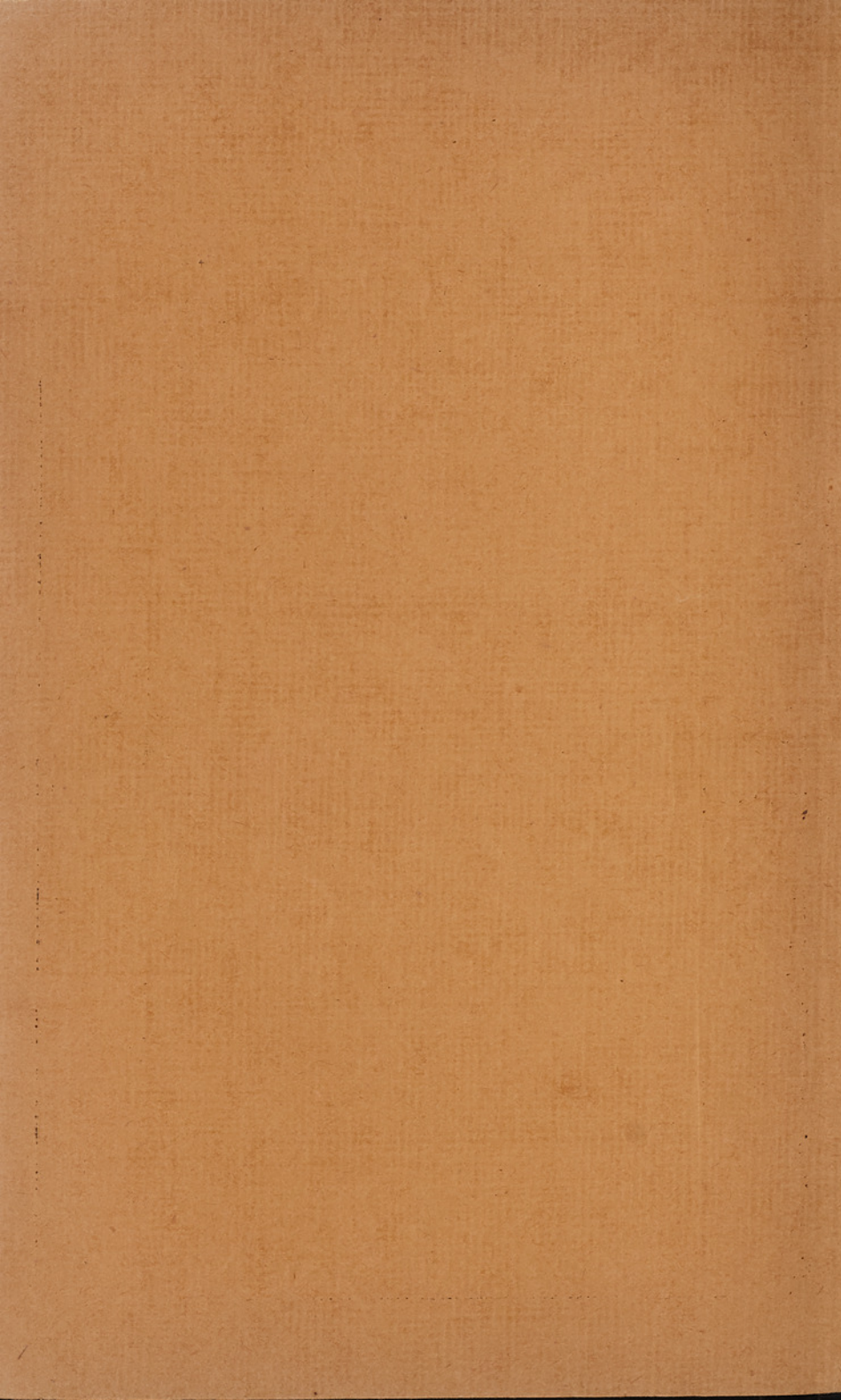




St. John's High School
Maritzburg
Magazine.

May

1933



St. John's High School Magazine

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Pietermaritzburg
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1933 :
JOHN SINGLETON & WILLIAMS LTD.,
DURBAN.

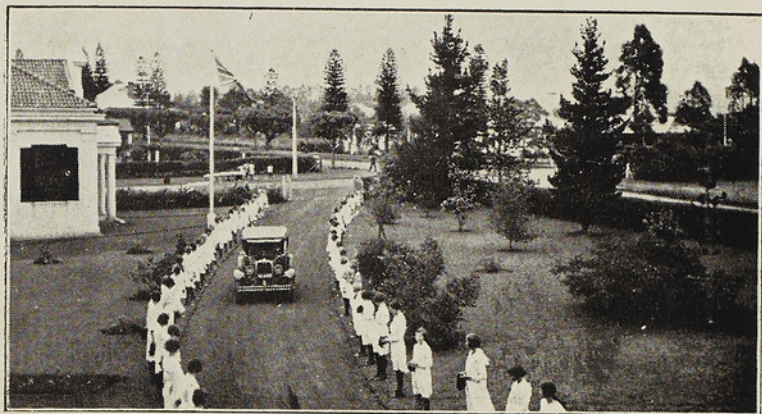
March 24th 1881

Dear Sir

Yours of the 21st inst.

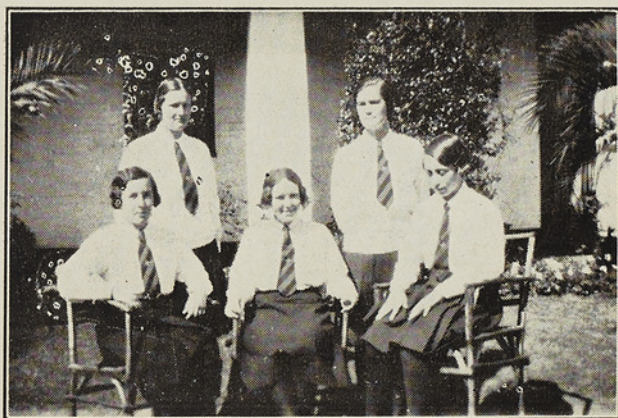


(1) "CUP PICNIC"—THE HOCKEY ELEVEN AT HOWICK FALLS. (2) FIRST XI. HOCKEY, 1932 :—M. DORNING, H. CHENNELLS, V. JONES, V. GLASSE, G. EDMONDS, J. FORDER, M. ROBINSON, J. MOOR, J. BOYD, L. STRACHAN (CAPT.), B. MOXHAM. (3) "OUR BABIES." (4) FIRST TENNIS TEAM, 1932 :—B. MOXHAM, R. BOYD, J. FORDER, L. STRACHAN, J. BOYD, E. MURRAY.



THE BISHOP ARRIVING FOR THE CONFIRMATION, DECEMBER 8TH, 1932.

PREFECTS, 1933.



H. CHENNELLS, I. RHIND, J. FORDER, M. BELLEW, E. DORNING.

Letter to Old Girls.

St. John's High School,
Scottsville, Maritzburg.



Y dear Old Girls,

The other day, before I had been told by the Editor that one of my duties as Sister-in-Charge was to write a letter for the Magazine, I was looking through the News of Old Girls in some of the old numbers, and feeling just a little reminiscent. Memories of Old Girls, whose names I did not see there, became fresh and vivid, and I wondered much what certain girls were doing, who were known to me in the old days when St. John's was situated in Loop Street. If this meets the eye of any, who in those days pursued a painful way through the intricacies of Czerny, or who spent wonderful picnic holidays in a certain small house in the bush above Maritzburg, I want them to know that a very warm welcome awaits them here, if at any time they are in or near Maritzburg. This applies, of course, to any Old Girl—I hope in time to meet and know you all.

I should very much like a "family" tradition to be established at St. John's, daughter, and even granddaughter, coming, so that in years to come names will become household names, as in one or two instances is already the case. I feel that in Africa we need the consolidating and steadying influence of tradition very much—not just of families, but in the educational life of girls as well as of boys. I am inclined to think that, on the whole, it exists rather more in boys' than in girls' schools. St. John's is definitely a Church school, and we are therefore obliged to have certain rules, and make a stand for certain principles which at times, doubtless, make considerable demands upon those who come. We shall be helped in our endeavours if girls who have left us, and are now in positions of influence and responsibility, will in their turn commend those principles and uphold those traditions wherever opportunity arises.

There are many things of which I should like to write, but I can only touch briefly on a few.

The chapel has been enriched by a beautiful black and gold hanging behind the sedilia, in the arch of the Lady Chapel, beyond which one gets a lovely glimpse of the Lady Altar, jewel-like in colouring against the sombre curtain.

I have made an innovation, which may surprise some of you, in having a very good piano, in place of the small harmonium. I once talked to a Native teacher, who gave as her reason for ceasing to take harmonium lessons that it "mastered her," and I was precisely in that case when it came to the harmonium in our chapel. I felt

that either it or I would have to go. The singing certainly has improved since the advent of the more docile piano, and we are hoping to make a more worthy offering of music at the Mass as time goes on.

The Chaplain, Father St. John, gives us much help in spiritual things, and from time to time has an evening meal with a small party of girls, thus getting to know them personally in their social hours.

There was a most happy Confirmation on December 8th, when the Bishop came to St. John's. He was received by a guard of honour, which he inspected before going to the Chapel, and after the Confirmation he and Mrs. Fisher had tea in the Library, where relatives and friends of the candidates had an opportunity of meeting them. The excellent photograph of the Bishop's arrival, which is reproduced on the first page of the magazine, was taken by Miss Coulthard. There were 30 candidates—17 of St. John's and the rest our girls from St. Cross and St. Lucy's.

The Confirmation had been preceded by a Quiet Day for Preparation, kindly conducted by the Chaplain. It was a very happy day, and the girls used the opportunity well. I wish we could have such days more often.

We have the pleasure of Father Alston's visit each Saturday, when he celebrates, and then has breakfast in the dining-room with the girls. A very strict tally of "turns" is kept, so that one table is not unduly favoured. He has several times given an enjoyable bioscope entertainment in the school hall, in aid of the funds of St. Luke's Church, and has recently taken and presented to the school a set of most artistic photographs of the Chapel, House and School, one of which has captured in a wonderful way the tension of that epic occasion when St. Anne's, after giving us of their very best in play and sportsmanship, allowed us to retain the Inter-Schools Hockey Cup.

The Sisters at St. John's at present are Sister Faith, working in the Chapel and in St. Margaret's Dormitory, Sister Miriam, teaching Divinity in the school and in charge of St. Anne's in the house, and Sister Dorothea, whose work lies in the office, with books, and all the intricacies of train and travel. The Reverend Mother wishes Sister Miriam to have a long holiday, so her place will be taken by Sister Olive Mary.

I expect a good many of you will have heard of the wonderful examination results. Miss Bertram will give the details in her report, but I feel it is only fitting here to say how the school appreciates the generous, skilled and patient teaching which has made these results possible. I have been very conscious during the short time I have been here of the happiness of the girls in their work over at the school, and of their real gratitude for what is done for them there.

We have lately drawn up a fresh and, I think, beautiful card of admittance to the Old Girls' Communicants' Guild, and I hope soon to send one to each member. May I say that we should be so

glad if more old St. John's girls became members of the Guild. It exists for a spiritual reason, to bind us together supernaturally, and not, as has sometimes been thought, just to provide a code of rules, which may, or may not, be necessary to some. If it is true that spiritual things are the most real, then it follows that we must be prepared to find them making some very definite claim upon us, and in almost a tangible form. The Old Girls' Association is not a rival, nor an alternative, to the Old Girls' Communicants' Guild; rather is it the social expression of our Association, which primarily should be a spiritual association.

The Sisters, and the School, value extremely the help which the faithful prayer-life of the members assures them, and there is, I hope, a corresponding happiness and security to you, in knowing that we, too, pray for you. It is this spiritual link which one longs to see strengthened by a larger roll of membership, and we should be most happy to send the new card to anyone who would like to become better acquainted with the purpose and aim of the Guild.

With every good and loving wish for your happiness.

Yours affectionately in O.B.L.,

+ CONSTANCE, S.S.J.D.

The Headmistress's Report.

DECEMBER, 1932.



IN presenting my report for this year reference must naturally be made first of all to the outside examinations occupying, as they did, our thoughts at the end of last year and the beginning of this year. The results of the Matriculation examination were not good. Out of seven girls who sat for the examination only one passed. In February three gained their certificates, therefore we have the satisfaction of having sent four girls out armed with the "passe-partout"—the Matriculation Certificate! Two others have just written the one subject in which they failed. In the Junior Certificate Examinations four passed in Class I., eight in Class II., four in Class III. There were two failures.

In the University of South Africa Music Examination we obtained four passes. In the Trinity College Music Examinations 12 girls obtained certificates, four with honourable mention. There were no failures in the music examinations.

A noteworthy distinction during the year must not be passed over—Irna Rhind gained the First Prize given by the Maritzburg

Empire Week Shopping Committee for her essay on "South African Products: Why We Buy Them and Why We Use Them in Preference to those from Foreign Countries."

In regard to the Games Section, we regretfully said good-bye to Miss Ford in April. Miss McDougall filled the post of Games Mistress until Miss Friend's return from England. Remarkable work was achieved by her during her brief control of the games—in a very short time she identified herself with the school. Miss Friend returned in August and had the honour of being in charge when our First hockey team defeated St. Anne's College, thus retaining for another year the League Hockey Cup.

Our staff was very much impoverished last May by the removal of Sister Miriam. To her the school owes a deep debt of gratitude for years of excellent work. Sister Olive, having filled Sister Miriam's place with great enthusiasm for the remainder of the year, is now leaving us. Another great loss is the departure of Miss Stubbings, who leaves to be married in February. We all wish her much happiness. In Miss Stubbings St. John's loses an excellent, high-toned, bright, enthusiastic mistress.

Very regretfully, too, do we say good-bye to a number of girls who have been with us for years. Of these mention must be made of our splendid prefects—the link between staff and girls—Beatrice Moxham, Lyn Strachan, and Joan Trebble. How impoverished we feel!

Among interesting events of the year is recorded the Galli-Curci Concert—a sublime treat—of the great artiste. Someone truly said, "She sang with eyes, hands, heart and soul." Then there was the meeting of the Old Girls' Union. A fair number of old girls were present at the Mass on May 8th, celebrated by Father St. John. Breakfast, a dainty repast most beautifully prepared, was presided over by the Rev. Mother. After breakfast the General Meeting of the Old Girls' Union was held in the Library. All the proceedings were marked by a spirit of good comradeship. But why is it that a number of Old Girls have not joined the Union? It is the ardent hope of all who are interested in the school that before next St. John's Day a number of Old Girls will link up with the little band who are working strenuously to make the Association numerically strong and useful. Present girls, as they pass out of the school, should automatically become members of the Union.

I think it is fitting that a tribute should be paid to Sister Miriam's excellent work as Librarian. How she achieves it all—the replacement of old favourites and the addition of new volumes—on the modest subscription, I cannot imagine. May I suggest that each girl on leaving school should present a book—not necessarily an expensive one—to the Library.

In conclusion I thank the members of the Staff for their splendid support and the Reverend Mother and Sisters for much consideration, kindness and interest.

Wedding Bells.

URSULA STUBBINGS—WATSON DYSON.

ON the morning of February 8th, at 9 a.m., it was our pleasure and privilege to witness the most beautiful wedding of Ursula Stubbings and Watson Dyson. The entire school was present—Sisters, staff, and girls. The school, together with the friends of the bride and bridegroom, filled the Cathedral.

The Dean of Maritzburg, assisted by the Rev. H. Godfrey, performed the ceremony, and the Nuptial Mass was celebrated by Father Alston, the friend of many years' standing of the bride's family and of St. John's School.

Reverential joy was the key-note of the ceremony. The Nuptial Mass—alas, so seldom celebrated at weddings—made a profound impression upon the minds of all present, and gave a deep realisation of the true significance of the sacrament of marriage, and the sanctity of the marriage vow.

The hymns were well sung, the youthful, girlish voices rendering a fitting accompaniment to such a ceremony.

One felt, as one gazed upon the radiant faces of the youthful bride and bridegroom, that no shadows could ever cloud their happiness—that this day was indeed the precursor of many happy days.

It was indeed a great honour to all of us, old and young, to be present at the marriage of Ursula Stubbings, the youngest member of our staff, who for five years showered happiness upon all with whom she came in contact at St. John's.

N.B.

The Birthday Present.

It is my birthday to-day and oh! I am so excited because Daddy said that I could ask for what I liked best in the shop window. There were elephants, dogs and doll's houses, and big dollies and everything you could think of, but I didn't want anything so my father said, "Would you like a puppy because it can grow up and stay with you always?" and I said that it would be better than anything and Daddy was glad.

JOAN TAYLOR, age 7 years (I.a).

School News.

From the Diary kept by L. Bennett.

THE prefects of 1933 are H. Chennells, I. Rhind (also Head Girl), E. Dorning, M. Bellew and J. Forder.

The results of the examinations held in 1932 are as follows—

Six girls entered for the Matriculation, of whom four gained a II. class, and two a III. class. Fourteen entered for the Junior Certificate. Of these, B. Wood gained a I. class, four passed II. class and six passed III. class.

The yearly Confirmation was held in St. John's Chapel in 1932, and it was a great pleasure to welcome the Bishop and Mrs. Fisher on this occasion. The candidates from St. Lucy's and St. Cross came out and joined our own. Tea was served in the library after the service, and the Bishop had a rousing send-off when he left, having been received, with rather more ceremony, by a guard of honour which extended from the front gate to the porch.

Large parties from the school went to see the film, "Wanderlust," and later, to see "Ben Hur." From time to time Father Alston has entertained us with his bioscope in the Hall, with Gaynor Arbuthnot, Valerie Dyer, Muriel Dorning and Peggy Hamlyn as his trusty assistants.

Form VI.b gave their annual plays on September 17th, when they produced "The Bishop's Candlesticks," and "Five Birds in a Cage." They were able to swell the funds of their reference library by £4, an excellent result.

The "K.M." effort last year extended over two days. On the evening of October 14th a dramatic entertainment was held in the school, which took somewhat the form of a *café chantant*. Small tables were arranged down the centre of the Hall, and during the interval tea, coffee and ices were served by a very nimble band of waitresses specially attired for the part. Two amusing dialogues were excellently produced by Miss Stubbings (now Mrs. Dyson) and Miss Mary White, while Miss Coulthard and Miss Stubbings gave their assistance in a very good production of "The Man in the Bowler Hat." Ena Wells sang, some recitations were given, and a very attractive dance was done by P. McCalman and I. Asbury.

The sale of work took place the next day in the Hall, with a very satisfactory result.

Dr. Anning, the Medical Officer of Health, visited the school at the outset of his vigorous anti-malaria campaign, and acquainted us with all the evil of the *anopheles costalis*, stirring us all, small and great, to a firm resolve to obliterate sunlit rain-water pools with all our might and main through the summer months.

The usual dormitory festivals, St. Joseph's, St. Anne's, St. Mary's, and St. Margaret's, and the "Exam." picnic, the latter conducted by Sister Olive and Miss Livingstone, passed off without any hitch at their accustomed dates, and were much enjoyed.

Early in November, Miss E. Payne-Smith, for so many years a most kind supporter at our K.M. Sale, came and spoke to the Upper School and gave a description of the beginnings of her educational work amongst the Indians in Natal, and an account of its development up to the present. This was interspersed with much of Miss Payne-Smith's characteristic humour, and afforded much interest.

One of the illustrations of this number shows a jolly scene during the delightful picnic organised for the 1st and 2nd hockey elevens, to Howick Falls, in honour of the Hockey Cup, which they have proudly retained in its appointed place in the Hall!

Two rondavels have been built beyond the fourth tennis court, and give a picturesque touch amongst the trees Sister Mabel planted there, and which have been growing so rapidly of late. The rondavels are designed for the use of the Chaplain when he visits the school, and for any priests who may find it possible to come for an occasional rest and change, or to help at certain seasons with the chapel services.

Father Alston took a series of photographs of the school, 18 in all, showing many aspects of the buildings, both exterior and interior—even to breakfast in the dining room! They proved to be most beautiful and made an opportune appearance, just in time to serve as Christmas presents, with the result that they were eagerly bought up by the girls.

Debating Society Notes.

THE Debating Society has flourished for another successful year under the presidency of Miss Bertram. Many thanks are due to Miss Livingstone, the vice-president, for the keen interest she has displayed in all the Society's doings.

Although many speeches still seem to be delivered with an effort, especially at hat debates, there has been a great improvement. One of the most interesting debates was held on the subject "That multiplicity of films causes a degeneration of character."

During November Form VI.a attended a representation of the proceedings of the League of Nations, at Epworth. This they thoroughly enjoyed, and found most suggestive.

Library Notes.

WE offer our thanks to Father Alston for three books, *The Debt We Owe to Greece and Rome*, and two large illustrated volumes on *Art in the Middle Ages*.

We are very grateful to Miss Livingstone, who has continued her gift of "Punch" to the Library again this year. We also wish to thank Miss Friend for putting some interesting Australian magazines on the Library table, and we must offer our special thanks for gifts of books received from Margaret Robinson, Mary West, and Edith Fairbrother, also from Mr. Fairbrother, and from Mrs. Sneddon, of Dannhauser.

We are subscribing this year to the *Geographical Magazine*, of which we have indexes bound for the years 1929—1932, and to "Pictorial Education."

We hope that friends will occasionally think of presenting the Library with a book or two in future, now that the "depression" seems to have lifted a little.

The money brought in by the subscriptions is not sufficient to keep the Library well supplied, as worn out books are constantly being thrown away, so the librarians have proposed that the subscriptions should be raised to four shillings a year instead of the present two.

P. FORDER,	} <i>Librarians.</i>
D. LAIRD,	
E. MURRAY,	
M. ROBINSON	

A HUNGRY editor on the prowl for news of Old Girls elicited the following characteristic communication.

Dear Sister,

This is not to acclaim any dizzy flights of fame or adventure or to say that I have discovered a cure for yawning, but rather to tell you that I am still at home and really cannot think of anything interesting enough or at all worthy of recording about myself for the magazine; so perhaps I had better remain a Blank of the Blanks for the time being. I am sorry it is such a fearful state of affairs.

Ours is a work-a-day world of fruit at present and we shall be almost relieved when it draws to a close!

I shall close on the note of wishing the Magazine every success, which it richly deserves.

Forgive me, please, this unutterable epistle.

Yours as always,

J--N M-R--S.

St. John's Old Girls' Association.

ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Association has now completed its second year and has a life membership of five and ordinary membership of 93.

The General Meeting was held on May 8, in the School Library. There were 27 members present. We were honoured by the presence of the Rev. Mother (better known to many of us as Sister Mary Ancilla). She kindly consented to preside at this meeting, and we were very pleased to welcome her to this, her first meeting of the Association.

After a lengthy discussion on the design of the blazer badge and the merits of machine and hand-made ones, it was decided that hand-made badges were preferable, and the committee were directed to make suitable arrangements for the purchase of, and rules regarding, them. As a result of this the badges are being made by Miss Goodricke, Durban, orders being given through the Secretary. There have been 13 ordered and dispatched during the year.

The annual dance was held, as previously, the night before the General Meeting. The sparkling gaiety of the guests amply repaid the committee for the splendid work they had done to make the dance such a success.

We wish to thank sister Elspeth for all the kindness she showed us during her period of office as President of the Association. Sister Constance is now our President. We welcome her and hope that her stay will be a long one.

It is rather depressing to report that so few members were able to avail themselves of the kind invitation of I. Hodges to visit her home. We hope that future invitations will meet with better support from Old Girls.

In November a very happy social evening was spent at the School by the members, and the probable future members, of the Association. Charades were acted by both sides and caused much merriment.

For the first time the Old Girls' Association had a stall at the K. M. Sale, which contributed about £8 to the funds. We are very grateful for all the donations which helped us to collect this amount.

The Bursary Fund, of which we had great hopes, has not made much progress during the year, but we hope that this fund will now increase and not be damped by the old timer, "depression."

At the end of December, 1932, the Association had £32 17s. 1d. in the City Permanent Building Society, and £2 15s. 7d. cash in hand. In this amount at the Building Society is included the five life memberships.

The following joined the Association in 1932 :—

J. Abrahamson, J. Giles, M. Buckley, B. Drummond, P. Burkimsher, M. Gilson, J. Grieveson, D. Goodricke (Mrs. Dykes), J. Harcourt, M. Jones, D. Kennan, M. Kingsley, C. Laird, J. Newberry (Mrs. Moffett), E. Orr, E. Palmer, E. Raw, E. Sandmann, A. Thorpe, R. Walshaw, D. Herbert, P. Marshall, Mrs. Blewett.

E. McDougall,
M. I. Simkins.

All members are asked please to notify the Secretary, M. I. Simkins, 358 Longmarket Street, Maritzburg, of any change of name or address, otherwise it is very hard for her to keep in touch with them.

News of Old Girls.

M. GILSON has returned to her home after having nursed her mother through a very long illness. We offer our deep sympathy to both herself and Mr. Gilson in their sad loss. Mrs. Thompson (Rhoda Davies) has been much in our thoughts since we heard of the death of her husband. They had been married only three months and her loss is inexpressibly sad. She has our very deep sympathy.

R.I.P.—Prudence Tucker, who passed away just a few months after her marriage.

Marriages.—Olwen Aubrey to Mr. Stiles; B. Duncan to Mr. Wilson; E. Allanson to Mr. Descoins; J. Newberry to Mr. Moffett; N. Meanwell to Mr. Wheeler; D. Goodricke to Mr. Dykes; J. Oxley Oxland to Mr. Lidgett; E. Higginson to Mr. Banks; N. van der Riet to Mr. Elliott; E. Newberry to Mr. Vellacott.

E. Campbell has fixed the date of her wedding for early in June.

Engagements.—J. Hime to Mr. Bell; M. Howells to Mr. Davidson; K. Lea to Mr. Armitage; S. Watson to Mr. Silburn; A. Boyd to Mr. Court; Roma Trebble to Mr. Meumann.

It has been a great pleasure to receive visits from Old Girls during the past year. Among those who have been here were :—

K. Cherry, now Mrs. Walker, who came with her husband and her little boy; P. Burkimsher; B. Deeks; I. Dyer; L. Hope; M. Lyne; E. Palmer (now back in England); Margaret Robinson; R. Walshaw; E. Jackson; G. Talbot; I. Hodges; E. Orr; Ruth Royston (Treble) and her husband; B. Drummond; C. and M. Jones; J. Abrahamson; J. Rowley; L. Thompson; E. and D. Raw; O. Stiles (Aubrey) and her husband; C. Laird; S. Salmond; Mrs. Collier (Golbourne); J. Hime, J. Harcourt; J. Martin; S. Watson; D. and M. Oxland; O. Stokes; Peggy Source.

- ARNOLD, B.—Teaching; has been transferred to Inchanga.
- ALDER, M.—Will shortly be sailing for England, where she will continue her studies.
- ADDISON,—Dorothy and Betty are now living in Salisbury.
- BENNETT, L.—At the Technical College in Durban. She had been exchanging visits with B. Moxham, and both have thoroughly enjoyed themselves.
- BERRY, P.—Hard at work at the Business College, Durban, where there is quite a little nucleus of St. John's Old Girls.
- BAIN, D.—Has recently visited Durban, where she saw R. Padday, now Mrs. Jones, and I Shaw. We are hoping to have a visit from Dolina soon.
- BUCKLEY, M.—At present at S. Cuthbert's M.S., Tsolo, having completed her domestic science course at the Cape.
- CLARK, J.—Taking her degree at N.U.C.
- DREWE, J.—Now taking her degree at the Cape, after a holiday in England.
- CHAPMAN, D.—Has been doing very well in her business training, and manages to get in a good deal of golf by dint of early rising! Dennie and Shirley were both successful in gaining the Continuation Certificate at the end of last year.
- DALGARNO, E.—Is nursing at Grey's.
- DAVIS, A.—We had the pleasure of seeing Alison at the K.M. Sale. Audrey is teaching at Hilton Road and supporting the local Hockey Club with enthusiasm.
- DAVIS, MARY, has written interesting news of her doings at her new school in Potchefstroom, where she has already distinguished herself in hockey and tennis.
- DAVIDSON, J.—Working very hard at her school of elocution, which has been developing in several directions of late.
- DRUMMOND, B.—At the Training College in Maritzburg.
- ELLIOTT, J., hopes soon to begin her training at Grey's.
- FRYER, B. (ABBOTT), has a baby daughter, Betty—E. Campbell's god-daughter.
- FOXON, M.—Living at home and taking a domestic science course at the Collegiate.
- EDMONDS, G.—Now at the Business College, Durban.
- FERRAR.—Mary is now a prefect at Roedean; and Isabelle is keeping splendidly fit, we are glad to say.
- MCGILLIVRAY, P., undertook a considerable amount of responsible work at Holy Cross Mission during Mrs. Drewe's furlough.
- GILES J.—Taking a training in massage, etc., at Guy's.
- MOGGRIDGE, J. (GILLATT).—Has a bonny little son.

HARMAN, R.—Living at home, and writes most interestingly of her doings.

HAMILTON, B.—Has taken up singing in addition to her music teaching.

HERBERT, D.—Hopes to spend her leave on the North Coast. Has had the thrill of an unexpected "flip" in an aeroplane. Has been seeing quite a lot, recently, of the Hamiltons.

HOLEY, B.—Holds a post as House Mistress at St. Anne's, and *nearly* came to see us the other day—but didn't quite!

HAMLIN, B.—At home at present, and very busy with her studies.

HUDSON, E. (DOWN).—Has a baby daughter.

HOUGHTON, M.—On the staff of St. Michael's, Bloemfontein. Margaret received a warm welcome on her first visit here, after arriving from England.

HOUGHTON, I.—Has begun her training at the University College Hospital, in London; we are glad to know that she is in much better health now than when she began there.

MYRTLE KINGSLEY (D. BROCKLEBANK), is living in Durban at present, engaged in theatrical work.

HOLLEY, P.—Hopes soon to begin a course at the Art School, Durban.

KENNAN, D.—Is now nursing at the Lady Buxton Home, at Capetown.

I'ONS, M.—Has recently qualified as an art mistress and is governing at Wartburg.

HUXTABLE, T. (LAWRENCE).—Has found time, recently, to write and give news of herself and the little girls, which we were very delighted to receive.

LLOYD.—Both Gwynn and Mary are living in Durban. The latter is attending classes at the Business College.

LAWRENCE, M.—Is now a house mistress at St. John's, and gives us most efficient help with the little ones in St. Joseph's.

MARSHALL, P., now Mrs. Blewett, visited us with her three little sons.

MOXHAM, B.—Paid us a visit on her way to Johannesburg. From there she is hoping to go on a motor tour to the Cape Province and to the Peninsula.

MAYDEW, G.—We hear from Gloria from time to time; she is kept very busy at her post, and with many and varied outside interests.

MILNE, B.—Living at home.

MUNRO, D.—Has taken over the greater part of the housekeeping in her home, as her mother has not been strong lately.

MOULTRIE, A.—Received a visit from Sister Mabel, recently, who was able to give us a first-hand account of all Anne's doings.

MARTIN, A.—Has a post at the Dargle; we are hoping she will soon be quite herself again, as she has not been very fit at the beginning of the year.

NEL, B.—Is still engaged in studying music at the Cape. She and Juliana have doubtless met by this time and had many notes to exchange!

PAVEY, V.—Back at work at the Schools' Clinic in town, after a very refreshing holiday in England. She met Mary Lewis on one occasion. Gives news of Violet's (Mrs. Mattinson) bonny little son, David.

PAYN, E.—Has completed her training and holds a post at the Junior School in Newcastle. This appointment made it impossible for her to be a bridesmaid at Nina's wedding, alas, as the dates clashed.

ROBINSON, M.—Has recently visited us and given a parcel of books to the Library, for which we are grateful.

STRACHAN, L.—Came and said good-bye when passing through on her way to the Witwatersrand University, where we wish her every success.

RAWLINSON, R.—Has been travelling quite extensively in the Union lately as she has the post of secretary to the wife of the Agent-General for India.

ROHDE, J. (ROSS).—Living at Wessel's Nek. She has a little son.

RYLETT, P.—Will be sailing shortly for England, where she will train for secretarial work.

SALMOND, J.—Has written much interesting news recently, of which the most important item was that Stella had gained a First Class in the Matriculation, and was coming to N.U.C. to take her degree.

STRACHAN, L.—Has entered Witwatersrand University.

STUART.—Jessie and Doreen are both at home; they came up in December to fetch Gladys and Aileen, and it was a great pleasure to see them again.

TREBBLE.—Joan is at home at present.

STOKES.—Olive had been having a change at the coast when last we heard; Eileen is kept very busy at home.

TALBOT, G.—Is living at home and has a business post in town.

WESTBROOK, I.—Has a post as a governess at Highflats, and is very happy in her work.

VAN RENEN.—It has been most interesting to hear of the experiences Audrey and Esmée have had at Upington; Audrey still holds her post in the Bank, and Esmée is contemplating taking up nursing. We hope she will come to Grey's.

WESTWOOD, D. (POTTER).—Has three bonny children and will soon be leaving Eland's Kop and settling at Byrne.

WILSON, A.—Is at home at present, and teaches her little sister; we had the pleasure of a visit from her, recently.

Autumn.

KEATS has been my favourite poet ever since I read his ode "To Autumn," which is typical of the rich colourfulness of all his poems. He proved his genius by choosing to write on subjects suited to his love of beauty. There is magic in such lines as

"Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind,
Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,
Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
Spare the next swathe and all its twined flowers;
. . . While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day."

and everyone who has thrilled in response to them must admit that autumn is the most glorious season of the year.

The wonderful days of autumn are perfectly described by Chesterton as "blue and silver" (in "A Piece of Chalk," from "Tremendous Trifles.'). The sky is blue, patterned by the silver whiteness of the clouds; while the tender blueness of the distant hills is enhanced by that soft haze seen only in autumn. Sounds carry far; and the whirr of a mowing-machine in the hayfields by day, or the murmur of the far-off river by night, bring a feeling of restful peace, which is heightened by the humming of countless bees among the flowers.

The vivid brilliance of autumn flowers is almost dazzling. Dahlias—crimson, yellow, richly purple—riot with gay asters and chrysanthemums; while Michaelmas daisies and blue salvias sway among the stiffly bright zinnias. The triumphant colours of the flowers are caught up by the trees—the yellow-brown plane-tree, the copper beech, the scarlet-berried hawthorn—all combining to give nature a mellow loveliness unequalled in other seasons.

In spite of this loveliness, however, there is an indefinable sadness about autumn, as illusive as its misty haze. The cooing of doves in the quiet of tall trees is sad; not consciously, perhaps, but throbbing as a plaintive chord in the joyfulness of autumn. Similarly, to me there is a faint sadness about a cricket field in autumn, when the shadows of the men in white lengthen on the yellowing grass . . .

JOSEPHINE HARCOURT.

Sports Notes.

SCHOOL Sports Committee : L. Strachan, J. Forder, E. Murray,
M. Dorning, R. Boyd, M. Blackler.

The Inter-House Games Cup was won by Athlone.

The Senior Inter-Form Drill Cup was won by V.a.

The Junior Inter-Form Drill Cup was won by III.

The Senior Sports Cup was won by Form VI.

The Junior Sports Cup was won by Form IV.b.

J. Boyd (VI.b) won the Senior Tennis Singles Cup.

M. Aubrey (IV.b) won the Junior Tennis Singles Cup.

HOCKEY.

1ST XI. LEAGUE MATCHES.

St. John's v. Convent, home, won 3-0.

v. G.H.S., away, won 2-0.

v. Epworth, home, won 6-2.

v. Wykeham, away, won 4-3.

v. G.C.S., away, drew 2-2.

v. St. Anne's, home, won 2-1.

Goals scored by 1st XI., 19. Goals scored against 1st XI., 8.

Final position in the League : 1st.

2ND XI. LEAGUE MATCHES.

St. John's v. Longmarket Street, home, won 3-0.

v. G.H.S., away, lost 0-1.

v. Epworth, home, won 3-0.

v. Convent, home, won 7-1.

v. Berg Street, home, won 5-0.

v. Wykeham, away, lost 0-2.

v. G.C.S., away, won 4-0.

v. St. Anne's, home, won 3-0.

Goals scored by 2nd XI. : 25. Goals scored against 2nd XI. : 4.

Final position in League : 2nd.

The 1st XI. are to be congratulated on again winning the Hockey Cup, especially as two members left at the end of the first quarter. The "daily dozen" round the hockey field of the whole school has done a great deal to keep everybody in training, and although they were coached by two gym. mistresses, whose methods were bound to be different, their keenness never flagged. The final match against St. Anne's was very exciting, both players and the on-lookers being keyed up to fever pitch.

J. Moor (L.W.).—A good, fast wing; must make opportunities for shooting.

M. Robinson (L.I.).—Works hard; must learn to control herself as well as the ball.

J. Forder (C.F.).—Plays a hard game, but must try and keep her place better; follows up her shots well in the circle.

G. Edmonds (R.I.).—Plays a neat passing game; must follow up her shots in the circle.

J. Glasse (R.W.).—A useful, reliable wing; must make opportunities for shooting.

V. Jones (L.H.).—Plays a hard game; must learn to tackle without fouling.

H. Chennells (C.H.).—Improved very much towards the end of the season.

M. Dorning (R.H.).—Will make quite a useful half with experience.

B. Moxham (L.B.).—A good, reliable back.

J. Boyd (R.B.).—Must learn to tackle more quickly; improved towards the end of the season.

L. Strachan (G.).—Has always been thoroughly reliable, and at times has been a "brick wall." An excellent captain.

2nd XI.—L.W., N. Buckley; L.I., P. Wright; C., L. Bennett; R.I., E. Murray; R.W., G. Adnams; L.H., P. Forder; C.H., M. Foxon; R.H., D. Laird; L.B., G. Stuart; R.B., R. Boyd; G., J. Trebble (capt.).

The Hockey Carnival took place on a very hot, dusty afternoon. 1st XI. were beaten by Hilton Road in the first round. The 2nd XI., after beating G.C.S., lost to Brooklyn "A" in the 2nd Round.

TENNIS.

LEAGUE TENNIS MATCHES.

- St. John's 1st VI. v. St. Anne's, away, lost 48-69.
v. Collegiate, home, won 69-48.
v. Wykeham, away, lost 46-71.
v. Convent, home, won 89-28.
v. Epworth, away, won 60-57.
v. G.H.S., home, won 64-53.

Final position in the League; 2nd with two other schools.

B. Moxham has made an excellent captain, and improved her game through sheer hard work.

L. Strachan.—Usually a reliable member of the team; must improve her net work.

J. Boyd.—A good player.

R. Boyd.—Will be a useful member of the team when she has had more experience.

E. Murray.—Has some very good strokes, but at present is far too erratic in her service.

J. Forder.—Has a good service; must get more swing into her backhand.

This is the first time St. John's has reached the 2nd place in the League. The team have practised hard, and, with the help of Mr. Upton, have improved their tennis all round. Team pockets have been won this season, not just presented.

2nd VI.: J. Trebble, J. Glasse, H. Chennells, J. Moor, M. Foxon, E. Dorning.

Under 15 VI.: R. Boyd, G. Arbuthnot, M. Dorning, H. Bourhill, J. Evans, M. Aubrey.

The tennis of the whole school should improve now that we are able to play games every afternoon from 3 to 6 o'clock.

GAMES COMPETITION.

The forms competed in a Games Competition on November 30th, ball games, bean bag games, stepping stones and circular jump being among the excitements. It was all brought to a grand finale by a very thrilling team race. Form V.a were the winners in the Senior Division. Form III. came top of the Junior Division.

Each form chose its own team of eight, and arranged practice times in odd moments.

SPORTS DAY.

Oh, listen all who love to hear
Of feats of strength and might,
And I will tell of what befell
Upon a May day bright.

That morning was a Day of Sports,
On which all forms contend
To win all races that are run,
And triumph at the end.

So all the teams assembled there
Were looking trim and neat,
Prepared in battle for their forms
To run on wingèd feet.

In fluttering colours floating free
The form-flags flew on high,
A cheering and inspiring sight
To spur to do or die.

And all the girls assembled there
Rosettes of ribbon wore,
The same in colour as their flags,
Of colours half a score.

The sports began with relay race,
And when the race began,
Was heard a loud and frenzied shout
From watchers, as they ran.

Then V.b won that great event,
And so the day begun
Went on through every kind of race
Until they all were done.

The sack-race and potato-race,
The thread-the-needle, too,
Were run, and each form did its best
To do what it could do.

The obstacle caused shouts of mirth,
As all the racers tried
To reach the goal before the rest
When they had got inside.

Some queerly mingled lots of clothes,
Pyjamas, shirt, and shoe,
And hampered, tried to run as well
As they were used to do.

The junior forms to eat the bun
A-swinging in the air,
Did try, and were a funny sight
As they were well aware.

Another fav'rite race that day,
It was the three-legg'd race,
And though one might not think they could,
They ran at a fast pace.

The junior cup at length was won
By IV.b, full of glee,
And gleaming in the summer sun
'Twas borne that all might see.

And Sixth Form gained the Senior Cup,
And they were glad and gay.
They vow'd with spirits rising up
They'd ne'er forget the day.

So all enjoyed that merry day
And all resolved, 'tis told,
Next time they would excel the deeds
Of heroes brave of old.

MIGNONNE PASCOE.

SPORTS DAY, MAY 5th.

Senior Events—

50 Yards.—J. Glasse (VI.b).
200 Yards.—J. Glasse (VI.b).
Sack Race.—E. Murray (V.a).
Thread-the-Needle.—I. Westbrook and J. Glasse (VI.b).
Obstacle.—J. Forder (VI.b).
Three-legged.—I. Westbrook and J. Glasse (VI.b).
Potato.—J. Glasse (VI.b).
Relay.—V.b.

Junior Events—

75 Yards.—M. Aubrey (IV.b).
Sack.—M. Blackler (IV.b).
Egg and Spoon.—M. Leach (I.).
Kangaroo.—M. Blackler (IV.b).
Obstacle.—M. Aubrey (IV.b).
Thread-the-Needle.—N. Blackler and S. Carter (II).
Bun.—E. Piers (IV.b).
Potato.—M. Blackler (IV.b).
Relay.—IV.b.

The Sports Day Fund has been most useful for providing us with four teniquoit courts, and non-slipping material on the bottom of the jumping mat.

SWIMMING.

The swimming bath is a great joy to the "walk" people on hot afternoons, if we can judge by the noise from that part of the grounds. At the end of this year we hope to have certificates for three grades of swimming tests. J. Forder, M. Robinson, J. Adnams, and J. Boyd swam in the relay team, H. Rawlins and S. Hewlitt entered for the junior diving, and J. Adnams and M. Nichol entered for other races in the swimming gala held on March 31st.

AN APPEAL.

We are badly in need of another new tennis court. This seems a good opportunity of asking the Old Girls to help us in 1933 in collecting funds for this good cause, either by a small individual subscription sent direct to me, or by raising funds by means of tennis tournaments or bridge drives among their friends.

V. FRIEND.

A Visit to the Kruger National Park.

The Kruger National Park! To me it sounded like some fabulous name far away in some unattainable place. I was naturally most curious to visit this Park, and was delighted when I heard that my curiosity was at last to be satisfied.

We left Pretoria by train, and next morning we arrived at the station we were to get off at, Nelspruit. We were met there by our guide, and, after depositing a few of our belongings, we set off on a two-days' trip to the Game Reserve. All the 30 miles we went before reaching the Reserve we wondered what sort of animals we should see, and what sort of country it all was. During the whole journey we could not make up our minds whether we should really see lions roaming unhindered about the country.

After our guns had been sealed at the gates we proceeded on our way. We were told to keep a careful outlook for animals of every description. Before five minutes had elapsed we began to see animals, mainly steenbokke and wildebeeste. At first they looked like stones, and it was a long time before we were able to distinguish them amongst the stunted bushveld. We had hardly been in the Reserve ten minutes when we were stopped and told we should see lions about 14 miles further on. My heart began to beat faster, and I began to wonder whether I should really like to encounter a lion now that the opportunity had arisen.

On the way to the lions, we stopped for a little while at the first hippo, and saw those cumbrous animals wallowing in the water and mud. The whole time we kept a sharp look-out for any indication of the presence of lions. At last, at the exact spot where we had been told, we saw a vulture flying round, and stopped to see if we could see anything. In about two minutes we saw a lioness in the dim distance. I began to think then that it was about time to move on, but our guide was not of the same opinion. Gradually the lioness moved away and made for the carcass of the wildebeeste she and her mates had killed. When at last she reached it she began to pull it away, most likely for her cubs, which were safely concealed. As she came nearer I began to think I liked her less. When she was within 30 yards of us, she seized her prey and made off with it. From this marvellous sight we set off for the Sabi Rest Camp, to make quite sure we had everything for the night. Fortune favoured us, as we managed to obtain the last available tents and mattresses.

As soon as we had settled everything there we set out again in another direction. This drive was by far the prettiest sight of all. The sun was beginning to set, and the road, which was near the Sabi River, was literally alive with animals, all going to drink. There

were hundreds of graceful, fleet impala, which did not seem in the least perturbed by our presence. All the way we kept a careful look-out for lions, but we were unlucky, and did not see any.

We returned to the Rest Camp at about 6 o'clock that evening, as no one is allowed out, under any pretext, between sunset and sunrise. At the camp we cooked our meal on the fires provided in the open, and after supper we all sat round the fires, and talked to everybody about our experiences. We neither knew to whom we were talking, nor what they looked like, but all that added to the fun.

When we did at length retire to bed, we thought we should lie awake, and listen to all the animals calling their mates. I soon decided, however, that the best policy would be to go to sleep, as my imagination was very active and would have been more so had I heard a lion roaring, especially as the only fence round the camp was one of frail reeds, and a lion might gain entrance at whatever point it pleased.

I was thankful to find when I awoke that it was daylight once again. We were astir early, as we wanted to make the most of our short visit. When the gates were opened at sunrise we were ready to set out again. That day we followed a different route, which made almost a circle. For the most part of the day we went along the road called Jock of the Bushveld Road, because it was that road that Sir Percy Fitzpatrick described in his famous book.

In this part of the country we were told to keep a sharp look-out for giraffes, and, of course, not to forget that lions roamed there. For a long time the only life we saw was impala, wildebeeste, zebras, monkeys, and, now and again, koodoo and sable. As we were going slowly along we passed the train line, and, looking up it, we saw another lion trotting up like a large dog. Soon after that another desire was fulfilled. There was a rustle on the road-side, and suddenly a tall, graceful animal appeared before our car, and moved quite unperturbed across the road and gazed at us from the other side. I never before realised that a giraffe was such a graceful animal. The specimens in the zoo are nothing in comparison to those in their natural state. It was a long time before we could tear ourselves away from the sight. We had hardly gone another three miles when we came across a whole herd of them with their calves. This, too, was a sight which can never be forgotten.

The whole of that day we saw animals. Hardly five minutes elapsed during which we did not see some kind of game. They all looked so unperturbed, and only began to get worried when we stopped the engine. The animals all looked in excellent condition and beautifully groomed. The whole time we hoped to see more lions, but in vain. Late in the afternoon we left the Reserve, after a very enjoyable trip, and decided that it would not be long before we should pay another visit to it.

L. STRACHAN (VI.a).

St. John's Hockey Team.

(With Apologies to A. A. Milne.)

St. John's had a hockey team with great big stripes on;
It went round Maritzburg and knocked it out of bed.
On Wednesday and Saturday, but mostly on the latter day,
It called at all the colleges and this is what it said :

“ We are St. John's ! ” (ting-ling),

“ We are St. John's ! ” (rat-tat).

“ We are St. John's with wills made of iron—

“ Take that !—and that !—and that ! ”

The team had some shoes with fleet crepe soles on,
Running shoes of which it was particularly fond.
On Tuesdays and Friday, just to make themselves look tidy,
They'd collect all their gym-frocks and scrub them by the pond.

“ We are St. John's ! ” (Sper-lash.)

“ We are St. John's ! ” (Sper-losh.)

“ We are St. John's, with wills made of iron—

Are there any more gyms for the wash ? ”

The team woke one morning and it couldn't find its hockey stick;
It walked into a college in its second pair of shoes.
It had played for twenty minutes, but the field was full of grasses,
And the enemy surrounded it with ironical boos.

“ You are St. John's ? Indeed !

“ You are St. John's ? Dear, dear !

“ You St. John's, with wills made of iron—

“ Delighted to meet you here ! ”

The team struggled home again, carrying the maimed,
It ran “ round ” twice a day in spite of tempting bed.
It chased the hockey ball without getting stitches,
And it pushed it right merrily and this is what it said :

“ We are St. John's ! ” (Bang-bang.)

“ We are St. John's ! ” (Rat-tat.)

“ We are St. John's with wills made of iron—

“ Take that !—and that !—and that ! ”

The team donned its gyms with bright yellow stripes on,
And it ran on to the field in its fleet running shoes.
And it ran and it ran and shot some goals right well,
And this is what the school said as it jumped like kangaroos :

“ We are St. John's ! ” (Ting-ling.)

“ We are St. John's ! ” (Rat-tat.)

“ We are St. John's and we've won the cup.

“ Three cheers for the team ! Hooray ! ”

M. L. ALDER (VI.a).

The Gods on Pleasure Bent.

Come, let us sit on the moon's yellow horn,
Corn-yellow horn where the edge has been torn,
Let's catch the stars as they pass by,
Hurl them a-down from there on high,
Pelt the old earth with a hail of stars
Till she be angry and red as Mars.

Let's hang a mantle that shuts out all light,
Over the face of the sun to-night;
Worried he'll be when he wakes at morn,
Finds that his face has brought no dawn,
Wildly he'll struggle as though a caged beast,
Till from the darkness at last he's released.

Let's paint the sky with a colour that's new,
It must be so tired of being just blue,
Try a new colour that's never been made,
A mixture of brightness, a mixture of shade,
A colour that's never, yet always, the same,
A colour so lovely it can't have a name.

Come, let's do something that's never been done,
Make a new earth, or play ball with the sun,
Kick all the glimmering stars into space,
Beat all the winds in a furious race,
Change true things to false and false into true,
Come, let's do something deliriously new!

M. PASCOE. (VI.b).

The Prize-Giving.

OUR Prize-giving took place in the School Hall on Wednesday, December 14th, at 11 a.m. Only the Reverend Mother, the Sisters, Staff and girls were present.

The Reverend Mother, with her usual gracious interest in the doings of St. John's, presented the trophies, which were as follows:...

Form VI.a, good work—Rose Bowl.

Form VI.a, good order—Keats.

Form VI.b, good work—Rose Bowl.

Form VI.b, good order—"South with Scott."

Form V.a, good order—"Epic of Mount Everest."

Form IV.a, good work—"Book of Epic Heroes."

Form II.a, good work—"World's Best Stories."

Form I.a, good work—"Kipling Animal Stories."

Form I.a, good order—"Josephine and Her Dolls."

Special Prize presented by Messrs. Shuter & Shooter given to I. Rhind (VI.b) for Honours in Examination in every subject except English Literature: "Outline of Art."

Junior Singles Tennis Cup, won by M. Aubrey, who beat P. Burgess in the finals, 6-0.

Shakespeare in V.a.

- J--n -dn-ms*—"With lusty sinews throwing it aside,
"You come most carefully upon your hour."
P-tr-c-- C-nd-ll—"So crammed as he thinks with excellencies."
Gw-n -dm-nds—"Some have greatness thrust upon them."
"I am sure no man hath any quarrel to me."
M-n-c- F-x-n—"Are you a comedian?"
"The youngest wren of nine."
B-tty H-mlyn—"Thou hast a goodly head of hair."
"Thou should'st attempt it."
P-ggy F-rd-r—"I'll be revenged on the whole pack of you."
C-c-ly H-rm-n—"Thou hast a lean and hungry look."
D-phn- L-rd—"Peace ho! The Caesar speaks."
"I will proclaim my name about the field."
Br-dg-t N-rt-n—"Hath no tongue to vex."
-l-z-b-th M-rr-y—"A mellifluous voice."
M--—"Let thy tongue tang arguments of state."
"Thy life hath had some smatch of honour in it."
Gl-dys St-rt—"Thou art a scholar."
M-lly T-lb-t—"She's as tall as a man as any's in Myria."
B-tty W--d—"Would he were fatter."
"What is the opinion of Pythagoras?"
J. ADNAMS,
B. WOOD (V.a).
-

Bed-time.

Good little John knelt by his bed,
He closed his eyes and lowered his head,
He clasped his hands in a way so sweet,
And then he crossed his tiny feet.

"God bless mummy—oh! what comes next?
"If I don't remember Nurse will be so vexed;
"Oh, now I remember—it's God bless Dad,
"And please make me a much better lad."

Little John rose and got into his bed,
And on the pillow he laid his small head.
And when Nurse came in to kiss him good-night,
He said—just before she put off the light—

"I've said good-night to my Teddy Bear,
I've read him a story and brushed his hair."
And then little John closed his tired eyes,
And went into Dreamland until time to rise.

R. CHENNELLS (V.b).

En Route in America.

One of the most interesting experiences that Mummy and Daddy told us about was the trip from New York to Cleveland. They left New York at 10.30 a.m. for Cleveland, travelling on the Greyhound busses, which are most comfortable, they have adjustable seats and one can quite easily and comfortably have a sleep. They carry 175 gallons of petrol, which the Americans call gas, they have cement floors so the busses when travelling fast are able to keep the road, they seat thirty-two people and are heated. They have what they call rest or comfort stops every two and a half hours, here one can get out and stretch one's legs, and have refreshments. At their first stop they ordered tea and sandwiches. Mummy ordered a ham sandwich which was about two inches thick, Daddy thought he would go one better and have a ham and egg sandwich as it was called, it arrived and was fried ham and egg between a bread roll. Daddy did not know how to begin on it. No knives are served. The tea was served up in cups and saucers (the latter are not often given), the cup was about a third of an inch thick, and the handle two-thirds of an inch thick, and weighed about a pound. They then passed through small cities. At Saranton they had a fairly good meal of sausages and mash, served on the counter. The stools they sat on were very high and Mummy had a job to balance herself, she had an unfortunate place for she was opposite the wash up basin, and it was not very appetising to see dirty plates. They changed drivers and started off again at 5 p.m. They arrived into the country and thoroughly enjoyed the peace, from here the country was covered with snow. They drove along the bank of the river and passed some lovely summer houses. The wealthy Americans go into the big towns in winter and out to their country houses for the summer. They passed many places with the sign, "Tourists camping free." Motorists come out from the cities and spend a night or two camping. There are also a lot of wooden huts which are for hire. The next stop was just a one-man wood shack. They passed several maple trees that were being tapped, the trees are only tapped in the spring, the process lasts for about three weeks, the more severe the winter the more sap is got from each tree. Maple syrup to-day is worth about fourteen shillings a gallon. They have what they call sugar camps, where the sap is boiled and made into the syrup and sugar. The drivers were good about telling them the names of towns, rivers and States they passed through, but they pronounce them so funnily that Mummy often had to refer to her map. They arrived at Port Allegany at 11.30 a.m. This was a very small town. They spent the night at the Butler Hotel, a funny old place with creaking stairs and floors, and it was rather weird, but there was a gas fire burning in the room so they were soon in bed and asleep.

They started their journey again at 6.15 a.m. All the passengers that were in the bus had travelled all through the night. At 7.30 a.m. they had a delicious breakfast. They had two rest stops and then arrived at a place called Ashtabulla, where they had lunch.

They ordered pork and gravy, the only thing that seemed worth risking, and it turned out to be cold pork between two slices of bread with a white gravy poured over it. This was served up on a table without a cloth, the plate was so full the gravy overflowed, and the coffee was in mugs. All the places they stopped at are the official bus stops. It turned cold and overcast, so they missed seeing Lake Erie as they passed through the town of Erie, and on to Cleveland which is on the Lake. One thing that interested them very much on their journey were boards called the "Interstate Displays," these had parts of songs or the names of artists, musicians, poets or other great people and their birth month written on them.

They arrived in Cleveland very tired, but had enjoyed the trip very much, and so ended their first experience of 'bus travelling in America.

PHYLLIS WRIGHT (V.b.)

From the Grepon.

Gazing on that vast expanse
Of pinnacles and spires,
Our eyes at leisure wandered o'er
The land of our desires.

North, South, East and West
As far as we could see,
No famous mount, no awful peak
Was indistinct, save three.

One by one they reared their heads,
Till lastly in the West,
The mighty monarch of them all,
Mont Blanc, then turned to rest.

Ten thousand feet beneath us were
Vast fields of glittering white,
Great savage wastes and tranquil lakes.
Minute from that great height.

A misty haze descended o'er
That sea of sombre slopes,
We softly sighed with ecstasy
For our succeeded hopes.

Reluctantly we turned away
To start the long descent.
"One crowded hour of glorious life"
An age to us had meant.

G. EDMONDS. (V.a.)

Lost in the Desert.

Lost. Yes, that is just what Ray Benton was. In the desert, too, to add to his plight.

He was on his way to lay claims for a gold mine which his father, who would have come himself, if he hadn't been ill, had discovered, and he was very anxious to get there soon in case anyone else tried to claim it, which was very possible as there were quite a number of people near the Benton's house, who had heard of the mine, and who all were, like everyone else at that time, gold-mad.

The mark that Ray was looking for which would tell him he was on the right track was a large solitary rock, and as his water was getting finished and as he knew he would find water by the rock, he was very eager to get to the rock soon.

That night he drank only a little water, and gave as much he could spare to his poor camel. The next day to his dismay he noticed a red glow, away in the distance behind him, and he knew that one of those frequent sandstorms was overtaking him.

He rode quickly on hoping against hope to find water soon, for both he and his camel were nearly exhausted. Every now and then he looked round, only to find each time that the storm was drawing nearer. At last he dismounted, covered the camel's head with his coat, and after covering himself as best he could, he lay down beside the camel and waited for the storm to pass. Oh! How the sand stung, and the poor camel moaned from pain and thirst, until, after about half an hour of torture and agony to both man and beast, the storm passed over and they were able to continue their journey. But Ray had given the camel the last drop of water, and they were both nearly exhausted.

Late that evening, when the moon lit up everything like daylight, Ray saw what he had been seeking for—the rock! He urged the camel on and found to his joy that there was plenty of water there. After they had both had a rest and quenched their thirst, Ray guided the camel north from the rock until he reached the river, which he crossed, and then went east until he reached the little town, which contained the officials' office, and laid his claims, and none too soon, for the next afternoon another old gold-mad miner turned up to lay his claims, too late, for the same mine.

The Bentons are now rich, and Ray often thinks of the agony he went through with his faithful camel in the storm.

J. ASBURY (IV.a.).

The Prettiest Silver Birch in the Wood.

She stands alone on the hill-top, a little apart from the other trees, as though she were the fairest princess in the wood.

At dawn she stands like a young child just awakening from a deep sleep. When she shakes out her leaves it is like a child giving its first awakening smile.

After the rain the sun shines through her silver leaves. She then becomes a dainty lady shaking out her beautiful dress.

At sunset she is very still, the red glow reflecting on her shining leaves, she seems to be surveying everything. Her leaves move slightly as if she were pleased and slowly she falls asleep.

In winter, when the moon shines on the hill, she stands out against the sky looking very ghostly and very unlike the pretty tree of summer.

When the first spring leaves come out she looks like a pretty little girl getting ready for her party. A few weeks later she is ready for her party, with her long shining dress on, her pretty little feet showing out under her skirt.

The flowers especially love her. They blossom out best round my little birch tree. When the trees think that nobody is watching they seem to sway as though bowing down before their fair princess.

ETHNE SUTTON (IV.b).

News of Form II.

(Compiled by Themselves.)

In school we are taught lovely things in Nature Study. It is all about the wonderful bees and how they work outside and inside the hive.

We have a beautiful avocado pear growing in the Form Room. It is about a foot long. We also have collected many seedboxes. We hung up an airplant leaf and each of us received a small shoot, which we planted. Some of them are quite large already. Pamela and Sylvia went to a lecture and film on the Malaria Mosquito and saw pictures just like we drew in class.

In Literature we have lovely stories about Greece and many stories about the heroes and their brave deeds. We have many other interesting subjects, too.

Some of our members took an Elocution Examination and some took a Music Examination. Nobody failed.

We played Hockey against a higher form. They were called Hares and we were called Rabbits, but nobody won because nobody got a goal.

In gym we have been taught to climb ropes. We can all get to the top. We do all sorts of things on the bar and we play wonderful ball games.

Spring.

Spring is here, with cool winds blowing;
Between the trees the stream is flowing;
Blossoms white from trees are falling;
Meadows echo with young lambs calling.

In the gardens the flowers bright,
The colours are a wonderful sight,
Blue delphiniums, and soft mauve stocks,
And a double border of bright red phlox.

The garden's full of butterflies,
Amongst the flowers the honey-bird cries,
"Spring is here! Let us rejoice."
The flowers answer, "Rejoice! Rejoice!"
Blooms are out in the hedges white,
All is still in the cool scented night,
Only the voice of the owl is heard—
The good-night call of that wise old bird.

H. BOURHILL (IV.a).

A Conversation Between a Tennis Ball and a Racquet.

A ball was lying under the cool shade of a big tree, and was just dozing off to sleep; for the hot afternoon made him feel very sleepy, when he felt a hard bang on his back.

"Ow!" screamed the ball. "Whatever has happened?"

"It's only me," said the racquet.

"Oh, you," sniffed the ball. "I thought as much."

"Well, it was not my fault," said the racquet in a hurt tone. "Before I knew what was happening I was picked up, and banged on you. I suppose you think I like being banged about on this boiling afternoon."

"Oh, dear, they are going to play tennis. I think they are most inconsiderate," announced the ball. "I——" but before the ball could finish his sentence he was hit over to the other side.

"Be more gentle in future," said the racquet crossly to the ball when they met again. "I got such a blow then I hardly know where I am."

"As if it was my fault," said the ball sulkily.

"Oh, good! They are going inside," cried the racquet delightedly.

"And now I think I shall have forty winks," said the ball as he rolled lazily over on to his side.

"Well, I am going inside now," called the racquet. "It's fearfully bad for my health to stay out now, in case I get damp, you know."

E. LANSDOWN (III.).

INTRODUCING MYSELF.

Please, I am Bickey.

Peggy Forder gave me.

I am very small: but I was much smaller when I first came.
That was on February 25th.

When I arrived—

Sisters said, "*Isn't* he sweet!"

Staff said, "*Isn't* he *sweet*!"

Children said, "*Isn't* he *too* sweet!"

Big girls said, "*Isn't* he *simply* sweet!"

The Father said, "Leave my hat alone, dog!"

St. John's is very big, but there are quite a lot of things to chew,
inside, and some lovely smells outside.

The things I like inside are—

The tails on the Bushbuck skins in the Library.

The balls of wool and knitting in St. Anne's "holes."

The Postman's bag when he puts it down in the hall.

I bite a great deal—in fact my bite is worse than my bark!

I bark at the kitchen cat. One day I mean to bite her; the
kitchen cat is bad, bad, BAD!

[This sentiment should be in quotation marks.—Ed.]

What do you think of the photograph of me and Doreen?
Aren't we SWEET?

We should much like all former members of the Old Girls' Communicants' Guild to possess one of the new cards that have recently been brought out. Sister Constance will very gladly supply one to any member who will apply to her in the matter.

EDITOR'S NOTE.

Received the following magazines in exchange from The Durban Girls' College; St. Anne's D.S.G.; Grahamstown D.S.G.; Frensham; Sidney; Presbyterian Ladies' College, Melbourne; Ascham, Darling Point; Church of England Girls' School, Geelong; St. Michael's Bloemfontein; St. Cyprian's, Capetown; St. Peter's D.S.G., for which we should like to express our thanks.

Form contributions were sent in at the end of the School year, 1932, so we must ask you to note that the contributors are this year in the next form higher than the one under which their names respectively appear.

Please send in your subscription immediately on receipt of your Magazine. Delay in this matter makes it very difficult to pay the printers' bill up to date. The subscription is 3/-.

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