

THE LINK

The Official Organ of the Humberstone Garden Suburb.

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No. 17.

AUGUST, 1913.

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Editorial.

THE COMING FLOWER FESTIVAL.

"God Almighty first planted a garden, and, indeed, it is the purest of human pleasures. It is the greatest refreshment to the spirits of man, without which buildings and palaces are but gross handiworks." Thus, centuries ago, wrote Francis Bacon.

"Gross handiworks" in very fact would even our snug little cottages appear were it not for the gardens which surround them. In the beginning we found it so; but the spade soon altered all that. "A tool of honour in our hands, we pressed it through the yielding soil with pride," and exulted and felt better men as we turned in the last square of turf. In due time the reward came in proportion to our further industry and knowledge.

Much might be written about the elevating tendency of flowers, and the handsome products of the gardening art which have been evolved from more primitive forms by experts of past and present days. Men have vied with each other in their efforts to achieve perfection, in many cases with the most wonderful results. This healthy desire to attain the best is wholly good, and anything that will help in this direction is to be commended. Exhibitions of flowers and vegetables are undoubtedly factors making for progress. They provide occasions for the gathering together of "the fraternity," for comparing results, and for the giving and receiving of helpful hints and wrinkles; and the "greenest" as well as the most skilled amongst us come away richer in knowledge and in friendships.

That is one of the reasons why our Second Annual Flower Festival, on August 16th, is being so hopefully anticipated. It is going to be another landmark in the social life of our suburb, and will possess features interesting to young and old alike. The Estate Council are doing their utmost to give us a real good afternoon's enjoyment, and to that end confidently expect the assistance and co-operation of the community generally. Last year's Festival was a big success, but the forthcoming one promises even greater things.

So far as the competitors are concerned, we know they will enter the fray in the right spirit; and in this respect ours is no ordinary show. It is common knowledge that at some exhibitions many of the exhibits are, like Cæsars wife, not above suspicion. With us, however, every competitor can be trusted to "play the game," with absolute fairness—which, of course, makes

success all the sweeter, and even failure leaves no rancour behind. Most of us may envy the winner his skill, and may mentally resolve that we will "take him down a peg" next year; but this only gives added spice to the following year's operations.

It is interesting, as the date for the second effort draws nearer, to revert back to the event of last year. In our issue for August last "T.R.," had the following:—"Certainly the show was beyond all expectation, especially when we take into consideration the fact that nearly all the exhibitors were new recruits to the show-boards. The quality of the produce was far above the ordinary standard and showed the results of good cultivation. Of course, to an old show-worm there were a few points which could have been improved upon, such as the staging and the blending of colours, but this is quite an art, which can only be acquired by practice."

It will thus be seen that we have already quite a reputation to live up to, and when our visitors and critics—and we hope there will be many such—come to inspect the result of our efforts on the 16th, let us hope the verdict will be that we have eclipsed the previous effort. In any case, if the function does not provide pleasure to our visitors and ourselves it is not going to be for want of effort. Let us hope the weather-god, on whom so much depends, will be on his best behaviour.

Leicester District Co-operative Association.

The Annual Conference of the Association was held on Saturday, July 19th, in the Chapel (kindly lent for the occasion), there being an attendance of ninety delegates. Mr. H. Clark presided, and after confirmation of the minutes of last meeting, Mr. O. Unwin, of Shepshed, read a very interesting account of the Annual Congress held at Aberdeen during Whit week. Owing to the meeting commencing considerably after the advertised time, the discussion was curtailed. Mr. A. Mann took exception to the statement contained in the presidential address, that productive societies should either be taken over by the C.W.S. or seek their trade outside the movement. Mr. McCarthy thought that one of the advantages of Co-partnership lay in the fact that workers with ability had greater freedom to serve on public bodies. The thanks of the Conference was accorded to the writer. Mr. H. Clark was re-appointed president, and Mr. W. Pepper, secretary to the Association for the ensuing twelve months. In general business Mr. Neale took the opportunity to request the committee to consider visiting some of the villages in the Melton district for propaganda purposes. After the meeting the delegates were entertained to tea by the Anchor Tenants Society, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was passed, thus affording our Secretary, Mr. J. S. Wilford, in replying, the opportunity of explaining to the visitors our remarkable growth and progress during the past five years, to their evident interest.

BIRTHS.

On July 2nd, to Mr. and Mrs. Peberdy, a son.

On July 23rd, to Mr. and Mrs. Ward, a son.

Estate Council Report.

It was a pity it rained on Sunday evening, July 6th, when we were expecting a second visit of the Borough Workmen's Band. However, "it's an ill wind," &c., and our gardens greedily drank in the downpour, making glad the hearts of the gardeners. On July 27th, another visit was arranged, and on this occasion the weather was beautiful, the attendance large, and the music excellent, the collection realising £1 6s.

The Imperial Prize Band which rendered a choice selection on July 13th, were also favoured by the weather, and the collection for the band's fund realised £1 8s.

The Council provided tea (al fresco) on Wednesday, July 16th, for the guests of the Co-operative Printers, who were celebrating the 21st anniversary of the society.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

We trust all the colts who intend facing the cricket XI. on Bank Holiday, will be on the ground not later than 10.30, as a fierce fight and a long one is anticipated. Rumour has it that some of the colts are practising after dark. But they need have no fear. Mr. Winterton is captain of the colts.

The ladies' match in the afternoon is to commence at 2.30. Will everyone who wishes to play be punctual, because we are hoping to get two good sides, and as there is no limit to the number, we trust that all ladies who would care to play, will turn up with the idea that they can do so. Mrs. Aston and Mrs. Vass are the respective captains.

At 7.45 prompt, Mr. Golland's Pierrots are giving a concert. Admission for adults, 3d.; children, 2d.

On Tuesday a 3d. dance has been arranged for 8 o'clock. A string band will be in attendance, and Mr. Golland at the piano. Messrs. Winterton and Bowerman are the M.C.'s.

On Wednesday a 3d. whist drive will commence at 7.45 sharp, and it is hoped there will be a good crowd.

MONTHLY MEETING.

Mr. E. T. Groome presided over the monthly meeting in the Assembly Room, on July 17th. The Secretary gave the committee's report, stating that the applications from prospective tenants are coming in faster than they can be supplied, and building operations are going on slowly, so we have no difficulty in letting houses. Owing to occasional difficulty between incoming and outgoing tenants, *re* the value of garden stock, the committee have decided to appoint a permanent body of arbitrators to deal with this matter as it arises: one to be appointed by committee, one by members' meeting, and one outsider. Mr. J. Rowlett is the committee's nominee, and Mr. Clarke was appointed from the meeting; the outsider's place to be filled as soon as possible. Messrs. R. Law and A. Orton were elected to the District Association Conference held on the Estate, on Saturday, July 19th. Mr. R. Scott gave Estate Council report, which dealt chiefly with forthcoming Flower Festival.

The Flower Festival.

A FINAL REMINDER!

As Saturday, August 16th, draws nearer, interest in the event of the year grows keener, and the members of the Estate Council and their genial Secretary are anticipating a record entry. The only fly in the ointment has been the small number of entries (four) for the best kept garden; but no considerations of modesty need deter anyone from staging one or more exhibits in the other classes, and it is hoped all residents will in this way do their utmost to make the Festival a success. The "One and All" have sent six certificates and six prizes for competition. Mr. Scott will be pleased to hear from any lady or gentleman who may feel disposed to offer anything in the way of a special prize or prizes.

Please note that the last day for receiving entries is August 9th; but the Secretary will be glad to hear from prospective entrants without delay. He will then be in a better position to arrange for adequate accommodation, so that exhibits may be set out to the best possible advantage.

The opening ceremony will be performed by our friend, Dr. Bond, and it is hoped Mrs. Bond will also be present. Please see the Estate notice boards for time of opening and—be in time!

The revised schedule is here given, and should be preserved for reference purposes:—

Fruit.—Collection of three varieties, selected from apples, pears, plums, damsons.

Vegetables.—Collection of not more than six kinds, 2 ft. 6 in. space allowed. Tomatoes must not be included in this collection.

Tomatoes.—Dish of not more than six.

Peas.—Dish of twenty pods.

Onions.—Dish of not more than six.

Potatoes.—Dish of not more than twelve tubers.

Roses.—Not more than six blooms.

Sweet Peas.—Twelve stems, own foliage only.

Four bunches hardy cut flowers, dissimilar varieties.

Ladies' Class.—Best arranged vase of cut flowers.

Children's Class.—Best collection of wild flowers, to be arranged by exhibitor.

Pot Plants.—Best show of pot plants, 3 ft. space allowed.

Best kept garden.

All exhibits must be grown upon the Estate and staged by exhibitor.

ADULT SCHOOL.

Our meetings for the past month have been fully up to previous standard, and have done much to arouse thought and discussion among those who have attended. A thoughtful talk from our friend Jays on June 29th, was followed with much interest and produced plenty of questions and comment. On July 6th we held a modest flower service, which was well attended, with a good musical programme, and a talk on flowers by our local expert, J. Rowlett.

Mrs. Bond visited us the following week, and her address on the grave subject of "Moral Training of Children," was greatly appreciated by us all, and will we believe, prove of permanent value to many. Next Sunday was class morning, with interesting fare provided by two of our members—Mr. Sherrieff taking the Bible lesson, Mr. Cleale's subject being "The Bottom Dog."

Church of Christ Lord's Day School Scholars' Outing.

This long-looked-for outing took place on Saturday, June 28th, to Sutton-on-Sea. When the eventful morning arrived, following the instructions of our Superintendent, nearly 75 scholars, teachers and parents had congregated at the top of Lilac Avenue at the somewhat early hour of 7.15 to enable us to get to the Humberstone Station in comfortable time for the 8.15 special to Sutton and Mablethorpe, on which compartments had been reserved. It would have been a rather tiring walk for some of our younger ones, so, although unable to commandeer a motor-bus for the purpose, we did the best we could by requisitioning the services of Mr. Duffin and his lorry, and with loud "Hurrahs" from the youngsters we set off for the station. When the long train steamed in, the compartments reserved through to Sutton were quickly occupied, and the journey commenced. On approaching Thurnby, all eyes were turned towards the pretty red-tiled "city" on Keyham Lane—so easily seen from the railway—and handkerchiefs were waved out of the windows as signals to parents and friends. The journey was, of course, interesting to all the young people and on arriving at the Bungalows everyone appreciated the refreshment provided by Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Meekins, who had gone the day previously to superintend. The day was a glorious one and the children were quickly enjoying themselves on the long stretch of sands, paddling and castle-building to their heart's content. Ample justice was done to the tea at 4.30, followed by more games on the beach, after which the return journey was commenced and Humberstone Station safely reached at 9.30.

With regard to those who had gone to stay the week, they indeed enjoyed themselves to the full. The parents who had accompanied their children were highly pleased with the arrangements made, and perhaps a short description of the bungalows would be interesting. They are named "Marsoville" and "Lindum," and better accommodation could not have been obtained. They are behind the high sandhills within a minute's walk of the sea and stand in their own grass playgrounds. They are constructed of two pairs of one-time railway carriages, placed parallel to each other on brick foundations, each pair roofed over to make a separate bungalow, with sufficient space between the carriages to make a large middle room, with the door at one end and a large bay window at the other. In the boys' bungalow this was used as the dining room with a long table and forms to seat about thirty boys and girls. The compartments of the carriages, on each side, have been turned into a double bunker with a bed on each side in place of the original seats. The girls' bungalow has been constructed more particularly, two large bedrooms having been built on the top of the carriages for the younger people, so that larger rooms could be made in the carriages downstairs for those taking care of the children, by taking the partition between two compartments out. Three of these were used as bedrooms by the "Honorary Matrons," and the others as store-rooms and larder. A portion of the middle room has also been partitioned off and furnished as a parlour.

A code of rules had been formulated and written on a large card which hung in the dining room, and these were well kept by all:—"You *must* obey Mrs. Taylor and

Mrs. Meekins. Rise at 6.30; breakfast at 8.30; dinner at 12.30; tea at 4.30; supper at 7.30; bed at 8.30. No bathing allowed unless in charge of Mr. Gibbs."

It was really "a home from home" for the young boarders, and was so fully appreciated by them that some were ready to give in their names immediately for a repetition of the holiday next year, and others who only went for the day are very anxious to join in it. We are therefore very pleased to be able to state that Mr. Lilley (who acts as agent for the property and who expressed his great admiration of the behaviour of our young people), has given us the option of securing the bungalows for the same date next year; the teachers have already decided to accept same and make the necessary provision for at least forty children to stay for the week at a somewhat similar charge as this year.

WM. MASON, *Secretary*.

Items of Interest.

Since last issue several of our number have been overtaken with serious illness of a character from which even our health-giving suburb cannot ensure immunity. We hope our friends will be speedily restored to health.

* * * * *

"When are grown-ups not grown-ups?" When having "tea in the hayfield." The other week youngsters of all ages could be seen in the little field disporting themselves with an abandon quite unknown to town folks. It is good, sometimes, to see the "stern parent" meeting the child on equal terms.

* * * * *

The demand for housing accommodation continues in excess of the supply. There is little doubt that many more houses than can at present be provided would soon find occupants.

* * * * *

Should the above paragraph meet the eye of anyone on the look-out for a sound investment, and who at the same time is interested in the Garden Suburb movement, our Secretary will be glad to receive an application for a prospectus and full particulars of our scheme.

* * * * *

Congratulations to the trio who obeyed the injunction to "Get a move on—to the Hampstead Garden Suburb," and who came back laden with honours. Again has the gardening prestige of the Anchor Tenants been worthily upheld.

* * * * *

The necessity for an Estate book-exchange scheme or lending library has been the subject of conversation of late. We shall be pleased to find space for suggestions *re* same.

* * * * *

"A Mushroom Hunter" trusts that the gentleman who went trout-fishing with a "stutting" net the other Thursday night had good sport. (For the "Hunter's" remarkable adventures see our next issue).

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Letters to the Editor.

CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.

A REPLY TO "NEW TENANT."

To the Editor,

Sir,—I was pleased to read the letter from a "New Tenant," making suggestions in respect to our coming Festival, this being the best method of clearing the ground as we go along. As one who has attended many shows I can say the gent's buttonhole and lady's spray is usually a failure. At Hampstead there was only one exhibit and this is usually the case as far as my experience goes. By preventing exhibitors from showing in so many classes you would restrict the quality of the show and lose some of the very best exhibits. In my opinion the more good produce a man can show the more we should welcome him. I am pleased to say this is how the officials of the Co-partnership Festival look at it; the more exhibits we send the more ready they are to help us in the delivery. The man who can show the most and best is the one who has had to work the hardest not only with the spade, but by attending classes and lectures—just as a student has to do to come out on top in any other subject. While we welcome all to take part in the Festival, the man who only puts a few hours a week in on his garden cannot expect to get many prizes.—Yours truly,

J. ROWLETT.

THE ESTATE COUNCIL EXPLAINS.

To the Editor,

Sir,—The Estate Council welcome the evidence of interest shown in their work, as proved by the last issue of THE LINK. Two letters and the query in your "Items of Interest" *re* the children both deserve acknowledgement.

The letter by Mr. Rowlett making the suggestion for an alteration in the schedule has been embodied in the one now finally published. We appreciate very much the letter of a New Tenant, showing his interest in this event, and, although not agreeing with all he says, will bear in mind another time the suggestion to provide for more classes of flowers, &c.; the only reason for not doing so on this occasion being the one he suggests in his first paragraph—limit of space. We feel that we shall be making haste more surely if we widen the scope gradually from year to year as our Society grows, this year's schedule being a marked advance upon the one of last year. The suggestion of an Estate Diploma as the Grand Prix is a good one. We awarded last year a small prize for the best collective exhibit and may in its place adopt his suggestion for this year.

Now as to why the children were not trained for the Hampstead Festival. We failed last year to hold our children's choir together for the Ealing Festival, largely through the lack of efficient help being rendered to those in charge in maintaining the necessary discipline. There is a real need for volunteers to make the children's work their own: someone who can devote the necessary time to them, and who, with kindness and patience, can get a firm hold upon their affections—the surest way of securing their co-operation and interest, and firmly deal with unruly members—(the qualifications

of the trained teacher). We believe we have the knowledge and the ability required for this work upon the Estate, and the Council will welcome the services of such help for the coming winter, to follow up the work in other directions so ably carried on by our young friend, Miss Mabel Meekins, who needs and deserves all the help and encouragement that can be given to her.—On behalf of Estate Council,

J. S. WILFORD, *Chairman.*

Cricket Club.

We have not played many games since our last report but unfortunately cannot record a Saturday win, although we won our only practice match. Evening practice has been indulged in considerably, but there are some who think that a little coaching from the more proficient players would prove very acceptable to the less proficient. We are sorry to have to bring the question of subscriptions into our report each month, but there is still a considerable amount overdue, and you know that if we play we must also pay.

H. FOLWELL.

RESULTS.

SATURDAY MATCHES.

July 5th.—Evington, 55; H.G.S.C.C., 47.
 „ 12th.—Manor, 39; H.G.S.C.C., 15.
 „ 19th.—Electricity Office, 54; H.G.S.C.C., 40.

MID-WEEK PRACTICE MATCHES.

July 3rd.—F. J. Palfreyman & Co., 20; H.G.S.C.C., 49.
 „ 23rd.—Victor, 80; H.G.S.C.C., 57.

FIXTURES FOR AUGUST.

August 2nd.—Tramways Friendly.
 „ 9th.—St. James.
 „ 16th.—Wilkes Bros.
 „ 23rd.—North Evington Adult.
 „ 30th.—Victor 2nd.

HOLIDAY WEEK.

Mon., Aug. 4th.—H.G.S.C.C. v. 22 Colts.
 Tues. „ 5th.—Belgrave Town.
 Wed. „ 6th.—Castle C.C.
 Thurs. „ 7th.—Friends Adult
 Fri. „ 8th.—F. J. Palfreyman & Co.

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Recipes and Wrinkles!

VEGETABLE MARROW CREAM.—Take 4 lbs. of marrow (as yellow as you can get it), steam until quite tender, and well drain, mash well, then add 4 lbs. of sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. butter, and the grated rind of 6 lemons, also the juice, and simmer until the consistency of cream.—**MRS. RILEY.**

PICKLED MARROW.—Cut 4 lbs. of marrow into dice and sprinkle with salt. Let stand until next day, take 3 pints of vinegar, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. loaf sugar, 1 oz. ground ginger, 1 oz. mustard, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. turmeric powder, and a few small onions. Boil the sugar with the vinegar; mix ginger, mustard and turmeric together with a little of the cold vinegar; add to the boiling vinegar with marrow and onion; boil slowly until the marrow is cooked, not too soft; add a few chillies if liked.—**MRS. RILEY.**

SUET DUMPLING.— $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. flour, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. suet (finely chopped), pinch of salt, milk. Mix together dry ingredients and stir in sufficient milk to make a smooth batter. Steam for three hours. Serve with vegetables and meat or with jam or stewed fruit.—**MRS. C. W. PURDY.**

GINGERBREAD.— $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. flour, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. lard, 3 ozs. sugar, 3 tablespoonfuls treacle, 2 teaspoonfuls ground ginger, 2 teaspoonfuls mixed spice, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful bi-carbonate of soda, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful baking powder, pinch of salt, one egg and a little milk. A few almonds and raisins if desired. Mix together all the dry ingredients, rub in the lard, add treacle (warmed), beat up egg and add with sufficient milk to thoroughly mix. Bake in slow oven. Do not open door for at least twenty minutes or cake will not rise.—**MRS. C. W. PURDY.**

OATMEAL BISCUITS.—Melt 4 ozs. of lard or butter, mix together 5 ozs. of flour, 7 ozs. of fine oatmeal, 1 oz. of castor sugar and $\frac{1}{4}$ of a teaspoonful of carbonate of soda, then stir in the melted butter. Break an egg with a little water into a teacup, beat lightly and stir in with the other ingredients till it becomes a paste. Turn the paste on to a board and roll it out very thinly, then cut into rounds. Grease a tin and place the biscuits on it, and bake for twenty minutes.—**MRS. VASS.**

EVERTON TOFFEE.—Put $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of fresh butter into a tinned saucepan, and when partially melted add $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of treacle and $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of Demerara sugar, and mix well together. Boil for eight or ten minutes, then test by dropping a little in cold water. If it sets immediately and is brittle, pour all on a buttered dish. Before becoming hard mark into squares with the back of a knife.—**MRS. VASS.**

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Garden Notes.

The Annual Flower Festival will soon be here, so a few hints on preparing and staging may be interesting and helpful to new exhibitors. The first thing to be remembered is that all exhibits must be of good quality, clean, and arranged tastefully so that they will draw the attention of the judge the moment he gets before them.

Flowers.—These are best cut the night before with stems as long as possible, and kept in water until wanted. In staging great care must be taken not to overcrowd; try as far as possible to keep the flowers from touching. The blending of colours is very essential. Do not even place your vase on the stage against any others whose colour clashes with yours. If a number of varieties are to be shown, place the larger flowers in the background, bringing the smaller ones to the front; at the same time being guided by taste and colour. This may be done with such effect that it acts magnetically upon everyone who looks upon them.

Fruit.—Fruit should be of good size and quality, and shown on white dishes, or, if coloured ones, have white doyleys. Never polish fruit, as it takes away its fresh appearance.

Vegetables.—Select potatoes with shallow eyes, clear skins and of fair size. They may be lifted two days previous; be careful not to damage the skins, as this would take off points when they come before the judge. Wrap in paper until required then place in a bowl of water and let stand for half an hour, wash carefully with a sponge until quite clean. Choose well-filled pods of peas of the Gladstone type. Always handle by the stem, so that the colour of the pod may not be affected. It is optional whether leek and onion tops and roots are cut off. Clean well with a sponge. If onion tops are cut off, leave enough to turn over about three quarters of an inch, and tie with a piece of raffia grass. Carrots, parsnips, and beetroot should have evenly-shaped roots, with clear skins, and no side shoots. Wash with a sponge. On no account should vegetables be brushed. Trim off the leaves of cauliflowers so that they form a neat collar.

In the arranging of a collection of vegetables raise the background and place the larger exhibits thereon; as far as possible forming some design with the smaller ones on the front.

T.R.

Co-partnership Festival at Hampstead.

Being one of the exhibitors at the above Festival, I would like to give a brief account of the same. We arrived at Hampstead about 7.45 a.m. The weather was fine and the preparations were well in hand, both the grounds and the estate being nicely decorated for the occasion. Evidently the tenants had taken the affair in hand whole-heartedly and, as far as one could judge, it would prove a grand success. A fair number of choirs competed in the various contests and some splendid singing was rendered.

Before the actual opening of the Flower Show, the news got abroad that Leicester was well ahead with the

prizes again, and we soon realised the report was true. Mr. Freeman had gained thirteen awards, including the first prize for Sutton's Collection of Vegetables, which did him very great credit, it being the premier exhibit in the show. Mr. Gilliver gained seven awards, and J. Rowlett sixteen awards, including first for bouquet and first for collection of hardy fruit.

The Pageant was witnessed by a large crowd of people. A procession of small children representing various flowers and insects was very interesting. The sports as usual were largely attended and the whole affair must have given the greatest satisfaction, it being estimated that upwards of ten thousand people were present.

J.R.

YOU KNOW THE TYPE.

He looked so big, and talked such piles,
The fieldsmen simply stood out miles,
! ! !

But, his first ball he played so strange
The men came in to closer range,
! ! !

I'd have you notice here, that he
Was guarding wickets, one, two, three.
! ! !

The fifth ball bounced and caught his head,
Behold the things he saw :—
* * * * *

And said :—
! ! ! ! ! ! !

The last ball wandered round his bat,
Two stumps fell ill, and lay down flat
! — —

And, as he left the people smiled
To see the score he had compiled
O

Children's Corner.

THE IDLER.

I am told there's a land somewhere up in the moon,
Where children to school never go ;
If I lived in those regions I'd think it a boon
For I just *do* hate school, you must know.

From nine in the morning till twelve o'clock noon,
And from two until after four-thirty,
Things always drone on to the same dreary tune
Of "Do this," or "Don't do that, Bertie."

I like to go on in my own tin-pot way,
But in school I have found, to my sorrow,
That while my own mind is absorbed in "to-day,"
The teacher's is fixed on "to-morrow."

"Now when you've grown up—" (teacher's ever on thus)
"For learning your post's bound to call,"
And I say to myself, "Yes, but why all this fuss,
When I may never grow up at all?"

I think that a boy should do nothing but play
At cricket, and football, and such ;
Except that he might, p'r'aps, about once a day,
Just scrawl a few lines—but not much!

So that's why I say that I'd really be glad
If there weren't any schools to be seen,
Then there'd be a chance for a well-meaning lad
To enjoy life until he's fourteen.

R.C.

THE SCAPEGOAT.

A man once caught a field-mouse in his larder, eating some bread. Said the field-mouse, "Master, why should you kill me? Surely you could spare me a morsel of bread?" Quoth the man, "Yes, I could spare you the bread; also I have no great desire to take your life; but if I spared you, you would go back to your comrades, and they, hearing of, and counting upon, my leniency, would all come likewise. I could not afford to feed them all, so I should have to kill them, which would sorely afflict me. Now, if I kill you, your comrades will not come, and so their lives will be saved. What a noble death for you!" So the man killed the field-mouse—But the field-mouse did not see the point!

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	YEAR.
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— £1,072,600	1911
— £789,693	1910
— £522,997	1909
— £346,417	1908
— £204,639	1907
— £106,082	1906
— £36,390	1905
— £17,208	1904
— £10,237	1903

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