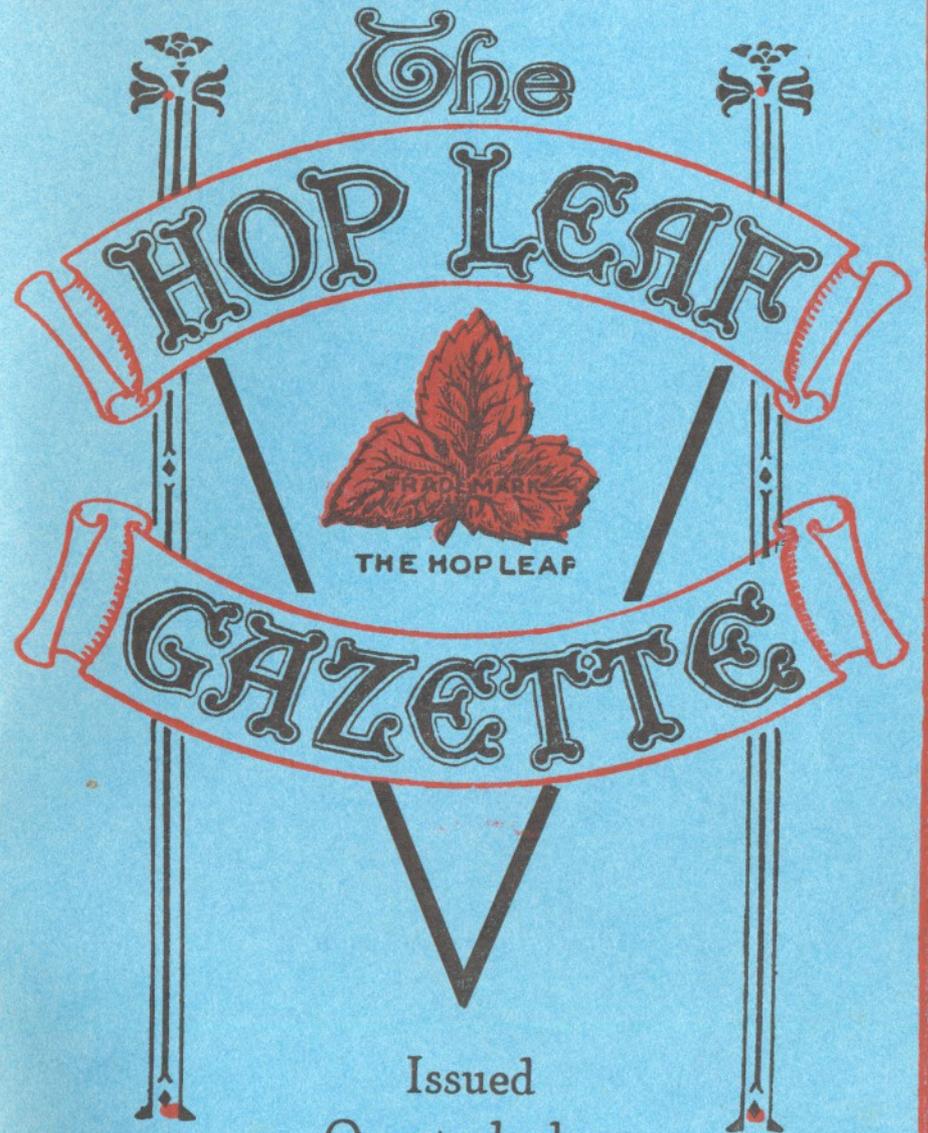


VOL. XVIII. SEPTEMBER, 1944.

Price 3d.



Issued  
Quarterly by  
**H. & G. SIMONDS, LTD., READING.**

A RECORD OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE BREWERY.

# The Hop Leaf Gazette.

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

*Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.*

Vol. XVIII.      SEPTEMBER, 1944.

No. 4

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



MR. W. GIDDY.

## MR. W. GIDDY.

Amongst the gifted members of the Firm's staff who have practised their arts chiefly as hobbies, Mr. W. Giddy takes a high place. His artistry has often been expressed in this journal, in the fine drawings which have appeared from time to time.

Mr. Giddy's favourite subjects for his drawings are the sea and H.M. ships, and the faithful delineation of renowned battleships and destroyers has been the admiration of our readers for many years. The wealth of detail which is shewn in his drawings discloses a wonderful and intimate knowledge of the various classes of ships, and it is evident that if he had chosen this form of occupation as a career, he would have gone a long way in the profession. On several occasions Mr. Giddy has contributed his works for auction at War Savings campaigns and the high sums realized are a tribute to the quality of his work. He is also a clever cartoonist as evinced by sketches which have also been reproduced in these pages.

Mr. Giddy entered the Firm's service at London Branch in 1923, when the contract for the supply of beers to Wembley had been secured. At the close of the exhibition he joined the staff of the Branch Department at Reading, from whence he carried out relief duties at Branches, including Ludgershall, before being appointed Chief Clerk at Salisbury in January, 1934. Despite the constant changes in staff and the greatly increased amount of work, as a result of war conditions, Mr. Giddy has always managed to keep his accounts in perfect order and, moreover, always up to date. His reputation for reliability needs no emphasis in these columns. A striking feature of his character is that, although he has frequently been hard pressed he has never been known to complain. He just settles down doggedly to the task in hand until it is accomplished.

It is a coincidence that Mr. Giddy was on the staff of Messrs. W. J. Rogers, Ltd., at their Swansea Branch, many years before the Bristol Brewery was acquired by H. & G. Simonds, Limited. Mr. Giddy had also served with another Brewery before joining this Firm. His portrait in this issue of THE GAZETTE will, therefore, be of more than ordinary interest to his old friends as well as to his present colleagues.

*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.)

## FIFTY-THREE YEARS' SERVICE.

Mr. Thomas Bartholomew has now retired owing to ill-health. He began work with Messrs. H. & G. Simonds on January 3rd, 1891, as an apprentice in the Cooperage Department. Fifty-three years of unbroken service has now ended with his retirement. Mr. Bartholomew was one of the first three boys to be apprenticed under the late Mr. B. Drury, and he is the only one left of the three. Many changes have taken place at the Brewery during his years of service. He saw the first malt houses built, the scald on Fobney Street, also new offices and bottling stores. Then the coopers had to leave their shop which was one of the best for larger bottling plants. Mr. Bartholomew is a very enthusiastic sportsman, especially where cricket is concerned. He captained the Seven Bridges team for many years. Singing has been another of Mr. Bartholomew's interests. He was a member of the Reading Conservative Choir, and on several occasions went with the choir to sing at the Albert Hall and Queen's Hall, London.

You would have to go a long way to find a finer sportsman than Tom Bartholomew!

## GOOD WISHES.

Mr. E. C. Walker, who is serving abroad, through the medium of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE, wishes to be remembered to his fellow members of the Salisbury Club. A noted billiards player, Mr. Walker often scored a century.

## NOTABLE LOCAL JOURNALIST.

In the death of Mr. E. M. Tull, of the *Berkshire Chronicle*, at the age of 69, local journalism loses an outstanding personality. For the long period of 53 years he served his paper faithfully and well. It is no exaggeration to say he was brilliant at his work, and he always upheld the highest traditions of the great profession

which he adorned, while his many fine qualities of heart and mind endeared him to a very wide circle of friends, including all classes and all schools of thought. Broad-minded, of a very cheery disposition, and the embodiment of courtesy to all, he was, in short, always the perfect little gentleman, and a great journalist, and his death is indeed a loss not only to journalism, but to the town of Reading.

#### THE NAVY, ARMY AND AIR FORCE INSTITUTES.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Council of the Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes held on 11th August, 1944, the N.A.A.F.I. balance sheet as at 28th August, 1943, and the revenue account for the fourth year of the war were presented.

The turnover for the fourth year of the war was £131,529,438. The revenue account shows that after payment of rebate and discount there was a net revenue for the year of £3,721,170, which has been disposed of as follows:—

N.A.A.F.I./E.N.S.A. entertainment	...	...	£1,863,306
Free issue overseas of sports goods, newspapers, etc.	...	...	73,447
Grants to Service welfare and benevolent funds	...	...	1,772,500
Balance carried forward	...	...	11,917

#### FLYING BOMBS AS PRUNERS.

Apple and lilac trees are now blossoming with spring luxuriance in a Southern England garden blasted by flying bombs. A lady saw these, and wrote saying it was one of the dreams of her life to carry apple blossom at her wedding—fixed for September 23rd.

The owner of the apple tree has agreed to let her have her wish, and she will be married this month carrying apple blossom!

#### LOOK AFTER YOUR OVERALLS!

When you are buying overalls, be sure to choose a size large enough for you—a tight one will wear out far sooner than one which gives you freedom to move easily. Wash your overalls frequently, because dirt left in the material will help wear it out. If they are very dirty, try a teacupful of paraffin mixed with the washing water. For greasy overalls use ammonia in very hot water. Small tears take only a few minutes to mend *if done at once*. Keep some adhesive tape at hand, then if your overall gets torn at work a strip stuck under the tear will prevent it getting any worse before proper repairs can be done.

Weeks and weeks of extra life can be given to your overalls by reinforcing those parts which get the hardest wear *before* using them. Put pieces of material inside the garment and stitch across and across to keep them flat.

#### SHAME!

A cricketer took his wife to watch him play, writes John Carpenter, in the *Evening News*. He went in first wicket, batted right through the innings, and saved his side.

And his wife greeted him with: "Other women's husbands can go in and come out again. But not you—you must stay there the whole afternoon."

#### LOYALTY AND LOVE.

For nineteen long years Rip, my old dog, was my faithful friend and companion, and he accompanied me on numerous rambles around the countryside. His unflinching loyalty and great love for his master will never be forgotten. And now he has passed on. As I bid him an affectionate farewell the lines from Tennyson's "Owd Roa," the poem of all others appealing to dog-lovers, occurred to me:

An' 'e sarved me so well when 'e lived that, Dick,  
When 'e cooms to be dead,  
I thinks as I'd like fur to hev some soort of a sarvice  
read.

We shall meet again somewhere, some day. I know nothing in the Christian Faith which forbids me to ask with Whyte Melville: "Is it folly if I hope it may be so?" But the sorrow of losing him is a very real sorrow. He was game to the last.

Good-bye, old man. See you in the Morning!

#### FIRE WATCHING ENDED!

It came as a great relief to many to know that their Fire Guard duties at The Brewery are at an end. It was an irksome job, but it was performed willingly and cheerfully, and real good fellowship was shown among all concerned. Many indulged in billiards in the early evening and one will not readily forget the

fine all-round play of Mr. Reg. Broad, the excellent "potting" of Mr. Harry Osborne and the remarkable "angle" shots of Mr. Sidney Hinton. There were, of course, many other outstanding players.

#### CRICKET AND TENNIS.

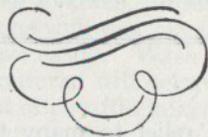
Our Sports Ground has been put to good use during this summer season. It has been difficult to raise teams these days, but Mr. J. W. Jelley arranged a good list of cricket matches. For a quarter of a century he has carried out the duties of Hon. Secretary in the most praiseworthy manner, and cricketers owe much to him. There has been quite a lot of tennis and some interesting matches. The grass courts have been in perfect condition, and it has been a treat to play on them. Teas have been provided for the cricketers and those joining in other forms of sport, and thanks are due to those ladies who so kindly looked after the wants of the "inner man." In this connection, Miss Prosser, in particular, was untiring in her efforts and frequently forwent a good game of tennis in order to wait on others.

#### NOT A RIOT OR ARMISTICE—BEER!

At Leighton Buzzard, where beer is short, the Rev. S. J. Forrest, Vicar, has the following verse in his parish magazine:—

Dear Mother, tell me quickly now, what is this breathless race?  
Why crowd these surging multitudes into our market place?  
Oh, can it be the King and Queen? Some famous Ace or Star?  
Or Mr. Winston Churchill with proverbial cigar?  
Perhaps a revolution, or a riot's breaking out,  
Or else an armistice declared, and that is why they shout.

No, no, my pet, it's none of these; the answer is too clear:  
Another local licensee has fresh supplies of beer!



## NATURE NOTE.

(BY C.H.P.).

### MAYFLIES IN JULY!

#### TAME SPARROW AND BLACKBIRDS.

#### THE STORY OF THE DEW.

We have experienced extraordinary weather conditions during this momentous year. Those conditions have been of the quick-change variety, cold snaps and humid spells being almost continuously intermingled. As a fly-fisherman I have noticed that the hatches of fly have been very early and very late. For instance, I saw a mayfly on the Pang on April 29th, the earliest date on which I have ever observed one. And then, more extraordinary still, while fishing for roach in the Thames, on July 16th, a mayfly settled on my rod. That was very, very late for this ephemeral fly to appear. I caught him, attached him to a small roach hook and dragged him along two feet under the water, thinking I might catch a chub, dace or roach. There was a sudden tug, tug; I struck, and quickly brought to the bank a perch weighing  $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. To catch a perch on a mayfly in July is, I should think, about as extraordinary a bit of "fly-fishing" as has ever been known. But there, as so often happens in Nature, truth is stranger than fiction.

#### LONG DAY FOR THE SAND MARTINS.

By the Brewery yard a pair of sand martins built their nest in a disused drain-pipe leading to the River Kennet. Some of us on fire-watching duty used to go and watch the birds as they sped to and fro hawking for flies with which to feed their young. And, my word! how hard they worked. There was no eight-hour day for them! Not until about 10.45 p.m. did they cease their labours and make their last entry for the day into the nest, there to cuddle up with their bairns and keep them warm. And then, when we visited the spot the next morning to see if the birds were about, sure enough they were, at 5.45 a.m.

From 5.45 a.m. to 10.45 p.m.—what a long, long time to be almost ceaselessly on the wing!

## A TAME SPARROW.

In the Brewery yard, too, may be seen a sparrow that has formed a great friendship with Mr. Hopson and may be frequently seen feeding from his hand.

In my garden two blackbirds were equally tame. When they had their young they came and plainly asked for worms. I used to get the fork and dig and they would come and pick up the worms and even take them from my hand and fly off with them to feed their young. Again, in July and early August, they came and asked for more, and I supplied them. In the dry weather worms were very hard to find, so I emptied my moss-filled tin where I was hardening off worms for fishing. The birds took the lot. They flew away with beakful after beakful, and I wondered how they crammed so many worms in so small a space. They were evidently feeding their second brood, and I was glad to see father assisting mother in this domestic duty. These blackbirds showed equal confidence in my good neighbours by whom they were also fed.

## BEARD FOR BUILDING MATERIAL.

Birds build with very odd materials. I remember one utilising a piece of fishing line that I had hung out to dry, but stranger still is a case that occurred at Tilehurst this year. A gentleman who met with an accident was laid up for a long period and his beard grew to a great length. The barber attended him on the lawn and before the hirsutical appendages were cleared away, a bird discovered them and promptly carted them off with which to build her nest in the garden. I almost nicknamed this bird the "bearded tit," but she did not belong to that family.

## DROUGHT DIMINISHES PARTRIDGE COVEYS.

The very dry weather has proved fatal to many little partridges. Mr. Eric tells me some of his coveys which were very promising, as regards numbers, earlier in the season, have greatly diminished. Inquiries I have since made, and from my own observations, I find this to be only too true.

## THE BEAUTIFUL PHENOMENON OF DEW.

Autumn days and nights have much to recommend them. Just think of the wonderful morning dew. The night has been serene, the moon and stars have shed their brilliant light, no clouds have obscured the heavens, no rain has fallen, and yet when we step forth at daybreak, we find the grass and the flowers of the field loaded with myriads of drops of water, sparkling like gems in the golden rays of the rising sun. We recognise this beautiful phenomenon as dew;—but from whence has it silently journeyed and arrived during the hours of night? Can the chemist reply? He can; and the reply will furnish another example of the power and goodness of God, for "His favour is as dew upon the grass"; another proof of the ever-watchful care of Him with whom "the darkness and the light are both alike," whose Hand is equally extended for the protection of the animated creation during its noontide activity and its midnight repose.

## "DISTIL AS THE DEW."

Throughout the fervent glow of a summer or autumnal day, the solid opaque earth absorbs heat; this abides upon its mere surface, and is not conducted beneath; but at sunset, if the sky be cloudless and calm, the earth immediately radiates part of the heat upward, and soon becomes many degrees colder than the air directly incumbent upon its surface; accordingly the watery vapour that is present in the yet warm air is chilled or condensed into drops of water, and these "distil as the dew" upon the earth, for the refreshment of its productions.

## A GARDEN AFTER SUNRISE.

This phenomenon cannot fail of appearing remarkable, even to the most careless observer, and it becomes yet more so, when accurately investigated. Examine a garden immediately after sunrise at this season; probably the grass plant is saturated with dew, the gravel walk is nearly dry; the leaves of the hollyhock are dripping with water; the leaves of the laurel are free from moisture; but all these objects were similarly exposed to the night air, and if dew were a fine rain, as some persons imagine it to be, all should be equally covered with its drops; why is this difference observed?

## DESERVING OF OUR ATTENTION AND ADMIRATION.

Because the surface of the various objects differ in their radiating power, the grass-plant and the leaves of the hollyhock are excellent radiators; they throw off heat with great energy, and so becoming cold, they induce a more copious deposition of water from the air than the gravel walk and the laurel leaves, which, being bad radiators, retain heat, and remain so warm that the watery vapour in the air wafts over their surfaces without being chilled or condensed, and therefore they are free from dew.

It is indeed a subject well calculated to arrest our attention, and excite our admiration and gratitude, when we find every soil, plant, shrub and tree has, by its own physical peculiarity of structure, induced the deposition of dew in proportion to its wants.

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The following appeared in *The Times* Wednesday, June 28th, 1944 :—

## “ NAVAL AWARDS.

## GALLANTRY IN ADRIATIC.

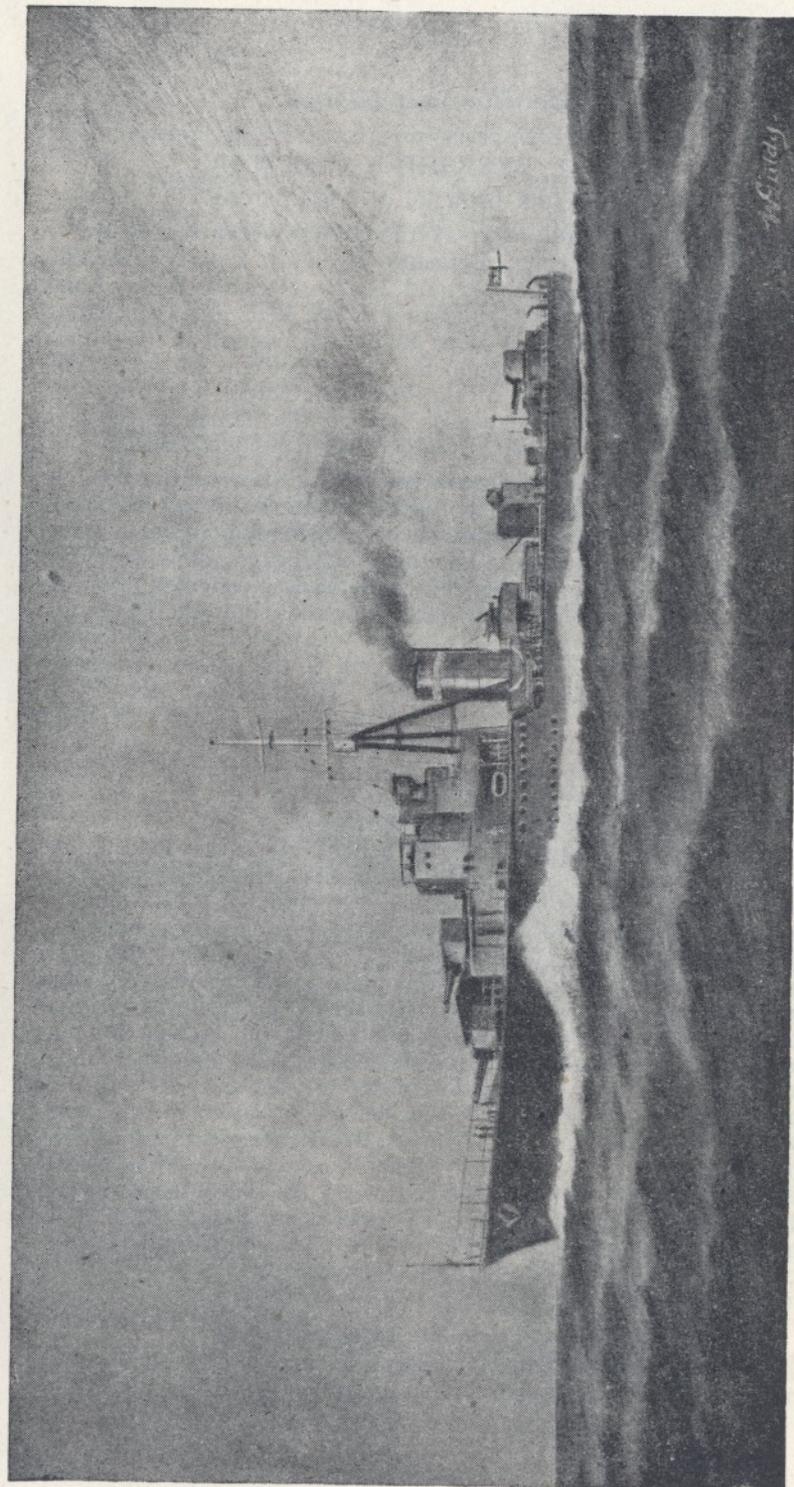
The King has approved the following awards in the Royal Navy :—

M.B.E.—Lieutenant (A) G. P. de la Trobe Shea-Simonds, R.N.V.R., for outstanding skill and devotion to duty when testing an aircraft.”

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The following notice appeared in *The Times* of 22nd August, 1944 :—

“ SIMONDS : WILLCOCK.—On August 19th, 1944, at New Hincsey, Oxford, by the Rev. Walter B. Lander, Major the Hon. John Mellor Simonds, the S. Staffordshire Regt., younger son of Lord and Lady Simonds, to Barbara, widow of Flying Officer A. J. Willcock, R.A.F., and daughter of the late E. J. Robinson, and of Mrs. Robinson, of Greenfield Mount, St. Helens.”



A Destroyer on the alert.

## ROYAL BERKSHIRE HOSPITAL.

DEDICATION OF H. &amp; G. SIMONDS COT.

On Saturday, July 1st, at the invitation of the Board of Management of the Royal Berkshire Hospital, a party consisting of the following, Miss Shorter and Messrs. Hawkes, Rider, Luker and Weait, attended the Dedication of the Beds and Cots named by donors to the Hospital Debt Reduction Appeal of 1943. The Dedication Service was conducted by the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Reading in the Hospital Chapel, and was very simple and sincere. The boards bearing the names of the beds and cots were placed round the Chapel, and to quote the Bishop :

" These beds and cots will bear witness for all time to the generous and widespread interest of the donors in the work and welfare of this Hospital." Those present which included many representatives from the business houses in the town and organisations were then conducted to the Nurses' Home, where tea was provided in a very charming manner. Much satisfaction was felt that the Home was indeed worthy of the task to which it was placed, that of looking after the comforts of those who minister to the patients in such a competent and ungrudging manner. The Matron (Miss F. L. Mutimer) was very anxious to see that one and all were being looked after. At the end of the tea that fine and very much esteemed gentleman, the Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire (A. T. Loyd, Esq., O.B.E., J.P.) welcomed the guests to the Hospital that day. He said he felt sure that the Board of Management would wish him to thank all those present for the very noble work they had accomplished in assisting the wiping off of the deficit that had been hanging over them for so long. Every step, he said, would be made to make the Hospital worthy of the generous response that had been received. The Treasurer (Mr. H. H. Wilder) then gave a brief resumé of the Hospital's finances and said all the very latest improvements in radiotherapy were being installed. Parties of tens were then conducted round, a thorough tour lasting well over an hour, not only show places being visited, but also where much arduous work and organisation necessary for the working of a modern hospital is done. The tour being completed, all came away with the feeling of, shall we say pride, that they were representatives of those who had so generously donated towards providing institutions such as these who ministered to the sufferings of the nation. To end this report no words can be more fitting than those of the last verse of the Dedication Hymn which was sung at the Service :

To hands that work, and eyes that see  
Give wisdom's heavenly lore,  
That whole and sick, and weak and strong,  
May praise Thee evermore.

G.V.W.

## CHEDDAR—OTHER THAN THE CHEESE.

(BY ASHLEY COURTENAY *and by the courtesy of the Editor of SPORT AND COUNTRY.*)

Slowly the hum of civilisation faded out as I climbed the smooth-faced Mendips, crossed the pleasant village green of Preedy, 1,000 feet up. Then in a matter of time, no longer than it takes to boil a medium soft egg, I descended to that natural set piece, Cheddar Gorge, and pulled up at the Bath Arms, the focal point in Cheddar of all news, international, national—and parochial.

When those astute brewers, Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., purchased the old Bath Arms, there was probably much shaking of local beards for they decided to pull down completely and erect a modern building equipped for the treble purpose of fostering local interests, developing local trade and encouraging the likes of you and I, who, whatever our vocations, need from time to time change of air and environment.

With a pleasant countenance and a pleasing personality, it takes but a few moments to feel on friendly terms with this modernly equipped Bath Arms. Go where you will, there is a well-groomed appearance. The kitchens, clean, well-ventilated and well-designed, must gladden the most exacting of chefs. The dining-room, designed to catch the sunshine and allow for speed of service, makes for pleasurable eating. The bedrooms, although on the small side, fulfil the three main purposes—good beds, good lights and plentiful wardrobe accommodation.

The main lounge has chairs and sofas which are an invitation to subside, yet somehow I feel it will be to one or other of the bar lounges that you will gravitate, for there one meets the best of Cheddar—other than the cheese.

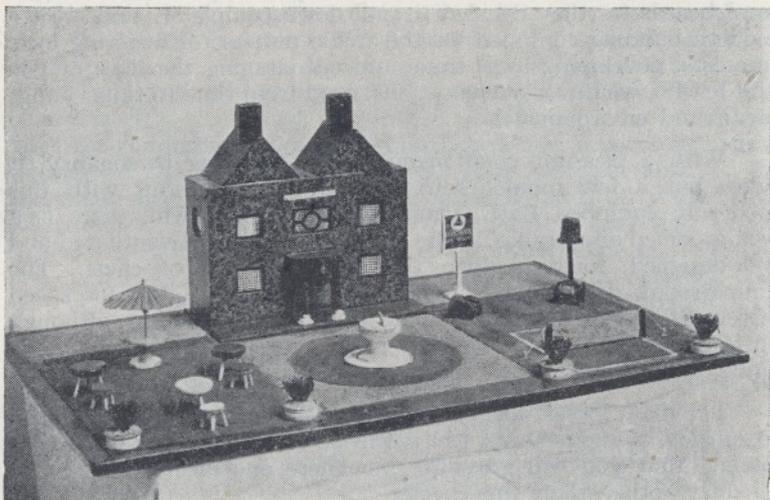
My visit was only in the nature of a sampler, but it has encouraged me to return. I must time my visit to include a Wednesday, when the local market is held in the courtyard of the hotel. I must certainly spend some evenings there and get some local schooling as how to "skidaddle" the king-pin in their skittle alley. I want to be able to sit out in their garden of content where the Cheddar Gorge and Mendips form a constant background. I must go there in October to watch the process of cider manufacture and in the later winter months pick anemones in the sheltered valley; and of course I must always return there in June to pick strawberries straight from Mr. Gilling's beds.

On my return journey, I looked in at the George Hotel, Frome, which has recently become a Simonds' house, and which will, after

the war, enjoy the process of modernisation, though much of the present characteristics will doubtless remain. By reason of its central position and the fact that there is no town hall, the George is the centre-piece for any civic function, its balconied frontal acting as a grandstand and its assembly hall providing facilities for charity balls, public dinners and the like.

### MODEL OF A SIMONDS' HOTEL.

CLEVER WORK BY MR. KELLY.



Above is a model of a Simonds' Hotel made by our Mr. E. H. Kelly, of the Cirencester Brewery Ltd. The work was done in his spare time and it took him a month to complete. He utilised old spare corks, capsules, matches, bottles and pieces of leather. The model is about 24 inches by 18 inches; the sign is from a cover of book matches. The lawns are made from green leather roughed with glass paper, and the sundial was some bits of cement found in the Brewery yard.

Sand and small gravel were crushed into the board for his road and entrance. He has called it The Cotteswold Hotel, and presented it to Mr. William Cripps' son.

### WORDS OF WISDOM.

Don't try to eliminate the old-fashioned virtues—many have tried it without success. No good substitute has yet been found for simplicity, frankness, industry, and sincerity.

The world needs more common-sense men and women—just plain, everyday folks who belong to the Common-sense Party. The motto of the party is this: Do unto others as if you were the others.

On the journey through life man is confronted by two tragedies. One when he wants a thing he cannot get; and the other when he gets the thing and finds that he does not want it.

If pleasures are greatest in anticipation, remember that this is also true of troubles.

If you would have friends, be one.

It is the finest thing in the world to live. Most people only exist.

Never explain. Your friends don't need it, and your enemies will not believe you.

Thy voice is heard thro' rolling drums,  
That beat to battle where he stands;  
Thy face across his fancy comes,  
And gives the battle to his hands;  
A moment, while the trumpets blow,  
He sees his bairns about thy knee;  
And strikes him dead for thine and thee.

—Tennyson.

### IN AUGUST.

Before green apples blush,  
Before green nuts embrown,  
Why, one day in the country  
Is worth a month in town.

—Christina Rossetti.

Oh, fear not in a world like this,  
 And thou shalt know ere long,  
 Know how sublime a thing it is  
 To suffer and be strong!

—Longfellow.

Oh, don't the days seem lank and long,  
 When all goes right and nothing goes wrong?  
 And isn't your life extremely flat  
 When there's nothing whatever to grumble at?

—W. S. Gilbert.

We have stood for peace, and we war for right, God give us  
 victory.

O' England! in thine hour of need,  
 When Faith's reward and Valour's need  
 Is death or glory.  
 When Fate indites, with biting brand,  
 Clasped in each warrior's stiffening hand,  
 A nation's story.

They whom thy love has guarded long,  
 They whom thy care has rendered strong,  
 In love and faith.  
 Their heartstrings round thy heart entwine,  
 They are, they ever will be thine  
 In life—in death.

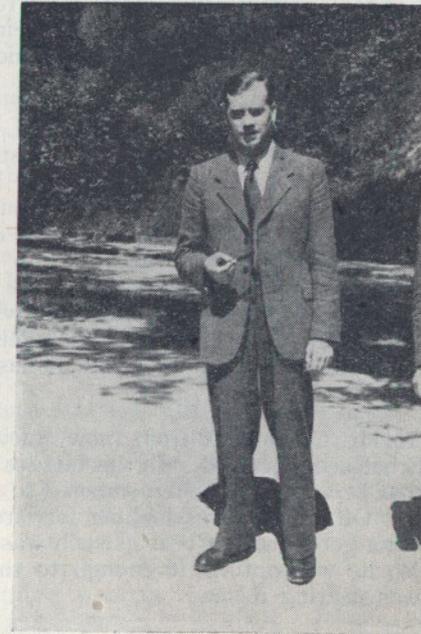
#### SUDDEN DEATH OF ALDERMAN E. T. BOWYER.

##### FINE RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

The greatest sympathy has been extended to Mr. W. Bowyer, our Home Trade Manager, in the loss of his distinguished brother, Alderman E. T. Bowyer, Charter Mayor and first Mayor of Slough. His death occurred with tragic suddenness at the age of 71, and by his passing Slough loses one of the best-known and most faithful of her sons. His qualities as a councillor and public man, creating a record unequalled in the town, find their most eloquent tribute in an amazing list of appointments, remarkable both for their variety and local importance. He always displayed the greatest

affection for his family and relatives, and showed a deep concern for their welfare and happiness. He loved his home and the town of Slough with all his heart. Children he adored and in turn was loved by them—a fact which was often proved at gatherings of young people. In spite of a highly successful life he never forgot an old friend. His death is an irreparable loss to Slough, a cause of much sadness to those who shared the privilege of his friendship, and a grievous blow to many a humble home which knew the warmth of his generosity.

#### MR. F. C. SMITH.



A member of the Accounts Department, Mr. Smith joined the R.A.O.C. before the War. He went to France and was evacuated from Dunkirk. After a short spell he was sent to the Middle East and was taken prisoner at Tobruk. Then he went to Italy and on the collapse of the Italians escaped into Switzerland. Now he is a member of the British Legation at Berne.

## BREWERY JOTTINGS.

(BY W. DUNSTER).

Since our last issue in June it has been a hard job to keep pace with the news in every way, but we have learned that a number of our boys are now out in France and letters have been received from some of them.

We have not had so many visitors of those on service owing to restrictions on leave, but amongst those seen during the last few months have been Messrs. S. Collins, S. R. Gray, R. Skidmore, T. Kent, G. Poole, N. Tott, J. Strudley, H. Goatley, K. G. Sutton and S. G. Taylor.

Quite a number of communications have been received since our last issue and the writers in every case send their best wishes to all at the Brewery and always mention how much they look forward to receiving THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE.

In a letter to Mr. H. Treadgold, his friend, L/Sergt. S. G. Treacher, writes from Italy that he feels like the "oldest inhabitant" having been in the same place for many months. Nevertheless, he had been able to indulge frequently in his favourite sport of swimming and as it was very hot he appreciated it all the more. One experience in a sailing boat had satisfied him for all time. He was looking forward to receiving THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE for June. An American officer had said to him some while ago that by this Christmas the Americans would have taken Rome, the British Paris and the Russians Berlin. (Well, it has not worked out quite like this.)

An airgraph to Mr. C. Bennett from (now) Lieut. R. W. E. Wheeler from Italy has been received. In this he says he is keeping fit and well, and that he wished to be remembered to all, especially those in the Estates Office. He was looking forward to the day when he could taste a good glass of beer as such was non-existent where he was; also he was optimistic enough to think that the "Nazi Drama" was nearing its end.

A letter from L/Cpl. R. Rice to Mr. H. Sexton, written from Italy at the end of June, mentions that he had received a copy of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE. Unfortunately, he was unable to say where he was, but he had been in the thick of it all. After three weeks of intense heat they had been "enjoying" torrential rain. It seemed to him that all foreign weather tended to go to extremes. Beer was rationed to half-a-pint per man per week and the price worked out to 1/6 per pint.

L/Cpl. P. Hammond, writing to Mr. A. G. Richardson from S.E.A.C., says they had plenty of activity and been frequently in action against the Japs. They had continuous guards night and day in view of the closeness of the enemy. Often they had to take cover when the Japs decided to have a crack at them, and they had been machine-gunned from the air, fortunately without suffering any casualties. They had their own back when the R.A.F. came over and strafed the Japs. After a most unhealthy time they were shifted and were pleased to find they had a cinema and service canteen. The billets too were good, complete with fans and good beds, a nice change after living in tents for several months and with no proper facilities for washing, etc. The climate really was terribly hot and the atmosphere very humid. It was nearly impossible to keep anything dry. After a long "dry" spell they had started to receive an issue of three bottles of beer per month, and even if it was Indian brew (which is generally not up to much) he would enjoy it after being without for so long. His health was quite good.

Craftsman F. C. Smith, writing to Mr. A. E. Smith, from Switzerland, said he was very fit and leading a peaceful life. The weather was good. During the winter he had spent a considerable amount of time skiing and managed to pass the Swiss Silver Test. He had been working in the Quartermaster's office for some months, but he was hoping to go on later to Berne and work in the Legation Offices there. The Basle Industrial Fair he found very interesting and he had been able to go there for two days. (It has since been learned that Mr. Fred. Smith, who escaped from a prison camp in Italy and arrived in Switzerland, is employed in the British Legation, Berne.)

In a long and interesting letter from Capt. R. C. Pitts to Mr. F. C. Hawkes (written from India) he says he is stationed on the edge of a desert. The air was very humid and as there was usually a strong breeze blowing the air was invariably full of dust. Karachi was a very picturesque and remarkably clean city, although Bombay was the best place he had visited and from the European point of view very much like our own towns in England with one exception—there were no "pubs." Although on a very busy job, he had had a few games of football. They were rationed to three bottles of beer per month in the Mess. He was in charge of a large number of men and had many problems to solve.

Gunner E. Eyles wrote to Mr. F. Josey from S.E.A.C. and mentioned his battery were in action on the Burmese frontier against the Japs. At the time he was writing it had not been too hot, but he knew they were in for a very hot time in more ways

than one. He was looking forward to receiving a copy of THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE. His journey to the scene of operations was done by air. It was his first experience of flying and he thoroughly enjoyed it. They were giving the Japs a good hiding. To those who remembered him and his motor-bike they might be glad to know that the "bike" had passed out. Nevertheless, he was looking forward to getting another when he came home.

Miss Townsend, of the Brewing Room, received an airgraph from Cadet J. Buswell in Florida, where he was training to be a pilot. Life was pretty good and he spent most of his time flying, and he liked it. So far he had not found America exactly like Hollywood portrayed it. Miami was a lovely place. He had visited Canada and liked the scenery.

A letter from Cpl. M. Tilbury to Mr. C. Bennett from France, mentions that he had been out there nearly three months. Fit and well, he was hoping soon to visit Paris and maybe Berlin very soon afterwards. His division had made quite a name for itself out there and had been in some tough fighting. The weather on the whole had been good, but rain soon messed up the roads. Although he was not impressed with France from what he had seen—most of it was badly battered about—probably it was much better in peacetime. He had found THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE very interesting and it kept him in touch with the Brewery.

Corporal E. Venner, in a letter to Mr. W. Bradford, says he had been from Egypt to Italy and from Italy to North Africa and then back again to Italy. He really thought they were on their homeward journey now. They had reached Rome and it seemed to him that Southern Italy was one vast vineyard. The countryside in many of the provinces he had passed through was marvellous, although the roads could have been better. Vesuvius he had seen in eruption. Naples, in peacetime, might have been a nice city, but from what he had seen of it he was not impressed. Yet whilst there he had found a N.A.A.F.I. canteen in a building, which was originally a palace, and it was by far the biggest and most attractive canteen he had ever seen. He had no idea of what Cassino was like before it was hit by the war, but when he saw it it was just one mass of rubble and the devastation was terrific. Rome was a mixture of ancient and modern, and full of statues; he had visited most of the historic places. The city dwellers do their laundry in the main streets. Rome had been untouched by the R.A.F. Good luck to everyone at The Brewery he concludes.

The writer has received two airgraphs from Cpl. C. Langton, both written from Italy. In the first he mentions he had been

laid up, but in the second says he was fit and well again. THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE was always welcomed. Rome he had visited and it was the first large place they had seen since he went to Italy. He was hoping to see the Vatican and possibly the Pope as well.

A letter from Cpl. C. Wade to W.D. from Italy was a welcome surprise. In it he says how much he appreciated receiving THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE, which he thought more interesting than ever. They had been pushing along steadily out there and the scenery lovely, unspoilt even by war. They had "missed" Rome, but from what he had heard St. Peter's there was a wonderful place. The mansion they were in had survived a bombing attack and only lost the windows and doors, but that did not matter for the weather was very warm. He had gathered roses from the gardens there, and he took the opportunity of congratulating the previous tenant on his excellent taste. The ration of beer was one half-bottle per week, so rather than raise any futile longings he went without. Sometimes he had tasted *vino* of the local vintage, but went very warily with it for the after-effects were very grim.

L/Cpl. A. C. Howman, in a typewritten airgraph to W.D. from Italy, says he is quite fit and well. He looked forward to THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE and after reading it sent it on to his brother in Egypt. Beer was very short and he had only obtained two pint bottles in two months. He had met Martin, of the Delivery Office, out there. Life was pleasant and he managed to get plenty of fruit, plums, peaches and apricots. As the war news was so good he had visions of coming home soon.

Two letters have been received by W.D. from L/A.C. K. Organ from the Sudan, where the temperature figures reach fantastic heights. They had had some E.N.S.A. shows, which were much appreciated. When their church received a visit from the Assistant Bishop of Egypt and Sudan they were afterwards entertained royally at the District Commissioner's residence. A number of their fellows were in hospital, mainly due to the intense heat, but he had escaped all complaints. Recreation consisted of swimming, table tennis, boating on the Nile and occasional visits to the cinema. This latter was a problem as the manager, being a local inhabitant, found it more profitable to show Arabic films instead of British ones. The beer they received was Canadian and supplies were good. Their "cold" water supply had the added advantage of being useful for making tea without further heating. He was very sad at reading the news of the death of P/Sergt. E. S. Shrimpton, who was always of such a cheerful disposition and a fine cricketer. The cigarettes they were receiving were of a much better brand than the "V" variety. According to a new order it was proposed to play golf and badminton in the winter, but just how it was going to be done was beyond his comprehension.

Three long and interesting letters have been received from Sig. E. W. King by W.D., all of them written from Italy. It is evident though he is not particularly in love with the country. He had been six months in the same place. Sea bathing was their chief recreation. The sand was very fine and white. The food was remarkably good and they were able to get eggs, peas, lettuce, and even ice cream out of the messing fund of which he was in charge. They got plenty of meat and often had it cold for tea in addition to the generous helping they had at mid-day. It would make some English housewives green with envy, he comments. The brilliant sunshine they took for granted, so he was wondering how he would like the usual English summer when he came back. He had had a week's leave at a rest camp and the visit was worth while for the one thing that made it seem so different was trees, real honest-to-goodness trees, and not the rows and rows of stunted almonds and olives that they had seen so much of during the past year. They had seen good football between the Navy and Army units, but unfortunately, whilst he was on leave a touring Yugo-Slav team had beaten all the British teams they had played and according to accounts they were a treat to watch.

Sapper F. W. Bampton, writing from France, said he always looked forward to receiving THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE. He was with the first troops to land on D-day and it was no picnic. However, our super armour was beating the Germans. He would like to be remembered to all friends at The Brewery. They were eagerly looking for the arrival of the first consignment of beer.

Sergt. J. Knight, writing from Ceylon to W.D., said he was quite well and that life out there was not too bad at all. He wished to be remembered to all friends in the Brewing Room and particularly to Mr. S. Bird at the Maltings. THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE was full of news to him as it did give him an idea where the different fellows were. He corresponded with N. S. Rainbow, who was in the Navy, and also with F. H. L. Kemp.

L/A.C. K. Strudley called to see us. He had just come home from Italy and he had been out there and other parts for two years. Whilst out there he had seen H. K. White (of the Branch Office) and also Smith, who used to be employed in that department and who was now in the Royal Marines. He was to undergo an operation, this being the reason why he had been sent home on a wonderful hospital ship which was a luxury liner in peacetime.

News has been received that A. Randall, of the R.A.F., is now in France, but unfortunately he had started off rather badly by being sent to hospital. However, he was better now and was hoping the weather would improve as they had been deluged with rain, which meant there was mud everywhere.

A letter has been received from Tom Kent, and it would seem he is doing quite well in his new work. Although he was not in the R.A.M.C. as he had hoped to be, nevertheless his first aid knowledge had come in very useful and he had been "operating" in his unit with success.

#### SECOND BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE.

It may not generally be known that Lieut.-General Sir M. C. Dempsey, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C., who is in command of the Second British Army in France, was the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion The Royal Berkshire Regiment at the outbreak of the War. He was Colonel and Acting Brigadier in November, 1939, Acting Major-General in June, 1941, and Acting Lieut.-General in December, 1942. He was sent to the Middle East in December, 1942, at short notice, to take over the 13th Corps of the Eighth Army and fought from Mareth to the Enfidaville region. He then took his Corps through Sicily into Italy. Later events have proved that his selection for promotion was due to sheer ability.

He served in the European War in 1917 and 1918, when he was wounded and mentioned in Despatches; he also figured in the Iraq operations, 1919-1920. The General is a great sportsman and is well known in the cricket and hunting fields.

#### BANK HOLIDAY SPORTS MEETING.

Once again August Bank Holiday was the occasion for another of our informal Sports Meetings which Mr. Bradford and his Committee go to great trouble to organise in these difficult days. We were favoured with a truly glorious day—almost the hottest day of the whole summer—and it was indeed pleasing to see so many of the Firm's employees with their wives and children enjoying the sunshine and the beautiful fresh air of the Sports Ground.

Races to suit all ages and capabilities were arranged for the more energetic, and appended is a list of the prizewinners.

The day, being so hot, it is hardly necessary to mention that the refreshment tent and tea bar were well patronised, and we are more than grateful to the many helpers who so willingly gave their time to cater for the eats and drinks of the large gathering.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Messrs. Huntley & Palmers Recreation Club for the loan of many side-shows which beguiled the time for those who did not feel equal to taking more strenuous exercise.

The day closed with an impromptu dance and an all-in football match, and one and all agreed that they had spent a thoroughly happy time.

## THE SPORTS PRIZEWINNERS.

## MEN.

220 Yards Handicap.	2—P. Bartlett	3—R. Mason
1—M. Bricknell		
Half Mile Walking.	2—P. Bartlett	3—M. Bartlett
1—H. Hawkins		
100 Yards Scratch.	2—P. Bartlett	3—A. Priddy
1—M. Bricknell		
440 Yards Handicap.	2—P. Bartlett	3—V. Varnell
1—J. Smith		
Barrel Rolling.	2—P. Bartlett	3—H. Winterbourne
1—H. Cook		

## LADIES.

80 Yards Race.	2—E. Bullen	3—P. Hammond
1—G. Christie		
Thread Needle Race.	2—M. Tombs	3—R. Ayers
1—B. Spence		
Egg and Spoon Race.	2—M. Tombs	3—O. Shurmer
1—P. Hammond		
Ankle Competition.	2—E. Hobbs	3—J. Heath
1—R. Jones		

## MIXED RACES.

Three-Legged Race.	2—G. Christie and	3—G. Ayers and
1—M. Bricknell and	M. Spence	C. Smith
J. Shurmer		
Slow Bicycle Race.	2—P. Hammond	3—M. Bricknell
1—B. Freeman		
Leap Frog.		
1—M. Randall and P. Freeman		

## CHILDREN.

Boys' 80 Yards.	2—M. Edwards	3—S. Spence
1—B. Edwards		
Boys' Obstacle Race.	2—A. Winterbourne	3—M. Edwards
1—B. Edwards		
Boys' 100 Yards.	2—J. Bricknell	3—J. Allen
1—M. Edwards		
Boys' Sack Race.	2—B. Edwards	3—A. Winterbourne
1—M. Edwards		
Girls' 80 Yards.	2—J. Shurmer	3—M. Bradford
1—B. Spence		
Egg and Spoon Race.	2—B. Spence	3—J. Randall
1—J. Shurmer		
Girls' 100 Yards.	2—B. Spence	3—J. Shurmer
1—G. Christie		

## TENNIS.

1—M. Whichelow	2—M. Tombs	E. Hobbs and E. Wood
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## HIDDEN TREASURE.

S. Mack Boshier

## TENNIS CLUB.

Although perhaps the weather has not been all that one could wish during this summer we have made all possible use of the tennis courts which have always been in excellent condition, thanks to the unceasing care of the groundsman. Tournaments were arranged among members and also with No. 50 Group, R.A.F., and were most enjoyable. We had hoped to play other R.A.F. personnel, but the weather was most unkind, and we had to cancel the arrangements.

Thanks to the Secretary's foresight and care we have never been without balls, and we are also indebted to Major L. A. Simonds for the gift of half-a-dozen of tournament quality.

We hope to continue playing on the grass courts as long as possible, but shall have to revert to our fine hard courts for winter games.

## A GREAT THOUGHT.

## LAST MAN IN.

*Sometimes it is not an easy thing for a captain to decide who shall be last man in; at other times the question seems almost to settle itself. There is one man who is so obviously the worst player that he makes a suitable tail!*

*But, whatever may be the circumstances, there is always a last man in, and a great many cricketers know that the choice may easily fall upon them.*

*Some of the greatest stories of life gather round this "last man in," who, against all expectations, has played well for his mates, and done honour to himself.*

*To be the last man in, and then to work your way up to a higher place, until you find recognition from all your comrades, is an encouraging thing. But there are some who seem to be last all their lives, men and women who fill an inconspicuous corner almost to the end, and who never have the experience of a striking triumph. Their lot is harder, but their score is often greater than it seems. When we come to examine the score later on, and take into account the conditions under which they played, we discover how nobly they have done.*

*There was such a man who died about ninety years ago in the town of Portsmouth. He was a poor cobbler, who worked early and late to gain a scanty livelihood. His lot was set in hard times, and*

he did not know the meaning of luxury. In a squalid part of the town one might have seen John Pounds, sitting in his dark little shop, mending boots and shoes, till late on in the evening.

But his own hard life did not make him indifferent to the needs of others. Through his window, he used to watch the boys and girls playing in the street. Nobody seemed to care for them and he saw them growing up rough, vicious and ignorant. He felt impelled to do something for them, and so he enticed a few of them into his shop, told them stories and taught them to read from the newspaper. He devoted his scanty leisure moments to this humble task. The news of what he was doing quickly spread, until soon he had more children than he could accommodate. They all wanted to hear his stories, and to be taught to read. So he opened a little school, and went on quietly with his good work.

Sometimes he would take them into the country, teaching them nature's lore, and many a happy band of children went out with old John Pounds.

There he was, right at the bottom of the social scale, helping the ragged lads whom others forgot. Many a gay and careless man and woman, wealthy and well-fed, passed through the streets of Portsmouth in those days, but none of them knew what poor John Pounds was doing in the back streets of their town.

He was only a humble member of the team under the Captain of All, but his score was mounting up. He was one of the last, but not one of the least; and when he was gone his work blossomed out into abundant fruitage; for it was out of this small beginning that the Ragged School Union took its origin, and carried on its saving work in many a neglected district of London and other big cities.

As we try to play this big game of ours, it is records like these that inspire us to do our best even though we are at the tail end of the team. We learn that it is not where we are, but what we do, that counts in the long run.

We may not be considered worthy to bear the brunt of the fight; we may not be awarded a top place in the team; but if we put in our best, our Captain will say, "Well done."

"Thus may we make the lowliest lot  
With rays of glory bright;  
Thus may we turn a crown of thorns  
Into a crown of light."

(From *The Sunlit Fields*, by A. H. Lowe.)

### THE 1944 CROP OF BARLEY.

Wallis, Son & Wells, of Reading, the well-known Corn and Agricultural Merchants and Importers, have kindly supplied THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE with the following report on the 1944 crop of English barley.

#### EASTERN DISTRICT.

*Norfolk.*—The acreage sown seems about the same as last year, but the spring-sown barleys have been late in ripening. On the poor light lands the crop has been affected by the drought, and there will be a proportion of thin grain, but on the good lands the crop stood the dry period well, and there is barley with both size and quality. Some winter-sown barleys have been threshed, but these were mostly a Danish variety. The quality has been disappointing though the yield good. It appears the yield of the spring-sown will be about two sacks per acre less.

*Suffolk.*—There is not much change in the acreage sown, but the yield will not equal last year's crop. Some winter-sown barleys have been threshed, but the quality is disappointing. We expect to see an improvement in the spring-sown barleys, especially off the heavy lands, but those from the light lands will be thin, owing to the drought.

*Essex.*—The crop seems an average one, but the quality so far threshed is variable and somewhat disappointing. It is hoped that there will be better barley to come from the ricks.

*Lincolnshire.*—Some threshed samples show both size and quality, but the bulk of the crop appears to be only medium quality.

*Yorkshire.*—There is an increased acreage under barley, which is the best cereal crop in this area. The rains came in time.

#### MIDLANDS DISTRICT.

There has been an increased acreage sown. A good deal of the land is that which does not usually produce good malting barley. It is estimated that in some districts the yield will only be about three-quarters of last year's outturn.

Some barley threshed in the Bedfordshire district is of excellent quality with a large berry.

#### SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

*Kent.*—There seems little change in the total acreage, though a somewhat greater proportion of winter-sown. The crop has

greatly benefited by the rains, the grain has filled out and promises quality from medium to good, though the yield is not expected to equal last year's.

*Hampshire.*—There will be a big variation in the quality from this district. The acreage is about the same on the barley-growing farms, but weather in some neighbourhoods has been unfavourable for the crop, the rain came too late. The yield over the whole county will be considerably less; in parts as much as 25%. On the chalk soils the crop suffered from the drought in the spring, the later sown crops suffering most. Sowings in December and January look remarkably well and promise quality. Some barley has been threshed, but too soon, before ripening was completed, and the samples showed two growths. We expect much better quality from the ricks.

*Berkshire and Oxfordshire.*—The acreage appears about the same, but the yield will be below average; in some districts only two-thirds of last year's crop. Many of the samples will be uneven owing to a second growth, but the standing crop is improving daily and we expect better samples later.

*Wiltshire.*—There is a very big variation in the quality and the yield of the spring barleys will be less. There has been a considerable thresh of six-rowed winter barleys commencing in July. The quality of these was poor, but the yield heavy. A quantity of spring-sown barleys has been "combined," but the majority of these samples were unripe and many showed two growths. Present threshings show a very great improvement in the quality and we expect continued improvement as it ripens. The acreage on the barley-growing farms seems slightly more, but we think the spring drought will reveal a lower yield.

#### WESTERN DISTRICT.

*Gloucestershire.*—There appears to be a slight increase in acreage, but many of the crops have made a second growth, and there will be a variation in samples. In some localities the drought has had an adverse effect on the crop.

*Herefordshire.*—An increased acreage, but a lower yield per acre, with considerable variation in quality. Early-sown crops appear good and some nice samples have been threshed. The later-town barleys are disappointing.

*Somersetshire.*—Acreage appears about as last year, but somewhat less yield and considerable variation in quality; some crops affected by the drought, and when the rain came some crops were damaged, but since these rains the crop has improved and we hope for some useful quality.

*Devonshire.*—In both the north and south there appears to be a slightly increased acreage under barley. In the north of the county the crop looks as though it will give an average yield with better quality than last year. In the south there is considerable variation in quality, with a second growth in some crops; the early sown crops are the best.

A quantity of *Gold Berg* barley has been sown as it has a stout straw; growers wished to avoid the risk of lodging. The crop lacked sun in its earlier growth.

*Cornwall.*—An increased acreage and there should be a yield of 9 to 10 sacks per acre of medium quality barley.

#### SUMMARY.

There will be a very considerable variation in the quality of samples. Though the present Barley Order has increased the difference to 10/- between the best and the lower malting/millable barley, this difference does not cover the difference in quality. A bigger demand for the better grades which are the best value at the controlled prices is therefore expected.

Price control and present farming conditions make yield the first consideration. This results in types of barley being grown that would not ordinarily be grown to produce quality malts.

In the south of England a large acreage of six-rowed winter type of barley has been harvested. From the growers' point of view this type has several advantages: It can be planted in the winter, it is a heavy yielder, it can be fed off by sheep and still come to harvest. It can be harvested before other grain crops, and so spread out the harvest period.

Some growers rushed their barley to market in July though many samples were unripe to obtain the 1943 price which was to their profit; they, moreover, spread out harvest operations and helped with the labour and transport position by so doing.

Unfortunately, from a quality point of view, many farmers have continued to combine and field thresh their spring barleys. They admit that they were not ripe and would improve by being left standing, but with the fine weather and the quantity of grain to be harvested, they did not feel justified in waiting.

We are pleased to say that with the recent sunny weather the barleys are improving daily, and we consider that there will be a considerable improvement in the quality of the later ricked barleys. The undeveloped green corn from the second growth will dry out without detrimental effect and will be extracted by the threshing machines, which the "combines" are not doing.

As to the new *Camton* barley, the growing crops of this look excellent, but we have not seen any threshed out yet. Owing to its relative high nitrogen content, it is not claimed that this will make a high grade malting sample. It is specially suitable for heavy soils, and under present conditions it is playing a useful part.

A new barley, *Pioneer* (a cross between a German winter barley called Tschermark's two-row winter barley and the well-known spring malting barley, *Spratt Archer*) was released by the National Institute of Agricultural Botany, Cambridge, to be grown on for seed. As this is a two-row winter barley, it may well satisfy a widespread want—a hardy barley that will stand the winter and produce a first grade malt. We are pleased with what we have seen of the growing crop. We have some growing 1,000 feet above sea-level.

Harvesting this year will be spread out in time; there will be a great variety of samples, a somewhat limited quantity of "Pale Ale," but a sufficient crop of fair average quality to meet all present malting demands.

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#### MESSRS. BERTRAM & CO., LTD.,

#### CATERERS AND REFRESHMENT CONTRACTORS.

#### A QUARTER OF A CENTURY'S CONTRACT AT NEWMARKET RACECOURSE.

We are pleased to record in this issue the completion of 25 years' continuous service in the supply of beers to Messrs. Bertram and Co., Ltd., at Newmarket Racecourse.

Amongst the many long-standing contracts which the Firm enjoy none has been more harmonious than our association with Messrs. Bertram & Co., Ltd., and this cordiality has been due to the personal friendship between the heads of the two Firms, Captain R. L. Jolliffe, the well-known sportsman, and our Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. A. Simonds, who appreciate each other's business acumen and ambitions. This harmony also exists between all other members of the respective Companies who come into contact in their various capacities and whose labours have been multiplied by the shortage of staff.

A contract of this duration can only bespeak complete confidence and satisfaction on the part of the Refreshment

Contractors to the Racecourse and these sentiments have been most generously expressed from time to time by Messrs. Bertram and Co., Ltd., whom we have served for so many years.

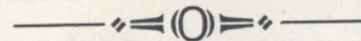
In rendering this service to the contractors we have, in a small way, contributed to the public needs for refreshments, without which the meetings could not successfully be conducted. Particularly during the past five years have these meetings fulfilled a national service, not only in keeping alive the important industry of maintaining the country's bloodstock, but in providing a diversion in wartime for the public and H.M. Forces on leave. No greater tribute could be paid to Messrs. Bertram & Co.'s organization than the expressions of utmost satisfaction which they have received from time to time in their conduct of the catering and refreshment bars during the years of war. Exactly how Messrs. Bertram & Co. have managed to carry on with a sadly depleted staff is known only to themselves. It is, however, certain that their success is due to a directorate gifted in surmounting difficulties.

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A recent announcement in the press, by *The Stroller*, disclosed that Captain R. L. Jolliffe, Chairman and Managing Director of Messrs. Bertram & Co., Ltd., has acquired one of the picturesque inns of Sussex, the Roebuck at Wych Cross in Ashdown Forest.

The report contained an interesting account of Captain Jolliffe's early career, when he fought in the Boer War and later as a trooper in "The Blues" paraded before King Edward VII in a new cavalry cloak, which could not be adopted until the King's consent had been obtained. He went in a hansom cab, wearing the cloak, for inspection.

Lord Roberts and members of the Army Council were there, too. The King scrutinised the cloak closely. Then he invited the diminutive Lord Roberts to look at it. "The contrast between Lord Roberts' lack of inches and my six-foot-four amused the King," Captain Jolliffe told *The Stroller*. It amused Lord Roberts, too.



## LIEUT. L. HINTON (KILLED IN ACTION).

"ALWAYS A GRAND COMPANION."



Lieut. L. Hinton.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Mr. Sidney Hinton, the popular member of our travelling staff, and Mrs. Hinton, in the loss of their elder son, Lieut. L. Hinton, who has been killed in action in Normandy. Lieut. Hinton volunteered for the Royal Engineers in August, 1939. He saw service in France at the outbreak of war, and was one of the now famous "Desert Rats."

Educated at George Palmer Central School, he was employed as a draughtsman at the Pulsometer Engineering Works where he was held in the highest esteem.

Of a genial disposition, and very thorough in all he undertook, he seemed to have had a very bright future, but he felt very strongly the call of duty to his country and laid down his life in her Cause.

He leaves a widow and little son to mourn his loss, and for them the deepest sympathy is also felt.

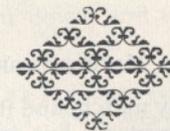
He won the respect and confidence of all with whom he was brought into contact in the army, as many letters of appreciation of his sterling character clearly show.

Writing to the widow, Major F. S. Carson, his C.O. says:—

"I am writing to express the very great sympathy of all ranks and in particular of the officers and myself in your great loss. Les. was in command of one of several parties of the Squadron which landed with the assault troops. He was hit as he was running through the surf on to the beach and killed instantly. . . . As you know, he was with us a long time and that we all got along very well together. He was always a grand companion in the Mess, and his cheerfulness and good spirits did much to make the Mess what it was. We all feel his loss a very great deal. It is impossible to satisfactorily express our sympathy in a letter such as this, and I can only say that we join you in mourning a very good friend."

His Lieut-Colonel also wrote a highly appreciative letter, mentioning that Lieut. Hinton's Squadron were given a specially important and dangerous task landing on the beaches just after the leading troops, and before the enemy resistance was quelled.

The late Lieut. Hinton's only brother, Reginald, is serving in the Fleet Air Arm out East, and for him great sympathy is felt.



## CRICKET.

## REVIEW OF THREE MONTHS' MATCHES.

Our last review concluded with the match played on May 27th, and this carries on from there to the end of August, during which period we have played 10 games. One of these we won, four were drawn, and the other five went to our opponents.

A friendly game was arranged for the Youths, which was very one-sided. The opposition was skittled out by F. Scott and K. Harding for 21. Then the brothers F. and K. Scott each made 50 and retired. Three other lads had a knock and then called it a day. Unfortunately we have been unable to fix up other evening games for the lads.

The Ladies have also played one game. This was against Huntley & Palmers, on our ground, and resulted in a draw, rather in favour of the opposition. A return fixture was arranged, but had to be cancelled.

The results of the Saturday matches are as follows :—

*June 3rd.* SIMONDS 39 FOR 7 v. P.O. ENGINEERS 124 FOR 8 (dec.).

The P.O. batting was stronger than our bowling, but in trying to press home their advantage they kept us too long in the field to give us sufficient time to make the runs. As it happened our batting went to pieces. Morgan made 10 and Merry 22, the latter could not get a lasting partner. When time was called we had lost 7 men with only 39 on the board.

For the P.O., Uden played a nice innings and made 57 before being caught. Welburn also put up a decent score, making 25, when E. Scott bowled him. Of the 8 wickets taken, six were due to catches. Greenaway took 3 for 23, Merry and Scott each got 2 for 12 and 33 respectively, and Morgan got the other at a cost of 22 runs.

*June 10th.* SIMONDS 62 v. MINISTRY OF HEALTH 129 FOR 9.

This was our only away match, and it took place on Kensington Road Ground on a fine afternoon, but with a rather cool breeze.

We batted first and did only moderately well. Morgan and Merry opened the innings and put on 29 before the former was bowled with 24 chalked up to his credit. No one else reached

double figures. The Ministry's bowling was shared by Hibbard (2 for 18), Underhill (4 for 12), Scott (4 for 29), and Reilly, who had three overs, all maidens, but no wickets.

For a time we did quite well in the field, claiming 5 wickets for 43 runs, then Dr. Boucher, after a quiet start, commenced hitting hard and altered the state of the game completely. The sixth wicket fell at 70, the seventh and eighth at 114 and 129. Boucher got 44 and then retired, and Underhill well backed him up with 21 not out.

Pearce and Scott bowled well, each taking four wickets for 34 and 19 respectively. Merry had three overs which were expensive. Morgan tried a couple, but could not get a wicket.

*June 17th.* SIMONDS 51 FOR 8 v. R.A.P.C. 142 FOR 4 (dec.).

The Pay Corps had first knock and made 51 before the first wicket fell. The second went down at 90, the third at 112, and the fourth at 119. With 142 on the board, the innings was declared closed. Morgan had a long innings, and made 72 before getting his leg in front of a straight one.

On this occasion also, our opponents did not give us a reasonable time to get the runs. As it was they got eight of our wickets down for the paltry score of 51, and when time was called K. Scott was defending dourly with 13 runs in his favour, and Pearce was 4 not out. Doe was the only other player to reach double figures.

*June 26th.* SIMONDS 88 v. NO. 42 GROUP, R.A.F., 158 FOR 2.

We batted first, but lost two good wickets in the first three overs, with only four runs in the book. The next wicket fell at 16, but five runs later another wicket fell. E. Scott was batting confidently, and with his next partner raised the score to 49. The sixth and seventh fell at 63 and 68, then another fourteen were collected before No. 8 went down, and four runs later the innings was over.

E. Scott 29, K. Scott 14 not out, Jelley 14, and Merry 11 had the best scores for us. L.A.C. Day was an untiring bowler, having 15 overs and 2 balls, 5 of them being maidens, and for 22 runs took 7 wickets.

Our bowlers found Sqdn/Leader Nicholson's defence impregnable. He played quietly until he had got his eye in, then he punished

anything loose. Once or twice a ball went astray, but then generally out of a fielder's reach. When time was called he had scored 109. Sgt. Towell made 27, and Cpl. Herbert 15 not out. The other wicket to fall was our only cheap one, the batsman only making a single before putting up a "dolly."

Seven bowlers were tried, but only Greenaway and E. Scott were lucky enough to get a wicket.

*July 1st.* SIMONDS 86 FOR 7 (dec.) *v.* P.O. ENGINEERS 43 FOR 8.

Another drawn game. This time we batted first and made quite a good start, having 39 on the book before losing a wicket. The second fell three runs later, and then another stand carried the score along to 74. The next four wickets only added 12, when we declared our innings closed, Skipper Benham thinking we were allowing ample time to get a decision one way or the other.

C. Morgan and Merry batted confidently, scoring 33 and 25 respectively. Benham had made 9, but was then a bit too slow in between the wickets, being run out. Bowering took 3 for 29, Olney 2 for 19, and Roberts 2 for 30.

Poor fielding on our part robbed us of what should have been our first win, as no fewer than seven catches were dropped, and the P.O. managed to play out time. Olney made 13 and Grover had 10 before being run out.

The wickets were taken by Pearce (3 for 17), E. Scott (2 for 9) and Merry (1 for 3).

*July 8th.* SIMONDS 30 *v.* NO. 42 GROUP, R.A.F., 120 FOR 8 (dec.).

The R.A.F. were again lucky with the spin of the coin, and elected to bat. We had two early successes, obtaining wickets at 7 and 21. Sqdn/Leader Nicholson, however, kept his end going, although the bowlers had him in difficulties on several occasions. The third and fourth wickets fell at 63, and the fifth 14 runs later. Sqdn/Leader Draper then joined Nicholson and the score mounted to 106, when Merry beat the latter, who had then made 55. Two more wickets fell cheaply, and with the score at 120, the innings was closed, Draper being 27 not out.

Merry took 3 for 30—27 being made in two overs—and Greenaway 3 for 38. Pearce and E. Scott each took one for 22 and 27 respectively.

The less said about our batting the better. No one reached double figures. L.A.C. Day took 5 for 6 runs, and Sqdn/Leader Draper 4 for 10, and with one man run out our innings was soon over.

*July 15th.* SIMONDS 130 FOR 6 (dec.) *v.* HOME GUARD, M.T., 138 FOR 3.

This was our best scoring game, but our effort was not good enough. The game was conspicuous for two high scores, C. Morgan made 76 for us, but this was capped by J. Mapson, of the Home Guard, who got 90 not out.

We batted first, our wickets falling at 30, 59, 61, 103, 107 and 123. With the exception of Morgan, no one reached double figures, Doe being the next best with 9. A. Priddy and F. Scott were 9 and 4 when called in.

The wickets were shared by Richmond and Mapson, two each, Maskell and White one each.

Although we got the first Home Guard wicket at 5, the next did not fall until 59 were on the board. The third partnership carried the total to 83, and the fourth to beat our total and the clock by 8 runs.

Another bad day for the bowlers. A Pearce got 2 for 45, and R. Pearce 1 for 23. Greenaway and E. Scott had no luck at all.

*July 22nd.* SIMONDS 96 FOR 8 (dec.) *v.* OLD BLUES 62.

We have chalked up our first win of the season, winning by 34 runs and two wickets.

The Old Blues batted first, but had a disastrous start, losing three wickets for no runs. The next two fell at 9 and 26, and then a stand of 29 made the book look a little better. Another collapse followed, as only 7 more runs were added, and the last four wickets fell at the same total, viz., 62.

Five batsmen only, scored: Hazzard 19, Badcock 12, Pike 11, Sergeant and Eggleton each made 5. Mr. Extras helped with 10.

The field well backed up the bowlers, holding six catches, and running out two batsmen. E. Scott had an afternoon out, taking 5 for 26, and later scoring 20 himself. Merry got 2 wickets for 3 runs, and Greenaway the other at a cost of 23.

Our start was nearly as bad, as we had lost our first wicket in the second over with only one run scored. K. Scott, going in as opening bat, played steadily and made 18 before being run out. Our second wicket partnership added 22, then two fell at 39. The next wicket took us nearly home, falling at 59, but Nos. 5, 6 and 7 could only bring it up to a tie, then the tail wagged, and we reached 81 before losing another wicket, and with the score at 96, stumps were drawn.

After the brothers E. and K. Scott, came F. with 12 not out, Merry 12, Sexton and Priddy with 11 each.

July 29th. SIMONDS 50 v. 7TH BN. HOME GUARD 84.

The visitors went in first, and made 18 before losing a wicket, they then lost two cheaply. The fourth partnership carried the score to 48, but our field got on top, three wickets only adding 8 runs. The batsmen came again, and another 20 went on the board. With the score at 84 the ninth and tenth wickets fell.

E. Scott took 4 for 24, and F. Scott 4 for 21; two others were run out.

K. Scott again opened our innings, but could get no assistance. In the first six overs we lost five wickets for 10 runs. The procession lasted for quite a while, and when the ninth batsman (?) departed only 29 were on the board. F. Scott held out, taking a few runs whenever possible, and with the assistance of Cooke carried the score up to 50, when the latter was bowled, the former carrying his bat for 15.

Kemp and Owens each took five wickets for 5 and 18 runs respectively. Three other bowlers had a go without any success.

August 12th. SIMONDS 46 FOR 10 v. MINISTRY OF HEALTH 128 FOR 7 (dec.).

On account of the Sports Meeting being held on Bank Holiday, no match was arranged for the preceding Saturday.

Again we had to take the field. Our first success came with 8 runs on the board, and at 26 we got the second man out. The third wicket doubled the score, and Nos. 4 and 5 fell at 71 and 78. Eleven runs later we got No. 6, but then the batsmen collared the bowling, and carried the total up to 128, and with the fall of the seventh wicket the innings was closed.

Merry 3 for 29, E. Scott 3 for 39 and E. Greenaway 1 for 23 took the wickets. Pearce and F. Scott had several overs each, but had no luck.

Our batting was again a procession to and from the pavilion. Only Lambourne reached double figures, but when time was called Pearce was 9 not out and Benham 7. It was a twelve aside, otherwise we should have been beaten instead of being able to claim a draw.

There are no other matches to report for August, as that against the R.A.P.C. had to be cancelled owing to the inclement weather, and we were down to play an R.A.F. XI on the 26th, but the team, no doubt, owing to the exigencies of the Service did not put in an appearance, so we had a knock up amongst ourselves to pass away a sunny afternoon.

As this copy is required by the Editor, the last match review and averages will have to be "continued in our next."

J.W.J.

## THE LIGHTER SIDE.

"Did your Pierrot Show fall so flat as that?"

"Well, to give you an idea, the Revenue people even returned the Entertainment Tax!"

\* \* \* \*

THE JUDGE (*sternly*): "I am sorry, but I must have decorum in court."

COURT USHER (*loudly, to police officer at entrance to court*): "Call Dick Oram!"

\* \* \* \*

It was the anniversary of their wedding and the wife was trying hard to jog her husband's memory.

"Oh, Albert," she said, "your mind is so full of sport you don't even remember the date of our wedding."

"Yes, I do," he replied, "it was the year Tolley first won the Amateur."

\* \* \* \*

MOTORIST : " I am sorry I ran over your hen. Will half a crown put it right ? "

FARMER : " Better make it five bob, I had a rooster who was so fond of that hen that the shock might kill him. "

\* \* \* \*

The bar was full and " stuff " was falling. Suddenly there was a crash.

A few moments later the landlord strolled in and said, " Time bomb, gentlemen, please. "

\* \* \* \*

A correspondent says he found a quantity of pre-war blotting paper in his desk. This is handy as writing paper, as the ink dries quickly and doesn't have to be smudged by wartime blotting-paper.

\* \* \* \*

" All I got at her house was a cup of shamrock tea, " remarked a young fellow.

" What on earth's shamrock tea ? " asked his companion.

" You know the kind—made with three leaves, " was the reply.

\* \* \* \*

Two business men were talking of the future of their sons. One said, " What's your boy going to do when he comes down from Oxford ? "

" He'll be an octogenarian, I think, " said the other.

\* \* \* \*

A young man in college was applying pressure for more money from home.

" I cannot understand why you call yourself a kind father, " he wrote his dad, " when you haven't sent me a cheque for three weeks. What kind of kindness do you call that ? "

" That's unremitting kindness, " wrote the father in his next letter.

\* \* \* \*

Enoch and Bill went fishing in a local pool and at the end of the day, satisfied with a good day's sport, decided to visit the pool again next day.

Bill said : " Enoch, mark spot and we will have another good day's fishing to-morrow. " Enoch replying : " Right-O ! "

After reaching the bank and emptying the boat of the fish, Bill said : " Have thee marked spot, Enoch ? " Enoch replying : " Yes, Bill. I've put a cross in bottom of boat. "

BILL : " Garn, yer ——— fool, we might not have same boat to-morrow ! "

\* \* \* \*

Funds were low and Mac and Sandy were looking very glum.

Suddenly Mac had a great idea. Said he : " If we put oor shillin' on the railway track, maybe we shall be able to pass it for a florin. "

They accordingly went down to the railway bridge for the experiment. After a short while a train came thundering through the bridge, but search as they would they could find no trace of the " bawbie. " The train was the Scottish Express !

\* \* \* \*

An Irishman was told to deliver a hamper containing a live hare to a country house.

" Begorra " said Pat, " it's meself that would be takin' a closer look at the cratur' . "

Carefully raising the lid a few inches he peeped inside when, to his dismay, the hare jumped out and promptly bolted across a field.

" Divil a bit of use is ut runnin' away wid yeself, " shouted Pat, " ye've left the address behind ye ! "

\* \* \* \*

Mary has a bathing suit  
(The very latest sort) ;  
It lets the world see twice as much  
Of Mary as it ought.

## BRANCHES.

## BRISTOL.

The manifold problems of supply and demand have made the lot of the average licensee anything but a happy one for a long time past, especially when he, or she, studies it mainly from the viewpoint of the customer or even of the Trade as a whole, as many of them still do. Despite these discouraging features of their Trade week by week, and the amount of other work of national importance which many of them are also engaged upon, they still manage to foster, support, and organise every kind of effort for the various Funds benefiting the boys overseas, whether it be for Prisoners of War, Red Cross, Bristol's Own, or any other deserving cause.

In this city a grand job of work has been, and is being done (as no doubt in many other "Hop Leaf" centres also) without very much publicity, by licensees and their customers who turn down no opportunity for service, and to whom a well-deserved tribute is long overdue. Skittle alleys, bagatelle and billiard tables, dart boards, all are fully employed week by week, turning physical effort into cash for the benefit of those many thousands who are so urgently in need of all our help. And so the good work goes on with unsparing endeavour on every hand. Many "Hop Leaf" tenants and their "regulars" are contributing very solidly month by month to these great causes and we know what the recipients would say if they were able to record their feelings. It would be something like this:—

"Thanks for your continued greatheartedness, every follower of John Barleycorn. We know we can count on your sympathy and practical help until we raise our glasses together again. May it be soon!"

An example of unified endeavour has just been concluded in the Hotwells area of Bristol, where a great deal of local interest was stimulated during the darts season among those licensed houses taking part in the Red Cross League, which was won by the Merchants' Arms team, after a particularly keen fight. We warmly congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Honeyfield on the success which their boys achieved by which the funds of the Red Cross benefited considerably. Many of the players in this competition "occupy their business" around the waters of Bristol Channel and amid its docks and foreshore, and they know and hear at first hand of the needs of those thousands who, in the hands of the enemy, have patiently to "stand and wait," yet "still serve" in the great fight for freedom.



A few days ago we received a letter from one of our 1939 absent "stalwarts," Mr. A. W. Bold, now a S/S.M. of the Royal Gloucester Hussars, who is rather impatiently waiting for another call overseas, but who is also looking further ahead to the time when he hopes to rejoin the inner family circle at Jacob Street again. We are glad to know he is very fit, and trust he will ere long find those hopes materialising and his army career drawing to its close. And that goes for a great host of other "Hop Leaf" enthusiasts we have, no doubt, in every corner of the globe, who now know that victory—complete and final—is only just over the horizon.

Good luck to them all. We await their homecoming, when the job is done, with grateful hearts.

## PORTSMOUTH.

## UNFAIR CRITICISM.

Members of the Portsmouth, Gosport and District Licensed Victuallers' Association entered a strong protest at their annual meeting against what they termed unjust and unfair criticisms of the Trade.

It was claimed that not only were publicans giving unstinted support to the national cause, but they were conducting their businesses in an exemplary manner, despite manifold difficulties. "Indeed," said the report, "no other trade in the city of a comparable nature can show a smaller percentage of defaulters or a cleaner record." It was emphasized that shortage of supplies, staff difficulties, and the fact that many licensees were on national service, leaving their women folk to carry on, had increased their difficulties, but they were endeavouring to put every demand made upon them into effect loyally and regardless of personal inconveniences.

## AN INNOVATION.

What was described as an epoch-making event was the decision of the Executive Committee to admit managers to the Committee as a temporary war measure. This was a departure, and the President (Mr. Gordon H. C. Pannell) hoped it would prove for their mutual benefit. Mr. George Lamb (Granada Hotel) and Mr. R. H. Martin (Winchester Arms) were the two managers selected by ballot, and they received warm congratulations.

It was also decided that the officers and committee should retain their offices for another year—victory year, it is hoped—and Mr. Pannell is therefore occupying the presidential chair for the third successive year. He has done remarkably well in bringing all sections of the Trade together, and he hopes that before he goes out of office they would obtain a 100 per cent. membership in place of the 75 per cent. at present existing. Mr. Walter F. Bailey, the Secretary, was also warmly congratulated on his fine work—much of it done behind the scenes—and thanked for his comprehensive and informative report of the preceding year's activities.

## WAVERLEYS GOING STRONG.

Our old friends at Southsea Waverley Bowling Club are going strong. Thanks to the enthusiasm of the popular president (Mr. A. H. Catterall), vice-president (Mr. H. R. Shepherd), captain (Mr. W. Christopher) and committee, war-time difficulties have more or less been overcome, new members are joining up, old

members are returning from their sheltered (sometimes!) quarters in the suburbs, and old-time amenities are being gradually restored. Since the bowling season started, Mr. Catterall, who is serving his second year in the chair, has held his annual President's Day tourney, Mr. Christopher has followed suit, and on each occasion members have rallied round them to show their appreciation of their hospitality and to enjoy the good old game on the green. The latter, by the way, is recovering from its somewhat rough treatment, and is playing very well, thanks to the consistent care that has been exercised. Over the tea cups the usual felicitations have been exchanged, the president's enthusiasm and good work being singled out for a special word of congratulation and praise. More war damage reconditioning is being undertaken, and it is hoped that by the time we are celebrating peace over a bottle of our favourite "S.B.," normal conditions will again prevail. Let it be soon!

## A COMPLIMENT.

Recently our contemporary, the *Portsmouth Evening News*, paid us the compliment of quoting a note from our last issue apropos the post-war planning of Portsmouth. Our comment "that if only a percentage of the replanning proposals are carried out Portsmouth will indeed be a very beautiful city" was emphasized. We still have hopes.

Incidentally, the City Council have decided to establish a City Planning and Construction Department and to appoint Mr. F. A. C. Maunder (Deputy City Architect) as City Planning Officer and Reconstruction Architect at a salary of £1,250, rising to £1,400 a year. Mr. Maunder has for some time been occupied on the preparation of plans and many of these, together with a model of the proposed civic centre, were on view in the Council chamber.

## JACK UNLUCKY.

Have you heard this one?

Jack had just returned to Pompey after a long and adventurous trip. His first thought was a drink. He entered the first pub he came to, and called for a pint. "Sorry," said the barman, "but you're not a regular, and I can't serve you." Disappointed, he went to the next hostelry and repeated his order. "Have you got a glass?" asked the barmaid. "No," replied Jack. "Then I can't serve you." In desperation he went on to a third house, and spotting empty glasses on a table he seized one, rushed up to the counter and shouted, "Pint please." "Sorry," said the barmaid, "you can't have another!"

BRITISH BEER IS BEST.



*Reproduced by kind permission of Mr. P. Reeve, Photographer, Southampton.*

We reproduce in this issue a photograph of one of our many United States friends enjoying a glass of "S.B." at the Hamble Social and Athletic Club, whose endeavour to create a home-from-home atmosphere among members of the American Forces is much

appreciated. Our friend in the picture would probably be the first to agree that British Beer is Best after all!

#### THE TAMAR BREWERY, DEVONPORT.

On leaving the Tamar Brewery to take up an appointment at Messrs. Hammonds Brewery, Bradford, a presentation was made from the employees here to Mr. R. A. R. Bradford, who has been on our Brewery staff for eleven years. The presentation of a cheque was made by our Head Brewer, Mr. J. E. G. Rowland, who wished Mr. Bradford every success in his new undertaking. Mr. Bradford suitably responded.

We have had numerous visits from members of our staff in the Forces who have been serving overseas. They are full of optimism, and hope to return to us soon.

The Standard Inn, Queen Street, Devonport, has recently been transferred from Mr. P. J. Hemer to Mr. A. W. Sorrell. The new licensee is a son of our tenant of the Swan Hotel, Devonport.

Mrs. W. C. Mitchell is the new tenant of the Vine Hotel, Admiral's Hard, Stonehouse, which has been transferred from Mrs. M. A. Truscott. Mrs. Mitchell is the wife of Mr. Arthur Mitchell, who is at present serving as a Master-at-Arms in the Royal Navy.

Our very best wishes are extended to both Mr. Sorrell and Mrs. Mitchell in joining our ranks as tenants.

We are sorry to report the passing of Mr. H. Timberley, of the Portobello Inn, Bideford, and tender our deepest sympathies to the widow to whom the licence will be transferred. Mr. Timberley was our tenant of the Portobello Inn since 1937.

## NEWBURY.

THE LATE MR. T. P. HERRIDGE.

Many friends and acquaintances at Head Office and Branches will regret to hear of the death of Mr. T. P. Herridge. He suffered great pain with fortitude these last few months and passed away on 23rd June.

Mr. Herridge, known to all as "Major," a nickname he acquired in the pioneer days of Ludgershall, when calls on messes and canteens were made on horseback, originally joined the Firm in 1899 in the Branch Department. Besides working at Ludgershall for a number of years he was for a short time at the Brighton Branch. In 1921 he was transferred to the South Berks Brewery as Assistant Secretary. Upon the liquidation of this Company he became "mine host" of the Castle Tavern, Newbury, in which capacity he was a great success. Up to the very last he spent a great deal of his time on his allotment. He was always a very keen gardener. In the last war he joined the Wilts Regiment and saw service in Egypt and Mesopotamia.

Mr. Herridge leaves a widow, to whom we offer our deepest sympathies. The tenancy of the Castle Tavern will be carried on by his brother-in-law, Mr. Charles Burden.

## BEER FOR THE TROOPS.

The following is an extract from a letter received from an Officer with the Headquarters of the Second Army, written from Normandy a few weeks since:—

"Yesterday was a scorcher and it was really delightful to see the pleasure in the faces of all ranks when it was found that bottled beer was on sale for the first time. The first beer to appear in our Mess was ———, but I am told by friends from many quarters that the 'Hop Leaf' has been welcome all along the front and has done more to raise the morale of the troops than the issue of bread. No doubt the N.A.A.F.I., in their wisdom, have sent 'Hop Leaf' brands to the soldiers in the line who deserve the best and have sent the remainder to Corps and Army Headquarters, and no one can quarrel with this. The troops have had some very tough fighting and deserve the best we can give them."

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