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THE GREENHILLIAN

★

The Magazine of
GREENHILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL
OLDHAM



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JOAN WHITTAKER

No. 2

December, 1953

Editorial

Following the success of the first edition of our school magazine, we feel that the time has now come for our second production to make its appearance.

The immediate response to appeals for entries was not as great as last time, but after many exhortations from members of staff and committee, there was a marked improvement as the closing date for entries drew near.

And now a word concerning the first magazine. We received a very favourable report in the local press, and financially we kept our heads just above water, thanks to the excellent and efficient management of Mr. Wells and Dennis Elwell. We are hoping that this time the sale of copies will be greater than last so that the magazine may be a financial as well as a literary success.

The Christmas term is now upon us, and with it comes a change in the activities of the school. Cricket bats and tennis rackets are now replaced by football boots and hockey sticks, whilst plans go ahead for the various winter activities of the school. Preparations are being considered for the parties and dances that are to be held at Christmas, and now that the temptation of long summer evenings is removed, we hope that scholars are beginning to think more about homework than about play.

This year also marks the culminating point in the studies of the 5th and Upper 6th Forms. For the 5th Form, there is, next June, the General Certificate of Education Examination, and for the Upper 6th the advanced level of this examination. To all those sitting these examinations, we wish the best of luck.

And now, following the path of our first, we present you with our second magazine.

★

School Notes

We are pleased to welcome to the staff of the school Mrs. Kuler, Miss Best, Miss Taylor and Monsieur Safri, who comes to us as French Assistant from the Universities of Toulouse and Montpellier. We are also glad to have Mrs. Ford with us again.

At the forthcoming Speech Day in November the speaker will be Mr. P. Lord, M.Ed., B.Sc., the Deputy Chief Education Officer for Lancashire, and the chairman will be Alderman F. Lord, O.B.E., J.P.

During the past term, the enrolment of members for the newly-formed Ex-Students' Association has been taking place. A social evening was held in school and it is hoped that many other activities will follow as the association grows. The Ex-Students' Association intend to hold a Grand Reunion and Dance on Friday, 26th February. Notice of the sale of tickets will be announced later.

In May of the summer term, the school held mock-elections which were very successful and caused a great deal of interest among the pupils. Voting was limited to the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Forms and eve of poll speeches were given by the candidates in the Upper Hall, with Mr. Higson acting as chairman. Mr. D. Elwell (Conservative) was the successful candidate with Mr. A. Holt (Labour) close behind. Mr. F. Brook (Liberal) and Mr. A. Whitehead (Independent) also stood as candidates. There was a 100% poll due probably to the fact that polling was held during school hours.

At the end of the summer term, a speech-making contest was held, an account of which is to be found in this issue.

The school sports and swimming gala were held at the end of term, and also inter-house tennis, rounders and cricket matches. The cricket, however, could not be completed owing to bad weather.

After sitting for the General Certificate Examination, a number of excursions were organised for the Fifth Form. Among the places of interest visited were the A. V. Roe aircraft factory, the Oak Pit, Kendal Milne's, Boundary Park Hospital, the Royal Infirmary, the Coliseum to see a play, and the "Oldham Chronicle" office.

The school received a visit from Mr. Horobin, the M.P. for Oldham (East), who addressed the 5th and 6th Forms. A lecture and demonstration on physical fitness was given by Mr. Bryn Goldswain, and a talk on personal appearance was given to the girls by Madam Lawrence. Recruiting officers from the R.A.F. also visited the school.

This term, the boys' teams withdrew from the Oldham Schools Rugby League, and Rugby Union and Soccer are now being played. At the Oldham Schools Inter-Secondary Swimming Gala, the junior boys' swimming team won whilst the senior boys' team drew with Clarksfield.

The table tennis club has increased its membership since last year and enjoys much popularity among the upper forms. The chess club is also flourishing and a programme of matches has been arranged for the winter.

Early this term, the school visited the Electronics Exhibition in Manchester and the visit was both interesting and instructive. The 6th Form (Science Section) has been to Manchester for a lecture on "Meteorology and Actuary," and some of the 6th Form (Lit. Section) attended Manchester University for a lecture by Professor Davidson, of Leeds University, on "Greek Tragedy."

In November, the Upper 6th Literature Section are attending a performance of "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme," this play being one of their set books.

We should like to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Petford on the birth of a son. We would also like to congratulate two of our former pupils, Ivan Sharpe, who has gained his Queen's Scout Badge, and Peter Marner, who has represented his county at cricket several times this season.

We should like to mention that one of our ex-pupils, Beryl Pilkington, who went to live in Ceylon, has recently become secretary of the "Ceylon Business Express," Colombo, although she is only sixteen years old.

★

G.C.E Results, 1953

FORM 5X.

Ernest Bennett (5), Neil H. Broadbent (5), Peter Broadbent (2), Donald Brooks (8), Alan Docker (6), George K. Hibbert (3), James W. Marsh (5), Geoffrey T. Newton (3), Brian Sanderson (7), Derek Slater (6), Graham Wildgoose (6), Muriel Berryman (6), Margaret Butterworth (8), Marjorie E. Carr (5), Arlene Gartside (4), Shirley B. Gibson (2), Brenda Howard (4), Constance B. Johnson (2), Gwenda Jones (4), Sheila M. Knott (6), Sheila M. Molyneux (5), Margaret Nolan (6), Sylvia R. Ogden (1), Betty J. Schofield (4), Brenda Taylor (6), Joan Whittaker (6).

FORM 5Y.

Anthony Barber (3), Anthony Gilmour (2), Harry Horne (3), Harold Hough (4), Anthony Kershaw (4), Wilfred T. Light (3), Richard Murphy (2), Arthur Whitehead (6), Beryl M. Baldwin (2), Eileen Barrow (1), Barbara Corfield (2), Sylvia Davies (3), Jean Dransfield (2), Shirley Durant (3), Janet M. Gomersall (4), Elizabeth Grainger (1), Mavis L. Ogden (2), Beryl Platt (3), Sybil Platt (7), Mavis Schofield (6), Margaret J. Seville (2), Vera Stuttard (1).

FORM 5Z.

Alan Bottomley (5), William Challinor (5), Ronald Cooper (1), Alan Fawcett (1), David Foden (2), Ian L. Hutchison (1), Keith H. Lang (1), Thomas Scholes (4), Winston Smith (6), Robert Wolstencroft (1).

FORM VI.

Fred Brook (1), Frank McCandlish (1), Patricia M. Greenall (1), Betty Shanley (2), Barbara J. Sutcliffe (1), Jean M. Whittaker (1).

Choir Report

There has been, during the past year, a school choir consisting of about forty members who have performed at each Parents' Evening, so helping to make the evenings successful.

The girls who are in the choir willingly stay behind after school to work on new pieces for the entertainment of the parents on their evenings or, as we are now doing, for Speech Day, when we hope to attempt a part song and other selected items.

We ought to thank especially several senior members of our choir—Norma Timms, Avis Bolton and Vivienne Brooks, who have willingly served as soloists on many occasions.

In the summer holidays we had a choir picnic to Belle Vue, when some of our members spent an enjoyable half-day, returning home happy, tired and penniless.

N. TIMMS, *Choir Secretary.*

★

The Table Tennis Club

Officials:

President : Mr. H. J. MARTIN

Secretary : BERYL CRESSEY

Treasurer : FRANK SMITH

Committee:

Mr. S. K. PETFORD

P. GREENALL

Mr. K. WRIGHT

B. CORFIELD

D. ELWELL

C. FLETCHER

The commencement of another season has brought with it 13 new members—9 boys and 4 girls, and to these members we give a very hearty welcome and hope that they will be happy and have many good "knocks" on the table whilst with us.

The general meeting was held towards the end of September and was well attended. The meeting elected the officials and committee and also the Captains of the teams—*Boys*, Dennis Elwell; *Girls*, Beryl Cressey. Before the end of this term, Singles and Mixed Double Handicaps are to be arranged, and the results of these will be published in the next issue of the magazine.

We are also hoping to arrange some friendly fixtures with other schools, and with sustained effort there is no reason why victory should not be ours.

B.C., VIa Lit.

★

Chess Club

President : Mr. HIGSON

Secretary : J. LAWTON

Treasurer : A. HOLT

At the beginning of the term, Mr. Higson presided over the Annual General Meeting of the club. The meeting was poorly attended but club members are increasing daily and soon the club will be full. The younger

scholars especially are flocking to the club with great enthusiasm. Many of them cannot play, and are being taught by Mr. Pendlebury, Mr. Reeves and Miss Turbefeld. There is a shortage of older boys with experience of the game. All members, whether they can play or not, are welcome, but a special welcome is reserved for all previous members who return to the fold. It is hoped that most of these will have re-joined soon. They will find many improvements, especially in playing conditions. Now that we are allowed to use the Biology Lab, as a chess room, games can be played in a more peaceful atmosphere than previously, when there were continual disturbances. Benches and tables are also far more comfortable and practical than desks, and boards no longer slide to the floor in a shower of chessmen. We are thankful to have the use of this room and grateful to Mr. Petford for his willingness to share it.

We have always been assured of the interest and support of our President, Mr. Higson, but this session we are pleased to receive into our midst two more members of Staff—Mr. Pendlebury and Mr. Reeves—and the interest they have shown and the help they have given have been greatly appreciated. Any member of the staff is, in fact, welcome to join us at any time. If you can't play, don't worry. Hordes of small fry will be eager to instruct, if only for the pleasure of turning the tables, for a change, and teaching the teacher! But to those who have some knowledge of the game, a word of warning. Do not be misled by the innocent appearance of some of the younger members, and think you will select an easy victim for a beginning. Behind the cherubic features of Nutter (Minor) of IX, for instance, or Dyson of 2B, lurks a determined and ruthless killer—one who will give, and take, no quarter. So don't expect an indulgent and respectful: "That's all right, sir. Take it back if you like. No, I don't mind, sir." You are more likely to be told sternly: "You touched that piece. You have to move it."

This year the club has joined the Oldham Schools' Chess League and a long list of fixtures has been arranged from October to next April. There is a shortage of experienced players from which to recruit a team, which is one of the reasons why previous members are urged to re-join without further delay. The team to date has been drawn from: Lawton, Whiteley, Holloway, Wright, Godfrey, Buckley, Dyson, Nutter (Minor), Sanderson. They have greatly enjoyed the first two matches, even though they lost 4 games to 1 in each case. These teams—Hollins and North Manchester Grammar School—were both League Champions last year, one of the Oldham schools and the other of the Manchester Schools, so we are not at all dismayed by having lost to such worthy opponents. Instead of the usual snack half-way through the evening, North Manchester entertained us to tea first of all (cold meat, bream and butter, jam, chocolate biscuits), then conducted us to the library, where the boards were set out. Evidently they believe in feeding their victims before leading them to the scaffold!

Chess is a useful game in training powers of concentration and logical thinking, but it is also a fascinating game which gives pleasure to all, whether young or old, male or female, clever or not-so-bright. It is not the dreary recreation of dreary academics, of some people's imagination. We at Greenhill, at any rate, get a great deal of fun out of our chess. So if you want to learn to play this game, or aspire to a position on the team, or simply like to play the game in a happy atmosphere of good fellowship, then

JOIN THE CHESS CLUB.

But hurry up. Membership is limited. Club night is Wednesday, but you may also play during the dinner hour every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. The Biology Lab. (and Treasurer Holt) await you (and your 6d.) any Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday.

Sports Day — Boys

This year Lees House won the Sports with Walton House coming second.

The first events were the 100 yards sprints. In both middle and senior school races, the standards were broken. In the middle school, both first and second, Schofield and Lawton, beat the standard time. In the senior sprint only the winner, Hough, beat the standard. The junior winner, Highton, did very well to beat older rivals.

The Junior Boys' race was won by Faulkner of Fawsitt House.

Owen won the 220 yards race quite easily from Hatton, who beat Goodwin for second place.

Repeating his victory of last year, Dennis Schofield ran away with the middle school 220 yards race. He again broke the standard, as did the second, Grindrod, and third, Ratcliff. As expected, Whitehead won the senior 220, narrowly beating Hough, with Holt third. Both first and second beat the standard.

Only Stuttard beat the middle school standard for the javelin. Barber and Horne took first and second places in the senior javelin.

Whitehead also won the 440 yards race in record time. Brook set a new record in the senior high jump, jumping alone. Lang won the half-mile race with Wareham fifteen yards behind. McCandlish was third. Both first and second beat the standard time.

Brook and Bentley carried off first and second places in the senior long jump for Walton House.

Bentley also won the mile from Kershaw and Marsh, although it was a slow race.

Each house won one relay. Fawsitt won the junior relay, Lees won the middle school relay, and Walton won the senior school relay.

C.B., VI Lit.

★

Cricket

Only three school matches were played during the season, others having to be cancelled on account of rain. In a low scoring game against Counthill at home, the First XI reached a total of 50. F. Smith, with 10 runs, was the only batsman to reach double figures. When Counthill batted, Smith and Fawcett quickly dismissed the openers, but Grimshaw and Hesketh put on over 30 runs. The last five wickets fell very cheaply and Counthill were all out for 46. Smith, with 3 for 11, and Fawcett, with 6 for 12, were responsible for this.

Against Counthill at Counthill, the Under Fifteen XI just failed to win on a time basis. Counthill batted first, scoring 68 all out. Meyrell and Booth put on 36 for the second wicket. The last 6 Counthill wickets added only six runs. The most successful of the school bowlers were Stuttard (4 for 12) and Millward (5 for 16). When the school batted, they scored 64 for 8 wickets in the time allowed. Hibbert 13, Millward 10, Stuttard 13, Lawton 13, were the best of the batsmen.

At home to Ashton G.S., the Under Fifteen XI won an exciting game by one wicket. Ashton batted first and scored 77 for 9 declared. Lawton was the most successful bowler, taking 5 for 24. The school opened with Gartside (29) and Lawton (14), giving the school a respectable total on the second wicket. The school middle batsmen, with the exception of Jennings (11), failed, and it was left to Cullen (9) and Kershaw (4 not out) to pass the Ashton total.

In addition, many inter-form matches were played. Form 1 elevens twice defeated Form 2, while Form 3 beat Form 4 easily.

The season ended with the inter-house competitions for seniors and juniors. These provided exciting cricket in many games.

Rugby Report

At the beginning of the present season a decision was taken to withdraw our four teams from the Schools' Rugby Leagues, and to concentrate on the Rugby Union code.

Up to the time of writing this article, the School 1st XV, under the captaincy of F. Smith, had played two matches against Rochdale High School, and had won one and lost one. The first game, played on the school field, was won by 14 points to 6. This victory was a credit to the boys who played, as most of them had no previous experience of the Union code. The second one was lost by 9 points to 8, i.e. by a goal and a try to 3 penalty goals.

The under-fifteen team have also played two games against Rochdale, but both these games ended in defeat by 23 points to 3 and 14 points to 6. This was due to the inexperience of our boys, and I feel that, with a little practice, this team will improve.

Thanks must be given to Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Cooper and Mr. Wright, who are helping to coach the school teams, and to our "tea-brewers" at the school field.

F.S., VIa Sc.

★

Association Football

1st XI.

The team has played and lost both its games. In the first match of the season against Hyde G.S. at Hyde, the school team played well in the first half against a strong side but were losing 2-1 at half-time. Hyde took command in the second half and won convincingly 7-2. Fletcher scored both of the school's goals. Against Middleton G.S., the school were again in difficulties, losing 4-2 at half-time, but Middleton were much superior in the second half and won 10-3. Fletcher and Helingoe (2) were the school's goal scorers. Hudson and Murphy were prominent in defence.

Under Fifteen XI.

To date, this team has won its three games convincingly. At home to Chadderton, the school were losing 2-0 at half-time, but quickly reduced this lead in the second half and, owing to the work of Stuttard at centre-forward, who scored 4 goals, won 4-3. Against Hyde G.S. the school went ahead to a 3-1 lead at half-time and continued to show their superiority, winning 8-2. Goalscorers were Lawton (4), Stuttard (3) and Cullen.

At home to Middleton G.S., midfield play predominated in the first half. School took the lead through Grindrod, whilst Lawton added three more goals in the second half. Patterson, deputising for Jennings in goal, played well.

Under Twelve XI.

Against Chadderton, the school junior eleven were beaten 5-0 in their first game but should do better in their next. Lomax, Travis and McHugh were prominent.

★

Girls' Games

Tennis and rounders matches were played throughout the summer term but fewer than had been arranged owing to cancellations for various reasons by our opponents. We were especially disappointed that the Count-hill fixture could not be played even though we made several attempts to re-arrange it for mid-week.

The rounders team showed keenness and were not discouraged by setbacks. There was, for instance, the match against Hulme one wet Saturday, when the slippery surface made playing conditions treacherous and exhausting. To make matters worse, our opponents, owing to a misunderstanding, were expecting to play two teams, so our single junior

team gallantly took on both the senior and junior opposing teams one after the other, and although very tired in the second game, lost it by only a narrow margin. The weakness of the rounders team was mainly in hitting power. Fielding was of a good standard, but very few rounders were scored from hits, and the team consequently lost all their matches.

Particular mention should be made of the consistently fine tennis played by our leading couple—J. Marland and B. Shanley—who won all their matches against very keen opposition. They were loyally supported, but most of the best players in the school were unable to play on Saturday mornings. Had they done so, many narrow defeats of 5 sets to 4 could have been transformed into victories.

Up to the time of going to press, the hockey team has played three matches this term. The first was against Chadderton and we had quite a good game. Our second match, against Hulme, was rather more of a massacre than a hockey match, and our defence was almost hacked to pieces by the ferocious opposing forwards in all the "corners" that were taken. The standard of play in the third match, against Ashton, was not very high on either side. We had some good fun, however, during the course of the game, and we actually scored in the first minute!

Hockey Results:

Chadderton ...	6	Greenhill ...	0
Hulme II ...	14	Greenhill I ...	1
Hulme II ...	13	Greenhill II ...	0
Ashton ...	3	Greenhill ...	1

★

Fawsitt House Notes

Officials:

House Master : Mr. SEDGLEY

House Mistress : Miss TURNER

Staff Members:

Mr. WELLS, Mr. HANDFORTH, Mr. REEVES, Miss TAYLOR

House Captains:

FRANK McCANDLISH, BERYL CRESSEY

Vice-Captains:

ALAN HOLT, JEAN WHITTAKER

Secretary:

BERYL GARTSIDE

Another school year opens and the house has more new members, whose talents, as yet, are unknown, but we hope they will all try very hard to gain merit for the house. We have also a new staff member, Miss Taylor, who is familiar to many pupils in the school.

At the end-of-term presentations last year, our house came second in the competition for the best work all through the term, but it was third on the sporting side. Four of our girls, Margaret Butterworth, Jean Wolfenden, Mary Mulholland and Beryl Cressey, are on the 1st XI Hockey Team and have received girdles for good work on the team. The boys also have some members playing on the rugby and soccer teams. A noticeable success is Fawsitt House Cricket Team, who won every cricket match they played. Unfortunately, one match was abandoned owing to rain, but the game was very much in their favour.

Perhaps if Fawsitt continues with the good work we shall come out top next year.

B.G., VIa Lit.

Lees House Notes

House Master : Mr. G. N. WRIGHT

House Mistress : Mrs. V. MORRIS

Staff Members:

Mr. K. WRIGHT, Mr. J. L. NICHOLLS, Mr. F. D. PENDLEBURY, Miss BEST

House Captains:

FRANK SMITH, SHEILA KNOTT

Vice-Captains:

J. E. WAREHAM, PATRICIA M. GREENALL

Secretary:

BARBARA J. SUTCLIFFE

Games Committee:

Boys.

F. SMITH
J. W. WAREHAM
I. HIBBERT
J. MYERS
C. FLETCHER

Girls.

G. JONES
S. KNOTT
B. HICKLING
B. MCGEE

Lees House began its career successfully by winning the Merit Shield and the Athletics Shield. We also did well in all the sports, gaining 27 first places, 16 second places and 14 third places.

We welcome as our House Mistress, Miss Best, taking the place of Mrs. Shepherd, who left us last term. We also lost Joan Wild, the girls' House Captain, who is going to a training college, and in her place Sheila Knott, who holds a girdle for hockey, was elected. We have been joined by a number of first formers who will, no doubt, maintain a high standard of work for their House.

It only remains for us to keep up the good work both in school and on the playing field and then we will do even better next year.

B.J.S., Upper VI Lit.

★

Walton House Notes

House Master : Mr. MARTIN

House Mistress : Mrs. FORD

Staff Members:

Mr. LIVSEY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. PETFORD, Mr. COOKE, Mrs. KULER

House Captains:

DENNIS ELWELL, JOAN MARLAND

Vice-Captains:

FRED BROOK, JUNE HURST

Secretary:

BETTY SHANLEY

On behalf of last year's Walton House, I should like to welcome all new members of the house.

We were sorry to lose Mrs. Dearnaley at the end of the summer term, and are indebted to her for such invaluable assistance to the games captains in the coaching of the teams for the inter-house sports competi-

tions. Before Mrs. Dearnaley's departure, Joan Marland, the girls' House Captain, presented her with a magnificent powder compact to show the House's appreciation of her assistance. We are glad to have Mrs. Ford back after her absence during the summer term, and welcome Mrs. Kuler to the House Staff.

There have been three changes in the House sports captaincy: Colin Bentley is now soccer vice-captain, and Fred Brook and Richard Murphy rugby captain and vice-captain respectively. Colin Bentley also takes the place of George Hibbert on the magazine committee.

The last term has been quite a successful one for Walton House. The girls won the tennis tournament, although competition was very strong, and the junior rounders team also came out on top. These victories, and a tie for first place in the junior cricket, gave us a narrow victory in the Games Cup. In the swimming gala, many vociferous supporters cheered the House to an easy victory. We were second in the school sports, but in the Merit Shield, Walton House were a sorry third, and we must hope for greater effort in the next examinations.

Although we did quite well, I hope that in the coming series we will do even better.

D.E., B.S.

★

1X — Form Report

As we, Form 1X, are amongst the newest and youngest members of the school, we feel very proud to have an entry in the School Magazine.

Although we have not been together long as a form, we have amongst us members with varying interests and hobbies. For we have one boy, John Crumpton, who plays the tenor-horn, and also five others who play on the rugby team.

Some of our girls collect foreign coins and stamps. One of our form-members, Marcia Ainsworth, entered a competition in elocution and she won second prize. Also, Dorothy Greenall was presented with a first and second prize in this year's "Beautiful Oldham" contest. Two of our members have joined the school Chess Club, and we hope to hear of their prowess in days to come!

MAUREEN CROMAR
BARBARA BURGESS
EILEEN MARLAND

★

1Y — Form Report

In our form we have sixteen girls and ten boys. We have several pianists and also two recorder players. Three of our boys are on the junior football team, and some of our girls have been chosen for the junior netball trials. Five girls are entering for the swimming gala at the Central Baths. There are one or two good acrobats and also a few singers. Our form games captain is Anwyl Casterton and the vice-captain is Dorothy Rainford. We have not yet chosen our form captain but we hope to do so in the coming weeks.

GILLIAN WOOLSTENHULME.

★

2M — Form Report

We have now embarked on a new school year. We have a new form master, Mr. Reeves, and a new form room. We welcomed Olive Shaw into our form this year.

In our form are people interested in various activities. Sandra Hollingworth is our form's star gymnast and Olive Shaw is good at

netball. Kershaw, Mayberry, Wild and Dolan are on the school rugby team.

Veronica Hetherington is our form's pianist and plays in many concerts. Several members of the form are interested in stamp-collecting, and Mayberry and Briggs are collectors of old coins.

PAULINE MATTHEWS.

★

2B — Form Report

Just twelve months ago twenty-seven boys were assembled in Room 4. We are now in Room 5, just across the corridor.

Most of the boys were strangers to one another but now we are one happy form. We were sorry to lose one of our form-members—R. Buckle—who by this time we hope has settled in his new school.

Many activities are pursued by the boys. D. Morris, I am happy to report, has represented the town at swimming. Many of the form play chess, and J. Battersby is on the chess committee. Several of the boys are keen aero-modellers and others take an interest in cycling. T. Walsh was top boy in the half-yearly examination and F. Ogden was top of the final one.

Our form-master is Mr. Handforth.

C. CUNNINGTON.

★

2G — Form Report

2G has had a slight change in its members; unfortunately we have lost Olive Shaw, but we welcome Sylvia Fitzpatrick. We also have to welcome Mrs. Kuler, our new form mistress, who came at the beginning of the term to teach French and German.

Our form has something rather unusual about it; it is the only form of girls in the whole school; all the rest, except 2B, being mixed classes.

We have quite a few sportsgirls in the class, and in the school sports we had someone from every house representing her house in netball and athletics. Our best at netball and long jump is Jean Wright, and the best at high jump and running is Betty Howard. Our star diver is Joan Fogg and our best swimmer Joyce Deane. Some of us hope to get on the junior netball team this year.

Several of our members have joined the girls' choir this term. We are still in the same form room (Room 1) as before; our form captain, as last year, being Jean Wright.

★

3X — Form Report

Our form now consists of 26 children; 13 boys and 13 girls, many of whom were members of last year's 2M, but we have to extend a hearty welcome to 6 girls and 5 boys who were promoted from last year's 2G and 2B respectively. We welcome them with the hope that they will settle down happily quite soon in their new surroundings and add their useful contributions to the activities of our class.

Eight of the girls are members of the school choir and attend for rehearsals regularly after school each Tuesday and Wednesday. Our class is well represented in this winter's sporting events with Norman Buckley, Gary Faulkner, Kenneth Goodwin and Graham Hart, members of the under-fourteen rugby team, and Michael Taylor of the under-fifteen soccer team, whilst Brenda Howarth is a keen netball player, and Mavis Joyce was successful in athletics. Many members of the class take a keen interest in swimming and athletics, representing their respective houses. Christine Brierley, Marlene Turner, Patricia Bayliffe, Barbara Wade, Sandra

Wolstencroft, Neil Thornley, Graham Hart and Harold Jones were our class representatives in the Inter-Secondary Schools' Swimming Gala in October.

Soon after the publication of this magazine the half-yearly examinations will be held, but it is already evident that there will be very keen competition for the top places in the class, James Stone occupying the position of honour at the moment on last year's 2M results.

FRANK LAMB.
SANDRA WOLSTENCROFT.

★

3Y — Form Report

3Y is made up of three forms from the second year. These are 2G, 2B, 2M. Of these, half are boys and half are girls. Our form room is Room 11 and our form mistress is Miss Turbefield.

Recently we have been joined by two new pupils. They are Joan Herd and John Wood. It is to be noted that Wood was swimming champion of Nottingham Schools. Many of our teachers call us a set of slackers, and pirates, rebels and rowdy boys and girls, but others say we are not so bad. We have much fun in Geography and French, but we loathe Maths.

On the sporting side we are represented by:—

Chess: N. H. WRIGHT, N. GODFREY.

Rugby: J. MORTIN, M. GRINDROD, R. HADFIELD, A. SELBY.

Football: We have promising players in our form. Wood is a good centre-half and Mortin a good goalkeeper.

ONE OF THE REBELS.

★

3Z — Form Report

Ours is a small but merry class. It consists of twenty pupils, 11 girls and 9 boys.

The life and soul of our class is Patsy, who is a real comic. Practically every one of us enjoys sports and swimming of some form. There are a few boys in the soccer team, and I hope there will be one or two of the girls representing the school at netball.

Amongst us we have an animal lover (Gordon Mills—nicknamed Nat), a few stamp collectors, and a few cyclists.

Most of the girls are eagerly looking forward to the Christmas Party, and the swimming enthusiasts are looking forward to the House Galas.

I regret not being able to tell you who is top in our form, but as we have had no examinations since we came into 3Z, that will have to wait until next time.

★

4X — Form Report

We feel very honoured in being asked to write for the school magazine.

In our form we have nine boys and twenty girls and our form mistress is Miss Turner. We feel the first thing we ought to do is to welcome the return of Tom Whiteley from New Zealand. We also have a new member in the form from 3Y. We congratulate Ivan Hibbert on taking the first position in the class, in the end-of-term examinations.

Two of our girls, Avis Bolton and Vivien Brooks, sang at the Parents' Meetings, which were held last term.

Many members of our form take part in sports, Jeffrey Lawton being the captain of the 4th year rugby, and Robert Millward captain of the 3rd year rugby. Many of our form, both boys and girls, take part in the swimming galas. The school has hockey and netball teams for girls, whilst there are rugby and football teams for boys. We should like to congratulate any members of our form who have taken a position on any of the teams.

We hope that in the future our form will always try to do its best, both in sport and lessons, as it has done in the past.

JOAN SCHOLEFIELD.
RITA CONROY.

★

4Y — Form Report

On entering 4Y form-room (ignoring the beard-duster which may come flying past your ear and the pump which will probably hit you in the face), your eyes will alight upon 28 grotesque-looking objects each sprawled awkwardly in its desk. Of these, 11 are male and the remaining 17 female, but it is difficult to distinguish any difference. Their countenances will be twisted into hideous contortions, some of them plunged into the intriguing intricacies of a tortuous mathematical problem; others into the splendours and tragedies of hand to hand combat. Firing their weapons with deadly and satanic aim (chalk, rubbers, rulers, text-books, even a desk-lid now and then) across a gory battlefield (the classroom), they make doubtful specimens of deformed childhood. Each of them, however, is an expert in some distorted manner. Even Fisher, whose space-ship is due to land on Mars any day now, the controls being set off accidentally, is a genius in his own right.

Veronica Spencer and Sheila Horrocks were on the town athletic team this year and several girls have represented the school in both netball and hockey.

On the boys' side, Jennings plays for the town soccer team as goalkeeper. He was accidentally discovered when yawning just as the ball was being kicked into the goal-mouth, thus heroically saving the day. Bernard Lyons is another member of this team.

Gloria Tetlow came to stay with us for a little while, making her short presence felt by breaking a window of the form-room door. She has now returned to Middlesex.

The brains of form 4X were recently overpowered in an inter-form netball match by the majority of brawn provided by forms 4Y and 4Z girls.

You may make your exit now, hurried or otherwise (dragged out as a corpse by the feet).

The reader is left to make his own conclusions.

S.S.

★

5X — Form Report

We have been assigned to write about our (boasting now) famous form. Do not turn over after reading the first line because, like some members of our form, we have plenty to talk about. Our first thoughts when we entered Form 5 were of work, and the teachers confirmed them by piling on the homework. The girls cagerly tackled the work but we are still wondering why the boys so often revert to 1st Form habits. We feel quite at home in our form-room now we have put right the wrong and got used to working midst the sweet voices of the school choir and of rag merchants chanting their ever-famous "Any old rags." We will, however, be very sorry when next year we have to leave this pleasant environment and explore the big wide world. Our individual efforts do not amount to much this year for none of the girls has done anything outstanding apart from Mary Mulholland, who has gained her green girdle for being on the school hockey team.

THE SILENT FOUR.

5Y — Form Report

This school year we have the horrible experience of sitting for the School Certificate, and from the first week of the Autumn Term we have worked like Trojans. A few are just concentrating on the subjects at which they are at their best, and others are trying at every subject, with the faint hope that they will just scrape through.

Apart from work there are the sports, and one of our girls, Jean Wolfenden, is on the hockey first XI, and though we have played and lost three matches it is through no fault of hers. We also have a group which plays table tennis in certain dinner-hours, and though they are only amateurs they are very good. Also there are two or three of the boys on the football and rugby teams.

Although we are all working hard, we still manage to be one of the worst forms in the school. We have quite a few famous characters—Murphy, who manages to push his nose in just before assembly each morning, and Lang, who answers all the class questions and secretly hopes that everyone will forget that he has had all this before. Then come the "Terrible Twins"—Eileen Barrow and Barbara Corfield—and with all truthfulness we can say that we have never seen one without the other.

Last, but not least, we have an ex-ballerina and a soloist in the school choir. This person is Norma Timms, and though she is not outstandingly clever at lessons, she is quite good at them.

These, and a few more, constitute Form 5Y and we hope that you have enjoyed our story.

★

VI Literature — Form Report

The Library is much quieter and more peaceful this term. Yes, the Science Section have departed to the laboratories, and all we hear of them now is an occasional explosion.

Curiously enough, there have been no broken windows since they left; not that one would wish to suggest that they caused all the trouble. That should be apparent without any suggestion.

This year there have been additions to our ranks, and we now have a VI Lit. (a) and (b).

Also we have to announce the departure of Joan Wild, last year's scribe, who has left to attend a college.

With the addition of VI(b)—alas, all of the feminine variety—the odds (this may or may not refer to the girls) have risen to fourteen against two, and so Messrs. Brook and Bentley have to tread carefully in order to preserve a whole (and thick) skin. Already they have had to bribe their way out of several sticky situations (nothing to do with the toffees which the girls eat all day) by promising not to tell of set books left unprepared, or homework not done.

Up to press there have been no casualties to report, but we live in high hopes for next year.

C.B.

★

VI Science — Form Report

The Sixth Science have moved to the Physics Laboratory and can now enjoy peace and quiet away from the disturbing influence of the Lit. Section. We now have two sections—a lower and upper Sixth, and we, of greater seniority, welcome the five new members of the Elite of the School. Mr. Pendlebury has been given the honourable, though unenviable, position of form-master to the Science Sixth, and we hope that this does not tax his patience too much.



The term started with a swing with lessons in furniture removal for all the heftier members of the form. With great difficulty we succeeded in transporting a set of lockers (kindly donated by the Geography Dept.) from the top of the stairs to the Physics Lab. A beautifully clean rectangle on the wall indicates the former position of the lockers.

Once this task had been completed, all the Science Sixth vowed to work hard during the term. Perhaps we can take a look at them hard at work in the Chemistry Lab. (making sure, of course, that our gas masks are in position). One member of this noble class is busily engaged in bending delivery tubes out of solid glass rods and boring holes of varying dimensions in a large number of corks. He is easily recognisable by the vast number of books sticking out of his pocket. These include: (a) a German dictionary, (b) "How to Play Table Tennis," (c) "Speeches for Socialists" and (d) "The Easy Way to Learn Dancing." Another member, disguised as a Southport bus conductor, strides with dignity(?) about the laboratory, knocking over any stools or acid bottles which dare to lie in his path. Yet another is making an alarming noise by manipulating a certain tap, while the only female member of the Upper Sixth Science just sits and allows the others to do all the work. This they do with a will, although some of their results are not too accurate (for example, percentage of iron in iron wire = 104).

The cork-borer and delivery tube-bender is at the ready to run for the fire-extinguisher, which he has vowed he will use even if he has to start a fire himself.

Meanwhile, the Lower Sixth are doing analysis, while the master (he of the large moustache) instructs them not to assume that a white powder which turns blue on addition of water is copper sulphate until they have performed at least seventeen confirmatory tests. But now the smell of hydrogen sulphide becomes too much, and we must beat a hurried retreat.

At the end of last term we had a film show, and two of our company, the operators, showed us an interesting film entitled

"THE END"

In conclusion, we have good news to offer the rest of the school. The Upper Sixth are now studying aromatic compounds; so the smell in the lab. will be much more pleasant in future.

D.E.

Speech-making Contest

At the end of the summer term Mr. Higson organised a speech-making contest for members of the Fifth and Sixth Forms. The Junior Chamber of Commerce gave a first prize of one guinea and Mr. Higson gave a second prize of a half-guinea.

The Fifth and Six Forms assembled in the Upper Hall to hear the speakers introduced by Mr. Higson and judged by the Rev. G. M. Wylie and the Deputy Director of Education, Mr. Wilson.

Of the five speakers, Frank McCandlish spoke on "Early School Leavers," Alan Holt on "The Prestige of B.R.M. Cars," Fred Brook on "The Conquest of Everest," Joan Wild on "The Theatre," and Elizabeth Grainger on "The City of Chester."

The judges, after due deliberation, announced that Fred Brook and Joan Wild had been the successful competitors, and they gave some helpful advice to would-be competitors, at the same time mentioning that an excellent start had been made to a series of Speech-making Contests.

★

A visit to the Textiles Recorder Exhibition

I think the most impressive thing about exhibitions of this sort is the noise, and certainly this year's Textiles Recorder Exhibition, held in the Exhibition Hall at Belle Vue, lacked none of this. It was quite a large exhibition occupying the whole of the very large hall and almost every type of textile machine seemed to be on show, although there were no spinning mules. These machines came from many countries, Germany and Switzerland being two of the most prominent.

The chief offenders in making a noise were the looms, and these machines always seemed to have a surrounding crowd. They were all of the automatic type, the shuttle being reloaded by the machine. Most of them were weaving intricate patterns, the shape being determined by a control band. These control bands were of two types, the continuous fibre belt type with holes in, and the continuous lattice type with pegs. The holes on the former allowed pegs to drop into them, whilst the pegs on the latter actuated small tumblers. The final effect was the same, of course. Those people who visited the exhibition in 1949 would almost certainly be impressed by the Platt Bros. carpet loom. This, however, was not on view this time, but there was a very sturdy-looking carpet loom turning plain carpet off at an amazing rate.

There was a magnificent carding machine in the Textile Machinery Manufacturers' display, and it had, incidentally, a traversing creel which is quite a new thing.

I think the prize for speed should be given to an up-twister spinning nylon. The spindles on this machine were revolving at twenty thousand r.p.m. Winding frames were represented by a very peculiar piece of machinery. Instead of your going to the machine, the machine comes to you, for the cones revolve around a sort of flattened ellipse. As each bobbin arrives at the "control centre" it is discarded and a new one automatically put in by a magazine, which the operator is continually filling. Although the "ends" are not supposed to break, whilst we were viewing the machine they sometimes did. We must emphasise, however, that the machine was not a full-size version, and this may have contributed to this defect.

The dyeing department was well attended, too. Here there was a large machine called a molten metal dyeing machine, and in view of its name, we studied it with care. The metal temperature was around 50°C and the metal was "Glauber's metal," probably one of those low melting ones.

Anyway, the cloth came out unscorched, so it could not have been very hot inside. It did come out beautifully dyed, however, and the machine certainly merits its name.

As in all exhibitions, the finished products of the manufacturers were not the only exhibits and around the sides of the hall many firms exhibited their inconspicuous but very important wares. Among the more interesting of these was a dynamically balanced beam made from elektron, and an infinitely variable gear, which was said to be quite positive. Owing to oil being splashed up onto the inspection panel, however, I was unable to discover how this worked.

I do not know whether I dare report the last item as it is more appropriate in the electronics section, but being primarily a scientist and not an engineer, I was naturally drawn by the electric motors, and the remarkable thing about these was that they were in section, and yet running under their own power.

A. HOLT, VIa Science.

★

A visit to the Electronics Exhibition at the School of Technology, Manchester

As a special treat, the members of the Sixth Form were allowed at the end of last term to accompany the 5th on their visit to the Electronics Exhibition at Manchester's School of Technology.

The exhibition proved very instructive and entertaining, whilst the journey to the exhibition was rather amusing. The plan was to leave Clegg Street Station for Manchester on the 8.50 train, and the plan seemed to be going well until on alighting from the train at Victoria Station we discovered that two of the staff had mysteriously missed the train, despite being in the station when the train left. This entailed a wait on Victoria Station until they arrived by bus, as they were the holders of all the tickets. Once out of the station we proceeded to the School of Technology where we met Mr. Pendlebury before going into the exhibition. Once inside, we disbanded, each person seeing as much as he could in the allotted time.

The exhibition was divided mainly into two large halls, and several small rooms, the layout being depicted in a very excellent catalogue which was available. I attempted to see the exhibition by going around in a set plan, starting off with the room demonstrating tape recorders. These remarkable machines give amazing clarity, and play for very long periods and, if that is not enough, the tape can be used several times. From this room I moved to the large hall where I saw, amongst other things, the extra-corporeal heart and lung equipment. This machine, although as yet only tried on dogs, will do the duties of the heart and lungs during operations connected with these organs. It consists briefly of two pumps, one for venous and one for arterial blood, pumping blood to and from a large revolving plastic drum, in which the blood is oxygenated. Just to the left of this machine was a metal detector, a machine which rejects any objects containing metal which may be put into it. Time base generators, Avometers and radio valves were in abundance, but not dynamic balancers. In fact, I saw only one, which was engaged in dynamically balancing a small armature. I then moved to the other hall which featured among other things a table model electron microscope and a gadget explaining simply how colour TV works.

There was also a large piece of apparatus which had a button labelled "Press to Start." I did as I was told, only to find that there was no "Press to Stop" button. After watching anxiously for about two minutes, however, I was relieved to see it stop of its own accord. It was, incidentally, a gadget to show the effect of wiring capacitors into a power circuit.

A film show was given in Reynold's Hall prior to a lecture on discharge tubes in the lecture room. Both were very instructive. There were several films mainly animated and showing the fundamental electrical

principles, but one very good film traced the life of a television valve through the Mullard works. The lecture was particularly good. It was given in language which everyone could understand, and it began with the very first principles of discharge tubes, and finished with descriptions of more elaborate trigger valves, etc., which were further explained by demonstrations.

After the film show and lecture, I meandered round, inspecting the X-ray apparatus en route, and at about 3.30 made my way back to Victoria Station where we were due to meet and return home.

A.H., VIa Sc.

★

Fifth Form Outing to Ingleton and District

For most members of the Fifth Form, Tuesday, April 7th, 1953, is a day to be remembered. At eight o'clock we left Oldham Market Place by motor coach, bound for Ingleton. The weather was perfect, with ideal conditions which lasted all day—to the obvious delight of Mr. Wells, who had arranged the outing.

But for a half hour spent in Settle, we went uninterruptedly on our way to Clapham, which we reached at 10.30 a.m. From here we went by foot through the heavily wooded Ingleborough estate, passing by the lake and Clapham Cave into Trow Ghyll. We left this gorge by a rocky staircase and emerged on the open moors. After walking through half a mile of marshy ground we came to Gaping Ghyll, the largest pot-hole in the British Isles, which is 1,350 feet above sea level. We rested here for a while, admiring the views, and then commenced the climb up the shoulder of Ingleborough, pausing many times to point out landmarks and admire new vistas. We finally reached the summit, 2,250 feet above sea level, and ate our lunch, looking over the extensive countryside below which included a glimpse of Morecambe Bay. Owing to the altitude, however, it was very cold, so we began the steep descent without delay.

About two miles from the summit we came to Weathercote Cave, where we saw a waterfall in a pot-hole, and when we reached the road we found the coach waiting, which took us to White Scar Cave. The stalactites, stalagmites, limestone formations and waterfall were pointed out to us by a guide, at the cave, and he explained that some of the stalagmites were known by names, for example, "The Mother and Child," "Father Christmas," and "The Buddha." The time was then 4.0 p.m. and we made for Ingleton, some of the party going on foot in order to see, en route, the many waterfalls which included Thornton Force, and the remainder travelling by coach. The waterfall, pouring from its limestone ledge, was a magnificent sight, and had attracted visitors other than our party. From there we continued on our way to Ingleton along a winding path, through a steep-sided, beautifully wooded valley, in which we saw many smaller cascades. At 5.30 p.m. we reached our destination and were ready for our teas, which were obtained in the many cafes. We remained in the village until 7.30 p.m. and then left for Oldham, with a short stay at Gisburn on the way.

The journey back took three hours, and on our arrival in Oldham we felt that we had had a most enjoyable day, thanks to the district, the weather and, of course, Mr. Wells.

BRENDA TAYLOR.
SHIRLEY GIBSON.

The Third Year Trip to Stratford-on-Avon

On the morning of June 3rd, the Third Year, after assembling on West Street site at 8.0 a.m., set off for Lichfield, where we stopped for half an hour. Some of us made our way to the cathedral. The cathedral takes its name from St. Chad, the first bishop of Mercia, who had his see at Lichfield. The one thing which I wanted to see was the tomb of the "sleeping children." The altar itself is a very fine work of art. After we left the cathedral we set off for Stratford, passing Warwick Castle. We also passed Arden forest which was a sign that we were not far from Shakespeare's native town.

The red building of the theatre was the first sight that greeted us. As we scrambled out of the coach, Mildred and I made our way in the direction of Shakespeare's birthplace. We paid sixpence for admission and visited each room. In one room was a small hole in the wall which, the guide said, according to legend was a hole through which members of the family could hold a conversation with their neighbour, which I admit is much more convenient than going into one another's houses. In the Elizabethan age one wrote one's signature with a diamond on the window pane, and there is the signature of Shakespeare's leading lady, after she had visited the house. After visiting the birthplace we went to the theatre. As we were not able to enter we contented ourselves by wandering round its grounds and peeping through the windows. We also saw the four bronzes of Falstaff, Hamlet and two other of Shakespeare's characters. Mr. Wells then took us to Shottery to see Anne Hathaway's cottage which is a spot frequented by American tourists. We saw the old settle which is said to have held William and Anne while he was doing his "courting." At the foot of her bed is an old box in which Anne Hathaway placed her Bible each night. Before we left the cottage we signed the visitors' book. After having seen the cottage we left Shottery and returned to Stratford and picked up the remainder of our party and then went to Coventry for tea. We left Coventry at 7.30 p.m. After an exciting and tiring day we returned to Oldham at 12.30 a.m.

JOAN SCHOLEFIELD, 4X.

★

Trip to Ireland

The school camp was in Ireland this year, in the charge of Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Handforth and Mr. Wild. We left Oldham two hours late and, making a quick journey, arrived at Liverpool in time. Travelling by boat on the "Munster," which was quite big, was new to us.

We arrived, after a calm sea passage, in Dublin early the next morning. After walking to the station where we had to wait about half an hour, we travelled by diesel to Skerries Station. The camp was half a mile from the station.

The camp consisted of fifteen tents, four being big marquees. There was a rustic archway leading to the dining hall, with shop, kitchen and camp office.

Meals were extremely good with an ample supply of everything, including butter. It was a mixed camp consisting of four schools, which made two sittings for meals. Each school had fatigues which were washing up, serving, cleaning and scrubbing.

Sleeping was rather cramped and earwigs were frequent visitors. Our school had two of the large tents. The sea was 100 yards away, being very cold at that time. The cinema was frequently visited as well as the amusement arcades.

There were enough grounds on the camp for playing cricket, football and rugby, as well as the camp's special game, non-stop cricket. We visited Dublin three times. On the second visit we travelled by coach there. This coach also took us to the Guinness factory where we were conducted around by a guide. Everybody wanted to try the free samples, but we were not allowed to have any. Then we travelled to the zoo, which was well equipped for animals. (We nearly left some of our party in the monkey house). Photographs were taken with Sarah, a well-trained elephant. We also visited Dublin Airport and then wandered about round the centre of the town.

Towards the latter end of our stay various competitions and events took place in the camp. Prizes were awarded for the neatest bed in the camp, a fancy dress competition, a table tennis competition, and a talent competition. One of our party, Jeffrey Lawton, obtained second prize in the talent competition for his singing, and also he won the table tennis competition.

On the rainy, thundery day that we left, the prizes for the competitions were distributed. This was typical of the weather that we had had that week. Leaving the camp, we travelled by train to Dublin where we had a short stay.

Our journey home by boat was rough, however, but we had got over the novelty of sailing and some of the party slept during the journey. We had our breakfast in Liverpool and after a short stay there we returned to Oldham by coach.

Everyone arrived home safely on the Wednesday dinnertime, happy but penniless after a very enjoyable holiday.

★

Over Helvellyn

On May 10th, several members of the school joined a party led by Mr. Wells, on a day's visit to the Lake District, including an ascent of Helvellyn, one of the highest peaks. Members of the school present were Herr Baldauf, James Marsh, John Wareham and Fred Brook.

We set off at eight o'clock on a rather dull morning and travelled north through Rochdale and over the Belmont to Preston. By the time we reached Kendal the sun had broken through, but it rapidly disappeared as we reached Windermere, where a halt was called for coffee and to eat our lunch. We arrived in Grasmere about half an hour later and then divided into our parties. The first one was to do a short stroll along the shores of Grasmere and over Red Bank and thence into Grasmere village. The second, consisting mainly of older people, was to look around the village, then join the first party and go on a tour via Keswick to Patterdale. The third and fourth parties were to climb up Great Tongue, a large spur, till they reached Grisedale Tarn, where the third party was to cross the saddle and descend the long valley into Patterdale, whilst the fourth party, to which I belonged, was to climb Helvellyn.

We left the third party at Grisedale Tarn and proceeded up the steep side of Dolly Waggon Pike to the plateau of Helvellyn, some 1,000 feet above us. We attained the plateau after a stiff climb, and then there remained only a gradual incline to just below the summit. Here we stopped above a great corrie, the walls of which dropped sheer some 600 feet below us, and gazed across at the knife-like ridge of Striding Edge, which we must traverse to reach Patterdale. After a rest, we climbed to the summit, where we rested before making the descent. As a summit, Helvellyn is not spectacular, but the view around is magnificent, and the clouds fortunately breaking enabled us to see the surrounding peaks and look down on Thirlmere, some 2,000 feet below us.

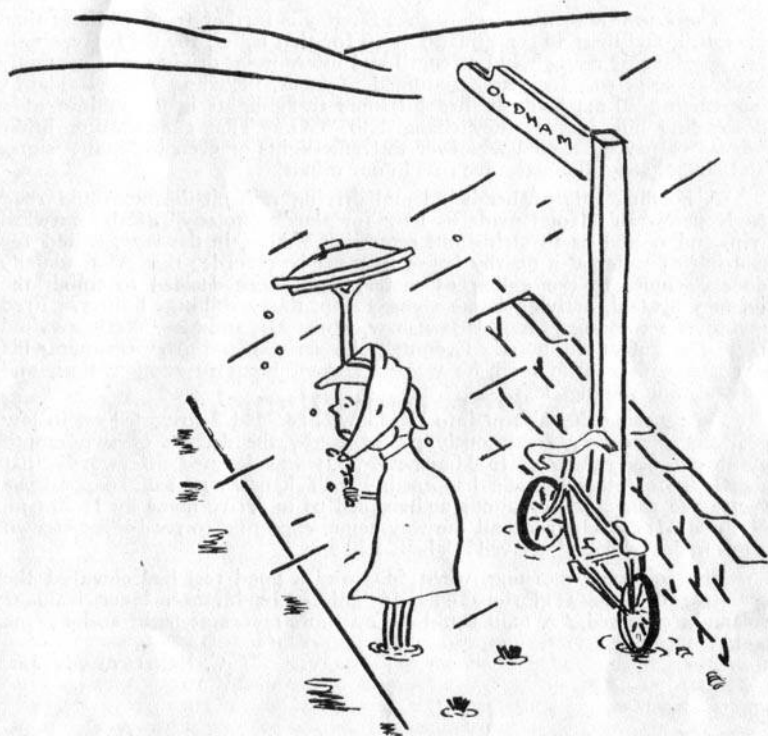
Next, we had to do a rather tricky scramble of about 100 feet to Striding Edge, which we reached without mishap. The Edge itself is very

spectacular. Walking along it is rather like walking along a pavement, or to give you a better idea, a table-top. But if you step off a pavement you land in the roadway, whereas if you step off Striding Edge you fall either some 500 feet into Red Tarn on one side, or some 600 feet into the corrie on the other side.

However, we traversed Striding Edge, after which there was only a long descent into Grisedale Valley and finally into Patterdale. Here we had a meal, and then met the coaches which had come from Grasmere. Then we went over the high Kirkstone Pass into Windermere and so back home to Oldham.

F. BROOK, VIa Lit.

★



F. B.

In Search of "Wuthering Heights"

Towards the close of Herr Baldauf's visit to Oldham, as assistant German teacher, he expressed a keen desire to cycle to the village of Haworth to explore the district frequented by the Brontes, especially the parsonage, and the house, "Withins," said to have inspired the idea of "Wuthering Heights."

A cycle, or at least, the nearest thing to one, was very kindly lent to him by Dennis Elwell, with the assurance that "it has a good brake, anyway," and Mr. and Mrs. Wells joined the party, thus solving the map difficulty. Sunday dawned with brilliant sunshine, and the party, Mr. and Mrs. Wells on their tandem, Fred Brook, Alan Holt and myself, on what might loosely be termed cycles, met to await the arrival of Herr Baldauf.

His delay, so he explained, was due to having to go slowly on account of the brake. We assured him that this was nonsense; the brake had an

infallible guarantee, that of the owner, but no-one accepted Herr Baldauf's offer to try it out.

We soon reached Haworth, by way of Hollingworth Lake, Littleborough, Todmorden, Hebden Bridge and over Oxenhope Moor, and had a meal, after which we explored the museum at the parsonage. "Withins" lay several miles away and after cycling part of the way and trudging up hill and down dale, we arrived only to find it a very derelict building.

Disappointed, we returned to Haworth, had tea, and about 5.30 p.m. commenced the return journey by way of another route, a Great Circle route, suggested by Mr. Wells, to keep the outing from becoming monotonous, passing through Keighley, Bingley, Brighouse, Outlane and Denshaw; and soon afterwards, intermittent rain began to fall.

There are those who declare that Bingley is farther from Oldham than Haworth, and there is some justification for that belief, for the increasingly bad weather of rising wind strength and intermittent driving rain certainly made it seem so. Incidents continued to occur, including Herr Baldauf's hair-raising 20 m.p.h. dash through some traffic-lights in the middle of a descending hill, just as they changed to "GO." That exasperating brake seemed to pay no regard whatever to traffic-lights or even to "Halt" signs, and doubts about its guarantee rose in our minds.

A howling gale of headwind and driving rain on the moorland road to Nont Sarah's Hotel made us long for the "monotony" of the outward trip, and caused us to string out somewhat. Alan, in the rear, called for a drink of water at a nearby house (it must be recorded that Alan usually does 20 miles to the gallon of water), and there decided to finish the journey by taxi, arriving home about 1 a.m. thirty shillings lighter. Fred and myself continued towards Denshaw, whilst Mr. and Mrs. Wells awaited Herr Baldauf at the hotel. Eventually he arrived, and after restoring his strength with a little food, he was packed off home in another taxi, and arrived nine shillings less.

On reaching the descent into Denshaw, Fred and I struggled on in low gear but were very fortuitously picked up by the drivers of two empty motor-coaches returning to Manchester. It was learned afterwards that shortly before this miracle happened, Fred's handlebars had snapped, so the rescue was most fortuitous and enabled us to arrive home by 11.30 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Wells rode all the way home, expecting to see bodies strewn all over the road, and arrived at about 1.30 a.m.

The following morning, when food and a good rest had elevated the near-tragedy into a glorious epic of bull-dog endurance, Herr Baldauf solemnly observed, "A man could die on those moors at night and no-one would know."

C. BENTLEY, VIa Lit.

★

Our School

What is it that captures your heart in a school,
With its high wooden desk and its strap and its rule.
The stern-faced headmaster with text book in hand,
Or the feeling of knowledge so great and so grand.
The blazer, the hat which you wear with some pride,
The way you have laughed, the way you have sighed.
The homework which bores you, and makes you feel mad,
When you've had mathematics and had to ask dad.
Or is it the feeling of friendship so rare,
Which makes you feel happy when life's hard to bear.
The sad times, the bright times, the kind and the cruel,
All these go together to make it our school.

RITA CONROY, 4X.

Exciting Finish

(With apologies to Newbolt)

There's a breathless hush on the field today
One to make and the match to win,
Two first year men, untried before,
Resist both Ashton's speed and spin.
The third year men, afraid to look,
Hide themselves in the dressing room.
Kershaw makes the winning stroke,
A mighty roar sounds Ashton's door.

★

Late for School

Ten to nine says our clock
And off to school I must trot.
When I get halfway down the row
I still have quite a way to go.

When I get near the school gate
I hear no shouts and guess I'm late.
I try to hurry through the yard
But with my schoolbag it's awful hard.

When I get in the hall, I see
A prefect waiting there for me.
She puts my name down in a book
For all the staff to have a look.

Each day I'll try to do better, I say,
And will not linger on the way.
Early for once, but I've forgotten my pen,
Oh, dear! I think I'm late again.

VALERIE JONES.
JACQUELINE GARTSIDE.
(12).

★

An Agricultural Show

Recently we visited one of those cheerful gatherings known as an Agricultural Show. The day was fine and warm, the birds sang merrily, and a faint breeze whispered amongst the trees. Slowly, and in the best of spirits, we wended our way through picturesque (though inconspicuous) little villages till at last we neared our destination.

On approaching the show we heard the shrill whinney of a horse, followed by the grunt of a pig. Within a few minutes we had paid the entrance fee and, on discovering that the parade of prize-winning cattle was about to take place, found a good viewpoint and waited.

Round and round the ring they marched—cows, bulls, pigs and calves, a truly magnificent sight on that fine summer's day. At the end of the "procession" were some little calves which won a round of applause all to themselves. Once this had finished the ring was cleared so that the stands could be put up for the horse-jumping. Whilst this was going on we discovered, in another part of the field, a dog show just about to begin. All sorts and sizes of dogs were there, ranging from Golden Labradors basking in the sunshine, to fluffy little "pekes" busily preening themselves. After the dog show we watched the horse-jumping.

My last impressions of the show were of the many different animal sounds—of the horses, cattle and the dogs. So ended my first, and I hope not my last, visit to a country agricultural show.

JUDITH STOTT, 2M.

The Highway Tramp

As I walked along the Highway,
A tramp, nowhere to go,
Came walking down the pathway,
His step so weary and slow.
And as we stopped by the wayside
To rest and chat for a while,
I saw his old eyes wander
To the green hedge and the stile,
And he said to me in a whisper :
I could sit here all the day
And listen to the birds that sing,
And watch them all at play ;
But I must be on my travels,
Once more to roam the way,
Yet I'll never forget our meeting,
On the Great Highway.

SYLVIA HIBBERSON, 2M.

★

The Months of the Year

In January, snowflakes fall,
Upon the roofs and chimneys tall.
February is dull and damp
And through the rain we have to tramp.
Bluff, jolly March brings winds and gales,
That whistle and whirl o'er hills and dales.
April brings sunshine and showers,
To prepare the way for sweet May flowers.
The birds' sweet songs fill the air,
And fair May Queens their crowns do wear.
Comes June, that brings us much delight,
With bright sunshine and Midsummer Night.
July brings holidays and fun,
And o'er the yellow sands we run.
August starts the harvesting,
Give thanks to God for everything.
September brings Summer's close,
October comes next as everyone knows.
From the trees leaves tumble down,
And change their coats from green to brown.
November is the month of fogs,
And bonfires burn Guy Fawkes and logs.
December rings with bells and cheer,
Bringing Heaven and Earth so near,
With peace, goodwill, our hearts do blend,
This special month is the year's glad end.

MARGARET HALLETT, 1Y.

★

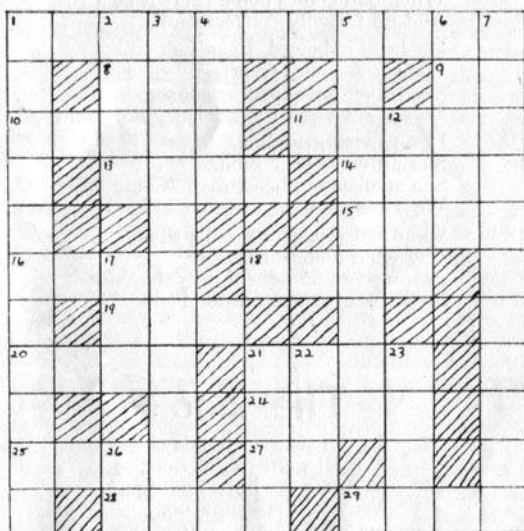
Autumn Reigns

As I wandered down a country lane one morning in Autumn, the beauty around me awakened me from my day-dreams. The leaves were turning colour, and it seemed as if all the beauty Nature had was revealing itself before the sad, dark days of Winter. The leaves fell whirling to the ground, seeming to make a carpet for all kingly subjects to walk on. Through the trees the sunbeams danced, throwing dappled pools of light on Nature's royal carpet.

In the fields beyond the lane, crops were being harvested. The golden corn swayed in the gentle breeze and the feeling of everlasting peace reigned over Nature's vast kingdom.

DORIS HARRISON, 2M.

Crossword



CLUES.

ACROSS.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Lo! Mine crest to discern height (11). | 18. Can one keep pace with this town? (4). |
| 8. Not much good (3). | 19. A mad blockage? (3). |
| 9. Headgear beheaded (2). | 20. A noisy trio (4). |
| 10. Often goes with variations in a musical sense (5). | 21. Much can be found in prow or keel (4). |
| 11. Girl's name (5). | 24. May cause a tear (4). |
| 13. Melodies (4). | 25. He that hath . . . to hear, let him hear (4). |
| 14. Cromwell was old this (4). | 27. That is (abb.) (2). |
| 15. Place in Southern U.S.A. perhaps (4). | 28. French state in a famous gallery (4). |
| 16. Small weight (4). | 29. Anthropoid peas? (4). |

DOWN.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Hay harvest? (3, 3, 5). | 12. A rake, but not for garden-
ing (4). |
| 2. Notion (4). | 17. Much . . . about nothing (3). |
| 3. Is he worth his coin? (11). | 21. Legal document (4). |
| 4. German river (4). | 22. Muddled . . . and flannelled
fool (Kipling) (3). |
| 5. A means of moving from
place to place (9). | 23. Most castles had one (4). |
| 6. Part of a fence (5). | 26. A corps in the space (abb.) (2). |
| 7. Cavernous growth (11). | |

★

My School Report

You may wonder why I'm ill at ease,
And feeling out of sorts.
This is the day when through the post
Will come our school reports.

Yes, as I thought, it's none too good;
 It says, "Lack of concentration!"
 When dad comes home there'll be a row
 And no friendly conversation.
 My head is bowed, I can't sit still;
 I dare not make retorts.
 My father says he'd be ashamed
 To get such bad reports!
 I go to visit grandma,
 She's always very kind.
 She strokes my head, says "Come upstairs,
 We'll see what we can find."
 Some old reports of dad's she finds,
 And what a consolation.
 Amongst the milder things they say
 Is "Lack of concentration!"

GORDON MILLS, 3Z.

★

The Zoo

In the summer holidays
 We all went to the Zoo;
 We saw the lions and tigers,
 We saw the kangaroo.
 We watched the jolly monkeys,
 We fed the polar bear;
 We saw the funny penguins
 Waddling here and there.
 We rode upon the elephant,
 We saw the panda, too;
 I think the nicest treat I know
 Is going to the Zoo!

PATRICIA CASSIDY, 1X.

★

Riddle-Me-Rees

(i)

My first is in shoe but not in sandal,
 My second is in knob but not in handle,
 My third is in home but not in house,
 My fourth is in mice and also in mouse,
 My fifth is in weak but not in strong,
 My sixth is in short and also in long,
 My seventh is in river and also in stream,
 My last is in milk but not in cream.

MARGARET MILLS, 1Y.

(ii)

My first is in thought but not in think,
 My second is in water but not in ink,
 My third is in eagle but not in hawk,
 My fourth is in whisper but not in talk,
 My fifth is in needle but not in thread,
 My sixth is in white but not in red,
 My seventh is in mountain and also in hill,
 My eighth is in gallon and also in gill,
 My ninth is in kilt but not in shirt,
 My whole is a place where we all go to work.

ALAN KERSHAW.

On having a cold

Suddenly, that heavy, sodden feeling comes on, nasal passages clog up, and the next thing we know is "two days off school with an acute cold."

All night can be heard the croakings and snortings of a person with a cold gently sleeping, and an occasional whistle when some air penetrates through the nose. Next morning, under the pressure of hot water bottles and whisky, the whole thing blossoms into a ripe cold, plus a glowing red nose. Meditatively one thinks that Mr. Crookes' Halibut Oil Capsules are really a fraud and do not prevent one from getting a cold, and that prescribed dosing of vitamin pills was really all in vain.

Now this stage is reached some attempted diversion is advised. Ah, yes! Catch up with that book we are supposed to be reading at school. A few yells downstairs and the required article is brought up, with many entreaties of "Now keep your arms under cover. Don't get more cold." Peace at last, the page found, a comfortable position in bed and reading commences. But suddenly a tickle is felt in the nose, eyes run, printing blurs and one's whole internal mechanism revs up. Ears go deaf, breath is held in anticipation of the happening, facial contortions develop and then it happens. A few quivers of the upper lip and the whole operation culminates in the production of that inevitable part of the cold—the sneeze. This is generally repeated several times, rocking the whole of the body in the process. Then finally operations cease and one again becomes subdued and attempts to read continue. But after many such efforts to read, one finally gives it up and resigns oneself to a life of blissful nose blowing and attempted sleep. Finally oblivion comes, and for a few hours rest is attained.

But the worst has yet to come. One awakens to find the throat parched, swollen with breathing through the mouth, and every time one swallows it feels like the swallowing of one's tonsils. But soon that painlessly passes away (if *you* haven't done so in the meantime) and now your cold feels a little better. After that harrowing experience a friend calls from school with the happy and cheering news: "We have done absolutely piles of history notes today, and you had better copy them up quickly because we are having a test next week on all this term's work." On which you promptly succumb to another sneezing fit.

B.G., VIa Lit.

★

Vis Comica II

Of all the poems in the magazine
There's one which really is supreme,
This poem is called Vis Comica II
If you don't believe me read it through.
Last year I wrote Vis Comica I
And Fred said "Yes, well, from now on
Each year you can write one of these rhymes
It matters not how many lines
Because the public flock to read
The poems of this, our superb breed."
So I shall write one every year,
Let me make this point quite clear.
Because—when I am ninety-two
The committee will say "O let it through,
We owe a lot to this 'ere chap
He really put us on the map."
They might even all give me a cheer
But, I see my golden trumpet's here.

PARCE, PARCE, PRECOR.

Ode to a Haircut

Still, it lies on the barber's floor,
Hair, that is to grow no more,
That feels no more the touch of comb,
Hair I brought with me, but couldn't take home.

"Cut it close," I said to him,
Alas! It was my fate.
"Snip, Snip," his scissors went,
Alas! It was too late.

I cried "My head; what have you done?"
He looked at me and smiled.
"I've cut it close, just as you said :
You told me to, my child."

"But not as close as this," I said
As I felt the surface of my head,
Which was hard and prickly to the touch.
"You haven't left me very much."

And so I came by bicycle
Up to school next day,
And the children stopped and stared at me
As they were at their play.

"Baldy," they cried with shouts of glee.
"Convict," others said.
And thus they tease poor little me.
Does anyone want my head?

ANON.

★

The Thing

I viewed the thing with deep misgivings. The thing in question was a battered high-powered Morgan of doubtful vintage. Doubtless it would have been the latest model twenty-five years ago.

I began to regret that I had ever agreed to accompany Percy Carrington on his first ride in his newly-bought bus. Percy, only holding a learner's licence, needed someone with a current licence, though why he should have picked on me I don't know. Anyway, the point was, I had agreed to go and now I should have to suffer for my folly.

I had just reached this point in my gloom when I spied Percy galloping down the garden path. Admittedly it took me several minutes to recognise Percy since he was dressed up like an Eskimo, but his long red nose finally betrayed him.

"What oh! Are we ready?" he trumpeted, yanking on the door handle with such vicious effect that it fell off.

I groaned inwardly, and opened the door delicately, taking care not to cut myself on the jagged edge.

I settled myself and then discovered I had a lovely view of a patch of blue sky.

"It's all right," Percy yelled. "It's got good springs. I borrowed your seat because mine wasn't big enough."

I distrusted the springs intensely, but there was nothing I could do about it.

A peculiar sound now began to intrude itself on my ears, resembling in my imagination the last sounds of a dying pig.

Then I realised Percy was attempting to start the engine. At last he managed to get it going, and we set off like a bomb; very much like a bomb, the smoke effects being particularly realistic.

With the ear-shattering roar in my ear drums, I grew quite excited

watching the speedometer gyrate wildly from 20 to 80 m.p.h. and occupied myself by working out the average speed.

I was just looking up watching the swoopings of what looked like vultures waiting for pickings, when a bulky object flashed across my range of vision, missing Percy by about six inches. I peered over the side of the car and discovered it was one of the front headlamps which had been shaken off by the bumpings.

I glanced upward at Percy. His confidence looked a little shaken but nevertheless he kept on. I admired him for it.

Abruptly the hood shot up next, smothering him. Frantically I heaved on the hand brake and brought the car to a shuddering halt in twenty yards. A pungent smell of burning rubber crept in on the car.

Freeing himself from the folds of the hood, Percy attempted to put it back in place, the supports being unusually stubborn. He succeeded only in enmeshing himself further in it.

Evidently tiring of ever getting it back in place, he threw it over the back of the car, on to the pavement.

Red in the face now through his exertions, and short-tempered, he leapt into the car.

In some ingenious way, he managed to get his foot entangled in the steering wheel. Furiouly he struggled to free it, and finished by jerking off the steering wheel completely.

Jamming it back on, he settled himself in the seat, the gear stick somehow disappearing up his trouser leg. Starting the engine, he finished the manoeuvre by making a snappy gear change with the brake lever and banged his foot on the accelerator. The result of this evolution was that the radiator shot off, coming down with a crash on poor Percy's head.

At last we set off again, and eventually came to some traffic lights. I could tell we were in the centre of a town from the loud and numerous blarings of motor horns round the car.

"Watch me go through these lights at red," he boasted. "Hey, you can't do that," I yelled, quaking.

But before I could stop him the car had shot forward, bringing my head up with a crash against the back panel.

Mercifully I was oblivious of the chaos going on all around me. When I came to, we were out in the country again, Percy looking rather the worse for wear, and with a hunted expression on his face.

The end had to come some time, and after rounding a corner going much too fast for safety, we hit a great stout wooden door, that opened into a country house drive, with a crash that sounded like a young atom bomb going off.

The door was hardly marked, however, and as we were sorting ourselves from the remains of the car, an old gentleman opened the door and enquired politely, "Did you knock, Sirs?"

I.S.

★

Solution to Crossword

ACROSS.

1, Clinometers; 8, Dud; 9, At; 10, Theme; 11, Maria; 13, Airs; 14, Noll; 15, Susa; 16, Dram; 18, Cape; 19, Dam; 20, Riot; 21, Work; 24, Rate; 25, Ears; 27, I.E.; 28, Etat; 29, Apes.

DOWN.

1, Cut and dried; 2, Idea; 3, Numismatist; 4, Oder; 5, Transport; 6, Rails; 7, Stalactites; 12, Roue; 17, Ado; 21, Writ; 22, Oaf; 23, Keep; 26, R.E.

★

Answers to Riddle-Me-Rees

(i) HOMEWORK.

(ii) GREENHILL.

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