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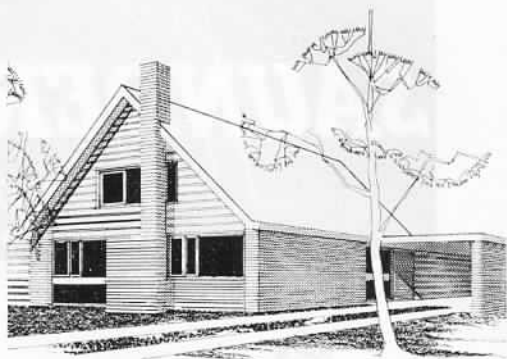


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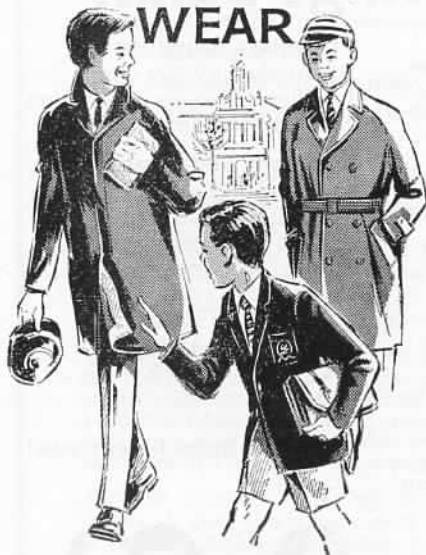
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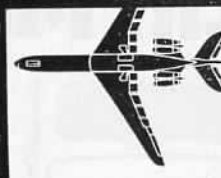
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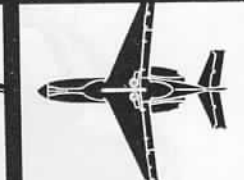
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THE TOWER

The Magazine of the
Northampton Trinity Grammar School

VOL. 2. No. 5.

JULY, 1969

EDITORIAL

THE year of Apollo, the year of Trinity Grammar School's sailing dinghy; Manchester City beat Leicester City for the F.A. Cup, the School beat the Old Boys for the F. C. Wright Trophy; the opening of a half million pound medical centre, the handing over of a £500 respirator.

The events which touch us most closely, those we talk about, think about, that reach us through Assembly, that reach us, are often our local, parochial, back-yard things. But not, therefore, unimportant or trifling to us.

Our successes, our failures, our seven day wonders, our sense of achievement, outrage, fulfilment, despair **are** important.

Because they're ours.

So, your School Magazine tries to reflect some of these things.

In part, the Magazine is a chronicle of School life: sport, societies, some of the year's events. In part, it is a medium for your original writing. And it is here that the Magazine (and you) begins to open out, to look over the wall, out of our own back-yard. The Magazine Committee has been struck by the sense of foreboding—sometimes of gloom—that has prompted many of the contributions. As if you had looked over the wall and seen a bleak place outside.

We have taken two small steps towards broadening the scope of the Magazine: two of our contributors secured an exclusive interview with Colin Milburn (to whom we send our best wishes for a speedy return to the cricket field); this year's comment on the Gilbert and Sullivan comes from outside the School—from a parent. A number of other plans for bringing in outsiders failed—for numerous reasons!

Here, then, is your Magazine. If you like it, then, good. If you don't, blame us by all means—but don't forget to blame yourself, too. It is **your** Magazine. If you know how to improve it,

tell us, write something, make a take-over bid. Only **do** something. (You must be interested to be reading this Editorial—the least read part of the whole thing).

Finally, thanks. To contributors, particularly those whose work has not been published; we are grateful. To typists. To the hard working Committee. To all who were concerned in any way.
A.S.

NEWS AND NOTES

LAST YEAR the School and Staff presented "The Mikado". An article on the production appears elsewhere in this issue.

We congratulate the pupils of the School on their efforts to raise almost £500 with which to buy a respirator for the General Hospital.

The School extends a welcome to the following members of staff who have joined us during the past academic year: Miss Lazenby, Mrs. Covington, Mrs. Bywater, Mr. Newton, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Wiseman, Mr. Collings, Mr. Smith.

We are sorry to say farewell to: Mr. Mahabir, who is going to a comprehensive school in Wolverhampton; Mr. Chater, who is retiring; Mr. Williams, who is joining the R.A.F. Our best wishes go with them for the future.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. K. Price whose marriage took place in December.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. S. Meakins on the birth of a son, Paul.

Members of the School have collected for various charities throughout the year.

The first prize in the grammar school section of The Mayoral Essay Competition was won by Stephen Hamp of 6US.

Over the last four years six of the eight prizes for boys have come to Trinity.

Congratulations—

to D. C. Mobbs of 6UM who was selected to play for the County 1st Soccer XI;

to N. Freeman of 3R who was selected to play for the Under 15 Town Soccer XI;

to P. Blicow of 2S who won the Nottingham Open Under 14 Tennis Championship, reached the semi-final of the Under 16 Championship, and is playing for the County 2nd Team;

to A. West and D. Faulkner who were selected for the County 1st Rugby XV;

to T. Crane, M. Sawford, S. Hamp and C. Morgan who played for the County 2nd XV; and to Faulkner again on being selected to play for the Saints' 2nd Team, The Wanderers;

to Badcock, Cave, Ellston, Kirby and Sturgess who were selected to play for the Northampton Town Under 14 XV.

J. R. Sorrie has been awarded the Charles Newton Flying Scholarship.

At the end of the autumn term the Annual Carol Service was held in the School Hall. The service was conducted by the Reverend Roy Cattell and lessons were read by members of the School.

The English Department organised theatre visits to "Under Milk Wood" at the Phoenix Theatre, Leicester; "Close The Coal House Door" and "Macbeth" at Nottingham Playhouse; "The Canterbury Tales" at The Phoenix Theatre, London; "Othello" at Northampton Repertory Theatre; "Richard II" at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge; and "The Tempest" at Oxford Playhouse.

SPEECH DAY

THE Guest Speaker at this year's Speech Day was Sir William Hart, C.M.G., Chairman of the Northampton Development Corporation. In a wide ranging and entertaining speech, he touched upon the problem of communications in modern complex society, the place of education in that society, and the necessity for pupils to be made aware of the totality of their environment.

The prizes were presented by Lady Hart.

The Headmaster's Report mentioned the improving academic success of the School, the imminent problems of accommodation the School will have to face, and the wide scope of extra-curricular activities undertaken.

A vote of thanks was proposed by The Mayor of Northampton, Alderman Miss R. G. Perkins; and seconded by the Head Girl, Sally Cooper.



T. W. CHATER, F.R.I.C.

AFTER a long and varied career, Mr. Chater retires in July of this year. Educated at the City of London School, the Leed's Public Analyst's Laboratory and the Leed's Technical College, he entered industry after serving as a pilot in the R.F.C. during the 1914-18 war.

Mr. Chater was employed in the Heavy Chemical Industry for 30 years, mainly as Chief Chemist at a lead works. He qualified as an Associate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry in 1926 and was elected a Fellow in 1944. He was also Vice-President of the Newcastle Branch of the Oil and Colour Chemists' Association.

Retiring from industry in 1957 he joined the school in 1960 after teaching for three years in a Secondary Modern School.

Mr. Chater says that the years he has spent with us have been some of the happiest years of his life.

Although a strict disciplinarian, Mr. Chater is essentially a humane, kindly man and many boys have good reason to be grateful for his help and advice.

He regrets having to retire at the comparatively early age of 69 and is going to live in Sussex, near his son, who is a Senior Lecturer at a College of Education. Here he will have ample opportunity to indulge in his hobbies of interior decorating and landscape gardening.

HAIKU

Paint on a canvas,
After chalk on a wall, proves
Art is progressing.

WARD (3R).

From candy-floss clouds
The sun shines like a fried egg
On a sky-blue plate.

DIANE THORNTON (Form 3).

WEATHER WATCHING

Look! and see the

soft,

misty,

chill,

damp,

silvery,

slippery,

silent,

slithering,

mysterious,

furtive,

magical,

feather-light,

caressing,

obscuring,

swirling,

dense,

FOG.

R. D. LAW (3K).

THE SCHOOL CHARITY—1968-69

DURING the Autumn of 1968, with Christmas looming nearer, the question of the Charity rose again. Since we had contributed to many of the major national charities in the past, the question became a problem. The whole School was asked to submit ideas, and the fifth and sixth form girls in particular, and quite independently, thought a local charity would be a good idea and suggested something to do with the General Hospital.

Accordingly, enquiries were made. We asked the Hospital what piece of equipment they would like to obtain, costing around £250—the usual charity sum we collect. The doctors met and decided on the baby respirator; there was only one snag: it cost £473. Mr. Harris, in his own words, “took the bull by the horns” and accepted the challenge.



Presentation of the Respirator to Dr. Lodge and Nurse Summerfield

Of course, it was realised that the period of collection would have to be extended, but the extra effort was thought to be well worthwhile. An average of £10 a week was collected in the normal manner and collections at the School production of “The Mikado” raised £15. There is not room to mention all the activities thought up to raise money. Notable efforts were the discotheque, the concerts, the freak show, the six-a-side soccer tournament and the Folk Evening. The jumble sale alone raised £78. Every conceivable device was used to squeeze money out of tightly-clenched hands and, judging by the successes, many of our pupils would be well advised to set up stalls in Petticoat Lane—they would undoubtedly be multi-millionaires within a few years. The boys of 6L had the enterprising idea of trying to beat the World Record for non-stop

soccer, but unfortunately the Borough Medical Officer of Health thought it might have an adverse effect on some of the lesser spirits. An appeal to the parents produced £25 (so they have got the money even if they pretend they haven't!)

The respirator is, simply speaking, a machine for giving artificial respiration and, although it can be used for adults, will be used mainly on premature babies and small children. It will be a welcome addition to the recently-built and most important intensive care unit at the Hospital, and at this very moment may be saving the life of a small baby which may otherwise have died.

The machine was handed over at the School to Dr. Lodge and Nurse Rosemary Summerford, an ex-pupil of Trinity.

"TRIN"

NEARLY two years after he first accepted a cheque from the School on behalf of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, Mr. M. C. Jarman, Midland Area Organizer for the Association, returned to report on the progress of the guide dog which had been bought with our money.

He said that "Trin" (named by the School), had first been for twelve months' "puppy-walking" with a family in Scotland. This was purely to see if the dog was suitable for training as a guide dog. At the end of the twelve months it was decided that "Trin" had the right temperament and she was then sent, for four months, to the training-centre at Leamington Spa, where she went through the rigorous training scheme. Then for a further month, "Trin's" future owner went to live at the centre so that dog and owner could become used to each other.

Thanking the School once again for its support, Mr. Jarman presented Mr. Harris with a photograph of "Trin". As the School applauded his speech, Mr. Jarman's own guide dog, "Candy", joined in with a loud howl from under the table!

We have since learned that "Trin" and her owner live in Newcastle, and spend much time raising money for the Newcastle Football Team.

SUZANNE DE LA MARE.

"THE MIKADO"—A PARENT'S IMPRESSIONS

I THINK many parents will agree with me that the winter theatrical production is the highlight of the school year for them. Other events have their place, of course, e.g., half-yearly examination results and reports, Sports Day, which is grand when it doesn't rain, and the formality of Speech Day; but we parents can look forward to the "School play" with pleasure, knowing that there is a treat in store.



Making Up . . .



. . . Acting Up

Those who had been privileged to see some of the earlier School productions in the Gilbert and Sullivan series and who wondered if the consistently high standard so far achieved could possibly be maintained, were in for a pleasant surprise, for "The Mikado" must rank as one of the best shows ever. When this is written, several months after the event, my main impressions can be very simply set down in two words—"colour" and "gaiety", for these sum up for me this really wonderful show. It is hard to realise that this was a School production, produced and performed entirely by staff and pupils. The only exception was, obviously, the orchestra, which, specially recruited for the occasion, rendered so well the familiar melodies under the able leadership of their musical director.

Mention must be made of the scenery (made by members of the School) and costumes, which were magnificent.

It would be invidious to single out any member of the cast for special praise, for one felt that this was essentially a team effort, in which everyone played his part.

I must comment, too, on the catering arrangements. How well the staff and helpers coped with the vast numbers who came along for coffee! This serves as an excellent example of the careful planning and organisation behind the scenes which helped to make this such a memorable occasion.

My only criticism of the performance is that we were not given enough encores! Surely the applause merited one or two more? It is understood that the encores are written into the score, but several of the musical items seem to be accorded scant justice in this respect.

In conclusion, I am sure everyone concerned must have felt that the months of effort which had been put into this production were really worthwhile. Perhaps the greatest compliment one can pay the Trinity Grammar School Gilbert and Sullivan Society is the delight with which one anticipates their next production.

L. W. GARNER.

The following article appeared in "The Neath Chronicle", 10th April, 1969. We are grateful to the Editor for permission to reprint.

THE DAY THE RUGBY LADS DROPPED IN . . .

WE all know of the woman who lived in a shoe and had so many children she didn't know what to do. Well, there is a woman living in a small house in Old Road, Skewen, who knew what to do on Easter Monday night when she was faced with finding food and accommodation for twelve robust rugby-playing youths—not to mention her adult son and a coach driver.

Mrs. Olive William's son, Vaughan, is a 24-years-old physical training instructor at Trinity Grammar School, Northampton, and he was taking a dozen of his lads to Llanelli to play in a Seven-a-Side rugby tournament on Tuesday.

They were travelling to Llanelli on Monday night, with accommodation to be provided at Llanelli Grammar School.

Held Up

But they were held up at Cardiff, and Vaughan was forced to telephone his mother and ask her to fix up the party with sleeping accommodation for the night.

Mrs. Williams rose to the occasion magnificently. She fed them and later nine of the lads, Vaughan, Mr. and Mrs. Williams and their daughter, who is home from college, slept in the house.

Slept in Coach

Three other lads and the coach driver slept in the coach.

The following morning, Mrs. Williams said she had expected the party to call in for a snack en route to Llanelli and then go their way. They were due to have arrived mid-evening, but, instead, they did not do so until 11.30 to 11.45 p.m.

And by then it was much more than a snack they wanted.

Ravenous

"They were absolutely ravenous," said Mrs. Williams. "So I gave them a variety of sandwiches, Welsh cakes and other cakes, crackers and cheese, trifle and tea or coffee. My only problem about breakfast was getting bread. But I knew a nearby shop would be open at 7.30 in the morning, and so I got there early. I gave them cereals, boiled eggs, toast and marmalade, and tea or coffee, and when they left here at 10.30 to go to Llanelli they were very happy."

Very Enjoyable

Some of the boys slept in beds at the house, and others slept in lounge chairs. Some had sleeping bags.

Mrs. Williams said: "It was a very enjoyable experience. After all, if you have children, then you must do your best for them and their friends, mustn't you?"

RUGBY TOUR TO LLANDARCY

16th-19th February

IN the spring half term holiday the School's 1st XV toured South Wales. We had arranged two matches, one with B.P. Llandarcy Oil Refinery's Youth Team and one with Sandfields Comprehensive School. The boys of the former team provided us with lodgings in their own homes over the period of the tour.

We travelled down on Sunday and planned to play our first match on the following Monday. During that night, however, there was a fairly severe frost and by Monday morning the pitch was unplayable. But, thanks to the ground staff of B.P. Llandarcy and a very sunny morning, we managed to kick off at 4 p.m. that afternoon.

During the first half, Trinity attacked for the majority of the time but we were unable to score owing to a combination of Llandarcy's extremely good full-back and our poor finishing. The score sheet at half-time remained blank. In the second half the pattern of the first was repeated until, after about twenty minutes, the breakdown of a Llandarcy move gave Cooke the opportunity to dribble 70 yards and score a try. From then on Llandarcy were always under pressure and about ten minutes from time Faulkner picked up a loose ball near the line and dived over to score the decisive try. The score remained unaltered for the rest of the game. So, after eighty minutes, the score sheet read: Trinity High School, 6 points; B.P. Llandarcy, nil.

On Tuesday afternoon we were scheduled to play Sandfields Comprehensive School but because of another frost the game had to be called off.

Thanks to Mr. Williams's efforts in arranging the fixtures and to the fact that the team was unbeaten, the boys enjoyed the short tour immensely.

The team and reserves were D. Faulkner (captain), C. Morgan (vice-captain), J. Rasman, S. Britten, H. Sawford, J. Wooding, H. Cooke, M. Curtis, D. Shadrach, S. Hamp, D. Clarke, C. Marsh, R. Lewis, C. Marriott, R. Thornton, T. Lewis, R. Catlin, J. Raphael.

FRED FAULKNER, (6US).

A CHILD'S IMAGINATION

From the real true world
A child turns to his imagination,
There he can be and do what he wants.
If he wants to drive a lorry,
Then he can.
If he wants to be a farmer,
Then he can.
With a few cars and a floor
He can drive along a motorway.
An old stick becomes a sword,
And a tree a giant, or a monster.
Everything is real to a child
When he turns to his imagination!

PATRICIA HEYWORTH (Form 2).

JUST KEEP PILING ON THE RUNS

The following interview with Colin Milburn took place at the County Ground on a fine Saturday morning. Two weeks later Colin Milburn was in Northampton General Hospital after his tragic accident. We are sure the School will join us in offering him our very best wishes, and in hoping to see him soon back at the wicket.

Interviewer: C. Morgan.

Tape Recorder: A. Isaac.

Morgan: "Well Colin, we have heard a lot about you in the news and seen you on television, but when did you actually start your cricketing career?"

Colin: "The same as everybody else really, at school. Everyone starts at school sooner or later and I've continued from there. I played for Durham Schoolboys—I was born in Durham and graduated from there, until I was invited to play here (Northants)."

Morgan: "Did you get a lot of encouragement from your school?"

Colin: "There was not a lot really because we didn't play much school cricket at my particular school, but I went to a lot of coaching courses."

Morgan: "Is it a profitable career in cricket?"

Colin: "For any ordinary county player it is about the same money as an ordinary job, but if you reach the top it is a very comfortable living."

Morgan: "Do you earn enough to tide you over the winter period?"

Colin: "Well, the top players go abroad out of season, of course."

Isaac: "What do you think of the Sunday cricket league?"

Colin: "It is very profitable for the players and I think, therefore, it is a very good thing."

Isaac: "Do you find it tiring playing nearly seven days a week?"

Colin: "It is a strain, particularly mentally, although physically as well, but it is not as energetic as football or rugby. As the result of the Sunday cricket scheme it sometimes involves playing cricket for 3-4 weeks without a break."

Morgan: "I suppose there is a very full social life involved in cricket, Colin?"

Colin: "Yes, there are some very good lads and of course you don't have to be as fit as footballers, who have to be more dedicated. The social activities in cricket are not confined to the one night after the game, as with many sports, and so go on for longer because of the extent of the matches."

Morgan: "What are your most memorable moments, Colin, at the crease I suppose?"

Colin: "I suppose I must say when I scored my first 100 runs for England against the West Indies at Lords, but it is hard to say since some of my most pleasurable moments have been due to the travelling I have done with cricket teams. I have been more or less round the world twice. I never thought I would see places such as Australia and the West Indies and get paid for it as well. I mean, when I was young it was a thrill to go to London".

Morgan: "Finally, Colin, have you any advice for young cricketers?"

Colin: "All I can tell them is to stick at it, and keep piling on the runs."

SWANAGE FIELD COURSE, EASTER, 1969

FROM 30th March to 4th April a party of two girls and six boys, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Collings, took part in a geographical field course on the Isle of Purbeck. This course consisted of going out each day from the Swanage Youth Hostel, in which we were staying, to gather information about the numerous geographical features which exist in the region.

Our main work began on Monday when we were set the task of walking, a more apt word might be crawling, in twos, along a grid line, which had been decided upon before. The idea was to produce a cross-section, or transect, of our walk which contained information on relief, land use, vegetation and other factors. We had varying fortunes—thick mist, howling winds, vicious electric fences strategically placed to maim unthinking hikers, potholes and angry farmers (we were all set a farm interview).

On the second day the weather was much more favourable as we set off on the south coast walk. Throughout this day we observed faulting of cliffs, erosion of certain features through the media of sea, rain, wind, frost and their action. Among the interesting features seen were Egmont Point (where we were fiendishly April-fooled by a certain master, who will remain anonymous, into almost walking through two feet of water under a waterfall), Chapman's Pool, St. Aian's Head, and Winsput Quarry.

On the 2nd April we visited the Lulworth Cove area especially to sketch, photograph, discuss and make notes upon the effects of erosion upon the coastline. The coastline in this area is longitudinal or Pacific, that is, the geology runs parallel to the sea.

Afterwards, five of us visited a point on the coast where there's a small oil rig, and gently "eroded" parts of the cliffs.

On the last "working" day we went on the east-coast walk—no transport here, just foot-power. Sitting on Ballard Down we discussed the site of Swanage and the surrounding geology. Later we arrived at the Old Harry Rock and made notes whilst attempting to overwhelm gale force winds and a "Luftwaffe" of skilled seagulls. After returning, dog-tired, to the hostel we copied up our notes and prepared to attack the "exotic" night-lift of Swanage (believe it or not, a policeman had never heard of a discotheque).

Since returning to Northampton we have realised that the course, despite its moments of comedy and relaxation, made us all appreciate what the classwork is all about and provided us with extra scope for answering 'A'-level questions.

P. JOLLEY.

ART EXHIBITION—1968

WHEN Walter Pater wrote that "All art constantly aspires towards the condition of music", he could not have foreseen, even in one of his more wildly imaginative and speculative moods, that the Trinity Grammar School 1968 Art Exhibition would be mounted in the Salle de Concert of Mr. D. Baker. However that may be, the Art Department welcomes the opportunity of acknowledging the kindness of the music staff, who so willingly allowed the use of that so spacious room, at what must have been considerable personal inconvenience.

The exhibition was open from Saturday, 21st September until the following Thursday, showing a representative selection of work collected from all age-groups in the School. We were pleased to include a fine display of work from the Woodwork and Metalwork Departments too.

The exhibition was well attended by a steady flow of parents and pupils, and it was rewarding to hear their comments on the work. It would seem, from these comments, that most visitors were pleasantly impressed by the great diversity of work displayed.

A School Art Exhibition is a two-way function: it presents the students with the opportunity to show the fruits of their labours in a really tangible manner; and it is hoped that, through these works, pleasure and enlightenment is conveyed to the viewer. Thus, we may all evade the criticism made by Ben Johnson, when he said that "Art hath an enemy called ignorance".

S. L. MEAKINS,

THE END

Hissing and snarling.
Its yellow eyes staring at the cat.
The rat stood in the corner.
It made a desperate attempt
But the cat caught it with a claw.
I turned so I didn't see the death.
The rat escaped
And around the farmyard started a race.
It began to weaken.
The cat was upon him.
It pounced!
And that was the end of the farm-yard terror.

PETER CLARKE (1K).

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A NATURALIST

IT is 6 a.m. as we make our final preparations for our journey to the small wood on the opposite side of Harlestone Firs. I feel unusually wide awake for a Monday morning. We load our notebooks and equipment into the back of my dad's van. My dad gives us a lift up to Dallington and from there we make our way through Duston down to the Firs.

It is a beautiful August day in the middle of our holidays and my friend, John Stewart, and myself feel very happy as we walk through the gap in the fence that leads into the woods. As we walk down a small path we come across a small stream with a great deal of plant life around its edge. We collect some specimens of water crowfoot, marsh marigold, and yellow iris (flags) and label them and put them in our bag. As we walk along the path by the side of the stream we hear a rustle in the grass and, as we push the grass aside, we see a grass snake just digesting its breakfast. After making a few notes we carry on down the path and, as we pass a tree, notice some owl pellets lying on the ground. These we pick up and put into a plastic box padded with cotton wool. As we carry on walking down the path we notice some blue tits feeding in the trees. Along the path we notice some fungi and so we collect some specimens of puffball. We have now covered most of the wood and so we decide to cross over into the main part of the firs. As we cross the road we notice a family of rabbits playing on the grass verge but, at the sight of us, they dash through the hedge and over the field.

The first thing we notice as we enter the Firs are the ants. These ants were introduced from America to feed up the pheasants ready for a pheasant hunt. However, after the hunt the uneaten ants built a nest and began to breed, and now the whole of the firs is covered with them. As we walk down the path we notice a large toad crawling across the path. On examining it we notice that

both its back legs are broken and on further examination we notice that the bones are broken in several places so we have to put it out of its agony. The best way to put it out of its agony is to either break its neck or crush its skull but, not wishing to club the creature, we break its neck by giving it a sharp pull and twist.

As we walk through the old garden a butterfly flutters past and rests on a buttercup. We pull the butterfly net from our net bag and with an easy swing of the arm we have it. We transfer our specimen into a glass tube but, on examination, we identify it as a Camberwell Beauty, a fairly rare butterfly. As it is rare we let it go. However, we are soon rewarded for, flying along in the breeze, comes a Purple Emperor. This one is not so easy to catch and we have to take several swipes with the net before we have it.

We transfer it to the killing jar (a screw-top jar with a cotton wool pad in it at the bottom, soaked in ethyl acetate) and as soon as it is dead we put it in the relaxing tin (a tin filled with damp sand) and transfer it to our bag. By now it is 4 p.m. and so we make our way back home through Wilson's farm and Walker's Mill. When we get home we transfer our notes to our field-record book, mount our specimens, and make our arrangements for our next trip.

R. GILL (3R).

A LEAD PELLET AND PIGEON FEATHERS

A Lead pellet lay by
some pigeon feathers.

The heart did not beat.

A hot breast.

A broken neck;

Legs moved,

Moved weakly;

Boots trudged.

Human boots.

Shall I Watch?

No!

On the soft earth.

Two Lead pellets and some more feathers.

Pigeon feathers.

PAUL KINGSLEY (1K).

APOLLO

Just an empty space

A void

Nothing to be seen

Heard or felt

No sound

Not even silence

Just fear and loneliness.

ELIZABETH DOUGLAS (Form 2).