

VOL. X.

AUGUST, 1936.

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The
HOP LEAF



THE HOP LEAF

GAZETTE



Issued
Monthly
by

H. & G. SIMONDS, LTD., READING.

A RECORD OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE BREWERY.

The Hop Leaf Gazette.

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

Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.

Vol. X.

AUGUST, 1936.

No. 11

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All communications should be addressed to—The Editor,
THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE, The Brewery, Reading.



MR. V. RICHARDS.

MR. V. RICHARDS.

In selecting the brewing profession as his occupation, Mr. Richards chose an industry which is probably one of the oldest in history, dating back to 3000 B.C., according to the records of Egyptologists. It was not, however, entirely on account of its antiquity that he chose this vocation, but to follow a natural inclination towards one of the arts in which he took a great and intuitive interest. Although the main principles of brewing have changed very little, there has been a tremendous advance in the methods and process of perfecting the national beverage. It is in the modern system of producing the various types of Beer demanded by the public that Mr. Richards has played his part.

With the exception of nearly three years' war service, Mr. Richards has had 21 years' experience, commencing as a pupil at the Brewery, Reading, in January, 1915, and graduating through the Laboratory, Maltings and Bottling Department, under careful tuition, until he was appointed operative brewer. In 1920 he joined the Brewing Staff of Messrs. Worthington & Company, Limited, Burton-on-Trent. Subsequently he entered the employ of the Brampton Brewery Company, Limited, Chesterfield, where he stayed for two years, eventually rejoining our Firm at Reading in 1926. In May last Mr. Richards was appointed second Brewer and his extensive knowledge and qualifications thereby gained due recognition.

The duties of the Brewing Department are exacting and demand considerable foresight in arranging Brews of the various qualities to meet the needs of home trade, Naval, Military, and export, the maturing of Pale Ales in huge glass-lined tanks, the supervision of the whole system and careful scrutiny of the brews at all stages, in addition to the maintenance of the plant in the highest degree of cleanliness.

Mr. Richards saw service with the Royal Garrison Artillery from April, 1916, to January, 1919, being on the Western Front with the 228th Siege Battery for nearly two years. His exploits are too voluminous to record and difficult to extract. Those who served in the same areas know only too well the nature of his experiences. He is the holder of the Military Medal.

In leisure hours Mr. Richards turns to fishing for relaxation and to motoring as another diversion.

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

EDITORIAL.

GLAD TIDINGS.

On Tuesday, August 11th, the glad news reached the Brewery that Mrs. Simonds, wife of Commander H. D. Simonds, R.N., had given birth to a son.

Both Mrs. Simonds and her infant son are doing well.

HONOUR FOR MAJOR J. H. SIMONDS.

Fourteen well-known Berkshire personages have been appointed Deputy Lieutenants of the County. They include Lieutenant Charles Eric Palmer, Shinfield Grange, near Reading, chairman of Huntley, Boorne and Stevens, Ltd., Associated Biscuit Manufacturers Ltd., Huntley & Palmers Ltd., well-known hunting and sporting figure, former M.F.H., South Berks Hounds; Major John Hayes Simonds, Newlands, Arborfield, near Reading, director of Barclays Bank, and local director, Barclays Bank, Reading (formerly Simonds' Bank), vice-chairman of directors, H. & G. Simonds Ltd., Reading; Major Leonard Noel Sutton, Hillside, Reading, director, Sutton & Sons Ltd., Reading, son of the late Mr. Leonard Sutton, 99th (Buckinghamshire and Berkshire Yeomanry) Army, R.A. (T.A.); and Captain Henry Arthur Benyon, Englefield House, near Reading, estate owner, Berkshire county alderman (Mrs. Benyon is councillor for Bradfield), son of the late Mr. J. H. Benyon, sometime Lord-Lieutenant of Berkshire.

SIR LESLIE WILSON.

The King has approved the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Leslie Wilson to be Governor of Queensland for a second term of five years from June 13th, 1937. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Leslie Wilson was first appointed Governor of Queensland, where he has been extremely popular, in March, 1932, when he succeeded Lieutenant-General Sir T. H. Goodwin. He was in Australia before the war, being Aide-de-Camp to the Governor of New South Wales, 1903-9. In the War he served in the Gallipoli operations and in France, and was Governor, Bombay, 1923-28. He was highly popular in Reading, where he served the town so well in Parliament.

A "PUNTER" DEFINED.

After a race meeting a sad-eyed man approached a nearby bar and moodily asked for a punter of beer.

"A punter?" exclaimed the barman. "That's a new one on me. I know pots and schooners and butchers, and other names come and go, but what is a punter?"

"A big mug!" explained the customer.

THIS CRICKET.

This fragrant game that's played in white on green

To a sweet music as the willow swings

And starts a hundred happy hand-clappings—

This game's a parable of what has been

And still shall be for all our mortal race.

Out of deep shade, as, forth into the sun,

Come cricketers from the dim pavilion,

We move toward life and light, alone we face

The deliberate Bowler with his bolt of flame

And creeping snare to beat the guardian bat.

Steadfast and summerhearted is our stand

Ev'n though we know that in the greater game

We bat but once, and to the dread "How's that?"

The Umpire soon or late must lift his hand.

ONLY AT HOME MEAL TIMES.

"No, certainly not," said a lady to a tramp, who had knocked at the door and begged for food.

"Go away at once, or I'll call my husband."

"E ain't at home," said the tramp.

"How do you know?"

"Becos' a man what marries a woman like you is only at home at meal times."

THE SPIRIT REMAINS.

It is a comfort and a consolation that if my father's whole work is done and done many years ago, the spirit which he taught still remains, the spirit of sympathy with the unhappy, duty to the State, or pride and affection for the great community of nations to which it is the privilege of Britain to belong.—SIR AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN.

WHY HE WENT HOME.

A plumber had been invited to a friend's party, some way from his home. It was pouring with rain when it was time to go, so the friend told him he had better stay the night and led the way upstairs. The plumber failed to follow.

Some time passed, and still the plumber made no appearance, so the friend went to investigate, and found him in the hall soaked to the skin.

"Where on earth have you been?" asked the friend.

Replied the plumber: "I went home for my pyjamas!"

SUCH IS FAME!

A letter from Yorkshire was addressed as follows:—

"Secretary, Fete and Gala,

Reading."

Of course, it came straight to Mr. W. Bradford at the Brewery, for whom it was intended.

The fame of the Fete has certainly spread far and wide.

"THE FIVE ALLS."

Here are some quaint inn signs: "The Five Alls," at Cheltenham. It has portraits of a King, "I rule all"; a barrister, "I plead for all"; a parson, "I pray for all"; a soldier, "I fight for all"; and a workman, "I work for all." In Devonshire there is an inn on one side of whose sign is printed "The First In," and on the other "The Last Out."

THE MILLER OF MANSFIELD.

Passing through Goring the other day I saw the old hotel, the Miller of Mansfield, which stands at the corner of High Street, and was told the royal legend relating to it, says a writer in the *Reading Standard*. Henry II, it appears, met the miller, after whom the hotel is called, in Sherwood Forest. The king, having lost his way in the forest while hunting, was befriended by the good-natured miller, who offered him shelter. He gave the king a pasty, which His Majesty ate heartily. Next morning the miller was surprised when a number of nobles arrived and fell on their knees before their sovereign, whereupon the miller nearly swooned. Henry, however, was so pleased with his hospitality that he ordered the miller to come to Court with his wife and son on Saint George's Day. He obeyed the royal command and was appointed overseer at a salary of £300 a year.

A TRAMP AND HIS DOG.

The other day a tramp was sentenced at Holt to three months' hard labour. We will not "rub it in" by describing the offence, but it had nothing to do with animals. Now, this unusual tramp had a white terrier dog with him, and Inspector Stevens of East Dereham found that the tramp and his dog were very fond of each other. The dog had been very well treated by his master, for he was in very good condition. And so, at the close of the case, Inspector Stevens acting on the authority of Miss Hunter, member of the R.S.P.C.A. Council and honorary secretary of the Dereham Auxiliary, came forward and said that the Society would look after the dog while the tramp was in prison and they would then provide him with a licence for it. The Chairman of the Bench and other magistrates thanked the Society for their kind action.

The *Eastern Daily Press*, commenting on this, said:—"In some less sentimental countries than ours this might arouse a contemptuous smile. There are, however, a fair number of people who would like to be present at the reunion and contemplate the unconcealed joy on the part of at least one of the pair and probably of both. As the terrier is in good condition the society no doubt felt the generosity was not misplaced." That is so, and we are sure that if a poll of all animal lovers could be taken on this kindly deed of the Society the voting in favour of it would be unanimous.

THE FORTHCOMING FETE.

We all have very happy memories of the former Fete held under the auspices of H. & G. Simonds Ltd. Social Club, and that to be held on August 22nd next in Coley Park, by the very kind permission of Mr. H. Keevil, bids fair to prove even more attractive. A magnificent programme has been arranged that should satisfy all tastes. It is fully advertised on another page. Be sure and note the date—August 22nd.

A BEAUTIFUL TREE.

"W.C.F." writes: "The fine specimen of *Catalpa bignonioides* growing in the churchyard of St. Mary's, The Butts, Reading, is now in full flower and is very beautiful. The name 'Catalpa' is the North American Indian name for the first species of the genus described, and the name 'bignonioides' signifies that it resembles the Bignonias. *Catalpa bignonioides* was introduced to Britain from North America in 1726. As may be seen by the specimen referred to, it forms a very handsome tree, and one well worthy of a place in any large garden. There is another nice specimen in a garden bordering on Erleigh Road.—*Reading Standard*."

FIRS' FLOOR.

A good-hearted temperance worker was walking down a side street in New York in the "bad old wet days" when he saw a huddled figure lying in the pavement.

"Where do you live, my good fellow?" he asked kindly.

"Firs' floor!"

He led the unfortunate up to the first floor, and seeing an open door helped him into the room and left him there.

When he got into the street, he found a still more helpless figure on the pavement. Again he proffered help; again the reply was: "Firs' floor."

He led the second figure into the same open door, thinking awhile what a reprobate family must live in the apartment.

To his amazement, when he reached the street again, he discovered a third figure lying helpless and pathetic on the pavement.

He walked towards the man, who, seeing him approach, staggered to his feet, clutched a policeman who happened to be passing, and said in a terrified voice:

"For heaven's sake, arrest me! There's a guy here that keeps on taking me upstairs and dropping me down the elevator shaft!"

INCONSISTENCY.

I see in the *Hampton Parish Church News* the Vicar has a lot to say about Beer and the "staring advertisements of beer and stout." He speaks of "our concern" regarding this campaign. And then, turning over a leaf of this *Hampton Parish Church News*, I notice an advertisement for "High-class Wines, Spirits and Beer." The Vicar might at least be consistent! To run down a thing on one page and advertise it on another is to say the least—but we are quite content to leave our readers to fill in the blank.

A "NOVEL" IDEA.

Why are H. & G. Simonds Ltd. like a great publishing firm?

Because they stock the "best cellars."

HOP LEAF TO THE FORE.

Mrs. Robert Thorpe, Chairman of the Bray Village Club, sends some interesting details concerning the Club's two outings.

"We formed an outing club amongst the women members and we saved enough for two seaside trips," she writes, "one on July 9th to Southsea, another on August 6th to Brighton. I (as chairman) thought of a novel idea. I got a lot of full-sized hop leaves and about three dozen carnations and made them all wear the same emblem. We looked smart, and people even as far as Brighton asked, 'Why the hop leaf?' Well, the answer was, of course, 'Simonds.' We took plenty of 'S.B.' etc., with us. I should have liked to have been able to hand them all a brooch of hop leaf. I think it would be a splendid idea."

NO RAIN LATELY!

The shop assistant was serving a customer when the manageress overheard her say: "No, madam, we haven't had any for several weeks."

"Oh, but I'm sure we have some in the warehouse, madam," the manageress interrupted, quickly. "If you care to wait a few seconds I'll find out."

Then, turning angrily upon the assistant, she said: "Never refuse an order. If it's not in stock, send out for it."

"Yes, I know," replied the assistant with a smile. "But the lady remarked that we haven't had any rain lately!"

THE MAGPIE.

One for anger,
Two for mirth,
Three for a wedding,
Four for a birth,
Five for silver,
Six for gold,
Seven for a secret
That shall never be told.

He who takes a magpie's life,
Will rue the day he took a wife.

ROUGH RIDING S.M. TOPPER BROWN OF THE QUEEN'S BAYS.



Above photo is of Rough Riding S.M. "Topper" Brown, The Queen's Bays. He is the leader of the Skill-at-Arms Display to be given at Simonds' Fete on August 22nd.

MR. F. KIMPTON.

We are sorry to record that Mr. Kimpton is still on the sick list. Recently the members of the South Farnborough Working Men's Club Mid-day Snooker League subscribed for a large hamper of fruit which was presented to him. Needless to say, this very fine gesture on the part of the members was greatly appreciated, as tangible evidence of their esteem and friendship.

PRIME MINISTER'S MOVING APPEAL. *

THE SCHEME FOR A NATIONAL MEMORIAL TO OUR LATE
KING GEORGE V HAS NOW BEEN LAUNCHED.

In his broadcast to Britain and the Empire, Mr. Stanley Baldwin, the Prime Minister, said:—

"When I spoke to you barely five months ago, the nation and, indeed, the whole Empire, was passing through a time of profound emotion. We were all of us conscious of, and we had a peculiar sense of, unity and brotherhood, and of all being members of one great family.

"For a moment the controversies of life were hushed. I want to try and recapture that spirit just for this evening, the evening of the anniversary of our late King's birthday, and resolve that long after our voices are still and our names forgotten, there shall be some permanent memorial to King George that will be for the service and happiness of future generations, and a visible sign of the love and understanding of those who for a quarter of a century were his people.

"Everyone knows," he continued, "what a need there is, not only a present need, for spaces in which games can be played of all kinds, organised by the children among themselves, where they can have their own spaces and be free from the ever-increasing dangers of our roads.

"This is an appeal that must go straight to the heart of everyone.

"I want every one to feel that he owes it to his own memory of King George to do something for this memorial—it does not matter how little or how much you give if it be given in the spirit in which I believe nearly all of us will be anxious to give.

"Anything and everything will be welcome, from two or three stamps, but give up to what you can afford. It is an object to which every one in the country, man, woman, and child, might gladly give what they can.

"I look forward to the long procession of the years to come, and I see some one visiting this country, perhaps in a hundred years' time, perhaps in two hundred, and seeing these beautiful fields and saying: 'How come these fields to be here, and how was provision made for them?'

"And the answer will be given: 'These fields were given by a generation that knew him, as a thankoffering for the life of service of King George V in order that his memory might live for the happier and healthier lives of their children and of their children's children.'

Shinfield News, Lane End Gazette and School Green Chronicle.

BLACK BOY, SHINFIELD.

To the sacred memory of the Black Boy *Jonah*,
Who has stood on guard for eighty years and over.
The whole of his duty he has carried out well,
To advertise Simonds' noted Ale.

Now he's departed from our observation,
We await his return from his renovation.

So treat him gently as we have done,
Don't play tricks on him just for fun.

He's been handed over to your care,
Let's have him back in good repair.

So hurry along, get the good work done,
Then come to Shinfield and join in the fun.

When folks pass by, some look and stare,
For *Jonah* the Black Boy is not there.

But when he returns to his *pedestal*
The landlord has promised to treat us all.

So roll up in numbers, no matter how great;
We open at six, so don't make it late.

Meet Mr. Osborne, the man of good cheer,
And try Messrs. Simonds' glorious *beer*.

The Black Boy is now having its quinquennial overhaul and the Boy has disappeared for the time being, hence the above ditty—by one of the painters.

ALMOST A TRAGEDY.

The shades of night were falling fast,
To blink the stars began,
When Mr. ——— dashed from his house
And to the B—— E—— ran.

For closing time was near at hand,
They soon would close their portals,
And they supplied the finest beer
That e'er was drank by mortals.

Into the bar at speed he flew,
His nerves were all atwitter,
And as he caught S——'s eye, he cried,
Draw me a pint of bitter.

He quickly seized the foaming glass,
With thirst his throat was sore;
And as he sank it in a trice,
Cried out, "Excelsior—Beer is Best!"

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Never ascribe to an opponent motives meaner than your own.—*Sir J. Barris.*

The man who is all intellect and has no heart, is as usefull as a hammer which is all head and has no handle.

When you go to sea, let there be no moaning at the bar. Do not whine. Remember that you are joining the finest career that England has to offer you.—*Vice-Admiral Sir Edward R. G. R. Evans, Commander-in-Chief, the Novæ.*

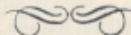
The way to get cheerful is to smile when you feel like crying and to think of somebody else's headache when your own is well nigh bursting.

Eat slowly ; only men in rags
And gluttons old in sin
Mistake themselves for carpet bags
And tumble victuals in.

You can't get high aesthetic tastes like trousers, ready made.

Where you are going in life means more than how fast you travel.

You can never be too hard up to spare a kind word.



SIMONDS ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB.

LARGE GATHERING AT ANNUAL SUPPER.

MAJOR S. V. SHEA-SIMONDS PRESIDES.

A highly successful supper in connection with the above Football Club was held at the Social Club, Bridge Street, on Friday, July 17th. Major S. V. Shea-Simonds (Chairman, H. & G. Simonds Ltd.) was in the Chair, and was supported by Mr. R. St. J. Quarry (Chairman of Committee), Mr. W. Schofield and Mr. L. Gibbs (Berks and Bucks Football Association), Mr. H. H. Russell (Hon. Secretary, Reading and District Institute League), Mr. R. Boddington (late Secretary), Mr. F. Pusey (present Secretary), Mr. T. W. Bradford (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. W. Dunster, Messrs. E. Boshier, G. Douse, G. Cannings and F. Edwards (Committee), Mr. F. C. Hawkes (Chairman, Simonds Social Club), Mr. J. Giles (Assistant Secretary), Mr. F. Kemp, Mr. F. Kemp, Jnr., Mr. B. F. Williams, Mr. N. Taylor, Mr. J. Hillier, Mr. P. Curtis, Mr. L. Harraway, Mr. H. Milleham, Mr. A. Tuttle, Mr. G. Sayers, Mr. R. Clark, Mr. L. Jacobs, Mr. H. Cooke, Mr. R. Braisher, Mr. J. Smith, Mr. V. Allen, Mr. H. S. Tigar, Mr. L. Kirby, Mr. C. Pidgeon, Mr. H. Lawrence, Mr. A. V. Hedgington, Mr. J. Allen, Mr. J. R. Carter, Mr. S. H. Dibley, Mr. L. A. Hill, Mr. W. Lamb, Mr. A. G. Main, Mr. W. Chilcott, Mr. E. L. Bailey, Mr. S. A. Parsons, Mr. L. J. Thorn, Mr. W. J. Shurville, Mr. W. Greenaway and Mr. R. Griffin.

The toast of "The King" was drunk with great enthusiasm.

Mr. W. Schofield, in proposing "The Simonds Football Club," said he was no stranger to most of them. He thanked the Club for extending the invitation to him that evening. Unfortunately he was unable to attend last year, but he understood the function had been a great success. He had seen a good number of the previous season's matches of the Simonds Football Club and, in his opinion, the play had not always been consistent. In some of the matches the first team had had to play reserves, owing to injuries and other reasons. However the fact that the Club had reached the semi-final of the Berks and Bucks Junior Cup was a great credit to them. To get into the last four—out of 240 competing football teams—was no mean effort. Another thing he would like to congratulate the Club upon was that there had not been one complaint or one report of any misconduct on the field of any of the Simonds football teams, and that spoke well for the men and the Club. One of the Simonds Club players had the honour of playing for the Berks and Bucks junior team during

the past season and to be selected took "a bit of doing." He had great pleasure in proposing the health of Simonds Athletic Football Club and wished them every success. (Loud applause.)

Major S. V. Shea-Simonds, in response, said Mr. Schofield had spoken of a certain amount of inconsistency in the play of their team. Mr. Schofield knew a lot about football—he had refereed even in the "Middle Ages" (laughter)—and his opinion was to be treated with the highest respect. However, to draw a cricket comparison, there was no cricketer worthy of the name who had not at some time or other made a "couple of blobs." He himself had made a couple of "duck's eggs." You could not always give of your best. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Quarry would tell those present the history and other things about the team. His duty was to congratulate Mr. Lawrence (Trainer) and Mr. W. Mortimer (Captain). Mr. Mortimer was unable to be present, but their old captain, Mr. Jack Smith, was acting as deputy. (Applause.) He would like to say how much they owed to Mr. Jack Smith for his help both on and off the field. Next he would like to thank Mr. Lamb, Captain of the second team. The fact that the second team had not been so successful on the field was because they had not the opportunity of bringing out, to the full, their talent. They had had to lend their best men to the first team on a number of occasions. Nevertheless, he thought the second team had done jolly well. (Applause.) They had to congratulate their Secretary (Mr. R. Boddington). He had carried on splendidly for a long time and was now retiring in favour of Mr. F. Pusey. He wished Mr. Pusey every success. No doubt Mr. Boddington would give him some tips. (Applause.)

Major S. V. Shea-Simonds then proceeded to distribute the Berks and Bucks semi-final medals to the members of the team, shaking hands with each recipient and saying a cheery word to each.

He then presented Mr. R. Boddington with a cheque in recognition for his excellent services as Secretary, and congratulated him on the splendid way he had helped "our fellows." (Loud applause.)

The gift came as a great surprise to Mr. R. Boddington.

Mr. R. St. J. Quarry proposed the toast of "The Visitors," of whom they had three with them that evening, viz., Mr. L. Gibbs (a very distinguished referee), whom he felt would be receiving higher honours in the coming season. Mr. Gibbs had already received a medal from the hands of our present King. Also there was Mr. Schofield of the Berks and Bucks Football Association, and Mr. Russell of the Reading and District Institute League.

He then gave a list of the Club's activities since its formation:—

Winners, Second Division, Reading and District League,
1931-32;

Winners, Reading Town Senior Cup, 1933-34;

Winners, First Division, Reading and District League,
1934-35; and

Semi-finalists, Berks and Bucks Junior Cup, 1935-36.

That showed great credit to them during the last five seasons. (Applause.) He would like to mention that Mr. R. Boddington, at their last committee meeting, had been elected an honorary member of their football club, an honour which was well deserved. (Applause.)

Mr. L. Gibbs, in response, said that Mr. Quarry had mentioned that the visitors were guests of a very distinguished club. He quite agreed and he could assure them that the Simonds Football Club was held in high esteem. (Applause.) The Simonds Football Club had a wonderful reputation. Reference had been made to Mr. Boddington, the late Secretary, and Mr. F. Pusey, the new Secretary. He knew both of them well. Although Mr. Boddington had retired, they were very fortunate to have a man like Mr. Pusey to take his place. He hoped Simonds Football Club would come up smiling next season—he knew they would—and that they would be able to obtain their own ground. He wished the Club every success. (Applause.)

Mr. T. W. Bradford said he would like to take that opportunity to thank Mr. Quarry for his kind remarks. Mr. Quarry had regularly attended their committee meetings, on Wednesday evenings, often putting other engagements aside in order to be present with them. He would also like to thank the members of the Committee, viz., Messrs. E. Boshier, G. Douse, G. Cannings and F. Edwards, for all they had done. He knew the result of the matches rested with the players, but they had to have administrators and they had put in a tremendous lot of their time in order to select the teams each week. Then they were always at their splendid pavilion at the Reading Stadium, at the home matches, getting tea ready and baths for the players. (Applause.) He also thanked Mr. Joe Benford for his help. He appealed to all to cultivate team spirit.

He made reference to the forthcoming fete from which they expected so much, as from the funds obtained they hoped to help all the sports clubs on the Brewery. (Applause.)

Mr. F. C. Hawkes conveyed the good wishes of all to their Presiding Officer that evening. (Applause.) They would like to congratulate Major S. V. Shea-Simonds on his return to health. (Applause.) Might he long be spared to carry on his heavy responsibilities as Chairman of their great Firm. (Applause.) It would not seem the same Simonds Football Club without Mr. Shea at the head. He watched the Club's successes and occasional defeats—which at times were wholesome—encouraging them to greater efforts. He considered Mr. Shea's encouragement, kindly and sportingly given, helped them to maintain the proud record that the Club held. As a player, Mr. Shea knew the game and how it should be played. He was there again that evening as he had so kindly done ever since the Club had been formed. He would like to say how much they all appreciated the honour of his company and they thanked him for his hospitality. (Loud applause and singing "For he's a jolly good fellow.")

Major S. V. Shea-Simonds, in replying, thanked Mr. Hawkes for his kind remarks and the company for the way they had received them. He would like to say that as an old player he knew something of the game. He had also watched many modern games and he was convinced the ball should be kept on the "floor," whether the ground was dry or wet. He had been speaking to Mr. Gibbs, who agreed with him that there was nothing to beat the old-fashioned fair and square shoulder charge. It had given him great pleasure to be with them. In the Simonds Football Club they had jolly good sportsmen who played the game for the game's sake. He would now leave them, wishing them "Good night and good luck." (Applause and once again singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow.")

Mr. Quarry, in closing the festivities, said he was pleased to be Chairman of their Football Club Committee.

He thanked their pianist (Mr. "Taffy" Reid) and all the artists who had helped to make their evening so successful.

"God Save the King" was then sung with enthusiasm.

The following artists contributed to the enjoyment of the evening, every "turn" being excellent:—Mr. G. Cannings, Mr. R. Higgs, Mr. B. Mann, Mr. Teddy Pare and Mr. W. Spencer.

The catering was in the excellent hands of Messrs. G. Parslow & Son, of West Street, Reading.



MESSRS. H. & G. SIMONDS LICENSEES.

ENJOYABLE CHARS-A-BANC TRIP.



The King's Arms, Stokenchurch, where an excellent meal was provided. As will be seen by the picture, great improvements have been carried out recently at this popular rendezvous.

A number of H. & G. Simonds licensees had a delightful chars-a-banc trip recently, thanks to the firm's generosity in providing this enjoyable means of travelling. The arrangements were in the capable hands of Mrs. Smart, of the London Tavern, and Mrs. Moore, of the Bugle. Starting from the Brewery in the early afternoon the company, numbering about 100, journeyed to the King's Arms, Sandford-on-Thames, where tea was provided. The happy party later set out for the King's Arms, Stokenchurch, High Wycombe. Though they were not expected until a later date an excellent meal was soon in readiness and the prompt and proficient attention they received was highly appreciated by the party.

On the return journey a call was made at the Three Pigeons, Gerrards Cross; those who had the pleasure of calling here last

year being only too sorry that on this occasion they were just too late for the luscious cherries that grow in the grounds.

From start to finish the trip was thoroughly enjoyed and both Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Smart were congratulated on the excellence of the arrangements.



The King's Arms, Sandford-on-Thames, where the party had tea. In the foreground are Mrs. Smart (seated) and Mrs. Moore with Mr. Harry Hawkins, J.P.

AUGUST 22—IMPORTANT DATE.

COLEY PARK.

SIMONDS FETE.

BREWERY JOTTINGS.

(BY W. DUNSTER.)

July 30th, 1936. That was Summer—that was (with due acknowledgment to the well-known advertisement).

All friends of Mr. F. Kimpton (our representative for many districts in and around Farnborough) will be sorry to hear that he has had a breakdown in health. Although he is making progress it will be some while before he is back to duty. Unfortunately, Mr. Kimpton has been in indifferent health for some while now and we all hope after the rest (which the Doctor has ordered) that he will be completely restored to health. It is evident from the many enquiries received that he has made numerous friends in the course of his duties.

Mr. J. Hillier (Surveyor's Department and formerly of the Branch Department) was married the latter end of June. Mr. Hillier has impressed all by his cheery outlook on life and is well liked. In the sporting activities of the Brewery he has always shone, being good at all outdoor sports including football, cricket and tennis. He is also quite good at swimming. I feel sure everyone wishes him, and also Mr. Percy James, another equally good all-round sportsman who was married recently, all health and happiness.

The Football Club supper, held at the Social Club recently, always impresses me by the really good fellowship that exists between so many of the staff and employees. It is a very happy gathering and under the chairmanship of Mr. S. V. Shea-Simonds a most sporting event. This year's was no exception and such functions remain in one's memory for a long while. There must be something in football.

Possibly owing to a summer that has not come up to expectations, the kick-off of the football season will be doubly welcomed this season. From what can be learned from the newspapers it would seem that Reading will be in for a good season. Whether it will be "promotion year" this time remains to be seen; nevertheless, optimism is high, for it is thought the new players will strengthen the side. In many people's opinion, loss through injury of at least three of the forwards robbed them of promotion last time. However, it must be borne in mind that Coventry were very consistent although it looked, at one time, as if Luton would pull it off. However, I feel sure everyone hopes that the Reading Football Club will have a most successful season.

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

- The Jolly Gardeners, Hampton (Ashby's Staines Brewery Ltd.)—Mr. C. Heath.
 The Queen's Arms, Addlestone (Ashby's Staines Brewery Ltd.)—Mr. A. J. Shopland.
 The Barge Inn, Honeystreet (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—Mr. A. J. Bailey.
 The Victoria Arms, Mortimer (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—Mr. S. Short.
 Off-Licence, Wantage Road, Reading (H. & G. Simonds Ltd.)—Mr. A. R. Lucas.

Much sympathy has been expressed to Mr. A. T. Walsh (Branch Department) on the sudden loss of his father. Although of a good age, his passing came with dramatic suddenness. In fact, on the very day he died, it had been arranged for him to have a holiday in the country and everything had been packed in readiness for this event. He was in his garden, of which he was very proud, only the day before he was taken.—*R.I.P.*

Mrs. Orme (Miss E. Durman of the Correspondence Office before her marriage) has had a tragic year, for following the loss of her baby, death has claimed her father. I am sure all her friends at the Brewery will join with me in expressing our sincere sympathy and regret at her bereavements.

R.P.A.

RATIONAL	PEOPLE	APPRECIATE
READING	PALE	ALE.
REASONABLE	PRICED	ARTICLE.
RECOMMENDED,	POPULARITY	ASSURED.
RANKING	PRIORITY	ALWAYS.
RECUPPERATIVE	POWERS	ASTONISHING.
REALLY	PALATABLE	APPETISER.
REFRESHING,	PLEASING,	APPEALING.
RESTORES	PLEASANT	ANIMATION.
REJUVENATING,	POSITIVELY	ALLURING.
REMOVES	PESSIMISM	ABSOLUTELY.
READILY	PRODUCES	AMIAILITY.
REINVIGORATES	PHLEGMATIC	ADULTS.
RELIABLE,	PACIFYING,	ACCEPTABLE.
RENDERS	PERFECT	ASSIMILATION.
REPEAT	PERMITTED	ALWAYS.

H.C.D.,
Staines.

MR. HARRY HAWKINS, J.P., AND MRS. HAWKINS CELEBRATE THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING.



Mr. Harry Hawkins, J.P., and Mrs. Hawkins.

The above is a photograph of Mr. Harry Hawkins, J.P., and his good wife who celebrated their golden wedding recently. We extend our heartiest congratulations to them both. Mr. Hawkins is one of the most popular personalities in Reading and his cheery smile and ready wit are infectious. He is an ambassador of good cheer. His aim would appear to be to leave the world happier than he found it, and he is certainly succeeding in the accomplishment of that worthy ambition to a remarkable degree. May his beaming smile and great good fellowship long remain to brighten the lives of us all in a world and at a time when there is so much that is dull and dreary.

Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins have received many letters of congratulation from high and low, rich and poor and in those letters many pay tribute to Mr. Hawkins' fine qualities both of heart and mind and the great work he has done in spreading happiness all around.

CRICKET.

"Watchman, what of the Day?" might well be the cry of the Saturday afternoon cricketer. On eight consecutive Saturdays rain has fallen. Has St. Swithin got mixed up in his date? Such a sequefe takes the thrill out of the game, which is typically a "Summer" affair.

How have we fared? Badly I fear. The "A" team have attempted four matches, two of which were abandoned, one lost and one won. The "B" team only had two games, both of which went against us, although the margins were not great.

The Inter-Departmental games have nearly run their course—only one more to be played off. That one will not affect the result of the league, as the Surveyors, etc. have four wins to their credit; consequently no one can knock them off their pinnacle. The remaining match will see if the Associated Wine Stores XI can be runners-up. If they win, they will be, if not the runs average may count against them.

Now for some brief reports of the games.

July 4th. "A" TEAM 121 v. TURQUANDIA 139.

We topped the century, our shining lights appearing low down on the batting order. This was all to the good, as we were 7 down with only 56 on the board. E. Jennings had his first success with us, making 26 not out; F. W. Clark, who made a special journey down from Slough, was next with 21; W. Greenaway (19) and A. Hedgington (13).

Before taking the field we rather fancied our bowlers would take the trick for us this time, but J. A. Armistead (36) and L. P. Smith (18) thought otherwise and 54 runs were on the board before we got a wicket. The seventh wicket fell at 123, just carrying our total by 2 runs.

"Nobby" Clark came out with 5 for 56, and a special pat on the back is due to W. Neville, for there was only one "extra" in the total of 139.

After the game our visitors spent a happy hour or so in the Social Club.

July 11th. "A" TEAM v. WARGRAVE "B."

We were hoping to have our revenge for a defeat on our own ground last month, but the old story of "rain stopped play" ended all that. This was a very unfortunate finish to a match full of promise.

We had the luck to win the toss and elected to bat. The first wicket fell without any score, but then C. Josey and H. Tigar played wonderful cricket and in an hour had made 85, being 57 and 25 not out respectively. Then the rain came and we had, very reluctantly, to abandon the game. It was Josey's best effort of the season and he was shaping well for his century.

July 18th. "A" TEAM 68 v. HECKFIELD AND MATTINGLEY 47 for 4.

Heavy rain fell before the match and made a late start necessary, then a cold, strong wind made fielding more like an arctic sport than an English summer game.

July 25th. "A" TEAM 70 for 7 v. BROADMOOR STAFF C.C. 42.

This match became an evening fixture, each team agreeing to have 1½ hour's batting. Our bowlers had a real good day. Hedgington's figures were 5 for 4 (he was nearly unplayable) and Tigar 5 for 20.

That finishes the July tale of the "A" team, now for the Second String.

July 4th. "B" TEAM 62 v. ST. ANNE'S SPORTS CLUB 64.

Kings Meadow, generally known as the "Rec" was the scene of this encounter and we were three runs short of a victory. H. Tozer went in second wicket down and carried his bat for 23. The tail end gave him but scanty support, but 62 was a fair total. P. Sarney took 5 for 24 and J. Norris 3 for 18. E. C. Greenaway certainly took our bowling honours with 7 for 12.

July 11th. "B" TEAM 35 v. BARNDALE 54.

We entertained Barndale on Prospect Park and batted first. Although the "A" team game was washed out, the "B's" managed to play through the showers and again were defeated.

That, unfortunately, is the end of the narrative for July as far as the "B's" are concerned.

This brings us to the Inter-Departmental games. Four matches were played, and as mentioned in the opening remarks, sees the Surveyors and Building XI on top of the building.

The league table at present is as follows:—

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Runs		Points.
				For.	Against.	
Surveyors & Building	4	4	—	275	133	16
Offices	...	4	2	326	214	8
Wine & Spirit Dept.	...	3	2	146	186	8
Delivery Dept.	...	3	1	243	154	4
Rest of Brewery	...	4	—	4	376	—

J.W.J.

SPELTHORNE DIVISION RETAILERS SECURE SERVICES
OF A NEW PRESIDENT.

MEMBER OF WELL-KNOWN READING BREWERY FIRM ACCEPTS
OFFICE.

MR. L. A. SIMONDS ON THE VALUE OF PROTECTION WORK.

(From the *Morning Advertiser*.)

Early in February next, at a venue to be decided upon, the Spelthorne Division Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society will hold its 30th annual dinner and dance, and on that occasion the presidential chair will be occupied by Mr. L. A. Simonds, of Messrs. H. & G. Simonds Ltd., the well-known Reading brewers, who is also a director of Ashby's Staines Brewery.

At the old Staines Brewery, which is now one of Messrs. H. & G. Simonds' bottling stores, a deputation from the society recently waited on Mr. L. A. Simonds and invited him to accept the presidency of their organisation.

The deputation, which was led by Mr. W. J. Paulger (chairman), also included Messrs. H. Musgrave (vice-chairman), H. J. Mussard, G. F. Rollings, C. E. Wilkins and J. Kingswell (committeemen), and C. F. Glanfield (secretary).

Mr. Paulger, having introduced his colleagues, said they met under pleasant circumstances to extend an invitation to Messrs. H. & G. Simonds to provide their society with a president. They all realised the value of the work Messrs. Simonds had done in the district since their amalgamation with Ashby's Staines Brewery, and they would all be delighted to see a director of that firm in the presidential chair next February.

ONLY WAY TO PROSPERITY.

If the invitation were accepted, said the speaker, it would be a further step towards cementing the friendship of the wholesale and retail sections of the trade, and assist them materially in their protective work on behalf of the trade generally.

They all recognised, said Mr. Paulger, the need for the wholesale and retail sections of the industry to work hand in hand, for that seemed to him the only way the trade could expect to prosper.

In intimating the pleasure with which his firm accepted the invitation of the society and his personal pride at being asked to fill the presidential chair, Mr. L. A. Simonds said that his firm, as

brewers, realised the value of the work performed by retail protection societies. Since they took over Ashby's Staines Brewery about six years ago he thought they had made the name of Simonds pretty well known in the area, and the Spelthorne District was one in which they had probably more houses than in any other. The firm recognised the value of the work which such societies as theirs performed, and as a firm they would be pleased to give the necessary co-operation to further that work in their area in every way possible. (Applause.)

STRENGTHENING OF TIES.

Mr. Paulger said they were delighted to think that Messrs. Simonds had agreed to accept their invitation, and he hoped that that acceptance would lead to a strengthening of the ties between the two sections of the trade. Mr. Simonds would have the keen support of every member of the society in connection with the banquet. As an organisation they were pretty strong, but he hoped that Mr. Simonds would be able to assist them in the direction of convincing some of his firm's tenants that their interests and the interests of the trade generally would be well served if they joined such an organisation as the Spelthorne Protection Society, and took an active interest in its work. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. H. Musgrave remarked that he and others of Messrs. Simonds' tenants were happy to think that a member of the Simonds family was to be president of their society. The president's firm was highly respected, and he (the speaker) was sure that their co-operation in protection work would go a long way towards cementing the friendship and respect which the tenants had for the firm. (Hear, hear.)

TAKEN AS COMPLIMENT.

Mr. Simonds interposed with the remark that his firm took it as a great compliment to be asked to provide a president, and on their behalf he desired to thank them for the opportunity thus afforded.

Mr. C. F. Glanfield said it was some years since the society had a brewer as president, and he hoped that now Mr. Simonds had consented to set the ball rolling again in that direction other brewers would follow in his footsteps. (Hear, hear.)

Following a general discussion on trade topics, Mr. Paulger thanked Mr. Simonds for their cordial reception, and the deputation then withdrew.

A GREAT THOUGHT.

A very noble phrase was coined and used amid the strenuous and terrible experiences of the European War. It was on the lips of everyone in France. The soldiers shouted it to their comrades as they met them going to the front. The wounded, as they were being carried in their litters back to the hospitals, cried out to one another and to the still strong and active.

The brave mothers and sisters used the phrase at home to hearten themselves to go on with the dreadful struggle against discouragement, anxiety, and actual want, which was their part of the war. One said it to the other in moments of dejection and sorrow, and it was a battle-cry of cheer against despondency and weariness.

In dark moments, in dangerous places, soldiers and women and children all cried out and felt their courage rally: "Carry on! We must fight through and carry on." The plucky perseverance crystallized in this brave phrase is what eventually won the desperate war. As the great general in chief command declared, "Battles are never lost until the vanquished think so."

On the other hand, victory never rests with the saint-hearted. No strength of arms, nor copiousness of supplies, nor skill in tactics, nor even individual dashes of bravery will supply the want of a determined spirit, a resolution to fight until the end, a willingness to bear all hardships and still carry on, a persevering courage which will not let anything, even personal weakness, even one's own faults, deter one from going forward. These things are at the heart of all successes.

Life has many things in common with warfare, because life itself is a succession of battles, open or secret, and we are constantly busy fighting foes within and without us, who must be met with much the same perseverance as that which snatched victory from the midst of bloody strife in France.

In our own lives, therefore, no matter how dreary and uneventful our days may seem from without, it is of immense importance to us to get this hearty spirit and strong resolve to carry on.

Always we must hope to strengthen our weakness, must survey our enemies bravely, and count up our chances of prevailing over them.

We must always wind up every self-examination, however discouraging, by a still stronger resolution to carry on. It is inconceivable how important is perseverance to the utmost if we would get success from any struggle.

Our one great enemy in our conflicts is discouragement and the will to cease fighting. If only we are brave enough to carry on, we may be confident of ultimate victory, however far postponed. We may apply this principle to nearly every activity of our lives, but particularly is it true in the great battle for heaven, where God Himself is our ally.

GOD BLESS MOTHER.

A little child, with flaxen hair
And sunlight eyes so sweet and fair,
Who kneels, when twilight darkens all,
And from whose lips there fall
The ascent of this simple prayer:
"God bless!—God bless my mother!"

A youth, upon Life's threshold wide,
Who leaves a gentle mother's side,
Yet keeps, enshrined within his breast,
Her words of warning—still the best—
And whispers, when temptation-tried:
"God bless!—God bless my mother!"

A white-haired man, who gazes back
Along Life's weary, furrowed track,
And sees one face—an angel's now!—
Hears words of light that led aright,
And prays, with reverential brow:
"God bless!—God bless my mother!"

MR. A. LUSCOMBE, LONDON DISTRICT MILITARY TRAVELLER.

Mr. Luscombe has made a wonderful recovery from his recent illness and has again taken up his duties.

PRESENTATIONS TO MR. HILLIER AND MR. JAMES.
UNIQUE EVENT.

On the 31st July presentations took place in the Waiting Room to two members of the staff, Mr. J. Hillier and Mr. P. James. Mr. C. E. Gough said the occasion was unique; and it undoubtedly was so. In the case of Mr. Hillier, he received gifts for his marriage which had taken place some weeks previously, and with regard to Mr. James, who was to be married on the next day, he also received wedding presents.

Mr. C. E. Gough said it gave him much pleasure to have the privilege of being at that unique gathering. Both Mr. Hillier and Mr. James were old boys of the Branch Department and he was proud of them. He congratulated the bride and the bride-to-be on their excellent choice of husbands. Everyone wished them good health, long life and every happiness (applause).

Turning to Mr. Hillier, Mr. Gough said "I have pleasure to present you with this excellent tea set and very attractive clock on behalf of your friends and colleagues at the Brewery." Mr. Gough went on to say there should be no excuse for Mr. Hillier being late in getting up to make a cup of tea (laughter and applause).

Mr. A. G. Richardson in making the presentation of a set of cutlery, spoons, etc. on a nice stand, together with a silver cigarette case to Mr. James, said he had a pleasant task to perform on behalf of those present. He paid tribute to Mr. James for the most efficient way he always carried out his duties, for his method and unflinching courtesy. Mr. James had made a most marked impression on them all. He then asked Mr. James to accept the gifts that had been subscribed for by his friends at the Brewery. He wished Mr. and Mrs. James long life, and best of all, good health for many years to come (loud applause).

Mr. J. Hillier thanked Mr. Gough for his kind words and Mr. P. James thanked Mr. Richardson. They both thanked the company for their excellent gifts, which they would always treasure and they would be constant reminders of their many friends at the Brewery (applause).

H. & G. SIMONDS' STABLEMEN'S OUTING.

The annual outing of the stablemen at the Brewery took place on Sunday, August 9th. A start was made at 8.30 a.m., and a circular tour was selected. The first place visited was Southampton, where a halt was made for lunch. After lunch the Docks were visited and the party looked over the *Berenaria*. The party went on to Salisbury, where a meat tea was provided by Mr. Jones, mine host of The Shoulder of Mutton.

After visiting the Cathedral, a start was made for home, which was reached at 9.30 p.m., after a very enjoyable day.

THE LIGHTER SIDE.

On her way to bed the maid looked into her mistress's room.

"The master's locked up for the night, ma'am," she said.

Her mistress looked puzzled.

"Really, Jane," she said, "he must have been very quiet. I didn't even hear him come in."

"He hasn't, ma'am," exclaimed Jane. "The police station have just 'phoned."

* * *

The temperance orator was trying to explain to his audience how his life had been influenced by total abstinence.

"I am now," he said proudly, "the head of my department. Three years ago there were two men in the office who held positions superior to me. One was discharged through drunkenness. The other was led into crime, and is now serving a long term of imprisonment, all through the influence of strong drink. Now what, I ask you," he added, growing eloquent, "what has raised me to my present high position?"

And like one man the audience answered: "Drink!"

* * *

"Here, Tommy," said Mrs. Jones to her neighbour's little boy, "run along and put this parcel on the bus."

"Which bus?" asked the lad.

"Any bus," replied Mrs. Jones. "It's me husband's lunch, and he works in the London Transport Lost Property Office."

* * *

Fred met Dick on the way to the station.

"Good gracious, old man," said Fred, "how did you manage to hurt your eye?"

"It was done by a man whose wedding I attended as best man," Dick explained. "Just because I kissed the bride."

"But, my dear old man," exclaimed his friend, "it's the custom for the best man to kiss the bride."

Dick put his hand on the injured eye. "Yes, I know it is," he replied, "but this was five years after the ceremony."

WIFE (looking up from newspaper): "It tells here about a man giving his wife a £50 necklace. Nothing like that ever happens to me."

HUSBAND: "I was just reading about a man giving his wife a pair of black eyes. Nothing like that ever happens to you, either."

* * * *

The motor lorry had chosen one of the busiest parts of the city wherein to break down. For twenty minutes or more the driver had had his head tucked beneath the bonnet trying to locate the source of the trouble, but without success.

An ancient-looking street trader, who had been quietly watching the proceedings, suddenly exclaimed: "Try flooding her, mate!"

The lorry driver, who had tried flooding the carburettor and everything else, raised his head, looked round at his watchers, and groaned: "Ark at ole Noah!"

* * * *

The burly Irishman bared his arm. "Ye see that muscle?" he boasted. "I could stop a train with that."

"Then ye must be either a Samson or a liar," said his friend Mike.

The third member of the party laughed. "He's neither," he remarked. "He's an engine driver."

* * * *

A blushing young woman handed the telegraph operator a telegram to be sent which contained only the single word "Yes." Desiring to be of real help, the operator said, "You know you can send eight more words for the same price."

"I know I can," replied the young woman, "but don't you think it would look as if I am too eager if I said it nine times?"

* * * *

The British Legion is smiling at the story of a young wife who exclaimed to her husband: "Just think, John, it's just two years since our wonderful honeymoon to the Legion Conference in Weston-super-Mare—remember the glorious day we spent on the sand?"

"Yes, I remember," said the glum husband. "But little did we think then that we would be spending our second anniversary on the rocks."

With tears on her baby cheeks little Winnie ran up to the policeman.

"Please," she sobbed, "will you come and lock a nasty man up?"

"What's he been doing?" asked the policeman, kindly.

"Oh, he's broken my hoop with his nasty bicycle."

"Has he?" said the constable. "Well, where is he?"

"Oh, you'll easily catch him," explained Winnie triumphantly. "They just carried him into that chemist's shop."

* * * *

CUSTOMER: "I'd like to see something cheap in a straw hat."

SHOP ASSISTANT: "Try this one on. The mirror is on your left."

* * * *

A Cockney rang up the station to enquire the fare from here to Ealing, but the man at the other end of the line couldn't catch the name of the station.

In desperation he asked the enquirer to spell it.

The reply came as follows: "E for 'Erbert, A wot the 'orses beat, L w'ere yer goes when yer dies, I wot yer sees wif, N wot lays a heg, G (long pause) gee whizz!"

* * * *

"Nah, look 'ere, Bill, when I said the only thing that stopped me calling yer a bare-faced liar was yer bloomin' whiskers, I didn't mean it for an insult, but merely as a statement of fact."

"Oh, that's all right, then. We won't say no more abaht it."

* * * *

"They say he's a very hard man."

"He is. Did you notice his eyes?"

"Yes. One seemed to have a more human expression than the other."

"Exactly. That eye is a glass one."

* * * *

The following is from a newspaper report of a constable's evidence at the Tottenham Police Court:—

"When I told him I would arrest him if he persisted in kicking the ball about the street, he replied: 'You can't do that; it's not cricket!'"

ESTATE AGENT : " Now, here's a house without a flaw."

" Then what do you walk on ? "

* * *

" Of what use is the film censor ? "

" He takes the sin out of cinema."

* * *

A man and wife, sitting out in their garden, found themselves overhearing a conversation that was being carried on, on the other side of the fence, between a young man and a young woman. The talk became increasingly affectionate, so much so that the wife whispered to her husband, " I say, George, I believe he's going to propose. Don't you think you had better whistle, just to let them know we're here ? "

" Why should I ? " replied the husband. " Nobody whistled for me."

* * *

The following letter from a boy who had just gone to a boarding-school was quoted in the *Daily Mirror* :—

" Dear Mum,—I went to chapel yesterday and I went to chapel to-day and will you please send me some boxing gloves ? "

* * *

PHYLLIS (to maiden aunt) : " Auntie, did you ever have a proposal ? "

AUNTIE : " Once, dear ; a gentleman asked me over the 'phone to marry him, but he had the wrong number."

* * *

An Irishman crossed the Atlantic to try his luck in America. When he arrived in New York a sailor came up to him and inquired : " Are you a stranger here, Buddy ? "

" Sure I am ! " retorted Pat.

" Well," continued the other, " whenever you travel in a train on this side never ride in the last coach."

" But why shouldn't I ride in the last carriage ? " demanded Pat.

" Because that's where all the accidents happen," warned the sailor.

Pat scratched his head for a moment. Then his face brightened as he exclaimed : " Begorrah ! If all the accidents happen in the last coach, why don't they leave it off ? "

The druggist was in a bad temper. He had told his assistant to have a new sign painted outside the shop, and when he saw it he was furious.

" You're a fool ! " he raved.

" But the sign is beautifully done," said the assistant, puzzled.

" It may be," snapped the druggist. " But who's going to rely on us when our sign reads : ' In making up prescriptions we dispense with care ' ? "

* * *

A certain Englishwoman has a very vivid memory of Texas courtesy.

She was struggling with a cup of hot coffee in a small town railway station, trying to gulp it down before the train pulled out. A cowboy, seated a couple of stools away, noted her plight, and came to the fore :

" Here, ma'am," he said, " you can take my cup o' coffee. It's already sauced and blowed ! "

* * *

A Scottish church held a self-denial week. One of the members, who was not celebrated for his piety, handed over a donation of 5s. 3d., all in threepenny pieces, at the end of the week.

" Tell me, Jock," said the parson, " how is it that your contribution is in threepenny bits ? "

Jock shuffled his feet. " Well, ye see, sir, it's my custom to have three whiskies and sodas every day, but as we are holding a self-denial week I felt I must give up something . . ." nodding towards the small coins, " these are the sodas, sir."

* * *

A hatchet-faced woman entered the office and enquired for the head of the firm. The junior clerk informed the great man that a lady wished to see him. " Is she good-looking ? " " Yes, sir, very beautiful," was the reply. " Show her up ! " After the caller's departure, the head remarked to the junior, " A nice judge of beauty you are." " Well, sir," returned the youth, " I thought it might be your wife, sir." " So it was, you fool," was the reply.—*The Star and Garter Magazine*.

* * *

A GEM FROM OUR POST BAG.

" Would you please tell me price of a 36 or 18 (cask) which would do for pigs' food it is for myself, and oblige."

"HOP LEAF" CLUBS.

The formation of "Hop Leaf" Clubs is growing apace. In last month's issue we published the rules of the Sergeants' Mess, Queen's Bays' Club, and our Oxford Branch have sent us a copy of the rules drawn up by the War Department Constabulary Canteen, Didcot, which also contain novel features. The latter are appended, and we hope that the publication of the two sets will assist in the formation of other clubs.

WAR DEPARTMENT CONSTABULARY CANTEEN, DIDCOT.
RULES OF THE "HOP LEAF" MEDALLION CLUB.

1. MEMBERSHIP.—All Members and Honorary Members of the Canteen shall be eligible for membership of the Medallion Club.

2. COMMITTEE.—A Committee shall be appointed as follows:—President; Secretary and Treasurer; Committee of three Members.

3. TITLES.—The President shall be known as "The Chief Vine." Committee members will be known as "Hop Brothers." All other members will be known as "Leaf Brothers."

4. ISSUE OF MEDALLIONS.—All members shall be issued with the "Hop Leaf" Medallion.

5. WEARING OF MEDALLION.—The Medallion shall be carried on the person at all times.

6. PRODUCTION OF MEDALLION.—Each member shall produce his Medallion upon being correctly challenged. The form of challenge shall be: "HOPS, BROTHER LEAF." The challenger must also produce his own Medallion as proof of his authority to challenge. No member shall be liable to another penalty if challenged twice upon the same occasion as when he has already been placed under a penalty.

7. LOSS OF MEDALLION.—The loss of a Medallion shall be reported immediately to the Chief Vine.

8. PENALTIES.—Fines will be imposed as follows:—

(a) Inability to produce Medallion when correctly challenged	One penny.
(b) Challenging incorrectly	One penny.
(c) Losing of Medallion	Threepence.
(d) Absence from "Hop Leaf" Nights without permission from the Chief Vine	One penny.
(e) Failing to pay a fine awarded for any of the above reasons	One penny.

9. "HOP LEAF" NIGHTS.—The Committee shall upon occasions decide to hold a "Hop Leaf" Night and notice of such shall be posted upon the Canteen notice board 14 days prior to the date appointed. Any business to be carried out will be effected at these meetings. Members on duty or away from Station on leave will be exempted from attendance and others may be excused on application to the Chief Vine.

10. DISPUTES.—Disputes of a minor nature shall be dealt with by the Committee. Other disputes shall be dealt with at a "Hop Leaf" Night, the Chief Vine acting as Judge, a Hop Brother as Prosecutor and a Leaf or Hop Brother as Defender, all other Brothers acting as Jury. Titles will always be used in addresses at such a Court.

11. PROCEEDS FROM FINES.—Proceeds from fines shall be devoted to such purpose as shall be decided upon by a free vote at a "Hop Leaf" Night. Monies accruing from fines will be placed in a box deposited with the Caterer and the key of the box kept by the Chief Vine. This box will only be opened on a "Hop Leaf" Night in the presence of members. A record of fines imposed will be entered in a book provided for the purpose and before the box is opened this book will be totalled by the Treasurer. Members who have not settled fines before the opening of the box shall be liable to a further fine imposed by vote of the members present at the "Hop Leaf" Night in question.

12. APPLICATION OF RULES.—These Rules shall not apply to a member who is on duty connected with his employment.

13. PENALTIES.—For making disparaging remarks about the Club or Medallion, a fine of one penny.

14. "HOP LEAF" NIGHTS.—Each member shall, at the commencement of a "Hop Leaf" Night, be seated and shall have one glass, tankard or tumbler of refreshment (full) in front of him and provided at his own expense.

STRENGTHENS THE BODY

STIMULATES THE BRAIN

H. & G. SIMONDS Ltd., SOCIAL CLUB.

GRAND FÊTE
COLEY PARK, READING

(By kind permission of H. Keevil, Esq.)

Saturday, August 22nd, 1936.

BABY SHOW. ANKLE COMPETITION FOR LADIES.

**CHILDREN'S COMPETITIONS for Decorated Toy Motor Cars,
Cycles, Scooters and Dolls' Prams.**

(Open to Reading and District).

Grand MOUNTED SKILL-AT-ARMS DISPLAY

CARRIED OUT BY

**Warrant and Non-commissioned Officers of
THE QUEEN'S BAYS (2nd Dragoon Guards)**

(By kind permission of Lieut-Colonel E. D. Fanshawe, Commanding The
Queen's Bays (2nd Dragoon Guards)).

THREE HOURS' SPORTS PROGRAMME

INCLUDING

**TUG-OF-WAR (OPEN TO THE SOUTH)
OF ENGLAND.**

FOR

PRIZES VALUE £20.

DEPARTMENTAL PUSHBALL.

FLOWER SHOW.

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT OF

BAND OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S RIFLES

(By kind permission of Lieut-Colonel C. A. G. Culbert Keason, M.C.,
Commanding, and Officers).

IN THE EVENING

DANCING IN THE RING.

BOXING (under cover).

GRAND FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

FULLY LICENSED BARS (Popular Prices).

SWINGS, COKERNUT SHIES, SIDE SHOWS.

TEAS by Messrs. G. G. Parslow & Son.

TICKETS (if purchased before the day) **4d.** Admission at Gate **6d.**

Prizes for ten lucky tickets. Gates open at 2 o'clock p.m.

BRANCHES.

BRIGHTON.

The Royal Counties and Sussex Agricultural Show was held at Sompting, near Worthing, in June, and was a great attraction to people from all parts of Sussex and beyond. The three days were fortunately fine, which enhanced the attendances and helped the sale of our products which were dispensed by Mr. F. G. Godwin. An interesting adjunct to the Show was the exceptionally fine exhibit in the horticultural section, which someone who knew said compared very favourably with the Chelsea Show.

Brighton Regatta, which was to have been held on the 11th July, had to be postponed (which is not unusual!) on account of the boisterous weather which prevented the sailing and rowing events being carried out.

This was a pity, as a big programme of events had been arranged including the attendance of H.M.S. *Caracra*. The latter was "on guard" out at sea, and in the evening was illuminated and made a display of her searchlights.

Though not so many as in some previous years, we are to have a large influx of London Territorials shortly, distributed in several camps along the coast, and we hope the weather will be kinder than it has been the last few weeks. At Wannock, the 84th Field Brigade, R.A., from Norwich, were nearly washed out of camp one night recently.

Our Mr. Diplock spent an enjoyable holiday in Switzerland in June and appends a very interesting account of one day's excursion.

"It was an early June morning when mine host and I stood in the little village of Wilderswil, near Interlaken, and looked up at the mighty Jungfrau. One has had the pleasure of viewing Pilatus and the Rigi from lovely Lucerne, Mont Blanc from Chamonix and Salvatore and Monte Bre from Lugano, but the sight on this glorious morning seemed to surpass them all. Mine host turned to me and, with a nod of the head, said it will be all right to-day. We then went into the hotel, where we put on heavy snow shoes and an extra woolly coat and slipped a pair of dark glasses into our pockets. Then, with an excellently packed lunch, we made our way to the railway station. We were soon seated in a comfortable train carrying us up to Zweisiltschinnen, the junction for Grindelwald, but we were bound for Lauterbrunnen, where we obtained an excellent view of the Bridle Falls. Changing into the Wengern Alp mountain rack and pinion railway we ascended slowly by many windings and curved tunnels to the pretty village of Wengen (4,190 feet), standing on a plateau surrounded by fertile meadows. Then we proceeded to Wengernalp (6,160 feet) and in full view of the three mighty summits of

the Eiger, Mönch, Jungfrau to the Little Scheidegg (6,772 feet), where an excellent view of the summer avalanches was obtained. Here we changed into the Jungfrau railway and proceeded over fields covered with alpine flowers with a view of Mürren to the right, the Wetterhorn, the Faulhorn Group and Grindelwald to the left; then through a short tunnel to Eiger Glacier (7,620 feet). Here one can view an ice palace cut out of the glacier. We then proceeded and after a quarter of an hour in the tunnel we reached Eugerwand Station (9,405 feet), built in the rock and affording an extensive view over Grindelwald and the Lake of Thun, Black Forest and the Vosges. Then on by means of a curve of the tunnel in the interior of the Eiger to Eismeer (10,370 feet), whence a grand view of the glaciers is obtained, as well as of the Wetterhorn to the left, the Schreckhorn Group in the centre, and the Fiesherhorner to the right. The tunnel then takes us in the interior of the Mönch, which becomes steeper before reaching Jungfraujock (11,342 feet), the highest railway station in Europe. We leave the train and proceed to the large terrace commanding a magnificent view of the largest glacier in Europe, the Great Aletsch Glacier, and a vast circle of mountains. We go out on the ice and enjoy a ride on a sleigh drawn by four Eskimo dogs and also walk a short distance and view Interlaken below. After lunch we return to the train and proceed to the Little Scheidegg, where we change trains for Grindelwald. We slowly descend over pasture grounds with cembra pines and vast masses of alpine roses via Alpigen and Grund to Grindelwald (3,422 feet), a first-class summer and winter resort. Then back to Wilderswill, where our host has an excellent dinner awaiting us. After dinner we took a walk through the fields, when the setting sun made a beautiful red hue appear over the face of the mountains. Thus ended a really glorious day."

PORTSMOUTH.

The Navy's best shot this year proved to be Gunner H. L. Swire of the *Pembroke* as the "ace" rifleman of the Navy. On the Century Range he won the Gold Jewel, which carries with it the title of champion shot of the Navy, by a margin of 18 points from C.P.O. ("Tishy") Thwaites of the *Victory*, who won the Silver Jewel. Swire had an aggregate of 499 for the three stages of the shoot and altogether showed that the years pass lightly over his head. He has been to Bisley a number of years, but is now shooting as well as ever. His success this year gave him his third Gold Jewel for rifle shooting. Thwaites, who has won the Navy championship twice, had a fine chance of catching Swire until the "snap" practices, but at 200 and 300 yards he dropped badly.

At Chichester Barracks the "At Home" of the Depot, Royal Sussex Regiment, was attended by nearly 3,000 people. The Regimental Band, under Bandmaster Guilmont, played almost continually, and the salute was taken by Major W. Holderness,

M.C., the Commanding Officer of the Depot, and the Mayor of Chichester, Councillor Will Napper. At the side of each, as the salute was being taken, stood the two oldest members of the Regiment on parade, clad in the brilliant scarlet costumes of the Chelsea Pensioners. They were Private Drummer, aged 76 years, of the 1st Battalion, and Private Henry Voke, aged 81 years, of the 2nd Battalion. In charge of the proceedings were Major Holderness, Capt. L. W. Lane, M.C. (Adjutant), Officer Commanding "A" Company, Lieut. R. E. Loder, Capt. C. F. Carvell (Quartermaster), and R.S.M. P. J. Hanlon.

The annual invasion of West Sussex by the Territorial Army began on July 11th, when between three and four thousand troops from the London area arrived at Lavant, near Chichester. The first to arrive were the London Scottish and Kensington Rifles who, headed by their bands, marched through streets lined with admiring crowds. Before night they were followed by the 2nd London Infantry Brigade, the Artists' Rifles, the H.A.C. and several battalions of the London Regiment, together with a number of Field Brigades. Their fortnight's training on the Downs was begun, as far as the weather was concerned, in the most dismal circumstances. We were particularly glad to meet many old friends in the 28th Batt. London Regiment (Artists' Rifles), and we hope that the majority will have cause to look back on the Lavant Camp as an enjoyable one in spite of the weather.

The following photograph is of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught inspecting the 1st Batt. Rifle Brigade at the New Barracks, Gosport, this year.



BRISTOL.

BRISTOL'S ROYAL SHOW.

The Royal Agricultural Society will look back on their 1936 result with very mixed feelings owing to the appalling weather conditions which prevailed almost throughout the last four days and so adversely affected the attendance figures.

A cloudburst on the day prior to its opening kept the surveyor and his staff busy right up to a late hour repairing the damage to roads and plant, but despite a shower or two, the outlook on the opening of the first day was distinctly promising.

A wonderful list of events to suit everyone was scheduled as only the "Royal" knows how—for its interests go far beyond the mere breeders and agriculturists—and the only difficulty was to decide the events to miss out during the day's tour. In most instances this was finally settled by the very frequent storms which broke over the ground and converted the lower levels into a sea of mud, through which it became impossible to proceed. These conditions became gradually worse as the Show proceeded, and those who had the job of catering for the thousands who did brave the elements each day, had the utmost difficulty in getting any transport, except light motor vehicles, to and from the central and lower pavilions. In fact, one or two "Hop Leaf" vehicles owed their safe return to headquarters to the united efforts of many "sons of the soil" who, though on pleasure bent, did not hesitate to put their brawny shoulders to the Simonds' wheels to help our horses and drivers out of the morass. We are grateful to all such helpers whose "Altogether, boys—heave!" was of more value than ten tons of advice.

We are "mighty proud" of the privilege of supplying those unrivalled "Royal" caterers, Messrs. Letheby & Christopher, Ltd., whose interior organisation and staff co-ordination are things to marvel at when seen from the inside as we had the advantage of doing. The demands for "More 'S.B.'" increased steadily from the first hour until towards the end it kept the Jacob Street Brewery at full stretch satisfying the locals and others who passed the "Say 'S.B.'" slogan on to each other. The caterers' staff very soon found they had to look well ahead to ensure sufficient supplies, and in the vernacular of the turf, in this "event" it was a case of "'S.B.' first and the rest tailed off."

The fact that new patrons in the Trade are now following this tip and stocking "S.B." is a sure sign that local "fans" are consistent in their habits. That, alas! is the one pleasant afterthought which we have of our contribution to the Royal Society's 1936 effort. The other side of the picture is one which it will take some of us quite a long time to forget.

AUGUST 22ND.

Here's wishing the Fete the pick of the weather, the Bristol contingent the best of luck, and everyone concerned "many happy returns."

Simonds' Grand Fête

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22nd.

SPORTS

BOXING

FLOWER SHOW

ANKLE COMPETITION

BABY SHOW

DANCING, &c.

All the Fun of the Fair.
