

"WHITE & BLUE,"

The Alice Ottley School Magazine.

No. 85.

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1920.

* * * *We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of contributors, but reserve a right of veto, should we ever think it necessary to exercise it.*

EDITORIAL.

We should like to draw attention to the statement of Magazine Accounts, which shews an alarming deficit. Part of this will be wiped out, we hope, by the proceeds from a Fancy Dress Dance which will be held on the first Saturday of next Term, May 8th. In future the charge for the Magazine must be a shilling. Anyone, who has experience of the expenses of printing, knows that the increase is greater than in almost any other direction.

We hope that the formation of the new Association of Old Girls will result in increased subscriptions to the Bursary Fund, which does such excellent work—work which, however, from its nature cannot well be advertised.

The Editor, while realising very clearly how crowded the coming summer will be, greatly hopes that a large number of Old Girls will make an effort to be present, at any rate on the evening of Friday, June 18th, and the morning of June 19th. In future years, the programme will be determined by Association.

CALENDAR. EASTER TERM, 1920.

- Jan. 15.—School opened.
 „ 24.—Hockey Match. Cheltenham.
 Feb. 14.—Hockey Match. School—Staff. Entertainment by IVA.
 „ 17.—French Plays.
 „ 21.—Lacrosse Match. Cheltenham.
 Mar. 6.—Visit to Oxford.
 „ 8.—Debate.
 „ 10.—Singing Competition.
 „ 17.—Final Sight-Singing Competition.
 „ 18.—Capt. Leicester's Lecture on "The Balkans" at the Theatre.
 „ 20.—Lacrosse Match—Abbey School.
 „ 22.—Debate.
 „ 26.—Confirmation at Cathedral.
 „ 26.—Music Examinations.
 „ 29.—School breaks up.
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OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION.

It is hoped that the first Biennial Meeting of the new O.G.A. will be held at the School in June. The suggested Programme is as follows: Friday, June 18th, Conversazione, 8 p.m.; Saturday, June 19th, Celebration at S. Oswald's, 8 p.m.; Prayers, followed by General Business Meeting of the Association, 10 a.m.; Tennis Match, Past v. Present, 3 p.m. An assorted (Musical and Dramatic) Entertainment, 7.30—with further opportunities for conversation if desired. All O.G.'s who can stay over Sunday will be very welcome at School Prayers on Monday morning at 9.10, and may also try their hand at the General Knowledge Paper on which the School will embark after Prayers.

The Secretary (Miss M. Wight, Hartlebury, near Kidderminster) will be glad to hear from any, who seeing

this notice, can say at once that they hope to be present. As the Society is at present practically without funds, and as its financial arrangements can only be decided upon at the General Meeting on June 19th, it is necessary to ask for a payment of 2/6 towards the general expenses of the gathering from each member who attends.

THE BURSARY FUND.

This Fund is supported by subscriptions from Old Girls and Friends of the School, together with the greater part of the rent of Springfield (which is School property). This large contribution, however, is bound to provide first for the Alan Smythies' Mission Bursary, and then for the Butler Bursary.

The Fund has done and is doing excellent work, and we would ask the most generous support possible in these difficult times. It is generally allocated in comparatively small sums, bursaries of three or four guineas a term. It is controlled by a small Committee, of which the Head Mistress is *ex-officio* Chairman, and Miss Mary Bates is Secretary-Treasurer. The accounts are audited annually.

MAGAZINE ACCOUNT.

1919—1920.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
By Sale of—				To J. S. Cook—			
780 copies at				300 copies			
6d. ...	19	10	0	(Mar.)	14	4	0
Deficit ...	20	0	6	250 „ (July)	11	2	6
				240 „ (Nov.)	14	4	0
	£39	10	6		£39	10	6

MISS SPURLING'S AT HOME TO O.G.'s.

The above heading is something of a mis-nomer, for Miss Spurling was not 'At Home' at all; and it was not at the beloved School that we met her. But thanks to her and to Miss Crapper's most kind hospitality we were able to feel very much at home at the Francis Holland School, Clarence Gate, which was kindly lent for the occasion.

It was a delightful gathering, representing probably every generation of O.G. It would be interesting to know if there were any gaps in the history of the School which *none* of those present could have supplied.

Springfield was very largely represented, and we were glad to see Stephanie and Enid Ondaatje from Baskerville.

A complete list cannot be given here, but there are some names which call for special mention—such as Blanche Beale, whose almost life-long connection with the School constitutes a record: there can be no other individual who can approach it now—and there were others of the First Brood.

It was a great pleasure, too, to have among us Miss Ottley's cousin, Miss Evelyn Young, who, though a very busy Headmistress, found time to come; and also Dorothy Gregson, whose long absence in Japan made her specially appreciative of this opportunity of meeting her old schoolfellows.

The proportion of former Mistresses who came was delightfully large—Miss Bagnall, Mrs. Shebbeare, Miss Mackworth, Miss Baynes and Miss Symonds all came and seemed to enjoy themselves as much as we all did.

There were of course many whom we had hoped to meet, but who had found it impossible to come, and we think their ears must have burned, for their names were constantly heard, generally with reminiscences attached.

After the long years of war, following so closely upon Miss Ottley's death and Miss Spurling's appointment, there seemed very much to tell and to hear of what everyone was or had been doing, and we look forward with pleasure to the (probably much larger) gathering in the summer.

Meanwhile we are very grateful to Miss Spurling for this London Meeting, and also to Marjorie Wight, who took much of the trouble of organisation off her hands.

CHANGES ON THE STAFF.

Miss Tisdall left at Christmas; and Miss Drake-Brockman (German and French) joined the Staff in January.

GIRLS AND BOYS LEFT, DECEMBER, 1919.

Francesca Pilditch, Lorne Wigram, Clare Delahay, Marjorie Tilt, Rosanna Sherbrooke, Eileen Legge, Frances Coke, Nancy Leigh, Betty Richardson, Maud Gresley, Joan Walker, Jack Roberts, Martin Haywood.

NEW GIRLS AND BOYS, JANUARY, 1920.

Audrey Clark (VIA.), Kitty Foulds (VIB.), Betty Chesshire (IVA.), Nell Burnett, Irene Tyler (IVB.), Mary Stretton (IIIA.), Delia Price (IIIB.), Hilda Wiltshire (II.), Joan Moody, Olive Marshall, Kathleen Powell (I.).

Preparatory and K.G. :—Kitty March, Jim Hanington, Clement Hartill, Fitzherbert Martin—after half-term.

SUBDIVISION OF WEST HOUSE.

Owing to the increased size of this house, it has been sub-divided into :—

Day Girls North-West :—Head—C. Watson.

Day Girls South-West :—Head—M. Revill.

MADemoisELLE GRUN.

At the end of the Michaelmas Term Mademoiselle Grun ended her long connection with the School. For 14 years she taught French, and for more than 20 years she has been at the Head of New Baskerville. She will be greatly missed by old Baskervillians, but we cannot grudge her her well-earned rest. For the present she is living in Worcester and will, we hope, be able to be present at the Old Girls' Gathering in June.

THE CONFIRMATION.

Twenty-nine candidates from the School are hoping to be confirmed by the Bishop of Worcester in the Cathedral, on Friday, March 26th, at 12 o'clock.

THE NATIVITY PLAY.

During the last week of the Michaelmas Term three performances of the Nativity Play, "The Court of the Holy Child," were given in the School Hall.

Carols were sung from the organ gallery by a small choir, and the smooth singing of the old tunes added much to the good effect of the play.

Both acting and music were much appreciated by the audience, who seemed to enter into the spirit in which the play was given; it is good to find that the beautiful old English custom of presenting the mysteries of the Faith in reverent drama before the eyes of children is being revived in our land.

SOCIÉTÉ NATIONALE DES PROFESSEURS DE FRANCAIS EN ANGLETERRE.

CONCOURS DE FÉVRIER.

Prix	V. Noake (Degré Primaire).
Mention	...	R. Longland (Degré intermédiaire).
		G. Evans (Degré élémentaire).

SIGHT-SINGING COMPETITION.

At the beginning of Term it was decided that in future the Sight-Singing Test should form a distinct competition, and a beautiful Challenge Cup was presented for this purpose by Mr. Chignell.

MISSION WORK.

BALANCE SHEET (January 1919—December 1919).

RECEIVED.			PAID.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Mission Money	7	7 5	Materials ...	3	15 0
Balance (1918)	0	4 10	Esther Isa Das	4	0 0
Mission Boxes	2	4 4½	S.P.G. General		
Donation (K.			Fund ...	2	12 6
Whitehead)	1	0 0	Waifs & Strays	0	9 0
			Stamps ...	0	0 1½
	£10	16 7½		£10	16 7½

Before Christmas the garments made at the Tuesday Working Party were divided and parcels were sent to the following :—

The Reverend Richard Wilson, S. Augustine's,
Stepney.

S. Lawrence's Home, Worcester.

St. John the Baptist's Mission House, Newport.

The Community of St. Peter, Mortimer Road,
Kilburn.

St. Cadoc's Home, Caerleon.

GAMES.

We have been unusually lucky this Term with regard to the weather. We started off with two Hockey matches—the first against Cheltenham College 2nd XI., in which we were beaten, in quite a good game, and the second against the Staff, which resulted in a draw. After that we turned our attention to Lacrosse. Most

forms have played a great deal of Lacrosse and many girls are showing distinct improvement since the beginning of the Term, but there is still a great deal to be learnt. The science of the game is difficult, especially for the younger girls, and it is as well for them to remember, that to learn to throw and to catch is the very first things to be done, as a girl who cannot do this is only a hindrance in a real game. When this can really be done well we may begin to learn how to "play" Lacrosse. It really should be a very fast unselfish game with the ball always in the air! So far this Term we have only had one Lacrosse match, against Cheltenham College 2nd XII. We were beaten 10—1, but I hope and think that the game was an object lesson to our team. The passing of the Cheltenham girls was really excellent and to spectators the game as they played it looked very simple and easy. Our team was:—

- Goal.* B. Stroyan. In a difficult place she has done fairly well, but her throwing is still very weak.
- Point.* G. Dingle. With more practice should make a good defence player. Her passing is not accurate.
- Coverpoint.* B. Gillespy. A strong energetic defence player. Her passing sometimes needs more thought.
- 3rd Man.* B. Pollard. A useful member of the team, with a good idea of passing.
- Centre.* J. Hooke. An energetic keen player, but she is still inclined to be selfish.
- 3rd Home.* C. Mackenzie (Capt.). Good and keen as a captain. Too slow in passing.
- 2nd Home.* M. Chambers. Rather disappointing. Does not make enough effort to get away from her opponent.
- 1st Home.* I. Humphries. Very fair. She must persevere in her difficult place.

Right Defence J. Littlebury. Has improved very much lately, and should make quite a good player.

Left Defence. M. Luckham. A little disappointing. Does not "stick to" her opponent sufficiently.

Right Attack. M. Plum. A very fast player, who will improve with more practice.

Left Attack. G. Richardson. Good, but she is not always sure of her "passes."

The Form match final lies between VI. and IVa., and we are doing our best to finish the House matches before the end of the Term.

GAMES ACCOUNT.

December 1918—December 1919.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Carried forward	4	2	6	Expenses :—			
Subscriptions	18	1	3	Fares ...	4	5	9
				Postage ...	0	6	10
				Hockey Ball	0	2	0
				Plaster ...	0	6	0
				Rosin ...	0	0	9
				Bills :—			
				Manus' ...	1	16	9
				" ...	4	7	0
				Harrod's ...	3	3	0
				Hattersby's... ..	7	12	3
				Balance ...	0	3	5
	£22	3	9		£22	3	9

NEWS OF OLD GIRLS.

Freda Jones has left Malvern College for Girls and has gone to South Africa. She has a post as Kindergarten Mistress in a school managed by the Wantage Sisters at Pretoria.

BIRTHS.

Mytton.—On February 20th, to the wife of Captain Fourmy Mytton (nee Clare Downs), a daughter.

Gordon.—In January, to the wife of Charles Gordon (nee Dorothy Hirst), a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Eddington—Edginton.—On October 3rd, 1919, at Vancouver, British Columbia, Edward Clark Eddington (formerly of Fernhill Heath) to Gladys Cordelia Edginton.

Glanfield—Mussen.—On January 20th, 1920, at Old St. Martin's, Worcester, by the Reverend W. B. Monahan, Frank Glanfield to Kathleen Mussen (present address, 1 Exchequer Gate, Lincoln).

Horton—Blakeway.—On February 5th, at St. Augustine's, Dodderhill, Droitwich, by the Reverend Canon Price, Colin William Horton to Grace Mary Blakeway. (Present address: Upper Eaton, Doveridge, Derbyshire).

DEATHS.

Mogridge.—On January 13th, at Scalford Vicarage, Melton Mowbray, Isabel Mogridge.

Spurgin.—On January 16th, at "Fairview," Finstall, Bromsgrove, Ursula Elizabeth Spurgin, aged 14.

IVA. ENTERTAINMENT.

On Saturday, February 14th, IVA. gave an Entertainment in aid of the Starving Children of Europe Fund, to which they invited all members of the Upper and Middle School. Punctually at 5.30 Progressive Games began in the gymnasium, where various members of IVA. were in charge of the different competitions. We were invited to smell the contents, pleasing and otherwise, of a number of small bags; we struggled to put hard peas into saucers with the aid of knitting needles; blindfolded, we sought to give eyes to the blind donkey; with Spartan fortitude we burnt our fingers in our earnest endeavour to light as many candles as possible with a single match; we hazarded guesses as to the

weight of a cake—Miss Margoliouth won the prize for this ; we put wrong names to familiar advertisements and boldly tried our 'prentice hand at every game we saw.

After the games came an interval for supper, and the Refreshment Committee and its helpers are indeed to be congratulated. Plate after plate of appetising cakes and buns appeared and were demolished before we went to the Big Hall to dance. There we heard that the other prize winners were Phyllis Henery and Vera Shrubsall, and after they had been duly applauded the dancing began for those who wanted to dance, while others sat and talked in various cosy corners which bore but little resemblance to the music rooms of daily life.

At 8.30 the pleasant evening came to an end, and after three cheers for Miss Cowell and IVA. the visitors reluctantly went home.

IVA. is to be congratulated on the proceeds of their entertainment.

A GUEST.

"A FORM ENTERTAINMENT."

At the beginning of the Term, Dorothy Powell, the Praefect of IVA., suggested that the Form should give an entertainment in aid of "The Starving Children of Europe Fund." This suggestion was received with enthusiasm by the Form. When approached, Miss Spurling kindly gave her consent to the Praefect's idea and it was decided that the entertainment should take the form of progressive games and a little dance.

On the morning of the long looked for day, many of the girls assembled at the School and proceeded to decorate the gymnasium and the hall, the former to be used for the games, the latter for the dance. Some of them brought screens, tables, Xmas decorations, cushions, and flowers, while others provided refresh-

ments. It was amusing to see so many amateur furniture-removers and caterers !

The guests, who consisted of the Mistresses and the Forms from Remove upwards, began to arrive at 5.30. The following are some of the games played, two or three girls having charge of each game :—(i) Kim's Game, (ii) Trying to take a certain number of corks out of a bowl filled with water, with hatpins, (iii) Lighting as many candles as you could with one match, (iv) Guessing the weight of a cake, etc. The competitor who gained the most marks, altogether, received a prize.

After the refreshments the dance began, and that was a great success too.

Before dispersing, all agreed they had enjoyed themselves immensely, and the good cause for which the entertainment was held benefited by the sum of £6 10s., which was splendid.

We are greatly indebted to Miss Cowell and the two Praefects for their great help, also to the parents, who very kindly gave refreshments and lent many articles of furniture necessary for the games.

E. J. D. (IVA.)

SINGING COMPETITION.

The Singing Competition, which was held on Wednesday, March 10th, was marked by several distinctive features this year. By its being held in the morning, many advantages were gained (except perhaps to those enthusiasts in the audience who had never before attended a music-making at such an early hour). The most notable gain was that Dr. A. H. Brewer, the adjudicator, was able to speak to each choir about the work, and to give them much helpful advice. After the marks had been read out, and Shield and Picture presented to the respective winning choirs by Dr. Brewer

amid much enthusiasm, a combined performance of one of the test-pieces was given under his guidance.

Excellent performances of the test-pieces were given, many shewing the results of careful and musical preparation; Dr. Brewer especially noted the distinctness of words and the capabilities of some of the conductors.

The winning choir in the Senior Section (VIB., Conductor—P. Henery) gave a beautiful rendering of *The Robin* (Colin Taylor), a work with many pitfalls, and of *The Fisher's Call* (Dr. Huntley), securing 143 marks. VIA. (Conductor—P. Hansen-Bay), 137 marks, and IVA. (Conductor—N. Castley), 136 marks, well deserved the second and third places among the 9 choirs in this section.

In the Junior Section, IIIB. (Conductor—Miss E. Taylor) gained 125 marks by a capital rendering of two songs from the National Song Book, and were almost equalled by one of the IIIA. choirs (Conductor—Miss A. Payne), who secured 124 marks.

Before the Competition began, the Senior choirs sang "*O Captain*" (Dr. Harford Lloyd) without a conductor, as a test in unguided interpretation and self-conscious pulsation, and were warmly congratulated by Dr. Brewer.

THE SINGING COMPETITION.

On Wednesday, March 10th, a feeling of excitement prevailed in the School. The day of the Singing Competition had arrived, when the unknown dragon, Dr. Brewer of Gloucester, would pass judgment on the various choirs. The conductors stood in the midst of little groups issuing anxious injunctions; faint hummings and warblings might be heard round any corner.

At 10.15 all the senior choirs were seated on the apse and opened the proceedings with "O Captain! My Captain." It was magnificent to listen to, and had the effect of breaking the ice in the throats of the singers, and thrilling them to further efforts.

Then the apse was cleared, and one by one the choirs went up, each singing two songs, the juniors conducted by a student and all forms above IIIA. conducted by one of their own members. This is not a criticism of the singing, Dr. Brewer did that quite efficiently! Besides which, I am an eye-witness, not an ear-witness!

The general effect was that of trembling choirs, on an average of 12-15 girls, who walked up the hall, bravely concealing extreme nervousness, and seated themselves on the apse. Dr. Brewer rang a bell; the choir rose; the conductor took her stand with her back to the audience, showing a nice clean pinafore with back pleats most carefully arranged, and the performance began.

Some conductors were gently persuasive in their motions, others waved their batons masterfully, cutting the air and calling forth every effort on the part of the singers.

All the senior choirs sang the "Fisher's Call," a song with a really jolly tune; to my mind more likely to rouse hunting instincts than the quiet restrained feelings needed by a fisherman catching trout! "The Robin," sung by several choirs, appeared to give scope for much change in expression; some choirs seemed mournful, and others quite the reverse; that, I suppose, depended on how much they liked winter!

On the whole it was an excellent entertainment, from the listener's point of view, and a really good fight on the part of the choirs.

We congratulate the winners!

AN EYE-WITNESS.

" HE THAT IS LIGHT O' HEART AND HEEL
SHALL WANDER IN THE MILKY WAY."

The Milky Way ! The Milky Way ! a galaxy of laughing
stars.

Banished for disturbing Heaven, by the stern decree of
Mars.

Rioting down the great stars' orbits, heedless in their
splendid mirth,

Careless of the frowning planets, fling their challenge
down to earth.

" He that's light o' Heart and Heel shall wander in the
Milky Way."

Say ! O solemn earth-born mortals, have you lost the
zest for play ?

Turbulent waves of rumbling laughter shattered the
earth's foundations,

From the Milky Way the dissipate stars danced through
the constellations.

They shouted unseemly and ribald jests in the ear of the
mighty Taurus,

They sang wild songs to the sons of men, who eagerly
joined the chorus.

Orion strode down the Milky Way by a gleaming comet's
track,

And cursed the stars for their foolishness by the signs
of the Zodiac.

A silence fell—the rebellious ones were suddenly all
afraid,

They watched far off through the infinite dark a meteor
flash and fade.

The wine of mirth they had drunk was strong ;

'Twas a dangerous cup they'd quaff'd,

They had played their game—they must pay the price,
but——softly, a small star laughed.

THE FAIRY CITY.

The fairies live in Oxford town,
 In Oxford of the many towers ;
 There's fairyland within its walls,
 And fairy spells and magic powers.

How green the grass in Oxford town !
 No mortal rude thereon may tread—
 But fairies dance at earliest dawn,
 With dew-wet foot and dew-crown'd head.

In cloister'd shade and courtyard dim
 The silver moon sheds pools of light ;
 And fairy maidens come to bathe,
 And wash their tiny bodies white.

The bells that peal from Oxford's towers
 In thrilling, quivering notes of gold,
 Were cast and wrought in fairyland
 By fairy craftsmen's skill of old.

The paths men tread in Oxford town,
 The air they breathe, the gardens bright,
 The flowers, the trees, the crannied walls,
 The fairies hold as theirs by right.

Who would not go to Oxford town—
 To Oxford of the many towers ?
 One hour of peace within its walls
 Is worth ten thousand other hours !

R.N.L. (VIB.)

 OXFORD.

On Saturday, March 6th, a privileged party from the VI. Form were taken to Oxford by Miss Harris and Miss Spink. Everything was excellently planned ; we were never hurried, but no time was wasted, and, in spite of the weather, we could not have had a more enjoyable day.

Our first glimpse of Oxford was one of a cluster of towers and spires outlined against a stormy sky, but our expectations were not fulfilled until we reached Christchurch College. My first impression was one of grey stone walls and brilliant green grass, and a wonderful spaciousness. This was further enhanced by the wide stone staircase and the fan-tracery of the roof; also by the stately loftiness of the dining hall, with its portrait covered walls, black-beamed roof, and polished oak tables and benches.

The Cathedral, winding stair-ways and passages, seemed haunted by the ghosts of Wolsey and Henry VIII. but in the kitchen one seemed to have stepped suddenly into a fairy tale. The white-washed walls, stone floor and shining copper pans helped to create this illusion, but more especially the many cooks, in their white coats and caps, and the huge chopping-blocks and spits, where an ox might easily be roasted whole for some giant's banquet.

The chief interest in the Cathedral lay in the numerous styles of architecture; the fragment of the original Saxon Church, the solid Norman arches, the graceful pointed arches of the Early English windows, each with its own history and connected with some great name. The modern Burne-Jones windows were especially beautiful in colouring and in the simplicity of the designs. Yet, although the Cathedral is the work of so many ages, and the architecture belongs to many periods and styles, the building itself is a harmonious whole.

A most beautiful effect was obtained at New College by the clouds of pink almond blossom, green lawns and stately trees, backed by the charming irregularity of the old city wall. The chapel is beautifully proportioned, and the enormous height of the roof seemed to bestow an added dignity. The colouring of the Reynolds'

window is indescribable. It might perhaps be compared with the sunshine filtering through the leaves of a beech-wood in autumn. The figures themselves possess a wonderful clearness of outline and purity of colouring. I was particularly fascinated by a single child's face, expectantly looking upwards, from among the clouds in one of the highest panes of the windows.

My chief impression of the buildings of Magdalen College is one of beauty of outline united to a certain sombreness. An unusual charm is added to the fine proportions of the tower by the effect of its not being set square with the quadrangle. The twilight in the chapel was mysterious and awe-inspiring, and seemed to increase the stillness. From the echoing shadowy cloisters we found our way into the garden, where masses of almond blossom and gigantic elms shaded the lawns. The graceful outlines of the trees which interlace above Addison's Walk, were traced distinctly against the sky, although beneath them the scillas and daffodils were already in bloom.

Merton College chiefly differed from the other colleges in the old-fashioned charm of the buildings, and the old-world flavour which seemed to cling to the walls. In the library one might easily have imagined oneself in a bygone age. There was an atmosphere of countless books; the shelves were filled with heavy leather-bound volumes, and a mellow light came in through the stained-glass windows in the thick stone walls.

We also saw the Martyrs' Memorial, which stands in the middle of St. Giles. It was erected in honour of Cranmer, Latimer and Ridley, who during the reign of Mary, were burnt at the stake for their faith, near that spot.

The general atmosphere of Oxford was one of the middle ages, of grey stone buildings and emerald grass;

of a calm undisturbed by the passing of years, although the city is dedicated to the youth of the nation.

THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY.

When we had seen Christ Church College we proceeded to the Bodleian Library (the second largest library in the British Empire), a square building with a tower, to the north of the Radcliffe Camera. Inside we found ourselves in a long double L shaped room with glass cases down the middle. Here we saw the MS. of the Acts of the Apostles, Codex E, which was used by the Venerable Bede in his translation of the New Testament. We looked with awe at the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, a small time-faded parchment book on which much of early English history was founded. There were two specimens of the old "Chanson" type—the oldest MS. of the early French "Chanson de Roland," and a huge "Romance of Alexander the Great" (1340), with margins charmingly illuminated in all the bright red, blue and gold of the early designers. This is remarkable because it shows the earliest drawing in existence of a Punch and Judy show, exactly like our modern one.

We saw also the "Recuyell of the Historie of Troy," the first book printed in English by Caxton, in 1475. We were very much interested in a first folio copy of Shakespeare, exactly like the original Bodleian copy, which was once sold from the library but was later given back. The original copy is now valued at £3,000 and is safely locked away. Then we saw a horn-book consisting of a spade-shaped piece of wood with paper nailed on to it on which was printed the alphabet and the Lord's Prayer, the whole protected by a thin layer of horn. This was used to teach children in Charles I.'s time. Here, too, we met an original MS. of our old friend "Piers Plowman," very brown with age and in some places almost illegible.

Types of theological works of the Middle Ages were fifteenth century Books of Hours, of all sizes, beautifully illuminated. There was also a theological book belonging to St. Dunstan, containing wonderful sketches by him, and a book which belonged to St. Margaret of Scotland, and which, although dropped into a stream and left there for two days, was saved, it is supposed by a miracle, from any injury.

Some examples of very ancient writings were a Papyrus roll containing the Second Book of the "Iliad," dating from the second century, and the earliest MS. of Jerome's Latin translation of "Eusebius," written in the fifth century.

After wandering round gazing on these awe-inspiring documents we were joined by the Secretary of the Library, who, in the absence of the Librarian, very kindly sketched a brief history of the Library for us. It was founded by Sir Thomas Bodley on the site of the more ancient but despoiled library of Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, and opened in 1602. The Secretary then took us, on tiptoe, through the research part of the library where earnest students were delving into the mines of knowledge to be obtained there. We were shown an example of a chained book such as was to be found in all large libraries until quite a late date. The Secretary explained that only scholars doing research work among genuine MSS. did much study here; the ordinary student used the Radcliffe portion of the Library.

We were then conducted upstairs to the Picture Gallery, where we were allowed to voice our enthusiasm a little more freely. Here we saw a dark oak chair made from the prow of Drake's famous ship "The Golden Hind." The walls here were hung with various old historical and literary friends such as Elizabeth, Lady Jane Grey, Clarendon, Strafford, Laud, Erasmus,

More, Chaucer, and Handel. The manuscripts here were not of such great historical value as those downstairs, but there were some beautifully illuminated Chinese and Japanese MSS. and printed books, mostly very big works, with letters in some cases about six inches high. There was also an old copy of the Mahomedan sacred book "Al Koran," and the earliest MS. of the Rubayiat of Omar Khayyam.

We saw an oak and iron printing press used by a nineteenth century student of Worcester College, with type still set up. It was in this room, too, that we saw a bust of a scholarly looking old gentleman who proved to be Sir Thomas Bodley, the founder of the Library.

The last, but by no means the least, of the intellectual treats we enjoyed was in the evening, just before we left Oxford. We went to the Radcliffe Camera, the round dome-roofed portion of the Library which is used for reference by the ordinary student. Inside we found ourselves in a great circular hall with an arched gallery round it and huge windows, many of them not made to open. We passed studious persons engrossed in books and went up a narrow, dark staircase to the roof, whence we gained a splendid view of Oxford's towers and spires, and were able to identify those colleges which we had not had time to visit.

VIA.

EXTRACT FROM THE MUSICAL HISTORY COMPETITION.

DIALOGUE BETWEEN TWO SAVAGES.

First Savage : " You talk of Music. What do you mean by Music ? "

Second Savage : " Music is the sound made when you tap a stick on a tree-trunk, but it must be tapped with a rhythm : and rhythm is the movement which

makes Music a live thing instead of a dead one, and you must feel that rhythm. A long time ago, the only Music there was, was made by the birds singing and beasts howling. Our ancestors used to howl on one or two notes. When man made his Music on the tree-trunk, he thought he would like to take his musical-box about with him, so he made a box from a tree-trunk and carried it with him from place to place."

First Savage : " I see a strange-looking bow slung on your shoulder. And it has many strings. What is it for ? "

Second Savage : " Ah ! I can see that you are interested. It is all wonderful. Well, this strange-looking bow is what is called a plucked or twanged Musical Instrument. This is how you do it. (Plays a short tune on it with his fingers). I got it like this. One day when I was out hunting, there were not many beasts about and I leaned against a tree, and idly twanged the string of my bow, and I thought what a lovely musical sound I had made. This made me interested and excited, so I strung some more strings on it and found when I twanged them that they made many different musical sounds. From the long strings I got low notes, and high ones from the shorter strings. Now, you listen to the variety of sound. (Plucks each string). Since that day I have always carried it about with me."

First Savage : " And see—in your hand you carry a little rod. But it is hollow inside and weak. It can be of no use for smiting the wild beasts, or even your children. Tell me, then, what it is ? "

Second Savage : " This little rod is also a musical instrument, and it is made of reeds bound together. It sounds like a bird's song. Listen. (Blows a tune through the reeds). I copied this from someone else, who told me how he found it out. He wondered at the sound the wind made among the trees and rocks and it

gave him this idea. He took some reeds of different lengths and found he could make different musical sounds by blowing down them. He got low notes from the longest reeds, and high notes from the shorter ones. Then he bound four or five together."

First Savage : " But just now I heard you utter some curious sounds with your voice, not like speech, but like the call of a bird. It pleased me, and a stranger told me it was a Song. Tell me, now, how you knew that Song. Did someone else teach it to you, or did you make it up for yourself ? "

Second Savage : " Oh yes, I sang two songs, did I not ? Yes, for the first I made up my tune and words as our ancestors did ; and the second tune I learnt from a bird. I was enchanted by the songs of the birds, so I thought I would try to imitate the birds because I could make different musical sounds with my voice. Our ancestors used to howl, just as we do, sometimes, and one of them found out that he could utter words and make different notes at the same time. Then others copied him, and so it has been handed down to us. And now I think I have told you all I know about Music."

(First Savage, being most interested in all he has heard, goes off to try to make Music).

A.G. (VA.).

THE MAKING OF OUR EVENING PAPER.

A short time ago we accepted a friend's kind invitation to show us over the " Worcester Times " printing offices. First of all, we visited the room where the wonderful type setting machines were at work preparing the " matter " for the next edition ; then we descended to the workshop itself where the actual making of the newspaper was going on. A piece of thin cardboard on which the type had been indented was

brought from the "setting" room, placed inside a mould and covered with molten metal which was poured in by great ladles from a furnace. In a few minutes the metal had cooled sufficiently to allow of its being taken from the mould in the shape of a semi-cylinder, on which the letters and illustrations were shown in raised type, and put on to a bench to be trimmed. All the rough edges were cut off with a chisel, the whole cast was scrubbed and dried and was then ready for the printing press. This is a huge machine with a large roller in the centre, which is continually fed with a thin stream of ink and on to which the metal casts, of which there are two, are put. The paper to be printed—which, by the way, we were told would stretch from Worcester to Fernhill Heath—is in a huge roll which gradually unwinds and passes along until it reaches the large roller in the middle and receives the impression of the front and back sheets. It is then turned round and passes over the other cast which prints the two middle pages. A huge knife now cuts the sheets as they pass and another machine folds them neatly and passes them on to a wire tray, from which they are taken in bundles of a dozen each. As each dozen is completed it moves forward a little and thus the boy who picks them up can tell exactly when to do so, while an indicator shows the total number of copies printed. In this way we saw about a thousand copies prepared and printed ready for use in about ten minutes, in spite of the fact that the press was kept waiting on account of late "races information"; and almost as they were finished they were snatched up by the waiting boys.

As we passed through the workshops we also saw advertisement proofs, hand-bills and newspaper-wrappers printed instantaneously. Altogether we passed a most enjoyable and surprising half-hour.

PAGES ÉTRANGÈRE.

Ce mardi-gras la Société des Jeux Dramatiques a donné une représentation.

La Classe IVA. a chanté " La Chanson d'Alsace " en costumes : France et Alsace.

La cinquième a représenté une partie de la vie de Sainte-Geneviève.

Geneviève a bien joué un rôle difficile.

Les classes VIA. et VIB. ont joué une pièce française " Un épisode de la Révolution," par C. Mackenzie et B. Pollard.

Un comte qui vient d'échapper à la guillotine se réfugie chez un citoyen qu'il a protégé autrefois. Le citoyen, fidèle à son ami, le sauve en le cachant chez sa fiancée. La jeune fille fait échapper le comte, mais, soupçonnée, elle est prise par les Révolutionnaires qui la tuent.

Dans le duel les nobles ont montré leur habileté en escrime et à la fin du bal le menuet a été parfaitement dansé.

Les actrices remercient Madame de Sabatier-Plantier qui a bien voulu envoyer, de France, ses anciennes robes de famille. Les citoyens et les citoyennes ont formé un heureux contraste par leurs costumes sévères, simples et jolis, comparés au luxe et à l'élégance des nobles ; et le plus grand des contrastes a été produit par les costumes bleus, blancs et rouges des Révolutionnaires qui ont ajouté une note bruyante et terrible à la pièce.

On a spécialement remarqué le noble Comte de Clermont (B. Pollard), le sérieux citoyen Fauvert (C. Mackenzie), la belle Françoise (P. Hansen Bay) et sa soeur aveugle (M. Burnett).

C. Mackenzie devient la Directrice des Jeux, et B. Pollard la sous-directrice.

C.W. (VIA.).

Mlle. la Présidente de la Société se fait un plaisir de remercier Miss Rix, pour le ducl et le menuet ; les parents et les amies des élèves qui ont bien voulu prêter des costumes et aider à les coudre et à les orner.