

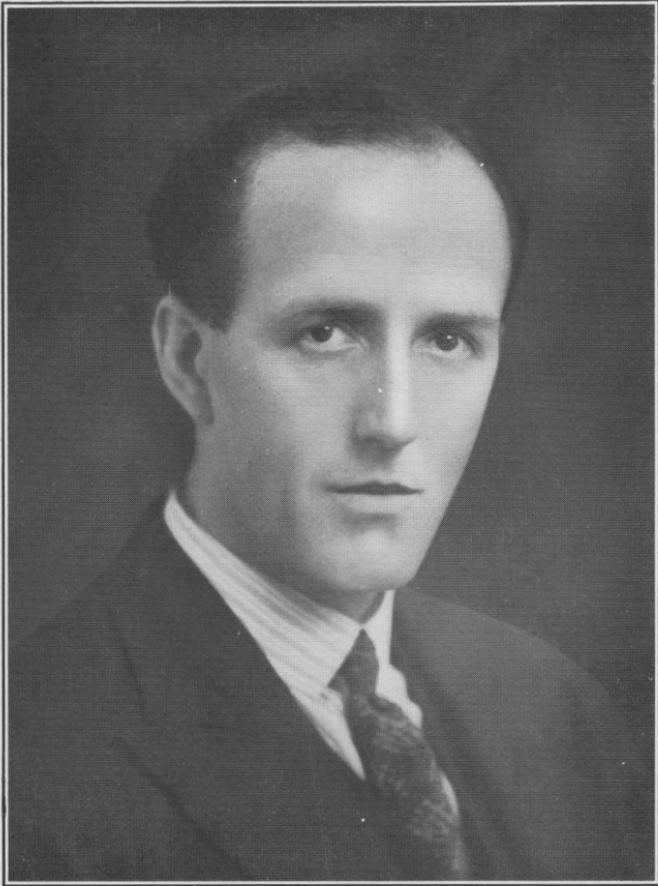


· SIBFORD ·
OLD · SCHOLARS'
· ASSOCIATION ·



Twenty-fifth
ANNUAL
REPORT
1930

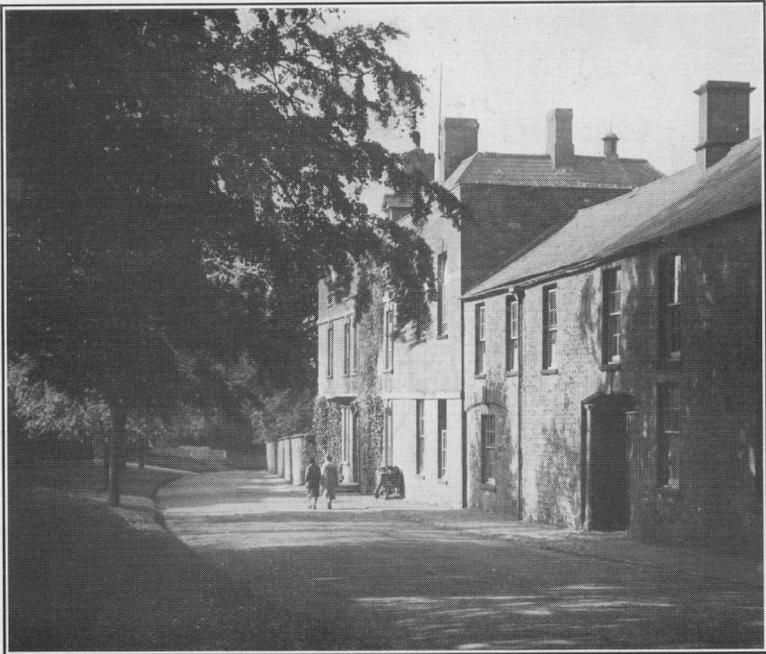
"YE MENNE OF SHEEP-FORD WENDATH
WHITHERSOEVER THEY WILEN."



HENRY J. RANDALL

President : S.O.S.A.—1929-30

Sibford Old Scholars' Association



TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

SINCE our last Report was published Sibford has concluded one chapter of her history, and started another. The Headmastership has changed. The new buildings have been erected and occupied—and paid for. The old buildings have undergone internal alterations. We have had a record Whitsuntide Gathering; and the keenness of Old Scholars in the city of Oxford has given birth to a new S.O.S.A. Branch there. Not the least auspicious feature of this glorious year is the news from the Secretary-Treasurer that subscriptions are rolling in with unprecedented liveliness.

The best wishes of all Old Scholars go to Mr. and Mrs. Harrod in their new activities; but we weep no tears at parting, Mr. Harrod having accepted the Presidency of the S.O.S.A. His occupancy of that office at this period is singularly fitting. Probably no other Friends' School could present its Old Scholars with the unique opportunity, which we hope to have next Whitsuntide, of meeting two past Headmasters and their wives—Mr. and Mrs. Oddie and Mr. and Mrs. Harrod. We look forward also to bettering our acquaintance with the new Headmaster, Mr. Johnstone, and his wife.

In this report we have endeavoured to provide a record of all the year's activities. We trust that, reading here, those who shared in the happy and eventful occasions will recapture the past; and we hope, particularly, that those who were absent, especially Old Scholars across the sea, will capture from these pages an invigorating breath of Sibford air. To these exiles we send our warmest greetings and the assurance that though the Old School changes outwardly her spirit persists, neither dimmed nor altered.

Officers of the S.O.S.A., 1930-31

President for the Year 1930-31:
JAMES T. HARROD, B.A.

Past Presidents:

1904	JOSEPH SPENCE HODGSON	1914-16	JAMES T. HARROD, B.A.
1904-05	DR. RICHARD L. ROUTH	1916-19	ELIZABETH F. BROWN
1905-06	MICHAEL T. GRAVESON, J.P.	1919-20	THOMAS JACKSON
1906-07	ROBERT B. ODDIE	1920-22	MABEL T. HARROD, B.A.
1907-08	JOSEPH S. K. PARSEY	1922-23	FRANK W. SNOW
1908-09	ELIZABETH M. ODDIE	1923-24	ETHEL M. SHARP
1909-10	EDWARD P. KAYE, M.Sc.	1924-25	FRANK LASCELLES
1910-11	CHARLES E. BRADY	1925-26	DR. MARGARET BRADY
1911-12	ETHEL M. HARRISSON	1926-27	CHRISTOPHER MARTIN
1912-13	ARTHUR B. ODDIE	1927-28	MIRIAM J. CARTER
1913-14	LUCY S. LAMB	1928-29	ARNOLD J. KAYE
		1929-30	H. J. RANDALL

Honorary Secretary and Treasurer:

FREDERICK E. GOUDGE, 18, Whitelaw Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy,
 Manchester

Local Secretary:

ETHEL M. COOKE, Sibford School, near Banbury

Branch Secretaries:

Birmingham—OLIVE WAGSTAFF
 London—HENRY LAWRENCE
 Oxford—AMY I. HUNT

Honorary Auditor:

A. REUBEN WILSON

Representative on the School Committee:

F. LIONEL GEERING

Editor of Report:

LESLIE W. A. BAILY, "Riffawood," 88, Copgrove Road, Harehills, Leeds

Committee (in addition to above ex-officio Members):

J. W. THORPE	ANN HODGKISS
GORDON WELLS	OWEN REYNOLDS
GRACE FARR	REGINALD BARBER

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SIBFORD AT WHITSUNTIDE

A Narrative of Great Events during the record 1930 Gathering of the S.O.S.A.

ONE week-end, even with the whole of Monday thrown in, is a terribly short time. Perhaps that is why we start feeling a pleasant Sibfordish thrill at the earliest possible moment on our way to the Old Scholars' Gathering. Certainly we waste no time in getting into things. We are a happy family at the first common meal.

And this time we were *some* family! Part of us had to overflow into the Art Room to relieve the congestion in the Dining Hall. Our Secretary calculated that we were 40 per cent. of the whole membership of the S.O.S.A. in this country. All previous attendance records were broken, with 190 Old Scholars present for part or all of the week-end.

With what difficulties our Local Secretaries had wrestled in finding us accommodation, we shall never know, for they were there to greet us, as apparently serene and cheerful as ever. One advantage they had this term—a dormitory in the new building was complete enough to house some of the men. A fine "doss" it was, with its beautiful view across to Broadway.

We lost no time in exploring the new building. Locked doors here and there were snubs to our curiosity. Enough was visible, however, to reveal the new Sibford as almost a Palace of Dreams. Those spacious class-rooms with ample windows, big French doors, long blackboards and—Heavens, yes!—electric light (or at least the fittings therefor) were in striking contrast with the gloomy old places where we learnt our lessons. (No treason is intended, but gloomy they were, and are yet). At the same time, the new Sibford is not ornate—is, in fact, severely plain, as becomes a not very wealthy school of Quaker foundation and traditions.

On Saturday afternoon the weather was delightful for cricket, but for some reason the match, Old Scholars versus the School, began a lamentable half hour late. What about a little serious interest and a prompt start next year? Mr. Herbert opened the scoring for the School, who went in first. Blunsom was out to a very smart catch by Morrish and runs came slowly with very frequent maiden overs. Just when he looked as though he might become dangerous, Mr. Thorpe was neatly caught in the slips. Mr. Herbert was batting attractively when Bernard Lamb got busy, and afterwards the School collapsed. At the stumping of Mr. Harrod, the spectators were divided between admiration for the stumper and regret at J.T.H.'s fall. The School were all out for 28 runs.

Morrish's fine batting was the outstanding feature of the O.S. innings, his driving and cutting being delightful to watch, and Barber's contribution was very useful. The President must have felt the weight of his responsibility too much. His bright and sparkling innings was all to short. Charles Brady was unfortunately caught by some misguided youth in the deep field. We hope it won't occur again. Here is the scoring in full :—

THE PRESENT	
R. Herbert, b. Lamb.....	10
B. Blunson, c. Morrish, b. Hill.....	0
J. W. Thorpe, c. Hill, b. Lamb.....	7
J. T. Harrod, st. Blackburn, b. Lamb..	1
F. Parkin, b. Lamb.....	0
C. Ford-Dunn, b. H. Poulton.....	0
J. Taylor, b. Lamb.....	0
A. Standing, not out.....	3
H. Brown, b. Lamb.....	1
L. Stoneham, c. H. Poulton, b. Geering.	1
R. Symes, st. Blackburn, b. H. Poulton..	1
Byes.....	2
No-balls.....	1
TOTAL.....	28

THE PAST	
R. Barber, b. Parkin.....	23
E. Poulton, b. Parkin.....	5
S. Morrish, not out.....	50
B. Lamb, b. Herbert.....	9
C. Brady, c. Taylor, b. Parkin.....	0
R. Geering, b. Standing.....	6
H. Randall, c. Symes, b. Herbert.....	0
H. Poulton, not out.....	11
R. Hill.....	0
L. Thomas.....	Did not bat
C. Blackburn.....	1
Byes.....	1
TOTAL (6 wickets).....	105

The Present Scholars' entertainment on Saturday evening exhibited talent of various sorts. The main item was "The Jester," a play in three acts by Lady Gregory. All the actors were self-possessed and competent, but some succeeded in getting right inside their parts and gave a spirited performance. We liked particularly John Alexander's playing of The Servant. How Mr. Herbert managed to act and sing whilst in constant danger of being tickled on the nose by a bell, we could not imagine; a jester's cap must be a most maddening form of headgear. At one point we feared that Theodore Lamb must be coming on to the stage with his concertina, but the strange noise was explained when the Wren Boys appeared with whistle pipes and other crude instruments. The performance all through was excellent fun for actors and spectators alike. How the smallest Wren Boy must have delighted in dashing a fistful of jelly to the ground! Afterwards there were songs by groups of girls and boys and country dances in costume were executed with grace and skill.

Our re-union that evening took the form of a walk, in case it should be wet later (though we needn't have been pessimistic). In a huge circle round the cross roads at the Elm, 95 of us had our usual sing-song, producing a strange medley of sound because it was quite impossible all to sing the same version or all to keep together. The motor cyclist who rode through our midst must have wondered, unless he was a native of those parts, what strange new sect had gathered to perform mystic rites here in the moonlight. We finished, of course, with our particular ceremony—a "rocket" thrice repeated.

The appeal of the Secretary, F. E. Goudge, that we should pack the Meeting House on Sunday morning, won such a response that even the ministers' gallery was full, and the Preparative Meeting Clerk, T. Herbert Busby, had to make his announcements from a position in the doorway. The keynote of the meeting was friendship, the friendship that showed itself in the doing of simple everyday things, the friendship that is meant by the Kingdom of God.

I suppose we were all anxious not to think too much about Mr. and Mrs. Harrod's impending retirement, but the thought would keep coming up, "This is the very last time" Our spirits went up at the suggestion in the business meeting on Sunday evening, that Mr. Harrod should be our next year's President. We joyfully elected him and shall, we hope, have him and Mrs. Harrod with us again next Whitsuntide. They will have a less strenuous role to fill, though they cannot hope to escape the necessity of speech-making and the persistent attention of amateur photographers.

Another fact which helped to bridge the gap between the old regime and the new was the visit on Sunday of the future Head Master and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Johnstone. Many of us made friends with them during the day

in informal talks, whilst we were glad to give them an official welcome at dinner time. Our President called attention to the fact that Mr. Johnstone would be the first Sibford Head Master not to wear a beard!

Mr. Johnstone, in responding, gave us as one definition of social progress, "the development of personality in fellowship." That, he felt, was the sort of thing that had been brought about by Mr. and Mrs. Harrod, as evidenced by our gathering there. In appealing modestly for the friendship and perhaps the love of Old Scholars, he promised us always "a lovely welcome" at Sibford.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrod's reception on the lawn in the afternoon was the usual happy opportunity for snapshot-hunting, signing the visitors' book and for general "reminiscing," while large quantities of tea and cakes went the rounds and disappeared.

Sibford has always been a place for warm and hearty community singing, and at School Meeting we found that the art had not been lost by either present or past generations of Sibfordians. Mr. Harrod, in his address, spoke of religion as "the spirit in which we do things," "life and what we make of it"—thoughts of the sort we have learnt to expect of him, big thoughts yet neither obscure nor other-worldly. To have the President's Address and the Business Meeting on Sunday evening was an innovation with the advantage of leaving Monday morning free.

Entrants for the Motor Gymkhana on the next morning must have made their preparations with wonderful secrecy. To the crowd of spectators the appearance



Howard, Fay, Eric, Kenneth and Ronald Quinton with Monica Bowski peeping at the back.



L. to R.: A. W. Wells, G. Law, Joyce Wells, Dorothy Tye, O. Reynolds, Marjorie Wells, J. Perry, W. Pollard.



L. to R.: Christine Wilson, Bessie Pritchard, Florence Lissaman, Gulie Harrod.

A STRIP OF FILM EXPOSED AT Mr. and Mrs. HARROD'S RECEPTION BY J. NUTTER SCOTT.

of each fresh "turn-out" in the parade, was the occasion of hilarious amazement. The Quintonians' Band, with their corpulent conductor soliciting alms (for the Building Fund), in broken English, were the first to arrive. Then, lo! a dignified green dragon, with baleful jaws snapping, scattered the mob. Suddenly, "Here Comes the Bride," yelled someone, and there she was, becomingly clad in lace curtains, accompanied in her car by bridegroom and clergyman ingeniously attired, while behind them bumped the proverbial old shoe. A dashing company of pirates, a "Safety First" sidecar, a freak racing sidecar, and sundry other disguised vehicles or persons appeared, last year's rustic policeman (Mr. Herbert) being again in control (?) of the traffic. We must not forget "The Silver Pullit," a racing car cleverly constructed and "driven" by three of the fair sex. It competed heroically at a walking pace, used no petrol, and produced lacerations, and doubtless fatigue, in the legs of the three occupants.

After the parade outside the School the scene of the Gymkhana moved to the games field where there was an obstacle race, during which spectators rushed wildly hither and thither to watch competitors depositing potatoes in buckets, threading needles and driving home nails with the handicap of sex thrown against them, and taking bites from dangling potatoes. Then at one point there were "intelligence tests." Any motoring cross-word puzzle fiend ought to know, of course, that a river crossing is a "Ford" and a ray of light, a "Sunbeam." But it isn't everyone who can tell, supposing all Old Scholars were placed in a straight line starting from Paradise, (1) where they would end, and (2) who would be at the ends. Someone hazarded "Hell Bottom" as an answer to (1), but discreetly refrained from mentioning names in response to (2). Arnold Kaye figured on several papers but we are not sure at which extremity it was considered he would be found. We gather in answer to another question that there are a lot of panes (or is it pains?) after dinner in the School dining room. This must be taken as a sign of old age. It was not the case when we were young.

The obstacles and tests were placed at various points on a circuit marked out round the games field, and competitors had to drive round twice. At the finishing post they were timed in by officials armed with stop watches. Other officials awarded marks for their ingenuity in overcoming the various obstacles. During the afternoon the officials were in secret conclave, working out the figures.

In the meantime, an important ceremony took place before dinner at the approach road to the new buildings. Mr. and Mrs. Harrod planted a monkey puzzle tree, and then J.T.H. told us how these baby Araucarias (to give them their rightful name) had been grown with tender care since 1912 from cones of the parent tree in the Girls' Playground. He hoped they would encourage Old Scholars and others to give trees to complete an avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Oddie having planted the second monkey puzzle tree, Robert Oddie expressed his thanks for being allowed to participate in the ceremony in a speech full of scholarly phrases and quotations from the poets, mostly, it is true, not entirely appropriate to monkey puzzle trees, but then as R.B.O. himself explained, he had anticipated that it would be an English timber tree he would have to plant. Mrs. Oddie added a few words to her husband's good wishes for the future of Mr. and Mrs. Harrod and of the School. Three cheers, and then the local dignitaries returned to their homes, the carvers went off to carve, and the rest of us played tennis or lazed around the Paddock until dinner time.

After dinner came perhaps the most poignant part of the gathering, the presentation of cutlery from Old Scholars. The presentation was made on the Girl's Lawn before a big crowd of Old Scholars (new arrivals who had come for the day increased the attendance at the gathering during Monday to over 200) assembled in the shade of the big monkey puzzle tree. It is fully reported on another page.

The group photograph followed, and then came the picnic at Tyne Hill. Very pleasant and lazy and holidayish it was for everybody, except for the indefatigable Jane Sabin and a few public spirited assistants. A particular feature of this picnic was the number of babies being led to interview the cows and chickens of the neighbouring farm. One of the many advantages of a co-educational school is the family nature of the Old Scholars' Gatherings. Married folk can come with their wives or husbands or children without feeling out of things. By the way, was it at this picnic that Robert Oddie, being requested to pose for his photograph and the aforesaid cows straying into range, asked if he was to wear a "cowed" expression?

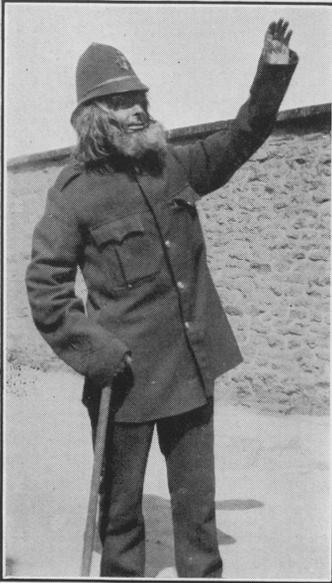
Monday evening was still gloriously fine and so the Old Scholars' concert was given on the Boys' Playground. The Quintonians having played "Happy Days Are Here Again," the presentation of prizes—no, the decisions of the Court—in connection with the motor-gymkhana were announced.

With due solemnity, Mr. Justice Baily, assisted by Police-Sergeant Herbert, and Court Officials, dispensed justice. The "prisoners," having taken the oath—to "speak the truth, the whole truth, and anything but the truth, so help me Brady"—and having kissed the policeman, were dealt with summarily. The Judge said that the Court had given long and grave consideration to the series of acts committed on the games field, and they found that Prisoner Bland was guilty of the best performance. He was sentenced to possess the Daytona Goblet, presented by Hiram K. Nipping-Chorton, and was bound over to keep the pieces for one year. Prisoner Gooday was sentenced for two offences: second best performance in the gymkhana and winner of the intelligence tests.



[Photo: H. J. Randall

AT THE GYMKHANA: R. Shepperd and J. Perry, of "Here Comes the Bride"; C. Blackburn; C. Mortimer; and members of the German Band: G. Baseley, R. Quinton, G. Quinton, H. Quinton.



Sergeant Herbert.

One of the audience was heard to remark that conviction for the latter offence was "too funny for words, when you know Gooday." Whereupon the Sergeant exploded: "Silence in Court!" Prisoner Geering was told that although he was charged with having made the worst performance of the day, he had a simple soul, a redeeming feature in a difficult case. Other prisoners having been dealt with, and Sergeant Herbert having expelled them from the Court, in some cases forcibly and in others with an arm round the waist (according to character and sex), the Judge promoted him to be Chief Constable of Tadmerton and announced that the Gymkhana had realised nearly £3 for the Building Fund, which amount would be "doubled." The detailed results of the Gymkhana are set out below.

NAME OF DRIVER	Marks for time taken (possible marks for fastest, 1240)	Marks for tests of skill and intelligence (possible 1240)	TOTAL MARKS
P. Bland (" Bill Posters ").....	1237	945	2182
A. Gooday (" Quintonians Band ")	1065	1045	2110
C. Fidler (" Racing Sidecar ")	1167	860	2027
B. Lamb (Morris Car)	1240	670	1910
W. Mold (" Safety First ").....	822	970	1792
A. W. Wells (Austin Seven)	817	945	1762
W. Pollard (" Fiery Dragon ")	1037	700	1737
S. Ewan	1059	675	1734
H. Lawrance (" Here Comes the Bride ")	755	895	1650
O. Tite (" Pirate Ship ").....	822	735	1557
P. Farr (Standard Car)	857	595	1452
F. Geering (Singer Car).....	642	725	1367
Doris Roe (" The Silver Pullit ")	—	Special Award	—

Fancy Dress: Best Car—Wilfred Pollard.

Fancy Dress: Best Passenger—Bessie Pritchard.

Then followed a jolly programme of songs by Grace Bunker, instrumental music by the Quintonians, and action songs and sketches by the London and Birmingham Branches. Who of those present will forget Wilfred Pollard's

appalling "code id di head" in "Cold Comforts," or Godfrey Baseley as the henpecked would-be-suicide in "Poor Old Sam," or the amazing discourses on pigs, the care of the bathroom and the habits of native tribes incongruously mixed together in "Listening-in," a comedy of three wireless talks that interfered with each other. Arnold Kaye and other turbaned heathens of the London Group finished the programme with "Gunga Din." Then came words of thanks, followed by bed for the present scholars and supper for the rest of us.

The final re-union in the Lecture Hall was the usual jolly affair, varied and not too high-brow. Perhaps it will be remembered chiefly for an amazing travel talk by Fred E. Goudge, illustrated by blackboard sketches that left everything to the imagination—or almost everything. Then through the dark lanes to our "digs." The weather had contributed to our enjoyment of the week-end by remaining gloriously sunny throughout. It was not until Tuesday morning that we saw grey skies, and then who cared?

As we waited at the front door for our 'buses, opposite us against the Paddock wall lay the rain-sodden wreck of the "Silver Pullit," as if to typify the melancholy end of all frivolity.

The goodbyes that followed were tinged with a little sadness at the thought of Sibford's impending changes, but all were agreed that it had been a glorious week-end pervaded by the true Sibford spirit.

HARRY AND MURIEL STEVENS.

S. O. S. A. COLOURS

Members of the S.O.S.A.: Have you your colours? Colours (gold, blue and grey) are the outward and visible sign of membership of the Association whose members wendath whithersoever they wilen.

Where ever you wendath, an S.O.S.A. tie will mark you in the eye of the world as a man (or woman) of learning. Clothe your noble shoulders in an S.O.S.A. blazer, and, like the village blacksmith, fear not any man! We ask: Can you afford to be without a silk square in these days when Personality Counts?

We repeat: Have you your colours? If not, why not? F. E. Goudge has large stocks of:—

- Ties..... 4s. 6d.
- Silk Squares (reduced from 15s. 9d.)..... 14s. 6d.
- Blazers..... 38s. 6d.
- S.O.S.A. Badges in bronze..... 1s. 6d.

Write to him at 18, Whitelow Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, and be clothed in your right colours!

FROM MR. AND MRS. HARROD

"Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Harrod send very sincere thanks to their Old Scholar friends for the wonderful gift made to them at Whitsuntide, 1930. The beautiful canteen and its contents form a most useful adjunct to their new home."

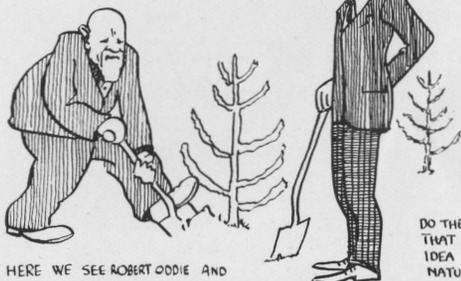
WHITSUN 1930



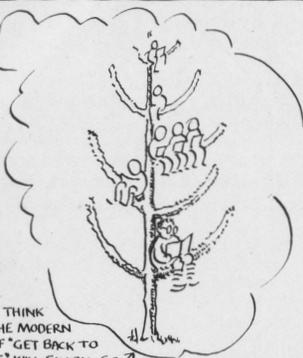
SEE WHAT MEN OF VISION HAVE BUILT FOR FUTURE SIBFORDIANS



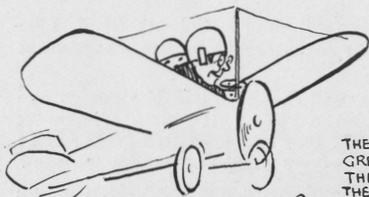
1030 AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF SIBFORD SCHOOL



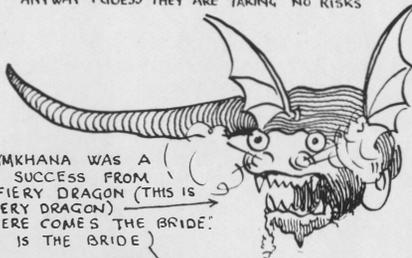
HERE WE SEE ROBERT ODDIE AND JAMES HARROD PLANTING MONKEY PUZZLERS



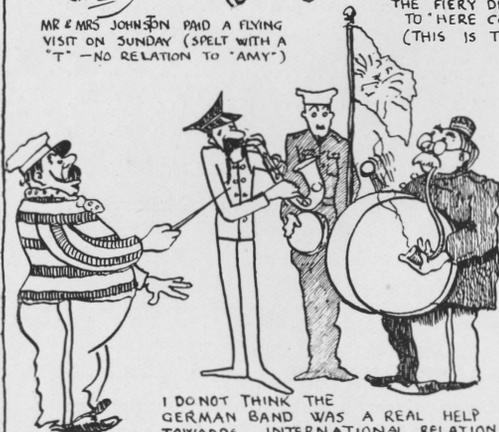
DO THEY THINK THAT THE MODERN IDEA OF "GET BACK TO NATURE" WILL FINISH SO ANYWAY I GUESS THEY ARE TAKING NO RISKS



MR & MRS JOHNSON PAID A FLYING VISIT ON SUNDAY (SPELT WITH A "T" - NO RELATION TO "AMY")



THE GYMKHANA WAS A GREAT SUCCESS FROM THE FIERY DRAGON (THIS IS THE FIERY DRAGON) TO 'HERE COMES THE BRIDE' (THIS IS THE BRIDE)



I DO NOT THINK THE GERMAN BAND WAS A REAL HELP TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIP.



H. QUINTON.

The Annual Meeting

THE large attendance at Sibford at Whitsuntide and the fact that the Annual Business Meeting was held on Sunday evening, when there were no counter-attractions, ensured a packed "house" in the Lecture Hall.

CHARLES E. BRADY was unanimously elected to the chair. Messages of greeting were read from :—

H. Calcraft (Vancouver, B.C.), M. R. Lansdowne (Englewood, B.C.), E. Viccars (Berwick, Victoria), E. Wood (Nairobi), A. P. Lower (Perth, Tasmania), E. R. Angel, F. Bax, P. Blunson, M. J. Carter, E. P. Churchill, J. A. Crosland, M. S. Dinnage, J. Gill, M. Hicks, E. M. Harrison, E. P. Kaye, I. Kear, K. Noble, G. Ostler, T. Sheppard, E. Shortell, F. Snow, E. Stevens, E. Woodhead, and Saffron Walden Old Scholars' Association.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

FREDERICK E. GOUDGE, the Secretary-Treasurer, presented the Statement of Accounts, from Whitsuntide, 1929, to Whitsuntide, 1930, as set out below :—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance in hand, Whitsuntide, 1929	36	19	2	Cost of Printing and distributing Annual Report for 1929....	39	4	6
Subscriptions received.....	46	9	0	Cost of Receipt Books.....	1	6	6
Interest on Life Members' Subscriptions.....	3	1	3	Secretary-Treasurer's Expenses..	2	4	3
				Balance in Hand.....	43	14	2
	£86	9	5		£86	9	5

F. E. GOUDGE,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,
A. REUBEN WILSON,
8th June, 1930.

N.B.—In addition to the balance shown above there is a sum of £81 18s. 0d. held on account of Life Members' subscriptions.

The adoption of the Accounts was carried unanimously.

MR. HARROD'S REPORT.

J. T. HARROD, in his report on the School Year, said that the chief interest had been the steady growth of the new buildings. It had been a busy year. Work in the upper part of the school had progressed exceptionally well. A group of scholars had started working for the Oxford University School

Examination and three candidates were to sit for the examination in July. The number of particularly able boys and girls was exceptional and promised well for the next school year. Two forms had attended Yearly Meeting in London. The work of the League of Nations Union branch at Sibford had flourished and Sibford was to be represented at the Junior Summer School at Geneva in August.

HARRY STEVENS asked whether the school had been full, and what were the prospects for next year.

J. T. HARROD replied that the boys' side had been full, but not the girls'. With the new buildings, it was expected that Sibford would have accommodation for about 130 scholars.

HENRY J. RANDALL gave his report as Representative on the School Committee.

HENRY LAWRENCE (London) and GODFREY BASELEY (Birmingham) gave their reports as Secretaries of the S.O.S.A. Branches. The detailed reports appear on Page 21. The enterprise of the Birmingham Branch in organising a concert which realised £33 3s. 6d. for the S.O.S.A. Building Fund was loudly applauded.

THE BUILDING FUND.

CHARLES BRADY reported on the S.O.S.A. Building Fund. He said that the cost of the work at present in hand would be about £23,000, of which a considerable sum was still required. An offer had been made to double all contributions received by June 20th, and this offer held good for the S.O.S.A. Fund. The amount of our Fund was about £560 plus interest.

(The Fund finally realised £634 17s. 3d.; of this sum £600 was remitted to the Central Building Fund, and there is at present a balance of £34 17s. 3d. to the credit of the Old Scholars' effort at the Bank.—Editor).

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

F. E. Goudge was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer, unanimously and with acclamation.

CHRISTINE WILSON proposed F. L. Geering as S.O.S.A. Representative on the School Committee.

ROLAND HERBERT, seconding, said that F. L. Geering had shown a very personal, practical, and hearty interest in the life of the school (Applause). The proposal was carried unanimously.

J. T. HARROD remarked that as W. R. Barber was now a representative of a Quarterly Meeting on the School Committee, the Committee now had two Old Scholar members, for which it was very grateful.

H. Lawrence was elected London Branch Secretary and Olive Wagstaff Birmingham Branch Secretary. Several Birmingham members requested the election of a committee to assist their local secretary in arranging functions, and

the following were appointed: W. R. Barber, G. Baseley, N. Coxon, S. Ewan, M. Hawkings and D. Roe.

Grace Farr and W. R. Barber were appointed members of the S.O.S.A. Committee to fill the vacancies therein.

Aima Kaye and Godfrey Baseley were appointed to arrange the concert and evening re-unions at the Annual Gathering, 1931. A. Reuben Wilson was elected Auditor and Leslie W. A. Baily, Editor of the Annual Report.

Ethel M. Cooke was unanimously elected Local Secretary in succession to Jane Sabin and Mabel T. Harrod, and H. J. RANDALL paid a tribute to Miss Cooke's good work behind the scenes during recent years.

1930-31 PRESIDENT.

H. J. RANDALL proposed, and MURIEL STEVENS seconded the election of J. T. Harrod as President of the Association for 1930-31. The proposal was carried with great enthusiasm.

JANE SABIN.

ELSIE ROSE said that she had attended the Old Scholars' gatherings of many Friends' schools, but she had never come across such an efficient Local Secretary as Jane Sabin (Applause). For 12 years she had arranged the accommodation for those attending the Annual Gatherings. She proposed that as a small token of gratitude Jane Sabin be elected an Honorary Life Member of the Association.

WILFRED POLLARD, seconding, said that Jane Sabin had a great amount of work to do after, as well as before, Whitsuntide. She ought to be thanked not only for searching out the most comfortable beds, but for smoothing them out afterwards, so to speak (Laughter). The proposal was carried unanimously with hearty applause.

JANE SABIN replied with probably the shortest response on record: "What I have done, I have done" (Laughter and applause).

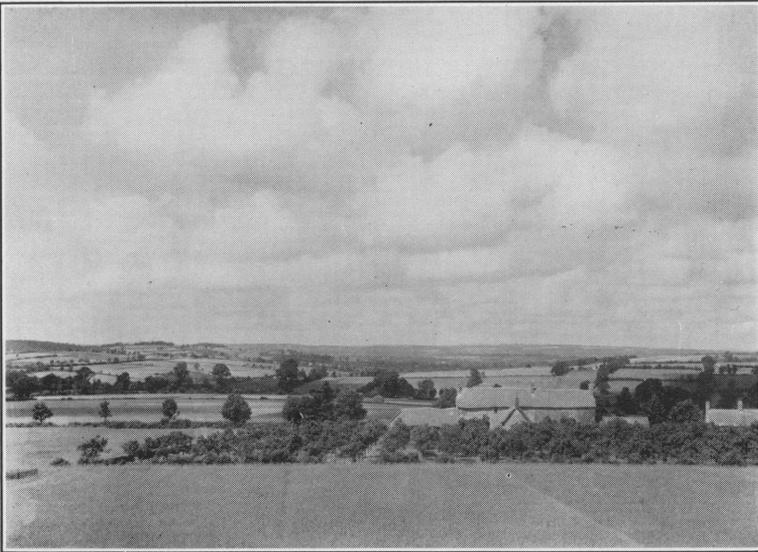
S.O.S.A. DONATION.

H. J. RANDALL proposed and W. R. BARBER seconded that "in view of the healthy state of the Association's balance sheet," the sum of £25 be transferred from the general account to the S.O.S.A. Building Fund. The proposal was carried.

A. J. KAYE proposed that two guineas be taken from the Association's funds to purchase a memento to commemorate the Presidentship of H. J. Randall. This was seconded by H. LAWRENCE and carried.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The late Local Secretary (Jane Sabin) desires to express her appreciation of the distinction conferred on her by Honorary Membership of the S.O.S.A.



The view from "The Hill," the new school building, towards the distant Cotswolds.
(Photo. Blinkhorn)

"A glorious piece of country on which Nature seems to have lavished some of her best gifts."—Presidential Address, 1930

Sibford School Staff

Headmaster	ARTHUR JOHNSTONE, B.Sc. (Lond.), Diploma in Education
Mistress of the Household	JESSIE JOHNSTONE, B.A., Hons.
Senior Mistress	KATHLEEN KLARNER, B.A., Hons. (Lond.)
Science Master	JAMES W. THORPE
Geography Master	FRANK PARKIN
Crafts Master	ROLAND HERBERT
Art Master	CECIL FORD DUNN
French Mistress	JESSIE JOHNSTONE, B.A., Hons. Mod. Languages.
English Mistress	KATHLEEN KLARNER, B.A., Hons., (Lond.)
Housecrafts Mistress	LUCY B. PIM
History Mistress	DOROTHY BRIGHAM, B.A. (Lond.)
Music Mistresses	DOROTHY G. PRIOR, A.R.C.M. DOROTHY ROBESON EDITH GRUBB, L.R.A.M.
Secretary	LUCY A. HARROD
Housekeeper	EDITH M. THORNE
Matron	ETHEL M. COOKE
Nurse	CISSIE LEAVER
Gardeners	FRED GREEN, HENRY TANNER
Mechanic	GEORGE WEBB
Caretakers of "The Hill"	DAVID and ANNIE STEVENS

The President's Address

Delivered by

HENRY J. RANDALL

MY difficulty in deciding upon a subject for an Address this evening was not made easier when I read through the efforts of my predecessors. They were delivered by Presidents of greater age and experience than mine, they dealt with a wide variety of topics, mostly connected with our School and the delightful country in which it is set, and they seemed to narrow down the choice left open to me. At first I thought of falling back on that type of address which has been so enjoyable in the past and which is always the stand-by of the perplexed President—I refer to the address composed of reminiscences. In this connection I claim to have an excellent fund for drawing upon, because during the six years I spent at Sibford I witnessed and participated in the change from a dual school to a mixed one, I was amongst the last pupils of Robert B. Oddie and the first of James T. Harrod, and I enjoyed the inconveniences of the re-building and reorganization of the School just over twenty years ago. Apart from changes and striking episodes I can recall with the greatest interest a number of remarkable people who visited or lived in Sibford during the first decade of this century. The time must come when someone will write his or her impressions of Watson Binns, William Noble, John Wells, William Reason, Mark Barnes, and others who helped to shape our destinies, mould our characters, or provide us with mirth unending. Although to yield to the temptation would be a pleasant task, I do not propose to do so because this is a special occasion and the year we now live in is likely to be a memorable one in the history of our School.

First of all we have the building of new premises—one of those occasions when the School seems to change its clothes. Hitherto it has had no very radical change. Certain garments have been patched up from time to time, and others have been lengthened or altered according to the changing fashions. But now the School is to have a brand new suit in the Windmill Field. Such an event by itself would make this year a notable one. Coinciding as it does with the retirement of the present Headmaster, it makes 1930 a year of drastic change. Whatever my inclinations may be, therefore, the subject of my Address seems made for me, because I feel that the occasion demands from the lips of an Old Scholar a brief review of the School's work and progress, a justification for its continued existence, a word of gratitude for what it has done in years gone by, and an expression of the aims and hopes which will inspire the work which has yet to be done. I make no claim to be an educationist and when I consider the numerous members of the teaching profession in my audience I am amazed at my temerity in tackling the subject at all.

Most of my hearers to-night have seen either the pageant of Sibford School, which was so ably presented to us in 1928, or the film version of that pageant which has since had an extensive run all over the country. Unfortunately, perhaps, we knew the chief actors in the pageant and our attention must frequently have strayed from the central idea of it because of the amusement we felt on seeing the dress and gesticulations of certain of our friends. Yet that pageant must have given a good idea of the growth and evolution of the School. We smiled indulgently at the limited curriculum and restricted opportunities of the children at Sibford in the very early days; but did we realise that had those children not been sent to Sibford, their chances of a decent education would have been remote? Throughout the country at the time Sibford School was founded Education was the subject of fierce political and religious controversy. The State system of education as we now know it had not even been started; the private schools in existence were few in number, small, and mostly inefficient; and in this part of the country there were many people disowned by the Society of Friends for "marrying out," who possibly found difficulty in sending their children to the existing Friends' Schools. The need for a School hereabouts impressed itself strongly on J. J. Gurney, a brother of Elizabeth Fry, who was largely instrumental in arousing the necessary interest. In a time of real need Sibford School was founded in 1842; and if we accept the testimony of some of the earliest scholars, we can say that it satisfied the need, although judged by modern standards it may seem to us to have been almost a crude establishment. Even in those far off days it had a character of its own, ignoring some of the more academic studies and concentrating on practical work such as farming. As the years rolled on Sibford increased its sphere of usefulness, widening its curriculum and keeping pace with educational reforms.

In 1870, after years of disagreement and indecision, State-aided education received a great impetus as a result of the Education Act of that year. To our minds, accustomed to ever-growing and possibly lavish expenditure on education, the efforts of sixty years ago appear trifling. But progress was rapidly made as experience grew and horizons widened. It soon became possible for a reasonable education to be received practically free of cost at the hands of the State and local authorities, and the pressing need for such Schools as ours lessened considerably. Most Boarding Schools, however, gave a much better and more varied education than those under State control, and they provided greater facilities for sport, hobbies and the like. Making constant improvements and being free to experiment in certain directions they maintained their superiority for many years and satisfied genuine needs on the part of both parents and scholars, thereby justifying their existence and the expenditure which they involved.

As time went on the State-aided and controlled system of education made rapid advancement. Each new Government seemed determined to out-spend its predecessor, new and better buildings were everywhere erected, conditions for both scholars and teachers were improved and the education given compared favourably with that given by long-established schools not under State control. We know that nowadays State education encourages art and craft work, provides for sport, and promotes study so efficiently that the achievements of its scholars glisten with success. Viewed solely as a means of imparting knowledge, the State system is probably as good as, if not better than, that of the average Boarding School or Public School. The actual need which called Sibford into being nearly ninety years ago and which rendered it so necessary for several generations, no longer exists. If our School and many another like it ceased to exist this summer, the children concerned could still receive tuition in essential subjects.

Why then should Schools such as ours continue to exist? At such a time why should Sibford launch out on a new building scheme and open a fresh chapter in its history? These are not trifling questions, but ones which are being asked by people who are really interested in the work here. Before answering them, I would like us to agree on the true aims of education. This



[Photo: H. J. Randall

**Seated: R. B. and E. M. Oddie (1880-1906); M. T. and J. T. Harrod (1906-1930);
Standing: Arthur and Jessie Johnstone, the new Headmaster and Headmistress.**

may not be possible because, as someone has rightly observed, men cannot agree on these aims so long as there is disagreement as to the meaning and purpose of life. But I hope to carry you with me in stating that the aims which should dominate the life of a school are as follows:—

To give the children a reasonable amount of tuition in those subjects which experience has proved to be the most useful in training the mind and in preparing for after-school careers;

To promote the harmonious development of all the faculties with a view to sending out into the world, not bvine bipeds on the one hand or fragile intellectuals on the other, but normal children who can use and appreciate the natural gifts with which they are endowed;

To encourage wide interests so that the scholars will always feel that in this abundant life each day should consist of more than twenty-four hours;

To help children to adapt themselves to their environment, to appreciate the value of team work and the need for considering other people;

To enable them to escape from the pitfalls of religious dogma and bigotry, and to realise their right relationship with God and the spiritual side of life;

To give them the benefit of a community life amongst people of their own age, exchanging ideas, discussing mutual problems, and obtaining that knowledge and experience which can only come from the friendly clash of differing personalities;

To develop a sense of responsibility amongst children, and help them to realise, without making prigs of them, that what they think and do is of importance because of its bearing on the future.

I will not make my Address unduly trite or facetious by saying that every school should aim at giving its scholars spotless characters, perfect tempers and

minds of splendid culture. Many parents expect schools to do this and, strangely but fortunately enough, they seem convinced afterwards that their expectations have been realised. Certainly the training of characters and the creation of cultured minds are two of a school's principal duties.

The vast majority of schools have such aims as these. Some are eminently successful in fulfilling them; others, by their very nature, can never do so. Many people have sufficient regard for their old schools to claim that those schools provide the ideal education—I am using the word education in a wide sense so as to include book-learning, physical exercise, character-forming, and so on. Perhaps it is but school-loyalty which makes me claim that it is only in schools of the type of Sibford that the highest form of education can be given and the aims which I have just enumerated satisfactorily carried out. However, I do make that claim, and if I could not make it, I should look upon the expenditure and effort put into the new premises as wasted. In attempting to justify the claim as it affects Sibford, I will try to avoid a mass of details and concentrate on outstanding characteristics of the School here.

Sibford has justified itself in the past by putting first things first. Although I have not agreed with the policy that public examinations should be excluded from the School's activities, I have always admired the protest which has been made here against the domination of examinations. Every summer in the pages of our newspapers one may read accounts of School Speech Days in different parts of the country; and in those accounts the prominence given to the examination successes of comparatively few boys is almost nauseating. At Sibford, fortunately for many of us, the less brilliant have received as much encouragement and credit as their more favoured colleagues. At a General Meeting a few years ago, visitors were specially asked to view the imperfect handicraft work on show because it represented the endeavours of some who would never excel at the work but who did it with persistence and keenness. Handicraft work has always occupied a prominent place in the School's curriculum, and in this connection it is widely admitted that Sibford has done valuable pioneer work. This prominence has often provided mirth for the scornful. Why let a boy waste his time in making a wooden egg-cup when he can buy a much better one at a penny bazaar? Why should he spend time on inferior drawings when coloured prints are so cheap? By cold reasoning one might prove that boys intended for certain of the professions merely waste the time spent in such ways. To disprove it is too difficult for me, and yet I feel that in this mechanical age of mass production, wireless, speed and noise, it can do people nothing but good to use their hands and eyes as they were intended by nature to use them. The late Ethel Sharp once set a class to learn a passage from "Sartor Resartus" containing that injunction—and how we loved to declaim it!—

"Were it but the pitifullest infinitesimal fraction of a product, produce it in God's name! 'Tis the utmost thou hast in thee: out with it then. Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy whole might."

I believe that Carlyle, Ruskin, William Morris and other thinkers and pioneers would have approved the education at Sibford with its insistence that man should be a craftsman as well as a thinker. Certain it is that other schools are nowadays giving increasing attention to handicraft work from which fact we may gather that it contains something very helpful. One of the greatest compliments ever paid to Sibford is the manner in which its pioneer attention to handicraft work has been almost universally imitated.

Like other Quaker Schools, Sibford has never promoted Cadet Corps or similar organizations which, rightly or wrongly, have assumed a semi-military status. This subject has received much public attention in recent months, and I do not wish to say much about it to-night. I know and admire many excellent men who have been through O.T.C.'s and Cadet Corps, but I strongly disapprove of those organizations. They make for good discipline and necessitate strenuous exercise—two splendid things which are often neglected nowadays—but they tend to create that attitude of mind which accepts war as inevitable, if not desirable, and which ignores the aspirations and rights of other nations.

At Sibford, whilst the need for the right kind of patriotism is emphasised, the scholars de-insularise themselves by such means as running a branch of the League of Nations Union and learning Esperanto. They might find book-keeping and French more profitable in business life afterwards, but they have the advantage of what has been termed "the world-wide outlook."

Being a denominational School with a definite religious basis, Sibford has always been faced with the difficult task of steering a safe course between too much religion and too little, and finishing up with the maximum number of good young Quakers at the end of the journey. Looking back on our experience of Sibford most of us must be impressed by the reasonable way in which the scholars were persuaded into the straight and narrow path. Although at School we may have favoured an optional attendance at Friends' Meeting, we have since appreciated the right emphasis placed on such matters, and the example and encouragement given to our opening minds.

A discourse on the subject of co-education and the matrimonial alliances to which it seems to lead may be left for some future Presidential Address. Co-education must be mentioned here because it has always been a feature of our School which was probably the first one in the Midlands to be conducted on co-educational lines. After weighing the arguments for and against this system of education I am greatly in its favour. The naturalness of it all, and its conformity to the conditions prevailing in a healthy home make it ideal for normal boys and girls. The system is being adopted by an increasing number of schools in different parts of the world, but it will probably never become universal. For its success it depends too much on the atmosphere of the School and the suitability of the Staff in charge, in both of which respects Sibford has generally been extremely fortunate.

In the promotion of spare time hobbies and interests, Sibford has excelled. Perhaps it could not have done otherwise whilst situated in a glorious piece of country on which Nature seems to have lavished some of her best gifts. Apart from all forms of nature study, Sibford Scholars have been encouraged to take an intelligent interest in archaeology, art, music and other things. The value of this encouragement has been evidenced in the after-school activities of numerous Old Scholars.

I hardly dare discuss the thorny subject of curriculums about which there has been so much disagreement and experiment in our day. Provided that a curriculum is reasonably varied and useful, and that the scholars are made—or should I say, encouraged?—to tackle it with energy and concentration, it does not seem to me to matter very much that one school's curriculum differs from that of another, because people so readily forget much of what they learnt at school. What is important is that scholars should be trained to memorise, to reason and to sift the wheat from the chaff, in which objects Sibford has not been unsuccessful. If my views are very unorthodox please remember that I have never attended educational lectures and conferences and that I may, therefore, be considered as dwelling in outer darkness.

We are frequently told from platform, Press and pulpit that this is an age of materialism and apathy. If these things exist—and most of us will admit that they do exist, the whole world over—they can never be wholly overcome until those responsible for the training of children replace false ideals by true ones, and create in the minds of children a desire for the finest things of life beside which materialism and apathy cannot exist. Here again, I claim that Sibford has striven to do this; with what success I will leave you to answer for yourselves.

The last characteristic I wish to mention about our School, and it is probably the chief of all, is the spirit of the place; hard to define, but very apparent, happy and real. We who spent our schooldays here, return from time to time and appreciate the friendly spirit prevailing in the School. We realise increasingly how much we owe to it, and how the jolly, almost carefree feeling we had at Sibford years ago, has meant more to us than any amount of "mechanical Gerund-grinding," and how the friendliness of the place breathed life into our souls and prevented us from becoming "dead grammatical cinders."

We do not claim that in all these things Sibford is pre-eminent, that it gives a better education than every other school or that it is above criticism. The keenest Old Scholar would admit that in certain details the School could be improved, and that if the School Committee had a few thousand pounds more to spend each year, the School might benefit. In spite of whatever criticisms that can be levelled against the School, we are proud of it and thankful for what it has done for us, grateful for Sibford's wind and sun, its games, hobbies and varied interests, the knowledge we have gained and the friendships we have made here, and for the additional joy which it has enabled us to derive from our lives.

To me the answers to the questions I have put seem very clear. Such Schools as ours should continue to exist because they are able to provide benefits, promote interests and give a type of training which is not possible in State Schools, however efficiently conducted and frequently inspected. Not only is it right that Sibford should be continued and expanded, but it would be for the good of this country if similar Schools, permeated by the same spirit of freedom and happiness, and with the same characteristics as those I have just mentioned, could be opened in every town. Such Schools are needed, as Sibford is needed. It is therefore gratifying to see that through the generosity of friends of the School new premises have been erected and the opportunity provided for expansion and healthy development.

In conclusion I would refer to what many of us must be feeling in this year of change. Much of our interest is centred in the past. We realise that the goodwill which the School has created and the opportunities which are now open to it have been the result of the devoted work of those who have had charge of the School in years gone by—work by Richard and Rebecca Routh during the School's earliest years; by Robert B. and Elizabeth Oddie, in a regime which commenced half-a-century ago; by James T. and Mabel Harrod, whose term of office is now drawing to a close. Of all these Sibford stalwarts and of their many assistants who have worked so splendidly on behalf of the School, we have grateful thoughts. But we also have an interest in the future and we look forward to a continuation and even an increase in the School's usefulness. May Sibford fulfil our highest expectations, providing that which is best in English education and sending out into the world energetic boys and girls filled with the right type of knowledge and with the finest ideals.

BRANCH REPORTS, Continued from Page 21

invitations were sent out and the following turned up: P. and M. Caudwell, and Mr. Smallbone, from Abington; J. W. Timms, Reading; M. and B. Neave, and C. and J. Fidler, Witney; Mrs. and Elsie Harrod, Sibford; and A. I. Hunt, Oxford. We wandered in and out of the colleges during the afternoon and were lucky enough to see part of a degree-giving ceremony at the Sheldonian Theatre. After tea at Kemp Hall there was a short business meeting and then we saw more colleges, finally ending up with Worcester and its lake and high-walled garden full of flowers.

Our second gathering was on Thursday, September 4th, at Ranmore, Caversham, by the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Sargent. The weather was brilliant. We met at Reading, saw the Forbury Gardens and the ruins of Reading Abbey, and had a lovely bus ride to Ranmore. We had tea under a witch-elm and letters were read from absentees (these were unfortunately somewhat numerous) and various suggestions were made for the future. We had a thoroughly good time and were most grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Sargent. The only regrettable thing was that we were a small party.

Our third gathering, we hope, will take place on the first Saturday in the New Year. It may be in the form of a skating party on the new ice rink here, followed by tea and a business meeting, at which, among other items, will be discussed what Oxford is going to do to help at the next Sibford Whitsuntide meeting. Will all Oxford members please note.

AMY I. HUNT.

S.O.S.A. BRANCH REPORTS

London.

The Winter Gathering of the London Guild was held at Friends' House, Euston Road, on Saturday, January 4th, 1930, when about 50 Old Scholars sat down to tea at 6 p.m. with the President and his wife. The evening was a social one, and was greatly enjoyed by everyone. The games were fast and furious. As Geoffrey Long was present, we could not omit the game of forfeits at which he always excels. Charades were acted with ingenuity and cleverness, and caused much amusement; and a novelty in which parties searched with feverish haste for a large number of hidden pennies resulted in 7/6d. being handed over to the Building Fund.

Grace Bunker sang two songs very acceptably, and Harry Stevens, who came with his wife all the way from Reading, recited the "Jabberwock" in effective style. We wanted an encore, but he told us that it was the only thing he knew! We shall, however, definitely expect him to learn another piece by the next Winter Meeting.

The dancing was not a great success, as a good pianist was needed—but the time flew so quickly that it was nearly 10 o'clock long before we wanted it to be, and we had to make a regretful circle for Auld Lang Syne and the customary excellent Sibford Rockets, which terminated a most enjoyable gathering. A small bird did mention to me that another meeting of O. S. was observed at a much later hour at a well-known Restaurant in the West End partaking of a varied and recherché supper—but you can't always believe these rumours.

HENRY LAWRENCE.

Birmingham.

We started our season well by a scramble over the Lickey Hills to Barnt Green, where tea was taken, and from there by fields, lanes, and canal to Redditch where we boarded a bus back to Birmingham—a very enjoyable, though lengthy, ramble.

The slumbering Branch Secretary having been awakened, we arranged a concert in aid of the Building Fund. This caused a very great deal of work for all concerned, but our efforts were fully rewarded by our being able to hand over to the Building Fund well over £30.

At the thought of all this money being raised by Old Scholars, the then Secretary once more fell asleep and has only just been aroused to write this meagre report, after constant proddings by a new, and more efficient, Secretary.

GODFREY BASELEY.

(The new Birmingham Branch Secretary is Olive Wagstaff.—Editor).

Oxford.

The new Oxford Branch is unlike the other two, in that its members are mostly from outside the city, not inside. They are scattered over a wide area and in some cases they live in remote villages. It is therefore difficult to arrange dates for gatherings to suit everybody and will involve a certain amount of self-sacrifice from members if they wish to make their branch a thorough going concern like those of London and Birmingham.

The first social gathering was held on Saturday, July 19th, 1930. Many

[Continued at foot of Page 20

UNDER THE OLD ELM

“‘*The time has come,*’ *the Old Elm said,*
‘*To talk of many things.*’”

HERE we are again chicks ! Still standing at the old crossroads. Greetings to you all ! Especially to those across the seas. W. H. F. Alexander has been kindly acting as ambassador for the S.O.S.A. during a tour in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. He writes from New Zealand : “ It is close on four years since we left Burdop. Up to February, 1929, we were in South Africa. We saw R. H. Bizzell, A. W. Judge, T. W. Lambeth, A. Louise Warner, and George E. Watkins there. The last named was retiring on pension and his plans were uncertain. He is now at Durban. In New Zealand, Leonard Salter and Gladys Salter (née Nicholl) are in a very out-of-the-way little farm at Whakapirau. It is a tough proposition, but they are very cheery with their twin baby girls. Friends try to keep in touch with them as far as possible, but there is no road to their place for the last three quarters of a mile over hills and round the sea shore ! Charles and Frank Mugeridge, at Taranaki, have adjoining farms, but are now turning over in part to their sons and sons-in-law. The second generation is numerous and the third coming along. Sibford photos and news have been most acceptable everywhere, and letters would be welcome to these Old Scholars.”

Another Old Scholar, Tom Nott, is having a real Wild West life in Canada. He writes to the Ackworth School magazine :—

I rise between 4-30 and 5-30 a.m., hastily don heavy riding clothes and mount my horse ready to start the day's work. A Mexican saddle is essential, and on the horn of each may be seen two ropes and a plaited leather bull whip. First I round up the horses, and ride to the top of the coulee bank, gazing around until I spot which way the horses have gone. This gaze around shows up a wild, broken country, heavy with the pungent smell of sage, covered with brush continually merging into a bluff of willow, poplar, and even the stately spruce. To the West is an unbroken line of rugged peaks stretching as far as the eye can see North and South. Below is the creek, meandering from slough to musheg, musheg to washout, and thence back to slough. At last I see the horses away West, maybe four miles. My horse needs little encouragement, for nothing does she like better than chasing her own kind. In less than an hour the bunch is corralled, cut out, and those not needed bunched back on the range.

Horses out here can never be trusted, and will, at every conceivable opportunity, bite and kick. My mare is very quiet, but she had unfortunately lamed herself badly in a kicking bout with a gelding much larger. Being unable to ride her I had to take a cayuse (bronc or mustang), a very mean beast and not well broken. Before I could saddle up he had to be thrashed, and foolishly I thought that he was thoroughly cowed, for he started in a most docile way until he reached the creek. There he balked, standing straight up on his hind legs. Having failed to dislodge me that way he reversed and stood straight up, head down and heels reaching for the sky. Still having failed in his purpose and intent on asserting his independence, he began to kick and paw and then to buck three and four feet in the air. That was rough riding, but I held on, so he tried his meanest trick of jumping straight over backwards. Hastily I kicked stirrups loose and jumped, twisting my left ankle badly in kicking loose. I gathered myself together painfully in time to see the victorious enemy with shattered saddle trotting into the enclosure. To say the least of it, I was very crestfallen. More concentrated meanness than that cayuse is almost impossible.

Another time, having been out to fetch a load of feed, at 36° Fah. below zero, I was coming back over a snowdrift which going out had taken the rack easily. Suddenly the crust broke and the rack sank three feet into the snow. One of the horses was trying to break itself free pulling, whilst the other just lay down in the snow and wouldn't try to move. Worse still it turned obstinate and wouldn't be moved. So I had to take a fork and dig the snow away to make a track. It sounds easy, but it took me nearly five hours, and I arrived back at 10 p.m.

Arnold Lloyd volunteered with his wife to go to South Africa to explore the possibilities of the establishment of a Friends' School there. As a result of a careful survey of the problem, he was able to present a report on the question. It has been very favourably received. Trevor Lloyd, who was President of the Bristol University Union last year and is a Vice-President of the National Union of Students, was selected to represent the Universities of England and Wales on a debating tour of Canada with a representative of the Scottish Universities. He is visiting all the Universities and Colleges of Canada, covering about 12,000 miles. He carries with him messages of goodwill from Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., the Lord Mayor of Bristol, and others.

The new building here at Sibford is arousing pœans of admiration. John A. Crosland, who visited Sibford in August after an absence of 39 years, says: "I went all over the New School. A great improvement on the old place. A fine and healthy position." And C. Morland Braithwaite (whose fine photograph of the Old School appears on Page 1) "thinks the new buildings are rather fine."

Talking of C.M.B., Sibford owes him a great debt for the enormous amount of work he put into the Sibford Film, which did so much to arouse interest in the Building Scheme. He was photographer and joint-editor with J. W. Thorpe during the production of the film and later he displayed it in many parts of the country. One of his coups was when he showed the film at Peckham. A collection was made for the Building Fund, somebody doubled the amount collected, and another person doubled that again—result £22. And now C.M.B. writes: "It is hard to realise that the film is finished with and the school paid for. I am thankful to the film, in that it made me get to know Sibford from the inside. I now understand why Old Scholars are so faithful to the School; in fact, I feel rather like an O. S. myself." That's the stuff!

I have overhead some discussion among the Great Ones of Sibford as to the future of the Sibford film. The question has not been settled yet, apparently, but it seems likely that "Sibford" will find an honourable resting place in the School Library, or somewhere like that. There is a suggestion that the projector might be acquired for the School, so that the film could be shown regularly to future pupils as a pleasant form of instruction in the history of their School. Meanwhile, since May, the film has been resting on its laurels at Friends' House, London,

and already the fertile brain of the aforesaid C.M.B. is playing with the idea of the *next* Sibford film. This, it appears, will be produced for the Centenary of Sibford School (1942), and it will be a coloured talkie, shown by television from the B.B.C.

What a crowd of my chicks there were at the last Gathering! Let's have another like that next Whitsuntide. Many and subtle were the schemes for extracting money (for the Building Fund) from those who came, and since Whitsuntide a large number of the Wells-Randall photographs have been sold, realising £9 7s. for the Old Scholars' Fund, which reached a grand total of £634 17s. 3d.

Do R-and-ll, K-y-, L-wr-nc-, G--dg-, and C-mp--n know that they have been christened by some of my more frivolous chicks "The Big Five?" Is this on account of certain sleuthing activities by night?

Ismay Nutter-Scott strayed over to Belgium for her last holiday, with a pedal-cycle, a camera, £10, and what she calls a "remnant" of French. She was alone, and spent her holiday touring on her cycle. That's what I call asking for adventure, and Ismay got it. She writes: "Nearly all the roads are stone paved, but there is humane provision of a narrow footpath for cyclists and pedestrians. During the daytime all was well, but after dark it was more exciting, as I had an oil lamp of the glow-worm variety. When riding from Mons to Bruges I was caught in a violent storm and as it was night I was compelled to search for an hotel. I was in a village where they all retire at ten and after trying all likely places in vain I went by rail to a really gay town where the abandoned inhabitants stay up till 11. But again I was unlucky, for no hotel could take me in. The desolate outlook was brightened, however, by somebody advising me to try the police station. There I spent the night, well looked after by three policemen. I was made to share their sandwiches and then tried to earn my supper by sketching one of them. No indiarubber could be found anywhere, until one man, bowing with great ceremony, offered me the choice of three rubber-covered truncheons! They did not suit the purpose, somehow. In the end I had to use bits of rather buttery bread. I was given a luxurious resting place, a wooden bench with police weapons and trappings for a pillow. One man dozed off in a chair and another stretched himself out on a bare table.

"I would have slept through their symphony of snores if the third one had not expected me to give a detailed discourse on England, particularly on its religious sects. I was very sleepy and found it difficult, with my wobbly command of French, to explain lucidly the differences of thought. Nor is two o'clock a nice hour in which to hold forth on Quakerism and do justice to the subject. After some rest and a little sleep I started off again."

Well, chicks, I am now closing down for another year's sleep. But remember, I always sleep with one eye open.

DEGREES, etc., TAKEN BY OLD SCHOLARS.

London City and Guilds.—Teachers' Certificate in Handicraft (first class in relation to Woodwork): B. J. Aylward.

University of Manchester.—Intermediate B.Sc.: C. H. Mortimer.

Royal Institute of British Architects.—Intermediate Examination for Election as "Student R.I.B.A.": Harold D. Priestman.

Northern Universities Joint Matriculation Board.—School Certificate: E. M. Harrod.

Paradise Lost

FOR SALE, with immediate possession, PARADISE HOUSE,
Sibford Ferris, Banbury; also a desirable building site.

MANY Old Boys of Sibford must have read this advertisement in *The Friend* with a pang of regret. The old house wherein some hundreds of Sibford boys have slept, and dreamed dreams, and broken the ice on the washing water, has been swept before the flood of re-organisation. No longer it hears the clatter of youthful feet on its uneven floors, the whisper of nocturnal raiding parties, the merciless shrill of the getting-up whistle. It has been supplanted by the elegant new dormitories at "The Hill." The resident master, Mr. Parkin, and his family, have moved to the house opposite the Old School. Paradise is deserted.

It is twenty years since Sibford boys were first billeted out at Paradise, under the care of Mr. Gitsham, who was followed as Master at Paradise by Mr. Little (1912), Mr. Thorpe (1913), Mr. Perry (1915), Mr. White (1916), and Mr. Parkin (1917—30). What tales the old house could tell of some of those who now adorn the Old Scholars' Association; of mid-night feasts in Five Room; of an indulgent master reading the exploits of Tarzan as a bedtime story; of evil tobogganing at dead of night down the thatched roofs on one's pyjama seat; of the Strong Men of the Attic swinging on the great beams under the roof and of the bravery of those on the floor below whose assaults on the Attic had to be carried out in the face of the Attic's strategic advantage of having a flight of stairs up which invaders had to rush in single file; of one night when the Master on duty was mistaken for a raid and duly coshed with a pillow as he came up those stairs; of daring excursions across to Sally's . . . and so on and so on.

According to Mr. Harrod, Paradise obtained its name when the School took it over in 1910, because it was "up higher" from the School, and a research carried out by Mr. Herbert has resulted in the discovery that the house was known as "Howkins" about 60 years ago. During the first half of the last century "Howkins" and Folly Farm belonged to Joseph Harris. Incidentally, the brick house at Folly Farm was once the pest house of the Sibford district. After the death of Joseph Harris the house was purchased by Sibford's first Head Master, Richard Routh. Later it came into the possession of William Charles Braithwaite and then it was purchased from him by Joshua Lamb, the present owner. The occupier of the house from 1860 until the '90's was William Harris, a farmer and butcher. He was followed by W. H. T. Littleboy, who occupied the house until it was rented by the School soon after Mr. Harrod came to Sibford. The date of the building of the house seems to be veiled in mystery.

At the time of writing Paradise has not been sold. It has been suggested that it should be converted into a guest house where visitors to Sibford could stay. There is certainly a need for something of the sort. At any rate, whatever happens to the old house it will always be held in warm affection by Old Paradisiens, to whom, in the words of the poet, "There smiles no Paradise on earth so fair."

I. W. A. B.

OTHER CHANGES

Old Scholars visiting Sibford next Whitsuntide will find some interesting changes in the arrangement of the School, owing to the new buildings having been brought into use. The old science room is now a girls' common room, and the inner science room is a hobbies' room. The art room at the old School has become a boys' common room. The girls' dormitory has been vacated and the girls now sleep in the former boys' dormitory. The boys sleep at the new School, with the exception of the smallest ones, whose bedroom is what used to be the boys' schoolroom. The girls' schoolrooms have been converted into bathrooms, a sick room and visitor's bedroom.

The new building is, of course, only the first part of the Building Scheme. Another block, comprising girls' dormitories, kitchens, and dining rooms, has yet to be erected, and it is probable that this work will be planned to be completed by the Centenary of Sibford School, in 1942.

The old playing field is being used for the present school year, but after that pitches adjoining the new building will be utilised.

THE NEW SIBFORD—



[Photo. : Blinkhorn Banbury

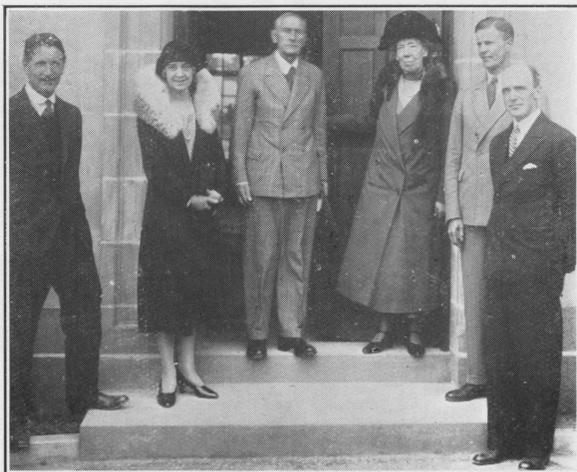
IT was obvious on June 20th, 1930, that the opening of Sibford's new premises was considered an event of considerable importance in Quaker circles. As one approached the once "inaccessible" village, there seemed to be a congestion of traffic. There were 300 visitors present at the General Meeting and 400 at the opening ceremony. The weather was fine without being too hot—just right for a strenuous day of word and deed.

General Meeting was held as usual in the Meeting House. The School children disappeared from view and their places were taken by grown-ups. Every available seat was occupied, extra forms had to be brought in for the gangways, and even then some people had to stand in the lobby. After several formal items of business came the first of the two main events of the day, the farewell and presentation to James T. and Mabel Harrod. The chief speech was made by Charles E. Stansfield, who warmly eulogised the many services rendered to Sibford by the retiring Headmaster and his wife. He referred particularly to the importance they attached to handicraft work; to the religious training they gave and the atmosphere of family life which they created; to the success of the School under their care, and to the selfless devotion with which they had worked for Sibford School and her Scholars. He then announced that Friends, as a mark of the esteem and affection they had for J. T. and M. Harrod, had contributed the sum of £1,500 as a testimonial, and that the School Committee had promised a further £500 spread over the next five years. At this announcement applause broke out in the Meeting House—a rare occurrence which might have been out of place had it not been, like the money subscribed, so well deserved. Following C. E. Stansfield's remarks, various expressions of gratitude and good will were given by an ex-member of the School Committee, an Old Scholar, a present member of the Committee, a parent and the Clerk of London Yearly Meeting. Perhaps the greatest compliment was paid by the parent, who said that he had sent five sons to the School and wished that he had six more so that he could have sent them to Sibford for the same type of training.

J. T. Harrod then gave a brief report of the year's work at Sibford and proceeded to review some of the events of his 24 years of office. Mrs. Harrod was called upon by the Chairman and made a few amusingly apt remarks in support of her husband. The occasion was a very happy one and must have made James and Mabel Harrod realise that their work at Sibford was appreciated not only by their Old Scholars and immediate circle of friends, but by men and women from all parts of the country.

Lunch at the School was the next item on the programme, and then came the second big event of the day—the official opening of the new premises. Everyone assembled outside the front entrance and Whittier's Dedication Hymn

—GENERAL MEETING, 1930



THE OPENING CEREMONY

[Photo. : Percy Simms

Left to Right : Wilfred Littleboy, Miss Philip (Chief Woman Inspector, Board of Education), Arthur Rowntree, Mrs. E. M. Cadbury, Ronald Lloyd, W. Armstrong (Architect).

was sung unaccompanied. From where people stood they could enjoy that glorious view across country to Whichford and Broadway, and many thought it the perfect spot for a new School. The actual opening ceremony was performed by Mrs. E. M. Cadbury who, after shaking hands with the Architect, Mr. W. Armstrong, unlocked the main door and declared the building open. Speech-making took place in the new workshop. Those visitors who could not obtain admission managed to see and hear through the open windows.

Arthur Rowntree, the late Headmaster of Bootham, as Chairman of the Meeting, spoke on Tradition and Change. He reminded his hearers that it is the Scholars who make a School and its traditions. Mrs. Cadbury added a few remarks on the widespread interest which Sibford School had aroused and the value which it endeavoured to place on spiritual things.

The main address was given by one of H.M. Inspectors, Miss A. G. Philip, who said she was glad that general education was shaking off the influence of the Universities and including more craft work. She emphasised Sibford's pioneer work and rejoiced that "The rest of the world is now catching Sibford up."

The Treasurer of the School, Ronald L. Lloyd, gave an interesting and a humorous account of how the money was raised for the new buildings. Starting with £1,000 in 1927, he traced the growth of the Building Fund until in February, 1930, something over £16,000 had been given, leaving £6,000 still to be raised. At this stage the £ for £ offer was made with a view to clearing the debt before the premises were officially opened. The bulk of the money came in before General Meeting started, and the balance was quickly given when the donors saw the new buildings and realised what a good investment they were making. The Treasurer's announcement that the debt had been wiped out was received by loud applause—a tribute to the achievement itself and also to Ronald Lloyd's part in it.

A few words of thanks to the Chairman and speakers concluded the Meeting, and visitors were able to roam round the premises. The simple but efficient lay-out of the rooms and the general atmosphere of freshness created a strong impression, and even the few who were once inclined to criticise the building scheme remained silent, whether from tact or conversion it was impossible to say.

Reminiscences . . .

By James T. Harrod.



SIBFORD School made a beginning, in August, 1906, with the new Scheme of Studies which had been under the consideration of Friends of about two years. So behold us installed in the dining-room at mealtime, with two small groups of silent pupils, 26 in all, and with the staff table well in the southern half of the room. Six day pupils joined us for lessons. All were grouped in two classes. To these pupils it was a great attraction to find that a clever Mistress was always on the spot to foster the Art work, and that the woodwork lessons, no longer subject to the rare visits of a non-resident Master, had become so interesting that they were voluntarily continued in playtime; moreover another Mistress was always ready with dainty suggestions

for costumes and comestibles, and yet another made Grammar alive and English Literature entrancing; the sober facts of Mathematics, Science and Geography demonstrated their own value. Games, too, flourished and nearly everyone was in the first eleven.

The return to School in January, 1907, was signalled by loud cheers as the wagonettes drew up at the front door. The Society of Friends soon realised that the School was not destined for an early death, as many croakers had prophesied. After three years the numbers had risen to 80; the Staff also had increased; some extension of the premises was necessary. So Paradise House was taken for boys' bedrooms. The dining-room was lengthened, the cooking room and art room were built, with a large laundry below, and increased dormitory accommodation above. The size of the boys' playground was doubled and new workshops were formed out of a stable and cart-sheds.

These new rooms, though soon found to be rather small, have been of inestimable value to hundreds of boys and girls; they helped to create the reputation of Sibford as a place for promoting accuracy in work and versatility in outlook and interest.

The educational value of the work was so great that in 1914 the Committee were on the point of planning a further extension of the premises to accommodate the full 100 pupils on the spot. But the Great War intervened and postponed the extension for 16 years. Hopes and day-dreams were suddenly perverted into a perennial nightmare. For some time we suffered only from anxiety about the carnage and destruction, appalled by the vastness of the combat, fearing that France would be overwhelmed, all Europe desolated, England a tributary province. But it was not long before there was a scarcity of some kinds of food, especially butter; bread and other foods were adulterated; petrol for gas-making was limited in quantity to a quarter of our needs, and then deteriorated in quality until we could supply only about a dozen dim lights. The local police, fearing that we should attract Zeppelins, would not allow a glimmer of light to be shown at night; all windows had double blinds and curtains, and were kept tight shut lest the wind should disclose a peep. As dusk approached, I had to make an anxious inspection of every room, but was fined by the Banbury Magistrates five times—on one occasion because the constable looking up saw a few inches of the ceiling of the girls' long dormitory, which was illuminated by a single candle at the other end of the room. There was a shortage of coal; for cooking, wood, which was obtainable, but costly, was a very poor substitute. Then maids became scarce; a vigorous housekeeper, with one maid and an occasional cook from Swalcliffe, worked wonders. Then Masters had to go; some substitutes were bad, and they had to go too; others were very good, but a paternal government soon took them away and set them to some occupation

for which they were unfitted. On one occasion, we had only one Assistant Master for three weeks. Nevertheless we kept the lesson courses going, and I can remember on one occasion taking a science class, a gardening class and a woodwork class at the same time, no one else on the staff being qualified for these subjects. The education may have suffered somewhat, but the boys and girls played up to a difficult position, and the characters turned out were as fine as at any time in the last 24 years. But the days dragged on very wearily. When hostilities ceased, the most immediate benefit was the admission of fresh air into the crowded rooms after dark. Since then there have always been in the School some boys and girls whose nerves were injured in childhood by air-raids and other war conditions.

Meanwhile, the financial position of the School had become difficult. The fee for Friends was raised to £36 a year, and later to £51, but the cost per pupil in 1927 was over £66 for running expenses only. The feeling was growing among Friends that the work of the School was of such value that it deserved, needed, and compelled a more adequate accommodation than could be provided on the spot. The lack of a good water supply led to the suggestion of removing the School to a new locality; this difficulty was ultimately surmounted by the purchase of a spring of excellent water at Hill Bottom. The Board of Education Inspectors were strongly in favour of keeping the School at Sibford. The School actually owned a field of 18 acres in a magnificent situation; so, after much deep consideration, the momentous decision was made that a new School should be raised on this site, chiefly classrooms at first, with other parts to follow afterwards as needed, and as funds were available.

THE SCHOOL YEAR, 1929-30

THE New School dominated our thoughts throughout the year. Almost daily, and on Sundays almost hourly, motors pulled up outside the front door, bringing relatives and visitors to examine, criticise and admire the rising buildings. Most exciting it was to go up week after week, and watch the rapid advance, as the walls rose higher, and doors and windows and roofs appeared as if by magic, till at Easter, from as far away as Whichford, what seemed to be a glistening palace or a fairy castle shone in the afternoon light on the far horizon.

An unprecedented number of visitors from far and near was present at General Meeting on the occasion of the opening ceremony. The exhibition of finished articles made in the School formed a goodly array. Some pretty dances on the lawn followed a tea of chatter and renewal of acquaintances; and all went merry as a marriage bell.

The happy internal life of the School was not in any way hampered by these unusual occurrences. A new top class of three boys and two girls studied for the Oxford First School Certificate; but in the old and inadequate premises, conditions were not favourable for quiet study nor for strenuous application; and though the three boys entered for the exam., they were not successful.

In most Guild competitions, including the Athletic Sports in April, the Coastguards were leaders, though the Senior Champions, Vera Roe and Harold Cunliffe, both belonged to the Pilot Guild. Preparations for the Guild Socials in December were very earnest, and the result all that could be looked for. Varied programmes, including scenes, songs, and sketches, delighted actors and audience alike. On the last evening, the Staff gave an impromptu entertainment, when they appeared in strange and wonderful garb, and "acted about" for the delectation of the younger section of the School, and this closed a term of happily combined work and play.

This year we enjoyed some never-to-be-forgotten visits and excursions, all assisting to widen our outlook and help the young idea to shoot. In November, the whole School sallied forth early to Hook Norton, and there boarded the train to Swindon, where we spent several instructive and interesting hours, inspecting the G.W.R. Engine Works. Accounts were written afterwards, and prizes given to Ronald Symes (Senior) and Lily East (Junior), for the best essays

And what a memorable day that was in June, when we all journeyed by train to Abingdon, and thence by boat up the river to Oxford. How royally we were treated by Oxford Friends, who prepared a bountiful dinner and tea in the Meeting House (both finishing up with delicious ices !); and themselves acted as guides during the afternoon, taking parties round Oxford. Then, a day at Weston Park was planned in July; how well we recall it all; the early morning ride to Cherington by 'bus; the leisurely wandering round the beautiful grounds of the Park in the warm sunshine, *al fresco* dinner and tea in the Shrubberies, and the lively exploration of the wide empty galleries, and spacious halls, and out on the gabled roofs; it was like a day spent in the surroundings of a fairy palace.

The two top forms had two days full of interest and incident in London, during the time of Yearly Meeting, when special sittings were arranged for Young Friends, and a tour round London organised by the C.E.C.; some also had the privilege and pleasure of seeing and hearing Rabindranath Tagore.

The School possesses an excellent portable wireless set, and good use was made of it for talks and lessons. Form A listened to four courses of lectures, the subjects being:—"All Nations our Neighbours," "Aviation," "Government in the British Empire" and "Our Modern Poets"; all were clearly delivered, transmitted excellently, and well worth hearing. French lessons were also taken by the higher forms; and courses on Music and on Geography by juniors. The whole School listened to Ramsay Macdonald's enthusiastic reception in America; the Opening Session of the London Naval Conference; the Oxford and Cambridge Boat-race, and the First Test Match. What opportunities for hearing first-hand the current events of the world! Will they make the rising generation better fitted to tackle the problems of to-morrow? Let us hope they may.

We had a long series of interesting lectures by keen, clever and renowned men and women. A few only can be mentioned here. The Passion Play was graphically described to us by Miss Ellis. We obtained vivid glimpses of Syria, Palestine and Jerusalem from travellers in the East; while Mr. Cuthbert Wigham galloped us round the world to India and China, and delighted us with his Jew's harp music. Mr. W. S. Rowntree's beautiful slides, illustrating Animal Camouflage aroused enthusiasm. Dr. Rutter told of the harm done by alcohol to nerves and organs. A series of lectures on Poultry-keeping for the villagers, drew a few of the boys and girls, whose interests lie with the cocks and hens; and the last of the series, when a fowl was to be plucked and drawn, attracted a whole crowd of the juniors. An Esperanto week-end brought Mr. and Mrs. Butler and Mr. Sturmer to the School. Songs and hymns were sung in this ever-growing international language, and talks were given on the practical use of Esperanto and its rapid advance in many countries.

Our League of Nations Junior Branch showed vigorous life, and meetings were held every three weeks throughout the School session. We enacted scenes from life in famine-stricken Vienna after the war.

During January, February and March, we had "tea-table talks"; a Plenary Session of the Conference; and a discussion on the abolition of the submarine. A great deal of earnest preparation was done, and most members took active part in several meetings, as delegates to the Conference. All delegates signed the Naval Treaty, and presented a gold pen to Ramsay Macdonald (Mr. Parkin), at the close of the Conference.

During the year, members motored to Oxford to hear Mr. Noel Baker on "The Economic Liquidation of the War"; and to Banbury, to hear Mr. Whelen on "What the League has done." A "Children's Branch" was formed in the lower part of the School in March, and held lively meetings. Reggie Brown and Barbara Best were chosen to join the Friends' School group to attend the League of Nations Union Junior School in Geneva at the beginning of August.

And so the months rolled by, and the end came with a rush, as it always does; examinations set, and corrected; boxes packed; class-places read out; all the clearing up done, and good-byes said; and on the last evening, a lovely gramophone was unveiled to us as a farewell gift from Staff and Scholars. It is an ever-present joy in our new home, where the beautiful canteen from Old Scholars is also in daily use. They both remind us of many happy years among trusty friends at Sibford.—MABEL T. HARROD.



[Photo.: Robert Ross

S.O.S.A. Presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Harrod

DURING the Old Scholars' Gathering at Sibford, Whitsuntide, 1930, a cheque for £120 and a canteen of cutlery were presented to Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Harrod, as a mark of esteem from the Old Scholars' Association.

The President, HARRY RANDALL, in making the presentation, said that Mr. and Mrs. Harrod would rather be spared this ordeal. In years past, however, we had often had to listen to what they thought of us and we did not intend to miss an opportunity to get our own back (Laughter). He referred to their devoted service, not only in the School, but in walks and nature study and on the games field.

To their scholars Mr. and Mrs. Harrod had extended a warm friendship which continued when they became Old Scholars. To-day's gift had been subscribed to by Old Scholars in Canada, Kenya, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United States of America, as well as those in this country. It was given in warm feeling and regard, and with the hope that Mr. and Mrs. Harrod would live for many years to enjoy the retrospect they had so deservedly earned. (Applause).

MURIEL STEVENS then expressed the feelings of Old Girls. "Mr. and Mrs. Harrod," she said, "gave us freedom to find our own feet, and yet they ruled us." Somebody had once said of Sibford School: "They takes 'em in plain deal and they turns 'em out old mahogany." (Laughter). Old Scholars appreciated Mr. and Mrs. Harrod's friendship. They made us feel that we mattered to them for years after we left School. (Applause).

KITTY REYNOLDS, as one of the teachers who have served under Mr. and Mrs. Harrod, said that the retiring Head Master and Head Mistress had given their staff absolute trust to carry out their own ideas. That gave the staff confidence in their work.

JAMES T. HARROD, rising to reply, was greeted with loud applause. They were, he said, tremendously grateful for the gifts from their Old Scholars. After

leaving Sibford they hoped to settle in some busy centre where they would always welcome visits from Old Scholars.

MRS. HARROD (indicating the canteen of cutlery): "There will be plenty of spoons and forks." (Laughter).

MR. HARROD (continuing): "Then we shall spend this money. I shall get a gramophone—(Laughter)—and Mrs. Harrod a sewing machine—(Laughter)—and when we are feeling very sad we shall turn them both on at once and think of you." (Laughter and applause).

MABEL T. HARROD then spoke. "I must thank you for your generosity and love," she said. "The memory of your faces and voices and laughter will cheer us when we are gone away. Other things will change, but memory will still be with us and the memory of 24 years here will always be dear to us. Those years have not been without disappointments and sadnesses. We have made heaps of mistakes. At least, we have learnt humility, and we have had heaps of joys, and one of the greatest has been our meeting Old Scholars every year and realising that they are leading useful and valuable lives. I think we must remember that belonging to an Association like ours is a responsibility as well as a pleasure. We must try to live nobly and to make the Association fitter and finer. It is an inheritance and it belongs to the future as much as to us. Thank you very, very much, and God bless you all." (Loud applause).

The assembled Old Scholars then rose and sang "For they are Jolly Good Fellows."

* * *

After leaving Sibford Mr. and Mrs. Harrod took a party of boys and girls from Friends' Schools to the Junior Summer School of the League of Nations' Union, at Geneva.

They have now settled down at "Chamossaire," 66, Kineton Road, Olton, near Birmingham. Mrs. Harrod is working as Lecturer and Schools Organiser for the League of Nations' Union in Birmingham and the neighbourhood. Mr. Harrod says that he finds his time well filled, and that he is beginning to do some of the things which he has longed to do for years.

Sibford School Sports

The following Reports are contributed by representatives of the Boys and Girls at Sibford School, 1929-30.

BOYS' GAMES.

The football season of 1929—30 was not a very successful one for the School. We won five, we lost five, and we drew two. For the first time we played a team from Stratford. The three games we joined in were very much enjoyed. We also had two matches with the New School Builders. Another visiting team, collected by Jack Goss, consisted mostly of Old Scholars. Ronald Symes was the most prolific goal scorer among our boys with five to his credit.

At cricket the School won five matches, lost two, and drew one. This season was an improvement on that of the winter terms. Alfred Standing as a batsman did not find his form until late in the season when he made 33 against a team from Long Compton, a really fine innings.

John Taylor was our best run getter and also the bowler who took the most wickets. Leslie Stoneham and Geoffrey Phillips backed him up well, while Standing kept wicket. Ronald Symes was our best outfield.

B. BLUNSOM.
R. SYMES.
L. STONEHAM.

FOOTBALL SEASON, 1929-30.

Sept. 28th	.....	Away	.....	St. Mary's Choir	.....	Won	....	3—1
Oct. 12th	.....	Home	.....	Shipston Juniors	.....	Lost	....	0—10
Oct. 26th	.....	Away	.....	Chipping Norton	.....	Lost	....	1—5
Nov. 23rd	.....	Home	.....	Stratford Unity	.....	Won	....	5—0
Nov. 30th	.....	Home	.....	New School Builders	.....	Lost	....	0—4
Dec. 7th	.....	Home	.....	St. Mary's Choir	.....	Won	....	5—0
Feb. 1st	.....	Home	.....	St. Mary's Choir	.....	Draw	..	1—1
Feb. 15th	.....	Home	.....	New School Builders	.....	Won	....	2—1
Feb. 22nd	.....	Away	.....	Stratford Unity	.....	Lost	....	2—7
Mar. 8th	.....	Away	.....	St. Mary's Choir	.....	Draw	..	1—1
Mar. 16th	.....	Home	.....	Stratford Unity	.....	Won	....	8—0
Mar. 29th	.....	Home	.....	Jack Goss's XI	.....	Lost	....	1—5

CRICKET SEASON, 1930.

May 26th and 30th	.....	Home	.....	New School Builders	.....	Won	....	78 for 8—21
June 5th	.....	Home	.....	Old Scholars	.....	Lost	....	28—104 for 5
June 9th	.....	Home	.....	An Old Scholars' XI	.....	Won	....	105 for 6—90
June 14th	.....	Away	.....	Banbury County School	.....	Draw	..	125 for 9—156
July 12th	.....	Home	.....	Shipston Juniors	.....	Won	....	57—15 and 25
July 16th	.....	Home	.....	Banbury County School	.....	Won	....	28—18 30—29
July 19th	.....	Home	.....	Long Compton	.....	Won	....	80—45
June 21st	.....	Home	.....	Chipping Norton	.....	Lost	....	46—50

GIRLS' GAMES.

The hockey matches were very successful, as no matches were lost, but to our disappointment, several which had been arranged were cancelled owing to the wet weather. We started in October with a mixed match against a team which Mr. Geering brought. After a keen and strenuous game we came out victorious with 5 goals to their 4.

The spirit of the team during the season was, on the whole, enthusiastic and keen. The whole eleven played together splendidly.

Having so many other jobs in hand during the summer term we were unable to arrange many cricket matches. Sylvia Squire, the Captain, was our best bowler and Christine Bird helped her very well. The former made the highest batting average.

P. MAYO.
C. BIRD.

HOCKEY SEASON, 1929-30.

Oct. 5th	.....	Home	.....	Mr. Geering's Mixed Team	.....	Won	....	5—4
Oct. 19th	.....	Home	.....	Cherington Ladies	.....	Won	....	2—1
Nov. 2nd	.....	Home	.....	Swarthmore Mixed Team	.....	Won	....	2—1
Nov. 9th	.....	Home	.....	Marlborough Road School	.....	Won	....	15—0
Nov. 16th	.....	Home	.....	Farnborough Hill	.....	Draw	..	1—1
Dec. 14th	.....	Home	.....	Rynaby	.....	Won	....	6—1
Feb. 1st	.....	Home	.....	Banbury Harrier's Ladies	.....	Won	....	5—2
Feb. 8th	.....	Away	.....	Banbury Harrier's Ladies	.....	Won	....	3—2
Feb. 15th	.....	Home	.....	Banbury County School	.....	Won	....	6—1
Feb. 22nd	.....	Away	.....	Farnborough Hill	.....	Draw	..	1—1
Feb. 26th	.....	Home	.....	Taylor's Mixed Team	.....	Won	....	2—1
Mar. 1st	.....	Home	.....	Chipping-Norton County School	.....	Won	....	4—1
Mar. 8th	.....	Away	.....	Chipping-Norton County School	.....	Draw	..	2—2
Mar. 15th	.....	Away	.....	Cherington Ladies	.....	Draw	..	1—1

CRICKET SEASON, 1930.

June 28th	.....	Home	.....	Banbury Harrier's Ladies	.....	Won	....	66—63
July 12th	.....	Away	.....	Banbury Harrier's Ladies	.....	Lost	....	74—80



Marriages



HAWLEY—GRANT.—On 1st June, 1929, at Erdington Parish Church, Birmingham, Arthur Thomas Hawley to Dorothy Elizabeth Grant.

HEWITT—ANGERSON.—On 18th September, 1930, at the Friends' Meeting House, Frenchay, Ernest Leslie Bruce Hewitt to Hilda May Angerson.

WRIGHT—HYNDS.—On 28th June, 1930, at the Wesleyan Church, Hertford, Louis Eric Wright to Doris Hynds.

CLAYTON—CRANMER.—At Braintree, Donald K. Clayton to Mary Cranmer.

WELLS—CARTER.—On 17th April, 1930, at the Friends' Meeting House, Winscombe, Arthur William Wells to Joan Mary Louise Carter.

HARRISON—NEVILLE.—On 3rd June, 1929, at the Friends' Meeting House, Peckham, Walter Thomas Harrison to Marie E. Neville.

SALTER—WOODROFFE.—On 15th October, 1930, at the Friends' Meeting House, Bournville, Ronald Gower Salter to Dorothy Helen Woodroffe.

Old Scholars will greatly lighten the Editorial burden if they will send notices of births, marriages, deaths and degrees, etc., to the Editor of the Report, Leslie W. A. Baily, "Riffwood," 88, Copgrove Road, Harehills, Leeds.

Births

RICHARDS.—On June 4th, 1930, at "Ardsmor," Barrington Road, Olton, Birmingham, to Marjorie (née Morland), wife of G. Richards, a son who was named John Morland.

BIRD.—On June 6th, 1930, cf 37, Wrottesley Road, London, N.W.10, to Ruth, wife of C. Lawrence Bird, a son who was named Theodore Lawrence.

EAVES.—On November 10th, 1929, to Annette, wife of E. H. Maurice Eaves, a son who was named John Maurice.

LAMB.—On November 7th, 1929, at Sibford Ferris, to Edith E. (née Millard), wife of Joseph B. Lamb, a daughter who was named Jennifer Rose.

STEVENS.—On November 13th, 1930, to Muriel M. (née Bentley), wife of Harry Stevens, a son who was named Michael Bentley.

Deaths

CROSLAND.—On September 15th, 1930, at Adelaide, Australia, Harold Crosland.

SALTER.—On May 24th, 1930, at Wallington, Surrey, Lucy Theodora Salter, aged 36 years.

GRAVESON.—On July 7th, 1930, at West Kirby, Michael Tyson Graveson, J.P., aged 90 years.

AT THE WHITSUNTIDE PICNIC

J. T. HARROD
and some others

[Photo. : Joy Morland





[Photo.: H. Campion]

Five hefty lads who slept together in Five Room at Paradise, 1914-15.
F. Gooday, G. Long, H. Campion, R. Rose, J. C. Baily.

Re-unions at . . . Whitsun.



Here are three groups of school-fellows re-united, typical of many such re-unions at Sibford last June.



[Photo.: H. J. Randall]

Mr. and Mrs. Harrod and some of the pupils of the early years of their regime at Sibford:—

I. to R. standing:

E. Rutter (*nee* Feugard)
A. K. Rutter, Elsie Rose,
H. Lawrance, Edna Bond
(*nee* Quinton).

Seated:

M. Shepperd (*nee* Wilson),
H. J. Randall, M.T.H.,
J.T.H., Theodora Hodg-
kiss, H. Stevens.

In front:

F. Lee, A. Longman.



Form-mates, 1912-15. [Photo.: R. Rose]

K. E. Randall (*nee* Wells), F. Gooday, R. Rose, M. Pickering
(*nee* Chalker), W. Stebbings, I. Nutter-Scott, M. Stevens
(*nee* Bentley), M. Parsons (*nee* Rose), G. Long, J. C. Baily.

The Editor thanks all the Old Scholars who have submitted photographs for the Report.

Sibford Old Scholars' Association

LIST OF MEMBERS

Membership of the S.O.S.A. is open to all Old Scholars, Past and Present Officers of the School, and Members of the School Committee.

SUBSCRIPTIONS (Minimum)	
Under 21 years	1/6 annually
Over 21 years	2/6 annually
Life Membership	3 Guineas

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP .. 523

Members are asked to assist in the routine work of the Association by notifying the Secretary when they change their addresses.

Owing to the abnormal pressure on space in this year's Report it has been necessary to omit the full list of members. A list of new members is given below, and also a list of alterations to addresses, with the new addresses of all Old Scholars who have moved since the last report. For the names and addresses of other members of the Association, Old Scholars are requested to refer to last year's Report. A complete list of members will be published next year.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Appleton, William	80, Canal Street, S. Wigston, Leicester.
Baily, James C.	34, Cambridge Road, King's Heath, Birmingham.
Baker, Ivy	Ingle Villa, Green's Norton, Towcester, Northants.
Basset-Lowke, F. (née Jones)	New Ways, Weston Road, Northampton.
Bax, Freda	8, The Park, London Road, Forest Hill, S.E.23.
Blacklee, Fred	8, Leicester Street, Southport.
Bristowe, Dorothy E. (née Kendall)	Broseley, Fernside Rd., Poole.
Caffrey, Mary (née Bracher)	82, Castleton Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex.
Cheney, Ethel	Westcote, Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey.
Churchill, Edward P.	2, South View, Badsey, Evesham.
Craig, Ailsa	Fellside House, Stocksfield-on-Tyne, Northumberland.
Cullen, Hector	Broadway, Didcot, Berks.
Cullen, William E.	do. do.
Davison, May (née Nicholl)	Elminus, Little Heath Road, Silsden, S. Croydon.
Darch, John T.	Ingenlook, Greenclose Road, Whitchurch, Glam.
Darch, Marjorie	do. do.
Dyer, Dennis	Glebe Farm, Wigginton, near Banbury.
Eaves, Margaret M. M.	Sidcot, Brentry, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.
Eaves, Maurice	23, Grange Drive, Worsley, Manchester.
Edwards, T. James G.	Battleflats Farm, Ellistown, Leicester.
Elsmere, Gwenllian	The Lodge, Mental Hospital, Caterham.
Evans, Mary (née Williams)	39, St. Michael's Road, Llandaff, Glam.
Evens, Isabel	Stretton, Manor Road, Fishponds, Bristol.
Faulkner, Grace T.	8, Dollis Park, Church End, N.3.
Feugard, Cecil M.	1, Christchurch Road, Reading.
Feugard, Kathleen G.	Merrowdown, Shaftesbury.
Greaves, Elizabeth B. (née Oddie)	The Avenue, Rotherham.
Harrod, James T., B.A.	Chamossaire, 66, Kineton Road, Olton, near Birmingham.
Harrod, Mabel T., B.A.	do. do.
Harrod, M. Gulielma	do. do.
Harrod, Elsie D.	do. do.
Harrod, E. May	do. do.
Harwood, John	235, Robin Hood Lane, Hall Green, Birmingham.
Hawley, Dorothy (née Grant)	198, Moseley Road, Highgate, Birmingham.
Hewitt, Hilda (née Angerson)	49, Mount Park Avenue, S. Croydon.
Hodgkiss, A. Annie	18, Wellesley Road, Colchester.
Hodgkiss, Theodora	do. do.
Hopkinson, Mary	The Firs, The Lidgett, Edwinstowe, near Mansfield.
Harrison, Marie (née Nevill)	98, Moncrief Street, Peckham, S.E.15.
James, Ivor	Ingleside, Baglan, Briton Ferry.
James, Oswald	do. do.
Johnstone, Arthur, B.Sc.	Sibford School, near Banbury.
Johnstone, Jessie, B.A.	do. do.

Kear, Ivor	Wilmot Lodge, Coleford, Gloucestershire.
Lissaman, Florence A.	The Nook, Eastern Green Road, Coventry.
Lissaman, Hilda	195, May Lane, King's Heath, Birmingham.
Lomax, Irene	12, Springfield Park, Witney, Oxfordshire.
Lowe, Geoffrey	Weoley Park, Selly Oak, Birmingham.
Mould, Phyllis	136, Yardley Wood Road, Moseley, Birmingham.
Naish, Mrs. J.	14, Museum Road, Oxford.
Nicholl, Winifred M.	16, Circular Road, Withington, Manchester.
Parkin, Frank	Sibford Ferris, near Banbury.
Palmer, Margery	Belmer, Lutterworth Road, Aylestone, Leicester.
Perry, John	2, St. George's Terrace, Regents Park, N.W.
Pritchard, Elizabeth	12, High Brow, Harborne, Birmingham.
Quintou, E. Eric	The White House, Reddicap Heath, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham.
Quinton, Fay	do. do.
Reynolds, Catherine	6b, Tubs Hill, Sevenoaks.
Robb, Marion (née Brady)	Hillcrest, Marshalswick Lane, St. Albans.
Secret, Frank E.	Bullards Farm, Camp End, castle Camps, Cambridge.
Standing, Elsie G.	97, Southbridge Road, Croydon.
Standish, Catherine	Penscot, Shipham, Winscombe, Somerset.
Stapleton, John F.	29, Belmont Road, St. Andrews, Bristol.
Thomas, H. Austin	Laneast, Collage Lane, Hurstpierpoint, Surrey.
Thomas, Hedley	do. do.
Thomas, Leslie	do. do.
Warner, Margaret	The Vineyard, Northfield, Birmingham.
Warner, Rosalie A. (née Henley)	62, Cautley Drive, Ilford, Essex.
Wells, A. W.	Hill House, Olveston, near Bristol.
Williams, Roy E.	14, Holwell Road, Welwyn Garden City.
Tite, Norman	60, High Street, Witney, Oxfordshire.
Tite, Osborn	do. do.
Woodall, Phyllis	9, Meads Street, Eastbourne.
Woolley, William H.	2, Nugent Hill, Cotham, Bristol.
Wright, Brian	Henham, near Bishops Stortford, Herts.
Wright, Louis E.	do. do.
Yarwood, Irene	Penmaen, Portnalls Rise, Coulsdon, Surrey

NEW MEMBERS

who have left School since Whitsuntide, 1930, and to whom membership of the S.O.S.A. is free until Whitsuntide, 1931.

Andrews, F. David	11, Oliver Street, Rugby.
Andrews, Muriel J.	6, George Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Bird, Christine M.	1, Marine Parade, Clevedon, Somerset.
Blunson, Bernard W.	100, St. Catherine's Road, Bitterne Park, Southampton.
Collins, Aubrey B.	Lower Nill Farm, Hook Norton, near Banbury, Oxon.
Cooper, Raymond L.	4, The Ridgway, Friern Barnet, N.7.
Cunliffe, Harold	65, Elm Road, Bournville, Birmingham.
Edwards, F. Jonathan S.	92, Grandison Road, London, S.W.11.
Findlay, Rhoda McL.	41, Northfield Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham.
Headley, John S.	Little Chart, Ashford, Kent.
Jones, Alexander L. L.	Nantllan, Bow Street, Cardiganshire.
Male, Edith	Friends' Meeting House, Park Lane, Croydon, Surrey.
Needham, Saxon U.	3, Council Cottages, Sibford Gower, Banbury, Oxon.
Norris, Catherine A.	23a, Oaksford Avenue, Upper Sydenham, S.E.26.
Persson, John A.	51, Durlham Road, Tottenham, N.15.
Roe, Vera	3, Albert Road, Aston, Birmingham.
Sabin, John T.	Temple Mills, Sibford, Banbury, Oxon.
Shackleton, Dorothy M.	38, Terminus Terrace, Southampton.
Smedley, E. May	111, Hamilton Road, Golders Green, N.W.11.
Smith, James D.	
Sparrey, Annie L.	74, Hay Green Lane, Bournville, Birmingham.
Standing, W. Alfred	4, Neville Road, Croydon, Surrey.
Stoneham, Leslie A.	78, Umfreville Road, Hornsey, N.4.
Symes, Ronald C.	Friends' Meeting House, Ordnance Road, Southampton.
Thomas, John L. C.	Nia Domo, Hale Lane, Hale, Edgware, Middlesex.
Tilley, Reginald H.	Hale, Winscombe, Somerset.
Woodall, Peggy	9, Meads Street, Eastbourne, Sussex.

MEMBERS RESIDING ABROAD

It is known that some of the following addresses are incorrect. As several of the Colonies do not return "dead letters" it is difficult to keep this list up-to-date. Members residing abroad are particularly requested to acknowledge receipt of the Report, and to confirm their addresses. The Editor of the Report will also be pleased to receive from them news of their life in distant parts of the world for inclusion in next year's S.O.S.A. Report.

Barber, Allan	Opposum Bay, South Arm, Tasmania.
Beck, Gulielma Mary (née Oddie)	Clodagh Estate, Matale, Ceylon.
Bizzell, Roydon H.	P.O. Box 1102, Cape Town.
Brett, Rev. A. Ernest	36, Essenwood Road, Berea, Durban, Natal.
Brown, Elizabeth F.	Rennweg 6, Vienna 111.
Cabeen, Helen A. (née Lansdowne)	Minstrel Island, B.C.
Calcraft, Herbert W.	390, East 39th Ave., Vancouver, B.C.
Calcraft, Leslie A.	c/o Butterfield and Swire, Hongkong.
Dearden, Henry	101, West Sharpnack Street, Germanstown, Pa.
Dixon, Ernest	P.O. Box 96, Macleod, Alberta.
Dixon, Harold	do. do.
Dixon, Wilton H.	do. do.
Edmunds, Albert J., M.A. (t)	1300, Locust Street, Philadelphia.
Gilbert, Walter C.	47, Wilson Avenue, Murray Hill, Flushing, Long Island, N.Y.
Gill, Egerton	Thames Avenue, Auckland, New Zealand.
Gower, Hugh T.	2351, Green Street, San Francisco, U.S.A.
Graaf, Lucy J. (née Robbins)	Forest Hill, P.O. Gaborones, Bechuanaland Protectorate.
Grimes, Wilfred E.	Bank of Montreal, Elora, Ontario.
Horne, John	1966, Beechwood Drive, Hollywood, California.
Hunter, John M.	Yellowdine, via Southern Cross, W. Australia.
Isaac, W. Roger	
Johnston, Mary E. (née Perkins)	83, Napoleon Street, Newark, N.J., U.S.A.
Judge, Arthur W.	78, Inverleith Terrace, East London, C.P., South Africa.
Knight, Hubert G.	Government Building Department, P.W.D. Entebbe, Uganda
Kelson-Ford, Muriel E. (née Thompson)	c/o Macmillan & Co., Ltd., Patullo Road, Mount Road P.O., Madras, India.
Lakeman, E. Priedeau	Haleville, Ala., U.S.A.
Lamb, Sarah E. J.	Box 22, Lakepost P.O., Colbourne, Ontario, Canada.
Lansdowne, M. Rose	Lily Vale, c/o Wood & English, Ltd., Englewood, B.C.
Lambeth, Thomas W.	Central Fire Station, Durban, Natal.
Lawson, Frank	Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada.
Lower, A. P.	Perth, Tasmania.
Maconochie, Eveline	Chateau de la Tour, Longuenesse, St. Omer, France.
Marriage, Kathleen (née O'Neill)	Oneonta, Mullinville, Kansas, U.S.A.
Mold, John	Canada.
Moscrip, Mary A.	Manutuke, nr. Gisborne, N.Z.
Moscrip, M. Grace	do. do.
Muggeridge, Albert	Hawera, New Zealand.
Muggeridge, Amos	Kaupokonui, Taranaki, N.Z.
Muggeridge, Charles	Oeo Road, Auroa, Taranaki, N.Z.
Muggeridge, Frank	do. do.
Murphy, William A.	c/o "Unirea," Casuta Postala 56, Bucarest.
Nicholl, Horace J.	Hyde Rock, Kondinin, W. Australia.
Nott, Thomas	c/o Mortimer Bros., Cochrane, near Calgary, Alta, Canada.
Rose, Ronald	Wattle Park, Kennington, Southland, N.Z.
Roseboro, Mabel A. (née Young)	5030, Ouitman Street, Denver, Col.
Salter, Leonard G.	Whakapirau, North Auckland, N.Z.
Salter, Gladys (née Nicholl)	do. do.
Viccars, Emiline (née Dawes)	Ferris Gardens, Berwick, Victoria, Australia.
Waites, T. P.	Box 5705, Johannesburg.
Warner, A. Louise	The Oaks, Huguenot Seminary, Wellington, C.P.
Watkins, George Edward	72, Windermere Road, Greyville, Durban.
Wells, G. Ronald	3700, First Avenue, South, Minneapolis, Minn.
Whitlock, Ernest E.	531, Osborne Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
Whitlock, Percy O., M.A. (s & t)	Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, India.
Wood, Emilie (née Waddington)	P.O. Box 10, Nairobi, B.E. Africa.