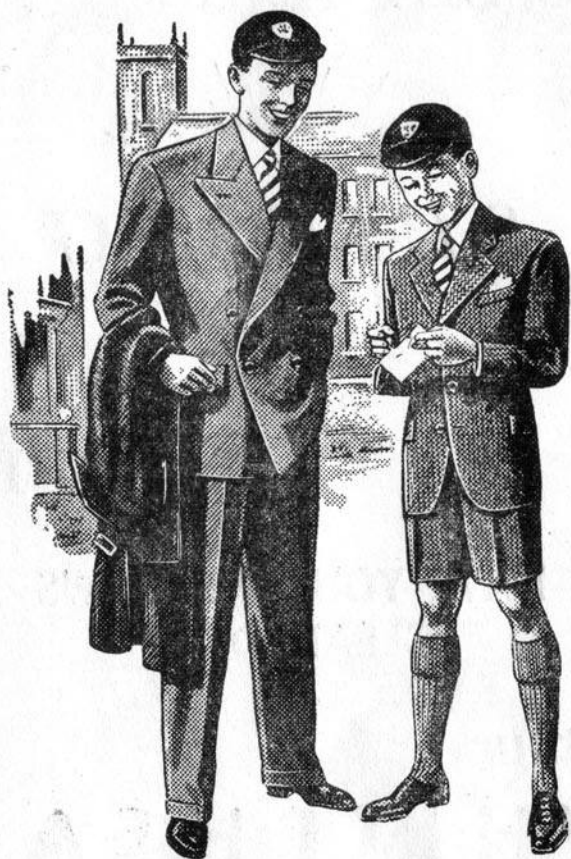




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THE GREENHILLIAN

★

The Magazine of
GREENHILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL
OLDHAM



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PATRICIA M. GREENALL

★

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ANGUS TAYLOR

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J. FISHER
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JOAN SCHOLEFIELD
MARGARET J. SEVILLE

No. 3

December, 1954

Editorial

Although this is but the third edition of the "Greenhillian," the school itself is considerably older than this. We have, in fact, with the commencement of this term, completed one "life cycle" of seven years, the first pupils in the school having passed from the first form to the Upper Sixth.

This does not by any standards make us an ancient institution but we are beginning to feel established. We have savoured the triumph of our first State Scholarship, and the first University entrants from Greenhill have started their courses, and we hope to publish letters from them in future issues of the magazine.

We had hoped for rather more contributions than we have received especially from the Middle and Upper School. This is, as a notable school personality remarked recently, "your magazine" and I appeal to you to help to make it a success in the future.

Although the name "Greenhillian" has served us well in the past we feel that it could possibly be improved, and think that you may help us in this respect. It is hoped soon to arrange to receive your suggestions.

For better or worse, "Greenhillian" will adorn the cover of this third edition, and so on behalf of the Committee, may I say—step this way ladies and gentlemen, for here we present for (I hope) your pleasure, the latest issue of your magazine!

★

School Notes

To start on a note (forgive the pun) of welcome we were pleased to receive into our midst, at the beginning of the term, two new members of staff, Mr. Tempest and Mr. Evans. We hope that their stay at the school will be a long and happy one.

We were sorry to see Mr. Batchelor and Mr. Nicholls, and, earlier in the year, Mr. Farrar, leave us, but we join in wishing all of them success in their new posts.

Congratulations are offered to Mr. Sedgley on the birth of a son, and to our Secretary, once Miss Dunkerley, now Mrs. Diskin, on her marriage which took place early this year.

More congratulations and our best wishes to Dennis Elwell who has set an example to the whole school by being the school's first (the first of many, it is hoped) holder of a State Scholarship, and to Fred Brook who also gained a town Scholarship.

School activities, however, do not end in the academic sphere, and a great interest is taken in sport. Members of school teams have represented the town on swimming and rugby teams.

An interest in out of school activities has grown in the past months and the newly formed Dance Club, and Musical Appreciation Society, the recently formed Scientific Society, and the old-established Chess Club and Table Tennis Club all enjoy great popularity.

June Brooks and Shirley Bottomley have received medals from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds for essays on wild birds. Lang, Salisbury, Hardy, Brook, Bentley and Barbara White were chosen to represent the town in the County Sports. Barbara White of Form I is to be congratulated on achieving a height of 4ft. 10ins. in the high jump.

Speech Night this year will be held on November 30th when the prizes will be presented, and the school addressed by Oldham's eminent historian, Mr. Hartley Bateson, whose book "The History of Oldham" is quite well-known outside the district, and whose articles on the origins of local place names, and the history of local houses, and landmarks, appear regularly in the "Oldham Weekly Chronicle." We all look forward to what I am sure will be a most interesting address..

A small group of members of staff and pupils meets every Monday at 1 p.m. in the Geography Room to sing part-songs, both Elizabethan and modern. New members will be very welcome, especially older boys who can sing tenor or bass. Ability to read music is desirable, but not indispensable.

In the library—no longer the home of the Literary Section of the Sixth Form—a selection of weekly publications, including "The Children's Newspaper," "The Listener" and "La France" has been acquired, and it is hoped, with the co-operation of members of that worthy institution situated near to the girls' entrance to the premises—the woodwork room, to put them on suitable stands so that the library may be used by pupils as a reading-room. Meanwhile they can avail themselves of the opportunity of reading these magazines now, albeit on the humble library tables.

We recall (many with dismay) the G.C.E. examinations taken during June and July, but following these came a time of rest and rejoicing for those who had but lately toiled so hard. End of term visits were paid to Kemsley House, Crown Wallpapers, Messrs. A. V. Roe, and a party visited a coal mine. These visits were enjoyed by all concerned and the school would like to extend its heartiest thanks to everyone who made them possible.

Now looking into the immediate future we can see ahead of us school Christmas parties, and the annual Prefects' Dance, which will be held at the King Street Stores soon after New Year. Of course accompanying them come the end of term and mock G.C.E. examinations, but think not of them now, for I would draw your attention away from this dull fact to the interesting matter awaiting you in the rest of the "Greenhillian."

★

General Certificate of Education

ORDINARY LEVEL.

GIRLS :

- 7 subjects Enid Shaw, Judith Hennelly.
- 6 subjects Jean Dyson, Valerie Knowles, Sylvia Ogden, Marion Street, Margaret Walton.
- 5 subjects Eileen Barrow, Barbara Fish, Sheila Linskey.
- 4 subjects Barbara Lees, Mary Mulholland, Margaret Seville.
- 3 subjects Barbara Corfield, Muriel Price.
- 2 subjects Patricia Bardsley, Barbara Johnson, Lilian Swann.
- 1 subject Jean Coyne, Marlene Crawford, Nolah Cunningham, Olga Edwards, Kathleen Mullins, Jean Wolfenden.

Boys :

- 7 subjects Roy Grindrod, Jack Booth.
- 6 subjects Alan Brierley, Delwyn Green, Robert Helingoe, Laurence Holloway, Denis Schofield, Brian Sutcliffe, Trevor Swain.
- 5 subjects Trevor Clough, Peter Lomas, Melvyn Ratcliff.
- 3 subjects Geoffrey Batley, Douglas Maxson.
- 2 subjects Cyril Fletcher, John Hardy, Keith Lang, Jack Myers, Frank Schofield.
- 1 subject Brian Nutter, Keith Wild.

ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS.

- 1 additional subject Gwenda Jones, Sheila Knott, Donald Brooks, Alan Docker.

ADVANCED LEVEL.

VIa SCIENCE :

Dennis Elwell—Physics (Distinction), Mathematics, Chemistry.
Alan Holt—Physics, Chemistry (Ord. Level).
Frank McCandlish—Physics (Ord. Level), Biology.
Frank Smith—Mathematics, Physics.
John Wareham—Physics, Mathematics.
Patricia Greenall—Mathematics (Ord. Level), Biology.

VIIb SCIENCE :

Angus Taylor—General Paper (Ord. Level), Geography.

VIa LIT. :

Colin Bentley—English, French, German.
Fred Brook—English, Geography, French.
Beryl Cressey—English.
Beryl Gartside—English (Distinction), History, French (Ord. Level).
June Hurst—Latin (Ord. Level), English, French, German (Ord. Level).
Joan Marland—English, Art, French.
Betty Shanley—English, Art.
Barbara Sutcliffe—History (Ord. Level), English.
Jean Whittaker—English (Ord. Level).



Choir Report

"Music, Source of All Gladness"

This year I am sorry to say we have lost Avis Bolton, a valued member of our choir, but have gained since, about twenty-four new recruits out of Form II. I should like to offer a big welcome to these new members from the whole choir, and I hope they are going to have much pleasure in singing with us.

In the next few weeks, we hope to be well on our way, working for the coming Parents' Evenings and for Speech Night.

There will be a choir practice every Tuesday night, as soon after the end of school as possible, so please do not be late. It is essential that choir members should attend practices regularly.

NORMA TIMMS.



The Craft Club

The Craft Club was first launched in March of this year, since when we have enrolled about seventy-five members. At the moment membership is limited, in spite of the fact that we meet three times a week, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In the Club we pursue vastly different crafts, from making mats to making grandmother's old basket chair, from leather purses and wallets to slippers, and from weaving to lampshades of all shapes, sizes and colours.

We hope that we shall shortly be able to admit new members.

F. BRIGGS, P. MAYBURY, *Joint Secretaries.*



The Table Tennis Club

President: MR. H. J. MARTIN

Secretary: BARBARA CORFIELD

Treasurer: EILEEN BARROW

The table tennis club is still flourishing and, although we were sorry to lose some of the members, we are pleased to welcome thirty new members to this "select club."

The annual meeting was held at the beginning of this term when Sheila Knott and David Scott were elected girl and boy captains respectively. A special word of thanks must be given to Miss Best, who, at this meeting, generously bestowed a table tennis bat on the club.

During last term singles and doubles handicaps were arranged and the successful members were C. Bentley, who won the singles, and B. Corfield and L. Holloway, who shared the victory as a partnership in the doubles. It is hoped that other matches will be arranged in the near future. Many matches were also arranged with neighbouring teams and the results of these matches showed Greenhill to be the stronger team.

Therefore we urge our new members forward, hoping that they will spend many pleasant hours in the club and that Greenhill will gain more victories.

E. BARROW, B. CORFIELD, VI Lit.

★

The Chess Club

Secretary: J. LAWTON

Treasurer: MARION STOCKMAN

Subscription 6d. per year. Meetings in Biology Room.
Club Night Thursday. Other times for play: from 12-45 p.m. on certain days (see notice boards).

Club Notices—on notice boards in Upper Hall (near 5a form room); Lower Hall (near 1b form room).

The Chess Club has become by now quite a flourishing part of school life, with a membership roll at the end of last year of over 50. Membership is open to all who are interested in Chess (boys, girls or staff) who want to learn to play the game, and, by practice and by competition with others, to increase their skill. Some people in school have the idea that they can only join if they can play already, but this is not so. If you would like to know how to play this fascinating game, join the club and you will find there is no lack of willing teachers (of all ages).

A *League Competition* goes on all the time. Players are grouped into two divisions according to ability—experienced players in Division 1 and beginners in Division 2. There is a system of promotion and relegation based on performance over the year, and number of games played. Eight players from Division 2 have been promoted this time. A prize is awarded at the end of the year to the top player of each division.

The winners of the prizes for 1953-4 were:—

DIVISION 1. J. LAWTON. Average 1.9. Prize: Book token.

DIVISION 2. A. DAVIS. Average 1.5. Prize: Pocket chess set.

Chess Tournament, June-July, 1954. Winner: J. LAWTON.

Towards the end of the summer term a tournament was held, the leading players being handicapped. Out of the entrance fee of 3d. each, cash prizes were awarded to the finalists. Five members of staff took part, but their handicaps evidently proved too severe, for only Mr. Pendlebury survived to the final rounds. Mrs. Kuler, claiming exemption as a comparative beginner, refused to be handicapped, but this stratagem availed her nothing, for she too was eliminated in the early stages. It was the Secretary and Treasurer of the club—Lawton and Holt—who fought the final battle, with Lawton emerging victorious. Prizes were also given to the two semi-finalists, Smith and J. Holt, both of Form 1.

Oldham and District Chess League—Schools' Division.

Last year, for the first time, the school entered the Chess League and carried out a full programme of fixtures from October till Easter. Most of the other teams in the League are from schools with a long tradition of chess playing behind them, and Greenhill did reasonably well to finish fourth in the League table. The League Secretary, in a Press report, complimented Greenhill on a very promising start.

The team has already played one match of this season's fixtures. On September 16th we travelled to Chadderton Grammar School and lost 3-2 to Chadderton, who finished second in the League last year. Lawton, our No. 1 player, is too old for the team this year, having attained the ripe old age of 15. His steady and experienced leadership will be missed.

This account of the team's activities would not be complete without some tribute to the ladies of the commissariat. The team was nobly assisted at home matches by two girl members of the club—Marion Stockman (who has succeeded A. Holt as Treasurer) and Marjorie Wilson. They took full charge of the refreshments (Holt lending an occasional hand with the washing-up) and the club is very much indebted to them for their help. "They also serve who only stand and wait."!

Out of members' subscriptions last year, the club not only met expenses and paid the League donation, but also bought two new chess sets and two boards. The Chess Club gives very good value for your money. For 6d. you may learn to play an interesting game and practice it several times during the week; you may win a prize in a competition; you may attain the honour of representing your school on the team; you will certainly have a great deal of pleasure whether you become a good player or not. Why not join the Chess Club now?

★

Scientific Society Notes for 1954

COMMITTEE :

President: MR. HIGSON

Chairman: MR. PENDLEBURY

Vice-Chairman: MR. PETFORD

Secretary: A. DOCKER, VI Sc.

Treasurer: J. MARSH, VI Sc.

6th Form Representative: A. HOLT, VI Sc.

5th Form Representative: R. GRINDROD, 5X.

4th Form Representative: T. ALDERSLEY, 4Y.

3rd Form Representative: N. BUCKLEY, 3X.

2nd Form Representative: C. CUNNINGTON, 2B.

1st Form Representative: P. LOMAX, 1Z.

The idea of forming a Scientific Society at Greenhill was put forward by members of the Science VI early in January of 1954. On Thursday, January 14th, a general meeting was held in the Physics Lab. and the above Committee selected to organise the society. The society was split up into various sections including photographic, model aeroplane, radio, aquarist and mathematical groups. The model aeroplane and radio groups proving the most popular, the members of the society interested in these two groups meet on Monday dinnertime at 1.0 p.m. in the Physics Lab. It must be noted that the smell of aero-fuel and dope lingered at the back of the Physics Lab, perfuming the atmosphere during afternoon lessons, following an aero session.

Some popular general functions of the society during the past year were the "Brains Trust" and the Debate. In the "Brains Trust," members of a panel composed of the Committee gave their views on such important questions as "Why are there 360° in a circle?", a question asked by the senior mathematics teacher, and speculated on the question "Does life exist on other planets?" In the debate, members of the Science VI said "Science has done more good than harm in man's progress," and the ladies of the Lit. VI opposed this view. Both the above functions were well attended and enjoyed by all. The film shows held in the Physics Lab. on Thursdays after school were also well attended and we hope that they will become even more popular now that we have contacted more film libraries with a wider selection of films. A point I think which deserves mention in these notes is the Scientific Society Dance which was held in the Upper School Hall on Friday, 19th March, 1954. The dance was a success both in the entertainment it provided and the funds it raised for the Society. The special thanks of the Committee must be handed to all who made the dance possible and we hope that this function will become a regular part of the year's activity of the society.

Our ideas for the future activities of the society during 1955 are to repeat certain successful functions that we know are popular, to obtain more entertaining films—special programmes of which will cater for the junior members, to get the aquarist and photographic groups on a firm footing, to arrange exhibitions in the show cases in the lower hall and a large exhibition in one of the laboratories. The above are only a few of our plans for the coming year. We hope that with support from the members and helpful suggestions we shall do even more.

Finally, let me close by reminding you that this is your society—take advantage of it and give us your support.

ALAN DOCKER, Science VI.

★

The Geological Museum

As part of the far-flung activities of the Scientific Society, it was decided to bring back into use the glass display-cases in both the Upper and Lower Halls, and fill them with exhibits, many of which were already in existence, but through lack of suitable accommodation were kept out of general view.

The co-ordinated work of several people, including Mr. Wood, the caretaker, to whom a great debt of gratitude is due, resulted in the preparation of the four in the Lower Hall, two of which are now filled with geological exhibits. These rock specimens illustrate a great deal of the remarkably varied geology of the British Isles, and include examples as ancient as Lewisian gneiss from the Western Highlands of Scotland and as recent as chalk from the North and South Downs. In answer to the cynics who have been heard to assert that most of our specimens have been obtained from the National Coal Board, we must state that several past and present members of the school are keenly interested and have contributed examples collected personally in their visits to different parts of the country. It is often astonishing the number of cameo impressions conjured up by so inanimate an object as a piece of rock. Holding a piece of quartzite, I have a vision of a Sixth Former struggling to the top of Red Pike in appalling weather, in August this year, disappointed perhaps at missing the glorious view that ought to have been obtainable over Ennerdale and Wasdale, but finding time to stow the precious specimens away in his rucksack. The sight of chalk brings to mind one of our senior girls looking out from Beachy Head over the Channel in "the mad March days," yet in spite of the breath-taking spectacle, remembering to obtain and bring back an authentic piece. Visits to Snowdon, enterprising afternoons during the holidays spent by some of our boys pottering about in wet shale collecting fragile goniatite fossils, and remarkably well-preserved branch and leaf shapes, are all inherent in these apparently lifeless objects.

In anticipation of the great number of specimens which we know will be handed to us by future collectors for identification, classification and possible inclusion, we would remind enthusiasts that the most useful are those taken from the parent rock, in a quarry, cliff-face or other outcrop, whilst an exact location is also helpful.

Our latest departure would seem to be in the direction of Continental geology, our first exhibits being of limestone and marble from the French Riviera, and we have every expectation that this department will increase in scope and variety, as foreign travel and holidays abroad increase in frequency.

R. WELLS.

The Sports

The sports were held on two consecutive days, the heats being run on the first day. Enthusiasm was whipped up to boiling point by various House Captains and it was fortunate for everyone that javelin and discus throwing was relegated to the lower end of the field. The exuberance of many juniors was overwhelming and as their aims are not quite as steady as those of their older counterparts, people within a radius of at least two miles were in mortal danger of being transfixed by a stray javelin.

The running events were carried through admirably although the jumping events were perhaps the most exciting as we watched the tape of the jumping stands shivering to a standstill as though a miniature atom bomb had descended upon it. The long-jump pit was surrounded by a sea of sandy faces as a sprawling mass of legs and arms landed with a flurry of flying sand.

It was noticed that the staff, to whom we owe generous praise, were encouraging and excited, but, of course, they did not have to participate.

Everyone encouraged his or her House and the points were very close, with Lees House winning by a short head.

I feel that we ought to congratulate Joyce Siddall on her remarkable performances for Walton House, and to Keith Lang for obtaining a time of 2 mins. 8 secs. for the half-mile.

The sports were ended successfully, but the following day many competitors were treading gingerly around the school because of stiff muscles and aching arms.

We should like to thank the staff for their enthusiasm and encouragement without which the sports could never have been carried through with success.

SHEILA KNOTT, Upper VI Lit.

★

The Swimming Gala

The Annual Inter-House Swimming Gala, held at the end of July at the Central Swimming Baths, went off with a splash.

At the commencement of the races the excitement increased and amongst the boys every race was well-contested. It is a pity, however, that this cannot be said of the girls, amongst whom there was a lack of support. Walton House was the only House who had a complete list of entries, and in consequence had a walk-over as far as the Swimming Cup was concerned. The position of the Houses at the end of the Gala was Walton (first place), Fawsitt (second place) and Lees (third place).

Finally, I should like to thank all members of the staff, without whom the Swimming Gala would not have been possible; to Mr. Sedgley for acting as starter and to Mr. Higson for presenting the cup to the winning House.

MARGARET NOLAN, Upper VI Lit.

★

Swimming

The school has had a very successful year with its swimming activities.

For the second time in three years the school gained the Brown Shield in open competition with all the schools in Oldham.

At the Town Gala, again for the second time in three years, the Junior Boys, Senior Boys and Junior Girls were victorious in the respective sections, and in the course of the Gala gained four pennants and a cup.

Both boys and girls have done very well in their tests, and Dyson has passed all the tests, including life-saving, that it is possible for a boy of the second year to pass.

Morris, of the second year, must be congratulated on representing the town.

There is a promising number of swimmers in the first year and we hope to repeat our achievements this season.

Litter

I went for a picnic one day with a friend
And the place it was covered from end to end
With untidy litter. It was plain to see
That the people who'd been there had not thought of me.

So whenever you go for a picnic, my dears,
Don't leave broken bottles or soon there'll be tears,
For young children are apt to fall in play.
So pick up your rubbish, don't throw it away.

JOYCE PEARTON, 1B.

★

Inter-House Tennis Tournament

This year the Inter-House Tennis Tournament was held in Alexandra Park. The event went off without mishap and indeed everyone seemed enthusiastic and eager to gain honours for her respective house.

Even the weather, surprisingly enough, was quite good, although when we (optimistically) began to play, the courts could not be called dry.

Every girl who had any idea how to hold a racket or showed any spark of interest was ushered on to the court to show her ability (or lack of it). The more lethargic members of school seated themselves around the courts to watch the play and perhaps issue one or two tips which no doubt would be highly useful (except when put into practice).

Others, becoming bored with the activities on the courts, wandered off to find amusement elsewhere, but on the whole the support was quite good.

The juniors showed keenness and I think that Joyce Deane, Jean Wright and Eileen Marland deserve special mention because they all put up fine performances although they are comparatively new to the game. Other juniors assisted as ball boys whilst some of the seniors acted as umpires.

Finally, I am sure I am speaking for everyone when I say that I should like to thank Miss Turbfield for her assistance and advice in making the tournament a success.

SHEILA MOLYNEUX, Upper VI Lit.

★

Hockey — The First Eleven

G.K.	...	JEAN WOLFENDEN
R.B.	...	JOAN ASPINALL
L.B.	...	MARGARET NOLAN
R.H.	...	MARY MULHOLLAND
C.H.	...	JOAN MARLAND (Captain)
L.H.	...	BERYL CRESSEY
R.W.	...	SHEILA MOLYNEUX
R.I.	...	—
C.	...	SHEILA KNOTT
L.I.	...	VERA JONES
L.W.	...	MARGARET BUTTERWORTH

Reserves: PAT GREENALL, MAUREN DIXON, BARBARA WOODCOCK

The official record for the 1953-4 season reads: "Seven matches played, seven lost." To this we may add much.

At the beginning of the season the team had had no match experience and little practice. They played old-established grammar schools with greatly superior teams. Although Greenhill were heavily defeated many times they played on to the end of the season without ever losing courage. Future teams may win matches but they will do well if they can live up to the standard of cheerfulness and sportsmanship set this season.

The entire defence played well and made remarkable improvement. They marked steadily and combined well. The halves were particularly good in defence but sometimes, through lack of experience, they missed opportunities to back up the forwards. Joan Marland's stickwork was good.

The forwards never became a well-established line though individually they worked very hard. Vera Jones had the most control of the ball but lacked power. Margaret Butterworth had an aptitude for playing on the left side of the field but lacked speed. Sheila Knott had power and speed but lacked control.

The one member of the team who deserved special commendation was Jean Wolfenden. Perhaps the greatest compliment is to say that she kept out far more goals than she let through. At times Jean faced a terrifying bombardment but never once was she ruffled.

The thanks of the team are due to Beryl Cressey, who worked hard as Secretary, and to those members of the Second XI who came regularly to provide opposition at practices even when they had no more matches themselves. It is a pity that more girls do not realise that the full pleasure of the game can only be enjoyed after a certain amount of hard training and stickwork practice has been done. We can assure you that it is well worth while.

★

Fawsitt House Notes

House Master: MR. WELLS

House Mistress: MISS TURNER

Staff Members:

MR. HANDFORTH, MR. REEVES, MISS TAYLOR

House Captains:

MELVYN RATCLIFF AND MARGARET BUTTERWORTH

At the beginning of another school year, Fawsitt House has welcomed many members who, we feel sure, will do their best to gain merit for the House. At the close of last term the House lost a number of its senior members including the two captains and so a change in captaincy took place. We have great confidence in the two newly-elected captains who aim to make the House successful under their leadership. We would like to congratulate a senior member of the House who was chosen head-prefect for the coming year and we wish him every success.

Last term was quite a successful one for Fawsitt House. The end-of-term presentations saw our House gain the Merit Shield with our efforts in examinations. The House takes this opportunity to thank its members for their splendid work. Although we failed to win any other awards, we are pleased to know that Fawsitt House competitors proved stiff opposition in swimming, athletics, tennis, rounders and cricket. If bad weather had not prevented the completion of several matches, we might have been considered for the Games Cup. With the start of the winter games, many Fawsitt House members have gained places on the first teams.

Although Fawsitt has improved greatly upon last year's results, with a little more effort we may come out top in the coming series.

M.B., VIa Lit.

★

Lees House Notes

House Captains: ANGUS TAYLOR, SHEILA KNOTT

Vice-Captains: JAMES MARSH, PATRICIA GREENALL

Secretary: JEAN DYSON

Senior Hockey Captain: SHEILA KNOTT; *Vice-Captain:* BRENDA FLINT.

Junior Hockey Captain: JEAN WRIGHT; *Vice-Captain:* BETTY HOWARD.

Senior Netball Captain: EVELYN THOMPSON; *Vice-Captain:* ANNE LAWTON.

Junior Netball Captain: JOYCE DEANE; *Vice-Captain:* DOROTHY GREENALL.

Senior Soccer Captain: IVAN HIBBERT; *Vice-Captain:* DAVID SCOTT.
Junior Soccer Captain: ANTHONY DYSON; *Vice-Captain:* GARRY HIGHTON.
Senior Rugby Captain: IVAN HIBBERT; *Vice-Captain:* DAVID SCOTT.
Junior Rugby Captain: ANTHONY DYSON; *Vice-Captain:* GARRY HIGHTON.

We are pleased to welcome a number of first formers to Lees House and we hope they will all try hard to maintain the standard of work for their House.

We were very sorry to lose Mr. Nicholls at the end of last term and I am sure we shall miss his valuable assistance, but in his place we welcome Mr. Evans and hope that his stay will be very pleasant. With the departure of Frank Smith, Angus Taylor was elected boys' House Captain and James Marsh, Vice-Captain. Sheila Knott is still girls' House Captain.

Lees House was quite successful last term. We succeeded in winning the Games Shield and the Sports Shield. In the Merit Shield we were second, but I am sure that with a little more effort we could have won this trophy. I am afraid that a much greater effort was needed in the swimming gala for we finished third. Next time we hope there will be a greater number of entries and more enthusiasm shown.

If we maintain the standard set on the playing field, and make a greater effort in school and at the swimming gala, we should do even better next year.

Finally, I should like to thank the members of the House and the staff for their work and encouragement during the term.

JEAN DYSON, VI Gen.

★

Walton House Notes

Officials:

House Captains: MARGARET NOLAN, LYONS
Vice-Captains: MAVIS SCHOFIELD, WHITELEY
Secretary: MARGARET SEVILLE

Hockey Captains:

Senior: VERA JONES; Junior: JACQUELINE GARTSIDE

Netball Captains:

Senior: JOYCE SIDDALL; Junior: OLIVE SHAW

Rugby Captains:

Senior: LYONS; Vice-Captain: WHITELEY
Junior: MAYBURY; Vice-Captain: ELLIS

Soccer Captains:

Senior: RUSSELL; Vice-Captain: LYONS
Junior: DYSON; Vice-Captain: PAYNE

Cricket Captains:

Senior: RUSSELL; Vice-Captain: SELBY
Junior: ELLIS; Vice-Captain: TAYLOR

With the start of another school year we welcome all the new members to Walton House, who, we hope, will contribute greatly to the success of the House.

At the end of last term our House officials left us, some to take up studies at University and Training College.

Last term we were successful and came first in the Swimming Gala and second in the Sports. This, however, did not put us in very good stead for the Games Shield because we came third.

More effort will be needed this term if we are to succeed in gaining the Work Shield as we have now been in third place for two years.

Form Report — 1A

The beginning of my education at Greenhill Grammar School is something I shall always remember. The staff have been very kind to us. The majority of us have come from Hathershaw. Barry Dyson has made his name popular with the school for his swimming. As for myself, I am very interested in music, and Mr. Handforth has let me play during singing lessons. I am sure that we will all try our best.

★

Form Report — 1B

Many members of our form are interested in sport; for instance Alan Kindon, who broke the Junior School Record for cricket and won a cricket ball. Fourteen swimming certificates have been won by various people. We also have some very keen pianists. Tony Kerr is keen on singing and is in a Church Choir. Catherine Smith is learning to play the recorder. We also have two skilful artists and fifteen stamp collectors. Melvyn Lloyd and Jennifer Ratigan are fond of collecting foreign coins. I think you will agree that our class is a very active and interesting one.

MARIE OTZMANN, ANNE LAIGHT.

★

Form Report — 1C

There are thirty children in 1C. There are eight more boys than girls. Irene Turner is the games captain and Anne Whitaker is the form captain for the girls. Four girls used to play on the school netball team. Christine Wardle sang in a class choir when she was at Alexandra Park School in Form 2. Beryl Summersgill and Sheila Trotter are members of the Scientific Society. Two girls play the piano, one a zither, and another a recorder.

★

Form Report — 2A

We have now commenced our second year at Greenhill Grammar School. Our new form mistress is Mrs. Kuler.

We girls, being in the second form, are very proud of the opportunity of being able to join the choir. We have many varied interests. We have several good singers including Wright Platt, who sings solos. Several of our members are in the Handicraft Club and the Scientific Society. The Chess Club is one of the main activities of the boys. Quite a few boys and girls have received certificates for swimming and some of them swam for their various house teams. Two of our girls are on the school netball team: Many are also good gymnasts. Jack Travis is the leading football star amongst the boys. Barbara Burgess, of our form, won all her races for Fawsitt House.

On the whole we have settled down very well.

JOYCE BAYLEY, GEORGINA HORROBIN.

★

Form Report — 2B

Form 2B consists of former pupils of 1X, Y and Z. There are nine boys and seventeen girls. Our form teacher is Mr. K. Wright.

McHugh and Gordon represented Oldham Swimmers for Lancashire at Swinton. They came in second which is an honour to our form. We have a few boy members of the Chess Club and three played in the school team. Arlene Chidgey goes to ballet classes and is a promising student who has won a medal. Sandra Wolstenhulme is going in for her gold medal for amateur ballroom dancing. We are a very happy and co-operative form.

JOHN GORDON, VALERIE JONES.

Form Report — 2C

This year we are glad to have Mr. Sanderson for our form-master. Our form consists of fourteen girls and sixteen boys. Some of the boys are on cricket and football teams and some girls on the netball and rounders teams. Clegg, Payne and Lomax are on the swimming team. Allman, Turner, Moxon, Clegg, Jones and Payne are members of the Chess Club. A few people are in the Scientific Society, and we have many members in the Arts and Crafts Club interested in making lamp-shades, baskets, raffia mats and plastic beach-bags.

Many of our form are musicians, and we have both boys and girls in the choir. Some of the form are interested in cycling and some collect stamps and foreign coins.

B. HEATON, M. HAYES.

★

Form Report — 3A

We started this new school term with many changes. Our form members of last year's 2M have mainly split up and the result is that only a few of last year's 2M are left in 3A.

We have ten new members, five from 2G and five from 2B, who we hope will settle down in their new form happily. Several of our members are in the school choir and also in the Handicraft Club organised by Mrs. Ford, where many useful things have been made such as baskets, lamp-shades, table-cloths and slippers.

We are very pleased to say one of our schoolfellows, Olive Shaw, has received her hockey girdle and is the only junior member on the senior team.

Last year we had Mr. Reeves as our form master and we are very pleased to say we have him again this term, and now we are all set for a new year in 3A.

SYLVIA HIBBERSON.

★

Form Report — 3B

Our form consists of members from each of the three forms of the second year. There are 29 pupils altogether in the form, eleven girls and eighteen boys. Our form room is room 11 and our form teacher is Miss Turbfield.

We are represented on the sporting side by Rodney Smith and Gary Highton, who are on the football team; and we also have several notable chess players amongst us. Jean Wright is the Junior Hockey Captain for Lees House, and Betty Howard is the Junior Hockey Vice-Captain.

At this time of year when memories are still fresh of the long summer holidays, one feels a little like Christian must have felt when awaiting to be assailed by numerous giants. Of course, each person has his own particular giant, in the shape of some subject or other. One could compare the year with the journey of some desert wanderers, for whom the hazards of the merciless sun, and blinding windswept sands, are replaced by the equally rigorous hazards of mathematical symbols and foreign tongues; and, stretching far away into the distance, the oasis of Christmas, and freedom once again.

JUDITH SCOTT.

★

Form Report — 3C

At the end of the Summer holiday we all gathered in the school yard for yet another school year. We were not in the second form, but in the third form. Our form master is Mr. Handforth. In our form the pupils consist of nineteen girls and ten boys. All the pupils are not yet accustomed to each other but I think when we all get to know each other we should

do well as a form. One of our members, Barry Hamer, is interested in ornithology and is a member of the Oldham Natural History Society. Some of our boys are keen cyclists, visiting interesting places such as Derbyshire, Southport and Chester. Another member of our form, Joyce Deane, did well on the sports field and also is the Captain of the Junior Netball Team for Blue House. Some of our girl members are interested in hockey and Joan Fogg swam in the school swimming gala.

BARRY DAVIES.

★

Form Report — 4A (Girls)

This year we extend a warm welcome to Brenda Flint, who has come up out of 3Y, making our total number of girls fourteen. The form is well represented in the School Choir by Sylvia Bebbington, Christine Brierley, Brenda Howarth, Doreen Miller, Lesley Wallis and Sandra Wolstencroft.

Four of our girls, Pat Bayliffe, Christine Brierley, Marlene Turner and Barbara Wade, have swum for the school in galas, and at the end of last term Pat Bayliffe and Barbara Wade gained their fourth test in swimming. Although we are not represented in hockey, two girls have gained places on the Second Senior Netball Team. They are Brenda Howarth and Mavis Joyce.

★

Form Report — 4A (Boys)

As always the poor innocent boys have to be content with the final paragraphs, although in reality we are not, excepting one or two, at all backward.

Though unfortunately we have no brilliantly clever scholars among us, we have a large quota on the sportsfield. They are as follows:—

Rugby: Hart, Faulkner, Cooper, Thornley, Buckley.

Football: Taylor, Buckley.

Swimming: Wright, Thornley, Hart.

Before the magazine is printed we hope to see Gary Faulkner, who is at present enjoying himself in the South of France.

This last paragraph must be devoted to congratulating Graham Hart who has found himself, or rather, earned himself, a place on the town rugby league team as a prop-forward.

NORMAN BUCKLEY.

★

Form Report — 4B

First I would like to write about some of the people we have lost (and some of the people we should like to lose).

Last year we lost Anne Nicholson, Hildred Street, Brenda Flint, Cooper and Wright. We would like to lose—well, nuff said!

Our form master is H.B.M. (Honourable Biology Man).

The form's favourite book is Ronald Searle's "Down With School." This is also the form Motto.

Round our form-room walls, the smiling faces of Richard I, Wolfe and Napoleon survey us with a kind of horror. This is better than last year, when we had a building which looked like a cross between a fort and Battersea Power Station.

We are serenaded by the sounds of elderly trains playing that age old game of shunting. This is variegated by the sound of occasional explosions from the Chemistry Lab.

Grindrod, Wood, Hadfield and Mortin are on the school rugby team. Wood came to grief when he got his head stuck between the posts.

We have just got our instructions for fire and are dying to use them!

AUGUSTA THE SCRIBE AND BLANCHE THE SEER.

Form Report — 4C

In our form there are twelve girls and eight boys. We are a very happy form and our spirits are raised by Mavis who bubbles continually with mirth. In the field of sport we have Yvonne Millward and Beryl Higgins who represent the school in netball. Christopher Salisbury went to the White City and ran for Oldham in the sports there. We have lost our old form-master, Mr. Nicholls, and we all hope he will be happy in his new position of headmaster of St. Andrew's. Though we have lost Mr. Nicholls, we have a new form-master, Mr. Wells, whose acquaintance we are rapidly making.

★

Form Report — 5A (Girls)

We were formerly 4X, 4Y and 4Z but now there being only 5A and 5B we welcome several new members to our form to continue their school career in 5A. We were sorry to see the departure of Avis Bolton who was a valuable asset to the girls' choir. Two of our girls are on the Chess Club Committee and various other members of the form on the School Netball and Hockey Teams.

After much competition for first place in the examinations, Mildred Taylor gained this position.

MARIE BENNETT.

★

Form Report — 5A (Boys)

In the boys' half of the form efforts have been made for the improvement of positions and the examination results have been favourable. Boys have represented the school at football, rugby, cricket and chess and J. Lawton won the school chess competition. Although we have done only moderately in the sports we have played up and played the game.

I am sorry to say that we have lost F. Stuttard and H. Fleming but I am glad to say that C. Todd and P. Harrison have come to keep our numbers at a steady level of nine. I am sure that all the form will agree with me when I say "thank you" to Miss Turner for being a very efficient and helpful form-mistress.

★

Form Report — 5B

Take a bunch of imbeciles plus a band of escaped lunatics, add a few cretins and throw in one or two heretics and the result is—Form 5B. This combination of last year's fiendish 4Y and roguish 4Z make interesting psychological study.

You may see them crouched here like hunted animals waiting for the slaughter. Others are despairingly slouched in their desks, wizened by four years' experience of the tragic underworld of the grammar school—known only by those who have tasted the imprisonment its hostile walls impose on them.

Twenty-eight noses to the grindstone, they plod steadily on (well, some of them, anyway), towards their goal—the School Certificate. Though buried in a deluge of work, a few find time for sport. Two girls are on the school Netball Team, and several boys play for the soccer and rugby teams.

So, under Mr. Cooper's guiding hand, they move blithely onwards—unerring, undaunted, unparalleled, towards their DESTINY

THE SILENT WATCHER.

Form Report—VIa Lit. and VI Gen.

We returned to school, most of us having worked during the hols and feeling as though school would be a relief, but were soon subdued by the thoughts of the responsibility which was to be thrust upon us, being now promoted from the Lower "inferior" 6th to the "elite but overburdened" Upper Sixth.

We lost, at the end of last term, the other members of our form who have commenced studies at Universities and Colleges, but we welcome to our intellectual circle, seven new members whom we have warned against making the mistakes we made last year.

Our form room has been changed and it appears to be (as the saying goes) "out of the frying pan into the fire" because we were previously in the library, which is next to the men's staffroom and now we are next to the ladies' staffroom. We wish to point out, though, that the heat in the library (or lack of it) cannot be likened to a frying pan.

In order to ward off intruders, who may decide to shatter our peace (??) we have purchased (at a great expense) and made (at a great deal of inconvenience) two curtains which cover the only windows of the room which overlook the corridor.

We are an active crowd (though in several cases, not from choice). Although not usually given to boasting we are all proud of the fact that we are active members of the school hockey, tennis and table tennis teams, probably (though we do not like to admit it) because there is no-one else.

Being normally peace-loving by nature, we never quarrel *except* when we become involved in heated arguments with our "friends" the Scientists, who inhabit the labs. They will no doubt have their revenge on us for mentioning them thus at our next meeting.

★

Science Sixth Form Notes— or, Better Late Than Never

Accustomed as they are to living under the pretence of impressibility the sixth science decided at the 0.001199×10^4 hour that there would be a form report and what is more it must be a form report above all form reports. Here it is.

During the past year the same old things happened, the usual Bromine was spilled, the mercury was sucked back into the best constant volume air thermometer in the physics lab., but a singular event of paramount importance must not be omitted. The Greenhill Grammar School Unofficial Voluntary Auxiliary Fire Brigade battled bravely against untold odds to quench a mythical fire of chemical origin which raged on the chemistry lab. staircase.

Certain selected tête-à-tête are given in dramatised form below—we hope you will derive some enjoyment from them.

Act 4 (Scene 1). Setting: Outside masters' very common room.

Time: 12.001 hours.

Teacher X—We will have to have special classes for you, Y.

Boy Y—I don't need special glasses, sir.

Act 5 (Scene 2). Setting: Very cold in Physics Lab.

Let Teacher be Alpha—"these 'B' lines of force . . ."

Act 6 (Scene 5). Setting: Chemistry Lab.

"All the perfumes of Arabia . . ."

Teacher Omega—What is characteristic about these metal oxides?

Boy Gamma (during a spasm of divine insight)—Sir, they all contain a metal.

Now before we finish, just a few words on love in the sixth, or the Antichrist of learning.

"X, X, wherefore art thou X?" (spoken at dinner).

"No, not again Y, please, where are we going to find enough envelopes?" (said in the Chemistry Lab.).

Therefore let us close this morning's ser . . . oh! we are sorry—got carried away for the moment. We will close till next mag., wishing ourselves health, wealth and a good H.G.C.

MALLEUS, INCUS AND STAPES, Sc. VIa.

★

Our Holiday in Spain

It was a bright summer's day in July as the school party left Oldham for their holiday abroad. The party was thirty-three strong as we boarded the boat to cross the channel. Paris was reached at the unearthly hour of 6.0 a.m. and after a breakfast of coffee and rolls we set off to see the famous capital of France.

Early next morning we boarded a train for a twelve-hour journey to San Sebastian, which was reached at about 7.30 p.m. the same day.

After a good night's rest we had C and Rs, then set out to explore the town which was declared "Reight Novel." The town was in two parts, the old part and the new part. The former was visited nearly every morning for souvenirs, presents and a call at Paco Bueno. Every afternoon we went down to Playa de Ondarreto for a swim and to sun-bathe. The meal-times were different from ours with breakfast at 9.0 a.m., lunch at 2.0 p.m. and dinner at 10.0 p.m. Like the times the meals were also different, as all the food is cooked in oil.

On the Saturday we visited Fronton Urumea to see the typical Basque game of Pelota. This is an unusual game played with a small ball and a large hooked basket fixed to the hand. On Sunday we visited the local Bullring to see the traditional Spanish sport of bullfighting. Whether this sport is cruel or not I would not like to say as it is a matter of opinion. Many snapshots of this sport were taken which have turned out very well.

The problem of language was overcome quite successfully with the aid of Mr. Nicholls, with signs, and with our own very, very limited vocabulary.

Now, on behalf of the whole party, we should like to thank Mr. Nicholls, Mrs. Ford and Miss Taylor for organising such a wonderful holiday and also their friends who helped to make it so unforgettable.

B. WOODCOCK, 5A.

★

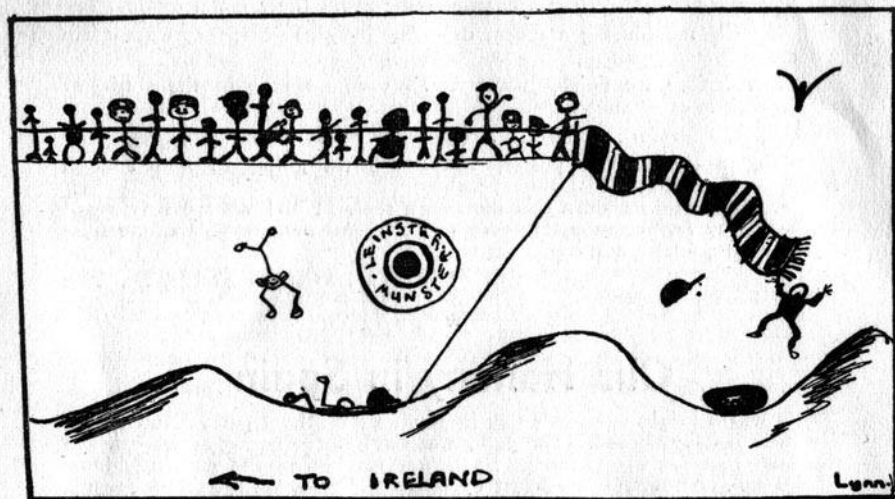
School Trip to Ireland, 23rd June, 1954

Hope dawned as our eyes lighted upon a mass of black specks in the distance.

"Is it? Yes, it is they," we exclaimed in dramatical anticipation. We drew nearer at an ever-increasing speed and our heart-beats quickened at the thought of the future adventure. The bus stopped!!!

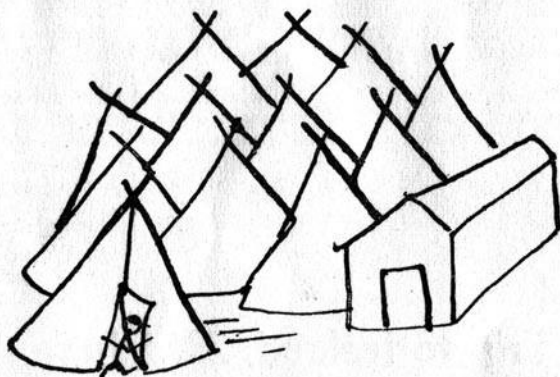
We stepped out amidst a ghastly shower of warm, parental tears, whether through happiness or sorrow we never knew. Soon we were in the coach leaving Rhodes Bank and on our way to Liverpool.

In next to no time the two hours sped by and we were seated on the boat waiting for the departure at 10.0 p.m. We all settled down patiently, devouring our suppers, much too early!



Excitement fired our blood as the Great Stampede commenced towards the rails of the ship (? cattle boat!). Suddenly, fear gripped our souls as realisation dawned. We were alone on the wide ocean amidst a hysterical mass of lunatics, whilst the Liverpool lights faded on the horizon.

After a nightmare voyage of continual rising and falling, fighting our companions for the safety of a coffin-like bunk, we reached our destination. Once in Ireland and through the customs we caught the train from Dublin Docks to Skerries. We were greeted by the sight of tents—TENTS and oh, no! Yes!!! MORE TENTS! To our relief we were allocated the only existing chalet.



IN IRELAND

Lynn

In Ireland (Hurrah!)

Within the first twenty-four hours in Ireland we had tasted the wholesome food, viewed the quaint village and attractive bay, which we sketched, and the flat green countryside. We visited a one-day circus and finally tired, we prepared to settle down for the night in spite of the board-like beds and indestructible earwigs.

The days were cool and sunny. We had outdoor lessons and discussions, P.T. and games before breakfast. Each night record request programmes were played over the loudspeaker. The evenings were free. One day we went on a Treasure Hunt which was great fun. On another afternoon a fancy dress dance was held. We spent a day in Dublin where we were free to go where we wished. On another day we had a cross-country ramble and on Sunday we visited the local churches. Everyone had his own particular duties to perform in the camp each day. The week was packed with outings.

The week passed all too quickly, and soon we were on the boat, homeward bound, looking forward to our free morning in Liverpool. Each was speaking as the true Irish do in lilting voices. As we waved our goodbyes, the ship, in spite of its human (?) cargo, ploughed undaunted across the Cruel Sea.

★

Geographical Outings, 1954

Although the British weather this summer has reached a new nadir, and complaints from all and sundry connected with holidays are legion, we have to report a highly successful season of activities, not the least of the reasons for which was the undoubtedly favourable weather.

Our first expeditions occurred in the Easter holidays, the by this time traditional Fourth and Fifth Form outings to the Lake District and the Ingleton region respectively. On the former, we visited Langdale and were just in time to see the famous Pikes, Crinkle Crag and Bowfell, before a low mist from Scafell obscured them from view. This year we essayed to walk by Rydal Water, over Red Bank and so to Grasmere village and were promptly rained on for our effrontery, but all agreed that the effort was worthwhile for the views of the lakes and surrounding peaks. The return to Windermere for tea, by way of Dunmail Raise, Vale of St. John's, Ullswater, Patterdale and Kirkstone Pass, was as impressive as ever, and whilst losing nothing by repetition, is always awe-inspiring to one viewing it for the first time.

The first essential towards the success of the Ingleton outing is good visibility, and under such conditions we began the walk from Clapham village, strolling for the first mile, puffing up Trow Gill, and after the visit to Gaping Ghyll, toiling up the steep grassy slope, eventually gaining Inglebrook summit. Even on a hot summer's day, I have never known it really warm on top, and so it was no wonder that shelter from the bitter wind was rapidly sought as we paused to eat our lunches. The great majority of the party were keen to complete the optional section of the walk later in the afternoon around Thornton Force waterfall and down the glen to Ingleton village where they arrived prepared to do full justice to a substantial meal, before departing for home.

During the short Whitsun break, we took the opportunity of paying a visit to the historic city of York, this time with a group of the Third Form. Organised parties visited the Minster and the excellent Castle Museum, whilst several small groups visited other places of interest, such as the Railway Museum and St. Mary's Abbey ruins, a good number touring much of the city wall examining the gates en route. We were very fortunate in that our visit coincided with the final preparations for the York Cycle of Mystery Plays. In the open-air, with the background of the ruined nave of St. Mary's Abbey, minor dress-rehearsals were in progress all over the green turf which was the stage, whilst scores of workmen were still erecting scaffolding, to provide seating accommodation for the audiences. These incidents gave us a unique opportunity of observing medieval costume as well as making us familiar with the "stuff" of the medieval plays—God, the Archangel Gabriel and the Angelic Host, Adam and Eve and a varied assortment of devils. We were very loth to leave York.

A new and smaller-scale outing has been introduced this year, taking advantage of the cheap excursions organised by the Manchester Ramblers' Association in collaboration with the British Railways. These have been attended by members of the Sixth Form and the first had as destination Grassington and middle Wharfedale, where we visited Linton, Burnsall and Hebden with their attractive old-world buildings, and also had time to investigate the distinctive reef-knolls characteristic of Craven, for the collection of some excellent shell fossils. In September we went to Settle and walked over the green turf to Feizor and Austwick, north of which, on Norber plateau, we observed the glacial erratics and perched blocks, great glacier-transported blocks of stone now resting on limestone plinths. This was a most enjoyable outing, with excellent weather conditions, especially the invigorating breezes, and we were able to cover about twelve miles of fine, open country such as only the Northern Pennines can offer. Not until we reached Horton-in-Ribblesdale Station did the weather break. On October 24th we hope to make the last of our expeditions, thus bringing to an end a very successful and profitable season.

R. WELLS.

★

Visits to Musical Concerts

A small but ever-increasing nucleus of persons interested in music attended some of the Hallé Orchestra's winter programme of concerts in 1953-54. Some of these were held at the Free Trade Hall and included such well-known works as the Mendelssohn Incidental Music to "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and Beethoven's "Emperor" Concerts as well as lesser-known works such as Sibelius' 1st Symphony and an amusing "Divertissement" by Jacques. The Hallé Orchestra's two visits to Oldham also provided us with excellent opportunities of hearing the world's greatest music played by one of our country's finest orchestras in our own town, occasions which are all too rare for a town of Oldham's size.

We have booked already for the present winter season of Hallé Concerts, the most popular being in late November and including the Swan Lake Ballet Music, Valse Triste, and William Walton's "Belshazzar's Feast," when we shall have an opportunity of hearing the Hallé Choir.

Last winter was also notable for the visit of the famous Italian tenor Beniamino Gigli to King's Hall, Belle Vue, and there some of us went on a cold snowy evening in February. When we arrived at Belle Vue we were astonished to see men selling programmes for the concert. I say astonished for it is well known that Gigli does not follow a programme but sings what he thinks that particular audience would enjoy and appreciate. A few minutes before 7 o'clock the pianist, Enrico Sivieri, mounted the platform amid applause and took his seat at the piano. Then at 7 o'clock came the moment for which everyone had eagerly waited, the moment when Gigli himself appeared. I feel sure that he was moved by the applause which greeted him. He sang mostly in Italian but his singing was so full of expression that we did not need words to follow him. What I couldn't understand was why he and the pianist left the rostrum after every song, only to return again in a few seconds. I was quite surprised to see that he joked with his audience. Many people say that Gigli is at the end of his career, but in my opinion he will give many more concerts before he takes his final bow.

JOAN SCHOFIELD.

★

A Visit to Sheep-dog Trials

One Saturday in July, a friend and I decided to watch some Sheep-dog Trials which were to take place on Saddleworth Golf Links in aid of "The Animal Health Trust."

Both being pessimists we set off equipped with good strong shoes and mackintoshes, and also a packet of sandwiches each, with which to fortify ourselves.

On reaching the required bus stop, we found a very pleasant walk ahead of us, before we finally arrived at our destination, and scarcely had we time to find a good vantage point before the trials began.

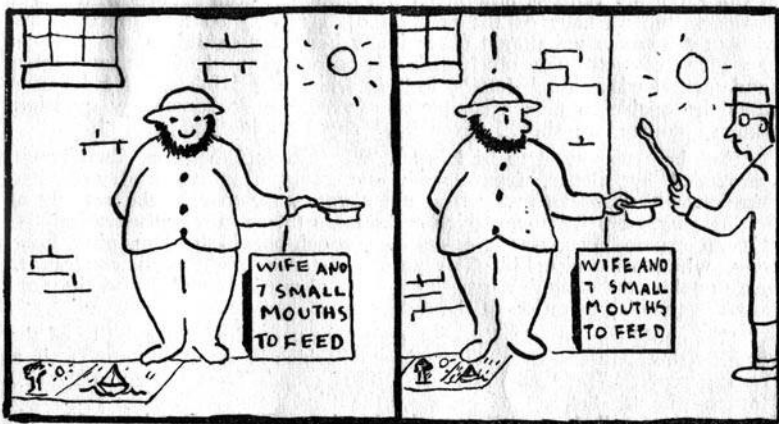
Each dog in its turn ran to the far end of the field where three sheep were waiting. Each dog went through the complicated process of bringing them back up the field, through this opening and that, seeming to weave the sheep in and out, sometimes, when necessary, uttering a shrill bark to bring one sheep, perhaps more venturesome than the other two, back into position. Then suddenly, after some signal from its master, the dog would drop down and crawl stealthily along in the grass towards the sheep, trying to surprise them into some move. Finally the sheep had to be driven into a pen, after which they were driven back down the field once again. It was amazing how the dogs seemed to be able to manage even the most stupid of sheep. Some of the dogs seemed almost human, so intelligent were they; and each dog obeyed implicitly the many whistles and signals, peculiar to its own master, even though sometimes its instincts told it to do otherwise. The dog was certainly a true medium through which the master could impose his will on the sheep.

The golf-course, and the hills around, seemed to make an ideal setting for the trials, and at the end we felt we had spent a very enjoyable and profitable day.

And we did need our mackintoshes!

JUDITH STOTT, 3B.

★



★

"What's in a Room" or "Four Walls do not a Prison Make"

With this new school year advanced but a few weeks, it is obvious how the new occupants of the various rooms have already impressed their individualities upon them, a fact which surely emphasises that it is not the building which makes the school, but the inhabitants thereof. We ought to add that there are not a few enthusiasts of excess vigour, who shrink not from impressing their persons on the room as well, not always to the advantage of either the room or the person.

Empty, rooms possess no character, but let the work of the school get under way. Then, the stranger, with eye or ear to the keyhole, crack in the fabric, or possibly to the paneless window, will be held fascinated. Each one is a living organism, a teeming mass of humanity, educating or undergoing education. Take the First or Second Year rooms for instance, where the basic principles of a foreign language are being laid down (blackboards have been known to give their lives in this valuable service)—no such chanting was ever heard even in the temples of the savage, devout in his worship of wood and stone.

Another room fairly oozing with individuality is the Men's Staff Room. Here, the all-important decisions affecting the world's destiny, such as the selection of the England team in Tests against Australia, the draws for the rounds of the F.A. Cup, and even the education of 4C are all worked out in theory (especially 4C), later to be thrashed out in practice (especially 4C). Some are vouchsafed the unique experience of looking into this sacred of all rooms. Disorder, complete and entire, meets the eye, yet this disorder is only apparent, and does not exist in fact. Any pupil despatched to this room for exercise book, text book or piece of equipment (!) will testify immediately to the unperturbed ease with which another member of staff can locate the required article.

And what of the smallest of all rooms, upon looking into which, the stranger used to see the notice forbidding entry beyond the "drawbridge," yet would surely be perplexed by the fact that beyond it, the space vies with Calcutta's famous Black Hole in its notorious extremity. This notice, with all the finality of Marshall Petain's famous 1916 war-cry, "On ne passe pas," was, one felt, "more honoured in the breach than the observance," but probably illustrates again the traditional cussedness of the race of the English. Witness how much wet paint has been daubed with finger marks within an hour of the erection of a notice "DO NOT TOUCH." Yet without this room we should never know how many children were absent at a given moment, how much milk has been consumed of late, and other fundamental educational details, lacking which the Minister of Education would be unable to give a complete answer to a Parliamentary question. And, of course, we should never have any examination papers!

Another room used to be labelled "Mr. Caro's Office"—a silent room, surrounded by silence, from which one could hear on sundry exalted occasions—"In modern music it is not always easy to spot the melody at first hearing. For instance, which is the main theme in this illustration?"—"Crump, crump, cra-a-a-a-sh, ee-ee-ee-ee, ooooh-ooooh-oh, slam, ping, bing, pong, wha-a-a-a-ng-g!" The unseen listener might well confess to being unable to distinguish between the actual music intended and the final stages in the disintegration of the radiogram.

One could continue in like vein, reflecting upon the inscrutability of the room by the main entrance, on the door of which hangs from time to time, "DO NOT DISTURB," and upon the mysterious sounds from the room nearest Heaven—the tap-tapping of heels on the tiled floor suggesting some unfortunate compelled to walk ceaselessly about, Flying Dutchman-like, to the end of Time.

And all this is as it should be for as one writer has said elsewhere, "Silence is unnatural to Man," whereas sound is the best possible evidence of Life.

★

Seasons of the Year

Spring

Spring brings birds from far and wide,
Back to our little countryside;
It brings the blossom on the trees,
And also brings the gentle breeze.

Summer

Summer brings the sunshine bright,
Which is such a merry sight;
We go to the seaside, paddle and play.
Oh! what a lovely holiday!

Autumn

Autumn turns the leaves to golden brown,
The wind sends them fluttering about the town.
They make a carpet for your delight,
For you to admire during the night.

Winter

Winter brings the ice and snow,
Then the winds begin to blow;
The children love it so they say,
But old folks wish it far away.

MARIE KITTO, 1B.

★

The Birth of Christ

In a lowly cattle shed
The holy child lay down His head.
In a manger there He lay
With His head upon the hay.

Wise men came from lands afar
Guided by a beauteous star;
Which they followed night and day
O'er the hills and far away.

We all would wish to be like Him,
Healer of sick and weak of limb,
On the Sabbath all to sing;
To worship Christ our Saviour King.

EILEEN ROE, 1B.

★

Blundeston

Blundeston is a small village lying inland from the East Coast. Blundeston was the home of the mother of David Copperfield. I saw the house and the bedroom in which she lived. Later I came upon the inn where the stagecoach departed from and saw the stone and ring to which the horses were tethered. The shaft on which the luggage was deposited was still fastened into the south wall of the inn yard. Rusty and old but still intact. Blundeston Parish Church, where he prayed, was built in 1019 and has a round tower with an ancient bell inscribed with the words:

"I was made by John Russele in the year 1015 A.D. and
put in this Church by the Same in 1019 A.D."

The bell is cracked and does not ring now. David Copperfield's pew has his name inscribed on it and his kneeler hangs on the wall. His mother's grave and gravestone still lie in the churchyard. The Bible is dated in the year when King James the Second reigned for the first time. Then the parishioners started to arrive at the Church for the morning service. So I knelt with them in Blundeston Church, the home of David Copperfield, and walking home afterwards I remembered all the things I had seen and was glad I went to Blundeston when I did.

SYLVIA HIBBERSON, 3A.

Headmasters they have turkey,
 The teachers they have duck,
 The prefects they have salad and think they are in luck.
 The seniors they have bacon and sometimes they have ham.
 But all that's left for poor old us, is only bread and jam.
 JOAN STANSFIELD, BERYL SUMMERSGILL, SHEILA TROTTER, 1C.

★

Thoughts

How soon the shades of evening come and go
 And night falls o'er the sleeping countryside.
 The nightingale sings from his shady tree,
 Contrasting with the solemn cry of owls.
 I lie and listen to their haunting song,
 And dream the dreams, which never can come true,
 Of things I've missed, and which have passed me by,
 I wish I'd known the life that was for me,
 And taken chances as they came my way.

C. TODD.

★

Illiterate Contributions from the Literary Lot

1. Going to school at beginning of term—"The Creep."
2. Boys' Assembly—"Sweet and Low."
3. Waiting for break—"Hang on the bell, Nellie" or "Only five minutes more."
4. School dinners—"Ma, I miss your apple pie" or "Belshazzar's Feast."
5. Thoughts before hockey—"O God, *who* makes the sun to shine."
6. Thoughts during hockey—"We plough the fields and scatter."
7. Thoughts after hockey—"Caro mia" (Way).
8. The Laboratory Assistant—"The Sorcerer's Apprentice."
9. The VI Lit. Girls—"The death of 'Ase'" (Peer Gynt Suite).
10. The VI Science Boys—"O sons of man our heroes strong and tender," "Little things mean a lot" or "Anything you can do we can do better."
11. Examination time—"Bewitched, bothered and bewildered."
12. Attractive master for VIth form girls—"Wanted."
13. Boys in the Gymnasium—"Dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones" or "Cockles and mussels."
14. Speech night—"Such a night it really was, such a night."
15. End of term—"Glad that I live am I."

M.B., S.K., S.M., M.N.

★

Night

When the daylight is fading,
 The stars begin to peep,
 And the moon seems to be wading
 Across a sea so deep.
 Everybody in the little village is fast asleep;
 The cows low no more,
 The lambs do not leap;
 For everybody in the village is fast asleep.

PEARL PARK, 1B.

The Robin

The robin in my garden
Has a little breast of red.
He has a little feather nest,
To rest his tiny head.
He built his nest
In the fork of a tree,
And came next morning
To look at me.

JENNIFER HICKLING, 1B.

★

Spotlight on a Reporter

It is now two years since I parted company with school life and the much-dreaded General Certificate of Education. Part of that time I have been a reporter on the Oldham Chronicle.

I suppose that compared with other jobs with their daily and sometimes monotonous routine, the daily task of a reporter might seem to be a highly-exciting and interesting vocation. In the main that is true; at least that is my opinion. But few make the grade and still fewer reach the goal of most journalists—"Fleet Street"—which, incidentally, contains the headquarters of only a few of our national daily newspapers. The rest are on adjoining streets.

Many would-be aspirants to the ranks of the profession imagine it to be like the newspaper office commonly depicted in American films with its colourful and carelessly attired staff, where our hero and star reporter swaggers up to the News Editor or Editor, sits himself on his desk, legs swinging, and drawls, "Hya, Hank! Any moiders today?"

On the contrary, the task of a provincial reporter on a local newspaper includes what seems to him such humdrum things as courts, inquests, funerals and flower shows. Perhaps on first sight these do not seem so boring, but remember that if a thing is done often enough it will become monotonous. But the greatest thrill in reporting is that the unexpected is always cropping up. Almost every day contains its quota of unforeseeable happenings.

Reporting calls for a flair for news which can be developed but the instinct for it must be deeply imbedded before the reporter begins his training. It is the faculty for recognising news in things which the ordinary man-in-the-street would pass by without noticing.

And to paraphrase from a book on journalism—in addition a reporter needs to be physically and mentally alert; capable of acting under his own initiative and making snap decisions; possess the faculty of extraordinary concentration; and be an easy conversationalist and a good mixer.

But once established on a paper the biggest hurdle is over and the reporter can set out to prove himself, which is no mean task. The would-be aspirant who hopes to become a reporter on a national daily right away is doomed to disappointment. Generally they only accept reporters with years of provincial experience behind them from a local evening or weekly newspaper. Progress through this profession, as in most, is necessarily like a ladder. It has been known, however, for a person to be news editor of a daily at 25 and editor at 30. But those exceptions are unusually brilliant.

A reporter who has secured a position on a local newspaper finds himself with a remarkable amount of freedom of movement and action. This is not the case all the time, however, and for periods he must work at frantic speed and with unerring accuracy. His biggest enemy is the clock.

When he arrives in the office in the morning the day's events, that is those that can be forecast (and it is surprising that seven-eighths of a reporter's assignments are known before the day starts), have been entered into a large diary. If he is booked for any event or story his initials will be written at the side of the entry by the Chief Reporter.

Typical entries which occur most often are: Oldham Court 10.30; Inquest Middleton (man drowned) 2.30; Calls; District; Scrapbook; Noon duty; and many others varying according to the day.

Murders, contrary to popular belief, occur seldom for crime reporters. A local crime reporter may confine his activities to reporting traffic offences at the local Magistrates' Court.

I.S.

★

A Swan

Fresh green leaves now turn to gold;
Summer's gone.
Zephyrus flees from winter cold,
But not the swan.
Creatures in the spring will wake;
All but one;
For lying Zeus-like on the lake—
A frozen swan.
And when the world awakes in Spring
They'll lay a wreath
And say, upon this lovely lake something
Met death.

MARGARET TREADWELL, 4B.

★

Scooter

It was the night when I came home from the cinema when I remembered. The hall looked bare without his cot standing there. I remember how, when I went to bed he would stick his head between the bars and say "Hi, da," which was later translated by my brother to be "Hi, there." We called him Bouncy at first because of his cuddly, round form, and when he walked he did not move slowly but at a trot, which gave him the name of "Scooter."

How I miss his bonny face, his black hair, his chubby arms. My arms yearn to hold him and my lips to kiss him again—to have him for twenty short months and then lose him, lose him the day mother came in and said, "You and Peter have been wonderful. I have managed to find an apartment. We shall be moving in a month to the city. Scooter won't have to sleep in the hall any more."

I remember about the dream I had that night, of brilliantly coloured cars running over me, and how when I still look into the dark, desolate hall, why they did not leave his cot there to let me imagine that he is still in it. On Earth.

HEATHER TESSIER, 2A.

★

Manners

"Johnny, do not bang the door,
And do not stamp upon the floor,
Do not push when in a crowd,
And do not shout answers loud.
Also, it is very rude
To gobble quickly all your food,
Always remember 'Thank you' and 'Please'
And cover your mouth when about to sneeze.

Having been to a party, remember to say
'Thank you' when you're coming away,
Then perhaps you'll go next year,
But if you forget, you won't. Oh dear!"

JOYCE PEARTON, 1B.

★

Jean Me

I'm always in trouble; nothing goes right.
It's "Jean! Jean!" morn till night.
At home or at school something is wrong
And it's "Jean! Jean!" all the day long.

I'm scolded for music and for sums;
For tearing my stocking or sucking my thumbs;
For losing my pencil or spilling the ink,
It's "Jean! Jean! goodness, child, think!"

They scold me at lessons and at play,
They scold whatever I do or say.
At mealtimes it's "Jean, can't you sit straight,
And look at the mess on your plate!"

★

Resolution

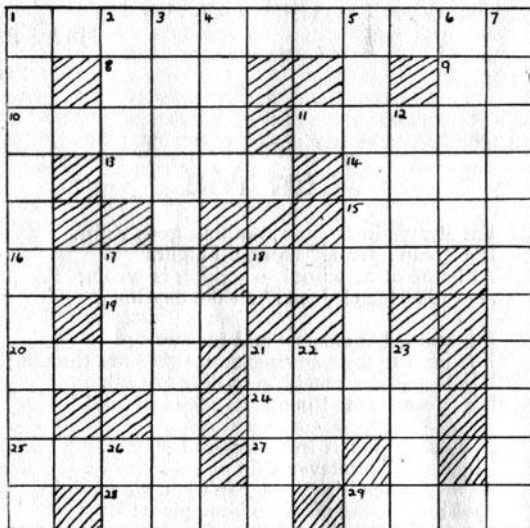
He struggled blindly on into the pitch blackness. He had never known a blackness so thick, so solid, he reflected, as he groped and floundered his way along. One hand thrust out tentacle-like in front, he sensed rather than felt himself arrive at the edge of the top step, and tentatively commenced the descent.

He cursed the all-enveloping darkness, and himself for having omitted to bring a light; even a box of matches would have been worth its weight in gold to him. Staggering and blundering, he stumbled down the steps; he could not recall there having been so many the last time. As he reached the bottom he debated whether or not it was worth all the effort and sacrifice. Should he give it up and turn back? No, "returning were as tedious as go o'er," but it must not be empty-handed, or he would never live the failure down—he had no choice but to continue. He grasped his precious burden by the handle tightly, and determinedly strode forward, promptly barking his left shin upon a heavy protruding but otherwise unidentifiable object.

At last, he arrived at his destination, and thrusting the handle forward, he began to assemble that for which he had made this hazardous journey. Again and again he stabbed forward into the murky blackness, but that which it contacted resisted strongly, refusing to yield an inch. Exasperated, he released his hold upon it and it clattered to the stone floor, the sound echoing loudly and hollowly in the narrow confines of the tunnel, but he paid no heed, scrabbling hysterically with both hands at the unseen mass in front. What a hopeless business!

It was then he made his supreme decision, as he paused for breath, sweat pouring from his face and neck. If he survived to escape from this, he would alter things. This would never happen again. The very next day, he would FIX AN ELECTRIC LIGHT IN THE COAL CELLAR!!

Crossword



CLUES.

ACROSS.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Stern Ladies?—Not far away (11). | 18. Becomes less taut (4). |
| 8. Singly speaking (3). | 19. Painting material in coils? (3). |
| 9. Not out! (2). | 20. The Great Barrier for example (4). |
| 10. I tear things—because I am annoyed (5). | 21. American pocket money? (4). |
| 11. Toast for the animal. | 24. Before the volcano (4). |
| 13. Deem an ancient person from the Middle East (4). | 25. Skin rope? (4). |
| 14. Golden eagle (4). | 27. Short Edward (2). |
| 15. Bring up (4). | 28. I had encouragement on the Red Sea (4). |
| 16. Soar in a boat! (4). | 29. Important person in the mire? (4). |

Down.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. A recorder of earth movements (11). | 12. The basis of many metals (4). |
| 2. Wander (4). | 17. Most of 12D in fish? (3). |
| 3. Searches often are (11). | 21. French town (4). |
| 4. A friend in this is true (4). | 22. We are not quite at this, yet (3). |
| 5. Does it—from washing-up? (8). | 23. The end of this is always looked forward to with great interest (4). |
| 6. Climbing plant (5). | 26. Academician (abb.) (2). |
| 7. Often thinks he is funny (11). | |

(Solution page 36).

★

Vis Comica III

(Lament for THE Sixth)

Vis Comica I, Vis Comica II, were both successes, acclaimed by you !
 And now we have Vis Comica III,
 Put into print for all to see.
 The sixth are gone, the school is sad,
 They were the best it ever had.

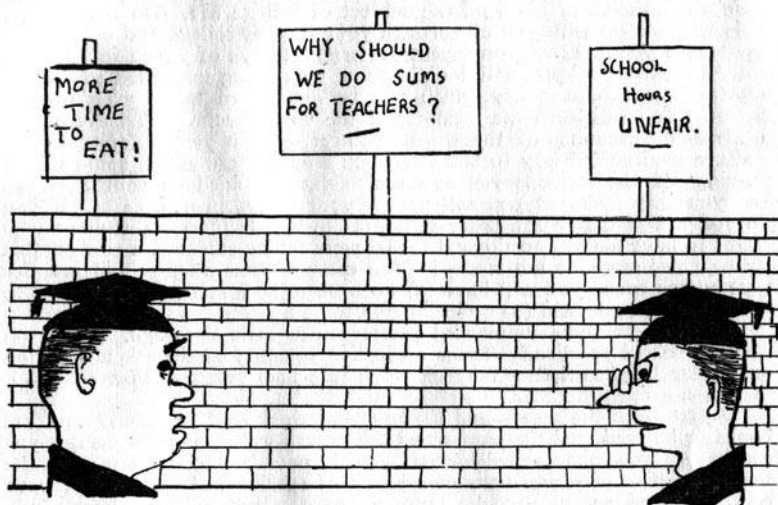
They were brave and they were bold,
But now alas they have grown too old
To stay in the school any more;
They have walked in triumph through the door.

Their last day here was one of sorrow,
The whole school knew that on the morrow,
They would be gone, these fine young chaps,
They would no longer wear school caps!
Now the new term starts, and with leaden hearts

The school begins upon its task; but without THE sixth.
For they are gone! one and all,
But their ghosts still walk the upper hall,
Their familiar cries echo still,
From where they stood by the window sill;
But THEY are gone; the illustrious sixth.

PARCE PARCE PRECOR.

★



Mutiny !

I wonder what would happen
If folks like you and me
Decided we would go on strike,
What a terrible fuss there'd be.
The Head and all the teachers
Would be in such a stew,
Then perhaps they would appreciate
And think of all we do.
Who'd answer all the questions
That we get asked each day?
Who'd answer all their questions
And lines of Shakespeare say?
Who'd tell them theorems one and two,
Who'd analyse H_2SO_4 .
All these things we have to do
But yet they ask for more.
Five days of every week we slave

All through each term and yet
Receive no thanks at all,
And not one penny do we get!
Now, really, can you wonder that
We feel inclined to shirk,
When grown-ups say "You're lucky,
WE HAVE TO GO TO WORK!"

GORDON MILLS, 4B.

★

College Life

AN ESSAY WRITTEN ON COLLEGE FILE-PAPER

Reference books on the subject :

"DON'T DO IT," by Jane Hope.

"DO DO IT," by Jane Dope.

When you have read the books which I have listed above you may have a confliction of ideas on the subject of college life. Do not worry! This will remain with you all through your time at college and only afterwards will you find that you "spent the happiest days of your life" there.

As a "Fresher" you will doubtless find everything magnified to a great extent—except your money which will be diminished to an even greater extent. You will learn the meaning of the word "lecture" and even after a while, the meaning of the word "lecturer"—when you understand that you are well on the way to success. You may in time attend some of the meetings of the societies you so enthusiastically joined on your first day and you may find that you will get all your essays in in time but if you do you are in danger of being called (a) by the lecturers, a student who seems to have nothing to do, and (b) by your fellow-students, a confounded swot. Once more, do not worry! You will find that when school practice time comes round you will have (a) no time to be a student who seems to have nothing to do, and (b) no inclination to be a swot.

Did I hear some uninitiated person say a little time ago, "What on earth is school practice?" Later on in life you may again ask a question on similar lines to that—"Why on earth is school practice allowed?"—but there is a subtle difference.

Apart from the essays and the practical work, and the essays and the books to be read, and the essays and the nature walks, and the essays, you can have a good time at college. If you do not want to harbour even the faintest dislike of seeing your own brand of species, and nothing but your own brand of species, all the time, go to a mixed college. Even in a spinsters' or bachelors' establishment, friends are easily made if you are ready to make them and you can have some fun. Living in is the best way of getting to know everyone—and of getting your work done, but that is by the way.

Go to college, enjoy yourself and work, and one day, who knows? You may laugh at Jane Hope and be glad that you did do it."

J. WILD.

★

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD

ACROSS.

1, Strinesdale; 8, One; 9, In; 10, Irate; 11, Stoat; 13, Mede; 14, Erne; 15, Rear; 16, Oars; 18, Sags; 19, Oil; 20, Reef; 21, Cent; 24, Ante; 25, Pore; 27, Ed.; 28, Aden; 29, Emir.

DOWN.

1, Seismograph; 2, Roam; 3, Intensified; 4, Need; 5, Detergent; 6, Liana; 7, Entertainer; 12, Ores; 17, Roe; 21, Caen; 22, End; 23, Term; 26, R.A.

The London Letter



To us has fallen the privilege of writing the first letter to the "Greenhillian" from a University. We remember the time seven years ago when, as very small and very shy boys, we arrived at Ward Street for our first day in a Grammar School. Even then, we were the top class in the school and we have been with it all through the pioneer days. So now we are the first to carry the name of Greenhill Grammar School beyond the boundaries of Oldham and to show these people down here what we are really made of.

Anyone coming to a University will be struck by the difference in the method of education between school and college. At school, pupils are taught, but here we are taught to teach ourselves. Attendance at lectures is not compulsory—a system which would appeal to many at school. After considering this, however, we decided that non-attendance means nothing learned; the result of this being failure in exams, leading in turn to cessation of grant. We are encouraged to buy books, especially those written by the lecturers themselves, and from the number of books given, it appears that each student is required to furnish himself with a small library.

Let us describe to you our first day at college. We walk timidly up to the magnificent portals of the Temple of Learning. We are directed to the main lecture theatre where we are addressed by the "Big Chief." After this we are besieged by various gentlemen (and ladies) who entreat us to join their particular club or society, and who assure us that it is the best in the college, if not in the whole university. After they have gained our confidence and our subscription, we are left five shillings lighter

and still wondering "what the heck" it is all about. At lunch-time we become hungry, so we try the refectory. Meals resemble those we had at school, so the next day we decide to try somewhere else. One room in great use is a place where liquid refreshment can be obtained, and is known to the local inhabitants as the bar, but we must not corrupt your morals with descriptions of its activities.

Instead we will tell you something of the little sleepy village in which we live. It is called London, and can be found on most large-scale maps. Every day glorious scenes are witnessed between the hours of five and six p.m. Often when the mob assembles, utter confusion reigns and in wild 'bus queues a pack leader (such as our old friend, J. E. Wareham, Esq. (Manchester)) would not be out of place. In the bowels of the earth similar riots occur where you are very lucky to find even someone's feet to stand on.

Near our respective colleges stand certain imposing (and inviting) monuments, chief among which are Nelson's Column, Eros and the Albert Memorial. However, as the University has banned all "rags," these venerable gentlemen will not be molested this year.

Next year we hope that letters from students at other universities will appear in the magazine. In conclusion, we send our best wishes to the staff and pupils of Greenhill Grammar School, and remain,

Yours sincerely,

D. ELWELL, Imperial College.

F. BROOK, London School of Economics.

University of London.

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“WINDAK” rain repellent windjammers.

“CASH’S” woven names.

★

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Careers in the Coal Industry.—Modern Coalmining is very largely a new industry. More accurately, it is an old and vital industry which is being reconstructed to serve the present and future needs of the nation. While other forms of energy will help, the main source of power in the foreseeable future will continue to be coal.

Technical Careers.—Many well-paid and absorbing jobs are available and the Coal Board are ready to train you for them, either through a University Scholarship or—if you prefer to earn and learn at the same time—by taking you into the industry straight from school and providing technical training without loss of pay.

University Scholarships.—Highly-trained mining engineers are urgently needed. The National Coal Board offer a hundred University Scholarships a year: most are in Mining Engineering, but some are available in Mechanical, Electrical and Chemical Engineering and in Fuel Technology. They are worth about the same as State Scholarships and successful candidates receive them in full—parents' financial position makes no difference to the value of the awards.

Practical Training.—When you have qualified—either through the University or through technical college while working—you are eligible for a two or three year course under the Coal Board's management training scheme. Each trainee has a course mapped out for him personally and a senior engineer gives him individual supervision. If you come in to the industry on the mining engineering side, you have a very good chance of becoming, between the ages of 25 and 30, a colliery undermanager at a salary between £900 and £1,200 a year—or even a colliery manager with a salary in the range of £950 to £1,650.

Other Careers.—There are also good careers in the Board's Scientific Department and in administrative posts. Young men and women of good educational standard (who have preferably spent some time in the sixth form or have attended a university) are also needed in such fields as marketing, finance and labour relations.

Full details can be obtained from any Divisional Headquarters of the Board or from the National Coal Board, Hobart House, London, S.W.1.

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