

THE QUORNIAN



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THE QUORNIAN

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MISS MOUNTENEY

Emountenay

FOREWORD

To describe the indebtedness of Rawlins Grammar School to Miss Mounteney, who retires at the end of this term, is a task that none of us can adequately perform; indeed, it will be only later, when we try to manage without her, that we will fully realize what her presence has meant. Joining the staff in 1927 as a young teacher, Miss Mounteney became Senior Mistress under Mr. Keith Thompson and then Mr. Dalton Murray, and later, in 1948, saw the school change from the small co-educational one which she had so loved, to the new and at that time unpopular venture of an all girls' school, rapidly expanding in numbers, in staff and in buildings. Innumerable and valuable as have been the qualities that have graced Miss Mounteney's career, none undoubtedly has served the school so well as the loyalty and tact with which she supported the new organisation and its inexperienced head. Then, as always, she put the good of Rawlins before her private feelings and has contributed in a very large measure to such success as the new school has had. To Miss Mounteney's skill as a teacher many letters from old boys and girls have in past weeks testified; they speak of her power to awaken interest, to stimulate the dull or the indolent, to encourage the ambitions. Many former members of staff have also written with warm appreciation of the tact with which she guided their stumbling feet; "she could always give helpful advice," one wrote, "without ever making one feel incompetent or a fool." I, myself, have valued most of all, perhaps, her extraordinary shrewdness of judgment, whether of people or policies. She seems to have an intuitive sense of what people are like under the skin, which springs, no doubt, from her warm heart, her imagination and her own wholesome and well-balanced attitude to life. Such gifts are the rarest and most valuable among a teacher's equipment.

It often seems that schoolmasters and schoolmistresses of Miss Mounteney's age have a quality of personality that makes the rest of us seem colourless and conventional. We shall remember Miss Mounteney's devastating sense of humour, her talent for mimicry, her passion for all games which made her a distinguished golfer and until quite recently the most lively and amusing player in the staff hockey match. We shall remember her as a small figure in a fast

car, the back-seat cluttered with peculiar oddments; as a lover of Leicestershire and all country things, leading parties up the Beacon or searching for mushrooms on the school field; as one whose artistic sense impressed itself in her taste for books and in the exquisite delicacy of her flower arrangements; and many, I believe, will remember the sincerity of her readings from the Bible at Carol Services.

We hope that one with such zest for living may have many years in which to drive the ball hard and true, and to do all the things for which her devotion to Rawlins has hitherto left her too little time; and that she will come back frequently to see us, as our guardian spirit and our beloved and ever-welcome friend.

EDITORIAL

This has been a year of expansion for the school, and despite the modern fashion for expanding upwards, we have contrived to extend our boundaries in the more traditional way, to North and South. On one side we have acquired the Old Vicarage—now theoretically the home of dignity and experience; and on the other we have at last the New Block. Among the advantages gained with these new territories are an orchard for the sixth-formers and a unique water-fountain for the middle school, both great successes.

But expansion has divided the school into various blocks, and the question arises whether or not the different groups will tend to lead separate lives. This year the school has probably been less aware of its prefects, who live for the most part in the seclusion of their own house. This state of affairs is doubtless a matter of no anxiety to the junior and middle school, yet it seems a pity that there should be for half a term a hustle of co-operation between prefects and house members, culminating in the Festival, and then an abrupt withdrawal. Ideally this mood of friendliness and mutual concern should continue throughout the year, so that the school does not regard its prefects merely as menacing watch-dogs patrolling the corridors.

Nevertheless, expansion has many advantages and few disadvantages. The Magazine Committee feel inclined to point out the need for the *Quornian* also to expand a little, especially in its concluding section of original contributions. We appeal to everyone, especially the seniors, to take an interest in the magazine and try to produce a piece of work worthy to appear in print.

SCHOOL NOTES

In September, 1957, the Rev. F. H. Allen, a Foundation Governor of the School, accepted a post as Lecturer in a Theological College at London, Ontario, and the school thus lost a very interested Governor who with Mrs. Allen had already, in his short stay in Quorn, rendered the School valuable help. It is good to learn that they are happily settled in their new life and that the Lecturer in Theology is also teaching Canadian youth to play cricket. The Reverend Stephen Jackson, who succeeded to the living of Quorn in the Spring and has become our new Governor, has already visited the School and will, we know, become its very good friend. Mrs. Major also has had a very short term of office as County Council nominee to the Governing Body and resigned at Christmas on leaving the district. Her place has been taken by Mrs. Ingram, of Loughborough, who is very interested in education and has already visited us.

The Rev. G. P. Druitt, C.B.E., Vicar of Woodhouse Eaves and a Foundation Governor, has lately resigned from his living to become Chaplain of Lincoln Prison. The school has lost in Mr. Druitt a very good friend.

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The teaching staff of the school is going through one of its periodic changes. At Christmas Dr. Majut resigned after a very good seven years with us, during which she had won a warm place in the affections of Staff and pupils alike. She has been succeeded as Mathematics Mistress by Miss Trown, who came from Mexborough Grammar School in Yorkshire. At the end of this Summer Term, in addition to the retirement of Miss Mounteney, we have also to endure the loss of Miss Newby, Miss Sealy and Miss Enderby, through their approaching marriages, and of Miss Powell, who is taking up a post in Cornwall. We wish all these good friends the greatest happiness in future years.

The Governors have invited Miss Oughton to succeed Miss Mounteney as Senior Mistress, and have confirmed the following new appointments. Miss B. Sheldrake, who has been for some years History mistress at Grange High School, Sheffield, succeeds Miss Enderby. Miss Powell and Miss Sealy are succeeded by Miss Milner and Miss Kennedy and Miss Newby by Miss Veasey, who has been teaching in Brighton. Miss Dennis is coming to teach junior Mathematics and two additional appointments are Miss Freda Smith, a biologist, who after teaching in Worcester has spent the last year in Sweden, and Miss Glenise Heaton Smith, an old girl of the school, who has been invited to join the Staff to assist with the teaching of English.

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In September we moved in a rather temporary way into the Old Vicarage. Furniture has been obtained and we hope that central heating will be installed and the house properly decorated

during next year, so that the house can become a dignified and convenient home for the Sixth Form.

At Easter we were able at last to move into the New Block, which contains specialist rooms for Geography, History and Mathematics and a Physics Laboratory.

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As a result of the G.C.E. examinations in the Summer of 1957, Margaret Blower took up the County Scholarship which she had won the previous year at Royal Holloway College, the University of London, where she is reading for an Honours Degree in French and German. Ann Sutton was awarded a County Scholarship and is reading Geology at Reading University.

Jean Ann Taylor was awarded a County Scholarship and is reading for an Honours Degree in French at Nottingham University.

Shelagh Noble was awarded a County Bursary and is reading for an Honours Degree in English at Leeds University.

Sheila Broome was awarded a County Bursary, but relinquished it in order to enter the Executive Grade of the Civil Service.

Gwen Moore is taking the teaching course at the Battersea College of Domestic Science. Ivy Wheldon and Christine West entered Matlock and Derby Teachers' Training Colleges respectively. Catherine Fern and Brenda Sleath entered Loughborough College of Art.

News from Old Girls has recently reached us.

Maureen Brooks has obtained the B.Sc. Degree of Sheffield University with Second Class General Honours in Chemistry and Physiology.

Josephine Cook has obtained the B.Sc. Degree of Nottingham University with Second Class Honours in Horticulture.

Glenise Heaton Smith has obtained the B.A. Degree of Durham University with Second Class Honours in English Language and Literature and has been awarded the Jubilee Prize for an English Essay.

Brenda Barnard, who has been a student at Loughborough College of Art, has obtained a place in the Textile Design Section of the Royal College of Art, London.

Norma Crockett, Margaret Forsyth, Judith Hillman, Sandra Magee and Oonagh Magill have obtained teaching posts on completion of their Training College courses.

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Our Carol Service, held on December 18th, took rather a different form, with excerpts from Handel's "Messiah" being sung, as well as carols. The service was conducted by the Rev. G. P. Druitt, C.B.E., with great dignity. The collection on this occasion was divided amongst the Save the Children Fund, Staunton Harold Home for Incurables and the School Welfare Fund.

The Concert, which should have taken place at the end of the Summer Term but was cancelled owing to the Bus Strike, took place in early September. Although the programme had to be

shortened owing to illness of some soloists and lack of time for rehearsals, the programme gave genuine pleasure.

Much of the Spring and early Summer was spent preparing for the Leicestershire Schools' programme "For'ard" held in the De Montfort Hall in May, when apart from contributing a number to the massed choir and the orchestra, a number of middle school girls danced a Norwegian Scene with very colourful costumes, for the making of which Mrs. Diggle is mainly to be thanked.

* * * *

In January Miss Ayres, newly appointed organizer for the Midlands of the Children's League of Pity, gave a most moving and informative talk on the work of the N.S.P.C.C. As a result of this a School Branch has been formed, with Ruth Lilley and Valerie Porter as joint secretaries.

Gillian Wallam played for centre

We congratulate Miss Sanderson on playing centre-forward regularly for the Midlands Women's Hockey First Team and on being invited to play for an England XI touring Germany during the Easter holidays.

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Arrangements are at present almost complete for a visit of a number of 4th and 5th formers to France, with Mrs. Johnson and Miss Sanderson. This year their time is being divided between Paris and Tours, because of the heat of Paris in the Summer.

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The balance in the School Welfare Fund is at present £29; not that more gifts have been made but that donations have been fewer. We hope that everyone will keep this Fund in mind. Its work can be invaluable and it would be very sad if contributions were to cease entirely.

PREFECTS AND CAPTAINS, 1958

Head Girl: Janet Richards.

Deputy Head Girl: Beulah Wright.

Prefects: Rona Souter, Gweneth Herbert, Rachel Goddard, Mary Ollis, Janet French, Kathleen Robinson, Jean Burke, Cherry-Ann Pinkett, Janet Mawby, Gillian Wallam, Jean Moseley, Brenda Read, Gillian Hardman.

House Captains: Beaumanor, Brenda Read.

Bradgate, Patricia Allman.

Garendon, Gillian Hardman.

Ulverscroft, Gillian Wallam.

Games Captains: Netball, Gillian Wallam.

Hockey, Brenda Read.

Rounders, Brenda Read.

Tennis, Gweneth Herbert.

Games Secretary, Brenda Read.

Athletics, Gillian Hardman.

Swimming, Janet Geary.

HOUSE NOTES

BEAUMANOR

Considering that we are the smallest house in the school, Beaumanor has met with a large degree of success. In the festival we were placed second, and it was pleasing to see the enthusiasm which was shown throughout the house. Contrary to expectations we achieved more success this year in events on the actual festival day and this helped considerably in attaining second place. We congratulate Susan Meadows on obtaining most points in the Middle School.

On the sports field we achieved better results than were expected, notably by gaining second place on Sports Day. Other sports brought reasonable success, the house being first in both the senior and junior hockey matches, second in the senior and third in the junior netball matches, and first in the junior rounders matches, with the senior rounders and tennis matches still to be played. The swimming sports take place nearer the end of term and I wish competitors all the success they deserve.

I would like to thank the House Mistresses for the help they have given throughout the year, and all the house members for their support. Keep trying, Beaumanor. We may yet win the shield. Next year I hope that Beaumanor will not be content with second place in most events, but that everyone will put in a little more effort to put the house in the lead.

B.R.

BRADGATE

This year Bradgate has been, on the whole, less successful than last year. House members, particularly the senior part of the House, not being enthusiastic enough, the results were lower than expected. We finished third in the Inter-House Festival. There were some very good individual entries with which we were very pleased.

The sports this year were a great disappointment; we finished fourth. Again it was owing to everyone not playing a full part. We must congratulate Yvonne Haywood on winning the Middle School Cup.

I hope next year all members of the House will work with more enthusiasm and have better success.

P.A.

GARENDON

After winning the shield last year, Garendon had rather disappointing results in the House Festival. If we are to do better next year there must be more written entries, especially from the Middle School, whose enthusiasm seemed to have degenerated somewhat.

We achieved our ambition on Sports Day this year, after much hard work by all concerned. This success was due largely to the general enthusiasm when competing for standards. We would like to congratulate Rita Brooks who, in her first year, succeeded in winning the Junior Cup.

In other sporting aspects, Garendon's ability has varied considerably. Although the seniors obtained first and second places in netball and hockey, respectively, the juniors did not fare as well. With continued enthusiasm this standard should improve. We hope for further successes in the Senior rounders, tennis, and swimming gala.

In conclusion I would like to thank our House Mistresses and all House officials for their support throughout the year.

G.H.

ULVERSCROFT

It is felt by all the House officials of Ulverscroft that this year there has been a greater feeling of enthusiasm among members, for Inter-House activities. This was especially so with regard to the Festival. Obviously this spirit is necessary, as Ulverscroft redeemed last year's loss by achieving first place. However, although this success is obviously something to be proud of, Ulverscroft's defeats in the winter's sports are to be regarded in quite the opposite light. It is to be hoped that the results of the rounders and tennis matches are more successful and that those members of the House who can swim will perform well in the Swimming Sports.

G.J.W.

SPEECH DAY

Speech Day was held on November 27th, 1957, when the Farnham Hall with difficulty accommodated a representative audience. It was felt that with increasing numbers there would have to be two separate Speech Days the following year.

In her annual report on the progress of the School, Miss Sawdon said that the situation of 423 girls housed in six separate buildings had presented some difficulties, but that the year had nevertheless been pleasant and peaceful. Briefly outlining the examination results, she pointed out the importance of varied studies at the Sixth Form level, remarking that the girls of the grammar school Sixth Forms had in fact to supply the County not only with graduates but also with teachers of younger children, specialists in Art, Music, Domestic Science and Physical Education, and the bulk of the Medical Auxiliary Service, as well as the most intelligent of the nurses. There was room in the Sixth for people of average ability, so long as they had definite ambitions and were prepared to pull their weight. Miss Sawdon said she felt proud to hear how well the girls did when they went to College, and also heard good accounts of those who went to commercial schools or took up employment straight from school. She liked to feel that they were all building up a sound reputation for the school which would be of benefit to the younger girls in the competitive days ahead.

After a review of the successful games and athletics season and of those many school activities which do not figure in the timetable, Miss Sawdon turned to more general remarks. One could not but notice, she said, how closely young people reflected the character

of the age in which they lived. On the credit side were the facts that never before had young people been so healthy, so physically competent, so well cared for; they had travelled far more and acquired a great deal of miscellaneous knowledge; most of them had active, social dispositions, were well-mannered and self-reliant. But the hazards were there, too—one missed, in a prosperous area in modern times, the earnestness, ambition and industry that characterised men and women of the recent past. The faults of modern youth seemed to be carelessness, superficiality and a tendency to be easily content with themselves. What would they be like as citizens? Though healthy, law-abiding and, no doubt, kindly, they might not be thoughtful enough to provide that accurate, well-informed public opinion on which our kind of society needs to be based. The grammar schools were not beyond criticism in this respect, and any honest attempt to improve them should be welcomed. The Leicestershire experiment was one such attempt, and might prove a means of combatting the attitude of carelessness which sometimes developed in the middle school. Miss Sawdon concluded by mentioning an experiment of our own, in developing the Old Vicarage as a Sixth Form house, where older girls can live under conditions less restricted than those normal to school and nearer to those of college life.

Colonel Toller then introduced the guest of honour, Mrs. Margaret Keay, who was to present the prizes, and spoke of her work on the Education Committee of the Leicestershire County Council. Mrs. Keay addressed the parents and girls in a most friendly and informal manner, telling of a recent visit to the school and the happy atmosphere she had found there, together with a policy of equipping the girls in the broadest possible way to go out into a world of varied demands. Mrs. Keay spoke of the need for everyone to contribute something to the general welfare, and said that she herself had found that personal religion was the unfailing strength of all such efforts.

Miss Wintle had arranged the customary programme of songs, which were sung by the senior choir, the junior choir and the school in unison.

Prizewinners :

G.C.E. prizes: Ann Sutton, Jean Ann Taylor, Sheila Broome, Shelagh Noble, Margaret Blower, Cherry Pinkett (Advanced Level); Sheila Bostock, Janet Haw, Irene Dakin, Anne Warren, Wendy Green, Angela Fairholm (Ordinary Level).

Form prizes.—Lower Sixth: Arts, Beulah Wright; science, Janet Mawby. IV: 1, Janet Archer; 2, Barbara Palfreyman; 3, Carole Gamble. IVA: 1, Janet Geary; 2, Barbara Welch; 3, Mary Suffolk. III: 1, Rosalie Brooks; 2, Patricia Voce; 3, Carolyn Allen. IIIA: 1, Mary Evans; 2, Vivian Ridley; 3, Gillian Mee. II: 1, Jean Jones; 2, Anne Martin; 3, Pamela Francks. IIA: 1, Valerie Holmes; 2, Helen Carter, Maureen Hall, Veronica Smith. II Alpha: 1, Diana Loyett; 2, Joan Evans, Heather Pilgrim. I: 1, Janice Palmer; 2,

Hazel Jones; 3, Margaret Clark. IA: 1, Janice Darmon; 2, Doreen Needham; 3, Maureen Barrie. I Alpha: 1, Valerie Adams; 2, Brenda Simpkin; 3, Margaret Page.

Special prizes.—Service to the School: Christine West. Reading: Senior, Caroline Tharia; Middle School, Carolyn Allen. Outstanding work for inter-house Festival: Senior, Shelagh Noble; Middle School, Susan Meadows; Junior, Anne Martin. Deportment: Janet Richards. Physical Education: Brenda Read. Best kept sets of exercise books: Middle School, Betty Holmes; Junior, Shirley Wright. Progress: Christina Preston, Carole Stanton. Mountsorrel Education Fund prizes (for steady work): June Steele, Margaret Sandham. Quorn prizes (for steady work): Maureen Gamble, Elizabeth Horspool.

Subject prizes: English, Jean Ann Taylor; History, Angela Fairholm; Geography, Penelope Shelton; Languages, Margaret Blower; Mathematics, Sheila Broome; Science, Ann Sutton, Janet Archer, Barbara Palfreyman; Art, Gillian Ogden; Domestic Science, Patricia Allman, Ruth Lilley; Music, Gillian Wallam.

Inter-house Shield: Garendon. Individual Swimming Cup: Jacqueline Cooke. Individual Tennis Cup: Christine West. Cup for Best Guide of the Year: Anne James.

S.C.M. NOTES

Since becoming an affiliated branch of the Student Christian Movement in March, 1957, our society has flourished under the guidance of Miss Bowser.

Some notable meetings have taken place this year. In February we held an inter-school meeting, when Canon Alan Richardson, Professor of Theology at Nottingham University, gave a talk on "The Incarnation." Discussion groups have been held regularly during the first two terms in which we have discussed subjects such as "The Miracles" and "Communism," and other successful inter-school meetings have been held at Loughborough High School and Humphrey Perkins.

Other activities have consisted of the showing of an interesting film and two very successful outings; visiting various churches in Leicester, and early this term making a visit to Southwell Minster in Nottinghamshire.

This year our school has been chosen to organise the Annual Sixth Form Conference, in which sixth formers from schools all over the county participate. The speaker is to be the Rev. Norman Renshaw, B.A., Minister of Stoneygate Baptist Church, whose subject is "The Christian and Society."

We should like to thank Miss Bowser, who has worked very hard this year to organise the various functions of our society.

J.R.G.

MUSIC NOTES

Again we are able to report an encouraging growth of interest in the musical activities of the school. We would like to thank Miss Wintle and Mr. Pinkett for guidance and encouragement. At the beginning of the Autumn term we gave our somewhat belated End of Term Concert, which had been postponed in July owing to the bus strike.

At the Carol Service, the two choirs and the orchestra presented excerpts from Handel's "Messiah." This proved a most valuable experience.

On April 1st the choirs and orchestra took part in a concert we gave with the school as audience. Miss Wintle had arranged a programme to display the capabilities of the different instruments. This was highly successful and, we feel, excited a new interest in the field of music.

Part of the Spring term was devoted to rehearsals for the Festival at the De Montfort Hall. We sent to it selected members of our Junior choir and were well represented in the County Orchestra.

There has been a considerable increase in the membership of the orchestra. In September we were pleased to welcome many new players of considerable experience, including two 'cellists and several violinists. We are now quite proud of our wood-wind and BRASS section, as two new clarinet players and an oboist joined us at the beginning of the year, and a second former, Christine Stukins, has been fascinating us with her newly acquired bassoon. In addition, two of her companions, in the second form, Lesley Welch and Cynthia Payne, have become so proficient after only one year of French horn playing that they are accompanying the County Youth Orchestra on its visit to Germany in July. We are again proud to say that at least ten other of our girls are also looking forward to this visit.

J.R.D.

HOCKEY

The hockey teams have been extremely successful this season in winning all their matches, scoring 141 goals with only 17 against them. Congratulations to Gill Hardman and Janet Archer on being selected to play for the Junior County 2nd XI, and Miss Sanderson, who had the honour of travelling to Germany with the England touring team this year. It has been very pleasing to see so much enthusiasm throughout the year, and I wish next year's team a very successful season. Much of the success, I feel, is due to the excellent coaching which the teams have received from Miss Gibson, and I would like to thank her very much for giving up so much of her free time.

B.R.

FIRST XI

G. †J. French: A reliable goalkeeper in whom the team had full confidence.

L.B. †J. Archer: A sound and thoughtful player who must try not to become despondent when not playing up to her usual standard.

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R.B. *R. Souter: A capable player who at short notice fitted in well with the rest of the defence.

L.H. †M. Lewis: Margaret continued well, but did not quite reach the standard expected of her.

C.H. †G. Hardman: A lively and determined player always looking for the opportunity to score goals.

R.H. †K. Berry: A sound defensive player who must try next season to remember to give her forwards more support in attack.

L.W. *P. Sweet: Variable. Potentially a good player but she lacks the determination which is needed.

L.I. †G. Wallam: A forceful hard-hitting forward, always on the alert to take scoring chances.

C.F. †B. Read: A quick, lively forward with the ability to score goals whenever the occasion arose. She made an efficient and reliable captain who led her team admirably.

R.I. *V. Kirby: Improved favourably as the season progressed.

R.W. †S. Goodman: A very promising season. Playing in a new position Suzanne played with determination and gave the inside forwards many scoring chances.

JUNIOR XI

G. *D. Needham: Very promising. If she maintains her enthusiasm she should gain a place in the 1st XI.

L.B. *R. Samuel: An enthusiastic and potentially good player who must guard against carelessness.

R.B. E. Horspool: Times her tackle well but must learn to recover more quickly when beaten.

L.H. *S. Meadows: Played steadily throughout the season.

C.H. M. Walker: Persevered and marked her opposing centre forwards methodically.

R.H. P. Dobson: Very promising with ability to play either in defence or attack.

L.W. A. James: Combined and interchanged well with her inside forward, and began to show more force in the circle.

L.I. *M. Gamble: A thoughtful player with good stickwork, but she must have more confidence in herself and not be too "polite."

C.F. *B. Orme: Improved considerably during the season, but she must not be afraid to make individual attacks.

R.I. I. Tyler: Began to show more determination towards the end of the season, but could still be more forceful.

R.W. J. Kidger: Did not fulfil the promise she had shown in the previous season. It is hoped she will regain her enthusiasm. Also played:

*S. Driver: Worthy of a place in the 1st XI. Co-operated and combined well whenever she played with the team.

V. Gillen: A fast, attacking wing who was not afraid to come in and shoot, but who must practise centring from the left.

† Denotes full colours.

* Denotes half colours.

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NETBALL

Most of last season's matches were played during the first half of the season, that is, before Christmas. Yet in spite of this, the Junior members of the teams continued to practise during lunch hours and breaks. Next season the majority of the girls comprising the 1st netball team will have left and the opportunity will occur for the Junior members to prove themselves worthy of the vacant positions. The games staff has, happily, evolved a new system whereby netball is now taught to the Juniors. This, together with better facilities, will raise the standard required to gain a place in the teams and thereby the standard of performance. Perhaps before very long the netball teams will be as victorious as the hockey teams are now.

G.J.W.

ROUNDERS

The success which we had last year has, unfortunately, not been continued this season, although practically the same teams are playing. The cause of this unhappy state may be the G.C.E. examinations, improvement of the opposition or lack of determination shown by some members of the teams. Although we have lost four matches out of eight they were all close games and very enjoyable. Next year I hope that the high standard which has been set in former years may be maintained, and I wish luck to my successor.

B.R.

Stop Press

The rounders teams must have been saving themselves for a glorious ending to the season, for they won both the senior and junior rounders tournaments. It is believed to be the first time in history that any school has achieved this. Congratulations to all concerned.

SPORTS DAY

Sports Day this year was held on May 17th, and after a week of rain we were very pleased to see the sun. One record was broken, that by Marion Gamble in the Middle School long jump with a jump of 15ft. 6in. This feat won for her the cup which was donated by Christine West, last year's Head Girl, for the most outstanding performance on Sports Day. We are, indeed, grateful for this generous gift.

The prizes this year were presented by Mrs. George Farnham and a vote of thanks was proposed by the head girl, Janet Richards.

Susan Meadows won the Senior Cup, Yvonne Haywood the Middle School Cup, and Rita Brooks the Junior School Cup.

The final result was: 1st, Garendon; 2nd, Beaumanor; 3rd, Ulverscroft, and 4th, Bradgate.

An exhibition of art was held in the Horsa Block on the field and was greatly appreciated. Once again we must thank Mrs. Diggle and her helpers most heartily for a very enjoyable tea.

ATHLETICS

The school was once again well represented in the Area Sports, gaining a number of points in both Under 13 and Under 15 sections. Three girls from the Under 13, and two from the Under 15, were selected for the Loughborough Area team at the County Sports, yet to be held. We also have a large number of Senior entries in these sports, and wish them every success in their events. G.H.

PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

Through lack of funds the Photographic Club this year has been unable to carry out the amount of activity it would have liked. We were pleased to note that this year the Junior section had to be extended owing to an influx of new members. During the year we had talks illustrated by photographs and we were lucky to obtain lantern slides from Ilford Films Ltd. At the end of the year pressure of work on the senior members caused the club to be temporarily closed, but we hope to re-open next year with the usual enthusiasm. We wish to express our thanks to Miss Martin for her help during the year.

J.M.

2nd QUORN GIRL GUIDE COMPANY

This year has been another active one for all the Guides. Twenty Guides have been enrolled during the year, thirteen have gained their Second Class badges, and Barbara Welch, Valerie Simpson, Pauline Attenborough, Shirley Welch, Lesley Reid and Anne James are to be congratulated on being the first school Guides to have gained their First Class badges. Proficiency badges gained are: 7 Athlete, 13 Child Nurse, 9 Cook, 1 Gymnast, 3 Home-maker, 1 Horsewoman, 10 Hostess, 5 Laundress, 12 Map Reader, 4 Neediewomen, 5 Thrift; Lesley Reid and Anne James have gained their Little House Emblems. We wish every success to Anne James, Valerie Simpson, Lesley Reid and Shirley Welch who are well on the way to getting their Queen's Guide badges.

At the end of the summer term four of the patrol leaders went with a party of Swedish Guides, who were staying in Loughborough before going to the World Centenary camp at Windsor, to Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick and Kenilworth. From 13th to the 23rd August, fifteen Guides camped at Ludlow. They all survived the thunderstorms of the first few days and had a very enjoyable camp. Three Guides camped at Lulworth Castle from 26th August to the 4th September and had similar weather.

During the Autumn term the Guides made articles for a sale of work. Several Guides stayed with Kenilworth Guides they had met at camp, and took part in the sale on 22nd November. Mrs. Diggle provided us with an excellent tea for our New Year's Party, and we would like to thank her very much.

On March 22nd about twenty Guides took part in the Division Competition. This was the first time we had entered an outside competition, and we came third among the fifteen companies competing. On 27th April several Guides took part in the St.

George's Day parade held in Loughborough. During the Summer term the Guides did various jobs to raise money to buy a pole and carrier for the company colour.

On the 17th June all the Guides, and several visitors, took part in a service at Quorn Church, for the dedication of the Union Jack and World Flag (Company colour). The Rev. S. Jackson officiated, Sheila Bostock played the organ, and the six First Class Guides formed the Colour Party. We would like to thank Miss Morris for her interest and untiring efforts on our behalf, which have contributed so much to the successful year.

A.J.

TALKS

We have had rather few talks this year and have, in particular, missed the lectures at one time provided for schools by Leicester University. We had, however, a visitor from the French Embassy, Mme. Langhorne, who spoke to us on French life. A talk by a representative of the N.S.P.C.C. led to the founding of a branch of the League of Pity. The egg-shaped collecting-boxes of the League are now familiar in school, but girls are reminded that the secretary, Ruth Lilley, would welcome any further offers of help. At the time of going to press, we hear of a talk to be given by an old Girl of the school, Jean Webster, now an officer in the W.R.N.S.

SCHOOL EXPEDITIONS

On October 3rd a group of sixth-formers spent an enjoyable day at Stratford. We first went to Anne Hathaway's cottage at Shottery, and then in Stratford itself visited New House and Holy Trinity Church, where Shakespeare is buried. We all enjoyed a fine performance of "The Tempest" at the Memorial Theatre, and were particularly impressed by John Gielgud's quiet, masterly, controlled performance as Prospero, and also by the very effective staging.

On February 19th the Sixth Form French Group went to Wigston Magna to see a performance of Molière's "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme" by a group of French actors. The standard of performance was very high and much amusement was derived from M. Jourdain and the oriental antics in this play.

The whole school went to the Victory Cinema at Loughborough to see a film made during their recent visit to London by the Bolshoi Ballet Company. It was indeed a privilege to witness, if only through the medium of a film, the faultless performance by this famous company, and especially the grace of Ulanova.

On March 13th a large party went to Vaughan College, Leicestershire, to see Racine's "Phèdre," in an English translation. The performance was in the form of "Theatre in the Round." Margaret Rawlings gave a most powerful performance as Phèdre; indeed the dramatic tension and vigorous interpretation of the tragedy left us feeling almost overpowered at the end! I think it was generally agreed that "Theatre in the Round" allows more freedom of movement and that the actor's capabilities can be displayed to the full.

A small party of sixth-formers joined with the Loughborough College School in going to Ludlow for a performance of "Comus" in the castle ruins. Coinciding with one of the few fine days of the summer, this was a memorable experience. We hear that for their annual outing the prefects have chosen this year to go to a performance of "Pericles" at Stratford.

CERCLE FRANCAIS

At the beginning of the year a "Cercle Français" was formed. Katherine Richling and Sheila Bostock were elected as chairwomen, Ruth Lilley as secretary and Janet Richards as treasurer. The first meeting, held at the end of the Autumn term, consisted of carol-singing, and had a good attendance. At the next meeting we had an informal talk on French composers, with recordings of their works. As the juniors proved very enthusiastic, they later formed their own Junior French Circle. In the near future we hope to have a French film and an exhibition for all the members.

THE GIROPOTIPHANT

In darkest Iceland dwells extant
The lazy Giropotiphant.
He loves to lie in muddy streams,
Feeding on choc'late peppermint cremes;
And if with treacle they are spread,
A light appears around his head
Of rainbow colours—all the seven—
To show he feels that he's in heaven.

His house, made of banana skins,
Is neatly stuck around with pins.
Thus, if he gets a dreadful itch,
He rubs along his doorway, which
The necessary ease provides
For tickling ears, or nose or sides.
For sharpening, he has a file,
And keeps it on his rubbish pile.

Fried parsnips are a favourite dish,
Although at times he has the wish
For pickled onions instead,
Provided they are blue or red,
The Giro makes a gentle pet,
So if you catch one in your net,
Your child may safely with it play
To keep him happy all the day.

CYNTHIA WILLETT, Form III.

RECIPE FOR ROUNDERS

Ingredients: 1 rounders pitch, 9 batsmen, about 5 bats, 1 ball, 4 posts, 7 fielders, 1 bowler, 1 backstop.

Method: Sprinkle the fielders over a moderate-sized field and allow 5 minutes to settle. Whisk one batsman into a smooth batting-square (supplied with the rounders pitch). Allow the bowler to run freely to bowl the ball. Then let the batsmen boil up to the point of hitting it and run over to first post. This must be repeated with each batsman. If, however, the batsman should be only warm, instead of reaching boiling-point, he may miss the ball, which should then be caught by the backstop and whipped to first post. At some point it is wise to stir the players up a little, but do not allow them to mix too freely or the results may be disastrous. Serve with a handful of spectators and brilliant sunshine. Let the players cool off by pouring cold orange juice down their throats. If this method is followed it will make a good game.

JACQUELINE CLARKE and CYNTHIA PAYNE, IIa.

TRANSLATIONS AND ADAPTATIONS

From an old Chinese manuscript

1.

In a vase of precious porcelain
A spray of rhododendrons stand.
Caught by the breeze which sways it to and fro
The subtle perfume drifts
To the farthest corners of my room.
The spray of blossom is not quite alone
For its darker shadow its true companion is.
The pair bring memories of ages past
When together they grew in the grove,
On the banks, by the bridge of Hoongting
To the east of the bridge of Haelo.
No longer the valley's filled with fragrance;
No longer the river breathes the air
That now fills my airy house
And lingers in my sleeves from hour to hour.

Margaret Clark, Form II.

2.

By the bridge of Hoongting,
Where the birds weave their song,
East of the bridge of Haelo,
A valley sequestered.
There a grove of perfumed flow'rs,
Fresh, flowing filigree of flowers,
Entwining into beauteous bowers.
Caressed by a gentle breeze,
A radiant perfume lingers,
A sweet dream, borne gently,

By the winds from paradise,
Borne where the silver stream
Slips over slippery stones,
Flushed ruby red by the sunset,
Overhanging the mossy wall,
Rhododendrons.
The sunset kisses each delicate bloom,
And the dew freezes, their beauty to behold,
As pearls, each drop did form.

Transfixed often I, the cares and griefs of
Heart killed, stood silently gazing at and
Drinking in the splendid blossoms,
Flushed deeper pink by sunset.
Dim the light. A lazy fragrance kisses the air.
One could fall asleep. Enchanted by some fairy
Spell, it would seem,
Like slow, sweet music in one's ears.
The low, star-studded, shining sky
Casts silver shadows over
Oriental deities.

A single spray has found its way into my jar,
My precious porcelain jar.
Accompanied by its shadow
The flower dances,
Caressed by the breeze that enters
My empty hall.
The perfume lingers long on my long sleeves
Pleasing me, morning and evening.

Shirley Welch, Form II.

3.

By the latticed bridge of Hoongting,
Eastwards from the bridge of Haelo,
Lies a grove of rhododendrons,
Lies a grove of pure delight,
Filling with their fragrant perfume
Hill-encompassed lonely vale.

Jar of precious fragile porcelain
Holds a single spray of blossom,
From this heavenly-perfumed grove,
From this grove of paradise.
My long sleeves of Chinese silk-wove,
Scented with its perfume, glide.

This exquisite dainty blossom,
Its companion is its shadow.
Gentle, kindly Chinese breezes,
Waft into my empty hall.
Fragile bloom and sharp, clear shadow
To and fro sway, perfect peace.

Janice Palmer, Form II.

HANG IT ALL!

As reported to our Old Vicarage Special Correspondent.

The new staffroom in the Old Vicarage was to be papered, and we were the volunteers. The aim was to conceal dirt and provide a suitable background for the Staff. As the only pattern available at cost price was a grey dotted with white, we hope it will not have an unfavourable effect on their mentality.

The first piece of good work we did in the course of preliminary scrubbing was to reveal a valuable marble fireplace, which, however, we filled in again to save the Staff the labour of a black-leading rota. Then we lined up for our instructions. You should always start paperhanging from the light, so Mrs. Diggle gave us a demonstration at the window, and then left us to it.

First we cut the edges, with school scissors. We calculate that there was a total length of 288 yards, or roughly the perimeter of the hockey field. Then we cut the lengths. Four people were crawling about on the job, but owing to awkward variations in the length of girls we had to use a couple of tape measures. The lengths were 105 inches, but we actually cut 107½ to allow for the manipulation of the spots in the pattern. The pieces were to be marked 1, 1; 1, 2; 1, 3; 1, 4, but all the 1, 4s were somehow short owing to the original length, so they were reserved for odd corners.

Next came the pasting. We pasted one length and left it to dry while we pasted another. After that, we only pasted one at a time. The sticking was easy, remembering our instructions that "The only place to have a blob is at the corners". As the room turned out not to be symmetrical, we did not need a plumb-line. The radiator presented unique difficulty. We enquired throughout the school for a contortionist capable of becoming two inches by eighteen. Meantime two people were painting in a rich shade of black the bolts, knobs, latches and catches. Just at the worst juncture, one of the hangers was summoned by telephone to the dentist. The other "wept to see her haste away" and sent for Mrs. Diggle. From her we learned how to poke the paper in with scissors. Chopsticks would have been less destructive.

Now the room stands empty, silent but papered, waiting for its occupants. The moral of the whole episode is "when stuck, send for Mrs. Diggle".

SOMEONE AT THE DOOR

It was a sultry summer's day. I arrived home from the afternoon's shopping and set my basket down with a grateful sigh on the kitchen table. Limp and exhausted, I plodded upstairs, kicked the shoes from my feet and tumbled into bed. The sheets were cool and fresh-smelling; a welcome breeze rustled the curtains. I closed my eyes and allowed myself to drift into a half-sleep.

Next moment, it seemed, I was jarred from my drowsy state by a loud knocking. I blinked, shifted my position, and then realised with annoyance that there was someone at the door.

"Coming!" I called sleepily, and snuggled deeper between the sheets. The knocking ceased. I mused idly as to who it might be. Most likely it was Mrs. Hooper, the vicar's wife, calling for my parcel for the Sale of Work.

Mrs. Hooper is a prominent figure in the social life of Dorking. Not a single fête, bazaar, meeting or dinner is held that is not organized or at least patronised by her. The Women's Gay Evening, the Choral Society, the Art Lovers' Class and the Save the Churches Circle all claim Lilian Hooper as their president, secretary or speaker. The bane of Mrs. Hooper's life is a strong Northern accent, which is considered "not quite the thing" in a Southern community. Accordingly, every Friday she takes her elocution lesson from the local schoolmaster, to try to erase the offending accent. The butcher's boy is frequently alarmed by strange thumps and groans from the Hoopers' kitchen; it is only Lilian practising her vowel sounds and kneading dough. On Fridays, too, before her spending money has quite run out, Mrs. Hooper takes a bus into the nearby town to fritter away a few shillings or pounds on some frivolity or other. It may be a tiny flask of expensive perfume, or a linen handkerchief edged with Swiss lace; or she may go into Fennel's the florist's to order a spray of orchids to wear at the Hunt Ball

I wondered what Mrs. Hooper would be wearing then, if it was indeed she who was waiting on the doorstep. I laughed as I remembered how young Roger Stevens—

Again there was a loud knocking. I launched myself reluctantly out of bed and, seeing my tousled reflection in the mirror, seized a brush and began to drag its bristles through my hair.

"Perhaps it is Roger Stevens," I thought. "He may have hit a cricket ball into our garden again."

Roger is our neighbour's son. At the age of nine he is tough, noisy and unbelievably healthy. He likes anything that involves getting dirty. His other loves are food and stolen cigarettes and his pet aversions are girls, school and soap. . . .

The knocking came again, louder and more insistent.

"All right!" I called rather impatiently. "I'm coming."

I paused as I reached the landing. Suppose I had won the competition I had entered for the previous week. One had to think of a name for a new shade of lipstick. I had chosen Moonbeam's Glow—a light bluish-pink shade. Perhaps I had won a holiday in Trinidad. I have always longed to escape from the damp English climate and visit the West Indies.

I imagined a representative of a lipstick firm as a rather effeminate man—perhaps a Frenchman—in a striped suit with a dark bowler hat and wearing a carnation in his buttonhole. Then

I reflected that perhaps a holiday in Trinidad would be rather trying without a native girl to fan me with palm leaves.

On arriving at the door I discovered at last the identity of the knocker.

It was Miss Emma Smith, an elderly, frail acquaintance from down the road.

"I'm so sorry to have kept you waiting," I said weakly. "I—was asleep and didn't hear you knock." I tried to return her smile. "You've brought back the bottle of sleeping-tablets? Thank you very much. I do hope they did you good. Not at all. Goodbye."

DINAH OUSEY, Form IV.

SAILING

I sail with a friend in a fourteen-foot Heron sailing dinghy with beautiful blue sails. On the river Trent, near Nottingham, are two very good sailing clubs, each with a full and exciting programme. More and more people are finding their spare-time relaxation in sailing, and the number of such clubs is growing rapidly.

I myself prefer to sail on the Norfolk Broads, where even complete novices may hire yachts and enjoy an open-air holiday. Sailing is not always peaceful, however, and often much skill and practice are required to avoid a spill. The Broads, where they are tidal, near the sea, are often wind-lashed and the water is whipped up to a fury; then sailing can be dangerous, but very exciting. It is advisable to make sure that the buoyancy tanks are fully inflated and that the sails are set correctly.

One occasion of distress I remember well. Sailing on the River Waveney, in a high wind, we ran straight up the bank. After struggling in vain to get free, we let the sails down, and tried to paddle back to the little quay. It was hopeless; the paddle was snatched away and we floated, helpless, round and round in circles, downstream in the wrong direction. Suddenly the wind blew us full force into a huge tree on the bank, and the mast and rigging were trapped. The boat heeled over sharply, tipping my friend, and the sails, into the swirling water. I just managed to cling on, dragging my friend back into the pitching boat, and we rescued the sails.

Although it is very expensive to buy a dinghy, and sets of sails are very high in price, anyone interested can easily join a sailing club, where many new friends can be made. I think there is nothing lovelier than a wide, sparkling expanse of water, with brightly-coloured sails gliding swiftly over it, like a host of butterflies; nothing more restful than to gaze up at the towering mast and sails, and to skim gently over the sunny waters, listening to the gentle lapping of the waves.

DULCIE BOLLEY, Form V.

DID YOU KNOW?

"The larger brain has convulsions, and the lesser brain has small fisheries."

"Malvolio appeared before Olivia wearing a broad simile."

"The Rhine Massif has a sparse population because there is a plentiful supply of food and work for the people."

"Symbiosis is the living together of two different plants or animals or a plant and an animal. One thing takes things the other plant does not want, giving to it things that it does not want but which the other plant does. The other plant takes the things which the other one did not want and gives something it did not want in exchange."

To prepare a solution of copper sulphate. Ans.: Get a solution of the required solution and evaporate it.

Divide £19/10/9 in the ratio of 1:3:5, and find the largest share. Ans.: £4,472/16/8½.

How many times does a bicycle wheel of diameter 28 in. revolve in one mile. Ans.: .506 3/11ths.

For how long must £1,216 remain in the bank at 3½% interest to give an interest of £53/4/0? Ans.: 18,000 years.

OUR VILLAGES: 5—THURMASTON

Thurmaston is probably a much older village than many people realise. In the eighteenth century a milestone was found which marked the distance from Ratae (Leicester) as two miles. The date has been fixed at 120 A.D., for it was at that time that the Emperor Hadrian visited Britain and probably made a triumphal entry through Leicester as he did through many other Roman towns.

Originally Thurmaston was probably a Saxon tun. The Saxon invaders penetrated the county and captured Leicester in 556 and between that date and 600 the place was occupied by the Middle Angles. From the spelling of the name "Turmodestone" in the Doomsday Book (1086) it is perhaps possible to recover the name of the lord of the hamlet. Turmod may have been his name.

The village was originally divided into two hamlets of North Thurmaston and South Thurmaston; North Thurmaston being attached to the parish of Barkby and South Thurmaston to Belgrave. The present church was formerly a parochial chapel attached to that parish. It was originally built by the first Earl of Winchester in 1207 and dedicated to St. Michael, and was used for the next six centuries. 1849 began a period of church revival, for in that year the old neglected church was almost completely pulled down and re-built. Church life had previously been seriously neg-

lected. For twenty years, from 1772-92 no curate had been appointed and it was during this period that Methodism took a hold on the village, the first Methodist chapel being opened in 1792. A second chapel was built in 1810 and was only closed a few months ago, due to pecuniary difficulties. United Methodist worship now takes place in a chapel dated 1884.

Until 1844 there was no school building in Thurcaston. In that year the Rev. E. H. Hoare raised the funds for the building of the National School. Many of our girls have attended this school, which is now kept entirely for junior pupils, as several years ago a new infant school was built in Churchill Road, some half-mile from the junior school. Thurcaston also possesses a comparatively new secondary modern school, situated just within the Syston-Thurcaston boundary. A more recent link with history is the steel bridge purchased from the Festival of Britain in 1951. This extends across the road to the school.

The population of Thurcaston has increased sixfold during the past fifty years. This is mainly due to the huge housing projects which have taken place in recent years. At present yet another housing estate is being built.

Industry, too, flourishes in the village of Thurcaston, which is gradually becoming a small town. A nylon spinners has now been built against the concrete works and we must not forget the branch of the famous "En Tout Cas" in Thurcaston. (It is useless to ask any Thurcaston resident the meaning of these mysterious words.)

Thurcaston is only three miles from the city centre, but despite this, has a variety of shops; new ones have been built recently near to the housing estate. The village is fast losing its status as such. There is indeed very little social activity in the village. True, it has a couple of Youth Clubs and an Evergreen Club at which youth and age meet and enjoy themselves in sundry ways! Thurcaston boasts no cinema or dance hall, although dances are held very occasionally in the village hall. Incidentally, this was built in memory of those who were killed in the first world war.

Alas, there is little remaining of the true "village" of Thurcaston. Perhaps it may eventually become part of Leicester itself. For those who cherish sentimental thoughts of Turmod and Hadrian this is indeed a saddening possibility, but the future remains to be seen.

RACHEL GODDARD, Upper VI.