

The Old Bedan.

1947.

The Guild of Old Bedans.

President Miss W. J. E. MOUL

Vice-President Miss M. E. BOON

Office Bearers and Committee for 1941-1942

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Vice-Chairman Mrs. J. WILSON (NORA JOHNSON)

Joint Secretary and Treasurer Mrs. SANDERSON (MARGERY SMYTH)
1, Dilston Gardens.

Assistant Secretary HESSIE TAYLOR,
29, Rowlandson Terrace.

Committee:

Gladys Littlehales (Beaney), D. S. Arkle, Kathleen Mair, Eleanor Marston, Kathleen Stothard (Collinson), Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood),
Helen Halliday (Dewens), Bessie Peake (Green).

Co-opted Members: E. R. Shearer, Rita Craggs, Pauline Harphreys,
Margaret Mitchell, Ethel Thompson.

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Catherine McCree, 7, Evelyn Street.

Mrs. Sanderson, 1, Dilston Gardens.

Mrs. Alderson (Mary Mackintosh), 22, Westfield Grove.

J. S. Eridge, 29, The Avenue.

Mrs. Crowe (Nancy Mitchell), 31, Victoria Avenue.

Mrs. Thomas (Winifred Scott), 14, Melbury Court, Fulwell.

Lena Thompson, 8, Wooler Square.

EDITORIAL

With the publication of another magazine, the thoughts of Old Bedans of all ages are more closely linked together. We are glad there is such general approval of this comparatively new venture, and of the blue and silver cover, which we hope to make a permanent feature. If only news items were produced as readily as your approbation! Studying your *Old Bedans*, can you possibly own that you have contributed to its reading matter? News of Bedans abroad, reports of ordinary or unusual or interesting jobs of Bedans, meetings in unexpected places—all are grist to the mill.

Our sincere thanks are due to Rita Craggs for the vast amount of work she did as joint Secretary and Treasurer. A stout heart was needed to tackle this somewhat Herculean task after years of Miss Shearer's complete efficiency, and our gratitude to Rita is doubled in our realisation of this fact. We welcome Margery Sanderson, her successor. Make light her burden, and

Old Bedans all, remember

(If you're not yet a life member)

Your subscription in SEPTEMBER!

Please support, too, the monthly Social Evenings, instituted because Old Bedans have asked for more frequent meetings than the Winter and Summer Re-unions.

News of the London branch of the Guild is encouraging, despite the difficulties arising from its widely scattered membership. All success to its efforts.

To all Old Bedans, near and far, especially to those who are unable to join us at our Re-unions, we send greetings.

W.T.

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

Annual Subscription: 2/6, due on September 1.

Life Subscription: £2/2/6, if paid within two years; otherwise £2/12/6.

Associate Subscription: 1/- for girls of Form Up. VI and Student Teachers.

Annual Subscriptions count towards Life Membership. Anyone who has paid one half-crown subscription becomes a Life Member by a further payment of £1/10/6 before the end of her second year's membership. After that time the total of the payments made must be £2/12/6, e.g., a member who has paid ten annual subscriptions becomes a Life Member by a further payment of £1/7/6. If, however, membership is allowed to lapse, payments must be begun anew.

Membership: 100 Life and 5 Associate Members, and 244 annual members whose subscriptions are paid. The total ought to be 550!

Meetings: The Winter Re-union will be held in School on January 13 from 7 to 10 p.m., and Internal Meetings in Room 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. on February 2, March 1 and May 3; note these Mondays and look in. Bring your knitting if you wish!

We thank especially Miss Moul for easing difficulties about holding meetings and Mr. Blyth for auditing the accounts.

For easier identification we use maiden names. The married name is usually either given in brackets or omitted to save space. Please excuse this.

GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS IN 1947

Old Bedans' Loan and Scholarship Fund.—There was £102 for disposal, including £25 in repayments and a gift of two guineas from a former Bedan in appreciation of help received. Four loans were granted and awards of £5 each made to Pat Swan, Mavis Berriman and Shirley Sinclair in recognition of services to the school, and to Gertrude Gibson and Pat Kendall for good results in Higher School Certificate Examinations. Some money remains available should any Old Bedan desire a loan. For conditions, apply to Miss Omer.

The Guild of Old Bedans' Hockey Club thanks Miss Moul for the use of the school field and premises. Bad weather made a really successful season impossible but left us well off financially, so our subscription is reduced from 5/- to 3/6. Again we donated 10/- to the Loan and Scholarship Fund. At the County Tournament we gained as many points as the winners, but fell short on goal average. One of us played regularly for the Secord County Team, and we hope to bring the Guild fresh honours this season. Enquiries and new members will be welcomed by the Secretary, Eleanor Marston, 15, Esher Bath Road.

Guild of Old Bedans' Badminton Club.—Very enjoyable evenings were spent last winter by the few keen members, but, as additional members were not forthcoming, it was decided to discontinue the club this season. I take this opportunity on behalf of the club to thank Miss Moul for the use of the gymnasium and school premises. R. Downs.

Guild of Old Bedans, London Branch.—We acknowledge gratefully a donation of two guineas towards expenses from our Parent Guild.

At our inaugural post-war meeting in December, 1946, we decided to hold two meetings yearly, one in May and one in December. Accordingly, our Summer Meeting was held on Saturday, 10th May, 1947. (See 16).

The next meeting will be on Saturday, 6th December and will take the form of afternoon "tea and talk" in the Piccadilly Hotel. We are anxious to welcome all "exiled" Old Bedans; if you are in the London area and your name is not on our mailing list, please get in touch with the Secretary for 1947-48: Mrs. Beck (Phyllis Tennant), 54, Milton Road, Wembley, London, S.W.19.

The Winter Re-union, January 8th, was a representative gathering, including 20 recruits from the Inland Revenue Office. The popular "Bigamy" and guessing games brought us to supper when 118 Old Bedans filled the new dining-room. Though our "austerity" cups were handleless, some of our cakes recalled happier pre-war days and the eyes of the youngest members registered astonishment. The rest of the evening was given over to Musical Rings, talk, two very amusing dramatic sketches, *The Grand Old Duke of York* and *Andi Long Syne*.

Extra-ordinary Meeting, February 4.—Because of the Secretary's impending resignation and because no successor could be found on the school staff, two motions concerning the Constitution were discussed and passed to admit of the election of a Secretary and a Treasurer (or a Joint Secretary and Treasurer), not necessarily a member of staff.

At the **Summer Meeting, June 22**, fifty Old Bedans, including some who had not joined us for a long time, enjoyed Variety Whist, light refreshments, two dances and much talk.

Summary of Annual Business Meeting, September 25, 1947

Apology for absence from Miss Neal, President.

Welcome to new members, by Chairman.

Minutes of last Business Meeting.

Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports. Gist appears elsewhere in *Old Bedan*. For Balance Sheet, see page 11. Of the balance of £20/1/0, £18/2/6 consists of Life Subscriptions.

Officers and Committee for 1947-1948 declared elected.

Retiring Chairman's address, see also page 5.

Thanks to retiring, welcome to new, officers and committee.

Meeting taken over by new Chairman.

Reports on Loan and Scholarship Funds, and Branch Clubs.

Election of Editorial Committee.

Allocations from Funds: one guinea each to School Prize, Bedan Competition Prizes and Sunderland Guild of Help, and two guineas to London Branch of the Guild of Old Bedans.

Programme of Activities: Decision to hold usual Re-unions and informal meetings about once a month.

Other Business: Meeting agreed to send flowers to Miss Gibbons along with good wishes for her speedy recovery from her illness.

SCHOOL NOTES

Changes of Staff.—Goodbye to: Misses Seddon, Clark, Dyon, Marsh and Trowell, Mrs. Montgomerie and Mrs. Wood.

Welcome to: Misses Bell, Campbell, Catteringham, Doss, Frankland, Kenneth, Kinch, Leggett, Moore, Powell, Spout and Sumnerbell.

Old Bedans on Staff.—Eva Bell (the first), Ellen Carlin, Betty Coates (Wilkinson), Rita Craggs, Audrey Kinch, Ethel Sumnerbell, Doris Taylor and Amy Waggott.

Daughters of Old Bedans in First Form—at least three.

Chairman of Parent-Teacher Association.—Miss Carlin.

Honours Won—

School Captains: Pat Scoren.

School Vice-Captains: Florence Farrow.

State Scholarship: Gertrude Gibson.

Guild of Old Bedan Prizes:

School Prize 1945-46, for Art: Kathleen Bell, Kathleen Humphrey.

Bedan Competition Prizes, 1946-47: Held over; no competitors!

British Gliding Association Certificates A and B: Sheila Henrick.

Highest Percentage in nation-wide W.J.A.C. Competition: Norma Parnaby, who then won a three-day flight over Europe, in the course of which, she assisted in map-reading and navigation.

Music: Played for Sunderland Pianoforte Society: Joyce Bess, Dorothy Dodd, Sylvia Tait, Joyce White.

Senior School Choir was placed third in its class at North of England Musical Tournament and gave a concert at Bishopwearmouth Church in June. Both it and the Junior Choir now formed sang at the P.T.A. Meeting in November.

Sport

School Games: Senior Trophy, Form IVc; Junior, Form IIc.

Championships—Senior School, Celia Pipe; Middle School, Geraldine Cook; Junior School, Jean Elliot and Margaret Estell.

On Junior County Teams the following play:

Netball—Christine Holt, Ann Laming, Moira Caddick on First, and Brenda Johnston on Second Teams.

Hockey—Celia Pipe, Jean Sangster, Joyce Wilson on First, and Audrey Jordan on Second.

Schools County Tournament won for third time running by Bede 1st XI.

Teams.—County Junior Doubles Championship: Pat Palmer and partner. Swimming.—Northumberland and Durham Under 15 Champion in 50 yards Free Style event, and on its Junior Swimming Team in 1946: Sheila Carruthers.

In R.L.S.S. Examinations, 1947 :2 gained Awards of Merit, 1 a 2nd Bronze Bar, 4 a 1st Bronze Bar and 5, Medallions.

SINCE NOVEMBER, 1946

Those have become Life Members: Mary Alexander, Muriel Anderson, D. S. Arkle, J. S. Briggs, Betty Carr (Horsman), Beanie Dixon, Winnie Gibson (Milburn), Jennie Hey (Smith), Jeanne Holdforth (Clayton), Florence Jackson, Beanie Peake (Green), Margery Smyth (Sanderson), Nancy Stewart, M. L. L. Stirk, Lilian Thompson (the first).

Among those married are: Louisa Airey, Nellie Adairthwaite, Edna Algar, Olive Armitage, Joyce Askew, Nellie Atkinson, Freda Bell, Ethel Davison, Cecily Dennis, Muriel Dodd, Helen Darnett, Emily Durrant, Nina French, Edith Gardner, Stella Gibson, Irene Goss, Elsie Hall (Russell), Joyce Hawking, Freda Heavinside, Joyce Hebron, Brenda Heddie, Eileen Holpern, Joyce Hopple, Annie Herring, Mabel Hinkley, Ethel Hugall, Joyce Hughes, Margery Humphrey, Dorcas Hunt, Nora Johnson, Sheila Kent, Margaret Kirby, Marjorie Knowles, Joyce Lindsay, Hilda Lisle, Lorna Maccolby, Marjorie Marshall, Hilda McNichol, Dorcas Medd, Brenda Metcall, Joyce Miller, Joyce Orr, Mary Patterson, Joan Pughson, Suzanne Roe, Kathleen Rockhill, Hilda Sasby, Elsie Souden, Dakie Steele, Audrey Strutt, Dorcas Saffield, Kathleen Tait, Phyllis Tennant, Joyce Vetch, Marjorie Walker (the second), Margaret Watson, May Wilson.

Among Bedan Babies are those of: Joyce Alder (the first), Marjorie Anderson, Mariel M. Anderson, Joan Andrews, Freda Blakey, Audrey Brown, Marjorie Brown, Kathleen Bruce, Kathleen Burridge, Kathleen Carr, Alice Champness, Joan Chapman, Margaret Chapman, Owen Clark, Winifred Coates, Eta Cohen (the first), Judith Cohen, Merle Colling, Daisy Cox, Eleanor Crow, Margaret Crow, Margaret Edward, Betty Falgrave, Dorothy

Fox, Alice Hodgson, Hilary Freeman, Mollie Garbutt, Lorna Gilroy, Florence Goldsmith, Gertrude Gould, Dorothy Greenfield, Margaret Guernsey, Christina Hartness, Phyllis Heilpern, Jean Henderson, Jennie Hey, Nancy Hill, Rhoda Jeffreys, Elizabeth Keenlyside, Kathleen Kehall, Maisee Kirby, Ildred Lark, Joyce Lay, Eva Macrobey, Laura Manning, May Mark, Kathleen Marley, Sheila Marsh, Vera McBain, Nancy McKenny, Dorothy Metcalf, Irene Nicholson, Margaret Nicholson, Florence Parker, Joan Patterson, Enid Potts, Betty Powley, Kathleen Price, Marjorie Prust, Thelma Hanson, Helen Reed, Ivy Rickleis, Nora Rimmerington, Margaret Robinson, Jessie Ross, Ethel Russell, Brenda Scott, Isabel Scott, Nellie Shiel, Hotty Short, Freda Smith (the second), Audrey Smithson, Joan Squires, Marjorie Stephenson, Eira Stone, Rhoda Thompson, Jean Visconti, Mariel Watson, Winnie White, Buxty Wigham, Marjorie Wilkinson, Mary Williamson, Anne Wilson, Edith Wood, Joyce Young.

In Memoriam: Dorcas Blythe, Marjia Morison, Dorothy Ross.

MESSAGE FROM THE RETIRING CHAIRMAN TO OLD BEDANS

My two years as your Chairman have passed very quickly and, I feel, without my contributing as much time as I would have liked. While it was comparatively easy organising twenty to thirty girls at school, I find one small person very much organises me and monopolises every moment.

We were sorry to lose Rita Craggs as Secretary and, in appreciating her work, remember also the delicious refreshments she produced at our Re-unions. I should like to extend on your behalf a sincere welcome to Margery Sanderson, our new Secretary, and to wish her, our new Chairman Cattie McCree, and the Guild every success.

GLADYS M. BEANEY.

GREETING FROM MISS EWART

My dear Old Bedans,

I am delighted to be given this opportunity of sending greetings to you all, wherever you may be. I am sorry to have seen so few of you during the past ten years and wish that I could find it possible to come North on a long visit. Meanwhile it is a joy to see some of you at the London Meetings, which are a precious link with the School, and I am grateful to those loyal and enthusiastic Old Bedans who organise them.

With kindest remembrances,

Yours affectionately,

RUBY EWART.

WHO TAUGHT US ONCE

Visiting students at Cowan Terrace School recently, Miss Arkle was directed to "The Hut." Where did she find herself? In her own old room in the "Tin Tab."! A sentimental journey brought her to Miss Bruce's babies' room, Miss Lloyd's, later the Common, Room, to "14" papered by Miss Parkey and her girls, and our old friend "Room 37," "all little changed but I didn't see access given chalked on any stove pipe."

Who would have thought that by 1947, every one of that united friendly band of mistresses who left the old school to enjoy so cheerfully the classrooms, and space and beauty of the new would be gone from "Bede"? But so it is. The last of them, Miss Seddon, has now left us for a Senior Tutorship at Warren Emergency Training College and is greatly interested in her new duties. Old Bedans take this opportunity of thanking her for all her work with them and of wishing her success and continued happiness in her changed surroundings. They hope to see her in holiday times.

We greet Miss Clark also and thank her for much unselfish service. Miss Ewart writes us on page 5. Miss Hutchinson and Miss Haggart sent greetings to the September meeting. So did Mrs. Anderson (Marjell Bruce) whose Elizabeth, Miss Arkle's god-child, is to be married in December. Miss Hutchinson, Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer have visited Miss Wilson. She was in bed but pleased to see them and full of questions about all concerning "Bede"; she had Miss Audrey Lodge at half-term and told us of Miss Trout in Southampton. Dumfries High School, says Winifred Wardman, still keeps Miss Logie more than busy, but perhaps her next visit to Sunderland will be longer than the two hours of the last. Mrs. Morton (Miss Williams) is, Irma Metcalf tells us, in England at present with her little Peter, and in China Mrs. White (Miss French) has a baby son. Miss Elliot, South for a Conference, stayed with Miss Birchall; Miss Shearer has been awarded a Diploma in appreciation of her work for the Free (later Fighting) French; Miss Lloyd has been a very useful asset all year; "Retirement doesn't mean Leisure!"

WHAT ARE OLD BEDANS DOING?

In Training—At universities: Pat Kendall and Jean Rosecrain at King's College, Newcastle; Pat Swan, at Manchester; Edna Brown, at Sheffield; Marie Anderson, Greta Gibson, Shirley Sinclair, at University College, Hall.

At Dartford Physical Training College: Dorothy Waggett.

At Wye Agricultural College, Kent: Marcelle Goodhall.

At Leicester Domestic Science College: Dorothy Hawdon, Edna Wilson.

At Sunderland Technical College (Pharmacy): Blossom Greenwald, Kathleen Currier.

At Sunderland School of Art: Shirley Cross, Mavis Milburn, Nancy Tompkin.

At the Barbara Priestman School for the Deaf: Rita Manning.

At Teachers' Training Colleges: 26 very new Old Bedans.

At Margaret Macmillan Nursery Training School, London: Pamela Hall.

In Newcastle, at Skerry's College: Pauline Humphreys; and at the Comptoner School, Pat Laverick and Dorothy Richardson in Sunderland, at Commercial Schools, Eve Bedans.

New Recruits to—W.R.N.S., Freda Clement; A.T.S., Dorcas Jackson; Civil Service, Edna Anderson and Gwyneth Haines in London, three in Newcastle, and 14 in Sunderland; various kinds of office work, 24; shops, 2; father's business, 3; library, Jean Currie; bank, Joyce Leithes; hair-dressing, Sheila Milburne and Pat Jollif; Rediffusion Service, Margaret Chastany, Betty Sweeting.

Qualifications Gained:

B.A. Hon.—Hilda Hope, Moira Mahoney.

B.Sc. Engineering, part I—Sheila Marwood.

M.Ch.S.—Bessie Dixon.

S.R.N.—Elsie Johnson, Marjorie Rochester.

S.J.A.B. Silver Cup for highest marks in annual re-examination. First winner, Cadet Superintendent Marjell Anderson.

Careers: Education—Retirements: Grace Wood, Vice-Principal, Hockerill Training College, and Alberta Farrow, Headmistress, Seaburn Harbour Girls' Grammar School.

Headmistresses: Constance Hasbun to succeed Alberta Farrow; of Sunderland schools, Miss Rogers and Doris Wilson; and of the Natsvey Students' Training Centre, Mary Paterson (Barlow). On Panel for Headships: Edith Schofield, Mariel Liddell, Beatrice Thirlwell.

Teaching in Leicester, Joyce Harding; in Birmingham, Moyra Potter; Science at Gainsborough, Joan Sutherland; Geography in the Isle of Man, Dorcas Turnbull (the first); Domestic Science, Peggy Davidson in Durham and Kathleen Newtick at Monkwearmouth. Among many married Bedans who have returned to teaching are Phyllis and Rene Johnson, while Evelyn enjoyed doing a month's specialist work in English in a Wakefield Grammar School.

Health—Flora Anderson (Quin), School Medical Officer, Liverpool; Irene Ross, Welfare Officer, Darlington; Madeline Binks, Health Visitor, Middlesbrough; Vera Shearson, Home Sister, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, London; Gladys Shewan, nurse, Leicester; Leslie Halliday, nurse, Schools Dental Clinic, Sunderland; Marion Barnes (Lawson) in charge of Chester Road Day Nursery; Essie Dixon, chiropodist, London: "The profession," Essie writes, "is really interesting and I just love feet. The worse they are the more I like them, and there is such satisfaction in being able to do something about them."

Fascina—Madge Welch, at Adel, Secretary to the Head of Leeds Gas Department; Irene Watson, a secretary for Hoover Ltd., London; Pat Curry and Isabel Rolfe, supervisors at Telephone Exchange; Sheila Anderson, in Accounts Department of a Palfin Factory "now views radio valves with a critical eye"; Mary Greenless is now first assistant at Hesdon Branch Library, and Joan Lamb, a Junior Comrade in the Women's Territorial Army. Kathleen Scott and her husband have taken over the bakery business we once associated with Peggy Barron, and Corrie Wray's husband has "a shop and café on the sea front. I was coaxed into helping out, I've never worked so hard, and I felt like praying for rain so that we could have a break from attending to the washing masses."

The Arts—Grace Wood's original and scholarly book of devotions, "*The Joyful Company*" is dedicated "to those students of Hockerill College who first listened to these passages in the darkened chapel on Wednesday evenings at House Prayers in war-time."

Mary Baker won the Sunderland Writers' Club Children's Story Competition.

Kathleen Stothard had a leading part in a *poemetry* given in Sunderland and directed by Christopher Fry, and many Old Bedan names appear in the casts of plays produced by the various town dramatic societies.

Winifred Elstob, Kathleen Stothard and Eunice Marriott have played at Sunderland Pinnaclete Society's Recitals, and Irene Ross has sung at public concerts.

Andrey Syrett addressed the Junior Meeting at a Conference of Northern Librarians held in Sunderland, and Phyllis Whitfield read the lesson in the Youth Service recently broadcast from Bishopwearmouth Church.

Margaret Roberts' (Darnton) hand-stitched work has been accepted for export.

Sport

Tennis: Numerous old Bedans from different Clubs met again at Ashbrooke at the County Tournament.

Hockey: Present at the coming-of-age celebrations of Sunderland Games Club were the founder captains of the Hockey and Netball Teams—Mary Mackintosh and Ivy Lockey.

Netball: Hilda Johnson and Dorothea Robson play on the First, and Jean Bagley, Jean Glendon, Jessie Solley and Elsie White on the Second Teams.

Swimming: Hilda Andrews was invited to join the demonstration team of the Northumberland and Durham Branch of the Royal Life-Saving Society, whose diploma she has gained, and has given displays of water tricks in various Northern towns.

Navigaton and Theory of Flight: As a result of the *Dorcas Mason* Scholarship examination, Daley Gittings piloted a training plane at Barton aerodrome for thirty minutes.

Married Bedans at Home, not mentioned elsewhere: Elsa Garbutt, Yvont; Kathleen Smith, Aylshbury; Mabel Kirby, Newcastle; Ella Solley, Newport; Anne Wilson, Cardiff; Hilda Lisle, a farm at Wadlen Law; Edith Broderick going soon to Reading; Corrie Simpson (the first); Throckley; Brenda Scott, Aberdeen; Gladys Woodward, now Doncaster; Joyce Vetch, Edinburgh; Eveline Blackett, Thorpe Thessle, "in the country at last, and Charlie, aged four, can pester outside to his heart's content"; Nora Pallister in Worthington with one girl, Pat, now at the Secondary School; Nellie Smyth at Exeter who goes out with her husband at Exmouth in his dinghy as a one man crew; her Catherine, aged ten, is doing very well at school; Rene Scott's two boys won scholarships to public schools, Tony to Bedford and Timothy to Charterhouse, and Gladys Gibbons' Helen, in Bristol, got Higher School Certificate and a Civic Scholarship of 1934, and a scholarship to Somerville College.

Home-Comings and Out-goings bring meetings. No sooner had Dorothy Gibson (Richardson) arrived from Australia, than she met Bedan form-mates—Kathleen Stothard, Amy Scofield (Smith), Cathie Fraser (Hine) from Harf, Eva Steinberg from London, Florence Wilson (Hudson) from Fakenham; Kathleen has met two more, Doris Foster (Radd) from Chard and Mary Brew. It was good to see Florence and Doris Wilson after many years, Amy Hussey from York and Mary Robertson from London. We were sorry to miss Evelyn Johnson and Peter, but Doreen Ward, with Jean aged five, at last joined us at home; they keep bees—"a fascinating hobby!" Margery Wade (Smith) spent Easter at Dorcas's London home. Mary Alexander has been North from Southampton and Norma Crosier home from Paris.

Some of the above Miss Hutchinson saw on her short visit to Sunderland in summer, and she met in quick succession Mary Baker and Midge Gray, both very brown after holidays in Sweden and Switzerland respectively, Valerie Garbutt (Johnson), Jessie Solley, Gladys Littlehalls, Ethel Tomkinson whose niece Jean Vincent with her two children was visiting her, Elizabeth Carr, Doris Miller (Catherson) from Newcastle, Joy Brown (Swann) from Halifax, Florence Hornum (Hart) from Nottingham, Vera Sutherland on twelve days' leave from the Fabes, Doris McCree (Pygott) has met Etna Cohen with her beautiful daughter in Leeds; Miss Arkle, Margaret Broadley (Joy) in Newcastle, and Elsie Garrick (Smith) came upon Margery Robson (Hudson) and Marjorie Wilkinson (Gilbert) in London. Dorothy Stephenson, entering a Carole has, found Miss Hutchinson and Miss Shearer in it, while in a railway

compartment, Eleanor Cahill and Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood) meeting for the first time since school-days exchanged news from Newcastle to King's Cross. The second Phyllis Carr (Perry) and Winnie Halliday (Wilson) with their children enjoyed a holiday together, and in South Africa, Ida Walker (Earl) with hers spent a few days with Lucy Poague (Nichol). Bessie Taylor "saw several Bedans in Harrogate including Lena Thompson and Corrie and Winnie Wardman," and at Callander in summer, Mollie Adamthwaite (Taylor) met Mollie Atkinson (Bowman) and May Wilson (Perry) all newly-wed at Easter.

At an outing to the Border Country organized by Burnes Junior School staff, these were present: Minnie McMillan, Elsie Whitfield, Winnie Whiting, Kathleen Simpson, Jennie Shadforth, Ivy Naisby, Madge Hardy, Hannah Graham, Jennie Davis, Joyce Bagley, Margaret Langham, Mary Kirkpatrick, Katherine Slavin (McAllister), Cassie Selby, Amy Robinson (Thompson), and Ethel Thompson. Tongues worked over-time!

Many Bedans have holidayed abroad. In Switzerland, Hilda Andrews met Mary Jones and Yvonne White, and, later, Marjorie and Joan Spurling. Edie Crowe was glad to get to France again and Eleanor Wilson has tried out her French there for the first time. In Germany, Vera Sutherland is teaching British children, so is Winnie Wakemshaw about a hundred miles away; Mary Leonard is a typist, and Elizabeth Melbourn is doing relief work under the Red Cross. Laila Jaspersen had some adventures in Norway under German occupation. From Northern Rhodesia, Ellen Whiting (Davison) writes to Miss Hatchinson, "I am doing half-time teaching . . . specialising in English with the 'boys' attending the Higher Teachers' Course. Most have wives and children, their ages vary from eighteen to forty, and all are, of course, as black as the ace of spades and about three times as big as I am. . . . I thoroughly enjoy teaching them; they listen with the most profound and flattering attention . . . a refreshing change from England! . . ."

"The reason I suddenly write to you out of the blue is that last night I dreamt most vividly . . . I was walking up the shopping street in Lanoka with Lena Thompson when we saw you coming towards us. You weren't wearing a hat and you had just had a perm. You looked very fit, not to say dashing. I said, 'Are you enjoying Africa?' and you puffed your perm complacently and said, 'What do you think?'"

"Bedan Babies" have their Reunions too. You would meet at Grangtown Welfare Clinic, the little folk of Mary Seath, Edna Wright, Ada Earnshaw, Nancy Mitchell, Vera Kemp and Audrey Brown. At the "Dancing Class," a dozen two-year-olds are perched on chairs ready to begin. Seeing—and knowing—their mothers, you decide which babies are not the angels they all look! You would be surprised.

Phyllis Carr's Margaret runs fairly true to type—a credit to the class, but Winnie Gibson's displays a concentration that was never one of her mother's gifts. Can "pepper" little Hilda Milburn own that swamp of a Susan, always on the move, or Mary Mochintosh, bristled-of mischief, have an Elaine so shy and reticent? How would the formidables who knew Margery Smyth cope with the quick answers of her irrepressible Elizabeth? The other little Elizabeth? She is the comedienne of the class, startling in her unexpectedness; what was Betsy Powley really like at school?

Instead of inserting our description of Marion Barnes' Day Nursery, where we met her own little Blair among the babies at dinner and Betty Coates' Paul downstairs, flourishing "a pascake," we must leave you to visit for yourselves her happy purposeful family.

FROM ELEANOR WILSON'S LETTER OF MAY 11th

We were a small but quite representative party yesterday.

Of ex-staff we had Miss Birchall, Miss Ewart and Miss Franklin. "They don't change!" "No, put Miss Birchall into a blue overall and we could be back in a Chemistry lesson!" Miss Birchall is still doing work of the overall variety—pastry-fitting now and gardening. From her came the delightful suggestion that a future Old Bedan meeting might be held at Sevenoaks. Miss Ewart is, of course, the gardener. Kathleen Watson tells us that her garden is the envy of all; everything is in its place and no weed, however insignificant, dare raise its head there. Miss Franklin, still at St. Albans, is just the same as when she first came among Bedans.

You will no doubt remember, more easily than I did, the old girls present at our re-union. Mary Robertson still does her job of improving the knowledge of Domestic Science. She was remembering the time when she was the youngest Bedan, aged seven, and Edith Alexander, also present yesterday, the Head Girl. Kathleen Watson is busy teaching at Maidenhead; on hearing her tale, I returned to Eastbourne, waver, waver to grumble again!

Dorcas Ward (Mancos) met Isabel Lundy (Mancos) for the first time since both left school in 1931: how much they had to say! Isabel had come from Cambridge for the day; she is already completely Light Blue in outlook, with her talk of the Backs, and Petry Cury and May Week. Earlier, Alice Munro, her sister-in-law, unable to be present at the meeting, gave us her news over a cup of coffee. She is leaving Sidcup in July to become History Specialist at Devonport High School. She and a friend have got a flat (from a choice of four!) apparently because they are desirable tenants, in that they are fairly sober, have steady incomes, have no children and don't keep pets.

To come to the meeting itself—ten of us assembled outside the Haymarket, and after mutual greetings went inside to see Noel Coward in *Present Laughter*, just the right sort of show for our purpose—all credit to Mary Robertson who selected it and booked the seats. The theatre party included Moyra Potter who is doing finals at the Rachel Macmillan College and was glad of the break but could not spare the time to come to tea with us.

I should need a new writing pad to do justice to the tea Rina Hands gave us at her lovely flat in Upper Cheyne Row; she ought to write a book on producing pre-war parties on post-war-day rations. Miss Birchall and Joyce Veitch joined us now, making a party of twelve. I think I've written of all presents with the exception of Ethel Foreman who, I believe, hopes soon to get a job up North.

Betty Senior (Comfort) was to have joined us, but unfortunately was ill. Freda Humphrey had to attend a meeting of the Mathematical Association and Isabel Alexander too, was not free. One Bedan wrote that she'd been an "Old Girl" for over thirty years—Doris Clayburn (James) of Cardiff. She was in London in May, but unfortunately her week ended the day before our meeting.

That, I think, concludes my picture of the re-union. The only sad part was that of the 38 people we contacted only those mentioned replied! It is a nerve-wracking business trying to arrange theatre-parties and teas when people just don't answer.

Edith Alexander was the first to leave Rina's. Duty called her to watch Polish soldiers give a demonstration of national dances. Then Isabel and I had to go. Miss Ewart accompanied with the utmost calm that she had missed the last train she meant to catch and so would now aim at getting the 8.25 slow. When we left, there seemed to be every possibility of an all-night session . . .

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ON AUGUST 31st, 1947

A Summary of Balance Sheet for Year 1946-1947, from September 1st, 1946, to August 31st, 1947

RECEIPTS		£ s. d.	EXPENDITURE		£ s. d.
Subscriptions	...	11 10 0	Stationery, Printing and Olf. Books	...	17 12 11
Donations	...	0 0 0	Postage and Telephone Calls	...	11 12 11
Interest	...	0 2 5	Gifts	...	7 7 0
Balance from Meetings	...	5 4 9	Repayment to London Branch Club	...	4 4 0
			Balance on Year's Working	...	50 1 0
		<u>£20 3 2</u>			<u>£20 3 2</u>

B TOTAL FUNDS

Balance on August 31st, 1946	...	£ 20 3 0	Balance on August 31st, 1947	...	£ 147 16 10
Balance on Year's Working (1946-1947) Bk. cluding Interest on War Stock, Defence Bonds and Deposit Account	...	76 1 0	Made up as follows:—		
		<u>£ 96 4 0</u>	2½% War Stock, 1929-47	...	96 7 2
			2½% Defence Bonds	...	75 0 0
			Balance in Bank—		
			(a) on Deposit Account	...	107 16 9
			(b) on Current Account	...	40 0 1
					<u>147 16 10</u>
		<u>£203 0 0</u>			<u>£203 0 0</u>

H. M. CRAGGS, Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined the Receipt Books, Stock Receipts, Defence Bonds Receipts, Current and Deposit Book Accounts and I certify that everything is in order.
THOS. H. BLYTHE
September 29th, 1947.

