

"WHITE & BLUE,"

The Alice Ottley School Magazine.

No. 87.

DECEMBER.

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.

"White and Blue" is now the organ of the "present" girls, as the O.G.A. has its own leaflet. We hope that the contributions will reach a high level; there must be many girls who could produce something really worth printing; we fancy that in most cases nothing is done till the last moment! The Magazine representatives must take their duties more seriously. We hope that some one will challenge the craven spirit breathing through a certain poem! which spirit we consider, however, quite uncharacteristic of the poetess.

SCHOOL KALENDAR.

- Sept. 22.—School opened.
Oct. 13.—Debate.
,, 18.—Lecture on Westminster Abbey.
,, 19.—S.P.G. Lecture.
,, 23.—Hockey Match—Edgbaston Church College.
,, 27.—Debate.
,, 30.—Hockey Match—Kidderminster High School.

- Nov. 1.—Half-term.
 „ 6.—Hockey Match—Worcester Ladies.
 „ 8.—Lecture on Europe of To-day.
 „ 10.—Debate.
 „ 20.—Speech Day.
 „ 26.—Lecture on Allenby and Lawrence.
 „ 27.—Hockey Match—St. James' 3rd and 4th XI.
 Dec. 2.—Kindergarten Christmas Party.
 „ 4.—Hockey Matches—Abbey ; and Kidderminster 2nd XI.
 „ 10.—U.M.C.A. Lecture.
 „ 9.—Dress Rehearsal of Bethlehem Play.
 „ 14.—Performance „ „ „
 „ 16.— „ „ „ „
 „ 17.—End of Term.
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PRAEFECTS, 1920-1921.

- Head Girl.—Constance Mackenzie.
 VI B.—Robin Chignell.
 V A.—Gwen Evans.
 V B.—Muriel Plum.
 IV A.—Nina Andrews.
 Sub.—Cynthia Corfield.
 IV B.—Margaret Taylor.
 Sub.—Mary Watson.
 Remove.—P. Hesketh-Williams.
 III A.—Betty Philpott.
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HEADS OF HOUSES.

- New Baskerville—Phyllis Davies.
 Springfield—Betty Gillespy.
 Day Girls (East)—Betty Pollard.
 Day Girls (North-West)—Catherine Watson.
 Day Girls (South-West)—May Revill.

MEMBERS OF FORM VI.

VIA.—Constance Mackenzie, Phyllis Davies, Betty Pollard, Catherine Watson, Sheila Cavenagh, Winifred Gilbanks, Betty Gillespy, Marjorie Grove, Rosemary Hansen-Bay, Betty Harvey, Phyllis Henery, Ruth Longland, May Revill, Margaret Taylor, Joan Watson.

VIB.—Robin Chignell, Audrey Bird, Winifred Buckney, Violet Elton, Adeline Gregory, Marie Hulse, Jean Littlebury, Marjorie Morris, Eileen Mumford, Gwen Richardson, Marjorie Shaw, Muriel Gordon Smith, Mary Spurgin, Ina Herbert-Stepney, Bessie Stroyan, Mary Willis.

 COMPETITIONS, 1920.

Singing Shield	...	...	VIB.
Sight-singing Cup	...	...	VIA.
Lacrosse Cup ...	...	...	VI.
Hockey Shield	...	...	VB.
Tennis Cup ...	...	...	VB.
Drill Shield ...	...	...	VB.
Garden Shield	...	...	VIB.
Garden Motto	...	...	IVA.

House Cups : Lacrosse—New Baskerville.

Tennis—Day Girls (East).

Hockey—Day Girls (West).

Silver Badges for Drill : Senior—M. Plum ; Middle—M. Tibbetts ; Junior—B. Philpott.

Speech Day, Nov. 20th, 1920.

In the absence, owing to ill-health, of the Chairman, The Right Honourable Viscount Cobham, the Chair was taken by the Vice-Chairman, the Reverend Canon James. The Prizes were presented by The Viscountess Cobham.

PROGRAMME.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

1. TWO-PART SONG ... "Who is Sylvia?" ... *C Wood*
(Forms VI. and V.)
2. ARIA ... "Bright the Sunbeams" ... *Bach*
(VI., V., IVA.) (From the Secular Cantata
"Angenehmes Wiederan").
3. PIANOFORTE SOLO ... Rhapsody in G Minor ... *Brahms*
(A. Clark).
4. UNACCOMPANIED TRIO... "Beside a Lake of Lilies" ... *Arne*
(VIA.).
5. TREBLE CHORUS ... "Sir Eglamore"
(Middle and Upper School). *Arranged by Balfour Gardiner*
(Words from "The Melancholy Knight" (1615).
(Tune from Playford's "Pleasant Musical Companion") (1687)

CERTIFICATES AND PRIZES, 1920.

COUNCIL'S SCHOLARSHIPS.

2nd year — Rosemary Hansen-Bay.
1st year — Marjorie Shaw.

VICTORIA SCHOLARSHIP.

Isabel Gillespy.

ALICE OTTLEY SCHOLARSHIP.

Jessie Lace.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE JOINT BOARD.

Higher Certificates.

Betty Pollard — French, English, Mathematics.
Mary Burnett — " " "
Phyllis Hansen-Bay — French, English, Italian.
(C. Mackenzie passed in French and was distinguished in Italian)

School Certificates.

Rosemary Hansen-Bay passed with credit in 5 subjects.

Ruth Longland	"	"	"	5	"
Sybil Lawson	"	"	"	5	"
Margaret Taylor	"	"	"	5	"
Marjorie Grove	"	"	"	4	"
Isabel Humphries	"	"	"	4	"
May Revill	"	"	"	4	"
Betty Harvey	"	"	"	4	"
Betty Gillespy	"	"	"	3	"

(Sheila Cavenagh passed with credit in 3 subjects, Phyllis Henery in 2.
Winifred Gilbanks in 3).

Lower Certificates.

Marjorie Shaw passed in 7 subjects. First Class in 3.

Mary Willis	"	6	"	"	"	4.
Winifred Buckney	"	6	"	"	"	3.
Eileen Mumford	"	6	"	"	"	3.
Violet Elton	"	6	"	"	"	2.
Marjorie Morris	"	6	"	"	"	2.
Gwen Richardson	"	6	"	"	"	1.
Kathleen Whiteman	"	6	"	"	"	1.
Adeline Gregory	"	6	"	"	"	1.
Robin Chignell	"	6	"	"	"	1.
Audrey Bird	"	6	"	"	"	1.
Marie Hulse	"	6	"	"	"	0.

Letters.

Mary Spurgin passed in 3 subjects. First Class in 2.

Vera Shrubsall	"	3	"	"	"	1.
Joan Bomford	"	4	"	"	"	0.

HIGHER CERTIFICATE OF THE NATIONAL FRÖBEL
UNION. PART I.

Irene Grove, First Class in Music and Literature.

Agnes Payne, " " Music and Mathematics.

Elsa Taylor, " " Music.

OXFORD RESPONSIONS (Old Style, including Greek).

Marjorie Garner.

Phyllis Davies.

OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS. Senior.

Bessie Stroyan. Jean Littlebury. Hope Murphy

ASSOCIATED BOARD OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Local Centre Examination.

Advanced. Winifred Gilbanks.

Local Schools Examination.

Higher Division. Jessie Lace.
Mary Pratt.
Peggy Phillips.
Margaret Peach.
Georgie Dingle.

Lower Division. Georgie Dingle.
Nina Andrews.
Vera Dingle.
Lily Wyatt.
Maisie Knight.
Betty Holmes.

ROYAL DRAWING SOCIETY.

Full Honours Certificates.

Andrey Clark.	Ruth Longland.
Winifred Elton.	Elsa Taylor.
Adeline Gregory.	Catherine Watson.
Irene Grove.	Joan Watson.
Phyllis Hansen-Bay.	Mary Willis
Rosemary Hansen-Bay.	

(Also 90 Honours and 56 Pass Certificates).

Bronze Stars.

Christine Robinson. Eve Garnet.

Société Nationale des Professeurs de Français en Angleterre.

Prix. Gwen Evans (2).
Catherine Watson.
Ruth Longland.
Ida Smith.
Valentine Noake.
Mary Watson.

Certificats. Betty Pollard.
Rosemary Hansen-Bay.

PLAIN NEEDLEWORK ASSOCIATION.

<i>Section</i>	1	Peggy Hiles.
	2	Eleanor Watson.
	3	Kathleen de Salis.
	4	Mabel Rawson.
	4	Vera Dingle.

PERCENTAGE PRIZES.

(Won by gaining 80% on Term Marks and 75% on Examination Marks during 2 Terms of the Year).

<i>Va.</i>	Marjorie Shaw	—English and French.
	Marjorie Morris	—Mathematics.
<i>Vb.</i>	Bessie Stroyan	—
<i>I Va.</i>	Gwen Evans	—English and French.
	Eva Watson	—English and Mathematics.
	Jessie Lace	—Mathematics.
	Annie Grice	—
<i>I Vb.</i>	Mary Watson	—English, Mathematics Languages
	Nina Andrews	—Languages.
	Mary Tibbetts	—French.
	Valentine Noake	—
<i>II Ia.</i>	Katie Coomber	—Mathematics.
<i>II Ib.</i>	Daphne Sparrow	—Languages.
	Mary Steward	—
	Kathleen Birkett	—Arithmetic.
<i>II.</i>	Ellen Robson	—French.
	Peggy Hiles	—Arithmetic.
<i>I.</i>	Joyce Allen	—French and Arithmetic.
	Kathleen Sanderson	—French.
	Joan Ponting	—Arithmetic.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Divinity.

<i>V Ib.</i>	Marjorie Grove.
<i>Va.</i>	Audrey Bird and Violet Elton.
<i>Vb.</i>	Jean Littlebury.
<i>I Va.</i>	Gwen Evans
<i>I Vb.</i>	Mary Watson.
<i>Remove.</i>	Kitty Littlebury.
<i>II Ia.</i>	Mary Amphlett.
<i>II Ib.</i>	Mary Steward.
<i>II.</i>	Eileen Firkins.
<i>I.</i>	Cherry Wright.

Arithmetic.

- I Va.* Jessie Lace.
I Vb. Nell Burnett.
II Ia. Joyce Dorrell.
II Ib. Julia Boden.

Latin.

- V Ib.* Prose—May Revill.
 Translation—Rosemary Hansen-Bay
Va. Marjorie Shaw.

French.

Mademoiselle de Sabatier-Plantier's Prizes.

- V Ia.* Betty Pollard.
V Ib. Ruth Longland.
Va. Marjorie Shaw.

Italian.

Miss Hamilton's Prize.

- V Ia.* Constance Mackenzie.

Mathematics.

- V Ia.* Betty Pollard.
V Ib. Rosemary Hansen-Bay.
Va. Mary Willis.

History.

Miss Mackworth's Prizes

- V Ib.* Ruth Longland.
Va. Gwen Richardson.

English.

- V Ia.* Betty Pollard.
V Ib. Ruth Longland.

Science.

- V Ib.* Margaret Taylor.
Va. Mary Willis.

Geography.

- Va.* Mary Spurgin

General Knowledge Paper.

V Ia. Catherine Watson.*V Ib.* Ruth Longland.*Va.* Eileen Mumford.*I Va.* Eva Watson.*I Vb.* Mary Watson.*II Ia.* Mary Morgan.

ALSO 75 HOLIDAY TASK PRIZES.

MUSICAL APPRECIATION LECTURES.

This Term we have had the pleasure of several delightful musical lectures, given on Saturday evenings by Mr. Chignell, with the aid of a gramophone. These lectures, or 'musical talks,' as Mr. Chignell prefers to have them called, will continue next Term, one taking place every fortnight, and it is hoped that even more girls will be able to attend.

The object of these 'musical talks' is to enable those who do not often have the chance of attending good concerts, to become acquainted with really good music and to know something of the composers, and it is quite easy to do so at these lectures, which consist of several records played on the gramophone, about each of which Mr. Chignell speaks, telling something of the life of the composer, or pointing out special points of interest in the composition itself.

So far we have had various well-known musicians to play to us, amongst others Mischa Elman, the violinist, and Miss Beatrice Harrison, the 'cellist, and nothing could be more delightful than their playing. We have also enjoyed several songs, but vocal music does not seem to come out quite as well as instrumental on a gramophone.

In conclusion it can only be said that those who are not able to attend these lectures next Term, will miss a very great pleasure.

LANTERN LECTURES.

This Term we have enjoyed two lectures given by Mr. Perkins, Sacrist of Westminster Abbey. The first, on October 18th, was on the Abbey itself. Unfortunately the lantern was not working very well, so that the splendid collection of slides could not be fully appreciated ; some of those which came out clearly were delightful. The lecture was most interesting, and without entering into too much detail, gave a splendid general idea of the Abbey and its history.

The second lecture, on November 8th, dealt with Europe after the War. This lecture certainly cleared up many of our difficulties with regard to the changes in the map of Europe. The slides of French cities were beautiful, and we should like to have seen more of them.

We are looking forward to the next lecture by Mr. Perkins, on February 17th, at 4.30.

ALICE OTTLEY SCHOOL DEBATING SOCIETY.

A business meeting was held on October 6th, when Catherine Watson was elected Secretary and Robin Chignell representative of VIB. Miss Home and Consie Mackenzie remain as President and Vice-President.

There have been three debates this Term. The subject of the first, on October 13th, was "The History of the World is the Biography of Great Men." Ruth Longland was the proposer, seconded by Winifred Buckney, and Betty Pollard opposed the motion, supported by Marjorie Shaw. The motion was carried.

The subject of the second debate was "Modern Civilisation is a loss rather than a gain to mankind." Marjorie Grove was the proposer, seconded by Robin Chignell ; May Revill was the opposer, seconded by Muriel Gordon-Smith. The motion was lost by 4 votes to 22.

The third debate was on November 10th. Miss Home proposed that "A knowledge of human nature is of more value than book-knowledge," and was seconded by Phyllis Davies. Miss Cowell, seconded by Eileen Mumford, opposed the motion, which was carried by 21 votes to 6.

GIRL GUIDES.

2ND WORCESTER COMPANY.

It was with great regret that we said "Goodbye" to our Captain—Miss M. Keir-Moilliet—who, owing to ill-health and her consequent inability to continue her many good works, was compelled to leave us. We were very fortunate in finding another old girl, a very keen Guide, to help us to carry on.

Miss Spurling has most kindly lent us the gymnasium for our weekly meetings, and this has greatly increased the possibilities—both physical and otherwise—of the Company.

On November 12th five guides were enrolled. Miss Knott performed the ceremony, and afterwards joined us at games.

The Company consists of three patrols :—

Pimpernel.—Leader : G. Richardson ; Second : N. Pollard, M. Peach, E. Joyce, B. Garnham, M. Chell, D. Sparrow.

Heather.—Leader : P. Davies ; Second : K. Garnham ; M. Wilkinson, D. Barrs, M. Sparrow, M. Greenland, T. Stranack.

Cornflower.—Leader : G. Evans ; Second : D. Powell ; R. Evans, M. Hannay, B. Kershaw, M. Gascoigne.

GAMES' REPORT.

There has certainly been a very distinct improvement both in style and in results of the games this Term. We have now about 150 girls playing Hockey, which is an increase of nearly 50 on the number playing last year. This increase has enabled us to put four teams on the field and has made it possible for each form to have its own eleven for the first time. The weather has been very kind and the ground has been in good condition—two facts which have helped us very much. A few of our matches have had to be scratched as we have been in quarantine, but out of the five matches played we have won two, drawn one, and lost two. There have been so far no bad beatings such as we had last year; both matches we lost were only by one goal. Netball is still flourishing among the juniors under the care of Miss Stranack, who has helped a great deal in coaching the Hockey of the younger girls.

RESULTS OF MATCHES.

	School.	Opponents.
1st XI. v. Edgbaston Church College ...	5	6
1st XI. v. Kidderminster High School	4	4
1st XI. v. Worcester Ladies	3	1
3rd XI. v. St. James's	1	2
4th XI. v. St. James's	4	3
	—	—
	17	16
	—	—

School 1st XI. v. Edgbaston Church College. Lost 5—6. Quite a good game for the first of the season with a fairly new team. The defence was distinctly better than the attack. B. Stroyan played a good game, and B. Jerram saved some hard shots. Of the forwards, N. Castley and M. Plum combined very well, as it was their first appearance in the 1st XI.

School 1st XI. *v.* Kidderminster High School. Draw 4—4. This was not such a good game as the first one. The ground was uneven and covered with leaves, which seemed to hamper our efforts. Our team seemed superior, but it failed in the circle time after time, and so lost its chance of winning. B. Pollard and B. Gillespy did good work.

School 1st XI. *v.* Worcester Ladies. Won 3—1. A very good game, in which the forwards showed great improvement all round. The whole line combined well and played really good Hockey. S. Cavenagh and G. Richardson did very well.

School 3rd XI. *v.* St. James's 3rd XI. Lost 1—2. Quite a creditable performance for a first match. The ground was very sticky and so play was difficult. The forwards did well, especially V. Shrubsall, E. Barnett and K. Littlebury, and B. Chesshire played a good defence game.

School 4th XI. *v.* St. James's 4th XI. Won 4—3. A close game in which the School had to play very hard to win. Considering that the team had never played together it was a very encouraging display. B. Hutchinson played a very sound defence game, as also did M. Spurgin and P. Blackall, and V. Buckney did well in the forward line.

The teams have been chosen as follows :—

1ST XI.	2ND XI.
S. Cavenagh (Capt.)	R. Chignell (Capt.)
B. Pollard (Sub-Capt.)	I. Besley (Sub-Capt.)
B. Gillespy.	G. Dingle.
R. H. Bay.	I. Stroyan.
G. Richardson.	J. Watson.
D. Morley.	M. G. Smith.
B. Stroyan.	E. Philips.
J. Littlebury.	E. Watson.
N. Castley.	K. Davies.
B. Jerram.	V. Ridlington.
M. Plum.	N. Andrews.

3RD XI.

V. Shrubsall (Capt.).
 E. Mumford (Sub-Capt.).
 M. Willis.
 B. Chesshire.
 E. Barnett.
 G. Evans.
 M. Tompkins.
 E. Delahey.
 A. Beavan.
 K. Littlebury.
 N. Wilkinson.

4TH XI.

M. Spurgin (Capt.).
 B. Hutchinson (Sub-Capt.).
 J. Lace.
 K. Shaw.
 P. Blackall.
 V. Dingle.
 M. Powell.
 V. Buckney.
 E. Davies.
 B. Griffiths.
 J. Holmes.

Characters of the 1st and 2nd XI.'s :—

1st XI.

- S. Cavenagh* (1918-1920). Very keen and energetic. Has improved considerably this year. Shooting still a little erratic but quicker.
- B. Pollard* (1919-1920). Has improved in distributing the ball to the wings and hits harder ; marks well, but is still slow in getting rid of the ball.
- B. Gillespy* (1918-1920). Is very fast and centres well. Is very quick to take advantage of the mistakes of others, but is rather apt to let the ball out by the side line.
- R. H. Bay* (1918-1920). Has played in no matches this Term through absence.
- G. Richardson* (1918-1920). Passes well in the field, but does not make enough use of a good hit and a straight eye in the circle.
- D. Morley* (1918-1920). A little disappointing. She will not make a really dependable player until she learns to stop the ball first and then to hit it.

J. Littlebury (1920). Much improved. She is decidedly quicker and marks very well. "Rolling in" rather weak and uncertain.

B. Stroyan (1920). A strong hitter and reliable tackler. Has been very useful in defending the goal; but she is at times a little slow in clearing.

N. Castley (1920). Very promising; combines well with her wing and has a good hard shot in the circle, which at present is not always straight.

B. Jerram (1920). Has done very well in a difficult place. Kicks the ball out very well, but sometimes appears surprised at stopping it and so forgets to clear.

M. Plum (1920). Very fast and promising—with plenty of grit and determination. With more experience she should become a very good player.

2nd XI.

R. Chignell. A good tackler and a promising player.

I. Besley. Passes well, but is not quick enough in the circle.

G. Dingle. Quite fast, but is rather apt to muddle the ball.

I. Stroyan. Should do very well; at present a little slow.

J. Watson. Marks very well, but does not hit hard enough.

M. G. Smith. Stops the ball well, but is too slow in clearing.

E. Philips. Has now found her right place. Tackles very well and shows promise.

E. Watson. A hard worker but a little slow.

K. Davies. Passes well, but is not quick enough in the circle.

V. Ridlington. Is very fast and has improved her style.

N. Andrews. Promising, but is apt to get out of her place and so muddle the others.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LOG BOOK.

THE STAFF.

We are glad to record that no member of the Staff left in July.

We welcome as new members Miss Wilkie (Science) and Miss Amor (Preparatory).

GIRLS AND BOYS LEFT, JULY, 1920).

Phyllis Mann, Irene Grove, Elsa Taylor, Agnes Payne, Marjorie Garner, Phyllis Hansen-Bay, Mary Burnett, Molly Chambers, Isabel Humphries, Sybil Lawson, Beresford Martin, Dorothy Earle, Marjorie Parmee, Joan Bomford, Irene Simes, Patience Nott, Winifred Elton, Dora Yarnold, Betty Kirkham, Ethelinde Coombs, Phyllis Ward, Molly Boyd, Betty Smith, Thelma Townshend, Mary Berry, Mary Vaughan-Pryce, Delphine Solon, Kitty Barton, Christopher March, Kenneth St. Joseph, Eric Knight, John Higgins, Gerald Barnwell.

NEW GIRLS AND BOYS (SEPTEMBER, 1920).

Mary Glennie (VA.) ; Doreen Barrs, Peggy Greenland (Domestic) ; Bessie Kershaw (VB.) ; Mary Denton, Kitty Hansen-Bay, Bessie Surman, Emily Tollit, Molly Wilkin-

son (IVA.) ; Betty Anderson, Anne Chesshire, Eileen Fisher (IVB.) ; Mary Greenland, Evelyn Hobro, Rosamond Hobro (Remove) ; Molly Hardman, Enid Robinson, Kathleen Taylor (IIIA.) ; Monica Craze, Thelma Foster, Kathleen Glennie, Phyllis Patton, Hilda Spiers, Theodora Stranack (IIIB.) ; Olive Baker, Patience Cartridge, Mary Crapp, Dorothy Golledge, Betty Hutchinson, Phyllis Pert, Molly Tilley (II.) ; Nancy Hall, Betty Nichols (I.).

Kindergarten :—Joan Baker, Doreen Castley, Betty de Salis, Joan Lavender, Dorothy Spiers, Peter Bennett, John Darricotte, Peter Philpott, Richard Rogerson, Patrick Studdert-Kennedy.

At Half-term :—Mary Lewis (IIIB.) ; Isabel Carver (I.).

Domestic Course :—Kezia Broderick.

BIRTHS.

Sander.—In October, the wife (née Susy Adlington) of A. T. Sander, of a daughter.

Taylor.—On October 31st, the wife (née Mary Hay) of the Rev. D. Taylor, of a son.

Glanfield.—On November 26th, the wife (née Kathleen Mussen) of F. Glanfield, of a daughter (Mary).

MARRIAGES.

Talbot—Cox.—On April 5th, at Hartlebury, Henry H. Talbot to Marjorie Cox.

Gwatkin—Stanton.—On April 23rd, at Fairford, Major F. Gwatkin to Lydia Winifred Stanton.

Parry-Jones—Turner.—On July 28th, at Littlehampton, Llewelyn Parry-Jones to Catherine Elsie Turner.

Chesshire—Holyoake.—On September 14th, at Claines, the Rev. Arthur Herbert Chesshire to Lilian Maud Holyoake.

Farmer—Tompkins.—On September 16th, at S. Martin's, London Road, Worcester, William Farmer to Phyllis Tompkins.

DEATH.

Marston.—On November 3rd, at Ludlow, Dorothy Frances Marston, M.B.E., aged 35.

NEWS OF OLD GIRLS AND MISTRESSES.

Phyllis Mann is teaching at Heathfield, Ascot.

Elsa Taylor, Irene Grove, and Agnes Payne are at S. Mary's College, Paddington.

Winifred Elton and Christine Robinson are working at the Birmingham Art School.

Margaret Bird has gained her Diploma at the Gloucester School of Domestic Science.

Peggy Edwards has been appointed teacher of Domestic Subjects at the Victoria Institute, Worcester.

Alice Evans has left Bedford High School and is living with her sister at Tewkesbury.

Jessica Grove has a post at Dorking High School, Surrey.

Shuley Harris is doing a two-years' course at Aberystwyth, reading for a Geography Diploma.

Connie Strange received the Royal Red Cross and the Mons Star for her nursing during the War.

Evelyn Cartridge has come home after War work, having been second in command of the Women's Legion, and worked in France and Germany.

Lucille King has taken up social work, and is training at Bedford College as a Continuation School Teacher. She appeals for cast-off drill tunics and shoes for the class of junior girls in the club where she works.

Elsie Underwood is Warden of a Hostel for Students at Manchester University.

Miss Lindley has a post at Nuneaton High School.

Miss Bagnall has given up the idea of going to Ireland, and has returned to Wycombe Abbey School.

Miss May is supervisor of the girl typists at the B.T.H. Works, Rugby.

Miss Smith is teaching in London.

Miss Tisdall is English Mistress at Ware Grammar School.

Mademoiselle Grun and Miss Flockton have moved into their new home at 40, Lavender Road, Worcester.

GIFTS.

An "Amy Lea" Scholarship of £25 a year, by the kindness of the Bishop of Coventry.

Fossils, to the Museum, by Mr. Joyce.

A PRAYER IN THE DESERT.

Oh ! Allah is one God and Mahomet
His prophet ! Praise and glory be to Allah,
For this his sure deliv'rance of his people
So long oppress'd and wronged by the Turks.

We were a people scattered, reft apart,
Each heart with hatred filled against the rest,
And none was there to make us one again
To fight the Turks and drive them from our land.
Until a man, a messenger from Heav'n,
(Or so it seemed to us) clothed all in white,
Whose words were soothing to our angry hearts,
Bade us, if we would fight, to follow him,
For he would lead us all to victory.
We listened and accepted him with joy.
Allah, who dwells alone among the sands
Of the still desert, where none else may live,
Saw how he led us, this wise beardless youth,
(Who might be my son, though I am not old) ;
Saw how he trained and brought us, step by step,
Till with Allah-Nabhi we joined ourselves.

Then (after strategies so marvellous
 I was deceived by them), like ants we thronged
 The desert, rank on rank, in one vast horde,
 Rushed down upon the Turks and routed them !
 Oh ! Allah is one God, and Mahomet
 His prophet ! Praise and glory be to Allah,
 To whom I render thanks most joyfully
 For this his sure deliv'rance of his people.

A LETTER FROM NIGERIA.

Daphne Pike (Kenyon-Stow) has written for us the following account of life in Nigeria, where she is spending some time with her husband :—

“ I was delighted to hear how well the Old Girls' Reunion went off, and was most disappointed at just missing it. I seized the chance of travelling out with friends in June, as, having twice had to cancel my passage owing to illness, I was beginning to think I never should get out for my long looked for trip to Nigeria.

“ I enjoyed the voyage very much, as it was quite calm and not too hot. Sierra Leone was the only place at which I went ashore, and, as far as scenery goes, it is a most gorgeous spot ; the red cliffs and vivid tropical greenery of palms and banana trees, with the huge Lion Mountain towering behind, make a wonderfully effective setting for the harbour and town.

“ My husband met me at Lagos, and we motored through the town and got an idea of the place, but there was much to see—little native stalls at the side of the street ; crowds of natives in every possible variety of European, semi-European, and native costume ; a confused babel of sound from the dogs, sheep, goats and natives—that my impressions are rather blurred.

“ We left for up-country the same evening, and luckily it was a brilliant moonlight night, so I was able

to see something of the vast forests through which the railway first passes—indeed a most wonderful sight. By dawn we had passed through that belt of country, and were in one of more open glades, with thick undergrowth, and scattered with large trees, the oil palm being most evident. This gradually merged into the orchard scrub country ; small trees with long grass between, and the home of big game such as lion, leopard, harte-beeste, and, most dangerous of all, the West African buffalo, locally known as the bush cow, which does not wait to be attacked, but charges at sight, and has a larger death roll of Europeans than any other beast in the country.

“ This belt, with one or two breaks of open prairie, continues up to Kaduma. There was something of interest to be seen the whole time—the native mud hut villages close to the line ; the huge ant heaps of red earth, some eighteen feet in height, rising up like great pinnacles ; and the bridge across the Niger at Jebba.

“ We reached Kaduma Junction at 3 o'clock on the second morning, having come up about 570 miles inland, and were met at the station by my husband's interpreter and carriers, who brought our loads up to the bungalow, with which I am absolutely delighted ; I had not expected anything half so comfortable. The garden is lovely, with any amount of mango, paw paw, lime, and grape fruit trees ; it slopes down gradually to the Kaduma River, which is wider than the Severn at Worcester, and the view from the verandah is magnificent. Our vegetable garden is rather a trial at present ; there are so many difficulties to contend with—the garden boy being perhaps the worst pest ! When he feels really like work he weeds up everything that has been put in ; at other times he works ‘ like a nigger ! ’ A troop of wild monkeys make it their playground ; white ants eat the roots of the plants ; and a variety of caterpillars, grasshoppers, and huge crickets (two inches long) devour the leaves.

" We are away about ten days a month, and live in a travelling railway coach consisting of living-room, kitchen, and bathroom, as my husband has to inspect the 150 miles of line between here and Kano, so that I see a good deal of the country. . . .

" Kano itself is a most interesting city, the starting point of one of the great desert trade routes, and the northern terminus of the railway. Some friends motored us round the native town, which is surrounded by red mud walls of great height and thickness, and more than fourteen miles in circumference, with picturesque narrow gateways, through which strings of camels, donkeys and oxen, laden with produce and trade goods pass in and out. All types of natives from the deserts of the north and the forests of the south collect here to trade and barter. . . .

" One thing above all that I thoroughly appreciate is the solution of the domestic servant problem ; the Pagan Hausa boys make really excellent servants (with limitations), though of course it takes three to do the work of one really good English servant. Where they really shine is ' on trek,' where they will produce from nowhere a four-course dinner cooked on a wood fire by the roadside ! "

LINES INSPIRED BY RAIN ON THE MORNING OF A MATCH.

With profound apologies to " Hamlet."

To be, or not to be, that is the question.
Whether 'tis nobler in the mud to suffer
The slime and slithers of a last night's downpour
Or to be brave and in a burst of courage
Send telegram to scratch it. To play, to scratch,
That's all ; and if to scratch means safety
From all the hacks and bangs and awful stiffness
That hockey gives us, 'tis a consummation

Devoutly to be wished. To scratch, to play,
 To play, perchance to lose ; ay ! there's the rub :
 For in that fearsome game what goals may come
 When we have girded on our pads and caps,
 Must give us pause. This is the thought
 That makes it still more awkward to decide.
 For who would bear that horrid load of shame
 Our captain's anger and her fiery words
 Our friends' astonishment, the School's disgust,
 Our misery when the dreadful score is read
 For everyone to hear.

* * * * *

Thus hockey does make cowards of us all,
 And inners, fleet of foot, and strong of wrist,
 Forget to rush the goal. But, look ! up there
 A gleam of light bursts through the threat'ning clouds
 Perchance e'en now we'll whack that other team,
 And earn undying glory. Quickly now,
 Make haste to mark the field and get the tea,
 The train arrives at just two twenty-three.

ON MUSIC.

To talk briefly about music is one of the most difficult things ; for music is such a vast subject, embracing all that is beautiful in sound, from the twittering of the birds to the performance of the most skilled orchestra.

Music is a language intelligible to all nations. From the rudest savage to the most highly cultivated of mankind, it has always been felt to be the truest mode of expressing the emotions ; and among all races it has taken the highest position in the ritual of worship.

Few people stop to think what music there is in nature. The varied sounds of every instrument invented

by man are but imitations of her many voices. The highest notes of a violin, the flute, and even a whistle, may well compare with the singing of the birds ; and the deep notes of the organ with the roll of thunder ; and other endless comparisons could be found.

For those who have ears " There is music in everything " ; for as Byron has well said :—

" There is music in the sighing of the reed ;
There's music in the gushing of a rill ;
There's music in all things if men had ears."

A LOVER OF MUSIC.

A SONG OF WARWICKSHIRE.

Some swear by sunny Devon ; to some the Sussex Weald
Is more than child or lover, wide park or smiling field ;
And Somerset's the county that so many men admire,
But Warwickshire's the only place that sets my heart
afire.

Like nests in a green hedgerow the hamlets lie around,
Set in a sea of misted woods that veil the dimpling ground ;
And you who've never seen the world clothed in a gown
of gold
Should come and live in Warwick when the year is growing
old.

You have not smelt the good rich earth, nor known its
thrilling pain,
Until you've stood on Edgehill top amid the dashing rain ;
You've never been in fairyland, nor walked with ghosts
unseen,
Until you've roamed in Warwickshire just when the leaves
are green.

The cowslips and the ladysmock that deck a Warwick lane—

They are a sight to see but once ; you'll not forget again ;
The flags and water-blobs abloom all down sweet Avonside,
They fill the little dappled creeks where water-nixies hide.

If I were half across the world, and in some alien place,
I'd smell the warmth of clover and the rain against my face ;

My heart would break with longing for the sunny cloud-fleck'd dales,

And Warwickshire would draw me by that spell which never fails.

For some the Worcester orchards, for some the Yorkshire fells ;

A Scotchman's thoughts are in the North, where'er his body dwells ;

And Kent and Dorset are the spots it's proper to admire—
But Warwickshire's the only one that sets my heart afire !

R.N.L.

JACK.

Jack is a young rook. He fell out of the nest when a baby, receiving no other damage than a severe shock ; which was strange, because his home was in the topmost branches of an old oak tree.

He is much like other rooks in appearance, but rather more untidy than his fellows, probably because he has had no proper education. One would think from his behaviour that he was a baby only just hatched, if he were not so big : for he runs after us, squealing at the top of his voice, till we take notice of him.

“ Taking notice ” of him never means anything but feeding him with a very watery mixture of bread and water and occasionally fat worms.

He is a very persistent bird, and dances about on the tennis court at our feet, till we have to stop playing and attend to him, or he would be trodden on, for he is decidedly clumsy in his movements.

Once we thought he was going to fly away to his friends, because two old birds used to come and feed him ; but we could not get near them for they were shy.

He does not want to fly away at all, and seems quite happy, though he is rather a nuisance.

IVa.

A BALLAD OF GHELUVELT.

At Gheluvelt, at Gheluvelt
 The dawn began to glow,
 The German army mustered up
 And westward 'gan to flow.

At Gheluvelt, at Gheluvelt
 The sun rose o'er the land,
 In British line there is a gap,
 In it the Germans stand.

At Gheluvelt, at Gheluvelt,
 The Worcesters in reserve
 Were hastened on to join the fight
 And make the German swerve.

At Gheluvelt, at Gheluvelt
 The sun rose overhead,
 The gallant Worcester colonel, fought
 Unarméd, so 'tis said.

At Gheluvelt, at Gheluvelt
 The sun high in the sky,
 The Worcesters stopped the quick advance,
 And made the Hun to fly.

At Gheluvelt, at Gheluvelt
 The sinking sun turned red
 It was an awful thing, to see
 So very many dead.

At Gheluvelt, at Gheluvelt
 The moon rose o'er the hill,
 The Germans lay in silent heaps
 And they were dead and still.

All honour to the Worcester lads
 Who saved the day so well ;
 As long as we have men like these
 We may in safety dwell.

VA.

THE THREE MYSTERIOUS LADIES.

At two o'clock, outside Llanfair House School, stood a group of schoolgirls, each carrying a basket with some food which Miss Macpherson had given them.

"Now children," said she, "we are going on Bradnor Hills, but you are not to go near the quarries."

So they all set off at a quick pace. When they got there they sat down to rest.

"Pam," said Cherry, "I wonder who those old ladies are that live next door ; they come through the garden mysteriously, and when we go to see them, they are gone before we get there."

"Yes, I do wish we could find out who they are."

Then they heard Miss Macpherson calling them to come for a walk by the quarries.

"Let us stay behind, so that we can talk," said Pam.

"No," said Cherry, "because Miss Macpherson said we were to keep with her."

"Oh, what's the use of that! We shall come to no harm."

"All right, let's stay behind, then."

So they stayed behind the others. As they went past the quarry, Pamela's hat blew off, so she went to get it.

Cherry shouted, "Don't, Pam, you will fall!" But, heedless of the warning, Pamela still went on, and was putting out her hand for her hat, when her foot slipped, and down the quarry she slid! She caught hold of grass, but it gave way and she still slid on; but as luck would have it, when she was half-way down the quarry, she was held by a branch of a small shrub, so she clung on with all her might.

Meanwhile Cherry was dumfounded; she could not think what had happened; she looked round and saw that the Head-mistress and the other pupils were out of sight. "What was she to do?" Then she heard somebody coming up behind her; she turned round and saw the three old ladies, who lived next door. "What are they going to do?" thought Cherry to herself.

But the smallest of the ladies lay down on the grass by the quarry, while the next caught hold of her feet, and the third lady did the same to that one; then the front one told Pam to give her her hands, which Pam did willingly, and was slowly drawn up by the three old ladies.

Meanwhile the Head-mistress had come back, and had learnt the whole story. Pam, having been drawn up safely, was not hurt, but the exertion was too overpowering for the old lady, and she fainted almost as soon as Pam was safely on firm ground, so the two girls had then to render "First Aid."

While this was going on, Miss Macpherson was talking to the other two ladies, and in doing so found that

they were three girls who had left the school last term ;
they had dressed up in disguise. Afterwards they were
always called " The Three Old Ladies."

N.E. (Remove).

SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

It was a lovely summer morn,
And seemed so bright and fair,
That Queen Elizabeth went out
To breathe the gentle air.

Sir Walter Raleigh, that brave knight,
Was out with her that day ;
And anon she reached a puddle large
Which in her pathway lay.

She paused, and from her royal lips
An angry murmur broke ;
Sir Walter, running to the front,
Swept off his gorgeous cloak.

And kneeling, on the puddle wide
His handsome cloak he threw.
" It had cost him pretty dear," they said,
For it was fine and new.

" My lady, deign to walk with me
O'er this my cloak," he said.
His Queen agreed, and on his cloak
The handsome Queen he led.

And very soon, the thankful Queen
Promoted that bold knight,
And day by day, she gave to him
Fine presents rich and bright.

(M.)

To the Editor.

May we suggest that the tool-shed would make an excellent tennis pavilion, now that it is repaired?

RETICULA.