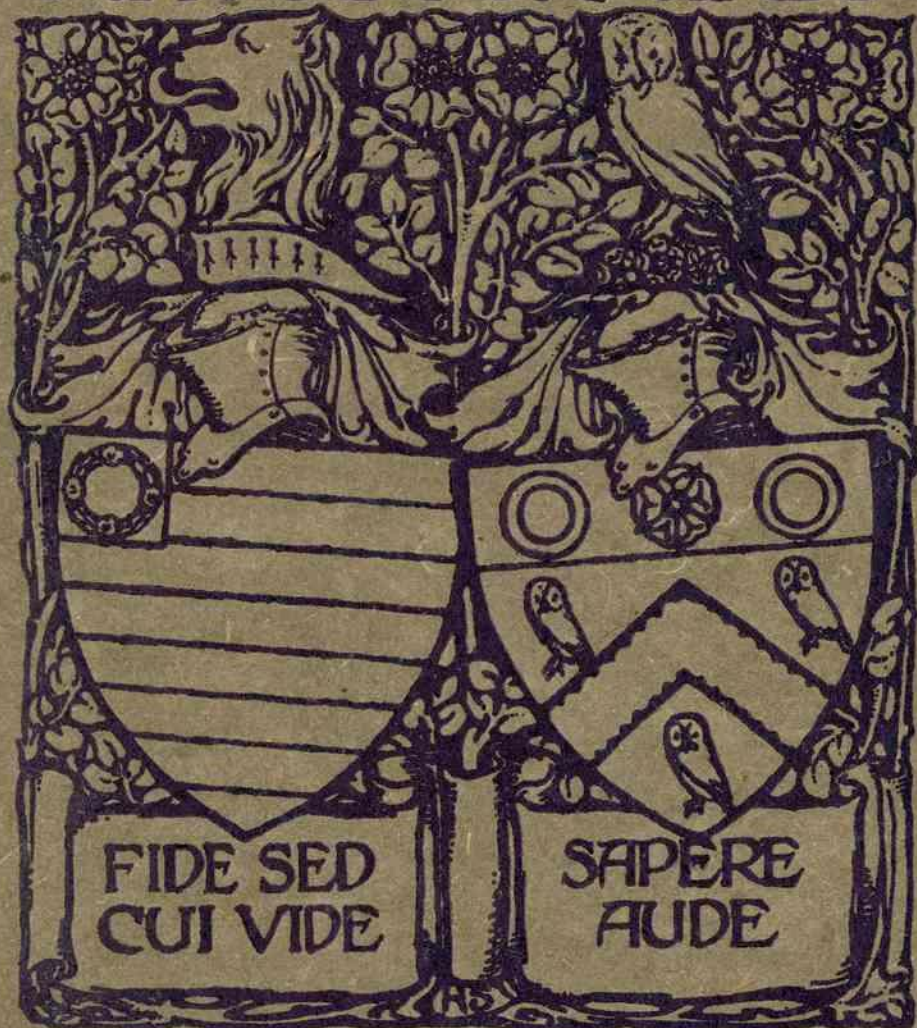


THE CHRONICLE OF THE HULME GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS



OLDHAM

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The Chronicle of the Hulme Grammar School for Girls.

1912.

SCHOOL NOTES.

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS.—This year has been distinguished by our having several long-felt needs supplied. Firstly, we should like to take this opportunity for once again expressing to Dr. and Mrs. Paul Bowes our grateful appreciation of their generosity and kindness in providing us with some of those things that make for culture. A detailed account of the new pictures that adorn our class-rooms will be found elsewhere, while the new books, that have been added to our School Library, have been chosen with a special view to giving the elder girls an opportunity for acquiring knowledge on general topics ; we trust, therefore, that good use will be made of them. Secondly, the levelling of part of the rough slope in the girls' playground has provided us with three new tennis-courts and a ground that can be used for basketball in the winter and junior cricket in the summer. Unfortunately the weather last summer, which proved so propitious to the games, was less so to the grass seed that had been sown in the Spring, so that when the young shoots began to appear on the tennis court and cricket ground, they were quickly withered by sun and drought. Consequently the new ground, which we had hoped to have in use for the first time in the autumn, had to undergo a "rest cure" until Whitsuntide.

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EXAMINATION RESULTS.—Of those who entered for the Matriculation Examination of the Victoria University, Manchester, Janet Macpherson passed in the First Division, and Dorothy Cliff in the Second Division. In the Lower Certificate Examination of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board, three of our four candidates gained full certificates—Eleanor Hilton (distinction in History, Geography, and Arithmetic); Ethel Lloyd (distinction in History, French, Arithmetic, and Mathematics); Edith Mellor (distinction in History, French, Arithmetic, and Mathematics); Marjorie Leech obtained a Letter (distinction in Arithmetic and Mathematics). Janet Macpherson passed the Cambridge "Little go" last March, and hopes to go into residence at Girton in October, 1913.

In the Examination held by the Royal Drawing Society fifty-six girls obtained Pass Certificates, while forty-one obtained Honours Certificates. The prizes given to the girls who did best in each division were awarded as follows: Division VI, Gladys Cooper; Division V, Gladys Cooper; Division IV, Marion Chadwick; Division III, Winifred Leech; Division II, Ida Wood; Division I, Hilda Throup; Preparatory Division, Eileen Slight. Gladys Cooper was awarded a Full Drawing Certificate for obtaining Honours in all six Divisions.

At the Annual Exhibition of the Royal Drawing Society, May Wood was presented with a Gold Star by the Clothworkers' Company for the design and execution of an embroidered cover for Æsop's Fables. The following were commended: Gladys Cooper and Ethel Lloyd, First Class; Helen Bowes, Dora Hudson, Mona Wood, Alice Smith, and Nora Whitehead, Second Class; Marion Chadwick, Isabel Kay, Mary Lees, Elsie Macpherson, and Gladys Wilkinson, Third Class; and Elizabeth Hall, Fourth Class.

The Ling Association Badge was awarded to D. Ashworth for proficiency in Free Standing Exercises.

A Medal was awarded to Gladys Wilkinson by the S. John's Ambulance Association.

To Dora Hudson the Governors have awarded a Foundation Leaving Scholarship of £80 a year, tenable for three years, which she will hold at Somerville College, Oxford.

OLD GIRLS' SUCCESSES.—Mary Lees and Helen Bowes, having previously passed "Little go," went into residence at Girton College, Cambridge last October. Mary Lees, who holds a Mrs. Charles Lee Leaving Scholarship, is reading History, while Helen Bowes is reading for the Mathematical Tripos.

Elizabeth Hall ended her first year at Cambridge by passing Part I of the Mathematical Tripos.

Vera Calverley and Jean Macpherson have both passed the Intermediate Examination for the B.A. Degree of the Victoria University, Manchester. They are now reading for Honours in English and History respectively, having successfully got through the Preliminary and Part I Honours this term.

Marion Mathews, who is at the Edgehill Training College, has passed the Intermediate Examination for the B.A. Degree at the Liverpool University, and is now reading for the Ordinary Degree and doing her Teacher's Training Course concurrently.

Dorothy Wilde, who is at the Froebel Institute, has obtained the Higher Certificate of the National Froebel Union, Part I., with a First Class in Literature.

Marjorie Martland has passed the Second Examination for the London M.B. Degree with Honours in Anatomy and Physiology.

May Kershaw, who for some time past has been a demonstrator in Botany at the Manchester University, has been appointed Assistant Lecturer there under Professor Weiss, and last summer she had the honour of reading a paper before the Botanical section of the British Association.

Mabel Higgs completed her three years at the Slade School by gaining First Class Certificates in both Drawing and Painting.

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FORMER MISTRESSES.—In July, 1910, Miss Strange, who had been with us for nine years, left us to join Miss Ellis as her Second Mistress at Brighton Secondary School.

At the end of the Easter Term, 1910, Miss Harwood left us to exchange her work here for that in a London School, as it was necessary for her to live at home. She is now teaching at the King Alfred's School, Hampstead.

Miss Walker, who came in September, 1905, left us in July, 1910, to spend some time at home before her marriage to Dr. Robison, Lecturer in Chemistry at University College, Nottingham.

Miss Salaman, who took Miss Gwynne's place temporarily as History Mistress, is now teaching at the Municipal Secondary School, Coventry.

Miss Jack has had a temporary post at S. Christopher's Training College, Blackheath, for two terms, and she is shortly going to South Africa to teach in a school at Johannesburg.

Miss Richards, who was on the Staff from 1900 to 1905, and subsequently held the post of Mistress of Method at the Armstrong College of Durham University, has recently been appointed Principal of the Stockwell Training College.

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RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE MUSEUM.—Limestone from the Little Orme and from Dovedale, presented by M. Schofield; limestone from East Anglesey, presented by A. Owen; mica schist and iron pyrites from Cornwall, presented by J. McVean; Keuper sandstone from Delamere; Trias (new red sandstone) from Alderley Edge; middle coal measure fossils from Orrell, near Wigan; piece of walrus skin (used in making grindstones) from Platt's Works; Viking ship, modelled in clay by F. Smith; Norman castle, constructed in cardboard by S. Brooks.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—The Observation and Deduction Chart has been kept by Forms V and Lower V ; the Wind and Rain Chart by a devoted band in Form Middle III, headed by M. Lawton.

* * *

GEOGRAPHICAL OBSERVATIONS AND COLLECTIONS.—Form III has struggled against adversities in trying to keep a record of the sun's altitude at noon. The accidental destruction of a card showing several altitudes has been followed by the refusal of the sun to shine at the required time. Form IV is keeping a geographical commonplace-book, which will be very valuable to future generations in Forms IV—VI. They have also a collection of pictures, the whole world, exclusive of the British Isles, being represented.

* * *

THE NEWSPAPER SOCIETY.—This Society was inaugurated this term, so that Forms VI and V might acquire more knowledge of current events. They now see every week the "Illustrated London News," "Punch," and the weekly edition of "The Times."

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

During the last few winters the meetings of the Literary Society have been fewer in number than in former years. This does not, I think, mean that interest in the Society has waned, but that more of our literary energies have been transferred yearly to the dramatic entertainments held at the end of every Autumn Term.

In past years these entertainments have generally been organised in connection with the Literary Society, but latterly, since there has been more histrionic talent in the lower Forms than in the Upper, they have passed into the hands of the juniors, who are not admitted to the Society.

The Society, it is hoped, will reap the benefit of this arrangement before long. These little people are already evincing an eager interest in literary matters ; they devour romance, whether in prose or verse, with the greatest avidity ; they have keen, bright, and vivid imaginations, while many have found scope for the exercise of their dramatic powers in the acting of scenes from Shakespeare. When they reach Form IV and become eligible for membership, it is hoped they will prove enthusiastic and valuable additions to our numbers, besides being free from that self-consciousness which hinders so many of our present members from being as useful as they might be to the Society.

Since we have the proceedings of three years to record, only very scanty reference can be made to each meeting. With the exception of one meeting on Tennyson, we have been occupied with the works of prose writers—novelists and essayists.

The meeting on Tennyson in the Autumn Term of 1909 is chiefly memorable for a most interesting paper by V. Calverley on the "Holy Grail." When V. Calverley left School we lost one of our most useful members, but what was loss to us was gain to Manchester University, for she took part this year in the chorus in the students' production of Æschylus' "Choephoroi."

The second meeting of this term was devoted to a discussion of Scott's "Quentin Durward." D. Wilde drew a contrast between the characters of Louis XI and Charles the Bold, and M. Matthews gave us an interesting paper entitled "Scott's Merits and Defects as a Novelist," the meeting concluding with a spirited and dramatic reading by A. Whitehead of the scene in which the murder of the Bishop of Liege is announced during the banquet at Péronne.

The author chosen for the meeting of the Spring Term of 1910 was Charles Lamb. E. Hilton read a paper on "The Life and Personality of Lamb," illustrated from some of the autobiographical passages in the essays. D. Bradbury attacked very creditably the subject of "Lamb as a Humorist," while M. Lees analysed the chief qualities of Lamb's style, at the same time pointing out the influences by which it was moulded.

In the Spring Term of 1911 many of the members were introduced for the first time to the writings of Richard Jefferies. The meeting was given up almost entirely to readings from his collected papers. The one that stands out most in our memories was D. Hudson's sympathetic reading of "The Pageant of Summer," the paper in which Jefferies reaches the high-water mark of his prose style, which took so many years of patient toil to bring to perfection.

Perhaps the most attractive meeting was the one held in the autumn of last year, when the subject chosen was Thackeray's "Henry Esmond." The best paper was G. Cooper's, in which she dealt with "Thackeray's Merits as an Historical Novelist." The characters of Henry and Beatrix Esmond were sketched by E. Mellor and N. Whitehead respectively. Several readings did much to enliven the meeting and interest those who were too young to read and appreciate "Henry Esmond" as a whole. D. Hudson's reading of a passage chosen to illustrate the irresistible charm of Beatrix Esmond was one of the most delightful items of the programme.

Since the novel had proved so popular, we experimented again in this sphere in the last meeting of the year, with equal success. This time the novel chosen was Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice." A particularly good and concise sketch of the plot was given by W. Leech for the benefit of those who had not read it. M. Chadwick dealt with "Jane Austen as a Domestic Satirist"; A. Hall contrasted the characters of Jane and Elizabeth Bennet, while E. Hutchinson gave us an interesting analysis of Mr. Darcy's character. Ivy Brundrett's delightful reading of the two opening chapters of *Pride and Prejudice*, in which the Bennet family discuss the advent of the Bingleys, brought out especially the delicacy of Jane Austen's humour, while the account of Mr. Collins' proposal to Elizabeth reduced everyone, including the reader, to a state of helpless laughter. As a proof of the success of this meeting, several girls in Form IV were fired with a desire to read "Pride and Prejudice," and were convinced that much entertainment might be had from the perusal of Jane Austen's novels.

Our thanks are due to D. Cliff, our retiring secretary, for the energy she has displayed in the interests of the society. I should like, in conclusion, to point out that much more use might be made of the Society if members would make a point of reading beforehand the book chosen for discussion, and that no book ought to be difficult of access to girls who live in a district particularly rich in Free Libraries, and in an age when nearly everything worth reading can be bought for one shilling.

I. DE C.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

The Debating Society has held three meetings this season, two sharp practices and one formal debate. It was pleasant to find that the Fifth Form this year were not so shy as new members usually are, and they have spoken more and been altogether more enthusiastic than some of the older members.

The first sharp practice was so interesting that it lasted longer than meetings generally do, and some quite witty speeches were made. It was unanimously agreed that tramps are necessary for the welfare of the country, both for use and for ornament. When we compared the modern girl with the early-Victorian miss, the general opinion of the members was that our life is happier and more sensible than that of our great-grandmothers, but

at the next meeting, which was a formal debate, the subject discussed was, "That the present state of civilisation is more conducive to happiness than the savage state," and it was disappointing to find that the majority were now less contented with their own conditions of life than they had been at the beginning of the term, and they now vigorously upheld the ancient Britons, probably because this debate took place immediately before the Christmas examinations.

The third meeting of the year took place at the time of the coal strike, so our debate was very short, as many of the members had to leave early to catch trains. We had only time to discuss four questions, the first of which was about the strike, but no one seemed anxious to dwell on a subject which affected us all so uncomfortably. The other motions were: "There is a scarcity of authors in the present day," "That most good is done in the world by the discontented people," and "There is more happiness in anticipating future events than in realising them."

J. MACPHERSON.

GAMES.

HOCKEY.—Owing to long periods of bad weather both in the Autumn and the Spring Term, only five out of the eight matches arranged for the season 1911-12 were played. Of these, four were First Eleven matches and one Second Eleven, all of which were played away, since our own field is altogether too rough and uneven for the purpose.

On November 27th Bury Grammar School Second Eleven beat Oldham Grammar School Second Eleven by 4 goals to 0.

December 4th, Bury Grammar School First Eleven beat Oldham Grammar School First Eleven by 3 goals to 1.

February 12th, Bury Grammar School First Eleven drew with Oldham Grammar School First Eleven one goal all.

February 20th, Oldham Grammar School beat Oldham Ladies by 4 goals to 2.

March 12th, Oldham Grammar School beat Manchester High School by 3 goals to 0.

A First Eleven match was also arranged with Pendleton High School in the Spring Term, but was cancelled owing to rain. The Second Eleven were unfortunate in being able to play only one of the two matches arranged for them, and in that one coming so early in the season; later on they improved and their defence provided efficient substitutes for the First Eleven.

The first First Eleven match with Bury was played under the new A.E.W.H.A. Rules, which came into force at the beginning of the season and were repealed at a special meeting soon after Christmas. As a result one of the goals scored by Oldham was disallowed, the ball rising above the goalkeeper's shoulder; otherwise the score would have been Bury 3, Oldham 2, which would have given a fairer idea of the comparative strength of the two teams. The School team is greatly to be congratulated on drawing with Bury in the Spring Term; the match was a keenly contested one, and each girl played her very best.

The match against the Oldham Ladies, though very enjoyable, was not so exciting, the School scoring early in the match and keeping the lead throughout. In this match the places of two smaller members of the team were taken by Miss Clegg and Miss Thane.

Our success against Manchester on March 12th was a fitting ending to a very satisfactory season; our victories were well earned, for the members of the team all did their utmost to combine and help one another, in spite of the very few practices possible.

The thanks of the team are due to Dora Hudson, who has proved herself a most efficient and popular captain. Although working particularly hard during the winter,

she came to all practices and never spared herself when she could be of service to the club or team, of which she proved a most useful player. We all wish her every success at College, and expect to find her a member of its hockey team before very long.

First Eleven.—*Forwards* ; D. Cooke (Autumn Term), *H. Gartside, B. Bagot, D. Ashworth, W. Cooper, *E. Shaw. *Halves* : *J. Varley, *G. Cooper, *D. Hudson. *Backs* : *D. Sunderland, *D. Booth. *Goal* : H. Taylor.

*Signifies badge-holder.

The forward line played well together on the whole, showing at the same time capacity for individual efforts, and by the end of the season they were following up shots in the goal circle well. D. Ashworth made some very good dashes up the field, which often ended in a goal being scored. E. Shaw, although she suffered somewhat from being neglected by her inner, played well throughout the season, but is inclined to be too dependent on her half. H. Gartside made an excellent and swift right wing, and B. Bagot is a most promising beginner. W. Cooper will be a good forward when she learns to keep her place and help the rest of the line.

The halves formed an excellent trio, marking their opposing forwards well and helping their own, and the School will have considerable difficulty in replacing them next year, when, unfortunately, they will all have left us.

The backs and goal were also very good and dependable, the former playing well up the field.

Owing to the coal-strike and the disorganised train service, but few form matches were played, but the final between Forms VI and V and IV on April 30th, proved very thrilling. In the end Form IV won by 2 goals to 0, and their victory was entirely due to their neatness and combination. The Sixth Form team contained several inexperienced players and were unfortunate in being able to draw only one member from Form V. After the match the annual tea was held, and the shield was presented to the victorious team by Miss Thane. A vote of thanks to the retiring captain was proposed by G. Cooper, seconded by E. Shaw, and carried vociferously. After tea recitations and songs, given by various members of the club, were much enjoyed.

V. T.

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It is with many regrets that we have to announce that Miss Thane is obliged to leave us at the end of this term, to exchange her post here for one in a warmer and drier climate. She will be greatly missed by staff and girls alike. The Games Club especially owes her a debt of gratitude, for by her unflagging energy and enthusiasm, and, above all, by her excellent coaching, she has already made us a formidable rival to neighbouring schools in hockey, and we had hoped, in the future, to achieve great things in tennis as well, could she have been with us longer. We should like to take this opportunity for wishing her happiness and success in her future work.

* * *

BASKETBALL.—Last season was marked by a considerable increase in the number of schools belonging to the N.S.B.B.A., and it may have been the last in which Lancashire and Yorkshire will play one another in the final round of the Tournament. A separate league for Yorkshire is being formed, owing to the increasing number of Yorkshire schools belonging to the Association, and to the distance between most of the Yorkshire towns and Manchester, where the Tournament finals are played.

C. Hammersley was our School captain, and inspired the team with much of her own enthusiasm ; more than usual, I think, we have gone to matches " marching breast forward, never doubting clouds would break," though the clouds, in the shape of defeats, were very thick last season.

The badge-holders were : C. Hammersley (Captain), M. Brearley, M. Bromley, K. Eyres, E. Whittaker, I. Wood. Other girls who have played in outside matches are : G. Bovill, M. Broadbent, E. Cooper, D. Field, L. Holroyd, E. Marsland, K. Parkyn, E. Taylor, H. Throup.

OUTSIDE MATCHES.

Oldham v. Bolton	.. .. .	(away)	21—1	..	Bolton.
Oldham v. Bury	.. .. .	(away)	1—1	..	Draw.
Oldham v. Bury	.. .. .	(home)	4—2	..	Bury.
Oldham v. Bolton	.. .. .	(away)	10—0	..	Bolton.

The first was a tournament match, which robbed us of all hope of holding the proud position we held last year as one of the Schools in the final round. Bolton is again the winner of the junior trophy.

FORM MATCHES.

Middle III v. Lower III	.. .. .	Won by Middle III	..	9—0
III v. Middle III	.. .. .	Draw	.. .. .	1—1
IV v. III	.. .. .	Won by IV	.. .. .	7—0
III v. Middle III	.. .. .	Won by Middle III	.. .. .	5—3
III v. Middle III	.. .. .	Draw	.. .. .	0—0

(Under 14.)

School Team v. IV	.. .. .	Won by IV	.. .. .	7—2
Mistresses and VI v. Middle III	.. .. .	Won by Middle III	.. .. .	4—0

Form Middle III is to be congratulated on its good play, for, as the above results show, it did not lose one match out of five.

Next season we hope to use our new ground, which will no doubt do much to place us, both literally and figuratively, more on a level with the other schools we meet in matches.

C. E. C.

* * *

TENNIS.—But little tennis was played last year, 1911, since practising on the old courts was quite useless, and it was only possible for a few girls to be taken each time up to the Werneth Club. These few lucky ones had generally to be the four champions, and, even then, their tennis would not have made much progress but for the fact that all four players belonged to some other tennis club, and, consequently, had opportunities for regular practice. During the summer, though, our spirits and keenness were kept alive by the sight, on the lower terrace, of the newly made courts, on which we hoped to be playing regularly the following summer.

The Lancashire League Tennis Tournament was held at Whalley Range, by Miss Field's kind invitation, on July 8th, and proved a great success, the weather being exceptionally favourable. The play was good as a whole, and in the case of the couples that represented Manchester and Bury, was marked by brilliance as well as steadiness. At the end of the afternoon these two schools found themselves pitted against one another in the Final. The match, which was exceedingly close and most thrilling to watch, ended in Manchester carrying off the Shield. Our champions, H. Bowes and M. Lees, were beaten in the first round by Broughton and Crumpsall, 2—6, 3—6.

The School played two other matches during the term.

On July 3rd Stockport beat us on their ground by 56 games to 51.

On July 13th the School drew with the Old Girls.

The four School champions for both matches were H. Bowes, M. Lees, A. Whitehead, and A. Smith, G. Cooper taking the place of M. Lees during part of the Old Girls match.

The tennis prizes were contested for by H. Bowes, M. Lees, G. Cooper, and D. Whitehead, and resulted in the first two winning them, H. Bowes being the champion and M. Lees the runner-up.

Unfortunately all four champions left us at the end of the summer, and it is very difficult to replace them with so little practice possible. In a year or two, however, we hope, with the new courts, to take a good position among the schools in the Annual Tournament.

* * *

V. T.

SENIOR CRICKET.—For the season May-July, 1911, our officers were: H. Gartside (Captain), F. Whitehead (Vice-Captain), D. Hudson, (Secretary).

We were only able as usual to arrange one outside match *v.* Old Girls, which was played on July 14th, and resulted in a victory for the School. The visitors were all out for 23, while the School scored 78, of which H. Gartside scored 32.

Six Form matches were played during the season. Form IV was victorious in each of its matches, and thus was the winner of the Challenge Cup. F. Whitehead, the Fourth Form Captain, won the first prize for bowling at the Sports, the second prize being divided between two girls from Form Lower V, M. Handley (Captain), and A. Smith.

This season (1912) we were fortunate in being able to re-elect two of last year's officers, H. Gartside (Captain), and D. Hudson (Secretary). We were sorry to lose F. Whitehead at the end of last Summer Term, but E. Shaw, who takes her place, is proving herself an equally efficient Vice-Captain.

A match with the Old Girls was played at School on April 26th, when Phyllis Rye brought a team of nine, consisting of our best cricketers of former years. Two catches sent by May Johnson early in the game were dropped, with the result that she scored 38 towards the total of 88. May Wood, Jessie Varley, and Jessie Rye also batted well for the Old Girls. Five wickets fell to H. Gartside, otherwise the fielding and bowling of the School team was poor. In batting E. Shaw made a good stand and scored 14. The total for the School was 52. We are hoping for a return match in July, when our team, which contained many young and inexperienced players, will show what improvement can be effected by steady practice.

On June 19th we played our first "outside" match for several years against the Manchester University Ladies' Cricket Club, on their ground at Rusholme. The School lost the toss and went in first. At the start the strangeness of the ground and our opponents' good bowling had a disastrous effect, and the first few wickets fell very quickly, but our team soon recovered themselves; Nora Whitehead kept her wicket up by steady and careful play, and Doris Booth and Doris Sunderland scored 11 runs each. The last wicket fell when the School had made 46 runs. The University team made 73 runs for 8 wickets and then declared, as the other members of their team had been obliged to go. Our team's fielding was good, though not as smart as it is sometimes on our own ground. Most of the team are still not very quick at catches, and we need good bowlers. The team was as follows: E. Shaw, D. Ashworth, N. Whitehead, H. Gartside (Captain), E. Hilton, H. Taylor, D. Sunderland, D. Booth, L. Holroyd, W. Leech, B. Bagot.

The Form matches have proved very interesting. The results up to Whitsuntide are as follows:—

Form VI <i>v.</i> Form L. V ..	Won by Form VI ..	50 and 3 wickets to 24.
Form L. V <i>v.</i> Form IV ..	Won by Form IV ..	79 to 24.
Form VI <i>v.</i> Form IV ..	Won by Form IV ..	36 to 10.
Form L. V <i>v.</i> Form III ..	Won by Form L. V ..	38 to 19.

The Lower Fifth Form, with their Captain, W. Leech, are to be congratulated on producing from a form of 12 girls a full team of eleven for each of their three matches.

On May 17th a match was played between Lancashire and Yorkshire, resulting in a victory for Yorkshire, the challenging team, by 45 runs to 32.

A. M. G.

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JUNIOR CRICKET.—Forms I and II were able to produce a cricket team last summer, and made quite a good stand against Lower III. Other matches played were III v. Middle III (two matches), in both of which Form III was victorious, and Middle III v. Lower III, which was also won by the Senior Form.

C. E. C.

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STOOLBALL.—Stoolball has this year been quite enthusiastically played by most of the girls in the middle and lower forms.

Ethel Whittaker was elected Captain for the season and Marjorie Bromley Vice-Captain. Form Captains have also been appointed in all the Junior Forms.

Already four form matches have been played, and others, including the Lancashire v. Yorkshire match, have had to be postponed owing to bad weather.

The results of the form matches are as follows: Form Upper III has twice defeated Form Middle III, the scores being (1) 35—13 runs, (2) 53—13 runs. Form Lower III has twice defeated Forms II and I, the scores being (1) 45—13 runs, (2) 47—7 runs.

P. M. B.

* * *

BOATING.—During the Summer Term some boating has been done on the Park Lake by Forms VI, V, and L. V, many of whom, having no previous experience of sculling, had to begin at the very beginning. Good progress has however been made.

M. C.

* * *

GARDENING.—In spite of the fine weather of the year 1911, a good many gardens were not quite so carefully and successfully looked after as usual, and except for the Prize Gardens, the results were a little disappointing.

The year 1912 began with greater promise, the display of bulbs this spring being quite a grand one. It is to be hoped that we shall be able during the whole summer to see as bright a show of flowers as we did then.

Indoors, during the winter months, the various forms made their respective rooms beautiful with many bowls of bulbs planted in moss fibre. It was difficult to decide which room was most beautiful, for in nearly every one were there some bowls full of hyacinths or daffodils, which excited general admiration.

The prizes for the best gardens were awarded in 1911 to Mary Bagot and Jessie Smith, and to Rose Mercer and Eileen Slight, each garden gaining 80 per cent. marks.

P. M. B.

* * *

SWIMMING.—This side of athletics has often more practical use than even gymnastics. This statement perhaps needs qualifying. Gymnastics during the school period help to counteract an artificial life so that the child can get the fullest benefit from her course. Gymnastics are graduated and taught so as to make the child lithe, supple, strong and healthy—so healthy that she has the power of resisting diseases with which she may come in contact. Swimming helps towards this in every way. It is essentially a form of exercise that develops the body equally and produces strength and staying power. It is also exhilarating, and the slight feeling of fatigue felt after swimming is healthy fatigue.

The feeling of having fought with an element, a force as strong and, in the case of the sea, far stronger than oneself, is in itself exhilarating, and the free movement of the limbs in a large space seems to help one to feel the immensity of this.

This form of exercise, however, brings us face to face with a far more serious question. It is every one's duty to know how to battle with this element, which is so peaceful and beautiful to look at, but which is dangerous to encounter for those who cannot swim. Three very common, but very possible situations may arise, showing how important it is for every child to learn to swim, otherwise she may be a danger to herself and a serious danger to others :—

(1) She herself may, through accident, chance or fog, fall into a river or canal and be unable to help herself, and, not knowing how to swim, will be a grave danger to anyone who goes to her help. She will probably struggle through fear and panic and seriously impede or drown her would-be rescuer and herself.

(2) She may be in a boat on the sea or river; by some accident it may upset, and she will be powerless to render assistance to others or help herself.

(3) She may see some small child struggling in a canal, lake or river, and again be unable to offer any assistance; all she can do is to go and ask others to come and help, and the chances are they will be too late.

It may seem from the above that everyone ought to be an expert swimmer, but this is not necessary. A knowledge of how to swim a few yards is invaluable in an emergency. Most people can learn how to keep afloat sufficiently long for someone to reach them, so as to prevent themselves from getting into a panic, and from clutching at the person who is helping to rescue them. They can learn to be controlled enough to follow directions and to assist in bringing themselves out of the difficulty. These are all vital points, for no amount of remorse afterwards will bring back a child or any fellow being who might have been saved had one known how to swim.

Last year G. Cooper, G. Wilkinson, W. Cooper and D. Eatough gained the Bronze Medal of the Royal Life Saving Society on the result of an examination held at Hollinwood Baths by one of the Society's inspectors. I. Wood was unable to take the examination as she was under the age limit.

B. Bagot and A. Owen gained the Elementary Certificate:

At our Annual School Competition G. Cooper won the Swimming Cup for the third year in succession.

The Swimming Club sent a team of three to swim against Manchester University and won the event. A similar contest is being arranged and will probably take place in the middle of June.

This year the Club is not strong, but they are distinguished as usual by keenness and willingness to work:

Swimming Badges were given last year for the first time. When four Badges are gained they form a Maltese Cross; 75 per cent. marks are necessary for the first Badge, which is given for the breast stroke and an attempt at a dive. The Second Badge is given for swimming a width of the bath with the breast stroke, halfway between the deep and shallow ends, for a width of the bath on the back, and for a dive from the deep end. The Third Badge is given when a girl is sufficiently advanced to enter the Swimming Club; the Fourth Badge is given for obtaining the Elementary Life Saving Certificate.

Winners of the First Badge are: M. Bromley, A. Barrowclough, A. Ingham, M. McVean, J. McVean, M. Schofield, S. Spencer.

Winners of the Second Badge are: D. Jackson, H. Throup.

Winners of the Third Badge are : E. Cooper, H. Gartside.

Winners of the Fourth Badge are : B. Bagot, G. Cooper, W. Cooper, A. Owen, G. Wilkinson.

E. SHARMAN.

THE SPORTS.

The Sports were held in beautiful weather on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 11th. There was a large number of entries for nearly all the events, the chief favourites being as usual the Potato, Egg and Spoon, and Obstacle Races. We also had several new events, which were very popular and amusing to watch, especially Circular Skipping and the Kangaroo Races. Most of Forms I and II entered for the Tortoise Hoop Race, and at the end of the afternoon there was a race of half the length of the field for about thirty of the small visitors. After tea, which was served in the grounds, the prizes were distributed in the hall by Mrs. Newton, one of our Governors. The Form Prize, presented by Mrs. Lees, was won for the second year in succession by Form L. III. The prize took the form of a picture (Murillo's Divine Shepherd), which hangs over the mantelpiece won as the Mrs. Lees Form Prize in 1910. The list of events and prize winners is as follows :—

High Jump : Junior, E. Whitehead ; Middle, C. Hammersley ; Senior, E. Cockroft. Flat Race : 1, D. Sunderland ; 2, E. Smith. Potato Race : Junior, D. Ashton's team ; Middle, M. Newton's team ; Senior, D. Whitehead's team. Obstacle : Junior, 1, M. Bromley ; 2, F. Smith ; Middle, B. Shaw ; Senior, 1, E. Smith ; 2, N. Ashton. Tortoise Hoop Race : 1, A. Ingham ; 2, S. Spencer. Hundred Yards : Junior, K. Eyres ; Middle, W. Leech ; Senior, E. Smith. Kangaroo Race : Junior C. Hammersley's team ; Senior, H. Gartside's team. Bowling : 1, F. Whitehead, 2, A. Smith and M. Handley. Egg and Spoon : Junior, 1, G. Taylor ; 2, E. Whitehead ; Middle, 1, E. Whittaker ; 2, D. Little. Circular Skipping : D. Brierley, D. Booth, H. Bowes. Balance Race : Junior, C. Hammersley ; Middle, 1, L. Ingham ; 2, M. Cartwright ; Senior, 1, A. Smith ; 2, L. Lees. Flag Race : Junior, M. Bromley's team ; Middle, D. Sunderland's team ; Senior, H. Bowes' team. Visitors' Race : 1, Margaret Holt ; 2, Edward Mellodew. Consolation Race : Junior, M. McVean ; Middle, I. Kay ; Senior, E. Hutchinson.

The First Prizes for the Egg and Spoon Race (Middle) and the Balance Race (Middle) were very kindly given by Mrs. Schuster, and the First Prizes for the Senior Obstacle Race and for Bowling by Mrs. Martland.

A. M. GREGORY.

THE DRILL COMPETITION.

The annual competition for the Challenge Cup took place in the gymnasium, on Wednesday, March 7th. Excitement over this event ran high, for several Forms were known to hold very equal chances of carrying off the much-coveted trophy, and the gymnasium was lined with those girls who had not the honour of assisting to build up the reputation of their Forms in the sphere of gymnastics.

The Lower Forms did well, and a few individual members particularly well, in the apparatus work ; it was quite amazing to see the wonderful convolutions many small bodies managed to perform on what appeared for them a very large horse.

A splendid detachment of workmanlike gymnasts represented the Fourth Form. Unfortunately, however, towards the close they lost their heads, and, it is to be feared, the Cup, through a sudden access of nervousness.

The Fifth and Sixth are to be congratulated on the courageous fight they made with only seven competitors. It is to be hoped that at least double that number will be forth-

coming on the next occasion, and thus make it possible for the Challenge Cup to adorn once more the mantelshef from which it has been wrested.

Miss Vinicombe came from Manchester to judge the competition, and we are glad to have the opportunity of thanking her once more for so kindly giving up an afternoon of a very busy life to come to us.

The School also owes a deep debt of gratitude to Miss Sharman, both for the trouble she took in coaching the competitors and for the general enthusiasm aroused throughout the School.

The competition over, competitors and onlookers alike adjourned to the Hall, where considerable excitement ensued, for, owing to the coal-strike, trains were few and far between, and many girls were fearful lest they should have to depart before the result was declared.

All eyes were anxiously turned clockwards when Miss Clark came in and read the following list :—

Lower V	..	..	..	..	..	360 marks.
IV	..	..	..	..	..	278 „
V and VI	..	..	..	..	..	272 „
Middle III	..	..	..	..	..	259 „
III	..	..	..	..	..	249 „
Lower III, II, and I	..	..	..	..	..	230 „

and the proceedings came to an abrupt ending, as the out-townners had to run for their trains. The Challenge Cup was presented by Miss Clark to the Lower V on the following morning after prayers, when we all had the opportunity of expressing our admiration for their excellent display of the previous day. Theirs was not a strikingly athletic team and contained no brilliant gymnasts; they won their way to the top of the list by sheer hard work and splendid determination, and are to be congratulated most heartily on their well-deserved triumph.

E. W. DENNIS.

THE LEAGUE OF PITY.

On Wednesday, November 30th, 1910, a bazaar and entertainment were held in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Nearly all the girls, besides the members of the League of Pity in the School, worked hard for some weeks to get together plenty of fancy things and useful articles to sell, with the result that they were able to fill the stalls successfully, when the long-looked-for day arrived.

The different Forms took charge of separate stalls, and a number of elder girls managed the tea-room. The stalls were arranged as follows :—

- Form III.—Sweets.
- Form M. III.—Useful and fancy things.
- Form L. III.—Coal scuttle surprises.
- Forms VI. and V.—Bags and cushions.
- Form L. V.—Flowers.
- Form IV.—Useful and fancy things.
- Forms II. and I.—Bran tub.

The entertainment consisted of scenes from “Alice Through the Looking Glass,”

and the large audience much appreciated the performance, which was charming in every way. The characters represented were :—

Alice	Marjorie Brearley.
Humpty Dumpty	Constance Hammersley.
Red King	Marjorie Parkes.
Red Queen	Ethel Whittaker.
White Queen	Ida Wood.
White Knight	Amy Chadwick.
Tweedledum	Hilda Wardle.
Tweedledee	Ada Makin.

As a result of the afternoon's work, after all expenses had been paid, it was found that the sum of £60. 13s. had been obtained. £10 of this amount was sent to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The balance of over £50 was sent to the Director of the N.S.P.C.C., this being £15 more than was obtained by the last bazaar in 1907.

P. M. BAGULEY (Hon. Sec.).

SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

At the end of last Autumn Term, an entertainment was given by the School in aid of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The scenes from "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which occupied the first half of the programme, gave the audience a charming glimpse into Fairyland, and we knew not whether most to admire the queenliness of Titania, surrounded by her attendant sprites, the manly dignity of Oberon, King of the Fairies, or the sprightliness of Puck. The Swedish dances and songs which followed were very varied and amusing, and a welcome touch of colour was provided by the smocks and sun-bonnets of the dancers. From a financial point of view, also, the entertainment was a success, a sum of £12 being sent from the School to the Society.

M. GWYNNE.

LECTURES.

We have had three lectures on Classical subjects in connection with the Classical Association. In the Spring Term of 1911, Mr. J. L. Paton, High Master of the Manchester Grammar School, was so kind as to come to Oldham and give us his lecture on "Socrates." In the Autumn Term we had a visit from Miss Rees, of Ladybarn School, who brought with her some beautiful slides illustrating Greek sculpture, and especially the statues of which there are casts in the Whitworth Institute. She made the difficult subject of Greek sculpture clear and interesting, and it is hoped that we may be able to arrange a School visit to the Institute to see the statues. On April 29th, 1912, Professor Conway, of Manchester University, gave us an illuminative and suggestive lecture on Virgil. Dr. Conway is one of the best-known authorities on Virgil, and his lecture was marked by the sympathetic insight of his treatment, and by the beautiful English renderings of the passages which he quoted.

Several lectures have also been given by members of the staff. At the end of the Spring Term Miss Clegg gave an account of the Mediterranean, illustrated by about seventy most interesting slides. We are hoping to have another lecture from her this term on the subject of "The World's Commerce." On February 21st Miss Gregory gave a lecture on "Pompeii," illustrated by lantern slides; and on May 17th we had a delightful paper from Miss Mitchell on the life and work of E. A. McDowell. In the course of the lecture Miss Mitchell and Elsie Williams played as illustrations some of McDowell's charming pianoforte sketches,

A. M. GREGORY.