



CONVENT OF THE
HOLY INFANT JESUS



With the Compliments

of

Bank Bumiputra Malaysia Berhad

(Incorporated in the States of Malaya - Malaysia - Head Office Kuala Lumpur)

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10, China Street Ghaut,
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130, Gaya Street,
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8D / 8E, Jalan Hang Tuah,
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2 Jalan Masjid,
Kuala Trengganu.

Wong Weng Jee
1971

VERITAS

MAGAZINE OF THE
CONVENT OF THE HOLY INFANT JESUS, IPOH.

1971

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Cover Designed by: Yoon Lai Peng.

MESSAGE FROM MOTHER THERESE



— Numerous masons and carpenters could be seen beginning work on what would be a cathedral one day

A stranger passed by and stopped to ask the workmen what they were about to do.

— “I am cutting stones”, answered the first one, without so much as raising his eyes from his work.

— “I am earning a living for my family and myself, sure!” replied the second one.

— “I am building a cathedral”, said the third one proudly.

Those men were doing the same work but what difference in their approach to their daily task and, consequently, what difference in their life!

The first one saw nothing but the immediate work at hand, no sense of purpose at all.

Was it any wonder that he should be sour and lacked even the faintest trace of enthusiasm?

Repeating the same gesture all the time, without knowing why, can drive men crazy. But the sculptor would hardly find the repetition of the same gesture monotonous because of the masterpiece he bears in his mind

The second worker was certainly better off.

His work and the fatigue it entailed had a meaning: they earned bread for those he loved. When things got a little hard, the thought of his wife and children’s happiness sustained him. But, supposing he were to lose those dear ones, what would he cling to? Only too often we hear the case of people who would be ready even to take their life because — they say — they have lost their reason for going on living.

Would the third worker be the most enviable of the three? Would he have found the secret of happiness?

This man was just doing the same humble work as the other two and yet he could say “I am building a cathedral.”

Did he deceive himself? Was his vision too big to be true?

On the contrary! He was the only one who had the right vision: he was convinced he had an indispensable role to play in the building of the cathedral. That’s why he could work with enthusiasm he knew exactly **WHAT** he was doing. **WHY** and for **WHOM**.

I just wrote the word **ENTHUSIASM**. Do you know what it means? To the Greeks it conveyed the idea of being exceptionally strong because one had become “possessed by a god”.

By what “god” do **YOU** want to be possessed? What will be your ideal in life?

Money

Beauty

Pleasure — Fame

Love

Knowledge

TEST the “gods” you like to choose!

Try to find out what will become of them in the face of misfortune, ill health, old age, human weakness. Will they stand unchanged?

If you admit to yourself that they will **NOT** stand, then it may be time for you to look higher — or deeper, as you wish — to discover the real meaning of life.

I wish everyone of you, our Form V girls of 1971, to find a reason for living
so high — so deep

so strong — so unchangeable

so capable of overcoming every kind of obstacles that when you have found it, you will know you have found the secret of happiness.

For me, as for millions of others, that reason has the most beautiful name in any language, **GOD** is its name

Those who find Him, will not be simply “cutting stones” all their life. Come what may, they keep their eyes fixed on the vision of the **CATHEDRAL** they are building day by day and the smallest tasks have a meaning for them.

No wonder they go through life giving to others the desire to know their secret!!!

Sister Therese.

MESSAGE FROM
SISTER FIDELMA — OUR PRINCIPAL



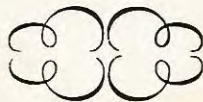
FOUR years have passed since our last issue of VERITAS which commemorated the Diamond Jubilee of our school in 1967. Changes of various kinds have taken place since then, the most obvious being the still greater increase in our numbers. However, the less obvious changes are perhaps much more significant and therefore deserve much closer attention. They include changes in the quality of education, involving both the school curriculum itself and our extra-curricular activities. They are largely in line with the educational policy of Malaysia which aims at producing citizens who will be more competent in building up a strong independent nation.

Let us remember nonetheless that a nation exists for the good of its members, while its members are individuals with basic rights as well as duties. It is our hope that, amid the pressing problems of such a fast-growing nation, the dignity and value of each person will be given due consideration; that there will be room for personal growth, convictions, talents and tastes.

Despite the many difficulties that beset us these days, we still strive to encourage our Convent pupils to become the people who are needed to take up the challenge of their world. May they be ready to go forth in a strong spirit of faith, hope and charity — since it is our faith which overcomes the world, making it possible for all our hopes to be fulfilled. In other words, may they live out the true spirit of MUHIBBAH.

My heartfelt thanks go to all who still help and support us, who contribute to our well-being in ways known and unknown. You are ever in our prayerful remembrance.

Sister Fidelma.



MESSAGE FROM
THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER — PERAK

Kata2 Aluan

SAYA ucapkan berbanyak terima kaseh kepada Penerbit Majallah Sekolah Convent kerana menjemput saya menyampaikan sa-patah dua kata untok di-muatkan ka-dalam ruangan ini.

Melalui majallah tahunan ini, saya pechaya, murid2 yang rajin dan usaha dapat peluang menyumbangkan karya2 tulisan mereka. Menulis makalah2 untok di-muatkan ka-dalam majallah sekolah merupakan satu latehan berfaedah kapada murid2 dan murid2 tentu berasa bangga jikalau makalah2 mereka di-pileh dan di-siar-kan. Melalui majallah sekolah, ibubapa, bekas murid2 dan orang ramai dapat mengetahui kegiatan2 yang di-jalankan oleh murid2 sa-panjang tahun. Dengan lain perkataan, kemajuan sa-sabuah sekolah itu dapat di-gambarkan melalui kandongan2 majallah tahunan.

Ada-lah di-harap bahawa murid2 yang terdiri dari berbilang kaum dan keturunan di-sekolah ini tidak-lah terhad pergaulan-nya di-dalam bilek darjah sahaja. Berchampur gaul-lah dengan mesra tanpa mengira kaum dan keturunan dalam semua lapangan. Ziarahi-lah ka rumah2 kawan2 yang berlainan kaum untok mengeratkan lagi perhubungan antara kaum demi kepentingan perpaduan negara. Insaf dan sedar-lah bahawa anda ada-lah bakal warganegara Malaysia di-masa akan datang dan kapada anda-lah bergantung masa depan negara kita.

Kapada murid2 saya suka berpesan bahawa walaupun anda semua gadis2, anda harus sudah menyedari bahawa peranan dan kebolehan wanita tidak lagi terhad saperti di-masa2 lepas. Kaum wanita sekarang sudah menembusi semua lapangan yang di-masa lampau di-fikirkan mustahil. Belajar-lah bersungguh-sungguh dan buktikan kapada dunia bahawa anda semua juga ada kebolehan dalam semua lapangan dan anda akan memainkan peranan2 penting di-masa hadapan.

Buat pengakhir kata saya mengucapkan selamat belajar dan maju jaya.

Terima kaseh.

Dato Idris bin Babjee KMN, PMP, PJK,
Ketua Pegawai Pelajaran, Perak.



EDITORIAL

★

EACH individual is educated through his own experiences. He develops his abilities, attitudes and general behaviour as a result of all the experiences, either planned or unplanned, through which he lives. However, society does not leave his education entirely to chance, but provides specially planned experiences through the institution of the school.

The school gives the student an opportunity and a responsibility to participate in the educational experiences that will develop his capacity to live in his kind of society. Through education, the student develops the various faculties, mental and physical, so as to enable him to face the future intelligently. It also promotes a deeper understanding of life and assists him to be a responsible and loyal citizen.

One of the many schools which help to train students in the knowledge, skills and beliefs approved by society, is the Convent of the Holy Infant Jesus of Ipoh. The school is a miniature government in itself. The Principal and teachers are the organising and advisory board. The pupil-body elect their Prefects, Class Representatives and Captains.

Our basic aim in publishing a School Magazine this year, is to reveal what we have achieved in promoting goodwill and in equipping our students properly for a successful life. We hope that with this little amount contributed, we have taken an appreciable step in bringing up the future citizens of this country.

The Editorial Board has the pleasure of thanking the Chief Education Officer, Dato Idris bin Babjee, our Principal Sister Fidelma, and all teachers, students and contributors who have helped towards the success of this School Magazine.

The Editor.



THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor :	Pauline Thong	Sports Section :	Bawani Devi
Sub-editors :	Helena Wong Mun Yoke Thien Lee Peng Jasmin A. Rahim	Committee Members :	Lee Siew Leng Teresa Leong Esther Chong Chan Yim Chee
Hon. Secretary :	Law Jin Ee		
Business Manager :	Lim Mey Ling		
Photographer and Artist :	Yoon Lai Peng	Advisers :	Miss D. Tan Mrs. S. E. Lim

SCHOOL DIARY

JANUARY

- 4th — School reopened for 1971.
- 6th — Election of Prefects from Form IV.
- 8th — Inaugural meeting of all Forms IV and V Prefects.
- 11th — First Mass of the year in Church. Special Intention of the School for 1971.
- 19th to 23rd — School Hockey Team represented the School in an Inter-School Hockey Tournament.
- 22nd — Meeting of the 4 Houses for election of House Captains and the programme of Athletics for the 1st Term.

FEBRUARY

- 1st — Commencement of Athletics for the Term, and of all societies and clubs for the year.
- 1st, 2nd, 5th & 6th — School Volleyball Team participated in the Inter-School Volleyball Tournament held at Sekolah Tuanku Abdul Rahman. The team was placed 2nd.
- 3rd — The Secondary pupils welcomed the arrival of the Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak at the Ipoh Aerodrome.
- 8th to 10th — Presentation of Badges to Prefects, Class Representatives and Captains.
- 11th & 15th — The School was represented at the Inter-School Netball Championships by the School Netball Team.
- 13th — The Prefectorial Board visited the Kinta Valley Workshop for the Blind.
- 18th — A talk on Accountancy was given to the School by Mr. Fernandez of the Polytechnic Institution.
- 24th — The Shell Company presented a film and a quiz to the Form V pupils.

MARCH

- 19, 22 & 24th — Rehearsals of the 'Evening of Delight' by the School Music Society.
- 26th — 2 Form V students represented the School in a Science Quiz for schools and emerged as winners.
- 26th & 29th — Presentation of the 'Evening of Delight' to the public and specially invited guests.
- 29th — Rehearsal for the School Annual Sports.
- 31st — The School Athletic Sports Meet was held at the Y.M.C.A.

APRIL

- 2nd — The School closed for the 1st Term holidays.
- 5th, 6th & 7th — The Prefectorial Board made a trip to Penang Island.
- 19th — School reopened for the 2nd Term.
- 27th & 28th — First two heats of the School Talentime held at the Catholic Centre.
- 30th — Finals of the School Talentime at the Catholic Centre.

MAY

- 3rd to 6th — Meetings of the 4 Houses for the selection of games for the 2nd and 3rd Terms.
- 4th — Beginning of the Physical Fitness Test for all pupils.
- The Form IV Science Society made an Excursion to the Fraser and Neave Factory and the Perak Caves.
- 5th — Table Tennis Match between the School and the M.G.S.
- 22nd — The Form V Science Soc. visited the Geological Survey and the Veterinary Dept.
- 27th — Some 53 Form V students attended a Civics Course at St. Michael's Institution.

JUNE

- 1st — A talk on Job Opportunities was presented to the School by an representative of the Labour Department.
- 11th — 3 members of the English Language Group represented the School in an Elocution Contest organised by the Malay College of Kuala Kangsar.
- 12th — The School took part in an Inter-School Drama Competition.
- 16th — Miss Fredericks of the M. G. S. gave several interested Form IV and V students a talk on the American Field Service Students Exchange Programme.
- 16th & 17th — Several of our best athletes participated in the Central Perak School Championships and were placed among the winners.
- 22nd — The Mid-Year Examinations for Forms I, II and IV commenced.
- 26th & 27th — The School was represented in the Perak Combined Schools Athletic Meet at the Perak Stadium by a number of the School's athletes.
- 29th — A choir of Secondary pupils with students from S.M.I. sang in the Church for Rev. Father J. Ciatti's Silver Jubilee Anniversary Mass.

JULY

- 2nd — Sr. Mary Michael took her final vows at the St. Michael's Church.
- 5th — A food sale took over the Secondary School Canteen.



STAFF OF THE CONVENT NATIONAL TYPE SECONDARY SCHOOL (ENGLISH), IPOH.

Seated L to R: Sister Mary Michael, Mrs. Saravanan, Mrs. B. Chan, Mrs. A. Loh, Reverend Mother, Miss S. H. Hew, Mrs. Selvamony, Puan Noriah, Sister Oliver, Miss R. Yan, Mrs. S. S. Yaw, Mrs. B. B. Ng, Miss C. Thomasz.

Standing first row L to R: Miss P. Choy, Miss M. Y. Foong, Miss N. F. Lim, Mrs. Lim, Miss S. K. Wong, Miss D. Au, Mrs. Lim, Mrs. Hew, Mrs. F. Chong, Mrs. V. Ho, Miss Cheang, Miss K. Y. Lee, Miss P. K. Lee, Mrs. Foo, Miss F. Leong, Mrs. R. Teh, Miss M. Lee, Miss J. Wong, Miss L. Wong, Miss M. C. Lee, Miss E. Lee.

Standing second Row L to R: Miss R. Anthony, Miss A. Liew, Mrs. Y. T. Chan, Miss C. Steven, Mrs. T. H. Khoo, Mrs. A. Oh, Miss Samy, Miss S. F. Leong, Miss D. Ling, Miss P. C. Ooi, Mrs. M. Teh, Mrs. Cho, Miss M. Khor, Miss B. Lau.

Standing third row L to R: Miss N. W. Khor, Miss S. L. Ng, Mrs. M. Ng, Miss F. S. Low, Miss E. Chong, Miss L. M. Ng, Miss D. Tan, Miss T. Lai, Miss Y. C. Mak, Miss M. Ng, Mrs. Loo, Miss Lowe, Puan Normaziah, Che' Zakiah.

Absentees: Puan Fatimah, Mrs. T. S. Loh, Mrs. Subramaniam, Mrs. M. C. Liew, Mrs. L. F. Low, Mrs. Hiew, Miss P. Beh.



STAFF OF THE CONVENT NATIONAL TYPE PRIMARY SCHOOL, IPOH.

Seated L to R: Mrs. John Ng Beng Kiang, Mrs. W. Pillay, Mrs. Foo Joon Loke, Mrs. Mary Yuen, Reverend Mother, Mrs. S. Wah (Headmistress), Sister Winifred Ashness, Mrs. Christina Foo, Mrs. Jerome Samuel, Mrs. Tan Hang Seng.

Standing first row L to R: Voon Yuk Lan, Puan Sharifah Safiah bt. Syed Bab, Puan Mariatul Taebah bt. Mohd. Ali, Miss Susie Leong, Puan Raja Asma bt. R. Sulaiman, Mrs. Hiong Peng Kwun, Che' Halimah bt. Ahmad Jabar, Mrs. D. Govindan, Mrs. Lee-Lam Mei Yin, Puan Faridatul Awla bt. Abdul Aziz, Puan Norlia bt. Mohd. Din, Miss Winiford Aline Freeman, Barbara Foo.

Second row: Puan Hendun bte Malim, Miss Cheam Siew Yean, Mrs. Yeap Beng Hoe, Che' Faridah bte Daud, Mrs. Wong Kam, Miss R. T. Sebastian, Mrs. Yeow Ewe Thye, Mrs. Peh Swee Chin, Mrs. K. Muneesvaran, Mrs. Tony Teoh Ghim Soon.

THE PREFECTORIAL BOARD

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THE School Prefectorial Board of 1971 consists of 33 members under the guidance of our adviser, Miss S. H. Hew. At the Board's inaugural meeting on the 8th January, 1971, the following prefects were elected to office.

Head Prefect:	Lee Oi Loon
Asst. Head Prefect:	Liew Siew Yeen
Hon. Secretary:	Pauline Thong
Asst. Secretary:	Ooi Lee Choo
Hon. Treasurer:	Thien Lee Peng
Asst. Treasurer:	Loh Soo Har
Assembly Mistress:	Lai Yong Ching
Asst. Assembly Mistress:	Law Jin Ee

Our other fellow prefects are:-

Form V:-

Cheong Poh Leng	Foo Nyat Choon
Teng Shoo Ming	Tang Pik Har
Helena Wong Mun Yoke	Leong Sau Yee
Jasmin A. Rahim	Patricia Jalleh
Mary Lau	Lim Mey Ling
Lim Lee Leing	Ng Lay Kheng

Form IV:-

Wong Wai Kuen	Goon Pek Chin
Sik Ling Hong	Long May Lee
Esther Chong	Ho Lai Kwin
Lee Lee Lan	Lee Kiat Choo
Teresa Leong	Ng Lee Choo
Anne Dourado	Kamaliah bte. Mohd. Noh
Eu Yoke Lin	

For the first time, the School had a special ceremony for the taking of the oath of office and the presentation of badges to those pupils holding responsible positions. In a solemn investiture ceremony on the 8th February, 1971, the Prefects, with the Class Representatives and Captains, made their pledge of loyalty to the School and received their badges from Reverend Mother.

We have made two excursions to places of interest this year. On our first trip to the Kinta Valley Workshop for the Blind, we marvelled at the way in which the Sightless were trained to be useful citizens of the country. During the April holidays, we visited Penang with Miss Hew and two other teachers, Miss Ng and Mrs. Cho. We profited much from these enjoyable trips for we became much acquainted with the teachers and with each other.

Though the Prefectorial Board is the Discipline Board of the School, and we are expected to be 'perfect' in seeing to the order of the School, we are in no way different from our other fellow students. We have often been advised to treat our friends cordially, yet we should attempt to be firm also in maintaining discipline in the School. This being our basic aim, we hope to carry it out successfully, and that all other future prefects will be able to pass on this tradition.

Pauline Thong
(Hon. Secretary)

Dear fellow students,

IT is my pleasure to be able to represent the views of my fellow prefects. Once again, we have the publication of our School Magazine. For many, it signifies the end of their school days in our beloved Convent. But most of us will not be leaving so soon yet.

But no matter in what Form you are, let us pray that we will have the courage and determination to persevere in our ambitions. As John Burroughs, the American naturalist and author puts it:

‘For anything worth having, one must pay the price and the price is always, patience, love, self sacrifice — no paper currency, no promise to pay but the gold of real service.’

Before I end, I wish, on the behalf of the Prefectorial Board, to thank all of you for your co-operation in enabling us to carry out our duties. I also wish to thank our Reverend Mother Therese, and our Principal, Sister Fidelma. And last but not least, I offer our sincere thanks to our advisor, Miss Hew, who has given us so much guidance and encouragement.

Lee Oi Loon
(Head Prefect)

LETTER FROM THE HEAD PREFECT 1970

THE Prefectorial Board of 1970 consisted of 32 members, twenty Form 5 prefects and twelve Form 4 prefects. Our duties ranged from keeping order during assembly to checking bicycles and “patrolling” the corridors of the classrooms and the canteens during recess. Besides these, we did such interesting things as trying to steady our quavering voices when we face the microphone for the first time on announcements duty or screwing up enough courage to remind the girls to observe assembly rules — especially when the culprits are a whole head taller than us and look as if they’ll like to duck us in the nearest pool.

In addition to these routine jobs, we did whatever we could to help out at any school function. Some of these included the Talentime, the Opretta “Magic Flute” and the Inter-House Competitions and Matches. This last event saw a ‘crushing’ defeat of the Form 5 Prefects by their juniors — in the Tug-a-War Contest.

In April, we made a delightful trip to Penang, which was made all the more exciting by the fact that we stayed at a haunted bungalow. Interested ghost-stories fans can get first-hand accounts from any of the girls or teachers (Miss Hew, Miss Ong, Miss Leong) — on condition you haven’t got a strong imagination plus a weak heart. To bring a wonderful year to an end, we had another holiday in Cameron Highlands in December, accompanied by Miss Hew, Miss Ng, Miss C. Lee and Miss D. Tan. It turned out to be one of the nicest holidays I’ve had.

Except for a few odd uncomfortable moments (such as when I’ve been obliged to “say a few Words” in public) I can honestly say that my personal experience as a prefect has been extremely rewarding and happy; and I feel that whatever services we might have rendered to the school in the course of our duties are nothing compared to what it has given all of us, especially the ideals and convictions we now hold.

To all my companions, and teachers who have helped me to have such a wonderful time in school, I can only say Thank-you — and God Bless.

Wong Mian Yee.

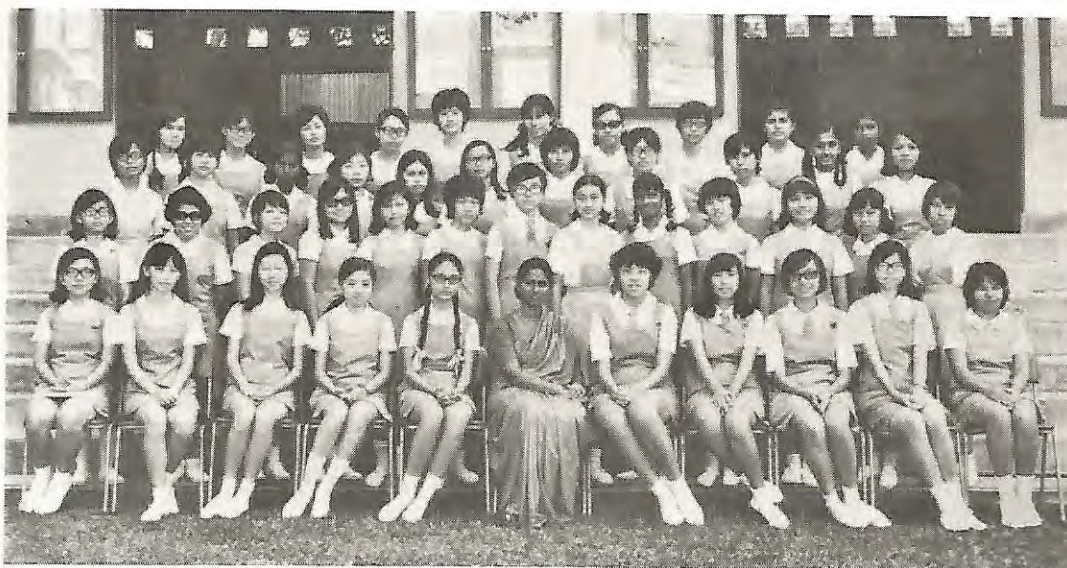


THE PREFECTORIAL BOARD 1971

Seated L to R: Jasmin bte. Abdul Rahim, Ng Lay Kheng, Helena Wong Mun Yoke, Pauline Thong (Secretary), Lee Oi Loon (Head Prefect), Rev. Mother Therese, Miss S. H. Hew (Adviser), Sr. Fidelma (Principal), Liew Siew Yeen (Assistant Head Prefect), Thien Lee Peng (Treasurer), Lai Yong Ching (Assembly Mistress), Foo Nyat Choon.

Standing First Row: Teresa Leong, Mary Lau, Lim Lee Leing, Cheong Poh Leng, Patricia Jalleh, Teng Shoo Ming, Leong Sau Yee, Tang Pik Har, Lim Mey Ling, Esther Chong, Long May Lee, Kamaliah bte. Mohd Noh.

Second Row: Sik Ling Hong, Law Jin Ee, Eu Yoke Lin, Ng Lee Choo, Lee Kiat Choo, Lee Lee Lian, Wong Wai Kuen, Anne Dourado, Ooi Lee Choo, Loh Soo Har, Ho Lai Kwin, Goon Pek Chin.



Form V A

Seated L to R: Tan Kok Choo, Lee Peng Peng, Angela Chya, Lee Yam Kiow, Chow Choo Lian, Mrs. Selvamany, Liew Siew Yeen, Helena Wong, Pauline Thong, Teng Shoo Ming, Jasmin.

Standing First Row L to R: Kheng Ngan Yau, Irene Ng, Lee Lih Ka, Kon Seow Yin, Tham Sau Chun, Yeap Lay Leng, Cheong Poh Ling, Theresa Chow, Gnana Pushpam, Eu Chooi Fan, Yoon Lai Ping, Chong Beng Suan, Nabilah Lazim.

Second Row: Khoo Siew Bee, Chong Kum Kee, Janagi Nageswari, Loo Ching Fan, Yeoh Yuet Kiew, Chan Yuet Leng, Loke Fong Meng, Teh Shock Yan, Christine Chew, Rukhsana Perveen, Muharyani bte. Othman.

Third Row: Chan Mei Lai, Ng Foon Mang, Mah Yoke Tow, Irene Ong, Jenny Chew, Lee Pei Fang, Wong Woh Peng, Linda Lee, Baldev Kaur, Shantamalar.



Form V B

Seated L to R: Foong Ah Chee, Chew Yoke Kheng, Teh Seok Kwung, Magdalene Leong, Mrs. Lim, Khor Choon Khee, Vijaya Kumari, Lim Lee Leing, Mary Lau.

Standing First Row L to R: Helen Low, Leong Yoke Toh, Rosaline Arulanantham, Lim Lie Mooi, Monica Ng, Rose Chong, Lee Ah Yoke, Christina Choo, Margaret Tan, Rosnah bt. Shamchik, Yoon Kwai Mei.

Second Row: Vimala Devi, Szeto Yoke Wah, Normala bt. Ismail, Radziah bt. Kamaruddin, K. Pathimamary, Lai Choon Meng, Ng Sau Peng, Tan Mooi Chye, Ang Bee Choo.

Third Row: Helen Rani, Cheong Choi Wan, Noorsiah bt. Ahmad Shah, Cynthia Chin, Chooi Fong Yoong, Jagjit Kaur, Leong Mun Yeen, Choong Mee Kuam.

Fourth Row: Choy Lai Mei, Winei Chang, Wong Soo Mooi, Cheong Chait Mooi, Poh Chai Meng, Kong Sit Yee, Ooi Peck Oh.

Absentee: Lau Kam Ping.



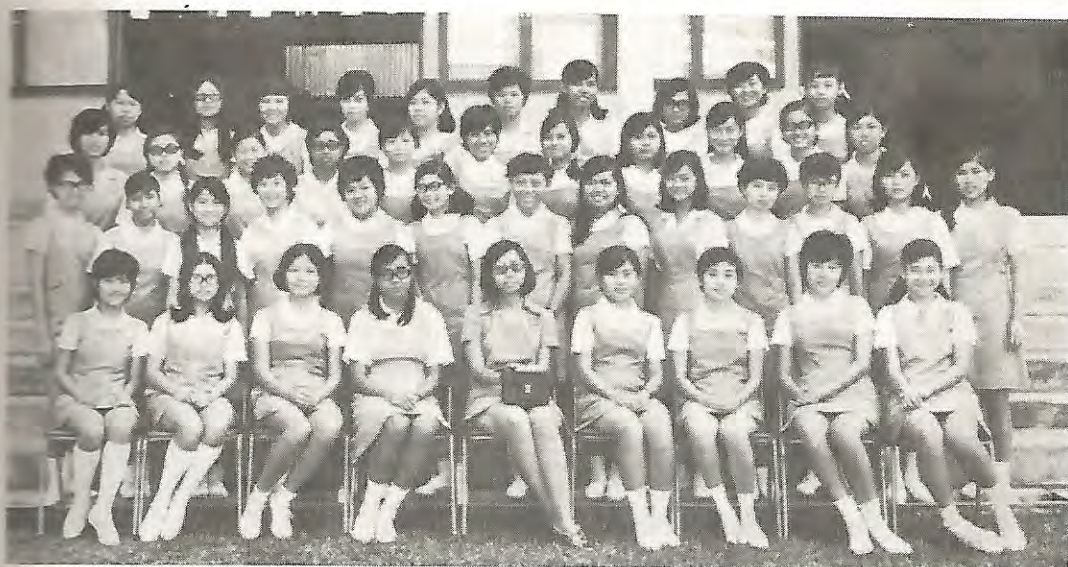
Form V C

Seated L to R: Foo Foong Keng, Wong Seok Peng, Faezah Ismail, Gurdial Kaur, Miss Wong Soon Kim, Kong Lai Yoong, Lai Yong Ching, Foo Nyat Choon, Thien Lee Peng.

Standing First Row L to R: Joyce Ong, Santha Kumari, Indrany, Kong Yau Kam, Cheah Fay Yin, Kwa Sau Guat, Yik Kwan Heng, Yeoh Swee Imm, Lee Lai Yoong, Leong Lai Kam, Tham Yoke Chan, Wong Wai Leng, Shum Yut Kiew.

Second Row: Chong Mee Chin, P'ng Siok Heang, Chuah Poh Cheok, Fatima bt. Mohd. Hashim, Marlene Chong, Mah Li Lan, Chang Yip Meng, Sheila Doshi, Foong Wai Meng, Seow Yin Peng, Cheong Sook Ching, Collette Pereira.

Third Row: Leow Ming Mee, Ong Wei June, Tee Boon Wah, Wong Mee Yoke, Lee Woon Yoke, Ooi Poh Yoke, Agatha Chong, Annie Ng, Liew Siew Foong, Chan Siew Horng, Fazilarudlina bt. Hj. Talib.



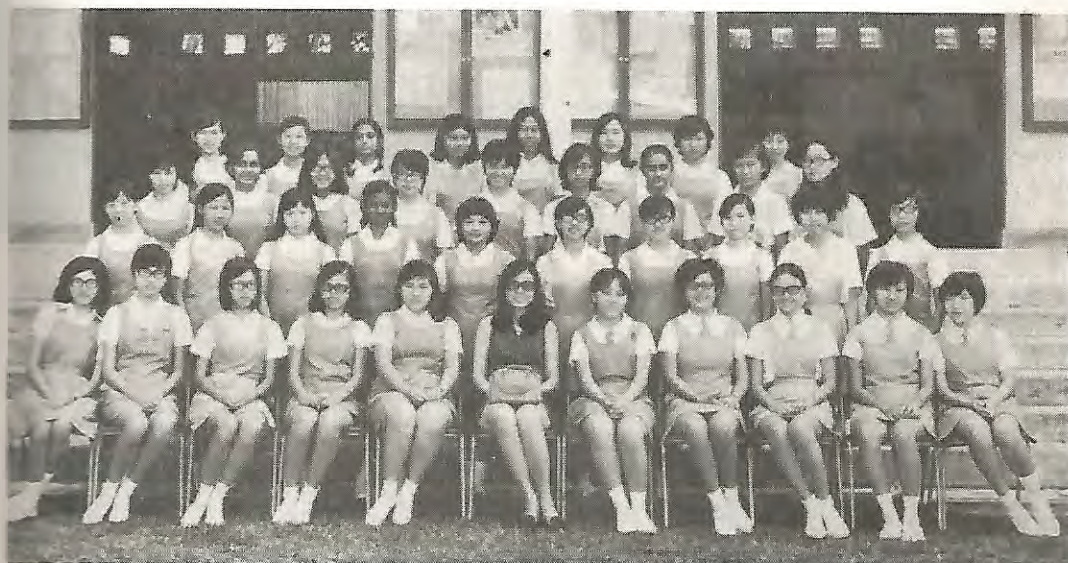
Form V D

Seated L to R: Christine Yap, Beh Weng Kiew, Tham Sau Meng, Shamsiah Mohd. Daud, Miss Margaret Lee, Anna Loo, Cheong Pik Foong, Loh Foong Leng, Tang Pik Har.

Standing First Row L to R: Tan Siew Hoon, Moira Basnayake, Chang Yut Keng, Soon Ping Kee, Ong Siew Eng, Chen Chiu Hiong, Ong Ai Lay, Cheah Kwee Yoon, Chan Kwan Yoke, Chin Pek See, Wong Chooi Mee, Ching Ah Mooi, Lee Sau Peng.

Second Row: Wong Choy Wah, Ooi Choo Keng, Lim Ai Leng, Salma Mohd. Dubi, Loh Yoke Chin, Wong Swee Lin, Wong Yoon Juan, Beh Lee Chin, Foong Moy Lim, Lorrin Tan, Teh Kok Mooi.

Third Row: Woon Lai Leng, Foong Yen Heng, Yap Lay Hua, Eu Mooi Ying, Chang Siew Yin, Catherine Wong, Lau Swee Kuen, Hah Yee Lian, Lee Nyat Ngo, Lee Geok Huah.



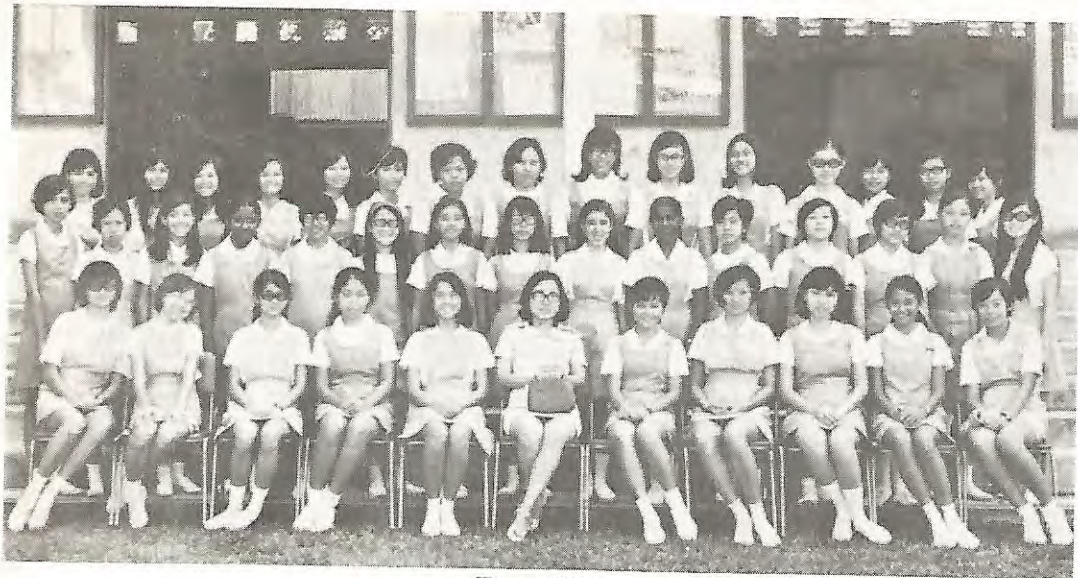
Form V E (Science)

Seated L to R: Cheong Nyok Tai, Teresa Keng, Leong Wai Ching, Teow Gaik Chin, Chan Yoke Chee, Miss Doreen Tan, Lim Mey Ling, Leong Sau Yee, Patricia Jalleh, Lee Oi Loon, Ng Lay Kheng.

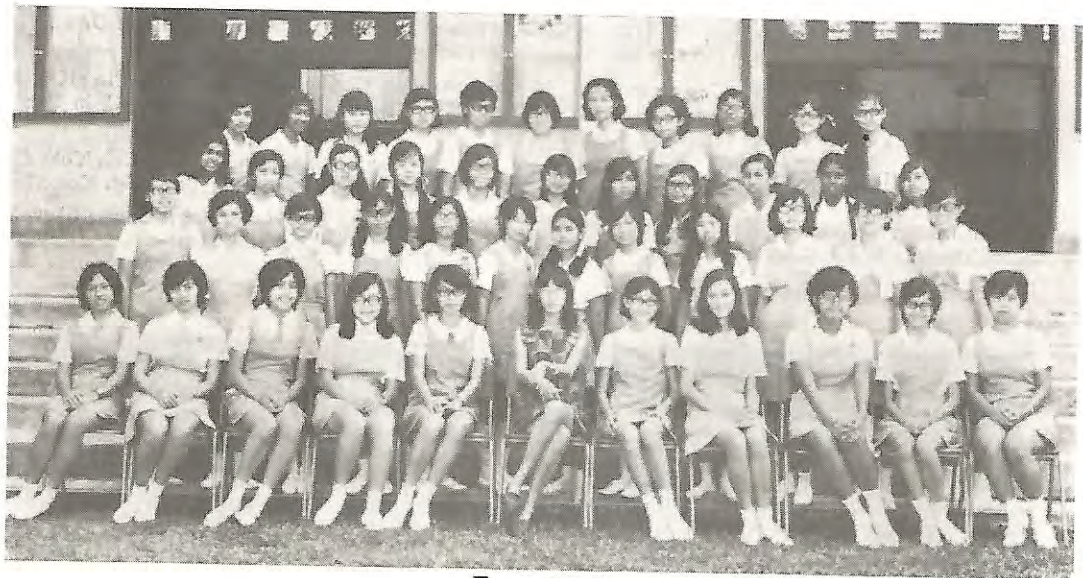
Standing First Row L to R: Khoo Siew Bean, Chang Oi Kam, Mun Sook Yi, Susilah Devi, Lee Siew Leng, Chow Sow Leng, Tan Poh Noi, Selina Tung, Chooi Swee Lin, Cheah Poh Ling.

Second Row: Chin Wai Fong, Flavian Dourado, Leong Choy Wan, Loh Mai Ling, Low Ping Sum, Rape'ah Adawiah, Harpreet Kaur, Yeoh Sow Keng, Lee May Lucn.

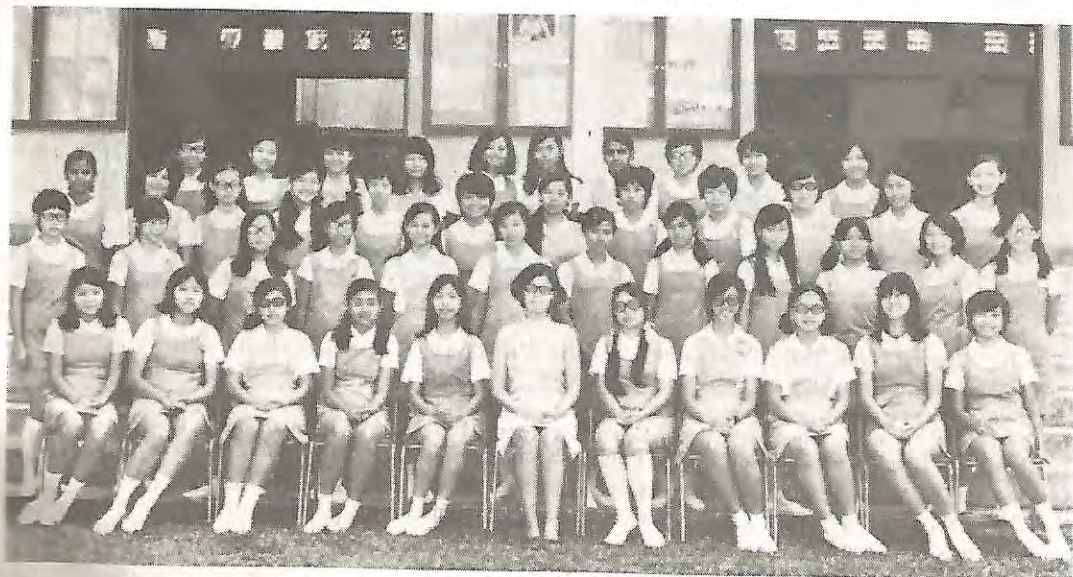
Third Row: Khoo Kuan Hwa, Lim Bee Yong, Veena Kumari, Chew Poh Yim, Ng Wai Cheng, Chew Sein Mene, Wong Hoong Wah, Chong Siew Hoon.



Form IV A



Form IV B



Form IV C



Form IV D



Form IV E



Form IV F



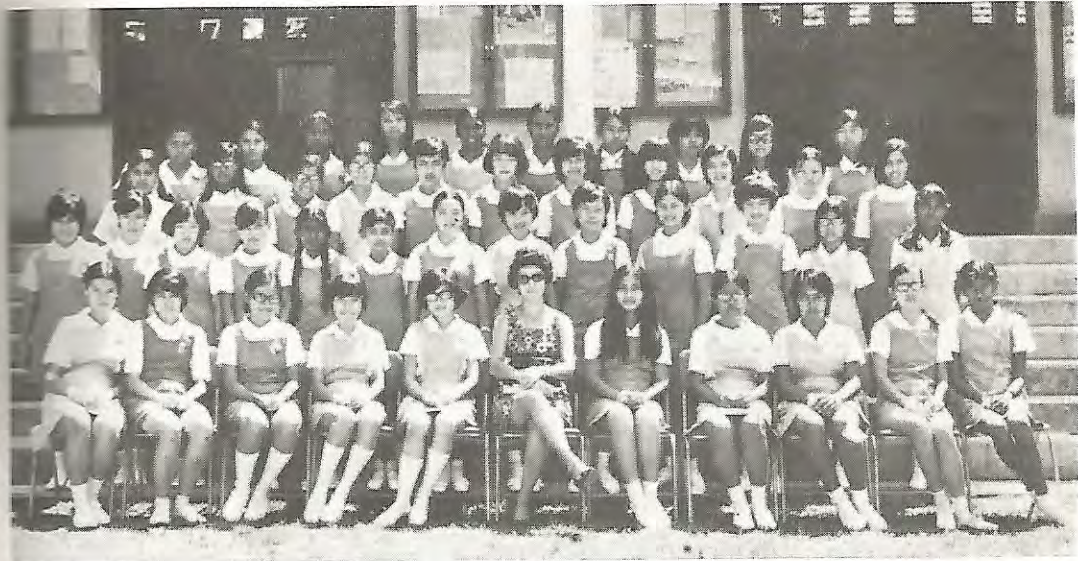
Form IV G



Form III A



Form III B



Form III C



Form III D



Form III E



Form III F



Form III G



Form II A

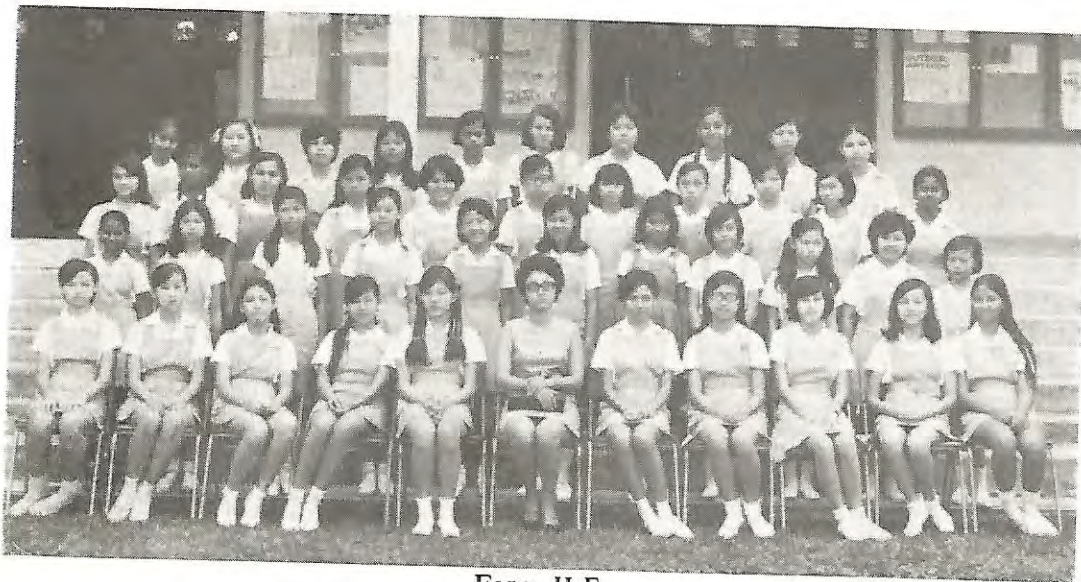


Form II B



Form II C





Form II E



Form II F



Form II G



Form II H



Form II J



Form I A



Form I AM



Form I B





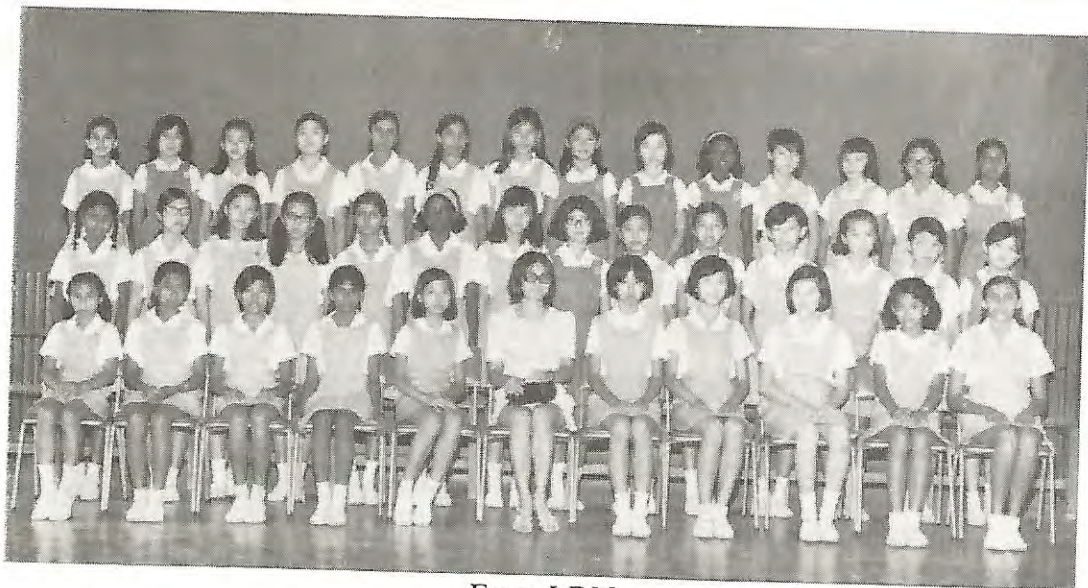
Form I C



Form I CM



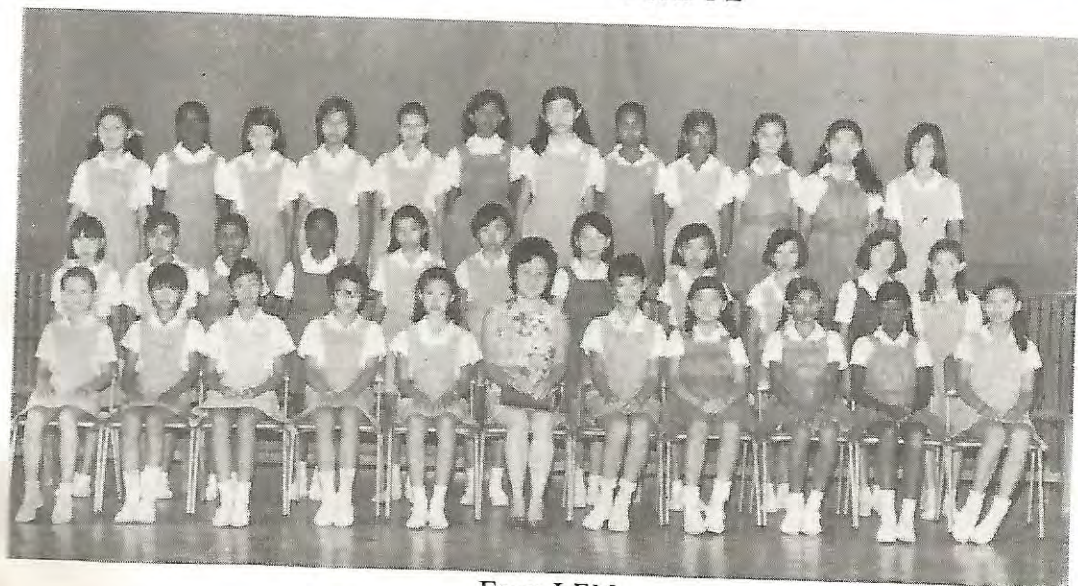
Form I D



Form I DM

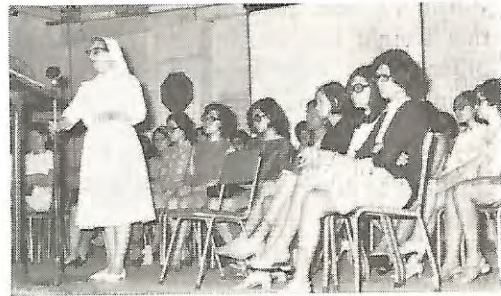


Form I E



Form I EM

BADGE-GIVING CEREMONY



BADGE-GIVING CEREMONY

THE badge-giving ceremony was held on Monday, February 8th. Reverend Mother, Sister Fidelma, all the teachers, class representatives and house captains of all the forms, the prefects and the Form 5's and Form 4's were present in the hall to witness this simple but meaningful ceremony. The other forms were kept informed through the main microphone system.

The ceremony opened with the singing of the hymn "Spirit of God", followed by a short

but important speech by Reverend Mother. There was then a short reading from the bible by Mrs. Loh, the teachers' representative. The class representatives, the house captains and lastly the prefects made their promise and received their badges respectively, from Reverend Mother.

Thus ended the simple badge-giving ceremony with those holding responsible positions going off with a more meaningful outlook of the responsibilities they are to fulfil.

Helena Wong
Form V A

BOARD OF STUDENT LIBRARIANS



Board of Student Librarians – 1971

Adviser:	Miss Elaine Leong
Committee Members:	
Head Librarian:	Lim Lee Leing
Asst. Head:	Tang Pik Har
Secretary:	Lim Mey Lim
Treasurer:	Teresa Keng
Teng Shoo Meng	Teh Shock Yan
Chong Beng Suan	Khoo Siew Bee

THE Board of Student Librarians was first started in 1968 under the able leadership of our former teacher librarian, Mrs. Wong. Since 1970 we have Miss Leong as our new adviser.

At the beginning of this year we tried out the system of recruitment as taught us by the S.M.I. librarians whereby those girls interested were handed application forms in which they had to fill particulars concerning their academic and personal abilities. Then they had to undergo an interview conducted by the Committee Board after which they were put on probation for 3 weeks. There were only 27 successful applications out of a total of 62. These together with the Form 5 librarians bring the membership to 46.

The Board of Student Librarians is divided

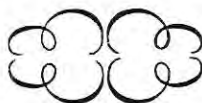
... 4 groups, each under a Committee Member. Our meetings are held in the Library every Monday at 2 p.m. with 2 groups attending each alternate week. During these meetings we learn how to catalogue and assess books. We are getting quite expert in the art of book wrapping and binding. This year we have covered many encyclopaedias as well as science books. As there were still so many books in need of a new cover, many student librarians had volunteered their services during the April holidays. We also paste book pockets and date-due slips on to books. Much of our patience is tried during book mending sessions when the pages of books in need of repair keep coming off despite the generous dose of sticky glue. We have to apply varnish to the books to prevent them from being attacked by cockroaches. The book varnish emits a 'sweet' smell reminiscent of the typical medicinal air pervading a dispensary. We have a general meeting once a month to hold discussions and solve problems that should arise. A Committee Board meeting is held monthly where the Committee Members discuss the programme for the month and any matters pertaining to the Library. Every student librarian is assigned counter duty once a week during which she has to check all outgoing books. Besides counter duties, student librarians have to do book shelving daily. Those in charge of the Science section have the laborious task of shelving the ever disarrayed

Science reference books which are most popular with the students.

The library has improved much in colour. Gay blossom arranged in three vases lend a bright touch to the library. Each group is in charge of supplying these flowers once a week on a rotation basis. A new cupboard has been installed to accomodate the fast increasing books and our library has a stock of over 6000 reference books. At present we are in the midst of classifying and accessing them. Unlike the previous years, students can now borrow books at all hours of the day till 4 p.m. They are allowed to borrow home certain Science books, Geography books, Biography books and magazines.

Early in May the student librarians participated in volley ball, net-ball, and football matches organised by the Ipoh Library Council. Ten student librarians represented our school in attending the 5th Student Librarians Seminar held at S. T. A. R. on 6th June. The seminar was a success. Its main aims are to promote better relationships between the student librarians of all schools in Ipoh and also to promote better recognition of the various boards of student librarians.

Before the closing of the second term, we will be going on an excursion to the Malayan Flour Mill, after which we will cross over to Pangkor Island for a picnic.



IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY



Got to arrange the Magazines.



Barbarians Oops! sorry, Librarians at work.



3 blind mice, 3 blind mice
See how they read, see how they read.



Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard to fetch a bone ?



He's coming to dinner tonight.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE SOCIETY



THE Literary and Debating Society was renamed the English Language Group at the beginning of the year, the main reason being that the name suits the aim of the Group which deals with all subjects concerning English, rather than merely concentrating on Literature and Debates.

Since the last publication of the School Magazine, the Group has done remarkably well in debates and elocution contests. Our greatest achievement came at the end of 1970, when three of our best speakers walked away with the Sen Gupta Trophy in the Fourth Form Inter-School Debate.

The English Language Group of 1971 has an enrolment of about eighty members under the guidance of Mrs. P. Selvamany and Miss Foong. The Group is subdivided into four other minor groups, each named after a famous author, poet or artist such as Chekov, Buchans, Rembrandt and Hardy. At the Group's inaugural meeting on the 1st February, 1971, the following members were called to office.

Chairman: Pauline Thong
 Vice-Chairman: Bawani Devi
 Hon. Secretary: Thien Lee Peng
 Asst. Secretary: Tsai Pao Chien
 Representatives from Forms III, IV and V,

and Group Leaders were also elected.

Form III: Low Lay Len and Lay Kim Yoon

Form IV: Law Jin Ee

Form V: Jasmin A. Rahim

Group Leaders:-

Chekov: Catherine Machado and Goon Pek Chin

Buchans: Wong Wai Kuen and Juliana Chan

Rembrandt: Kamaliah bte. Mohd Nor
 Hardy: Jaspal Kaur Sandhu

This year, we have had three debates, the motions of which are "Does Western influence have a bad effect on Asian culture?" "Money is the root of all evil" and "Man was born free, but everywhere he is in chains". A general knowledge quiz, Spelling and Elocution contests, and Impromptu Speeches have also been conducted. The Group tries as far as possible to encourage its members to take an active part by giving speeches in order to help them to gain self-confidence. We are proud to say that we have discovered a number of eloquent speakers in the Group, and we are still attempting to seek out a few more others, especially from the Form IV members. These speakers, we hope, will be able to retain the Sen Gupta Trophy at the end of the year, and make the name of the Convent live up to its expectations.

Pauline Thong
 (Chairman)

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY (Form 2)

THE first meeting of the Literary and Debating Society was held on the 12th of January, 1971. Members were enrolled and after that the election of the office bearers for 1971 took place. The following were elected office bearers for the year 1971:

Chairman: Tan Eng Lian
Vice-Chairman: Yap Yook Foong
Secretary: Goon Li Chin

Meetings were held weekly from 1.00 p.m.

to 2.00 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Art Room. The members of the society are very regular in attending the meetings and they always try to participate in the subjects discussed during meetings. Speeches on different topics were held and on one occasion, a quiz on "Malaysian Affairs" was organised. Members were also given crossword puzzles to solve and speech training exercises.

The adviser of the Literary and Debating Society is Mrs. M. Teh.

THE FOURTH FORM SCIENCE SOCIETY



THE Fourth Form Science Society consists of 86 members. Due to the large number of numbers, the society is divided into two groups. One group consists of the Form 4G girls and the other group consists of the Form 4F and Form 4E girls. We have Miss Lee (Chemistry), Mrs. Chong (Chemistry), Mrs. Cho (Biology) and Mrs. Loh (Physics) as our Science advisors. Our meetings are held on Thursday from 2 - 3 p.m. The office-bearers of the year are:

4G Group	4F and 4E Group
President: Ooi Lee Choo	Wong Weng Yee
Secretary: Lam Lai Peng	Yeap Geok Aik
4E Representative: Fung Sau Mun	

One of the first projects we carried out was the making of soap. We also tried our hands

at making invisible ink and growing crystals. We carried out an interesting chemical phenomenon called a silica garden. We were given a lesson on the handling of microscopes and the making of slides. We studied the various parts of the flower and its floral pattern and formula. During one of the meetings, we carried out some blood tests to find out our blood group. Using Hope's Apparatus, we found out the maximum density of water.

On the 4th May, we paid a visit to the Fraser and Neave Factory where we saw the steps carried out in processing drinks. Then on the 24th May, we had a Science Quiz with the Ave Maria girls. We lost the quiz. In the Third term holidays, we plan to visit the Cameron Highlands.

FORM FIVE MATHS. & SCIENCE SOCIETY

THE Form 5 Maths and Science Society has Miss Hew as the Maths adviser and Miss Lee, Mrs. Low and Mrs. Cho the science advisers. The following office bearers were elected at the beginning of the year.

President: Ng Lay Kheng

Secretary: Lim Mey Ling

Our Society comprises thirty-seven members. We have our meeting at 2-00 p.m. every Thursday. Under Miss Hew, we have learnt how to construct magic squares of odd numbers ending in digit 5. During our Maths meetings we have also done some Modern Maths in which we get acquainted with the binary system and the conversion of numbers in the decimal system to the binary. We have some practice in the octal system as well and we now know how to convert numbers in the octal system to the binary system.

Last year, under Miss Lee we got ourselves into three different groups. One group started rearing guinea pigs while the second took to gardening on the small patch of land situated near the Domestic Science room. Due to the girls' enthusiastic care balsam and vegetables such as sweet potatoes thrived in abundance. The last group reared fish in aquariums kept in the laboratory. Though our enterprise

was not very successful, we had a wonderful time looking after the guinea pigs, fish and tending the plants. During one meeting an interesting experiment on blood test was conducted. We were surprised with the discovery that most of us have group O blood while a few have group A and B, only two girls' blood belong to group AB. We also grew crystals of copper sulphate and potassium dichromate. We gave a try on the silica garden which proved to be a tremendous success.

Besides that, we invited Mr. Tenadasa to give a talk on fish rearing. We were told about diseases which fish normally suffer and the correct treatment for certain diseases. We also learnt that fish need good ventilation, sunlight and properly conditioned water.

Under Mrs. Cho we did experiments to test for the type of food in the various foodstuffs we had brought such as bread, watermelon, onion and meat. We compared our results which were very surprising indeed because some of the results were greatly different from the others. During our Physics meeting we conducted experiments on electricity.

Two girls from the science group, Leong Sau Yee and Teresa Keng represented our school in the Form 5 Inter-school Science Quiz



Watch our future scientists at work!!



No joking
when it
means
serious work.



Oh! Oh!
Be careful!!

held at Anglo-Chinese School on the 26th of April, 1971. Congratulations indeed to these two girls for winning the Challenge Trophy. They scored 16 points out of 24 points beating the defending school, A. C. S. by a narrow margin of 2 points.

On 14-5-71 Dr. Chan from the Ipoh General Hospital visited our school to deliver a talk on "Cancer and Leukemia". The talk was held in the Form 5E classroom. Dr. Chan told us that cancer is also known by the medical terms, neoplasia and mitotic lesion. Effective treatment may be administered in the form

of surgery, drugs, irradiation and hormonal treatment.

On Saturday 22-5-71 we visited the Geological Survey and Veterinary Department. We were accompanied by Miss Lee, Mrs. Low and Miss Tan. We spent an enjoyable time observing the numerous rock specimens on display. We were also shown how to mount a rock specimen on the slide for examination under the microscope. At the Veterinary Department we were given an interesting talk on the caring and housing of animals and on how to administer medicine to sick animals.

PERSATUAN BAHASA MALAYSIA 1971



Penasehat:	Puan Maziah Mrs. Saravanam
Pengerusi:	Vijaya Kumari
Setia Usaha:	Jasmin Abdul Rahim
Pen. Setia Usaha:	Kamaliah Mohd Nor
Bendahari:	Cheong Poh Leng

PERSATUAN ini telah mengadakan mesuarat agung-nya dalam bulan Februari tahun ini. Jumlah ahli-ahli persatuan ini telah mengakagumkan penasehat-penasehat-nya kerana ia-nya terdiri lebih dari sa-ratus orang. Semua-nya murid-murid tingkatan empat dan lima. Tiap-tiap minggu kami mengadakan satu perjumpaan di-dewan sekolah ini.

Kami telah menjayakan berbagai-bagai achara saperti perbahathan, menduga akal tarian-tarian. Projek-projek wayang kulit dan menjilid buku chara hidup orang-orang Melayu sedang dalam perlaksanaan. Pada hujung bulan Julai yang akan datang, persatuan ini akan melawat ka-Pantai Timor yang kayah dengan kebudayaan orang-orang Melayu.

Saya bagi pehak persatuan ini tidak lupa menguchapkan jutaan terima kaseh kepada Puan Maziah dan Mrs. Saravanam kerana mengorbankan masa mereka, memberi bimbingan dan perangsang yang sangat-sangat perlu untuk persatuan ini.

Jasmin Abdul Rahim
Setia Usaha

SENIOR GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Committee Members:

Advisers:	Mrs. Khoo and Miss Wong
Chairman:	Mary Lau
Secretary:	Lee Yam Kiow
Treasurer:	Kong Lai Yoong

OUR Senior Geographical Society has its weekly meeting on Monday from 2 - 3 p.m. Though the first term was short we did have a satisfying and quite interesting programme for the term. During our meetings

so far, we had a short general quiz and group discussions on geographical projects, which we intend to work on during the second term. As for the geographical board, the members of each group have started taking turns to put up some interesting items on corals, lakes and the formation of different types of mountains. Finally just before the close of the term, we made an excursion to the Esin Factory in Jelapang.

During our visit to this factory we had the opportunity to observe the processes by which the different types of canned food such as curry chicken, banana jam, Japanese mee and tau cheong were made for local consumption in Malaysia. The machinery which does a most efficient and quick job of turning out, for example, hundreds of packets of Japanese mee a day, is a most intricate and complicated one. In another part of the factory we saw how banana jam was made. The bananas which were skinned were passed through some sort of a mangle and squashed pulps emerged from the other side of the mangle. Just before we left the factory each of us received a packet of Japanese mee as a 'souvenir'.

On the same day we also visited a rubber estate near Tanjong Rambutan. After walking through about four miles of muddy road in the

hot sun we finally reached our destination with many of us almost half dead with fatigue. When we reached there, the latex had already been collected and we were just in time to see the processes by which the labourers make the latex into sheet rubber. First a certain amount of formic acid was added into the latex and stirred, then air bubbles on the surface of the liquid latex were removed after which, aluminium plates were placed at regular intervals in the tank and the latex was left for a day or two to coagulate.

On the whole we had quite a satisfying and informative excursion. We also hope to finish our geographical projects which include a limestone cave project, desert features and many more interesting ones by the end of the second term.

Lee Yam Kiow
(Secretary)



A group working on the framework of a limestone project.



The girls are having a nice time 'getting into shape' the outline of a coastline project.



Grinding ingredients for the making of canned curry chicken at the Esin Canning Factory, Jelapang.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Form 2)

President: Low Kam Chee
Vice-President: Tan Gaik Looi
Secretary: Lim Lay Geok
Treasurer: Low Chooi Yean

THE Form 2 Historical Society has a membership of 50 girls under the guidance of Miss B. Lau. The meetings are held from 2.00 - 3.00 p.m. on Mondays.

During the first and second term projects have been done. The projects were based on

the topics we had done during our history lessons namely works of famous men during the Renaissance period, the Taj Mahal, Roman History and many others.

We have started a stamp collection in our society. Some projects have been finished and the girls are told to keep up with the good work.

The society hopes to have an excursion at the end of year.

Low Chooi Yean

HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Form 4)

THE Form 4 Historical Society holds weekly meeting on Tuesday from 2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. The members are grouped into six groups. To foster team work, each group is given the job to produce a scrap book of newspaper cuttings on current event or any historical articles. Besides this the society has debates, talks and discussions. Members are taken to library occasionally for research work on history. Recently, the society had a mock court case. The case was a simple one, planned by the girls themselves. People in the play were Mary Culas, Yoke Hing, Mei Lan, Wei Lam, Li Leong, Li Tien, Pik Wan, Choi Ngor,

Raja Normah, Bee Yun and Florence. We are planning to go to Cameron Highlands and put up a night there. We will probably go on 3-7-71. We have suggested having a collection of old coins and notes. Some of the girls will bring the coins and all the other girls will participate in tracing or drawing out the coins and notes. The following are the committee members of the society:

Adviser: Mrs. Ho
President: Wan Yoke Hing
Secretary: Wong Swee Fong
Treasurer: Yap Wai Har



HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Form 5)

WE had our inaugural meeting on the 2nd February in the presence of twenty-three members. Our adviser in charge is Miss M. Lee. During the course of the second meeting the office bearers were elected:

President: Rose Chong
Secretary: Yeoh Yuet Kiew
Treasurer: Anna Loo

Since then, the meeting had been held every week on Tuesday after school dismissal. This year, the Historical Society has aimed at helping its members to obtain a better and wider understanding of History and the world's current events including the circumstances leading to them — the present situation in Ireland, the Vietnam War, the Middle-East conflict, etc. The programme for the year includes various suggestions forwarded by the members themselves. We hope to achieve our aim by conducting beneficial talks on matters of historical interest, organising quizzes and dealing with Historical Examination questions on this year's syllabus for M.C.E.

The society was able to carry out certain items in the proposed programme. We started off with an inter-netball game among the members themselves to provide the first opportunity for all the members to get to know one another better since most of us are from different classes. This was largely due to the great assistance given to us by our adviser, and the tireless,

enthusiastic efforts and full co-operation shown by the members.

Occasional research work on a few great persons — Socrates, Aristotle, Confucius, Mohammed, Stamford Raffles — had been carried out and a few members gave talks on them with their notes. This has gained for us a much better knowledge and understanding of the lives of these men, their teachings and their work. Futhermore, to enable a full participation from all the members, our adviser suggested having members conducting the meeting each week whereby the members are to prepare talks on certain historical topics on Malaya, each member being given a different topic to talk on the following week with the aid of their preparation.

As far as all these are concerned, everything has functioned with success. In addition, an inter-historical quiz among the Form V members themselves and an inter-form quiz among the Forms IV and V members have been planned as one of the other items on our programme.

Reviewing the proceedings of the society since its first meeting, we are confident that more will be accomplished within this year. And we wish to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to our adviser for giving us so much guidance in all we have been undertaking this year.

President and Secretary
(Historical Society, Form V)



THE 7th IPOH GIRL GUIDES COMPANY, C.H.I.J. IPOH



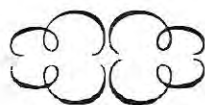
THROUGHOUT the fourteen years since of the formation the 7th company, the company has continued to flourish under the guidance of our Captains, the present one being Miss Mak. The present enrolment stands at sixty-two with six Patrols, Bougainvillea, Hibiscus, Lily, Orchid, Rose and Sunflower, each led by a Patrol Leader and a Patrol Second. We are proud to acknowledge that seven out of the ten Queen's Guides in Malaysia, were from the 7th Ipoh Company.

The weekly meeting is held on every Saturday morning, from 7-30 - 9-30 a.m. in school, during which we pick up useful knowledge on First Aid, Cooking and others, besides enjoying ourselves at the games session. Twice a term, the Captain, the Lieutenants, the Company Leader, the Patrol Leaders and the Patrol Seconds attend a Court-of-Honour at which the ways of governing 7th Company are discussed.

Throughout the school term, the Girl Guides helped at school functions such as the "Evening of Delight", The Athletics Meet and The Talentime. Beside these, they also performed social services like visiting the Spastics Children Home and Old Folk's Home. The Shell Sports and Y.M.C.A. Art Show saw us lending a helping hand.

Earlier in the year, we hiked to Herstletz Camp, where the 2nd Class Guides were tested for their Half Day's Hike and Cook's Badge and the Tenderfoots their Firelighting test. We also attended campfires and gathering organised by our Brother Scouts and Sister Guides from other Troops and Companies.

1971 has been a most satisfying year but we hope to achieve much more in the progress and development of the 7th Company in 1972. So let us "BE PREPARED".



Company

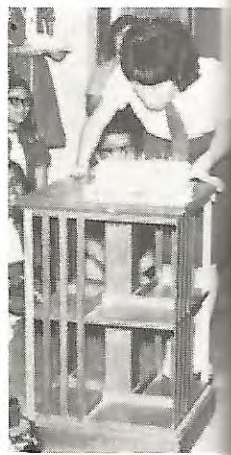
Leader

7th Coy

Leaders 1970-71

Souvenir

c.l. 1970		c.l. 1970
P.L.		P.L.
Bougainvillea		Rose
P.L.	P.L.	P.L.
Lily	Hibiscus	Orchid
		Sunflower



8th COMPANY

THE 8th Ipoh Girl Guide Company was started on 22nd June, 1958 by Miss Mona Lim. Since it was founded we have never failed to recruit new members every year. The recruitment of new members increases every year and at present our company has a total of 62 members. The Company is progressing very readily with the help of our new guider, Mrs. P.C. Hiew and our new Lieutenant, Miss M. Khor.

Our meetings are held weekly on Saturdays from 8-10 a.m. The meetings are usually held in the Convent and at times in the Girl Guides' Hall. During the meetings, the Guides work together in 6 different patrols or groups. Each patrol has a patrol leader and she is assisted by the patrol second. These patrols are called by the names of different birds. To make things more elaborate as well as much easier, each patrol has its own motto and whistle signal.

During the first term we were kept busy with the recruitment of new members as well as attending to duties. We went to the Old Folks' Home in Kampong Simee and also the Spastic Children's Home in Labrooy Road.

Before the first term ended, there was an election of new leaders and office bearers. To close the first term, the Guides were taken on a hike to Herslet Camp. Though the hike was tiring the Guides enjoyed themselves tremendously.

During the first week of the April holidays, the Guides went around doing odd jobs and this week is known as Bob-a-job week. During this week which is organised annually the Guides get the opportunity to meet people and try to do a good deed for them.

We plan to have the enrolment ceremony in mid-June so as to celebrate it in conjunction with our 13th Anniversary.

Lim Lee Leing
(Company Leader)



8th GIRL GUIDE COMPANY
Motto: "STRIVE UNCEASINGLY"

THE JOYFUL VANGUARDS



OUR first adviser was Sister Fidelma, who was later succeeded by Sr. Gemma Wong and still later by Sr. Catherine. In 1970, Sr. Mary Michael, our present adviser took over.

Like other movements and organisations we have a group of committee members at unit level and they are our adviser Sr. Mary Michael, our chief-promoter Miss Patricia Lee, assistant chief-promoter Thien Lee Peng, treasurer: Ng Sook Leng, assistant treasurer Choo Wan Mee, secretary: Wong Lai Peng and assistant secretary Ng Wei Liam. In our unit there are all in all one hundred members and they are sectioned into three groups namely the Joyettes comprising girls from std. III-V, Sunbeams - std. VI - Form I. Victors Form II onwards and also promoters or responsables which comprises 12.

In 1970, we had a year campaign on "Friendship". The aim of this campaign was to promote better relationship in school, at home and in the neighbourhood. We also had a leaders' training session last year. Promoters and leaders of various units in Perak Region attended this session. An outing for the Joyettes was organised in August last year. As they were only children, we only took them round Ipoh town, to the caves, the Japanese Gardens and all the places of tourists attraction. At the

end of the year in November a Rally was held at Regional level to mark the climax of the Year Campaign. Here all the Vanguards were gathered together to exchange news and views, to rekindle old ties and also to help each other to build their units.

This rally was held in S.M.I. We invited several guests, namely Bishop Gregory Yong, the Minister of Culture and Youth, the National Team, the heads of various schools and other distinguished guests. The Minister of Culture and Youth declared the rally open. At this rally we had a Games Carnival during which friendly competitions were held in the various fields of games. There was also an exhibition of photographs depicting the Movement at home and abroad and work done by the various units. At night we were supposed to have a campfire, but due to the unexpected downpour we had to have an indoor "Campfire". Though the rain stopped us from having the real campfire, nevertheless it did not dampen our high spirits. The various unit members after having exchanged ideas and having bidden farewell headed for home at 9.00 p.m.

Early this year in March we had our Enrolment Ceremony. Girls who had been in our unit for one year were officially enrolled as full fledged members of the Joyful Vanguards. Other members who had proved their worth in

their various assignments and duties in their respective stages, received their badge or cross of merit. Promoters who had been on probation period for one year were officially enrolled. This year we have another year campaign on "Leadership and a sense of responsibility". This is a follow-up of the last year's friendship campaign. Our aim this year is to help the members to realise the importance of responsibility and also to help them to bud forth as leaders.

Earlier this year, with the permission of Sr. Fidelma, we had a mini-affle which was part of our fund-raising campaign.

The second General Assembly was held in K.L. in April this year. The assembly is held

once in every three years. At this assembly, plans and improvements for the movement were discussed and finally decided upon. This year delegates from Hong Kong, Cambodia and Singapore attended this assembly.

Very recently, we rendered our services at the Batu Gajah and Tarcisian Convent Fun-Fairs. A badminton match with the Valiant Vanguards (Boys from S.M.I.) was held lately. This was one of our activities for International Week and the aim was to promote goodwill. During the International Flag Week, some of the Joyful Vanguards went out to sell flags to the public. The response on the whole was satisfactory and in future, we hope it would be even much better.

Wong Lai Peng
(Hon. Secretary)

THE LEGION OF MARY

THE Legion of Mary is an Association of Catholics who with the authoritative permission of the Church and under the powerful leadership of Mary Immaculate Mediatrix of all graces have formed themselves into a Legion of Service in the warfare which is carried out continuously by the Church against the evil powers in the world.

This organisation was formed about forty-eight years ago in Ireland and was introduced to Ipoh in 1946. One of our pioneers, Sr. Oliver is still with us, faithful as ever to the Legion.

Anyone who is a Catholic and is willing to live up to the Spirit and works of the Legion can become a member. A period of probation is offered to her during which time she can decide whether she wants to be a member.

At present there are two groups in our school. Each group is called a Praesidium. The two Praesidia are as follows:- Praesidium of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour and The Praesidium of Our Lady of Assumption.

The two Praesidia hold their weekly meetings on Friday at 4 p.m. The meeting is begun with the recital of the Legion prayers and rosary. Some readings from the Legion hand-

book are then read. The minutes of the previous meeting are read and signed by the President. The attendance is then taken and the Statement of Accounts, read. The work done during the week is then recounted to the President. Duties are also allotted to each member. The meeting ends with the Legion concluding prayers. The meeting usually lasts for one hour or so.

Other than having meetings, functions and outings are also organised. Outings are held annually. Other get-togethers with the various youth sections have been introduced too.

So far we have had two Study Days, giving us an opportunity to renew ourselves and to reform ourselves on our goal. These two Study Days were attended by all Legionaries from Batu Gajah and Ipoh. So far we have visited Telok Anson, Penang, Telok Batak and Cameron Highlands. On February 26th we had a combined Legion Outing with the St. Michael's School Legionaries to Tanjong Rambutan Waterfall.

Prayer and activity always go hand in hand. While there is so much activity around us today, we Legionaries try to balance the other tip of the scale by our prayers that the activities surrounding us will be blessed by god.



Visit to the
Taman
Hang Tuah

SOCIAL OUTINGS
OF THE
PAST YEARS



An outing to Tanjong
Rambutan Waterfalls,
1970.



Legion Christmas
Buffet Party - 1969.



New Year Function
at the Catholic
Centre - 1968.

THE YOUNG CHRISTIAN STUDENTS (Y.C.S.)

THE Y. C. S. movement is specially formed to better the student world. The Y. C. S.'s motto is "See, Judge and Act". A Y. C. S. receives two sources of education, namely, Education in Thought and Education in Action. During our meetings we have a Review of Life, Gospel Enquiry or a Social Enquiry.

Our present adviser is Sister Mary Michael. Miss Chew Lee Hwa, our former town-representative helps us along in the movement. At the beginning of the year new members from Form Three upwards were recruited into the movement. The members were grouped into three teams according to their Forms, each under a leader. Each team had its own weekly

meetings. The leaders had their leaders' meetings before having their respective team meetings. On the 9th and 10th of May, 1971 we had a Study Day for our members. We were able to have two formal Y.C.S. members, now studying in the University and who were on vocation then, to help us in the Study Day. We also had a talk from Sister Jean Maria, our Regional Adviser from Telok Anson.

At present, our Section consists of sixteen members, who are all leaders in training. We hope that this nucleus of leaders will be able to serve students in the Student World in a way which is truly Christ-like.

Y. C. S. Section,
Brewster Road Convent, Ipoh.



ART CLUB

Advisers:	Mrs. A Loh Miss D. Au Che Fatima
President:	Liew Siew Yeen
Secretary:	Eu Yoke Lin
Treasurer:	Sik Leng Hong
Committee Members:	Lai Yong Ching Chan Yim Chee Yeoh Choo Imm

THE aim of the Club is to let the members develop their creative ability and pursue their own interests in the different forms of art and craft.

We had our first meeting on the 15th of February 1971, during which office bearers were elected and members were briefed on what they could do to contribute to the success and smooth running of the club. There are 45 member from Forms 2 to Forms 5. We meet weekly, every Monday, from 2 to 3 p.m.

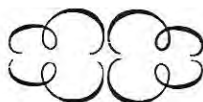
As a start, we were asked to collect scraps (material, tins, bottles etc.) to see what we can make out of it. Some have very successfully

made soft toys, rugs, money box and vases. A few had a hand at batik painting, crayon work and oil painting. One member carved a base-relief of a little foal and is putting the finishing touches to it.

In the 2nd term, we were taught the first steps to 3-dimensional wood-carving. We carved a simple figurine from a cylindrical wooden stick (handle of broom-sticks). After being sand-papered smooth, it will be painted and shellac will be applied to keep the paint and give it the finished look.

We carry on our activities in a very relaxed atmosphere, having a background of music to give us the necessary inspiration and to put us in the proper mood.

Our programme for the rest of the year is very full as we intend to pursue other Arts and Crafts like college work; mobiles; fabric printing or painting; pen and ink sketches, rod-puppets not forgetting visits to art and craft Exhibitions. We hope to make enough exhibits for a little exhibition of our work at the end of the year.

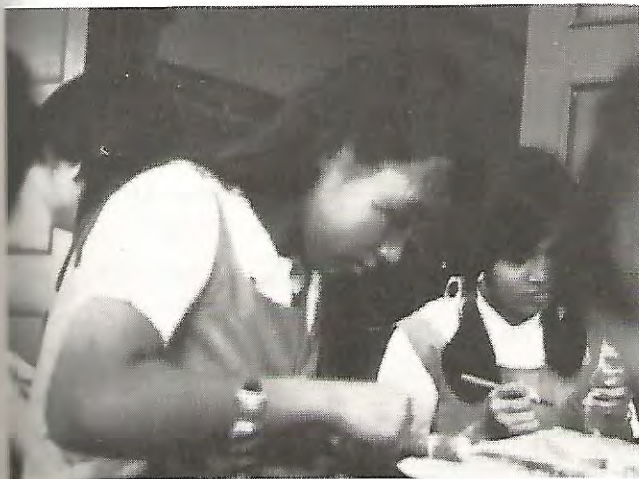




“Yes, we will rob the
bank tonight.”



“As they tap away
working all the day.”



“Creating Adam and Eve
out of Broomsticks!”

THE FIRST AID SOCIETY



Adviser: Mrs. Yaw
 Instructor: Mr. Lum Bor Siew

Committee

Secretary: Ng How Ming

Treasurer: Lee Koon Heong

Asst. Treasurer: Oh Saw Khim

Group leaders of the various groups:

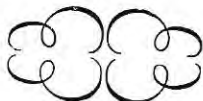
Marie Curie	- Cheah Mun Yue
Alexander Fleming	- Lam Lai Peng
Louis Pastuer	- Lee Nyat Mee
Florence Nightingale	- Ho Lai Kwin
Joseph Lister	- Tan Lorrin
Ambroise Pare	- Beh Lee Kueng
William Harvey	- Teh Siok Chin
Aricenna	- Soh Wai Yoke

OUR Society is doing very well and we are all very grateful to our instructor Mr. Lim and our adviser Mrs. Yaw as they

were soely responsible for our society's success. There are seventy members in the society and all the girls are very keen to learn and are also responsive in the society. Although we have only been doing practical and theory work so far, we are planning trips to places like the 'Old Folk's Home' and 'Home for Mentally retarded children' where we hope to learn something and give our assistance.

As the name of the society suggests we are only taught to give help and assistance before the arrival of the doctor and one must try to remember that we First Aiders are neither doctors nor nurses and we only do what is within our limit. To show the spirit of our society our girls have chosen names of great people who have done much for the world by their courage and determination. Thus we look optimistically into the future and strive for the best.

Ng How Ming
 (Secretary)



THE NETBALL CLUB

Coach: Mrs. A. Loh
Captain: Liew Siew Yean
Assistant Captain: Long Lai Yoong

THE aim of the club is to foster interest in the game and to improve the standard of play in the school.

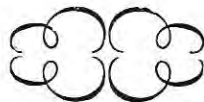
We have a Senior and Junior team according to age, and these are the good players from the different Houses to form the school team. To keep fit and be good at the game we have weekly practices on Fridays, from 4 to 6 p.m. During practice we are taught the different skills needed in Netball.

In the first term, the Senior Team took part in the Netball Tournament, Inter-school for under the twenties. In this tournament we met Anderson School, Vocational School and the Tarcisian Convent. The organising school was the Tarcisian Convent so all matches were played

in their field. We lost in the first round but we gained a lot of experience and the outcome of it was, we learned to be good losers.

Part of our programme is to have friendly matches with other schools. We had a very interesting game with the Ave Maria Convent and they emerged the victors. Their next match was against St. Michael's team. The Senior team won the first game but lost the return game, whereas the Junior team won them by a wide margin. The most recent match was against M.G.S. and we were again victorious. We hope that our return match with them will be just as successful.

One event we very much look forward to is the Netball Tournament, Inter-School, under sixteen which will be held in the 3rd term. We are preparing our Junior team and hope that they will be in top form for this event.



"Whatcher doing ??
Found an egg???"



"Aaaah! The heavens are falling."



"Netball in Action"



"Land of the giants
or
Lilliputians"



A
out w
During
netball
comple
hard w
Comple
one of
low cost

The
which w
Whale
East and
fruits a
school
show wa
There w
a major
dolls we
represent
night. B
convince
would n
the dire
However
people be
Miss M
only to
Garden w

The
confuse
to put up
some being
audience
to know
To start w
3 p.m. so
there are
flowers, if
possible.

AN EVENING OF DELIGHT



AFTER many weeks of intensive preparation, finally resulted "An Evening of Delight". Though we had to bulldoze our way through, it was a great experience. During this experience, unconsciously but automatically arose the theme of "Muhibbah" and coincidentally in "Muhibbah Week". All the hard work however was very much rewarded. Compliments flashed in newspapers and even one of the "in" magazines "Fanfare" passed a few compliments.

This variety show included an Opera, which was the main bulk of the show; selected Malaysian songs; some cultural dances of the East and West, a Fashion parade of Malaysian Fruits and Flowers, and to top it all our first school band was in attendance. This variety show was held in the aid of the Wan scholarship. There were 3 shows, but one was specially held in conjunction with "Muhibbah Week". Invitations were extended to distinguished guests and representatives from several schools on that night. By the response of the audience we were convinced that we had achieved success. This would not have come about if it were not for the direction of Mrs. Hilda Subramanian. However it must not be left unmentioned some people behind the scene like Miss S. H. Hew, Miss Mary Ng, Mrs. P. Selvemany, Che Zakiah, only to name a few. The Prefects and the Girl Guides were also of great help.

The audience would not have known the confusion going on backstage as we managed to put up an act of "all as well" at the same time being able to capture the attention of the audience. One would find it very interesting to know what actually happened back-stage. To start with, the girls had to come as early as 3 p.m. to get their costumes ready especially those models for the fashion show, as the flowers, fruits, or leaves had to be as fresh as possible. Secondly, the girls had to come early

for make-up. Off course, they never failed to start a chatting session which ended only at the dot of the time of commencement. A few girls were often seen frantically searching for pins, cellophane tape, thread and needle, which never seemed to be around. Such confusion, however was not to be left unnoticed, so the teachers had to remind us to tone down every now and then.

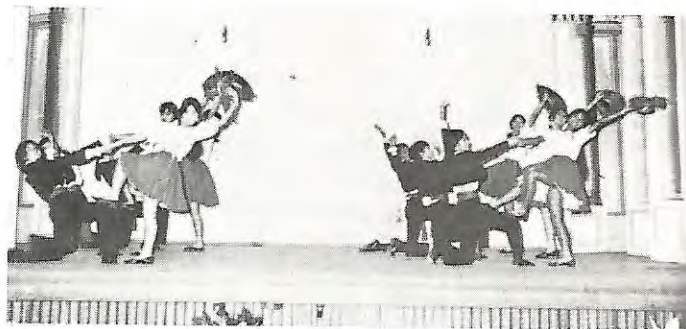
Then the show began and all seemed well. The Form 4 choir started the show and lured the audience to a medley of songs, followed by a few songs from a Form 5 quartet. Mun Sook Yi and Chan Yoke Chee changed the scene with a very lively Chinese Song. The Form 1 choir did their bit followed by the Form 5 choir. After a whole session of songs the audience was entertained to a fashion parade of local fruits and flowers which enthralled the audience. The designer Law Jin Ee compered this part of the show. Josephine Chong then introduced a few other songs and the cultural dances. The Mexican dance was enjoyed by many and as a result it was repeated on the final night by special request. Pathma Rani an ex-pupil of our school captured the audience with her grace and swiftness while performing the peacock dance. She indeed deserved the abundant applause from the audience. Lee Yam Choo was solo dancer to a Chinese dance and did very well. There was an interlude of hot music by our school band after all the dances. Then the Opera wrapped up the whole show. The main role was played by Barbara Jeremiah, an ex-pupil of the school. The part of Papageno, was played by Liew Siew Yeen who drew much laughter from the crowd, playing a comical role. Lee Siew Leng, Chew Sien Leng and Helena Wong played their parts equally well.

At the close of the Opera the show ended with the Negara-ku. So ended a delightful evening.

Esther Chong & Law Jin Ee
(Form 4 B)



Ooi! That's enough I'm bored.



Mm! Boy you're heavy.



Have you seen a prettier 'peacock'?



Convent's first 'pop' band.

From left to right:— Teresa Leong, Toh Suet Wan, Terezinha Gonsalves (sitting), Linda Foo, Jenny Lim.



Part of the appreciate audience.



Who cares, let's go.



Don't tease, lah!



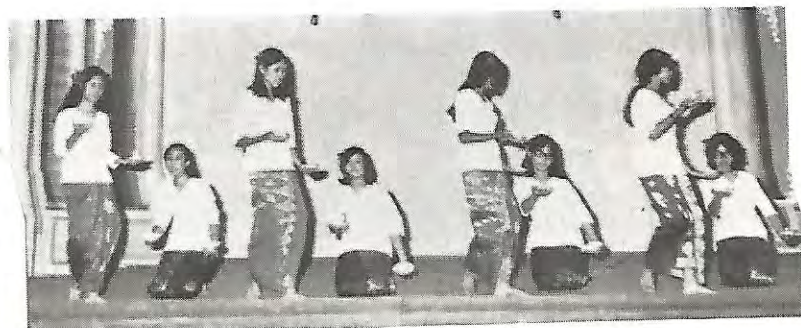
Ooh, she touched my hand.



Eve, where's Adam?



Hey, wake up.



Watch your step.



The hypnotised Four.



Ah Mooi!
you're going out of
tune!



"Catch-the-bird" game.

THE SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL AID

SOME time in 1961 Rev. Mother Pauline met the Staff suggested that something be done to help the poorer pupils in the school. The teachers agreed and a Committee was set up with Miss Thomasz as Chairman and Mrs. Y. C. Ng, Mrs. M. Y. Wong, Mrs. B. Chan, Miss M. Ng, Miss R. Mc Gloin and Miss C. H. Loo as members of the Committee.

Appeal letters were sent out to parents of both the Primary and Secondary Schools and the donations received helped us to make a good start. Needy pupils were given free books, clothes and we also helped with their fees.

Both Teachers and Pupils were asked to make regular contributions so that the project

could run on a sound basis and this practice is being followed today.

With the help of both Staff and pupils we are now helping to pay fees for 52 girls—a total of \$396/- per month. Besides this we supply about 35 girls with books.

Last year we started on a new venture—the “Wan” Scholarship (in memory of Mrs. S. W. Chong) — so that we are now able to help pay examination fees for both Form 3 and Form 5 pupils.

Our grateful thanks must go to Sr. Fidelma for her unfailing support and encouragement and to the Staff and pupils for so cheerfully helping us to raise the funds we need to help our friends in school.

Miss C. Thomasz.

TALENTIME 1971 — THE WAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

SEVERAL talentimes have been held on a small scale basis in the Convent School before but this year we had one on a much larger scale as invitations were extended to many schools in Ipoh. Why did we have a Talentime? If your answer was ‘to get cash’ you are correct! On this particular occasion it was organised to raise funds for the “Wan Scholarship Fund”. It was named after the late Mrs. Chong Tet Fah (Hew Sook Wan) a former teacher of our school who was greatly concerned over the needs and well-being of the pupils.

As soon as the word of the Talentime was passed round, entries came pouring in and finally it was discovered that over a hundred entries had been submitted before the first term holidays. With the start of the new term, rehearsals also began. The band “The Purple Heart” provided musical accompaniment for the contestants. Daily practices were on at the school hall after school till evening and even during the weekend. These sessions of amateur singing took the fancy of many girls. The rehearsals became impromptu shows attended by leisurely chatting schoolgirls and boys as well who applauded and criticized in their leisurely manner.

The days of rehearsals really overturned the once calm and peaceful atmosphere of the school. The main topic of conversation circled round the Talentime especially among the girls. I was wandering what the Sisters would be saying until I overheard one Sister muttering “Good heavens! This noise would bring our house down”. Most probably the pop music, whether worth listening to or not, would have flooded the whole school distracting those still in class and piercing the gentle ear-drums of the Sisters deep in meditation at the chapel. It would not hurt, I suppose, to pray to the beat of drums and strumming guitars once in a blue moon and that is exactly what such a Talentime in our school is.

At the end of an absolutely busy week of rehearsals by the never-satisfied contestants, some of whom had dropped out and some thinking they had not sufficient practice, the heats of the Talentime were held on the 27th and 28th with the Finals on the 30th at the Catholic Centre. For the heats the hall was nearly packed and it was encouraging to see such a nice crowd. The contestants had seats at the corner of the hall where they could be seen making their efforts to pull themselves together and pluck up cour-

age and I could hear their exclamations and expressions of nervousness as they were called upon to the dressing room backstage. Another amusing sight to observe was the Guides and Prefects hopping about doing their tasks stopping now and then to see who was singing and so forth.

The great success of the Talentime was evident with the tremendously good response of the audience which filled the full capacity of the hall. Entrance fees were priced at one, two and three dollars. It was so packed that the contestants had to be displaced of their privilege of free seats in the hall. Before the pronouncing of the victors of the Convent Talentime 1971 much to the anxiety of the hopeful participants, members of the "Purple Heart" surprised many teachers and Sisters but awakened many youngsters with their 'groovy' reproduction of several 'hot' songs according to some girls. Finally in a flood of rolling drums Sister Fidelma came on to give an address after which she presented the trophies to the happy and speechless winners.

From the information gathered from the organizers of the Talentime an estimated net profit amounted to over \$2,000. The money is set aside to help girls to pay their L.C.E. or

M.C.E. fees. Every year the Committee of the School Educational Aid which is in charge of the "Wan Scholarship Fund" receives many applications asking for help and we are indeed proud that the Committee has been able to help so many and we should give credit to the teachers who are involved in it.

Results of the Talentime

Overall winner
Sub-zero Express (S.M.I. and Convent)
Overall runner-up
Mohammed A. Yuzer (S.T.A.R.)

Vocal Solo

1st Wong Fong Leng (Ave Maria)
2nd Mohd. A. Yuzer (S.T.A.R.)
3rd Mohd. Ibrahim (S.T.A.R.)

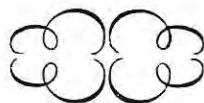
Vocal Group

1st Sub-zero Express (S.M.I. and Convent)
2nd Expert 166 (S.T.A.R.)
3rd The Peace Lovers (S.M.I. and Convent)

Instrumental

1st Pauline Thong (H.I.J. Convent)
2nd Expert 166 (S.T.A.R.)
3rd Khong Siew Lian (Convent)

Lee Siew Leng
Form V E





Sub-zero Express
S.M.I. and Convent Combination.
Overall winner.



Wong Fong Leng (Ave Maria)
1st Vocal Soloist.



Pauline Thong
1st Instrumentalist.



Mohd. Yuzer (S. T. A. R.)
2nd Vocal Soloist.



Expert 166 (S. T. A. R.)
2nd Instrumentals.



The Purple Heart
The band for the Talentime.

FOOD FEAST



Look! There's a genie in my
"Achat" bottle.



Smiles galore for the.....
food inspector?



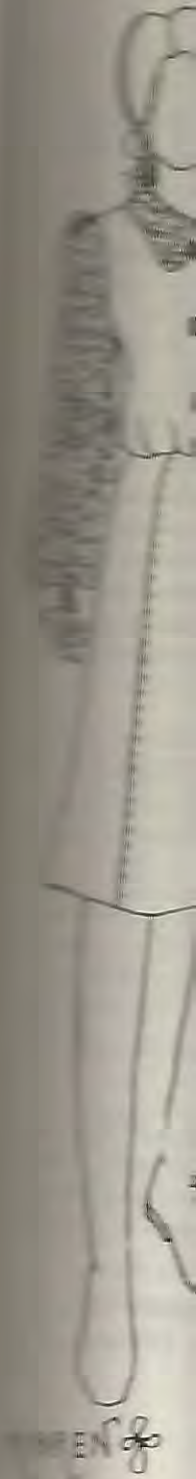
"Food! Glorious food!"



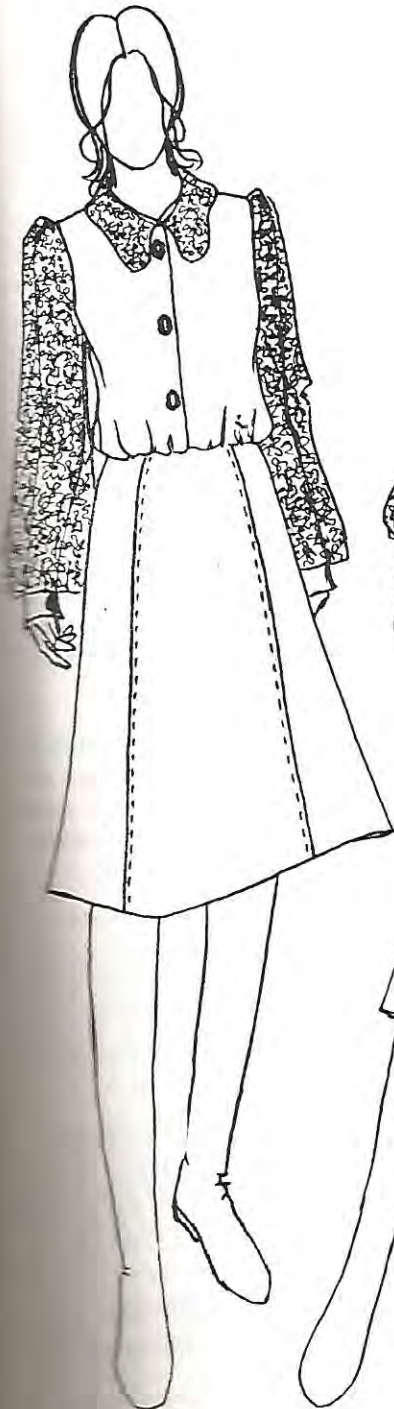
Yummy! Yummy! I've got food
in my tummy.



Hey Girls! what you're doing
down there?



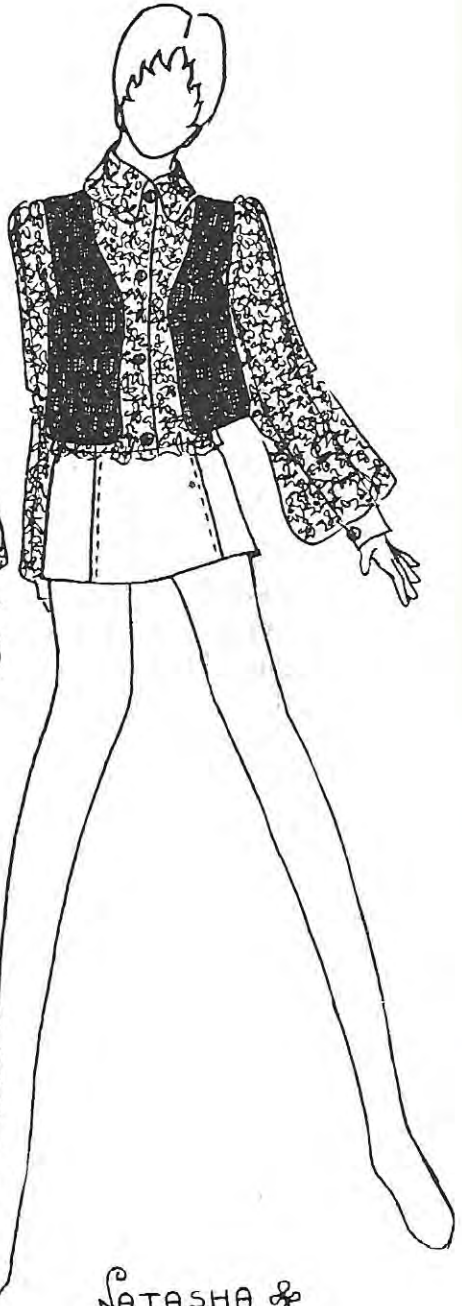
M I D I N I
X I



IRENE ✿



VIOLA ✿



NATASHA ✿

CATHY 4 G/1

PRIZE - WINNING ESSAYS

- First:** Divis Kaur Khaira – “A HANDFUL OF NAILS” Form IV G.
- Second:** Chan Gek Sim – “THE THING I TREASURE MOST IN LIFE” Form II K.
- Third:** Nalina Selvamany – “MUHIBBAH DAN PERPADUAN” Form IV G.

A HANDFUL OF NAILS

THE legend runs: “She was the most beautiful lady in the court. But her only drawback was the fact that HER FINGERS WERE TOO SHORT.

One day as she lay upon her bed, eating an apple, there was a clap of thunder . . . She had had inspiration — she would grow her fingernails to give depth to her hands. Ah! What supreme intelligence! After this, many women followed her example and began to grow their nails too. Then one day tragedy struck — a young girl scratched her husband’s face. Thereafter the ladies were given a stern warning, but the craze for long nails never really petered out.”

Well, her influence must have been far reaching indeed, for in darkest Peru, excavations revealed a pre-Inca grave with the mummy of a young woman whose toenails and fingernails were carefully manicured, tinted and polished. A sharp bronze nail knife and a hardwood cuticle stick were found in the cosmetic kit buried with her.

Women of Ur also conformed — they painted their nails with black antimony dye. In Egypt they used henna to stain their nails, palms and the soles of their feet (this is, however, still done in India, Arabia and other parts of the East). A manicure set was found in Queen Hetephere’s tomb (she was the wife of Snefru and the mother of Cheops). It contained seven gold and bronze knives and also a metal orange stick with a sharp end as well as a rounded one, much like those in use today.

It was during the Roman era that care of nails developed, so much so, that it became a professional skill with the barbers as manicurists.

Talking about long fingernails, the Chinese went all out. The rich warlords, as a symbol of their wealth, power and dignity, kept four-inch nails! Their hands then looked like claws. Besides this, they were compelled to wear protective nail sheaths made of bamboo or silver. Anyway, they could afford to indulge in such actions as they had innumerable servants to clothe and feed them. Luckily, there is no scope for such things in modern society.

Fingernails find a place in folklore and superstition too. British folklore places great importance on nail colouring. Burton in his “Anatomy of Melancholy”, noted that “a black spot appearing on the nails is a bad omen”, Melton added that “yellow speckles on the nails is a great sign of death”.

During the Middle Ages, it was a common belief that the Devil used his fingernail, or talon, to mark his followers with a secret sign inconspicuously hidden in places like the inside of the lip and in the axilla.

Today, the Arabs still hold in belief that nail parings must be buried and not scattered about. On Resurrection Day, any Arab who has carelessly violated this taboo, runs the risk of having to pick up the scattered parings with his eyelashes.

Nearer home now — Malaysians still use nails as raw materials for witchcraft. They fashion magic dolls from nail and hair trimmings and burn the doll seven times in order to kill an enemy.

Palmists have a lot to say about nails too. Here is something from “The Dictionary Of Palmistry”, by J. S. Bright:—

"Short nails — criticism and inquisitiveness.
 Short and hard — quarrelsomeness.
 Short and pale — deceitful disposition.
 Short and red — violent temper.
 Short, square and bluish — heart trouble.
 Short and triangular — paralysis.
 Short, curved and narrow — spinal trouble.
 Broad, long and round — sound judgement.
 Thin, long and narrow — timidity.
 White spots on nails — bad circulation of blood.
 Nails of the phalanx bent inward — scrofula
 and consumption.
 Ridges — single mindedness.
 Cross ridges — signs of disease."

Nowadays, doctors use various signs from the nails to diagnose diseases. They can tell the state of health—very pale nails show anaemia and when they are spoon-shaped (slightly concave so that a drop of water can rest on the nail) it shows severe chronic anaemia. Club-shaped nails with extreme bluish discolouration denote congenital heart disease or chronic respiratory diseases. Pink nails are a sign of good health, while red and flushed fingernails may show too much haemoglobin which is again a sign of disease. Skin diseases too can be diagnosed from nails.

The nails look moth-eaten in certain fungal diseases. A wide variety of conditions result from fungus infection—extreme brittleness, white, brown and yellow discolourations, marked thickening, ridging, splitting and occasionally shedding of one or more nails.

Nails can be permanently damaged by nail polish. In some allergic individuals, polishing can lead to a lot of trouble.

Why do people insist on keeping long nails? No doubt it is an inborn animal instinct to have long nails as in the past. Nails must have been very useful instruments for digging edible roots, tearing flesh, skinning animals and for self-defence (the human nail in its natural state can be a lethal weapon—it becomes so tough that a saw is needed cut it). I fail to understand how in this modern age, people can

want to keep long nails. It is a fairly despicable habit. The nails hinder in the process of toilette — they can damage the eyes while washing the face. They are deadly instruments in the hands of young inexperienced mothers — often the mothers accidentally poke or graze the baby's eye with nails and a slight scratch on the baby's delicate cornea can cause incurable ulcerations.

Toenails of reasonable length are very essential to give mechanical strength to the tips of the toes. But, just imagine what would happen if you did not cut your toenails. It could mean special shoes for you and perhaps no warm socks in a cold climate. Who knows? You might be innocently slashing other people's calves as you walk along.

Long nails are, however, not without their uses. They provide a livelihood for cosmetic manufacturers and manicurists. They can be used for scratching (though this can be done just as well with short fingernails), picking lice and manipulating thin objects such as needles. They come in especially useful for disfiguring the faces of faithless lovers! I wonder if you could use them as forks . . . ?

Take my advice:—

Of young ladies with talons beware.
 For though they may be fair,
 They can scratch!
 (Anyone for a match?)
 Now don't be a nit,
 And get into a fit,
 When I tell you that
 Claws are for the cat.
 Animals use them for practical reasons,
 You use them to beautify yourself thro'
 the seasons.
 So lets get it straight,
 (No cause for hate.)
 Never keep long nails
 To attract dishy males.
 A person with them you can maim.
 Is really worth all the blame?
 Try and see it my way,
 And with that I shall call it a day.

THE THINGS I TREASURE MOST IN LIFE

NO two people's list of these will ever be the same, but there are certain things most of us treasure, that is, if we have lived a normal, average sort of life, and these things belong to no particular race, colour, nation or class. They are the things of value universally accepted by civilized people. The artist may be obsessed by his painting, the writer by his best novel, or the racing motorist by his chances in the Grand Prix, but the man in the street places most value on the simple, ordinary things of life... and almost all of them are, as the saying goes, the things that money cannot buy. Perhaps first on the list is religious faith.

Faith in one's God is the key to a more profound understanding of life and leads to a genuine love of people. A strong faith in God helps us to strengthen our morale and instils into us the moral fibre we need when confronted with temptation. If we have a religion, we have more guidance as to what is right and what is evil. Without religious faith, we would be spiritually lost.

Second only to religion comes home and family life. The home and the loving family are a safe refuge from the coldness and indifference of the outside world. Those near and dear to us provide us with love and encouragement, consolation in times of sorrow, happiness in times of rejoicing. Equally they help us to face up to the outside world, and to stand up to our troubles. In times of distress one who has a family has somewhere to go and will not feel lost or alone. Family love and understanding also bear the truth of this proverb: "A happiness shared is a happiness doubled, a trouble shared is a trouble halved".

Life, however, is spoilt if we are stricken by ill health and sickness. Most people are fortunate to be born with good health and given proper food and clothing. But it is often the case that we do not value our health and it is only those unfortunate people who really value good health. Physical and mental well-being are really priceless possessions for without them we would find great difficulty in leading normal lives in this world.

But none of these personal and domestic things of value count for much, if we are unfortunate enough to live in a country which denies us the basic freedoms of democracy. We should treasure the freedom of our country which means our personal freedom. We are allowed to do whatever we want provided it is not against the law and believe in whatever we like. A person without freedom can be said to be a bird locked up in a cage. Like health, freedom is only truly valued when it is threatened or lost.

But what is life without good friends? As we all know, there is some truth in the saying: "No man is an island" for though some of us do not realise it, we always need help from our friends sometime or other. Nowadays, it is quite a task to find a really true friend. There is great truth in saying that true friends are as rare as precious gems while false friends are like autumn leaves found everywhere. Thus we should value all our social contacts and treasure those people who help to enrich our leisure hours by their conversation and companionship.

Man's essential difference from the animal world is his sense of a need to rise above his surroundings, to aspire to great heights. No great achievements can come about unless the ambition is there first. We are not all gifted with the ability to write great literature, or make a 'breakthrough' in scientific knowledge, or become famous statesmen. Our ambitions may indeed be very modest but every human being worthy of the name has ambitions of a sort, and these are very dear to his heart — or hers.

Last, but not least, we should also treasure whatever education we have. Let us take an example of how valuable education is to us. If we enter a dark cave, we are unable to see anything without some kind of light to guide us. In a wider sense, we cannot follow the right path in this world unless we are equipped with the 'light' of knowledge which is obtainable through education. Certain things change with time but education remains useful throughout the years and it is this which makes it such a priceless thing.

These are the things I treasure most in life. They have nothing whatsoever to do with large bank accounts, valuable possessions or expensive cars. Perhaps to others, the things I trea-

sure may even seem worthless, but to me, life would be insipid and meaningless indeed without them!

Chan Gek Sim
Form II K

MUHIBBAH DAN PERPADUAN — An age long formula for Survival

MUHIBBAH and Perpaduan are nothing new. Goodwill is basic for anybody who lives in a society. Without goodwill man will destroy himself. Perpaduan is necessary for man to preserve his society against outsiders who wish to destroy it.

So Goodwill and Unity have been important for the survival of man from time immemorial. In Malaysia, where we have a plural multiracial society, Muhibbah and Perpaduan take on a greater emphasis.

Why does this formula based on common sense be of such tremendous importance to us? The answer is not difficult to find. The dark and painful chapters of the 13th of May riots in our Malaysian history give us more than enough proof of the peril of ignoring Goodwill and Unity.

Hence, what we in the Convent and elsewhere have practised for such a long time has now to be re-examined and re-strengthened so that we and future generations can thrive and prosper as a Nation.

The Rukunegara provides the basic tenets for us to build a strong United and Proud Nation. The principles of the Rukunega are:-

- i. Belief in God.
- ii. Loyalty to King and Nation.
- iii. Upholding the Constitution.
- iv. Rule of Law.
- v. Good Behaviour and Morality.

We have always believed in God and the open mindedness and wisdom of our government in allowing Religious Freedom in addition to the National Religion of Islam is conducive for us to pray to the almighty as we like.

Loyalty to our beloved King and the Malaysian Nation is beyond question. Without

this loyalty, life will lose its meaning for we will belong to nothing. So, we must renew and strengthen our loyalty so that we can be proud Malaysians.

Upholding the Constitution and observing the Rule of Law can be inter-related. No system can function without laws and rules so long as societies and communities exist. Even in the simple game of marbles, little children make little rules for the game to go on without trouble. What about a Nation then? The Constitution and the Laws must be understood, observed and respected so that our Nation can function smoothly, efficiently and peacefully.

Finally, we have good behaviour and morality. Malaysia is made up of Malaysians. So Malaysia, the nation, will be judged by Malaysians, the citizens. So whatever we are, wherever we may be, our true loyalty and love for Malaysia must be judged by our exemplary behaviour, resourcefulness and goodwill to all.

So the Rukunegara constitutes the five pillars on which our Nation Malaysia rests and we Malaysians must do everything we can to dedicate ourselves to see that the pillars are constantly reinforced so that the Rukunegara can forever be a binding element.

Two other practical conditions are essential for us to exist as a Nation. One is the creation of a just society and the other is a common language.

Firstly, the creation of a just society is absolutely necessary. Material wealth must be, so distributed that everybody has a good standard of living. Our government is working towards the eradication of poverty so that everybody can have a fair share of the material well-being of this country. In some countries people strive for just societies by bloody revolutions. In Malaysia let us strive for a just society with

a bloodless revolution tampered with goodwill.

Secondly in a multiracial society like ours, in addition to practising the Rukunegara in word and in deed we must have a common practical everyday cementing factor. This is provided by the National Language -- Bahasa Malaysia. Let us nurture, enrich and use Bahasa Malaysia so that all the races can have a com-

mon medium to weld them into one people -- Malaysians.

So let us renew our faith in almighty god and swear loyalty to our King and to our Nation. Let us show goodwill and understanding to everyone so that we shall play our part in making Malaysia a truly wonderful Nation of happy people.

Nalina Selvamany
Form IV G

THIS NEW ERA

THIS new era, the twentieth century, can be said to be one which is the most fruitful and elaborate in history. Nearly three quarters of the century has passed and during these seventy odd years, a lot has happened and has been recorded in history. Since 1900, this momentous era has seen an increment in inventions, discoveries and explorations, the horrors of wars and depressions, the conquest of space and very recently, the 'Fight of the Century'.

With comparison to those of past centuries, inventions, discoveries and explorations in the twentieth century have increased tremendously and this increase is continuing at a steady pace. Occasionally, we hear about the International Inventors Exhibition whereby inventors from all over the world, participate to exhibit their inventions. In the fields of Communications, inventions have made much progress. The first aeroplane was constructed by the Wright Brothers, Wilbur and Orville in 1903, and the first successful aeroplane flight took place at Kitty Hawk in the United States. Following this in 1937, Frank Whittle, a British pilot in the Royal Air Force succeeded in constructing the first jet engine. The Gloster Aircraft Company fitted the Whittle jet engine to a special airframe, the W-1 and then flew the aircraft successfully in May, 1941. This was the beginning of the jet age and Whittle came to be known as 'Father of Jet Propulsion'. Next, weather and telecommunication satellites were launched. These weather satellites sent back to earth, photos of weather pattern throughout the world and these photos could predict the exact time, day and place where storms and bad weather would strike. As for telecommu-

nication satellites, they made instant communication between widely separated countries.

In the twentieth century, discoveries and explorations are given a new approach. Tremendous discoveries are made in the fields of science and medicine. In medical progress, the first breakthrough was made in 1928 when Alexander Fleming developed penicillin, an antibiotic. The most outstanding outcome of medical research was that of heart-transplant. The first heart transplant was performed by Doctor Christian Barnard on a patient, Louis Washkansky at Groote Schuur Hospital, South Africa in 1968. Unfortunately Washkansky died after living for quite sometime. Nevertheless, it has proved to the world that medical progress is advancing inch by inch. In the United States, heart transplants are carried out by a famous heart surgeon, Doctor Denton Cooley of Houston, Texas. As for research in cancer treatment, it has been discovered that cancer can be cured at its early stage, by applying Radium Therapy -- this has been proved effective. In the field of science, in 1920, Ernest Rutherford suggested that the atom could be split and this had been proved true. Remarkable explorations had been made since 1900. On 6th April, 1909, Rear Admiral, Robert Edwin Peary succeeded in reaching the North Pole. Following this great exploration, the South Pole was reached by Captain Robert Scott on 18th January, 1912. The greatest exploration of the century was, perhaps, the conquest of the World's Highest Mountain, Mount Everest, by Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tensing in 1953. According to my opinion, inventions, discoveries and explorations will never cease as time goes on.

'Horrors of War' reflect to us, the innumerable casualties and the difficult conditions the war-stricken people are in. This new era sees the occurrence and consequences of two World Wars. The First World War or 'The Great War' (1914 - 1918) ended with casualties totalling to about thirty millions and nearly forty countries of the world participated in this war. The Second World War which lasted from 1939 to 1945, had an even more disastrous end than World War I. The number of casualties had reached to one which could not be estimated. 1945 also saw the formation of a world body the United Nations Organisation with its headquarters at New York. This world body was established 'to stop war and to remove the causes of war'. Has peace been achieved since 1945? No. Even till now, this very hour, we still hear wars for example the Vietnam War and the Middle East Crisis. To sum up, the late 1960's sees the happenings of some significant wars, the Vietnam War, the Biafra War and the Middle-East Crisis. The Biafra War in Nigeria which lasted for nearly a decade, had ended, but we could not ascertain the amount of casualties, and the sufferings the Biafrans had to undergo. The Vietnam War and the Middle-East Crisis are still on and when will they end? Well, let us all hope that they will end soon. As the President of the United States, Richard Milhous Nixon versed it, 'The Vietnam War is ending. In fact, I seriously doubt if we will have another war. This is probably the very last one.' As for the Middle-East Crisis, the United Nations' envoy, Doctor Gunnar Jarring is seeking to break the deadlock between Israel and Egypt. And if this 'Arab-Israeli impasse' is broken through, only then can peace be restored in the Middle-East. Let us all hope that World Peace will be achieved before the end of this new era.

Besides wars, this world also suffered from two Great Depressions. 'A Depression is a term used to denote a major downswing in the business cycle — with a characteristic sharp reduction in production, a widespread unemployment and a general contraction of business activity'. The most severe of the Depressions hit out in 1923 and lasted until nearly the end of the decade. Another Depression existed in the 1930's. These Depressions and Wars added

together, have brought much destruction and sufferings to the people of this world.

Next comes the 'Space Conquest' which is regarded the most magnificent feat in the twentieth century. The first man-made satellite to circle the earth was the Russian Sputnik I and it was launched on 4th October, 1957. The Americans were the next to follow this space race. The first man to be sent into space was Major Yuri Gagarin, a Russian pilot in the Soviet Air Force, and his flight took place on 12th April, 1961, in the space capsule, Vostok I. The first American to make a space flight was John H. Glen on 20th February, 1962, in the space capsule, Friendship I. Since then, these two countries had been competing with one another in this great space race. However, the United States proved a more competent one. With the establishment of N. A. S. A., (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), the pace of space race accelerated sharply, with the result that the United States was the first country to send forth men, who were the first to set foot on the surface of the moon. This great achievement came at 2.30 a.m. on 21st July, 1969 in the lunar module 'Eagle'. This mission was accomplished by Neil Armstrong and Colonel Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin with Colonel Michael Collins commanding the space-craft 'Apollo 11'. Other Apollo missions followed suit and proved successful, except for 'Apollo 13' which suffered a mishap. It has been predicted that the exploration of other planets will take place in the 1980's. The last 3 decades of the 20th century will see the Space Conquest make further strides.

And lastly comes, the 'Fight of the Century' which occurred on 8th March, 1971, at Madison Square Garden. This boxing bout had cost 'US\$5 million — the largest ever purse at stake'. The two boxing giants Muhammad Ali (Classius Clay) and Joe Frazier met each other at Madison Square Garden to fight for the 'World Heavyweight Boxing Championship'. As we already know, Joe Frazier emerged winner with a 9-6 over Muhammad Ali and with that, 'The Fight of the Century' ended.

I conclude that the twentieth century has seen much progress especially in the fields of inventions, discoveries and explorations and

Space Conquest. However, wars and depressions have caused a great deal of damage and

misery. Nevertheless, this new era can be called a magnificent one.

Irene Ng
Form V A

THE DRUG — MORPHINE

ALL drugs have their uses and when taken have their own effects on each individual, but some have other side-effects than others. Therefore it is only meet that an intellectent person take a certain drug for a good reason and not destroy himself by doing so.

The drug-morphine is the principal active ingredient of opium, the dried juice of the oriental white poppy plant. Drugs like codeine, apomorphine, heroine, and several orther narcotics are the chemical modification of morphine. When morphine is converted into a diacetyl derivative, it is no longer morphine, but heroine which has a higher euphoric effect and has such a powerful addicting capacity that its manufacture is prohibited.

Morphine acts principally on the central nervous system. It relieves pain and induces sleep. It also slows breathing, and may cause constipation, nausea or vomiting. In recognition of its unrivalled ability to control pain, morphine has been called "God's own medi-

cine." Morphine possesses a euphoric effect and many undesirable side actions, which are manifested on the respiratory, the circulatory and the gastrointestinal systems. The most serious drawback to the drug is its addiction liability and for this reason it is used only in cases where other pain-relieving agents fail. It is frequently administered by injection to secure rapid action. It is also effective if given orally.

When other analgesics have failed in the more severe degrees of suffering such as gallstone or renal colic, morphine is used. In instances of metastatic cancer, if pain is severe, it is justified even to the point of addiction, but the patient is not told that morphine is being given to him.

From the above we can see that morphine helps to relieve the sufferings of a person. Thus it is only avisable and right to take it when other forms of pain killers have to alleviate pain. To take it aimlessly is making oneself become a slave of the drug — morphine.

Theresa Chow Oi Chan
Form V A

FASHIONS

ALTHOUGH the word 'fashion' may be used to describe any aspet of life, such as manners, morals or speech, it is usually thought of in terms of dress. Fashion, in the sense of a constant, socially, acceptable change in the mode of dress, may be well considered a peculiarly Western phenomenon which originated at about the time of the Italian Renaissance.

Until the turn of the twentieth century, fashions were mostly influenced by wars and religious movements. One country would follow the fashion of her new and interesting country which she had conquered, while this country would imitate the styles of her captor. New

ideas from other countries were always welcomed. The influence of Christianity in thirteenth century France brought about the popularity of the wimple and the gorget, head coverings which completely concealed a woman's hair. These hats survive in many religious orders. A main function of all these clothes was to indicate whether the wearer possessed leisure and did not have to work, or was one of the lower class.

But, the real change in clothes, where fashion followed fashion, came in the twentieth century. Here, with the new role of women in modern life, certain women's fashions tend to imitate men's clothing. Here also, there was no

distinction in the clothes worn by the wealthy and the poor lower class.

Big hats, covered with plums or flowers, and narrow draped skirts were in style almost up to the eve of World War I. Men wore high starched collars, and small boys quickly wore out the knees of their serge knickerbockers in strenuous play. Motorists covered their clothes with linen dustcoats — women wearing veils, men caps and goggles. During the war, a war-time debutante could happily brave the winter winds in a belted, high-collared coat, lined and bordered with fur. Pumps and high-buttoned spats kept her ankles warm. The end of the war brought in higher waistlines, and skirts began to grow shorter. Girls wore Mary Jane pumps, and boys wore belted Norfolk jackets with shorts that ended above the knee.

In the 1920's, bathing suits were more streamlined but one still could not get a complete suntan! Haircuts were shorter, with the back often shingled. Evening dresses hung slim and straight from the shoulder and sparkled with sequins or pearl embroidery. The height of the Jazz Age is symbolised by the sheik and the flapper, the ukelele and the 'Charleston'. Hemlines rose to the knees, and waistlines disappeared entirely. On the golf links, men wore plus fours and visored caps.

The depression followed the Jazz Age. Clothes became more practical, with natural shoulders and straight skirts. The zipper began its long reign. World War II brought rationing of cloth. Skirts became short again, shoulders broad. War-plant workers established slacks for street wear. The wide skirt persisted only in the cotton drindl, an adaptation of a coloured peasant costume. Fashion excitement reached a high pitch with the postwar designs of Christian Dior — the New Look. Materials were no longer restricted. Long, billowing skirts and pinched-in waists were the extremes.

A wealth of new synthetic fabrics added glamour to the styles of the 1950's. Families seemed to spend more time out of doors, and clothes followed the trend. Shorts and slacks

were designed and worn for many occasions by young and old, even on city streets. The end of the half century saw men's suits cut on slim, narrow lines. Women's skirts were generally short. One famous designer had them above the kneecap. Styles like the Empire, Trapeze, Balloon and Chemise were in fashion.

The 1960's brought about the most significant change in fashions. Here, youngsters, influenced by the 'Pop' Music Age, wore colourful, fascinating and incredible clothes. Women's, especially teenage girls' skirts, became shorter and shorter, until they resulted in the Mini or even Micro-Mini skirts. Boys grew long hair and beards, sideburns, and wore multi-coloured shirts and bell-bottomed slacks. This change was so prominent that it looked as if there was a revival of the fashions of the Elizabethan Era, especially in the case of hair styles.

Then, at the end of the decade, teenagers, affected by the 'Soul' Age, began to lower their skirts, this time, resulting in the Maxi skirts. Mini skirts were still in style. So were bell-bottomed pants, but boys and girls grew their hair still longer, and, especially the boys, who even grew longer and more bushy beards and thick moustaches. Unisexual fashions were also in style. Here, boys and girls dressed alike.

Now, at the beginning of a new decade, what will be the new fashion? Lately only, women in Western countries and some parts of the East, started to wear the Midi-skirts that are half-way down the calf and their heads were adorned with large, fancy hats. Is this going to be the revival of the 1950's, or even further back? Would there be a new theme? Very recently only, teenagers have come under the influence of 'Underground' Music, and are beginning to wear 'Hot Pants'. In the future, will boys dress like girls and vice versa, that is, will there be an exchange in sexual looks? Well, this certainly has to be seen. No one knows exactly what the new fashions of the 1970's and the next few decades would be like. We will just have to wait, and see!

Pauline Thong
Form V A

ATHOS — “THE LAND WITHOUT WOMEN”

WAY down in the south-eastern corner of Europe, washed by the Aegean Sea, exists a small little country whose soil has been untrodden by women for nearly a thousand years. The population of this rather strange region numbers about five thousand — all of them males! A more precise name for this country should be, the “Land of Male Creatures”. For all the creatures surviving here are males. The sheep in the fields are all rams, the cattle all bulls, the swines all boars, the felines all tomcats! Only the wild birds, which still dare to build their nests in the topmost branches of the trees, continue to produce representatives of the female sex.

This extraordinary place is called Athos, its official title being “The Holy Community of Mount Athos”. It possesses its own government, which has been in office longer than any other ruling body in the world. It has its own frontier police whose duties include preventing the entry of “Mohammedans, wolves and women” into their sacred territory.

There is no national income beyond voluntary cash contributions from the outside world. Athos is a very rich country, proportionately speaking than any other country in this world!

Athos is the easternmost of the three long, narrow peninsulas, projecting into the Aegean Sea, a hundred kilometres east of Salonika in

Greece. It is forty kilometres long and seven kilometres wide. The isthmus is flat but the southern portion rises to form a mountain of pure marble, having a height of 2,000 metres.

Here, completely detached from the outside world, inhabit the long-bearded monks who form the bulk of the population of this strange land. Ever since the tenth century these ascetics have isolated themselves, sworn to obedience, chastity and poverty.

Athos still continues to have buildings of solid gold, studded with priceless gems. Moreover, all those irreplaceable manuscripts preserved by the devoted monks, still remain in Athos today, watchfully taken care of by the monks.

The monks spend most of their days and half of their nights in prayer and elaborate rituals. Every church, which is made of gold and precious stones, gleams like a legendary treasure cave when lighted.

Gerald V. Kuss who paid a visit to Athos one winter said:—

“Despite its religious atmosphere and fabulous wealth, Athos impressed me as a land of the living dead. And the survival of such a community — even for a thousand years — can mean little or nothing to those who do not appreciate the full meaning of life.”

Rukhsana Parveen
Form V A

PURPOSE TO LIFE?

IS there after all a purpose to life? Life to most is a failure. Therefore, what is the reason for our being born in to this world when we have to face with (more often than not) failure? What then, is the purpose of living? Taking a look at the facts of this world, the vast majority to wind up failures. Yes, it is believed that failure is when one is unable to achieve what one has set out to accomplish — but is “accomplishment” a success? In this sophisticated, materialistic world the answer will be undoubtedly, “Yes!” But spiritually, “it” is not true, lasting success. People with the least

knowledge of the true meaning of success appear to be happiest — having succeeded in seeking pleasure in their own way, in materialism. Their goal in life — their definition of success — was material acquisition — recognition of status by society and the passing enjoyment of the five senses. These people are merely less discontented, not actually happy. As for others, the more they acquire the less satisfied they became with what they had. When they got it, it was never enough . . .

If we were put here by a Creator, would He have put us here without a reason? And a

Creator with Mind and Power that could design and produce the human mind and body could not have failed to make available for humans every tool, ingredient and facility needed to fulfil His Purpose. Life, therefore has a Purpose. The Creator has set in actual motion to produce for each individual being on earth, security and the WAY of LIFE that will fulfil His Purpose. The 'destiny' through LIFE is the only true goal — the only reason for our being alive — so that we may one day reach our 'destiny'.

Of course, men cut off from God have no knowledge of this purpose. For, this knowledge is not material. It is spiritual! And spiritual things cannot be seen nor heard, felt nor smelled. It is something that one builds up day by day within one's self, yet oblivious of its growth. Men cut off from their Creator are spiritually blind to this knowledge and they are groping in the dark shadow of ignorance.

Almost 95% of the contents of the Bible is ignored by most scientists and scholars who, even to this day, suppose erroneously and in ignorance of the facts that the Bible is merely striving to devise a concept of God. They ignore it as something beyond their pride of intellect to consider. If only they could have thought twice as to whom they owed their gift of intellectuality. Apparently, it is only the stupid, foolish man — with mind power and capacity for intelligence — who says, "Why have I made thus?" It is like an automobile designed and built by its human hands to transport more speedily, having in its mind that it was not made to do thus, but for some other purpose whichever it finds easier to achieve. Likewise, the foolish man blinded by its intel-

lectual ego — refuses to live up to that Purpose in life. To people spiritually drunk on the false material concepts of our day — the chief, being 'money' the root of social evil — this Purpose would appear strange, absurd, impossible!

Yet, some scholars of today have been surprised and shocked to learn that the Bible — the ignored and unknown book — contains the answer to what true happiness is, and how it can be achieved. It is like discovering a goldmine they never knew existed. They discover that this book makes sense, that it is indeed the very foundation of knowledge and that it provides the only right approach to the further discovery of Life's real Purpose. Yet, how many have really known of this Purpose, that it is only the right goal of life? Very few indeed! Many among us go through life without any goal at all — not going anywhere in particular but allowing themselves to drift aimlessly merely as victims of circumstance.

However, we are free mortal beings. God will never force us to go His way. He compels us to make our own decision or His own Purpose would be thwarted. He has set before us two ways in which we choose to lead our life in this world. His way, which is the cause of all good things we want here and now, plus eternal life in real happiness forever; and the other way, the way of self-centredness, vanity, greed, envy — the way in which man has gone and is still going towards in rebellion against Him and His Purpose for each of us — the way that has resulted in so much unhappiness, sufferings and evils of this world. We are free to choose, to decide for ourselves which way we wish to follow. And to choose right, man must change

Rose Chong
Form V B

D E A T H

Death!
A word so menacing
That sends a shiver to my spine
Whenever the frightening word is uttered
What is death?
Is it some sort of joy, sadness or what!
Is it some form of freedom?

Freedom from the sufferings
Of this earthly world of ours
Or is it a coward's way of escaping
The tortures of life?
Death!
A single word with so many meanings.

Anne Kok
Form IV F

THE MICE

I T was about five in the morning. I took a wash and was soon settling down to study with my Physics book in front of me (we were going to have a Physics test the next day). I was yawning when suddenly I felt a movement behind me. I turned my head and saw the strangest thing in my whole life. Four mice were scurrying across the hall, all in a train-like fashion.

I felt an instinctive desire to kill them as they were pests. Grabbing the nearest object which was a broom, I bashed them. My aim went wide. One pair of mice, a big and small one, escaped through the door gap to the outside compound. Another pair also a big and small mouse, scurried into my room. They were trapped inside and there was no way for them to escape except through the doorway but I was on guard there with my broom for action. The funniest thing was that the pair still held on to one another, the small one at the tail of the big one. They were scurrying in and out under the cupboard and bed, squeaking noisily all the time. My sister was so soundly asleep that she did not stir despite the commotion. I tried to have a hit at them but they were too fast for me. It was just like playing hide-and-seek. One moment I saw them and the next moment they had disappeared.

By this time, all my sleepiness had gone and my only desire now was to kill the mice. All thoughts of studying were banished from my mind. I could not go out to the hall to take my book as I was afraid that in my absence the

mice would escape. Patiently, I sat in the doorway waiting for an opportunity to pounce on them.

The mice were very alert. The slightest movement from me sent them into hiding again. Then a most unusual thing happened. The squeaking continued under the cupboard as if they were in conference. After a few moments, I saw that there was only the big mouse scurrying out, here and there. The small one remained under the cupboard. The big one must have thought that it could find a way to escape more easily alone. But I was wrong.

The clock struck six. I could not wait any longer, I had to prepare breakfast and get ready for school but I could not let the mice escape. An idea came to me. I closed the door and waited outside it. I put some cloth underneath the door leaving only a small gap. Just like I thought, the mice came out through the gap. I was waiting there with my broom poised high. With all my might I hit them. This time I got the big mouse. The small mouse scurried across the floor to the kitchen and disappeared under the cupboard.

The big mouse was dead all right. My mind was at peace at last. I had killed a pest and this seemed to satisfy my gratifying sense of duty.

I really learnt a lesson from this. Mice like human beings have a sense of protection towards their young ones in time of danger. They risk their life for their young ones, just like the big mouse who gave up its life so that the small one can escape.

Khor Choon Khee
Form 5 B

THE SNAIL

S NAILS can exist on the tops of mountains, buried in deserts and hidden in rain forests. Both constructive and destructive, it serves admirably as a menu item and in medical research, while producing havoc in vegetable gardens. Land snails originated millions of years ago and have made their way all over the world.

In many ways, the everyday snail is a phenomenal creature. It has no internal

skeleton and is practically made up of muscles. Although small and fragile in appearance, one species can carry twelve times and pull two hundred times its own weight.

Despite this, the snail has a predilection for sleep. During the several months of winter it has its nice long sleep. It hides itself into its cool comfortable home at the least sign of the hot sun, which dries him out, or heavy rain, which waterlogs him. It can take naps and is

able to spend days huddled in its bedroom behind a thin curtain of mucilage.

In motion, a snail is a thing of graceful beauty. It glides along without any visible effort. The tiny muscles contract in a rhythmic succession of waves and thus the fragile body is propelled forward. Wherever it goes, it lays a protective carpet under itself, leaving behind a colourless, sticky substance. So effective is this that the snail is able to crawl along a sharp edge of a razor blade, without a trace of a cut.

The most important living condition of a snail is moisture. It needs water for its body supply, moisture for the colourless, sticky discharge and moisture for feeding on young plants.

During spring and autumn, the snail suddenly stops feeding and wanders restlessly about. This is the mating time. When it meets its chosen mate the courtship, which lasts for several hours, begins. First, they bite each other, then prod around the right side of the neck,

where the genital orifice is located. The two finally unite at the neck. Fifteen days after that, the pregnant snail finds a moist spot at the base of a tree or any place close to potential food supply. It digs a nest which is a hole about three inches deep. The eggs are then slowly dropped into the hole and it covers and abandons the eggs to their fate. The eggs will hatch in three to four weeks time into miniature snails with paper-thin shells. As soon as they are hatched they are able to cope with life. They can provide themselves with food, shelter and come out only at night.

In some countries snails are used as food. These countries include France where snails have become one of the easiest and quickest dishes.

Snails are also used for medical research. Every spring the faculty of medicine at the University of Paris buys several pounds of snails to experiment on them. Therefore these molluscs are of very good use to the world.

Wong Yoon Jeuan
Form V D

TOURIST TRADE PROMOTION IN WEST MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA is a country filled with scenic spots but the tourist potential in them has not been exploited. Tourism brings in a lot of revenue for any government so our government has finally realised that we should develop our tourist potential to the fullest.

Firstly, Malaysia has many places that have been only partially developed like Cameron Highlands, Pangkor Island, Penang, Langkawi Island etc. Cameron Highlands is the most popular hill resort in Malaysia. The cool fresh air, the closeness to nature and the quietness of the place attracts many tourists here. The beautiful marble found on Langkawi Island can also be a tourist attraction. Pangkor with its golden, sandy beaches, and warm sparkling water is also a holiday resort for tourists. All these places have not been well publicised so that many tourists seldom know the beauty spots of our country. To remedy this we should have more pamphlets and more publicity campaigns to publicise these places. As it is, most

of the tourists just pass by Malaysia and go to Thailand or Singapore so we are losing the revenue we should have to the Singaporeans and the Thais.

To set about developing tourism in our country, our government has set up a tourist promotion board with the right personnel in it. This board aims at developing tourism to the fullest in our country. This tourist promotion board works hand in hand with the many tourist agencies, hoteliers and tourists operators in our country. Pamphlets about Malaysia are distributed to these agencies and these agencies in turn distribute them to the tourists.

To attract rich American tourists we must have first-class hotels which they are used to. As incentives to private investors to build luxury hotels, our government has given them certain grants. Mr. Khir Johari the Minister of Commerce and Industry, said that two luxury hotels will be built in East Malaysia, two in Kuantan and five in the towns of

Penang, Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur and Port Dickson. These hotels will then provide employment for 4,000 people. But the employees must first be trained and our government should set up centres for training hotel staff. Recently the Y.W. C.A. in Kuala Lumpur had a training course for waitresses. By training them, these waitresses will then be able to work in these new hotels about to spring up all over the country.

Our government should enlarge our present airports to equip them for the landing of Jumbo Jets. These Jumbo Jets if they come will bring in a lot of tourists for Malaysia. In fact our government is lengthening the runway at Bayan Lepas Airport in Penang and building a new terminal and other facilities. This is to prepare Penang for the boom in tourism. Further, foreign airlines like Japan Air Lines may then extend their services to these enlarged airports. Transport facilities like buses and taxis should also be improved. Taxi-drivers should be encouraged to be friendly and courteous to the tourists.

Immigration should be made easy for the tourists. The government should cut the red tape. Customs officers are a source of complaint to the tourists for their rudeness. The government is investigating this and these custom officers should be encouraged to be friendly and polite to these tourists.

Tourist guides are trained for showing the tourists around our country. Our government has done this and has even had a Miss Tourism contest. Miss Tourism is then sent to other countries where she can show the people there the charms and attractions of Malaysia. Malaysia has also sent representatives to international beauty contests like Miss Universe and Miss World to publicise to the world that a country

like Malaysia exists. These beautiful girls can then try their best to woo tourists to Malaysia.

International tourist conferences should be encouraged to be held in Malaysia. In fact the 1972 P. A. T. A. conference is to be held here. This is our big chance to publicise our country to those coming to this conference. A "Keep Penang clean" or keep any town clean should be started so that the delegates will be impressed by what they see.

Penang is a tax-free port. More tax-free ports like Port Dickson should be started to attract the tourists to these places for they can buy tax-free goods here.

Cottage industries like arts and crafts should be set up to make souvenirs for the tourists. This can be seen in Kelantan where there are silver ware goods and beautiful batek cloth. The quality of these goods should be improved for selling to these tourists. Cultural dances of the people here should be promoted. The government has done this when they showed cultural dances at Port Dickson to the Australian tourists who came by ship.

Malaysia is a multi-racial country. Foreign tourists find it very interesting to see people of many races living in harmony in one community. This multi-raciality of our country should be reflected in the employees of the tourist agencies, hotels and those engaged in the tourist trade. Queen Saraya and Mr. Indovino who recently visited Penang commented on this unique multi-raciality of our people.

All the above facts that I have mentioned are being done or should be done in our country to promote tourism which is a lucrative business.

Leong Sau Yee
Form V Science

COMETS AND METEORS

THE universe is one of mystique, yet to be explored, in which the earth is just a minor component. Owing to man's unquenchable thirst for more knowledge and their untiring probe into the universe, it is now known that, in addition to the earth, there are eight other planets including thousands of asteroids in orbit round the sun. Besides the planets and asteroids, two other kinds of celestial bodies orbit the sun. These are the comets and meteors.

The comets looked like stars with long trains of light cutting the reflex of other stars. These trains of light suggested a woman's tresses and thus these heavenly bodies came to be known as 'Long-Haired stars' in ancient times. The Greek word for 'long-haired' was *kometes*, hence the name 'comet' was given to the long-haired stars. A comet has a head of bright glowing gas in the centre of which is a nucleus composed of ice, frozen gas and dust particles. The comet travels in an elliptical orbit and as it approaches the sun, the solar heat evaporises the ice and frozen gas in the nucleus. Pressure of solar radiation and Solar wind (electrified particles emitted by the sun) blow some of the comet's gases away from the comet's head in a direction opposite to the sun thus forming the tail. The gases in the tail absorb ultra-violet light and then give it out in the form of visible light causing the tail to become luminous. This accounts for the comet being seen as a moving light with a blazing tail in the night sky.

Some comets take three years to complete their orbits, others twenty-five years or more. It was not until in 1682, the true nature of cometary motion was ascertained. In that year a comet appeared and Edmund Halley applied the law of gravitation of its motion. He came up with the revelation that the comet travelled in space in accordance with the law of gravitation. Halley observed that the comets which were sighted in 1607, 1531 and 1456 moved in the same way. From these, he concluded that these supposedly different comets were really one and the same body appearing in the sky once every seventy-six years. This most famous comet with its beautiful long glowing tail is now called Halley's Comet and astronomers have calculated that its reappearance will be in 1986.

Halley's comet is large enough to be seen with the unaided eye. We must understand that a comet can only be seen in the sky when it passes close to the sun and this is the time when its tail grows larger because the solar wind's pressure on it is greater then. At this point of its orbit, the comet is nearest to the sun and this point is called perihelion.

It is believed that most meteors originate from the comets. As the solar heat evaporises some of the ice in a comet's nucleus, dust particles start to fall away and these travel in space orbiting the sun. However, sometimes all of a comet's ice may turn to gas and what remains of the nucleus is now a dense cloud of dust particles which travels in the orbit of the former comet. When a dust particle or meteor as it is now called enters the earth's atmosphere, friction with the air molecules causes the meteor to heat up and glow brightly.* The meteor shoots across the sky and burns up before sinking toward the earth. The shooting stars which we usually see in the night sky are really meteors surrounded by glowing air particles. Nearly 90 million meteors intrude our atmosphere daily and they are generally most numerous after midnight. When the earth passes through the dense cloud of dust particles and it does so several times a year, a meteor shower occurs. The most spectacular meteor shower known as the Leonid Storm sparked off on the night of November, 12, 1833. It illuminated the sky to such startlig brilliancy the most people thought the end of the world had come.

Meteors and comets are natural phenomena occurring in the universe. However, people of Elizabethan times had quite a different concept as regards these mysterious celestial bodies. Meteors and comets, to them, indicate the order of the heavens being upset and these portend imminent danger, mishap or death of a great ruler. In Shakespeare's 'Julius Caesar', the people's belief in such prodigies is illustrated in Calpurnia's fear when she asks Caesar, her husband, not to go to the Senate because she has seen a comet.

"When beggars die there are no comets seen
The heavens themselves blaze forth the
death of princes"

So says Calpurnia. Never did they know that comets and shooting stars constitute part of the Solar System. In fact the astronomers had the erroneous belief that the sun revolved round the earth but as time marched on, astronomy also progressed and with it followed the expan-

sion of man's knowledge of the universe as they delved deeper into the study of the stars. Man's countless endeavours have each time added another gain of discovery into the storehouse of man's knowledge of the universe.

Lim Mey Ling

Form V E

FRUSTRATIONS AND CONFLICT

THESE are many situations in adult life where no escape from conflicting situations, seems possible. Sometimes in such circumstances, the pressures are so intense that a person feels trapped. Frustration and resulting stress are inevitable aspects in everyday life. Some people can take it, others give up or 'go to pieces'.

Aggression which is not justified may be instigated by frustration. For example a man may turn to his children when frustrated by his wife and may feel relieved temporarily but he has not actually done anything to solve his problem. One frequent outcome of prolonged stress is the formation of gastric ulcers in the stomach. The stress may cause a small haemorrhage in the stomach's lining and heighten the gastric acidity, which may finally lead to the development of an ulcer. This does not happen overnight of course.

Associated with frustrations are various compensatory reactions. In this case, instead of solving the conflict directly, various indirect reactions are often utilised which seem to solve the problem. A woman may turn to kindergarten work when she finds that she cannot have children of her own. A parent who has no opportunity of obtaining a college education may make sacrifices for his children to go and then experience all their failures and successes as if they were his own.

When hostility resulting from frustration is not expressed in hostile acts, it is often represented in fantasy where the person goes through certain acts in imagination. This may become dangerous because fantasy loses contact with reality by dealing with desires that cannot be fulfilled and it is continually substituted for the real solution, thus preventing an actual adjustment.

Frustrations may also lead to belittling and blaming others. A person whose ego is badly deflated may point out the faults of others who have succeeded where he has failed. Blaming another is dangerous and like excessive, unrealistic desires, it may lead to insanity.

Another important compensatory reaction is overcompensation in the form of self-repudiation. The individual tends to feel inferior and make weak remarks of himself like "I'm just not good for anything" when he is actually trying to 'fish' for compliments. In extreme cases, these people may accuse themselves of sins which they may or may not have committed and spend much of their time in wailing and weeping unnecessarily.

Projection is somewhat like the reactions already considered. It is very often an indirect wish-fulfilment. A girl whose desire for response from men is frustrated begins to imagine that men have designs on her. Projection sometimes comes from feelings of guilt. A guilty person often lives in the fear that others have found out his fault. To counteract this, he passes his guilt to the others by blaming them.

Rationalising is a faulty, defensive thinking motivated by the desire to retain self-respect. The most common kind of rationalising is the attempt to justify actions by giving good excuses for them. A student who wants to go to the movies may resolve the conflict of having to study by saying that too much learning may ruin his eyes.

Whenever an individual, confronted by difficulties, gives up he reverts to such reactions as weeping, kicking objects around him or stamping his feet. These actions may release tension but they seldom solve our problems. Others may react to situations of conflict by refusing to admit the existence of difficulties.

This may cause sleep-walking and amnesia, a loss of memory.

After a study of all those incorrect and ineffective ways of facing frustrations and the consequences, we should take a problem--solving attitude towards all our problems. An effective

way when one is undecided between two choices, is to jot down the pros and cons and weigh them. If we really cannot solve them when we have made use of all the resources at our disposal, then it is better to seek competent advice than to resolve to some of those compensatory reactions mentioned above.

Ng Lay Kheng
Form V E (SC.)

SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN MALAYSIA

SOcial Welfare Services in Malaysia are carried out by various departments and voluntary organisations. Each department has its own executive head, working under the direction of the Chief Social Welfare Officer. These departments include the Youth Services Section, the Department of the Handicapped Persons Service, the Child Section, the Women and Girls Section and many others. The Social Welfare Services offer assistance to those who require special help if they are to lead normal, happy and useful lives, people such as the physically or mentally handicapped, the chronically sick or unemployed and also those children lacking a normal home background.

The Youth Service offers valuable help by encouraging worthwhile movements among young people such as the Girl Guides and Boy Scouts. The aim of this section is "the fullest possible encouragement of all healthy youth movements . . . the greatest care not to introduce any form of official domination or control". The service also helps to eliminate some of the causes of juvenile delinquency. The work done by this section is chiefly advisory.

The Probation and Approved Schools Service was originally designed to deal with the problems of juvenile delinquency. The work of the Probation Service is closely connected with the courts. It offers help to those who have offended against the law to re-adjust themselves to lead normal and useful lives and also to parents or guardians who find their children beyond their control. The section also provides care and protection for juvenile destitutes, those children whose parents are unfit to exercise proper care and control and also to those who are in moral danger or falling into bad

association. The Approved Schools Service aims to adjust such people to normal lives by example, discipline, educational and vocational training and recreational and leisure activities.

The provision for the Protection of Women and Girls was set up for the protection of women and girls from exploitation for immoral purposes. The women and girls may be placed in Places of Safety in pursuance of this policy. An example of such a place is the Po Leung Kuk in Penang.

The aged are also cared for by the Social Welfare Services. It is normally those who are homeless, without families or friends and are otherwise destitutes that require assistance from the Government and voluntary organisations. Help in the form of domiciliary relief is given to those old people who are destitutes but have families of their own.

Child welfare is cared for by the Child Welfare Section. Its aim is to make sure that help is available for every child in need of it. The child may be placed in an institution where help is available from all appropriate sources.

Public assistance, mainly in cash, is also given to those in need due to sickness, poverty or any unforeseen and uncontrollable reason. The Department has set up various family welfare programmes such as domestic and matrimonial problems, the welfare of dependants of prisoners, financial problems, the finding of employment and many others. Help and assistance are given as means to promote the general well-being of a person so that he may re-establish himself and become self-maintaining.

The Department of the Handicapped Persons Service is responsible for all types of

handicapped persons. The aim of the department is to rehabilitate such persons into a place in society and train them to overcome their particular disabilities. The Department provides facilities such as residential care, treatment, education and training, employment and in the case of homeworkers, provision for launching grants.

Among the voluntary organisations who offer valuable help to the Government are the

National Cancer Society of Malaysia, the Malaysian Red Cross Society, the Malaysian Council of Child Welfare and many others. These organisations co-operate with the government to give assistance to those in need of it.

The work of the Social Welfare Services in Malaysia is not very well known nor is it much appreciated. Much has been accomplished by this organisation but there is still much more to be done.

Teresa Keng
Form V Sc.

THE FUTURE OF THE MASER AND LASER

THE lasers and masers are comparatively new developments in the field of science.

They are destined to revolutionise some branches of science, industry and even ordinary everyday life. Visualizing sensational uses for lasers in outer space is certainly a lot easier than tackling the immediate problems of how to employ lasers efficiently in the down-to-earth environment of the factory floor. The future of these devices is likely to hold the most exciting and perhaps almost limitless possibilities in various field of science and communication.

The word "MASER" is an acronym formed from Microwave Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation. The word "LASER" on the other hand stands for Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation.

In the realm of communication, it is said that thousands of different television programmes could be transmitted simultaneously on one laser beam. The more immediate problem facing television programme planners is how to produce a choice of, say of half-a-dozen different, programmes simultaneously that are worth looking at! Even the laser cannot solve this one.

Lasers generate or amplify energy by using the electrons bound to the atoms of a solid, rather than the free electrons boiled from a hot cathode. This process leads to 'stimulated emission' since the bound electrons need a stimulus or agitator to produce the emission of energy. The word 'microwave' refers to the frequency range of the electromagnetic energy.

Lasers were first called optical masers since light is really an electromagnetic radiation of a frequency range higher than the microwave region.

What will Masers and Lasers do.

The range of a radar set could be increased considerably through the use of a Maser to amplify the received weak echo signals before they are processed by conventional receivers. All of us have probably listened to a radio that had so much static or noise, the station we wanted to listen to could hardly be heard. It is the low noise characteristic of the maser which allows it to receive weak signals that would otherwise be "swamped" by the noise associated with the normal receiver. This capacity to operate as a very low noise amplifier had made the Maser ideally suited for radio-telescopes searching for signals from the far reaches of outer space.

Masers and lasers offer possibilities as medical tools to effect chemical reactions. The beam of energy can be focused to a narrow width. All the energy could then be concentrated within single living cells, and selective destruction of tissues or surgery be performed. This ability to focus the beam to an extremely small spot means large amounts of energy or heat are concentrated on that spot. Maser or laser beams can cut thick sheets of metal. This kind of device could then be used as the death dealing ray gun of science fiction fame.

Because the laser or maser beam has some of the same properties as radio waves, they offer attractive possibilities in communication.

They also have the additional advantages of being higher in frequency and power and of offering better security because the beam can be focused. These characteristics may lead to a more efficient communication system.

Masers and lasers could also be used as high-resolution spectrometer for investigating the fine structure of matter, as an ultraprecise atomic clock, and as a sensitive magnetometer

for measuring the earth's magnetic field. Masers and lasers also provide a means for checking the theory of relativity.

It is fascinating to think what the ordinary vacuum tube has led to in its short lifetime. The future of Masers and Lasers have tremendous potential for dealing with molecules and atoms, the very heart of matter.

Veena Kumari
Form 5 E

AN INTERESTING BUILDING THAT I KNOW

ON the island of Penang stands the Khoo "Kongsi" temple. A "kongsi" is a benevolent association organised on the basis of a common origin. Its object is to assist its members.

At the entrance to the temple stand two stone lions—the protectors of the temple. In their mouths can be seen a stone ball. Try as one might to remove this ball, one will not succeed. Then, how did the ball get inside the lion's mouth? The ball was carved inside the lion's mouth! Carvers of that era were skilled in carving objects inside another. To the right of the lions grows the Pipal tree one of the species of the tree under which Gautama Buddha was enlightened on Buddhism.

At a distance, the temple looks like an ordinary Chinese temple but closer observation proves the observer wrong. The roof is a relic of the ornate craftsmanship of an era gone by. Its delicate designs are studded with green jade which in that time were cheap but which now only the well-to-do can afford. As one walks up the steps, one is welcomed by lanterns of many shapes and hues. The carvings on the walls depict the Chinese idea of Filial Piety and in days gone by children were brought to this temple and told the stories behind the carvings. One such carving shows a boy standing by a grave in a thunderstorm. It is said that as it began to thunder the boy ran to his mother's grave and cried, "Mother, do not be afraid, I'll look after you."

To the left of the stairs is the "Honours

Room." Here on the walls inscribed in gold, are placed tablets with the names of the members of the Khoo clan who have graduated. At one time these people were given quite a substantial purse by the Kongsi, but now, as graduates are "a dime a dozen" a sum of about one hundred dollars only is presented to them.

In the inner sanctum of the temple are more precious works of art and Western influence is evident in the many drawings. This place is one of the few places in Malaysia which still have the famous Mother of Pearl furniture. The chairs and tables are inlaid with Mother of Pearl. This furniture, unfortunately, is very uncomfortable and the people of that era did not appreciate these works of art which are now invaluable. The walls and pillars here are all decorated with intricate designs either carved or made from bronze.

On the ceremonial altar can be seen a pair of crescent-like pieces of wood. Members of the Khoo clan who want to ask the gods any questions, are requested to throw these pieces of wood on to the floor and the answer is determined by the position in which the pieces fall.

The Khoo "Kongsi" Temple is situated in one of the back lanes of Georgetown. As the town grew, this temple was superceded by newer more impressive buildings and it now only stands as a relic of the Khoo clan of days gone by. Even tourists associations do not include in their itinerary this place of historical interest.

Anne Dourado
Form 4 E

A PERSON I ADMIRE

A person I admire is John Keats. John Keats was in one way considered to be one of the most remarkable of all English poets, for he did not begin to write poetry seriously until he was twenty-one and he died at a very young age of twenty-six years old. He was born in the year 1795 and died in 1821.

Keats had only five years to work in, and yet by the end of them, he had written some of the most famous poems in the English Language. The loveliest are several poems of the kind called 'Odes' and among them are "To a Nightingale", "On a Grecian Urn" and "To Autumn".

John Keats had one sister and two brothers. Their father own a riding stable in the city of London, and although his father was not much educated himself, he sent John to a good school at Enfield. There he was not at all interested in his lessons. He was better known for his love of fighting, and his high spirits made him popular with everyone in school. His father died when Keats was only nine years old and eventually, the whole family shifted to Edmonton with their grandmother. In those days Edmonton and Enfield were both well known countries. Keats knew the country very well and he used to write poems about Edmonton.

He left school when he was fifteen and he went to work with a surgeon in Edmonton to learn to be a doctor. After four years of training, he went to London to be a medical student. Keats was very hard working and he passed his examination. He had already started writing poetry then and finally he decided to give up medicine and spend his life with poetry.

He wrote one of the best known poems in those days. After reading a poem by the ancient Greek poet, Homer, he was so thrilled by it that he wrote a poem himself about his

excitement and feeling. The poem starts with:-

"Then felt I like some of the skies
When a new planet swims into his kin;
Or like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes.
He stared at the Pacific—and all his
Men looked at each other with a wild surmise.
Silent upon a peak in Darien."

When Keats did decide to give up medicine and be a poet, immediately he set to work and wrote a long poem called "Edmion" which tells the story of a Greek prince who became a shepherd. He told about his adventures in searching for the moon-goddess who had fallen in love with him. The poem begins with a famous line:

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

In 1818 Keats's brother, Tom, who had always been delicate and weak was dying of a disease, then called consumption. While John nursed him day and night till his death, John developed the disease himself.

During this time, he was in love with a girl called Fanny Brawne but this love did not bring him any joy but more unhappiness instead. Yet during these troubles Keats did not give up writing poetry but he was able to write some of his most wonderful poems, including a long one called "Hyperion", a story poem called "The Eve of St. Agnes" and the beautiful "Odes".

In 1821, when he became too ill to write anymore, his friends sent him to Rome hoping that he would recover from the disease, but after spending a few weeks there, that were full of suffering, he died. He had sacrificed his life for the sake of his brother.

The letters Keats wrote to his friends have been collected and published. The poems tell much about his life and about his ideas of poetry.

Ng Lai Leng
Form IVF

AIR POLLUTION

THE term "air pollution" was never even heard of in the early days when man lived in a primitive society. However, it is one of the main topics of discussion today when man is living in a highly civilized and industrialised society. What, then, is air pollution? The world experiences stages of changes and development. From the days of Adam and Eve until this present Space Age, man has climbed from one step of progress to another until he is now very nearly at the top of the ladder.

People say that by the hard work of our forefathers the life expectancy of the younger generation have increased by approximately 50%. Our forefathers have given us a more healthy world than they found. But, do you think we are really living in such a good and healthy surrounding nowadays? No! We are not. In reality we are actually living under a dense and noxious smog of harmful gases and other impurities. Why has man rather suddenly found himself in this environmental predicament? Who or what is at fault?

Much of our environmental deterioration is the direct or indirect result of advances in technology. Some of the features of technology which severely brought about air pollution are:

- (1) internal combustion engine
- (2) synthetic pesticides
- (3) inorganic nitrogen fertilizers
- (4) plastics
- (5) man-made radio isotopes.

In the course of progress in technology more powerful automobiles have been manufactured, more electrical power generated, more gadgetry invented and more food from depleted soil have been materialised. Undoubtedly we enjoy many luxuries like having cars and using the most modern facilities but the manufacture of these devices have contributed to the worsening of air pollution.

It has been predicted by scientists that by 1980 every man, woman and child in the hemisphere will have to wear a breathing helmet to survive outdoors. In one Los Angeles playground, a signboard read "Warning! Do

not exercise strenuously or breathe too deeply during heavy smog conditions". School children in Tokyo sometimes have to wear masks on heavily smoggy days. Traffic police in certain areas of the Japanese capitals must take periodic "oxygen breaks" to keep from being overwhelmed by noxious exhaust fumes. There is no such thing as "pure, country fresh air" now. Pollution belched into the atmosphere from our industrialised megapolises is dispersed far and wide, in all directions. And the air pollution we cannot see is the worst of it. Between 85% and 90% of air pollution consists of largely invisible, yet potentially deadly gases. In the United States, the motor vehicles are responsible for over 60% of the nation's air pollution. Roughly 30% is attributed to industry, split nearly equally between manufacturing and electric power generation. Automotive engines emit hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxide into the air. Coal, oil and gas combustion, mainly from industrial resources, add sulphur dioxide. But projections for the future do indicate more people driving more cars, consuming more electrical power and manufactured goods — all adding to our overtaxed atmosphere.

Volcanic eruptions and earthquakes have also been factors that caused air pollution. In one year there are at least two to three volcanic eruptions and quite disastrous earthquakes. These bring millions of tons of dust and dirt into the atmosphere. What about the wars and battles in the world today? Bombs and explosives spew forth pollutants such as poisonous gases, impurities and dust and dirt into the air. They set the percentage by density of air pollution greater when nations could very well have done without conflicts and fightings among nations.

Despite some of the facts which have been mentioned above man still insists on going against nature. One magazine predicted that by 1980 the pollution problems of some major cities will be insolvable and by 1982 or 1983, an air pollution catastrophe will kill thousands in some United States cities. This is not a very reassuring prediction for us mortals who have no place else to go. Will there be any solutions to the problems of air pollution?

What could and should be done? Maybe some day scientists might announce that air pollution can be overcome, or never. Already

frightened scientists frankly warn of the possible death of the planet Earth through pollution Will this be man's last decade?

Lai Siew Meng
Form IV G

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A LIBRARY BOOK

I AM a brightly coloured and enormous story book entitled "Treasure Island" by Robert Stevenson. I was published in a renowned English Company in England. Then I was shipped to Malaysia. During the journey, I was miserable inside an immense wooden box packed with all my companions. I could not get a view of the beautiful sights or even a breath of fresh air. When I reached Singapore harbour, I was put into a lorry and my body ached terribly because of the jogging and bumping in the lorry. I could only sigh with relief when I was taken out of the box and covered nicely with cellophane paper in the Selangor Library in Kuala Lumpur.

The librarian, being a tidy and pleasant old lady took great care of me. After I had been numbered, I was placed on the shelf. I was admired by many school-children and soon I became a favourite for them. As days passed, my reputation spread like an epidemic. I was so happy and proud.

One Saturday, a smart-looking gentleman approached my section. He went about

searching for a book and eventually took me out. He looked at my title, had a glance at my introduction, fumbled through the pages and seemed to be pleased with me. He took me to the librarian and had me stamped. My heart was filled with pride when he praised me to his brothers and sisters. However, I was glad to return to my place on the shelf.

A few days later, a shabbily-dressed student borrowed me. At a glimpse of him, I could judge that he was a careless and irresponsible person. Whenever he felt tired of reading me, he would throw me in a corner of his room. One day, when he was not at home, one of his younger brothers threw me out of the window. To make matters worse, it was raining heavily and I was entirely soaked. Later I was picked up by a tramp who traded me in to a second-hand book seller. I was put in a shelf waiting for someone to purchase me. No one seemed to know my real inner value-interesting, filled with adventures and excitement.

This was my fate and there I stood in the dusty shelf waiting for someone to buy me.

Wong Lai Ping
Form III A

AN UNFORGETTABLE CHARACTER

WHEN I think about all the people I have known, I remember with great fondness and appreciation, a certain man who is so common and ordinary that no one wastes a second thought over him. This man used to be my gardener. He was an old man who had worked for us many years and his name was Samy.

I used to live in a big old house in Tapah with a great big rambling garden surrounded by big trees and tall grass. Samy worked at the garden with great will and determination

and I will never forget the sound of his old lawn-mower mowing through the grass and lalang, until the late evening. He tended the orchids with loving care and fought insect pests with as much dislike.

I will never forget the delicious smell of newly-cut grass drying in the sun or the smell of his wood fires with their curling blue spires of smoke rising up to the sky and sometimes on still and quiet afternoons, the smoke would remain stationary and the smell still lingers on in my memories whenever I sit nostalgically

recalling memories of the happy and carefree days I used to know.

And sometimes, when I see a lovely sunset, I can almost picture Samy sweeping the garden and I can hear the sound of the broom against the grass and it still gives me a warm feeling of serenity.

I can still remember the lovely orchids he used to raise and he used to be so happy and proud whenever the orchids were in full bloom.

He was a quiet man, not given much to conversation. He was kind and considerate and he was always helpful and at hand to help in any emergency.

Although he seldom talked, he conveyed a great message that I will never forget if I ever live to a hundred and five.

He was poor and he had nothing much except the small hut he lived in, which he built

himself and a few clothes. But he was happy for though he had nothing, he had everything he wished for. He loved his job and he was doing it to his very best and what more could he wish for than the satisfaction it gave him.

He cared not for worldly success or material things but what God gave him, he took and did not ask for more. He had the inner satisfaction and serenity that comes from such simplicity.

He taught me appreciation for the smallest thing of beauty. To him, dewdrops shining and glittering like rare jewels on a spider's nest was like a fairy queen's necklace. For the best thing in life are free and we have only to look around us.

He was poor in the material sense but he must have been rich spiritually.

When he died, I felt that he was happy and ready to go for he had achieved all a man could achieve in a life-time.*

Chin Li Choo
Form III A

'THE MID-NIGHT CALLER'

MARY'S parents had gone away on a holiday, leaving her alone at home to look after the house. It was at about 11-30 p.m. and Mary was watching television.

When the clock struck the midnight hour, Mary switched off the television set and prepared for bed. As she was about to go upstairs, she heard a scraping sound at the front door. It was the sound of long, sharp claws, scraping on the wood. Mary stood there, rooted to the floor, cold-sweat, pouring down her face. Through a window, she could see a tall, willowy, long-haired figure, dressed in white. After a while, the scraping stopped. Mary thought that the caller had gone and was about to ascend the flight of steps when she heard the scraping sound again - this time on the back door. The caller was calling out to Mary, in a moanful, ghostly voice, asking her, begging her to open the door and to let her enter. Mary, not knowing what to do, went to the back door and after plucking up some

courage, she opened it. Mary could see no one and when she was about to close the door, she felt some cold air brushing against her. Mary had an eerie feeling and shivered with fright. Then she went upstairs and went to bed. When she was just about to fall asleep, she heard some rattling noise downstairs. It sounded like dishes and crockery being washed. Her curiosity was aroused and wrapping a night-gown around herself, she went downstairs to investigate but there was nobody there and everything was in order. After a final glance around, she went back to bed.

The following night, when Mary was cozily settled down in bed, she heard slow, hair-raising raps on her bedroom door. Mary was very frightened and clung to the bed for support. But after some sharp raps, Mary got up and opened the door slightly. She felt some cold air brushing against her and she quickly closed the door and returned to bed. Then she saw an oldish woman, with long, black hair and hollow, piercing eyes, staring

at her. Mary could see the woman's long and sparkling-white fangs, dripping with blood. It was a hideous sight and Mary screamed but no sound came. Mary's eyes grew wide with horror as she saw the ghostly figure slowly

gliding, nearer and nearer towards her. The cold, freezing hands of the woman encircled Mary's neck and soon the woman's shroud enveloped the whole of Mary's body and she felt no more.

Yeoh Choo Yim
Form II A

A STORM

MANY people do not like storms mainly because the lightning and thunder instil fear in them. Moreover, severe storms can cause damage or danger to their homes. But to some people, storms are interesting events and they have spent many a time watching how the outside world reacts to storms.

I can still recollect a storm that occurred nearly a year ago while I was on holiday at my aunt's place in Penang. Her house was so situated that one side faced the sea and one side faced the coast road. Thus I had a view of both the storm at sea and on land.

It was very hot in the late afternoon and barely a breeze was blowing. Some picnickers were enjoying themselves outside on the beach. But gradually the weather took a turn. The sky grew cloudy and grey and the force of the wind gradually increased. The sea too was getting rougher and rougher.

Then the wind sent little flurries of raindrops down. They pattered on the roofs of houses or on the tops of cars passing by. Some tossed on to umbrellas while others nestled themselves among peoples' raincoats.

The wind blew them to greater activity and lashed them with icy force. Soon they began to fall in torrents. The sea grew rougher and rougher and, with the incessant lashing of waves against the rocks, it looked an angry sight. The wind grew stronger and stronger

and lightning and thunder rolled, sweeping the picnickers from the beach and driving them to the shelter of nearby houses.

Heavily and still more heavily the rain fell, whipping the waves in the sea until they rose and raced up the beach followed by vivid flashes of lightning. The wind, too, increased its force and bits of litter left by picnickers were blown all over the beach.

Meanwhile on the coast road, riverlets and pools began to form and cars passing by were splashed with these puddles. The wind became so strong that time and again, loud shattering crashes were heard, as trees were being uprooted. The thunder and lightning continued more ominously than the enormous waves in the sea.

Raindrops dripped from the roofs and window sills of the houses. The sky grew darker and darker as the late afternoon passed away and evening came to take its place. The darkness of the sky was lit up now and then by lightning.

Just as we thought it would rain the whole evening, the rain gradually began to cease falling. The wind grew less violent and the waves in the sea became calmer.

The wind had blown all the bits of litter on the beach everywhere and it looked an untidy sight. Except for the beach, everything looked fresh and new and people began to resume their normal activities.

Laureen Ooi
Form II K

THE STORY OF A DOG

HERE I am now, sitting alone in a dark corner of a back lane. The dustbin which I overturned is laying some way off. The slipper which was thrown at me has been added to the heap of rubbish from which I had hoped to find food. Here, sitting in the dirty, stinking corner, I begin to think back, to my happy, youthful days. This I do almost every night, and I always end in tears.

My mom belonged to a wealthy family and it was here that I started my life. As a puppy of hardly three months, I was given to a boy of five, Jimmy. Jimmy called me by the name "Blackeye" because of the dark patch I have on my left eye. We passed many happy days together, Jimmy, his little friends and I. In the evenings of those golden days, we would stroll happily along the river, run along its bank or play happily in the woods. Thus, two years passed, wild, happy and without

a single care in the world. Then my master was sent to a distant boarding school. Jimmy's last words came echoing back to me, "... Goodbye Blackeye, I'll come back someday." But he never did come back to me. Some time after his departure, his family moved to another part of the country to stay. I was given to a family friend, who soon became my enemy. I was roughly treated. One day, my new master clubbed me with a huge stick and my anger was roused, I gave him a good, hard bite and the following day, he turned me into the streets.

Ever since, I have wandered blindly, without a destination. There is a saying, "When God closes a door, He opens a window somewhere." I have waited a long time for that window and I do hope that it is not a long distance off.

Choo Sheal Mee
Form 1 AM

AN ACCIDENT

IT was a cool calm evening when I decided to take a cycle ride along Tiger Lane.

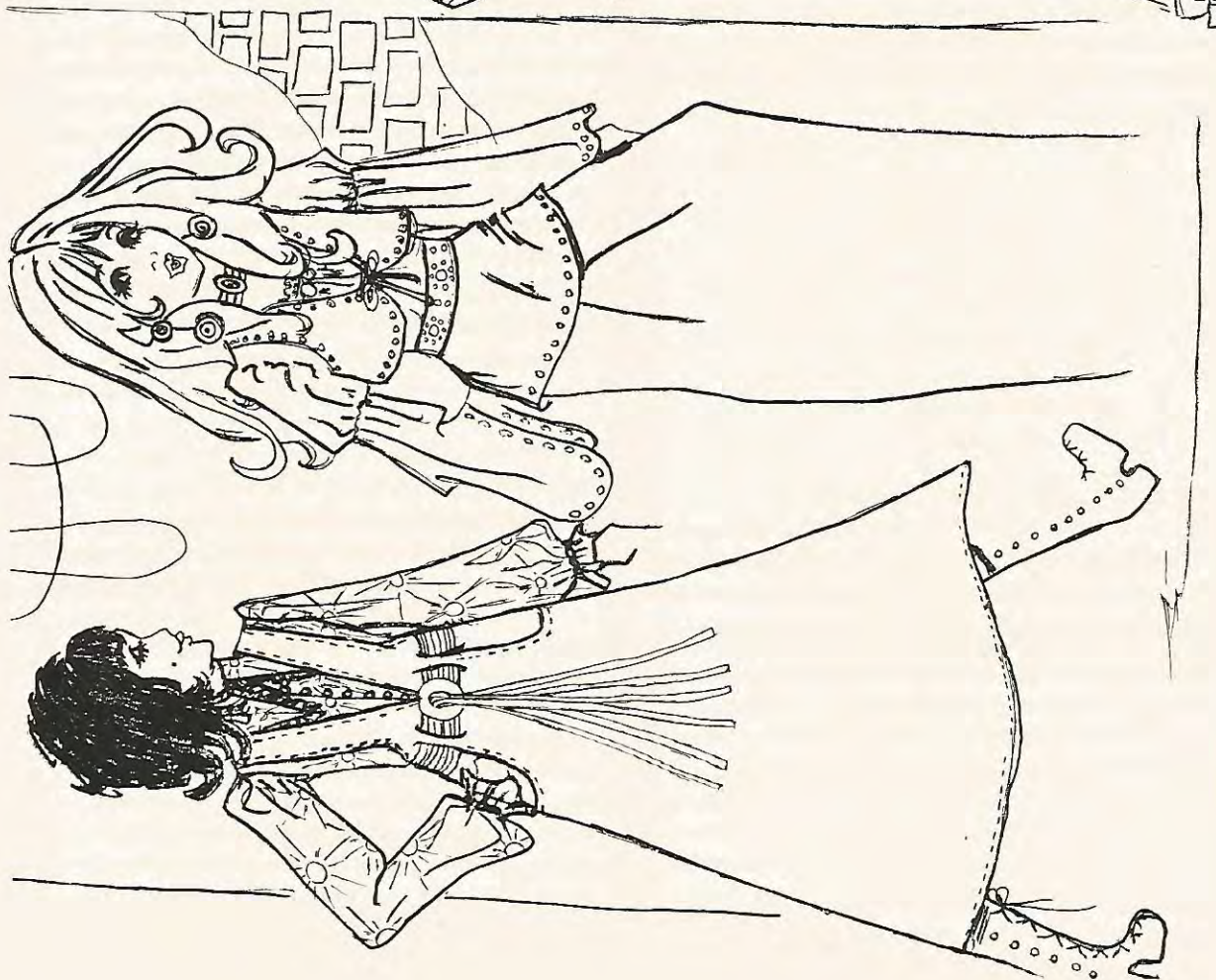
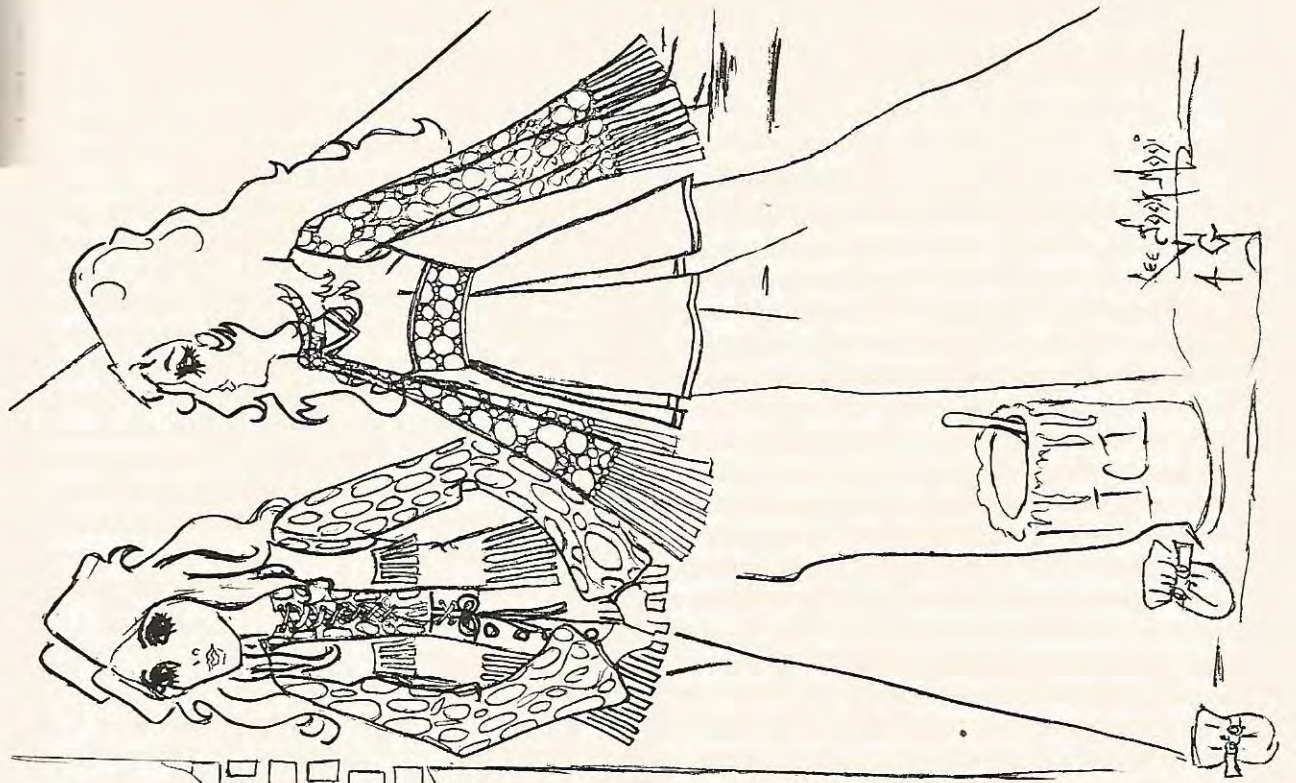
I was enjoying my cycle ride along the peaceful countryside when suddenly a man driving a sports-car, at full speed, overtook me and a few other cars in front of me, with the result that I cycled straight into a ditch trying to avoid the wheels of his car. That was the end of my peaceful countryside cycle ride. I managed to pull myself and cycle out swearing under my breath that he should undergo the same experience that I had undergone.

As though God had really heard me, the very next thing I saw was that the reckless driver had collided into an on-coming lorry with disastrous results. The sports-car was pinned under the lorry which was smashed up. There was broken glass shattered all over the road and pools of blood here and there. I was told that the driver of the sports-car was at fault. It was certainly a pitiful sight as the driver of the car was still trapped in the

vehicle. The lorry driver had escaped serious injuries, coming off with only a few bruises and cuts which was caused by the broken glass.

Someone in the crowd rang for the Police and Ambulance. Within ten minutes they arrived. The Police had quite a job trying to clear away the crowd and were kept busy taking down details of the accident from eye-witnesses for further investigation. By this time the hospital assistants had managed to pull out the body of the driver. On examination, it was found that he had died on the spot sustaining a fractured skull and broken ribs.

The police had managed to inform the driver's relatives. The lorry driver was also taken to hospital for treatment. An hour later the crowd dispersed; it was only then I remembered cursing the reckless driver for landing me in a dirty old ditch and was sorry for swearing at him for now he was dead. As I started off for home, two cranes came to take away the wrecked vehicles. It was certainly a ghastly sight.



PERISTIWA

HARI telah lewat petang . . . senjakala. Sang Suria yang hanya tinggal cahaya merah-nya sahaja itu maseh kelihatan di-kaki langit.

Orang2 yang bekerja pada siang hari-nya untok menchari nafkah telah pulang semuanya ka-rumah masing2. Ibu-bapa sibok memanggil pulang anak2 kechil mereka yang maseh lagi bermain2. Mereka kelihatan chomot. Ayam itek pun turut sama bising apabila di-halau ka-reban. Seluruh kampung itu menjadi bising dengan pelbagai bunyi yang ta'dapas di-tentukan di-waktu senja bagini. Api2 unggun untok membakar sampah sarap dan menghalau sang nyamok di-tiup oleh sang bayu menyebarkan asap ka-merata2 cherok kampung itu. Dari jauh sayup2 kedengaran alunan suara azan dari surau kechil di-kampung itu menandakan sudah sampai masa untok sembahyang maghrib. Beberapa orang lelaki dan juga beberapa orang kanak2 lelaki kelihatan sedang berjalan menuju ka-arrah surau itu.

Di-tengah keriohan kampung itu, terdengar suara sa-orang perempuan memanggil, "Bedah Bedah, di-mana kau? Hari sudah senja. Naik-lah lekas." Lepas itu pula kelihatan saorang budak perempuan yang berumur kira2 dua belas tahun, sedang berlari2 menuju ka-arrah pondok dari mana suara itu datang. Dia pun menaiki tangga pondok itu dan masuk ka-dalam. Budak perempuan itu ia-lah Bedah dan perempuan yang memanggil-nya tadi ia-lah ibu kandong-nya. Mereka tinggal di-dalam sa-buah pondok yang kechil ia-itu harta pusaka yang telah di-tinggalkan oleh arwah bapa Bedah. Bapa Bedah telah pun meninggal dunia beberapa tahun yang lalu ia-itu ketika Bedah maseh di-dalam kandungan ibu-nya. Tidak-lah ia tahu bagaimana rupa bapa-nya itu.

Kehidupan mereka anak beranak sangat miskin. Mereka berdua hidup dengan berjual kueh. Wang yang di-dapati dari keuntongan berjual kueh yang sadikit itu terpaksa dibelanjakan dengan sa-berapa yang dapat supaya chukup untok membeli sadikit beras, sayur dan benda2 makanan yang lain. Mereka tidak mempunyai saudara mara yang boleh

memberikan pertolongan. Hendak meminta pertolongan daripada orang2 kampung itu, mereka segan sebab kehidupan orang2 kampung yang lain-nya pun susah juga. Kadang2, Ma' Munah, ibu Bedah terpaksa-lah menchari wang dengan membuat kerja2 kampung untok menambahkan pendapatan-nya. Kadang2 jualan mereka itu taku dan kadang2 tidak berapa laku. Mereka boleh-lah dikatakan hidup kais pagi makan pagi, kais petang makan petang. Usaha yang mereka lakukan sekarang ini-lah yang menghasilkan rezeki yang mereka makan setiap hari, yang menyambung usia mereka di-dunia walau sakadar hidup dalam kemiskinan, tidak pernah kenyang tetapi belum lagi mati kelaparan.

Pagi2 lagi ibu Bedah bangun dari tidor dan menyediakan kueh2 yang hendak di-jual dan Bedah pula keluar dari pondok itu, menyandang sa-bakul kueh di-bahu-nya. Tengah hari baru dia pulang ka-pondok-nya membawa balek wang atau pun kueh2 yang tidak laku. Badan-nya selalu berasa leteh tetapi Bedah sedar bahawa dia terpaksa berkorban untok hidup. Dia tidak pedulikan panas matahari yang memancar atau pun hujan tetapi yang di-fikirkan-nya ia-lah perut-nya perlu di-isi. Kadang2 pada petang hari, dia pergi juga berjual kueh. Dia terpaksa bekerja kuat untok mendapatkan wang yang lebeh.

Ma' Munah sangat sayang kapada anak-nya yang hanya sa-orang sahaja. Bedah pun memang-lah sa-orang budak yang baik kelakuan-nya. Oleh kerana itu, orang2 kampung itu juga suka kapada-nya. Bedah telah banyak berjasa kapada ibu-nya dan sa-lama ini dia-lah yang menjadi penawar hati ibu-nya. Bila Ma' Munah mengenangkan nasib mereka berdua yang terhimpit itu, berlinang-lah ayer matanya. Bertambah sedeh-lah dia bila mengenangkan masa hadapan anak perempuan-nya itu dan bila dia sudah tidak ada lagi di-dunia ini siapa-kah pula yang akan menjaga anak-nya nanti dan bagaimana pula dengan nasib anak-nya itu. Itu-lah yang selalu di-fikirkan oleh-nya dan kadang2 dia tidak dapat memejamkan mata-nya apabila dia memikirkan itu semua. Bedah pun memang pandai mengambil

hati ibu-nya, dia tidak suka memita itu dan ini daripada ibu-nya, mungkin kerana dia tahu bahawa kehidupan-nya sangat susah. Dia sangat mengasehi ibu-nya sebab tiada tempat lain lagi dia dapat mengadu, melainkan kepada ibu-nya. Segala perintah ibu-nya dituruti-nya.

Dalam menempoh kehidupan mereka itu, satu kejadian yang menedeahkan telah berlaku ka-atas kedua hamba Allah itu. Ma' Munah telah di-timpa sakit. Sudah beberapa hari dia terlantar di-atas lantai pondok yang hanya di-alasi oleh sa-helai tikar sahaja. Jualan kueh pun sudah berhenti. Sa-makin hari sa-makin kuat penyakit ibu Bedah. Bedah tidak tahu hendak membuat apa2, hendak membeli ubat wang-nya tidak ada. Batok Ma' Munah menjadi2 dan badan-nya menjadi kurus. Muka-nya puchat dan chengkong. Sudah beberapa hari dia tidak makan nasi. Sa-makin hari sa-makin tenat penyakit Ma' Munah dan sa-masa itu, Bedah sentiasa sahaja berada di-sisi ibu-nya dan menangis tersedu2 mengenangkan nasib mereka yang malang. Orang2 kampung ada juga datang ka-pondok itu untuk melihat keadaan Ma' Munah. Mereka pun tidak boleh berbuat apa2 sebab hidup mereka pun susah juga. Mereka hanya boleh memanggil sa-orang dukun yang tinggal di-kampung itu. Jampi2 dukun itu tidak boleh menyembuhkan penyakit Ma' Munah itu. Pada hal penyakit-nya bertambah tenat. Bedah pula, sa-makin hari sa-makin risau hati-nya sebab penyakit ibu-nya bertambah tenat. Hanya menantikan masa-nya sahaja nyawa-nya akan di-chabut oleh malakal-maut. Hati Bedah bertambah risau bila batok ibu-nya bertambah keras. Apa-kah akan terjadi kapada-nya bila orang yang sangat di-

kasehi-nya itu akan meninggalkan dia buat selama2-nya.

Pada suatu malam, kedengaran ibu-nya mengerang dengan kuat dan batok-nya bertali2. Dia dudok di-sisi ibu-nya dan ayer mata-nya jatuh berlinang melihat akan keadaan ibu-nya. Di-lihat-nya dada ibu-nya berombak2 dan nafas-nya pun turun naik dengan kenchang. Dia pun segera memanggil jiran2-nya dan mereka pun datang. Sa-jurus kemudian terdengar Ma' Munah menguchap dan sa-lepas itu, dia pun menghembuskan nafas-nya yang terakhir. Mayat terbujur di-atas lantai dan Bedah menyembamkan muka-nya ka-dada ibu-nya. Dia menangis sa-kuat2 hati-nya. Dia meratap dan meraung memanggil2 ibu-nya. Hati-nya di-selimuti oleh kedukaan sebab dia kehilangan orang yang sangat di-kasehi-nya. Beberapa orang perempuan yang datang, mengeluarkan ayer mata mereka melihat akan kejadian yang sangat menyedehkan itu.

Esok-nya, pengkebumian ibu-nya telah diuruskan oleh orang2 kampung itu. Ketika dia melihat keranda ibu-nya di-angkat dari pondok itu, hati-nya bertambah hiba. Keranda itu pun di-usong orang ka-kubor dan di-sana-lah ibu-nya bermastautin sa-lama2-nya. Ibu-nya telah pergi menemui Tuhan dan tidak akan kembali lagi. Tinggal-lah Bedah sekarang sa-batang karah. Ada juga di-antara orang2 kampung itu yang ingin mengambil Bedah sa-bagai anak angkat mereka. Mereka kasehan melihat-nya yang tiada beribu dan berbapa dan tiada pula bersaudara-mara. Bedah pun di-ambil oleh satu keluarga dan tinggal-lah dia di-bawah jagaan keluarga itu. Dia tidak pernah melupakan ibu yang sangat di-kasehi dan dia selalu juga pergi menziarahi kubor ibu-nya itu.

Muharyani bt. Othman
Form V A

NEGARA TERCHINTA

Di-bumi yang terchinta kami berpijak
Nama mu mengharum di-seluruh dunia
Ra'ayat yang berbilang bangsa
Berjuang... untuk ibu pertiwi
Dari kesibokan kota hingga ka-lembah desa
Kaum buroh, tani dan nelayan
Sama memberi bakti...
Dari titik peloh sampai merah darah

Keindahan-mu ternyata sudah
Dari kami juga akan mengharumkan nama mu
Semangat kami untuk berjuang lebeh
Untuk kepentingan Tanah Ayer terchinta.

Kapada ra'ayat di-bumi terchinta ini
Bangun-lah!
Dan terus berjuang.

Muharyani bt. Othman
Form V A

MANUSIA

Wahai manusia . . .

Arah mana kah kau menghalai
Gilakan harta, lupa segala-segala-nya
Lupa kah maut menanti sentiasa
Lupa kah neraka, api bernyala

Mengapa kah kebendaan kau keajari
Mengapa ilmu akhirat tiada kau pelajari
Tidak kah kau sedar, kau akan mati
Atau engkau hendak hidup menongkat bumi

Jangan lah kebendaan sahaja kau hargai
Ia-nya bukan teman sejati
Terjerumus mereka di-jurang noda
Semua wang ringgit punya angkara

Ingat manusia bila tiba masa
Pulang lah di-kau pada yang Esa
Tinggal lah ibu, tinggal saudara
Ku pergi berkain puteh sahaja

Ketika itu baharu kau ketahui
Iman di-dada sahabat sejati
Segala dosa yang telah kau lakukan
Penyeiksaan tidak terkira sebagai pembalasan

Pada mu insan yang maseh bernafas
Insaf lah ilmu diri mu, bertaubat lah lekas
Tuntut lah ilmu dunia akhirat
Semoga hidup mu bahagia dan berkat

Nabilah Lazim
Form V A

KECHELAKAAN MENIMPA DIRI KU

KEINDAHAN di-pantai itu menyegarkan
aku sa-lepas sa-hari suntok bekerja terok.
Angin bertiup dengan lemah gemilai-nya.
Deruan ombak yang melanda pantai membawa
hati ku jauh ka-saberang sana. Hati ku
bertambah sayu apabila mengenangkan nasib
ku yang sunggoh malang yang tidak dapat ku
lupai hingga akhir hayat ku.

Aku di-besarkan di-dunia ini serba miskin
tidak saperti jiran2 ku. Mujor-lah ada tempat
aku dan ibu ku melindungi diri. Itu-lah
satu2-nya pusaka yang di-tinggalkan oleh
Datok ku. Orang yang di-namakan ayah;
suami ibu ku, tidak pernah ku dengar kesah-
nya, dan tidak pernah ku melihat-nya. Ibu ku
ta'pernah menyebut perkataan ayah kepada ku.
Aneh sekali. Ada-kah ayah telah meninggal
dunia atau pun berkahawin lain? Aku tidak
mempunyai kuasa untuk bertanyakan kesah
ayah dari ibu ku. Boleh jadi aku tidak akan
sayang kepada-nya. Saperti kata orang ta'
kenal maka ta' sayang.

Untuk menyara hidup kami, ibu ku men-
jual kueh pada sa-belah pagi-nya, pergi
mengambil upah mengetam di-sabelah petang
dan di-sabelah malam-nya pula Ibu ku menja-
hit. Ibu ku bekerja bertungkus lumus pagi,
petang dan malam semata2 untuk diri ku.
Aku sentiasa dan tetap akan bershukor pada
Allah yang maha adil kerana aku mempunyai
tempat untuk menumpahkan segala kaseh

sayang ku. Ibu ku sa-umpama sa-batang lilin.
Dia sanggup membakar diri-nya untuk mene-
rangi diri aku. Alang-kah gembira-nya aku
di-samping ibu.

Apabila hari bahagia menjelang, aku tidak
pernah memakai pakaian2 yang baru atau pun
memakan kueh2 yang sedap. Ibu ku selalu
menitiskan ayer mata. Aku mengetahui bagai-
mana sedih perasaan-nya, dari itu aku dengan
sedaya upaya chuba mengembirakan-nya.

Pada suatu malam yang hening, ibu ku
berbaring di-samping ku sambil bercherita2
pada ku. Ingin ku bertanya pada-nya siapa-
kah ayah-ku yang sa-benar-nya dan di-mana ia
berada sekarang. Apabila aku menyebut
sahaja perkataan ayah, ibu ku lekas2 memo-
tong dengan bercherita kesah lain. Mungkin
ibu ku tidak mahu membangkit2kan kesah
ayah. Seribu satu soalan berkechamok di-
kepala ku. Ibu ku pandai memberi nasihat,
kata-nya "Ketegohan pokok terletak pada
akar-nya tetapi ketegohan manusia terletak
pada akal fikiran-nya. Dari itu hiasi-lah diri
dengan ilmu pengetahuan." Aku tidak akan
lupa segala2 yang telah ibu ku nasihatkan.

Aku berazam untuk belajar bersungguh2
supaya dapat ku meletakkan ibu ku di-dalam
kebahagiaan. Sudah banyak budi ibu, hingga
tidak dapat aku hendak membalas-nya. Ibu-
lah penawar hati di-kala duka.

Tetapi dengan kuasa tuhan pada suatu hari dengan tidak ku sangka2 apabila aku pulang dari sekolah, aku dapati ramai orang berkerumun di-rumah ku. Hati ku berdebar2. Tentu sa-suatu yang burok telah berlaku. Lekas2 aku berlari mendapatkan ibu yang aku sayangi itu. Aku dapati ibu ku terbaring di atas lantai yang agak usang itu. Ibu...aku menjerit, lalu menyembamkan muka ku di dada ibu ku. Rupa2-nya ibu ku telah sakit kuat akibat jatuh tangga pada pagi itu. Perasaan takut meresap di-seluruh jiwa ku. Aku memberanikan diri menghadapi apa yang telah dan akan berlaku. Segala impian ku untok hidup bahagia di-samping ibu ku telah musnah sama sekali kerana aku tidak dapat ka-sekolah lagi dan aku terpaksa menjaga ibu ku yang semakin hari semakin tenat. Ibu ku telah mencheritakan pada ku bahawa ayah ku maseh hidup. Perasaan benchi terhadap ayah ku timbul walau pun aku tidak pernah melihat ayah ku. Ayah ku tidak berperikemanusiaan,

tidak tahu tanggong jawab-nya terhadap anak dan isteri-nya. Sampai hati ayah membiarkan ibu ku menderita sampai bagini terok. Kalau ada ayah ta'akan jadi sampai bagini. "Oh ayah kembali-lah" bisek hati kechil ku.

Ibu ku telah tidak dapat berbuat apa2 lagi. Makan dan minum jarang sekali. Aku tidak dapat berbuat apa2 hanya menangis sahaja. Dengan kehendak Allah Yang Maha Esa, ibu ku kembali ke-alam baka, Meninggalkan alam yang pana ini. Itu-lah akhir-nya aku melihat wajah ibu ku yang tenang satenang ayer tasek. Aku di-tinggalkan-nya untok mengalami pahit getir-nya hidup sa-orang diri. Sampai hati ibu meninggalkan aku. "Ya Allah Ya Tuhan ku chuchuri-lah rahmat kepada ibu ku".

Ku rasa dunia ini sunggoh gelap. Segala keseronokan dan kebahagiaan ku telah mati. Tiada tempat lagi bagi ku untok mengadu untong nasib ku. Aku tidak bermaya lagi.

Noorsia Ahmad Shah
Form V B

MALAM YANG MEMBAWA KENANGAN

HUJAN bertambah lebat. Angin bertambah kenchang. Lampu minyak tanah yang sa-kejap tadi menerangi ruangan sekarang telah padam. Tiba2 kedengaran bunyi pokok kelapa di-hadapan rumah-nya tumbang. Gementar jantung-nya sa-ketika. Tangan-nya meraba2 akan manchis yang berada di-sisi buku cherita yang di-bacha-nya tadi. Sedang dia berbuat demikian, kedengaran pula satu suara yang sayup saperti suara orang di-dalam ketakutan. Dia terkejut serta tidak dapat berbuat apa2. Kaki-nya saperti terpaku ka-lantai.

Sa-bentar kemudian, suara itu hilang. Ini sunggoh tidak menyenangkan hati-nya. Dia maseh lagi chuba menchari kotak manchis tadi. Tangan-nya meraba2 dan kotak manchis itu dapat di-chapai-nya. Dia pun memasang semula lampu minyak tanah-nya. Baru-lah senang hati-nya kerana ruang tengah rumah-nya kelihatan cherah. Dia maseh memikirkan tentang suara yang di-dengar-nya tadi. Dengan segera dia membuka tingkap rumah-nya yang telah usang itu. Tidak ada apa yang kelihatan

melainkan hujan yang turun menchurah2. Malam itu sunggoh menyeramkan hati-nya.

Jali telah tinggal di-rumah itu sejak ia kechil lagi. Jali telah di-bela oleh nenek-nya yang telah meninggal dunia dua tahun sudah. Dia hidup berchuchok tanam di-bendang pusaka nenek-nya. Jali tidak pernah melihat ibu bapa atau saudara mara sejak dia dilahirkan. Masa'alah ini-lah yang selalu di-hadapi-nya. Tetapi, masa'alah ini tidak dapat di-jawab-nya. Fikiran-nya tetap buntu.

Dia menutup tingkap itu semula dan kembali ka-tempat dia membacha buku tadi. Dia ingin mengetahui lebeh lanjut lagi akan cherita yang di-bacha-nya.

Baru sahaja dia melangkah menuju ke-tempat tadi, suara yang menyeramkan bulu roma itu di-dengar-nya lagi. Kali ini dia tidak takut, dia ingin mengetahui dari mana arah suara itu. Dengan kain pelekat yang telah lusoh dan tidak berbaju dia turun dari rumah-nya. Berkerik-kerik bunyi tangga yang telah tua itu. Dia pun terus turun ka-tanah dengan

sa-buah lampu suloh. Sedang ia berlari2 anak menuju ka-rumah jiran, kedengaran pula bunyi rioh rendah. Kali ini suara itu jelas kedengaran ia-itu suara Datok Penghulu.

Dia maseh berlari di-dalam malam gelap gelita itu. Mula2 dia berasa takut tetapi setelah di-dengari suara yang gemuroh tadi dia menjadi berani sedikit. Hujan maseh lagi tidak berhenti. Kilat sabong menyabong dan angin sa-makin kenchang.

Tidak berapa lama dia berlari itu kelihatan oleh-nya lampu2 suloh di-hadapan rumah Datok Penghulu. Oleh kerana angin begitu kenchang, api suloh-nya telah padam sekarang, dia baru berasa takut sedikit. Tetapi, dia berasa lega sa-telah dia melihat ramai orang berkumpul di-hadapan rumah Datok Penghulu.

Semua orang yang berada di-situ ada-lah orang2 kampung-nya. Dia terus bertanya kepada salah sa-orang daripada mereka apa yang telah terjadi. Mereka pun tidak tahu apa yang telah terjadi.

Semua orang yang berada di-situ tidak menghiraukan hujan yang datang menchurah2 itu. Mereka tetap berdiri di-hadapan rumah Tok Penghulu untuk mendapatkan keterangan yang lebeh lanjut.

Kemudian, kedengaran pula suara Tok Penghulu menyuroh orang2 kampung supaya bertenang. Dia mengatakan bahwa satu pembunuhan telah berlaku. Mayat Che Minah janda telah di-jumpai belumoran dengan darah.

Jali berasa seram mendengar kata2 Tok Penghulu itu. Dia yang pada mula-nya berada di-belakang perhimpunan itu telah menyusup2 ka-hadapan ingin melihat mayat Che Minah janda.

Tok Penghulu telah meminta pemuda2 kampung mengkebumikan mayat itu malam itu juga. Pada mula-nya, anak2 muda itu berasa takut, tetapi sa-telah di-beri sedikit nasihat dan perangsang oleh Tok Penghulu, mereka pun bersetuju. Jali chukup takut hendak menolong pemuda2 lain. Dia berasa ngeri kerana suara yang di-dengar-nya pada mula tadi ia-lah suara Che Minah janda.

Setelah siap di-mandi dan di-kapan, mayat itu telah di-tanam di-tanah perkuburan yang berhampiran dengan rumah Penghulu itu.

Sungguh pun hujan masih menchurah2 dan diikuti pula dengan kilat yang sabong menyabong, orang2 kampung itu tetap meneruskan kerja mengkebumikan mayat itu. Jali juga telah turut bersama2 menolong.

Sa-telah selesai, orang kampung pun balek ka-rumah masing2. Hati mereka ter-tanya2 siapa kah yang membunuh Che Minah janda.

Jali telah basah kuyup apabila ia sampai ka-rumah-nya. Dia memasang pelita tetapi ia berasa ganjil sedikit apabila dia naik ka-rumah. Bulu ruma-nya tegak serta hati-nya berasa takut.

Tiba2 satu tangan yang tegap telah menchekek leher-nya dari belakang. Dia sempat mengelak dan terjadi-lah satu pertarongan diantara dia dengan orang tadi. Pada mula-nya dia tidak mengenali siapa yang di-lawan-nya, tetapi setelah di-lihat oleh-nya dengan pertolongan pelita-nya, alangkah terkejut rasa hati-nya. Orang yang sedang di-lawan-nya itu ia-lah Jalal, pemuda yang terkenal kerana kejahatan-nya di-Kampung Sentosa itu.

Di-dalam pertarongan-nya dengan Jalal, Jalal telah bercerita mengapa ia telah membunuh Che' Minah janda. Dia berkata perempuan itu tidak mahu berkahwin dengan-nya, jadi dia telah chuba memaksa dan akhir-nya membunuh Che' Minah janda. Jali telah meminta tolong tetapi suara-nya telah di-tenggelamkan oleh bunyi titisan hujan yang tidak berhenti2. Sungguh pun demikian, jiran sebelah rumah-nya telah datang untuk melihat apa yang telah terjadi. Sa-telah dia lihat keadaan yang sademikian rupa, dia pun terus memanggil orang2 kampung dan mereka dapat menangkap Jalal. Jalal telah lama menyimpan dendam terhadap Jali kerana Jali lebeh pandai dan terkenal dikalangan masharakat kampung. Dia berasa iri hati. Dia mengambil kesempatan membunuh Jali setelah di-lihat-nya semua orang kampung berkumpul di-rumah Tok Penghulu.

Tok Penghulu telah memuji2 akan keberanian Jali. Hujan yang lebat tadi telah menjadi renyai2 sa-olah2 dia mengerti bahawa keadaan di-kampung telah tenang sa-mula.

Jali tidor dengan seribu satu macham pertanyaan. Malam itu tidak dapat di-lupakan-nya. Malam itu telah menjadi satu kenang2an di-dalam hidup-nya.

SALAH SANGKA

ANGIN di-luar sedang bertiup dengan kenchang-nya di-turuti oleh hujan yang lebat. Tiba2 kilat sabong-menyabong, seluroh alam pada detik itu kelihatan seperti siang. Guroh berdentom sa-olah2 meriam telah meletup sa-kaki dari telinga-ku. Titekan2 hujan tidak putus2 memukul bumbong genting rumah-ku.

Pada masa itu, aku sedang membacah buku, keluarga-ku telah pergi menengok wayang gambar yang sudah-ku tuntun kelmarin. Dengan tidak di-sangka2 sa-lepas sa-pemancharan kilat, lampu-ku padam. Aku mula meraba2 suchi-nya dan memetek2-nya tapi sayang, lampu-ku terus padam.

Aku seperti si-buta, meraba2 untuk menchari lampu pichit yang ada di-dalam lachi. Sa-telah lintang-pukang lachi aku buat baharulah lampu pichit yang sial itu di-jumpai. Aku menyuloh2 untuk menchapai gagang talipon. Konon-nya hendak menalipon Lembaga Letrik Negara untuk membaiki kerosakan tersebut. Tetapi malang-nya talipon-ku juga mati.

Aku telah terputus hubungan dengan dunia luar. Aku berjalan2 menengok bilek2 di-rumah-ku dengan tidak mengetahui me-

ngapa lampu2 di-rumah itu telah padam.

Sudah pukul dua belas malam tapi keluarga-ku belum juga pulang. Aku pergi ka-dapor untuk menikmati sa-tegok ayer. Aku terperanjat! Pintu hadapan-ku di-ketok2 dengan bertalu2, aku terpegun beberapa ketika. Aku ingat pencheroboh hendak memasoki rumah-ku. Aku bersembunyi di-balek pintu. Pintu dapor dan tingkap2 pula di-ketok2-nya. Akhir-nya orang di-luar tadi tidak lagi mengetok2 pintu tetapi chuba membuka pintu itu dengan sa-batang pin. Di-dalam keadaan chemas itu, aku bertanya siapa di-luar dan memberi beberapa ugutan2 untuk menakutkannya. Orang itu ketawa dan mengatakan ia adalah ayah-ku yang baharu sahaja pulang dari menuntun wayang. Aku maseh lagi was2 dan menyuroh emak-ku bersuara supaya boleh aku mengecham suara-nya.

Sa-telah bepuas hati baharu-lah aku membuka pintu. Ayah-ku basah-kuyup dan emak-ku sedang tersenyum2. Konon-nya ayah telah terlupa membawa kunci-nya dan terpaksa mengetok2 untuk mengejutkan aku yang di-sangka sudah tidor nyenyak. Aku pun mencheritakan apa yang telah terjadi. Kami semua ketawa berdekah2.

Hairiah Said
Form 3 G

HARI KEBANGSAAN KITA

TIAP-TIAP negara di-dunia ini mempunyai hari kebangsaan-nya sendiri. Hari Kebangsaan Malaysia jatuh pada 31 hari-bulan Ogos. Hari ini sangat-lah mustahak kepada semua penduduk-penduduk di-Malaysia kerana hari ini mengingatkan kita hari kemerdekaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu.

Semua penduduk-penduduk di-persekutuan Tanah Melayu, telah menyambut dan merayakan hari yang berbahagia ini dengan meriah-nya. Dari negeri Perlis ka-negeri Johor di-adakan berbagai-bagai ranchangan untuk menyambut hari tersebut. Sa-belum tiba hari ini, penduduk-penduduk di-Malaysia membuat persediaan-persediaan untuk merayakan hari ini dengan merah-nya. Kebanyakan bandar-bandar di-

Malaysia, di-dirikan dengan pintu gerbang yang di-hiasi dengan lampu yang berwarna-warni. Bangunan-bangunan kerajaan, sharikat dan rumah-rumah telah di-hiasi dengan bendera yang beraneka warna dan bunga kebangsaan kita. Bermacham-macham achara yang meriah telah di-adakan di-seluroh Malaysia. Achara yang sangat menarek hati ia-lah istiadat menaik-bendera kebangsaan kita.

Di-Stadium Merdeka di-Kuala Lumpur, beribu-ribu orang daripada berbagai-bagai kaum pun berhimpun di-padang-padang dan jalan raya untuk menyaksikan istiadat yang bersejarah itu. Banyak perayaan telah di-jalankan di-jalan raya, Duli Yang Maha Mulia Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Di-Pertuan Agong pun berangkat

tiba untuk menyaksikan istiadat peristiharaan kemerdekaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu.

Murid-murid dari semua sekolah di-seluruh Malaysia pun berhimpun di-padang untuk menyambut Hari Kebangsaan. Kemudian bendera Malaysia pun di-naikkan dengan megah-nya di-iringi dengan Lagu Kebangsaan "Negara-Ku." Apabila sampai sahaja bendera itu di-kemunchak tiang, semua orang yang menyaksikan istiadat itu telah berteriak dengan sa-rentak "Merdeka! Merdeka!" sa-banyak tujuh kali. Banyak achara pun di-adakan di-seluruh Malaysia untuk menyambut perayaan yang mustahak

ini. Oleh sebab semua perarakan ini, Hari Kebangsaan Malaysia sangat bersejarah dan meriah. Pada waktu malam, lampu-lampu yang terang benderang di-situ telah di-padamkan sa-lama beberapa minit. Sinaran lampu yang baharu itu menandakan kelahiran Malaysia yang telah merdeka.

Penduduk-Penduduk di-Persekutuan Tanah Melayu pun tidak akan melupakan hari yang sangat mustahak ini. Semua penduduk-penduduk di-Malaysia mesti menyambut hari ini untuk mengingatkan kemerdekaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu.

Liew Chooi Fong
Form II K

SUATU KEBAKARAN

PADA suatu malam beberapa tahun yang lalu, sa-buah kampung telah hampir habis terbakar. Sunggoh dahshat kebakaran itu; semua rumah telah hangus di-makan api dan banyak juga harta-benda serta nyawa manusia turut terkorban kerana-nya.

Pada malam kebakaran itu berlaku, orang kampung semua sedang tidor dengan nyenyak-nya sa-telah sibok bekerja sa-panjang hari. Tiba2 terdengar orang menjerit, "Tolong! Api... Api! Tolong... Api!" Semua orang pun terjaga dan dapati bahawa beberapa buah rumah telah terbakar. Api itu sa-makin kuat menyala dan melarat ka-rumah lain yang berdekatan dengan-nya jika tidak dapat di-padamkan dengan segera. Lagi pun angin bertiup dengan kenchang-nya.

Semua penduduk kampung itu tua atau pun muda bekerja bersama2 memadamkan api itu. Setengah-nya menchedok ayer dari perigi yang berhampiran dan menyimbah ka-api yang sedang menyala marak itu. Yang sa-lain pula menchedok pasir dengan timba, baldi atau dengan apa sahaja yang dapat mereka chapai pada masa itu. Rioh sa-kali kedengaran suara orang yang bekerja itu, tetapi rupa-nya api yang sedang menyamok itu tidak juga menghiraukan-nya.

Perempuan2 dan kanak2 kelihatan berlari2an dari rumah2 mereka yang sedang di-jilat api. Ahli2 rumah yang berdekatan dengan

rumah2 yang terbakar itu sudah tidak sedap hati lagi. Mereka pun memunggh barang2 mereka dari rumah2 mereka dengan pertolongan orang2 yang berada di-situ.

Orang2 kampung itu berlarian ka-sana kasini saperti sudah hilang akal tetapi nasib baik ada sa-orang daripada mereka yang tahu talipon ka-Pejabat Bomba meminta pertolongan. Sa-telah beberapa minit sahaja ahli2 bomba pun tiba. Dengan segera mereka memanchutkan ayer ka-api itu. Pada masa itu bumbong rumah2 itu sudah di-jilat api hampir semua-nya tetapi orang kampung pun tidak juga putus harapan. Mereka terus menerus menchuba dengan sa-daya upaya mereka.

Kerana ahli2 bomba itu chekap, alatan2-nya lengkap dan juga kerjasama orang2 kampung, api itu dapat di-padamkan. Sunggoh pun kebanyakan rumah2 di-kampung itu habis terbakar tetapi ada juga beberapa buah rumah dapat di-selamatkan. Kemudian datang pula polis. Mereka membawa mangsa2 kebakaran itu ka-sa-buah sekolah yang tidak berapa jauh dari situ. Di-sekolah itu mereka di-beri kain selimut, minuman dan makanan. Orang2 yang chedera dan mati di-bawa ka-rumah sakit.

Dalam kebakaran ini sa-ratus orang telah hilang rumah2 mereka dan sa-puloh orang telah mati terbaka. Sa-sudah polis menyiasat mereka dapati bahawa kebakaran itu mula2 di-

sebabkan oleh kelalaian sa-orang budak yang bermain merchun dekat rumah2 atap itu. Kebanyakan kebakaran selalu di-sebabkan oleh kelalaian. Beratus2 manusia mati terbakar dan beribu2 ringgit jumlah harta-benda habis terbakar juga pada tiap2 tahun.

Ada pun api itu ia-lah satu daripada lima panchabuta yang di-jadikan Tuhan. Boleh dikatakan di-antara kelima2 panchabuta, api

dan ayer-lah yang mengambil tempat yang terpenting di-dalam kehidupan manusia tiap2 hari. Api menolong mausia memasak makanan mereka dan dengan jalan ini makanan mereka menjadi lebeh sedap serta juga terjauh daripada penyakit yang berkuman. Sunggoh pun api sangat berguna tetapi kita patut berjaga apabila menggunakan-nya sebab walau pun "Api maseh kechil kawan jika besar jadi lawan".

Chan Gek Sim
Form II K

RUKUNEGARA

Rukunegara lima perkara
Mesti di-patohi oleh semua
Kemajuan Malaysia harus di-chipta
Untuk negara dan nusa
Semua bangsa berikrar sama
Perchayakan Tuhan rukunegara pertama
Di-beri peluang kepada semua
Menganut apa saja Ugama yang suka

Kita mempunyai sa-orang Raja
Dia sa-bagai tunjang negara
Harus ta'at dan setia
Untuk menchapai perpaduan di-antara bangsa
Perlembagaan dan undang2 di-ujudkan juga
Untuk di-patohi oleh semua
Tata susila rukunegara kelima
Mesti di-jaga oleh semua
Sa-telah di-kias rukunegara
Baru-lah sedar semua Bangsa
Untuk menchipta perpaduan negara
Tidak kira rupa dan bangsa
Semua-nya sama sahaja.

Shamsiah bt. Mohd. Daud,
Form V D