

THE BEDAN

1958

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BEDE GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
1957 — 1958

Head Mistress	Miss Moul.
Senior Mistress	Miss Carrick (Chemistry).
Form Scholarship VII	Miss Waggott (English).
Student Teachers	Miss Harding (Biology).
Form Upper VI Arts	Miss Wilman (Mathematics).
„ Upper VI Science	Miss Carlin (Biology).
„ Lower VI (1)	Miss Hayton (History).
„ Lower VI (2)	Miss Heslop (Geography).
„ Lower VI (3)	Miss Bernard (Music).
„ IV C.	Miss Crone (Art).
„ IV Bm.	Miss Norman (Art).
„ IV Ba.	Mrs. Wilkinson (Chemistry & Biology).
„ III C....	Mr. Hymas (Divinity).
„ III G	Mr. Rogers (History).
„ III Bm	Miss Bratt (Needlework).
„ II X	Miss Bell (Divinity).
„ II Y	Miss Kinch (Mathematics).
„ IIZ	Miss Simpson (Geography).
„ I W	Mrs. Bryce (Mathematics).
„ I X	Mrs. Lewis (French and Latin).
„ I Y	Mr. Shrimpton (Spanish).
„ I Z	Miss Duns (German).
	Miss Balloch (Physical Education).
	Mr. Cox (Classics).
	Miss Fall (English).
	Miss Hall (Domestic Science).
	Mr. Hartley (Music).
	Miss Jackson (English).
	Mrs. Proud (English).
	Miss Rutter (Physical Education).
	Miss Taylor (French).
	Mr. Taylor (Physics).
	Miss Thompson (Mathematics, History, Latin).
	Mrs. Watson (French).
Visiting Staff:	Miss Elliott (Violin).
School Secretary:	Miss Gibbons.
Dining-Hall Superintendent:	Miss Hornberger.
Laboratory Assistants:	Muriel Jones, Helena Pegman.
Captain of School:	Norma Walsh.
Vice-Captain:	Gillian Collins.
Rounders Captain:	Norma Gray.
Netball Captain:	Norma Gray.
Hockey Captain:	Hazel McCree.
Tennis Captain:	Pat Pickering.

Staff Changes

In July, 1957, we said "Au revoir" to Miss Tweed, when she left to go to France where she expected to teach for a year. We also said "Goodbye" to Mrs. Shrimpton. Both of them have been greatly missed in the staff room.

In September we welcomed to the school the following mistresses; we hope that all will be very happy with us: Miss Balloch, Miss Bratt, Miss Jackson, Miss Rutter, Miss Simpson, Miss Thompson and Mrs. Watson.

Postscript

Since writing the above, we have learned that Miss Jackson is leaving to be married in July and we wish her every happiness.

FOUNDERS' DAY.

As in the past two years, Founders' Day in 1957 began with the celebration of Holy Communion in Bishopwearmouth Church. Later the communicants were joined by the remainder of the two schools and all took their places while Mr. Hartley played the organ.

The service was conducted by the Rector of Bishopwearmouth, Canon C. L. P. Bishop, and the lessons were read by the Captain of the Boys' School and the Vice-Captain of the Girls' School. The combined choirs sang the anthem "Worthy is the Lamb", from Handel's "Messiah".

The address was given by the Rev. M. S. Simmons, Diocesan Youth Chaplain of Durham, who discussed the question, "What is religion?" He found a parallel in science to illustrate his theme.

Intercessions were made by the Rev. F. H. Hawkins of Roker Presbyterian Church. As in former years, we realised how deeply we valued the opportunity of gathering together to worship God and to show our gratitude for our school.

SHIRLEY BUTLER AND KATHLEEN TAGG.

SPEECH DAY

Senior Speech Day was held on November 26th, 1957. As the visitors came on to the platform, they were presented with bouquets and button-holes and everyone rose to sing the School Song.

After the remarks of the Chairman, Councillor Mrs. Colling, Miss Moul gave her report in which she looked back over twenty-four happy years of teaching. She also gave an account of the School's activities during the year.

The Chairman then introduced our distinguished guest, H.R.H. Princess Ileana of Rumania. In her address she spoke about the difficult life in her country and encouraged us to stand up for our country and our God. She captured our hearts by her moving address and her charming personality. Her Royal Highness then presented the girls with their prizes and certificates.

Songs were sung by the Senior Choir.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mrs. J. Hamilton and seconded by Norma Walsh, the School Captain.

Speech Day was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem. Another memorable occasion in the life of the Bede Grammar School for Girls came to an end.

NORMA WALSH.

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION.

We are reaching the end of our 1957-58 session and are now looking forward to one of the big events of the school year—Sports Day. On this occasion the parents make themselves responsible for the sale of light refreshments and the Association makes a donation annually for the purchase of prizes and meets the cost of printing programmes.

Early in the year an "Any Questions?" programme was arranged with a parent-teacher panel, and an entertaining evening was enjoyed by an appreciative audience. Film shows included travel and educational subjects but unfortunately the response of the parents was disappointing.

Lighter entertainment was provided by a "What's My Line?" programme, and our thanks are due to the parents who so sportingly agreed to stand as challengers, and to Councillor Redfearn and his panel of experts.

A distinguished visitor last year was Dr. S. Laycock, of Canada, who spoke to the senior school and some of the parents on the significance of the differences between British and Canadian education.

At Junior Speech Day the P.T.A. is appreciative of the honour they enjoy in being invited to preside over such an important function. The Social Sub-Committee has once again given unstinted service at all social events and has been willingly supported by members of the Executive.

If you are not already a member of the Association, I hope that, after reading this brief account of P.T.A. activities, you will feel that you owe it to your daughter to become a member of an Association which endeavours to assist the pupils both socially and educationally. The Committee would welcome your membership and active support.

J. W. BIRBECK, Hon. Joint Secretary.

SCHOOL PARLIAMENT.

The School Parliament has continued to meet every month, and the School Captain, Norma Walsh, takes the chair.

Attendance has been very good. Representatives, two Members of Parliament from each form, have shown interest in school activities and many problems have been discussed. School dinners were criticised on the ground of lack of variety and insufficient quantity, and School Parliament rejoiced at the quick improvement that resulted.

Parliament plays a useful rôle, for it encourages girls to take an interest in school life and gives them an opportunity to discuss it. Many useful suggestions are made and, being brought to the notice of those in authority, respected.

GILLIAN COLLINS, Secretary.

SCIENCE SOCIETY.

This year, under Miss Harding's chairmanship, the Science Society has held five meetings, opening with a debate conducted by the girls on the subject: "Is the Russian Sputnik a greater achievement than Calder Hall?" Two of our more patriotic members, waving the red, white and blue, won the day for Calder Hall. Judith Harrison later gave a report on the Atomic Exhibition

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held at King's College in January. Encouraged by such enthusiasm, we arranged the annual outing for May 14th, when we visited Calder Hall, the first atomic power station of its kind in the world to supply electricity into the grid.

In December, Mr. K. E. Pattinson, the Head of the Physics Department of the Technical College, gave an interesting talk on, "How cold can we get?" a suitable atmosphere being provided by the normal lab. temperature. We have also enjoyed a visit to the Physiotherapy Department of the General Hospital, where we were welcomed by Miss Happer, the Superintendent Physiotherapist.

We should like to enlarge the ranks of the Society next year and any new members will be welcome in September.

HILARY WHEALE, Secretary.

MODERN EVENTS SOCIETY.

Every other Tuesday the Modern Events Society meets in the informal atmosphere of the Domestic Science Room. Over cups of tea the members have debated subjects ranging from the problems of an abattoir in Sunderland to the wisdom of an apartheid policy in South Africa. Other topics discussed have included Communism, recession in America, the Russian attitude to the summit talks, (are they leading the Western Powers 'up the garden path?') and the factual side of so-called historical films. These discussions have been held under the stimulating guidance of Miss Hayton and Miss Thompson.

Soon the Society hopes to have the pleasure of a return visit of Doctor Hiller who last year gave a thought-provoking talk on her experience of life in Hitler's Germany.

Any member of the Upper School interested in modern events is welcome to attend the Society's meetings.

RUTH GOULSTINE.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

This is a new society, and still in the process of being formed. Members of the Society are, therefore, grateful to Miss Bratt for the support and encouragement she has given them.

Meetings have been interesting and enjoyable, but not very well supported. For Cup Debates, we have joined with the Bede Senior

Boys' Society. In these, the girl competitors have set a very good standard. Dorothea Makel, in particular, is to be congratulated on the enthusiastic way in which she has taken part.

Among the subjects debated have been: "This house would fiddle while Sunderland burned", "Increased State patronage for the Arts and Artists", and, "Britain should remain neutral in time of world conflict".

CHARLOTTE ROBINSON, President.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

This year has been fairly successful. Last summer four of our members attended a conference at Lambton Castle where they discussed various aspects of God and the Creed. This provided them with much food for thought.

For the meetings during the Autumn Term we invited several speakers, asking them to choose their own topic. In this way we had plenty of variety, which resulted in many enjoyable meetings.

At the invitation of Miss Moul, an S.C.M. Conference was held at our school in November. The theme was "The Bible in the Atomic Age". The Headmistress took the chair and the speakers were the Rev. Peter Harrison from St. John's College, Durham, and the Rev. A. Webster, Vicar of Barnard Castle. Nearly a hundred delegates from grammar schools throughout the North-East attended the conference.

For the Spring Term we chose as our theme, "The Christian in the Modern World". We had various talks on the different aspects of this: the Christian's attitude to Science; Materialism; Morals and Politics. We found these talks extremely interesting.

Membership throughout this year has been promising but could be much better. There is a lack of support from the Fourth and Lower Sixth Forms, in spite of our efforts to gain recruits. We extend a warm welcome to any who are interested.

MARTHA LOCKIE, Secretary.

MUSIC.

In the past school year we have had two recitals. In November, 1957, James Blades paid his third visit. He entertained and instructed us with his fascinating collection of percussion instruments which he used to illustrate the history of the percussion section of the orchestra. In February, 1958, the school was visited for the first time by the Northern Consort, a group of six singers who specialise in songs of the Golden Age and in modern songs. They introduced us to the music of the Tudor period, which is not very well known because some of it has been rediscovered only in the past fifty years. The programme included madrigals and Tallis' "Canon", which the school sang. There were differences of opinion among the girls about the music, but the fierceness of the arguments proved that they did not find it dull.

A party of girls went in March to hear a performance by the Newcastle Bach Choir, of Bach's "St. Matthew Passion".

During the year the school has made music. The choirs have been especially busy. The Junior and Senior Choirs sang at their respective Speech Days. In March, the Senior Choir, combining with the Boys' Choir, under the guidance of Miss Bernard and Mr. Kirk and accompanied by Mr. Hartley, gave a concert. They sang "Blest pair of Sirens", Parry's beautiful setting of "At a Solemn Musick", by Milton, and Stanford's "The Revenge". The performance was very much enjoyed and we look forward to next year's performance of Mendelssohn's "Elijah".

GILLIAN COLLINS.

GUILD OF OLD BEDANS:
LOAN AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

In 1925 the Guild of Old Bedans invested a large sum of money in order that the interest from the investment might be lent to help Bedans to train for any career after leaving school.

Any girl who is leaving school in July and who feels that she needs to borrow money for such a purpose should apply in writing to the Hon. Secretary.

K. M. CARRICK, Hon. Secretary.

SCHOOL CHARITIES.

During the past year, twenty girls and one member of staff have overcome their natural diffidence, faced the ordeal of addressing the school and launched appeals on behalf of some twenty-eight deserving causes. The total raised by these appeals was £116 and, in addition, small Christmas donations to the value of £6 were sent to eight other funds.

The appeal on behalf of the Jeyi Mission, destroyed by storm, had a special significance for the school because of the work there of an old girl, Joyce Aylen. The gratifying sum of £13 was raised in a single week.

Finding volunteers to make the appeals is undoubtedly growing easier for there is an increasing number of girls who are really conscious of the need for voluntary action to relieve suffering, certainly in colonial and less developed territories and at home, too, even in these days of the welfare state.

Unfortunately such people are still relatively few and the work of the charity monitress is no easy one when the majority of her form fellows give their pittance 'to get rid of her'. Rarely are they moved by the vividness of the appeal or a sympathetic appreciation of the real urgency of the cause to give the equivalent of the price of say a quarter of sweets or a visit to the pictures! It is a pity that the suffering always with us, however grim, seldom moves us to put our hands in our pockets as does sensational news of fire, flood and pestilence.

Nevertheless the charity monitresses and appeal-makers show a fine persistence in the face of much apathy and, as a result of their efforts, many worthwhile causes do benefit.

D.M.W. and A.A.Y.H.

SAVINGS GROUP.

This year the School Savings Group has adopted a new scheme operating through the Sunderland Savings Bank. Instead of buying Savings Stamps, pupils now bring to school money which is transferred to their own Bank Book. The scheme has worked well and the 137 girls who have joined have saved £450. We hope that both these totals will be exceeded next year and we look forward to the time when every girl in the school possesses a Bank Book with a useful sum of money to her credit.

C. J. SHRIMPTON.

THE YORK MYSTERY PLAYS.

On Sunday morning, June 30th, 1957, a party of girls and staff travelled by bus to York. As soon as we arrived, some of us made our way to the Minster and spent a quiet hour in admiring the beautiful stained-glass windows and the massive proportions of this great cathedral.

At last it was time to find our seats in the Abbey grounds. The performance took place out of doors amidst the ruins of St. Mary's Abbey, the high windows of which were transformed into Heaven. At one side a large platform signified Middle Earth and at the other gaped the cavernous mouth of Hell.

The play opened in Heaven with the creation of the angels and the fall of Lucifer. Then the world was created and the stories of Adam and Eve, and Abraham and Isaac were enacted.

Christ's birth was foretold by the prophet Isaiah and scenes from His life, concluding with the Passion, Trial and Crucifixion of Our Lord, were enacted.

The last scene portrayed the Day of Judgment, when St. Michael led the good up to Heaven, and Lucifer and his followers gleefully carried off the wicked into Hell.

Many of the costumes of the 1957 production were based on fourteenth century designs and were rich and glowing with colour. The angels wore silver and gold, and the Archangel Michael was magnificent in red under gold armour. The large cast wore brightly-coloured clothes, while Our Lord, in the scenes of His ministry, was dressed in a cream robe, like a monk's habit.

We left the grey ruins of the Abbey in a mood at once exalted and subdued: the Mystery Plays had been a moving experience and would remain with us as a treasured memory.

ANNE McCLEMENT.

MALHAM TARN.

Every year, the advanced geographers look forward to visiting Malham Tarn Field Centre. Indeed, after we have studied here, the field-work has changed our text book knowledge of limestone and millstone grit land-forms into practical experience.

Our first impressions of Malham in October, 1957, were modified by heavy mist, but this soon dispersed and was succeeded by fine, bracing weather which lasted for the rest of the week.

First we were instructed on the general geological characteristics of the immediate area, and then we verified the information for ourselves. We saw examples of karstic pavement, swallow-holes, potholes and dry valleys, and identified drumlins and perched blocks.

Perhaps the most memorable occasion was that when we stood, over-awed, at the foot of the spectacular waterfall at the head of Goredale collapsed cavern, only to be informed that the next stage of our journey was a climb up the actual waterfall.

The characteristics of millstone grit topography were permanently impressed upon us by the time we climbed to the top of Fountains Fell. We never quite appreciated the point of this exhausting climb, because, when we reached the summit, we were shrouded in thick mist. Instead of enjoying a magnificent view, we could not even see the Tarn on the top of the Fell—until one of the students stepped into it.

All our experiences, even that of being chased by a bull, combined to make our short visit strenuous, but enjoyable and enriching.

C. ROBINSON and D. McMULLAN.

FOUNTAINS ABBEY.

June 17th, 1957, was the date of the Fourth Form Geographical Outing to Fountains Abbey. Four mistresses and seventy pupils set out with fingers crossed for luck; but the day turned out to be bright and hot, one of the best of the whole year.

As we passed by, all the interesting places were pointed out to us and we heard a little of their history and geographical features.

We stopped at Stokesley for "elevenses" and then continued on to Ripon for lunch in the Spa Park. In Ripon Minster, the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Wilfred, we saw the Saxon crypt, the Norman Chapter House, which had recently been altered and repaired, and three beautifully-decorated altar fronts, embroidered by a lady who lived near Ripon. Then we climbed up more than one hundred steps to the top of the clock tower, and enjoyed a magnificent view of the surrounding countryside.

After another short journey, we arrived at Fountains Abbey, one of the loveliest ruins in Great Britain. Everyone was interested

to see in the museum a scale model of the Abbey as it looked before its dissolution by Henry VIII. Also in the grounds are Fountains Hall, a Jacobean house built of stones plundered from the Abbey; and a yew tree, hundreds of years old. Nearby was the River Skell, looking cool and inviting on such a hot day.

Too soon, it was time to return home, and everyone agreed that it had been a very enjoyable trip, as well as being interesting and instructive.

PATRICIA DEANS.

HOLIDAY IN ST. NAZAIRE.

On July 12th, 1957, fifty-five Bede boys and girls with members of staff of both schools stood in Sunderland Station, eagerly awaiting the train which was to take them on the first stage of their journey to St. Nazaire, where each was to spend three weeks in the home of a French pen-friend. From Southampton we crossed to St. Malo, and went on to St. Nazaire by train. We arrived in the early afternoon and each was carried off by the French friend with whom the holiday was to be spent.

On the first Wednesday of our stay we met again on an excursion to St. Brevin les Pins, on the other side of the Loire estuary. This was a picturesque little place with a forest of pine trees and little summer villas of different designs and colours.

A second party of twelve, who had been taking examinations, arrived in St. Nazaire on July 23rd. For the next day the French authorities had arranged a visit to Noirmoutier, which is also known as the Island of Mimosa. We crossed to the island by the causeway and had lunch in the forest above the beach. We took great interest in the children's clubs on the beach. The children in these clubs ran races, played games and generally enjoyed themselves. We spent the rest of the afternoon on the beach admiring the tiny, brightly-coloured boats which were lying in the harbour.

On the day following, a civic reception was given in our honour at Bonne Anse. We were treated like royal guests and given a choice of tea, coffee or wine to drink, and many French delicacies to eat. The Mayor of St. Nazaire welcomed us warmly and hoped that we would have a very enjoyable stay.

Other excursions included a visit to Nantes and one to Les Sables d'Olonnes. Nantes is a great industrial town with nearly a quarter of a million inhabitants. Here we visited the old castle,

the residence of the former Dukes of Brittany, which was built in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. It is the first of the castles which lead into the château country of the Loire Valley.

Les Sables d'Olonnes is a very famous seaside resort and a large fishing port. Here the afternoon was spent on the beach and in shopping for souvenirs to take home.

We spent the rest of the time with our individual friends and visited the beauty spots of the district. These included La Baule, a popular seaside resort; Pornichet where the beach with that of La Baule, forms a curve six miles in length; Le Pouliguen, with its quaint little harbour full of yachts; Le Croisic, a picturesque fishing port famous for its sea foods and crêpes, and La Guérande, an attractive old town still surrounded by its ancient granite walls.

The weather was beautiful for most of the time and this added to the wonderful holiday which we all so much enjoyed in our sister town of St. Nazaire.

IRENE SMITH.

A VISITOR FROM GERMANY.

During the Summer Term of 1957 the Scholarship VII were joined by a charming and gentle visitor who came from Germany to study English. This is her account of some of her experiences.

On April 30th I travelled with twenty-five other girls and boys to England. I had a long journey which began in Mains in the Rhineland of Germany. We spent one night in London and on May 1st I went by train to Sunderland. I travelled the farthest north of them all. The first weeks of May were very cold and I had to write to my parents to send me warm clothes and my heavy coat.

It was snowing when I first went to the Bede Grammar School for Girls on May 6th but Miss Moul gave me a warm welcome. When I entered the form-room of the Scholarship VII, I felt as if I were at home in our school. The girls were very friendly and helped me to improve my English. I had learned the English language for nearly eight years but now I realised how little I really knew when I had to speak it. I attended all kinds of lessons. In Chemistry I could not understand one word. I enjoyed the English and German lessons very much.

I stayed with a family in Whitburn for nine weeks. I liked Whitburn and I have learned to like the sea. It has so many different faces, now rough, drenched in sea-fret and stormy, and then calm in bright sunshine.

I was taken by the school on some pleasant trips. The first was to Durham. It is very similar to some ancient cities in Germany and therefore I liked it best. I also visited Edinburgh and Hadrian's Wall. One day I went with the Fourth Forms to Fountains Abbey by roads which took us through the very beautiful county of Yorkshire.

I spent my last few weeks with a family in Belle Vue Road. I had a happy and unforgettable time in Sunderland and in the Bede School. I made many friends in the Scholarship VII and in other forms.

I wish all Bedans good luck and much success in their examinations.

GERLINDE ROSSKOPF,
Hallgarten, Rheingau.

THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS.

The Editors, on behalf of the School, offer very warm thanks to the Guild, who have once again shown their kindness by giving a prize of one guinea for essay competition. This year the subjects have been set by the History Department.

In previous years, we have awarded half the prize for the best senior entry and the other half to the best junior. This year, however, one essay was so outstanding that the Editors considered it merited the whole award. This will be given at the next Speech Day to Irene Turnbull (Form Upper VI), whose subject was "History in the Novel". We are very sorry that Irene's work is too long to be reproduced in full; passages from it are printed below.

We are also printing the best essay from the Junior School, "Costume through the Ages", by Patricia Telford (Form IIIC), to whom an Editors' prize of half a guinea will be presented.

HISTORY IN THE NOVEL.

During the early nineteenth century the lives of ordinary working-class people were grim. In town and country, working and living conditions were deplorable: lack of food was a very real problem, and disease was rampant through over-crowding and lack of sanitation.

Charles Kingsley's novel "Yeast" draws an illuminating picture of country life. The impression of country yokels which Lancelot gained when he visited a country fair was that "the majority seemed under-sized, under-fed, utterly wanting in grace and vigour". Their food was inadequate and Kingsley specifically mentioned a lack of milk. The hero of "Alton Locke" noticed that the people "lived in thatched hovels, all sinking and leaning every way but the right. . . . the windows were patched up with paper, the doorways stopped with dirt." He was sickened "by the contrast between the highly-bred, over-fat animals . . . and the half-starved labourers" who were their slaves. Their wages of half-a-crown were "just above starving-point of the economic thermometer".

In towns the misery of the workers was no less acute. From Charlotte Brontë's "Shirley" and Mrs. Gaskell's "Mary Barton" we learn that unemployment was widespread. Textile manufacturers found themselves faced with ruin by the combined operation of Napoleon's Continental System and the British Orders of Council: as a result, factories and mills closed down and overnight, thousands became destitute.

Disease was the natural consequence of the over-crowding from which the sub-strata of the urban population suffered. As Mrs. Gaskell said in "Mary Barton": "The poor were fatalists with regard to infection, and well for them that it was so".

Because of the meagre wages of mill hands, women and children were obliged to go out to work to augment the family budget. The mill hands in "Mary Barton" bitterly resented the employment of their wives in insanitary conditions and for a mere pittance.

However, the blackest stain in the early Victorian era was not the factory conditions, bad as they were, but the employment of women and children in mines. Disraeli drew a vivid picture of these women in his novel "Sybil": "Oaths that men might shudder at issued from lips born to breathe words of sweetness. Yet these are to be, some are, the mothers of England! Naked to the waist . . . clad in canvas trousers . . . an English girl hauls and hurries tubs of coal up subterranean roads, dark and precipitous and plashy; circumstances that seem to have escaped the notice of the Society for the Abolition of Negro Slavery. These worthy gentlemen appear too, to have been singularly unconscious of the suffering of the little trappers; which was remarkable as many of these were in their own employ." The little trappers were the boys and girls who also worked underground, closing the traps after the women.

Destitute families were forced to enter the workhouse, den of horror and iniquity. The most famous attack on the workhouse

was made by Charles Dickens in "Oliver Twist". This book was written with the express purpose of exposing the cruelties practised on a workhouse child for the "impious and profane offence of asking for more," and the still greater cruelties inflicted on a child who fell among a den of thieves.

In an attempt to secure improved conditions, men formed Trade Unions, which organised strikes. In "Mary Barton" we learn that a striker, fired by hunger, was so much enraged by a blackleg that he threw vitriol in his face. The anguished cry of the blackleg to his wife, "They've made me blind because I wanted to work for you and our own baby," is heart-rending.

Chartism was another method by which workers sought to improve their lives of wretchedness. However, this movement was discredited in 1848. The disillusionment of Alton Locke in his confession was the voice of the nation: "I too bowed down to the idol of political institutions, and pinned my hopes of salvation on the possession of one ten-thousandth part of a taker in the national palaver About the supposed omnipotence of the Charter, I have found my mistake."

By contrast, the novels of Jane Austen are important not for what they reveal, but for what they omit. She banished from her novels nine-tenths of life and portrayed people who never worked, or fought, or starved; a world in which a shower of rain was an event. Her characters had unusually narrow interests. The chief aim of the women-folk was to secure a husband. Jane Austen stated the case plainly when she gave Charlotte Lucas's reasons for accepting Mr. Collins; "Marriage was the only honourable provision of well-educated young women of small fortune and, however uncertain of giving happiness, must be their pleasantest preservative from want."

Dickens's account of the Eatanswill election in "Pickwick Papers" throws light on the unscrupulous methods of electioneering at that time. The two candidates in the running were the Honourable Samuel Slumkey, who was the "Blue" candidate, and Horatio Fizkin, Esq., who was standing in the "Buff" interest. Mr. Perker, Slumkey's agent, informed Mr. Pickwick that "Fizkin's people have got three and thirty voters in the lock-up coach-house to prevent us getting at them and even if we could, it would be of no use for they keep them very drunk on purpose."

However, this strategy on behalf of the Buffs did not perturb Mr. Perker. Apparently the Blues held a little party for forty-five women and "gave each of them a green parasol when she went away All women like finery extraordinary the effect

Later, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, when the urge for adventure was at its height and new materials were being brought from the East, the dress of the nobles was even more flamboyant and rich. The taste for fine and elaborate array continued under the early Stuarts.

During the Commonwealth the leaders of the country were very religious and stern; they abhorred worldly vanities and made the people copy them. So the people's clothes were very plain, with no frills or decorations.

After the downfall of the Commonwealth and its rigid ideas and principles, the happiness of the people at the removal of the stern Puritan restrictions showed itself in their clothes in Charles II's reign.

After the French Revolution the Empire Line was adopted in France. This style gave the people freedom in movement, and freedom was the ruling factor in the lives of the French people after the tyranny of the aristocrats.

When Queen Victoria married Prince Albert, he brought with him a great deal of the formality and decorum of the German Court. This was the time when the stately crinoline and the smart dress of the men held their sway in England.

After the First World War many of the restrictions on women's movements were lifted. They had joined the fighting services and had gained their vote. So their dress became less restricting, their skirts were shortened and clothes became more comfortable. Later, as the demand for equality grew, some women wore trousers.

The Industrial Revolution has brought about a high standard in living. Clothes are now mass-produced. There is less class prejudice, so in this democratic age, the lower and middle classes wear more or less the same kind of clothes as the upper class.

PATRICIA TELFORD, Form IIIC.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION — 1957-58.

Hockey:

The first XI has enjoyed a fair amount of success this season, winning five and drawing two of the ten matches which were played. In a friendly match against the Old Bedans early in the season, the school team, which included two reserves, was beaten by four

Tennis:

The First Tennis VI had a rather unsuccessful season in the summer of 1957, winning only three of the eight matches played. We were defeated in the first round of Durham Inter-Schools Tournament.

The Singles Championship was won by Elizabeth Laws, and the Mixed Doubles Championship was won by Winifred Smith and Neil Wright. Ben House won the Inter-House Tournament.

Those who played for the School VI during the 1957 season included: Olga Gibson, (captain), Elizabeth Laws, Patricia Pickering, Winifred Pickering, Judith Rosenstein, Valerie Stafford and Marjorie Tweddle. Colours were awarded to Olga Gibson and Winifred Pickering.

Swimming:

At the Inter-Schools Swimming Gala the following girls represented the school: M. Beresford, J. Birbeck, J. Carlton, M. Hunter, M. Smith, J. Taylor, M. Watson, A. Wrightson, I. Wood. Judith Birbeck gained her Town Colours. She and Margaret Beresford were chosen to represent Northumberland and Durham at the All-England School Championships at Bournemouth.

After winning the Sunderland round of the "Cox Life-Saving Competition", the Bede team went on to win the Northumberland and Durham final.

In the Corporation Gala our team combined with the Bede Boys to compete for the Festival Cup which they won for the third year in succession.

The following girls were awarded Life Saving Certificates: Intermediate: Elke Burnham.

Intermediate and Bronze: Judith Birbeck, Anne Wrightson, Jean McDonald, Kathleen Farrar, Patricia Deans, Patricia Dorward, Winifred Pickering, Ann Wiggins, Moira Smith, Janis Winter.

Bar to Bronze and Bronze Cross: Margaret Beresford.

Award of Merit: Jean Carlton, Alison Smith, Margaret Beresford.

Instructor: Margaret Beresford.

Third Class Certificates were awarded to eighteen girls; Second Class to seven girls and first-class to one girl.

Judith Birbeck won her advanced E.S.S.A. and Jean Carlton, Kathleen Farrar, Marie Hunter and Ann Wrightson gained medallists' awards.

Sports Day:

Sports Day took place on Wednesday, 22nd May, 1957, and Miss P. M. Peters, the Organiser for Physical Education, was our chief guest and kindly presented the awards.

The Senior Cup was won by Esk House with 130 points, the runners-up being Ben and Drom (81 points each). The Middle School Cup was won by Drom House who scored 216 points; the runners-up, Esk House, gained 177. Ben House (214 points) carried off the Junior Cup, their nearest rivals being Ness (212 points).

Marjorie Makel (Ness) gained the Junior Championship; Maureen Elliot (Drom) the Middle School, and Marjorie Tweddle (Esk) the Senior Championship.

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

In July, 1957, the following girls were successful in the University of Durham examinations of the General Certificate of Education.

ADVANCED AND SCHOLARSHIP LEVEL:

Pat Bergson, Pauline Bernstein, Aureole Blakelock, Shirley Butler, Kathleen Carnes, Valerie Cuthbertson, June Doberman, Olga Gibson, Jeanne Hayton, Laura Howard, Jocelyn Johnson, Jacqueline Judge, Lilly Kelly, Marjorie Lax, Joan Lister, Mary McHarg, Marilyn Miller, Pauline Noble, Valerie Spencer, Valerie Stafford, Kathleen Tagg, Ann Taylor, Marjorie Tweddle, Eileen Ward, Margaret Webb, Joyce Wilson, Beryl Wrangham, Marjorie Young.

ORDINARY LEVEL:

Connie Bailey, Jean Bailey, Mavis Bailey, Beatrice Baker, June Batey, Catherine Beattie, Sheila Bloom, Heather Brown, Jennifer Buckingham, Dorothy Campbell, Denise Cansfield, Jean Carlton, Jennifer Cass, Linda Cook, Rita Copeland, Vera Coulson, Olwyn Culyer, Rose Curoe, Dorothy Davison, Eileen Dobbing, Avril Douglass, Joan Ellison, Brenda Emerson, Sheila Farquharson, Ursula Field, Norma Forster, June Gardner, Norma Gibson, Valerie Gibson, Doreen Gill, Ruth Goulstine, Frederica Graham,

Ann Hall, Kathleen Hall, Margaret Harding, Muriel Hares, Joan Hargreaves, Pamela Harris, Anne Harrison, Judith Harrison, Eileen Hart, Carol Henderson, Kathleen Henley, Anne Hickling, Patricia Holmes, Carole Humble, Sheila Hunter, Sylvia Hunter, Patricia Ironside, Margaret Irving, Sheila Irwing, Joan Johnson, Dorothy Keenlyside, Janet Kirtley, Margaret Knox, Dorothy Laidler, Cynthia Laws, Elizabeth Laws, Dorothy Laycock, Joan Leonard, June Liddle, Norma McCain, Anne McClement, Lorna McPhie, Dorothy Mennear, June Miller, Edith Morgan, Valerie Munro, Brenda Noble, Hilary Orr, Gwynne Page, Joyce Pattison, Valerie Porter, Lesley Potts, Maureen Purdy, Helen Purvis, Pat Rankin, Jean Redman, Judith Rosenstein, Marjorie Ross, Elaine Royston, Maureen Sayer, Marie Seery, Madeline Sharp, Margaret Shewan, Ann Simpson, Elizabeth Smart, Alison Smith, Irene Smith, Olive Smith, Phyllis Smith, Jean Spoons, Sheila Stilwell, Jillian Taylor, Gloria Thompson, Victoria Thompson, Irene Turnbull, Freda Underwood, Elizabeth Usher, Maureen Vine, Ann Vosper, Eileen Wallace, Joan Wallis, Maureen Wilkinson, Valerie Wilkinson, Judith Willis, Jean Wynn, Patricia Wynn.

HOUSE RECORDS.

Ben House:

House Mistress — Mrs. Bryce.

House Captain — Norma Walsh.

House Secretary — Kathleen Marshall.

Ben House, owing to unforeseen circumstances and the fear of being snowed up, has had only three meetings but the enthusiasm of its members has not faded.

Once a month, after school, about ninety Benites rush expectantly to the house meeting. What is in store for them? Our meeting is kept a "top secret".

The entertainment at one meeting took the form of a "Tall Story Club" and we heard fantastic tales ranging from flying saucers to film stars taking Benites on a cruise.

The enthusiastic "skifflers" of the house decided to form a group and uncanny sounds issued from the room where they practised, but when they entertained us, they were excellent. Ben is willing to lend her skiffle group out to less fortunate houses. A "What's My Line?" programme was the main feature of one meeting and although we did not have Lady Barnett, the members of the panel were capable.

The most exciting event took place on a fine sunny day. The quadrangle was filled with screaming girls. Shouts burst forth again and again. Faces were drawn with anxiety. Finger nails had almost disappeared. Then came loud applause, smiles on several faces. What was happening? Flushed cheeks; bright eyes; — and I knew. Hurrah, hurrah! Ben Senior Netball team had won the tournament.

NORMA WALSH, House Captain.

Esk House:

House Mistress — Miss Heslop.

House Captain — Norma Gray.

House Secretary — Winifred Smith.

At last the members of Esk House have become imbued with enthusiasm. At least five seniors have developed an interest in rounders, and though the juniors do not fall over themselves to do things, when one appeals to them, amid the groans and sighs one can usually hear one small voice, "I'll do it, if someone else will".

The same few stalwarts rally together, rack their brains, try to round up members who have not come forward at the meetings, and by a mixture of threats and pleadings manage to scrape together a team with some knowledge of the game in hand.

However, no house can be free from faults, and Esk is no exception, but I think its virtues outweigh its faults. The girls greet new endeavours with friendly interest, although maybe a little apprehension. The house did very well in the winter games, winning the senior hockey and reaching the finals in both the senior and junior netball tournaments. The junior hockey team, with only nine players, showed their skill at playing 'mud hockey' where the players vied with each other to see who could get the muddiest. This team were, unfortunately, knocked out in the first round.

The motto for Esk House being 'Aggredere' meaning Forward, the desire of all is to keep ahead of the other houses, while it maintains its present friendly atmosphere and its growing enthusiasm. 'Forward' is indeed the way it will travel.

NORMA GRAY, House Captain.

Drom House:

House Mistress — Miss Bernard.
 House Captain — Martha Lockie.
 House Secretary — June Liddle.

After being in existence for just over a year Drom House is only beginning to find its feet. Enthusiasm is not one of its strong points. Occasionally I am taken by surprise to find a form representative actually present at a business meeting. If there should be two, it takes me a week to recover. And if either of them should offer a suggestion for the next house meeting, there would be no hope of my survival.

The juniors are eager to take part in the meetings but are shy of standing alone. The seniors are (to employ an under-statement) less willing.

It must not be presumed that there is no talent in Drom. The Second formers performed some excellent charades. The Student Teachers catered adequately for all our tastes in their selection of records: this was no small achievement. In their entertainment the Upper Sixth brought the house down with laughter and we still smile when we think of it.

If endeavour can achieve success on the games field, then Drom will soon be renowned, for their team spirit and house loyalty are commendable. I wish the house every success and I believe that Drom has a splendid future ahead of it.

MARTHA LOCKIE, House Captain.

Avon House:

House Master — Mr. Cox.
 House Captain — Sheila Laybourn.
 House Secretary — Muriel Watson.

At the end of the summer term of last year Avon showed without doubt that it is a House of brains and not brawn. We did not win the rounders or tennis cups. On Sports Day we put up a noble effort: Anne Powell scored our three and only points.

This year we have done nothing outstanding in the field of sport. Our junior netball team made a brave effort but were beaten by eighteen goals to three. We feel that in this result we must have broken a record.

Our house meetings are great fun. The first meeting of the school year was occupied with the election of officers. At the next meeting the whole house was packed into the Art Room. We had the oldest gramophone in the school and the captain, aided by the vice-captain, wound it with fury throughout the meeting. The records showed a great diversity of taste and ranged from Presley and Steele for "the cool cats," to Beethoven and Bach for the "squares."

Mr. Cox has frequently enlivened our meetings. We played "One Minute, Please" at a meeting. Mr. Cox gave us a cautionary talk about drunkenness; this was taken to heart by the girls—for one minute. Miss Hall we found to be an expert on fairies. Most of the girls were too timid to speak but Charlotte Robinson thrilled us with a dissertation upon Troggites. It seems that Charlotte knows these faceless, red-haired people intimately.

Our meetings have been gay and light-hearted. Fate in some ways has not been kind to us for not one meeting has been held without some difficulty cropping up. We may be the unluckiest, but we are certainly a happy house.

SHEILA LAYBOURN, House Captain.

Ness House:

House Mistress — Miss Carrick.
House Captain — Ann Irving.
House Secretary — Patricia Pickering.

What was not so apparent last year has become a stark reality this—Ness Juniors far outshine the Seniors. At sports they carry all before them. This year they have already managed to win the Hockey and Netball trophies, while the Seniors retired from the contests empty-handed.

When the Juniors gave an entertainment at the first House Meeting, their talent in dancing, singing and acting was revealed, while the Seniors, efforts the next week neither attracted as much attention nor aroused as much laughter.

At a House meeting consisting of a "What's My Line?" programme, the panel contained both Seniors and Juniors and a Second Former was the "star" performer, guessing several of the more unusual occupations.

The Juniors of to-day are the Seniors of tomorrow so Ness is well-fitted for future years. But for the present, a word to the Seniors: "There are always the Tennis and Rounders cups and the Sports Day awards"

ANN IRVING, House Captain.

Strath House:

House Master — Mr. Rogers.

House Captain — Betty Howat.

House Secretary — Rona Batey.

In February, Strath celebrated her first birthday. Though young, and as yet, unsure of her step, her character is developing and the direction of her interests becoming clearer.

In the sports field Strath has proved her stability, if not in victory, at least in spirit. "Mud, mud, glorious mud" will surely call to mind the final of the senior hockey tournament. Though hockey was almost impossible, a "mud-bath" almost unavoidable, the spirits of Strath did not flag. With the ever-heartening cheers, "Up with Strath" from the side-line, Strath became even more determined. Though Esk left the field in victory, Strath was still undaunted.

The popularity of the B.B.C.'s "Top Twenty" is glaringly evident in Strath. When I ask for suggestions for future house meetings, please, Strathonians, why must I be bombarded with requests for record sessions? To me these are a nightmare; as Lonnie Donegan's unfathomable "Cumberland Gap" blares across the room, I shrink within myself. Tastes may differ, but surely our house meeting is worthy of more than a record session!

Let me propose a toast to the future of Strath: may we have some bright ideas!

BETTY HOWAT, House Captain.

CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA.

"A bad dress-rehearsal ensures a successful production." So, at least, we consoled ourselves after ours. On that reckoning, our production should have been an event unprecedented in theatrical history.

From the beginning everything went wrong. Clad in our dashing costumes, we felt strange under the glare of the lights. Lines were forgotten; entries came too soon and exits too late; sound effects were so remote from reality that we had to laugh, only to be chided by our careworn producer, Miss Jackson, who quite obviously did not share our sanguine reflections on dress rehearsals.

Afterwards, disillusioned, we thought of the day when we learnt that we had been chosen to take part in the school play. Then we had been filled with enthusiasm, which seemed to grow after every rehearsal. Shyly we had read our parts from our books and had viewed the absence of major characters only as an opportunity to show our own prowess. We laughed on the occasion when Miss Jackson, from the floor, read at least eight parts, switching from the dulcet tones of Cleopatra to those of the gruff Rufio. Later, absentees were regarded with more irritation and, when they appeared, severely reprimanded.

Yet, throughout there was fun. Who, even at the eleventh hour, could forbear to laugh at the Roman army? They looked so young, so feminine and so incompetent. With these, could Caesar possibly have said, "Veni, vidi, vici"? Breathless, we waited each time to hear whether they had remembered their lines. Strange that "Hail, Caesar" should take so long to learn! But then, we were all guilty of some such lapses.

Costumes of lovely colouring were skilfully contrived by Miss Carlin and her helpers. Could one tell that the Egyptian soldiers were wearing their gym dresses, with short capes to conceal the names emblazoned across the backs? Would anyone see that Caesar's armour was fastened with press-studs? What if Caesar's wig, created after much sweat and tears by Miss Thompson should reveal that it was in fact the top of an old nylon stocking?

May 7th approached. Strange messages were given out in hall. Cryptic utterances appeared on the notice-board: "Roman army, 1-15 p.m. in the gym."

Pothinus and Rufio fell ill, the former to be replaced more than adequately by her sister. To our relief, Rufio staggered back to school in time for our first night. The audience were delightful. At once our nervousness vanished; we began to enjoy ourselves. Our weariness and anxiety vanished in the thrill of success.

Thanks are due to everyone who helped in the production; some are anonymous, others do not ask for publicity but the gratitude of the cast goes out to all, and especially to their producer, Miss Jackson.

What have we left? A few photographs, half-remembered lines, a host of happy memories and, let us hope, an enthusiasm for the stage.

TWO OF THE CAST.

ABEND IM WALDE.

Der Abend dunkelt über der Erde.
 Stille, Stille wiegt alles im Walde.
 Kein Wind sauset durch die Bäume.
 Und es rauschen die Blätter nicht mehr.
 In den Nestern schweigen die Vöglein.
 Wie ein Spiegel liegt der See.

Plötzlich
 Eine Bewegung.
 Zwei Augen.
 Aus den Büschen springt
 Hervor ein Kaninchen.
 Weiße Schwanz
 Und es ist in die Finsternis verschwunden

Stille, Stille ruht über dem Walde.

NORMA WALSH, Form Scholarship VII.

THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH.

Far over the tired grey-brown rocks of the Negev, looking to the traveller like a nightmare of an endless stretch of inflated shingle, there is a rift; a stark valley that has trapped the Dead Sea, and the still unforgiven Sodom.

The place is sunk lower than anywhere else in the world, thirteen hundred feet below sea-level; a subterranean region, open to the blazing sky: it is said to be the original of Hell. The heat and dust are inescapable. There is no fertility but that of the minerals harvested from the Dead Sea, the glittering cold accomplices of Mammon. The strenuous bounty of Demeter, the humanity of the farmers or of any other living community, has no place here. Green is non-existent. There is no soil. No energy. No vitality. No life.

Sodom is no longer a town, but merely a collection of empty shells. Men come to work in the factories and return home at night. The huts are a kind of depot, knocked up at the side of the road that runs through, caught between the sea and the cliff-face. There is a café; a Pandemonium of hungry swarming groups of English and French youth which its limited roof can hardly contain. But at least it is a representative of the kindly world of God and man—and of food and drink. Behind this, on the narrow shore—

surely too narrow to have held a town—are the wooden chalets of a youth hostel: even the enduring youth of Israel will accept only temporary shelter at such a God-forsaken spot. We slept outside on the balconies on unfamiliar straw mattresses, stifled by the heat and the gloom.

Why did Lot's wife look back on a spot that, of its very nature, engenders anger and evil? We saw her, a pillar of rock poised high on the precipice overlooking the salt-encrusted sea. We explored dark tunnels in the rocks and, from the hollow at the bottom of a "chimney" which bored straight up through the natural wall, we gazed up in wonder at the tiny point of light far above us. Even here is no respite from heat and thirst. The caves are hot, dark ovens; the rocks are salt. The tortured cliffs themselves have protested against the scorching brutality of the atmosphere. They have writhed until the strata lie vertically, in curious lines stretching up the rock face. These stone walls that imprison the Dead Sea overshadow Sodom, but give no respite from the sun.

Israeli sunsets are very beautiful. We were there at evening and stood on the shore, watching the perceptibly changing dusk which lasted for less than half an hour. The gaunt mountains were softened by a radiance which was reflected in the Dead Sea. The rift valley became a vale of Circe which lured men with its beauty and choked them with its dust.

Then night fell.

GILLIAN COLLINS, Form Scholarship VII.

RAIN ON A DIRTY TOWN.

In the quiet of the day
It rained.
The wind complained
But little, and then fell away.

Mud-grime turned to grey,
Diluted;
Black was muted
To show a tinge of colours gay.

GILLIAN DITCHBURN, Form Lower VI.

WHERE WAS I ?

A little Child was born to-day ;
 The shepherds heard His cry.
 The angels bore the happy news :
 But where, oh where, was I ?

The ox and ass bowed low to Him ;
 They heard His mother sigh.
 Three kings knelt down to offer gifts :
 But where, oh where, was I ?

'Twas Jesus Christ Who hung and died :
 His many friends stood by,
 And trembling at His bleeding feet,
 In tears, ah! there knelt I.

JOYCE HINDMARCH, Form IVC.

CATS.

There are cats
 And cats :
 Good cats and bad cats,
 Happy and sad cats,
 Vain cats
 And plain cats.
 Some have grand names
 Like Augustus B. James :
 Some are just Blackie or Bill.
 They jump in your lap,
 While you're having a nap,
 And tangle your silk,
 And drink all your milk,
 And never say "Sorry" or "Pardon" or "Thank you"
 They look at you
 With cold disdainful air,
 For cats don't care
 Where
 They put their muddy feet,
 Clean floor or essay paper ;
 Cats don't care where they caper.
 Cats like to sing
 And make a howling, yowling noise at night.
 Although they fight
 And scratch and bite,
 Every cat
 Is an aristocrat.

HAZEL OLIVER, Form Lower VI.

WISHING.

What I really like to see
 When I look from my window, is a tree
 And a river that's full and deep and wide,
 And a meadow stretched on either side:
 But if chimney-pots were all I could see
 And I just had to wish for the river and tree,
 I hope I should have the sense to try
 To look around with a friendly eye
 And remember, though cities are grim and grey,
 They were planned for beauty—but lost their way;
 And that under those roofs there are folk like me,
 Who'd prefer a river, a field and a tree.

DOROTHY SHARP, Form Lower VI.

PARTIES.

Invitations, coloured gaily,
 Great excitement, mounting daily,
 Party frocks,
 Best white socks:
 Oh! what fun!

Gifts and presents, what a lot!
 Guests arriving on the dot;
 Jellies, eclairs,
 Musical chairs:
 The fun's begun.

All the house disordered badly;
 All the flowers drooping sadly;
 Litter galore
 Spread on the floor:
 The fun is done.

RUTH ZAHN, Form IX.

THE FRENCH ORAL.

Quivering, I entered the examination room. Monsieur l'examineur glanced up from the list of candidates which he was reading. Indicating a chair, he continued to stare at me—it was already 12.30 p.m. and he had not yet had lunch. The ordeal began.

“Quel est votre numéro?”

“Mon numéro est sept mille sept cent soixante et quinze.”

“Ah, oui.....mademoiselle, que ferez-vous quand vous quitterez l'école?”

“Er.....um.....well.” Tick, tick, tick, the sound of my wrist-watch resounded in my ears. Tick, tick.....Then,

“Je ne sais pas, monsieur.”

His left eye-brow rose. His mouth wore a pitying expression. He tried again;

“Quels sont vos passetemps favoris?”

His voice was thick with accent. I could not understand a word.

“Vos passetemps, mademoiselle?—que faites-vous dans vos moments perdus?”

My brain was in a turmoil. His attention wandered to a cobweb in the corner of the room. One second passed, two seconds, then three, four, five. You must say SOMETHING, I told myself; try, try!.....Inspiration,

“Il y a trois personnes dans notre famille.”

He regarded me in stupefied amazement. His nostrils twitched. He was losing his patience, I could see. However, after taking a deep breath, he controlled himself manfully. He persisted in ponderous tones, stressing each syllable.

“Avez-vous des passetemps favoris?”

Say something, anything, instinct urged. With a supreme effort, I succeeded in stammering, “J' j' je ne sais pas comment on dit 'sk, sk, school choir' en francais.”

Sigh ! He smiled, yes, he smiled ! French examiners are but human, and this one smiled.

"Tiens !" he exclaimed.

"Nous chantons Handel's Messiah," I added. He groaned. Never before had such a specimen been presented as a candidate. It was Too much on an empty stomach:—

"Merci beaucoup, c'est tout."

Emboldened, after uttering what to me was a sensible remark, I volunteered another,

"Voulez-vous ^{répéter} ~~repter~~ la question, s'il vous plaît ?"

His eyes popped. His gait was absolutely flabbered. Slowly he raised his arm, pointing to the door. He whispered a monosyllable:—

"Go."

P.S.—I failed.

IRENE TURNBULL, Form Upper VI.

STREET NAMES.

Sunderland came into being in the seventh century when Benedict Biscop gave two silken cloaks, which he had bought in Italy, to Ecgfrith and received in return three hundred acres on the south bank of the Wear. Today Sunderland is approximately thirteen square miles in area. How can Sunderland's growth be accounted for? A study of its street names suggests some of the answers.

In the sixteenth century Sunderland was a small town, little more than a village. The main thoroughfare was High Street, called thus because it ascended from the low land round the Wear. Near High Street, in Bodlewell Lane, the inhabitants of Sunderland obtained their water supply. It had flourishing markets (the Old Market exists in name today, though alas, not in fact) and its own market cross, recalled in the name of East Cross Street.

THE BEDAN

A DREAM.

I fall through darkness, lost,
 To wander alone in a strange land.
 I hear no sound, but now
 A harsh and empty light cuts the darkness
 And is gone.
 A myriad of shapes and shadows bewilder,
 Move and ever moving faster,
 Whirl in light.
 Music, loud, louder, meaningless,
 Without tune.
 Forms whisper, shifting, trembling.
 Fear rises in a wave
 And drowns,
 Leaving nothing.

MAUREEN WILKINSON, Form Scholarship VII.

RETROSPECT.

When I was two and learned to walk,
 My world was very small.
 The green legs of the kitchen stool
 To me seemed very tall.
 I could not tell the time at all,
 Or count up in my head,
 But when I'd eaten up three meals,
 I knew 'twas time for bed;
 And while the darkness crowded in,
 I clambered up the stairs,
 And Mummy tucked me up in bed
 When I had said my prayers.

PATRICIA HUTTON, Form IIV.

THE FATE OF BILLY BATES.

Little Billy Bates
 Bought a brand new pair of skates;
 Christened them when the ice was thin;
 Christened himself —
 For Billy fell in!

JUDITH PARKER, Form IW.

