

The Hop Leaf Gazette.

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

Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.

Vol. X.

JUNE, 1936.

No. 9



Mr. E. JACKSON.

MR. E. JACKSON.

The wealth of varied experiences which fills the life of an Overseas Representative, even on one voyage of eight months' duration, would need many pages of this issue. Such a contribution, if it were obtainable, would doubtless be of intense interest to those who are travel-minded, but to extract data from one who is not prone to self-assertion in matters beyond his actual profession has not been an easy task.

We have, however, obtained a few details of Mr. E. Jackson's business history, which begins with his entry into the Liverpool branch office of Messrs. Doulton & Company, Ltd., of Lambeth, London, and his subsequent transfer as Salesman to Manchester, where he opened a new showroom. His progress there is indicated by another transfer to the Birmingham depot of the same firm, where he was appointed Manager, with an outside staff of three travellers and a well-equipped office and supporting deputies. The opening of another new showroom there discloses the energies exerted in that city.

There followed five years' service with the Colours which commenced immediately upon the declaration of War in August, 1914, when Mr. Jackson joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and became a Musketry Instructor, making many men into first-class shots.

After demobilization in October, 1919, Mr. Jackson made his first journey to India as a representative of important business firms. He engaged to act as the overseas representative of this Firm as from the year 1930, and has considerably increased the volume of trade in the "Hop Leaf" brand and enhanced the reputation of our goods in that country. His unfailing courtesy, personality, tact and perseverance have won for him a renown and welcome throughout the whole of the territories in which he travels.

Mr. Jackson has a wide circle of staunch friends, highly placed in the commercial circles of India, men who personify the great traditions of Empire and whose efforts contribute in no small measure to the balance of trade with the Mother Country. He has always referred in the highest terms to the loyal support and co-operation which he has received from Messrs. Spencer & Co., Ltd., our agents for India, also from Messrs. Balthazar & Son, Ltd., of Rangoon, and Messrs. Miller & Co., Ltd., Colombo. This then, is the sphere in which Mr. Jackson spends eight months of each year, leaving London in August and journeying to India, Burma and Ceylon and returning at the end of March. During this period

life consists of nothing but interviews, trains, hotels and steamers, nights spent in Dak Bungalows or Rest Houses, in which latter there is a frame of a bed, one table and chair and where the traveller provides his own bedding. During these stages great care is necessary in the matter of food.

On his travels Mr. Jackson has his own servant and takes an unusually large outfit owing to the extremes of heat and cold experienced. On one occasion he was snowed up in Quetta for twenty-four hours and icicles were hanging from the door of a Dak Bungalow, an experience which seems out of keeping with the general conception of the Indian climate. Incidentally, he has not spent a Christmas at home for about eighteen years. It will be gleaned that the path of the overseas traveller is not entirely strewn with flowers, but on the contrary is one requiring a hardy physique and powers of endurance as well as the tact and social qualities of an ambassador. On each tour a distance of from 35,000 to 40,000 miles is covered. Mr. Jackson's itinerary is a marvel of conciseness and being faithfully followed allows frequent opportunities for communication.

Mr. Jackson always travels by P. & O. steamers on which he is a familiar and popular figure, due possibly, in some measure, to his association with the "Hop Leaf" brand which is carried on all vessels of that line and its allied companies, as well as on the coastal services.

Mr. Jackson was made a member of the Bedford Lodge of Freemasons No. 925, Birmingham, over 26 years ago.



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

EDITORIAL.

REORGANISATION OF CAPITAL.

It has been decided by the Board of Directors to embark upon a very comprehensive scheme which has, as its object, the reorganisation and simplification of the Share and Loan Capital structure of the parent Company and the subsequent absorption of the Assets of two Subsidiary Companies, viz., Ashby's Staines Brewery Ltd. and South Berks Brewery Company Ltd. Meetings of shareholders of H. & G. Simonds Ltd. have been convened to take place on June 22nd, and the circular letter which was despatched to all shareholders on May 28th is reprinted in its entirety in this issue.

TO ALL THE LEADERS.

Let your reforms for a moment go!
Look to your butts, and take good aims!
Better a rotten borough or so
Than a rotten fleet and a city in flames!

GOING TO PLYMOUTH!

An old lady was giving a good deal of trouble at a London terminus. "I want my train," she said to a porter.

"Where to?" he asked.

"That's my business," she replied.

Several other porters tried to help her, but she gave the same reply each time. In desperation, they got the station-master to come, who told her he must know where she was going before he could put her into her train.

"Very well," she replied. "I am going to Birmingham."

"Hurry up then, madam; the train is just going to start," said the official, and he bundled her into the train with a sigh of relief. As it moved out, the old lady put her head out of the window. "Ever been had?" she shouted. "I am going to Plymouth!"

HOW MOTHER PRAYED.

In a school in a small mining town, a teacher was talking to a class of five-year-olds on their attitude at prayer-time.

"When you kneel down," she said, "you should close your eyes and fold your hands."

She was about to read a child's prayer, when a small voice came out with: "Please teacher, mother don't fold her hands nor shut her eyes when she says her prayers."

The teacher hesitated, but before she could reply, the voice continued: "She just looks at father and says: 'God bless every poor woman as has a man like you!'"

CARRIED SAMPLES.

A clergyman was fond of a particularly hot brand of pickles, and finding difficulty in procuring them at hotels when travelling, he always carried a bottle with him. One day, when dining with his pickles in front of him, a stranger sat down at the same table. Soon he asked the clergyman to pass the pickles.

The latter did as he was requested, and in a few seconds noticed his fellow-diner gasping for breath and wiping his streaming eyes.

"I see by your clothes," said the man, when he had recovered slightly, "that you are a parson."

"I am."

"I suppose you preach about Hades sometimes?"

"Yes; sometimes I deem it necessary to remind my congregation on that subject."

"I thought so," said the stranger, "but you're the first in your line I ever met who carried samples!"

THE LEAGUE'S FAILURE.

It is necessary that all who care for the Empire and its ideals should estimate the present international situation at its true gravity and, in particular should assess the Empire's equipment for meeting its challenge, says *Our Empire*. The basic fact is that a noble attempt to enforce the rule of law in the world, and to reject war as an instrument of national policy, has failed. That is the effect of the League of Nations' admission that it cannot make peace between Italy and Abyssinia. If Abyssinia is indeed to be

left to Italy's tender mercy it will be useless to talk any longer about collective security. The ideal may still be the object of good men's ambition; its realisation must wait until the League is a League of *all* the nations, prepared to curb aggression—if necessary by fighting it.

THE CALL OF THE ROOK.

To the Editor,

"The Hop Leaf Gazette."

Sir,—I destroy harmful grubs, wire-worms, leather-jackets and other enemies of the farmers, which do such damage to their crops, and which form my principal food. I do it chiefly in May, June, July, August, for in those months the insects are very busy and very numerous. My GOOD DEEDS are not fully appreciated and efforts are made to exterminate me because I am accused of doing harm to the growing crops, by eating grain and roots, and so destroying the crops. I may occasionally supplement my diet, especially if there is a scarcity of insect life, by picking up a little here and there, but what I unlawfully take is more than compensated for by the good I do. There are persons who partly through ignorance, are out to destroy me, by making systematic efforts, organized shoots and such like, to free the country of me and my relations, though we should be regarded as friends, and not foes, not only by the farmers, whom we are out to help, but by the community at large. We ask you all to ascertain the true facts concerning our habits, and before it is too late, make every effort to plead our cause and save us from extermination and yourselves from loss of grain.

Yours, etc.,

A. ROOK.

KING EDWARD'S LIFE SAVED BY A BOTTLE OF BEER.

A Bottle of Beer seems to have saved the life of King Edward when he was stricken down by typhoid in 1872 (he was then Prince of Wales). Lady Paget in *Embassies of Other Days* says:—

"When the Prince had been in a stupor of many hours he put out his hand and murmured, 'Pale Ale.' Dr. Gill, to the horror of the other physicians, sent for a bottle, and pouring out two good bumpers, one after the other, made the patient drink them. From that moment the Prince took a turn for the better."

TRAINED ON BEER.

"Here is some international football which your public never heard about. The team of this liner has played nine games during her current voyage, of which she has won eight and drawn one, with 34 goals for and 8 against. Games were played against Japanese, Chinese, Malays, Germans and British Army teams stationed in the East. We played and beat the liner *Scharnhorst*, which is recognised as the crack ship of the German Merchant Service. In conclusion, sir, I might add that we train exclusively on beer."—"RANCHI."

There is at Cheltenham a monument to one of the most celebrated practitioners of the ancient craft of pig sticking, who died in the year 1825. The verse on his tombstone runs:

"Here lies John Higgs,
A famous man for killing pigs;
For killing pigs was his delight,
Both morning, afternoon, and night.
Which no physician could e'er cure.
His knife is laid, his work is done;
I hope to heaven his soul is gone."

THE BREWERS' WARNING.

Brewers are only too anxious nowadays to push their wares, but time was when it seems to have been necessary to coerce them into maintaining adequate supplies.

In 1533, for instance, London brewers, complaining that the prices fixed by the City Corporation left too narrow a margin of profit, threatened to stop brewing, whereupon they were warned that "if of their forward and perverse minds they at any time hereafter suddenly forbear and abstain from brewing, whereby the King's subject be destitute of drink," their brew-houses would be confiscated without compensation and run by the City Fathers.

RAIN ON HOLIDAY.

Laments over a rainy holiday season would have found scant sympathy from George Meredith, in whom rain found its most enthusiastic eulogist. The rainstorm was "typical of an idea in his ethics," as one critic phrased it, and "sweet rain," "welcome waterspouts" and "roaring storm" play an important part in the lives of his men and women, invariably for their good. Readers of "The Egoist" in particular will remember Vernon's delight in drenching rain, and the very appropriate injunction—which holiday-

makers may ponder patiently—"The taking of rain and sun alike befits men of our climate, and he who would have the secret of a strengthening intoxication must court the clouds of the south-west with a lover's blood." In some folk, it may be feared, rain on holiday provokes a desire to have anybody's blood!

NOT LESSONS!

LADY PUPIL: "Do I need many more before I am able to drive?"

DEJECTED TUTOR: "About a dozen."

LADY PUPIL: "Lessons?"

DEJECTED TUTOR: "No, cars!"

THE BREWERS' GREATEST ROMANCE.

Of all the songs dedicated to beer and drinking—and there are many of them—not one has ever caught the real spirit of romance of which the brewing industry is so proud. The following happened a long time ago, but it is still remembered wherever brewers foregather. In the time of Charles I a country lass went to London to become "tub-woman" in a brewery, married the owner, and inherited his large fortune. In settling her husband's affairs, she, still young and beautiful, became acquainted with Mr. Hyde, a rising young lawyer, and he, too, fell in love with and married her. Subsequently Mr. Hyde rose to be Earl of Clarendon, and a daughter borne him by the brewer's widow married James II and became mother of Mary and Anne, both destined to be Queens of England.

MR. A. LUSCOMBE.

We are sorry to record that Mr. Luscombe, our London District Military Representative, who suffered a severe illness last year, has again been taken ill, necessitating his removal to hospital for an operation. The latest report is that the operation was successful and that so far he is making good progress. On behalf of his many friends at the Brewery, we wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

FORTHCOMING FETE AT COLEY PARK.

Tremendous interest is already being evinced in the forthcoming Fete run in connection with H. & G. Simonds Ltd. Social and Recreation Club. As already announced, it is to be held at Coley Park, Reading, on Saturday, August 22nd. There is to be an attractive Sports programme, a Flower Show and Baby

Competition. With regard to the Baby Competition, this takes place at 2.30 p.m. and is open to Reading and District. The entrance fee is only 6d. and there are five classes, viz. :—

- Class A. Up to 6 months.
- „ B. 6 months to 12 months.
- „ C. 1 year to 18 months.
- „ D. 18 months to 2 years.
- „ E. 2 years to 3 years.

First Prize, value £1; Second Prize, value 10/-: in each Class.

Mr. J. B. Doe, Hon. Secretary of the Competitions Committee would be greatly helped if entries are received not later than August 20th.

And don't forget the Ankle Competition for ladies. The entrance fee is 3d. and valuable prizes are offered.

LAWN TENNIS.

At the time of writing, we have lost two matches and won two. We lost against Suttons and Beechwood and beat the Reading Aerodrome and Huntley & Palmers. With regard to the last-named match the games were extremely close and exciting. We won by the narrow margin of 11 sets to 9, 5 rubbers to 4, and 91 games to 88. We have an acquisition in Mr. W. A. Harvie, who is playing for us this season and showing excellent form, while our old friend, Mr. C. L. Langton, is in particularly fine fettle, sending down some very hot services and getting in a variety of fine drives. With regard to the match against Reading Aerodrome, which we won after a very enjoyable afternoon, I must pay tribute to the work of Mr. P. James. We were one man short and with the consent of our opponents, Mr. James played a dual role. He must have been dead tired after about five hours of hard tennis, with hardly a break, but he put up a fine fight right to the end and was largely responsible for our victory. It is very good of Mr. R. St. John Quarry to take such an active interest in the club. His presence on the courts and kindly assistance in many ways has helped us immensely and we are all very grateful to him for it. As to Mr. R. Huddy, our worthy Hon. Secretary, we are also much indebted to him for his quiet but efficient labours in the interests of the club. Regarding the teas, these are always delightfully served, and we are grateful to the ladies for their efforts in this direction. Our courts are very pleasantly situated and those who do not play can spend a very happy time looking on in the orchard or under the shelter of the cedar trees. By the way, I hope no ball will disturb the flycatcher's nest built on one of the trees which surround the courts.

H. & G. SIMONDS, LIMITED.

SCHEME FOR THE RE-ORGANISATION OF CAPITAL.

The following important letter has been sent to the Shareholders of H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.

The Brewery,
Reading.
28th May, 1936.

Dear Sir (or Madam),

You will receive with this letter notices convening meetings of the Shareholders of this Company to be held on Monday, 22nd June.

The object of these meetings is to present for your consideration and approval, if thought fit, Resolutions forming part of a scheme which the Directors have had under review for some time past, and which they consider, if put into effect, will result in mutual benefit to all classes of Shareholders.

The scheme involves the re-organisation and simplification of the Share and Loan Capital structure of this Company, and the subsequent absorption of the assets of two of the Subsidiary Companies and the proposals, if carried through in their entirety, will result not only in reduced annual Interest and Sinking Fund charges, but also in internal economies consequent on the liquidation of these Subsidiaries and the amalgamation of the assets into one unified undertaking.

It will be observed that it is proposed, *inter alia*, to increase the Ordinary Share Capital of the Company and thus provide further working capital. Your Directors deem it wise to raise this money to refund advances from the Company's Bankers in connection with the acquisition of the Share Capital of W. J. Rogers Limited of Bristol, and recent purchases of properties; to finance the outlays incurred in the installation of up-to-date power plant and machinery at the breweries at Reading and Devonport; and to add to the cash resources of the Company, so that it may be in a position to continue its policy of expansion in any way which your Directors may consider advisable.

While it is hoped that the scheme will in due course be carried through in its entirety, the proposals now made should not be regarded as in any way dependent upon the completion of the scheme as a whole.

The immediate effect of the present proposals, if carried through, will be as follows:—

- (a) The Authorised Share Capital will be increased from £1,108,440 to £2,500,000.
- (b) This Authorised Share Capital will be divided into 1,500,000 5% Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each, and 1,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each.
- (c) The holders of the existing 168,200 5% Preference Shares of £1 each, which at present rank in priority to all other shares, will surrender their priority over the existing 6½% Preference Shares, and will rank with them as holders of part of the total authorised issue of 1,500,000 5% Preference Shares. They will receive, as compensation for so doing, one additional fully paid 5% Preference Share for each twenty 5% Preference Shares now held.
- (d) The existing 400,000 6½% Preference Shares of £1 each, which at present rank next after the existing 168,200 5% Preference Shares, will become part of the same 1,500,000 5% Preference Shares, the dividend thereon being reduced to 5% per annum. In order to maintain their income the holders of these shares will receive three additional fully paid 5% Preference Shares for each ten 6½% Preference Shares now held.
- (e) To give effect to the foregoing, 128,410 fully paid 5% Preference Shares ranking for dividend from the 1st July, 1936, will, on or about that date, be distributed among the holders of the 568,200 Preference Shares now in issue. This accounts in all for 696,610 5% Preference Shares of the new consolidated class. The remaining 803,390 new 5% Preference Shares will be available for issue as and when required, either in connection with the absorption of subsidiary companies, or otherwise as the Board may determine.
- (f) The Company will reserve the right to create further Preference Shares ranking *pari passu* with the 1,500,000 5% Preference Shares, subject to the restriction that the proportion between the total amount of the authorised Preference Shares and the amount of the Ordinary or other share capital for the time being issued ranking behind the Preference Shares must not exceed three pounds of Preference capital to two pounds of Ordinary or other junior capital.

- (g) Of the 459,760 new Ordinary Shares of £1 each, 180,080 shares will be offered to the existing Ordinary Shareholders at a premium of 30/- per share as mentioned below, and the remainder will be available for issue at the Directors' discretion.
- (h) All Preference and Ordinary Shares at present in issue and those now to be created as and when they become fully paid, will be converted into Stock transferable in multiples of £1.

As affecting the Preference Shareholders the proposals thus involve :

For the 5% Preference Shareholders, an increase of 5% in the nominal amount of their holding and in the dividend to accrue therefrom, in exchange for allowing the present 6½% Preference Shareholders to be placed on an equality with them.

For the 6½% Preference Shareholders, an increase of 30% in the nominal amount of their holding without any loss of income and their being placed on an equality with the present 5% Preference Shareholders.

Both classes of Shareholders will own shares forming part of a single consolidated issue, and their holdings should consequently prove more readily marketable than at present. The issue will be amply covered as to capital and dividend by the assets of the Company and by the profits at present being earned.

As affecting the Ordinary Shareholders the proposals involve the capitalisation in the form of fully paid 5% Preference Shares of £128,410 of undivided profits standing to reserve, and the distribution of these shares among the existing Preference Shareholders instead of the Ordinary Shareholders. The Ordinary Shareholders will be given the right to subscribe at a premium of 30/- per share for one new Ordinary Share of £1 in respect of each three Ordinary Shares now held. Having regard to the present market price of the Ordinary Shares the right to subscribe at a premium of 30/- should have a considerable cash value.

The terms of the offer of the new Ordinary Shares will be circulated as soon as practicable after the Resolutions have been passed. It is intended that the offer shall be made to the Shareholders registered as at the 26th May, 1936 ; that the offer shall remain open until 16th July, 1936 ; that the price of £2 10s. 0d. per share will be payable as to 10s. on acceptance of the offer, as to 20s. on or before the

30th September, 1936, and as to the remaining 20s. on or before the 6th November, 1936 ; and that the new Ordinary Shares will rank for the full dividend in respect of the year ending 30th September, 1937, but that they will not carry any right to dividend in respect of the year ending 30th September, 1936.

The subscription of the new Ordinary Shares to be offered to the Ordinary Shareholders will be guaranteed by Messrs. Laurence Keen & Gardner (the Company's Brokers) who will subscribe on the terms of the offer for any such shares not accepted in accordance with the offer. No commission will be payable for this guarantee.

The conversion of the Preference and Ordinary Shares into Stock has long been thought desirable on account of the saving of work and of expense in dealing with transfers which will result therefrom.

Application will be made to the Committee of the Stock Exchange, London, for permission to deal in and subsequently for an official quotation for the Preference and Ordinary Stock. Similar application will be made to the Committee of the Stock Exchange, Bristol.

The transfer books of the existing 5% and 6½% Preference Shares will be closed on and from the 17th June until the 30th June, 1936. The transfer books of the Ordinary Shares were closed for the purpose of the interim dividend from the 26th May and will remain closed until the 8th June 1936.

The Agreement referred to in the Resolutions set out in the notices of class meetings is available for inspection by Shareholders ; or their duly authorised agents, at the Registered Office of the Company, The Brewery, Reading, and a copy thereof at the offices of Messrs. Linklaters and Paines, 2, Bond Court, Walbrook, London, E.C.4, during usual business hours on any day previous to the date for which the meetings are convened. It provides, in accordance with Article 58 that subject to the Special Resolutions set out in the Notice of General Meeting of the Company being duly passed, and to the Agreement being confirmed by extraordinary resolutions of separate meetings of all three classes of Shareholders, these Special Resolutions shall be binding upon all three classes of Shareholders.

The Directors hope that you will be present at the meetings convened by the accompanying notices, but should

this not be possible, you are requested to sign and return the enclosed forms of proxy so as to reach the Secretary of the Company not later than 12 o'clock noon on the 20th June, 1936.

Yours faithfully,
By Order of the Board,
E. S. PHIPPS,
Secretary.

A HANDSOME BONUS.

Commenting on the above letter, the *Financial Times* says:—

“As a part of a more comprehensive scheme for the re-organisation and simplification of the capital structure the Five and Six and a-Half per Cent. Preference shareholders of H. and G. Simonds, the Reading brewers, are invited to agree to a considerable modification of their rights and status. The proposals, set out on another page, take a somewhat novel form. Holders of the Five per Cents. are merely asked to surrender their priority. In return for allowing the existing Six and a-Half per Cents., issued in 1930, together with the 931,800 shares of the new consolidated class, to rank equally with them they are offered a 5 per cent. scrip bonus and correspondingly larger income. Owners of the 400,000 Six and a-Half per Cents. will suffer a reduction to 5 per cent. in the fixed return on the nominal amount of their holding, but the latter will be increased by 30 per cent.

“As they will receive three additional Five per Cent. Preference shares for each ten Six and a-Half per Cents., they will suffer no loss of income. The company, which last year celebrated its jubilee, is very prosperous, and the wider plan—the two are not in any way interdependent—is designed to enable it to continue the policy of expansion which has contributed materially to its success. The Preference shareholders would appear, therefore, well-advised to accord their consent to their part of the scheme, which appears, as the Board claims, to be to the benefit of all the proprietors. For the holders of the Ordinary shares, quoted at 90s, the advantages of carrying out the plan in its entirety are manifest, since the proposed new issue of one in three at 50s constitutes a handsome bonus.



H. & G. SIMONDS' FETE.

SATURDAY, 22ND AUGUST, 1936,

AT

COLEY PARK.

Entry forms for the various events are now available and can be had on application to the respective committees. It is hoped that as many employees as possible will enter for the various events and by handing in their entries early will greatly assist the committees as there is sure to be a big rush near the closing date. The Baby Competition and the Ankle Competition are innovations, and a heavy list of entries is anticipated. The officials are confident of having a very successful fete as so many willing helpers have come forward and all are keen and enthusiastic. Below is given a list of the committees; these committees have power to co-opt others to assist them and offers of help will be greatly appreciated:—

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mr. L. A. Simonds.

Secretary : Mr. W. Bradford.

Treasurer : Mr. F. W. Freeman.

Messrs. C. Langton, J. H. Wadhams, S. Bird, F. C. Hawkes, W. Curtis, J. Clay, F. Pusey, S. Brunsten, J. B. Doe, C. B. Cox, R. Griffin, R. Skidmore, H. Davis.

BAR COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mr. W. Wheeler.

Secretary : Mr. C. B. Cox.

Messrs. F. Aust, P. Blackford, P. Lovegrove, A. Tugwell, F. Chandler, G. Lott, E. Eaton, J. Wetherall, J. Benford, F. Mason, T. Holmes, E. Palmer.

GATE AND GROUND COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mr. F. Drury.

Secretary : Mr. H. Davis.

Messrs. L. E. Browne, F. Edwards, P. Maynard, G. Marsh, F. Shipton, G. Wait.

RACES COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mr. F. Hawkins.

Secretary : Mr. R. Griffin.

Messrs. E. Boshier, F. Brown, H. Sewell, W. Boshier, F. C. Collins, J. Cockerton, F. Green, H. Mitchell, A. L. Walker, E. Sainsbury.

TUG-OF-WAR COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mr. W. Venner.

Secretary : Mr. F. Pusey.

Messrs. G. Cannings, J. Jones, J. Bennett, H. Gulliver, P. Toogood, G. Boniface, A. O. Taylor.

PUSH BALL COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mr. G. Andrews.*Secretary* : Mr. R. Skidmore.

Messrs. C. Grover, B. Lamb, J. Lovejoy, E. Tigwell.

FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mr. W. J. Ford.*Secretary* : Mr. J. Clay.

Messrs. T. Kent, W. Sparks, C. Weller, A. Weight.

SIDE SHOWS COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mr. F. Edwards.*Secretary* : Mr. J. B. Doe.Messrs. R. West, S. Cripps, S. Treacher, E. A. Higgs, A. Toms, R. Broad,
C. Grigg, C. Pidgeon, G. Poole.

BOXING COMMITTEE.

Secretary : Mr. S. Brunsdon.

W. BRADFORD,

General Hon. Secretary.

Simonds' famous beers are popular the world over, and in the picture may be seen friends at Gibraltar refreshing themselves with the "Hop Leaf" brands.

SMOKING CONCERT AT "THE RAVEN," STOKENCHURCH.

A smoking concert, arranged by the Stokenchurch and District Branch of the British Legion, was held at "The Raven," Stokenchurch, on Friday, May 15th. Lt.-Col. C. E. Steel, O.B.E. (secretary of the branch) presided, and he was supported by His Worship the Mayor of Tintown, Alderman T. Dutton, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor F. T. Dean, and Mr. J. W. Barney (games secretary of the branch). The table was adorned with the Admiral Wardle silver challenge cup, which was recently won by the local branch in inter-games tournaments between branches in the High Wycombe area, and it was evident that the company present realised the purpose for which cups are made.

Councillor Dean presented the branch with a replica of it.

An interesting programme was carried through by Miss Elliott, Messrs. W. Elliott, A. Elston, G. Fredericks, J. Lee, S. Grant, A. S. Holland, D. Ashby, E. G. Hopkins and E. Bates.

A vote of thanks was proposed to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. Hodges), and Mr. Hodges suitably replied.

HIGH WYCOMBE BOROUGH DART LEAGUE.

(*President* : LOUIS SIMONDS, ESQ., The Brewery, Reading.)

The season's matches terminated on the 19th May, and it was not until that date that the championship of the Western Division was decided. The Bull Inn secured their championship of the Eastern Division three weeks ago and the Morning Star (runners-up) are now 11 points behind.

The Bull Inn are to be complimented upon holding the championship of their division during the three years that the league has been formed, and have only lost one match this season; our condolence must go to the Morning Star, who have been runners-up during that period.

In the Western Division the Swan, West Wycombe, who held the championship last year failed to hold it this year by only one point—the Friend at Hand securing the championship on the last rubber of the season.

The Thames Valley S.C. in the Eastern Division, and the Carrington Arms in the Western Division, as in previous seasons, have been the secure foundations on which the league has carried

on and compliments are due to them for their enthusiastic support to the league, when winning glory was not coming their way.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

(Season 1935-36.)

WESTERN DIVISION.

	<i>Played.</i>	<i>Won.</i>	<i>Lost.</i>	<i>Points.</i>
Friend at Hand	32	27	5	110
Swan, West Wycombe	32	26	6	109
Half Moon	32	22	10	102
Chairmakers Arms	32	21	11	100
Bird in Hand... ..	32	21	11	99
The Gate	32	22	10	91
Desboro' Arms	32	20	12	88
The Plough	32	14	18	81
Saracen's Head	32	15	17	75
Nag's Head	32	14	18	75
White Horse	32	14	18	75
Rose and Crown	32	15	17	71
Golden Fleece	32	11	21	71
Royal Oak	32	12	20	70
Territorial Club	32	10	22	62
The Roundabout	32	5	27	47
Carrington Arms	32	3	29	34

EASTERN DIVISION.

	<i>Played.</i>	<i>Won.</i>	<i>Lost.</i>	<i>Points.</i>
Bull Inn	32	31	1	119
Morning Star	32	25	7	108
Ye Exchange	32	19	13	89
Belle Vue	32	18	14	89
Red Lion, Marsh	32	18	14	85
Swan, Paul's Row	32	15	17	83
The Antelope	32	17	15	82
Papermakers Arms	32	15	17	82
Swan, Marsh	32	16	16	77
Ship Inn	32	15	17	76
The Pheasant	32	14	18	75
Beech Tree	32	15	17	74
Black Boy	32	13	19	74
The Bell	32	10	22	66
Beaconsfield Arms	32	10	22	65
Falcon Hotel	32	10	22	61
Thames Valley S.C.	32	11	21	55

CURIOUS BIRD LORE.

All sorts of odd bits of bird lore are picked up during a sojourn in the country, for some rural folk still remember the old bird lore of their forefathers.

To interfere with a robin is to court disaster. He who takes from a robin's nest will never thrive again. The wren is also a bird you must not meddle with; it is "bad luck" to rob a wren's nest.

A single magpie is considered "unlucky" why, we could never make out, but this is an old belief deeply rooted in rural places; two magpies together, however, are a good omen.

When the owl hoots at night, the following morning will be fine. If the robin sings in the rain, the sun will soon show his face again. A redbreast singing at the top of a bush in the morning is a sign of good weather; but if he keeps hidden low towards the bottom of the hedge storms are nigh.

Gulls flying inland are said to indicate bad weather, and if rooks keep flapping and cawing round their nest trees in the morning instead of flying off to the fields, it is going to be wet.

Swallows flying high mean that it is likely to remain dry; but if they skim low and touch the surface of the wayside pond, look out for rain before long. Swans flying restlessly overhead mean rough weather. In the Outer Isles it is considered a good omen to hear wild swans before breaking fast, especially on a Tuesday morning. To see seven swans or a multiple of seven on wing ensures peace and prosperity for a period of seven months, seven years, or a multiple of seven years.

In the Isles swans are said to be Norse princesses imprisoned beneath a spell. Another tradition relates that they are ill-used religious ladies under enchantment, who have been driven from their homes and compelled ever to wander and to dwell where most kindly treated and least molested.

Swallows bring luck; to drive them away when they seek to nest under the eaves or in your barn is to drive good luck away. It is "unlucky" to kill a swallow. We should consider it to be a beastly crime as well.

The Gael hates to hear the springtime cuckoo calling in the morning before he has had his breakfast; he dislikes hearing a snipe drumming overhead, and to see a wheatear flitting before him on

the stone wall of the moor, for he remembers the ancient Gaelic saying :

“ Heard I the cuckoo with no food inside me,
 Heard I the snipe right over my head ;
 Saw I a wheatear on a wall of stones, . . .
 And I knew that the year would not go well with me.”

A Hampshire villager, pointing out a goatsucker or night-jar fluttering in its owl-like flight across a common ; said, “ Goatsucker be an ill-meanin’ bird, it hez sich a lot o’ poison about it ; not ‘at it’ll attack anyone ‘at leaves it alone, bud if a body goes near its nest it’ll fly at their eyes, an’ if it draws blood it’ll venom them . . . when it makes a gert row in the evenin’ folks do say ‘tis a sign of fine hot weather.”

This bird was once commonly supposed to suck goats, hence its familiar name ; but this is not its worst “ crime,” for half the calves that are taken ill or die have been venomed by a touch from its feathers ! Such is the curious folk lore associated with one of our most useful and harmless migrants, the night-flying goatsucker.

If the Norwegian fieldfare and redwing arrive on our shores early in the autumn it is said to be a sign that the winter will be long and severe ; the same thing is said about the early arrival of wild geese. Cold weather is indicated when grouse “ pack” together in big flocks and come down to the lower grounds.

AFTER THE DERBY.

Yesterday morning, says *The Times* of May 28th, everybody knew that there was only one horse in the race. They knew it so certainly that the word leakage would be an insulting belittlement of the floods of absolutely definite information that came pouring out for nothing. The postman knew it ; the chauffeur knew it ; the cook was dead sure of it ; the ‘bus-conductor (the poor ‘bus drivers have no chance nowadays of exercising their traditional philanthropy), the newsvendor, the office-boy, and the senior clerk—all knew that there was only one horse in the race. The trouble was that it was a horse with so many names. Some called it Taj Akbar, some Pay Up, some Noble King, some Carioca, some Boswell, some (good stickers, those) Bala Hissar, some Thankerton, some Bel Aethel, and so forth, till the bewildered innocent was driven to conclude that this year’s Derby must be a Caucus-race, in which everybody would win and all would have prizes. Outside the more than usually complicated calculations of the experts about Fairway and Form and Guineas and things of that sort, there was little to indicate the proper destination of a shirt. Mahmoud is a

very pale horse ; Thankerton comes from Yorkshire ; and those are average good reasons for betting on a horse (or against it) ; but they are not decisive. If one of that horse’s many names had only been Girl Pat, there would have been no room for hesitation ; at getting off the mark and showing a clean pair of heels it would be unbeatable. But perhaps there was never a Derby before about which expert knowledge and inexpert fancy found so little to go upon. It will be much less nerve-racking and bewildering to make a book on the date of the Coronation.

In two matters yesterday’s race leaves history unaltered. Lord Astor has not yet won the Derby, and Gordon Richards has not yet ridden a Derby winner. The sooner fortune makes good these lamentable oversights the better. But Mahmoud has made history by running the Derby faster than it has ever been run before. He has added one to the very short list (three colts and one filly) of grey Derby winners, although that list is likely to increase in greater ratio as the Tetrarch blood spreads. Most distinctive of all is the association of this year’s Derby with India. The other great news to-day (greater even than the sailing of the Queen Mary) is the publication of the Orders in Council about the new Constitution in India. On the very day when they are issued the Aga Khan, who has played a leading part in the framing of that Constitution, wins the Derby for the third time in seven years (it took Lord Rosebery twelve years to win the Derby three times). With three horses in the race, he takes the second place as well as the first. And the horse that made the running and led the field to near Tattenham Corner was another Indian-owned horse, the Maharajah of Rajpipla’s Carioca. An Imperial Derby, indeed. In India, no doubt, as in South Africa, there must have been eager listeners to our Racing Correspondent’s broadcast description of the race ; and the news must have seemed good news even to those who had not drawn Mahmoud or Taj Akbar in the Calcutta Sweep. Everywhere, indeed, the first Derby Day in the reign of King Edward VIII seems to have given happiness. Fine weather, good racing, and interest pretty evenly divided, with no one tremendous chance of success or failure, make a happy holiday.



WORDS OF WISDOM.

Work, for work is the source of joy! There is nothing more wearisome than the monotony of having nothing to do.

If it is society's fault when one man becomes a burglar, how does another man with the same start become a fine citizen?

In childhood life seems so simple, so comprehensible. Then as the years pass by with their varied experiences, and as avenues and vistas and mazes open out all around us, how terribly involved the life-problem grows. What a mystery it all is!

It can only be solved when we fully realize that life with its abundant duties must be simply a love-life; that we must not shun its difficulties, but meet them; we must not fly, but fight. We must always bear up manfully, and push on *in nomine Domini*—impelled by love.

CHRISTIAN SWEETNESS.

It is the sweetness not of manner, or of phrase, or of look that forms this quality, but the sweetness of mind, of heart, of soul, distilled through every sense and every pore: for, in one word, it is the suavity of charity.

Learning makes a man fit company for himself.

Don't slacken your energies or curtail your activities if you are misunderstood, or your motives questioned, or even if you are reviled when you are trying to do your best to be good, kind and helpful.

Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home for hearing what people really think of you.

It is better to say a little that men will remember, rather than much that men will forget.

"When from our better selves we have too long
Been parted by the hurrying world, and droop
Sick of its business, of its pleasures tired,
How gracious, how benign is SOLITUDE."

DARTS.

JOLLY BREWERS PROVE WORTHY CHAMPIONS.

There were more than 300 spectators at the championship finals of the H. & G. Simonds Darts League finals, played at Foresters Hall, London Street, on Wednesday evening, June 3rd, says the *Evening Gazette*. The company included Mr. L. A. Simonds (President of the League), Mr. A. W. C. Bowyer and Mr. W. H. Davis.

Jolly Brewers proved themselves worthy champions, not only by their wonderful record during the season, but by winning the play-off against Fox and Hound by six games to three.

In the runners-up match, Horse and Jockey produced their best form of the season, and dropped only three games to London Tavern, while in the "wooden spoonists" duel, styled the "good sports" match, Rising Sun beat Black Horse by the odd game.

INTER-TOWN MATCH.

After he had presented the medals and trophies, Mr. L. A. Simonds, an interested spectator of the matches in his capacity as President of the League, congratulated the winners on their form and referred to the successful season the clubs had enjoyed. He expressed the desire to see a team representing the Reading League in competition with a side from High Wycombe, and this match is to be arranged.

Mr. Simonds paid a tribute to the excellent work of the officials, making particular reference to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. C. Breakspear.

RESULTS.

Results of the finals were:—

Championship.—Jolly Brewers (C. Grainger (Capt.), F. Legge, R. Boore, D. Carter, H. Creighton, S. Collett, J. Davies, A. Rockall and E. Steel) beat Fox and Hounds (G. Bryant (Capt.), C. Rice, W. Partridge, G. Butler, W. Ballard, M. Butler, L. Butler, J. Bryant and B. Green) by six games to three.

Runners-up Match.—Horse and Jockey (J. Sherwood (Capt.), C. H. Lock, G. Clements, J. Wilson, T. Appleton, V. Dunn, F. Roberts, S. Ilott and J. Williams) beat London Tavern (E. Slade (Capt.), C. Yates, C. Mace, H. Bolton, W. Gregory, C. Stevens, H. Pope, A. Legge and J. Gregory) by six games to three.

"Good Sports" Match.—Rising Sun (J. Brant (Capt.), T. Eymor, J. Eymor, F. Webb, G. Willoughby, A. M. Roberts, C. Adams, W. Watts and S. Adams) beat Black Horse (L. Belcher (Capt.), T. Atkiss, A. Millard, J. Wilson, S. Belcher, B. Wilder, P. Wilson, A. Belcher and J. C. Wright) by five games to four.

Mr. L. A. Simonds' prize for highest individual throw, E. Steel (180).



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Mr. Louis Simonds presenting the Cup to the captain, Mr. C. Grainger, of The Jolly Brewers darts team at the darts finals in the Foresters' Hall.



A NATURE NOTE.

DELIGHTFUL DAYS IN DEVON.

(BY C.H.P.).

MY WELCOME ON EARTH AND IN AIR.

FIVE BITS OF FURRY FURY.

I have just returned after spending some delightful days in Devon. Somehow the news had leaked out that I was going, for a wonderful reception awaited me. The lanes were lined with a profusion of pinkampions, stitchwort and blue-bells and not only was my route thus beflagged with red, white and blue for, overhead, a wonderful aerial display was arranged for my advantage. This was carried out by those broad-winged hawks known as common buzzards. High overhead they soared and circled and a pair of peregrine falcons added to the grace and dignity of the display. And when I alighted from my car—only mine to the extent that I shared in the outlay on petrol—and gazed on the river that I had come to fish, water ouzels bowed and curtsied to me in the most charming manner.

Small wonder that I was much touched by the magnificence of my reception, which will ever remain with me a happy memory.

Sweet-scented flowers of many hues, with thousands of foxgloves raising their stately heads, and mass upon mass of whortleberries in bloom, to be followed by the fruit that is so tasty in tarts; rare birds floating lazily in the air at one moment and diving down, dealing destruction to some poor victim the next, not forgetting the dainty little dipper looking prim and proper in his spotlessly clean white waistcoat—it was amid such faery scenes as these that I took up my quarters for a week's fly-fishing.

And the fact that, when I inquired of an old farm hand as to the possibilities of sport, he replied "I've lived here these fifty year and I've never sin one took out yet," did not damp my ardour. Fishing did not appeal to him.

BUSY LITTLE BLUE-TITS.

When I awoke early the next morning the cuckoo was calling, calling. Outside my bedroom window a pair of blue-tits had their nest in a hole in a wall. They were busy feeding their large little family. About every two or three minutes father or mother would bring food to their bairns and I suppose there were about ten of them. At 6 a.m. the parents were fetching food, and right away throughout the day until after 9 p.m. they were still carrying

succulent morsels, chiefly little caterpillars, to their children. There was by no means any eight-hour day for those tits and they must have covered many miles and been dead tired when eventually they retired to their well-earned rest.

FROM THE SUBLIME TO THE RIDICULOUS.

Just outside my window, too, was a spotted flycatcher's nest in some ivy. What adepts these birds were in the art of catching flies. One would buzz by and from a post, out a flycatcher would dart and, with unerring aim, seize the little winged insect and carry it off to the nest as food for the baby birds. A mayfly rose from the river and had not flown many feet before one of the flycatchers spotted it and, with swift and graceful motion, caught it and carried it to the nest, evidently a tit-bit for the lucky little youngster who was fortunate enough to receive it. Another mayfly rose and a sparrow gave chase. He was as clumsy as the flycatcher was clever. In comparison, it was a question of descending from the sublime to the ridiculous, but the sparrow achieved his object in the end and had a mayfly meal, gobbling up the dainty morsel with evident relish.

Then I saw a starling, with a straw, passing overhead. Suddenly he saw some dry pampas grass in the garden. He thought that better building material than the straw, dropped the latter and gathered a miniature hayrick of the pampas grass. He was decidedly overloaded and as he made off in the strong wind it blew him and his hay hither and thither. But he persevered and was soon out of sight. Now that pampas grass doubtless forms the cosy lining of the starling's nest. The bird is certainly to be congratulated on successfully getting away with such a load in such a wind.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

But I have come to the river Teign to fish! I took the precaution to soak my 3x cast overnight and it is now ready for work. I attach a tiny fly to it, fasten the gut to the line and off I go with Great Expectations. I do not mean Dickens' great book by saying Great Expectations, but something none the less great that was ever in my mind. With what eagerness I approached the river, only a few yards from where I was staying, and with what eagerness I watched my fly after I had made my first cast!

I met with varying success and was deeply impressed by the beauty all around. Here indeed was happiness and a peace passing understanding. How my thoughts flashed towards the international situation and how I wished that instead of war and rumours of war I could impregnate the world and the minds of men with some of this

wealth of beauty, some of this wonderful peace that sinks down so deep into the soul. The wood wrens and the willow warblers were singing, singing, O! so sweetly, all day long, and adding greatly to the charm of the surroundings. A dipper alights on an almost submerged rock in the middle of the river, dives repeatedly into the water for molluscs, using his wings as oars. When he has gathered sufficient food off he flies to his dome-shaped nest under the river bank. He was indeed a delightful little companion and the Teign abounds with them.

A SPECKLED BEAUTY.

The water flows rapidly at my feet, galloping against and over the rocks in its ceaseless hurry to the sea. About thirty yards from where I sit the river widens and forms an eddy. It is a likely-looking spot for a trout. I cast a long line just by the side of the fast flowing water. Hardly has the lure reached the spot before a trout rises to it with a rush; I strike and have him firmly hooked. He is a very lively customer and fights like fury but my gut, though fine, is strong and after a little careful handling I coax him to the net—and he is mine! Indeed a speckled beauty, he weighs half an ounce under one pound and, as the Keeper told me, was one of the prizes of the river where the trout as a rule run small, 7 inches being a sizeable fish. I tried a good many flies during my stay in Devon and found a little alder, always worth a trial, was a favourite with these fish. It was on an alder that I caught the trout referred to.

A GREAT THRILL—BUT BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT.

On one occasion my life-long and valued friend, who accompanies me on these excursions, and is as keen a fly-fisherman as myself, had a thrilling experience. The day was far spent; it was nearly 11 p.m. when he got into something very big. He was fishing with a small white moth when something came at it that meant business. So heavy was the fish that he bent my friend's rod nearly double and up and down the river he dashed, leaping high into the air, in the shallows, plunging to and from in the depths. My good companion called to me anxiously for help and I hurried to the spot, tripping over a boulder and grazing my shin badly as I did so. Unfortunately I was some distance up the river at the time and just as I arrived by my friend's side the fish made one mighty dash for liberty—and gained it; for the angler's line was broken and flew back with a twang. Never shall I forget the look of disappointment on my fellow angler's face and indeed, he said, he had never had a more bitter moment in his life. He had not the heart to fish any more that night and it was a long, long time before he got over the shock. He must have hooked a salmon or a sea trout, probably the latter.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF ANGLING.

Of course, as every angler will agree, that was a serious matter. But there is of course the lighter side to the art of angling. There is the story, for instance, of the beginner who had purchased countless flies of infinite variety—and he had tried them, almost every one. He had whipped the stream from early morning till late at night and then tired and very disgusted he chucked his case, flies and all, into the water exclaiming to the fish: "I have tried them all day, if you can find any there you fancy, you blighters, help your blooming selves."

He has not fished since.

OTTERS *v.* SALMON.

There are otters down Devon way. In a pool one night there was a great commotion. The water appeared to swell and boil and one soon realised that something very unusual was afoot. And we had not long to wait before we witnessed an extraordinary, if not a unique sight. A big salmon was being chased, not by one otter only, but by five, the two parents and three children nearly fully grown. How that salmon, by means of his powerful tail, lashed himself through the water at terrific speed and how those otters followed in his trail! As they appeared, now and again, near the surface we caught glimpses of silver and glimpses of brown. It was five to one against the salmon and it was soon evident that the fish was beginning to tire and that the furry fury would eventually win. And such proved to be the case. At length the salmon leapt on to a rock with its body half out of the water. The dog otter had him marked, sprang out of the water and gripped the salmon at the back of the neck. It would soon be all over now, we thought. And so it was. Mother and the three youngsters followed father and all five of them were soon digging their sharp and cruel teeth into that fish. Death was not long delayed and then the five furry murderers dragged the salmon to their holt and doubtless dined off him. We noticed, however, that the children were not allowed to remain in their home long before they were driven out by their parents. Perhaps too much salmon was not good for them.

DEER COMES DOWN TO DRINK.

Further up the river, in the moonlight, all was peaceful and quiet again with just the occasional squawk of a heron or the hoot of an owl. But for that and the silvery sound of the stream all seemed very still and there was hardly a sound to be heard. Then suddenly, not far away there was the gentle rustling of leaves and the snap, snap of twigs and we wondered what was on the move.

A deer had come down to the river to drink!

BREWERY JOTTINGS.

(BY W. DUNSTER.)

Mr. C. G. Lawrence, of the Surveyor's Department, was married, the latter end of May, to Miss Clarke, of Caversham, daughter of an old customer of the Firm. Congratulations and best wishes to both of them.

Mr. J. M. Hammond, who has been on the sick list for a while, has restarted his duties, and I feel everyone is glad to see him back again. He has had a most disturbing time and it is pleasing to know that he is feeling so much better.

Mr. H. E. Marston, after a spell, which included an enforced stay in a nursing home, has returned and looks ever so much better. He says he is now feeling in fine fettle.

Mr. A. Grove, who visits us occasionally, says the last few weeks he has been improving in health, and we all hope this pleasing state of affairs will continue.

Congratulations to Mr. E. C. Bartlett, who has been the lucky recipient of a daughter. Both Mrs. Bartlett and baby are going along splendidly.

I would like to add a few words to those that have already appeared concerning the retirement of Mr. C. W. Stocker. I feel that everyone with whom he has come in contact at the Brewery, in whatever humble capacity they are carrying out their duties, will agree that Mr. Stocker has always impressed them by his courteousness and friendliness. Everyone sincerely hopes that he will be spared for many years to come.

I do not know what Brighton thinks of the Sussex cricket team this year, but in the opinion of my eldest son (a very keen follower of the side) they have, so far, fallen very far from grace. Maybe the sun has not shone strongly enough for them yet and they will be gaining their proper place (in the sun, when it shines!) and the cricket league table.

Football signing-on news for next season has been scarce so far as the Reading Football Club is concerned. Nevertheless, the thoughts and talk of football are by no means dead. Possibly, if we get a summer, we shall give it a rest until the end of August and then hopes will soar again that promotion will come along next season.

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

- The Crown Inn, Yorktown (Ashby's Staines Brewery, Ltd.)—
Mr. R. M. Berg.
- The Horse and Groom, Bracknell (Ashby's Staines Brewery Ltd.)—Mr. F. W. Halley.
- The Three Horse Shoes, Meadle (Wheeler's Wycombe Breweries Ltd.)—Mr. G. L. Large.
- The King's Head, Prestwood (Wheeler's Wycombe Breweries Ltd.)—Mr. H. Cole.
- The Mariners, Bagshot (Ashby's Staines Brewery Ltd.)—
Mr. W. H. Foster.
- The Crown Hotel, Kingsclere (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—
Mr. F. Napper.
- The George Hotel, Basingstoke (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—
Mrs. N. Smith.
- The Fisherman's Cottage, Reading (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—
Mr. E. E. Lane.
- The Queen's Head, Eynsham (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—
Mrs. E. Stevens.

DEATHS.

We regret to record the following deaths and to all relatives our deepest sympathy is hereby expressed :—

Mrs. E. Boulton, Fisherman's Cottage, died on the 4th May, and had been tenant of this house since 1883; in fact, she was the oldest licensee in Reading at the time of her death. It could be truly said that she had spent a lifetime in the service of the Firm.

Mrs. Shadbolt, wife of the tenant of the Osborne Arms, Lane End, died early in May.

Our sincere regrets are extended to Mr. F. Bull, of the Home, Sweet Home, Roke. His wife died on the 19th March, 1936, and he has now sustained another sad loss by the death of his daughter, Miss F. Bull, on the 8th May, 1936.

Mr. Frank Pawley, Well End, Little Marlow, who died on the 20th May, 1936. He had been a tenant of Messrs. Wheeler's Wycombe Breweries Ltd. since 1921 at the Blacksmith's Arms, which house was delicensed in 1933.

Mr. W. E. Jefferson, the Duke of York, Aldershot, who died on the 26th May, 1936, and whom had been a tenant of this house since 25th August, 1932.

In connection with the scheme for the reorganisation of Capital, a great deal of heavy work has devolved upon the Accountancy and Secretarial Departments. To quote only one instance, on the day on which the circular letters were sent out to shareholders, no less than 12,000 documents and over 2,300 envelopes had to be dealt with, which necessitated very careful and accurate handling. As the documents were only received from London during the morning, it was an extremely fine piece of work to get them away by 7 p.m. that same day and the staffs concerned are to be warmly complimented thereon.

DEATH OF MISS E. BRETT.

We much regret to hear of the death of Miss Ellen Brett on the 22nd May. Miss E. Brett was associated with her father at the Surrey County Cricket Club Tavern, Kennington Oval, for many years, in connection with the running of the Catering Department there, and latterly had been residing in Sussex. Doubtless many of the older members of the staff will remember this lady and be very sorry to hear of her passing over. Always keenly interested in news of the Brewery, a HOP LEAF GAZETTE was forwarded to her (and her sister, Miss M. S. Brett) each month, and this lady, in a letter to Mr. F. C. Hawkes, writes : " Thank you for HOP LEAF GAZETTE in which we both take great interest as we look forward to hearing something of the Firm's activities."

A GREAT THOUGHT.

To no one is life absolutely favourable. There are many vicissitudes in life. Faults are everywhere, and errors are always taking place. The perfect person has not yet been born.

Great kings, emperors, warriors and statesmen have made mistakes, and are still making them. It is folly, therefore, to expect that we are to get through without effort. If in our projects we do not succeed, we may be defeated, but we are not conquered; we still have our ambition.

Little is gained by resting on our oars. There is danger of drifting, and drifting means striking the rocks of discouragement and defeat. To stand still for long is always to stagnate. To go backwards is always dangerous.

It is silly to get an idea that we do not matter, that we do not count, for we all have a place to fill. We only know our place and power as we get the sense of our relationship and responsibility to all the other wheels of the great machine called " life."

CRICKET.

MR. JELLEY THANKS COLLEAGUES FOR CHARMING GIFTS.

Before attempting to chronicle the events in the cricket field during the "merry" month of May, I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all my kind friends who devised the scheme and contributed to the charming gifts which were presented to me at the Annual Meeting.

At the time I was too surprised, and overcome with pleasure, to adequately express my feelings. It is indeed gratifying to know that my endeavours, small as they are, to assist in the well-being of the Cricket Club have been and are appreciated by the members and I would like to say "Thank you one and all most sincerely."

Now for our deeds in the field. The month, generally speaking, has been most disappointing. Matches arranged have been cancelled by opponents who have been unable to carry out their fixtures; the weather has been far from ideal, and we have not put up the show we usually do. We can only hope for better things in the near future. The talent is there! What we now require is just that spell of good luck that is so necessary on the field, and off, to ensure success.

Let us look at the "A" Team. Four matches have been played and only one won. Last year we had five successive wins to commence the season. Here is the order:—

May 2nd. "A" TEAM 46 *v.* HECKFIELD AND MATTINGLEY 128.

A keen game is always anticipated with these old rivals and this was no exception. For once we managed to complete the game. Of late years weather and other causes have marred our trip to Heckfield.

Heckfield had first knock and the first wicket fell with only 3 runs on the board. From that point, however, the runs came steadily and the various changes of bowling made no difference. Five men returned double figure scores, R. North being top with 30. Tigar bore the brunt of the bowling and considering the heavy total against us, had the splendid figures of five for 23.

Our start with the bat was really disastrous, *viz.*, three wickets down without a run. Then W. Neville made a stand, helped by J. H. Wadhams and W. Greenaway, but in spite of their efforts we could only muster 46 all told.

May 9th.

By a coincidence our opponents for both teams were unable to carry out their fixtures and we were without matches. To fill up the date, two elevens were got together: one, under Mr. Jelley, comprising mostly "A" team men, *versus* Mr. E. Chandler's team, who took the field pretty well intact as the "B" team. A most interesting afternoon was spent and we all got to know each other better.

Mr. Chandler's team put up quite a good show and scored 54, B. Nicholls and H. Tozer making a very bold partnership, both getting over double figures. A number of bowling changes were made to add a little spice into the proceedings.

When the "Seniors" batted, C. Josey and W. Greenaway laid on the wood and nearly reached the opponents' total before the latter was caught out. Josey retired a few runs later and a few wickets fell and then Jennings reached the 20's. E. Chandler (four for 18) and H. Tozer (three for 22) bowled well.

May 16th. "A" TEAM 76 *v.* EVERSLEY STREET 45.

This game was played on Prospect Park and our visitors batted first. A sensational start was seen. Two balls bowled and two catches made, and we were two up and no runs against us. The next wicket fell at 7 and the following with only 2 runs added. C. Leversuch took his courage and bat in both hands and made 29 before E. Crutchley held a very quick one head high at first slip.

The fielding was excellent and in the course of Eversley's innings eight catches were held. E. Jennings finished off the innings with one "no ball" and two "caught and bowled" in his first over. H. Tigar (four for 22) and E. Crutchley (four for 21) shared the other wickets.

Our start with the willow was not promising, for two wickets fell with 9 runs on the board. Then we got to 18 for the next and 1 run later the fourth fell. E. Crutchley and P. James then became associated and the score rose steadily. Later on J. Rumens also had a "go" and he also returned a double figure score.

For Eversley, K. White (six for 27) and J. Taylor (three for 7) shared the wickets, with one "run out" to complete the total.

May 23rd. "A" TEAM 36 *v.* OLD RANELAGH C.C. 75 for 8.

We were meeting new opponents on this date and found them very good cricketers and charming fellows. Unfortunately we

were rather late in starting and it seemed only a short time before tea was announced. At that time we were going pretty well, the batsmen being mostly on the defensive. After the interval they went for the bowling and C. Lorene got 30 and W. C. T. Martin carried his bat out for 21. E. Crutchley (four for 26) and H. Tigar (three for 32) both bowled well.

Our batting seems to have deteriorated very much this year and seven wickets were down for 14. In fact, only P. James made anything like a show. He carried his bat for 17, which was just half the runs scored off the bat.

May 30th. "A" TEAM 64 v. MESS STAFF, R.M.C., 125 for 7.

Prospect Park saw us again against the Mess Staff. Our team was again depleted and in face of the showery weather we decided, on winning the toss, to bat first. One down for 9 was not promising, but when the next two fell at the same total things looked ominous. Then W. Benham stepped into the breach and, aided by Dame Fortune, made 21 before being caught. With a total of 64 we thought we had done pretty well. Then heavy rain fell and during a lull in the fall we made a dash for the house and tea.

With a wet ball our bowlers could not do much damage and slips in the field helped our opponents. All praise must, however, be given to B. Prentice and W. Ricketts, who saw the century hoisted before the former retired with 56 to his credit.

With nothing to lose the remainder of the batsmen went for the runs and we were able to get six more wickets down before time was called. H. Tigar had a long spell with the ball and took four for 46, but J. Rumens had two catches held in a couple of overs with only 1 run scored and saw the end of the innings.

Now for the "B" Team. Actually they only had two matches in May and both were won, which is certainly a good start from a playing point of view.

May 2nd. "B" TEAM 52 v. MORTIMER 2ND XI.

Played on Prospect Park and our opponents batted first. Success soon attended our bowlers and only A. Bushell (10) and F. Johnson (12 not out) made any headway. H. Tozer took five for 18 and F. Osborne four for 17.

Our batting was patchy. We lost two men for 2 runs and then G. Gigg and B. Nicholls got together and added a dozen. Later L. Thorn made 22 and the total was carried up to 52. We actually passed our opponents' total during the seventh wicket partnership.

May 9th.

This date has been dealt with in the "A" Team's record.

May 16th. "B" TEAM 75 v. PANGBOURNE AND TIDMARSH 2ND XI 65.

This game was played at Pangbourne and here we had the first knock. A good start was made by H. Mileham (13) and G. Gigg (10), who put on 23 before being parted. Then came a slump and it was left to J. Carter (No. 7) to help the runs along; he got 22. F. Osborne came along a bit later with 10 not out. Pangbourne tried six bowlers, the most successful being A. Fitt, who took five for 20.

Pangbourne's score was gradual and consistent, but fell short by exactly 10 runs. B. Morgan and S. Wiggins each got double figures. H. Tozer (three for 26), F. Osborne (three for 16) and E. Chandler (three for 11) each did well and H. Hedgington had the other wicket.

May 23rd.

On this date we were down to play the Y.M.C.A. 2nd XI, but unfortunately they were unable to fulfil the fixture.

May 30th.

In spite of adverts. and other endeavours we were unable to fill this date.

Just a few words about the Inter-Departmental games. These are down to start on June 4th, the first match being between the Surveyors and The Rest of the Brewery. As far as possible games will be played on successive Tuesdays, with just one or two on Thursday, to get the matches played off during the period when light evenings should prevail.

It is hoped that these games will prove interesting, not only to those playing in them, but to all "Breweryites" who like an evening out in the open. The games are played in the best sporting spirit, without any of the bickerings that sometimes occur when league points are at stake.

J.W.J.



THE LIGHTER SIDE.

Children's sayings :

"My Daddy's so tall he can see right over the garden fence."

"So can mine—when he's got his hat on."

* * * *

"Freddie, what have you done with the money in your money-box?"

"Yesterday was rainy—so I spent it."

* * * *

A sailor, disembarking at Southampton, after a long voyage, was stopped by a girl, who was wheeling a perambulator.

"Don't you know me?" she asked.

"Well, your face seems familiar," said the sailor.

"Why, of course it is. I'm your mother, I've had the monkey gland treatment."

"And the baby?"

"Oh, that's your father. He had a double dose."

* * * *

"Well, Sambo," said an American Judge, "so you and your wife have been fighting again. Liquor, I suppose?"

"No, sah," said Sambo; "she licked me this time."

* * * *

This was told in the *Catholic Times*. A class in a convent school in Ireland was asked to write an impression of the characters of Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth. With regard to the latter, one little girl wrote that "she was successful in her political schemes and popular as a queen. Her character, however, was not good, but there, what can you expect of a woman who had six mothers?"

* * * *

Sir Edward Parry, in *Concerning Many Things*, tells of two lawyers who both had difficulty with the letter "r." In a case at Preston Sessions, one was prosecuting, the other defending.

"The p'isoner is charged with stealing yabbits," said the first.

"Stealing what?" asked the chairman.

"Yabbits, sir."

"Yabbits?"

"My fwiend means wabbits," explained the other lawyer.

* * * *

"Not many wake up and find themselves rich," states a writer. There are, of course, professional boxers.

"Is gliding difficult to learn?"

"Oh, no. It's all plane sailing."

* * * *

Pat worked in a factory where they encouraged the staff to think of ideas for the smoother working of the business. One morning he was shown into the office of the chairman, and announced that he had thought of a way of ensuring that none of the hands would be late in future.

"That sounds good," said the chairman. "How do you propose to do it?"

"Sure and that's aisy, sorr," said Pat. "The last man in blows the whistle."

* * * *

He had arrived home late and his wife was giving him a piece of her mind.

"I don't care, my dear," he said, getting really worked up. "I mean what I say, I'm a man who calls a spade a spade."

His wife nodded. "Maybe, Henry," she said, "but you don't call a club a club. You call that working late at the office."

* * * *

"Will you pray to-day, sir, for all who are suffering from floating kidneys?" asked the dear old lady of the dear old Dean.

"Pray for floating kidneys?" exclaimed the astonished dignitary. "It cannot be done; why do you ask?"

"Well, sir, last week you prayed for the recovery of all loose livers, and——"

* * * *

Isaac entered the bank with his little boy. Producing a bundle of papers from his pocket, he extracted a cheque and presented it.

"How will you have it?" the cashier asked.

"I vant ten five-pound notes," was the reply.

The notes were handed over and Isaac counted them. "Vun, two, t'ree, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine——"

He broke off, stuffed the notes into his pocket, and made for the door. Quickly his son exclaimed: "You only counted nine five-pound notes."

"Shush, mein poy; neffer cound the last vun. There might be another underneath," was the cautious answer.

A woman advertised for a caretaker for her town house, and, after interviewing a large number of applicants, found one who suited her.

"Thanks for giving me the job," said the man; "and might I ask you a question? You stated in your advertisement that you wanted a married man. Does that mean you have some work in view for my wife?"

"Oh, no," replied the woman. "I wanted a married man so as to be sure I'd get someone used to taking orders from a woman."

* * * *

A young man was deeply in love with a beautiful girl. One day she told him that the next Monday would be her twentieth birthday. He promised to send her roses, one for every year of her age.

He left an order with the florist, a personal friend, who, because of their friendship, said to his assistant: "Here's an order from Mr. Flint for twenty roses to be delivered to Miss Clair. He's a good customer, so put in an extra dozen."

And the young man never knew what caused the girl to be so cool.

* * * *

Scene :—Country Hotel in Quebec in Winter.

The fires died down in the early morning hours and a newly arrived Cockney finding it too cold in bed, got up, dressed and went down to the stove in the hallway to get warm. He had not been there many minutes when a weather-beaten trapper came from his rounds in the forest with icicles hanging from his whiskers. Cockney looked at him in amazement and said:—"By jove, chappie, whichever room did you sleep in?"

* * * *

A wealthy lawyer, after dinner one night, went into his den for a smoke. He took down from his pipe-rack a superb meerschaum, a birthday present from his wife; but, alas! as he started to fill the pipe, it came apart in his hands. The bowl had been broken in two and then carelessly stuck together.

He rushed from his den and demanded to know who had broken his new meerschaum. His only son, a boy of eleven, spoke up bravely. "Father," he said, "I cannot tell a lie. I did it."

The lawyer praised the lad's Washingtonian veracity, but that night on his pillow he groaned and went on terribly about the incident. "Heaven help me!" he said. "It has been my life's dearest wish to rear up my son to my own profession, but now—alas—alas—"

A city family had been motoring in the country all one Sunday. They had filled all available space in the car with wild flowers, tree branches, and other spoils.

Being uncertain which road to take, they stopped a farmer and inquired: "Should we take this road back to the city?"

"You might as well while you're at it," replied the farmer. "It looks as if you had about everything else we've got."

* * * *

A member of a London club had the habit of partaking of his soup in a noisy and boisterous fashion. The noise upset the other members, but they were too courteous to protest. One day, however, when the offensive sounds were at fortissimo, a young and nerveless member strode towards the culprit and said: "May I help, sir?"

"Help!" retorted the partaker of soup. "I don't need any help."

"Sorry," said the youngster, "I thought perhaps you might wish to be dragged ashore."

* * * *

Two workmen were engaged upon a very intricate machine. "I say, Bill," said one of them contemplatively, "it's bloomin' wonderful what they can do nowadays. D'ye know they can make measurements to the thahsandth of an inch?"

"Blimey!" said the other, awed, "how many thahsandths are there in an inch, then?"

"Oh, I dunno," answered Bill, "but there must be millions."

* * * *

The salesman was eloquent about the merits of a vacuum cleaner, but the village housewife wasn't impressed. She suggested that he talk less and show her what the machine could do. He took off his coat, fitted up the cleaner, thrust his arm into the chimney of the open fireplace and brought out a handful of soot, which he scattered over the carpet. He then shovelled some ashes from the grate and sprinkled them over the rug, adding a big handful of soil from the garden. Then he smiled and rubbed his hands.

"Now," he said, "I'll show you what this vacuum cleaner can do. You'll be surprised, madam. Where's the electric switch?"

"Switch?" echoed the surprised woman. "We use gas."

At a trial one of the witnesses was a countryman unused to the ways of the law, but quick, as it proved, to understand its fundamentals. After a severe cross-examination counsel for the prosecution paused, and then, putting on a look of severity, exclaimed: "Mr. Smith, has not an effort been made to induce you to tell a different story?"

"A different story from what I told, sir?"

"That is what I mean."

"Yes, sir. Several persons have tried to get me to tell a different story from what I have told, but they couldn't."

"Now, sir. Upon your oath, remember. I wish to know who those persons are."

"Well, sir, I guess you've tried about as hard as any of them."

* * * *

The head of the house had brought home a business client for dinner, and the small son and heir had been allowed to stay up as a special treat. When the joint had been carved and his portion handed to the small boy, he exclaimed: "But this is roast beef!"

"Yes, of course it is," said his father. "Why?"

"Well, you said you were going to bring an 'old muttonhead' home for dinner," replied the child. (Complete collapse of the rest of the party.)

* * * *

FIRST RABBITER: "Heh, Bill."

SECOND RABBITER: "Yeah."

FIRST RABBITER: "You all right?"

SECOND RABBITER: "Yeah."

FIRST RABBITER: "Then I've shot a rabbit."

* * * *

The professor was demonstrating a piece of apparatus. "You will have noticed," he explained, "that this machine is operated by a crank." Then he wondered why the students laughed.

* * * *

PARLOURMAID: "Please, ma-am, cook says she thinks she'd better cancel 'er notice to leave at the end of the week, as she believes she's got the 'flu coming on."

Ikey and Rachel took little Sam to the pictures. The attendant warned them that unless the child kept quiet they would have to leave and get their money back.

Halfway through the principal film Ikey turned to Rachel and whispered: "Vell, vot do you tink of it?"

"Rotten," replied Rachel.

"Yes," agreed Ikey, "pinch de baby."

* * * *

SCHOOLMASTER: "How old are you now, George?"

GEORGE: "Nine, sir."

SCHOOLMASTER: "Nonsense! You were only four last year."

GEORGE: "Well, sir, I was four last year, and five this year. And four and five make nine, sir."

* * * *

"Now I want Albert to have a thoroughly modern and up-to-date education," said his mother, "including Latin."

"Yes, of course," said the headmaster, "though Latin is, as you know, a dead language."

"Well, all the better. Albert's going to be an undertaker."

* * * *

A young man who had suddenly inherited a fortune decided to learn how to carry himself in society. At a "School of Deportment" a bowing Frenchman begged him to enter.

"Do you give lessons in deportment?" inquired the young man.

"The best, m'sieu!" gushed the proprietor. "My system ees perfect. Two weeks ago a young man—like you, m'sieu—he take only three of my lessons in deportment, and yesterday he was deported."

* * * *

"Is your husband a bookworm?"

"No, just an ordinary one."

* * * *

The party was at its height, but an elderly lady sat near the door looking very glum.

"What has made her so solemn?" asked a guest.

"Well," said the host, "she is a temperance advocate, and some blundering idiot told her that her smiles were perfectly intoxicating."

"Does your typist give you any impertinence?"

"No, she charges me £3 a week for it."

* * * *

"And this," said the lady proprietor of the night club, "is the fitting room."

"And why a fitting room in a night club?" inquired the visitor.

"This is where he goes when he receives his supper check and has a fit."

* * * *

"So your son got his B.A. and M.A.?"

"Yes, indeed, but PA still supports him."

* * * *

"Is she progressive or conservative?"

"I don't know. She wears a last year's hat, drives a this year's car, and lives on next year's income."

* * * *

BRITISH GUIDE (showing places of interest): "It was in this room that Lord Wellington received his first commission."

AMERICAN TOURIST (suddenly interested): "How much was it?"

* * * *

Going into the kitchen one day, the mistress asked the maid, just from the country, what she thought of the electric fire and the electric cooker.

"They're real wonderful, mum," the girl replied. "They've neither of them gone out since I came here three weeks ago."

GOLDEN DAYS.

Ah, those were golden days so long ago
When Youth and High Ideals went hand in hand;
But some were vain Illusions now I know,
For in the test of Time they did not stand.

Now I am middle-aged, but still I find
Life keeps the rosy hues of early years.
Ideals retained, Illusions left behind
Have paid full value for their bitter tears.

Old Age is yet to come, but without fear
I'll hold my course through long-accustomed ways;
Assured that as Life's parting time draws near,
Death only leads to fairer golden days.

Messrs. H. & G. SIMONDS, Ltd.

announce that

BEER IN CANS

will be

AVAILABLE SHORTLY.

Abreast of the times and always ready to supply the needs of the public, we have perfected the method of canning beer and it will be obtainable at an early date through the usual sources.

Canned Beer will be in great demand this summer for

OUTINGS

PICNICS

CAMPING

TOURING

HIKING

FISHING

YACHTING

and all outdoor events. It is equally suitable for home use and takes less space in the refrigerator or cupboard.

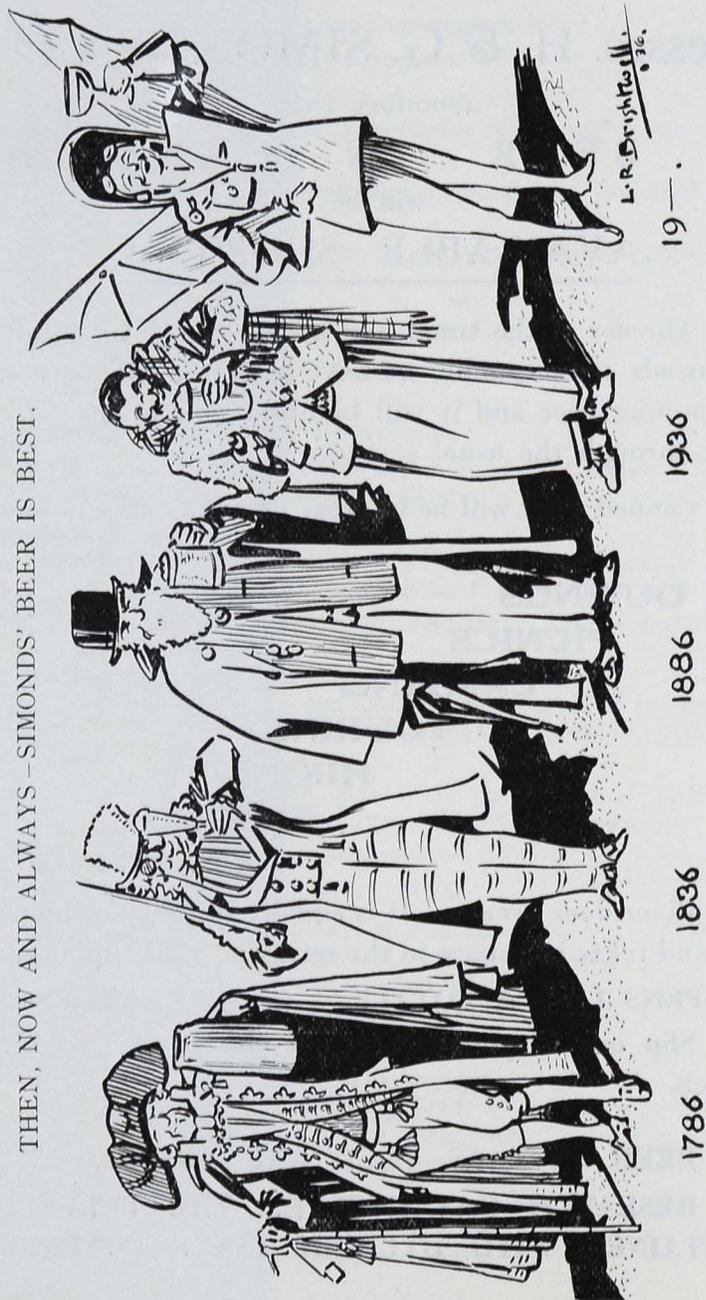
OPENS LIKE A BOTTLE. NO BREAKAGES.

Slip one in your pocket for the all-day cricket match.

BEER IN CANS—COOL AND FOAMING!!

RESEARCH HAS EVOLVED THE PERFECT CONTAINER WITH HYGIENIC INNER COATING.

THEN, NOW AND ALWAYS—SIMONDS' BEER IS BEST.



19—

1936

1886

1836

1786

Then - now - and always
SIMONDS

BRANCHES.

OXFORD.

MORRIS MOTORS ATHLETIC CLUB, COWLEY.

BILLIARDS FINAL—SIMONDS CUP.

A very pleasant and enjoyable game was witnessed in the Club House of the Morris Motors Athletic Club at Cowley on Tuesday, April 28th, the contestants being Mr. A. Bowen (the holder) and Mr. J. Frewin (the challenger).

After stringing for break, both players opened cautiously, Frewin with a miss in baulk, Bowen by pocketing his ball for a penalty of 3. Play proceeded very evenly for some considerable time and both players were 84 each. Frewin was first to reach the 100 mark, the scores being called at Frewin 121, Bowen 99.

There was very little difference in scores up to the 200 mark, when Bowen, who certainly has the advantage of youth, forged ahead with a break of 68. Frewin, who is a veteran compared with his opponent, stuck to his guns and replied with a 31 and 52, but Bowen was too far ahead and ran out winner for the second time, the final scores being Bowen 500, Frewin 391.

The cup was then filled and presented to the winner on behalf of the donors, Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., of Reading, by Mr. H. J. Timms, who is the local manager.

Mr. H. J. Timms congratulated the winner and wished him success in London, where he goes to play in the final stages of the Junior Amateur Championship.

All Morris billiards fans wish him success also, and we hope he may have the honour of pulling it off this time.

The very best of luck, Aubrey. We have room for players of your ability in our league side; maybe in the near future you will come back to us.

I must thank Mr. F. Austick for his very able marking of this game. Frank, as we all know him, is a previous Simonds' cup holder, and a very wily player who went well in this year's competition, only to be beaten like J. Frewin, by the spirit of youth.

[Contribution received from Mr. A. Vear, Hon. Secretary Billiards Section, Morris Motors Athletic Club, Cowley.]

WAR DEPARTMENT CONSTABULARY CANTEEN, DIDCOT.

ADVENTURES OF A BOTTLE (V).

On May 8th I once again found myself amongst the smiling policemen at Didcot. The occasion was dancing time and the Melody Makers Dance Band "Started me Dreaming" in a slow fox-trot, then they exhorted the company to "Saddle their blues to a wild mustang and gallop their troubles away."

Visions of dainty frocks and Wedgwood were next brought to notice in a waltz, "Lady in Blue." The "Veleta" brought the old folk to their feet and we "Glided" back to "Boots and Saddle." Another graceful old dance, the "La Rinka," captivated young as well as the old. I was next informed that "There'll never be another you." (The company proved this by seeking the bar and refreshment from this "Season's Brew.") A musical watercolour from the Pacific followed in "Hawaiian Paradise." That popular complication of a decade ago, the "Maxina," next took my eye, and the martial strains of "Blaze Away" set us all stepping smartly in the "Boston." The latter evidently caused the company to desire more refreshment, for Steward Dickie was kept busy passing out tumblers of the "Best" and removing caps.

Dancing was resumed in waltz time to the music from "Bitter Sweet" and "One Night of Love." Next we "Glided" to "Sorrento by the Sea" and "Old-fashioned Brown's" request for a repeat of the "Veleta" was complied with.

The "Broadway" of "Rhythm" was next introduced with a "Swing" and "It's time to say Good-night." Then finished the dancing and the Melody Makers faded out to "Cheerio."

The dance was well attended and the Melody Makers were excellent both in rhythm and sweet numbers. P.C. Brading performed the duties of M.C. in his usual polished and intimate manner.

Whist drives were also held during the month and players whose skill earned reward were P.S. Saunders, Mrs. Dance, Mrs. Thomas, P.C. Rose, P.S. Gillett and Mrs. Fursdon.

Another hobby of these policemen—gardening—is apparently thirsty work. I have overheard such expressions as "Got all your seed in yet?" and "How's your earlies?" This seems to point to the fact that sowing and planting is a necessary expedient in this district. The results we are apparently to be privileged to see exhibited during the month of August. I, as a good bottle, will make a point of being present, for it will be a new adventure to me.

Our good comrades from Bramley are due to visit us on Whit Monday and I am sure that it will be a "Glorious First of June."

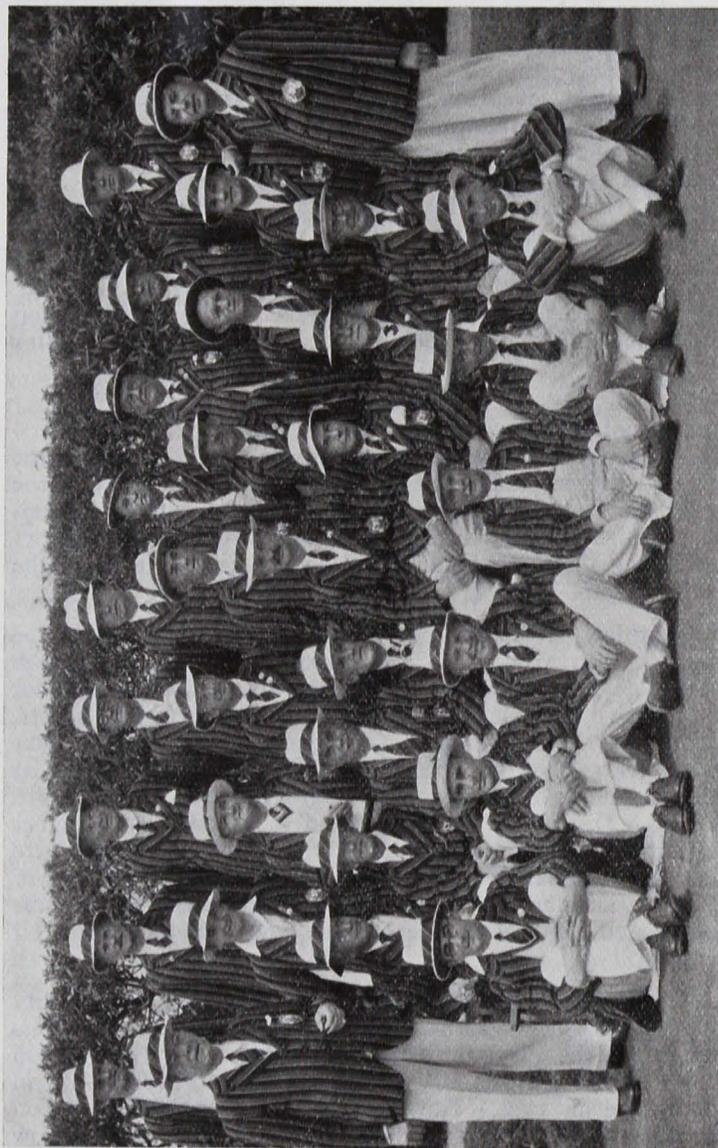
PORTSMOUTH.

Our photograph is of a team of English bowlers from the Southern Counties on the occasion of their visit to South Africa, 1935-36. This tour was organised and conducted by Mr. A. T. Riceman, of Bournemouth. During the whole tour twenty-four matches were won, seventeen lost, two drawn and four abandoned on account of wet weather, making a total of forty-seven matches. The majority of the games were played in the Cape Peninsula, but the team also visited Hermanus, Worcester, Paarl, Massel Bay, Oudtshoorn, George, East London, Port Elizabeth and Durban. They started from England on December 27th, 1935, arriving at the Cape on January 13th, 1936, returning from the Cape on April 3rd and reaching Southampton on April 20th, 1936. At Cape Town, in April, 1936, Mr. A. T. Riceman and his team made a presentation of an electric clock to the Green and Sea Point Bowling Club for their pavilion.

The sixty-fourth Annual Conference of the Licensed Victuallers' Defence League of England and Wales was held this year at Portsmouth, the proceedings of the conference taking place at the South Parade Pier. Members of the General Council were entertained to luncheon by the Portsmouth, Gosport and District Licensed Victuallers' Protection and Benevolent Society at the "Queen's" Hotel.

Mr. Harold Privett, of "Ye Olde Inne," Copnor, was in the President's chair this year. The Lord Mayor of Portsmouth (Alderman W. J. Avens) and the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Frank J. Privett, J.P.) were amongst the distinguished guests. Welcoming the General Council, Mr. Harold Privett said it was forty-four years since the League conference had been held at Portsmouth, and he hoped it would be a great success. Portsmouth was in No. 8 District of the League and they had a live member in Mr. Harry Robinson, of Southampton, through whom they were kept in touch with national activities. He thanked the Lord Mayor and Corporation for the facilities that were extended to the conference, and also the members of the wholesale trade for their co-operation.

The Lord Mayor, during his speech, thanked the local Society for their generous cheque for his charities and expressed indebtedness to Admiral of the Fleet Sir Roger Keyes and the Hon. Ralph Beaumont for the position in which the city found itself to-day in relation to the air base. They were now nearer the completion of their discussions than at any other time, and as we were now the greatest naval port he hoped, in the future, we should be the greatest airport in the world.



Front Row: W. Slocombe, B. G. Ewens, C. H. Chappell, S. Jones, A. Broome, H. J. Marshall.
 2nd Row: H. E. Syndercombe, H. Turpin, T. I. Clark, H. G. Scadgell, A. T. Riceanu, F. W. Still, J. R. Hawkins, S. J. Dodd.
 3rd Row: J. H. S. Taylor, N. S. Fawcett, R. Scott, H. Beauchamp, E. J. Mills, F. Jarvis, G. Graham, H. W. Smith.
 4th Row: H. W. Williams, T. F. Duke, W. H. Pownall, W. D. V. Leslie, J. J. Saunders, R. Thackray, H. W. Stenning, W. H. Mills.

THE TAMAR BREWERY, DEVONPORT.

THE "HOP LEAF" RING LEAGUE.

The annual presentation of trophies in connection with the "Hop Leaf" Ring League took place at The Tamar Brewery Social Club on Wednesday evening, May 20th. The Deputy Chairman (Mr. J. Ponsford) of the Ring League, in a few well chosen words, paid a tribute to the sporting spirit in which both the League and Challenge Cup matches had been contested throughout the past season. He congratulated both the "Mayflower" team and the "Camel's Head" team on their excellent achievements in carrying off all the trophies between them, with the exception of the Wooden Spoon, this "magnificent" trophy having been won by the Deputy Chairman's own team, the "Tamar."

Mr. Ponsford then asked Mr. J. E. G. Rowland to present the prizes, the recipients being as follows:—

"HOP LEAF" RING LEAGUE.

<i>Winners.</i>	<i>Runners-up.</i>
"Camel's Head."	"Mayflower."

CHALLENGE CUP.

<i>Winners.</i>	<i>Runners-up.</i>
"Mayflower."	"Camel's Head."

WOODEN SPOON.

"Tamar."

The captain of the "Camel's Head" team (Mr. J. Parsons) in a short speech, said that the excellent team spirit which existed throughout his team was, he felt sure, the real reason of their having had such a successful season.

The captain of the "Mayflower" team (Mr. H. Adams) was also full of praise for the way his team had backed him up during the season, also the sporting spirit in which all their matches had been contested.

As Mr. R. St. John Quarry and Captain A. S. Drewe were in the district, they very kindly came along to the presentation, both gentlemen being given a very cordial reception.

Mr. L. J. Tranter proposed a vote of thanks to the Executives of the League for the excellent work they had done throughout the season.

Congratulations to the "Rising Sun Hotel," Torquay, for having won the Luxton Cup in the South Devon Dart League. Our tenant, Mr. J. W. Wood, is to be congratulated for having got such a fine side together.

BRIGHTON.

Many readers of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE have recollections of Volk's Electric Railway, the oldest electric railway in England, which runs from the Aquarium to Black Rock.

Mr. Magnus Volk, the pioneer of this railway, gave an interesting talk about this and other matters over the radio recently. Mr. Volk, who is considerably over 80 years of age, had great faith in the powers of electricity when it was in its infancy, but was laughed at over his venture of the electric railway called "Daddy Longlegs" which ran on rails on the seabed from Brighton to Rottingdean, and at high tide ran through the sea. The winter storms were, however, too much for this to last long. Although electricity was known and used by the Babylonians, we have still much to learn of its powers.

The annual dinner of the Worthing and District Billiards League was held on the 14th May, at Mitchell's Cafe, Worthing, when a good attendance was recorded. The Deputy Town Clerk, Mr. E. J. Townsend, proposed the toast of the league, and during the course of his speech commented on the ever-increasing population of Worthing, and mentioned the efforts the Corporation were making to ensure it being the successful seaside town it is becoming. Mr. E. W. Sparks responded, inviting more support to the league.

During the evening the league trophies were presented to the following:—Division I, Lancing Legion Club. Division II, Worthing Sports Club. *Snooker*: Division I, Worthing Sports Club (Simonds' cup). Division II, Goring Conservative Club.

At the West Tarring Working Men's Club, Worthing on May 18th, the final for the "Sexton" cup took place between P. Kewell (rec. 10) *v.* H. J. Duval (rec. 25) before a good company and, after a close and exciting game, Duval won by 11 points, the final score being, Duval 200, Kewell 189. The President, Mr. E. W. Sparks, afterwards presented the cup to the winner.

On Whit-Monday, with the temperature well below the normal for June, a hardy party met at the headquarters of the Brighton Swimming Club to wish "Pa" Hodgkinson many happy returns of his 85th birthday.

This was followed by a plunge in the sea by the before-mentioned veteran, accompanied by Mr. C. J. Webb, aged 71, Mr. J. G. Smith, aged 68, and Miss Eileen Gander, Mr. Webb's granddaughter.

"Pa" Hodgkinson was justly proud to show the gold watch he won years ago in the veterans' race in the Serpentine, which contest was staged on 18th December. He is also the holder of the Royal Humane Society's medal for life saving in a rough sea off the Palace Pier, Brighton. His friend, Mr. Webb, well known as the Society's local Secretary, has the certificate for life saving.

This hardy trio have their plunge most mornings all the year round.

By the way, Mr. Hodgkinson is one of our oldest customers.

ALDERSHOT.

THE LATE LIEUT. T. W. YOUNG, R.A.

The death of Lieut. T. W. Young came as a shock to his many friends in Aldershot, although it was known that he had undergone an operation for gastric trouble. During his stay at Waterloo Barracks, from 1921-1929, in the 1st Brigade R.H.A., he was very popular and his early demise will leave a gap difficult to fill in his large circle of friends.

A synopsis of his military career is appended:—

Enlisted in 1911 and posted to "C" Battery, R.H.A., in 1912.

Served in France 1914-1915 with "C" Battery, R.H.A.

Joined School of Artillery, 1915 and appointed B.S.M. I/C.

In 1919 at Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, on a tour of duty.

Moved to Aldershot in 1921 as R.Q.M.S.

In 1925 promoted R.S.M. 1st Brigade, R.H.A., Aldershot.

Served with 1st Brigade, R.H.A. and moved to Newport, Mon., in 1929.

Posted to 2nd Brigade, R.H.A., Cairo, in 1931.

Rejoined 1st Brigade, R.H.A., in December, 1931, on their arrival in Egypt.

Commissioned Lieutenant and District Officer, October, 1934 and posted to Military College of Science, Woolwich.

Died April 1st, 1936, at Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, aged 43.

The funeral at Shooters Hill cemetery was attended by Brigadier R. H. R. Benson, C.B.E., A.D.C., Brigadier A. K. Main, D.S.O., A.D.C., and other distinguished officers.

THE LATE MR. W. A. HEWENS.

We received the sad news of the death of Mr. W. A. Hewens with deep regret. After a very short illness Mr. Hewens succumbed to peritonitis, following a severe attack of appendicitis, on Saturday, May 23rd, at the age of 66.

The older members of our staff will have recollections of a close business association with Mr. Hewens as far back as the early nineties, when he joined the firm of Richard Dickeson & Company, Limited. His abilities for organization and decisive action made him an outstanding figure in connection with army supplies and quickly brought him to a highly responsible position.

Mr. Hewens served with the Army Canteen Committee, the Navy & Army Canteen Board and the Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes, in the organization of which he played an important part. He retired in 1930 and ever since has taken an active interest in public and social services. The work which he performed was phenomenal and will be ever remembered in Aldershot and environs.

For robust health all the day,

And sound sleep at night,

SIMONDS BEER will put you right.