

NEWCASTLE High School Magazine.

No. 16.

JUNE, 1910.

FOURPENCE.

EDWARD VII. Born 1841. Died 1910.

“The King is dead,” they cry; “Long live the King!”
And over all the country hangs a cloud
Of melancholy infinitely deep.
In all the churches through the land they sing
Sadly and low, “The labourer’s task is o’er”;
Nor was thy ceaseless toiling all in vain.
Ever before thyself thy country’s weal
Was placed; and each of those nine mighty kings
Who followed thee to thy eternal rest
Knows that his people truly feel with us
In mourning thee, great England’s greatest king.
Edward the Peacemaker! Oh, rightly named,
If that the dead can tell the thoughts of men,
Thou, blessed for all eternity, may’st know
Thy people ever loyal will remain
To thy dear memory and their love and grief;
And with a wound that lies as yet unhealed
Swear their allegiance to another lord;
And though with aching heart they falter low,
“The King is dead,” yet cry, “Long live the King!”

PHYLLIS COMRIE.

SCHOOL OFFICIALS.

Head Girl...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	D. AMSDEN.
Prefects—									
D. AMSDEN, P. COMBIE, M. ROBINSON, L. ROBSON, P. BROWN, K. BREWIS.									
Captain of Cricket	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	L. ROBSON.
Captain of Basket-ball	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	L. ROBSON.
Secretary of Games	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M. WALKER.
Property Monitress	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	D. FARRER.
Editor of Magazine	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	D. AMSDEN.

EDITORIAL.

Judging from their remarks to the Editor, the prevailing impression of writers of School News and Form Notes in this number of the Magazine seems to have been "that nothing happened last term." Judging from the results of their efforts, most of them have been successful in making something out of nothing. It is still necessary to remind contributors that all articles should be written in ink and on one side of the paper—and preferably on "slab" paper; also that no girl need wait to be asked to write stories or poems for the Magazine. The Editor will at any time be pleased to receive such work. If it is not suitable it will be returned without comment, and no signature is published without the author's consent.

We have all known for some time that we should have to lose Miss Fawcus at the end of the Spring term, and the time has come all too quickly for us. The School will miss her very much; but all—both juniors and seniors—most sincerely join in wishing her and Mr Blagden every happiness.

The Editor thanks all those who have this term contributed to the Magazine, and bids it farewell, wishing it every success in the future.

SCHOOL NEWS.

The Musical "At Home."

On Wednesday, April 6th, the music and elocution pupils gave a recital in the Hall to their parents. The chief points to be noticed were the distinct improvement in the individual performances and the commendable self-control displayed by the pupils during a very trying incident. Each part of the programme was charming, the first part rendered so by the painstaking and proud efforts of the younger ones, the second by the excellent playing of the seniors. Pleasing variety was given by the elocution pupils, and when all had performed, tea was served in the dining-room, at Miss Gurney's kind invitation.

Lecture on Palestine.

Last term Mr. Henderson very kindly gave a lecture to the Old Girls on Palestine. The members of the Reading Society were asked to come, and although it was a wet night a good number attended. Mr. Henderson's lecture was extremely interesting, and his pictures of the Holy Land added greatly to the enjoyment of the audience. About half-past nine we went home, after having thanked Mr. Henderson for his kindness in giving the lecture.

The Botany Expedition.

On the first Saturday in term members from Forms VI., VA., VB., and IV. went a Botany Picnic to Prudhoe. Miss Cooper had arranged for us to go to Chopwell Woods, but at the last moment a telegram was received saying that, on account of the King's death, the woods would be closed.

When Prudhoe was reached the rain was coming down heavily, so we sat in the waiting-room and were entertained by "cat's cradle," etc. As the rain seemed inclined to stay, we ate our lunch in the station, "and munched and munched," to the evident amusement of other people.

When the rain stopped we went across the bridge to Ovingham and saw the church, after which we set off to Whittle Dene. The woods were lovely, though rather damp, and consequently slippery, but that only added a pleasant excitement to the work of gathering specimens. When the end of the woods was reached Miss Cooper gave us an impromptu Botany lesson, while we sat on a wobbly tree stump to take notes and learn the names of such specimens as we did not know.

We then walked back through the woods to Ovingham Village, where we had tea in a tiny little room, and the good lady of the house would persist in shutting the door, so we were nearly suffocated.

After tea it was suggested that we should walk to Wylam, which was about two miles away, but many of the girls wished to stay in Ovingham; however, they quite unaccountably changed their minds, so we all walked to Wylam, whence we took the train home, having enjoyed a most successful and interesting day.

Literary Meetings.

The Literary meetings were a greater success than ever last term, the average attendance being between twenty-five and thirty. "Hamlet," "The School for Scandal," and "The Rivals" were voted for and read, and, to judge by comments and discussions overheard afterwards, much appreciated, especially parts where ghosts convulsed the audience with sepulchral "Swears," and Jews spoke in mingled dialect of Irish, Scotch, Tyneside, and Cockney! The Society is heartily grateful to Miss Fawcus for all the trouble she has taken over the meetings, and as sincerely sorry that they can no longer be continued under her direction.

Reading Society.

The Society did very well last term. The prizes were won by Lillie Robson and Mary Cook, who read 61 hours 15 minutes and 58 hours respectively.

School Lists.

	Neatness List.	Star List. (Maximum 13.)
Form VI.	—3	11
„ VA.	—0	11
„ VB.	—6	2
„ IV.	—5	5
„ IIIA.	—9	2
„ IIIB.	—4	2
„ II.	—1	8
„ I.	—6	—
Kindergarten	—0	—

The School Museum.

It is with much pleasure that several valuable additions to the above are gratefully acknowledged.

Seaweeds, skeletons, fossils, foreign seeds, birds' nests, and other things have recently been added to the Museum and gladly accepted. Birds' nests and eggs should only come through the hands of those who fully understand bird-life and are willing to share in its protection in every possible way. Only those nests which are past use or forsaken should be removed.

Will any friend be good enough to add to our increasing stock? Here is a chance for everyone! Cannot some of you become John Hancock's on a smaller scale?
A. EDMUNDS.

GAMES.

“Mens sana in corpore sano.”

Hockey.—Spring Term, 1910.

This term was the most exciting of the Hockey season, as the finals for both the Shield and Lazenby Cup were played off. The first match was against Bishop Auckland, who proved to be rather a weak team, and whom we beat by 11—0; thus we were in the final struggle against the Central. This was the best match of the season. Spectators turned up in crowds, and the cheering was most encouraging. We won 4—1, and thus regained the Lazenby Cup.

The chief item of this term's Hockey programme, however, was the final for the Shield, though, unfortunately, the weather was not very propitious, the ground being very soft, and the game was not quite so exciting as the Cup final. We, however, still retain the Shield, as we defeated the Central by 2 to 0. Last, but not least in importance, came the Form matches for Miss Dickinson's Cup. These matches are of great interest to the whole School, and there is always a keen contest.

The mistresses were very kind in helping their Forms to complete elevens when deficiencies arose. Forms IIIA. and IIIB. played first, the former winning 1—0; IV. and VB. played the same day, VB. gaining 3 to IV.'s 0. After a fortnight's delay, owing to bad weather, IIIA. and VB. played, VB. gaining an overwhelming victory over the smaller girls of IIIA. VA. played the Sixth next, and the Sixth won by 2—0 after a keen struggle.

Then came the final between the Sixth and VB; it was a most exciting match. The Cup now adorns the Sixth's form-room, as they won by 3-0.

It is with a heavy heart that we part with four of our players, who have loyally supported the team this season; but we wish the team every success in the future.

D. STUART.
P. BROWN.

Basket-Ball.—Spring Term, 1910.

We were much disappointed by the postponement of our Shield matches, which we had been looking forward to very much, but they will be played early this term. We only played one Senior and one Junior match. We played Sunderland High

School under the new regulations. The match resulted in a draw 8-8. Durham came to oppose our Junior team, but the latter proved to be much the superior, beating Durham by a large majority. There are a great many girls playing this term, so that we hope that our play will improve very much. Teams:—

SENIOR—K. Robson, O. Gracey, G. Hicks, E. Nattress, G. Hodgshon,
D. Rowden, L. Robson (capt). .

JUNIOR—M. Pullen, P. Telfer, A. Inskip, K. Appleby, D. Morpeth.

L. ROBSON.

FORM NOTES.

Form VI.—

The Editress has worried me,

For quite a week or more,

To hurry up and write these notes

(Which I've not done before),

Our number stands at fourteen now,

We still in Hall reside.

Last term we won the Hockey Cup,

Since then it's been our pride.

Form VA.—One might say with a degree of truth of our Form, as one says of greater things, "Happy is the nation whose history is uneventful." We managed to have no order-marks by the end of the term, and we had not one minus.

We also succeeded in getting five entries in the Excellent Book, so that we are to have a Form party this term.

M. COBBOLD.

Form VB. was in the final for Miss Dickinson's Hockey Cup, but unfortunately was beaten after a very exciting match by the Sixth. However, we cherish the hope of winning the Basket-Ball Shield, which Form VA. holds at present. We were all extremely sorry that, at the end of the Spring term, we had to part with our Form-mistress, Miss Fawcus, who is going to be married. Form VB. worked very hard to have a party last term, Lillie Robson and Gertrude Hodgshon alone gaining 20 and 17 excellents respectively. But in the end it was not to be, as there were so many order-marks.

K. PADFIELD.

Form IV.—Nothing exciting happened last term. There were no new girls, but two of our members left us—Madeline Paul and Marjorie Brown, who have both gone to boarding-schools. Though we lost Miss Dickinson's Hockey Cup, we have hopes of winning the Basket-Ball Shield. Everybody was very sorry to lose Miss Fawcus, of course. There were one or two entries in the Excellent Book, and very few stars; but we mean to get more this term.

ALICE INSKIP.
GERTRUDE WAGGOTT.

Form IIIA.—We did not distinguish ourselves in the Star List or the Neatness List last term, and we had only three entries in Miss Gurney's Excellent Book. We were in the semi-final for Miss Dickinson's Hockey Cup, but were beaten by Form VB.

We have a garden at the top of the playground, and Ethel Fletcher makes a very good gardener.

PEGGY HORSLEY.

Form IIIB.—There were 18 girls in IIIB. last term, but now there are 24, and we all hope we shall do much better, as last term we only had two stars and three entries in Miss Gurney's Excellent Book.

We unfortunately lost our Form Hockey match against IIIA., they having one goal and we none.

D. COOPER ABBS.

Form II.—Our School won the Shield and Cup for Hockey last term. We had eight stars last term, and were equal to VA., and hope we shall get more this term. Some of our girls in the Form had many excellents. We have more new girls this term than last. We were all very sorry when Miss Fawcus left us, but we wish her every happiness in the future.

K. SCOTT.
A. DEUCHAR.

Form I.—I have been moved up into the First Form this term. I think I like it a little better than the Transition, because I want to get on.

HELEN MAGUIRE.

Kindergarten.—I love the Kindergarten, and I love my lessons and my painting, drawing, and reading. I am crocheting a doll's bonnet; it is red, and it has white strings. The other day we went to the Museum. We saw a very big fish. We all enjoyed it very much.

MARJORIE BREWER.

MARRIAGES.

On April 27th, at the Parish Church, Gosforth, NANCY ISABEL NEWCOMBE to Mr. SAMUEL SUMMERSON WRIGHTSON.

On April 28th, at St. George's Church, Jesmond, HILDA HUNTER to Mr. FREDERICK CHARLES GARRET.

On June 1st, at St. George's Church, Jesmond, ANNA MABEL FAWCUS to the Rev. JAMES NEVILL BLAGDEN.

THE DAWNING OF A NEW ERA.

Someone in the G.P.O. had a brain-wave, and decided that it would be much quicker, both for the London and Continental mails and the passengers, to stop the liners at Fishguard, in the south-west of Wales, and to continue the journey by special train on the G.W.R.

As soon as the Mail Packet leaves New York a cable is sent to the Cunard Company's offices at Liverpool to say how many bags of mails there are on board, and how many of them are to be landed at Fishguard. Notice is then given by the Cunard Company to the General Post Office and to the Great Western Railway Company.

When the vessel passes Bolt Head a wireless telegraphy message is sent by the commander of the Packet to Queenstown, and from there to the G.P.O. Surveyor for South Wales, to say when the boat is due to reach Fishguard. The Surveyor then arranges for a staff of clerks and postmen to go from Swansea to Fishguard, and they go off in a tender to meet the Packet.

As soon as the Packet casts anchor the tender goes alongside, and three canvas-covered shoots are hoisted from the tender to the ship, and the mail bags are slid down the shoots on to the tender as fast as ever they can be.

The Post Office men carry automatic numbering machines, and they count by these as each bag reaches the tender. The fore shoot is used entirely for the bags for the Continent of Europe—they come from all parts of North and South America for all parts of Europe, including Turkey, Sweden, Iceland, etc.

The shoot amidships is used for bags for London, and the aft shoot for bags for English towns.

The commander of the Packet sends a Way Bill tied to the first bag that comes down the shoot, and the numbers counted by the Post Office staff have to agree with the numbers shown on the Way Bills.

Directly the last bag is aboard the tender the latter steams back at full speed to the Ocean Quay at Fishguard Harbour. The bags are loaded into immense crates. These are hoisted from the tender to the quay by electric cranes, placed on trolleys, and wheeled to the mail train, which stands at the Ocean Quay platform.

The carriages of the mail train are each numbered from 1 to, say, 7 or 8, and Post Office men instruct the trolley men to which carriages to take their loads.

Other Post Office men are stationed in each carriage to receive the bags and to stow them properly in their respective carriages.

The bags for the Continent and London are loaded in the front vans, those for English towns in the rear vans, and the rear vans are then detached at Cardiff.

By this means the mails for London and for most English towns reach their destination before the vessel which brought them from New York has even reached Liverpool. All the bags used to be taken on to Liverpool to be unloaded there before the Fishguard route was adopted.

Mails can be delivered in London by this route in five days from the time of their leaving New York, and in most of the cities of Europe they can be delivered from 12 to 24 hours earlier than they could when they were conveyed via Liverpool.

As soon as the mail bags are loaded into the special train the doors of the mail vans are all locked with a special key, and the train is despatched to London. It stops only once, at Cardiff, between Fishguard and London.

The quickest work done has been the receiving of 3,000 bags from the Packet and despatching them by the special train in 89 minutes from the time of the Mail Packet dropping anchor.

Many more such brain-waves and we shall only have to touch a button and be sorted and landed in America ourselves.

ADVENTURES OF FORM I. & KINDERGARTEN.

A Walk through Jesmond Dene.

We went to the Dene, and we saw many birds. We saw a tree which was coming into blossom; the blossom was pink; the tree does not grow very tall. I found a sycamore fruit, but one of the wings was broken off. And we found many other things. We had not time to go to the waterfall. And on the way back we saw a crow's nest, the crow was beside it; and when we were there we saw a thrush, it was singing.

MARGARET NICHOLSON.

We saw a pink flower; it is one of the first flowers that come out. We saw a robin when we were going, and it was chirping. Then in the Dene we found sycamores, and then we found yew with berries on; then we found some beech leaves, then some rhododendron. Then, coming back, we saw a rook building its nest, and we saw a lot of other nests.

BARBARA BOOKEY.

A Visit to the Hancock Museum.

We saw a bison; it had more hair on its back than on the front. We saw a skeleton of a horse; it had long legs. We saw a squirrel, and it had a cherry in its hands, and it was eating it; it had soft hair.

OLGA H. ADAMS.

Miss Edmunds took us to the Museum on Monday; we had such a nice time. And I saw a pond where our tadpoles come from. And now I must tell you about what I saw. Well, then, the peacock has such a nice tail, and the rabbit was lying down in the case; and the ostrich is so big, it has such a long neck.

BIDDY PRUEN.

Yesterday, Miss Edmunds took us to the Museum, and we saw a skeleton. And we saw a man putting a skeleton together. And we saw a squirrel, and it had a hair back and a long tail. And we saw a monkey, and it had a tail and a funny face.

DOLLY CAIRNS.

LIFE AT DURHAM UNIVERSITY.

It was said by a Cambridge Don, centuries ago, that a University was a "gigantic athletic club, of which the conditions of entrance are very easy." This old Don might have known what he was talking about THEN, but certainly he had never heard of Women's Colleges, and particularly the Hostel at Durham. The Hostel, which is an old building, borders on the Cathedral Churchyard, faces the

University Lecture Rooms, and is within both sight AND sound of the Castle, so if environment has any effect upon character, we, the inhabitants of Abbey House, ought to be both "riotous and godly." Our usual day is divided into three parts—Lectures in the morning, play in the afternoon, study at night; but this uniformity is very often broken by the various dissipations of the men, to which we are sometimes invited, and by our own comparatively small diversions.

Some of the Lectures are very enlivening, as they can hardly fail to be if between sixty and seventy men are there; but others are just as dull, if two poor frightened women are entombed with one Don. Occasions, I may remark, have been known when the Don has been more frightened than the women!

In the afternoon most of the students are to be found out of doors. Hockey occupies the attention—if not the energy—of many during the Winter terms, and Tennis and Boating during the Summer. The Dean allows us to use his tennis-court whenever we want it, a privilege which is much appreciated.

The evening, both before and after dinner, we spend "grinding, grinding, grinding" (more or less).

Debates occupy quite a great deal of our time. We have four Debates every term—two for all the Women Students and two for the Students at Abbey House. They are often very interesting and amusing; but it is very sad for those unfortunate ones who have to take any part. The discussions which follow are sometimes lively, sometimes the reverse; particularly the latter if a stranger happens to be present. The men's Debates are splendid. There is a Ladies' Night once every term, to which we look forward with great eagerness, because besides being "interesting and instructive" they are also very amusing.

This term is one which everybody enjoys immensely. Everyone is obliged to "stay up" for ten days after Examinations are over, in order to keep the required number of days. During this time, usually called "June Week," all the gaieties of the year reach their culmination. There are boat-races, concerts, debates, and the Convocation, at which those who satisfy the Examiners blossom out in all their glory, while others sit around and look envious.

R. E. WILSON.

KING EDWARD VII.

The nation is only just beginning to comprehend the greatness of the calamity that has so unexpectedly befallen it. Scarcely had the people of the British Empire time to realise that their King was in danger before the news of his death came, almost stunning them by its startling suddenness.

By his short but glorious reign Edward VII. has established himself among the greatest and most beloved of monarchs. As Prince of Wales he came more before the eye of the public than is usually the case. For some time before Queen Victoria's death almost all the ceremonial and social duties of the State devolved upon her eldest son, and the way in which he comported himself in the most trying circumstances was a strong proof of his extraordinary tact and judgment.

Although Sovereign in reality, he was not so in name, and he was always most careful to act as his Royal mother's subject. Owing to this he was not able then to begin all that he afterwards did for the country, but his long training as Prince helped to fit him for the heavy responsibilities of King. It was during this time

that he first made for himself the great place which he occupies in the hearts of his subjects. His affectionate and kind disposition and his great human sympathy endeared him to all.

On his accession to the Throne, King Edward declared that while there was breath left in his body he would try to follow in his mother's footsteps, and would devote himself solely to the welfare of his people. How well he has fulfilled that intention, winning for himself the name of the "People's King," is known to everyone.

England has been governed by many Edwards, among whom there have been great warriors and great rulers, but this last Edward will be remembered by a grander title—the Peacemaking King. Peace was the chief object of his life—peace abroad and peace at home. The cessation of the Boer war after he ascended the Throne was said to be largely due to his tact. The nation realises in part what it owes to this wonderful influence, but it will never know all that he has averted.

It is difficult to understand why, at a time when this gift of peacemaking seems to be most needed, he should be so suddenly removed. There is no one in the Empire so able to cope with the difficulties of the present time as was our late King. But sometimes the real lesson of a life becomes more pointed after death. His influence remains and helps those that are left, so in a measure may the country still be guided by Edward the Peacemaker.

DORIS PROCTOR.

SILVERSHEEN.

Dull, cloudy greenness, the indistinct shadow of the lank seaweed, enveloped by the deathly stillness of the sea world, and through this calm the tones of rippling laughter reached the ears of Silversheen, as she dreamily floated midst the twining plants of the deep. Wearied by the gaiety of the mer-folk she had swum away, intent on her own adventures, and now longing for the cool night breeze she slowly rose to the surface, where the waves rolled ceaselessly. As she glided over the water a ship passed her, and, eager for some new interest, Silversheen followed in its wake and watched the sailors moving on deck.

A man taller than the rest appeared, and leaning over the rail gazed down into the foaming water; but even while he loitered a sudden gust of wind roused him, and he looked anxiously at the threatening sky. In a short while the clouds were flying before a mighty gale, and the ship floundered helplessly. The suddenness of the squall had taken her unprepared, and the men clenched their teeth as they battled against the storm. Then distinct above the noise came a cry of "Lower away the boats." These were rapidly filled, in stern silence, and pulled away into the night, only one remaining, and the captain, alone on the wreck, looked anxiously round as though in search of someone. The ship gave a more sickening tremble; no one stirred on board. "He must be with the first lot," he said, and jumped into the last place in the waiting boat, which immediately shot away.

Before the doomed ship heeled over for its final plunge a dark figure appeared on it, and Dick Shaw leapt clear. But as the water closed over his head two arms twined gently round him, and he was borne swiftly downwards.

When he opened his eyes he was lying on a soft bed of sand, and smiling down on him was the elf-like face of a mermaid. "Where is this?" he asked dazedly. "This is sea-world," answered Silversheen. "But why am I here alive?" "I brought you. As you touched the water I gave you the power, possessed by no other mortal, to live beneath the waves."

Silversheen then persuaded him to go with her to the palace of her Royal father, and alone on such a journey how could Dick do otherwise than succumb to the charms of the bewitching sea-maiden?

* * * * *

King Foamy-Crest sat on his throne of white coral holding a levee in the depths of the sea, when up through the lines of his swordfish bodyguard floated Silversheen, leading the astonished Dick by the hand.

"In the name of Neptune, daughter," cried the stormy old monarch, "what have you brought with you now?" "A mortal," she answered, "whom I saved from drowning, because I love him."

"And I love her, your Majesty," said Dick boldly, "and I crave your gracious permission to marry her." At this audacity the Court rose up like a hissing wave crying: "A mortal who has no tail shall not dwell in our domain. By the crown star fish we swear it!" It was in vain that Silversheen pleaded; the king's decree went forth that before the rising of the next tide he should perish—the charm which kept him alive should be removed.

Ere the excitement had subsided a curious dark shadow appeared far above them, descending into their very midst. Out of the gloom came a monster with huge goggle eyes, an impenetrable steel-like skin, and long feelers, which seemed to stretch upwards indefinitely.

Such an apparition had never before been seen in the realm of King Foamy-Crest, and the mer-folk fled terrified.

But Dick saw his chance. "Keep back!" he cried; "I will save you," and boldly he approached the fearsome intruder, which now stood upright in the cleared space. Gazing into its glassy eyes he moved his lips, emitting a low murmur, as of a spell being cast. A frenzied gurgle, somewhat resembling a bottled-up "Well, I'm blowed!" broke from the monster, who, frantically pulling its illimitable feelers, suddenly shot upwards and vanished, even as it had come.

With a cry of gratitude and relief the frightened watchers swept forward and surrounded Shaw. The king, his previous anger dissolved like froth, graciously beckoned the saviour to his side and offered him his daughter as a reward.

With a glad cry Silversheen glided into Dick's arms, and together they floated away through the dim avenues of shadowy seaweed.

HOCKEY SONG.

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(To be sung to the tune of "British Grenadiers.")

Daphne had a hockey team,
 With members stout and true—
 Eleven Novocastrians bold,
 Their colours green and blue.

CHORUS:—The echoes of the hockey field
 Still linger clear and sweet;
 "Oh, shoot, you lazy forwards, shoot!
 Take your time, backs; use your feet."

Its forwards all were fleet and slim,
 Its half-backs all were pearls,
 Its backs and goal a sturdy crew—
 The pick of High School girls.

CHORUS:—The echoes, etc.

It played one day to win a shield,
 Another day a cup;
 And both it won victoriously
 And in its hall set up.

CHORUS:—The echoes, etc.

Then down to all posterity
 Its honoured name shall go,
 And on the pink gymnasium walls
 Its photograph shall glow.

CHORUS:—The echoes, etc.

F. E. DICKINSON.