



The 1930s

Founded in 1921

1930

THANET'S MUSIC END OF FESTIVAL

Thanet's competitive musical festival, the earlier stages of which are reported on Page 8, concluded yesterday at Margate.

"Here's luck to you all," said Miss E. M. F. Cobb, who welcomed the adjudicators and competitors at the session for private, secondary and senior elementary school choirs. It was, she said, skilful of Miss Raven to arrange the festival in the beautiful Winter Gardens among the lovely flowers in the month of May when nearly everyone was just longing to burst into song. It was wonderful the amount of happiness and sunshine that music brought into their lives all the year round.

In welcoming Mr. Read to the festival, Miss Cobb asked the competitors to put their shoulders back, their heads up and sing for all they were worth, so that the adjudicator would think he was up in the seventh heaven and when he came down again he would go away with remembrances of bright and happy faces. She understood there was a newcomer to the session in Laleham School choir, and she hoped that Derwent House and Godwin College, former competing schools who had returned, would not stray away again as they had before. They wanted to keep the old schools and get new ones to come in, for she would like to see the Winter Gardens filled with competitors from the schools.

Miss Cobb thanked the parents and teachers for their kind co-operation, which was necessary for the success of the festival. In conclusion she appealed to the children to make the best of their opportunities to sing or recite—*even if they did make mistakes the first time like a little child who, 75 years ago, wrote with regard to Margate's best property—Margate, celebrate your donkeys.* One was never to be disappointed.

On his decision on the singing by both girls' and boys' choirs of "The Cuckoo" (G. Shaw), Mr. Read said there needed to be a little more flow in their singing. Music flowed on and on like a river and they must not stop it. The pitch of the girls' choirs—the Ramsgate County School—had a pretty tone. Pretty was not a bad term, it meant simple and unaffected. The pitch was a little out in the opening, but they rectified that immediately—a difficult thing to do, and he congratulated them on being able to do it. They had a pleasant light touch and used their imagination.

As with the junior scholars, he asked the teachers to do their utmost to study the teaching of sight reading, which was almost as important to the scholars as book reading from an educational point of view. For tuition in the power of concentration and the immediate realization of an impression it was invaluable.

Two difficult pieces were set for the class open to girls of any age, and the adjudicator said the choir that was able to sing both pieces well was to be congratulated indeed. Mr. Read admitted neither test was at all easy to sing, and one was "a perfect demon."

Abbotsford was the choir to be congratulated upon getting the atmosphere of both songs. From the very beginning there was a musical and artistic touch to their singing. They had a great width of tone and their performance was charming.

St. George's School, Margate, gave a satisfactory performance rhythmically. Intonation was good because of its simplicity and unaffectedness. Tone was natural and consequently musical. Lack of tone was the fault of St. Leonard's, Broadstairs, and St. George's girls did not put enough interest into their singing, but their tone was absolutely pure. A beautiful quality of tone was produced by Abbotsford, who gained first place. They were perfectly in tune. It was a difficult thing to learn to sing in place. Mr. Read. Some people never learnt how to sing in tune.

The adjudicator was of the opinion that the boys had sung the same song in all three choirs. The same song was good, pure and well produced.

Abbotsford therefore win the picture, "Singing Cherubins," from St. George's, who failed to hold it by only two marks. St. George's Boys' Central School, Ramsgate, were first in the boys' section and were described by Mr. Read as "a good little choir." They had acquired technique. One felt that they were on their best behaviour and so they sang well. First place in the next class, for boys under fifteen, was given to the same school. In this class it was so nice, Mr. Read remarked, to hear such a delightful, open tone from the boys—a musical and most expressive tone, a tone which had listened to with pleasure. The conductors of the three choirs were to be commended upon producing a tone of such purity from their boys.

A word of warning for future adjudicators was given by the adjudicator to the boy singers. "You want your phrases to be phrases if you want your singing to sound interesting." Phrasing was one of the most important elements of singing. St. George's had a delightful finish to them and that extra effort of theirs which the boys probably thought was an awful trouble was well worth while. St. George's needed to be careful of modifying their vowel sounds too much. Apart from slight imperfections in that way they were absolutely splendid. The second piece, carefully rehearsed, was beautifully sung with a lovely resonance of tone, words were good throughout and there was a great deal of attractive contrast in tone.

A Winning Way.

The choirs in the class for girls under fifteen, in which Queen's School, Margate, were ahead of Ramsgate County School by two marks, did not do much to the high standard of the preceding classes.

The sight singing of the junior choirs was the subject for congratulation by the adjudicator. It was a good feature, especially for young conductors. Old people could not learn to read and sing music at sight. It was only when one was young that one could acquire that art.

Mr. Read's winning way and happy mood were particularly in evidence in the afternoon, when what was regarded to be a dull class—sight reading—received a most delightful and instructive lesson in rhythm and sight reading tests. With the aid of a blackboard, placed on the stage, Mr. Read conducted simple tests which were thoroughly enjoyed by both the audience and the scholars, including one group who were not scheduled in the class, but had joined "just for fun."

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The Ramsgate County School had again to be content with second place. Mr. Read said he liked the expressiveness of tone of this choir. He could not say what it was exactly—it was an indefinable something, which was alive and artistic. They did extremely well and had a splendid conception as a whole of the two songs, "May Song."

Young Conductors.

Public attention was centred closely on the last class of the festival, that for school choirs trained, conducted and accompanied, with the aid from the teachers. The class was one of the most important in the festival because it allowed the young people to assimilate and then apply what they had been taught. It was amazing what one could make young people do in the way of interpretation. Choir boys were especially good in this way, as they mostly sang unaccompanied and were the wonder of foreign musicians. But the young ladies, who were the conductors and accompanists had tackled their task, and his kindly cross-examination of the four conductors as to how they had done and their characteristics.

Master Clamp, the conductor of St. George's, who gained the highest marks, amused Mr. Read and the audience by saying he looked at the notes and then the breath marks and then he tried it over with the choir. His method proved to be correct and he was highly commended not only for his own conducting. He was a good young conductor, who controlled his choir extremely well and was successful in producing a good tone and balance of parts at a point on which he stood above the

other choirs. St. George's boys' was a thoughtful performance. The St. George's School girls' choir were awarded second place. They gave a dignified interpretation of Gluck's setting, "Glorious Sister of Apollo." The conductor, Miss D. Ray, came in congratulated on the manner in which she controlled her choir.

It was disappointing to find that both the girls and boys of the class for school orchestras had scratched their entries.

Although Thursday was a great day for St. George's Senior Boys' School, Ramsgate, who came first in each of the classes they entered, making a total of five premier awards, the most obtained at the festival, Ramsgate County School girls did not obtain five second places.

Lady Beauchamp's Visit.

Almost every seat in the Winter Gardens hall was occupied at night, when a well-attended concert by competitors selected from the winning teams and individuals, and the presentation of awards, graciously performed by the Municipal Borough, crowned the crowning success to the festival.

The Vicar of Margate (the Rev. A. B. Ritchie) presided and drew attention to the part of silver cups awarded for the successful duets which had been generously given by former winners in the class who had won outright the original trophy.

Lady Beauchamp, who had a word and a smile for each of the fortunate winners as she handed them their awards, was presented with a bouquet by Miss M. J. Good. The ladies received a visit to Margate to open the festival two years ago, and said it was nice to be there at the close of yet another successful festival. She wished them success for future years. She was thanked by Mr. A. H. Evans and Miss Raven, the honorary secretary, who also thanked those who had helped her to make the festival such a happy one, especially her assistant, Mrs. Gardener, and the adjudicators, who had given them such an uplift throughout. She closed by making an additional encouragement to entrants to know that the festival was now looked forward to every year by many people as a joyous thing.

Miss Raven, who was supported on the platform by members of the organising committee, of which the Rev. E. B. Heberden is the chairman, also received a bouquet and was thanked for the able way in which the festival had been organised this year.

The most interesting speech was made by Mr. E. Read, one of the adjudicators, in conveying his impressions of the work of the "Thanet Festival." "I should like to say first, how pleased I have been with the high standard—a really high standard—all through," he remarked. There had been a delightful finish to most of the choirs and a true musical sensitivity of the choirs and a true musical sensitivity. His praise on Wednesday of St. Peter's men's delightful rhythmic performance, the thought was not taken seriously. He had said, "I should like to say first, how pleased I have been with the high standard—a really high standard—all through," he remarked. There had been a delightful finish to most of the choirs and a true musical sensitivity of the choirs and a true musical sensitivity. He said: "The music here—the way of the festival—has had spoken about to the children—they had got perfectly. The audience had been inclined to be amused, and thought probably their singing was great. And so it is great fun, real fun," he added, "to produce real art."

In regard to the girls' choirs especially, he said, "I think the Southerners, at least the choirs, we have seen at the festival are as good as any of the choirs in England. We Southerners have not the robustness of the Yorkshire men or the temperament of the Welshmen, but at any rate we have got brains, judgment, and that as it were levels up the lack of resonance of tone." That day he had heard good choir boys such he had rarely heard—he might almost say in his life. The instrumental part was not quite so good as the choral, but he understood many children were prevented from fulfilling entries because of illness in some of the schools. Could not they do something to better the sight singing classes? He had shown school choirs that afternoon how easy and how jolly sight reading could be, and he hoped in time every choir in the festival would take part in sight singing classes. "I would like, again, to congratulate you all very much indeed," he concluded.

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The final results were:

Private, Secondary and Senior Elementary School Choirs.

Girls under 13—"The Cuckoo" (Martin Shaw)—1, Abbotsford, Broadstairs, 90; 2, Queen's School, Margate, 86; 3, Girls' County School, Ramsgate, 83; 4, St. George's Ramsgate, 81; 5, St. Leonard's, Broadstairs, 77.

Boys under 13—"The Cuckoo" (Martin Shaw)—1, St. George's, Ramsgate, 88; 2, St. Edward's, Broadstairs, 80; 3, Laleham, Margate, 78.

Boys under 15—Unison, "The Country Lad" (Dyson), and two-part, "As Joseph was a-walking" (Geoffrey Shaw)—1, St. George's, Ramsgate, 94 and 92-186; 2, Central School, Margate, 82 and 81-163; 3, Godwin College, Margate, 79 and 76-155.

Girls under 15—Unison, "I Attempt from love's sickness to fly" (Purcell), and two-part, "Aubade" (Ireland)—1, Queen's School, Margate, 79 and 80-159; 2, County School, Ramsgate, 78 and 79-157; 3, Ledge Point, Westgate, 81 and 75-156; 4, St. George's, Ramsgate, 76 and 72-154.

Girls any age—Unison, "Evening Song" (Percell), and two-part, "Swedish May Song" (Howell)—1, Abbotsford, Broadstairs, 93 and 84-167; 2, County School, Ramsgate, 87 and 89-176; 3, Queen's School, Margate, 86 and 88-174; 4, Derwent House, 79 and 78-157; 5, St. Leonard's, Broadstairs, and Ledge Point, Westgate, 78 and 79-155.

School choirs, self-conducted and accompanied—Two-part, "Glorious sister of Apollo" (Gluck)—1, St. George's Boys, Ramsgate, 88; 2, St. George's Girls, 87; 3, Abbotsford, Broadstairs, 86; 4, Girls' County School, Ramsgate, 78.

Sight Singing.

Junior—1, St. George's Boys, Ramsgate, 85; 2, Girls' County School, Ramsgate, 80; 3, St. Leonard's, Broadstairs, 50.

Senior—1, St. George's Boys, Ramsgate, 25, 25, 48-92; 2, Girls' County School, 20, 23, 50-93; 3, Abbotsford, 22, 22, 25, 45-90; 4, St. Leonard's, Broadstairs, 20, 19, 40-79.

Instrumental Trios.

Junior—"Trio Facile" (Kreutzer)—1, St. George's, Ramsgate, 85; 2, Girls' County School, Ramsgate, 80; 3, St. Leonard's, Broadstairs, 50.

Senior—1, St. George's Boys, Ramsgate, 25, 25, 48-92; 2, Girls' County School, 20, 23, 50-93; 3, Abbotsford, 22, 22, 25, 45-90; 4, St. Leonard's, Broadstairs, 20, 19, 40-79.

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Margaret's, Westgate, 75.

Eloquence.

Elementary, under 14—"Arabia" (W. de la Mare) and "Hunting Song of the Seonice Pack" (Kipling)—1, D. Williamson, 85; 2, R. Beadon, 83; 3, E. V. Eastman, 82; G. Richards, 79; 5, E. Butler, M. Bell, J. Statham, 78; 6, P. Wilson, 76; 7, J. Lamb, P. Appleton, E. Goldsmith, J. Burton, O. Hughes, 75; 8, F. Wellington, G. Benfield, 74; 9, E. Hunt, P. Johnson, E. Wilson, P. Whitehouse, 73; 10, E. Harper, E. Johnson, 72; 11, M. Giggins, J. Smith, 69.

The Trophies.

The trophies were awarded as follows: Picture, "The Singing Cherubins," presented by Miss Raven, for secondary school choirs under 13—Abbotsford, Broadstairs.

Margate Rotary Club shield for boys' elementary school choirs—St. Saviour's, Westgate.

Executive Committee Shield for girls' elementary school choirs—Lilliar-road, Ramsgate.

Women's Fellowship Shield, presented by St. George's Mothers' Union, Ramsgate—Westgate Mothers' Union.

Margate Pioneer Society Shield for girls' clubs—Holy Trinity, Ramsgate.

Challenge Shield, presented by St. Luke's Athletic Club for male voice choirs—St. Peter's.

Challenge cups for instrumental duets—Misses H. Lanfair and M. Bennett (piano forte).

In 1930 the Adjudicator was Julius Harrison, who had recently been appointed Conductor of The Hastings Municipal Orchestra. He made complimentary remarks about the Margate Municipal School Choirs, for which he had been guest conductor three years previously. A minute of one of the committee meetings for that year shows that the entry fees for Elementary School Choirs were reduced from 7s 9d to 6s 3d; this was in the Great Depression...

1930

THANET MUSICAL FESTIVAL

THE WINNERS

Thanet's tenth annual Competitive Musical festival opened at the Winter Gardens, Margate, on Tuesday, and the very nature of the extended classes and increased entries indicated that the festival has passed infancy, has left behind its childhood, and is now the ambitions and enthusiasm of youth.

Since its inception the festival has grown with increasing success from year to year and for several years past it has been found necessary to spread the classes over three days—Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—concluding on Thursday with a final concert by the winners and the presentation of prizes.

In addition to the main hall being used for vocal work and country dancing, the adjoining small hall was being used for elocution, vocal solos and instrumental classes.

Mr. Julius Harrison, who has recently been appointed director of the Hastings municipal orchestra, was the adjudicator for the junior elementary school singing and piano competitions, and from his kindly criticism, couched in delightful phrases with amusing illustrations, and his instructive tutelage of the combined classes he dismissed all feeling of nervousness. He gained what is so important—the confidence of the competitors.

Mr. Ernest Read, shared the duties of judging the adult choirs and the choirs from private, secondary and elementary schools, and the instrumental classes, including orchestras. Solo singing, vocal trios, pianoforte and violin and pianoforte duets were also judged by Mr. Harrison.

The elocution prizes were awarded to the following: Miss M. J. Carter, twenty-seven and twenty-five years, were respectively eighteen, five, twenty, twenty-seven and twenty-five years, were judged this year by Mr. J. Clifford Turner and Mr. Ernest Read, who adjudicated the country dancing section, again judging the folk dancing and also sword dancing, which was included in the programme for the first time.

The first session was opened in happy style on Tuesday morning by Capt. J. J. Fremantle, who said, "I feel that I had taken months of preparation, and the result of those labours they would see that week. 'I give you a hearty welcome, and I hope you are going to enjoy these days in front of you,' he said.

It was called a competitive festival, and that was the only thing that was not done. There was no real competition, England had been made by enterprise and competition. The spirit of competition would make the country so fertile, it would make great citizens and would make men and women worthy of their great Empire.

Speed Boat Singing.

Mr. Julius Harrison said he had been to Margate three years ago conducting Margate's splendid musical festival. He was anxious to come to the festival, and hoped he would adjudicate without too unpleasant distinctions. He did a great deal of work, and it was nice to see competitors trying to catch one another up in points of music. There was made a happier and more pleasant thing because of the great art of music.

Explaining his reason for asking the choirs in the class for those under eleven to sing again, Mr. Harrison said that some of those speed boats—whizz, and it was all over. It was rather a short piece ("The Owl") and he wanted to hear the boys sing it again. "If they don't sing it," he said, "to hear the eagerness of those young singers. They have been backing up their teachers for all their lives."

The children agreed with the adjudicator that music was not merely a collection of notes. A spirit of determination must be put into the music. Mr. Harrison said, would turn the test pieces from a dead collection of notes into a living musical thing. His chief comment of the adjudicator was that which gained the highest marks in this class, was that it was a fine choir, splendidly disciplined. Lillian-road, Ramsgate, were a close second, one mark behind.

At the conclusion of the next class for infant choirs, for which the test piece was "The Cow" (Dunhill), Mr. Harrison said he did not know why there was thunder in the air, but if so it had got into the milk, which was not as sweet as the music would have it, but mechanically. The cow, according to Salvestone Girls' School, was rather a sad old party and not as fat as some of the choirs had been. Another choir's "cow" was a meacano cow, rather than a real cow. Lillian-road two marks ahead of Minister Infants, were first, the choir of the first time sang "Wooded Trees in England." At this time of the year, when the trees are in leaf, and it was so nice to hear such a good attack on top notes—a characteristic of the three choirs competing. The winners were the Rob Roy Residential Choir for Cripples, Margate, who sang with a nice, pretty tone and a lift to the top notes. They were unanimous in their praise to hear them. There was a good lift in their singing. They were a little sharp at the end, but it was a charming performance. At the start they were not quite together, but their excellent, clear words were a feature; they phrased well and sang with precision.

Male Stones of Music.

Speaking generally of time in music, the adjudicator said bar lines were the life of music. As he did not observe precisely the milestones along the road, but felt they were there, he just noticed them here and there, so one should do with the bar lines. "We do not want music to be a rigid beating of time," he added, "or to make rhythm too mechanical a thing as to destroy the pulse of the music."

The importance of the story telling part of old folk songs, such as "The Jolly Carter," was stressed by the adjudicator. Successful competitors in this class. At the start, the shape was not quite exact enough, but they had a very good, bright voice and an effective tone and were beautiful in their part songs. Clear words, especially double consonants, were a very good feature. Time was exact and apart from a weak start, and an excellent all-round performance.

There was only one choir competing in the first class in the afternoon, St. George's, Westgate, who sang the most successful of the songs, "The Sea Horse" (Dunhill). Mr. Harrison said he did not believe there was a single handlubber in the choir, they had excellent rhythm and tone, and sang well sustained, but perhaps needed a little more expansion towards the end of the song. It was a good dramatic interpretation. He was sorry there was not a competition, as he would have liked to have heard five or six choirs sing the piece with the same dramatic impulse as St. George's.

Westgate Boys' Shield

Mr. Harrison later announced that he had awarded the challenge shield to be won by the school gaining the highest marks in Classes I, A1 and A2 (boys) to St. Saviour's, for what in his opinion was the best all-round performance. He again regretted they had no competition. Competition would be good for them and good for those who came up against them.

Addressing the teachers, but especially those of the choirs in the class singing the union song "The Windjammer's Race" and Mr. Rowland's arrangement with descant, "The Three Ravens," Mr. Harrison emphasised the importance of blending voices. "Voices," he said, "are like flowers as do trees and flowers. The thing to do is to grow one kind of flower in one garden when you are dealing with voices." Another point of note to all teachers and singers was that a descant should not be made stronger than the original melody. If he might enter into the realm of music, he brooded an article one did not make the embroidery the main thing and leave the garment rotten. A descant, like the original, a decoration. Salvestone boys, Margate, who were first with two more marks than Ellington Boys, Ramsgate, were a little too much more like the competitors in the Schneider trophy race. Their windjammer would have sounded better if it had been a little more restrained of time.

The bold tone of Ellington Boys, he thought, was admirable. There must have been some large windjammers in their race. The story was not told with enthusiasm, however, and they had failed from the point of view of interpretation.

Two delightful performances were given by St. Saviour's, Westgate, scholars, who were the only entrants in the first class for the two part songs "Over Hill, over Dale" (M. Shaw) and the union song "Where the Bee Sucks" (Ara).

Lillian-Road Girls' Trophy.

The adjudicator's comment following the class for the songs "The Sky in her Pool" and "There is a garden in her face" of Lillian-road Girls' Choir, which gained the elementary girls' school challenge shield, was that they had pretty voices, but the blend of tone in the two-part song was charming and they sang their words with clearness and understanding. The choir was an imaginative one.

Commenting upon the work of choirs from women's fellowships, the adjudicator remarked upon the great strides made in the lines of the choir and women's choirs since classes were first included for them in the festival movement a few years ago.

"I do not like to come here to shower the laurels upon any choir," he said, but as a musical physician, to be a critical judge, to look for the absence of notes, rather than the presence of bad ones, for destructive criticism never helped anybody. His criticisms, he hoped, would be constructive. He had heard a choir sing "One in a Million" and he had heard the women's choir to continue along the path of excellence they had chosen. The Westgate Mothers' Union, Ramsgate, were first, and the Mothers' Union, Ramsgate, who were first last year, had to be content with fourth place.

St. George's Hundred Per Cent.

The evening session on Tuesday, for folk dancing, was most enjoyable and interesting, especially as a class for sword dancing for men and boys. The latest venture of the Thanet festival—drew four entries from local scout troops, the children's dancing club and the dance in that particular class, for children under fourteen, was "Maze on a cresc," and for the two they were awarded 90 per cent. Miss Valon, that was the name, said Miss Valon, that she could say about them as they were so good. Their work was beautiful and they had been very well used to working with a team.

Two teams were competing from the school in the class, the B team coming second and the A team six marks ahead. The senior A team of St. George's school were first in the class for girls over fourteen, and the Ramsgate County School for Girls Music Club team came second.

The County school girls, said the adjudicator, were a really good team, and their dancing was very well done. The senior A team of St. George's school were first in the class for girls over fourteen, and the Ramsgate County School for Girls Music Club team came second.

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Enjoying the Dance

The men's sword dancing was watched with keen interest by the Yorkshire with "Kirkby" and "Kirkby Malzeard," are both very long and difficult, and even though some of the competitors were not quite sure of the complicated movements and showed signs of tiring before the end, it was evident that they were thoroughly enjoying the dancing, and their lively performance was most entertaining to the spectators.

Adjudicating in this class, won by St. Peter's Rover Scouts, Miss Valon reminded the teams that dancing was the main part. She urged the teams to continue practising the sword dance, which were not to be taken for granted by asking one team to practise the "Flambo" dance so that they could dance it over one spot instead of approximately a dozen spots. She said she was pleased to see the 12th Ramsgate (Chatnam House) teams had brought their violinist with them to accompany them.

At the conclusion of the session, Mr. F. E. Fisher, on behalf of the committee, extended a welcome to the men and boys dancing, and thanked Miss Valon for her interest in and able adjudication of the classes.

A large number of spectators were attracted by the solo singing and vocal trios, which were heard in the smaller hall and which concluded with a class entirely new to the festival, a duet for piano and soloist. Miss Raven (soloist) and Mrs. Jepps (pianist), who chose Schumann's "Rose-leaf" was the most successful of the five entries.

Mr. Harrison described their performance as "most artistic." The importance of such a class, in which soloists were chosen for their own song, could not be stressed too strongly, he added.

Too Polite.

The session for pianoforte duets on Wednesday morning was a pleasant one, and it is to be regretted that more competitors did not attend. In the class for those under eighteen, in which the competitors were asked to play Dolly Doo (Spanish) No. 6 (Fauré), the adjudicator said the players were much too polite. The performance was thoroughly British and none of them played the Spanish character in the least. He said the audience and competitors would be remarking as to whether the playing was of a high or low standard. He would call a few names of the most of the competitors seemed to find the music a little hard. The pieces of Fauré set were able tests, more than any other, and he thought the players were "done to death," good as they were for those learning music.

A Sporting Event.

Some useful hints regarding breathing, breath control and word formation were given by Mr. J. Clifford Turner to the competitors in the elocution classes, especially to the younger ones, in a gentle manner and keen interest in individual work charmed the children and their teachers, and his criticisms were always encouraging. For the most part the children spoke clearly, although a number did not sound certain vowels in their words. Some of the best in the mood of the poems they were reciting, and feel a little happier about them, they would do much better.

In the elocution class, certificates were awarded mainly to the best and next best competitors, but in the open class for private and secondary school children under fourteen, Mr. Clifford Turner asked for a third certificate to be given as the elocutionists in that class were so good.

A Mixed Grill.

During the afternoon session Mr. Julius Harrison said he was so glad to see so many "reading at sight" classes included in the festival. The class for the accompaniment of a singer, under eighteen, was quite an interesting one and it pleased him to see so many young musicians growing up proficient in reading. The class was a "sporting event" and it certainly did a lot of good.

The singing of choir boys, said Mr. Harrison, could be described as a mixed grill, some of it was good in one way and some in another. The boys' solo singing that afternoon was the same. Choir boys were not perfect when he was a choir boy, and he did not suppose that boys of today were any more perfect than when he was one of the imperfect ones. One little boy, who was so apologetic for his presence on the platform, and held his music behind his back, looked like an example of "everybody tells a story." Another, dressed in blazer and flannel, was so mechanic he wondered if he had been out for a duck at cricket, or had been given a blow on the head by a well-batted wicket. He regretted another soloist who had otherwise given a good performance, made one rush off the platform by finishing his song with a list's concluding bars. The class was a difficult one to judge, and for the best all-round soloist he awarded the highest marks to Master A. Burgess, of St. George's School, Ramsgate, whose voice possessed some nice qualities. In spite of breathing at times, his notes were well sustained.

Jolly Adults.

The large hall was given up on Wednesday to the adult choir and some very jolly singing was heard. Competitors in the class for those under sixteen, interested practically filled the hall for the session, which was opened by Mr. J. H. Lee, who spoke of his experience at the age of sixteen, as a chorist and organist, and of his lengthy association with the National Brass Band Festival, which he first founded at the Palace in 1885. He tendered the adjudicators his best wishes and deepest sympathy in their arduous task. Although he had written music at the age of sixteen, he had not conducted the massed bands at the Palace festival from year to year, he had not yet sat in the seat of judgment on those performers, and he had not had any experience with competitors. To practise up a test piece and then find one's choir had missed first place by one or two marks was almost heartbreaking. In conclusion, Mr. Lee wished Miss Raven and her energetic committee the greatest possible success with the festival.

The competing ladies, according to Mr. Harrison, formed an interesting class of really good singers, and he commended all the seven choirs, and of one in particular, was the care taken in the beautiful roundness of phrase, and the clearness of tone. He regarded as a series of single notes were good, and they used appropriate music in beautiful sentences. The winning choir from Bicknell's Musical Society, had given a charming and deeply felt interpretation of the songs. The choirs should practise and get a big conception of the music they are singing, he had said, and he would advise them, when singing, to remember the old saying about not being able to see the wood for the trees.

The mixed voice choir saw to the festival, St. Peter's and St. George's Schools Staffs choirs, competed for preference in this class. St. Peter's got the "Hall, smiling morn." St. Peter's needed to put a little more ginger into their sunshine—some ultra violet rays were needed. The St. George's school teachers, who were the successful entrants, were in contrast, their singing was live, cheerful, buoyant and sunny. They made the old song live again. One powerful bass voice, probably through enthusiasm, had tried to put a new meaning into the "Don't do it," he declared, smilingly, "there might be an earthquake."

Keen Girls' Clubs.

Competition is always keen among the girls' clubs, and this year a close contest resulted in Holy Trinity, Ramsgate, Girls' Club being awarded first place and so gaining the Pioneer challenge shield. Vocalisation was excellent, the voices and balance of parts were good and the whole song went with a fine swing.

St. Peter's were an easy first out of the two main competitors. Mr. Ernest Read, who judged this and the following class, said what he liked was that they entirely forgot they were singing in a public hall, and were so sure of themselves in their singing. In the sea shanty, "Rio Grande," they looked jolly boys. One felt that the ship's crew would be singing it, and he thought the crew believed in their jolly old ship. He liked also their touching references to "my bonny young teacher." Through their voices, their sparkling eyes and keen smiles, they expressed the mood of the two-part song and the choir had given the listeners an excellent musical system in singing the blending of voices to make the effect sound like an organ.

Addressing and conducting the choirs assembled in front of the platform, Mr. Read said that he awarded the highest marks to those old German chorales that they were not singing a recent Modern hymn tune. To sing the chorales had been to knock at the dignity out of it.

The results were:
Elementary School Choirs.

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Elementary School Choirs.

Under 11—Unison song, "The Owl" (Parry)—1, Council School, Broadstairs, 88 points; 2, Lillian-road Girls, Ramsgate, 87; 3, St. Saviour's, Westgate, 86; 4, St. David's Home, Broadstairs, 85.

Under 9—Unison song, "The Cow" (Dunhill)—1, Lillian-road, Ramsgate, 87; 2, Infants' School, Minster, 85; 3, St. Saviour's, Westgate, and St. David's, Broadstairs (tie), 84; 4, Salmestone Boys, Margate, and Christ Church Infants, Ramsgate (tie), 82; 5, Salmestone Girls, Margate, 81.

Schools entering for the first time—Unison song, "Trees in England" (Charles Wood)—1, Rob Roy School for Cripples, Margate, 87; 2, St. Augustine's, Ramsgate, 85; 3, St. David's Home, Broadstairs, 84.

Boys under 11—Unison song, "The Jolly Carter" (Moeran)—1, Ellington, Ramsgate, 87; 2, Salmestone, Margate, 85; 3, St. Peter's, 81; 4, St. Saviour's, Westgate, 79.

Boys—Unison, "Sea Horses" (Dunhill)—St. Saviour's, Westgate, 88.

Boys—Unison, "The Windjammer's Race" (Colin Taylor), and descant, "The Three Ravens" (Dunhill)—1, Salmestone, Margate, 85 and 88-175; 2, Ellington, Ramsgate, 84 and 87-171; 3, St. Peter's, 83 and 87-170.

Mixed schools—two-part, "Over hill, over dale" (Martin Shaw)—St. Saviour's, Westgate, 85.

Mixed schools—unison, "Strawberry Fair" (old English)—1, Reulver School, 95; 2, St. Peter's Junior Sunday School, 85.

Girls—unison, "Where the Bee Sucks" (Arne)—St. Saviour's, Westgate, 87.

Girls—unison, "The Sky in the Pool" (Dunhill) and two-part, "There is a garden in her face" (Ireland)—1, Lillian-road, Ramsgate, 89 and 87-176; 2, St. Peter's, 87 and 84-171; 3, Council School, Broadstairs, 85 and 82-165.

Adult Choirs.

Choirs from Women's Fellowships, etc.—unison song, "Spring song" (Glink) and descant, "Farewell, Manchester" (old English)—1, Westgate Mothers' Union, 88 and 87-175; 2, St. Peter's Women's Fellowship, 84 and 89-173; 3, St. John's Womans' Workers' Fellowship, 83 and 87-172; 4, St. George's Mothers' Union, Ramsgate, 85 and 86-171, and Broadstairs Women's Fellowship, 85 and 84-171 (tie); 5, Union Crescent Women's Social Hour, 83 and 79-162; 6, Delfest Mission, Minster, 80 and 78-158.

Female voice choirs—two-part, "The Fairy Folk" (Handel) and three-part, "A Little Bird" (Brahms)—4, Musical Society, Birchington, 90 and 87-177; 2, St. George's Girls' Association, 88 and 86-174; 3, St. Peter's, 87 and 86-173; 4, Ladies' Choir, Ramsgate, 85 and 79-164; 5, Queen's School, Margate, and "Speasons" Choir, 83 and 80-163; 6, St. John's Women's Workers, 78 and 75-151.

Mixed voice choirs, entering for the first time—Three-part glee, "Hail, smiling morn" (Spottforth)—1, St. George's School Staff, Ramsgate, 92; 2, St. Peter's, 83.

Girls' clubs—Two-part, "Come, let us a-maying go" (Handel)—1, Holy Trinity, Ramsgate, 85; 2, St. Peter's, 82; 3, Archbishop's School, 81.

Male voice choir—Sea shanty, "Rio Grande" and two-part, "The Keeper" (arranged by Cecil Sharp)—1, St. Peter's, 83 and 80-173; 2, Hawley Choir, 77 and 81-158.

Mixed voice choirs—Chorale, "A stronghold sure" (Bach) and anthem, "Hymn to the Trinity" (Tschadowsky)—1, Emmanuel Church, Margate, 77 and 89-166; 2, Hawley Square, Margate, 79 and 86-165; 3, Broadstairs, 85 and 79-164; 4, Hardens-street Wesleyan Church, Ramsgate, 76 and 82-158.

Solo Singing and Vocal Trios.

Contralto solo—"Silver" (Armstrong Gibbs)—1, Miss P. Chapman, 86; 2, Miss G. Ward, 83.

Vocal trio for ladies' voices—"The Shepherd's Song" (Buck)—1, Miss O. Alexander, Miss P. Chapman, and Miss V. Andrews, 85; 2, Mrs. Brown's trio, 82.

Soprano solo—"The Green Cornfield" (M. Head)—1, Mrs. Brown, 82; 2, Miss Ramsford, 87; 3, Miss M. Evans and Miss Bailey (tie), 85; 4, Miss Watling, 82; 5, Miss D. Richardson, 79; 6, Miss S. Morris and Miss Eastwood (tie), 78.

Bass or baritone solo—"The Wanderer" (Schubert)—1, Mr. F. J. White, 83; 2, Mr. Stedman, 78.

Tenor—"If love's a sweet passion" (Parelli)—1, Mr. Sawyer, 86; 2, Mr. Richards, 81; 3, Mr. Kirkness, 79.

Lieder (own choice), piano and soloist—1, Miss Raven and Mrs. Jepps, 87; 2, Miss Roberts and Mr. Gordon, 86; 3, Miss Kennett and Miss Harriner, 81; 4, Mr. Sawyer and Miss K. Hill, 81; 5, Miss Barber and Mr. C. Robins, 80.

Boys' solo singing—"Fairest Isle" (Purcell)—1, Albert Burgess, St. George's, 87; 2, Ivor Prebble, St. George's, 85; 3, Herbert Hornblow, Port Regis, 84; 4, Billy Lewis, Port Regis, 82; 5, Sidney de Mello, Port Regis, 74.

Vocal Quartettes.

Vocal quartette, S.A.T.B.—"To the Virgins" (Quilter)—1, Mr. Sawyer's quartette, 78; 2, Broadstairs quartette, 75.

Male quartette, T.T.B.B.—"O Mistress Mine" (Wadley)—1, Mr. Sawyer's quartette, 70.

Folk Dancing and Sword Dancing.

Under 14—"Mage on a cree" and own choice—1, St. George's School (Ramsgate) A, 96 and 100-98 per cent.; 2, St. George's Girls' School B, 96 and 94-96; 3, St. Peter's Girls' School, 82 and 90-86; 4, Ellington Girls' School (Ramsgate), 80 and 86-83; 5, Reulver School, 76 and 80-78; 6, 7th Ramsgate Girl Guides, 70 and 90-75; 7, 2nd Ramsgate Girl Guides, 60 and 60-60.

Over 14—"Newcastle" and own choice—1, St. George's School A, 88 and 90-89 per cent.; 2, Ramsgate Girls' County School, 84 and 86-85; 3, St. George's Girls' School B, 83 and 70-76; 4, 2nd Ramsgate Girl Guides, 61 and 75-63; 5, Ellington Girls' School, 65 and 65-65.

Over 15—"Adon's Saraband" and own choice—1, Congregational Girls' Club, Ramsgate, 75 and 80; 2, St. George's Girls' Association, Ramsgate, 66 and 60; 3, Thanet Ladies' A, 65 and 56; 4, Kinraid House, Ramsgate, 56 and 55; 5, Thanet Ladies' B, 53 and 47.

Sword dancing for men and boys—1, St. Peter's Boy Scouts, "Kirky Malshead," 80; 2, 12th Ramsgate Scouts A (Chatham House), "Flamboro," 55; 3, Broadstairs Scouts, "Kirky Malshead," 53; 4, 12th Ramsgate Scouts B (Chatham House), "Flamboro," 50.

Instrumental Duets.

Pianoforte duets, under 18—Dolly duets, Nos. 5 and 6 (Fauré)—1, N. Feast and G. Knott, 83 and 90-173; 2, W. Neat and E. Nolan, 81 and 91-172; 3, J. Drunit and D. Hall-Jones, 84 and 81-165; 4, D. Lewis and P. Lewis, 81 and 83-164; 5, J. White and M. Rothwell, 79 and 80-159; 6, K. Ames and M. Hutson, 82 and 76-158; 7, M. Elphick and D. Maudrell, 78 and 76-154; 8, C. Tatton and M. Clapham, 75 and 77-152; 9, C. Emptage and H. Rowe, 80 and 68-148; 10, A. Eates and S. Dann, 74 and 69-143; 11, R. Garratt and A. Offen, 72 and 70-142.

Violin and pianoforte duet, under 18—Sonata in G Minor (J. Stanley)—1, B. Herms and K. Hawkins, 85.

Violin and pianoforte, under 15—"Le Bavolet Frottant" (Couperin)—1, E. Brewer and K. Hawkins, 82; 2, J. Cook and P. Mortiean, 79; 2, Cantrell and M. Anderson, 78.

Pianoforte, under 15—1, F. Brooks and P. Mortiean, 88 and 91-179; 2, B. Browne and D. Williams, 90 and 88-178; 3, M. Reily and M. Fahy, 87 and 85-170; 4, D. Griffiths and J. Gougham, 85 and 90-165; 5, B. Gamman and J. Anderson, 81 and 83-164; 6, F. O'Keefe and A. O'Keefe, 76 and 87-163; 7, J. McKenzie and G. Barry, 83 and 79-162; 8, S. Cooper and V. Collins, 81 and 79-160; 9, Peter Baker and Duncan Lamont, 78 and 79-157; 10, B. Sharp and P. Sharp, 77 and 76-155; 11, B. Cutts and B. Smith, 76 and 73-149; 12, J. Jennings and W. Hunt, 63 and 63-126.

Pianoforte duets (senior)—"Andante and Presto from Concerto No. 4" (Bach)—1, Misses H. Lanfar and M. Bennett, 154; 2, Misses F. Hall and E. Bailey, 156; 3, Misses D. Forwood and C. White, 155; 4, Misses A. Curri and M. Josling, 153; 5, Miss O. Nimmo and G. Jones, 152.

Violin and pianoforte (senior)—"Sonata in C Minor" (C. Carse)—1, Mr. Horne and Miss Harriner, 81; 2, Mr. Page and Mrs. Birling, 70.

Accompaniment.

Accompaniment at sight, under 18, accompaniment of a singer—1, C. White, 94; 2, Stanley Crockett, 89; 3, J. White, J. Liversidge and M. V. Rothwell, 86; 4, V. Weal and H. Rowe, 84.

Under 15, accompaniment of a violinist—1, R. Hawkins; 2, R. Garratt; 3, D. Clements.

Senior, accompaniment of a cellist—1, Miss Q. Nimmo, 89; 2, Miss Rothwell, 89; 3, Miss Curtis, 87; 4, Miss Spiller, 86; 5, Miss Hall, 78.

Elocution.

Under 18—"The Harts of the Air" (Yeats) and prose, "Miss Matty Goes Visiting" (Mrs. Gaskell)—1, E. Ginnett, 84; 2, A. Winkworth, 83; 3, M. Whitton, 80; 4, D. Lewis, 76; 5, B. Whiteley and D. Paul, 74; 6, M. Winkskill and P. Lewis, 73; 7, K. Ames, 72; 8, M. Catt and T. Edwards, 70; 9, D. Bell, 69.

Under 10—"The Scarecrow" (Franklin) and "In the Poppy Field" (Stevens)—1, Kenneth Wilcox, 83.

Elocution, under 10 (elementary)—"Spring Morning" (Almeida) and "Hay Harvest" (Chalmers)—1, J. Good, 84; 2, K. Butler, 82; 3, J. Clarke, 81; 4, M. Seath, 80; 5, E. Tuffill, 74; 6, Ronald White, 73; 7, P. Cheeseman and O. Richard, 72; 8, P. Balding and E. Cook, 71; 9, D. Wheeler, C. Rickards and M. Gambrell, 70; 10, B. Smith, 69; 11, E. Hangett and K. Gregory, 68.

Elocution, under 14, private and secondary—"Sam" (Walter de la Mare)—1, J. Matheson, 89; 2, M. Bray, 88; 3, M. Prall, 87; 4, E. Barney and Roderick Romain, 86; 5, J. Treasurer, 83; 6, Keith Horsburgh and J. Goldsworthy, 80; 7, G. Errington and D. Dunn, 79; 8, D. Griggs, F. Procter, E. Barney, and W. Brewer, 78; 9, Charles Ellis, 77; 10, F. Wood, 75; 11, Martin Sherwood, 73.

Thursday's Results appear on
another page.

In the Executive Committee for 1930-1931, the name "Miss Marjorie Crawshaw" first appears. She later became well-known in Thanet as Mrs Marjorie Gore.

THANET'S FEAST OF MUSIC

ANOTHER BIG SUCCESS

JUDGES' HIGH PRAISE

The competitive musical festival has firmly established itself in popularity as an annual event in Thanet.

Hundreds of competitors from the age of six years up, from all parts of Thanet, have been attracted to the twelfth festival which opened at Bohemia, Broadstairs, on Monday, and continued until Thursday.

Owing to an early Whitsun there was no alternative to Bohemia, and though it is not such a large and convenient hall as that used at Margate and Ramsgate, it must be gratifying to the numerous competitors from Broadstairs and St. Peter's who have been so loyal and enthusiastic about the festival since its inception to feel that at last it has "come to Broadstairs."

In spite of a regrettable decrease in the number of elementary entrants, about 310, representing hundreds of individuals, show an increase, a fact accounted for by the growing popularity of the folk dancing and drama classes, and the inclusion of two classes for percussion bands.

The adjudicators presiding at the of the staff of the English Folk various sections were Miss P. Hooton, Dancing Society (folk dancing); Mr. Herbert Howells and Mr. Reginald Ward (vocal and instrumental); and Mr. J. Clifford Turner (elocution and drama).

The festival could not be housed in one place and the Baptist Hall was appropriated for the elocution classes and the Lyric Music Room for part of the instrumental and vocal classes. The smallness of the latter for the purpose was proved on Monday evening, and an attempt to remove the audition for trios and quartets to Bohemia nearly proved disastrous and spoilt an otherwise perfect festival day.

As far as Bohemia was concerned, no one entering at any time of the day could but be affected by the atmosphere, which was truly that of a festival. Everyone was so jolly and happy.

The standard of the performances was high, as can be seen from the marks and comments of the judges.

Sir Harry Fox's Praise.

Sir Harry Fox, who was accompanied by Lady Fox, opened the folk dancing session on Monday morning and in his capacity as a vice-president of the festival referred to himself as one of those "lucky" people who allowed their names to go at the top of the page and after all the hard work was done by the committee to come along and open functions and say nice things about everybody.

The order, especially with the festival, ought to be reversed; the names of the president and vice-presidents being put at the bottom and those of the committee at the top, with that of the organising secretary, Miss O. East, at the head.

The song of the birds in the early morning had prophesied a fine day and so it was, and he was sure the sunshine affected human songsters in exactly the same way as it did the birds, and no doubt it had as beneficial effect on those who were going to dance.

The thought of their folk dancing reminded him of Ariel's song in Shakespeare's Tempest.

"Come unto these yellow sands
And there take hand,
Carter, when you have and Kiss
The wild waves whist
Foot it fleetly here and there
And sweet sprites the burden bear."

He always thought that when Shakespeare wrote those lines he was thinking of Broadstairs. Of course they could not go down on to the golden sands, but they could take hands just the same and they must all be on tip-toe to start dancing.

In conclusion he hoped all concerned would thoroughly enjoy themselves during the week.

Lady Fox was then presented with a bouquet of lilac by Miss Raven.

about it, but was jolly.

The Percussion Bands.

Monday afternoon's instrumental session was a most delightful one and consisted mainly of the percussion bands, a new feature of the festival which was a most interesting one and which found a great favour with the audience and competitors alike.

The session was opened by Father Martin de Vitto, of Broadstairs, who, in the name of the committee, welcomed the children. Who would not be pleased to welcome children? They were the joy of people's hearts and the hope of the future. When they were happy and smiled they filled one's heart with sunshine.

Referring to the class for percussion bands, the speaker said it was a beautiful thing to teach children to use instruments such as cymbals, drums, triangles, castanets, etc., to make a beautiful noise and a musical noise. It was extremely useful too. It taught them to be attentive, and to concentrate, and to express their feelings through their souls. Their souls were full of joy or

sorrow and in playing they could express their feelings naturally. Sometimes parents did not like them to express their feelings, especially if they cried. That day they could express themselves and do so beautifully and artistically.

Being able to play together was an important thing in actual life as well as in music.

Jolly Little Pies.

Mr. Herbert Howells said they had heard from Father Martin some very good reasons why percussion bands were the best possible things for children, but the competitors themselves had proved it. In the class for children under 12 there were quite a few of little people and a fine competitor.

Lillian-road Girls—"One of the nicest percussion bands I have heard in the course of my life. The minute was steady and slow. They went back to the 15th century. These were the children dancing the real minuet. The conductor was so stately and the devotion of the rank and file to her even when they were beyond praise."

The Brownies, Westgate—"Were not quite decisive enough. The triangle trills were quite thrilling. Their faces were jolly happy. It was a nicely organised performance."

St. Peter's Brownies—"The conductor really conducted and was not there merely for ornament." Bartrum Gables, Broadstairs—"The team work was jolly good, but they were so solemn I want them to enjoy themselves."

The Gnomes, Margate—"They need to be more precise and play together. They would do this by watching the conductor more."

The Elfyn Band, Birchington—"Were not quite sure of themselves and met with one or two accidents which injured the team work." Under 8: Archbishop Taft's School—"The conductor's beat was a lovely rhythm and the drum girl played a clever rhythm for one so young." Bobby Shafiq, when they played it, was "Bobby Twinkles" because it sounded so happy." (The adjudicator asked them to repeat it because they had all enjoyed it so.)

In regard to the ensemble the adjudicator's remarks were chiefly concerned with technical detail, but he congratulated the winners of the open ensemble class—St. Margaret's A, Westgate—on their choice of a Bohemian trio. It was jolly hard to play and it was done very well. They produced a rare tone, but needed to be more "bright" at the commencement.

Of the Misses B. Robertson and B. Jones, the winners of the ensemble class for persons under 18 years, the adjudicator said they showed considerable skill in tone, but of their expression and workmanship was lacking. That would probably develop in time.

The elder folk dance teams, on Monday, were introduced to the adjudicator by Mrs. E. V. F. Brackenbury, who said it was a privilege to do so because she had a link with them. For many years she had been associated with the country dance movement. Also for fifteen years she had been a guide and many of the competitors.

The festival called for all the support they could give it because it was such a big thing. It was gratifying to see so many teams present and she hoped there would be an even greater number next year.

Miss Hooton seemed favourably impressed with the adult folk dancing. It was so pleasant to see so many teams really enjoying their dancing. She had a most adverse criticism. Most of it was nice, easy dancing.

Guides and clubs: 2nd Ramsgate Guides—"Newcastle was very pleasing, but they needed to listen to the music still more."

7th Ramsgate Guides—"Nice, jolly dancing, a good sense of figure." York Club (Rovers and Rangers)—"Extremely nice to see a mixed team and their dancing was jolly, with plenty of fun and go."

3rd Rangers—"Were lovely because they enjoyed it so much. They looked as if they thought it great fun, and so it ought to be."

St. George's Girls' Association—"Newcastle" rather hurried, their own choice was jolly, but still hurried and rather business-like."

Holy Trinity G.F.S., Ramsgate—"Enjoyable dancing. If they loosened their shoulders they would be very good indeed."

14th Margate Guides—"A fine bit timid and sedate. Shouldn't themselves go more."

4th Rangers A, Ramsgate—"A bit less business-like and a bit 'dancy'."

1st Ramsgate Girls' Life Brigade—"A nice, pleasant movement, but they were quite to interpret the music more." 4th Ramsgate Rangers B—"Dancing was cut up into sections instead of being one whole. Good team work, but not of Edinburgh."

Sword Dance Disappointing.

The entry of another mixed folk dance team in the second class of adult dancers again drew praise from Miss Hooton and of this team—Thanet—she said their performance was a complete country dance because it included both men and women. There was plenty of fun and go in it. Westgate Evening School Girls' team pipped them for first place by one mark because their charming performance was so musical and so delightfully phrased. In regard to the sword dancing, Miss Hooton expressed her disappointment. She felt very strongly that not one of the dancers realised what a sword dance was originally because they all missed the point—the sacrifice. Quite frankly this part was disappointing, especially the drawing of swords. She was sorry to see so severe because it was gratifying to see that so many teams had entered. Of the winners—St. Peter's Rovers—she said the team was very good and the continuity was excellent. She also congratulated their musician, Rover Lee, who accompanied on a piano accordion. St. George's Girls A, the runners-up, gave a spirited performance.

In the Lyric Room on Monday evening Mr. Howells adjudicated the vocal trios and quartettes. The honours in each case going to Broadstairs entrants. Of the Broadstairs B Quartette, who came first, he remarked that they had given a most attractive performance, producing effect without fuss, pace without hurry and leisure for all things.

ALWAYS ROOM AT THE TOP.

Tuesday morning's session was opened by Councillor H. Bing, chairman of Broadstairs Council, who devoted his remarks principally to the juvenile competitors who were in the foreground. He took the opportunity of extending an official welcome to all connected with the festival. Although it was the first time it had been held at Broadstairs he hoped it would not be the last.

When he was a boy at Broadstairs schools his master said to him "Remember, Bing, there is plenty of room at the top. It is only the bottom that is crowded." He wanted them all to remember that always.

On behalf of Broadstairs Council he desired to wish the festival every success.

Bohemia was well filled when the

contests for elementary school choirs and women's fellowship choirs were held. The Kentish accent in the pronunciation of the vowel sounds came to Mr. Howells' notice immediately and his efforts to make the children say a pure i instead of oi caused considerable amusement and the children thoroughly enjoyed the merry, but kindly jests he made at their expense.

He urged the girls especially not to look so solemn when they were singing.

Girls (I).—"They watched their intonation; words were topping. They have been very well taught as to words which is half the battle in singing."

Lillian-road—"Clear in words and notes; very nice tone, but rather small; just a bit tame, they must be keener. Second song was quite delicious."

St. Peter's—"The clarity of words was likeable, pitch out a little; need to be careful about words; still it was very thoughtful."

Ellington—"Were rather solemn. If they felt more alive as girls the whole thing would be better."

Girls (II).—"A very nice little choir; most of the words were good, tone light and attractive; balance of voices well maintained."

New Cross, Margate—"A very good point was intonation which was excellent. Was very neat; tone likeable and not forced. They were not erratic."

St. Augustine's, Ramsgate—"Diction was clear, but want more real variety. There was plenty of tone, but it could be much more lovely, and less forced."

Boys (I).

St. Peter's—"They enjoyed telling the story in the 'Pilgrim Song'; good words generally; real strength here. A jolly performance. It was a good choir."

Stamstone, Margate—"Nice tone, want to be more enthusiastic about being singing."

Boys (II).—"St. Saviour's—"Real good tone; vowels rather pinched on high notes, but they did try to make lovely sounds."

St. Augustine's—"Sang carefully, but required to get different colour and quality into their tone. Rhythm and intonation good."

Weak Sight Reading.—"Right reading tests of the choir were arranged and judged by Mr. Reginald Ward. The sight reading he commented, was rather weak, and he would urge the teachers to devote a few minutes each week to these lessons. His remarks: If children learned to read music at sight it would be of use in later life, but if not all they would carry away from school so far as singing was concerned would be the memory of a few songs."

In the morning the Broadstairs girls were best. Of the boys only one school, St. Saviour's, Westgate, sang well, and on the whole they read staff notation to some extent creditably.

Further amusing references to the children's diction were made by Mr. Howells in the afternoon. He alluded to the singing of the boys under eleven, who had a sailor song for a test piece, as "a jolly performance."

Stamstone—"These were jolly bright boys. The singing was healthy as well as the boys."

St. Peter's—"He liked the urge and vitality with which they faced their task; a live little choir, but they must not pinch their top notes."

Girls under eleven. Broadstairs—"A happy choir; phrasing good; pianissimo singing extremely excellent; mood and intonation excellent."

St. Peter's—"A very nice performance; showed extreme care taken in preparation; greatest merit its smoothness, and more body and resonance of tone."

Mixed choirs (open). St. Joseph's Parish School—"A very poetic choir, words good; extreme delicacy of phrasing, a lovely piece of tone painting."

St. Peter's Sunday School—"Very intelligent, and musical singing, require to get words more precise."

Infants Delight.

The classes for infant scholars were again delightful to listen to and were greatly applauded. There were only two entrants for the class for the baby scholars, as Minster Infants, last year's winners, were prevented from entering on account of illness.

Under seven. Christ Church, Ramsgate—"Bright young people, all very much alive; vowels were pure Kentish, but consonants good English."

Holy Trinity, Ramsgate—"Very gentle, and they wobbled happily after 'Trotty Wagtail'. No bird could take offence at any sound they made."

Under nine. New Cross-street School—"Clear in diction, full of fun and ascendancy of tone jolly; first-rate story telling."

Thornton-road School, Ramsgate—"Story telling was vivid and convincing because the words were so good; pitched a little insecure."

Broadstairs—"As usual full of smiles; fairly successful even if not always precise as regards time." Child-like and simple; requires a little more tone and character."

The Woman's Shield.

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The Women's Shield.

Comments on the women's fellowship choirs were favourable and Mr. Howells said the choirs had established a blend which was often a difficult thing to do with such choirs as theirs, where voices were not picked. Splendid work had been done by the choirs.

St. Peter's W.F.—"Best tone of any choir; warmth of feeling and good expression of a natural sort. Intonation extraordinarily safe."

St. George's M.U.—"A very nice choir; really tried to be expressive in the Bach chorale and were successful. If smoothness were added to their existing qualities, would become a better choir still."

Broadstairs W.F.—"Sang forte with great ease, but lost tone in softer passages; words good and there was a sense of joyousness in the chorale."

St. Paul's W.F.—"Tone generally well managed, lacking in urgency of diction."

Westgate M.U.—"A little too eager and consequently sang above pitch. Second song was better and gave great pleasure."

St. Peter's thus won the shield from Westgate, last year's holders.

Mr. Ward adjudicated the boys' solos and he was of the opinion that the six of the intended thirteen entrants who performed sang well. It was pleasant to hear such singing. The piece from Handel's "Acis and Galatea" gave them a chance on their high notes and the boys did very well on them. The performance of Master Bayer, the winner, was nice smooth singing. He kept up the rhythm and the singing was really beautiful.

Master R. Webb won second place. Mr. Ward said he had a beautiful quality of tone and his voice was well produced.

In 1932, the Adjudicator was Mr. (later Dr.) Herbert Howells, a composer now best known for his sacred choral music. He was apt to be far from complimentary in his comments, but on this occasion he was full of praise. A decrease in the number of Elementary School Choirs was noted.

Boys' Amazing Voice.

The "Lieder" class for singer and pianist which is the only class in the festival open to professionals, increases each year and gives much pleasure to competitors and audience alike. This year it attracted thirteen entrants. It was notable for the striking performance of Master L. Clamp, aged sixteen years, former treble soloist, of St. George's Church choir, who with Mr. Stanley Sackett as his pianist, gave a fine bass rendering of "The Erl King" (Schubert).

The adjudicator said this was always an engaging class and they would find it grow and grow. He hoped their audiences would grow with it.

As Schubert wrote "The Erl King" when he was 16 years old, it was no business of his, said Mr. Howells, to criticise a young boy for singing it in public and he was amazed to find in his voice a settled state which by the laws of nature should not exist. He urged the boy to use his voice and so long as he did not over use it and abuse it it would be a fine possession in about five years. It was clear from his lack of experience which betrayed him, but it was a splendid shot.

Although these young competitors took only their places they elicited the personal congratulations of Mr. Howells. When the adjudicator heard that Master Clamp was only sixteen during May, he remarked that his singing was an even greater miracle than he thought.

The winners, Miss Ransford and Mr. Cook set a very high example to the competitors who followed them. It was a most attractive voice which met the severest demands of Schubert's "Ave Maria." Mr. Howells made special mention of the pianist.

Miss Phillips and Miss K. Perry were the runners up and of the former he said she possessed a most attractive voice which was used wisely. The pianist had skill, but lacked warmth.

Miss Ransford was the first prize-winner in the soprano and mezzo solo-contest which was judged by Mr. Ward, who referred to the performances as very pleasant singing.

Mr. Howells, again sat in the seat of judgment for the contralto and bass solos. The solo contralto entry from Miss Pilcher was a most unexpected but a most welcome one as it was really a good voice.

The two male competitors possessed completely different kinds of voices. Mr. Piper was not a great singer, but his voice had the curious human appeal and indescribable quality the adjudicator termed "the grace of God." Mr. Hobhouse had not that appeal, but he had a fine resonance and depth and variety of colour. Only a Daniel come to judgment would differentiate and he had therefore awarded a first-class certificate to both.

A THANET DELIGHT.

"One of the most delightful things in Thanet is this musical festival," said the Vicar of St. Peter's (the Rev. K. Percival Smith) when opening the session for private, secondary and central school choirs on Wednesday.

The best word of cheer he could give to the choirs, who might be feeling a little nervous, was one of introduction to the judges, for after attending the festival, on Tuesday he could assure them they were extraordinarily kind people. The festival was fortunate in its choice of judges.

The day commenced with the combined singing of the Festival song "Jerusalem," conducted by Mr. Howells, who adjudicated the test pieces, and Mr. Ward again arranged and judged tests for singing at sight, which, he said was much better than that of the previous day.

The singing of St. George's Boys, who won the open class, elicited high praise from Mr. Howells who described them as "a set of aristocrats" who jolly well could sing. It was a good choir with a carefully produced and cultured tone, which still remained natural. The blend of voices was lovely and the intelligent phrasing a good object lesson. Their sight singing was spoken of as "a splendid performance."

St. George's Girls won the class for girls under 15 and referring to them the adjudicator said much of their singing was really lovely. There was no touch of dullness, plenty of variety, and no vulgarity in seeking effect. They also gained top marks for sight singing.

There were six entries in the contest for girls of any age from private schools, which was won by St. Margaret's Westgate, whose lullaby was described as a quiet and lovable piece from beginning to end.

Trophy Changes Hands.

The coveted trophy, the picture of "The Singing Cherubims" is awarded to the choir gaining the highest marks in the class for boys and girls under 13, and this year St. George's boys lost it to Margate Central School. St. George's girls, although highest of the girls' choirs, were one mark below Margate Central boys.

Of the Margate Central boys Mr. Howells said there was in their singing robust life from beginning to end. The tone was large but never rough. St. George's girls produced clean, clear singing. "They know all about singing and are a clever lot of choristers," he said.

The adjudicator expressed his gratitude to St. Margaret's, Westgate, for "a really nice performance" in the class for self-conducted and self-accompanied choirs, by virtue of which they secured the Webb silver cup from St. George's boys.

St. Margaret's were faced with no competitors in the orchestral class, but they won a first class certificate and also compliments from the adjudicator. It was evident that the scholars were under wise musical guidance. He had noticed one girl playing the piano, then singing and then playing the violin which was an excellent symbol of what was going on in the school. From the appearances of St. Margaret's in several classes, it was apparent that good work was being done in many phases of music.

After taking note of instructive criticism and advice by Mr. J. Clifford Turner, aspiring young elocutionists

realised how beautiful spoken English could sound. Mr. Turner, whose elocution recordings have given much pleasure, has a most delightful way with the children, and his advice to each of the numerous entrants should be most helpful to them.

Plain Clothes Drama.

In commenting upon the class for elementary school children under ten, Mr. Turner said there was a tendency on the part of some children to widen the lips which spoils the vowel sounds. One or two adopted what is termed "spelling pronunciation." They should not allow the spelling of a word to influence the normal pronunciation. He urged the children to try and picture more clearly the meaning of the poem and to think about what they were speaking. The winner, Master F. Bird, was the best actual speaker.

No costumes and only the simplest props were allowed in the classes for drama, and for which Mr. J. Clifford Turner sat in the seat of judgment.

Scenes from the historical plays of Shakespeare were chosen in the contest for teams of people of eighteen years and over. This resolved itself into a contest between young ladies—St. Leonard's Old Scholars—and young men—St. Peter's Rovers—and the ladies won. The ladies all had acceptable voices and their acting had good feeling and characterisation. The standard of the Rovers' delivery was not as high as that of St. Leonard's. The young men were inclined to use ordinary conversational delivery instead of the heroic style demanded by the plays.

Most of Wednesday evening was devoted to classes for adult choirs.

According to Mr. Howells the usual high standard of the female voice choir was maintained. Considering the difficulty, especially of mood, of the test piece, this class, he said, was heartening and so pleased him that he conducted for the five competing choirs and chose as his accompanist Mr. Stanley Sackett, the accompanist for St. George's Girls' Association choir. He would not be a true musician, good judge or even human remarked Mr. Howells, if he failed to give a word of praise to this young man for the beauty of the accompaniment as played by him. St. Peter's, who were the winners, were said to be careful about detail. Theirs was a clever and constructive performance.

Two First Class Choirs.

"The youngest male voice choir in England" was the designation given by Mr. Howells to St. George's Senior Boys' Choir, which entered in the class for male voice choirs, their only rivals being St. Peter's. Two choirs scratched. Although the boys gained the highest marks both choirs were awarded first class certificates. The singing of the boys was good in many ways; they knew their notes and were able to convey the excitable nature of "the windy nights." There was sometimes a touch of unsteadiness in the melodic tone of St. Peter's singing, which otherwise gave great satisfaction. The choirs were so dissimilar as to be both entertaining.

A performance which "showed a great deal of thought" won for the 4th Rangers the Margate Pioneer Shield for Girls' Clubs, which was held last year by St. Peter's.

Continued on Page Eight.

THANET MUSICAL FESTIVAL

Continued from Page Seven.

The entrants in the glee for mixed voices were described as "three excellent choirs which gave great pleasure" and one mark gave Birchington Madrigal Society—which by the way was accompanied on the piano—the victory over the Ramsgate (St. George's School Staff) choir. Nothing clearer or nothing more satisfying in its team work than the performance of Birchington Society had been heard at the festival, said Mr. Howells, but it lacked the human quality of the Ramsgate choir. The degree to which the Ramsgate singers went out to meet the poet and to reveal what was in his heart, as well as considerable skill in singing, drew the attention and admiration of both himself and the audience. There was, however, a lack of balance.

The artistic singing of the Bradstow glee party drew forth favourable praise from the adjudicator, who commented upon the unaccompanied singing of the choirs for mixed voices. The singing of the Bradstow party was most attractive, their tone was not only a nice tone, but, what is more valuable, they had the ability to apply it to give an artistic performance.

Especially good work was done by the men in the Hardres-street, Ramsgate Wesleyan Church, their whose singing was a good and quite honest piece of work.

The day ended as it began with the combined singing of "Jerusalem."

The detailed results were—

Folk Dancing.

Under 14—"Upon a summer's day" and own choice—1, St. George's A, Ramsgate, 84 ("Picking Up Sticks"); 2, Margate Girls' Central School, 79; Ellington Girls' B, Ramsgate, 78; Ellington Girls' A, Lillian-road, Ramsgate, and St. George's A, 77; Muller School, Broadstairs, 76; 1st Ramsgate Girls' Life Brigade, 75; Broadstairs Girls' Council School, 70.

Over 14—"The Boatmen" and own choice—1, St. George's A, 79; 2, St. George's B, 78; Margate Central School, 76.

Open to Guides and Clubs—"Newcastle" and own choice—1, 2nd Ramsgate Girl Guides ("Picking Up Sticks"), 80; 2, 7th Ramsgate Girl Guides, 79; 3, Hyde (Mixed) Club, Ramsgate, and 7th Ramsgate Rangers, 78; St. George's Girls' Association, Ramsgate, 77; Holy Trinity G.F.S., 75; 1st Ramsgate Life Brigade, 4th Ramsgate Rangers A and 11th Margate Guides, 74; 4th Ramsgate Rangers B, 72.

Associations and Clubs—"The maid peeped out of the window" and own choice—1, Westgate-on-Sea Evening School, ("Hyde Park"), 86; 2, Thanet (Mixed), 85; St. George's Girls' Association, 80; Ramsgate Congregational Girls' Club, 75; sword dancing (open)—1, St. Peter's Rovers ("Kirk by Malzeard"), 85; 2, St. George's Girls' School A, 84; Ellington Girls' School, 77; St. George's Girls' B, 75; Broadstairs Girls' Council School, 74.

Instrumental.

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1932

Instrumental.

Percussion bands, under 12—"Minnet in F" (Mozart)—1, Lillian-road Girls, Ramsgate, 88; 2, The Brownies, Westgate, 85; 1st St. Peter's Brownies, 84; Bartrum Gables, Broadstairs, 83; The Gnomes, Margate, 81; The Elfin Band, Birchington, 75.

Dicto, under 8—own choice—1, Archbishop Tait's School, 86.

Ensemble (open)—own choice—1, St. Margaret's (Westgate) Trio A (Beethoven Trio), 84; 2, St. Margaret's Trio B, 83; Bartrum Gables A, 82; Bartrum Gables B, 80; Miss Pettman's Trio, Margate, 75.

Dicto, under 15—"Sonatina in G" (Gurlitt)—2, B. Pettman and J. Grant and C. Ellen and G. Jarvis, 78.

Dicto, under 18—"Sonata in F (movements 1 and 2)" (Handel)—1, B. Robertson and B. Jones, 84; 2, J. Bouquet and O. Simpson, 82; D. Cantrell and J. Goodson, 80.

Violin and pianoforte duets—"Sonatina in E Major" (Bach)—1, Miss Marriner and Mr. Horne, 86. Pianoforte duet (open)—"Wedding day" (Grieg)—1, Miss Marriner and Miss Rothwell, 87; 2, Miss Curtis and Miss Noyes, 85; Miss Attwood and Miss Rose, 83; Miss Clements and Mr. P. Bowen, 81; Miss Powell and Miss Bishop, 80; Miss Bayley and Miss Hall, 78.

Dicto, under 18—German rounds—Nos. 1 and 2 (Moskowskii)—1, D. Cantrell and J. Goodson, 86; 2, A. Smith and M. Fisher, 81; B. Jones and B. Robertson, 80; B. Browne and D. Williams, 79; P. Mortle and M. Fisher, 78; O. Simpson and J. Bouquet, 78; P. Tompson and M. Taylor, 78; M. Noyes and J. White, 77; R. Garratt and D. Griffiths, 77. Dicto under 15—"Waltzes" (Brahms)—1, F. Mortle and J. Parrott, 86; 2, M. Farmer and B. Crofts, 85; N. Waters and M. Smith, 85; C. Pinkey and D. Martin, 84; M. Riley and B. Burney, 83; V. Hatten, and A. Hayes, 83; J. Stokes and G. Jarvis, 80.

Accompaniment at sight, of a violinist—1, Miss Rothwell, 88; 2, Mrs. Jepps, 85; Miss Moulds, 84. Dicto, of a singer—1, J. Goodson, 90; 2, D. Cantrell, 85; P. Mortleman, 83; A. Smith, 82; M. Noyes, 80; R. Garratt, 76; D. Griffiths, 60.

School orchestras—"Minuet" (Moskowskii)—1, St. Margaret's, Westgate, 87.

Vocal.

Vocal Trios—"To Meadows" (Sampson)—1, Broadstairs, 86; 2, Avalon, 85; Bartram Gables A, 83; Bartram Gables B and Bartram Gables C, 80.

Mixed Quartet (s.a.t.b.)—"My love's an arbutus" (Old Irish)—1, Broadstairs B, 88; 2, Broadstairs A, 85; Milton, Ramsgate, 84; Mason, Ramsgate, 80.

Boys' solo—"As when the dove" (Handel)—1, V. Sayer, 84; 2, R. Webb, 83; N. Kenchat, 82; R. Chesterton, 81; W. Glendenning, 80; J. Bendall, 80.

Soprano and mezzo-soprano solo—"Sweet Suffolk Owl" (Poston)—1, Miss Ransford, 88; 2, Miss Austen, 87; Miss E. Walker, 85; Miss Young, 83; Mrs. Bradshaw, 83; Miss Haddock, 82; Miss Emery, 81; Miss Berry, 80; Mrs. Robinson, 74.

Contralto solo—"Where corals lie" (Elgar)—single entry—Miss Pilcher, 83.

Baritone and bass solo—"Mary of Alledale" (Lane Wilson)—1, Mr. W. Piper and Mr. E. Hobbhouse (tie), 85.

Elementary Choirs.

Girls (1)—"A visit from the moon" (Dunhill), "O mistress mine" (Brewer)—

1, Broadstairs, 85 and 87-172; 2, Lillian-road, Ramsgate, 87 and 83-170; St. Peter's, 81 and 84-165; Ellington, Ramsgate, 80 and 81-161. (2)—"Under the greenwood tree" (Bury), "Golden slumbers" (arr. Dunhill)—1, St. Saviour's, Westgate, 85 and 86-171; 2, New Cross-street, Margate, 84 and 84-168; St. Augustine's, Ramsgate, 81 and 78-159. Dicto, under 11—"A lullaby" (Stanford)—1, Broadstairs, 87; 2, St. Peter's, 81.

Boys (1)—"Pilgrim song" (Dunhill), "A sailor's letter" (Dyson)—1, St. Peter's, 87 and 84-171; 2, Salmestone, 83 and 84-167. (2)—"When all the world is young" (G. Shaw), "Here's a health" (arr. Dunhill)—1, St. Saviour's, 83 and 83-166; 2, St. Augustine's, 78 and 82-160. Dicto, under 11—"British tars" (Stanford)—1, Salmestone, 85; 2, St. Peter's, 83.

Mixed Schools (open)—"Colours" (Sharpe)—1, St. Joseph's Parish School, 85; 2, St. Peter's Junior Sunday School, 83. Dicto, under 8—"Little trotty wagtail" (M. Shaw)—1, Christ Church, Ramsgate, 84; 2, Holy Trinity, 80. Dicto, under 9—"The clucking hen" (Lloyd)—1, New Cross-street, 86; 2, Thornton-road and Broadstairs, 84; Muller Home and St. Peter's, 83.

Adult Choirs.

Female voice—"Sound sleep" (V. Williams)—1, St. Peter's, 88; 2, Bartrum Gables, 86; 3, St. Vincent's, Broadstairs, 85; St. George's Girls' Association, 84; Birchington, 81.

Male voice—"Windy nights" (Stanford), "We be three poor mariners" (Rowley)—1, St. George's Senior Boys, 85 and 86-171; 2, St. Peter's, 85 and 84-169.

Girls' clubs—"We thank thee, O God" (Bach), "All in this pleasant evening" (Rowley)—1, 4th Ramsgate Rangers, 86 and 86-172; 2, 7th Ramsgate Rangers, 84 and 85-169; St. Peter's Girls' Club, 82 and 83-165; St. Paul's Guides, Margate, 82 and 80-161.

Glee for mixed voices (S.A.B.)—"Since first I saw your face" (Ford)—1, Birchington Madrigal Society, 68; 2, Ramsgate St. George's Staff Choir, 87; St. Peter's, 83.

Mixed voices, unaccompanied—"Whence is that goodly fragrance" (old French carol), "The foggy dew" (old Irish)—1, Bradstow Glee Party, 83 and 87-175; 2, Ramsgate Hardres-street Wesleyan Choir, 85 and 84-169; Birchington Madrigal Society, 83 and 84-167.

Women's Fellowship—"Hail now the gladsome morrow (Bach), "The swallows are homing" (Farjeon)—1, St. Peter's Fellowship, 87 and 85-172; 2, St. George's Mothers' Union, 85 and 86-171; Broadstairs Fellowship, 84 and 86-170; St. Paul's Fellowship, Margate, 84 and 84-168; Westgate Mothers' Union, 80 and 85-165. Lieder (open)—own choice—1, Miss Ransford and Mr. Crook, 89 ("Ave Maria," Schubert); 2, Miss M. F. Phillips and Miss Perry, 87 ("Night in May," Brahms); 3, Mr. L. Clamp and Mr. S. Sackett, 86 ("The Erl King," Schubert); Miss Turner-Turner and Miss Fry, 85; Miss M. Evans and Miss Barnard, 84; Messrs. E. Hobbhouse and D. Harker, 84; Miss Pilcher and Mrs. Beaven, 83; Miss Haddock and Miss Williams, 82; Miss Emery and Mrs. Jepps, 80; Miss Bailey and Mrs. Murgford, 78.

Private, Secondary and Central Schools Choirs.

Boys (open)—"Spring bursts to-day" (M. Shaw), "Willie, prethee go to bed" (J. Harrison)—1, St. George's Central, Ramsgate, 88 and 87-175, sight singing 95; 2, Margate Central, 86 and 85-171, sight singing 90; Godwin College, Margate, 82 and 83-165, sight singing 83. Under 13—"The traction engine" (Marchant)—1, Margate Central, 88; Godwin College, 86; St. George's, 85.

Girls, any age—"Rest, sweet nymphs" (Warlock), "To the Thames" (Dyson)—1, St. Margaret's, Westgate, 88 and 86-174, sight singing; 95; 2, Bartrum Gables, 86 and 86-172, sight singing 92; Queen's School, 86 and 85-171, sight singing 86; Abbotsford, Broadstairs, 86 and 84-170, sight singing 92; Montrose, Margate, 85 and 85-170, sight singing 87; Stonar House, Sandwich, 82 and 81-163, sight singing 84. Under 15—"Modyrb Marya" (Brooke), "A Grasmere fishing song" (Somervell)—1, St. George's, 84 and 87-171, sight singing 85; Queen's School, Margate, 85 and 84-169, sight singing 75; Margate Central School, 82 and 83-165, sight singing 78. Under 13—"The traction engine" (Marchant)—1, St. George's, 87; 2, Stonar House, 85; Queen's School, 84; Bartrum Gables, 83; Abbotsford, 82; St. Leonard's, 80.

School choirs without adult aid—"Bablock Hythe" (Sumson)—1, St. Margaret's, 88; St. George's Boys, 86; St. George's Girls, 86; Stonar House, Sandwich, 80.

Elocution.

Elementary school children (under 10)—"Light the lamps up" (Farjeon)—1, Frank Bird, 81; B. Thomas, 80; M. Butler, 78; K. Harding, 78; M. Wood, 77; K. Cook, 74; J. Wright, D. Harman, J. Foot, 73; S. Wibley, S. Newing, 72; D. Newman, 71; J. Payne, M. Harvey, 70; L. Sayer, W. Hall, 68. Dicto, under 14—"Nicholas Nye" (W. de la Mere), "Lone dog" (optional piece)—1, B. Rush, 83 and 81-164; 2, G. Cooper, 79 and 81-160; 3, C. Richards, 77 and 80-157; R. Phillips, 77 and 77-154; J. Buxton, 77; O. Richford, 76; P. Smith, M. Penny, 75; P. Lithner, 73; I. Hackett, K. Williams, B. Lithner, A. Lees, B. Warner, 72; D. Smart, 69; M. Gambrell, M. Davies, M. Martin, 68; E. Addison, 65. Open, under 18—"Taran tella" (Bellco), "October sunrise" (Blackmore)—1, Miss F. Riese, 84; 2, Miss G. Cornish, 83; Miss B. Whitley, Miss A. Winkworth, 80; Miss M. Tucker, 75; Mr. L. Vilette, 73.

Open, under 16—"The Hunter" (W. J. Turner)—S. Collins, 80 and 77-157; M. Bray, 78 and 79-157; Joan Cadge and R. Mygyn, 78; S. Newing and J. Townsend, 75; Jean Paul, 74; Cyril Grant, 73; Vera Hunt, 71; E. Whitley and Nancy Brewer, 70.

Dicto, under 12—"The little lambs" (Chalmers)—1, M. Tilley, 83; 2, M. Edwards, 81; 3, G. Appleby, 76; C. Townsend, 75; B. May, 74; J. Shipton, 73; H. Shields, 71; M. Eden, P. Elkington, 70; P. Shields, 69; S. Davies, 68.

Drama.

Teams over 18—Shakespeare—1, St. Leonard's Old Scholars (Richard II.), 83; 2, St. Peter's Rovers (Henry VI.), 75. School teams—Scenes from Shakespeare—1, Godwin College, Margate, 84; 2, Margate Boys' Central School and Queen

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Bertha's School, Birchington, 81; Stonar House, Sandwich, 78; Margate Boys' Central School, 72; Council School, Broadstairs and Margate Girls' Central School, 70.

MUSICAL COMPETITORS.

The 14th Thanet Festival at Ramsgate.

Detailed Results and Comments.

Ramsgate has the honour this week of being the venue for the fourteenth Thanet Competitive Musical Festival, which opened auspiciously at the West Cliff Theatre on Monday morning. Last year the festival was held at Margate and the previous year at Broadstairs; each town being visited in turn.

Mr. C. C. Maughan performed the opening ceremony on Monday, stating in a few brief remarks that entries were well up to standard and expressing the hope that the quality would be likewise.

Welcoming the competitors and judges, Mr. Maughan added that one of the judges appointed fell ill and had to cancel his engagement, but fortunately the organisers were able to secure Mr. H. Plunket Greene in his stead. Mr. Maughan concluded with an appeal to the general public to attend the sessions each day.

Mr. Plunket Greene, the adjudicator for that morning, in a short address, mentioned that we were the only nation in the world to hold such festivals, a fact of which we should be proud.

On Tuesday morning the festival was opened by the Vicar of Christ Church (the Rev. P. M. Townsend) and in the evening by the Vicar of Ramsgate (the Rev. W. A. R. Ball).

The Vicar of St. Peter's (the Rev. K. Percival Smith) opened this (Wednesday) morning's session, and on Thursday morning Mr. W. Elwyn Fiske will perform the ceremony.

Several sessions are being held daily at the Christ Church Parish Hall.

The festival will be concluded to-morrow (Thursday) evening with a concert in the West Cliff Theatre by the successful competitors.

Officials.

Judges: Mr. H. Plunket Greene, Mr. Guy Perwee, Mr. Alan Stephenson, Miss Lewin-Harris and Mr. Julius Harrison.

President: The Dowager Lady Northbourne. Vice-presidents: Mrs. Powell Cotton, Sir Harry Fox, K.B.E., C.M.G., the Mayor of Margate, the Mayor of Ramsgate, Mrs. Street and Mr. J. H. Iles. Chairman of Council: Mr. C. C. Maughan.

Executive Committee: Rev. E. B. Heberden (chairman), Mrs. Barnes, Miss Barnard, Mr. F. J. Bodilly, Miss Cain, Mr. J. Cameron, Mr. H. R. Cooke, Miss M. Crawshaw, Miss Crittall, Mr. H. Crook, Mrs. F. E. Fisher, Mr. F. E. Fisher, Mr. L. P. Hayward, Miss Hunt, Mrs. Kenrick Smith, Miss Moore-Smith, Miss McCaig, Mr. G. C. L. Neville, Mrs. Price, Miss Simms, Mr. A. Tate, Miss Webb and Mr. S. Willis.

Festival accompanists: Mrs. Kenrick-Smith, Miss Barnard and Miss C. White. Music Selection Committee: Mr. F. J. Bodilly, Mr. J. Cameron, Miss M. Crawshaw, Mr. H. Crook, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Fisher, Mr. G. C. L. Neville and Miss Webb.

Hon. secretary: Miss Raven. Hon. assistant secretary and treasurer: Mrs. Jepps. Hon. festival treasurer: Mr. C. Armstrong. Hon. auditor: Mr. H. Wyatt.

RESULTS.

MONDAY.

Choirs from Private, Secondary and Central Schools.

Class 9 (boys): Test pieces, "Great Heart" (C. Winn) and "Billy Boy" (arr. Dunhill).—1, St. George's School, Ramsgate, 84, 83 (167); 2, Central School, Margate, 82, 82 (164); 3, Holy Trinity Choir, Margate, 79, 80 (159).

In his comments on this class, the judge pointed out that the competitors should have showed more enjoyment in singing. St. George's rendering of the first song was a little bit on the slow side, but had some charming points about it; the quality of the tone was very nice, and the choir worked well together and sang as one man. The second song was sung rather too delicately—was not rowdy enough; there was very charming quality of voice in the descant. Central School choir started the first song too quickly, and there were one or two shrill voices; the words were very clear in both songs. Holy Trinity had quite a good fresh tone, and would improve when they looked more happy about their singing—they appeared too unconcerned; the words were clear and the intonation mostly good.

Class 14 (girls under 13): "The Drummer" (C. Winn).—1, St. Margaret's, Westgate, 85; 2, Abbotsford, Broadstairs, 84; 3, Haddon Dene, Broadstairs, 83; 4, Central School, Margate, 82; 5, St. George's School, Ramsgate, 81.

The boys remarked the adjudicator should note that the girls looked quite happy when they sang. He would like to point out to all, including the teachers, that where there was expression the words were extraordinarily effective in themselves. St. Margaret's were very good, and the words were capital—he did not miss one; they nearly ran away with the rhythm but recovered quickly. Abbotsford on the whole were excellent, but the words got a little lost; they ended well. Haddon Dene were a jolly lot, and he enjoyed looking at them as well as hearing them; the

words were not quite good and they did not quite get the march. Margate Central School sang well together but not interestingly enough. St. George's started well and then seemed to lose their interest; they did not look quite so happy as the previous choirs.

Class 13 (boys under 12): "Across the Sea" (Rowley).—1, St. George's School, Ramsgate, 81; 2, Central School, Margate, 80.

The adjudicator again urged the boys to look happy when they sang. They could not get really good singing unless they did. If they did not like the words they should pretend they did. Commenting on St. George's, he said the voice was good and the words absolutely clear, but the boys did not get much fun out of the song—were not bloodthirsty enough; there was jolly good material in this choir. Margate Central School sang their words clearly except when they sang softly; the rhythm was a little ragged at one spot.

Class 17, sight singing, under 14.—1, St. George's Boys, Ramsgate, 95; 2, Central School, Margate, 90; 3, St. Margaret's, Westgate, 75; 4, St. George's Girls, Ramsgate, 70.

This class was not at all bad, remarked the adjudicator. It was nice to see the choirs do this, as it gave them courage. Not all the competitors sang right through their test piece—he imagined there were one or two defaulters; on the whole very encouraging. There was only one boy at fault in the St. George's choir, the others were sound as a bell and full of confidence; the phrasing was good. Margate Central School were really good, they sang with lots of confidence and there was no feeling for notes; the phrasing was right except in one or two places. St. Margaret's made a very good shot at it, but the phrasing was not so good. Those of St. George's Girls who sang, sang well, but the notes were not quite right in some cases; it was, however, of very good quality.

Class 12 (girls under 15): "The Blossom" (Dunhill) and "The Frog" (E. Newton).—1, St. Margaret's, Westgate, 87, 81 (168); 2, St. George's School "B," Ramsgate, 82, 80 (162); 3, St. George's School "A," Ramsgate, 81, 79 (160).

Again Mr. Plunket Greene emphasised the need for the singers to enjoy the song. St. Margaret's sang the first song full of charm; the words were excellent and the song was affectionately sung, the girls really did look as though they enjoyed it. St. George's "B" had nice quality voice and good clear words but wanted to linger a little on the tops of phrases. St. George's "A" had a pretty quality of tone and took the time well, but one felt they were not enjoying it.

Class 10 (girls, schools of 50 or more pupils): "Morning and Evening" (Dyson) and "Happy Plock" (Baci).—1, Montrose Ladies' College, Margate, 90, 87 (177); 2, St. Margaret's, Westgate, 87, 85 (172); 3, St. George's School, Ramsgate, 84, 84 (163); 4, Abbotsford, Broadstairs, 85, 82 (167).

It was very nice to be able to get up and say, "Thank you," said Mr. Greene. The girls were all so joyful. There were certain faults, but it was charming singing and all seemed to get the right idea, and seem to get right inside it. All took the second song too fast. The voices were very well balanced and the quality of the choirs very much indeed for their delightful simplicity—they had just the right spirit. They were a little bit out of time in one place but one could forgive them a lot for their simplicity, sincerity and charm. St. Margaret's had good tone and the words were admirable. St. George's had excellent tone but were rather too complacent; the intonation was good. Abbotsford had fine tone, their voices were fresh and true, and the rhythm was capital.

Class 15, choir without adult aid: "Pixie Paths" (Bullock).—1, Central School, Margate, 86; 2, St. Margaret's, Westgate, 85; 3, St. George's Girls, Ramsgate, 84; 4, St. George's Boys, Ramsgate, 83.

Obviously, remarked the adjudicator, none of them believed in pixies. Margate Central School treated the pixies with profound contempt; the singing was good but more like Carnera than pixies; the choir won first place with their fine swagger. St. Margaret's took the piece a little faster and lighter which was all the better. St. George's Girls had a pretty tone but did not look too sceptical; the words were clear and good. St. George's Boys had nice clean voices and the words were clear, but they had no use for pixies.

Class 16, sight singing (14 and over).—1, St. George's Boys, Ramsgate, 95; 2, St. Margaret's, Westgate, 40.

St. George's were very good indeed, said the adjudicator; they were practically right the first time they sang the test piece. St. Margaret's started well but lost themselves.

Class 32, "Leider" (selection from songs of Schumann, Schubert, Brahms or Wolf).—1, Miss Ackroyd and Miss Sims, 87; 2, Miss Phillips and Miss Perry, 86; 3, Miss Turner and Miss Fry, 85. Other competitors: Miss Amos and pianist, Miss Ransford and Mrs. Fisher, 84; Miss Haddock and Mr. Crook, Mr. Clamp and Mr. Sackett, 83; Miss Raven and Mrs. Jepps, Miss Sims-Lewis and Miss Beerling, 82; Miss Pilcher and Miss Marriner, 80; Miss Hopper and pianist, Miss Curtis and Miss Powell, 79; Miss Powell and Miss Curtis, Miss Bishop and Miss Bennett, 78.

This was always an interesting competition, commented the judge. With regard to the winners, the pianist was very good and well defined the piece; the singer had capital rhythm and told her story graphically. Miss Phillips had got the spirit of the piece and her pianist had a very pretty quality; it was very nice ensemble, with happiness pervading all. Miss Turner and Miss Fry were good except that the phrasing should have been more formal; the pianoforte was well played.

Class 22, female voice choirs: "A Valley Nightingale" (Rowley) and "My Mistress Frowns" (Armstrong Gibbs).—1, Broadstairs and St. Peter's Choir, 83, 83 (166); 2, Birchington Ladies' Choir, 79, 84 (163).

The adjudicator thought neither of these songs quite "came off." The first song was extraordinarily difficult and the second not so effective as it looked. The sopranos of the Birchington choir were very shaky and not always together; the seconds were much better and steady. Broadstairs Choir sang the first song very fair and the general effect was good; they were too serious in the second song.

Class 27, soprano solo: "Loreley" (Liszt).

Class 27, soprano solo: "Loreley" (Liszt).—1, Miss Haddock, 90; 2, Miss Ackroyd, 89; 3, Miss Ransford, 88. Other competitors, Miss Evans and Miss Austen, 83.

The singers of the "Loreley" were very good. All had a very good dramatic idea indeed. Pianists all the way through were absolutely admirable. Miss Haddock used her words very well, it was a tip-top bit of work, steady as a rock and splendidly backed up by the pianist. Miss Ackroyd sang very well except for a slight tendency to emphasise the words; she was right inside the song and the words were very clear and convincing. Miss Ransford was very good; there was excellent colour at the end.

Class 29, tenor solo: "My Lovely Celia" (O.E.).—1, Mr. Elcome, 83; 2, Mr. Sutton, 82; 3, Mr. Villette, 81.

Mr. Elcome had one or two bad vocal faults, commented the adjudicator, particularly with regard to breath control. Mr. Sutton split up his phrases, but has a nice tuneful voice although not enough edge to it. As to Mr. Villette, the pace was too fast, his words were clear, but did not "come across."

Class 30, baritone and bass solos: "Myself when Young" (Lehmann).—1, Mr. Clamp, 86; 2, Mr. Piper, 84; 3, Mr. Villette, 81.

The adjudicator stated that Mr. Clamp sang very well indeed, although could not quite convince the audience of his philosophy. Mr. Piper had a voice of delightful quality but made the song a bit too emotional—he did not give quite the right interpretation to the piece. Mr.

Villette sang clearly, all the words were heard.

Class 46.—Pianoforte solo (13 or 14 years): "Pleading" (Carse).—1, D. Hollis, 90; 2, M. Clark, 89; 3, M. Farmer, 87; 4, E. Page, 86. Other competitors: C. Pinkey, 85; E. Kennedy, 84; D. Martin, 83; M. Ford, 82; J. Brown, 81; B. Biggleston, 80; D. Dilnot, 78.

Commenting upon this class, Mr. Alan Stephenson (the adjudicator) said the work on the whole was quite good. It was a delicate little piece which needed to be treated carefully; the chief fault was too much insistence of over-accentuation of the beats, which it did not need. He was glad most of the competitors had avoided resting the foot on the right pedal; some should be careful of key release. Many played the first section quite well—the difficulty came when they played the melody with the left hand. D. Hollis gave a very nice performance, sensitive and with real artistry. M. Clark gave a good performance but not quite so beautiful as the first.

Class 39, pianoforte duets, under 13: "The Tin Soldier" (Frank Jephson).—1, M. Collingwood and P. Stokes, 89; 2, D. Mortleman and B. Bryant, 87; 3, B. Blunt and C. Emmet, 86. Other competitors: S. Page and J. Lynch, M. Toppin and T. Coates, J. Martin and V. Taylor, 85; Abbotsford, Broadstairs, 84; Haddon Dene, Broadstairs, B. Hawkins and B. Stubbs, 81; M. Butler and P. White, 80.

The competitors said the adjudicator

1934

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The competitors, said the adjudicator, were rather inclined to turn the tin soldier into a lead one; the playing was too heavy in the bass, otherwise quite good. Some did not keep the soldier perfectly upright; the playing needed uniformity and definiteness in the staccato touch. M. Collingwood and P. Stokes had the right pace and a good sense of give and take; a happy lilt was given to the piece.—D. Mortleman and B. Bryant gave a good performance—not quite so expressive as the first pair. B. Blunt and C. Emmet were not quite together in the chord playing.

Class 31, boy's solo: "Come unto these yellow sands" (Purcell).—1, R. Pease, 85; 2, E. Crutchley, 84; 3, F. Bird, 83; 4, E. Lock, 82. Other competitors: R. Mackintosh, E. Bishop, P. Summers, 81; A. Walker, E. Summers, W. Davis, C. Keeler, 80; L. Holton, D. Webber, A. Williams, B. Fuller and R. Curtis, 79; R. Martell, D. Cunningham, E. Day, V. Horton and B. Davies, 78.

The rendering of this piece, said the adjudicator, Mr. Stephenson, was essentially rhythmic and many of the performances were quite "crochety." The accompanist so often gave the right pace in the introduction and then the singer, "as soon as he held the reins, stopped the summer." They must learn to take a little more interest. The words were important and some should take care of their consonants and ends of the words. R. Pease gave a very good performance, his rhythmic sense was excellent, but he tried to just squeeze the tone of his high notes. E. Crutchley gave a very safe performance and his rhythm was secure. F. Bird had quite the best voice; it was clear, but he did not keep the song going and was continually holding up the rhythm; the words were good.

Class 28, vocal trio: "As Torrents in Summer" (Elgar).—1, Avalon Trio, 85; 2, Miss Bower's Trio, 83.

The top part of Miss Bower's Trio was a little too predominant—it became rather a solo with the others. The words were a little syllabic, but there was good chording and accurate work generally. The tone was a little lacking in sustained finality. The Avalon Trio had more feeling. The chording was good and well balanced, and they built up their tone with more unanimity.

Class 26, quartet (S.A.T.B.): "There's none to soothe my soul to sleep" (Billock).—The Vale Quartet, 82 (the only competitors).

A distinctly difficult piece, needing a tremendous amount of sustaining power and restraint, said the judge. The choir had many wandering moments in the chording, but no matter how far they wandered they always came back again.

Class 28a, mezzo-soprano solo: "A Pastoral" (Veracini).—1, Miss Sims-Lewis, 84. Other competitors: Miss Hopper, 79; Miss Sinden and Miss Curtis, 78; Miss Bishop, 75.

The adjudicator remarked that this piece

Bishop, 75. The adjudicator remarked that this piece had a fascinating lilt and the singers should have rendered it as if full of joy and happiness, but most of them, however, were very heavy. The piper's pipe became a drain pipe. Miss Sims-Lewis gave much the best performance; the voice was just a little lacking in resonance.

Class 28b, contralto solo: "Sleep, O my Dear One" (Bach).—1, Miss Pilcher, 82; 2, Miss Powell, 75.

This song, the adjudicator said, showed up the instrumental imperfections of a voice, and one had to be a real singer to get down to it. It needed gentle rhythm and sometimes the cradle was turned upside down by the singers. Miss Pilcher was "up against it" as far as diction was concerned but she had a voice very pleasing to listen to—clear and resonant. She must, however, use her voice more as a musical instrument. Miss Powell's vocal machinery was not yet equal to coping with the song.

Class 40, violin and piano duet, open: "Sonata in F Minor, Op. 28 (last movement)" (Mendelssohn).—1, M. Horn and Miss Mariner, 83; 2, The Misses Beich, 85.

The performance of Mr. Horn and his accompanist was infinitely more mature than the first, was the comment. It was very artistically played. The Misses Beich showed a good rhythm sense and there was a certain amount of emotional intensity, but the whole seemed inadequate.

TUESDAY.

Elementary School Choirs.

Class 6, girls and boys junior B: "Sheep Shearing" (arr. C. Sharp).—1, Holy Trinity Mixed, Ramsgate, 86; 2, Hereson Girls, Ramsgate, 85; 3, St. Lukes, Ramsgate, 84. New Cross-street, Margate, and Hereson Infants, Ramsgate, 83; Draper's Mills, Margate, 82.

Mr. Greene, the adjudicator, said all the children were very good. Holy Trinity had a fine big swing to the rhythm and the words were capital; they were a jolly lot. Hereson girls started full of smiles and improved as they went along. St. Luke's were a nice cheery lot and he liked them very much, the rhythm and words were very fair. New Cross took the song too slow and lost the rhythm somewhat, they were also too staccato and the words rather disappeared. Draper's Mills had lots of "go" and the tone was beautiful but they were not always quite in tune. Hereson Infants had a very nice pace, the rhythm and words were good but they were rather out of tune.

Class 7, girls and boys infants: "Lavender's Blue" (traditional).—1, Holy Trinity Mixed, Ramsgate, 87; 2, Draper's Mills, Margate, 86. Christ Church, Ramsgate, and Hereson Infants, Ramsgate, 85; Ellington, Ramsgate, 84; Broadstairs Girls, 83.

It was hard to judge between these classes, said the adjudicator. Holy Trinity were very good indeed; they were as neat as a daisy and sang as one woman, with no ragged edges. Draper's Mills gave an excellent performance, the words were good, the choir were well together, and they looked nice and happy. Christ Church gave a neat performance, with clear words, but were a little too anxious. Hereson Infants had good rhythm and the words were good, but not so clear as some of the other choirs. Ellington sang happily together but once or twice dropped the rhythm. Broadstairs had a nice sweet tone but were a little ragged as regards rhythm.

Class 5, schools entering for the first time: "Barley Break" (Brewer).—1, Draper's Mills A, Margate, 87; 2, St. Laurence, Ramsgate, 86; 3, Garlinge, 85; 4, Draper's Mills B, Margate, 79.

The comments of this class were that Garlinge were just a little slow, but had good strong, fresh voices, and a fine hold on the rhythm; the intonation was good and they kept well together. Draper's Mills A should also have had a little faster pace but they had capital rhythm and every eye was on the conductor. Draper's Mills B were out of tune but had very good rhythm. St. Laurence had the right pace and a right idea of the song, but should take care of their consonants.

Class 3, boys junior A: "Caesar" (Martin Shaw).—1, Garlinge, 88; 2, St. Peter's-in-Thanel, 86; 3, Salmestone, Margate, 83; 4, St. Augustine's, Ramsgate, 80.

Garlinge sang the piece as a really fine match with a good conductor; the words were excellent, but the consonants should have been twice as strong. St. Peter's were also very good, the rhythm excellent except for a tendency to hurry a bit in one part. Salmestone had a good tone but did not appear to be enjoying themselves; the rhythm was not really alive; St. Augustine's were rather too flat.

Class 4, girls junior A: "The Lamb" (Walford Davies).—1, New Cross-street, Margate, 90; 2, Broadstairs, 88; 3, Thornton-road, Ramsgate, 85. St. Augustine's, Ramsgate, 84; Garlinge and St. Luke's, Ramsgate, 80; St. Peter's-in-Thanel, 79; Minster, 78.

New Cross-street were really excellent and absolutely lost in their picture. It was obvious all loved the song and their faces were a pleasure to see. Broadstairs were also very good, with delightful singing, but should have shown more light and shade; there was capital intonation. Thornton-road sang affectionately; the intonation was once or twice at fault; the words were clear and they had just the right idea of the song. Very pretty indeed was the singing of St. Augustine's; they used the words just right, but were a bit slow and out of tune. Garlinge were also slow and out of tune, and St. Luke's could not quite get the right pitch although they had good voices. St. Peter's also dropped their pitch very early but all the words were heard. Minster evidently did not hear the piano and got off the key. Their voices were good, but the children struck one as being nervous.

Class 1, boys (senior): "Christopher Wren" (C. Taylor) and "We be Three Poor Mariners" (arr. Somervell).—1, Ellington, Ramsgate, 86, 85 (171); 2, St. Peter's-in-Thanel, 85, 85 (170); New Cross-street, Margate, 84, 85 (169); St. Saviour's, Westgate, 84, 84 (168); Salmestone, Margate, 82, 82 (164); St. Augustine's, Ramsgate, 80, 81 (161).

Both jolly songs, remarked Mr. Greene, but there were no smiles among the boys. Ellington gave a very neat performance and were always on the spot; in the second song there was good rhythm and the words were capital. St. Peter's were quite good, their words were distinct and there was good rhythm; could have given a better performance if they had put more life into it. New Cross-street had good rhythm and the tone improved as they went along. St. Saviour's needed to cheer up; they sang well and had the best pace in the first song; the pace in the second song was good also, but stronger consonants were wanted. Salmestone were monotonous and not lively enough. St. Augustine's were not quite even and the tone quality was not good.

Class 2, girls (seniors): "May Dew" (Sterndale Bennett) and "What the Nightingale Sings" (Dobson).—1, Hereson, Ramsgate, 80, 84 (170); 2, Broadstairs,

83, 86 (169). Ellington, Ramsgate, St. Peter's-in-Thanel, and New Cross-street, Margate, 84, 84 (168); Minster, 83, 83 (166); St. Luke's, Ramsgate, 82, 82 (164).

Comments: Hereson sang very sweetly, with a gentle touch and simplicity; the second song was not interpreted as well as the first. Broadstairs were too fast at the start of the first song, but on the whole the words were good and the tone nice. Ellington had a pure tone, but it was not sweet enough. The pace was too fast of the St. Peter's choir, and although the tone was nice there was not much character in it. New Cross-street did not appear to enjoy their singing, but it was a neat and sweet performance. Minster got the pace right in the first song, the words were good, but the intonation was weak. St. Luke's sang too fast in the first song and their singing was timid.

Class 8, eight singing.—1, Ellington Boys, Ramsgate, 86; 2, Ellington Girls, 84.

In the first test the boys kept the key sense from beginning to end; the second test was harder, but they had one or two good leaders who saved the situation. The girls did the first piece very well, but in the second were timid and their leaders did not lead them home, said Mr. Stephenson, the adjudicator of this class.

Class 38, pianoforte duets under 16: "Romance from Suite" (M. Lee).—1, J. Elliott and M. Clark, 84; 2, E. Page and J. Martin, 82; 3, Abbottsford B, 81. M. Perosino and M. Kenyon, 80; D. Smith and Eric Bishop, 72.

All were too "ladylike" in their playing, said the adjudicator; the winners were most successful in one difficult passage.

Continued on Page Fourteen.

Unfortunately, page 14 was not kept!

In 1934 the Adjudicator was H Plunket Green, a bass singer well known in his day. He had come at short notice, in place of another adjudicator who was ill. He wrote to Miss Raven afterwards to say he had had "... a ripping time".

1934

Telephone
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May 18. 1934.

Dear Mrs. Raven
I must thank
you for the very fine
in that delightful
house. I could not
imagine a more
pleasant way of "di"
a festival. Eugene
was so happy - (so) - lucky
in its real sense &
anyone in the very best

of temper. I expect you
are pretty tired of now.
I was on foot as a saying
thanks to you. I had
a ripping time. It was
a very business sort of
back into horses.
I can tell you.
Ever yours
Dorothy Penn

1936-1939

In **1936** classes for Boy Scouts' Choirs are mentioned, and Piano Solo (any age) appears for the first time. The piano classes must have flourished, because in **1938** Harold Craxton, a well-known piano adjudicator, came for these classes. Classes in Choral Speaking were discussed in committee.

In **1939**, Thomas F. Dunhill, who had adjudicated the Choral classes back in **1925**, returned as Piano Adjudicator. In the meantime he had composed a set of piano studies "The Wheel of Progress", which are still used today.