

Miss Esther Lawrence's Reminiscences

(A transcription)

Miss Bain is now the Headmistress of the Demonstration School. The School now occupies the whole of the building which was formerly shared with the College.

The Institute opened another school in the neighbourhood at the end of 1899. It has a Demonstration - Practising School very interesting and useful for the College and for Educationists generally: an experimental school.

The school grew to have about 115 pupils and was closed in 1919 when it was about 20 years old, chiefly for want of funds. Housed in a street called Challoner Street and called The Challoner St. School: the "Blue Froebel": the "Green Froebel" Miss Hope Wallace the HM; Miss Malin, Miss Brown and Miss Bell on the staff. Challoner in Queen's Gate: Miss HW d. 1927.

In 1901 Miss Yelland became H.M. She did an immense amount for the school and was much beloved of staff, children and their parents. She died in 1916, after having built up the school in numbers, and in much else.

A portrait of Miss Yelland in the School Hall at Colet Gardens; and the Children's Reading Room was furnished and equipped in her memory in the room which was formerly the College Library.

Miss Wigg who was 2nd in command took charge of the school for a couple of years, till 1918 and then became a member of St Paul's School staff. (Girls from St. Paul's will know her).

The College remained at Colet Gardens till 1921, 20 years after Madame Michaelis' inauguration it moved to Grove House and became a Residential College in 1921.

The Demonstration School began its life in a small house in Glazbury Road with 4 children: moved in 1895 to Colet Gardens. I was headmistress of the school for the 1st 4 years of its existence: the school grew from 4 to 60 in the first 4 years. Now almost 200 children in the school. Miss Boysmith for a year then for a short period Grace Lucknow, music in College: died in 1912.