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Editorial

DE REBUS NOVIS

THE School has already begun to build traditions and set standards after beginning only three years ago. The present pupils have the opportunity of enjoying the exhilarating experience of shaping these traditions, and witnessing the successes which their mental and physical efforts have created. Each term sees new developments and introductions only attained by hard work and integrity. Annual play productions, sports fixtures with other schools have all received their baptism since September, 1955, and may they continue to flourish for future generations despite increasing difficulties in this present age when the creative spirit of the individual is languishing under the shroud of mass entertainment.

Now we are attempting to found another tradition, the School magazine, and we find ourselves painfully aware of the responsibility of producing 'No. 1.' The magazine relies for its success on the support and co-operation of the School community, on its awareness of its cultural education and on its willingness to offer contributions which reflect this background. Although our community is a young one, our request for contributions has met with an enthusiastic response. There has been an abundance of poetical entries, but a dearth of good, mature prose. This need will probably be filled with the coming of our sixth form next year.

School Notes

The present school year opened in September last with a total of 449 pupils on the roll, compared with 387 in 1957, and 335 in 1956. Previous numbers have of course been swelled by Cannock High School, housed in the Grammar School premises since 1955. The High School, which has been passing away slowly since the advent of the Grammar School, is now virtually extinct; four only of the original 135 admitted in 1955 remain. The Grammar School is expected to reach full maturity in two years' time when Advanced Level work will have been completed by the first Sixth Form.

* * *

During the last twelve months or so we have said goodbye to Miss D. M. Bott, who for many years has been associated with Cannock High School. She has accepted an appointment at the Cannock Mining and Technical College. Mr. G. Bancroft relinquished his post here to take up a similar appointment in Central Wales. Miss A. Jackson left at the end of last Summer Term, prior to her marriage, and we are pleased to hear that she has presented her husband with a baby daughter. We wish them all success for the future.

* * *

We have welcomed to the Staff Miss A. Y. Knight, B.A.(Bristol), Miss J. E. Andrews, B.A.(Reading), Mr. H. D. Swinton, B.Sc.(Hull), and Mr. A. Morton, D.L.C. We trust that their stay with us will be a happy one. We deeply regret the long absence of Mr. H. A. Boot because of continued illness; may we hope that he will soon be completely recovered and back with us once more.

* * *

The Annual Speech Day Ceremony was held on March 24th. In the morning the whole school made its way down to the Parish Church in pouring rain to attend the service conducted by the vicar, the Rev. D. K. Robertson. The address was given by the Chairman of the Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District of the Methodist Church, the Rev. B. S. O'Gorman, and the lessons were read by the Superintendent Minister of the Cannock Chase Methodist Circuit, the Rev. R. Oliver. A fuller report of the evening's proceedings appears on a later page of the magazine.

* * *

On the penultimate day of last Summer Term, a 'Day of Sport,' was featured at Cannock Park and proved most enjoyable for players and spectators alike. In the morning, the Staff entertained the High School in tennis and rounders matches, the results of which were never recorded. In the afternoon another rounders match was arranged and a Staff eleven played the School at cricket. It was surmised that in the cricket match some of the staff were beginning to feel the pace and willingly sacrificed their wickets in order to bask in the pleasant sunshine for a time. It is rumoured that on the following day a kind of

out-patients session was held in the Medical Room for the liberal application of linament.

* * *

For the last three years, the school milk-bottle tops have been saved, and a good many pupils have brought in both tops and silver paper. In spite of some early snags, including the bankruptcy of the firm to which we then sold the foil, the collection provides a useful addition to the General Fund. During the first two terms of this school year the total amounted to 52lbs., for which we have received almost £1. Thanks are due to those who have supported this scheme and we hope that increasing numbers will join in.

* * *

It was a great pity that the special showing in February of the Russian Ballet film, *Romeo and Juliet*, personally presented by Mr. Stuart Keen from Devonshire, was not better attended. The purpose of this booking was to provide experience of a medium of cultural entertainment not readily available locally, so that those who took advantage of the opportunity could decide for themselves the worth of ballet as a form of art. There was no doubt that the 30 or 40 who saw it were moved by the performance of Ulanova and the Bolshoi Theatre Company, and fully entered into the spirit of the performance.

* * *

The customary post-examination First Forms Geography excursion took place on July 4th (aptly called Independence Day!). The main aim was to see the Peak District in the Dovedale area, but unfortunately the main stop at Alstonfield was marred by a slight drizzle, which started as the coaches arrived there, developed into a downpour, and then ceased almost immediately after departure. Most pupils were adventurous enough to brave the storm but returned to find that three members of Staff had guarded the coaches well! The route to Alstonfield had traversed the high ground of Cannock Chase and the Trent Flood plain and passed through Abbot's Bromley, Uttoxeter and Ashbourne — the way home led over bleak moorlands and down into Leek, through the Potteries and back along the A34 via Stone and Stafford.

* * *

On two occasions we have been fortunate to have celebrated musicians to play to us through the kindness of the County Music Adviser, Miss Maude Smith.

Our first visitor was Iris Loveridge, who played and introduced an exciting programme including Chopin's 'Fantasie-Improvisu,' Debussy's 'La Cathedrale Engloutie,' and a brilliant Rhapsody by Dohnanyi. This concert was much enjoyed by the whole school.

Last October we welcomed the internationally known violinist, Henry Holst, and his partner, Frank Merrick. Henry Holst lived for many years in England but now lives and teaches in his native Denmark while Frank Merrick is a celebrated pianist and teacher at the Royal College of Music in London. It is certainly hard to believe that Mr.

Merrick is over seventy when one hears his vigorous playing! The music was rather 'harder-going' than in our previous recital consisting as it did of four sonata movements by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert and Brahms. The School enjoyed the song-like Schubert movement best, despite its slow pace, and this was encored.

* * *

Towards the end of last year, a combined effort between the Art Club and the geographers of the school culminated in a trip to Barlaston, the home of the Wedgewood Pottery Factory.

In the entrance hall were showcases which contained exhibits of materials demonstrating a progressive history of the industry. The tour of the factory took the school party to every stage in the process of making an article. Most vivid memories included a dinner service for America which had a pattern of gold plate costing about 65 guineas, and the sight of several enormous pots being thrown on the wheel. The tour was concluded with a visit to the sales room where many bought gifts for friends at Christmas.

* * *

One morning near the end of the summer term we were entertained in the Hall by members of the second and third years who performed a number of short plays in French. Both audience and actors were somewhat apprehensive as the broomstick hit the stage for the third time but confidence soon returned. We were pleased to welcome to the school a visitor from France; the actors were relieved to know that she had understood her own language.

* * *

At the end of the Christmas Term the usual party was held for the First Forms. By the noise emanating from the Hall, it is to be presumed that all those taking part, including the members of Staff, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In the morning of the last day of the Christmas Term a Christmas Anthology was presented for the entertainment of the whole school. This anthology consisted of carols sung by the School Choir, poems, and Christmas readings. The Universal message of Christmas was recognised by the singing of French and Latin carols and by the reciting of a poem in French. It is to be hoped that this anthology will become a regular feature beside the Christmas party and the Film Show.

* * *

The annual Speech Competition was held in the middle of the Spring term. The purpose of the competition is not to show off the capabilities of those who can speak prose and verse well already, but to give some of the less able articulators a chance to improve their own standards. Most forms entered a team and the preliminary rounds were judged by Miss Baker and Mr. Draper. Four teams, 2A, 2 Alpha, and 3B, and form 6 were selected for the final and 2 Alpha proved to be easy winners. Adjudicating the final was Mrs. A. Waterton, of Stourbridge, who complimented the teams upon the high standard achieved.

During the year two trips to the Civic Hall, Wolverhampton, have been arranged when the Halle Orchestra gave concerts. The first visit in December was a new experience for many attending and they all appeared to enjoy the music which was of a light nature and suitable for those who were having their first taste of concert-going. Perhaps the most popular item was a group of Austrian Peasant Dances by Max Schonherr. Their rustic good humour was brilliantly captured by the Orchestra, and the percussion department was kept very busy. The conductor was George Weldon. The second visit was in March when the conductor was Sir John Barbirolli. The music was more difficult, and at least one of the works may have seemed rather obscure to our party, but a performance of Elgar's 'Enigma Variations' proved most enjoyable. We are looking forward to further trips next season.

* * *

Since the School opened, trips have been organised to the leading drama centres in the Midlands. Shakespeare's 'As You Like It' and 'Twelfth Night' have been seen by form groups at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, and a further visit there to see 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' is being made this term. 'Macbeth' at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre and 'Julius Caesar' at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, have also been attended. During the last-named trip, our party was conducted on a most informative tour backstage after the performance by a member of the cast.

R. TRANTER, 3A

Salvete

FORM 1A

Kathlyn Adams, Eileen Beverley, Sandra Bowers, Christine Charlesworth, Anne Craddock, Judith Faulkner, Gillian Gornall, Myra Hesson, Corinne Mountfield, Jennifer Plant, Barbara Selvey, Susan Wright, Robert Barnett, David Bushnell, Roy Cope, Peter Earp, Michael Groves, Alan Hume, Brian Lees, Roger Metcalfe, Geoffrey Morris, David Rhodes, Barry Thomas, Gillies Webster.

FORM 1B

Valerie Amphlett, Diana Brown, Sandra Clarke, Anne Delahaye, Sylvia Fereday, Sheila Gretton, Kathleen Haddican, Mavis Hampton, Sheila James, Katherine Nash, Valerie Poole, Cynthia Stevens, Roy Benson, Peter Chadbund, Paul Evans, David Gunn, Roger Harvey, Brian Humphreys, Richard Leighton, Dennis Miles, Michael Plant, Brian Skelton, Brian Westwood, Raymond Whittaker.

FORM 1C

Sandra Aston, Christine Bewley, Jennifer Brown, Elaine Cliff, Anne Finnemore, Susan Haycock, Anne Lindop, Judith Lycett, Marjorie Molineux, Heather Reece, Elsie Sherwood, Gail Viggars, Robert Bowman, David Davies, John Gliddon, Malcolm Herrington, David Hampton, Robert Hill, Michael Jeffers, David Lenham, Peter Nevill, David Stevenson, Peter Trusselle, Robert Woolridge.

FORM 1D

Sandra Austin, Valerie Bishop, Lesley Bridgewater, Susan Cordley, Margaret Fletcher, Anne Griffiths, Marion Gunn, Elizabeth Heath, Barbara Peck, Lynda Roberts, Lindsey Saunders, Anne-Marie Worrall, Gordon Atkins, Patrick Brindley, Richard Donithorn, Ian Gretton, Christopher Hinks, David Horton, Trevor Jones, Brian Matthews, David Powell, Philip Taylor, David Walters, Terence Winfield.

FORM 2 Alpha. Diana Middleton, Jeremy Williams.

FORM 2B. Michael Ball.

FORM 3 Alpha. Moreen Moss.

FORM 4F. Margaret Seabridge.

Valete

FORM 6

Eileen Harris, Pauline Jones, Patricia Lees, Margaret Cartwright, Joyce Gregory, Celia Roberts, Tamar Trawford.

FORM 5A

Jacqueline Bagshaw, Josephine Brumby, Jean Buckley, Joan Capewell, Elaine Maddocks, Gillian Meacham, Rebecca Morrison, Christine Smith, Peter Hastilow, Peter Whitehouse, Irene Green, Anne Mackay, Avis Caldwell, Margaret Sheerman.

FORM 5C

Celia Jones, Gleniss Lomas, Josephine Millichap, Joyce Pritchards, Patricia Shaw, Janet Smith, Patricia Taylor, Margaret Wright, Anthony Morgan.

FORM 4A. Christine Meier, Geoffrey Stanton.

FORM 3B. Yvonne Price.

FORM 2B. Ronald Hinton.

Cannock Grammar School

After many months of preparation and planning, the Grammar School began to take shape on Calving Hill. The site had been the scene of much hard work and gradually the concrete slabs and steel framework took on its now well-known shape. The danger of mining subsidence was guarded against by building upon concrete slabs.

In September 1955 the first pupils made their way up the school drive. To those of us who are now used to the well-ordered pattern of school life, these first few months seem very strange. Assembly on that first morning took place in the Woodwork Room. Here, too, for some time, school dinners were served to the hardy. As the building was still unfinished, classes were held only in 'F' Block and parts of 'D' Block. Lessons progressed to the accompaniment of grinding cement-mixers and much hammering and banging.

Eventually the building was completed and classrooms took on a familiar note as the desks and chairs were arranged in neat rows. These had been delivered to the school on two previous occasions only to be removed again as there was nowhere to store them in the uncompleted building! Parents and friends were allowed to visit the school after the opening ceremony on October 15th, 1956, performed by Sir George Barnes, D.C.L., Principal of the University College of North Staffs. They could then share some of the joy of the pupils in the well-equipped Art and Craft Rooms, the Domestic Science Rooms, the Assembly Hall and the Library.

Since the first year the School has increased in numbers and gradually traditions have been developing. More pupils now share the thrill of using new text books in a new school. The Library shelves are being filled with brightly-covered books. One Dining Hall now attempts to accommodate vast numbers each day. Boys and girls alike use the modern Woodwork and Domestic Science Rooms. The Sports side of School life is developing and already the School is engaging a friendly rivalry with other schools. Societies of all types now form an integral part of the daily round and have a strong and enthusiastic following.

These first few years in the School's life witness the establishment of tradition and the strengthening of the resolve of all pupils to uphold the school motto,—'Live Worthily.'

JENNIFER TONKS 6

Speech Day

As reported in our School Notes, Speech Day this year was held on 24th March. A large audience of parents and friends of the School was present to witness the ceremony. The Chairman of the Governors, Alderman A. Hampton, O.B.E., J.P., presided, and the prizes were presented by Mr. H. C. Cooksey, M.A., Principal of the Malayan Teachers' Training College near Wolverhampton.

In his opening remarks, Alderman Hampton anticipated the extension of the present school buildings and looked forward to the day when with the opening of other new schools in the area, there would be more places for local children in the school.

Presenting his report of the year's activities, the Headmaster referred to the outstanding success of the pupils of the High School in external examinations and trusted that the same measure of success would attend the first G.C.E. pupils of the Grammar School.

Mr. Cooksey then presented the prizes, endearing himself perhaps to the more junior members of his audience by announcing that he proposed to talk for ten minutes and ten minutes only. The theme of his speech was to urge his audience to use their talents to the full in every walk of life, to show interest in everything that went on around them, and not merely in those subjects in which they were particularly interested. By so doing, he said, they would lead a full life, and, in their own way, promote greater harmony and international understanding throughout the world.

PRIZEWINNERS

FIRST FORMS

Maureen Doody, Marilyn Greensill, Terence Follows, David Nash, Jurek Piasecki, John Powell, William Roberts.

SECOND FORMS

Lesley Bigham, Rosalind Craddock, Margaret Donaldson, Monica Griffiths, Gillian Smith, Raymond Allen, Ian Galletley, Christopher Heath, Robert Tranter.

THIRD FORMS

Dorothy Bailey, Pauline Bushnell, Ruth Fereday, Margaret Hughes, Monica Jones, Susan Lane, Ann Middleton, Jane Perks, Audrey Powers, Patricia Rollins, Margaret Rowley, Susan Wilkinson, Robert Barker, Robert Bates, Melvyn Cooke, Paul Elkin, Christopher Jervis, Michael Lloyd, John Wardle, Ian Wright.

G.C.E. (Ordinary Level) Prizes: Jean Buckley, Yvonne Brindley, Janet Smith, Peter Whitehouse.

G.C.E. (Advanced Level) Prizes: Margaret Cartwright, Celia Roberts.

Junior Domestic Science Prizes: Gillian Anslow, Pamela Harper, Peter Wearing, Jeffrey Swann.

Public Speaking Prizes: Patricia Allen, Alison Room, Tamar Trawford.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

G.C.E. Advanced Level: Margaret Cartwright, Joyce Gregory, Eileen Harris, Pauline Jones, Patricia Lees, Celia Roberts, Tamar Trawford.

B.C.E. Ordinary Level: Jacqueline Bagshaw, Yvonne Brindley, Patricia Brown, Josephine Brumby, Jean Buckley, Avis Caldwell, Joan Capewell, Nora Charlesworth, Stephanie Dale, Irene Green, Gleniss Lomas, Elaine Maddocks, Gillian Meacham, Josephine Millichap, Rebecca Morrison, Joyce Pritchards, Patricia Shaw, Margaret Sheerman, Christine Smith, Janet Smith, Patricia Taylor, Jennifer Tonks, Peter Hastilow, Anthony Morgan, Peter Whitehouse.

School Plays, 1958

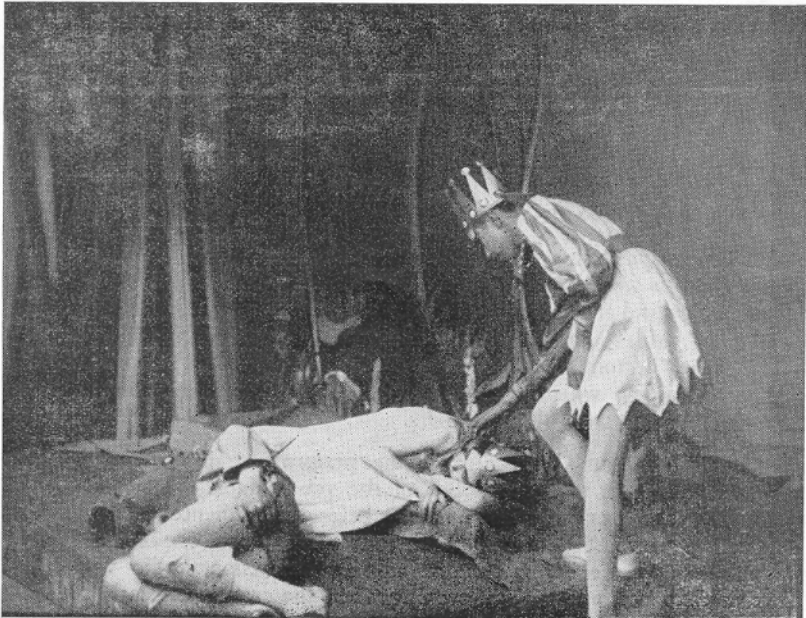
The School's first dramatic production was presented in May, 1958. Since the school had developed only to the third form stage this was really the work of what would normally be regarded as the Junior Dramatic Society, and the choice of plays was very much determined by this factor.

Two plays were presented, which made it possible for a large number of pupils to be actively associated with the production either on the stage or behind the scenes. The first of these was the 'Ugly Duckling' by A. A. Milne, for which the cast was drawn from the first form. The other, 'Bottom's Dream' from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream,' had a larger cast in which all year groups were represented though the greater number were third formers.

In making any assessment of the performance in this particular situation one has to be conscious of the youthfulness of the cast and of their lack of experience of playing before an audience. There was a marked contrast between the first evening, when one could have imagined that they were performing in a television studio with an unseen audience, and the last evening when the cast were clearly aware of the presence of the audience and were conscious of their response. In



"O grim look'd night!"



"What thou seest when thou dost wake,
Do it for thy true love take."

fact, on the last evening there was a tendency to over play when the audience reacted encouragingly to a humorous situation. The discipline which enables one to resist the temptation to labour an amusing incident to the extent of artificiality is, however, a product of experience.

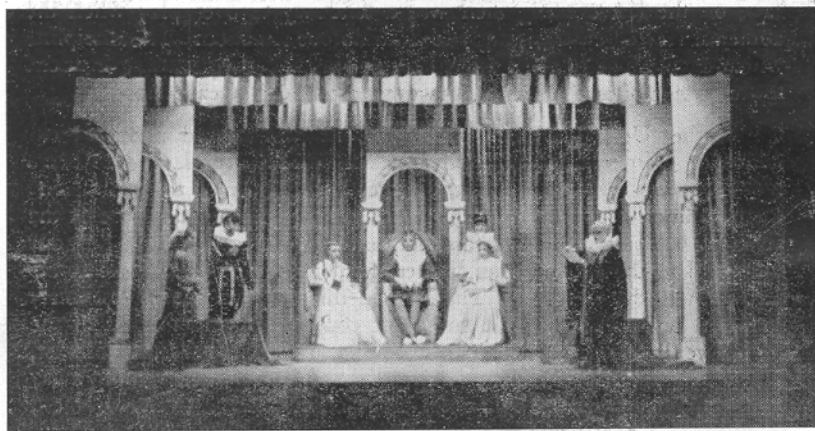
In the 'Ugly Duckling' the first formers achieved a very good standard. Movement was good and reasonably natural, and the cast spoke out with sufficient volume to reach the back of the hall. The most common fault was to speak much too quickly so that some of the dialogue was not sufficiently distinct, and the gentle shades of humour contained in the spoken lines, rather than in the situation, were sometimes lost to the audience. The girls in this play performed extremely well and one of the clearest and most competent performances of the whole evening was that of Princess Camilla. Her father was, in contrast, the one most guilty of babbling at great speed, often when turning away disconcertingly from the audience. It is difficult for a twelve year old to cultivate a ponderous and aged manner which would befit a Chancellor, but a commendable dignified attempt was made.

The older pupils in the cast of 'Bottom's Dream' were probably more self conscious than the juniors in the first play, not so much in their movements as in their speech. The Athenian workmen were an attractive group of rogues, though much of their dialogue did not come across with either sufficient clarity or volume, and it would probably have been difficult for those not familiar with the play to grasp the plot. Here again there was a marked improvement as they adapted themselves to the response of the audience, and by the time the last curtain fell, Quince had endeared himself to the audience as a natural nitwit. Puck was a vision rather than a voice, as was Mustard Seed. The singers performed valiantly, unaccompanied singing being a much greater ordeal than the speaking of lines. The Courtiers steered themselves and their ladies with geometrical precision in the confines of the stage to give an effective impression of dignified and attractive dancing.

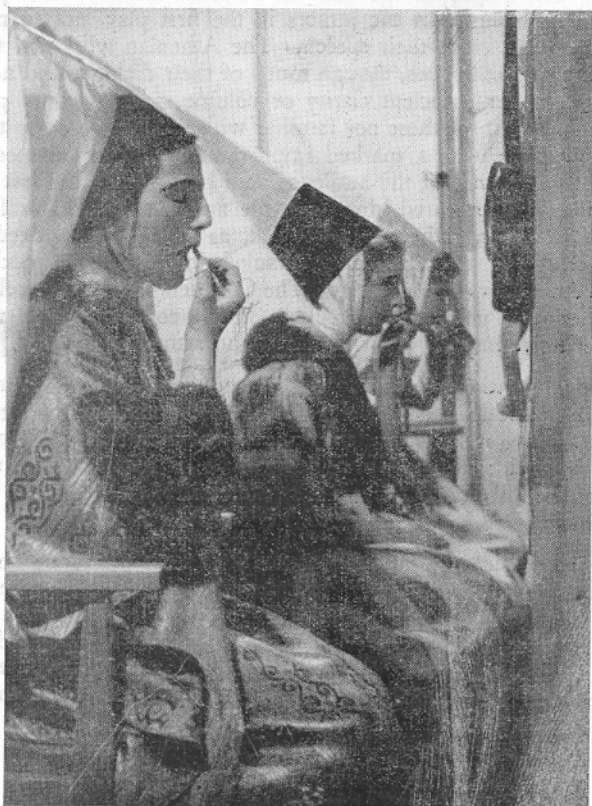
Scenery, lighting effects, costumes, and make-up were very good indeed, and since it is usually the aim of all dramatic societies to make each year's play a more competent achievement than that of the previous year, we can look forward to some delightful experiences in these spheres. The music was always appropriate, and delicately controlled in volume so that voices were never drowned by background themes.

It was an enjoyable production, and while the producers and their assistants can feel very pleased with their first venture with inexperienced material, they will, no doubt, find even greater encouragement in the potential which this occasion revealed. We look forward to the development of some of this talent with keen anticipation, confident that when the Dramatic Society is fully grown there will be many good things in store for us.

J.P.



“ . . . the same riddle cannot be asked on two successive occasions.”



Sports Notes

BOYS' GAMES

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

The story is rather a dismal one. It tells of an unsatisfying season during which matches were lost and, because of fogs and floods, others cancelled. This led to longer gaps between our few matches, so aggravating a situation already difficult owing to the problem of introducing ourselves into the well-established fixture lists of neighbouring grammar schools.

The ground at the Royal School, Wolverhampton, was wet and owing to the activities of twenty three people it soon became muddy and treacherous. Our opponents' marking was keen and their ball sense was good so that, by half time, we had learned a great deal at the expense of three goals. During the second half we settled down and the game was far more even. Each side scored once, so we lost 4—1.

Unfortunately, against the Joseph Leckie School, Walsall, we could not field our best team as several of our players were occupied elsewhere. We lost a hard but sporting game by 3—0.

The game against West Bromwich Grammar School was the most exciting of all. It produced a total of 11 goals including an own goal on each side. On a rather small pitch the ball travelled quickly from end to end and side to side. After leading 3—1 at half time our opponents pulled away to win 7—4.

The return match with Joseph Leckie was hard and the teams were evenly matched. The Cannock team had more than its share of bad luck and near misses, although they did not always play together as a good team should. We tried our best to get the upper hand but in the end lost by the only goal scored.

We have no field of our own; and training time is restricted owing to the distance of the Park from the school and the fact that many of the team live long distances from the school. We felt that we were overcoming these handicaps but we could not prove it as all our remaining matches had to be cancelled.

Next year's fixture list, however, is much more promising. To conclude on an encouraging note it should be recorded that Barry Gilkes was selected to play in goal and Roger Fereday as reserve for the District Schools' side.

R. FEREDAY, 3A

RUGBY FOOTBALL

This year has seen the advent of 'Rugger' to the school. The sport has proved most popular and in both rain and very little fine weather the fourth form boys have trotted down to Cannock Park for their weekly mêlée.

From 'Touch Rugger' as a basis, we were introduced to the skills of passing, swerving, scrummaging and heeling. Then came the tackling. Apart from a broken collar bone, injuries were negligible. Most of the slight bruises were sustained in the scrum, where the front row often complained of sore ears. This, not unnaturally, only served to increase the enthusiasm which remained at a high level throughout.

For a taste of match experience two fixtures were arranged but dense fog deprived us of these games. They would have laid a good foundation for the series of matches arranged for next season. They are mainly against other schools' second XV teams.

This is part of the winter games scheme whereby boys at school learn both games. Soccer is played during the first three years and matches are arranged for boys who are under 14 and under 13 years of age. During the fourth year, rugger will be taught and eventually first and second XV teams will be fielded. Senior boys will continue to play some soccer but obviously it is not possible at a mixed school of three streams to play matches at both games in the same age category.

R. BARKER, 4A

CROSS COUNTRY

During the winter months we have had a full programme of cross country events. The 2nd, 3rd and 4th Forms have trained and raced during Games periods and lunch hours. These pupils have formed the basis for the choice of teams to represent the School in Inter-School matches.

The first of these matches was at Brewood against Brewood Grammar School and Regis Grammar School. This was over a tiring $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles course including roadwork and one very steep hill. The fact that it had been raining caused parts of the course to be extremely muddy and many of the competitors lost their footwear in the mud. Unfortunately M. Benton who was with the leading runners was forced to retire when he lost his shoes and this considerably lessened our chances of success, in what might otherwise have been a very close battle for the Inter-School race.

On Saturday, 7th March, a team from the School took part in the Rugeley Bowl Cross Country Race. There were about 270 entries in

the race which was held in pouring rain. The course included a grueling climb of Etching Hill and it was on this section of the course that J. Garbett was forced to stop. However 1½ miles from the finish he caught several of the team and they finished almost in a straight line. Our first runner home was M. Benton who was 210th. The school team was the youngest in the race but gained in experience of competing in a large meeting. The team race was won by Repton.

The following week J. Garbett showed his true form in an under-16 match with Wolverhampton Grammar School, by beating a boy who was 132nd in the Rugeley Bowl. The School team failed to close in but we should have won if one competitor had walked the rest of the course. Wolverhampton G.S. also won the under-14 race by the convincing margin of 20 points, but M. Allen of Cannock Grammar School ran well to finish second.

P. WOOLRIDGE 4A

ATHLETICS MATCH

Cannock Grammar School v. Joseph Leckie School

This proved to be an interesting match and the spectators at Cannock Festival Stadium had a preview of the School's athletic ability. To add to the occasion we had good conditions for early in May apart from a blustery wind.

Although B. Clenton (Senior 440 yds.), T. Davies (Intermediate 220 yds.) and B. Heath (Senior 100 yds.) all secured second places, Joseph Leckie were establishing an early points lead in the track events. But in the Intermediate 880 yds., P. Evans looked very capable and in the second leg he pulled away to the most convincing win of the day. His time was 2 mins. 19.2 secs., which was faster than that of the winner of the senior half mile.

By now some field events were completed. In the Intermediate High Jump it was disappointing to see both T. Hughes (2nd) and M. Allen (3rd) jumping well below form. The event was won by Joseph Leckie at 4ft. 5 ins., a height considerably below the best of both our jumpers. Generally, though, we did rather better in the field events. In R. Barker and M. Benton we had first and second in the Intermediate Shot and D. Griffin and R. Fereday were equally successful in the Intermediate Long Jump. B. Clenton won the Senior Shot.

On the track we had to wait until R. Hopper won the Junior 220 yds. for our next victory. He won easily and obviously has potential. In the Senior Mile a duel between Hodson and J. Garbett soon developed. Garbett rather unwisely took the lead against the wind during the middle part of the course and consequently in the dash for the tape he was quite out-manoeuvred although only narrowly beaten. The winner's time of 5 mins. 7 secs. and Garbett's 5 mins. 8.4 secs. were both very creditable performances.

R. Barker, though second in the Intermediate Discus, produced a throw of over 105 ft.—better than any of the Seniors. The relay provided us with the thrills of the meeting. Although the Juniors were beaten, the Intermediates made excellent change-overs and an impressive third leg run by Evans virtually ensured us of first place. In the Senior event T. Westwood built up a sound lead on the second leg and from this point the result was never in doubt.

Summing up, let it be said that Joseph Leckie thoroughly deserved their win of 134 pts. to 104. In many events it appeared that their extra experience proved profitable and all-round they were more polished performers than the Cannock boys. We learned much from this most enjoyable match and look forward to others.

C. WEAVER, 4B

GIRLS' GAMES

HOCKEY

This sport is severely handicapped by the lack of playing fields near the School. As a result no fourth year fixtures were played, the one which was arranged being cancelled because of bad weather. The third form and second form teams played only one game each. Once again a most enjoyable match was played against the Staff. Despite the many infringements perpetrated by the male members of the staff, many of whom wielded their sticks in a manner reminiscent of cricketers, the fourth year team held its own.

LACROSSE

This game has just been introduced into the School and, as a result, has not yet reached team standard. We trust that next year will see a full fixture list and an enjoyable season.

ROUNDERS

This is the main summer sport for girls, there being no tennis courts near the school. The fourth year rounders fixture was cancelled because of the weather. The third and second year teams have played one fixture so far against the T. P. Riley County School, they both lost.

Three more Rounders fixtures have been arranged for this term when we shall have the pleasure of meeting Wolverhampton Municipal Grammar School, Churchfields School and Rugeley Grammar School.

NETBALL

Netball is the main winter sport played by the girls at School. Teams are drawn from year groups, and the game has proved most popular.

In previous years the fourth year team has not done very well, but, however, there has been an improvement this year.

The first match was against Churchfields School, from West Bromwich. This match the School won 22—14. We next played Wednesbury at Cannock and we lost 27—5. This defeat was understandable since Wednesbury are a very experienced side.

Our next game was to have been played at home but the inclement weather forced us to play indoors at Bloxwich. It was against the T. P. Riley County School and we won the match 20—12. The following fixtures were away games. Unfortunately the match against Churchfields was cancelled, but the School beat the T. P. Riley School 14—9. We were, however defeated in the return match against Wednesbury by 15—3.

Towards the end of the Easter term the fourth year team played a most enjoyable game against the members of the Staff. As a result of the Rugby tactics of the male members of the Staff, and the height of Mr. Stanley who was the Staff Shooter the pedagogues beat us by the margin of 15—3. We look forward with keen anticipation to the next event of this nature. Perhaps the ravages of anno domini will enable us to have our revenge.

Whereas the fourth year team had a comparatively successful season, the third year team lost all its matches. The second year team, in the few matches it played did not do very well either but should improve with practice and experience.

An inter-form netball competition was held during the Easter term and many pupils supported the various games. A friendly, sometimes vociferous rivalry sprang up between the forms. Eventually the competition was won by 4B, having played 2 Alpha in the final.

JACQUELINE RIMMER, 4B

Society Notes

ART CLUB

I suppose 'Art' means 'Painting' to many people and so to them the Art Club is where people go to paint. In the School Art Club, supervised by Mrs. Morgan, it means a whole range of interesting activities, such as weaving, basketry, pottery, sculpture, clay-modelling, embroidery, architecture and painting in oils, poster colours and coloured inks.

During the past year many paintings have been completed for exhibition about the School buildings, ranging from landscapes to knights in armour. An interesting group project has been the production of a series of ink drawings, showing the progress made in motor-car design from 1900—1959. At Christmas time we designed and printed the School Christmas card and were responsible for the Christmas decorations for which we used such old materials as chicken wire, feathers and hoops borrowed from the gym.

Many would agree that our most exciting venture last year was the part we played in the production of the School plays, for we were res-

responsible for the design and manufacture of the costumes, scenery and stage properties, while during the actual performance we assisted backstage with make-up, costume changes and scene shifting. We have been busy again this year making Chinese costume fans, birds, dragons and scenery for the Dramatic Society's production of 'The Imperial Nightingale.'

No club or society is complete without competitions, and two major events were entered last year.

In the County of Staffordshire Painting Competition, Margaret Cartwright took first prize, Stephanie Dale second prize, while other prizes were won by Barry Lomas, Margaret Rowley and John Wardle. In the all-England competitions, David Oakley gained a commendation.

The club is open to all senior members of the School and new members are very welcome.

E. WILKINSON, 4A

CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club, now in its second year, has been meeting regularly on Mondays and Wednesdays during the lunch break and on Fridays after school. In common with other groups we have found that the new time-table has restricted our activities. Players have found difficulty in arranging games and one result has been the failure to finish the Chess Ladder competition.

During the year we have purchased two more sets bringing the number to four. We are grateful to those members who have brought their own sets to school; we shall still need their help.

During the Spring Term we paid our second visit to Bridgtown Secondary School where we proved that chess can be as exciting as any game. We won three games and lost two with one halved. We are hoping they will be able to visit us this term.

The Club does not meet during the Summer Term but games can be arranged. We hope to see many new members in September; all who can lift a pawn are welcome, grandmasters or merely the likes of us.

P. WEARING, 3A

DANCING CLUB

The suggested formation of a Dancing Club was enthusiastically accepted by a large number of pupils, and under the directorship of its founder, Mr. Hosking, we embarked upon learning more of this fine art.

It was obvious from the start that we lacked the qualities of country dancers, but we set to work with great gusto, and found we needed it all by the end of our first practice. We followed a pattern throughout—five minutes dancing, ten minutes recovering. It is difficult to believe that we covered such a vast amount of ground; we used the whole length of the gym, further progress being prevented by the door. We attempt-

ted dances from many countries, though the countries concerned might wish to be kept dark. Our most triumphant success was an English view of the 'American Mix-up,' but most of the dances finished on these lines. Mr. Hosking's dazed look was not in appreciation of our efforts, and he no longer thought in terms of more practices but of miracles.

Our field was not limited to country dancing, and our hidden talents surfaced; thus we began an attack on ballroom dancing. We soon discovered that the less sensitive the feet, the longer one was able to carry on. In this type of dancing especially, the scarcity of boys resulted in healthy competition among the girls, but careful organization prevented bloodshed. (The Cha-Cha owes its popularity to the fact that the School holidays began).

By this time the Club had attracted more members, and meetings took place during a lunch period as well as Friday evenings so that more of our ambitions could be fulfilled. A public performance has not yet been given, partly due to the fact that one has not been demanded.

Provided that no serious damage has been done to the gym floor we hope to continue our activities after the summer recess, making our mark in the history of the dance.

JUNE GREGORY 6 U
JOHN WARDLE 4 T

FILM SOCIETY

The meetings of the Society have taken place after school on some Fridays during the Autumn and Spring terms with the aim of experiencing a selection of the better class films that are available for showing on the School's 16 m.m. projector.

This year's programme began with 'The Overlanders,' a story based on the evacuation under threat of Japanese invasion during the last war, of many head of cattle from Northern Australia overland to Queensland. Next the showing of 'Martin Luther' had a really good attendance. This film, with some sincere acting, gave a clear insight into the motives of Luther's protests against the corruption within the mediaeval Church in Germany, leading to the establishment of Protestant Churches in many European countries. Another popular show was the Walt Disney film, 'The Living Desert,' with its brilliant photography and fascinating portrayal of insect and animal life. 'King Solomon's Mines' took us treasure seeking into the wilds of Africa; and 'Buggleskelly' seemed equally remote and mysterious as the scene of wild happenings at a branch-line station in the comedy, 'Oh, Mr. Porter,' starring Will Hay. The final film of the season, regarded as a classic among documentary films though made many years ago, was 'Man of Aran,' about the hard life of the fishermen and their families living on the rocky islands off the Atlantic coast of Ireland. An innovation this year was the inclusion in the programme of short feature films and cartoons.

Other films which have been seen in the history of the Society since

it began early in 1957 include 'Ivanhoe,' 'Scrooge,' 'Henry V,' 'The Conquest of Everest,' and 'The Great Adventure,' the moving Swedish film featuring a boy with his tame otter. There were a number of comedies: 'The Titfield Thunderbolt,' 'The Happiest Days of Your Life,' 'The Lavender Hill Mob,' and three war films: 'The Wooden Horse,' 'Appointment with Venus,' and 'The Colditz Story.'

Until now the selection of films has been largely in the hands of Mr. Madge, but the intention has been to establish a committee of members to help with the running of the society. An attempt to do so last year met with little response, but it is hoped that we shall be more successful this year.

D. HALEY 4 T

FOOTNOTE: The Society has to be run on a business basis, with definite fixed financial commitments in the hire-fees for the films. Thus it is essential, if the Society is to continue to exist on a sound footing, that pupils who support its activities should accept regular membership at the beginning of a school year, rather than casually attend individual films.

J.K.L.M.

THE GYMNASTICS CLUB

The Gym Club, which meets during the Autumn and Spring terms is probably the most energetic of after-school activities. An enjoyable time is spent and advice is given on different aspects of vaulting and ability, such as the run-up, take-off, flight and landing. As a result **great** progress has been made in performance, so that handspring and reverse astrides are easily executed. It must be realised that each of these movements presents its difficulties, for gymnastics require strength, balance, agility and precision of movement. The highlight of the Gym Club was when a selected group demonstrated the type of work performed by two hours continues gymnastics in one night. Recently the Advanced Gymnastics Club was formed. This is a group of boys of about the same ability with the result that more difficult and complicated movement can be achieved. This society is indebted to Mr. Hosking who gives up his time after school for the benefit of Club members.

M. COOKE, 4 T

Music Society Notes

CHOIR

A choir is an important asset to every school and a very worthwhile activity for both pupils and members of staff.

The ability and enthusiasm of our leader, Mr. Bailey, has resulted in a very favourable and increasing attendance. Mr. Draper plays an essential part by placing more pressure upon the notes of the keyboard to restore 'the lost chord.' Other services rendered by staff members are those of Miss Bottomley, contralto, and Messrs. Jones and Gofton, both of whom claim to sing tenor.

Our conquests include such previously liked songs as 'Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,' 'The Arethusa,' 'As Torrents in Summer,' and that spirit-raising theme, 'The Viking Song.' 'The Handsome Butcher' was carved about together with 'Old Abraham Brown,' and 'Ave Verum' was launched in Latin. As a result of this it was decided that such talent should no longer be kept from the public, and considering that no audible complaints had been received and that the piano was still in excellent condition, we ventured to perform before the School, and so 'Deck the Hall,' 'Sing Lullabye' and 'Past Three a clock' were included in the School's Christmas programme.

The foundations of a choir have thus been laid and with continued support it can look optimistically to the future.

JUNE GREGORY, 6 U

ORCHESTRA

The School Orchestra has now been meeting every Tuesday night since the beginning of the school year. Although we are a small body consisting of four first violins, five second violins, three 'cellos, a trumpet, a flute, a double bass and piano, we are hoping that this coming Autumn a concert will be held.

The members of the Orchestra are from the music classes held at School and also other pupils, who are tutored privately, attend. During the Summer term we do not meet but at the start of the Autumn term we shall return, ready to start serious rehearsals for the concert.

D. OAKLEY, IV A

THE RECORDER CLUB

On every other Thursday night, after school, a group of girls and boys meet in the Hall as 'The Recorder Club.' About twenty people attended at the beginning of the school year, but throughout last term the number has decreased slightly. The club meetings last for about an hour on each occasion. This is very convenient as if it lasted too long the members would reach home rather late.

The tunes we play are sometimes folk songs, for example: 'The British Grenadiers,' 'Loch Lomond'. We also play some hymn-tunes and classical tunes, for example: 'La donna e mobile' from 'Rigoletto' by Verdi. At the beginning of our first term our teacher managed to obtain a few treble recorders and this enabled us to play in harmony.

For the School Christmas Anthology our club played in some of the hymns and carols and in one carol we played a special descant part. This carol was 'Hark, the herald angels sing.'

At Whitsun the School is performing a Chinese play so that to make it complete we need a Chinese Orchestra! Several members of the club were chosen to take part in this, including Roy Cope (who is actu-

ally playing the drums on this occasion), Dennis Miles, Michael Neville, Roy Benson and Michael Plant, with Mr. Middlehurst, Miss Bottomley and Mr. Bailey playing various other instruments. We shall play Chinese music composed and arranged by Mr. Bailey.

Regular meetings will start again in September and we hope to see an increase in our membership and a regular attendance at all our meetings. Do come along if you play a recorder.

M. PLANT 1B
Secretary

RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY

Meetings of the Society have been held on alternate Thursdays in the Hall after school. The attendance have been generally poor but it is encouraging to note that considerable response has been forthcoming from the first formers. Reproduction facilities have been improved this year by relaying the sound through the hall loudspeakers and luxury seating accommodation has been installed, staff room armchairs being annexed for the comfort of our handful of music lovers, thus compensating in part for a rather empty concert-hall atmosphere.

So far the music has been presented by Mr. Jones, Mr. Bailey and Mr. Middlehurst but it is hoped that in future years society members will show sufficient enthusiasm and initiative to present programmes themselves and of their own choosing.

Some of the main items included in this year's programmes have been:—

Symphony No. 29 in A — Mozart; Enigma Variations — Elgar; Piano Concerto in A minor — Grieg; Suite: L'Arlesienne — Bizet; 'Trial by Jury' — Gilbert and Sullivan; Overture: William Tell — Rossini; Overture 1812 — Tchaikovsky; Suite: Casse-Noisette — Tchaikovsky; Variations from the 'Trout Quintet'— Schubert.

LESLEY BIGHAM 3A

SCRIPTURE CLUB

The Scripture Club meets once a week on Wednesdays at 3.45 p.m. Members of all ages join together for the first part of each meeting but then divide, those from Forms 1 and 2 constituting the Junior Group and the rest the Senior Group.

The Junior Group plays games, often quite active, and listens to short talks by members of the staff and occasional visiting speakers. All these activities are intended to help club members to a better understanding of what being a Christian really means.

The Senior Group also listens to various speakers on Christian themes but more frequently takes part in informal discussions on various basic issues of Christian belief and their application to our everyday lives.

During the winter the Club entered teams in the Bible Quiz Competition on the Acts of the Apostles run by the Cannock 'Youth for Christ' movement. In the first round our team was a resounding success but the more difficult questions in the second round proved to be their undoing.

At irregular intervals on Saturdays during the early Autumn and in the spring, the Club members and others have proceeded on country rambles of up to ten miles. It is expected that these will become a more frequent feature of the Club's activities.

EILEEN ASTBURY 4 Alpha

WOODWORK CLUB

Although Woodwork is a comparatively new subject at this school, this is one of the many thriving school clubs. Its members are of various ages, and, in particular, girls and members of the A forms are welcomed, the latter not taking Woodwork as a school subject, and we hope that by coming along after school they will be able to experience the thrill and satisfaction of making useful articles in wood. Such practice will be useful in later life when they have small jobs to do around their homes.

Many different things are made during the Club time, the most popular item being the small tea-tray. Here is a case where many girls have succeeded in constructing their own primary piece of woodwork and we hope that others will follow their example. Other articles made included bookshelves, table lamps, plate racks and small pieces of furniture.

In order that the Club should function well we have to work as a team. The older boys can often give help and advice to the younger ones and sometimes assistance is given in the other direction also. Teamwork is extremely useful when large items are under construction and this is especially evident with the making of the scenery for the School play.

For this year's play, set in China, we have been making scenery in co-operation with the Art Club; bamboo trees, archways and even a boat are included in the varied collection of props. The Woodwork Club does cutting, shaping and jointing and bolting together of the scenery before it is passed on to the Art Club to be painted. When the pressure of scenery making is upon us we sometimes have to stay behind after school on several evenings to complete our tasks.

Of course the Club does not cater only for the School plays. The facilities of the workshop, although very good, are continually being improved by members. Ordinary cupboards have been turned into tool cupboards and racks have been installed so that tools can be put away easily and located quickly.

Just as one learns interesting things in other subjects, so can one learn many interesting things at the Woodwork club, including know-

ledge, use, care and maintenance of the different tools. This knowledge, coupled with an intelligent application of one's skill, forms a sound basis for the manufacture of an endless number of objects. There is an old saying: 'Give him a hammer and some nails and there is no end to what he can do.'

P. O'Shea, 4B
K. Guy, 4 Alpha

Original Contributions

AUTRES PAYS, AUTRES MOEURS

The time? Half-past six in the morning. The place? Paris. A dishevelled group from Cannock Grammar School was caught in the morning rush in the Paris Metro, and more than one girl was heard to regret taking so many dresses, as she dragged her case along. Do Parisians always get up at this hour?

We had crossed overnight from Newhaven to Dieppe, and after a refreshing breakfast in Paris in a little cafe near the Gare de Lyons for those whose vocabulary permitted it, we came to our senses in time to see the beautiful scenery of the Côte d'Or, the Jura, then on to lac Bourget and the Alps.

We arrived in Annecy in the afternoon to be welcomed at the station by the matron of the lycée Berthollet who claimed to recognise 'les anciens' who had been the year before. At least that is what we thought she said! We were not the only party to be staying at the school; there were some English, a number of French and one German.

What did we find different from England? Food is said to take pride of place in France and we did enjoy the variety once we became used to eating meat without vegetables and found the courage to attack some of the unusual dishes before us.

The sun shone nearly all the time; ninety degrees in the shade was reached consistently throughout the holiday.

In spite of the doubts some of us may have had, French people actually do speak French and, what is more, expected us to do the same.

We passed our time swimming or boating on the lake, walking in surrounding hills, shopping in town and going excursions to Geneva and to Chamonix at the foot of Mont Blanc. We went on one real climb up the 6,500 foot Mont Parmelon. Everyone reached the summit although Mr. Draper was behind with the whip. We walked on the 'Mer de Glace,' a glacier in the Mont Blanc chain, and a small party decided to explore the glacier, not realising the danger of crevasses. However, they returned safely just as a search party was setting out.

And so to Paris for the last three days. I will not describe the city, you must go to see it for yourselves, but Mr. Draper has never forgiven people for preferring the Eiffel Tower to the splendour of the Sainte-Chapelle.

With empty pockets we boarded the train at Gare St. Lazare for Dieppe, and our visit was nearly over. At Dieppe, Mr. Draper succeed-

ed in leaving two asleep on the train and was about to pass through the customs without them. But alas! his nerve failed at the last minute and he went back for them. Will the staff ever forgive him?

At last we were home, greeted by the beauty of Cannock railway station and driving rain. But in contrast to the pale, white faces of our parents, we were all tanned and once more ready to face the rigours of an English winter.

E. WILKINSON 4A

IN QUOTES

School Dinners—

'It is reported that thou didst eat strange flesh
Which some did die to look upon.'

(Anthony and Cleopatra I. iv)

Examinations.—

'If you have tears prepare to shed them now.'

(Julius Caesar III. iii)

Formroom between lessons.—

'O twas such a din to fright a monster's ear,
To make an earthquake.'

(The Tempest II. ii)

Chemistry.—

'Double, double, toil and trouble
Fire burn and cauldron bubble.'

(Macbeth IV. i)

Physics.—

'Throw physic to the dogs, I'll have none of it.'

(Macbeth V. iv)

French.—

'Est-il impossible d'échapper la force de ton bras?'

(King Henry V IV. iv)

P.E.—

'Why are you breathless? And why stare you so?'

(Julius Caesar I. iii)

Master's Opinion.—

'You blocks, you stones, you worse than senseless things.'

(Julius Caesar I. iii)

Teachers in General.—

'The vanity of teaching often tempteth a man to forget that he is
a blockhead.'

(Works—Lord Halifax)

Advice to the members of Staff.—

'The secret of teaching lies in respecting the pupils.'

(Lectures and Biographical Sketches — Emerson)



B. LOMAS, 4T

Mr. L.....d.—

'Besides 'tis known he could speak Greek
As naturally as pigs could squeak.
That Latin was no more difficile
Than to blackbird 'tis to whistle.'

(‘Hudibras’—Samuel Butler)

Mr. B.....r.—

'For he by geometric scale
Could tell the size of pots of ale
And wisely tell the time of day
The clock doth strike by algebra.'

(‘Hudibras’—Samuel Butler)

Miss B.....y.—

'We may live without poetry, music and art
We may live without conscience and without heart,
We may live without friends, we may live without books
But civilized man cannot live without cooks.'

(‘Lucile’—Owen Meredith)

The School Choir.—

'Shrieking and squeaking
In fifty different sharps and flats.'

(Browning — ‘The Pied Piper of Hamelin’)

(KATHRYN STANFIELD 4F)

WILD HORSES

OVER mountains rough and wild, far from human eye
Where the pine trees lift their heads, and the eaglets cry,
Over purple-heathered moors where the curlews home,
There, living their carefree life, the strong wild horses roam.

They haunt the dark and gloomy woods where nest the crow and rook,
They gallop free o'er hill and plain, they leap each ditch and brook,
Their tails are spread behind them like banners as they speed,
They race o'er dale and moorland, one always in the lead.

These noble-looking creatures, with their glossy coats so warm
Can brave the driving rain or snow, the blizzard or the storm;
Their pricked-up ears, their sharp wild eyes, alert until they hear
Some sudden noise which makes them start and prance away in fear.

No longer do they live alone or wander where they will,
For winding roads are being made o'er every dale and hill;
The noise of cars and coaches disturbs the countryside,
And in the rugged mountains the horses, fearful, hide.

DAPHNE APPLEBY 4A

PAGINA LATINA

Urbanitas est pulvino vacuo similis quod nihil tenet praeter quod vitae duritatem laxet.

LESLEY BIGHAM 3A

Punica Fides

Tres viri (Romanus, Graecus et Poenus) ad Averni portas appropinquabant.

Pluto, rex Averni, eos consistere iussit. Primum Graecum rogavit quoties per vitam mentitus esset. Ille respondit: 'Vicies,' atque toties circum urbis muros currere iussus est. Plutoni idem roganti alter (Romanus) respondit se centiens mentitum esse, atque toties currere est iussus. Tum Poenus celeriter effugit, dicens se donum rediturum esse ut currum suum nancisceretur!

* * *

Olim civis Romanus quidam Athenas ivit ut paucos dies apud amicum maneret.

Duo amici per urbis vias ambulabant.

Romanus aedificia circumspiciens rogavit: 'Quot annos illud templum cives aedificabant?'

Amicus: 'Tres annos.'

Romanus: 'Romae illud tribus diebus aedificavissetus.' Tum Acropolim appropinquans, Romanus idem interrogavit; Graecus tamen amici vanitate fessus: 'nescio,' inquit, 'cum heri essem, agricola in illo loco agros arabat!'

Ubi est error?

Homo quidam, qui cordis infirmitatem habebat, in somnis moriturus esse visus est.

Qui ab amico excitatus statim periit, quod mori expectabat.

T. ALLEN 3A

AFTER 'HOHENLINDEN' BY T. CAMPBELL

ON Calving's when the sun was low,
All muddy lay the trodden snow;
And people hurrying to and fro
Were caught in Winter's devilry.

But Calving's saw another sight,
When whistles blew in day's cold light,
Commanding boys to start the fight
In scanty clothing shivering.

By team and colour fast array'd,
Each player then feet well splay'd
Prepares the enemy to raid,
Joins in the dreadful revelry.

Then shook the school as snowballs flew,
As back with power our arms we drew,
Resolved with might to battle through
To win a famous victory.

But darker yet the light shall fade;
On Calving Hill the battle swayed;
And muddier yet the snow was made
By big feet running rapidly.

'Tis four, but scarce the closing whistle heard,
When furious Fourth and fiery Third,
By master's cries are quickly spurred
To shower in ice-cold water.

On Calving's when the sun was low,
E'en muddier lay the trodden snow;
And all the people now know
One more Games Lesson is over.

M. LLOYD, 4A

THE RIVER

GURGLING through the mountain valleys,
Swishing round the rocks and rushes,
Flows the stream which widens slowly,
Flows the stream down to the city;
Then it passes under bridges
Which are made of rough wood branches,
Passes farms and passes houses,
Where the cows and sheep are grazing;
Now the stream becomes a river,
And the children boat upon it,
Men are fishing in the river,
Catching salmon, trout and grayling;
Then it reaches to the city,
Then the tiny fishing inlet.
Here the shells are strewn around it,
As it merges with the ocean.

SYLVIA FEREDAY I B

MORNING ON A FARM

WATCHING, waiting for the morning,
Waiting, restless for its dawning;
The sun to rise above the hills.
List'ning for the cock'rels crowing,
Longing for the farmdog's barking,
Waiting for the milkmaid's clatter,
List'ning for their tiring chatter.
At last, long last, I hear once more
Farmyard's hustling, bustling noises
Begin at last outside my door.

VALERIE POOLE I B

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I gazed at my battered old velour, faithful friend of many a year, resolutely lying by the side of the shiny, new and luridly green beret, its very name sounding sickly. The old hat looked at home, it was full of character — the brim coming away from the crown, the headband's colours merging into one another, the badge hanging at a dangerous angle lending an air of swashbuckling arrogance.

On the other hand, the beret was positively brimming with conceit, its shape was as geometrically correct as Pythagoras' triangle, as conventional as a Women's Institute, and as dull as Oxford Street on Sunday. I gave it a vicious blow but to no avail; it bounced back into position with the persistence of a door-to-door salesman. It was to be hoped that this did not symbolise the atmosphere of my new school.

The great day of the school opening dawned. Unknowingly I had expected the establishment to be run with the efficiency of high-powered American business. Instead it only existed in a kind of organised chaos, but was unfinished. It looked more like the headquarters of the waterworks than a school, and, by special concession, was provided with an entourage of hastily constructed shacks, burning braziers and tea-drinking-spade-leaning-upon workmen who gazed speculatively into space as if meditating on a variation of Epstein's theory.

Assembly was in the Woodwork Room. It was amusing to see that the staff, for the first few months, came in strictly separated groups. On the left we had the ladies: on the right the gentlemen. It seemed hardly likely to have any political inferences, but still it went on. Then one happy day integration occurred and one could only imagine reasons for this sudden change of policy.

Many ingenious rules were thought up. It is said that we are losing our sense of values, and when treading on distinctly weedy grass is regarded as a crime of the first degree, this seems credible. I have always been used to freedom and when I found myself burdened with a list of rules which would have seemed obvious to any sensible being, I was

often tempted to think up some daring escapade by which I broke all rules in one fell swoop, but my revolutionary spirit did not burn brightly enough and the field is still open to would-be contenders.

But now, alas I am a fourth-former, suitably restrained in action and in voice and reasonably satisfied with life. However one thing remains before my existence can be perfect — I am still waiting for the day when the old beret, still a lurid green, ceases to bounce back into position after being kicked around the room yet again.

JOSE DALE 4A

READING

UNDER the stairs,
Nobody looks,
That's where I secretly take
My books;
Books of adventure,
Courage and power,
Under the stairs
I read by the hour.
The house is quiet,
Which gives me just
The time I need,
As under the stairs
I read and read.

C. H. JERVIS, 4 Alpha

GETTING UP IN THE MORNING

OH, what a scurry, a bustle and hurry,
Goes on in the morning at eight!
You've overslept
And you haven't kept
Your appointment for which you are late.
The soap has mysteriously vanished,
The water's exceedingly cold,
The towel has dropped
And the water has slopped,
And Mother's beginning to scold,
'Your bacon, your egg and your sausage
Are drying up here on your plate!
And if you don't hurry
You'll soon have to worry,
For you're certainly going to be late.'

JUDITH LYCETT 1 C



MY HAGGIS

I woke one morning early—it was only half-past nine,
I thought I'll take myself a walk—the day had turned out fine.
I walked among the heather, and through the bracken too,
And was sitting on a boulder, when a haggis came in view.

It stared at me with purple eyes, and the horn upon its head
Trembled in the morning breeze till its nose became quite red,
Its front legs shorter than its hind barely reached the ground;
It tottered by with crab-like walk and made a curious sound.

It started like a rushing wind and then became a bark;
And ended like an owl's hoot or a banshee after dark.
I hid behind my boulder, then slowly raised my head,
And saw the haggis on its back and thought that it was dead.

It seemed there was no doubt at all it had scared itself to death
But it twitched its two long legs at me and took a whistling breath.
So I took out my bagpipes and then began to play
A stirring call to battle, and the thing began to bray.

I charmed it with my music—I fixed it with my eye,
I then approached it cautiously—its bray became a sigh.
My pipes I laid upon the ground, the battle call played on,
I grasped the haggis by its ears and pulled till my strength was gone.

The haggis lay there motionless—its dreadful life was spent,
I laid it on my shoulder and swiftly homeward went.
I skinned it and boiled it, and had it for my dinner,
But ever since that fateful meal—I'm slowly getting thinner!

So listen well, my rotund friends
Who several pounds would lose,
Why fast yourselves with diets cruel?
A haggis you should choose!

MARGARET GUTHRIE, 3A

DELINQUENT'S DELIGHT

I'm the Teddy Boy's Delight,
I'm coming up fifteen,
I've tried them shockin' purple tights,
Me shoes are glarin' green.

I've used that orange lipstick;
'Ad coloured stockings too,
And I've 'ad me 'air done up in stripes
Of yellér, pink an' blue.

I'm lookin' for an 'usband
Though I'm only in me teens;
And 'e'll 'ave ter be a Teddy Boy
Wiv flashy bright blue jeans.

'E'll 'ave a blue fleck jacket
An' sideboards to 'is chin,
An' 'e'll 'ave money by the packet
(Ter keep me stocked wiv gin).

We'll 'ave a largish family
(Me limit's twen'y four),
Though yer never knows for certain—
Some people 'ave 'ad more.

Upon us poor delinquents,
This 'arsh world is so crool,
To think me dreams would all come true—
If I wasn't still at school.

GILLIAN SMITH, 3 Alpha

WILLIAM RUFUS — (1087—1100)

THE reign of King William the Second
Were an uninteresting affair,
There's only two things that's remembered of him—
That's his death and his lovely red hair.

He got his red hair from his mother,
The crown that he wore were his Dad's,
And the arrow that came at the end of his reign
Were a well-deserved gift from the lads.

For William were cunning and cruel,
A committer of every vice,
He'd bluster and steal and ravage and plunder—
Apart from all that—he weren't nice.

He'd two brothers, Robert and Henry,
One older, one younger than he,
And by terms of the will of old Conqueror Bill
The estates had been split into three.

But Bob weren't content with his Dukedom,
And Will weren't content with his throne,
Both wanted the lot, and each started to plot
How to add t'other share to his own.

When they found things had come to a deadlock,
They shook hands and called it a day
But though Henry pretended that quarrels was ended
He still had a card he could play.

For one day when William were hunting
An arrow from somewhere took wing
And William were shot, falling dead on the spot,
And Henry proclaimed himself King.

G. PURCELL, 3B

THE STORM

THE wind lulls softly in the esparto grass,
And rustles dry leaves by the weir
Gently. Then stronger. Now a mighty gust of wind
Roughly bends the old oak trees
Like a mammoth trampling down the grass.
The sky grows heavy, leaden and dark.
Then comes the rain. Spots. Now drizzle.
Now a torrent. A livid spark tears across the sky,
Then wind howls like a ravaging beast,
The rain batters down, filling the muddy river,
Swamping the plain, breaking the tender young twigs.
A mighty crash—a heavy tree topples,
Sending a frightened squirrel scurrying through heavy grass.
The sky grows darker—and flash upon flash
Rends the sky, terrifying the earth.
A mighty rumble rolls across the clouds,
Then dies away to a murmuring mumble.
Suddenly the sun bursts through:
The black clouds blow away.
The gentle wind dries the drenched grasses—
The storm has passed on its way.

ANNA GRIFFITHS, 4 Alpha

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Male, female or just plain alcoholic? Ginn, Booth. Despair not, O ye heavily burdened ones. Looks cover a multitude of sins.

Why will proud, enthusiastic parents inflict the venom of their spleen upon their defenceless offspring? Being a unique antique myself, I sympathise with the aforesaid d.o., not satisfied with my being a common Saxon, my parental benefactors insisted upon patronising medicine with Florence, and History with Anglo. To my horror, I have recently discovered that I narrowly escaped the honorary title of Keziah—enough to crack wide the strongest baptismal font! I sympathise, therefore with a person blessed with a naval surname who is consequently called Popeye.

School offers a wealth of nomenclature. Alder, my old berry, despair not at your hermit's narrow cell, for to shuvle or not to shuvle is the question faced by one of our school aristocracy, whilst the poverty of the landed gentry has reduced the Viscount to a tramp. Even Moses, of necessity, has come down from the mount to meet his Makker, and Jonah has emerged from the whale!

Such are the trends of the times, the beat generation is rampant, Ced the Ted and the Black Alley Kid are no 'squares,' although Barney and Gabby smack of the soapbox. However the etymology of the troglodyte nomenclature is much more obscure:—UNCAS, NEBBU, GID, FEGGER all have neolithic flavour whilst ORANG, TUSKA and BONGO are distinctly zoological.

The question of parasite, saphrophyte or hermaphrodite often arises when biological enthusiasts, influenced by certain masculine attractions cling to the nominates of Ivy, May, Rose and Myrtle. Meanwhile Religion, ever-battling with its factual opponent Science, pours forth a pacifying, absolving stream of Pius, Innocent, Eugene, Boniface, Zosimus and Vigilus. As the majority of these honourable ecclesiastical servants were probably neither pious, innocent or fair of face, the imagination is left to strive against the reason which finally accepts the choice titles of the chosen ones.

Parents sometimes argue that a child was meant to be a John or a Mary. In the case of two respected members of the staff, I prophecy that one set of parents cried 'Eureka! Euclid, Pythagoras or Apollonius,' whilst another discouraged pair were heard to say 'Due to practical error.'

And so, parents-to-be and expect-so-one-day, please remember that the 'clanger' you drop in your moment of joy must be borne by some long-suffering penitent for the rest of his days. 'O, parents, be merciful unto it, an innocent.'

ANGELA SAXON 4F

Old Pupils' Notes

LIFE AT UNIVERSITY

'University'—a word for me once conjured up a picture of stately buildings, gowned and bearded professors, sane and serious young men and women sitting in book-lined libraries deeply engrossed in the art of learning, the whole scene one of deep serenity. Then I came to Leeds and my illusions were quickly shattered. Leeds is a red-brick university; true some professors are gowned and bearded, but the 'Fresher's Conference' revealed to me a Union building crammed with what seemed to be a cup-tie crowd all talking at once . . . and not a book in sight.

The Conference was arranged to help the first years to find their way about before the other students came back two days later. This we dreaded, as there already seemed too many people, and we were told that the University had 4,000 students of whom 900 were women. We were also told by various lecturers that we had come to work, and by various Union officials that we had come to take an active part in the social life. So consequently we were even more confused and many of us wondered how we could reconcile the two.

We soon found that our timetable compared very favourably with our school ones. We had only 13 hours of lectures (classes) per week and about three tutorials when a group of students assemble in the tutor's room and discuss their work. The rest of the time was our own to use to work as suited us best, though a fair proportion of the students find the coffee lounges more amiable than the library and, as T. S. Eliot would say,—'. . . measured out their life with coffee spoons.' We now note, however, that examination fever has settled with a vengeance and the queues for the library get longer every morning.

Being a student seems to give you opportunities for doing things which would appear as hallmarks of insanity in anyone else. You take to the extremes in dress — such as short skirts and wool stockings all colours of the rainbow — or you imitate your male counterparts and wear jeans and sloppy sweaters, the longer the better. You will also find yourself joining numerous societies that you never dreamed existed; for instance if you have always had a secret passion for model trains, then the Railway Society is just for you, where the enthusiasm for such 'toys' runs high; or you would become a campanologist (bell-ringer) or join the Waterways Society and spend your Saturday afternoons pottering about in boats, or to be more exact messing about on one static barge. Of course for the sportsmen there are ample opportunities from the gentle delights of tiddlywinks to the nobler pleasures afforded by cricket, soccer and Rugby football: while the female amazons can take the field for hockey, netball, lacrosse and cricket, and that list, though formidable, is not exhaustive. There are in fact 33 athletic clubs, and among the 77 societies we must not forget the various religious societies,

overseas students' societies and intellectual societies covering such fields as music, politics and debating.

Our jazz bands provide music for the Saturday night 'hops' to which you can dance if you are bright enough to pick out the beat, and for the more formal Grand Balls the Union is entertained by one of England's top professional jazz bands. It is everyone's ambition to attend at least one ball per year which at Leeds are great occasions—full evening dress. For such affairs the chrysalids who crawl about most of the time in jeans and sweaters blossom into delicate social butterflies and look as though their only occupation is attending balls, while their escorts in evening suits and bow ties look so smart that they are hardly recognisable as the long-haired morons who decorate the coffee lounges, the bar or occasionally the library.

You can say that university social life caters for many tastes and indeed it is a very cosmopolitan society. There are students at Leeds from such parts of the world as China, Hungary, Turkey, America, Germany, France, Ireland and all parts of England, people with widely different ways of life and religion, but who all find their place in the great jigsaw puzzle that is a university. Like all societies it has its odd characters, such as those enthusiasts who appear to have assembled a car out of anything and everything, to have painted it bright yellow and christened it tenderly 'Jezebel' or 'Gloria.' Means of transport in this society are many and varied. The textile student (reputed to be the moneyed class) may drive a dashing red sports car and usually drives it like an idiot; then there are the do-it-yourself cars, usually driven by a handy engineering student; next there are numerous motor-bikes and scooters, the rickety bicycle and last but not least, the majority who rely on 'nos pieds.'

Of course a bicycle can be very useful if your digs happen to be three or four miles from the University, for it saves either your shoe-leather or bus fares—no small consideration to the average student. The majority of students at Leeds live in digs which vary in quality according to the temperament of the landlady. You may get the type who is a marvellous cook, as helpful as your mother, and who keeps out of the way if you wish to work. This type is a rarity. Usually you find out your landlady's idiosyncracies fairly early in the year and arrange your tactics to suit. Generally you find she has horror or too much variety in your diet, is definitely against using too much electricity especially in your rooms, cannot understand why a student should feel cold even in the middle of winter, nor why she should alleviate the cold with an electric fire. Your landlady may not be like this, in which case give thanks to the saint who looks after student's lodgings.

In case this homily on university life tends to put off any would-be student, I should like to assure him that it is a wonderful experience and I have yet to meet a student who does not agree.

CHERRY ROBERTS

NURSING

On leaving school last year, I decided to become a nurse, starting at Barcot Grange, near Bromsgrove, which is an annex to the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital. I arrived here at the Grange on August 24th, 1958 to begin my new life as a nursing cadet. I had to become accustomed to the new form of work and the new hours which were very different from those I had known during my school life. One asset is that the work does not become monotonous like office routine because the hours are frequently changed. Here, I go on duty at 7.30 a.m. and have an off-duty period of either 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. or 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. and then resume work until 8.30 a.m. If by chance I have to work during those free periods I automatically finish earlier at 6 p.m. leaving my evenings free. Each week we also have one and a half days free, but they need not necessarily be at the weekend.

My working time is divided between tending patients and attending college. The patients are women and children suffering from ophthalmic diseases, which do not confine them to bed.

The daily duties begin with washing and dressing the children and giving assistance to any blind persons. Breakfast is served in the dining room at 8 a.m. for the patients, while we make the beds, a job which has to be completed by 9 a.m. at the latest. One of us then has to assist Sister with dressings in the Surgery by guiding patients and handing instruments such as the ophthalmoscope. When this is completed all instruments have to be sterilised. During the rest of the day patients have to be taken for walks and other meals provided. We are usually employed in the making of swabs and eye shades in the afternoon. After tea all patients have to be bathed or washed ready for bed and their suppers provided. When all are safely installed in bed we have to wash-up and then distribute hot-water bottles before going off duty.

This is only a brief summary of what this particular type of nursing entails, but I feel that it is a most satisfying job, helping people and watching their progress to restored health and vigour, and it is a great joy to witness people, once blind, seeing the beauty of the world again.

JOAN CAPEWELL

MOTS CROISÉS

(sans accents)

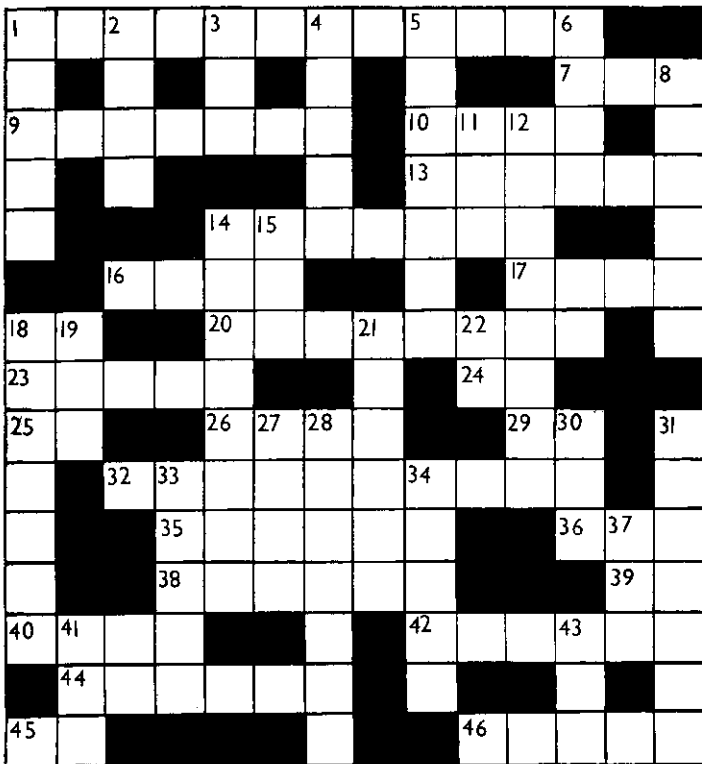
VERTICALEMENT

- 1) ornement fait d'or ou de pierres précieuses.
- 2) siège long et assez bas.
- 3) Pas là, mais _____.
- 4) rater (anagramme).
- 5) un échelon d'une _____.
- 6) sabre.
- 8) on l'a à la fin du jour.
- 11) animal.
- 12) persévérer à demander une chose.
- 14) un insecte avec de belles ailes.
- 15) tous ceux qui ont l' _____ intelligent ne le sont pas.
- 18) tâcher.
- 19) 'vous' se tutoie.
- 21) placer.
- 27) le mois qui suit juillet.
- 28) dire à quelqu'un de venir à la maison.
- 30) se ressemble en retournant.
- 31) un grand bruit.
- 33) beaucoup d'eau.
- 34) donner de l'air à.
- 37) personne qu'on aime.
- 41) futur d'air.
- 43) le mari d'elle.

HORIZONTALEMENT

- 1) collection de livres, où on les met.
- 7) chaque mouvement des jambes en marchant.
- 9) le premier mois de l'année.
- 10) ce qui entoure un champ.
- 13) celui qui vous déteste.
- 14) mot prononcé.
- 16) aujourd'hui je vais, demain j' _____.
- 17) le sot n'en a pas beaucoup.
- 18) aussi.
- 20) ce qu'on a promis à faire.
- 23) participe passé de 'sortir.'
- 24) te retourne.
- 25) non et oui.
- 26) liquide blanc fourni par la vache.
- 29) êtes tombe amoureux.
- 32) celui qui se fait soldat sans y être obligé.
- 35) couvre—chaussure sans soulier.
- 36) on porte beaucoup de choses dans ce cas.
- 38) le tout.
- 39) adjectif possessif.
- 40) futur de rire.

- 42) rendre plein.
 44) nous le faisons a trois heures et demie.
 45) carte à jouer qui retourne.
 46) un dictionnaire est ——— lorsqu'on fait l. s. devoirs.



LIVINGSTONE'S LAST JOURNEY

The friendship of the savage he found,
 They worshipped him and he was lord:
 He was the first to speak their word,
 He was the first to cross their ground,
 He was the first white man who found
 The great Victoria falls, which pour
 Into Zambesi. How they roared!
 He made the country safe and sound.
 He travelled to the Congo's banks,
 The last trip he should ever make;
 His faithful followers always there—
 Helpless to cure his shake.
 Inside the hut they'd built as thanks
 They found him kneeling down in prayer.

L. LACEY, 4 Alpha