THE AVENUE



DECEMBER 1924

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Photo by] [*C. B. Rowntree*

THE SCHOOL TRAMP, 1924.

On the way to Leith Hill.



The Magazine of the Friends' School, Saffron Walden.

VOL. XV. DECEMBER, 1924. No. 45

FOREWORD.

ON our return to the school we were pleased to find an increase in the number of boarders in the school. There are now eighty-two boys and fifty-six girls, seven more than last term. We also welcome Mr. Moore and Mr. Worthen as student masters on the staff in place of Mr. Smith.

We also learnt that during the holidays, in conjunction with the Friends of Peel Meeting, Mrs. Rowntree arranged for twenty-one London children to spend a fortnight's holiday in Saffron Walden, during July and August.

Our last term examination results are also a subject worth mentioning. All ten entrants passed the General School Leaving Exam., nine of them at Matriculation standard.

A new addition to the school is a bicycle shed, built near the laundry, to enable a limited number of girls to keep their machines here.

There is now plenty of preparation for a fête at the end of term, the proceeds go towards a new cricket pavilion, which the Old Scholars are having put up in the field for us ; it is to

stand at the head of where the children's gardens are, so as to command the first eleven pitch, and a new pitch where the old third game football pitch used to be.

In this number we publish two sketches of Saffron Walden, drawn by Miss Mack, late of the Training College, and hope to continue to reproduce more in subsequent numbers. The proprietors of the blocks are The Talbot Press, Saffron Walden, who publish postcards of the sketches at 2d. each. At present there are nine in the set. Our thanks are due to Miss Mack and to the Talbot Press for permission to make use of the sketches.

Eric Peverett
(*Stage* 6).

THE TRAMP, 1924.

A FEW days ago someone said to me, "everything reminds me of the Tramp." At first I was unsympathetic, but before very long I was forced to admit to myself that—"Come to think of it—it *does!*"

We were a party of twenty-five who shouldered our rücksacks and started for Birdbrook on July 31st, amid the good wishes and farewells of the remaining inmates of the school. Our destination was Surrey; our purpose was everything that a school tramp involves; our time of starting was about an hour after we had had the satisfaction of seeing the majority of our companions deposited safely in their respective trains. The expectation of the moment apparently was to reach Colchester before nightfall—in which we were not disappointed, for a motor coach conveyed us thither from Birdbrook.

To use an Americanism, we "did Colchester in a day," and departed by the same motor-coach for Reigate on the following morning. It was evening when we reached Reigate, and then came the interesting proceeding of arranging ourselves in the

Broke's hotel—which we did with all speed after devouring an evening meal ravenously. At first we felt awed by the cold, immovable features of the waiter, but he soon thawed over a friendly conversation on the art of folding serviettes (at which we should all be expert now !). After that time he served us several good turns and rose highly in our estimations.

But we were to know more of Reigate. Having deposited our rücksacks in the security of our bedrooms we began to walk in earnest. On the evening of our arrival we were invited to Reigate Meeting-house, where the Friends entertained us well with games, music and a short account of Reigate and its surroundings, but unfortunately Mr. Crosfield's illness prevented him from being there with us, and our visits to him had to be short ones. On these he was interested to hear our experiences, having taken a prominent part in similar school tramps several years ago.

The excursions to Box Hill, Leith Hill and Frensham were outstanding features of the Tramp. From Leith Hill some of us went on to the Silent Pool at Sheer, meeting the remainder of the party at Gomshall. At Frensham Ponds the boys managed to borrow a motor shed of rather small dimensions, which they utilised as a bathing machine. The rest of us enjoyed the water from a slightly drier aspect, although we all made use of it to a certain extent, as the photographers attempted to record whenever the sun showed itself.

Perhaps rather less Botany was done this year, according to all accounts, but photography was a far more prominent feature. We became hardened to the devices of amateur photographers, and used to proceed with melon and sandwich unconcernedly, regardless of the cameras, which were waiting to record the largest mouthful.

A Tramp has a wonderful way of unfolding to us the hitherto unknown sides of each other's characters. We feel enlightened by this new insight which we have gained, in spite of the surprises which it caused us in a few cases.

At first we were troubled by the melancholy declaration of a certain member of our party which he set before us each morning, to the effect that, "I never *can* make a good breakfast." But we soon were set at our ease on discovering that our friend, like Chalmer's travelling showman, was able to say:

"What's lost upon the roundabouts we pulls up on the swings." In fact he proved his mettle against a rival notable proprietor in the same trade and came in a very good second. This much we all can say for him and charitably pass over whatever else may have been revealed to us.

It would be impossible to give more than the briefest outline of the numerous incidents which arose in the all-too-short week between our leaving the school and our break-up at Coulsden. Let it suffice to say that we all enjoyed it to the full and still enjoy the memories of "what we did on the Tramp."

And what did we do on the Tramp besides gaining sore feet and hearty appetites? There was Surrey with its hills and its heather. There were the motor roads, the walks, the picnic lunches, the evening sing-songs. There was the rain and now and then the dry weather. There was also a certain sense of locality to be gained and a hitherto unexperienced feeling in one's feet at the sight of Reigate water-tower (our landmark) from a distant hill. . . .

I saw that water-tower again when visiting Box Hill exactly five weeks after the Tramp visit. It seemed an excessively hot day as we approached Box Hill by the road on which we Trampers had returned to Reigate. Nevertheless, I felt cool and wet for a moment as I thought, "It was here that five weeks ago we stood in the pouring rain, while our official guide and others less competent, consulted and discussed with a map. . . . And here under this tree, we took shelter from the downpour, whilst a few of our party discussed the quantity and quality of the contents of the tomato can." I heard a laugh and a voice seemed to say, "You've had two

. . . there were three when we left. . . No, of course it wasn't me . . ." But as I looked up, a group of bedraggled shadows hurried away with all speed, and before me was Box Hill, behind me was Reigate and the water-tower, around me was the heat, and above me was a blue and almost cloudless sky.

"Whew!" I said. "It's jolly hot. Box Hill's a topping place—only I wish it were a few hundred yards nearer! It's very strange here without a 'Tramp' with you—and comparatively quiet too. All the same, I wish . . . but then . . . I wonder if . . . next year . . .?"

Connie Newbery
(*Stage 7*).

SOCIETY REPORTS.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

THE standard of our ordinary meetings has been well kept up, although perhaps fewer essays of outstanding merit have been produced. The best essays of the year were by Grace Gibb, "The Child and the Cinema"; Madeleine Baker, "Hop Picking in Kent"; and Connie Newbery, "Village Life in Bradwell." James Blagdon, Dorothy Falkner and Joyce Rayner also produced good papers. The absence of attempts at elocution is much to be regretted, but musical items have been more frequent—we especially welcomed several vocal contributions, Marjorie Land in especial may be mentioned.

At our Annual Meeting Mr. Sterling Mackinlay delighted us with his lecture on "The Voice," not only the subject matter but the musical illustrations were enjoyed by all. At a special meeting we listened to the reading of Sheridan's "Rivals," by our own members, and the last meeting of the session was devoted to numbers from the Gilbert and Sullivan operas, rendered by soloists and a choir drawn from the Society and trained by Miss Bird.

J. P. WHITLOW.

BOYS' READING CLUB.

We have had very interesting meetings this year, which have all been held, owing to the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Rowntree, at Hillcroft. Their kindness has increased the pleasure and sociability of our meetings. At the December meeting we discussed the following books: "Mixed Vintages," by E. V. Lucas, a selection of short essays; Sheppard's "Greek Tragedy, "The Bacchae," of Euripides; "Barlasch of the Guard," one of Seton Merriman's novels, and John Drinkwater's play, "Oliver Cromwell," which threw great light on his just and strong character.

Our next meeting was held in March, and we discussed Lowes Dickinson's book, "War: Its Nature, Cause and Cure," in which he tells of the late war, and shows the wrongs of war; "Major Barbara," by Bernard Shaw; A. E. W. Mason's novel, "The Broken Road," a good account of life in India about thirty years ago; and Stevenson's "Virginibus Puerisque."

The last meeting of the year in July was held out of doors, and we had under our consideration "Ethics of the Dust," by John Ruskin; "The King's Treasury of Modern Poetry"; Gooch's "History of Our Own Time"; and "The Revolution in Tanner's Lane," by Mark Rutherford, which gave a good description of village life at that time. The novel was much criticised by some members as it had no plot, while others maintained that the omission made the novel more like real, everyday life. *Paul Edmunds.*

NATURAL HISTORY AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

During the past year the Society has maintained its full membership, the excursions have been well attended and the papers read at the fortnightly meetings have been quite up to the improved standard noted last year.

In addition to the meteorological report, and the Nature Diary, a report on current notices of interest to the society has been read at each meeting. The meteorological report,

instituted by A. Skelton, has been continued by J. Edmundson to the end of the summer term.

During the term, 35 papers have been read at the evening meetings dealing with the following subjects: Archæology 2, Astronomy 3, Botany 6, Geology 2, Topography 4, Zoology 17, General 2. It will be noted that Zoological subjects have been most in evidence this year, and that, at present, little interest is being shown in archæological matters. Two series of papers, one on "Communal Life in the Animal World," and one on "Adaptations of Plants and Animals to a Water Existence," are worthy of special mention.

Excursions have been made to Debden, Littlebury, Wenden, Newport, Quendon, Clay Pits, Takeley Forest, Linton and the Fleam Dyke.

The best thanks of the Society are due to the late Secretaries for the very efficient manner in which they carried out their duties, and also to Mr. and Mrs. Green for their kind entertainment when the Society visited Linton.

GIRLS' READING CLUB.

During the year we have held three very successful meetings. The discussions on the whole have been both keen and enjoyable

In our meeting on December 10th we discussed "Keats and His Poetry," by W. H. Hudson; "Selected English Short Stories (Second Series)," "Pendennis"; and "The Gathering of Brother Hilarius," by Michael Fairless.

During the spring term we read "Pride and Prejudice"; "South with Scott," by Captain Evans; Drinkwater's "Robert E. Lee"; and "The Schoolmistress, and Other Tales," by Tchekov. We held the discussion on March 25th.

Our third meeting was held on July 21st, the chosen books being "Essays of To-day"; "The Four Feathers"; "The Shropshire Lad," by Housman; and "Adventures in Contentment," by Grayson. The last two provoked a well-balanced discussion.

We once more found that our financial position enabled us to make an addition to the Girls' Senior Library (thanks to our successful auctions) and a copy of " Peter Pan," illustrated by Arthur Rackham, took a place on the library shelves.

At the end of the year we suffered from a severe loss of members, all but three of the Junior members having left the school. The enthusiasm of the new members should, however, prevent this recent loss from lowering the standard which the last few years have produced. *Connie Newbery.*

THE " MIDDLE " LITERARY SOCIETY, 1923-1924.

On the whole the year has been a quite successful one. Members have mostly been keen on doing their best for the Society and as a result have produced better written contributions.

A better and, for the most part, more original type of story has been produced, the cheap " blood and thunder " sort of tale being wisely neglected. There has also been a wider range of subjects for essays this year.

Some of the diaries have been good, but far too many were poor and showed by their inaccuracies a rather careless compilation.

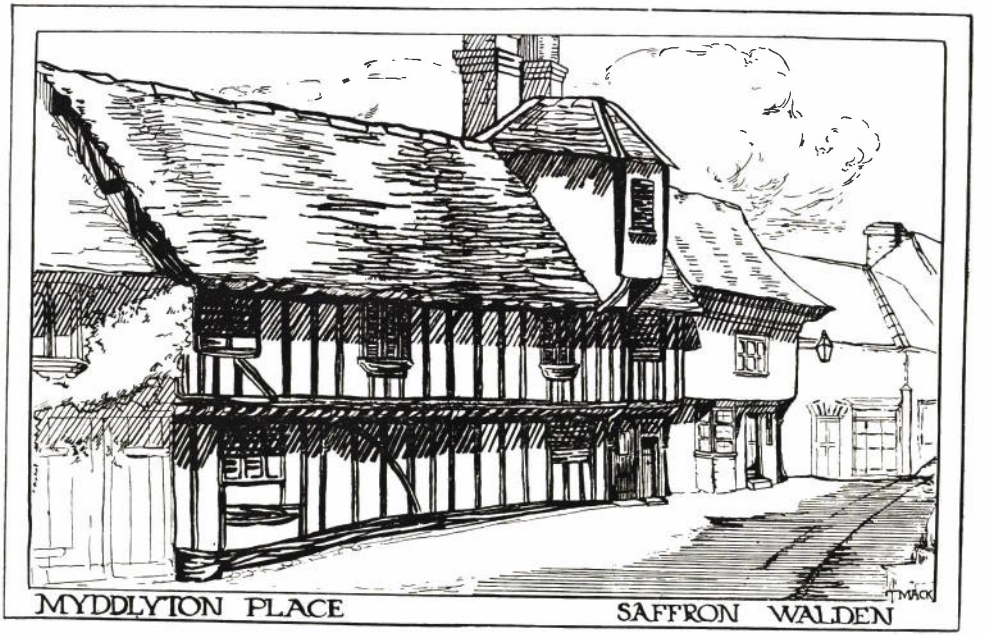
The reading of the written contributions has varied considerably. We regret to record a marked lack of recitations and that we have not had so many musical items as last year.

The secretaries and Committee have done good, faithful work and, among other things, successfully carried out the Summer Social.

The membership on the girls' side has been much reduced by pupils leaving and we hope those girls now in Stage 4 will join the Society.

We have been glad to see Mrs. Ransome and Mr. Smillie at our gatherings and feel that their presence has been a distinct help.

M.G.Y.
D.P.


MYDDLYTON PLACE
SAFFRON WALDEN
T MACK

Junior Literary Society.

During the past year the Junior Literary Society has passed through one of the most successful periods of its history. Both boys and girls have done fine work, and in their essays they have worked out many good and original ideas.

The membership has increased every term and only now when most of the old-timers have left is the society down to a normal size.

It has been noticed that although the boys outnumbered the girls by nearly double, the latter were by no means behind in their contributions to the programmes.

We are pleased to note that elocution has again been popular and in our meetings we have enjoyed splendid contributions both of poetry and prose from Bessie McGowan, Norman Forward, Marjorie Dell, Kathleen Priestman and others.

Music has often appeared in our programme and Winnie Cooper, Allan Furrell and Edward Dunstan should be specially mentioned for their contributions. The last-named gave us several violin solos, which we much appreciated.

In July we held our annual social in the school grounds, and as usual we had a glorious time.

The Band of Mercy.

To give anything like an adequate account of the Band of Mercy's activities during the past year in the space allotted us is impossible. We have before us a list of thirty-five different subjects which have been tackled during that time, ranging from experiments affecting our democratic constitution in the interests of efficiency to the sending of help to the earthquake victims of Japan. Topical problems, such as Rodeo, capital punishment, vaccination, Bolshevism, flies and strikes, did not escape our attention. We were not left unenlightened about river-pollution, temperance, bee-keeping, group psychology and slums. We kept a guinea pig (subsequently deceased),

constructed nesting boxes and provided bottles and netting for the use of enthusiastic caterpillar collectors.

In short, we still live dangerously and consequently have our critics ; we still put no bounds to the range of our discussions, and when occasion offers we strive to secure a practical outcome to our deliberations. Our custom of cherishing the liberty of any member to resign, whenever she or he feels that no more can be gained from attendance at our meetings, gives us a moving population of keenly interested members, and several ex-members have rejoined us. It would not be fair comment, however, to say that this last phenomenon can be explained by the Society holding its first social, which proved to be a great success. Some of us share a lurking apprehension that one day the Band of Mercy may find itself on the way to becoming respectable.

JUNIOR NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

It was in a Nature Class during the Autumn Term of 1923, that some keen member suggested that we should have a Junior Natural History Society ; and during that term one was started under the guidance of Miss Rose. At the end of the summer term we numbered twenty, and much interest was shown throughout the year.

In the Spring holidays two members, M. Hooper and G. Tawell, kept diaries, for which prizes were given ; while during the Summer holidays several members made good collections of various kinds. Prizes were given to M. Hooper, for a collection of shells and a diary ; G. Tawell, for a collection of birds' eggs and a diary ; T. Francis, for a book of pressed flowers ; and I. Parley for a miscellaneous collection of fossils and minerals.

Three rambles were taken during the summer, on which many flowers and birds' nests were found.

We should like to congratulate G. Tawell on gaining a prize in an open competition arranged by the Editor of "The Wayfarer."

WIRELESS SOCIETY.

During the last year the Society has entertained greater ambitions. To meet the demands of an increasing interest in practical work the old N.H.S. room has been acquired for experimenting and "listening-in." The latest activity of the Society is the breaking down of the two year old Conquest set in order to make an instrument of the Puriflex type, which gives very clear reception.

At our weekly meetings we have discussed the theoretical and practical sides of wireless in more detail than previously, and have thus enabled the majority of our members to build sets of their own. Over three dozen sets have been made, including those embodying reflex and reaction principles.

Although the membership of the Society has not increased, much greater interest is being shown than before. The only obstacle to our progress at present is a rather heavy debt dating from the early days of the Society.

P. A. Crow.
J. P. Lush.

O.S. WEEK-END AT WALDEN.

OCTOBER 11TH—13TH, 1924.

THIS is the first time I have been to an O.S. gathering at Walden since I left, two years ago, and for this reason, I think the impressions it gave me must be different from any which are to come from future gatherings.

I suppose we Old Scholars go down to the School in October, first of all to play games, but to me this seemed the least important part. We arrived, we went through the usual preliminaries, and we played, and then, as far as I am concerned the game was forgotten. For we must admit that the hockey, at least, was disappointing, through no fault of the School's. I do not know about the football.

The real joy was to see the School again, and to live for a short time with memories. How delightful it was to view the innovations—the pigs, and the new tennis courts; but how much more delightful to find things still the same! I hope that, as time goes on, we shall not forget School as it was in our schooldays, and remember it rather as it has been at O.S. gatherings.

I shall never forget the thrill of my first meal at top table. At school, I used to look forward to that moment with a mixture of longing and dread. It would be splendid to walk all the way up the dining-room and take my place beside the most august member of the Staff, but would my table manners be adequate for the occasion? I think I should have been a bit disappointed if I hadn't forgotten rather what I used to feel about it. But there, at top-table, were all the people one had been longing to see—once, I never imagined I should be so anxious to see people. But along the school tables, what changes! Two years is a long time.

On Sunday, of course, there were two Meetings, as delightful as ever—how glad I was to find that they had not changed, and a walk through the Beeches. And there on the right was the spindleberry wood, with spindleberries actually still growing there, and what spindleberries! Perhaps two years is not quite so long after all.

I must not forget to express our appreciation of Mr. Whitlow's gramophone, which provided an excellent substitute for natural talent. Of course, we had talent amongst us, but we could not boast Galli-Curcis or Kreislers.

But two years really is a long time—it was all the same and yet so different. I am looking forward to my second O.S. visit even more than I did to my first!

EDNA M. THOMPSON (1919-1922).

CUBS AND CUBBISM.

I AM going to endeavour to give you a few impressions of a Peel Cubs' Camp.* We will begin with a synopsis of the Dramatis Personæ. First and foremost is the Camp Chief, whose job in life is to share the work out equally among his subordinates, reserving as little as possible for himself. His spoon is the one carefully initialled R.B., which stands for Red Beaver (he earned this name for proficiency at paddling). Next in importance to him is the Camp Doctor ; he is Lord High Chief of all hygienic stunts, and is devoted to physical culture and the study of astronomy. His name, "Lonestar," signifies that he can repeat and spell correctly the names of six well-known stars or planets.

Then there is Eagle Eye, who systematically turns down your collar and your stocking in the expectation of finding a high-water-mark, and Craggy, who carries cubs about on his back, and otherwise spoils them.

There is Black Panther, who rather enjoys spanking boys, so no "bundling" when he's about !

And lastly there are Sea Gull and Raksha—they are females, and that explains why there is a cow-line round their tent—no one else takes such elaborate precautions.

Of course there are the cubs, too. Of these there are twenty ; two are visitors, and the rest are divided into three sets or Sixes, each Six being packed away in a tent at night after the manner of sardines.

Now we believe that the Orderly Chief turns out of bed at six o'clock in the morning and calls the Orderly Six, who likewise arise—if sufficiently coerced. And when the tom-tom is beaten

* As most of our readers already know, during the time when this School was at Clerkenwell and, later, at Islington, the Peel Meeting was the one attended by the inmates of the institution. We therefore claim our readers' interest in the work being carried on at Peel to-day.—Eds.

at 6.45, the rest of the Pack will roll up for Bathing Parade, if Lonestar is Games Chief. (They will probably require a little further persuasion if it is merely Sea Gull or Raksha.)

Breakfast is whenever the Pack gets back from its scrub in the river. This happens anytime between eight and ten, and meanwhile the tea water is boiling itself to extinction, and the porridge orderly is laboriously scraping the rust off the bottom of the dixie and stirring it well into the mixture.

The cubs work hard every meal to remove the last traces of enamel from mugs and plates. Once this is done it is an easy matter to obtain a nice red rust surface, which adds a distinctive flavour to food and drink.

A word, too, about swabs. These may be used for anything. (The Scouts used them for this for a fortnight before we came down.) For instance, a swab may be used for wiping out the porridge dixie and subsequently for cleansing your spoon and mug, and when it is saturated with greasy substances you hang it up to dry. Then somebody comes along and knocks it down, and somebody else tramps it well into the mud, and finally along comes the conscientious orderly and spreads it once again upon the line, ready for the next person's use.

Potato peeling is not a popular job, unless the Orderly Chief will allow you and your particular chum to hermetically seal yourselves in the cook's tent. But all cubs throw themselves enthusiastically into the task of making a salad, and if you object to being splashed with tomato juice and catapulted with spring onions, you had better keep away from the store tent.

Dogs! They are about the most popular items at camp. Treacle dog, jam dog, currant dog, chocolate dog, and endless other varieties.

The Camp Doctor excels at making dog. They are of an extremely compressed description, and he generously provides a double quantity on his orderly day. This is the one day when Cubs really get as much as they can eat, and they are consequently " laid out " for the rest of the afternoon, while

the Chiefs themselves feel thankful for an opportunity to retire into private life.

Games, as well as washing, are compulsory at camp. The Camp Chief's rule is simple: "No bathe—no breakfast. No games—no dinner."

Perhaps you might not always recognise a game of cricket if you saw it. A Cub Captain sometimes considers it his privilege to station himself in a remote corner of the field where there is an opportunity of falling asleep unnoticed. The rest of his side, if in an energetic frame of mind, will field en masse and a "bundle" takes place each time to decide who shall throw in.

The way in which Chiefs organise Cub Rugger is a crying scandal. There are no standing rules to this game, and you must not confuse it in your mind with Rugby Football. Any Chief may make any rule he deems advantageous to himself or his side as occasion arises. Thus he may at any time blow his whistle or call "scrum" and claim a free chuck for himself.

But the great feature of the day is "Council Fire." The Hackney Scouts' Song Book contains a weird selection of ditties, which are bawled in turn with some of a milder character from the Fellowship Song Book. And Beaver tells his "Just-so Stories," and Sea Gull spins a yarn that makes your hair stand on end; or, if it's Saturday night, maybe Black Stalk will arrive in time to sing the praises of Wode and the superior civilisation of the Ancient Britons.

A Cub's exertions do not cease when he retires to rest if he is in Black Panther's tender mercies.

As you pass the Tawnie's tent you hear smothered guttural ejaculations, and if you listen *very* attentively you may catch such phrases as "Diese sind die hesten sechs," and "Schlafen sie wohl" (which is, by interpretation, "Slacken ye tent pole").

The pillow question is one upon which there is a diversity of opinion. The majority of Cubs consider that knives, forks, mugs and plates make an agreeable head-rest when stuffed inside

a kit bag, while some prefer boots and shoes as being slightly more pliable.

And lastly, about blankets. Cubs always spread these out to air if it comes on to rain, and never go to bed before they have placed their boots outside the tent to catch the morning dew.

An Old Scholar.

SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

Boys' Cricket.

THE prospects of the Cricket season were bright at the beginning of the Summer Term—as a batting side we were much stronger than we had been for several years, and our bowling seemed as good as usual. But when it came to matches it was seen that we were lacking in "temperament," and no members of the side produced their true form. This was probably due to the consistent failure of the masters, none of whom had an average of double figures for the season. The bowling in the 1st XI. was good; Messrs. Pumphrey and Whitlow bowling consistently—so that we usually disposed of our opponents for reasonable scores, but even when faced with totals like thirty-five and forty-two, we were unable to score the runs. The only victory we achieved was against the Old Boys, Edwards and Edmunds coming to our assistance with a great last wicket stand of fifty-one.

The Boys' XI. were more successful this year; Lennard at the close of the season finding runs easy to get, ended with an average of twenty-five, and both he and Elithorn proved useful bowlers.

The Second XI. only played two matches; one, against Newport Grammar School, ended in a tie, both sides scoring forty-four runs. In the other game, after getting out for eighteen in the first innings, the match was won with only three wickets down in the second innings—the scores being 18 and 57 for three wickets, against 45 and 16.

SUMMARY.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.
1st XI. ..	8	1	7	0
Boys' XI. ..	7	3	4	0
2nd XI. ..	2	1	0	1

BOYS' AQUATICS.

The swimming this year has been of a higher standard than in most previous years; the formation of the Swimming Club last year no doubt has raised the general level of the School. In Eric Peverett we have had a swimmer of outstanding merit, and in addition to securing the Championship, he broke two of the school's records, lowering the time for the quarter-mile to 7 mins. 25⅘ secs., and the fifty yards breast stroke to 39 secs. Amongst the Juniors Ernest Farrell broke two records and Watson one, the former securing the Junior Championship.

The House Championships have never been so closely contested. As both champions were in Godlee House, victory seemed assured to them, but their juniors let them down, and the averages were as follows: Crosfield 22.4, Morland 22.2, Godlee 21.5. Crosfield also won the relay race.

An innovation this year was a swimming match against Newport Grammar School. This proved an overwhelming victory for our boys, as Newport only gained a place in one event, tying for second place in the neat dive.

The Life Saving Examinations were as successful as usual; four boys gained the Award of Merit.

SPORTS RESULTS.

SENIOR.

Eighteen Lengths:—1, Peverett; 2, Edmundson i; 3, Evens. 7 mins. 25⅘ secs.*

Four Lengths:—1, Peverett; 2, Burlingham; 3, Edmundson i. 1 min. 24⅘ secs.

Two Lengths (Breast):—1, Peverett; 2, Edmundson i; 3, Wright. 39 secs.*

Two Lengths:—1, Edmundson i; 2, Peverett; 3, Burlingham. 34⅘ secs.

Neat Dive:—1, Peverett; 2, Wright; 3, Lee ii.

Plunge:—1, Priestman; 2, Peverett; 3, Bartlett. 38 ft. 3 ins.

JUNIOR.

Nine Lengths :—1, Watson ; 2, Parley ; 3, Le Mare ii. 4 mins. 19⅘ secs.*

Two Lengths Breast :—1, Farrell ii ; 2, Errington ; 3, Parley. 45 secs.*

Two lengths :—1, Farrell ii ; 2, Watson ; 3, Parley. 40⅘ secs.*

One Length :—1, Farrell ii ; 2, Watson ; 3, Parley. 19⅘ secs.

Neat Dive :—1, Gibb ; 2, Parley ; 3, Le Mare ii.

Plunge :—1, Farrell ii ; 2, Smith ii ; 3, Watson. 33 ft. 6 ins.

HOUSE.

Relay Race (Six Lengths) :—1, Crosfield ; 2, Godlee. 1 min. 45 secs.

SENIOR CHAMPION : Eric Peverett.

JUNIOR CHAMPION : Ernest Farrell.

J. P. WHITLOW.

GIRLS' AQUATICS.

Good work was done in the Swimming Bath this year. All of the thirteen non-swimmers learnt during the term. V. Smith was the first to complete the length, and so won the penknife presented each year by Miss Priestman.

A display of Diving, Life Saving and other items were given at General Meeting, and the Aquatic Sports came at the end of term.

J. Maybery was Senior Champion, with P. Macer-Wright as runner-up.

Among the Juniors, B. McGowan came first, with Marjorie Close second.

The Relay Race ended in a win for Godlee ; Crosfield came second and Morland third.

Crosfield House is to be congratulated on taking first place in the House Sports, with 254 points, Godlee second with 203 points, and Morland third with 102 points.

Several girls attended a Life Saving Class and all who entered for the Proficiency Certificate and Bronze Medallion examinations passed.

H. BEECHAM.

TENNIS.

Owing to wet weather the tennis season was not so good as anticipated, but nevertheless there was no lack of enthusiasm. The courts were usually filled out of School hours when weather permitted.

The Lower School tournaments were played, Ruth Sandwith succeeding in gaining the position of Junior Champion.

The Upper School started theirs, but did not manage to complete them.

Three tennis matches were fixed, but only two played, owing to Hockerill Training College scratching theirs.

The match against the Perse 2nd team, which was played away, resulted in a win for the Friends' School of 95 games to 40. The other match was against Herts. and Essex High School at Stortford, the result being again in our favour, 6 sets to 4.

Two friendly games were played, one Scholars *v.* Staff, which ended in a win for the scholars. The other was played at Wiggons Farm against a scratch team.

Freda Emson.

CRICKET.

The usual lack of enthusiasm was present in the girls' cricket last term. Owing to bad weather the ordinary games and net practices were often prevented. Difficulty was found in arranging fixtures, so only two matches were played.

1st XI. *v.* Old Scholars, for, 87 ; against, 11.

1st XI. *v.* Boys' Lower School XI., for, 55 ; against, 81.

On the whole the standard was high ; three hard tournaments were played, Godlee came out victorious, Crosfield second, and Morland an easy third. Winifred Kilbey was awarded her colours.

Frances Waters.

MORNING, EVENING, NOON AND NIGHT.

MORNING.

THERE is a strange expectancy in the air as of something to come. Birds are gently twittering to make ready for the morning concert. The air is clear and the little town lies peaceful, still asleep. Silken cobwebs hang, covered with dew from every tree, and each tiny blade of grass is laden with

pearls. Pearls that glint and sparkle in the morning sun and seem a thousand different colours all at once.

Gradually the light increases and the little white clouds chase each other over the sky.

In the fields the birds are catching worms, and big fat worms they are, too, but after all, one worm, however big and fat, does not go very far among a nest of hungry youngsters. Little rabbits are taking advantage of the sun to make a meal of the sweet juicy grass that grows around their door-ways.

Fleecy white clouds are by now piling themselves up in heaps in the sky, and every now and then a little piece will break away but no, it is soon caught and taken back, the mother cloud will have no child of hers going away before she gives it leave. Few people are as yet astir, but before long the business of the day will be started ; and as they take their morning meal they will say to one another, "Well ! well ! another day, and it bids fair to be a good one."

Evening.

Slowly the sun sinks behind the clouds as might sink a ball of fire in a mass of metal, molten red-hot metal. The clouds are flecked with pink, and all the sky is streaked with red and gold. Little wisps of white float across the glorious blue of the heavens and then disappear on the boundless horizon.

Trees stand out darkly on the sky line, and water seems a fitting home for fairy folk, so sparkling it is, so gleaming, glinting, and yet so dark, mysterious and deep. Fairy trees seem waving their graceful branches in another world, but there on the bank are the very same trees.

Birds are flying back to rest and the cows slowly wend their way homewards. An owl wakes up and hoots triumphantly as it sees night approaching. Gradually the golden memory of the sun fades from the hearts of the cold grey clouds. From time to time the plaintive cry of the moorhen breaks the stillness and, but for this, the only sound is the gentle rustling of the wind in the reeds, and the moaning and sighing of the trees,

sighing for the departed day. The dew swiftly falling is like rain, it makes the night cold, but the morning will be sweet and fresh.

Night folds her wings on the weary world, and reigns on high with the little pale stars as her subjects.

NOON.

A sleepy indifference broods over the little town. Dogs lie in the little shade there is to be found and growl lazily at one another with no attempt to fight. There is no wind to cool the air and sleep is the only thing possible. A workman sent to do some odd job sleeps with his tools beside him, under the shadow of the house. Out in the fields the very houses are lying down and the birds have stopped their twittering. Even the pond, usually so cool and restful, now looks hot and oily. Its water is half gone and by its brink lie stones once green with moss, but now hot and blistered. Everything is longing for the cool of evening or the rest of night.

NIGHT.

Silence over the little town, the silence of sleep. The soft sound of summer rain gently pattering on roofs and streets.

The moon holds sway over a tired world. No cloud obscures her glorious light and as she soars higher dark shadows chase each other over the town.

The little river lies glistening and each tiny ripple sends back a myriad sparkles. The gentle lapping of the water in the reeds is pleasantly musical and makes one wish to lie and rest just there. An owl hoots in the wood near by, but the sound dies away in the stillness. Bats fly silently by like great butterflies with their broad wings outspread. A tree sighs, shakes and then is still, in sleep.

A weary world is resting, and keeping guard is the moon, in her home on high.

Kathleen D. Priestman
(Stage 4a).

SCHOOL JOTTINGS.



E learn that Miss Bird, having lost Crow as a pupil, has now taken on Sparrow.

* * * *

Overheard at table :

A. ——'s mad.

B. Oh, what makes you say that ?

A. Well, he wouldn't do the things he does if he weren't.

B. But what *does* he do ?

A. Well—to begin with, he's writing a story for THE AVENUE !

* * * * *

The traveller who casts his eyes over bookstalls is familiar with the titles of books which claim to give hints on various subjects—Hints on Gardening; Hints on Poultry-Keeping; Hints on Table Etiquette, etc., etc. We were surprised, however, in an Aural Culture Class the other day, to learn that Beethoven composed a beautiful hymn entitled " Hints to Creation " ! Also, on another occasion, that the members of a History class where paints would be required, were urged to remember their " Hints for Pastry " !

* * * * *

In a Geography class :

Mr. ——. Why is there so much cotton grown round the banks of the River Mississippi ?

Boy. The river banks are level and well watered, so that plenty of grass can grow there to feed the sheep on.

* * * * *

In a Geology class :

Mr. ——. How did the flints get into the chalk ?

Boy. The stone-age men put them there.

* * * * *

Scene : Cottis, putting up the shutters of the cricket pavilion.

M-g-t Br-t-n. " Boy, what are you doing that for ? "

Cottis. "To keep the wasps out."

M-g-t Br-t-n (after pause for thought). "Silly boy! They'll come in at the door!"

THE SONG OF THE AVENUE BOARD.

(With apologies to Longfellow.)

Then was held a great Board Meeting,
Meeting of the Board so learnéd,
Asked for items for th' AVÉNUE,
Magazine of Walden Friends' School,
First the Foreword, then the Diary,
Next accounts of games of Cricket,
Played upon the field so spacious.
After came reports of meetings,
Literary, Scientific.

Then accounts of Expeditions
Add an int'rest to the record.
One North Eastward to the Fleam Dyke,
Then another far to Southward,
Taken on the hills in Surrey,
By some Staff and many scholars
Who rejoiced in days of walking.

But a magazine is lengthy,
Has more room than for these records,
There was need for further items,
Items which would be exciting.
So a notice fair was posted
On the doors of both the playrooms,
Asking for more contributions
To be written by the Scholars.

Soon the Board adjourned its meeting
Put it off for just a fortnight,
Waited for these contributions,
Which would fill the vacant pages.
Then was held the second meeting,
Meeting of the Board so learnéd.
But the pages still were vacant,
Still no items were forthcoming.
Sorrow filled the minds of members,
For the lack of contributions.
So the Board disperséd sadly,
And was forced once more to reckon
All the pages of th'AVÉNUE,
And to write itself the items
For those many empty pages.

Then at the last the secretaries,
Wearied, harrassed, secretaries,
Did fill up those empty pages.
Then they went unto the Printer
Who did print and bind them truly,
And at last much nearer Christmas
They returned once more to Walden,
To the famous School at Walden.

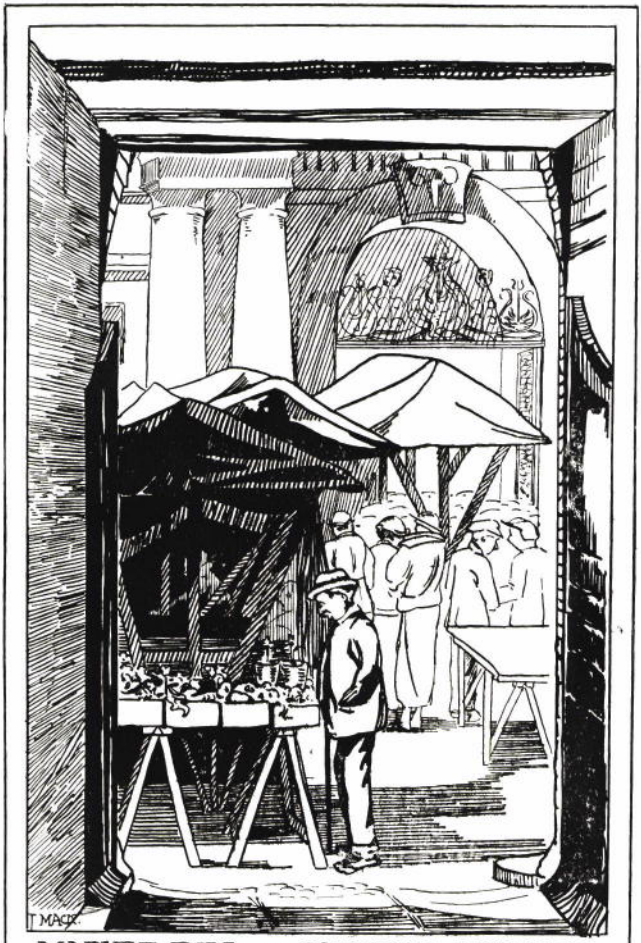
ANON.

[In order to include this, we have been forced to crowd out much material.—EDS.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR, "THE AVENUE."

DEAR SIR,—May I express what I know—expressed or unexpressed—has been felt with regard to this year's AVENUE cover?



MARKET DAY SAFFRON WALDEN

The Board is emphatically to be congratulated on its departure from the long run of drabness in which our AVENUE has been decked; and in the courage to satisfy a longing common—whether consciously or subconsciously—to all people, for colour as a part of Beauty.

Yours truly,
M. G. AGNEW.

FROM FAR AND NEAR.

CONCERNING OLD SCHOLARS.

Old Scholars who were in Group C last Term.

Madeleine M. C. Baker is at University College, London.

James H. Bayly is studying for Accountancy.

Audrey L. Bell.

James H. Blagdon is at the Friends' Provident and Century Life Office in Kingsway, London.

Frank S. Burlingham.

Pauline F. Crampton.

John Edmundson.

John E. Edwards is working at the London County Council Building School in Ferndale Road.

L. Hilda Engelmann is at Vevey, Switzerland, at a school where several other Walden Old Scholars have already been.

Dorothy I. Falkner is at the Mount School, York.

Frances M. Gear is at Chichester High School.

J. Grace M. Gibb is at the Mount School, York.

Marjorie Land is in a Solicitor's Office, Saffron Walden.

Francis H. Lennard.

Mildred McKears is studying Domestic Science at Battersea Polytechnic, and shares a room with Kathleen Green.

Henry B. Rowntree writes from Bootham School, York: "For heaven's sake, don't ever put anything that I write in THE AVENUE."

A. E. Gertrude Rushworth is taking up Secretarial work.

Audrey M. Smith is at a school in Belgium.

Joyce G. Tawell is at the Royal Academy of Music.

Jessie K. Tebbutt is studying Horticulture, etc., at St. Albans.

* * * * *

Hilda Carter (*née* Rye, 1909-14), writes from Eckville, Alberta:

"Just a line to tell you of my safe arrival in Canada once more. We came through part of that terrible Atlantic storm in which the *Arabic* was badly damaged, and while replying to an S.O.S. from the *Arabic* we lost our own wireless. . . . Kenneth was the "pet of the ship" and made friends with everybody. He is now ten months old, nearly walking, and talking in his own way all the time. My husband has not completed his aerial photographic survey, so I came to join him at Eckville, a little place thirty-six miles from the nearest town, population 125 (70 per cent. children), three streets, twelve stores, and a train three times a week! . . . I am always trying to imagine what this country was like 200 years ago, with buffalo grazing on the plains and no one but Indians living here. The buffalo is surely a weird looking animal, but, contrary to most people's idea, quite timid."

* * * * *

Charles E. Lee (1897-99) writing from Rio de Janeiro, in reference to two daughters who are to come to Saffron Walden next year, says:

". . . The book containing views of the School and grounds was of especial interest to me, recalling many pleasant memories. . . . Two of my brothers, A. J. and W. A., who were at Walden, are also out here in South America, one being at Buenos Ayres and the other 200 miles up country, also in Argentine. Rio itself is an interesting town, situated as it is on a large inland bay and surrounded by hills. As there are very few decent roads outside the town itself, one takes full advantage of the bay, on which there are numerous islands, some inhabited and others large enough for picnics, etc. The population is very mixed, which has a noticeable effect on the customs,

buildings and general condition of the town. In one respect I should imagine they have very few superiors, and that is in the electric lighting effects and the way electric power is utilised. The climate is not at all unbearable, for, although hot in the summer, it makes a great difference when one can be sure of the weather and dress accordingly."

* * * * *

Stanley Secret (1919-21), writes :

" I have just started my fourth year of work in the electrical trade. At present I am engaged in installation work, and am outdoors a great deal. I am attending evening classes for electrical engineering and have passed several examinations in connection with this and mathematics. In the last examination I passed under the ' City and Guilds Institute ' the ' Electrical Contractors' Association ' notified me of their intention of awarding me a prize, provided that I was apprenticed to a member of that Association.

" I attend Wandsworth Friends' Meeting and keep up a regular correspondence with Colin Todd. I am very interested in School events and am taking THE AVENUE for that reason.

" I learn that an electrical generating station is being built at Saffron Walden and hope that it will be a success."

* * * * *

Dorothy Reynolds (1915-21), working at University College during the day and at the Peel branch of the Bedford Institute in the evening and on Sundays, writes :

" I have been doing a lot of slum visiting lately. It is most frightfully thrilling. We have to get to know all the kids' parents and it's a most adventurous job. I'm getting quite at home in Clerkenwell."

* * * * *

Hilda Engelmann (1920-24) writes from Vaud, Switzerland :

" Well ! I've been here exactly three weeks and I'm not sure whether I'm going to like it or not. The scenery is absolutely beautiful. From my bedroom window I look right down, past

little patches of vineyard, on to Vevey, with the blue lake and mountains beyond. Every day we go for two long walks, one after breakfast and one after dinner. At present we get very hot, climbing up and down little cobbled streets of picturesque though smelly mountain villages, and between vineyards which are spread out over the mountain sides looking like a patchwork quilt. The lessons are a bit difficult at first, all in French, except for Maths. and English Literature, and also rather old-fashioned. On Thursdays we go for an all-day excursion. Last week we went to Chillon and the week before to Geneva. I expect all is about the same as it always was at F.S.S.W., except that everyone has moved up and some have left and new ones have arrived. How I wish I was one of the latter instead of the former ! "

* * * * *

Madeleine Baker (1918-24) writes from University College, London :

" I am enjoying College life very much indeed. During the holidays people kept telling me that I should enjoy College just as much as I had enjoyed school, but I was a little bit nervous of everything being so new. But now I'm beginning to believe that it will be so, although of course in quite a different way, as college is so grown up. The lectures are all very interesting, but some of them are rather advanced. One great change is that we have all our French lectures entirely in French. This rather took me aback at first, and I found it very difficult to follow and take notes at the same time.

" I have met both D. Reynolds and E. Thompson. Edna is in the same group as I am for several lectures. There are many and varied societies at College, of course, and I had rather a job at the beginning of the term to decide which I should join. In the end I decided on three : Hockey Club, Swimming Club, and the Debating Society. . . . But although I am enjoying College very much, of course I shan't ever forget School, because that was just as enjoyable in a different way."

Duncan B. Murdoch (former Master), writing from Hawaii, says :

" I hope everything is prospering with the old School. More than forty years have passed since I left Saffron Walden, but my love for the dear old place is just as strong as ever. My last visit was in 1902, but I still live in hopes of being there again."

* * * * *

Eileen Cousins (1915-22) writes from Street :

" I have (temporarily) charge of Mrs. Clark's little school of eight children, and I am kept extremely busy, though I am enjoying myself thoroughly. I teach them all subjects from Scripture, Geography and History, etc., to Music, French and Nature. . . . The most amusing time of the day is after tea. For domestic education, the younger ones have to help clear away and do the crumbs and wash up. The boys try all sorts of dodges to get out of this. When tea is finished and we have begun to clear away, Stephen suddenly decides that he will have another piece of bread and jam. Nathan carries trayfuls of precariously packed crockery on his head and then lathers the washing-up water so much that the plates all slip out of people's fingers. Then they sweep the crumbs off the table with a broom, or sweep each other into the dustpan. Altogether the process of washing-up, etc., takes about an hour."

SCHOOL DIARY.

July 2nd.—Cricket Matches : Boys' 1st XI. *v.* Newport Grammar School 1st XI., away, lost, 37—105. F. H. Lennard, 6 wkts. for 32.

Boys' 2nd XI. *v.* Newport Grammar School 2nd XI., home, drawn, 44—44.

Tennis, Friendly Games, Girls' VI. *v.* a ladies' team at Helions Bumpstead, lost, 2—6 sets.

,, 3rd.—N.H.S. Mtg. Meteorological Report, J. Baily ; Current Events Report, Helen Baker and Freda Emson ; Diary, Hilda Engelmann and Grace Gibb ; Account of N.H.S. Excursion to Takely Forest, T. Runciman ; Essays, " Grimes Graves," W. Armstrong ; " Bears," D. Freeman ; " Diatoms," P. Crow.

July 5th.—N.H.S. Excursion to Catley Park, Linton.
Cricket Match: Boys' 1st XI. *v.* Cambridge County School 1st XI., home, drawn, 55 for 8—112 for 8. J. H. Blagdon, 22 runs.

,, 9th.—House Socials.

,, 10th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diaries: D. Edmundson and Dorothy I. Falkner; Essays: "Holiday Impressions," J. Lush; "A Short Story," Joyce G. Tawell; "The Same Old Story—Holiday Recollections," A. Mazower; "There is Nothing New Under the Sun," Miss Yapp. Old English Songs: "Mistress Mine," "All through the Night," "Annie Laurie," Marjorie Land.

,, 12th.—Cricket Matches: 1st XI. v. Audley End, away, lost, 61—69. Mr. Pumphrey, 5 wkts. for 25; Mr. Brereton, 1 wkt. for 1.
Lower School XI. *v.* Newport Grammar School, Lower School XI., home, won, 60—18 and 25. A. Gibb, 5 wkts. for 4, and 4 wkts. for 11; I. Parley, 5 wkts. for 8; R. P. Reynolds, 6 wkts. for 11.

,, 16th.—Cricket Match: 1st XI. *v.* Mr. C. R. Downham's XI., home, lost, 74—136 for 6 wkts.

,, 17th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Diary, J. R. Evens and D. Freeman; Meteorological Report, J. Edmundson; Current Events Report, J. Baily and H. B. Rowntree; Report of Excursion to Catley Park, Madeline Andrews and D. Bartlett; Essays: "The Adaptation of Insects to Water-Life," Marjorie Land and Jessie K. Tebbutt; "The Adaptation of Plants to Water-Life," Dorothy I. Falkner and J. Grace M. Gibb; "The Adaptation of Mammals to Water-Life," Madeleine Baker.

,, 19th.—Cricket Match: Boys' 1st XI. *v.* Horneybrooke, home, won, 146—69. F. H. Lennard 49, J. N. Elithorn 22. F. H. Lennard 6 wkts. for 27.

,, 24th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Gilbert and Sullivan Evening organised by Miss Bird.

,, 26th.—Cricket Match: Boys' 1st XI. *v.* Horneybrooke, home, lost, 91—112. F. H. Lennard 55.

,, 31st.—End of Term.

Sept. 18th.—School re-opened.

,, 25th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Business Meeting.

,, 27th.—Football Match: 1st XI. *v.* The Foxes, home, lost, 2—6. Concert.

,, 28th.—Address by Miss Anne Burgess on her work in Constantinople and Corfu.

Oct. 2nd.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary, J. R. Evens; Essays: "The Sky," Frances Waters; "Swimming," E. Peverett; Pianoforte Solo, MacDowell's "Shadow Dance," Constance H. Newbery; Lantern Lecture, "Dredging and Excavating," Mr. Philip D. Priestman.

,, 4th.—Lantern Lecture: "How many legs has a Caterpillar got?" Mr. C. B. Rowntree.

,, 9th.—Committee Inspection.

,, 11th to 13th.—O.S. Week-end. Football Match: 1st XI. *v.* O.S's, lost, 1—3.

Hockey Match: 1st XI. *v.* O.S.s, won, 3—2.

Concert.

,, 15th.—Address to Stages 6 and 7 by Mr. Neave Brayshaw, on alterations in old hymns, songs and manuscripts.

Football Match: Boys' XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford College, away, lost, 0—1.

,, 16th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary, Joan Gundry; Essays: "Roads," Helen Baker; "Heroes and Heroines," W. D. Priestman; "A Day's Motor Tour," Dorothy K. Brown. Pianoforte Solo, "A Ride"—Shaw, Dorothy K. Brown.

,, 18th.—N.H.S. Excursion to Cambridge.

Lantern Lecture: "Denmark and Her Rural Reconstruction," Mr. Nugent Harris.

,, 22nd.—Football Matches: Boys' 1st XI. *v.* Newport Grammar School 1st. XI., home, lost 0—1.

Boys' 2nd XI. *v.* N.G.S. 2nd XI., away, won, 2—0.

,, 23rd.—N.H.S. Mtg. Diary, B. A. Le Mare and E. W. Lee; Current Events Report, D. A. Bartlett and D. Edmundson; Meteorological Report, A. Mazower; Report of Excursion to Arkesden and Wicken Bonhunt, H. MacGowan; Holiday Current Events Report, Beatrice Freestone and Madeline Andrews; Lantern Lecture on the Structure of Certain Insects. Mr. Morris.

,, 25th. Hockey Matches: Girls' 1st XI. *v.* Herts. and Essex H.S. 1st XI., home, won, 3—2.

2nd XI. *v.* Herts. and Essex H.S. 2nd XI., away, drawn, 0—0.

Football Match: Boys' 1st XI. *v.* Harlow College 1st XI., away, won 2—0.

Lantern Lecture: "London's Underground Railways," Mr. C. B. Rowntree.

,, 29th.—Hockey Match: 1st. XI. *v.* Cambridge Ladies "A" team, away, lost, 3—4.

NOTICES.

Three numbers of *The Avenue* will be published in 1925, price 8d. per copy (post free, 10d.); or 2s. per annum (post free, 2s. 6d.).

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

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

EDITORIAL BOARD.

Frances Waters and *Eric Peverett* have joined the Board.

LONDON GENERAL SCHOOL EXAMINATION.

Matriculation :—Madeleine Baker (Dist. in English), James H. Blagdon, Dorothy I. Falkner (Dist. in Mathematics), Grace Gibb (Dist. in History and Botany), Marjorie Land, Henry B. Rowntree (Dist. in Mathematics), Gertrude Rushworth, Joyce G. Tawell, Jessie K. Tebbutt.

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Higher Division.—David Edmundson and Richard Evens.

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Certificate.—11 girls and 13 boys.

SCHOOL MAGAZINES.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following Magazines :—*The Beckside* (Ayton), *Keswick School Magazine*, *The Brookfield Chronicle* (Wigton), *Knole Hall High School* (Bournemouth) *Magazine*.



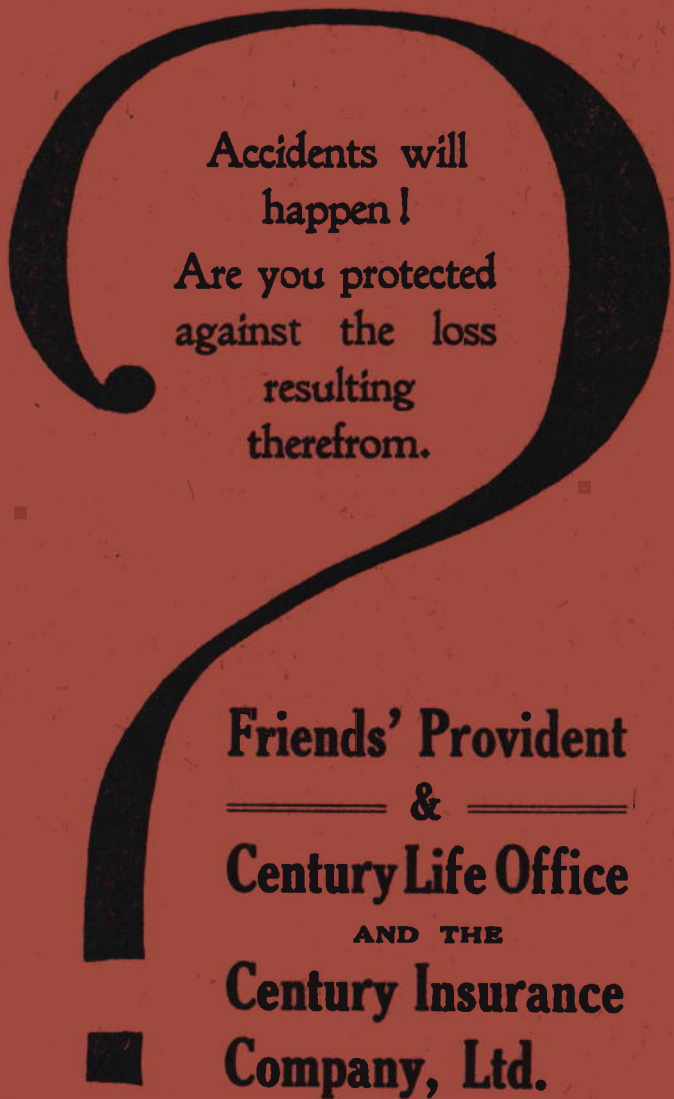
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