

IRIS WALTHAMSTOW HIGH SCHOOL MAGAZINE, 1957

CYRANO DE BERGERAC (FIFTH Forms, 1956)
Catherine Sturgess, (VI)

Editor: A.H. PARK
O.G.
Sub-
Editor: EDNA



TIMBERLAKE
Committee; DELIA BARRETT. JILL RUMBOLD. JOY WAUGH.
PAT WRIGHT.

PREFECTS 1956-57.

Head Girl-D. Barrett.
Vice Head Girl-J. Elphick.
5c J. Cawthorn G. Levesque
5F M. Flowers J. Holden
4w H. King J. Watson

4H C. Robinson	J. Sears
4s J. Neil	J. Oatham
3w R. Goss	J. Pye
3H D. Milford	M. Perkins
3s V. Papps	P. Thompson
2W A. Collins	H. Spencer
2H V. Orford	R. Clark
2S T. Barnard	S. Maakestad
IW P. Gore	Jacqueline Smith
IH F. Stewart	V. Linden
IS D. Wyness	E. Page

Head Mistress's Letter

DEAR FRIENDS,

This letter must begin with warm congratulations to two Old Girls. Mary French who gained a First Class Honours degree of the University of London, in Chemistry in 1936, has now been awarded the degree of D.Sc. for her work in the fields of Magneto-Chemistry and ElectroChemistry. Edna Jenkinson who, in 1946 gained a First Class Honours degree in the Classical Tripos of Cambridge University, is now a Doctor of Philosophy of the same University. These are honours of the highest distinction in the academic sphere and we are justifiably proud.

Edna Timberlake has given further proof of her helpful interest in her old school by offering us a prize for which any girl in the Middle or Upper School can be eligible, whatever her subject or special interest and at the same time a prize concerned with Edna's own subject, English. Two prizes will be given annually, one in the Middle School and one in the Upper School for written work on ANY subject which is produced during the school year and couched in good clear and fluent English. We thank Edna for the originality, inspiration and generosity of her action.

Old Girls seem to be figuring prominently in my letter this year but this last reference is a less happy one. Mrs. Browne (Lily Stammers) is retiring from the post of O.G.A. Treasurer. Mrs. Browne welcomed me as a new Head Mistress with great kindness and her friendly interest in the school of my time has been maintained through her daughter Diana and later through her niece. I thank her warmly for the many happy hours she has spent working for the O.G.A. and wish her the happy "retirement" she deserves.

July, 1956, saw the end of a period when staff difficulties were a constant anxiety and could have become acute had it not been for the young mistresses who came temporarily to our rescue-Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Biggs, Mrs. Naipaul, Miss Pullen; we are very indebted to them. We were very sorry to lose Mrs. Middleton, who has gone to her new home in Sevenoaks, Miss Rush who, after nine years of generous whole-hearted service here, is now Second Mistress of a new Girls' Grammar School in Fareham, and Miss Murdie who has retired after many years of teaching in Walthamstow.

We welcome as new members of staff Dr. Gwen Owen (Science), Miss Glasspool (Biology), Miss Stevens (History), Mr. Watkinson (Mathematics (Yes, Mr.!) and Mr. Noakes (Physics).

The letter gets too long but I must mention an additional amenity which gives much pleasure-the use by the Geography Department of the Old Monoux Classroom built in 1527, destroyed in 1941 and rebuilt in 1955.

Yours affectionately,

M. M. BURNETT.

The Sir George Monoux Old Grammar School

The room was still completely bare, whitewashed walls, great rafters soaring it appeared into eternity, and an enormous Tudor fireplace (yes, you can see the sky) and then they brought in the furniture. Not beautiful modern contemporary furniture, but furniture so old that I kept screws and a screwdriver handy and one day I had the utmost difficulty in convincing a visitor that it really wasn't the original Tudor furniture. I looked at it, and thought well, they might have finished it and painted "The Lord will provide" over the mantelpiece. But it is a beautiful room-we get every timorous ray of sunlight from 9 till sunset (I think we get sunrise, but I haven't needed it yet) and the sunbeams dance from desk to desk. The floor is a joy and a menace-I never realized how many inkspots there could be! My form were charming, they gave me lovely vases of flowers to stand on the mantelpiece last term and this term bowls of bulbs and the text of my imagination has faded away; they hung my pictures and removed the, to me, workhouse bareness, and Mr. Frewin got over my very necessary equipment. But I couldn't use it! No black out, and all the experts said, "Black out is necessary." But old stage curtains dye a weird and wonderful black, thank you Dramatic Society, modern stick-on-pegs on the window frames are not permanent fixtures and do not spoil the structural beauty of the room and the girls enjoyed putting the flex through the kitchen hatch to the kitchen light (I think they regret the passing of this necessity).

By Christmas I was well established and quite used to my little "Dame" school and the old folk below were used to hearing "teacher's" voices and the very melodious voices of the girls. To let them know we had got pleasant voices we sang Christmas carols to them during the last lunch time.

But then this term the order of things changed again. I've had a present every week, new chairs, a wall plug (the very latest 13 amps., but this took two weeks to fix) new desks (it took the delivery man 13 journeys to bring them in! I couldn't wait for the old ones to be taken away, so the VIth Form and I stacked them up and put out the new, the most comfortable desk and stairs in the school, a new map holder, we returned we returned the easel to the games department and in answer to the workmen's query "No, we have not hung anyone yet, but there is still time," and finally the old furniture has been removed.

W.M. FAIR.

Gifts to the School

From

José Collins-"Jean Racine," by Geoffrey Brereton.

A parent-Two Erkolion armchairs for the Sixth Form room.

Mr. and Mrs. Lotts-A silver trophy.

Miss Rush-Vases for every form room and "Birds as Individuals," by Len Howard.

Miss Dennithorne-Five shrubs for the garden.

The Parents' Association-"Encyclopedia Britannica."

Miss Asher-"Good Behaviour," by Harold Nicolson.

Miss Murdie-Vase for front hall and "Four Walls Adorned," by Brokke.

Rosemary Scott-"Queens, Crowns and Coronations."

Editor's Letter

IRIS is a bridge, although a rainbow, between the past and the present; it has the virtue of combining the contemporary with the traditional. Edna Timberlake, herself an old girl, most happily demonstrates this central function of our school magazine by her generous presentation of a prize for the best pieces of English written in the course of the school year in the Upper and Middle School respectively. Without establishing the practice as a precedent we gladly print this year the two prize selections, the rule hitherto being that all entries should be specially composed for their inclusion in *Iris*.

Speaking of *Iris* reminds me of irises and crocuses. The first are at the moment in the front garden, sabre-leaved, and the yellow crocuses,

thanks to the cunning insertion of mothballs, are unravaged and unwontedly gay.

The Sailor's Hornpipe mingles with strange rhythms emanating from our newest club. Bucket bags, besides satchels and cases, may contain homework. Feet are fiercely shod in mighty hockey boots. But the nearer we approach our centenary, and the more we appear to change, the more matters deep down remain the same. And there is always the Greek Theatre.

With best wishes for 1957 to all members of the school, old and new.

Yours affectionately,

ANNETTE PARK.

February, 1957.

Old Girls Sub-Editor's Letter

A few days ago I visited the delightfully renovated Monoux school-room over the new alms-houses by St. Mary's Church. This is now the home of the W.H.S. Geography Department-and it is indeed a home; the only item lacking from the complete amenities of a home is a bath. And I suppose it is not really necessary for the geography staff or students to bathe before, during or after geography lessons.

This is indeed a pleasing "annexe" to the school buildings-and I imagine, a great inducement to become a "geographer." And I have observed other developments and alterations in the school which all serve to remind me that it is almost twenty years since I left the school.

We are told repeatedly to-day-until we are tired of hearing it-that this is an age of rapid change, an age of science, an age of materialism. We can quote numberless illustrations to prove that young people are not what they used to be; and surely it is as well that they are not in this new world! But the age is ultimately what we make it. Rapid change bewilders us-particularly those of us who have reached middle or advanced years; but the good things of life remain the same-the things of the mind and the spirit which have always lifted man above temporary difficulty and bewilderment. And it is in these things that we can retain a firm hold on life and adapt ourselves to the lesser circumstances of rapid change.

I believe that our school still retains a firm hold upon real life-and the close bond which exists between the School and its Old Girls' Association has contributed in the past and will contribute in the future much that can strengthen that hold.

Good wishes to you all.

EDNA TIMBERLAKE.

Prize Giving, 1956

Prize-giving day was on July 19th, 1956, after-not during our three days' summer. We therefore held the ceremony in the hall, where for once our very own Lady McEntee distributed the prizes and was for once, to use her own phraseology, was not the "blooming bridesmaid" but the "blushing bride." This situation arose out of the fact that we wished to make the occasion an opportunity of wishing our devoted Chairman of the Governors a happy and successful visit to America-as indeed we know it was. A purse with some extra spending dollars enclosed was presented to her. In keeping with the home production of the ceremony was the presenting of reports not only by Miss Burnett, who did so with her usual grace and skill, but by the girls Margaret Glyde, Francis Hooker, Doreen Chase, Jean Whittaker who covered aspects of different school activities such as games, music and drama.

An adapted programme, thanks to the musical resources of Miss Berry, provided splendid entertainment.

Prize List, 1956

Swimming-Certificates for Swimming One Mile

Audrey Wootton	Ellinor Murray
Joan Adlard	Sonia Avery
Janice Collier	Pauline Erwood
Ann Giles	Diana Layman
Marion Roper	Jean Banbrook
Brenda Whitaker	Marion Tarbox

Medals for excellence in Physical Culture

Lower School Janet King
Middle School Jennifer Baxter
Upper School Jean Whitaker

Shield for Progress in Physical Culture - Form 5W

Art Prizes

Lower School Heather Burke
Middle School Gaenor Stevens
Upper School Jean Bush

Timberlake Prize

Middle School Ann Petter
Upper School Delia Barrett

Lord McEntee Memorial Prize - Margaret Glyde

Prizes for very good work

Form IW Fiona Bignell.
 Form Ih Janet Jenkinson, Jennifer Mann, Valerie Orford.
 Form IS
 Evelyn Brewster, Gillian Glyde, Carole Hammond, Marjorie Schultz.
 Form 2W
 Pat Maynard, Joan Pye, Shirley Rozee, Pat Westwood.
 Form 2h Madge Davis, Aileen East, Delia Milford.
 Form 2S
 Gillian Hood, Rosemary Horst, Janet King,
 Joan Lotts, Pat Thompson.
 Form 3s Caroline Shipton.
 Form 4c
 Marilyn Hatch, Gillian Levesque, Kathleen Schultz, Maureen Sleaf.
 Form 5w
 Pat Gordon-Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit., Maths.
 Maureen Chitty-French, Latin, Maths., Gen. Sc.
 Form 5h
 Lorna Rowe-Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit., French.
 Brenda Thomas-Geog. French. Maths., Gen. Sc.
 Joy Waugh-Eng. Lang., Eng. Lit.
 Audrey Wootton-Eng. Lang., Gen. Sc.
 Form 5s
 Josephine Dellino-History, Scripture.
 Deanna Lyne-Maths., Gen. Sc.
 Pat Masson-Latin, French.
 Joan Woodyard-Geog., Gen. Sc.
 Form L6
 Gloria Grimsell-Maths., Physics, Chemistry. Form Up. 6
 Beryl McLellan-Physics, P. Maths., A. Maths, Chemistry.
 Gwen Matthews-Physics, P. Maths.
 Margaret Copes take-Music.
 Frances Hooker-English.
 Delia Barrett-English, French Literature. Margaret Glyde-Leadership of
 the School.
Ince Jones Picture to Best Form in French in Middle School Form 3h.
Joan Temple Cup for Art Form 3h.
Oakley Cup for Domestic Science Form IS.
McEntee Cup for the most distinguished achievement of the year
 Fourth Year Netball Team. Unbeaten in 31 matches.

K. Barraclough	J. Baxter
E. Bell	J. Cawthorn
V. Miller	D. Rudkin
J. Simkins	

We would like to congratulate the following girls:-

Exhibition in History to Royal Holloway College
 D. Chase
 County Major Scholarship
 D. Barrett (deferred)
 B. McLellan (deferred)
 D. Chase
 D. Hogg
 F. Hooker
 County Major Exhibition
 M. Copestake
 V. Hall
 J. Malyon
 Junior Music Exhibition M. Williams
 Preliminary Examination of General Nursing Council
 B. King
 Pat Gower and Shirley Smith represented Walthamstow in the Essex
 County Swimming Championship.

School Calendar 1955-6

November.
 16th Lecture on make-up to Literary and Dramatic Society by Max Factor
 representative.
 23rd Upper Sixth Physicists attended lectures at the Royal Institution.
 30th Upper Sixth Physicists attended lectures at the Royal Institution.
 7th Dec. Upper Sixth Physicists attended lectures at the Royal Institution.
 28th Prize-giving Holiday.
 December.
 2nd Fifth Form Dance.
 4th E.F.Y.M.A. Carol Service at St. John's Church, Buckhurst Hill.
 5th Programme of short plays presented by Literary and Dramatic
 Society.
 7th Miss Quass lectured to members of C.E.W.C. on Russia.
 9th Concert by the combined Choir of Walthamstow High School and
 Monoux School.
 12th 1st and 2nd Form Party.
 13th 3rd Form Party.
 14th 4th Form Party.
 15th Old Folks' Party.
 21st a.m. Film Show and short Concert.
 p.m. Carol Service. End of Term.
 27th-29th C.E.W.C. Conference.
 January.
 10th. First day of Spring Term.
 16th School Birthday. Service in St. Mary's Church.

Gifts from School distributed to the sick.
B.B.C. audition for Combined Choir.
18th Literary and Dramatic Society Play Reading with Monoux School.
February.
1st Miss Trotter spoke to members of C.E.W.C. about New Zealand.
4th Party of eighteen girls visited Royal Festival Hall for Robert Mayer
Youth Concert.
20th, 21st Half Term Holiday.
21st Science Society visit to Boake Roberts (Essences and
Perfumes).
March.
2nd Choral and Orchestral Concert arranged by Parents' Association.
6th 2nd Form Parents' Tea-party.
7th Members of C.E.W.C. addressed by two Nigerian students.
8th 4th Form Parents' Tea-party.
13th 3rd Form Parents' Tea-party.
Party of Sixth Form girls visited Victoria and Albert Museum with Mrs.
Allison and Miss Bloomfield.
14th Music Society Meeting of 20th Century Music arranged by M.
Copestake and D. Chase.
17th E.F.Y.M.A. Choral and Orchestral Festival.
19th Group from Sixth Form visited Institute of Education with Mrs.
Allison.
20th Dancing Competition.
22nd Dances performed for parents.
26th a.m., Hockey Competition.
p.m., Netball Competition.
27th Finals of Netball Competition.
28th End of Term.
April.
Biologists visited Flatford during Easter holidays.
24th First day of Summer Term.
May.
10th Upper Sixth visit to Oxford.
11th-13th Sixth Form visit to Thaxted.
18th-22nd Whitsun Holiday.
June.
2nd E.F.Y.M.A. Solo and Chamber Music Day at Woodford.
1st-4th Music Inspection.
4th-8th General Inspection.
14th Party from Third Forms visited the Geffrye Museum.
18th Beginning of General Certificate of Education Examinations.
19th Fourth Form visit to Epping Forest.
21st Walthamstow Schools' Sports.
22nd Sixth Form visit to Tate Gallery.

28th School Examinations begin.
July.
6th Second Forms' and Geography Sixth expedition to Pole Hill.
10th Sports Heats.
12th Sixth Form attended Student Christian Movement Conference at
Woodford.
Sports Day.
13th First Form visited St. Albans.
Sixth Form attended Antarctic Lecture.
16th Sixth Form Theatre Visit: T. S. Eliot "Family Reunion."
19th Prize-giving.
22nd Group from Upper School attended Madrigal Service at Bancroft's.
23rd Preliminary rounds of Tennis Tournament.
24th Finals of Tennis Tournament.
25th Performance of Fifth Form Play-"Cyrano de Bergerac."
26th Swimming Sports.
End of Summer Term.
August.
A party of girls visited Switzerland with Miss Lea and Miss Thomerson.
September.
13th Beginning of Term.
24th Fifth Form visit to Lloyd Park Pavilion for French plays: "Le
Médecin Malgré Lui" and "L'Anglais tel qu'on le Parle."
26th Sixth Form visit to Ingatestone Hall with Miss Trotter.
29th Fungus Foray.
October
3rd Music Society: Dvorak's "New World Symphony" played on the new
long playing gramophone.
17th Mr. Newton spoke to the Literary and Dramatic Society on
"Stagecraft and Production."
24th United Nations' Day. Representatives from the Sixth Form attended
a service at the Town Hall, and a short service was held in school.
A film about "Calder Hall" was shown by the Science Society.
25th Third Form Parents' Tea-party.
26th Miss Quass spoke to the school about U.N.I.C.E.F. and Refugee
Problems.
November.
1st Fourth Form Parents' Tea-party.
2nd Christian Union addressed by Rev. J. J. Hesketh,
Chaplain to the Deaf and Dumb.
7th Members of C.E.W.C. addressed by Mrs. Street: "The American
Colour Bar."
14th Recital by students from the Royal Academy given to the Music
Society.

15th Second Form Parents' Tea-party.
16th Lady McEntee spoke to the Sixth Form about her recent visit to America.
21st Film shown to Science Society on "The Control of Malaria."
28th Mr. Meadows White spoke to the Literary and Dramatic Society about "Charles Lamb and the Theatre."
December.
3rd Prize-giving Holiday.
4th Toy Collection for children of U.G.S. Settlement and Connaught Hospital.
5th Mr. Singh, an Indian student, spoke to members of C.E.W.C. about Tanganyika.
6th Meeting of the South-West Essex Historical and Classical Association at Bancroft's: Professor Webster lectured on "The Mycenaean Tablets."
9th E.F.Y.M.A. Carol Service at St. John's Church, Buckhurst Hill.
11th Preliminaries of Acting Competition.
12th Music Society presented a programme of Christmas Music on gramophone records.
13th Christian Union addressed by Mrs. Barclay (*née* Smith) on the work of the Church in Jordan.
14th Finals of the Dramatic Competition judged by Miss Margaret Rawlings.
17th First and Second Form Party.
18th Fourth Form Party.
19th Third Form Party.
21st Carol Service.
End of Term

Games Report

Our teams had a successful Easter team, winning especial honours in the Essex County Netball Rally.

The 1st team and the 4th year team won the area preliminaries and entered the final rally. The 1st team, having won three matches, met Romford High School in the final, and after a hard and exciting match, lost by only 2 goals to their Romford opponents, who were just that much quicker and more accurate with the ball.

The 4th year team, having won 5 matches, also met Romford High School in the final, and eventually won by 9 goals to 2. This 4th year team was unbeaten for over 2 years and was awarded the McEntee Cup for the most outstanding achievement of the year. Congratulations to the

4th year team!

It is interesting that both finals should have been between Romford High School and Walthamstow High School, for the Headmistress of the former is an old-girl of the latter, and she said that her loyalties were very divided.

In July we lost a fine games captain in Ruth Miller, whose enthusiasm and quiet efficiency was for three years an example to the school netballers.

The autumn term has been quite successful. Although the juniors now play mainly hockey, the junior netball teams have had very good results.

The present 1st team girls are comparatively young but, with the experience they have gained this term, hope to get better results in their return matches.

Our sincere thanks must go to Mrs. Pearce and Miss Davey, who give up so much of their time to coach us.

EASTER TERM, 1956.

Tottenham Grammar School. 1st team, won 30-8; 2nd team, won 13-3; 3rd year, won 18-7; 2nd year, won 12-11.

Ursuline Convent, Ilford. 1st team, lost 16-19; 2nd team, lost 10-19; 3rd year, won 11-10; 2nd year, lost 9-12.

S.W.E. Technical School. 1st team, won 36-1; 4th year, won 26-2; 3rd year, won 25-4; 2nd year, won 16-7. 4th year, won 12-8;

County Rally (Area Preliminary). 1st team won; 4th year, won; 3rd year, lost.

Skinner's School. 4th year, won 21-10; 3rd year, won 16-9.

Leytonstone High School. 1st team, won 20-11; 2nd team, lost 13-16; 4th year, won 22-7;

3rd year, lost 15-18; 2nd year, lost 11-12.

Woodford High School. 4th year, won 16-13; 3rd year, lost 9-19; 2nd year, lost 12-18.

John Howard School. 1st team, won 22-12; 2nd team, won 22-16; 3rd team, won 17-4; 3rd year, won 17-12; 2nd year, won 23-11.

Essex County Rally. 1st team, won 3 matches. Final v. Romford, lost 5-7; 4th year, won 5 matches. Final v. Romford, won 9-2.

AUTUMN TERM, 1956.

S.W.E. Technical School. 1st team, won 30-4; 2nd team, won 25-6; 3rd year, won 14-3; 2nd year, won 15-7.

St. Angela's Convent. 1st team, won 22-4; 2nd team, won 8-7; 4th year, won 18-4; 3rd year, lost 8-17; 2nd year, won 17-11.

John Howard School. 1st team, won 20-9; 2nd team, won 15-12; 4th year, won 25-6; 3rd year, won 17x12; 2nd year, won 23-11.

Woodford High School. 4th year, lost 10-18; 3rd year, lost 7-16; 2nd

year, won 12-10.

Skinner's School. 1st team, lost 15-19; 2nd team, won 15-13; 4th year, won 16-10; 3rd year, won 19-12.

Sarah Bonnell School. 1st team, won 30-4; 4th year, won 19-15; 3rd year, won 19-17; 2nd year, won 14-5.

Parliament Hill School. 1st team, won 25-5; 2nd team, won 16-12; 4th year, won 19-4; 3rd year, won 12-4; 2nd year, won 23-7.

Tottenham High School. 1st team, won 27-8; 2nd team, won 25-8; 3rd year, won 23-8; 2nd year drew 18-18.

Loughton High School. 1st team, won 16-4; 2nd team, lost 13-14; 4th year, lost 14-20; 3rd year won 13-8; 2nd year, won 22-10.

Ursuline Convent, Ilford. 1st team, lost 14-18; 2nd team, won 15-11; 4th year, won 20-14; 3rd year won 21-8; 2nd year, won 28-11.

Leytonstone High School. 1st team, lost 14-15; 2nd team, won; 4th year, won; 3rd year, lost; 2nd year won.

The present first team is as follows: -C, Jennifer Baxter, CD., Joy Waugh, C.A., Janet Simpkins, S., Kate Barraclough, A., Jill Rumbold, D., Mary Barraclough (Vice-Capt.), G.D., Dawn Rudlin.

JILL RUMBOLD (Games Captain).

TENNIS. SUMMER TERM, 1956.

A number of matches were cancelled owing to bad weather, and the 1st team was rather inexperienced, but much enjoyment was gained from those matches which we were able to play.

The 1st team was as follows:

1st couple-Pamela Warne (capt.) and Jill Rumbold.

2nd couple-Jean Whittaker and Ruth Miller.

3rd couple-Elaine Bell and Maureen Chitty.

S.W.E. Technical School. 1st VI., won 76-23.

John Howard School. 1st VI., won 73-26; 2nd VI., won 59-22. 4th year VI, won 55-44; 3rd year VI, won 44-37.

Woodford High School.

Skinner's School. 1st VI., won 56-43; 2nd VI., lost 49-50.

Monoux School. 1st and 2nd VI., friendly.

John Howard School. 1st VI., lost 17-82; 2nd VI., lost 21-60; 4th year, lost 28-53; 3rd year, lost 39-42.

St. Angela's Convent. 1st VI., won 62-37.

Chingford High School. 2nd VI., lost 37-62.

Loughton High School. 1st VI., lost.

HOCKEY

Hockey is now becoming a very popular game in the school and it is

hoped that a school team will be formed in the near future.

A 4th year team has been chosen and they will be playing their first match next term.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (VW 1956)

JANICE R. COLLIER, VI.



Chaucer's Narrative Art in the 'Prologue' and the 'Pardoner's Prologue and Tale' (Awarded Edna Timberlake Award-Upper School, 1956)

It seems most appropriate to begin this essay on Chaucer's narrative art by quoting some lines written by Chaucer himself, and ascribed by him to "Our Host," "right a myrie man," who is addressing the pilgrims before they start their journey:

"Wel I woot, as ye goon by the weye,
Ye shapen you to talen and to playe;
For trewely confort ne myrthe is noon
To ride by the weye doumb as a stoon."

We see clearly in these and other lines how much Chaucer values the art of story-telling. Yet he not only values this art as one who listens, but also loves to tell stories himself. This love caused him to write the "Canterbury Tales."

Chaucer creates for us his "wel nyne-and-twenty" pilgrims, and then, with obvious enjoyment of pleasure to come, unfolds the other, more lengthy part of his plan:

"Ech of you, to shorte with your weye,

In this irage shal telle tales tweye,-

To Caunterburyward, I mean it so,

And homeward he shal tellen othere two."

Chaucer never completely achieved the momentous task of composing four tales for each of the pilgrims. It is probable that when he started the individual tales, he realised that it would be too great a strain, even for his narrative skill. Yet we have many of the completed tales, and fragments of others which were never finished. These provide ample evidence that Chaucer's idea was not merely a plan that he never intended to fulfil. It is obvious that the "Canterbury Tales" were written because Chaucer was a man who loved the art of story telling. Also, from the various conversations between each tale, we see that Chaucer likes a story to be well told. In these conversations, not only the subject matter of each story is criticised, but also the way in which it has been told-whether the audience have been really interested. Indeed the "reward" that the Host has offered is to go to the person who can not only tell "tales of best sentence"-(for unless the story itself is good, it will be unworthy of a good storyteller)-but also "tales of moost solaaas" (for the story must be amusing and told in an entertaining way to the other pilgrims, so that their attention is really captured and held).

In these two respects-a love of the story, preferably one that is well told-we can see the difference between Chaucer and another brilliant writer of a later date-Charles Lamb. In his essay, "Mackery End" Lamb tells us, "Narrative teazes me. I have little concern in the progress of events." Neither are the tastes of his "cousin Bridget" exactly similar to those of Chaucer, for "she must tell a storv-well, ill, or indifferently told-so there be life stirring in it, and plenty of good or evil accidents."

Yet, although, in general, Chaucer shows more discrimination in his love for a story, he possesses, without doubt, the same overwhelming desire for the "progress of events" in which Lamb has less interest.

So far in this essay several points have been mentioned concerning Chaucer's preference for a story that is well told. This fact is more fully justified in the following detailed examination of the "Prologue" and the "Pardoner's Prologue and Tale," for as we see how skilful Chaucer is in

his own storytelling, we realise that he was probably a critical yet appreciative judge of others' stories.

The "Prologue" to the "Canterbury Tales" contains the key to the character of every pilgrim, and for this reason alone it is very important, indeed essential, to the tales that follow. Yet although it is mainly concerned with character creation, we can learn a great deal from it of Chaucer's narrative art.

First, Chaucer's grouping of his characters must be considered. This is a very basic point (but nevertheless) the way in which the characters are grouped adds greatly to the "Prologue" so that continuity is maintained throughout. Characters such as the Knight, the Squire, and the Yeoman are an obvious choice for the first group, but there is more subtlety in the order of the Prioress, the Monk and the Friar. These three religious characters are arranged in gradually increasing degrees of wickedness and lessening degrees of faith. Just as the Prologue began with one of the greater characters, the Knight, so it is balanced, at the end, with the Summoner and Pardoner riding along jovially with one another.

A further point to be mentioned is the fact that, in his character creation and description, Chaucer knows exactly how much he should tell us about each pilgrim and how much he should leave to our imagination. He does not hinder the progress of his story by giving us wearisome and unnecessary details of each character, yet neither is his description in any way lacking the finer points which so often distinguish his characters, making them very memorable. The gentle irony of his description of the Friar and the Monk, all the more ironical since he does not emphasise the fact that Monks and Friars should not love the things of this world-or, the single line in the description of the Sergeant at Law:

"And yet he semed bisier than he was"

which leaves us to decide for ourselves exactly how pompous and "falsely busy" the Sergeant at Law was-these are only two examples chosen from many of the great discrimination that Chaucer used in selecting the points that he would tell us about his characters-and the points he would omit.

There are, of course, two passages of pure narrative in Chaucer's "Prologue" other than that contained in character description. These passages come at the very beginning and end of the "Prologue." Although they are both worthy of comment, the first passage is a better example of Chaucer's narrative art than the second. In this first passage, Chaucer not only introduces us to his "Canterbury Tales" and gives us all the information necessary to understand the story, such as the time of the year, the place where the event happened, and a description of the inn and fellow pilgrims, but also writes several lines of very beautiful poetry which are never fully appreciated until an accurate yet lyrical translation is attempted. All this is achieved concisely, and in comparatively few lines.

The concluding lines of the "Prologue" are more drawn out and lack concise force. Nevertheless they contain a description of "Our Host" and give us many further necessary details concerning the approaching pilgrimage and plans for the journey. It seems, at times, as if Chaucer is thinking ahead of his writing to the various tales that he will soon be composing for each character, and is therefore reserving his greater narrative skills for that purpose.

Next, an analysis must be made of the "Pardoner's Prologue and Tale."

There is, of course, more to discuss in this tale than in the "Prologue" as it has a direct bearing on the subject of Chaucer's narrative art. It is also one of the maturist of Chaucer's works, and therefore a very suitable choice. However, to make the analysis less complicated, it will be easier to deal first with the "Pardoner's Prologue and Tale" omitting the actual story, or "exemplum" which the Pardoner gives, and discussing that section later.

There is little to mention concerning narrative art in the Prologue to the Pardoner's Tale. This Prologue provides an effective introduction to the Tale, and to the Pardoner himself, for it gives us a detailed background, showing us the Pardoner's various trickeries and deceits.

The Pardoner's Tale has a very lurid opening which startles us into attention:

"They doon the devel sacrifise
With-in that develes temple, in cursed wyse."

Chaucer follows the practise of the day, and emphasises more of the Pardoner's practices by giving many examples of his text:

"Radix malorum est cupiditas,"

before he relates the main "exemplum" of the sermon.

The tale is interspersed with many ejaculations such as:

"O glotonye, ful of cursednesse,
O cause first of our confusioun,
O original of our dampnacioun."

These give the story more life and prevent the Pardoner's moralising becoming tedious.

After this section of the tale, where the Pardoner gives us many illustrations of his text, there follows the actual "exemplum." As said before, this is left until the end for discussion, because it needs more detailed analysis. This is because it is a perfect illustration of Chaucer's actual narrative act, with very little concentration on the other aspects of Chaucer's writing—for example, the moralising part of his sermon which he has just completed.

A further point to mention is Chaucer's skill in telling his Tale with two audiences in mind—the audience of pilgrims who would be listening to the Pardoner, and the imaginary audience of the type to

whom the Pardoner would usually deliver his sermon. At the very end of the Tale, Chaucer ends the sermon so dismissing the imaginary audience from his mind, and turns all his attention to the actual pilgrims. Gradually there is less story and more conversation, until we find that the usual conversation between the stories has resumed. So the text of the Tale ends with the line:

"Anon they kiste, and rider forth hir weye,"
-and we are ready for the next story.

Now must follow an analysis of Chaucer's narrative art in his tale of the three rioters. First Chaucer sets the scene—a tavern scene. Chaucer, like Shakespeare (for example in the Falstaff scenes in "Henry IV") realises the value of a tavern scene, in that it has a wide appeal, provides a suitable background for all his characters, and later gives him the opportunity to emphasise still more the wickedness of "cupiditas" which so often begins in the tavern.

Throughout the story, Death is personified. Chaucer may have been thinking of the Plague when he wrote about Death in this way. Certainly he adds terror to his story by this vivid personification.

The appearance of the rather unexpected character of the old man undoubtedly adds to the narrative, although he plays less part in the story than we expect when we first meet him. For me, there is an instant reminder of the likeness of the description of Chaucer's old man and the old Hermit in Spenser's "Faerie Queene." He was:

"An aged sire, in long blacke weedes yclad
Sober he seemde, and very sagely sad."
(Book I, Cants I-29).

More description follows in which a definite likeness can be found to the old man of whom Chaucer writes. Unlike Spenser, Chaucer does not continue to build up his character. He reverts to the progress of his story which is now his chief concern.

Chaucer is an expert in knowing when to tell the story "from the lips of the Pardoner" and when to include conversation. Because of this there is a balance between true narrative and conversation which Chaucer knows how to maintain.

Another point to mention is that Chaucer knows when to introduce figures of speech and brief scraps of memorable description—two illustrations of this follows:

"This yongest, which that wente un-to the town,
Ful ofte in herte he rolled up and down
The beautee of these florins newe and brighte."

And also:

"But, certes, I suppose that Avicer
Wroot never in no canon, ne in no fer,
No wonder signes of empoisoning."

Chaucer has the art of being able to switch easily from his scene with the two rioters and add the gold to the scene in town with one rioter. He also has control over the pace of his story, which he quickens tremendously towards the end. After an ample introduction, and much background material, all three rioters die in one paragraph. When one rioter has been killed, one of the remaining two suggests that they drink before burying the body.

Chaucer writes next:

"And with that word it happed him, par cas,
To take the botel ther the poyson was,
And drank, and gaf his felawe drinke also,
For which anon they storven bothe two."

This is yet another illustration of the fact that Chaucer, skilled in the art of narration, always keeps his audience in mind. Thus he adapts the pace and contents of his tale according to his audience, aiming always to hold their attention completely.

DELIA BARRETT, VI.

The Best Things in Life are Free

(Edna Timberlake award, Middle School, 1956).

So agreed Mr. and Mrs. Smith and their nine or ten little Smithsies. They ranged from the ages of three to fifteen, there being five girls and four boys; there were really five boys, but the middle one, Dougie was such a slippery worm, one hardly ever noticed him, or saw him slip out of the house to the football ground, so he could hardly be counted.

Our story opens round the tea table. Tea time was a time silence or just family discussion (even so, enough noise was made by knives and forks clashing on plates, and cups chinking on saucers). Mrs. Smith suddenly drank an enormous gulp of her hot tea, and crashing her cup on her saucer, and leaning her robust body on the table, said, "Joe, let's go out next Sunday in the old bus." This idea was heartily agreed upon, until Emma cried, "S'pose it rains?" and Liz, "What about the cat," and David, "Won't get far in *that* ole' pig cart," and Dougie, "Well, *I'm* not gonna sit on the top this time, just 'cos I'm the lightest and the roof might go froo," Mrs. Smith looked near to tears that her wonderful plan was no longer a success, then in retaliation, she said, "Well, it was just an idea, I thought you'd all enjoy a day in the beautiful countryside-remember, all the best things in life are absolutely free. . . "

"I agree with Mum, and I'll go, if any of you stick-in-the-muds don't," declared fondest-loving George.

"And so shall I," proclaimed another.

"And I."

"Me too,"-and so it was agreed upon.

Saturday came, and everyone was biting their nails, anticipating the next day, when suddenly Mrs. Smith, in awe-struck tones, "Oo but I need a new corset for to-morrow."

"Forget it mum, no-one'll see you," said Maud, but hastily added, "I hope you didn't forget my sun-glasses, though."

"Or my travelling tablets," cried Bill.

"Or my Davy Crockett hat-'cos I must look smart," confirmed Terry, and so everyone added on their special necessities, until Liz and Mona were finally sent out to buy the requirements, which ranged from a packet of curlers to a dog's collar and insect repellent. On seeing the bill for these oddments. Mrs. Smith nearly fainted, but said airily, "Oh well only the best things in life are free."

"The dentist's free," exclaimed Gert, somewhat grudgingly.

"It certainly is not," replied Mr. Smith, surveying the Rate charges even somewhat more grudgingly.

Summer came at last, the weather showed clemency, and they all crammed in the car, the food on top bumping up and down perilously. All the route was carefully planned out. Living in the heart of London as they did, took them quite a time to get into the suburbs, from which they would drive out farther into outer Essex. Traffic held them up a lot, and Maud began to grumble, saying that all these people were probably going to pick the same road as they, and use the same field for picknicking. "Grasping people," she said, "taking other people's enjoyment just 'cos they want something for nothing.

"Oh, no dear," reassured her mother. "They're probably going to the Southend Kursaal, where they'll come home bankrupt. "*We're* going to admire God's countryside-*we're* getting the best things free." Very soon the traffic became so dense that all cars ran bumper to bumper. Riding alongside another car, the Smith's dilapidated old van had its front wheelguard pushed in and twisted. Mr. Smith swore softly to himself. "That's a couple of quid down the drain to get the thing mended," he grumbled.

"Oh, but only the best things in life are free, remember, Joe dear." reminded Mrs. Smith.

The traffic grew sparse, and things grew more interesting.

"Look at that pretty bird," exclaimed one.

"Oo-oo, that pond wiv' all the lilies on," cried another.

"What a smashing big tree," from another, while Mrs. Smith smiled benignly, saying, "Told them the best things in life were free."

Joe drove very slowly now, so that Gert could look out for pretty flowers, and Tony could guess the height of the distant hills, and Mona could look for birds, so that Liz could see the name of the roads, and

Bill and Terry, who were going to be road menders, could see if the roads needed repairing, while Doug. slithered from side to side looking at everything and Maud nursed baby Emma.

Suddenly there was a terrific bang; Mr. Smith cursed and got out of the van.

They had to push the van three miles to the nearest garage, where Mr. Smith payed ten shillings for the damage. They clambered into the van once more, where they discovered that ten shillings did not cover all the damage done: Mrs. Smith's stockings were laddered, Gert. had lost a ribbon, Emma had thrown one of her shoes into a ditch, and Terry was crying over the loss of his Davy Crockett hat.

"Oh, well" sighed Mrs. Smith, "only the best things in life are free." Joe was getting a little tired with this sentence, and was annoyed about the ten shillings he had had to pay.

"How much did pushing the car cost?" he growled; Mrs. Smith could not answer this one.

A few miles further on they left the van in a field and all piled out and ran through the woods.

It was beautiful-the sun shone through the trees dapling the woods. They stood on top of a huge hill and admired the view miles around them. They had just laid their lunch on a clean white cloth when came the conventional downpour.

Forgetting the sandwiches, they made a dash for the trees, Gert. slipping half way and tearing her dress. About half-an-hour later a bedraggled family looking very sorry for their wet selves, fought their way through a wetter forest, up hills and over mud back to their car, intending to drive off to a "nice little country cottage wot' won't be too dear" to have a meal-not of sodden sandwiches.

This was easier said than done-on arriving at the car, they found a herd of doleful cows looking no better for their meal of the car's upholsterings (what there had been.)

They drove for the next four miles in wooden seats; Mrs. Smith drew her breath in sharply every time the van went over a bump, but she consoled herself with, "Oh well, only the *best* things in life are free."

They drew up, at last, in a little village and ordered thirteen fish and chips, eleven ices and two cups of tea. Perhaps Mr. Smith's language is better left unmentioned and Mrs. Smith's face better left unpictured on seeing the bill; still these were not surprising as the bill came to thirty-eight shillings and fivepence halfpenny!

They pressed on, determined to bear the rain and find a spot where they could rest, and admire the "best things in life." The rain grew steadily worse, however; then the car stalled, and had to be pushed up a slowly graduated hill. When they had nearly arrived at the summit they all gave

one great heave in their final resort. That was the last they saw of it. The unfortunate van went shooting to the top and down the other side, and by the time they had all run full pelt down after it (having all had their turn of falling in the mud) all that was left was a bubble just about to burst on the top of a stagnant pond. Mrs. Smith nearly broke her heart weeping over their "old bus," while Joe and the children stood staring at the now calm surface of the pond, broken only by the pricking of the raindrops.

After about ten more miles of walking they sank into a train seat thankfully, and arrived home without further mishap. Everyone was near breaking point; the three youngest having been carried as they fell asleep in the train. No one dared total the costs of the day's trip, and Mrs. Smith was bemoaning the losses.

"Ah! things is so dear lately," she wailed.

"But don't forget dearest," assured Joe, "only the *best* things in life are free."

ANNE PETTER, IVh.

On Beauty

"If Beauty grew upon a tree,
I'd fill this lawn with them," said he.
Said she, "But if with trees 'twas full,
This lawn would not be beautiful.

"Where Beauty is together most
Then beauty is forever lost.
"But where there stands a single tree,
There Beauty dwells alone," said she.

LORNA ROWE, VI.

The Wind on the Hill

Noone can tell me,
Nobody knows,
Where the wind comes from,
Where the wind goes.

It's flying from somewhere,
As fast as it can,
I couldn't keep up with it,
Not e'en if I ran.

But if I had stopped holding
The string of my kite,
It would blow with the wind,
For a day and a night.

And then when I found it,
Wherever it blew,
I should know that the wind
Had been going there too.

So then I could tell them
Where the wind goes,
But where the wind comes from
Nobody knows.

JANET WEBBER, IW.

Christmas

Christmas is the lovely time
We remember that Christ was born,
It happened two thousand years ago,
Oh, what a happy morn.

"Peace and goodwill" the angels did say
As they came to the shepherds of old,
"If you go to the Inn at Bethlehem,
You will there the Christ Child behold."

The Wise Men came from lands afar,
Their precious gifts to bring,
They had followed a star right over the land,
While they heard the angels sing.

At the manger they presented their gifts
To the darling child so small,
So let us again this Christmastide
Remember he came for us all.

GILLIAN MEYER, Ih.

From the Sublime to the Ridiculous

"By Jove!" said Zens, "the time is late,
Our chariots are out of date

Di immortales, let us go
To the Earls Court Motor Show!"
So now his lordship doth rejoice
In a stately Rolls-Royce;
Rut Mars, who found the Rolls "too fiddly"
Invested in an Armstrong-Siddely;
Appollo scans the Zodiac
From a speeding Cadillac;
Neptune watches o'er the deep
From a Naval jeep;
Silvanns liked to take things gently,
So bought an antiquated Bentley,
Mithras rattled through the heaven
In an ancient Austin Seven;
Bacchus' Ford was confiscated
For "driving while intoxicated,"
Hermes, cop on his daily rota,
Sports a streamlined Singer Motor.
Vulcan's Vanguard caused some fear
By reversing in top gear.

Poor Cupid could not see quite straight,
And put his brakes on far too late-
His splendid Jaguar Mark Six
Is bogged down in the river Styx;
Morpheus, the god of slumber,
Went to bed inside his Humber.
Godesses, not to be outdone,
Decided they would join the fun;
Diana her pot shots doth take
From a sturdy shooting brake.
Athene's taste was somewhat finer-
Her savings bought a Morris Minor;
Psyche, in her Hillman Minx
With Aesculapins had high jinx-
(the latter, now a "flying doctor"
Does his rounds by helicopter).
The reckless driver's perfect dream-
No Zebras, police, or "one way stream,"
Till Pluto, full of rage and spite,
Made an Olympian traffic light
And on the great Olympian Way
Put "NO THROUGH ROAD-SOME OTHER DAY!"

LORNA ROWE, VI.

Who'd Hate School?

The girls of the third form went to school
In a beautiful bright red bus,
They took some honey and dinner money,
And did not make a fuss.
They looked at their watches, then gave a gasp
And ran to the old school gate.
"Oh, Lovely Prefect, oh Prefect, my love,
"Don't tell the teachers we're late,
"We're late!
"Don't tell the teachers we're late!"
They did some Latin and also Maths.,
And then marched to the Gym.,
Where they were taught to wriggle their toes
To make them nice and slim.
They had their lunch, then strolled in a bunch
To room six as the bell did ring.
They "tra-la'd " and trilled-Miss Berry was thrilled-
How charmingly sweet you sing,
"You sing!
"How charmingly sweet you sing!"
At a quarter to four they collected their sticks,
To the hockey field did run
To dribble and drive, for a goal to strive,
They really had some fun.
The survivors at five went back to school,
Chattering all the way.
Then, on with their coats and off home to tea,
To end a perfect day,
Hooray!
To end a perfect day!

(With apologies to Edward Lear).

ANNE WEBSTER, IVh

"Buster"

Buster is a little bird,
Destructive as can be,
He throws his drink out everywhere, Including over
me,

He's fond of throwing things around
And hearing bangs and cracks,
In fact all round, he's fond of sound
And laughs in rusty yaks.

He goes into his cage each night,
But has a feed before,
And soon, when he is fast asleep
We go and shut his door.

When mother calls he comes at once
To get his piece of biscuit
But if he doesn't want it then
He tucks it up his "weskit."

VIRGINIA BIRNIE, Ih.

The Music Society, 1956

The Music Society held two meetings in the Spring Term. On February 8th the members heard some of their favourite gramophone records including "The Hebridean Overture"-Mendelssohn and "The Toccata and Fugue in D minor"-Bach. On March 14th the Sixth Form arranged a programme of 20th century music of varying styles including excerpts from "The Planet Suite"-Holst and "The Rumanian Dances"-Béla Bartok.

Also in the Autumn Term two meetings took place. The members heard Dvorak's "New World Symphony" on October 3rd, and an hour's entertainment by three students from the Royal Academy of Music on November 14th.

All these meetings were very enjoyable and it was a shame that the attendance was not always as good as it could have been. I am sure that Miss Berry would be very pleased to find that the Music Room provided insufficient accommodation for the meetings, so perhaps this could be the aim of the Society for the coming year as well as trying to interest more people in good music.

On behalf of all the members I should like to say a sincere "Thank you" to Miss Berry for all the work and time she has put into our meetings to make them successful.

JOAN ADLARD, LVI (Secretary).

F. F. J. C.

This year has seen the awakening of a new era. The foundations of

the music room have been rocked by a new, and for this school, revolutionary society. The present Fifth Forms have at last found an outlet for their musical talents and excessive energy. With kind permission of Miss Burnett, Miss Berry and other members of the staff, the "Fifth Form Jazz Club" that was once a dream has become a reality.

Founder Members of the Fifth Form Jazz Club.
Autumn, 1956.

Science Society, 1956

In the past year the Science Society meetings have all be well supported. Some of our activities have taken the form of excursions. In February a party of girls, together with Miss Rush and Mrs. Middleton, visited Boake Roberts & Co. Ltd. There they spent an enjoyable afternoon looking over the factory. To end their visit each of party was presented with a parcel containing essences and perfumes.

In September we held our annual fungus foray. For once the English weather was kind to us. On a sunny morning a party of girls together with Dr. Owen, Mrs. Broughton and Miss Glaspool set off into the forest, armed with boxes of all sizes. We spent a very interesting and enjoyable day and arrived back at Chingford Station with our boxes quite full of fungi.

For our October meeting Dr. Owen showed us a film and gave us a talk on atomic structure. This talk was especially interesting because it was given just after the opening of Calder Hall, Britain's first atomic power station.

We hope to be able to arrange a visit to a sweet factory early in 1957 and this is one activity of the Science Society which I am sure will appeal to most girls.

M. CHITTY, Secretary.

C.E.W.C. Report for 1956

In the summer of this year the C.E.W.C. Society lost two of its most staunch supporters, Doreen Chase and Margaret Glyde, who have been president and secretary respectively for two consecutive years.

For the first meeting of the year the Society was addressed by Miss Trotter, who spoke on the subject of "New Zealand, Past and Present."

This meeting made an extremely successful beginning to the year.

The term continued with a "Mock Parliament," held by the Sir George Monoux Senior Debating Society.

As the Queen was touring the self-governing colony of Nigeria in March, the Society invited two Nigerian students from the Technical

College to talk on the varying aspects of Nigerian life for its first external affairs meeting. This meeting concluded the Societies' activities until the Autumn Term.

At the beginning of the term the Committee held a meeting to elect the new officers. The Sixth Form is well represented on the Committee, there being five altogether. Audrey Ashley and Anne Trotter were elected the president and secretary.

On October 10th the members of the Society saw two films, "The Postal Service" and "English Criminal Justice." This meeting was especially notable as it was, for some, their first opportunity to see the new Geography Department in the Almshouses.

Later in the month we were invited by the Monoux Debating Society to attend a talk on "The Arab-Israeli Situation" given by Mr. Salamon, a graduate of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. This talk proved an interesting and controversial subject.

The last two meetings of the term were both devoted to external speakers. The first was on the colour bar in North America and given by Mrs. Alicia Street, an American, living in London. The second was about East Africa, given by an Indian student at the Technical College, who lives in East Africa.

Altogether the Society has covered widely spread topics in the past year and is quite well supported, especially by the fourth forms who are very keen supporters.

A. TROTTER (Form VI).

Literary and Dramatic Society

The activities of the Literary and Dramatic Society during the past year have been both varied and interesting.

On January 18th the Society combined with members of the Monoux School to present a play-reading of "The Admirable Crichton," and on January 28th a group of the Society from the sixth form visited the Criterion Theatre for a performance of "Waiting for Godot."

At the next meeting on March 21st Miss Neve, the Drama Adviser for Essex, addressed the Society on "Production" with special emphasis on production of school plays. Miss Neve was an extremely informative speaker, and her talk was of great value, especially to the younger members of the Society. Then on March 24th about one hundred members visited the Saville Theatre for a performance of "The Rivals."

Another interesting talk on "Production and Stagecraft" was given on October 17th by Mr. Newton, and at half-term, October 30th, a small group of sixth form went to the New Theatre to see a

performance of "Under Milk-Wood." On November 28th Mr. White gave a most enjoyable lecture on "The 18th Century Theatre."

The culmination of a term's enthusiastic rehearsal arrived when, on December 14th, Miss Margaret Rawlings came to judge the Dramatic Competition in which each form, from the third year upwards, presented an excerpt from a Shakespearean play. Form VI won with scenes from "Coriolanus," in the upper school, and Form IIIh in the middle school, with the trial scene from the "Merchant of Venice."

Thaxted, 1956

Having already enjoyed a weekend at Clarence House, Thaxted, with the sixth form in May, it was with enthusiasm that we again entered its walls for a German course lasting a week.

We were not disappointed, for it was a pleasurable as well as instructive week that we spent with about 28 other young people eager to learn more of Germany, the German people and their language.

Indeed, the course dealt with every aspect of Germany, including its people, its history and its traditions.

The very popular tutor for the course was Mr. H. E. Rank, B.A., who was ever ready to help us, and he was ably assisted by Klaus and Adolf, two young German students studying at Marburg University. We came to know them well in the course of the week, and found them a valuable addition to the company.

Each morning began with German conversation groups, after which we were usually very glad of a cup of coffee. Then followed criticism on a piece of German literature, for which purpose Mr. Rank chose some charming poems. Two of the most controversial lectures were given by Mr. R. Gibson, BA., entitled "Aspects of German History" and "Germany in 1956," which roused heated discussion.

Mr. H. Fraenkel, who is a bi-lingual journalist and was the "New Statesman" German correspondent after the war, also gave us some interesting information on "Post-war German Literature" and "Post-war German Reconstruction." One of the greatest assets of the courses at Clarence House is the free discussion which arises among a group of young people eager to increase their knowledge of world affairs.

German music constituted a great part of the course and having one night delighted in the intricacies of a Bach Fugue, the next we sung gay German folk songs.

Our struggles with Zuckmayer's difficult "Des Teufels General" culminated in a reading of the play. Two film shows were given, one being a series of short films including "Folklore and Festivals in Germany," "Deutschlandspiegel," and "The New Chapter." The second was the well-known "Kamaradshaft" directed by G. W. Pabst. This is

an exciting story about a great French mine disaster, said to be one of the greatest films ever to be produced in Germany.

We enjoyed a half day coach excursion to Cambridge, where we toured the Colleges in the afternoon and were free to visit the theatre or cinema in evening.

The social side of the week was not neglected and we enjoyed table tennis, darts and all types of dancing, and of course the week culminated in an uproarious last night.

The wealth of interesting information gained and the communal spirit, which dominates such a week, cannot fail to make it a valuable one.

JILL RUMBOLD, VI.

Parents' Association

President and Chairman-Miss M. Burnett
Vice-Chairman-F. Hooker, Esq.
Hon. Secretary-E. C. Clayden, Esq.
Hon. Assistant Secretary-F. Ellis, Esq.
Hon. Treasurer-L. Elphick, Esq.
Auditors Miss Lea, Mrs. Nix
Executive Committee R, J. Adler, Esq. (6), G. Banbrok, Esq. (2W and 3w), Mrs. Banbrook (2W and 3w), Mrs. E. Cole (IW), Mrs. M. Hooker (4s), Mrs. E. Meyer (Ih and 4w), R. Oliver, Esq. (3h), A. Webb, Esq. (3s), Mrs. M. Webb (3s), Mrs. Walker (2h), Mrs. Wright (4h).
Co-opted Mrs. Barrett (6), Mrs. Hartley (IW), Mr. Meyer (Ih and 4w.), Mr. Parratt (sc), Mrs. Whitehead (3w).
Representing the Staff Miss Berry, Mrs. Ellingham, Miss Lea.

The Annual General Meeting was held in October and although poorly attended by the parents, the staff representation was almost one hundred per cent.

The Hon. Secretary in his review of the year's activities said, that there had been fewer functions than in previous years. An innovation, however, was the introduction of two social evenings which proved most successful and they are being repeated this year together with two whist drives. The objects of these social occasions are primarily to get the parents, particularly the new ones, together so that they can get to know each other. The Orchestral and Choral evening, which was organised by Mr. Adler and Miss Berry, was up to its usual high standard, and the Old Time Dancing Group, which is now in its fifth year, continues to be our most popular activity and the greatest single source of income. The dancing is supported by a very loyal group of past and present parents

together with some of their friends.

Your committee is always pleased to introduce new activities providing that there is always sufficient demand and an attempt was made during the year to form a Badminton Group, but because of insufficient support the venture was abandoned.

As you are aware, before embarking on any new ventures a circular is sent out on which there is a reply slip. You are asked to return it, suitably filled in, if you are prepared to give your support.

I would like to stress that recently these returns have proved most unreliable, as the promised support has not been forthcoming. This was particularly pertinent in this session, when we introduced instruction in Modern Ballroom Dancing. Your committee was lead to believe, as the result of the circular that this would be keenly supported, but several parents who had previously promised to attend have failed to do so. If it was not for some of the parents bringing along their friends to swell the numbers the Association would incur some financial loss, and it would be very much appreciated by your organising committee if parents carried out their promised intentions.

Before proceeding to the election of the new Executive Committee the Hon. Secretary stated that there have been no changes in the officers of the Association.

He did stress, however, the importance of the lower school parents taking a more active part in the affairs of the Association; and as a result of this appeal some of the more familiar faces are now missing from the Executive Committee. To those who were not re-elected we offer our grateful thanks for their loyal services in the past and extend to the new members a very warm welcome.

Miss Rush, on gaining a new appointment has now left the school and has been succeeded on the Committee by Mrs. Ellingham. Mrs. Berriman who was last year's refreshment organiser, has resigned as her daughter has now left school. Mrs. Berriman has carried out the very important task of organising the refreshments most successfully. At times her work was made more difficult by the shortage of volunteer helpers, but whatever the problems Mrs. Berriman overcame them with pleasing tact and efficiency. To her we extend our sincere thanks and welcome Mrs. Hooker who succeeds her as refreshment organiser. Mr. Hooker, who is our vice-chairman, and Mrs. Hooker are both well known as they have been closely associated with the school for the past seven years. During the summer a circular was sent to all parents asking them to volunteer to help with the refreshments. As a result of this Mrs. Hooker has been enabled to arrange a rota which has proved most successful.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all parents who have supported us during the past year and to you parents who are not yet members of the Association may I suggest that you join our ranks.

The annual subscription is only 2s. 6d. for both parents or 1s. 6d. for one parent.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Banbrook, the Social Secretary, for carrying out so capably this most important branch of our activities and to Mrs. Hooker we extend our sincere wishes for success in her new undertaking.

E. C. CLAYDEN.

The Old Girls' Association

President-Miss Burnett.

Vice-Presidents Miss Norris, Miss Goldwin, Miss Jacob.

Secretary-Celia Wheeler. 20 Albert Road, E.17.

Treasurer-Mavis Linay, 177 Old Church Road, E.4.

Committee - Mary Boak, Sheila Bowker, Lily Browne, Dora Busby, Margaret Clarke, Doreen Culmore, Myrtle Hadley, Frances Levin, Gladys Newell, Sheila Oliver, Maureen Palmer, Joan Rayment, Ann Gillett, Edna Timberlake, Margaret Witt, Jean Yates.

Annual subscription 4s.

Overheard somewhere in Walthamstow:

"It's for the Old Girls at the High School."

"Oh, we do it cheaper for Old Age Pensioners."

Overheard somewhere in Church Hill:

"What did you say was on to-night?"

"It's the Old Girls-a Fish and Chip Supper."

"Well, isn't that nice of them to give the Old People a treat *like that."

One of the delights of belonging to an organisation that bears a condition of entry is the mystification of the uninitiated, but when the onlooker thinks he knows and doesn't, what then?

This odd tribe of creatures known as "Old Girls" would appear to an observer to be as variable as any statistician might wish: young and old, tall and short, fat and thin, dark and fair (or is it sometimes grey?), noisy (but never quiet), notorious or "now who is that, I know her face." In all our variety we have our verdure-clad past in common and twice a year we meet to talk and eat and talk. Why not join us?

This year we have regretfully accepted the resignation of Lily Browne from directorship of the treasury. She has guided our finances for seventeen years and we thank her most sincerely for all her work on our behalf. The new treasurer, Mavis Linay, will be pleased to receive your subscription for 1957.

* All true.

C. M. WHEELER.

Old Girls' Dramatic Society

Regretfully a joint Shakespearean production by the Old Girls and Old Monovians had to be abandoned, chiefly through casting difficulties in 1956. In 1957 we hope to see restored the effective collaboration of the past. Plans are in hand.

The one production of 1956-7 was "The Sleeping Prince," by Terence Rattigan performed in the school on February 18th and 19th.

Programme:

1st Footman	BRIAN GROVER
2nd Footman	DEREK CONNELL
The Hon. Peter Northbrook	LESLIE G. SMITH
Mary Morgan	
Elaine Dagenham	GWEN MANSFIELD
Major-domo. Count Trigorinsky	A. G. HELMAN
The Grand Duke Charles	CECIL M. COLLINS
Prince Regent, father of King Nicolas	
King Nicolas	DAVID MORRISS
The Grand Duchess Charles	GWEN JONES
The Regent's Second Wife	
The Countess Von Und Zu Miessenbronn	JOAN RAYMENT
The Baroness Brunheim	DAPHNE SLADE
The Archduchess Ferdinand of Styria	FRANKI LEVIN
Princess Louisa, her daughter	GLADYS WATSON

We hope to repeat the performance of this play on March 7th and 8th at Holloway Boys' School, by kind permission of the Headmaster. We still hope to be at the film's appearance.

Harry Allison very kindly contributes the following appreciation:

"Light stuff, you would say? You would be right only if the statement were cleared of all condescension. For any actor of experience will tell you that Rattigan is the most rewarding, and at the same time the most demanding, of living English playwrights. Only those of us who have been concerned in the production of one of his plays can appreciate fully the unbelievable care and authority with which the lightest of these is created. The success or failure of a production is governed largely by the extent to which actors and producer are humbled by these considerations; for a careless approach on either's parts will destroy the life of the matter.

So I would have those of you who enjoyed this production as much

as I did to be aware of the achievement prerequisite to our pleasure.

Consider the physical difficulties alone: a pocket handkerchief of a stage, open at the flies to a vaulted ceiling and with the inevitable light-spill illuminating the audience. Yet the illusion of a palace was secured and a mannered royalty achieved in the acting. And all this was surprisingly well sustained and the emotion of conviction imposed upon the audience.

It would be silly to claim perfection for those to whom I am bound by affection and esteem. Neither the acting nor the production was without its unreasonable fault. But the total effect was of agreeable evenness and so criticism was engaged less in making allowances than in imposing higher standards of comparison.

Running through nearly all of Rattigan's plays is a note of pity for the loneliness of the individual; for it is some such human predicament which must serve as a sounding board to the laughter of all true comedy. This is a point which acting and direction can overlook so easily, and it is indicative of the excellence of this production that it was neither missed nor obtruded, but was allowed to invest what otherwise might have been a dubious little joke with the flesh and blood of humanity.

H.A.

There is so much dramatic talent in the school that old girls of the Association, with acting in their blood, should send in their names to the Secretary, Jean Yates (Mrs.), 26 Edwards Avenue, E4.

We are most indebted to her and to Joan Rayment, our treasurer, for all the hard toil and goodwill they bring to the society. We think often of Joan Johnson, who for so long kept us business like with such efficiency. We would like to put on record our deep appreciation of all who helped us in the last year, the old boys, especially Cecil Collins and Derek Curl and Mr. R. J. Adler, the Parents' Association and so many others it would be tedious to enumerate.

It is a society to be proud of. Starting in 1935, it has added to the well-being of the Old Girls' Society and to the gaiety of Walthamstow. Long may it continue to flourish.

News of Old Girls

1956 LEAVERS

To Universities.

Valerie Hall-Leeds (Dentistry).

Frances Hooker-Bristol (English and Drama).

Doreen Chase-Royal Holloway College, London (History).

To Royal Academy of Music.- Margaret Copestake.

To Guildhall School of Drama. - Joan Malyon.

To Training Colleges.

Wendy Jones (1953)-Brighton.

Susan Hunter (1955)-Bognor.

Rena Berriman-Exmouth.

Pat Gurr-Exmouth.

Janet Hare-Exmouth.

Brenda James-Eastbourne.

Barbara King-Eastbourne.

Marion Lefever-Homerton.

Eileen Brewster-Stockwell.

Margaret High-St. Osyth's.

Rosemary High-St. Osyth's.

To Civil Service.

Assistant Experimental Officers-Joan Carroll, Gwen Matthews.

Executive Class, Ministry of Works-Margaret Glyde.

Clerical-Sally Dabbs, Ann Giles.

Cartography-D. Lyne.

To S.W. Essex Technical College.

Jean Bush-Art.

Maureen Marchant-Art.

Helen Goshawk-Secretarial.

Ethel Brett-Secretarial.

Joan Woodward-Secretarial.

Day Nursery Work. - Anne West.

Laboratory Work.

Ruth Miller, Gloria Grimsell, Maureen Pope.

Nursing. - Ann Hoare.

Retail Trade. - Jacqueline Moxsom.

Clerical.

D. Hunt, Margaret Mitchell, V. Nutting, P. Rose, S. Smith, J. Taplin, D.

Dyke, E. Hartley, M. Imlach, C. Marvin, P. Melton, Marjorie Mitchell,

M. Perrin, M. Seyd, P. Turner, M. Waite, J. York, R. Batten, B. Burch,

J. Connner, M. Cooper. J. Dellino, J. Furne. V. Green, G. Higho, M.

Hupfield, P. King, M. Miller, G. Nash, J. Overy, A. Packer, W. Pett, P.

Rice, K. Risby, J. Southby.

Degrees.

Edna Jenkinson, Ph.D. (Cantab).

Mary French, D.Sc. for work in the fields of Magneto-Chemistry and

Electro-Chemistry.

Jennie Yelland, B.A. Theology, Bristol.

Mary West, B.A. Hons. Fr.III, Southampton.

Pauleine Hodby, B.A. Hons. Geog.II, London.

Juliet Collinson, G.R.S.M., Royal College of Music.

Teachers.

Doreen Hogg, Warwick Secondary School for Girls, E.I7.

Joan Rohrs, Nigeria.

Eunice Riches, Leyton.

Hope Meredith, Chingford.

Sonia Green, Nassau, Bahamas.

Nurses.

Joyce How, Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children.

Ann Preater, London Hospital.

Audrey Jackson, London Hospital.

Robin Forrester, London Hospital.

Janet Lawley, Rowley Bristow Orthopaedic Hospital, Woking.

Others.

Shirley Matthews has qualified as a physiotherapist at the London Hospital.

Kathleen Hetherington gave a B.B.C. television interview on her Keep Fit classes for housewives.

Margery Phillips is an Occupational Therapist at King George Hospital, Ilford, under Winnie Turner.

Shirley Goodall is in the Hackney Youth Employment Service.

Shirley Kingdon and Hazel Porter are students at Royal College of Art in the Fashion Designing Department.

Glenys Chapman is in the School of Art, S.W. Essex Technical College.

Deana Tytler is in Barclay's Bank, Leyton.

Eleanor King gained a Special Prize for Good Progress at the Homeopathic Hospital.

Rosemary Wheeler married John Cobbing in Canada in October, 1953.

She has been home on holiday with her two daughters, born 18th September, 1954 and 15th October, 1955.

Vivienne Hirschinson is doing Research Work in Massachusetts.

Margery Salt has gained the L.R.A.M. for piano teaching.

Irma Abrahams is working for a company which publishes International Reference Books.

Heather Kenyon has gained the Diploma of the Association of Occupational Therapists from St. Andrew's Hospital, Northampton.

Margaret Wilson is on the staff of the Institute of Historical Research and attends History Honours classes at Birkbeck College.

Jean Whitaker, Actuarial work in an Insurance Office.

Josephine Butler and Beryl Massey are training as hairdressers.

IRENE FORD (Mrs. Rosetta Irene Loader) had her first embroidery picture "Sea Phantasy" hung at the Exhibition of the Society of Women

Artists.

EUNICE HOLDEN (Mrs. Black) has collaborated over a publication of Aboriginal Art in Australia, played lead at Northampton Repertory, appeared on B.B.C. television and is now playing Mrs. Railton-Bell in "Separate Tables" on a long tour.

FRANCES HOOKER has played in the Bristol University team in a Ugo Betti play which competed in the University Competition sponsored for the "Sunday Times." Amongst other plays she has performed in "Bonaventura," and will play "Cleopatra" shortly.

JOYCE FOSTER is now Mrs. Dixin and is living in Edinburgh.

FLORRIE BRITTON (Mrs. Elkus) is living in California-she has a son who has just had a musical play "Tom Sawyer" published by Novello.

HEATHER BOWRING has returned from Australia where she was teaching deaf children.

AUDREY HAYWARD is now living in Canada. She worked in Banff for a few months and she writes that it is in the heart of very wild and lovely country. Exciting, too, for a couple of black bears joined them when they were enjoying a picnic! She has now moved to Edmonton, Alberta.

MARGARET WARD is again in New Zealand where she enjoys the climate and the country but misses her relatives and friends.

MYRTLE WARD has returned to Tangangika where she is in charge of a number of clinics for primitive people living in wild bush country.

WINIFRED ABERY (Mrs. Hutton) has been home on leave with her husband and four children from Uganda. She returns in January.

Miss RUSH is now second mistress at Farnham.

Letters from Old Girls

I am teaching at a boarding school for the children of missionaries in Nigeria. The pupils and staff are nearly all American but there are about twenty English children, so that they can take their places in English Schools. At the moment the arithmetical system is dollars and cents.

Many of the children fly to and from school each term. Our terms last from January to May and from July to November with nearly two months between each.

JOAN ROHRS, Hillcrest School, Nigeria.

All Chinese at the festival of the New Year get double wages for this month; this enables them to settle all their debts before the 1st. They all stay up the whole night of 31st and let off a continuous stream of fire

fire-crackers. We shall be "confined to barracks" guarding life, limb, dogs and property. Needless to say, they have no compunction in stealing to pay their debts. The celebrations go on for about three days so there are great preparations in the kitchens. Usually the whole family assemble with the head of the family and eat and gamble. As the kitchen god is absent consorting with the other gods, a knife must not be used for the preparation of food and the floor must not be swept or good luck will be "swept up" too. The fire crackers will be chasing away a varied assortment of devils so they are going to have a busy New Year. I am becoming very proficient with chop sticks and can hold my own at any Chinese party.

JOAN ROBBINS (Johnson), Hong Kong.

It was grand meeting Joan Johnson again. Racao is said to be typically Portuguese, unlike Hong Kong, which always appears to me to be a cross between New York and Shanghai. Out here I feel we are living on a balloon which in a few years time will be pricked by the communists. I dread to think that in a year or two I shall not be stirred to pity at the sight of a naked child asleep on a piece of newspaper or a child of five or six barefooted begging in the street. The beggars are everywhere and they beg because they will starve.

BETTY SHAW (Willsmer), Hong Kong.

(Miss Oldfield expects to return on leave to England in early 1957 from Borneo).

I have been acting as principal since January in our girls' school, with a new course in domestic science, the first of its kind in North Borneo. It is an entirely new conception of education to the Chinese who prefer bookwork and examinations.

In Brunei the capital, this fabulously wealthy Sultan ruled Malay state, you could see from the air the amount of construction, from a six million Mosque to an excellent tarmac airstrip. The English School is a superb example of modern architecture; gay colours, exciting surfaces, screened windows. The money comes from the oil field where great flares burn up the surplus gas-enough to supply the whole of greater London North of the Thames.

Marriages

Maureen Huber (Mrs. Palmer), 28th April, 1956.

Shirley Jones to Donald Fenn-Tye, 26th June, 1955.

Pamela Slade to Henry Barnes, 25th August, 1956.

Ruth Lyons to Alan Burns.

Miss Gilpin to Peter Piggott, Zanzibar, May, 1956.

Jean Roberts to Roy Adkins, 27th August, 1955.

Miss Davey to Fred Jennings, December, 1956

Miss Adams to Peter Pearce. April, 1956.

Miss Clarke to John Thorne, December, 1955.

Grace Sims to John Cork, 10th March, 1956.

Muriel E. Jones to Eric Steele, 20th October, 1956.

Phyllis Cooper to Glyn Desonald, 27th March, 1956.

Norma Holden to Colin Stone, 9th June, 1956.

Births

Brenda Yelland, a second son.

Maureen Yelland (Mrs. Dorrington), a daughter, Hilary.

Joan Wright (Mrs. Payne), a daughter, Philippa.

Pat McGrath (Mrs. Stamford), a son, Michael, January, 1956.

Pat Philip (Mrs. Gilbert) a son, Nicholas Hugh, 14th June, 1956 (a brother for Pat, Reg., Andrew, Valerie, Richard).

Joan Pool (Mrs. Barnard), a daughter.

Irene Kempson (Mrs. Buchan), a daughter, Janet Elizabeth Forbes, 15th January, 1956.

Jean Davis (Mrs. Yates), a daughter, Zena Mary, 22nd April, 1956.

Pamela Griffin (Mrs. Bennett), twin daughters, Fiona and Amanda, 24th March, 1956 (sisters for Diane).

Diana Browne (Mrs. Tyler), a daughter, Gillian Diana, 26th April, 1956.

Mary King (Mrs. Boak), a son, Kevin Philip, 12th December, 1956.

Margaret Swonnell (Mrs. Clarke), a second daughter, Alison Ruth, July, 1956.

Eleanor Morris (Mrs, Williams), a son, August, 1956.

Mrs. Biggs, a daughter, Jacqueline, 8th December, 1956.

Valerie Jones (Mrs. Thornton), a son, Mark Gregory, 23rd October, 1955.

Olive Merison (Mrs. Carroll), a son, Kevin, April, 1955.

Joan Morgan (Mrs. Crowe), a son, David Richard, 27th October, 1956.

Thelma James (Mrs. McFarlane), a daughter, Helen Elizabeth, March, 1955.

Mrs. Willis, a son, Christopher, 12th December, 1955.

Pamela Warnes (Mrs. Waterhouse), a daughter, October, 1955.

Maureen Huber (Mrs. Palmer), a daughter, February, 1957.

Margery Haines (Mrs. Ratnage), a twin son, Andrew and daughter, Diana, 9th March, 1956.

June Keen (Mrs. Munro), a daughter, Jill, April, 1956.

Rosina Beard (Mrs. Czul), a second son (a brother for Magdalena and Jon, November, 1956.

Barbara Rolfe (Mrs. A. Rogers), a daughter, Susan Jane, 2nd August, 1956.

Deaths

We regret to announce the death of Ethel Foxon (Mrs. Gee), aged 64, at Cape Town, 12th March, 1956.

Emma Frances May Knowles, 12th September, 1956. Barbara Speakman, 9th November, 1956.

Barbara's promising career was cut short soon after leaving Cambridge. She taught for one term at Sherborne and then came more than twenty years of suffering and disappointment. About two years ago hopes were raised when her health improved, but she became ill and died suddenly on 9th November, 1956.

Her great courage and cheerfulness throughout her illness were an inspiration to those who knew her.

SCHOOL DINNER

1st FORM



I DO LOVE THIS COCOON PULLING

2nd FORM



GIVE ME MY RESULTS

3rd FORM



SEW MAMA

4th FORM



WOM!

5th FORM



IS ONE ANY OF THESE SUN

6th FORM



THE BOY'S CAN GET BACK TO STUDY

COOK



THE WAY THESE GIRLS WANT GOOD FOOD

THREE STAFF ATTITUDES



SOMEONE SHOULD BE CLAD OF IT



MUST HAVE MY CYCLES



I ALWAYS BRING SPANBARK

