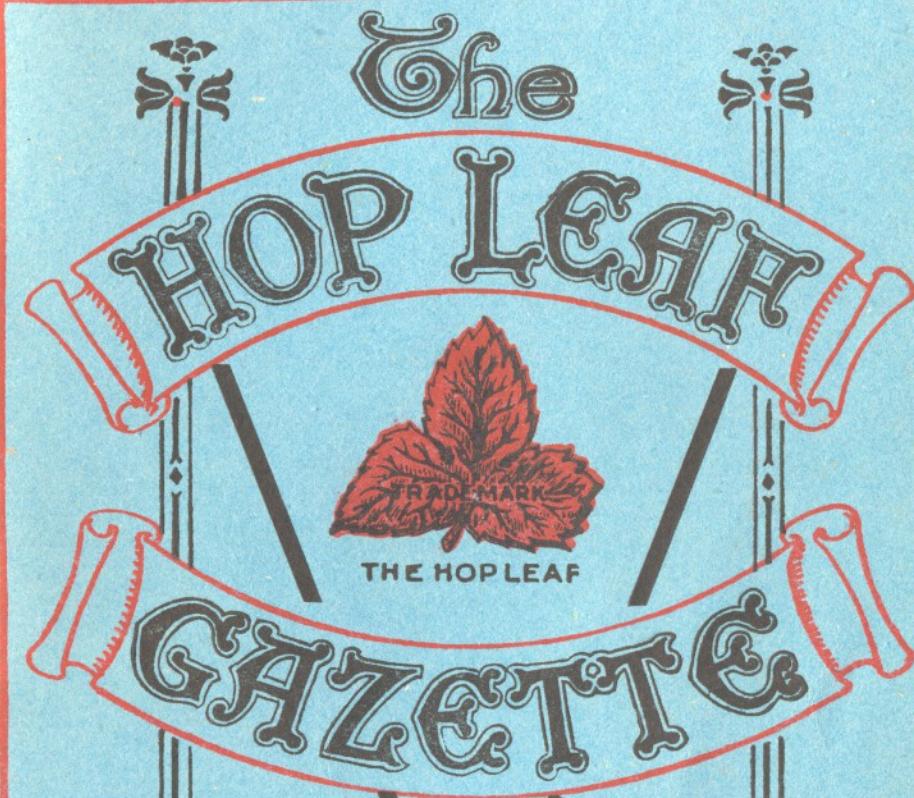


VOL. XIX.

JUNE, 1945.

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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.*

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Vol. XIX.

JUNE, 1945.

No. 3

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



MR. R. BROAD.

## MR. R. BROAD.

During the course of the war it has become increasingly evident that, despite the vast amount of extra clerical work necessitated by restrictions and regulations, and the consequent multiplication of junior personnel in certain departments, the veterans of the last war have proved of inestimable value in holding together the fabric of departmental routine, without which, chaos would inevitably follow.

In the forefront of the staff who have formed that solid foundation stands Mr. R. Broad, the subject of our frontispiece in this issue. His labours during the past trying years have been as important to the Firm as have been those of the "back-room boys" of other spheres. Mr. Broad is in charge of the Cask Beer section of the General Department, and his duties include the supplying of records of barrelage to various Departments, including the Brewing and Secretarial offices, and the checking of summaries of supplies to the houses of other Brewers, and vice versa, under the zoning regulations, which call for extreme accuracy. It was a wise selection in appointing Mr. Broad for this responsible work, in which he has earned the highest praise.

Mr. Broad's career started in the Delivery Department in February, 1916, and he worked there until August, 1918, when he was called for military service. He joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, which formed part of the Army of Occupation on the Rhine. In retrospect he recalls his sojourn in the beautiful city of Cologne, which so often became Target for To-night in the recent war. He returned to the Delivery Department in April, 1921, and was transferred to the General Department in 1923, being engaged upon sales books and ledger work, and gaining knowledge which has been such a great asset to him in his present work, and enabling him to supervise and instruct new staff during the past six years.

Upon the outbreak of war in 1939, Mr. Broad joined the Brewery First-Aid Party and, to gain more experience, became a member of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, passing examinations in First Aid, Home Nursing and A.R.P., for which he holds certificates.

In May, 1942, when the call came to "Man the Guns," he joined the 101st Battery A.A. Home Guard, and rose to the rank of Sergeant. Incidentally, he was Troop Sergeant on the first night that the Battery went into action against the enemy.

As a member of the Brewery cricket team, Mr. Broad is remembered as a medium pace bowler. On account of his ability to swerve the flight of the ball, which is very deceptive to batsmen, and which brought him much success, he soon became the opening bowler in the first eleven. He was a member of the Social Club billiards team which won the Reading and District League in 1927-28, and was considered a very able exponent of the game, in which he still indulges as a member of the Curzon Club. His work on the Committee of the Brewery Social Club is well known, as also his ready and willing help in the social functions.

*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.)



## THANKSGIVING.

It is peace again in Europe. Germany has surrendered unconditionally by land, air and sea. Not for the first time we have done something which the world thought was impossible. By our efforts we have wrought wonders; by our faith we have moved mountains. To others it may all seem a miracle. To us the secret is simple, and contained in one word. That word is Unity.

Now Victory has been won we think, with pride, of our country, our brotherhood, and our traditions. With pride, but not vainglory. Peace in Europe has been bought too dearly for us to greet it with anything but quiet thankfulness. The hour is one for rejoicing, but also for solemnity; for celebration, but also for profound reflection.

Peace does not yet reign on earth. In Japan we have another powerful enemy to subdue.

## REJOICE!

"O sing unto the Lord a new song; for he hath done marvellous things; his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory."

"The Lord hath made known his salvation; his righteousness hath he openly showed in the sight of the heathen."

"He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God."

" Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth ; make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

" Sing unto the Lord with the harp ; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm.

" With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King."

#### WE MUST REMEMBER !

These days we think of those who should be here, but are not. Those who, by their toil, and wounds, and suffering, have made this day come true.

" To skies that knit their heartstrings right,  
To fields that bred them brave,  
The saviours come not home to-night,  
Themselves they could not save."

Their gift to us is peace, and it is our duty to preserve it. For the moment, after six years of darkness and destruction, the prospect is still unrealisable, almost incredible. Sights and sounds of the past six years will come back to us as we hail the end of the war in Europe. The vapour trails of the Battle of Britain ; the moan of the sirens, the crack of the guns, the crump of the bombs, the V1 and V2. The organ phrases of Churchill ; the miracle of Dunkirk, the great victories of the Royal Navy ; the desert army, the glorious Eighth, under Alexander and Montgomery. Joy and dismay ; hope and fear. The turn of the tide. The support of great Allies—the magnificent feats of the Russians, the marvellous material achievements and the great fighting qualities of the Americans.

#### OUR GREAT FUTURE.

To each his own memories, but to all a common experience. We, the living generation of the British people, hug something to our souls which can be shared by no other nation. It belongs to the time when we, alone in all the world, stood firm against the glowering tyrant across the Channel. " God bless the narrow seas," cried Tennyson, and we echoed his fervent invocation.

Let us now go forward into the great future that awaits us, equipped as we are with the prestige won, under Providence, by our triumph. The nations of Europe have turned to us in war, and they look to us also for leadership in peace. The tasks before us will be onerous. Six years of conflict have left Europe disrupted and devastated. The social, moral, material and political problems left in their wake are appalling in their magnitude but they must

be tackled and solved and we must take a foremost part in their solution. At home, too, tremendous reforms confront us. In mingling the old with the new there will be many trials and not a few errors. There will be controversies and disagreements—perhaps hard times. But we can if we will, make a better and more prosperous Britain than any we have known if we stand together. As nations and as individuals we have put aside differences so that with our united strength we could overthrow the common enemy. By union alone we have won through to a great deliverance.

If we can perpetuate in peace the comradeship of war, then war will be banished. Twice within thirty years we have learned that truth. We must not again forget it.

#### THE KING'S TASK.

The King has made his reply to the loyal Addresses of the Lords and Commons on the victory in Europe. " I have done my best," he said, " to discharge my duty as a constitutional Sovereign of a free people." The phrase was characteristically modest. The King's first concern was to thank the peoples of this country and the Empire of which he is the supreme head and ruler. His was a regal tribute to the Armed Forces, the Merchant Service, the workers and defence forces at home, and especially to the women, not forgetting the housewives, without whose contribution the war could never have been won. But what of the King himself, and of his gracious and smiling consort, Queen Elizabeth ? It is customary to speak of their untiring devotion to duty, and we may read the phrase without much thought. But a world of truth lies in the conventional words. The King and Queen have shared the sorrows and the hazards of this war with their people. Their London home has been bombed and Windsor has also been under enemy attack. The King's brother, the Duke of Kent, lost his life on a Service flight, and one of his nephews, Viscount Lascelles, fought in Italy and was captured.

#### ALWAYS ON DUTY.

The King has visited his forces in the field, on the active battlefronts of Italy and Western Europe, and in North Africa and Malta while the war was still raging in the Mediterranean. Together the King and Queen have made numberless visits to industrial areas, institutions, and bombed sites, and often they have performed some public function after the sirens have sounded.

These are only some of the duties which have fallen to the Sovereign. But above and beyond these things all the burdens

and anxieties of the war have fallen upon the King for nearly six years. The Addresses have been presented from Parliament, but the people have paid tribute to the King and Queen in their own way. On VE-Day, as on previous occasions of national rejoicing, they made for the Palace and called for the King.

It was an instinctive demonstration to the Crown as the centre of this ancient democracy, but it was also a mark of affection for the man who wears it.

#### BREWERY A.R.P. SERVICES.

On Friday, 25th May, the Brewery First-Aid Party men met in the Social Club Canteen and spent a very enjoyable evening to mark the standing down of the Party.

During the evening our Party Leader, Mr. P. Ruffles, paid tribute to our guest, Captain A. S. Drewe, A.R.P. Controller, for the magnificent way in which he had organised, not only the whole of the A.R.P. services of the Brewery, but the great personal interest he had taken in the way the Firm had built and equipped our fine underground hospital.

Captain Drewe thanked all members for their loyal support and keenness. Although being fortunate in this town not to have been called on many times, the few occasions when the services were required, all casualties had been dealt with most speedily and efficiently. For this, thanks are due to our First-Aid party leader, Mr. Tom Kent (now in the Forces) who worked so ably and well to organise and put us through our training—a training which enabled everyone in the party to pass for their First-Aid certificates and re-examinations.

#### DECONTAMINATION PARTY.

On Friday, 8th June, the Decontamination Party held a similar social gathering at the Club. Here Captain A. S. Drewe thanked all members for the wonderful way in which they had acquitted themselves. Working in heavy anti-gas suits was a real man's job and they, of all parties in the A.R.P. services, had to go through the most arduous training under the able leadership of Mr. Venner. They had to keep up practice right to the end of the war. As a memento of his services it gave Captain Drewe great pleasure to present to Mr. Venner a leather wallet subscribed for by his team. *Photo on page 155.*

Mr. Venner responded by thanking all for their able and loyal support.

#### A WORTHY PART.

The great Firm, to which we are privileged to belong, played a very worthy part in the war. The three sons of our Chairman and Managing Director distinguished themselves abroad; several of our Directors have also seen years of service, and very many others employed by the Firm have served in almost every theatre of the war. Not a few have made the supreme sacrifice, and our hearts go out in sympathy to the bereaved parents and relatives. The Firm has sent vast quantities of beer to the Forces, and this has been appreciated more than words can tell. The Directors, too, have treated all employees who have left temporarily to serve their country with a generosity that is typical of the Firm. And, meanwhile, those left behind have worked like Trojans to keep the Hop Leaf flag flying. Our great chief, Mr. F. A. Simonds, has set us all a noble example in this respect and has worked wonders.

Bravo, everybody!

#### TOO COLD AND INFORMAL.

When a party of W.R.N.S. recently took over an old building in a north-east city, the usual notice board was set up announcing :

ADMIRALTY

NO ADMITTANCE

This was evidently too cold and formal for a local wag, for a few hours later these two words had been added in chalk :

WRENS NESTING.

#### OUR GREAT PRIME MINISTER.

Mr. Churchill has given us magnificent leadership, resulting in tremendous efforts and the winning of the war. He has travelled far and wide at great risk; nothing was too great for him to bring peace, and his steadfastness gave us determination to defeat a wicked enemy. Is our memory so short that we should now cast him aside? It will be to our eternal shame if his great gifts, intelligence and leadership are forgotten.

Let us borrow the words of South Africa's VE Day message to the Empire's leader. Here they are :—

"We rejoice with you in a magnificent victory. To-day we recall how much so many owe to so few; but there is no one person to whom humanity's debt is greater than to yourself."

## MAC, NOT MIKE !

Councillor W. E. C. McIlroy, the National Candidate for Reading, is making wonderful progress in the constituency. He is a man of sterling character, who has proved his worth in private and public service. His speeches are pregnant with sound common sense, and in the various Clubs he has visited, and elsewhere, he has made a very favourable impression. At the Balfour Club recently, when Mr. W. Bowyer presided, he had a great reception, and Mr. F. A. Simonds observed : " We have had a VE-Day and a VE-Plus-One. See to it we have a V.C. (Victory for Churchill) Day." He added : " We want Mac, not Mike ! "

The company appreciated these observations, and applauded with great gusto.

## EPIGRAPH.

At a Norwich church :

He angled many a purling brook,  
But lacked the angler's skill,  
He lied about the fish he took  
And here he's lying still.

## SOME BEETLE !

Mr. Fisher, of the Scalds Department, has captured a stag beetle. It is a male, with horns over half-inch in length. Only the male stag beetle has these horns, with which they can give you quite an appreciable pinch. The beetle is about two inches long. These insects often remain four years in the larval stage. Mr. Fisher's beetle is a very fine specimen, and it was thoughtful of him to show it to me. I used to keep them as " pets " when at school.

## A HAPPY REUNION.

There was a very happy family reunion recently at Mortimer when Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Simonds' three sons met after an absence of five years. The two younger sons (Major E. Duncan Simonds and Captain Kenneth F. Simonds), both of whom won distinction, were on leave from Italy and Syria respectively.

## NATURE NOTE.

(BY C.H.P.).

## THE MAYFLY IS UP !

## ITS FASCINATION FOR THE FLY-FISHERMAN.

## A DAY OF VARIED DELIGHTS.

The mayfly was up ; I am a student of politics, but with that ephemeral fly making its appearance, the trouble over Trieste and other international problems paled into insignificance. I was more than surprised when the Vicar made no mention of the momentous fact that the mayfly was up in his sermon on Sunday.

Nor was there any hymn to the effect !

The mayfly is up,  
Ye anglers rejoice ;  
Many trout are rising,  
So now make your choice.

With such a stirring hymn I am sure I should have forgotten myself and shouted Encore !

## UNDILUTED DELIGHT.

But, to be more serious. Noticing that the mayfly was in evidence I hied me to a little trout stream, there to spend a day of undiluted delight. When in the countryside I always study to be quiet—you thus see so much more of wild Nature and her ways.

As I was creeping noiselessly through a copse a nightingale burst forth into song within a few yards of me. For some minutes I knelt in the nettles and listened to the exuberant gladness as it was being outpoured from the throat of this master of matchless music. He flooded the copse with his rich, liquid notes. We read that in nature there is nothing melancholy, and yet, to me, there always seems *some* sorrow in the nightingale's song.

## NEVER HURRY WHEN FISHING.

The stinging nettles seemed very partial to my hands and left their impress there.

But what did that matter—the mayfly was up! Arriving at the river I was quite eager to assemble my tackle—a very simple matter to the fly-fisherman. And while I always study to be quiet, I also make it a very strict rule never to hurry while fishing. I stroll up the river and observe what is happening. The water is still very low and very clear, and there are long reaches where it is so shallow it could hold no good fish. And so, generally speaking, the conditions were unfavourable, particularly as the rises were very few and far between.

And though the mayfly was up there were only a few to be seen when I arrived at the river in the morning.

#### NO SUCCESS AT FIRST.

I noticed one or two trout take the mayfly, but these fish were so small that I did not waste any time on them. However, they afforded me the information I was seeking—which fly to use. So I attached a mayfly to my cast, first oiling the hackle of the fly with paraffin to make it float well. I sent this fly in many directions, in likely-looking water under the alders and under either banks, where it sailed down the water like a stately little yacht. There was a very gusty wind blowing and accurate casting was no easy matter, especially with a long line. And so, for one, two hours, I strolled along leisurely, trying my luck here and there, but no success came my way. I revel in a hard fight, however, and I was far from feeling beaten yet!

#### A SYLVAN SCENE.

In a quiet sylvan scene I rested on the trunk of a large tree that had been felled some time ago, and it was bereft of much of its bark. Here I ate my lunch of bread and cheese—how I could have done with a little more cheese for I began to feel, as well I might, the keen demands of appetite! Then I drew from my otherwise empty creel a bottle, and had a long and refreshing drink of—cold tea; (*Loud laughter.*)

There came and alighted beside me a pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly who enjoyed basking in the sun. She was joined by

another of the same species. From the topmost branch of a small tree a whitethroat repeatedly rose into the air, performed curious aerial antics, singing all the while. And then I heard the song of the little blackcap; its gladness is unmistakable, and White, of Selborne, truly describes its song as “full, sweet, deep, loud and wild.” The blackcap is one of my favourite birds, and its song is almost as rich, and quite as joyous, as that of the nightingale. Then a sedge warbler chattered away to his heart’s content. His is a very welcome note, perhaps carrying more noise than meaning. The willow warbler, too, was much in evidence. His delicately sweet song is like a little silver stream trickling from the tree-tops. The grasshopper warbler was pulling out his line of so-called “song” as if from a winch. And a kingfisher flashed by, adding a touch of gay colour to these charming surroundings.

#### A TROUT ON THE MOVE!

I had almost forgotten my promise of a brace of trout to a friend, so I must set to work again. I have been keeping my eye on the ball—I mean the water—all the time, and I have noticed a good trout on the move in the distance. I approach him stealthily and, crouching behind a bush, throw out my line. The fly lit on the water on the very spot at which I aimed—about a foot above the fish and a few inches this side of him. Very, very gradually the fly floats down—it is over the trout’s very nose. What a tense moment! He was a fine fellow and, like a member of that famous regiment, he was “up and at it!” I struck, from the winch, for fear of hitting him too hard. The winch sang—what music!—as the line was rapidly drawn out by the fish and I knew he was well and truly hooked. I played him for a while and when he was tired I guided him ever so gently to the net and lifted him from the water—a pound of speckled beauty.

#### SET TO WORK WITH ADDED ZEST.

This was indeed encouraging, and I set to work with added zest. I have been a fly-fisherman now, alas! for sixty years, and never before have I been in such fine form. Throughout the day

I did not make one single mistake. With expensive casts and expensive flies, both difficult to obtain, one must use super care. Though I fished under, over and around briars and branches not once did I get hung up, in spite of the tricky wind that blew quite strongly at times. And to cut a long and, to me, mémorable story, short, I had, throughout the day, only ten rises, and landed seven good fish ! I was proud of my prowess.

#### THE LAST AND BEST

I must relate how I landed my last fish. My practised eye can generally judge the size of a fish from its rise. Earlier in the day I had noticed what I knew was a fine fish feeding as though he meant business. But the spot was surrounded by bushes and trees on either side of the water, and to get a long line out to the rising fish was indeed a difficult task. However, perseverance always pays. Further upstream I measured out the exact length of line required. Then I crept towards my would-be prize. I saw him seize a real mayfly. And so, swish ! swish !! swish !!! away goes my fly on its great errand. It floated right over the fish ; he turned towards it and then sank down, and he seemed clearly to say to me, " What do you take me for ? " That was a challenge ; I have accepted many challenges in my life and not by any means have I always come off second best. I accepted this challenge with a bit of the old sportsman's fighting spirit in me. I tied on another fly and after a while sent this on its mission. The trout seemed to sulk and took not the slightest notice of the fly as it floated right over him.

#### I SCORE IN LAST ROUND.

It looked all like a K.O. for me—not the first by any means. I rested for ten minutes. Meanwhile I attached yet another fly, known as the green drake, and thought I would try the artful old dodger with that. As I have said, the surroundings were most difficult in which to cast a good fly, and I had had a long day. But again, swish ! swish !! swish !!! and, perhaps more by luck than judgment, I avoided every overhanging snare in the shape of

branch and bush and my fly fell on the water just where required. When a few inches from the fish's nose I gave my line a very, very gentle little jerk which just moved the fly and made it look every bit as though it were alive. Another tense few seconds and the trout rose in truly business-like fashion. I struck at the psychological moment and then the fun began ! I was fishing with 4X gut and as the fish dashed up and down stream I wondered if with such gossamer material I should be able to hold him. It was a great fight and lasted about ten minutes. The fish was game to the last and once, when I got him to the surface, he leapt fully two feet out of the water. Then he began to tire—I believe I did, too—and ever so gradually I coaxed him nearer and nearer to my net and, at long last, drew him into it and lifted him on to the bank—a prize indeed, well over 2 lbs. in weight and in the pink of condition !

Then I reeled in, a tired, happy, and, I think, a justifiably proud man !

#### VICTORY IN EUROPE.

This being the first Board Meeting held since the announcement made by the Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, on May 8th, that the whole of the German Armed Forces had surrendered unconditionally to the Allied Commanders, the Directors desire to give expression to their deep sense of gratitude to the Forces of the Crown and to the Merchant Navy, who, under the leadership of our great Prime Minister, have by the Grace of God, been able in Europe to vanquish and overcome all our enemies.

They would also like to place on record their sincere appreciation of the loyal and steadfast conduct of their employees in times of great dangers and difficulties when, in common with all other members of the civil population, their enduring will to carry on, despite all hazards, made possible the achievements of the Fighting Forces.

---

(The above is a copy of Minute at the Board Meeting held 14th May, 1945.)

## A GREAT THOUGHT.

## COMPENSATION.

*One day an Antelope was lying with her fawn at the foot of a flowering Mimosa. The weather was intensely sultry, and a Dove who had sought shelter from the heat among the leaves, was cooing above her head.*

"Happy bird!" said the Antelope. "Happy bird! to whom the air is given for an inheritance, and whose flight is swifter than the wind. At your will you alight upon the ground, at your will you sweep into the sky, and fly races with the driving clouds; while I, poor I, am bound a prisoner to this miserable earth, and wear out my pitiable life crawling to and fro upon its surface."

Then the Dove answered, "It is sweet to sail along the sky, to fly from land to land, and coo among the valleys; but, Antelope, when I have sat above amidst the branches and watched your little one close its tiny lips upon your breast, and feed its life on yours, I have felt that I could strip off my wings, lay down my plumage, and remain all my life upon the ground only once to know such blessed enjoyment."

The breeze sighed among the boughs of the Mimosa, and a voice came trembling out of the rustling leaves: "If the Antelope mourns her destiny, what should the Mimosa do? The Antelope is the swiftest among the animals. It rises in the morning; the ground flies under its feet—in the evening it is a hundred miles away. The Mimosa is feeding its old age on the same soil which quickened its seed cells into activity. The seasons roll by me and leave me in the old place. The winds sway among my branches, as if they longed to bear me away with them, but they pass on and leave me behind. The wild birds come and go. The flocks move by me in the evening on their way to the pleasant waters. I can never move. My cradle must be my grave."

Then from below, at the root of the tree, came a voice which neither bird, nor Antelope, nor tree had ever heard, as a Rock Crystal from its prison in the limestone followed on the words of the Mimosa.

"Are ye all unhappy?" it said. "If ye are, then what am I? Ye all have life. You! O Mimosa, you! whose fair flowers year by year come again to you, ever young, and fresh, and beautiful—you who can drink the rain with your leaves, who can wanton with the summer breeze, and open your breast to give a home to the wild birds, look at me and be ashamed. I only am truly wretched."

"Alas!" said the Mimosa, "we have life, which you have not, it is true. We have also what you have not, its shadow—death. My beautiful children, which year by year I bring out into being, expand in their loveliness only to die. Where they are gone I too shall soon follow, while you will flash in the light of the last sun which rises upon the earth."

## WELL DONE.

The war clouds now are passing,  
The Victory beacon shines at last:  
The days of tears, blood and sweat are very nearly past.  
In our cities devastated by that monster called the Hun,  
To those who had to take it,  
We pass the words, WELL DONE!

We remember the Battle of Britain  
When the R.A.F. stood by;  
The lads who saved the country, and drove the Luftwaffe  
from the sky.  
They did not shirk their duty, it was a fight most nobly  
won:  
So we salute the R.A.F.  
And pass the words, WELL DONE!

They did their best to starve us with their deadly  
submarine;  
They forgot we had a Navy and a Mercantile Marine.  
The lads in blue just stuck it until they had him on the  
run:  
To our gallant lads in navy blue  
We pass the words, WELL DONE!

On land he found his master at Tunis and El Alamein;  
In Italy and Normandy we did the trick again.  
They have taught the Japs a lesson  
'Neath Burma's boiling sun:  
God bless you, Tommy Atkins!  
We pass the words, WELL DONE!

When the fighting's finished  
And the boys come home again,  
When we give the final knock-out to the Hun:  
To the boys who left the Brewery  
When they answered duty's call—  
We must grip them by the hand and say WELL DONE!

(These lines, written by Mr. Wheeler, were very impressively recited by Miss Woods at a concert given at the Social Club.)



## (COLLECTING BOXES.)

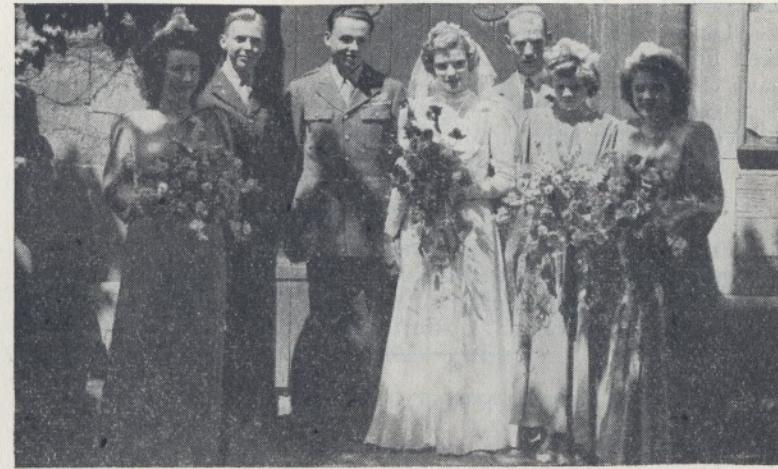
Since 1940, collecting boxes have been circulated in the Departments of the Brewery to obtain funds to help various charities connected with the War.

Detailed below is a summary of organisations assisted, together with totals of cash collected from the Departments up to date, making a total of £612 8s. 3d.

Grateful thanks are due to the collectors and all who contribute to these very deserving charities.

Department.	Red Cross.	St. Dunstan's.	Sailors' Society.	P.O.W.	Aid to Russia.	Merchant Navy.	Y.M.C.A.	Total.
BEER CELLARS ..	£ 24 16 3	8 d.	£ 18 11 6	8 d.	£ 5 12 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 d.	£ 4 5 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	£ 59 19 8
BOTTLE STORES ..	14 3 2	4 10 11	4 11 0	2 5 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 19 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 8	28 16 3
BREWERY ..	16 10 6	6 11 1	6 12 2	6 0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 12 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 14 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 1	48 17 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
BUILDING ..	22 0 2	6 18 0	3 6 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 7 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 10 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 5 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	45 6 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
CATERING ..	2 2 10	17 6	11 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	18 3	6 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	4 16 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
COOPERAGE ..	9 6 9	4 12 7	3 6 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 12 6	1 13 5	2 15 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 5	23 10 3
DELIVERY OFFICE ..	11 2 7	6 3 2	4 2 10	4 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 9 8	5 5 2	8 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	34 11 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
ENGINEERS ..	24 11 0	8 5 3	4 13 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 8 11	5 18 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 17 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 3	55 9 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
MALTINGS ..	20 17 0	4 3 2	5 13 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 9 3	1 14 7	10 6	40 10 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
OFFICES: GROUND FLOOR ..	34 19 0	13 17 11	7 7 4	6 19 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 6 3	12 0 10	2 9 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 19 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
OFFICES:— 1ST AND 2ND FLOORS ..	23 9 5	7 13 11	4 12 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 12 11	5 11 10	4 1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	16 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	50 18 9
STABLES ..	3 19 6	1 3 6	16 1	13 10	1 0 4	1 1 10	3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 18 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
SURVEYORS ..	13 17 4	8 10 5	3 11 7	3 7 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 5 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 3 1	39 18 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
WHEELWRIGHTS ..	10 14 2	3 4 7	1 19 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 9	2 11 1	2 7 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 3	23 1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
WINE STORES ..	10 19 5	4 8 6	3 13 4	3 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 7 10	4 13 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 1	31 17 6
SUNDRIES ..	16 11 0	5 11 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 7	6 7 5	—	—	—	28 14 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
TOTAL ..	£260 0 1	£105 3 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	£58 2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	£60 9 8	£58 11 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	£59 15 4	£10 5 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	£612 8 3

COLEMAN—REICHEL.



The wedding of Sergeant John Reichel, United States Air Corps, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Reichel, of Racine, Wisconsin, and Miss Daphne Coleman, only daughter of Mrs. F. L. Coleman, of Lorne Street, Reading, was solemnized at Holy Trinity Church, Oxford Road, Reading, on Saturday, 2nd June, 1945.

The smiling bride, in a white rayon silk dress, with orange blossom headdress and embroidered veil, carried a bouquet of dark red roses, and was attended by three bridesmaids, Miss Alma Wallace, Miss Kathleen Leeke, and Miss Margaret Waltham, cousin of the bride. They looked charming in their dresses of pale green crepe, with feathered headdresses, and carried bouquets of roses and sweet peas. The bridegroom's best man was Captain Nathan Nevin, with attendant Sergeant John Striegel.

The service, which was choral, was conducted by the Rev. E. O. Gittins. The bride was given away by her uncle, Mr. T. E. Waltham.

After the ceremony the happy pair left for a brief honeymoon at Princes Risborough.

Among the presents received by the bride, who is a member of the Delivery Department, was a wallet of Treasury notes from her friends at the Brewery.

Miss Coleman expressed her warm thanks to all.

## SOCIAL CLUB NEWS.

## SOCIAL EVENINGS.

During the winter months a series of social evenings have been held at the Social Club for members. The entertainments have taken the form of a Cabaret, and employees of the Firm who have contributed to the programme are Miss E. Townsend, Miss B. Wood, Mr. S. Hinton, Mr. S. Noblett, Mr. S. O'Callaghan, Mr. Bob Fennell and Mr. J. Maxwell.

The dancing has been very well patronised.

Collections made each evening for such Institutions as St. Dunstan's, the Royal Berkshire Hospital, have been well supported.

## OUR SERVING COLLEAGUES.

With the object of reminding employees of the Firm that our thoughts were with them during the Christmas Season, a Christmas Greetings telegram and a parcel of cigarettes were sent to each known member from the Social Club. Many very appreciative letters have been received in acknowledgment, and nearly all expressed gratitude that, although far away, they had not been forgotten by those left at home. The work entailed in despatching the gifts has been more than compensated by the letters of thanks received from all parts of the world.

## A BREWERY WEDDING.

The marriage of Miss Nina Sharpe and Mr. Cyril Cox took place at Holy Trinity Church, Reading, on Saturday, 5th May.

Miss Sharpe, who has been with the Firm during the war years, has been employed on the Wages Section since P.A.Y.E. tax commenced. Prior to that she was a member of the Cask Beer Sales Section of the General Office.

Mr. Cox, who is a member of the Accounts Department, commenced his duties with the Firm in the Cask Office, afterwards being promoted to the General Office. Then a spell of service with our subsidiary Company, The South Berks Brewery Co., Limited, Newbury, followed. Returning to Reading on the amalgamation with the parent company, Mr. Cox became a member of the Accounts Department on its formation in 19E7.

The honeymoon was spent at Lynton, Devon.

A happy little ceremony was performed on the previous evening, when, on behalf of all the clerical staff, Mr. A. G. Richardson made a presentation to Mr. Cox and Miss Sharpe. In a little speech he made the following remarks :

" This afternoon I have a very pleasant duty to perform. As you all know, Mr. Cox and Miss Sharpe are entering into the bonds of matrimony to-morrow, and we are gathered together now to wish them ' God-speed ' on their new joint venture in life.

" Both Mr. Cox and Miss Sharpe are, quite obviously, very popular members of the staff. Never was evidence more conclusive on this point than the amount contributed by all of you to the wedding presents which I am about to give to them on your behalf. The total amount subscribed constitutes a record and I am very gratified at your response in this connection.

" I am somewhat sorry that the major wedding gift has not yet been delivered—owing to wartime exigencies—but I am hopeful of obtaining it within the next week or so. I refer to a radio set, which has been on order for some time now.

" However, I am happy to present now at least part of our gift—these beautiful cut-glass pieces which you see before you.

" I am sure you will all desire to join with me in wishing the happy couple a life of supreme joy and bliss. I am glad to say that we are not to lose the services of Miss Sharpe entirely, for she has consented to continue her work in the office for half-days in the future. We are grateful to her in this respect—more especially so in these days of extreme shortage of clerical staff.

" With these few words, I will now ask you, Mr. Cox and Miss Sharpe, to accept this gift from your colleagues to mark the occasion of your marriage.

" May God bless you both and grant you every happiness in your future."

## THE LIGHTER SIDE.

At a territorial camp one of the recruits, rather a gentlemanly fellow, " went sick." The M.O. could find nothing wrong with him. He said sternly : " Would you come to me with this supposed illness in civilian life ? "

" Oh, lord, no," said the man, " I'd send for you ! "

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS.

R. B. BOWLY &amp; CO., LIMITED, SWINDON.

On 1st April, 1945, H. & G. Simonds Limited acquired the North Wilts Brewery, Swindon, and the whole of the licensed premises formerly belonging to R. B. Bowly & Co., Limited. The properties purchased comprise some 42 licensed houses and 9 off-licensed premises, situated in Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire, including the well-known and old-established hostelry, "The Goddard Arms Hotel," High Street, Swindon, which has now been placed under the control of our Hotels and Catering Department. (*See page 142*).

It is hoped to publish further details of this latest acquisition in subsequent issues.

## SACCONC &amp; SPEED LIMITED.

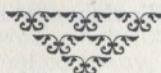
Financial arrangements have recently been concluded whereby H. & G. Simonds Limited, in conjunction with our Associated Company, Simonds-Farsons Ltd., of Malta, have acquired a substantial interest in the firm of Saccone & Speed Limited, of Gibraltar and London.

Saccone & Speed Limited have for many years specialised on an Export and a Ships' Stores business and possess branches or agencies in most countries of the world.

Major The Hon. J. Patron, O.B.E., M.C., of Saccone & Speed Limited, will continue to act as Chairman of the Company and will be resident in or near Gibraltar, where the Head Offices are situated.

Mr. F. A. Simonds, Chairman and Managing Director of H. & G. Simonds Limited, has taken a seat on the board of Saccone and Speed Limited. Mr. Lewis Farrugia, O.B.E., Managing Director of Simonds-Farsons Limited, Malta, and Mr. R. Wingrave Tench, O.B.E., another director of that Company, have also become directors of Saccone & Speed Limited.

A full historical record of Saccone & Speed Limited appears in the following pages, and will be found of absorbing interest.

HISTORY OF SACCONC & SPEED, LIMITED,  
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES.

Culled from archives and brought up to date by  
Messrs. E. Willmott and B. L. V. Ellis,  
Joint General Managers.

In the middle of the 18th Century the British Empire was in the making. Clive won Plassey; Wolfe took Quebec; Captain Cook roamed the South Seas. The flag was hoisted over India, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and many other fair parts of the globe. The Navy's wooden walls fought in every sea and the Army's red-coats battled in every clime to win and consolidate that mighty Empire which, when all is said, exists for the benefit of every part of it as much as, if not more than, for the Mother Country.

It was in these stirring times that the foundation of the combined businesses was laid, and the object of the following is to give the story of the ubiquity of the Company and to touch on its future.

Saccone & Speed, Limited, is a private limited company registered in London, of Wine and Spirit Merchants, Shippers, Whisky Blenders, Cigar and Tobacco Merchants and Cigarette Manufacturers. It was formed by the amalgamation of the two firms of J. Saccone Ltd. and James Speed & Co. in 1908. James Speed was established in 1839 and J. Saccone started business in Gibraltar in 1850; they soon built up a very large business, principally in shipping ports and sherries to India and other markets; most of the large clubs in India have been on the Company's books for over 60 years. The Fleet would call in regularly at Gibraltar and more and more naval officers would visit "Old Saccone" and buy their requirements of wines, and from that began the connection with the Navy. On the death of Saccone, his successors formed a limited company, registered in London, where a Branch was started. In order to keep in touch with the Fleet and be in a position to give it the best service, Branches were opened at Portsmouth, Devonport and Chatham. The amalgamation with James Speed brought a Branch at Malta to the concern, while the concentration of the Fleet in Northern waters caused the Company to open up at Edinburgh in 1916. They perfected the system on which the foundation of the vast business with H.M. ships was laid, including the transference of ships' accounts when desired from Branch to Branch. Then came the

first World War. Supplies were difficult to obtain ; stocks could be sold anywhere at a large profit. The Company determined to concentrate on supplying the Navy (even to the detriment of its other business) to supply all requirements at its normal rate of profit, and to continue taking the risk of the goods on board ship. As the rate quoted by Lloyds was prohibitive, the Company ran its own insurance—over £12,000 of its goods went down at Jutland and £3,000 at the Dardanelles. The war ended and the temporary officer went home—the temporary ship was scrapped—surplus stores were returned. The organisation was there—the staff was there in large number—but the ships grew less and less. Washington Conferences, Geddes' "Axes," large debts and small incomes—so the Navy was reduced. The task before the Company was no small one—other outlets had to be found for its activities. The Military trade that the Firm had always done was extended at home and abroad, and in 1929 they were successful in obtaining the contracts for supplies to many of the most important officers' messes, which have continued without interruption to the present date.

In addition, they utilised the excellent accommodation of their Bonded Warehouses in order to develop an export business. The export trade has been greatly increased and the Firm, prior to World War No. 2, had customers in every capital of the world, thus enabling it to keep up the wide organisation with which to serve the Forces all the world over. To follow the new distribution of the Fleets wherever possible agencies were arranged in New Zealand, Singapore and China. It is almost unnecessary to add that the Company's Naval customers include all the leading personalities of the Silent Service.

Following on the theory that the Company's Bonded Warehouses could satisfactorily be used in furthering the export trade, when the Volstead Act was repealed in 1932, they looked Westward with a view to acquiring some of the large potential market in the United States of America. A Company was formed in New York, now styled Saccone, Speed & Jenney, Inc., and similar arrangements were made under the name of Marvin & Snead Sales Corporation in Washington, under the control of "Young Jimmy Speed."

Many interesting anecdotes concerning export business could be told had space permitted. Not only does the Company ship all over the world, but to every nationality, and the following letter will indicate this. (In order to understand it properly, it should be read phonetically) :

"18 March, 1930. I send Today Van Caks. For May Lod Vat You Seandmi I Tangsar Foryo Servis Naks Taem I Mak So Mo: Ordrs."

Many friends from all over the globe have sent interesting photographs, a few of which are reproduced in this issue : e.g. (1) Natives of Honolulu gathering the harvest ; (2) collecting the fruits of New Zealand ; (3) modern transport, and (4) some not so modern ; (5) a possible solution of our housing shortage—shanty used by Lt.-Comdr. Count Felix Von Luckner, of World War No. 1 "infamy."

In addition to these recommendations they have others too numerous to mention, but have recollections of a customer once writing and congratulating them because of a shipment reaching him safely in spite of the fact that part of the journey consisted of a consignment of goods being carried by donkeys through the mountainous pathways of South America, subsequently being rolled down an embankment to await the fortnightly train to its destination.

Whilst these "bouquets" are very pleasing, they are not matters of surprise, because the Firm take all this in their stride as being part of their everyday business.

Turning to the more serious side, since the arrival of foreign Governments in this country the Company have been able to further their associations with the various Courts of Europe and those at the head of Republican States, i.e., Kings, Princes and Presidents throughout Europe, as is shown by the Warrants received from King George of the Hellenes, King Peter of Yugoslavia, and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands.

Export business also brings in its train the supplying of goods to all the present-day leaders in the gigantic struggle, thereby affording them a few of the amenities of life actually on the battlefield. Supplies were even flown to Moscow for one of the gatherings.

The Company had always maintained close contact with the retail business in the United Kingdom, and it was with pleasure that the Board were able to complete arrangements in 1932 for the acquisition of the old-established business of Hankey, Bannister and Co., who, in their turn had previously combined with the London Wine Merchants, Burne Turner & Co., Basil Woodd & Sons and T. F. Wallace & Co. These combined firms have, for many years, supplied many of the leading clubs in London. In the Sample Room in London is a treasured collection of photographs of many old and distinguished customers whose names are household words in the history of the country, culminating in the privilege of the Royal Warrant. Thus the amalgamation of these Companies enabled the basis for growth in all classes of trade to be perfected, i.e., Navy, Army, Air Force, Export and Retail, and the Company continued to show expansion on this firm foundation.

A word in passing concerning Hankey, Bannister & Co., may be of interest. Although the exact date of the firm's formation is lost in antiquity, its history commenced long before 1785, as evidenced by the following extract from an old Day Book in the possession of the Company :—

<i>London 15<sup>th</sup> July 1785.</i>		
<i>113. P The Prince of Wales</i>		
22 doz: 4 Quarts L <sup>bd</sup> . Claret sealed red Wax.	£60.—	
22 doz: 3 D <sup>o</sup> . L <sup>bd</sup> . Claret sealed red Wax.	60.—	
22 doz: 2 D <sup>o</sup> . L <sup>bd</sup> . Claret sealed red Wax.	60.—	
22 doz: 2 D <sup>o</sup> . L <sup>bd</sup> . Claret sealed red Wax.	60.—	
<i>Bottling and Wax.</i>	1.—	
88 doz: 11 Quart Bottles @ 3/-	13. 6. 9	
88 doz: 11 Corks @ 6. <sup>d</sup>	2. 4. 5½	
<i>Cartage and portage.</i>	1. 2.—	

For many years up to 1936 Hankey, Bannister's wine cellars were situated at Adelphi Arches, one of the oldest and most historic parts of London. However, the demon of demolition decided to replace the quiet terraces and graceful homes of the "Brothers Adam" by ferro-concrete structures—thus the modern March of Time! It is interesting to recall that at the Adelphi Arches one of the small cellars (illustrated in photo. No. 6) was, according to tradition, used to imprison Lady Jane Grey before her journey to the Tower. From the Adelphi Arches the Company travelled to Southwark (near the site of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and within a stone's throw of many places immortalised by Dickens). Here a very modern cellar was arranged, but this time the greater demon of fire during the 1940 air attacks saw fit to render this extensive work null and void.

Space does not permit dealing with the many difficult situations which arose then ; suffice to say that ninety-eight per cent. of the wine was safely removed to other places and the work went on.

When Mr. Chamberlain uttered his solemn words on the 3rd September, 1939, it was appreciated by the Company that it would be called upon to cope with a considerable expansion, owing to the growth of the fighting forces and particularly the Navy. At the same time it was realised that many of its experienced staff would undoubtedly be called to the Services and that stocks would be greatly restricted. These disquieting thoughts proved only too

well founded, but in spite of this, in order to comply with the wishes of the Naval Authorities, the Company arranged further depots at home and in the Mediterranean. The difficulties of World War No. 1 were multiplied in 1939 and onwards, as can be appreciated, by :—

1. The fall of France.
2. The siege of Malta.
3. The threat to Gibraltar.
4. The ban on exportation.
5. The air attacks on this country.
6. The cessation of distilling.
7. The deflection of transportation.

As was realised by many other firms in London at the time, the possibility of losing all records was acknowledged and, therefore, the Company decided to move the Central Accounts Department from Sackville Street to a large private house at Watford, where the staff worked and had their being. There is no doubt as to the success of this move, which enabled the organisation to carry on satisfactorily, in spite of the many troubles mentioned. They have now returned to London.

It has already been intimated that the Company's Branches have been established at the naval ports in particular, and it is not surprising, therefore, that they suffered very considerably during the air raids, in some instances stocks and offices being completely destroyed, although, fortunately, the safety of most of the records had already been assured.

Photo No. 7 is a picture of Malta, G.C., at the height of its troubles, but to illustrate the proud spirit of the Island, we quote the following cables passed shortly after the end of the financial year 1942, indicating the continuity of business and accuracy of records, even under such trying conditions :—

*From Malta : "AFTER EFFECTING ENTRIES RECEIVED TO DATE OUR BALANCE NOW READS £2579 5 5 OUR FAVOUR PLEASE CONFIRM."*

*Watford's reply : "THANKS TELEGRAM AGREE BALANCE £2579 5 5 YOUR FAVOUR."*

The account between the two Branches dealt, of course, with transfers of ships' accounts and cash receipts, etc., on both sides.

Another matter of interest relates to Alexandria, where a Branch was opened during the war. During 1942 correspondence took three to five months from this country—one shipment of goods actually took 18 months to arrive—but by 1944 the Mediterranean

position had so improved that letters were received within seven days.

No apology is made for quoting the following extracts from letters received :—

(a) “The shipment duly arrived in good order and I am much obliged to you for your attention. One can hardly imagine the possibility of work being done so splendidly by you business people of London in the face of all the havoc done. Even in a business letter one may say, ‘We take off our hats to you.’”

(b) “Once more many thanks for the excellent service of all your Branches. The way that one Branch for instance took the news that a whole consignment couldn’t be taken aboard (because we’d left the area) was superb, and a new stock reached us at our new port within three days.”

It would obviously be impossible in this article to give more than a very condensed resumé of the many facets and activities of the Company, but sufficient has been said to show in broad outline some of the history of its associations. Times and customs change, businesses and habits come and go, but the Wine Trade can look back for centuries as a means of supplying that which “maketh glad the heart of man.” As Falstaff had it, speaking of sherry, “It ascends me into the brain . . . delivered to the tongue . . . becomes excellent wit.” And Horace said, “It unlocks secrets, bids our hopes be realised ; lifts the load from our troubled mind and teaches accomplishments.” Thus in no small measure can it be said that the Company has by its Services system helped to make the lot of the fighting men just a little easier. And so to the future. Wine will always have its place ; in adversity, to lighten the burden ; in success, to celebrate ; at all times to say “Good Health.” Many troubles will have to be faced in the post-war period and some will seem insurmountable, but it is certain that man will slowly but surely carve a happier destiny and his hope of security lies in true fellowship one with another.

When Mr. Churchill gave a message to the world on 27th April, 1941, he quoted Arthur Hugh Clough, and although with a different application, the words are apt to-day concerning this brotherhood :

*For while the tired waves vainly breaking  
Seem here no painful inch to gain  
Far back, through creeks and inlets making,  
Comes silent flooding in the main.*



### ILLUSTRATIONS TO HISTORY OF SACCONE & SPEED, LIMITED.



No. 1.



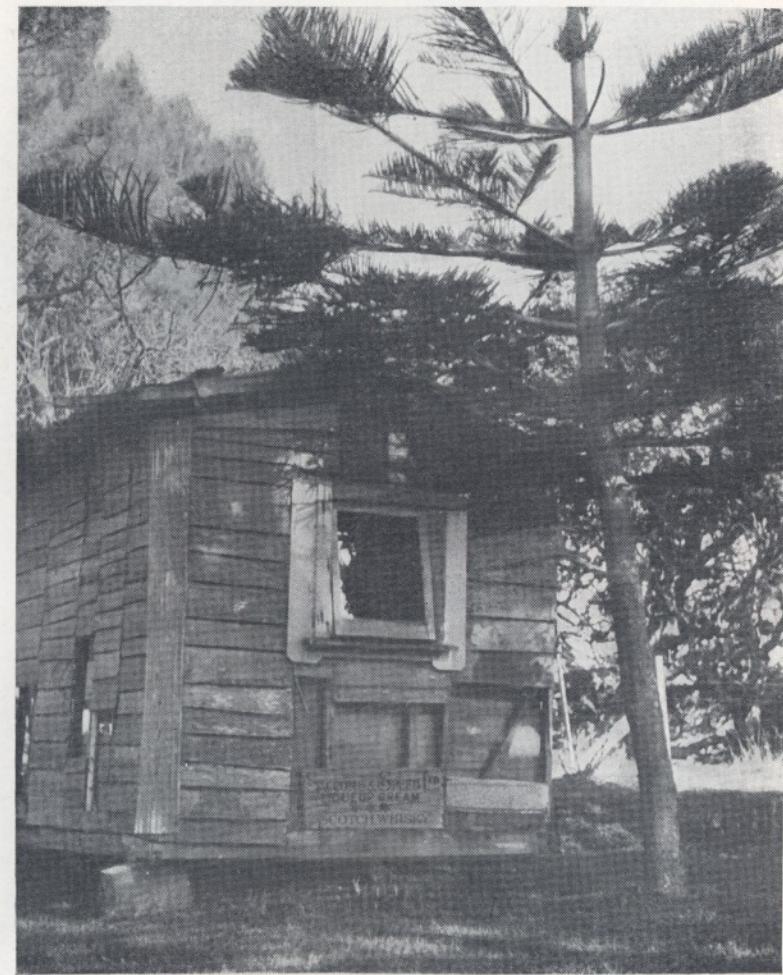
No. 2.



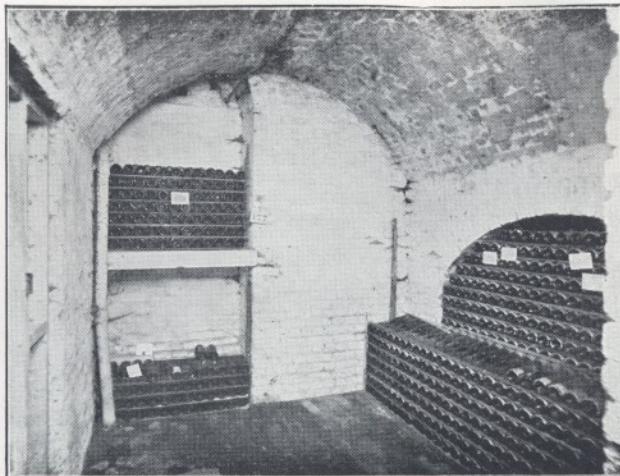
No. 3.



No. 4.



No. 5.



No. 6.



No. 7.

## BREWERY JOTTINGS.

BY W. DUNSTER.

At long last the war is over in Europe, and we look forward to the time when our boys will be coming home. We are not unmindful of the fact that the war with Japan is not finished, and that a number whom we well know are out in the Far East. But we do know that many will be back at their jobs again during the present year, and we shall be only too happy to see them in their "civvy" duties at the Brewery.

Mr. F. Drury informs me that although he has not had any fresh news direct from his son, Harold, prisoner in the hands of the Japs, he has learned that he was at Singapore for six months after the fall, and engaged on railway construction work. After that he was at a camp at Tamuang which had the reputation of being a camp of vastly improved conditions to that of previous ones, also that their hours of work were not long.

Mr. C. Bennett has received a letter from Lieut. R. Wheeler saying that he had been wounded in action, in the leg. When writing he was in hospital, but the wound had healed beautifully, and he was looking forward to spending a period of convalescence sun-bathing on the beaches of Sunny Southern Italy. He was having exercises daily in readiness for the final stage of learning to walk again, but he expected it would take six months to complete the cure.

The writer has received several letters from L/Cpl. E. W. King, who is in Italy, and who always writes in a most interesting way with ideas of his own. The HOP LEAF GAZETTE reaches him, much to his delight. The weather earlier in the year was bitterly cold. Whenever they have a chance of seeing opera they do so, also symphony concerts attract them. Life was a very sober affair, due to their ration of beer being one pint per week, and the local wines they left alone, being such potent concoctions. His visit to Rome, on leave, he describes in a graphic manner, and it is evident it is a most wonderful city. Much to his surprise he had met K. Solly (of the Cask Office) out there.

Cpl. C. Langton has written three letters from Italy to W.D. He also had had a trip to Rome on leave, which he very much enjoyed, although prices were very high for all commodities. He was feeling very fit, and the weather was improving. They were getting some good beer, Italian, Canadian and American, and of these he preferred the Canadian brand, although there is nothing to touch the beer of H. & G. S. He wished to be remembered to all who knew him.

Another member of the staff in Italy, Cpl. C. Wade, writes that he receives the HOP LEAF GAZETTE regularly. The weather had improved, and as they were near the sea some of the hardy ones had ventured in (this was in March). He did not expect to get home for some while, but was longing to do so. His leave in Rome had been very pleasant, and St. Peter's, he says, "the highlight of the city," is in itself well worth the long journey it entailed in his getting there.

Two letters from Capt. R. C. Pitts from India have been received, the first written whilst he was in hospital, where he had been "pretty ill" for a week, but fortunately he soon recovered. He says: "So Sid. Brunsdon has arrived home. I hope he realises how lucky he is, considering he and I came out on the same boat together." (S. Brunsdon—now home—went to Aden.) Their ration of beer was three bottles per month. HOP LEAF GAZETTES reached him after a while, and he was very grateful to receive them. The weather was good (and fruit plentiful), nevertheless he was quite willing to exchange it for the sight of some snow and ice. Tennis he played now and again, and swimming was a weekly pastime with him. Some type of sport was very necessary out there in order to keep fit and reduce the size of one's liver. He hoped to get in one more season of football when he came home before he hung up his boots for good.

L.A.C. L. Walker, writing to W.D. from the Desert, was in hopes of getting home this summer, as he would have then completed his length of service out there. They were very busy with aircraft. He says "thanks a million" for sending on the HOP LEAF GAZETTES which reached him safely, and were full of interest to him and many of the other fellows with him, even though they had no connection with the Brewery or the Firm. He was feeling very fit, but the deadly monotony of the Desert was a thing he hoped soon to miss and enjoy some social life again. (L. Walker has now arrived home, having completed his period of service in the Middle East, and is looking very fit and well.)

Two letters have been received from Sergt. J. E. Knight, from Ceylon, to Mr. S. Bird and the writer respectively. He is keeping fit and news of the Brewery via the medium of the HOP LEAF GAZETTE is full of interest to him. His idea when writing was that he would be home this year. Being stationed near the coast he was able to indulge in swimming.

L.A.C. Organ, writing from the Middle East to W.D., mentioned that he had been on leave around Egypt, and as it took three weeks he had had a really good time visiting places of ancient civilisation and seeing marvellous treasures and relics in Cairo Museum.

Alexandria he also visited, a pleasant change from the Sudan, where the temperature was very high on his return to duty. However, they did have an opportunity now and again of swimming. Whilst on leave he had a donkey ride for seven miles, and he was not impressed: in fact he considers the person who wrote "Death, where is thy sting" must have had such a ride in mind.

A surprise letter was received by W.D. from L.A.C. L. Twiney, who arrived in India in the early part of the year. Naturally everything in that country was of considerable interest to him in his journey to his station, and he welcomed the plentiful supplies of fruit. They were allowed a beer ration of one bottle per week, and it was either Indian, Canadian or Australian.

Cpl. A. C. Howman has written two most interesting letters to W.D. from Italy, and he mentions a leave he had spent in Rome which impressed him as it does all the others who visit it. Beer was very scarce. Victory celebrations were very quiet; in fact they were confined to barracks for a couple of days. However, as the local drinks were of such strength it was perhaps just as well. The high light was the opportunity he had of seeing the touring F.A. XI play a local team. It was 90° in the shade, and he was jammed in amongst 20,000 others. The football (he says) was wonderful, and he was pleased to see M. Edelston in action once again—he had seen him play at Elm Park before.

Cpl. L. F. Pitts, writing from the Middle East to W.D., says that the HOP LEAF GAZETTE had reached him, and it was eagerly read. He is stationed in the Desert, and the "outlook" was dreary, and just recently they have had terrific sandstorms. Driving a truck, he was completely lost for a while, but fortunately finished up within a few hundred yards of his destination; otherwise it might have been tragic for him. The "brown fog," as he calls it, wrecked their billet. They get plenty of sunshine, but the heat is not too terrific. Being in Signals, they are always busy, and the Victory celebrations were very quiet. He was looking forward to coming home this year and, he hoped, "for good." They were receiving bottled beer from the Tripoli Brewery, and by a very primitive device they were able to keep it cold when it tasted really very nice. Swimming was his chief recreation.

From East Africa comes a letter from Lieut. R. R. Priddy to W.D., and he says he is keeping fit. They were busy training the troops in jungle warfare, and doing quite well. In an argument in the Mess concerning the relative merits of Northern and Southern beers he found his chief supporter was someone named Emery, who had worked at our Brewery at Bristol.

Congratulations to Cpl. W. M. Tilbury, of the Lowland Infantry Brigade, on being awarded a Certificate of Merit which reads as follows :—

" It has been brought to my notice that you have performed outstanding good service and shown great devotion to duty during the campaign in North-West Europe.

" I award you this Certificate as a token of my appreciation and I have given instructions that this shall be noted in your record of service."

(Signed) B. L. MONTGOMERY,  
*Field Marshal.*

5/1/45. Commander-in-Chief, 21st Army Group.

It has been officially confirmed by the Air Ministry that Sergt. A. P. Bloomfield was killed in November, and that he has been buried in Germany. We extend our deepest sympathy to his relatives in the loss of such a gallant boy.

Mr. V. Saunders who was recently discharged from the Navy returned to duty, and has now started as Chief Clerk at our new acquisition, the Swindon Brewery.

We are pleased to record that Mr. T. E. Howells has completed 35 years' service in the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Mr. G. F. Middleton, who died on the 13th April, was a member of the Cooperage Department for many years, starting in 1928. After a breakdown in health, on his return, he was transferred to the General Office in 1942, where he worked conscientiously and well. However, he had to give up just before Christmas, 1943, and had been ill ever since. He was well liked and a real good sort. We take this opportunity to express our deep sympathy to the relatives in their loss.

A stand-down social evening was spent by the members of the First Aid Party in the Canteen of the Social Club on Friday, 26th May, and was voted a great success. Capt. A. S. Drewe came along and spoke of the good work of the party, and how well everyone had worked for so many years. Mr. P. Ruffles suitably replied.

On the occasion of the presentation of wedding presents to Mr. C. B. Cox and Miss N. Sharpe, both well-known members of the staff, a record number of friends were present which showed, in no uncertain way, the popularity of both of them.

L.A.C. A. E. Alexander died in hospital at Bury St. Edmunds following a stroke. He appeared in the best of health when home

on leave just before. Aged 38, he joined the R.A.F. in 1941, and had served for twelve months in the Azores. He was a member of the Building Department, and joined the Firm in 1932, also a member of the Fire Brigade for some time before joining the Forces. It was a tragic loss, and every sympathy is hereby expressed to his relatives in their grievous blow.

Mr. E. L. Morgan has written to Mr. J. J. Cardwell from Austria saying that he is quite fit and well, and eagerly looking forward to coming home " for keeps " this year.

We have had visits from a number who are serving on the Continent, and they all look very well indeed. Amongst those seen have been G. H. Taylor, L. Fullbrook and L. Rush. Others who have called in are S. G. Treacher, also S. B. Farmer, home after four years away, mainly in the Mediterranean area. We understand that P. James is now on the Continent, also Fred Smith, who was repatriated from Switzerland.

Quite a number of liberated prisoners of war have now arrived home, and have called in at the Brewery, and we have seen R. Braisher, J. Stone, R. Preston, J. P. Slade, V. S. Martin, E. R. West and J. Kirk.

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

The Pelican, Pamber Heath (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. H. J. Cottrell.

The Carpenters' Arms, Windsor (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mrs. G. Musgrave.

The Taniners Arms, Reading (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Miss M. M. Zachary.

The Railway Arms, Frimley (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. L. F. Crook.

The White Hart, New Haw, Addlestone (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. T. F. Davies.

The King's Head, Thatcham (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. N. W. Harding.

The Queen, Blackwater (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mrs. W. Sanderson.

The Black Dog, Ashford Common (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. W. J. Huse.

The Off Licence, 29, Salisbury Road, Reading—Mr. J. Saunders.

We regret to record the following deaths, and to all relatives we express our sincere sympathy :—

Mr. C. Gladstone, of The Union, Old Windsor, who died on the 11th March, 1945. He had been tenant of this house from 26th May, 1932.

Mrs. Chown, of the Radnor Arms, Nunton, who died on the 18th March, 1945, and was the wife of Mr. O. E. Chown, our tenant of this house.

Mr. H. J. Huse, of the Black Dog, Ashford, who died on the 15th March, 1945, and who had been tenant of this house since August, 1907—a very long period.

Mr. H. St. J. Sanderson, of The Queen, Blackwater, who died on the 21st March, 1945. He had been at this house since August, 1940.

Mr. F. Littleworth, of the Stag and Hounds, Ashford, who died on the 13th May, 1945, and had been tenant of this house since June, 1922.

Mr. W. G. McDermott, of the Carrington Arms, High Wycombe, who died on the 16th May, 1945. He had been tenant of this house since March, 1938.

Mr. G. J. Hodges, of the Brickmakers' Arms, Moor Common, Lane End, who died on the 16th May, 1945, and who had been at this house since December, 1938.

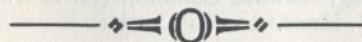
Mr. W. J. Surman, of the Downshire Arms, Easthampstead, who died on the 19th May, 1945. He had been tenant of this house since February, 1924.

Mrs. L. Holt, of The Pheasant, Southampton Street, Reading, who died on the 28th May, 1945. Her husband took over the tenancy in August, 1892, and on his death Mrs. Holt took over in August, 1921. A wonderful record.

Mr. E. M. Streeter, of The Pheasant, Highclere, who died on the 29th May, 1945. He had been tenant of this house since June, 1930.

W. A. M. (1945)

(b) (1)



## CRICKET.

There was quite a good attendance at the General Meeting of the Cricket Club, when the prospects for the ensuing season were fully discussed. It was decided to continue running the Saturday Eleven, as the majority of last year's team would be available.

Our Club has been in existence over sixty years, it being formed in 1884 under the title of the Seven Bridges Cricket Club, and has been running ever since, with the exception of the period from 1915 to 1918 (the Great War). The executive are proud of this record, and are hoping to hand over the Club as a really live concern to the lads when they return from active service in the present world war.

The prospects of raising Ladies' and Youths' teams appear to be very remote, but if it is possible to do so during the season, every encouragement will be forthcoming.

The Officers elected are as under :—

*Captain*—Mr. F. J. Benham.

*Vice-Captain*—Mr. E. C. Greenaway.

*Umpire*—Mr. W. Sparks. *Scorer*—Mrs. L. Morgan.

*Committee*—Messrs. G. Kelly, F. S. Hawkins, C. A. Morgan, A. G. Rider, H. G. Sexton, E. Scott, W. Sparks and Miss A. M. Prosser.

*Selection Committee*—Messrs. Benham, Greenaway, Morgan and Sparks.

*Sports Committee Representatives*—Messrs. Benham, Sparks and Jolley.

*Secretary*—Mr. J. W. Jolley.

It is hoped that the weather and other circumstances will permit of the full fixture list being carried out, and supporters should be able to see some interesting matches on Berkeley Avenue during the summer. With one exception all games will be played on the Sports Ground. The list is as follows :—

May	5th	...	Mortimer	...	...	Home
"	12th	...	Berkeley (Home Guard)	...	"	
"	19th	...	Ministry of Health	...	...	Kensington Road
"	26th	...	Old Blues	...	...	Home
June	2nd	...	R.A.F., Burghfield	...	...	"
"	9th	...	R.A.F., Hampstead Norris	...	...	"
"	16th	...	R.A.F., Shinfield Park	...	...	"
"	23rd	...	R.A.F., Burghfield	...	...	"
"	30th	...	Post Office Engineers	...	...	"

July	7th	...	Berkeley (Home Guard)	...	Home
"	14th	...	Old Blues	...	"
"	21st	...	Mortimer	...	"
"	28th	...	R.A.F., Hampstead Norris	...	"
Aug.	4th	...			
"	11th	...	R.A.F., Shinfield	...	"
"	18th	...	Post Office Engineers	...	"
"	25th	...	Ministry of Health	...	"

Any members of the Club now serving with H.M. Forces will receive a hearty welcome, and a word in advance to the Captain, Secretary or any member of the Committee would be much appreciated, and every endeavour would be made to fit in a game for the Saturday desired.

By careful conservation of our cricket gear, the Committee hope to carry through the season. As it is practically impossible to purchase new tackle, care must still be exercised with our present stock, especially during practice. No particular nights have been arranged, but tackle is available in the pavilion for practice as desired.

Now for a brief report of our matches up to date :—

Heavy rain all day made it necessary for us to cancel the first match, so we shall have to wait until July to find out the present strength of Mortimer.

*May 12th. SIMONDS 65 v. BERKELEY C.C. 62.*

Berkeley are our old friends, the 7th Bn. Home Guard, and a very pleasant and close game ensued. We batted first, and although losing three wickets for five runs, Merry and E. Scott made a stand and added 13 before the latter was bowled for 10. Wickets were falling with the score creeping up until it read 8 for 49; then Pearce joined Merry and quickly knocked up 11, which brought the total up to 61. The latter looked like carrying his bat, but was caught after making 29. Four runs later we were all out.

Berkeley made a little better start, but had to rely on Gooding (14) and Sayles (24) for most of their runs. When time was called the last man was in, and four runs wanted to win, so it was decided to try and force a decision one way or the other. Fortune favoured us, as with his fifth ball E. Scott bowled the last man out, and we had won our first game by three. Each side batted twelve men, but only fielded eleven.

Scott took the bowling honours with 6 for 10; Greenaway took 3 for 18 and Pearce 2 for 15.

*May 19th. SIMONDS 108 FOR 2 v. MINISTRY OF HEALTH 164 FOR 6 (dec.).*

The match was played on Kensington Road Sports Ground in rather chilly conditions. From the scores mentioned it will be

seen that a batsmen's wicket obtained. The Ministry batted first, but lost their first wicket at 7 and the second at 16. The third, however, put on 53. The next partnership only added 15, but another stand raised the score to 130, and at the fall of the sixth wicket, at 164, the tea interval was taken, and the innings declared closed. Eyres (Junr.) batted well and made 63 before being caught. Captain Jones got 26, and was then run out. Dr. Boucher carried his bat for 52.

Our bowlers were not favoured with much luck, and their figures suffered accordingly. Pearce 2 for 47 and Greenaway 2 for 46 were much on a par, but Scott only took 1 for 36, 14 of which were scored in one over. Sexton and Merry also had short spells without success.

We lost our first and second wickets with 8 only on the board, but then Merry and E. Scott played themselves in, and without taking undue risks, raised the total by a century, having individual scores of 57 and 27, when time was called. Seventeen extras were very useful to us. The Ministry tried eight bowlers, but only Hibbard and Underhill took wickets.

*May 26th. SIMONDS 35 FOR 4 v. OLD BLUES 124 FOR 4 (dec.).*

Another drawn game, but one in which we did not show up so favourably. The Old Blues batted first and made 18 before losing a wicket. The second fell at 46, and two runs later the third went down. The fourth carried the score to 75, but that was our last success, and the innings was declared closed with 124 on the board, Wick (38) and Haydon (28) carrying their bats.

E. Scott took 2 for 23, Merry 1 for 16, and Greenaway 1 for 39.

We had a disastrous start, losing our first wicket with only one run made. The score board showed 10 up when No. 2 fell. Merry and Scott again became partners, but the rate of scoring was very slow, and only 16 were added before Merry was out with 8 to his credit. Greenaway joined up, and another 9 were made when Scott was given out lbw. with the top score of 15. A few more balls saw the end of the over and of the game. Out of 28 overs the Old Blues bowlers claimed 14 maidens.

Shortly after the commencement of the season, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan left the Firm, having decided to return to London. Whilst regretting the loss of their services as player and scorer respectively, we wish them every success in their new venture.

That is as far as this issue will permit us to go. June sees us up against the R.A.F. on four Saturdays out of five.

J.W.J.

## MR. W. F. McINTYRE.

PRESENTATION TO COMMEMORATE 50 YEARS' SERVICE  
AND 25 YEARS AS BRANCH MANAGER AT DEVONPORT.

On Monday, 4th June, Mr. W. F. McIntyre was invited to the Brewery by the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. A. Simonds, to commemorate his Jubilee of Service on the Firm. A reception and luncheon in his honour was held at the Ship Hotel, Reading, attended by the Directors and a number of Mr. McIntyre's old colleagues. The occasion also served to mark the completion of 25 years as Manager at Devonport.

After the luncheon Mr. F. A. Simonds presented Mr. McIntyre with a beautiful silver salver as a memento of his 50 years' service and a gold cigarette case in recognition of his 25 years as Manager. In addition he was the recipient of a cheque.

In making the presentation Mr. F. A. Simonds congratulated Mr. McIntyre upon his long, loyal and eminently successful service, and quoted various epochs in his career, with an exactitude which, perhaps, was not surprising to those who are aware of the Chairman's elephantine memory. He mentioned that it was unique that Mr. McIntyre should complete his wonderful record at the Branch which he joined as a junior clerk on the 4th June, 1895. He humorously referred to the fact that Mr. McIntyre was appointed to the management of Plymouth Branch on the "1st April," although he had proved a contradiction of the legend with which that date was generally associated. Mr. F. A. Simonds referred to the various acquisitions and developments in the West, and the remarkable increase in the barrelage since Mr. McIntyre was appointed Manager, and quoted figures which proved that the trade had been multiplied fifteen times.

There was much applause at the conclusion of Mr. F. A. Simonds' speech, which was punctuated with his usual witticisms, and delivered in the style so typical of him at such functions.

Mr. McIntyre suitably responded, and thanked the Chairman and Directors for the very fine presents which had been bestowed upon him and for the Chairman's very kind remarks. He referred to the very gracious manner with which the Directors dealt with their staff and the encouragement and assistance which was given to them. They had always treated him with the greatest kindness and had adopted towards himself a friendliness which had enabled free and easy discussion of business upon their visits to the Tamar Brewery.

Amongst the guests invited to do honour to Mr. McIntyre was Mr. C. E. Gough, who had journeyed from Paignton to be present at this ceremony. Upon being asked to speak, Mr. Gough paid high tribute to Mr. McIntyre, whom he had installed as Manager at Plymouth so many years ago. It might here be mentioned that Mr. Gough was looking remarkably fit, and his utterances proved that he had not lost his old form.

## DR. EDWARD HUNT, OF MALTA.

We were much grieved to learn that Dr. Edward Hunt passed away at his residence, 31 Northumberland Road, Dublin. The sad news was received from Miss Winnie Hunt, who is serving as a Welfare Officer in the B.L.A. and is stationed in Ghent. Only recently Miss Hunt suffered the loss of her mother, and our sincere sympathies are with her and her relatives in this further blow.

The following is a newspaper account of the death of Dr. Hunt :

"Dr. Edward Hunt (36), who died at his residence, 31 Northumberland Road, Dublin, had been Assistant M.O., Newcastle Sanatorium, for two years. He retired about 18 months ago because of ill-health.

Born at Valetta, Malta, Dr. Hunt was the son of an Irish father, the late Frederick Hunt. His mother was Maltese. After graduating at Malta and Heidelberg, he specialised in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, working for some time in British sanatoria before coming to Ireland. He is survived by his wife, a sister of Mr. Justice Haugh, whom he met in Switzerland."

## FLOWER SHOW AND SPORTS MEETING.

A Vegetable and Flower Show for employees of the Firm will be held on the Sports Ground on August Bank Holiday. All employees are invited to enter, and good prizes will be awarded.

On the same day a Sports Meeting will be held, and a good programme for all ages has been arranged.

Entry forms for both events can be obtained from members of the Committee or the Steward of the Club.

## GODDARD ARMS HOTEL, SWINDON.



With the acquisition of Messrs. R. B. Bowly & Co., Ltd., North Wilts Brewery, Swindon, the Goddard Arms Hotel in that town was placed under the control of the Hotels and Catering Department.

This hotel is one of the largest in the district, comprising some twenty letting bedrooms and the usual spacious public rooms, and, in addition, several rooms for private parties and a large banqueting hall to accommodate two hundred persons. A striking feature of this hotel is the fact that it has, in spite of being in the centre of the town, an extensive well laid out garden with hundreds of fruit trees, asparagus beds, hot-houses, etc., and two paddocks in which are farmed cows, poultry, etc. The thousands of patrons of Simonds' hotels will now be able to use this additional venue in the Swindon area and find a comparable standard of comfort and catering which has, for so long, been the reputation of the Department.

## ANCHOR HOTEL, KENNFORD.

*(Photograph on page 156).*

The publication of a unique aerial photograph of this hotel is most topical, and we could hardly have planned a better instance of "Victory" with the lay-out. Our readers will note the extensive vegetable and fruit gardens which are attached to this hotel, providing a constant source of fresh produce.

## WORDS OF WISDOM.

It is not the people who are helping the world who are pessimistic over the conditions of things : it is the idle onlookers.

God has made apostles and saints out of men and women that the world would have thrown away as rubbish.

There is not a thought nor a feeling, not an act of beauty and nobility, whereof man is capable, but can find complete expression in the simplest, most ordinary life.

Every right action and true thought sets the seal of beauty on person and face.

Have we not always found in our past experience that, on the whole, our kind interpretations were truer than our harsh ones.

The glow of the dawn for glory,  
The hush of the night for peace ;  
In the garden, at eve, says the story,  
God walks, and his smiles bring release.

Lo ! the poor Indian whose untutored mind  
Sees God in clouds and hears Him in the wind,  
And thinks, admitted to that equal sky,  
His faithful dog shall bear him company.

Oh ! might we all our lineage prove,  
Give and forgive, do good and love,  
By soft endearments in kind strife  
Lightening the load of daily life.

The leaf-tongues of the forest, the flower-lips of the sod,  
The happy birds that hymn their rapture in the ear of God ;  
The summer wind that bringeth music over land and sea,  
Have each a voice that singeth this sweet song to me.  
The world is full of beauty, like other worlds above,  
And if we do our duty it might be full of love.

Look not mournfully into the past—it comes not back again ; wisely improve the present, it is thine ; go forth to meet the shadowy future, without fear and with a manly heart.

Avoid self-praise, extolling your own works, and proclaiming your own deeds. If they are good they will proclaim themselves ; if bad, the less you say about them the better.

Be kind in little things. The true generosity of the heart is more displayed by deeds of minor kindness than by acts which may partake of ostentation.

Pry not into letters that are not your own.

Dress well, but not superfluously ; be neither like a sloven, nor like a stuffed model.

#### THE LIGHTER SIDE.

Her newly-elevated ladyship had just been introduced to a notable elocutionist, who had kindly volunteered to entertain the children at the Christmas party.

"It is nice of you to say you will entertain the children, Mr. Dunton-Greene. How shall I introduce you ?"

"Well, your ladyship, I usually recite extempore."

"Oh, 'Extempore ;'" she gushed. "I know of no piece more appropriate !"

\* \* \* \*

An author was strolling round a bookshop and noticed a copy of one of his own books. Picking up the book, he wrote his name on the fly-leaf. He then called the assistant and asked the price.

"Three and six," was the reply.

"Three and six, with the author's autograph in it ?" pursued the author with a proud smile.

"Ah, a damaged copy," said the assistant ; "oh, well, that will be half-a-crown."

#### WEDDING OF MR. LOUIS SIMONDS.

The wedding took place on Tuesday, 15th May, at St. Mary's, Hardwicke, Bucks, of Mr. Louis Adolphus Simonds, of Tithe Barn, Newnham, near Basingstoke, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Simonds, of Abbey Croft, Mortimer, and Miss Iris Nannette Micklem, only daughter of Brig.-General John Micklem, D.S.O., M.C., and Mrs. Micklem, of Kempsons, Whitchurch, Bucks. The choral service was conducted by the Provost of Derby (the bride's uncle) and the Rev. A. H. Messiter.

Given away by her father, the bride wore a white silk frock trimmed with net and lace, a long tulle veil, and orange blossom, and she carried a bouquet of lilies. The bridesmaids were Miss Erica Simonds, daughter of the bridegroom, and Miss Rosie Mowbray, daughter of Sir George Mowbray, Bart., and Lady Mowbray. They wore long white net dresses with wreaths of real flowers and diamond initial brooches, the gift of the bridegroom. Their bouquets were of mixed spring flowers.

The reception was held at Kempsons, the home of the bride and the honeymoon was spent in the Thames Valley. The bride travelled in a grey check two-piece suit with hat to match.



Photograph by Portman Press Bureau

## PRESENTATION TO MR. A. B. BEASLEY.

On the 30th April, Mr. A. B. Beasley completed 50 years' service with the Company, having started in the Building Department at Reading in May, 1895, under his father, who was general foreman at that time. He remained at Reading for 26 years, and in 1921 was transferred to the Building Department at the Tamar Brewery, Devonport. Here he took over the supervision of the many houses under the control of Mr. W. F. McIntyre. Due to his fine work the Firm's properties have been kept in excellent condition.

During the war years an enormous amount of work fell on Mr. Beasley's shoulders, but he surmounted all difficulties. He was a tower of strength during the air raids, and on more than one occasion helped to save the Brewery from destruction by enemy action. It has fallen to his lot to offer a helping hand in a number of cases where our tenants have been blitzed, and he has carried out these duties with his habitual efficiency and willingness. The strain told on him however, and although often far from well he was a most loyal helper whenever required.

In recognition of Mr. Beasley's splendid performance and loyal service, the Directors called him to the Brewery on the 30th April, when a pleasing ceremony took place in the Board Room. The Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. A. Simonds, congratulated Mr. Beasley on his magnificent service and testified to the excellence of his work and fine personal qualities. At the same time the Chairman presented him with a very handsome striking clock, to which a tablet was affixed in commemoration of his loyal service. This gift was accompanied by a cheque.

Mr. Beasley suitably responded, and said the clock would always remind him of his happy associations with the Company over such a long period.

After the presentation Mr. Beasley was entertained to lunch by the Surveyor's Department at the "George and Dragon" Hotel, Wargrave, where his old Reading colleagues presented him with a silver salver.

Later in the day Mr. Beasley returned to Plymouth to resume his duties. Unfortunately someone, in their exuberance, had tested the winding gear of the clock, with the result that throughout the long journey to Plymouth, from beneath the wrappings of his parcel, Westminster chimes rang out every quarter of an hour, much to Mr. Beasley's embarrassment and the amusement of his fellow travellers. So, to the accompaniment of such sweet chimes, ended one of the red-letter days of his life.

## THE LIGHTER SIDE.

A Scotsman happened to read one of those usual advertisements of daily deliveries of fresh fish from Grimsby direct, so he replied to it as follows !

Messrs. The —— Fishing Co., Grimsby.

DEAR SIRS—Please find enclosed P.O. value 2s. Kindly send me a basket of fish as per your advertisement in the *Daily Telegram*. Do not send me cod, hake, or flukes, but send some middle cut of salmon, a few lobsters, and make up the weight with oysters.

Yours, etc.,

SANDY MCTAVISH.

In due course there came the following reply :

DEAR SIR—Your P.O. to hand. It is a pity you had not sent another tanner—you could have had the —— trawler !

Yours most respectfully,

A. FISHER.

\* \* \* \*

Gentleman returning home late at night found his next-door neighbour, who had evidently had too much wine, having a struggle with his latch-key to open his door. He went round, and, getting the door opened, was thanked by the roysterer, who enquired what his name might be as he had forgotten it.

" My name is Paul," said he.

" Oh ; " said the neighbour, " now I remember ; By the way, did you ever get an answer to the long letter you wrote to the Ephesians ? "

\* \* \* \*

The district representative made a personal call on the prize winner of a newspaper contest.

" Mr. Jones," he said, " congratulations ; You have won ten thousand dollars in cash, a world cruise, and a pet dog."

" What breed ? " querulously queried the successful contestant.

\* \* \* \*

FATHER (*annoyed*) : I can see through the intrigues of this girl.

SON (*lovesick*) : But, father, that is all any girl wears nowadays.

\* \* \* \*

An Aberdonian wrote to an English firm asking them to forward a packet of shaving paper—without enclosing payment. He received a reply referring him to page 445 of their catalogue, where it was distinctly stated : "All small orders should be accompanied by a remittance."

The Aberdonian replied : "Dear Sirs—if I had been possessed of a catalogue with 445 pages I should not have written for any shaving paper. Please send a catalogue now, and oblige."

\* \* \* \*

The manager entered the restaurant just as the new waiter rushed out. Inside a customer was raging.

"What's the matter, sir?" asked the manager.

"Discharge that man at once," demanded the diner.

"I'm very sorry about this egg, sir, but I can't discharge the waiter for that. After all, he wasn't to know that there was a chicken in it."

"Perhaps not," snapped the customer. "But when I told him there was, he needn't have taken away my spoon and brought me a knife and fork."

\* \* \* \*

A well-known lawyer was always lecturing his office boy, whether he needed it or not. One day he chanced to hear the following conversation between the boy and the one employed next door :

"How much does your chief pay you?" asked the latter.

"I get £300 a year. A pound a week in cash and the rest in legal advice!"

\* \* \* \*

A shortsighted but very enthusiastic R.A.F. candidate was appearing before the eye specialist of the Air Ministry's Central Medical Board. Eager to convince the examiner of his exceptional powers of vision, he commented on the presence of a pin, which he had previously dropped on the floor at the end of the room.

"Pin?" said the examiner. "Where? I can't see any pin!"

"Yes, there it is, sir," replied the candidate proudly, "over there—in that far corner. Come and look."

And as he moved in its direction, he fell over a table in his path!

\* \* \* \*

Two motorists were heading towards Brighton. They were zipping along the highway at some eighty or ninety miles an hour, when a policeman appeared from nowhere and forced them over to the kerb.

"What's the matter, officer?" they asked. "Were we driving too fast?"

"No," he answered sarcastically, "you were flying too low."

\* \* \* \*

The applicant for a job as housemaid was being interviewed by the employment agent, and was asked if she had any preference as to the kind of family she would like to work for.

"Any kind," she said, "except highbrows."

"You don't like to work for highbrows?"

"You bet I don't," she said. "I worked for a pair of 'em once—and never again. Him and her was fighting all the time, and it kept me running back and forth from the keyhole to the dictionary 'till I was worn to a frazzle."

\* \* \* \*

Said the smart little waitress, tripping up beside the customer : "I've got devilled kidneys, calves' brains, pigs' feet, chicken livers, and—"

"Forget it," growled the diner. "I've got a headache, fallen arches, corns, a bunion, three warts, and an empty stomach. Tell your troubles to someone else and bring me some ham and eggs."

\* \* \* \*

"Congratulations, professor. I hear that your wife has presented you with twins. Boys or girls?"

"I believe one is a boy and one a girl—but it may be the other way round."

\* \* \* \*

A young man, making lengthy inquiries at a railway booking office, was soon holding up a queue of people who became increasingly impatient.

"The fact is," he was heard to say, "I've a week-end I don't know what to do with."

"Put your hat on it," said one of the queue.

\* \* \* \*

"Be careful when you dust these pictures, Mary ; they are all Old Masters."

"Good gracious ! Who'd ever think you'd been married all these times, mum ! "

\* \* \* \*

MacTavish called his friend Sandy on the telephone. "What's detaining ye, mon ?" he asked. "Aren't ye coming to the birthday party?"

"Weel," came Sandy's voice over the wire, "I dinna think it wise, Mac."

"What's wrong, mon ?" asked the other.

"Weel, we's got a case of laryngitis in the house," explained Sandy.

"Dinna be sae selfish, mon. Bring it along to us, then," said MacTavish. "You know we can drink anything here."

\* \* \* \*

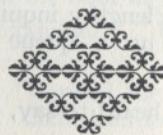
Two commercial travellers were swooping tall wireless stories at the bar in the presence of an old countryman whom they were trying to impress.

"You got a radio set ?" asked one of the travellers.

"Yes, sorr," said the countryman. "I got a very good one."

"Does it have good selectivity ?" asked the traveller with a knowing wink at his companion.

"Well, yes," said the old fellow, "it has. The other night I was listening to a quartet, and I didn't like the tenor, so I just tuned him out and listened to the other three."



## BRANCHES.

### PORTSMOUTH.

#### VICTORY CELEBRATIONS.

Yes, we have gone right back to normal again at the first naval port of the Empire ! Needless to say, we had a pretty hectic time celebrating victory in Europe. But the peace declaration was so long materialising that it was taken for granted days before it was actually announced officially, and I am afraid that many of us awoke to the significance of the declaration so spasmodically that we were somewhat slow in getting off the mark.

The City, however, soon made up for lost time, and then made "whoopee" in traditional style. There is no need to go into details, nor to recall the many incidents connected with the celebrations, though it must be placed on record that our licensed victuallers played a conspicuous part heroically, handled the difficult situation admirably and, despite shortage of supplies and staff and many other handicaps, gave all their customers a right royal time. There was not much left to be consumed after the "rolling out the barrels" to musical—more or less—accompaniment.

#### ALL ALIVE-O !

By the way, there have been many inquiries regarding the identity of the landlord who was almost buried alive by some of his customers. It appeared that he made merry with the rest, and as a "wind-up" to the jollifications some of his hilarious customers wrapped him up in a Union Jack, carried him to a nearby cemetery, and well and truly interred him in a grave that was awaiting a burial the following day. Fortunately he was rescued just as the sports had commenced to shovel the loose earth around the grave. But this was only one item in a long programme of unrehearsed incidents that might easily have proved serious. All's well that ends well.

## THE TAMAR BREWERY, DEVONPORT.

### "V.E." DAY.

The "V.E." Day celebrations were carried out in a most orderly and stately manner. It was such a relief for this much damaged city to know that it was all over, and that we would not hear any sirens with the usual accompaniments, no more fire-watching and no more black-outs, and being able to go to bed

in peace, stay there in peace, and get up in peace. We have much for which to be thankful and we hope—but then we must not mention politics in the HOP LEAF GAZETTE.

On the 1st May, 1895, Mr. A. B. Beasley joined the Firm, and on the 30th April, 1945, he completed fifty years' service. The Directors invited him to Reading and made him a presentation of a mahogany clock and a cheque, and the Surveyor's Department at Reading presented him with a silver salver.

At the Tamar Brewery, where Mr. Beasley has supervised the repairs to our properties for the past twenty-five years, Mr. W. F. McIntyre, on behalf of the employees of this Branch, presented him with a silver cigarette case and a list of subscribers. Mr. McIntyre referred to the great assistance he had received from Mr. Beasley, and thanked him for his services, especially during the war, when so many of our properties had been damaged by the enemy. Mr. Beasley, in replying, said that everyone had done what he could to carry on the Firm's business during the very trying times, and he was gratified to know that he has so many friends amongst the employees at the Tamar Brewery.

We had another celebration on the 4th June, 1945. This was for Mr. W. F. McIntyre, who has also completed twenty-five years as Manager of this Branch and his fifty years' service with the Firm.

The Directors invited Mr. McIntyre to Reading, where they entertained him to lunch at the "Ship Hotel," Reading, and the report of the proceedings will be recorded in another part of the HOP LEAF GAZETTE.

In addition to the presentations made by the Directors to Mr. McIntyre, the employees at the Tamar Brewery asked Mr. Beasley, as being the employee with the longest service, to make a presentation of a silver porringer and spoon and also a silver plaque and list of subscribers. Mr. Beasley, in presenting these splendid gifts, referred to his pleasant relations with Mr. McIntyre during the twenty-five years he had served at this Branch. Mr. McIntyre, in his reply, thanked Mr. Beasley and all his friends at the Tamar Brewery for their generosity and the great help he had received from them during his management here. He made special reference to the great help he had received during the war, when the Brewery was saved on so many occasions from destruction by fire. He looked on all the employees of the Firm as good companions and loyal servants of H. & G. Simonds, Limited.

We have had a number of our staff visit us whilst on leave from all parts of the world, and our congratulations are extended to Staff-Sergeant C. V. Churchward, R.A.S.C., and Corporal W. F. Germain, Royal Corps of Signals, who were married during their leave period. All their friends here wish them and their wives every happiness.

Since the publication of the last HOP LEAF GAZETTE we are sorry to record that Flying Officer R. J. Dunstan, R.A.F., who was then reported missing, has now been posted killed in action whilst on flying operations over Germany. We are deeply grieved about Mr. Dunstan, as we were certain that he would have turned out to be a most successful servant of the Firm.

#### THE LIGHTER SIDE.

A Yorkshire lad and his lass had spent the day together. On their return the girl's mother asked how she had enjoyed herself.

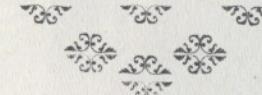
"Aw reet," said Jane, "but Ah think Joe's a bit mean. He nobbut spent sixpence on me all day."

"Well, if Ah were thee Ah'd tek him the sixpence back and mek him ashamed of hissen," said mother.

Late that night Jane knocked at Joe's door.

"'Ere," she said, "tak thi sixpence back. Ah doubt if thi can afford it."

"Ee," said her lover. "Tha shouldn't a bothered t'neet. It would a doon in t'mornin'."



Bradley & Son, Ltd.,  
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Caxton Street, Reading.

## **DECONTAMINATION PARTY.**

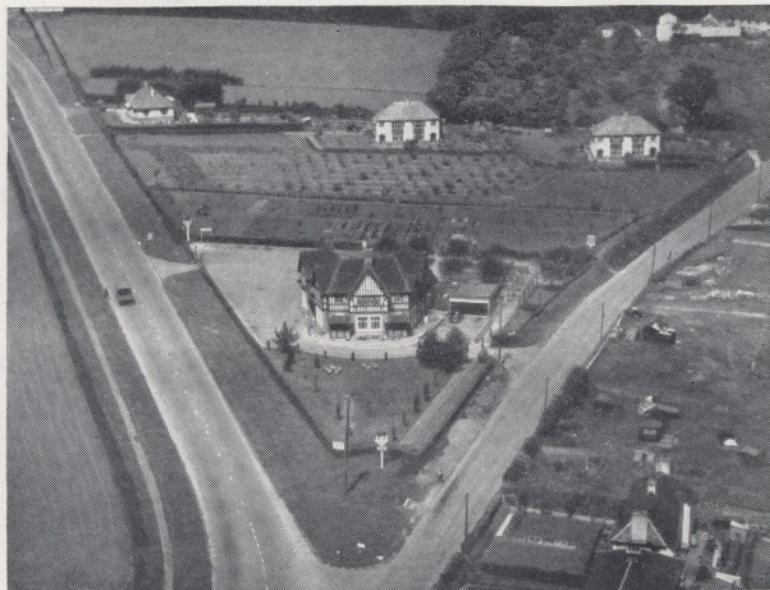


The Decontamination Party whom Capt. A. S. Drew, A.R.P. Controller, congratulated on behalf of the Directors and the Firm on the way in which they had stuck to their arduous task throughout the war. The total ages of the men amounts to no less than 576 years.

**THE 101 HOME GUARD A.A. ROCKET BATTERY VICTORY  
PARADE MARCH PAST.**



Captain A. S. Drewe, M.C., leading; Captain W. H. Spencer, in front rank; Lieut. C. G. Lawrence, in rear.



Anchor Hotel, Kennford.

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