

The Hop Leaf Gazette.

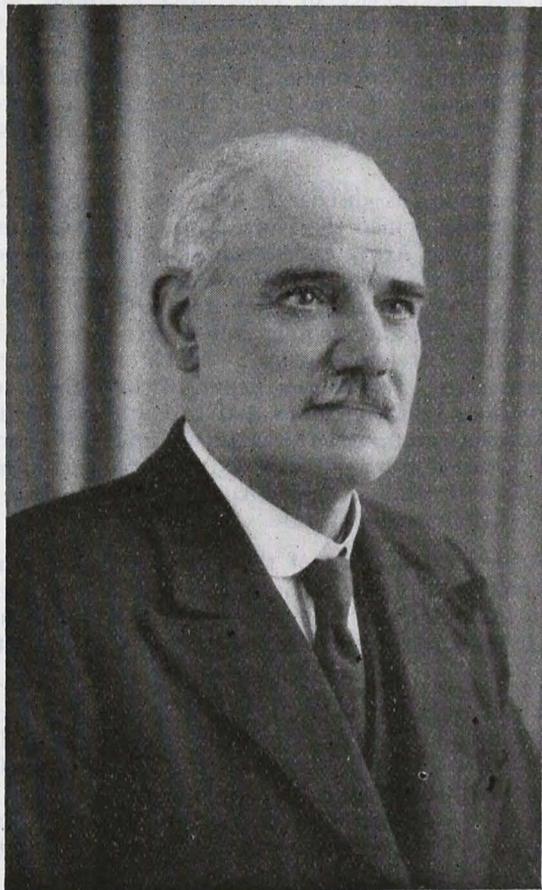
The Monthly Journal of H. & G. SIMONDS, Ltd.

Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.

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No. 11.



MR. F. D. EDWARDS.

MR. F. D. EDWARDS.

The prominence of events now taking place in India recalls to us that a member of our Staff, Mr. F. D. Edwards, saw considerable service in that country before entering the Firm's employ in 1908. His portrait in this issue will be recognised by many of the older members of the Firm with whom he has worked in various capacities. He is one of the few remaining links with the days when the stables housed upwards of 100 horses.

Mr. Edwards enlisted in the 9/Battery, Royal Field Artillery, in 1896, and left the Service in 1908, after attaining the rank of A/Q.M.S. The whole of the 12 years was spent in India where he figured in the Terah and Tochi Valley Campaigns in 1897-1898, receiving the Indian Frontier Medal and three Bars. His recollections of the habits and life of the natives are interesting in the light of the present disturbances, which he predicts will soon "fizzle out."

After securing his discharge from the Army in November, 1908, Mr. Edwards joined the Horse Transport Department at the Brewery. His long Army experience of horses and knowledge of military life was of immense value during manoeuvres, when a pair horse van was attached to each unit to carry beer and ginger beer for the morning and evening issues. He was generally in the vanguard of the "Brewer's Convoy," which often comprised about 30 pair horse vans. It was the custom of the convoy to assemble from the various bivouac camps and travel through the night to the next staging camp, and the work was generally considered to be strenuous. It is now realised that Army camps and manoeuvres 35 years ago were picnics, despite contrary views which were held at the actual time of the events.

Upon the mechanisation of the Firm's transport, Mr. Edwards was transferred to lorries. Subsequently he was selected for transfer to London Branch as foreman and, after taking a course of cellar management and beer bottling, he moved to London in 1912.

Upon the outbreak of the Great War, Mr. Edwards rejoined the Colours and served with the 2/5th Durham Light Infantry in France, Salonica, Bulgaria and Southern Russia. He finished up in Constantinople where he was one of the company who were sumptuously entertained by the Colonel. In the course of this period of service he was promoted to the rank of C.Q.M.S., and was demobilised in 1919.

Returning to the Brewery he served in the Transport Department until 1928 when, in view of his past experience at London

Branch, he was appointed foreman of the Bottled Beer Despatch Department, which position he still holds. The enormous growth of the bottled beer trade during the past decade has necessitated a complete reorganisation of the loading department to speed up the despatch of transport, and Mr. Edwards has worked hard to obtain that result. His working day commences at 6 a.m., but he is still frequently to be seen at his job when others have long since departed.

An ardent follower of Association football, he has been a keen supporter of the Brewery team. He has also rendered great services at the Brewery fetes which have been held in Coley Park.

"THE MONOGRAPH."

Long in my mind has lurked a wish
To write a monograph on fish
—To tell you what I know about
The chub, the bream, the spotted trout.
But wait a moment—here's the rub—
I've very seldom seen a chub!

So, giving up my cherished plan,
I'll choose the fittest time I can
To wander by a lake or stream
(The home of chub and trout and bream)
And learn, perhaps, a little more
About their habits, from the shore.

Within the water deep and clear
I'll watch such whoppers, there and here :
And mark a mallard come to rest ;
Or find a willow-warbler's nest ;
And gather wild forget-me-nots
From moist and rather muddy spots.

Beneath a blossomed branch that bends
I'll learn about my finny friends
—Will see them from the surface spring
At flies—and hear a blackcap sing :
Then (cheered by Madam Chiffy-chaff)
Sit down and write my monograph.

—S. E. COLLINS.

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

CHAT *from* THE EDITOR'S CHAIR



(By C. H. P.)

DAUGHTER FOR MAJOR QUARRY.

Mrs. Quarry, wife of Mr. R. St. J. Quarry (who has recently been promoted to the rank of Major) recently presented her husband with a little daughter.

SCHOOLBOY FISHERMEN.

In connection with the Summer "Holidays at Home" Scheme, a great fishing competition, open to all school children between the ages of 10 and 14½ years, was held in local reaches of the Thames, and these young disciples of Izaak Walton waxed very enthusiastic as they participated in the gentle art. I was privileged to play a small part as an official and enjoyed the fun immensely. In the opening week nearly 600 fish were landed. It is indeed good of the teachers to give up so many hours of their much-needed rest in order to instil into the minds of the youngsters a love of the great art of angling, which will mean more and more to the boys as the years go by. But it is only typical of the great national service our teachers are rendering in work—and play.

FOLLOWING IN FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS.

Our Mr. H. C. Davis, Chief of the Catering Department, has received a most interesting letter from his son, Mr. H. J. Davis, who has been in distant waters in the Navy for nearly two years. He is now a Leading Writer and when he returns he will have some rare stories to relate concerning Greece, Crete, Syria, Mediterranean convoys, etc. He tells us in his last letter that in playing for the Navy against an Army XI he scored 111 not out. This, in spite of the fact that he had only played six times since he left England. Well played, Sir! He volunteered at the age of 17 and is thus following in his father's footsteps, the latter having volunteered for the last war at the age of 15 and was in the Royal Fusiliers, etc., seeing service at Gallipoli, the Somme offensive and other theatres of the Great War.

TENNIS TO STOP UNLESS . . .

With no more tennis balls being manufactured in this country, tennis players may disappear from the courts for the duration unless they can make their tennis balls last.

Here are some suggestions for prolonging the life of tennis balls, at the same time giving them better playing qualities:—

Remove loose dirt by shaking several balls together in a net; before a fire if damp.

Dip each ball several times in soapy water, taking care not to saturate the cover.

Brush with stiff nail brush.

Rinse in clean warm water, brushing off all soap or other foreign matter.

Dry in front of a fire, the effect of which is to shrink the cloth covering, giving the ball additional tautness and resilience.

THE DEAR LITTLE BABY!

As the old woman wearily pushed a perambulator up the hill the vicar overtook her and volunteered to relieve her of her burden.

Puffing and blowing, he reached the top of the hill. Then he turned to her.

"Now may I have a look at the dear little baby?"

"Baby, Sir!" the woman replied. "Bless your heart, that's two dozen of stout."

LESS CARELESS TALK.

An Aberdonian met a friend and invited him to have a drink.

"What'll you have?" he asked when they reached the bar.

"A glass of whisky and a pint of beer," was the reply.

"Here," said the startled Aberdonian, "less of that careless talk!"

THOUGHT SHE WAS TAKING INVENTORY.

The lady had been in every department in the large store without buying a thing. At last one weary assistant could stand it no longer.

"Excuse me, Madam," he said, "but are you shopping here?"

"Of course I am," she snapped. "What do you think I'm doing?"

"Well, Madam, I thought you were taking an inventory."

THIRTEEN CONSECUTIVE SNOOKERS.

There was a remarkable frame in the semi-final of the Norwich Red Cross championship, in which the contestants were Leman (Gothics) and Martin (Clarques). The match, which was of five frames, was won by Leman. In the second frame Leman was leading 44—1, and with only the brown, blue, pink and black left on the table, Martin's chance looked hopeless. Martin, however, laid his opponent 13 consecutive snookers, none of which Leman was able to overcome, and Martin won the frame by 65—49.

FAMOUS STUD IS SOLD.

Seven mares and two three-year-old fillies, the English stud of American millionaire Mr. Marshall Field, fetched an aggregate of 17,890 guineas at Newmarket Sales recently.

Top price was 5,000 guineas, paid by Irish breeder, Mr. Alan Baker, for six-year-old mare Infra Red (by Etnarch), believed to be in foal to Nearco. Eclair, 12-year-old mare by Etnarch, was bought on behalf of the Aga Khan for 3,500 guineas.

Three thousand five hundred guineas was paid by Cecil Ray, Malton trainer, for a three-year-old filly by Fairway-Eclair.

THE BROTHERS.

We are five brothers all on the same tree borne,
Two of us are bearded ; by two no beards are worn.
The other one, lest he should cause his brothers pain,
Has one side bearded and the other plain.

(These five brothers are the calyx of the rose.)

A PLEASANT SURPRISE.

Major Long, son of mine host, Grenadier, after travelling several thousand miles by boat and plane arrived in West Africa, and visiting the Mess on arrival was greeted with a bottle of the famous "S.B." from Reading.

Take time to look—it is the price of success ;
Take time to think—it is the source of power ;
Take time to play—the secret of perennial youth ;
Take time to read—the source of wisdom ;
Take time to be friendly—it is the way to happiness ;
Take time to laugh—it is the music of the soul.

BREWERY JOTTINGS.

(BY W. DUNSTER).

Our news this month is mainly of those on service who have called in to see us or of those who have written to the Brewery giving some details of what they are doing.

L/Cpl. C. Wade, with a famous cavalry regiment now mechanised, writes to Mr. F. C. Hawkes from the Middle East saying that he left England nearly a year ago and since December last his comrades and himself have been dashing up and down the Libyan Desert. They plod along and hope for the best. He hopes that things are not too difficult for us at the Brewery and mentions reading a report of Mr. F. A. Simonds' speech at the end of last year, when he said that supplies of wines and spirits were at starvation level. Still, he says, "Beer is Best," and no doubt it will see us through. He wished to be remembered to all of his friends at H. & G.'s and trusts that the Firm will continue to prosper.

In a letter to Mr. P. Luker from L.A.C. S. G. Tayler from the Middle East he says he is receiving THE HOP LEAF GAZETTES from home regularly and even if they are old when he receives them he reads all the Brewery news with much interest. He has been corresponding with Slade (of the Order Office) and sending on his copies of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE to him as it appeared that Slade was not getting his. He mentions that early in June he received a letter from Slade in which he mentions that he was all right, that it was very hot, and he had been bathing. (Since then news has been received that J. P. Slade is reported missing and it is thought he may have been in Tobruk at the time it was captured by the enemy.)

L/Bdr. V. S. Martin (who used to be in the Accounts Dept.) is reported missing from the Middle East. News has been received from S. Treacher (Middle East) that he is safe and well and is now at the base.

K. Solly (Cask Office) is now in the Middle East after being some time in South Africa. He is in the Signals branch.

Congratulations to H. N. Lipscombe, also in the Middle East, who has been promoted to C.Q.M.S.

A visitor from a much different part of the world was L. J. Martin (Order Office) who was home from Iceland, where he had been for some while. He took the opportunity whilst home to be married, so the opportunity is taken to wish him every happiness, good health and a safe return.

Another one who called was L. A. Atkinson, who used to work in the Delivery Office some years ago, and he was also home from Iceland.

A. Howman, home from the Isle of Wight, found life pretty good and looked a picture of health. F. Pusey (R.A.F.) was reporting for duty after a longish spell off owing to his severe accident. Although he had made a good recovery he still felt some effects of his injury, but was hoping on his return to work this would wear off.

Other callers were J. Strudley (Order Office), home on leave from Northern Ireland; W. H. Philpott, of the Royal Navy, who had been on convoy duty; G. H. Beddow (R.A.F.), who was training to be an Observer; and D. E. Beesley (R.A.F.). J. Clay (Branch Dept.) looked ever so well and informed us he was on the move shortly to another part of the country.

We have also seen J. Bradford (Signals) for a short while, and L. Blake (R.A.F.), who was home from Iceland, the latter having been employed in the Laboratory and Bottled Beer Loading Stage.

Quite a number will recall F. S. Lacy (now a Flight Sergeant in the R.A.F.), who commenced his career some years ago with H. & G. S. and was in the Branch Department. He informed the writer he was at the same station as Mr. L. M. P. Ashby, son of our Director, Major G. S. M. Ashby. He called in to obtain some of our products as he was just about to be married.

The following members of the staff, viz., J. Hillier, R. J. Lambourne, E. P. Priddy and A. D. Prattley, have all recently left for H.M. Forces, and we wish them every success in their new life.

Three members of one office missing is the tragic record of the Accounts Office. Messrs. Drury and Smith commenced their business life with the Firm somewhere about the same time and, after a spell of duty together in the Correspondence Office, were transferred to the Accounts Office on the formation of that department. They were both members of the Reading Rowing Club together and shared in several triumphs in the same boat. They both joined the same unit, went to France together and came back from Dunkirk about the same time. On their return to England they were split up and Drury went to Malaya and Smith to the Middle East: now they both are missing. The other member of the same staff, viz., V. S. Martin, also went to the Middle East and is missing.

News has been received by Mr. Dick West that his son, previously reported missing in the Middle East, is now a prisoner in the hands of the Italians.

Mr. L. W. Buckingham, of the Branch Department, has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the Royal Air Force, and has been transferred to a Station nearer home.

The following changes and transfers have taken place recently and we wish success to all:—

The Swan, Inkpen (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. H. R. Elgar.

The Duke of York, Aldershot (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. S. C. Nodder.

The Bridge House, Theale (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. G. E. Dickinson.

The Adam and Eve, Newbury (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. E. Pill.

We regret to record the death of H. J. Rowland, tenant of the Star, Pangbourne. He had been at this house since November, 1929. This house has been in the same family for over fifty years, in the following sequence: H. Lever took over in 1890; Mrs. K. Lever (widow) in 1909; she remarried in 1920, the licence then being in the name of Mrs. K. Castle; her son-in-law, H. J. Rowland, took over in 1929; and Mrs. Rowland (widow) takes over from 15th August, 1942.

Mr. J. N. Batten, of the Five Alls, Marlborough, tenant since September, 1922, died on the 6th August, 1942, and will be sadly missed for he was well known throughout Marlborough and district.

Mrs. Foster, of the Royal Oak, Whitchurch, died on the 6th August, and was wife of our tenant there. We take this opportunity to express our sincere regrets to Mr. Foster and relatives.

Mrs. E. M. Timberlake, tenant of the Crown, Loudwater, who lost her husband last year, is now informed that her son was killed in action in the Middle East. We are sorry to learn this and extend a full measure of our sympathy to Mrs. Timberlake in her further sad loss.

Mrs. Bailey died on the 3rd August, 1942, and was the wife of our tenant, Mr. George Bailey, of the off-licence at 188, High Street, Slough. We send our sincere sympathy to him in his bereavement.

SPORTS GROUND.

VISITS BY MR. F. A. SIMONDS AND MR. L. A. SIMONDS.

Members of the Sports Club certainly had two Red Letter days recently; firstly when, on Saturday, July 25th, Mr. F. A. Simonds, Chairman and Managing Director of the Firm, paid a visit to the Sports Ground, the ladies' cricket team were playing home to the Post Office ladies' cricket team. We were all very pleased indeed with the visitation, and during his stay Mr. F. A. Simonds expressed his pleasure at seeing so many members of the Firm's employees taking advantage of the health-giving opportunities afforded by the Sports Ground.

Mr. Simonds was quite satisfied with the condition of the grounds and approved of suggestions for improvements.

We hope that a further opportunity will present itself when we shall be honoured with another visit.

Secondly, on August Bank Holiday a sports meeting was held, the entries being confined to employees. During the afternoon Mr. L. A. Simonds paid a visit and made an inspection of the grounds. Mr. Simonds was particularly impressed by the new Putting Green, and considered it a valuable addition to the attractions. Included in the programme of events arranged for the day was an Ankle Competition, and Mr. L. A. Simonds kindly acted as judge. The arrangements concluded with a dance on the lawn when many couples took part. In spite of a little rain it was unanimous that a very pleasant day had been spent.

Mr. and Mrs. Holmes kindly assisted in the refreshment marquee, and the lighter refreshments were in the hands of Miss A. M. Prosser, Miss W. Young, Mrs. Weller, Mrs. Hannis and Mrs. Dance.

Other helpers were Messrs. C. Weller, W. Sparks, H. Hawkins, A. Wright, J. Benford, J. Hillier, A. Lake and L. Farrance. The arrangements were in the capable hands of Mr. W. Bradford, General Hon. Secretary, Social and Sports Clubs, and he was complimented on the attractiveness of the bill of fare provided.

THE SPORTS PRIZEWINNERS.

MEN.

220 Yards Handicap.		
1—L. Kury	2—H. Sexton	3—E. Priddy
100 Yards Scratch.		
1—L. Kury	2—H. Sexton	3—K. Cottam
Half Mile Walking.		
1—G. Andrews	2—E. Priddy	3—R. Harbor

MEN—continued.

440 Yards Handicap.		
1—H. Sexton	2—K. Cottam	3—J. James
Obstacle Race.		
1—L. Kury	2—J. James	3— — Maslen
Barrel Rolling.		
1—T. Patrick	2—E. Greenaway	3—J. Read
Veterans.		
1—F. Benham	2—S. Harbor	3—A. Wicks
Bun Race.		
1—D. Coleman	2—H. Hawkins	3—A. Randall
Relay Race.		
1—H. Sexton's Team	2—A. Randall's Team	

LADIES.

80 Yards Race.		
1—E. Bullen	2—P. Hammond	3—M. Whichelow
Slow Bicycle Race.		
1—P. Hammond	2—O. Paterson	3—E. Townsend
Egg and Spoon Race.		
1—R. Ayers	2—M. Tombs	3—M. Down
Thread Needle Race.		
1—E. Bullen	2—P. Hammond	3—O. Paterson
Leap Frog.		
1—M. Whichelow and P. Hammond	2—O. Paterson and E. Bullen	3—R. Ayers and O. Shurmer
Ankle Competition.		
1—Miss Hobbs	2—Miss Thomas	3—Miss Shurmer

MIXED RACES.

Three-legged Race.		
1—K. Cottam and Miss Shurmer	2—E. Priddy and Miss Thatcher	3—J. James and Miss Whichelow

TENNIS.

Mrs. Greenaway and Mr. R. Lambourne

PUTTING GREEN.

1—W. Neville	2—R. Broad	3—E. Greenaway and H. Osborne
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BOYS.

80 Yards.		
1—R. Weston	2—D. Venner	
100 Yards.		
1—M. Bricknell	2—P. Dibbly	3—M. Dibbly
Sack Race.		
1—M. Bricknell	2—M. Edwards	3— — Mortimer and D. Venner

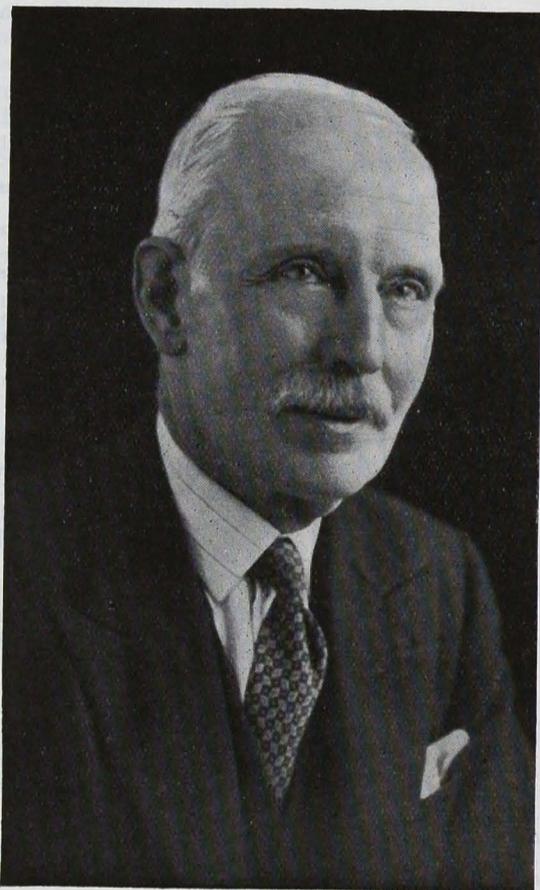
Obstacle Race.		
1—G. Ayers	2—D. Gooch	3—M. Dibbly
Relay Race.		
K. Venner, Lambert, Terry, Bricknell		

GIRLS.

80 Yards.		
1—M. Bradford	2—M. Owen	3—J. Randall
Egg and Spoon Race.		
1—M. Owen	2—H. Tate	3—M. Bradford

MR. AND MRS. KINGSTON'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

Mr. and Mrs. Austin Charles Kingston celebrated their golden wedding on August 1st, 1942. Mrs. Kingston was the daughter of the late Mr. H. G. Lewis, Builder, Castle Street, Reading. They were married at the Baptist Church, Wokingham, on 1st August, 1892.



It will be recalled by many that Mr. A. C. Kingston completed fifty years' service with the Firm in February, 1941. He started with us in the Cask Office in 1881 and temporarily retired in 1929 owing to ill-health when he was occupying the position of Chief

Cashier, a position he occupied for thirty years. He returned to business upon the outbreak of war and at the age of 73 realised his ambition to complete his fifty years of service early in 1941 when he was presented by the Directors with a solid silver tea service.

Although he found it considerably different at first, he soon picked up the threads again and he has been a welcome addition to our greatly depleted staff.



The opportunity is taken to congratulate both Mr. and Mrs. Kingston upon attaining the great distinction of having reached the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day and to wish them both long life, good health and every happiness.

NATURE NOTE.

(BY C.H.P.).

COMMA COMES TO FULL STOP.

AN INTELLIGENT LITTLE SPARROW.

After a long walk in the morning I was sitting in my garden in the afternoon checking up the things I had seen by means of books on natural history, when an extraordinary coincidence occurred. I opened my book on butterflies, quite casually, at a page whereon was a coloured plate of the comma butterfly. No sooner had I done so than a comma came to a full stop on the very plate where he was represented pictorially. Whether it was a sheer accident or whether the comma mistook the picture for the real thing I do not know. And that butterfly remained on the book for some minutes, closing his wings occasionally so that I had a full view of the commas on the outsides of his wings. It is this comma that gives the butterfly its name.

The pretty insect remained in the garden for some time, visiting various flowers and giving me close-up views of his beauty.

VERY MIXED BATHING.

In my good neighbour's garden is a bird bowl with water and here the birds come to bathe and drink. Here you can see mixed bathing in an eminent degree for blackbirds, thrushes, robins, starlings, sparrows, chaffinches, greenfinches and other birds come to cleanse and refresh themselves. Well, there is nothing very extraordinary in that, but there is something unusually intelligent in the habit of a little sparrow. The good lady of the house told me she saw a sparrow come to the bowl with a very dry piece of bread, deliberately place it in the water and when it had become soft the sparrow flew to a fence and made a meal of the softened food. I thought that perhaps the sparrow had accidentally dropped the bread into the water and, just by chance, taken it away when it was soaked. I kept a close watch on the bowl, however, and sure enough I was rewarded by seeing this intelligent little bird repeat the process again and again.

THE MIGRATION OF SWIFTS AND SWALLOWS.

Among the first of the feathered tribe to forsake our shores is the swift. In the first weeks of August, they may be seen darting about through the air, on their untiring wings. The young ones are now full grown, and the abundance of insects, as well as the mildness of the early weeks of harvest, with the clear skies and warm air, seem all to offer every inducement to their stay. Yet, guided by unerring instinct, they disappear, winging their way to the south, and give us one of the earliest warnings that the winter is at hand. Towards the middle of September, when the nights are visibly lengthening and growing proportionately chill, the swallows may be observed gathering in considerable numbers on the ridge of the church or on the willows, from whence they rise together and fly about, going through many singular aerial evolutions, and seemingly sporting together in the air. This is repeated from day to day, as if to practise and strengthen their pinions, and prepare the birds of the first year for their long southern flight.

At length the time for their departure arrives. Their numbers have been continually augmenting, and by some singular means they seem to communicate with each other, so as to effect all their movements in concert.

When at last they take their departure, they rise all together in one dense column, and, without any of their former gambols or evolutions, fly off in a direct course towards the south.

After this it is rare to see a swallow until the succeeding spring.

LOST AND FOUND!

Our Mr. Andrews, of the Bottling Stores, recently got smashed up with a pike. Four weeks later he caught the fish, weighing 4 lb., with the lost tackle in its mouth.

Who was the angler who fished on an on, hoping to catch the last bus, 9.30 p.m., which he found to his cost had been suspended, and had to walk home, a distance of nine miles?

A GREAT THOUGHT.

We should all know something of science ; for it is a wonderful second sight, correcting the mistakes and taking away the deceptions of first sight. We commonly say that seeing is believing. But in reality the evidence of our senses is untrustworthy, unless it is verified by some other process. This is a world of illusions. Things are not what they seem. There is nothing more certain than that the sun moves every day across the sky ; yet every educated person knows that it does not so move at all. This, the most undeniable, self-evident fact that we know, is not fact at all, but an illusion. The earth seems to be solid and at rest, but it is shown to consist of countless atoms in perpetual motion. Our eyes looking through a pool of water see a pebble at the bottom of it, in the place where it is not ; and the straightest stick put into it seems bent. The eyes of many persons are colour-blind, and they see the landscape different from other persons—the reds appearing to them as greens. So it is throughout Nature. And here it is that science becomes so useful. It shows to you by its magical second sight the open secrets of the natural world—the truth and the reality of things—and so corrects the deceptive appearance. And it is even more valuable in helping your faith by its analogies. By impressing upon your minds the conviction that the unseen is more important in all the objects and processes of your natural life than the seen, it induces you to set a right value upon the spiritual world and to look on the matter of your salvation not at the things which are seen and temporal, but at the things which are unseen and eternal. All eyes will be open one day and we shall stand face to face with the things unseen and eternal. Death will open eyes that have long been closed to the spiritual and eternal world.

Let us pray that when death comes—and it may come very soon—we shall see white troops of angels waiting to take us home to glory.

"HOP LEAF" BRAND MILK STOUT.

Messrs. H. & G. Simonds Ltd. much regret that, in consequence of the Government having prohibited the use of milk products in the brewing of Stout, they are compelled to withdraw from the market their well-known speciality MILK STOUT, owing to milk sugar being used in the manufacture of this Stout.

It is fervently hoped that the day is not far distant when they will be able, once again, to offer this world-famous product to their customers.

CRICKET.

This review of the past month must of necessity be somewhat brief. The Saturday team has played four matches, only one of which ended in our favour, although one other was a very close affair and we lost by 2 runs. Of the three games the Youths have played, two were lost, but we have to record the first win of the season when the third game was fought out.

The Ladies have also played four, but fortune did not smile on us. Two of these games were very decidedly against us, but we made a better show in the other two.

The results of all these matches are given below :—

June 27th. SIMONDS 106 v. R.A.P.C. 108.

This match was keenly contested, but the result was against us. The R.A.P.C. batted first and lost two wickets cheaply. The score then rose slowly until seven wickets were down for 46, then a stand ensued which raised the figure by 36 and the next two added 26, bringing the total up to 108.

E. Greenaway did well with the ball, taking five for 49, also A. Benham with three for 18 ; E. Scott and J. Britnell each took one wicket.

Although losing our first batsman for 12 runs, we pulled round and scored 43 for the next ; 16 were contributed by the third partnership and 10 for the fourth, but then a slump took place and we lost five men for only 16 runs. Twelve were required to win when the last man went in, but only 9 of them were scored and we ended up gallant losers by 2 runs.

C. Morgan had a good score, making 33, and J. Britnell, home on leave got 23.

July 4th. SIMONDS 51 v. P.O. ENGINEERS 105.

The Engineers batted first and got off to a good start, 40 being on the board ere the first wicket fell. There were no big stands afterwards, but the score mounted steadily with wickets being claimed at fairly regular intervals, until the last one fell at the total of 105.

E. Scott took six for 23, E. Greenaway three for 25, and B. Upton one for 22.

We had a disastrous start, losing a wicket in the first over, from which we never really recovered. C. Morgan held his end up well, making 15. H. Sexton (10) and A. J. Hawkins (11 not out) were the others to reach double figures.

July 11th. SIMONDS 132 FOR THREE (DEC.) v. MONKS BARN 29.

Although we again lost a wicket in the opening over, our batsmen got really on top of the bowling, and R. Lambourne has the credit for being the first of our batsmen to reach the half-century. C. Morgan played confidently and made 38 before putting up a "dolly," and then Lambourne and A. Benham stayed in until the closure, they then being 53 and 38 respectively. This was a real treat to the rest of the team and supporters.

Our bowlers then got to work and aided by seven catches, dismissed Monksbarn for 29. E. Greenaway (three for 11) and E. Scott (six for 18) bowled unchanged.

July 25th. SIMONDS 43 v. R.A.F. (F.T.C.) 50.

This match was played on Solly Joel's Ground and was conspicuous by the low scoring.

We batted first, but only C. Morgan and A. Benham, with 11 each, could get into the "tens." K. Cottam, going in last, had 8 to his credit when his partner was caught out.

E. Greenaway and A. Benham each took four wickets, for 22 and 11 runs respectively, and R. Lambourne got the other in his first and only over, finishing off the game.

Our best thanks are tendered to our opponents in assisting us with the loan of tackle and score book, ours not reaching the ground.

YOUTHS.

In our first game with Battle we lost by 2 runs and were hoping to turn the tables on the return, but found our opponents considerably stronger and with our bowling somewhat depleted, had a heavy score chalked up against us.

Battle got 109 for the loss of only two wickets, Lewis making 47. Our lads seemed upset by this score and our innings was more like a procession: we could only show 19 in the book at the finish.

Our next game was against the 1116 A.T.C., but again we were outweighed. We got 32, Cottam making 14 of them; but the 1116 beat this total by 8 and six wickets in hand.

We were without a match for the week ending June 30th and were down to play the 1836 A.T.C. the following week: they, however, did not put in an appearance. A "Captain" and "Vice-Captain's" game was played, when some decent scores were made.

The little bit of practice that week seems to have borne fruit, for we have won our first match. This was against 381 A.T.C., when we finished up in front by 16 runs. We batted first and scored 36, L. Kury getting top score with 13. Only one "duck" came home and he was last in.

Our bowlers started well and kept up the pressure, one double figure score being made, but not much support was given this boy. Lewendon and Strange took six and three for 14 and 6 respectively.

LADIES.

Our stock slumped severely against St. George's Ladies, whose opening pair put up the century, when Miss Thompson, who had scored 54, was caught out. Three runs later they declared.

Our ladies, being short, had the assistance of two of our Youths' team, but this was not sufficient to enable us to get within striking distance. Our total was 44, of which Miss Shurmer got 10, which was the highest score of our ladies.

The following match was against the Scarlet Runners, who again proved too strong for us. We were all dismissed for 12 runs and the Runners beat this ere the fall of the second wicket and then went on to make 73. Miss Curtis bowled well, taking five for 26. Miss Townsend got two for 18 and Miss Hammond one for 8.

Our next venture was against the P.O. Telephones. Neither side was at full strength and we finished up 8 runs in arrears, viz., 44 to 36. The P.O. batted first with a good opening pair who made 29 between them. The wickets were shared between Miss Townsend (four for 16), Miss Curtis (two for 1) and Miss Bettany (one for 26).

We have no double figures to record for our ladies, but "Miss Extras" contributed 17.

A return match was played with the P.O. when the scores were higher, but we again could not do the needful. Our opponents got 79, Miss Churcher making 26 not out, and "Extras" was the next highest with 21.

The bowlers were not quite so effective as the following will show: Miss Townsend four for 25, Miss Bettany two for 21, Miss Curtis two for 6 and Miss Greenaway one for 6.

Regarding our batting, Miss Bettany made 12 and Miss Russell 11, but not much other support was given; even the extras failed to assist us to the same extent as to our opponents. Our total was 47.

Mr. Eric paid a visit to the Sports Ground whilst this match was on and found much to entertain him. He was most interested in the splendid condition of the cricket pitch and tennis courts, also with the putting course that has been laid down this year. We much appreciate his visit and wish that his time was not to fully occupied so that we could see him up there more often.

J.W.J.

TENNIS.

A match with members of W.A.A.F. Unit was played on Simonds' Ground on Tuesday, July 28th, and resulted as under :—

Mrs. Stillman and Mrs. Huddy (Simonds)—

Beat Miss Oddy and Miss Rubidge, 6—3 ; 6—0.

Lost to Miss Shaw and Miss Zamora, 4—6 ; 2—6.

Beat Miss Vinall and Miss Beattie, 6—1 ; 6—0.

Mrs. Greenaway and Mrs. Lawrence (Simonds)—

Beat Miss Oddy and Miss Rubidge, 6—1 ; 6—1.

Drew with Miss Shaw and Miss Zamora, 4—6 ; 6—5.

Beat Miss Vinall and Miss Beattie, 6—3 ; 6—3.

Miss Pollard and Miss Langley (Simonds)—

Lost to Miss Oddy and Miss Rubidge, 5—6 ; 2—6.

Lost to Miss Shaw and Miss Zamora, 1—6 ; 1—6.

Drew with Miss Vinall and Miss Beattie, 6—4 ; 4—6.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

There shall come from out this noise of strife and groaning
A broader and a juster brotherhood,
A deep equality of aim, postponing
All selfish seeking to the general good.
There shall come a time when each shall to other
Be as Christ would have him—brother unto brother.

There is no wealth in the world like a noble friendship, and
nothing should induce us to sacrifice such a treasure.

Habits are at first cobwebs, at last cables.

The house is a fine house when good folks are within.

It is not so much the being exempt from faults, as the having
overcome them, that is an advantage to us.

He is happy whose circumstances suit his temper ; but he
is more excellent who can suit his temper to any circumstances.

A thing of beauty is a joy for ever ; its loveliness increases ;
it will never pass into nothingness.

A constant fidelity in small things is a great and heroic virtue.

WEDDING.
CREW—NORMAN.

The marriage of Mr. Stanley A. Crew to Miss Edith M. Norman was solemnised at St. John's Church, Reading, on Saturday, July 4th. The Vicar, the Rev. R. E. T. Bell, officiated, assisted by the Rev. E. Scott. The service was fully choral, Mr. J. Fisher being at the organ. The hymns were "Lead us Heavenly Father" and "Love Divine." The bride was given away by her grandfather, Mr. T. Norman.

A reception was held at the Caversham Bridge Hotel and attended by numerous guests. At the conclusion the happy pair left for their honeymoon, which was spent at Frilford Heath.

Among the many presents was a handsome barometer, which the staffs of the Engineering, Electrical, Wheelwrights and Power Station subscribed for. Mr. E. Jefferies, Chief Engineer, made the presentation. Many good wishes were expressed to Mr. Crew and his future wife by his numerous friends at the Brewery, where he is very popular.

F.K.

BRANCHES.

BRISTOL.

The end of the third year of "Hitler's" war finds the "Metropolis of the West" still able to take a leading part in contributing both in cash and kind towards the common cause to which every Allied Nation has resolutely consecrated itself. Here is no pessimism, despite the many anxious periods which we, in common with so many others, have passed through. We are thus able to fully appreciate the few days of relaxation of a "stay at home" holiday which most of us have to be satisfied with in these arduous times.

To be able to do so in comparative security is more than any of us would have cared to prophecy in 1939. Moreover, the "short commons" of many of the so-called essentials of life has not caused us as a nation too many qualms, as yet, thanks to the wisdom of those who have the gigantic task of organising and economising those vital supplies. We should all be fully conscious of our good fortune at the close of so momentous a period, and imbued with courage and confidence to face whatever lies before us in sure and certain hope.

Our Mr. W. H. Room had a very trying time with his family whilst on his few days relaxation period. Unfortunately the prospect of a seaside holiday was too strong to resist, but it was only by great good fortune that they escaped serious hurt, and were able to return home after only a few hours' absence.

The safety and comforts of "home," wherever it may be, take a lot of beating in these days—a sentiment which "W.H.R." now fully endorses.

Our congratulations!

On June 13th, at Horfield Parish Church, the wedding of Miss Kathleen Barton to Pilot Officer Kenneth Higgs, R.A.F., took place very quietly.

The bride, who is still a valued member of our clerical staff, commenced her service at Jacob Street ten years ago, and has rendered us extremely loyal service in the Cask and Empties Office. We all very sincerely wish both Mr. and Mrs. Higgs all good fortune and happiness in the years to come. The occasion was seized of showing the appreciation in which Mrs. Higgs is held by all her colleagues by presenting a selection of assorted cutlery to her, which we trust will be well and truly "tried out" when the din of war is over. The presentation was made in the old Board Room, without ceremony, at her own desire. Unfortunately the honeymoon at St. Ives was interrupted by the

bridegroom's recall to duty, but we trust that the future years will give them ample opportunities to revisit that unique bit of the West Country—the pilgrimage of so many of our folk who still wander down "memory lane."

PORTSMOUTH.

THE QUEEN'S REBUKE.

The Lord Mayor of Portsmouth (Sir Denis Daley) told a good story against himself recently. He was at lunch with the Queen, he said, and the subject of wartime measures, such as nurseries and municipal restaurants cropped up. "Candidly," confessed the Lord Mayor, "I did not like these restaurants when they started. I imagined that I could see family life being broken up, and people getting too lazy to look after their homes. I was wondering how far I was right when I was firmly but gently rebuked by the Queen. I had told Her Majesty that the restaurants were doing remarkably well in Portsmouth. 'What do you think of them—have they come to stay?' the Queen asked me, and in a wild moment I replied, 'Personally, I hope not.' 'Why?' inquired Her Majesty, and I answered, 'Because I can see that they will tend to break up family life and I wonder whether the women will become too lazy to cook for their families and will lose the family touch.' 'Remember, Lord Mayor,' retorted the Queen, 'it is the British women you are talking about.'"

HAVE YOU HEARD THIS ONE?

The C.O. of a certain Scots battalion serving in Libya offered his men five shillings a dozen for all prisoners captured. A few days later they were arriving in thousands. The C.O., faced with bankruptcy, became suspicious, and making inquiries, discovered that his "Jocks," in addition to the prisoners they captured themselves, were buying others from the Australians at a shilling a thousand!

Since last we wrote, "Trade" organizations operating in this area have been putting their house in order, so to speak. Both have held their annual meetings and elected their officers for a year which their members sincerely hope will see an end to the war and a return to normal business conditions. The average "landlord" is nothing if he is not optimistic!

The Portsmouth, Gosport and District Licensed Victuallers' Protection and Benevolent Society have selected Mr. Gordon H. C. Pannell to preside over their deliberations, and the choice is a popular one. "Gordon" is a member of a very old family of Portsmouth licensed victuallers, and there are actually three of them in harness in the city to-day, the best known probably being

"Brother Harry," who is also exceedingly well-known throughout the football world as one of the senior directors of the Portsmouth Football Club.

Mr. Gordon Pannell succeeds Mr. W. F. Bailey, who invested him and who, incidentally, ably combined the duties of President and Secretary during the preceding twelve months with marked ability and success. As he reminded members, the year had been an anxious and trying one, and many difficulties, such as shortage of staff and stock, had been faced and surmounted, thanks to the loyalty and keenness of the members and the co-operation of the brewers. He thought the public generally had appreciated their efforts. Mr. Bailey, who is retaining the office of secretary, is to be the recipient of a testimonial in recognition of his services.

Mr. H. Luther (Gosport) was elected as Vice-President, and Mr. Harold Privett succeeds Mr. W. H. Wren as Treasurer. Before separating, the members cordially agreed to the usual grants to local hospitals and other charitable institutions, thus concluding an excellent afternoon's work.

IN THE COUNTY.

Many trade matters were discussed at the annual meeting of the Hampshire, Dorset and Isle of Wight Union of Retailers also held at Southsea. Mr. C. E. Whinney (Southampton), the outgoing President, invested Mr. T. Holland (Wareham) as his successor, and Mr. W. C. Pharo (Fareham) was unanimously chosen as his "Vice." Mr. Harold Privett (Portsmouth) and Mr. H. J. Denham (Portsmouth) were re-elected Treasurer and Secretary respectively and thanked for their past services. Mr. Holland made a strong appeal to all associations in the area to keep contact with the Union and help in facing the increasing difficulties with which they were confronted.

Mr. T. George (Hampshire) proposed the toast of the Union at the luncheon which followed, and the new President, in reply, expressed the hope that during his term of office they would all be able to join in a Victory dinner. We hope so, too!

THE LIGHTER SIDE.

A medical officer had called to inspect a peasant's cottage in Ireland.

"Do you think," he said sternly, "that it is healthy to have a pig living in your kitchen?"

"Sure, yer honour, he's nivver had a day's illness since he came into the house."