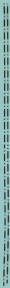


# The Old Bedan.



1948.

# The Guild of Old Bedans.

President . . . . . Miss W. J. E. MOUL.  
Vice-President . . . . . Miss M. E. BOON.

## Office Bearers and Committee for 1944-1945

Chairman . . . . . CATHERINE MCCREE, 7, Evelyn Street  
Vice-Chairman . . . . . Mrs. DOWNS (Rene Halliday),  
4, Mount Road East  
Joint Secretary and Treasurer . Mrs. KIRKWOOD (Elsie Davidson),  
40, Newlands Avenue. Tel. 6433  
Assistant Secretary . . . . . BESSIE TAYLOR,  
29, Rowlandson Terrace. Tel. 3145.

## Committee:

Rita Cragg, Bede Grammar School for Girls; Mrs. Beaney (Gladys Littlehales), 2, Belle Vue Crescent; Mrs. Sanderson (Margery Smyth), 1, Dilston Gardens; Mary Brandoot, 32, Barnard Street; Lilian Galloway, 14, Barnard Street; Vera Harrold, 87, Kewley Road; Sylvia Hood, 11, Crosslea Avenue; Mrs. Thomas (Winifred Scott), 14, Melbury Court, Fulwell.  
Co-opted Members: D. L. Orme, Bede Grammar School for Girls; Vera Duffell, 34, Broadbeath Terrace; E. R. Shearer, 48, Ashwood Terrace.

## Editorial Committee:

E. R. Shearer (Convener), 48, Ashwood Terrace.  
Catherine McCree, 7, Evelyn Street.  
Mrs. Kirkwood, 40, Newlands Avenue.  
Mrs. Downs, 4, Mount Road, East.  
Mrs. Thomas, 14, Melbury Court, Fulwell.  
J. S. Briggs, 39, The Avenue.  
Mrs. Crowe (Nancy Mitchell), 31, Victoria Avenue.  
Winifred Gosham, 20, Mount Road, East.  
Eleanor Manton, 15, Hoker Batho Road.

## EDITORIAL

To all our members, greeting! Some we see often, others we have only heard about, many have been prevented through illness from joining us at Re-Unions. For these last we wish a sure and speedy recovery, and for all of you everything good.

We greet you too, Old Bedans who are reading this magazine, but who are not Members of the Guild. Why not become one of us and receive your own copy? The owner of this *Old Bedan* will accept your subscription, and we promise you a welcome.

In September we had to say goodbye to our Vice-Chairman, Nora Johnson (Wilson), who has now left Sunderland. We are very sorry, and shall indeed miss her quiet reliable help. Later, we had to accept the resignation also of our Secretary, Margery Smyth (Sanderson), whose home problem makes it impossible for her to continue in office. We send her our regrets, our sympathy and our thanks for all she has done. We are most grateful too, to Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood), who took on this more-than-easy task at a moment's notice; shall we lighten her way by heading her requests on page 2 ?

We Editors also would appreciate a sympathetic response to our annual call for news. It is increasingly difficult to collect accurate information solely by our own efforts. Do send us yours and your friends'; it may seem trivial to you, but some one will appreciate it as we hope you will appreciate our 1948 *Old Bedan*.

#### INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

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

Life Subscription : £2/2/0, if paid within two years; otherwise £2/12/6.

Associate Subscription : 1/- for girls of Form Upper VI.

Annual Subscriptions count towards Life Membership. Anyone who has paid one half-crown subscription becomes a Life Member by a further payment of £1/12/6 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.

*A Word.* It is difficult to estimate the membership of the Guild. There are 186 Life Members. 301 Annual Subscriptions were received for 1947-48 but of those which fell due on Sept. 1, only 96 have so far been paid! 88 members, including some who once worked for the Guild, and who, we feel sure, have no wish to resign their membership, have paid nothing since August, 1946; 120 have paid nothing since 1947! Last year, 99 accepted their *Old Bedan* as a gift. The Committee regrets that owing to the high cost of production it cannot continue to send the magazine to those whose subscriptions for the current year are still unpaid.

*Date of Winter Re-Union.* Saturday, January 26th, 1949.

*Requests from the Secretary:* 1. Do, please, let me know if you are coming to meetings; catering is otherwise impossible.

2. Please ask if you are not sure if your subscription is paid. Any member of Committee will pass on your message.

3. Will married members, writing, please give their maiden names also?

4. Will members, especially Life Members, be good enough to see that the Secretary has their correct addresses?

5. New members and 'lapsed' members will be very welcome. Please persuade at least one *Old Bedan* to join or rejoin the Guild, now.

*Suggestions for the Guild:* (1) To have a Dinner in Spring; (2) to let the Summer Meeting take the form of an outing; (3) to revive the Social Service Club; (4) to take an active part in the School's celebration, in April 1950, of its 60th anniversary. Readers are asked to let the Committee know whether they would welcome any or all of these and to send further suggestions and any offer of help.

We are grateful to Miss Orme and the few *Old Bedans* who have sent us news; and we thank especially Miss Boon for a gift of ten shillings sent with a kind message "for the next party." Mr. Blyth for acting as auditor and Misses Gibbons, Wilman and Murray for much quiet help given to the Editors in the last two years.

*Old Bedans* know well Mrs. J. S. Nicholson, a former Governor and kind benefactor and friend of the School. An Echo photograph shows her cutting her cake at her 86th birthday party, held in her honour in Sans Street Mission where she has been a member for 71 years.

As a Memorial to *Old Bedans* fallen in the war, an organ is to be erected in the Boys' School Hall. Towards this the Guild has contributed a donation of ten guineas.

For easier identification, we use maiden names. The married name is usually either given in brackets or omitted if mentioned earlier.

## GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS IN 1947-48.

**Old Bedans' Loan and Scholarship Fund.**—It is gratifying to note how the girls appreciate the existence of this fund. In January, 1948, we assisted one of our old girls to enter upon an unusual and specialised training and, later, seven further applications were received and met. In addition, in March, the Committee granted Scholarships of £5 each to Marie Anderson and Pauline Humphreys in acknowledgment of high achievement in Higher School Certificate Examinations in the previous year; and in June, scholarships of £5 each to Patricia Scazer, Florence Farrow and Colin Pipe for services to the school.

The sum available for expenditure in June was £265/2/7, all of which, except £5, reserved in case of emergency, was disposed of. In October, however, three former recipients of loans repaid a total of £25 so that the fund is once again in a fairly healthy state. The Old Bedans' Hockey Club's usual donation of 50/- was again very welcome. It seems, unfortunately, that our annual income may be reduced to about £33/15/0, so it may be difficult to meet applications as generously as we would like. We hope, therefore, that borrowers will try to reimburse the fund at the earliest opportunity so that others may benefit from the help it can give.

D. L. J. ORME, Secretary-Treasurer.

**The Guild of Old Bedans' Hockey Club** would like to assure Miss Moul again how greatly it appreciates the use of the School Playing Field. We have had a successful season; we won twelve, drew two and lost two matches, cancelled only two because of weather, have bought twelve pairs of knee stockings for the use of the team and have not needed to raise the subscription of 3-6 to meet rising expenses. We should gladly welcome new members, especially this season since we have lost the services of some of our older and more experienced players.

HELEANOR MARSTON, 15, Holcor Baths Road, Secretary.

**Guild of Old Bedans' London Branch.**—The Winter Re-Union, held on December 8, 1947, at the Piccadilly Hotel, was attended by eight members who much enjoyed tea and talk. The meeting on May 8, 1948, took the same form, this time at the Carib Tea Rooms, Strand; twelve were present.

Since then it has been suggested that a small levy be made on members of the London Branch to cover its incidental expenses. I take this opportunity of proposing a yearly subscription of 6d. If I hear of no objections or modifications from London members, this can be confirmed at the next meeting.

We are always glad of new members, so if you or any Old Bedans in the London area of whom you know, have not been receiving our communications, I shall be grateful to have names and addresses. It would also be helpful if members leaving London would notify me and so obviate unnecessary postage and effort.

Secretary: Mrs. BECK (Phyllis Tennant), 16, Rushton Road,  
Abbey Wood, London, S.E.2. Tel. Woolwich 1211.

**The Winter Re-Union, January 12th.**—The 110 Old Bedans who met in the School Hall found that the singing of *Jule Lars Sve* brought to an end all too soon this pleasant party, where they played Military Whist, took part in wassail courses, did rapid mental calculations for their teams in a "Number" race, ate an interesting supper and chatted vigorously. A telegram of greeting came from Miss Moul, and the oldest friend welcomed was Miss Hutchinson.

**Informal Social Evenings**, held on the first Monday of November, December, February, March and May, were enjoyed by those present, but the small attendances do not justify their being continued this year. Different members "ran" each meeting and we talked, sewed, knitted, sometimes played games or answered twenty questions. Tea and cakes or other dainties were provided and a small charge made was supposed "to cover the cost," but the members of Committee responsible were very generous. We learnt with a real thrill, one evening, that Elsie White in Vancouver had "read of the meetings, could not be present" herself but had sent us two boxes of Dad's Cookies. A thank-you was sent her from the lucky meeting. "How nice to taste biscuits that are really sweet!" said the company. And even more than her gift, Elsie's kind thought was appreciated.

At the **Summer Meeting, July 5th**, a Treasure Hunt caused great fun, and as one of the articles to be found was a teacher, benches adjoining the hockey field were in great danger. The 86 Bedans present enjoyed also a clever musical competition, and took part in impromptu charades after a delicious supper, prepared almost single-handed by the secretary, Margery Smyth (Sanderson). The Committee washed up.

**Summary of the Annual Business Meeting**, the smallest Annual Meeting in the history of the Guild, but a vigorous one.

Greeting by the President, Miss Mowl, and a few words on the School's approaching 60th anniversary.

Minutes of last Business Meeting.

Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports. Gas appears elsewhere in *Old Bedan*. For Balance Sheet, see page 12. Of the balance of £200/0/04, £17/5/0 consists of Life Subscriptions.

Officers and Committee for 1948-1949 declared elected.

Reports on Loan and Scholarship Fund and Branch Clubs.

Election of Editorial Committee

Allocations from Funds: one guinea for School Prize and ten guineas to *Old Bedan Boys' Memorial Fund*.

Programme of Activities: Winter Re-Union fixed for Saturday, January 8, 1949, and suggestions made for later meetings.

## SCHOOL NOTES

### Staff

Goodbye to: Misses J Harris, Leggett, Moore, Rutter, Sprout and Sumnerbell.

Welcome to: Mrs. Bryon, Misses Cross, Davies, Lacey, Metcalf and Norman.

Miss Cunningham is now Mrs. Bruce.

Miss Orme is Vice-Chairman of Parent-Teacher Association.

### Honours Won

School Captain: Dorothy Dodd

School Vice-Captain: Irene Reed.

State Scholarship: Margaret Dinsdale.

On Reserve List for State Scholarships: Doris Heslop, Pat Palmer, Pat Scorer.

Guild of Old Bedans Prizes:

School Prize, 1946-47, for Art: Sheila Fenwick and Doreen Turnbull.

Bedan Competition Prizes, 1947-48 for Essays: Jennie Garrett and Margaret Fitzgerald (Geography), and Margaret Garrick and Julia Reed (History).

*The Arts:* Played for Sunderland Piano-forte Society: Dorothy Dodd, Kathleen Robson.

At North of England Musical Tournament: 14 years and under, *Gervase Wood Memorial Trophy* and *Bronze Medal* for Piano-forte playing: Sylvia Tait.

Breakfast (singing) in children's programme: Gladys Fletcher.

Gave "outstanding" ventriloquist performance at the annual rally of the local Union of Girls' Clubs: Audrey Jordan.

## Sport

*School Sports Trophies*—Senior: Form IVc; Junior: Form IIc.

*Championships:* Senior School, Celia Pipe; Middle School, Sheila Bagley and Ann Middleton; Junior School, Edna Smith.

*Hockey*—On Junior County Teams, the following play: Mary Davidson, Brenda Gibson, Isabel Hill, Audrey Jordan on First; Joyce Keerie, Ann Middleton on Second.

*Swimming*—In R.L.S.S. Tests, Celia Pipe gained an Instructor's Certificate; 1, a Bronze Cross, 4, Bronze Bars, and 15, Medallions.

*New Interest.*—Through the A.V.F., School has adopted the village school of *Darwen* and has had a delightful mail.

## SINCE NOVEMBER, 1947.

*Those who have become Life Members:* D. E. Birchall, Mary Blacklock (Smith), Brenda Bryers (Reed), Sarah Cohen (Gottlieb), I. O. M. Harris, L. A. Hutchinson, Winifred James (Chalk), Phyllis Tennant (Beck), Elsie Wilson (Hooker), Joan Wise (Krosh).

*Among those married are:* Doris Abbott, Margaret Anderson, Mollie Anderson, Alice Bittlesbone, Zella Howdidge, A.J. Hundred, Irene Bumburn, Grace Caldwell, Anne Chevalier, Irene Denton, Mary Earle, Mary Ferry, Doreen Graham, Lorna Green, Joan Hebron, Hilda Housman, Joan Hunt, Lily Jameson, Beryl Johnson, Audrey Jones, Ruth Kilner, Irene Lewis, Barbara Lucas, Elsie Lynn, Hilary Mears, Elizabeth Metcalf, Mary Priestman, Sibyl Reed, Lilian Richardson, Joan Smith, Joan Spurling, Joyce Strait, Norma Taylor, Joyce Tinsdale, Patricia Thomas, Sarah Thompson, Florence Thwaites, Peggy Turner, Eileen Vincent, Kathleen E. Young.

*Among those who have become Life Members are those of:* Louise Alvey (twins), Irene Andrews, Connie Askew, Elsie Bell, Kathleen Bellamy, Joyce Bloom, Gladys Bowman, Joan Bowell, Edith Broderick, Joyce Broderick, Margaret Capon, Brenda Carledge, Mary Champness, Freda Charlton, Betty Christal, Gladys Clasper, Rachel Corner, Dorothy Dale, Doreen Denton, Eileen Deedford, Lily English, Nina French, Elsa Garbutt, Edith Gardner, Doris Gillespie, Joyce Hebron, Joan Hendry, Annie Herring, Marjorie Hindmarch, Joyce Hughes, Vera Kemp, Sheila Kent, Marjorie Knowles, Maude Lawson, Isabel Legg, K. Price, Beulah Maczoby, Doreen Madd, Dorothy Middlemass, Margaret Milburn, Doris Miller, Eileen Morris, Brenda Nelson, Margaret Nicholson, Betty Niel, Daisy Overfield, Alice Procter, Jenny Parshon, Hannah Reed, Jessie Ridley, Margarita Roberts, Muriel Robinson, Nancy Robinson, Elsie Scott, Kathleen Scott, Elsie Seaden, Dorothy Snowdon (the first), Eileen Souter, Joan Spurling, Doreen Southall, Kathleen Tait, Marjorie Taylor, Rita Thompson, Nora Turner, Hilda Udels, Peggy Victory, Kathleen Vincent, Doreen Ward, Gladys Watson, Margaret Watson, Muriel Watson, Margaret West, Winnie White, Irene Wilkinson, Myr Wilson, May Woodhill, Constance Wray, Maude Young.

*In Memoriam:* Hilda Adamson, Mrs. Ashwell (Miss Froggatt), Nannie Starnes (Mrs. Budge).

## OUR FORMER MISTRESSES

Old Bedans who knew Mrs. Ashwell (Miss Froggatt) as a conscientious and kindly French mistress will be sorry to learn that she died about a year ago at her home in Canada. She was married in the Great War and emigrated soon after. Miss Birchall had kept in touch with her all these years and it was she who told us the sad news when she, Miss Horat and Miss Shearer met in London for lunch before going on to the meeting of the Old Bedans.

Miss Shearer found Miss Horat little changed after eleven years; Miss Birchall she had seen more recently. They, like the rest of us, will be glad to have this message from Miss Boon: "Letter-writing is becoming increasingly difficult for me, alas. I am so very tired, and all except quite necessary things are apt to go by the board. Tell the staff and my dear Old Bedans this for me, will you? And say I never forget them."

Miss Wilson at Cothelstone is far from well, but very ready to hear news; she has had two visits this year from Miss Arkle and frequently sees Miss Audrey Lodge. Miss Hutchinson is well, sends good wishes. She is always up-to-date with Bedan doings, and Miss Haggart in Kirkcaldy always anxious to know the latest. Miss Seddon is at present (November) spending part of her "summer" holiday in Sunderland. Miss Clark, happy with her male and female students in Sheffield Training College, and Miss A. Abbott from Cheltenham have also come more than once to visit us, and we have been very glad to see them. Mrs. Pope (Miss N. Abbott), with her composer-husband and little daughter, lives in London. Miss Wood is now Physical Training Tutor at Neville's Cross Training College; Miss Arkle has already met her. Miss Joyce Harris, who has worked hard for Bede School for some years, takes our good wishes with her to her new post in Birmingham, while Miss Higgs, recently appointed Lecturer in Education (Method) at the Northern Counties School of Cookery is again a colleague of Miss E. O. M. Harris. The latter we were pleased to see at the Annual Business Meeting. In town we meet Misses Briggs, Stirk and Peters, and, less frequently since she has been much away from home, Miss Lloyd. She was President of the Alexandra Branch of the Townswomen's Guild for 1948.

Of those who are also Old Bedans, Ethel Sammerbell is Tutor in Mathematics at Sunderland Training College, Gladys Littlehales (Beatty)—now well after an operation in Spring—is a member of the Guild Committee, and Muriel Bruce (Anderson) in Birmingham, who has long given time and service to the voluntary work of the St. John and Red Cross Hospital Library Scheme, has had the honour of being elected County Organiser for Warwickshire.

We end with very recent Old Mistresses and foreign news: Mrs. Pevod has a baby son, Misses Rutter and Towhitt have married, Miss Spout has a post in Newcastle, Mrs. Montmorencie (Miss Maid) is in Iraq, and Mrs. Markham (Miss Moore) sails shortly for Spanish Guinea. Mrs. White (Miss French) sent home from China with her baby, David, for safety reasons, is in Chester-in-Street; in poor health on her arrival, she is much better now. Lastly, do Miss Lamb's friends find something characteristic of her in the ending of her somewhat startling journey, as related on page 10.

## WHAT OLD BEDANS ARE DOING

**In Training.**—At Universities: Margaret Dinsdale (classics) and Pat Palmer (Theology) at St. Mary's College, Durham; Pat Sconer and Patty Bagley (French) at Manchester; Muriel Orr (Mathematics) at Leeds; Ruth Donkin (History), Doris Heslop (Mathematics) and Josephine Shaw (Dentistry) at King's College, Newcastle.

At West of Scotland Domestic Science Training College, Glasgow: Sheila Fenwick.

At Nonington Physical Training College, Kent: Celia Pipe.

At Sunderland School of Art: Sorrell Miller.

At Teachers' Training Colleges: 21.

**New Recruits to:** Libraries—Evel Pritchard and Christine Holt; Civil Service: 23—ten, to London, one to Harrogate, the rest to Sunderland or Newcastle; Nursing: 5; Banks: 8.

**Qualifications Gained:** M.B., B.S.: Phyllis Armstrong; Sybil Ward.

B.A., Hon.: Vera Harrold (Philosophy); Mary Bryden and Heather Gardner (History); Dorothy Hopper (French).

B.Sc. Hon (Physics): Betty Mitchell;

B.Sc. (Engineering): Sheila Marwood.

By being placed 25th—and first of the girls—in Civil Service Open Competition Examination, Clerical Class, Margarite Maughan qualified for, and obtained, a post in the Foreign Office.

**Careers Begun:**—Florence Farrow, a student demonstrator in Biology at the Technical College; Anne Ransome in X-Ray Department, and Sheila Whitfield a Student Laboratory Technician in Pathological Department of Royal Infirmary; Geraldine Cook and Rosalind Rutherford in Laboratories of Chemical Works, Boldon; Doreen Sharpe, a cookery demonstrator for the Electricity Company; Connie Hewicks with a London Insurance Company.

**Education:**—Chairman at Annual Conference of North-Eastern Federation of Head Teachers' Associations: Annie Macdonald, President of Sunderland Branch.

**Headmistresses:**—of Nursery School, Shipley: Dorothy Charlton, at present taking a course at London University; of Sunderland Schools: Alice Bates, Beatrice Thirlwell. On Panel for Headships—Ivy Lockey, Jean Fosley, Margaret Tate. Teaching—in Reading, Jean Kerr, who has visited Miss Ewart; in Northallerton: Stella Lawson, who also reads to prisoners. Nellie Thompson (Wood) is to be Matron of Sunderland's new special school at Milton Hall, near Brampton where her husband will be Headmaster; Norma Coulter is now assistant at the Lyce and lecturer at the University in Algiers, Nellie Mee, Lecturer in Junior Method, Little Gaddesden Emergency Training College and Phyllis Armstrong, Demonstrator in Physiology at King's College, Newcastle.

**Health:**—Edith Gibson is Matron of Aycliffe Hospital and Vera Sheraton of Sunderland Children's Hospital; Madeline Binks a Health Visitor, Marjorie Rochester a nurse in a nursing home and Ruth Wilson finishing her training in nursing—all in Sunderland.

**Various:**—Betty Mitchell, Research Work at I.C.I., Manchester; Cecilia Lakin, Secretarial Post at Fire Station and Edna Clement, Vera Price, Margaret Taylor (the second) at School Clinic; Kathleen Bryce, head of Boldon Branch Library; Marion Cairns, Jean Kent and many others, Civil Service Posts, London; Dora Watson and Isobel Rolfe, supervisors at Telephone Exchange.

**The Arts:** Doreen Youll has written and published a text-book, *English for the Business World*.

Winnie Gosham gained a prize and was runner-up for the Carron Trophy for a newspaper leader.

Many Bedans act in plays produced by town dramatic societies, including Elvie Senker (Wild), who took part in Sunderland Drama Club's play, *A Dog for Delbeest*, which won first place in Harrogate Dramatic Festival and was later broadcast. Mavis Broadfield, Miss Ewart tells us, has acted in Repertory at Reading.



Several Bedans are soloists in church musical productions, including Brenda Riddler who is also taking a part in the Messiah in Durham Cathedral in December. Joyce Bagley conducted the winning choir at the Eisteddfod of Sunderland and District Sunday School Union.

Doreen Martin captains the ten ringers of St. Andrew's Church's new bells, and her sister Aileen is one of the team.

**Hockey:** Lena Thompson, former Durham County and North of England Player, Honorary Treasurer of Durham County Association and member of North Council, has been appointed a North Selector; Geraldine Cook, five years younger than any other member plays on the County Team.

**Youth Service:** Moira Dodds is Chairman of Sunderland and District Union of Girls' Clubs; Rosina Catter is mistress and Marigold Pearson Assistant Mistress of a pack of Wolf Cubs, while Unita Magrill runs, with another, a junior club for children aged seven to eleven. Margaret Topel was recently presented with a cake, a replica of the Tudor Boys' and Girls' Club for which she had painted a dress. Amy Hussey's teaching post is one of "special responsibility" because she organises all the many charitable and social activities of the school, from hip-collecting to the Young Adventurers a form's spontaneous effort to become good citizens.

**Off the Beaten Track:** Immediately after her civil marriage at Wrexham, Hilary Meers came North by plane to enable her to make the church ceremony where her parents had been married. Doreen Graham's was the first Sunderland wedding service to be recorded for the gramophone and North Thompson's the first at which the new peal of bells was rung.

Rosalie Walker is living a fairy-tale. She is enjoying a two years' "holiday," with the option of staying on, with American friends in Logan, Utah, in the lap of luxury, with all expenses paid. She hopes to take a degree at the local University and has already attended one Latter Day Saints' Conference at Salt Lake City.

Marjell Anderson has been appointed a member of the 1st St. John (Berke) Air Unit of nursing attendants; the work is voluntary. Sheila Marwood is Sunderland's first girl, B.Sc. in Engineering; Rita Craggs is now a fully accredited local preacher, Isabel Mashons represented St. Gabriel's Church at the C.M.S. Conference at Liverpool. Joyce Gard won the hearty contest at a recent Conservative Fête; Marguerite Jessop has left teaching to train race-horses at Doncaster—we hope for a tip for the Derby! Esther McLachlan's (Wallace) son is among the first six R.A.F. men chosen for the new training in falconry; Kathleen Humphrey took a holiday post as a waitress, earned £20 and went hitch-hiking by the Mediterranean.

Louie Lamsden (Dame Louisa Wilkinson, O.B.E.), gave the address at School's 1947 Speech Day. She was Matron-in-Charge of the Q.A.I.M.N.S., is now the Service's first Controller-Commandant and has had the honour of being received by Queen Mary.

**Where? Married Bedans at Home, not mentioned elsewhere:** Connie Asher and Nora Turner, Toronto; Betty Behrman, Glasgow; Freda Blakey, thatched cottage in Cambridge; Nancy Chilton and Nora Johnson, West Hartlepool; Kitty Clayburn (Cooper), Eitham; Eta Cohen (the first), Leeds; Eta Cohen (the second), Liverpool; Rita Cohen, London; Alice Donkels and Dorothy Snowden (the first), Darlington; Gwyneth Evans, farm near Seaham; Betty Gills, Bristol; Hilda Hartley (the first), East Boldon; Mollie Hiskley, now Seaham; Margaret McLachlan and Ethel Russell, Alton; Margaret Milner, Birmingham; Daisy Overfield,

Uppminster, Alice Procter, Bombay; Sibel Reed, Castle Eden; Greta Riseborough, Southampton; Margery Robson, Leeds; Edna Sayers and Brenda Cartledge, York; Joan Smith, Yarcombe; Nellie Smyth, now Hull; Joan Spurling, Tanganyika; Eva Stonehouse, Rugby; Mollie Topel, Paris; Nancy Waite, Plymouth; Florence Wilson, Kettering.

Recently gone, or about to go abroad: Sidney, Doreen Bullock; Hong-Kong, Elizabeth Carr (Horsman), Canada, Grace Entwistle and Beryl Johnson (Forster); Kenya, Elsa Garbutt (Poulter); South Africa, Norma Taylor (Shaw); Australia, Peggy Turner (Young); Denmark, Dorothy Morrison, to marry her "pen-pal".

Returned home from: Rio de Janeiro, Grace Caldwell (Allinson); Hang-chow, on leave from the Mission Hospital dispensary which is under her charge, Mary Garnett; Germany, Margaret Holmes (Parsons) and Margaret Owen (Wood); San Francisco, spending some time at Singapore en route, Phyllis Rapley; Czechoslovakia, after two years spent there, Mariel Watson (Jalavka).

**Bedan Meets Bedan:** We cannot mention all Old Bedans we see in town; the names of the teachers alone would fill pages. In one day for example, we met Hilda Johnson, Elsie and Marion Prosser, Florence Andrews, Susie Robertson, Minnie Macmillan, and (maiden names only) Joyce Alder (the first), Alice Hodgson, Irene Lisle, Helen Reed, Connie Warburton, Elsie Bell, Rose Smith, Esther Betts with her Norma, now a Bedan, Phyllis Carr (the second), Betty Niel, Winnie Crichton—the mother of three Old Bedans, Marjorie Walker (the last). Marjorie lives next door to Mavis Nelson (Dawson), who had recently a visit from Florence Lathhead (Gordon).

In one Newcastle bus, Miss Arkle met Isabel Rolfe, in another, Arisa and Stella Laws; Gladys Littlehales came on Dorothy Dale (Morris) and Miss Briggs on Joan Burdrough (Washington), whose sister Victoria still works with the Electricity Company. Eleanor Cartill, visiting Warton Emergency Training College, met Miss Seddon. Miss Hutchinson spoke to Rene Tindle and her little boy at Monkton about a year ago, and one day in the oak bed of Mr. Aris' allotment, adjoining Miss Wilman's and Miss Shearer's, she renewed acquaintance with his wife, Dorothy Botcherby. Over the fence live Rose Taylor (Crute) and Elizabeth Petch. Miss Lloyd, out to tea in Newcastle, found Edith Robson (Taylor) a fellow-guest. We had to go all the way to Holy Island to speak to Phyllis Lodge after many years.

Holidays being many meetings, chance or otherwise. In a hotel in Kenwick, Winnie Scott met Grace Caldwell on her honeymoon; in one at Medlar, Miss Hutchinson and Miss Shearer found they had been preceded by Elsie Weatherall (Petch) and Marianne Deane (Turnbull), whose daughters are school friends at "Beds." Home have been Kathleen Smith (Pickforth), Elsa Garbutt, before leaving for Kenya, Lilian Harrold (Tomlin) from Darlington, Joan Patterson (Greenlade) from Liverpool, Winifred Wakelshaw from Germany, Ethel Bruce (Doid) from Canada has visited her sister Mariel (Anderson), Nancy Mitchell sees Maida Kirby (Hall) of Newcastle, Kath Marley (Green) from Hale called on us and told us of Gwen and Kathleen. Lilian Bovee from Rugby spent a recent week-end with Eric Crowe in London, and Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer one with Amy Hawsey in York. Dorothy Gibson (Richardson) stayed with Catherine Fowler (Hine) at Wembley and both visited Eva Strömberg at Ealing. Doris Taylor went to see Miss Clark at Sheffield where there is a new Bedan colony—Poppy Gould a student "on the floor below," Helen Garrick and Sheila "Snowball" at the University, and of course Mrs. Horton (Miss Parkin). Bessie Taylor has stayed in Liverpool with Flora Anderson (Dr. Quin) whose work takes her to clinics in up-to-date housing estates and in the heart of the slums. In Bessie's students' class at Barnes

she has Maide Curry's Anthony, Nellie Fraser's twins, Peter and Ian, Kathleen Bellamy's Gillian, and had till recently Nora Johnson's little step-daughter, Margaret, while the young Belton mothers who meet at the Car and Dog Stairs must leave little room for non-Beltons.

Ivy Lockey arranged a presentation tea-party for Nornah Hunter, when she left Diamond Hall Infants' School to the charge of the new Head, Alice Bates. Belton's present were Margaret Graham, Audrey Reynolds, Thirza Davies and Winifred Gargett. At the London December Meeting were Miss Ewart, Mary Robertson, Isabel Lundy (Munro), Dorcen Ward (Macrae), Mollie Chevers, Freda Humphrey, Phyllis Tennant (Beck), Eleanor Wilson. At the May meeting were Marjorie Brown, Moira Caddisford, Margery Humphrey (Mellor), Mary Robertson, Dorothy Waggott, Eleanor Wilson, Phyllis Tennant and Misses Birchall, Ewart and Shearer; apologies for absence came from Edith and Isabel Alexander, Bessie Dixon, Nina French (Davison), Miss Franklin, Amor Hudson (Humphrey), Jean Kerr, Isabel Lundy, Alice Munro, Kathleen Watson, while Kaid Crowe, unable to come, joined the remnants of the party at Charing Cross.

We end with two coincidences. Last year, Gladys Gibbons (Phillips) and Dorothy Prosser (Beedes) found each other at a P.T.A. meeting of a Bristol school where Gladys' Helen was the eldest and Dorothy's Elizabeth the youngest pupil, and Ellen Whiting (Davison) in South Africa, gone on a shopping expedition to Salisbury, found herself face to face with Miss Lamb.

## ADVENTURE!

**Nairobi to Salisbury, accompanied with apologies to Miss Lamb.**

Tuesday: To avoid return by plane left Nairobi on lorry of Canadian, "Tex." Front wheels parted company. Wednesday: midday locked. Arab in charge of a convoy gave help and advised return, but I had to be in Salisbury the next Tuesday, so travelled, with permission, with Arab convoy all day and till 2 a.m. Then Mohammed said Arab bus was due which would get me to Dodoma more quickly, asked what I owed, he said: "Nothing. I help you today, you help someone tomorrow."

Thursday: "Bus" a car body with trailer full of Africans. Sat in car between 2 Arabs. Brakes went wrong, driver "mended" them, left main road, stopped at 4.30 a.m. in Arab village, obviously to sleep in its lodging-house.

I: Is this Dodoma? Driver: Gazono.

I: I want to go to Dodoma. Driver: Tomorrow.

I: No, now. Driver, firmly: Bus too good.

The convoy would not pass that way. I was desperate!

I: Listen? You have a licence to run a bus from Arusha to Dodoma. You told Mohammed Bihari you would take me to Dodoma Hotel. I want to go to Dodoma—at once!

Driver, to my utter astonishment: All right, Mama. We go.

Returned to main road; bus stopped, driver said, "Sorry, no petrol," laid head on steering-wheel and went to sleep. At 7 a.m. ~~awoke~~, got petrol in; reached Dodoma, 10.30 a.m. Heard of a Mr. and Mrs. A.—167 miles on—travelling to Mbeya; from 2.30 to midnight, in cab of midway goods lorry,—corrugated road—wild country. Overtook A's.

Friday, 8 a.m.: Left with three. Comfortable car, magnificent scenery. 8 p.m., reached Mbeya, 200 miles. Stranded—A's going no further. But, after dinner, heard Tex's voice; he had overtaken me!

Saturday, 9 a.m.—4.30 p.m.: 420 miles, including 100 added by raising way and 10 on roads slippery as ice-rinks—one nasty skid and only one spring unbroken.

Sunday, 7.30 a.m.: 140 miles somehow, on roughest road ever. At Broken Hill, missed school special train by five minutes.

Monday, 2 p.m.: Lorry rumbled, but shortly, brakes broke. Road luckily nearly empty but on unexpected downward S bend, found ourselves heading for precipice down to Kambeel. Tax swerved sharply, rushing towards solid wall of rock, steered clear by inches. At S. Rhodesian frontier could not stop, crashed through customs gate and sailed on.

Tuesday, 3 a.m.: Reached Simons, 200 miles without brakes; left at 11 a.m.: reached Salisbury in time for lunch, as arranged.

"Night in Gool"—as told by Vera Price: Returning by the last train to a holiday camp, after a day in London, a friend and I were directed at Victoria to the front carriages. Wearily and thankfully we climbed in and took no further interest in our journey until well after 11 p.m., when we found a river and blaring lights where there should have been dark countryside. The train stopped. We jumped out, demanding to know where we were. "Rochester," replied the ticket collector, "where do you think?" "No train till morning," he said, "certainly no hotels where you can stay; you had better find a taxi to take you to the camp." In Rochester we saw no signs of life till a very merry party of revellers showed up. Questioned, they too said, "No hotels," adding, "And the Navy took over the Y.M.C.A. years ago." Then one, less merry, suggested: "Try the police-station."

Finally we found a policeman, very young, very Scottish, very dear and completely unco-operative. No, we couldn't go to the police-station; no, we wouldn't get anything to eat if we did. Really angry now, as he had "never even heard of Sunderland," I suggested he might ring up his sergeant for instruction. To our surprise he agreed, was apparently told to send us along and reluctantly gave us directions. More hopefully, we set off, but got lost till another policeman finding us, took us firmly to the police-station, where an inspector got us tea, two arm-chairs and blankets, hoped we'd be comfortable and departed. We fell asleep. About 2 a.m. a sympathetic constable gave my friend buns and cakes, but I missed that, being asleep. At 4 a.m., another constable swept and dusted all round us; an hour later, I was awakened by a third tramping ward hunting for something under chairs and cushions and things. When he came to me he leapt with fright. I sat up, and said it was all right. I wasn't a corpse; whatst he fled.

When the customs women arrived, we washed and fed; then, the day inspector asked to see our Identity Cards. We had none but produced our Ration Books, and after giving an account of ourselves were sent off to catch the early train. The ticket collector of the evening before waved us on, but the inspector on the train wanted to know how we came to be explained—to the great delight of the other occupants of the carriage. Finally he accepted us. We got out at our village station and were asked why we were travelling with a day ticket that had expired the previous evening. At last we got away and rang up the camp. No one had discovered we were missing.

The pony was no Bedan! A fairly senior Old Bedan dashing along one fine frosty morning in a milk float delivered one pint at a house with what she hoped was a professional clatter. The door opened; out popped an even more senior Old Bedan, who called bravely, and there followed a long pleasant Bede chat until they discovered that the pony had gone on its way alone!



