

SUNDERLAND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

BEDE GRAMMAR
SCHOOLS'
DIAMOND
JUBILEE
1890 - 1950





THE NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL.



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DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.

The Venerable Bede.

It is fitting that a Sunderland school should bear the name of Bede. This gentle scholar, born in the early morning of the faith in England, so combined love of teaching and learning, intellectual honesty and moral purpose as to make him one of the great educators of all time.

He was born about 673 A.D., in the Anglo Kingdom of Northumbria, then a centre of learning and order in a troubled world. At the age of seven he was placed in St. Peter's, Mankwessanath, and then transferred to the sister monastery of St. Paul at Jarrow. He lived here until his death about 735 A.D. His was the successful life of the monastic student, yet he made it the most stirring and urgent event in the history of the early church and of education.

His historical works are of the highest value. His style has luminous simplicity. His judgments are those of a deeply pious and understanding man of God. He sought other knowledge and presented it as a revelation and as a mould of character. His eager humility, sobriety and generosity of heart made him the most beloved master of his day. He was consumed with zeal for education. His learning embraced all the knowledge of his day. He wrote to instruct and to edify. His works were intended, in an unlearned age, to be read aloud. Himself a lad at Wearmouth, he taught others who lighted elsewhere the lamp of learning. Among his pupils was Egbert, later bishop of York, whose greatest pupil, Alcuin, Minister of Education to Charlemagne, did much to recivilise European scholarship. Through Bede, the monastery of Jarrow became the intellectual capital of Western Christendom; the North Sea, the most important area in the known world.

All technical skill was dear to his heart. Bede remains with sympathy the favourite of Albin Hill in promoting young Coedmon to become the "Father of English Song", and of Bishop's and Coeddon's introducing from the continent, techniques in glass-making, in masonry, in music, in manuscript illumination. The technical leadership, so distinctive of Wearside today, would have delighted him.

Bede's humanity and interest in people are among his most engaging qualities. His vivid pictures will always live: of King Oswald and the sparrow, of Bishop Aidan mixing with Northumbrian villagers, of Albin Goswain sharing the hardest duties of his Wearmouth brethren. Almost with his dying breath Bede implored young Egbert to send priests into every village to give the people the Lord's Prayer and the Creed, not in Latin, but in their native English. And his quiet end, translating the gospel that his countrymen might find learning as its source, rounded and made perfect a noble life.

For another line. From the eminence from which our Grammar School survey the Borough of Sunderland, we see the multitudes activities of our northern seaport. We know that Bede lives, not by our romantic sympathy with his genius,

but by the community of motive that he shares with us. Saint of the Church, humanist, scholar, educationist, he desired to be one amongst the common people. His own words are his most fitting epitaph: "I would not, that after I am gone, my children should read a lie, and labour in vain".



A Bouquet of Goodwill Messages.

Goodwill messages have been received from Miss Beem, from several Missions, and from School Captains as representatives of their days. (Page 29).

Miss M. E. Beem, 1908-1924, on the resignation of Miss Janet Todd, 1892-1908, became headmistress of the Bede Higher Grade School. Reminders of her generosity hang in the hall: Watt's Love Triumphant over the monster in the gallery, and three exquisite Madonnas and Angels, which face the girls assembled for prayers. She has now, in the tranquil evening of her days, the grateful knowledge of work well-conceived and well continued. The Bede Grammar School for Girls writes to one in praying for her, joy and the peace of God. Her message to the school is: "I have always happy memories of humberland with its health-giving breezy tang and its forthright, kindly people. I loved the school, the mistresses and the warm-hearted girls. Working there was a tremendously worthwhile task, and it was my privilege to be allowed to join in it."

Miss L. Hutchinson, 1900-1928, in the words of Miss Birchall, her successor as Second Mistress, was "one who took with her the affection of most and the respect of all." Her message to Bedam is, "Give all you can to your school of loyalty, of courage, of devotion, of unselfishness, and so help to carry on the traditions that have been handed down to you, and so make possible the winning of still greater honours in the years to come. Be a true Bedam."

Miss D. Birchall, 1924-1939, a familiar household name for kindness, sympathy and gentleness, says, "Very warm greetings to my old school on its sixtieth birthday. Many years of happiness did it give to me as pupil and as teacher. Indeed it can be proud of its record over the years. May it continue to progress and to add to its long list of achievements."

Miss K. I. F. Lloyd, 1907-1942, Second Mistress for six years, sends a characteristic message on Drama: "May the girls continue to give and to experience enjoyment in this most edifying form of employing their emotional, artistic and physical abilities."



Mrs. JANET TODD,
HEADMISTRESS, HOWARD GRAMMAR SCHOOLS,
1890—1908.



Mrs. M. E. BREEN, M.A.,
HEADMISTRESS, BETH CHURCH GRAMMAR
SCHOOLS, 1908—1914.



Mrs. W. J. E. MOTT, M.A., HEADMISTRESS, BETH CHURCH GRAMMAR SCHOOLS, 1914—



Mr. G. T. Ferguson, B.A., M.A.,
HONORARY, DEAN COLLEGIATE BOYS'
SCHOOLS, 1890—1926.



Mr. G. A. Barnhart, M.A., HONORARY, DEAN BOYS' COLLEGIATE SCHOOLS, 1926—

Prospect.

THE Bude Schools for boys and girls are sixty years old. We are celebrating our Diamond Jubilee with rather joy; with joy, as we remember the thrill of ideas pursued, the spur of tasks attempted, the happy friendships formed; with restraint, because the times impose austerity upon us, and because we see how far from realised is the Vision Beautiful of our young days.

We have had much joy in the production of the Handbook. It is the work of many minds. We have had fun in selecting the photographs through which we hope to give some idea of the rich life which pulses in our veins. We have tried to choose something beautiful to stir the imagination, something friendly to start kindly recollection, and a few factual records for their official value. And always we have had in mind, "What is worth recording now that will have value 'Forty years on' when we celebrate our centenary?"

Naturally the school has seen changes. Uniforms show little alteration, but a new dance tonic, and also for gymnastics, is of pleasing design. The Parents-Teacher Association, fifteen years old, has a membership of over five hundred. Its place in the school's life can be gauged from a later report. The staff is very young, and almost wholly recruited from the local university, for an unfortunate consequence of the Education Act of 1944 was to immobilise the teaching profession. There are several married women on the staff, and two men in the girls' school and a woman in the boys'.

The memory of "evocation" is fading, but there does remain as a permanent possession all the bits of inspiration in Sunderland and in Yorkshire; the beauty of Beeth in Autumn, the Turner view from Lancelot House, historic Bude and Richmond itself. Above all we remember the kindness of the Churches, of the North Riding Education Committee, of the officials of the Town Hall, of the Y.M.C.A., and of the Yorkshire business to all of whom we have record our gratitude. And if evocation did nothing else it gave us a new respect for our own Diocese and officials and committee, and an appreciation of their generosity, which, through familiarity with it, had gone too long unacknowledged.

The P.T.A., the Old Budeans, and other friends of the school have given us many gifts, of books, of prizes, of travel scholarships. Our latest experiment is intended to foster the adventurous spirit of youth. An excellent well, in a Diamond Jubilee gesture, pay for girls to travel in pairs and threes on journeys of discovery. Using Youth Hostels and ferry houses the girls will re-discover Britain; the Derwent Valley, the country of Lucia Deane and of Michael Farley, Shakespeare's England, Wordsworth's Lakes, the Cotswolds, the Transcha. Later they will tell their "Border Tales", and, revisiting R. L. Stevenson, will recount their "Tales on a Lorry".

ASSEMBLY IN HALL.



FOR MESSRS. PARRIS.



FOR INVESTMENT IN PRODUCTS.

SCHOOL JOURNEYS.



To Newark 1918, by courtesy of *The Standard Echo*.



Home At Last, by courtesy of *H.-O. News Features*.

School Journeys.

In April, 1922, the first school excursion was made to Holland. From our headquarters on a boat in Rotterdam harbor the party visited the Hague, Delft, Leyden, Haarlem, Amsterdam, Alkmaar and the reclaimed polders round the Zuider Zee. The bulb-fields provided a colorful background to pleasant and instructive museum tours.

Next we went to Copenhagen and explored the surrounding district as far afield as Elsinore and the Swedish port of Helsingborg.

Northern Ireland was chosen for one of the summer excursions of 1925. The party enjoyed the beauty of the Antrim glens, Larne and Giant's Causeway, and spent an interesting day in Belfast. The second excursion was to Norway, first to Oslo and then on to enjoy the mountains and lake scenery at Fagernes.

In May, 1927, two journeys took place simultaneously, one to London to attend the Commemorative Empire Rally, and the other for field work in the Lake District around Barmreore.

Spring of 1928 saw a large party depart for Belgium, where Brussels, the Groenen of Haa, Bruges, Blankenbourghe and Zeebrugge were enthusiastically explored.

Our final pre-war venture was to Switzerland. A glorious heat wave in the spring of 1929 allowed us to revel in mountain scenery around our camp at Wilderwell, and yet we played in the snow at Murren. Lake trips and a visit to the Grindelwald glacier were exhilarating, and all were loath to leave the flower-decked meadows. Perhaps the older members of the party wondered whether this might be our last school journey for some time. Alas, our optimistic plans for a visit to Finland in 1930 were not to be realized!

Christmas in Switzerland! That was the thrilling experience of twenty-eight of our girls who retained our practice of spending school holidays abroad. They spent ten days at Champéry, skiing, sledging and skating, sun-bathing in the snow, surrounded by dark pines clear-cut against cloudless blue sky, and shopping for wools and musical boxes were new and delightful experiences. During a visit to Montreux on Lake Geneva, every part of the town brought into view fresh vistas of beauty and grandeur; rocky terraces alternating with sheer walls of ice, and snow-capped mountains which glowed in the sunset, offering every gradation of colour before lapsing finally into the purple silence of night.

Thirty-seven girls spent Easter, 1929, in Zandvoort, seaside resort of Amsterdam, a beautiful city with tree-lined boulevards intersected by shining canals on which diew barges trailed heavy loads. Trips were organized to the bulb-fields, a riot of colour; to the Hague; and to the Zuider Zee. We were fortunate to see original Flemish paintings and the spectacular Flower Festival at Lisse. Yet the holiday was memorable less for the beauty of buildings and cities than for the generosity of the Dutch people, whose hospitality was uncalculated.

Paris in August. Twenty-three girls from the upper school spent ten days in the Bohemian quarter of Montmartre under the shadow of incomparable Sacré Coeur. The days were spent sight-seeing in a temperature which was unendurable. The evenings were devoted to the Ballet de Paris on the Champs Elysees, and our experience crowned by a visit to Versailles. Inspired by our reports, sixty adventures will spend Easter, as a Diamond Jubilee holiday, in Paris.

Sixty years ago, a schoolgirl would have been thought unbelievably daring if she had ridden from Sunderland to Dublin. Recently, Norma Paradise, while still a schoolgirl, won a navigator's flying scholarship and made a tour of Europe by air. "Sixty years on", when celebrating our first centenary, we will probably have as little fear of flying as now we feel on crossing a street. Then it should be possible to take our Easter holidays in U.S.A. and our winter sports in Canada.

Recent Scholarships.

1935	Eva J. Macrae	State Scholarship.
1937	Olive Johnson	Arts. £42, for three years, Armstrong College.
1938	Winifred Mary Arkless	State Scholarship. "1938" Scholarship. £20, three years, Manchester. "Dea Mair". £20 for three years, Manchester.
1938	Gertrude Gould	Open Entrance. £20, three or four years, University College, Hall.
1941	Doris Lawson	Hall, Classics.
1942	Norma Crozier	Hall, English.
	Dorothy Bird	Hall, History.
1943	Olga Palmer	Manchester.
1944	Hilda M. Hope	Hall, History.
1945	Hester Gardner	Nottingham, History.
1945	Kathleen Humphrey	Art. King's, Newcastle.
1947	Greta V. Gibson	Hall, State Scholarship.
1948	Margaret Dinahale	State Scholarship.
1949	Margaret D. Dodd	State Scholarship.

THE MUSIC MAKERS



THE BAND, 1925, ON HERRINGMAN ROAD POND.



THE ORCHESTRA AND JUNIOR CHOIR, 1925.



The Divorced man on His First Year in U.S.



He Returns to his Good Wives He Goes.

Drama and Music.

Interest in acting has always been very lively in the school and there have been many delightful performances of plays and musical productions. Some of us recall that, as very small children, we were thrilled by "H.M.S. Pinafore", given by pupils of the two schools, and on a later occasion we were even more excited to be seen capering about the Pied Piper across the platform of the Victoria Hall, over the scene of our Speech Days.

The Girls' Dramatic Society, from its foundation, worked with enthusiasm, enjoying not only the fun of rehearsals, but also the more monotonous tasks of making costumes, setting the stage, working the curtains and lights: the happy unity of purpose resulted in such productions as "Under the Greenwood Tree", "Gods of the Mountains", "Ladens-Waiting", "A Fairy Council" (parts of which were filmed), and "Alice in Wonderland". Out of the profits from these plays our stage was beautifully furnished. Among the annual society plays, "Christmaside" will remain a lively memory in the minds of those who saw it.

The Dramatic Society was re-formed after the war, in 1947, and its first presentation was Barrie's "Quality Street". The Dramatic and Music Societies have since then combined in the production of "Three Rivers", a society play, and of the opera "Dieu and Armand".

The Music Society has been fortunate in securing friends, both inside and outside the school, to give recitals and lectures. Membership of the Society is open to girls from the Third Form upwards, and parties have been arranged to attend local musical productions.

The Junior and Senior Chorus consist of girls from the appropriate sections of the school, and their services are frequently requested by external organisations, as well as for school functions. Singers graduate from the Junior to the Senior Chorus as they enter the Fourth Form, and they are then encouraged to join the choral societies in the town. In this way a girl is brought into touch with choral tradition and repertoire at an early age.

Private instrumental lessons are given during lunch hours by visiting tutors. Many parents avail themselves of the opportunity of developing in their daughters the art of self-expression in music.

The School Orchestra will soon be taking a prominent place in the school activities. Two years ago the hope of having an orchestra seemed very remote but since that time the Parents-Teacher Association has generously provided instruments. As a result of these gifts, violin and viola classes have been introduced into the Junior School curriculum. The members of these young groups are making steady progress, and many of them now play together in an orchestra during "Activities" Periods. The more advanced players combine in quartets and trios.

School Charities and School Savings.

The "Noble Living" Fund, maintained by voluntary contributions of parents and pupils, was created in 1911, though various school charities had previously existed. The name symbolised the desire of Bedians to bring comfort to people in need, and from the first emphasis was laid on personal service. Girls took flowers to the Children's Hospital, and in World War I undertook Red Cross work and knitting for the Forces.

In 1929 a novel enterprise was the "adoption" of John Gordon Forcherson, son of a war-blinded soldier. An annual sum was pledged for the maintenance of the little baby until he reached the age of sixteen. This happened in 1934, when the school transferred its support to the Grindon Convalescent Home.

Before the last war it was customary each Spring to collect gifts of fresh eggs. School "flowers" rivalled with each other, and often as many as a thousand were distributed to hospitals and convalescent homes. Since the Home system ceased, a "Charity business", closed in each term, collects the weekly "charity". These invaluable helpers, with the headmistress and two members of staff, form the Charities Committee. It meets term by term to respond to every appeal.

Our interest has widened from local to national causes and international appeals. To a Christian all men are brethren. We feel constrained to help the needy whenever found. We work enthusiastically for our own "Walls and Stairs" and equally for "Save the Children" fund which serves the devastated areas of Germany, Greece or Malaya. We have exchanged friendly letters with a Hamburg girl's school and have sent them parcels of food and clothing and shoes. Their Christmas gift, an exquisite book in parchment, illustrates the Christmas story. Old people and sick animals are remembered them, and older girls in a spirit of self-sacrifice, help certain Flag-day collections. From 1928-1932, more than fifteen hundred pounds has been distributed to deserving cases, proof of the value of regular collection of minute sums from many school girls.

National Savings.

The first war loan savings group was assembled in school in 1915. By 1921 there were forty-four regular members who between them saved £41. By 1926, pupils had become "savings conscious". Membership increased, cash soared, and by 1931, nearly £1,000 was on one occasion collected by five hundred girls. In twenty-five years the school has raised over £10,000.

LEARNING THROUGH DOING.



CAMPUS COOKS.



GENERAL SCHOOL.

PLEASURABLE ACTIVITIES.



Flowers.



The Book Case.

A Miscellany of Activities.

Dilecti est desipere in loco . . . It is pleasant to be foolish on occasion. The old Roman poet Horace would surely have approved of our *Saturnalia*. How many Romans remember these hilarious "classical parties" at which Greeks and Romans returned, for a few short hours, to glorious life when the senior girls were transformed into a galaxy of Olympian deities: when Latin song, and Greek dance and mime prevailed? How many remember the Roman version of June, the Olympian Brain Trust, the Latin versions of Snow White, Cinderella's "Carnegie", and the feast of the gods with all their attendant myths? These happy occasions are worthy of remembrance.

Art, always a vital force in the life of man, has become even more significant to us who can buy, at small cost, things of beauty. The school aims, therefore, not to make artists of all pupils, but to train them to see and to appreciate beauty in common objects. The lower school concentrates on imaginative compositions. The middle school, more self-critical, learns about the mysteries of perspective in form and colour, and the rhythmic beauty of all living things. Through many take Art as an examination subject, few pursue it as a Career. Needlecraft, leather craft, linen printing, puppets, low-cost, are treated as valuable in themselves, and not as by-products of Art. Two hours are in full production.

Art aids stage productions by designing costumes, scenery and relief schemes, and in lettering programmes and posters. Pupils' enthusiastic works adorn corridors and classrooms, and during the annual Art Exhibition, eager young artists explain to admiring parents the subtleties of their masterpieces.

Puppetry has been taught to Student Teachers for its future use in their schools. Children, glib and uncomfortable in public, find in puppetry a means of expressing dramatic movements by prose. The making of puppets and suitable scenery and properties provides an outlet for creative faculties. In the Junior forms, puppetry used for teaching History, has led to research into details of period costumes, social conditions and household equipments. Possibilities of correlation are endless, for no one can resist the fascination of a marionette.

A School Library is not a mere depository for books by benevolent donors, and we intend to do some working out below building up what will be known as "The Venerable Bede Memorial Library". We did want many new books to fill the gaps in our shelves, particularly reference books to encourage girls to find out facts for themselves, a habit invaluable to all going to university. Crime-looking volumes can never rival the Cinema's easy entertainments. Therefore, we need interesting books, attractively bound and illustrated. Perhaps school-leavers could enrich their borrowing hours by leaving behind a bright new volume (not a Sunday School prize) in which the special Bede label, "Presented by" could for a short, sweet season, perpetuate their memory.

For many girls, the choice of a **Career** is one of life's biggest problems and is worthy of most serious consideration. Almost all kinds of work are now open to a woman who has thoroughly trained herself for it. Bodans can always seek the advice of headmistress and staff upon their careers. In addition, a Careers Mistress and Committee arrange two annual meetings for parents, when cost of training and opportunities open to girls are discussed. Through this means girls are encouraged to become vocationalists. Already we have one mechanical engineer. Above all, we take pride in the fact that our school is the nursery from which come the best teachers, headmistresses and mistresses, under the Local Education Authority.

The **Student Christian Movement** is a fellowship of students who desire to live the Christian life. The Bide branch was formed almost five years ago. A study of the Bible is made at meetings and, with the help of qualified speakers, various aspects of religion are discussed. The outstanding event is the annual conference, to which 17th formers from other schools are invited. The Disputed Jubilee subject was "The World Church" which, in the words of Archbishop Temple, is "the great new fact of our time". The presence of an Indian Anglican, a remarkable scholar, the presentation of Church Missionary Society films and much exciting literature, made the conference memorable.

The Historical Society, studying trends in social development, and **The Modern Events Society**, studying world conditions, was federated recently to form a single society, meets twice a month and arranges lectures and excursions to places of historical note. A mock election was held in the school prior to the General Election in order to help students to evaluate contemporary issues. Sixty formers stated the aims and policy of all parties to voters, and 17th form girls to juries. Polling was one hundred per cent. The result was a Conservative victory, with Socialists next, and Communists and Liberals losing their deposits.

Talks, readings and group discussions of senior girls on the development of man's mind, society, religion, have started **The Philosophy Group**.

Domestic Science, or more properly, **Household Science**, is a comprehensive activity. Household expenses; world economics; needlecraft; home-making; hygiene; personal and social; building and architecture; handicraft; cookery; laundry; art in relation to the home; at least as much General Science as will make a "handy" woman or wife understand the physics of household repairs and the chemistry of food; and that amount of history that makes understandable the "Changing Face of Things". Domestic Science is all this, but it is not fine tasks and polished skills, technical instruction and "whipping"; and there are no petticoats.

PLEASURABLE ACTIVITIES.



Dancing.



Hockey in Winter.



NETBALL.



THE FIRST NETBALL TEAM

Physical Education.

Nowadays there is insistence on Physical Education in all schools. The very fact that we speak of Physical Education instead of Physical Training is argument that more is meant by P.E. than by P.T. Everything concerned with the balance and perfect development of the body is embraced under P.E. Gymnastics, dancing and games are taught as complementary: "gym" is taught to assist skill in games and dancing, to improve footwork, precision and feeling of movement.

Rhomboids are introduced into the lesson to correct postural defects, and particularly flat feet. To detect defects, work in the gymnasium is done in bare feet, natural spring is developed and the teacher enabled to see if girls are mobilising the arches and joints of the feet. Self-exposure and graceful movement are encouraged, all parts of the body become habitual with minimum fatigue.

The fundamentals of education are to enable pupils to achieve security and satisfaction and to offer incentives to purposeful action. Dancing fulfils all these requirements, and the need for it is felt in the school. Last year we took part in the Sunderland Festival of Dancing, and made up in enthusiasm for lack of accuracy in the intricate Scottish steps. Last term we were inspired by Norwegian dancers, and the interest of the school is growing in dancing.

Games, with us, have always been important. Hockey is our most popular game, though netball maintains a good standard. The 1st Hockey XI, one of the strongest teams in the county, gained first place in the Inter-Schools Tournament. Audrey Jordan, while still in the Vth form, has been chosen goal-keeper for the Senior County team. The school has won every other than the match with Graham Harbour, with whom we draw. The Summer's Frogs are lost for weeks and rounds in fall, and a number of cricket enthusiasts spend pleasant evenings after school practising at the nets.

In all games, we endeavour to give senior girls experience in coaching and inspiring, and at the end of the season, after theoretical and practical tests, successful ones are rewarded with umpires' whistles.

Present Upper Sixth.

Sheila Armstrong, Maril Beaumont, Shirley Burnell,
Sherlagh Brooks, Norma Farnick, Pauline Craggs,
Mary Davidson, Margaret Garrick, Sheila Hall,
Joan Hardy, Miss Hatfield, Joan Haxwell, Muriel Hesley,
Joan Hensley, Patricia Holbenow, Joan Locksley,
Margaret Miller, Sarah Todd, Sheila Wilson.

Teacher—Trainee Course : "The Budding Year."

*At the first give you a cluster of grapes, that, full of that taste, you may
long to pass further on your journey.*

This Pre-College Course of Training for Students, instituted in its present form by Sunderland Education Committee in 1927, was implemented in April, 1948. Its aims are to provide a flexible curriculum for post-certificand students, to equip them professionally and to give opportunity for observation and teaching of general subjects in local schools. These aims call for the personal interest of the staff of the Bede Girls' Grammar School and of our "Outside Tutors" in the practicing schools. At present, seventeen girls and six boys learn and teach.

The curriculum includes **Art and Craft:** puppetry, design, composition; **English:** in use, literature, poetry, dramatics, speech-training, spelling; **Arithmetic:** elementary Algebra, Geometry, Notation and History of Numbers; **History:** broadcast lessons and "follow-up" activities theories; **Geography:** regional studies, map-making, map-reading; **General Science:** with emphasis on HOME IT WORKS, Biology, gardening; **Psychology:** natural discussion of problems relating to behaviour; **Music and Movement:** agility exercises, musical appreciation, dramatics; **Religious Instruction:** school worship and application of religion to life.

In a weekly seminar, methods of teaching are considered and practical help given with preparation of lessons. Visits are organised to Special Schools within and beyond the Borough, and every chance seized to enrich the teachers' experience.

The scheme is sound in design and effective mainly by virtue of its emphasis on personality and ultimate values, although it operates new and difficulties. One such is that the boys are called up for National Service. There is consequently a gap between their pre-college course and professional training, if they return to teaching, however, and this is not inevitable, they do so with mature approach and enhanced personality. The success of the course has been so marked as to surprise us. Our hopes of the scheme are high because it is one means of advancing the educational qualities of teachers, and finally, of teacher status. Our ultimate aim is a graduate profession.



THE PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION.



TEACHER TRAINERS.

SENIOR FORMS.



On Oregon Day, 1907; Class Aids 1911.



Umsa Vitas, 1907; Class Aids 1911.

The Parent-Teacher Association of the Bede Girls' School.

THE Parent-Teacher Association of the Bede Girls' School celebrates its fifteenth birthday and claims to have been the first such association in Sunderland. Founded in January, 1922, it was first known as the school's Parents Association, but almost immediately afterwards, because of the harmonious collaboration of parents and staff, was more happily named Parent-Teacher Association. Among the founder officers were Miss Maud, president; Mr. S. Helms, chairman; Mrs. Rough, vice-chairman; Mr. M. C. Clark, secretary; Mr. E. A. Freeman, assistant secretary; Mrs. F. C. Arkless, treasurer.

In 1940, a P.T.A. National Savings group was formed which, by 1941, had collected nearly £2,000. An elaborate system of street collecting, organised by us, was used by Mr. H. V. Sandford to form the basis of the town's Street Savings Groups, by which means Sunderland collected just over £1,000,000. The Granite-Aid Fund, started the same year, assists girls with Higher Certificates who are going on to Universities. Already over £1,000 has been raised and £100 expended for the benefit of girls.

Out of the General Purposes Fund, raised by annual subscriptions and the profits from social functions, we provide prizes for Speech Days and Sports Day; make donations to the School Library Fund; defray expenses of delegates to conferences. We have subsidised a teacher going to London on "Careers", and pupil-delegates to Edinburgh to a Council for Education in World Citizenship Conference. We brought from Edinburgh last year a West Indian girl and an American boy, who told us of life and thought in their own lands; and we are raising this year a group of senior pupils to take part in a Geography course at Milton-Tarn, a Field Centre.

Out of an Orchestra Fund of £152, violins, violas, cellos and clarinets have been bought to the value of £25. We look forward to the time when the girls' orchestra will give us a concert.

Already we have seven sub-committees, Social, Careers, News-sheet, Educational, Printing, Orchestra, Joint P.T.A., and the co-ordinating Executive Committee to do P.T.A. work. We print our dance tickets, handbills and programmes for social functions on our own printing press. And fathers attend school dances to ensure their being conducted with decorum.

We append the most important events of our Diamond Jubilee programme:—

Friday,	10th March	..	"Hazel and Gertrude", a puppet show.
Monday,	1st April	..	Open Day, 2-4 p.m.
Thursday,	27th April	..	} "Dido and Aeneas": an opera by Purcell.
Friday,	28th April	..	
Friday,	30th April	..	Founder's Day Service in Bishopscleeve Church.
Sunday,	30th April	..	Old Bede's Re-union Dinner.

Sunday, 24th June	..	Garden Party: Gym and Dancing Display.
Date to be fixed	..	Opening of Venable Beke Memorial Library.
Wednesday, 20th December		First Re-union P.T.A. Jubilee Dinner.

Goodwill Messages.

Mrs G. M. Siddons, 1921-1927, on the eve of responsible work as deputy principal of a Woman's Training College, has written: "I send my very best wishes to the school on the occasion of its Diamond Jubilee. You Bekeans of today will, I hope, think with gratitude of bygone Bekeans, so that, carrying on their proud traditions, future Bekeans may remember you with equal pride and affection."

From Miss L. D. Orms, 1920-1928, happily settled in Liverpool, comes: "I shall always remember with affection those pupils and staff with whom, during eighteen years in Scotland, I shared so many tasks, such good friendship, and so much fun; and Miss K. M. Carrick, 1926-1929, "Present Bekeans, honoured to have a share in the rich inheritance of the past, are resolved to hand on, unflinching, the torch of high ideals and sound learning."

Doris Cuthbertson, nee Miller, captain in 1923, writes that Bekeans now as in the future, will find encouragement, stimulation and friendly guidance as in the past; and Violet Blackman, 1928, congratulates the school on sixty years of useful and pleasurable activity. Mary Robinson, nee Arkless, 1923, felt rejuvenated on visiting the school, which she hopes will remain as young and vigorous as ever.

Dorothy M. Lowther, nee Tompkins, 1918, 1929, in the Dean of Durham's words:

"Now as remembering all that we owe thee,

Love, born of gratitude this would we show thee."

Paula Humphrey, 1929, reminds us of our motto, the same as that of the League of Nations, "After Darkness, Light". Norma Croxier, 1921, happy in Cambridge, says that in the past three years, spent in France and North Africa, her most nostalgic moments came with the arrival of "The Bekean"; and Dorothy Wilson, 1922, hopes that the school will continue to flourish and the future be bright. Hilda Hope, 1922, in Johannesburg, looks forward to the Handbook, and Mary Brydon adds her sincere good wishes for Beke to the prayers of Margaret Garrick and of Pat Swan, 1926. Pat Swan, and her successor with her in Manchester, says: "Congratulations Beke! May we, who are now ex-Bekeans, with our school, staff and pupils, success and joy in the year of its Diamond Jubilee and in the years to come"; and Dorothy Dodd, 1928, from Sheffield, says: "May Beke School long uphold its glorious heritage".

From Joan Hardy, our present school captain, comes this moving message: "We in the Upper Fifth appreciate how much the school means in our lives. We have looked forward to the year when we should be in the senior forms. Now we think more of the short time left to us and realise how painful will be the wrench. We wish present and future Bekeans happiness and success. To the school, we offer gratitude and affection and our hope of a great and splendid future".

CONCENTRATION.



In The Library.



In The Assembly.

... WCHLK



GARDENS



MAKING HOURS

Evacuation: Personal Experiences, 1939-'40.

Evacuation begins for me with a priority telegram, at midnight, in a chamber-stone: "Evacuation imminent, please return immediately". After the rush to pack came a dreary seventeen-hour journey, four hours wait on a platform, the news that war was declared, the rumors that bombers had been over London. There followed a week of feverish planning, of meeting anxious parents, of reuniting children, half-scared and half-excited. At last the girls, each with haversack, gas mask and amulet "Sun 47", sustained for "Destination Unknown". After much speculation we learned that Beautiful Richmond was to be our home. After a welcome and local ration, we went to follow, "Meloddy! Never heard of it", was my comment. I little thought that I was to grow to love it so that now, ten years later, I regard it as my second home.

Days of bewilderment followed. How were we to teach four hundred girls while sharing school built for ninety, and one-hundred-and-twenty? At first, having nowhere to sit, we assembled in the "wynd" between houses. I have taught in one room with two other classes, with one blackboard between us. Is any subject harder to teach without a blackboard than Geometry? Miss X, in possession, would promise to lend it when she had finished her problems. Meanwhile girls demonstrated a parallelogram with outstretched arms. I have memories of teaching the With in a cupboard, and large classes, huddled round a small fire, in series. After ten days we found accommodation in the High School, the boys' Grammar School and gymnasium, the Methodist Chapel and Mission Hall, the Congregational Church Hall, the Town Hall and Mayor's Parlour, the Concert Rooms and Lecture House. Within a month, we were working full examination syllabus. Every Friday morning, we saw innovative films, through the generosity of Southland Education Authority, and the Y.M.C.A. solved the problems of a dining place, for dinner not allowed in Richmond, and of the weekly social function, for excursions and friends. Despite drawbacks, we enjoyed our "wynd", and assumed friendships that have stood the test of time.

And what did evacuation mean for the billeting helper? She who remained with the school till its return says: "I remember how the fun and the beauty of country. I remember the hedgerows, bright with berries, and the dale so lovely Autumn sun. I remember the headmistress's relief when she learned that "spacers" which the girls liked to sample, were wiles in stone walk, and how much I laughed when, sent to drive away "the rascals boy" schooling outside the girls' study, I found only an enthusiastic blackbird. I liked the girls making bonfires for hospitals, raising the library, and taking charge of their own bills. Evacuation broadened their outlook and made the girls more mature. As I look back, I realize how nobly the work of the school went on, and I gladly send my old school greetings for a happy jubilee year".

The Guild of Old Bedans.

A feature of Bede School's early days was the Old Girls' Annual Reunion. This grew out in 1902 to an Old Bedan Girls' Association which was successfully until 1914, but which, when re-formed after the War, survived only two years.

By the beginning of 1918, School's long-promised New Buildings were in course of erection and it seemed fitting that the nucleus of an Old Girls' Association should be ready to grow with the school in its new surroundings. Suggestions and discussion by the staff led to the formation of a Committee consisting of Miss Faughlar, Miss Shaver and Old Bedans representative of the preceding eighteen years. To them, with Miss Shaver as organiser, was delegated the task of reconstruction.

Much preparatory work followed and at a large meeting on May 2nd, 1918, great enthusiasm, the Guild of Old Bedans was formally constituted, with the Headmistress, Miss M. E. Doon, as President. The first officials and committee were: Catherine Malles, Chairman; Mary Mackintosh, Vice-Chairman and E. R. Shaver, Joint Secretary and Treasurer; Miss J. Faughlar, Hilda Adamson, Emily Anderson, Maizie Coney, Marjorie Doon, Mrs. Fryers (Jessie Farr), Hilda Handwick, Leslie Service, Joan Stirling, Lena Thompson and Christie Wardman.

The new Guild prospered; its membership increased steadily. Its Clubs included Singing, Dramatics, Rambling, Social Service, Hockey, Netball and Badminton, all kindly supported; its meetings—Social Reunions, Informal Evenings, Lectures, Dances, Dinners—appealed to a wide circle. School friendships were kept alive, present and past Bedans continued in close touch with each other through the medium of the School Magazine, and the Social Service Club showed Old Bedans' practical interest in the social problems of the town and did much good work for children. The Guild and all these activities were perforce suspended in September, 1941.

Revised in 1944, the Guild of Old Bedans is functioning again in the same friendly spirit as of old, thanks largely to the efficiency, enthusiasm and loyalty of its Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Kirkwood (Jill Davidson), Miss J. E. Mead, as Headmistress of the school, is President, and Miss M. E. Doon, Vice-President. In this Jubilee year, the Chairman is Mrs. Doon (Katie Halliday), the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Thomas (Winifred Scott), and the Assistant Secretary, Beatrice Taylor. Its Hockey Club plays matches regularly, its London Branch meets in May and December, and its post-war Social Service interests include the welfare of old people, and the Red Cross Hospital Library Scheme to which, rather a work, members give personal help.

To the *Memories* it has compiled as a tribute to the Girls' School, the Guild of Old Bedans would like to add birthday greetings to the Boys'. May both Bede Schools have success in all their Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and in the years to come!



Stam, 1934.



Stam, 1940.

BEDE BOYS' SCHOOL

1890—1950.

In 1890, responsibility for public education in the Borough devolved upon the Sandstead School Board, among whose more prominent members were Messrs. Price Wood, Robert Bannan, T. W. Buckhouse and Friend Lamb. It was due to Mr. Wood's untiring efforts to establish at least one school which could provide post-elementary education that Sandstead Higher Grade School opened on April 18th, 1890, in the buildings now occupied by West Park Central School. Mr. G. T. Ferguson was appointed Headmaster of the Boys' Department and Miss Janet Todd, Headmistress of the Girls', with two assistant teachers for each staff. On April 20th, enrolment day, the names of 321 boys and 133 girls were entered in the admission registers; on opening day, 127 boys and 173 girls were present. Admission was not confined to pupils resident in Sandstead, as 34 were admitted from the outlying districts, a privilege which continued till Midsummer 1921. Additional staff was obtained as quickly as possible and in the first year of the school included Messrs. R. G. Richardson, J. H. Britain, W. Phosman, J. G. Glasfield, D. Foster, E. Christop and W. Wilson (now living in retirement at Lew Isl, and believed to be the only surviving member). Both Boys' and Girls' departments were divided into a Lower and Upper School.

The Lower School corresponded to Standards 4 to 7 in the elementary schools of that period, and was for pupils aged 9 to 14 years. The school fee for this section was sixpence per week, or five shillings per quarter, and withdrawals were permitted at any time during the year. Each class contained 60 pupils and for certain subjects two classes were combined and taught by one master. The curriculum comprised Scripture, Reading, Writing, Dictation, Composition, Grammar, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geography, Drill (in summer, Swimming), Singing, French and Drawing.

The Upper, or Science, School, catered for pupils between the ages of 11 and 16 years. In this section the fees were sixpence weekly, or seven shillings and sixpence quarterly, and at the beginning of each school year parents had to give an undertaking that pupils would remain till after the School inspection in the following July. This was, of course, in the days when the Board of Education's grants had to be earned by the school through the July examinations conducted by the Board's inspectors, and depended on the number of pupils and the standard of work attained. As no grant was payable for languages, or other literary subjects, more emphasis was given to the teaching of Science, resulting in a "specialised" curriculum for the Upper School, which was frequently referred to as the "Science School" and the classes as "First Year Science", "Second Year Science", etc. In 1926 new regulations corrected this, but the names of the classes persisted till 1949. For this session of the school, the Lower School curriculum was enlarged by the addition of Physics, Chemistry, Additional Mathematics, History and Latin.

Boys in their course in the Upper School took successively the Oxford Local Preliminary, Junior and Senior examinations, and London Matriculation in the fourth or fifth year. Candidates were also presented at the examinations conducted by the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, with remarkably successful results. It is interesting to note that, compared with the school today, in which the various age-groups are approximately equal in numbers, the Higher Grade School, in its early years, had about three-fourths of its pupils in the Lower School. It is on record that the 21 boys in the Upper School in 1864 earned a Government grant of £715. The average "school-life" was then two years; by the twenty-fifth anniversary it had risen to four years.

The modern Boyan should compare his lot with that of a pupil in the school's first year. No hall for assembly! No Dining-Hall! No gymnasium! No dressing rooms with "showers"! No playing-field, and consequently no "field absences"! A working day of eight periods! Three external examinations at least, by the time he was sixteen or seventeen years old! In the absence of trams and buses, a long walk to school! No medical inspection! No free milk!

Speech Days were inaugurated in their early years of the school, and, at now, the principal speakers were men of distinction—Hans Kichen and Principal Gurney, both eminent scholars, appeared as chief guests in 1868, the former on February 21st at the Assembly Hall, Forecast Street, the latter at the Victoria Hall on December 15th.

1868 was an important year for the school, as on March 29th, a new name, "Beke Higher Grade School" was adopted. During this year, a school motto and badge came into use, and the school magazine "The Beke" was first published. The school's motto, *Post Tenebras Lux*, is that of Geneva. While on holiday in that city, on first seeing its motto, Mr. Ferguson thought that for a school's aim nothing could be more fitting; it was adopted and included in the school badge. Mr. F. W. Armstrong, a former Art Master, was responsible for the design of the first badge worn by Bekeans. It was made of metal and enamel, and was pinned to the cap. Its chief element was the phoenix, to symbolise the revival of the name Beke.

In 1901, Beke School acquired a Junior Department (now Cowan Terrace School) the late Mr. W. Fox being master-in-charge, with over 200 boys and girls in attendance. This year saw the passing of School Boards and Beke School came under the direction of the Education Committee of the Corporation of Southland. Mainly due to the late Dr. Gordon Bell, then Chairman of the Higher Education Sub-Committee, the school became a recognised Secondary School in 1902, with a Board of Governors, and was entirely re-organised. The late Mr. G. G. Wight was responsible for the name "Beke Collegiate School," the third by which the school has been known. Mr. Ferguson was appointed Head of the Boys' School, Girls' School (with Miss M. Bacon as Senior Mistress) and a Pupil-Teachers' Class (under the direction of the late Mr. R. D. Drierley).

An integral part of the school was the Primary Department, for boys nine and ten years old, who were placed in Forms I and II respectively. Boys of the 11-14 group were placed in Form III, a designation still retained today for the form in which boys entering the school are placed.

Soon after the Bels Collegiate School was functioning, the Art Master, the late Mr. J. W. Hawkins, designed the present coat-of-arms, which, woven in silk, on a black background, was worn to the pupil's cap and worn in the School Badge; this is still the badge of the Girls' School.

By 1920, the Pupil-Teachers' Centre was closed owing to the adoption of the Board and Student-Teacher Scheme and in the re-organisation of 1921, the Boys' and Girls' Schools became separate entities with Mr. Ferguson, Headmaster, and Miss Ross, Headmistress.

Since the commencement of the Bels Collegiate School, both staff and pupils had known the discomforts of premises inadequate for their numbers. The old "Tin-shed" is now legendary! Consequently there was great rejoicing when, on November 22nd, 1913, the Corporation of Sunderland decided to buy eleven acres of land at Low Barnes to provide:—

1. A site for a new school for Bels Boys.
2. A playing field adjacent to such school for Bels Boys.
3. A playing field for Bels Girls.

Unfortunately, another sixteen years had to elapse before the present buildings were available to the school.

Bels School has every reason to be proud of the records of its Old Boys in the First World War: 190 in the various Services, not winning decorations. The Roll of Honour gives the names of 112 Old Belians who made the Supreme Sacrifice. As in the Second World War, many difficulties were experienced in maintaining the high standards Bels School had attained by 1914. To obtain suitable staff was a major problem; the temporary staff included many members of the clergy, who did excellent work. The dislocation of home life, the alternate jubilation and despondency caused by the fluctuations in the course of the war, and anxiety about relatives in the forces or the merchant navy, tended to unsettle the pupils.

It is remarkable that both the 25th and 30th anniversaries of the school occurred during World Wars. No celebrations were held to commemorate the 25th anniversary. In the early 1920s the school was decorated and ho-flagged on April 25th, even the pupils adding to the effort; the girls wore daffodils and many of the boys wore poppies, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary.

When the war was over, most of the masters who had been on Active Service returned, the school settled down to normal times, and continued to develop and make good progress in the academic world.

"The Belian", which has been the recorder of events concerning the school, ceased to be published from 1920 until its revival in 1928. No written records



ASSEMBLY IN HALL (SHOWING PLATFORM)



ASSEMBLY IN HALL.



Art Room.



Lesson.

therefore exist for this period. A scheme for a War Memorial to commemorate the 122 Old Bedlam and a master who lost their lives in the 1914-18 war was launched and finally, in 1924, a mural tablet containing their names was unveiled, and a War Memorial Prize instituted. The Old Bedlam's Association was revived and prospered.

The outstanding events of the twenties were the retirement, after 38 years as Headmaster, of Mr. G. T. Ferguson, B.A., B.Sc. (Lond.) in 1926, the appointment of Mr. G. A. Basklow, M.Sc. (Nim.) as his successor, the laying of the foundation stones of the New School in 1927, and the Opening of the New School in 1929.

Mr. Ferguson had drawn the Education Committee's attention to the inadequacy of the premises near West Park at innumerable Speech Days. Nothing was done. The "New School" for many years proved only a mirage.

At last things began to move, but not before Mr. Ferguson retired. October 14th, 1929, was then a milestone day in the history of Bede School. On that day the New School was opened by Sir Charles Trevelyan, M.P., President of the Board of Education. A large marquee was erected on the Girls' hockey field to accommodate the pupils of the 122 schools and over 1,000 guests. Besides Sir Charles, there were present the Mayor and Mayoress of Sandstead, Dr. and Mrs. Modlin, Alderman S. M. Swan, Chairman of the Education Committee, Alderman J. S. Nicholson, Chairman of the Governors, Dr. Marion Phillips, M.P., Mr. A. Smith, M.P., Mr. G. A. Basklow, Headmaster, Miss Brown, Headmistress, Mr. G. T. Ferguson, Mr. H. Reed, Chief Education Officer, and many others.

In the new buildings there was accommodation for the expanded activities of a modern Secondary School. You read earlier the subjects taught in 1890; now the curriculum included the following subjects: Art, Biology, Chemistry, Divinity, English, French, German, Geography, Greek, History, Latin, Mathematics, Music, Physical Training and Woodwork. Even so, the school buildings were not quite completed at the first attempt and it was not until 1935 that extensions were made to provide further classrooms, laboratories, library and two gymsnasia.

The number of pupils attending Bede Boys' School has gradually increased from 200 in 1920 to 280 in 1926, to 325 in 1928, but now the number is 600. The staff consists of 24 masters. It may interest readers to know that over 200 masters (and mistresses in the early days) have taught at Bede Boys' School since 1890.

The first Speech Day to be held in the school's own Assembly Hall, took place on February 27th, 1930, when Professor F. Smith, of Armstrong College, presented the Prizes.

On March 26th, 1932, the School Flying Fields were opened. To celebrate this event, the school played the Old Bedlam's A.F.C., and was defeated 2-4.

It had always been an aim of The Old Bedlam's Association to seek representation on the School Governing Body, and in 1932 this aim was achieved with the election of Mr. R. R. Crane, L.L.B. The Old Bedlam's Association was now well-established and had a successful senior team, which won the championship of the

North-Eastern Amateur League. A "London Belians" Association had also been formed.

In 1911 the school commemorated the 1,000th anniversary of the Venerable Bede's death. A party from school attended the Pageant at Durham.

A focus of out-of-school activities, which was becoming increasingly popular, was foreign travel. Summer cruises to Scandinavia and visits to Holland and Paris were arranged and parties of boys and masters greatly enjoyed these experiences.

In 1920 Mr. G. T. Ferguson died after a retirement of ten years. Three well-known Sunderland Aldermen, Ald. J. S. Nicholson, Ald. E. H. Brown and Ald. J. Turner, who had proved good friends of Bede School, died in 1921.

The extensions to the school were completed and opened in September, 1921. To enable parents and others to see the additions and to examine the work of the school, an Open Day was held in February, 1922.

In the late thirties the shadow of war became more real and when the Munich Crisis occurred the school closed early one day to enable the staff to report for A.R.P. duties at the Central Police Station. All boys were fitted with gas masks at school.

When war seemed imminent, during the summer vacation of 1939, arrangements for the evacuation of school children were well-advanced. The staff was recalled towards the end of August, and the school began to prepare for evacuation.

On Sunday, September 10th, 1939, 400 Bedians and the staff left Sunderland for Northallerton. Bede School was to share with the boys of Northallerton and district, their small Grammar School.

Members of the staff soon began to leave to join the Forces. Problems of billeting, organising of classes in church halls in the evenings to supplement the afternoon school held in the Grammar School and general supervision, kept the staff very busy in the winter of 1939-40.

Bede School continued officially at Northallerton in 1940, although the school at Sunderland was re-opened at Easter, 1940, to accommodate those pupils who had not joined the evacuation scheme. A number of masters and mistresses returned to staff the Sunderland School.

Sporting activities suffered greatly and school societies in the main closed down for the war period. School fields were ploughed up to help the war effort.

By September, 1940, the majority of pupils had returned to Sunderland; at Northallerton those only remained 70 boys and 6 masters. The call-up for the Services hit Bede School very severely in that as many as 11 masters of the permanent staff were affected. During the war, many temporary masters and mistresses joined the staff, but rarely for long periods.

Thus the war years proved difficult for the school: hours were affected by the black-out in winter; morning session was from 9:30 to 11:30; afternoon session, 1:45 to 3:45. As a result, more pupils began to stay at school for lunch, and accommodation in the Dining Hall began to prove inadequate. Staff and senior



Workshop.



Mirror-work.

boys were called upon to fire-watch in the school at night and at weekends. Many boys did excellent work as A.R.P. messengers. Many organised parties of boys and masters attended Forestry, Harvesting and Fruit-picking camps in holiday time.

At last the war was over and the school looked forward to better times. The last five years have seen the school settle down once more to normal school life: several masters returned from war service to teach at Bede again; many others found new posts. Several new permanent appointments were made in 1946.

In that year the Dining Hall and Kitchens were enlarged and extended to cope with the large numbers now staying to lunch.

The school playing fields, so long out of use, were returned to their original purpose, after some further delay while they recovered.

The Old Bedans' Association made an appeal for £1,000 to provide an organ for the School Hall as a War Memorial to the 112 Old Bedans who lost their lives in the Second World War. This organ would be regarded as the completion of the scheme put forward at the close of the 1914-18 war and it would commemorate also those who died in that war.

On November 29th, 1947, a Memorial Service for the Fallen was held at St. Nicholas' Church.

The Memorial Organ was duly installed in 1948, and dedicated and unveiled on Sunday, November 27th, 1948.

In 60 years, Bedans have set out from Sunderland to take up positions of responsibility in all parts of the world. The name of Bede School is well-known in the Commonwealth of all our Universities, since over 100 of its pupils have gained Open Scholarships and Exhibitions. With this record of achievement and this tradition of success, we face the future with confidence and look forward with interest to the changes to store for our school and the world before we celebrate our centenary in 1950.

Distinguished Old Bedans.

THERE have been many Old Bedans who have achieved distinction in public life and in the academic world, and, no doubt, there will be many more. We mention here a few of the more outstanding and give an outline of their careers.

Richard Littlehales, M.A., C.I.E. (Died: 1891-1894)

Exhibitioner, Balliol College, Oxford; Student at Oxford and Kiel Universities; B.Sc., 1902; M.A., 1906; Demonstrator in Physics, Cavendish Laboratory; entered Indian Educational Service; Professor of Mathematics at Presidency College, Madras; Inspector of Schools; Director of Public Instruction, Educational

Commissioner with Government of India; member of Madras Legislative Council, of the Council of State and of the Legislative Assembly of the Government of India; Educational Adviser to His Highness the Maharajah of Baroda; Vice-Chancellor of the University of Madras; awarded Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire (1927).

G. R. Goldbrough, D.Sc., C.B.E., F.R.S., F.R.A.S. (Bole: 1893-1894)

B.Sc. Hon. (Durham), 1903, in Mathematics and Physics; M.Sc., 1906; D.Sc., 1913, for published work on the mathematical theory of oceanic tides; Fellow of Royal Astronomical Society; Adviser to Ministry of Munitions on Explosives; member of Special Panel of Astronomical Research Committee; Fellow of Royal Society; An Armstrong College, Newcastle, successively, Lecturer in Applied Mathematics, Reader in Dynamical Astronomy, Senior Research Fellow, Professor of Mathematics, Member of University Senate, Provost, Dean of Faculty of Science, Dean of Faculty of Arts, Sub-Rector of King's College; Chairman of University Recruiting Board; awarded C.B.E., 1948; Erasmus Professor of Durham University; member of National Committee on Astronomy, Geology and Geophysics; President of Newcastle Astronomical Society, 1947.

Sydney Goldstein, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.A.S., F.R.S. (Bole: 1918-1921)

Leeds University and St. John's College, Cambridge; Math. Tripos, 1921; Ph.D., 1926; Rockefeller Research Fellow, Göttingen; Lecturer in Mathematics, University of Manchester; Lecturer in Mathematics, University of Cambridge; Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge; Leverhulme Research Fellow, Guggenheim Astronomical Laboratory, California; Research in Aerodynamics at National Physical Laboratory; Fellow of the Royal Society; Bayer Professor of Mathematics in University of Manchester; Chairman Astronomical Research Council; Wright Brothers Lecturer, Institute of Astronomical Sciences, U.S.A., 1947.

D. A. S. Cairns, B.Sc. (London), B.A., LL.B. (Cambridge), K.C.

(Bole: 1919-1920)

1915 Bar Final, Certificate of Honour, Middle Temple Prize and Hartmann Scholarship; Called to Bar in 1926; practised in London and on North Eastern Circuit; 1927, took silk; recently successful in appeal to House of Lords, in the case of Miss Anson Robertson, the critic; member of Leatherhead Local Council; Liberal Parliamentary candidate for Epsom, 1927; President of Surrey County Liberal Organisation and Chairman of Liberal Trade Union Commission (1936).

Lt.-Colonel Marcus Lipton, C.B.E., M.P. (Bole: 1911-1920)

Honour's Degree, Oxford, Modern History; Assistant Editor, "The", undergraduate journal; on committee of Oxford union; 1926, Called to Bar; Councillor Surrey Borough Council; Alderman, Lambeth Borough Council; J.P., County of London; from Private at outbreak of war, reached rank of Lieut.-Colonel; awarded C.B.E. for Military services; M.P. for Brixton, 1925 and 1928.



CHEMICAL LABORATORY.



BIOLOGY LABORATORY.



PHYSICS LABORATORY.



GEOMETRY ROOM.

Vicror H. Finney, M.A. (1867-1945)

Served in R.F.A. (1887-18); B.A. (History Honours, Durham), 1911; M.A., 1912; M.P. for Hereford, 1907 (spoiling the suburban record of the present Mr. Speaker, whose personal friend and supporter he has since become); Chief Liberal Organizer in Lancashire, Cheshire and North West England; Chief Political Advisor for Rt. Hon. David Lloyd George; Public Relations Advisor to Messrs. Warner Bros. Film Company; since 1942 Public Relations Advisor to J. Arthur Rank Organisation Ltd.

Brigadier E. T. Williams, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. (1887-1957)

From Merion College, Oxford, called up as Second Lieutenant, King's Dragoon Guards, on Intelligence Staff, G.H.Q., Middle East; Chief Intelligence Officer to General Montgomery in North Africa, Sicily and Italy; D.S.O., 1941; headed Intelligence Staff of Field-Marshal Montgomery's 12th Army, 1944; awarded C.B.E., American Legion of Honour; also Mentioned in Despatches and awarded C.B.

The Senior Debating Society.

The Senior Debating Society has had a continuous existence since 1909, when it came into being chiefly through the efforts of Mr. Airy, who was appointed Senior English Master at the commencement of Bede Collegiate School. Mr. Griffiths, appointed a Mathematics Master at the same time, was responsible for drafting the first set of rules, and very helpful in seeing that the Society started on the right lines.

From the outset, the Society has been run on very democratic lines by the boys alone, with a master to act as Treasurer. The President, Secretary, Past Laureate and Committee are elected at the beginning of the Autumn and Spring terms, holding office for one term only. It is an established custom for the Secretary to become President in the following term.

The business of the Society is not confined entirely to debates, as lectures, mock trials, mock Parliaments, etc., figure among its activities. Successful inter-debates have been held with other schools, community associations, etc., and in some cases, the Society's rules and constitution have been adopted in one or two bodies. Two former members of the Society have given an address to Sunderland Rotary Club while they were still pupils in the school. Special debates include the 'Frother', 'Officers' and 'Masters'. The Airy-Ferguson cups are awarded at a special debate each term, after adjudication by the Headmaster, and the India Cup, which is competed for annually, is awarded after adjudication by an external adjudicator, who must be someone of standing.

As training in citizenship, whenever there is a parliamentary election, the Society makes arrangements for the election, by the whole school, of a member to represent the constituency of Bede. In the recent election, the school had its adoption

meetings, nomination-day, display of posters (many produced by members of the school), speeches by the four candidates, canvassing, voting by ballot (with printed voting papers and in the same booth used two days later by voters in the South-East South Division) with a polling-clerk in charge, and a declaration of the result next day by the Returning Officer (The Headmaster). It is noteworthy that there was not one spoiled paper.

Two functions the Society arranges for the benefit of the whole school are the annual concert and the summer meeting. It is a tradition that at this concert, a play should be produced which is written by the member of the Society who is President for that term. The last original play was produced at Northalton during the evacuation; even during the evacuation the Society functioned normally. This tradition has now been revived and an original play will be produced at the next concert. The summer meetings before the war were well-supported, both by boys and staff. Last year's visit to Ripon and Fountains Abbey was the first meeting since the war.

Outstanding in the history of the Society was the 1,000th meeting, held in the School Hall, on February 23rd, 1946, when, before a full "House", Lt.-Col. Marcus Lipton, M.P., seconded by Mr. G. G. Armstrong (who was one of the early members) proposed the motion "That Responsibility is the Cause of Modern Civilization," which was opposed by Mr. D. A. S. Cairns, B.Sc., B.A., LL.B., and Mr. C. H. Mann (member of the Society). In addition to members of the school, there were present, His Worship the Mayor (then Councillor J. Rinton), members of the Education Committee, the Director of Education, old members, relatives and friends. The two main speakers are ex-presidents of the Society. After an introduction by the Mayor, the meeting followed the usual lines; the motion was lost by 102 votes to 75.

The Society has done invaluable work in training boys in public speaking and the conduct of meetings, and many able speakers have received their early training while members. Among these may be mentioned Mr. Victor Finney (formerly M.P. for Herham), Lt. Col. M. Lipton, M.P., and Mr. D. A. S. Cairns, B.C.

The Junior Debating Society.

This Society was revived in September, 1946, after a lapse of seven years, and is now well-established. It is open to all members of the Junior School, and meets weekly during the Autumn and Spring Terms, having an average attendance of fifty. The members elect their own officers and committee, and a member of staff acts in an advisory capacity. It provides an opportunity for boys to learn how to conduct a public meeting and how to speak in public. In addition to the usual formal debates, variety is provided by occasional impromptu debates, balloon debates, and visits to the Senior Society.

And if the Society occasionally lacks eloquence, there is no shortage of enthusiasm and lively interest.



Two Women.



Man on Stage.



SCOUTS.



Gymnasium.

The School Orchestra.

The School Orchestra is a non-commercial institution. It began in 1911 as the School Orchestra Society, and was embodied by its founder, Mr. R. F. Jarman. When the new building was opened at Hunslet, the custom of having an orchestral accompaniment to the hymns at Morning Assembly was begun, and the orchestra began also to function at Speech Days and other Public occasions.

It should be remembered that under the wise guidance and infectious enthusiasm of its conductor, the Bede Boys' Orchestra was already well-known at a time when orchestras were just being introduced into the regular Grammar School life of the country in general. Mr. Jarman and the orchestra brought further distinction to the school when they won the First Honour for School Orchestras in open competition at the Newcastle Festival in the years 1922-1926. When Mr. Jarman retired in 1926, he left an orchestra of which he had good reason to be proud.

Mr. Arbel Page, who succeeded him, developed the orchestra on similar lines and one of its many noteworthy efforts was the performance with the help of the School Choir of "The Magic Flute" in February, 1928. The fact that this performance was broadcast, showed the very high standard which had been reached.

During the war it was not possible to keep the orchestra going, and it was not until Mr. J. Kirk took over in 1947, that a Bede Orchestra once more came into being. Since then rapid strides have been made. A notable feature is the high standard of some of its individual performers. Two of its members, D. Gaines and W. Storey, have had successful auditions for inclusion in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. Gaines, the former leader, is now studying the violin under Mr. Max Rostal, in London.

Bede Drama.

A drama club is one of the most important of the voluntary societies of a school. Drama is the greatest of the arts, since it draws all the others into its service. In a school like Bede, it makes a valuable contribution to the cultural life, which otherwise tends to be somewhat stunted on the artistic side. It can use such a wide range of talent in its service, that almost every boy can give valuable help. The enthusiasm of some of our members is amazing, and shows that a genuine hunger is being satisfied. Even if they do not all continue to be active after leaving, they will always have an abiding interest in drama, and as members of future audiences will show greater understanding and appreciation of what others provide.

Bede Drama was founded by Mr. A. C. Edwards in December, 1912, and after a preliminary production of three one-act plays, successfully staged "Iphigenia

in *Trois*" by Euripides. This was done on a platform with no proscenium, and virtually no lighting equipment. Gradually a fit-up stage and its accessories have been built up, and the Club has inherited a stock of painfully acquired gear, of which it is very proud. In 1926, Mr. Chamley produced "The Irony of Fate", and subsequently Mr. E. I. Johnson became producer, and continued to do first-rate work until he left us in 1948. His greatest achievement was the "Innocent Play", given in 1932. His successor, Mr. Jelly, has given Shakespeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor", Moliere's "Would-be Gentleman", Aeschylus and Ibsen's "Avarice of Ed", and in 1939, Euripides' "Troilus".

The policy of the Club is to choose a play from every period in time, but always what we consider to be a good play. There are so many directions in which our standards cannot be high, but we like at least to engage ourselves with worthwhile material. When our plays are finally presented they are entirely in the hands of the boys; no member of the staff is behind the scenes.

Chess Club.

After the first Great War, when nearly all club activities were suspended, the Chess Club was revived by Mr. E. H. Macoby. The only material available was some very inferior old-fashioned St. George pattern sets, mostly incomplete. These were replaced by 16 Saunson sets of "club" size with "club" boards. There was a wire of keen chess from then till the outbreak of the second war in 1939.

Every year two competitions were held—the Handicap and the Championship. Prizes were awarded in each category and a high standard was reached. At least one boy later won his half blue at Cambridge and a very flourishing Old Boys' Chess Club was founded, whose members came and played matches with the school for many years.

At Northallerton, chess was one of the best forms of recreation, and Mr. Macoby carried half-a-dozen sets about in his rucksack for use whenever required. The black-out made it advisable to suspend operations when the school returned to Sunderland and the overcrowding of the school premises left no room suitable for storing material and holding meetings.

The club was revived in 1947 by Mr. A. Wilson. Meetings are held once a week in the small dining-hall and every dinner-hour in the Old Library. The club has flourished and the team has been very successful in matches with other North of England schools, among its successes being the winning of the Durham County inter-school Championship in 1949.



Senior Dining Society.



Junior Dining Society.



Chess Club.



Physical Science.

Bedan Scouts.

The Bedan Troop was formed in October, 1908, with the Headmaster as Group Scoutmaster, and Mr. P. F. Palmer, as Scoutmaster. From more than 120 boys wishing to join, 14 were selected to form the nucleus of the troop. Later others were admitted, and six patrols were formed. The average membership of the troop has been 55. Meetings were held in the School Hall until a hut was obtained and erected in the school grounds. This hut has remained the headquarters of the troop ever since.

In October, 1920, Bedan Scouts provided a Guard of Honour for Sir Charles Trevelyan when he came to open the new school buildings in Durham Road.

Of the many annual camps the most outstanding was probably the fourth held in 1922 at Bevington, near Forth in Somerset, when 52 scouts attended.

The high standard of camping maintained by the troop is shown by the fact that the Stamford Richardson Challenge Cup for camping has been won several times, and the Dryburn Cup (open to all troops in Durham County) was won in 1928.

The troop continued to function all through the war, even during the evacuation period at Moorhallowton. In 1939 Mr. G. S. Campbell formed the Brampton Bedan Troop for junior boys, but when he joined the Forces, and the school returned to Sunderland, this troop was disbanded.

The Bedan.

The "Bedan" was first published in 1908 and was issued at fortnightly intervals, at a price of 6d. It served as a prospectus, showing photographs of classrooms and laboratories and gave news of the school, and of scholars and old scholars, and was favourably commented on in the Press. Mr. G. T. Ferguson gave much time and effort to its publication.

In later years, the "Bedan" was published at the end of each term, and the Christmas General Knowledge Paper became a feature. A Roll of Honour was compiled in the First World War, and again in the Second World War, and published in all the newspapers. From 1920 to 1928, the magazine was not published but it was revived in 1928. The Editors were then elected from the senior boys with a supporting committee of boys and masters.

The "Bedan" has continued to be produced, rising in price to 6d., and later to 1/- at the cost of publication rose. For this reason too it is now published only once a year, in July.

The Magazine Committee aims to give news of the school, opportunities for boys to have their work in prose and verse published, and in general to be a reminder of school events.

The Bede Philatelic Society.

This Philatelic Society was founded by Mr. F. W. L. Bowen during his short stay in 1921, and was then preserved through the efforts of J. N. Wood, one of a succession of enthusiastic presidents. It is now regaining its former vigour after a shaky revival when the Second World War ended.

The Society meets weekly during the winter to discuss, exhibit and exchange stamps, and, in lighter mood, for its annual Christmas Party and Summer Dining. Being almost wholly organised by the boys, it also affords a valuable training in democracy.

Bede Apiary.

This Society, an unusual one for a municipal Grammar School, was commenced in 1928 with a stock of bees presented by the late Mr. R. Whitfield, father of J. W. Whitfield (1926-1928), and a W.B.C. hive constructed by Mr. H. C. Hagg, then Humbercrafts Instructor at the school. While rather tiny among its numbers, the Society has had very keen members. Some of them after leaving school have continued their interests in the craft, having their own stocks and becoming members of the Sunderland and District Beekeepers' Association.

Through the Society, boys may gain a thorough knowledge of bee-keeping, as modern types of hives are in use and up-to-date methods are demonstrated.

When the Society commenced, the drier to the west of the school contained some first-class clover areas, which yielded the main crop of honey. Almost all of this clover-land has disappeared through the development of the new housing estates, with the result that it will be a matter of great difficulty to keep the apiary in existence.

The Sixth Form Society.

This Society was founded in 1928. Membership is open to Sixth Form boys, old boys and members of the staff. The objects of the Society are to cultivate the interests of its members in philosophic, cultural, scientific and moral affairs. Its activities include lectures by visiting speakers to members of the society, occasional social evenings, and discussions. The first meeting was addressed by Lord Bunsen Percy, Rector of King's College, on "The qualities required by the Universities



Soccer.



Soccer.



High Jump.



Class-Drill.

of their students", and since then there have been lectures on literature, politics, religion and education. A group of sixth Form boys prepared a paper on democracy in schools and from the long and lively discussions which followed this, steps were taken to bring into existence a School Council. The object of this is to bring the pupils into closer contact with the organization of the school and give them opportunities for expressing their opinions in all matters which concern the school as a community.

Soccer.

There is the oldest sports club in the school and one with a fine tradition of sportsmanship. The standard of the senior teams has invariably been high, and it is fitting to note that Messrs. R. Jones, H. Keenlyside and P. Hope, ex-captain London University teams of their year, while more recently, W. McFarlane gained a Soccer Blue and was captain of Oxford University. H. Milne and M. Marston are now on the senior team of the Sunderland R.F.C.

Last year the school entered the Tyne-side Grammar Schools' Cup Competition and reached the semi-final. This year they meet Heigham in the final.

The school juniors, too, have had their successes, having won the Cochrane Cup and the Sunderland Schools' League Championship on various occasions.

At the moment, four teams are run by the school.

The Old Bekeas' Association runs two XI's in the N.E. Amateur League, and the success of the school training has been seen by the fact that they won the Championship of this League in 1933-4 and 1936-7.

Rugger.

There game was introduced in 1911 and a fair measure of success was attained up to the war years. Those years held up progress, but in 1922, an effort was made to raise the standard by training and playing junior XV's. This meant that all age groups were catered for with no break in training. The success was seen in the fact that in 1924, five boys played for the Schools' Junior County XV, and later, as seniors, five gained selection for the Public Schools' County XV. J. W. Joiner, when a junior, was selected for the First English Trialis Game, and two years later, R. D. Eaton was Reserve for the England Junior XV. A number of Bekeas at the moment are playing with the Ashbrooke Club, while others have joined the newly-formed Old Bekeas' R.F.C.

Cricket.

Amongst this is one of the oldest clubs in the school it has never had a chance to do outstandingly well, because the playing fields do not provide a sufficiently good wicket. In spite of this, T. K. Dobson and E. Randle have played for the County XI, the former having the honour of scoring a century for the Minor Counties XI against the West Indies. Others have played for Durham Senior League teams.

In 1928, an effort was made to obtain concrete practice pitches, and advice was sought and obtained from various counties and clubs (including those overseas). Unfortunately the war stopped this work, and since the school fields were turned over for agricultural use, cricket ceased to function. In 1933, further efforts were made to obtain the practice wickets and at the same time to have a cricket pitch laid for match purposes. As these are not yet obtained, senior cricket is still not played, but a junior XI played in 1939.

We hope shortly to gain our practice wickets, when an effort will be made to start senior cricket once more.



Athletics.

The Athletics Club, which was formed nearly 20 years ago, has had a most successful post-war history.

The Wessan Cup, which is competed for by Grammar Schools in the North-East, at South Shields High School, has been won by the school relay team for the last five years.

The Road Cup for High Jumping has been won by Bedlam against other schools, for the past three years.

In the London Athletic Club Schools' Challenge Cup Meeting (popularly known as the Public Schools' Sports) members of the school took 2nd and 6th places in the Pole Vault in 1928, and the same boys were 3rd and 4th in 1929.

In 1928 the school entered a team for the first time in the Durham County Grammar School Sports, and was placed 4th. Last year, against eleven other schools, the school won the competition with a margin of 28 points.



The Swimming Club.

The school has a great tradition of excellence in swimming. Boys, almost from the commencement of the school, have given splendid support to the Swimming Club, and have a fine record of achievements, not only in the school's



A JUNIOR FORM OF THE FIRST YEAR.



A JUNIOR FORM OF THE SIXTH YEAR.

annual gala, but also in open competition. In 1942, for example, Gordon Smith won the Open Championship of Sunderland before winning the School Championship. A number of Old Bedans have also held the Sunderland Open Championship. While it is very pleasing to record these successes, it must be noted that the chief aim of the club has always been to teach as many boys as possible to swim, and to become proficient in life-saving. Boys likely to prove successful in competitive swimming have been encouraged to join one of the local clubs, as an aid to development.

Formerly, the club held a good record in the examination of the Royal Life-saving Society (in 1927, seven Bedans received the Bronze Medallion of the Society) but later, emphasis was placed on the tests for the club's own Proficiency Certificates. In 1937 an award system was introduced into the school. To gain the award a boy must display efficiency in Life-saving and Scientific Swimming—an excellent training for the Bronze Medallion of the Royal Life-saving Society. This was done in 1938 when 15 Bronze Medallions of the R.L.S.S. were obtained.

The school's annual swimming gala was one of the most important and enjoyable functions of the school year. It was run as a competition between the Houses on a points basis.

The war interrupted the club's activities and, at the time of the sixth anniversary, the confidence of the boys in the Lower School appears well for the restoration of the Swimming Club to its former prominence.

In accordance with the traditional aims of the club to teach as many boys as possible to swim, the Headmaster has arranged, in co-operation with the Physical Education Staff, for every boy to have a Swimming Period during his first year in the school. The result of this should be that in six years' time a very large percentage of boys in the school should be able to swim. It is on this framework that it is hoped to build a highly successful Swimming Club, the main function of which will be to afford opportunities for the more advanced swimmers to improve their style and ability. The achievement of these aims will result in the school having a large number of potential competitors for future swimming galas, which it is hoped to revive.

Gymnastics.

This club began in 1933 with a demonstration to mark the opening of the new gymnasium. An award system was introduced which raised the standard considerably. In 1940 an intermediate award was introduced to cater for younger boys and provide the stepping stone to the higher standard of the senior. A. S. Watson and H. Mason both gained the advanced and Instructors' Awards and such it now a specialist teacher of Physical Education.

Cross-Country Club.

This group was founded in 1922 by Mr. R. S. Taylor. It has had friends with Sunderland Harriers, various Colleges of Durham University, and many schools in the N.E., and has a very good record.

Before the war we had an interesting course over neighbouring farms. These have now disappeared to make way for houses, but we have found an even more arduous course around Tunstall Hill which tests our visiting teams to the full.

There is a weekly practice, and, as well as House Matches, a School Championship for Seniors and for Juniors is run every April.



Tennis.

CONSIDERABLE interest has been taken in this game since the war. The school team has played matches against other schools in the North-East, with varying success, and home matches have been well supported. The courts, which were behind the school, disappeared during the war and we are now handicapped by having to arrange only away fixtures.



The Headmaster's Summary.

This necessarily brief outline of the history of "Beck School" since its founding as a "Higher Grade" School sixty years ago, gives the reader at least some idea of its development. This is a specific example of what is perhaps the outstanding achievement in English Education during the last fifty or sixty years, namely, the rise and general progress from modest beginnings of the Grammar Schools, particularly the "maintained" Grammar Schools such as the "Beck". In Scholarship, Corporate Activities, and Games and Athletics, their progress in the level of attainment of their pupils has been most marked. It is no exaggeration to say that certainly in Scholarship their pupils now stand in performance, those of the Public Schools. Besides since 1909 have contributed their fair quota to the great record, and I have little doubt that, given adequate opportunities, the future members of the school will continue to keep its name in the forefront of the country's Grammar Schools.



SCHOOL BUILDING AT NIGHT.



The First School Days.

