

THE BEDAN.

Magazine of the Sunderland Bede Boys' Grammar School

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Editorial.

No matter how diverse the initial intentions, the Editorials of the "Bedan" have almost invariably been written—with wit, gloom, anger, pride or cynicism around three ever-recurring topics:—

Discourse upon the hazards of writing an Editorial, followed by subtle attempts to excuse, or even extol the Editor,

Lamentations over the scarcity and mediocrity of entries,

Assurances that all the school societies flourish, doing great things for countless enthusiasts,

It will perhaps dispel the notion that Editors are vague and woolly creatures, long since abandoned in literary labyrinths, if I treat each of these topics, frankly, and in turn.

The writing of an Editorial is never a hardship and always an honour: it affords a welcome respite from the pursuit of laggard secretaries and absent-minded captains; from the evasion of anxious contributors and people with unlimited ideas but no time.

It affords, also, a welcome respite from meditation upon the scarcity and mediocrity of entries. We have not yet sunk to the awful depths wherein the Editor is compelled to fill the pages with his own work, but we are far from that happy state of superabundance which would enable us to discard good matter. Those people who have provided contributions show an eagerness, creditable when compared with the sloth of their fellows, particularly in the Upper School. In no sphere—drama, music, sport, or in this instance writing—will they yield to the demands which any school has a right to make upon them. A school magazine should be the work of the best boys from every section of the school, but, it is apparent from these few contributions received, that the situation is not due to lack of ability within the school, but to an ingrained inertia, and fear of revealing some specific capacity.

Although formerly responsible for a good deal of satire in the "Bedan," let it be observed that the radical in opposition has become grudgingly conservative in office, zealously protecting the susceptibilities of the Lords.—But how welcome would be a retaliation from "the other place!"

I have just returned from watching the Junior Soccer Eleven playing a most attractive and important game to a crowd in which scarcely a dozen Bedans had vainly to "shout down" a hoard of Ryhope School supporters, masters, parents, prefects and boys from every school year. Not even our Senior Teams command such support, and I would submit that two out of every three members of the school are active in no school society whatsoever. The flourishing appearance which a few of these societies present (and indeed great honour has been brought to the school this year by several of them) is entirely due to the labours of those masters and boys who "do everything." The nadir is surely in sight when school plays and concerts are attended in the main by outsiders, and school members refuse to come merely because they don't wish to be troubled. Nor is it difficult to point at two or three of the 'school years and say "There is manifest the decline!"

No longer can the war time excuses be proffered, and it is not too late to answer our Headmaster's call to support institutions of value to the school; to eradicate their faults instead of ridiculing them; and to hand on to future scholars, customs, and a school spirit which will compel them in their turn to give their best.

THE EDITOR.

Notes and Comments

During the School year just ended there has been a perceptible return towards normality. The war ended two years ago but the world still suffers, and small wonder that we, although a small community in one of the favoured countries, still retain some of the habits and attitudes of the emergency period. Amid the stress and urgency of war, many measures have to be adopted to keep the social structure intact but they are almost invariably considered as temporary impositions, to be revoked at the earliest opportunity. Unfortunately, war is far-reaching in its effects, and produces a multitude of changes which make a return to pre-war conditions a practical impossibility. A mere cancellation of the wartime rules and regulations, and their replacement by the pre-war rules, would lead to chaos, because, unfortunately, many of the conditions and limitations which arose during the war are still with us and are likely to persist for a long time. The School still suffers acutely because of the difficulty and delays in obtaining books, scientific apparatus and furniture (the recent arrival of a consignment of chairs at the School was accepted gratefully by boys and Staff alike as a partial solution to a problem which has been embarrassing the School for a long time). As long as there are these shortages there will be difficulties.

Undoubtedly, also, the School has suffered because of the interruption of its social activities. Now most of the outside activities of the School are functioning more or less normally. Probably the most serious handicap has been the lack of space for playing fields, but the reconditioning of the lower field is well under way, and by next year it should be ready for use. Great credit is due to those who have maintained during the past few years the high reputation of the Bede School for sport with so few facilities for practice and training.

Another item in connection with Sport requires mention. Throughout our School history we have organised school teams which had fixtures with similar schools, travelling to Newcastle, Hartlepool, Durham, etc., and in turn welcoming their teams to our home ground. Masters have always spent the Saturday evenings of the winter in accompanying these teams. Now much of this activity must be reduced, since the Sports Grant to the School from the Local Education Authority has been reduced by one third. We must thus greatly curtail an important feature of our School life, and we much regret it, but by asking the boys in the teams to pay their own fares we hope to retain some part of this valuable tradition.

Another nightmarish feature of the war years was the continual changes amongst the Staff. It was hoped that the end of the war would bring some stability, but this hope has not been realised. Many of the Staff who went away on war service have not returned after demobilisation, and some of those who returned to the School have stayed with us for a short time only.

Owing to the drift away from the Grammar Schools and the shortage of teachers generally, there is little hope of attaining stability in this respect for some years to come, which will inevitably react unfavourably on the School. Again, at the end of this School year there are quite a few Staff changes to be reported:—Mr. D. Vanstone, Senior Biology Master, left in December, 1946, to go to the Teachers Emergency Training College, Lancaster. In his place we have Mr. C. G. Lister, B.Sc. (Dunelm), an Old Bedan 1927-34, and the holder of the School record for the 440 yards. Mr. Lister came to us from Handsworth Grammar School, Birmingham.

Mr. G. C. Campbell, whom many Scouts will remember, came back to the School for a few weeks, before leaving in December, 1946, for a post at the Haberdashers' School, Cricklewood.

Mr. Wayman, Music Master at the School from 1945, left in December, 1946, and he is now on the Staff of Culworth School, Bury St. Edmunds. He was replaced by Mr. J. Kirk, M.A. (St. Andrews), Mus.Bac. (London), formerly Music Master at Kilmarnock Academy.

We learn that Mr. S. E. Virgo and Mr. R. S. Taylor will not be returning to the School. Mr. Virgo has elected to remain with the Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, and Mr. Taylor at the moment is with the Ministry of Town and Country Planning.

The following masters are leaving in July:—

Mr. W. G. H. Robinson, who is going to Dovenant Grammar School, London, as French and English master;

Mr. G. Mackay, who is going to Ryhope Grammar School as Chemistry master.

* * *

Many Old Bedans will be interested to know that Mr. F. Carr, laboratory steward at the School, 1929-46, has obtained a similar post in the Physics Department at the Sunderland Technical College.

* * *

Mr. D. G. Walters has been appointed by the Oxford Delegates as an examiner in the New Testament for the Oxford School Certificate Examination.

* * *

We regret to report the death of Mrs. G. T. Moore, following an illness which lasted several weeks. Because of her attendance at many of the School social functions over a large number of years, Mrs. Moore was well known to the School, and on behalf of the Staff and Bedans we extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mr. Moore and his family in their bereavement.

An Old Bodan, Mr. D. A. S. Cairns (1910-20) was, in May, 1947, approved for appointment to the rank of King's Counsel. This is indeed a great honour to the School, and we extend our hearty congratulations to Mr. Cairns in attaining to such a distinction at the early age of 45.

* * *

We learn that H. Keenlyside (1929-37) was Captain of the University of London Soccer XI during the past season. Just before the war P. W. Hope held this same position. We learn further that Keenlyside has accepted the position of Assistant Manager at Butlin's Holiday Camp at Filey.

* * *

We regret to report the loss of another Old Bodan, A. A. Thompson (1935-40), who was lost over the Atlantic while on a meteorological reconnaissance flight in a Halifax bomber. It is regrettable that after serving during the war without mishap he should have been lost at a time when he was due for demobilisation, and we extend our sympathies to his parents and relatives.

* * *

We regret to record the death on 28th June, 1947, of Alan Tallintire (L.VS.), who was drowned while swimming in the sea at Boker. We extend to his parents our deepest sympathies in their tragic bereavement.

* * *

We note the following results in the Cambridge Tripos Examinations:—F. White, First class in Part I. of the Natural Sciences Tripos; J. R. Hambrough, First Class in Part I of the Classical Tripos; W. S. Paton, First class in German; and second class in French in Part I of the Modern Languages Tripos.

It is possible that other examination results have been published which have escaped our notice, and Old Bodans should note that if they desire to have mention made of such results they should inform the Bodan Editor.

* * *

From the 11th to the 14th March, 1947, the School had a full inspection by H.M. Inspectors.

The School enjoyed an extension of the Whitsun Holiday by two days because of the two Scholarships gained by Low and Abrahams last year.

Two Scholarships have been gained this year:—

J. A. Richardson has been awarded the Horsfall Scholarship in Classics for the Durham Colleges;

H. W. Ord was offered an Exhibition at Selwyn College, Cambridge.

E. Stephenson has played fullback in the Durham County Public Schools XV during the season just ended.

G. Pyburn has played in the International Rugby Trials. Unfortunately he was not selected for the final team.

* * *

It is interesting to note that three Old Bedans, Hibbert, Capeling and Milne, were included in the Hylton Colliery Juniors Soccer XI which recently visited Strasburg to play Austria in the final for the European Youth Championships.

* * *

The following Bedans are attending the International Scout Jamboree to be held at Moisson, near Paris, in August, 1947:— J. Lawson, E. M. Low, R. Davis, N. Stubbs, J. D. Burnard and J. Ferguson.

* * *

The Bede School Gymnastic class are justly proud of A. Johnson, who, after gaining the School Gymnastic Instructors Award has been invited to act as P.T. Instructor for a fortnight to the Eastney Boys' Club, at their holiday camp at Whitsands.

* * *

Sgt. Cadet E. Donald, of No. 111 Squadron, A.T.C., has been selected to be one of a party of British Air Cadets who are to be given a Canadian tour lasting three weeks. The journey will be made by plane. This should be some compensation to Donald for having missed going on the Royal Visit to South Africa.

* * *

The Editorial Staff of the Bedan during the year just ended has been:—B. F. Rees (Editor), R. Davis (Sub-editor), G. Curry, R. A. Crimall, and A. Pyburn. Masters on the Committee are Mr. R. T. Ayre, Mr. J. L. Jolly, Mr. G. Mackay, Mr. A. Wilson, and Mr. A. Smith.

* * *

Roll of Honour

It is with regret that we learn that still another four Old Bedans have made the supreme sacrifice, and their names shall be added to the School Roll of Honour:—

Ainsley, R.

Sheriff, A. R.

Taylor, N.

Whiting, T.

Life in Germany, 1947

THE story of the Great Fire of London is not one of the stale and date-heavy slices of history. In the distant regard, such high moments of danger, terror, even suffering, are pleasantly stirring; and they are particularly impressive if the background is in glorious "yo-ohle" technicolour. Could we but speak with the survivors of such an event—the ordinary men and women—what scenes we should re-live of smoke pillaring above ravenous flames, of rescues amongst medieval houses which make their last lurch for support against tottering neighbours! But is this the reality perceived and retained by the common folk? It is not. I know. I brush shoulders daily with those survivors. The people of Karlsruhe had a town as quaint as old London, its curved beams, its floors and roofs, dried through centuries, burned as quickly. In one final raid within only days of the cease-fire, this little Lower Saxony town, with architecture reaching back to the year one thousand and one, almost completely disappeared. It is now only the brick fringes built in the last thirty years which substantially remain: that, and the rubble which is still the uncleared grave of hundreds of its inhabitants. The stories I hear are not exciting and colourful. They are sickening and horrid.

This was the setting for our liberation of this hitherto quiet corner of Germany. And "liberation" it was indeed to them. Negatively, at least, it meant peace, cessation of horror, reunion of families; positively, it gave hope of things perhaps tentatively gleaned from "black" listening-in. The politician looked for speedy democracy: the business-man for swift and free reconstruction; the worker for constructive work and security for his family. They were very "ordinary" people. There was nothing very exotic about them—no Prussian stolidness or Rhenish exuberance. In fact these Hanoverians frequently, and often proudly, point to their English historical connections. So, being very usual people they had the usual aspirations and, when the first haze had cleared, they looked to this liberation as their opportunity. The little barber who waddled in to me on his rounds was full of his plans for building a wooden hut on the edge of the town: when the all-important Mil Gov "Genshmü-ning" was to hand he and his son (who would surely soon be back?) would start business anew. (I remember wondering idly why he should not rebuild at once on the ruined site in town). The old S.P.D. Trade Unionist, himself many times arrested, gave me spirited accounts of his party's opposition—sincere and forced if not always heroic—to the Nazis. And he coarsely outlined his plans for reconstituting the Trade Unions out of the defunct Arbeitsfront if only Mil Gov would allow them scope. He it was who gave the first shock to my impenetrable acquired belief that we had the European monopoly of democratic ideas. So also did a local barrister (now the Christian Democrat leader) convince me that religion had not, though one might well have thought otherwise, died in Germany; and he gently reminded me that their long tradition of Local Government could not be equalled even by Britain's. He, too, had his plans for the

town and his private objectives included the replacing of his burnt-out legal library so that his two remaining sons might study on their return. Local businessmen also had their ideas. One director—happily untainted by Socialism, National or other—hoped to have both his outlying factories geared to normal production in a few months. In fact, "liberation" to these quite representative types—neither "good" nor "dead" Germans—meant first, relief and then hope.

For two years British Military Government officers "on the ground" have worked with such men. They brought the initial relief and eagerly seized the hope that was already there. This hope was to be used to inspire the Germans to reach, by their own efforts, the final goal—Democracy. Non-fraternisation, Potsdam, the still continuing denazification had all to be reconciled with his aim—not in armchair fashion, but convincingly to the people whose lives were very really affected. And ration-cut succeeded ration-cut in a food allowance only bearable because of augmentation from the universal "grey" market. Naturally for the common man food has decreased to a dangerous extent as his savings and stock of articles for barter have dwindled away. Democracy thrives hardly on an empty stomach and even the good Jean Valjean, happening to be on the wrong side of the Rhine, might have echoed the

"Atlee gibt uns was zu fressen.

"Sont können wir Hitler nicht vergessen."

without losing thereby his immortal soul.

We hear constantly now that "the German attitude is hardening." We must watch out, that is, for the Germans are not being a "docile"—and therefore, one processes, not as co-operative—as they were. How has this manifested itself in Karlsruhe. Under Trade Union auspices we have had, a few weeks ago, our "hunger" demonstrations. Thousands of workers donned tools and marched to a central square to hear our old friend put forward their complaints and demands—chiefly that they, the Trade Unions, be allowed to assist in collecting and distributing food from the farmers, that they, the workers, be given the larger part of the few available consumer goods. (He appealed for order and discipline as they dispersed; but they were—though earnest enough—as good humoured as an English football crowd). His local organisation has a membership now far in excess of that of the combined political parties. He has worked hard in spite of failing health throughout the winter; his wife has for weeks been in hospital suffering from a stomach complaint and, since his daughter has recently joined her through some other disability, he is not cared for properly. Under present conditions he is pushed by extremists and exercises a moderating influence only with ever-increasing difficulty. It is not of the ordinary workers, of the placid Karlsruhe, that he is afraid, but of what they might become under wrong leadership. It happened before with starving workers. And the barrister? His party has the majority in this old church town and he has a thriving Christian youth group—larger than the other clubs together; but his fears are essentially those of the T.U. leader.

He feels that more concrete encouragement is required for his moderate, christian party to take widespread root. He is in municipal practice again, however, and thus can borrow legal tomes from the local court so that the son now repatriated from England, may carry on his studies; the other son is still, he hopes, a P.O.W. in Russia. Our business-man, much disillusioned, fills in his time as President of the Chamber of Commerce. One factory, being an affiliate of a combine at present being broken up by the Americans in their zone, is in a precarious financial position; the other produces in spasms depending on a fluctuating supply of fuel and raw material.

This is not a happy picture. It is not a happy country, and no doubt it deserves to be in such a condition as much as our country deserves to be in a better one. But we must not lose sight of our objective. We have undertaken the unprecedented task of making out of a modern civilised (albeit sickly) State a healthy Democracy. We must, perforce, learn our job as we work; and our staff is dwindling as the importance of the task increases. Hard-won experience, then, must be turned to immediate use. No doubt we will do well to keep sickly sentiment from our considerations; but we will not do wrong to remember that England in the past has shown greatness and strength when she did not fight shy of healthy sentiment in both home and foreign policy.

And the little barber? He got his "Genehmigung" and has had his icy wooden hut all winter. But he runs it alone. His son—he, also, still hopes—is a P.O.W. in Russia. And I know now why he does not use the original rubble-heaped site of his house and shop. There was a daughter, too, before the Great Fire.

J.M.M.

The Editor

The Editor of the *Redan*, 1947, is a modest and retiring fellow who cloaks his natural brilliance in a startling, unobtrusive manner. His countless admirers often remark upon the phenomenon that such great modesty should be united with so many virtues.

His vast treasury of knowledge is exceeded only by his ready wit and his capacity for learning from his superiors. These include: Socrates, Dante, Shakespeare, Alexander the Great and Napoleon.

His striking personal beauty is of a nature rarely seen in the provinces; he has more than once been likened to Adonis and scrutiny of his physiognomy reveals a combination of those endowments distributed singly to the rest of mankind.

His winning personality renders entry into any kind of competitive event unfair, but he accepts this with that same charm and grace, which has prepared for his noble barque an ever-increasing tide of popularity.

In this short space it is impossible to enumerate his many particular achievements. It is inconceivable, however, but that his sterling worth will be manifest in these pages.

I am proud to sign myself his friend.

THE EDITOR

Art ain't all Paint

"Bit 'ot for campin'." I turned and saw a country bumpkin ambling an overloaded apparition, staggering along under the sweltering sun. What was this?—a tinker, a glazier, a human tortoise "maison en tortouliere?" An accompanying grampus wheezed, "Ood its owa calm fora kite." Finally, his patience exhausted by these barbed attacks, the unknown quantity, weary of walking and witticisms, flung himself to the earth. Recovering from this unseemly exhibition of self pity, he goggled in admiration an "old-world cottage," and hastened to reveal his wares. Indeed a resurrection. A tinker? a genius? a crank?—say, even worse, an artist.

Perched on a prefabricated "you-can-never-tell-what-next" camp stood he grudgingly smears his paper with the grease and grime of the best utility graphite. The French proclaimed "You must point as the birds sing;" the undulating motion of our artist on his perch at least recalls that of the warbler in the tree top. Pride comes before a fall—the next events are too humiliating to relate. The nickname "il furioso" might be applied in a new sense to our aching artist as he strives to regain a vertical posture from amidst, or rather under, the debris of his "house built upon sand." The "malade imaginaire," realizing his inability to draw decides to paint instead. A blob of scarlet enhances the effect; the red darkens to brown, and blackens to indigo as a swarm of countless flies seizes this unique opportunity for a bath. Alas, also, human pests are in the offing to plague our once aspiring, now perspiring, and soon almost expiring artist.

Enter 1st Apparition (aged ex-fodgling of the Guardians of the Poor—no credit to them or to himself). "Aye, nice day for yer . . . er, er" . . . (realizing that this will not elicit the desired information and unwilling to take a plunge, he ends lamely) "er . . . grand wither." (Further profound thought, graveyard silence, blossoms forth into a pearl of wisdom). "Aye, wat the h'eye sees th'and draws, h'and wat the h'eye disna see th'and disna draw." Artist's grunt indicates fate of pearl. Yokel peers. Yokel's exclamations give picture an atmosphere tainted with Devonshire Cream and elder. Both parties disengage, mutually relieved.

Enter 2nd Apparition. (School ma'am—local deity, with long legs, short sight, and sharp tongue). "Uhhmm." Artist blushes, and decides to overpaint in scarlet glaze. Landscape degenerates to impressionism, vorticism, futurism, finally to constructivism. "Uhhmm." The canvas assumes a treacle-well aspect, and is just about as manageable. "Ahem." The icicle

beams and offers a florin, "Buy a Koshak," and waltzes off, umbrella in air. The artist anxious to retrieve his shattered reputation cries "Many thanks, Miss Fuselli."

Enter 3rd Apparition. (Would-be gentleman farmer—well, a farmer anyhow—with first rate collection of chains, splatter-dashes, conversation interspersed with or rather composed of "by gods" and "godwots"; a man of religious temperament evidently). "Horr! my land . . . H'out h'of Hit." He is check-mated at sight of "oeuvre." "Corttipe h'saint laike that." The wretch taking his courage in both hands, and his portfolio in one, flees the scene, Turn(er)ing to hiss "Well, don't you wish it were?"

Moral:—He who daubs and runs away may learn to paint another day.

A. PYBURN.

"Rana Canis Viscit"

"A knowledge of the development . . . and external features of Rana"—so runs part of the H.S.C. syllabus in Biology. Now it does not take a student of Latin more than a couple of hours with a dictionary to find out that this has something to do with frogs; and as everyone knows frogs come from tadpoles—or do they? This set me off on a line of thought. Why should frogs come from tadpoles? Who started the rumour anyway? I mean, if the tadpoles were quite happy—as all tadpoles I have seen appear to be—why do they go to the extraordinary trouble of making frogs of themselves? Then came the original idea! I would go forth, find some tadpoles and keep them just to prove that it was all a lot of eyewash.

It being a beautiful Spring evening I wasted no time. I immediately packed up 6 sizes of jars and bottles, a soup strainer attached to 3 sections of a chimney sweeping arrangement, a few biscuits, and a book containing everything one needed to know about "water-life." According to this book, tadpoles come from eggs which are found in ponds during Spring. I had to take the book as being correct up to this point, otherwise I had no idea how to find the tadpoles, so with a determined scientific sort of look on my face I mounted my bicycle and off I went.

Well it was not long before I arrived at a fair sized stretch of water, surrounded by trees and covered with a rather sickly green scum. I fished out the book, and then a difficulty arose. Nowhere could I find a definition of a pond. How was one to tell the difference between a lake, a pond and a pool? For obviously if tadpoles were found in ponds they weren't going to frequent lakes or lower their dignity by messing around in pools.

Just at that moment a farm hand happened to be passing by. "I say, what be!" I hailed him, "Is this a pond, old man?" "Naw!" he said, "It's the Mediterranean," and passed on. Now this struck me as being rather odd. Dash it! I'd seen

pictures of the Mediterranean and it certainly wasn't anything like this. Besides I hadn't come far enough south for that—the fellow must be mental.

Realising that I must depend entirely on my own initiative, by the process of reductio ad absurdum I concluded that it must be a pond, and no sooner was this decided than the 3 jointed bamboo pole-cum-soup strainer were assembled and I proceeded cautiously round the pond, scooping here and there with the soup strainer in one hand and the book in the other.

Half an hour later I was still scooping and had begun to take rather a dim view of the matter. Dash it all! I'd taken all the trouble to dress up and come out here for the benefit of these tadpoles, and they hadn't the common decency to put in an appearance.

"There must be some scientific explanation" I mused . . . Ah, got it! Minkowski! The space round here must be curved and while I think I am putting the strainer in the water it's not going in at all."

Pausing only to think how wonderful it was that the most abstract principles of Mathematics could be applied so simply to everyday happenings, I proceeded to allow for the curvature of space and scooped in the air (subtle isn't it?) for the tadpoles. "There's no butterflies round here mister" I heard an urchin shout—evidently he hadn't heard of Minkowski.

Still, no results were obtained and I was forced to the conclusion that the curvature must be negative, which meant, of course, that I had to fish deeper into the pond. To do this I had just edged out on to a sort of Continental Shelf when whatever it is that holds these shelves up gave way and I was left floundering up to the knees in the morass, to the evident concern and astonishment of several thousand algae, bacteria, and a couple of water beetles. Now although this situation might be the answer to a tadpoles prayer, it did not grip me with quite the same enthusiasm and I made all speed to remove self and soup strainer from the mess.

You may think that this was a simple thing to do but you have no idea what these bacteria are like when they are roused. They seized hold of my trouser legs and it was quite 5 minutes before I could persuade them that it would be much better for their health if they stayed where they were instead of following me around.

Well, after this, as you may imagine, I was pretty well fed up with the whole business. These tadpoles evidently didn't know anything about Natural History—probably never even heard of the book that I was using. So I packed up the baggage and started to cycle back home. As I was mending the 3rd puncture a party of children straggled past laden with jam jars. "Hello," I said, "what have you got there, you nippers, eh?"

"Tadpoles—why? Do yer want any?"

The sun dropped suddenly below the horizon with a pop, like a red tomato falling into a dish of soup. There was a hiss of air escaping from a burst inner tube, then a deep silence broken by a mighty groan which was mistaken for the knocking-off hooter in a nearby colliery.

The reason I have related this little Tragedy is so that I may pass on this maxim which will be of more value to you than all the wisdom of Solomon. It is "Never doubt what the text books say."

R. DAVIS.

Elegia

*Nos invenies in eum Ludum non venimus amplum,
 Quem dixisse solet nomine Baeda suo,
 Ut nos discipulos possimus cernere doctos,
 Vel quae doctores ingeniosa docent;
 Attamen ut, maestis animis in tartara grossi,
 Aspicimus ibi iam nihil esse novum.*

H. ARMSTRONG.

Gliding

In Great Britain during the years prior to the outbreak of war, and in Germany during the war itself, many bold steps were taken to make flight without motors as cheap and as trustworthy as possible.

Until about 1925, gliders consisted literally of a man with a pair of wings, which had a flimsy and light framework, over which was placed a fabric covering, such as a discarded sheet or curtain. To this wing structure was attached some form of stabiliser, or, in modern terminology, a tailplane. In the centre of the wing, a panel was left uncovered, and fitted with a hand-rail along each side of the opening. In preparing for flight, the pilot, using the two handrails, lifted the machine to shoulder height, and then by running down a slope and leaping into the air he usually managed to become airborne. His legs dangled below, to be ready to absorb shocks if perchance his descent was hasty and violent.

The next step was the provision of launching crews, who, through a rope attached to the glider, enabled the take-off speed to be increased, which in turn, meant that the carrying capacity of the machine would be increased. This entailed a larger and more robust machine, with seats for the pilot and passenger.

Around 1930 an improved type of glider—the primary—was introduced, which was very different from the flying-wing models. The fuselage was still just a framework carrying the seats and tailplane, and occasionally a rudder was included. Control of the machine was effected through a joystick and a rudder bar.

In the secondary type of glider, the wing design was modified, and the fuselage was of a more normal type.

The modern sailplane, which is not yet fully developed, has a good all-round performance, with better control system, such as air brakes, and an enclosed cockpit. They are highly manoeuvrable machines, comparable in this respect with any powered aircraft. All types of aerobatics can be performed, providing that the necessary speed is attainable which is managed by flying steeply downwards prior to the aerobatic performance.

In the training of glider pilots, the course is divided into stages, and the successful completion of each stage of training is necessary before going on to the next. The first stage—often considered as the most difficult of all—consists of low and high hops, flown into wind. These rarely exceed 100 feet and a duration of half a minute on one of these hops is sufficient to qualify for the "A" certificate of the British Gliding Association. The next stage consists of flying in circuits, involving turns, at various heights. The third stage, and the most interesting of all, involves mastering the technique of soaring. This depends on the presence, in the atmosphere, on certain sunny days, of ascending currents of air, which are used by the glider pilot to increase his height, which of course means that longer flights can be made. A flight of more than five minutes, above the point of release, enables the pilot to qualify for the "C" certificate.

M. L. HENNEY (L.VI.s)

Diary of a Bede School Dodger

- 9.15 a.m. Enter gates disguised as errand boy with bread loaf under arm. Shout "Prydes" at prefect on duty; admitted past the late queue without a murmur.
- 9.30 a.m. Enter class just in time for "mouse show" at back of room. Unfortunately, mouse evades barrier and "Godfrey and Siddons" hurled at retreating animal catches front row boy on back of neck. Much ado and extra homework.
- 9.55 a.m. Write answers for coming French test on top of blackboard.
- 10.00 a.m. French test: See 9.55 entry.
- 10.15 a.m. Full marks for everybody.
- 10.20 a.m. Go for drink of water. No sign of vanished mouse but find interesting beetle emerging from Biology Lab. (Also interesting and varied odours from Chemistry Lab.)
- 10.30 a.m. Go for milk. 29 bottles collected.
- 10.35 a.m. Issue 28 bottle. Retain 5 for further use.
- Break:

10.40 a.m. Hide behind curtains but wind blows and am spotted by prefect. Eventually find sanctuary in Room 7 "looking for lost property."

10.50—12.10—Practical Chemistry.

Expt. To prepare copper sulphate crystals.

Method: Out of jar at back of room. Meanwhile perform "fountain experiment" on all of form within range.

Dinner Time:

Play football with ball camouflaged as a stone. On approach of master or prefect substitute stone camouflaged as ball. This always causes great annoyance when confiscated.

Dinner:

Promise to server of introduction to attractive sisters secures 6 extra apricots.

Afternoon:

Late in, so inflict minor injury on knee with pen-knife and go to master-on-duty. No questions asked, much sympathy. One period and 5 bandages used in treatment.

2.45 p.m. Field. Remove bandages and take out ball. Kick ball over fence by accident (?) Go over, return ball, but forget to return self. Absence not noticed. Afternoon spent eating cakes in sunshine.

4.0 p.m. Return to be dismissed (shocking nuisance). Replace bandage. Point out same to prefect on tram queue duty and thus obtain first place in car.

4.30 p.m. Home and tea. Off to see "The Shootin' of Dan MacGrew."

R.DAVIS.

Sayings of the Year

The Staff:

"It is always assumed that even though a master may or may not be proficient in the subject in which he specialises, he certainly knows nothing about any other subject."

"Next week the laugh will be on the other foot."

"Caps and coats must be hung in the porches, no article of clothing may be brought into school."

"People of all sexes crowd the promenade on a Sunday night."

People nowadays, expect a schoolmaster to have first rate ability, irreproachable moral character, a large heart, a hard head and physical perfection, all for the wages of a dustman Grade 2.

"The only last-minute preparation for camp is to put your mug in your haversack and tie the cord."

"If anybody puts a javelin through MY back he'll have a fit when he sees the hospital bill."

The Rest:

"We lashed you by a corner."

"Ay, and the corner was much against the run of the play."
Two column second years after "5-aside."

"That neither of these regimes lasted for any length of time after their fall, proves their weakness."

—Editor's History Paper,

"I consider dancing a very foolish method of getting from one side of the room to the other."
—Prefect.

"The school claps—and the noise is nothing compared with when the school gets up."

—Sixth-former after presentation in Hall

My Impressions after a Year at the School:

(A battery of witticisms from III.)

"The male teachers at the Bede are very different from the female teachers I was used to."

"One of my enjoyments was the learning of a new language; I am afraid this is no longer an enjoyment, mainly because I am not good at it."

"We were called 'cheeky first years' which in most cases was true."

"The school is situated in an ideal place for getting the fresh air."

"I imagined a lot of prefects all giving out fines, but when I came there did not seem to be any."

The Sunrise

The wood was dark, and breathless as the grave,
And then, as if to bring to life the life
To which the stately trees gave shelter,
The eastern sky grew red, and tiny beams
Of dancing light streamed forth; a glow,
Soft and delicate upon the glistening dew.
The sun, in all his majesty and splendour
O'erstepped the ridge, and radiant in his glory
Ascended slowly into the spacious heavens;
Darkness fades, silence is broken, the feathered
Choir, mastered by thrush and blackbird
Rings out its note, to waken and bestow
Upon its listener's ear the joy of living
In such a semi-paradise.

M. A. NAISBITT, U.IV.2.

A Moorland Ramble

Whilst staying at Skipton in Yorkshire, a group of holiday-makers, of which I was one, decided to go to the village of Earby, several miles away. Having arrived there, we made for Adolgate's Cafe, and while our lunch was being prepared, the owner, a Mr. Holgate, asked if we would like to view his private museum. He was very keen on the natural history of that part of Yorkshire, and the museum was full of curios of great interest, such as ancient weapons used by the inhabitants of Yorkshire in the stone age. He had also many fossils, one of which was a family of trees which, long ago, used to grow to about forty feet in height, but now the same plants are found growing only one or two feet high. Mr. Holgate showed us some relics of ancient games, that are now no longer played. One such game consisted of a specially shaped stone, which was hurled along a road so that it rolled for a long distance. He who hurled the stone the farthest in three consecutive throws was the winner of the game.

After lunch, Mr. Holgate led us by a very interesting route back to Skipton, and showed us a bird's nest which had been robbed of its eggs since he had last seen it. He told us that he had put a branch in the way of egg-hunters, and thereby knew when it had been moved. When we got to the wide-open moorland, we saw a plover rise from the ground, some distance ahead. Mr. Holgate told us to keep our eyes open, but we would not have noticed anything, had it not been for his own keen eyes, spotting a plover's nest with four brown speckled eggs in it. The nest and eggs were exactly the same colour as the coarse grass, among which the nest was laid. Later as we looked back, we saw the plover returning to her nest to continue her patient hatching. On and on we went, stopping to admire the glorious scenery around us, forgetting our tired limbs, as we listened to Mr. Holgate's stories of life on the moors.

Mr. Holgate is well known in the district for his knowledge of the surrounding countryside, and we were very fortunate to meet him. Without him our ramble would not have been nearly so interesting.

L. S. SLAWTHER.

Unusual Hobbies

There are many unusual hobbies. For instance a man in America made a whole mass of small machinery which was all connected together so that at the press of a button the whole lot began to move. It was built on a large square table and although of no use was an interesting hobby. It was added to each day and showed how many mechanical movements work. Another peculiar hobby is ghost tracking. A few men have purposely visited houses which were reputed to be haunted, in hope of catching the ghost. This is not exactly a hobby which would appeal to most people but evidently these men enjoy their hobby greatly. The next unusual hobby I know of is very interesting. It is watch-collecting. There are many fine old watches and

these are bought for fantastic sums of money by enthusiastic watch-collectors. This hobby was in use as a source of amusement more than a hundred years ago. A hobby which has fascinated many is the putting of ships in bottles. One man had over two-hundred "bottled" ships in his collection. He had ships in bottles of every shape and size. He got the bottle and designed the ship accordingly. He had all sorts of ships and almost every type could be seen in his bottles. Rochester, the famous negro comedian of stage and radio has the most interesting and unusual hobby. He made a model countryside and laid different railway tracks over it. He built model stations and depots and from a control box he directed as many as four locomotives at once. In this model everything is worked out accurately on the same small scale and built with the utmost care. There is no end to the enjoyment to be obtained from this hobby. Some people find that sitting behind a bush not moving or making a sound and trying to find out about the habits of birds and animals, is an interesting hobby. Hobbies such as collecting objects and making a small museum, collecting insects and old pottery are very interesting. No doubt more curious hobbies are being invented every day and soon many people may be using them as a source of amusement.

P. BANKS.

My Impressions of the Bede School after my First Year

(1).

My impressions of the Bede School had to be somewhat modified after the first week. The Masters who were "so nice" during the first week became raging terrors in the second, and the homework they handed out was nobody's business.

We first year boys were scoffed at by the older boys for having new, clean suits, and neatly brushed hair. We were crushed in the bus and tram queue, and told to stop pushing when we were standing as meekly as lambs. When we boarded the bus and proceeded to the top deck to sit down we were given the order "Get off that seat because my pal's sitting there" by the older boys.

Then came the examinations—a more horrible form of torture has not yet been devised. The masters were ready to put us through it for the trouble we had caused them during the term—and they did. Now as we come to our second year we know what to expect.

J. COOK.

(2)

When I went to the Bede School I was very much impressed by its size. In my form I made many new friends with whom I soon got over my shyness. I felt a little nervous at first to see the scornful, confident-looking second years, but quickly learned to ignore the rude remarks cast by them. I found that there were many new subjects I had to learn. Of course, I had to take

SCHOOL CELEBRITIES, 1946-47



H. DENNIS (Capt. Soccer XI)	J. N. FURMAN (Capt. Cross Country Team)	K. HOWARD (T.L. Bodan Scouts)	V. CAMPBELL (Pres. Senior Debating Soc.)
A. WILSON (Cross Country Champion)	B. BIRD (Editor "Bodan")	R. ALMOND (Head of School Captain Rugby XV)	T. WILLIAMS Senior Assistant Librarian
			A. BIRNBAUM (Scholarship)

SCHOOL XI, 1946-47



Standing:—A. WHEAT, MR. H. T. AGER, H. BISHOP, J. B. TURNER, A. HENKLEY, E. MURPHY,
D. G. JONES, MR. P. F. FLETCHER, J. WARRINGTON.
Sitting:—L. FOSTER, K. B. THOMPSON, J. N. PUGH, R. N. DONALD (Capt.), M. HENSON,
D. A. BOCK, H. CARLSON.



Standing:—Mr. D. G. WALTERS. A. STODOL. W. A. LINDLEY. I. W. JAMES. B. HART.
P. T. NELSON. R. T. WHITEHEAD. Mr. M. EBBETT.

Sitting:—J. L. JACKSON. G. WOOD. J. S. SULLIVAN. K. STEPHENSON. B. Y. ALDRIDGE.
M. DENNIS. H. M. HENRY. J. D. BERNARD. R. F. HENDERSON.

On ground:—G. B. NICHOL. B. PATER.

JUNIOR XI., 1946-7



Standing:—Ms. F. A. JENNENS, B. A. SPENCER, G. CAMP, A. JENNISON, W. BRIDGELL,
A. HILL, T. TREVILLICK, Ms. P. P. FULTON.
Sitting:—G. BAYNE, M. FALWOLD, J. M. STARR, H. N. DUNNIE, P. JOHNSON,
J. W. WARR, K. GRAY.

JUNIOR XV., 1946-47



Standing:—Ms. D. G. WATSON, A. VICKERY, B. PLAIN, W. HENDERSON,
I. T. MILLER, J. SHERIDAN, B. HARRISON, Ms. M. BERRY.
Seated:—B. COOPERMAN, G. DAVIDSON, J. H. FRATERSTONE, G. PYLEA,
K. WYTHINGTON, J. W. CAMP, J. WATSON, P. PIERCE, T. ALMOND.
On ground:—K. W. DUNNIE, C. R. BARRINGTON.

care of my ruler and other school kit with which I had been supplied. At the beginning of the term I had the satisfaction of being put in the highest first-year form.

I very much liked playing football and other games with my new friends, but now ball games have been temporarily banned.

However, despite the few disadvantages I have mentioned I think the Bede School is a grand school, and I hope I shall think so to the end of my schooldays.

A. L. JONES.

The Late Rev. S. Lister, M.Sc.

London Old Bedans suffered a grievous loss in the sudden death on October 18th last, of Rev. S. Lister, M.Sc., at the age of 61. He was one of the most distinguished of his generation of Old Bedans. At the School in its early days, from 1895 to 1904, he spent the last year as an assistant master, under the late G. T. Ferguson, Esq., before proceeding to College. After teaching at Bromsgrove and Uxbridge, at the outbreak of war in 1914 he joined the Royal Navy, and rose to Lieutenant Instructor. He was tempted to make the Navy his career, but eventually returned to teaching; and after having his Text book on arithmetic published, and having been awarded M.Sc. degrees by both Leeds and Durham Universities for some brilliant mathematical research, he was appointed Head Master, in April, 1924, of the Gravesend County Grammar School, where he found already installed as Senior Master another ex-assistant of Bede, D. Foster, Esq. At that time the school was 220 strong, and shared a building with the local Junior Technical School. He soon set about enlarging the school itself, then busied himself with the project for new buildings, so that, by the time he left, the school was over 600 strong, and housed in probably the best school buildings in Kent, in its own spacious playing fields, with an assembly hall containing an organ, and a first class stage and fittings. He introduced into the school the prefect system, division into houses, school magazines, and school societies, especially dramatic and musical, that reached a standard of performance not often attained in these days by schools of this type.

The Rev. Lister took an active part in the life of Gravesend, as well as in Kent Education. He was founder president of Gravesend Rotary Club, a member for many years of the Council of the Head Masters' Association, a member of the Kent Education Committee and of many of its sub-committees, examiner in Mathematics to Durham University, a member of the Board of Management of the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital, and Chairman of the local Boy Scouts' Association; he was Chief Air Warden for the Borough of Gravesend from 1939-42. He was ordained in 1940 and was Hon. Assistant Curate at All Saints' Church, Perry Street. He had retired from School only at the end of the previous Summer Term, less than three months before

his death, and had on his retirement received many tributes which included an oil painting of himself that, at the time of writing, has been submitted to the Royal Academy, and a beautiful silver flower bowl made in the School's own workshops. The Bishop of Rochester assisted at the funeral service, which was attended by a large number of people representing his many varied interests.

Mr. Lister took the chair at the inaugural meeting of the London Old Bedon's Association on March 21st, 1933, and had not, to the writer's knowledge, missed one meeting since then, and was to have succeeded Dr. Sturge as President. At the November meeting of the Association, respect was paid to his memory, all those present standing in silence for a few moments.

W.G.B.

Mr. J. W. Hawkins

With deep regret we record that Mr. John William Hawkins, Art Master of Sunderland Higher Grade School, later Bede Collegiate Boys' School from 1900 to 1932, died on April 10th, 1947, at the age of 73.

Coming to Sunderland from his native Darlington as a young man, already well-experienced, he became a member of the early teaching staff of Bede which laid the foundations of sound scholarship and excellent tradition, destined to make Bede School well-known in academic circles throughout the country. He was a man of quiet, kindly disposition who was held in high regard by all those who knew him.

The successes of "Pongo," as he was affectionately known to many Old Bedons, in training boys with artistic ability and in developing the talents of their less apt fellows, were many, and very rarely did the Oxford School Certificate results not find one (or more) of his star pupils gaining Distinction, when that honour was awarded, and frequently occupying first place in the country.

Speech Days in the Victoria Hall would have been lacking in colour but for the time and effort generously given by Mr. Hawkins in designing and executing costumes scenery and props for School Plays.

It was a great delight to him to take his easel and stool in the Summer Vacation to his beloved Teesdale, where he painted in water colours many beautiful riverside scenes.

He was always interested in music and as a violinist he enjoyed many an hour with other colleagues, who formed a quartet. He was also a member of the School Orchestra.

We wish to offer our sincere sympathy to his daughter, Miss Mary Hawkins and to his son, Father Francis Hawkins, C.S.S.R.

R.T.A.

Senior Debating Society

The formation of separate Senior and Junior Societies has been justified by the raised standard of the speeches, even if the attendances have suffered. The Lower attendances are due mainly to the reluctance of the Lower and Upper Fifts to come forward and speak—a fault we hope to correct next session. The subjects discussed have mainly been on subjects of great and often vital importance at the present moment. The subjects discussed during the past two sessions were:—

	F.	A.
It pays to advertise	5	8
Conscription is necessary in wartime ...	4	18
The Nuremberg Trial has set a dangerous precedent	4	9
The introduction of sponsored programmes to the B.B.C. is to be favoured	8	5
The ideals of UNO are impossible to attain ...	4	7
The multi-lateral school cannot provide an efficient education	4	6
The total abolition of hereditary privileges is to be desired	3	10
Unofficial strikes are unjustifiable	3	7
In view of the present labour shortage, this house regrets the raising of the school-leaving age	4	9
Honesty is the best policy	10	5

The events of special interest were:—A talk by Mr. Kirk on "What is good music"—a talk thoroughly enjoyed by a good audience; and the Staff Debate at which Messrs. Mason, Wilson, Thompson and Hutton spoke.

The Airey-Ferguson Cups, adjudicated as usual by the Headmaster, were awarded to J. Carmel and H. Phimister. The India Cup was awarded to J. Jacobs, on the adjudication of Mr. J. Stewart. The prize for the Officers' debate was awarded to H. Phimister, by the adjudication of Mr. Mason.

J. H. PHIMISTER,	}	Hon. Secs.
V. CANDLISH,		

The Junior Debating Society

After being re-formed in September, 1940, the Junior Debating Society has had two fairly successful sessions. Great keenness has been shown by those boys attending, but the numbers have not been large and there is room for improvement in the quality of the speeches.

Some of the motions debated were:

"That money is the root of all evil." (Carried 10—8).

- "That corporal punishment should be abolished." (Carried 8—7).
- "That the South Sea Islander is better off than civilised man." (Carried 14—10).
- "That films provide a more popular entertainment than radio." (Defeated 16—5).
- "That professionalism spoils sport." (Defeated 7—8).
- "That this House favours co-education in Schools." (Defeated 9—7).
- "That air transport will supersede all other means of transport in the future." (Defeated 22—4).
- "That this house favours the abolition of homework, together with the shortening of school holidays." (Defeated 8—7).
- "That it would have been better if America had not been discovered." (Defeated 17—6).
- "That the countryside provides the best holiday." (Carried 9—8).
- "That the woman's place is in the home." (Carried 10—9).
- "That atomic energy will do more harm than good." Freshers' Prize Debate. (Defeated 8—5).

The Freshers' Prize Debate, adjudicated by Mr. G. B. Thompson, was won by Mr. A. Share.

Other events of importance include:—

An impromptu debate.

A Mock Town Council Meeting, when the only report adopted was that of the Education Committee.

A form of Balloon Debate, entitled "Six men in a boat": while various joint meetings have been held with the Senior Debating Society. Prominent speakers in the last two sessions include Messrs Greenwald, Share, Thatcher, Francis, Shotton, Johnson, Ragg and Cohen.

A. A. Shotton,	} Hon. Secs.
H. C. Johnstone,	

The School Concert

The first post-war concert was given by the Orchestral Society and Choir on the 14th and 16th of May, 1947, to raise funds for instruments for the orchestra. While it was generally expected that the standard would be much lower than Old Belians were accustomed to, we hoped for the best.

The orchestra played four groups of works by composers ancient and modern. Solos in these works were played by J. C. Wallace (violin), K. Davison (trombone); A. Wimpenny

(clarinet), R. A. Crinall (piano), and W. Storey (cornet). The whole orchestra can take credit for their *sincere effort* and unflagging enthusiasm. It was a good performance.

Mr. A. Smith's attractive singing in two groups of songs, one operatic and one modern, was well received, while B. F. Bees enhanced his rapidly growing reputation as a solo pianist in the Grieg Piano Sonata and the two Chopin Polonaises that he played. This young soloist sets an unusually high standard in technique and interpretation for a performer still at school. Graham Sutton charmed the audience on both nights with his lovely treble voice.

The Male Voice Choir and the Junior Choir made very promising first appearances. Quite apart from what the audience might have thought of the concert, the performers seemed to have enjoyed themselves and gave of their best throughout. If a concert is judged by whole-hearted effort, this one was a distinct success.

The audience was thin on both evenings. The object being what it was, a much greater support from the school was expected. The head master's recent appeal to support school activities met with but little response in this case.

This concert could not have been promoted without the smooth organisation and hard work of Messrs. H. Wilson and P. J. Gillespie ably assisted by A. Hunter and B. Liddell of the Lower Sixth, to whom our thanks are due in no small measure as they are due also to those who sold tickets, "ushered" and helped in various ways. And lastly a special word of thanks to Miss Thompson for her help.

J.K.

The Bede Boys' Orchestral Society

This Society has recently been constituted as the result of enthusiasm displayed by members of the School in wishing to learn instruments. As the orchestra is growing, and it is not yet possible to obtain instruments for all those who wish to learn, owing to lack of funds, efforts are being made to acquire these instruments by various means. Meanwhile those boys who have the school orchestra at heart are invited to interest themselves in its welfare and players of stringed and wind instruments are asked to contact Mr. Kirk without delay with a view to helping the orchestra back to its previous standard. Three stalwarts, R. A. Crinall, K. Davidson and A. Wimpenny, will not be with us next year. We thank them for their loyal service and appeal to members of the School to come forward to replace them.

J.C.W.

Bede Drama

This year is the 350th anniversary of the "Merry Wives of Windsor" which we chose for our public production last January. This was our first Shakespearian play, and, of course, involved a large cast, there being twenty-two speaking parts. This naturally means that the result is less polished than when there are only six or seven actors claiming the producer's attention. Some of our players did not learn their words quickly enough, so that prompts were necessary as late as the dress rehearsal. Obviously no-one can begin to improve his interpretation of a part until he is word perfect; the actor's words are the raw material of his playing, and should be mastered first. However in many ways the play was very enjoyable, and some of the acting was really good. Unfortunately, Hansen, who was playing Falstaff, was ill during the performances, and although he carried them through, was hampered by a constraint which was due to his condition, and made him less jovial than the occasion demanded. However he managed to impart a strong lead, and played with his usual bravura. Davis's Shallow was well conceived and showed a considerable mastery of appropriate gesture. The part of Dr. Caius is not an easy one and Rees managed it very well; he has a very vital stage presence, and carried his period costume with noteworthy skill. Old men are usually presented on the school stage without much subtlety, but Shelton managed to avoid the more obvious clichés, and made Shallow a worthy, if tedious J.P. He was helped by his own first rate make-up. Among the smaller parts Carsa must be mentioned for his excellent playing of the unrewarding part of Simple, to which he brought an inspired imbecility.

Mrs. D. Cross again gave us invaluable help with make-up, and we also had the assistance of Miss Rutter and Miss Trowhitt of the Girls' School in the dancing for Act V. This part of the show was much enjoyed, and not least by the dancers, whose earnestness and concentration on the task in hand were an example to those who do not take drama seriously. We owe our warm thanks also to Mr. Gillespie and Mr. Wilson who took complete charge of the business and publicity for the production, and devoted many hours to making it a success. They were much helped in their efforts by Wimpenny, Hunter and Liddle. In April we played two scenes from "Hamlet" in local festivals. We hope to produce Molière's "Bourgeois Gentilhomme" next winter, and work on it has already begun.

J.L.J.

The School Library

In spite of the difficulties presented by its use for private studies the Library has had a successful year. The number of books issued was 1,000 which shows an increase and does not take into consideration the large number of books borrowed for varying periods of time by the Sixth Form and the Staff. During the inspection of the School in March certain of the inspec-

tors showed a considerable interest in the Library and no small concern at the general apathy of the Middle School, particularly the Upper Vth, towards it.

At the end of the Summer Term, 1946, some of the most industrious members of the Committee carried out the annual stock-taking. Owing to their untiring efforts it was done much more thoroughly than in previous years. Complete records of the books were compiled.

The continued shortage of material due to the war has prevented the librarians from undertaking the full task of the repair of the many damaged books. At the beginning of the year, however, the work was carried on as well as possible and credit should be given to a few of the members of the Committee especially to Christian, in this respect. Since then the number of damaged books has risen to such a figure that all efforts to deal with the problem have had to be abandoned for the present until more material is available.

The Committee consists of the following members:— T. W. Williams (Senior Assistant Librarian), K. Davison, K. Willis, J. Richardson, R. Davis, (Assistant Librarian), A. Pyburn, B. Rees, H. Foreman, D. Lindsay, D. Burnand, J. Wood, B. Hutchinson, C. Garnsworthy, A. Stoker, E. Christian, A. Miller, J. Stewart.

T. WILLIAMS,
Senior Asst. Librarian.

Chess Club

The Bede Chess Club was revived early this year and considerable interest has been taken in its activities. Two tournaments have been held and the Senior was won by E. A. Little, with A. S. Shore and R. M. Howey tying for second place. The "Beginners" Tournament was won by J. Stamp. Two of our members were on the Junior County Team which played Northumberland at Durham on the 3rd May, 1947.

Mr. A. Wilson and Mr. G. B. Thompson have given valuable assistance to the Club and we should like to thank Miss Thompson for permission to use the New Dining Hall for our meetings.

E. A. LITTLE.

"Bede" Scouts

The number of scouts in the troop has steadily increased throughout the past year, so that maximum strength has been practically attained. Quality and keeness have not deteriorated with the growth in size of the troop. J. B. Lille returned just before the Spring Term began, after serving two years overseas in the Royal Navy. We were sorry to lose E. M. Low, the Troop Leader, who was replaced by K. Howard.

Summer camp was held at Firby Hall, the estate of Mr. Guy Bopner, a short distance out of Bedale. At times the weather was treacherous, interfering with scouting activities, and while we were there the worst gale for that part of the country was recorded. The spacious and ornamental grounds of Thorpe-Ferrow were visited by the Troop, and on free days

opportunities to see the more distant points of interest were taken.

By the presentation of the flag of the Brompton Bedans troop, which had been in existence since 1940, it became officially united to the parent troop. The scout master of the Brompton Bedans was Mr. Campbell, who presented the flag.

In February, the annual Parents' Evening was held and was a brilliant success, even excelling last year's show. Credit must be given to one of our scouts, B. F. Rees, who put much hard work into the production of the show, writing most of the material for it. Light refreshments were provided.

During the evening the Cottam Cup was presented for the first time, Mrs. Cottam making the presentation. The cup is in memory of Bert Cottam, an old scout, killed while serving overseas with the Royal Air Force. At each Parents' Evening the cup will be awarded to the patrol which has gained most points during the year.

The troop's 18th Annual Birthday Party was held in the school hall, and consisted of a competition, games, and a supper. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the large number of scouts who attended.

A team was trained and entered for the Stansfield Richardson Camping Cup Competition, but lost the cup by the narrowest of margins. The team was congratulated on its high standard of camping. Through the winning of the Vaux Shield the loss of the Stansfield Richardson Cup was partly recompensed.

With two of our scouts, R. Davis and E. M. Low, going to the Jamboree in France this summer, the troop has been hard at work raising money to cover part of the trip. We heartily congratulate them on having been chosen to represent the troop at this gathering of scouts from all over the world.

K. HOWARD,

(Troop Leader).

Association Football—1st Eleven

The Senior XI has had yet another successful season, winning thirteen of the fifteen games played. The record might have been better if the bad weather during November, February and March, had not caused the cancellation of no fewer than ten return games.

With seven members of last year's successful team still playing at the beginning of this season we had one of the best teams the school has ever seen. Some of these players left before the end of the season, but the vacancies were filled and we continued to beat all school teams until the last game of the season when, with a weakened team due to injuries, we were defeated 0-1 by Bishop Auckland. Our only other defeat was against Bede College.

During the first half of the season the strength of the team lay in the attack but later it was the defence which took the honours. Murta, in goal, was always trustworthy but rarely troubled owing to the consistently good play of Rock, Whitecombe and Dumble, the pivot of the defence and a worthy captain. In Forster and Hibbert the school had two grand wing halves, while Capeling and Pyburn J. N. proved themselves a better pair of inside forwards than any met with during the season.

At first sight the prospects for next season are not so bright as most of this season's team will have left school. However, this will give some of the younger players a chance and as most positions will be open there should be great competition to fill them, thus producing a keen team.

Record:

		Goals					
		P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.
		15	13	2	0	75	19
						F.	A.
Sept.	14—Spennymoor (home)	...	...	...	...	8	0
..	21—Rutherford College (away)	...	...	...	...	6	0
..	25—Bede College (home)	...	...	...	...	4	2
Oct.	5—Ryhope (away)	...	...	...	...	6	2
..	12—Heaton (away)	...	...	...	...	4	0
..	17—Bede College (away)	...	...	...	...	3	4
..	19—Jarrow (home)	...	...	...	...	5	2
Nov.	2—Spennymoor (away)	...	...	...	...	8	1
..	9—Houghton (home)	...	...	...	...	8	0
Dec.	14—Bishop Auckland (away)	...	...	...	...	7	3
Jan.	11—Rutherford College (home)	...	...	...	...	6	1
..	18—Whitley Bay (away)	...	...	...	...	6	1
..	25—Heaton (home)	...	...	...	...	2	0
April	25—Ryhope (home)	...	...	...	...	2	1
..	27—Bishop Auckland (home)	...	...	...	...	0	1

Players and appearances:—

- 15—E. N. Dumble, D. A. Rock.
- 14—J. N. Pyburn, C. Forster.
- 13—K. Murta.
- 12—M. Hibbert, H. Capeling.
- 11—J. N. Turner.
- 10—W. L. Young.
- 8—A. McKeever.
- 7—E. B. Twiddle, H. Chappell, H. Ridley.
- 5—D. G. Jess, A. Wright.
- 4—J. Whitecombe.
- 2—A. Buckley, S. Jenkins.
- 1—D. Storey, D. A. Reid, J. Coyle.

Goalscorers: Pyburn (17), Capeling (15), Twiddle (13), Turner (11), McKeever (7), Hibbert (8), Dumble, Chappell and Forster.

Colours were renewed to Dumble, Pyburn, Hibbert, Twiddle and Murta, and awarded to Rock, Capeling and Forster.

Dec.	7—Whitburn (away)	2	1
Jan.	11—West Park (away)	0	3
..	25—Whitburn (home)	7	1
Mar.	29—Monkwearmouth Central (away) ...	2	0
Apr.	19—Ryhope Modern (away)	3	0
..	21—Murton (away)	2	1
..	25—Ryhope Grammar (away)	0	3
..	29—Camden Square (home)	0	3
Cochrane Cup—			
Dec.	14—St. Joseph's (home)	6	0
Apr.	22—Villiers St. Tech. (home)	1	1
..	25—Villiers St. Tech. (away)	1	3
Victory Shield—			
Jan.	25—Whitburn (home)	7	1
Apr.	19—Ryhope Modern (away)	3	0
..	24—Hendon (away)	7	1
May	19—Monkwearmouth Cent. (Silksworth)	5	1
June	12—Ryhope Grammar (Silksworth) ...	0	2
F.A.J.			

Senior and Middle School Rugby, 1944-47

This last season saw a marked improvement in the standard of play, both of the teams as a whole, and of individuals. The moderate record belies the true standard of play. Had not the very bad weather limited play practically to the first half of the season (only three games were played in the second term) the record might well have been better, for all the fixtures against the strongest teams such as Durham Colleges, Darlington, etc., were played early in the season.

Our congratulations go to E. Stephenson, who was chosen for the Durham County Public Schools XV as full-back; he is only the second boy from the school to attain this distinction: Hamp and Whitfield, our two best forwards, were chosen for the team trials. Others who played well during the season were Joiner, whose accurate, long-range goal kicking was a feature of the play, and Shearer, a very consistent hooker. The pack as a whole, though lighter than most of the opposing packs, was the strongest part of the team, their loose play being particularly good. The three-quarter line was rather sporadic, due, perhaps, to weaknesses at fly-half and centre three-quarter; however, they were given excellent service from the scrum by Burmand.

An innovation this season was the running of a second XV, to provide games for those not quite up to first team standard, and yet too old for the under-fifteen team. Although only three games were played, useful experience was obtained. The under-fifteen team had an improved season, and finished with a good record. They should provide a useful pool for next season.

Colours were awarded this year to Almond, Hamp, Stephenson, Whitfield, Burmand, Howey, and Joiner.

The long spell of bad weather prevented the inter-house "sevens" at the end of the season. In the last few seasons, these matches have become very popular, and their cancellation caused much disappointment.

Finally, we tender our thanks to the Sunderland Cricket and Football Club for the use of their ground during the season, and we are pleased to know that we are to be allowed the use of it again next season.

Records-		P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.
1st XI	...	14	7	5	2	159	115
2nd XV	...	3	1	2	0	25	33
Under 15's	...	9	6	2	1	90	58

E. Y. ALMOND (Capt.)

Junior School Rugby

A very serious blow was struck at School Rugby during the past season by the long spell of abnormally severe weather. Practically all the fixtures in the Spring Term had to be cancelled, and as a result the improvement which had been shown by the "Under 14" towards the end of the Autumn Term could not be consolidated.

Calls for representative and trial games seriously affected the strength and record of the team, although they brought glory to, and enhanced the reputation of the School.

In the first North v. South County Trial, no fewer than eleven of the team were picked while the following seven played in the second Trial at Houghton:—J. Stewart, W. Henderson, J. Watson, T. Almond (forwards), J. W. Cash, G. Pyburn (three), K. Witherington (full-back), with A. Vickery (reserve three). G. Pyburn and W. Henderson were ultimately chosen to play in the two County games against Northumberland and Cumberland, with J. W. Cash as reserve.

Following the two County games G. Pyburn was selected to play in the 1st International Trial at Darlington and also in the 2nd Trial at Coventry, and it was just bad luck that prevented him from getting an English International Cap.

The records of the two teams were:—

		P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
Under 14	...	10	3	6	7	51	167
Under 13	...	4	1	0	3	18	82

A very attractive fixture list has been prepared for both teams next season, and the display of the boys this term in their practice games augurs well for the future.

The following officials have been chosen:—

Under 14: Captain, C. Bainbridge; Vice Capt. B. Harrison.

Under 13: Captain, C. Brookhurst; Vice Capt. G. Mitchell.

Owing to the inclement weather the Annual House Competition could not be held but it will be resumed again during the 1947-1948 season.

D.G.W.

Tennis

A tennis team was formed just before Whitsun, under the guidance of Mr. A. Wilson. Four matches were arranged but the game with Newcastle Grammar School was cancelled because of rain. The team was narrowly beaten by 5 matches to 4 by South Shields High School, but was successful against Bede Girls' School, winning by 6 matches to 3. The return match with South Shields High School will be played after the "Bedan" has gone to the press.

It is hoped, that, due to the keen enthusiasm for tennis at the school, a team will be formed much earlier next year and more fixtures arranged.

I.W.J.

Swimming

The School Swimming Club was re-formed in April, 1946, after a lapse during the war years.

In 1946, 11 boys gained the Advanced Swimming Award as compared with 8 in 1938, and 7 in 1939. They were:—

Summer Term:—

T. Dalziel, H. Brooks, T. Lawrence, P. Richardson, R. Kearston, D. Arris, D. Armour.

Autumn Term:—

E. Place, M. W. Holland, N. Tullock, H. S. Ord.

The School sent a team to the Sunderland Schools' Swimming Gala on November 1st, 1946. On this occasion there was only one event for boys over 14, and in it the Bede team, consisting of T. Dalziel, H. Brooks, T. Lawrence and N. Tullock, made a clean sweep and obtained the first four places. Another successful competitor on this occasion was W. Pigg (III.2), who won the one length championship for Boys under 12.

It is hoped to run a Bede Boys' Swimming Gala with inter-house competition, during Autumn Term, 1947, providing that a sufficient number of swimmers are willing to enter for the events.

A promising future lies before the Swimming Club providing that there is an increase in membership particularly from the Junior School. Such young members will be given tuition and every possible assistance; and the attention of non-swimmers is directed to these facilities in the hope that more will decide to join the Swimming Club.

H. BROOKS.

Appreciation of the enthusiastic work of Brooks and Dalziel must be recorded. They have given valuable assistance, to non-swimmers, and at the tests for the swimming award.

EDITOR.

Gymnastics

This year the extra gymnastic classes have been subdivided into two separate courses, each for a different award.

In one of these boys have been coached for an Intermediate Award. The aim of this is to give boys a correct grounding for work in the Gymnasium. Many boys succeeded in gaining the Intermediate Award this year.

In the other coaching was given for an Advanced Award to those boys who had already gained the Intermediate Award. Here the aim has been to help boys to improve their style and finish.

Boys who hold the Advanced Gymnastic Award are:—

1. W. G. Hughes
2. D. C. Heaney

Left December, 1948.

3. B. M. Wilson.
4. S. Jenkins.
5. R. Parkin.
6. T. Kirkley.
7. A. Johnson.
8. H. A. Davis.
9. K. Howard.
10. N. Dennis.
11. J. Dowson.

L. H. Wimpenny is within easy reach of this award.

Classes were held for the Instructors' Award by arrangement with Mr. Gillespie.

Holders of this award are:—

1. A. Johnson.
2. T. Kirkley.
3. N. Dennis.
4. J. Dowson.

Attendance at all these classes is entirely voluntary and any enthusiast will be welcomed.

J. DOWSON,
(Captain of Gymnastics).

Cross Country and Athletics Club

The Cross Country season was completely eclipsed by the appalling weather conditions so that we did not fulfil one fixture; we did, however manage one or two practice runs, and there are some keen Juniors who will be useful later.

In athletics we have continued coaching in high jump and pole vault, and both of these records were broken at the recent Sports' Day.

The important event of the year was the arrival of Mr. C. G. Lister at Christmas. Himself a keen athlete and successful 440 man, he is now anxious to pass on his experience and enthusiasm to the next generation. Accordingly we have divided the athletics coaching and Mr. Lister has taken over all track events. Mr. Gillespie has agreed to coach the throws and Mr. Jolly will continue with the jumps. Thus there is every opportunity for keen athletes to improve their form. With this development we intend to arrange evening athletics matches next year, with neighbouring schools, King's College, Sunderland Harriers and Catterick Signals. Further it is hoped to organise House Relay Competitions during the summer term. All this requires serious training which should begin in the Cross Country Club in the winter and continue in a more specialised way from about March.

J.L.J.

Weston Cup Relay Race

At South Shields High School on 17th June, 1947, E. Y. Almond, H. A. Davis, E. Howey, and A. Wright represented the School in the 4 x 440 yards Relay Race for the Weston Cup, and won by ten yards in 3 minutes 51.6 seconds. This was a fine performance against strong opposition from Morpeth Grammar School, Jarrow Grammar School and South Shields High School. Davis, running first leg, drew the inside lane, and led all the way, giving Howey a lead of 3 yards. Howey was passed by a Morpeth runner, but he made his effort at the right moment, and gave Wright a lead of 4 yards. Wright, up against the fastest Morpeth runner, ran strongly and handed over the baton to Almond about 8 yards behind the Morpeth runner, who had done a very fast quarter. Almond, running easily, narrowed the gap and went into the lead on the back straight to win by about 10 yards. The record time for this event is 3 minutes 49 seconds, set up by the Bede Team of 1939. Davis, Howey, and Armstrong will be available next year when we hope to knock off a few seconds from this time.

C.G.L.

Cross Country Championships

Senior:—1, A. Wright (Chester); 2, Dumble (Barnes); 3, Dodsworth (Grange); 4, Collinson (Chester); 5, Paton (Chester); 6, E. Wright (Chester); 7, Rees (Saxburn); 8, Wimpenny (Grange); 9, Dennis (Saxburn); 10, Williams (Hendon).

Junior:—1, Williams (Durham); 2, Cowey (Chester); 3, Chandler (Grange); 4, Peacock (Durham); 5, Blyth (Baker); 6, Tynemouth (Wear); 7, Dodds (Hendon); 8, Mitchell (Barnes); 9, Spencer (Hendon); 10, Hildrow (Wear).

A. Wright (U.V4), finished the Senior Course in 21 minutes 50.4 seconds.

A. Williams (L.IV), finished the Junior Course in 14 minutes 35 seconds.

The result was decided by awarding 50 points to the first man home, 40 to the next, etc. and 1 to the last.

House Championship—1st—Chester.

2nd—Hendon.

3rd—Grange.

4th—Wear.

Results of Sports Day, 20th June, 1947

100 yards:—

Junior: 1, G. Carr (H), 12.8 secs.; 2, A. Cowey (C); 3, R. Thompson (W); 4, P. Johnson (H).

Middle: 1, D. Hutchinson (D), 11.8 secs.; 2, N. Levitt (S); 3, D. Brow (C); 4, G. Lindley (B).

Senior: 1, H. Armstrong (D), 11.2 secs.; 2, H. Davis (C); 3, R. Howey (B); 4, E. Stephenson (H).

220 yards:—

Junior: 1, P. Johnson (H), 31.9 secs.; 2, G. Carr (H); 3, A. Cowey (C); 4, D. Spencer (H).

Middle: 1, D. Hutchinson (D), 25.6 secs.; 2, N. Levitt (S); 3, G. Lindley (B); 4, D. Brow (C).

Senior: 1, H. Davis (C), 25.6 secs.; 2, R. Howey (B); 3, H. Armstrong (D); 4, E. Stephenson (H).

440 yards:—

Junior: 1, A. Cowey (C); 2, E. Peacock (D); 3, J. Wake (H); 4, G. Carr (H).

Middle: 1, D. Hutchinson (D), 65 secs.; 2, N. Levitt (S); 3, I. Miller (D); 4, P. Phipps (C).

Senior: 1, H. Davis (C), 60 secs.; 2, E. Almond (H); 3, H. Armstrong (D); 4, A. Wright (C).

880 yards:—

Junior: 1, A. Cowey (C), 2 min. 53.2 secs.; 2, A. Williams (D); 3, W. Blythe (S); 4, F. Peacock (D).

Middle: 1, J. Jackson (C), 2 min. 32.8 secs.; 2, D. Hutchinson (D); 3, N. Levitt (S); 4, J. Ferguson (B).

Senior: 1, H. Davis (C), 2 min. 29.6 secs.; 2, J. Williams (B); 3, A. Wright (C); 4, H. Armstrong (D).

1 Mile:—

1, A. Wright (C), 5 min. 35.4 secs.; 2, J. Williams (B); 3, H. Dodsworth (G); 4, B. Rees (S).

Shot:—

1, N. Moshons (B), 37 ft. 8 ins.; 2, K. Howard (S); 3, R. Hamp (W); 4, A. Jemison (S).

Discus:—

- 1, K. Howard (S), 104 ft. 9 ins.; 2, R. Hamp (W); 3, A. Oldfield (B).

Javelin:—

- 1, A. Oldfield (B), 129 ft. 10 ins.; 2, H. Armstrong (D); 3, K. Howard (S); 4, W. Johnson (G).

Long Jump:—

- Junior: 1, G. Carr (H), 14 ft.; 2, R. Thompson (W); 3, A. Coway (C).

- Middle: 1, J. Jackson (C), 17 ft. 10½ ins.; 2, D. Brew (C); 3, A. Vickery (C); 4, D. Hutchinson (D).

- Senior: 1, A. Wright (C), 17 ft. 1 in.; 2, D. Edmunds (C); 3, H. Davis (C); 4, D. Thackray (G).

Pole Vault:—

- 1, D. Thackray (G), 8 ft. 9 ins. (School record); 2, D. Brew (C); 3, D. Hutchinson (D).

High Jump:—

- Junior: 1, G. Carr (H), 4 ft. 3½ ins.; 2, F. Johnston (H); 3, R. Thompson (W).

- Middle: 1, D. Bolton (G), 4 ft. 10½ ins.; 2, R. Kirkaldy (D); 3, A. Vickery (C); 4, E. Place (D).

- Senior: 1, W. Carruthers (S), 5 ft. 3½ ins. (School record); 2, D. Thackray (G); 3, N. Dennis (S); 4, A. Wright (C).

Relay:—

- 1, Chester; 2, Durham; 3, Barnes; 4, Grange. Time 47.2 secs.

Dribbling:—

- Junior: 1, J. Knight (H); 2, L. Slawther (W); 3, E. Pencock (D); 4, G. McGahan (D).

- Middle: 1, R. Thompson (W); 2, A. Buckley (W); 3, B. Oliver (D); 4, R. Kirkaldy.

Sack Race:—

- Junior: 1, A. Dobinson (B); 2, N. Hildrew (W); 3, L. Slawther (W); 4, J. Ware (B).

- Middle: 1, J. Ferguson (B); 2, P. Phipps (G); 3, J. Stoker (S); G. Ord (C).

Reed Cup. Open high jump competition:—

- 1, Carruthers (Bede), 5 ft. 3 ins.; 2, Brooks (Durham School); 3, Fisher (Rutherford); 4, Elliott (South Shields). A record.

Individual Championships:—

- Senior: H. Davis (C).

- Middle: D. Hutchinson (D).

- Junior: G. Carr (H).

House Championship:—

- Chester, 157 points.

Old Bedans' War Memorial Fund.

The Old Bedans' Association appointed a Committee to consider how to commemorate the 100 Old Bedans who are known to have given their lives in the Second Great War.

It was decided that an appeal for funds should be made by circular to as many Old Bedans as possible, by announcements in the Press and through the scholars at present in the School. The Committee set £1,000 as a minimum target with the object of presenting to the School an Organ to be placed in the School Hall, where it would be used at least once a day at Assembly. A Memorial Tablet bearing the names of the fallen will also be erected in the School Entrance Hall.

The Treasurer, Mr. R. T. Ayre, reports that to the time of going to press £206 2s. 6d. has been subscribed.

The Committee urges those Old Bedans, parents and friends of the School who wish to support this very worthy object to send their contributions to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. T. Ayre, at 7 Broad Meadows, Sunderland, as soon as possible.

London Association of Old Bedans

The London Association, which was almost completely inactive during the war, has begun to find its feet again. Two meetings have been held at the House of Commons recently, the first on the 26th November, 1946, and the second on the 13th May, 1947.

The first attracted an attendance of 39 including, we were pleased to note, thirteen wives. In addition to demolishing an imposing array of refreshments we found time not only for a most enjoyable social evening but also for a certain amount of business which included the election of officials and the formation of a Committee.

We did not have quite such a good attendance for the May meeting, but the 22 who turned up were nevertheless sufficient to ensure another successful evening. We were all extremely sorry that at this meeting Dr. Sturge expressed his desire to relinquish the office of President which he has occupied for so long and with such happy results for the Association. The meeting felt obliged to respect his wishes, however, and accepted his resignation with great regret. W. G. Boyd was elected as our new President. It was decided that the retiring President now and in the future should become a Vice-President and the meeting took pleasure also in electing Lt.-Col. Marcus Lipton, M.P., to be an honorary Vice-President.

At this meeting we discussed the difficulties which in these days are bound to be experienced by boys leaving the School and coming to the London area. We felt from our own experience that one of the greatest was that of finding one's feet in strange surroundings and we agreed that many boys might welcome the chance of making friendly contacts with Old Bedans already here. We should also be happy to give any advice we can on the subject of careers and if any boy who is coming to London or near it will communicate with me, I will—if he wants me to—put him into touch with an Old Bedan living somewhere near him and/or one who can give him advice on his chosen career. But even if these services are not desired I am anxious that all boys coming down here should let me have their addresses so that I can add them to our list of members. There is no subscription; the only qualification is residence in or near London.

G. F. McGUINNESS,

(Hon. Secretary),

"Highfield."

Westerham Hill,

Kent

