

St. Mary's Hall, Brighton, News Letter

No. 52.

DECEMBER.

1950.

ST. MARY'S HALL ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE.

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| President | Miss Conrady |
| Vice-Presidents | Miss Ghey, Miss Stopford and Miss Robinson |
| Hon. Secretary | E. Moore |
| Hon. Treasurer | L. Coe |
| Hon. Secretary (Home Counties Branch) .. | Miss H. R. Potter |
| Hon. Secretary (Sussex Branch) | M. Wanstall |
| Hon. Editor | A. Baron |

Also :—Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Broadley, Mrs. Clements, Mrs. Cunnew, Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Franks, Miss Galton, M. Gray, L. Gunnery, Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Knowles, Mrs. Lees, Miss Lilley, Mrs. Paine, Ph. Poyser, M. Riddelsdell, M. Smee, Mrs. Thorold and M. Wall.

EDITORIAL.

This time we can all wish each other a Happy Christmas !

As in the larger world around us there has been a good deal of activity in the Association and in the School. We have regretfully said au revoir to Miss Robinson, to whom we again pay tribute, and we have welcomed Miss Conrady, who also seems ready to welcome us, and to allow us a real interest in the School, which makes such a difference to the vitality of the Association and the tradition of the School. We have indeed been fortunate that the extra interest aroused by the Centenary celebrations, together with the steadfastness of many, and great leadership, was able to carry us through the trying years of the School's suspension. The really grand co-operation of the past, so ready to give of their best experience, and the wisdom of the new, so ready to receive and work it into the present, has proved to be real progress, and if the new Old Girls, whom we welcome with delight to our ranks, prove as keen and loyal as many of the old, there will not be much wrong with the Association or the School, fifty or a hundred years hence !

One notes with pleasure prizes for plodders, the mention of cricket again, and, of course, the clergy daughters' bursaries.

H.A.B.

THE NEW PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

Dear Friends of the S.M.H.A.,

To many of you I am as yet only a name, just the new Head Mistress, but it is my sincere hope that I shall have the opportunity of meeting many more of you very soon. I learned long before I took up the reins of office that the old girls of the Hall were unique in their deep love for their School, and this was to me a great source of strength in carrying on the work which had been begun so magnificently by Miss Robinson. During the six months of my life here I have had the privilege of visits from a number of old girls, and it has been an inspiration to see them going over the Hall, lovingly seeking out the old haunts and happily reminiscing on their time at School.

I would like you all to know that the magic of the Hall has laid a firm grip upon me and I feel already that I am playing a part in that great history—even though it is very modern history! There is something about the Hall which, even on first entering it, just gets hold of one and draws one like a magnet. My interview last December lost much of its terror in the atmosphere of welcome and prayerfulness which seemed to ooze from the very walls of the building.

Founder's Day was celebrated on Friday, June 23rd, when Mr. Claude Elliott, Provost of Eton and Grandson of the Founder, was the guest of honour and gave the address. It was a great privilege to have so distinguished a descendant of our Founder with us. There was Holy Communion at 8 a.m., and the Commemoration Service at 11 a.m. when our Vicar, the Rev. F. Bryant Crane, gave the address. Prize-giving at 3 p.m. was followed by tea and a musical and dramatic entertainment.

The School has grown this term. There are 256 pupils, of whom 118 are boarders and 21 are in the Kindergarten. This is the largest number since the re-opening, and we now have a waiting list, and shall be able to admit only very few pupils, except in the Kindergarten, for some years, as the new boarding house is to be opened in September, 1951. The dedication of the foundation stone by the Bishop of Lewes took place yesterday, October 31st, and was a great day in the life of the Hall. We were disappointed that illness prevented our President, the Bishop of Chichester, from coming, but the Bishop of Lewes is also a great friend of the School, and we were delighted that he was able to come at such short notice. By next year I shall be able to give you more news about the House and of other changes which may follow.

Many of you will be interested and pleased to hear that St. Mark's School, after very careful thought on the part of the School Managers and the Parochial Church Council, has applied for "aided" status. Perhaps to some who do not understand the intricacies of the Education Act this will mean little, but you will realise why I feel that this is a good thing for the School when I tell you it will continue to be a Church School instead of a Government controlled School. It means, however, that the managers have pledged themselves to raise roughly £250 a year over a period of 10 years. As one of the School Managers and as Headmistress of St. Mary's Hall, which is so closely linked with St. Mark's Church, I have promised to support this effort and to try to contribute £25 a year. Will you help? I shall be only too delighted to receive any sum, however small, towards the Hall contribution. I do not feel it is a big sum to raise. Only last holidays the girls collected over £17 for the Church of England Children's Society. As a result we were allowed 3 tickets for the presentation of silk purses to H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth on October 23rd. A short report of this appears elsewhere in the News Letter.

Many old girls have remarked upon our nice cloaks. This is a part of the Uniform which is not compulsory, though most useful in the winter when going from the houses to School. The hoods are lined with gold. In connection with the subject of School uniform, if there are any Old Girls who have any used uniform in good condition I should be very glad to receive it. Uniform is expensive and I know of many parents who would welcome the opportunity of buying some of it second-hand.

The Guild Efficiency Shield presented by Mrs. Hopkins was won for the first time by St. Patrick, and it now hangs on the wall at the back of the platform in the Elliott Hall, where all may see it. At the request of one of the present girls, Messrs. Horton-Stephens are designing a smaller but somewhat similar shield which girls will be able to buy when they leave School. The price of it will be about 30/-.

This year will be an outstanding one in the history of the Hall. I know that many of you will be thinking prayerfully of those of us who share the responsibility for its future progress. With this encouraging thought we shall go forward with confidence in our resolve to do the work begun by Miss Robinson of making the Hall what I know all of you want it to be.

Yours very sincerely,

DORIS CONRADY.

LETTER FROM MISS ROBINSON.

As from Meadowbank,
Bewdley,
Worcs.

November 19th, 1950.

Dear S.M.H.A. Members,

First, just a message to thank you all for your thoughts, and for your kindness to me from the very first moment that I became a part of your much-loved old school. I lived my life there to the full, and was completely absorbed in it. The infectious happiness which pervades the place gripped me and made my life a very happy one.

Time has passed quickly since we met at the Annual General Meeting last April, when I was given that wonderful present that took my breath away for the moment. I then had still to get through the painful process of packing, and uprooting myself from the Hall. And what a business it was! Why must we go on surrounding ourselves with possessions when, in reality, "man wants but little here below"? I was thankful to reach the stage when Pickford's men could take over. In spite of my most careful instructions (on the whole they were very good), I found when I unpacked, that I had the Hall Visitors' Book and that most precious, beautifully-illuminated, Centenary Celebration book!

The actual moment of my departure from the Hall, at about 9.30 a.m., on Friday, April 14th, will ever remain in my memory. Weller, the caretaker, packed me into the car, then with him at the gate, I said good-bye to the Hall. It was a beautiful morning, and the Hall was looking lovely, in the soft sunlight of an April morning, against a background of pale blue sky.

It was a rather chilly drive home, but through some of the most beautiful country in England. I was very tired after many strenuous days, and felt rather lost and absent from my bodily self. Between Reading and Oxford I became dangerously drowsy and had to pull up for a ten minutes' nap! The vale of Evesham was white with cherry blossom.

I was glad to reach home, where my sister was anxiously awaiting my arrival. For many days after, we were very busy in the house. Our furniture, which you got to know so well at the Hall, just fitted into place, and looks as if it had been there always. When the weather became warmer, I began my work in the garden, which was a jungle of weeds and over-grown everywhere. I was again perfectly happy, and worked from morn till eve, getting the garden in order, and fit for you all to see when you pass my way. As Autumn came on with its chilly,

shorter days, I began to feel the need for a change of occupation, and after my sister had had her holiday in Scotland, I was free to come away. So here I am in London, learning shorthand and typing. I have a very good teacher and am enjoying shorthand very much. My instructress works me very hard, and gives me a great deal of homework! I have very little time left for seeing the sights of the city.

Now that we have our home again and my sister is happily settled there, I hope to be able to go South next year. I am much looking forward to seeing all my old pupils and friends in South Africa. Perhaps next year I shall write from Cape Town. Already I have had a message of welcome from my old pupils of Herschel, through Miss Wisdom's great-niece, who is now a pupil there.

My love and best wishes to you all, and thanks again for the present.

Yours always affectionately,

HARRIET ROBINSON.

A LETTER FROM MISS GHEY.

Blunt House,

Oxted.

Nov. 14th, 1950.

Dear Members of the Association,

Once more your Editor invites me to send a message to you all, and I am happy to greet you with all my best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

It has been delightful to both Miss Galton and me to meet many of you on happy occasions during 1950, and to feel the links that bind us all proof against time and change. What is foremost in my mind as I write is our good fortune in being so closely linked with the Hall itself: the generous welcome which Miss Robinson first gave, and now Miss Conrady gives, to those of us who visit the School in its revival, makes us feel still a living part of it, not just an organisation that meets for its own ends. With that inspiring thought I salute you. Let us meet as often as we can.

Yours affectionately,

F. L. GHEY.

NEWS OF MISS STOPFORD.

Miss Stopford wrote regretting she could not get to the meeting on October 7th, though she did manage the Committee meeting on October 13th. She was present on Founder's Day, and found it "most thrilling to see the place a School again with everything looking so nice and newly painted, and the garden so lovely . . . Everyone who goes there feels the charm of the place. It has got a very warm spot in my affections."

S.M.H.A. 43rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

This was held on Saturday, April 1st, 1950, at the Y.W.C.A., Great Russell Street, W.C.1. The **President, Miss Robinson**, took the chair, and opened the meeting with prayers.

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read, and signed. The **Secretary** read apologies for absence, including a message from **Miss**

Stopford, and one from the oldest member, **Mrs. Bartrum**, aged 94. She also read a letter from **Colonel Elliott** expressing pleasure at the telegram received from members present at the last meeting.

The **President** then spoke. She mentioned a very kind gift sent in memory of **Mrs. Ayscough (Daisy Rees)**, and it was suggested that choir psalters might be purchased.

She then gave news of the **School**. There were now 240 girls, the maximum number owing to limited dining-room space. She stated that this number could not have been reached without all the help with equipment received from the Association, and Miss Ghey and Miss Galton at Blunt House. She spoke of the re-building of the new boarding-house, and the need for re-arranged and increased dining-room space. She mentioned with gratitude the gifts already recorded from Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Cunnew, and G. and L. Coe.

There was to be a **Confirmation** on May 20th, and **Founder's Day** was fixed for June 23rd, and she hoped some members could be there. The first **Elliott Scholars** were **Ia Thorold** and **Joan Edwards**, who had both matriculated well.

This was the last time she would speak as President. She had really loved and been interested in her work at the Hall, and while there had been the difficulties of infancy, she had had, as a mother with her baby, some of the best years, and was now giving way to her successor for the next growing stages.

Miss Robinson ended by saying she was not at the time worn out, but did not feel she should wait for this to happen. "Once one belongs to the Hall it is for all time. I am handing over, but I still belong."

Miss Ghey rose to give an appreciation of **Miss Robinson**. She said that it was not easy to say what was in everyone's mind. Miss Robinson had soon inspired loyalty by her charm and courage. The School had then no sails or mast, only the rudder of her faith. Miss Robinson could never be thanked enough for her inspiration, strength and dignity. She had renewed the spirit of the past, and had carried it on in an even better form. All would be glad that she was not worn out, but she had minimised the strain and cost to herself. She had the gift of listening to the past, and then using it to plan a better future. She had built new walls for old music which had echoed for a hundred years, and would continue to do so.

The **Secretary, Elizabeth Moore**, said she had received many letters full of gratitude, affection and admiration for **Miss Robinson**. They spoke of her charm and welcome, how sadly she would be missed, and concern for her health. "These writers wish her good luck and Godspeed, and to these wishes may we add yours and mine." Then, as a token of their regard, the **Secretary** presented **Miss Robinson** with a cheque on behalf of the Association, which it was hoped would be used for a holiday abroad. With this also went a posy of blue grape hyacinths, bordered by daffodils, and tied with the School colours of blue and gold.

Miss Robinson was obviously overcome with surprise and gratitude. She said she did not know what to say, but thanked the Association warmly for their marvellous gift.

Mrs. Broadley (Rosamund Elliott), one of the Association's Representatives on the Governing Body of the School, then gave her report. She said that Miss Robinson's resignation was a great blow from which the Governors had not then recovered. She hoped, however, that they had found a very good Head in **Miss Conrady**, though it was not easy to find a successor to the former Headmistresses.

She mentioned pleasing dormitories and sitting-rooms, and some nice chairs for the dining-room with the donors' names carved on them.

There were now five bursaries for the daughters of the clergy. The Governors always had these in mind, and would increase the number as

it became possible. It was worth writing to the Headmistress if anyone knew of a child needing help, although it was on a smaller scale than before.

It was grand to think that some of the girls who had just left the Hall had joined the Association.

Mrs. Broadley considered that the last News Letter was one of the best ever produced. She had read it three times from cover to cover, and felt that the inclusion of the whole of Miss Robinson's speech on Founder's Day was an excellent idea.

Founder's Day had been wonderful, and it had been particularly nice to have the Bishop of Chichester present, that good friend of the School. The gymnastic display had been very good, and the girls were well behaved without being over conscious of the fact.

Mrs. Broadley ended by saying she had been trying to think what to say about Miss Robinson, but perhaps it would suffice to say, "Thank you, enormously, Miss Robinson, for a great Headship."

The Treasurer, Lucy Coe, then gave her report. All Life Membership subscriptions and donations were invested in the Post Office Savings Bank, and the interest from this went to the Bursary Fund. In 1947 the sum of £250 was sent, and £50 in 1948. This meant that current expenses, such as for News Letters, stationery, postage, etc., had to be paid from money received from annual subscribers. Thus, if a member forgot to pay her subscription, it left the current fund low, and subscriptions from defaulters would therefore be most welcome. There had been a welcome sale of 150 News Letters to present members of the School. There were six new Life Members, seven new annual, and two had rejoined. Two girls who had recently left the School had joined the Association. The Balance Sheet for 1949 was available for anyone who would like to see it. News Letters could be supplied only to members of the Association.

The Secretary, Elizabeth Moore, started her report with an apology for the postponement of the proposed lunch. She had tried very many places, and they all averaged at least 10/6 per head, plus 10% service charge. The Committee being so large she had discussed the matter with some Committee members, and they had decided that it was too expensive a venture without further discussion at an Annual General Meeting. She suggested that a **Sub-Committee** should take over the **Entertainment** side of the Secretary's work, and this was agreed.

The Editor, Audrey Baron, gave her report. She asked for items for the News Letter to be submitted by October 1st since otherwise the editing came too near to Christmas. News should be written on one side of the paper only. She said that she had obediently altered the index system, though it had entailed a good deal of extra work.

The Secretary of the Home Counties' Branch, Miss H. R. Potter, said in her report that **Irene Lawrence** was a possible kind hostess for the next meeting, and that any old pupil, whether a member or not, might ask for an invitation if she was in the vicinity at the time of the meeting. Miss Potter felt she should resign her secretaryship in favour of an old pupil, preferably a younger one, for younger contacts. She said that names were removed from the list if a person did not answer for three years.

Miss Robinson said how grateful she was to Miss Potter for her work, and wondered if she could carry on for a little with an assistant, who would later carry on the work.

Audrey Baron said that someone had written to say she did not meet contemporaries at meetings, but her reply was, "Why not come, and bring some with you?"

The **Secretary of the Sussex Branch, Margaret Wanstall**, spoke of a very pleasant autumn meeting at the Hall when members met some of the present mistresses and girls. A short dedication service for the piano in memory of Dorothy Cross followed. **Mrs. Scott Malden** had very kindly invited members to a party at Windlesham House in June. There were 72 members, and new members were always welcome. There was no subscription, but a sixpenny donation for postage at the meeting. She ended by saying how sad everyone was that Miss Robinson was leaving, and how grateful they had always been for her welcome, and assured her of their affection.

Election of Officers. Miss Robinson first expressed her gratitude to the five officers who had just reported. She then said she must retire from the Presidency of the Association in favour of the new **Headmistress, Miss Conrady**, and added, "I assure you, she will carry on the traditions of St. Mary's Hall."

Miss Ghey said she knew that the meeting would wish to elect **Miss Robinson** as a **Vice-President**. This proposal was received with applause, and carried.

Mrs. Hopkins (M. Hope-Gill) proposed that, as there was to be a new President, the **Officers and Committee** should be re-elected en bloc. This was agreed with the exception of Mrs. Child and J. Robertson, who lived too far away to attend meetings, and who it was felt would not mind being asked if they could be replaced by members more able to attend meetings. They were thanked for their help in the past.

Mrs. Paine (F. Woolgar) was proposed and duly elected to the Committee. Miss Robinson asked for power to co-opt if necessary, and this was granted.

Mrs. Davis (T. Bellhouse) proposed that **Phyllis Poyser** should assist **Miss Potter**, and this she kindly consented to do.

Proposed amendment of the Constitution.

Mrs. Franks (L. Champion) said that she had discussed with the Committee various proposals for obtaining new members, and so helping the School as well as the Association. She felt that a Constitution amended and brought up-to-date, and less vague, would encourage younger members, because, while it was nice to see everyone present, her own generation was badly represented. She considered that it was thanks to the Officers that the Association had gone on.

Miss Robinson said that the original Constitution was to be found in an early News Letter. She felt that the Association had managed not too badly without an up-to-date Constitution, but as the present day was one of rules and regulations, a new Constitution should be considered if it would be to the advantage of the Association. She suggested that a **Sub-Committee** should be formed to go into the matter. She said that she herself was most impressed by the Association, and had not found its equal in other schools with which she had been connected.

E. Snowdon Smith asked if girls leaving school could be encouraged to join the Association, thus ensuring their interest from the start. Miss Robinson said this was already done.

Mrs. Paine (F. Woolgar) stated that her father, who was a Headmaster, had helped to re-organise his Old Boys' Association by going through the old registers. **Miss Ghey** said she entirely agreed with Mrs. Franks that there should be more members, but that she had twice gone through the old registers, but many people did not reply. She thought that other schools had similar difficulties. She congratulated the Old Girls who had brought the school back into being.

Referring to the proposed **lunch**, Mrs. Franks said that the Committee was large, and an **Entertainment Committee** should be elected to organise a festive meeting for 1951. She felt it should be made an important meeting. Everyone should bring along new members, and she thought many would come if there was something organised beyond the business meeting. She said that much of the social activity had fallen on Miss Robinson, Miss Ghey and Miss Galton, but she did not see why they should have to do the Old Girls' work indefinitely. She hoped that an Old Girls' week-end at the School would be possible once again. **Miss Atkinson** thought that a tea party would be more suitable than a lunch, and this proposal was carried.

Miss Ghey then asked the meeting for permission to elect **two sub-committees**, one to investigate the **Constitution**, and the other to deal with **Entertainments**. This was agreed, also the proposal by **M. Riddelsdell** that the sub-committees should be elected at an Extraordinary Committee meeting after this meeting.

The next **Annual General Meeting** was fixed for Saturday, April 14th, 1951.

Miss Ghey and **Miss Galton** very kindly said they hoped to give a **Garden Party** at Blunt House in the summer, probably on Saturday, June 17th, 1950.

Those present were:—R. Archer (Poyser), C. Ashwin, K. Atkins (Kennelly), Miss Atkinson, W. Ballachey, A. Baron, G. Batson, M. Bell (Wade), R. Broadley (Elliott), K. Brown, K. Chambré, L. Coe, J. Collard, M. Collisson, M. Dick, T. Davis (Bellhouse), R. Forrer (Farrow), L. Franks (Champion), Miss Galton, G. Geary, Miss Ghey, D. Gosnell (Moore), M. Gray, R. Harvey, M. Harwood, Miss Hensley, L. Hipkin (Morton), M. Hopkins (Hope-Gill), M. Howard, Miss Kingdon-Ward, E. Langdale Smith (Snowdon Smith), R. Lindars (Chevallier), Mgt. Lloyd, E. Longsdon (Fotheringham), M. MacEwan (Downing), H. Malden (Thwaites), M. McWalter (Fuller), A. Mead (Law), P. Meynell, E. Moore, K. Ogden (Powell), F. Paine (Woolgar), Miss Perry, Miss Peebles, Miss Potter, P. Poyser, Ph. Poyser, G. Raynor, L. Raynor, E. Reekie (Vaughan), M. Riddelsdell, Miss Robinson, I. Sheaves (Disney), O. Skene, D. Smith (Lilley), W. Owen Smith, E. Snowdon Smith, G. Spurrell (Hensley), M. Thorne, D. Thorold (Henfrey), M. Tredennick (Phair), M. Wanstall, Miss Webster, N. Wilkin, D. Williams, making 65 in all.

NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY.

The two Sub-Committees elected to investigate the proposed amendment of the Constitution and Entertainments have met several times.

Members of the Constitution Sub-Committee: M. Riddelsdell (Chairman), Miss Ghey, Mrs. Bell and, ex-officio, L. Coe and E. Moore.

Members of the Entertainments Sub-Committee: Mrs. Hopkins (Chairman), Mrs. Franks, Mrs. Paine, Ph. Poyser, and, ex-officio, L. Coe and E. Moore.

Both Sub-Committees submitted their proposals to the Executive Committee at a meeting in October. The amended Constitution will be put before all members for discussion at the next Annual General Meeting on April 14th, 1951. A copy of the proposed Constitution will be sent to each member for perusal before the meeting.

A **Tea Party** will be held after this meeting, in a private room at the Y.W.C.A., Great Russell Street, W.C.1, and it is greatly hoped that everyone will keep the afternoon free.

E. S. MOORE.

ON MEETING CONTEMPORARIES.

May I enlarge on a remark made at the Annual Meeting? I speak as one keen on both my School and ex-Service reunions. It is no good any of us, old or young, complaining that we don't meet our "own lot." Those of us who are fortunate enough to be able to attend fairly regularly are less likely to get that awful feeling of loneliness in a crowd; but others who are prevented by distance, work, family ties, illness or even finance, from frequent attendance, and are shy of talking freely to those of school generations not their own, might be wise to contact a friend with whom to come at first. Not that it should matter, since we all meet together for one main reason—interest in the old School. No reunion, simple or elaborate, can be truly successful if we do not mix. You try going to a reunion in the Albert Hall along with several thousand others without arranging a meeting place with your particular friends. You just don't meet!

Also, speaking as Editor, I do hope you read of your friends. Again, news cannot be given if not sent, and first-hand news is best. Do you like descriptions of special events? If so, please do not be too modest to volunteer to write one. And you folk with interesting jobs, or who live abroad, may we not have short articles from you, please? I must approach some of you ready for next year, because I know quite well that I myself, until five years or so ago when I was inveigled into editing this News Letter, would not have dreamed of being so bold!

H.A.B.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

We welcome warmly seven new members who have recently left the Hall, and we very much hope to see them at our Meetings. In addition three older members have re-joined us. There have been no resignations, but we have lost one member through death.

The Balance in the Bank at the end of September was £21/2/4, and in the Post Office £67/11/-; I hope to send £50 of this latter to the Hall quite soon now, to be credited to the Bursary Fund.

There are at least 25 members who have not paid any subscription since 1948 (or before), and if I do not hear from them before the News Letter goes to press, their names will have to be removed from the list. May I remind you that the minimum annual subscription is 4/-, and the Life Membership £3.

L. A. COE (Hon. Treasurer).

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER.

The children of Holy Trinity Church, Finchley, sent us some money with which to buy something for St. Mary's Hall in memory of **Mrs. Ayscough (Daisy Rees)**, the wife of their Vicar.

We have bought a very nicely bound copy of Songs of Praise, with tunes, and some copies of the words only, as these were wanted for daily use at Prayers.

Also, we were happy to hand to **Miss Robinson**, at the General Meeting last April, a cheque for £60 from friends and members of the St. Mary's Hall Association, as a token of our love and appreciation of the vast amount of work that she did to bring the Hall into being again. We hope she is using the money as a help towards the rest she so much needed.

L.A.C.

TO MEET THE NEW HEADMISTRESS.

The Officers and Committee of the S.M.H.A. entertained Miss Conrady to tea at Crosby Hall on 20th May, 1950. We were very pleased to hear from Miss Conrady how much she values the support of an active Old Girls' Association and looks forward to an ever increasing membership.

We were delighted with Miss Conrady's humorous and practical approach to the problems that undoubtedly beset her in her new appointment, and keenly interested to hear her first impressions of St. Mary's Hall.

The Committee, on behalf of the Old Girls' Association, would like to wish her every happiness and success.

M.F.P.
L.F.

THE NEW HEADMISTRESS.

Miss Conrady has kindly answered questions we are sure to ask. Her subject is Chemistry, though she has done a good deal of Geography teaching. She came to the Hall from the Kendrick School, Reading, where she was Senior Mistress, and in charge of the Science department. Before that she was a House Mistress at Queen Ethelburga's School, Harrogate.

THE SUSSEX BRANCH.

Our meeting was on November 26th, 1949, at the Hall, and we did enjoy being there—Miss Robinson welcomed us, and gave us a nice tea in the dining room—We had a short business meeting, and considered a kind invitation from Mrs. Scott Malden for tea in May or June.

It was with great sorrow that we heard of Miss Robinson's resignation. She had adopted us, and we shall miss her greatly.

The grand piano bought with the legacy from Dorothy Cross was admired, and we joined in a short dedication service.

On June 17th, 1950, we had a delightful afternoon at Windlesham House School on the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Scott Malden. We watched the cricket match against Rottingdean School, and were shown over the School and Chapel by the boys, who seemed very keen on their School.

More than twenty members came, and it was nice to have Miss Conrady, Miss Ghey and Miss Galton with us.

The next meeting is at the end of November, 1950, so a report will not be in time for this year's News Letter.

Would members leaving the district kindly notify me, also any O.G.s who wish to join us.

M. WANSTALL.

HOME COUNTIES BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

Members of the Home Counties Branch met on Saturday, October 7th, 1950, for a delightful afternoon at Irene Laurence's flat at Ealing. It was a unique occasion, in that we had with us three St. Mary's Hall Headmistresses, Miss Conrady, whom the Branch most gladly welcomed, Miss

Robinson and Miss Ghey. Irene Laurence, helped by Mrs. Ogden (K. Powell), entertained us royally with a feast of good things, which was almost as decorative as the lovely autumn flowers and foliage that adorned the room.

No formal business was done, but Miss Conrady gave us a cheering account of the Hall's present activities and plans for the future, which latter included a pledge to raise £25 annually for the next ten years to help the fund needed to keep St. Mark's Schools in the Church's hands.

The Hon. Secretary of the Branch said that as she felt the time had come for her to give way to someone younger than herself, more in touch with present-day Hall affairs, and preferably an old pupil, she had placed her resignation in the hands of the Committee, and it would take effect after the next annual meeting of the S.M.H.A. It was a great pleasure to know that Phyllis Poyser had consented to take on the work while she remained in the Home Counties, and felt she could spare the time for it.

The other members present were:—Miss Galton, Miss Atkinson, A. Baron, Miss Irons, Mrs. Lee-Thompson (H. Boswell), Mrs. Ogden (K. Powell), Miss Peebles, Miss Perry, Ph. Poyser, and M. Riddelsdell.

For the benefit of all Old Girls, whether or no they are members of the S.M.H.A., it should be explained that the Home Counties Branch holds an annual social afternoon meeting in or near London for any former pupils or members of the Staff living in the Home Counties whose addresses are known or who ask for an invitation. There is no subscription, because hospitality is usually offered by some kind hostess, but if the expense of a room and tea elsewhere has to be met, contributions towards this would be asked for from those present. Occasionally, too, contributions may be asked for towards the expenses of printing and postage, since the S.M.H.A. cannot be asked to help to pay for this.

The Hon. Secretary of the Home Counties Branch is always a member of the S.M.H.A., and her address can always be found in the News Letter.

H. R. POTTER.

A THANK YOU TO "MISS HELEN"

Those of us who were at School when **Miss Edith Potter** was Head Mistress, always knew her sister, **Miss H. R. Potter**, her Secretary, as "Miss Helen." She it was who, among many other duties, kept the "bank books" which enabled us to draw on our precious pocket-money—five shillings had to go a long way in those days!

Ever since she has kept in close touch with the Association, and for many years has acted as Secretary of the Home Counties Branch, and must have sent out many a card of invitation to those delightful parties mainly held at the home of some hospitable member of the Association. I know I have enjoyed those I could attend, and wondered that more were not there.

We thank Miss Helen for her unflagging efforts and kind welcome, and as Editor I must commend her for prompt rendering of reports. We are grateful to **Phyllis Poyser** for agreeing to take over the work.

H.A.B.

THE GARDEN PARTY AT BLUNT HOUSE.

It was a very lovely summer day again for the Party kindly given by Miss Ghey and Miss Galton on Saturday, June 10th.—No bring and buy stalls this time, purely a party.

On arrival we found lunch being daintily served, amid a happy hum of voices, at small tables in the garden, the attentive waitresses being the students, young and pretty as ever. Afterwards as we strolled about the gay garden there was much greeting of old and new friends, and introductions to appendages such as husbands and small children; the former benevolently amused to see the years slip away as their wives gaily accosted their contemporaries, and the latter delighted to find someone of like age, or a grown-up not too much on her dignity, to play with them.

Later we enjoyed an exhibition of reel dancing, very lightsome, on the terrace; then, in the cool shade of the trees, a tennis match. Many of us were glad of an introduction to Miss Conrady, in whom, of course, we were much interested! We found her very friendly, and we hope she is going to like us. We were refreshed by afternoon tea, and then gathered for a short programme, given by the Students, of music, singing, recitations and an amusing playlet. We thank them for their kindness in waiting on us and entertaining us so charmingly. Miss Ghey and Miss Galton, as always, were delightful hostesses, here, there, and everywhere, most becomingly attired, and showing no sign that yet another year had passed. Indeed, each year the party might be a continuation of the last, so at home are we made to feel, so happy is the atmosphere, and so pleasant is the setting. They are very gracious occasions, and refreshing in a changing world, and again we say, "Thank you."

H.A.B.

THE PARTY AT WINDLESHAM HOUSE SCHOOL.

I remember that Saturday in June (the 17th) with great pleasure. **Mrs. Atkins (Kathleen Kennelly)** came to lunch, so that we could drive over together. I left the rest of the family hay-making, so felt I was playing truant as we revelled in the lovely country on the way to Findon.

Mrs. Scott Malden (Helen Thwaites), who was Head Girl in my first year at School, and to whom I had hardly spoken since, was waiting on the cricket field to welcome us, and made us feel at home at once, and we spent a happy afternoon watching the cricket while we talked to the Brighton contingent who arrived soon after. **Miss Hensley** seemed well and pleased to meet old friends, and we were equally pleased to meet a new friend in **Miss Conrady**, who encouraged us to ask about the Hall, and told us much interesting detail.

Indoors we had a delightful tea, cheerfully and efficiently served by the staff and a number of the boys. We reminisced with Mr. Malden about the old Windlesham House, and the happy days we had spent there when his mother was alive. (She it was who first organised the Girl Guides in Sussex, and came to the Hall in 1911 to give official recognition to our School patrols). **Miss Ghey** and **Miss Galton** came in for a short time, and we were glad to see that they had recovered from their own party to us the week before. We enjoyed, too, a few words with some of the present generation of Hall girls, so nicely and sensibly dressed.

Then after half an hour spent looking over the School and chapel we sought out our hostess to thank her for a happy afternoon, and hope she realised our gratitude to her and her family, the staff and the boys for all their efforts.

AMY MEAD (Law).

THE HEADMISTRESS'S REPORT FOR FOUNDER'S DAY

Friday, June 23rd, 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Claude Elliott, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I preface my report by saying how delighted I am to welcome you all here today? In addition to the company assembled in this Hall there are 180 parents and girls of the Middle and Junior School hearing the proceedings by means of a relay system. I am sorry that we have insufficient room in this Hall to seat everyone, but I am sure that parents will agree that as this is essentially the girls' special day they should share the available space in this room. We are indeed greatly privileged to have the Provost of Eton as our guest of honour, not only because of his very distinguished place in the field of education, but even more because we feel that he **belongs** to us, being a grandson of the Founder. I am specially glad to welcome back Miss Ghey, Miss Stopford and Miss Robinson — a most distinguished gathering of past Head Mistresses of the Hall, you will agree.

In presenting this, the second Head Mistress's report since the re-opening of the Hall, I am acutely conscious that I am indeed a mere mouthpiece for Miss Robinson and the Staff, for I can claim no share in the progress which has been made and no credit for the honours gained.

Our numbers have remained at about 240 throughout the year. This includes 108 boarders, but when the new house is ready — and you will have seen healthy signs of its beginnings — we shall have about 150 boarders and correspondingly fewer day pupils. The health record has been good — we had a mild wave of the prevailing influenza epidemic last term, though this attack never reached sufficient proportions of severity to consider closing the School, as quite a number of Schools deemed necessary. Undoubtedly we owe much to Dr. Beynon's care and attention, and to Sister Brown's sympathetic but eagle eye. I feel we are singularly fortunate in our School Doctor and San. Sister. Even in the short time I have been here I have had many expressions of confidence from parents in the matter of the health of their girls being in such excellent hands.

There have been some Staff changes. In the Junior School Mrs. Braine-Hartnell joined in September and Miss McCarrick temporarily for this term. Miss Dyke availed herself of the opportunity of taking an exchange post in Chicago, and this gave us the privilege of a year's visit to the Hall of Miss Joyce Moody. Although we all look forward eagerly to Miss Dyke's return and to hearing of her experiences in the United States, we shall at the same time feel a great loss when Miss Moody leaves for home, for she has been a most charming and happy colleague and has entered into the spirit of the very best traditions of St. Mary's Hall. Miss Appleby joined the Staff as Housekeeper in September and has done good service in spite of many difficulties, not least of which, as many of you will appreciate, being that of obtaining adequate domestic help. Miss Cowan was appointed Bursar to the Hall last year and has done much to advise me and my colleagues in financial matters. Although Miss Cardwell, my Secretary, joined the Staff only three weeks before Easter, she is already an indispensable right hand to me. Miss Warburton came to Babington House as Matron in September and was appointed House Warden of Babington last term. Miss Elizabeth Davies, sister of the Art Mistress, came as Matron in St. Hilary in September.

Results in the Oxford and Cambridge School Certificate have been quite good bearing in mind the fact that many of the candidates had been in this School for under a year. This term we are entering 14 candidates. In other examinations the results have been very creditable, as you will see on the honours list. The first two Elliott Scholarships since the re-opening of the School were awarded to Joan Edwards and Ia Thorold this year. Particularly outstanding successes were obtained in Art. In the Royal Drawing Society's Childrens' Academy

3 entries were shown in the exhibition : there were 3 bronze star certificates, 6 book prizes, 16 highly commended and 68 other awards. Only the names of those who gained the higher awards in Art and in Speechwork are printed on the programme — there were 22 lesser awards in Speechwork.

In mentioning these achievements in Art, I know you will wish to congratulate Miss Davies for the honour she gained recently in having one of her paintings accepted by the Royal Academy. We are very proud of her, and I am sure you will agree when you visit the Studio that not only is Miss Davies herself an artist, but that she inspires the girls with a love for painting and drawing too.

In the field of athletics we can claim no brilliant match results, but there is a tremendous zeal for games and the standard has improved steadily. With more practice and experience in match playing the excellent work of Miss Saunders and Mrs. Eggleton will produce teams with growing confidence and strength. This term we have once again begun cricket.

Twenty-two girls were prepared for confirmation by our Vicar, the Rev. F. Bryant Crane, and were confirmed in St. Mark's Church by the Bishop of Lewes on May 25th. We continue to share in the Parish Services on Sundays. I am happy to see so many girls from the Hall making their Communion regularly at 8 o'clock. Four of the Senior Girls help to take the collection at the 11 o'clock service.

Outside the normal school curriculum the girls have had opportunities of widening their knowledge in many directions. Our violin mistress, an artist of some repute, gave the School a most delightful recital. The School attended Benjamin Britten's "Let's make an Opera" and also a large number of the excellent concerts provided in the town. Parties of girls saw "Le Malade Imaginaire" at Brighton and Hove High School, "L'Avare" at the Dome, "Spanish Tragedy" at Brighton College : and lectures were given by Louis MacNeice who read his own poetry : Elizabeth Bowen who spoke on the Novel : speakers from the Colonial and Continental Church Society and the Zenana Missionary Society; Miss Whateley who spoke on the colour problem in South Africa; Eric Newton and Trenchard Cox who talked on Art. We had a marionette show by Mr. Heap at School and we attended the Lanchester Marionette performance at the Dolphin Theatre. Some of the more Senior Girls went to a pre-election meeting at the Dome. Visits were paid to Wimbledon, to the England versus Reserves Lacrosse match in London, and to the Vienna Exhibition at the Tate Gallery. We had some films on Australia shown at School. Some of the Middle School Girls attended First Aid Lectures and all who sat for the examination passed. This term they are having lectures on Home Nursing. It is very natural that being in Brighton the Hall should be interested in the Regency Society. The School is affiliated to the Society and Seniors attend lectures at the Pavilion with Miss O'Donovan who is an enthusiastic student of the Regency period. Just recently we have had an Officer from the Women's Royal Army Corps to tell us of the life and prospects in the Army for girls, and a professional deep sea diver who gave a most instructive and thrilling lecture in full diver's equipment.

I welcome this opportunity of thanking all those who have served the Hall so unstintingly this past year. I know that Miss Robinson would wish to associate herself with this general expression of thanks for loyal service. During the short time I have been here I have met with much kindness and support in my efforts to carry on the work begun by Miss Robinson. If I were to mention all those to whom I personally am indebted for their help and encouragement I should leave no time for our distinguished speaker, but I cannot refrain from thanking in public those to whom I owe a special debt of gratitude. I discovered very soon that the Hall has a Board of Governors who are not only distinguished but also wonderfully understanding of the problems in a School such as this. It gives me a great sense of security to know that I can appeal to my Chairman or to any one of

the Governors when I need help or advice. It is impossible to over-emphasise the gratitude I feel for the loyal support I have had from the whole of the Hall Staff. Miss O'Donovan, who was appointed Senior Mistress at the beginning of this Term, has been a veritable tower of strength to me; and her knowledge of the ways of the Hall, together with the faithful and untiring service of my Secretary, Miss Cardwell, have done much to bridge the gap which invariably comes with a change of Head Mistress. A special word of thanks must go to Ham, our tireless Gardener, the results of whose labour you will already have seen in the really lovely terrace gardens, which are to me a constant source of joy. The splendid service of our Carpenter, Yelland, also calls for our thanks. I have yet to learn of a job to which he cannot turn his hand, and in addition to this, like Ham, his whole heart is in the Hall. I have only to watch him tenderly handling some of the Hall treasures to know that he has a genuine love for it.

We have again received many gifts during the year. The Old Girls, with their characteristic generosity, have given us more chairs, which were very much appreciated as we needed them badly. Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins have given the Shield which you will later see awarded for the first time to the Guild which has been the most efficient all round for the year. The very beautiful statue given by Mr. and Mrs. Fosh for a Guild Singing Competition is to be competed for later in the year and is on view in the dining room. Miss Ghey has presented a prize for Classics, and Mr. Keeling-Scott has once again presented prizes for poem making, in addition to which he has given up much time to reading and judging the entries for the competition. In this connection I should like to record our thanks to Mr. Hanks for setting and marking the papers for the Snowdon-Smith Divinity prize.

While speaking of prizes I want to draw your attention to the two columns of Form prizes. In addition to the usual Form prizes awarded for reaching an average standard of 75% throughout the year, we have this year thought fit to award prizes to a small number of girls who by sheer hard work and consistently co-operative attitude in class have **used** the one or two talents with which they have been entrusted instead of burying them and sitting back as mere observers of those who have been endowed with a greater number of talents. All too often we hear a girl say: "I can't do Maths.," or "I can't do History," or "I can't do" something else, and having made this quite clear to the unfortunate mistress who is trying to teach her, the girl then proceeds to down tools and leave it at that, possibly distracting the attention of others at the same time. I am afraid that many people have a false idea that the new General Certificate of Education is going to provide an easy way for these girls in that after this year they may drop everything except the subjects which they either like or find easy. This is a very mistaken idea. I am quite sure that I should have the full blessing of the Minister of Education in saying that here we intend to give the girls as broad a foundation as possible before considering any specialisation. There is a good deal of speculation and criticism of the new examination which is to replace the School Certificate and Higher Certificate examinations next year, but in many ways it appears to be a progressive measure. The most troublesome obstacle is the age restriction whereby the candidate must have reached the age of 16 by September 1st of the year in which she takes the examination. This year the date on which they must be 16 is December 1st and we fortunately have no under age candidates and so have more time to work out our solution. I should like to make it clear to both parents and girls that this need not mean retarding the younger girls by a "halt" year. Since it was intended by the Minister of Education that as few candidates as possible should take an external examination at this stage of their School career, the responsibility will devolve on the School authorities themselves, by means of thorough internal examinations and by any other suitable means, to satisfy themselves regarding each girl's fitness, **whatever** her age, to go forward to Sixth form studies — whether for University Entrance, or for the cultural course for those not intending to take advanced examination work. Many of my colleagues will agree with me that the passing of the School

Certificate Examination is not by any means invariable proof of such fitness!

And what of the future of the Hall? It is still in its infancy — one might almost say in its second childhood, though I am sure we are not going along the downward path but along the upward path towards the full stature of the very best public School tradition. Very naturally, being so young, the Hall has had some teething troubles. The foundations of the post war St. Mary's Hall have been well and truly laid by the unselfish and devoted service of Miss Robinson, who overcame seemingly unsurmountable obstacles in her four years here. It is now the task of each one of us to contribute something towards the building up of a structure worthy of that foundation — a structure of which our Founder would be justly proud, and which will be a constant memorial to his life's work for education founded on Christian principles. I close by quoting the ending of a letter I had the other day from the mother of a small girl who is coming to us next term : she said "I am very happy that my daughter is to go to St. Mary's Hall, where I believe she may grow up in an environment where dignity and serenity still remain. May she, for her part, leave the School, 'not less, but greater' than it was committed to her."

THE SCHOOL AT HOME TO THE ASSOCIATION.

It was a pleasant thought of Miss Conrady to invite us to a miniature "Founder's Day" on Saturday, June 24th, the day after that event; and as we walked nostalgically round the School, we admired the sewing displayed among the handicrafts, and the dainty garments with their exquisite stitching made us quite envious of the wearers of such clothes.

In the Art Room we felt like the Queen of Sheba in the presence of such talented work, for many of the sketches had won prizes, and some had been hung in the Children's Academy.

After tea we much appreciated the concert which ended in a spirited scene with Mrs. Malaprop, all part of the Founder's Day programme.

It was good to see **Miss Wright** the same as ever as she listened to the music with a practised ear; and there was **Gladys Collis** from Africa, and quite a number of old-timers; and as past and present members of the School knelt in the Elliott Hall and joined in the General Thanksgiving and the School Prayer, that feeling of continuity which has never been broken was very present, so that everyone went home refreshed and renewed with the remembrance of the importance of "those things that are lovely and of good report."

ANN WANSTALL.

ON RE-VISITING MY OLD SCHOOL.

Brighton after many years! and as my son and I drove up to St. Mark's Church for service on that lovely Sunday, the eighteenth of June of this year, I caught a glimpse above the town of the dear familiar sweep of emerald downland just now lit with the scarlet flame of poppies, and on our right the curling blue silk of the waves plashing lazily on the shingle, whispering, whispering of days gone by.

I thought of those years and years ago when we eagerly set forth for our cricket matches against other schools. What fun it all was! Matches were played on the downs then.

The next morning we went up to the Hall and had the kindest and warmest of welcomes from the Headmistress Miss Conrady, with whom we had tea and a long chat.

There was much to see and admire—the large airy classrooms and especially the Kindergarten one. Could one only re-capture youth and become a child once more!

There was the addition of the spacious Elliott hall and yes, actually, the old organ of my day. I could see Miss Neilson presiding at it!

Bitter-sweet memories came back to me as I strolled along the gaily-flowered terraces and into the garden—the familiar spots where I rushed about—a rough-and-tumble little girl of twelve without a care or a worry save in the light of how best I could beat my companions at our games! And now as I stood there after all those years, the schoolgirl of 1890-1895, now a woman of seventy-three, surrounded by the same old walls, and shaded by the same old trees, I looked along the gravelled walk towards the old summer-house at the end, and it seemed peopled with the dear shades of my friends so many dead and gone.

Then I turned and imagined I saw the “on guard” mistress leaning over the stone parapet, a bright many-hued shawl wrapped about her person. That shawl appeared to us an heirloom—it was in those days the common property of the staff responsible for our education and was in evidence summer and winter. Indeed we naughty girls called it “the Library Flag”!

Friday was Founder's Day and again a very happy welcome and then alas! good-bye.

I was very disappointed that I could not stay at Brighton for the next day, “Old Girls' Day,” for I **might** possibly have met a few of my contemporaries, but we were due at my son's—and incidentally his father's—old school, St. John's, Leatherhead.

Shall I ever see the dear old Hall again? Ah well, one never knows!

GWENDOLINE MUCKLESTON (née Morgan).

June, 1950.

THE NEW HOUSE DEDICATION SERVICE.

On October 31st, 1950, the Foundation Stone of Elliott House was dedicated by the Bishop of Lewes (the Right Rev. G. H. Warde) in the absence of the Bishop of Chichester, who was prevented by a chill. He was assisted by the School Chaplain, Rev. F. Bryant Crane, the Senior Governor, Rev. G. M. Hanks and the Rev. G. L. M. Sheldon. Among the Governors present was the Chairman, Mr. C. E. M. Elliott, a great grandson of the Founder. Margaret Wanstall says it was an interesting and impressive service, and that the girls sang beautifully.

This new boarding house for some fifty girls is on the site of the Hervey Terrace houses bombed in the war. Some will remember that this was where much of the School equipment was stored, and that after the raid there were feathers everywhere around!

THE DEDICATION OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF ELLIOTT HOUSE.

The foundation stone of Elliott House was dedicated by the Bishop of Lewes on October 31st, 1950. Part of the service was taken by two other clergymen, Mr. Hanks and Mr. Crane.

The day was ideal for an outdoor service and not too cold.

Everything went off exactly to time and was a great success. The service lasted half an hour, and the road was closed so that the school and visitors could stand in the road uninterrupted by the traffic.

The boarding house was named after the Founder of the School, Henry Venn Elliott. The situation of the stone is on the south wall of the house. The platform was roofed with a red and white striped awning. The stone had pots of flowers round it.

The School had a half holiday, and returned to work on Wednesday morning.

MARY ANN COATE (Lower IV),

Aged 10.

A POEM OF DEDICATION

At twelve o'clock on Tuesday
We all came down in line,
The singing was magnificent,
The Bishop's clothes were fine.

The police held up the traffic
The Bishop blessed the stone,
Each person who was present there
Remarked the Choir's good tone.

STEPHANIE WEBBER — Aged 10,

(Lower III).

VISITORS TO THE HALL.

Mr. C. A. Elliott (Provost of Eton) and Mrs. Elliott; the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Lewes; Mrs. Gwendoline Muckleston; Miss Hitchcock; Miss Dorothy Taylor (C.E.Z.M.S.); Miss Marion Cole (N.S.P.C.C.); Fraulein Gertrud Richter; Miss Whateley; Rev. G. M. Hanks; Rev. L. G. M. Sheldon; Captain Lawson-Smith (Deep Sea Diver); Lady Barrett-Lennard; Mr. C. E. M. Elliott (Chairman of Governors); Miss Hensley; Miss Wisdom; Canon Elwin; Miss Chetham-Strode; Miss Ghey; Miss Ransford; Mr. F. S. Preston; Miss Schooley; Miss McCaig; Miss Gunnery; Mrs. Moore; Mrs. Foster; Mr. Yateem (from the Persian Gulf); Dr. Seegobin (from Mauritius).

THE MUSEUM.

Many S.M.H.A. members who have not visited the Hall recently will be interested to know that the Museum case given in memory of Miss Maria and Miss Lucy Newport is now inhabited. It seemed such a pity that so nice a case should be empty. One day I had a visit from Miss Elwin who was at the Hall 1886-1889 and she brought three presents for the School from China—2 pairs of hand-made shoes, and an old Chinese Mirror made of brass. I wondered where I could put them in safety so that everyone could see them, and I remembered the museum. Since then I have received many presents or loans and we now have something which is worthy of being called a museum and of those in whose memory it was given to the Hall.

D.C.

GIFTS TO THE HALL

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| S.M.H.A. | Chairs for the Dining Hall |
| Rev. F. Keeling-Scott | Poetry Prizes |
| Miss Ghey | Classics Prize |
| Lady Barrett-Lennard and Mrs. Luddington.. | Gifts for Drawing-room |
| Miss O'Donovan and Miss Saunders | Two Swings |
| Many gifts from past and present staff and girls for the Museum | |
| Mr. and Mrs. Fosh | Guild Music Trophy |

CHILDREN'S CHILDREN NOW AT THE HALL

Ia Thorold, daughter of Dorothy Henfrey; Monica Hopkins, daughter of Muriel Hope-Gill; Jean and Margaret Scatliff, daughters of Alma Gordon; Fiona McWalter, daughter of Marjorie Fuller; Jean Reekie, daughter of E. Vaughan; Rosamund Willoughby, daughter of the late Vivian Phillips; Phillipa Durnford, second cousin of Viva Simpson.

CONFIRMATION.

The following girls were confirmed by the Bishop of Lewes on May 25th, 1950, in St. Mark's Church:—

Mary Boswell, Brana Charkham, Sheila Colwell, Rosamund Conder, Patricia Creaton, Shirley Fulford, Valerie Garrud, Daphne Grimston, Maureen Hartill, Sylvia Martin, Robina Methven, Mary Patten, Susan Sainsbury, Jean Scatliff, Sally Spencer, Jean Strike, Jean Thomson, Ann Waterhouse, Pauline Webb, Yvette Whitefield, Lyn Whitlock, Ruth Young.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.

December, 1949.

Romaine Bloom : 4 credits, distinction in Biology.
Margaret Jones : 3 credits.
Meryl Kalra : 2 credits.
Marigold Mack : 5 credits, distinction in Scripture.
Ia Thorold : 5 credits.

July, 1950.

Rosamund Bedford : 4 credits, distinction in English Language.
Madge Davis-White : 5 credits.
Anne Henderson : 3 credits.
Naomi Obadiah : 4 credits.
Ruth Raven : 3 credits.
Patricia Trower : 4 credits.
Gillian Wallis : 5 credits.
Yvette Whitefield : 1 credit.

SUCCESS.

Diana Wiley, in the VIth Form, gained an Exhibition of £25 for St. Godric's Secretarial Training College, Hampstead.

SCHOOL PREFECTS (1950).

Prefects—Anne Harris (Head of School Sept.—Dec., 1949), Mary Fosh (Head of School Jan.—July 1950) (Boarder), Margaret Jones (Head of School Jan.—July 1950) (Day Girl), Anne Evans, Naomi Obediah, Jennifer Southam.

Sub-Prefects—Madge Davis-White, Joan Edwards, Gloria Henderson, Meryl Kalra, Beth Lawrence, Avril Mason, Anne Nightingale, Ruth Raven, Ia Thorold, Yvette Whitefield, Diana Wiley.

House Captains—BABINGTON, Anne Evans to December, 1949. Mary Fosh, Jan.—July, 1950. HILARY.—Jill Adams to March, 1950. Jane Evans, April—July, 1950.

Games Captains—Avril Mason to April, 1950. Ruth Raven, May—July, 1950.

Guild Captains—ST. ANDREW, Anne Harris, Marigold Mack, Ruth Raven. ST. DAVID, Margaret Jones. ST. GEORGE, Anne Evans, Anne Nightingale, Mary Fosh. ST. PATRICK, Meryl Kalra, Jill Southam.

PRESENTATION OF PURSES TO H.R.H. PRINCESS ELIZABETH

In the Summer Term Miss Conrady told us of an appeal she had received from the "Church of England Children's Society," formerly known as "Waifs and Strays." Many of us asked for a collecting envelope to take home for the holidays.

When the money collected was counted at the beginning of this term it was found to be over £17, and as a result the Hall was invited to send three girls to present a purse to H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth on October 23rd. Miss Conrady had great difficulty in choosing the representatives—Mary Fosh, Heather Heald and I were eventually given the privilege. Mary because she was Head Girl, Heather and I because we had the highest collection in the Middle and Junior School.

Monday, October 23rd, was a great day! We left School with Miss Conrady at 12 o'clock by taxi and caught the 12.8 p.m. train to Victoria. There we took another taxi to the Central Hall, Westminster, where we left Miss Conrady at the main entrance to join the 1,200 other girls and boys presenting purses. While we were waiting we were entertained by a conjurer who did some very puzzling tricks. After about half an hour we were lined up in twos to present the purses. The Princess was sitting in the centre of the platform surrounded by the Society's Officials under the Chairmanship of the Bishop of London. She was wearing a plum coloured hat, coat, gloves and shoes, with a dove grey dress underneath—she looked very beautiful indeed. We walked along the platform and dropped our purses into a very pretty blue cradle on which the Princess's hand was resting. There was a pink cradle nearby to replace the blue one when it was full. Afterwards we waited till the Princess came down the main staircase, and she walked so near to us that we could have touched her. It was a most wonderful experience and I can find no words to explain what an exciting day it was, and what an honour we felt it was to be representing the School on this occasion.

After so much excitement we were all quite tired, and we were glad we were able to catch the 5 o'clock train back to Brighton, though we only had a minute to spare. On arrival back at School we were surrounded by the girls who were very eager to hear all the events of the day. We shall certainly never forget it!

MAUREEN OUTRAM (Aged 14),
Lower V.

THE VISIT OF THE HEAD MISTRESS FROM GERMANY.

We had a visit from a Head Mistress in Germany. Her name was Fraulein Richter. She gave us a talk about the situation there and told us how her school in Soltau had started from nothing; that the children had had to take their own chairs; and how the pupils ended school at 1 o'clock in the afternoon and gave up all their time to come and repair the school, to paint, and put glass in the windows which had been broken.

Fraulein Richter said that at first when the children came to school they were given some lunch which consisted of a small bowl of soup each; but the town commissioner said that England could not afford to keep on with it and the School would have to try to help itself.

The girls of our Form (Lower IV) thought it would be a nice idea to collect some things for Fraulein Richter to take back with her.

The next morning we all arrived early laden with clothes we had out-grown, shoes, books, toys, pencils, rubbers, rulers, sweets, tinned soups, milk and other goods. We had also collected money so that the children might have their milk and got the sum of £3 10s.

We decorated a table with crepe paper and flowers, then set the things we had collected on it. Our form captain, Jennifer Burr, then brought in Fraulein Richter. Her eyes filled with tears and for a moment she stood speechless; her delight was so great that she could not find words to express herself.

There were so many things she was unable to take them, so Miss Conrady and Mrs. Clothier kindly said that they would pack and send them to her.

ANNETTE RITCHIE — Aged 12,
(Lower IV).

A VISIT TO THE EASTBOURNE POLICE COURT AND STATION.

On Friday, 10th November, a visit to the Eastbourne Police Court and Station was arranged by Mr. Stephen Hubbard, O.B.E., J.P., in collaboration with Miss Conrady, and it was decided that Miss Day, a School Matron, and four of the seniors should go.

We arrived at Eastbourne at 10 a.m., and were escorted to the Police Court.

The Court opened at 10.30 a.m., when the four magistrates arrived. Although the session was short, many cases were heard of which the most interesting was one of a man charged with careless driving. This was the longest of the cases, and gave us a better knowledge of court procedure than the others, as we heard both counsels. Although the driver's case was well pleaded the magistrates imposed a fine and endorsed his licence. The other cases included charges of drunkenness, speeding and attempted evasion of Customs duties.

When the court rose at 11.30 we were taken by Police-woman Stepney to be introduced to the Chief Constable at the Station, also the chief clerk who was to show us round later in the day.

After lunch the first place shown to us was the Mortuary. This was most interesting. The first thing that struck us was the incredible coldness of the white tiled rooms. A long marble table on which the body could be washed was situated in the centre of the room. On one side were some cupboards containing the necessary equipment for a post-mortem and on the other was a Frigidaire with enough space for six bodies. Adjoining this room was a small chapel where bodies could be identified.

We were then shown the cells in which prisoners are kept after arrest, and which contain only the barest necessities. The cells for women are similar to those for men with one exception, that they have a room next door for a warden who can keep watch, and supply things that the prisoner might need.

Next we were taken to see the Recreation, Parade, C.I.D., Photographic, Armoury and Store rooms. Of these the most interesting were the C.I.D. department and the Photographic room. In the former one of us had our finger prints taken. We were shown various property that had been confiscated from criminals, such as a table knife, pieces of glass and even a large dagger.

In the Photographic room some very interesting points were explained concerning enlargements, the taking of finger prints, etc. We were also shown photos of scenes from recent crimes including one of a murdered woman. We were amazed that it was possible to identify her.

We were impressed by the men's Recreation Room which was large and contained three Billiard Tables, Card Tables and a Bar. The new uniforms were kept in a separate store room with cupboards holding police whistles and different types of handcuffs. The chief clerk attached a pair of these to one of us. They were extraordinarily uncomfortable.

Our tour over we were given an opportunity to ask questions.

We returned to school at 6.30 after a most enjoyable and instructive day and one which we will not easily forget.

MADGE DAVIS-WHITE,
MARY FOSH,
RUTH RAVEN,
YVETTE WHITEFIELD.

WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE A NEW GIRL.

It is very nice being a new girl at St. Mary's Hall. Nobody is unkind to you, but at first they glance at you curiously, a hundred and one questions on their lips. But gradually you get used to them, and they get used to you, and you begin to learn their names, and they begin to learn yours.

It is a very strange feeling when you step into a very large building and do not know where to go, or what passage leads to which room, and you feel very grateful when one of the girls comes along and takes you under her wing.

You are not left out of anything for long, and if there is any information you need the girls are willing to give it to you.

The School is not strict in itself but fairly easy, and you are allowed a certain amount of pleasure which is not allowed during school hours.

If any pleasure is taken away from you it is your own fault, for either misbehaving or going a bit too far in playing a game, in partly trying to spoil it.

The place in which I sleep is called St. Hilary, and my dormitory is called "Thrush."

There are three lots when you go to bed.

I am in the second lot. The first lot are the juniors up to about nine. The second lot are mostly elevens and twelves. And the third lot are

twelves and thirteens and the ex-Hilarys are the people who should be in Babington House, only as there is not enough room for them they have to stay at Hilary.

The juniors have supper earlier than the older ones and when we come over to Hilary they have their lights out and they should be asleep.

I like being a new girl here as everybody is so nice.

ANN FRAY — Aged 11,
(Lower IV).

SUMMER.

The sun is scorching all the spear-like corn,
And I lie dreaming underneath the trees,
While like a phantom shade the evening slips
And lengthens with the shadows on the leas—

With motley-coloured balls through crooked hoops,
The children wage their long and fierce campaign,
The mellow sound of wood on wood re-sounds
And gathering birds disturbed flock o'er the plain.

O Time stand still! O Fate forbear to strike,
They think the world was made for love and play,
For just a little longer let them sport
This is to them an endless summer day.

What will remain of these enchanted scenes?
Only one dream there is we cannot shed,
The memory of a scented summer garden,
And forlorn it seemed when all had fled.

JANINE SAMMONS (Aged 16),
Lower V.

SUMMER.

Again sweet summer brings
Small joys and little pleasures,
To please man's eager mind
And stay as mental treasures.
For who can but remember
Green fields and pastel skies,
Or gentle waters black,
Teased by the dancing flies;
Striped wasps that suck
At rotten plums and jam,
Stuff down their tiny throats
All the fruit they can;
The bumble bees that crawl
Drunk with their nectar wine,
Each dusty little wing
Is in itself divine.
Remember, too, tall grasses
And waving fields of corn,
The sheep and timid lambs
With woolly coats unshorn.
Birds, too, gay feathered
Twitter and sweetly sing,
All these are passing shades
To gladden the heart till Spring.

J. L. SAUNDERS (Aged 14),
Remove.

THE CUCKOO.

The cuckoo comes in May and sings
Cuckoo, cuckoo, cuckoo.
It is the loveliest of things,
To hear the little cuckoo.

It flies in the sky all day long
With its pretty cuckoo.
All the time it sings its song
Cuckoo, cuckoo, cuckoo.

The cuckoo stays around for a time
Singing cuckoo, cuckoo.
But August comes to end her rhyme
So off flies little cuckoo.

JUDY COATE (Aged 8),
Form II.

IN MEMORIAM.

V. H. FRIEDLAENDER.

I have been asked to write about Violet Friedlaender, who died on June 23rd of this year, after a few months' illness. It is difficult for me to do this because of my sorrow at losing her, after 60 years of friendship. We made friends in Form I at the Hall, and I have received her tender sympathy ever since unflinching. Her insight and sympathy were her chief characteristics. The obituary notice in the "Times" described her as "Poet, Journalist, Author and Suffragette." The divine spark of genius is in her poetry. As a journalist, she was on the staff of "Country Life" for many years. As an author, her chief works were her novels, "Mainspring," "The Colour of Youth," and her volume of Essays, "Pied Piper's Street." These writings show her sympathy with youth, together with her sense of humour. Her strong feeling for those who suffered in life's battle, or were unjustly treated, took a more practical form, and revealed her as an ardent reformer. She found the austerity and discipline in school-life, as it was in our young days, hard to endure, but she declared in later life that no other training would have fitted her so well to combat her life's hardships.

She had a large circle of friends who enjoyed her writings from a literary standpoint, and no doubt, also admired her for her independence of character, her industry and honesty, her love of perfection, the purity of her life and work, and refusal to fall below her high ideals. The example of her character, added to the charm and beauty of her work, cannot fail to bear fruit.

To this inadequate appreciation I add two of her poems which reveal her more clearly than I can.

These words are written to her dear memory by her friend, **Agnes Hobbins.**

PLANTING TREES.

V. L. Friedlaender.

To-day six slender fruit trees stand
Where yesterday were none;
They have been planted by my hand,
And they shall dazzle in the sun
When all my springs are done.

Two apples shall unfold their rose,
Two cherries their snow, two pears ;
And fruit shall hang where blossom blows,
When I am gone from these sweet airs,
When none lives on who cares.

My heart is glad, my heart is high
With sudden ecstasy!
I have given back, before I die,
Some thanks for every lovely tree
That dead men grew for me.

THE ROAD.

We shall not travel by the road we make ;
Ere day by day the sound of many feet
Is heard upon the stones that now we break,
We shall be come to where the cross-roads meet.

For us the heat by day, the cold by night,
The inch-slow progress and the heavy load,
And death at last to close the long, grim fight
With man and beast and stone : for them the road.

For them the shade of trees that now we plant,
The safe, smooth journey and the certain goal—
Yea, birthright in the land of covenant ;
For us day-labour, travail of the soul.

And yet the road is ours as never theirs ;
Is not one gift on us alone bestowed ?
For us the joy of joys, O pioneers :
We shall not travel, but we **make** the road !

May I add a word to what Miss A. Hobbins has written with the sure touch of intimate friendship ? I met **V. H. Friedlaender** only once; but the quality of her verse, as it appeared from time to time, had long caught my notice, and when after our one meeting, and occasional exchange of letters, I received the gift of her book, "Mirrors and Angles." I found many treasures there. Her last book, "Stand Alone," which I bought just before her death, seems to me the revelation of a character nobly sensitive: she felt the anguish of the defeated, the lonely, the helpless, and she turned her sharp perception of their pain into a loving creed, which in "Progress" she has most beautifully expressed:

There is no progress but towards gentleness,
Humility, awe—
Gentleness to the living, man and beast;
Humility of the mind
Before its lord, the soul;
Awe that acknowledges
By many a name or none
The unseen Majesty.

There still is time to learn (but only just)
That the one progress is towards gentleness,
Humility,
Awe—

I could quote lines of beauty from almost every page; and though now and then the note of pain is unbearingly sharp (" . . . it would be too hard to go through life again "), this poet has known in her heart " . . . a living bird, a song, a ladder of light."

F.L.G.

IN MEMORIAM.

Minna Gildea died at her old School in Vancouver in August. She was at S.M.H. from 1891-94, and during her last year held the Good Conduct Medal which in those days was awarded on the vote of the whole School.

In the first World War she was in charge of the West Dorset Land girls and was instrumental in starting the Dorset W.I. in 1915, of which she became Vice-chairman, and later Chairman, and was also a member of the National Federation Executive. It was only after her parents' death that she was able to respond to the urgent request of her friends to start a school in Vancouver. She gave up in 1948, intending to spend her retirement in England, but her friends had persuaded her to go back for a time. On her last visit here she was full of humour and vivacity, and entertained her old W.I. with many racy stories of life in Canada. There is a grand tribute to her in the Dorset F.W.I. County Letter. She was evidently a pioneer, an inspiring leader with great organising ability, a real worker and much loved.

LOUIE COOMBES.

One remembers **Daisy Rees (Mrs. Ayscough)**, at School 1909—1915, as quiet, and as a gifted pianist with a sweet voice. She later gained her L.R.A.M., was a Medallist and won the Highest Award, and then was a Sub-Professor at the Royal Academy of Music before her marriage. She was a contributor to the Circular Letter still carried on by Form Va of 1912. Always unobtrusive, she just spoke of family life, and not of how generously she used her gift of music, but all her friends speak of her as a model wife, mother and parson's lady, and the gift to her old School in her memory from the children of the Parish of Holy Trinity, East Finchley, speaks of the loving regard in which she was held. What better tribute could she have! We offer our sympathy to her husband and her two daughters.

H.A.B.

THE YEAR'S NEWS.

Mrs. Barlow (Gretel Hunt) had lunch in Town with three other Old Girls in June. They were **Peggy Thompson** from Ifield, Crawley, **Mrs. Springfield (Joan Aitkens)** and **Mrs. Bateman (Helen Henderson)**, who all left the Hall about 1910. **Joan** has spent most of her life since in Canada near Vancouver, and has lately lost her husband, and had her first grandchild, the daughter of her only son. **Gretel** found her charming and interesting. **Gretel** also had a very busy and interesting two days at the Royal Norfolk Show demonstrating rush-work in the W.I. marquee. Her Majesty, the Queen, came in on the second day, and took the most gracious interest in everything.

Audrey Baron elicited this news when again staying with her cousin, **Gretel's** friend, while they all watched local cricket matches at Whitsuntide.

Mrs. Bartrum (M. Burton) at 94 can still sew without glasses!

Mrs. Bass (Monica Burroughs) wrote to correct her husband's title. He was Assistant Secretary in the office of the High Commissioner for the U.K., Canberra, Australia. They have just returned home after 2½ years, and are at present c/o Hammerwood Vicarage, East Grinstead, Sussex.

Mrs. Bevan (Joan Goddard) entertains a lot for the English Speaking Union in Cambridge.

Miss Bolton when sending news of **Heather Milburn** and **Ruth Ison** (see marriages) mentions that **Miss E. M. Smith** still goes up to the Hall four times a week in the mornings, so is very much in touch with the life of the School.

Frances Boughton has "a full-time job at the Cambridge Hospital as Audiometrician."

Bridget Campbell is acting as her father's housekeeper at Bishop's House, Farnham Castle.

Joyce Carpenter, now **Mrs. Milton**, has one little boy, Nicholas, four years old. They are living at Great Yarmouth, where her husband is the producer of a Repertory Company. Joyce herself, does a lot of acting.

Mrs. Chester (Elizabeth Spafford) writes that she and her husband spent part of their summer holiday in Cornwall with **Irina Platonoff (Mrs. Wragge Morley)** and her twin boys. She also says that **Jean Bruce** is married and has two boys and a girl.

Mrs. Clements (E. Hoernle) at the age of 76 has gone to Australia for 6 months to see one of her sons, whom she has not seen for 21 years, and also his wife and four children.

Una Clifford is at Salisbury College.

Mercy Collisson, back from her spirited tour, is giving Song Recitals in England.

Louie Coombes writes to give news of the deaths of **Minna Gildea** and **Lilian Cooper-Hunt**.

Mrs. Courcelle (Betty Holland) is living in Sevres (4 rue Maurice Berteaux). She has three children, Rosemary, Jacqueline, and André.

Helen Cope, a present pupil at the Hall, took the trouble to send the new address of **Mabel Howlett**, which is 13, Meadvale Road, Ealing, W.5. It appears that she has a married sister, **Daisy**, and from the supposed age given they were probably at the School about 1900.

Constance Eacott (1892-1899), writes that her sister **Emily** (1885-1890), who is now 76, is busy in house and garden. Her sister **Alice** (1888-1894) also leads a busy and active home life, and goes to visit in Ireland every year. She herself was on the list of lay-speakers last year in the York Diocese for the Archbishop's "Calling all Churchpeople" campaign, and edits a Parish Magazine, and the Old Girls' News-Sheet for the School where she taught for 35 years.

She also mentions that **Miss Conrady** was at Queen Ethelburga's School, where Miss Eacott has had close contact with the Headmistress and O.G.A. since 1931.

Mrs. Eggington (Margaret Baron) has moved to Hitchin, where her husband is in charge of St. Mark's. Ann is now five, and goes to School.

Mrs. Fletcher (Kathleen Walton) mentions that her husband has got his B.Sc. Engineering Degree, but is staying on at the Military College to take a staff technical course.

Mrs. Foottit (Mildred Morris) still keeps busy with her Women's Institute work, and has recently been made Vice-Chairman of her County, the Kesteven Federation W.I. Her husband was last year made a Rural Dean. **Audrey Baron** was pleased to be visiting on the day of the Service of Institution.

Dorothy Fryer has been in hospital for nearly a year after a very serious and critical spine operation. She is still flat on her back, and can do very little. She is in Hut 8, Royal Orthopædic Hospital, Stanmore, Middlesex.

Mrs. Gosnell (Diana Moore) now sends her small daughter, Gay, to her Aunt **Elizabeth Moore's** Nursery School.

Mrs. Herdon (E. Ryan) is hoping to come Home from India in April, 1951, when she will leave her two small sons at School.

Dorothy and Muriel Heelas have had a grand holiday, motoring through Europe and including Oberammergau in their tour.

Agnes Hobbins, one of the Sixth Form of 1896 who have kept up a Circular Letter ever since, has sent an appreciation of one of its members, **Violet Friedlaender**. She herself has spent most of her life teaching, and was for ten years Headmistress of a private school. She was at S.M.H. till 1902, the last four years on the Staff, starting under **Miss Birrell**, "a grand person!" she says.

Mrs. Hopkins (Muriel Hope-Gill) was at the time of the October Meeting in St. Thomas' Hospital. We hope she is well again now.

Ruth Ison took up land work, and in January last was on a Horticultural course in Wales. Now we see she has married.

Enid Ives is a Physiotherapist at Nottingham General Hospital.

Mrs. Jennings (Marjorie Whittington-Ince), whose serious but successful operation for arthritis in the hip-joint we reported last year, has, we are sorry to say, had a fall which has undone most of her progress towards normal walking.

Miss Kingdon-Ward resigned her Headship of the London Hospitals School of Speech Therapy in Cavendish Square in March, 1950, but remained a member of the Advisory Board, and has continued to help there, and she still does her hospital clinical work. The School has been re-named, "The Kingdon-Ward School of Speech Therapy."

Mrs. Kirkby (Joyce Williams) lives at Little Binnal, Coombe Wood, Hawkinge, Folkestone. She was one of the four new girls who arrived at the Hall on Miss Ghey's first day.

Mrs. Knowles (Nell Campbell) is back in England for good now. We think she has a house of her own near Guildford, but the address given will find her.

Mrs. Langdale-Smith (Evelyn Snowdon Smith) sent news in October, 1949, of **Mrs. Crispe (Joan Hare Duke)**. Her husband died very suddenly in 1948. She has two sons: Peter, who was Instrument Repairer in the R.N.Z.A.F. for 2½ years, and is now doing Watch and Clock Repairs, and is living with her, and Pat, who is farming near by. Joan does all her own work, including the care of fowls and most of the gardening. Out in New Zealand a char's wages are 3/- an hour, and return fare and meal.

Joan is in touch with **Mrs. Taylor (Madeleine Dougherty)**, who has three sons and a daughter. She has also met **Grace Merry**, but has no recent news of her.

J. Laurence is Assistant Home Secretary in the C.M.S. For a year she has been responsible for the Home Medical support of the Society.

Monica Luffman early in the year was in Paris with U.N.E.S.C.O. No later news of her.

Margaret Lloyd, who has moved to West Wickham, is now recovering from appendicitis, while her mother is still very weak after a slight stroke.

Mrs. MacFarlane (Agatha Rawson) is, we hear, a most excellent Chairman. She is very highly thought of by the local Conservative Association in Redhill and Reigate.

Mrs. McCall (Margaret Jones) writes that her husband has been appointed Education Officer at the R.A.F. Station, Swanton Morley, Norfolk. They have managed to get a house in Norwich to which they move in November. She says that **Marygold Dancy**, now **Mrs. Mettey** (he was a G.I.) lives in Xenia, Ohio, and has two children, David, aged 5, and Barbara, aged 2½.

Mrs. Mead (Amy Law) keeps busy as the wife of one farmer, and mother to three and a schoolboy, and granny to Judith. **Audrey Baron** mostly stays the week-end after the A.G.M., and rejoices in a glimpse of beautiful Sussex and its primroses or bluebells. Amy is a very good customer for the socks made by her blind workers in Boston. Amy recently met **Dorothy Williams** up in London for the day from Norfolk.

We regret to hear of **Amy's** illness, and the necessity for an operation on November 24th.

Jane Montgomery-Campbell is in South Persia, teaching children of the employees of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

Mrs. Moody (A. Ehrmann) has moved to Abbot's Leigh, where her husband is now Vicar. He is also Director of Religious Education for the Bristol Diocese.

Mrs. Muckleston (Gwendoline Morgan) writes from 12, Holywell Terrace, Shrewsbury, by request, to give an impression of her visit to the old-new School.

Mrs. Nolda (Joan Drury) writes from Goodwood Park Hotel, Singapore. She has two children, Rosemary and Charles, and is hoping to send Rosemary to St. Mary's Hall.

Mary Ogle is a Junior Commandant in the Women's Royal Army Corps, Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn, N. Ireland.

Mrs. Peters (Ann Gasston) is in Ottawa.

H. Philipps is teaching music at Purley. One pupil is a child of **Mrs. Cunnew (Ada Oliphant)**.

Mrs. Priestnall (Nora Burden) sent us the prospectus of her Guest House at Mount View, Tiverton. It seems to be beautifully situated and its terms very reasonable.

Joan Reeson is teaching Physical Training at Roedean School.

J. Robertson has a post with the Colonial Office in Hong Kong, and expects to be there for four years.

Muriel Seeley and her sister, **Lilian (Mrs. Shroff)** are now living at 8, Rosswood Gardens, Wallington, Surrey, not far from **Mrs. Cunnew (Ada Oliphant)**.

Daisy Short was to sail for India on October 12th to work as a "relief" missionary for fifteen months.

Mrs. Smith (Dorothy Lilley) writes that she still acts as local representative for the S.S.A.F.A., and intermittently works for the Nuffield Research Unit. She has been wishing that, with a growing daughter to dress, she had paid more heed to **Miss Perry's** sound teaching of needle-work! In August when visiting her father, she called on **Mrs. Chapman (Audrey Sadgrove)** whose new home is near. Also, after escorting a party of Guides (including her daughter, Gillian, aged 13) to camp near Bexhill, she went to see **Mrs. Roberts (Margaret Standage)**, then on to Eastbourne to call on **Mrs. Rossi (Marjorie Segall)**.

Mrs. Tinto (Joyce Colman) reports the arrival of a daughter, and says they are flying home from Entebbe in December, arriving just before

Christmas, and are looking forward to their 5½ months' leave. She hopes to get to an S.M.H.A. meeting.

Mrs. Walker (Miss Meyrick) now lives at Ewell. She has two sons, aged 12 and 8.

BIRTHS.

Clarke.—On December 7th, 1949, at 38, Cheniston Gardens, W.8, to Erica (Sarel) wife of G. L. Clarke—a daughter.

Dewhurst.—On May 22nd, 1950, at Hove, to Mary (O'Beirne) wife of P. K. Dewhurst—a daughter (Helen Frances).

Fletcher.—On September 2nd, 1950, at The Vicarage, Bromley, to Kathleen (Walton) wife of Capt. T. H. G. Fletcher, Royal Signals—a brother (Michael) for David.

Gibbs.—On October 24th, 1949, at the Westminster Hospital, to Joan (née Wiles), wife of Dr. Roland Gibbs—a daughter.

Grant.—On June 28th, 1950, at Epsom, to Carol (Allden) wife of T. J. Grant—a sister for Clinton (Suzanne Elizabeth).

Holdstock.—On November 30th, 1949, at the Everest Nursing Home, Swanage, to Beryl (Day) and Peter Holdstock—a son.

Holden.—On September 9th, 1950, at 85, Broad Road, Braintree, Essex, to Joan (Lea-Wilson), wife of Hyla M. Holden—a son (Patrick Hyla).

Hughes.—On October 3rd, 1949, at Wishford, Ashted, Surrey to Jean (née Walker), wife of Alan K. Hughes, of Wiston, Sussex—a daughter.

Loasby.—On May 27th, 1950, to Mary (Walmsley) and Harold Loasby—a brother for Veronica, Helen and Justin.

Mayo.—On April 6th, 1950, at Colerne Rectory, to Joy (Beaghen), wife of Rev. J. H. R. Mayo—a daughter (Rosemary Margaret).

Meredith.—On February 13th, 1950, at Beech Hill, Barnstaple, to Elizabeth (Watson) wife of M. H. Meredith—a sister for Michael (Susan).

Oakeley.—On January 27th, 1950, to Jean Valerie (Strong) wife of F. D. Oakeley, of Biddlestone, Ross-on-Wye—a son.

Reekie.—On November 18th, to Eileen (Vaughan), wife of Gerald Reekie—a brother (Ian) for Jean, Michael and Rosamond.

Tinto.—On September 19th, 1950, in Uganda, to Joyce (Colman), wife of J. I. Tinto—a daughter, Alexandra.

Torrey.—On May 22nd, 1950, to Noreen (Lea-Wilson) and John G. Torrey, 1412 Allston Way, Berkeley, California—a daughter.

Trenchard.—On January 1st, 1950, at the Winfield Nursing Home, Wokingham, to Anthea (née Henderson), wife of John E. Trenchard—a daughter.

Waller.—On February 10th, 1950, to Angela (Wright), wife of Capt. D. de W. Waller—a son (Guy) brother for Gabrielle.

MARRIAGES.

Clements : Reeson.—On May 20th, 1950, at St. John's Church, Hove, Peter Martyn, younger son of Mrs. Clements, of Brighton, to Mary, elder daughter of the late Mr. Reeson and Mrs. Reeson, of Hove.

Doyle : Ison.—On October 14th, 1950, at Woodford Parish Church, John Patrick Doyle, of Cardiff, to Ruth Lilian Ison, daughter of the late Rev. T. J. Ison and Mrs. Ison.

Ellwood : Harries.—On July 29th, 1950, at St. Margaret's Church, Rottingdean, Geoffrey Mark, eldest son of the Rev. and Mrs. C. J. Ellwood, of Binfield Rectory, Berks., to Doreen Yvonne Trewent, younger daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. H. M. Harries, of Telscombe Rectory, Lewes.

Hooley : Milburn.—On September 16th, 1950, at St. Cuthbert's Church, Hove, Henry George, son of Mrs. V. E. Hooley, 1, Jesmond Road, Hove, to Heather, daughter of the late Dr. F. V. Milburn and Mrs. Milburn, 10, New Steine Mansions, Brighton.

Lees : Montgomery-Campbell.—On October 14th, 1950, at Farnham Parish Church, George D. Lees, of Market Drayton, to Mary, eldest daughter of the Bishop of Guildford and the late Mrs. Montgomery-Campbell.

Olivier : Linnell.—On December 22nd, 1949, at St. Peter's Church, Sheringham, Martin John Olivier to Nancy Eden Linnell.

Pollard : Fotheringham. — On December 17th, 1949, at the Cathedral, Nairobi, John Britton Pollard to Freda Phyllis Fotheringham.

DEATHS.

Allen.—On November 8th, 1949, very peacefully, at 25, The Close, Salisbury, Amy, widow of Canon H. W. Allen and beloved mother of Christine Hall, in her 83rd year.

Armitage.—On March 17th, 1950, at Bexhill, after a short illness, the Rev. Richard Herbert Armitage, late Rector of Theydon Garnon, aged 82.

Ayscough.—On March 7th, 1950, after a long illness heroically borne, Daisy (Rees), beloved wife of the Rev. T. Ayscough, Holy Trinity Vicarage, East Finchley, aged 54. Mother of Rosamund and Eileen.

Cooper-Hunt.—In August at Bournemouth, Ruth Lilian Cooper-Hunt. At S.M.H. 1890-94.

Duncan.—On October 10th, 1950, at Grayshott, Hindhead, after a sudden operation, Constance Duncan, aged 80. History and English mistress at the Hall about 1900.

Friedlaender.—On June 23rd, 1950, peacefully, at 16, Loughton Way, Buckhurst Hill, Violet Helen Friedlaender, author, poet, journalist and suffragette, and daughter of the late Rev. Friedlaender, of Palestine.

Gildea.—In August at Vancouver, Minna Gildea. At S.M.H. 1891-94.

Ives.—On July 17th, 1950, in Nottingham, peacefully after a short illness, William Ernest Ives, Canon of Southwell and late Rector of Eastwood, Notts., aged 80. Father of Margaret (Meadows), Enid, and Katharine.

Ostle.—On May 29th, 1950, suddenly, at 14, Broadlands, North Hill, Highgate, Mary Geraldine Ostle.

Redwood-White.—On April 19th, 1950, at 17, Holland Park Avenue, W.11. Dr. Christopher Theodore Redwood-White, dearly beloved husband of Rosa and father of Marjorie and John, in his 77th year.

Waller.—On March 2nd, very suddenly, Marjorie Hamilton, of 3, Kingsdale Road, Berkhamsted.

MEMBERS.

- † Life Member. * Mistress
- † Adkins, D., M.B., B.S., c/o U.M.C.A., 35, Great Peter St., S.W.1.
 † Allen, Miss, 101, Constable Road, Ipswich.
 Alden, D., Old Barn House, Effingham Common, near Leatherhead, Surrey.
 † Appleyard, T., 48, Cromwell Road, Hove 3, Sussex.
 Ash, E. (Mrs. Quirk), 62, Tinwell Road, Stamford, Lincs.
 † Ashwin, M. E., Wadlyve House, Market Weighton, Yorks.
 Ashwin, M., Res Augusta, Mayo Lane, Sidley, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.
 † Ashwin, I., Res Augusta, Mayo Lane, Sidley, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.
 † Ashwin, C., 27, Devonshire Road, Hornchurch, Essex.
 † Atkinson, Miss, 7B, Carlton Drive, Putney, S.W.15.
 † Austin, Miss, 14, Barcheston Road, Weoley Castle, Birmingham, 29.
 Austen, P., 14, Silver Birches, Warminghurst Lane, Warrington, Sussex.
 † Baker, Sister Dorothea, St. Michael's School, Bloemfontein, South Africa.
 Bain, M., 4, Davidson Avenue, Cremorne, Sydney, N.S.W.
 † Ballachey, W., 45, Campden Street, W.8.
 Bannister, M. and A., Clungunford Rectory (Flat), Craven Arms, Salop.
 † Bardsley, E., Greystoke, Garstang, nr. Preston, Lancs.
 † Bardsley, J. (Mrs. Irving), c/o Charnwood, High Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.
 † Baron, A., 25, Pen Street, Boston, Lincs.
 Baron, M. (Mrs. Eggington), St. Mark's Parsonage, 21, Bearton Avenue, Hitchin Herts.
 † Barker, J., 11, Wilbury Villas, Hove 4, Sussex.
 † Banks, W. (Mrs. Caswell), 81, Houghton Drive, Johannesburg, South Africa.
 † Banks, M. (Mrs. O'Hara), Woodlands, Boughton, Northampton.
 † Barton, J. (Mrs. Bowesman), Grenfell, Billericay, Essex.
 † Batson, J., 31, Beech Avenue, Northampton.
 † Batson, W., Dneir-felt-til, The Spa, Melksham, Wilts.
 † Batson, G., Hawnes School, Haynes Park, Bedford.
 * Batterbury, Miss, Little Codford, Windmill Lane, East Grinstead, Sussex.
 † Bellhouse, T. (Mrs. Davis), 48, Oxford Street, Wellingborough, Northants.
 † Berwick, J., H.M.I., 72, Deangate, Northampton.
 Bicknell M. (Mrs. Baylay), St. Vincent, Station Road, Budleigh, Salterton.
 † Binns, B. (Mrs. Coad), 20, Grand Avenue, West Worthing, Sussex.
 † Birks, E., 310a, Tadcaster Road, York.
 † Blackledge, J., M.B., B.S., 22A, Granville Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 2.
 Blencowe, E., Backford Vicarage, Nr. Chester.
 † Bolton, Miss, 21, Portland Place, Brighton, 7.
 † Booth, E., (Mrs. Fuller), Merlins, Uckfield Road, near Lewes, Sussex.
 † Bond, M. (Mrs. Child), St. Nicholas Hospital, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
 † Boswell, H. (Mrs. Thompson), 31, Highcroft Gardens, Golder's Green, N.W.11.
 † Bowser, M. (Mrs. Barnes), Walnut Trees, Southwall Road, Deal, Kent.
 Brocklehurst, M., Rose Cottage, Mersham, near Ashford, Kent.
 † Brown, C., 52, Highweek Village, Newton Abbot, Devon.
 † Browne, Miss K. I., Grange Cottage, Cartledge, Holmesfield, Nr. Sheffield.
 † Browne, Miss, Little Marcle Rectory, Ledbury, Herefordshire.
 Burden, N. (Mrs. Priestnall), Mount View, Tiverton, Devon.
 Burner, B., Woodfield, Brighton Road, Ditchling, Sussex.
 Burroughs, M. (Mrs. Bass), c/o Hammerwood Vicarage, East Grinstead, Sussex.
 Burton, M. (Mrs. Bartrum), Whitegate, Pinthwaite, Newby Bridge, Ulverston, Lancs.
 Burton, J., (Mrs. Herbert), The Vicarage, Nuneaton.
 † Bucke, M. (Mrs. Deschamps), Caserne de la Garde, Malakoff, Seine, France.
 † Butler, S. (Mrs. Waller), 24, Ravensbourne Road, Twickenham.
 † Campbell, N. (Mrs. Knowles), c/o Bishop's House, Farnham, Surrey.
 † Capern, E. (Mrs. Hakim), Applegarth, Green Lane, Stanmore, Middlesex.
 † Carnes, E. (Mde. d'Ambrumenil), White House, Amberley, Sussex.
 Chambré, K., Oakfield, South Ealing Road, Ealing, W.5.
 † Champion, L. (Mrs. Franks), 52, Holywell, Oxford.
 † Chapman, E. (Mrs. Mahon), The Rectory, Eyke, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
 Chevallier, R. (Mrs. Lindars), Hatton Rectory, Wragby, Lincs.
 † Chilcott, C. (Mrs. Fordyce), 3, The College, Glasgow, W.2.
 † Chippendall, M. (Mrs. Bedford), 15, Park Road, Winchester.
 Church, C. and M., 69, St. Leonard's Road, Exeter.
 † Clarke, L., Clownholme, Rocester, Uttoxeter, Staffs.
 † Claudet, V. (Mrs. Harris), 8, Elmdon Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham.
 Clifford, U., 20, Vancouver Road, Forest Hill, S.E.23.
 † Clutton, J., Laureldene, 1, Arnold Road, Clacton-on-Sea.
 Cobbett, V., Evershot, Clayford Avenue, Ferndown, Dorset.
 † Coe, G. and L., Wilford, Chichele Road, Oxted, Surrey.
 Collard, J., Hillfield, Farningham, Kent.
 † Collis, G., St. Monica's Home, Lion Street, Cape Town, S.A.
 † Collisson, M., at Clophill Barns, Nr. Bedford.
 * Conrady, Miss, St. Mary's Hall, Brighton, 7.
 † Coombes, L., Underhill, Morcombelake, Bridport, Dorset.
 Coombs, V., 31, Bigwood Avenue, Hove, 4.
 Cooper, K., Drivers' and Clerks' Training Centre, A.T.S., Horsley Hall, Gresford, N. Wales.

- †Cooper, C. (Mrs. Leaphard), 87, Carlisle Road, Hove, 3.
 Cooke, H. (Mrs. Leverington), Broadham Cottage, Broadham Green, Oxted, Surrey.
 Cockell, J. (Mrs. Neligan), Broadwater Manor, Worthing, Sussex.
 †Colman, J. (Mrs. Tinto), c/o P.O. Box 5, Entebbe, Uganda.
 Comber, M. (Mrs. Playford), c/o 117, Wick Hall, Furze Hill, Hove, 2.
 †Cribb, J. (Mrs. Sturdy), Arosa, Rowsley Road, Eastbourne.
 †Crowley, P., 303, Upper Shoreham Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex.
 †Darby, K., The Outlook, Heathfield, Sussex.
 Davis, J. (Mrs. Anderson), c/o 149, Cheam Road, Cheam, Surrey.
 †Day, B. (Mrs. Holdstock), 136, Pampisford Road, Purley, Surrey.
 †Dick, M., South Place, Copthorne, Sussex.
 †Disney, I. (Mrs. Sheaves), Kingsthorpe, Puddletown, Dorchester.
 Dobson, M. (Mrs. Jackson), 28, Wretham Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, 19.
 *Donaldson, Miss, c/o Miss Price, Hyde House, Steeple, near Wareham, Dorset.
 Dorman, P., Warren Cottage, Walberton, Arundel, Sussex.
 Downing, M. (Mrs. MacEwan), c/o Wintersell, Edenbridge, Kent.
 †Duke, M. (Mrs. Elliott), c/o Meadowlea, Runfold, Farnham, Surrey.
 Drury, J. (Mrs. Nolda), c/o Cuddington Vicarage, Aylesbury, Bucks.
 †Eacott, A., 59, Cambridge Road, Middlesbrough, Yorks.
 Eacott, C., 59, Cambridge Road, Middlesbrough, Yorks.
 Ebbs, M., Waterferry House, Wheatley, Oxford.
 †Elliott, P., West Heath, Sevenoaks, Kent.
 Elliott, R. V. (Mrs. Broady), The Manor House, Wolferton, King's Lynn.
 Ehrmann, A. (Mrs. Moody), The Vicarage, Abbot's Leigh, Bristol.
 †Elwin, R., Dorchester House, 43, New Church Road, Hove.
 †Emery, J. (Mrs. Brodie), Glendover, Totland Bay, I.O.W.
 †Emmet, Professor D., 21, Yew Tree Lane, Northenden, Manchester.
 Farr, R., Green Gates, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire.
 †Farrow, R. (Mrs. Forrer), The Little House, 18, Chisholm Road, Richmond, Surrey.
 Farrow, E. (Mrs. Goshawk), St. Faith's Vicarage, Lincoln.
 Fawcett, J. (Mrs. Dunlop), Littlewood, Ganghill, Guildford.
 †Felton, J. (Mrs. Parker), Latham Cottage, Repton, Derbyshire.
 †Fotheringham, E. (Mrs. Longsdon), Hungerford Lodge, Weybridge.
 †Fuller, M. (Mrs. McWalter), 27, The Avenue, Lewes, Sussex.
 Francis, H., 70, Kensington Mansions, Warwick Road, S.W.5.
 †Galbraith, S., Holbrook End, Holbrook Lane, Chislehurst, Kent.
 †Galton, Miss A. C. E., Blunt House, Oxted, Surrey.
 Gasston, A. (Mrs. Peters), c/o 2, Queen's Park Rise, Brighton, 7.
 Gasston, S., c/o 2, Queen's Park Rise, Brighton, 7.
 †Gayer, D. (Mrs. Edyvean), c/o Overseas League, Overseas House, St. James, S.W.1.
 Geary, G. Warleigh, 20b, Crescent Road, Beckenham, Kent.
 †Ghey, Miss F. L., Blunt House, Oxted, Surrey.
 Gibbons, M., 33, Bridgefield, Farnham, Surrey.
 *Gillett, Miss, Widley, Faversham, Kent.
 Gillett, E., Broadwater Cottage, Hurst, near Reading.
 †Girdlestone, C. (Mrs. Robins), Burnt House, South Milton, Kingsbridge, S. Devon
 Gosney, J., Brambles, Stanway, Colchester.
 Graham, H., Flat 2, 14, Augusta Gardens, Folkestone.
 †Gray, M., 17, Warrington Crescent, W.9.
 †Gunnery, L., The High School, Eastbourne, Sussex.
 †Hall, M. (Mrs. Harwood), 32, Brondesbury Park, N.W.6.
 †Hall, M., Ashleigh, Balmoral Road, Parkstone, Dorset.
 †Hanham, A., Stocklinch, Ilminster, Somerset.
 †Hanham, E., 62, Brunswick Place, Hove 2.
 †Harriss, J. (Mrs. Raven), c/o Telscombe Rectory, Lewes, Sussex.
 Harris, A., West Winds, Newlands Road, Rottingdean, Sussex.
 †Harris, D. (Mrs. Bruton), Warnes, Upton St. Leonards, Gloucester.
 †Harris, R. (Mrs. Hart), 18, Woodfield Lane, Ashted, Surrey.
 †Hare Duke, J. (Mrs. Crispe), Glencraig, Wallace Avenue, Manurewa, Auckland,
 New Zealand.
 Harvey, R., Ridgeways, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham.
 Head, V. (Mrs. Hazledine), The Rectory, Lydiard Millicent, Wilts.
 †Heelas, D., 102, Cambridge Road, Teddington, Middlesex.
 Henfrey, D. (Mrs. Thorold), All Souls' Vicarage, Brighton, 7.
 †Hensley, G. (Mrs. Spurrell), Greenhayes, Doods Park Road, Reigate.
 *Hensley, Miss, 2, Chesham Street, Brighton, 7.
 Hobbins, A., Ovingdean, 24, Butleigh Wootton, Glastonbury.
 †Hoernle, E. (Mrs. Clements), 30, Chatsworth Road, Brighton.
 *Hodgson, Miss, 9, Wedderburn Road, Hampstead, N.W.3.
 Holland, E. F., Beech Cottage, Wetheringsett, Stowmarket, Suffolk.
 †Hopley, M. (Mrs. Owen), The Horns, Hankham, Sussex.
 †Hopley, E., The Horns, Hankham, Sussex.
 †Hopley, W., Shearfold, Brede, near Rye, Sussex.
 †Howard, Miss, 37, St. James Road, Tunbridge Wells.
 †Howard, M., Layston, Hamilton Road, St. Albans, Herts.
 †Howard, E. (Mrs. Hardy), 23, Knole Way, Sevenoaks, Kent.
 †Hope-Gill, M. (Mrs. Hopkins), The Vicarage, High Wycombe, Bucks.
 †Howe, N. (Mrs. Christian), Glendower, Fordingbridge, Hants.
 *Hunt, M. (Mrs. Martin), Woodside, Amberley, Stroud, Glos.

- †Hunt, G. (Mrs. Barlow), The Old Rectory, Hickling, Norwich.
 †Ives, M. (Mrs. Meadows), 2, Howard Court, 77, Bromham Road, Bedford.
 Jacob, P., c/o Royal Alexandra Hospital, Dyke Road, Brighton.
 †Jones, M. (Mrs. McCall), 2, Vicarage Road, Norwich.
 †Jennings, K., St. Nicolas, Ferring Lane, near Worthing, Sussex.
 †*Johnston, Miss P. I., 51, Enys Road, Eastbourne, Sussex.
 Kay, E., Aroona, Freshford, Bath.
 †Kennelly, K. (Mrs. Atkins), 29, The Ridge, Coulsdon, Surrey.
 †Kettlewell, B., Wind's End, Ellingham Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
 †Kettlewell, R., 24, Nevern Square, S.W.5.
 *King, Miss, 3, Westbury Road, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.
 †*Kingdon-Ward, Miss, 2, Pembroke Square, W.2.
 †Kitchin, W., Combe Vale, Sudbury, Suffolk.
 †Laurence, I., 4, Edmonscote, Argyle Road, Ealing, W.13.
 †Laurence, J., C.M.S., Salisbury Square, E.C.4.
 †Law, L. (Mrs. W. H. Sumner), R.R.I., Campbell River, B.C., Canada.
 †Law, A. (Mrs. Mead), Shovelstrode, East Grinstead, Sussex.
 †Lea-Wilson, N. (Mrs. Torrey), c/o 8, Broad Road, Braintree, Essex.
 Lenton, A., Corner House, Sutton Courtenay, Berks.
 Lilley, D. (Mrs. Smith), 33, Longcroft Lane, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.
 †Lilley, Miss, 182, Lynn Road, Wisbech, Cambs.
 †Lloyd, Mgt., 105, Addington Road, West Wickham, Kent.
 †Lloyd, Marion, C.M.S., Matana, Usumbura, R. Urundi, Central Africa.
 Lockhart, A. (Mrs. Creed), 10, Berkeley Gardens, Kensington, W.8.
 †*Mace, Miss, 12, Appleton Gate, Newark.
 †*McCormack, Miss, Stonebridge Cottage, Worplesdon, near Guildford.
 †Mackay, S. (Mrs. Rawson), 29, King's Road, Berkhamstead, Herts.
 †Mason, A., La Fantasie, Belvedere, St. Saviour's, Jersey.
 †Matson, E. (Mrs. Schofield), 135, Grieve Street, Dunfermline, Scotland.
 †Meakin, M. (Mrs. Nicklin), Duneaves, Longden Road, Shrewsbury.
 †Menzies, D., 21, Newton Road, Isleworth.
 Meyer, C. (Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby), Long Hope, Hertford.
 Milburn, N. (Mrs. Milns), 30, Hilltop Avenue, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire.
 †Miller, E. (Mrs. Fullarton), c/o Woodchurch Rectory, Ashford, Kent.
 †Montgomery-Campbell, Dr. M. (Mrs. Lees), c/o Bishop's House, Farnham Castle, Surrey.
 †Moore, D. (Mrs. Gosnell), Thames Court, Shepperton, Middlesex.
 Moore, E., Crowds, Weybridge, Surrey.
 *Morley, Miss, Elm Cottage, Albourne, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex.
 *Neame, Miss, 94, Broadfield Road, S.E.6.
 Neligan, A., Broadwater Manor, Worthing, Sussex.
 †Newton, J., Mother Superior, Carmel, Kirk Edge, Sheffield.
 Nightingale, A., Bank House, 216, Church Road, Hove, 3.
 Norman, S., 13, East Drive, Brighton, 7.
 Norris, A. (Mrs. Wells), The Old Vicarage, Heckington, near Sleaford, Lincs.
 Norris, M. (Mrs. Footitt), Scredington Vicarage, Sleaford, Lincs.
 †Obadiah, N., 196, Parr's Wood Road South, E. Didsbury, Manchester.
 †Odell, E., c/o Lloyds Bank, 164, Finchley Road, N.W.3.
 †Oliphant, A. (Mrs. Cunnew), Luctons, Wallington, Surrey.
 Panter, D. (Mrs. Kidd), Strangford Rectory, Co. Down, N. Ireland.
 †Parker, R. (Mrs. Robinson), c/o Weathervanes, Dyke Road Avenue, Brighton.
 †*Parkinson, Miss, 10, Eversley Road, Bexhill, Sussex.
 Paterson, M., 41, Lynton Avenue, Ealing, W.13.
 Peacock, V. (Mrs. Simpson), Berry Down, Cliff Avenue, Margate.
 †Peables, Miss, 37, Beckwith Road, Herne Hill, S.E.14.
 †Pelton, R. (Mrs. Biven), Pitts Farmstead, Fulbrook, Burford, Oxon.
 †*Perry, Miss, 7B, Carlton Drive, Putney, S.W.15.
 *Pope, Miss, 63, Furze Croft, Hove 2, Sussex.
 †Portas, E. (Mrs. Howard), 32, Central Avenue, Telscombe Cliffs, Newhaven, Sussex.
 †Phair, M. (Mrs. Tredennick), 178, Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey.
 †Potter, Miss, Broseley, Elstree, Herts.
 †Powell, K. (Mrs. Ogden), 18, Lauderdale Road, Hunton Bridge, King's Langley, Herts.
 †Poyser, R. (Mrs. Archer), 21, Hay's Walk, Cheam, Surrey.
 †Poyser, P. L., South Cottage, Ham Common, Surrey.
 †Poyser, Ph., The Old Cottage, Arnall's Road, Streatham, S.W.16.
 †Rawson, A. (Mrs. Macfarlane, M.B.E.), Chisleton, Reigate, Surrey.
 ††Raynor, G. and L., Holly Lodge, 64, Holly Lane, Northdown, Margate.
 †Reeson, M. (Mrs. Clements), 3, Lloyd Road, Hove, 4.
 †Riddelsdell, M., 66, Ladbroke Grove, W.11.
 †Robertson, G. (Mrs. Scott), c/o Incorporated Society of Planters, P.O. Box 262, Kuala Lumpur, Malaya.
 †Robertson, J., The Hermitage Government Hostel, 42, Kennedy Road, Hong Kong.
 *Robinson, Miss, Meadow Bank, Bewdley, Worcs.
 Ryan, E. (Mrs. Herdon), c/o Carew & Co., Ltd., Rosa, U.P., India.
 †Ryan, P. (Mrs. Storey), Foxford, Harswell, York.
 †Sadgrove, A. (Mrs. Chapman), 75, Straight Road, Lexden, Colchester.
 †Sarel, E. (Mrs. Clarke), 103, Home Park Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.
 Schurr, M., Deer's Leap, Warringlid, Sussex.

- †Segall, M. (Mrs. Rossi), Flat 3, 13, Grange Gardens, Eastbourne, Sussex.
 †Seth, K. (Mrs. Thomson), 28, Conduit Road, Hong Kong.
 †Shallard, C., 54, Freehold Road, Ipswich.
 †Short, D. and M., 52, Hopwood Gardens, Tunbridge Wells.
 †Sibthorp, E., 3, Hill Mansions, 23, Bramley Hill, Croydon.
 †Skene, O., The Vicarage, Banstead, Surrey.
 †Smallpiece, A. (Mrs. Fosbery), Garth Cottage, Shripney, Bognor Regis, Sussex.
 †Smees, M., 20, Furze Croft, Hove, 2.
 †Smith, W. Owen, St. Margaret's, Shortheath, Farnham.
 †*Smith, Miss E. M., 21, Portland Place, Brighton, 7.
 †*Smith, Miss G. M., Frensham Heights School, Rowledge, near Farnham.
 †Smith, R. WetherOak, Nacton, Ipswich.
 †Smith, P. (Mrs. Knight), c/o Dodwell & Co., Ltd., Hong Kong.
 †Snell, N. (Mrs. Beckett), Green Thwaite, Middle Furlong, Seaford, Sussex.
 †Snowdon Smith, E. (Mrs. Langdale-Smith), West Lea, Freshfield Road, Formby, Lancs.
 †Snowdon Smith, E. & W. Riversdale, Freshfield Road, Formby, Lancs.
 †Southam, J., c/o G. Bennett, Esq., 12, Lord's Court, N.W.8.
 †Spafford, E. (Mrs. Chester), Woodlands, Ingham Road, Selsdon, Surrey.
 †Spurrell, J., Applegarth, Uplyme, Lyme Regis, Dorset.
 †Stalman, L. (Mrs. Gilchrist), Mowbray, Marshbrook, Church Stretton, Salop.
 †Standage, M. (Mrs. Roberts), 144, Cooden Drive, Bexhill, Sussex.
 †Stanley, K., 84, Huron Road, Balham, S.W.17.
 †*Stopford, Miss, St. Elphin's School, Darley Dale, Matlock, Derbyshire.
 †Stott, R., The Firs, Colehill, Wimborne, Dorset.
 †Stuart, J., 38, Withdean Court, Brighton, 6.
 †Sturdee, M., (Mrs. Games), P.O. Box 1074, Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia, Africa.
 †Strong, V. (Mrs. Oakeley), Biddlestone, Glewstone, Ross-on-Wye, Hereford.
 †Sutthery, J. (Mrs. Livock), St. Peter's Court, Burgess Hill, Sussex.
 †Taylor, E. M., 10, Bayswater Avenue, Bristol, 6.
 †Taylor, K. M., 10, Bayswater Avenue, Bristol, 6.
 †Thwaites, H. (Mrs. Scott Malden), Windlesham House School, Findon, Worthing.
 †Thompson, C. (Mrs. Capern), 24, Sussex Square, Brighton, 7.
 †Thomson, N., c/o "Kornerkot," Walford, Wimborne, Dorset.
 †Thorne, M., c/o Service Women's Club, 52, Lower Sloane St., S.W.
 †*Thouless, Miss, Fairways, Salterton Road, Exmouth.
 †Unmack, Dr. R., Grove House, 9, Eldon Grove, N.W.3.
 †Vaughan, E. (Mrs. Reekie), Little Buntings, Balcombe Road, Haywards Heath, Sx.
 †Wade, M. (Mrs. Bell), Mayfair, Broomfield Road, Henfield, Sx.
 †Wall, M., 75, Hornsey Lane Gardens, N.6.
 †Wallis-Beer, J., Rose Cottage, Old Oxted, Surrey.
 †Walton, K. (Mrs. Fletcher), 168, Oxford Road, Swindon, Wilts.
 †Wanstall, M., 155, Ditchling Rise, Brighton, 7.
 †Wanstall, A., 9, Crescent Mansions, Ditchling Road, Brighton, 7.
 †Warne, D., Churston Lodge, Churston Ferrers, Brixham, S. Devon.
 †Ward, E., 52, The Drive, Hove, Sussex.
 †Watson, E. M. (Mrs. Alnutt), 30, Fernside Road, Balham, S.W.12.
 †Watson, M. (Mrs. Alleyn), 1284, Beach Drive, Victoria, Vancouver.
 †Watson, E. (Mrs. Meredith), Meadcroft, Croyde Bay, Braunton, N. Devon.
 †Whittington-Ince, M. (Mrs. Jennings), 2, Avondale Court, Seaford, Sussex.
 †Whittington-Ince, G. (Mrs. Street), 8, Carlton Road, Sidcup, Kent.
 †*Webster, Miss, 23, Sunnyside Road, Weston super Mare, Somerset.
 †Webster, J., 14, Shirley Drive, Hove, 4.
 †Whorlow, M., 31, Palmeira Avenue, Hove, Sussex.
 †Whybray, S. (Mrs. Riley), 7, Eaton Gardens, Hove.
 †Wilberforce, J. (Mrs. Davidson), Ockley Manor, Keymer, Hassocks, Sussex.
 †Wilberforce, B., 32, Ventnor Villas, Hove, Sussex.
 †Wilkin, N., Buttercups, Hurst, near Twyford, Berks.
 †Williams, D., "Sandylands," Waxham, Sea Palling, Norfolk.
 †Wilmott, A., 12, Buckstone Crescent, Alwoodley, Leeds.
 †Wingfield, S., Knockdrin Castle, Mullingar, Eire.
 †*Wisdom, Miss, 45, Sussex Square, Brighton, 7.
 †Witcomb, J. (Mrs. McMinn), 47, Eaton Place, Brighton, 7.
 †Woodbridge, A. (Mrs. Payne), 2, The Priory, Bovey Tracey, Newton Abbot, S. Devon.
 †Woodgate, E. O.B.E., Elmet, Brimpton, near Reading.
 †*Woodhams, Miss, 18, Fairdene, Southwick, Sussex.
 †Woolgar, F. (Mrs. Paine), Scots Pine, 514, Banbury Road, Oxford.
 †*Wonnacott, M., 30, Queen Anne's Place, Enfield, Middlesex.
 †*Wright, Miss, Clyst Hayes House, Budleigh Salterton, Devon.
 †Young, M., Babur Hill Cottage, Bawburgh, Norfolk.
 †Young, U., The Oaks, Manor Park, Chislehurst, Kent.
 †Young, P., 27, East Drive, Brighton, 7.