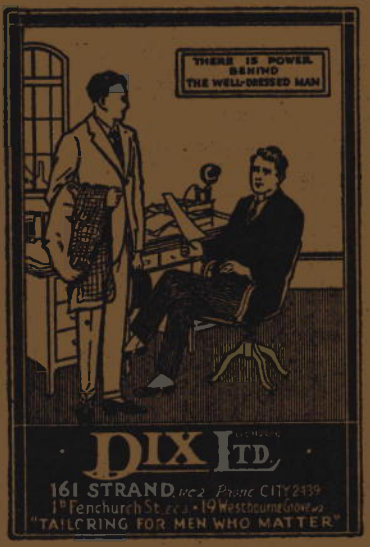
THE AVENUE



DECEMBER 1926

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THE SWIMMING BATH.



The Magazine of the Friends' School, Saffron Walden.

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FOREWORD.



GREAT changes usually mark the beginning of the School year. Old friends are usually missing and many new faces appear in our midst. Fifteen new girls and nine new boys have joined us this term, and to these we give a hearty welcome, wishing them all happiness in their school career.

Amongst those who left us at the end of last term were Mr. Johnston, whom we must congratulate very heartily on having done so well in his examination, and Nurse Wilcox, who so ably filled Miss Waring's place during the summer.

It was a very great pleasure on returning to school, to find Miss Waring back again amongst us, looking so much better for her long rest.

A new subject has crept into the curriculum this term. Some of the older girls are now being initiated in the arts of Cookery and Domestic Science, under Miss Kathleen Green,

an old scholar whom we welcome back to School as a member of the Staff.

Of the seventeen candidates who entered this year for the General School Examination, sixteen obtained certificates and nine reached Matriculation standard. There was one Honours Certificate, seventeen distinctions in individual subjects and seven with special credit for Oral French or German.

During the Summer holidays, two of our members helped to extend the hand of fellowship across the Channel, by joining a small party going to Hamburg, where they stayed in the homes of German families. A fuller description of this adventure will be found in other pages of the *Avenue*.

WINIFRED A. WRIGHT.

SOCIETY REPORTS.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

THE general standard of our meetings has been well maintained throughout the year, though apart from the essay which gained first place, there was none of outstanding merit. The first prize was awarded to André Mazower, the second was divided between D. A. Bartlett and Iris Harris, while David Edmundson and Nora Child shared the third. Five other essays were "commended" and were awarded "stars." "Stars" were also given to six members for "clear and accurate reading." Musical items have been given frequently, especial credit being due to Dorothy Brown, Nora Child, J. Richard Evens and David Edmundson for pianoforte solos, and to H. D. Byles for songs. Mr. Whitlow has also kindly lent his gramophone and records on several occasions.

Recitations are still conspicuous by their absence, though this year has shown an improvement in that we have had one

from a junior member in comparison with none at all in the years immediately preceding.

As usual, a number of special meetings have been held. In November one meeting was devoted to a "Parliamentary" sitting at which we discussed a motion for establishing a Royal Commission to enquire into the possibilities for the electrification of all railways in the United Kingdom. A month later we held a fancy dress "Christmas Social," and after tea in the Lecture Room we adjourned to the Dining Hall for games. One meeting in the Spring Term was spent in play-reading. The plays selected were "The Queen, God Bless Her!" "His Favourite Flower," and "The Comforter," all of which are taken from Laurence Housman's volume "Angels and Ministers." During the Summer Term we had a meeting at which a number of five-minute essays were read. Some of these showed considerable originality both in subject and style and reached an exceptionally high standard.

M. G. YAPP.

BOYS' READING CLUB.

The meetings this year have been very successful, members having shown keener interest in the discussions than in our previous sessions.

By kind invitation of Mrs. Rowntree, the first meeting, in December, was held at Hillcroft. The books discussed were: "The Moonstone," by Wilkie Collins; "A Seventeenth Century Anthology," a book of verse; Belloc's "The Four Men"; and one of Ibsen's plays—"The Wild Duck."

In the Spring we held our meeting in the Lecture Room, and had some very good discussions. That on "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" was taken part in by practically all members. "Familiar Studies of Men and Books" by the same author was found more difficult, owing to the fact that members knew but little of several of the people discussed. Ponsonby's "Now is the Time," though provocative in subject, produced little adverse criticism. The best discussion was forthcoming

over William Morris's metrical romance " The Life and Death of Jason."

The last meeting of the year was again held at Hillcroft, and was perhaps the best of the three. We led off with Goldsmith's play, " She Stoops to Conquer," and followed up with a good discussion on " Pepys' Diary 1665-6." We had to cut short the argument about the third book, Bentley's " Trent's Last Case," owing to the exigencies of time, and we passed on to the fourth volume, namely, " Prose and Poetry," a selection from the works of Newbolt.

David Edmundson has made an excellent secretary to the Society, and the résumé of the discussions in the minutes has been well up to the standard set by his predecessors.

J. P. WHITLOW.

GIRLS' READING CLUB.

As in past years, keen interest has been shown on the part of the members, and, once launched into discussion, we have found the time allotted to each book all too short.

During the course of the year, the suggestion was adopted that points should be awarded for deserving introductions, many of which have been very good.

The books selected for the first term were "Sanditon," an unfinished novel by Jane Austen; E. F. Benson's " House of Quiet "; a most vivid translation of Likendesky's " Week "—this is a tale of Revolutionary Russia—and Chesterton's book on Charles Dickens, which proved most interesting.

Our interest in Dickens having thus been aroused, " Bleak House " was one of the books selected for the Spring Term. We had also " How the Labourer Lives," by B. S. Rowntree, " The Square Peg," by Philip Macer-Wright, and " The Clash of Colour," a book on the Race question by Basil Mathews. All these books, especially the last, aroused much discussion.

In our last Term of the year we read Kipling's book, " The Day's Work," " Alton Lock," by Kingsley, " Travels with a Donkey," by R. L. Stevenson, and " The Post Office," a short

play written by Rabindranath Tagore. We were greatly helped in our discussion of " The Day's Work " by the very able way in which Miss Irvine had introduced the book. " The Post Office " was greatly enjoyed by the majority of members and the consequent auction was most successful.

The books read covered a wide range though those dealing with social and similar problems seem to be most numerous, while the lack of poetry during the whole course of the year is noticeable.

At the beginning of this term we were glad to welcome back Miss Green who has joined us again.

Miss Priestman has again kindly provided refreshments in her room, and our meetings have been thoroughly enjoyed.

I. M. Harris.

(*Stage 7.*)

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

During the greater part of last year the Society was divided into three sections, Archæological, Zoological and Botanical; but at the first meeting of the Autumn Term it was decided to abolish this system, which had had more than a year's trial, and which was not considered a great success.

The Society is now run on the same lines as formerly, with the exception that the rule regarding new members, which was introduced with the section system, has not been abolished.

The number of essays produced has been fairly satisfactory, but there can be little doubt that many of the meetings have suffered considerably from the lack of illustrations to the papers, and on several occasions we have had to depend upon Mr. Morris to keep the meetings going.

As the result of this we have had some very interesting talks on various subjects, such as " Snails " and " Microscope Photography."

During the year there have been several long excursions, the chief of which was a train excursion to Ely in the Spring Term.

On the whole, however, the interest shown has hardly been as good as in previous years, and it is to be hoped that greater keenness will be shown in the future.

John O. Burtt.
(Stage 7.)

THE MIDDLE LITERARY SOCIETY.

On the whole the year has been a successful one. Most of the essays and stories have reached a quite satisfactory standard and some have been distinctly good. The " blood and thunder " story has well-nigh disappeared, giving place to better constructed tales of the detective type where some imagination has been shown. There has been variety in the work produced.

The members have shown an interest in the work of the Society and a number have helped with constructive criticism. In this connection may be mentioned Dunstan, Hardy, Parley, Marjorie Dell, Bessie McGowan and Marjorie Close.

The reading of the work produced has varied very much and some have been too apt to ask others to read for them.

The diaries have not reached a high standard and the book in which they are written has been lost too often. There were not enough recitations though Betty French did quite well in this connection.

There has been a lack of music—what was produced was mainly due to Vera Smith and Mulholland.

In spite of the rain the Summer Social passed off well.

The " open meeting " was well carried out by the secretaries in spite of some of those who had offered help failing to fulfil their promises.

The secretaries and members of the committee have rendered faithful service and taking the Society as a whole, it may safely be said to be in a flourishing condition.

M.G.Y.
D.P.

JUNIOR LITERARY SOCIETY.

During the past year the Society has been very large and its members enthusiastic. Although the meetings have been varied, very little work of outstanding merit has been done.

The most successful essays have again been mainly descriptions of places visited by the writers. Attempts at story-writing have been few, and not really good. We have enjoyed Winnie Lee's fresh and breezy descriptions of her life in Rio-de-Janeiro and E. Burtt and Eleanor Sawdon have also done quite good work.

Recitations, though numerous, have suffered from a too rapid delivery, with the exception of those given by Margaret Rollason, who has done excellent work in this direction.

There have been rather fewer musical items than formerly; of these, piano solos from Edith Kilbey and K. Spurge and songs from Margaret Herries are worthy of note.

Fine weather again favoured the annual meeting, which was held in the school grounds and enjoyed as much as ever.

E. M. ROSE.

JUNIOR NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The Society has been full during the past year, and although individual diaries and collections have been neglected, the members have been keenly interested in the meetings. Competitions have been held termly and one evening spent on Natural History Debates, was much enjoyed. Of essays, that on " Bees " by Margaret Rollason is worthy of note.

Excursions to the Clay Pits and Debden Park were taken in the summer term and proved profitable times.

E. M. ROSE.

WIRELESS SOCIETY.

For the past year the Society, having few new members, has been able to cover more ground than previously. The usual practice of making an entirely fresh start every year was for once forsaken in favour of taking some more advanced theory. The whole schedule of arranged talks was carried out

and included a detailed description of the Rugby High Power Station by David Edmundson, and a series of talks on Transmission by Mr. Brereton.

But, however useful the reduced membership may have been from this point of view, we have to recognise that the interest in wireless as a study has enormously decreased since 1925. The effects of this were seen in the fact that only fortnightly discussion meetings were held in the Spring Term and no meetings at all in the Summer.

There are indications that for the time being the Society has served its purpose—obviously a very useful one—and that for the present at any rate its activities must cease.

DAVID EDMUNDSON.

(1920-1926.)

OLD SCHOLARS' WEEK-END.

(OCTOBER 9TH-11TH.)

AFTER a somewhat squally morning, a high Autumn wind was driving the first dead leaves before it, under a sky, which, though not altogether cloudless, did not prevent the sun from making frequent appearances. Apart from the wind, which perhaps was rather too strong for a football match, and even for a hockey match, weather conditions were excellent, and it was under such conditions that the first Old Scholars' Matches of the school year were played. Perhaps it was due to the fact that the school teams had not yet found their full strength as teams, possibly it was due to the tonic effect of the Walden air upon the Old Scholars, but at any rate both Old Scholars' teams achieved victory ; in the case of the girls, by eight goals to two ; in the case of the boys, by the smaller margin of three goals to one. In both matches, the play was keen and hard, and

thoroughly enjoyed up to the final whistle blast. With the evening came the concert, ably arranged by Mr. Beer, to which some of the staff, and past and present scholars contributed. All joined in singing "October," "The Poacher," "The Chesapeake and the Shannon," and the evening closed with the School song. Sunday slipped uneventfully but all too quickly by, the afternoon being taken up with visits to various studies. Our sincere thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Rowntree and Miss Irvine, who have extended this hospitality to us, and to the staff and scholars who have made this so pleasant a week-end for us. These week-end visits are so different in detail, and yet all are so essentially the same. We experience as we return to the school, one of those supremely rare moments when, whether we will it or not, the tide of Time appears to recede, and past becomes present once more. It requires no effort of the mind to recall what seems to us in our City offices somewhat far-removed. Incidents and events that perhaps had otherwise been forgotten return with renewed clearness, and memory, refreshed, helps us to live once more in days that will always be cherished as amongst the best and happiest of our lives. When at last the time comes to depart it is with something of regret that we turn work-ward, after a week-end such as Walden only can give.

P. AYNSLEY SMITH.
(1918-1923.)

FOOTBALL IN PORTUGAL.



N spite of the title of this article, I do not wish any one to think that I am an authority on Portuguese Football. I would wish rather that the article be read as an account of a short Football Tour I was fortunate enough to be able to make last Easter.

Leaving London on the last Sunday in March, a glorious day, we crossed over to Boulogne and from there went on to Paris,

where we stayed the night. We were off again at ten o'clock next morning, and travelling all day, reached the Franco-Spanish frontier at 10.30 p.m. There we changed trains and after having had supper amid a terrible smell of garlic, we went to bed in the sleeping coaches, passing meanwhile through the Pyrenees and the Basque country.

On awakening in the morning we found we were in Spain, travelling through entirely new but uninteresting country, and it was not until we were well into Portugal that we could become at all enthusiastic about the scenery. Here the rugged, bare hills, devoid of trees, were in sharp contrast with the well-watered, green valleys, filled with vineyards and fields of cereals. In the afternoon the character of the country changed again, becoming much flatter, and after we had passed over miles of land under water owing to the flooding of the Tagus, we reached Lisbon.

At the station we were met by the officials of our hosts, the Sporting Club de Portugal, and after having had our photographs taken, we were escorted to the Hotel Metropole. This hotel, the best in Lisbon, faces the main square, the scene of the recent riots. The square itself is surrounded by some very good buildings, while in it are fountains and statues. It has also the main tram lines, and from them branches go off to every part of Lisbon. Both trams and traffic work on the "one way street" principle. The noise from the square is sometimes nearly deafening and always nerve-racking. Taxi-drivers draw attention to their empty cabs by blowing their horns, so it is easily imagined what a noise there is.

The day after our arrival we were taken to see the two grounds on which we were to play the three matches. These grounds consisted of rolled sand, level and very hard, which are watered and rolled before every important match. Surrounding the grounds are up-to-date concrete stands which will hold more than 15,000 people, with seating accommodation for about 5,000. The grand stand is on the shaded side of the

ground, and the slight shade thrown on to the playing pitch by the stand is most welcome. This I found from actual experience.

On the Thursday after our arrival we played the first match against the Victorio Club. The members of this team were recruited from men in the docks and harbour, and, I must say, they presented a very formidable appearance. The reception we received at this first match was very heartening, but it was nothing compared with the cheering that arose when the local team came on to the ground. They trotted in single file on to the playing pitch, the captain leading, and forming themselves into a straight line in front of the grand stand, bowed and then cheered three times. This performance was repeated before each of the other three sides. It was obvious that the team greatly enjoyed the applause of the spectators. We could not help wondering whether it was an act of courtesy to the crowd or merely an attempt by the team to find out the measure of support they might expect from the crowd. Anyhow, it was all very strange to us.

After exchanging Club flags, or perhaps I ought to say Club pennons, the match started at a very fast pace. Repeated attacks on our goal resulted in the home team being one up after the first fifteen minutes. What with the intense heat and glare of the sun on the sand, a light ball, and the referee wearing a shirt the same colour as our own, the prospects for us were not at all bright. The home team played football after the style of the professionals in England, and our long passing tactics were soon shown to be wrong. They played with very short passes, and after we had adopted their game the exchanges were more even. During the interval, for which all our men had longed, we had the studs taken out of our boots—you can imagine that they were becoming too much in evidence. Although we were able to hold our own during the greater part of the second half, during the last fifteen minutes our team went to pieces and another goal was scored against us. On the whole, this first match was quite a pleasant one but the frequent appeals for

"offside" and "mal" or "foul" spoilt the game to some extent. The tackling of the local team, although not of the cleanest, was spirited, and their positioning and short passing were excellent. The "no barging" rule in Portuguese football was a great shock to us, and during this first match it was a constant source of trouble. Time after time we were pulled up for this as an offence, and every time cheers rose from the crowd.

This defeat by the Club considered to have the weakest of the three teams provided good copy for the Press, and as far as we could gather, the Press took full advantage of it, accentuating the fact that they had beaten us at our own game. We were told that our defeat would seriously affect the interest in the other matches, so that it was clear to us that we should have to put up a better fight against Bemfica, the Club we were to play next.

The most important man in a Portuguese team appears to be the goalkeeper, and this was made evident to us at the beginning of our second match two days later. The players came on singly, each receiving a round of applause, but when the goalkeeper came on last he received more applause than the rest of the team altogether. This match, which we were able to win, three to one, I will not attempt to describe as from beginning to end it was nothing but a series of infringements so glaring and dangerous that would not have been possible in England. By the way, it is interesting to note that in Portugal substitutes can take the place of players who are hurt, feeling very tired or even sent off by the referee. Surely there is something wrong about this rule which seems to defeat the whole object of the referee's decision.

The last of our most important matches against the Sporting Club de Portugal was by far the most pleasant match. The Sporting Club players were mostly University men and it seemed that they possessed a better idea of sportsmanship than the others. The game, which was drawn, no goals being scored, was full of thrills and in spite of the fact that the first of the

season's bull-fights was in progress about a quarter of a mile away, a huge crowd watched the game. Much to our surprise the referees throughout the matches were very good. Indeed, if they had not been, really good football would have been impossible.

The Sporting Club de Portugal proved themselves most hospitable and the programme they had arranged for us was attractive and varied. A private tram was put at our disposal, and by means of this we were able to get some very fine views of the town and the sea beyond. The Campo Grande, the main thoroughfare, is as fine a boulevard as can be seen in any city in the world.

The day before each of the three matches was set aside for a whole day's excursion, and perhaps the most enjoyable trip of all was that to Cintra, about fifteen miles from Lisbon, among the hills, where a number of English people reside. There are three palaces, one in Cintra itself, and the other two, reached by a winding road beneath glorious trees, situated one on each of two hills overlooking the town, and commanding an unbroken view over varying shades of forest to the Atlantic. One of these two palaces is very old, dating back to 700 A.D., while the other, built about seven hundred years later, is of Moorish origin and until recently was used by Portuguese royalty. Sheer drops of over one hundred feet occur at both castles on three sides. The palace in Cintra itself is noted for its two kitchens, shaped like huge oast houses with painted walls right up to the single flue at the top. This castle was built about 1450 A.D.

At the present moment Portugal seems to be in the middle of a football fever. While we were there, in the largest theatre in Lisbon a play was running which had "Football" for its title. The actual amount of anything to do with football in the play consisted solely of a number of people walking on the stage during the first and last acts, carrying silk balls about 3-ft. 6-in. in diameter. No less than three different magazines

are published weekly on football, while huge posters on walls, cars and trams announce forthcoming matches. I do not think that Portuguese football, although they play many teams from different places in Europe, will ever reach the standard of English football in sportsmanship or play. Esprit de corps seems to be totally lacking ; on one occasion the referee had to separate two Portuguese players. Professionalism seems likely to ruin the game over there in a short time. The Players, though called amateurs even now receive a certain amount of remuneration for their services. But perhaps one should not criticise too severely, since, while people are watching football matches, they are not watching bull-fights, and it is singularly pleasing to learn that the matadors and toreadors are giving place to backs and forwards.

F. G. FRIZZELL.
(1914-1920.)

TRAMP ECHOES.

DURING one's first terms at School one frequently comes face to face with a kind of mystery, which has its foundation in the simple word " Tramp." The newcomer, surrounded by those who have either experienced the joys of last year's Tramp, or who are earnestly looking forward to next year's, shyly ventures to ask a question on this subject, but is met only with the answer, " Oh ! can't describe it ; wait till you get there." And so the simple word " Tramp " begins to be shrouded in mystery. Then on her journey up the School, she meets with " Avenues," singing the praises of this so-called " Tramp." She sees around her in the School numerous photographs, beautiful and amusing in their various ways, but all ringing with what is known as the Tramp " atmosphere " —that indescribable feeling of unity and happiness which never once leaves the company during the too short week of eventful happenings. And so this " Tramp " idea, born in mystery,

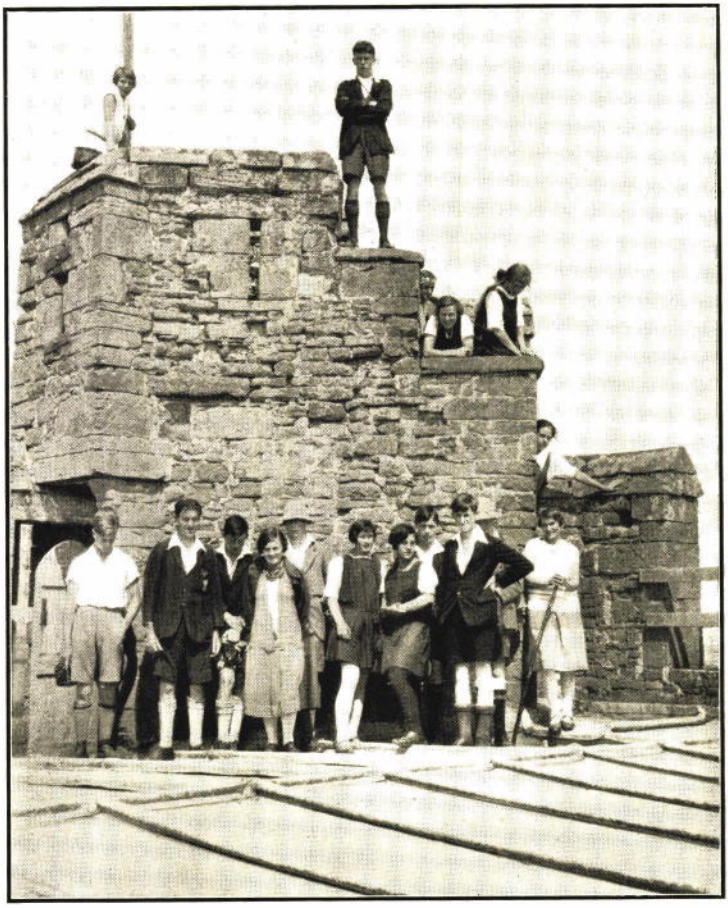


Photo. by] [C. B. Rowntree.

STOKESAY CASTLE TOWER.

one day becomes a reality, then fades slowly into the realm of memory, but never completely passes out of mind.

It was among the green hills of Mid-Wales that a very beautiful dream which had grown up in my mind, was realised. During the long tramps over mountain ridges under a blazing sky, while resting on rüc-sacks by a cold rushing waterfall, or lounging round a lighted room and joining in the songs or hymns which completed another day, I fully realised what it is to be a member of a school and to join in a school Tramp. It was then that there became imprinted upon my mind an impression which is constantly being revived by the words, " Ah ! that reminds me," or, " When was the last time we did that ? " Every experience of life now seems to have an obscure or obvious connection with some detail of Tramp life which, though small and insignificant then, has now an important place in memory.

There remains a feeling of reverence for the old shoes which behaved themselves so well, or, on the other hand, a slight pride in the scar left by that blister with a history. The once common rüc-sack becomes sacred hereafter and the bathing costume is looked upon as a traveller friend with long and interesting tales to tell.

To the question, " What did you eat ? ", the obvious answer to give is " Food " ; but this answer will only aggravate the questioner, who will accuse you of trying to be funny. Of course one could reply, " Melon " ; but that would set him thinking how the trampers acquired enough energy from melons to walk the alleged distances. If, willing to please, you start to relate the details of breakfast, lunch, tea and drinks, he will probably turn away in disgust under the pretence of having to catch a train.

Again, as regards sleeping accommodation, one must either acquaint the listener with the knowledge that the Trampers usually slept in beds, or enter into long accounts of baths, feather-beds, and switch-back bedroom floors.

If a Tramper is asked whether she got to know anybody on the Tramp, she will in all probability answer, " Yes, everybody." " But you knew most of them before," will be the comment, and she will be compelled to admit that she knew barely anybody before.

It is a well-known Tramp truth that when on Tramp you really do get to know one another. Four years of school life together cannot teach nearly as much as a week's tour, when the rough life, the jokes and blisters, as well as music and landscape beauty, reveal that part of the human character which remains hidden in the routine of daily life.

It is, perhaps, the best part of the Tramp that memories are so securely fixed that they flourish long after the event and keep with them mingled feelings of excitement and pride. There are stories to be told—stories that only a remaining few are lucky enough to be able to tell; tales of journeys, accidents, people and landscapes, all of which though extremely varied in themselves, leave the listener either wide awake with excitement, or helpless with vainly suppressed laughter.

There is the tale of a twenty-five mile walk over hills and through valleys, which is related time after time with a flush of excitement, and the nose tilted slightly higher than is customary, as the heroine spins the yarn vividly, and finishes proudly with the description of the arrival in a town which, when pronounced with a special accent on the first double l, leaves his audience with mouths wide open with admiration and wonder.

There are stories, too, of evening walks, or rather crawls, up steep mountain sides, or early morning bathes in cold but delightful water, of evening skims on a silvery grey river, shadowed by over-hanging trees, of picnic lunches under a wide-spreading tree beside an icy cold stream, or on the top of a small but steep hillock which at intervals, entices rüc-sacks and even Trampers to roll down the side into the bed of nettles beneath, and of cold paddling in a swiftly running river as

refreshment after a hard climb down a steep rocky surface into the valley below.

There arise rather faded but still detailed glimpses of Stokesay Castle, with its solid oak staircase, its ruined tower and its beautiful carved rooms ; of the old castle ruins at Clun, now unapproachable on account of a gigantic bed of nettles ; and of Ludlow Castle, picturesquely outstanding among the old houses of the town that almost overhangs the valley.

Thus the pictures arise, one leading to another, until there lies before us the whole beautiful panorama of a Tramp in Wales, forming a bright spot on the life page of thirty thankful people.

Mary Close.
(Stage 7.)

TRAMP FEVER.

FAR from the rule and rhythm of school,
Into the heart of the hills we sped.
Left behind was a season's work,
As forth we went with a lightsome tread.

Ours was a company strong and glad,
That laughed alike in the rain and sun ;
Ours was a spirit of comradeship,
Ready to share mishap or fun.

Walden's spirit is pure and free,
And it stirred within as we breathless stood,
High on the hills and looked around
On sweeping valley and river and wood.

And closely knit in my memory,
Tho' gladly, swiftly the days sped by,
Are the joys of a School I hold most dear,
And the jolly freedom of road and sky.

JOYCE G. TAWELL.
(1917-1924.)

IMPRESSIONS OF HAMBURG.



HEN some of the Scholars from the Lichtwarkschule came over to London to pay a visit earlier in the year, it was arranged that a similar party should be conducted over to Hamburg during the summer, and it was with this party that I visited Germany.

Unfortunately, owing to various causes, many of those who had intended to go were prevented and so finally only five including Mrs. Hannay, the leader of the party, made the trip.

Our sea-trip was from Gravesend to Rotterdam in one of the Batavier Line boats and thence to Hamburg by train.

We left Victoria at 5.40 on Monday evening, the 23rd of August, spent the night on the boat, the following day in the train, and arrived at Hamburg at 7 o'clock on the Tuesday evening.

On our arrival we were met by Herr Heine and several of his pupils, as representing the school. After we had been introduced to those who had not met us before, and after Mrs. Hannay had conversed for some time in German with Herr Heine, we learnt from her that we were staying with the families of some of those who had met us. The Lichtwarkschule is extremely co-educational, and the two other young gentlemen and myself were to be escorted to our homes by young ladies. On learning this, we received somewhat of a shock ! However, they proved to be extremely pleasant and made us very comfortable.

When we visited the Lichtwarkschule we were permitted to attend some of the lessons, which we found very interesting. Probably the lessons which interested us most were the English ones. Very much oral work was done in these lessons, almost every lesson being devoted to it entirely.

They have no punishment system at all in the school, and consequently there is a great deal of talking and disturbance

while the lesson is proceeding, and in consequence the lesson is seldom finished by the end of the period. Another effect of having no punishment is that there is very little respect shown for the master or mistress ; for instance, on one occasion one of our party actually saw a boy take out a sandwich in the middle of class and eat it slowly and deliberately in full view of the master !

Another peculiarity of the school is that the scholars are not obliged to be taught by a master unless they choose, and also if the dislike of any master is at all general he is obliged to leave the school. Consequently the masters, in order to retain their position almost dare not enforce strict discipline !

The Head Master's position also is an unenviable one ; he is elected for two years only, by the other masters !

Of course, this system is by no means typical of German education ; it is one of many educational experiments now on trial in the country.

Hamburg itself is beautifully laid out, and is made all the more beautiful by the Alster, a river which joins the Elbe at Hamburg and forms a large lake in the middle of the town. In front of most of the public buildings, there are open spaces which make the buildings more impressive, and also gives one a better opportunity of obtaining photographs.

Many of the buildings are very impressive, particularly the Rathaus, and the churches of St. Nicholas and St. Michael.

The Rathaus has a fine interior ; the rooms are high and spacious, and the polished wood floors are laid with beautiful thick carpets.

The Art Gallery contains many fine pictures, but also much Cubist work.

When we visited Lübeck, a town some thirty or forty miles from Hamburg, situated nearly on the Baltic coast, we visited several of the Churches, but as we had to rise early in order to catch the train, after having been late the night before, we were very tired and so were not able to appreciate this trip as

much as we otherwise would have done. As the weather also was against us, raining the whole time, our visit was not altogether a success.

And now a few words on the Germans themselves. We are unanimous in our praise of their excellent hospitality, and of the warmth of the welcome which they accorded us, and which they followed up with great kindness throughout our stay.

We also noticed that while the young folk whom we met had very advanced ideas on some subjects, they were in other ways very elementary. But this latter impression was probably due to our limited German vocabulary, and their limited English one. They were also very impatient with us when we tried to speak German to them : for as soon as we showed the slightest sign of hesitation they always said, " In English, please," in a somewhat condescending and bored manner, which quite disheartened us. This state of affairs was due to the fact that most of them had been learning English for seven, eight, and in some cases, nine years. They showed great eagerness to speak English as some of them were coming to London shortly after our return.

Our return journey was made by the same route as the outward one, but not under quite such comfortable conditions. We had to change at Osnabrück at 3.10 a.m. and wait until 4.50. On reaching Rotterdam at 11.15 a.m. we had a further wait of seven hours, which we used to see something of the town, and incidentally to experience at first hand the far-famed but infamous odours of the harbour. We found that all we had heard of these was no exaggeration !

It was unfortunate that the proposed three weeks' trip was curtailed to a fortnight, and that so few were able to avail themselves of this excellent opportunity to see something of the home and school life of our young German friends.

JOHN H. GIRDWOOD.

(1920-1926.)

SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

CRICKET.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.
School XI.	8	2	4	2
Boys' XI.	5	5	—	—

THE Boys' XI. started the season well, winning their first three matches, but soon infection played havoc with the fixtures. Most of the matches against other schools were scratched, so that only five games were played.

The School XI. won only two out of their eight matches, and two were unfinished owing to the slow wicket. Owing to the rain the wickets were generally slow, so that many of the batsmen did not feel at home on a fast wicket, such as was experienced at Bishop's Stortford Town.

J. N. Elithorn and G. N. A. Smith were the chief bowlers in the Boys' XI.; the former gained for his House the points awarded to the best bowler. The batting was not consistent, as often, after a good start, the remaining wickets fell cheaply. K. L. Whitlow gained the bat given by Mr. H. Crosfield, with an average of 16.

The standard of the fielding was much higher this year, so that fewer runs were given away. J. N. Elithorn and K. L. Whitlow shared the points for fielding, but several others were well in the running.

Mr. Whitlow and Mr. Pumphrey were the principal bowlers in the School XI., and the latter scored freely towards the end of the season.

The match *v.* R. Dobbin's XI. was full of surprises. The School fielded first and on a wet wicket Mr. Whitlow did the "hat-trick." Later in the match one of our opponents took four wickets with four consecutive balls. In spite of this we won the match, thanks to Mr. Pumphrey, who scored 54, and K. L. Whitlow, 37 not out.

In the House Tournaments, Godlee came first and Morland second. The former House beat the latter by one wicket, the winning run being scored in the last over of the last day. The House Tournaments this year were limited to four days each, and this experiment was successful as all the games were finished.

Colours were awarded to G. N. A. Smith for his bowling, and to A. W. Gibb, D. A. Bartlett, B. Clayton for their keen work in the field.

K. L. Whitlow.
(Boys' Captain.)

BOYS' AQUATICS.

Great keenness was shown for swimming throughout the term, and the standard continues to improve. Diving was not quite up to the level of previous years, though there were several who showed good promise. The sports were closely contested, and it was left to the last race to decide the championship, which Ivor Parley won with 13½ points against Ernest Farrell's 10½. Parley made a record in the 4 lengths (100 yards), completing the distance in 1 min. 20⅗ secs. Among the Juniors Tom Francis won the championship for the second year; he carried all before him this time, winning every event, and breaking two records—the 1 length and the 9 lengths.

There was not much difference between the Houses in the House Sports, but the order was reversed, Crosfield winning with an average of 17.4; Morland was second with 16.8 and Godlee close behind with 16.3. Morland House won the Relay Race, with Godlee second.

RESULTS.

BOYS.

SENIOR.

Quarter Mile: 1, Parley; 2, Farrell; 3, Evens. 7 m. 49⅘ secs.
Four Lengths: 1, Parley; 2, Bartlett; 3, Farrell. 1 m. 20⅘ secs.*
Two Lengths Breast Stroke: 1, Farrell; 2, Parley and Evens. 42⅕ secs.

* School Records.

Two Lengths: 1, Parley; 2, Bartlett; 3, Edmundson. 33⅘ secs.
Plunge: 1, Evens; 2, Armstrong; 3, Bartlett. 37 ft. 10 in.
Neat Dive: 1, Farrell and Smith; 3, Evens.

JUNIOR.

Nine Lengths: 1, Francis ii; 2, Cuthbertson; 3, Scott. 3 m. 59⅘ secs.*
Two Lengths Breast Stroke: 1, Francis ii; 2, Cuthbertson; 3, Engelmann. 47⅗ secs.
Two Lengths: 1, Francis ii; 2, Cuthbertson; 3, Engelmann. 40⅖ secs.
One Length: 1, Francis ii; 2, Cuthbertson; 3, Engelmann. 17⅘ secs.*
Plunge: 1, Francis ii; 2, Owen-Jones; 3, Dell. 40 ft.
Neat Dive: 1, Francis ii; 2, Engelmann; 3, Cousins ii.

RELAY RACE.

1, Morland. 2, Godlee. 1 m. 46⅖ secs.

GIRLS' AQUATICS.

The many spells of fine weather we experienced during the Summer term greatly increased the keenness in swimming which quite maintained last year's standard.

All but one of those unable to swim at the beginning of the term succeeded in completing their length, W. Lee being the first to do so, winning the penknife presented annually by Miss Priestman. The senior championship was won by J. Bull, with M. Hodgett as runner-up; while among the juniors, E. Kilbey took first place, and F. Close and V. Brewis second. Crosfield again came out top in the House Sports, with Morland and Godlee taking second and third places. There was a record number of entrants for the life-saving examinations: most of those entering for "proficiency" and "bronze" managed to satisfy the examiner, while the two entrants for the silver award both passed.

At General Meeting and Whitsun a very varied programme of "stunts" was arranged, and the audiences on both occasions seemed quite well entertained.

Colours were awarded to J. Bull, M. Close and M. Hodgett.

M. Hodgett.

(Stage 7.)

* School Records.

TENNIS.

During this term the general standard of tennis seemed to be fairly high and all the courts were usually in use.

But unfortunately no matches were played with outside teams during the term, although several were arranged, because we were in quarantine for measles nearly all the term.

Two matches were played against boys, both of which the girls lost. A match was arranged against the Staff, but it was not played owing to the bad weather.

The results of Tournaments were as follows:—Junior Champion: K. Davidson; Runner-up: B. Hawksley. Senior Champion: Ruth Sandwith; Runner-up: Y. Gundry.

Colours were awarded to Y. Gundry, B. Sandwith, R. Sandwith and B. Milne.

B. Milne.
(Stage 7.)

GIRLS' CRICKET.

On the whole cricket this year was not up to last year's standard. The fielding had improved, but the batting was much weaker.

Owing to an epidemic of measles in the school we played very few matches. Our first match was against the Old Scholars, and resulted in a victory for us with the score, 16 all out for the Old Scholars and 129 for 6 wickets for us. We also played Emson's XI., and the Lower School Boys, losing by 7 runs in the latter.

The House Tournaments showed the following result:—1st, Godlee; 2nd, Crosfield; 3rd, Morland.

Colours were awarded to B. Sandwith, R. Sandwith, B. Milne, C. Leverett and M. Close.

M. Close.
(Stage 7.)



HENRY SKELTON
(1908-14).

BENJAMIN D. SKELTON
(1908-15).

THE HENRY SKELTON AND BENJAMIN SKELTON MEMORIALS.

MOST of our readers will have seen on the War Memorial in the School Lecture Hall the names of two brothers, Henry and Benjamin D. Skelton; while many will also have seen, on the walls of two of the classrooms, enlargements of photographs taken by the brothers when they were at the School.

In six of the numbers of *The Avenue* issued between 1911 and 1914 are to be found photographs taken by them. Henry Skelton for three successive years headed the list in the Inter-School Diary Competition with his Archæological Diary, illustrated by his own photographs; while the records of three of the School Tramps also contain some of their photographs.

Soon after leaving School in 1914 the elder brother joined the army; Benjamin, leaving the School in 1915, was for a time in the employ of Harrisons & Crosfield. Henry, after being wounded in France, was in hospital in London, while Benjamin was training in Ireland. Both went to France, as officers, in the autumn of 1918. In October, Henry lost his life "whilst trying to get his Commanding Officer, who was also killed, back to our lines." In November, Benjamin died at Rouen from wounds received during the previous month. Thus, within a few weeks of the conclusion of hostilities, their parents and friends were left to mourn a double loss.

In memory of their two sons, Mr. and Mrs. Skelton have now handed to the School 100 guineas, to be invested, and the income to be used for providing prizes in Archæology and Natural History work.

The *Henry Skelton Memorial Fund* will provide eight annual prizes, varying in amount from £1 to half a crown, for the best Archæological Diaries kept by boys and girls in the School; while the *Benjamin Skelton Memorial Fund* will provide similar prizes for the best Natural History Diaries.

If at any time the income should accumulate through not being needed for the above purposes, it can be used to assist in the education of descendants of those who lost their lives in the War.

We take this opportunity of expressing our indebtedness to Mr. and Mrs. Skelton for the foundation of these two Memorials, which are in a form so appropriate to the work and interests of their sons when at Saffron Walden. The photograph accompanying this article was taken by Mr. Skelton in the garden just before Henry and Benjamin left home for France.

THE EDITORS.

A DUTCH BOY'S MEMOIRS.

I AM glad to be allowed to put my memoirs of the School, that is to say of nearly all my English friends, in *The Avenue*.

But it is not only this which pleases me so much, it is the pleasure of being the very first Dutch boy to write an article in *The Avenue*. Besides the pleasure of expressing my thoughts about the three delightful terms I spent here, in these pages, I have another delight connected with this. Generally a boy would not tell of this joy, but to me it is at the same time an excuse—these words of mine are the first ones I ever had printed in English. This is the excuse for me, for you and for *The Avenue*. The latter especially, I think, will be used for better material, but my innocence, I show boldly in the fact, that it is totally different in Holland. Some scholars in this School are quite used to putting articles in *The Avenue* and they hardly realise that this simple action is unknown to children abroad, who do not know what a School magazine is. In short, things of that kind are certainly unknown to Dutch students.

But not only are school magazines lacking at my home; everything in connection with schools is more or less continental

and better or worse, according to individual opinions. My predecessor, a foreign student, Christel Lierau, wrote a long and very explanatory essay about German schools in the last *Avenue*. I do not think I need to give an account of Dutch school-life, as Dutch schools are really based on German principles and therefore as different from English schools as are the German schools. Consequently I think, it is better that I should write something about *this* School, to which I owe at present and for the future my reformed continental (or not extremely continental) way of looking at things.

Not long ago a master stated with satisfaction, that I was already becoming more English. Those words did me much good, but I could not help regretting the talks he wasted to make me quite English in my behaviour, for what I learnt, I learnt slowly and with amazement ; England is difficult to understand. As a matter of fact I myself laugh at present, when I think of the astonishment I showed the first days I spent at the School. Of course I came suddenly into a different sphere, but soon my attention was drawn to four main points. These were the hilliness of the country, the food and its amount, the girls' hockey play (I never saw hockey before), and the familiarity between the teachers and the pupils, especially in connection with the methods of teaching.

It took me a long time to get rid of some fear and shyness for the masters. If I at present could see myself, judging from the standpoint I took three terms ago, I would certainly consider myself not treating the teachers respectfully enough, but then I would not be able to say that they were my friends and kind advisors.

Such was the kind of thing I experienced, such was the kind of teaching I found. I believe I shall always keep them in my mind, but after a time I shall probably regard them as enviable luxuries.

Writing about luxuries, I suddenly remember one thing I would not like to miss out in my memoirs. That is the

swimming bath, which is certainly in my eyes a luxury, as I never met a school with a swimming bath before. Of course in Holland, the land of water, schools do not need swimming baths as, without the public baths, we have generally enough water, thanks to heavy rainfall, floods and rivers, which we enjoy in abundance.

Also the surrounding playing fields are in my eyes a big luxury. I doubt about the eyes of my Walden friends. Do they know it? I don't know quite, but surely in the many disputes I have had with them about the advantages and disadvantages of the English and Dutch schools, they never mentioned these riches as a strong argument, that ought to stop all further dispute; whilst I abroad never saw a school with half such large playing fields and opportunities for playing.

But again, it is not quite the playing fields, which attract a non-sporting foreigner. I believe it is the friendship which reigns in the school—the relationship of the boys and girls with their teachers and the world. I feel that now, as I am leaving, I must confess that I am much reformed and that I hope that the School will help more than one or two of my kind.

J. W. MATTHŸSEN.

(1925-1926.)

FAR AND NEAR.

CONCERNING OLD SCHOLARS.

Old Scholars who were in Group C. last Term:

William L. Armstrong is taking Engineering classes at Sheffield University.

Donald Bartlett is in the Midland Bank, London.

Jean M. Champness is at Clapham County School, working for Higher Certificate.

Nora M. Child is at a School in Thonon-les-Bains, Haute Savoie, France.

Frank Edmunds is at the City and South London Polytechnic, taking a Commercial course.

David Edmundson is at the Friends' Provident and Century Life Office, Kingsway, London.

J. Norman Elithorn.

J. Richard Evens is at an Accountant's in Bristol.

John H. Girdwood.

Bernard A. Le Mare is studying Architecture under Hubert S. Lidbetter, the Architect of Friends' House, London.

Constance J. Leverett is at School of St. Mary and St. Anne, Abbot's Bromley, Staffordshire.

Doris M. C. Marshall is a Student Teacher at Miss Fairbrother's School, Knole Hall, Bournemouth.

Joyce N. Maybery is in Messrs. Clark's Welfare department at Street.

Kathleen D. Priestman is at the Mount School, York.

William D. Priestman is working at Priestman Bros., Hull, and is taking evening classes at the Technical College.

Felix B. Rawlings is learning Wireless at Brentford.

Kathleen M. Robson is at Battersea Polytechnic, taking a Domestic Science course.

G. Ninian A. Smith is at Neuchatel, Switzerland.

Elspeth Wells is at Melbourne, Australia.

Kenneth L. Whitlow is a Student Teacher at Ackworth School.

Harold Woodward is in a Bank at Wisbech.

Rosemary J. Wooldridge is at the Mount School, York.

[Extracts from letters are unavoidably left over on account of lack of space.—EDITORS.]

SCHOOL DIARY.

July 3rd.—N.H.S. Excursion to Takely Forest.

,, 7th.—House Socials.

,, 8th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Lantern Lecture, "Insects," Mr. Roberts.

,, 10th.—Cricket Match: Boys' XI. *v.* Peel Institute, home, won, 90—50.

,, 14th.—Cricket Match: 1st XI. *v.* North Essex Wanderers, home, drawn, 124—68 for 5 wkts. Mr. Pumphrey 51.

,, 15th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary: John O. Burtt; Essays: "Cycling," B. A. Le Mare; "The Towing Path," Doris Marshall; "Hull," W. D. Priestman; "The Skipper," Mr. Whitlow; Pianoforte Solos: Weber's "Toccata," Rosemary Wooldridge; Etude in F Minor by Chopin, David Edmundson; "The Last Movement of Beethoven's First Sonata in F. Minor," Dorothy Brown; "Chanson Triste" by Tchaikovsky, Joan Gundry; Finale, Sonata No. 5, Beethoven, J. R. Evens. Songs: "At Vauxhall in the Morning," and "Devonshire Cream and Cider," Harry D. Byles.

,, 19th.—Girls' Reading Club Meeting.

,, 22nd.—N.H.S. Mtg. Diary: Joyce Maybery and Betty Milne; "Report on the Excursion to Takely Forest," Mollie Hooper; Current Events Report; Essay: "Meteorology," Harry D. Byles.

,, 28th.—Cricket Match: 1st XI. *v.* North Essex Wanderers, home, lost, 91—105.

,, 29th.—End of Summer Term.

Sept. 16th.—School re-opened.

,, 23rd.—Extra Half-holiday.

,, 25th.—N.H.S. Excursion to Ickleton.

,, 30th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Diary: Philip Clarke and Geoffrey Tawell; Business meeting.

Oct. 2nd.—Football Match: 1st XI. *v.* Foxes, home, won, 3—2.
Lantern Lecture: "Sweden and the Swedes," Mr. Nugent Harris.

,, 9th.—Football Match: 1st XI. *v.* Old Scholars, home, lost, 1—3.
Hockey Match: 1st XI. *v.* Old Scholars, home, lost, 2—7.
Concert.

,, 14th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Diary: Iris Harris; Current Events Report: John O. Burtt and R. Alexander; Report on the Excursion to Ickleton, Iris Harris; Report on the Excursion to Clavering, Betty Milne and Harry D. Byles; Meteorological Report, Harry D. Byles; Talk on the use of the Microscope, Mr. Morris.

Oct. 16th.—Football Match: Boys' XI. *v.* The Rovers, home, lost, 1—5.
Lantern Lecture: "Dr. Barnardo's Homes," Mr. W. W. Hind Smith.

,, 20th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary; Marjorie Dell, Edward Dunstan and Betty Milne; Essays: "Fishing," Kathleen Rees; "Great Expectations," Marie Armstrong; Pianoforte Solos: "Menuetto," by Handel, Alan D. Furrell; "Poupée Valsante," by Poldini, Jack Cuthbertson; "Toccata," by Paradie, Iris Harris. Gramophone Selections: "Cockaigne Overture," Elgar; "Ombra Mai Fu," Caruso; Sarasate's Introduction and Tarantelle, Heifetz; Recitation: "Break, Break, Break," by Tennyson, Edward Dunstan.

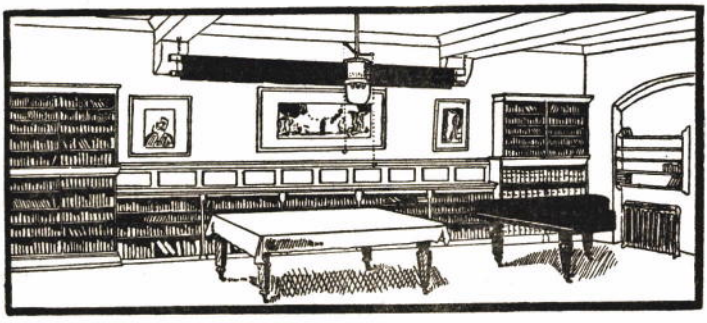
,, 23rd.—Lantern Lecture: "Jungle-buried Temples of Cambodia and Java," Mr. H. Sefton-Jones.

,, 30th.—Musical Recital: "Children's Songs," Mr. Tuke Robinson.

Nov. 2nd.—Football Match: 1st XI. *v.* Dobbin's XI., home, won, 6—1.

,, 4th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary: Ernest Farrell. Essays: "Tramp Echoes," Mary Close; "Writing an Essay," John O. Burtt; "The Development of the Motor-Car," Raymond Alexander; "Elizabethan Fashions," Winifred Cooper; Reading: "The Adventures of a Road Steamer," Miss Yapp; Gramophone Selections: Borodine's Nocture; "Oh, Moon of my delight," sung by Hubert Ersdell; Chopin's Nocturne in E flat.

,, 6th.—Lecture: "Celtic Rhymes," by Mr. Herbert Corder; illustrations by the Upper School and Miss Bird.



NOTICES.

Three numbers of *The Avenue* will be published in 1927, 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, Essex.

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

EDITORIAL BOARD.

E. Mary Close and *Henry D. Byles* have joined the Board.

LONDON GENERAL SCHOOL EXAMINATION.

Matriculation :—*Honours.* David Edmundson (h, f, m, n, c.)

Pass. Jean M. Champness (f, m, of, og), J. Richard Evens (l, f, of), John H. Girdwood (m), Doris M. C. Marshall (f, of), William D. Priestman, Kathleen M. Robson (h, m, og), Kenneth L. Whitlow (h, f, m), Rosemary J. Wooldridge.

School Certificate :—Donald A. Bartlett (g, og), Dorothy K. Brown, Henry D. Byles, Nora M. Child (h), Joyce N. Maybery, Bernard A. Le Mare, G. Ninian A. Smith (h, of).

[c signifies distinction in Chemistry, f in French, of in oral French, g in Geography, og in oral German, h in English History, l in Latin, m in Elementary Mathematics, n in Advanced Mathematics.]

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School Examination, Lower Division, Pianoforte :—Alan D. Furrell (Honours), Arthur L. Mulholland, Vera E. Smith.

SCHOOL MAGAZINES.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following :—*The Cupola* (Ackworth), *The Island* (Sidcot), *The Beckside* (Ayton), *The Alfredian* (King Alfred School), *St. Christopher* (Letchworth), *Stramongate School Magazine, Keswick School Magazine, The Stortfordian* (Bishop's Stortford College), *Fairfield School Magazine.*



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