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JULY 1938

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The Magazine of the Friends' School, Saffron Walden.

VOL. XXIX. JULY 1938 No. 86.

FOREWORD

THIS term has brought us an addition of two boys and four girls, making a total of 104 boys and 108 girls.

Several changes have taken place during the holidays.

Boys' bedroom Nine has been made smaller to give room for the new linen cupboards which are on two sides of Miss Waring's room. Miss Waring's former room has been changed into her bedroom while her former bedroom has been converted into an elaborate surgery.

Nurse Pengelly is now in charge of boys' and girls' health while Miss Waring is in charge of all the linen.

For this term, on an experimental basis, afternoon school is from 2 to 3.55, instead of from 3.30 to 5.25, games taking place from 4.15 to 5.15, instead of from 2.0 to 3.0, the idea being that it is better, mentally as well as physically, to play after work is finished with.

Tea is at 6 instead of 5.30 and preparation is from 6.40 to 8 instead of from 6.15 to 7.45, as it used to be in the summer term.

The term has been an eventful one.

The Whitsun and General Meeting gatherings were very successful, as usual, and blessed with almost continuous sunshine.

The Choir and Orchestra took part in a concert at Friends House earlier in the term.

The Boys' and Girls' 1st Eleven went to Cambridge to watch the Australian team.

As usual, a number of boys and girls went to the Junior Yearly Meeting in London.

However, these events are fully described on other pages.

Unfortunately, the School has been for some time inconvenienced by the troublesome though harmless disease of Conjunctivitis (better known as pink eye) which has not left us at the time of writing.

The usual examinations for Stage 7 took place in brilliant weather (poor candidates !).

A strikingly coloured clock has been placed on the front of the pavilion and is of great use to the teams.

The pet-shed has come to life again by the arrival of some hamsters from the London Zoo.

Stage 6 economics class are carrying on the activities, started by their predecessors of last year, of a tuckshop, providing a great variety of sweets and drinks (non-intoxicating !) and an ice-cream stall.

We wish to offer our congratulations to Miss Willans and Mr. Douglas, who became engaged last holidays.

Hans Frei.



GIRLS' GAMES

CRICKET

J. Francis *Capt.*
C. Kent
J. Holland
M. Mills
S. Rayner
A. Godfrey
M. Willis
C. Webb
E. Pucknell
B. Allen
S. Smith
D. Jones *12th man*

THE batting, bowling and fielding of the team have reached a fair standard. They are all keen, and a few have put in extra practice, which has meant much to the team in matches.

We scored our first victory against Old Scholars, and we are hoping to finish the season undefeated.

TENNIS

J. Francis
J. Holland } *1st Couple*

C. Kent
M. Greaves } *2nd Couple*

C. Webb
S. Rayner } *3rd Couple*

OUR tennis fixtures all come towards the latter part of the term and as this goes to press we have only played one match.

The team shows promise, but at the moment footwork and court tactics need much practice.

SWIMMING

HALF the team has been occupied with practising for the Display which we gave at Whitsun and General Meeting. Now we are concentrating on Life Saving, but the number taking these exams has been reduced owing to an outbreak of Conjunctivitis.

There have not been any Swimming Matches yet, but the results of these will be published in the next edition of *The Avenue*.

MAIDEN CASTLE

ON our way to Cornwall last summer holidays, we stayed for one night at Dorchester, in Dorset, and in the morning, as we were preparing to leave, the manager of the hotel asked us if we had seen the skeletons which were being excavated at Maiden Castle. This sounded interesting, so we duly made our way to Maiden Castle, two miles outside the town, bumping up a rough cart-track to the top of a breezy, grass-grown hill. Maiden Castle is an Ancient British earthwork, one of the largest and oldest in England. It occupies the top of the entire hill, and is 1000 ft. long and 500 broad, commanding a view of the country for miles around, which was probably a special advantage in the days when there was constant danger of attack.

The defences of Maiden Castle consist of a series of earth ramparts, with deep ditches between, which were probably filled with water at first. The ramparts are tremendous, and must have been easy to defend.

Only part of the present defences was built by Stone Age, or Neolithic men, who inhabited Maiden Castle first, later occupants added to these. Some dwelling pits were being excavated which belonged to the Neolithic period, and also

some pits which appeared to have been used only for cooking, as corn, hazel nuts, and bones of sheep, pig and an ox were found in them.

The Neolithic people lived in pits, and some of their pottery has been found in excavating.

Remains of a flint industry have been found, including several flint axes, scrapers and arrowheads. After the Neolithic people left Maiden Castle there was a gap of about fifteen centuries before it was again occupied, this time by Iron Age men. These people lived in pits which were like bee-hives in shape, had roofs and were probably lined with skins to keep out moisture. The floors of these pits were of chalk or earth, and as these pits were of chalk or earth, and as these people had no idea of cleanliness whatever, they just threw all their rubbish on the floor, and left it. This probably accounts for the number of ornaments and other things of that period found, for if a lady dropped her best brooch, she probably wouldn't try to find it in all the rubbish, and so it would be left. Even when the rubbish became too bad, they didn't clear it out—oh no, nothing so simple as that—they just laid a new floor! So the excavators found a floor, a layer of rubbish, another floor, another layer of rubbish, and so on.

In one of the pits was found a floor with a ring of mutton bones round its edge, which showed that the family probably sat round the central hearth and threw the bones over their shoulders after gnawing them.

Originally there were two roads leading out of Maiden Castle at the east end, but the people found these too difficult to defend, so they built a wall of posts with sticks interwoven between across both roads, and when the sticks rotted they were replaced by stones. Another road was laid instead of the other two. All these roads have still quite a good surface even to-day, made of rubble, and have high edges.

The skeletons were still being excavated. They were the skeletons of men who were killed in defending Maiden Castle

against the Romans. There were about twenty of them, mostly buried in pairs, just inside the defences at the east gate. This burial ground is on the spot where was an iron foundry before the battle with the Romans in A.D. 43. After conquering Maiden Castle the Romans did not take possession, but settled in Dorchester.

The Britons became partly civilized, and adopted Roman ways, as is shown by the Roman temple and priests' house, and the number of Roman coins excavated. Also, one skeleton was buried with an earscoop. He had evidently become civilized and had taken to cleaning his ears as the Romans did, and his family were so proud of the fact that they buried his earscoop with him.

Some of the skeletons from the battle had their mouths wide open, so they must have been hit whilst shouting their war-cry, and one man had a knife blade through his spine.

Among the things discovered was a hoard of slingstones—22,260 in all—selected pebbles from the Chesil Beach, ten miles away.

These excavations were commenced four years ago by the Society of Antiquaries to answer certain questions which had arisen in connection with the study of Prehistoric Britain, but as they progressed, further questions arose which also had to be answered. Last summer, however, they had found out all they wanted to know, and so I expect they have filled in all the pits which they had made, and replaced the turf so that nothing is left. All the skeletons, pottery coins and so on which have been found have been sent to museums, and the charts which they made will be preserved.

Now I should like to end by quoting a rather appropriate piece from " Puck's Song ", by Kipling.

> And see you, after rain, the trace
> Of mound and ditch and wall?
> O that was a Legion's camping-place,
> When Cæsar sailed from Gaul.

And see you marks that show and fade,
Like shadows on the Downs?
O, they are the lines the Flint Men made
To guard their wondrous towns.

Trackway and Camp and City lost,
Salt Marsh where now is corn
Old Wars, old Peace, old Arts that cease,
And so was England born.

Margaret Johnstone
(*Stage* 5*a*).

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v. THE AUSTRALIANS

ON Wednesday, May 11th, a party of older boys and girls left the school for Fenner's cricket ground, Cambridge, headed by Mr. Pumphrey and Miss Beatty, to see the first day's play between the University and the Australians. It was a warm sunny day and we arrived at the cricket ground in high spirits. Cambridge had won the toss and batted first. Before our arrival, Wild had flicked a catch to Gulley, and just after our arrival Gibb misjudged an out-swinging ball from Waite, giving the Australians two wickets for two runs—this in half an hour's play.

It seemed as though the University team would easily collapse after such a bad start, but the game brightened up for them when Yardley, the Cambridge captain, came out to face the Australian bowling. He began hitting fours straight away; both O'Reilly and Ward were hit hard to the boundary. Langley, encouraged by his example, played very well and during the next half-hour we saw some good forced

hitting. When 55 had been reached O'Reilly tricked Langley into playing a slower ball too soon, and three wickets had fallen for 55 runs.

The rest of the Cambridge innings consisted of Yardley playing the Australians, for though the other Cambridge batsmen were not afraid to try their hand at scoring, none of them seemed to be able to stay in very long. Then, after the lunch hour Yardley hit a ball up in the air, which, though looking like a six, was caught by Fingleton on the boundary. This ended the University's innings and by 2.35 p.m. they were back at the Pavilion.

O'Reilly took five wickets for 55 runs and Waite five wickets for 23 runs. Ward, the Australian slow leg break bowler, bowled for some time, but he did not seem particularly dangerous, though this may have been partly due to the pitch, which was not a good bowler's wicket. Yardley played a very good innings and faced the Australian spin bowlers with confidence. He made 67 runs before playing the ball to Fingleton.

When the Australians went out to bat, the Cambridge team knew that their chances were very small, though they were encouraged somewhat by Brown's coming out in the first over. Brown was bowled l.b.w. by Rees-Davies. The rest of the day's play was less exciting, with Bradman and Fingleton piling up the runs steadily. When the Australians had reached 218 for one wicket, Fingleton played a full toss on to his off stump from Kaye, dislodging the bail. The batsmen ran three runs before the umpire noticed that the bail had been dislodged, though it had not fallen. Thus, unexpectedly, Fingleton was out with a score of 111 to his credit.

Bradman then speeded the game up, scoring rapidly with swift strokes until the score was 281, then he tapped a catch to Mann at cover-point off Wild's bowling. Wild bowled a very steady length all the time, at a slow-medium pace, so that at times he would bowl several maiden overs in succession.

Badcock and Hassett played on until the stumps were drawn at 6.30 p.m., leaving the Australians with a total score of 306 for three wickets.

This ended the day's play with the Australian team 306 for three wickets and Cambridge 120 all out. We had seen a very fine innings from Yardley and some good hitting by Bradman and Fingleton, and we were all very grateful to Mr. Pumphrey for arranging such an enjoyable day for us.

David Mattingly
(*Stage 7*).

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING



S School Representative to Junior Yearly Meeting I went on Friday with three other girls and four boys, about twenty-six coming on Saturday morning.

We had our first session in the Small Meeting House at 5.0. We all wore labels bearing our names and the place from which we came. These labels were of three colours because on Saturday for our main sessions we were divided into three groups—pink labels for the 12 and 13 years old ; blue for the 14 and 15 years and white for the 16 and 17 years. At this first session we were given a welcome by the Recording Clerk, Frank Parkin, and an introduction to the thought and business of Junior Yearly Meeting. Then we had a Topical Talk about Adult Yearly Meeting by Francis H. Knight. Afterwards Alec North told us which hostels we were staying at, either Great Ormond St. or Highgate. We from Walden went to Great Ormond St. and found it very nice there. From 6.30 to 7.30 we attended Adult Yearly Meeting, sitting in the North Gallery. There was the Report of the Allotments

Committee by Howard B. Collier and then the Report of the Penal Reform Committee.

On Saturday we had a session at 9.15 in the Small Meeting House consisting of a short period of worship and a little business. Then we attended the session of Adult Yearly Meeting. " What is Peace and What is our Contribution to it ? " was the subject upon which Maurice Rowntree spoke.

At 12.0 we separated for our meetings in groups. We, the senior group, went to the Cora Hotel, also the "pink" group; the " blue " group had their meetings in the Small Meeting House. Our discussion was " The Practice and Power of Ideals ". Our Clerk was Ian Sutherland and Assistant Clerk, Nell Lunnon. The discussion began by talking about ideals. It was suggested that we should turn our ideals into projects. We must be careful of our ideals—must have a high enough standard to judge them by, because ideals are visions of equal perfection. We can aim at this perfection in small ways.

Betting and Gambling were then discussed for a long time. The reason why we should not gamble was summed up as follows :—

Poor people should not gamble—effects on family.

Rich people should not gamble—bad example.

Middle Class people should not gamble—find it hard to stop.

Then we wondered how we could stop it. It was suggested that we ourselves should not gamble and also we should provide occupations to take people's minds off gambling ; clubs, allotments, etc.—show a definite interest in poorer people.

In connection with Capital Punishment there was a great discussion about Dillinger. As Friends we believe in the Inner Light and therefore should not kill or rather, cause another person to be killed.

We resumed the discussion at 2.15, which was started by its being said that our new standards are better because they give more expression to the parts of us which are good. Then the discussion went on to honesty and the way of St. Francis ; if

the world is to become a better place what things should we try to alter ? Sunday games ? and that we must have a certain definite basis to set our standards and not go altogether on our own experiences.

We had to break up now in order to go to a Session altogether in the Small Meeting House, when we had reports from the three groups. The " pink " group had been taken a tour round the world by J. Catchpool and had had a talk on the Road of Life illustrated by Belisha Beacons, by M. Harrod. The " blue " group had been talking about the equal distribution of wealth and had complained about extravagance, both of time and money, and also about the need for exhibiting beliefs. The report of the " white " group was about Betting and Gambling, etc.

An Epistle from the New England Junior Yearly Meeting was read in reply to our letter sent from Bristol Yearly Meeting. New England have a week for their Yearly Meeting and some people wished that we had also.

Junior Yearly Meeting was then closed by a very nice Meeting for Worship.

Daphne Gillett
(*Stage* 6).

SIR GOFF AND THE DEMON KING

ONCE, there lived in the court of a great king the good knight Sir Goffmedoffdiddle dee dee, known to his friends as Sir Goff.

At the time our story opens, Goff was very peeved. Lady Guydevolier, known as Guy, had been carried off by a magician. She wanted to stay with him, and Goff couldn't stand her, but in those days when a magician carried off a lady, she had to be rescued by a knight, and it was Goff's turn to rescue someone.

So he set out in rather low spirits on his errand. Scarcely had he travelled a mile, however, when he saw a man and a

maiden struggling together, quite a common sight then. Sir Goff knew his job. He fixed his lance and rode up, shouting the first things that came into his mind.

" Saint George for Merrie England ! By gad, sir, this sort of thing won't do ! "

By this time the rogue had fled, leaving the knight to deal with the grateful lady.

" 'Twas nothing," said he, thereby making it sound everything. " I do this kind of thing often, and thou art a pretty wench."

The lady, however, was unconventional and unexpected.

" I'm not a wench, I'm Jill. Thanks for rescuing me, but please take me home. I live upon that hill in a castle."

" Yon is the fortress towards which I am going. I will escort thee thither."

They were continuing their journey when Jill exclaimed, " There—there's Daddy with his pet dragon."

There was the magician with a really terrible fire-breathing dragon. Sir Goff, without the proper weapons for fighting dragons, turned tail and fled. After him rushed the dragon, and so matters would have continued until either Goff or the dragon was exhausted, if the knight hadn't fallen noisily down a rabbit-hole.

Like Alice, he fell down, down, down. It grew hotter and hotter, but just as his armour began to melt, he landed in a pool of muddy water.

" Hi ! " said a nearby skeleton. " You can't do that there here. This is the land of Dread-Death and you're still alive."

" Am I ? " asked Goff. " I am come to seek the lady Guy. Is she here, you miserable collection of bones ? "

" For that insult you shall perish," howled a demon appearing from nowhere, " Woo ! Wa ! Wooo ! Wa, Bosh ! Woosha ! Now your dead."

" No, I'm not," yelled Goff, making a dive at the demon, who disappeared. Goff was just wondering whether he'd won

when the enemy vanished, but the demon appeared a short way off and repeated his dread formula.

Goff made another dash, the demon disappeared, appeared again, and was just saying " Woosha ! " when Jill appeared.

" You are a very naughty insulting demon—go away."

" By my troth, I like you," said Sir Goff, " and since I've got to rescue somebody, I'll rescue you. I'd marry you too if I'd the chance."

" Thank you, Sir Goff," she said demurely, " but I wish to be married first, then rescued. And, by the way, since you were sent to rescue Lady Guy from my Daddy, you should do that. Still, marry me now, and together we will go in search of her. The demon king has her, take her from him, and you will have done your duty."

" Jill, you're right. These skeletons can perform our marriage service, and then we'll look for Lady Guy."

A weird and wonderful wedding it was, the best man and the priest both in a state of decay. After it was over, a kind skeleton offered to show them the way to the demon king's palace. It led them over horrible rocks, and down dark passages until they came to a river.

" Over there lies the palace," said the skeleton, so they crossed the river with much difficulty, so much indeed that they were just wondering whether it was worth it, when there was a loud thunder-clap and the demon king appeared, an awe-inspiring being in striped pyjamas and a scarlet dressing gown, badly in need of a shave and a bath. In one hand he carried a candle, in the other a trident.

" What do you want ? " he asked in an earth-shaking voice.

" Lady Guy," replied Sir Goff.

" Fight you for her," said the demon.

" O.K., you go and wash first and then we'll get to work."

But at the words " wash " and " work " the demon turned pale and, blowing out his candle, he fled.

" After him," cried Jill, and after him they sped, till at last they cornered him. He pleaded with them to let him go, but Sir Goff made the condition that he should take them to Lady Guy. The demon king humbly did so, but when it was over he suddenly grew ten times larger and shouted :

" Take Lady Guy and go, I give you four seconds. One . . . two . . . ."

" Just run," said Jill.

They just ran.

. . . . . .

Quoth Sir Goff to his wife, Lady Jill, two months later :

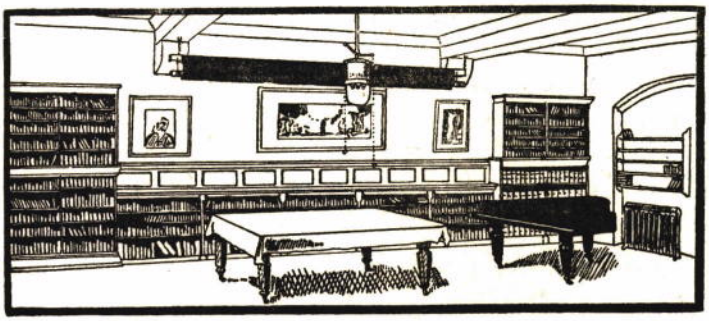
" When you've finished dyeing your hair purple, perhaps you'll attend to me. Now Lady Guy has married your magic papa, she's my mother-in-law, and I've come to the conclusion that perhaps it would have been better if I'd left her to marry the demon king."

" Bosh ! " answered Lady Jill through the hair-dye. " It would have been absolutely no use. You see, my Daddy can turn himself into anything he likes, and he was the demon king whom we saw. He wanted to test your courage.

Goff was so flabbergasted that he could scarcely speak ; and then :

" A father-in-law with striped pyjamas ! " was his comment ; " Something must be done about this," and he dashed off.

Stella Maude (*Stage 5b*).



THE NARROW LANE

WE turned aside, and left the broad highway,
—All black and blist'ring in the dancing heat,
Where earth and sky hung like a painted sheet,
And all was painted green and brown and grey.

We turned into a narrow dusty lane,
On one side hemmed with green and growing wheat,
Instead of fields of baking sugar-beet ;
We passed amid a sea of ripening grain.

How quiet the world seemed on this narrow track,
A narrow track that writhes and turns about,
And down and up and down, as if in doubt
Of going straight ahead, or turning back.

And now the road leads under shady trees,
Whose boughs are intermingled overhead ;
And now we pass the dry and stony bed
That once held water rippling in the breeze.

And next a white-washed farmhouse passes by :
(And here the road is scarred, as if a knife
Had cut it ; like the narrow way of Life)
And soon the lane is climbing towards sky.

R. Arnold
(*Stage 6*).

THE SONG OF THE GROCER

I OPEN my shop from morning till night
Except on Sunday when I shut it tight.
My stock is so varied, all tastes to please,
My orders go out with the greatest of ease.

Bacon for breakfast, and best marmalade,
Eggs for the bacon, the newest ones laid ;
Salmon and lobster, corn-beef and ham,
Raisins and currants and strawberry jam.

I wear a white apron to keep spick-and-span
And do for my customers all that I can ;
Apologies come in my everyday song,
For surely my customers never are wrong.

And so I go on through my everyday life,
Three children to keep, myself and my wife.
I go to bed happy and dream of such things
As my excellent stock, and food fit for kings.

Christine Kaye
(*Stage* 3).

TARTARY

IF I were Lord of Tartary
I'd be hunting every day,
The hounds and horse would come with me
To keep the fox at bay.
And in my trees the birds would fly
And in my pools the herons cry
And all my workmen they would try
To keep the castle gay.

Christopher Burtt
(*Junior School*).

(With apologies to Walter de la Mare.)

TARTARY

IF I were Lord of Tartary,
My robes would glitter bright.
Red and gold and green they'd be
The lining milky white.
I'd ride in state through town and dale,
In rain and sun and moonlight pale,
When owls and other night birds wail
And hurry out of sight.

Martin Snape
(Junior School).

(With apologies to Walter de la Mare.)

WHITSUN, 1938

THE words " Whitsun at Walden " should conjure up visions of brilliant sunshine blazing down on the white-flannelled figures of the cricketers and tennis players, while onlookers laze on rugs drinking Vimto and eating ice creams.

This year the dream came true. Someone must have got on the (b)right side of the clerk of the weather, and it was a pity more old scholars were not down to enjoy it. Still, although a somewhat smaller gathering than usual, it was none the less a merry one and we are grateful to all those responsible for the arrangements made for our entertainment. Thanks are also due to present scholars for making us feel at home. In fact, some old scholars made themselves so much at home that many people might have thought they were still in the J.H. Among other things parents and O.S. amused themselves one evening by giving an imitation of feeding the animals at the Zoo—in other words by throwing fruit up to boys in the dormitories. The boys did not object. (Though we believe the Head Master would have disapproved had he known—ED.)

For the few lucky ones who got down on Friday evening, there was the usual dance in the gym. On Saturday those old scholars who had not seen too much of Saffron Walden while at school, accompanied Mr. Morris on a tour round the town. The others stayed to watch a spirited gym display given by the boys, which was followed by the girls' swimming display. We were glad to see that the standard of swimming had not gone down since our day! The figure swimming with balloons at the end was particularly effective.

After this the boys gave a diving display. The chimpanzee dive was almost too realistic and the scene of the two drunken men provoked a considerable amount of mirth. What is the school coming to? The relay races are hardly worth mentioning, as the O.S. lost them both. However, we won the two cricket matches v. the boys, though the less said of the Old Girls' efforts the better.

The dance on Saturday evening was as usual a very jolly affair and the Palais Glide and the Lambeth Walk were especially popular.

Sunday was, like all other Whit-Sundays, a day of Meetings and teas, not forgetting the concert in the evening when Mr. Green's own version of "Annie Laurie" was much appreciated. Monday was another good day for teas. Tea at the Junior School has now become a Whitsun institution and the children were so anxious to serve that it was possible to get three or four teas in quite a short time. It would be interesting to know how many an enterprising old scholar could collect in the course of the week-end.

The bath was in great demand the whole time. One afternoon some old girls seemed to be giving an impromptu swimming display, but perhaps they were only trying to show that they had not forgotten everything they learnt at school!

Political arguments also waged hot and fierce amongst old scholars, particularly when fascist and communist got together. However, the influence of "the old school tie", no doubt, prevented them from actually coming to blows.

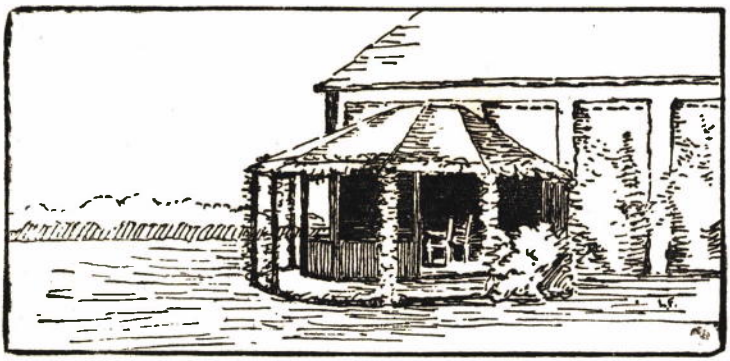
There was Terza as usual on Saturday and Monday, but old scholars did not put in much of an appearance mainly because of tennis. I think this was a pity. Terza is not only an old tradition, but is definitely one of the links between the old and the new.

At 7 o'clock on Monday, according to programme, the old scholars were due to give an entertainment. Some one remarked, not too unkindly I hope, that they had been doing that all through the week-end. At any rate the official entertainment was a great success and local talent was much in evidence. Should one protest though against the military flavour of one of the items ?

The climax of the week-end was, of course, the bonfire. It is difficult to recapture afterwards the wild enthusiasm which sends the more energetic old scholars racing madly round it hand in hand, or singing at the tops of their voices, but it is certainly an experience that no one who has been present at one will ever forget.

All good things come to an end, however, Whitsuntide included. The fire began to die down as the strains of the school song and " Auld Lang Syne " floated across the playground to the listeners in the school. Another memorable Whitsun was over—but we hope to see you all again next year.

M. MATTINGLY.



POEM

THE skies are blue,
The birds are singing,
The day is new,
The bells are ringing,
Come all ye people and rejoice,
For 'tis the first of June.

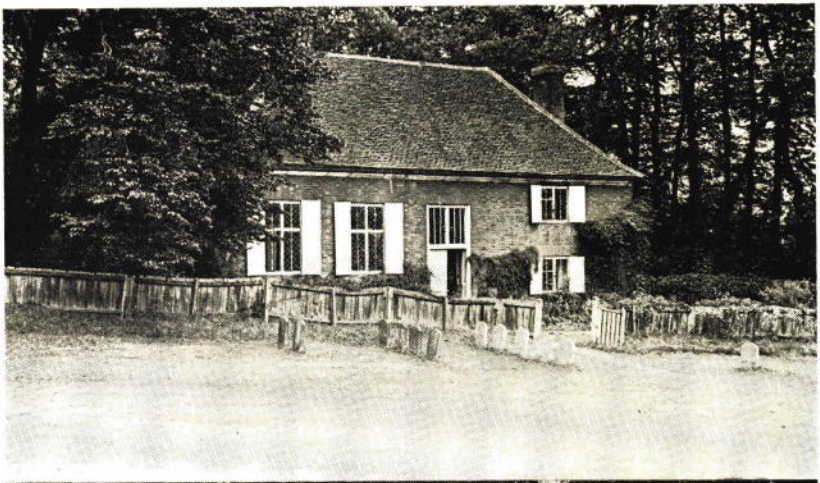
And when the flaming
Sun has gone,
The stars come out
Just one by one.
Come sing a song of joyful praise
Beneath the summer moon.

E. Littleboy
(Stage 5a).

BILLY BUNNY

ONE day Billy Bunny went for a walk and on the way he saw a funny thing, which looked like a bird. It had round feet and a beak which went round and round, and then he noticed that it flew, although it did not flap its wings and had no feathers.

To his surprise it landed by him and its feet went round and round. Now Billy Bunny noticed that its nose had stopped going round and round, so just for fun he started turning the bird's nose round and round and round till it wouldn't turn round any more; but to his surprise it started going round in





the opposite direction, and swept him off his feet into a hole in the bird's back. (Remember, he was only a small bunny.)

He was whirled through the air at a terrible speed. The first thing he knew was that a voice said :

" Oh, my plane ! " and a boy darted forward. When he found Billy he took him home and put him in a cage.

Poor Billy was very sad, but luck was with him. The next day a bird flew down and pecked up the latch, and Billy got out.

And he didn't interfere with other people's affairs again.

Allan Jones
(Junior School).

JORDANS

TWO excellent photographs of Jordans have been presented to *The Avenue* by our good friend Bedford Lemere (taken by his cousin Harry Stringer) and I am asked to supply " copy " to go with them. This I gladly do, for Jordans stands to me for some of the things that matter most.

The district has always produced men who were not afraid of independence of thought, from the days of the Lollards onwards.

" Pennsylvania was founded in the narrow lanes and woodlands between Rickmansworth and Jordans. Beneath the trees of Great Hampden, were set the limits of Constitutional monarchy (John Hampden and ' Ship Money ') and from Burke's home at Beaconsfield came the clarion call for sympathy with the American colonies." (Ralph Robinson in " The Penn Country ".)

If you had seen Jordans in the heroic days of religious persecution, you would have seen Isaac Penington, son of a Lord Mayor of London, Gulielma Springett, his daughter (" Whose character and charm were extraordinary " and who later married Penn), Ellwood (Milton's secretary, who found the

" pretty box " for him at Chalfont, where he wrote " Paradise Regained "), Dell and Salter, yeomen farmers, Nicholas Skidmore, a butcher of Chalfont, Frances Salter, a brave woman later sent to prison by Ambrose Bennett, and many another. Friends congregated here from all the neighbouring hamlets, from Hedgerley, Coleshill, the Chalfonts, Amersham, and so on. And there were exciting times, too, when informers appeared at meeting and dragged a revered Friend " in an outrageous manner along the floor " or reported Friends to the justices. Many "Publick Friends" visited the meeting, Penn, Fox, and I know not whom beside. But the meeting that I should have loved best to attend in the old days is one mentioned in Ellwood's Journal, held at The Grove between Jordans and Gold Hill. Burrough and James Nayler were present. Nayler was in spite of his disgrace and the hideous " B " (blasphemer) branded on his forehead, perhaps one of the most saintly and lovable of the early Quakers. It was at this meeting that Ellwood's heart " warmed with a certain heat which he had not till then felt from the ministry of any man ". And Burrough's preaching resulted in Ellwood becoming a Quaker.

There was many a household where visiting Friends could be entertained—Stone Dean, where the Butterfields kept open house and Edith Bigland carries on the great tradition to this day, Dean Farm where Joseph and Ann Lovelace entertained so freely (a house which Mr. and Mrs. Hart have reconditioned and made a dream of beauty), Maltmans Green, now a flourishing Girls' School but then the home of William Grimsdale, The Grove, The Grange, and several others.

And when Meeting was over on First Day, there would be much talk of the thousands of Quakers in prison since the Act of Uniformity, anxious enquiries about Penington and the others imprisoned at Aylesbury, and interested comment on the romance springing up between Penn and Gulielma Springett, for he met her first at Bury Farm, Amersham, and she later rode pillion with him to meeting every First Day.

These were the " Great days of old " at Jordans, and after about 1730 there followed a period of quietude and decay, until in 1797 the membership consisted of " but two ancient men who attend to keep up the meeting ". But in 1910 London began to stretch out its tentacles towards the Chilterns, and a live body of Friends again needed a Meeting House.

I have very many memories of Jordans, but it is difficult to know which, if any of them, will interest Walden scholars.

I remember the transformation of the farm, old and dilapidated, with its garden full of nettles, into the charming guest house called Jordans Hostel.

I remember how the new caretakers at the Meeting House, William and Louisa Ward, changed the tea garden and hen run into the gracious " Dell " we know to-day. It was William Ward who transplanted those snowdrops (which flower before all others in the countryside) from the orchard, where perhaps Gulielma herself admired their purity, to the Meeting House where they gladden every visitor in spring.

Nor am I likely to forget the laying of the foundation bricks of the first cottage in Jordans Village. Anna Littleboy (so long a member of the Walden Committee) laid the third brick. The village was to be a model village, the villagers were to be engaged in local industries " and were to have every opportunity for the full development of their personality ". At the opening ceremony, they buried in the walls a bottle containing the current *Daily News*, a farthing, and a list of men engaged in the industries.

But I have skipped a year or two, for during the war the men of The Friends' Ambulance Unit were trained at Jordans. They received full Red Cross instruction, had physical drill, and went on route marches. In the ancient barn was a dummy compartment of an ambulance train, where the men were taught to load and unload the wounded. Philip Baker started the Unit but I remember best the time when Robert Handley was Commandant, and the tales we used to hear of how Bruce

Graveley acted the pacifist to a choleric military gentleman who hit him on the jaw. And then there was the wonderful F.A.U. Christmas party in the barn with a burning cauldron of fire to keep us warm! We did not know then that the barn was holy ground and the timbers we were risking were part of the warp and woof of our religious history.

It was some time during the war that Dr. Rendall Harris told an astonished committee the grounds upon which he considered that the barn contained the timbers of the famous *Mayflower*, in which our fathers sailed the seas to religious freedom. Go into the barn and notice the central beam with its great iron strut and then read Bradford's Journal of the voyage of the *Mayflower*, "They were incountred many times with cross winds . . . and one of ye main beams in ye midships was bowed and craked . . . and for the buckling of the main beam there was a great iron screw ye passengers brought out of Holland, which would raise ye beam in his place."

A coincidence, perhaps, but an interesting one. I could go one reminiscing for a long time, but you will have had enough.

Jordans Meeting House still stands as it has always stood, a symbol of strength through quietness. And if you go to the Meeting House right now, you will find Herbert and Annie Pickles, true exemplars of the spirit of the place, tending it with a devotion which shines from every stick and stone. The little garden is resplendent, the tiles and tables are like mirrors, and the flowers in cottage and Meeting House are arranged with a rare discrimination.

GAMES AND ATHLETICS REPORT, 1938



OWEVER disappointing in retrospect the 1937-8 football season may be, with its record of lack of co-ordination, of matches lost, and of opportunities not taken, athletic Sports of 1938 will always stand out as a bright contrast, because of the generally high standard of keenness and achievement, and because of the splendid weather, which held fine without a break right through till after the finals.

Several changes had been made in training arrangements. Firstly, the number of events in which boys could compete was restricted to five out of a possible eight for seniors, and four out of a possible six for Juniors. Secondly, training was done in groups based on ability, and not in House groups. These two innovations had the effect of raising the standard of performance very considerably.

From the very beginning of term the Seniors had set the tone of training, and running around the field before breakfast became the fashion. The result was that when training officially started there was a considerable body of boys already almost trained and in tip-top condition. It became obvious long before testing week that quite a few records were likely to be broken, and records like that of the mile, which in previous years had seemed hopelessly unattainable, having stood since 1909, were now being seriously challenged. As it turned out only three records were eventually broken, though this bald statement does not really convey the true state of things. P. Matthews lowered the Junior 220 yards time to 27⅘ seconds and raised the Junior Long Jump to 15 ft. 4¼ ins.

The time for the Senior Half Mile had stood since 1909 at 2 minutes 16⅘ seconds. During heats this was lowered twice, first by D. L. Matthewman, then by P. P. Fleischmann, while on Sports Day Matthewman recaptured the Laurels in the

splendid time of 2 minutes 12⅕ seconds. The mile also provided some keen competition and excellent running, P. Cudbird finishing first in 5 minutes 8⅘ seconds.

Hopes of an Athletics Match against Saffron Walden Grammar School were dashed on account of chickenpox infection.

CRICKET 1938

AN encouraging keenness and team spirit marked the opening of the season, and has been maintained throughout. The team shows considerable promise both at batting and bowling, though the fielding is not of a particularly high order.

The first match of the season was played against Cambridge County School, a day and a half after our return, and though we lost yet our performance was not discreditable, especially considering the lack of practice. Since then the record of the Boys' XI shows an equal number of victories and defeats while including the First XI the numbers up to half-term are won 3, lost 4, drawn 1.

Keeble and Mattingly have been the main bowlers in the Boys' XI while Keeble and Woodhouse head the batting averages.

B.B.J.

GENERAL MEETING

IT was with a certain feeling of apprehension that we looked at the sky on the morning of June 11th. It was bright and sunny so early, and later on the clouds began to blow across, and we thought how sad it would be if the children could not enjoy the open air on this special day. But it stayed fine and was, for the most part, sunny.

After the Meeting for Worship, the Chairman, Hugh T. Crosfield, read out the names of those who had received

scholarship awards, first scholarships going to Anthony Best, Alan Smith; and a second scholarship to David Mattingly. We were pleased that the two boys present revived the custom of going up and shaking hands with the Chairman.

The Headmaster then gave us an interesting address on the place of worship in the life of the child. It was a thoughtful speech and left us parents with much to think about. We do not give any account of that speech here, as it will be reported elsewhere.

After lunch we went to the Junior School to see the exhibits, and we found it very interesting to see the development of instruction through handwork. The neatness and design of the work was astonishing when one reflected that none of the children was over eleven years of age. And we noticed with pleasure that the same design was carried out in their gymnasium display which we saw immediately afterwards; we were pleased some folk-dancing was shown in this display.

After watching the small children we went to see the girls' handicraft and cookery display. Here we thought that the sewing and stitching were good, and the dresses and jumpers charming. We had a feeling that a good deal of time was being spent in using ready-made patterns, and while for many this may be inevitable, we hoped that those with original ideas were being given every encouragement to develop them. The cakes looked splendid and if we had not been so well fed we should have been tempted.

Then we went along to watch the diving and swimming. Here there was not a dull moment, and the young people plunged in and jumped out with the agility of seals. They did not seem to need to breathe. They themselves seemed to get as much fun out of it as we did, and the introduction of a comic episode certainly met with the approval of some of the smaller members of the audience. The lovely smooth movement of their young bodies through the water was a delight to watch.

What interested us most was the biological exhibits. The growth of life in animals and plants was ably illustrated, and we saw one of the most excellent slides we have ever seen, of a wasp's sting.

We have not often seen better amateur craft-work. The design and finish were excellent and every care was taken to bring out the natural beauty of the materials used. We reflected that only happy people could make such beautiful things.

On looking round the Art section it struck us that good use had been made by many of the children of their natural sense of colour. As a whole we felt that where paints had been used the work was of a better standard than most of the work in pencil, some of which seemed to us to show an inadequate sense of form. There was not very much modelling work on show in this section of the Exhibition, but we were pleased to see that good use was being made of plasticene and modelling clay in the Junior School.

We finished with the Senior Boys' gymnasium display. It was very good, and their movements were easy and light. They did the most difficult turns without apparent effort, and what seemed to be very simple exercises were found to be much more subtle than they looked—when tried out afterwards.

The same kind of absorption on the part of the boys was shown in the radio exhibition. Everyone seeing that exhibition must have been impressed with the interest and care taken in the work —the technical knowledge of those doing that work must be well advanced.

Then there was tea, and may we say how much we enjoyed our day and seeing the work of the children, and how much we appreciated the work that we did not see, but without which such a happy day and such generous entertainment could not have been possible.

Two Parents.

FRIENDS' SCHOOLS' CONCERT AT FRIENDS HOUSE

TO say that on May 14th, 1938, the combined choirs and orchestras of Sibford, Saffron Walden, the Mount, and Leighton Park schools gave a concert at Friends House, is to state the truth very baldly. It was more interesting than that statement sounds.

We had all rehearsed vigorously the previous term, and if it is true that a sound goes on for ever, there must be innumerable versions of "God Liveth Still", "In Praise of Neptune", and the other songs we did, floating about the universe.

We set out from Walden at about 10 o'clock in two buses, and, warned to save our voices, we refrained from singing on the way there. Arriving about 12 o'clock, we went into the large Meeting House, and were arranged in the places we were to occupy that afternoon.

After this, we had a rehearsal, the first time we had sung any of the songs all together.

Then we went down to the tea-room and had a "nosebag" lunch, and in tribute to Mrs. Graham I must say that they were very good nosebags!

After lunch the choirs amused themselves, whilst the orchestras had a rehearsal. Personally, I managed to get on to the roof, but I was told afterwards not to go up there, so the less said about that the better. (It was very dirty!)

Then came the actual concert, at 3.15 p.m. There were songs for choir and orchestra, songs for choir alone, pieces for the orchestra and soloists, alone, and each school contributed something separately. The Mount gave a violin duet, Walden choir "Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring", Sibford choir "Lark Song on Mendip" and "The Shepherd", and Leighton Park choir sang "Mice and Men" and "Bobby Shaftoe".

In reference to Leighton Park singing "Bobby Shaftoe", the singing was very good, but it struck me as a trifle funny that about twenty boys should stand up and sing that when Bobby Shaftoe came back from the sea, he was going to marry them. (Perhaps that's only my perverted sense of humour, however.)

After the concert was over, various people got up and said a few words, one person suggesting that an effort of this kind was a good prelude to Yearly Meeting, and that something of the same kind might be done in years to come.

Then we had tea, and departed to our various schools. This time we didn't restrain our voices in the bus, for when we got out of London, we sang very, very loudly!

That was the end of the day we had been anticipating for so long. I, for one, enjoyed it, and I hope we do something like it again some day.

X.Y.Z.

DIARY

Mar. 3rd.—Merit half-holiday.

,, 5th.—Recital by Saffron Walden Male Voice Choir.

,, 24th.—Sports Day.

,, 27th.—House Concerts.

,, 31st.—School closes.

April 21st.—School re-opens.

,, 30th.—Cricket match: Boys' XI. *v.* Cambridge County School 2nd XI., away, lost, 80—117 for 6.

May 7th.—Cricket match: Boys' XI. *v.* Harlow College, away, won, 85—56.

,, 14th.—Concert at Friends House.

,, 21st.—Cricket match; Boys' XI. *v.* Saffron Walden School, away, won, 99—49.

June 1st.—Cricket match: 1st. XI. *v.* R. R. Dobbin's XI., home, drew, 71—40 for 6.

June 4th.—Old Scholars' week-end.
Cricket match: Boys' XI. *v.* Old Boys' 'A' team, home, lost, 46—146.

,, 6th.—Cricket match: 1st XI. *v.* Old Boys, home, lost, 144—206 for 8.
Cricket match: Girls' 1st XI. *v.* Old Girls, home, won, 60 for 6—27.
Entertainment by Old Scholars.

,, 11th.—General Meeting.

,, 15th.—1st XI. *v.* Stansted Wednesday, drew, 55 and 38—92.

,, 18th.—Tennis match: Girls' Tennis Six *v.* St. Mary's Convent, home, won, 15 sets—8.

,, 22nd.—Cricket match: 1st XI. *v.* Stansted Wednesday, home, drew, 207 for 8—167 for 3.

,, 25th.—Cricket match: 1st XI. *v.* Audley End, away, lost, 68—100.
Cricket match: Girls' 1st XI. *v.* Homerton College, home, lost, 27—76.

,, 28th.—Swimming match: *v.* Cambridge University Press, won, 37 points—25 points.

,, 29th.—Cricket match: Boys' XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford College, away, lost, 70—169 for 3.

NOTICES

Three numbers of *The Avenue* are published each year, price 8d. per copy (post free 10d.), or 2s. per annum (post free 2s. 6d.).

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

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

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You may join the Old Scholars' Association by giving your name and paying 1s. (the special rate for first year Old Scholars) to Mr. Littleboy before you leave School.

You will then have full particulars of all functions direct from the O.S. Secretary, Henry B. Rowntree, 16 Wood Street, Chelmsford.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The School Committee has awarded leaving scholarships to the following:

1st. Anthony W. Best.
Alan P. C. Smith.

2nd. David Mattingly.

THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC

SCHOOLS EXAMINATIONS

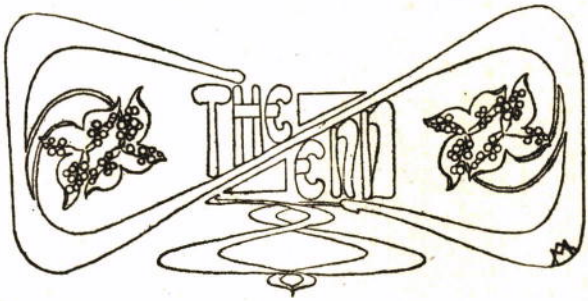
Grade IV. (Theory). Daphne Gillett.

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We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Beckside*, *The Island*, *The Cupola*, *The Georgian*, *Cambridge and County High School Magazine*.

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