

Composed own school hymn

WHEN parents attended the Etonbury Secondary School speech day at Arlesey recently they had the first opportunity of hearing the children sing their own hymn, which was written and composed by two members of the staff.

Mr. D. H. Horsler, who teaches English and poetry at the school, wrote the words for the hymn, and the music was composed by Mrs. I. Perkins, who joined the staff about a year ago.

The children will sing the hymn on special occasions, such as beginning and end of terms, and the headmaster, Mr. R. N. Alexander, thought that the speech day was an opportune moment to introduce it to the parents.

We take this opportunity of introducing it to our readers.

ETONBURY

O Lord our God may we assembled here
Live by Thy truth as year shall follow year;
May there be worth in all things that we seek,
May there be charity in all we speak.

We have a heritage from those before
Who laboured here and now we see no more;
We in their stead, by Thy great will are set
To make that heritage e'en greater yet.

And as we follow them among life's way
There is, O Lord, but one thing that we pray:
Grant us that our example by Thy grace
May be a light to those who take our place.

Thus, down the years, we form a binding chain;
Each is a link, and each must bear the strain
That, at the end, united we may be
A brotherhood, whose cause is serving Thee.

TEACHERS WROTE SCHOOL HYMN

A SCHOOL hymn written by English master Mr. D. H. Horsler, set to music composed by Mrs. I. Perkins, music mistress, concluded the official part of Etonbury School, Arlesey, speech day on Friday.

This was the first time the hymn had been used on an official occasion, although the school was very familiar with it.

Presentation of prizes was made by Miss B. S. Briggs, Principal of the National Training College of Domestic Subjects. She praised the immaculate way in which the building was kept, saying that it seemed only to have been in use for a few weeks.

She gave the children three

standards by which she said they should live. They were truth, by which she meant honesty in everything; beauty, even in humdrum everyday matters; and goodness, which she thought was already a characteristic of Etonbury pupils.

The headmaster, Mr. R. N. Alexander gave a report which showed that progress had been good despite the shortage of staff from which the school has been suffering. He emphasised the need for each pupil to make the most of whatever opportunities were offered them.

A GREAT FUTURE

"No school is free from imperfections," he said, "but Etonbury is on the threshold of a great and glorious future. In the future people will say of it that this is a great school where minds are set to hallow all they find."

A vote of thanks to Miss Briggs was proposed by County Alderman T. H. Johnson, Vice-Chairman of the governors, and seconded by Valerie Gaffron, head girl.

Prizewinners were: Form prizes: 1D, Janis Crouch, David Wyness. 1C, Averil Castle, Michael Mullis. 1B, Elaine Geals, Stephen Wright. 1A, Lydia Rowland, Derek Pike. 2D, Jill Tookey, Keith Brown. 2C, Janet Hewitt, Paul Broadbent. 2B, Catherine Tooke, Geoffrey Page. 2A, Ann Woodhouse, David Groom. 3C, Carole Ransome, Michael Parcell. 3B, Margaret Ball, Ivor Page. 3A, Margaret Bilcock, Raymond Webster. 4B, Monica Forde, Max Pendleton. 4A, Carol Cousen, Graham Long.

Progress prizes: 1st year, Carol Brown, Michael Leete. 2nd year, Marie Handley, Patrick Eversden. 3rd year, Lee Houghton. 4th year, Roy Southcott.

Subject prizes: Housecraft, Sheila Robertson, Janet Rodwell. Needlecraft, Zandra Dear, Gay Goodwin. Woodwork, Victor Houghton, John Rasmussen. Music, Linda Swatton, Frederick Curson. Art, Francis Tooke, Janet Elliott, English, David Field. Mathematics, Patricia Robertson. Science, Peter French, Robert Sturgeon. History, Maureen Hanson, George Dianne Melton. Technical drawing, Adrian Dacre. Carole Cousen, Kathleen Zandra Dear, Margaret Lynn Sarll, Heather S. Geraldine Fitzp.