

FARINGDON COUNTY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

JULY, 1937.

EDITORIAL.

Most Magazines this year seem to have had a Special Coronation Edition, and considering the numerous contributions we received on the subject of Coronation festivities, the School seemed to think we were having one as well. However, we were not.

Last autumn we were pleased to welcome four new members of Staff, Miss Fletcher, Miss Sturdy, Miss Millns and Miss Strongman.

The School is eagerly looking forward to the expedition to London on July 23rd; in all probability next year's Magazine will consist mainly of a description of this!

We hope the Magazine will give you not a little pleasure, although we feel our efforts are not very praiseworthy. So many of us felt, in the words of a VA would-be contributor:—

“ I don't know what to write about,
I really can't begin,
And even if it did come out
It would never be put in.”

RUTH BRIGHT,
JOYCE BROWN.

JULY 14th, 1937.

This year has increased our numbers again, and being now ninety-seven the problem of how to celebrate our century has now to be considered. If any member of the School, past or present, has anything to suggest I shall be delighted to hear her idea. One of the pleasant things about our growing number is that so many of the newcomers are younger sisters, nieces, or cousins of members of the School, though we have not yet an Old Girl's daughter.

There have been few spectacular changes in the buildings, though the Barn is now well-lighted and heated, and the field more level and reached by a fenced path. In the Easter term the School and friends planted twenty-one trees and a number of shrubs on the Lechlade Road side of the field. These were of many kinds and were alternately forest and flowering trees.

ANSTACE H. MOORE.

GIFTS TO THE SCHOOL, 1936-1937.

Trees for the Field: Forms VI—II, Staff, Rose, Sylvia and Mrs. Peters, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Stevens, Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. Beavis, Miss Craig.
Prizes: Mr. Allen Stevens, Miss Craig, Miss Chamberlain.
Books on hockey, cricket, and tennis for the Library: Marjorie Cadel.

A NIGHT OUT OF DOORS.

For some people this phrase may recall many pleasant or unpleasant memories. To many it immediately brings a vision of tents in the moonlight and the ashes of a camp fire, and twinkling stars. To others it may only suggest Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

There are several ways of spending a night out of doors. Most people sleep "under canvas" in a camp, and in hot weather some sleep in a tent in their own garden. But I suppose there are no restrictions, and one need not sleep in a tent in order to spend a night out of doors. One may go walking, star-gazing, motoring or cycling, or even flying. In fact the phrase is an idiom; it does not mean that one has had to pass the night on the doorstep because there was no key to unlock the door.

I have never spent a night out of doors, never had my "bed in bush with stars to see," never been awake early enough to hear "The Dawn Chorus." Perhaps if I slept outside I might be awakened by the first bird heralding the day.

But if I have missed much, I have also not had any unpleasant nightmares caused by spending a night out of doors. I have not had horrid dreams of frogs or worms crawling over me. I have not had tents falling in on me, nor been chased by infuriated bulls, who objected to tents, nor had to beat an undignified retreat into a farmhouse in the middle of the night.

Yet a night out of doors can provide much fun, and gives one besides a sense of hardiness and sturdy independence at the thought of being able to "sleep out" without suffering from the miseries of stings, bites, or the incapacity to erect a tent or camp bed.

There were, and still are, strange old people who spend their whole lives out of doors. They do not know what it means to sleep with a roof over their heads. Diogenes may have lived in a tub, but even he was not so Spartan as the vagabond who only asked for

"Bed in the bush with stars to see,
Bread I dip in the river,
There's the life for a man like me,
There's the life for ever."

There are not many who would wish to spend all their lives like that.

Perhaps if I once experienced the sensation of spending a night out of doors I might lose all my sense of its disadvantages. But at present it remains one of the many things I have yet to do.

JOYCE BROWN, VI.

A STRANGE LAND.

The sun is setting golden in the west,
And in the sky appears an unknown land;
A golden sea of fire with shores of sand,
And all is peaceful calm and quiet rest.

I see a land of fancy, gleaming bright,
With golden trees, green meadows in the sun;
And day is there, while here the day is done,
And golden roads go winding out of sight.

I stand here gazing, longingly, to reach
Out far into the distance—far beyond
All earthly things, to that strange land—oh fount
And faery realm! Oh stay, I do beseech!

IVY SMITH, VA.

THE VILLAGE SHOP.

To the general shop come all the villagers,
A man for some shag,
A woman with a bag,
They come and go as they have done for years and years.
At the village shop, people many things can buy,
A joint of foreign meat,
A dress of cloth so neat,
Anything new in food or clothes they dash to try.

The general shop is the place where villagers meet,
A tale of woe is told,
While many things are sold,
Friends and enemies forget and one another greet.
All the gossip is made in the small village shop,
People talk and talk on
Of Polly, Bill and John,
While someone for the next day's dinner buys a chop.

CHRISTINE HAWKEN, VA.

THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD.

The past of the world we cannot dispute; the present we know and cannot argue about; it is only the future of the world that we can imagine.

Perhaps we see the world growing worse and worse, perhaps nobler; no-one can dispute it for no-one knows. No-one knows; yet many people dream of it, and perhaps their dreams are right. They see people flying; another ice age; weird animals and people living up in the skies; but I always see, as though at the end of a dark, deep tunnel, somewhere in a dreamland, a little ring of light—eternity.

Sometime in the dim, shadowy future there will come an end to this world. I can see it in my dreams; there will be no sign, but it will come suddenly out of the night: a cold, pale night with no shadows. Suddenly there will be a deep noise, unearthly and weird, which will echo and re-echo through all the corners of the world. Then will come a deep, terrible silence, growing gradually deeper and more terrible, and heavy with horror. As this silence lasts the world will begin to get dark, first like twilight and then a darkness denser and blacker, until it seems almost solid. At this darkness the minds of the people on earth will also grow dark, until they are filled with a depth of despair too deep even to let them make any noise; and the dreary, waiting silence will still hang in the air.

Out of the sky there will appear a ring of golden light shining in the still, black sky. Rays of light will come from this ring and pierce through the gloom to the earth. Then double the amount of rays will mount to the skies again.

Suddenly, with no noise at all, the blackness will leave the earth and in its place there will be a space of light, nothing else. The earth, the trees, the people, everything, will have disappeared in that change from darkness to light; the deep, heavy silence will go also, and in its place there will be a silence that expresses peace. There will be no earth, just a blank, white space and quietness. That is eternity.

GWEN HAWKEN, VA.

A LATIN CROSSWORD PUZZLE.

CLUES.

Down.

1. Opposite of "I learn."
2. This borders the ocean.
3. This flower is mentioned in history.
4. An adverb.
5. A parent.
8. Latin word for "a thing."
10. Preposition governing accusative.
11. To be found on all carts.
19. Demonstrative adjective.
20. Adverb.
22. Latin word for "goddess," reversed.
24. Behold!
25. Personal pronoun.

Across.

1. We go to bed at night for this.
6. We do this when we want anything.
7. Same as "2 down."
9. Soldiers sometimes live in these
12. Conjunction.
13. Farmers do this to some of their fields.
14. Third person singular, present, of verb "to be," reversed.
15. Preposition governing accusative.
16. Conjunction.
17. Nati (actual).
19. Masculine nominative, plural of a demonstrative pronoun.
21. Conjunction.
23. Imperative, plural, of verb "to go."
25. Preposition governing ablative.
26. "Sing!" (Imperative).
27. We do this at meal time.

PEGGY SPINAGE, VA.

FOUNDATION OF THE GIRL GUIDES.

In 1909 the Boy Scouts held a rally in the Crystal Palace, where the Chief himself was coming to inspect the boys; a small party of girls decided to attend the rally. That morning they dressed up in khaki shirts and wideawake hats and set off for the Crystal Palace. The day was wet and cold, but nothing daunted these girls, and they marched in with thousands of Boy Scouts in the hope that the Chief would see them and allow them to join the Scout Movement. The Chief had hardened his heart against all imitations by girls of the game he had invented for the boys of the country; he feared his original idea would be made ridiculous and thereby fail in accomplishing its purpose.

The Chief's scheme was devised to satisfy the young enthusiasts without incurring the disapproval of their parents, and without causing prejudice to the Boy Scout movement. He also decided it must be run absolutely separately from the Boy Scout movement, and by women. He therefore decided on a different name—Girl Guides—which the "Girl Scouts" despised, and asked his sister, Miss Baden-Powell, to undertake the work. She at once consented, and began the work of adapting the book, "Scouting for Boys," so as to make it suitable for girls.

In the meantime plenty of girls were making themselves interested. Many companies were formed on Boy Scout rules; one company had broom handles for staves and red tam-o'-shanters for part of their uniform. But later when pamphlets "A" and "B" were issued by a committee more orderly methods were followed, according to the pamphlets. These prescribed uniform of navy blue skirt, ankle length; navy blue blouse; pale blue muslin scarf, worn with the point down the back, and dropped over the collar; Scout belt and haversack; stretcher; slings; water bottle; red tam-o'-shanter well stuffed with paper to make it stand up; and of course a stove. The captain was distinguished by a navy-blue tam-o'-shanter. The Guides practised first-aid and signalling, and enjoyed church parades. Their camps were ill-organised. They generally slept indoors, on the floor, and lived out-of-doors. Tidiness was their only virtue. The first rallies were held with the Boy Scouts and sometimes when there were about a thousand Scouts there were only twelve or thirteen Guides.

In 1910 a single room was taken in 116, Victoria Street, the Boy Scout Headquarters, for Guide Headquarters, and Miss Margaret Macdonald was invited to become Secretary of the Girl Guides' Association for £91 a year. Sir Robert Baden-Powell gave £100 to the Guide Association to start with and later, when they had money in hand, he refused to have it back. The first company to be registered at Headquarters was Miss Baden-Powell's own, but soon many companies did not leave her's solitary. At the start she arranged to have two pages of Guide news in "Home Notes," a paper issued by Messrs. Pearson.

The first public function that the Girl Guides attended was the League of the Empire in Hyde Park; all the Guides came from different parts of England, and the first public appearance was a great success.

In August, 1911, the agreement with Messrs. Pearson concerning "Home Notes" came to an end and was not renewed; but arrangements were made with another firm to have two pages in their monthly paper, "The Golden Rule." In the first number Miss Baden-Powell announced the encouraging news that "H.R.H. Princess Louisa had graciously consented to become patroness of the movement"; the same number also contained an account of the first Guides trip abroad—a trip to Germany. Encouragement to the movement was also received from the American Civil Engineer Thompson who, at a drawing room meeting, made a very

interesting speech about the difference between Boy Scout training and that of the Girl Guides. He said "In girls' activities we must not aim at strength and endurance, but at grace and beauty. Each girl must look for beauty in every walk of life and try to make life beautiful." At this meeting new shapes of Guiders' hats were also discussed.

At last, in 1912, Miss Baden-Powell's "Handbook of the Girl Guides" was finished and published. The book included suggestions about all aspects of Guide life; the rules and promises; details of second and first-class tests, and the enrolment ceremony. It also gave stories of brave deeds done by girls and women, but the stories were obviously too masculine. Guide diaries were also published in the next year and early in January of the same year a great Children's Welfare Exhibition was held at Olympia, of which the Girl Guides were asked to run a section. They did this very successfully. Later in that year Headquarters issued a paper—"Girl Guides' Gazette." This marked the establishment of the Girl Guides as one big movement.

NANCY EVANS, Form Va

THE BERKSHIRE DOWNS.

Is there anything more pleasant on a hot day than to lie in the cool shade of the beech trees on the Downs and view the surrounding countryside? Here, if nowhere else, we can find a breeze on the hottest day.

The landscape near at hand is of a very different type from that of the Vale below. There are no hedgerows up here, and no trees dotted about everywhere. Those broad stretches of grassland rising up and down, like the waves of the sea, the crests of which often bear long rectangular beech woods, have an unrivalled beauty.

We are surrounded too, by famous landmarks which continually remind us of the history of the neighbourhood, the time when the Berkshire Downs were the scene of activities for the nation's defence. White Horse Hill is not very far away from us, towering over the Vale below. This hill, nine hundred feet high, commands a view of eleven counties. Many hundreds of years ago, the bank and ditch on the top of the hill were probably built to guard the tribesmen's cattle at night against wild beasts and as a place of refuge in war or when an attack was to be made.

The White Horse itself is thought to have been cut out by the Britons—not, as is commonly supposed, by the Saxons—to commemorate their great victory over the Danes. This fact was decided upon after an early British coin, bearing a horse with wrongly placed legs, similar to the White Horse, was found.

Almost at the bottom of the hill is Dragon's Mount, upon which the legend says St. George killed a dragon. At the foot of the hill is the very uncommon manger, with its beautiful curves, like huge sea waves, known as the Giant's Stairs. Along the summit of the White Horse Hill runs the Celtic Ridgeway.

Not far from the White Horse is a curious heap of stones known as Wayland Smith's Cave. This is said to be the oldest building in the country and is probably as much as three thousand years old. It is almost certain that it was the tomb of a tribe chief. The large flat stone on the cave was probably an altar on which human sacrifices were offered. The cave gets its name from a legend, probably originated by the Saxons, named Wayland.

Several miles away, near Lambourn, amidst beautiful down and woodland, are a number of barrows. This place is known as Seven Barrows, but actually there are many more than seven of these burial mounds. In these barrows ashes have been found instead of bones, and also bronze tools.

Thus, even here in this not so famous part of the country, we have something to be very proud of, for there are many places both beautiful in themselves and of interest historically.

JOYCE MATTHEWS, V.B.

AN ACCOUNT OF AN ICE HOCKEY MATCH.

In the Easter holidays I saw an ice hockey match between the Vikings of Southampton, and Streatham. Both teams were Canadians, although they played for English clubs. The game was played by a team of seven men, who wore skates; they were replaced at intervals by other players, as the game is so fast and tiring. It was played something like hockey, only a flat rubber disc called a puck, which was one inch thick and three inches in diameter, was used instead of a ball, and the sticks were much longer and flatter than hockey sticks. The goals were very small, being only four feet high and six feet wide. I thought the goal keepers seemed to block them completely. There were no free hits, but when a player fouled he had to stop playing and sit in a place called the Penalty Corner for several minutes. The game was divided up into several periods with intervals of about five minutes between each, during which the ice was swept. It was a very fast and exciting game and ended in a draw.

MARY AUSTIN, V.B.

AUTUMN.

This is the time of year when everything is sad, and the atmosphere is heavy with fallen rain and rain still to come. The countryside in autumn seems very pleasant, but it is all so still. The way the light falls on the flock of sheep that the old shepherd, crook in hand, is leisurely driving into the shelter, is very beautiful. The trees, stripped of foliage, are a familiar sight all over the countryside. The light and shade in the clouds and on the trees conveys a sense of peace, despite the elements of storm that lend a certain soberness and dignity.

In a lovely, mournful poem by Longfellow the poet speaks of autumn as "the year's eventide," and closes with the words:

"Leaves that the night wind bears
To earth's cold bosom with a sigh,
Are types of our mortality
And of our fading years . . ."

He does not finish on that note, but reminds us that autumn is followed by renewal, even by spring, with its cheerful days.

ROSEMARY GEARY, V.B.

THE STORM BREAKS.

Hot sultry evening when scarce a blade of grass bends to the
whispering wind.
Distant rumbles from over the hills—
Then bed.
In the midnight hour,
A vivid flash!
A rumbling roaring crash!
Then a long, eerie silence in the darkness,
Broken only by the uncanny whistling of the wind or angry rain,
Beating a tattoo on roof and window pane.

EILEEN WOODHOUSE, IV.A.

A STRAWBERRY.

All alone in a field a plump strawberry flourished;
Each day it was fed by its mistress and nourished;
But as no-one could pluck it, the fatter it grew,
Its life was contentment, its troubles were few.

A fresh bed of straw it could always enjoy,
Away from the girls who would sometimes annoy.
Although very often their play it did mar,
It was still the sweet strawberry admired from afar.

Each time we passed through, the gate we shut tight,
To protect our own treasure from peril or flight.
And now, can you guess what this Strawberry might be?
Why, the pet of the Girls' County School—says he!

BRENDA HARRISON, V.A.

THE GREENGROCER'S BOY AND THE GUINEA PIG.

There was once a greengrocer's boy standing on his head on the pavement. His basket and bicycle were by his side, and a small crowd of people stood watching.

Among the crowd, with errand boys, messengers and nurse-maids, stood an elderly gentleman. He was watching the boy and telling anyone who would listen how he used to do more than that when he was a boy. A few people turned to look at him and noticed that he had on the pavement beside him a small wicker hamper with some straw in it.

One small boy was very interested in the hamper and when the other people were looking at the greengrocer's boy, he thought it would be quite easy just to peep inside. He kept on thinking about it until he could resist the temptation no longer. He wriggled round until he was just beside the gentleman and very near the basket. Bending down he carefully undid the catch. He heard a rustle inside the hamper, but he was not frightened. It only made him more curious than ever. Very gently he lifted the lid, but before he could realise what was happening, three guinea-pigs jumped out of the hamper. One ran into the road, another among the crowd, and the third—nobody saw where he went.

What a fuss and commotion there was! The boy came on to his feet again, the gentleman tried to catch his guinea-pigs and the little boy both at once, one policeman came up to know what it was all about and another tried to catch the guinea-pig which was in the road, and to stop the traffic.

The guinea-pig on the pavement was caught by a boy who brought it back to its owner. The one in the road soon got frightened and lay down, a policeman picked it up and put it in the basket with the other.

But no one found the third, few people knew anything about it, and so no one except the greengrocer, his boy, and the gentleman ever did.

The greengrocer boy found out like this. He had to ride a long way to deliver his goods, and when he got near the house he was taking them to he found it was his dinner time. So he thought he wouldn't bother to deliver the cabbages until he had had his dinner.

After dinner he jumped on to his bicycle and rode away with the cabbages to deliver them.

When he arrived at the house he began to unload his basket, but to his surprise two cabbages were missing.

He soon knew the reason when looking in his basket he found a guinea-pig curled up asleep in the bottom.

Now the greengrocer's boy never stands on his head when he has anything to deliver. If he did he would make sure there were no wicker hampers about.

ALISON PORTER, IVa.

A RABBIT.

A rabbit is a furry thing,
His eyes are sharp and bright,
His ears are long and quick to hear,
His legs are fast in flight.

His little tail bobs up and down
When enemies he spies,
Away he runs with all his might,
And in his burrow lies.

He creeps into the farmer's field
His cabbages he steals,
And when he creeps off home again—
I wonder how he feels!

TERESA GARDNER, IVa.

THE OWL.

The sun had set in the west,
And the birds had gone to rest.
The children were all in their beds
Undisturbed by the owl, the sleepy-heads.
To-witta-woo! To-witta-woo!

The moon and stars shone bright
In the cloudless summer night.
All was still, but for the cry
Of the wise old owl in the wood nearby.
To-witta-woo! To-witta-woo!

MARGARET NOBBS, IVb.

THE SPORTS DAY.

The Sports day has come,
And the parents are here
Watching us racing,
And losing I fear.
The cup goes to Sydney,
With Grenville not near.
Buck up old Grenville,
And win it next year.

JOAN LANDSDOWN, III.

A CURIOUS NEST.

I once saw a bird bump into the wall of the garage yard. I looked to see if it was dead, but I could not find it. I hunted about and suddenly heard a cheeping noise. I looked in between the bricks and in a hole at the back were a lot of baby blue tits.

One day I heard an awful noise of screaming. I went down to see what it was, and I found to my surprise a lot of baby birds on the ground. The mother had pushed them out of the nest and was showing some of the baby birds how to fly. In the evening we took two of them who were still on the ground and put them into a box. One died but the other hopped away.

MARJORIE WEBBER, II.

JINGLES.

Dora dropped her darling Dolly,
Dropped it down upon her Polly,
Polly danced about with rage
Deep down in her dark old cage.

JOAN BEAVER, III.

Robert Reggie scaled a rock
By a rugged route.
When Robert Reggie reached the top
He reached some robbers' loot.

JEAN CRIPPS, III.

Tiny Teddy a tear he tore,
Tore the tie that Teddy wore,
Taking tea to Dame Tile's farm,
Tearful tiny Teddy tore,
Tore the tie that Teddy wore.

MARY WILLES, II.

PRIZE GIVING, 1937.

The Prize Giving was held on Friday, March 19th, in the School Hall. Lady Fitzgerald was in the chair. Miss Moore read her report on the year's progress in the school. Before distributing the prizes Mr. H. J. Peake talked to us about the value of doing things for ourselves, both when we were at work and at leisure. Four short speeches were given by parents on various aspects of school life. Mr. Lansdown spoke on "Physical Training," Mrs. Hawken on "Why Train Girls for Careers?", Mrs. Horton on "The Advantages of Day Schools," and Mr. Carter on "Changes in Country Education."

PRIZES.

FORM AVERAGE PRIZES :

VIa—M. Beams; VIb—B. Robbins; Va—J. Brown; Vb—G. Hawken;
IVa—M. Newport; III—M. Nobbs, D. Martin; II—J. Hancock.

GOVERNORS' PRIZE : M. Beams.

KEEP TROTH : Senior, F. Tucker; Junior, J. Whitfield.

READING : M. Farmer.

HOBBIES : Senior, N. Newport; Junior, J. Butler, T. Gardner,
J. Lansdown.

NEEDLEWORK : Senior, A. Watson; Junior, R. Tanner.

DRAWING : Senior, J. Matthews; Junior, M. Willmer.

ESSAY : Senior, I. Smith; Junior, J. Cripps.

OXFORD HIGHER CERTIFICATE RESULT, JULY, 1936.

M. Beams : French with Oral, History, English.

HIGHER CERTIFICATE SUBJECTS ADDED TO SCHOOL CERTIFICATES.

F. Tucker : English, History. M. Wilson : English, History.

OXFORD SCHOOL CERTIFICATE RESULTS, JULY, 1936.

MATRICULATION.

J. Brown : *English, *History, *French with Oral, *Latin, *Maths., *Biology.

PASS.

C. Bailey : *English, History, *French with Oral, Biology, Art.

R. Bright : *English, *History, *French with Oral, Maths., *Biology, Art.

E. Drew : *English, History, French, *Maths., *Art.

J. Harris : *English, *History, *French with Oral, Maths., Art.

J. Skinner : English, History, French with Oral, *Maths., *Art.

* Denotes Credit.

ROYAL DRAWING SOCIETY EXAMINATIONS.

Full Certificate of the Society : E. Mooring.

35 Honours Certificates.

39 Pass Certificates.

TROPHIES, 1935-1936.

All Round Cup, Sidney; Hockey Shield, Drake; Netball Cup, Drake;
Tennis Cup, Drake; Sports Cup, Sidney.

GYMNASTIC CUP : Senior, Va; Junior, IVa.

INTER-FORM NETBALL CUP : VI.

TENNIS CHAMPIONS : Senior, F. Tucker; Junior, M. Smith.

SPORTS BADGES : Senior, J. Cahill; Middle School, N. Viner; Junior,
B. Iles.

PREFECTS, 1936-1937 :

J. Skinner (Head Girl), A. Alder, C. Bailey, R. Bright, J. Brown,
J. Cahill, C. Hawken, G. Hawken, I. Nyström, I. Smith.

J. SKINNER, VI.

SCHOOL CALENDAR, 1936-1937.

- December 2nd : Forms Va and Vn visited Swindon Gas Works.
 December 21st : School Party.
 December 28th : Shakespeare Acting Competition. Picture won by Form Va.
 February 4th : League of Nations Meeting in School Hall.
 February 17th : Forms VI and Va visited Oxford New Theatre to see G.L.D.S. present "Maelselb."
 February 25th : Speech Contest. Picture won by Form IVa.
 March 17th : Talk on League of Nations by Mrs. Downer.
 March 16th : Speech Day.
 March 22nd : Gym. Competition. Senior Cup won by Va. Junior by won by IVn.
 June 2nd : Visit from Mr. Walker.
 June 8th : Sports. Victor Ludorum : Senior, J. Cahill; Middle, J. Mayo; Junior, J. Lansdown and J. Whitfield.
 July 28th : School Expedition to London.
 July 27th : Open Day.
 July 29th : Old Girls' Garden Party.

HOCKEY, 1936-1937.

First XI. : R. Hubbard, C. Hawken, G. Hawken, J. Brown, R. Bright, A. Alder (Captain), N. Viner, K. Nicholson, N. Mulford, J. Cahill, J. Skinner.

There were very few of last year's players still at school and the team suffered from a lack of co-operation, especially in the centre. The defence played with steady determination and towards the end of the season the forwards improved in stickwork and speed. It was very unfortunate that the Spring matches were scratched and regular practice was impossible on account of bad weather.

Results :—

- Witney Grammar School 1st XI. Home. Lost 5—2.
 Milham Ford School, Oxford 2nd XI. Away. Lost 11—0.
 Oxford High School 2nd XI. Home. Lost 2—1.
 Old Girls' 1st XI. Home. Lost 15—0.
 Witney Grammar School 1st XI. Away. Scratched.
 Comptonwood School, Swindon, 1st XI. Home. Scratched.
 The College, Swindon, 1st XI. Home. Scratched.
 Sibsey won the Inter-House Hockey Shield.

ALICE ALDER, VIA.

NETBALL, 1936-1937.

First VII : A. Alder, R. Bright (Captain), J. Cripps, J. Cahill, J. Skinner, N. Mulford, L. Baldwin.

Second VII : D. Robertson, H. Peers, C. Hawken, N. Viner (Captain), J. Brown, K. Nicholson, R. Geary.

The teams worked hard and showed improved understanding of the game by the end of the season. We hope to have a fuller fixture list next year.

Results :—

- Milham Ford 1st VII. Away. Scratched.
 St. Helen's, Abingdon 1st VII. Home. Lost 15—18.
 St. Katherine's 1st and 2nd VII. Away. Lost (1) 6—23;
 (2) 4—19.
 Old Girls' 1st VII. Home. Won 28—12.
 Form VI won the Inter-Form Netball Cup, and Drake the House Cup.
 RUTH BRIGHT, VIA.

TENNIS, 1937.

First VI :

- 1st Couple : R. Bright, N. Viner, A. Alder (Captain).
 2nd Couple : M. Smith, L. Baldwin.
 3rd Couple : G. Hawken, K. Nicholson.

The standard of play has grown steadier as the season has advanced and with a little more enterprise at the net the team should be successful in the future, especially as we have some promising young players this year.

Results :—

- Witney Grammar School 1st VI. Home. Scratched.
 The College, Swindon 1st VI. Home. Lost.
 St. Helen's, Abingdon 2nd VI. Home. Lost 70—20.
 Witney Grammar School 1st VI. Away. Lost 68—54.
 St. Katherine's, Wantage 2nd VI. Home. Lost 78—39.
 Burford Grammar School 1st VI. Home. Scratched.
 Oxford High School 2nd VI. Home. Won 69—48.

ALICE ALDER, VIA.

OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION.

The year 1936 seems to have been more successful for the Old Girls' Association than the previous year, as we had more new members, and a good Christmas Meeting, when the statement of accounts was read, showing a comparatively substantial balance.

The Summer Meeting was held in July, but owing to rain we were unable to have the usual Garden Party and Tennis Match. Instead the School very kindly gave a most enjoyable entertainment of French sketches, songs, and National Country dancing in the Hall. Our only regret is that there was not a larger number of members present to enjoy it.

Miss Reed, who was on the Old Girls' Committee, left to be married at the end of the Summer Term. Miss Linsley, Senior Mistress, now represents the Staff on the Committee.

The Christmas Meeting was held in December, when a large number of members was present. We were all looking forward to Miss Beck coming, but unfortunately, at the last moment, she was prevented through illness. A General Meeting was held first, when the statement of accounts was given, showing a very satisfactory balance of £7 7s. 8½d. Progressive Games followed, and after supper we were entertained by some of the members. Dancing brought the Meeting to a close. In the afternoon of the same day a Hockey Match was played against the School, when the Old Girls were successful, winning by 14 goals to 1.

In the Spring Term the annual Netball Match was played against the School. As usual, we were beaten, but not by quite so large a margin as in previous years. The score was 23—12 goals to the School.

NEWS OF OLD GIRLS.

Margaret Beams is at Gipsy Hill Training College.

Mary Ballard is proprietress of Romney House Private Hotel in Faringdon.

Ethel Belcher is clerk at the Faringdon Branch of the Express Dairy.

Betty Cahill is nursing at King's College Hospital.

Marjorie Cadel and Faith Tucker both took part in the Festival of Youth at Wembley.

Joan Cadel has left the Wingfield Orthopaedic Hospital and is going to the Middlesex Hospital in October.

Gladys Carter is Secretary of the Faringdon Branch of the Labour Party.

Peggy Chapman has finished her training at Guy's Hospital and has passed her Final Exam.

Dorothy Crust passed London General Schools Examination at Maidenhead County School in July, 1936, and then went to Slough Technical College.

Finola Fitzgerald was presented in Court in May.

Ruth Fuller has completed her course at the Rachel MacMillan Nursery Training College, and is now in charge of a Nursery Class in an Elementary School in Edmonton.

Peggy Grover is a Probationer at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

Joan Harris is working in the Wantage Post Office.

Kathleen Harris is in the Telephone Exchange, Wantage.

Joan Hunter is a Nursery Nurse in Chelsea.

Grace Milsom is cashier in the Wantage Branch of the International Stores.

Mildred Mildenhall has accepted the post of assistant teacher at Ashbury School.

Mrs. Marston (Ena Brice) is living at Chippinghurst, Oxon.

Evelyn Martin is Children's Nurse at Edmonton Municipal Day Nursery, and has passed the Second Part of her Day Nurseries' Exam.

Edith Mooring has been doing Supply work in Berkshire Elementary Schools.

Bridget and Jennifer Morton are at Nottingham High School.

Flora Pettman is a probationer at the Luton Hospital.

Jean Sampson is a book keeper in Witney.

Faith Tucker is taking a Physical Training Course at Chelsea.

Nina Taylor is at the Technical School, Swindon.

Mrs. Vines (E. Parker) is living in Birmingham.

Stella Watson is a probationer at the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

Margaret Woodhouse is at the St. Christopher's Home for Babies, Olton, Birmingham.

Mrs. Hoyle (Miss Reed) is living in Glasgow.

Mrs. Perman (Miss Matthews) has moved to Southborough, Tunbridge Wells.

Sheila Coshall is married and living in New Zealand.

MARRIAGES.

Ena Brice to Percy Marston. March, 1936.

Muriel Chamberlain to D. McDermott. April, 1936.

Elsie Parker to Norman Vines. July, 1936.

Miss Reed to George Hoyle. August, 1936.
Freda Inge to Evelyn Baker. August, 1936.
Nora Tucker to Ronald Fulcher. March, 1937.

NEW MEMBERS.

W. Wraight, F. Tucker, M. Beams, N. Wheeler, J. Colledge, E. Drew,
G. Cox, W. Mildenhall.

We reprint the following letter which Audrey Cambridge has kindly
sent us:—

Longworth,
Abingdon,
Berkshire.
July 15th, 1937.

Dear Old Girls,

I have been asked to tell you something about my work at the Coptic
College, Cairo.

The School is at Abhassieh, one of the suburbs of Cairo, and is on the
very edge of the desert. From the roof we can see the Pyramids though
they are about fifteen miles away.

We have a large play-ground with two net-ball courts and a tennis
court. The wire round the latter is covered with loofah plants. The loofahs
hang down looking like enormous cucumbers; when they are ripe they are
cut down and dried in the sun and used for scrubbing floors and washing
dishes. The school building is big but not big enough, for though it was
started six years ago with 56 children we now have about 270, so we are
hoping to have four new classrooms built this summer. The Primary School
and the dining room are in the play ground apart from the school itself.

The College was founded by some of the leading Copts for Coptic
children, though a certain number of Moslems are taken also. The Copts
claim to be the descendants of the Ancient Egyptians and to have been
converted by St. Mark. Afterwards Egypt was invaded by the Arabs but
a Christian minority survived and now numbers about one million. The
children learn the Coptic Language, which is now only used in the Church
Services and also Coptic music, which is believed to be derived from the
songs of the Nile boatmen and to go back to the time of the Pharaohs.

The girls learn either French or English as a principal, and the other
as a subsidiary language. They are not supposed to speak Arabic in school
except during lessons, but I am afraid that rule is not very well kept. Still
many of them speak and write English fluently. They read English books
and are greatly interested in English affairs. We have wireless and all the

seniors listened to the broadcast of the Coronation. Many of them hope
to visit England after they leave. Several of the girls intend to go on to the
University and to train for a profession.

In the winter the children go for many excursions; to museums and
to visit the Mosques and the ruins of the ancient tombs and temples near
Cairo. Last year we also went to Suez, a three hour drive across the desert,
and went out in a launch to see the entrance to the Suez Canal. We all
enjoyed it immensely. They also went to Parliament to hear a debate, and
to a studio to see a film "shot." They play netball and tennis and team
games and there is a kind of Hop-Scotch which even the bigger ones delight
in. Once a week we have the "Club," which includes lectures, debates,
and music, and to which the Old Girls are welcomed.

We finished up the year with the "Hafla," an end of term entertain-
ment held in the playground, in an enormous tent made of beautiful
embroidered tent cloths, and its floor covered with best yellow sand. The
programme included items in French, English, and Arabic, and songs and
dances.

Once this and the promotion examinations were successfully over we
felt that we all deserved our three months holiday.

With good wishes to everyone,

Yours sincerely,

AUDREY M. CAMBRIDGE.

A. Chamberlain }
P. Church } Hon. Secretaries.