, who is engaged and planning to be married at the end of the year; of Felicity Platten, who is also engaged and getting married in July; and of Sheenagh William who is engaged.

JILL LLOYD-TURNER is getting married in September.

ELIZABETH LAVENDER has left St. Piran's School, and has taken a post at Taunton (please note new address).

MAY MAYHEW-JONES is Editor of the Journal of the Textile Institute and "looking forward with much trepidation to 1960 which is our Jubilee year." The Institute is organising the second quinquennial International Wool Conference which will entail editions of over 50 papers by scientists of international repute. The Institute publishes a pamphlet (free) entitled "Education for Careers in Textiles," which may be of interest to many people and can be obtained from The Institute, 10 Blackfriars Street, Manchester 3.

MOLLIE McCOMBIE is doing Occupational Health Nursing at the National Coal Board in Nottinghamshire. For the last six months she has been doing a course at the Royal College of Nursing in London in Occupational Health Nursing and has now passed her certificate—congratulations! She frequently sees Patricia Whittle (née James), who lives in Camberley, and has one small son. Mollie also sends news of Jane Hargreaves (née Cox) who is in General Practice in Bath: Jane has a son and a daughter.

PHYLLIS MOLYNEUX was appointed House Matron at St. Mary's Talbot Heath School in January 1959.

ELIZABETH MORLEY is commencing training for Occupational therapy at Dorset House, Oxford, in September.

CLARE MORSE (née Lovell) is at present living in a caravan near her sister in Surrey, and is expecting her first baby in October.

JOAN NEWCOMBE (née Brittain) has recently moved into a new house which she and her husband have had built, and she is now busy tackling the garden!

HAZEL PRINCE is training as a midwife in Birmingham, since leaving St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, in June 1958.

ROWAN RHYS is still in practice as a solicitor. Her small daughter goes to St. Paul's School in September.

PAT ROWBOTHAM (née Blake) sends news of Angela Willatt's marriage to Anthony Wesson on 31st March, 1959.

JUDITH ROBINSON (née Sheard) says life in Cambridge is never dull! She sends news of Nancy Walker, who is one of her daughter's Godmothers. Nancy unfortunately caught polio during the final stages of her training at Great Ormond Street. She also sends news of Clare Storrs Fox, who is taking a post-graduate teaching course at Homerton College; Sandra Thornton who was at the same College until last June; and of Marie Dawson, who has stayed with Judith when visiting her fiancé, who is at Kidley Hall Theological College with Judith's husband.

MARY SCUDAMORE (née Jones) sends news of her sister, Kathleen Carey ("Beaky" to her contemporaries) who has moved to Canberra with her family, after staying a year in Melbourne, where her husband is Air Attaché. They were lucky to arrive in Australia last year just in time for the Queen Mother's visit and attended the Garden Party and Reception at Government House. Kathleen hears from Wendy Fellowes (née Ellison) who lives in California with her husband and three sons.

MARY SWIFT is at present completing her children's nursing training, at the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital, after having taken her S.R.N. She sends news of Bridget Gothard and Ruth Patterson.

ROSEMARY TAYLOR is teaching Biology and Botany at St. Edmund's College in Liverpool and enjoying it very much. She plays hockey for Liverpool L.H.C. and went to Holland with her old club, Moseley, over Easter, to play in the Bloemendaal triennial hockey festival. Rosemary would be delighted to meet any old girls who live around Liverpool.

GEORGINA THOMAS (née Coe) was married in January in Norfolk, Fr. Ernest Ball, S.S.M., taking the service. Georgina is now living at Uttoxeter where her husband is Curate. She is teaching until July in order to complete her probation year. Mary Sapwell attended her wedding.

PAULA THOMAS, who graduated as a doctor at Manchester just over a year ago, has now gone to Australia, where she has been appointed to a three-year resident medical post at Ballarat, near Victoria.

BERYL WEST'S (née Renwick) son, Roger, has recently started at King's College prep. school, Cambridge.

SUSAN WILLIAMS is nursing at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. She has recently passed her nursing finals and is now a Registered General Nurse (Scotland). She sends news of the Gartside twins who are S.R.N.s.

HAZEL WINFIELD (née Foster) spent her first holiday for eight years in England last autumn with her three small children. She was married in Northern Rhodesia in 1954 to a mine geologist, and they lived in Kalulushi, Rhodesia, for four years, moving to Ghana last year for six months, but the climate did not suit them, and they have now returned to Northern Rhodesia.

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM ABROAD

'MY HUSBAND, who is Medical Superintendent of Oji River Leprosy Settlement in Eastern Nigeria, went back to his work last March after three months' leave and had to manage without my company for the third time because I stayed at home with our four children. But we had the most wonderful time of our lives when we all five joined him for five weeks of the summer holidays at Oji River. Many of our African friends knew our children when they were tiny and two were born out there, so they were most interested to see how they had grown. On the last morning of our stay—Sunday—we shared Holy Communion with the patients and staff at our Church at Oji River—a wonderful experience of fellowship, with all barriers of colour, culture, background and disease broken down, and Jesus Christ to bind us all in one. Now we look forward to my husband's return home in June—this time for good—as he is retiring from service in Nigeria after 19 years. He and I are going to miss Africa very greatly, but our children need us both even more.'

MARY GARRETT (née Roseveare).

'I FLEW from London on March 4th and landed at Entebbe the following morning. I am now working at Mulago Hospital in Kampala, which is an all-native hospital with 650 beds. I am in charge of a medical ward, male and female, and we are always full to overflowing. The Africans are very dubious about hospitals and consequently all the patients are acutely ill, as they only come to us when the witch doctor has failed to cure them. My ward has 52 beds, but I also have an average of 16 patients on mattresses on the floor. The nurses are all African and it is a training school for them, although not recognised by the General Nursing Council in England. The patients are so grateful for everything—some of them come from hundreds of miles away and their diseases are many and varied. But it is all a wonderful new experience for me.'

BARBARA WARD.

'I AM teaching in the Government Secondary School for Girls. It is the only Girls' School in the Territory which goes as far as School Certificate. The girls enjoy learning and the teachers have very few discipline problems, but the girls have not background knowledge like an English child and you always have to start right at the beginning. In Tanganyika they mostly come from small villages, miles from anywhere, usually without electricity and running water and often miles from the so-called main roads. They eat mainly what they grow and cooking is usually done over an open fire. Bicycles are widely used although the roads are not tarmac but sand and murram.'

JOAN GREGORY.

"AFTER a journey of six weeks we eventually reached Yal-
emba at the end of August last year. We are now well settled
down into our new work, and are enjoying seeing something
of the Upper Congo area. The Training Institute in which we
are working is much newer and very much smaller than the
one at Kimpese where we previously worked. The academic
standard is also lower, but as there are fewer schools, and
trained teachers, in this vast area, most of which is covered by
forest, it is hardly surprising. We are living very much in
the bush. The nearest shop catering for Europeans is 20 miles
away, as is the nearest Post Office. We have the highest child
population of any mission station of our Society in Congo."

JOAN MANICOM (née Swindle).

"WE came here last July: there is a College for the training
of African Church Army workers, and as my husband was on
the staff at home, we felt it was right for him to take over the
training here in Nairobi. We also have a community centre
where many activities are held and there are many opportuni-
ties for Christian witness in Nairobi. We are very happy al-
though it took us some time to settle down to a town life
after living in the bush; we also missed all our African friends,
of which we had many."

JUDITH DAKIN (née Clarke).

LONDON REUNION—May, 1959

THE presence of three Headmistresses made the London Re-
union on Saturday, 9th May, a unique and memorable occasion;
it was a great pleasure to welcome Miss Robinson from St.
Elphin's and to renew acquaintance with Miss Stopford whose
interest in all old girls is greatly appreciated by the older
generation; then Miss Flood, too, was there, having made the
long journey from Devon in order to honour the first St. El-
phin's Cocktail Party with her presence and, I am glad to say,
to meet a number of her own old girls who are always delighted
to see her. We were also fortunate to have two former mem-
bers of the staff with us—Professor Carus-Wilson and Miss
Mackenzie.

About fifty members, representatives of many generations,
were present at this Reunion which was held, through the
kindness of Mrs. Hughenden Baines (Ella Thorpe), at the Eng-
lish Speaking Union, in a beautiful, quiet room which soon
resounded with reminiscences and the exchange of news; the
informality of the gathering made it easy to circulate and to
talk to a large number of people.

The Cocktail Party was an innovation, decided upon at the
last London Annual General Meeting. Our only regret was
that, owing to illness, Mrs. Baines herself was unable to come;
we are most grateful to her for her hospitality and hope that
she will soon recover.

A. M. RICHARDSON.

DEAR OLD GIRLS,—I would like to say a very big thank you to all those who have written to me their appreciation of the London Cocktail Party and their regret that I could not be there.

I was extremely sorry to be unable to go, but it was quite impossible, and I shall hope to see you next time. I would, however, like it to be known that the real work of the whole party (and there is a great deal involved) was done by Mary Sapwell, our most painstaking and efficient secretary who, in spite of holding down a highly important position in the West End, has made the time to help me for the last three years.

Yours sincerely,

ELLA BAINES.

SOUTH-WEST GROUP OF THE O.G.G.

ANOTHER very happy Reunion was held on 9th April in Taunton, at the house of Dorothy Fitch (née Shaw). We were delighted to have Miss Robinson as our guest of honour this year. For most of us it was the first opportunity of meeting our new Headmistress—she IS ours, you know, as well as the present School's.

After a sumptuous lunch, beautifully served by Dorothy Fitch, and to which fifteen sat down, we repaired to the drawing-room for a most gay and informal meeting.

Miss Flood, looking as well as ever, welcomed Miss Robinson, who then gave us very encouraging news of the School, and passed round a number of recent photographs. Much hilarity was caused by her witty references to readings from the old School Log Book. We were particularly impressed by Miss Robinson's keenness on the Old Girls, and her anxiety that many more old pupils of St. Elphin's should join the Guild. Miss Stopford has always made us feel that we are still part of the School, and we were glad to know that Miss Robinson is maintaining this very warm interest in our affairs.

Other members present were: Miss Burchnall, Miss Sweeting, Miss Thouless, Alix Berwick, Muriel Wells, Mary Goodman, Frances Trower-Foyan (née Adams), Marjorie and Lena Nicol, Joan Trapnell (née Martin), Betty Martin and Stella Allen.

After tea and biscuits and a very hearty vote of thanks to our hostess, Dorothy Fitch, we dispersed, much looking forward to our next meeting.

STELLA ALLEN.

BIRTHS

- BROWN.—On 15th January, 1959, to Elaine (née Owen), a daughter, Clare Elizabeth, sister for Julian and Martin.
- BURGESS.—On 4th April, 1959, to Ruth (née Doxey), a son, Andrew David.
- EDWARDS.—On 16th February, 1959, to Pamela (née Gamble), a son, John Simon.
- ENTWISTLE.—On 9th December, 1958, to Ann (née Lyon), a son, Jonathan Mark.
- HALL.—On 6th January, 1959, to Gene (née Angove), a son, Peter Angove.
- HANNANT.—On 9th February, 1959, to June (née Burr), twin daughters, Rosemary Ann and Caroline Jeanne.
- HINDE.—On 15th May, 1958, to Muriel (née Jones), a daughter, Josephine Elizabeth.
- HOOD.—On 3rd December, 1958, to Betty (née Turner), a son, Timothy Paul.
- HUMPHREYS.—On 21st April, 1958, to Ruth (née Tudor Jones), a daughter, Sarah.
- LAPHAM.—On 7th October, 1958, to Rosemary (née Chadwick), a son, Nigel Roy, brother for Anne.
- MACKENZIE.—On 30th March, 1958, to Shirley (née Lewis), a daughter, Fiona Mary.
- MCGREGOR.—On 30th May, 1958, to Jean (née Beauchamp), a son, Ian Harvey, brother for Karen.
- ROBINSON.—On 7th November, 1958, to Jennie (née Buxton), a daughter, Sarah Jane.
- ROBINSON.—On 15th September, 1958, to Judith (née Sheard), a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth.
- ROSSI.—On 1st June, 1959, to Betty (née Youngs), a son, Paul Edmund, brother for Elizabeth.
- SPOUGE.—On 6th August, 1958, to Pamela (née Lawrence), a daughter, Alison, sister for John and Gillian.
- STEEL.—On 12th March, 1959, to Rosamond (née Sapwell), a daughter, Caroline Ruth, sister for John and Sarah.
- STEVENSON.—On 14th August, 1958, to Ailsa (née Moore), a son, Michael Andrew.
- WINFIELD.—On 27th April, 1955, to Hazel (née Foster), a son, Michael Donald.
- WINFIELD.—On 26th April, 1957, to Hazel (née Foster), a son, Peter George.
- WINFIELD.—On 17th June, 1958, to Hazel (née Foster), a son, William John.

ENGAGEMENTS

- Between ANN FOSTER and ROBIN MACKENZIE.
- Between JANET GRIMES and FRANK ELLY.
- Between ANNE HEBDITCH and JOHN BELL.

MARRIAGES

- BUNTING—CARSON.**—On 6th April, 1958, Greta Carson, to Robert Bunting.
- FRIAR—ECCLES.**—On 4th October, 1958, at the Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Ormskirk, Lancashire, Dr. Janet Eccles to Dr. Edward Friar.
- HANDFORD—KINGDON.**—On 27th September, 1958, at Sheffield, Rachel Kingdon to John Handford.
- MANUEL—PEPPERCORN.**—On 17th May, 1958, at Holy Trinity Church, Malvern, Jill Peppercorn to Douglas Manuel.
- MORSE—LOVELL.**—On 30th August, 1958, at St. Mary's Church, Ely, Clare Lovell to Frederick Morse.
- THOMAS—COE.**—On 3rd January, 1959, at St. Peter's Church, Cringleford, Norwich, Georgina Coe to the Revd. David Thomas.
- ROBINSON—SHEARD.**—On 14th September, 1957, at the Church of S. Melyd, Meliden, North Wales, Judith Sheard to Hugh Robinson.

DEATH

- ROBBS, Ellen Shepherd** (née Moore), on 21st October, 1958, aged 93.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES DURING THE YEAR 1958 - 59

New Members

Eleanor Carus-Wilson	Isobel Mosley
Shirley Duke	Kate Moss crop
Joyce Elgar	Margot Roberts (née Steele)
Jean Geikie	Rosemary Sands
Shirley Harwood	Margot Roberts
Jennifer Heath	Gillian Street
Elizabeth Morley	Meuros Dobson
Hilary Woodhouse	

Resignations

Dorothy Cheesman	Hazel Sumner (née Fletcher)
(née Howe)	Muriel Touche (née Winkley)

The following Old Girls have had to be crossed off the membership as they have not paid their subscriptions for two years:—

Cicely Armstrong	Mary James (Group 31)
Diana Burgess	Rosemary Line
(née Westbrook)	Susan Marcon
Jennifer Boylan (née Pooler)	Elizabeth Price (née Rowe)
Jill Cartwright	Hilary Radcliffe
Joanna Cartwright	Rosemary Sephton
Ann Jeffries	

Members who cannot be traced:

Please notify the Secretary if you can help with the addresses of the following:—

Kathleen Bardsley	Elizabeth Lamont
Sheila Foxon (née Davidson)	Mary Lancelot
Winifred Goolden	Biddy Quinlan (née Yates)
(née White)	Zela Ridley (née Wragby)
Valerie Howells (née Purdy)	Eileen Smart (née Whitaker)
Elsie Ince	Mabel Williamson

Keep your address book up to date by noting the following changes and additions—

- ELLA BAINES (née Thorpe), 'Little Ashton,' Codford, Nr. Warminster, Wilts.
- LUCY BIRCH-JONES, Flat 75 Brook House, Cot Lane, Birmingham 30.
- ELEANOR BLAKELOCK, Lovells Court, Marnhull, Sturminster-Newton, Dorset.
- ELEANOR CARUS-WILSON, 14 Lansdowne Rd., London, W.11.
- MARIE CHALONER (née Dawson), 3 Newlyn Gardens, Aspley, Nottingham.
- JUDITH DAKIN (née Clarke), The Church Army, Box No. 12584, Nairobi, Kenya.
- MARGARET DENNING (née Clarke), Brean Cottage, Fourth Avenue, Charmandean, Worthing.
- JEAN DONALDSON, 28 Riley Ave., Clifton Drive, St. Annes, Lancs.
- ANNE DUNBAR-DEMPSEY (née Macfarlane), 72 Horsham Road, Littlehampton.
- PAMELA EDWARDS (née Gamble), 1 Hopkins Mansions, Hopkins Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg.
- MARY FINCH (née Warburton), The Hutch, Chinthurst Lane, Shalford, Surrey.
- MISS M. F. FLOOD, Pencarwick Hotel, Exmouth, S. Devon.
- ANN FOSTER, Bell House, Scredington, Sleaford, Lincs.
- JANET FRIAR (née Eccles), East Ham Memorial Hospital, London, E.7.
- DORA GLENNIE, 60a Warrington Crescent, London, W.9.
- ESTHER GREENSLADE (née Mason-Pooley), The Ark, 55 Balfour Road, Walmer, Kent.
- ALISON HALL, 7 Albany Terrace, Britannia Square, Worcester.
- RACHEL HANDFORD (née Kingdon), 58 Woodland Drive, Old Catton, Norwich.
- MOLLIE HINDLE (née Cheese), White Cottage, Brock, Preston, Lancs.
- RUTH HUMPHREYS (née Tudor Jones), 22 Southway, Beechwood, Horsforth, Nr. Leeds.

- MARGARET HUNT, Parkside, 32 Fairfield Road, Broadstairs, Kent.
- ROSEMARY LAPHAM (née Chadwick), 14 Broadway, Walsley, Cheshire.
- ELIZABETH LAVENDER, West View, Bishop's Lydearn, Taunton, Somerset.
- MISS H. C. WOODHOUSE, "Beech Mount," Haddon Rd., Bake-well.
- MARYLYN LLOYD, The Rectory, Westbury, Shrewsbury, Salop.
- JILL MANUEL (née Peppercorn), 13 Allison Grove, Dulwich, London, S.E.21.
- PATRICIA MILLER (née Nash), Ebor Cottage, 47 Gatley Road, Cheadle, Cheshire.
- PHYLLIS MOLYNEUX, St. Mary's, Talbot Heath School, Bournemouth.
- JOAN NEWCOMBE (née Brittain), "High Peak," Millfield, Berkhamsted.
- MARY OWEN (née Calthorp), 43 Hayburn Road, Offerton, Stockport.
- ANN REES, 79 St. Helen's Gardens, London, W.10.
- DOROTHY REYNOLDS, 30b Keswick Road, Putney, London, S.W.15.
- MARGOT ROBERTS (née Steele), Tynycoed, 6 The Mead Way, Chelsfield Park, Kent.
- JUDITH ROBINSON (née Sheard), 3 Marlowe Road, Cambridge.
- PAT ROWBOTHAM (née Blake), 3 Brookfield Road, Lymm, Cheshire.
- ROSEMARY SANDS, 7d Courtfield Gardens, London, S.W.5.
- ISABEL STUBBS (née Martin), 46 Monckton Rd., Alverstoke, Nr. Gosport, Hants.
- MARY SWIFT, St. John's Vicarage, Yealand Conyers, Nr. Carnforth, Lancs.
- ROSEMARY TAYLOR, 35 College Road North, Blundellsands, Liverpool, 23. (Tel. Great Crosby 2062).
- MARGARET THATCHER, 2646-W.42nd Avenue, Vancouver 13, B.C., Canada.
- GEORGINA THOMAS (née Coe), 1 Byrd's Lane, Uttoxeter, Staffs.
- GLADYS THOMAS (née Crane), Honey Cottage, Sandhurst, Kent.
- PAULA THOMAS, District Base Hospital, Ballarat, Victoria, Australia.
- EDITH WALKER, Flat 4, 12 Grassington Road, Eastbourne, Sussex.
- BARBARA WARD, Mulago Hospital, P.O. Box No. 351 Kampala, Uganda.
- HAZEL WINFIELD (née Foster), 12 Micklem Road, Kalulushi, via Kitwe, N. Rhodesia.

ST. ELPHIN'S OLD GIRLS' GUILD

Statement of Accounts for Year Ending 31st December 1958

CURRENT ACCOUNT

	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward (1.1.58).....	32	1	11	By Reunion expenses (net): London		2	0	0
Annual Subscriptions	18	12	6	Miss Kennedy's Grave Fund			10	0
Donation to "Book of Remembrance"	1	0	0	School Magazines (435 @ 2/3d.)		48	18	9
Transferred from—				Secretary's expenses		10	6	8
Life Subscriptions A/c: Interest 1957...	12	11	9	Treasurer's expenses		2	4	0
358 Life Members @ 1/6d.	26	17	0	Games Secretary's expenses			5	8
Interest, 1958	1	1	11	"Book of Remembrance"		26	5	0
				Balance carried forward (31.12.58)		1	15	0
	£92	5	1			£92	5	1

LIFE SUBSCRIPTIONS ACCOUNT

	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward (1.1.58)	522	8	5	By Transferred to Current Account—				
Subscriptions (6 @ £3 3s.)	18	18	0	Interest, 1957		12	11	9
Sale of Metal Badges		12	6	358 Life Members @ 1/6d.		26	17	0
Interest, 1958	15	5	7	Donation to "Friends of St. Elphin's" Fund,				
				1958		5	0	0
				Balance carried forward (31.12.58)		512	15	9
	£557	4	6			£557	4	6

Certified correct—(Signed) E. T. BLUNDELL, Chartered Accountant.
Ivy Cottage, Charlton, Hitchin, Herts.
16th June, 1959.