

A
HISTORY
OF
KIBWORTH BEAUCHAMP
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

by Bernard Elliott

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Grammar School



by
BERNARD ELLIOTT, B.A.

Foreword

by the Headmaster.

“Happy is the nation which has no history”, we are told: and, in view of the wearisome chronicles of battles, murder and sudden death which sometimes pass for history, we can sympathise with the sentiment. But happy is the school whose traditions are firmly rooted in past centuries. At Kibworth Beauchamp many generations of pupils have been proud of our long history, and now, thanks to Mr. Bernard Elliott, we can also boast of this short History. It will be a great encouragement, as we strive to ensure a worthy future for the School, to have this survey of the many fluctuations in its fortunes, and of those who have served it well.

I have already had many happy days at Kibworth, but none happier than the day when Mr. Elliott unlocked the great chest which contains our documentary treasures, and thereby unlocked for me the door into our fascinating past. His enthusiasm was infectious, and, as together we pored over the records—many of them three centuries and more old, and many containing names still well-known in the village and the School—we felt that other people would be glad to share our interest and pride.

In view of the high tribute that the author so rightly pays to my predecessor, it has been suggested that I ought to point out that Mr. Bernard Elliott is not related to Mr. John Elliot; their sole connection lies in the fact that for some years they worked happily as colleagues in the service of this school.

All friends of K.B.G.S. will join in thanking Mr. Elliott for this work. For him it has been a labour of love, but it *has* been a labour, none the less, and we are grateful. We at the School will try to deserve such devotion.

L. T. DAW.

The Grammar School,
Kibworth Beauchamp.
April, 1957.

To
JOHN E. ELLIOT
Headmaster, 1927–55.

Introduction

In a letter written in 1921 to the Director of Education for Leicestershire, the then Headmaster of Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School, Mr. C. L. Ryley, stated, "As far as I can find out, the School appears to be one of the oldest in the Kingdom". Mr. Ryley's assertion is indeed true, for the origins of the School date from the early years of the 15th century. Kibworth Beauchamp School was already in existence when Henry V won the Battle of Agincourt. It has a past that reaches far back into the pages of English history, and the fact that no full account of it has hitherto been written is a sufficient justification for the appearance of this book. A History of the School was indeed written in the nineteenth century by the Rev. J. B. Hildebrand, Headmaster from 1836 to 1870. In 1865 he published his account, a copy of which is still to be found in the archives of Kibworth Church, but his narrative was very slight for the period before the nineteenth century, was based solely on printed sources, such as Nichol's work, and made no use of the vast mass of documents stored in the school chest. For the nineteenth century, however, the work is really valuable, as he had access to Governors' Minutes, which are now lost. Thus my account of the School in the last century is, to a great extent, based on Hildebrand's History.

For the period before the nineteenth century, however, I have relied mainly on the documents in the school chest. With their aid, I have been able to write a fairly full account of the School's history. They do indeed show the great age of the School, the wide reputation it enjoyed in the seventeenth century, and its splendid tradition.

A school possessing this fine tradition should not be allowed to pass out of existence, and we hope that Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School will continue to serve the community in the future as it has done for over five hundred years. At the moment, however, that future is uncertain, and one reason for my writing this book is to interest people in the School, so that its future may be assured.

I have dedicated the book to Mr. John Elliot, who was Headmaster from 1927 to 1955. He is the creator of the School as we know it today, and I wish to thank him for allowing me to dedicate my work to him.

At the same time, I wish to thank his successor, Mr. L. T. Daw, not only for writing the Foreword, but for the constant encouragement he has given me in preparing this book for the press. To Mr. B. Simon, of Leicester University, I am indebted for the names of the boys who left Kibworth for Oxford and Cambridge

in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. I also wish to thank my former colleagues at Kibworth, Miss N. Waddington and Mr. H. St. G. Cramp, for reading the MS. and for making numerous suggestions. The School Secretary, Mrs. James, very kindly—and skilfully—re-typed the work. Finally, I have to thank many others who in various ways have helped me in this task. Their aid has been invaluable, but naturally I take full responsibility for everything mentioned in this work. I trust that all who read it will come to the same conclusion as I have done, that Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School has done so much for education that it should definitely not be closed.

BERNARD ELLIOTT.

6th April. 1957.

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Chapter 1

Origins and Early History.

The founder of Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School was, according to tradition, Warwick the King-Maker. The lords of the manor of Kibworth Beauchamp in the later Middle Ages were the Beauchamps, who were also the Earls of Warwick. Warwick the King-Maker, however, was a member of the Beauchamp family not by birth but by marriage. He actually belonged to another great baronial house, the Nevilles, but married Anne, the heiress of the Beauchamps, and then took to himself the title of Earl of Warwick. He was a typical feudal baron of the fifteenth century, and was far more interested in war than education. According to J. R. Green, "His genius was not so much military as diplomatic; what he excelled in was intrigue, treachery, the contrivance of plots and sudden desertion." Such is the rather shady character who is claimed as the founder of the School, for the prospectus used to state, "There are strong grounds for believing that the School was founded by Warwick the King-Maker".

There is usually an element of truth in a tradition, and we should be unwise to dismiss this one as absolutely false. As I hope to show later, however, there is evidence to prove that the School was in existence before Warwick's time. Thus, though Warwick may not have been the actual founder, the tradition connected with his name suggests that he did something for the School of outstanding merit, so that later generations came to regard him as the founder.

Long after the days of Warwick the King-Maker, in fact, when England was once more in the throes of a Civil War, the Governors drew up a long list of rules for the general conduct of the School. One rule was that there should be for ever a strong chest with three locks and keys for the use and safe keeping of evidences, writings, orders, constitutions, furniture and other things belonging to the School. What happened to this first chest and the three keys is not known, but there is now in the School an iron chest with one very big key; and in that chest are a large number of documents dealing with the history of the school from its origins until 1877.

The earliest document in the chest, and one which is most important for tracing the School's origins, is a charter dating from 1359. In it two men, Robert Chapman of Kibworth Harcourt and Roger de Stanesby of Smeeton

Westerby, joined together to hand over to a body of trustees certain property in Smeeton which brought in an annual rent. The trustees to whom these lands were conveyed were William Weston of Carlton Curlieu, William Hayne and Roger the Clerk of Kibworth Harcourt, William Swan and William Langton of Kibworth Beauchamp and Richard White of Smeeton. No mention is made in the charter, however, either of the person to whom, or of the purpose for which, the rent was to be paid. The main reason indeed for the charter is the naming of the trustees who were to control the property.

This 1359 charter is the first of a series of land charters still extant in the School chest. It is noticeable, however, that in the succeeding charters reference is always made to the previous trustees who had issued the charter. Thus, in the next land charter in the chest, dated 1417, the four trustees still surviving, Robert Smyth and William Parker of Kibworth Harcourt, John Russell of Kibworth Beauchamp and William Fox of Smeeton referred to the trustees who had conferred the property on them—in this case Richard Chapman and William Goode. The 1359 charter, however, makes no reference to previous trustees; so it would seem to be the very first of the series.

We have already mentioned the next land charter extant in the School chest—the one dated 1417. According to a seventeenth century document, this 1417 charter has definitely to do with Kibworth School lands. The document in question runs as follows:—

The plaintiff has many other deeds whereby the School lands have been from time to time granted by surviving feoffees [trustees] in all which deeds the lands are granted in general words, all relating to one another successively, as 4th. year of Henry 5th. Robert Smith and others grant to William Brown and others.

The seventeenth century lawyer who wrote the above document clearly thought that the 1417 charter dealt with school lands. The problem now arises, was there any connection between the 1417 charter and the original one of 1359? The 1417 feoffees were enfeoffed by Richard Chapman and William Goode. These two trustees, along with their fellow trustees, must have been enfeoffed about 1380, presumably by survivors of the original trust of 1359. The “1380” charter, however, is missing, and, therefore, we can only presume a link between the two charters of 1359 and 1417. Since, however, the 1417 charter referred to a school, there is a possibility that the 1359 deed was appointing trustees to control school lands; but no actual mention is made of a school.

Another source of evidence for the early history of the School is a seventeenth century lawsuit in which the School was involved. At the time of the Great Civil War, Kibworth had its own minor civil war, for the tenants of the school lands suddenly refused to pay their rents on the ground that the property they rented was not school land but their own property, held direct from the lord of the manor. The Governors were obliged to bring the matter to the notice of Chancery, and in 1650 three commissioners were appointed to investigate the quarrel between the School Governors and their tenants. The commissioners naturally wanted to know the history of the school lands, so they sought to get

local opinion on the subject. They found a suitable rendezvous—the Crown Inn, at Great Glen—and asked several people well versed in Kibworth affairs to give their answers on oath to a number of questions. One question was:—

What do you know concerning the foundation and beginning of the said Free School in Kibworth?

One witness who went along to the Crown was Robert Raye. He belonged to a family in Kibworth Harcourt which had a good knowledge of school affairs, for members of the family are to be found among the Governors of the School in the seventeenth century. He was 65 years old, and so he could have talked with men who had been alive at the Reformation. This is what Raye swore on oath in answer to the above question:—

He has heard one Thomas Parker, one of the ancient feoffees, say that the Earl of Northumberland, then lord of Kibworth Beauchamp, made claim to certain lands in Kibworth Beauchamp and being informed they was employed to so good a use as the maintenance of a School, said God forbid I should have them. And further says he never heard that any of the lands called School lands was ever employed to superstitious use.

Before we consider the light which this statement throws on the early history of the School, it will be well to consider the means by which many schools came into existence in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. At that time many schools arose in connection with chantries. A chantry was an endowment, either of money or property, left by a person for the upkeep of a priest who had to say Masses for his benefactor's soul. Often, however, the chantry priest (or stipendiary priest, as he is sometimes called) added to his duties the task of running a school. Thus, in 1509, Harold Staunton founded at Castle Donnington a chantry whose priest had (1) to sing Divine Service in the Chapel of Our Lord in the parish church and to pray for the founder's soul, (2) to teach a Grammar School there for the erudition of poor scholars. Such a chantry foundation was the origin of many Grammar Schools in the later Middle Ages.

Raye's evidence is mainly useful for indicating what happened to the School at the time of the Reformation, when the Earl of Northumberland was lord of the manor of Kibworth Beauchamp. As for its origins, he states that the School lands were never employed for the upkeep of a chantry ("Superstitious uses" is the seventeenth-century expression for a chantry. What had in the fifteenth century been an act of piety had become to the Puritan a mere piece of superstition).

Another witness who travelled to the Crown to give his answers was William Mitchell, a farm-labourer. He stated on oath:—

He remembers the building of the Schoolhouse and before the building of it it was kept in the Church and other houses but never knew the scholars taught by any laymen and that all the said moneys which were given were for the maintenance of the scholars and not for any superstitious uses.

Mitchell's evidence, then, agrees with Raye's in one important particular. He, too, thought that the School did not originate in a chantry foundation. Mitchell's evidence adds one more feature: he says the scholars were not taught by laymen. Hence, they must have been taught by a priest, and it was a chantry priest who usually taught boys in the period before the Reformation. Hence, though the School was an independent foundation, it may well have been kept by a chantry priest during the course of the fifteenth century.

A third witness was Marie Taylor, who came from Wood Newton in Northamptonshire to give evidence. She had evidently spent most of her life in Kibworth, for she knew most of the people concerned in the case. Her sworn evidence was:—

She has heard there has been some money formerly paid by the free-holders to superstitious uses and she has known the School has since been kept in the Church and in several houses and that the money formerly given to superstitious uses was by the advice of Attorney Griffin employed for the maintenance of a school, as she has heard her father say.

This evidence once more relates mainly to the Reformation period and afterwards—the period within her own personal knowledge and that of her father. It tells us little or nothing about the origins of the School. It does, however, prove that a chantry was founded at Kibworth in the later Middle Ages—“some money formerly paid to superstitious uses”—but the rest of the evidence refers to the Reformation period.

There is good evidence, indeed, that a stipendiary priest was prominent in the affairs of the School in the period immediately before the Reformation. A stipendiary priest was similar to a chantry priest, but he drew his stipend from lands placed in the hands of trustees. Dom Robert Mason is the first schoolmaster of Kibworth about whom we have some details. He flourished in Kibworth from about 1520 to 1540, but he can hardly have set a good example to his pupils because, from Bishop Langley's Register of 1521, we learn that the Bishop had sent a commission to Kibworth—

ad reconciliandum ecclesiam de Kybworth per emissionem seminis inter Robertum Mason stipendiarium ibidem et Isabellam Greene uxorem Johannis Greene de eadem pollutam.

[to allow the Church of Kibworth to be used again after adultery committed between Robert Mason stipendiary priest in Kibworth and Isabella Green, John Green's wife, had defiled it].

Again, when Wolsey sent his tax-collectors to Kibworth in 1526, they found two stipendiary priests there, and no doubt one of them was Dom Robert. Several documents still extant in the school chest were written by him. A charter of 1540 has the following note on the back:— “This charter was written by Sir Robert the priest”. In the same year two Kibworth farmers, John Dan and John Marriott, bought a piece of land for £6 13s. 4d., and on the back of the deed

recording the transaction there is this note: "Possession of this land was given in the presence of Dom Robert Mason, stipendiary priest at Kibworth". Evidently Dom Robert was a man much sought after by the townsfolk of Kibworth just before the Reformation.

The evidence from the land charters and the seventeenth-century witnesses gives us, then, some information upon which we can base an account of the School's origins. The crucial question is: Was the charter of 1359 the foundation deed of the School? It was handing over property to the control of a body of feoffees (or trustees) who in time were to pass on the property to another set of trustees. Since, however, the charter makes no reference to a school, it would be straining the evidence too much to claim 1359 as the year of the School's foundation. It may have begun then; what we can claim with certainty is that the School was in existence in 1417. Thus, the exact date of the School's origins remains doubtful, but it was definitely founded before Warwick the King-Maker's time. Moreover, it owed its origins to one or two local men, who gave their land and money for the express purpose of founding a school. It did not start its career attached to a chantry, although in the fifteenth century a chantry priest, no doubt, acted as schoolmaster.

Both William Mitchell and Marie Taylor stated that the School was kept in the church and private houses. This was in accord with the usual custom of the Middle Ages, for most schools then had no distinctive Schoolhouse, but were kept in the parish church. At Wymondham, the Lady Chapel was used as the schoolroom; and at Crediton, in Devon, the authorities had the Lady Chapel walled off from the rest of the church so that it could be used as a class-room. In the same way, Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School started its long career in Kibworth Church; and there it was to remain for many years.

The materials available for a study of mediaeval Grammar Schools are scarce. We are left somewhat in the dark when we wish to know what kind of an education a boy gained when the School consisted of a handful of boys gathered together in the Church under the supervision of the stipendiary priest. Naturally, in a school of this type, everything depended upon the teacher, and the talents of chantry priests differed considerably. Some were good scholars, who knew Latin well, but others were capable of teaching only in the vernacular. In such circumstances it is difficult to know precisely what did happen. We know much more about the School two centuries later, when the Constitutions of the School were put down in writing, but how far conditions in the mediaval School approximated to those in the seventeenth century is a moot point.

One thing is certain: the curriculum consisted mainly of a study of Latin. A knowledge of Latin, indeed, was the passport to the church, the professions, politics and commerce. So the mediaeval Grammar School concentrated on teaching Latin. The method of teaching was mainly oral, as one might expect. Before the days of printing, text-books were scarce: only the master would possess one. Lessons, therefore, consisted of the master dictating from his book material which the boys copied down in their own books. Then they memorised what they had written. Translations of passages from Latin into English were also undertaken. The study of Latin Grammar was, then, the main occupation

of the mediaeval English schoolboy.

It is possible, however, that in such a school as Kibworth the schoolmaster would have to give a certain amount of elementary instruction, as well as teaching Latin. In fact, there is reference in a seventeenth century document to the mediaeval School being known as the English School. Indeed, it seems that a number of mediaeval Grammar Schools undertook elementary teaching. Only by making such a supposition as this can we account for the fairly large number of people who could read in the fifteenth century, according to the letters written by people of that period which have survived. The largest collection of such letters is the Paston letters, to which a considerable number of people contributed. Moreover, in the closing years of the fifteenth century, Caxton's printing press produced a fair number of works in English—Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, Lydgate's *The Troye Book*, Malory's *Morte d'Arthur* and Aesop's *Fables*. It is a fair assumption, then, that Kibworth Grammar School was contributing to this growth of a reading public by teaching its scholars how to read and write English, while at the same time it was providing a more advanced education.

Although Kibworth Grammar School was small in numbers in the Middle Ages and the nature of the education given there is rather nebulous, we should not under-estimate its influence on the neighbourhood which it served. The growth of Grammar Schools in the fifteenth century, with the rise of an educated laity, was an event fraught with tremendous consequences. The letters of the Fastens, Celys and Stonors indicate the extent to which education was reaching lay people, and the result was that the laity were becoming increasingly critical of the clergy. This criticism was directed mainly at two features of clerical life, namely their privileges and their low morals. Thus, the reform of the Church became the increasing concern of eminent laymen such as Erasmus and Sir Thomas More, as well as of Dean Colet, the founder of St. Paul's School, London. Such men hoped that the Church would reform itself from within. The influence of Kibworth Grammar School in the early days of its existence was to provide the community with a number of laymen able to express their opinion on the subject uppermost in the minds of the laity—the state of the Church. Thus, the rise of Grammar Schools in England is one of the factors which accounts for the ease with which the Reformation was brought about in this country. When the Church in England broke with the Pope, and Henry VIII made himself its Supreme Head, very few voices were raised in protest.

Chapter 2

The School at the Time of the Reformation and in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth.

The great changes which took place in religion in the sixteenth century naturally had their effect on education, especially since the Protestant Reformers disbelieved in the efficacy of prayers, for the dead. Their opinion found expression in Edward VI's reign, when Parliament passed an Act abolishing chantries. At the same time the Act stipulated that lands which were used for the upkeep of a chantry priest were, in future, to be used for the upkeep of a schoolmaster. Unfortunately for English education, the last part of the Act was not carried out. In most places the chantries were abolished and the lands belonging to them passed into the hand of the Crown or of private individuals. But the people of England realised the value of education, and almost immediately they began to agitate for the continued existence of their schools. In a number of places the townsfolk were allowed to keep their school on condition they paid something to the Crown for that privilege. Nevertheless, such schools lost their endowed lands, for the Crown retained possession of them and paid a fixed stipend to the schoolmaster. Thus, the Reformation in England proved at first a severe blow to education, for some of the mediaeval schools disappeared altogether, while others were refounded, but deprived of their endowments. However, some attempt to recover lost ground was made in the reign of Mary Tudor and especially in the reign of Elizabeth I, when numerous people founded schools. For example, Lawrence Sherriff founded a school at Rugby, Robert Johnston, Archdeacon of Leicester, a school at Uppingham, and Archbishop Sandys of York, a school at Hawkshead, of which Wordsworth was, later, a pupil.

The Kibworth School was more fortunate than most Grammar Schools in England during this period, for it continued its existence without any break and managed to keep most of its endowments. It owed its good fortune to the then lord of the manor of Kibworth Beauchamp, John Dudley, Earl of Warwick and

later Duke of Northumberland. Dudley was Lady Jane Grey's father-in-law and was leader of the plot to place her on the throne. He was a greedy, grasping and ambitious character, but his sordid figure is somewhat redeemed by his concern for education. Many years ago. Leach, the chief authority on the history of English Grammar Schools, pointed out that some schools which did manage to survive the early days of the Reformation without suffering any damage owed their escape to Northumberland. Leach ascertained that Northumberland saved the Grammar Schools of Macclesfield, Louth, Morpeth, Grantham and Birmingham (King Edward's). We can now add Kibworth Grammar School to this list of schools which owed their survival to him.

The proof of Northumberland's intervention is to be found in a statement made by a witness in the seventeenth-century lawsuit to which we have already referred. Robert Raye, in giving evidence about the origins of the School, stated:—

He has heard Thomas Parker, one of the ancient feoffees of the School, say that the Earl of Northumberland, then lord of the manor of Kibworth Beauchamp, made claim to certain lands in Kibworth and being informed they was employed to so good a use as the maintenance of a school said God forbid I should have them.

Thus, Northumberland came to the succour of Kibworth Grammar School and it was allowed to retain its endowed lands. Even if Warwick the King-Maker did nothing for the School, there was certainly one Earl of Warwick who came to the rescue of the School in its hour of need.

Further proof that the School continued its career uninterrupted during the stormy years of the Reformation comes from another witness in the seventeenth-century lawsuit. Marie Taylor, who came from Wood Newton in Northamptonshire to give evidence, stated:—

She has heard there has been some money formerly paid by the freeholders to superstitious uses [i.e for the upkeep of a chantry] but by whom she knows not and that she has also heard that the said money so given was afterwards employed for the maintenance of a school in Kibworth.

There is a hint in a document contained in the school chest that the School actually received an increase of property at this time. This document is an abstract of the wills of three nuns who belonged to a convent in Stamford. The first of these nuns, Mary Harcourt, died in 1406 and left all her lands in the fields of Kibworth Beauchamp for prayers for her soul to be said in the Church of St. Mary in Arden, near Market Harborough. The other two nuns, Margaret Harcourt and Maud Pole, who died later in the century, also gave land in Kibworth Beauchamp for support of a chantry priest in the Church of St. Mary in Arden, near Market Harborough. When the Reformation came, this chantry was abolished; and since the document is to be found in the school chest, there is a possibility that the lands, formerly used for the upkeep of the chantry priest at Arden, were transferred to Kibworth Grammar School.

The history of the School in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I is almost a complete blank. The schoolmaster at her accession was William Burughe, who wrote out the feoffment charter of 1559. His claim to fame is that he was the first master at Kibworth to be definitely called the "Schoolmaster". Apart from that, however, we know nothing else about him. Presumably, he accepted the Elizabethan Settlement in regard to religion and did not cause any trouble to the authorities, as some Grammar School masters of this period did, by remaining Roman Catholic. Whether he was still schoolmaster in the stirring days of the Spanish Armada is unknown, but the schoolmaster at the end of the reign was the Rev. John Orpin. We know of him through a most interesting letter that he wrote in 1656, which is still extant in the school chest and which is exceptionally well written, considering his age:—

I, John Orpin, clerk, was schoolmaster of Kibworth .. fifty five years since wherein I continued for the space of ten years. One Kilpeck and others paid to me rent, without any question for School lands, which he and they held... These premises I would have testified on oath. but being 81 years old and full of infirmities I am utterly unable to travel.

This letter was written in answer to a request from the Commissioners for him to attend the Crown at Great Glen to give evidence in the lawsuit which was being contested between the School Governors and their tenants over the question of School lands.

The Governors of the School during Elizabeth's reign are also known to us through the feoffment charters of 1559 and 1595. The sole surviving feoffee of the 1559 charter was Thomas Fox, and in 1595 he had a new charter drawn up, handing over control of the School to eighteen new trustees. They consisted of two knights, four gentlemen, nine yeomen and three husbandmen. The two knights belonged to the Hastings family. Sir Henry Hastings of the Abbey of Leicester, and another Sir Henry Hastings of Kirby. Most members of this family had strong Puritan leanings and took a real interest in education. It was through the effort of one of their family. Sir Henry, the third Earl of Huntingdon (1535-1595) that Grammar School education in Leicester was revived after the Reformation. The four gentlemen were George Gage of Rushton, Robert Raye of Kibworth Harcourt, William Worship? of Billesdon and Edward Hawes of Stoke Albany, all of whom would belong to the ranks of the smaller squirearchy. The yeomen were William Parker of Barrow-on-Soar, Robert Carter of Islington, Thomas Fox and Richard Pole of Kibworth Harcourt, John Iliffe of Kibworth Beauchamp, Zachary Chapman, Arthur Cloudesley, Richard Bryan and James Wright of Smeeton Westerby. They would be fairly well-to-do men, who farmed their lands. Last of all came the three farm-labourers, William Frisby and William Smeeton of Kibworth Beauchamp and William Goode of Smeeton Westerby. Two important conclusions can be drawn from this list of feoffees: (1) Men from all ranks of society were interested in education and were anxious for their children to receive a good education. The presence of knights and farm-labourers on the same body of trustees was a reminder that, at this

time, English education had not yet developed that class distinction which has marked it ever since the eighteenth century. Sons of squires and sons of farm-labourers attended the same school, while their fathers acted as members of the same trust; (2) The School was becoming well known, since men of rank from outside the immediate neighbourhood were prepared to serve as trustees. All the strands of evidence, indeed, lead to the conclusion that the School was making steady progress at this time and that the ground was being prepared for that solid development which the School achieved in the next century, when, at one time, Kibworth Grammar School was considered one of the outstanding schools in the county.

The everyday life of the School differed very little at this time from that of the period before the Reformation. Its scholars still had their lessons in the Church, they still carried on their daily grind at Latin Grammar, and the schoolmaster was still in Holy Orders. He had, moreover, to secure a licence to teach from the Bishop of the diocese, as his mediaeval predecessors had done. There were, however, one or two slight changes from the previous period. Works of Renaissance scholars such as Erasmus were now introduced into the schools, and children studied them as well as the works of classical authors, such as Cicero and Livy. Moreover, the Grammar text-books of the previous period were now supplanted by Lily's Latin Grammar. Henry VIII by royal proclamation, directed that all schoolboys were to learn their Latin Grammar from this book. Thus, all Grammar Schools had to possess a copy of this work, first published in 1515. Latin was, therefore, still the main subject in the Kibworth timetable, and it was to be many years before modern languages or history gained a footing in it.

The influence of Kibworth Grammar School was thus growing during the Elizabethan period. Any attempt to assess its influence on the community around it is bound to be, more or less, conjectural. It may be, however, that voices were now being raised in Kibworth in protest against the Church of England, protests which were to become much louder in the next century, when Kibworth developed into one of the strongest centres of Nonconformity in the district. The Hastings family were strong Puritans, and one has the feeling that that Puritan outlook was seeping from the School into the village.

Chapter 3

The Period of the Early Stuarts (1603–1660).

The seventeenth century was a period of prosperity for the Grammar Schools of England, and Kibworth seems to have shared in this progress. In the first place, most schools were now provided with buildings specially erected for housing the scholars; and it was in this period that Kibworth Grammar School left the Church for a proper school house. This event occurred a few years before the outbreak of the Civil War, and the events leading up to the building of the first school house are as follows.

In 1601 Parliament had passed an Act, whereby commissions of enquiry were to be set up to investigate the lands, goods and moneys that had previously been given to charitable trusts. In 1614 the commission of enquiry for Leicestershire was appointed, and in 1615 four of its members came to Kibworth to see what charitable trusts existed there. The commissioners found out that one such charitable trust was the Free Grammar School in Kibworth Beauchamp. They investigated its origins and came to the conclusion that “certain messuages, farms, closes, cottages and lands” had been given for the maintenance of a Free Grammar School in Kibworth Beauchamp and for the maintenance of a schoolmaster there before the memory of any man to the contrary to certain persons, feoffees, in trust for the same. They then inquired into the rents paid by the tenants, and found out that they were not paying their full amounts. They also reported that no proper school house was yet in existence.

Finally, the commissioners made their recommendations. They proposed that the rents should continue to be used for the maintenance of a Free Grammar School in Kibworth, but added that a school house had to be built in Kilpeck’s close. They also stipulated that the tenants were not only to pay up their arrears of rent, but also to have their rents increased in future. The following table indicates the names of the School tenants in 1615, the amount of land they possessed, the rent they had been paying before 1615 and the new rents.

Parish		Tenant		Extent of Land		Old Rent			New Rent		
						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Kibworth	Beau.	T.	Kilpeck	$1\frac{1}{2}$	yardlands	7	0	0	18	0	0
"	"	T.	Vale	$\frac{1}{2}$	"	2	10	0	3	10	0
"	"	R.	Ward	1	"	5	0	0	9	10	0
"	Har.	N.	Kind	1	"	5	0	0	10	0	0
"	"	J.	Foxon	$\frac{1}{4}$	"	2	4	6	2	10	0
Smeeton	West.	R.	Bryan	$\frac{1}{4}$	"	3	3	0	2	10	0
"	"	R.	Loddington	$\frac{1}{4}$	"	1	15	0	2	5	0
"	"	Z.	Chapman	1	"	5	0	0	9	0	0
Total				$5\frac{3}{4}$		31	12	6	58	5	0

The increase in rents, which brought in the feoffees an extra £27, was no doubt fixed by the commissioners to assist them in building the school house. The School had not as yet acquired a definite school house, but was still kept in the Church and in private houses. Possibly it had been kept in houses belonging to the School for the last few years, for since 1595 the ecclesiastical authorities had frowned on the practice of keeping schools in churches. Therefore, the commissioners, as we have seen, ordered the feoffees to build a proper school house for the boys of Kibworth Grammar School, and they expressly ordered it to be built in Kilpeck's close. They added that the money from the rents was to be paid directly to the schoolmaster, who was to provide for the upkeep of the School out of it. Finally the Commissioners provided for the continuation of the trust by ordering that, when only three of the surviving feoffees remained, they were to enfeoff seven others.

The decree of the commissioners was carried out, and the first school house was built about 1630. It was placed not on the site of the present School, but some fifty yards away, near the bottom of the paddock, on a site where the railway now runs.

The schoolmaster at the time of the building of the new school house was the Rev. Richard Kestyn, who had been appointed in 1611 to succeed the Rev. John Orpin. He was schoolmaster at Kibworth for more than twenty years, being succeeded in 1634 by the Rev. James Weston. Mr. Weston had been educated at the Free Grammar School in Leicester and then at the Grammar School which had recently been opened in Market Harborough. After studying at Christ's College, Cambridge, he came in 1626 to Tur Langton as curate. A few years later, in 1634, he was appointed to be schoolmaster of Kibworth Grammar School. Presumably, he found difficulty in combining the two posts of curate and schoolmaster, for at the visitation of 1634 he was presented for defect in canonical habit. Clearly this irregularity did not go against him, for in the next year he became curate at Kibworth. In 1639, however, the Archbishop of Canterbury revoked his licence to teach, possibly because he was teaching doctrine unsuitable to Laud. Kibworth at this time was already leaning towards the Puritan side. So, in 1639, the Rev. James Wright succeeded Weston as schoolmaster, and it is under him that we first hear of boys from the School gaining awards to Oxford and Cambridge. Indeed, throughout the rest of the seventeenth century and in the early eighteenth century, boys from Kibworth

were going to the Universities, one sign of the high standard of teaching and of the healthy condition of the School in this period.

James Wright was Headmaster when two boys from Kibworth gained places at the University. They were John Berridge and Samuel Wood. John Berridge was the tenth son of the Rector of Kibworth, Rev. John Berridge, and he was admitted to Jesus College, Oxford, in 1642. Samuel Wood was the son of a yeoman farmer of Saddington, and he won a place at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1646, when he was only fourteen.

It was about 1646 that the Rev. Jeremie Nelson became schoolmaster, and during his period of office two very important events occurred. The first was the drawing up of a code of rules for the School and the second was the bitter strife which broke out between the School Governors and their tenants.

The Kibworth School rules are based to a great extent on those of Market Bosworth Grammar School. It was in 1630 that the Governors of the latter School had had their constitutions drawn up, and so it was only natural that, when in 1647 the Governors of Kibworth decided to have their rules written down, they should procure a copy of the Market Bosworth regulations, and use them as a model. There is still, in fact, a copy of the Market Bosworth Constitutions in the Kibworth chest, and attached to it is a paper containing this note: "Out of these articles there are selected these that follow, out of which you will select so much as will do for the School of Kibworth". The Kibworth Governors, indeed, went through the Bosworth Constitutions most carefully, for they crossed out a number of clauses and inserted clauses of their own. In fact, in the Kibworth copy are notes which appear to be minutes compiled by one of the feoffees who attended the meeting held to consider what alterations should be made to the Bosworth Constitutions. One note is as follows:—"I must prepare speedily So much of the schedule as will fit this School and engross them on parchment that they may be signed and sealed".

The Kibworth Constitutions, drawn up in 1647, tell us a good deal about a small Grammar School in the mid-seventeenth century. The number of children attending the School would be about thirty and they would all be boys, for no girls were admitted into the School until 1907. The staff consisted merely of the schoolmaster himself, but an usher was to be appointed as soon as numbers warranted it. An interesting comment on the number of staff appears in the Kibworth copy of the Bosworth Constitutions. "The intent is to have a master and an usher; but not at the first. Until there shall be a competent number of scholars able to be of the upper school there shall be only a master who shall receive all the salary and teach all and then when need shall be there be an usher able to teach Latin" The main subject of the curriculum was, in fact, Latin. The Kibworth Governors did not prescribe the text-books to be studied, as did the Bosworth Governors, but stated simply that the schoolmaster and usher "shall teach none but authentical authors and because the School standeth much upon poor men's children, whose parents are not able to buy many books, that they read unto them few books and them throughout, if conveniently they may". This last clause is a reminder that Kibworth was a free School, where the boys paid no tuition fees. In fact the opening rule stated: "The Schoolmaster,

and as need shall require the usher, shall with all care and diligence teach the children and youth (and that to be done freely) of the said parish of Kibworth in learning". The parish of Kibworth consisted of Kibworth Beauchamp, Kibworth Harcourt and Smeeton Westerby.

The feoffees insisted on a certain standard of attainment before children were admitted into the School; they had to know their letters and "be somewhat well entered into the spelling of words". No mention is made of the age at which boys could enter the School, or for how long they could remain. Once admitted, however, they had to make reasonable progress or to suffer the consequences. "The Schoolmaster shall certify the parents of such children as they shall find unapt for learning or indoceble, to the end that said parents may prevent their loss of time and expenses".

The curriculum contained, in addition to Latin, Religious Instruction. One of the main aims in setting up a school in the Middle Ages and for a long while after was to promote the spiritual welfare of the children by definite instruction in the Christian faith. Hence, at Kibworth, one hour every other Saturday was to be spent in teaching the children their religion. The younger children had to learn the ordinary catechism by heart, while the elder were struggling with the Lord's Prayer, The Creed, the Ten Commandments and the Sacraments according to the orthodox tenets of the Church of England. The amount of time spent on religious teaching seems small, but in addition the children had to attend church on Sunday, when some of them were required to take down notes of the sermons.

In the mid-seventeenth century, the feoffees undertook their duties most conscientiously. They did everything within their power to see that the boys received a good education. With this end in view, they took considerable care over the selection of the Schoolmaster. He had to be well educated, an M.A. or a B.A.; he had to be free from all infectious and contagious diseases, honest, virtuous and learned. He had to devote the whole of his time to looking after the School and to be a good example to the boys. (A long list details the various vices from which he had to abstain, such as night-walking and gaming). The feoffees made arrangements for inspecting the children—they themselves, together with the Rectors of Kibworth and Church Langton, were "on the Thursday before Whit to examine the children, hear them dispute and observe their proficiency". Strangely enough, the Kibworth feoffees made no mention of the salary they were prepared to pay the schoolmaster. The usual figure was £20 p.a. The Kibworth rules, however, did mention that he was to be paid twice a year, once at Lady Day and again at Michaelmas.

In order to reach a proficient standard of work, the children had to spend long hours in school. Hours in the seventeenth century and later were practically the same in all schools. Morning school began at six o'clock in Summer and seven o'clock in Winter, and continued till eleven o'clock. Afternoon school began at one o'clock and carried on till five. No excuse for being late was taken from the Kibworth children; but some indulgence was given to those "of out towns who were hindered by water or other unseasonableness of weather".

Children, then, spent far longer in school each day than do their successors.

Moreover, their holidays were not so long as those of today. By a curious oversight no mention is made of holidays in the Kibworth rules, but from evidence of other schools we know that the children broke up at Easter and Christmas for about a fortnight for each holiday.

The long hours spent in school, the lack of books, and the teaching of all the boys together in one room contributed to the problem of discipline. The chief method the master employed in keeping the children under control was corporal punishment. At Kibworth, the Governors saw to it that the schoolmaster did not overstep the mark, for he could not “strike any scholars about the head or face with his hands or fist or with a rod, book or any such like thing.” If, however, the schoolmaster did hit a boy, he was to pay to the Common Box one shilling. Moreover, if he got really angry and kicked a boy, he was to be fined five shillings.

The master sought the help of senior boys in running the School. These prefects, however, had no real part in keeping discipline: their role was limited to informing the schoolmaster of such boys as broke the school laws, such as misbehaving in church or swearing.

From the school rules it appears that the seventeenth-century schoolboy possessed two main vices, swearing and throwing stones. At Kibworth monitors were to be appointed “to observe the scholars in the upper school and present them that swear or use any unseemly talk”. Moreover, two monitors were appointed whose sole task was to stop boys from breaking the school windows.

The last clause of the 1647 Constitutions enables the feoffees to continue the running of the School. A feoffment of the School lands was to be made to fifteen new feoffees when there remained only four survivors of the previous feoffment. The feoffees, who were to be the most able and discreet men of the parish, had to reside in it. Future schoolmasters were to sign the rules to acknowledge their assent to them. These rules provided the legal basis for the running of the School until the beginning of the nineteenth century, when they were superseded by a new set of rules.

Actually only four schoolmasters signed the Kibworth Constitutions, and the inference is that, after a period of rapid development, in the latter part of the seventeenth century and in the beginning of the eighteenth century, the School began to decline in the mid-eighteenth century till, in the latter part of that century, the feoffees became so negligent that they did not trouble to enforce the rules. Thus, for all practical purposes, the rules were in operation only till about 1750. The original copy now occupies a place of honour in the School Library, and pupils of today, who are no longer bound by its rules, often find interest and amusement in it.

Most Grammar Schools have, at one time or another, become involved in disputes over their lands, and such was the misfortune of Kibworth in the mid-seventeenth century. Soon after the rules had been drawn up, the school feoffees became involved in a quarrel with their tenants—a quarrel which lasted for several years. As we have seen, in order to build the new school house, the feoffees had raised the rents of the tenants, especially that of Thomas Kilpeck, whose rent was doubled. At first, the tenants raised no objection to the increase

in rents, but, about 1645, some of them refused to pay, on the ground that the lands they held were not school lands, but their own property.

The leader of the tenants in this matter was John Abbott. Abbott was Kilpeck's son-in-law; it was in his close that the new school house had been built, and it was through his yard that the boys had to pass on their way to school. No doubt he felt it a decided nuisance to have boys coming through his yard; so much the better for his comfort if the School ceased to exist. There may also have been a deeper motive to account for the struggle between the tenants and the feoffees—it may reflect the struggle between the Church and the Puritans which at this time was splitting the country at large. The feoffees were decidedly Church of England, while there was a large body of dissent in Kibworth.

Whatever the main motive at work among the tenants, they made a most determined effort to close the School. The feoffees drew up a bill of complaint, in which they stated:—

The tenants do threaten to pull down the Schoolhouse and have excluded the Schoolmaster out of the same, whereby he is constrained to take a house remote from the School. And John Abbott, being a very contentious and malicious person, he, his wife and children have used very often to annoy the School by laying of dunghills near the School, by throwing cow dung upon some of the feoffees and upon the doors and windows of the Schoolhouse and upon the Schoolmaster and scholars there and so threatened and reviled them that they are in fear to come to the School and so that the Schoolmaster dare not glaze the School windows for that they continually break them down again, but is forced to lattice the windows which many times are cut in pieces by Abbott.

In his reply, Abbott denied that he had broken the windows of the school house or that he had ever attacked the school master or his scholars; he did, however, admit that “one of his daughters did once throw a cow clod at one Mr. Richard Halford, one of the feoffees, being thereunto provoked by the incivilities and threatening speeches of Mr. Halford”. Naturally, the feoffees could not tolerate this situation for long, and in the end they decided to have recourse to the law. Unfortunately for the School, Abbott and his friends had planned their attack well, for they had acquired possession of all the counterparts of the leases and of other legal evidence, such as charters, which the feoffees needed to prove that the lands in question did actually belong to the School. Accordingly, the feoffees could not proceed in the ordinary law courts, but had to bring their suit before the court of Chancery, which in 1650 appointed a Commission to hear the case.

The first move on the part of the commissioners was to get local evidence which might throw light on the dispute. Accordingly, a number of witnesses were summoned to appear before them on Thursday, 16th October, 1651, at nine o'clock “at the house of widow Chamberlain at the sign of the Crown in Great Glen”. The depositions of these witnesses are still extant in the school

chest, and they throw light, not only on the contest between feoffees and tenants, but also, as we have seen, on the early history of the School.

Having heard the evidence, the commissioners issued their findings in the form of a decree, dated 27th January, 1652. They declared that the lands in question had been given for the upkeep of a Free Grammar School for the parish of Kibworth and for a schoolmaster thereof, that the school tenants, including Abbott, should within two months pay all arrears of rent, that the tenants should in future pay to one of the feoffees their rents in full and that the three feoffees who had taken the main share in fighting Abbott and who had spent £97 of their own money in doing so, should reimburse themselves during the next twenty-one years with money derived from school lands. They also decreed that the feoffees should in future meet twice a year, once in March and again in September, for the better ordering of affairs concerning the School". Finally, the commissioners adjudged Abbott to be a very unfit tenant to hold any school lands, but no direct order was given for Abbott's dismissal.

This decree, however, did not stop the litigation, for Abbott contested the commissioners' decree, and the dispute was once more brought into the courts. On May 20th, 1652, the commissioners heard the case again, and issued a second decree. This time the commissioners suggested that tenants' 'unconformable' should be removed, that they should deliver up to the feoffees copies of their leases, and that Abbott should give some security, if he wished to remain a tenant. Another point that the commissioners made was that the schoolmaster should have a house near to the School for dwelling in.

Soon after the second decree Abbott must have quitted his farm next to the School and the feoffees evidently seized the opportunity to use his dwelling as the Schoolmaster's house, for in a lease of March 1653 we find that the feoffees have allowed the Schoolmaster, the Rev. Jeremie Nelson, to rent the messuage, once in the occupation of John Abbott. Thus, the tenants suffered defeat, and the second determined effort to close Kibworth Grammar School had failed.

Although the tenants had been defeated in their main aim, it was only natural that Puritan influences should be felt in the School during the Commonwealth period. That may account for the termination of Nelson's appointment about 1656, and the appointment of the Rev. George Robertson as Schoolmaster. Little is known about him, but during his stay of two or three years at Kibworth the Constitutions of 1647 were revised in 1657. They are more or less a summary of the previous rules, but there are one or two alterations, which do suggest that the School was beginning to expand. In the first place, there was now definitely an usher; in fact, a clause was inserted that the Minister of Kibworth was to act as supply for him were he absent. Again, a fresh clause was introduced in 1657 as follows: "Whereas some scholars from other places are admitted into the said School and more may be afterwards admitted, the Schoolmaster shall take care that the parish free scholars be not wronged by any that come from other places". The School clearly now enjoyed a reputation sufficient to attract scholars from outside Kibworth. In fact, when the Rev. Mr. Sheffield was ejected from the rectory of Ibstock in 1662 because he refused to take the Oath of Uniformity, he came to reside in Kibworth so that his children

could have the privilege of attending the Grammar School.

It was only to be expected that reference to the Church of England should be deleted from the revised rules of 1657. Cromwell did not extend liberty of worship either to High Anglicans or to Catholics; so children at Kibworth were henceforth to be instructed in the true orthodox principles of the Christian religion, as interpreted by the Puritans.

The last clause of the revised rules provided for the continued running of the School. When only seven of the fifteen feoffees remained alive, they were to issue a new charter, within six months, appointing a new body of trustees, fifteen in number. The feoffees who signed the revised rules were William Raie, Richard Halford, William Watts, Richard Diffe, George Fox and Edward Iliffe. There were, in addition, three feoffees who simply made their mark, because they could not write. Robert Eastwood made an R, Andrew Jordan a J, and Isaac Davenport an I.

On the back of the revised rules is the following note: "I do hereby resign all right and title that I have to the Free School of Kibworth Beauchamp after Michaelmas next... Witness my hand and seal. Dated September 13th 1658. George Robertson". Thus, the Rev. George Robertson did not stay long at Kibworth. We do not know the reason for his sudden departure; possibly he did not like living in close proximity to the then minister of Kibworth, the Rev. John Yaxley, who made life intensely miserable for its inhabitants in the two or three years before the Restoration.

Chapter 4

From the Restoration to the End of the Seventeenth Century.

The Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 meant the end of the Puritan schoolmaster and a return to the orthodox tenets of the Church of England. There must have been some confusion at Kibworth during the changeover, for after Robertson's departure in 1658 there is no mention of a schoolmaster till 1662, when the Rev. Jasper Chapman, of Smeeton Westerby, received the Bishop's licence to teach in the School. Chapman was educated at Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he gained his B.A. in 1648. He did not remain schoolmaster for long, for in 1663 the feoffees appointed the Rev. Walter Abbott, of Merton College, Oxford, to be the schoolmaster. After Abbott's appointment, Chapman continued his connection with the School, but in the capacity of usher. Abbott himself did not have a lengthy tenure of office; in 1665 he became the Rector of Shangton and resigned his post at Kibworth. The following year, the feoffees appointed as his successor the Rev. Nathaniel Weston, B.A., of St. John's College, Oxford. Weston stayed only four years, to be followed by the Rev. John Dand, of St. John's College, Cambridge, who remained master at Kibworth for over thirty years.

John Dand belonged to the well-known Wigston family of that name, and received his early education at Oakham School. From there he proceeded to Cambridge, and he came to Kibworth in 1670. A most important event during his period of office was the visit, in 1686, of the Charity Commissioners to see that the feoffees were running the trust satisfactorily. The commissioners found, as previous investigators had done, that the tenants were not paying their full amount of rent. So they ordered a new rental roll to be drawn up, and it is interesting to note that in most cases the rents were reduced. For example, the rent for the one and a half yardlands leased to Kilpeck was fixed in 1615 at £18; but in 1686 the same amount of land was leased to T. Kirke for £15 9s. 4d. The

commissioners, moreover, ordered one of the feoffees, John Parker, who had £6 4s. Od. belonging to the School, to pay it over to the schoolmaster within one month. They mentioned that the Schoolmaster was to continue to dwell in the messuage near to the School which had formerly belonged to John Abbott, for it had convenient orchards, gardens and backsides. The Commissioners made one complaint against the master—the long table running down the middle of the, schoolroom was unfit for use, so Dand was to provide a table "for the scholars to write upon".

It is clear, however, that Dand made his scholars work, for under him a number of boys went to the Universities. In 1680, Theophilus Judd, son of William Judd, a farmer of Burton Overy, was admitted as a sizar to Dand's old college, St. John's Cambridge. In 1682, John Richardson, son of William Richardson, the rector of South Kilworth, was admitted to St. John's; and three years later, his brother William followed him. In 1686, Richard Halford, the son of Sir Thomas Halford, Bart., went also from Kibworth to St. John's. There was clearly at this time a strong connection between St. John's College, Cambridge, and Kibworth Grammar School, for, in addition to those already named, Thomas Parker, Edward Smart, John Bold, Samuel Elly, and William John Dand left Kibworth for St. John's while the Rev. John Dand was Head. Of these the two most important were Bold and Dand. John Bold was curate of Stoney Stanton for nearly fifty years, from 1702 to 1751, and he refused all offers of promotion, for his main concern was the welfare of his parishioners. William John Dand was the son of the schoolmaster, and in 1706 he succeeded his father at Kibworth.

It is evident that, in the later years of the seventeenth century, Kibworth Grammar School was growing in numbers, reputation and scholarship. This all-round increase is reflected in the larger salary paid to the schoolmaster. Whereas in 1650 the salary was £20 a year, Dand was in 1700 drawing a salary of £50.

Chapter 5

The Decline of the School in the Eighteenth Century.

The Rev. William John Dand, the last of the schoolmasters to sign the 1647 Constitutions, came to Kibworth in 1706. His period of nearly twenty years as master was greatly troubled by lawsuits in which the School was involved. During the eighteenth century, Kibworth Grammar School, like most other educational establishments in this country, suffered a decline. In the days of the Commonwealth and the later Stuarts, the trustees were interested in the running of the local Grammar School; they were prepared to come along to examine the scholars. In the eighteenth century, however, a change came over their composition. At Kibworth the trustees began to be taken more from the ranks of the nobility than previously. The local farmer was no longer asked to serve as a school governor; his place was taken by a richer person, but one who had considerably less interest in the locality. In the feoffment charter of 1645, for example, the trustees consisted of three gentlemen and twelve yeomen; but over a century later, in 1754, they consisted of four titled people, four gentlemen, two rectors, but only two yeomen. The lack of interest taken by the governing body in the School is to be accounted for by the decrease in the number of local farmers serving as trustees.

During the opening years of the eighteenth century the affairs of the Kibworth School must have provided much profit for the lawyers, for the School was engaged in a lengthy lawsuit, which lasted on and off from 1708 to 1724. The cause of all this strife was one which may have been the root cause of the Abbott conflict—the rivalry between the Church of England and the Nonconformists. At Kibworth the dissenters were always strong, as is proved by the fact that they started an academy of their own in Kibworth Harcourt in 1715—an academy which was attended by such eminent divines as Jennings and Doddridge, the celebrated hymn-writer. The dissenters, certainly before 1715, seem to have been anxious to continue their association with the Grammar School, but this was strongly resisted by the Church party.

In 1675, a new feoffment charter had been drawn up, but by 1708 only four of the original feoffees survived, so, according to the terms of the school constitution, they had to draw up another charter, appointing fifteen new feoffees. Three of the four survivors were dissenters, and naturally these three—William Smith, Richard Iliffe and Thomas Parsons—arranged that the new charter should contain a large number of dissenters. They failed, however, to maintain their strong position, for in 1710 the Charity Commissioners came to Kibworth and turned savagely on them. The year 1710 witnessed the victory of the Church of England in national politics, and likewise the Church of England emerged triumphant in the same year at Kibworth. The commissioners declared that the feoffment of 1708 was illegal and that, in future, only orthodox Church of England clergymen could be appointed as Headmasters. Moreover, they appointed a new body of trustees, including Sir Richard Halford of Wistow. A possible outcome of the bitterness existing between Dand and some of the dissenters is the fact that the three trustees mentioned above were known to have £21 in their keeping, which they had acquired from the collection of rents, but which they had not turned over to the master. The Commissioners ordered them to pay this money over to him at once.

The decree of the commissioners, however, did not settle matters at Kibworth, for the dispute between the two factions continued. Finally, to cut down legal expenses, the two parties agreed to have recourse to arbitration. They chose two arbitrators, Francis Edwards and Richard Buckby, and the leading men on each side entered into a bond of £100 each to agree to abide by the arbitrators' verdict. Their award was made on December 24th, 1718, and was as follows. The previous feoffment of 1710 was withdrawn in favour of a new feoffment, which included one or two dissenters such as Thomas Parsons. The new feoffment also included people who did not reside in the parish of Kibworth, such as Sir Eustace Pelsant of Cadeby, Joseph Hill of Rothwell, Northamptonshire, and John Hall of Arnesby, the father of the well-known Nonconformist preacher, Robert Hall. Although the arbitrators had included dissenters in the new feoffment, they stated that in future, no dissenter was to be made a trustee. They declared, moreover, that in future the master must be orthodox Church of England. The award also stated that the feoffees were to meet twice a year to inspect the repairs of the school house and to examine the proficiency of the scholars. The arbitrators varied the procedure, adopted in the revised rules of 1657, for appointing the feoffees. The seven survivors, instead of appointing fifteen new ones, were to co-opt eight others, and the fifteen thus formed were to be the new body of feoffees.

The award clearly favoured the Church of England party, and the dissenters therefore bided their time before making another attempt to gain influence in the Grammar School. The opportunity to do this came with the death of Dand in March 1724. The dissenting feoffees such as Thomas Parsons met the next month in secret and proceeded to elect the Rev. John Cranor as schoolmaster. They took the precaution, however, of accepting the sum of £100 from Cranor in case his election, which was bound to be disputed, should involve them in further legal expenses. The dissenting faction did not inform the other feoffees of

their action, and so on May 1.2th, 1724, a general meeting of the feoffees elected the Rev. William Cox to be master of the School. Parsons and his friends were present at this meeting, but they made no attempt to prevent Cox's election; and Cox in due course received the Bishop's licence to teach.

It is fairly clear that the methods by which Cranor and his party hoped to secure their goal were dishonest. They did not come out into the open and oppose Cox's election; instead they trumped up some allegation against Cox in the hope that his licence would be revoked. Their plan worked, for the Bishop of Lincoln actually issued a mandate revoking Cox's licence. Edwards was out of the district when this was happening, but, on his return, he used his influence to have the mandate withdrawn. This was finally achieved, and Cox was left in possession of his licence to teach.

The strife which upset the School in the first quarter of the eighteenth century was certainly the outcome of the rivalry existing between the Church and Nonconformist parties in the village. The dissenters were so strong that they wished to share the local Grammar School with the Church of England; but the attempt failed, and the administration of the School in the eighteenth century was placed in the hands of the orthodox Church of England clergy. No clergyman with Puritan tendencies would be tolerated.

We have seen how the division of the village into Church and Nonconformist caused strife, with the result that many people no longer took an interest in the Grammar School. Previously, the School was the place to which ambitious parents sent their sons to be educated; now many such parents were reluctant to do this, because the School was now orthodox Church of England. The Nonconformists had their own academy in Kibworth which lasted for a number of years, and which provided a more suitable and attractive education for the children of the district. The Grammar School still provided, in the main, a classical education, but in the Nonconformist academy such subjects as Mathematics, English and History were taught.

The gentry of the villages around Kibworth had till the eighteenth century been content to have their children educated in the Grammar School there; but now class distinction became accentuated, and the squires no longer wished their sons to sit alongside those of the butcher and baker. They preferred to send them to boarding schools to be educated with sons of members of their own class; and in the latter half of the century improvements in transport enabled them to carry out their wishes. The general lethargy of the period strife between Church of England and Nonconformist, class distinction, all contributed towards the decline of the School at this time. We must not, however, paint too black a picture. The trustees in the earlier part of the century did not foresee the decline, for in 1725 they erected a new school house in place of the old one, which was badly in need of repair. This new building was some fifty yards away from the site of the previous one and it still stands, being the oldest part of the School in use. It is a typical eighteenth-century structure, substantial in appearance, and its six long sash windows evenly proportioned. The folding doors are still there through which boys entered into the building by means of a flight of stone stairs. At the same time the trustees built a house for the schoolmaster at the

south end of the building. The school house and the master's house were both dignified buildings that gave no sign of the decline which was already setting in for the School. The gracious dwelling-house is still used by the Headmaster, although since 1956 Sixth Form groups have made use of three of the rooms on the upper floors. It is interesting to note that the man mainly responsible for the building programme was one of the arbitrators, Francis Edwards.

Having regained the Bishop's licence, the Rev. William Cox remained schoolmaster of Kibworth till his death in 1758. Though appointed to the Headship of Kibworth School, he still remained Vicar of Foxton. In this he violated one of the rules of the school Constitutions of 1647, which stated that the schoolmaster had to give the whole of his time to the School; he could not have a cure of souls nor any other ecclesiastical employment. In allowing Cox to remain Vicar of Foxton, the trustees were neglecting their duty; and this neglect was an important factor in the deterioration of the School. Obviously, Cox could not devote the whole of his attention to the School, even though he did reside in the new house and not in Foxton. Much of the teaching in the School was, done by the usher, whose wages in 1758 were fixed at a salary of £20 a year. The usher would, no doubt, be unable to teach Latin, and so one effect of the absentee schoolmaster was that the School gradually declined till it was little better than an ordinary village school. This unfortunate fact was readily accepted by the trustees. On Cox's death, they appointed the Rev. Joseph Wilson of Arnesby to the post of Headmaster, but at the same time they agreed to appoint an usher to teach the children "to read English, writing and Arithmetic". In 1647, the trustees had been anxious that the scholars should have a properly qualified master, who could give them a sound education based on a study of Latin; by 1758 the trustees were content for the boys to learn the three R's. Such was the measure of the School's decline in the eighteenth century. Another sign of this decline is that only two boys are recorded as having gone to the Universities from Kibworth after Band's time. They were Thomas Willey from Willoughby Waterless, who was admitted to Trinity College, Cambridge, as a Pensioner in 1727; and Thomas Hutchinson, who went to Christ's College, Cambridge, in 1756.

The Headmaster of the School during the nadir of its fortunes was the Rev. Joseph Wilson, but the actual teaching was done by the usher. Towards the end of the eighteenth century, the usher was William Buzzard, who received £50 a year for teaching the three R's. So little interest did the feoffees take in the running of the School that they did not trouble to draw up a new deed of conveyance when only seven of the fifteen trustees remained alive. In 1780, a deed appointing the fifteen new feoffees had been drawn up, but by 1803 only five of these remained alive; yet they took no steps to draw up a fresh deed. In fact, no new deed was made till 1822.

Chapter 6

The Revival of the School in the Nineteenth Century.

The history of Kibworth Grammar School reflects locally what was happening in the country at large. The eighteenth century had been a period of decline in education; the nineteenth century threw off the sloth of its predecessor and ushered in a period of reform in all aspects of life, and especially in education. The first stirrings of this reform were felt in the great Public Schools, but gradually the reforms reached the small Grammar Schools so that their standards were raised, though the State had finally to step in, in order to bring them up to the required standard.

At Kibworth the recovery may be said to date from about 1820. The Rev. Joseph Wilson died, in 1803 and was succeeded by the Rev. Jeremiah Goodman, but the change of Head made little difference to the School, for William Buzzard continued as usher to the few boys who attended what was, to all intents and purposes, the village school. When Carlisle was collecting information for his history of the Grammar Schools of England, he wrote a letter in 1816 to the Governors of Kibworth, but, as one would expect, they were not sufficiently interested in the School to return a reply to his letter. Soon after this date, however, things began to change for the better for the School, and the trustee mainly responsible for this improvement was Mr. Joseph Cradock.

Cradock was a graduate of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and was interested in education. Having built Gumley Hall, he collected there a fine library, and to Gumley came many eighteenth-century personalities, including David Garrick, who is reported to have played the Ghost at a private performance at Gumley Hall, while Cradock played Hamlet. Cradock had been appointed a trustee of Kibworth School in 1780, and in 1820 was one of the four survivors left. He naturally shared in the growing interest in educational reform and, in an effort to start some improvement at Kibworth, he decided to have new feoffees appointed. For this purpose he called together a general meeting of the inhabitants in the Village Hall, at which he received support for his plans.

When he sought to draw up a new conveyance, however, Cradock experienced great difficulty, for the deeds of 1775 and 1780 were missing from the School chest. The last deed in existence was that of 1754; but the feoffees of this were long since dead, and so it seemed that the trust could not be continued because the absence of the 1780 deed deprived the four living survivors of legal authority to make a new feoffment. Thus, Cradock had to refer the matter to Chancery, and finally in 1822 fifteen new feoffees were appointed, while at the same time Chancery drew up a new list of rules for the School.

The most interesting of these dealt with the curriculum. The master was to teach reading, writing, grammar and arithmetic to the children of the parish, and Latin to those children whose parents required it. An attempt was made once more to have trustees who would be interested in the School—those appointed had to reside within fifteen miles of Kibworth School. Moreover, the trustees were given the power of dismissing any master who neglected to do his duty.

The trustees of the nineteenth century were certainly more businesslike than their predecessors of the previous century. We can see that from the minutes of the Governors' meetings, many of which are quoted in the pamphlet on the history of the School written in 1865 by the Headmaster, the Rev. J. B. Hildebrand. At the first meeting of the newly-elected Governors held in 1822, Mr. Cradock was publicly thanked for the services he had rendered to the School. From this year throughout the rest of the century the Governors did, indeed, take considerable interest in the School; in fact. Governors who did not attend the half-yearly meeting were liable to a fine of ten shillings. In 1828, they resolved that the age of admission to the School should be seven, and they instructed the Headmaster to inform parents that children must be regular in their attendance at school. A few years after this, in 1836, the Rev. J. Goodman died. He was the last of the Headmasters who took little part in the actual teaching of the School. The time was now coming when public opinion would demand that the Headmaster should be really in control of the School. The Rev. Jeremiah Goodman is the best remembered of the early Headmasters of the School, because of the money which he bequeathed to it. It was to be many years, however, before the School felt the benefit of this bequest, and it will be best to deal later with the history of the Goodman Scholarship Fund.

With the death of the old Headmaster in 1836, the Governors decided to take steps to improve the standard of the School. Originally, it had been a Grammar School with a syllabus similar to that of the best schools in the land; now it had deteriorated into an ordinary village school with instruction in the three R's. The first step to make was to get out of the rut of the three R's;

the second was to persuade the upper and middle class men of the district to send their children to it once more. With these aims in view, the Governors decided to set up a fee-paying department. These private pupils could be either day-boys or boarders, and they were to have the old type of Grammar School education. Moreover, the Governors agreed that they should be definitely separated from the free scholars. For this purpose, the Schoolhouse was divided into two by a partition, which still exists—between Rooms 4 and 5—the larger

room being reserved for the free boys.

At the same time, the Governors took steps to put the schoolhouse and the rest of the premises into a good state of repair. Consequently they decided to raise some £750; £500 of this was to be borrowed and £250 to be raised from the sale of school land to the Union Canal Company.

Such was the plan adopted by the Governors in 1836 to effect an improvement in the standard of education in the School. That same year they appointed the Rev. J. B. Hildebrand to be Goodman's successor. The new Headmaster had the assistance of the old usher, William Buzzard, in discharging his duties. Buzzard was already usher in 1803 and continued his duties till 1848. He must have been a very active man, for in addition to his school work he was a land surveyor, land agent, farmer and grazier, and in his spare time he acted as agent for the S.P.C.K. When the Charity Commissioners visited Kibworth in 1837, they reported that land surveying was one of the subjects Buzzard taught in the lower School in addition to the three R's. Moreover he had some forty free scholars to teach in his department. As for the new plan of taking, in fee-paying scholars at £12 a year, Hildebrand had five pupils in his first year.

Before the new scheme had been in operation for many years parents began to realise the advantages of the better type of education which was given in the fee-paying or upper department of the School. Thus, it was not long before a parent wrote to the Governors, asking whether a free scholar could have access to the upper department of the School. The Governors replied:

"The sons of the inhabitants of the three townships were entitled to instruction in either department of the School free from expense, but no boy shall enter the upper department under ten unless he shall satisfy the trustees upon an examination in Latin Grammar to be of such proficiency as to profit by the studies of that department". This examination in Latin would be a fairly effective barrier against the admission of poor boys into the upper department, for few local boys would know Latin. Whether any free boys did ever enter the upper department is not recorded.

The scheme for the improvement of the School did result in an increase in the number of scholars. In 1837 there were 45 scholars. The death of Mr. Buzzard caused a set-back in the numbers, for in October 1850 only 22 scholars were present. Numbers increased again, however, in the fifties:- 1853, 35; 1854, 42; 1855, 46; 1857, 50; 1858, 56; and in 1859, 68. How many of these were free scholars and how many fee-paying is not stated. Clearly the task of redeeming the School had been taken in hand earnestly, for we now find pupils leaving to train as teachers. For example, in 1859 five boys left—three to work in the fields, one to work in the knitting frames at the factory and one to go on to train as a teacher.

An interesting picture of the everyday life of the School about 1860 is given by F. P. Woodford in his "Personal Reminiscences of Kibworth". He mentions how some of the boys used to take mice to school surreptitiously to be released, when full advantage was taken of their being "accidentally" seen by the whole school. The Midland line was built through Kibworth in 1857, and so most boys on the way to school stopped to watch the trains or to climb the bridge

walls, or occasionally to throw a cap over in order to see it blown up again by the snorting monster. Mr. Woodford mentioned that on the other side of the railway, away from the School, there was a small paddock with a large gravel pit, and this was the school playground. "Here the best games were played, and here the best runners, jumpers and wrestlers tested their powers of endurance, and here many fierce fights have been fought".

The first definite evidence of the growth of the secondary department is given in 1862, when there were 35 free scholars and 24 fee-paying pupils. The average age of the former was eleven, and that of the others was twelve. An increase of Scholars was again recorded the next year, when 40 free and 29 fee-paying boys were on the roll. The Governors were pleased at the progress the School had made since the beginning of Mr. Hildebrand's headship. "They regard the circumstances with satisfaction as evidence of the value set upon the instruction given in the School".

The Governors, however, were not satisfied that Mr. Hildebrand should teach the fee-paying pupils, while the free scholars were left to the mercy of the under-master. After expressing their satisfaction with the progress made in the School, the Governors added this rider: "They desire to remind Mr. Hildebrand that the free scholars are entitled in the first place to his attention". Evidently, Mr. Hildebrand accepted the decision of the Governors and took charge of the lower department. Thereupon, the under master left, and the number of fee-paying pupils dropped, for in 1864, while the number of free scholars had risen to 49, only one fee-payer remained.

The virtual disappearance of the upper department meant that the School reverted in status to an elementary school, in which the three R's were the staple of instruction. The state of the School is well illustrated in the report that was given of it in 1865. The previous year the Governors had decided that the scholars should be examined each year by some competent person. Accordingly, in 1865, the Rev. Mr. Romanis, of South Wigston, inspected the School and made his report.

From this report we see that the main subjects taught in the School were reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic. History of England, geography and the study of the Bible. In fact, the examiner reported on the lack of suitable reading books. "The Bible is the chief reading book in the School". He stated that the writing was good, both that which the boys had already done in their copy books and that which they did for him on their slates and on paper without lines. The examiner also suggested that the Headmaster should have the assistance of another teacher "if he were to do justice to the School".

One result of the examiner's report was that the Governors did some heart-searching amongst themselves, and at their next meeting they commented on it at some length. Their report is indeed a most interesting document, for it shows how anxious they were to do their best for the School. We have seen how, in previous periods, the history of the Kibworth School reflects the history of education in the country at large; so it was now in the eighteen-sixties. The Government, whether Conservative or Liberal, at this time was anxious to promote the welfare of the poorer classes by social legislation; similarly, the

Governors of Kibworth were intent on improving the education given in the School.

The first criticism the Governors made in their report was that the School was not a real Grammar School. “The instruction is no more than might be expected from an ordinary parochial school, and it is certainly very far below such as might be expected from a liberal educational endowment.... The School ought to carry on the work of instruction to a higher degree than can be shared by those who look to no future but that of a life of bodily industry”. They pointed out that parochial schools had recently been built both in Kibworth and Smeeton, which schools might have afforded “preliminary instruction early on to the boys, such would enable them later on to profit by admission to the “Grammar School”. These parochial schools, however, had not received support from the wealthy classes, and, as a small payment was necessary to enter them, the poorer inhabitants sent their children to the Grammar School, where they could claim free admission at the age of seven. Thus “the teaching power of the School is now absorbed in teaching first rudiments”.

The Governors then mentioned how an attempt had been’ made to raise the standard of the School by admitting fee-paying children who were to pursue a more liberal education. “Up to a recent period there was instruction of a higher character afforded in the Grammar School”—but the School had deteriorated again. In order to raise the standard once more the Governors made certain suggestions: (1) an admission test; (2) the master to take fee-paying scholars again; (3) instruction in the upper school should be such as to enable boys to pursue a mercantile or professional career.

Finally, the Governors stated, “The recent appointment of the Schools Enquiry Commission affords them new hope of assistance in bringing Kibworth School to its proper use and condition”. Throughout the country, the small Grammar Schools were reforming themselves, but in the main the State was having to intervene to bring them up to a really high standard.

Chapter 7

The Scheme of 1877.

As the modern State has grown, so has the area of its influence in the lives of the people. At first, the function of the State was simply to protect the people and to collect taxes for that purpose. But gradually there grew up the idea that the Government should see to the general welfare of the people, including their education, health, and the conditions in which they worked. In the nineteenth century, therefore, Royal Commissions were appointed to investigate the social conditions of the people with a view to legislation to improve them. There were Factory Commissions and there were also the Royal Commissions of Enquiry into the Grammar Schools. In 1864, for example, Lord Taunton was appointed Chairman of the Commission to report on conditions in the Grammar Schools; and it was this Commission that the Governors referred to in their report, mentioned at the end of the last chapter.

Several years were to pass before the commissioners were ready with their scheme for the management of the School; in fact it was not until 1877 that it was put forward with all its details. Before entering into an account of the 1877 scheme, we might pause to consider its importance. Before this date, the State had occasionally taken notice of Kibworth School because it was a charity. The Charity Commissioners had visited the School at different times to see that the funds were properly administered. Now the State was intervening to see that the education given in the charity was up to standard; and the main theme of the School's history from this point onwards is the ever-growing power of the State in its affairs. At this moment, however, it was simply seeing that the Governors carried out efficiently their task of administering the School. The State was not yet ready to lend financial support to the Grammar Schools. It was expected that the endowments and fees would provide sufficient money for their upkeep. But the State was already financing elementary schools, and it was only a question of time before financial assistance would be extended to the Grammar Schools.

Hitherto, the existing Governors had themselves chosen their successors, but now the Commissioners stepped in to say what people were to act as Governors of the School. They insisted that one half of the governing body should, in

future, consist of people holding responsible posts in local government. One Governor was to be the person who occupied the post of Chairman of the Market Harborough magistrates. The Board of Guardians of the Market Harborough Union were to choose two more Governors, and so was the Board of the Billesdon Union. These five representative Governors were to serve for a period of five years and, in addition to them, there were to be five co-optative Governors, who were to be elected for eight years.

Having provided an organisation for the continued administration of the School, the Commissioners then turned to deal with the old problem of raising the standard so it would provide a more liberal education than mere instruction in the three R's. First of all, they sought to make the School more attractive to the middle classes by insisting that, in future, most boys attending the School should pay fees. Until the nineteenth century, the emphasis had been on the free boys; not until 1836 had there been any fee-payers. For four hundred years, Kibworth was, as its founders intended it to be, a Free Grammar School. But now in 1877, fee-paying pupils were to be the rule rather than the exception, though scholarship winners were to be admitted free. The Commissioners suggested that there should also be an entrance fee in addition to the tuition fees. They fixed the entrance fees at anything up to £2 per pupil and the tuition fees at a figure between £6 and £10 per annum. The actual amount in each case was to be fixed by the Governors. Borders were to pay a sum not more than £40 p.a., excluding tuition fees.

Although the State was not yet financing Grammar School education, it was anxious not to take away from poorer boys the privilege of obtaining such an education. Thus the Governors of Kibworth were ordered to provide scholarships to the School to the yearly value of £60. They were, in the first place, to be awarded to children who had spent at least two years in the elementary schools at Kibworth Beauchamp, Kibworth Harcourt or Smeeton Westerby. If not suitable candidates were forthcoming from these schools, then the competition was thrown open to children from outside. Scholarships were to be awarded on the results of an examination in the subjects taught at the elementary schools, but even if a boy passed the examination, he was not admitted to the School unless the Headmaster of his school testified that he was a boy of good character.

The object of the Scheme was, as had been stated, to raise the standard of education in the School. Everything therefore depended on the appointment of a suitable Headmaster; and consequently the Scheme included many rules about the Headmaster, his qualifications, appointment, stipend, dismissal, etc. As regards qualifications, he was to be a graduate of some University of the British Empire. It was definitely stated that he need not be a clergyman; nor was it necessary for a future Headmaster to procure the Bishop's licence. On his appointment, each Head had to sign the following declaration:— "I declare that I will always to the best of my ability discharge the duties of Headmaster of Kibworth Grammar School during my tenure of office, and that if I am removed by the Governors I will acquiesce in such removal."

Moreover, a future Headmaster had to agree that he would give his personal attention to the duties of the School. He could not accept any benefice hav-

ing the cure of souls, once he had been appointed to the Headship. Clearly, the Commissioners did not expect clerical Headmasters to disappear at once. Actually, the first lay Head of Kibworth was not appointed till 1927.

The Commissioners also went into the question of the Headmaster's salary. He was to receive a fixed stipend of £150, but in addition he was to receive 'head' money, i.e. an extra allowance for each boy attending the school. The actual figure of this allowance was to be settled between the Governors and the Head, but it was to be between £4 and £6. In any case, the Governors had to agree to pay the Head a sum of not less than £300 p.a.

To prevent any possible misunderstanding that might arise between the Governors and the Head over their respective powers, the Commissioners laid down as fully as possible the duties of the Governors and those of the Head. The Governors were responsible for prescribing what subjects were to be taught in the School, for arranging the school holidays, for fixing the actual fees of day scholars, and for determining the actual number of assistant masters, together with the power to fix their salaries. The Head's duties were restricted to the internal running of the School. He was to have the choice of books, to decide upon the methods of teaching, to arrange the classes and to fix the hours of commencing and finishing school. The Head was also to have the right of appointing his own staff.

Another method by which the Commissioners hoped to raise the standard of education at Kibworth was by means of an entrance examination. It was to be taken by all children intending to enter the School, and was to consist of reading a passage from a book, of writing small text-hand, of doing sums in the first four rules and of answering questions on the geography of England. The Commissioners, moreover, stipulated that a boy could not attend the School before he was eight years of age, and he was bound to leave the term he attained the age of seventeen; but no penalty was fixed for a boy leaving before that age.

The Governors were given the power of deciding the subjects to be taught, but the Commissioners themselves stated the subjects for instruction—Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Mathematics, Natural Science; English Grammar, Composition and Literature; at least one foreign European language; Drawing and Vocal Music. Greek was included in the curriculum, but at the cost of £3.

The Commissioners ordered the Governors to appoint each year an examiner, who was to make a report on the work of the School. Moreover, the Headmaster was to make an annual report in writing to the Governors on the general condition of the School.

The Scheme of 1877 was the first stage in the direct intervention of the State in the affairs of the School. The Governors were still an independent body responsible to no higher authority for the conduct of the School. This period came to an end in 1909, when the Scheme drawn up in that year gave the State a still greater control over the School and made the Governors responsible to Leicestershire County Council for its administration.

Chapter 8

The Period of the last three clerical Headmasters (1877–1906).

Though the Scheme of 1877 had provided that, in future, the Headmaster of Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School need not be in Holy Orders, the fact remains that the next three Heads to be appointed were clergymen. The first was the Rev. J. J. Barnard, whose period of office lasted from 1877 to 1884; from 1885 to 1888 the Rev. F. W. Crick was Head, and then the Rev. A. P. Dawson, the last of the clerical Heads, remained Headmaster of the School for nearly twenty years, from 1889 to 1906.

The Scheme of 1877 had been drawn up with a view to raising the standard of education in the School, but from the start the Governors were faced with financial difficulties. As the Secretary to the Governors, H. T. Grant, wrote in a letter to the Charity Commissioners:— "Want of means has obliged the Governors to refuse various proposals of the Headmaster for the advantage of the School". The State was not yet financing secondary education. The Governors had to rely on tenants' rents and on fee-paying pupils for the money with which to run the School, indeed, for centuries, the School had relied on the prosperity of its tenants for the necessary money for financing the School. The Scheme of 1877 was drawn up in the hope that this state of affairs would continue; but in that very year English farmers suddenly found themselves faced with ruin, for an intense agricultural depression descended upon the English countryside. It was against this sombre background of rural distress that the Governors had to work out the Scheme of 1877. Catastrophe for the English farmer involved the whole countryside, and the School was bound to suffer.

The cause of the ruin which suddenly faced the English farmer at this time was the competition of American wheat. A number of factors combined to make it possible for American farmers to undersell Englishmen in their home market. New agricultural machinery, such as the Locke-wire binder, enabled

the Americans to produce crops more cheaply; railway expansion made possible cheap transport to the ports; and the introduction of better types of engines in the trans-Atlantic steamships reduced the consumption of fuel, and therefore the freight charges. Thus, unless something was done to help the English farmers, they faced ruin.

The fact remains, however, that nothing was done for them. Germany and France placed tariffs on imported wheat, and saved their farmers, but the Conservative Government of Disraeli refused to abandon the policy of Free Trade. Hence, as a recent historian has said, "British agriculture was thrown overboard in a storm like an unwanted cargo".

The effect of the decline of agriculture upon the School was to place it in financial difficulties and thus to hamper its development. The decline in rents was inevitable; in 1885 rents brought in £342, by 1897 they had dropped to £272, and by 1904 to £236. Several tenants were forced to give up their farms, because they could not pay their rents, despite the fact that the Governors were prepared to reduce them. In 1892, Webb left Bridge Farm. In 1894, in an effort to keep their tenants, the Governors took 10% off all rents. The result was that in 1896 they found themselves faced with a deficit of over £100. Accordingly, they issued an appeal to parents and friends of the School for help in this critical situation, and this appeal brought in £83.

This financial stringency is the fundamental cause of many of the troubles which beset the Governors during this period. According to the terms of the 1877 Scheme, the Governors were obliged to provide entrance scholarships to the total value of £60 each year. At the start, however, the Governors felt themselves unable to fulfil this requirement through lack of money. Accordingly, they did not carry out the requirements of the Scheme, and as a result met with severe criticism at the hands of the Charity Commissioners.

Between 1878 and 1882 the following entrance scholarships were awarded:— in 1878 to Loveday, Morris, Badcock, Woodcock and Cook; in 1879 to Briggs and Brutnell; in 1880 to Cooper and W. Stevenson of Kibworth National; in 1881 to H. Stevenson of Smeeton and in 1882 to J. S. Coleman of Kibworth, The Governors fixed the value of each scholarship at £4. Thus, in 1878 they awarded scholarships to the value of £20; in 1879, £28; in 1880, £32 and in 1881, £30. This by no means reached the total value of scholarship money (£60) to be allocated each year. Consequently, in 1883, the Charity Commissioners sent a sharp note to the Governors, pointing out this deficiency in their application of the Scheme and stated bluntly:— "It is incumbent on the Governors to apply in each year a sum of £60 in scholarships". In his reply of March, 1884. H. T. Grant stated that the Governors had offered the full value, but admitted that they had restricted the awards to children attending the elementary schools of Kibworth and Smeeton. The Charity Commissioners replied that, if suitable candidates were lacking from the schools mentioned, then the scholarships were to be competed for by boys between the ages of ten and thirteen from any school. The important point was that the Governors must carry out the conditions laid down in the Scheme, namely award scholarships to the aggregate value of £60 a year.

The Governors, who were at that period particularly anxious to curry favour with the Charity Commissioners, managed for several years to carry out their obligations according to the Scheme. Then the financial situation grew worse until, in 1896, the Governors found themselves head over heels in debt. It must have been a very solemn conclave of Governors which came together at the School on 7th June, 1897, to compose the following letter, which might well be termed the Groans of the Governors. "In consequence of the restriction of rents through agricultural depression, loss of income from the Smeeton Brickyard since 1891, outlay on farm buildings, the Governors find themselves faced with a deficiency of £104 18s. 10d. There is in addition a sum of £127 6s. 3d. owing to the Goodman Scholarship Fund. Until the finances of the School are in a better condition, the Governors wish for scholarships to be reduced to £30 per annum". This letter softened even the hard hearts of the Charity Commissioners, but not to the extent the Governors would have liked. The Charity Commissioners agreed to a reduction to £40 per annum, and at that figure it stayed until 1901, when it was increased to £60 once more. In the Scheme of 1909, when the Local Education Authority took over control of the School, the figure of £60 was retained for scholarships.

The Governors also met with the Commissioners' displeasure in the handling of the Goodman Scholarship Fund. The Rev. Jeremiah Goodman had died in 1836, and by his will he bequeathed a sum of £300 to a body of trustees who were to invest it and to allow the income to accumulate so long as the law would allow. Then the trustees were to apply the income plus interest towards founding two scholarships at the New College to be built at Church Langton by the trustees of the Hanbury charities. The two successful candidates were to be nominated by the Headmaster of the School, and the scholarships were to be tenable for five years. If the College at Langton were never established, then the scholarships were to be held at Merton College, Oxford. If no scholarships were held there, then the fund was to be used for the benefit of the poor people of Kibworth Beauchamp.

The trustees carried out the financial provisions of the will, and the £300 was invested and the income was left to accumulate until January, 1866, when, on the advice of Counsel, the accumulation ceased. The fund had by that time reached £713. But by 1880 the trustees had not yet founded the scholarships, and by that time they had acquired a further £300—interest on the £713. The annual interest from the whole fund was, in 1880, estimated at £27. That same year, the School Governors decided that it was time the educational provisions of the will were, as far as possible, put into operation. The true intent of the testator clearly could not be carried out; Hanbury's Langton University never went beyond the elementary school stage, and no Kibworth boy had gone up to Merton. The Governors therefore had to seek an amended Scheme before they could turn the fund to the advantage of the School. So, in 1880, they proposed that the accumulated fund of £713 and the outstanding interest of £300 should be invested together and the income applied in establishing scholarships for boys already at Kibworth Grammar School, and for boys leaving that School for places of higher education. The Charity Commissioners thought

that it was not Goodman's intention that the money should be used for boys already at the School. So they agreed with the Governors that the available money should be invested, but they decided to restrict its use to boys leaving Kibworth for a "place of higher education". It was what constituted a place of higher education that caused disagreement between the Governors and the Charity Commissioners. The Governors interpreted the phrase loosely, and were prepared to award Goodman Scholarships to boys leaving for other Grammar Schools. Thus, as soon as the first dividend of £15 was available for use in June, 1881, the Governors allowed Frank Woodcock a Goodman Scholarship to the value of £15 a year for three years at Andover Grammar School. The Official Trustees had invested the fund, now amounting to £1,025 10s. 10d., in 3% Consols. In 1882 the Governors awarded E. Badcock a Goodman Scholarship on the same conditions at Lancaster Grammar School. In fact, for the next three years, they awarded one Goodman Scholarship a year to boys who left for Stamford, Wyggeston and Oakham. Then no scholarship was awarded until 1888, when B. Syer was granted one on the usual terms, to be held at Felstead Grammar School.

When A. F. Leach inspected the School in 1889 on behalf of the Charity Commissioners, he criticised the Governors for giving Goodman Scholarships to boys who were going to other Grammar Schools, for some of them did not afford a higher education than that given at Kibworth. The Charity Commissioners followed up Leach's criticism by informing the Governors:- "The intention of the Scheme is not carried out by the Governors and, in future, scholarships should only be tenable in some place of education or technical training higher than Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School". It was only natural that the Governors should return a reply asking for information as to the way in which the Charity Commissioners graded schools. Accordingly, the latter sent back a long letter, indicating the three grades into which they divided the old endowed Grammar Schools. ,

"A school giving a complete classical or an advanced modern education with a minimum fee of £10 p.a. and a leaving age of nineteen is considered a first grade school.

"A school of second grade would be one in which the main object of teaching would not be so completely classical, in which the minimum fee is about £5 and the leaving age is seventeen.

"A school of third grade would be one in which little or no classics are taught, where the minimum fee is about £3 p.a. and the leaving age is fifteen".

The main subject, so far as the Charity Commissioners were concerned, was classics. This is interesting in view of the fact that in the next year (1891) Kibworth School was to receive its first public grant, but it was not to be for classics. In 1889, Parliament passed the Technical Instruction Act, whereby grants were to be made available to schools to advance the teaching of Science; and, as we shall see later, the Governors of the School quickly took advantage

of the Act. For the moment, however, classics still held sway and so the Charity Commissioners declared that, of the schools mentioned by the Governors, Felstead and Stamford were first-grade schools. It seems, then, that the Governors were right in awarding scholarships to boys going to those schools, as they were places of higher education than Kibworth, which was a second-grade school.

The Governors, despite the Commissioners' reply, awarded a Goodman Scholarship to A. Jordan at Oakham School in 1902; but when Ryland wished to enter Wellingborough Grammar School with a Goodman Scholarship, A. F. Leach replied:— "The Board of Education do not consider that Wellingborough Grammar School is a place of higher education than Kibworth Grammar School". Finally, the Board of Education, which supplanted the Charity Commissioners as the final arbiter of the destinies of the School, summed up the matter by stating that the phrase "a place of higher education" referred to a University and not to another Grammar School. The Governors accepted the Board's recommendation, and so Goodman Scholarships have been given of late years to Old Students proceeding to Universities or to Colleges of similar standing.

The Charity Commissioners also criticised the Governors for their financial mismanagement of the Goodman Scholarship Fund. As we have seen, the Governors admitted to the Charity Commissioners that by 1897 they owed the fund £127, "which represents the difference between the annual dividends received by the Governors and the amounts from time to time applied for the benefit of eligible scholars". It is rather strange that the Governors, who kept such a tight control over the other finances of the School, should have mismanaged the finances of the Goodman Fund to such an extent. Naturally, they received very little sympathy from the Charity Commissioners, who stated "The yearly accounts of the Goodman Scholarship Fund will be strictly examined in order that the Charity Commissioners may see what progress the Governors are making towards the payment of the instalments to the Official Trustees". Under these circumstances, the Governors were unable to award Goodman Scholarships for a number of years, but by 1902 they had repaid the debt to the fund, and in that year they awarded a Scholarship to A. Jordan.

Although the Governors mismanaged the Goodman Scholarship Fund, their conduct of the school finances in general was most business-like. In fact, they made a determined effort to balance the accounts. In 1880 they persuaded the Charity Commissioners to allow them to sell some school property; a cottage was sold at Smeeton for £200. They wrote to a number of London booksellers asking for offers for certain books in the school library, but the books were of no value. A scheme, however, which the Governors undertook in the hope that it would bring in a good amount each year was the Brickyard Scheme at Smeeton.

First notice of this scheme occurred in a letter written in 1881 by H. T. Grant to the Charity Commissioners. In it he revealed the sad plight of the School owing to the depression in agriculture. He pointed out how the Governors proposed to erect a Brickyard at Smeeton so that they could devote the royalties from it for the upkeep of the School. The Charity Commissioners were by no means sympathetic, and objected to the royalties being so used. In his reply H. T. Grant emphasized the importance of the project; its main object was

to maintain the finances of the School in the face of necessarily reduced rents and of a considerable outlay on the school estate essential in order to secure its occupation in the present condition of agriculture. Grant also pointed out the great difficulty which the Governors had in carrying out the new Scheme in 1877. The Charity Commissioners still refused permission; so Grant followed up with another letter pointing out how, during 1881, rents from school farms had decreased by £58; how one farm of 45 acres could not be relet; and how the expenditure of the School had been reduced so as to provide a favourable balance at the Bank. This letter was successful, and the Charity Commissioners replied that the royalties of the first two years should be used for the School. This would bring in £120, but the Governors had to repay £15 a year to the Trustees of Charitable Funds to make good the loss in revenue suffered by the Charity Commissioners.

The Brickyard Scheme worked well for a start, and the Governors enjoyed a useful source of income from it. But when the tenant's lease ended in 1891, the Governors were unable to find a successor, so they lost the royalties from the brickyard. In fact, no further income from this Scheme was obtained. Fortunately for the Governors, the time was near at hand when the State would step in to bolster up the school finances.

During the pre-Whitehall period, however, the School's resources were so slender that, if the Governors found themselves faced with extra expenditure, they found difficulty in balancing their accounts. In 1892, for example, the water at the School was considered unfit for drinking. A sample of the water was sent by the Headmaster to a large firm of chemists at Birmingham who reported: "The water is not fit to use for drinking purposes; the quantity of chlorides and nitrites is such as to indicate pollution with sewage". In consequence, a deep well had to be sunk near the school house, and this cost the Governors £70.

Financial troubles, however, were not the only difficulties that faced the Governors. Their relations with both the Rev. J. J. Barnard and the Rev. A. F. Crick were strained. In fact, when Mr. Barnard left to take over the Headship of Stamford School, he took away with him most of the school boarders. So incensed were the Governors that they threatened to bring an action against Barnard if he did not pay for damages caused to the Master's house during his tenure. The Governors, however, fared no better with Barnard's successor Mr. Crick. Indeed, during the three years that Crick was at Kibworth, a continuous feud seemed to prevail between him and the Governors. In the end, Crick wrote: "Some of the Governors are hostile to me and therefore it would be useless for me to continue in office". One cause of strife was that the Governors considered the school premises so untidy. To this Crick answered: "The walls of the Schoolroom were, when I came to Kibworth, defaced with countless names and other writings and marks. I have always been most particular to stop this. The only marks are impressions of the football which were made last term by some of the boys contrary to my express orders. This has not been repeated". The Governors, moreover, complained that a number of boys had left because of Crick's mismanagement of the School. To this Crick replied: "Berry of Carlton went to the Wyggeston because the laboratories there were

full of excellent apparatus and much better than Kibworth". A third grievance was that Crick had reduced fees for a number of boys without seeking the Governors' permission. Crick replied that, since the new buildings had just been completed, he thought it a good opportunity to reduce fees for a limited number of boys. As a result three new boarders had arrived. Crick then went on to point out the difficulties facing a small Grammar School such as Kibworth. "The enormous number of schools advertising nowadays makes the difficulty of obtaining boarders very great, and particularly so while the number in the School is small. The large schools attract the parents". Another drawback for Kibworth was that "parents object to sending their children to a school where boys of a lower class are received". In another letter to the Governors Crick gave a resume of his period as Headmaster. "I have had during the past three years a most difficult struggle and have made every effort to render the School attractive and successful. I have acted fairly and uprightly towards all the boys and have endeavoured to work the School faithfully in accordance with the Scheme, difficult though that may be. The great hindrance to the obtaining of boarders is undoubtedly the presence of the Free Scholars Soon after my arrival, I was warned that the use of bad language had been prevalent among some of the older boys. I was very careful to teach the evil of such conduct and have every reason to believe the habit is no longer prevalent".

It is clear from Crick's statements that one important part of the Governors' policy following the Scheme of 1877 was the development of the boarding side of the School. They felt, no doubt, that there was not sufficient material in Kibworth and its immediate neighbourhood for the School to develop a really satisfactory standard of secondary school education. Therefore, the catchment area had to be extended. Thus, the Governors decided to build proper accommodation for the boarders. By February, 1884, there were eleven boarders with twenty-two day scholars attending the School. The boarders were given accommodation in the Headmaster's house, but this was not a satisfactory arrangement. Accordingly, the Governors sought permission of the Charity Commissioners to build a dining room with offices below and two bedrooms above at the cost of £1,000. The Commissioners agreed to the new building, but pointed out that the Governors must secure a loan to pay for them. They succeeded in raising a loan of the required amount from Messrs. Freer, Reeve, Blunt and Rowley of Leicester, and agreed to pay back £73 10s. each year for twenty years. Thus, in 1888, the remainder of the old block was built.

When the Scheme of 1877 was drawn up for the future conduct of the School, no financial assistance was afforded the Governors either from local or central funds, but by the end of this period (1909) the School was in receipt of grants both from the Local Education Authority and from the Board of Education. Since 1859, the State had been awarding grants to schools through the Department of Science and Art at South Kensington. Then the Local Government Act of 1888 had set up County Councils as the administrative bodies of the various counties, and in 1889 the Technical Instruction Act had made the County Councils the local authorities for developing the technical side of education in the schools. The development of such training in Germany was more advanced

than in England and so it was felt that public money should be given to the old endowed Grammar Schools so as to foster technical education. Thus, the first grant of public money to the School came from the local authority in January 1892, when the Technical Education Committee of the Leicestershire County Council gave the School £100 for the purpose of technical education. Then every year from 1892 to 1904 the School received £100, which sum went to pay the Science Master and to provide money for altering a cottage for Sloyd (i.e. Woodwork) classes. In 1898, a further development took place, when the County Council suggested that Art should be introduced into the curriculum; so the £100 was now to be divided between the Science and Art Masters, their shares being £71 and £29 respectively.

The first grant to the School from the Government, as against the local authority, came from the Department of Science and Art at South Kensington. The School, at the instance of the County Council, had engaged an Art master; so in March, 1900, the Governors applied for a grant from the central authority and received a cheque for £7 8s. from the Department of Science and Art; in 1901 the Department paid the Governors £7 7s. 9d. (1182 attendances at 1d. each) and in 1902 £5 16s. 10d. (701 attendances at 2d. each). In 1902, the Board of Education superseded the Department of Science and Art as the central authority for secondary education and consequently it was the Board who paid the Governors nine guineas in 1903 for Art teaching. A grant from the Board brought with it the inevitable Inspector, and the first H.M.I. to brighten the portals of Kibworth G.S. appeared in 1904, when he reported "The teaching of art has been bright and interesting and the boys have made good progress". Perhaps the appearance of the Inspector affected the Governors, for they never applied for a local grant in 1905. The reason for this is, no doubt, that in that year the future status of Kibworth was being decided, and the Governors may have been uncertain whether to apply for it or not.

The stages by which Kibworth Grammar School changed from an independent school to one controlled by the State were, as we have said, gradual. We have already noticed how a new spirit animated the Charity Commissioners in the latter years of the nineteenth century so that, even before the State took control, the Governors were only semi-independent. Another stage was reached when the Governors were prepared to receive grants from the local authority, the Leicestershire County Council, and from the central authority, the Department of Science and Art, and, later, the Board of Education. We have now to trace the final stages in this process, whereby Kibworth Grammar School came fully under the control of the Board of Education.

In the realm of education the acceptance of grants has usually been followed by a measure of control. Thus, quickly on the heels of the first grant in 1892 came this blunt notice from A. J. Baker, Secretary to the Technical Education Committee of the Leicestershire County Council; "The Technical Education Committee propose to provide at an early date for the direct representation of the County Council upon the governing body of every endowed Grammar School". Before the Governors had really had time to consider the matter, another notice followed: "The Technical Education Committee of the Leices-

tershire County Council has recommended the County Council to appoint Sir Henry Halford of Wistow Hall, Col. James Baillie of Illston, Jonathan Glover of Kilby Lodge and S. A. Marris of Knighton to represent the Leicestershire County Council upon the governing body of your School". This second notice somewhat nettled the Governors, for other schools in the county were having only three County Council members imposed upon them. So they protested: "The School has been managed by Governors living in the neighbourhood who are more likely to know its requirements than Governors chosen by the County Council. They feel some slight is cast upon them by it being thought that they require more outside control than other schools in the county". Hence, the Kibworth Governors proposed that three members from the County Council and not four should be included on the governing body of the School; and the Leicestershire County Council agreed to this proposal. No sooner was this proposal adopted than the next County Council elections followed, in 1895. As a result, the first three representatives of the Council on the governing body of the School were the Rev. Mr. Deeming of Wigston Magna, J. G. Kendall of Thorpe Langton and S. A. Marris of Knighton.

Some measure of outside control, therefore, had been forced upon the Governors both in regard to the curriculum and in regard to the general running of the School. Grants were paid for the teaching of Science and Art and the County Council had three of its representatives on the School governing body. The logical conclusion of this process was that the whole range of subjects in the curriculum would eventually be financed by local and central authorities and that the Leicestershire County Council would in the end take over full control of the running of the School. This situation came much nearer when Balfour's Education Act of 1902 placed responsibility for providing for the whole range of secondary education in the countryside upon the County Councils. In Leicestershire, therefore, the Leicestershire County Council was empowered to assist all forms of higher education provided that the charge upon the rates did not exceed 2d. in the £. The Council were no longer to confine their attention to Science and Art, but were to take note of all subjects and to give help where it was deemed desirable.

The decision to bring the whole content of secondary education under the control of the County Council led naturally to the disappearance of the Technical Education Committee in favour of a more general Education Committee; and it was upon this Education Committee that fell the heavy task of working out the details involved in the Act. The question at first was fundamentally financial—of giving more substantial grants than previously to the needy schools. It was some while before the Education Committee had its plans ready, but on October 20th, 1905, it published its scheme of grants to Grammar Schools. The Grammar Schools in the county were divided into two groups. Group A consisted of those endowed Grammar Schools to which the Committee already gave financial assistance and on the governing bodies of which it was represented. In this Group were the two Ashby Grammar Schools, Barrow-on-Soar, Hinckley, Loughborough Boys', Market Bosworth Boys' and Quom Mixed. Group B consisted of Schools for whose upkeep the Education Committee were to have full

financial responsibility and in the government of which it was to have a controlling voice. Such Schools were Lutterworth, Market Harborough, and those to be established at Coalville and Melton Mowbray.

When this scheme of grants was drawn up the future of Kibworth G.S. had not been decided upon. Its future status, however, was settled in the next year, when, following a meeting between the Governors and the Director of Education, Kibworth was placed in Group B. According to the 1905 Scheme, the grant to the School would consist of £100 each year plus capitation allowances as follows: £2 for children of 9 to 12; £3 for children of 12 to 16, and £4 for children over 16. This meant a decided increase in the money available to the Governors from the Leicestershire County Council. Whereas they had only £100 a year previously, in 1906 they had £150, in 1907 £250, and in 1908 £196.

There was still another financial source which the Governors could tap to the advantage of the School; and that was a grant from the Board of Education. The Board had already, as we have seen, paid small sums to the School for the teaching of Art; but after 1902 the Board was prepared to award much larger grants to secondary schools. In order, however, to qualify for a grant from the Board, a school had to be recognised as efficient. The Kibworth Governors made their first application for a Government grant in 1906, but this was turned down. In refusing recognition, however, the Board stated, "As an amending scheme is in the course of preparation to provide for the admission of girls to the School, it is anticipated that, when the Scheme has been established, it will be possible to consider fresh application for recognition as a secondary school". Accordingly, the next year the Governors again applied for recognition, and after much deliberation the Board agreed to give temporary recognition to the School for four years. At the same time, the Board issued a grave warning to the Governors: "The School at present falls far short of the standard of efficiency anticipated by the regulations for Secondary Schools. The ordinary leaving age of the scholars has been low and the average length of the school life unduly short. In view of the wide difference in age existing among the scholars, the three groups in which the School is worked hardly secure adequate classification Close attention will be given to the development of the School and a very decided advance will be necessary if it is to be recognised at the end of this period".

For the time being, however, the School was to be placed upon the list of secondary schools recognised for grant; and in 1908 the Governors received a grant of £121 from the Board of Education. Thus, while at the start of this period (1877) the School received no public financial assistance, at the end (1909) it was receiving £196 from the Local Education Authority and £121 from the Board of Education. The financial worries of the Governors were at an end; so also was their control over the School.

Control over the School passed into the hands of the Leicestershire County Council by the Scheme of 1909. As we have already seen, the fact that, in 1906, Kibworth was placed in Group B for grants to Grammar Schools meant that full control of the School would eventually pass to the County Council. This happened in 1909, when the Board of Education had a new Scheme drawn up

for the School amending the original scheme of 1877. Two important provisions were contained in this new scheme. One was that, in future, the School Governors were to be appointed by the Leicestershire County Council; the second was that girls were now to be admitted into the School. Actually, girls had been allowed to attend since 1907, in which year the Board had published its first draft copy of the amended scheme, the final version of which was not settled until 1909.

The main interest of this period 1877–1909 centres around the ever-increasing growth of State influence in the School, with the result that the internal affairs of the School tend to be overshadowed; and it is to these that we now turn. For the major part of this period, the Headmaster was the Rev. Ambrose Pudsey Dawson. As with the Governors, the School finances caused him many a headache. In one letter he informed the Governors: “I have spent not less than £50 p.a. on the School in order to make it as efficient as I can... I have had also to advance all money for salaries”. The Second Master at this time was John Price Evans. In fact, when in 1906 Mr. Dawson resigned the Headship in order to accept the living of Harston near Grantham, Evans acted as Head for the two following terms. Then the Governors wished to put aside the clause in the Scheme requiring a graduate Headmaster, in favour of Evans who was a non-graduate; but the Board insisted on a graduate Head, and so Mr. C. L. Ryley was appointed in August, 1907. Other masters at this time were L. C. Brooke, the Science master, whose salary was paid by the Technical Education Committee, and T. C. Barfield, the Art master. Sgt. Jones took drill at 5s. per lesson, and the Singing master was A. Cooper. The whole of this staff—Evans, Brooke, Jones and Cooper—resigned on July 31st, 1907, preparatory to the Local Education Committee’s taking over control of the School.

Some indication of the work being done in the School during this period is given by the reports of the annual examiners. The Scheme of 1877 had laid down that such an annual examination should be held, and some of the reports of the examiners are still extant. The subjects in which the boys were examined were Holy Scripture, Latin, French, History, Geography, English Grammar, Arithmetic, Algebra, Reading and Recitation, Writing and Spelling, Book-keeping, Drawing, Science, Shorthand and Sloyd (i.e. Woodwork). It is clear from this list that Mr. Dawson and his staff worked hard to provide the boys of Kibworth with a liberal education. The examiner for 1905 wrote: “At Kibworth Grammar School there is such a wide range of subjects from which to choose that a boy may be prepared for any career in life; and a parent may feel, in sending his son to the School, that boy will be carefully and conscientiously trained for after-life”. All examiners, in fact, stressed the good tone of the School. In 1902, the Rev. Mr. Atkins wrote: “The School is in thoroughly good order. Discipline and tone are in every way satisfactory”. The same examiner wrote in 1903: “Discipline and order are excellent; a healthy tone throughout;”. The examiner in 1905, the Rev. Walter Coombe, of Caius College, Cambridge, reported: “The discipline and moral bearing of the School deserve high commendation. I feel confident that the School is doing good, and useful work”.

Such was the view of Mr. Coombe: but, unfortunately for the School, his

view was not endorsed by the Board of Education. To the expert eyes of the Board's Inspectors the School was not up to the standard of efficiency required, and it was to be several years before the Inspectors were satisfied with the standard of education given in the School. A hard task awaited the new Headmaster, C. L. Ryley, when he took over in 1907, for, according to the experts, the object of the 1877 Scheme—the increased efficiency of the School—had not yet been achieved.

We may note, in passing, that the Rev. Mr. Dawson was a keen cricketer. He started a School Cricket Club which every boy could join on paying a subscription of two shillings, and he persuaded the Governors to donate £5 to provide the necessary kit. He had the square roped off so that the cows in the School field did not make the wicket a bowler's paradise. In a letter to the Governors he wrote: "I find that Bolton's cows are an insufferable nuisance on the cricket field". This would indeed cause him great concern, for he was very keen on the school games; he is said never to have missed watching a match. He was a lively teacher, and dispensed lavish hospitality to his boarders. His youngest daughter tells us, in a letter full of happy reminiscences, "He retired because girls were to be admitted to the School, and his methods would never fit themselves to girls".

Mr. Dawson's family cherish affectionate memories of Kibworth, and call occasionally at School House. They are delighted to hear that Mrs. Grewcock, who used to keep the school tuck-shop in School Lane, is still a neighbour, and that the Bolton family is still so much to the fore in school affairs.

Chapter 9

The School during C. L. Ryley's Headship (1907–1927).

The new Headmaster came from Bedford Modern School, where he had been a housemaster. Educated at St. Olave's Grammar School, London, he had gone from there to Jesus College, Oxford, as a classical Scholar. After taking his degree in 1896, he had taught at Bedford Modern School, a public school of over 450 boys. He served there for eleven years, and was then appointed to Kibworth; and for the first time in its long history, Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School had a lay Headmaster.

There is no denying that, from the very start, Ryley found it difficult to bridge the gap between the small rural school at Kibworth and the famous public school from which he had come. He himself wrote to a friend in 1912, "It did not take me a week to realise the hideous mistake I made in coming from a school like Bedford to one of this type". Despite his disappointment, however, Ryley at first strove hard to improve the standard of attainment in the School; and, under him, the School began to increase in numbers. When he took up his appointment in 1907, there were 40 children in attendance; by 1914 it had increased to 60; in 1918, to 75; and in 1920, to 80. This was the greatest number of children in the School during Ryley's headship. After that, the numbers began to decline seriously, and when Ryley left in 1927 they had dropped to 37. Ryley was a man of forthright speech, and his letters well indicate this aspect of his character. Of one child he wrote, "Her work here was never satisfactory, not improbably from conceit due to spoiling at home". Of another, "We intend to see that she works, and, if she does not, the remedy will be quick and effectual". In his reports to the Governors Ryley always expressed himself most forcefully. He stated, for example, that the children at Kibworth were happy, but added, "The happiness of the children is not due to any disregard of the essential discipline and instruction". Occasionally, parents came in for criticism: "This

parent is rather fussy (he gives me more correspondence and interviews than all the rest put together) and has a high sense of his own importance". The Education Office, too, received some caustic remarks from him: "It would seem that the Office neither can manage the School itself nor will leave me to do it in my own way—in a word I am thoroughly sick of the methods adopted in connection with the School and I fail to see the necessity for a Head at all". Sometimes, a streak of humour is to be found in his letters. He wrote to the Director, asking the latter to publish an advertisement for a post, and added: "I suppose the agency will send me troops of wild Welsh girls fresh from their native hills". Of the Board of Education he wrote: "It is hard to take the Board seriously, except as a serious nuisance".

Reading through Ryley's correspondence, one feels that he showed little sympathy towards the children under his care. He was inclined to scold rather than to encourage. In 1912 he wrote, "The Senior pupils are not much to boast about and though they are distinctly dull, I believe they do their best". Later on he wrote, "Form 5 is very lethargic and sleepy with a general lack of go". Moreover, Ryley felt little sympathy towards Kibworth itself. He suggested to the Director, for example, that a teacher from outside should examine the Free Place candidates, for "Knowing the village as I do, I have little doubt that tongues will wag vigorously if anyone from the locality is chosen". On another occasion he asked the Director to distribute the prizes, adding, "I do want someone from outside the charmed circle of Kibworth, for, as it is, we are in danger of forgetting there is an outside world at all". His opinion about the neighbourhood's lack of interest in education was summed up in a sentence, which is to be found in a letter written late in his career: "The district does not seem to be one that values educational advantages".

Soon after Ryley's arrival at Kibworth, the Scheme of 1909 was drawn up, which completed the transfer of power from the old Governors to the Leicestershire County Council. In future, the Council was to appoint the Governors, to whom it delegated its control over the School. All property and funds, moreover, belonging to the School were to be handed over to the County Council. Continuity with the past, however, was to be provided by appointing two former Governors on to the new governing body—the Rev. Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Dickenson.

The Scheme had been in operation barely a year, when the Board sent down two of its Inspectors to make a general inspection of the School. Their report, was, as one might expect, very critical. The two main charges levelled at the School were the low leaving age and the scholastic backwardness of the children. They felt, therefore, that the ordinary Grammar School curriculum was unsuitable, and that there was little prospect of the School "establishing itself as a necessary part of the provision of secondary education in the district". In their opinion, the children in the School who could profit by a proper secondary education were few. Despite this strong criticism, however, the Board decided to grant the School recognition for a further four years.

The Board of Education clearly thought that there was no future in store for Kibworth Grammar School, for in the very next year it proposed to the

Leicestershire County Council that the School should be closed and that the children should be transferred to Market Harborough Grammar School. The first intimation of the proposed closure of the School was given on October 20th, 1911, when the Leicestershire Education Committee recommended that the School should be closed as soon as possible. This naturally brought forth an immediate response from the Governors who, on November 8th, met the then Director of Education, Mr. Brockington, to consider the matter. After a lengthy discussion, the Governors passed a resolution asking the Leicestershire County Council not to proceed with their intention of closing the School; Following this resolution the Director wrote to the Board suggesting that Kibworth Grammar School might be given a little longer lease of life. He pointed out that numbers had slightly increased since 1909—from 38 to 43; that the Board had recently granted a further recognition for four years; that the present Headmaster was doing good work with unpromising material; and that an amalgamation of Kibworth and Market Harborough Grammar Schools was, at that moment, impolitic. In conclusion the Director wrote, "I am anxious that the School should have the advantage of the years of grace accorded by the Board of Education". Influenced by the Director's appeal, the Secretary to the Board replied. "I do not wish to extinguish Kibworth Grammar School, but no doubt it will have to be incorporated in a larger scheme for Market Harborough". Therefore, when the Education Committee met again, the resolution to close Kibworth was rescinded; and no further effort to close the School was made until 1949.

In 1910, then, the Board gave the School a further period of recognition, and Ryley made a determined effort to justify the Board's decision. Thus, in July, 1912, he was able to report to the Governors, "The School as a whole is in a more hopeful and satisfactory state than at any time in the last five years". Numbers now began to increase, partly through lowering the fees from six guineas to four pounds per annum. Thus, in 1913, the Director was able to report to the Board that numbers had increased and that better conditions were prevailing. In that year an attempt was made to extend the school life of each child by insisting that the parents of all children admitted into the School should sign an undertaking, worded as follows: "I undertake that the pupil shall remain in regular attendance at a secondary school as a pupil for at least three years after reaching the age of twelve unless, in the meantime, the Governors consent in writing to his leaving at an earlier age. If he leaves without consent, a fine of five pounds will be levied". The School had, indeed made such progress that in 1914, the Governors asked the Board to increase their grant from £126 to £250 p.a. Accordingly, two Inspectors visited the School, and this time they were so satisfied with the School that the Board agreed to the increased grant. In 1914, also, four children passed the Oxford Local Examination, and the Head was able to report: "There is a distinct improvement in the spirit of the School. The general conduct of the School continues to be excellent".

The staff in 1914 consisted of the Head, two other permanent teachers, Mr. Weaver-Jones and Miss Scruton, and two visiting teachers, Mr. Copelin and Mr. Barfield. Ryley himself took the English and History throughout the School, Weaver-Jones the Science and Geography, and Miss Scruton the French. All

three teachers shared the Maths., Mr. Copelin took Woodwork, and Mr. Barfield Art. There was no Domestic Science for the girls till 1920. Latin had almost disappeared from the curriculum; it was taken only by four boys, and then after school hours. Shorthand was also taken after School. Weaver-Jones took the boys for Physical Training and Miss Scruton the girls. The whole School was taken once a week for Singing.

The first World War did not interfere with the increase in numbers, nor with the steady progress of the School. In 1916 Ryley commented: "I fear that the war will do us a good deal of damage in the way of numbers, and I only wonder that they have kept up as they have". The war, however, made things more difficult at times. There was, for example, great difficulty in getting chemical apparatus; the Midland Railway refused to accept goods for transit owing to the congested state of the railways caused by troop movements; it was impossible to get books replaced. Towards the end of the war Ryley thought that it was having a marked effect on the work and conduct of the children. In his opinion the school year 1918–1919 had a very bad character.

In February, 1920, there were eighty children in the School, but seven years later only 37 children were on the school register. Responsibility for the decline in numbers must be placed chiefly on Ryley himself. After 1920, he became more and more aloof from the people of the neighbourhood, with the result that the School became almost boycotted by the community. Ryley lost confidence in the children, and the neighbourhood lost confidence in him. In 1926, the Director wrote: "Unless there is some change very soon Kibworth Grammar School will die out". In October of that year, a sub-committee of the Education Committee, including Sir Robert Martin, met the Governors at a special meeting to discuss the whole situation. The general opinion was unanimous: The School would not improve until a new Head was appointed. Accordingly, Ryley was interviewed and informed of the decision of the special meeting that, if he did not resign, his engagement would be terminated. So, a few days later, Ryley formally resigned.

There were, indeed, other factors which helped to account for the decline in the numbers attending Kibworth in the years following the war. Unemployment was widespread in Kibworth and Fleckney owing to the unsettled state of the hosiery industry. Many parents could not afford to pay fees, nor to keep their children at school after they had reached the age of fourteen. The Leicestershire Education Committee made matters worse for the School when they twice increased fees within the space of two years; in 1920 from £4 4s. Od. to £6 13s. 4d., and in 1922 to £10. Moreover, the Governors insisted on fining those parents who broke their undertakings. One reason for increased fees was the rise in salaries of the teaching profession as a result of the first Bumham Award.

In the period of 1920–27, several important decisions affecting the School's future were made. In the first place, Goodman Exhibitions, hitherto awarded, to boys only, were in 1922 made available for girls as well. A previous attempt had been made during the war to alter the existing arrangements so that girls could benefit from these leaving scholarships, but the Board refused to amend the scheme in war-time. In 1921, however, there were more girls attending the School than boys, so the Governors again approached the Board, which

agreed to the Governors' request. The first two girls to be awarded Goodman Scholarships were E. Nourish and E. Hullah.

The decision to introduce a school crest was taken during the later part of Ryley's Headship. With the approval of the Governors, the Director approached Earl Beauchamp for permission to use his arms as the school badge, and the request was granted. The Head then asked Mr. Burrows, the Art Master, to design a shield bearing upon it the Beauchamp arms—two lions passant.

It was on December 17th, 1926, that Ryley resigned, but he carried on for two more terms, until Midsummer 1927. When the Governors advertised for a new Head, 191 candidates sought the vacancy. Finally, a short list of ten was drawn up, and these gentlemen were interviewed by the Governors. After much discussion, on the proposition of Mr. Robert Rowley, seconded by Mr. Mattock, it was unanimously decided to offer the post to Mr. Elliot, of Ashby Grammar School, who forthwith accepted it.

Chapter 10

The Expansion of the School under Mr. Elliot (1927–1955).

John Edmundson Elliot, who was to dominate the story of Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School in the second quarter of the twentieth century, came to Kibworth from Ashby Grammar School, where he had been Second Master for ten years. During that time he had seen the numbers at Ashby rise from 100 to 300, and within a few years he had the satisfaction of seeing similar progress at Kibworth. When Mr. Elliot came in September, 1927, there were 35 children on the roll; by July, 1928, numbers had increased to 62, by July, 1931, to 119, and by July, 1935, to 145.

This increase in numbers was only one sign among many of the School's rapid development under Mr. Elliot. Thus, within a short time of his coming to Kibworth, the Governors were able to report to the Directors, "The prospects of the School have improved considerably at once". Mr. Elliot sought to develop the potentialities of the children both in the classroom and on the playing fields. One of his first reforms was to make Latin a regular subject of the curriculum. Another important item to which he quickly paid attention was the development of the School Library. It was practically non-existent when he came, and he set out at once to get a reasonably good one. In fact, throughout his Headship, he recognised the fundamental importance of good books, readily accessible, and towards the end of his career he had the satisfaction of seeing the School in possession of a first class, properly-equipped Library.

Games and Physical Education were always considered by Mr. Elliot a particularly valuable part of School life. Thus, the Village Hall was hired for P.E. on wet days; the old tennis-courts were repaired; inter-school games were arranged in Hockey, Football and Cricket; and in 1928 the first Sports Day for many years was held. That same summer arrangements were made for the children to have swimming lessons.

Another important innovation introduced by Mr. Elliot was the publication of a School Magazine. The first number of The Beauchamp Magazine came out at the end of Mr. Elliot's first term at Kibworth in December, 1927. Until 1931, it was published once a term, but since then it has appeared once a year. Mr. Elliot also introduced the prefect system, the first prefects being F. J. Goodwin, C. Bale, G. Harris, R. Johnson, P. Briggs, C. Freeland and W. Holton.

No House system was in existence when Mr. Elliot arrived. In his first term the House system was applied only to games, but after that it was used in the classroom as well. Six houses were established at first, but in 1931 the Picts and Scots were divided among the Athenians, Romans, Spartans and Trojans.

Mr. Elliot had not been long at Kibworth before he decided to reintroduce boarders into the School. At one time, especially under the Rev. Mr. Dawson, Kibworth had possessed a fair quota of boarders. Numbers had dropped since then, but Mr. Elliot was anxious to revive this side of the School. In this project, as in everything relating to the School, he was greatly helped by Mrs. Elliot, who supervised the domestic side of the boarding establishment. Within a few years, the number of boarders had increased to twelve. Later on, as day pupils from further afield attended the School, Mrs. Elliot extended her catering arrangements to include the provision of a hot mid-day meal for them as well.

These innovations, however, which Mr. Elliot introduced in his first years at Kibworth, were only incidental to the main task which confronted him, the raising of the general standard of education in the School. From the start he steadily concentrated on this object and thus, from the early days of his Headship, Kibworth sent forward a steady stream of scholars to Training Colleges and Universities. For example, in September, 1929, F. J. Goodwin, P. Briggs, and C. Freeland entered St. Mark's Training College; in September, 1930, G. Harris went to Nottingham University College and J. S. Mattock to St. Paul's College, Cheltenham.

The growth of the School, during Mr. Elliot's period as Head, was phenomenal. He started in 1927 with 35 pupils; by 1940 the number had reached 262, and when he retired in 1955 there were over 500 children in the School. Several factors were responsible for this remarkable development of the School within a quarter of a century. First was the restoration of confidence in the ability of the School to give a good standard of education. This was Mr. Elliot's great achievement: he won the confidence of parents in the neighbourhood, so that they began to send their children to Kibworth once more instead of looking further afield. Indeed, Mr. Elliot came to the School at a crucial moment in its history, for, by 1933, he had improved the School to such effect that, when the Leicestershire County Council sought to put into effect the re-organisation of secondary education in the county, the Director had sufficient confidence in Kibworth to choose it as the Grammar School for the Wigston-Oadby area and neighbourhood. This re-organisation followed the Hadow Report, the main proviso of which was that a child's education should be divided into primary and secondary stages. Until 1926, it was the custom for most children to have the whole of their schooling at the school to which they went at the age of five. But the Hadow Report put an end to the all-age school. In future, there was

to be a break at the age of eleven; at that age a child was to be transferred from his primary school to that secondary school which best suited his talents. Naturally, it took several years for the re-organisation to get under way, but by 1931 the County Council was building new Modern Schools and was preparing to award more scholarships to the Grammar Schools. The Council decided to use the existing Grammar Schools, rather than to build new ones, in the provision of more school places. Thus, children from Wigston and Oadby now began to be transported to Kibworth, so that between 1935 and 1940 the numbers at Kibworth were nearly doubled.

The third factor in the growth of Kibworth was the Education Act of 1944. This Act completed the work of the Hadow Report and abolished fee-paying at the School. Henceforth, children in the neighbourhood—and that included a vast area stretching from Billesdon to Wigston—who passed the Qualifying Examination, were awarded a place at Kibworth. So, between 1944 and 1954, the number on the School roll rose from 300 to over 500. Another effect of the Act was to bring Kibworth back again to what its founders intended—a Free Grammar School.

The tremendous growth of the School brought with it problems of accommodation. In 1936, new buildings were completed at a cost of £5,445. The following is a description of them:—“The building consists of a hall, which can be used for assembly and P.T. It is provided with a stage for dramatic and other purposes. The stage will serve also the purpose of a dining-room. A large, kitchen and larder is attached. Changing rooms and shower baths are also attached. An Art Room, Lecture Room and additional cloakrooms, together with Headmaster’s room and staff commonroom, are also included.” Then comes a most revealing detail: “A large room in the old hall has been converted into a Science Laboratory”. This is a reminder of the great development on the Science side which took place at Kibworth during Mr. Elliot’s Headship.

These new buildings, however, were totally inadequate to deal with the numbers that flocked into the School after 1945. Classroom accommodation was sought in the village outside the precincts of the School. The Village Hall, the dining centre (now the Beauchamp Buildings) and the Methodist School-rooms were messed into service. Finally, during the Summer term of 1949, few pre-fabricated buildings were erected; these included a biology laboratory, geography, music and art rooms—and new cloakrooms. [It is slightly ironical that these buildings were actually finished on the very day that the Leicestershire County Council decided on the School’s ultimate closure.

The School’s rapid development threw a great burden upon the shoulders of the Headmaster, but his load was considerably lightened by the constant support and encouragement he received from the Governors and by the untiring efforts of his senior staff. In his early days at Kibworth, he had as Chairman of Governors the Rev. Canon Fletcher, who had already occupied that position for the past twenty years. Canon Fletcher continued as Chairman until his death in 1933. He was succeeded by Mr. Robert Rowley, but the latter was Chairman for only two years. During the middle period of Mr. Elliot’s headship, he had another Rector of Kibworth as his Chairman, the Rev. Canon Eacott, who continued

in this office from 1936 to 1943. The next Chairman was Dr. J. S. Macbeth, who occupied the post during the vital period when the effects of the 1944 Act were being felt in the School. He continued to serve until 1949, when he was succeeded by the present Chairman, Mr. A. G. Briggs.

In his first few years at Kibworth, Mr. Elliot received invaluable support from Mr. J. R. W. Shell, who was Senior Master from his coming to Kibworth in 1928 until his sudden death on June 8th, 1944. Since then, the Senior Master has been Mr. J. W. Martin, who came to the School in 1930 and who has, therefore, spent over a quarter of a century in the service of the School. The Senior Mistress from 1935 to 1944 was Miss C. A. Williams, and, on her departure, the post was taken up by Miss N. Waddington, who is still Senior Mistress.

The 1944 Act had several effects upon the School. One, as we have seen, was to abolish fee-paying, for clause 61 of the Act laid down that "no fees were to be charged in respect of admission to any School maintained by a local education authority". Another effect was to close the Preparatory Department, for the only means of entry to Kibworth after 1944 was by the award of a place there, based mainly on the result of the "eleven plus examination.

Another important effect of the Act was to alter the constitution of the Governing body. Under the terms of the 1909 Constitution, there were to be nine Representative Governors, five of whom were to be appointed by the Leicestershire County Council, while the Parish Councils of Kibworth Beauchamp, Kibworth Harcourt and Smeeton Westerby and the Council of Birmingham University were each to appoint one Governor. The 1944 Act stated that "For every county school there shall be an instrument providing for the constitution of the body of Governors of the school". (Clause 17 (1)). In 1946 the Instrument of Government for Kibworth was approved by the Minister of Education, and the core of the governing body in future was to be the four Foundation Governors. They need not necessarily be County Councillors, but were to live in the vicinity of Kibworth, for whose children the School was originally founded.' The Instrument actually named the first four Foundation Governors, together with their terms of office. Dr. Macbeth, of Kibworth Beauchamp, was to serve for five years; Mr. A. G. Briggs, of Kibworth Harcourt, for four years; Mrs. Hilda Deacon, of Smeeton Westerby, for three years; and Mr. Stops, of Kibworth Harcourt, for two years. In addition to the Foundation Governors, there were to be eight Representative Governors, appointed by the Leicestershire County Council. Of these eight, however, since many children were now drawn from a much wider area than Kibworth itself, the Rural District Councils of Market Harborough and Billesdon, and the Urban District Councils of Oadby and Wigston were each to nominate one Representative Governor.

The School's rapid growth did not prevent Mr. Elliot from maintaining a strict watch over its educational development. The early years of his rule saw a number of children leaving the School for places of higher education, and this feature continued throughout the whole of his Headship. An Appendix contains a list of some pupils who left Kibworth for Training Colleges and Universities while Mr. Elliot was Head, but, at this juncture, two honours should be specially noted. They were the awards of State Scholarships made in 1947 to D. A.

Greenwood and C. B. Cotterill. This fine performance did, indeed, set the seal on Mr. Elliot's work at Kibworth. The Governors could feel that, at long last, the education in the School had reached a really high standard.

The success gained by the School in 1947 continued till the end of Mr. Elliot's Headship. In 1948, D. A. Greenwood won an Open Scholarship to Cambridge; in 1949, P. A. Sharpe gained a State Scholarship; in 1951, E. J. Preston won an Open Scholarship to Peterhouse and in the same year gained a State Scholarship; and in 1952 Ann Evans made history by being the first girl of Kibworth Grammar School to win a State Scholarship. Thus, in five years, the School gained five State Scholarships.

Mr. Elliot did not insist solely on work; he firmly believed in the value of games in school life. As we have seen, he introduced inter-school games in Football, Cricket, Hockey and Tennis; he had new Tennis Courts made; he made provision for Swimming, and a Sports Day became a regular feature during his Headship. He was sufficiently broad minded to allow the girls to play Cricket and to introduce Rugby into the School, but these two innovations did not find favour and were soon dropped.

Another important innovation in Mr. Elliot's time was the production of school plays. He believed in a balanced education, and was prepared to encourage acting and music. It became the custom to produce a School play or opera in alternate years, and the following are some of the recent productions: 1937, *She Stoops to Conquer*; 1938, *Twelfth Night*; 1947, *The Mikado*; 1950, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; 1952, *Merrie England*; 1954, *Quiet Week-end*. Moreover, since 1949, an Eisteddfod has been held in alternate years; in this competitions on a house basis take place in Music, Recitation, Art, Needlework and Folk-Dancing.

One good indication of the health of a school is the number of after-school societies to be found flourishing there. Many such societies have met at one time or another at Kibworth, but the main after-school society has always been the School Society. This first started in 1930, and is still flourishing today. It was in the beginning mainly a debating society, and the first debate was on the motion: "It is better to travel by rail than road". Of late years the School Society has widened its scope so as to include talks on a variety of subjects, visits to places of general interest, and film-shows. In addition, there have appeared at various times an Art Group, a Choral Speaking Group, a Chess Club, a Gramophone Club and a Cycling Club.

In all aspects of school life, then, Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School made rapid development while Mr. Elliot was Head. He paid keen attention to the standard of education in the School, he developed the Science side, he encouraged the more cultural activities, such as drama and music, and he was ready to promote out-of-school activities. It can truthfully be said that Mr. Elliot lived for Kibworth Grammar School, and, unfortunately, his last years at the School were clouded by the knowledge that there was talk once more of its possible closure.

Chapter 11

The Future.

As we have already seen, attempts had been made before 1949 to close the School. As long ago as the middle of the seventeenth century, Abbott and his fellow tenants had done a little mud-slinging in an effort to stop the School's activities. Then, soon after the Leicestershire County Council had begun to support the School, the Board of Education had suggested its closure.' These two attempts had failed, but now a third major assault has been made on the School, and it looks this time as if it may indeed be closed.

The Education Act of 1944 (clause II) ordered every L.E.A. to prepare a Development Plan, showing how it proposed to cope with the organisation of primary and secondary schools in its area in the years following the Act. The Leicestershire Education Committee at once set out to draw up its Plan, and in its first draft proposed that Kibworth Grammar School should be closed and its pupils 'divided between Market Harborough and the new Wigston School, or, as the Committee preferred to put it, "Kibworth School should be moved from its traditional site northwards to its new centre of gravity".

When, however, the Leicestershire County Council came to consider the Education Committee's draft plan, it did not like the idea of closing an old-established school like Kibworth; so it instructed the Education Committee to amend the original plan so as to preserve Kibworth as a two-form entry school. The County Council assumed that an intake of sixty pupils a year could be secured if children from Oadby continued to attend in addition to those from districts nearer Kibworth. Thus, when the Leicestershire County Council sent up its Development Plan to the Ministry on 28th November, 1946, it provided for the continuance of Kibworth Grammar School as a two-form entry school.

In order to appreciate the Minister's comments on the Plan, a word or two on the Development Plan as a whole is necessary. Its main architect was the Director himself. Sir William Brockington, and he was greatly concerned about the provision of technical education in Leicestershire. On his advice, the County Council decided to provide for technical education in its grammar schools rather than to build separate technical schools. Sir William argued that the grammar schools were already to a certain extent bi-lateral, for they provided education

for pupils proceeding to executive posts in industry and commerce as well as for those going on to Universities. Only slight alterations would be needed in the existing grammar schools to provide sufficient accommodation for technical pupils. Moreover, the grammar schools held an established place in public esteem which Secondary Technical Schools could not hope to attain for a very long time. In short, the Leicestershire Development Plan envisaged not merely grammar schools, but grammar-technical schools.

For over two years the Ministry considered the Plan, and then in February, 1949, the Minister published his comments. He thought that the grammar schools of South Leicestershire which had a two-form entry, namely Kibworth, Market Harborough and Lutterworth, were too small to provide a suitable variety of courses of both grammar and technical types for boys and girls. "He appreciates the difficulties nevertheless he would suggest that the three smallest of them, Kibworth, Lutterworth and Market Harborough are so small as to raise doubts whether really they ought to be continued indefinitely".

Immediately, the Education Committee appointed a special sub-committee to consider the Minister's comments. In a few days, it put forward its proposals to the effect that Lutterworth and Market Harborough should be retained. Lutterworth was the only centre accessible to a wide rural district, and Market Harborough was a fairly large market town. As for the Kibworth School, the sub-committee came to the conclusion that it should be closed. To justify its decision, the sub-committee put forward the following arguments.

1. The building of the new grammar-technical school at Wigston would relieve the L.E.A. of the administrative inconvenience and extra expense of conveying so many children daily to Kibworth.
2. 60% of the Kibworth Grammar School population came from Wigston. Therefore, insufficient children would be left for Kibworth to continue as a two-form entry school.
3. Oadby Urban District Council preferred Oadby children to go to the new School at Wigston rather than to continue to attend Kibworth. The sub-committee felt that there was a chance for Kibworth to survive, if Oadby's population increased in such numbers that the children from there could make good the losses suffered by the removal of the Wigston children. But would Oadby parents prefer Kibworth or the new Wigston School for their children? To find out the answer to this question, the sub-committee put the matter to the Oadby Urban District Council on March 25th, 1949, and the latter unanimously favoured the new school.
4. A suggestion had been made that Kibworth might continue as a bi-lateral school, taking in 'secondary modern' as well as 'grammar' children; but the sub-committee argued that there were not sufficient children in the neighbourhood of Kibworth to fill Church Langton Secondary Modern School and the proposed "modern" department at Kibworth; and the committee was. not prepared to close Church Langton.

5. Finally, the sub-committee stated: “Children who would attend Wigston School would be able to participate freely after school hours in school clubs, societies, games and other out of-school activities because they would be within walking distance or would have at their disposal an urban transport system”.

The sub-committee, therefore, proposed that the original plan to close Kibworth should be reverted to, and added: “Your committee reached its conclusion with the utmost reluctance. It could contemplate the discontinuance of a school of Kibworth’s long tradition only with the most profound regret..... The inexorable fact is that if the Wigston Grammar-Technical School is built it is impossible to find sufficient children suited for the grammar school type of secondary education to keep Kibworth Grammar School in existence”. The full Education Committee naturally endorsed its sub-committee’s recommendations, and finally, on July 26th, 1949, the proposal was put to the Leicestershire County Council that Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School should be closed. The motion was proposed by Sir Robert Martin, the Chairman of the Education Committee, and this time the County Council felt it had no option but to accept the Education Committee’s proposal. Thus, Kibworth’s doom was apparently sealed and, sooner or later, the School may cease to exist.

Despite the County Council’s decision, Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School still flourishes seven years later, and as yet shows no signs of an early decease. Although children from Oadby and Wigston now attend the new Guthlaxton School at Wigston Magna numbers at Kibworth have not fallen. New building estates at Thurnby and Scraftoft have provided their quotas of pupils, while a rearrangement of the catchment area now enables children from Enderby, Braunstone and Narborough to attend Kibworth instead of Lutterworth. We can hope that the Leicestershire County Council will do everything in its power to continue the School. There is indeed a growing hope that the School has a long future ahead; and on that note of optimism we end the history of Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School, wishing it success and prosperity “ad multos annos”.

Appendix I

The Headmasters of Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School.

The names of the 15th century Schoolmasters are not known.

Dom Robert Mason	1520?– 1540?
Rev. William Berridge	1558 – ?
Rev. John Orpin	1601 – 1615
Rev. Richard Kestyn	1605 – 1634
Rev. James Weston	1634 – 1639
Rev. James Wright	1639 – 1644
Rev. Jeremie Nelson	1644 – 1658
Rev. George Robertson	1658 – 1659
Rev. Jasper Chapman	1659 – 1663
Rev. Walter Abbott	1663 – 1666
Rev. Nathaniel Weston	1666 – 1670
Rev. John Dand	1670 – 1706
Rev. William John Dand	1706 – 1724
Rev. William Cox	1724 – 1758
Rev. Joseph Wilson	1758 – 1803
Rev. Jeremiah Goodman	1803 – 1836
Rev. J. B. Hildebrand	1836 – 1870
Rev. John Green	1870 – 1877
Rev. J. Barnard	1877 – 1884
Rev. A. F. Crick	1884 – 1887
Rev. Ambrose Dawson	1887 – 1906
Cyril L. Ryley	1907 – 1927
John E. Elliot	1927 – 1955
Leslie T. Daw	1955 –

Appendix II

Assistant Staff.

There seems to have been no usher at Kibworth until the middle of the seventeenth century. The first was the Rev. Jasper Chapman, who acted as Schoolmaster for a short period, and then from 1663 to 1696 served as an assistant to several Masters. The next usher we hear of is William Buzzard, who served the School from 1800 to 1848. From that date onwards the names of Assistant Masters and Mistresses are as follows:-

R.C.Jackson	...	...	1860-1877
A. Davis	...	...	1882-1884
A. Tomlinson	...	...	1882-1884
J. Price-Evans	...	...	1822-1906
L. C. Cunliffe	...	...	1901-1908
T. C. Barfield	...	...	1901-1917
J. J. Pugh	...	...	1903-1906
A. Burrows	...	...	1907-1917
H. Webb	...	...	1908-1911
Miss L. B. Twigg	...	...	1908-1912
H. H. Baker	...	...	1911-1913
W. W. Jones	...	...	1911-1930
Miss M. L. Kerry	...	...	1912-1917
H.E.Copelin,	...	...	1913-1946
Miss V. B. Jessop	...	...	1914-1916
Miss H. A. Scruton	...	...	1917-1926
(Senior Mistress)			
Miss L. Jones	...	...	1918-1922
W. R. Burrows	...	....	1917-1922
L. P. Jenkins	...	...	1922-1924
Miss G. Bailey	...	...	1924-
(Senior Mistress)	...	...	1927-1935
Miss N.M. Gale	...	...	1925-1930
Miss Springthorpe	...	...	1928-1930

J. R. W. Shell (Senior Master)	...	...	1929–1944
Miss E. K. Baron	...	...	1929–1930
C. T. Evans	...	...	1931–1935
Miss E. M. Hulland	...	...	1932–1935
Miss P. E. Latham	...	...	1930–1937
J. W. Martin (Senior Master since 1944)	...	...	1930 to present
T. L. L. Roberts	...	...	1931–1946
Miss C. P. Harding	...	...	1933
Miss C. Bennett	...	...	1933
Miss M. E. M. Bolton	...	...	1933
Miss Q. V. Norrie	...	...	1934–1935
Miss N. Weston	...	...	1934–1936
H. S. Davies	...	...	1936–1955
Miss J. A. Callender	...	...	1936–1938
Miss B. Cornish	...	...	1936–1940
Miss C. A. Williams (Senior Mistress)	...	...	1936–1944
Miss M. Coates	...	...	1937–1944
Miss F. S. Rudkin	...	...	1938–1945
Miss W. B. Ball	...	...	1939–1941
Miss M. T. Torrance	...	...	1939
E. L. Blackburn	...	...	1939–1940
Miss E. Liddle	...	...	1940–1941
Miss F. M. E. Lewis	...	...	1940
Mrs. E. Williams	...	...	1941–1943
Miss D. E. Bailey	...	...	1941–1942
Miss J. Rasling	...	...	1941–1943
Miss M. Stenton-Jones	...	...	1941–1943
Miss M. H. Toull	...	...	1941–1945
Miss M. E. Cunningham	...	...	1941–1943
Miss M. Ferguson	...	...	1941–1943
Miss J. M. Wallace	...	...	1942–1945
Miss M. L. Hearn	...	...	1942–1945
Mrs. S. K. Major	...	...	1942–1946
F. L. Turner	...	...	1943 to present
Miss J. R. Gaden	...	...	1943–1946
Miss D. M. Gray	...	...	1943–1950
Miss G. L. Brown	...	...	1943–1946
H. S. Percival	...	...	1943–1949
R. Dunn	...	...	1944–1946
Miss N. Waddington (Senior Mistress )	...	...	1944 to present
Miss J. Barton	...	...	1944–1948
Miss E. Griffith	...	...	1944 to present

Miss M. A. Tyier	...	...	1944-1949
Mrs. J. A. Shell	...	...	1945-1947
B. Elliott	...	...	1945-1949
Miss A. E. Wood	...	...	1945-1952
J. M. Hyde	...	...	1945-1946
H. St. G. Cramp	...	...	1946 to present
F. T. Turner	...	...	1946 to present
Miss E. B. Taylor	...	...	1946-1949
Miss M. F. Spill	...	...	1946-1948
C. A. Winyard	...	...	1946-1950
A. S. Bolton	...	...	1946 to present
Miss M. Griffiths	...	...	1946-1949
Miss M. J. Haney	...	...	1946-1947
E. J. Roberts	...	...	1947 to present
Miss R. Morgan	...	...	1947-1951
Miss B. H. Miell	...	...	1948 to present
Miss E. H. M. Spill	...	...	1948-1952
F. Smith	...	...	1949
G. L. Arguile	...	...	1949-1954
S. H. Boul	...	...	1949-1952
A. C. Fountain	...	...	1949-1957
Miss N. Cowsill	...	...	1949-1950
Mrs. B. J. Eastwood	...	...	1950 to present
W. B. Vesty	...	...	1950-1952
J. H. Howard	...	...	1950-1953
Miss J. M. Reast	...	...	1950-1953
Miss E. B. Haworth	...	...	1950-1953
Miss I. F. Snowden	...	...	1951-1955
Mrs. S. E. Stokes	...	...	1951-1955
J. T. Dwyer	...	...	1952 to present
P. E. Peters	...	...	1952 to present
Miss A. Tweed	...	...	1952-1953
Miss F. M. Walsh	...	...	1952-1955
P. R. Marshall	...	...	1953-1956
J. T. Berry	...	...	1953 to present
Miss J. Deacon	...	...	1953 to present
Miss K. H. Calwood	...	...	1953-1957
M. P. Kaye	...	...	1954 to present
Miss E. Harrison	...	...	1955 to present
Miss I. M. Mason	...	...	1955-1957
Mrs. B. Reeder	...	...	1955
E. Ridley Lewis	...	...	1955 to present
M. G. Lubbock	...	...	1955 to present
Mrs. V. Clarke	...	...	1956 to present
Mrs. A. A. Legge	...	...	1956
E. Swift	...	...	1956 to present

Mrs. A. Berkeley	...	...	1956 to present
D. Clow	...	...	1956 to present
S. J. Surrey	...	...	1957
Mrs. M. Tugwell	...	...	1957
Miss F. J. Watthews	...	...	1957
Miss P. V. Wallace	...	...	1957
Mr. I. Stockley	...	...	1957

Appendix III

Names of Pupils at the School, 1886 onwards.

The Constitution of 1647 (Clause 20) declared that “the Schoolmaster and usher are to keep a book and enter and record the name and names of all and every Scholar and Scholars when they be brought to them to be admitted. And set down the names of the Parents and friends and from whence they are”.

The earliest admission registers are, unfortunately, missing, and the first one still extant in the school records is comparatively modern, dating from 1886. From then onwards the full roll is as follows:—

1886: R. G. Watson, E. J. Bolton, T. A. Watson, F. Simons, A. Woodcock, J. I. Davis.

1887: A. Atkinson, G. J. Cooper.

1888: W. E. Newman, J. Carnegie*, G. E. Watson, W. Goodman, F. M. Brutnell, H. Lynn, H. Cramp, J. Bonser.

* Mr. Carnegie, who has spent most of his life in South Africa, visited the School in 1956—his first return since he left, as Head Boy, in 1892.

1889: E. G. Nuttall, R. E. Dilworth, W. Coleman, C. B. Ward, C. E. Constable, A. E. Pears.

1890: W. Grant, A. Grant, W. H. Timms, R. H. Hayr, E. E. Batchelor, G. H. Chase, H. Burgess, C. W. R. Smith, G. F. Hill, N. Spriggs, C. A. Spriggs, C. Ryland, T. Burton, M. R. Lewin, C. H. Berry, H. G. Heap, T. B. Elliott, P. Elliott, J. Watts, C. R. Carnegie, J. W. Collington.

1891: J. W. Marriott, W. G. Sanders, C. P. Costin, E. G. Knox, J. W. S. Watts, W. Brutnell, E. O. Church, F. Tibbits, J. Burgess, R. Burgess, B. Evans, V. C. Watson, C. G. Watson, T. A. Gamble, R. G. Holt.

1892: J. R. Smart, P. A. Hughes, E. W. Nourish, S. E. Ward, R. Timms, A. W. Hull, T. G. Cooper, A. Carnegie, R. G. Chase, G. Staynes, C. B. Mould, R. Risher, S. Hayr, T. B. Mould, F. R. Tolton.

1893: L. C. B. Hughes, R. Bingley, T. A. S. Ward, S. L. Ward, A. Littledale, P. J. Biggs, J. B. G. Browne, W. M. Hill, H. A. Cookson.

1894; W. Marriott, F. Sanders, G. Duxbury, G. F. Lee, F. W. Lee, R. B. Heygate, H. J. Hey gate, T. W. Dilworth, W. Harrison, A. M. Dawson, G. E. Kendall, W. W. Pacey, A. Hayr, A. Hayr, F. Howard, D. Peberdy, A. E. Grant, J. A. Hind.

1895: G. H. Biggs, W. M. Austin, A. Atkinson, W. S. Blount, W. Armston, J. H. Macaulay, W. Wigginton, W. Ryland, C. W. Warren, F. Whitworth, T. C. Poole.

1896: J. H. Thornton, F. J. Kendall, J. A. Jones, A. E. Palmer, F. Norman, E. C. Laundon, A. H. Kendall, H. M. King, I. V. Laundon, H. F. Austin, S. J. W. Wigg, G. Wigg.

1897: G. A. G. Williamson, W. R. Davis, H. P. Dawson, H. Cameron, E. J. Pacey, A. H. Sanders, E. C. Cruttwell, H. H. Horton, W. A. Cramp, E. Higgs, A. S. Holt, G. Lynn.

1898: V. H. Jessop, W. C. Callis, H. W. Bannister, C. W. Barrett, A. J. Hurst, W. E. Peberdy, A. Gange, T. A. Greenhough, J. Grant, A. W. Burton, A. Freer, H. Barrett, H. P. Williams.

1899: F. T. Taylor, C. E. Blunson, T. Jesson, H. G. Dean, R. E. Dean, D. Garner, E. Deacon, G. H. W. Cruttwell, J. Fisher, H. H. Ryland, J. W. Warren, B. R. Hayr, W. S. Simpson.

1900: T. H. Elliott, F. V. G. Simokin, R. H. Roe, F. J. Mason, R. S. Hunt, J. H. Hackney, J. Hincks, P. D. Grocock, L. H. Hare, W. G. Smith, F. C. Allsopp, F. Hanson, B. H. Gamble, G. Kendall, E. S. Hulland, H. Pappin, F. P. Deacon, T. E. Hill, C. W. Coleman, A. Warner.

1901: W. M. Taylor, R. Hartley, G. Simpson, A. J. Hill, C. B. Brooks, A. G. Lewin, C. R. Weston, B. E. Weston, F. H. Lane, L. W. Taylor, E. Smith, B. Chesterton.

1902: C. A. Pletcher, T. Webster, M. E. Wigg, T. Johnson. D. Iliffe, R. W. Bolton, T. A. Hunt, H. A. Oddie, P. H. Whiting.

1903: D. S. Mawby, F. A. Cramp, H. W. Williamson.

1904: L. C. Cooper, L. H. Capell, G. S. Taylor, R. W. Hurst, G. W. Sturgess, C. E. Warner, T. C. D. Jarvis, J. G. Elliott, D. R. Elliott, J. T. Read, E. W. Brown, J. A. Ward, E. W. Allsopp, W. M. Fletcher, O. V. Judkins.

1905: S. Kendall, W. H. Jesson, C. A. H. Cunynghame, F. H. Cooke, J. A. B. Wilson, R. S. Jarvis, F. Rudkin, E. B. Fletcher, D. H. Cunynghame. J. W. Pendleton, W. T. Tumbull, R. W. Walpole, J. E. Cramp, C. Garner, C. S. Deacon, T. J. G. Coleman, A. Adams, R. G. Lewis.

1906: H. Simons, W. J. Frost, S. N. Frost, C. W. Mattock, A. W. C. Charles, C. L. Gibbs, B. C. G. Pell, W. S. G. Kingdon, H. S. F. Day, E. O. Powdrill, P. C. .Bale, F. E. Crocker, G. Johnson, G. E. York, J. S. Hulland, R. C. Hall, J. W. Hall, T. G. Hall.

1907: C. R. Daniel, O. D. Horton, B. E. Adkinson, W. S. Alien, C. J. Kendall, T. Elliott, A. R. Grewcock, Elsie Cox*. Edith Cox, Dorothy M. Hulland, Marion S. Hulland, Mildred Hare, Lilian G. Hare, R. Weston, C. L. Johnson.

* The first girl to enter Kibworth Grammar School.

1908; J. W. Lakin, G. W. L. Ward, Katharine Thorpe, H. A. York. Kathleen Hubbard, A. Pattison, N. Pattison, Florence Hawley.

1909: L. Fenton, Mary Williams, J. H. Williams, Susan Williams, Mary Waterfield, Doris Lewis, W. E. Coleman, Gladys Bowns, P. Searson, Martha Holman, R. G. Fletcher, Daisy Timms, J. O. Hulland, Elsie Crowther, J. W. Sturgess, E. R. Leech, Iris Johnson, Florence York, Florence Harrison, Lizzie Mills,

1910: J. W. Harris, R. L. Crisp, W. T. R. Bent, Elsie Brandrick, W. G. Cramp, B. S. Garner, W. W. Garner, Edith Smith, Gertrude Cooper, J. Lord, R. Norwood, C. H. Lewis, C. Harris, J. Cox.

1911: Clara Morris, E. W. Smith, R. W. Powdrill, Annie Walpole, A. R. Hubbard, Dorothy Harrison, E. G. Beasley, R. C. Hill, Muriel Cramp, G. L. Stretton.

1912: Dorothy Wadkin, J. W. E. Hawley, R. W. Iliffe, Edith Charles, Gertrude Iliffe, S. H. Smith, L. E. Coleman, H. R. E. Cramp, Doris Hare, T. C. Jesson, L. A. Peberdy, E. G. T. Adkinson, G. W. Barlow, J. W. M. Fletcher, J. N. Hare, Amy Williams.

1913: Winifred Allsopp, D. N. Hancock, B. R. Mason, F. T. Wild, Florence Henson, Doris Brutnell, Lilian Haycock, Ida Walpole, Margaret Smith, Gladys Jacobs, J. Crother, E. O. Norton, B. Peberdy, F. Marlowe, Alice Clarke, J. T. Deans, H. Mattock, Mabel Timms, A. H. Burdett.

1914: A. E. Smith, Ellen Holton, Winifred Holton, Marjorie Holton, Lily Deacon, Winifred Bell, G. H. Timms, Eva Timms, Phyllis Johnson, J. H. Roberts, Jessie Brandrick, F. C. Smith, Cicely Arlidge, Annie Balls, E. M. Sidney, Annie Moore, D. W. Eason, Rosa Gamble, A. E. Nourish, Annie Lord, J. H. Waterfield, Gwendoline Lewis, L. E. G. Hancock.

1915: W. E. Fletcher, L. F. Smith, Doris Hart, V. E. Price, G. E. L. Hensman, T. K. Brutnell, Eudora Harris, J. E. Grain, J. Lockwood, Agnes Carter, Dorothy Wright, T. Wright, J. H. Roberts, W. C. Gillson, M. E. J. Gillson.

1916: Eva Harrison, J. E. Burton, F. C. Campling, E. Haycock, J. G. Perkins, G. H. Bromley, J. W. Gee, Mary Timms, E. F. W. Peberdy, J. W. Gamer, J. T. Holton, Lilian Allsopp, Grace Carter, W. Hart, C. E. Hayward, Barbara Roberts, J. F. Fletcher, T. H. H. Williams, E. R. Hulland, Eleanor Hulland, G. W. G. Timms.

1917: Constance Bailey; J. J. Timms, J. B. Holt, E. L. Geale, Sylvia Gutsell, E. R. Gutsell, May Ames, Audrey Ames, E. C. Thomas, R. W. Russell, S. F. Hurlbut, D. E. Stafford, Monica Bolton, C. E. Cooke, R. D. Snutch, R. G. Tomley, Joyce Tomley, Eunice Hancock, H. W. Goodge, J. H. Batchelor, Elizabeth Mawby, H. Marriott, Ethel Walker, A. S. Wolfe, A. E. Mason, T. F. Edmison, E. R. Edmison.

1918: W. S. Walpole, G. F. C. Mackmurdo, Alice Markham, Mabel Targett, W. J. Davis, D. A. Nicholson, Muriel Barrait, Catherine Barbour, Jessie Holman, A. R. Barlow, Lilla Gardner, J. Wilkie, Isabel Nourish, Alice Castleman, F. C. Croft. Doris Haycock, J. A. Hewlett, A. C. Callaghan, Dora Folwell, E. Hurst, Alma Mattock, C. J. Mackintosh, Mabel Coleman, W. Holmes, A. L. Thomas, L. J. Hewlett, Violet Hart, H. G. Tailby.

1919: Vera Bailey, Nellie French, R. Mogan, Dorothy Tunley, Marjorie John, Ruby Gutsell, R. W. Hallam, G. T. Garlick, R. Sturgess, Nellie Chapman, Grace

Pickering, Agnes Mitson, E. Grain, R. L. W. Garner, Doris Perkins, Marguerite Mattock, Ruth Newby, Margery Smith, Grace Cooke, Beryl Sturgess, Gwyneth Evans, F. S. Knight.

1920: A. L. Hancock, Norah Tarry, A. P. Mattock, Edith Richards, Janet Barbour, Beatrice Bromley, Marion Bolton, Muriel Fisher, K. E. Essam, R. H. Geall.

1921: H. R. Hancock, E. C. Gilbert, D. L. Hood, H. J. Roberts, Violet Clulow, Dorothy Tyier, J. R. S. Timms, G. H. Iliffe, R. A. Palmer, J. A. Essam, J. W. Lane, Madeline Welton, W. Brutnall, J. F. Cooke, Audrey Aylott, Hilda Bird, Gladys Callaghan, Clara Skidmore, Hilda Wright, W. H. Lee, Gwendolyn Norman, Grace Smith, Madge Rammell, Mollie Rammell, W. Newcombe.

1922: Annie Preston, Catherine Harding, T. G. G. Harding, Katherine Arundel, Edith Peberdy, R. W. Johnson, J. H. Garner, B. J. Egglestone, Irene McNeice, J. W.-Clarke, Catherine Hart, J. J. Barbour, E. J. D. Crisp, Vera Cramp, Muriel Peberdy.

1923: E. W. Coleman, C. E. Timms, Lilian North, F. J. Goodwin, Cissie Bale, Winifred Holton, H. G. Chapman, T. G. C. Freeland, G. A. Harris, G. L. Hulland, F. R. P. Hart, F. W. Williams, S. W. Forryan, Evelyn Palmer, T. C. G. Palmer.

1924: N. W. Bolton, H. A. Ferguson, J. Harris, F. E. Staniforth, T. F. Drury, A. G. E. Warner, J. S. A. Mattock, W. R. Peberdy, Beatrice Powdrill, E. A. Carter, Elizabeth Sedgley, Monica Bentley.

1925: Janet Garlick, Norah Hart, E. M. Buxton, L. E. Deacon, Ethel Hewlett, H. Martin, Duleie Lainchbury, Maisie Sturgess, G. R. Bale, Kathleen Amor, Stella Sedgley, P. A. Briggs.

1926: C. T. Iliffe, Dora Anderson, A. M. Nibloe, A. J. Goodwin, L. Spence, Nora Heath, W. C. Garner.

1927: G. A. R. Skinner, G. T. Blackburn, E. D. Alien, Phyllis Bale, L. W. Betteridge, A. S. Bolton, Edith Boniface, Joyce Coleman, A. Druce, W. G. Dunkley, R. W. Henson, Joan Hindley, C. W. Knapp, Hilda Martin, Clarice Mattock, Phyllis Moore, P. L. Moore, Dorothy Newcombe, R. J. Smith, Mary Sturgess, F. G. West, W. L. Wyles, R. W. Cartwright, G. W. Garret.

1928: Margaret Pateman, A. Hind, E. R. G. Deacon, T. C. G. Palmer, T. A. Grindley, Phyllis Law, C. K. Vickers, C. W. Gilbert, A. B. Rammell, B. Adams, G. E. Arnold, E. T. Arundel, Elizabeth Brown, C. L. G. Clarke, Mary Coulsen, Marjorie Davis, F. W. Dunkley, C. J. Ferguson, P. R. Harris, W. F. Himan, Irene Holyoak, J. D. Nourish, Sylvia Peberdy, Dorothy Peberdy, O. Radford, J. A. Tumman, D. B. Wesley, Rose Woodford.

1929: Sylvia Iliffe, E. H. Salmon, C. E. Timson, J. L. Vickers, C. J. Allsopp, Ailsa Anderson, Flora Barbour, R. E. Freer, Megan Gamble, W. E. Radford, Margaret Robinson, A. D. Timson, Isaline Vickers, Kathleen Vickers, E. T. Bamford, N. J. Brookes, J. W. Brown, R. Dalton, Kathleen Gascoigne, Muriel Gilbert, Audrey Hayr, Josephine Hayr, Joan Harper, A. D. Hewson, C. P. Hewson, Margaret Hewson, J. N. H. Hindley, R. B. Holyoak, Eileen Iliffe, Doreen Iliffe, H. Linley, Phyllis Markham, J. H. Phipps, T. A. Pirnie, J. T. Short, H. W. Ward, Joyce Willett, B. F. Wyles.

1930: Daphne Hayr, Diana Hayr, G. C. Anderton, R. Buck, P. H. Drake, Thelma Simpson, Selina Bennett, Kathleen Billing, E. A. Clarke, Iris Dunkley, R. J. Durran, D. M. Elliott, Doris Freer, Beryl Hall, Joyce Harrison, Elizabeth Harris, D. Hart, Olive Hubbard, Lille Jelley, P. E. G. Larkins, H. N. Mattock, F. Mawby, Ruth Mellors, E. Patrick, Betty Sturgess, A. Warren, Maud Woolmer.

1931: K. W. D. Linley, C. K. Bromley, A. L. Goodge, J. C. Knight, P. L. Martin, Grace Bennett, L. B. Coldman, D. R. Deacon, D. F. Reynolds, Josephine Elliott, Stella Fowls, J. S. Garner, Olive Greasley, Margaret Hands, Dorothy Holman, Alice Holyoak, Beryl Lewis, A. R. Moore, B. A. Raby, J. K. Read, Amy Rudge, L. W. Rudkin, Eiteen Sidwell, G. H. Tompkins, Muriel Toone, Margaret Ward.

1932: Jean MacGregor, A. D. Silvester, Dorothy Dyer, J. S. Fisher, W. H. Illson, Pamela Parker, N. F. Pettit, T. R. Badcock, J. W. Ashley, Joan Atkin, F. W. Bodycote, F. C. Brown, Joan Debbage, W. Drake, Duleie Fish, Isobel Grain, R. H. Green, Margaret Harding, H. A. Harris, J. F. Hawkins, A. M. Hewson, Barbara Hill, J. F. Hinksman, W. D. Lewis, Eileen Lockwood, Megan Mason, May Newitt, Joan Shelton, R. P. Styles, Marjorie Walpole, Vera Alien, S. G. Goodrich, C. A. Goodrich, Mary Goodrich, J. H. Newton.

1933: K. M. Law, J. B. Rowlands, A. Baillie, R. H. Bishop, Winifred Bromley, Olive Dixon, N. T. Dyer, L. S. Gamble, G. Gilford, T. F. Harrison, C. T. Holyoak, Joyce Holyoak, Ivy Hubbard, D. L. A. Law, A. May, A. Moore, J. S. Morris, R. Oswin, J. W. Peberdy, Olive Phipps, C. A. Punchard, Beatrice Read, Joan Skinnrs, Jean Walker, Kathleen Ward, Elizabeth Freer.

1934: J. G. Burton, J. Toone, Joan Burton, G. H. N. Chamberlain, A. V. Bromley, E. Broughton, Margaret Buckler, R. Cadwallader, Eunice Callaghan, Nancy Clarke, Betty Clarke, G. A. Cole, H. J. Couling, F. E. Johnson, Barbara Law, Phyllis Litchfield, Barbara MacGregor, Hephzibah Moore, D. Oram, K. Powell, Dorothy Reeve, Beryl Richards, L. Roberts, K. D. Rudkin, Gillian Short, Cynthia Stacey, D. N. Wheeler, Mary Williams, J. C. Hobbs.

1935: P. K. A. Birkett, Margaret Edwards, N. G. Linley, G. R. Robinson, Sheila Brown, E. R. Bumtiam, Marjorie Chapman, D. P. Clarke, Marjorie Davenport, C. R. Deacon, Muriel Garner, K. L. Gillott, N. W. J. Gillott, Jean Harris, Ruth Hearne, C. E. D. Henson, T. V. Holyoak, J. Kilpatrick, A. G. Lewis, Nellie Lyon, E. Martin, Anne McKay, Gertrude Rudkin, S. J. Saddington, Barbara Sanderson, B. H. Sedgley, A. Skeffington, Vera Thompson, Mary Tompkins, R. C. Tunnicliffe, K. H. Wagstaff, H. F. Witney, Monica Wood.

1936: A. H. Briggs, M. T. Eady, Elizabeth Kilpatrick, Barbara Andrews, A. E. Dyer, J. C. Heath, J. J. Muddimer, C. G. Nourish, E. Bearcroft, Constance Behagg, A. Couling, Joyce Crabtree, D. L. Crisp, R. H. Fisher, G. F. Hallam, D. A. Harrison, R. W. Hobbs, G. E. Holman, Dorothy Mills, Phyllis Miller, R. C. Read, G. H. Reeve, P. Sanderson, B. J. Sheldon, Peggy Simons, Alma Sturgess, J. Timson, A. R. Timson, Cynthia Ward, Nora Watts, Gladys Wiggington, Betty Williams, Dorothy Minors, Audrey Minors.

1937: A. P. Potts, Rosemary Read, J. H. Gilbert, Mary Marriott, Joy Marriott, Heather Martin, Frances Badcock, R. Cadwallader, R. G. Alien, L. W. Alien, J. H. Anderson, W. M. J. Belton, J. Brown, Miriam Collins, M. G. Crit-

tall, D. R. Deans, W. R. Edwards, H. J. Miles, Jose Folwell, Barbara Gilbert, Maureen Gray, P. D. Hargraves, H. B. Harper, J. E. D. Harris, June Holmes, F. O. Kemp, R. Mason, I. W. Monk, R. Moore, Cynthia Morris, Joyce Partridge, Doreen Phipps, A. E. Ridgeway, J. H. Sedgley, F. D. Simons, D. A. Smith, R. D. Smith, G. A. Snutch, L. Unsworth, Daisy Willey.

1938: J. F. Baillie, Bessie Fox, Dorothy Fox, R. W. May, A. Suffield, Phyllis Fielding, Dorothy Fielding, Edna Harrison, J. S.. Reed, Barbara Abbiss, R. C. Bishop, Winifred Boulter, J. A. Brooks, P. W. Brunger, Mary Bunting, M. K. Cane, G. F. Coombes, C. W. Cross, Dorothy Deacon, F. Dunlop, Margaret Grainger, Kathleen Harris, D. W. Haskard, Joyce Jeffries, Annie Jones, W. T. W. Kirkby, Hazel Lumley, A. L. Lee, R. E. C. Leonard, Nancy Maskell, A. C. Mason, O. C. H. Monk, F. M. O'Connell, H. L. Pentelow, D. A. Porter, C. M. Reedy, A. D. Robertson, Betty Saddington, Mary Shillcock, Olive Smerdon, Elsie Starmer, Vivienne Symes, Marion Tindall, E. E. Turner, F. E. O. Walker, Audrey Walpole, Ethel Ward, D. J. Wharmby, Amy Williams, Fanny Wilson, Ruth Squires, R. E. Street.

1939: R. A. Bidyfield, R. D. Evans, J. E. Mack, Joan Thirlby, R. C. Cope- man, G. F. Hemming, F. P. Lole, D. W. Muddimer, P. C. P. Webbe, Hazel Wyer, R. F. Glover, Margaret Blin-Stoyle, Moon Briggs, Doreen Burrows, J. K. Cooper, M. Crittall, C. E. Doidge, M. J. Dowries, J. W. Farndon, Irene Frith, Sylvia Garfield, E. B. Greaves, H. Green, J. E. Hammond, Sheila Hanraban, Daphne Harris, Joan Harrold, M. J. Hassell, K. D. Heeps, R. S. Hewes, Anne Haugill, R. D. Jeffries, Kathleen Jordon, Pamela Kemp, M. H. Kind, Gwentyth Laster, E. G. Leech, G. Levesley, Christine MacGibbon, Marguerite MacGib- bon, Iris Measures, Diana Mighall, Sylvia Moore, June Nichols, Barbara Nutt, Edwina Pick, Rosemary Pick, Joan Pook, C. A. Print, Phyllis Spence, R. D. Tomlin, W. A. Toone, Betty Varney, Enid Walden, Ruth Walker, P. R. Wells, N. J. M. Wilkens, J. D. Wright, Constance Abbiss, Rosalind Bennett, F. Burgess, Hilda Burns, Edith Byrne, Rose Craggs, D. Dainty, G. Datson, Patricia Dyson, Nita Eversden, Ivy Fleming, Kathleen Hall, Barbara Hayr, G. H. H. Hellicar, R. A. Huzzard, Pauline Meakin, P. G. Meakin, W. H. Messenger, Lilian Morris, A. Oates, N. Oates, Patricia Seton-Browne, M. Taylor, K. G. Thwaites, Rose Sullivan.

1940: W. J. Alien, Pauline Brooks, Elizabeth Evans, Marion Peach, Joan Potts, Janet Stops, N. Cook, M. J. Huzzard, K. H. Jack, N. W. Perrett, C. A. E. Sherrif, C. C. Smith, C. Suffield, I. G. Williams, J. F. A. Davell, A. N. Jordan, K. Powell, B. J. Reynolds, R. B. Attenburrow, N. K. Bale, Patricia Barratt, Mary Boulter, M. B. Baum, Jacqueline Berridge, A. F. Bircumshaw, J. F. Bradshaw, Doreen Brown, Una Brunger, B. J. B. Burton, Audrey Burton, Christine Castell, Eileen Cheney, C. G. dark, T. Coles, Sheila Corton, C. B. Cotterill, Patricia Crittall, G. B. Davies, Elizabeth Deacon, J. A. Dymock, C. G. J. Evans, M. G. Freestone, P. K. Gardner, G. G. Gilbert, D. A. Hallam, Irene Hardy, Eileen Hardy, B. Herrick, Mary Hill, Marjorie Honeywell, R. G. Hunt, Joyce Jelley, Betty Jesson, F. W. Johnson, Leila Johnson, Joan Lamb, June Laws, D. Leslie, Vivienne Lewis, Edwina McHugh, J. B. Marriott, R. W. Miles, Dorothy Parker, Pamela Peake, Nancy Phillips, E. R. Print, Alison Reynolds, K.

D. Richmond, Hazel Samson, Elaine Sharman, Valeric Simons, Honor Simons, J. A. Simons, J. M. Sladden, H. P. Sladden, Theodora Slater, P. D. Stanford, M. G. Stops, F. Thirlby, H. E. van Offen, G. R. Watkin, K. N. Weston, W. F. G. Williams, Doreen Williamson, Constance Wright, G. Appelboam, A. W. Edwards, D. E. Trehearn, Mary Beater, Freda Brown, Cynthia Carter, Fiona MacGibbon, Hilda Thompson.

1941: Mollie Batty, Valerie Baum, Sheila Dean, D. C. Draper, Rosemary Geary, J. D. L. John, Hilda Rex, Elizabeth Slater, Margaret Toone, B. L. Trehearn, T. B. Treheam, Dawn Hibbert, Irene Smith, Eileen Bircumshaw, J. D. dark, R. M. Coleman, Jean Goulder, J. E. Grace, D. R. Judson, M. J. Thompson, R. R. Wiseman, K. J. Haldane, G. A. T. Barton, L. J. Lamley, P. A. Adcock, J. M. Armstrong, B. M. Arnold, M. Avens, J. T. Baker, M. J. Ball, G. E. Bardo, Joan Barradell, Pauline Bennett, Aileen Billing, K. Bilson, K. Blackwell, Margaret Bromell, Jean Brooks, J. Bumham, Dorothy Chapman, D. J. H. Cramp, M. J. Deacon, J. H. Deacon, June Dealey, Jean Draper, Betty Dunlop, Barbara Dunn, Vivienne Ellson, Sheila Farmer, D. Forster, Dorothy Freeman, Ellen Frisby, Constance Gunn. Pamela Hales, P. G. Halford, E. C. Hallam, R. W. Hamer, C. M. Hardwick, J. F. G. Harris, P. M. Hartopp, Christine Huddleston, Beryl Iliffe, Gladys Inchley, Edith Johnson, D. L. King, Jean Kirkland, Eileen Knight, J. V. Lamarque, Beryl Lamley, C. Lee; Sheila Morris, R. M. Muddimer, D. W. Newsham, M. H. Nippres, G. F. Noble, R. S. Oldfield, Sheila Richmond, P. Sharpe, Aileen Simons, W. R. Smith, D. M. Smith, Jacqueline Smith, Wendy Smith, C. H. N. Smith, Frances Solomon, D. Symes, B. J. Tomblin, Dorothy Tomlin, K. E. Townsend, Dorothy Ward, Marie Ware, Marjorie Watts, Iris Williamson, P. J. Rooke, E. R. Lee, Catherine Evans, Patricia Ferguson, Veronica Broadbent.

1942: Marian Bond, D. K. Clarke, G. T. Greenwood, D. A. Greenwood, Muriel Jackman, G. D. May, J. Parker, J. S. Pick, G. B. Thornton, R. P. Williams, J. Snook, J. B. Andrews, Dinah Grant, B. J. E. Hurst, I. Orringe, D. H. Peacock, Joan Thorne, Dorothy Wilson, J. Bradford, Josephine Evans, Kathleen Hepburn, M. F. Gibson, P. M. Cockcroft, Marion Alien, M. J. Bale, B. Bilson, Mary Bradshaw, J. N. Bryan, Eileen Bunting, Muriel Burl, Cynthia Butteriss, M. Cash, Yvonne Chaperon, T. H. Coles, P. A. Connah, Valeen Cooper, Joyce Cooper, Pamela Crisp, Jean Cross, F. B. Deans, Florence Didham, C. G. Doughty, W. R. Dunkley, P. R. Elliott, Yvonne Fogg, Christine Ford, Eileen Ford, J. T. Giles, Mavis Gould, D. R. Gowdridge, Constance Grant, M. B. Halliday, P. M. Hanney, T. E. Harrold, Betty Hassall, B. S. Hewes, Nancy Hill, M. J. Hitchinson, J. F. Hodgett, J. L. Holden, Joyce Hurd, A. R. Keeble, Diana Kennedy, G. A. Kind, Linda Leech, Iris Lee, Valerie Mason, Joy Meehan, Margaret Miller, G. G. Moore, Patricia Moore, K. J. Norman, J. A. Oliviant, Joan Payne, Angela Purt, Patricia Robotham, L. Rose, J. O. Russell, D. G. Sharpe, Gertrude St. John Sharpe, R. E. Simons, T. R. Smerdon, Rose Smith, Kathleen Smith, E. R. Smith, Margaret Stavey, D. R. Stevenson, P. M. Sykes, Lilian Tanner, M. Rose Thornton, M. Ethel Thornton, Christine Thorpe, Barbara Tomley, Dorothy Tomlin, D. W. Townley, C. I. Tweed, B. Tividale, Jill Upton, Gillian Waddington, R. B. Wass, D. Watkins, J. T. White, F. D. Williams, T.

C. Pearce, Jill Steadman, Beryl Ventriss, Pamela Clarke.

1943: F. P. Knight, A. P. Fletcher, A. A. Burton, H. D. Dowell, Mary Abbott, Sheila Allsop, Christabel Andrews, J. A. Austen, Pauline Baker, K. N. Ball, Doreen Barry, B. D. Boulter, Mavis Boulter, Mollie Briggs, G. Bromley, C. K. Burton, Margaret Carter, Mary Carter, K. Chamberlain, R. E. Cox, Elizabeth Deacon, R. W. Deacon, Doreen Eales, B. Edwards, Iris Farmer, D. H. Garratt, A. R. Goodwin, D. C. Grocock, F. Haines, Mary Harris, T. H. Harris, P. J. Harrison, P. B. Heeps, P. G. Holmes, Barbara Hopkins, R. Iliffe, Dorothy Johnson, Mona Johnson, Pamela Johnson, Molly Kernp, M. G. Langley, W. G. Lloyd, Jean Looms, Diana Mann, Pamela Maunder, A. G. Mawby, Miriam Moody, J. A. Moorshead, P. J. Morris, A. T. E. Neale, J. E. Newcombe, H. A. Parker, T. W. Parker, C. A. Peach, Ann Richmond, W. W. Robson, R. N. Rooke, D. A. W. Sansome, Ellen Shephard, Margaret Smith, J. D. Smith, K. E. Softly, Beryl Stacey, Maisie Sturgess, B. L. Tebbutt, R. A. Thacker, Gillian Thomas, Margaret Underwood, D. Upton, Patricia Walton, Rachel Ward, Ann Weller, D. H. Wells, A. T. Latham, Vera Gould, Margaret Percival, F. Percival.

1944: A. P. Hint, B. W. Marriott, D. J. Tilley, A. G. L. Jack, A. D. Gandy, Dorothy Gilbert, M. Day, R. Alien, J. R. Allt, P. A. Armson, E. D. Bale, M. E. Bartlett, P. G. Bassford, M. E. Bonsor, M. N. Bown, A. A. Bradley, M. F. Branston, I. S. Burton, Doreen Carter, Alison Clarke, Patricia Collins, R. Collins, Margaret Cooper, Jennie Coxon, P. Crabtree, Susan Darlow, D. Davies, F. R. Dawson, Susan Deacon, Winifred Didham, B. R. Doughty, W. A. Easton, Beatrice Edgley, Joan Elliott, Pat Ellson, Iris Finn, Avril Fisher, J. Fleetwood, Brenda Fletcher, M. B. Fogg, E. Fox, J. W. Gibbins, J. B. Gill, June Goodman, Freda Green, D. C. L. Griffith, Pamela Griffiths, P. W. Gurney, R. D. Handel, J. P. Hanney, M. J. Hardy, Rosemary Harris, Aileen Hill, R. M. House, J. R. Hubbard, M. B. Humphries, Sheila Hunt, C. G. Hustwayte, G. Insley, B. M. Johnson, J. P. Johnson, Betty Johnson, J. H. Knight, R. W. Lee, Patricia Lloyd, Thelma Lloyd, R. B. Macdonald, Betty Marjoram, B. Markham, Brenda Maslen, Doreen Mee, R. D. Moore, Heather Norman, D. R. Orton, Lily Peberdy, Cecilia Percival, Hazel Pinnock, Vida Powell, June Preston, E. J. Preston, June Rainbow, R. Ratcliffe, Vivian Richardson, Pamela Robinson, Margaret Lockinghan, E. M. Sidney, C. I. Simpson, B. Simpson, J. K. Smith, D. C. Spiers, D. B. Stephens, Jean Thomas, Edith Tranter, A. H. Tucker, A. R. M. Twynham, A. F. Valentine, M. J. Venum, P. B. Verrall, Eileen Watkin, P. E. Watts, Margaret Wignall, J. R. Wignall, Joyce Worrall, Theresa Eversden, D. Godden, Maureen Stears, Evelyn Dawson, Audrey Roby, Edna Wright, K. D. Bunker, M. H. Stears, Evelyn Smith, S. A. Brown, R. A. S. Pick, D. J. Sutton, F. St. M. G. Fidoe, M. J. Freestone, Molly Johnson, Eileen Hurst, Constance Fidoe, B. St. A. G. Fidoe.

1945: D. J. Lubbock, J. Hughes, Nancy Brown, Janet Hill, D. E. Riches, Doreen Tranter, Phyllis Lindsay, Jean Acton, Patricia Burman, R. J. Carter, I. Clowes, P. Deacon, Sylvia Ellingworth, Ann Evans, Brenda Ewen, Gillian Goddard, G. H. Higginson, Heather Lusher, Margaret Marriott, T. Maurice, M. C. Moore, Ann Mould, Dorothy Nethercott, T. A. Norman, Elizabeth Shinn, R. J. Smith, Kathleen Stanley, N. Tailby, Mavis Terry, N. V. Thompson, J. A.

Townsend, F. E. Thompson, Dorothy Yorke, Mavis Brooksby, J. B. Carter, J. T. Cave, J. M. Chamberlain, H. Cooper, Pamela Collett, Avice Douglas, C. Haines, J. D. Heighten, Pamela Hurst, Margery King, Sheila King, Audrey Lee, R. H. Lethbridge, Teresa McGrath, Dorothy Moore, Iris Neal, Ann Peabody, R. D. Phillips, Joan Richards, A. V. Roberts, Janet Sharpe, Mary Stinson, J. E. Tilley, Gillian Wharmby, Jean Burrows, W. S. Coleman, Enid Cotton, K. W. J. Earl, Emd Foster, E. L. Gamble, A. Greed, Barbara Arden, Patricia Hammond, Joan Parker, Priscilla Robinson, D. J. Smith, Rosemary Twigger, Ivy Ward, D. A. Kilbourn, Averil Playford.

1946: Deirdre Puddey, G. D. P. Carpenter, J. D. Cocks, Julia Levesley, D. A. Barrett, Jean Holloway, Sheila Achurch, Eileen Bromley, Ella Grecock, Janet Harris, Margaret Watts, Barbara Cockerill, Patricia Davis, Christine Elliott, Heather Goodman, Margery Holyoake, Mary Kind, Eileen Simmons, Doreen Ward, J. B. Brown, B. Burton, J. Butcher, B. Cartwright, R. A. Dytham, C. G. Fisher, K. Frisby, R. G. Handel, M. H. Harrison, D. G. Herringshaw, D. Higgins, B. O. Hilton, D. W. Humphries, D. E. Laken, J. I. Lanspeary, T R. Mould, A. G. Nutt, R. D. Rogers, J. M. Smith, P. Thornton, W. E. Trueman, B. Underwood, G. York, June Andrews, Joyce Brown, Margaret Doughty, Enid Goodwin, Beryl Harper, Betty Hughes, Josephine Johnson, Ann Kennet, Janet Lloyd, Jocelyn Moore-Coltman, Janet Norman, Eileen Turrell, Enid Wayne, J. D. Appleby, A. Clarke, G. E. Dainty, G. Green, D. E. Harbidge, B. W. Hardy, B. T. Lee, G. T. Pearson, M. R. Smith, E. J. Smithurst, C. J. Taylor, R. Winter, A. Broughton, J. Etherington, Josephine Claxton, Thelma Dollow, Freda Knott, Ruth Jarrison, Aileen Partridge, Monica Selley, Margaret Williamson, A. K. V. Deacon, R. W. Garrard, K. Jones, B. J. Potterton, B. Upton, Stella Evans, P. R. Edmans, E. A. H. Mullins.

1947: Edith Hicks, Brenda Brown, Audrey Cunliffe, D. Gardner, Julie Van Bergen, A. A. M. Brodie, T. Phillips, J. McCracken, Joy Ellard, D. Thornton, V. M. Smith, Iris Apperley, Margaret Cunliffe, Margaret Hipwell, Judith Hives, Mabel Moore, Mollie Parker, Valeric Peake, Violet Pickard, Anne Sargeant, Jacqueline Shortland, Ann Stewart, Rita Swann, Joan Thornton, Doreen Towell, Joyce Vann, B. C. Birch. M. A. Blakesley, J. R. Boocock, R. Boulter, D. W. Brewer, J. Clarke, P. E. Cooper, D. J. Gillyean, B. Hall, D. W. Iliffe, J. O'Donnell, D. M. Rooke, B. W. Sherwin, T. H. Smith, R. Tomley, J. M. Watts, B. W. Wheeler, Patricia Adams, Beryl Andrews, Glenys Bodycote, Marina Brooks, Jean Folwell, Jean Garner, Patricia Lowe, Jill Nourish, Enid Pearson, Ruth Perry, Ann Philpott, B. F. Blackwell, D. D. Collins, R. Crowder, M. J. Green, M. G. Jackson, A. J. Newman, R. P. Pearson, H. Peach, G. B. Rhodes, J. H. Sharman, J. A. Thorpe, M. H. Veasey, B. F. Walsh, Janet Barnes, Mavis Chadwick, Margaret Charlesworth, Ann Cotterill, Jillian Crane, Patricia Handbury, Winifred Norman, Gaynor Poole, Eileen Upton, Joyce Vesty, Christine Wharmby, Jill Whitman, D. G. Allt, K. Bryan, V. K. Buckby, D. Churehard, J. A. Clarke, E. W. Dane, K. R. Harding, D. A. Lane, A. Lucas, F. M. Markham, J. Noble, T. E. Norman, D. S. J. Pereira, A. Phi ops, R. Sampson, B. W. Smith, H- J. Ware, J. D. Woods, R. A. Holt, R. H. Gandy, V. J. Gandy, 'M. H. H. Haines.

1948: Daphne Bonning, Norma Bonning, Diana Stanton, T. F. Peake, M. R. Bassford, J. Michalec, S. Michalec, R. H. Welborn, Judith Cramp, Emily Mills, P. A. F. Barclay, B. W. G. Carter, J. A. H. Grainger, D. A. Hill, R. J. Hill, R. E. D. Howard, R. Hughes, H. A. L. King, D. G. Lowe, E. G. Murphy, J. S. Silverwood, J. R. Tarrant, D. A. Thornton, D. N. Vesty, R. A. S. Warner, P. N. Watkin, R. Woodford, Pauline Butlin, Jeanette Dodge, Mavis Garner, Enid Fletcher, Dinah Hall, Dorothy Hextall, Judita Lee, Gwyneth Phillips, Jennifer Smith, Patricia Smith, Sylvia Smith, Valerie Steele, Jane Walker, Margaret Walkerdine, Janet Wignall, A. R. Bennett, G. E. Clarke, J. E. Foster, S. Goddard, F. M. Harper, B. J. Hubbard, I. H. Kennedy, B. J. Lewis, C. R. McCann, A. Mee, D. J. Palmer, T. D. Pickford, M. E. Robinson, R. K. Sansome, M. H. Shaw, D. E. Smith, J. Watkins, P. Williamson, Ann Broadley, Sheila Cheater, Jacqueline Dollow, Janet Elliott, Judith Ellson, Ann Green, Jean Griffiths, Mavis Hall, Jean Hibbert, Janet Hincks, Doreen Smith, Patricia Staples, Daphne Taylor, Elizabeth Voss, B. C. Bailey, G. T. Beecham, A. Broadwell, A. K. Brown, J. A. dark, K. M. Davies, C. Heighten, P. G. Huckle, E. A. Hurst, P. G. Moynan, E. Poole, L. H. Roach, P. Rushton, A. P. Scott, A. E. Whiting, G. W. Wray, A. Wright, Jean Adams, Doreen Barrett, Audrey Bradshaw, Josephine Burbidge, Christine Freer, Diane Griffiths, Susan Moody, Elaine Moore, Jessie Morley, Iris Oliviant, Betty Reeve, Janet Seaton, Heather Sturgess, Barbara Summerscales, Sylvia Thorpe.

1949: Rita Fischer, G. Sanderson, Diane Perfect, Margaret Gipson, Janette Mawer, P. W. Mawer, D. I. Watson, D. W. Garner, Margaret Parker, D. W. Wragg, A. L. Baker, J. C. Boulter, T. E. Bromley, P. J. Collins, W. R. Cox, W. A. Green, D. B. Grundy, J. S. Humphries, M. O. Jutson, B. Lee, D. J. Nobbs, P. T. Peach, R. N. Smith, D. V. Thornton, J. K. Wright, Brenda Clarke, Anne Cresswell, Lesley Dunn, Jane Horlock, Mary Iliffe, Patricia Johnson, Janice Lee, Joyce Mardling, Joan Norwell, Janet Perry, Glenys Simkin, Winifred Squires, Pamela Thorp, Janet White, E. Bishop, D. S. Carter, P. Ellingworth, M. T. Fletcher, H. G. Gough, D. R. Hanney, J. M. Jelley, P. R. Knight, R. E. Pallett, P. J. Potter, B. H. Smith; K. J. Stanger, R. N. Sturgess, Margaret Alien, Freda Barnes, Barbara Bird, Wendy Lee, Hazel Martin, Sally Middleton, Dorothy Moore, Cynthia Mullins, Wendy Patrick, Irene Pickard, Marlene Sansome, Josephine Siddown, Margaret Wells, P. W. Andrews, J. I. Darlow, B. Dexter, J. A. Edwards, P. D. Gamble, W. K. Hassell, J. A. Huddleston, S. J. Hull, K. J. Mattock, J. R. Pover, P. R. Thornton, R. M. Tomlin, Jean Aitchison, Margaret Ames, Diana Atherton, Elisabeth Baermann, Margaret Boulter, Marian Frith, Anne Gibbins, June Hart, Jacqueline Keates, Rita Stretton, Janet Whitmore, Joan Wignall, P. E. Goward, Cecilie Curtis, Ruth Geary.

1950: Patricia North, M. J. Copp, W. Allison, Julia Smith, Margaret Moore, Sheila Guest, Valerie Preston, R. T. Fogg, M. W. Beattie, W. M. Brown, R. E. Child, R. W. Garrett, J. D. Goodman, B., Hutton, D. J. Jarvis, M. Jones, E. A. Keeble, F. W. A. Ling, M. Parker, B. R. Pask, R. G. Pearson, A. J. Siddown, A. T. Walsh, Joan Brown, Judith Carrington, Nancy Chadwick, Jennifer Cox, Lilian Freer, Joan Granger, Rachel Jeffcoate, Sheila Kirk, Jean Kitchen, Patricia Law, Dorothy Moore, Sylvia Pickard, Jennifer Southam, Ann Stephenson, Anne

Taylor, Gwyneth Thomas, C. Bailey, K. W. Brooker, H. S. Clarfield. R. M. Clarke, J. A. Dealey, M. R. Dixon, E. A. Frisby, D. C. Hough, D. W. King, F. J. Linnett, M. S. O'Brien, W. A. Percival, D. G. Popert, H. Riley, J. A. Riley, D. A. Sansome, V. J. Wells, J. A. Whitfield, Mary Briggs, Gillian Dixon, Patricia Feakin, Margaret Poote, Elizabeth Goodacre, Gillian Sleath, Jennifer Smith, Anne Steele, Sylvia Taylor, Hazel Walden, Patricia Wells, P. Bark, C. H. Butt, L. C. Butler, D. W. Cox, M. K. Goddard, B. E. Hall, N. Higgins, M. Jebbett, J. A. Kennedy, B. C. F. Knight, I. D. McCallum, J. A. Phillips, D. P. Sewell, N. Smith, A. R. F. Twynham, Jean Bryan, Betty Burbidge, Janet Folwell, Felicity Hardy, Ellen Hearth, Patricia Hibbins, Barbara Perkins, Margaret Smith, Janet Taylor, Helen Whelan, K. Dixon, A. E. Jesson, Jill Henson, C. D. Wells, Lucy Hewitt, Margaret Sykes, Patricia Mullins, C. F. Keech, Marilyn Eames, M. J. Wale, Patricia Goodwin.

1951: Ruth Baldwin, P. A. Lee, A. Sharpe, Pauline Sharpe, J. Batchelor, L. N. Holmes, Gillian Rogers, D. L. Bent, R. A. Bromley, Joan Brooks, Janice Buck, June St. Cloud, D. Alien, R. M. Boulter, A. R. Carter, J. A. Chapman, A. J. Clarke, I. Dawson, L. Dunkley, P. A. Guest, G. Hall, A. J. Lawson, P. M. Lee, J. B. Roberts, B. F. Sawbridge, J. C. Smith, D. Thompson, J. W. H. Vennard, R. M. Yates, Susan Casswell, Cynthia Freer, Mavis Harrison, Pamela Hincks, Gillian Hollis, Margaret Jones, Cicely Moody, Ann Penney, Rosemarie Phillips, Ann Pinnock, Madeline Pratt, Pamela Rivington, Judith Skerritt. Gillian Symes, Georgina Thompson, Caroline Wills, Valerie Wilson, D. F. Acton, R. C. Bliss, A. J. Bradshaw, C. P. Buckley, T. M. Buckler, D. R. Bunting, R. (Russell) Callaghan, D. M. Collington, H. R. Dalby, C. R. C. Evans, N. Fielder, W. E. Fielding, P. R. Hubbard, M. J. Pochin, R. A. Preston, M. I. Rainbow, J. N. Sharman, J. C. Whitman, Janet Argall, Jane Chapman, Jillian Curtis, Sheila Frith, Vivienne Garner, Ann Heard, Marian Horlock, Mary Kirkman, Diana Michael, Jacqueline Needham, Marion Rumfitt, Jean Rumsby, Pamela Roe, Margaret Taylor, Anne Willday, M. J. Bell, R. (Roger) Callaghan, D. E. Copson, J. K. Dye, K. A. Essana, J. T. Freer, W. R. Gardiner, C. J. Gilliam, R. L. Guillain, K. G. Gunby, M. J. T. Hind, A. A. Holmes, G. J. Hubbard, E. H. Middlebrook, D. E. Norton, K. W. Smith, J. E. Starmer, M. Wells, Margaret Allt, Elizabeth Austen, Madeline. Bird, Janet Blanchard, Grace Deacon, Gillian Fragnoli, Janet Hincks, Marjorie Holman, Maureen Hurst, Valeric Kirk, Judith Martin, Margaret Millard, Pamela Rattan, Christobel Royall, Susan Walker, Denise Wright, Jean Howden, Joan Roberts, Anne Whitbum, Susan Langley.

1952: Alison Forrest, M. G. Greensmith, A. Pilling, C. H. Willett, B. L. Hill, G. St. J. Scott, June Bentley, Marion Francis, J. M. Baker, H. M. Batchelor, P. Blanchard, K. Callaghan, K. B. Dillon, P. E. Ewen, L. Fielder, A. E. Fox, P. H. Griffith, E. Griffiths, R. M. Hallam, C. J. Martin, N. P. Oldershaw, B. D. Roe, R. Savage, A. R. Sturgess, M. W. Wheeler, J. A. Wilson, D. F. Worrall, Wendy Austin, Nora Brown, Jill Charlesworth, Sandra Evans, Anne Hughes, Pamela Jesson, Winifred Kendall, Jacqueline Porter, Valerie Stanton, Vivien Wade, Sheila Whyte, Vivien Wilford, Veronica Wilks,. Janet Williamson, W. Chapman, D. V. Dabb, J. B. Fillingham, B. E. Fox, A. E. Goode, R. G. Hill,

Jillian Wilson, P. Holder, D. Keizer, D. Lawrence, J. F. Marchant, R. Meen, D. A. Poole, J. Rhodes, P. Shephard, J. L. Smith, N. A. Wells, D. J. Wright, Sandra Bates, Joy Belton, Dorothy Burnham, Mary Fisher, Avrill Frederick, Jennifer Gough, Marjorie Meadows, Adele Powell, Heather Seton, Maureen Shaw, Diane Taylor, Wendy Upton, Jean Weare, Janice Wilkins, Margaret Wills, A. P. Ashley, S. W. Baker, R. H. Bowers, J. P. Bowes, J. H. Burgess, A. R. Clarke, J. E. Doughty, D. Geschke, R. M. Grundy, D. J. Johnson, G. F. Mallalieu, J. Oakes, R. Percy, G. H. Smith, A. Stenfalt, R. W. Whitfield, Rosemary Bass, Julia Bowes, Ann Brutnell, Janet Burton, Carole Crompton, Janice Doughty, Jane Fidoe, Janice Patrick, Mary Percival, Susan Roberts, Ann Shipp, Jacqueline Smith, Margaret Thurlow, Jennifer Townsend, Gillian Warham, I. A. Farrow, H. Peters, J. Newnham, Dorine Bowles, Margaret Peberdy, Magdalen Peters.

1953: Juliette Whitney, Susan Goodall, J. Pratt, Sheila Fleming, A. G. Barker, P. A. Watts, Sylvia Shorthouse, Marilyn Clarfield, Phyllis Sarson, Janet Mee, Audrey Harrison, Dinah Southam, M. Wright, D. G. B. Boocock. J. B. C. Clay, W. G. Dalby, A. Ellis, P. J. K. Ewen, A. T. Fielding, M. J. Garner, B. Higgins, D. Holder, J. Mackenzie, N. Oliver, D. H. Orton, G. A. Phillips, D. J. Riddett, R. E. Timms, Dorothy Dainty, Margery Deacon, Valerie Elliott, Frances Golden, Wendy Hextall, Jennifer Jarrett, Barbara Lyne, Margaret Mattock, Roberta Moore, Ann Parker, Diane Phillips, Diana Pick, Jane Ross, Angela Warren, J. W. Bailey, D. A. Freer, P. S. C. Fudge, M. J. Gamble, A. Gilbert, M. D. Glasse, D. Heathcote, J. Irons, R. T. Johnson, B. Lee, M. Leech, G. F. Leeson, A. G. H. Lovell, R. A. Ogle, J. C. Parker, M. R. Snow, G. J. Thomson, P. J. White, Sybil Brass, Marion Cox, Dorothy Cunliffe, Davjda Harper, Elizabeth Havercroft, Marilyn Lee, Maureen Loomes, Christine Mansfield, Diana Miles, Patricia Patrick, Stella Peters, Rosalind Sleath, Elizabeth Williams, R. A. Croson, R. K. Ellis, M. T. Hodson, R. E. Ilev, R. G. Jefferv, A. C. E. Latham, G. Lee, J. A. Marvin, D. V. Phillips, A. F. Pople, D. Smithurst, R. M. Snow, B. Spencer, R. S. Squire, M. Taylor, M. R. Throop, K. S. Tyers. M. E. Watson, Audrey Barker, Joan Beardmore, Patricia Butcher, Valerie Chamberlain, Mary Farrell, Jeanette Frith, Rosemary Holman, Evelyn Millard, Judith Mowl, Sylvia Pole, Elizabeth Shipp, Brenda Thurlow, Carol Burton, R. W. Craddick.

1954: D. A. Huggins, W. T. Powley, P. Goodacre, J. Goodacre, Ingrid English, Christine Over, T. A. Sutton, G. Haneock, Diana Handley, R. Barker, R. A. Cave, J. Dalby, A. Geschke, K. Button, S. W. Iliffe, A. C. M. Irons, C. D. Kinton, R. J. Lawrence, D. Pinnock, M. W. Reynolds, R. J. Ruskin, R. D. Smith, Jane Bell, Helen Dalby, Susan Fisher, Judith Fowler, Marilyn Frederick, Hilary Gunnell, Janice Hemingray, Jill Hindley, Suzanne Hulme, Patricia Jayes, Margaret Jewsbury, Maureen Kent, Sandra Morris, Daphne Prentice, Ann Rees, Elizabeth Seaton, Mary Silverwood, Christine Wilkinson, Judith Whymant, J. C. Bent, T. R. Bevin, E. D. Boyes, J. B. Boulter, S. A. Ferrow, C. J. E. Green, C. Hextall, C. M. Latham, R. J. Mitchell, J. E. Ravenhill, I. G. Seton, I. Shatford, G. C. Smith, L. A. Sturgess, P. W. Voss, Patricia Balderson, Kathleen Barratt, Pamela Coulton, Valeric Green, Christine Holyoak, Ann Howard, Barbara Hurst, Susan Johnson, Valeric Lane, Louise O'Brien, Judith

Pitteway, Susan Pook, Janet Preston, Margaret Wells, Julia Wright, Carol Wyatt, R. W. Adamson, M. J. Black, J. M. Bozzoni, R. K. Erett, A. P. Freer, R. A. Hull, B. Medhurst, G. A.' Monk, R. M. Murdock, P. A. Nutting, D. B. O'Connor, J. A. Pearson, D. S. Robinson, P. R. Robinson, D. A. Shaw, G. F. Thompson, M. J. Walker, Bronwen Abram, Vicki Chesterton, Mary Evans, Jane Evans, Kathryn Farnell, Janet Fritche, Vivienne Grocock, Ruth, Hall, Dagmar Heinrichson, Mavis Holt, Maureen Jebbett, Mary Lockwood, Diane Pridmore, Margaret Simons, Arline Timms, Jill Underwood, Sally Willday, J. B. Oakley, J. M. Hardy,

1955: Rosemrey Ward, Shirley Smith, Kathleen Meads, I. W. Hare, A. M. K. Pearson, J. M. Hepworth, Mary Browett, Jane Whittington, Carol Pickering, E. J. Ward, A. F. Hodgkinson, Diana Thompson, G. Whyche, Ann Peckham, Margaret Hutchinson, H. R. Freer, C. C. Hammond, C. G. Hulme, P. F. Whiteley, Jean Morris, J. M. W. Addison, R. L. Amett, C. C. Axford, M. J. B. Bailey, A. C. Brown, R. C. Buckley, B. Callaghan, W. G. Freer, P. J. Galsworthy, M. J. Harrison, M. E. Norris, D. E. Rattan, J. W. Richardson, M. Sargeant, P. R. Simmonds, G. A. Smith, P. R. Stubbley, P. A. Sykes, Ann Beckley, Diane Chapman, Angela Clay, Susan Faulkner, Rosemary Fowler, Valerie Hall, Carole Holyoak, Helen Ikin, Wendy Jacques, Sheila Lampkin, Joan Mee, Margaret McCallum, Ann Needham, Vivienne Peet, Gillian Peplow, Margaret Shaw, Rosemary Watson, Angela Watts, Josephine West, A. J. Adams, H. V. Bakewell, G. Benford, J. J. Burgess, S. F. Daw, P. J. Dudney, M. J. Dunn, A. Fischer, C. A. Hale, B. R. Hargrave, J. Inwood, R. J. Law, A. J. Phillips, C. S. Riley, P. J. Sharp, A. P. Shaw, A. S. Webster, G. S. Weston, Patricia Anderson, Stella Bosworth, Annette Brooks, Jennifer Burgess, Audrey Burton, Helen Clarke, Ann Hercock, Carole Mansfield, Gay Martin, Carole Normanton, Carole Parker, Rachel Robinson, Gillian Snow, Carolyn Stevens, Marion Turner, Marilyn Walsom, Anne Woodfine, Lynette Woodford, Erica Watson, J. O. A. Archer, K. J. Beet, M. C. Bryan, L. P. Burrows, J. Clow, N. Fairhurst, B. G. Finnemore, R. A. Flood, A. Garner, A. C. Henson, M. J. Hurst, K. J. Millard, W. J. Packer, H. H. Porten, A. C. Shropshire, S. J. Stedman, J. R. Whitney, J. E. Williams, C. R. York, Carole Bowles, Pamela Brown, Jacqueline Burdett, Penelope Butler, Ennis Cheesman, Bridget Craythome, Wendy Dunkley, Sheila Folwel], Christine Fox, Janet Hunt, Elizabeth Kirkman, Beryl Lane, Mary Levy, lone Rest, Christine Rose, Marlene Smith, Elizabeth Wilson, Susan Young, J. E. Neale, Jill Sheen.

1956: Patricia Oliver, B. Bestwick, Diana Coldwell, Jacqueline Stevens, J. R. Johnson, H. J. Adcock, D. J. Cawthorn, Margaret Higson, : M. Dale, R. M. Baker, J. G. Bowers, J. R. J. Bradbury, M. S. Clarfield, P. R. Hodson, D; A. Ireland, R. D. Phillips, D. L. Snow, J. H. Wale, P. J. Wilby, Jean Alexander, Olwen Barnett, Jennifer Brook, Jean Coleman, Elizabeth Cullen, Marie Elliott, Vivien Hemingray, Diane Lockwood, June Marston, Penelope Norton, Evelyn Ross, Angela Slipp, Marie Southam, Susan Stannard, Christine Tilley, Linda Warren, M. Bradshaw, W. R. Chapman, G. Cluley, M. J. Holyoak, M. W. MacDouall, J. D. Nibloe, J. W. Oram, J. Parry, S. S. Sturgess, C. E. Taylor, D. J. Watkins, P. R. Yardley, Margaret Almen, Marie Allsop, Denise Ashton, Celia Burbidge,

Diane Charles, Dorothy Freer, Mary Hawkins, Rae Jones, Anne Ramsell, Janice Reed, Susan Ross, Lynn Smaggasdale, Diane Smith, Ann Wheatley, C. W. Boyes, C. L. Coles, A. W. Evans, D. Hutton, R. Mullen, B. G. Norris, J. M. Partridge, R. E. Towers. K. L. Upton, M. J. Whyard, R. J. Wigfull, Gabrielle Bayliss-Favell, Jill Carrier, Ann Coekin, Valerie Clarke, Suzanne Cotton, Valerie Gordon, Rosemary Hall, Ruth Hodgkinson, Susan Kirkman, Vera McHugh, Susan Peberdy, Carole Rayne, Glennys Sanders, Peggy Sharman, Christine Woods, Barrie Payne, M. Ridgway.

1957: Dinah Lawrence. Christine Illsley, Diana Clarke, R. J. Tyier, Christine Gair, M. J. C. Surrey, T. M. McHugh, Ann Bramall, Cynthia Musgrave, W. T. Peberdy, Patricia Lakin, W. H. Booth, A. E. Goodger, A. Mitchell, Christine Pilor, Molly Hall, Joyce Moon, M. Mitchell, J. Bromley. R. A. Moore, N. Austin, F. Clarke, C. Harrison, D. Griffith, J. Macgregor, P. Mason, R. Turner, G. Warrilow, D. Welton, A. Windybank, Veronica Airey, Carolyn Brown, Miriam Crouch, Wendy Dillon, Jean Fowkes, Jacqueline Grange, Sheila Haden, Mary Issitt, Cynthia Jayes, Helen Jordan, Jacqueline Page, Pamela Woodward, V. F. Bailey, P. Bourne, C. E. Bozzoni, G. Brown, H. P. Ginvert, R. O. Kirkland, G. R. Lord, C. Surrey, M. Surrey, G. Warwick, Janet Barradale, Jacqueline Clarke, Susan Dunn, Christine Elliott, Eileen Granger, Doreen Harby, Joy Holland, Jacqueline Mallaby, Valerie Newport, Pamela Plater, Wendy Riley, Carol Smith, Patricia Walgate, D. Bentley, M. A. Brown, K. Clayton, R. Corston, T. Gamble, R. Grocock, B. J. Hubbard, G. Knight, M. Thorndyke, R. K. Wardle, Amy Foster, Margaret Hereock, Pamela Hodson, Judith Jayes, Catherine Jewsbury, Marilyn Juggins, Sandra Lithgow, Susan Lowe, Maxine Rammell, Barbara Stanfield, Margaret Stannage. Hazel Swift, Sheila Wightman, Colin Brand, Marion Brand, Kathleen Veasey.

Appendix IV

The endowed Lands of the School.

In the Middle Ages, Kibworth Grammar School held land and property in Kibworth Beauchamp, Kibworth Harcourt, Smeeton Westerby and Carlton Curlieu. In the feoffment charter of 1559 Richard Bryan and William Parker stated that the school estate consisted of:

“all those messuages, lands, tenements, meadows and pastures lying in the town and fields of Kibworth Beauchamp, Kibworth Harcourt, Smeeton Westerby and Carlton Curlieu”.

The actual extent and situation of the lands before the seventeenth century cannot be discovered. An inquisition of 1615 showed that the schools lands and property were as follows:

- Kibworth Beauchamp – 3 yardlands, 3 closes of pasture, 3 messuages and 2 cottages.
- Kibworth Harcourt – $1\frac{1}{4}$ yardlands, 2 closes, 2 messuages and 3 cottages.
- Smeeton Westerby – $1\frac{1}{2}$ yardlands, 2 closes and 2 cottages.

No mention is made of any property in Carlton Curlieu. Evidently, this was lost to the School some time in Elizabeth’s reign.

In the seventeenth century, therefore, the school lands mainly consisted of a large number of strips scattered in the open fields of the three villages. These amounted in all to 5 yardlands. A yardland was roughly 30 acres, and so the School owned some 160 to 170 acres.

As with many English villages, the open fields of Kibworth were enclosed in the eighteenth century. It was in 1779 that enclosure took place there, and then the School was allocated the following blocks of land:

Kibworth Beauchamp (1) land around the School, 18 acres.

(2) Moss Farm, on the footpath leading from Kibworth to Fleckney, 54 acres.

Kibworth Harcourt, Bridge Farm, down the Wistow Lane, 48 acres.

Smeeton Westerby, Smeeton Hill Farm, between Gumley and Smeeton, 43 acres.

The School still owns the three farms mentioned above and the area around the School, some 160 to 170 acres—practically the same amount it held in the early seventeenth century.

Although the acreage of School property has remained much the same, the money derived from the rents has varied, as we can see from this table:—

1615	...	£31	1905	...	£271
1686	...	£36	1907	...	£256
1726	...	£51	1914	...	£246
1841	...	£252	1930	...	£195
1884	...	£335	1936	...	£180
1885	...	£342			

Until 1877, the Governors had more or less complete control over their own finances. Then, under the Scheme of 1877, the Official Trustee of Charitable Funds took charge of the School's finances. When the State took over the School in 1909, all property and funds had to be handed over to the local education authority. The County did not use the endowment fund to meet expenses for the general running of the School. It has always been set aside as a reserve for the use of the Governors to meet special needs. Thus, of late years, it has been used to pay for the preparation of further playing fields for the School, and for the construction of a concrete practice wicket.

Appendix V

Some Pupils who have left the School for Places of Higher Education since 1929.

1929:	F. J. Goodwin	–	St Mark's Training College.
	P. Briggs	–	St Mark's Training College.
	G. C. Freeland	–	St Mark's Training College.
1930:	G. A. Harris	–	University College, Nottingham.
	J. S. Mattock	–	St Paul's College, Cheltenham.
1931:	E. R. G. Deacon	–	St Paul's College, Cheltenham.
1932:	W.C. Gamer	–	Saltley Training College.
1934:	A. S. Bolton	–	Loughborough College.
1935:	M. M. Gilbert	–	Homerton College, Cambridge.
	O. Radford	–	St Luke's Training College, Exeter.
	J. D. Nourish	–	City of Leeds Training College.
	J. T. Short	–	City of Leeds Training College.
1937:	E. A. Freer	–	Derby Traingn College.
	J. W. Brown	–	University College, Nottingham.
1939:	M. Toone	–	City of Leeds Training College.
	M. Mason	–	Domestic Science College, Leicester.
1941:	M. Buckler	–	University College, Nottingham.
1944:	P. Potts	–	Anstey College of Physical Education.
1945:	K. Evans	–	Goldsmith's College, London.
	E. E. Turner	–	University College, London.
	A. K. Walpole	–	Lincoln Training College.
1946:	M. Blin-Stoyle	–	University College, Leicester.
1947:	C. B. Cotterill	–	State Scholarship to Nottingham University.

- D. A. Greenwood – State Scholarship.
N. J. M. Wilkins – Nottingham University.
- 1948: D. A. Greenwood – Open Scholarship to King’s College, Cambridge.
P. Sharpe – State Scholarship to Nottingham University.
- 1950: P. W. A. Moore – London University.
J. E. Newcombe – Sheffield University.
P. E. Goward – Liverpool University.
B. St. A. G. Fidoe – University College, Leicester.
J. Ellingworth – College of Technology, Leicester, thence to Leeds University.
E. R. Print – College of Technology, Leicester.
- 1951: E. J. Preston – State Scholarship and Open Scholarship to Peterhouse, Cambridge.
D. A. W. Sansome – Sheffield University.
E. Bromley – Liverpool University.
P. R. Edmans – Nottingham University.
S. J. Van Bergen – Loughborough College of Art.
E. Hicks – City of Birmingham Training College.
F. B. Deans – University College, Leicester.
- 1952: A. Evans – State Scholarship to University College, Cardiff.
A. H. Playford – University College, Leicester.
J. A. Mawer – Leicester College of Speech Therapy.
C. St. G. Fidoe – University College, Leicester.
- 1953: M. J. Copp – Queen Mary College, London.
G. Goddard – Queen Mary College, London.
R. A. Dytham – Imperial College, London.
M. C. Moore – Durham University.
M. Holyoake – University College, Leicester.
J. D. Appleby – College of Technology, Leicester.
D. C. Stanton – Sheffield University.
D. Ward – Cheltenham Training College.
K. W. Frisby – University College, Leicester.
G. Sanderson – Ministry of Agriculture Scholarship to Nottingham University.
- 1954: J. R. B. Boocock – Queen Mary College, London.
P. W. Mawer – Queen Mary College, London.
- 1955: A. G. Barker – College of Technology, Leicester.
R. W. Craddick – University College, Leicester.
K. M. C. Davis – Nottingham University.
D. J. Gillyean – Nottingham University.
J. A. H. Grainger – Manchester University.
R. E. D. Howard – University College of North Staffordshire.
J. Smith – Central School of Speech and Drama.
- 1956: L. Dunn – Leeds University.
W. F. Hassell – University College, Leicester.
P. G. Moynan – University College, Leicester.
P. North – University College, Aberystwyth.
J. Norwell – St. Andrew’s School of Physiotherapy, Northampton.
J. K. Wright – Nottingham University.

- 1957: E. Baermann – Open Scholarship to Durham University.
N. Chadwick – Birmingham University.
N. Higgins – Royal Academy of Music.
J. Kitchen. – Armstrong College, Durham University.
W. A. Percival – Sheffield University.
P. A. Watts – Nottingham University.

Appendix VI

Numbers of Pupils at the School.

We do not know the actual number of children in attendance at Kibworth until the nineteenth century. The first definite figure we can give is for 1837, when the Commissioners of Inquiry into Charities reported that 45 children attended Kibworth Grammar School. Before that date, therefore, our figures are but conjectural. From its inception until the period just before the Commonwealth the number of children in attendance would be about twenty. Interest in education increased vastly during the Commonwealth period, and thus at Kibworth we might have found some fifty children between 1650 and 1660. This number was certainly maintained for the next seventy years, for the later Stuart period was the heyday of the small country Grammar School. Numbers began to decline about 1730, and by 1780 there would be perhaps twenty children in the School. With the end of the Napoleonic Wars, education, like most other things, took a turn for the better, and so by 1837 we find 45 boys in the School. From that point, figures are as follows:-

1850	22	1884	33	1916	51	1931	119
1853	35	1895	39	1917	60	1933	135
1854	42	1896	40	1918	75	1934	138
1855	46	1898	39	1919	79	1935	145
1857	50	1901	42	1920	80	1941	262
1858	56	1904	40	1921	68	1942	298
1859	68	1905	39	1922	71	1943	345
1860	63	1907	40	1923	60	1944	372
1861	58	1908	43	1924	58	1945	440
1862	59	1909	38	1926	43	1947	444
1863	69	1911	43	1927	37	1955	525
1864	50	1913	47	1928	62	1957	520
1880	23	1914	67	1929	85		
1882	29	1915	66	1930	106		

Appendix VII

Statement of Accounts for 1905.

I append the following statement relating to the time when the School was relatively independent, in order to show how the School gained its income and how the money was spent.

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
INCOME.			EXPENSES.		
Rent from 169 1/2 acres...	271	15	6	Clerk's Salary.....	5 0 0
Fees	230	16	8	Stationery	7 6
Leicestershire C.C. Grant	100	0	0	Advertisement	2 4 6
Midland Railway Rent	1	0	0	Repairs	49 14 3
Grant from Science and				Repairs	55 18 2
Art Department ...	9	9	0	Instalment onn Loan ...	47 8 6
Bank Interest		11	1	Salary of Headmaster	150 0 0
Income Tax returned ...		16	7	Salary of Assistant	
				Master	80 0 0
				Salary of Science and	
				Art Teachers ...	107 17 6
				Capitation Fees ...	131 6 8
				Greek Fees	5 10 0
				Exhibitions	60 0 0
				Examination Fees ...	3 0 0
				Use of Cricket Ground	4 0 0
				Prizes	3 3 0
	£614	8	10		£705 10 1

Appendix VIII

Governors of the School.

In 1909 Kibworth Grammar School came under the control of the Leicestershire Education Committee. In 1908 the Governors were:—

Rev. E. S. B. Fletcher (Chairman)

G. Murray Smith, Esq.	Market Harborough
J. S. Dickinson, Esq.	Bench of
Sir Cyril Marriott	Magistrates.

Rev. Mr. Rockley	Billesdon Union.
A. Hull, Esq.	

J. Horton, Esq.	Market Harborough
T. H. Grant, Esq.	Union.

J. Daykin Broughton, Esq.	Leicestershire County
T. H. Halford, Esq.	Council.
J. G. Kendall, Esq.	—

In 1910 the Governors were:—

Rev. E. S. B. Fletcher (Chairman) and

J. S. Dickinson, Esq.

(the two existing Governors who remained in office).

T. H. Halford, Esq.	
H. T. Grant, Esq.	Appointed by the
J. G. Kendall, Esq.	Leicestershire
R. Rowley, Esq.	County Council.
Mrs. Bosworth	

W. Barnes, Esq., representing Kibworth Beauchamp.
J. H. Parsons, Esq., representing Kibworth Harcourt.
Rev. G. W. Salt, representing Smeeton.
T. Ashley, Esq., representing Birmingham University.

When Mr. Elliott came in 1927 the School Governors were:

Rev. E. S. B. Fletcher (Chairman)

Mrs. E. V. Phillips	
T. H. Halford, Esq.	
Miss Horton	Appointed by the
G. C. Mattock, Esq.	Leicestershire
R. Rowley, Esq.	County Council.
Capt. Clark	

W. Barnes, Esq., representing Kibworth Beauchamp.
W. E. Briggs, Esq., representing Kibworth Harcourt.
Major Harding, representing Smeeton.
L. R. M. Strachan, Esq., representing Birmingham University.

Thirty years later, in 1957, the School Governors are:—

A. G. Briggs, Esq. (Chairman).
Rev. D. A. J. Ireland (Vice-Chairman).
B. J. E. Briggs, Esq.
H. A. Day, Esq., M.C.
Mrs. G. E. Frears
H. Davis Herbert, Esq.
Mrs. H. B. Jeffrey
Miss J. P. Meehan
Mrs. E. W. B. Newton
Miss M. F. C. Saunderson-Morrison
Mrs. M. C. T. Thomas
J. Thompson, Esq.

Appendix IX

K.B.G.S. O.S.A.

The beginnings of the Old Students' Association dates from the first term of Mr. Elliot's Headship—in Autumn, 1927. It was on November 30th of that year that Mr. Elliot invited a number of old students to his house to discuss the formation of the Association. This preliminary meeting elected two temporary secretaries. Miss C. Harding and Miss M. Smith, and arranged an inaugural Dance for January 25th, 1928, to be held in Kibworth Village Hall.

Many Old Students attended this first function, and they were enthusiastic about the proposal to form an Association. It was decided to inaugurate the Old Students' Association formally at a General Meeting to be held in the School at a later date. This meeting took place in the February, and the first officers of the Association were elected, as follows:—

President:

J. E. Elliot, Esq.

Vice-Presidents:

Rev. Canon Fletcher.

W. E. Briggs, Esq.

T. H. Halford, Esq., C.C.

G. C. Mattock, Esq., J.P., C.C.

L. R. M. Strachan, Esq., M.A.

Mrs. E. V. Phillips.

B. Atkinson, Esq.

J. Hare, Esq.

J. Fletcher. Esq.

A. Smith, Esq.

Mrs. F. Loveday.

W. Barnes, Esq.

Major G. Harding.

J. W. Mason, Esq.

R. Rowley, Esq.

Miss Horton

R. G. Watson, Esq.

E. Smith, Esq.

C. H. Lewis, Esq.

F. Loveday, Esq.

Miss M. Smith.

Miss S. Gutsell

Secretaries:

Miss C. Harding and Mr. J. Fletcher.

Treasurer:
Mr. J. Fletcher.

Magazine Editor: Miss A. Balls.

A Committee of twelve members was also appointed. This meeting also arranged for the holding of a Dinner and of another Dance.

The O.S.A. did not limit its activities, however, to mere social functions. A mixed Hockey Club was formed, which flourished for several years, but in 1931 the girls decided to leave the boys and start a side of their own. Thus, the Old Girls' Hockey Club was born, with Miss E. M. Hulland as Captain and Miss G. Cooke as Secretary. This XI continued to have several successful seasons, but in 1936 it went out of existence. In 1938, however, Miss J. Willett managed to re-form the side, which carried on playing in the early years of the War. Later on, however, it dis-, banded and, although Miss G. Waddington (now Mrs. P. Payne) made an effort in 1948 to start it again, she was not successful. An Old Girls' Hockey XI does, however, still turn out on occasion to play the School XI.

One of the most successful ventures of the O.S.A. was its Dramatic Society. From 1931 to the outbreak of War, one play a year was produced. The first major effort was in 1932 when Mr. Elliot and Mrs. M. Bolton produced *Eliza Comes to Stay*. Later productions were *Tilly of Bloomsbury*, *The Middle Watch*, *The Sport of Kings*, *The Cheerful Knave* and *Charley's Aunt*. The Second World War put an end to the activities of the Old Students Dramatic Society and this is one enterprise which has not been restarted.

The War certainly interfered with the activities of the O.S.A. Membership, however, is once more on the increase, and the chief social function of the Association now is the Annual Dinner-Dance held in early April in the Bell Hotel, Leicester. Dances are also held in the Church Hall, Oadby. In fact, the Committee now consists of a number of enthusiastic younger Old Students and, under their guidance, the Association will continue to flourish in the future.

When Mr. Elliot retired in 1955, the Association gave him a television set and Mrs. Elliot a wrist watch. The Old Students have always remembered with gratitude the part Mr. Elliot played in launching their Association. Thus, when the possibility of dosing the School arose, the Association held a protest meeting and letters were written to the Minister of Education and the local VLP.'s voicing in no uncertain tones the sentiments of the O.S.A.

The officers of the Association at the moment are:-

President: J. E. Elliot, Esq., M.A.

Vice-president: L. T. Daw, Esq., M.A., B.Sc.

Honorary Treasurer: A. E. Palmer, Esq.

Honorary Secretaries: Messrs. J. F. Hodgett and A. S. Bolton.

General Committee: Mrs. A. S. Bolton, Mrs. Ginvert, Mrs. Haddon, Mrs. R. James, Mrs. K. N. Weston, Miss M. Hipwell, Miss P. Johnson, Miss A. Sargeant, Miss B. Ward, Miss E. Wayne. Messrs. R. Dunn, C. Hallam, P. Holmes, J. R. Hubbard, J. Muddimer, R. Oldfield, E. R. Print, G. Stretton, F. Watts, K. N. Weston.

Appendix X

Roll of Honour.

1914–1918.

A. A. Adams
W. S. Alien
E. Bolton
A. Carnegie
C. W. Coleman
J. H. Cox
A. R. Hubbard
T. C. Jesson
B. G. C. Pell
P. Searson-Mawby
E. Smith
J. W. Sturgess
A. Warner
H. Webb

1939–1945

F. C. Brown
J. W. Brown
H. J. Couling
C. W. Cross
A. B. Potts

1950

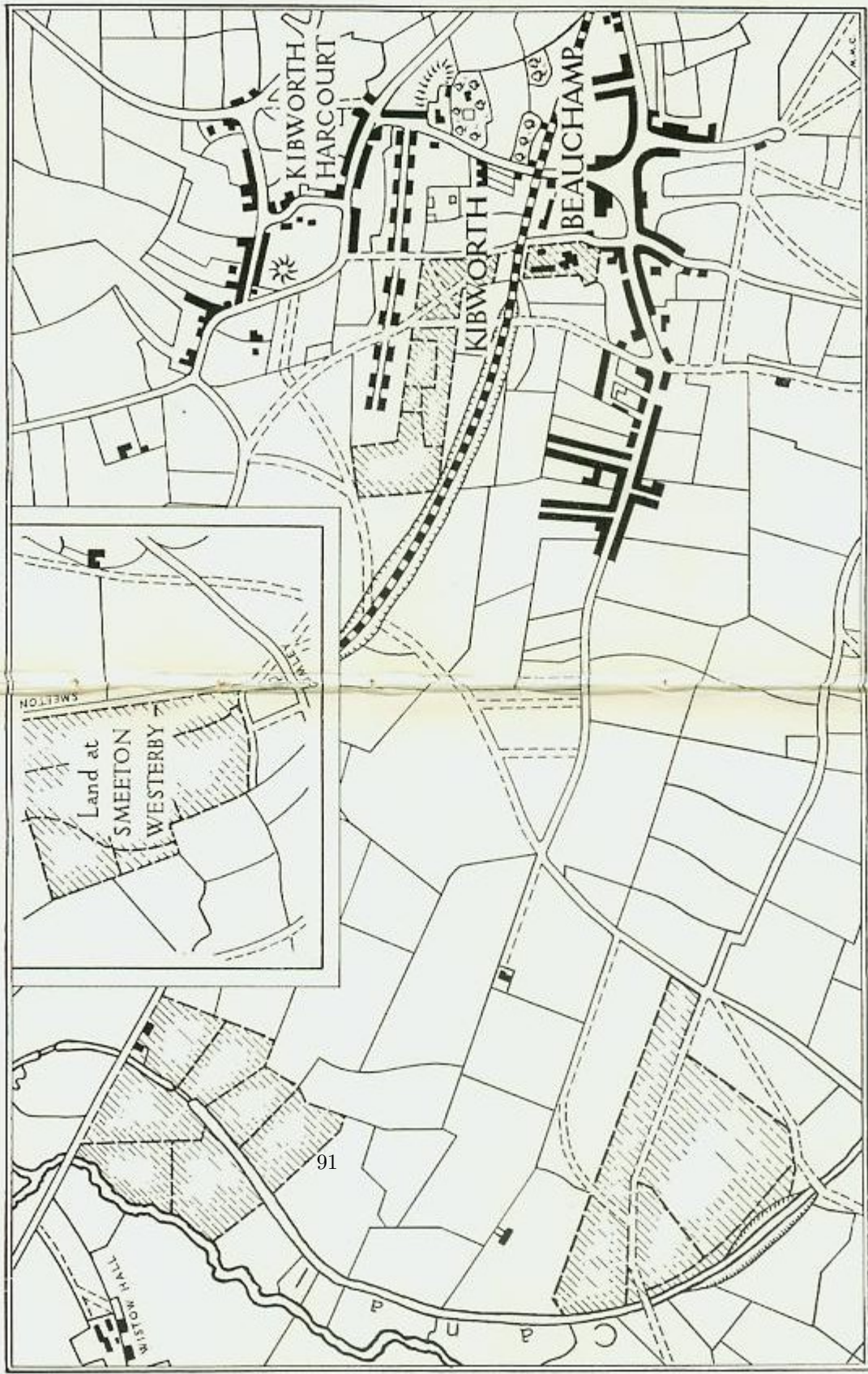
D. A. Smith

1952

D. Gardner

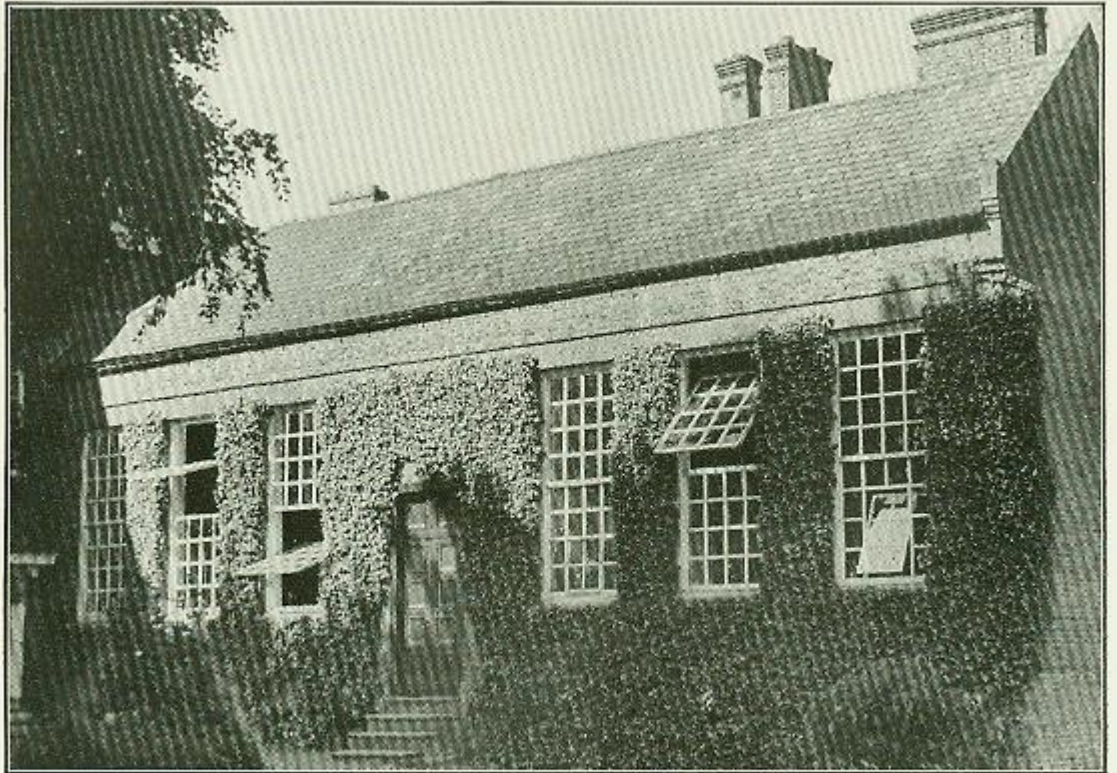


MR. JOHN E. ELLIOT
Headmaster, 1927—55



[From a Map by F. T. Turner

Land which is the property of the School Foundation (177) is shaded diagonally. Scale - 880 ft. to 1 inch.



THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING
(1725)

M. Parker