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THE AVENUE



DECEMBER 1931

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J. PENROSE WHITLOW (1904-1931).



The Magazine of the Friends' School, Saffron Walden.

VOL. XXII. DECEMBER, 1931. No. 66

FOREWORD.

A GREATER change than usual has taken place on the staff this term. Mr. Walter Baldwin has taken Mr. Whitlow's place on the staff as English master, and we hope that he will soon become as much a part of Saffron Walden as his predecessor. The boys now have a games' coach in Mr. Arnold Edmundson, the masculine equivalent of Miss Beecham. The boys are very enthusiastic, and with such coaching we expect them to win every future match this season, despite their dismal beginning. We also welcome Messrs. Kenneth Clay and Eric Dawson, both old scholars of Great Ayton and Bootham, as Student-Masters.

In some indefinable manner the news leaked out last term that Mr. and Mrs. Rowntree would celebrate their Silver Wedding during the summer holidays. Such an event could hardly pass unnoticed by the school, and so with due pomp and ceremony they were presented with a brown leather arm-chair. Mr. Whitlow and Miss Rose were also given a travelling rug and opera glasses as leaving presents, insignificant enough tokens of the deep respect in which we hold them. To round

up the proceedings the Staff enjoyed a sumptuous dinner—complete with speeches and lemonade!

We have cause to be proud of last year's Stage 7. Never before has a Matric. class carried off five Honours and twenty-nine Distinctions. Three boys and a girl are this year staying on to do Post-Certificate work, though it has not yet been decided whether this is to be a regular thing.

Mr. Donelly, a fully fledged gardener, has now taken over the school gardens, much to the relief of Mr. Turner.

A new note has been struck in the interior decoration of the girls' side. We arrived back at the beginning of the term to find bedroom 11 decked out in a refreshing colour scheme of blue and brown. It is hoped that the occupants are living up to their new surroundings. We greatly appreciate, too, the brightness introduced into classrooms and bedrooms by means of the posters (many of them really beautiful) which have changed frames with more sober pictures. Miss W. Wright and Mr. Rowntree have our hearty thanks for all the work entailed.

The visit of Mrs. Gordon and her German girls was enjoyed by all of us—and we hope by them. Their main object in coming was to learn to speak English fluently, but unfortunately their numbers prevented their getting all the individual attention that they might have had. It is interesting to compare their impressions of England with the "Impressions from Abroad" that have been written by present boys and girls.

Ingrid Orton, a Swedish girl, is staying at the Junior House this term, helping with the work there and attending some of our classes.

During the Summer Term the Student Masters flung themselves into Disarmament work, organising and holding meetings in thirty-eight villages round about, and raising great enthusiasm both in and out of the School. Boys and girls helped enthusiastically in the making of banners and in advertising the meetings. We all appreciate the efforts of

Mr. Robson, Mr. Goom, and others who helped, for they worked hard and accomplished much in influencing public opinion on this important question.

Let us hope that this term will prove as busy, as interesting, and as happy as the last.

Myfanwy M. Butler
(*Stage 7*).

GENEVA, 1931.



"SCHOOL" and "holiday" do not seem, somehow, to go together, but this was an exception. The sixteen boys and girls forming the Friends' School group, under Mr. Kay from Bootham, and Miss Bass of Penketh, met at Victoria Station. (We found there two ex-Waldenites—Molly Hooper and Owen Parsons.) We will be polite and keep quiet about the Channel crossing, and go straight to our week in Geneva.

At Geneva we joined many other groups from various British schools for "chatty" lectures on the world today and the development and activities of the League in connection with finance, disarmament, etc.; but we had ample time for exploring the town and shopping (for stamps, presents and ices, etc.). Somehow our French pronunciation would give us away and we would often be answered in English; going for a bathe before breakfast, someone said "Excuse me," before we even tried to speak French.

The lake by night is a smooth sea of reflections of coloured lights, and by day as blue as postcards portray it, while the mountains stand up majestic and purple around. The town is clean and well-planned, with tall stately buildings; busy, but not noisy, with much of the population foreign it is a fitting headquarters for the League.

Our first impressions of each other were equally good. We had never actually seemed shy, but at first the conversation always began with our schools, and it was not until some days later, when awkwardness had worn off, that we settled down to ordinary topics, when we quite reached " Table 4 " standard of noise.

Two and a half days' " at school " were excursions. Our first effort was really a fairly easy climb, but somehow, whenever we thought to be at the top, the peak was still a good way above us. Our second consisted of a thrilling charry drive round hairpin bends, among mountains that became more and more awe-inspiring, followed by a scramble on the Mer de Glace —entirely different from what pictures had made us expect. Unlike M. Perrichon, of Stage 6 French fame, none of us fell into any crevasses. When the clouds cleared, we caught a glimpse of the lovely snow cap of Mont Blanc. The third excursion was by boat, the thirty mile length of the blue lake, to the castle of Chillon. This lake-girt Château, made famous by Byron, is as romantic as it is beautiful. We were shown the pillar to which Bonnivard was chained, the hole down which victims were thrust, and Shelley's and Byron's names, carved on one of the rock walls.

Once we had tea at the Friends' centre, and afterwards sang community songs in English, French, German and Yorkshire. Another time we lunched at the Friends' Students' Hostel, where we sat among Japanese, Dutch, Indians, Americans, etc., and had a very jolly time; the Friends' Hostel is international both in spirit and practice.

But time flew and after an out-of-doors farewell party, and a meeting at which answers were given to our questions, the Friends' group went on to spend six days in the little mountain village of Le Sépey. The girls stayed in a sumptuous hotel but the boys slept in a real wooden châlet. In the day time we explored and climbed—without loss of life—but in the evenings we indulged in cards or in reading books by Edgar

Wallace or P. G. Wodehouse that had found their way into the hotel library. Each walk was better than the preceding one, the last excursion being best of all. After climbing up and up we came suddenly to a gloriously blue glacial lake where we snowballed and boated. After this we finished our climb of the Pic de Chaussy (about 8,000 feet). This was really worth while, for the panorama of Switzerland to be seen from the top took away all the breath that we had left (!). Realising the joy of mountaineering we celebrated the occasion with favourite songs and hymns.

All good things come to an end, as people always say about what they can no longer enjoy, and with mingled regret and pleasure, awe and pride, we left Switzerland, and at length saw once more the cliffs of England, which—whether we admire her or not, and however imposing and beautiful Switzerland may be, and even if we despise narrow patriotism—will never fail to arouse a glow in our hearts when we are in a hurricane (according to the paper) on the Channel.

In many ways (besides the unique weather) this holiday has fixed for itself a unique place in our minds. We went out, not quite knowing what it would be like ; perhaps dry lectures, mountains, snow, talking French, feeling shy and so on. Our ideas were wrong, however.

The scenery was magnificent and awe-inspiring in its grandeur, the country and the lectures were good, but it was perhaps the excellent company of the rest of our group, and the spirit and experience of Mr. Kay that made this fortnight the most enjoyable of all the year.

We realised, through the lectures, that the League was no mere soft ideal, with " all talk and nothing done " conferences, and was not merely an anti-war organisation, but an essential to the interdependent world of today, to act as a law court and Trade-Labour organisation between nations, as a unifying principle in World research, World politics, World economics and World laws.

Throughout the ages science has gradually increased the sphere of our activities. At first only the tribe was self-contained, and interdependent within itself, and there was war between tribes; then the State was self-contained and there was war between States; then the Nation was self-contained and there was war between Nations; but today, no civilised nation is self-contained, so that war between nations does no one any good for each is dependent on the other. But Man, with his "patriotic" governments, the increasing after effects of the last war and increasing preparations for the next, his money-trade-tariff tangle, under-consumption and his "civilised-white" v. "savage-coloured" conflict, is trying to push back the flowing tide of progress towards yet wider activities by such things as tariffs, patriotism and the like, thus merely necessitating the total destruction of civilisation, since it will give way under the strain.

Muriel Poulter
(Post-Certificate),
DEREK SCHOVE
(1924-1931).

MERTTENS ESSAY REPORT.

EIGHT competitors, three of them girls, entered this year and the standard of work submitted was high. The subjects chosen covered a wide field. Two of the essays dealt with World Economics; "The Austro-German Customs Union and World Peace" (Hull), and "Free Trade and Protective Tariffs" (Morland); two with the Ethics of War (Muriel Poulter and Radley); one with "The Colour Problem" (Schove); one with "War and the League" (Ivy Hubbard); another with "The Humanitarian Work of the League" (Doris Kingston) and one with Esperanto, entitled "Exodus from Babel" (Green).

Of the prize-winning essays all were characterised by a marked sincerity of treatment and gave evidence of careful



SCHOOL TRAMP, 1931. DOVEDALE.

reading and, withal, originality. The problems themselves naturally claimed the interest of the writers more than the machinery of the League designed to solve them, though this weakness was evident in lesser degree than in previous years.

The unusual course of awarding five prizes has been adopted by the judges with the consent of the Merttens Committee as a tribute to the merit of the essays sent in by Schove, Morland, Muriel Poulter, Hull and Radley.

S.G.K.B.

A TRAMP IN THE PEAK DISTRICT.

FRIENDS' SCHOOL, SAFFRON WALDEN SCHOOL TRAMP, 1931.

ROCKS and hills have always had a fascination for me, so it is perhaps natural that my closest memories of our Peak District tramp should be of these. The first real peak we met gave me quite a thrilling sensation. There, behind our hotel, Thorpe Cloud reared its head to the clouds above, like a miniature mountain, only far more fun to play with. After tea, when we had got rid of a queer feeling of falling forward, resulting from the removal of our packs, and also of a certain weariness of the feet, some of us tried the experiment of walking up a hill set at an angle of more than forty-five degrees. To get to our peak we had to make our first essay at climbing the stone walls which everywhere were to be so constantly before us during the ensuing week. Now we were on the hill, and our feet were getting tired again.

At last we got to the top and sat down. Below us flowed the Dove; birds flew beneath our feet and the lapping of the river on its rocky bed came up through the evening sunshine. Miniature figures strolled on the grassy banks, watching the movements of an occasional fish as old Isaac Walton had done before them. Some of us tried to throw stones into the stream, but though looking immediately below it could not be reached.

Down below us we saw tiny figures whom we recognised as some of our party. Others were climbing a wooded slope to our right and we called directions to them, wondering at the snail's pace that they made. Like gods upon Olympus we sat and looked with scorn on puny men.

Next day we took the path through Dovedale, pack on back, and saw the rocky spines that rise from the wooded sides, and climbed through a natural arch into a cave, and slid back again down a slope of loose earth.

The rest of this tramp I cannot remember clearly. Walks through gorges, with hardly room for the river below, and the path running over stepping stones beneath overhanging cliffs; cool springs gushing forth clear and fresh from beneath the stones, where we could lie down and drink from the pool, our faces in the cooling water. Airy walks over the hill-tops, climbing stone walls, and at last dropping into the valley; the ancient circle of temple-stones, raised by the Druids of old; Robin Hood's Stride, with its wind-carved rocks, and man-carved crucifix in the hermit's shallow cave; the pudding stone, left poised on the brow of the hill; these, and many more, are confused and disordered in my memory.

But more clearly stand out the wonderful caves, Thor's Cave, a great hole in the hillside overlooking a funny little railway, running beside the bed of a now subterranean river. Then there was the Speedwell mine, where Miss Yapp stored her memory for the benefit of future Latin classes, while our Charon pushed against the roof, and told us how deep the " Bottomless Pit " was, and how they had failed by any means to see the top. And, best of all, was the wonderful Peak Cavern, where we followed an underground river through chambers and passages, and looked awe-struck at the unmeasured chimneys that ran up into the blackness above us. But I would never make an end of describing such wonders.

But this is only the scenery of the tramp. Scenery alone is good, but the real enjoyment could not have been without the

people. First and foremost, of course, there was Mr. Rowntree. Wonderful man! what labours of Hercules did he perform. With a pack, a panama, and his all-seeing camera, he tramped the miles with the youngest and most vigorous of us, bearing all the time the cares of a general on his shoulders. After seeing to the purchase and carriage of the food supply, he flogged his army on from hotel to hotel. From the cow-shattered night of Peveril to Buxton's fortissimo jazz-band, from Buxton's luxurious suites to Bakewell's thin-walled cupboards, and from the tiny rooms of Bakewell to the dormitories of Castleton, we tramped through endless variety of scenery to varieties of breakfasts and teas, from beds for one to single beds for two, from experience to experience always happy and jolly in our freedom and friendship.

But all good things come to an end, and the last day dawned "puffing with wind and rain," while clouds added majesty to the proud heads of Mam Tor and his brethren. The road over the hills ran through the clouds, and from the top we seemed to be walking over the edge of blank infinity. As we went down again we saw the fields below reveal themselves in an everwidening circle, as our eyes pierced through the thinning fog.

Half-way down we found a barn, where we could eat out of the rain, the last lunch of the tramp. We spent the rest of the day wandering about Castleton, while Peveril Castle frowned down on us from the top of the Peak Cavern gorge. Then came the time for the evening Sing-song, whose jollity was, perhaps, marred by the thought that tomorrow the Tramp would be no more; and so to bed. Next day the coach took us on for home. At Surprise Point we stood on the rocks, and took our last look at the Peaks. After that, we dozed through the long southward journey to the flat, uninteresting, but yet pleasantly familiar, scenery of our several homes.

PETER C. GREEN
(1926-1931).

SCHOOL SOCIETIES.

The Senior Literary Society.

THE chief departures from the regular routine were the play reading in the Spring term and the debate in the Summer. The plays read were " Mrs. Adis " and " The Mock Beggar " by Sheila Kaye Smith and John Hampden. In that term we had also impromptu two-minute speeches at one meeting. The motion debated was : " That specialised education is desirable and should be begun earlier." Proposed by Buckmaster and opposed by Eileen Wooldridge, it was defeated by a large majority. It was generally felt that the debate would have been better if members of the Society had had more experience of debating. An outdoor social with games held in the Summer Term was much enjoyed by everybody. Of the essays, Derek Schove's on " A Boy's Religion " was of outstanding merit.

Honor Liddle
(*Stage 7*).

The Middle Literary Society.

Essays on a wide range of subject and usually reaching a creditable standard of writing (though sometimes spoilt in the reading) have resulted in a good year's work with hardly a dull evening. A large number of members have helped with musical items, recitations and readings, while one play has been given.

D.P.
F.D.P.

The Junior Literary Society.

The Junior Literary Society has had a successful series of meetings this year, characterised by a variety of contributions. Recitations and music, both piano and strings, have played a prominent part ; and one evening was given over to a play by some of the girl members, entitled " The Grand Cham's Diamond," a performance which for enterprise and efficiency would have put many older producers to shame.

Essays have been generally adequately forthcoming, though the standard, with one or two exceptions, has not been very high. A pleasing feature has been the maintenance of criticism of a constructive as well as of a destructive kind, and appreciation has not been lacking in vocal expression.

We miss with regret from our meetings Miss Elsie Rose and Mr. Brereton, to whose kindly guidance the success of the Society for so many years has been due.

S.G.K.B.

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

This year the Natural History Society started on a new phase of its existence with the coming of Mr. Hindle, who was welcomed as the new President. The secretaries, M. Poulter and R. Morland, have done excellent work in arranging an interesting programme, in which they have been helped by our weather experts, D. Schove and R. Dell.

One variation from the usual programme was the visit of Mr. Holttum, who gave a special lecture on " Plant Life in Malay," illustrated by wonderful photographic slides.

The annual excursion was a visit to Whipsnade Zoo. The weather was lovely and all the animals behaved as if they realised the honour paid them by our visit.

Two very interesting lecturettes, illustrated by her own lantern slides, were given by M. Poulter.

It is to be hoped that a number of budding Naturalists now in the Society will bring new interest to our meetings in the coming year.

Margaret Rollason
(*Stage* 7).

THE BOYS' READING CLUB.

Hillcroft hospitality is a byword among members, and we always appreciate the contribution made by Mr. and Mrs. Rowntree to the success of our meetings.

During last year the range of books chosen was wide. Fact predominated over Fiction in a list which included Carlyle's "French Revolution," the first series of "Poems of Today," "God in the Slums" by Hugh Redwood, "Dr. Johnson and Company" and "St. Joan," considerable debate being raised about Shaw's Epilogue to this play.

We considered "The Sowers" by Seton Merryman and "John Halifax Gentleman" below the usual standard of the books we choose. "A Shepherd's Life" by W. H. Hudson was felt to be a pleasing description of South Wiltshire country life, but was not very widely read. During the Summer Term we were unfortunately prevented from reading some of the chosen books as they were out of print.

The club has lost its founder and president in Mr. Whitlow who has taken a leading part in our meetings for over twenty years. We shall surely miss his contributions, but we can maintain the standard he has set and try to make our meetings as successful as ever during the coming years.

John Buckmaster
(*Stage 7*).

THE GIRLS' READING CLUB.

Three very successful meetings in whose discussions everyone took part, were held during last year.

In the Autumn Term we discussed "Idylls of the King," "Bleak House," "Short Stories of Today" and "Oliver Untwisted" by M. A. Payne, a book giving one a vivid picture of the brutal way Poor Law children were treated in the past, and how a kindly matron reformed this.

The books read in the Spring Term were "Jane Eyre," Sheridan's "School for Scandal" and "The Rivals," "The Art of Thinking" by Ernest Dunnet and "The Story of My Life" by Helen Keller. The author of the latter, although becoming blind and deaf when still a baby, managed to pass many high examinations and has had many other successes during her life.

During the Summer Term the books chosen to be read were " The Good Companions," five of Masefield's narrative poems, Basil Mathews' " Clash of World Forces " and " Bevis " by Richard Jefferies.

Miss Priestman kindly provided refreshments for us at each meeting for which we were all very grateful.

Ruth Francis
(Stage 7).

THE SCIENTIFIC DEBATING CLUB.

Since the founding of this Society just over a year ago it has undergone rapid changes in both the type of meeting held and in the numbers attending discussions. Both these changes we are glad to record have been for good, since, besides our numbers increasing to about twenty junior members, we have also been grateful for the services of Mr. Hindle, Mr. Beer and Mr. Robson during the past year. The meetings, instead of taking the form of formal debates, have now developed into freer opportunities for discussing problems connected with Religion—and, in a modest way—Psychology. For the last we are indebted to Mr. Pearson for a very interesting introduction to the subject. Another meeting was very profitably spent on Materialism, the subject being opened by a paper kindly given by an old scholar, and subsequently on a reply to the challenge. We have also considered various types or aspects of Religion together with some subjects which were generally felt to be above us, such as Spiritualism and the Fourth Dimension. However, the feeling has been generally expressed that the Society has enjoyed a very successful year and we may only hope that this will continue.

John R. Reader
(Stage 7).

OUR GERMAN VISITORS.

EARLY in the Summer Term an S.O.S. came to us from Friends' House on behalf of a party of twenty Berlin school girls who appeared likely, through a miscarriage of plans, to lose a holiday in England, in preparation for which they had been learning English for two years.

Our offer to take six for three weeks coincided with other offers of hospitality from Ackworth, the Mount, Sidcot and St. Christopher, so that all were able to come. With our six came Frau Doctor Gordon as guardian of the party who slept in the San. and shared in a variety of classes. They enjoyed the Swimming Bath and learning to play tennis, showed us how to sing community songs, and entered heartily into our life. The little entertainment and supper they gave to some of the Staff, boys and girls on their last evening showed their appreciation of the adventure, as well as their improvement in managing the English language.

Since returning home they have written as follows :

" We came to your beautiful isle with hopeful minds—but what we found in your peaceful home in pleasant little Saffron Walden was much more than we could expect. . . . In Germany day school is the rule, and boarding school the exception, therefore I noticed so many things in the short time of three weeks. It was a pleasure to observe how frank and joyous the children were while at play, while at meals, in the swimming bath and what pleased me more was the friendly intercourse between teacher and pupil."

ELFRIEDE GORDON.

" We have spent a lovely time in England ! Every day was filled up with surprises and with joy, every day brought new impressions. When we, arriving at Dover, saw the

beautiful chalk-coast, we turned silent for a moment and we felt with joy that we should have a pleasant time.

" We were welcomed by the Friends in such a hearty way that we at once felt homely in the Friends' school. They all, teachers and pupils, showed that they were our friends. I think we all wish to become a pupil in the Friends' school for a certain time! And we all want ever so much to return once more to beautiful England! "

ILSE HUAR.

" My impressions of England? We have seen nothing of her but Friends' life, and I don't know whether Friends are typical English. I hope it will be so, for all Friends whom we have met have been so kindly to us that it is wonderful to imagine a whole nation being like the Friends. After having spent some days at the school we felt quite at home there, and sometimes we have wished to be a pupil at this school. All teachers are on very friendly terms with the children, and all girls and boys are so polite and kindly to each other. I'm not sure whether only the sport effects this ' fairness,' or whether it is the whole education (I suppose the latter) which produces such an atmosphere of friendship and kindness that has made us all so happy during the three weeks of our being at the ' Friends' School.'

" I had longed for a long time to go to a foreign country, to go over to England, but always there has been such a strange feeling (maybe a little bit of fear or so) : ' A foreign country—people you don't quite understand—a real new world! ' But at the same moment when I entered your school, I felt quite at home there, in spite of all strange customs and manners. And now I have learned that everywhere *people* live—*men* like ourselves—and that good and kind men are the same everywhere, may it be in England or in Germany or in any other country in the world. And kindness and goodness is to be found everywhere, isn't it? I suppose that is the most

important thing I have learned with you. I have, of course, believed in it before I came to you, but now it is not only an idea, it is an experience.

" I'm so glad ! "

RUTH BECKER.

IMPRESSIONS FROM ABROAD.

AN UNKNOWN CORNER OF ITALY.



HY is San Marino a Republic ? I had often wondered why Italy, and more especially Mussolini, had left this chunk of Italy from under his thumb. Well, last holidays we went to see the Republic, which is unique, in the true sense of the word, for no amount of looking up will give any statistics about it as there are none to give. Imagine a huge crag of over a thousand feet high on the sloping side of which, very near the top is this quaint town, quite unconnected by rail, and reached by only one road which was so steep that we had to get out and rest the car. This is the Republic which claims to be the oldest State in Europe. Here, any person can find harbour from justice once inside the walls (a truly merited reward for such a climb). We were allowed in without any official show whatsoever, and proceeded to climb the main street, whose gradient without exaggeration was something near one in two.

Of course the site of the town ruled out any likelihood of traffic, even down to a horse and cart, although a mule might be seen in the market square. Perched at the very top, where one can look down over the edge of the crag and drop a stone on to the plain below, are two castles, one of which is supposed to be on the place where long, long ago, Saint Marino spent his night, when he had his vision of a free city which has resulted in the Republic as it is today. After the climb I experienced



ELSIE M. ROSE (1923-1931).

the same feeling of wanting to drop down and spend the night up there, and who knows what visions I might have dreamt had I done so ?

With a perfect view over the Adriatic on one side, and on the other the rolling Apennines, this picturesque town of white plastered houses, inhabited mainly by peasants, with no rules and regulations to bind them, scarcely ever visited by foreigners, with no worry over economical crises, will remain just a name, and no more, forever living out its motto " Liberta."

Mario Dobrashian
(*Stage* 7).

MY FIRST TRIP ABROAD.

At ten o'clock at night, on September 4th, the S.S. *Vienna* left Parkeston Quay for Rotterdam. As we glided out of the harbour into the open sea and looked behind us, we could see the rows of lights, that lit up the front, and the circle of them round the bandstand. We waited a little while before retiring to our bunks, and when we got up in the morning, we were running in alongside the quay. Leaving the boat, we were just in time to catch the train into Rotterdam, where, after visiting some friends, we went on a little steam boat down a canal to the place where the ship was, by which we were to return to London. It was a very large French ship, and there were only French people on it. After Daddy had shown me round, we returned with the French captain to the town, where we bought a pair of sabots and a few other things. After visiting the Garden Museum, we returned to the ship for the night. The next day was the Queen of Holland's birthday, so that the streets were crowded with people.

At 5.30 that night we left Rotterdam for Gravesend. Daddy was piloting the ship and I stood with him by the steering wheel, and sometimes on the captain's bridge, until nearly midnight. There was a terrible wind and rain storm during the night, but I managed to sleep through it.

Next morning we arrived at Gravesend (in a thick fog), so that we crept very cautiously up the Thames and about twelve o'clock we were slowly gliding into the London Dock.

Myrtle Elven
(*Stage* 4*b*).

MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

At the hotel in Trier, on the border of Germany, where we stayed for one night in our tour through France and Germany, we went to the dining-room for dinner. We were early, so before the meal the proprietor, a very fat, double-chinned and talkative German, produced a large book and pen and ink, and sat down at one of the tables. He then asked us, in German, various questions relating to who we were, where we came from, and what we did. My father and I could not speak German, but our friend who was with us spoke the language fluently, so he answered the questions, but still there was quite a lot of misunderstanding between them. Our names were spelt wrongly, but when we attempted to say so, he brushed us aside with impatient mutterings. Eventually, however, he was satisfied, after putting my father down as a tobacco manufacturer instead of a tobacconist.

The next morning whilst we were having breakfast our friend asked the girl who was waiting on us, where the great socialist, Carl Marx, was born. The girl answered that there were so many Mr. Marxes in the town, which one did he mean ?

Betty Whitfield
(*Stage* 5).

A NARROW ESCAPE IN BERLIN.

Berlin, as you know, is on the Spree, at least that was the impression it gave me, when I arrived at 11 o'clock at night. The whole city seemed to be illuminated by electric signs, while all the people had rather a jovial atmosphere about them. Alas! that did not last. Berlin viewed by day is quite a

different place. It has an air of precision, the streets and buildings are clean and orderly, the traffic being well controlled by automatic signals.

Of course Unter-den-Linden was shown to me. I quite agree with Jerome when he says that it is an attempt to mix Oxford Street and Hyde Park. This street is always infested by Americans, so most of the shops have notices inviting anyone to go in and speak either English or American.

It was in a smaller hairdresser's in the suburbs that I found a sign indicating that English was spoken. I entered in order to have my hair cut, but as usual the man who spoke English was out. I attempted by the use of signs and broken German to explain to the hairdresser my requirements. After being seated in a tremendous chair, swathed in innumerable cloths the barber began as I thought, to " permanently wave " my hair ; when I remonstrated he began to cut it with so much zeal that when he had finished I nearly had a tonsure ; then he wielded a razor so dangerously that I was thankful to be out of the shop. Once outside with time to think I discovered I had paid too much, but had not the nerve to face another ordeal, for had I returned he probably would have seized on me and left my head like a billiard ball.

However, the Germans are (from the little experience I have had) the kindliest people I have met. Surely we must not allow our " patriotism " to act as an incentive to hatred, while it does seem a pity that people still have the old idea that Germans are militaristic, when in fact they are just the opposite.

Cyril F. Thring
(*Stage 7*).

UP THE RHINE.

On the evening of September 2nd at Königswinter the Rhine was " on fire," that is to say, the landing-stages were hung with red fairy-lamps, and the boats too were decorated with many coloured lights. The town was full of people, and

searchlights were shining on the river. All the hotel orchestras were playing some lively tune, while the people danced in the road, not knowing or caring to which tune they were dancing. At 10 o'clock three boats left the town for a four hours' moonlight trip up the river. These boats were gaily decorated with lights, balloons, and paper-chains, while the people on board seemed anxious to see who could make the most noise.

Going further up the river the next day, the old castles looked very fine, with the sun shining on them, giving them a majestic appearance. The old forts on the boundary between Germany and Belgium reminded us that the two nations have not always been at peace with each other.

The town of Bingen seemed to be only a small group of houses, owing to the fact that most of the town is hidden from view. A festival was being held there, for which reason the market square was full of people, most of them busy talking. Flags were flying, and little boys and girls were running about trying to sell small paper copies of the German flag.

This part of the Rhine, from Königswinter to Bingen, is said to be the prettiest part of the river, and indeed I think it would be hard to find a part more wealthy in picturesque scenery.

Irene Goss
(*Stage* 7).

THE INTERNATIONAL COLONIAL EXHIBITION AT PARIS.

There are various differences between the Paris Metro. and the London Underground. The Metro. is slower and not so clean as its London counterpart; its entrances are not so well marked nor the system so well lighted, although there are lamps in all the tunnels! but there are many more stations, it is decidedly cheaper—maximum fare 1½d.—and it does get you there. It is publicly-owned, and, true to French ideals, War widows are employed as ticket-collectors. But if you accidentally take a train in the wrong direction you have to

pay again, and when you come along the passage connecting two routes, the train is often in, but an automatic device called a " portillon "—an iron gate—prevents you from entering the platform just until the train has started—most annoying !

We took the Metro. to the chief Paris attraction this summer—the International Colonial Exhibition. This is a marvel of organisation and of effort to get the right atmosphere in each of the numerous pavilions. There is a magnificent Industries pavilion and exhibits from other countries (not from England, however) ; but the French colonial pavilions are remarkable and cannot fail to give the French people a good impression of the remarkable development of their colonies. The entrance fee is only 3 francs—6d.—and we had some difficulty because they wanted 12 francs one day, and we could not see why—but we found it was in order to keep the day select, which was certainly necessary, for ordinarily the Exhibition is packed. It has been a great success, contrary to expectation, based on previous ventures. The illuminations and fountains are gorgeous, but one of the numerous cafés was rained out one night by the spray from a tall fountain. Then one of the restaurants—incidentally it made a loss—offered a " diner-dansant " for £3 5s. ! However, a crowd is the same in any country—one waited for hours on a cold night to see Mayor Walker of New York, who never turned up at all !

Such is Paris—at least a little of it.

Farrand Radley
(Post-Certificate).

A Day in Belgium.

After the *Bruge* left harbour and got out to sea the waves lashed the side of the boat, and we knew that we were in for a storm so we retired to bed.

We woke up the next morning at a quarter to five and heard the sailors talking and singing as they went about doing their various jobs. We also occasionally heard some of the

people on land talking French, as our porthole was against the landing place. We hurriedly got up, and went on deck. Then, after breakfast, we spent the day at Ostend. It was strange to hear all the people talking French, parts of which we understood. In several of the streets were " dogcarts." They were small carts laden with fruit, etc., and drawn by a dog similar to the Alsatian. In the evening, we went along the " Mole " at Zeebrugge. This is a long roadway, a kind of promenade with trains running along it. At the side of the " Mole " were six dredgers, and in each was a dog on duty. After watching these at work for a while, we went on board, and in about three hours' time we retired to our bunks. Soon we heard the grinding of the engines as we started.

In the night I woke up and heard the waves and spray lashing against the sides of the ship, and I also felt the rocking terrifically, but I turned over and soon fell asleep again. The next time I woke up we were in Parkeston Quay.

Peggy Woolf
(*Stage 4b*).

A Swiss Snowstorm.

Down in the valley at Wengen (a small village about 6,000 feet above sea-level) the weather was glorious. Looming in front of me were the majestic snowcapped mountains in all their beauty, with the clouds rolling down over them every few minutes, thus hiding their summits from view.

Ever climbing, the railway eventually reached the Jungfrau Joch, 11,340 feet high. Here we were in the daylight again, after being in a tunnel for a little over an hour. Out on the balcony of the restaurant the sight was staggering. A snowstorm was raging and it was extremely cold. The dazzling brightness made it impossible to distinguish the sky from the mountains. All was brilliant white, icicles (about 2½ to 3 feet in length) were hanging from the balcony. I leave you to imagine what an impressive scene it was.

From the hotel a lift took me to the Joch itself, about 45 feet higher than the station. After walking through a tunnel I arrived at the end of the plateau where there was snow-balling, ski-ing and several sleighs being pulled by Eskimo dogs. After about half an hour I went back through the ice tunnel to the lift and proceeded through a tunnel in the opposite direction. To my surprise there was an Italian company taking a film. It was the first time I had seen this being done, and out there in the snow it was all the more thrilling, especially as an old aeroplane propeller was used to churn up the snow, thus making the snow-storm worse than it was originally. I spent a very interesting half hour there, and in spite of the fact that I was very wet and cold, I was very reluctant to leave.

It would have been splendid to see the view from such a height, but nevertheless the experience of the snow-storm will be a memorable one.

Mary E. Bond
(Stage 7).

SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

The Cricket Season.

THE season proved very enjoyable, and on the whole successful. Weather conditions were generally good, 1st XI. matches only being sometimes marred by rain.

The 1st XI., captained by Mr. Whitlow, had a moderately good season, including many really exciting games, one of which, against L. Howe's XI., ended in a tie. A marked feature was the tendency for our batsmen to fail on a wet wicket, often against weak bowling. Otherwise the batting was strong, C. McLeod, J. Barry and Mr. Pumphrey repeatedly showing how to attack the bowling. Messrs. Pumphrey and Whitlow usually prevented the opponents from

compiling a large score, and they were assisted by an improved fielding side.

The Boys' XI. were successful mainly because of its ability to make the necessary number of runs quickly. In C. McLeod and J. Barry we had an opening pair who often gave the side encouragement by making over 50 runs before losing a wicket. Raymond McLeod and E. Francis also proved capable of quick run-getting.

The bowling was rather weak, R. Morland and E. Francis alone being really effective. The need of a fast bowler was felt more than ever last season, and although the 2nd XI. did well and showed promise, it is a pity that no such player seems forthcoming at present.

J. Barry took first place for batting, R. Morland for bowling and K. Fowler for fielding. Colours were awarded to K. Fowler, J. Barry, E. Francis, C. McLeod, R. McLeod, D. Seed.

DONALD F. SEED
(1926-31).

GIRLS' CRICKET AND TENNIS.

The usual number of cricket matches were played during the term. We lost both those against Homerton College, although the matches played against Hockerill College and the Old Scholars were easy victories.

The tournaments played the latter half of the term resulted in Godlee House being the winners with Crosfield second.

Colours were awarded at the end of the term to Mary Bolton for her good bowling, and Rhona Chapman for both her wicket-keeping and batting.

TENNIS.

Three of the five matches arranged to be played during the term unfortunately had to be scratched owing to the weather. Although we were rather badly beaten by Herts

and Essex High School, the events played against Chantry Mount resulted in a draw.

The Senior tournament was arranged in a different manner from previous years. Four girls and four boys were chosen from each House, each couple playing two sets of eight games in each. The results were very close, Crosfield coming first with Morland second.

The Junior tournament was carried out in the same way as before, Margaret Mattingly (Morland) being champion with Sybil Hatton (Morland) as runner-up.

Ruth Francis
(*Stage 7*).

GIRLS' AQUATICS.

Great keenness on swimming gave good results in various directions. The display at General Meeting reached a high standard of finish and co-ordinated effort, shown particularly in the revolving water wheel (composed of eighteen floaters) and in the figures timed to music.

The two matches swum were both won, the results being : *v.* Cambridge Ladies, 32 to 21 points ; *v.* The Perse School, 44 to 25 points.

Life Saving Exams. were taken in both Summer and Autumn Terms, bringing the percentage of girls holding certificates (not counting new girls, September, 1931) to the following: Proficiency, 61 per cent. ; Bronze Medal, 35 per cent. and Award of Merit (Silver Medal), 11 per cent.

HOUSE SPORTS RESULTS :

Godlee 43.5, Morland 12.5, Crosfield 7.0.

CHAMPIONSHIPS :

Senior : R. Butler (Godlee), 15 points. Runner-up, J. Cornish (Godlee), 13 points.

Junior : J. Colston (Godlee), 29 points. Runner-up, D. Turner (Morland), 18 points.

F.D.P.

BOYS' AQUATICS.

SENIOR :

Relay Race, 6 by 1 length : 1, Crosfield ; 2, Godlee.

Relay Race, 6 by 2 lengths : 1, Crosfield ; 2, Godlee.

Neat Dive : 1, Morland, 59 points ; 2, Crosfield, 36 ; 3, Godlee, 25.

Plunge : 1, Godlee and Morland, 31 points ; 3, Crosfield, 16.

JUNIOR :

Relay Race, 4 by 1 length : 1, Crosfield ; 2, Morland.

Neat Dive : 1, Godlee, 19 points ; 2, Crosfield, 14.5; 3, Morland, 11.5.

Plunge : 1, Godlee, 19.5 points ; 2, Crosfield, 19 ; 3, Morland, 6.5.

Final Results : 1, Crosfield, 26.6 points ; 2, Godlee, 15.5 ; 3, Morland, 13.8.

A Boys' Swimming Championship was not held this year.

FROM FAR AND NEAR.

CONCERNING OLD SCHOLARS.

Old Scholars who were in Group C. last Term :

Muriel J. Anderson is at a school in Westcliff.

J. Mary Bolton is at the Polytechnic, Regent Street.

Vera D. Brewis is studying Domestic Science at the Battersea Polytechnic.

Rhona B. Chapman.

Robert W. Dale.

Doreen E. Davidson is doing a Secretarial Course at the Triangle, South Molton Street.

Richard C. Dell is at University College.

Ralph Erskine is studying Surveying at the Polytechnic, Regent Street.

Margaret D. Evens.

Ronald F. Forward is studying Accountancy at R. H. Marsh & Co's.

Peter J. C. Green is at Leighton Park School.

Barbara S. Greenwood.

E. Thomas C. Harris is at Battersea Polytechnic.

Ivy L. Hubbard is at the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital training for Nursing.

Felix Hull is studying for Intermediate with a view to Teaching.

Doris M. Kingston is at a school at Lausanne.

Adam T. Meredith is attending classes at the L.C.C. Commercial Institute, Paddington.

Roger Morland is at the Imperial College of Science.

Derek J. Schove is at the Imperial College of Science.

Kathleen E. Scotney is helping Mrs. Scotney at the Abbey Hotel.

Donald F. Seed is at Pitman's College.

John C. Smith is at University College.

Eileen J. Wooldridge is at the Mount School.

HOUSE COMPETITIONS, 1930-1931.

	Morland.	Godlee.	Crosfield.
First Term ..	114	96.4	95.9
Second Term ..	94.8	86.8	80.4
Third Term ..	245.5	242.5	184.8
Totals ..	454.3	425.7	361.1

AS will be seen from the above, Morland have been the leaders in each of the three terms, and so have clearly shown that they are the premier "House" for the year. In the various sections Morland were first in Literary, Scientific, Conduct and Class; Godlee in Athletics, and Crosfield in Manual and Aesthetic.

The chief changes that have been made during the past year are: 1. In Athletic Sports and in Swimming the Houses have chosen representatives to compete instead of the whole of the Houses competing. 2. House Tennis matches (mixed) have for the first time been included in the House events.

G.S.P.

SCHOOL DIARY.

May 27th.—Cricket Matches: Boys' XI. *v.* Newport Grammar School, away, lost, 54—77 for 6 wkts.
Boys' 2nd XI. *v.* Newport G.S. 2nd XI., home, lost, 42—65.

,, 30th.— Cricket Matches: 1st XI. *v.* L. Howe's XI., home, won, 115 for 7 wkts.—46 and 53.

June 1st.—N.H.S. Mtg. Current Events Report, E. Rawlinson; Essays: "The Farmer's Friend," Dorothea Rawlinson; "Ultra-Violet Rays," Derek Schove; Article from *The Listener*, "Impressions of Whipsnade," Margaret Harland.

,, 3rd.—Cricket Matches: Boys' IX. *v.* Newport G.S., home, drawn, 138 for 7 wkts.—75 for 1 wkt.
Boys' 2nd XI. *v.* Newport G.S. 2nd XI., away, lost, 31—46 for 6 wkts.
Girls' 1st XI. *v.* Homerton College, away, lost, 21—28.

,, 6th.—Tennis Match: Girls' VI. *v.* Herts and Essex High School, away, lost, 12—36 games.

,, 8th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary, Margaret Smith and R. Forward; Essays: "Scrivener Alsop, Steward," Mr. Rowntree; "Traits of Character," Ruth Francis; Violin Solo, "Selected Variations" from "Follia con Varizioni" by Corelli, Peter Green; 'Cello Solo, "Adagio" by Bargiel, Mrs. Radley.

,, 10th.—Cricket Match: 1st XI. *v.* K. F. Nicholson's XI., home, lost, 51—162.

,, 13th.—General Meeting.

,, 15th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Current Events Report, Lucille Rayner; Diary, Roger Morland; Essays: "Ants," D. Alward; "The Intelligence of Animals," Margaret Harland; Talk on "How Insects Feed," Mr. Hindle.

,, 17th.—Cricket Matches: Boys' XI. *v.* Saffron Walden Grammar School, home, won, 141 for 8 wkts.—83.
2nd XI. *v.* Saffron Walden G.S. 2nd XI., away, won, 168 for 5 wkts.—39.

,, 20th.—Cricket Matches: Boys' XI. *v.* S. Christopher School, away, won, 93—85.
2nd XI. *v.* Cambridge County School 3rd XI., home, won, 72—38.

,, 22nd.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary, Vera Brewis; Essays: "Going Away," Barbara Greenwood; "God and the Universe," Richard Dell; "Dunwich," Barbara Headley: Pianoforte Solos: "Gipsy Rondo" by Haydn, Muriel Anderson; "Pantomime," by H. Scott Baker, Geoffrey Sparrow; "Largo" by Beethoven, Ivy Hubbard; "Waltz" by Chopin, Vera Brewis.

,, 24th.—Cricket Matches: Boys' XI. *v.* Saffron Walden School, away, drawn, 116 for 7 wkts.—51 for 3 wkts.
2nd XI. *v.* Saffron Walden School 2nd XI., home, won, 120—30.

June 27th.—Cricket Matches : 1st XI. *v.* Saffron Walden 2nd XI., home, won, 126 for 8 wkts. declared—34 and 56.
Girls' XI. *v.* Hockerill Training College, away, won, 101 for 4 wkts.—20.
N.H.S. Cycling excursion.

,, 29th.—Swimming Match *v.* Cambridge Ladies, won, 32—21 points.

,, 30th.—Literary Society Social.

July 1st.—Cricket Match : Boys' 1st XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford College 2nd XI., away, drawn, 98 for 9 wkts.—86 for 5 wkts.

,, 2nd.—Merit Half-Holiday.

,, 3rd.—Swimming Match *v.* Cambridge County School for Boys, home, won, 54—22 points.
N.H.S. Mtg. Current Events Report, Joan Watson and Muriel Poulter ; Lantern Lecture, " Indian Life," Richard Brooks.

,, 4th.—N.H.S. Excursion to Whipsnade.

,, 6th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary, Peter Green ; Pianoforte Solo, " Ballade in D Minor " by Brahms, Richard Dell. Debate : " That Specialisation in Education is desirable and should be begun earlier," Proposer, John Buckmaster, Opposer, Eileen Wooldridge, lost by a large majority.

,, 8th.—House Socials.

,, 10th.—Swimming Match : Boys' Team *v.* Saffron Walden Town Juniors, won, 41½—20½ points.

,, 11th.—Cricket Match : 1st XI. *v.* L. Howe's XI., away, tie, 81—81.

,, 13th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Diary, Margaret Rollason ; Current Events Report, Honor Liddle ; Meteorological Report, Richard Dell ; Reports of the Excursion to Whipsnade, Barbara Greenwood and June Cornish. Essays : " Geology," C. J. Smith ; " Everything Else," Derek Schove.

,, 16th.—Girls' Reading Club Meeting.

,, 18th.—Cricket Matches : Boys' XI. *v.* S. Christopher School, home, won, 112 for 7 wkts.—79.
2nd XI. *v.* Cambridge County School 3rd XI., away, won, 56 for 6 wkts.—44.
Tennis Match : Girls' VI. *v.* Chantry Mount, home, drawn, 4 events to 4.

,, 20th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary, Mary Bolton ; Essays : " Modernistic Art," Ralph Erskine ; " Shelley," Mr. Robson ; " Day School *v.* Boarding School," Doris Kingston ; " Towards an Ideal," Ronald Forward ; " School Life," Ivy Hubbard ; Pianoforte Solos, " Legend " by Dvorak, Eileen Wooldridge ; " No. 5 of an Imaginary Ballet Suite " by Coleridge Taylor, Geoffrey Sparrow ; Violin Solos, " Aria " by Bach, Ralph Erskine ; " Air on the G string " by Purcell, Peter Green ; Two German Folk Songs, the six German girls from Berlin.

,, 24th.—Girls' Swimming Match *v.* Perse School for Girls, home, won, 44—25 points.

,, 25th.—Cricket Match : 1st XI. *v.* Saffron Walden 2nd XI., home, won, 191 for 5 wkts.—61.

July 27th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Diary, Myfanwy Butler; Current Events Report, Elizabeth Meredith; Essays: "India," Richard Brooks; "Clouds," Richard Dell.

,, 30th.—End of Term.

Sept. 17th.—School re-opened.

,, 21st.—N.H.S. Mtg. Diary, Muriel Poulter; Current Events Report, Farrand Radley; Essay: "Geology," C. J. Smith.

,, 28th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary, R. Harper; Essays: "Poetry," Honor Liddle; "Mars," R. Harper; "Imagination," Joan Mulholland; Trio, "Miniature No. 8," Hornpipe, Frank Bridges, Miss N. Wright, Honor Liddle and Farrand Radley.

,, 30th.—Football Match: Boys' XI. *v.* Harlow College, away, lost, 0—2.

Oct. 3rd.—N.H.S. Excursion to Takely Forest.
Football Match: 1st XI. *v.* The Rovers, home, drawn, 3—3.
Lantern Lecture: "A Visit to the Canary Islands," Mr. Belger.

,, 5th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Current Events Report, Myfanwy Butler; Diary, D. Allward; Essays: "Insectivorous Plants," Dorothy Collar; "Hops," Margaret Rollason.
Merit Half-Holiday.

,, 7th.—Football Matches: Boys' XI. *v.* Newport Grammar School, away, lost, 2—5.
Boys' 2nd XI. *v.* Newport G.S. 2nd XI., home, lost, 3—4.

,, 10th.—O.S. Week-end.
Football Match *v.* O.S., home, won, 6—5.
Hockey Match *v.* O.S., home, won, 3—2.

,, 12th.—Lit. Soc. Mtg. Diary, Margaret Harland; Essays: "The Public School System," David Hughes; "My Bookshelf," Muriel Poulter; "The Character of the Scottish Peasant," Charles Macdonald; "Understanding," Lucille Rayner; Recitation, "The Grey Squirrel," Margaret Harland; Pianoforte Solo, "Deuxième Mazurka" by Benjamin Goddard, Clifford Smith; Pianoforte Duet, "Etincelles" by Moszkowski, Kathleen Francis and Mary Bond; Reading from "Three Men in a Boat," Robert Harper.

,, 14th.—Football Match: 1st XI. *v.* Barclay's Bank (Saffron Walden Branch), home, lost, 1—5.

,, 17th.—Lantern Lecture: "Architecture," Mr. Paul Manger.

,, 19th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Diary, Betty Harland; Current Events Report, Dorothea Rawlinson; Essays: "Cirrus Cloud," Farrand Radley; "India," Richard Brooks; "Plant Movement," Honor Liddle.

,, 22nd.—Merit Half-Holiday.

,, 24th.—Football Match: Boys' XI. *v.* Great Chesterford, away, won, 9—1.
Hockey Match: 1st XI. *v.* Fowlmere Ladies, away, won, 5—3.
Song Recital, Mr. John Robson.

NOTICES.

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LONDON GENERAL SCHOOL EXAMINATION, JUNE, 1931.

Matriculation.

Honours: Felix Hull (H, G, M), Muriel F. Poulter (H, L, M, F), H. A. Farrand Radley (H, L, M, F, Music), Derek J. Schove (M, L, C).

Pass: Richard C. Dell (M), Ralph Erskine, Peter J. C. Green (L, M), E. Thomas C. Harris (M, C), Ivy L. Hubbard, Roger Morland (M), John C. Smith (L, F), Eileen J. Wooldridge (M, D).

School Certificate.

Honours: Adam T. Meredith (M, G, F).

Pass: Ronald F. Forward, Ernest C. Francis, Clifford J. Smith (M).

[H, G, M, L, F, C, D indicate distinction in History, German, Elementary Mathematics, Latin, French, Chemistry, Drawing, respectively.]

ESSEX INTERMEDIATE COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP.

H. Farrand Radley.

School Magazines.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following Magazines since our last issue: *The Cupola* (Ackworth), *The Island* (Sidcot), *The Beckside* (Ayton), *The Georgian* (Harpenden), *By Kent and Skerne* (Polam Hall).

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