

E. Willshire

— The —
Ruytonian



APRIL, 1912.

Melbourne :
The Shipping Newspapers Ltd., 31 William Street.
1912.

THE RUYTONIAN

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EDITORIAL.

This number of the "Ruytonian" inaugurates the new regime which was decided on by the Old Girls at the annual meeting in November. It is now a school paper, and the school is responsible for its production and for its financing. But the Old Girls will be responsible for some of the money, and will also, we hope, supply a large part of the matter. The editors for this issue are—Sharley Tickell, Lilian Whybrow, Inez Argyle. And we do want everyone to try and help, by sending your criticism of the present number and suggesting improvements for the next; by sending photos, stories, poems, articles and personal paragraphs. Let us all remember that the school-paper is the chief instrument for keeping the school through all its changes and chances a living unity, and that its success depends on the efforts of each girl—past and present.

SPECIALLY TO THE OLD GIRLS.

Dear Old Girls,—Mr. Editor is kindly allowing me an opportunity, which I have long desired, of addressing you. I know girls hate changes, and in their very loyalty they find it almost impossible to believe that a change in the Headship of their school can be in anything good. Yet changes must come, they are part of our very humanity; and in our case is it not wisest to make the best of the change and get the best out of it, remembering that good is "fulfilled in many ways." But may I tell you that I never want to make changes for the **sake** of making them, and that I am bringing to Ruyton what ought to be the best and most useful years of my life—the results of the ten years testing in my first school the new methods and principles of education which I had studied at Cambridge. The teaching and organising experience gained there I now give to Ruyton, but Ruyton will still be Ruyton, and when I in my turn retire, Ruyton goes on.

Since I have had some opportunity of observing Melbourne schools, I am convinced that Ruyton holds a unique place. For comfort and care and health, for a due trust and liberty and the opportunity of self-development; for a high tone and public spirit, and for the social standing of its girls, Ruyton takes the first place. For these things I love it and am at home in it. But from the academic standpoint there were some defects, recognised and pointed out to me by your late Heads, that are now being removed. For example, the course of study for the little girls has been quite re-organised—nature study, elementary physics, out-door geography, physical culture and a great deal of art work has been introduced, the whole aim being to secure that truth and thoroughness of work which only comes when the child's mind is feeding on its right food. When these children arrive in the higher classes their methods of work and power of independent study will be of a high standard.

For the older girls, as they nearly all travel or "finish" in Europe, it has seemed to me that modern languages should make a very large part of their work. The advantage of daily conversation in French and German has now been arranged, and it pleases us greatly to see how readily some girls seize this opportunity.

Again, in a school of this class I recognise that it is more essential for some girls to get a good knowledge and appreciation of art, music and literature and of modern economics than to pass examinations, but there must, too, be provided such a thorough grounding and such advanced teaching that any pupil who works through our classes to Vth form can take examinations without special coaching or undue pressure.

These are my aims, but to carry them out I need your serious help and sympathy, for such a school is expensive in upkeep, and success depends partly on numbers. With your co-operation we can make of Ruyton in all senses the best school for girls in Australia; without you, well it will be hard work. Do you care for your old school? Will you help? Will you come to see me and let us know each other? Will you believe me to be, no longer a stranger, but a Ruytonian, too, and your sixth

HEAD.

A LITERARY EFFORT FROM FORM II.

I am a small but important pup named Hobbs. I have a black spot on my back, a black nose, and black on each side of my face. I have brown eyes, and all the rest white. I have a very lively time with the things I do. I chased a little rooster round the garden till my mistress came out and stopped me; then I got an old pair of stockings and tied myself up in them: it was lovely fun. The next evening after I had a bath that was horrible, they gave me a big cloth to roll in, and I turned ever so many somersaults. I've had some motor rides, and I guess it's good to be alive.—Hobbs.

SCHOOL NOTES IN GENERAL

Farewells at Xmas.

It really was a heart-breaking time—first there were so many girls finishing and leaving for good, and this is both sad and exciting. What packings of old school books for Cole's—dear Cole's! What presentations of things "which won't be of any use to me now"—so generous! What bargaining with wily Michael about getting trunks up from the cellar! What ringing up of cabs and carriers, and what gorgeous departing in motors! Then there were farewell suppers, and Nellie Joske gave a specially nice farewell tea. Then there were farewells to teachers—Madame Liet, Miss Daniell, Miss Young and Miss Homan. Miss Daniell's own girls, joined by some Old Girls, gave her instead of a travelling present, a cheque "to be spent on some one beautiful thing for herself" Miss Young's pupils gave her a very pretty silver clock, and the presentation of IIIb. to Miss Homan was also a clock.

Two little Ruyton girls, Gwen and Nellie Burnip, got up a sale-of-work in March, and realised £5 for the Children's Hospital.

An interesting new girl is Gertrude Hwang, the daughter of the Consul for China. If many little Chinese ladies are like Gerty, the new Republic has a successful future.

At dinner now we have a French and German table, at which a few privileged girls sit. We at the other table used to hear at first a great many "wees" and "nong's" and "yahs," but these are now lost in the fluent murmur, and we prick up our ears, especially when Mademoiselle puts her hands over hers, in vain.

Bessie Argyle is doing very good work in drawing and design with Miss Hester. We are using some of her designs for things for our bazaar.

Marcia MacLaurin, who had measles last term, has had a slight attack of diphtheria during the holidays and will not be back till Easter.

Fairie Moffatt, who was so very ill last term, is at present on a voyage to Colombo; it is rumoured that she is going to Toorak, but it is scarcely credible. Everyone will be very sorry, especially the Hockey players.

Esther Gibson is travelling this year—France, Germany, England, America. We congratulate her, but wish it were next year. Esther should have been the star of the Junior Public Class.

Doris Boag, Prefect, 1911, has "left" as a school girl, but is returned as a Hostel student. She is studying kindergarten, French and German, piano and singing. Her voice should have a future if she has time and patience for the requisite training.

Molly and Dorothy Walsh, entered February, 1904, have "left," but are taking extra subjects, Molly specialising in music and Dorothy in drawing. It seems funny not to have a Walsh at school.

Little Doris Young and Audrey Humphreys are also travelling in England.

We here introduce to old Ruytonians the new members of the staff:—Mademoiselle Forres, from Geneva, takes French and German throughout the school, and being resident, the boarders who wish it, have extra conversation and reading with her in the evening. Miss Playll, from Cheltenham, holds the Cambridge Diploma of Education, and is Senior Resident Mistress, and takes mostly Senior English and History. Miss Hay, from Clyde, and holding the Primary Teaching Certificate, Form Mistress for II.; Miss Jones, from Tasmania, for IIIb. Miss Hilda Jones, Mrs. Winspear, and Miss Hines are still with us.

OLD RUYTONIANS' REUNION.

The annual Reunion of members of the Old Ruytonians' Association took place on Monday, November 13th.

It was fairly well attended by the Old Girls, but we all wish we could see many more of the old teachers. Miss Lascelles came up from Geelong for the afternoon, and Mrs. MacDonald was also present.

The schoolroom was very prettily decorated with flowers, and our premiership pennants were hung on the walls. We desire to thank the committee for providing the refreshments, which were handed round by present girls of the head class.

Miss Lascelles read the year's report. Then the following alterations were made:—

1. That the "Ruytonian" be made a school paper, managed by the present girls.
2. The annual Re-union to be held in the evening instead of the afternoon.
3. The subscription be raised to 3s. 6d. to enable the Association to offer an annual prize for best all-round girl.

The Committee was elected as follows:—

Mrs. Walsh, President; Mrs. Chomley, Vice-President; Mrs. Teague, Mrs. N. Derham, Miss B. Derham, Miss Henty, Miss Salter, Miss Stogdale, Miss B. McIntosh, Miss McWhae, Miss Walsh, Miss Lily Whybrow, Miss K. Hunter, Miss H. Ramsay, Treasurer; Miss S. Tickell, Secretary.

A RIVER PICNIC.

On the 28th February the boarders were the guests of Miss Hooper at a river picnic.

We started just at the right time—5.30—and leaving the boat-sheds, we pulled steadily until we came to a pretty spot above Rudder Grange; here we made fast, and amidst



much fun had tea. I really think Billy tea and impromptu sandwiches a most enjoyable feast. Indeed the fame of our Billy tea is practically world-wide.

That part of the Yarra is especially pretty, and our junior boarders were greatly amused by a family of laughing-jackasses who seemed to think us a huge joke.

Rowing down the river at about 8.30 was just perfect, and we had the light of a full moon all the way. The boats on the water looked very picturesque. On ours we had good fun, telling jokes and singing songs. We arrived back very tired, but tiredness, when one is happy, counts for very little.

L. NEILL.

OLD RUYTONIANS.

An interesting group of girls left at Christmas—all rather older than usual, and having all entered some years back. They will serve to bridge over the break which inevitably occurs to a greater or less extent when a school changes its Head. Some of these had won honours for the School in sports or studies, some have been of especial help to Miss Hooper in her new work, some have just been kind and cheerful girls helping perhaps unconsciously to make things run easily. All will have a hearty welcome both from Miss Hooper and the School when they come to see us, and we shall follow up their future with interest. They are boarders:—

Lilian Whybrow, entered February, 1905: In the First Four 1909, 1910, 1911; Tennis Captain, 1911; Sec. Sports Club, 1911; Prefect, 1909, 1910, and Senior Prefect 1911; Head of the School, 1910; Passed Jun. Pub., 1909; Sen. Hon. Eng. and Sen. His., 1910; Medical Entrance, 1911. Lilian is taking the Arts Course this year, and her friends hope she will go on to Medicine next year, or after graduating B.A. We all wish her happiness and success in her work.

Lolo Grey-Smith entered February, 1905. We hope to hear from her in the musical world.

Eleanor Loughnan entered February, 1910. A good tennis and hockey player. Prefect, 1910; passed 9 Junior Public subjects in 1910 and 1911. After five years of boarding school Dot will have a year at home, "studying useful things" and making up to her mother for their long separation, before she takes up some professional work.

Lalla Watson, entered July, 1909. Lalla has had a successful school career. In 1910 she passed Junior Public, and in 1911 Junior Public Algebra, and Senior Honour English and History. Owing to a misunderstanding of the University Calendar, Lalla has not completed Junior Public pass, but her work is really superior to the ordinary pass, and she now holds the University Certificates for all she has done. Lalla has two gifts—style in writing and the faculty of marshalling her facts and seizing the essential. The Ruytonians will look forward to her contributions.

Kathleen Hunter, entered February, 1908. Prefect, 1910 and 1911. Kathleen, for her kindness and cheerfulness, has been one of the most popular girls.

Isabel Sword, entered May, 1910. We believe Isabel was a delicate girl when she came to Ruyton—who would think it? She did remarkably well in painting under Miss Dunn, and we are expecting a picture for the Vth room.

Doris Shelmerdine, entered July, 1909. Doris is continuing several extra subjects at school.

Kathleen Edwards, entered July, 1905. Prefect the last term. Was always one of the most popular girls with both girls and teachers.

Norma Tatchell, entered February, 1910.

Retta Hornemann, entered July, 1906. Prefect, 1911. Completed Junior Public in six subjects in 1911.

Anna Stevenson, entered October, 1907. Prefect, 1911. Left at Michaelmas and was greatly missed.

Gwendolen Swanton, entered February, 1907. Passed Junior Public in six subjects and finished Head of the School.

Maisie Wilcox, entered February, 1909.

Annie Grice, entered 1908. The school will miss one of their best hockey players.

Elfrida Eldrid, after nearly a year of Europe, is at home again. Will she and Joi Chapman and Olive McLaurin send along some news?

Grace Edgar leaves for Europe by the "Maloja" on the 16th April.

Deanie Francis, left 1910, is studying business subjects.

Gracie Tadgell, left 1910, is studying kindergarten at the Training College.

Beatrice Derham is in Gunning, N.S.W., till June.

Helen is studying all branches of drawing. She came top of the Teachers' Examination in Design and Plant-life. The rest of her ten subjects are not yet out.

Norma Tatchell has just left for England, France and Norway.

Anna Stevenson has gone for a delightful trip to Colombo with her father.

Audrey Lascelles arrived in Melbourne on Monday, January 29th, from a trip to Europe. We are glad to hear that she has recovered from her illness.

We wish to express our sincere sympathy with Mrs. Kelly and Beryl on their recent sad bereavement.

Miss Lascelles has sent us a very interesting letter from Bon Ronald, who is at school in "Geneva." We are glad to hear she is keeping up her tennis, and hope to see her when she returns to Australia.

We offer our heartiest wishes for future happiness to Maisie Anderson on her engagement to Mr. Brodribb.

We wish to congratulate Katie Lush on gaining the "Hastie" Final Honour Exhibition in her "Arts" course.

Lily Whybrow has just entered on her "Arts" course. We wish her the best of luck and hope she will do as well as Katie.

We desire to wish Phyllis Howe every happiness on her engagement to Mr. Burt.

Marion Griffiths' name figured in the M.C.C. Tennis Tournament. We are glad that she is keeping up her tennis.

We wish to offer our congratulations to Mrs. Graham Officer (Lillie Smith) on the birth of a little daughter—"Muriel Graham."

Mrs. Leslie Vance has come to live in Kew and lives now quite near Ruyton.

We must congratulate Dorothy Sutton on her appointment as Directress of the Collingwood Free Kindergarten.

We wish to congratulate Gladys Wetherley on her engagement to Mr. Connell.

We are all very sorry to hear that Mary Watkins has had to give up her school in Rockhampton because of the climate. I hear that she and her sister Louie are going to Germany for a trip.

We wish to congratulate Mrs. Norman Derham on the birth of a little son.

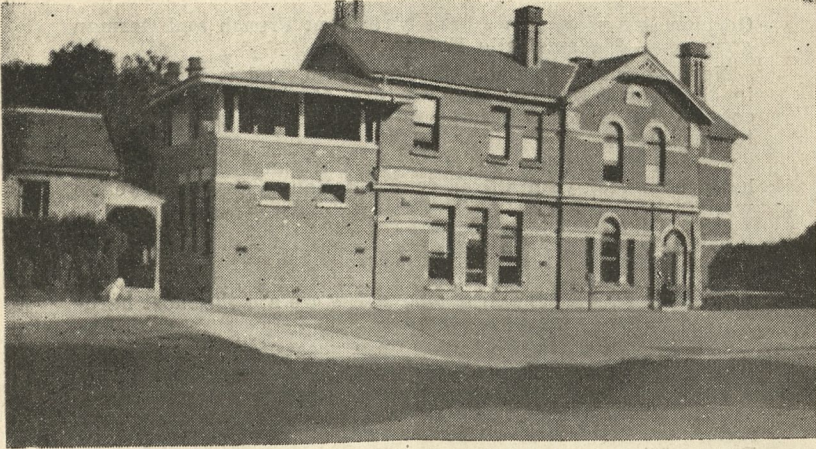
We offer our congratulations to Dorothy Cotton, who was recently married to Mr. Doyle.

Marjorie Young had a very enjoyable though hurried trip to Europe last year. We wish she would send us some news occasionally.

On October 20th a very pretty little dance was given in the Kew Recreation Hall by past and present Ruyton girls. Madge McCracken, Laurie Pearson, Marjorie Young, Jessie Pitt, Norma Tatchell, Isabel Sword, Doris Shelmerdine and Marcia McLaurin were the hostesses, and they gave their guests a very enjoyable time. Miss Hooper, Miss Daniell and Miss Watkins were present to represent the staff, but unfortunately Madame Liet and Miss Lascelles were unable to be there. The duties of secretary and treasurer were capably carried out by Norma Tatchell and Madge McCracken respectively.

We hear that Barbara James, who is in Switzerland, is having an exciting time teaching six French children.

Miss Daniell has received a very interesting letter from Mrs. Palmer (Gwen Jones), who is living in England. She speaks of the many old Ruyton girls she has been seeing. She says:—"I have been very lucky in seeing so many of my friends over here. This year, particularly, there have been ever so many over. The Burstons came down to see me, and Freda has been staying with me. Bessie Moffatt was over here for some time last year, which was very nice for me. Another old Ruyton girl I sometimes see is Vignette Molesworth. She lives in town and is married to a friend of my husband. They were married the day before we were, and we all met out at Lucerne about a fortnight afterwards! Her sister Oenone is married now too, and is abroad for six months. I was very interested to get a letter about a year ago from Bea Bartram, who is now Mrs. Noberre. She lives in Ireland, and saw the account of my wedding in a paper and wrote to me. I should love to see her as she and I were great friends at school. I hear Miss Bromby is in London. Dibys is trying to get her to come to lunch soon. My baby is now 4½ months old; we called her Barbara Mary, and she will be Barbara when she gets a little older."



The New Wing at Ruyton.

FORM NOTES.

Class II.

Our class, II., is smaller this year than it was last year. We have a new form-mistress whom we like very much.

A French lady teaches our form French now, with whom we hope to do very well. We are to take part in a pretty little French play that she is teaching us.

We have not yet chosen our class tennis four. We are going to put window boxes at the window. There are some pretty pictures on the walls. We are going to have a bazaar at Easter.

Class IIIa.

Our class is all a new one; we are all moved up. None of the girls in our class have left. Miss H. Jones is our form-mistress. We had an Arithmetic Test Examination, and we nearly all passed. Every one in our class has joined the Ruyton Tennis Club, and we are all trying hard for the trophy Miss Hooper is giving.

Class IIIb.

Our class this year consists mostly of the girls who last year were in IIIa. Three girls left us, and we miss them very much, and wish they were back amongst us again. Our Form-Mistress is Miss Jones.

We are all going to do our best to make the bazaar a great success, and would even like to take entire charge of one of the stalls.

We ought to make great progress with our French and

German this year, as we have a resident French and German governess—Mademoiselle Forres.

Now we have the open-air class-room, and it is very nice in the warm weather, but we are afraid it will be very cold in the winter, and hope we shall be able to come down to the library.

We all thoroughly enjoyed our Christmas holidays, and have come back with a fixed determination to do a good year's work.

Class IVa.

"We are seven," and although so few we are **the** most hard-working (hardworked) class in school??

The French plays are taking up a great deal of our attention, and we hope they will be a great success. Then, too, we are very busy because our craniums are being enlarged by the stewing (especially in summer) of many extra subjects, as Geometry, Algebra, German, Physiology, and Roman History.

I have been interrupted in this by an argument as to who reached the pole first.

The bazaar is the coming event of the year: we feel it is going to exceed beyond our expectations.

We are sorry to say that these notes are so short, and I am sure everyone else will be sorry too.

Class IVb.

Most of us in IVb this year were in IVa last; the cream of us rose to the top and is now looking on us from the heights. Vera Aldom is ageing rapidly, having the weight of money bags and accounts, etc., to weigh her down.

We are as usual the most sporting class in the school, for at present we have three of the first four and the emergency, and, of course, when the hockey season starts we are sure to have a number of the team.

There do not seem to be any future classical writers in our class, for most of our essays are short and have too wide a margin. One girl wrote some striking paragraphs about "The beautiful spring months that follow the hot dry months of summer"; but one day we are to be given "An essay on Patience, Good Temperedness, or one of those vices," which ought to suit us perfectly.

Our abilities are not wasted, for Viola Taverner and Winifred Ward are on the bazaar committee; they are also librarians. These positions seem to have a good deal of work attached to them. And we have three girls on the sports committee: these are V. Aldom, Treasurer; N. Roberts and L. Tickell.

We are properly settled down to work now, and are all in a more serious mood than last year, which is a good omen for hard work.

Class V.

We are a select intellectual band of authoresses, but when it comes to the pen—The Ink of our ideas fails us.

One of our most brilliant sparks has flown to Europe, but we hope to see her back next year to replenish the fire of our literary thoughts.

We all miss Miss Daniell and Miss Young very much, but are looking forward to seeing them again soon.

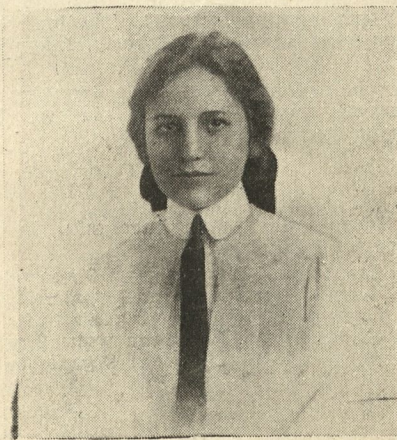
Our class is formed by a most sporting and hardworking set.

The valuable remains of last year's hockey XI. are left to us, and we boast of at least one crack tennis player. By next quarter we hope to be able to give you a fuller and better account of our doings.

If these notes be thought short
To this motto resort—
"Quality, not Quantity."

"Winsome Cowen."

We wish to give our heartiest congratulations to Winsome Cowen, who is the first girl to win the Old Ruytonians' prize for Best All-round Girl.



Winsome entirely represents our idea of an All-round girl. She is in the first four at tennis and was a member of the hockey eleven, the secretary for hockey, and on the Sports Committee.

In class work she took honours and a painting prize.

SPORTS.

At a Headmistresses' meeting in December last, it was decided that Pennant matches must be shortened; and at the first general meeting of the Kia Ora Club this year Miss Irving proposed that matches should be shortened by playing the deuce—vantage game. After a lively discussion this was voted out by a majority of one. Then Miss Salter proposed that matches should be shortened by playing one set of nine games instead of two sets of six. She explained how this worked, and stated that this game was often played in inter-state matches when the school girls were playing. This was agreed to unanimously.

Then the drawing for the First Division took place, and we were rather glad to see that Ruyton does not play Toorak this half. Then Miss Watson resigned her secretaryship and Miss Salter, our rep., was elected, to our gratification.

Tennis.

The tennis shield presented by Mr. J. Young was won by IVa. Kathleen Edwards (captain), Nellie Roberts, Lily Boag and Inez Argyle.

The Sports Committee was elected as follows:—W. Cowen, Secretary; V. Aldom, Treasurer; L. Tickell, N. Roberts, I. Argyle.

None of the compulsory matches have been played for this year. We have been drawn in the A division, and, I think, have a good chance for the Pennant. The four is as follows:—Verah Aldom, captain; Nellie Roberts, Lucy Tickell, Win-some Cowen.

Miss Hooper has offered two tennis trophies, one for the senior and one for the junior tennis players. The matches are being played now.

Hockey.

Last year Toorak was again successful in winning the cup, though we did fairly well:—

Ruyton v. Lauriston.—Ruyton won: 5 goals to 0.

Ruyton v. Toorak.—Toorak won: 1 goal to 0.

Ruyton v. Clyde.—Ruyton won: 2 goals to 0.

Ruyton v. Rosburcan.—Rosburcan won: 2 goals to 0.

Ruyton v. Tintern.—Ruyton won: 8 goals to 0.

SILVERHEELS, THE FAIRY FOAL.

Once upon a time, a little dark-eyed foal was born on a far Queensland station. He was remarkable amongst all the other foals born that year for his beauty, and although he did not dream of it, he had a great future before him. The Fairy Queen of Australia had heard of him, and determined that he should devote his life to her service. She sent some of her little subjects to prepare him for his future state, and told them that they would recognise him by the white six-pointed star on his forehead, such as no other horse on the station wore. The fairies quickly found him, and one night when he was asleep, they poured a magic potion into his ears, which enabled him to hear and understand their voices. He slept on for a little while, and then suddenly awoke, fancying he heard most beautiful music. He found it was the silver bells of Fairyland, which ring every night, although the ears of mortals are too gross to hear them. Suddenly he saw a beautiful fairy standing quite close to him. This fairy told him that he had been chosen by the Fairy Queen from all the foals born that year in Queensland to help her in her work. Of course, our little hero was very pleased and proud on hearing of the great honour conferred on him, and showed his joy by a loud whining, which had the effect of rousing his mother, and causing the fairy's disappearance. He was bitterly disappointed, as he longed to hear further particulars of his future life. However, he was sure his tiny visitor would come again the next night, and he was right. He again heard the silver bells, and wakened to see the fairy as before. She told him that he must keep what he had been told a secret—he was not even to breathe a word of it to his mother on pain of the queen's deep displeasure. She then went on to say that she would anoint his hoofs with magic oil, so that he could jump any obstacle and run for many hundreds of miles without fatigue. He was to conceal this power from his companions. The foal asked eagerly when the queen would want him, but the fairy's answer proved somewhat of a disappointment. She said she did not know, but would ask the queen and tell him in good time.

The months went on without further excitement, and the foal waxed stronger and mightier every day. Whenever he thought of the honour in store for him he would gallop madly round and round the paddock in the wildest spirits, and he curvetted and pranced so much, and appeared to have such a good opinion of himself, that the station children dubbed him Conceit. The fairy was so long in coming again, that he had almost lost hope, when one night she appeared, and said that the queen was ready for him. She pointed to a large gum tree in one corner of the paddock, and said that he was to remain as near it as possible, until one day he would hear three strokes of the familiar silver bell. Then fairy voices would begin calling him, and he was to gallop in the direction of the sound, which would lead him to the queen. For

a few days, he haunted the gum tree, and finally heard the long-expected sound of the bells. This was followed by voices chanting entrancing music.

As the voices began to fade in the distance, our hero realised that he was to follow them. He began to gallop in the direction of the sound, and soon came to the high fence, which surrounded the paddock. This he cleared with ease, and while the other horses watched him with amazement he galloped out of sight. He followed the voices for many miles, until he reached a broad and rushing river. Here the voices ceased, and he stood hesitating on the brink. Suddenly the voices began again with a silvery chatter—"Have no fear; jump in—our queen is waiting." He therefore leapt boldly into the stream, and sank rapidly to the bottom. He found himself in the midst of the fairy court, and very overgrown he felt too. However, he found himself growing smaller, and he rapidly shrank until he was about three inches long. The fairies were all gazing at him with delight and amusement, and his ears were full of their merry chimes of laughter. They cried out to him: "Come and be presented to our queen." He was led forward to where a lovely golden-haired fairy was seated on a throne, which was carved from a single pearl. She smiled kindly at him and told him that if he were willing to serve her for the rest of his life she would create him a knight and give him some of her most important work. The foal eagerly agreed, the little queen called all the fairies round her, touched the foal on the star in the middle of his forehead, and exclaimed: "Rise, Sir Silverheels, and hear of the work which has been allotted to you." The tiny spectators laughed anew, and clapped their little hands. Silverheels rose, trembling with excitement, and listened to the queen's commands. She told him that he was to seek and bring to her the souls of all the animals which died in Queensland. After he had expressed his pleasure at the nature of his work, the court dispersed, and he was able to begin at once.

He is still continuing that work. The children in Queensland often hear a rushing sound of fairy hoofs, and know that it is Silverheels, but the grown-ups laugh when they are told about it, which just shows how very silly grown-up people are.

LALLA WATSON.



Yaralla, Geelong,

19-3-'12.

My Dear Girls,—

The Editors of "The Ruytonian" have very kindly asked me to write something for your paper. I feel I cannot allow such an opportunity to pass without a few lines, and think the best way to reach you all is to write a letter. If any old girl should be inspired to answer this it will give me the greatest pleasure to hear. Miss Bromby too, is always glad to hear from her old girls; her address is—care of the Rev. C. Bromby, Wantage, England.

There are a few girls who seem to have quite passed out of our lives: this is only natural; but I would like you to know that no Ruyton girl ever passes from our memory. I think I can honestly say that we all had too many happy days together for them not to have left something behind. There is one matter which I would like to speak of, though it seems late now to do so. Last year, by some mistake, a message I sent you was not published. On retiring from my work in 1910, I received several very beautiful presents from some old girls. May I now thank you for these, and tell you that I value the lovely gifts you sent me, more because they were yours than for their intrinsic value.

The last letter Miss Bromby wrote was from Paiquton, S. Devon, where she was staying with some old friends and relatives. She was well and taking great interest in the beautiful scenery. She did not say when she would return to Australia; but I feel sure she will be back before the next meeting of Ruytonians, so you must all be there, if possible, to welcome her.

When you see that my letter is dated from Geelong you will not expect me to write of thrilling incidents, so I will not apologise for a dull letter.

With love to you all and trusting that Ruyton continues to hold a very deep place in your hearts,

I am, yours affectionately,

EMILIE LASCELLES.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION RESULTS.

Lalla Watson.—Passed Junior Algebra, Senior History, Senior Honors, English.

Lily Whybrow.—Passed Junior Geometry and Arithmetic.

Retta Horneman.—Passed Junior Geography and Arithmetic, Senior History and English.

Eleanor Loughman.—Passed Junior Grammar and Physiology; completing her six subjects.

Lolo Grey-Smith.—Passed Junior Geometry, French, Physiology, Algebra.

Ivy Hoddinott.—Passed Junior French and English.

Gwendoline Swanton.—Passed Junior History, Physiology, Geography, Mathematics, and Distinctions in French and English.

Grace Taddell.—Completed her Junior by passing in Algebra.

Honour Prizes—Christmas, 1911.

Form I.—Marjorie Camm.

Form IIa.—Doris Young, Eunice Whybrow.

Form IIb.—Nellie Burnip. Shaddo Hooper.

Form IIb, Remove.—Muriel Carnegie, Margaret Henderson, Thetis Hooper.

Form IIIa.—Veda Carnegie, Margaret Jamieson, Sheila MacNiel.

Form IIIb.—Nanna Horneman, Bessie Argyle, Nellie Joske, Kitty Snowball.

Form IVa.—Myrtle Hoddinott, Inez Argyle, Nellie Roberts.

Form IVb.—Esther Gibson, Winsome Cowen, Elvie Carnegie.

Dux of School.—Gwendolen Swanton.

Dr. Cowen's special prize for Literature.—Lalla Watson.

Miss Lascelles' Essay.—Senior—Lalla Watson. Junior: Myrtle Hoddinott.

Old Girls' Special Prize (for best all-round girl).—Winsome Cowen.



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