

The Hop Leaf Gazette.

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

Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.

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No. 9



MR. W. DUNSTER.

MR. W. DUNSTER.

This month we are reproducing the photograph of Mr. W. Dunster, who has been a regular contributor to this Journal from the first issue and the writer of that popular feature "Brewery Jottings" since April, 1927. He has also reported a number of functions at the Social Club and items of sporting interest. He has the satisfaction of knowing that his notes are eagerly read each month. As a shorthand writer of many years' standing and wide experience, his reliability for accurate reports is well known and appreciated.

Mr. Dunster's appearance in the position of honour synchronizes with the completion of 29 years' service this month. Almost the whole of this time has been spent in the Correspondence Department, where he commenced as a shorthand typist and now holds second position. His work in connection with the correspondence of the General Department has brought him into touch with many important matters of organization and in addition he has acquired an all-round knowledge of ledger work and general office routine. For the last seven years he has worked in close conjunction with the Home Trade Manager. Always cheerful and willing and possessed of a good memory, he is of the type whom one instinctively trusts when seeking information and references from records.

In the early days of the War, when the depletion of staff commenced, Mr. Dunster was transferred to the General Office to assist in the general routine.

The increase in the work of the Correspondence Office in recent years can be visualized from the fact that the staff has been quadrupled since Mr. Dunster joined the Department.

Mr. Dunster has had close contact with the selling side of our trade, as he resided with a relative for three years at the well-known Cheddar Cheese Hotel in Broad Street, Reading, when he acquired a good knowledge of the trade "on both sides of the Bar" and also of catering.

In March, 1916, Mr. Dunster joined the 48th South Midland Divisional Signal Section, Royal Engineers, and in February, 1917, he was sent overseas for work at General Headquarters under the Deputy Director of Signals. The whole of his Army service was

at General Headquarters and Advanced General Headquarters in France. He was demobilized in July, 1919, and resumed work at the Brewery in the General Department and subsequently returned to his old position in the Correspondence Office.

For several seasons Mr. Dunster played for the Brewery 2nd XI cricket team, of which he was vice-captain for three years. Although he is not an active participator in football, he is an enthusiastic follower of the game. He has been a supporter of the Reading Football Club for over 30 years at Elm Park and is considered an authority on professional football and players. The discussions of the "11 a.m. Debating Society" are always enlivened by his presence. He also served on the committee of the Social Club for a short time. As a spectator he is fond of all outdoor sports and at one time played a fairly good game of billiards.

In past years Mr. Dunster was an enthusiastic camper by the river each summer, which formed an attractive recreation indulged in by members of the Reading staff. His genial disposition and fondness of humour made him a welcome companion.



EDITORIAL.

FIVE SECRETS OF HAPPINESS.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Meston distributed the prizes won by boys at the Reading Blue Coat School (Aldworth's Hospital) when he gave some useful hints for happiness. It had been said, he observed, that there were five ingredients in the recipe for happiness. The first was not to think too much of oneself. They could never aim too highly, but they should not think about themselves to the exclusion of other people. In a word, they should not be egocentric. If they got up in the morning feeling gloomy they should stand in front of a mirror and smile into it. "Force it," he said, "and keep on. In time the smile becomes real and the gloom disappears. It is an experiment worth trying, and nearly always successful." Avoiding undue shyness was the second ingredient. Shyness could be a beautiful thing, but there was a sort of shyness which was wrong—that brought by imagining that other people were watching and finding fault with them. If every time they made a slip it caused them to blush to the roots of their hair, they should get rid of the idea that someone had noticed it. The third was to avoid monotony. "Do not go through life always doing everything in exactly the same way," he said. "Do not walk always on the same side of the street and get up and go to sleep at exactly the same hour." That also included cherishing a little spirit of romance. Fourthly, they should never be shy of asking questions. There were so many things which went on in the world which they took for granted, and did not ask why they were so. The best way of overcoming the inferiority complex was by asking questions. Above all things they should cultivate a hobby—something that was inexpensive, which they could keep up all through life, and which was not an annoyance to neighbours.

SIMONDS FAMILY AND THE MAYORALTY.

At the time that Commander Simonds was a candidate for Redlands Ward on the Reading Town Council I ventured the opinion that it would not be many years before he was Mayor of Reading. The other day I was looking over some Reading records and I find that during the last 77 years three members of the Simonds family have occupied the civic chair—Mr. Henry Adolphus Simonds in 1859, Mr. Henry John Simonds in 1866, and Mr. Blackall Simonds in 1882. During the same period two representatives of the Palmer family have been the chief magistrates—Mr. George Palmer in 1857 and Mr. (afterwards the Rt. Hon.) G. W. Palmer in 1888. The Suttons did not come to the chief civic honour till later—Mr. Martin John Sutton in 1904, Mr. Leonard Sutton in 1915, 1916 and 1926, and Miss E. M. Sutton in 1934. The Blandys

have honoured associations with the Reading Mayoralty, but during the period referred to only one, Mr. H. B. Blandy, has occupied the position, but he served for four years—1871, 1872, 1878 and 1879.—"Chronicler" in the *Berkshire Chronicle*.

BUSY BLACKBIRDS.

In a previous issue I mentioned that a pair of blackbirds had built their nest and raised a family in a tree at the entrance of the Salisbury Club. The little family were soon able to fly and fend for themselves. Within a fortnight the father and mother were very busy making a few improvements to the old nest, with a view to rearing another family. Already there is the full clutch of five eggs, and when I last called father blackbird was doing his duty like a man and sitting on them.

THE LATE MR. E. M. STURGES.

Mr. J. H. Simonds, one of our esteemed directors, and his wife, have suffered a great loss by the death of Mr. E. M. Sturges, the father of Mrs. Simonds. Mr. Sturges, whose age was 74, enjoyed a wonderful popularity in East Berks. His jovial personality gained him friends everywhere. He gave unstintingly of his time and outstanding abilities in the interests of the public weal and his death leaves a gap that it will indeed be difficult to fill. Ever since its formation 39 years ago, Mr. Sturges had been a member of the Wokingham Rural District Council, on which he had rendered invaluable service. A few months after its formation he was elected vice-chairman, and he acted in this capacity until, eight years later, he was elected chairman. This office he held up to the time of his death—a period of 31 years—a record which it would be difficult to better.

GLOWING TRIBUTE TO HIS MEMORY.

At a meeting of the Rural District Council Mr. G. Ford (vice-chairman) made reference to the loss the Council had sustained. Mr. Sturges' interest in the welfare of the countryside was second to none. "His was a distinctive personality," the vice-chairman proceeded. "Now the bowl is broken and there is no other like him to follow on. Courageous in expressing his opinions, he was scrupulously fair, a man of strong will and great determination. To the poor he was ever kindhearted. He served the council with noted ability. He might have used those talents with which he was endowed for his own advancement—he was a qualified barrister and he might have gone on to be a judge—but he preferred to use them for the benefit of his neighbours, without fee or reward. To those of us who knew him more intimately we mourn his loss not only as an able chairman of this council, but as a friend."

ENFANT TERRIBLE.

The Ruridecanal Conference was at lunch, and a discussion had arisen as to the duties of the laity in country parishes. "The activities of the laywoman" said an authoritative voice, "must be definitely organised." "What is a laywoman, precisely?" asked an acute logician. The Rural Dean's sixteen-year-old daughter, breaking a long and brilliant silence: "A hen!"—*Morning Post*.

HIS MAJESTY'S SIX MAXIMS.

The King's six maxims for life and conduct, which hang in his workrooms at Buckingham Palace and Sandringham, were revealed some time ago by Sir Charles Fergusson, then Governor General of New Zealand, as under:

Teach me to be obedient to the rules of the game.

Teach me to distinguish between sentiment and sentimentality, admiring the one and despising the other.

Teach me neither to proffer nor to receive cheap praise.

If I am called upon to suffer, let me be like a well bred beast that goes away to suffer in silence.

Teach me to win if I may; if I may not, teach me to be a good loser.

Teach me neither to cry for the moon nor to cry over spilt milk.

These maxims are not merely wise sayings and precepts, but the embodiment of a sound philosophy of life, which demands self sacrifice and discipline, and a profound regard for the feelings of other people.

DEATH OF "OUR CHAPLAIN."

It is with very real sorrow that I record the sudden death of "Our Chaplain," Canon F. J. C. Gillmor, Vicar of St. Giles. He will be greatly missed in many directions. We shall sadly miss him at our annual dinner where his humorous speeches were an ever-pleasing feature. Canon Gillmor was a great admirer of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE. He had only one adverse criticism to offer and that, that it was wrapped too tightly and took him too long to unwrap. It was only a few days before his death that he met me in Broad Street and joked with me about it. I said, "But when the magazine is opened, look what you find inside." A kindly smile lit up his face as he replied, "Well it is well worth the trouble and I congratulate you with all my heart." Those were his words.

ALWAYS " FILLED THE BILL."

One who knew Canon Gillmor well in former days wrote:—"He fills the bill wherever he is. You cannot miss him in his parish or at the Rotary Club, or at the football matches. He is a mighty personality. Mr. Gillmor's voice is stentorian, but his heart is much bigger than his voice. If a man is to be mentioned by the multiplicity of his interests—and that is the standard according to anthropologists—then the vicar of St. Giles' is easily the greatest man in Reading. As a Freemason, a Rotarian, and a splendid all round sportsman, he is everywhere, but for all that he is one of the faithfulest parish priests that ever donned a cassock. I cannot think of him without calling up a vision of 'Father O'Flynn'—mightiest preacher and tenderest tasker in all Donegal."

It is not without significance that he quoted in St. Giles' Magazine for June: "Life on earth is but the dawn of Eternity, its very mists the promise of cloudless Day."

THE SOCIAL VALUE OF BEER.

"Charles Kingsley knew the worker better than most. In all his writings he spoke highly of the social value of beer, and deprecated the attacks made upon beer by the teetotalers of his day. He expressed the same view that 'A man should value his beer, and thank God for it with a good conscience as ten thousand do daily.' . . . This is the psychology of beer, which for countless generations has brought gladness to heart and cheerfulness of mind to the worker."—*His Honour Sir Edward Parry*.

MAKES YOU MISS THEM.

A teetotal pastor addressing his flock said: "It's whisky that makes you beat your wives, starve your children, neglect your farms and shoot policemen."

A Voice: "Yes, and its whisky that makes you miss them."

HOW HE " DONE 'EM."

George Dunham was in extra good form and succeeded in winning the billiards final at a well known club. And this is how he "Done 'em": He trained on Simonds XXXXX! "George" always had a "nip" before commencing play with the result that the marker had to be particularly "nippy" in picking the balls out of the pockets. The strong ale made George play strongly throughout, strengthened his nerve and stimulated his brain and that's, how Dunham "Done 'em."

SUN BATHING AND THAMES CONSERVANCY.

The Thames Conservancy Board has decided not to place a ban on sun bathing along the river side and in punts and other river craft. Hitherto, the Board's by-laws, which were last revised in 1898, did not deal with such modern innovations. When, therefore, it was decided to frame 53 new by-laws to cope with the modern conditions, the Board took a broad-minded view, and demand that sunbathers shall wear regulation costumes only in the locks. In an interview an official said, "The Board has always attempted to understand modern conditions. We have no objection to sunbathing, providing it takes place where it does not annoy other people. When boats are crowded together in locks we think the more scantily-attired bathers should have some considerations for their neighbours, and in the locks we have decided to insist on regulation costume, which is what is known as a 'University' costume, over which must be worn a mackintosh or coat. The Board intend to prosecute male bathers who wear only shorts."

MR. S. V. SHEA-SIMONDS' PORTRAIT.

The unveiling of Mr. S. V. Shea-Simonds' portrait at the Social Club was a highly pleasing little ceremony. It was a long time before our esteemed chairman could be prevailed upon to have his photograph taken for this purpose, but at long last it hangs on the wall, a fine likeness of a fine gentleman. A very large and representative company attended the ceremony, performed by Mr. Bird, and the whole-hearted applause that greeted the unveiling testified—though no testimony were needed—to the wonderful feelings of respect and affection we all entertain towards Mr. Shea-Simonds.

BEER AND ENERGY.

"A man who walks five miles in an hour and a half and quenches his thirst with a pint of beer comes home with a net gain in energy."—*The Medical correspondent of the "Star."*

BUT THERE'S NOT!

If there were a better beer than Simonds I should drink it.—*The Editor.*

AN IDEAL CLUB.

The Caversham Working Men's Social Club has been re-built and the premises now are most commodious and convenient, reflecting the greatest credit on the architect and builder. They

performed their difficult task with the maximum of speed and the minimum of inconvenience. The Steward was, perhaps, the gentleman who was inconvenienced most but he carried on with his customary courtesy and competence which, under the trying circumstances, won the admiration of all. With such well appointed premises and a jolly good lot of fellows as members the club is indeed an ideal one. Party politics, etc., are wisely taboo. I was privileged to attend the dinner held in celebration of the opening of the new premises and naturally was pleased to hear tribute paid to H. & G. Simonds Ltd. for all they had done to assist the club during the past rather difficult times. Special mention was made of our Mr. S. J. Moore for his timely help so readily rendered. The evening was in every way a very happy one.

LAWN TENNIS.

On Sunday, June 10th, we played our Oxford Branch at Reading and after an extremely keen struggle we had to admit defeat, our Oxford friends winning by 11 sets to 8 and 5 matches to 4. We were represented by C. H. Perrin and M. Adams (1st pair), J. V. Hasker and F. W. Freeman (2nd pair) and J. H. Hillier and P. James (3rd pair). The Oxford side was A. Siggery and A. C. Stone (1st pair), W. T. Sanders and H. J. Sanders (2nd pair) and F. L. Maskell and P. T. Herbert (3rd pair). A feature of the match was Adams' fast service by means of which he scored many aces. A sumptuous tea, prepared with artistic taste, was enjoyed by all and our heartiest thanks are due to those ladies who so kindly made the arrangements and waited on us so well. Quite a large company attended, including a number of ladies from Oxford. They evidently enjoyed themselves as much as we appreciated their delightful company. The games were all fought out in the true sportsmanlike fashion and we are all looking forward with keen interest to the return match at Oxford in September.



GOLLYWOG.

GOLLYWOG

Is a dirty dog :

His face is as black as a coal,
But his skin's as white
As the pale moonlight
Compared with the state of his soul.

Who was it broke the sewing-machine ?
Who was it spilt the ink ?
Who was it pushed the plasticine
Down the nursery sink ?
Who was it pulled the horsehair out
From the seat of the best armchair ?
Gollywog did it, there isn't a doubt—
Nobody else was there.

Gollywog

Is a dirty dog ;

He's steeped in original sin
From his jet-black hair
To his set black stare
And his bold and shameless grin.

Who rubbed coal on the mantelpiece ?
Who spread jam on the floor ?
Who stuffed pellets of candle-grease
In the lock of the bathroom door ?
Who put jam in Marmaduke's hat
And butter in Mary's hair ?
Gollywog did it, I'm sure of that—
Nobody else would dare.

JAN.—in *Punch*.

BEER AND STOUT.

It was stated in a motoring case at Gateshead that a driver named Beer came into collision with another named Stout.

ONLY THE BOSS.

There is one man in every business who is supposed to know every job in the place. He is at the beck and call of every man, boy and girl. They come to him for everything they want. They bring him every kind of trouble and difficulty they are unable or unwilling to settle for themselves. If there is an irate customer to be pacified, a row in the workshop to be settled, an obscure order to interpret, a disputed account to unravel, he has to do it. He is supposed to know every price, every discount, every customer. Every mistake he makes, he has to pay for. Every mistake everyone else makes he has to pay for, too. He is expected to be patient and considerate to all. No one minds interrupting him or taking up his time. He is probably the least considered man in the place. He gets exactly what he can earn. He cannot strike for more wages and he cannot throw up his job—*He is only the Boss.*

DIED ON RETIRING DAY.

MR. R. BIGGS' 54 YEARS AT BREWERY.

On what was due to be his first day of retirement, after having served with Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, of Reading, longer than any other member of the staff, Mr. Ralph Biggs died at his home at 11, Christchurch Gardens, Reading, on Friday, June 1st. Mr. Biggs had been in the firm's employment over 54 years.

Mr. Biggs had been ill for five weeks. He was a Reading man, coming from an old local family. A bachelor, he lived at Christchurch Gardens with his sister, Miss Annie Biggs. Four years ago—on March 31st, 1930—Mr. Biggs was presented by the directors of Messrs. Simonds with a silver teapot and a cheque in recognition of

his long and loyal service during 50 years, and he was invited to luncheon with the directors; he received letters of congratulation from the chairman (Mr. Shea-Simonds) and managing director (Mr. F. A. Simonds). A presentation was also made by the office staff of a mahogany music stool—bearing an inscribed plate—a chiming clock, a case of pipes and a book with the subscribers' names. Striking appreciations of his character and sense of duty were voiced on that occasion by his colleagues, the late Mr. H. F. Lindars and Mr. C. E. Gough.

CHIEF CASHIER AT ONE TIME.

Mr. Biggs' first position was in the branch and refreshment department when the firm were contractors for the South-eastern Railway refreshment rooms, and also Margate jetty extension, Hastings pier and Folkestone bathing establishment; and his work included checking the stock and percentage sheets. He subsequently moved to the general office, and remained there in various important positions, including that of chief cashier. Lately, in addition to railway work, he had been in charge of the firm's insurance affairs.

Mr. Biggs was an accomplished musician, and the music-stool was a happy choice of gift from his colleagues. He played both violin and piano, and had performed in many local orchestral concerts. For many years he was a member of the Philharmonic, Orpheus and College orchestras.

The news of Mr. Biggs' death was heard during the luncheon given by the directors of Messrs. Simonds to the managers at the Ship Hotel, Reading, on the day of his death. The company stood in silence, and tributes and expressions of sympathy were voiced by the chairman, the managing director, Mr. C. E. Gough, and others.

The funeral, which took place at Christ Church and Reading cemetery, was attended by a number of colleagues and representatives of the firm. The service was conducted by the vicar of Christ Church, the Rev. E. H. Winstanley. Mr. Pearce was at the organ, and the hymns "On the Resurrection morning" and "Now the labourer's task is o'er" were sung.

Flowers and wreaths included those from the directors of H. & G. Simonds Ltd., Reading; the Home Offices, The Brewery, Reading; Secretarial and Accountants' Office, H. & G. Simonds Ltd.; Branch Department, H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.; Estates and Surveyors' Department, The Brewery, Reading; the Brewing Staff, H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.; Mr. W. H. Wigley; Mr. Herbert H. Belsey; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Gough; Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Kingston.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Night is not dark to the good nor is day bright to the wicked.

Bustle is not industry, nor is impudence courage.

Knowledge talks slowly; ignorance talks loud.

Deep rivers flow with silent majesty; shallow brooks are noisy.

Let hope be our handmaid, and faith be our staff.

Little deeds are like little seeds—they grow to flowers or to weeds.

Read not books alone, but men; and, above all, read thyself.

Every good act is charity.

Perhaps a woman loves secrets for the pleasure it affords her to let them escape.

"Of Courtesy, it is much less
Than Courage of Heart or Holiness,
Yet in my walks it seems to me
That the Grace of God is in Courtesy."

"Thank heaven for things you cannot buy
And would not care to sell,
For cloudless sun in summer sky,
The primrose in the dell.

For echoes on the lonely wold,
The drowsy drone of bees,
For ripened corn's unminted gold,
And sight of summer seas."

The great business of life is to be, to do, to do without, and to depart.

ENGLAND'S HEART.

England's heart ! Oh never fear
The sturdy good old stock ;
Nothing's false or hollow here,
But solid as a rock :
England's heart is sound enough,
And safe in its old place,
Honest, loyal, blithe, and bluff,
And open as her face.

England's heart ! With beating nerves
It rallies for the throne—
And, like Luther, well preserves
The knee for God alone !
England's heart is sound enough,
Unshaken and serene,
Like her oak-trees, true and tough,
And old—but glad and green !

England's heart ! All Europe hurled
To ruin, strife, and death,
Sees yet one Zoar in all the world
The Goshen of the earth !
England's heart is sound enough—
And—though the skies be dark,
Though the winds be loud, and waves be rough—
Safe as Noah's ark !

England's heart ! ay God be praised,
That thus, in patriot pride,
An English cheer can yet be raised
Above the stormy tide :
Safe enough and sound enough,
It thrills the heart to feel
A man's a bit of English stuff,
True from head to heel !

From Tuppens Ballads.

A GREAT THOUGHT.

There are frequent complaints in these days, that servants and assistants generally are unsatisfactory and deteriorating. If so, what is the inference? Domestic servants, and assistants in business and trade, come closely and continuously into contact with their employers; and they are about them from morning till night, and see them in every phase of character, in every style of humour, in every act of life. How powerful is the force of example! Rectitude is promoted, not only by precept but by example, and, so to speak, by contact it is increased more widely. Kindness is communicated in the same way. If servants come to you bad, you may at least improve them; possibly almost change their nature. Here follows, then, a recipe to that effect—Let them observe in your conduct to others just the qualities and virtues that you would desire they should possess and practise as respects you. Be uniformly kind and gentle. If you reprove, do so with reason and good temper. Be respectable, and you will be respected by them. Be kind, and you will meet with kindness from them. Consider their interests, and they will consider yours. A friend in a servant is no contemptible thing. Be to every servant a friend; and heartless, indeed, will be the servant who does not warm in love to you.

DEATH OF MR. E. M. STURGES, OF BARKHAM.

We deeply regret to record the passing away of Mr. E. M. Sturges, father-in-law of Mr. J. H. Simonds, a director of this firm. To all the relatives we offer our sincere sympathy.

The eldest son of the late Canon Sturges, Rector of Wokingham, Mr. Sturges was educated at Winchester and Pembroke College, Cambridge. He was captain of the football and cricket teams at the latter. He took his degree and went to Australia as A.D.C. to Sir Henry Loch, Governor of Victoria. On his return he studied and qualified as a barrister-at-law at the Inner Temple, but never practised.

Mr. Sturges had been a member of the Wokingham Rural District Council since its foundation 39 years ago and was chairman for 31 years. His work in connection with water supplies and drainage has been a tremendous boon to the district.

At the time of his death Mr. Sturges was president of the Garth Hunt Club and a Justice of the Peace for the Wokingham Petty Sessional Division. He was also chairman of the Wokingham Board of Guardians, until it was disbanded in 1930, and chairman and a vice-president of the Wokingham Agricultural Association.

Those who had the privilege of contact with him were conscious of the strong, decisive character and dynamic vitality of this fine English gentleman, whose joviality and extreme fairness gained him a wide circle of friends and by whom he will be sadly missed.

BEER—THE ENGLISHMAN'S HERITAGE.

(Second instalment.)

By *Spenser Flower*.

Amongst the thousands of verses and poems which have been written extolling the merits of ale there is a quaint one written by an ecclesiastic about Nottingham Ale, which was celebrated long before Burton. This cleric wrote :

"Ye Bishops and Deacons, Priests, Curates and Vicars,
Come taste, and you'll certainly find it is true
That Nottingham Ale is the best of all liquors—
And who understands its great virtues like you?
It dispels every vapour, saves pens, ink and paper.
For when you're disposed in the pulpit to rail,
It will open your throats, you can speak without notes.
When inspired with Bumpers of Nottingham Ale."

Not only have there always been poems galore regarding ale, but hundreds of writers and historians have referred to the merits of the beverage. In 1637 John Taylor, the poet, wrote a colossal volume, mostly in rhyme, in which he glorifies our English ale. The full title of this book is rather a mouthful—"Drink and Welcome," or "The Famous History of the Drinks now in use in the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with an especial declaration of the potency and virtue of our English Ale, together with a description of all sorts of waters, from the Ocean Sea to the tears of a Woman."

Rents in the olden days were often paid in ale, showing the high value that was put upon it, and, of course, wages in part or in whole were often paid in ale. The Saxons and Danes were of a very social disposition, and delighted in forming themselves into fraternities or guilds for promoting fellowship amongst their members. One of the laws regulating these fellowship meetings was a rigid one, and that was *that ale and nothing but ale* must be drunk.

In foreign countries, especially the wine-producing countries, ale was considered a luxury, and from the Twelfth to the Fifteenth Century the fame of English ale was so great that a cask was often sent with an embassy to foreign potentates, as the greatest compliment that could be given. From the earliest times taxes on the export of beer were considered a Royal prerogative, and in the reign of Edward VI and Queen Elizabeth English ale had attained such fame abroad that large revenues were obtained from export licences.

It is doubtful if there are many people to-day who know the origin of the crosses in the form of an X which are used on beer

barrels—single X, double X, and treble X. In the year 1531 brewers were forbidden to make the barrels in which their ale was sold. This was done partly to protect the Ancient Guild of Coopers, who complained that their craft was being damaged, and partly because certain unscrupulous brewers made smaller casks than the standard 36-gallon size. Inspectors were appointed, and had the right of entry into brew houses, and were instructed to mark any illegal vessel with St. Anthony's Cross—which is in the form of an X—and although the reason is no longer applicable, this cross is the origin of the X's still in universal use on brewer's casks to-day.

* * * *

Legislation during the Commonwealth was particularly bitter and unfair, in a narrow and puritanical sense, but gradually a more enlightened attitude became apparent. With the exception, perhaps, of the attempt to force through the 1908 Licensing Bill, modern legislation is tending—and rightly—to address and confine itself to the regulation of abuses and to the general welfare of the community, without attempting to curtail the reasonable wishes and requirements of the huge majority of the English people.

The Monasteries, of course, were great brewers of ale, and until quite recently all the big houses and indeed almost all houses of any importance and size brewed their own beer, and the term "home-brewed beer" is, of course, heard even to-day.

It was only approximately eighty to one hundred years ago that small private breweries gradually became amalgamated, and later joint stock companies sprang up in this country, and the habit of private home brewing fell into disuse. The reasons for this were numerous, due partly to financial reasons and partly to increased transport facilities.

There is no doubt whatever, despite what some old diehards say, that the quality, purity, and general excellence of the beer supplied by the larger breweries of to-day are a vast improvement on the rough home-made beers of sixty or seventy years ago. As one writer says, "Every want, whim, or fancy of the ale drinker may now be gratified. There are old Scotch or English strong ale for those who love a strong brew, porter for the labouring classes, stout for the weakly, and last, but far from least, that splendid life-giving liquid pale ale, which, when bottled, vies with champagne in its excellence and delicacy of flavour, and beats it altogether out of the field when we take into consideration its sustaining, health-giving, and restorative powers."

* * * *

The Summer months are those which cause all brewers most anxiety. It is at this time that intense care has to be taken. The

slightest carelessness may cause a whole brewing to go wrong, which would involve them in a heavy financial loss, as the whole brewing would have to be recalled and replaced.

One would hardly expect, in this connection, to hear that fruit trees in blossom near a brewery are a special source of anxiety. The reason for this is that there are many succulent juices in a brewery which have a great attraction for wasps and flies. Wasps and bees have never been taught proper manners, and they invariably omit to wipe their feet on the mat when paying a visit to the brewery. Therefore, although every precaution is taken, these insects occasionally get in, and tiny particles of pollen adhering to them may be brought into contact with the yeast; this at a certain critical stage may set up detrimental action.

Beer is an interesting subject. Every conceivable beverage has been devised by the mind of man from the earliest dawn of history, but, at any rate, as far as Englishmen are concerned, good honest beer has been the one which has outlived and will outlive them all. The present generation, like their forefathers, has found in it qualities both refreshing and sustaining to be derived from no other beverage. Beer is not a fancy, not even a tradition, old as it is; it is an essential and fundamental part of English life and health.

“THE BRITISH EMPIRE”—*continued.*

(BY E. W. KIRBY.)

III. *Dominion Growth and Development.*

Having briefly examined the infant growth of our policy towards our overseas possessions, it is now possible to pass on and observe the manner in which these offspring have progressed towards maturity. We are all familiar with the analogous term “Mother Country,” and if we proceed to carry the analogy further it will become increasingly apparent that the Empire Dominions and Colonies are very like a family of sturdy children remarkable for their independence and parent-love. In order to obtain a clear impression of the general development towards maturity we must return once more to Canada and cover the history of that country's growth after the War of American Independence.

We have already seen how the French colonists showed their preference for British rule during the stormy period which followed on their absorption into the Empire, and this leaves us free to deal with the changing political attitude which resulted from the independence of the Canadian spirit and their steady economic progress. The fundamental cause of Canadian political advance

was, strangely enough, racial antagonism. In the year 1791 the Home Government split the country up into two parts—Upper Canada and Lower Canada; the former being chiefly populated by English Protestants, whilst the latter contained a large proportion of French Roman Catholics. For administrative purposes both divisions were allowed a legislative assembly appointed by popular vote with a legislative council nominated by the King, and for a brief period the arrangement enjoyed a fair measure of success. Eventually, however, trouble began to brew in Lower Canada. The racial and religious contention already existing was enhanced by an economic difference due to the fact that the French settlers were mostly farmers, whilst the English were mostly town-dwelling merchants. In the early part of the nineteenth century during the Napoleonic war, efforts were made by French agents to advance their country's cause amongst the ignorant French-Canadian colonists, but in 1812 England and the United States embarked upon a war with each other and, for the time being, internal affairs in Canada were forgotten in the face of the common foe. Shortly after the declaration of peace, however, the old differences again became pronounced and the year 1837 (the first of Queen Victoria's reign) witnessed an outbreak of open rebellion in Lower Canada under the leadership of Louis Joseph Papineau, a French Canadian. The outbreak proved futile and half-hearted which enabled the authorities to suppress all disturbance with comparative ease, particularly as the Roman Catholic bishop of Montreal used his considerable influence in favour of the English government. The fiery orator Papineau promptly disappeared from the scene when things did not work out as he had intended and he sought refuge in the United States.

At the same period attention was drawn to certain similar happenings in Upper Canada in which a Scotsman named William Lyon Mackenzie occupied a central role. Matters here assumed a different aspect in that broad racial antagonisms were not primarily concerned. The Reform extremists responsible for this outbreak were mostly of our own race, but as extremists they were in a minority and support for their enterprise was singularly lacking. As a result this rising was also suppressed without difficulty and Mackenzie (previously leader of the Reform Party and a member of the legislative assembly) was forced to emulate his French contemporary by fleeing to the United States.

Now, although in themselves of little import, these risings served to produce very far-reaching results for they drew the attention of the Home Government to the necessity of instituting some measures to redress the Canadian grievances. The result was the production of one of the most decisive documents in Empire history—the Durham Report. Upon being approached to go to

Canada and conduct investigations, Lord Durham, although in ill-health, accepted and wore himself out in his magnificent effort. The question presented grave difficulties, for statesmen of the time were, not unnaturally, slow to realize the possibilities of colonial independence. They rightly argued that a colonial governor would be unable to act on the advice of both his colonial ministers and the Home Government. The issue undoubtedly lay between continued colonial dependence and political separation. If the policy of separation was adopted, what dire results would follow?

In Lord Durham's capable hands the problem assumed more manageable dimensions and proved in fact quite easy of solution. In his report Lord Durham emphasized the necessity for providing the Canadians with government based on principles similar to those which determined the administration of British subjects in this country. But the most notable point was the compromise which he indicated as being applicable to the situation by granting the Canadian's desire for self-government and at the same time retaining considerable ties upon their unity with this country by reserving certain subjects to be dealt with by the English Parliament. The Canadians, he suggested, should be granted full licence to conduct their own *internal* affairs but *external* affairs, notably Trade, Defence and Foreign Policy should be reserved as the prerogative of Westminster. The second revolutionary step he proposed was the union of Upper and Lower Canada in an effort to introduce an awakening of national unity which would effectively disperse any disruptive tendencies. Fortunately for the future of Canada these two main policies were adopted and the signs of Canada's approach towards maturity became manifest. Inadequate Representative government was replaced by a fairly comprehensive form of Responsible government which enabled the Canadians to control the executive as well as the legislative, the reserved subjects being left to Imperial authority which acted through the mediumship of the Secretary of State and the Governor.

The next two important phases in connection with the Canadian problem followed swiftly upon the grant of Responsible government. Encroachment into the field of fiscal policy followed in 1858-59 when Canada proceeded to put on tariffs against our manufactured goods. This step towards increased autonomy was undertaken owing to economic development in other fields than the production of raw materials such as wheat and timber. The Canadians were building up manufacturing industries of their own, but these could not be expected to stand unprotected against the old-established manufacturing concerns of this country or any other. In order to protect their new enterprises the Canadians accordingly put on tariffs against foreign goods and finally against our own.

Home industrialists rose in arms and applied pressure to our Government who entered a strong protest; but the Canadians gained the day and retained the right of determining their own fiscal policy without interference from this country. So a further great decisive step towards Canadian independence had been taken and the most forward of our "youngsters" was well on the path towards complete maturity.

Then, less than ten years after this display of economic independence, Canada undertook another big step by the adoption of a Federal system of government. Durham's hope of a unity between the French and English elements by the amalgamation of Upper and Lower Canada had been disappointed. The French had not become Anglicized, and the great increase in population and prosperity in the more English district of Upper Canada tended to revive a bitter racial antagonism. The field of Canadian politics tended to become a battle-ground for the two distinct racial elements, chiefly on account of the question as to whether Upper Canada was to have a bigger representation in the Canadian Parliament than Lower Canada. The interesting point about this crisis is that it was met and solved entirely by Canadian initiative. Three notable Canadians were chiefly responsible for the solution of this new difficulty. The two distinct racial elements were represented by John Alexander Macdonald and George Etienne Cartier, who had both fought in the opposing forces during the rebellion of '37. These two men had now come to the fore as politicians; they joined forces with George Brown, editor of *The Globe*, who had previously attacked them both, and the three played a leading part in drawing up a Federal scheme of Government for the whole country. In 1867 the British Government confirmed this new constitution and passed the British North American Act which virtually created a new nation, "The Dominion of Canada." So the Canadian people in their growth were showing themselves full of resource and determination to make a success of the land which had been hewn out by the endeavours of pioneers, those hardy and invincible fore-runners who compel a devotion to duty in those who follow their footsteps by the staunch traditions which they hand down.

The next forty years showed great advance for Canada. Settlers continued to flock to the country, great trans-continental railways were built, manufacturing industries developed and the vast tracts of prairie became converted into wheat-bearing land. Eventually three great new provinces were formed—Manitoba in 1870, Alberta and Saskatchewan in 1905. Other large tracts had been added in 1870 when the Canadian Government bought the whole of the country originally known as Prince Rupert's Land

from the Hudson's Bay Company and the North-West Company. In 1871 British Columbia, where gold had been discovered, agreed to come into the Dominion on condition that a railway should be built to unite it with Canada within ten years. Two years later Prince Edward Island also joined the Dominion and by 1878 the whole of British North America with the exception of Newfoundland, our oldest colony, had become united in the Canadian Federation.

So far we have confined ourselves to the fortunes of our Western Empire in its struggle towards maturity. Our next task will be to follow the growth of the other Dominions along their respective paths towards self-determination, but Canada's progress will always stand out as being far in advance of others and as having pointed the way along the road to independence and self-government.

(To be continued.)



CAUGHT IN THE ACT.

This little boy is seen in the act of taking an egg from a moorhen's nest. But he had a kindly heart and replaced the egg.

A NATURE NOTE.

(BY C.H.P.)

THE MAYFLY IS UP!

HAPPY MEMORIES.

WATCHING THE FISH FEED.

The mayfly was up on the Thames on May 6th, though not in very large numbers. This is rather early. What happy memories the appearance of that little fly brings back to my mind. I think the most delightful days of my life have been spent on a trout stream. Here you see one of the great films of the pageant of Nature that never fails to fascinate. The rising trout, the gorgeously coloured dragon flies feeding with a fierceness that must mean a terrible toll on the little insects as they buzz about in bliss, little knowing that these voracious jaws of death will so soon swallow them up. And then, a mayfly, after two years under water, hangs himself out to dry, ready for his initial flight. He wings his way merrily downstream, but in less than a minute is seized by a swift. Another has no sooner set sail, like a stately little yacht, than he is gulped down by a hungry trout. With the mayfly it is indeed, as often as not, a case of "Brief life is here our portion."

At my feet, amid the rushes, I notice a bit of gay colour. It is the beak of a moorhen who is sitting on her cunningly concealed nest. I do not disturb her, but pass on. And then I come to a spot where the stream seems weary and slow. It was here that a very old friend of mine and I used to halt and perhaps tie another fly to the trace to see if that would bring us better luck. Anyhow we always paused at this particular place, chatted and compared notes concerning wild Nature's ways. On the last occasion we were there the sun was setting and the beautiful evening, with the rich red sky, seemed to speak of a wonderful dawn. Yes, and I knew, oh, so well, that my old friend's sun was setting too. He had wearied with the walk. He and the river at this spot seemed weary also, and those lines came to my mind—

Somehow, the weariest river will find its way
Right on to the sea.

And he—how I miss him!—has found his way "Right on to the sea," where, I doubt not, the waters are characterised by a calm, aye, a peace that passeth understanding.

VIEWED FROM BEHIND A BUSH.

Away back by the Thames I hide behind a bush and watch the roach and dace making meals off mayflies. What a lot one may learn about fish by thus studying their ways. And, when you have a day's fishing, that knowledge will stand you in good stead. A mayfly sails down right under the bush. A little dace sees it, rushes within a few inches of the succulent morsel, but seems doubtful as to its reality and is off like a flash and out of sight, only to reappear again. The dace has another good look at the fly, almost touches it with its mouth, still has his doubts, and shoots off again. A third time he comes, ever so cautiously, appears to have a general look round—fortunately I keep very still and escape his notice—makes a determined rush at the fly and splash! that poor mayfly has gone down that lane whence no traveller returns. Little fish, you see, like other little creatures—not to mention names—often make the most fuss over little things.

MORE DIGNIFIED BEHAVIOUR.

How different was the behaviour of a much bigger fish, a dace weighing about $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. He, too, was equally cautious. He saw a mayfly, swam leisurely round it to make doubly sure that everything was in order, then made straight towards it and gulped down the fly so gently that he hardly disturbed the water's surface. You see it is not by any means always the noisiest rise that denotes the largest fish. Many roach and dace were on the look-out for a mayfly meal and then there came along a lovely trout. He was beautifully marked and evidently meant business. He "hung" in the water about two feet below the surface. Another little boat in the shape of a mayfly came along full sail. The trout had no sooner seen it than without any more ado he swam leisurely towards it, seized the fly and shot off. He repeated this performance on two more occasions much to my entertainment. No doubt this interesting picture will be shown each day until further notice. And if you like I will tell you where that bush is and where you can see the fish feeding—after I have caught that trout!

By the way, I saw a cuckoo having her fill of these flies.

FEW FRIENDS—BUT MANY ENEMIES.

Poor little mayfly! The swallows and swifts, the martins, the starlings, the sparrows and countless other birds are ever on the look-out for them at this season of the year. The swallows and the swifts pick them up off the water or catch them in the air. Floating down among the mayflies I noticed a good-sized swan's feather. A sand martin swept down and seized it, apparently for building purposes. She flew aloft with the feather and, when

she had reached a fairly high altitude she let it go. Then began a rare chase. A swallow made a dive at it and missed; another sand martin missed by inches, and then a swift, like an arrow-head shooting through the air, whose aim was sure, grasped the feather, flew with it a short distance, and then released it. There was another wonderful aerial display as bird after bird dashed towards the feather which was eventually seized by a sand martin, the same one, I believe, that took it from the water in the first place. This bird retained the feather and was soon lost to view in the distance. No doubt that feather now forms part of the cosy lining of a little nest in a sunny bank or sandpit.

NO OFFENCE MEANT.

Up the Thames-side wild rape grows in profusion. It is very strong, but an excellent vegetable, and often, of an early morning, I go and gather some for dinner. I am very fond of it and eat a lot of the tender little shoots. I call it my "special spinach." I told a great friend of mine about it. He said he had some people coming to dinner on a certain occasion and I, good naturedly, rose early and gathered some of this rape specially for him. I informed him beforehand that it was much more bitter than turnip tops. Well, the rape was cooked and served. Rather than being delighted with my "rare refreshing fruit" this little dinner party were as bitter about the vegetable as the rape itself.

Sad to say, it was a long time before my valued friend would speak to me again.

I am still eating the rape, but I take jolly good care to supply none to any more of my friends.

A LITTLE STRANGER.

I know a good deal about birds, but this week I saw one in my back garden such as I have never seen before—at least, in a wild state. Not quite so large as a sparrow, the bird has a brilliant red, or crimson, and rather powerful beak, orange cheeks, greyish breast, brown back and tail, and red rump.

Do you know what it is? Perhaps someone has missed it from a cage. Anyhow, here it is, still hopping about in my garden as I write. Whatever your name, you are ever welcome, little visitor.

AN ABUNDANCE OF QUEEN WASPS.

Last year seemed a great year for wasps' nests, and this year bids fair to go one better for there is an abundance of queen wasps. Two friends, at Mapledurham, killed, within one week, over fifty, and still the queen wasps come.

SOCIAL CLUB.

CRICKET.

The merry month of May has flown and King Cricket has lost a quarter of his reign.

We, of the Brewery, have not carried all before us but have enjoyed pleasant games, except for two Saturdays when the wind was too keen to make fielding a thing over which to rejoice.

To take the games in sequence, commencing with the "A" team, we start with very old friends and opponents—Heckfield and Mattingley. Win or lose they are always merry and bright.

May 5th. "A" TEAM, 38 v. HECKFIELD AND MATTINGLEY, 28.

We entertained on Prospect Park and having won the toss elected to bat. The start was disastrous. In fact, but for a bright partnership between J. H. Wadhams and P. James we should have looked very poor stuff. Strange how these Heckfield bowlers get on top!

Our bowling came off and was backed up by smart fielding. F. W. Clark came out with 5 for 13 and J. W. Jelly 4 for 15, with one run out.

Our total seemed much too small to be of much use, but a run garnered means one to be made to equal it.

May 12th. "A" TEAM, 80 for 8 (dec.) v. IPSDEN, 49.

This was an ideal day for cricket and a pleasant spot to be playing. The outfield it is true leaves much to be desired. One could not imagine Gents v. Players occupying the site.

Here again we batted first and were able to declare when 8 wickets were down.

Our first partnership put on 20, C. Josey getting 11, and a little later Wadhams and Clark took over the command and added 42 before being separated; the Skipper's orders, owing to a late start and then the tea interval, being to have a "go."

Ipsden's batting was not quite so reliable as usual and our bowlers, again backed up with safe hands in the field, were on top. Jelly, 5 for 19 and Clark, 5 for 29, bowled throughout the innings and the last wicket fell only a few minutes before the allotted time for drawing stumps.

May 19th. "A" TEAM, 30 v. EVERSLEY STREET, 146 for 5.

We either had a "hoodoo" over our batting or bowling. No! on another glance at the score book, we must say its presence was on both.

We were none too strongly represented and having decided to have first knock soon wished we had not. The wickets fell with startling rapidity and no wielder of the willow added an iota to his reputation.

On taking over the ball, we soon began to think of Heckfield, for "Nobby" took a good wicket with his second delivery. The fielding, previously fairly safe, came unstuck and three catches went begging. Several mishits fell safe and our opponents took full advantage of the facts. Our score was equalled with the fall of the second wicket. While the bowling kept several of the batsmen quiet, it held no terrors for G. Taylor, who went in first and carried his bat for 87. The umpires called time, but I think, had we known his score, we should have carried on for a while to have given him the chance of making his century. 92 for 5 and the score board at the end showed 146 for the same number of wickets.

Clark bowled well taking four of the wickets for 34.

May 26th. "A" TEAM, 88 v. FRIMLEY, 110 for 6.

We lost the toss, but were put in to bat. Josey held the pride of place. He went in first and came out to a good catch for the fall of the ninth wicket. Wadhams (15) and James (13) were next in batting honours. We had, on paper, quite a strong side out, but it was not good enough on the day. Captain F. Goatley, although bowling with a sore foot, took 6 for 28.

We started off pretty well and got the first two wickets down for 5 runs. Then the wheel turned and some good chances were put on the grass. Opportunities neglected bear bad fruit and R. Finch went on to make 39. At the end of the session the two "not outs" were both in their twenties and we had 6 down for 68 and even then had a sporting chance. Clark again proved the most successful bowler, with 4 for 32. Reg. Broad had 1 for 28 and deserved much better figures. Several times he beat his man, but just missed hitting the stumps.

Now for the "B's." Unfortunately the season has been unfruitful so far. Three matches played and all went the wrong way.

Before dealing with the matches themselves, let me, on behalf of the Club, extend our sympathy to Mr. R. Main, the skipper of

the "B's," who recently lost his father after a long illness. Naturally this loss kept him out of the team and his presence and ability make a great deal of difference.

May 12th. "B" TEAM, 45 v. BARNDALE, 78 for 8.

Barndale had first knock and although the first wicket fell for 2, the next partnership added 47 and the next 15. From that point we did better and the next five only added 14. Mileham had good figures to show, he taking 4 for 7. We tried seven different bowlers. Mulcock and Neville shared the other 4 wickets.

When our turn for batting came, only Chandler held the fort for any length of time. He made 21 out of a total of 45. That should suffice for our batting narrative.

May 19th. "B" TEAM, 73 v. Y.M.C.A. 2ND XI, 114.

The Young Men batted first and we made a splendid start, the first two men being out without scoring. Then the runs began to flow and we could not shift Berry until he had made 39. Later on Cook weighed in with 29 and another individual score of 17 altered the complexion of things considerably. Neville bowled well and in ten overs took 4 for 38. Alas for averages! Deverall had a spell towards the close and in an over and a half got 3 for 2.

Neville then proved his ability with the bat, for he made 42 out of our total of 73. The latter was quite a respectable reply to the big total put up against us. No other batsman was able to get into double figures although Kemp, with 9, nearly did so.

May 26th. "B" TEAM, 52 v. READING P.O. TELEPHONES, 112.

We were to have played on the Christchurch Playing Field but found the pitch there was not yet fit for use. In about a month's time it should be a splendid pitch, being almost level and the outfield is practically the same.

We were fortunate enough to get a pitch on Prospect Park and so were able to carry out the fixture. We were rather afraid our opponents would be too strong for us, but the match was the outcome of a challenge inserted in the local press, to fill our vacant date.

The "Telephones" batted and made 23 for the first wicket. The next fell at the same score, but afterwards the tally steadily mounted. Scores of 26, 22 not out, and 19 twice were made. R. Main did the most damage, his 7 wickets costing 60 runs. Farrance bowled 10 overs, only 20 runs were made off him, but he could not find the stumps.

Our batting started badly and never fully recovered. Four down for seven is not good reading. Then a stand followed which carried the total to 36, but it did not last and we were all out for 52. Deverall 18 and Farrance 14 were the top weights. C. F. Richardson did the damage with the ball, taking 6 for 19.

Ere these notes are read in print we shall have played, wind and weather permitting, the Mess Staff, R.M.C., at Camberley and Whitley Hall on their ground, which will duly be reported.

The cards are now in circulation and it is hoped they will readily be taken up by members.

The inter-Departmental matches will start on Thursday, June 7. The rules and provisional fixture list are appended.

It is hoped before the season is completed we may have a trophy for the winner. In any case it is the sincere wish of the Executive that these games may foster good fellowship among the members, bring forth fresh talent and prove a pleasant way of spending several evenings. Thursday is the best night to secure a pitch on the King's Meadows. Brief reports will follow in due course.

J.W.J.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CRICKET LEAGUE.

RULES.

1. The following departments, or amalgamations of departments, will form cricket teams to play in the above league, and will each appoint their own captain:—
 - Building and Surveyor's Departments.
 - Delivery Department.
 - Offices.
 - Wine & Spirit Department, A. S. Cooper's and Cask Office.
 - Rest of Brewery.
2. All games to be decided on one innings each and, if possible, will be played on the King's Meadows Recreation Ground.
3. The respective captains shall, before the game commences, decide the time for drawing stumps and, in view of the time agreed upon, the first team batting shall not take more than half the period allowed for the game for their innings. If the game runs the allotted time, the team scoring the greatest number of runs shall

be deemed the winners. The umpires, on appeal, shall use their discretion to terminate the game through failing light, bad weather or other causes.

4. A team, through business ties, being unable to fulfil any fixture as arranged, shall give the Secretary at least three days' notice, to enable him to rearrange the match.

5. Four points will be awarded for a win; two for a tie. In the event of a match being undecided each side will take one point. If a game runs the allotted time it shall be deemed finished. The winner shall be the team scoring the greatest number of runs. A tie shall be when both teams score the same number. An undecided game shall be when it is terminated by the decision of the umpires through failing light, bad weather or other causes.

6. No player may play for more than one team during the season.

7. Each team to arrange for an umpire, and for the scores to be taken.

8. The captains of the teams engaged will jointly be responsible for the conveyance to and from the club and ground of the cricket bag and for its safe custody. A list of the tackle will be kept in the bag.

9. The score book to be handed to the secretary the day after the match.

10. If two or more teams gain the same number of points, the winner of the league shall be decided upon the average runs scored per match.

MATCHES PLAYED AND TO BE PLAYED ON THURSDAYS,
ON KING'S MEADOWS.

June	7.	Surveyors	v.	Delivery.
"	14.	Offices	v.	W. & S.
"	21.	Rest	v.	Surveyors.
"	28.	Delivery	v.	Offices.
July	5.	W. & S.	v.	Rest.
"	12.	Offices	v.	Surveyors.
"	19.	W. & S.	v.	Delivery.
"	26.	Rest	v.	Offices.
Aug.	9.	Surveyors	v.	W. & S.
"	16.	Delivery	v.	Rest.

NOTE.—It may be found desirable to bring the last two matches forward, but due notice of any alteration in this fixture list will be notified to the respective teams in good time.

SPORTS MEETING, FETE AND FLOWER SHOW.

A further meeting of the committee was held on Monday, June 4th, to discuss arrangements for the sports meeting and fete to be held on August 25th. Mr. L. A. Simonds in the chair.

Mr. C. B. Cox was elected secretary of the bar committee.

The reports of the sub-committees were fully discussed and the following events decided upon. Races:—

<i>Children's</i>	...	80 yards handicap for Boys over 7 years and under 11 years.
		80 yards handicap for Girls over 7 years and under 11 years.
		100 yards handicap for Boys over 11 years and under 15 years.
		100 yards handicap for Girls over 11 years and under 15 years.
<i>Employees'</i>	...	440 yards Scratch—Men.
		220 yards Handicap—Men.
		100 yards Scratch—Men.
		80 yards Handicap—Veterans (45 years and over).
		1 mile Handicap—Men.
		Relay race—Inter-Departmental and Branches.
<i>Ladies'</i>	...	80 yards Scratch.
		80 yards Egg and Spoon.
		100 yards Handicap.
<i>Mixed</i>	...	80 yards Three-legged.
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	...	Obstacle race.
		Boat race (for Boys) 50 yards.
		Sack race (for Boys under 14 years).
		Barrel-rolling race for Employees.
		Slow bicycle race (80 yards).

Entrance fees for races—

Children under 11 years: no entrance fee.

All other entries: 3d. each event.

All entries close on 31st July, 1934.

All races restricted to employees of the Firm, their wives, sons and daughters—the latter not to be over 15 years of age.

TUG-OF-WAR.

Brewery competition—Teams from Brewery Departments, Branches and Subsidiary Companies.

Open competition—Open to teams within a 17 mile radius of the Brewery. Entrance fee, 10/6 per team. Closing date for entries JULY 31ST. Competition to be at catchweights, with a 6ft. pull—best of three pulls. Teams of eight.

Ladies' competition—London Stores v. Staines.

PUSH BALL.

Brewery competition—Teams from Brewery Departments, Branches and Subsidiary Companies.

Ladies' competition—London Stores *v.* Staines.

Games to be 5 minutes each way.

SIDE SHOWS.

Revolving Dart Board.

"Gee-whiz."

"Feeding the Cat."

Card Darts.

"Old Man's Head."

Deck Quoits.

Bowling for a Live Pig.

Hidden Treasure.

Target Tennis.

Swings.

Cokernut Shies.

Lucky Wheel.

Aunt Sally in Tub, &c.

BOXING AND PHYSICAL CULTURE DISPLAY.

A good full programme is being arranged and particulars will follow.

DANCING ON THE LAWN (in the evening).

During the afternoon the Band of Queen Victoria Rifles will play. This famous band has been engaged and provided for by Major S. V. Shea-Simonds and will be one of the greatest attractions of the fete.

SIMONDS ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB SUPPER.

PRESENTATION OF CUP BY MR. SHEA-SIMONDS.

(By W. DUNSTER.)

On Friday, 18th May, the annual supper of the Football Club was held at the H. & G. Simonds Ltd. Social Club, Bridge Street, Reading, and was a great success.

The function was presided over by Major S. V. Shea-Simonds and the following were present:—Mr. M. Love (Hon. Sec. Berks and Bucks F.A.), Mr. L. E. Gibbs (Hon. Sec. Town Senior Cup Competition), Mr. Claude Newman (Council Member for Reading and District League), Mr. W. Schofield (Council Member for Reading Minor League), Mr. C. Howman (General Hon. Sec. Reading and District League), Major H. Kaye (Chairman Simonds Athletic Football Club), Mr. R. Boddington (Secretary), Mr. T. W. Bradford (Treasurer), Messrs. F. Edwards, G. Douce, W. Dunster, W. Lamb, F. Benger, W. Mortimer, J. Venner, P. Curtis, J. Hillier, A. Bold, H. Cook, R. Pitts, H. Mileham, J. Smith, R. Main, L. Kirby, L. Jacobs, F. Kemp, H. Deverall, T. Fisher, M. Richardson,

J. Giles, H. Winterbourne, E. Chandler, W. Whitmore, F. Clarke, W. Neville, L. Atkinson, W. Hiscock, C. Josey, F. Chandler, G. Lewis, H. Wheeler, W. Greenaway, G. Hamlin and S. Brunson.

The toast of "The King" opened the proceedings and in proposing the "Winners of the Reading Senior Town Cup," Mr. S. V. Shea-Simonds said it was his duty to acknowledge receipt of the Reading Senior Town Cup. The cup had been in existence since 1897. He knew how hard they had all worked for it (applause). He was sorry he was away on his holidays and could not see the final. He was told it was a most exciting match. He did appreciate how they had all worked and they owed a lot to Mr. J. Smith and Mr. J. Venner. It was a great happiness to him to see them all, to know they all played the game for the game's sake and played a clean game, with the result that they had won that cup (applause). He hoped the club would go on and win other cups.

Calling upon Mr. J. Venner to receive the cup, Mr. Shea said he wanted him to receive that cup on behalf of his side with his congratulations. He hoped they would stick to it (loud applause). Mr. Venner would agree that they had been well supported by Mr. J. Smith and all the members of both teams "A" and "B" and that they had all pulled their weight together (applause).

Mr. J. Venner, in reply, said how pleased he was to receive the cup on behalf of the players of the Simonds Athletic Football Club. They had had a very good season and he hoped next season they would go one better and win the Berks and Bucks Junior Cup (applause).

The toast "Simonds Athletic Football Club" was proposed by Mr. M. Love who congratulated them on winning the Reading Senior Town Cup. All would agree the team had worthily upheld the traditions of the world-renowned firm of H. & G. Simonds Ltd. in a true sporting manner. The winning of that cup was a hard job. That season they had only finished up fourth in the league, nevertheless the winning of the cup was a very good performance (applause). Speaking from the Berks and Bucks point of view he would like to congratulate the club on having such a wonderful President as Mr. Shea-Simonds (loud applause). To have such a President added to the prestige of the grand game of football. He wished more gentlemen like Mr. Shea-Simonds took a keener interest in football for that would lead to the game being governed better. He would like to take the opportunity of thanking the Secretary (Mr. R. Boddington) who was one of the secretaries who gave them little or no trouble, being prompt in all his dealings with them. He also would like to congratulate Mr. W. Bradford (Treasurer of the Club) who looked after the accounts in a very

capable manner, Mr. A. Christie (Trainer) and Mr. J. Smith (Captain in the League games). The two latter were old professionals and it was pleasing to see them taking such an interest in the amateur side of football. He paid a tribute to Mr. J. Venner (Captain) who was a great asset to Simonds Athletic Football Club. Mr. Venner always played a keen and clean game and always gave of his best. It was a great thing for a firm to have a sports side because, if a man was good at sports, he was also a good worker (applause). The second team had several young players coming along to back up the first eleven. He congratulated the club on its officers and players and hoped they would win the Berks and Bucks Junior Cup next year (applause).

Mr. R. Boddington (Secretary), responding, thanked Mr. Love for all the nice things he had said about them. It was a great thing, as a young club, to achieve the honour of winning the Reading Senior Town Cup and it was worth striving for. They had reached the "goal" aimed at and no doubt had succeeded in placing Simonds on the map in the football world. Next year he hoped they would do better in the league and bring further fame to their well known firm. As there were two Town Cups there would be a chance for the second team to carry one off also (applause).

Mr. Shea-Simonds remarked it was perfectly clear, listening to Mr. Boddington, they would win several other cups next year (laughter).

Major H. Kaye proposed the toast of "The Visitors." He was very glad to see members of the Berks and Bucks Football Association with them that evening and hoped they would be there next year. He would like to thank them for being so kind to the club throughout the season. As Chairman, he had not had the worries of the other officials of the club, his worry had been to get the men back in time for the matches and for that evening. However they were all back home for this supper. He would like also to thank Mr. R. Boddington and Mr. T. W. Bradford who had both worked very hard for the team and loyally supported the club (applause).

Mr. L. Gibbs briefly replied.

Mr. W. Schofield congratulated the team and especially those men who had filled the gaps and come into the side for the cup ties. He had seen Simonds A.F.C. play a number of their league games and he had always seen Mr. Bradford present. He well remembered Mr. Shea-Simonds playing for Reading in their amateur days with such stalwarts as Horace Walker, Thomas Skurray and Frank Deane of Caversham. He himself was an old player of South Reading. Mr. Shea-Simonds had asked him to compare present day football with that of the old days. Mr. Simonds would appear

to think that the old time football was best. In his own opinion it was probably more skilful, but he would like to remind Mr. Simonds that it took *two* referees to look after a football match in those days (laughter). The alteration of the offside rule had a lot to do with the different football of to-day; they had lost the skill and trickery of the old football. The game had been speeded up: it was all for speed now. He thanked Mr. Shea-Simonds for the honour of being invited that evening and he wished the team every success (applause).

Mr. C. Newman was in a reminiscent vein and spoke mainly of old times. He remembered Mr. Shea-Simonds playing for Reading and recalled quite a number of exciting matches and incidents. He congratulated the team on their splendid success (applause).

Mr. C. Howman said he himself had been a player but his playing days ended at the early age of 19. He felt he had to be in the game of football so he had become Secretary of the Reading and District League. He congratulated the club on winning the cup and thought the team and officials deserved every praise (applause).

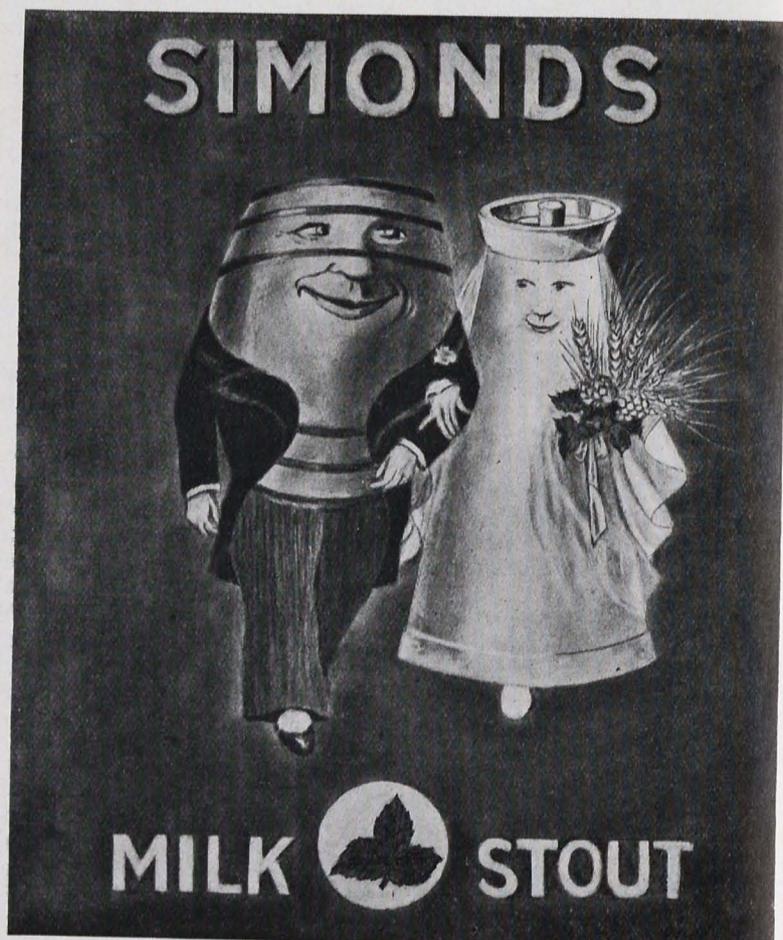
Mr. T. W. Bradford in proposing "The Chairman," said they, as employees, knew Mr. Shea-Simonds very well. He gave a tremendous amount of thought and help to the football club and to all their sports (applause). At the forthcoming fete Mr. Shea-Simonds had arranged, at his own expense, for the Band of the Queen Victoria Rifles to come and they would find that this was one of the finest bands one could ever wish to hear (applause). He expressed, on behalf of them all, their most grateful thanks. However busy Mr. Shea-Simonds was he always found time to consider the general welfare of his employees and devote some of his time to their sports. Recently he had attended the Club in order to present the cup in connection with the inter-departmental tournaments and also for the unveiling of his photograph. They had had to wait 14 years for that photograph but it was well worth waiting for (applause). He asked all to rise and toast "Our Chairman" (loud applause and "For he's a jolly good fellow.")

Mr. Shea-Simonds in reply, thanked Mr. Bradford and all present for their cordial reception. He thought everyone present had been most kind and he felt it very much. He only wished he was 35 years younger and then with Venner they would make a fine couple of backs (laughter). He loved sport and liked to see the young fellows doing their best for the game, as the game should be played. Whatever help he could give them he would always do as long as he was a Director of H. & G. Simonds Ltd. (applause).

An excellent concert was provided and the following artistes appeared: Messrs. G. Cannings, S. O'Callaghan, S. Hinton, J. Champion and D. Reid (pianist).

The supper arrangements were in the capable hands of Messrs. C. G. Parslow & Son and an excellent repast was provided.

It was a wonderful evening and enjoyed to the full by all.



The above drawing is by Mr. W. Giddy, of Salisbury Branch, who has previously sent us many humorous sketches.

THE HALF-BOTTLE LAW.

MISUNDERSTANDING CORRECTED.

During the past month considerable correspondence and publicity has been given in the London Press concerning the Half-Bottle Law. Recently an off-licence holder was convicted at Tower Bridge Police Court for selling a half-bottle of spirits in association with a bottle of spirits of another kind. The sale of the half-bottle was said to be illegal. The Argus Eye of our Mr. C. Bennett at once saw that a mistake had been made, got into communication with the Custom and Excise officials in Reading and got an authoritative statement from them that the conviction, as reported in the "Morning Advertiser," was not in accordance with the law.

As stated above the matter was given great publicity and this is what the "Morning Advertiser," on May 25, says about it in a leading article:—

"We are indebted to Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, the well-known brewers of Reading, for their courtesy in sending to us a communication received by them from the Commissioners of Customs and Excise respecting the sale by retail of spirits for consumption off the premises. There was, in the "Morning Advertiser" of May 9, a report of proceedings in the Tower Bridge Police-court against the holder of an Excise licence for the off-retailing of spirits, held by him as a spirit dealer without any justices' licence, for having sold a quantity of spirits less than the minimum quantity he is authorised by his Excise licence to sell. That minimum quantity is a reputed quart bottle. Last year it was provided in the Finance Act that the holder of a retail off-licence for spirits, who held it under the authority of a justices' licence, might sell at one time a half-bottle of spirits in one container, but in the present case the defendant, his business being confined to "the sale of intoxicating liquors and mineral waters or other non-intoxicating drinks," had no need to obtain a justices' licence, and did not, in fact, hold one. He could not, therefore, sell spirits in a quantity less than a reputed quart bottle. The question was simply whether he had done so. It has nothing to do with the right of the holder of a justices' off-licence for spirits to sell a half-bottle.

"In the course of the proceedings it was stated by the defendant's solicitor that it was the common belief that if a retailer under such an Excise licence had sold a reputed

quart bottle of any kind of spirits, he could sell to the same person, at the same time, an additional half-bottle of any other kind of spirits. According to our report Mr. Booth, who was appearing on behalf of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, thereupon said: 'That is not so. The spirit must be of the same denomination. A person cannot buy a bottle of brandy and a half-bottle of gin or whisky. He may buy whisky and gin together, but not with brandy or rum.' It must be explained here that the Commissioners of Customs and Excise for this purpose divide spirits into two 'denominations' only, those upon which Excise duties are paid, and those upon which Customs duties are paid. On whisky and gin only Excise duties are paid, because they are home-made, and are not imported. On brandy and rum only Customs duties are paid because they are not home-made, and are imported. The retailer, then, according to the reported statement of Mr. Booth, cannot sell less than a reputed quart bottle of spirits of one denomination, whatever quantity of spirits of the other denomination he sells to the same person at the same time. If that were so it would be new law, but it is not so.

"Messrs. Simonds, having their attention drawn to the report, saw that either a mistake had been made, or the Commissioners of Customs and Excise were putting on the law an interpretation different from that appearing on their Notice numbered 112, which had been circulated to retailers. They accordingly wrote to the Commissioners, and received in reply the letter, a copy of which they have been kind enough to send to us. In that letter it is plainly declared that the statement reported in the 'Morning Advertiser' as having been made by Mr. Booth, 'cannot be regarded as correct,' and that 'the position as stated in Notice 112 remains absolutely unaltered.' The position, as stated in Notice 112, is that so long as at least a reputed quart of spirits of one denomination is sold at one time, a smaller quantity of another denomination may be sold with it; so that if a reputed quart of whisky is sold, a half-bottle of even a smaller quantity of brandy may be sold with it. That is what has generally been understood to be the law, and the law, according to the Commissioners, has been correctly understood. A mistake has been made. We do not think it was made by our reporter. But that is of little consequence. It is now cleared up.

"We do not question either the common sense or the correctness of the meaning put upon the law by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise. But it is much to be

regretted that small but difficult points like this should not be settled by Act of Parliament. This provision about a quantity not less than a reputed quart bottle is an old one, and we suppose the draftsmen of the successive Finance Acts in which it has been repeated must be excused for not venturing to tamper with its phraseology for fear of stirring up trouble. But the phraseology is ambiguous, and the interpretation believed to have been put on it by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise has varied from time to time. It is a bad thing when Parliament contents itself with vague enactments and leaves the task of giving precision to them to executive officials. The habit has now for many years been growing upon Parliament, and if it is not somehow checked, will go far to deprive the Legislature of its hard-won independence. It is, no doubt, always in theory possible to resort to the Courts for an authoritative interpretation of an Act. But that is not often worth while, and Parliament allows itself to be led into setting up obstacles in the way.

"The question of minimum quantities affects off-retailers only. Holders of the full or 'publican's' licence for the sale of all kinds of liquor to be consumed on the premises, may also sell all kinds of liquor by retail for consumption off the premises. They are the only other persons beside the holders of spirit retailers' off-licences who may sell spirits in small quantities. But for them there is no minimum quantity either for on or for off sales. All this trouble about how the quantity is to be made up therefore does not affect them in the least. Last year's provision, enabling holders of justices' off-licences to sell 'a quantity of spirits equal to one reputed pint bottle,' is subject to the condition that that quantity shall be 'sold in a single container,' so that there is no question of how that may be made up. We do not know exactly what the Commissioners of Customs and Excise would think of it if such a retailer were to sell in a single container a quantity equal to one reputed pint bottle of a mixture of gin and rum. Perhaps they have not thought it worth while to consider the possibility."



BREWERY JOTTINGS.

(BY W. DUNSTER).

H. & G. SIMONDS LTD. SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

The sixteenth cycle of the above association ended on May 25th and the new one, viz., the seventeenth, follows on immediately, the first week being Friday, June 1st, 1934. Since the Savings Association commenced on August 8th, 1924, 4,344 certificates have been subscribed for representing a cash value of £3,475 4s. od. The total number of certificates purchased in the first cycle was 84 and for the cycle just completed 341—only on one occasion has this number been exceeded—which is very gratifying.

A cycle is 32 weeks and each share paid in for weekly is sixpence, thus, in this length of time, one certificate is subscribed for. Of course anyone can pay in more than this if they so desire but the amounts must be in multiples of sixpence, thus 1/- (=two certificates) 1/6 (= three certificates), 2/- (= four certificates) and so on. For each 6d. subscribed you are allotted a number; thus if you pay in 2/6 per week you have five ballot numbers and each week a draw takes place. If you are fortunate enough to have your number drawn early on you get the benefit of having a certificate purchased for you and for which you have not then actually completed payment. Anyone is at liberty to draw the numbers.

Should anyone at The Brewery reading these notes wish to join the new cycle, full particulars will be given by the Secretary, Mr. A. H. Hopkins (Correspondence Office).

WHITSUN.

This being so much earlier this year and for the main part cold, I am afraid our trade did not benefit so much as we should have liked. However, we all hope for a summer similar to last year and things will be definitely on the move in the right direction.

MR. C. LANGTON.

The latest news I have heard concerning the above member of the staff is that he is now home from hospital and able to get about a little on crutches. We all hope he will now make good progress which will be steady and lasting.

A DWINDLING BAND.

Once upon a time (this isn't a fairy tale) owing to changes at some of our Branches, &c., one could see every morning quite a contingent of the staff of the Brewery wending their way down

Bridge Street to their work. Now one by one they are taking up residences in Reading and their numbers are now very small. Up to the moment of writing the Newbury band are still bravely carrying on.

THE FOOTBALL CLUB SUPPER.

All those present at the above (reported elsewhere in this issue) had a really fine evening and it was a delightful event which will be remembered. Many tales of football (mainly of the old days) were told and to say the least of it, some of them were rather surprising.

Mr. L. Gibbs (Hon. Secretary, Reading Town Cup Competition) mentioned that whilst he was refereeing at Plymouth someone called out over the rails, "What you want Guv'nor is a few pints of 'S.B.'"

CHANGES OF TENANTS.

The following changes and transfers have taken place during the month and to all we wish success:—

The Beehive, Egham Hill (Ashby's Staines Brewery Ltd.)—
Mr. A. V. Harrison.

The Nags Head, Newbury (South Berks Brewery Co. Ltd.)—
Mr. R. J. Rance.

The Five Bells, Woodspeen (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—Mr. T. Mansfield.

DEATH.

We regret to record the death of Mrs. Holyoak, wife of Mr. J. J. K. Holyoak, our tenant at the Star, Kingsclere, and our sincere sympathy is hereby expressed. Mr. and Mrs. Holyoak have been at the Star since 1922 and the house has been in the tenancy of one of this family for very many years.

CRICKET.

This is now in full swing, with the two Brewery XI's in the field each Saturday; the results have been mixed so far. I am hoping to hear the 2nd XI have got into their stride and struck a winning vein; up to the present, I understand, they have met some very "hot" sides.

Presently we shall all be worked up over the test matches and wondering what is going to happen this time. No doubt Yorkshire will be there. Judging by the attendances the Australians are going to be a big attraction wherever they go.

HOLIDAYS.

These have now fully commenced and we see the members of the staff returning to duty looking bronzed. Quite a number of our staff have recently moved to larger and more commodious premises and in consequence are very busy getting their gardens ready and praying for rain, whilst the early holiday maker of the staff can really do without this essential refresher. Let us therefore hope the gardener will get what he wants and the holiday maker what he longs for.

READING SENIOR TOWN CUP.

The winning of the above cup by the Brewery 1st XI at Elm Park was a notable feat for the players. The gate was particularly good, over £13 being taken. To many spectators the play itself was a revelation of what local football is like. A goal scored in the first few minutes and a winning one in the last few minutes was quite exciting enough for anyone. Although the defence of the Brewery XI stuck to their job nobly and well, it was the forwards who won the match, or at least got the goals, so well played everyone! I am of the opinion that Lamb (the goalkeeper) played a remarkably fine game; it could not have been bettered and some of his saves were brilliant. I think most will agree with me about this. My friend, Mr. "Mick" Braisher, twitted me about my previous notes concerning Reading and other professional sides and said "Let's have something about the Brewery team winning the cup in your next notes," so the comments above are my contribution.

Everyone will be glad to learn that Mr. Braisher is now back at work and feeling ever so much better. After all he had gone through and then to learn he had to undergo an operation for the removal of an eye was a big shock. It is splendid to know he is so much happier and contented.

BEER DRINKING RACE FOR SILVER CUP.

"DOWNING" HALF A GALLON.

START BY PISTOL SHOT.

Should the village inn be the centre of social activity and be made the working men's club? asks *The Southern Daily Echo*.

This question is arousing good humoured controversy at the village of Hurstbourne Tarrant, near Andover.

Mr. Paul Le Butt, a journalist, who is also a poultry farmer and lives at Little Buttes, Ibthorpe, takes the affirmative view and others, if not against the idea, desire to impose a limit.

The discussion has arisen out of a novel competition which has been arranged by Mr. Le Butt to take place in the yard of the George and Dragon Hotel, Hurstbourne Tarrant.

The contest was to discover the man who could drink half a gallon of beer in the quickest time. The competitors sat round a table, each with four pints of beer before him. At the firing of a pistol they started on their long drink, and the one consuming his half-gallon first was awarded a silver cup, on which was engraved his name and "time."

CUP'S INSCRIPTION.

The cup, given by Mr. Le Butt, bears the inscription: "Paul Le Butt presents this cup to whomsoever shall on Whit Monday, 1934, down the quickest his half gallon."

The whole of the beer is being given by Lord Patrick Crichton-Stuart, a lieutenant in the 11th Hussars, who is a friend of Mr. Le Butt. Lord Patrick is the fourth son of the Marquis of Bute.

Mr. Le Butt says there is no club in the village, and why, he asks, should not the inn be made the centre of the men's social life by arranging some competitions of a harmless character?

In an interview, he said that when the idea became known there were dissentient voices raised in the village. He was asked to cancel the competition, as it was felt by some that it would be undesirable.

"I refused to take the protest as a serious one," he said, "and we are going on with the competition. It is not a test of how much beer a man can drink, but a test to see who can drink it in the quickest time. It is only light beer, and the men who are likely to enter are well able to drink it comfortably."

Mr. Le Butt added that he understood the view of the opponents of the contest was that it would encourage men who were not flush with cash to spend more on beer to the detriment of their families.

"The men are not of that type," he said. "They would not be such cads. I know most of them, and they are all good fellows."

THE LIGHTER SIDE.

"I don't know," sighed Jones, "nowadays one cannot trust anybody."

"Now what's happened?" asked his wife tenderly.

"That grocer at the corner gave me a bad half-crown in my change this morning," he replied.

"Let me have a look at it," she asked.

"I can't," he replied. "I gave it to the waitress for my lunch."

* * * *

After finishing his dinner, Bill, the mill-worker, went to the hot-water urn and carefully rinsed out his tea-can. His pal watched him do this three times, then he said:

"I say, mate, don't you know you're wasting that, and there's a shortage of water already."

"I know that," said Bill haughtily. "I read the papers, don't I? It's cold water they're short of, not hot."

* * * *

In a certain amateur operatic society they possess a versatile sort of fellow who bawls lustily in the chorus, sometimes singing one part, sometimes another.

On evening the conductor stopped the rehearsal and spoke as follows: "Mr. Smith, if you're going to sing tenor, sing tenor, and if you're going to sing bass, sing bass, but for heaven's sake let's have no more of your shandy-gaff."

* * * *

Smith's bachelor brother had called round to help him to repair his new car. "Do you know, Bill," said the married man, in a low whisper, "at times I think my wife is trying hard to be an angel."

His brother paused in the act of straightening a mudguard. "You mean when she wants something from you," he smiled.

"No, when she takes the car out," he answered.

* * * *

As the guest was leaving the hotel he slipped a shilling into the hall-porter's hand. "Here's something to drink my health with," he said.

The porter grimaced. "Thank you, sir," he said grudgingly, "but if I remember rightly, you gave me five shillings last year for the same thing."

"That's right," smiled back the guest, "but this year my health is better."

A sailor engaged a benign old gentleman in conversation. "Adventurous life I've had," he said.

"I suppose so," said the old gentleman.

"Had an operation a little while ago. After I'd come to, the doctor told me he'd left a sponge inside me. 'Let it be,' I said, and there it is to this day."

"Does it pain you?" asked the old gentleman.

"No pain at all," answered the sailor, "but—I do get terribly thirsty."

* * * *

He had popped the question and all that was needed was father's consent. She said she would approach him on the subject.

The following day the young man met the apple of his eye. "Well?" he asked.

"What do you think father said when I told him I had accepted you?" she asked.

"Give it up, old thing."

"Why, however did you guess?" she exclaimed.

* * * *

FOREMAN: "You ain't one of them blokes wot drops their tools and scoots as soon as knock-off whistle blows, are you?"

BILL: "Not me. Why, I often have to wait five minutes after I put me tools away before the whistle goes."

* * * *

The famous cartoonist, Sir Bernard Partridge, is said to have once received a circular from a whisky firm inviting him to join in a competition for an advertising poster. Only one prize was offered, and the unsuccessful drawings were to become the property of the firm. He replied as follows:

"Gentlemen,—I am offering a prize of two shillings for the best specimens of whisky, and should be glad to have you take part in the competition. Twelve dozen bottles should be sent for testing, and all whisky that is not adjudged worthy of the prize will remain the property of the undersigned."

* * * *

"What you need," the doctor told Banks, "is a spell near the sea. Get away from the noise of the city. Go to a place where there are no radio-sets or jazz bands, no gramophones or saxophones to spoil your night's rest. Rise early, work hard, go to bed early, cut out rich food and cocktails. It'll make a new man of you."

"But it didn't, doc."

"What do you mean?"

"I've just done six months in Brixton!"

A man arrived home in the small hours of the morning and, having a wholesome fear of his wife, decided to proceed with caution.

Taking off his boots, he crept noiselessly upstairs, stealthily opened the bedroom door, and, with the greatest care, crawled into bed. With a sigh of relief he went off to sleep.

In the morning he looked round for his wife, and suddenly remembered she had been staying with an aunt for the past fortnight!

* * * *

Lord Castlerosse tells many delightful stories of celebrities in his amusing book, "Valentine's Days," recently published by Methuen, of which the following are probably the best:

The late Sir William Orpen, the famous artist, arriving to dine with Lord Castlerosse, found his ample proportions surrounded by a green waistcoat.

"Is that green thing a waistcoat?" Orpen asked.

"Yes, of course," replied his host. "What did you think it was?"

"A tennis court," meekly replied the painter.

* * * *

The distinguished journalist also relates how Douglas Fairbanks was driving up to his magnificent Hollywood mansion one day when a man passed whose face seemed familiar. He stopped the car and offered him a lift, but could not remember where he had met him. Was it at the Duke of Sutherland's, or perhaps Lady Alexandra Metcalfe's? The man certainly knew the Metcalfe's house at Epsom, and mentioned the Major's punch-ball. When Fairbanks showed him round "Pickfair" he revealed an uncanny knowledge of the house and gardens. The film "star" became more and more perplexed.

Just then his secretary hove in sight. He excused himself for a moment and hissed in the secretary's ear: "Who's the Englishman? He's Lord So-and-so, isn't he, but for the life of me I can't remember his name!"

"Lord nothing!" replied the secretary. "That's the English butler you sacked last week for getting drunk!"

* * * *

BOY (to porter): "Hi, there's a man in this carriage gone barmy—he says he's Napoleon."

PORTER: "Never mind. Next stop Waterloo."

He was under-sized, meek, diffident, subdued, and had applied for a job as night-watchman.

"Yes," said the manager, eyeing him dubiously, "but the fact is we want someone who is restless and uneasy, especially at night; someone who thinks the worst of everybody and whose suspicions are seldom, if ever, allayed; someone who sleeps with one eye open always; someone with remarkable hearing, who starts at the slightest sound; someone who is always listening, thinking there are bad characters about. A meek and mild night-watchman would be of no use to us. We want a large, aggressive, intrepid and dangerous person; bad-tempered, and revengeful, too. The kind of person, in fact, who, when roused, is a fiend incarnate."

"I'll send the wife round," said the little man, dejectedly.

* * * *

A lady interested in welfare work in the East End of London had called in the course of her rounds on an old dame, who showed her a letter she had received that morning from a sailor son, whose vessel had recently been in Japanese waters.

"What a nice letter, Mrs. Smith," said the visitor, as she returned it to the proud mother. "And the present he says he is sending on to you shows that he has been thinking of you. But what will you do with a striped kimono?"

"I dunno, I'm sure!" exclaimed Mrs. Smith. "That's just what's bin worrying me. I suppose I can chain it up in the back yard. But what I'm going to feed it on, goodness only knows."

* * * *

A young man was taking his new girl out for a drive. On approaching a quiet country lane she asked, demurely: "Can you drive with one hand?"

"Sure," replied her companion, delightedly.

"Then eat this with the other," replied the girl, producing an orange.

* * * *

The corporal, standing with the instructor, had the men marching away from him. The squad had gone some distance, and it appeared that the corporal did not know how to give the command "About turn."

At last, when the men were about a hundred yards away, the exasperated instructor yelled out: "For 'eaven's sake, say something, you fool, even if it's only 'Good-bye.'"

BRANCHES.

OXFORD.

On Monday, the 7th May, members of the Oxford Branch staff visited that delightful riverside resort, the King's Arms Hotel, Sandford-on-Thames, to participate in an evening darts match with the members of the local club.

After a pleasant stroll by towpath from Oxford, past the new lock at Iffley and its beautiful gardens and shrubberies, under the shadow of the ancient Norman church with its famous west door, and leaving the village of Kennington on our right, without any adventures of note except that of flushing two pairs of snipe and watching a lone heron leave the region of Sandford pool to wend his cumbersome, well fed way back to the herony at Wytham, we finally arrived at the King's Arms feeling quite ready to "sink one" at approximately 7.30 p.m.

This pleasant preliminary accomplished we foregathered with our friends of Sandford for this momentous match.

We had a grand evening—drinking many healths, taking in a little ballast half-way through, in the shape of bread and cheese, and of course doing what we really came for—playing darts. But when it came to the test, as will be seen by the scores given below, we found that the majority of us knew but little of this subtle game compared with our opponents, for they beat us to the tune of 7 games to 3.

But we *did* have a jolly good time and we must thank Mr. J. W. Birt, the landlord, for the arrangements and the members of the club for their cordial reception. Scores:—

<i>King's Arms Hotel.</i>				<i>H. & Simonds Ltd.</i>			
C. Wood	...	...	0	v.	J. A. Clinkard	...	1
B. Lanesbury	...	...	1	v.	C. Francis	...	0
C. Stone	...	...	1	v.	E. A. Maskell	...	0
R. Gibbons	...	...	0	v.	F. L. Maskell	...	1
G. Benwell	...	...	0	v.	H. Godfrey	...	1
F. Kerrod	...	...	1	v.	J. S. Bowell	...	0
B. Benwell	1	v.	W. Mercer	...	0
A. Bolt	1	v.	G. C. Jones	...	0
S. Lanesbury	1	v.	W. T. Sanders	...	0
S. Hughes	1	v.	L. C. White	...	0
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In the *Oxford Times* of the 18th May the following paragraph appears:—

ARTHUR CLINKARD.

Someone has sent me a copy of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE, the monthly journal of H. & G. Simonds Ltd., the well-known brewers. I hesitated a little before opening the copy, because, well, you never know, do you? Then as a frontispiece to the May number was a face I know very well, Mr. J. A. Clinkard, the Cowley St. John cricketer, and overleaf a pleasant little resumé of his life, in which we are told that his sporting proclivities include tennis, football, hunting, shooting, billiards and last, but not least, cricket. It is as a cricketer that Arthur Clinkard is best known. He has played for Cowley St. John first eleven for 34 years and is still an indispensable member of the XI. The biography concludes: "Mr. Clinkard says that he hopes to take up the game of bowls when he is old enough, from which we infer that he will play cricket as long as he is able, and we join with all sportsmen in hoping that such a popular figure as 'J.A.C.' will be seen on the Oxford cricket grounds sporting Cowley 'Jacks' colours for many more seasons." To which I would add, in all sincerity, "So say all of us," for few better cricketers or more likeable men have ever graced our local cricket fields.

BRIGHTON.

WORTHING AND DISTRICT BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER LEAGUE ANNUAL DINNER.

THE MAYOR OF WORTHING PRESENTS "SIMONDS" CUP.

The annual dinner of the above was held in Mitchell's Cafe, Worthing, on Thursday the 19th April, and proved an unqualified success, the attendance being larger than at any previous function of the kind.

The chair was taken by Alderman E. A. Brackley, and the guest of the evening was the Mayor of Worthing, Alderman H. T. Duffield, J.P., who was accompanied by the Deputy Mayor, Alderman T. E. Hawkins, J.P. The Firm was represented by Mr. S. M. Penlerick.

During the evening the Mayor presented the cups as follows:—

Division I.

Billiards (British Legion Cup), won by Worthing Sports Club.
Snooker (Capt. Hardy Bowl), won by Worthing Sports Club.

Division II.

Billiards (Sparks Cup), won by West Tarring Club.
Snooker (H. & G. Simonds Cup), won by West Tarring Club.

The loyal toast having been honoured, Capt. Lloyd Goring proposed "The Billiards and Snooker League" and recalled that out of the four original clubs that formed it, it had grown so that two divisions were now necessary.

Replying, Mr. E. W. Sparks, the League Chairman, referred to the pioneer work of Capt. Goring, and to the splendid secretarial efforts of their Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. G. Snelgrove. He gave warm praise to the splendid sporting instincts of the 228th Battery, R.A., who time and time again came up smiling after receiving severe knock-outs, and he was sure everybody appreciated the way they stuck to the League despite the continued defeats in their games.

The toast of the "Mayor and Corporation" having been proposed by Mr. A. Perkins, J.P. and duly responded to by his Worship, Mr. Jim Punter alluded to the eulogistic references which had been made to the success of the Worthing Sports Club and said that their players had all played well; he attributed the excellent qualities of Simonds' beers on which they trained, as an additional factor in their success. These sentiments produced a warm echo round the room.

That the League has a popular President in Alderman Brackley was evidenced by the speech of Alderman Hawkins. The prize donors were toasted by Mr. H. Mead, reply being made by Mr. F. L. Sandell.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to a musical programme which was greatly enjoyed.



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Mr. Jim Punter receiving one of the trophies at the distribution of prizes by the Mayor (Alderman H. T. Duffield) at the Worthing Billiards and Snooker League's Dinner on Thursday, April 19th.

Congratulations to our Reading friends on their splendid performance in winning the Reading Senior Town Cup. This fine achievement proves the fact that Simonds' products are the best for stamina, as the winning goal was scored in the last minute.

PORTSMOUTH.

BROADREEDS HOLIDAY CAMP AND CLUB.

Visualize an estate of some 20 acres or more situate amid some of England's more gorgeous scenery with rolling downs in the background and the silver sea lapping the beach in front; picture spacious lawns interspersed with tennis courts, putting greens; think of fishing, boating, swimming, cricket, golf, tennis, dancing, and comfort without formality—add all these together and you have a glimpse of England's entirely brick-built camp, "BROADREEDS HOLIDAY CAMP," Selsey-on-Sea, Sussex.

It is our pleasure to bring this camp to the notice of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE readers this month. Those who are thinking of taking a holiday by the sea would be well advised to study the unique advantages this camp affords. For the benefit of such readers perhaps a brief review of the camp would make interesting reading.

Broadreeds Holiday Camp offers to its guests every comfort they are able to get in their own homes, or in an hotel. The camp has been constructed on most modern lines with every convenience, both hot and cold water being laid on in every chalet, all of which are lighted with electricity. These verandahed chalets flank the estate looking out on the lawns, etc. in between. At the front of these, and separated from the beach by a spacious lawn, is the club house and dining halls.

At this camp all classes of people are catered for and careful consideration has been given to every likely requirement of its guests. Chars-a-banc outings and motor boat trips are arranged, and tennis tournaments and cricket matches are a feature of the camp, while dancing is offered in what is claimed to be the finest equipped ballroom of any holiday camp in existence in the British Isles. Indoor sports of every description are available, tournaments being arranged for table tennis, etc. Fancy dress carnivals are held every Friday and Saturday and concerts are arranged.

The catering at this holiday camp has been carefully studied and satisfaction is guaranteed.

Attached to the camp is the luxurious club house—the “ Social Pivot ” of the camp. This club house is really a fine building, brick-built and thatched with reeds from the Norfolk Broads. The interior has been constructed so as to accommodate 300 people and has a magnificent lounge for teas, ices, drinks, etc., and affords reading and writing facilities.

So great is the popularity of this camp that the bookings are actually closed for July and August, but for the benefit of those readers who may consider taking a holiday here for June or September, we give you the inclusive tariffs for board residence :—

For June and September, 47/6 per week. Odd days at 8/6 per day.

We have only been able in this article to briefly bring this camp to your notice but feel certain that it will appeal to many readers of the Gazette. Further particulars can be obtained from The General Manager, Broadreeds Holiday Camp, Selsey, Nr. Chichester, Sussex.

And remember, when at Broadreeds you can obtain “ Simonds ” and in plenty.

