

FUN IN THE SCHOOL MEADOWS.

The prim old school at Froyle, if it is capable of sensation, must have felt considerable astonishment at the scenes which were enacted within its precincts on Wednesday afternoon. Accustomed to the hum of children at their lessons, with occasional noisy intervals during their playtime, its sedate atmosphere was unduly disturbed by a large number of people who visited the fete which was held there in aid of the Church funds. The main portion of the carnival was staged in a meadow behind the school, kindly lent by Mr. W. E. Andrew; but a few side-shows were held in the schoolrooms, where tea was also served. The field, which commands a glorious panorama of typical Hampshire scenery, is an ideal place for a fete in warm weather, as there is ample room and it is high enough to catch any passing breezes. The stalls and side-shows were ranged round the edge of the meadow, and in the centre was erected Maypole, and a marquee for teas and refreshments. In one corner the Alton Bion Orchestra took their stand, looking very cool and business-like in their summer uniforms. They gave a good programme of music during the afternoon, and played for dancing in the evening.

The display of Maypole dancing by children of Froyle school was an interesting and popular item. Twelve boys and twelve girls, wearing old English sun-bonnets, who had been trained by Mrs. Bygrave, one of the school staff, went through many beautiful figures with the coloured ribbons. Then there was the baby show, at which a portion of the future population of Froyle sucked their thumbs and looked astonished whilst their merits and defects were being weighed in the balance. When some of them gave expression to their resentment, the result was more impressive than elegant. They were a fine collection of babies, however, and when a door which led to the baby show was found to be labelled "wild flowers," one thought it was a peculiarly apt description of the little ones, although they are no doubt regarded by everyone as highly cultivated blossoms. But the wild flowers section was nothing to do with the baby show. It was a fine collection of countryside flowers and grasses which had been gathered together by the children. They were judged by Sir Hubert Miller, Bt., and Mrs. Parsons, and Sir Hubert was heard to remark that he had never had such a difficult task, as the standard of excellence was so high. Miss Coit had charge of the baby show, entrants in which were judged by Mrs. Quirk and Mrs. Sedgwick, jun., and prizes were awarded to the following mothers: Mrs. Blanchard, Mrs. Cain, Mrs. Lee, and Mrs. Stevens.

Altogether it was an excellent little show, and gave evidence of the careful arrangements made by the general committee, which consisted of: Mrs. Summers (chairman), Miss Coit, Messrs. T. Peters, R. C. Ridgers, W. E. Andrew, Gerald Robinson, and Mrs. Young. The stall-holders and helpers were: Treasure hunt, Mrs. Knight; sweet stall, Miss Ralfe; hat-trimming, Mrs. Castle; guessing weight of fowl, Mrs. Wilfred Andrew (fowl given by Mr. W. E. Andrew); ices, Mrs. Shurvell and Mrs. Brandall; teas, Mrs. Westbrook, Mrs. Brownjohn, Mrs. Cherrill, Mrs. Andrew, Mrs. Towers Westbrook, Mrs. Etherington, Miss Etherington; bowling for a pig, Mr. Gerald Robinson and Col. Mackenzie Edwards (pig given by the Hon. Geoffrey Parsons); fancy stall, Mrs. Sedgwick and Mrs. Parsons; gate, Mr. C. Etherington.

The winners in the wild flowers section were: Girls—1, Gwen Cresswell; 2, Molly Robinson; 3, Catherine Quirk. Boys—1, George Cherrill; 2, Jack Stent; 3, Donald Pritchard.

There were many entrants in the sports programme, which was arranged by the following committee: The Hon. Geoffrey Parsons, Messrs. G. S. Summers, J. H. Brandall, T. Knight, R. G. Broomfield, W. Andrew, L. Etherington, F. Pocock, A. Flatman, E. Hill, J. Martin, and R. Hobbs. One of the busiest members of the committee was Mr. T. Knight, who recorded the results. A splendid array of prizes for the sports and other competitions was on view, given by: Sir C. J. Hubert Miller, Bt., Mrs. Young, Mr. G. S. Summers, Mrs. Linzee, Mrs. Sedgwick, Miss Coit, Mrs. Belt, the Rev. W. Annesley, Mrs. Parsons, Mr. Vincent, Mrs. Summers, Mr. and Mrs. Castle, Col. Mackenzie Edwards, and Mrs. Stevens. The results were:—

Boys' (under 14), 100 yards.—1, a dead-heat for W. Hancock and V. Hancock; 2, Wilfred Nash. Three-legged race (boys under 14).—1, A. Ezzard and W. Hancock; 2, G. Cherrill and P. Ezzard.

Girls' (under 14), 100 yards.—1, Nancy Hollis; 2, Rosalie Le Queux. Egg and spoon race (girls under 14).—1, Hilda Blanchard; 2, Mary Fry. Girls' (under 17), 100 yards.—1, Rosalie Le Queux; 2, Kathleen Embling. Three-legged race (girls under 17).—1, Nancy Hollis and Eileen MacDonell; 2, Phyllis Batchelor and Margaret Clarke.

Lads under 17, 100 yards.—1, Peter Ezzard; 2, J. Tucker. Quarter-mile.—1, W. Waller; 2, J. Tucker.

Ladies.—Throwing cricket ball.—1, Miss P. Waller; 2, Miss R. Rawson. Egg and spoon.—1, Miss P. Waller; 2, Miss R. Rawson. 50 yards for ladies over 50.—1, Mrs. Mills; 2, Mrs. W. E. Andrew.

Men and boys.—100 yards.—1, W. Andrew; 2, J. Brandall; 3, W. Taylor. Quarter-mile.—1, W. Andrew; 2, W. Taylor; 3, J. Brandall. High jump.—1, R. Wiltshire; 2, S. Summers. Three miles.—1, W. Waller; 2, W. Taylor; 3, J. Broomfield. Boot race.—1, J. Brandall; 2, W. Pinnells. Boat race.—1, W. Taylor; W. Waller and W. Andrews; 2, T. Knight, J. Broomfield and J. Brandall. Three-legged race.—1, W. Andrew and W. Taylor; 2, W. Waller and J. Martin. Fifty yards for men over 50.—1, R. C. Ridgers; 2, A. Brownjohn; 3, G. Cherrill. Show bicycle.—1, J. Broomfield; 2, W. Taylor.

Other results were.—Hat trimming.—1, H. Gerrard; 2, W. Pinnells. Hidden treasure.—1, Mrs. Gould; 2, Mrs. Rhodes; 3, Mrs. Stewart Cox. Baby show, under 6 months.—1, Mrs. Cains and Mrs. Blanchard. Over 6 months.—Mrs. Childs. Bowling for pig.—1, —. Gildo; 2, J. Hoare.

Among those who contributed to the tea and general expenses of the fete were Mr. and Mrs. Stockdale, Mrs. Downes, Mrs. Cotman, Mr. and Mrs. Suttie, Miss M. Cherrill, Mrs. Yaldon, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. L. Knight, Mrs. Falkner, Mrs. F. Kemp, Mrs. Mackenzie Edwards, Mrs. Morse, Mrs. Netterhaven, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Westbrook.

The fete realised over £50.