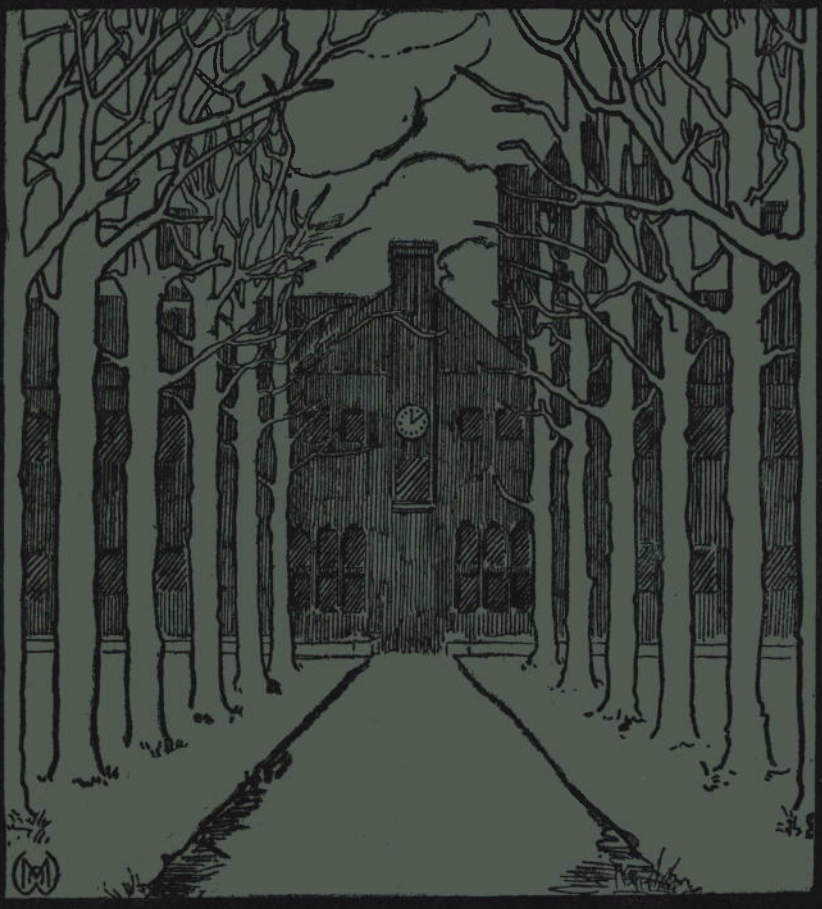
THE AVENUE



JULY 1918

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TO OLD SAFFRON WALDEN SCHOLARS.

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Photo by] [J. E. Walker.

STEPHEN WALKER.



The Magazine of the Friends' School, Saffron Walden.

VOL. IX. JULY, 1918. No. 26

FOREWORD.

THE School re-assembled on May 1st, with the record number of 106 boys and 73 girls. This has necessitated the inauguration of a Prefects' table in the Dining Hall.

Some changes have taken place among the staff, first in the resignation of Miss Pickard, whose photograph we hope to publish in our next number, and whose departure after twelve-and-a-half years service we much regret; second in the arrival of Miss Henley to take her place; and thirdly in the advent of Mrs. Thorp, who has nominally taken the place of our whilom Miss Walker. We take this opportunity of extending our best wishes to Mrs. Thorp and Mr. Beer in their respective marriages.

We have happily in this number been able to include an account of the Athletic Sports which were so successfully held on Whit-Monday.

The School Committee have decided that in the future the Cambridge Senior Local Examination shall be eliminated

from the School course; two years study will follow the Cambridge Junior and prepare for the London Matriculation.

The "School Societies" article which should have appeared in the ordinary course of events in this number, will appear in the next.

We regret that we have to record the death of Stephen Walker—a short account of whom is included in this number—and we should like to express here our deep sympathy with the bereaved family in their great loss.

L. E. WILKINSON.

STEPHEN WALKER.

THE news of Stephen Walker's sudden death came to all the School with a great shock. Perhaps the first thing that those who knew him would say of him is that he was a sportsman. And it is as a true sportsman, a good comrade, and a straight man, that I personally remember him. In his schooldays, at Ackworth and Bootham, he shone as an all-round athlete, and later he was one of the best full-backs who have turned out for the Foxes football team. As a cricketer, both as batsman and left-hand bowler, he was well to the fore, and as one of the "Falcons" he was on tour in the West of England when war was declared in 1914. His own desire was to "join up" in the early months of the war, but it seemed best that he should complete the term of his articles as a Chartered Accountant; but as soon as his examinations were over he entered the R.F.C. as despatch-rider. After some months in France, he returned to England and obtained a commission in the Cambridgeshire Regiment. As a cadet he did so well in certain branches that he was offered a post as instructor to the United

States troops in America, but his reply was that that was an older, or married man's job. After some time on the East Coast he was passed fit for flying, and went to Reading, and from there was sent to Duxford, only seven miles away from his own home, for flying practice. He was always spoken of as a careful airman, and we had begun to feel quite easy in mind as to his safety. On Tuesday, May 14th, he was seen, shortly after six, to pass over here, and a few hours later the news came that on trying to land, his plane had got into a flat spin and had crashed down, Stephen being killed instantly.

The funeral took place in the Friends' Burial Ground, Saffron Walden, on the following Friday. His fellow officers at Duxford sent a most beautiful wreath as a tribute, and flowers from the school gardens were made into wreaths from Scholars and Staff.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to our Head Master and his wife, as well as to Stephen's sister and brothers. At such times we feel that words are of little avail, but we realise that death is only an episode in the life of our souls, and cannot separate us from the love of those who have achieved the great adventure.

J. Penrose Whitlow.

THE ATHLETIC SPORTS.

TRAINING for sports, which again took place on Whit Monday, was started almost immediately upon our return to School. Little more than a fortnight was left for the House sports and individual training; but the weather proved very satisfactory, and all House competitions were successfully carried through before the sports day.

The entries on the whole were good, and especially so among the Juniors ; for the Senior longer races they were rather below the average.

Whit Monday dawned fine with a bright sun and a breeze from the South. The events started at about 10. 30 with the Junior boys' high jump. All the Junior records created last year held, except the hundred yards. D. Burlingham, who did well in all the Junior events, was responsible for breaking this record. C. Jones also ran well as a Junior, coming close to, and in the cross country beating, Burlingham.

In spite of the few entries, the running of the Senior boys was very good. Especially good contests were witnessed in one or two events between J. Milne, K. Mauritzi and D. Morgan. The latter was not at the School for last sports, but has proved an excellent competitor.

The Senior high jumping was somewhat better than last year. J. Milne and J. C. Gibb took the first place between them with a jump of four feet seven inches. Gibb, who created the Junior record last year, jumped with exceptionally good style. The long jumping was poor, perhaps on account of the wind blowing straight down the pit.

Margaret Tuke took the first place in the Girls' Senior running events, and Norah Bannister broke the throw record, only made last year, by an excellent throw of forty-seven and a half yards.

After tea the tugs of war and the House relay races were run. In the former, Morland's great weight was again victorious. For the relays three teams were drawn from each House. In the two first teams Gibson was the victor, and in the second team race a Lister representative came in first.

On the following day the mile was run. The running was not exceptional. J. Milne was not able to compete, so that this may have been partly responsible for the poorer time.

On Thursday evening the Junior and Senior boys ran the cross-countries. The weather was not good, but K. Mauritzi ran excellently, easily beating his record created last year. The only other Senior record was in the quarter mile, when J. Milne equalled the record time of fifty-six and two fifths seconds. In the Juniors K. N. Hoare succeeded in beating the hundred yards (under eleven) record by one fifth of a second.

Some days later the Senior girls' high jump was taken. The jumping was good, and the school record of four feet two inches was reached by Mary Baker.

H. Lionel Wright.
(Fifth Form.)

SENIOR: BOYS.

100 yards : 1, Milne ; 2, Morgan ; 3, Ash i. Time, 11 secs.
¼-mile : 1, Milne ; 2, Morgan ; 3, Mauritzi. Time, 56⅖ secs.†
½-mile : 1, Milne ; 2, Mauritzi ; 3, Morgan. Time, 2 min. 22⅘ secs.
Mile : 1, Mauritzi ; 2, Morgan ; 3, Ash i. ; 4, Englemann. Time, 5 min. 17⅖ secs.
Cross-Country : 1, Mauritzi ; 2, Morgan ; 3, Milne ; 4, Ash i. Time, 21 min. 4⅕ secs.*
Long Jump : 1, Dent ; 2, Matthews ; 3, Mauritzi. Distance 16 ft. 9 in.
High Jump : 1, Milne and Gibb ; 3, Matthews. Height, 4 ft. 7½ in.
Throw : 1, Milne ; 2, Ash i. ; 3, Gibb. Distance, 81½ yds.

JUNIOR :

100 yards : 1, Burlingham ; 2, Jones ; 3, Robson i. Time, 12⅗ secs.*
¼-mile : 1, Burlingham ; 2, Jones ; 3, Ball. Time, 65⅕ secs.
½-mile : 1, Burlingham ; 2, Jones ; 3, Cottis. Time, 2 min. 42⅖ secs.
Mile : 1, Burlingham ; 2, Jones ; 3, Hoare ; 4, Cottis. Time, 6 min, 11⅕ secs.
Cross-country : 1, Jones ; 2, Burlingham ; 3, Hoare ; 4, Ball. Time 13 min. 10 secs.
Long Jump : 1, Tawell ; 2, Burlingham ; 3, Brangham. Distance, 12 ft. 11 ins.
High Jump : 1, Burlingham ; 2, Ball ; 3, Tawell. Height, 4 ft.
Throw : 1, Tawell ; 2, Raven ; 3, Teakle. Distance, 54½ yds.
100 yards (under 11) : 1, Hoare ; 2, Williams ii. Time, 14 secs.*

OPEN :

½-mile handicap : 1, Young (250 yds.) ; 2, Gibb (scr.) ; 3, Greenaway (235 yds.). Time, 2 min. 33 secs.
220 yards handicap : 1, Peverett (42 yds.) ; 2, Errington (19 yds.) ; 3. Edmundson (57 yds.).
Sack Race : 1, Gibb ; 2, Barker.
Obstacle Race : 1, Gibb . 2, Roper.
Tripod Race : 1, Palmer i. and Tebbutt ; 2, Gibb and Barker.

GIRLS.

SENIOR :

100 yards : 1, M. Tuke ; 2, E. Deane ; 3, K. Payne. Time, 12⅘ secs.
220 yards : 1, M. Tuke ; 2, K. Payne ; 3, E. Noal. Time, 30⅘ secs.
Long Jump : 1, M. Baker ; 2, J. Carr : 3, E. Newbery. Distance, 12 ft. 3 ins.
High Jump : 1, M. Baker ; 2, D. Thompson ; 3, E. Smith. Height, 4 ft. 2 ins.†
Throw : 1, N. Bannister ; 2, L. Kilbey ; 3, E. Smith. Distance, 47½ yds.*
Tripod Race : 1, P. Passmore and R. Ward ; 2, E. Deane and W. Ruwald.

JUNIOR.

100 yards : 1, S. Joy ; 2, B. English ; 3, M. Horsfield. Time, 14 secs.
220 yards : 1, S. Joy ; 2, J. Lawson ; 3, F. Trew. Time, 33 secs.
Long Jump : 1, E. Cousins ; 2, S. Joy ; 3, M. Horsfield. Distance, 11 ft. 9 ins.
High Jump : 1, S. Joy ; 2, E. Cousins ; 3, M. Horsfield. Height, 3 ft. 8½ ins.
Tripod Race : 1, S. Joy and B. English ; 2, M. Horsfield and E. Cousins.
100 yards (under 11) : 1, J. Tawell ; 2, P. Welch. Time, 15 secs.

HOUSE RELAY RACE (300 yards) :

Boys : 1, Gibson ; 2, Godlee. Time, 44 secs.
Girls : 1, Gibson ; 2, Lister.
2nd Teams : 1, Lister ; 2, Godlee.

HOUSE TUG-OF-WAR (Boys) :

1, Morland ; 2, Godlee.

Boys' Cup Holder—Jack Milne.
Boys' Junior Cup Holder—Daniel F. Burlingham.
Girls' Cup Holder—Margaret Tuke and Mary Baker.
Girls' Junior Champion—Sylvia Joy.

HOUSE SPORTS.

Boys' : 1st, Morland ; 2nd, Crosfield.
Girls' : 1st, Mennell ; 2nd, Lister.

* School Record.
† Equal to Record.



AN OUTLINE SURVEY OF SAFFRON WALDEN AND ITS REGION.

(By Members of the Saffron Walden Survey Society.)

EDITED BY G. MORRIS.

Section VIII.—THE DOOMSDAY RECORD.

IN the earlier sections of the survey it has been possible to deal in outline with the whole of the Saffron Walden Region, but in this and future sections it will be found necessary to limit the scope of the articles to the parish of Walden and its immediate surroundings. Nevertheless I propose to make a few remarks on the Doomsday records which deal with part of our region that occurs in the County of Essex, those in the County of Cambridge have, as yet, not been investigated.

The total area was assessed at roughly 240 hides, which in the time of King Edward the Confessor was held by forty-three persons, and in the time of King William by twenty-one. These numbers show the result of the Norman Conquest of this area, *i.e.* an increase in the size of the holdings and a decrease in the number of holders.

Among the landowners of Saxon times were Harold, who held the manors of Shelford and Rickling, Queen Edith, who held that of Little Chesterford, and Earl Edgar, who was Lord of Great Chesterford. The lands of Harold and Edgar remained under the crown in Norman times, but that of Queen Edith passed to a certain churchman, one Walter the Deacon, who also held land in other parts of Essex. A study of the Doomsday map of the area well illustrates the method of distributing the manors so that no large area came under a single land owner.

The record of the manor of Walden may be taken as an example of the Doomsday survey of the region, and

furnishes a considerable amount of information as to the condition of affairs and the changes that took place at the conquest.

The entry runs thus :—

"LANDS OF GEOFFREY DE MAGNA VILLE

Hundret of Uttlesford

"WALEDANA which was held by Ansgar as a manor and as 19½ hides in King Edwards time, is held by G(eoffrey) in demesne. Then and afterwards 8 ploughs on the demesne ; now 10. Then as now 22 ploughs belonging to the men. Then and afterwards 66 villeins ; now 46. Then and afterwards 17 bordars ; now 40. Then and afterwards 16 serfs ; now 20. Then and afterwards (there was) wood for 1,000 swine ; now for 800. And (there are) 80 acres of meadow. Then as now 1 mill. To the manor there used to belong in King Edwards' time 13 sokemen—(there are) now 14—holding 6½ hides. Then and afterwards 8½ ploughs were there ; now 8 Then and afterwards 10 bordars ; now 14. Then and afterwards (they had) wood for 50 swine ; now for 30. (There are) 20 acres of meadow (and) the third part of a mill. Then 6 rounceys, 11 beasts, 200 sheep, 110 swine, 40 goats (and) 4 hives of bees ; now 9 Rounceys, 10 beasts, 243 sheep, 100 swine, 20 goats (and) 30 hives of bees. Then and afterwards it was worth 36 pounds; now it is worth 50 pounds.

"On this manor Odo holds 1 hide and one Virgate, and Renald 1 hide less 12 acres ; and 2 ploughs (are there) and 13 bordars and (this) is worth 50 shillings in the above valuation.

The following entry also concerns the town of Walden:—

"In Munehala (Manhall) a certain Englishman holds off G(eoffrey) three virgates which were held by a freeman in the time of King Edward, and in King Williams time he became Geoffreys man of his own accord ; and the

men of Geoffrey say that afterwards the King granted it to Geoffrey in exchange, but neither the man himself nor the hundret (court) bear witness in favour of Geoffrey. In that land was then 1 plough now 1 half. Then as now 3 bordars ; and there are 7 acres of meadow. It is worth 10 shillings."

From this data we can draw the following conclusions. First that the actual conquest in 1066 made very little difference to the inhabitants of Walden itself. Doubtless Ansgar followed Harold to Stamford Bridge and Hastings, and as a Theign of considerable importance (he was master of the Horse at Hastings,) he took a considerable following with him. But these followers would be his hus-carles or trained soldiers, and the cultivators remained on and cultivated the manor until the arrival of their new lord. We find in the whole entry that then and afterwards, *i.e.*, before and immediately after the conquest conditions were the same.

The Saxon or early Norman town occupied the rising spur of high ground between the two slades. Ansgar's Hall occupied the site of the later Norman Castle, and a small church of timber stood on the site of the present church. The house places of the villeins (tenant farmers) and the cots of the bordars (labourers) formed two streets, corresponding in position to the Church and Castle streets.

These were surrounded by a ditch and palisade which followed the present town boundary N. of Castle Street, and crossed Market Hill about half way down on the South.

The common fields of the manor were, as usual, three. One occupied the slopes of the hill to the south between the present railway and fever hospital, the second lay to the east beyond the common meadow land, and the third to the north-west on the slopes below Westley farm.

The meadow probably corresponded to the present Common, and some grass land may have occupied the site

enclosed by the Battle Ditch, and to the east of the present Swan Meadows.

The extent of woodland on the manor, as indicated by the large number of swine it would support, was very considerable, and it seems probable that a great extent of the upland part of the parish was still clothed with the primitive oak-ash forest. Later records show that between the woods and the common fields there was a zone of grazing ground on which the goats and the sheep of the manor browsed.

In the woodlands there were probably clearings occupied by the holdings of the thirteen Socmen or freeholders. These would correspond to the old farms of the district, Cloptons, Arnolds, Roos, St. Aylotts, Bears Hall, &c. Many of these became separate manors in later times, and are mentioned by their present names in the Cartulary of Walden Abbey, 1136-1449. The fact that the clearings were thus occupied reminds us that the manor lay in the Danelaw, where the system of holding small freeholds was well developed.

The changes that took place between the Conquest and the date of the survey, 1086, a period of twenty years, under the Norman rule, are well shown. We find first of all that the demesne has been enlarged by a fifth, for there are now ten ploughs instead of eight. A corresponding amount of clearing of woodland has gone on, for now there is only wood for 800 swine instead of for 1000. The number of farmers has decreased by 20 while the labourers have increased by 23, showing how the Norman rule adversely affected the social standing of the Saxon natives. This is also seen in the Manhall entry, where we find a free Englishman being gradually despoiled of his possessions and making a desperate stand (vain, I have no doubt), to withstand the encroaching power of the Norman lord.

Note the increase of stocks of bees from four to thirty hives. Geoffrey de Magnaville also held the manor of Pleshy and had a castle there, and on this manor also we find a great

increase in the number of hives. Was the garrison increased and so needed more mead, or were the inhabitants of the castle more convivial ?

Generally then the survey indicates an increase of wealth and a greater extent of land under cultivation on the manor, with corresponding degradation of status and possessions of the inhabitants ; this was a state of things general throughout the whole of England at this period.

A WALK IN A WOOD.

ONE day, as I had nothing much to do I decided to have a look at the wood. I set off through two meadows, startling a pair of plovers as I went. When I got to the wood the first thing I noticed was, of course, the primroses. No matter where you looked they were a mass of yellow. On each side of the glade down which I walked, were the silver-barked birches, whose catkins were just coming out, and in the sunlight they shone like silver and gold.

As I came to the end of the glade I found myself confronted by a great oak, probably planted in the time of the Norman conquest, its trunk now some seven or eight feet in diameter.

I then turned to the right and came to a part of the wood where it was swarming with rabbits. Some lay stretched out in the sun, others were washing their faces with their paws ; but directly they caught sight of me, there was a bobbing of white tails, and the next moment they had all vanished. As I walked along I caught sight of something that made me wild ; for there was a rabbit struggling in a snare. I ran up, set the rabbit free and threw the snare away.

As I was creeping along the bend of the glade I came to the prettiest sight of all. For in front of me was an old vixen

with her family of five cubs round her. One seized a dead crow and tried to sneak off with it, so as to have a feed by himself. Ah ! but the others saw him and master "Slyboots" only got his fair share after all. Then of course they saw me, and it was very funny to see the old vixen bundle her reluctant little cubs into a hole.

Soon afterwards I heard a low buzzing, and I looked up and saw an aeroplane flying quite low overhead. There was a crowing of pheasants and a jay flew screaming past me, and then all was quiet again.

Dixon Smith (Third Form.)

THE CAMBERWELL BEAUTY.

ON February 28th, 1918, I had brought to me a butterfly, which had been captured on the field near the Boys' Pavilion.

On examination I found to my great astonishment that it was a Camberwell Beauty, one of the rarest of our British butterflies. It had evidently hibernated somewhere near, and had been attracted out by the bright sunshine of the last day of February.

The butterfly itself is large, having a stretch of wing of just over three inches, and is of rather unusual colour. The greater part is chocolate, on which can be seen a slight sheen This has, round its edge, large spots shot with purple and blue. On the upper wings, running in a line perpendicular to the head, are two still larger and rather broken up white spots on each side. Surrounding all is a wide border of almost pure white. The body is covered with long, very dark-brown hairs, which spread over part of the wings. The underside is a dull black, veined with thin white lines.

After looking through several books on butterflies, I find that very little is definitely known about this rare insect, and

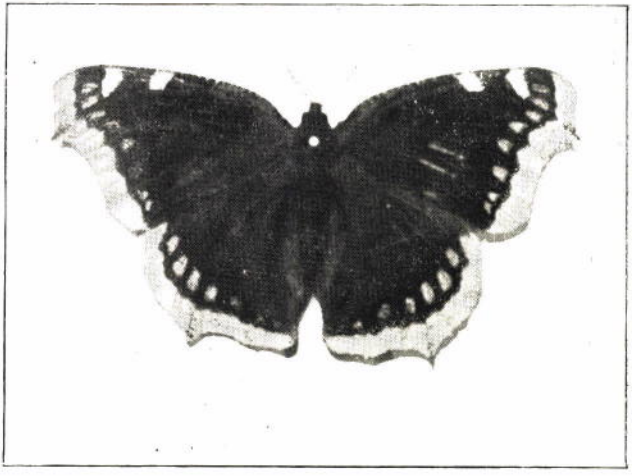


Photo by) [J. P. Whitlow.

THE CAMBERWELL BEAUTY.

many authorities differ as to its habits. However I gleaned a few interesting details.

The caterpillar feeds on willow leaves, but many entomologists doubt if it breeds in England at all, and think all specimens captured in England are imported or migrated ones. Their erratic appearance supports this view, and on the Continent and in Scandinavia they are quite plentiful. In 1789 a writer records having seen a great number flying round and settling on some willow trees on the edge of a pond in Kent. However nothing of the kind seems to have been observed since.

The next subject of dispute is the white, or sometimes ochreous border. Some writers definitely assert that the white border is the characteristic of the British species, while those captured with ochreous border are imported or migrated specimens. The present opinion seems to be that the white border is not a British characteristic; but that hibernated specimens are usually white bordered, and those appearing from August to October, yellow bordered.

My specimen is distinctly white bordered, and so bears this out; but I should have thought entomologists would have first found out if foreign Camberwell Beauties ever had white borders.

Of the rarity of this species there is no doubt. From records carefully kept from 1880 to 1905 only forty of these butterflies were known to have been captured. This statement however excludes the year 1900, when something of an invasion occurred. The average number captured per year from 1880 to 1900 is between one and two; and since 1900, two.

It is interesting to find recorded the capture of a Camberwell Beauty at Saffron Walden in September, 1846.

These facts show very well the rarity of this species, and fuller details prove how erratic is its appearance in England.

C. Frederic Tebbutt. (*Sixth Form.*)

MARCONI AND WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

NO invention of modern times perhaps comes so near to being what we call a miracle as the modern system of Wireless Telegraphy. The very thought of communicating between England and America, and perhaps further, with no connection, no wires, nothing but air, is almost inconceivably wonderful. A few years ago the mere suggestion of such a thing would have been set down as the wildest flight of imagination.

It would be interesting, perhaps, to know something of the inventor of wireless telegraphy, Mr. Marconi. Unlike the inventors of past generations, he dresses with scrupulous neatness, and in spite of being a very strenuous worker, he finds time to enjoy a considerable amount of social life. He is, moreover, exceedingly keen, and will set to work with astonishing vigour upon a knotty question. He talks little, but when he does he is very straightfoward and to the point; submitting good-naturedly, although with considerable unwillingness, to be looked upon as a subject of interest. When giving public addresses, he has always been very clear and straightforward, thus giving his hearers a clear and connected account of his subject. Sometimes he has been violently attacked in scientific disputes, when he has simply let his work prove its point. He has, moreover, received his successes with the utmost calmness, partly, however, owing to the fact that he certainly expected them.

He was born and educated in Italy, but is able to speak English as perfectly as he can Italian. His mother was of British birth, which most probably gave rise to his blue eyes, light hair and fair complexion, which give him decidedly the appearance of an Englishman, so that anyone meeting him in the street or at his house would

never suspect his Italian parentage. His parents are still living, and spend part of their time on their estate in Italy, and part in London.

Besides being an inventor, he is also a very clever business man, and as a result has a very clear idea of the value of his inventions, and of the great possibilities that will arise when they are generally introduced.

The whole theory of Marconi's system of wireless consists simply of the setting in motion, by means of a transmitter, certain waves in the ether, which are caught on a distant wire suspended from tall poles, and registered on a receiving apparatus. The ether is sometimes defined as the clear upper air ; a subtle medium which is supposed to fill all space. It may be easier perhaps to get an idea of it by comparing it to a jelly in which the stars and planets are set like cherries. Not much is at present known about the ether, but what is known is that it has waves ; in other words the jelly may be made to vibrate. Some waves give light, others heat, and others electricity. It has been shown by different experiments that if the ether is vibrated at the terrific speed of 400-billion waves to the second, the colour red is seen ; if vibrated twice as fast violet is seen. If on the other hand it is only vibrated at the comparative slowness of 230 million waves to the second we have the Hertzian waves used by Marconi. It is perhaps very difficult for us to obtain a clear idea of the difference between ether waves and air waves. It may however be made somewhat clearer by the fact that sound is the result of vibrations of the air ; but if we had no air at all but only ether we should still see light, feel heat, and have electrical disturbances, but no sound would ever come to our ears. Air is extremely thick and heavy compared with ether, and sound waves are very much slower than etheric waves. A good example of the sluggishness of air is the fact that during a thunderstorm the ether

brings the flash of lightning before the air brings the sound of thunder to our ears. Electricity is only another name given to certain vibrations which are caused in the ether. Electricity is said to pass along a copper wire, but in reality it is simply an etheric wave, for the atoms composing the wire, as well as the whole of the earth, including the hardest substance known, are all floating in the ether. Based upon this fact was Marconi's argument that, as the ether not only exists in a wire but everywhere, it must be possible to send etheric waves everywhere as surely and as safely as along a wire.

Working upon this theory Marconi first set himself to work to construct an apparatus which would set the Hertzian waves in motion, which he found no easy task, and also to construct an apparatus which would receive and register them at a considerable distance from the transmitting apparatus.

He began experimenting in the grounds of his father's estate in Italy with a few tall poles, tin boxes and batteries.

After a few weeks of hard labour and forethought he constructed an apparatus consisting of two brass balls suspended from a tall pole, and set at a short distance apart. A strong electric current was passed between, which caused brilliant electric sparks to connect one ball with the other. These sparks caused such a disturbance in the ether that waves were radiated out in all directions. By turning the electric current on and off the waves could be so divided as to represent dots and dashes, and to spell out letters in the Morse alphabet. The length of the wave could be altered by adjusting the space between the two brass balls. This apparatus was known as the transmitter.

Marconi's next problem, that of constructing an apparatus to receive and register the Hertzian waves, was far more

difficult. To do this he adopted a device invented by an Italian named Calzecchi, and improved by a Frenchman, M. Branley, called a coherer, which forms the backbone of the whole system, and without which it would be impossible to have any kind of wireless telegraphy. This little instrument, the coherer, which Mr. Marconi greatly improved, consists simply of a little glass tube, exhausted of air, with copper wires sealed at both ends, about two inches long and about as big round as a lead pencil. In each end of the tube is a plug of silver leaving only a small space in the middle which is about three-quarters filled with very finely powdered nickel and silver. These particles of nickel have the curious property of being alternately very good and very bad conductors of electrical waves.

Etheric waves are so weak after having travelled two or three thousand miles that when they are caught by the receiving wires, they are not able to operate an ordinary telegraphic instrument, but they are however strong enough to draw the little particles of nickel and silver together in the coherer so that they form one continual metal path. When this has taken place the particles of nickel and silver are said to have "cohered," and as a result they become a good conductor of electricity, and a strong current from a battery near at hand passes through and operates a Morse instrument which prints a dot or a dash upon a piece of tape. After this has taken place a little hammer, worked by the same current, strikes against the sides of the coherer and the particles of metal are jarred apart or, "decohered," instantly becoming a bad conductor of electricity and stopping the strong current from the home battery. Wave after wave will come down the suspended wire into the coherer, and each will cause the particles of metal to cohere, so allowing the home battery to print a dot or dash upon the tape, according to the length of

the wave, after which, the little hammer strikes the coherer and so decoheres the two metals and stops the current from the home battery.

In 1896, when Marconi's discoveries were first announced to the general public, they at once asked, "how are you going to keep your messages secret? Supposing during war, one warship wishes to communicate with another one, how are you going to prevent the enemy from reading your message?" They also enquired how War Office dispatches, if sent by wireless, were to be kept from the hands of the enemy, and how private business matters were to be kept from the hands of the public.

Here indeed Marconi found himself face to face with a very stiff problem. However, after dint of much care and thought, he devised a kind of copper funnel, parabolic in shape, from which he radiated his etheric waves, turning his radiator in the direction in which his receiving station was located. Although the device worked well enough in its way, there were, however, grave objections to putting it into practical use. For example, an enemy receiving station might still come between the receiver and the transmitter. No, Mr. Marconi must devise an instrument which would prove an absolute safeguard to private messages. Accordingly he set to work with renewed vigour, not contenting himself until he had solved the problem.

At last, after weeks of experimenting, he came upon a system known as "Tuning," which has proved to be absolutely sound and a sure safeguard to private messages. It consists simply of a certain receiver which will respond only to messages sent from a certain transmitter. In other words if the transmitter is radiating 800,000 etheric waves to the second, the corresponding receiver will only respond to waves which have been radiated at 800,000 vibrations to the second.

Mr. Marconi experimented for a considerable time with

this system of tuning, and has brought it to a high state of perfection.

During some of his early experiments at Poole, in England, he connected two receivers to the same wire, and tuned them to different transmitters situated at St. Catherine's Point, from which he sent two messages, one in French and the other in English. Both these messages were received on the same wire and exactly the same time at Poole, but one receiver ticked off its message in French and the other in English without the least hesitation.

The tremendous importance of this system cannot be over-estimated. All the different navies of the world have now their own instruments tuned to receive and transmit a certain number of etheric vibrations per second, each having their own special number to be different from all the others. In this way they can all send as many private messages as they like, but no one nation will be able to read the dispatches of the other. For example the instruments of the British Navy may have its instruments tuned to 700,000 vibrations per second, the United States Government, 1,000,000, and the Germany Navy, 1,500,000 to the second.

This is a bare outline of Marconi's invention ; the combination of various devices which has made it possible for wireless telegraphy to rise to the high state of perfection to which it has attained at the present day.

Ronald Ash.

(Part of an Essay read before the Literary Society).

SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

THE FOOTBALL SEASON 1917-1918.

THOUGH we had a strong team this season, it had few opportunities of showing its prowess, owing to difficulties in arranging matches. The local schools were met several times, and distant matches were played at Bishop's Stortford, against the College Second XI, and at Cambridge against the County School. The only matches lost were against the County School, and Newport Grammar School, both away.

During the season colours were awarded to Wright i, Tebbutt i, Gibb, Hartwell and Mauritzi; and we are glad to state that a fair nucleus remains for next season's team.

Morland House proved the victors in the first term, and Gibson House in the second, in the House Tournaments.

We also played four hockey matches, all of which we won, scoring 24 goals to 6.

SUMMARY OF SEASON.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals. For.	Against.
1st XI.	14	10	2	2	59	17
2nd XI.	12	9	3	0	64	12

GIRLS' HOCKEY SEASON, 1917-18

OWING chiefly to the increased railway fares, only one outside hockey match has been played this season, namely, the one against Homerton College 1st XI., in which we were the victors by two goals to nil.

In the House Tournaments, Lister House easily proved itself to be the strongest, although Mennell made a good second.



Photo by] [J. E. Walker.

THE CRICKET FIELD.

The results of the House Tournaments are as follows :—

		Total, 10 points
1.	Lister	9
2.	Mennell	8
3.	Gibson	7
4.	Crosfield	3
5.	Godlee	2
6.	Morland	1

Marjorie Pollard.

THE RIVER.

OH, thou river, lazy river !
Flowing slowly towards the southward,
Journeying with a lazy aspect,
While the swallows dart, and skim thee,
And the swans glide smoothly o'er thee,
Listen to the far-off songster,
Far away upon the hedgerow ;
Singing softly, sweetly, clearly,
Sits the little robin redbreast.
Now he comes right o'er thee flying
Here to drink and quench his thirsting ;
Now he sits right gladly drinking,
Drinking with a thirsty gusto ;
Then he flies and starts his singing—
On a garden seat he's perching.
On thy far bank sheep are grazing,
And the lambs frisk round about them,
Jumping, skipping, running, bleating,
Near their mothers, quietly grazing.
Now they flock down to the water,

There to cool their burning noses
Gazing in thy deep translucence,
Gazing at the reeds and rushes.
Here the shady willows o'er me
Send their rootlets down into thee,
From thee gathering great refreshment.
There the stately tow'ring elm-trees
Send their shadow right across thee,
Shading cattle drinking of thee,
Lying down in deep contentment;
Full of gratefulness unto thee
For thy sources of great comfort.

Frederick W. Hammond.
(*Fourth Form*).

THE HOLY CITY.

I HAVE realised my hope and seen the Holy City. For a couple of days we camped on the Mount of Olives, and though we only spent a morning sight-seeing it was sufficient for us to see a good deal. Of course the city of Christ's day must now be several feet below the present level, but the Roman Catholics have preserved an atmosphere of reverence for which we should be very thankful, and in many cases there are landmarks, the reliability of which it is not reasonable to doubt. The old city is still enclosed by a high stone wall, and admittance can be gained only through the gates, now guarded by British soldiers!

We entered by the Damascus Gate, which leads out to the hill where the first martyr was stoned, from which hill

can be seen the Garden of Gethsemane, the tomb of the Virgin Mary and the Brook Kidron. We went down to the Garden, a peaceful spot where five ancient olive trees grow.

The outstanding feature of the city is perhaps the Via Dolorosa—the way of pain—Christ's journey from Pilate's house to Calvary. Each event is marked on the wall,—in all, fourteen "stations." Number twelve is Calvary itself, thirteen and fourteen being where Joseph anointed His body, and the Tomb, respectively. Stations ten to fourteen are now inside the wonderful Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Under Pilate's house, and well below the present level, we saw the pavement on which possibly our Lord actually trod His way of pain.

We saw the Pool of Bethesda, with its five porches, and here the story of Christ's miracle is written in almost every language of the world. Another wonderful thing is the Temple courtyard or, rather, area. The Mohammedans have built the Mosque of Omar over the actual site. It has a wonderful dome of mosaic work ; we had a chance to peep inside, and the colour scheme is dazzling. Outside is a church built by Justinian, in the form of a cross, over the spot where Jesus was found talking with the Doctors, but here again the Mohammedans have stepped in, having blocked out the cross shape and thus largely increased the size. They have also blocked up the Gate through which Christ entered on Palm Sunday, because tradition says He will return that way.

Don't imagine anything elaborate about the ancient city, except in the churches themselves. The streets are narrow and dirty, and the population weird : Jews, Arabs (mainly Mohammedans), Christians,—Roman and Greek Catholics and Armenians. The modern city built outside the walls is splendid indeed, with wide streets and fine buildings, and, as you can imagine, a hive of dealers in souvenirs and curiosities.

DONALD L. REDDING. (1912-14).

OUR HOUSE.

OUR house is a very old one and when we first came to it we found that it had been empty for eleven years. It was in a most dreadful state and nearly over-run with mice. The day we came we could hardly find a place to sleep in. We found it very cold and damp sleeping in a room with nothing in it but a fireplace (without a fire) and the bed. It took two months to restore the house to a state fit to live in. There is a very old staircase in it, which is said to have been built in the time of Henry VIII. We cannot be quite sure of this, but we know it is very old. Other parts of the house were built in 1338, so that the staircase is not the oldest, though it may seem to be so. The staircase is six feet wide all the way up, and there are forty-eight steps in it altogether right up to the attics. There are twenty-four steps to the bedroom floor and twenty-four more to the attics. The stairs wind round and round as you go up and there are six steps and then a little landing place which is square, and then you turn round a corner and go up six more steps. At each corner there is a pillar which is covered with carvings of flowers or something else. All the bannisters are made of solid, old oak. The steps are made of deal, but originally they were oak, but they wore and had to be replaced. If you go up to the top landing and look over the bannisters, you find yourself looking down about forty feet. In this space is a lamp suspended by a wire, which runs right up to the ceiling at the top of the house. At the top are pulleys, over which the wire runs. A weight is fastened on one end to balance the weight of the lamp. Several people who have visited us have found a place which might have been, and probably was, a secret room, where people, in olden days, had to hide when they were being hunted. The house itself is roomy and big, and there are several big passages in it. We



STAIRCASE IN THE "VALLEY FARM."

(By kind permission of Miss C. Fell Smith.)

call the house "Valley House" because it is in the valley. In front of the house is a huge beech tree, and in the summer it is glorious to sit under it and read a book, because it is very shady and cool there.

Roy Tawell
(Third Form).

THE OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION.

The School is indebted to the Old Scholars' Association for a handsome House Trophy Board, which has been fixed to the middle of the east wall in the Dining Hall. The Board is made of oak, and is in keeping with the frame on which the School Gong is mounted in the passage outside the Dining Hall, and which was also presented by the Old Scholars.

We would draw the attention of our readers to the appeal which has been issued by the Old Scholars' Association, for subscriptions to a Scholarship Fund, in commemoration of Services rendered by Old Scholars in connection with the War. So far the sum of £160 has been raised for the purpose.

FROM FAR AND NEAR.

Concerning Old Scholars.

Old Scholars who were in the Fifth and Sixth Forms last term :—

Margaret Kirkpatrick.

C. Frederic Tebbutt is awaiting his Tribunal's approval of his undertaking work under the Friends' War Victims' Relief Committee.

* * * * * *

"R.F.C., E.E.F., 26/2/18.

" . . . I am at present driving a car, and get plenty of interesting runs round these Eastern parts. Football is my chief recreation ; I still retain my old School place as a Full Back. . . . The Corporal over the Transport here lived in Saffron Walden previous to the war . . . and we often have a talk over various places and people in Walden."

E. J. I'Anson (1904-11).

* * * * * *

"Friends' High School, Chungking.
20/2/18.

" . . . Last week we had an Old Scholars Dinner . . . . and our Old Scholars decided to bear the expense of the building and gymnasium.

" Political conditions here are very bad, worse than at any time in the last ten years. There is little to choose between parties, except that those who pretend to be the upholders of constitutionalism against militarism are by far the most feared by the civil population. Their soldiers have just about ruined the country round here, burnt up the people's furniture for firewood in the cold days, pastured their horses on their wheat fields' and vegetable gardens, stabled them in dwelling houses (until the owners had nothing left but to pull them down and sell the wood for fuel, for no one would live in them again), commandeered the water-buffaloes' fodder for horses' food or soldiers' beds, so that the buffaloes will have hard work to live through until the rice harvest, for there will be very little wheat straw this spring, and many other bad things. The soldiers of the Northern army, dubbed 'militarist' by the Southerners, were well behaved in comparison, and knew that it was economically impossible

to bring thousands of horses into a pastureless district. . . . It seems that the Southern armies intend to take up their abode in Szechwan and rule the province. Rumours are once more current of a plan to restore the young emperor."

10/3/18.

" . . . We wish we had your opportunities for lectures from people outside the school. We had several in English last year, translated by one or the other of the teachers into Chinese, . . . but of course we do not get experts on subjects of such wide interest as Town-planning.

"I wonder if your Mr. Culpin is a relation of Dr. Culpin of Shanghai, an entomologist of repute. . . . The other day some thief got into the hall and took a heavy coat which I use on journeys in a chair, a Burberry rain coat and a light spring overcoat. I had to don a dressing-gown to go to School for a day or two, until I could borrow a coat. The Chinese however did not realise the difference, for the dressing gown was of a grey colour—not bright red."

Ernest W. Sawdon (*Science Master, 1902-06*).

* * * * * *

" F.A.U., France, *13/5/18*.

" . . . . . There is work here in abundance, carrying wounded (French) from hospital to hospital, from hospital to train, or from train to hospital. It is exeedingly interesting working among the French, though at times very exasperating when your explanation in French is not understood. Many mornings lately we have been up at four o'clock and working through the day till ten, and then may be have a night-call."

John A. Greenbank (*Student Teacher, 1916*).

* * * * * *

"Salonika, *2. 1918.*

"I do not know whether you have any idea of the sort of winter weather we get out here. So far this winter the climate on the whole has resembled English June weather almost—— January being an unbroken spell of perfect days warm enough to sit about in the open, and not too hot to enjoy a strenuous game of 'Footer' in the evenings. These pleasant conditions are disturbed periodically by a wind called the Vardar (though I am sure it comes from the North Pole). This wind is an extraordinarily powerful one, and invariably brings a rapid change of temperature, so that you may retire to rest one night in July conditions and, a wind springing up in the night, wake to find several degrees of frost and probably snow as well. On one occasion the thermometer showed 17° of frost. The cold snap generally lasts for three to five days, and when the wind has blown itself out, the weather soon turns milder again. . . "

" . . . . . In a part of the country where there is so little to look at but the bare hills, the birds make themselves quite entertaining at times. There are very large numbers of jackdaws about and very often one is attacked by a hawk. Almost instantaneously it seems some thousands of jackdaws crowd to assist the victim, and form a very dense mass with Master Hawk in the middle, so that he cannot very easily get at any single jackdaw. The hawk makes for the outside of the crowd of birds, hoping to pick out a straggler, and then the whole mass swoops to keep him under closest observation. So they twist and turn about, sometimes dropping hundreds of feet sheer, splitting in three parts, and wheeling in together again. In the distance the birds look like a black cloud of dust, and the light and shadow on the wings makes it look as if the cloud is continually turning inside out. When overhead they seem to darken the sky, the noise of their wings is like a stiff breeze among trees, and

along they swoop like hounds in full cry. Very seldom do you happen to see the first attack by the hawk, or this gentleman emerge from the fray with his unfortunate victim; he would have to be very smart with all those thousands of defenders working in complete unison. They fly in perfect formation, and so well is it done, that it seems the birds must be gifted with something approaching intelligence.

LESLIE R. HART (1909-13).

SCHOOL DIARY.

Feb. 16th.—Football Match: Boys' XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford College 2nd XI., home, draw, 1—1.

„ 17th.—Week-end Visit from Miss Lydia Graham and Miss Connor.

„ 19th.—Lantern Lecture: "Spring Flowers," Mr. William Graveson.

„ 20th.—N.H.S. Excursion to Saffron Walden Museum.

„ 21st.—N.H.S. Mtg. Essays: "Some Tree Buds," Dorothy Emson; "Pollination," Margaret Passmore. Exhibition of Birds, Mr. Morris.

„ 23rd.—Football Match: Boys' XI. *v.* Cambridge County School Boys' XI., home, won, 2—0.

„ 28th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Girls' Diary, Marjorie Harrod. Recitation, Eunice Tanner. Essays: "Primitive and Barbaric Literature," Lionel Wright; "A Holiday Experience," Winifred Ruwald; "The Life History of a Date," Susannah Smith; "Wireless Telegraphy," Ronald Ash; Pinoforte Solo, Margaret Robson.

March 1st.—Lecture: "Recent Discoveries in connection with George Fox," Mr. Neave Brayshaw.

„ 7th.—N. H. S. Mtg. Essays: "Rodents," Thomas Cousins and Thomas Champness; "British Invertebrates," Daniel Burlingham; "The Camberwell Beauty," C. Frederic Tebbutt.

„ 9th.—Football Match: Boys' XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford 2nd XI., away, won, 1—0.

„ 13th.—Rugby Football Match: *v.* Saffron Walden Grammar School, away, lost, 3—30.

Mar. 14th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg.: Boys' Diary, Henry Hartwell. Essays: "Knaresborough," Margaret Tuke; "Recollections of a Grand Piano," Jessie Carr; "Diving," John T. Barker; "Tintagil—an Idyll," Mr. Whitlow. Piano Solo, Margaret Passmore.

„ 18th.—Lantern Lecture: "Welfare Work," Mr. Culpin.

„ 20th.—Football Matches: *v.* Newport Grammar School. Boys' XI. *v.* Boys' XI., away, lost, 2—4; 2nd XI. *v* 2nd XI. home, won, 2—1.

„ 21st.—N. H. S. Specimen Meeting.

„ 23rd.—N. H. S. Walk to Ringhill.

„ 27th.—Football Matches: *v.* Newport Grammar School. Boys' XI. *v.* Boys' XI., home, won, 2—1; 2nd XI. *v.* 2nd XI. away, lost, 0—2.

„ 28th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Girls' Diary, Marjorie Pollard. Essays: "Aeronautics before 1880," Edwin Ash; "Coals of Fire; A Tale of the Eighteenth Century," Muriel Robson. Dialogue, Six Boys. Pianoforte Solo, Mary Baker.

„ 29th.—House Competitions: Lecturettes by Six Competitors.

„ 30th.—Scholarship Examinations began.

April 1st.—House Competition Entertainment.

„ 9th.—End of Term Entertainment.

„ 10th.—Easter Holidays began.

May 1st.—School re-opened.

„ 9th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Boys' Diary, Clifford Jones. Essays: "The Two Wanderers," Nora Bannister; "Robert Louis Stevenson," Elsie Deane; "John Tanner," Archibald Bartlett. Pianoforte Solo, Margaret Robson. Recitation, Mr. Whitlow.

„ 16th.—N. H. S. Business Meeting.

„ 20th.—Athletic Sports.

„ 22nd.—Cricket Matches *v.* Saffron Walden Grammar School, 1st XI. *v.* 1st XI., home, lost, 56—81; 2nd XI. *v.* 2nd XI. away, lost, 13—39.

„ 30th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Essays: "Factors which Influence Vegetation," Wilfred Brangham and Kenneth Harrod; "Some British Birds," Carl Engelmann.

June 1st.—Cricket Match: Boys' XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford College 2nd XI., home, won, 67 and 97 for 3 wkts.—42 and 37 for 7 wkts. R. Falkner 32, H. Dent 23 not out, H. Hartwell 22, L. Wright 6 wkts. for 22, J. Milne 4 for 11.

„ 6th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg.: Girls' Diary, Winifred Ruwald and Jessie Carr. Essays: "Father Time," Dorothy Emson; "The Sahara," Reginald Falkner; "A Trifling Matter of £800," Marjorie Pollard. Recitation, Kenneth Mauritzi. Pianoforte Solo, Donald Morgan.

„ 8th.—Cricket Match: 1st XI. *v.* Mr. Downham's XI., home, lost, 75—139. Mr. Whitlow 34 and 8 wkts. for 28.

NOTICES.

The next number of the *The Avenue* will be published in December, price 6d. per copy (post free 7d.) Price per annum, 1s. 6d. (post free 1s. 9d.)

Articles and Subscriptions may be addressed to *The Avenue*, Friends' School, Saffron Walden.

Articles in *The Avenue* written by boys and girls are signed in *italics*.

EDITORIAL BOARD.

Lilian Pickard and *C. Frederic Tebutt* having left the School, their places on the Board have been taken by Lucy Fairbrother and *H. Lionel Wright*.

INTER SCHOOL NATURAL HISTORY DIARY COMPETITION.

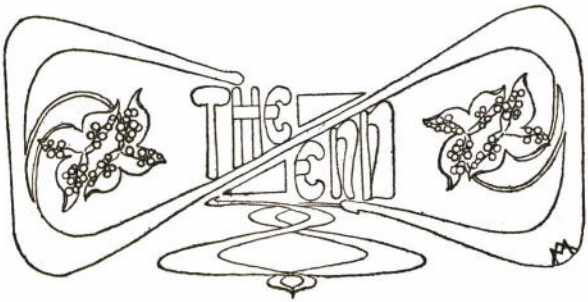
C. Frederic Tebbutt gained a prize of 5s., and Vera Saunders one of 2s. 6d. in the above Competition for 1917.

SCHOOL MAGAZINES.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following Magazine: *The Beckside* (Ayton.)

SCHOLARSHIPS.

The School Committee have awarded Scholarships of £30 for two years to Edwin D. Ash, Marjorie Harrod, and A. Margaret Robson.



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