

'54 OLD BEDAN

1954

GUILD ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

Winter Reunion. The 64 Old Bedans who battled through torrential rain on January 20th were met in a nice warm Art Room in a congenial atmosphere by their new chairman, Lena Thompson. Margaret Turner's nimble brain had worked out anagrams of famous people to be guessed, while Old Bedans were assembling. Kathleen Scott and Anne Mitchell won this game, Kathleen nobly giving the prize—a box of chocolates—to Anne, as she (K.) wasn't eating sweets! Miss Moul sent an apology for absence, but we were pleased to see Betty Coates and Elna Bell from School Staff, and the Captain and Vice-Captain from School. For the opening team game, Threading the Buttons, a "dab" hand with a needle (literally) was needed! One-handed, even expert needlewomen stabbed wildly at buttons placed in piles on the table in an effort to get on one to their thread first. Wynneeth Rough won the next game—a musical "bouquet", with an all-correct solution of the flowers named in songs. A delightful supper followed—individual plates of food were handed round by committee members and chatter waxed fast and furious over cups of tea. Lena read out several messages of greeting from some of those unable to be present. After supper we played "The Drawing Lesson" and a version of "What's My Line?"—here the panel was much too clever for the victims, and quickly guessed Mary Mac, as a liftbody, Corrie Whyte as an ice-cream attendant, Betty Powley as a baby-sitter, Peggy Victory as a pig-bin emptier, and Lena Thompson as a lamp-lighter. Miss Arkle beat the panel as a doctor's receptionist. Ice-cream, chatter, the Gay Gordons and Auld Lang Syne ended another pleasant Old Bedan Reunion.

Supper. This reunion on April 9th was an occasion both grave and gay. The record number of 182 Old Bedans gathered to take part in the evening's fun and chatter, and to pay tribute to the memory of Miss Hutchinson in watching the presentation of books and a trophies case for School, and a badge of office for the Guild Chairman. In accepting the gifts for School from Lena Thompson, Miss Moul spoke of the influence of Miss Hutchinson "graven in the hearts and on the minds of Bedans of many generations". "Her own warm and loving temperament evoked a loving response and her memory is immovably enshrined". Miss Hutchinson's sister, Mrs. Lang then presented the Chairman's badge of office to Lena Thompson. (Details of the gifts bought with the memorial fund can be found elsewhere in the magazine). After time allowed for Bedan chatter a light-hearted burlesque on television was presented by Mary Mackintosh, Lena Thompson, Margaret Turner, Kathleen Carr, Jennie Hey and Winnie Scott. The television programme opened with Television Newsread—a cascade of events of 1953. This included Mary and Kathleen as Hillary and Tenzing climbing Everest, Lena as Sir Winston Churchill, Margaret as the Queen of Tonga (pushed from one side of the "stage" to the other on a Meng's tea-trolley) and Mary as Gordon Richards winning the Derby. Next for "Leisure and Pleasure" came a Spring Collection of millinery with racy commentary from Mary, a riotous version of the Dance of the Cygnets in "Ballet for Beginners", and in conclusion a melodrama "Humble Betty of Hambleton Hill, or Saved at the Eleventh Hour and the Fifty-ninth Minute". All members of the cast were presented with a delightful Easter egg for services rendered, and the evening came to an end with the usual sing-song and the School Song.

Summer Reunion. 61 Old Bedans enjoyed an evening outing on June 18th. Once again we were favoured with fine weather, although at one point a fresh breeze almost spelt disaster for the trays of sandwiches at the spot where we settled for supper! The two bus loads of Old Bedans and one exclusive car-load (our vanguard and scouting party led by Margaret Turner) spent a happy time in the Lanchester-Satley countryside and were dropped at various points on the homeward journey by the obliging bus drivers.

Loans and Scholarship Fund. A Committee Meeting was held on 2nd June, 1954, when there were present Miss Moad (Chairman), Mrs. Elmas (Old Bedans' representative), Miss Waggott (Sixth Form Mistress), Miss Wilman (Staff representative) and Miss Carrick (Secretary and Treasurer). As there were no requests for loans in 1952 or 1953 this was the first meeting to be held since June, 1951.

The Secretary stated that during the year 1951-52, £65 had been refunded, the G.O.B. had sent a donation of 10/- and a grateful Old Bedan had sent a gift of 10/-. During 1952-53, £61 had been refunded, again the G.O.B. Hockey Club sent 10/- and another grateful Old Bedan a gift of £2 10s. 0d. During the year 1953-54, £12 had been refunded. As the interest for the past three years had not been touched, the total amount in hand amounted to £260.

Loans still not repaid amounted to £122. In order to impress upon those girls who received loans the necessity and importance of repaying them as soon as possible, it was decided that the recipients be asked to sign a formal receipt which embodied an undertaking to repay the loan as soon as possible.

Loans of £20 each were made to three girls who were proceeding to the University in October and loans of £10 each to 3 girls who are entering Training Colleges.

As only £90 has been loaned to girls, it was decided to invest £150 in Corporation Stock, thus leaving £20 in hand.

K. M. CARRICK, Hon. Secretary,
Bede Grammar School for Girls.

Social Service. The Committee is always glad to organise the social service of the Guild of Old Bedans. This year again, it has given parcels of good things to needy old people at Christmas and at Easter, it has run the Red Cross Library at Ryhope General Hospital with Jessie Ridley as Librarian and Cathie McCree as her deputy, and one member faithfully visits a very difficult old invalid.

The 1953 Annual Business Meeting voted £3 to our funds, individual members' donations gave us £8 10s. 0d. £11 16s. 0d. was raised from parties and competitions, and one enterprising member collected Hedley's soap carton tops and thus gained, under the Grace Fields' Charity Scheme, £3 5s. 2d. for our Social Service. With the above money, plus what stood to our credit in the Savings Bank, we made up and delivered 25 Christmas and 20 Easter parcels, to the value of £32 12s. 6d. and at Christmas we sent £3 to the Old People's Welfare Association and spent £2 on little presents for the patients in Ward 2 at Ryhope Hospital—old ladies evacuated during the war from London, strangers amongst us and thus in need of friendship. This hospital also thanks a Guild member for her gift of two pairs of ear-phones.

Your good response to our appeal in September enabled our stall to contribute £25 10s. 0d. to the Guild of Help Autumn Market. Our thanks and those of the sixteen recipients go also to the children of Barnes Infants' School for pretty greeting cards and a generous gift of fruit, flowers and other luxuries sent from their Harvest Festival for us to distribute.

We do indeed appreciate the help given by those members who have worked to raise funds, who have given money, books and magazines for the Library, or goods for the stall, or who have used their cars in our service. If you have not yet played your part, and can help in no other way, would you send a donation now? Please! We feel sure you would wish to share, with the rest of our Guild, in our social work. Our old folk are pathetically grateful.

COMMITTEE:—Elsie Davidson (Kirkwood), Hene Halliday (Downs), Vera Harrold Kathleen Main, Cathie McCree, Anne Mitchell (Cross), Joan Newby (White), Betty Peters (Spencer), Betty Fowley (Soubby), Jessie Ridley (Pickard), Ethel Thompson, Gladys Thornley (Miller), Elsie Wilson (Hooker) and

D. S. ARKLE (Convener),
40 Ashwood Terrace.

The Hockey Club. We had a most successful season and one which the players thoroughly enjoyed. Out of 16 matches played we won 14, lost one and drew one. In the County Tournaments we lost the final v. Norton "A" by 1 corner, in the first Tournament and were beaten by 1 goal in the final v. Games Club at the second Tournament.

Unfortunately we have lost several useful members—our able and energetic captain Jean Sangster who has gone abroad, Rosalind Rutherford who has emigrated to Canada and Doreen Sharp who has married and gone to live in Kent. In their places we are glad to welcome Verena Jenkins and Pat Kirtley who are now teaching in Sunderland.

It is good to hear that Ann Middleton who has been seriously ill is now recovering.

Although our playing season was successful, our financial situation is disturbing. We found it necessary to increase our subscription. Besides this we need new pads, new crockery and a new teapot. I have already approached the County Executive Committee for a grant and would like to ask the Guild of Old Bedans for such assistance as they can afford.

May I take this opportunity of thanking Miss Moul for her permission to use the School premises.

Also we are always glad to see Winnie Graham at our home matches and are grateful to her for seeing that we have our share of publicity in the local newspaper.

JEAN BREWER, HOm. SECRETARY.

NOTE: At the Annual General Meeting the Guild voted a sufficient amount to pay for a new pair of goal-keeper's pads for the Hockey Club.

London Guild of Old Bedans. 1953-54 Winter Reunion was held on 5th December, 1953, in the Brighton Room of the Y.W.C.A. Gt. Russell Street and took the usual ever-popular form of "tea and talk". The following were present:—Miss Ewart, Joyce Hebron (Aylton), Nancy Lawther (Hubicka), Doreen Ward (Macrae), Emily Adey (Pratt), Nancy Voss-Bark (Saggett), Brenda Maccalle (Taylorson), Sheila Whitfield (Smith), Phyllis Whitfield and myself.

For the Summer Reunion on 1st May, 1954, we met and did our gossiping in the Embankment Gardens near Charing Cross, then proceeded for tea to Lyons' Corner House in the Strand.

We were all delighted to have Miss Shearer in our midst for this reunion, the others present were:—Miss Birchall, Miss Ewart, Joyce Hebron, Edith Broderick (Barge), Nancy Lawther, Doreen Ward, Doris Cooke (Smith), Gladys Wilson (Stephenson), Rita Craggs (Young) and myself.

PHYLLIS TIMMANT (Mrs. Beck), Hon. Secretary,
172 Plumstead Common Road, S.E. 8.

May-Day Meeting. It was not the opening of the Royal Academy, nor the Processions, nor the Football Cup Final that brought Miss Ewart, Miss Birchall and Miss Shearer to the Embankment outside Charing Cross Underground Station on May Day, but an informal meeting of London Old Bedans hastily arranged by Phyllis to suit the visitor from the North.

One by one there arrived Phyllis Tennant, Edith Broderick, Rita Craggs, Nancy Lawther, Joyce Hebron and Dorcen Ward and our excited greetings drew eyes away from a seemingly un-ending procession of "Workers" filing past. Leaving these to continue their march to Trafalgar Square, we went to sit and exchange news in the Embankment Gardens then aglow with spring flowers. There we were joined by Gladys Wilson and Doris Cooke from Iwell. By attractive photographs, the eight mothers introduced to us all their "Bedan Babies", aged from a few months to eighteen years. Four had just begun school, two had chosen Physical Training as a career, one had chickenpox, one had gained an entrance to a well-known school.

Then we became reminiscent: Is there anybody I know at "Bede" now? What became of X? Do you remember . . . ? The free enthusiastic chatter we know at Bedan meetings in Sunderland hardly slackened even when Phyllis persuaded us to move on to the Strand Corner House. There we continued our reminiscences and revelations over a large tea and it was well into evening when we came again to the Gardens "to be photographed, please". As we posed, still talking eagerly, interested spectators obviously wondered who we could be—foreign communists strayed from a procession or perhaps denizens of the wild North escaped from their be-ribboned football supporters?

At last, gradually, in ones and twos, we turned unwillingly homeward. The last three "window-shopped" in Regent Street, ate a light supper together and parted, two to catch the 8-20 to Sevenoaks, and the third to make her way to St. Pancras and the night train to the North.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

September 28th, 1954.

12 members present.

Members welcomed by the Vice-President, Miss Shearer.

Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports. (List appears in various places in this 'Old Bedan'.

Constitution motion passed that "Life Subscription shall be £3 3s. 6d.

Yearly subscriptions (2/6d.) shall not count towards Life Membership."

It was decided there should be a special concession for present annual members who had paid 10 or more years continuously. The annual subscriptions already paid will count towards the £3 3s. 6d. Life Membership if the balance is paid before 31st August, 1955.

Election of Office-Bearers and Committee for 1954-55.

Chairman's Remarks.

Reports on the Branch Clubs, Social Service Activities and 'Old Bedan'.

Allocation from Funds: One guinea for School Prize, one guinea for 'Bedan' Competition, five pounds for Social Service Activities and a new pair of pads for the Hockey Club.

Future Meetings: Winter Re-union, a Supper Re-union and a Summer Outing.

SCHOOL NOTES

Staff:

Goodbye to: Mrs. Fisher, left July, 1954; Mrs. Pratt, better known as Miss Robson, left October, 1954.

Welcome to: Miss Tweed, September, 1954. Mrs. Proud, temporarily to take English, (has been on Staff previously about 8 years ago).

CHAIRMAN OF P.T.A.: Mrs. Sharp (parent).
Vice-Chairman: Miss Metcalf (staff).

SCHOOL CAPTAIN: Valerie Williamson.
Vice-Captain: Dorothy Amis.

STATE SCHOLARSHIPS: Patricia Curry (also Cambridge Scholarship, now studying medicine at Girton).
Elizabeth McLaughlin.

G.O.B. PRIZES: Art, Lorna Miller, *Best Essay* prize for essay on art: Senior—Beryl Smith. Junior—Patricia Bergson.

SPORTS CHAIRMEN: Senior: Eleanor Lottin,
Middle: Marjorie Tweedle,
Junior: Gloria Thompson.

JUNIOR COUNTY HOCKEY: Edith Osborne (C. Half), Captain.
Gillian Gammworthy, (Goalkeeper).

FROM NOVEMBER, 1953 TO NOVEMBER, 1954

These have become Life Members:—Alberta Asher, Patricia Campbell, Betty Coates (Wilkinson), Isabel Eaton (Hutchinson), Edith Galley (Phillips), Midge Gray, Edith Hadley (Barnfield), Vera Kemp (Hardy), Kathleen Mair, Edna Rieborough (Brett), Marjorie Saffield, Hilda Udak (Ratter).

Married are:—Erid Baker, Audrey Bew, Elsie Hakeman, Joan Boudge, Joan Brooks, Jean Currie, Daphne Edwards, Jean Elston, Sheila Fenwick, Freda Giddes, Brenda Gibson, Mervy Graham, Dorothy Grierson, Beatrice Hetherington, Audrey Hodgson, Freda Humphrey, Kathleen Joyce, Lilian Laverick, Aileen Martin, Edna Martin, Jane Milne, Jean Mitchell, Margaret Moore, Kathleen Newrick, Moira Oaston, Audrey Ragg, Mary Reed, Joyce Richardson, Audrey Robson, Jean Sanderson, Pat Scorer, Doreen Sharp, Freda Sharp, Eileen Sinclair, Shirley Sinclair, Sheila Snowball, Audrey Spensley Gwen Strickland, Averil Trumbath, Fay Twitchett, Ivy Walker, Rosalind Rutherford.

Babies to:—Edna Algar, Mary Arkless, Stella Bailey, Kathleen Bealace, Ellen Carrara, Gwen Carter, Doreen Chambers, Marjorie Cockerill, Pat Collier, Doreen Dobson, Irene Eliot, Joan Goodrich, Ellen Grassam, Sheila Triggs, Mariel Hart, Doris Henderson, Margery Holland, Hilda Housson, Freda Hunter, Marjorie James, Nora Johnson (the second), Joan Kirlow, Joyce Lane, Mariel Lowery, Jean Nicholl, Kathleen Pears, Joyce Pillars, Margaret Pounder, Dorothy Pullan, Jean Richardson (the second), Maureen Richardson, Joan Robson, Eva Rogers, Betty Rough, Mariel Scott (the second), Rita Sheriff, Nellie Shiel, Margaret Spence, Audrey Spoons, Audrey Stocks, Marjorie Surley, Joan Sutherland, Dorothy Teasdale, Hazel Thompson, Joyce Townes, Dorothy Williams, Ruth Wilson, Joan Woodward, Sheila Snowball, Wyneth Auld, Moira Mahoney, Joyce Robson.

In Memoriam:—Marie Abrahams (Mrs. Joseph), Mona Stewart, Jean Wayman (Mrs. Austin), Hilda Thomas.

Mistresses. A link with the days when School was very young has been broken by the recent death of Marie Abrahams (Mrs. Joseph) a mistress much appreciated by the girls of the earlier years. She joined the Guild of Old Bedians on its formation in 1928, and one or two of her old pupils were able to meet her at the Commemoration Service of the School's Jubilee in 1950.

Another much-respected, very old Bedian and member of the Staff, Kate Coburn (Mrs. Johnson), now very frail, wants to thank the Guild for the note and gift of flowers it sent to her recently. She was much moved, we hear, by this token that she was not forgotten by her old girls.

Miss Ewart has again been in the North, and some of her friends visited her at Gosforth. This is perhaps a fitting opportunity to tell her how much the Guild appreciates her always prompt and very generous response to all its requests. Miss Ewart, Miss Birchall and Miss Shearer forgathered in London from Reading, Sevenoaks and Wellingborough to have lunch and gossip together before going on to the London Branch Guild meeting. There among old Bedians they met Rita Craggs (Young), also once a member of "Bede" staff.

Miss Lloyd has been home for nearly a year now from Rhodesia and has recovered from the accident she had there. Miss Harris, enjoying her retirement, nevertheless put on harness again for a short spell when she filled the gap temporarily in the English Department at Sunderland Training College. Gladys Littlehales (Beane), Miss Sirk, Miss Briggs, Miss Arkle and Miss Shearer spent a pleasant evening at Gladys's and later four of them met again at "40 Ashwood" in honour of Miss Abbott who had come from Cheltenham to spend a few days with Miss Briggs. Her Sunderland friends were glad to see her again. Miss Haggart has gone to live in Edinburgh, and Mrs. Nicholson (Miss Thompson) to London. Miss Orme has moved from Manchester to Bury where she teaches and Miss Seddon, though still working at Sharncliffe Training College, has a pied-à-terre in London. At a conference in Durham, Miss Arkle's niece met someone who "used to teach at Bede School"; it turned out to be Miss Trout, from Southampton College.

We have no special information to give about either Miss Lumb or Mrs. Caldwell-Brown (Miss Caldwell), but Flora Cook writes that she heard from both of them at Christmas. We learn also that Betty Trowhatt (Davies) has a daughter, that Miss Elliott is about to retire, and that Miss Franklin is to visit South Africa in February.

CAREERS.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES, HOSPITALS AND CHEMISTRY.

Irene Kirton has gained her B.Sc. degree in Chemistry with first-class honours. She has also been awarded a Birmingham University scholarship for research on textiles for her Ph.D. degree. Pat Campbell, now in India as a qualified medical missionary, has gained a further degree in midwifery. Patricia Curry has won a State Scholarship to Girton College, Cambridge, to study medicine. Doris Crosby has gained her B.A. degree in English in Upper 2nd Class Honours. Elsie Cairns has passed the qualifying Pharmaceutical Examination. Jean Sangster is in the Persian Gulf teaching the children of oil company employees.

At the Sunderland College of Art, Audrey Armiss has been accepted for entrance to the Royal Academy Schools. Mavis Milburn at present at the Royal College of Art, London, gained her Art Teachers' Diploma at Leeds University. Anne Jeffrey passed her National Design Diploma in Interior Decoration, and has gone on to Leeds University for further diplomas. Marjot Beaumont qualified in her final examinations at Sunderland in Pottery and Fabric Printing and is now at the London Institute of Education. Audrey Peet and Joan Charlton are at present in their final years at Sunderland College of Art.

Mary Robson (the second) is Almoner at Newcastle Chest Clinic, and her sister Enid has stopped teaching to take a Domestic Science Course in Salford. Mollie Topel (home from Paris since her husband's death) is Sister in the Out-Patients Department at the General Hospital. Ethel Chapman works at Thornholme Clinic. Lilian Galloway is now working in the Sunderland Infirmary Dispensary where Eleanor Garraway (Brookline) is still in charge.

Norma Burnside is teaching in Leeds. Evelyn Thompson (the second) is teaching Domestic Science in Bristol. Dorothy Hopper has returned North to teach secretarial subjects at Jarrow.

Jean Rosenstein M.B.B.S., is shortly to take up an appointment at Sunderland Children's Hospital.

Audrey Kidd has a social service post in Derby. Grace White is now personnel manager at the Pyrex Works. Joyce Lay (Boyd) has a post in Binns'. Edna Everdell is M.O.H. for Pettigrew, London.

Celia Pipe at Waco University, Texas, is doing post-graduate research in physical education.

Margaret Chappell and Margaret Chilton have both gained History Honours degrees at Hull University, where Marjot Grierson has also received a B.A. degree.

Marion Osborne, who took a Chemistry degree at King's, Newcastle, is now working for "Brykreen".

Kathleen Ralph, who left school this year, is to start work at Harwell. Older Old Bedams will remember her mother, the late Olive Rieborough.

Pat Kendall (Gilbertson) and Sybil Ward are both assistant School Medical officers in Sunderland.

In Public Life.

Alderman Evelyn Blacklock is Sunderland's Deputy Mayor this year and her sister Mary (Mrs. Smith) is the Deputy Mayoress. Nellie Blacklock (Mrs. Hedley) is a member of the Committee for Old People's Welfare. Evelyn Blacklock is also Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee.

Marjorie Cook has received the M.B.E. from the Queen at Buckingham Palace. The award is in recognition of her services as a Public Health Nursing Officer with the Ministry of Health at Cambridge. Flora, her sister, is County Librarian for Lancashire.

Doris Wilson is President of the N.E. Federation of Head Teachers.

Marjot Liddle has been appointed to Diamond Hall Juniors School.

Hannah Graham has retired from teaching. Straightway, she went to London to take a short course in Flower Arrangement and is now an acknowledged expert. Marguerite Roberts (Darnton) has been taking Home Nursing classes at Cathy McCree's school. Marguerite has recently gained three prizes at the Second International Handicrafts and Homecrafts Exhibition at Olympia. In the General Needlework Section she gained First Prize.

Another Old Bedam taking Home Nursing and Child Welfare classes is Sheila Turpin (Stephenson); she teaches at Lena Thompson's school.

Flossie Jones (Warden) has been re-elected President of Sunderland & District Confectioners' Union.

Gladys Taft was the teacher who accompanied 20 Sunderland school children on their month's holiday in Norway. They flew to Tromsø where hospitality was provided.

Marie Anderson, who has infantile paralysis, sang German and Italian songs at Christ Church House at a Charity Concert. Shama Spencer played the piano at the same concert.

Marjorie Walker's daughter Valerie Cuthbertson, now at 'Bede', has won a travel book as award for an essay on Pakistan.

Elsie Proom, representing Sunderland Seroptimist Club, has been to Denmark on the invitation of the Seroptimist Club of Fredericksund.

Councillor Lydia Hill, Chairman of Sunderland Corporation Housing Committee, has been appointed to the North Regional Executive Committee of the National Housing and Town Planning Committee.

The Guild of Old Bedams was invited to send two of its members to the Standing Conference of Women's Organisations. Two different members of Committee have been going to each monthly meeting with the power to vote on the many and widely differing resolutions put forward by the Conference Committee.

Notable Occasions.

Mollie McGregor (Veira), who now lives in Jamaica, lent her private beach to Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh for them to picnic there while they were visiting Jamaica during the Royal Tour. Joan Herring (Stone) had the honour of being invited to a garden party at Buckingham Palace this summer. Amongst those invited to Sunderland Town Hall enclosure to await the arrival of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on October 29th were five Old Bedams—Ald. Miss E. E. Blacklock, Coun. Mrs. Hedley, Mary Mackintosh, Elsie Kirkwood and Mary Blacklock (Mrs. Smith).

Sport.

SWIMMING. Corrie Parkinson swimming the 100 yards butterfly stroke, swam for Northumberland and Durham against Yorkshire at Darlington.

FLYING. Norma Parraby, a Newcastle R.V.I. nurse, has been awarded her "wings". Last year she gained her "A" pilot's licence.

HOCKEY. Vera Jenkins and Joyce Wilson are both playing for Durham County First XI and Audrey Knight for the Second XI. Jean Brewin has had to drop out of hockey games because of cartilage trouble. Lena Thompson resigned as County Hockey Treasurer after 24 years and was presented with an inscribed silver cigarette case as a "Thank you". She continues to act, however, as a Selector for Durham and the North.

ARCHERY. Members may be interested to note that recently a letter was received by our Secretary from the Old Bedons Association (i.e. our equivalent from the boys' school) stating that an Archery Section of their Association is now in existence and members of our Guild are invited to become members. Anyone interested should contact Mr. J. B. Goodair, 19 Melbury Court, Fulwell.

HARBOUR. Betsy Powley (Scauby), Ethel Proctor (Powley) and Isabel Reed (Smith) played on Sunderland "B" bridge team against Whitley Bay.

Meetings.

Bessie Taylor met Blanche Cowen (Watson) in August, staying in Sunderland for a few days for her parents' golden wedding celebrations. Blanche wished to be remembered to all Old Bedons of her time. Maureen Liddle, now managing a York chemist's shop, met Nora Harning (Mansfield) who invited her to meet Gladys White (Walker) one evening. Conrie Wray (Reed) had Dorothy Coulsey (Hordman) staying with her from Market Harborough, and met Amor Hudson (Hampsey) on a visit to Sunderland from London. For the first time since her schooldays Alberta Asher encountered Edith Alexander in Oxford Street this summer. Edith is principal of Dartford Physical Training College. Elsie Kirkwood has been visited by Madge Welch, who now holds the post of assistant secretary to the North East Gas Consultative Council in Leeds. Pat Potts from New York, and Phyllis Tennant from London. Edna Martin (Shaw) met Edna and Daisy Everdell at an hotel in Hereford. While on a course in London Gladys Shewan, who is a staff Sister at Leicester General Infirmary, met Audrey Midwood, who is at St. Mary Abbots Hospital. Audrey, Gladys and Phyllis Tennant got together and "as we were in the 'V' together, a great deal of reminiscing went on", says Phyllis.

Dorothy Wilson, on holiday from Birmingham, told us that she had met Miss Abbott at the Hockey International at Werrily and visited Marjorie Edwards (Hudley) near Stroud. Miss Shearer saw Olga Falzer (Hortley) in town on holiday with her twins, from Dronfield. (Olga keeps in touch with Joan Sutherland, who was then teaching in Barbary. Margaret Chapman (Hunter) has visited Joan Nicholl (Nicholls) and her baby in Crossdale, and Evelyn Thompson in Plymouth. Nancy Habgood (French) was looking forward to flying to see Joan Sparling (Howe) in the Isle of Man. Anne Wilson's (Atkins) husband, serving in North Africa during the war, met Anne's school French correspondent whom she herself has never seen.

Miss Shearer came upon Miss Birchall in a London-bound train, and Marjorie Eggleston (Girdwood) in an infirmary waiting room.

Stella Lawson took some schoolchildren from Northalerton, among whom was Diana Verity's son, to London and met Miss Birchall.

Home from Abroad are:—Beryl Johnson (Forster) from Toronto, Jean Nicholl from Hong-Kong and now living in Wales; Grace Caldwell (Allinson) on a brief visit from Mombasa; Molly Garbutt (Johnson) from Pakistan; Betsy Powley (Scauby) after spending one summer in Nigeria; Mary Horwitt, who has now made her home in Australia.

News of Bedans Abroad: Freda Potts in Nairobi since 1952, has started a kindergarten school for European children there, and is enjoying life very much; Pat Campbell is practising midwifery in Palwal, Punjab, India and working with the Baptist Missionary Society; Elaine Fick is chief medical officer for children in Malaya—when in England she sees Blanche Cowen, who lives in Mill Hill, near Elaine's mother. Hilda Saxby (Skjalkarap) has been in America and in the Far East, and intends to spend the winter in England. Audrey Fletcher has gone to Capetown to be married. Cecilia Lukin (French) to Nairobi, and Phyllis Rapley, recently married, is now living in San Francisco. Joan Mitchell and Joan Brooks, who went out to Southern Rhodesia, have both married and settled there. Lucy Postgate (Nichol) still visits Ida Walker (Earl) in Johannesburg whenever possible. Joyce Bradley (Trouillard) lives in Paris, while Eileen Sinclair, who recently rode across Canada on horseback, staying on farms, is now married and lives in Georgia.

Homes of Married Bedans: Edna Riseborough (Brett), Chilwell, Notts.; Flora Hollingshead (Barnshaw), Berwick-on-Tweed, running a small hotel "The Hen & Chickens"; Ann Gilbertson (Tatham), Edinburgh; Rachel Abrahams (Picknell), Brighton; Joan Herring (Stone), Harrow Wood; Gwen McCree, Kingston; Agnes McIndoe, Sarney; Brenda Nelson, Sheffield; Audrey Reynolds, Sheffield; Marjorie Saxby, Hartlepool; Florence Watson, Rotherham; Mary Williamson (Sugden), Birmingham; Vera Burn (Wilson), Lowestoft, Marianna Allison, Darlington.

FROM YOUR LETTERS

From Pat Campbell (India) "Just before coming up here to language school I received the "Old Bedan" and read in it that Joyce Prince (Ayler) was in Agra. I met a missionary from Agra and was told that Joyce would be at language school this year, too, and she would be staying where I was booked to stay. In due course we met. You can imagine the fun we've had talking about Bede and Sunderland things in general. We've also entertained the other people here to "The Lambton Worm". We are living at 7,250 feet and our shopping centre is 1,000 feet below. . . . Joyce is now at Jeji 80 miles from where I will be at Palwal so that we hope we may be able to see each other occasionally. At Jeji there is an orphanage, a school and a training class for teachers. Joyce has mostly to do with the latter. At Palwal there is a boarding school and a hospital. When I go down from here in September, I expect to do part-time work in the hospital . . . India is making great advances in many spheres—in industry, in medicine and in education. In many States, Hinduism has a big sway . . . this holds up medical advance. All animals are considered holy no matter how riddled with disease and they wander freely everywhere, even in New Delhi. We both send our greetings to all Old Bedans."

From Betty Fairgrieve (Scott) in Cardiff, "Perhaps one day I may be in the North and able to meet many old friends again at one of the Reunions. In the meantime perhaps you will convey my good wishes to the Guild and my continued interest in its activities."

From Annie Shield (Hill) "At last I have met an Old Bedan in Lincoln. Her married name is Mavis Jackson and although she is younger than I am, we had a lovely evening talking together of our school-days."

From Duffon, Westmorland, Thelma K. Henderson (Williams) writes "I remember Miss Hutchinson taking us to Whitburn. Our costume was navy skirts with braid, white blouses with stiff white collars and blue ties."

Nora Johnson (Wilson) "I think my pleasantest memories of school are of singing, and therefore of Miss Hutchinson. I often find myself humming the second part of songs we sang at Speech Day or singing competitions and I remember the lovely smile (probably of relief) which would spread over her face when we came safely through a tricky passage."

Lily English (Hutton) writes approvingly of life in the country and says "My admiration is given here to the Council's Cleansing Daps. One cheerful dustbin man comes into the yard and nonchalantly hoists a brimming dustbin on to his shoulder, carries it about 50 yards, tips it into the cart and comes back whistling blithely. Then the road men not only sweep the road but everyone's pavement once a week and during the winter, clean all the snow off the front with a special scraper. I have become a joint secretary of the Horticultural Section of the Hushwaite Show . . . and every Wednesday I function as Assistant Cub Mistress in the Hushwaite Wolf Cub Pack. So much for my placid country life."

Nancy Habgood (French) writing from Berwickshire says "My husband and I are living over to the Isle of Man this summer to spend a week with Joan Sparling (Hess) and family. I have a small pupil who lives with us in term-time. The poor child is deaf and wears callipers on both legs, so some of the Deaf Schools will take her. She is a pet and we like having her."

From Flora Cook "I hear from both Miss Lamb and Mrs. Caldwell-Brown . . . I had a very enjoyable time at the Anglo-Scandinavian Conference in Sweden and Denmark. We went on a tour of Swedish and Danish libraries."

Mary Robertson writes "In July I went for a short course to Unilever's Laboratories in Port Sunlight". From South Africa Lucy Postgate (Nichol) writes "I'd like to be present at some of the Guild's parties and games. I keep in constant touch with Ida Walker. If I can get a lift into Jo'burg we have a lunch and a jolly good gossip. I spent a week-end there at the beginning of December. Ida seems to enjoy teaching, but she has a very busy time. Her children are bright and self-orient. She is longing to pay a visit home. My girl is now married and living in a country town about 150 miles away. I help my husband manage his garage. I'm secretary for the local Women's Work Party which organises functions, fetes and sales for charity. I golf, garden and sew quite a lot. I've an extra large grapevine loaded with black grapes at present—the' I'd swap them all for an English gooseberry or black-currant tart."

EDITORIAL POSTSCRIPT

"What an enjoyable evening we spent at the Old Bedlam Reunion—thank you most warmly for making us feel so welcome. We must admit that we were a little shaky when we first arrived, but that feeling soon passed off as we saw how happy and friendly you all were" Thus wrote Joyce Bathgate and Sheila Thompson, the school captain and vice-captain after the 1954 winter reunion last January. "Young" Old Bedlam please note—join our ranks and see for yourselves what happy times we have!

Our secretary wishes to thank all those who have written to her throughout the year expressing their appreciation of her work for the Guild. Our increasing membership means more work too for our assistant secretary, in sending out notices, etc., so would you please keep the secretary informed of changes of name or address.

Once again we must thank Joyce Plummer and Olga Wright for ever willing help in typing, also Mr. Milner Taylor for auditing our books and accounts.

May all Old Bedlams have a Happy Year in 1955 and make a resolution to send at least one item of news for our next magazine.

W. T.; E.T.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ON 31st AUGUST, 1954

Summary of Balance Sheet for the Year—1st September, 1953, to 31st August, 1954

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Subscriptions	47 2 6	Stationery, Printing and "Old Books"	23 2 11½
Interest	11 18 7	Postage and Telephone	11 8 6½
Balance from Meetings	4 1 0	Gifts	7 15 2
Donations towards Memorial Fund	107 4 6	Memorial Gifts	58 10 6
		London Branch and Standing Conference	0 10 3
		Balance on Year's Working	68 19 2
	<u>£170 6 7</u>		<u>£170 6 7</u>

TOTAL FUNDS

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance on 31st August, 1953	445 18 10	Made up as follows:—	
Balance on Year's Working	68 19 2	3½% War Stock	98 7 2
		3½% Defence Bonds	75 0 0
		Balance in Bank:—	
		On Deposit Account	280 14 3
		On Current Account	60 12 4
		Cash in hand	0 4 3
	<u>£514 18 0</u>		<u>£514 18 0</u>

I have examined the Receipt Books, Stock Receipts, Defence Bonds, Receipts and Current and Deposit Bank Accounts and I certify that everything is in order.

J. M. TAYLOR, 19th September, 1954.

ELSIE I. KIRKWOOD, Hon. Treasurer.

