

The Hop Leaf Gazette.

The Monthly Journal of H. & G. SIMONDS, Ltd.

Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.

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No. 10



MR. R. PAICE.

MR. R. PAICE.

The reproduction of the portraits of our "Knights of the Road" has always been a welcome feature of this journal, judging by the testimony we receive. Although Mr. R. Paice has occupied his present position on our travelling staff for only three years, it may be stated that few representatives have met with a more spontaneous and cordial welcome, or secured greater favours from a valued section of our customers. His reception in North and East Berks, which is the district he covers, has been most gratifying and it is a tribute to those responsible for his appointment that their choice proved so popular. In the face of keen competition, it is praiseworthy that Mr. Paice has gained ground in the area entrusted to him. It is also laudable that his progress from office boy at Aldershot Branch in May, 1910, where Mr. Paice commenced with the Firm, to the position of traveller at headquarters, has been gained entirely by merit. From Aldershot Branch, Mr. Paice moved to Farnborough in 1922 and thence to Reading in April, 1931.

Mr. Paice has had considerable experience in dealing with our large military trade, the groundwork of which was acquired at Aldershot. For a period in 1922 he was moved to Colchester district to assist in that area. During the concentration of four Divisions and Brigades of Cavalry at Sutton Scotney in 1925 and also during the trainings around Petworth in 1927, Mr. Paice was in charge of the depots established at those places for the ready distribution of beer to the troops.

His record of service was broken in 1915 by enlistment in the King's Royal Rifle Corps. He served in France with the 1st Battalion and was wounded at Delville Wood in August, 1916. Four months later he transferred to the Royal Flying Corps, which afterwards was renamed the Royal Air Force, and was demobilized in January, 1919. He is the holder of the 1914-15 Star, General Service Medal and Victory Medal.

Whilst at Farnborough Mr. Paice played cricket for the Branch team and has also played for the Brewery 1st XI. He is an all-round sportsman, although the demands of his work rarely permit of active participation in games at the present time.



Take a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine oft infirmities—The Bible.

EDITORIAL.

THE PRINCE'S CALL TO SPORTSMEN.

In May H.R.H. the Prince of Wales sent a message from the Headquarters of King George's Jubilee Trust at St. James's Palace to Sports Clubs of every description all over the Homeland, appealing for practical co-operation and assistance of British sportsmen in furthering the work of the British Sports and Games Association in connection with the Trust.

The Prince's message ran as follows :—

"I am confident that all games players will agree with me that it would be a fine thing if our traditional team spirit could be used to improve the chances of the younger generation—if our fellowship in sport could come to mean also fellowship in service.

"I want to suggest to you that many of those who play games and are associated for sport can help individually, in a direct and practical manner, to give every boy and girl in this country a fair chance to become fit for the game of life.

"Will you consider whether you can offer your help in one or more of the following practical ways?

"By putting your skill at the service of others, as coaches and trainers of boys and girls who have fewer opportunities of learning how to play.

"By helping some boys' or girls' club or similar organisation to develop games and sports, by supplying leaders, and, perhaps, helping with equipment.

"By making yourself jointly responsible as a club or association for some definite piece of work to help boys and girls in one of the areas where it is specially needed.

"I should like to think that some corporate or personal service of this kind were possible."

THE LANDLORD WAS "INSULTED."

A club of teetotallers from Nagyxoelles, Hungary, chose the inn of a landlord famous for his Tokay wine, for their annual meeting and ordered "lemonade all round," says Reuter. The guests were served and each man after taking two glasses fell under the table—drunk. The landlord, feeling "insulted," had filled their cups with a mixture of Tokay and brandy. "They seemed to like it, too!" he said.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales celebrated his birthday on June 22nd and we all wish him many very happy returns. Surely no holder of his great office has more deserved, and received the gratitude, love, and respect of the people. He has shown himself intensely and practically interested in the lives of the lowly placed, and his personal charm wins him friends wherever he goes. It is hard to calculate, too, how much he has done for Empire trade, for he is not only nationally but internationally minded. The Prince's recent gesture of friendship to our former foes is typical of the man, and its prompt recognition a proof of the amazing strength of his personality and prestige.

SENDING A WIRE.

A Chinese named Kan Kum promised to visit a friend, but being taken ill, sent his brother to the telegraph office to send a wire about it.

This is what he handed in: "Kan Kum can't come. Will come when can come.—Willie Kum."

SCHOOLBOY "HOWLERS."

The Spine is a collection of bones running up and down the back. The head sits on one end and I sit on the other.

General Smuts are what all the different black races are called in the north-western quarter of Africa.

Cardinal Wolsey invented motor-cars and then discovered underwear.

Sir Henry Wood conducts the Queen's Hall. He gets such wonderful music that the people cannot sit still. This is called a promenade.

Apollo was the king of table waters.

Pigsties should be cleaned regularly and disinfected. We have another life to look forward to, but animals have not, and it is our duty to make them as comfortable as possible.

The bull has a ring in his nose to show he is engaged. My sister's got one too now she is engaged.

An octopus is a person who hopes for the best.

A half caste is a black and white baby.

Geneva is a beautiful lady who sometimes rode on a white charger.

The Royal Mint is what the King grows in his Palace Gardens.

Ladies should always take tea in their hats when visiting for a short while.

NOT YET!

An evangelist, after a long exhortation, demanded that all members of the congregation who wanted to go to heaven should stand up.

All rose except one man. He appeared a calm, philosophic fellow, and withstood without wilting, the outraged glare in the evangelist's eye.

"What," cried the evangelist, "don't you want to go to heaven?"

The bland man looked blander still.

"Not immediately," he replied.

SPEED—MODERN DISEASE.

The rector of Shoeburyness, Rev. A. L. Harris, believes that people nowadays have forgotten how to rest.

In his church magazine he says:—"The business world seems to have set the pace, so that speed and pressure and hurry have become almost a disease and the tonic of the seaside holiday fails to eradicate it. There is the rush to be rich, the breathlessness of the modern commercial world, people panting after publicity. Some cannot eat a quiet meal in a tea shop unless it is accompanied by restless, barbaric, tin-canned medleys and crooners, who wail as though they were in pain."

WHAT TO DO IN A THUNDERSTORM.

When caught out of doors in a severe thunderstorm you should remember the following points. Whenever possible take shelter inside a building. Do not stand in porches, or near the opening of barns. If caught right out in the open don't stand near a tree in a thunderstorm. This is especially risky if the tree stands more or less alone. In a wood there is not quite the same risk if you avoid the taller trees. If the storm is close at hand it is foolish to go on walking. Standing upright you may be the tallest object for a mile or more round, and thus quite likely to "draw the lightning." Crouch down in any little depression in the ground so as to get as low as possible until the worst of the storm is over. Avoid rivers, ponds and even small pools. People have often been harmed by lightning when standing by water.

TRY THIS CATCH.

Ask your chum how he would arrange twenty horses in three stalls so that there is an odd number in each stall.

When he "gives it up," tell him that one horse should go in the first stall, three in the second, and sixteen in the third. You see, sixteen is a very odd number of horses to put in any stall!

BEER A FINE ANTISEPTIC.

British beer will prevent disease germs breeding and so, in time, will kill them. This has been discovered by Dr. T. K. Walker, a Manchester research chemist attached to the College of Technology. He has spent the past fourteen years studying hops and beer. He has found that beer is definitely antiseptic. Dr. Walker says: "We have devised a method of measuring the antiseptic strength of hops. This shows that, weight for weight, the humolon (antiseptic agent) in hops is forty times as powerful as pure phenol or carbolic acid in suppressing those types of bacterial growths which cause beer to turn sour. My researches show conclusively that it is largely due to hops that, from the bacterial point of view, beer is the safest drink in the world. The more bitter the hops used in the making of the beer, the stronger its antiseptic value is likely to be."

IN GREAT DEMAND.

There was a great demand for last month's HOP LEAF GAZETTE. The outstanding feature was, of course, the illustrated supplement containing the fine pictures of Mr. Louis Simonds' wedding. But I am not at all sure that I did right in placing them on art paper and in the form of a supplement. The subject was undoubtedly well worthy of being thus featured, but so many people who picked up THE GAZETTE in clubs and public houses evinced such an interest in the supplement that they took it out of THE GAZETTE and forgot to return it. Readers are still asking for more copies of last month's GAZETTE. My only fear is that its circulation will soon equal that of the *Daily Mail* for THE GAZETTE also is a "national" newspaper. At any rate, it has much to do with the "national" beverage and people are realising more and more that "Beer is Best" and that the Best Beer is Simonds'.

CHARMING PICTURES.

Mr. Louis Simonds has chosen as part of his wedding present from the staff at the Brewery some charming pictures of bird life. It was a kindly thought on his part to bring them down to the Brewery and place them in the waiting room for us all to see. There are mallards at rest, partridges with young, a Greenland falcon and its prey, teal, and ptarmigan crouching with a hawk hovering high overhead. The pictures are real works of art and wonderfully lifelike.

LAWN TENNIS.

There is a marked improvement in the play of the members of Simonds' Lawn Tennis Club and in their match with Beechwood, Tilehurst, they brought off a well-deserved victory. The heat was very great and when we "drew stumps" most of us had had enough.

One of the Beechwood members collapsed and his place was filled by a substitute. On Sunday afternoon and evening, July 7th, we spent a very enjoyable time on the fine hard courts at Grosvenor House, Caversham. We partook of tea delightfully served and later in the evening, deciding that Beer was Best, we re-invigorated ourselves by quaffing from tankards of Simonds' foaming ale. Altogether a delightful time amid delightful surroundings!

SOCIAL CLUB FLOWER SHOW.

In consequence of the Fete being cancelled for this year the Social Club Flower Show will be held at the Club on Saturday, August 24th, and the kind support of the members as usual will be much appreciated. Entry forms can be had on application to members of the Committee or from the Steward of the Club.

PROJECTED FETE POSTPONED.

Messrs. H. & G. Simonds Ltd. very much regret having to inform their many friends who supported them at last year's fête that the projected fête for this year is unfortunately postponed till next year.

It is with extreme reluctance that they come to this decision, which has been arrived at owing to the numerous public events taking place in Reading and district this summer, and also to the many calls upon their canvas by His Majesty's Forces. They hope, however, to hold an even greater and more wonderful fête on August 22nd next year, when it is hoped they may be offered the same magnificent support that they were awarded last year.

(Signed) L. A. SIMONDS,

Chairman, 1934 Fete Committee.

The following highly appreciative note appeared in *The Berkshire Chronicle* :—

A KINDLY ACT.

Messrs. H. & G. Simonds' Social Club have done a graceful thing in abandoning the fête which they had arranged in order that it should not interfere with the success of the Hospital Carnival arranged for the same day. Those who were present at the fête held by the Social Club last year will regret that they will be unable this year to participate in so jolly a function, though approving, of course, of the action taken. The officials of H. & G. Simonds' Social Club have fixed August 22nd next year for their fête, and it is hoped that other organisations will keep clear of that date as some recognition of their appreciation of the Social Club's kindly act.

ANNUAL STAFF OUTING.

ENJOYABLE TRIP TO WALLINGFORD AND SANDFORD.

The outing of the Staff at the Brewery this year took the form of a river and chars-a-banc trip to Wallingford and Sandford. At 10.45 a.m. prompt a tram left the Brewery and in a few minutes we were on board the *River Queen*, which took us to Wallingford. The sun was shining brightly and there was a cooling zephyr breeze. It was indeed an ideal day. Though so late as June 27th many mayflies were to be seen. Kingfishers shot, like shafts of azure blue, up and down the river, sandpipers were much in evidence, while wild duck, with their young, lay on the banks basking in the sun. The gentle breeze made ripples on the water; these were touched by the magic of the summer sun and transformed into scintillating silver. Gaily-coloured flowers by the riverside, beautiful birds skimming over its surface, and the river itself a stream of silver—such was the fairylike waterway along which we passed.

Arriving at Wallingford at 3.30 p.m. chars-a-banc were waiting to convey us to Sandford. Here a number of us enjoyed a bathe or a stroll round this interesting and very restful spot. And then, at 5 p.m., we entered the King's Arms and sat down to a delightful meal, prepared by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Birt.

Mr. C. E. Gough presided and having proposed the toast of "The King, Queen and Royal Family," which was loyally honoured, called upon Mr. W. H. Wigley to propose "Our Firm." Many of those present, he said, had been employed by Messrs. H. & G. Simonds Ltd. for many years and had marvelled at the Firm's wonderful growth. They hoped to see the business expand still further. (*Applause.*)

Mr. C. E. Gough, whose name was associated with the toast, replied, observing that he had seen the Firm grow from a very small beginning. And they meant to progress still further. On behalf of the Directors he thanked them for the cordial manner in which they had received the toast. They belonged to a great and good Firm and they knew it! (*Applause.*)

Mr. W. H. Davis proposed "The Visitors." They were all delighted to see Mr. Timms (Oxford) with them and their legal representative for the district, Mr. Cole.

Replying, Mr. Cole said how much he had enjoyed their excellent company and their equally excellent beer.

Proposing the health of Mr. Gough, Mr. Timms said he was sure their Chairman appreciated the opportunity of coming to Sandford as, many years ago, he used to fish there.

The toast was very cordially received and Mr. Gough, in acknowledgment, said he could remember the house 61 years ago.

Mr. C. H. Perrin proposed the toast of Mr. W. Bradford, who had organized the trip. They all congratulated him on the excellence of the arrangements and the equally excellent manner in which they had been carried out. (*Loud applause.*)

Mr. Bradford made suitable acknowledgment.

Leaving Sandford at 6.30 p.m. we arrived at Wallingford at 7 p.m., and boarding the *River Queen* again had a highly enjoyable journey home, which was reached at a late hour. There was music and song, and the time passed very quickly.

All were agreed that the outing was one of the most enjoyable on record, and Mr. W. Bradford is indeed deserving of our warmest thanks for the very admirable arrangements he made for our comfort and enjoyment.

A GREAT THOUGHT.

Lying is a sin against society and an offence against God. It attacks the very foundations of society. Men can live together and make progress only so long as they can trust one another. Civilization is based on mutual dependence.

Life without mutual confidence is unthinkable. The more flagrant violators of this trust—the criminal class—society puts behind bars. Nor does society fail to punish the liar. He who is forever making lying excuses, who is ever ready with a denial or a plausible explanation when detected in or accused of wrong-doing, soon finds himself charged with things of which he is innocent, and his denials and excuses rejected.

He has destroyed the confidence which his fellows should be able to place in his words.

The "romancer" and the chronic exaggerator soon find even their lightest word, their most moderate statement, disregarded and themselves treated with contempt more or less lightly veiled.

A NATURE NOTE.

(BY C.H.P.)

ON A BERKSHIRE TROUT STREAM.

SOME DETAILS OF A DELIGHTFUL DAY.

A TALE OF TWO MACKINTOSHES.

I do not think there is anything on this earth to compare with a day's fly-fishing on a good trout stream. It was my privilege and untold pleasure to enjoy such a day recently. A very strong north wind was blowing, the water was gin clear and in many places only inches deep, very few flies were on the water, and the conditions generally were about as unfavourable as they could be if a big "bag" was one's sole objective. But that is a very secondary consideration, so far as I am concerned. A trout stream and its surroundings hold much more than fish for me and I spent some delightful hours by this meandering stream amid the meadows. Rises were few and far between and accurate casting was well-nigh an impossibility. A fish rose away near yonder bank. He had taken up his position between two banks of weeds and had the wind not been dead against me I could have placed my fly right over his nose. However, I did my best. Swish! Swish!! Swish!!! And away goes my fly in the direction of the trout. But as it sped through the air, as if for the very purpose, an extra strong gust of wind caught the fly, with the result that it alighted on the weeds some feet above the fish. I tried to draw it away ever so gently, but the hook was firmly fastened to a ranunculus and when eventually I drew the fly, flower and all right in the fish's face, away he went like lightning. So it was useless trying for him any more. The wind forced the water into big ripples which scintillated in the sun, making it very difficult to follow one's fly. I thought I espied a two-pounder lying near the bottom and stealthily I approached within casting distance. With what I considered an extra fine effort I sent my fly within a few inches of the fish's nose and as the lure passed over him I almost trembled with excitement. Again and again I endeavoured to tempt him and, constantly casting against the strong wind, my arm grew weary in the effort. I decided to leave my would-be prize for someone else to gain. For about a quarter of an hour I had used all the skill at my command in trying to entice him to take the fly, and then, whether I disturbed him or not, I thought I would have a close-up view of my finny friend. How I had been deceived! The wind and the ripples and the sun had played me false, for the "fish" was none other than a piece of wood.

HE WHO LAUGHS LAST—

My life-long and valued friend who accompanied me laughed long and heartily, but he who laughs last laughs longest and I was determined to "make good" after such an error. I had crossed the stream and had the wind in my favour. Close to a post, driven into the water, a good trout rose. Using a long line I tried my luck. The wind took my fly about a foot further than I intended it to go. It struck the pile and, as luck would have it, rebounded, to alight in front of the trout. In an instant he had seized it, and finding out his mistake he made a bold bid for liberty in the shallow water. He leaped into the air and pounded his way upstream, churning up the water as he did so. I feared that my gossamer gut would not stand the strain. But it survived a few more of the trout's wild rushes and then I knew that, barring accidents, the fish was mine. I soon got the upper hand of him now and before many more minutes had elapsed I had in my creel a speckled beauty, in wonderful condition, and weighing just over 1½ lbs. I turned to my friend laughing heartily—and he grasped me by the hand! Another fish I landed had not heeded a previous warning, for in its lip was embedded another angler's fly besides my own.

And so the day proceeded with incidents of interest at every turn.

TEA-TIME!

When we sat down on a grassy bank to partake of a refreshing cup of tea, just above our heads were a pair of starlings popping in and out of a hole in a tree busily engaged in feeding their young. Then a little willow warbler came and sang to us ever so sweetly. But the strangest thing about this song was the fact that while singing the bird's beak was full of food. This was in the form of wriggling little caterpillars. We knew that there must be young near at hand and when the bird suddenly dropped to the ground we located the spot. There, sure enough, was the nest full of baby chicks. Again and again this little bird came along. Each time its beak was full of food, but each time it uttered repeatedly its welcome little song.

NOT SO FUNNY AFTER ALL.

Earlier in the day it rained, and my friend and I took our mackintoshes. The sky soon cleared, however, and as we did not wish to be burdened with these rain protectors we hung them on a gate. Later in the day we were highly amused at the antics of some colts. They were romping and having rare fun. They

were shaking what, in the distance, looked like sacks, and shaking them as a dog would shake a rat. We were highly amused and enjoyed the fun almost as much as our four-footed friends.

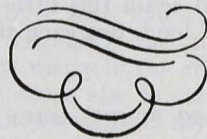
Just before reeling in for the day we went across the meadow to fetch our mackintoshes. They were gone! And we discovered later that what the colts had been playing with were our mackintoshes. They had torn them to shreds, and when we realised what they had done I can tell you their frolics did not appear half so funny as they had done earlier in the day.

PHEASANT'S UNIQUE NEST.

As I have said before, there is much more in and around a trout stream than the trout. Not far away a pheasant had selected a site for her nest which I should think must be unique. She chose a blackbird's nest which was about two feet from the ground, and having flattened it out a bit she laid in it eight eggs and reared that number of chicks. Then there was a moorhen's nest high up in a tree, and a snipe, not content with his usual wonderful aerial evolutions, went for a short descent actually upside down. Five little dabchicks scrambled out of their weedy nest and into the water directly they were hatched, and a grass snake went for a swim.

MISS MUCH BUT GAIN MORE.

Watching him I felt a tug at my line. A trout had seized my fly, but I was too late. I missed him as I often miss my fish while observing other marvels of the meadows. Yes, I miss many fish thus, but how much, O! how much more, do I gain in my ever-increasing store of knowledge concerning wild nature's ways.



SIMONDS ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB SUPPER.

PRESENTATION OF CHALLENGE VASE AND MEDALS BY

MR. S. V. SHEA-SIMONDS.

The above annual event was held at the H. & G. Simonds Ltd. Social Club, Bridge Street, Reading, on Friday, 7th June, and was a very popular function. The supper was presided over by Major S. V. Shea-Simonds and the following were present:— Mr. C. A. Newman (Berks & Bucks F.A. Council and Reading and District League), Mr. L. E. Gibbs (Berks & Bucks F.A. Council, etc.), Mr. R. St. J. Quarry, Mr. F. C. Hawkes (Chairman, H. & G. Simonds Ltd. Social Club), Mr. T. W. Bradford (Treasurer, Football Club), Messrs. F. Edwards, F. Braisher, G. Douce, L. Giles, W. Dunster, N. Taylor, W. Mortimer, G. Sayers, L. Jacobs, J. Hillier, J. Smith (Captain), P. Curtis, A. Tuttle, L. Kirby, H. Mileham, L. Harraway, H. Cooke, P. James, W. Lamb, C. Pidgeon, W. Neville, H. S. Tigar, J. W. Allen, F. Pusey, C. Josey, W. Day, F. Clarke, H. Bailey, E. R. Hamilton, S. H. Dibley, S. Parsons, H. J. Treadgold, S. Laurence, H. Wheeler, F. Kemp and J. Benford. Mr. R. Boddington (Secretary) was unable to be present owing to the illness of his wife.

Major S. V. Shea-Simonds, having proposed the toast of "The King, The Queen and the Royal Family," read an appeal from the Prince of Wales for the encouragement of sport amongst the youth of the nation and remarked that they would do all they could for the boys and girls. (*Applause.*)

In proposing the toast of "The Simonds Athletic Football Club," Major S. V. Shea-Simonds said it was greatly to the credit of the players of the club, the officials and committee, who had worked so hard. He did not wish to mention any names, it would be invidious. When they came to look at the record of the First Team: games played 26, won 24, lost 2, drawn 0; goals for 109, goals against 30; points 48, they could see they had proved themselves worthy champions of Division I of the Reading and District League. (*Loud applause.*) The second team had not done quite so good: games played 16, won 6, lost 8, drawn 2; goals for 28, goals against 58; points 14. They must not forget that the Second Eleven helped by loaning their players to the First Team and that was the right team spirit. He thought the Second Team had every reason to congratulate themselves. (*Applause.*) He noted H. Sayers, centre-forward of the First Eleven, had scored 57 goals and he humorously remarked "this sort of thing ought to be stopped." (*Laughter and applause.*) Then there was H. Tuttle who had scored 22 goals. All the players had done magnificently. He asked everyone to drink to the success of the Simonds Athletic Football Club.

The toast having been enthusiastically honoured, Mr. J. Smith (Captain) responded and said although he was captain on the field of play he would like to take that opportunity of thanking everyone who so greatly helped to bring about the happy result of winning the League. He congratulated all the team. (*Applause.*) Everyone played in a sporting manner and he hoped that they would go even one better and win the Premier Division next season. He also thanked the Second Team, who had assisted them in so many matches by filling up the gaps. He felt sure they would all pull together and continue to do their best. (*Applause.*)

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. R. St. J. Quarry, who said although that evening their visitors were few they were distinguished, viz., Mr. C. Newman and Mr. L. Gibbs, and it gave them great encouragement to have these gentlemen with them. Mr. Newman was well known to all of them, and Mr. L. Gibbs was a first-class referee. He (Mr. Quarry) saw before him a glittering array of medals and it was a great happening to them to have won those medals. Mr. L. Gibbs had shown him a medal he had had presented for being a linesman at the England v. Italy match, but unfortunately Mr. Gibbs had not brought with him the medal he had had presented by the Prince of Wales for being on the line at the recent Cup Final. The team had a most successful season and he congratulated them on their wonderful record. (*Loud applause.*)

Mr. C. Newman responded and said he had served on the Berks & Bucks Council for 27 years and been a member of the Reading and District League for nearly 40 years. He came to Reading in 1891 and had been in football ever since. Mr. Newman then gave a history of the trophy, which is known as the "Charles Fidler" Challenge Vase and was presented to the League 40 years ago. The League was then known as the Reading Temperance League but had since been renamed the Reading and District League. They now had a cup for each division, and the one for the Premier Division he believed held nearly a gallon. (*Laughter and applause.*) He was proud to think Simonds Athletic Football Club had done so well. Mr. Newman said he appointed referees for many of the matches of the League. Naturally some referees were better than others; nevertheless he considered the referees of Reading were some of the best. It was a wonderful record gained by the Simonds Athletic Football Club and he would like to congratulate them. He liked the interest Major Shea-Simonds took in the club and also the interests of football in the town. (*Applause.*) He concluded by expressing the hope they would be winners of the Premier Division next season. (*Applause.*)

Mr. L. Gibbs said it gave him much pleasure to be with them all once again. He congratulated Simonds Athletic Football Club on winning the League. They had a wonderful reputation in Berks and Bucks football and he saw no reason why they should not do even better in a higher sphere. They had a good name for sportsmanship. He expected they would want a private ground but he had no doubt that would not be too difficult to obtain when the time came. He could assure them when that was necessary he would do all he could to help them. (*Applause.*) Mr. Gibbs also entertainingly spoke of some of his refereeing experiences and incidents in connection with the England v. Italy match.

Major Shea-Simonds then presented the trophy to Mr. Jack Smith (Captain) and then proceeded to present a medal to each player.

Mr. F. C. Hawkes said a very pleasant duty had been allotted to him, namely, to propose the toast of their esteemed Chairman. Mr. Shea seemed to be just in his element. Sportsmanship was to give of their best and he liked the kindly reference to the second string, who had shown true sportsmanship. (*Applause.*) The young players of to-day were the senior players of the future. He only wished he could speak with more eloquence of Mr. Shea Simonds for he indeed deserved the very highest tribute. (*Loud applause.*) Unfortunately Mr. Shea-Simonds had not been very well for some time, but he hoped with rest and the warmer weather coming along he would soon be restored to his normal health and be there to encourage them on to any future successes for many years to come. The health of the Chairman was drunk with great enthusiasm, accompanied with the singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

Mr. S. V. Shea-Simonds in reply thanked Mr. Hawkes and them all for the very kind way in which they had drunk his health. He had always played for his side and as long as he lived he would continue to do so and especially for the football side. It pleased him to see round the tables fellows who were athletes, keen and clean. He would always do his best to promote sport and good fellowship in the Brewery. (*Applause.*)

An excellent concert was provided and the following artistes appeared:—Messrs. G. Cannings, D. Reid, S. Hinton and S. Dent.

Messrs. C. G. Parslow & Son provided the supper and an excellent repast was enjoyed by all.

An evening to be remembered!

CRICKET.

Another month of our all too short season has flown by, but from a playing point of view it has not been too bad. Out of the six matches now to be reported we have won four, lost one and drawn one. During the same period the "B" team have played five, of which two have been won, two lost and one abandoned.

The evening Inter-Departmental games will be dealt with later.

May 25th. "A" TEAM 98 v. CAMBERLEY W.M.C. 49.

This match was played at Camberley and, as seen above, we had quite a good win.

We batted first and made a fairly good start. Two for 42, then came an unaccountable collapse and the next seven wickets only put on another 17 runs. A last wicket partnership between W. Neville (13) and "Skipper" Wadhams (25) added another 39 runs, which gave us a respectable grand total. H. S. Tigar (21) and C. R. Josey (20) were the two instrumental in making the favourable start. R. Cox, of Camberley, took 7 for 38.

The Camberley side also started off well, 18 runs being on the board for the fall of the first wicket, but after that our bowlers got on top, and the full total only amounted to 49—just half of ours.

June 1st. "A" TEAM 44 v. MESS STAFF, R.M.C. 43.

Only one run divided our scores at the end of a very keenly contested game, and that was in our favour. We again travelled and played on the R.M.C. ground. By all appearances good scores should have been made, but we found C. Elsegood and R. Cox had other ideas. The former took four for 16 and the latter six for 24, and the only batsman of our side to reach double figures was L. Farrance.

Mr. Wadhams was not at all despondent and kept the batsmen in suspense by making several bowling changes, mainly at one end. Tigar had ten overs, one maiden, six wickets for 24 runs. Crutchley took one wicket and had four maidens out of five overs for 4 runs (one hit). B. Prentice carried his bat right through the innings for 19, and when W. Prentice came in for the last wicket one run was needed to make a draw. He, however, got his legs in front of a straight one and that was the finish.

June 8th. "A" TEAM 89 v. BROADMOOR STAFF 43.

Prospect Park was the scene of this encounter. We have not met Broadmoor since several seasons before the war. We found them a jolly good sporting side and were delighted to come out on top.

A disastrous start was made by us, the first wicket falling with the first ball delivered—a real corker. The next only added five and then the score began to creep up nicely. Tigar batted well and made 27. Hillier, James and Neville each added 9, and "Mr. Extras" helped to swell the total. R. Searl had a long spell of bowling and took five for 36.

Our opponents made exactly a similar start as our own, but the tale afterwards was not quite the same. In fact, only J. Willoughby reached double figures and was then out to a good catch by James in the long field. Clark, Farrance and Jelley each had three wickets. Good fielding, aided by good captaincy in making bowling changes, helped considerably in pulling off this victory.

June 15th. "A" TEAM 46 v. COMDR. H. D. SIMONDS' XI 61.

This was our first and, so far, only defeat this season. On this occasion our fielding was not up to standard, several catches being dropped at a crucial moment of the game. We had five wickets down for 19, but those lost opportunities gave Comdr. Simonds and C. Leversuch the chance to add 14. The latter made 27 and was the top weight of the side. Clark had the best bowling figures, taking four for 11.

This was not a huge total to meet, but what a start we made—five wickets were down for the same number of runs! Then Neville (7) and Crutchley (22) made a very useful stand and it looked as if we might make a fight of it. However, the remaining four wickets only put on another 18 runs. There was no outstanding bowling figures, the wickets being shared by four bowlers.

The teams were entertained to tea by Comdr. Simonds, who replied to Mr. Wadhams' thanks, by saying he hoped the matches would be continued for many years to come.

Of the eight matches played at Eversley (how time flies!), we have won three, lost four and made a draw of the other.

June 22nd. "A" TEAM 78 for 9 v. WARGRAVE "B" 31.

We entertained our friends from Wargrave on Prospect Park, and resumed our little winning ways. The visitors batted first, but were not very aggressive, no player getting above 5 runs. Tigar and Crutchley bowled extremely well, the former taking five for 6 and the latter three for 3.

J. J. Cardwell (19) and C. R. Josey (9) gave us a good start and, later, W. Neville batted well before being run out in the last over of the game when his score stood at 22.

June 29th. "A" TEAM 49 for 6 v. CAMBERLEY W.M.C. III for 8.

Here time saved us from what looked like another defeat. Our opponents had the first knock and topped the century before the fall of the fifth wicket. The next three only added 5, but were going for the runs then. Tigar had the best of the bowling figures, taking three for 23. A newcomer for the Camberley side knocked up 56 before Tigar got him. Two others ran into the double figure column.

We were left with just over an hour to get the runs, but our batsmen could make no headway against the bowling of Elsegood and Cox. This, by the way, is the third time we have met the latter and the second time against the former bowler this season, and it is quite on the cards we shall again when we meet the Mess Staff, R.M.C., later in the year.

Tigar and James stopped the rot and played out time, adding 31 runs to the score book.

Now for the "B" Team's matches. We have started to win matches and it is to be hoped that this state of affairs will continue as it is very disheartening to go on losing games one after the other.

May 25th. "B" TEAM 33 v. Y.M.C.A. 2ND XI 47.

A fairly good start was made by our batsmen, the first wicket falling at 13, the next fell one run later, then a moderate recovery, until we showed 30 for five—all out 33. H. Mileham carried off the honours with 15, followed by G. Gigg 9. Miller (four for 9), A. Bacon (three for 8) and W. Parsons (three for 16) shared our wickets.

Our score was nearly equalled before the first wicket fell and, looking at the book, it seems that Y.M. had to thank W. Parsons for his contribution of 31, for only four others made any runs.

Tozer (four for 13) and E. C. Greenaway (four for 20) bore the brunt of the bowling, while L. Hill came in at the death and polished off the innings, taking two wickets in one over without any runs being scored off of him.

June 8th. "B" TEAM 34 v. PANGBOURNE "B" 145 for 7 declared.

The match arranged for June 1st fell through, so we had a rest for a week and took twelve men out to Pangbourne on the 8th, but found our friends there much too strong on the day's play. They batted first, and, although we got the first wicket down for 6, our success ended there. A score of 56, one of 29 and 21, aided by others of smaller, though useful, amounts, swelled the total considerably. Naturally our bowlers' figures suffered correspondingly.

Our batting failed lamentably, not a double figure recorded. Fitt, of Pangbourne, took eight for 19 and that speaks for itself.

June 15th. "B" TEAM v. BARNDALE.

This game had to be abandoned owing to very heavy rain, which swamped the pitch. At that time Barndale were batting and had made 56 for three, which did not look very encouraging.

June 22nd. "B" TEAM 49 v. Y.M.C.A. 37.

A pat on the back for the boys! We have to record the first win of the season. It was a very close fight and the game was not pulled out of the fire until our last wicket partnership.

Y.M. batted first, but our bowling and fielding was good and they were all dismissed for 37. Four men were run out, which speaks well for the keen spirit in the field.

Our batting was patchy: at one period three wickets fell at the same score (17). The ninth wicket added 10 and the last one 17, so the batting honours go to W. Lane (11), E. C. Greenaway (10 not out) and Tozer, who held his end up well (9). A. Bacon took seven for 23, which is pretty good.

June 29th. "B" TEAM 98 v. SOUTHFIELD 16.

This game was played at Henley and it turned out very one-sided—quite a change for us.

We batted first and lost the first two wickets for the first two balls bowled. That was the end of Southfield's success.

Several good scores were returned, viz., W. Lane 27, W. Greenaway 18 not out, L. A. Hill 14 and H. Treadgold 11.

The bowling of E. C. Greenaway (six for 10) and H. Tozer (four for 3) was altogether too good for the opposition.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL LEAGUE.

Up to the end of June four matches in this tourney have been played. The Delivery Department seem to be the favourites as, when fielding their full team, they are quite a useful side. It is, of course, too early yet to pronounce them the winners, as there is many a slip 'twixt the cup and the team!

May 28th. SURVEYORS AND BUILDING XI 29 *v.* DELIVERY DEPARTMENT 63.

The Surveyors had the first knock, but the bowling of Tigar and Clark proved too strong and the whole side were dismissed for 29, of which A. Rice claimed 12.

This total was passed during the third wicket partnership and at the fifth the score was taken up to 55. Then there was more or less a collapse, although, of course, there was no need to fight for runs—only to swell the total in case averages should count at the end of the season. Josey (18) and Clark (10) were the top weights.

The match arranged for the following week, viz., Offices *v.* W. and S. Departments, had to be postponed owing to the heavy rain which fell during the afternoon and evening.

June 13th. REST OF BREWERY 34 *v.* DELIVERY DEPARTMENT 53.

The Delivery batted first and lost the first wicket with one run on the board. Then Tigar and Crutchley made a stand (24 and 17 runs respectively). Time was called at the fall of the ninth wicket, when the score read 53.

The Rest made a better start, the first wicket making 14; then the wickets began to tumble and it was left to G. Kelly to help the side by making 9, when he was run out.

June 20th. W. & S. DEPARTMENT 37 *v.* SURVEYORS AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT 70.

The Wine Stores took the bat and had a fluctuating innings. Up to a point they did fairly well, but the last four wickets could

only collect five runs between them. B. Nicholls took the honours with 12 runs out of the total of 37.

The Surveyors did not find runs any too easy to get: eight batsmen only made 15 runs, and they had to thank Cardwell (16), Morgan (17) and E. C. Greenaway (16) for being the top side on this occasion.

June 27th. OFFICES 29 for 8 *v.* REST OF BREWERY 57 for 5.

Either the bowling was not up to standard or something else was the matter here for neither side were dismissed in the time allotted. The Rest batted first and, thanks to Farrance, who made 29 before being bowled, and S. Higgs, who had scored 17 when time was called, were able to set the Offices a fairly substantial total to get.

James played a captain's innings and for a time he and Jelley looked like making a game of it, but a rot set in. Farrance had a big say in that matter, making the "hat trick." When time was called the Offices had only got 29 for eight wickets down.

Well, what surprises are in store next month?

J.W.J.

SIMONDS BEER

is

SUPER B

WORDS OF WISDOM.

The one who wins is the one who works,
 The one who toils while the next one shirks.
 The one who wins is the one who knows
 The value of pain and the worth of woes.
 The one who wins is the one who stays
 In the unsought paths and the rocky ways,
 And perhaps who lingers now and then
 To help some failure to rise again.

Whatever crushes individuality is despotism by whatever name it is called.

The things of every day are all so sweet,
 The morning meadows wet with dew ;
 The dance of daisies in the fields ; the blue
 Of far-off hills where twilight shadows lie ;
 The night, with all its tender mystery of sound
 And silence, and God's starry sky.
 Oh, life—the whole life—is far too fleet,
 The things of every day are all so sweet.

Do the little things as though they were big things. Then you'll be able to do the big things, as though they were little ones.

It's not the power to succeed that's great,
 Though real success is what we all admire.
 It's knowing how to fail—and then to wait
 For just another chance to get up higher.

THE COURAGE TO GO ON.

The greatest thing we need is the courage to go on
 When all the things we valued have disappeared and gone ;
 When ships we dreamed and waited for have never come to port ;
 When hopes we held within our hearts have died and come to naught.
 When one by one our friends have failed, and brought our faith to dust,
 And broken all the loyalties that we had learned to trust.
 When we have seen someone we loved deal us an ugly blow
 We need high courage then, my friend, if we're to onward go.
 We need high courage to go on when life holds only pain,
 When we lose our sight, or limbs or health we know we can't regain.
 When life goes on and throws us out as useless in the race ;
 Oh ! God, it needs high courage when a man such things must face.
 Well all of us at some time must face some unknown test,,
 Which leaps out from the dark and demands we do our best ;
 Which grips us in its clutch and will not let us go,
 How do you hope, my friend, through your great test to go ?
 Well, there's only One who'll help you, there's only One who'll stay
 And guide your stumbling feet and smooth life's broken way.
 There's only One who understands because you see He too
 Went bravely through Life's Greatest Test to be a guide to you.

GROSVENOR HOUSE, CAVERSHAM HEIGHTS.

GREAT GATHERING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.

FINE DISPLAY OF BILLIARDS AND LAWN TENNIS.

Those palatial new licensed premises known as the Grosvenor House, Caversham Heights, were opened on Friday, July 5th. The Directors of Messrs. H. & G. Simonds Ltd. had extended invitations to many who had helped in the venture, and other friends, and a large and very influential gathering resulted. There were Town Councillors and Justices of the Peace, business men and artisans and all spent a very happy time amid these charming surroundings. The guests were formally received by Commander H. D. Simonds, who extended to them a hearty welcome. Major S. V. Shea-Simonds (Chairman of the Company) was present, also Mr. Louis Simonds and Mr. R. St. John Quarry, in addition to the heads of various departments at the Brewery. All were greatly

impressed by the highly attractive and most up-to-date arrangements, everything possible having been done for the comfort and convenience of customers. Nothing but praise could be heard, and Captain A. S. Drewe, the Firm's Surveyor, who was the "General in Command" of all the arrangements, should indeed have been a happy man for many compliments were paid to him and those who helped to carry out the great work of building, furnishing, fitting and decorating the place.

The visitors were entertained to some wonderful play on the tables in the fine new billiards room, where Mr. Tom Newman gave a really great display to the evident enjoyment of the crowd who collected to see him and his opponent, Mr. Roberts, juggle with the balls, both being loudly applauded for their many brilliant strokes. Then there was some great play on one of the hard tennis courts. Here two professionals showed us how to wield the racquet. Their wonderful back-hand work, their across-the-court shots, hot returns and smashing volleys were a delight to watch. Nor shall we ever forget those "screw" shots. The players sent the ball just over the net with so much "work" on it that the ball came back over the net near to the feet of the striker! The spectators were thrilled and it would be impossible to see better tennis anywhere.

Nor must we forget the children's playground. Here the youngsters had a rare time in the swings and see-saws, and in the sand-pit. And I am very much mistaken if I did not see more than one adult indulging in a swing or having a see-saw.

Captain and Mrs. C. L. Foreman, the genial host and hostess, and their staff did indeed have a busy time. They worked like Trojans and all were well and truly served.

So much for the opening ceremony. Now for a few facts and figures concerning the building itself and its surroundings.

The particular neighbourhood was very carefully considered, and one would indeed be hard to please who is not satisfied with the new, very attractive, and substantial house that has now been provided. There are pleasant gardens, four hard tennis courts, and a children's playground, etc., in keeping with the trend for outdoor recreation. The house itself has ample parking accommodation for 80 cars, and its main features are a good billiards room, with two tables, an off-licence shop, quite separate from the public bars, a large lounge, or assembly room, with a sun parlour; also very adequate catering facilities for functions, large and small.

The house is easily accessible from the Kidmore Road, and also from the main bus route along Conisboro Avenue.

It is hoped that the people will make use of the Grosvenor House as an outdoor club, where refreshments may be partaken of in the open air, which, on a sunny summer day, will be preferable to the interior of an ordinary public house not possessing these amenities.

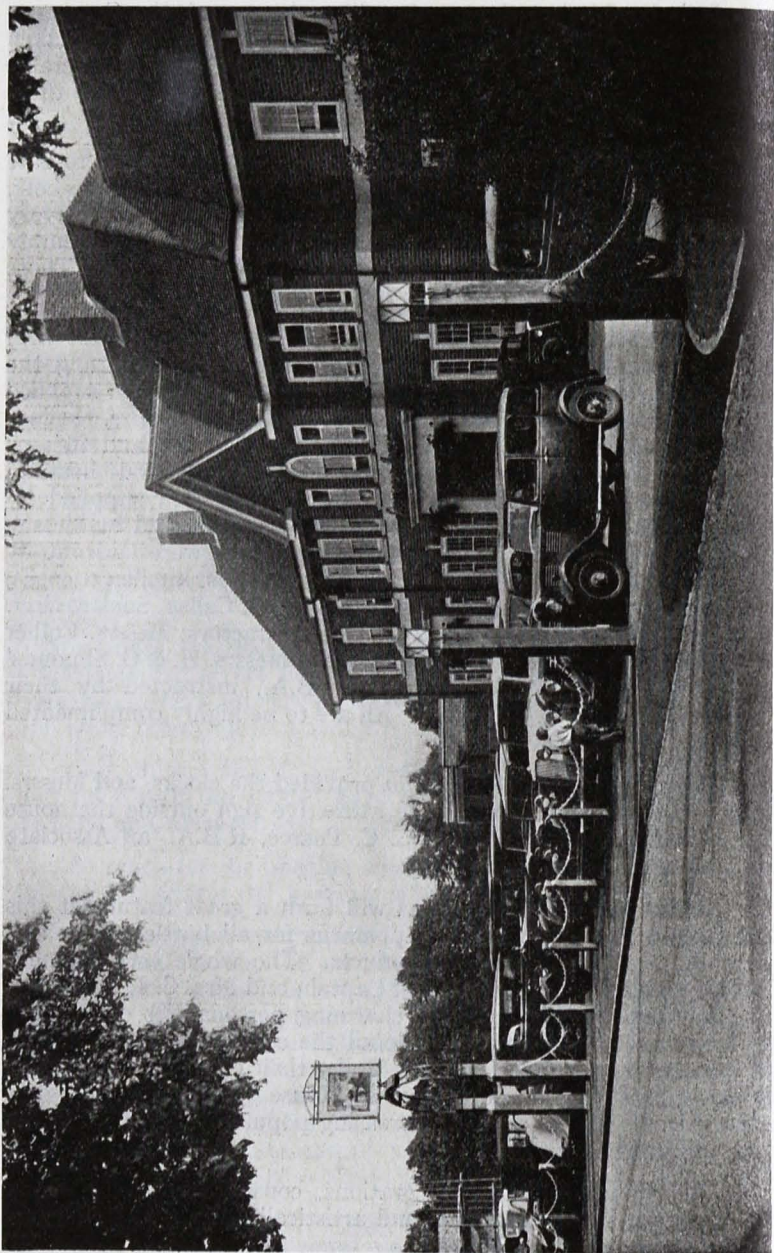
The house is specially equipped with the most up-to-date facilities for catering for luncheons, teas, dinners, receptions, etc. Up to 120 persons can be comfortably seated. Here, too, is every convenience for whist drives. There are 25 tables in the assembly room, and another eight can be provided in the sun lounge. Those fond of dancing should find a floor to their liking.

As is their custom, Messrs. H. & G. Simonds have dealt with as many local firms as possible in the matter of supplying the equipment, etc., of the house. All the curtains have been supplied by Messrs. McIlroy; carpets and some furniture by Messrs. Heelas; other furniture by Messrs. Maker, Messrs. Holmes and Messrs. Newbery. Messrs. Goodman have done the central heating. All the bar fittings and the shop front have been supplied by Messrs. Elliott, of Caversham; the pavilion was erected by Messrs. Browne & Lilly; the grounds and tennis courts were laid out by Messrs. Sutton & Sons, and the garden requisites, kitchen utensils, and sanitary fittings were provided by Messrs. Callas, Sons & May. The building itself was erected by the contractors, Messrs. Collier and Catley, under the direct supervision of Messrs. H. & G. Simonds' architect, Mr. J. J. Cardwell, A.R.I.B.A., instructed by their surveyor, Captain A. S. Drewe. All are to be highly complimented on their very fine work.

Messrs. Bracher & Sydenham provided the clocks, and Messrs. Ardon the Neon signs, while the attractive sign outside the house is the artistic painting of Mr. C. C. Pearce, R.B.A., an Associate of University College, Reading.

Snacks at the bar and teas will form a great feature at this house, and there is a cooling apparatus for all bottled beers and other of the Firm's famous products. The whole establishment will be under the management of Captain and Mrs. C. L. Foreman, and in them all will find two charming personalities ever ready to study even to the minutest detail the comfort and convenience of those who come to see them. Under their competent care there is every prospect of The Grosvenor House going from success to success, and gaining an ever-increasing popularity in this rapidly-growing neighbourhood.

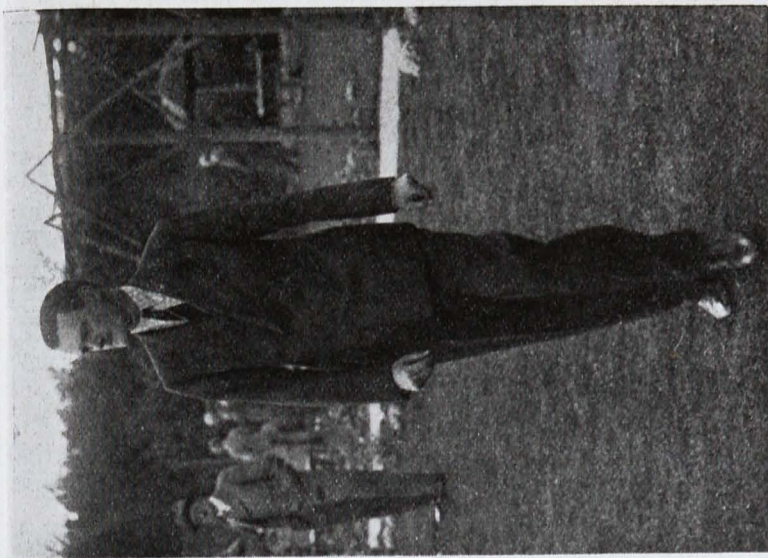
The wonderful floral decorations, consisting of very choice delphiniums, sweet peas, etc., and artistically arranged by Messrs. Sutton, were greatly admired.



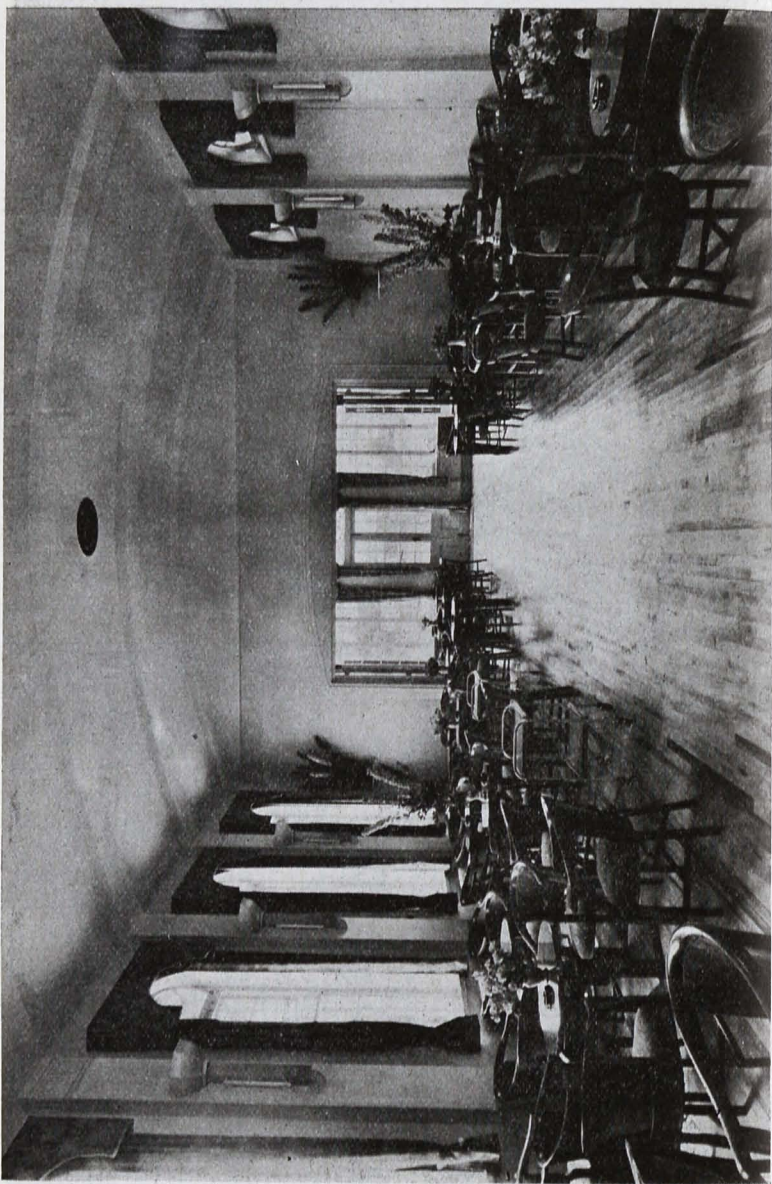
THE "GROSVENOR HOUSE."



Mr. Cardwell, the architect.



Mr. Louis Simonds.



The Lounge.



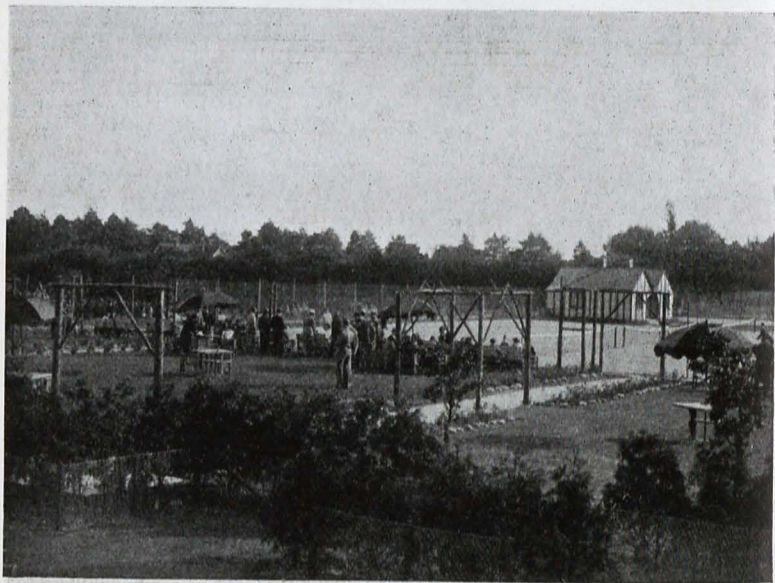
The Saloon Bar.



The Billiards Room.



A general view of the Gardens.



View of the Grounds showing the Tennis Courts.



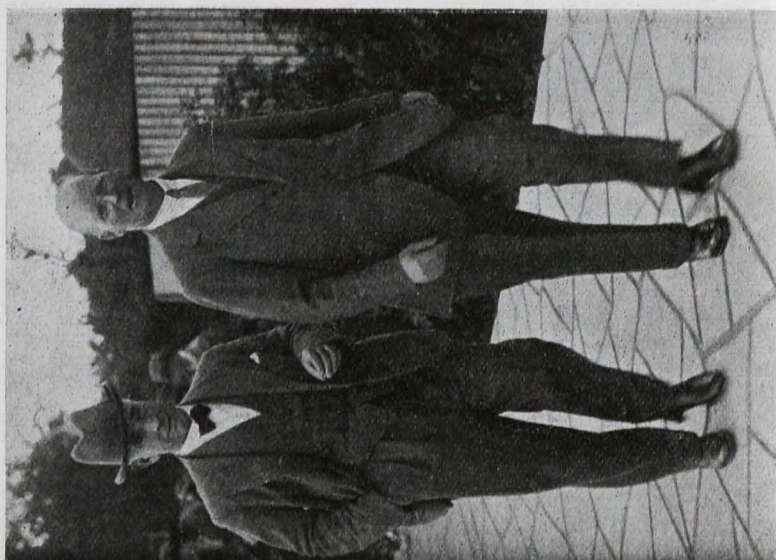
Councillors Sainsbury and McIlroy.



Interested spectators of the Tennis.



Bricks and Beer—The Builder and the Brewer.



On the right is Capt. A. S. Drewe, the firm's Surveyor.

BREWERY JOTTINGS.

(BY W. DUNSTER.)

Many of us have had doubts whether we were going to have a summer this year or not, however, the last ten days of June had dispelled our misgivings for a while at any rate. The last two week-ends were brilliant and in consequence we have been "snowed under" with orders. The end of June completes another quarter, so the beginning of July saw the General Office on their busy task of balancing. Let us hope they will find things run smoothly and the figures "come right" first time.

Miss D. Gardner, who had been employed in the Branch Department for a number of years, left for "pastures new" a few weeks ago and I feel I am only voicing the sentiments of many when I say I hope she will be very successful in her new undertaking. Miss Gardner was a real good sort and blessed with a pleasing personality.

Mr. L. Atkinson, who had been employed in the Delivery Office for a considerable while, left the Firm early in June and I believe has forsaken beer for coal. He will be well remembered for his prowess both at football and cricket. We all wish him every success.

I am informed Mr. F. Drury, who is in charge of the Cooperage Department, has recently been married and sincere congratulations are hereby conveyed, both to Mrs. Drury and himself.

Everyone will be very sorry to hear of the breakdown in health of our friend (and friend of everyone else's I should imagine) Mr. Harry Osborne. He had not been really well for some little while and after a thorough examination by the doctor he has been ordered a complete rest. From all accounts he has "taken it in time" so we wish him a speedy and lasting recovery.

THE IDEAL SUBSCRIBER.

The movement organised by the Post Office, whereby they voted for the ideal telephone subscriber, resulted in Miss M. Hayter, our chief telephone operator, being unanimously selected for Reading and district. The qualifications looked for were efficiency, clarity of voice and courtesy. The competition was carried out without the knowledge of the telephone operator. Many of our readers who have to communicate with The Brewery will know of Miss Hayter and will be gratified, fully endorsing the opinion of the voters.

This competition was open to the whole of England and the selected names from the different towns were then forwarded to London and drawn for by the committee, similar to a sweepstake, but the luck of the draw was unfortunately not in favour of Miss Hayter and another lady was chosen.

The following letter appeared in the *Daily Express* and is written by our First Aid Expert, Mr. T. W. Kent of the General Office :—

HE FORGOT HIS GLOVES.

"I was drinking a glass of beer at a Surrey Inn when some one warned me that I had forgotten to remove my gloves. 'If you are caught drinking with your gloves on it means drinks all round,' he said."

The following changes of tenants have taken place during the month of June and to each we wish success and prosperity :—

Volunteer, Crookham (South Berks Brewery Co.)—From Mr. T. Moore to Mr. George Thomas Dicker.

Swan, Thatcham (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—From Mr. G. T. Dicker to Mr. Thomas Moore.

Row Barge, Woolhampton (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—From Mr. J. Noyes to Mr. Richmond Corp.

From the *Middlesex County Times* :—

YORK LODGE "BUFFS" AT SUPPER.

ONE OF THE OLDEST LODGES IN THE COUNTY.

A large and jolly company attended the social evening arranged by the York Lodge (No. 37) of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes at the lodge headquarters, the Three Pigeons, High Street, Ealing, on Tuesday.

The evening began with supper, at which Bro. W. J. Power (Knight of the Order of Merit) presided, supported by Bro. Percy Slark (landlord of the hotel), who was the host and who also acted as toastmaster.

Responding to the toast of the Lodge, proposed by Bro. H. Holmes, Bro. A. Masters, K.O.M., said that, founded in 1907, the Lodge was one of the oldest in the vicinity of Ealing, or indeed in Middlesex.

In his thirty years of membership of the order, he had been in many lodges and his experience of them was large, yet he had no hesitation in declaring that the York Lodge was one of the finest under the Grand Middlesex Banner, and its members all "jolly good boys" (applause).

The chairman's health was proposed by Bro. W. Phillips, who complimented Bro. Power on his work for the Lodge, and thanked Bro. Slark and Mrs. Slark for their work, and especially for providing such good cheer for supper, and the facilities for enabling the brethren to have so enjoyable an evening.

Bro. Power, replying, said he heartily endorsed all that Bro. Masters had said about the Lodge, and he could do so with a good knowledge of London lodges in general.

The toast of the visitors was proposed by Bro. T. Seggie, and Bro. Christopher (of Dean Lodge) responded.

After the tables had been cleared, the company settled down to enjoy a merry concert, to which ladies were invited. The programme was contributed by Bro. Marley and his Harmonics band, and Brothers Hewett, Masters, Currier, Holmes, West, Broughton, Luckett, Bimmer and Band, and Mrs. Paine. Committee members responsible for the arrangements were Bro. Power (chairman), Bro. Masters (vice-chairman), and Brothers Slark, J. Faulkner, C.P., T. Maidment, K.O.M., A. Holmes and T. Seggie, R.O.H. (secretary).

One remarkable feature (to my mind) of the Simonds Athletic Football Club supper was the real enthusiasm and evident goodwill that exists between all the players of both teams. This annual event is splendid and Mr. S. V. Shea-Simonds had a wonderful reception and is held in high regard by everyone. He recalls football incidents that are both droll and screamingly funny. Mr. L. Gibbs, the well-known referee, was also in fine form and revealed himself as a good speaker. The football teams of the Firm have had some splendid successes during their few years of existence. I feel they are booked for more honours in the future.

Ascot was not favoured with such weather as is usual, but trade continued good. Really, the course this year looked perfect, the only snag being that some of the perfect looking horses we backed lacked perfection in running. Funny how everyone, more or less, gets interested in horse racing at Ascot time.

Holiday time for the early ones has not been too good, nevertheless they all seem to have had enjoyable times. Is Cliftonville the favoured this time? Quite a number seem to have fixed upon that desirable place this year.

The cricket XI., captained by Mr. J. H. Wadhams, are having a most successful season so far, the only defeat (at the moment) being at the hands of Mr. Harry's team. Keeping it in the family so to speak. The inter-departmental matches are in full swing and I believe the Delivery Office are hoping to win the trophy this year. We shall see!

We were all pleased to see a contribution by our friend, Mr. W. Giddy, in last month's issue, and his drawing "Ancient and Modern" was aptly titled.

Team building for next season by the Reading Football Club is proceeding slowly. Nevertheless, we shall have the same feeling of optimism when they restart playing, that they are going to win the league. The Dutch tour by the club was a great success, both from a playing point of view and financially.

THE DEW DROP INN, BANBURY ROAD, OXFORD.

Dear Sir,

As a regular reader of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE I am sending this for our old pal "Jim," who is landlord of the above. It is a long time since I wrote to you last, so will you kindly give him a small space in THE HOP LEAF for the following.

A social gathering of the Dew Drop Sports Club was held recently in the Club Room, on the occasion of the presentation of silver cups to the winners of the table quoits and darts competitions which have been running during the winter months.

Mr. G. Gascoyne was in the chair and handed the cups to the winners.

Mr. F. Johnson won the cup for table quoits, beating Mr. Dennis Organ in a game of 260 up.

Mr. W. J. Lindar won the cup for darts, with Mr. E. Scivyn as runner-up.

The Chairman, in congratulating the winners, also thanked all the competitors for their sporting efforts.

The cups were given by Mr. Vallis, the landlord, to be held for one year. He gave smaller ones to the winners and runners-up.

W. HEBBORN.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

PUZZLING.

If *twelve* of us are *six* of us, and *six* of us are *three* ;
And *three* of us are *five* of us, whatever can we be?
In case you cannot guess, I will tell you two things more—
Seventeen of us are *nine* of us, and *nine* of us are *four*.

SOLUTION.

The verse refers to the *letters* in the numbers mentioned.

EMBROOK FOOTBALL CLUB.

CELEBRATION OF LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP.

In their first season in the Reading Junior Combination, the Embrook Football Club won the Second Division championship and enjoyed a record season in every way. Due celebration was made recently, when a smoking concert was held at The Thatched Cottage, and the cup and medals were presented. The capacity of the largest room in the inn was fully taxed, the clubs represented, apart from Embrook, being Old St. Saviour's, Brigade Old Boys, Shinfield Estate, Bear Wood, Woodley, Warren Swifts, Hurst Old Boys and Wokingham Rovers. Mr. H. H. Sirett, who presided, was supported by Councillor D. Goddard, Mr. F. W. Mattingley (club chairman), Mr. E. Gibbs (vice-president), Mr. A. J. Taylor (hon. secretary) and members of the committee.

There was an excellent musical programme, with Mr. George Smith at the piano and also giving piano-accordion selections. Other artistes included Messrs. E. Knapp, C. White, G. Lawson, M. Hanson, D. Goddard, R. Wheeler, R. Fowler, J. Willmott, E. Smith, R. Brown and W. Watts.

The cup was presented to C. Hambleton, the captain, by Councillor Goddard, who also presented gold-centre medals to G. Mitchell, R. Taylor, J. Watts, K. Hartnell, H. Richardson, H. Readings, W. Chard, H. Dance, A. Sadler and G. Barton.

Presentation of a silver cigarette case, engraved, was made to Mr. A. J. Taylor in recognition of his services as hon. secretary, and a smoker's outfit to Mr. Goble, the trainer.

Proposing the toast of "The Embrook F.C.", Mr. Sirett congratulated the club on winning their division of the Combination, and urged all players and supporters to stick to the club for the greater effort needed next season in Division I.



Celebrating Embrook Football Club's success. Enjoyable gathering at "The Thatched Cottage," Embrook, where Mr. E. Gibbs is the genial landlord,

LICENSING LAWS WHICH ARE "FOOLISH AND FUTILE."

PLAIN WORDS BY EX-DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE COMMONS.
JUSTICES' "WHIMS AND FADS."

The annual meeting of the Women's True Temperance Committee (which is affiliated to the True Temperance Association) was held at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, under the chairmanship of Mrs. E. M. L. Williams.

Mrs. Asher Rosenberg was among the ladies nominated as members of the Executive Committee.

Miss Margaret Halstan, in moving their appointment, spoke of the improvement of the public houses, and the need for making them comfortable. She was not a frequenter of public houses, but as an actress on tour she had found them "terribly" useful. The sandwiches which came from a public house, or the cut off the joint, took a lot of beating. She thought there was a good deal in making the public house comfortable, for among a certain class

it was almost like a club, and the more comfortable it was the less likely was a man to take more than was good for him. Comfort secured moderation, and that was all to the good.

BODY NEEDS NERVE STIMULANT.

Dr. Josiah Oldfield, in seconding the motion, said that he was a dietetic physician. There were many things which our nervous system needed for the purpose of gentle excitement: whole-meal bread, for instance, was a gentle nerve stimulant. The body needed a certain amount of nerve stimulant to enable it to carry on its functions.

Referring to spirits, the speaker said that when you were over 50 there was no harm, and it might be a distinct benefit to your comfort and your health if you had a certain amount of alcoholic stimulus to the cells of the body. When he had a lady patient of 50—although most of them stopped at 49—he always recommended it.

BEER AS A FOOD.

He was an advocate of beer, he continued, which was a food. He and his audience were there that day largely because their ancestors drank beer. They had few vegetables, fruits, or salads. What saved the young men and women in those days in getting through the winter? Beer! When people could not get food from nature, and had no means of importing it, they relied, and rightly relied, on the only food that was available, malted liquor. Women could only live by the addition of beer to their food; it gave them the substance of which milk was made and the vitamins which enabled them to go on. But to-day, with plenty of vegetables, and when you were not bound to drink beer, why should you not drink it if you chose?

The Vice-Presidents and the Executive Committee were elected.

HELP FROM THE LICENSEE HIMSELF.

The Rev. Herbert Dunnico (ex-Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons), in moving a resolution approving of the aims of the Association, spoke of the opposition he had encountered in Liverpool 30 years ago when he had ventured to hold a church service for barmen and barmaids. His view then, as it was now, was that the public house was a social necessity, and that it was impossible and undesirable to abolish it. The real way for temperance reform was to raise the standard of the public house by improved buildings, conditions, and service, and restore it to its original purpose of meeting the needs of the people. You could only do that by having the co-operation of the people engaged in the public house itself.

He thought they would all recognise that a certain amount of legislation for the sale of alcoholic liquor was necessary, but as a Justice of the Peace he was more convinced every day that many of the laws restricting the trade were irritating, needlessly childish, foolish, and futile, and failed in their object of encouraging sobriety.

“JUSTICES’ WHIMS AND FADS.”

The more he sat as a licensing justice, said the speaker, the more misgivings he had as to whether the present licensing authorities were competent to carry out the unpleasant duties entrusted to them. They need not base their verdict on the evidence, and were free to exercise their whims and fads.

He was opposed to Local Option, he continued. Why apply Local Option merely to the sale of alcoholic liquors; some areas in London would be only too glad to apply it to the police. (*Laughter.*) The liquor question was of great national importance, to be studied on national lines, like education, public health, and other great public services. Especially since the war there had been a great improvement in the public house, which was a great educational factor.

FINEST DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTION.

The poorer the district, said the speaker, the more magnificent he would make the public house—a fine building, well lighted, clean, giving decent service, the place that would lead any young man who frequented it to become dissatisfied with bad service in his own home. Properly conducted, the public house was the finest democratic institution in the world, a place where a man might realise that there was something which united us, a common humanity, and a desire for fellowship.

Professor H. E. Armstrong, in seconding, said that to-day he would venture to say that beer was the only safe drink, for even the water we got in London was not very palatable. He would like to see the public house the standard resort of the district, to which everyone would go who wished to know what was good food and how to prepare it. He thought the scope of the Association should be widened, so as to include not only the care of the drink, but of the food of the people.

BIGGEST MENACE TO THE PUBLIC HOUSE.

Mr. Arthur Franks (Pioneer Catering Company) said that as a publican who toured the country he could say that drunkenness in the public house was almost, if not quite, a thing of the past. He would like to say, in defence of the publican, that the biggest menace to a public house was the drunken person.

THE LIGHTER SIDE.

HUBBY : “ Isn’t there something wrong with this cake you made, darling ? ”

WIFIE : “ No, dear, it must be you. The cookery book says it’s delicious ! ”

* * * *

HE : “ I have a picture of you in my mind all the time. ”

SHE : “ How small you make me feel ! ”

* * * *

BROWN : “ Do you and your wife ever think the same ? ”

TOMKINS : “ When I’m late at the club we do. She keeps thinking what she’ll say when I get home, and so do I. ”

* * * *

“ Our candidate,” said the chairman, “ is perfectly familiar with all the questions of the day. ”

“ Maybe,” declared an opponent, “ but he doesn’t know the answers ! ”

* * * *

A celebrated singer was involved in a motor car accident one day. A paper, after recording the accident, added : “ We are happy to state that he was able to appear the following evening in four pieces. ”

* * * *

“ No girl ever made a fool of me ! ” boasted the bachelor.

“ Really ! Then who was it ! ” asked his companion.

* * * *

FRED : “ I hear the girl you’re taking out now is a reducing expert. ”

TOM : “ I should say so. You should see my bank account. ”

* * * *

THROATY TENOR, ending a prolonged vocal effort : “ An’ for bonnie Annie Laurie I’d lay me down an’ dee. ”

EXASPERATED LISTENER, jumping at the offer and eagerly scanning the ranks of his fellow sufferers : “ Is Miss Annie Laurie present ? ”

FIRST TOMMY: "I hear the sergeant fell into the practice trench yesterday and broke a rib."

SECOND TOMMY: "Shut up, yer fool. It don't happen till to-morrer!"

* * * *

One of the "extra" navvies digging in a particularly soggy trench, finding the task heavier than he had expected, took longer rest spells than his workmates. On making his round the ganger ran his eye over the group, but said nothing and passed on. A few minutes later he returned and, addressing the new worker, ordered: "'Op out!"

The man got out of the trench. "'Op in!" said the ganger. The navvy did so.

"'Op out," "'Op in," the orders proceeded until the navvy protested: "Hi, giv'nor, what's the game? I ain't a bloomin' soldier."

"That's all right," he was told. "Keep it up. You're fetching out more with your boots than you were with your shovel."

* * * *

"Yes," said Williams, with feeling, "last night I told my wife straight out that she couldn't henpeck me any more."

His friend gave him a pat on the back. "Bravo, old chap!" he said. "Now you can hold your head up."

Williams grimaced. "Yes," he replied, "but only just. It's still pretty sore and bruised."

* * * *

The bus conductor had had a harassing day. First of all, it was raining. Troublesome old ladies, irritating old men, and other bus pests had all combined to do their worst. It was getting late in the afternoon when an American tourist boarded the bus.

"Say, conductor," he exclaimed, "I want your Saint Paul's Cathedral."

"Oh, all right," replied the conductor, somewhat shortly.

"I say," repeated the American in a louder tone. "I want your Saint Paul's Cathedral—and I want it quick."

"Don't worry, guv'nor," retorted the now thoroughly fed-up conductor; "I'm gettin' it wrapped up for you."

A close-fisted farmer served a local house with three dozen eggs every week. One week he found that he had inadvertently sent one extra. Determined not to lose on the deal he went to the house. The husband admitted him. The farmer stated his errand. The householder was amused; but the farmer was adamant.

"Surely, we're not going to quarrel over a matter like that?" said the householder. "Let's have a drink to settle it. What will you have?"

"Egg and milk," said the farmer.

* * * *

The teacher was doing her very best to instil the rudiments of natural history into her young charges. She held up before them the picture of a deer, but no one could tell her what it was.

"Now, Tommy," she said, pointing to one small boy, "surely you know what this animal is called. Come now, think. What does your mother sometimes call your father?"

The child's eyes beamed with intelligence. "Well, mum," he said, haltingly, "it don't look much like a pig to me."

* * * *

Nobody seemed to take much notice of Green at the office dinner, and he was beginning to feel somewhat bored when he was called upon to make a speech.

Green stood up and glanced round the walls of the dining hall, noting with keen relish the works of art that adorned them. Then he began his speech by paying a compliment to the lady members of the staff.

Pointing with outstretched arm to the wonderful paintings, he remarked: "Gentlemen, what need is there of all these painted beauties when we have so many with us at the table?"

* * * *

Baby was being exhibited and, of course, admired, when the question of his name cropped up.

"We dunno what to call 'im," sighed the proud mother.

"What about Halbert, or Harthur, or Halfred?"

"Ho, no," responded the parent, "we don't want nothing with a hasparin; people halways goes and drops it."

When the plumbers had completed their job the man and his wife watched them gathering up their tools in the dining room. Everything was collected and the apprentice even looked round the corners of the room to see if anything had been left. Finally the plumbing experts departed in triumph.

"You see, my dear," said the man, "all those stories about absent-minded plumbers being unable to remember their tools are utter nonsense."

An hour later he went into the bathroom and fell over an eight-foot ladder.

* * * *

"What a boy you are for asking questions," said the father. "I'd like to know what would have happened if I'd asked as many questions when I was a boy."

"Perhaps," suggested the young hopeful, "you'd have been able to answer some of mine."

* * * *

Two undergraduates made a bet that at a big function the people receiving the guests were so tired of murmuring appropriate phrases and so dazed by the constant stream of passers-by, that they took in very little of what was said to them. One of the undergraduates determined to prove his point. As he reached the distinguished couple he bowed, smiled appropriately, took the extended hand, and said: "I murdered your mother this morning."

"Very glad to see you here," said the famous man, beaming the set beam.

Passed on while the man received the next person, and the previous guest had scarcely departed from the wife, the daring undergraduate had time to gloat upon his success and straighten his face before he bowed over the lady's hand.

"I murdered your father," he said gravely.

"Most kind," murmured the tired lady, "charming of you. I'm so glad to see you."

* * * *

FOREMAN (testing the wall of new house: "I'm speaking quietly, Bill. Can you hear me?")

BILL (on the other side): "'Ear you? Lumme, guv'nor, I can see you in three places."

In the backwoods there was a man with a family of twenty-one boys. He and his wife drove to town once a year for supplies, but the other members of the family had never seen a shop. The eldest boy, who was twenty-four, had never had a haircut or shave in his life, and had never looked in a mirror.

On the annual trip to town the old man bought a mirror and stuck it inside a crate, with the remark, "It's time the young 'uns saw themselves."

When he arrived home the family rushed out to the wagon. There was a burst of laughter from the eldest boy, who was staring in the crate at the looking-glass.

"Charlie, what are you laughing at?" demanded one of the others.

"Why," said Charlie, "Dad's bought a wolf."

* * * *

"We'll now hear from Mr. Jones, the last speaker on the programme," said the weary toastmaster.

Jones arose as those round the banquet table made a weak attempt at applauding.

"I'm bored from listening so much," he began, "and I'm too tired to do my stuff. Any man who would like to know what I would have said if I'd been first on the list can read the speech; it's here, all typewritten. Thanks."

Jones sat down amid deafening applause.

* * * *

The bell rang for the twentieth time that morning and the angry housewife prepared to put the latest canvasser to rout.

"We don't want calendars, we don't want ribbons, we don't want nothing!" she stormed.

The little man at the door smiled ingratiatingly. "What about a nice English grammar, lady?" he suggested.

* * * *

"I may say I'm regarded as quite smart," announced the applicant for the position of typist. "I've won several prizes in crossword and jigsaw puzzles and word picture competitions lately."

"Yes, but I want someone who can be smart during office hours," returned the prospective employer.

"Oh, that's alright; this was during office hours!" said the girl.

Two girl friends met in the street one day. "I hear you've broken off your engagement," said one of them.

"Oh, my dear, yes," answered the other. "Jack simply became impossible. He criticised the way I dressed, objected to my friends, and always expected me to be at his beck and call. Then, on top of all that, he suddenly went off and married another girl, so I simply made up my mind to have nothing more to do with him."

* * * *

A steward stood at the gangway of a big liner, and while there he kept shouting for the benefit of the arriving passengers:—

"First-class to the right! Second-class to the left!"

A young woman stepped daintily aboard with a baby in her arms. As she hesitated before the steward he bent over her and said, in his chivalrous way:—

"First or second?"

"Oh!" said the girl, her face as red as a rose. "Oh, dear, neither—I'm only the nurse."

* * * *

The newly-married commercial traveller decided to take his wife on a trip round one of his country districts. He had boasted of how well known he was to hotel proprietors and how at one town not only was his place reserved for him, but also a pot of honey placed before him. On arrival at this town, however, there was no pot of honey, and the traveller called to the waiter:—

"Hey, waiter, what have you done with my honey?"

"Nothing, sir. She left of her own accord last week."

Extract from "The Morning Advertiser."

STILL THE BEST.

BRANCHES.

BRIGHTON.

Brighton of late has had the pleasure of welcoming several foreign visitors since Whitsun. First a party of Belgian business men from Antwerp who came over to inspect our system of water supply. Later, several Mayors from towns in Brittany included Brighton in making a tour of the South Coast pleasure resorts. We hope that both parties found information useful to their home communities.

Also a deputation of German ex-service men are coming to Brighton this month. This forthcoming visit had its inception from a request to the Brighton ex-service men's club from a German father for a photograph of the grave of his son, who died here as a prisoner of war and was buried in Brighton. From that episode a very cordial feeling was stimulated between the members of the British Legion in Brighton and ex-servicemen in Germany, and the upshot was that it was arranged that a deputation of German ex-servicemen should come to Brighton.

Intimation of these happenings went, of course, to the headquarters of the British Legion, and it seems certain that the Prince of Wales knew all about them when he made the speech which has had such wide attention.

Our chief clerk, Mr. Cotton, has been attending the annual conference of Oddfellows at Blackpool as part of his holiday, and we understand some wide and interesting topics came under discussion.

We are pleased to record the many complimentary remarks we have heard of the artistic supplement to the June GAZETTE.

THE QUEEN'S HOTEL, FARNBOROUGH.

During the past month this popular hotel has been the scene of considerable activity in providing for the needs of visitors for the Aldershot military tattoo and other events in the vicinity, including Ascot races. Amongst the large number of prominent people who have stayed at the hotel were a popular Eastern Potentate and his Suite.

The building has been gaily decorated and, as usual at this time of the year, it is the rendezvous for officers from far and near and for the surrounding county people.

The catering at this hotel is of the highest order, whether for stately banquets, wedding receptions, or small parties requiring a secluded meal, and prices are most moderate. Situated in wonderfully healthy surroundings (which, incidentally, led the authorities to establish the Aldershot military camp in the district), it is ideally placed for permanent residents or casual visitors, to whom favourable terms are quoted for long or short periods.

Our photograph shows the carnation house, which is one of a series of greenhouses forming a spare time hobby of the manager, Mr. Maitland Dods. This house shelters a succession of wonderful blooms throughout the whole of the year and the photograph shows a few of the choice specimens now in their full glory, including those favoured varieties Thomas Ives, Sir Philip Sassoon, Scarlet Pimpernel, Laddie, Baroness de Bremen, White Patrician and Robert Allwood. It would seem to have become a habit with all the various specimens to assume large dimensions and perfection of shape, many of which are far superior to those exhibited at the Chelsea Show. This carnation house is well worth a visit to Farnborough and visitors will be cheerfully conducted around the gardens.



Carnation House, Queen's Hotel, Farnborough.

PORTSMOUTH.

At the annual "At Home" of the Hampshire Regiment at Winchester this year the programme described a soldier as "a constructive pacifist." The work of the regimental depot was enlarged on from the collection of the suitable material from civil life and training to take its place in the regular units of the regiment. Work like this requires a fit, intelligent and efficient man and the depot moulds the raw material. In spite of the continuous rain a record crowd attended the "At Home." The programme was similar to that of the previous year. General Sir R. C. B. Haking, G.B.E., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., was present during the day and also Major P. H. Cadoux-Hudson, M.C. (officer commanding the depot) and other officers of the regiment. Amongst the numerous interesting events was physical training display given by the Army Physical Training Staff and men of the Senior Platoon under Q.M.S. J. Haycock, A.P.T.S. A drill display followed under R.S.M. A. J. Oliver, M.M. At five o'clock there was tea for the visitors and at 6 they could see the soldier in the making. To finish, the band of the 2nd Battalion played in the square and the "At Home" came to an end.

The King's Birthday was celebrated by the Port and Garrison in accordance with the time honoured traditions of the services. Warships in harbour were decorated. The Union Jack was flown on the principal municipal, government and private buildings. A Royal salute was fired at noon and Southsea Common was crowded with citizens to see an imposing ceremonial parade of the fighting forces, which concluded with a march past in which ex-service organizations took part for the first time. Southsea Common presented an animated and colourful scene—navy blue and gold, military scarlet and khaki, Royal Air Force blue, cocked hats and plumes contributed to the kaleidoscopic effect in the enclosures in which service officers and their friends assembled on the promenade side and drawn up facing them in lines stretching from Clarence Road to the Serpentine Road were some 1,600 regular troops and over 400 ex-service men with bands massed in the centre of the parade. The massed bands of the Commander-in-Chief, H.M.S. *Victory*, *Excellent*, Royal Artillery, the Royal Marines division, the Rifle Brigade and the York and Lancaster Regiment were under the direction of Lieut. F. V. Dunn, R.M. (director of music).

Not for many years has the individual athletic championship of the Royal Air Force Station, Gosport, produced such a thrilling struggle as that which took place at the annual meeting this year, and never in the history of these meetings has the fight for points ended as it did on this occasion in three claimants for the Victor Ludorum Cup, when the last championship event, the 220 yards,

L.A.C. Coley (workshops) had 11 points, with L.A.C. Davidson (coast defence development unit) 10 points and Pilot Officer Sawyer (training squadron) and L.A.C. Prideaux (workshops) 8 points. Following in that order L.A.C. Coley had not entered the race but only L.A.C. Davidson was in a position to beat him. The race produced a fitting finish to a fine programme of sport, Pilot Officer Sawyer running into the lead a dozen yards from home with Prideaux trying desperately to ward off a challenge by Davidson to gain the second place. Prideaux won the duel, thus leaving a tie between the Pilot Officer, Coley and Davidson.

We congratulate Mr. G. Whittle, who some 18 months ago took over the duties of traveller at this branch, on becoming a happy father, his wife having recently presented him with a son. We are glad to report that everything is going on satisfactorily.

TAMAR BREWERY, DEVONPORT.

We were very interested in the June number of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE with the supplement giving an account of Mr. Louis' wedding. The pictures were really excellent and the souvenir will be greatly prized by us all.

The new French giant liner *Normandie* beat all records in the crossing of the Atlantic and arrived back at Plymouth with a crowd of "limelight" people, including Walt Disney of Micky Mouse fame. The Great Western Railway also broke records by running the boat train from Plymouth to Paddington in 3½ hours—no 30 m.p.h. on the G.W.R.

Some of the passengers in *Normandie* complained of the vibration, and one said he had had only 10 hours sleep on the crossing. It is announced that *Normandie* has to go into dry dock at Le Havre to have four-bladed propellers instead of the three-bladed as already installed, in the endeavour to get her to run more smoothly. It must be far from soothing, spending a holiday on a quivering ship. Some four years ago when the German liner *Bremen* broke the record in crossing the Atlantic (held for 24 years by the Cunarder *Mauretania*) she arrived at Plymouth with nearly everything else broken. The windows in the state rooms on the upper decks were in a rare pickle.

We hope the *Queen Mary*, which is now being completed on the Clyde, will be a more comfortable ship and also regain the Blue Riband of the Atlantic.

The Devonport manned ships of the Mediterranean Fleet have arrived for a week's leave before proceeding to Spithead for the Jubilee Review by His Majesty. They had a dirty trip home, as

across the Bay of Biscay and up the English Channel there was a filthy fog. Some of the ships were outside Plymouth for 24 hours and could not get into Plymouth Sound owing to the density of the fog.

Yealmpton Show, which was held on Derby Day, was as successful as usual. Yealmpton is right in the heart of some beautiful agricultural country and large family estates, and the stock raised in the district goes all over the world. We had the supply of refreshments as usual.

The following changes have taken place here during the month of June :—

London Hotel, Ashburton—Mr. George Hawke.
Tavistock Inn, Poundsgate—Mr. R. W. Price.
Commercial Hotel, Paignton—Mr. H. J. Tozer.

If any Reading people are holiday-making in the neighbourhood, Mr. Hawke, Mr. Price and Mr. Tozer will be pleased to see them.

Mr. and Mrs. Hawke are West Country people and know the surrounding country well. The London Hotel has good letting bedrooms and any visitors can depend on being properly looked after. Ashburton is just on the edge of Dartmoor and the most beautiful river Dart.

Poundsgate is 5 miles from Ashburton on the main road, Ashburton to Princetown and Tavistock. The journey from Ashburton to Princetown is a joy. There are some good hills and corners, but, if all our roads were flat unbending plains, people would not come to Devon and Cornwall for their holidays!

Mr. Tozer, who is now Mine Host of the Commercial Hotel, Paignton, will also be pleased to entertain any friends from Reading (or elsewhere) where they can safely be assured of the best of everything for food, drink and lodging. Mr. Tozer was for a number of years the proprietor of the Torbay Inn, Paignton, and both he and Mrs. Tozer count among their friends many visitors from Reading and Swindon.

LONDON.

SERVICES RENDERED CLUB (BATTERSEA), BRITISH LEGION CLUB,
11 EAST HILL, LONDON, S.W.18.

JUBILEE WEEK—SUCCESSFUL JUBILATIONS AT WANDSWORTH.

The Services Rendered Club, British Legion, 11 East Hill, Wandsworth, S.W.18, paved the way to what might readily be termed a record week in the club's history. Commencing on Sunday, May 5th, approximately 80 members of the club and

women's section assembled outside the club premises, which were suitably decorated for the occasion, where photographs of all present were taken.



On Monday, May 6th, the branch members, 60 strong, took part in the Legion "lining the route" at Hyde Park Corner for the Royal drive. This was followed by a splendid gathering of members and friends in the evening, when the club held a dance-social, the hall being full to overflowing. Mr. P. E. Webb ably carried out the duties of master of ceremonies.

Tuesday evening, May 7th, found a further really interesting assembly when a "Free and Easy" was held, at which many members of the club, together with friends, rendered interesting numbers.

The appearance of the Popular Concert Party on Wednesday evening, May 8th, was a great attraction, the hall again being full to its limit.

Thursday, May 9th, was what one may term an All Legion Night, upon which occasion the branch, together with the women's section, catered for an At Home Night, refreshments being provided free to all who attended. Capt. W. R. Birrell, M.C., the organising secretary of the metropolitan area of the British Legion, was introduced by the branch chairman in the course of the evening, and expressed delight at being afforded the opportunity of associating himself with such a truly splendid gathering, one of the best Legion functions it had ever been his pleasure to attend. Before closing his remarks he offered apologies and regret on behalf of Admiral Sir Henry H. Bruce, the area chairman, who was unable to honour the branch with his presence.

Wireless sets, kindly loaned by Messrs. J. Bradley and J. Death, provided very special features, contributing largely to the evening's enjoyment. Mr. George England, vice-chairman of the branch, acted as M.C. for the evening.

A further "Free and Easy" on Friday evening was particularly well attended by members, wives and friends.

Saturday, May 11th, was a truly busy day for members in general, a large number taking part in lining the route at Hyde Park on the occasion of H.M. The King's drive, and in the evening, together with many members and friends, again assembled at the club, where a further enjoyable evening was spent at a dance-social. Prizes were presented by the president for the best fancy dress on this occasion. Mr. W. H. Bartlett ably carried out the duties of M.C.

On Sunday, May 12th, the Legion was found stronger than ever, when the branch, together with the women's section, paraded outside the club premises and marched off to meet a very strong procession which proceeded to the Wandsworth Stadium where

His Worship The Mayor of Wandsworth had organised a civic thanksgiving service. Upon marching back to the club members were supplied with tea prior to proceeding to St. Paul's, where the Legion experienced no difficulty in more than filling the great cathedral, thus bringing to a fitting close a week which was particularly encouraging, the club having enrolled over 30 new members during the period. This, in the opinion of the committee, generally is a splendid sign for the club's further progress.

Many messages of congratulation have been conveyed to the club chairman who fortunately had been favoured with the loyal backing of the whole of his management committee, together with the club and Legion secretary, the officials of the branch and women's section, also a very capable steward and stewardess who ably catered for the great increase of visitors during the period under review.

THE TOOTING CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST CLUB LTD.

The Tooting Conservative Club held a very successful Silver Jubilee Commemoration Dinner on Thursday, 9th May, at the club premises, Ashvale Road, Tooting.

Sir Alfred Butt, Bart., M.P. was the guest of honour. Among those who supported him were Major F. J. Johnson (vice-president), P. W. Butcher, Esq. (vice-president), E. H. Clack, Esq. (chairman), Mr. H. Redhouse (secretary), Messrs. H. Fretz, Giles, N. Gradwell and about 150 members.

The dinner was followed by an excellent concert with Mr. Alfred Hellewell at the piano and the following artistes:—Teddy and Iris (comedy), Kitty Beatty (comedienne) and Buck Shine (comedy).

The committee are to be congratulated on a very successful and enjoyable evening.

We have pleasure in publishing the portrait of Mr. E. H. Clack, the newly appointed chairman of the Tooting Conservative Club, Ashvale Road, Tooting.



MR. E. H. CLACK.

Mr. Clack comes from a very old conservative family and has had a most distinguished army career. He joined the army when very young and saw a great deal of foreign service in Burmah and India. After leaving the army he joined the staff of the *Times* newspaper, but in 1899 was called back to the colours for the Boer War. He served in South Africa for three years with his old regiment, The Oxfordshire Light Infantry and 8th Mounted

Infantry. He was mentioned in despatches in January, 1902, and promoted on the field by the late Lord Kitchener. At the end of the Boer War he returned to civil life and settled down to work again at the *Times* office. He has just completed 37 years with that noted newspaper, the last 13 years as chief stereotyper, but through indifferent health had to retire on pension at the beginning of this year. After a rest his health has improved, and he has thrown himself whole-heartedly into his work at the Tooting Conservative Club, where he has been a member for many years and we hope that the great interest he takes in the club will be reflected in good progress in the future.

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing away of Mrs. W. Miller, widow of Mr. W. T. Miller, who for many years was traveller at London Branch. Since the death of her husband she went to reside with her son at Hildenborough, Kent. Unfortunately, for a number of years she has suffered greatly and was unable to recover from the grief at the loss of her husband. She passed away peacefully on Wednesday, 12th June.

We extend to the family our very deep sympathy on their bereavement.

We feel sure that the many friends of Mr. W. Benham, who held the position of foreman at London Stores for the last 15 years, will wish him success and happiness on his being transferred to our newly acquired subsidiary company—Messrs. W. J. Rogers Ltd., Bristol.

Mr. Benham commenced his duties with the Firm at the Brewery, Reading, in May, 1902, and started in the laboratory. From there he went to the bottling department and after a short period in the cellars, came to London in August, 1910, as foreman bottler. He took over charge of the stores in 1920. He has now taken over charge of the bottling department at Bristol. During the 25 years in London Mr. Benham has made many friends and is very popular in the Clapham district, where he has always resided.

We are very sorry to lose him and trust he will settle down in Bristol and gain the respect and friendship that he has enjoyed in London. We all wish him good luck and happiness.

We much regret to learn of the passing away of Mr. W. J. Nicholson and extend our very deep sympathy to Mrs. Nicholson and family.

All at London Branch were pleased with the photographs of the wedding of Mr. Louis Simonds and Miss Rosemary Lang, published with June issue of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE.