



*The*  
**BUCHAN**  
**SCHOOL**

**CASTLETOWN**  
**ISLE of MAN**



No. 4

*July, 1935*



# Buchan School Magazine.

No. 4. Summer Term, 1935.

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## EDITORIAL.

We regret that the School Magazine has failed, for financial reasons, to become a "hardy annual." It only springs up on momentous occasions, such as the School Jubilee in 1925, and the departure of Canon Owen in 1930. This number has a double incentive—the Diamond Jubilee of the School and the departure of the Headmistress.

The Editor apologises for repeating almost verbatim part of the history of the School that appeared in the Jubilee number of 1925, but that number was completely sold out, and the present generation in the School will be glad that the account appears again.

The portrait that appears as a frontispiece was given us by Sir Mark Collet, of Sevenoaks, Kent, who possesses the original by Sir Thomas Lawrence, President of the Royal Academy. Even a poor copy like this makes it clear why Lawrence, that famous painter of beautiful women, included Lady Buchan in his series. Sir Mark Collet remembers Lady Buchan very well, for when he was a boy she used to go every year to stay at his house. Perhaps one day he will come and give the School some of his memories of her.



## DIAMOND JUBILEE.

### OUR HISTORY 1875-1935.

Laura, Lady Buchan, our Founder, was born in Douglas in January, 1797, and was the eldest daughter (by his first wife) of Colonel Mark Wilks, himself the son of a Manx clergyman, the Rev. James Wilks, who was Vicar of Kirk Michael, and whose tombstone can be seen outside the East end of old Ballaugh Church, though the inscription is fast becoming illegible.

In the Spring of 1813 Colonel Mark Wilks was offered the post of Governor of St. Helena by the East India Company, and it is interesting that he wrote from there on the 12th of August of that year resigning his membership of the House of Keys. He had been out there two years when Napoleon landed, and remained in charge of him until Sir Hudson Lowe came out in 1816. The Duke of Wellington expressed the opinion that "he thought the Government had been mistaken in removing the old East India Company Governor, Colonel Wilks. He was a very intelligent, well-read man, and knew everything that had been passing in Europe, and Napoleon had become really attached to him." After he was gone Napoleon said more than once: "Pourquoi n'ont-ils pas laissé ce vieux gouverneur? Avec lui je me serais arrangé, nous n'aurions pas eu de querelles!" Colonel Wilks settled at Kirby (witness the house called "St. Helena") and became Speaker of the House of Keys. In personal appearance he was described in 1815 as being "a tall, handsome, venerable-looking man, with white curling locks and a courtier-like manner." In character he was straightforward, modest and kindly. He possessed great intellectual ability and had a wonderful knowledge of Oriental literature and language. He attributed his facility for acquiring the latter to the thorough grounding he had received in the Manx language. Such was the father of Lady Buchan.

Laura Wilks accompanied her father to St. Helena, and we find the following account of an interview between her and Napoleon in an article in Blackwood's Magazine of January, 1834, written by a lady who was staying with Colonel and Mrs. Wilks: — "I was delighted," she writes, "to chaperone so elegant, amiable, and beautiful a young lady.... and felt so proud that Napoleon should see so perfect a specimen of my fair country-women. Miss Wilks was then in the first bloom of youth, and her whole demeanour, affability, and elegant, modest appearance, conspired to render her the most charming and admirable person I have ever met with in all my peregrinations in Europe, Asia, and Africa, for the space of thirty years." She then proceeds

to describe "their departure from Government—or Plantation—House (as it was called) in a huge vehicle drawn by six bullocks driven by three men." After "some hours going across the most dangerous narrow roads, sharp turnings, and precipitous horrors beneath, enough to terrify the stoutest heart and turn giddy the strongest head" they arrived at Longwood. They found Napoleon "fully dressed and standing to receive Governor Wilks with etiquette." He was "arrayed in a green coat, with all his stars, orders and ribbons; silk stockings, small shoes with gold buckles, and a chapeau-bras under his arm." The Governor presented his daughter to Bonaparte, who, "looking at her with a pleasing smile, addressed her in these words: 'I have long heard from various quarters of the superior elegance and beauty of Miss Wilks, but now I am convinced from my own eyes that the report has scarcely done her sufficient justice.' Saying this, he bowed politely." From another source we gather that Napoleon also said, "You must be very glad to leave the Island," to which she replied, "Oh, no, sire, I am very sorry to go away." To which Napoleon very naturally answered, "Oh, mademoiselle, I wish I could change places with you." He is said to have then presented her with a bracelet.

A few years later our Founder married General Sir John Buchan, K.C.B., whom she survived. She was a considerable land owner in the Isle of Man, having inherited her father's properties of Kirby, Castleward, etc. After her husband's death she began to take an active interest in Manx education, and in 1861 gave money to King William's College, and fourteen years later a further sum for the founding of this School.

It strikes one that the latter half of Lady Buchan's life must have been rather lonely. Her husband died as early as 1850, while their only son, Mark, had died while still a lad in his 'teens, many years before. Lady Buchan lived in London during the last years of her life, and died in 1888 in her ninety-second year.

In 1878 another sum of money, to be added to the existing capital, was bequeathed by Eliza Eleanor Newton, of "Westham," Castletown, who was a niece of Colonel Wilks, and a cousin of Lady Buchan.

Five years were allowed by the deed of 1875 for preparing the new school, which—thanks to the energy and unflagging efforts of certain residents in Castletown, and in particular of Lady Gell, wife of the Attorney-General (in whose house the school after many years has now come to rest)—was ready before the stated time and opened in 1878. One of its first pupils, looking back on it, says that its coming was like the advent of the New Learning in the Middle Ages!

The following is a list of the Headmistresses, with their dates and the different houses where the school was lodged :

- 1878 Miss Moss ... In the house opposite the Castle.
- 1880 Miss Porter.
- 1882 Miss Macdonald.
- 1884 Miss C. Sparrow.
- 1888 Miss E. Sparrow ... Moved to Bay View House.
- 1895 Miss Taylor ..... Moved to the Promenade.
- 1899 Miss Dickson ..... Moved to 16, The Green.
- 1900 Miss Patterson.
- 1908 Miss Dawson ..... Moved to 10-12, The Green.
- 1919 Miss Hall.
- 1920 Miss Matthew
- 1935 Miss Tregear.

Miss Louisa Moss, the first Headmistress, was the sister of Dr. Moss, the well-known headmaster of Shrewsbury.

The School has had a very chequered career, full of ups and downs, with its numbers fluctuating between 4 and 84. In 1919, when Miss Dawson resigned for reasons of ill-health, it went through the most critical period of its existence. Had it not been for the energy and determination of Canon Owen, Principal of King William's College, the School would then and there have ceased to exist. A campaign was organised throughout the Island, meetings were held in the four towns, and those who contributed money towards saving the School turned themselves into a Limited Liability Company, whose Directors became the Governors of the School.

For the next seven or eight years the School expanded rapidly. At the end of 1920 the three school houses, hitherto rented, were bought outright. At the end of 1921 the new School Hall was begun, and Canon Owen opened it in the summer of 1922 by holding the service of School Prayers in it for the first time. In the autumn the hall was equipped by a London firm as a gymnasium. In 1923 the playing field was bought and a small pavilion erected in it. In 1925 the block with the science laboratory and kindergarten was opened by the then Lieutenant-Governor, the late Sir William Fry. Later in the year we celebrated our Jubilee with much pomp and ceremony, and in 1926 we bought St. Lupus', the fourth house of the row.

Since then, we have had to "go easy," for not only had we borrowed a great deal of money for these improvements, but they also involved a heavy increase in the expense of upkeep. Still, even so, development has gone steadily on

chiefly by means of the money raised at fancy fairs, through the generosity of our friends. These developments are recorded elsewhere.

At such a time as a Diamond Jubilee, the past seems to call to us more urgently than the future. We cease for a moment from pressing forwards and we turn and look back down the years, through the many generations of schoolgirls who constitute our School, and our thoughts are centred on an old lady, born a hundred and forty years ago in this Island of ours. As we contemplate her faith and vision, we can wish no greater good to her School than that it should, in the words of the School prayer, continue "to answer the good intent of its Founder."



### LETTER FROM MISS MATTHEW.

My Dear Friends,

I have been sitting with my pen in my hand, wondering what I shall write—wondering whether to dwell on the happiness of the past fifteen years or the changes that have been wrought by them, or the work that has been done in them, or the reasons for relinquishing that work before the due time. But the changes will be touched upon in the Old Girls' section, while every article reveals some aspect of the work done. So I will confine myself chiefly to saying how very happily the years have passed. There was just one terribly anxious time, about seven years ago, when our numbers dwindled to fifty and the balance-sheet showed a deficit; when the staff had to be cut down and the teaching endangered; but there has been full compensation for this since, as the numbers have increased year by year to seventy-five again and the full number of staff has raised the standard of work higher than it has ever been before. Except for this harassing time, the stream has flowed peacefully, and very happily. A small school like this one, although it involves special difficulties and an unusual variety of work for the Head, has compensations of its own, too, for it fosters far more friendly relations than are possible in a large school. I think I have been uncommonly blessed in this way—in having such a number of real friends among the parents; in possessing a staff who are not only entirely loyal but also personal friends; in having behind me all these years a tower of strength in Essie, nominally cook, but actually whatever I happen to be needing at the moment! and a number of girls of all generations with whom I hope I shall always keep in touch. My time has been too much absorbed by school to allow of much social intercourse or of forming many acquaintances, but I look forward to renewing the outside friendships I have made whenever I return to the Island.

With regard to my departure, I need only say that I would have stayed another three or four years if the Governors had



The following refer to Cambridge School Certificate results, unless otherwise stated, and the figure following the name is the number of credits obtained :—

1930

N. Callister (7), E. Parkes (7), J. Timson (6), P. Penketh (4), B. Brown (3), G. Nisbet (2).

1931

E. Barlow (7), G. Radcliffe (6), M. Paul (2).

Higher School Certificate Subsidiary: E. Parkes.

1932

M. Paul (6), B. Garrett (5), M. Stockwood (3).

1933

M. Stockwood (5), J. Wood (7), B. Garrett (5), N. Kermode (4).

1934

M. Loudon (8), N. Kermode (7), J. Kay (7), L. Matthews (7), M. Griffith (6), L. Jackson (6), H. Pope (4), E. Jackson (5).

In 1930 we had one failure, in 1931 two failures, but since then none have failed. Last year was our best year since 1928. Eight entered, all passed, and six matriculated. Mollie Loudon broke all records by obtaining eight credits at the age of fifteen. Lucy Matthews and Monica Griffith were only fifteen, too.

This summer we are sending in six for School Certificate and one for Higher Certificate Subsidiary, but we hardly dare hope for 100 per cent. successes again. The work in the spring term was very much held up by an epidemic in mumps, for two mistresses went down with it as well as a number of girls. The girls deserve success, though; they have worked splendidly.



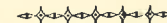
### THE HOCKEY CLUB.

In the last few years the standard of hockey has improved tremendously. This is almost entirely due to Miss Hamilton's coaching, and the keen interest shown in it by her. The number of outside matches we have played has increased, until the last season, when first the weather and then an epidemic of mumps forced us to cancel most of the matches which had been arranged. Because of this we had to cancel the return match against the Douglas High School First XI, and the matches against Ramsey Grammar School and Ramsey Old Girls.

For many seasons we tried hard to beat the Douglas High School First XI again, and at last succeeded in a hard match last autumn, with the score 4—0.

Since 1932 six girls have been awarded their colours for hockey :— M. Griffith, B. Garrett, M. Stockwood, M. Kirkpatrick, M. Loudon, S. Duffield.

M. LOUDON, Captain.



### TENNIS.

During the last five years we have had the hard tennis court to play on, and now three sides of it have been closed in with wire-netting, so that we hope we shall not have to search any more in the long grass for balls which will not be found! We were lucky enough to have Miss Ekins to coach us in 1933 and Miss Graves during the last two seasons.

When Miss Fawcett left us three years ago, she very generously presented a shield to the School for which each form competes at the end of the summer term. It was won in 1932 for the first time by the Lower V, and in 1933 by the Upper V Form.

Last year the late Mr. J. C. Dickson (who used to live in one of our houses called "Dickson's" after him) presented two tennis racquets to the School. Eight seniors and eight juniors competed for these, and they were won by Mary Stockwood and Peggy Cowley.

We have not a tennis team yet, but last year four couples played the Old Girls on the Port St. Mary tennis courts, and, after a very enjoyable afternoon, returned victorious.

We are much indebted to Miss Fawcett, and to Miss Johns who succeeded her, for organising the Tennis Ties which cause a great deal of enthusiasm every summer term.

L. MATTHEWS.



### SPEECH DAYS.

The most formal important event of the school year is Speech Day. It is a day when all the School Governors, parents, and people interested in the School, come to hear how the School has been progressing during the past year, and to see the distribution of prizes.

There have been three Speech Days in the last four years. In 1932 we had to content ourselves with an informal presentation of prizes at a fancy dress party at the end of the winter term, because the hall roof had holes in it, and it was most inconvenient when it rained.

A great deal of careful rehearsing has to be gone through, both for the songs and the plays, before the day. Every spare moment is taken up with choir practices and trying on extra costumes.



When the actual day arrives we are all very excited and have to wait about in white dresses for what seems ages, before we are finally told to troop into the hall and sit according to our forms. Then there is some interest in distinguishing people we know in the audience.

The afternoon begins with Miss Matthew's report. We recognise our past summed up in glowing sentences; so attractive does it sound that we hardly realise that it is us she is speaking about. In her last report she related to us some of the details in the history of our Founder, Lady Buchan, which very few of us had heard before.

Then, after the usual formal proceedings, the prizes are given away. In 1931 and 1933 the Bishop presented them, and on both occasions spoke to us emphatically about the different kinds of beauty. In the last Speech Day in 1934, Lady Butler gave away the prizes. The Governor gave a very amusing address and a special holiday was given to the school at his request. We hope the Governor will come again!

After this comes the entertainment, which always begins with several songs by the whole School. Each year we have different types of songs, Manx Spinning-Wheel Songs, or mournful songs like "Turn ye to me" or jolly songs like "Rolling Down to Rio."

We have twice risen to Latin recitations which very few of the audience ever understand. The concert usually contains something by the K.G. like "The Market Square," or a dance like the original Manx Folk Lore dance.

A play usually ends the performance. On one occasion a Norse legend was acted, not remarkable except for a roast ox which appeared, ingeniously made by Miss Hamilton. On another occasion a lyrical Greek mime, "Pandora's Box," was acted. This was very popular for its lovely frieze-like chorus and beautiful words. We have also had fairy plays, and skits, like "Hiawatha's Photography" last year.

After the final play we all sing the National Anthem, and then tea is served. The helpers are kept very busy for some time, for everyone is thirsty and hungry, especially the speech-makers. Even after everyone has refused the most pressing invitations to more tea, visitors stand about in groups discussing affairs of the day.

Gradually the visitors begin to go, and then comes the reward for the helpers. Tea and plates of left-over cakes are set out in the K.G. and everyone being hungry eats a lot.

I am very sorry that I shall not be here to take part in any more Speech Days, for on the whole they are great fun and very interesting.

B. WOOD.

## DANCING.

Miss Every's last display was the first real dancing I had ever seen. We stood on the ledge at the back of the hall and watched. The babies were lovely in "Whistler and his Dog," with all their Fidos and Spots, which had tumbled about the Kindergarten floor days beforehand. Even the boys, usually contemptuous of dancing, were pleased with their hornpipe, and climbed ladders and sighted ships to their hearts' content. "Once Upon a Time . . ." was the ballet—very exciting; but perhaps the most delightful moment was when the wicked Blackbird pecked off the Parlour-maid's nose. The most outstanding dance of the display was the Slave's Dream, where oppressed slaves dreamed of freedom.

I was very impressed with the display, but had no idea of learning myself until next term, when, against my will, I was bullied into joining the class. I soon realised what a mistake I had made in disliking it!

Classes always began with "ballroom." I didn't like this much until later on, partly because I couldn't do it, and it required such a lot of concentration and counting — "long-short-short," etc. After that the lesson was much more interesting. We did group work, in which Miss Todd would play music expressive of some emotion, and we, working in groups, would try to express this: Fear turning to appeal, hope to despair, or joy to ecstasy. Another of the loveliest things we did were frieze positions. Sometimes we would do these to words, but more often to music. We did other work besides Greek. National dancing must be accurate; character dancing needs ability to act, but only in classical dancing is it possible to create, and enjoy creating.

Working for displays was strenuous. We were called down for rehearsals in all our spare time, and seized upon to try on costumes. Every time anyone went through the hall, fragments of dances were seen.

The displays themselves were exciting after the first nervousness was over. The babies were always lovely, whether they were elves and fairies, or jockeys, or old gnomes, or night nurses, or flowers. Outside all were hurrying to be fastened up; or changing; or waiting to go on, during the applause for the previous dance; or adapting themselves from being a Bacchante to being a wicked queen.

The Bacchanale was the most thrilling dance we have ever done. It was a wild revel that seemed to carry us away as we did it. We did two processions which were both lovely, in which were offered gifts to the gods; and the sea study of this year was sheer joy. It was lovely to feel oneself surging all the time, just like the sea, never still.

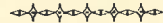
After the display, everything felt terribly flat somehow;



no hurrying or rehearsing for things ; everything followed its usual routine.

We have been more than fortunate in our dancing mistresses, Miss Every and Miss Hyde, and wish to thank them very much for all that they have done for us.

M. HEMINGWAY.



### FANCY FAIRS DURING FIFTEEN YEARS.

The Buchan School "Fancy Fairs" have always been popular, not only with the girls, but with the friends and relations, who have supported them so well. The first took place in 1921, before the school hall had been built, and the concert had to be held in the dining-room! Although it was not on nearly so large a scale as those of later years, the School was able to raise £20, with the kind help of friends and relations.

In 1922 the School hall was built. It was a great attraction, and enabled the School to provide a much better entertainment. The concert and side-shows, held in the form rooms, have never lost their popularity. The parents have supplied the stalls generously, and bought freely from them. Teas also have been arranged in the dining-room and boarders'-room, the parents supplying a large number of the cakes and then paying again for the privilege of eating them!

By the Fancy Fairs of 1922, 1923 and 1924 money was raised for equipping the gymnasium with apparatus, erecting a small pavilion in the field, and providing bookcases and books for a school library.

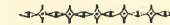
Three large Fancy Fairs were held in the three successive years, 1927-1929. The proceeds, amounting to £145, were used to provide a hard tennis court, which has proved a great blessing to the Buchan School ever since.

In 1931, 1932 and 1933, £122 was raised. Wonders have been done with that money. The School gardens were renovated, and made really attractive with crazy-paving, a rock garden and a shrubbery. Dickson's House, named after the late Mr. J. C. Dickson, the former owner, was transformed. The kitchen was turned into a cookery-room, provided with a gas-stove, cookery tables, and all the modern cooking utensils. Two other rooms were fitted up as a needlework-room, and a handwork-room. The former was provided with both hand and pedal sewing-machines, and also with tables with drawers, and shelves where the work can be kept. The latter was furnished with a number of neat art desks. Here the girls do leather-work, pewter-work, and all kinds of interesting handicrafts.

Since that time the balance, with the bank interest, has been used to provide the boarders'-room with a new piano, the hard tennis court with further wire-netting, and the field with garden seats adapted to all kinds of weather, and a racquet for the School championship.

The Buchan School appreciates everything that its friends have done, and wishes to thank them for their generosity.

J. KAY.



### TRAMP CLUB.

#### THE HOLIDAY DIVERSION.

In order to perform two Easter holiday tasks, we had to cover almost the whole Island. The car was undoubtedly useful, except in the more strenuous task of timing ourselves walking from the top of one mountain to another; from North Barrule to Clagh Oughr or from Lhergyrhenny to Brandy Well.

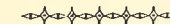
Our investigations of Runic Stones and old inscriptions, like the sundial at Jurby, tombstones of various famous people all over the Island, a Manx Text at Lezayre, Latin Epitaph at Peel, led us into many a quaint corner.

To prove that we were not up to any tricks we had to post a piece of Marram Grass in the letter-box at the Lhen and make sketches (not so easy!) of the Waterfall at Spooyt Vane and the three-decker at Braddan Church.

We had great fun picnicking at Kione y Ghoggan and Cranstal, piercing into Gob y Deigan Caves, toiling up to Sharragh Vane, meeting an old Manx woman at Little London and running out of oil at the Point of Ayre.

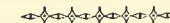
Indeed there was more Holiday in it than Task.

P. & M. COWLEY.



The Holders of Tramp Club Badges are as follows:—

Members: M. Bisset, M. Cowley, P. Cowley, M. Kirkpatrick.  
Associates: M. Griffith, M. Hemingway, J. Kay.



### ALL LONDON IN SEVEN DAYS.

#### Wednesday, August 1st—

Good crossing to Liverpool, where Miss Matthew and Miss Redfearn met us—train Euston—Bedford Hostel, Baker Street. At night, Westminster Bridge, The Mall, Duke of York's Steps, and the lights of Piccadilly.

**Thursday, August 2nd—**

All Hallows (Toc H. Church)—Tower (Yeomen of the Guard, Jewels, White Tower, Bloody Tower) — Southwark Cathedral—St. Paul's Cathedral (Whispering Gallery, Golden Gallery, Golden Ball)—Temple Church, Middle Temple Hall.

Theatre at night—Marionette Show.

**Friday, August 3rd—**

Bank of England—Guildhall (Gog and Magog, Pictures)—Post Office, Postman's Park—St. Bartholomew's Church—Charterhouse.

Theatre at night—Maskelyn's Mysteries.

**Saturday, August 4th—**

Whitehall, Changing of the Guard—Houses of Parliament—Westminster Cathedral—Westminster Abbey—Buckingham Palace—Kensington Gardens (Peter Pan Statue).

Open Air Theatre at night—"As You Like It."

**Sunday, August 5th—**

Zoo all day—the Westminster Abbey evening service.

**Monday, August 6th—**

Bank Holiday on Hampstead Heath! (Uproarious time on helter-skelters, cake-walks, roundabouts, etc.)—St. Martin-in-the-Fields—National Portrait, National and Tate Galleries.

Theatre at night—"Ten Minute Alibi."

**Tuesday, August 7th—**

Royal Academy—Windsor (Doll's House, Curfew Tower, St. George's Chapel).

Open Air Theatre at night (for some)—"Romeo and Juliet."

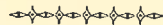
**Wednesday, August 8th—**

British Museum (Codex Sinaiticus, Elgin Marbles, Mum-mies)—Hampton Court (maze)—Madame Tussauds.

Theatre at night—"Clive of India."

**Thursday, August 9th—**

Returned to Island, via Euston and Lime Street.



During our visit, we stayed at Bedford Hostel, in Baker Street, and were thoroughly comfortable there. We slept soundly every night in spite of the unaccustomed noise of traffic. We had very good meals there, and especially enjoyed breakfast, at which we waited on ourselves and collected what we wanted to eat on a tray. We travelled by 'bus chiefly, but went once or twice on the tube. We did not like the tube very much, but found the escalators a pleasing novelty.

I think we all of us enjoyed "As You Like It" at the Open Air Theatre better than anything else. For most of us it was our first Shakespeare play, and therefore something to be remembered. It more than fulfilled our expectations.

All the Theatres we went to were a success, especially "Clive of India" and "Ten Minute Alibi." During the latter we had to keep alert as the plot was rather complicated.

All the Churches and Cathedrals were very beautiful. We climbed to the very top of St. Paul's, and, standing on a ladder, with our heads in a circular space enclosed by wire-netting, looked at London spread out beneath. It was, we were told, one of the highest places in London.

At the Zoo we were all amused by two monkeys who lay on their backs and twirled round and round for our entertainment.

We saw some of Stanley Spencer's pictures at the Royal Academy, and we disliked them intensely. We unanimously decided "The Orchard" by Dod Proctor to be the best.

Altogether we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and saw more in that week than in any other week of our lives.

M. GRIFFITH.

**OLD GIRLS' GUILD.**

(Founded 1925).

**President: Miss Matthew.**

**Committee:**

Miss W. Sale (Chairman).

Miss M. Harrison.

Miss B. Hyde.

Miss D. Kermode.

Miss M. Lowcock.

Miss P. Penketh.

**Honorary Secretary and Treasurer: Miss P. Penketh.**

The Old Girls' Guild was revived again in January 1933, after it had slumbered peacefully since 1928. The first general meeting was held in the Victoria Sports Club (Villiers Hotel), Douglas, on the 11th of January, when Mrs. Penketh very kindly took the chair. At this meeting the above committee was formed with the exception of May Paul who had to resign the following year, Belle Hyde being elected in her place. It was also agreed that girls must be at the school three years to qualify to become members of the Guild, and the subscription was to be 2s. 6d. paid annually.

During that year we had four socials in the Victoria Sports Club where we played Badminton or Bridge, tea of course, being provided. These socials proved very popular.

We also played two hockey matches against the School. The first we lost 2—3, and the other we managed to draw 2—2. We had tea at Miss Duggan's after both these matches.



We had our General Meeting the next year in Wilson's Cafe, Victoria Street, where we decided to hold a re-union in the Buchan School in June. The accounts were passed showing a balance in hand of £4 9s 6d.

We spent a very enjoyable day at the Buchan School on the 9th June, playing tennis and exploring the new block of the school. At this meeting we decided to try and form an Old Girls' Hockey Club, but we found out there were not enough girls to run it; and we were to publish a magazine as soon as possible.

During last winter, "sausage and chip" suppers were held in Collinsons Cafe, and proved very popular.

In addition to these re-unions, the committee were invited to the Prize Giving and we all had an invitation to the Athletic Sports and the dress rehearsal of the dancing display.



### ECHOES FROM THE PAST.

Do the following reminiscences strike chords of remembrance among Old Staff and Old Girls who read this? Prayers in the big schoolroom, accompanied by a piano next door in the back class-room, which Miss Smith played — and, as she could not hear us, sometimes played a verse too many or a verse too few? Break in the Form Rooms, preceded on wet days by five minutes' drill standing between rows of desks? Trailing up to K.W.C. on Monday afternoons for gymnastics, and to the Church Room on Thursday afternoons for dancing? The Autumn of 1920 when the Sergt.-Major, Mr. Grant, was ill, and Canon Owen himself undertook the Senior Gym class? A time when the Staff had no Staff Room, but used the dining room in the evenings? A time, a little later, when the Staff Room was next door to the Study, and the present Staff Room was the Kindergarten? A time when the Headmistress had only the one living room, and her meal would be carried unfinished out of one door of the study while a visitor was shown in by the other, after waiting in the entrance hall, as there was nowhere else to wait? An attempt to use an attic in the Extension as a Science Room? A Fancy Fair Concert, and Carols at Christmas, held in the dining room? "Sing-songs" from Gaudeamus sitting on the floor in the dining-room at 2-15 on Friday? Early walks for the boarders on the shore between 8-20 and 8-50 a.m.? The thrill of seeing the School Hall gradually go up, and then the Science Block? and the first Form to have their first lesson in the new Laboratory?

For the benefit of Old Girls who cannot get back to see the School, a photograph is being enclosed of the section of the wall on the north side of the School Hall where stand the two Challenge Cups for Gymnastics, the Tennis Shield, and the

Athletic Sports Shield. Over them hang the two portraits of Lady Buchan (one in her youth and one in her old age), and one of Canon Owen which has the following inscription:—

Canon E. C. Owen

Principal of King William's College

who at a time of crisis in

1919

re-established the Buchan School.



### NEWS ABOUT OLD GIRLS' GUILD AND STAFF.

The Secretary has tried to collect news of Old Girls, but as many have not replied, and there are some whose addresses are unknown, several items may be incorrect and several names may be omitted, for which the Secretary apologises.

#### STAFF.

Miss Hastings is still teaching at Beaminster Grammar School in Dorset, "in one of the few unspoilt bits of countryside left in England."

Mrs. Slater (Miss Nan MacLauchlin) is living at 12, Bradmore Road, Oxford. She has two children Martin and Susie.

Mrs. Roberts (Miss D. Smith) is still living at Bromfield Hall, Mold, N. Wales. Her daughter, Margaret, is now six years old, and Henry is two.

Miss May Sunter is still Secretary to the Headmistress at St. Clare's School, Polwithen, Penzance.

Mrs. Hall (Miss Riggall) has left India, and is now living at 4, West Parade, Wakefield. She has two small sons, John who is four years old, and David who is two.

Miss Law is working at the Canning Town Women's Settlement.

Miss Margery MacLauchlin has a post on the Perth Girls' School in Australia. She is engaged to Miss Redfearn's brother who is out there.

Miss Connie Redfearn is with her brother in Australia.

Miss Clarice Redfearn is still part of the School, and comes over to help in times of extra stress.

Mrs. T. R. Taggart (Miss Every) was married three years ago to the Rev. Hugh Taggart's eldest son. She lives in Hove

(103 Sackville Road) where her husband is curate at one of the Churches. She has a little daughter six months old, Marjorie Anne.

Miss Fawcett has been teaching at Mansfield this term, but in September she goes as Mathematical Mistress and Housemistress to Milton Mount College, Crawley, Sussex.

Miss Brander is teaching at Athelstan House School in Folkestone.

Miss Mercer is still teaching at Ashleigh House, Belfast, and is able to live at home (61, Ulsterville Avenue).

### OLD GIRLS

Olga Alexander, after training at Liverpool as a Gymnastics teacher, taught here for two terms, and then for two years at a school in Hastings. Last year, she became engaged and is to be married in a few weeks' time. Her husband is a Dutchman, and her married name will be Schutterop. They will live in Arnhem, Holland.

Vera Alexander is doing secretarial work in Liverpool.

Lois Archer has trained as a nurse at the General Hospital, Kidderminster, and is now on the staff of the Lisburn House Nursing Home, Stockport.

Helen Bennett has just taken her M.A. at Edinburgh.

Evelyn Begg is living at Crosby, and helps her parents in Port Erin in the summer.

Phyllis Blake is helping her mother at the "Snaefell," Port Erin.

Nina Botwood is now working for the Australian Trade Publicity, demonstrating Australian products all over Great Britain.

Daphne Brown is a reporter for the I.O.M. "Times."

Elsa Barlow is shortly going to the Westminster Hospital to train as a masseuse.

Doris Callow is a partner in Milady's Hair Specialists, Douglas.

Eileen and Marjorie Cowin are both living at home. Eileen helps her father in the shop.

Dorothy Creer is Domestic Science Mistress in a school near London.

Gladys Creer is living at home at present, but hopes to take up nursing very shortly.

Irene Callow is now Mrs. Bell, and lives at Brookfield, Ramsey.

Nancy Callister is studying chemistry at Manchester University.

Nancy Cowley is working in Brearey's Chemist's, Douglas, and lives with her sister Ella, who is married.

Betty Crofts is now Mrs. Gell, and lives at 56, Rochester Road, London, N.W.1.

Susanna Dunsterville has married a French-Swiss author and journalist and is now Mrs. Andreas Lindt. She is very busy, writing articles herself, translating her husband's travel-books, looking after her two infants, a girl, Jill, and a boy, Michael.

Betty Garrett has finished a course at the Manx Technical College and is looking for a post.

Vorrey Graves has been Games Mistress during the Summer Term at the Buchan School, having taken a course at Liverpool Physical Training College. She is to be married next year.

Mrs. Hampton has now got a daughter at Buchan School, who is 10 years old.

Molly James has taken a course at the Manx Technical College, and is now at home.

Katie and Doris Kermode are now running the shop in Castletown, their parents having retired, and Mollie, together with their partner, has opened a branch in the Villa Marina Arcade.

Nora Kermode is working in Maley's, Chemist, Douglas.

Margaret Keig is now a State registered nurse. She trained at Queen's Hospital, London.

Mary Leigh is now Mrs. MacPherson. Her husband is curate of Rushen Church.

Stella Leigh is living at home. She is engaged to be married.

Peggy Leaman is living at home and teaching music. She is to be married very shortly.

L. M. Littlejohn is teaching at the Kirby Stephen Girls' Grammar School, Westmoreland.

Mrs. Maley (Vivien Kay) is living at Somerby, Bray Hill. Her two boys, Ewan and Peter, are now nine and six years old.

Moir Macintyre is teaching at the South Hampstead High School.

Margaret Macintyre has now a part-time post at Blackheath High School, and is also studying Art at the Central School of Arts and Crafts, London.

Ella Miller has finished her training at "Barts" and is now nursing. She is engaged to be married.

Ivy Moore is living at home with her sister, Edna, now Mrs. Thompson.

Grace Oddy is at home, and has a temporary post, teaching at King William's College.

Ethel Oxford is now Head book-keeper at Castle Mona Hotel.



Eileen Parkes has taken a course at the Manx Technical College, and is now living at home.

Pearl Penketh is living at home and is Secretary and Treasurer of the O.G.G.

Beryl Riley is doing Welfare work. She is Welfare Supervisor at John Smedley's Limited, Matlock.

Winnie Sale is Matron at the Manx Technical College and also Organist at Rosemount Church.

Mary Skene took her general training and her C.M.B. at Edinburgh and her mental training at Maudsley Hospital, London. She is now in St. Andrew's Hospital, Northampton.

Dorothy Sunter is living at Chantilly in France.

Molly and Marjorie Simcocks are helping their parents at Rushen Abbey.

Mary Stockwood is going to Girton College, Cambridge, in October.

Jeanne Timson has just finished her second year at Oxford, where she is working for her B.A.

Winnie Whèble has taken up dancing and has got an engagement in the revue "1066 and all that" in London.

Jean Wood has had a year studying at the Slade School in London.

The following Old Girls are living at home:—Margaret Bayley, Plaxtole, Castletown. Ida Bowen, Parnassus, Orchan. Mrs. White (Maud Brearley), Thurlby Cottage, Little Switzerland. Beryl Bridson, Harcroft Braddan. Joan Barry, Douglas Road, Castletown. Helen Clague, Little Plantation, Port St. Mary. May Corkill, I.O.M. Bank, Castletown. Betty Freer, Ballakaighan, Castletown. Joyce Gell, Kenna, Ballanard Road, Douglas. Thelma George, Sunningdale Drive, Onchan. Mona Harrison, South Ramsey Vicarage Belle Hyde, Bay House, Castletown. Maude Lowcock, Ballakneale, Port Erin. Gaenor Nisbet, Brookwood, Douglas. May and Marigold Paul, The Crofts, Castletown. Vera Sunter, 74, Penkett Road, Wallasey, Cheshire. Lois Spittall, Injebreck, Baldwin. Phillis Wainwright, Ballajora, Ramsey.

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The Secretary would be glad if every Old Girl who has not paid her 2s. 6d. subscription during the past year would send it to her now. She wishes also to remind them that Old Girls' scarves can be bought for 10s. 6d. at Lay's in Duke St.

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Miss Matthew sends her warmest thanks to all Old Girls for the beautiful little silver clock that they have given her for a parting present. It will always be a reminder of good friends and happy days.