Dear Miss Shackleton,

A few years ago, the students asked me whether I saw any objection to their going about in the neighbourhood without hats, and I replied that I had no objection, as I was sure that the reputation of the College for neatness and attractive appearance would be maintained.

I am afraid, however, that I am rather more doubtful now. In the first place, I did not understand that it was intended to include more than the immediate neighbourhood – I do not think it very desirable that students should go to Windsor, still less to London, without hats.

Further, the present uncertainty with regard to - shall I say “short–long?” or “long–short” hair? – is making it difficult for some students to look tidy without hats. No doubt by next term all coiffures will be either ‘short’, or ‘up’; but in any case I hope that only those who can insure neatness without hats (even in a wind!) will forgo them.

Yours sincerely

E. C. Higgins