

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

QUEENSLAND EXCURSION

During the August holidays, an excursion to Queensland was arranged by Miss K. McCredie, Headmistress of S.C.E.G.S. Wollongong, and Miss A. Holt, from Moss Vale. Miss Williams and Miss Parker, from Wollongong, also accompanied eight girls from Gleniffer Brae, and five girls from Moss Vale, travelling in the two school buses.

Saturday, 22nd August: Leaving Hornsby, we lunched at Swansea, then continued to Taree, where it had been arranged that we should spend the night in the Church of England hall. On arrival, however, a wedding reception was in progress, due to end at 10.30 p.m.! Fortunately, arrangements were quickly made for us to spend the night in another hall.

Sunday: We attended Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, then had lunch at Shelley Beach near Port Macquarie. We spent the night at Coffs Harbour, at a caravan park. Some of us slept in the buses, the rest in tents.

Monday: Lunched at Yamba, then were held up for an hour and a half at the Clarence River punt, so that it was late when we reached Ballina. After tea at a cafe, we hired two caravans at a motel, as it was too dark to put up tents.

Tuesday: We reached Coolangatta at lunch time; four of us went swimming, everyone else deciding that it was too cold. Arriving in Brisbane, we made camp in a caravan park, then went on a tour of the city, and up to Mt. Coot-tha lookout, where we had a wonderful view of the city. We were very lucky being in Brisbane at that time, as the bridges and buildings were specially lit up in honour of Princess Alexandra's visit.

Wednesday: We spent the morning shopping in Brisbane, saw a beautiful view of Brisbane from the tower of the Town Hall, then left for Lamington Park, approximately forty miles from Brisbane. On our way we spent some time seeing over the University of Queensland at St. Lucia. The drive up to O'Reilly's guest house was most interesting, up a steep and narrow mountain road.

Thursday: We hiked to Pat's Bluff, where we had a lovely view of the surrounding countryside. The people at the guest house were most helpful in providing us with ready packed haversacks, and a most invaluable map of the National Park.

Friday: An eleven-mile hike through the rain forest to Mt. Wanungra lookout, where we had been told we would see New South Wales. When we finally reached the lookout, after trudging through the jungle in the rain, all we could see was a thick blanket of mist. In the evening we were shown some slides of Lamington Park, and told of Mr. O'Reilly's dramatic rescue of two survivors of a plane crash there some years ago.

The Park itself is a huge area of tropical splendour, with its mountains and gorges, its millions of trees and ferns, creepers, giant vines, orchids, mosses and fungi, and running water; in all, it covers an area of over 75 square miles. The guest house is about 3,000 feet above sea level.

Saturday, 29th August: We left Lamington Park, after having very much enjoyed our stay at O'Reilly's. At 9.30 p.m. we arrived at Armidale to spend the night.

Sunday: We attended Morning Prayer and Holy Communion. After a picnic lunch, Miss Emmerson, from Gleniffer Brae, whom we had met at church, showed us over the University of New England. Then we made our way to N.E.G.G.S., where Miss Harris showed us over the school. We then drove eleven miles out of Armidale to a sheep station, where we were welcomed and given afternoon tea by Mr. and Mrs. Bogg. As we entered the gate, our eyes fell on a lovely little chapel, which we were later shown;

people from the neighbouring properties attend a service there once a month.

Monday: After breakfast, we travelled to Newcastle, spending the night at a caravan park.

Tuesday, 1st September: After breaking camp, we began the last lap of our journey. We left two of the Moss Vale girls at St. Leonards, and then lunched at Miss Credie's home at Roseville. Then we continued on to Gleniffer Brae at Wollongong, where we saw over the school. This meant the end of the journey for the Wollongong girls, but we still had the 40 miles to cover to Moss Vale.

We are all very grateful to Miss McCredie, Miss Holt, Miss Williams and Miss Parker, who gave up their holidays to take us on such an enjoyable trip.
CAROLYN JOHNSON, JENNIFER STIGANI, V Form.

'SCIENCE IN THE PURPOSE OF GOD'

Eight Sixth Formers had the privilege of attending the Science Week-end organised by the Research Scientists' Christian Fellowship, at the Thornleigh Conference Centre in March this year.

We left school at 3.30 p.m. on Friday, 13th March, in the school bus, driven by Miss Holt, and stopped for a quick tea at Camden. We arrived at Thornleigh about 7.30 p.m., just in time to find our rooms and then go back to the hall for the first session. This consisted of an introduction to the lecturers, and then a showing of a film on astronomy, and the use of radar to find stars which cannot be seen through the most powerful telescope.

After this, we inspected a display of the uses of some scientific equipment, and were given a demonstration of the properties of liquid air. After supper, we retired for the night.

On both mornings, before breakfast, provision was made for a quiet time for all in camp. After breakfast on Saturday, we had two sessions of lectures, each a group of three topics, from which we chose the one that appealed to us most. Before lunch, we broke up into various groups for discussion with the lecturers to talk about "Science in the Purpose of God".

Between the next two lecture series, we had a period of recreation, allowing for time to do homework, go for a walk, play sport, or, in our case, see our parents. After tea, we had two more sessions, the second being the film, "Red River of Life", a most interesting film on the work of the heart and the blood stream.

After breakfast on Sunday, we went again to our discussion groups, and finally combined for a summary and report. At morning service, Dr. P. Thorne spoke to us, then before lunch we packed and tidied our rooms. We were very disappointed to miss the completion of the Brains Trust in the afternoon, as it proved to be most interesting, but we had to be back at school by curfew.

The lectures were based on such subjects as "Psychology Measures of the Mind," "Evolution," "The Eye the Camera," "How Hair Grows," "Rocketing Along," and many such interesting and informative topics.

We all enjoyed ourselves immensely, especially as we all tried our hands at washing up when it came to our turn on orderly duty, and to add to the excitement, Margaret's bed collapsed on Penny's toe, causing a sore spot in the camp!

We are looking forward to going again next year, and we hope to meet some of the 120 boys and girls from fourth and fifth years of various independent and high schools, with whom we had such good fellowship and fun during the weekend.

MARGARET DEAN, PENNY YOUNG, PAT WALLACE, Lower VI.