

East Oldham High School Magazine

The KASKENIAN

July, 1949. Vol. 2. No. 1.



Mr. H. BATESON.

EDITORIAL

"The Kaskenian" is here again! Between this magazine and its predecessors there has been a lapse of ten years, due to the war. Obviously, we have had to make a completely new beginning—this is truly No. 1 of Volume II.

We decided to have a new front cover—for one thing the school on Kasken Moor has changed its name during the past ten years, and a new design was therefore necessary. The one we are using now is the creation of Eric Cash (VIb Lit.)—slightly modified by Miss Fisher. The design submitted by Beryl Shanley came a very creditable second in the competition.

The production of the first post-war "Kaskenian" has not been without its difficulties. The cost of printing has more than doubled, and many seem to have fought shy of the, to us, novel idea of writing for the magazine. That is quite understandable. We hope you agree with our choice of those contributions to be printed: to those whose efforts have been in vain—don't lose heart. After all this is only your first attempt; try again next time, and perhaps you will achieve, in turn, your deserved immortality in print!

The magazine will be in your hands when the examinations, internal and external, have become memories (bitter-sweet?). In a way, then, it will prove an excellent restorative after the drudgery and gloom; you will be in excellent shape really to enjoy your holiday!

Finally, to all who have helped us in any way in the preparation of this pioneer "Kaskenian," by writing, advising or encouraging—our grateful thanks.

THE EDITORS.

MR. BATESON

In January, 1914, Mr. Hartley Bateson came to teach English at the Oldham Municipal Secondary School. He did not intend to stay long, and did indeed eventually decide upon a change. That was thirty-five years later, at Christmas, 1948, when he entered upon a well-earned retirement. None of his many colleagues, nor any of the thousands of students who passed through his hands during those years, can have had cause to regret his decision to stay with the School. Whatever his early intentions, Mr. Bateson did in the course of years conceive a strong sentiment towards the School. He loved it in spite of its lack of beauty and amenities; he was always a jealous guardian of its good name, and will always feel a deep concern for its welfare, whatever changes Time may have in store.

One need not enlarge upon Mr. Bateson's brilliant academic career, his scholarship, his researches into the history of this town with which he has so long and so fully identified himself. The School is very proud of Mr. Bateson's reputation and basks in reflected glory.

"He was a scholar, and a ripe and good one."

It is as a teacher, however, that Mr. Bateson is best known to past and present members of the School. In this sphere he has been described as 'sui generis.' His secret was that he made English literature enjoyable, communicating his own zest to his students in such full measure that there are many who owe him an eternal debt of gratitude. How many can remember, after twenty or thirty years, that familiar technique: the door flung open; enter Mr. B., rubbing his hands, seemingly oblivious of his class, speaking aloud the splendid lines of Shakespeare, the swelling harmonies of Milton, the intoxicating odes of Keats. Mr. Bateson has in his time acquainted many with the steep of Parnassus.

From 1939 until his retirement, Mr. Bateson was Senior Master of the School, and his task was not made any easier by the impact of war. His contacts with boys in this capacity were often sharp and memorable—

"I knew him well, and every truant knew."

But his essential kindness was not always hidden behind the iron mask.

Many students and colleagues have enjoyed his wit; many misdoers have trembled at his 'dangerous brow.' His mannerisms and his nickname (affectionately bestowed and reverently perpetuated) have become a part of the traditions of the School. As long as any of his students live, so long will "Flashy" be remembered with affection and respect.

The School sends its very best wishes to Mr. Bateson for a long and happy retirement, undisturbed by the raucous clamour of the School bell.

MR. LIVESEY.

We were sorry to lose the services of Mr. Alfred Livesey who left us at the end of January to take up a position as Music Master in the West Riding.

In the five years he was with us, he did much to foster the love of music in our school, particularly among the Senior girls who passed through the Choral class. He possessed to a rare degree the art of combining sound instruction with interest in performance, and his genial personality caused the Senior Choral class to be regarded as a weekly pleasure to be eagerly anticipated.

Mr. Livesey is not only an inspired teacher of music and skilled conductor, but a violinist of ability, and an excellent and sympathetic accompanist both on the piano and the organ, and he has a good tenor voice. Although himself an outstanding performer he is unassuming, modest, and most encouraging to the less gifted.

We wish him happiness and success in his new post.

E. G.

SCHOOL OFFICERS - 1948-9

School Captains: Gerald W. Crossley, Jean R. Ashton.

Boys' Vice-Captain: R. J. Carson.

School Prefects—Boys:

Via Lit.—Crossley G. W., Long W. S., Maddison C., Mellor B. E., Price W. T., Schofield J., Stott N. O.

Via Sc.—Baddeley V., Calligan R. F., Carson R. J., Hanley A. D., Healey R. N., Higham J., Minshull L., Naylor D., Schofield C., Wild J. H.

Vib Lit.—Cash E., Cooper J., Cunningham J., Heyes R., White A., Oldland V.

Vib Sc.—Charlesworth W. G., Henry D. J., Lamb K. B., Marsland J. G., Mawson J. A., Taylor J. C., Taylor G.

Va—Mitchell B.

Vb—Hughes H., Errock D.

Girls:

Via Lit.—Jean R. Ashton, Sybil M. Longson, Mary K. Fairhurst, Beryl Shanley.

Vib Lit.—Beryl Ford, Jean Royds, Joan Lamb, Joan Broadbent, Gwyneth Roberts, Margaret A. Booth, Joan Wonnacott, Marguerite A. Lingard, Olive Taylor, Constance E. Topliss.

Vib Sc.—Anne Hardie.

Vc—Edith M. Sharnock, Vera Brooks.

Vd—Sheila Crooks, Margaret Blackburn.

1st XI Football Capt.: White A. Vice-Capt.: Carson R. J.

2nd XI Football Capt.: Putman J. Vice-Capt.: Cash E.

Rugby (Senior) Capt.: Maddison C. Vice-Capt.: Naylor D.
(Junior) Capt.: Lees J. Vice-Capt.: Feber D.

1st XI Cricket Capt.: Schofield C. Vice-Capt.: Cooper J.

1st XI Hockey Capt.: Joan Lamb. Vice-Capt.: Beryl Ford.

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Chess Club Committee: Mr. Sturrock, K. Cooper (Secretary-Treasurer), H. Hughes (Capt.), K. Ogborn, R. Cook, P. Kelly.

School Library—Senior: Miss Jones; Librarians: Joan Platt, Mavis Holt, May Rowbottom. Junior: Miss Moorhouse; Librarians: Margaret Buckley, Margaret Harrison, Audrey Marsh.

Dramatic Society Committee: Miss Jones, Miss Moorhouse. Secretary: Constance E. Topliss. Wardrobe: Olive Taylor.

Stamp Club Committee: Miss Percival, Mary Brown (Secretary), Ella Fox, Barbara Higgs, Marian Lees, Jean Whitworth.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The New Senior Master.

You have already read at the beginning of the Magazine about Mr. Bateson's retirement. We have great pleasure in welcoming as his successor Mr. Higson, an Old Boy and English Master of the School. We hope Mr. Higson will be very happy in his new position. G. W. C.

"Androcles and the Lion."

Early in the Autumn term a party of senior pupils attended a performance of Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" at the Intimate Theatre, Manchester.

The audience largely consisted of school-children aged from 13 to 15 years, and my chief criticism of the performance was that the actors tended to play down to the audience. A further criticism of the production was the liberal adaptation of the playwright's stage direction. This was particularly evident when Androcles had removed the thorn from the lion's paw. Here the stage direction suggests that the lion places a paw on its benefactor's shoulder and then indulge in a kind of rapturous waltz. This underwent a metamorphosis into a kind of jig with the lion dancing upright.

The actors ably succeeded in holding the audience's attention, and judging from the applause their efforts were appreciated. J.S.

The Senior School Dance.

The Senior School Dance was held on the evening of December 18th, at the Greenacres Hall. This was one of the most successful of the post-1946 dances. Music was provided by Rex Kane and his Band: all tastes were catered for by an even distribution of modern and old-time dances. There was a welcome reappearance of evening dresses, and the dances have taken on a more formal air. Ice creams were served during the interval.

It is thought by many that with the provision of transport to take home students living on the far side of the town the School Dances could end later than 10-30 p.m.

Thank you!—those members of staff who helped make the Dance so enjoyable for all. W.T.P.

Speech Night.

No event can rival "Speech night" in interest and importance for the general body of the School. The Annual Prize Distribution was held this year on February 22nd, with the customary dignity and success, in the Greenacres Hall.

The lighter side of the evening was provided by the delightful singing of the girls' and junior boys' choirs, and by the School Orchestra, ably conducted by Miss Hulme.

A distinguished "Old Boy", Mr. Gray, M.A., B.Sc., gave an interesting and instructive address, and presented the prizes. Everyone present, on hearing the music and viewing the prize-winners, must have felt that the School was worthy of the excellent report on its many-sided activities which was given by the Headmaster. J.B.

Sixth-Formers of the past few years will remember with pleasure the "Prefects' Dance," held annually in the New Year at Greenacres Hall.

The 130 prefects and friends who attended this year's dance, held in the Smoke Room on the evening of January 4th, had a most enjoyable time. The success of the function was due in large measure to the work of our two popular School Captains, Jean R. Ashton and G. W. Crossley. J.R.

On Saturday, February 19th, the Senior members of the School visited the Institute of Adult Education, Manchester, to see the Centaur Players' presentation of Sheridan's celebrated comedy, "The Rivals." The play was well produced and competently acted, and the performance was much enjoyed. G.R.

S.C.M. Conference.

The Student Christian Movement in Schools is a Fellowship of Sixth Formers pledged to try to understand the Christian faith and live the Christian life. On April 4th, the S.C.M. area secretary gave the Sixth Form a stimulating talk followed by group discussion and questions. The meeting, under the chairmanship of the Headmaster, was voluntary, and included the opportunity to buy books published by the S.C.M. Press.

It is hoped that it will be possible to repeat this experiment. Mr. Marshall.

Changes of Staff.

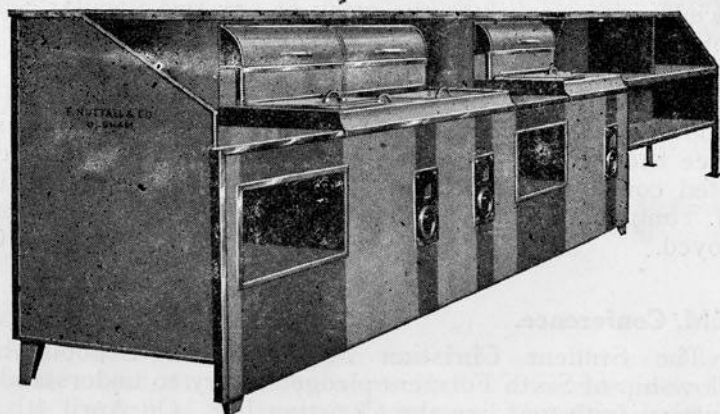
Of late there have been considerable changes of staff. Of the masters, Mr. Edwards has been appointed Educational Psychologist in Rochdale, and Mr. Steeple has become a Lecturer in Physics in Manchester College of Technology. More recently Mr. Hooks has left us after only a brief stay.

We welcome in their stead Mr. Atkinson, Mr. A. Bradbury, Mr. Jones, Mr. Haslam, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Kent, an Old Boy of the School.

On the mistresses' side, Mrs. Peers, better known as Miss Mannion, has joined our former geography mistress, Miss Schofield, at Fleetwood. Miss J. Fisher and Miss M. Fisher came at the beginning of the year, and this term Mrs. Doyle and Miss Glossop joined us. We are fortunate this year to have for the first time a German assistant—Fraülein Janzen, whilst Mlle. Mével assisted in the French Department until Whitsuntide, when she returned to France.

We hope that those who have left will be happy in their new posts, and that those who have recently joined the staff will look forward to accomplishing Mr. Bateson's achievement of thirty-five years at this School. S.M.L.

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Johnny Carey's Visit.

On the afternoon of May 17th the School was indebted to David Bailey, IVb for a visit by that famous international full-back Johnny Carey. David had won first prize (12 5/- stand tickets for the Schoolboys' International) for his essay "My Favourite Sport" in an "Evening Chronicle" essay competition. Mr. Ashworth, as Chairman, introduced Carey, mentioning that Manchester United, so successful last year, had this season been unable to keep the Wolves from the door.

Carey told us the three great essentials for the game of soccer: (1) Fitness, (2) Equipment, (3) Rules, and on these he gave a short quiz.

Later he was overwhelmed with questions, which he answered with delightful humour. It was almost 5 p.m. when Carey finished, and Mr. Ashworth summed up by remarking that he wished the same attention and enthusiasm could be displayed during school hours!

Thank you, David, for a grand essay, and for bringing Johnny Carey, whose visit we all thoroughly enjoyed.

D.F.P.

Speech-Making Contest.

The annual Speech-making Contest for senior boys, in November, produced a high level of oratory, and the judges (Messrs. Higson and Barber) were given a hard task. Eventually G. W. Crossley received the Junior Chamber of Commerce prize for his mature presentation of a very informative lecture on "Danish Folk High Schools." The Headmaster's Prize to the runner-up went to J. Schofield, whose controversial subject, "Nationalisation of Iron and Steel" was vigorously presented. R. Carson's "Psychology," and A. Greenhalgh's "Dickens' Christmas" were highly commended.

Undoubtedly this competition is a good idea, and our thanks are due to donors of prizes as well as to competitors.

It is hoped that more boys will "have a go" next year.

"SAVE THE CHILDREN."

Some time before the war we began to collect and renovate toys for distribution amongst needy children. Parcels of these were sent to such places as the Salvation Army, Ancoats Settlement, the Ragged Schools, etc. By 1942 toys had become scarce and homes had been sifted and re-sifted for toys to pass on to others, so we decided to make toys and fancy goods for sale and send the proceeds of our efforts to organisations which had the welfare of children as their aim.

For several years we held "Toy Club" meetings regularly, and out of discarded oddments of every description a mixed band from L111 to VI—sometimes few, sometimes many, made a collection of saleable goods. Misshapen rabbits rubbed shoulders with wide-eyed golliwogs and dainty dolls. Our materials were the miscellaneous oddments we had been given.

Recently the character of our sale has changed. Now that things are more plentiful in shops and our customers are more discriminating, a "Bring and Buy" sale suggested itself. In addition to this various side-shows and novel ideas are tried out. There is great competition among forms for custom, and nearly all methods short of robbery with violence are employed to obtain money. Old Christmas cards and calendars are collected and renovated for re-sale. Clothing is collected, repaired, washed and parcelled for sending abroad at frequent intervals; odd scraps of wool are knitted into cot blankets. School has popularised the Christmas Seal stamps for the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. Our first return was £5 6s. 0d.; our last, six years later, was £86.

The Funds that have benefited are the following: Save the Children Fund, Waifs and Strays, N.A.P.T., St. George's Crypt, "Elizabeth Starr" Fund (we have a cot in Provence named after our School), the Leper Colony, the Skollt Lapps, the Schweitzer Hospital, Bengal and Arab Relief, Aid to China and Children's Hospitals.

The total is over £913 to date. All this is dependent on the goodwill, patience and ingenuity of "School." It is fitting that children should help their less fortunate or handicapped brothers and sisters.

"Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me."

D. Percival.

A TRIP ROUND SCHOOL DURING THE CHRISTMAS SALE.

The Sale was held in aid of the "Save the Children" Fund. Many doubtless regarded it as a welcome change from the usual routine. Each Form either had a sale or had rigged up an amusing device with which to empty pockets.

Amongst the latter was the idea of the Highwayman. You entered the presumably quiet classroom; from out of the blue appeared a highwayman demanding "your money or your life." As can be imagined the attacks were made mostly on those who were expected to have the money, namely the mistresses.

The prefabs were also very busy. U111d had a cafe where you could dance or sit at a table and eat. Next door U111c had a gypsy fortune-teller. One queued up, "crossed the gypsy's palm with silver," had the fortune told, and then came out to dream of the tall, dark and handsome young man prophesied. I saw at least one mistress come out blushing about her future.

Besides these novelties were the Form sales. At least one girl went around the School wearing placards advertising her Form's sale. The amount received from the sales was £72.

J. Williamson (M111c)

"TWELFTH NIGHT"

On Friday, May 13th, the Fifth Forms went to Waterloo Secondary Modern School to see a production of "Twelfth Night" by the Theatre Workshop Company. A more accurate title would have been "Scenes from 'Twelfth Night'", since many cuts had to be made, particularly of the main plot. It was however, a good performance of the sub-plot, and the emphasis was throughout on the comic element. The performances of Sir Toby, Sir Andrew, Maria and particularly Malvolio were indeed praiseworthy. Malvolio's very gait was imitated to the last detail, and his pompous voice might have been the original. Viola's acting was good, and Olivia's attitude towards Cesario should, I feel, be commended. Those important characters, Orsino and Sebastian, did not appear in this production, and this no doubt explained why this presentation lacked so much of the poetry that is in Shakespeare's masterpiece.

J.S.

THE JUNIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Junior Christmas Party held on Wednesday, December 18th, was enjoyed by all—we hope! It was held in the large hall at the Hill Stores, with Mr. Fish and Mr. Christie officiating. Practices in the gym beforehand had done something to improve our dancing.

The party began with the Russian Ballet, and proceeded with games and more dances. For these games we divided into six groups presided over by prefects and teachers—we cannot remember who. Sore throats were contracted through Nursery Rhymes and Alphabet singing, which we are sorry to say were not always in tune. Musical Arms and Fish Flapping were amongst the games played. A comical game was passing match-boxes from nose to nose—no matches, of course!



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When ice cream was announced boys and girls could not be seen for dust—boys especially! Cardboard boxes provided for ice cream wrappers were used as footballs by the boys. A mishap occurred when one boy sat in a cardboard box.

Unwilling boys were assisted to equally unwilling partners by prefects and Mr. Bradbury. One had to be careful to avoid waving arms and legs. To the consternation of their partners who feared for the safety of their toes, some boys did not dance on the floor provided.

Coloured lights were lit towards the close of the party. During the last dance—a Barn Dance—all the lights were lowered and the spotlights turned towards the globe on the ceiling. Everyone dispersed, tired but happy, and so the 1948 Junior Party finished.

Jeanne Hartley.

Nancy Mann.

Norma Stansfield.

WHO DID IT?

A "Do You Know" feature for which no prizes are offered.

Who was the boy who thought "Hidden Objects" in the recent Centenary Shopping Contests were the sweets under the counter?

Do you know the boy who, when warned about wearing dirty shoes, came to school for the rest of the term in pumps?

Who was the boy who asked at the staff room, "Could I have a strap for Mr. ———?"

Who were the three boys who inquired at the **Masters'** Room for Miss Trigson, Miss Traslam and Miss Trooks?

Which was the boy (Senior) on postal duty who carried a letter marked "Circular" all round town?

Who was the master in the Chess Tournament who called P-K4 "Wrigley's Gambit?"

Who was the student who wrote in a history paper about "The Sultan of Torquay"?

Who was the boy who, when sent by a master for coke for the staff room fire, set off with a bucket to the Electricity Works?

Who was the boy from Hollinwood who said he couldn't possibly get to school for five minutes to nine because he didn't get up till 8-15?

Who was the M111b boy who hid his football up the chimney to keep it dark?

THE GHOST.

In a churchyard at evening, shadows were falling,
 The old bell was chiming the parting of day,
 Then suddenly silence—the bell had stopped ringing;
 The last of its noises had all passed away.
 From out of the shadows there loomed a gaunt figure—
 A spectre, all clothed in a phosphorous light,
 It lifted its finger, and pointed with sorrow
 At the man who would die on the following night.

D. Brierley (L111b).

SENIOR POSTAL AND ROAD CENSUS WORK.

This year the Senior boys have been employed by two local authorities on two temporary but important duties.

For ten days preceding Christmas we were part of the temporary force delivering letters and parcels. We had fine but cold weather. Each boy was supervised by a regular postman, and began work about 8 a.m. Loads varied, but usually they were heavy enough to give us *bachache*—unuseful as we all are to (manual) work. Sometimes on a particularly heavy day we had to work a twelve-hour day—the last few hours by lamplight. An industrial risk peculiar to this occupation is the liability to have one's fingers either chopped off by rat-trap-like letter-boxes, or chewed off by a friendly Alsatian on the other side of the door! It was interesting to note on pay-day how many more hours of "work" those boys had put in who lived near their "walk!"

During the Easter holidays, sixty-four Seniors conducted a road-census on behalf of the Borough Surveyor, in true High School manner. Road blocks were set up on both sides of all roads leading into Oldham, and we noted and timed (or tried to) the registration number of every vehicle passing the points. We worked in pairs, and it was a pleasant way of earning money. Later, fifteen of us working in the Town Hall were able to ascertain by means of a card-index system composed from the returns how many vehicles had travelled through the town without stopping; this information is necessary to see whether the construction of a ring road to relieve congestion in the town centre would be justified.

The conveniences were excellent; we were despatched by special bus, returned by car, and at one point at least refreshments were obtainable.

N.O.S., B.E.M.

A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH.

The little frog was playing in the grass when suddenly the hand of Man seized her. She struggled against the Man, against the chloroform, against death; but all in vain.

The dissection began, and with unsteady fingers the Student clumsily hacked his way through the viscera of the frog. His thirst for knowledge was great, and his scalpel jerked relentlessly.

The little girl was playing in the grass when suddenly the hand of Disease seized her. She struggled against the Disease, against unconsciousness, against death, but she was losing the struggle.

The operation began and with firm hand the Surgeon deftly made several incisions. Experience had been his tutor, and his scalpel moved confidently. Soon the little girl would be playing in the grass once more.

Little frog, your butchery was not without purpose. Your death, through the medium of the Student who became a Surgeon, gave life to many, many people.

W. G. Charlesworth (VibSc.).

PLEA TO ENGLISH MASTERS.

In your pursuit of the comprehensive art of linguistics may I endeavour to persuade you to abandon the dolorific assuetude with which you are at present conversant. You seem unable to manifest yourself in verbal intercourse without resorting to incomprehensible literal ejaculations. I entreat you to employ fewer of these paronymous derivatives which you, in your exalted capacity of a neologist, are conversant, and to use expressions requiring less linguistic skill to deliver. Your incomprehensibility is much too rhapsodical for us to comprehend, and we earnestly request you to exercise less of your extensive, incognizable vocabulary. You do not even attempt to dequantitate the longitude of your floridness. No one can fabricate the connotation which you imply. So I beg of you, please say what you mean, and don't use big words none of us understands.

A. Greenhalgh (Vb).

A VALLEY I KNOW.

There is a valley which I know,
It's lonesome you may think;
But to one who is quite aglow
It is the missing link
Of the golden chain of happiness.

Its beauty will remain
In the hearts of all who see;
And the memory of its name
Unforgettable shall be—
Till life itself shall pass.

R. Mills (L111b)

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FIT FOR NOTHING.

Dear Cads, this is a broken reed speaking.

A week ago my pals decided to do some tumbling and gymnastics, because some members of the VIth Form had said that we were thoroughly decadent and should go into the gym more often. (Any day in the week you can see members of the VIth bowling each other over in their eagerness to get into the gym).

To carry on with my narrative. "Tarty" managed to dig up a book on tumbling, and Bill a couple of mats from the cellar. I dug up several excuses why I could not take part. The only part of this excavating which was unsuccessful was my part. On the following Tuesday night there they all were, attired in white shorts and vests. A pretty sight. Then I entered and pulled off my dressing gown, drawing gasps of admiration and surprise from the congregation.

Now Tubby lined up the specimens of hearty manhood, all absolutely bursting with rude health and rude remarks. He opened the book at Exercise 10 ("How to Break Your Neck in Three Parts"). My blood was roused. I felt called upon to uphold the traditions of my family. I heard a voice, probably that of Sir Edgar Debottomley who had fought at the Tournay of the Fragrant Weed. It was saying, in stately, medieval tones, "Get over them mats, you useless anachronism!"

I got me over them mats. I distinctly remember throwing myself on to my hands. My legs whizzed over, and whilst I floated in mid-air, thinking of my past life (I could have stayed there for hours!), the mats suddenly jumped up and gave me a tremendous bang in the middle of my back. A loud, hideous sound simultaneously rang out. When I came out of my bemused state I recognised it as the ribald laughter of my pals.

These physical exercises went on for some time, Bill remarking that he felt like a two-year-old. To which some tactless ruffian asked, "Horse or egg?"

However we all felt fit afterwards and eventually set off home. I gave Bill a lift in my motor-cycle combination. He was astonished to find that I ride on the pavement, but I always try to keep the roads safe. He was also very dazed when he climbed out, and as he walked the few yards to his home, he bumped into a lamp-post.

"Good night," said Bill. "I'll wait till the crowd thins out."

Ah, well, all's well that ends well.

Athletically yours,

R. Bottomley (Va).

"THE GLASS SLIPPER."

On the afternoon* of December 21st, 1948, a large audience of girls enjoyed IVC's performance of Eleanor and Herbert Farjeon's fanciful play, "The Glass Slipper," which was produced by Miss Jones and well acted by the cast. Joan Platt's portrayal of Cinderella was sympathetic, and she was ably supported by the other actresses. Joan sang "The Wishing Song" to music composed by Miss Grimshaw. Joan Ormrod, though not quite recovered from influenza, gave an authentic characterisation of Cinderella's henpecked father, and the audience laughed heartily at D. Pyne and E. Illing as the quarrelsome Ugly Sisters. No one seeing D. Pyne's performance would have believed that she had undertaken the part at a moment's notice. The step-mother, played by Beryl Turner, was typically shrewish. The clock, tap and broom were played by A. Taylor, M. Rowbottom and M. Holt respectively. The appearance of Margaret Thomas, disguised as the cock, was greeted with hilarious laughter. Although the last picture of Cinders was one of her usual drudgery, we did not worry unduly, for we knew that all would end well in a truly pantomime manner.

Constance E. Topliss (VIb Lit.)

A SIXTH FORM PILGRIMAGE.

In the small Yorkshire village of Haworth in the first half of the last century, there lived three remarkable sisters whose unique literary accomplishments brought a breath of moorland air into the drawing-room atmosphere of Victorian literature—the Brontës.

There were four surviving children in the family of the Rev. Patrick Brontë—Charlotte, Emily, and Anne, who were poets and novelists, and their brother Branwell—an artist. The moors were Emily's life, and from these she drew inspiration for her great novel "Wuthering Heights." Charlotte, it is said, drew inspiration from a Monsieur Héger, who taught her in Brussels. Branwell, sad to relate, drew his inspiration from a bottle obtained at the "Black Bull."

It is to Haworth, therefore, that lovers of the Brontës make their pilgrimage. To Haworth come enthusiasts of all sorts and conditions, from the solemn student to the merry sight-seeing party. Last year the Lower Literary Sixth, all Brontë students, made their pilgrimage under the leadership of Mr. Bateson, and it is certain that few parties have arrived so solemn and departed so merry.

Many were the points of interest to be visited—the church, the parsonage (now a museum), the graveyard, and of course the “Black Bull.” A long moorland tramp to “Withins,” the original “Wuthering Heights,” was the next object. On reaching “Withins,” the party had been weeded out considerably; some were yet sightseeing in Haworth, and some had felt their love for the Brontës wane on viewing the gruelling ascent to the farmhouse. Some however achieved the farmhouse, which was examined and photographed, and the party then trooped off to the coach. Stragglers were picked up and the homeward journey began.

This year the Upper Sixth are studying Chaucer; many of them are no doubt toying with the idea of a trip to Canterbury. Then we would have some tales to tell!

J. Schofield (VIa Lit.)

A LECTURE ON CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

One Tuesday morning Miss Platt came into our classroom and told us that we were going to have a lecture on Cruelty to Animals, to be given by Mrs. Mayall from the R.S.P.C.A.

We were all very pleased, but it was mostly at the idea of missing two lessons, for to most people lectures are not very interesting. When we saw Mrs. Mayall, however, our opinion of the lecture changed. Her first sentence told us that it was something more than a lecture. She asked us to regard it in the light of a talk. Then she began to talk, without any reading from notes. Some of the instances of cruelty to animals horrified us, and even made us feel like shedding a few tears for the poor dumb animals, who cannot tell us when we are hurting them.

She told us how to look after our pets, and if they were unwanted to take them to the R.S.P.C.A. Clinic on Rochdale Road. But this was not a publicity talk, for when she was talking about the zoos and circuses you could tell that she was passionately fond of animals and hated to see them ill-treated. She told us that she regarded them as humans. I think we could have listened to her talking much longer, but she stopped to leave time for some questions, which she answered very clearly. When we came away I think nearly everybody had resolved to be a little more considerate towards their pets. I know I had.

Jeanne Hartley (MIIC).

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LAKE IN SPRING.

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 No breeze to stir the dipping willow leaf;
 Patches of golden fire—a dying sun's bequest.
 Long eastward-pointing shadows bring relief
 From the hot day. The fringe of duckweed round
 Hides heat-drugged frogs, invisible but heard,
 Which, threatened, leap to safety at a bound,
 And stare, black eyes unwinking. Now a bird
 Trills out a single wavering tentative note,
 Prelude of evening. From pitted, root-writhed brim
 A stealthy vole appears with sleek wet coat,
 Intent on depredations ruthless, grim.
 Soon now a dappled radiance clothes the trees;
 The climbing moon her silvered image sees.

LAKE IN WINTER.

Now winter's chilly breath has touched the lake;
 The scurrying, wind-sired ripples frisk no more;
 A dust of snow has rendered white, opaque
 The ice-green smoothness of the frost-born floor.
 The willows by the edge still stand, forlorn,
 In bleak reproof of this environment
 Which, yearly, all unwilling, they have borne,
 Which yearly robs the youth, that summer lent.
 Across the crystallised breadth a scampering hare
 With timid leaps has proved this treacherous ground,
 And left his footprints fast-imprisoned there—
 Unevened by a sudden frightened bound.
 But change will soon o'ertake this short-lived scene,
 A liquid lake appear, new-trimmed with green.
(Nemo).

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY

The Society has completed another successful year's activities. There are now over 50 members; the meetings, held on alternate Thursdays, have been well attended, and a lively interest has been shown in the proceedings.

The first meeting of the year took the form of a Brains Trust—always a very popular attraction—and this was followed by a series of debates on a variety of topics. The standard of speaking has been good, although many members are still rather reluctant to engage in verbal duels.

This year has seen the introduction of a new kind of activity—a Reading Contest, which it is hoped will become an annual event in the future. Eight members entered the

contest; they chose their own reading matter, and were judged by Miss Jones, Miss Moorhouse and Mr. Higson. The first prize was awarded to Jean Miller for an excellent exposition of the art of reading. The runners-up were Doreen Evans and Trevor Bentley.

The annual mock trial, held late in the year, was again a great success, and was attended by a very large number of amateur criminologists. This year's 'victim' was Jean Arnold, and she was ably defended by W. G. Charlesworth, who made a long speech, punctuated by sundry 'objections' by the prosecuting counsel, Alec Greenhalgh, who also showed considerable forensic eloquence. The Judge, Jack Schofield, summed up in masterly fashion, and everybody, including the prisoner, went home happy.

At the last meeting of the term a Mock Election was held. This year there were only two candidates—Jack Schofield, the retiring member (Socialist), and W. G. Charlesworth (Communist). Both gave good election speeches, clearly outlining the policies of their respective parties. Good-natured heckling by the audience produced the proper election atmosphere. Jack Schofield retained his seat.

A year of progress can thus be reported, and we hope that the number of members next year will be swelled by the new 4th Forms.

J. Cunningham.

THE MUSIC CLUB

I often wonder when I am writing the weekly notices for the Club meetings if everyone understands why we have a Music Club. Let me explain. Briefly, the Music Club exists to encourage and provide for an appreciation of music in the School, and to build up a library of musical scores and gramophone records. It attempts to achieve the first of these objects by the holding of weekly meetings, which take place in the Biology Room every Friday afternoon, and by a close liaison with the School Choir and the School Orchestra. The meetings are designed to give pleasure and entertainment through the media of recorded music and personal performance. Where they are mildly instructional, the atmosphere of the classroom is not allowed to intrude. The membership of the Club is approximately 50, and the average weekly attendance is over 30—a considerable increase over last year. I am pleased to report also that our second object has been kept constantly in mind. The record library is increasing rapidly, and we now have a total of 110 records, most of which have been bought out of the Club funds.

The success of the Music Club rests mainly in the hands of its committee, with Mr. Christie as Chairman. On the Club's behalf I must thank them all for the splendid work they have done this year. Never before have we had such a good selection of programmes—talks by Mr. Christie on Chopin and Schubert, Request Nights, a Fireworks programme on Guy Fawkes Day, Promenade Concerts to beguile the winter evenings, an interesting talk by Mr. Livesey on his favourite records, an equally popular one by Jack Schofield on Wagner, a Ballet programme, and our version of Family Favourites. Distinct from the above was the occasion in April when we donned our party frocks and tripped the light fantastic toe; all enjoyed themselves.

I should like to say how much pleasure I have derived as Music Club Secretary during the past year. I wish the Music Club every success in its future activities. K. B. Lamb.

(K.B.L. is too modest—it is his hand which has guided us through. "Ave atque Vale." W.A.C.).

HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The Society was formed at the beginning of the School year with the aim of encouraging and stimulating interest in things historical.

The first meeting took the form of a "History Quiz," and this opening venture proved quite a success. Before the School closed for the Christmas holidays the Historical Society presented a film: "The Beginnings of History," which was both instructive and enjoyable.

It was a great honour to have Dr. Chaloner (Lecturer in Economic History in the University of Manchester) to talk to us on March 15th. His subject was "John Wilkinson—Iron-master"; and all who attended his talk will remember not only Dr. Chaloner, but also John Wilkinson, which is how the lecturer would prefer it. Dr. Chaloner brought along with him many interesting exhibits ranging from photographs to actual examples of Wilkinson's coinage, which helped to illustrate a most enjoyable talk.

The exceedingly interesting talk that Stuart Long of the 6th Form gave to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of Charles James Fox brought to a close our opening programme. It is hoped that as the Society becomes more consolidated, more of the meetings will take the form of these individual talks on selected historical topics.

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After the July examinations it has been suggested that the Society should organise a trip, preferably to some place of outstanding historical interest, with which to complete a most successful first year's activities.

W. T. Price (VIa Lit.)

THE GIRLS' LIBRARIES.

The Junior Girls' Library has been operating since October, and over 1000 books have been exchanged. Modern writers are very popular; but there are waiting lists, too, for classical works. The magazines "Junior Digest" and Collins' "Magazine for Boys and Girls" are eagerly claimed each month.

The Senior Girls' Library, established three years ago, has now over one hundred members. It opens twice each week, and here too, over one thousand books have been issued since October. There are four librarians, working a system comparable with that of a public library. There is a wide variety of books and authors; amongst the girls' favourites are "Scarlet Feather" by Joan Grant, and "Jalna" books by Mazo de la Roche, books by and about the Brontës, and the works of Galsworthy.

The books—some of which are owned by the School, the others being borrowed from the Central Library—provide satisfaction for all tastes, and help widen the literary background of all the members.

Joan Platt.

THE STAMP CLUB.

This Club is run entirely for the Junior members of the School. Miss Percival and Miss Wilson take charge of the meetings, which are held every three weeks. The meetings offer a varied selection of games and quizzes, all connected with stamps. Other popular features at the meetings are the stamp sales which are held regularly. A large part of each meeting is given to the exchange and discussion of stamps amongst the members.

Lately we have been able to use the epidiascope in the Geography Room. With this we have had many interesting meetings, showing stamps from all parts of the world. Miss Percival gave us a particularly interesting time, showing us her large collection of stamp covers.

At the Christmas Sale the Stamp Club has had a stall for the last two years.

All those who are interested in stamp-collecting would enjoy the Stamp Club.

Mary Brown.

TABLE TENNIS CLUB.

The Table Tennis Club was formed last September, and has 48 members, who may practise at least once a week. Handicap and knock-out competitions have been held.

The Club finished up as Champions in the "C" Division of the Oldham and District Table Tennis League, and were knocked out in the semi-final of the Jacques Shield Handicap Competition. The Club, captained by C. Schofield, played 22 League matches and won all of them. In this process they played 550 games and won 475, an average of 86.4%. Six times during the season School won all 25 games in the match.

The Club also entered the National Schools' Championship, and were represented by G. Pullar (UIIb) and J. Carter (Vb), with J. Cooper (VIb Lit.) and J. Eyre (Remove) as reserves. These boys fought their way to the semi-finals, which were played in London; and there upheld the reputation of the School. For this success the team won for the School a bronze plaque, and were themselves rewarded with medals.

The Club gives its thanks to Mr. Riley for devoting much of his leisure time to supervising match practices, and to Jean Arnold and Joan Lamb for helping with the refreshments on match nights.

A. D. Hanley.

CHESS CLUB.

Last September the Chess Club, and an Old Boys' team entered the Oldham and District Chess League. Our first match, against Rochdale Chess Club, resulted in a 5-0 defeat. The team, however, recovered, and as a result finished 5th in a table of 12 at the close of the season. This was a very creditable achievement, considering that we were the only school team.

The School team owes much of its success to Mr. Sturrock, who during the season played 10 games, winning 7 and drawing 2. Credit also goes to Peter Kelly (IVa), who played 10 games, won 6 and lost 4, and Keith Cooper (IVb), who played 10, won 5 and drew 2. Thanks also to Mr. Barlow and Mr. Ardern who, although a member of the Old Boys' team, has placed his knowledge of chess at the disposal of the Club.

Interest in the game of chess was recently aroused in the School by a knock-out competition held by the Chess Club. There was a total of nearly 50 entrants, 10 of these masters.

The Chess Club hopes to have another successful season next year.

K. Cooper.

SCHOOL RECORDER PLAYERS.

We have had some very enjoyable playing together, and we are sorry to say that our older players will be leaving School this July. We sincerely hope that they will find added pleasure in listening to and making music in the future as a result of their musical experience here.

On May 28th, Joyce Sharples, Gloria Calverley and Miss Hulme attended a one-day training school for Recorder players at the Holly Royde Residential College, under the tuition of Mr. Edgar Hunt, one of the finest teachers of the recorder in the country. Four groups of recorder players performed for Mr. Hunt in the evening, and in his criticism he praised the playing of our group and said they had given the best performance. This was high praise in view of the fact that the other performers were adults.

A new class is to be started next September, and names can be passed in for the waiting list. Students who wish to acquire the foundations of musical knowledge, and to become good sight readers, would be well advised to take advantage of this opportunity. They would make quicker progress with any further musical studies. It will be found that experience gained in recorder playing will increase one's ability on other instruments. Previous musical knowledge is not necessary when you join the recorder class.

The recorder players are becoming good sight readers—an unusual accomplishment amongst young people. We hope that with the help of the remaining players and a keen class of new players we shall be able to keep up the high standard of playing set in this School.

Music making is one of the most satisfying of hobbies.
Try it! D. Hulme.

SPORTS NOTES.

Soccer.

Results: Won 4. Drawn 2. Lost 15.

Captain: A. White. Vice-Captain: R. J. Carson.

We began the season with a team composed almost entirely of "new blood." There were only three of last year's team available, and injuries denied us the services of two of these for a considerable part of the season.

The failure of the team to record a win up to the Christmas break is explained by lack of weight and experience. The brightest displays in this period were a 0-2 reverse to Manchester Grammar School, and a 1-2 defeat at Heywood.

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1. Holidays never seem long to me.
2. I like looking at windows of shops which sell engines and clockwork toys.
3. Some dogs mope terribly when they are left at the vet's.
4. The lovely sounds came from a bell in a distant church tower.
5. Where there's a will I am certain there's a way.
6. Before the monkey could do any damage or get into any real mischief, he was caught.

We started the New Year with a 4-3 win against Glossop (a pleasant reversal of our previous 0-6 defeat by the same team), followed by improved displays against Heywood, Middleton and the Old Boys. We later suffered, however, a 0-11 defeat at Chorlton, a great side who ran us off our feet. The season ended with a trip to Blackpool, organised by Mr. Llewellyn and Mr. Haslam, where, after a great game, we lost by 2 goals to 1.

Not a successful season, but many new players have gained valuable experience, and should prove a sound basis on which to build a successful side in the coming season.

A.W.

Rugger.

Last season the School had a Rugby Union XV for the first time in its history. Playing under great difficulties the team achieved a good record, due mainly to the team spirit shown at all times by the players.

The School played 15 games, won 4, lost 7 and drew 2. This may not seem a striking record, but we were playing against well-experienced teams. Home games were played at Keb Lane (by kind permission of Oldham Rugby Union Football Club), and refereed by Mr. Llewellyn or Mr. J. H. Olsen, to whom we tender our thanks. Thanks too are due to Mr. Ardern for his valuable assistance and co-operation.

The leading try-scorers were Higham and Jennings. The Captain, Colin Maddison, also deserves special mention for the hard work he did both on and off the field. Colours were awarded to the following: C. Maddison, D. Naylor, J. Higham, F. Jennings, S. Hulme, B. Mitchell, D. Errock, G. Gill.

I hope that the Rugby Union game will continue to be played at the School, and that some day it will rank amongst the best Rugby-playing schools in the country.

D.N.

Cricket.

The School First XI has excellent prospects for this season, and owing to the presence of several youngsters in the team, who are gaining valuable experience, School should have a very strong XI for many years to come.

The main fixtures this season are two all-day matches: the first against North Manchester High School on July 11th, and the second against Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Middleton, on July 20th.

C.S.

Athletics.

Only recently have athletics gained a significant place amongst the School's sports activities, and we are still hampered by lack of training facilities of the right kind.

1947 saw the beginning of our success in competition athletics: we now have all the necessary talent to establish a tradition of gaining at least one place in the Lancashire County team each year.

School won both the Senior and Junior pennants at the Inter-Schools' Sports on May 10th.

To the young "would-be" athlete in the lower or middle school I would say: Start now, prepare, persevere, and concentrate on keen, regulated training for future competition.

L.M.

On May 20th, our School Athletic team met the Manchester Athletic Club Junior Section in a full athletic programme at the School Field. We were only just beaten after giving a very good account of ourselves. L. Minshull in particular ran on his best form and returned 10.2 secs. for the 100 and 23.9 for the 220 yards. B. Dixon ran extremely well to take second place in the 880 yards race.

F.L.L.

Boys' Swimming.

This year has produced an improved standard of performance by the School swimming teams. We have had three matches with Manchester Grammar School, losing two by a narrow margin of points, and suffering (for reasons unknown) a decisive defeat in the third. In two of these matches our Junior team won with ease. The Seniors have been handicapped by lack of regular practice.

One of the high lights of the season was our visit to Blackpool on Easter Saturday, when we swam against three Blackpool schools. We tied for first place, the Juniors again carrying off the honours in their own section with little difficulty.

In conclusion may I say that in both our present teams we have some excellent material. To all those who want to be able to swim really well I give this advice—swim, swim, then swim again.

F.L.L.

Hiking.

There is amongst the Seniors a keen interest in hiking. Conditions for the first ramble in December and the second in early March were admirable if one kept a brisk pace. Both hikes were under the supervision of Mr. Llewellyn, a capable leader, to whom also we owe our thanks for the organisation. Our third hike was a truly ambitious project, taking us from Glossop to Greenfield, via Bleaklow, Longdendale, Crowden,

Laddow and Chew Valley. We hope that other rambles will be arranged during the summer, when anyone interested will be welcome. G. Gill.

Hockey.

The past season has been one of many difficulties. The five matches that were played were lost mainly through lack of training. The weather was against us, one match being played in snow, and another on a waterlogged pitch.

At least half the present team is staying on for the next season, so there should be an improvement after more practice and training. The girls are looking forward to next season with high hopes and winning smiles. We appreciate the work put into our coaching by Miss Whitmore and Miss Fisher, and are sorry we could not reward them with better results.

J.L., B.F.

Netball.

Only one Junior and one Senior match have been played this season, both against Harpurhey High School; unfortunately School lost both matches, but only after close fights.

Next season we hope to resume our full netball programme, and to regain the high standard of play for which we are noted in netball circles. J.R.A.

HOUSE NOTES.

Handley House.

Boys' Section.

House Masters: Mr. Gregoire, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Marshall.

House Captain: A. D. Hanley.

Vice-Captain: D. Errock.

Secretary: B. Mellor.

All members have been striving enthusiastically to help Handley retain the House Championship Shield. We are the only House to field complete teams in all the sporting events.

In the cross-country runs the Senior, Middle and Junior teams held first, first and second places respectively. At soccer the Seniors finished the season as champions, winning four matches. Unfortunately the Juniors only managed to win one and draw one.

We have also endeavoured to keep a high standard of work, and at the Christmas terminal obtained 25 work points.

We hope that everyone will continue to do their best, both at work and games, to win points for the House, and to maintain the high standard we have set ourselves. A.D.H.

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Girls' Section.

House Mistresses: Miss Moore, Miss Percival.

Captain: Mary K. Fairhurst.

Vice-Captain: Joan Lamb.

Secretary: Margaret Booth.

Prefects: Barbara Dearing, Dorothy Littlewood.

Last year, Handley House achieved the distinction of being awarded the Shield for the highest points gained in work and sports—an honour we have not enjoyed since 1938. We also hold the Swimming and Netball Shields for the year. We are extremely proud of this result, which could not have been achieved without the splendid co-operation of every member of the House. I sincerely hope that there will not be another ten years before we attain once more this position of honour.

M.K.F.

Joslin House.*Boys' Section.*

House Masters: Mr. Brodie, Mr. Fish, Mr. Christie,

Mr. Barlow, Mr. Jones.

House Captain: L. Minshull.

Vice-Captain: J. Schofield.

Secretary: N. O. Stott.

House Prefects: V. Baddeley, W. G. Charlesworth,

K. B. Lamb, W. T. Price, R. Heyes.

Sports results are good, notably so in the Juniors. In football the Seniors finished 2nd after playing four matches, winning two and losing two. The Juniors did very well when, out of three matches, they won two and drew the third. In the cross-country runs the Senior and Middle School teams both occupied second position. In the Juniors, again we saw exceptionally good results when the team finished in first place, with Broughton (LIIIa) as the individual winner. Throughout the year a high standard has been achieved, and I strongly urge every member to do his utmost to gain that place at the top which has been avoiding us for so long, but which, I am certain, is now within our grasp.

This is our golden opportunity, Joslinites, so don't take chances—work hard, play hard, and doubtless we will be champion House this year.

L.M.

Girls' Section.

House Mistresses: Miss Grimshaw, Miss Bottomley,

Miss Wilson, Miss Sawitz.

House Captain: Sybil M. Longson.

Vice-Captain: Beryl Shanley.

Secretary: Vivien Mayall.

Prefects: Anne Hardie, Beryl Ford.

Congratulations to all members of the hockey team on winning the Shield this year. Hard luck, netball! You only just missed it. We must now urge on our juniors to do as well as their 'elders and betters,' and may all our teams do their best in the forthcoming sports and rounders matches. To those who won the House Credit in the terminals—keep up the good work—and for those who failed to reach the mark, better luck next time. V.M.

Lees House.

Boys' Section.

House Masters: Mr. Barber, Mr. R. H. Bradbury,
Mr. A. Bradbury, Mr. Atkinson.

House Captain: G. W. Crossley.

Vice-Captain: D. Naylor.

Secretary: K. A. Barlow.

House Prefects: E. Cash, D. Henry, J. C. Taylor,
R. Calligan.

Senior Football and Cricket Captain: J. Carter.

Junior Football and Cricket Captain: D. Taylor.

Lees House has had a reasonably successful year so far. The Senior Football team gained 4 points, with 3rd position. The Junior team, rather more successful, gained 11 points with 2nd position. In the Inter-House cross-country runs all three teams occupied 3rd position. We were top House in the Table-Tennis Championship.

These results are nothing to be ashamed of: there is nevertheless considerable room for improvement. I sincerely hope that Lees House will grasp the opportunity for that improvement both on the sports field and academically. My very best wishes to the House and its members. G.W.C.

Girls' Section.

House Mistresses: Miss Whitmore, Miss Moorhouse.

House Captain: Jean R. Ashton.

Vice-Captain: Joan Broadbent.

House Prefects: Marion Harrop, Marguerite Lingard.

Congratulations, senior netball, on winning the netball trophy! The hockey matches had not the same success, but were enjoyed by all who took part. The Junior matches were played well, and received very strong support from the onlookers, but unfortunately the teams failed to gain the trophies. Better luck next time, Juniors.

More points can be gained for the House in the forthcoming terminals and field sports, so come on Leesites! The success of the House depends upon everyone of you. Remember it's a year now since Lees were top House, so 'en avant'; it's not too late to mend. J.R.A.

Viner House.

Boys' Section.

House Masters: Mr. Sturrock, Mr. Ardern, Mr. Riley,
Mr. Haslam.

House Captain: C. Maddison.

Vice-Captain and Secretary: R. J. Carson.

Viner have seen lean times so far this year. It is three years since we were acclaimed "Top Dogs," after six consecutive years as Champions.

Although we are bottom in Soccer, we fought well. The Seniors must receive a word of praise for beating Champions Handley in the last match of the season. The Juniors have done well, having won one and drawn four of the six matches.

However—the cricket season is here, and we have some promising players; the athletics and swimming are near, too—activities in which we have always done well, so let us Vinerites finish the year in a blaze of glory and bring back the Championship. R.J.C.

Girls' Section.

House Mistresses: Miss Jones, Miss Wood, Miss Fisher.

House Captain: Joan Wonnacott.

Vice-Captain: Constance E. Topliss.

Secretary: Jean Houlton.

House Prefects: Joyce Taylor (A), Olwen Radcliffe.

All the matches played this season have been enjoyed by players and supporters alike. It was hard luck that the Senior hockey team, after winning their match with Handley, could only draw with Lees, as a win would have enabled Viner to share the Shield with Joslin. The Senior netball results are disappointing, as all three matches have been lost. The Junior hockey team drew one game and lost two, and did little better in the netball. The results are poor, but better luck next time. May your feet be winged in the coming sports! J.W.

FOR MEN ONLY.

The Old Boys' Association are delighted to welcome the rebirth of "The Kaskenian," and offer their best wishes for its success. Many of our members were associated with it during its previous existence, some at its inception, and naturally they all will view with great interest the re-appearance of their former progeny.

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OLDHAM. LTD.

To all the boys in the School, and especially those in the Upper School, the Old Boys' Association offers a warm welcome. During the war years this Association lay in the "doldrums" but efforts have been made to revive it, and we can quite frankly say that the Association is very much alive once again. It has recently been re-constituted, one of the main changes being the creation of Student Membership. This enables any boy leaving School (over the age of 16) to become a member of the Association from the time of leaving School until the following March (when the new Association year commences), free of charge. For those who stay on beyond the age of 16, free Student Membership is available from the age of 16 until the March following the date of leaving.

The Old Boys' Association exists for "the promotion of fellowship, and the provision of social and recreational facilities among past students of the School." Many of you will have formed friendships in School, memories of which will remain with you for life, and yet you will allow them to lapse when you leave. Through the medium of the Old Boys' Association you may continue these friendships beyond School.

We have a football club and a chess club, whilst other sports such as cricket and table tennis are under consideration. Incidentally these clubs are autonomous bodies affiliated to the Association. For those whose interests lie in other directions, the Association is willing to organise other clubs where practicable, as and when the demand warrants.

Socially, we have our little "get-togethers," for which we usually find some pretext, although the main aim and enjoyment is the renewal of old acquaintances; we have dances (usually with O.G.A.), and last, but not least, we have a News Sheet which is circulated quarterly to all members supplying information about the activities of the Association and its members.

So, to "The Kaskenian," we say "Good luck and good reading," and to all the boys, especially those leaving at the end of the term, we say, hopefully, "Cheerio, best of luck, and —see you soon."

On behalf of the O.B.A.,

Fraternally yours,

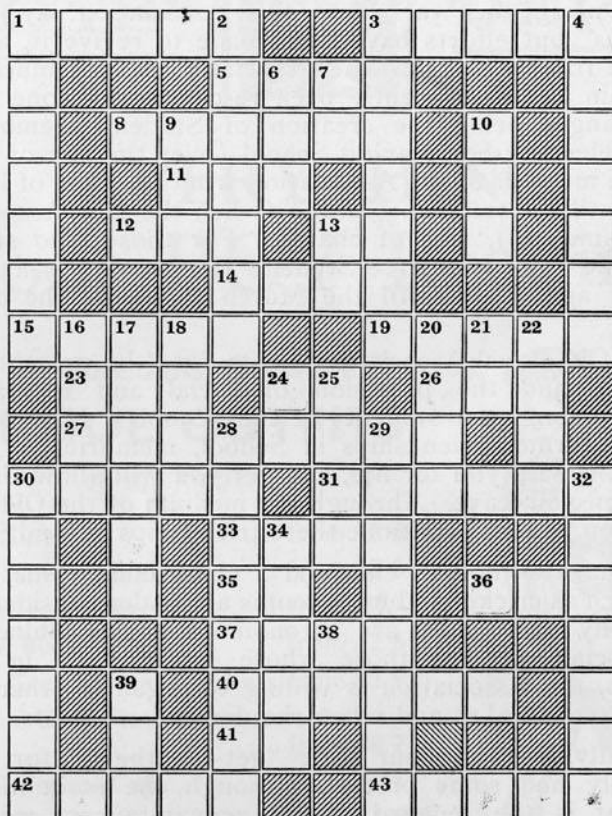
R. CRAIG, News Secy.

EX-STUDENTS' (GIRLS') ASSOCIATION.

Although war curtailed the activities of the Associations, the Ex-Students held informal dances and their annual Reunion as usual.

CROSSWORD.

Compiled by J. WILD and R. CALLIGAN (Vla.Sc.)



CLUES ACROSS

- 1 John did this to brother Richard (5).
- 3 Keep it off the road (5).
- 5 Calcutta had a dark one (4).
- 8 Cunning Canine (3, 3).
- 11 Employ (3).
- 12 One American soldier (1, 2).
- 13 Degree (2).
- 14 One of fifty-two (4).
- 15 Hid in bulrushes (5).
- 19 This sort of container makes most noise (5).
- 23 Roam aimlessly (3).
- 24 Exclamation (2).
- 26 Self (3).
- 27 Used for tying an artery (8).
- 30 Scuffle started by me (5).
- 31 Lancashire coastal town (6).
- 33 He made progress (4).
- 35 Tail of 17 down (2).
- 36 Described with compasses (3).
- 37 Honest market (4).
- 40 Bosses (anag) (6).
- 41 Part of 'to be' (2).
- 42 Garbage (5).
- 43 Language often heard in duplicate (5).

CLUES DOWN

- 1 To be worn or not to be worn, that was the debate (7).
- 2 Sound subject (7).
- 3 Deed rag (anag) (7).
- 4 This house is red (7).
- 6 Poem (3).
- 7 Behold! (2).
- 9 To pull (3).
- 10 Goes well with 'head' (3).
- 13 Mate of Mrs. (2).
- 16 Ma, he's making eyes at me! (4).
- 17 A tar (6).
- 18 Brink (4).
- 20 Encounter (4).
- 21 Author Wodehouse's initials (2).
- 22 Pythagoras should have tripped over his (4).
- 24 Thanks in reverse (2).
- 25 Dismantled ship (4).
- 28 Wing of aeroplane (8).
- 29 Coarse loaf (3, 5).
- 30 All this about nothing (4, 3).
- 32 A tragedy of Shakespeare (7).
- 34 Camel keepers (5).
- 38 Same as 41 across (2).
- 39 Service on a higher plane (abbr.) (3).

A "Comforts' Fund" was organised by Miss Platt, and in June, 1940, the Girls' Association held a "Kitchen Sale" from which the Fund benefited to the amount of £23 14s. As a result of such activities throughout the war years the boys received their parcels.

A Memorial Fund was suggested in February, 1946, and later this was inaugurated in memory of those members of the Ex-Students who gave their lives in World War II. By invitation of the Mayor (Alderman S. Marron) a Memorial Concert and Social Evening was held in the Town Hall on Friday, September 27th, 1946. His Worship the Mayor, accompanied by the Mayoress, received the subscribers. The evening was a great success, and the Fund greatly benefited therefrom.

The closing of the Memorial Fund was marked by a Social Evening at the Town Hall on September 24th, 1948, the Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. Stott Thornton) being present. The Fund now stands at £250.

During the years 1940-1947, the Girls' Association lost three valuable and active Vice-Presidents—Miss Atkinson (retired December, 1941), Miss Rimmer (retired April, 1946), and Miss Wolstenholme (retired June, 1947). The Girls' Association showed their appreciation of their services by making presentations, and take this opportunity of extending to Miss Atkinson, Miss Rimmer and Miss Wolstenholme their good wishes and hope that they will have many happy years of retirement.

The Girls' Association Annual Meeting took place at the High School on May 11th, 1949. The Constitution was discussed and altered to conform with that of the Boys' Association.

Full membership fee is 2/6 per annum. Student Members (present students of the High School over 16 years of age) are admitted without payment of fee. Life Members are those who complete 21 subscriptions. All Old Girls of the High School are welcome to join the Association.

Miss Lucy Boyd, after 38 years on the Committee of the Ex-Students' Association, did not seek re-election as Secretary. It was proposed and seconded that she and Miss McRobert become Honorary Vice-Presidents.

The following were elected Officers and Committee for the year 1949-50:

President: Mr. A. H. Ashworth.

Honorary Vice-Presidents:

Miss Wolstenholme.

Miss Atkinson.

Miss Smith.

Miss Boyd.

Miss Rimmer.

Miss McRobert.

Vice-Presidents:

Miss J. Moorhouse.	Miss D. Hulme.
Miss A. Platt.	Miss J. Moorhouse.
Miss D. Percival.	Miss D. Marsland.

Secretary: Miss P. Calvert, 122, Ronald Street.

Assistant Secretary: Miss M. Halsall.

Treasurer: Miss J. McRobert, 295, Park Road.

Committee:

Mrs. Fielding.	Miss E. Travis.
Mrs. Olsen.	Miss N. Crossley.
Miss V. Jackson.	Miss M. Jackson.
Miss A. Kent.	Miss B. Jones.
Mrs. Blakeman.	Miss P. Ormrod.

All good wishes to the "Kaskenian" and the Ex-Students' Association.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Boyd.

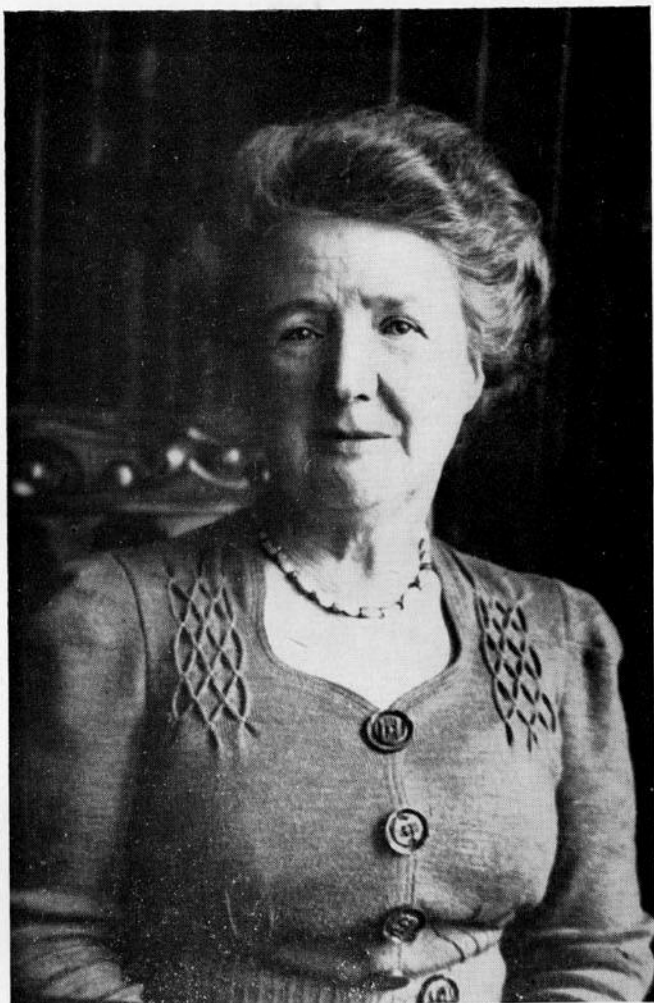
MISS LUCY BOYD.

Forty years ago when the group which has now become the Oldham High School Ex-Students' (Girls') Association was founded, one of the first members was Miss Lucy Boyd. After two years when the second committee was elected Miss Boyd became a member of the committee under the secretaryship of Miss Annie Smethurst. Unfortunately Miss Smethurst was not very strong, and soon her work was passed on to Miss Boyd—that was in 1919.

Since then she has been the guide and inspiration of numerous girls' committees. The Ex-Students' was of her very life, and she gave herself unstintingly in its service. Heads came and went (G. M. Handley, Mr. Butler, Mr. Joslin, Mr. Ashworth), Old Boys' Associations came into being and faded away again, but "Lucy" kept on. So for forty years, thirty of them under her leadership, Miss Boyd piloted, or helped to pilot the Association through two world wars and many times of depression, and never did she miss a Reunion, and seldom a committee meeting.

From Canada, South Africa, and the furthest parts of the earth from time to time come enquiries as to how "Lucy is going on." Now at last she feels that she needs a rest, and that it is time she passed on the burden and the responsibility to another generation. So the girls must say goodbye to their secretary of thirty years standing. They do so with regret, but more so with love and thankfulness for the great work she has done for the Ex-Students of the High School.

May she have a long and happy retirement!



Miss L. BOYD.

WM. GALLEY & SON,
Printers, Oldham.
