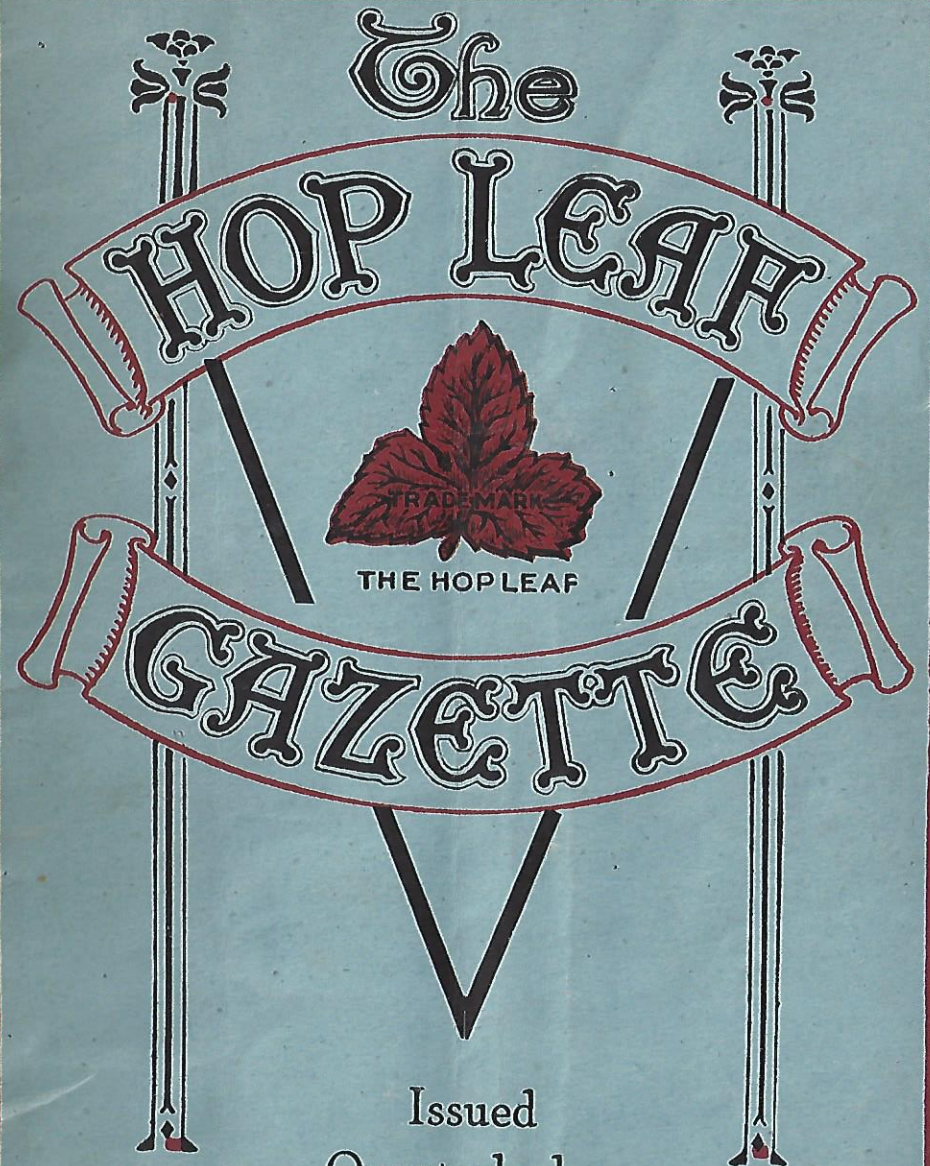


VOL. XVII.

DECEMBER, 1942.

Price 3d.



Issued
Quarterly by

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

A RECORD OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE BREWERY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Chat from the Editor's Chair	2
Words of Wisdom	14
Cricket	20
Nature Note	26
Brewery Jottings	31
A Great Thought	36
Members in Services	37
Branches	42

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

The Hop Leaf Gazette.

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

Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.

Vol. XVII.

DECEMBER, 1942.

No. 1

Messrs.
H. & G. Simonds Ltd.
take this opportunity of
extending to their many
Readers, also their Lads in
H.M. Forces, wherever
they may be, their Cordial
Greetings for the coming
year and a safe return.



Xmas, 1942.

The Brewery,
Reading.

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

CHAT from THE EDITOR'S CHAIR (By C. H. P.)

THIS LIFE OF SUSPENSE.

"I have enjoyed it all. And when the last action comes, I shall like that, too.

"Don't worry about me, dad. If there is one iota of a chance I will be back, and if not . . . well, I'll see you later."

These lines conclude the "last letter" of a young British pilot officer to his father, Mr. A. Machin, of Westfield Orchard, Bath.

They were written in the event of his failing to return. He has now been posted "Missing, believed killed," in the Middle East.

Pilot Officer Machin wrote :

"Please do not think I have not enjoyed this life of suspense.

"I have actually liked it all—being bombed in Malta and Africa ; being 500 miles from the nearest friendly soil, your life hanging on two British-built engines and two British-built wings, fighting a Heinkel 50 miles from any land ; hunting for trouble over hostile land.

"Believe it or not, I have enjoyed it all."

SIR LESLIE WILSON.

It does not seem true that it is twenty years since Sir Leslie Wilson ceased to be M.P. for Reading—he is still a Freeman of the borough—and that he has been Governor of Queensland for ten years (says the *Berkshire Chronicle*). On the occasion of the latter anniversary he sent a message to the *Brisbane Telegraph* pointing out that he is the first Governor in Australia to be in the same State for ten years. He refers to the progress which has been made, and emphasizes the importance of education. Sir Leslie adds : "We have had much joy and much sorrow in these ten years, but whatever the future may hold for us, I hope that

Queensland will always realise that we know and realise to the full how much we owe to the kindest, most patriotic, and most generous people in the world." The *Brisbane Telegraph* says of Sir Leslie : "No one has done more to justify the distinction of being Queensland's first citizen, because, first, he is a gentleman, and at all times a man's man. Look through the files and you will see him as Royal Marine, as Scouter, as horseman, as golfer, bowler, and cricketer. Mention almost anything you will and this gentleman of parts will fit it, not as tailor's dummy, but as enthusiast."

FLYING START !

True story : Mr. Lancelot C. Royle, Chairman of N.A.A.F.I., recently made a speech at N.A.A.F.I.'s warehouse at the inaugural ceremonies in connection with the "It All Depends On Me" campaign now being conducted throughout N.A.A.F.I. His speech concluded, he was making a tour of the warehouse when a burly Cockney came round a corner at the run, a side of bacon slung over his shoulder which caught the N.A.A.F.I. Chairman and pinned him against the wall.

"Out of the way, chum," grinned the Cockney, "it all depends on me. . . ."

MORE CIGARETTES FOR FORCES.

N.A.A.F.I. announced in October that the Forces' cigarettes ration at pre-budget prices has now been increased to at least 40 cigarettes per week, or the equivalent in pipe tobacco.

Until quite recently the number of cigarettes which the troops could buy at pre-budget prices from N.A.A.F.I. canteens was fixed at 35 per man per week, but an increase in the allocation of tobacco and cigarettes available for the Services has made it possible for N.A.A.F.I. to distribute the extra five cigarettes for every man and woman serving in the United Kingdom to-day.

"The distribution of the increased ration is operating smoothly," a N.A.A.F.I. official stated, "and every unit should by now be receiving its full quota of cigarettes or tobacco. If there are still cases where members of the Forces are getting the smaller ration of only 35 cigarettes the matter should be reported to our officials in the area."

BUMPER CHRISTMAS FOR MIDDLE EAST.

Arrangements have been in full swing for some months to make this a "home from home" Christmas for the Forces in the Middle East. N.A.A.F.I. has been able to obtain large stocks of

Christmas fare from Middle East countries and the Empire without drawing on the United Kingdom for any extra supplies. N.A.A.F.I.'s Middle East shopping list includes such items as 10,000 lbs. of slab cake, ten tons of mincemeat, 80,000 lbs. of turkey, 30,000 lbs. of goose, 20,000 lbs. of duck, 20,000 lbs. of chicken and 60,000 lbs. of pork, as well as 50,000 lbs. of nuts and hundreds of thousands of oranges. Somewhere in the Middle East a Christmas pudding mixture weighing 160,000 lbs. was given a first stir for luck by Private Jean Walters, of Birmingham, chosen by N.A.A.F.I. as the prettiest A.T.S. girl in the Middle East.

The Forces in the United Kingdom will also have their share of good things this Christmas, and though it will not be on the varied scale which it has been possible to provide for the troops overseas, N.A.A.F.I. has been able to arrange for supplies of Christmas puddings up to a scale of 4 ozs. per man, and it is hoped that it will be possible to provide every man with a mince-pie as well as a certain amount of Christmas turkey.

Instead of ordinary Christmas cards N.A.A.F.I., by arrangement with the Army Savings Association, is distributing free in its canteens at home thousands of Savings Christmas cards, on which members of the Forces can stick savings stamps before posting to their friends.

RIGHT FARE APPEAL.

"For copper rides," says Billy Brown,
 "I never tender half-a-crown;
 The right amount saves much delay
 And speeds the bus upon its way."

Shoppers and pleasure-riders are those who most frequently need large amounts of change.

THE BIG PARADE!

American troops don't believe in doing things by halves. At a small N.A.A.F.I. canteen, used by an American detachment, it was explained to the Commanding Officer that, as laid down in regulations, the cleaning of the soldiers' side of the counter is the responsibility of the unit. The same afternoon, twenty-five burly Americans marched smartly to the doors of the canteen, were ceremoniously dismissed, and surged into the hut. They explained that they had come to "clean up." The diminutive manageress eyed the stalwarts calmly. "Twenty-five hefty men to clean a little place like this," she exclaimed. "Here—you and you—fall out and get busy—the rest of you scam!"

And twenty-three of the twenty-five, with delighted grins, promptly "scrammed."

HOW MUCH LONGER?

On September 3rd we entered the fourth year of this greatest of all wars (says *Our Empire*). How many more years will it last? One Empire statesman thinks it has still four years to go; another prophet puts its total duration at ten years. In our view either may be right and both may be wrong—because the only certain thing about this war is that both its course and, therefore, its duration are utterly incalculable. Hitherto, the prophets have had little luck. Hitler promised his people victory by the end of 1941—his army is still being bled white by the Russians. Goering swore that no hostile bomb should fall on Germany—in June and July of this year alone, the R.A.F. dropped 13,000 tons of them on German cities. Just three years ago the British Parliament budgeted for a three years' war—last month they voted another £1,000,000,000 for its continuance. We decline to join the dubious company of the prophets; but it may be of service to emphasize a few factors which must obviously influence the duration of the war, either to shorten or prolong it.

SOONER—OR LATER?

A clear-cut victory by the United Nations next year over Hitler in Europe would, of course, settle the whole argument—at least, as far as he and Mussolini are concerned. To separate the Japs from their stolen territory would be a different proposition, unless we could crush them in Japan itself. Whether either of these possibilities could be realized in 1943 depends upon the relative strength of the opposing forces in armaments—in our own case, of shipping—and, as only the leaders in both camps have the necessary data, the rest of us are without the material for a sound judgment. We should be wise, therefore, each to do his utmost to provide the resources that are essential to victory, without worrying too much about when that victory will come. Given the arms, we are convinced that our men can finish the job—sooner or later. The point for us at home to remember is that if we slack on the job it will be later rather than sooner.

MISS N.A.A.F.I. WEARS THE TROUSERS.

Girl drivers and their assistants on N.A.A.F.I.'s mobile canteens and other transport are now to be issued with khaki trousers. It was felt that these girls needed more warmth and protection from the weather than is afforded by skirts and stockings, particularly as they have to be prepared to brave snow and blizzard in their task of bringing the canteens to soldiers and airmen in lonely outlying camps and gun sites. They will now be equipped with slacks to match their khaki uniform tunics.

A VERY REAL TEST!

In connection with the Incendiary Bomb School Course to be taken by all Fire Guards, our Fire Wardens and other members were subjected to a very real test at Caversham recently. There were realistic practice bombs and fires, and the extremely capable manner in which our men dealt with these was highly praiseworthy. Entering a burning building, the human fire extinguishers, after doing their job, came away wet and smoke-begrimed, tears streaming from their eyes. It was all most realistic, and the Company's Secretary, Chief Accountant, Home Trade and Wine and Spirit Managers, among others, set about their tasks in deadly earnest. The wonderful efficiency displayed was largely due to the very lucid and instructive chat given to them before the demonstration by Mr. E. R. W. Gillmor, Chief A.R.P. Officer for the town, who acted as Instructor. He imparted to us a maximum of information in a minimum of time, and soon got his audience intensely interested. Captain Drewe, A.R.P. Controller for the Company, who was present, must have been very proud of the work of his teams.

A JOURNALISTIC GEM!

Does anyone know a suitable cleric whom we might invite to come? As becomes our traditions here, he must have the following qualifications: he must be young and beautiful (if we are to accept the present cult of Juvenism, the young alone count in these days), he must be a good scholar and a first-class preacher, a diligent visitor and a good "mixer," a man of prayer and a man of action, yet not too vigorous as to offend some. He must be musical, able to muster plenty of interest in the weddings of those who never come to church for any other purpose, ready to swear to the honesty of those he has never seen in his life, but who come in shoals to cozen his aid in the matter of lost clothing coupons; humorous but not flippant, not given to "High Church" practices but eschewing the corybantic and solifidian creeds. Finally, a bachelor with an aptitude for a rubber of bridge with the right people, of course. The Archangel Gabriel will not be entering an application for the post, and I feel the stipend of £250 per annum may be too modest to attract a man with all the above-mentioned qualifications.—*St. Gabriel's Parish Magazine, Cricklewood.*

INTERESTING CEREMONY AT THE SHIP HOTEL.

An interesting ceremony took place at The Ship Hotel, Reading, on the 6th November, 1942. The occasion was the completion of the installation of a revolving door. Our Chairman, Mr. F. A. Simonds, kindly consented to be the first to use it. On

entering, he was greeted by a deputation of Senior American Officers. Lt.-Col. Frank J. Hills, A.C., acted as spokesman. He thanked Mr. Eric for the added amenity to the "Ship," which they regarded as their "Home from Home," and at the same time added their deep appreciation of the hospitality and courtesy extended to them in all the establishments under his control. Mr. Eric and Major J. H. Simonds entertained the deputation to luncheon, together with Mr. A. P. F. Chapman, the famous cricketer.

Before leaving, the Chairman expressed his appreciation of the efforts of the General Catering Manager, Mr. H. C. Davis, for the excellent arrangements made for his reception. He also added his thanks to Captain Drewe for so speedily completing the work under the present trying conditions.

HARVEST FESTIVAL IN A PUBLIC-HOUSE.

Widmer End, Buckinghamshire village near High Wycombe, held its harvest festival in a public-house. Giant marrows, cucumbers, leeks, celery-heads, apples and other harvest produce were piled in the saloon bar.

More than 200 men and women of the surrounding cottages and farms, with land girls and soldiers, sang, "We plough the fields and scatter." Then beer was ordered and the produce was auctioned for the benefit of the village boys in the Forces. A piglet and several rabbits and chickens were among the things sold. Mrs. Len Taplin, the landlord's wife, who has organized weekly collections for her "boys" in the Forces, announced a total collection of £28 17s. 6d.

A large harvest loaf, presented by a High Wycombe baker, was resold more than a dozen times, and fetched nearly £6.

"O God: while waiting here we pray
For countless dear ones, far away.
For Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen brave,
Who would their country's freedom save.
When sick or lonely, draw Thou near
To soothe their pain and calm each fear.
And grant, Lord, we with them may be
Faithful through life, or death, to Thee."

exactly doubled. Guardsmen using one canteen consumed five hundred portions of one potato dish—cheese and potato tart—in half-an-hour. Nearly twenty varieties of potato dishes are available in N.A.A.F.I. canteens; some six varieties are available each day, with one “starred” dish that sells like—hot potatoes.

Up, Guards, and Eat 'Em!

SUPERSTITIOUS TEETOTALLERS.

There is a superstition amongst teetotalers that they live longer than “non-abstainers,” says *Harpers Wine and Spirit Gazette*. Of course, this is not borne out by the statistics. Life merely seems longer to the dismal dry. At any rate, sensible insurance companies refuse to be imposed upon by the organized teetotalers' demands for cut rates. I was interested to see their ancient controversy summed up by an American bard who (as is often the way with U.S. columnists) writes his verses in prose form. His effort went as follows:—

The horse and cow live thirty years, and nothing know of wines and beers, the goat and sheep at twenty die, and never taste of Scotch or rye. The cow drinks water by the ton, and at eighteen is nearly done; the dog at fifteen cases in, without the aid of rum and gin. The cat in milk and water soaks, and then at twelve short years it croaks.

The modest sober, bone-dry hen, lays eggs for years and dies at ten. All animals are strictly dry, they sinless live and swiftly die; but sinful, ginful, rum-soaked men survive for three score years and ten; and some of us, the mighty few, stay pickled till we're ninety-two.

“DEAD” HORSE WON RACE.

A good racing story was told at Newmarket when a horse (Sir Edward), who was given up for dead, won the Crawford Handicap.

A year ago a vet., called in to see a very sick Sir Edward, could find no signs of pulse or heart beat.

But Chubb Leach, his trainer, sat up with the “dead” horse all night, and got his reward in the small hours by seeing Sir Edward roll over, then stagger to his feet!

When Leach later called on the vet. he was greeted with: “I suppose you want the dead cart?” “No,” said Chubb, “I want to know what I can give him to eat.”

THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE.

“That boy of yours seems to have a rare thirst for knowledge,” she remarked, rather tartly.

“Well,” said the Mrs., “I know where it comes from. He gets his thirst from his father and his knowledge from me.”

HIS “SMATTERING OF FRENCH.”

A good story in connection with the coal trade was told at a dinner-party recently. It concerned a Sheffield coal dealer, who prided himself upon a “smattering of French,” which he frequently exploited. Asked his prices of coal by a lady, he replied most suavely: “Well, madam, if you take it *a la carte* it's twenty-two shillings per ton; but if you take it *cul de sac* it will be a shilling extra.”

REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT.

On Friday, the 6th November, the following employees, Miss D. E. Coleman, Miss K. Leeke and Miss E. Pollard, of the Transport Office, who are members of the Company's Roof Spotting Section of the A.R.P., and also members of No. 53 National Association of Spotters' Clubs, were successful in passing the 3rd Class Test of the Royal Observer Corps.

The test comprises 31 silhouettes chosen from 65 types of British, American and German aircraft. The time allowed to identify each aeroplane is ten seconds, and fifteen seconds in which to write down its full name on paper.

Miss Coleman and Miss Leeke gained 100 per cent. marks, and Miss Pollard followed them closely. These girls are the first in the Reading Club to gain this distinction, and considering they knew nothing about aeroplanes three months ago it is a remarkable achievement.

BINDING OF VOLUME XVI.

The September, 1942, issue having completed Volume XVI, we are prepared to undertake the binding of this volume for any of our readers at a charge of 4s. 9d. each. If desired, covers can be supplied at 1s. 9d. each, where it may be more convenient for the binding to be done locally. Readers should send complete sets to the nearest office from which the journal is delivered, or to the representative for the district.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Not till the loom is silent
 And the shuttles cease to fly,
 Will God unroll the canvas
 And explain the reason why
 The dark threads were as needful
 In the weaver's skilful hand,
 As the threads of gold and silver,
 For the pattern He has planned.

To some life is nothing but sorrow,
 And joy seldom falls to their share,
 To-day's friends are gone by to-morrow
 And it seems as if God didn't care.
 But beyond the Gate, if they only knew,
 Are the friends just waiting their love to renew.

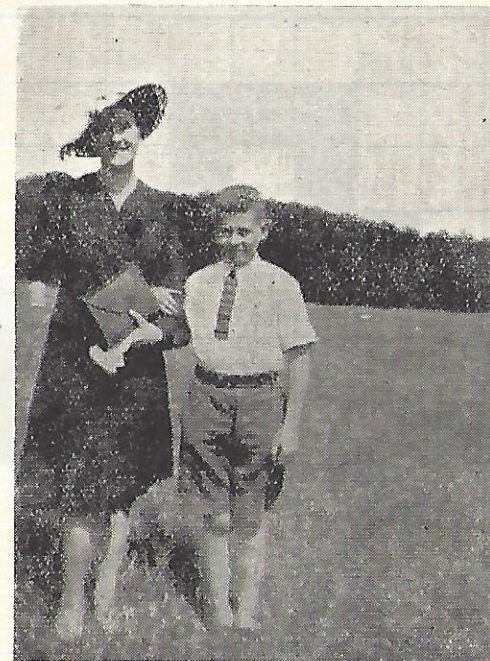
To have striven for Truth and for Honour
 When the easy way out was to lie,
 To have sown in the life of another
 A good deed that never can die,
 Is worth while enduring the scorn and the hate,
 With the Master's smile waiting beyond the Gate.

The life they laid within God's hand
 They kept : all else they gave.
 Now are all lands their fatherlands,
 All earth their hallowed grave.

It is not pain that we should fear, in this short passage, from
 one world to another ; nor storm and stress, nor the need for
 buckled-on sword and armour shining from use. But rather
 absence of pain, when overmuch ease chills the armour and rusts
 the sword, and apathy descends on the soul.

E'en for the dead I will not bind
 My soul to grief.
 Death cannot long divide—
 For is it not as though the rose
 That climbed my garden wall
 Had blossomed on the other side?
 Death doth hide
 But not divide,
 Thou art but on the other side.

OUR LADY WELFARE SUPERVISOR.

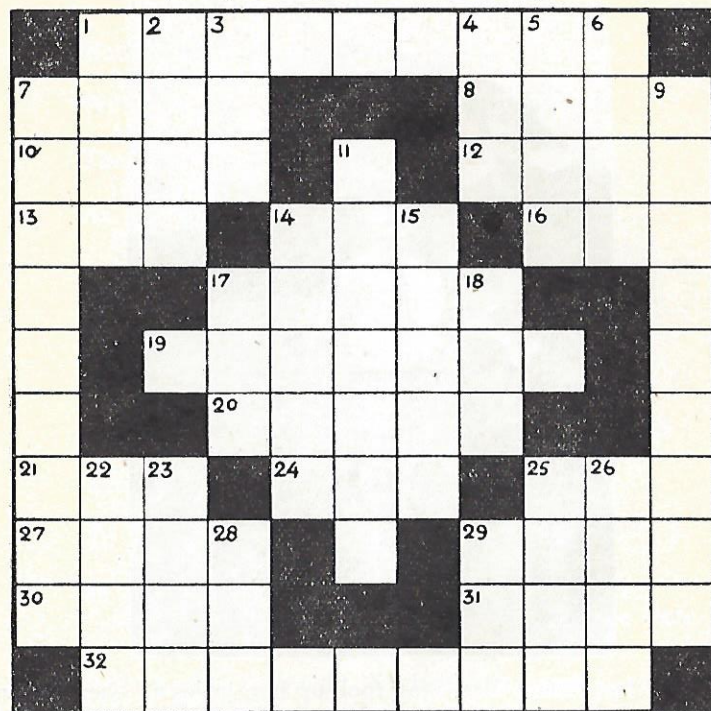


Early last month Mrs. Stay took up her duties at the Brewery as Lady Welfare Supervisor. Mrs. Stay has had a very wide and varied experience in social and welfare work. Before coming to Reading she held the position of Labour and Welfare Supervisor, with over 1,500 girls under her care. Extremely keen on any social work—when she was in business she used to do a lot of District Visiting, and was Hon. Treasurer of a District Nursing Association for three years, besides serving on various Welfare Committees, Refugee Committees and similar organisations—she has made a deep study of child psychology, vocational guidings, and the art of interviewing school children and employers. As a result she is well qualified to place children in jobs suitable to them, though the fond mothers may think that they are just the jobs which their children ought not to do.

Mrs. Stay is a fine swimmer, a County Badminton player, and exhibition dancer. She is also a good lawn tennis exponent. She took up a musical career, but finding music was not really her forte she went in for singing, and only relinquished that career when she took unto herself a husband.

A lady with all these accomplishments is naturally an asset to any establishment, and may she "Stay put" at the Brewery for a long time to come.

OUR CROSSWORD PUZZLE.
(Composed by Miss M. K. Gilling).



CLUES.

Across.

1. Beer wires (anag.).
7. If I enter into this scheme it becomes obvious.
8. Measure.
10. A great man perhaps, but not necessarily in statue.
12. Mary changed meant a large following of men.
13. Sheep.
14. Ticket.
16. Solidify.
17. Breed.
19. Good "sign."
20. Entity.
21. Animal.
24. Complete.
25. For.
27. This lets you out.
29. Stopper.
30. Half.
31. Straightforward.
32. To regret that such a thing should happen.

Down.

1. This is a fair knock-out.
2. Unusual.
3. Destroy.
4. Girl's name.
5. Wanders.
6. As before.
7. These are enjoyed by everybody.
9. This is responsible for the tales of yore.
11. It is lucky to see a this star.
14. Worn on top.
15. Mingle.
17. Deprive.
18. Downward it sinks, upwards it stinks.
22. Chopped off.
23. Item changed and a conductor beats it.
25. The dictionary says it is a piece of ground.
26. Trick.
28. End.
29. Vegetable.

TO MY CUSTOMERS.

When you come in, please ring the bell
I may be asleep, or blown to hell :
I'll do my best to serve you all,
But don't forget my stock is small.

The locals call here every day
And often have some time to stay :
If I refuse them when they call,
The names they'd call me would beat you all.

So don't be offended if I say
I can only spare you one to-day ;
Though the village is rather small
I can't get enough to serve them all.

It seems we are in a blooming mess,
But never mind, we will keep old Hess :
Don't grumble if things don't go just right,
You can bet we're going to win the fight.

I've told you how things stand with me
And hope I've won your sympathy.
It may seem strange, but yet it's true
We've got a tough job yet to do.

We know our boys will do their best,
It's up to us to do the rest ;
Give them the tools, they'll do the job,
We'll drink their health with our last bob.

J. W. LEACH.

THE LIGHTER SIDE.

"I've quite forgotten what it is I wanted," murmured the old lady in the chemist's shop. "Is the girl who always attends to me here? She might know what it is I want."

"No, madam," said the manager. "I'm sorry to say we've had to sack her."

The old lady beamed. "Ah, that's what I wanted, some saccharine."

* * * *

Three blood transfusions were necessary to save a woman patient's life at a hospital. A brawny young Scotsman offered his blood. The patient gave him £10 for the first pint, £5 for the second pint, but the third time she had so much Scots blood in her that she only thanked him !

CRICKET.

THE SEASON'S AVERAGES.

Since our last report we have only managed to get one fine afternoon, consequently matches either had to be abandoned or carried on under conditions that were far from ideal. Five games were started, one of which we lost, two were indefinite, and two washed out.

The Youths had two matches to complete their fixtures, both of which were won, which was gratifying considering the long sequence of lost games in the earlier part of the season.

Arrangements for further games in August for the Ladies' team fell through, so they were unable to take the field again.

The matches played were as follows :—

August 8th. SIMONDS 43 for 6 *v.* WILLIAMSONS' 59 for 8.

The visitors batted first under conditions of poor visibility and soon lost two wickets, but the next one added 22. With the score at 31 two more wickets fell, and then 23 were put on the board, and 5 runs later the innings was declared closed. Although the above follows straight on, the innings was interrupted by heavy rain. After a long adjournment the game was restarted, but the conditions were not pleasant, and some of the players had departed, thinking further play impossible.

Our batting was patchy, for out of our total of 43 for 7, three failed to score and another got one only. A. Benham and E. Scott made 12 each, the latter being not out. Benham also had the bowling honours, with 3 for 14.

August 15th. SIMONDS 84 for 8 (dec.) *v.* OLD BLUES 64 for 8.

We batted first and the feature of our innings was the fighting effort of A. Benham. Again the proceedings were delayed by rain, and our Skipper held up his declaration, hoping Benham would have got his fifty but, when he was four short of this figure, another shower sent the players to shelter.

On resumption the Old Blues went right out to get the runs. Poole retired after making 11, as he had other duties to attend to. Middleton was run out when his score was 25. Sparks followed on with 21, but with 64 on the board the eighth and last wicket fell.

August 22nd. SIMONDS *v.* MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

For the third week running rain spoilt our pleasure. We started batting and lost two men for 15. A. Benham and A. J. Hawkins became associated and added 40 before the former was bowled, having made 29. With 13 more on the board, the fourth and fifth wickets fell, and so did the rain, and that was the end, although we waited, hoping for the best.

August 29th. SIMONDS 47 *v.* an R.A.F. XI 80.

Our previous game ended as a draw, with the balance in favour of our opponents; this time a decision was reached, but it was against us. The R.A.F. batted first and the opening pair put on 26, but we got the next two wickets without any addition, two more fell at 35, and the sixth went at 40. A stand followed, and another 31 runs were scored ere we took No. 7, but with the total at 80 the last wicket fell.

A. Benham had an inspired spell of bowling, doing the hat trick in one over and only missing the stumps by a fraction in the next to deprive him of a second "hat." The sixth wicket fell in the next over, and at that period he had 6 for 9, but 16 runs were added without further wickets. Greenaway took 3 for 26.

Our batting could not cope with the bowling of Veitch (9 for 2) and Turton (2 for 17), and only G. Harding reached double figures. He was going strongly until being run out.

On September 5th our third attempt was made to play the Home Guard, but after we had been batting for a while rain stopped further play, and this game also had to be abandoned.

YOUTHS.

On August 4th we played the 1836 A.T.C., and won by 43. Wheeler was batting well, but for a time could not get a partner to stay long with him, but from 4 for 15 the score jumped to 43, and then went on to reach 66 all out. Wheeler scored 35 and the next highest was Lewendon with 13.

These two followed up by dismissing the A.T.C. for 23. They took 3 for 10, and 5 for 11 respectively.

Our next match should have been with Huntley & Palmers, but owing to difficulties in raising a team this club had to retire from the league. Endeavours were also made to arrange another date with the 1836 A.T.C., to take the place of the first game which they were unable to fulfil, but without avail.

We were therefore without a game until August 25th, when we met and defeated the Y.M.C.A. by 19 runs. We batted first in a poor light and in the allotted number of overs made 50, of which G. Harding scored 15 and K. Cotton 13.

The light became increasingly difficult, but the game was finished, Y.M. being dismissed for 31. As all the scores were not taken for this innings full details cannot be given. All that can be said is that Wheeler took 6 wickets and Lewendon 4, and that 9 extras were included in the total.

LADIES.

Two fixtures had been arranged for August, but both were cancelled as our opponents could not raise a team. Nothing is

left therefore but to wish them a more successful season next year if the fates permit such outdoor activities.

Space will not permit of a long resumé of the season, nor a full list of the averages of the three teams.

Mr. J. B. Doe was not able to skipper the Saturday XI every week, but he had a very able deputy in Mr. F. J. Benham.

Several young players were brought into the team and did well, notably A. Benham and E. Scott. The former heads both batting and bowling averages, and the latter is No. 3 and 2 respectively. R. Lambourne was our only player to top the half century, but several players made very good scores without quite reaching the fifties.

E. Greenaway was the main stock bowler and did well, although his younger competitors led him in the average tables.

About thirty played in the Saturday games, but half of these only participated in one or two games. We found places for our members who were able to get home on leave from their duties with H. M. Forces and desired to spend a pleasant afternoon with their old colleagues.

The Youths had a long struggle against adversity and a few lost heart at the long series of defeats. Skipper Harding, however, kept going, and aided by the stout-hearted and some "importations," kept the flag flying and finished up the season with three successive wins. The unfortunate part is that as soon as the lads are getting into their stride they grow too old for this League cricket and they are claimed for more serious duties.

The Ladies were not able to carry out their full fixture list and did not have a great measure of success, but they had a lot of fun, and Miss Shurmer ably skippered the team. She and two others played in all seven matches and two played in six of them.

AVERAGES.

These are compiled showing those who batted or bowled in three or more matches.

BATTING.

	Innings.	Times not out.	Runs.	Highest score.	Average.
A. Benham ...	7	2	121	46*	24.3
C. Morgan ...	12	—	137	38	11.41
E. Scott ...	11	7	45	12*	11.25
R. Lambourne ...	9	1	84	53*	10.5
F. J. Benham ...	11	—	67	13	6.09
G. W. Harding ...	13	1	73	20*	6.08
H. J. Sexton ...	8	2	35	10	5.83
J. B. Doe ...	8	—	41	25	5.12
K. Cottam ...	7	1	24	8*	4
E. C. Greenaway ...	11	—	37	13	3.36

The following batted in less than six and more than three matches:—

	Innings.	Times Not Out.	Runs.	Most in Innings.	Average.
F. H. Chandler ...	4	—	35	11	8.75
A. J. Hawkins ...	4	1	22	11*	7.33
E. Priddy ...	5	—	16	7	3.2
C. I. Beechey ...	3	—	3	2*	1.5

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
A. Benham ...	28	1	100	19	5.26
E. Scott ...	63	5	224	27	8.29
E. C. Greenaway ...	85	8	301	33	9.12

The following bowled in less than six and more than three matches:—

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
F. H. Chandler ...	36	6	108	12	9
R. Lambourne ...	8	1	29	3	9.66
H. J. Sexton ...	5	—	21	1	21

Matches played 15. Won 2. Drawn 3. Lost 8. Abandoned 2.

YOUTHS' TEAM.

BATTING.

	Innings.	Times not out.	Runs.	Highest score.	Average.
K. Cottam ...	10	—	57	14	5.7
Lewendon ...	6	—	33	13	5.5
E. Priddy ...	6	1	20	11	4
L. Kury ...	8	1	27	13	3.85
L. Sampson ...	8	1	26	8	3.71
G. W. Harding ...	10	—	31	15	3.1
J. Buswell ...	9	—	27	8	3
L. Harbor ...	8	1	4	2	57

The following batted in less than six and more than three matches:—

Treby ...	3	—	10	4	3.33
T. Patrick ...	5	1	7	4*	1.75
R. Brooks ...	4	—	6	3	1.5
R. Kury ...	3	1	3	3	1.5
J. Langley ...	3	—	2	2	.66
E. Slade ...	5	—	3	3	.6
C. I. Beechey ...	3	—	—	—	—

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
Lewendon ...	37	113	18	6.27
K. Cottam ...	16	73	9	8.11

The following bowled in less than six and more than three matches:—

R. Brooks ...	22	51	16	3.18
L. Sampson ...	8	57	9	6.33

Matches played 10. Won 3. Lost 7.

LADIES.

BATTING.

	Innings.	Times not out.	Runs.	Highest score.	Average.
O. Shurmer ...	7	—	68	33	9·71
P. E. Hammond ...	6	—	18	16	3
E. Pollard ...	6	—	5	11	1·83
E. Townsend ...	7	—	8	3	1·14
R. Ayres ...	7	1	5	2	·83

The following batted in less than six and more than three matches :—

E. Bullen ...	4	—	5	2	1·25
J. Curtis ...	5	—	6	6	1·2
P. Simpson ...	4	1	2	1*	·66
D. Coleman ...	3	1	1	1	·5
G. Thatcher ...	4	—	2	1	·5

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
J. Curtis ...	31	5	65	11	5·9
E. Townsend ...	68	16	146	19	7·68
P. M. Hammond ...	13	1	23	2	11·5
R. Ayres ...	10	—	44	2	22

Matches played 7. Won 1. Lost 6.

J.W.J.

IN TIMES OF WAITING.

How often on some wintry day
It seems Spring will not come again,
Nor trees will bud nor flowers be gay,
Nor thrush nor blackbird's gladsome strain
Fall on the ear like silver rain !

At times it seems all peace is fled
And only strife and hate are left,
Nation by Nation mourns its dead
And even youth's joyousness is cleft
With the sad cry from hearts bereft.

Yet, though we know not how or when,
Still surely in God's orderings
A Spring will come for weary men,
And a day dawn that with it brings
Young Peace with healing in her wings !

CHRISTIAN BURKE.

"MOTHER EARTH."

Mother Earth I love thee well,
Love each flower that springs
From thy heart in wood and dell,
Love each bird that sings.

Mother Earth I love thee when,
On a lonely walk,
Far away from haunts of men,
I to thee can talk.

Mother Earth I love thee so
In the winter-time
When the fields are white with snow
And the twigs with rime.

Mother Earth I love thee too
In the summer heat
When the skies are cloudless blue
And the clover's sweet.

Mother Earth I love thee much,
When the trees I pass
As their branches bend to touch
Blades of tender grass.

Mother Earth I love thee best
After day is done
And with glory in the west
Sinks the golden sun.

S. E. COLLINS.

THE LIGHTER SIDE.

Very sick passenger, being hailed by the ship's doctor : " Cheer
up, old fellow, the moon will soon be up."

" Heavens ! Did I swallow that, too ? "

* * * *

One day I saw Roland kick another little boy in the stomach.
I was terribly shocked, and I said : " Roland, why did you kick
that boy in the stomach ? "

" It's his own fault," he told me.

" What ? "

" He turned round ! " was the reply.

NATURE NOTE.

(BY C.H.P.).

THE FASCINATION OF A PHEASANT SHOOT.

PEN-PICTURE OF A DELIGHTFUL DAY.

A day's pheasant shooting! What happy memories that little phrase conjures up in the mind. To enjoy such a day to the full you must feel very fit. With Nature, as with friendship, we cannot take all and bring nothing. We must bring vigour and the elasticity of spirit, for a feeble mind looking upon fair scenes with a languid eye will not feel the joy of them, as that great statesman and naturalist, Sir Edward Grey, so well expressed it.

IN THE PINK!

Well, I, with others, was feeling in the pink of condition and enjoyed every minute of the day. The early morning by no means gave promise of a fine day, for it poured with rain which continued until well after shooting had commenced. The water-logged grass and thick undergrowth wetted you below, and the rain above. But it was all very refreshing, for picking your way through the briars, rhododendrons and multitudinous other small trees and plants created a fine circulation and you felt fit enough to weather any storm, and full of good cheer for, in Nature, there is nothing melancholy.

ORANGE, AMBER AND GOLD.

But the rain ceased in good time and lowering cloud and bright sunshine became the order of the day. The trees were by no means leafless and Autumn had indeed been busy supplying her rich tints to wood and hedgerow. The warm bright bursts of sunshine lit up the beeches with orange and amber and gold, and gave a richer colour to the pink spindle berries and a glossy glow to those of the privet, playing also on other fruits of the wild with her artistic touch.

What a posy one could have gathered of these gaily coloured fruits and leaves!

BREWERY JOTTINGS.

(BY W. DUNSTER).

THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE is being published quarterly in future and the price of each copy will be 3d. Will all readers, and all those interested, please note?

During the past two months or so we have had visits from some of the members of the staff now in the Services and they all seemed fit. Percy James called in, but his visit was such a short one I did not obtain any up-to-date news. He was his usual cheery self. L. Buckingham (R.A.F.) also seemed to be doing well. S. R. Gray tells me that after a considerable spell of work on aeroplanes in the West Country he is now in the Orderly Room where he found his previous office experience of great benefit to him; he hoped to 'stay put' for the time being. Mr. C. Bennett informs me he has heard from Mr. F. H. Adnams, of Newbury, who says he is very fit, and it would seem he is doing remarkably well in the Army and engaged on most important duties. G. H. Beddow tells me he has made a lot of progress in flying—which he likes—and was full of enthusiasm. J. Bradford (son of our Mr. T. W. Bradford) has definitely gone overseas, but no news of any landing has been received from him yet. L. Pitts (Ginger), in a letter to Mr. F. C. Hawkes, writes from India where he is an Officer Cadet. At the time of writing (last September) he was not particularly impressed by what he had then seen. He had received a copy of the May HOP LEAF GAZETTE and, like Oliver Twist, was "asking for more." He mentioned his surroundings were pleasant and that he lived in a small bungalow with another fellow and they had a servant. The course was strenuous but it had made him feel very fit. Going out on night schemes in the wilds was a strange experience and the noise made by the different animals was terrific. Sport is a great feature out there, and it is not surprising in view of his undoubted football ability that he has been chosen captain of the team. He says that some of the Indians are expert players although they play in bare feet. It was the monsoon season when he wrote, and in a few weeks he had seen more rain than he used to see in a year in England. Beer was very short. He wished to be remembered to all friends at The Brewery.

We have had visits from L. Pitts (R.A.F.) now L/A.C., and he was quite satisfied with life and looked well; A. J. Hawkins (R.A.F.) and L/A.C., was going strong. H. K. White had passed his course and looked happy. It was almost a meeting of the clans when H. Goatley and R. Huddy (both of the Estates Depart-

ment, and now R.A.F.) managed to get home together. Miss O. Patterson left us to join the A.T.S., and we all wished her every success. Corporal M. W. Tilbury, looking very well and very "Scottish" (he is attached to a Highland Division), informed me he was doing Orderly Room work and he was another who found his H. & G.'s training a great help to him. Sergeant R. Skidmore (R.A.F.) called in. A. C. Howman, now somewhere on the Isle of Wight, seemed his usual "merry and bright" self. We have also seen Messrs. D. Hunt, D. E. Beesley, N. Tott, L. Fullbrook, S. R. Newberry, L. Awberry, A. J. Turner, K. Vogeli and S. Potter. In a letter from Ron. Braisher to his mother (he is a Prisoner of War in Germany) he writes very cheerfully in September to say that they are working hard. When they have finished for the day they welcome the chance of a bathe, the first time for two years. They are all right for baths, showers (hot and cold) now. He is receiving parcels of cigarettes and chocolate. Many will remember him as a good worker and a well-liked fellow in his days at The Brewery. Mr. F. Josey has received a letter from Gunner E. D. Eyles, who is now in India, and he mentions that the beer situation out there is very difficult. He wished to be remembered to all friends. Another writer to Mr. Josey is I. C. H. Wallis who is in Egypt. He had been there for six months when he wrote (end of August) and mentioned that the weather was very hot, also that beer was scarce, but he was stationed near Cairo which he considered was a lovely place. He also wished to be remembered to all his friends here, hoped the Firm had had a prosperous year, and that everyone would have a good Christmas.

D. J. Stannard (Electricians' Department) has written me that he is now stationed in Scotland and had been transferred to the R.N.A.S., so he is now attached to the Navy. He was in quite a nice place, but it was cold (in October, he wrote). Although many miles from home he hoped to call in to see us next time he had leave. To all friends at The Brewery he sent good wishes, and particularly Mr. E. E. White.

Corporal R. Priddy wrote from somewhere in England where he now received THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE regularly which he much appreciated, and he considered the details of his friends of yesterday, he found therein, made our little magazine (as he says) "supreme on this point." He was one of the original members of the First Aid Party when it was started in 1938, and he wished to be remembered to all of that Party and in particular to Mr. T. W. Kent, and to all others who knew him, the very best. As he has had a spell in Iceland I have no doubt he will welcome the change to "Blighty."

Recent visitors have been J. Clay, now stationed in the East of England, and although he had had some exciting times he looked none the worse for them, and K. G. Sutton (Sergeant, R.A.) who was quite pleased with army life. According to him their Sergeants' Mess was "one of the best," and he had no complaints.

Mr. W. Wheeler has heard from his son (C. Wheeler) that he is quite all right, but no definite news of where he is has been received yet, although he has been gone overseas a month or so.

A letter has been received by Mr. E. S. Phipps from C. L. Langton in which he says he is in good health. He is out in the "Blue" with nothing but sand to look at, not even a tree. It is very hot in the day but cold at night, and the heavy dews and mists are rather treacherous in the mornings. Their cigarette ration was ten a day, but he had been able to get some extra from the canteen; the beer situation was not so good, one bottle per week. He thought of us on the 30th September and of past happier years. They were unable to spend much money which was an advantage in some ways. Best wishes were sent to all, and he was looking forward to receiving THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE.

Corporal S. G. Treacher, also in the Middle East, in a letter to H. J. Treadgold, said he had received the May, June and July issues of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE which he found extremely interesting. When he wrote early in October he was at the base which he preferred to the desert, and one thing that particularly pleased him was that the beer was better, also cheaper. Norman Lipscombe, he says, expected to pass out of the O.C.T. Unit at the end of October. He mentioned that Fred Smith and Martin, of the Accounts Office, together with Slade, of the Delivery Office, were Prisoners of War, and the last he had heard of them was that they were all together in Italy. He was in very good health, and wished to be remembered to all friends at The Brewery.

Mr. S. R. Gray informs me that he is once again working on 'planes, as a Flight Mechanic, and that he is kept very busy.

Mr. W. Wheeler has just heard from his son (C. Wheeler) that he has arrived safely in the Middle East.

Mr. T. W. Bradford has received a letter from his son (J. Bradford) which was written from a boat to let him know that he is quite well. It is nearly two months ago when he left for overseas.

Mr. C. H. Perrin has recently received airgraph letters from N. Lipscombe and C. Langton in the Middle East, and they are both fit and well.

In a long, but most interesting letter to Mr. T. E. Stevens, of the Delivery Office, L.A/C A. L. Walker, writing from the Middle East, says he is quite well and wishes to be remembered to all at the Brewery. Although his journey out on a troopship was an ordeal it was nothing like so bad as might have been expected. They landed on their way out in South Africa, and the time they had there was really wonderful. In fact it was impossible to accept all the invitations extended to them. They were very grateful for all that was done for them. He was not impressed by some of what he had seen in Egyptian towns so far, but what amazed him most was the number of native hawkers (hundreds of them) carrying watches, fountain pens, underclothes, and many other things that are hard to get over here, but the hawkers had a very good notion of the value of what they had to sell. He was serving with a delivery unit, and every kind of aircraft now in use with the R.A.F. had to be serviced. One other thing, you had to fend for yourself more, and if you wanted a bed you had to make it yourself and do your own washing, too! Nevertheless life in that way seemed to him to be more purposeful. As regards beer, he had sampled Canadian, American, Egyptian and Chinese and still preferred the H. & G. S. brews. Chief trouble was flies by day and mosquitoes by night.

We regret to record the death of H. H. Pottinger, of the Stables Department, who was a wonderful fellow with horses, and was called "The Doctor." He had been employed in that Department since early 1919, and will be sadly missed.

Taffy Howells, of the First Aid Post and St. John Ambulance Brigade, passed his Home Nursing Examination and received a certificate.

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

The White Hart Hotel, Reading (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. A. A. Crisp.

The Wheelwrights' Arms, Aldershot (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. W. E. Quickenden.

The Five Alls, Marlborough (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mrs. M. L. Piper.

The Shovel, Cowley (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. C. J. Darby.

The Horse and Groom, Mortimer (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. C. F. Lock.

The Hen and Chickens, Bisley (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. W. H. Jaques.

The White Lion, Egham (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. F. G. Carter.

The Bolton Arms, Kingsclere (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. D. J. Hussey.

The Cross Keys, Marlow (Wheeler's Wycombe Breweries, Ltd.)—Mr. G. T. Colsell.

The Crown Hotel, Marlborough (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. S. H. Osborne.

Mr. A. G. Bloomfield, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Bloomfield, of the "Prince Albert," Lane End, was married on September 20th to Miss I. M. Shotton, also of Lane End. The A.R.P. wardens formed a guard of honour, as the bride was a messenger at Park Lane Post.

Miss Q. King, daughter of Mr. W. G. King, of the "Morning Star," Datchet, was married to Mr. J. Sams, of Datchet, who is a well-known member of the Datchet Cricket Club, members of which formed an arch of crossed bats outside the church when the newly-married couple left.

We regret to record the death on the 18th September of Mr. Thomas Prout, of the "Bolton Arms," Kingsclere, where he had been tenant since July, 1935.

Mrs. Elliott who died suddenly on the 11th October was the wife of our tenant, Mr. W. E. Elliott, of "The Roebuck," Wokingham. This is very tragic, as Mr. Elliott's son was recently killed on active service, and this double bereavement happened within a fortnight. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. Elliott in his sad loss.

We are sorry to record the death on the 9th November of Mr. F. Hewitt, who was tenant of the "Duke of Cambridge," Windsor, where he had been since September, 1932.



ANOTHER CONVOY ARRIVES IN MALTA.

Crowds of men at the Marina waiting for the ships to berth to start unloading.

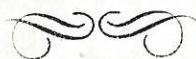
A GREAT THOUGHT.

A few stars are known that are hardly bigger than the earth, but the majority are so large that hundreds of thousands of earths could be packed inside each and leave room to spare; here and there we come upon a giant star large enough to contain millions of millions of earths. And the total number of stars in the universe is probably something like the total number of grains of sand on all the seashores of the world. Such is the littleness of our home in space measured up against the total substance of the universe.

This vast multitude of stars are wandering about in space. A few form groups which journey in company, but the majority are solitary travellers. And they travel through a universe so spacious that it is an event of almost unimaginable rarity for a star to come anywhere near to another star. For the most part each voyages in splendid isolation, like a ship on an empty ocean. In a scale model in which the stars are ships, the average ship will be well over a million miles from its nearest neighbour, whence it is easy to understand why a ship seldom finds another within hailing distance.

We believe, nevertheless, that some two thousand million years ago this rare event took place, and that a second star, wandering blindly through space, happened to come within hailing distance of the sun. Just as the sun and moon raise tides on the earth, so this second star must have raised tides on the surface of the sun. But they would be very different from the puny tides which the small mass of the moon raises in our oceans; a huge tidal wave must have travelled over the surface of the sun, ultimately forming a mountain of prodigious height, which would rise ever higher and higher as the cause of the disturbance came nearer and nearer. And, before the second star began to recede, its tidal pull had become so powerful that this mountain was torn to pieces and threw off small fragments of itself, much as the crest of a wave throws off spray. These small fragments have been circulating around their parent sun ever since. They are the planets, great and small, of which our earth is one.

SIR JAMES JEANS (from *The Mysterious Universe*).



Members of the Directorate and Staff of H. & G. SIMONDS, LTD., serving with H.M. Forces.

Directors and Sons of Directors—

SIMONDS, H. D., Commander, R.N.
SIMONDS, L. A., Captain, R.A.S.C. (now R. Berks Regt).
QUARRY, R. B. St. J., Major, R. Corps of Signals.
KEIGHLEY, F. H. V., Major, King's R. Rifle Corps.
ASHBY, H. M. P., Flying Officer, R.A.F.
SIMONDS, E. D., Captain, R.H.A.

READING.

Clerical Staff—

Adnams, J. B., Cpl., R. Berks Regt.
Awberry, L., A/C, R.A.F.
Ayres, R. C., A/C, R.A.F.
Bailey, E., R.A.F.
Barrett, C., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
Beddow, G. H., L.A/C, R.A.F.
Beesley, D. E., A/C, R.A.F.
Biggs, J. V., O. Cadet, R. Armoured Corps.
Bird, L., A/C, R.A.F.
Bloomfield, A. P., A/C, R.A.F.
Boddington, R., Pte., R.A.S.C.
Bolwell, J., Fleet Air Arm.
Bradford, J., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
Britnell, J., R.N.
Brown, W. R., Pilot Officer, R.A.F.
Brunsdon, S., Engineer Mechanic, R.N.
Buckingham, L. W., Sgt., R.A.F.
Burge, F. H., L.A/C, R.A.F.
*Busby, W. G., Sgt. Obsvr., R.A.F.
Cardwell, J. J., Lieut., Royal Engineers.
Chuter, C., A/Cpl., R.A.F.
†Clark, F. W., Coder, R.N.
Clay, W. J., Pte., R.A.S.C.
Clinch, I. A., O.S., R.N.
Collins, S., A/C, R.A.F.
Court, W. G., A/C, R.A.F.
Crisp, W. J., R.A.F.
Crutchley, E. G., L.A/C, R.A.F.
Davey, S., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
Dawson, P. F. M., Commander, R.N.
Dowding, L. G., L/Cpl., R. Army Pay Corps.
Drury, H., L/Cpl., R.A.O.C.
Dyer, A., Pte., General Service Corps.
Eaton, H. L., Gnr., R.A.
Evans, N. S., Sgt., R. Army Pay Corps.
Byles, D., Gnr., R.A.
Farmer, S. B., A/C, R.A.F.
Field, L. G., Sig., R.N.
Fullbrook, L., A/C, R.A.F.
George, R., A/C, R.A.F.
Gigg, G., Sgt., R.A.F.
Giles, A., A/C, R.A.F.
Goatley, H. W., Sgt., R.A.F.
Grantham, N., O/Writer, R.N.
Gray, S. R., A/C, R.A.F.
Greenaway, W. J., L.A/C, R.A.F.
Griffin, R. J., L.A/C, R.A.F.
Hammond, P. E., L/Cpl., R. Corps of Sig.
Harrison, S. R., A/C, R.A.F.
Hart, D. J., Gnr., R.A.
Hawkins, A. J., Cadet, R.A.F.
*Hedgington, A. V., Cpl., R.A.S.C.
Hillier, J. W. H., A/C, R.A.F. Regt.
House, F. J., Bombdr., A.A., R.A.
Howman, A. C., L/Cpl., R. Corps of Sigls.

Huddy, R. P., A/C, R.A.F.
Hudson, A. P., Flight-Lieut., R.A.F.
Hunt, A. E., Flight-Lieut., R.A.F.
Hunt, D., L.A/C, R.A.F.
James, P., Lieut., A.A., R.A.
Jefcoat, J., A/C, R.A.F.
Jenkins, K., Sgt. A.G., R.A.F.
Johnson, K. M., A/C, R.A.F.
Josey, C. R., Cpl., R. Corps of Signals.
Kemp, F. H. L., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
King, E. W., L/Cpl., R. Corps of Signals.
Knight, J. E., L.A/C, R.A.F.
Kury, L. J., A/C, R.A.F.
Lambourne, R. J., A/C, R.A.F.
Langton, C. L., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
Lawson, D. J., Coder, R.N.
Lipscombe, N. H., C.Q.M.S., R.A.O.C.
Loader, P., A/C, R.A.F.
Martin, E., Pte., R.A.O.C.
Martin, J., L/Cpl., R. Berks Regt.
Martin, L. J., Gnr., H.A.A., R.A.
†Martin, V. S., L/Bombdr., L.A.A., R.A.
Morbey, R. E. C., Pte., Royal Marines.
Mutters, B., A/C, R.A.F.
Neville, W. G., Cpl., R.A.O.C.
Newberry, S., A/C, R.A.F.
Organ, K. G., A/C, R.A.F.
Paice, P. B., L.A/C, R.A.F.
Paterson, P. O., Pte., A.T.S.
Philpott, W. H., W/Telegraphist, R.N.
Phipps, E. E. R., Lieut., A.A., R.A.
Pitts, L. F., L.A/C, R.A.F.
Pitts, R. C., O. Cadet, R. Corps of Signals.
Poole, G., A/C, R.A.F.
Potter, R. S., Gnr., R.A.
Prattley, A. D., O/Sig., R.N.
Priddy, E. P., A/C, R.A.F.
Pusey, F., A/C, R.A.F.
Rainbow, N. S., R.N.
Rickards, M., Trpr., R. Tank Regt.
Rippengal, M., Petty Officer, W.R.N.S.
Rivers, H. V., Capt., R.N.V.R.
Rowland, R. G., A/C, R.A.F.
Roynon, J. R., A/C, R.A.F. Regt.
Rush, L., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
Sandars, A. W., W/Telegraphist, R.N.
Saunders, V. F., O/Coder, R.N.
Schofield, E., Radio Engineer, R.N.
Seward, P. A., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
Sexton, H. G., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
Shrimpton, E. S., L.A/C, R.A.F.
Skidmore, R., Sgt. Instr., R.A.F.
†Slade, J. P., Gnr., H.A.A., R.A.
†Smith, F. C., Pte., R.A.O.C.
Smith, P. M., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
Smith, R. J., Pte., Royal Marines.
Solly, K., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
Stannard, D. J., A/C, Fleet Air Arm
Strudley, J., L.A/C, R.A.F.

* Missing.

† Killed in action.

‡ Prisoner of War.

READING—Contd.

Clerical Workers (contd.)—

Sutton, K. G., Sergt., L.A.A., R.A.
 Taylor, G. H., R. Army Pay Corps.
 Taylor, S. G., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Tilbury, M., Cpl., R.A.S.C.
 Timms, K. M., L/A.C.W., W.A.A.F.
 Tott, N., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Tozer, R. A., Sgt. Pilot, R.A.F.
 Treacher, S. G., Cpl., R.A.O.C.
 Turner, A., Sgt., R.A.F.
 Twiney, L., A/C, R.A.F.
 Vogeli, K., R.A.S.C.
 Wade, C., L/Cpl., 12th Lancers.
 Wakeling, W., Flight Lieut., R.A.F.
 Walker, A. L., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Wallis, I., A/C, R.A.F.
 Weight, H., Sgt., R.A.F.
 Wheeler, R., Cpl., R. Corps of Signals.
 White, H. K., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
 Wright, G. A., Capt., Army Catering Corps.

Manual Workers—

Adams, E. W., Gnr., R.A.
 Adams, J. H., Gnr., A.A., R.A.
 Alexander, A., A/C, R.A.F.
 Allen, A. H., Cpl., R. Berks Regt.
 Allen, J., Gnr., R.A.
 Allen, S. V., Cpl., R. Corps of Signals.
 Allwood, F. W., R.N.
 Ambrose, J., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Andrews, W., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Ashwell, F., R. Corps of Signals.
 Bampton, F. W., Sapper, R. Engineers.
 Barker, A.
 Barker, J., R.A.F.
 Bartlett, C., A.B., R.N.
 Belcher, A., Gnr., R.A.
 Benford, L., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Benham, W., A/C, R.A.F.
 Benson, D., R. Corps of Signals.
 Bessell, J. B., Lieut., Indian Army.
 Best, R., C.P.O., R.N.
 Biddle, A., R.N.
 Blake, H., Sgt., R. Corps of Signals.
 Blake, L., R.A.F.
 Boshier, E., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Bowyer, A. E.
 Braisher, R., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Briggs, C. H., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Brooker, T. V., L/Cpl., Military Police.
 Buckland, J.
 Bull, C. J., Pte., Royal Marines.
 Butler, F.
 Cane, E., Cpl., R.A.F.
 Canning, F., A/C, R.A.F.
 Canning, G. A., Sgt., R.A.
 Cannon, S., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Carr, W. J.
 Catt, S., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Champion, R., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Chandler, A. V., R.N.
 Chandler, E., Cpl., R.A.S.C.
 Chandler, R., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
 Chilcott, S., Chief Engineer, R.N.
 Chilcott, W. J., R. Berks Regt.
 Choules, H., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Clark, R., Gnr., R.A.
 Clarke, J. W., Pte., Oxon & Bucks L.I.
 Clarkson, D., R.A.F.
 Clements, R. W., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Coffee, D.
 Coleman, A., O.S., R.N.
 Coleman, W., R. Berks Regt.
 Copelin, S., Cpl., R. Corps of Signals.
 Couzens, G., L/Bombdr., A.A., R.A.

Cripps, J., A/C, R.A.F.
 Crocker, D., A.B., R.N.
 Crocker, R. W., Pte., Pioneer Corps.
 Crook, G. S., Pte., Royal Marines.
 Cross, F. C., R. Sussex Regt.
 Cross, N. E., Pte., Royal Marines.
 Cullingham, W. J., Gnr., R.A.
 Curtis, F., Queen's Royal Regt.
 Curtis, P. E., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
 Davidson, A., Pte., R.A.S.C. (deceased).
 Day, K., L/Cpl., R.A.O.C.
 Dewey, W. A., Driver, R.A.F.
 Dewey, W. J., Driver, R.A.F.
 Diball, E., R. Corps of Signals.
 Dibley, E., R.A.F.
 Dibley, H., R.N.
 Drury, F. N., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Duckett, R., Gnr., R.A.
 East, A. J., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Edwards, H. S., Pte., R.A.S.C.
 Edwards, V., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
 Ford, D. A., A/C, R.A.F.
 Ford, J., A/C, R.A.F.
 Frankum, G. W., Sapper, R. Engineers.
 Frankum, R. J., Gnr., R.A.
 Freeman, T., L/Seaman, R.N.
 French, R., A/C, R.A.F.
 Flockton, N., Sgt., R. Armoured Corps.
 Gant, R. W.
 Gardner, F., Gnr., R.A.
 Gascoigne, S., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 George, A. W., Gnr., R.A.
 Gibson, A.
 Giles, J. G., Sgt., R. Corps of Signals
 (deceased)
 Green, B., Army
 Green, H. F. C., Sgt., A.A., R.A.
 Grigg, C. W., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
 Grummett, H., Royal Engineers.
 Hall, R. S., R.N.
 Hamblin, F., Trpr., R. Tank Regt.
 Harbor, H. S., R. Berks Regt.
 Harmer, A., Cpl., Commandos.
 Harper, A. E., Cpl., Military Police.
 Hatt, H. R., Worcester Regt.
 Hawkins, C. W., Driver, R.A.F.
 Higgs, W., Flight/Sgt., R.A.F.
 Hill, S., Cpl., R.A.S.C.
 Holmes, H. J., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Hopgood, H., Gnr., R.A.
 Hughes, A. J., Trpr., R. Tank Regt.
 Humphries, E. H., Cpl., R.A.F.
 Hunt, A., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
 Iremonger, J. T., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Jacobs, D., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Jacobs, L., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Jarvis, L. J.
 Joyce, L., Cpl., R. Berks Regt.
 Keeping, A. J., L/Cpl., R.A.M.C.
 Kelly, G., Cpl., R.A.F.
 Kemp, R. W., L/Bombdr., A.A., R.A.
 Kent, P., A/C, R.A.F.
 Kerry, Cpl., R. Armoured Corps.
 King, T., A/C, R.A.F.
 Kirk, J., Cpl., Royal Engineers.
 Knight, L. R., W.O., R. Armoured Corps.
 Knott, A. E., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Lamb, W., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Lawrence, F. P., Staff Sgt., R. Corps of Signals.
 Lee, C., Gnr., R.A.
 Lee, F. T., Trpr., R. Armoured Corps.
 Legg, R., A/C.W., W.A.A.F.
 Lott, P., Pte., Pioneer Corps.
 Love, D., Stoker, R.N.
 McHugh, J., Fusilier, Inniskilling Fusils.

* Missing.

† Killed in action.

‡ Prisoner of War.

READING—Contd.

Manual Workers (contd.)—

McKenzie, W. D., Sgt. Instr., R.A.
 McKenzie, W. E., Gnr., R.A.
 Main, A. G., Bombdr., A.A., R.A.
 Main, D., R. Berks Regt.
 Mansbridge, E. C. T., Batt.Q.M.S., R.A.
 Maskell, W. J., Sgt., R.A.
 Maslen, A. A., L/Cpl., R.A.O.C.
 Marcham, S., S/Sgt., R.A.O.C.
 Mears, L. W., R.N.
 Miles, A. G., Gnr., A.A., R.A.
 Mills, A. R., Gnr., R.A.
 Mortimer, W., S/L. Bat., R.A.
 Mulcock, E., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Murphy, J. P., R.N.
 Neighbour, F., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
 Nicholls, I. H., Cpl., Queen's Royal Rgt.
 Nimmo, J., Pte., Military Police.
 Nunn, G. H., Sgt., R. Berks Regt.
 Nunn, L. F., Pte., D.C.L.I.
 Oxley, H., Sgt., A.A., R.A.
 Packer, E., R.N.
 Palmer, A. C., Sgt., R. Corps of Signals.
 Palmer, P., L/Cpl., Royal Engineers.
 Parr, A.
 Parsons, S., Army
 Patey, H. N., Pte., D.C.L.I.
 Payne, E. A., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Pickett, H. J., Sgt., R.A.
 Pidgeon, C., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
 Pincock, G., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Pincock, L. J., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Pithers, H. F.
 Povey, L., Gnr., S/L. Bat., R.A.
 Preston, R., L/Cpl., Royal Engineers.
 Priddy, R., Sgt., A.A., R.A.
 Purser, E. H., A/C, R.A.F.
 Pusey, A. H., Sig., R. Corps of Signals.
 Pyatt, A. J.
 Reddington, D., Gdsman, Coldstream Gds.
 Rice, A., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Rice, A. W., Pte., R.A.O.C.
 Richardson, R. A., A/C, R.A.F.
 Rosum, C. T., Sgt., Royal Engineers.
 Salter, C., Sgt., A.A., R.A.
 Savagar, L., Gnr., Commandos.
 Sayers, C., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Sayers, G., Sgt., R.A.
 Sayers, L. C., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Sherville, W. J., A.B., R.N.
 Shillingford, W.
 Shipton, C. F., Driver, R. Armd. Corps.
 Silmeen, J., Bat. Sgt.-Major, R.A.
 Simmonds, A., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Simmonds, J. W., R.N.
 Smith, L., Gnr., A.A., R.A.
 Smith, T. J., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Snarey, F., Pte., Pioneer Corps.
 Stagoll, A., L/Cpl., R. Tank Regt. (now Army Catering Corps).
 Stark, E. G., A/C, R.A.F.
 Still, F. J., A.B., R.N.
 Stokes, F. L.
 Stone, J., Sapper, Royal Engineers.
 Strange, A. E., Gnr., R.A.
 Tait, T., Cpl., R.A.F.
 Teal, R., Army.
 Thompson, A., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Thorn, L. J., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Tigar, H. S., Sgt., R. Tank Regt.
 Trimby, P. H., Gdsman, Grenadier Gds.
 Tugwell, A., Sgt., A.A., R.A.
 Turner, E., A/C, R.A.F.
 Turner, R. F., A/C, R.A.F.
 Turner, F., Cpl., Royal Marines.

* Missing.

† Killed in action.

‡ Prisoner of War.

Tuttle, A., Army.
 Vass, G. W., Capt., R. Tank Regt.
 Venner, E., Cpl., R.A.S.C.
 Venner, E. E., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Venner, J., Cpl., R.A.
 Vincent, W. L., Sgt., R. Berks Regt.
 Ward, H., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Wells, W. P., Cpl., R.A.
 West, E. R., Gnr., R.A.
 † Wheeler, C. T. M., A/C, R.A.F.
 Wheeler, M.
 † Wheeler, W., A/C, R.A.F.
 Whiteley, L., A/C, R.A.F.
 Whiting, A.
 Williams, H., Pte., R. Berks Regt.
 Williams, A. F., Pte., Wilts Regt.
 Williamson, J. A., Sgt., R.A.
 Wyeth, M., O.S., R.N.

BRANCHES.

BANBURY.

Field, E. J., A/C, R.A.F.
 Gordon, I., A.C.W.2, W.A.A.F.
 Willett, A. H., Driver, R.A.S.C.

BLANDFORD.

Clerical Staff—

Ashdown, G., Sig., R. Corps of Sigs.
 West, C. G., Sgt., R. Armoured Corps.

Manual Workers—

Dominey, I. P., A.B., R.N.
 Downes, E. G., Pte., R.A.S.C.
 Tapper, W., Gnr., L.A.A., R.A.

BRIDGEND.

Clerical Staff—

Hardwick, G. L., Sgt., R.A.S.C.
 Lawrence, F. W., Cpl., R.A.F.
 Lloyd, P. E. J., A.C.W.2, W.A.A.F.
 Richmond, C. G., Cpl., R.A.F.
 Spurling, S. H., 2/Lt., R.A.S.C.
 Thorne, L. W. J., Pte., 4th Welch Regt.

Manual Workers—

Driscoll, E., A.B., R.N.
 Gronow, G., A.B., R.N.
 Urquijo, B. J., Pte., R.A.S.C.

BRIGHTON.

Clerical Staff—

Fredericks, R., Royal Marines.
 Grover, G. L., R.A.M.C.
 Luscombe, E. M., A.T.S.
 Penlerick, E. D., R. Sussex Regt.
 Venus, L. A. A., R.A.

Manual Workers—

Catling, R., R. Sussex Regt.
 Groves, J., A.A., R.A.
 Hawkes, F., R. Sussex Regt.
 Legendre, G., R. Sussex Regt.
 Parker, J., R.N.
 Rolf, E., R.N.
 Rolf, R., R. Sussex Regt.
 Sallis, C., R. Sussex Regt.
 Starnes, T., R.A.F.

BRISTOL.

Clerical Staff—

Ausden, C. M., Lieut., Fife & Forfar Yeo.
 Bold, A. W., S/Sgt.-Major, R. Gloster Hrs.
 Holdaway, K. S., Pte., Kensington Regt.
 Jones, D. T., A/C, R.A.F.
 Fring, H. F., Pte., D.C.L.I.
 Ridler, M., Spr., Royal Engineers.
 Smith, L. M., Pte., A.T.S.
 Wharton, G. A., Pte., Dorset Regt.

BRISTOL—Contd.

Manual Workers—

Brown, W., Trpr.
 Chilcott, T., Pte., Somerset L.I.
 Collins, D., Pte., Gloster Regt.
 Dancy, L. N.
 Edgcombe, K., R.N.
 Fear, Joan, Pte., A.T.S.
 Godsell, T., A/C, R.A.F.
 Hargreaves, C. F., Pte.
 Hodges, G., Cpl., R. Tank Regt.
 James, E., Sgt., R.A.
 Jenkins, F. G., Pte., R.E. & M.E.
 Jenkins, L., Pte., S/L Bty., R.A.
 Jenkins, F., Pte., A.T.S.
 Lincs, L. G., A/C, R.A.F.
 Maggs, G., Gnr., H.A.A., R.A.
 Owen, Elsie, Pte., A.T.S.
 Paice, D., Driver, R.A.
 Peacock, Joan, Pte., A.T.S.
 Poulson, A., Pte., Somerset L.I.
 Sloper, J., A/C, R.A.F.
 Staddon, W., Driver, A.A., R.A.
 Sutton, A. J., A/C, R.A.F.
 Tawton, A. E., Driver, R.A.S.C.
 Thomas, J., Pte., A.T. Regt., R.A.
 Uren, J., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Wheeler, C., Pte., R.A.O.C.
 Wright, C., Pte., 4th Wilts Regt.

CIRENCESTER.

Constable, H. G. R., Staff Q.M.S., R.A.S.C.
 Henderson, R., Pte., R.A.S.C.
 Howell, M. I. C., Pte., A.T.S.
 Marchant, H., A/C, R.A.F.
 Pearce, H., Pte., R.A.S.C.
 Stevens, C. J., A.B., R.N.
 Winsor, J. M., L.A/C, R.A.F.

DEVONPORT.

Clerical Staff—

Royal Navy.

Campion, R. E.
 Gidley, G. C.
 Holman, C. R., Lieut. (A), R.N.R.
 †Luddington, W. G. E.
 Paddon, G.
 Painter, J.
 Palmer, G.
 Sara, A. T.
 Smith, R. J.
 Turner, F. J.
 Webb, D.
 Wyatt, C. R.

Army.

Austin, G. W.
 Bevan, H. E.
 Churchward, C. V.
 Couch, C. R.
 Germain, W. F.
 Gould, A. G.
 Hanham, G.
 Morgan, E. L.
 Sheppard, H. A.
 Short, G.
 Voisey, S.

Royal Air Force.

Dunstan, R., Sgt. (W.Op/A.G.).
 Jane, D.
 Jope, J. P.
 Scott, F. R.
 Smith, H.
 Strong, C. H.
 Trace, R. J.
 Waycott, W., Sgt. (A.G.).

* Missing. † Killed in action. ‡ Prisoner of War.

Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service (A.T.S.).

Elliott, G. E., Cpl.

Women's Auxiliary Air Force Service (W.A.A.F.S.).

Elliott, M.

Manual Workers—

Royal Navy.

†Abraham, A.
 Bartolo, W.
 Holman, W. S., C.P.O.
 Laundry, C. R.
 O'Donnell, D.
 Richardson, A. G.

Merchant Navy.

Bidwell, G.

Royal Marines.

Ford, R. E.
 Sammells, C., Cpl.

Army.

Arscott, H. R., L/Cpl.
 Bailey, T.
 Barrett, C. M.
 Bates, E. S.
 Betty, P. L.
 Bishop, G.
 Brown, W. H., Cpl.
 Carrington, W. R.
 Cattle, J.
 Cooke, J.
 Cullam, H. S.
 Cunningham, J. P.
 Dart, J.
 Downing, C., Cpl.
 Downing, S. P.
 Fitzgerald, P.
 Floyd, R.
 Gorman, H.
 Green, G., L/Sgt.
 Jagger, J. R., Sgt.
 James, R.
 Kelly, P.
 Luxton, R. S.
 †McCarthy, J. C.
 Netting, W. H.
 Oxenham, F. R.
 Palmer, W. J.
 Penaluna, S.
 Perkins, E. E.
 Pudner, K. J.
 Shepherd, D.
 Smith, J. B.
 Spriddle, R. P.
 Treleaven, F.
 Turner, F.
 Webber, W. J.
 Wellington, S. E.
 Williams, J. E.
 Royal Air Force.
 Banks, C. H.
 Kittridge, P. R.
 Penrose, A., Cpl. (P.T.I.).

LONDON.

Clerical Staff—

Buckland, E., R. Corps of Signals.
 Finch, S., R.A.F.
 Godwin, I., R.A.F.
 Humphrey, L., R. Corps of Signals.
 Oram, G., R. Corps of Signals.
 Penlerick, S. M., Pilot Officer, R.A.F.
 Perrin, F., R.A.F.
 Powell, A., A.A., R.A.
 Robey, T., R.A.F.
 Taylor, S., A.A., R.A.
 Walker, K., R.A.F.

LONDON—Contd.

Manual Workers—

Belcher, F., Royal Marines.
 Belding, W., R.A.O.C.
 Bradley, L., R.A.
 Collins, C., Pioneer Corps.
 Cook, G., A.A., R.A.
 Diggins, R., A.A., R.A.
 Ely, J., R.A.O.C.
 Gale, A., R.A.F.
 Lipscombe, A., R.A.F.
 McShee, C., R.A.
 Moore, E., R.A.F.
 Mortimore, E., R.A.

LUDGERSHALL.

Clerical Staff—

Barton, R., R.S.M., Hants Regt.
 Bryan, A. M., Cpl., R.A.F.
 Dennis, T. A., L/Bombdr., R.A.
 Goswell, S., L/Bombdr., R.A.
 Higgins, G., Cpl., R. Army Pay Corps.
 Matthews, H., L/Sgt., 4th Hants Regt.
 Neve, F., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Nuttall, H., Pte., 4th Hants Regt.
 Penton, P. R., A.B., R.N.
 Schooley, S., Sgt., 4th Hants Regt.
 Wrixon, D., Gnr., R.A.

Manual Workers—

Bugden, G., C.S.M., 4th Hants Regt.
 Edwards, T., A.B., R.N.
 Fleming, W., L/Cpl., R. Corps of Signals.
 Harper, W., P.O., R.N.
 Hodgeman, L., Bombdr., R.A.
 †Horshall, H., L/Cpl., R.A.S.C.
 Hull, N., Cpl., R.A.S.C.
 Smart, H., Pte., R.A.O.C.
 Vaukins, F., Gnr., R.A.
 Woodford, H., L/Embdr., R.A.

NEWBURY.

Clerical Staff—

Adnams, F. H., Bty. Sgt.-Major, R.A.
 Walker, K. B., A/C, R.A.F.

Manual Worker—

Beaven, E. C., A/C, R.A.F.

OXFORD.

Clerical Staff—

Barrett, J. H. G., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Beesley, H., R.A.O.C.
 Clarke, R. J., R. Corps of Signals.
 Francis, C., Cpl., R.A.F.
 Gooch, R. F., R.A.F.
 Hayes, W., N.F.S.
 Lardner, L. J., Sgt. Instructor, R.A.
 Quelch, B. H., Flying Officer, R.A.F.
 Read, H., L.A/C, R.A.F.
 Siggery, A. S., R.A.F.

Manual Workers—

Allen, H., Gnr., 63rd Anti-Tank Regt., R.A.
 Clarke, J. H., Cpl., Oxon & Bucks L.I.
 Clifton, T., Pioneer Corps.
 Cothier, G., R.A.

* Missing. † Killed in action. ‡ Prisoner of War.

Manual Workers (contd.)—

Day, E., R.A.F. Regt.
 †Lambourne, W., L/Bdr., 63rd A.T.R., R.A.
 Nash, S. D., R.A.F.
 Whytock, D., R.A.S.C.

PORTSMOUTH.

Clerical Staff—

Job, E. N. F., A/C, R.A.F.
 Stark, B., Leading Writer, R.N.
 Wyatt, W. W. J., A/C, R.A.F.

Manual Workers—

Barton, A., Bombdr., R.A.
 Collins, F. W., Pte.
 Harris, S. B., A/C, R.A.F.
 Thomas, B. S., Bombdr., R.A.
 Wells, R. A., L/Bombdr., R.A.

STAINES.

Clerical Staff—

Benham, J., A/C, R.A.F.
 Drew, L., L/Cpl., Royal Engineers.
 Morgan, A., A/C, R.A.F.
 †Toze, A., Gnr., R.A.

Manual Workers—

Appleyard, J., A/C, R.A.F.
 Bond, F., O.S., R.N.
 Beauchamp, B., A.C.W., W.A.A.F.
 †Carr, H., Pte., The Buffs.
 Down, M., Pte., A.T.S.
 Frith, E., Driver, R.A.S.C.
 Herbert, J., Cpl., R.A.F.
 †Hadwick, N., Fusilier, Royal Fusiliers.
 Johnson, A., Gnr., R.A.
 Jebb, H., Gnr., R.A.
 Lintill, M., A/C, R.A.F.
 Miles, F., Gnr., R.A.
 Peters, W., O.S., R.N.
 Plowman, P., A/C, R.A.F.
 Poulter, A., Pte., Green Howards.
 Plume, G., Pte., Essex Regt.
 Pearce, A., Gnr., R.A.
 Stephens, W., Pte., Middlesex Regt.
 Scammell, E., A/C, R.A.F.
 Smith, R., L.A.C.W., W.A.A.F.
 †Wellbelove, F., Gnr., R.A.
 Wheatley, E., Pte., Leicester Regt.
 Wicks, J., Gnr., R.A.
 Wicks, G., A.C.W., W.A.A.F.
 Willmott, W., Pte., R. Sussex Regt.

WOKING.

Clerical Staff—

Blake, H. J., Pte., R.A.S.C.
 Marett, J. V., L/Cpl., R.A.D.C.
 Thompson, A., Gnr., A.A., R.A.
 Wake, A. E., Cpl., R.A.O.C.
 Wilson, L. A., Pte., P.T.C.

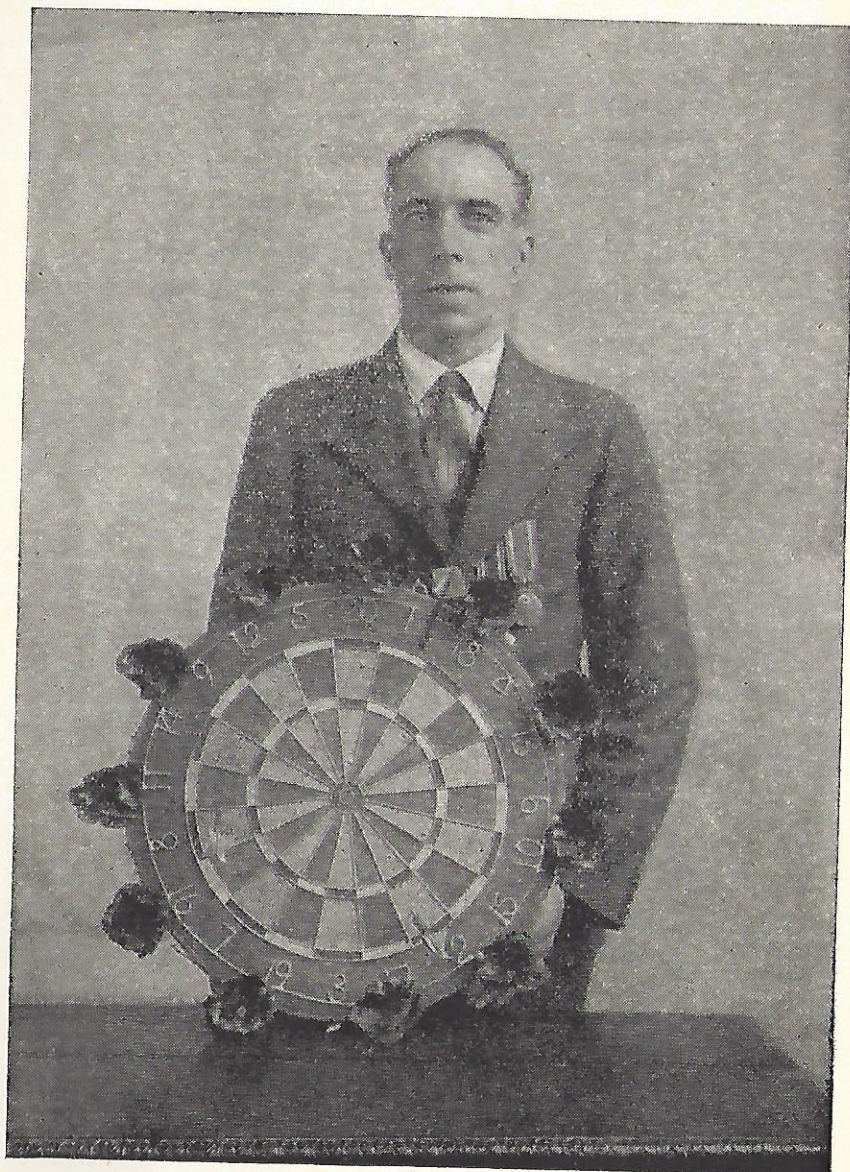
Manual Workers—

Canon, A., Tpr., R. Armoured Corps.
 Cooper, V., Tpr., R. Armoured Corps.
 Lack, A., A/C, R.A.F.
 Smithers, E. W., Sig., R. Corps of Signals

BRANCHES.

WOKING.

WOKING BRITISH LEGION CLUB.



The dart board shewn in the above photograph is made entirely of spent matches. The maker is Mr. J. F. Bird, a member of the Home Guard, and also one of the original members of the Woking British Legion Club. Mr. Bird has spent two-and-a-half years in the making of the board, and used 34,560 matches in the process. The board was put up for competition at twopence per guess as to the number of matches used, the fund raised to be paid to Earl Haig's Fund. The amount realised was £4 2s. 11½d., and three people tied with a forecast of 35,000. It is being decided by forecasting a hidden number, as to who shall be the owner of the dartboard. The photograph is the gift of Emberson's Studios, of Woking.

Recently a label from a bottle of L.P.A. was received from West Africa. This was sent to us by the son of W. Bailey, employed at this Branch. The son, who is a member of the Anti-Aircraft, R.A., tells us that L.P.A. is 1s. 6d. per pint there, and the "ration" is fifteen bottles per month, consequently one has to indulge in a delightful scrum to get it.

In a picture of Malta from the *Star* we notice that "Simonds" are well to the fore, as usual, where the "scrapping" takes place. It may be a coincidence, but where "Simonds" beer is sold, our forces put up their best show—that is "everywhere."

Apropos the approach of Christmas, we are impressed by the great number of people suffering from disorders for which doctors have prescribed "Spirits and Wines." We are left wondering whether this state of affairs is peculiar to our district, or do other Branches experience the same phenomenon?

We wish our Directors and families, and all our colleagues, a quiet and restful Christmas, free from any "nasty" interruptions.

LUDGERSHALL.

PRESENTATION TO MR. F. L. SHRIMPTON.

A happy ceremony took place at this Branch on the 26th September to mark the occasion of our Manager having completed twenty-five years' service in that position with the Firm.

In the capacity of Chief Clerk, Mr. Thornbery, making the presentation, said:—

"As you all know, we are meeting here this morning to offer our congratulations to Mr. Shrimpton on the great honour bestowed on him by the Firm when they made a presentation to mark the completion of over twenty-five years as Manager.

"Mr. Shrimpton, through his ability, was appointed Manager at an early age and, looking round, we see some of those among us who have worked under him from boyhood upwards.

"Those who have subscribed towards this presentation which we are now making to Mr. Shrimpton have an average length of service with the Firm of over eighteen years—some of us far more than that. This is a great testimony to him.

"I only reflected on Sunday last when I saw the men leaving their work after bottling a tank of beer, that most of those men had worked with Mr. Shrimpton for many years. Unless a Manager was a good man they simply would not do it, and, as I have said, it reflects great credit on our Manager that the men have worked for him all these years.

"We all know in our troubles, sickness, housing problems or any other problem which may arise, he not only gives advice but goes further and takes action with all the resources and influences at his command. This, I know, has always been most heartily appreciated by you men.

"I will ask Mr. Shrimpton to accept this little gift as an expression of appreciation and esteem.

"Before Mr. Shrimpton replies I will ask Mr. Bartlett to say a few words on behalf of Salisbury Branch. Unfortunately Andover Branch is not represented to-day owing to shortage of staff, and Mr. Clark has asked me to express his apologies."

Mr. Bartlett: "Mr. Giddy and myself were very pleased to have been asked to associate ourselves with this, and I am very happy to be here to add our congratulations. I can only endorse Mr. Thornbery's words, and only hope in two years' time we may meet here again to offer our congratulations to you on the completion of your fifty years' service with the Firm. Please accept our hearty congratulations and best wishes."

Mr. Shrimpton replied: "Mr. Thornbery and fellow colleagues, I must thank you very much for what you have done. Apparently this sort of thing is becoming a bit of a habit with me. On Monday last my Directors very kindly entertained me to lunch and made me a presentation of a handsome gold cigarette case to mark my completion of twenty-five years' service as Manager at Ludgershall.

"I first joined the Firm in 1896, at Oxford. I then came down here to Salisbury Plain as Chief Clerk in 1904. If my memory serves me right (it is a long time back) there are few of you here on the staff in those days. Mr. Thornbery used to come down in those days relieving. Tom Bugden was here. In fact, I think he came here a month or so before I arrived. Tom Flemington came along a bit afterwards. Charles Saunders was here as a boy and used to help a lot with the canvas.

"A good many more of you have been with me for a good number of years, and, as Mr. Thornbery has said, this sort of thing can only be achieved by thorough and sincere co-operation between everyone concerned. After coming here in 1904, I left again in December, 1911, to go as Manager of Dublin Branch.

"I remained in Dublin a few years, and then war broke out and I was brought back from Dublin to act in the capacity of joint Manager with my dear old friend, Mr. William Wigley. It was a very happy joint managership in those days. They were difficult times but we understood each other thoroughly, and between us we made a successful job of it. At the conclusion of the war there were all sorts of changes of staff, and Mr. Wigley was appointed Manager at Aldershot Branch, and I took over sole control of Salisbury Plain.

"During the years I have been Manager at Ludgershall I have often reflected on the various troubles we have had. But we have always managed to get on top of them and, what is more, have never let a customer down as long as the commodity was available. The distribution of commodities to a great extent depends on you fellows, and in those difficult times I have had to look to you. We have always had a great reputation for services, and it is only by co-operation between the management and yourself that this reputation has been maintained. We have a great reputation to stand up to, and it is only by working together that various difficulties can be surmounted.

"I know it is not necessary for me to appeal to you to give me your continued support. I know it is always forthcoming and that every man Jack of you will do your best, not only for me, but for the great old-fashioned Firm which we have the honour to serve.

"It is very thoughtful of you to present me with this smoker's cabinet, complete with pipes, a really wonderful present. Some of you apparently know my weakness—that I like a good pipe of baccy. Well, I am pretty well stocked up now, and I can assure you when I have a smoke from those pipes I shall think of you who have made the presentation to mark my twenty-five years as Manager of Ludgershall Branch.

"When Mr. Thornbery first mentioned to me that your little idea was afloat I told him I did not think this was the proper time to ask men to put their hands into their pockets to contribute towards a present, and I would have been quite happy myself to have known I had your good wishes and promise of support.

"In conclusion, let me once again thank you all for this very kind gift which I shall always treasure."

List of subscribers :—

R. J. Bartlett.	H. Hull.	C. Perry.
T. Bugden.	W. Littlecote.	C. Perry (Junn.).
A. W. Clarke.	J. Leitch.	J. Saunders.
H. Flemington.	H. Nuttall.	F. Soper.
W. Giddy.	H. Nuttall (Junn.).	E. H. Thornbery.
A. Harper.	W. Osborne.	W. Vaukins.
T. Harper.	E. Pearce.	E. Waters.

PORTSMOUTH.

This being the December issue of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE, let us take the opportunity of wishing our readers and friends, as well as our colleagues at headquarters and at our various branches, hearty season's greetings. We cannot, unfortunately, hope for what is traditionally known as a "Merry Christmas," but, as Sir Walter Scott wrote in *Rob Roy* many years ago, "There's a gude time coming." We would add, "May it come soon!" At the time of penning these notes the outlook is decidedly brighter and more cheering, and without running the risk of being considered super-optimistic we feel that we can at long last look forward to the war being not so prolonged as only a short while ago seemed so probable.

BRANCH PROGRESS.

So far as our Portsmouth Branch is concerned we have a lot to be thankful for, and we have been able to carry on uninterruptedly in spite of all the difficulties inseparable from a terrific world conflict. In this connection we would like to tender our grateful thanks to our customers who have helped us by their patience and goodwill and made the rough going decidedly easier. Shortage of staff, as well as shortage of supplies, has, of course, been a big handicap, but we are pleased to know that members of our staff who have been called to one or other of the fighting services are all doing well. Most of them when on short leave have called at the office to see their old colleagues, and we have been delighted to see them looking so happy and fit. We are looking forward, as no doubt they are, to their speedy and safe return to their homes and friends.

"Breathes there the man, with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said,
'This is my own, my native land'!
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,
As home his footsteps he hath turned.
From wandering on a foreign strand?"

OUR CITY—IT'S FUTURE.

Portsmouth City Council have advanced a further stage in their plans for the reconstruction of the city after the war. We have been badly battered, but we are not downhearted or dismayed. Apart from replanning and rebuilding, one of our biggest problems concerns the future of Southsea. This, and new industries, must constitute a big plank in our programme. Southsea must always be regarded as "the goose that lays the golden eggs," and ways and means of attracting fresh residents and visitors must be devised. We are glad therefore to see that the improvement of the five miles of sea front—a new road will skirt the Solent from Old Portsmouth to Eastney—the building of large and up-to-date hotels and the provision of attractions are among the recommendations already tabled. At their last meeting the Council elected two special committees, one of which, among other duties, is "to consider the post-war amenities of Southsea as a health and pleasure resort." The old town is rich in natural attractions, and the committee will find ample scope for vision and initiative. On their work much of the city's welfare and future progress will depend.

UNSOLICITED!

A pedal cyclist was stopped at Lee-on-Solent for riding without a light on his machine. He told the constable: "I knew I had no light, but the beer at Titchfield was so good that I decided to chance it." We wonder if the fine at Gosport was also worth it?

Another defendant at the same court was a seaman. Pleading guilty to being "half seas over," he excused himself thus: "It was more of an accident than an intention. You see, sir, I met an old ship I hadn't seen for twenty years and we started on whisky."

SOME PROGRESS!

The Portsmouth Electricity Undertaking in 1920 had an output of 4,000,000 units; just before the war this figure had increased to 140,000,000 units. In the same period the revenue had gone up from £92,000 to £818,000, and the area of supply from the confines of the city to about 200 square miles. These figures were quoted at the City Council meeting when it was decided to extend the services of Mr. B. Handley (who has been engineer and manager for twenty-two years, and was due to retire) for a further twelve months.

OUR LORD MAYOR.

By his election as Lord Mayor of Portsmouth for the fourth year in succession, Sir Denis Daley equals the record of the late Alderman Sir John Corke and Councillor F. J. Privett who each

occupied the chair for four years, the first-named from 1912 to 1915, and the latter from 1924 to 1927. Councillor Privett, who was Mayor of the City when it was raised to that dignity, was also the first Lord Mayor, and he again occupied the chair in 1934. These details will settle many an argument in local service messes and kindred gathering places where the opinion seems to prevail that Sir Denis Daley is the first member of the Council to be elected to the position of Chief Magistrate three years running.

A NEW FREEMAN.

The name of Admiral Sir William James, Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth, has been added to the roll of Freemen of the City, and as the Lord Mayor observed in proposing that the Council should bestow the signal distinction on a brilliant and distinguished sailor in recognition and appreciation of his eminent services to the First Naval Port, no man has ever been more deserving of the high honour.

The formal presentation was made at a special meeting, followed by a lunch given by the Lord Mayor, to say farewell to the gallant Admiral on relinquishing the command, and the gathering included many distinguished guests who paid tribute to the magnificent record of Sir William during a period of particular stress, trial and hardship. "A great hearted man who had entered closely into the lives of the people of the city and shared unflinchingly their common dangers," was an apt description of the Commander-in-Chief by one of the many speakers. Portsmouth will never forget the gallant Admiral's signal service, particularly during the heavy air attacks on the city.

THE BISHOP WON!

The Bishop of Portsmouth (Dr. W. L. Anderson) tells this story against himself. When at Cambridge he joined a special Reserve Regiment of Colonial Cavalry and took free riding lessons which appealed to his Scotch blood! "The first lesson," dryly observed the Bishop, "was an occasion of much indignity, and a voluble riding master told me exactly what he thought of my horsemanship. However, worse was to follow. I went to camp and in due course General Allenby, who was then Inspector-General of Colonial Cavalry, came to inspect us. Our mounts were supplied from livery stables, and there was a stampede to get the best. Having been promised a quiet mare 'that would give me a ride like an armchair,' I stood aside until only two horses were left. I then had to choose and I hit upon the smaller of the pair so that in case of an accident I shouldn't have quite so far to fall. At the inspection the first squadron rode slowly, the second at a trot, and my squadron leader decided to do everything at the gallop. By some mischance I happened to be the flank man. We all rode

fast, but not one of the squadron was in the running with me. The first thing I remember was that my squadron was half a mile behind, and that General Allenby and myself were going hell for leather, neck to neck, round Didcot plateau. I beat him! 'That horse of yours seems to have a very hard mouth,' commented the General later. 'Yes, sir,' I answered. When next we met we were in France, and Allenby remembered. 'You still have that fellow who chased me over Didcot plateau,' he said to my C.O. 'Yes,' the latter replied, 'he is my sergeant-major.' The General smiled."

BRIDGEND.

It was a proud day for the members of the Bridgend Branch staff when on 4th May last they occupied the new premises, built on the site of "The Old Brewery," which was demolished in 1939, shortly after being taken over by the Firm from Messrs. R. H. Stiles. The new building is, however, still incomplete, it being impossible to erect the office wing until after the cessation of hostilities, but the benefits derived by the staff from working in a compact and modern depot are much appreciated by all, especially the outdoor staff, as in contrast to the temporary Stores, which were occupied for some 2½ years, the loading facilities at the new premises are especially conducive to the smooth running of the business, and the whole operation can be carried out under cover.

On 12th September it was with much regret that the indoor and outdoor staffs of the Branch met to bid farewell to the Manager, Mr. S. H. Spurling, who left to join H.M. Forces, having accepted a Commission in the Royal Army Service Corps.

Mr. A. J. Boyle, who is carrying on the management of Bridgend Branch, on behalf of the staffs, presented him with a Sam Browne and Stick asking him to accept same as a token of their esteem, and with a wish that he would soon return and continue his work of carrying on the Firm's interests in the South Wales area. Mr. Spurling, after expressing his appreciation, asked the staffs to extend to Mr. Boyle the loyalty and devotion to duty which he had received from them during his management of the Branch. He, too, expressed the wish that the day was not too far distant when he would be able to return and again work among them once more.

During September, Bridgend Branch also lost the valuable services of one of the female members of their staff in that of Miss Patricia Lloyd (Ledger Clerk). Miss Lloyd joined the Branch shortly after its inception and has since become one of its senior

clerks. Her co-workers presented her with a gold tie-pin when she left for military service with the W.A.A.F. A speedy return to civilian life and duties is also wished to Miss Lloyd.

May we take this opportunity of wishing the Directors and all our fellow employees both at home and serving with H.M. Forces the compliments of the season, and trust that the New Year will bring them good health and happier times.

BRISTOL.

May we, in this first quarterly issue of our GAZETTE, express Bristol's pride and gratitude to those gallant folk, both in and out of uniform, who in the "Battle of Malta" have defied the combined might of the Luftwaffe and Regia Aeronautica, and have proved, with our Russian allies, that force alone cannot command success.

The spiritual glow of defiant and sure confidence in our cause, which now radiates from every corner of the earth where free men gather together, was kindled anew on our George Cross Island, and we in war-scarred Bristol, who know something of the horrors and devastation of war, salute their courage and faith. Our New Year's Greeting and Homage, Malta!

We look forward to the day of victory, now so faintly but surely breaking behind the pall of night, when we shall with unshaken trust and stern resolve face our new problems together, strong in the knowledge that although we have been sorely "tried in the fires," we have not, we hope, been found wanting.

CARRY ON, MALTA! To 1943!

And to all those other workers and defenders who for so long have borne the burden and heat of the day in keeping the wheels of production moving and guarding our Empire, our heartfelt thanks and praise.

To our Directors, both to those few at home who, amid so many difficulties, have valiantly kept the Hop Leaf flag well aloft, and also those younger members of the Board whose services to the United Nations have taken them out of their family circles, and ours, until victory is won, we send our respectful greetings and thanks for their encouragement and kindnesses, not forgetting also our "General Staff" at headquarters who so nicely and expertly guide us along the thorny paths of production and commerce from year to year. May 1943 hold for all of you the realisation of your endeavours and dearest hopes—the completion of that world wide endeavour now fast gathering momentum, which will sweep into ignominious oblivion the arch-enemy of humanity and all his works—and bring your dear ones home again.

A few weeks ago we heard from our pre-war Assistant Brewer, Mr. C. M. Ausden, who is now on service with our No. 1 Yeomanry Regiment (The Royal Wiltshires). Writing from hospital (a "minor affair" in his own words), Lieut. Ausden complains that "the beer is pretty poor out here, but I am expecting some real stuff when I get back to Bristol." (Shades of 1939!) The very best wishes from all at Jacob Street, and we'll certainly try and locate one or two bottles, or cans, which he will fully appreciate, when we see his smiling face again.

And that goes for another of our "duration" cavalry men, Mr. A. W. Bold, our old Surveyor, who has been promoted to Squadron Sergeant-Major in the Royal Gloucester Hussars, a step which we know is well earned, and the result of much hard work and individual merit as an instructor of these vital weapons with which this mechanised unit is equipped. The very best of luck, and may your "Hop Leaf" drawing-board produce many "Cumberlands" and "Bath Arms" in the happier days which we hope will lie ahead when your present job of work is completed.

We regret to record the death, at the age of 69, of an old W. J. Rogers, Ltd., representative, Mr. F. Wilkinson, at Teignmouth, Devon, and we extend our very sincerest sympathy to Mrs. Wilkinson in her sad bereavement. Mr. Wilkinson commenced his service with the old Bristol Company in 1907, and completed just thirty years at Jacob Street Brewery, the final two years being under the Hop Leaf banner. He retired in 1937, when as Tied House and Free Wholesale Trade representative in and around the city area, he was known in all local trade circles. For some months previous to his death he had not enjoyed the best of health, and his passing, though not entirely unexpected owing to heart trouble, came quite suddenly and peacefully.

When one sunny Friday morning recently, the sound of a falling H.E. bomb not so many yards from the Brewery caused us all a few qualms, we little knew that one of our own Brewery workers had fallen a victim to the Hun raider. The deepest sorrow and sympathy of all at Jacob Street are now expressed to the family of Mrs. Rosina Bird, who was a member of our beer-bottling staff, and whose husband and three young children have to face the future years without the help and loving care of a devoted wife and mother.

Such indiscriminate and wanton bombing, with the loss of loved ones all around us, only causes a further hardening of our hearts and a sterner determination to exact a full reckoning when the great day of victory dawns, as it most surely will.

We have been asked to incorporate in these Notes the very grateful thanks of the ladies of our clerical staff to the Board of Directors for allocating and equipping on their behalf a new Rest and Mess Room, which constitutes a very beneficial improvement and will add considerably to the comfort and the very necessary well-being of all who use it, which now also includes the whole of our female firewatchers. The Firm's wishes in such matters were aptly expressed by the Chairman and Managing Director (Mr. F. A. Simonds) just prior to the inauguration—"We can't do too much of this"—words which are the essence of that "Hop Leaf" spirit which (D.V.) will carry us all forward to even greater achievements, despite Adolf's machinations now, in the years to come.

Perhaps, one fine day, we may even see rising somewhere near Broad Plain a staff Club of our very own, where all may meet "off parade" for recreation and rest (production "magicians" and commercial "experts" together), where 'phone bells cease from troubling and conveyors are at rest.

It's and idea anyway!

NEWBURY.

It is with deep regret that we record the retirement, through continued poor health, of Mr. J. W. Cook. Joining the Company nearly forty years ago he has watched the tremendous expansion which has taken place during that time. His own career has been varied. Starting in the Cask Office, he had a spell at the depot at the Queen's Hotel, Newbury, with four-and-a-half years in the army during the first World War. Then back to the depot again, and later as Collector and right-hand man to the late Mr. W. Burton for the many of our licensed houses in the Newbury area. Although for several years he has not enjoyed good health, he always had a cheery word for everyone and was popular everywhere. We wish him all the very best of luck, and certainly better health than of late, in his retirement.

BANBURY.

Banbury Branch! Banbury—where is Banbury?

How long have they been a member of our august company? Surely you have heard of it—its history, its Cross, its Cakes, its Ales!

Perhaps not quite so much—as yet—Reading ales, but since being taken over by the Firm some five years ago, and under the guidance and supervision of our Mr. Timms, we are gradually making the name "Simonds" in the town.

Maybe there are a few of the Firm's representatives who have enjoyed the hospitality of our borough and have visited some of its ancient hostels, to name a few—The Reindeer Inn, The Whately Hall Hotel and the Crown Hotel. To those who haven't we suggest a visit when this way.

In addition to the members of our staff who are included in the list of employees serving with H.M. Forces there are others with whom we have temporarily lost touch. Of our present staff two are members of the Home Guard (since its inception); one belongs to the G.T.C. and another to the Boys' Cadets, the others do firewatching in our business block of premises, and some have been called away for munitions. So Banbury Branch is doing its little bit for the "war effort."

CIRENCESTER.

We are pleased to record that Miss L. M. Stevens, our popular invoice clerk, was married on 5th September last to Mr. R. E. Marshall, of London, and we take this opportunity of wishing the bride and bridegroom the very best of good luck in the future, and a long and happy married life. To the bridegroom who, we understand, is shortly joining the Navy, we wish a safe and speedy return.



The late Mr. W. E. Habgood.

We record with deep regret the death, on 31st August last, of Mr. William Ernest Habgood, at the age of 67 years.

The oldest member of the staff, in two senses of the word, Mr. Habgood entered these offices fifty-two years ago, of late

years holding the position of Cashier. His death came as a great shock, as he was at his work on the Saturday, only two days before his death, and it can be said that he worked all his days.

He will be missed by a large number of friends, both in private and business circles, by whom he was held in highest esteem, and the Company loses a punctilious, loyal and faithful member of its staff. He was always cheerful and courteous to all he came in contact with, in spite of poor health and failing eyesight in recent years.

He was a member of the Cotteswold Lodge of Freemasons, and held Provincial Grand Lodge rank. He was a keen card player, and very fond of dogs and walking. Our sympathy is extended to his widow and his niece.

BLANDFORD.

Through the medium of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE, the staff and employees at Blandford would like to wish the Directors, staff and employees at Reading and the other Branches all the compliments of the season, and to those members serving with H.M. Forces all the best of wishes, and may 1943 bring victory!

OXFORD.

From the list of the Firm's employees who have answered the country's call to service it will be seen that the Oxford Branch staff is "doing its bit" for the war effort, especially as those left behind are busy with various forms of national service from the oldest to the youngest recruit in the offices in addition to keeping the "Hop Leaf" flag flying. Two of our travellers, Messrs. J. A. Clinkard and J. S. Bowell have been called in to help now that most of our clerical experts are in the Forces. These two gentlemen did their bit in the Great War of 1914-18, as did most of our remaining lorry drivers, etc.

The valuable assistance of two other experienced members of our clerical staff, i.e. Miss N. K. Newman (now Mrs. F. L. Maskell) and Mrs. M. L. Laitt, has been lost to us. Miss Newman left us on 17th May, 1941, to be married and keep house at Blandford Branch, and Mrs. Laitt (formerly Miss M. L. Hunt, who was with us previously for some years) came back again to "give us a hand" on 17th June, 1940, and left us again on 31st October, 1942, as she finds that office hours, together with her domestic duties, are more than she can manage.

Those of our colleagues who are serving their country drop in to see us whenever they get leave which indicates that they still have a soft spot for us.

We saw Mr. R. F. Gooch recently, looking very fit, and he tells us that he is on a technical course somewhere in the Midlands. He wishes to be remembered to all friends at Oxford, Paignton and Reading. Corporal C. Francis was home recently, looking extremely well; he also left his regards to all his friends. Unfortunately there has been no news of L/Bombdr. W. Lambourne, who was reported missing in Singapore. We hope to see him again one of these days, as we have known him ever since he commenced work in the Bottling Department here some 12½ years ago.

The following have also called upon us recently:—H. Read, L. J. Lardner and W. Hayes. They all looked as if they were benefiting by the strenuous life they are now leading.

Flying Officer B. H. Quelch has not been on leave here for some time; he has put in his quota of operational work and is now, we understand, instructing the young idea in the way to do the job.

In the bar of a certain house in this district is exhibited the following very amusing and, incidentally, apt summing-up of the present situation:—

"We do not close this Pub for fun,
But only when our stock is done;
And when we've nothing left to sell,
Remember we're fed up as well.

"But if, when all is said and done,
This shortage helps to beat the Hun,
Let's count the pleasures we have lost
At but a very little cost."

All at Oxford, Headington and Banbury take this opportunity of wishing everyone at Headquarters and Branches everything good for Christmas and the ensuing Year.

DEVONPORT.

THE TAMAR BREWERY.

The Tamar Brewery, Devonport, send to the Directors and Staff at Headquarters and to all the Branches their hearty greetings for Christmas and the New Year, and to all our colleagues who are serving in His Majesty's Forces at home and abroad. Also to Messrs. Simonds-Farsons, and their employees, in the very gallant George Cross Island of Malta.

It was a tonic to us all to hear the church bells on Sunday, the 15th November, 1942, to celebrate the great successes in the Middle East and North Africa. We hope to hear the bells will

have occasion to ring again in the near future. Most of our church bells were not in a position to ring, but those of St. Andrew's Church pealed, although the tower of this very ancient and historical church is the only part now standing.

From the Tamar Brewery we have eighteen licensees serving in the armed forces—twelve are in the Royal Navy, three in the Army and three in the Royal Air Force. We are always pleased to hear from them and from any members of the staff. Whilst our licensees are away we must congratulate their wives on the excellent way they are conducting the businesses, often under trying conditions.

We would like to congratulate Mrs. G. A. Ryman who had the honour of launching a minesweeper for the Royal Navy at a seaport in the south-west of England. The launch was carried out most successfully and with the time-honoured ceremony connected with ships of His Majesty. A bottle of champagne of the finest quality was used in the christening, and when the bottle broke on the bow of the vessel many eyes and mouths watered.

Mr. G. A. Ryman is the tenant of the Queen's Hotel, St. Austell, and was for some years the proprietor of the Two Trees Hotel, Devonport, until it was totally destroyed by enemy action. Mr. Ryman was Chairman of the Plymouth and District Licensed Victuallers' Society for some three years, and resigned when he left the district to take over the Queen's Head at St. Austell. Mr. and Mrs. Ryman are very happy in St. Austell, but their friends say they would be happy anywhere!

THE LIGHTER SIDE.

CUSTOMER: "The sausages you sent were meat at one end and bread crumbs at the other."

BUTCHER: "Quite so, madam. In these hard times it is difficult to make both ends meat."

* * * *

"What happened to Babylon?"—"Destroyed."

"To Nineveh?"—"Destroyed."

"To Tyre?"—"Punctured."

* * * *

"I'm going to kiss you before I go," said the young man who had outstayed his welcome.

"Do it now, while I'm still young," replied the girl, wearily.

Bradley & Son, Ltd., The Crown Press, Caxton Street, Reading

HOTELS & CATERING DEPARTMENT

MESSRS. H. & G. SIMONDS LTD.,

THE BREWERY - - - READING.

Telephone: READING 3431.

Hotels under the same control:

ANCHOR HOTEL,
KENNFORD, NR. EXETER.
Telephone No.: Kennford 274.

ANGEL HOTEL,
HIGH STREET, STAINES.
Telephone No.: Staines 156

ANGLERS' HOTEL, .
EGHAM.
Telephone No.: Egham 99.

BACON ARMS HOTEL,
OXFORD STREET, NEWBURY.
Telephone No.: Newbury 408.

BATH ARMS HOTEL,
CHEDDAR, SOMERSET.
Telephone No.: Cheddar 25.

BLACK PRINCE HOTEL,
PRINCES RISBOROUGH.
Telephone No.: Princes Risborough 76.

BUSH HOTEL,
MARKET PLACE, WOKINGHAM.
Telephone No.: Wokingham 134.

CROWN HOTEL,
WEST MARKET PLACE, CIRENCESTER.
Telephone No.: Cirencester 288.

CHEDDAR CHEESE,
BROAD STREET, READING.
Telephone No.: Reading 381811.

THE DEVEREUX,
20, DEVEREUX COURT, STRAND, W.C.2.
Telephone No.: Central 4740.

EASTGATE HOTEL,
IN "THE HIGH," OXFORD.
Telephone No.: Oxford 2694.

EVENLODE HOUSE,
EYNHAM.
Telephone No.: Eynsham 215.

GERSTON HOTEL,
PAIGNTON.
Telephone No.: Paignton 5016.

GROSVENOR HOUSE,
CAVERSHAM.
Telephone No.: Reading 72045.

KING'S ARMS HOTEL,
STOKENCHURCH.
Telephone No.: Radnage 43

MARQUIS OF LORNE,
READING.
Telephone No.: Reading 317611.

QUEEN'S HOTEL,
FARNBOROUGH, HANTS.
Telephone No.: Farnborough 1000.

QUEEN'S HOTEL,
MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY.
Telephone No.: Newbury 47.

ST. GEORGE & DRAGON HOTEL,
WARGRAVE, BERKS.
Telephone No.: Wargrave 15.

SHIP HOTEL,
READING.
Telephone No.: Reading 302911.

SUNNINGDALE HOTEL,
SUNNINGDALE, BERKS.
Telephone No.: Ascot 208.

WATERSIDE HOTEL,
THREE BRANCHES, PAIGNTON.
Telephone No.: Paignton 57553.