

Sutton

High School

Magazine.

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OLD GIRLS' NEWS.

Sutton High School Magazine.

EDITORIAL.

THE last number of the Magazine appeared so late in the term, that we feel we must explain to our readers that the publication was delayed owing to the shortage of labour and consequent difficulty in getting the printing done. For the same reason we are obliged, with much regret, to reduce the Magazine in size for the present.

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Our War work continues on much the same lines as hitherto. We have sent to Lady Smith-Dorrien this term 477 bags; our numbers in the War Savings Association have gone up to 141, and we have bought 185 certificates this term. Our Fancy Dress Dance brought in £17. The Form Gardens at the top of the School play-ground have been dug up, with the help of the elder girls in the School, and are being planted with potatoes.

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We should like to call the attention of our readers to the interesting article on a later page by E. Chambers-Smith, who has for more than a year now been working at the Y.M.C.A. Headquarters in France. In a letter written a few weeks ago, she asked us to send her any old books and magazines for use in the huts. We should be pleased to receive any at the School from old girls or others, and to send them out with our own from here.

Dorcas Meeting.

A combined Upper and Lower School Dorcas Meeting was held on Friday, March 23rd, at 5 o'clock. Plays were again acted. Below is a list of the plays acted and the Forms that took part:

VI.—Snowed up with a Duchess.

L.V.—A Backward Child.

III.—The Blind Beggar's Daughter of Bethnal Green.

II.—The Sleeping Beauty: a Song.

L.I.—Old Roger; and The Spider and the Fly.

The following Old Girls were present:

Elaine Langton Cole, Winnie Morris, Marian Absale, Winnie Knight, Nora Grinley, Dora Moore, and Eileen Rimmington.

News of the Term.

The Holiday Book Prize, for "Great Expectations," was won by the Sixth Form.

In the First Aid Examination, held in December, Grace Taylor and Mollie Coop gained certificates.

The money subscribed to the War Savings Association has now reached the sum of **£227 1s. 6d.**, with which 293 certificates have been bought, and of these 248 have been allotted. During this term the amount of money subscribed has been £144, which is equivalent to 185 certificates.

The total amount collected in the Form Boxes this term is £4 5s. 1½d.

In consequence of the lighting orders we have not been able to have any evening entertainments at School since the War began, without a great deal of trouble in borrowing and improvising curtains for the Hall. But this term a complete set of curtains for the Hall windows has been made, and it was possible to have the Fancy Dress Dance without any difficulty.

This term we have again sent sacks of waste paper to Phillips, Mills & Co., Ltd., Bridge Wharf, Battersea, S.W. This Company makes urgent appeals for paper, and pays for what is sent according to the weight.

Netball.

Owing to the War, all outside matches have been given up this term, but in spite of this the Netball has been very flourishing. There has been an American Tournament, the result of which is printed below. The play on the whole was good, but the shooting in every form was distinctly below the average, and this is a most serious defect, as a team—however good the centres may be—is entirely dependent upon the shooters. The matches for the Form Cup have also taken place this term. Unfortunately, owing to bad weather, the Final which was to have been played the last day of school has

had to be postponed until next term. There is little fresh criticism to make on the play: the defences played a good game, and the passing in the centre of the field was good on the whole. The passing into the circle should have been quicker, as valuable opportunities were lost through hesitation. The shooting was a little better than in the tournament matches. The great event of the term in Netball was a match played against the Old Girls, on Wednesday, March 28th. It resulted in a win to the Old Girls, 12 goals to 13. The game was a very close one, and at half-time the School was leading by two goals. In the second half, however, the Old Girls gained the lead, and, except for four goals shot in rapid succession about four minutes before time, the School did not distinguish themselves in the matter of shooting. The centres combined well, and P. Foucard did good work as defence. She gains her first mention.

FORM CUP MATCHES.

AMERICAN TOURNAMENT.

FORM CUP MATCHES.				AMERICAN TOURNAMENT.							
				Staff	VI.	V.	L.V.	IV.	R.	Total	
IV., bye		IV.	9	Staff -	—	9	23	27	37	28	124
R. -	1			VI. -	12	—	11	13	28	22	86
VI. -	16	VI.	22	V. -	3	3	—	9	17	7	39
Lower School	—			L.V. -	12	4	9	—	16	18	59
V. -	8	V.	9	IV. -	5	2	7	8	—	10	32
L.V., bye		L.V.	10	R. -	6	3	5	4	7	—	25

Hockey.

There have been no outside matches this term, for the increased railway fares have made travelling impossible. In spite of this the hockey has been energetic and keen: new players have come on splendidly and the more seasoned players have improved in many ways.

There have been three good scratch matches; and the team criticisms are given on the play at general practices and in these matches.

Characters of the 1st Eleven.

- P. FOUCARD (Captain) as centre-half plays an energetic game. She backs up her forwards well, but is still inclined to wander from her place.
- Centre-forward (J. HORN) has improved this season: she is fast, but her shooting is neither strong nor quick enough.
- Right-inner (M. FOLLETT) has done good work: her passing is very good, but her work in the circle is not yet forcible enough.
- Right-outer (H. TODD) has shown great promise, but unfortunately has missed many practices. Her pace and centring are both exceptionally good, and with more practice she should make a very good wing.
- Left-inner (E. HOTCHKIN) is steady and does good work in mid-field; her shooting is not good, and on the whole her play needs more freedom and dash.
- Left-outer (I. WINDEBANK) has done well this season, she is fast and persistent. She has not quite learnt when to pass and is at times inclined to overrun the ball, but with practice these faults will soon disappear.
- Right-half (R. L. COLE) marks her opposing forwards well, but has not yet learnt the knack of intercepting passes between the inner and wing. She feeds her forwards well, and her hitting is improving.
- Left-half (D. BROWNE) has improved very much latterly: she marks her forwards well, but her hitting is erratic.
- Right-back (J. CRICK) has distinguished herself by exceptionally good play. She tackles well, and her hitting is very strong but not always well placed.
- Left-back (M. WINTHROP) is reliable and persistent: she feeds her halves and forwards well, but she is not quite quick enough in getting back when the ball has passed her.
- Goal (M. SAUNDERS, Vice-Captain) is an excellent goal-keeper and will be a great loss to the team: she clears well and knows when to use her feet—the two essentials of a really good goal-keeper.

GAMES CLUB ACCOUNTS.

CR.		£	s.	d.	DR.		£	s.	d.
By Balance	...	11	1	11½	To Ground	...	26	15	3
Entrance Fees	...		4	0	Stamps	...		4	0
Subscriptions	...	6	4	0	Sundries	...	13	0	
Grant from Council	...	15	0	0					
Rent for field	...	10	5	0	Balance	...	15	2	8½
		<u>£42 14 11½</u>					<u>£42 14 11½</u>		

Gymnastic Badges.

Lower School—Kindergarten Division	...	P. Smith
Division II.	...	B. Marshall
Division III.	...	L. Saberton
Upper School—Division I.	...	Marjorie Redfern
Division II.	...	G. Wilkinson
Advanced Class	...	E. Hotchkin

Form Drilling.

- 1.—Form VI., 90. Have done good work throughout the term : the work is well finished and energetic. General deportment good : sitting positions improved.
- 2.—Forms Upper V. & IV., 88. Both Forms have reached a high standard in drill. V. Form general deportment fair, sitting positions good. IV. Form general deportment very good, sitting positions fair.
- 4.—Form II., 83. Did not start well, but have done very good work latterly. General deportment very good, sitting positions good.
- 5.—Form Lower V., 74. Are capable of doing very good drill, but their work lacks spirit. Sitting positions improving, general deportment fair.
- 6.—Remove, 73. Have done better work this term, and with more effort could reach a high standard in their drill. Sitting positions need great care, general deportment improving.
- 7.—Form III., 68. Are capable of doing very good work, but do not always do their best. The work during the second half of the term has been very good, but the Form must realise the necessity of working throughout the term. Sitting positions only fair, general deportment very much improved.
- 8.—Form Lower I., 66. Have improved very much during the term, but must learn to do their best every day. Sitting positions good on the whole, general deportment is not up to the standard of last term.
- 9.—Form Upper I., 60. Have not done good work this term. The drill is spoilt by inattention and fidgeting, and until this is overcome the drill cannot be good. Sitting positions good on the whole, general deportment very much improved.

The Fancy Dress Dance.

A Fancy Dress Dance was held this term on Saturday, February 17th, in aid of different War Funds. It was announced beforehand that no new dress was to be bought for the occasion, but in spite of this the costumes were very effective. The useful sum of £17 was gained, a considerable amount of which was raised by the numerous spectators present. Usually the refreshments have been contributed by the kindness of parents; but this term, owing to the food problem, each girl subscribed sixpence, and the management of the supper was put into Mrs. Coupe's capable hands.

The Lower School came from 4.30—7.30, and the Upper School from 7 o'clock to 11 o'clock. A procession round the Hall took place during the half-hour in which both Upper and Lower School

were present, and there, in the midst of many beautiful dresses, one could see the Allies and the Turks marching peacefully together, and with them the neutral Dutch and war-like Indians. Curtains had been hastily made for the Hall a few days before, so that no vestige of light shone out to attract the attention of some wandering "special."

Victoria League.

This term 170 papers and magazines have been sent to Canada. As usual, 1/- has been sent towards the wreath, which is laid every year on Queen Victoria's monument on May 25th, from junior members of the Victoria League. A parcel of toys and picture books is being sent to a school for Indian boys and girls of Lac la Ronge, Saskatchewan, in return for which our members are to receive bears' claws and teeth or beaver teeth and Indian work.

With the Y.M.C.A. "somewhere in France."

I have been for the last ten months at the Y.M.C.A. Headquarters at the Advanced Base of the British Armies in France, this being the nearest place up to the Line that any women (with the exception of a comparatively small number of nurses at the Field Dressing Stations) are allowed to go. All the Y.M.C.A. Huts in France are controlled from this town, each group of huts having a local headquarters, and the whole of these local headquarters being supervised from the Advanced Base. The huts number several hundred spread over a large area, back to a hundred miles or more behind our lines; and they extend to in front of our own guns, in the shape of "dug-outs" in the front line trenches.

As you no doubt know, the Y.M.C.A. is doing great work. It has followed all our Expeditionary Forces in France, Flanders, Salonika, Egypt, etc., and provided huts, where our men are made welcome when off duty—irrespective of creed or social position—and where they can be out of the mud and rain or the hot sun to write letters, rest, read the newspapers, magazines and books. Recreation in the form of billiards, chess, draughts, dominoes and so forth are provided, and concerts and lectures are organized at frequent intervals. Refreshments are always on sale, practically at cost price; as also many kinds of smokes and the necessaries the men require, such as bachelors' buttons, indelible pencils, soap, shaving sticks, bootlaces, nail brushes, to mention only a few of the many lines stocked; and it is the first and by no means easy duty of a new worker to learn the prices of all these articles. Writing materials are provided free; and to show how this latter feature alone is appreciated, I may mention that the cost to the Y.M.C.A. for stationery alone for the men is close on £1,000 a week. One hundred thousand men, it is estimated, use our huts daily, and as many as 27,000 penny tickets for various requirements have been sold in single huts in a day.

None except those who have been at a Base Camp can realize what a boon these huts are to the soldiers, and also the men who are continually passing through the towns. It is difficult to describe how monotonous this camp life is for our soldiers in a foreign country, with practically no distractions to relieve the tedium of the daily routine. These camps are often towns consisting of bare huts or tents in quagmires of mud, or they may be a cluster of tents near a small village miles away from anywhere; or again, they may be "rest camps" for men down from "the line" with a continually changing population; or perhaps they are huge convalescent camps, to which men who have not had a "Blighty" wound are sent when they leave a Base Hospital, to be made fit again as soon as possible. Wherever he is, however, Tommy is a wonderfully cheerful soul, although he does "grouse" a good deal at times; and he deserves all the help we can give him in the way of comforts and distractions.

There are some seventeen huts within a radius of this town, most of them situated in the camps round about. The most interesting huts, however, are those at railway stations, for there one comes in contact with every kind and class of men from all parts of the Empire who are on their way to or from the Firing Line, or are being transferred from one part of the Front to another.

I was serving at one of these huts the other night. It was packed with men who had arrived from the Line, and who had to wait till four o'clock the next morning for their train to take them to

another part of the Front. They looked dog-tired, and were of course muddy and dirty beyond words, with their steel helmets on askew (they very seldom are on quite straight!) and their packs on their backs. Their first thought was of course to get some of the hot tea or coffee (which is always ready in huge urns) together with some bread-and-butter, sandwiches, cakes, etc., and they quickly formed up in a long queue to await their turn. Their inner wants being satisfied, they lay down on the floor to snatch a few hours' sleep, and soon the whole floor of the hut was nothing but sleeping men.

One of the things one realizes so much more here than at home is the tremendousness and magnitude of the War. There are seemingly such inexhaustible numbers of men and quantities of material everywhere.

When I was pouring out about the 20th bowl of tea the other evening, some New Zealanders came along from the train and spoke to me in broken French (as so many men do who have been "up the line" for many months and out of reach of the Red Triangle). They could hardly believe their ears when I replied in English. They told me they had not spoken to an English girl ever since they left New Zealand eighteen months previously. One often comes across men who have similarly not seen an English girl for many months. I was giving tea and cigarettes on a Red Cross train not long ago. One of the men called out, "Oh! do say something. We'd rather have an English girl speak than the cigarettes," and that means something from a Tommy to whose heart "fags" are very dear.

The huts are visited at intervals by Concert Parties organised by Miss Lena Ashwell, the expenses of these parties in France being borne out of Y.M.C.A. funds. The artistes are received with storms of enthusiasm and delight, and the men crowd the huts to suffocation to hear them, even climbing on the rafters and blocking up the window openings; and as they all smoke, the atmosphere at the end of half an hour can be better imagined than described. The Association also brings out well-known lecturers and entertainers, who are also greatly appreciated.

The men organize debating and literary societies, concerts and "sing-songs," which are also held in our huts. They very much enjoy hearing one another's efforts (some—although not all!—of which are first-class), and will applaud to the echo the performance of a favourite "pal" which they have probably heard a dozen times before. At one of these concerts I was greatly surprised to meet a Suttonian—an officer in the Royal Engineers—who has organized an excellent pierrot troupe among the men of his unit. As may be imagined, we had a long talk about mutual friends at home.

We have built cinemas in many places, and the profits from these are devoted to work for disabled soldiers in England, employment being found for 1,000 each month.

One part of our work which is not generally known, is the provision of hospitality free of cost to the relatives of wounded who come out to see soldiers in Base Hospitals, who are too dangerously wounded to be removed to "Blighty". Some of these people have never previously left their native villages, so that they have to be looked after all the time. We meet them on their arrival by the boat and look after them until their return, entertaining them at one of the numerous hostels provided for the purpose at the various hospital centres.

One of the hospitals near here which I visit is a large one under canvas. Each ward is a huge tent with a wooden floor, and lit by electric light. The patients are always so pleased to see visitors. They like to tell of their experiences and how they were wounded, and where, and all about their homes and their families. Near to the hospital is the British Cemetery, where over 1,000 British soldiers lie buried. The graves, beautifully kept, are in long rows, each having a plain wooden cross, giving the man's name and regiment. On some, however, are just the pathetic words, "Unknown British Soldier."

I can truly say that I shall never forget the experiences I have gained out here. There is so much that one cannot write down, and so much more which it is not permitted to write if one could. I shall always be grateful for having had the chance of seeing and doing what I have seen and done. The memory will remain with me always.

ELSA CHAMBERS-SMITH.

The Old Girls' Association.

A Committee Meeting was held early in the Spring Term, to decide what should be done with the money raised by the small sale of work held in December. The proceeds amounted to £19 11s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., of which £8 was required for the rent of the Factory Girls' Club Room—the chief object of the sale—and other amounts were voted as follows: to the Princess Christian Hospital, Sierra Leone, £5, to be sent through Miss Virgo; and to each of the following the sum of one guinea: The Sutton Cottage Hospital, the Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund, the Serbian Red Cross Fund, the Roumanian Hospitals Fund, the British Prisoners of War in Germany, and the Polish Victims' Relief Fund. Thus leaving a balance of a few shillings only.

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This should be the year for a Biennial Meeting of the Association, for the election of New Committee members; but as it is such a time of stress, the Committee has taken upon itself to remain in office for another year, in the hope that by July, 1918, everybody may be able to devote more time and attention to matters such as this.

The Secretary, who has been in office four years, retires this year, and for many reasons does not wish to stand for re-election. Nominations for a new Secretary were asked for by the beginning of April; and the voting papers, should there be a contest, will be sent to members of the Association during the Summer Term.

There are a great many subscriptions for 1917 (1/6) still unpaid, the Secretary would be glad to receive them as soon as possible as the accounts must be complete by July.

The Life Membership Subscription is £1 1s.: all such subscriptions will be invested in War Savings Certificates.

Old Girls' News.

Beryl Baylis is teaching at S. Winifred's School, Bangor.

Winnie Dennis is training as a nurse at S. George's Hospital, S.W.

Marjorie Morris is teaching music at the High School, Lincoln.

Janet Scott is Matron, and Beatrice Nixon and Miss Seymour are both teaching at S. Cyprian's School, Cape Town.

Beatrice Smith has just completed a four years' Nursing Course at the London Hospital, Whitechapel.

Dorothy Sprules has been appointed Head Mistress of the Tonbridge County School.

Ursula Smith is working in a market garden at Guildford.

Marjorie Todhunter (née Stenson) is a lady gardener at Welwyn, Hertfordshire.

Molly Taylor and Molly Iago are working in a Government Chemical Factory.

BIRTHS.

To Mr. & Mrs. Burroughes (Miss M. A. Powell), a son—Dennis.

To Mr. & Mrs. Fox (Muriel Risk), a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 16th January, at S. Barnabas' Church, Worcester, by the Rev. W. J. Worster,
Thomas Joseph Southall to Frances Mary Owden.

DEATH.

On the 2nd March, Eugenia Campbell-Bayard, of Vanbrugh, Wallington, Surrey.