Colchester County High School Magazine.

Editors :—C. E. Manning. M. C. Makepeace.

Treasurer :—M. Ball

No. V. April, 1922.

SCHOOL NEWS.

ALTHOUGH the Summer term is our favourite, because we spend most of the time out of doors, yet the Winter terms bring Christmas parties, and hockey, and netball as compensations.

Our hockey match results have certainly not been brilliant this year, but now that we have a field once more, we hope that things will be very different next season. We have an energetic Captain in Marjorie Thackery, who has made people much more enthusiastic about the game, and our best thanks are due to Miss Holmes for the time she has spent in coaching us.

We have had several interesting lectures this Winter, including two on music. The first was a concert and lecture given by the "Wayfaring String Quartette" last December. Some delightful music was played, ranging from modern to Elizabethan, and our hearty clapping showed how we all appreciated it. This term Miss Walters, who has been to tell us about the Working Women's College, came to talk to us about "How to Listen to Music," with illustrations. Everyone was so interested that Miss Walters kindly came and played after the lecture until Miss Crosthwaite had to carry her off by force.

We must congratulate Muriel Brooke and Doris Gallifant, who are now at Royal Holloway College, on their success in the Cambridge Higher School Certificate Examination.

School Prefects, 1921-22.

Head of the School.---R. V. Causton.

Prefects.---M. Ball, D. Bullman, M. C. Makepeace, C. E. Manning, A. C. Tatum.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES.

July, 1921.

State Grants.

M. Brooke. D. Gallifant.

Cambridge Higher School Certificate.

M. Brooke (distinction in English and History).
D. Gallifant (do. do. do.).
R. Causton.

Cambridge Senior Local.

Hons., Class I.---E. Jeeves (distinction in French, Latin, Botany and Rel. Knowledge).
Do. II.---E. Martin (distinction in French).
J. Gallifant.
Pass.---J. McBryde (distinction in English).
D. Pearce (do. do.).
J. Hardy. K. Norfolk. M. Thackery
J. Simpson. F. Springett. E. Wheatley.
G. White.

December, 1921.
Pass---G. Carter. D. Martin. M. Lewis.

January, 1922.

London Matriculation.

J. McBryde.
J. Gallifant.

MATCHES—Winter, 1921–22.

Netball.

Halstead *v.* School	Away ...	School won...	34–0
Staff *v.* School	Home ...	,, ,, ...	16–9
Old Girls *v.* School	,, ...	,, ,, ...	11–1
Ipswich D.S.T. *v.* School	,, ...	,, ,, ...	26–5
Hamilton Road *v.* School	,, ...	,, ,, ...	26–6
Old Girls *v.* School	,, ...	,, ,, ...	15–1
Maldon *v.* School	,, ...	,, ,, ...	32–2
St. Mary's *v.* School Junior Team	,, ...	,, ,, ...	19–11

Hockey.

Dovercourt *v.* School	Away ...	School lost ...	1–4
Halstead *v.* School	,, ...	,, ,, ...	0–11
Maldon *v.* School	,, ...	,, ,, ...	0–4
Old Girls *v.* School	,, ...	,, ,, ...	2–4
Halstead *v.* School	Home ...	School won...	4–1
Maldon *v.* School	,, ...	,, ,, ...	1–0
Staff *v.* School	,, ...	School lost ...	1–4
Staff *v.* School	,, ...	School won...	1–0

SPRING.

ONCE again the spring is here,
Trees are budding far and near,
And the March winds, loud and shrill,
Rouse the yellow daffodil.

Cold, dark winter, with its snow,
Is left behind ; and now we know
That very soon, in fields so green,
Lambkins frisking will be seen.

After winter, dark and bleak,
Bluebells in the woods we'll seek,
While the lark is soaring high
In the bright and sunny sky.

KATHLEEN F. DICKSON, L. IVB.

SIGN POSTS.

SOME people object to sign posts on the ground that they are ugly and spoil the natural beauty of the country, but these people are not looking at them in the right way. Sign posts are the most interesting things. They have a relationship with scarecrows, for they are both more or less human in form, and they take the place of men. Scarecrows, however, are wild and disreputable creatures, especially in a wind, while their distant cousins, the sign posts, are usually quite staid and respectable, particularly those who wear "Stick no Bills" or "Parish of Wigborough" on their caps. These are always dressed in clean white, with black lettering, and they are found in roads or lanes near cultivated land. For the wilder kind of sign post, you have to go to districts where men are few, and where the posts are consequently not so well looked after. These, with almost all vestiges of paint gone, and green with age, give an added effect to moorland scenery, and do not seem out of place. Sign posts are very patient creatures ; they continue to hold out their arms, perfectly straight and parallel with the ground, year in and year out, although it is a very trying position, especially for those who have four or five arms. The little white posts along by the railway, which bear cryptic signs, such as "1 in 70," are much more lax in this respect. Each one has its arms at a different angle. Perhaps it is because they are very small and young, and the nearness of the trains frightens them.

E. JEEVES, L. VI.

WILD RABBITS.

LITTLE wild rabbits, O why do you flee from me,
Scurrying away
Into twilight's grey shadows,
When caught at your play ?

I creep up so softly, O why are you frightened?
Stay and be friends,
In the fast fading daylight,
As darkness descends.

You shy little creatures, how could I harm you?
I'd join in your game,
In the dusk of the evening---
Why won't you be tame?

Farewell little rabbits, for now I must leave you,
The lamps are alight,
And the dusk of the evening
Has passed into night.

E. GRUBB, Upper Va (II.)

FORM NOTES.

FORM I.

OUR form-room is looking very nice with daffodils and twigs. We have a pretty blue hyacinth and some frog-spawn. We made Nature-study covers in which we keep our drawings. We are growing linseed and wheat. We brought some soap and clothes for the Russian children.

JANIE PILKINGTON.

LOWER IIB.

In our garden we grow beautiful flowers. There are aconites, primroses, crocuses and violets, also a great many fruit trees, frog and toad spawn. We have a lovely form-room, also a beautiful hall, in which we have break, gym., dancing and prayers. After prayers we have lessons. This term we have begun to learn netball.

JOYCE MARTIN.

UPPER II.

Our class-room is a medium size; it is facing the road. It has a big bay window. Near the window there is a table with some daffodil bulbs on it. We are nearly south, so we get the sun all day. The room is heated by hot-water pipes on cold days. So far we have only five pictures, but we are saving up money to buy more. We have 10/5 in the money-box. In the form there are twenty-two girls.

M. J. DISS.

LOWER IIIB.

We have twenty-two girls in our form. The room we are in is 18. The windows look on to the street; and along the window-sill we have had some sweet-smelling hyacinths, and we are also growing horse-chestnuts, buckwheat and acorns. We have a very pretty form garden at the end of our playground. It is divided into plots, which are looked after by four girls at each plot. This

term we have played three matches. We were beaten by Lower IIA and by Upper IIIB, but we won against Upper II. Our games captain is Joan Stevens, and our form-captain Mary Webb.

M. LAIN and M. WEBB.

LOWER IIIA.

We have twenty-two girls in our form. Doris Felstead is our form-captain and Kathleen Lain is our games captain. We have played several netball matches, and have only beaten one form. We now hold the Gym. Cup, and, with the best of luck, we hope to keep it. We are collecting money to buy a picture for our form-room. Our form-room windows look into the garden, and we can see lovely views. K. LAIN and I. HAYDON.

UPPER IIIB.

In our form there are thirty-two children. There are two with green badges and several with red. All along the window-sills in our form-room there are twigs and flowers, and we were the first to have some daffodils in bloom. We have six gardens belonging to our form. Each garden has a head gardener and four girls to look after it. We started a picture fund last term, and when we get enough money we are going to buy another picture for the form-room. We have played five netball matches and have only won two, but we are hoping very hard that we shall do better in the gym. competition.

UPPER IIIA.

There are thirty-two girls in Upper IIIA. Thirteen of us are members of the League of Nations Union, and went to North Hill to hear Mr. Whelan. We have gardens belonging to our form, which are divided among us, so that there are about four girls to each garden. We did a lot of planting and digging last term In our netball matches we won against Upper IVB and Lower IVc, but were beaten by Lower IVA and Upper IVB. At the party we acted a small play called "Thor's Hammer."

LOWER IVc.

As our form is only a term old, there is not much to record. Last term we gained the picture for the best record, and we are all doing our best to keep it. Although we are only a small form, we did well in the examinations. More than half of our form belong to the League of Nations. We have a rather good netball team, considering that most of the girls are new---Dorothy Sumner is the captain. We have played several netball matches, and have been fairly successful. D. BRASIER.

LOWER IVB.

We have a large form-room, and we keep flowers on the window-sills. Last term Miss Sutton, a mistress who had left some time ago, sent a lovely picture called "The Boy and the Rabbit,"

by Raeburn. Miss Crosthwaite said that Lower IVB could have it, because they had no pictures in the form-room. We have played five netball matches and won four of them. The form-captain, Decima Stringer, is in the Junior School team. We are getting ready for the gym. competition which is to be held at the end of the term.

Lower IVA.

The form-captain is Jessie Fletcher. The form has started a library of poetry books. Our form-room is room 26. We have played five netball matches and won three. Two girls out of the form are in the Junior School team. This term we went up to North Hill to listen to a lecture on the League of Nations.

Upper IVB.

Last term there were thirty-four girls in the form, and the captain was Elsie Grant. It was decided to form a committee, composed of six girls and a president, to try and improve the order of the form. This term our form-captain is Margaret Taylor. On March 6th we went to North Hill to hear Miss Walters speak on "Listening to Music." We enjoyed the lecture immensely. This year we have won all our netball matches. Upper IVB began to play hockey for the first time this year. We played one match and lost, but we hope to do better next time.

M. Watts, E. Grant and E. Frost.

Upper IVA.

We have played three netball matches this term and have won two and lost one. Last term we played against the VI. and won. We enjoyed Miss Walters' lecture very much. We did not have many stars in the exams., but not many people failed.

Lower Vc.

We are a small form, consisting only of twenty girls. We have played four netball matches and have not won any of them, owing to the absence of our best players. We had only five order marks last term, and so far this term we have only had three. We had three stars and five fails in the term exams. B. Crampin.

Lower Vb.

At present we are all working hard for the gym. competition, and we hope to be one of the last forms on the list when it is read out. We have played six netball matches and have won five. In the form there are five girls with red and green badges, and three girls with red badges. We are in room 20 this year. Our form-captain is Ada Pennick, and our games captain is Yvonde Champness.

Lower Va.

We had hoped last term to win the Douglas Round Challenge

Cup, but, unfortunately, we just lost it. We were second on the list, and intend to have a good try for it this term. In the examinations at half-term, many of our girls gained red and black stars. We are doing fairly well in the netball matches, and hope to be successful in our hockey matches. The school listened to an interresting lecture by Mr. Whelan on the League of Nations, and we hope our form will be more enthusiastic about our own branch.

Form-captain for this term, H. Went.
Games-captain „ „ B. White. O. LAWRENCE.

UPPER VC.

There is nothing much to say about Upper Vc, because it is a small form and not very brilliant. We have a good form-captain in Edna Ball, who does her best to keep us in order, and usually succeeds. The exam. results were fairly good, although we only had one star. Our League of Nations Union representatives work very hard and make good speeches at the meetings. We have not been at all successful in the netball matches this term, but we hope to do better at tennis. G. CHALK.

UPPER VB.

We are glad to record that we won the Douglas Round Challenge Cup last term. This term we have done fairly well in term-work and exams. We succeeded in going without any order marks for the first half of the term, so that Miss Crosthwaite has abolished them for our form. We are the first Upper VB to have gained this privilege, and we hope the experiment will be successful.

Miss Phillips, our form-mistress, has very kindly formed a small library of her own books in the form-room for our benefit.

Our form-captain last term was Jean Ritchie, who was succeeded this term by Olwen Carter. Norah Dell has been elected games captain both terms, and is also treasurer of the school branch of the League of Nations Union. The form representatives of the League are Norah Dell and Connie Clarke.

We have been very successful in our form netball matches, and are represented in the school netball and hockey teams. At present we are all working hard at gym. in preparation for the coming competition.

UPPER VA.

We are the largest Cambridge form there has ever been in the school. As there are forty-five girls, we cannot all have lessons together, so we have been divided into Upper VA (I.) and (II.), but we all have the same form-room, and like to be thought of as one form.

Last term, after Upper Va (I.) had, rather unsuccessfully, written an essay on "The Romance of Colchester," Miss Phillips and Miss Elder took us up on the Castle walls. We afterwards went to see the Red Lion, a lovely Tudor hotel, with a fine oak staircase. We all enjoyed ourselves very much.

Upper Va (II.) have, so far, won all the netball matches they have played, and we hope they will keep the Games Cup, which now stands in our form-room. Upper Va (I.) have not been quite so successful.

THE MOON.

GLORIOUS and shining, wonderful and bright,
Spreading her radiance through the darkness of night;
As a precious jewel from the treasury of light,
Rose the moon.

Looking through the windows alike of poor and grand;
Looking on the sleeping children of the land;
Shining on the waves as they broke upon the strand,
Rose the moon.

J. Blomfield, Upper IIIa.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

THE Junior Branch of the League of Nations Union, which was formed in the school after Mr. Whelan's visit last summer term, has been very active during the last two terms. The Council, consisting of two representatives from each form, has met regularly and has arranged several assembly meetings, when papers have been read on various activities of the League of Nations, so that members have been able to learn quite a lot about its work. One of these meetings took the form of a debate, and another was devoted to reports on the Washington Conference, and its bearing on the League of Nations.

The members of the School Branch of the Union are working hard at a play, Old King Cole, by Clifford Bax, which is to be acted at the end of this term, in order to raise some money for the League of Nations Union. We hope that it will be very successful.

We have a capable and enthusiastic president in Dorothy Bullman, who is working very hard to make our Branch a success.

Miss Murray came to school last term and told us a great deal about the League and the way in which it has settled the Silesian and other important questions.

On Tuesday, March 14th, Mr. Whelan gave us an interesting lecture on the League. He said that many people argue that the

League of Nations is too idealistic, but that its practicability is already proved by its success in putting an end to the aggressions of Serbia and Greece on Albania, and in putting an end to several quarrels between nations; and, that if the Covenant of the League had existed in 1914, there would not have been a Great War. The League is now dealing with the dreadful consequences of the war, and it needs the support of world public opinion, so that in the future it will be able to stop wars which would plunge the world into greater misery.

J. McBryde, Lower VI.

THE FAIRIES.

DOWN to the dell,
Where the fairies dwell.
They dance all night,
Which is quite right.
Their waiters are rats,
And their scullions are gnats.

D. Bensusan-Butt (aged 7), L. IIb.

OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION NOTES.

THE Old Girls' Association now has a hundred and twenty members on its books, and we hope all girls leaving the school will join. The subscription (2/6), together with the name and address, should be sent to the Secretary (174, Maldon Road, Colchester).

The Xmas Meeting was held at North Hill, and the Senior School had their party jointly with us. A very jolly evening was spent, the Staff giving an amusing entertainment during an interval in the dancing. There were about seventy Old Girls present.

This Easter term we are having a concert at North Hill, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to buying a picture for the School.

On the first Saturday of the term we played the School at hockey and won. When we turned our attentions to netball, we, as usual, were beaten. On both occasions we lacked a full team, and had to borrow a member of the Staff, who kindly consented to be lent! We should probably succeed better if we remembered the rules of the game!

THE SWALLOWS.

THE swallows come in April,
To share our April showers,
Which come in Summer hours.
They fly across the open sea
So that they can come and live with me.
They hardly ever rest
When they are building a little nest.
They have a little beak,
And legs that are very weak.
For their doors they have no key,
Like you and me.
They only have a little hole,
Like a mole.

J. HICKFORD, Upper IIIB.

HOW THE MANX CAT LOST ITS TAIL.

ONCE upon a time in the far off days, O best beloved, there lived an exceedingly beautiful cat, with only one thing which spoilt his appearance, and that was his tail.

This tail was long and curly, and I know you will say, "How could that spoil his appearance?" I will tell you. Every time that exceedingly beautiful cat looked, spoke, or acted, he wagged his tail in a most conceited manner, and all who saw him, said in a loud voice, "What atrocious conceit!" While an aged veteran of elephant land said he would surely come to a very bad end.

Well, to go on with the story, O best beloved, there lived next door to that exceedingly beautiful cat, a young monkey, O so full of tricks and, I am sorry to say, full of mischief also, wherever that exceedingly beautiful cat went, the monkey followed and, keeping at a safe distance from his talons. he would imitate him, and wag his tail in the same manner as the cat did himself.

After a time the cat grew very angry about it, and one day he turned round, and, seeing the monkey up to his tricks, gave chase, but, though he chased over hill and down dale, he could not catch him, for the monkey was very agile and leapt very quickly. Now this made the exceedingly beautiful cat very angry, and because of his anger, his tail swelled and swelled and got rounder and bigger until it got in the way. The monkey knew this, and seeing an opportunity for annoying further, he turned round quickly and taking the cat's tail firmly between his teeth gave it a good hard bite, and being so weak from constant wagging, it gave a little creak and broke right off, and the monkey, seeing what he had done, ran off home.

There was nothing then for that exceedingly beautiful cat to do but to go home, and he went, carrying his tail in his mouth and looking very forlorn and dejected indeed, while everybody said in one loud voice: "That's what comes of such atrocious conceit,"—And ever after that, O best beloved, that species of exceedingly beautiful cat was born without tails, and it is no other than the Manx cat.

E. Flux.

SPRING SONG.

Spring is coming, spring is coming,
For my garden tells me so,
Daffodils are gently waving,
Waving to and fro.

Spring is coming, spring is coming,
For the birdies tell me so,
They are busy in my garden.
Flitting to and fro.

Spring is coming, spring is coming,
For the trees all tell me so,
They are waking in my garden,
And the buds begin to show.

Betty Beckwith, Lower IIIa.

Poyser & Co., 5, High Street, Colchester.