



The Blue Print

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS SCHOOL, OOTACAMUND.

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CONTENTS

	Pages
1) Editorial ...	3
2) Here and there ...	4
3) Spot light on shows ...	5
4) Talks on Trips ...	8
5) Speaking on sport ...	10
6) Hobbies — Clubs and Committees ...	11
7) Le Contres — Creative writing ...	13
8) Interviews ...	22
9) Acknowledgements ...	26

EDITORIAL

The End of the year 1980.

The term began in August — with much planning and changes —

!The old order changeth.....

.....
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

Education — the new order laid stress on "Learning" rather than "teaching".

We now have vertical (or family) groupings in two main sections — the Upper School and the Junior School.

Academic tutors were appointed and have kept an eye on their own groups of 4 or 5 senior students, meeting them once a week and keeping a record of their activities. This has led to an all round improvement in Academics, sport and behaviour. We are striving for a close knit community living in amity where the personality of the individual emerges without being swamped or dominated by rigidity. Our activities have increased and hobbies and interests fostered.

Only the future will bear results of our methods — but optimism is rife, and a happy atmosphere prevails.

Lastly we wish our two outgoing X Class Students — Madhav and Batchu — a happy future.

Editor.

HERE AND THERE

New Innovations in Academics

The new method of learning for the Upper School has been quite exciting both for the students as well as the teachers. No one is "bored, Yar"

Hobbies and Interests

Introduced this year as part of the School Time Table.

What do the children think of it?

Learning through Drama

Learning [self-discipline, team-work, good relationship through Play. We have started and intend making this as part of our lives here at The Blue Mountains.

Gandhi Jayanthi — October 2, 1980

Special Assembly. Mr. Deb introduced Gandhi as a man who loved humanity; a man of principles who practised what he preached. Mrs. Tan (a guest of B. M. S.) spoke on the non-violent aspect of Gandhiji's teaching. Raghupati Raghava — sung by all.

"Abide with me" — Solo by Miss Falguni.

Silence.

Chinnan

Our school carpenter retired after 17 years.

A purse was presented to him by the School at an assembly.

Wedding(s)

Mr. Basheer (Chemistry Department) and Mr. Reddiappa both decided to find themselves brides during the summer vacations.

Both were felicitated and presented with gifts.

We welcome Mrs. Basheer Ahmed (Shakila Akka) to the B. M. S. Community.

Invitation by Rotaract — Bangalore

We took a play down to Bangalore where the Rotaract were our hosts.

We stuck to our non-competitive policy at their Drama Competition but presented our play which was appreciated by the judges.

Kanyakumari (13th — 20th October)

The whole school went on a marvellous excursion.

Read about it in the following pages.

Diwali (6th November)

A party lunch. Lots of crackers, lots of noise, lots of sparkle, lots of fun, after dinner in the top field.

Mr. Reddiappa

Our Craft Master is leaving us after 2½ years, to go back to his family — and family life. Our good wishes go with him.

SPOTLIGHT ON SHOWS

The Room No. 17 House Show

The Room No. 17 House Show was put up on the night of the Sixth of September. It was a pleasant performance and started off with Mr. Deb welcoming everyone to the show. He was dressed like a pirate.

It started off with a scene from 'Kidnapped'. Everyone acted, including Mr. Deb, and it was a lot of fun watching how Pandit, the gallant Allan Stewart, and Prodeep fought off and killed the fierce crew of the 'Covenant', Mr. Deb, Batchu, Bala and Andrew.

Next was a poem by Pandit about a new style of clothes made out of rats' skin. etc., etc., etc and after that Prodeep was the 'Man with the Big Hat' who ended up going to Quebec on a wooden horse.

It ended with all the boys singing 'Pyjama Paradise' to the tune of Bom-Bom-Bom-Bom Bombay while pyjamas, kurtas and other clothing floated out onto the stage.

On the whole it was a good dorm show and everybody enjoyed it.

Reviewed by Ananda.

The Red House Show

November 1 — 1980.

'Mollycoddle' was a play put on by Pratap, Chetan, Toto and Arun. It wasn't a very interesting play as far as I know. Arun could have put in a little more expression.

'There's a hole in my bucket' was a very nice song but I think that Chetan could have put on a little expression when getting angry.

The song 'S O. S.' was not sung properly. Although they had a book, they stammered a little.

The Army Song was very nice. Vijay and Deena Dayal were dressed as an old woman and a school girl. They looked just their part.

The song sung by Chetan called 'The Queen of Princeland' wasn't very interesting as far as I know.

'Mama, Mia', (a song sung by the Abba group), was sung by the Red House. It was sung nicely.

That's all I have to say about the Red House show.

Reviewed by Radihka,
12 yrs.

The Yellow House Show

It was 8th November evening, when the show was staged. The show started off with a melodious Abba song played on the gramophone. The lights were suddenly switched off and when they went on again, we saw Aadore and Radhika dressed up as dancers, and they were standing in front of us. The dance called 'Candle Dance' started the show off well.

The next dance 'Kathak' was better. Only Rucha looked as if she was hurriedly dressed.

The play called 'Darby and Joan' which they performed was not clearly understood in the beginning. Afterwards it seemed clearer. The play was acted nicely. There was no expression on the actors' faces perhaps because they were supposed to be figures of Darby and Joan (dolls).

Next, an English song called "Santa's using Zebras now" was spoilt by the singers going out of tune. Yet, it was sung fairly well.

The last item, a Nepali dance, was done alone by Melaika.

Before the dorm show was over, Mr. Horsburgh was asked to give his comments about the show. Instead, he mimicked what the girls did, which cheered the audience up. Mr. David Horsburgh's mimicking made the show even better because it brought on a lot of laughs.

The girls had struggled to make it a good show and we all applauded whole-heartedly.

Reviewed by Lokesh

The Green House Show

There were eight items in the Green House show. Everyone did their parts nicely.

The first item was a Badaga dance. It wasn't very nice as they laughed while dancing. Then Ajay came out with a Nivea cream advertisement.

There was an action song by Leo and Dipesh, which was very sweet, after which came the mimicry by Kamal. He imitated noises and calls of different animals. It was very good.

There was a play called "When the Clock Strikes Twelve" all about fairies and nursery rhyme characters.

The sixth item was a Hindi song by Kamal and Vinay, which wasn't so good, after which came a play called "Five Little Golliwogs" which was nice, and the last item was a play called "Santa is Coming" in which Ahmed looked very funny as Santa, with a pillow for a paunch.

We all enjoyed the show.

Reviewed by Chetan
10 Yrs.

Farewell to the Tenth — 29 November 1980

After classes, which ended at 11 a. m. the excitement began.

The VII Std decorated the dining room with trailers of greenery and flowers; the VIII and IX classes decorated the Assembly hall with colourful buntings and balloons .. Delicious smells emanated from the kitchen whetting everyone's appetite.

The evening was a festive one. The atmosphere was relaxed, full of warmth and spontaneity, interspersed with sentiment.

The entertainment began at 6-30 p. m. with the juniors performing a folk dance — quite delightful. It ended with a staff item.

Some of the actors of both the senior as well as the junior play were extremely good.

The staff played in masks so no one could tell who was good and who wasn't — just as well!

During the speeches by Bala (Senior IX Std. student), the Headmaster, and Batchu (the senior X class student) many tears were shed specially among the little ones — They will doubtless miss their big brothers. All three speeches were meaningful, with touches of humour.

Later Madhav (X Std) entertained us by singing "Donna Donna". He was accompanied on the guitar by Mr. Deb. The song was both nostalgic and significant,

After dinner the Senior students were allowed to stay up with the staff and chief guests (Madhav and Batchu) for coffee in the staff room. Warmed by a roaring fire in the grate ghost stories were swapped.

The evening ended at 10-30 p. m.

Mona Rikh

-
1. The measure of life, after all, is not its duration, but its donation. How much will you be missed?
 2. Freedom incurs responsibility; that is why ~~so~~ may men fear it.

TALKS ON TRIPS

*Drama Trip to Bangalore**What Anando felt*

Our trip to Bangalore was quite enjoyable. The Rotaract Club members were really hospitable to us. The play went off quite smoothly though the audience was quite noisy. Bangalore is quite a pleasant place and we liked the place very much.

The other schools' plays were not very impressive though some of them were very clear in their speech. The competition was held in Bishop Cottons Girls' School. It was packed mostly with students of various schools. There were many pretty young school girls. On the whole we liked the place very much and felt bad leaving it.

Ananda Lee Tan
14 yrs

This is what Lokesh had to say

After having trouble getting up early in the morning and doing the last minute packing we hurriedly drank our milk and boarded the bus.

After a long tiring journey we reached Bangalore and were received by one of the Rotaract members. He took us to our hotel. After a nice wash we went to the Rotaract Club and saw some of the Junior Rotaract members perform some charades.

After our dinner we went to see the stage on which we were going to perform. It was a very large stage.

The next morning we had a word rehearsal of the play and again went to see the stage. However it was not what we wanted.

We then entered our dressing rooms and we changed up. A make-up artist came to do our make up and it was so good that nobody could see through our disguise.

When our play started the audience were very restless and therefore began to talk. It was a poor audience. Our voices could not be heard.

After our play we sat down among the audience and saw the rest of the plays. The best play (as chosen by the judges) was St. Joseph's play called "Ali and the Cobbler".

The rest of the day we spent by going around and looking for things to buy. Slowly the night went by.

The next morning, getting up hurriedly, we changed up quickly, boarded the bus bound for Ooty. We arrived in Ooty just in time for the evening prep.

Lokesh
13 yrs

Our Excursion to Ernakulam, Trivandrum and Kanyakumari

We left school on the 13th of October, after an early lunch, on foot, and to the station. Our train was late, so we took the later one which left before the early one which was late. On the way we came across 15 tunnels, beautiful scenery and 119 bridges. At Coonoor they attached another bogie, and we were a little less crushed. The journey to Mettupalayam was long and tiresome and everyone was crushed up.

We reached Mettupalayam at 5-35 and had our dinner and left by the 9-30 p. m. train to Ernakulam, which we reached at 7-00 a. m. We had our breakfast at a hotel. We came back, changed, etc. Then we waited in the bogie which was shunting up and down the station. Some did nothing others played cards, others told jokes or counted carriages of passing trains.

At last we set out. We went around Willingdon Island and saw an air port, an air base, some ships (while crossing the bridge) and many factories. We came to the mainland and stopped at a Jewish synagogue and had our lunch. We then purchased some things and then saw some churches. One had pretty ornaments and chandeliers and the other had old palanquins and paintings.

Then we took a ferry ride across the sea back to Willingdon Island where the bus came by the bridge and took us back. We then went around shopping, and had tea at Suresh's house. Later we left for the station.

We waited there and then went back to the hotel for dinner. We came back and left by the 11-30 p. m. train for Trivandrum, which we reached in the morning at 5-00 a. m. and changed trains for Kanyakumari.

At Kanyakumari we went to Vivekanandapuram. The lodge we were staying at had nice baths. Then we went for breakfast and had upma. Then most of us went to the beach with Mr. Malik, Mr. Deb and Mrs. Tan. We collected shells, went in the water and made a man with a sack of shells very angry. We then went to the canteen for lunch.

Later we went to the Vivekananda Rock, which was nice. When we came back we found that Rajesh was missing, and after an hour's hullabaloo we found him at the lodge! We then saw a temple and a Gandhi Memorial.

Next morning we went swimming and then had lunch. We went by bus to the station and caught our train back to Trivandrum. We had dinner there and went to sleep in the bogie.

In the morning we went to Kovalam beach and had a good swim. We then returned to the station and set off for Ernakulam.

At Ernakulam we had tea and left in the evening. We reached Mettupalayam and went from there to Ooty by bus. On the whole we had a nice enjoyable trip.

Chetan 10 years

SPEAKING ON SPORT

On the 11th of October we had a friendly six-a-side football match against Hebron School. Mr. Deb and Mr. Rajan played. They won by one goal. They put up a good game.

On the 22nd of October a friendly basketball match was played against Lawrence School. Both teams were of 13 - and - under age levels. It was a good game. We won. 78 — 34.

On the 23rd of October a basketball game was played against Hebron School Intermediate team (under 14). It was a tough match. We lost 22 — 25.

On the 13th of November a friendly table tennis and chess match was held against Hebron School. It was an exciting evening. The table was arranged in the Assembly room with a floodlight over the table. Everything seemed professional except the atmosphere which was full of camaraderie. We won 4 out of 5 matches in table tennis and lost all the chess matches. Batchu, the captain, won both his games. The table-tennis and chess players on our side were Batchu, Jaishankar, Ananda, Rajsekhar, Andrew, Krishna Kishore and Vijaykumar. After the matches everyone joined in to play table tennis, including Mr. Deb and Mr. Taylor. Later the Hebron boys had dinner with us.

On the 14th of November our Juniors beat the Hebron juniors at basketball 45 — 34. It was a well - played game.

In November again, the Junior Girls team from Hebron School came to play our Junior boys at basketball on our Court. It was a well - contested game and eventually we won. Later the two teams mixed - up and played another game,

Ananda
14 yrs

If you think you are beaten, you are.
If you think you dare not, you don't
If you'd like to win,
but you think you can't,
It's almost certain you won't.

HOBBIES — CLUBS & COMMITTEES

My favourite Hobby

My favourite hobby is collecting coins.

I collect coins from all over the world. I keep them in envelopes. On the envelopes I write the name of the country, so that when I want to put some more coins in my collection, I see the name of the country and put it in the envelope. I have already collected about two thousand coins. Most of my coins are from England (200), America (211) and Saudi Arabia (361).

Sometimes I have coins of the same type. Then I exchange coins with my friends who collect coins. I cheat them. I give them common coins and take nice rare ones! But sometimes I am also cheated by them in return!

Satyajit Lahiri.

Piano : Ananda :— It's quite interesting and at the same time it's difficult. I am learning by myself with some help from Mrs. Rikh. So far I have more or less learnt the scales and can play a few short notes. Now I am trying to play the scales with both hands simultaneously.

Bee-Keeping : Bala & Mohan :— It is extremely interesting and at the same time the stings hurt quite a lot. We know a good deal about bees. It is very interesting watching the bees. Still we are a bit frightened of getting stung by them. This term we saw just the honey-combs. Next term we would have all facilities for examining the brood combs. We thank Mr. Scott and Mr. Deb for getting us interested in this hobby and for helping us in many ways.

Aquarium-Keeping : Prodeep & Rajendran :— First we studied the Anatomy of the fish and also its habits.

Our first attempt was unsuccessful, because the new fish we introduced had some disease and infected the tank. We have started again and hope our efforts will be successful.

Classical Guitar : Rupert :— (Had nothing to say !)

Aero-Modelling : Lokesh :— (Still waiting for Balsa Wood. Better luck next term, Lokesh)

The Nature Club — a report

We had five or six meetings this term. We have only eight members this term. Madhav Pandit was elected President for the term and Prodeep Roy, Secretary.

Club members went on an outing to Pykara one Saturday. We were very lucky to see a pair of mongooses which were low, sleek and black over-all but for bright orange-yellow chin and throat. The male was the brighter. The pair frolicked by the river side but stayed away from the water. Five minutes later two huge antlered sambhars came bounding down the hill and almost came upon our camp! They suddenly swerved away and down the path, leapt into the stream and bounded across to disappear into a "shola". It took us all a while to recover from the beauty and the fearful thrill of the encounter.

In October the school excursion to Kanyakumari was opportune for Club members, who programmed to collect specimen. Soon after our return an exhibition was organised in which numerous shells (identified and labelled) and various sea weeds, etc. were displayed. Everyone seemed to like the exhibition.

Small fish caught at Pykara were introduced into the Aquarium which already had some "gambusias".

Balasubramaniam and Mohan, non-members and guest-speakers, gave the Club an excellent, illustrated talk on bee-keeping; one evening.

B. Narayan Deb,
Club Adviser.

Mess Committee

We had two meetings this term. This term the Mess functioned without any disturbance. The quality of food has improved very much. We thank Mr. Scott, the Mess Manager, for this. I thank Mr. Deb, Mr. Scott, the staff and students for their full co-operation.

Basheer Ahamed
(Mess Convener)

Games Committee

During this term, the Games activities were very much improved. We introduced the ladder system in Table Tennis for juniors. It helped the juniors to improve their play. We had four Basketball matches against other schools and out of that we won three. We had Table Tennis matches against the Hebron School and won. The students have improved in Basketball and are very enthusiastic. We thank Mr. Rajan for his effort in improving the Games activities. I thank Mr. Deb, the students and staff members for their full co-operation.

Basheer Ahamed,
(Games Convener).

LE CONTRES – CREATIVE WRITING

My Excursion to Kanyakumari

We went for an excursion.
 Here's a description:
 First we went to Mettupalayam,
 Then we reached Ernakulam
 In a train.
 And everybody was hungry
 So they ate some healthy grain.
 Then we had our breakfast,
 Then we had our lunch.
 Everybody went around
 Munch, munch, munch.

 When we reached Trivandrum
 We got into another train.
 When we reached Kanyakumari
 Everyone said 'hip, hip, hurray!'
 We got onto the bus
 And reached the Lodge in a rush.
 Then we had our bath
 And walked down a path.
 The teachers said we were getting thinner
 So we had an early dinner.
 We got up in the morning
 And everybody was strong and jolly.
 We went to the beach
 And saw the big sea.
 We collected some shells
 And came back quite thrilled.
 Then we went to Vivekananda Rock
 Which was near the dock.
 Then we went to Trivandrum
 And a beach called Kovalam.
 Later we went to Ernakulam.
 Again
 In a fast train
 We went to Mettupalayam,
 Then came to Ooty
 Again.

Rucha
 10 years

Saturn the Rainy Planet

As there was no place on Earth for the people to stay in the year 2015 people were sent to other planets to live. By chance I was sent to Saturn. It rained and rained and rained. The whole of Saturn was green and full of flowers. The sun only came out once in ten years. It stayed only for an hour and then all the people rejoiced.

One day in my Class we were doing Science. Our teacher was explaining something that interested us. She was telling us about the sun and that it was going to come out that day. All of us were excited because we had seen the sun when we were only two and we didn't remember quite well. We were all impatient.

After a while something golden came out slowly. We all rushed out of the school building. Soon afterwards the sun came out glistening and bright. We had never seen such a brilliant sight before. It looked as if a golden carpet was spread on the sky.

After some time my teacher asked which of us would like to go on a trip to Earth, and stay there. Everyone volunteered. My teacher asked our class computer who should go and I was chosen. My classmates, except my best friend Ann, got jealous and locked me up in a big room made of iron. My shouts could not be heard. I sat down and wondered what to do. Just then my friend threw down a rope through an open place with bars. I then climbed up and squeezed out through the gap. It was time to board the spaceship. Just then my teacher asked me if I would like to take someone with me and I took Ann immediately. We set off and reached Earth within one month.

We then met our parents and told them everything. They were so happy that they hugged and kissed us many times. We then went home and had a nice time watching the sun every morning.

Radhika,

12 yrs

I was a Piece of Cloth

Once upon a time there was a cotton plant. Then the plant had flowers, and I was born. Some people came and plucked me and took me to the factory. When I became a cloth I was sent to a cloth shop. Then a man came and said that I looked very nice. I was very happy. He bought me for Rs. 80/- and gave me to a tailor. In a week I became a lovely shirt. The man paid the tailor Rs 50/-. He wore me and said that he was very thrilled.

A year passed. Then I was torn. The man gave me to his servant. The servant wore me for some time. Then he used me as a rag. By then I had become very old and he threw me out. Some rag pickers came and picked me up. They used me and later threw me out in the street.

This morning the sweepers swept me along with all the rubbish, and now they are setting fire to all of us. I am dying

C. Rajashekar Rao,

11 yrs.

Flowers

Flowers are beautiful, they are,
 they are,
 they are,
 Red roses to look at and pink
 Ones to smell.
 Lotuses would look great along
 The riverside.
 Daisies would look good in our front gardens
 Violets and sunflowers and touch-me-nots,
 All ready for the countryside
 And Butterfly weeds always next to butterflies
 Flowers are beautiful, they are
 they are
 they are.

Satyajit Lahiri
 10 yrs.

The Little Star

Little star,
 Away so far,
 Twinkling in the light;
 Up so high,
 In the sky,
 Shining ever so bright.
 In the sky,
 I see you fly,
 Twinkling in the night;
 You look a speck
 In the sky's starry deck,
 Shining ever so bright.
 Like a little diamond
 Flying without a licence
 Twinkling in the night;
 Oh, little star,
 Away so far,
 Shining ever so bright.

Chetan
 10 years.

Creak in the Wooden Paneling Door

One day I was reading a book in my wooden house. My mother and father had gone for a party. I was alone at home. I felt sleepy and went into my room to lie down. I got in to my bed.

Suddenly I heard footsteps on the floor. I could make it out by the sound for it went creak, creak. I got scared. I could hear the footsteps near my room. It stopped for a while and then I heard it again.

Then slowly my room door opened.

I couldn't see anything for a moment. Everything was dark. Suddenly I saw two eyes and white teeth. The figure slowly moved and came near my bed and jumped on my bed. I screamed and switched on the light. There, near my bed, was my dog.

The Lost Kitten

Once as it was raining, I heard a noise. I put on my raincoat and went outside to see what it was. There I saw a kitten lying on the grass. It was shivering. I felt very sorry for it. I took it to my house and asked my parents if I could keep it with me. They said yes. I took it to the kitchen and gave it some bread and milk. I liked it very much.

The next day I went to school. When I came back my mother said that the kitten was lost. I searched for it everywhere.

The next day I didn't go to school. I searched for the kitten the whole day. Then I told my mother and father about it. "Oh, forget it" they said. But I couldn't forget it. I looked for it in my friends' houses and in the garden but I couldn't find it.

The kitten was lost.

Anupama
8 yrs

What they Like Best

The duck likes worms best of all.
The cat likes milk and fried fish.
The cow likes to eat hay.
The bee likes to sip honey.
The dog always likes bones.
The boy likes bread and milk.
The owl thinks that mice are nicer than worms.

Dipesh,
7 yrs.

Sounds I Like

I like the sound of birds singing,
And the bells ringing,
Rivers flowing,
And Mr. Wind blowing.

I like the sound of bees buzzing,
And the cock crowing,
Rats squeaking,
And doors creaking.

I like the sound of water falling,
And carpenter's sawing,
Lions roaring
And kitten mewing.
These are the sounds I like,
I do,
These are the sounds I like.
I like the sounds of owls hooting
And trumpets tooting ;
Rivers roaring
And water falling.

I like the sounds of cats meowing
And dogs barking,
Cows mooing
And elephants trumpeting

I like the sounds of leaves rustling
And birds singing ;
Ducks quacking
And people whispering.

These are the sounds I like
I like
I like,
These are the sounds I like.

Anisha,
10 yrs.

Work of a Farmer

Do you like farmers?

If you don't I do.

A farmer is a man who farms.

He works hard on his field everyday.

First the farmer ploughs the land with the help of a pair of bullocks.

Then he sows the seeds. Then he covers the seeds with soil.

After some days he irrigates the field. When it is time to harvest the crops he cuts the crop and takes it to the store-room. There he threshes the crops with the help of a pair of bullocks. After threshing he separates the husk from the grain.

Farmers are very hard-working.

They don't only feed the family.

But they also feed the whole country.

Melaika

8 yrs

Tusks

Summer is the time to go on an excursion, especially if you are going into the woods. Our school arranged to take us on an excursion to the nearest wildlife sanctuary - Mudumalai.

It was 10 a. m. when we got on to the bus, which was late. It is an unusual thing for the bus to be early. We got to a Shikar Lodge which the school had arranged for our stay. It was a really beautiful place to be in. It was probably the best place I had been to and so had the others. But there was one drawback - we had one of the worst Masters as our escort. Boggy, as we called him, was a big fat man. His height was 6 feet 2 inches.

As soon as we got there we wanted to change into shorts and T' shirts as it was very hot. Boggy did not allow us to do so. The reason he gave was that we might get "stung" by snakes or get poked by thorns when we got into the underbush. If shorts were worn they would not offer protection from those factors. We wondered whether such a seemingly impossible thing would occur as being bitten by snakes. To go into the underbush itself was doubtful. But strangely enough Boggy allowed us to go swimming in the nearby river or stream. Stranger still he himself got into the water and was soon swimming powerfully. Now we became much more jovial and merry. He was not the same old Boggy at school, huddled in an armchair, at a teacher's desk in a stuffy classroom. In fact, we really started liking him.

At about 5 p. m. in the evening we both took a picnic tea outside the Shikar Lodge. Boggy was an ardent birdwatcher, took his binoculars along with him. I accompanied him also, as I too was interested in birds. Both of us walked some distance till we came to a huge tamarind tree beside which were scattered a few salt licks. There was also a faint gurgle which, upon investigation, proved to come from a waterhole. This was an ideal spot for both birdwatching as well as observing animals. So we took our perch on the tamarind tree beside each other.

We watched through the green leaves that covered us from vision from the outside. Then we heard a twittering noise coming from a nearby branch. To our utter disappointment it turned out to be only a male sparrow trying to attract a female. We had better luck next time as we saw a few rare specimens among which was a type of kite.

We sat on our perch until sunset and then we got off and started walking towards the Shikar Lodge. It was already fast getting dark. So we had to use a torch to find our way.

The path that we had taken to come to this spot was rather long so we took some short cuts. We were not afraid of losing ourselves as we knew that if we walked straight on we would reach the road. Once we reached the road it would be a simple matter to reach our lodge.

We soon reached the road. It was then that the rendezvous happened. Summer time is not only the time when an excursion into a wildlife sanctuary is enjoyable but it is also the most dangerous time to be in the forest. It is also the season when the "musth" gland of the tusker swells. The transparent, thick, evil-looking fluid that comes out of the gland makes the elephant go insane and beserk. Then it becomes what is called a rogue elephant.

As we reached near the river bank and started walking, we heard a strange rumbling which startled us. It sounded like the rumbling of stones rolling down a slope. We were scared stiff. Then we heard what sounded like the trill of a trumpet. Now we were done for.

We turned to the direction where the sound came from. Yet we could not move an inch. My legs seemed to be paralyzed. The rumbling was now more like a lorry with loose bolts and fending brakes, carrying boulders on its back. Then again we heard the trumpetting — then the crashing of trees.

Then we saw him. Huge white tusks gleamed in the light of the moon which had just risen. The rumbling was very loud now. The ground was shaking and the air was filled with a strange awful smell. It was probably the smell of 'musth'.

Suddenly my partner shouted for me to move onto the side. If it hadn't been for this there would be nothing but crushed bones, flesh and blood, for the tusker charged straight on without changing course (which he could not) and crossed the river and disappeared into the undergrowth across.

Madhav Pandit
15 yrs.

Snow

Snow, Snow,
Why do you come down so slow ?
I wait for you with my little sledge
And make a little pledge.
No leaves around
So wet the ground.
Oh, snow, snow,
Why do you come down so slow ?
When it is night
You shine so bright.
I make a snowman out of you ;
Then I don't know what to do.
Snow, Snow,
Why do you come down so slow ?
Every where
The tress so bare
With nothing to keep them warm,
Where is the little mouse
That comes to my house
And used to steal some food ?
But now he's away
I wish he could stay,
Snow, Snow,
Why do you come down so slow ?

Rucha Pathak
10 yrs.

INTERVIEWS

Madhav Std X

Sanjay : What is your age ?

Madhav : I am fifteen.

Sanjay : Why did you come to this School ?

Madhav : I always wanted to come to a boarding School ?

Sanjay : Did you know this school before ?

Madhav : My parents know Mrs. Pearce.

Sanjay : Do you like this school ?

Madhav : Yeah, I do.

Sanjay : Why ?

Madhav : I can't explain.

Sanjay : Do you like nature ?

Madhav : Yeah.

Sanjay : Do you like the teachers ?

Madhav : Yeah, because they are all nice to me.

Sanjay : How long will you continue studying ?

Madhav : Wait a minute, Let me think. Till I complete my higher studies.

Sanjay : How many brothers do you have ?

Madhav : Two.

Sanjay : How many sisters do you have ?

Madhav : I don't have any.

Sanjay : Where do you live ?

Madhav : I live in Coonoor.

Sanjay : In which part of Coonoor ?

Madhav : (thinking) Coonoor is a small place.

Sanjay : Have you gone abroad ?

Madhav : No.

Sanjay : Would you like to go abroad ?

Madhav : I don't know. A foreign country is a place where you should go for a holiday-not for a job.

Sanjay : What is your hobby ?

Madhav : I don't have any particular hobby. I like reading, keeping pets and observing nature.

Sanjay : Which teacher do you like the best ?

Madhav : None in particular.

Sanjay : What are you going to do after this school ?

Madhav : I haven't decided. And I hope that your victimizg me.

Sanjay : Yes, it is. Thank you.

Miss Falguni :

- Bala : Where were you born ? To which part of India do you belong ?
- Miss Falguni : Karimganj, Assam.
- Bala : How do you like this school ?
- Miss Falguni : I like it very much.
- Bala : What made you come to this school ?
- Miss Falguni : I came here for an interview and I was told all about the school by the Headmaster. The principals followed in this school are completely different.
- Bala : What subjects do you like the best ?
- Miss Falguni : I'd love to teach Geography and English.
- Bala : Have you liked it here ?
- Miss Falguni : Yes very much, especially the homely atmosphere.
- Bala : What are your favourite hobbies ?
- Miss Falguni : Music, cooking, reading and interior decoration.
- Bala : Do you like to read books ?
- Miss Falguni : Yeah.
- Bala : What sort of books ?
- Miss Falguni : Adventure and Classics.
- Bala : Do you like sports ?
- Miss Falguni : I don't like to take part but I like to watch.
- Bala : Do you like gossiping ?
- Miss Falguni : Maybe I'd do it without my knowledge.
- Bala : Do you dream about yourself ?
- Miss Falguni : Yeah.
- Bala : Which places in the world do you like to visit if you were given a boon ? Why ?
- Miss Falguni : Switzerland. I have read many things about Switzerland and I am fascinated.
- Bala : Have you been abroad ?
- Miss Falguni : No.
- Bala : How do you like the staff of the school ?
- Miss Falguni : Some are friendly, some are reserved.
- Bala : Do you like Ooty ?
- Miss Falguni : Yeah.
- Bala : Have you taught in any other school ?
- Miss Falguni : No. This is my first experience.
- Bala : Any plans of continuing your studies ?
- Miss Falguni : Yeah.

Bala : Do you like the students of the school ?
 Miss Falguni : Yes. They are very friendly and affectionate.
 Bala : Thanks for the interview.
 Miss Falguni : Thank you Bala.

Interviewed by Bala.
 15 yrs.

Mr. Reddiappa :

Interviewer : Where were you born ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : I was born in Neelbagh which is at the border of Karnataka and Andhra
 Interviewer : How long have you been in this school ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : I have been in this school for $2\frac{1}{2}$ years.
 Interviewer : What subjects do you like best ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : I like Maths and History.
 Interviewer : What are your favorite hobbies ? why do you like these particularly ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : I like playing games such as football, badminton, hockey, volleyball, etc. I like playing these games because after playing these games I feel thrilled and happy.
 Interviewer : What kind of books do you like to read ? Why?
 Mr. Reddiappa : Mostly tragedies and James Bond books. Because I get enjoyment.
 Interviewer : Why do you like to see movies ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : I like to see movies because I get entertainment and I learn from them. One of the things I learnt from the movies is to be very patient with students and the public.
 Interviewer : Are you short-tempered ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : I don't think I am short-tempered.
 Interviewer : Do you like gossiping ? Is this usual or unusual ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : Not very much. However, this depends on the persons with whom I am gossiping. But this is unusual.
 Interviewer : Why are you leaving school ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : For personal reasons.
 Interviewer : How do you find staff of this school ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : Most co-operative with each other, and therefore we have a homely relationship with each other.
 Interviewer : Do you think this school is different from other schools in education ? why ?
 Mr. Reddiappa : This school is different from other schools in the way of treating children and of moving with each other and the new way of teaching.

Interviewer : How did you come to know about the school ?

Mr. Reddiappa : I came to know about the school through Mr. David Horsburgh

Interviewer : Do you like Ooty ?

Mr. Reddiappa : I like Ooty very much ?

Interviewer : Have you ever taught in another school ?

Mr. Reddiappa : No, I haven't taught in any other school.

Interviewer : Thank you for the interview.

Mr. Reddiappa : Thank you for interviewing me.

Interviewed by Lokesh,
13 years.

Miss Anita :

Radhika : Where were you born ? which part of India do you belong to ?

Miss Anita : Benares, in the North.

Radhika : What made you come to The Blue Mountains School ?

Miss Anita : I believe in the new method of education.

Radhika : If a boy cheeked you what would you do ?

Miss Anita : I would tell him not to do it again.

Radhika : Do you like it here ?

Miss Anita : Yes.

Radhika : What are your favourite hobbies ?

Miss Anita : Writing poems, reading, embroidery, Knitting, Collecting sandals

Radhika : What kind of books do you read ?

Miss Anita : Hindi-Literature, Jaishankar Prasad, Nirala, Krishnamurti.

Radhika : Do you like games or like taking them ?

Miss Anita : Both.

Radhika : Are you short-tempered ?

Miss Anita : I don't think so.

Radhika : Do you like gossiping ?

Miss Anita : No.

Radhika : Do you think you bore some people ?

Miss Anita : Sometimes.

Radhika : How do you find the staff of the school ?

Miss Anitha : Some are friendly and some are formal.

Radhika : In what way do you think the school might be improved ?

Miss Anitha : By creating more interest in teaching methods.

Radhika : Do you like your girls.

Miss Anitha : I love them.

Radhika : Do you like food here ?

Miss Anitha : I like it but not the Idlies.

Interviewed by Radika,

12 years.



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