

THE BEDAN.

APRIL 28th, 1952.

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BEDE GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

1951—1952.

Head Mistress	...	Miss Moul.
Second Mistress	...	Miss Carrick (Chemistry)
Form Upper VI	...	Miss Waggott (English).
„ Lower VI.A.	...	Miss Carlin (Biology).
„ Lower VI.B.	...	Miss Wilman (Mathematics).
Student Teachers	...	Miss Harding (Biology).
Form V.C (1)	...	Mr. Cox (Classics).
„ V.C (2)	...	Miss Duns (German and French).
„ V.Bm	...	Miss Kinch (Mathematics).
„ V.Ba	...	Miss Robson (English).
„ IV.C	...	Miss Heslop (Geography).
„ IV.Bm	...	Mr. Rogers (Divinity and English).
„ IV.Ba	...	Miss Lax (Science and Mathematics).
„ III.C	...	Mrs. Bryce (Mathematics).
„ III.Bm	...	Miss Norman (Art).
„ III.Ba	...	Miss Crone (Art).
„ II.C	...	Miss Hayton (History).
„ II.B	...	Mrs. Twigg (Geography).
„ II.H	...	Miss Bernard (Music).
„ I.C	...	Mrs. Seales (Spanish and English).
„ I.B	...	Miss Cunningham (English).
„ I.H	...	Miss Ferguson (History).
		Miss Bell (Divinity).
		Miss Fall (English and Latin).
		Mrs. Fisher (French and Latin).
		Miss Hall (Domestic Science).
		Mr. Hartley (Music).
		Miss Holmes (Physical Education).

Mrs. Hurst (French).

Miss Metcalfe (Physical Education).

Mrs. Wilkinson (Hygiene and General Science).

Miss Woodford (Spanish and French).

Visiting Staff ... Miss Elliott (Violin).

Miss Hunter (Pianoforte).

School Secretary: Miss Gibbons.

Dining Hall Superintendent: Miss McCann.

Laboratory Assistants: Audrey Nash; Sheila Greig.

Captain of School: Jean English.

Vice-Captain: Margaret Berry.

Tennis Captain (Summer, 1951): Joyce Nisbet.

Rounders Captain (Summer, 1951): Pat Kirtley.

Netball Captain (1951-52): Marjorie Snowball.

Hockey Captain (1951-52): Pat Kirtley.

STAFF CHANGES

Since the last issue of "The Bedan," the following members of staff have left: Miss Campbell, Miss Cross, Miss Frankland, Mrs. Gomez and Miss Rudd, and to all we send our affectionate greetings and remembrances.

We offer a warm welcome to the newcomers: Miss Bernard, Miss Fall, Mrs. Hurst, Miss Lax, Mrs. Seales, Miss Woodford and Mr. Rogers. We hope that they will be very happy amongst us.

A Message from the Head Mistress

The success of the young Queen, universally acknowledged, has thrown into high relief the importance of training for living in society. Her teachers and mentors must feel deep satisfaction in that she, who lent herself to their moulding, should have turned out so admirably.

The material that we deal with in our schools is no less valuable for the future. The question is, "Are we achieving the best and highest results?" The answer is alas, an emphatic negative.

In the first half of this century a social revolution has been silently wrought. The children of all classes, having intellectual capacity and moral stamina, have risen to leadership in industry and technology, in commerce, in medicine, in the civil service and in public affairs. Many scores of times the primary and secondary schools of the country have joined to celebrate the success of ex-pupils. Our new governors need owe nothing to birth or wealth, if they possess the requisite quality and talent. This is the achievement of our ordinary Grammar Schools, and on the whole, the achievement rather of boys' schools than of girls'.

This is a disaster, for the second half of the century, now at its very dawn, could well become the age of the woman-leader, co-partner with the man. This needs that parents and pupils be alive to their opportunities, and public and schools insistent on the duty owed by the able to their age and generation. The growth of science and technology, the mental adventure now possible to the research student, open a field of opportunities to women as well as to men. These tasks impose no sex discrimination. They demand only that recruitment shall be from among those of high intellectual attainments. The speed of modern developments and the complexity of modern life demand quick, flexible reasoning powers. A good percentage of Grammar School girls have a high intelligence. If only women and girls would pay the cost of leadership in adequate training, they would inherit the riches to which they are heirs. Graduate training and university experience are worth whatever the cost in time and study and self-discipline. The General Certificate of Education at Advanced Level is only a second best.

When will parents cease to exploit their daughters, insisting on their subordination? When will they learn to allow them chances of advancement equal with their sons? When will girls claim their birthright to serve to their fullest capacity, at the highest level?

Local Education Grants are liberal, places at University and Training College are available. There is plenty of room at the top, and there is no time to waste. WINIFRED J. E. MOUL.

King George VI, 1937-1952

On Wednesday, February 6th, the nation was shocked to hear that King George VI was dead. The gloom that descended on all alike was testimony to the place that he had secretly won in our hearts.

He was not born to kingship: the office was thrust upon him. He undertook the awesome responsibility without enthusiasm, but fulfilled his duty with conscientious zeal. The glitter and the pageantry of his position held no appeal for him. He preferred the quiet reality of home life and of family affection. Without any showy attributes he gained his hold upon public opinion, at home as elsewhere, by his brave, courteous dependable qualities. He shared the plain man's enjoyment of simple fun. The ordinary citizen felt happy in his company, knowing that his King understood and liked him. His was the agreeable character of an English gentleman.

King George lived an active life. He had seen service as a sailor, and endured the unsafe "security" of London during the blitz. He witnessed, uncomfortably, the draining away of the country's wealth, and the reduction of Britain, in peacetime as in war, to stark dependence upon her moral quality. It is good to remember that he shared the stimulus of Festival Year, and that despite its trials, his reign was not without its triumph; despite the warfare, not without its victory.

May God rest the soul of King George, the Good.

W.J.E.M.

Queen Elizabeth the Second

"The Queen, God bless her" will ring through many assemblies of the future. To the thrill of there being a Queen of England is added the magic name "Elizabeth" with all that it connotes: the brave, the gay if scandalous, Sea Dogs; the merchant adventurers; success snatched out of the teeth of impossible odds; a flaunting challenge to fate; the bravado of youth; a fighting faith; above all the "Nest of Singing Birds." Though the present offers little of the promise of the spacious days of Good Queen Bess, nevertheless there is abroad to-day an uplifting of the hearts of men and women as if the new reign evoked the hope of a new age of adventure. We see the young Queen, unafraid of the future, enjoying the present, curious about life and affairs, eager for travel and experience, wringing full satisfaction from hard and unpromising circumstances, meeting "ills and accidents with gallant and high-hearted happiness," and we read in the signs a happy augury for the nation.

God bless our gracious Queen Elizabeth. Long may she reign.

W.J.E.M.

Founders' Day Service, 1951

The two schools assembled in Bishopwearmouth Church on Thursday, April 26th, 1951, for the Founders' Day service, which was conducted by Canon J. F. Richardson, the Rector.

In a most interesting address, Canon Brigstocke, Principal of Venerable Bede College, Durham, aroused in us a wish to dedicate ourselves anew to serve God in the future and inspired our minds with new and invigorating thoughts.

The lessons, taken from the Old and New Testaments, were read by the Schools' Captains, May Metcalf and Alan Dumble, and the girls' choir sang Bach's anthem, "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring."

This is the second time that the two Schools have together commemorated Founders' Day, to thank God for past blessings in our work and to ask His guidance in our future tasks.

JEAN ENGLISH and MARGARET BERRY.

Speech Day, November 15th, 1951

At our annual Speech Day, after the singing of the School Song, the Chairman, Alderman T. L. Ridley, gave a short address, in which he introduced Professor Eaglesham, our main speaker.

Miss Moul, in her report, welcomed Professor E. J. R. Eaglesham, who is Professor of Education in the University of Durham, and greeted our other visitors. The Head Mistress then outlined the various school activities and referred to the very good examination results and the winning of five State Scholarships. Miss Moul said that she hoped girls would choose "horizon" careers where they could use their ability to the full.

Professor Eaglesham, in a humorous and informal address, gave us some wise advice. To illustrate his talk he quoted several passages of poetry with an enthusiasm that we found infectious. He then presented the certificates and awards.

During the evening the School Choir sang "Schafe können sicher weiden," accompanied by the recorder group, "Beauty Lately," "Shepherd, Shepherd, leave your labours," and "Dirge for Fidele."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Alderman Mrs. K. Cohen, and was seconded by Jean English, Captain of the School.

Our Speech Day was a very successful occasion and was enjoyed by all.

JEAN ENGLISH and MARGARET BERRY.

The Parent-Teacher Association

The Head Master of a school near Birmingham has recently spoken of the striking changes which have taken place in the past twenty years in conceptions of education, and of the wide field of possibilities opened up by the Education Act of 1944. "If our aims are to be achieved," he said, "and if the children are to derive full benefit from these changes, the closest co-operation between home and school is necessary." The home played as big a part in the education of the child as did the school. He continued, "I am positive the only way to ensure effective co-operation is to form a properly constituted Parent-Teacher Association."

At Bede, of course, the principle of "closest co-operation" was conceived as far back as 1935, and ever since, we have tried to steer our course with this aim always in view. Ideas and suggestions from parents which will prove beneficial to the pupils and to the School are always welcomed.

The Bede P.T.A. can claim to have left its mark on this town, being instrumental in the formation of the Joint Committee of the Parent-Teacher Associations in other schools in the Borough. Proudly we can say that we have also left our mark on the Bede Grammar School for Girls—in the Grant-in-Aid Fund, in the School Orchestra and in the Venerable Bede Jubilee Memorial Library which, after re-decorating, re-furnishing and re-stocking, we hope will be officially opened before the next school year.

J. W. DAVISON	} Joint Hon. Secretaries
J. W. FYFE	

The Sunderland Bede Collegiate Girls' School Loan and Scholarship Fund

This fund was established in the year 1924, as a result of £1,000 having been raised by the Guild of Old Bedans. The interest from this money is used to help girls after leaving school to be trained for any career, either by definite award of Scholarships or by loan of money to be returned when the borrower is in a position to do so.

At the Annual Meeting of the Committee held in June, 1951, loans were made to four girls who were in need of financial assistance.

Any girl who is leaving school in July and who feels that she is in need of help from this fund, should make application in writing to the Secretary, not later than 16th May, 1952.

K. M. CARRICK (Hon. Secretary).

School Charities, January—December, 1951

Thanks to the efforts of Charity Monitresses, about £60 was contributed through regular weekly Form collections. Of this, £57/10/- was distributed in response to 37 appeals. Each term, the Charities Committee had the difficult task of considering the appeals received during the term, and apportioning among them, the funds in hand. Often we felt our gifts very inadequate when the causes were so deserving, and this brought home very keenly to the monitresses, how great was their responsibility in promoting and sustaining interest in School Charities. Many of the Causes supported are looked upon as "regulars," but always monitresses are free to put forward appeals from Causes in which individuals or Forms are especially interested. One such came from IC who had the welfare of lepers at heart. We are glad also if we can help in time of crisis. For instance, we sent a donation of £3 to the Mayor's Fund for Relief in Jamaica, and organised a school collection which enabled us to send £29 to the Easington Colliery Disaster Fund in the name of the Staff, Pupils, Parents and Friends of the School.

To try to make our giving less impersonal, it was suggested that visits should be organised for the Charities Committee, to local Institutions which we support, the biggest demand being to visit the St. Nicholas' Boys' Home in East Boldon, and the Animal Shelter in West Wear Street. Owing to Inspector Miles' illness, the visit to the Animal Shelter could not take place; but our enthusiasm for the work of the Children's Society was so stimulated by our visit to Boldon, that the Monitresses, through their Forms, organised a special effort to raise funds to help the boys there. Some Forms made cakes, biscuits, toffee and other appetising delicacies which found a ready sale among hungry Bedans. Others organised side-shows and a jumble-sale, while still other Forms co-operated in producing an excellent concert. Our joint efforts resulted in fifteen guineas being sent to the Home.

We were sorry to lose Miss Rudd from the Charities Committee, where her able work was much appreciated. Miss Hayton will replace her as Joint Organiser.

D. M. WILMAN.

National Savings

The School Savings Group shows a gradual increase in numbers. Many new members are realising that small amounts put aside each week show appreciable remuneration at holiday time; this effort has been made more attractive by the use of special holiday savings cards issued to schools by the National Savings Committee.

A. KINCH.

Student Christian Movement, 1951-52

The subject for the year's work was the same as for the conference: Christianity and Communism. The speakers during the Autumn Term were Miss Bell, who spoke on the Communist Manifesto; and the Rev. George Bassett, who told us about Communism and its spread in India. We also had several meetings during which we discussed questions on the year's subject. The climax of the year's work was the conference held on Saturday, February 9th, 1952. The speakers were Dr. E. L. Allen, Mr. J. Ferguson, Sister Joan and the Rev. T. Bendelow.

This conference was a great success and many pupils from surrounding schools attended.

S.C.M. Conference

The Conference began with a short service which Miss Moul conducted. In her address she used the Beatitudes to illustrate how a Christian should live.

The first speaker was Mr. J. Ferguson of the Classics Department, King's College, Newcastle. In his outline of Marxist Communism he drew attention to their interpretation of History as "thesis, antithesis and synthesis," to their materialistic economics, to their advocacy of violence in effecting world revolution, and to their objection to religion as an opiate for the people. Mr. Ferguson pressed for peace and pointed out that by the rearmament programme we were lowering the standard of living and thus preparing in the country ideal conditions for the spread of Communism. He reminded us of the increase of Communism during the war and immediately after it.

After a break for coffee, we returned to hear the second address, which was given by the Rev. T. Bendelow. He told us that the Communists were trying to change the order of society quickly, and to do this they were willing to maintain that the end justified the means. The only way of combating Communism was by a personal faith.

We then divided into groups to discuss (1) Marxists: Who are they? Who become Communists? and (2) What is the defence against Communism? What do **we** believe? When, later, we heard the reports of the discussions, it was obvious that the first two speakers had made a deep impression on the minds of those present.

In the afternoon Sister Joan, of the Franciscan (Anglican) Order, told us how to fight against Communism by building up our faith. She made us realize that we do not know God and

therefore cannot adequately love Him. To know Him more fully we must pray to Him, read His Word, and attend the Communion Service regularly. When we loved God, we were willing and anxious to devote ourselves, our time, our money to His cause, as the Communists devoted theirs.

In the fourth address Dr. E. L. Allen, of the R.I. Department of King's College, Newcastle, said that the Communist wants to free people from all the prejudices of the age. He has no moral standards, for according to him there is no such reality as absolute justice; there is only bourgeois or proletarian justice. There are no moral standards above class struggle. To the Christian, however, all men stand beneath God's judgment, and without the final standard of His rightness there could be only chaos.

The speakers answered questions that arose out of further discussion.

In the evening Miss Moul summed up the findings of the Conference. She stressed the need of understanding and patience when dealing with the Communists; understanding in order to assess rightly their ideas, and patience because, though different from the Christian ideal of Eternal Life, their desire is for what they believe is the good life. Their faith was compound of half-truth and positive error. As a movement of power it was a threat to personal and political freedom. Christianity was no opiate of the people. Christianity was the most revolutionary religion. It was the failure of Christians to be true to their own faith that was responsible for the spread of Marxist Communism, and for the Communist belief that if men rely on God alone, even Christian men will leave unaltered the evil conditions of, and the low standards of living in, the world. While Christian apathy may, alas, be responsible for materialism, what the Communist failed to realise was that this world was not the end for man's striving. Eternity alone was the framework within which the Christian life would be fulfilled.

There followed a short closing service.

The Conference was a great success and for that we owe warm thanks, especially to the visiting speakers and to the school organisers.

ROSEMARY RICHARDSON (S.C.M. Secretary).

Junior Christian Club

The J.C.C. has had a very successful year, thanks to the enthusiasm in the First and Third Forms. This term we are going to write illustrated accounts of missionary work in foreign lands. We are hoping to hold a Sale of Work, the proceeds of which are for the Swiss Village for War Orphans. In this and in all our other interests we should welcome more co-operation from the Second Forms.

JOYCE MARTIN, RUBY BROWNE.

The School Parliament

The School Parliament continues to hold monthly meetings, when representatives from each form are able to discuss problems which arise in school.

This year great attention has been paid to the behaviour of girls in tram and bus queues, and a definite improvement has been noted.

During the school year 1950-51 the following change of constitution was proposed: That instead of holding meetings during the lunch-hour in the presence of members of staff, Parliament should meet at 4 p.m. under the chairmanship of the Head Girl. This system was tried, but did not prove popular with the majority of the school. The meetings are, therefore, still held from 1 p.m. to 1.30 p.m.

On behalf of the Parliament, I should like to thank our Chairman, Miss Carrick, for her help in solving the varied problems which arise in the school, and in making these meetings so valuable to all.

MARGARET R. BERRY (Secretary).

Music

The Music Society

During the year 1951-52, the school has had several opportunities of hearing musical performances by great artistes. A very enjoyable lecture-recital was given in the school hall by Mr. Lambert Flack, flautist with the B.B.C. Symphony Orchestra, and later in the year, we had the pleasure of hearing Lady Barbirolli, the distinguished oboe player. Another enjoyable performance was given when Mr. John Davies (clarinet) and a string quartette from the University of Wales played music by Mozart, Haydn and William Walton.

Warm thanks are due to Mr. Wood, Music Organiser for Sunderland, who made these visits possible.

This season, the Music Society has so far had four meetings. The first "meeting" consisted of a visit by the members to Newcastle, to hear the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham; an experience which is unforgettable. The first visiting speakers to the Society were four members of Bede Boys' Orchestra, who gave a very interesting talk about their instruments, the flute, clarinet, saxophone and bassoon. At the third meeting, Miss Bernard, accompanied by Carole Davidson, gave a very enjoyable song recital. Mr. Wood was

also a guest and from him, we heard an illuminating talk on Delius' "Brigg Fair," the title of his talk being "An English Rhapsody."

The Society is looking forward to some interesting meetings in the future, and it is hoped that many new members will attend.

JOYCE CLASPER (Secretary).

The School Orchestra, Recorder Group, Junior and Senior Choirs

During the Summer Term of 1951, the Orchestra, Recorder Players and the two Choirs gave a concert in aid of P.T.A. funds. They also took part in the usual end-of-term concert.

On Speech Day the Junior and Senior Choirs sang groups of songs and in one of these, the Senior Choir was accompanied by three of the recorder group. Everyone again took part in the carol service, and the orchestra also accompanied the hymns at prayers during the last week of the Autumn Term.

The Senior Choir and some of the Recorder Group went to Redby Infants' School on December 21st and sang carols there.

Orchestra, Recorder Players and Choirs are now busy practising for a concert. At the end of the Spring Term the Choirs are looking forward to the Sunderland Musical Festival and the North of England Musical Tournament which take place early in the Summer Term. Four of the Recorder Group are helping to provide some of the incidental music for the forthcoming school production of "Twelfth Night."

MARGARET COATES.

Drama, 1951-1952

In April, 1951, the school gave three performances of A. A. Milne's "Make-Believe." The play was chosen so that many of our younger members might take part, and they responded with enthusiasm. Rehearsals were lively and enjoyable, and the audiences who came to watch the public performances were kind enough to show their amused appreciation.

The Dramatic Society is now rehearsing "Twelfth Night" which we hope to present early in the Summer Term.

The Modern Events and Historical Society

President: Miss W. J. E. Moul.

Vice-President: Miss K. M. Ferguson.

Chairman: Alma Gowland.

Secretary: Kathleen Moses. Treasurer: Eileen Brass.

During 1951 our Society had a very varied and interesting programme.

The high-light of the year was undoubtedly our summer excursion when we visited Binchester, Escombe and Bowes Museum. At Binchester, better known to historians as Vinovium, we saw a very fine Roman hypocaust; at Escombe we visited a Saxon church which is perhaps older than our own St. Peter's; and Bowes Museum, always worth a visit, was made doubly attractive by a special Festival Year exhibition which included "The Red Boy," lent for the occasion by the Earl of Durham.

In July Madame Boillot addressed us on the subject of Western Union, and in October Miss Plumbe, an Australian teacher, gave us a talk on the life and problems of modern Australia.

As our contribution to the Parent-Teacher Association's Christmas Market we dressed a fortune-telling doll which proved a great attraction and raised £2/14/6.

Four girls went to London to attend the Council for Education in World Citizenship Christmas Conference. We were able to give them some financial assistance, partly by the proceeds from the sale of toffee-apples, and partly by gifts from very generous friends who think the idea of World Citizenship worth supporting.

Science Society

The Science Society continues to meet on the first Thursday in every month and this year Mrs. Wilkinson is Chairman.

The Annual Outing, held on Wednesday, May 2nd, 1951, was to Otterburn Mills and thence to Wallington Hall, the home of Sir Charles Trevelyan. After being shown round the Hall by Sir Charles himself we were allowed to wander at will through the beautiful grounds in which it stands.

Since the beginning of the 1951-52 School Year we have had interesting lectures on Butterflies and Moths, Tropical Fish and Photography, and we hope to have several more outside speakers during the coming term.

G. COHEN (Secretary). M. R. BERRY (Vice-Chairman).

Senior Debating Society

Since the formation of the Inter-Schools Debating Society, attendances have been high and the enjoyment of all has been obvious. The motions discussed have been varied and, in some cases, educational. As an occasional change, B.B.C. evenings and balloon debates have proved popular. The programme for the future includes the annual cup debate, a staff debate and a mock trial.

GILLIAN RHYMER (Assistant Secretary).

A French Course for Sixth Forms

At the Lycée Lakanal, in Paris, there were over two hundred students, some of whom came from universities, but most were still at school. They came from all over Britain, many in parties of three or four, but just as many alone.

The weather was really wonderful. The temperature was nearly always above 80 degrees, a delightful change after winter in England. We made the most of it by walking in the centre of the city, along the fascinating banks of the Seine and round the famous monuments. We were all fully decided that Easter is the best time to go to Paris, as warm as summer, yet with the freshness and clearness of spring.

The work was pleasant. We were split up into groups of about twenty and every morning we assembled in a sunny classroom, overlooking a grassy quadrangle, and for two hours we would talk in French, be taught French songs, or read and discuss poems and prose extracts under the surveillance of French teachers who were always ready to stop and joke with us.

Sometimes, after morning classes, there was a lecture, but before this we had always time for a game of tennis or a trip to a little café in the village of Bourg la Reine, part of Sceaux, the suburb of Paris where the school is situated. These lectures were designed not only to educate us but also for our enjoyment. There was one talk on stained-glass windows, and I remember an excellent one on hats and a very interesting exposition of the French system of government, usually so bewildering to the foreigner. We were free after lunch at one o'clock. Dinner was at six, giving us plenty of time to visit the opera or a theatre afterwards.

Several outings were arranged for us. One day we set off very early in the morning by motor coach for Versailles, where we stayed all day, free to wander as we wished. We were given a civic reception in Paris in the famous Hôtel de Ville, which

made us feel very important. Even this was overshadowed by an opportunity to go to a fashion show held by Christian Dior.

Primarily intended as a course of work, it proved to be the most exciting and memorable holiday I have ever had.

A SIXTH FORMER.

The Guild of Old Bedans

The members of the Guild of Old Bedans have once again shown their interest in present Bedans and have very kindly given two prizes for essay competition. The Magazine Committee, on behalf of the School, would like to express their thanks and deep appreciation of the Guild's generosity.

The subject, set this year by the Mathematics Department, was "Numbers," and the prize-winning essays by Julia Reed (Form V.C) and Dorothy Allen (Form III.C) are printed below.

Numbers

Whereas some minds respond to anything artistic, others become alert when any mathematical problem is to be solved and one can imagine their brains click-click-clicking like a machine, as the digits dance around and fall into orderly ranks. The colour and form of a vehicle appeal to one child, whereas the number of wheels and their way of functioning interest the other. "Two, Four, Six, Eight, Mary at the Cottage Gate," "Ten Little Nigger Boys" and "Twelve Green Bottles" are the rhymes which they favour in preference to the sad story of "Old Mother Hubbard." As the mind matures, one child travels with Shakespeare and Dickens, whilst the other wrestles with Pythagoras and Euclid.

The man in the street optimistically permutating his Penny Points Pools; the young girl avoiding the thirteenth for an important appointment and choosing the lucky seventh; the gambler risking his all on a number at the roulette table; the high financier juggling with enormous sums on the Stock Exchange; all find numbers fascinating.

And how fascinating they are! Think of a number, double it, take away the number first thought of and so on, and then, "Hey Presto!" the astounded listener is presented with the number she thought of. Ingenuity? Trickery? No, a simple understanding of the power of number is the secret.

A good memory and a mathematical mind are essential attributes for a good card or chess player. Leisure hours can be well spent. Equally, calculating interests, plotting expenditure graphs and decoding intricate messages must be pleasing ways of earning a livelihood. At work or play a mathematician need never be a dull drudge.

From the beginning of time a method of reckoning was obviously necessary. The cave-man calculated by making marks on a stone with a charred stick. The Babylonians, two thousand years before the birth of Christ, scratched crude invoices on clay tablets, and the Egyptians, before the Christian Era, wrote on papyrus. From these rough signs the digits as we know them to-day have developed.

Greek scholars were so fond of numbers and their properties that they gave the study a special name "Arithmeetikee." It was the Greek Pythagoras who first discovered that in ALL right-angled triangles, the square on the hypotenuse was equal to the sum of the squares on the other two sides, a discovery which has haunted the minds of school-girls ever since.

As new continents were explored and new scientific discoveries made, the tremendous importance of mathematics in all spheres of life, on sea, land and in the air, became more and more apparent and now there are logarithms, slide rules and elaborate calculating machines which eliminate all drudgery and tortuously slow computations. Yet, in spite of these advances in time and labour-saving devices, it is the quickness of the mathematical mind that really solves the problem and makes the word "number" significant.

Whether or not a person shows aptitude for number, certain training in mastering its intricacies is definitely necessary if one is to become a good citizen, for no other training can so successfully abolish from the character such traits as loose thinking and jumping to hasty, naive conclusions. Solutions must be checked and double checked if the result is to be accurate and one learns not to grumble at the effort expended. Problems will not solve themselves and the straight-thinking, meticulous care needed for mathematics will perhaps train men to be careful, competent and as honest with themselves as with others.

JULIA REED, Form V.C.

Numbers

From the earliest times, men have counted on their fingers, and the system of making straight marks for the record of numbers probably arose from this habit.

Later, these marks were "scored," or divided with cross strokes, into groups of five, each representing the fingers of one hand.

The decimal method of counting by tens, representing the fingers of both hands, came later, when one group of five was found to be too small a unit.

The best known of all older systems of number notation is the Roman system. We use it a great deal even now, for marking the hours on clock dials and numbering the chapters of books. However, it was not practical to use in the actual working out of sums. Imagine being asked in a Mathematics examination to multiply XVII by IX!

The introduction of the simpler Arabic system into Europe came after the Crusades, when the West and the East were brought into close contact. Its greater simplicity is due to the fact that each digit is a simple symbol (4, 5, 6) instead of being made up of several, (IV, III, II) as in the old Roman system. In Europe, this was not entirely replaced by the Arabic form until the sixteenth century.

Numbers are used for many different purposes. The Book of Numbers tells of the numbering of the Children of Israel, a census which took place many years before Christ. Joseph and Mary travelled to Bethlehem, for another census ordered by Caesar. Now, in this twentieth century everyone has a number. We find it on our identity cards and ration books. The numbering of cars and other vehicles is essential, so that the owners can easily be found.

In every phase of life, Numbers play an important part.

D. ALLEN, Form III.C.

Letter from Bermuda

20th February, 1952.

"Where the remote Bermudas ride
In the ocean's bosom unspied." (Marvell).

Dear Friends of the Bede School,

Only seventeen flying hours from the cold and wet of England lie the Bermudas, nestling against the bosom of the deep Atlantic—green, inviting and warm. I really felt the magic spell of these islands as I stepped out of the B.O.A.C. Constellation aircraft into the warm air of the early hours of December 31st, some seven weeks ago. A friendly place, I thought, as I was

welcomed by the air-port officials, who already knew who I was, where I had come from and what I intended to do in the islands. In an area of only 19 square miles and with a population of 37,000 (13,500 white and 23,500 coloured—the word "negro" is never used, by the way—) it is not surprising that everybody knows everybody else.

It was not till the next morning that I saw the full beauty of the islands. The riot of colour was breath-taking—flaming hibiscus, oleander and blue "morning glory" ran wild in the hedgerows: the houses, built of sandstone, tinted in pastel shades of pink, blue and yellow: the sea—an ever-changing picture, advancing with the day from dark grey through pink at dawn to deepest blue streaked with turquoise; vanishing in reds and golds with the coming of evening, to re-appear under the moon, splashed with silver.

The city of Hamilton has an appeal of its own, reminding me somehow of those Mid-Western towns much popularized by Cowboys-and-Indians! The shops, however, are modern and well stocked with a variety of food. Women's shops display nylons and the lovely cashmere sweaters that are unobtainable at home. The cost of living, however, is very high, and you may be shocked to hear that an "apartment" will cost you anything from £30 per month; a quart of milk costs 2/2 (plus 1/- deposit on the bottle!); a loaf of bread 1/9; steak from 6/- per lb.; and a seat at the "movies" not less than 5/-.

The language is very "Americanized" and one soon becomes accustomed to such terms as "drug-stores," "side-walks" and "gas stations": directions are given in terms of so many "blocks east (or west)" and the current slang term to express approval (the equivalent, I gather, of the English "smashing") is "sporting," intoned in a strong American accent!

The "radio" was something of a disappointment for most sets can receive only the local station, "Z.B.M. The Voice of the Colony." The programmes are very inferior to those produced by the B.B.C. and are constantly interrupted by exhortations to "Drink Coco-Cola—the drink with bounce to the ounce." Even the news bulletin is broadcast in five-minute intervals, the intervening time being taken up with invitations to "Call and see Smith's fine selection of ladies' cashmere sweaters."

The past few years have seen the gradual "mechanization" of the islands. Although there are still many of the delightful horse-drawn carriages mentioned in the guide books, everyone now possesses an autocycle of some kind or other, and the taxi service is second to none. Crossing the streets of Hamilton

during the rush-hour has now become a "magnum opus," in spite of the efforts of the white-helmeted police (who, incidentally, all seem to hail from Ireland!).

You may be interested to know that since I arrived here, I have never worn an over-coat, and as the average mid-day temperature is about 70°, a skirt and blouse or a thin dress is all that is required by way of warmth. Easter brings the really warm weather and from then onwards temperatures begin to rise, until in the height of summer (so I'm told) it becomes necessary to change two or three times daily.

I began with a quotation about "the remote Bermudas," but though to most English people the islands are a vague dot "somewhere in the Atlantic," the people out here feel a far closer relationship with the rest of the world than the average Briton. Because of the improvements in air travel, most Bermudians have flown all over the world and really feel they "belong" to our great Commonwealth of Nations. This was brought home to me very forcibly when we received the news of the death of our well-loved King. There was genuine and heart-felt grief at the passing of so fine a man, but this is gradually being replaced by a pride in belonging to the realm now governed by a Queen, who, as a Princess, had found time to think of calling at these lonely islands on her return from her tour to Australia.

Yours most sincerely,

DAPHNE CROSS.

Athletics

Hockey

At the end of last season, colours were awarded to Verna Jenkins and Pat Kirtley.

During the season 1951-52, the 1st Senior XI have so far played twelve matches, and have won eight, drawn two and lost two. The 2nd Senior XI have played five, won four and lost one.

The following girls are members of the first team: Eileen Brass, Shirley Green, Maureen Gillis, Verna Jenkins, Pat Kirtley (Capt.), Audrey Knight, Valerie Naisby, Edith Osborne, Maureen Savage, Sheila Thompson, Joyce Young.

The team have played well together. Although the forwards tend to dribble the ball in the circle, their interchanging has been good and their passing quick. The defence have played well and their clearing is skilful.

Rounders

In the summer of 1951, the 1st Rounders IX played thirteen matches, winning eleven and losing two. The second team played seven matches, of which they won three.

The members of the first team were Sylvia Flint, Verna Jenkins, Audrey Johnson, Winifred Jude, Pat Kirtley (Capt.), Doreen McIntyre, Marjorie Snowball, Jean Walls, Joyce Young. A very consistent standard of play was maintained and at the close of the season colours were awarded to Sylvia Flint and Doreen McIntyre.

Tennis.

The school team did not have a very successful season in the summer of 1951. Of the eleven matches played, three were won, but our opponents scored only fifty-four sets against our forty-five. The team have gained much experience of match play, which should prove valuable next season.

The Inter-Form Tennis Tournament was won by Form V.BA.

Two innovations this year have been very successful. The Senior School Singles Championship was won by Norma Wyness, who was presented with the Thompson Shield. A Mixed Doubles Tournament was organised after the summer holidays. Miss Moul and Mr. Budge presented the prizes to the winners, Verna Jenkins and Geoffrey Haswell.

Those who played for the School team during the 1951 season were: Brenda Allison, Maureen Gillis, Joyce Keerie, Audrey Knight, Sylvia Middlewood, Pat Naisbitt, Joyce Nisbet (Captain), Jean Petch, Margaret Turnbull, and Norma Wyness.

Netball

In the season 1951-52 the 1st Senior VII has consisted of the following players: Kathlyn Bates, Jean Bell, Brenda Jones, Eleanor Lennon, Rena Musgrave, Joyce Quayle and Marjorie Snowball (Capt.). The 1st Senior Team have so far played twelve matches, of which they have won ten and lost two. The matches included several games against members of the Boys' School, which all players greatly enjoyed.

In the Senior Inter-Form Tournament, Form Lower VI.B were the victors; Form III.C won the Junior Tournament.

At the close of the season 1950-51, colours were awarded to the following girls: Sylvia Flint, Shirley Gibbs and Marjorie Snowball.

Sports Day, 1951

Sports Day was held on Wednesday, June 13th, and although the day was grey and sultry, we managed to complete the programme before the rain came.

We were very pleased to welcome Mrs. Openshaw, wife of the Assistant Director of Education: we thank her for her kindness in presenting the trophies and prizes.

The Senior Cup was won by Form IV.Ba, with 33 points, and Form II.C secured the Junior Cup by scoring 45 points. The Sports Champions were Joyce Keerie (Senior), Jean Walls (Middle School) and Judith A. Parker (Junior). In the cricket match at the close of Sports Day, the girls beat the "Fathers" by one run.

Award of Prizes, School Year, 1950-1951

- JANET TODD for exemplary conduct
and high attainments May Metcalf
- MARGARET IRENE MALLEN for
the encouragement of Science,
Mathematics and Geography ... Gloria Cohen
Marion Osborne
Irene Kirton
May Metcalf
Muriel Hedley
- JENNIE SEYMOUR for Latin ... Doris Crosby
- GUILD OF OLD BEDANS for Art ... Joan Charlton
Rose Hurst
For "Bedan" essay ... Patricia Hunnam
Gloria Cohen
- SHEARER for French in—
Fourth Form Ann Heads
Third Form June Cowie
Second Form Joan Leck
- BRIGGS for Geography in Third and
Fourth Forms Elizabeth McLaughlan
- ARKLE for English in—
Third Form Kathleen Cairns
Second Form Kathleen Ralph
First Form Ann McAllister

SEDDON for most appreciative work
in Fifth and Sixth Forms

in FrenchDoris Crosby
in EnglishDoris Crosby

FLORENCE MOOR MEMORIAL

for excellence in Housewifery ...Beryl Simpson
Isobel Young
Hilda Lawson
Miriam Staddon

ORME for Latin in Fifth Forms ...Evelyne Leonard

MARGARET MILLER for Divinity Muriel Grieveson

STIRK for BiologyAnn Bailey

MRS. HARTLEY for Music ...Thelma Richardson
Sylvia Tate
Carole Davidson

HEAD MISTRESSMargaret Chappell
for the encouragement of History ...Margaret Chilton
Pamela Cowgill

STEWART for the encouragement of
Scripture—

Sixth FormsRhoda Viner
Fifth FormsBeryl Simpson
Fourth FormsJoyce Lautebach
Third FormsNorma Bellerby
Second FormsViolet Smith
First FormsValerie Cuthbertson

SCHOOL—

for best Advanced Certificate ...Margaret Chappell
for best Ordinary Certificate ...Evelyne Leonard

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION—

for the encouragement of—

Mathematics—

SeniorElspeth Fyfe
Valerie Williamson
JuniorFreda Hopper
Pauline Noble

for the encouragement of—

History—

SeniorEvelyne Leonard
JuniorDorothy Allen

for the encouragement of—

Geography—

SeniorMuriel Hedley
JuniorCatherine Watson

for the encouragement of—

German—

SeniorTheima Richardson

JuniorJean Wolfe

for the encouragement of—

Spanish—

SeniorEdna Straughan

JuniorVera Trotter

for the encouragement of—

Latin—

SeniorMargaret Chappell

JuniorJean Wolfe

for the encouragement of—

Hygiene

...Dorothy Stephinson

GEORGE HILDREY SCHOLAR-
SHIP

...Audrey Taws

GAMES:—

HockeyVerna Jenkins

NetballSylvia Flint

RoundersPatricia Kirtley

TennisJoyce Nisbet

SwimmingDorothy Stephinson

Best All RoundShirley Gibbs

Special Awards

Hockey— Junior CupForm III.C.

Senior ShieldForm Upper VI.

Netball— Junior CupForm III.C.

Senior ShieldForm Upper VI.

Rounders— Junior CupForm III.Ba.

Senior CupForm Lower VI.

Tennis— Senior TrophyForm V.Ba.

Singles ShieldNorma Wyness

Swimming— Junior CupRuth Crompton

Senior CupDorothy Stephinson

Gymnastics— Junior CupForm III.C.

Senior ShieldForm V.Ba.

Games— Best-All-Round CupShirley Gibbs

Domestic Science CupMiriam Staddon

Sports— Junior CupForm II.C.

Senior CupForm IV.Ba.

Sports Champions—

Junior SchoolJudith A. Parker

Middle SchoolJean Walls

Senior SchoolJoyce Keerie

Examination Successes

In July, 1951, the following girls were successful in the University of Durham examination of the General Certificate of Education at **ADVANCED** and **SCHOLARSHIP LEVEL**: Marcia Bainbridge, Hilda Bath, Joan Bellett, Margaret Chappell, Joan Charlton, Margaret Chilton, Naomi Cohen, Gillian Cooper, Doris Crosby, Sylvia Flint, Muriel Grieveson, Patricia Holbourne, Rose Hurst, Joyce Keerie, Irene Kirton, Ida Magog, May Metcalf, Marion Osborne, Eleanor Potts, Thelma Richardson, Audrey Taws, Rhoda Viner, Sylvia Tait.

On their results in this examination State Scholarships were awarded to Margaret Chappell, Doris Crosby, Irene Kirton, Marion Osborne and Thelma Richardson.

Thelma Richardson also won a Major Open Entrance Scholarship at King's College Newcastle, and Sylvia Tait gained an Open Scholarship (Pianoforte), awarded by the Royal Schools of Music, tenable at the Royal Academy of Music, London.

The following girls were successful in the examination of the General Certificate of Education at **ORDINARY LEVEL**: Brenda Allison, Audrey Almond, Doreen Applegarth, Ann Bailey, Sybil Baker, Margaret Barrett, Margaret Bassett, Lynda Batey, Josephine Baxter, Isabel Beaton, Enid Bell, June Bestford, Moira Bevin, Jean Bittlestone, Eileen Brass, End Clarke, Margaret Coates, Shirley Coates, Judith Cohen, Jean Collier, Margaret Coppin, Pamela Cowgill, Marjorie Cowie, Margaret Crowther, Patricia Cruddas, Jean Dawson, Carole Davidson, Edna Dent, Dorothy Dobbing, Thelma Doberman, Sheila Donaldson, Sheila Donkin, Monica Downing, Eileen Edmondson, Elsie Elliott, Jean English, Margaret Estell, Jennie Farquhar, Elizabeth A. Fenwick, Gwendoline Fenwick, Shirley Fitzsimon, Jean Forster, Elizabeth Freer, Jean Freshwater, Elspeth Fyfe, Barbara Garrard, Jennie Garrett, Shirley Gibbs, Margaret Gibson, Freda Goodfellow, Shirley Gottlieb, Elsie Gray, Shirley Green, June Harty, Jane Hedley, Joan Hedley, Muriel Hedley, Marie Henderson, Veronica Hepple, Joan Heslop, Heather Hewitson, Rita Hodgson, Brenda Hoffman, Audrey Hogarth, Moira Hornsby, Freda Howe, Audrey Hugill, Dorothy Hunter, Verna Jenkins, Shirley Johnson, Winifred Jude, Patricia Kirtley, Audrey Knight, Margaret Laing, Hilda Lawson, Evelyne Leonard, Kathleen Linfoot, Maureen Lofthouse, Joan Maddison, Margaret McGahan, Doreen McIntyre, Dorothy Marshall, Jean Mellentin, Jean Meggison, Sylvia Middlewood, Audrey Morton, Ruby Niel, Joyce Nisbet, Margaret Parker, Vera Parkin, Marjorie Pattinson, Patricia Perry, Jean Petch, Brenda Powell, Isobel Ramsay, Ann Rayson, Florence Regan, Gillian Rymer, Sylvia Richards, Patricia Robertson, Joyce Samuelson,

Marion Scott, Muriel Searle, Beryl Simpson, Elsie Smith, Marjorie Snowball, Shirley Spencer, Miriam Staddon, Ann Stark, Doreen Stevens, Shirley Stone, Edna Straughan, Norma Tait, Freda Temperley, Marjorie Tough, Margaret Turnbull, Shirley Wake, Doreen Wareing, Ann Watt, Cathleen West, Audrey White, Mary Whitehead, Jacqueline Wilkinson, Ena Willencyk, Ann Wilson, Olive Wilson, Sheila Woolman, Isobel Young, Joyce Young.

" Withens "

The casual traveller, roaming the bleak moor, would never notice the lonely old farm-house. It has long since fallen into ruins and the outhouses are overgrown with fern and bracken. The weatherworn rafters creak in the summer breeze and sway gently, as though sighing to the echo of past memories, and a solitary tree guards the house in its desolation. A profound silence reigns, broken only by the wind in the rafters, the raucous calling of a grouse, or the bleating of an old sheep lost on the rolling moorland. The passing hiker would not cast a second glance towards the deserted farm, and yet what a quiver of excitement trembled through us as we approached from afar !

" Withens " is the " Wuthering Heights " of long ago. How many remembrances its crumbling walls must hold ! I entered what used to be the kitchen, and I could imagine the uncouth Heathcliffe leaning over the wide open fire-place and frowning into the blazing fire. I could almost see young Catherine slipping in quietly by the side door, and hear the clamping boots of the old servant ringing on the cobbles outside in the yard. A broken window frame moved in the breeze. Could it be the spirit of Catherine trying still to enter ? The musty scent of old age and neglect shrouded the place, like a protective veil, containing all its whispering secrets.

Outside on the narrow track leading across the heath to Thrush Cross Grange, we stopped and turned. Perhaps Catherine and Heathcliffe had wandered this way, long, long ago. Perhaps they too had turned and gazed at the house. And so we left "Withens," alone in its memories, heedless of our presence, enduring the wild winds of Haworth moor.

JEAN ENGLISH, Form Upper VI.

"Nil Desperandum"

I met Helen for the first time last year, but I had heard so much about her before we met, that I felt I had known her for years. The first thing that impresses everyone who meets her

is her eyes; they always look as though she is about to break into laughter. It is this sense of humour that has helped her to overcome the many difficulties with which she has been confronted—this and her determination.

She married a pilot in 1942, and after a brief honeymoon he left for the front, never to return. She had a son, Stephen, and in order to care for him she took work in a munitions factory. Her machine caught her in its wheels and wrenched out her right arm.

To a twenty-four-year-old widow with a young son to support, this was a dreadful blow; to a young, attractive woman, an amateur artist, who enjoyed life to the full, it seemed to be the end of all her ambitions. She was faced, not with life, but merely with existence.

Helen went to a rehabilitation centre where not only her body was healed, but also her mind. At first she was very bitter, but seeing people in worse plight than herself, she was comforted by the thought, "You're lucky; at least you have one arm." She did not consider taking up life where she had left off; the future, for her, was a blank. The Padre, however, had other ideas. He said, "I bet you five shillings you cannot write by next week!" Helen won that bet, and has gone on winning against the greatest odds.

She is determined not to be a burden to anyone. She has taught herself to dress, to shampoo and set her hair, put on her own cosmetics, and do her housework, wash, cook, sew and knit. Some of her methods are ingenious, but she "gets things done." In order to open a tin, she must place it on the floor, put one foot on it, and wield the tin-opener in her left hand. Nothing daunts Helen; she has even taken up her painting once more. In spite of her patience and ingenuity there are two things she finds impossible: she cannot wash her arm or manicure her nails. Otherwise she is quite independent.

Helen has re-married and is living very happily in Cyprus, from where she writes the most lively letters. Living conditions there are not good, but she remains cheerful, her sense of humour colouring everything she experiences. Christmas was spent with a Greek family who fried everything—even the mince-pies! She has never allowed self-pity or despair to dominate her life; she has refused to be treated as an oddity or an invalid. While her friends recognise the great things Helen has achieved, it is the small everyday triumphs that especially endear her to them: the patience with which she practised for hours so as to be able to strike a match; her perseverance in threading needles and using scissors: these are the things that make her a remarkable woman.

MARGARET SUMNER, Form Upper Sixth.

The Collection

When I was very small, one of my favourite occupations was to sit and play with the contents of the china cabinet. To-day I find it no less fascinating for I am in a position to appreciate the historical interest of many of the antique pieces.

On the top shelf is a platter of Indian "hammer-work." In its centre the silver is beaten into a scene depicting an Indian hunter, mounted on a rearing elephant and battling with a tiger. Round the edges are fourteen figures of hunters, dancing and flourishing their spears. There is no marking on the plaque to indicate its age, but from the thinness of the silver in parts, it would seem fairly old.

On the same shelf is some more silver-ware. This is "stamped" work and is eighteenth century Cork silver. There are two pieces, a cream-jug and a sugar-bowl, and both show the same graceful lines and delicately engraved floral bands. Between them stands a piece which never fails to attract children (of all ages!) It is a model train, about three inches in length and rather after the style of Stephenson's "Rocket." It is made of silver filigree so fine that it resembles silver lace and it carries a small bell which rings as the train runs. The model is of Polish workmanship and is probably over a hundred years old. Its purpose was to hold spices and it was used in the service for the termination of the Sabbath in the Jewish home.

Now we leave the silver shelf and pass on to the china. A black teapot decorated with strawberries proves on examination to be a piece of early unglazed Wedgwood pottery, about two hundred years old. It is hard to believe that such an elaborate pot could ever have been used for holding tea, but there are distinct brown stains inside which indicate that this was once the case. Sharing this shelf are two impressive cups and saucers in Sèvres porcelain, made at Sèvres, near Paris. They are not at all like our modern cups for they stand on short gilt legs and each has a lid. The china is lavishly enamelled in crimson, green and gold, and in addition each piece bears a hand-painted miniature of a pastoral scene.

On the bottom shelf are four small objects. One is a Venetian perfume bottle of purple glass ornamented with gilt. Then there is a snuff-box of metal and agate, and two patch-boxes, relics of Regency days. The patch-boxes are evidently gifts, one bearing the words "Sacred to Friendship" and the other "I'll constant be, my dear, to thee." Each is of hand-painted porcelain and is fitted with a mirror in the lid.

The interest of the snuff-box, however, lies within. It holds four coins, three silver and one gold. One of the silver coins is very worn and bears the date 1699. The second is of the same size, about that of a modern shilling, but is much heavier; it is dated 1817 and bears the head of George III. The third silver coin is so small that it is easily overlooked. It is a Maundy penny of 1838 and bears Queen Victoria's head. Maundy money is that given away on Maundy Thursday by the Royal Almoner. Usually a penny is given for each year of the Sovereign's reign and these small silver coins have been specially minted since 1622. The gold coin is the most precious piece. It is engraved with a head of Christ on one side and two Christians on the other. The Greek inscription indicates that the coin is Byzantine and belongs to the reign of Constantine VII. The date on it is 919 A.D. The coin has apparently been used as a pendant, on a chain, and it is thought that perhaps it was brought to England by some sailor. Now that I have shown it to you, I will return it to the snuff-box in the cabinet. I take a last look at its contents and close the door.

GLORIA COHEN, Form U.VI.

A Day in the Life of a Fruit-Picker

A.M.

- 6.40—Rise shivering and dash out into the "invigorating early morning" for some clear, cold water (complete with gnat larvae) and wake myself by splashing gaily in it.
- 6.39—Dress hurriedly in two sweaters, shorts, dilapidated mac, navy blue beret, ankle socks and gum boots.
- 6.45—Make bed with blankets, coats, heavy skirts and anything else I am sure to need for warmth during the night.
- 6.50—Blow up bicycle tyres which the boys have kindly let down. Pack saddle bag.
- 6.55—Mount bike and bump down the stony lanes to the canteen, one mile away, for breakfast.
- 7—7.30—Very welcome breakfast.
- 7.30—Twelve unsuspecting girls (including self) are bundled into a cattle truck and driven into the wilds of Suffolk to pick raspberries.
- 8.45—After picking in heavy rain for an hour, I discover the boys are picking cherries for about double the money I am earning in these shocking conditions.

- 9.45—After squashing all the raspberries I can find, back upon the canes, we are driven to the cherry orchards. The brochure states . . . "pickers are shown the quickest and easiest way to pick fruit." This is NOT the truth.
- 10—12.30—The manager decides that, as we cannot possibly get any wetter (this IS the truth) we may as well pick till lunch. I mount my ladder rebelliously. Someone passing exclaims in horror, "Your neck has turned blue!" and I discover that while my beret is now light blue, my neck is patterned with navy rivulets.

P.M.

- 12.30—Dash to canteen, fortify myself with huge lunch, then cycle frantically back to the bungalow and hide in bed.
2. 0—Am awakened by overseer who wants some work done this afternoon. As it is now reasonably fine, I consent to go. Throw myself and bike on to tractor and bump back, this time to a plum orchard.
- 2.15—These are easy to pick if there are any on the trees; unfortunately none on my allotted row.
- 2.30—Decide I could not be any wetter, so strip to T-shirt, shorts and gym shoes. In the intervals between chasing earwigs round myself and dodging hard green plums thrown by people on tractor (I do not find this amusing but they revel in it . . . little things . . .) I work hard.
5. 0—Work over for the day. Ride to canteen and collect mail, then back to bungalow.
- 5.15—6.15—Time spent in scraping off mud, tracing a few more earwigs, and bathing in a leaking dish.
- 6.15—Blow up tyres again and ride along for dinner.
- 6.30—7.30—Dinner—even more welcome than breakfast.
- 7.30—10.30—Play cards and make coffee on illegal fire (wood for copper only!).
- 10.30—Back to own bungalow. Light candles and prepare for bed. Shake off the earwigs, still wriggling frantically. Retrieve all those running over bed, blow out candles, skin my leg on corner of my sister's bed, and fall in agony upon my own.
12. 0—Almost asleep, when male voices are heard off-stage, singing uproariously. Maintain a dignified silence, and then, at about 2 a.m. snatch a brief sleep before rising to begin the cheerful round again.

ANNE WILSON, Student-Teacher Group.

Let's Celebrate

In foreign lands, one understands,
 Festivities are various;
 For some are long, and some are short,
 And some are quite hilarious.

On festal days, the Ojibways
 Wear beads and furs and feathers too;
 While Hatchet-Face with cat-like grace
 Will dance to please the Manitou.

When night comes down in Chinatown
 Fair lanterns glow in bowers green,
 And dainty girls with well-oiled curls
 Play sweetly on a mandolin.

In Hungary, embroidery
 On skirt and sleeve is very gay.
 While maidens dance, they seize the chance
 To give a handiwork display.

A Zulu glad goes really mad,
 Beats drums, and leaps in frenzied glee;
 But we, aloof, will raise the roof
 By having muffins for our tea.

EDNA STRAUGHAN, Form L.VI.A.

Portrait of an Indian Beggar

The oppressive heat of the midday sun beat down upon the dusty roads in Bombay. Near a large European store, but out of sight of the police, a figure rested in the shade. His legs had been cut off at the knees and the stumps were strapped on to two small pieces of wood which protected them from the rough pavement. His hands had been treated in a similar fashion and he was able to move by first placing his hands and then dragging the remainder of his body. He proceeded thus along the crowded main streets, yet caused no disturbance for the sight was common and the creature was only a beggar.

He was perhaps more fortunate than the rest for once his legs had healed he was little troubled by them, unlike those who suffered from leprosy or the more terrible skin diseases. Furthermore, he was able to use his disability as a means of livelihood and the more kindhearted of the passers-by dropped him a coin. He accepted his life as inevitable and perhaps, in his own way, was content.

PATRICIA CURRY, Form V.C.1.

Feast Day at Saint Anton

As dusk fell in the little town of Saint Anton, tiny lights appeared moving in slow procession up the mountain-sides. Suddenly, from every peak, fires began to glow. On the highest of all, gleaming against the snow, was a blazing heart surmounted by a fiery cross. The Austrians were commemorating a Saint's Day.

During the afternoon the peasants, dressed in Tyrolean costume, the women and children with garlands in their hair, and the men wearing multi-coloured plumes in their tall hats, had paraded through the streets to the little church. There were celebrations all through the day but it was at night, when each mountain-top was illuminated by its glowing beacon, that the happy people truly expressed their exuberant spirits.

The landscape was transformed. The blazing heart and cross appeared to be in the sky, and the moving lights and figures on the hills below were characters from a fairy tale. In the foreground of the scene a fire suddenly blazed up and was surrounded by peasants who looked like black puppets, whirling fiery torches and performing a dance. This ended with a slow procession down to their homes in the valley.

Darkness comes suddenly in these valleys among the hills and, as the fires burnt low and died, nothing could be seen in St. Anton-am-Arlberg but the heart and the cross still blazing in the sky, a symbol of the faith of a gallant people.

JULIA REED, Form V.C.

The Thaw

The snow lay thick and crisp like the crust on a newly baked cottage loaf. The world was clean and white; all sounds were muted by the prevailing whiteness. Traffic glided carefully over the icy surface of the road, and distance softened the shouts of children. Sledges and snow-balls flew, cars and human beings crawled. The sun gleamed dully in the clouded yellow sky, like a new penny abandoned on a sandy beach.

Gradually the sun shone brightly from a sky of blue waves. The sledges stuck, once, twice and yet again; then the deadly and scarcely perceptible drip, drip, drip of melting snow made itself heard. The trees shed their white mantles and careless feet broke through the hard surface of the runway. The strange, fairy-tale avenues were once again rivers of slush and mud, overhung by dripping trees.

As the thaw continued, all that could be heard was the perpetual sound of running water. Trees stood stark and ugly against a sulky sky. The drab greyness returned to the sooty streets.

PATRICIA McGAHAN, Form V.C.

Safe Anchorage

Silence: silence and fog; thick, dense, almost impenetrable fog; black clouds of dense rolling fog that deaden all sound, and make the seeing as sightless as the blind.

A vague shadow looms up through the fog and gradually takes shape as the bows of a small ship, moving soundlessly like a ghost, slowly push a way through the thick blanket of fog which envelops it. The water gently laps the hull, while the dull sound of the engine is muffled.

The fog seems to thicken, yet still the ship ploughs on. The stifled sound of its hooter is echoed by the low boom of a fog-horn. The faint rays of light discernible ahead seem to waver as the ship swings to avoid the rocks. Through a seemingly endless cloud of white, wet mist, she feels her way forward. The dull, rhythmic beat of the engine continues, and night falls.

To the anxious men aboard the ship, night and day are as one. For them the fog is impenetrable at all times.

Gently the ship glides on, and then, through the dark inky blackness, faint rays of light are seen. The crew strain their eyes to catch another glimpse of the weak, watery lights ahead. On these feeble rays they place all their hopes.

As the lights become brighter, and the vague shadowy outline of a port appears, the men aboard the ship sigh with relief.

By the grace of God they have at last reached harbour and safe anchorage.

IRENE PULLING, Form IV.C.

In the Simla Hills: A True Story

One day while we were living in Kasauli, in India, my brother was left alone in the house with only Beppo, the cook, for company. Feeling hungry, he ran out into the cook-house, and hearing a noise in the larder, he naturally thought it was Beppo, but he shortly afterwards found the cook elsewhere. Beppo, on being told of the noise in the larder, rushed into it

and then burst out laughing; for there was an enormous, greyish-blue monkey, rather like a baboon, sitting on the table, holding in his hands a large green and yellow papaiya, a fruit very much like a melon.

The papaiya, which had been purchased for our tea, had been cut open and left on the table. The monkey had seized its chance and was enjoying the unexpected treat. There it was, calmly holding the sugar-bowl in one hairy paw, and pouring the contents on to the papaiya in the other. When Beppo began to laugh the monkey dropped the papaiya, and clutching the bowl firmly to its hairy chest, swung out of the window and into the surrounding trees.

A few months later, while running after a ball which had rolled down the side of the mountain, the "chakta," or messenger boy, found the sugar bowl, still intact. Now, whenever we look at it, we think of our house in Kasauli.

SHEILA MacDONALD, Form V.Ba.

The Barn

I love barns. There was once a barn at the top of our street. I cannot remember that it was ever used but I could see it out of my bedroom window, and it reminded me of pleasant summer hours spent in the country. Now it has been destroyed and I have only a memory of it.

To me it is a lovely memory. It speaks of warmth, the sweet smell of hay in the loft, the soft rustle as tiny field-mice scamper about with particles of grain for their hidden store: they must be careful if there is a cat in the barn, and especially if a tiny mew tells of kittens also.

Best of all are the horses, their big brown eyes gazing placidly around. Occasionally they stamp a hoof, and at some unusual noise, they raise their heads, ears back. When they are given food, they make a champing noise, and push their noses into the hay-rack, looking for more. Then, finding it empty, they sink contentedly down to rest.

BERYL A. BERRY, Form IV.C.

The Shady Glen

The shady glen is beautiful in summer. Tall birch trees shade the paths, and flowers spring up everywhere. The green grass is cool and refreshing as I sit and dream. The birds sing in the trees and some hop near me. The cool breeze carries the scent of flowers towards me. The lily pool is still and I can see the reflection of the sun and the trees. As I look at all this beauty, I feel gay and happy.

MAUREEN FARNAN, Form I.H.

School Dinner

The girls are queuing up for lunch
 And what a "choosey" crowd!
 "I hope it's fish and chips to-day,"
 A pupil cries aloud.

"I hope it's good old mince again,"
 A little voice pipes up.
 "Oh, no," her friend is heard to say,
 "I hope it's soup to sup."

"I hope it isn't rabbit
 Or even cottage pie,"
 "I hope there's roast potatoes,"
 "If it's sago I will die."

And so the girls all chatter
 Of what they like to eat;
 Some criticize the pudding
 And others scorn the meat.

But when the meal commences,
 You'll be surprised to see
 How all those laden dishes
 Are emptied speedily.

BETTY HOWAT, Form I.C.

