

The Brenthamite

(PUBLISHED MONTHLY)

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NOVEMBER, 1916

US AND OUR CONCERT.

The Editor in Chair of State
(A euphemism for the coal-box),
Reviews the copy up-to-date,
And sends out notes I calculate

Will give some writers soul-shocks.
His line to Pierrot's short and flowing,
"How is that bally Concert going."

The Secretary in Meadvale Road,
Is hustling round and getting busy,
His special business manner showed,
When quickly in on me he strode,

And nearly sent me dizzy.
"Don't talk to me of slow and steady,
Just see that programme's nearly ready."

"Right oh, you chaps," I said to each,
"The thing is done, so don't you worry,
Our Concert's going to be a peach,
The artists' names are here in reach,

There is no need for hurry.
Now run away and let me write,
My piffle for the BRENTHAMITE."

This Magazine, with which we try
To keep all Brenthamites together,
Has really got a very high
Class programme, and if all will buy

A ticket, it will weather
The stormy stress of these dark times,
"In spite of Pierrot's rotten rhymes."

THE PIERROT.

Bottle Collection.—The cheque has at last come to hand for the bottles left over from the collection. It amounts to £4 13s. 8d. Fifteen shillings has been allotted to the entertainment of the soldiers in August, and the rest has been divided between the Ealing Chamber of Commerce Fund for Ealing's Disabled Soldiers and Sailors and the Brentham Protection Association.

H.W.B.

EVENTS.

The success of the Whist Drives held on October 7th and 14th respectively was due not only to the number of players who took part, but also and principally to the atmosphere of sociability (both genuine and spontaneous) with which they were accompanied. The Dance and Bridge Drive held on October 21st was most thoroughly enjoyed by those present, and the opinion was generally expressed that the next series would, undoubtedly, be a greater success numerically. Still, 32 dancers in these times, and with the fascinations of bridge close at hand, is encouraging. Mrs. Fielder provided the music and gave great satisfaction to the dancers.

Two Hockey Matches have been played during October although the Hockey Club is more or less dormant. But the invitation to send a team to the A.S.C. Camp at Park Royal was such that refusal was unthinkable. So on October 7th a quite out-of-practice Brentham team was defeated by 5 to 4, and was entertained to tea afterwards. At Brentham on October 21st the return match was played, and again we suffered defeat (by 5—1) after a strenuous game. Unfortunately the two Captains, Lieut. Hopcroft and Mr. Sansom had to leave the field with severe bruises. The tea in the Institute was a great credit to Mr. Boxall's department, and was thoroughly enjoyed. Two further matches with our neighbours are being arranged, and it is possible that a Concert may follow the home match, at which Park Royal talent will be exhibited.

On Wednesday evening, October 25th, Mr. R. H. Smith lectured on "The Far East and Supremacy" to a moderate-sized audience. Dealing with the developments in the national life of the Japanese, Chinese and Hindoo, Mr. Smith, with much ability, showed the ever-increasing power in the world's politics that these nations are earning. Neither sounds of music from above, deputational murmurings from before nor the quarters chimes from behind disturbed the lecturer nor his interested audience. Messrs. W. E. Morris, Bunting, and G. Morris joined in the final discussion.

The First Entertainment by pupils of Miss Molly Duncan at the Institute on October 28th attracted an audience that overflowed the hall. Miss Duncan's Classes are so intimately associated with Brentham that, in spite of the fact that her work naturally appeals to a wider public, her Concerts are essentially Brentham events. The Ballet, "Our Allies" and "The Dance of the Season" were the principal exhibitions of the evening, and they showed to advantage not only a charming array of dainty maidens but the great teaching power of their mistress. The pupils generally in their dancing and elocution gave the impression of loving the work and an absence of "grind" in the preparation.

Miss Molly Duncan, in her recitations, "Spotty," "Brave Women" and "Lorraine," as well as in her song and dance, "Broken Doll," seemed to hold much in reserve, to be accounted for only by an unselfish desire to avoid "stealing the limelight" from her pupils. Mr. Jerome Murphy, a favourite of favourites at Brentham, provided the comedy element in spite of a very severe cold. A well-suited play in two acts, "Vingt-et-un," concluded the programme.

The pupils were:—Peggy Cobbett and Margery Cooper, Butterflies; Thelma Cooper, Fairy Silver and Winter; Dorothy Duncan, Katie in "Granny's Picture" and Fairy Bluebell; Margery Gardner, who sang very sweetly as a Queen's Attendant; Eileen Gardner, an Elf; Vivian Jones, a diminutive Jack Tar; Kathleen Lawrence, who spoke splendidly as the King, an exacting part; Audrey Mace, "Granny's Picture," and that to the life; Irene Milner, whose toe dance showed much promise, and whose acting and speaking as the Princess were much applauded; Audrey Lawkin and Ruth Morgan, the former as Fairy Gold, and both dancers in "Winter"; Mary Morgan, a Butterfly; Irene Oakley, as Ireland; Sylvia Payne, excellent as the Gipsy, and in several songs; Margot Reading, who typified Spring with some dance-realism; and Florrie Sell, dancing as Japan.

The success of the concert was in great measure ensured by Mrs. Fielder's work at the piano.

A "repeat" early in December is promised.

SKIB.

The Tennis Section entertained to tea on Saturday 28th October, a party of 25 wounded soldiers from the Military Hospital, Endell Street, W.C., accompanied by Sergt.-Major Harris, R.A.M.C.

The facilities open to the soldiers were cards, billiards, and an informal concert.

The thanks of the committee are due to Mesdames Foord, Harris, Reid, Brown, Cobbett, Hender, and Blomeley for their untiring labours; to Mrs. Howarth, Misses Ayres and Sears, for entertaining our guests in the Ladies' Room after tea; to Mr. Howarth, and Mrs. R. C. F. Woods, for songs, which were much appreciated, and to Miss Bennett as pianist.

Thanks also to members and non-members who so generously contributed to the tea, and to the Control Committee for the facilities and personal service put at our disposal.

Our guests departed quite pleased with their outing. B.

Mr. Bert Hebditch has, under doctor's orders, entered a Sanatorium in order to undergo treatment. In his absence we can say what would be unsafe to say in his presence: He has given as much as any man here in time, labour and money for the advancement of sport. May he return shortly a perfect cure.

BRENTHAM CLUB AND INSTITUTE.

The Club and Institute has been open for a month, and the Control Committee are gratified at the manner in which the residents on the Estate have responded to their efforts. Everything now indicates that the venture will prove a success.

The ordinary activities have quickly fallen into full swing, and the special Saturday evening attractions have been particularly well attended. The Dance on 21st October drew the smallest attendance. Another will be held on the 18th November, but unless it be much better attended than the last one this form of recreation will not be repeated.

Special notes on most of the activities will be found elsewhere, but I must draw attention to a mistake that crept into my notes last month. The Library was announced to contain over 1,000 volumes. This drew on me the wrath of the Librarian, for the figure should have been over 2,000.

Non-members would find that this department alone will supply them with very good value for their subscription.

There seems to be some doubt as to certain entertainments which are open to non-members. All activities and entertainments organised by the Club are open to members only. Non-members wishing to partake therein must be members for the day by purchasing a visitor's ticket at the bar (price, 3d.).

If, however, the hall be let to an outside body all control of admission then passes into the hands of those who have hired the hall (subject to the Committee's bye-laws), and no question of membership arises. The Committee have decided to invite freely non-members to lectures of general educational interest.

There are still a few people who promised to join the Club and have not yet done so. The Hon. Treasurer is most anxious to see them as soon as possible.

About 80 soldiers have been made honorary members for the day at various times during October.

Programme for Saturdays during November:—

- Nov. 4. Whist Drive. (Admission, 6d. ; non-members take visitors' tickets, 3d.).
- ,, 11. Hall hired by "The Brenthamite." Grand Concert. (Admission, 7d., including tax).
- ,, 18. Dance (large hall).
Bridge Drive (small hall).
Admission, 6d. Non-members take visitors' tickets, 3d.
- ,, 25. Hall hired by Golf Section.
Whist Drive. Admission, 6d.

Lending Library open Wednesdays, 8 p.m.—9 p.m. ; Saturdays, 6.30 p.m.—8.0 p.m.

HON. SEC., I.C.C.

It has been decided to hold our Whist Drive on *Golf*. Saturday evening, November 25th, and we hope all our Golf friends will make a special note of this date.

J.E.R.

ON DIT:—

That E.J.N. knows how to make the Institute "hot stuff."

That it is not advisable to ask him if the boiler fire ever smoked.

That either the Editor, or the Printer, or both, made a mistake in somebody's initials last month.—Enquiries to H.H.B.—[Guilty, Ed., THE 'ITE].

That the I.C.C. never realised the command of language possessed by its Chairman until after his library had been stated to contain 1,000 volumes—just half the real number.

That a lady interested in the Girls' Section did enjoy herself last Saturday afternoon—further particulars from several of the girls.

That P. C. (not 49) has secured some good and "w(h)itty" helpers in the billiard room.

That A.S. does enjoy a game of hockey. In fact his success last week was quite a "feat."

That the cross bars of the boys' goal-posts have a somewhat effeminate appearance.

That the "'Ite" Concert is going to be "It."

ANON.

The task of keeping the "With the Forces" List up to date has proved too heavy for us. For the present we must content ourselves with giving a few names that should be added to the list:—Messrs. Bounden, Brenchley, R. C. Brown (Lieut.)—these should have been added long ago,—Folker, Kell, Millard.

Perhaps the I.C.C. will appoint a small committee charged with exhibiting the List in the Institute.

Pte. R. Goodyear, of timekeeping and Cricket fame, is a prisoner in Germany.

The conditions of Gent's entrance to the Ladies' Room have been settled—by the ladies: on the occasions of socials, held fortnightly, the ability to sing giving the right to a passport.

A few Anticipations:—A Bohemian Concert, a Junior Concert, a Reference Room, a Lantern Lecture, a Musical Recital.

Though almost entirely without men, there is a possibility of the Players reviving as a Sketch Party. Mr. Macfarlane will be pleased to hear of anyone willing to assist. A Sketch, planned for ladies only, is likely to be in preparation shortly.

From Mrs. Nicholson, whose work with the Dramatic Society during the past three years has been a delight, we hear that she is in Charing Cross Hospital, having undergone an operation. She expresses but one wish—a desire to receive her BRENTHAMITE. May her other wishes be as easily satisfied, and health soon be hers.

OUT AND ABOUT.

Our district is at present having its annual "crop"; its trees are being dealt with by a busy band of loppers. Last year's was but a trim-up compared with the severe dismemberment now in progress. While some of our more aesthetic neighbours regard the operations with sad eyes, there is a general satisfaction among us at the removal of all lower boughs, those awkward things that scratch along the upper surfaces of our umbrellas. The top hat, long since vanished from our promenades, may make a re-appearance now that security upon the head is assured. The light of street lamps, prevented from shining upwards, may struggle as far as the pavement and aid our tottering steps.

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The gentlemen of the Institute Control Committee are daily earning our gratitude. Why should we members not show our pleasure in a tangible way? And since "unique" is the order of the day, the following are suggested:—

| | | |
|----------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| J. A - p - t | ... | A "comfy" chair. |
| H. E. B - x - 1 | ... | A D.S.O. with a bar. |
| H. W. Br - - - - n | ... | A roll top hat. |
| G. W. B - nt - - g | ... | A feather for his cap. |
| P. C - v - n | ... | An iron(ing) cross. |
| F. W. Gr - - n | ... | An auctioneer's hammer. |
| J. H - - rn | ... | A cage of tame worms. |
| F. J. M - ln - r | ... | A "season" to the Bank. |
| E. J. N - w | ... | A new broom (perpetual). |
| J. E. R - - sd - 1 - | ... | A smoke helmet. |
| W. E. M - r - - s | ... | An intellect tickler. |

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The choice of journals for the Reading Room has given general satisfaction. Faced with a thorny question, the Committee gave it long and anxious thought, and appears to have congratulated itself upon its selection. So satisfied, indeed, were the members of the Committee that they decided to make first offer to themselves for the journals as they come off the tables. The leavings, four weeklies, were, however, thrown to the dogs, but the ungrateful beggars did not snap at them, and actually growled for what was not offered.

Now why did not the Committee offer the lot or none?

W.E.R.

Choral. The Society has re-formed, and at a general meeting accepted with enthusiasm, a scheme offered by the I.C.C. There will be no separate subscription, for the I.C.C. will take over the finance and provide a rehearsal room. As soon as the question of a Conductor is settled rehearsals will commence. The Committee consists of Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Patten (Hon. Sec.), and Mr. Milton, either of whom will be pleased to hear from any singers on the Estate.

Educational. The response to the request for signatures of those desirous of attending Classes for the study of History, Economics, French Language, Cookery, and Dressmaking has been lamentably weak. Perhaps not many members have seen the retiring appeal. We know it is usually trying to efface itself behind a bill of Molly Duncan's Dance Display or the War Savings Call. It is, perhaps, scarcely to be expected that members should show eagerness to spend their evenings attending adult classes or in learning to emulate the dress creations of Madame Jones.

But the Educational Secretary thinks there may still be enough self-sacrificing or enthusiastic souls to form Classes. If they are too timid to write their names on the appeal, and would speak to any Committee-man, or the ladies to Mrs. Harris, it will serve.

During the month Mr. R. H. Smith valiantly faced the prevailing apathy, and gave an address on "The Far East and World Supremacy."

Next month it is hoped to bring before a Brentham audience Mr. G. D. H. Cole, M.A., with an address on "After-War Problems." Mr. Cole is a University man of brilliant attainments. He should be able to give Brentham some food for reflection. The date is not yet fixed, but please look out for the notice.

W.E.M.

Billiards. It is, indeed, a pleasure to be able to take up the pen to record the re-opening of the Billiard Room, and to be able to say that the support accorded to the tables since play started has been very satisfactory. There is, however, still room for slight improvement, especially early in the evening, and I would be glad to welcome any new or old residents, whether they are or are not proficient at the game. Our room at the Club is in keeping with the rest of the Institute, thoroughly equipped for its purpose, and every effort will be made by the stewards to make everyone feel at home.

As far as my capabilities go, I should be only too pleased to give a little friendly tuition to anyone wishing to take up the game. The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act with me on the sub-committee, and one of us will be on duty each evening:—Mr. Bennett, Mr. W. J. Brown, Mr. Gifford, Mr. Huard, Mr. MacCormack, and Mr. Whitmore. We shall wait a little while before starting a handicap, but in the meantime it would assist handicapping and add to the interest of the games if players would record their scores against their names on the time-sheet. I should be willing to place, besides, a tabulated list in the room.

Every endeavour is being made to keep the tables in best possible condition for play.

P.C.

This section has opened in a very promising manner, **Juniors.** and has already become popular with our juveniles, whose numbers are increasing each week. On Tuesdays we have the younger members, both boys and girls, from 6.30 to 7.30 for reading, games, and instruction.

On Wednesdays we have our boys (Our Boys) from 6.30 to 8 p.m., who appear to spend a very enjoyable time in games of draughts, chess, &c. A good supply of books and periodicals are placed at their disposal, also the use of the small billiard table. We purpose instructing the boys in Boxing and Drill, and a capable Instructor has kindly offered his services to the chairman.

On Thursdays our senior girls attend from 7 to 9 p.m., for reading, dancing, and instruction, and on Monday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m. a Working Party has been formed for sewing (plain and fancy), knitting, etc., under a sub-committee of the following ladies:—Mrs. Bryceson, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Hender, and Miss Bennett. On Wednesdays, from 6.30 to 7 p.m., the children's library is open, under the control of Miss Gould.

FOOTBALL.—October 7th, v. Turnham Green Choir. Our opponents won by 1—0.

October 21st, v. Haven Green Sunday School. Our opponents were much the bigger and heavier team, but our boys tackled them well. We lost by 4—2.

October 28th, v. Turnham Green Choir. Victory at last. A good game, resulting in our favour by 5—2.

NEXT MONTH'S FIXTURES.

Nov. 4, v. Latymer School VI.—Home.

„ 11, v. Haven Green Sunday School—Pitshanger Park.

„ 18, v. Acton Cadets—Home.

„ 25, v. Southfield Road School—Home. J.E.R.

Activities in the Ladies' Room are great. On **Ladies.** Mondays the ladies hold a Sewing Party, but I am afraid it is mostly fancy work being done. The first evening was certainly very pleasant; a fire in the room made it look cheerful. On every other Wednesday we are having a social evening, so that anyone (lady or gent.) who can sing, play, or recite is welcome. Our first social on October 25th was a great success.

A lady steward is appointed for each evening, viz:—Mrs. Turtill (Monday), Mrs. Blomeley (Tuesday), Miss Bennett (Wednesday), Mrs. Howarth (Thursday), Mrs. Brownlee (Friday). Whist and Bridge Tournaments are being arranged to be concluded at the end of November. E.A.H.

Your social Secretary has met with so much encouragement in his new work that he would like to take this opportunity of expressing his gratitude to the members and his conviction that the support so generously given will be continuous and regular.

J.H.