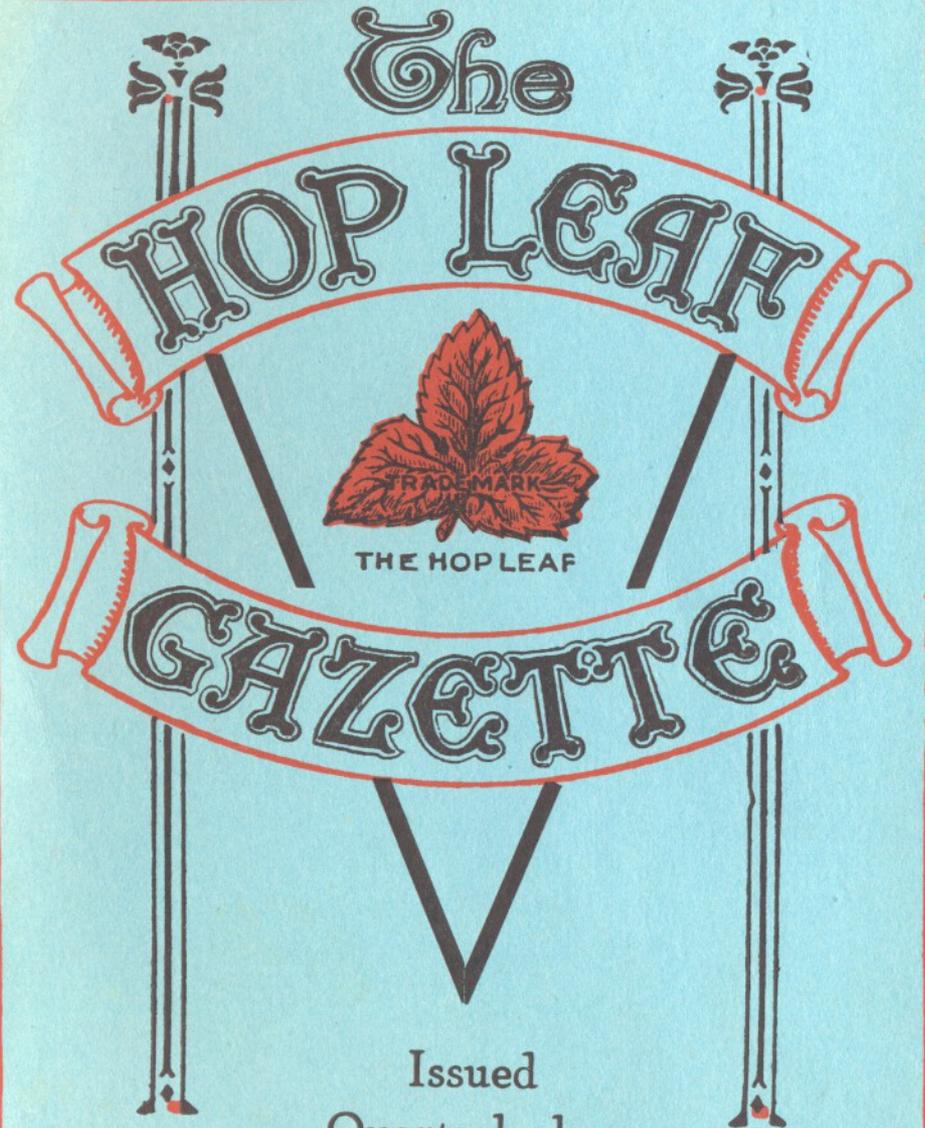


VOL. XXI.

JUNE, 1947.

Price 3d.



Issued
Quarterly by

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

A RECORD OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE BREWERY.

The Hop Leaf Gazette.

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

Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.

Vol. XXI.

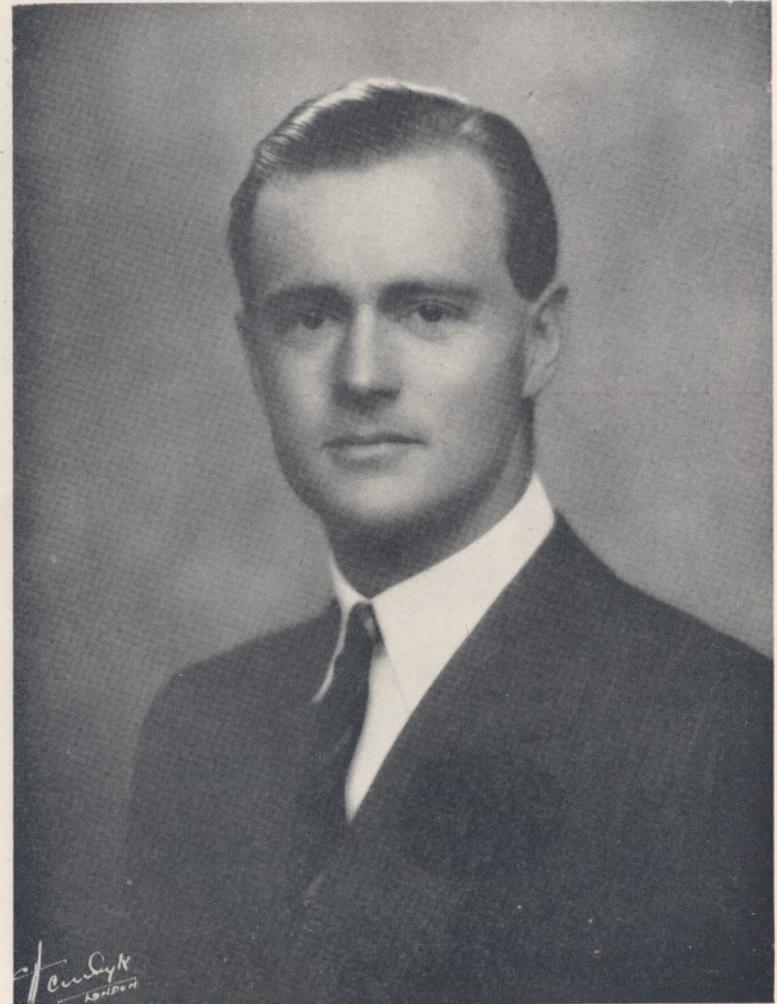
JUNE, 1947

No. 3

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



MR. E. DUNCAN SIMONDS.

"RADNOR ARMS" HUNT.



The Meet.

MR. E. DUNCAN SIMONDS.

Born on the 1st June, 1917, it is an interesting coincidence that the publication of the portrait of Mr. Duncan Simonds in this issue should commemorate his birthday, and our congratulations are extended to him on this anniversary.

The abbreviated record of the principal events in Mr. Duncan Simonds' life, which follow, will illustrate that the spontaneous popularity which he has won and the universal high esteem in which he is held are founded on a solid base of achievement which could not fail to gain admiration and inspire the great confidence which is reposed in him.

Educated at Eton and Magdalen College, Oxford, Mr. Duncan Simonds joined the firm as a pupil in the Brewing Room on the 1st September, 1938, and settled down to an intensive study of the entire brewing and bottling systems. In February, 1939, he became a member of the Honourable Artillery Company and was called up for service with the Territorial Army on the 1st September, 1939, when the declaration of war was imminent.

Commissioned in March, 1940, Mr. Duncan Simonds was posted to the 4th Regiment of Royal Horse Artillery in Egypt in the same month, and served with the Regiment in Egypt and North Africa until June, 1943. He was wounded at Tobruk in January, 1941, and was twice Mentioned in Despatches. It is significant of his prowess that he became an Instructor in Gunnery and instructed in Artillery Schools in Cairo, Italy and Larkhill. He was appointed Lieutenant in September, 1941, Captain in July, 1942, and obtained his majority in 1944.

Mr. E. Duncan Simonds' appointments to the Directorates of this Company and of the Cirencester Brewery, Limited, were announced in our last issue. An account of his recent marriage appears in this number.



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.)

LORD SIMONDS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF READING.

Lord Simonds, the distinguished brother of our Chairman and Managing Director (Mr. F. A. Simonds) has had conferred on him an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Reading. The Prime Minister and other notable people received a similar honour on the same great occasion.

Lord Simonds was educated at New College, Oxford. Formerly Mr. Gavin Turnbull Simonds, he was called to the Bar in 1906, and was made a K.C. in 1924. He became a Judge of the Chancery Division in 1937, and seven years later was appointed a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary. He is a former chairman of the National Arbitration Tribunal.

NOT ALLOWED TO TELL.

"Children," said the teacher, "I want you to write an essay about King Alfred. But don't waste time writing about the burning of the cakes."

One essay read: "King Alfred went and knocked on the door of a lonely cottage in a forest and was admitted by a middle-aged woman. What happened after that, I'm not allowed to say."—*Tit Bits.*



MARRIAGE OF MR. E. DUNCAN SIMONDS

WITH

MISS C. MONICA STEVENS

AT

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, WESTMINSTER.

(Photographs on pages 144 and 145).

Before a very large congregation of relatives and friends on Saturday, May 3rd, the marriage of Mr. E. Duncan Simonds with Miss C. Monica Stevens was solemnised in St. Margaret's, Westminster, that grand old Church with historical associations, and the scene of numerous magnificent ceremonies. But, surely, never were the floral decorations more exquisite than on this great day. The masses of arum lilies surrounded by delicate pink blossom and green foliage, were the perfection of artistry, harmonising with the grandeur and ethereal beauty of the chancel. Over all hung that indefinable atmosphere of sanctity and happiness which enveloped the principal figures in the ceremony.

To the strains of the organ playing the "Trumpet Tune" entered the bride, looking radiantly beautiful, and escorted by her father. The service proceeded with the customary dignity associated with weddings in that ancient edifice. The Archdeacon of Sherborne (the Revd. J. C. Chute) and Canon J. B. Barker officiated.

At the close of the service, with the organ playing the Wedding March, the bride and bridegroom, with bridesmaids in attendance, headed the procession down the aisle, a spectacle of grace and loveliness, which will long remain in the memories of those who were fortunate enough to be present.

The reception was held at Claridge's, and about five hundred guests attended. The bride and bridegroom left in the afternoon to spend the honeymoon in St. Jean de Luz.

The bridegroom is the second son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Simonds and the bride is the younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stevens, of Holmwood, Kingston Hill, and Crown Slip, Seaview, Isle of Wight. The bridesmaids were Miss Molly Butler, Miss Nadia Henly and Miss Erica Simonds, niece of the bridegroom. Mr. K. F. Simonds, brother of the bridegroom, was best man.

ANGLERS' HOTEL, BELL WEIR LOCK, EGHAM.

REALISTIC ECHOES OF THE FLOODS.

(*Photograph on page 170.*)

The Manager of the above Hotel (Mr. F. A. Barton) writes as follows to our Mr. H. C. Davis under date, March 17th :—

“The river has split above the lock, and whilst part flows on over the lock itself, a good half of it comes inland and sweeps at 8 knots across the Caravan Field to break into two new rivers. One of these flows between us and the barn, and the other, pouring across the garden, breaks on Weir Close, and flows back into the original bed. When you add to this a full southerly gale which whipped the water up into quite good sized waves you may have some slight conception of the terrifying sight which we witnessed. At times, when some of the worst gusts hit us, I had serious fears about the condition of the foundations of the house itself. It really seemed quite possible that the whole shebang might topple over into the river, and so Good-bye, Anglers! However, these fears were unfounded, and we are still here. As the water rose steadily some nine inches yesterday I thought it would be very dangerous to leave the carpets down during the night, and therefore we set to and took them up and stored them in a dry position.

When the garden went under water we removed the fowls from their run and constructed a wired-in place for them in the barn. When the water came into the barn and the coals and coke began to float something had to be done about the chickens who were then roosting on perches above about ten inches of water. So we put them on the top of the coals and rigged perches there. They appreciated this, and have signified their approval of dry quarters by laying three eggs to-day on the coal!

P.S.—9 a.m., *March 18th.*

“The floor's 18 ins. under water, and now evacuating staff, hens and self by 'duck' and punt, but the ship's still floating.”

HOTELS AND CATERING DEPT.

We are pleased to record that Mr. H. C. Davis was admitted to the Freedom and Livery of the Worshipful Company of Fletchers and the Freedom of the City of London on the 20th May, 1947, during the Mayoralty of Sir Bracewell Smith, Kt., J.P., B.Sc., Lord Mayor of London, who is a prominent Hotelier.

HONOUR FOR THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT.

On the 12th May, 1947, the following announcement appeared in the Press :—

“The War Office announces that the King has assumed the appointment of Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's).”

On receipt of the news of this signal honour, a letter was sent by Major-General R. J. Collins, Acting Colonel of the Regiment, which was delivered to the King before disembarking from H.M.S. *Vanguard*, expressing the grateful thanks and loyal greetings from all ranks, past and present, of the Royal Berkshire Regiment, to which His Majesty graciously replied.

The Regiment can trace its origin back to 1714, when independent companies were formed for the defence of Jamaica. Twenty-eight years later these became the 49th Regiment of Foot. In 1881 the 49th (Princess Charlotte of Wales's) and the 66th (Berkshire) Regiments became known as the 1st and 2nd Battalions Berkshire Regiment.

The Regiment has seen active service in many parts of the world, including the American War of Independence, Copenhagen (where they served as marines), the Peninsula, Crimea, India, Afghanistan, Egypt, Sudan, China and South Africa. During the 1914-18 war 16 Battalions were raised, and many honours won in France and Flanders, Italy and Macedonia.

In the last war the Regiment again distinguished itself in France, Italy, Germany and Burma.

The title of “Royal” was bestowed upon the Regiment for its gallantry at the Battle of Tofrek on March 22nd, 1885, in the Sudan Expedition, and the right to wear as a badge a Dragon superscribed “China” in 1841, when serving in the first Chinese war.

AN ALL-PURTON DARTS FINAL.

“SIX TRIERS” WIN THE “JACK WARD” CUP.

Recently 184 Darts Teams competed for the Swindon Victoria Hospital Darts Cup. The teams were all from Swindon and district. The semi-final and final were held at the Co-operative Hall, Swindon, on March 17th, 1947.

The winners were “The Six Triers” of the Railway Hotel, Purton. The fifty-guinea Cup was presented by Jack Ward, also a small Cup for each of the players. *Photograph on page 171.*

A GREAT THOUGHT.

THE SECOND MAN.

A shamefaced employee was summoned to the office of the senior partner to hear his doom. The least that he could expect was a blistering dismissal; he might be sent to prison for years. The old man called his name and asked him if he were guilty. The clerk stammered out that he had no defence. "I shall not send you to prison," said the old man. "If I take you back, can I trust you?" When the surprised and broken clerk had given assurance, and was about to leave, the senior partner continued: "You are the second man who has fallen and been pardoned in this business. I was the first. What you have done, I did. The mercy you have received, I received. It is only the grace of God that can keep us both."

BAR BILLIARDS.

NEWBURY LEAGUE FINAL.

The final of the Newbury and District Bar Billiards League between Lion "C" and Eight Bells "A" took place at Elliotts' Social Club and resulted in a win for Eight Bells by four games to one. The Challenge Cup and prizes were presented by Mrs. I. L. Tarratt, organising secretary of the N.B.B.A., in the presence of a large crowd of spectators.

The winning team consisted of H. Piper, E. Eastman, J. Cannon, F. Wilson (captain), and L. Diaper, who had played unchanged throughout the season. The final was refereed by Mr. H. W. (Pop) Dixon.

It is hoped to start a new series of matches in September when an even larger number of entrants is expected.

DARTS.

FARM WORKERS' COUNTY FINAL.

Around 150 members of the National Union of Agricultural Workers saw the semi-finals and final of the Union County Darts Cup at the Bacon Arms, Newbury.

Hungerford Newtown and Thatcham defeated Kingston Bagpuize and Shillingford in the semi-finals, and Hungerford Newtown went on to win the Cup in a closely contested final.

The Mayor of Newbury (Major A. V. Bradshaw), presented the Cup, suitably filled, to the winners, amid great enthusiasm, and paid a tribute to the work which had been done by the farm workers to feed the nation, both during and after the war.

JOHN MAY & COMPANY, LIMITED,
BASINGSTOKE.H. AND G. SIMONDS, LIMITED, ACQUIRE THE
WHOLE OF THE SHARE CAPITAL.

Towards the end of January, 1947, negotiations were completed for the acquisition of the whole of the Share Capital of John May & Company, Limited, by H. & G. Simonds, Limited, and on 4th February, 1947, the transaction was carried into effect by a cash settlement at a meeting held at Basingstoke.

The deal is of considerable importance as it adds a further 94 licensed properties to those already controlled by this Company, making a total of 1,295, and the licensed houses of John May & Company, Limited, are situated almost entirely in areas covered by deliveries from the Reading Brewery. The fact that these houses will in future be included under the management of H. & G. Simonds, Limited, will enable immediate economies to be effected and an improved service to be provided.

H. & G. Simonds, Limited, have undertaken to continue brewing operations at the Basingstoke Brewery for a minimum period of three years, so that there will be no dislocation of staff and employees, and the business will continue to be carried on under the name of John May & Company, Limited; indeed, we are glad to be able to announce that it is the intention of the Board of Directors to enlarge the premises at Basingstoke as and when circumstances permit, to provide an extensive bottling plant for the whole of the Hampshire area.

John May & Company, Limited, was first registered as a Public Company on 3rd November, 1892, but the Brewery business of May's was actually founded in the year 1750. The name of May goes right back to the year 1557 in the records of Basingstoke. Much of the history of Basingstoke is centred around the family of May, and the Mayoral Chair has been filled on no less than twenty occasions by a member of this illustrious family, commencing with Charles T. May, who occupied the position of leading citizen in 1711-1712. The last bearer of the name, which will always be held in esteem in the ancient Borough, was Lieut.-Colonel John May, J.P., V.D., who was such a great benefactor to the town and a very publicly-spirited gentleman indeed. Colonel May's mother was a daughter of Mr. John Simonds, Banker, of Reading.

It is also interesting to relate that Major G. S. M. Ashby's mother was a Miss May, one of the nieces of Colonel May.

It will be appreciated, therefore, that, having been friends and neighbours, as also related by blood ties for the best part of a century, this latest acquisition has been the source of the utmost satisfaction to both parties and the harmonious relations already established will be maintained to our mutual advantage.

Mr. Percy Dowsland Jones, who has been the Chairman of the Company since 1941, has retired in accordance with his own special wish.

Mr. F. A. Simonds, our Chairman and Managing Director, has been elected the new Chairman of the Company; Major G. S. M. Ashby and Mr. Louis A. Simonds have also been elected Directors of the newly constituted Board; Major Ashby will shortly be elected Vice-Chairman of the Company.

Mr. Harold Ernest Blatch and Colonel Alfred Lethbridge, C.B.E., D.L., remain on the Board.

We are happy to announce that the Executive staff of John May & Company, Limited, are all being retained; Mr. W. A. Young is the General Manager, Mr. F. H. Weller, the Head Brewer, Mr. W. P. Connolly the Secretary-Accountant, and Mr. W. S. C. Jones the Collector and Cashier. The latter gentleman has done yeoman service with Mays for over 45 years, and is a very well-known and popular character in this district.

THE HOP LEAF GAZETTE welcomes the entry of this new Subsidiary Company into the ever-widening sphere of the Company's influence in Southern England—a union which forges yet another link in the chain extending from London to Penzance, and we fervently hope that our new colleagues will find great happiness in joining us in the common cause of progress within the family of the great Brewing Trade.



BREWERY JOTTINGS.

BY W. DUNSTER.

When writing my notes for March issue we were in the midst of snow and ice, and this was followed by floods, which affected quite a number of us at the Brewery, particularly those resident at Caversham. So it seems very strange to be writing now in the middle of a sweltering heat wave. Even those of our staff who spent a number of years in warm spots during the war are not exactly in love with the brand of hot weather we have experienced, their invariable answer being that whilst abroad they were suitably clad for the climate. Perhaps that is the solution, but should we not look funny in shorts and very little else when working at Bridge Street? Naturally, the balancing of the books in the offices which is now taking place nightly would be better under cooler conditions; still, with the vagaries of our usual summer weather, anything can take place, and, after all, it is far better than the February sample.

The hot spell has made us very busy, and it is a real hard job to try to satisfy the thirsts of the multitude. Unfortunately that notice which we hoped had gone for good is reappearing in quite a number of the Houses, viz., "Closed," "Sorry, No Beer," etc., but we hope it will not be so often displayed as in other years. Many of the staff are already looking "brown," which shows they are lovers of the open air and various sports—bowls, cricket, tennis and swimming.

Whilst Mr. J. E. Knight, of the Maltings, was away from duty for the purpose of being married (we offer him our sincere congratulations) it was nice to welcome our old friend, Mr. S. Bird, who came back to his position at the Maltings (from his retirement) while Mr. Knight was away.

Mr. F. E. Dryden, our Transport Manager, who recently underwent a serious operation, we are pleased to say is making good progress, and comes to the Brewery for short spells. He feels it will not be long before he is fit and well enough for full time duty.

Congratulations to Mr. W. Neville, of the Delivery Office, on being presented with a fine boy!

Another member of the Delivery Office, Mr. J. Martin, has recently become a father of twins (boy and a girl) and it is pleasing to say they are making fine progress. Our heartiest congratulations!

It wouldn't be everyone's choice, nevertheless we offer our sincere good wishes to Mr. A. Harding, of the Engineers' Dept., who has left us to join the Palestine Police Force.

Mr. W. Spencer, who has been with us for a number of years, first of all starting in the Hotels and Catering Dept., and later in a position of considerable importance in the Bottled Beer Dept., left us to take up the position of resident manager of the "Jack o' Both Sides," so he is not altogether out of touch with us, for the "Jack," as it is generally called by a number of Breweryites, is one of our busiest houses. We all wish him every success.

Sincere good wishes and congratulations to Mr. F. W. Freeman on his promotion to Branch Manager at Brighton. He has served in quite a number of departments on the firm, and was one of the earliest members of the Accounts Dept. on its formation several years ago. Many of us recall happy times in his company, both at the Brewery and in off-duty pleasures, the writer, in particular, for we lived quite near one another for a considerable while. Here's wishing him every success, and the hope that he will be blessed with good health to carry out his exacting and arduous duties.

A Certificate which reads as follows, was presented at the Palmer Hall, West Street, Reading, to Mr. T. Howells, who is on regular first-aid duties at the Brewery:—

WAR ORGANISATION OF THE BRITISH RED CROSS
AND

ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

PRESENTED TO CORPS SERGT. MAJOR T. HOWELLS
IN RECOGNITION OF DEVOTED SERVICE TO THE
CAUSE OF HUMANITY DURING THE SECOND WORLD
WAR, 1939-45.

Signed by

H.M. THE KING,
Civilian Head,
Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Signed by

H.M. THE QUEEN,
President,
British Red Cross Society.

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

The Happy Man, Englefield Green (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—
Mr. H. E. Dullely.

The Swan, Staines Moor (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. G. E.
Griest.

The Morning Star, High Wycombe (Wheeler's Wycombe
Breweries, Ltd.)—Mr. A. H. Rogers.

The Roundabout, High Wycombe (Wheeler's Wycombe
Breweries, Ltd.)—Mr. S. S. Evans.

The Fox, Winkfield Row (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. F. A.
Reece.

The Grenadier, Whitley, Reading (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—
Mr. E. G. Long.

The Golden Eagle, Slough (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. W.
Burford.

The Rokeby Arms, Newbury (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr.
J. W. Coleman.

The Black Boy, Shinfield (H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.)—Mr. C. G. D.
Lawrence.

Mr. C. G. D. Lawrence was a member of our staff for a good number of years in the Surveyors' Department, and was universally known throughout the Brewery as "Laurie." When A.R.P. was first started at H. & G. S., Ltd. under Capt. A. S. Drewe it was he who was responsible for a good deal of the work in connection with it, and during the many years of A.R.P. he must have signed and seen to the distribution of thousands of notices, instructions, etc., to the different sections, so, in consequence, he was probably the most known person at Bridge Street. In fact, it was indeed a very full time job, and he was dealing with queries all day long, but always in a good humoured way, and was well liked in consequence. I am sure we all wish him the very best of good fortune in his new undertaking, and I feel that he will welcome any old-time friends whenever they like to "drop in" at the "Black Boy."

The *Reading Standard*, under date of April 11th, published a photograph of Mrs. Georgina Rex under the heading "Mine Hostess for Fifty Years," and they go on to say: "Mrs. Rex, licensee of the Queen's Head public-house, Christchurch Road, Reading, has completed 50 years in two licensed houses in the town and she has two sons who are licensees. Mrs. Rex has held the licence of the Queen's Head since her husband, Mr. Harry Rex, died a few years ago—he took over 24 years ago. Before that Mr. Rex was licensee of the Sailors' Home, West Street.

Mr. W. G. Rex, eldest of five sons, has been landlord of the Brunswick Arms, Brunswick Street, for 20 years, and another son, Mr. A. H. Rex, holds the licence of the Bear Inn, Tilehurst. He held the licence of the old Bear Inn, Bridge Street, which was closed down in October, 1938, and transferred to the new premises. Mrs. Rex has two daughters."

From *The Newbury Weekly News* :—

31 YEARS AT "ROKEBY."

MR. GEORGE KINCH RETIRES.

"Seventy-three-year-old Mr. George Kinch, for 38 years a licensee, served his last drinks to customers at the Rokeby Arms, Newtown Road, Newbury, on Friday (2nd May) and slid quietly into well-earned retirement.

"For 31 years Mr. Kinch has been the genial host of the Rokeby, which has been the 'home' of Newbury Rugby Club since 1934. Changing rooms and baths for players are incorporated in the modern building, opened in 1932.

SAW HOUSE BUILT.

"Mr. Kinch watched this building grow brick-by-brick through his back window at the old Rokeby, which fronted immediately on to the road and had stables at the rear where carriers used to put up. This landmark was demolished when the new house opened.

"Before coming to Newbury, Mr. Kinch was for seven years landlord of the Fox and Hounds, Tadley.

"His retirement has been saddened by the death of his wife in Wokingham Hospital on Monday (5th May). Mr. Kinch is living at Cotswold, Elmhurst Estate, Henwick Lane, which he took over from Mr. Jack Coleman, now licensee of the Rokeby."

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

Mr. R. F. Newton, of the Railway Tavern, Feltham, who died on the 19th April, 1947, had been tenant of this house since May, 1939.

Mrs. Evans, Greyhound Hotel, Wargrave (wife of Mr. J. Evans, the tenant), died on the 5th April, 1947.

Mrs. Kinch, wife of Mr. George Kinch, our late tenant of the Rokeby Arms, Newbury, died on the 5th May, 1947. This was particularly sad as Mr. Kinch only gave up the tenancy on the 2nd May, 1947.

Mrs. Doe (wife of the tenant) of the Cross Keys, Pangbourne, died in the Royal Berkshire Hospital on the 8th May, 1947.

Mrs. E. E. Brown, of the Black Boys, Newbury, who died on the 20th May, 1947, had been tenant of this house since March, 1923.

Mrs. M. A. Wyeth, of the Barley Mow, London Street, Reading, who died on 27th May, 1947, had been at this house since July, 1906, and upon the death of her husband in 1938 took over the tenancy. She was one of the oldest tenants in Reading.

Mr. E. R. New, of the Black Boy, Terriers, High Wycombe, who died on the 27th May, 1947, had been there since April, 1936. He also had been tenant of the Two Brewers, High Wycombe, from 1928 until it was closed, and then went to The Roundabout, High Wycombe, for just over a year before taking over the Black Boy.

Mr. R. G. Ludlow, of the Oxford Arms, Hungerford Newtown, who died on the 28th May, 1947, had been tenant of this house since 12th July, 1944.

LIGHTER SIDE.

The padre, who had not been feeling well, consulted his friend the doctor. The doctor vetted him thoroughly and then said :

"Well, old chap, your lungs are not in good shape. You'll have to spend six months in Switzerland."

"But I can't afford the time."

"Well, that's up to you. It's either Switzerland or Heaven."

The padre thought for a time, and then growled, "Oh, all right then—Switzerland."

* * * * *

"How long was your last cook with you?"

"She wasn't. She was against us from the start."

* * * * *

A CAPITAL LETTER (from a schoolboy to his uncle) :

S.O.S., L.S.D., R.S.V.P.

* * * * *

A GENTLE ECHO OF WOMAN.

Shepherd : " Echo, I ween, will in the wood reply,
And quaintly answer questions : Shall I try ? "

Echo : . . . Try

Shepherd : " What must we do our passion to express ? "

Echo : . . . Press

Shepherd : " How shall I please her, who ne'er loved before ? "

Echo : . . . Be Fore

Shepherd : " What moves women when we them address ? "

Echo : . . . A dress

Shepherd : " Say, what can keep her chaste whom I adore ? "

Echo : . . . A door

Shepherd : " If music softens rocks, love tunes my lyre. "

Echo : . . . Liar

Shepherd : " Then teach me, Echo, how shall I come by her ? "

Echo : . . . Buy her

Shepherd : " When bought, no question I shall be her dear ? "

Echo : . . . Her deer

Shepherd : " But deer have horns : how shall I keep her under ? "

Echo : . . . Keep her under

Shepherd : " But what can glad me when she's laid on bier ? "

Echo : . . . Beer

Shepherd : " What must I do when women will be kind ? "

Echo : . . . Be kind

Shepherd : " What must I do when women will be cross ? "

Echo : . . . Be cross

Shepherd : " Lord, what is she then can do turn and wind ? "

Echo : . . . Wind

Shepherd : " If she be wind, what stills her when she blows ? "

Echo : . . . Blows

Shepherd : " But if she bang again, still should I bang her ? "

Echo : . . . Bang her

Shepherd : " Is there no way to moderate her anger ? "

Echo : . . . Hang her

Shepherd : " Thanks, gentle Echo ! right thy answers tell
What woman is and how to guard her well. "

Echo : . . . Guard her well

SWIFT.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Hope is a good breakfast but a bad supper.

Genius is one part inspiration and three parts perspiration.

By the road called Straight we come to the house called Beautiful.

He who speaks the truth must have one foot in the stirrup.

The stars make no noise.

There is no duty we so much underrate as the duty of being happy.

Wealth is not his who gets it, but his who enjoys it.

Don't talk of boredom—do something about it.

If God gives you wit, wear it like your scabbard, and do not brandish it.

Determine to make your own opportunities instead of waiting for them; to mould your own life instead of drifting with circumstances.

Great men have purposes—others have wishes.

To profit from good advice requires more wisdom than to give it.

NATURE NOTE.

(BY C.H.P.).

THE GLORIES OF A TROUT STREAM.

INFINITE VARIETY.

TENSE MOMENTS.

One of the great glories of fishing is that the unexpected so often happens. If you view things philosophically you can never be really disappointed.

I had a real "damper" on my first day's fly fishing for trout this year. It poured without ceasing, but I have weathered worse storms trying for trout. To make matters much worse men were busy weed-cutting just above my stretch of water with the result that the river was carpeted with flotsam and jetsam, and the water itself was of a nut-brown colour. I tried many methods, conventional and unconventional, all to no purpose. I did not move a fish, nor did I see one rise, and I waited and watched in sheltered spots for hours!

GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

A whole day in the rain and an empty creel! But do you think I was downhearted? Not a bit of it. I had been living well on expectations, for you never know what is going to happen next, when fishing. And I think Charles Dickens must have had angling at the back of his mind when he wrote that famous work, "Great Expectations."

The day was brimful of interest. Even the bush under which I sheltered during a particularly heavy storm had a fascinating picture to reveal. For there, a few feet away, was a half-completed chaffinch's nest. I stood quite still, and for upwards of an hour I watched these birds building. It was a charming sight. I had a really close-up view, and what multitudinous uses they made of their little beaks! Horsehair, moss, feathers and lichen formed part of the building materials, and as they proceeded with their work they would now and again snuggle in the nest to make the

interior smooth and round. I noticed father seemed to like this part of the work best, and mother had to come and shift him out of his comfy position more than once. But isn't that like a man?

Strangely enough, when standing by another little bush I spotted a similar nest and again observed the busy little builders at work.

TAKING A "RISE" OUT OF ME.

I had packed up my tackle and was thinking about making a move homeward when I thought I saw a fish rising in the distance. Yes, sure enough, there was that little circle of wavelets in the centre of the stream, and then another similar disturbance of the water close to the bank. It was irresistible, so I hurriedly put my rod together again, moved stealthily up to the spot, and cast my fly, but without response. I hid in the rushes and watched. The surface of the water broke again, but instead of being a nice fat trout it turned out to be a pair of dabchicks disporting themselves!

Ever been had, Charles?

HE'S GOING TO BE MINE!

How different was another day's fishing about which I will give a few details. On the previous occasion I admit I got very wet, but the weather by no means damped my ardour. I was keener than ever to balance my account with the trout. The conditions were very unfavourable, with much shallow water, overgrown with weeds, and the banks abounding in high reed and rush. Casting with a contrary wind was no easy matter. Old friends are best and my little Hardy rod, which has never let me down responded to the call like a real pal. Within an hour I landed a nice brace. It had been hard work, so I decided to have a pipe of baccy. I sat and watched a short reach of likely-looking water—every inch of it. I was getting to the end of my baccy—precious stuff now—when I saw a rise! I was going to make sure this time that it was not d— dabchicks, so I laid down my rod and literally crept to within a dozen yards of the spot and knelt, aye! even prayed, and waited to see if that trout would move

again. Some time elapsed before he returned to the surface and leisurely took an alder. From that moment I claimed the fish as mine. I crept quietly back to my rod, taking every precaution not to make my presence known. I even bedecked my head with rushes so that when I just peeped over the reeds, the trout should not notice my face.

A DUAL QUANDARY.

I attached a little alder to my line and made my way back to within striking distance of my quarry. My first cast, owing to an unexpected gust of wind, was about three inches off the target and landed on a water crowfoot bloom. The hook stuck into the flower, and although I was ever so careful I had to drag a little bunch of these plants from their moorings to regain my fly. The trout may have noticed these, to him, unnatural movements and taken cover. However, I waited ten minutes, it seemed hours, before I tried him again. Then I sent my fly on its piscine errand again. The fly went exactly where I wished it to go, and floated down about three feet when the trout took it. I struck, and knew in a moment that I was into a good fish. He fought like a tiger. I was in a sort of a dual quandary. If I held such a big fish too firmly my gossamer gut would not stand the strain; if I gave him too much "rope" he would seek shelter in the banks of weeds which abounded. He made one mighty dash and, fearing to hold on too firmly, I had perforce to allow him to reach a thick bed of weeds. He embedded himself in the dense mass and I could not move him. Keeping just a taut line on him all the time I tried to coax him down to the tail-end of the weeds, but to no purpose. I endeavoured to entice him to come out from every point of the compass but without avail. This went on for about twenty minutes, and it began to look as though, after all, the fish would gain the mastery.

I CONTRAVENE THE RULES.

Then, casting all conventions to the winds, I contravened all piscatorial general rules and regulations and took a tremendous risk, admittedly with fear and trembling—I let the trout have some

loose line. Almost immediately it had the desired effect for, scenting freedom, he began to move, which he had not done for a long, long time. The tension was indeed great. He wriggled his way down to the end of the weeds and, as he thought, to the end of his captivity. He made one bold dash downstream, but before he had worked his way to the end of those weeds I saw to it that he had no more than about an inch of loose line to play with, and in a split second, as he dashed away, I had regained my hold on him. Another great battle ensued and must have lasted fully ten minutes. He had had his way quite long enough, and it was high time I turned dictator. I therefore guided him gently into clear water, placed my net in the right position, and led my trout quietly into it. Beads of perspiration rolled down my face as I lifted my prize from the water—a prize well worthy of a great fight.

The trout turned the scale at 3 lbs., and it was on a trace of 4x gut that I caught him.

GLORIOUS DAY OF ADVENTURE.

I had a "bag" of six really fine fish. It had been a glorious day of adventure. There were moorhens' nests with eggs, others containing little baby balls of black fluff which scampered off into the water directly they were hatched. The baby ducklings, too, were entertaining, and the cuckoo was very much in evidence. A nightingale burst into song from a sheltered spot, a grasshopper warbler was uttering his peculiar notes from a hedge near the ditch and, by no means least of the choristers, was the blackbird, whose flute-like notes were as welcome as any. The meadows were carpeted with golden kingcups, cuckoo flowers, ragged robins, wild chrysanthemums, and a host of other pretty blooms. A thrush settled on a spray of wild roses and some petals fell to the ground. I gathered a bud and, though the beautiful flower looked a bit out of place on my old fishing coat, I wore it, recalling those words so pregnant with meaning:—

Gather the rosebuds while ye may,
Old Time is still a-flying;
And these same flowers that bloom to-day,
To-morrow may be dying!

HEARTFELT THANKFULNESS.

And as I reel in amid these heavenly surroundings after a day of undiluted joy, I thank my God for the beauty with which He has clothed this earth. Nor do I forget that great gentleman and his good companions who, by their generosity, have made it possible for me to enjoy this wonderful kind of life to the full.

FOOTBALL.

The season 1946-47 saw Simonds' Athletic Football Club re-formed after an absence of seven years. As most local junior football was at a standstill throughout the war, the standard of play and players was difficult to assess, and great credit is due to the Reading organisation in arranging ten full league programmes.

The Brewery were entered in the Western Division of the Reading and District Institute League.

Fortunately, we were able to have the support of such stalwarts of pre-war football as W. Mortimer, D. Jacobs, W. Lamb, R. Braisher and A. Tuttle. With five experienced players as these, and, promising newcomers, Simonds' Athletic started the season on an optimistic note, which, as results show, was fully justified.

Apart from the League programme matches were also played in the Reading Town Junior Cup and the Berks and Bucks Junior Cup.

At a meeting of the players after the first match, D. Jacobs was elected Captain and A. Tuttle Vice-Captain and both players fulfilled their duties with a high degree of sportsmanship.

Results of League matches :—

Home.		Away.	
Beenham ...	Won 8—0	Beenham ...	Won 4—2
Wargrave ...	Won 5—1	Peppard ...	Lost 1—3
South Stoke ...	Won 13—0	Pangbourne ...	Won 3—2
Pangbourne ...	Lost 2—6	South Stoke ...	Won 4—1
Sonning ...	Won 4—1	Wargrave ...	Won 7—2
Peppard ...	Won 4—0	Goring ...	Won 7—0
Kidmore End ...	Won 8—3	Bradfield ...	Draw 2—2
Mortimer ...	Won 7—2	Sonning ...	Won 5—1
Goring ...	Won 6—0	Kidmore End ...	Lost 2—3
Bradfield ...	Lost 1—3		

Total goals : for 97, against 33.

The final placing in the League shows Simonds' Athletic as runners-up, with Bradfield the Western Division winners. Whilst there will not be a trophy to exhibit, the players will receive silver medals awarded by the Institute League.

Reading Town Junior Cup.

1st Round v. Reading N.A.L.G.O. ...	... Won 8—0
2nd Round v. East Reading ...	... Lost 2—4

Berks and Bucks Junior Cup.

1st Round v. Elgar Rovers ...	... Won 2—1
2nd Round v. Reading Y.M.C.A. ...	... Draw 3—3
Replay ...	... Lost 1—6

Leading goal scorers :—E. Venner 42, A. Tuttle 30, P. Curtis 10, L. Fullbrook 9, W. Neville 8.

Injuries, fortunately, were slight, and seven players played in over 20 of the 24 matches, viz., R. George (24), R. Braisher, L. Fullbrook (23), " Skipper " Jacobs, H. Ward, T. Blake, E. Venner (22).

No comments on the past season would be complete without a tribute to W. Mortimer, whose skill and sportsmanship gave such encouragement to the younger players. Twenty-five years of football and still going strong. Well done, Bill!

Mr. F. D. Edwards, who is now enjoying a well-earned retirement, was always to be found on the touchline with his words of advice, and it is gratifying to know that we shall have him with us again next season.

Our thanks are due to Mr. E. Boshier for his aptitude with the sponge, liniment and other " mysteries " of his trainer's bag.

Plans are well ahead for season 1947-48 when two teams will be entered in a full League and Cup programme, the " A " team in the Reading and District League and the " B " team in the Reading Institute League.

A word to all football enthusiasts. You have a ground and pavilion which has been the envy of visiting teams. Watch the notice boards for the date of the Football Club meeting. Turn up with your suggestions and help to make the next season a winning season.

CRICKET.

With glorious weather right through the month, both teams are getting well into their stride, and at the time of going to press have each played four games. The "A" Team have won two, drawn one, and hopelessly lost the other. Although the "B" Team have won only one, so far, and lost the remainder, they are putting up commendable performances under the able leadership of Mr. R. J. Lambourne.

Reports of all games have appeared at various length in the local papers, but brief accounts are given below.

It was not possible to hold a proper Trial Match on April 27th after all, and the following Tuesday was washed out by rain, but quite a number chanced the doubtful weather on the Thursday and were able to get the "feel of the table."

Now for the actual matches played to date, the "A" Team first:—

May 3rd. SIMONDS "A" 58 FOR 8 *v.* HECKFIELD AND MATTINGLEY 76.

For our opening match we renewed acquaintance with our old friends from Heckfield and the result was a draw. Batting first, the visitors soon lost a wicket with only 2 runs on the board. H. Moore then came in and saw the score along to 63 for 4 at tea, when he retired with 31 to his credit. J. Cracknell and W. Moore also reached double figures. A collapse followed—6 wickets falling for the addition of only 13 runs. Chief cause of this was K. Organ who took 5 for 30. Crutchley also bowled well, taking 2 for 15.

We were soon in even worse trouble and lost six men for only 25 runs. Then E. C. Greenaway joined G. Beddow, and these two added 23 before the former left after making 11. Beddow went 10 runs later, having scored a fighting 32. Extra time was played out without addition to the total. H. Moore did well with the ball also, his analysis being 5 for 26.

May 10th. R.A.F., SHINFIELD 45 *v.* SIMONDS "A" 56 FOR 8.

This match was played on King's Meadow, and resulted in an easy win for us. Our opponents batted first, but only Travis (19) was able to reach double figures, and they were all out before tea for 45. P. E. Hammond (2 for 5), K. Organ (3 for 10) and E. Scott (3 for 13) had the best figures, but E. C. Greenaway and A. J. Hawkins also bowled well.

With Hawkins (14) and G. Beddow (18) scoring freely early on, we soon passed the R.A.F. total for the loss of three wickets, and

the fourth fell at 47. Time was played out during which four more wickets fell for the addition of only 9 runs. Webb, who took three wickets, and Whitfield both bowled well for the losers.

May 17th. SIMONDS "A" 96 FOR 6 *v.* B.B.C., READING AREA 58.

We were pleased to receive the B.B.C. at Berkeley Avenue and the game resulted in another easy win for us.

Batting first, the visitors were soon in difficulties and lost four men for only 15. Povey then joined Buller and helped to put on 18. The end came with Buller still undefeated with 29 to his credit. E. C. Greenaway (4 for 21) and E. Scott (3 for 11) had the best figures of our bowlers.

The B.B.C. had early successes—three of our wickets falling for a mere 7 runs. Then E. Scott (24) and W. Neville (16) put on 23 runs, and the fifth wicket fell at 51. E. G. Crutchley (20) and C. R. Josey (24 not out) passed the desired total during a sixth wicket partnership of 45, and the former was bowled with the last ball of the match whilst attempting to put up the century. R. A. Craig (2 for 17) was the most successful of six bowlers tried. Davis and Lewis shared the other wickets.

May 24th. HOOK AND NEWNHAM 113 FOR 3 (dec.) *v.* SIMONDS "A" 18.

This game will live long in the memories of those who made the trip to Hook, for we met with a most disastrous defeat by the local team.

Opening for Hook, C. Gregory and F. Webb put on 53 for the first wicket before the latter was bowled for 20. Gregory went on to make a brilliant 39. The third wicket fell at 80, but then J. Morris (27 not out) and S. Foster (18 not out) took the score to 113 at tea, at which a declaration was made. For us, E. Scott was the only successful bowler and took the three wickets that fell for the surprisingly low number of 15 runs.

Our batsmen failed completely against the bowling of E. Pink (6 for 9) and J. Morris (4 for 9) and were all out for the poor total of 18, of which N. Tott batting No. 11 scored 9.

May 3rd. P.O. ENGINEERS 83 *v.* SIMONDS "B" 41.

This game was played on King's Meadow and won by our opponents by 42 runs. Our bowlers had early successes, two wickets falling for only 4 runs. With P. Hamlin making 15, the next wicket added 23, but three more fell for the addition of only 2. C. Richardson with 11 and G. Thornhill with a splendid 34 then took the total to 65 for 7, and the end came 18 runs later.

A. J. Hawkins (4 for 23) and R. Lambourne (4 for 32) bowled well for the Brewery.

Our batsmen could do little against very keen bowling, and only Hawkins (17) reached double figures. For the P.O. Engineers, E. Seager finished with the splendid figures of 5 for 9 in eight overs.

May 10th. SIMONDS "B" 27 v. MORTIMER 2ND XI 76.

We entertained Mortimer at Berkeley Avenue, and they came out easy winners by 49 runs.

Batting first, Mortimer put up the useful total of 76, of which J. Neville scored 24 and S. Beards 14. Their partnership added 33 for the fourth wicket, after which wickets fell regularly. W. Bell bowled splendidly and finished with the good figures of 7 for 21 in ten overs.

Only K. White (9) and R. Lambourne (8 not out) could make any impression on the bowling of A. Bushell (5 for 13) and J. Neville (4 for 13) and we were soon all out for the low score of 27.

May 17th. TYLEHURST ST. GEORGE'S 63 v. SIMONDS "B" 51.

We visited Prospect Park for this match and lost by 12 runs.

Batting first, we could only make 51, of which R. Lambourne batted well for 33, and no other player reached double figures. Burt (3 for 7) and Humphries (4 for 15) bowled extremely well.

With R. Hepburn (29) and W. Blacklock (13) putting on 22 for the first wicket, and the next adding a further 24, the Saints looked set for an easy win, but a collapse followed, and eight wickets fell for the addition of only 17 runs.

Lambourne again did well, taking 5 for 21 in ten overs.

Fielding was keen on both sides, no less than six "run-outs" being recorded in the match.

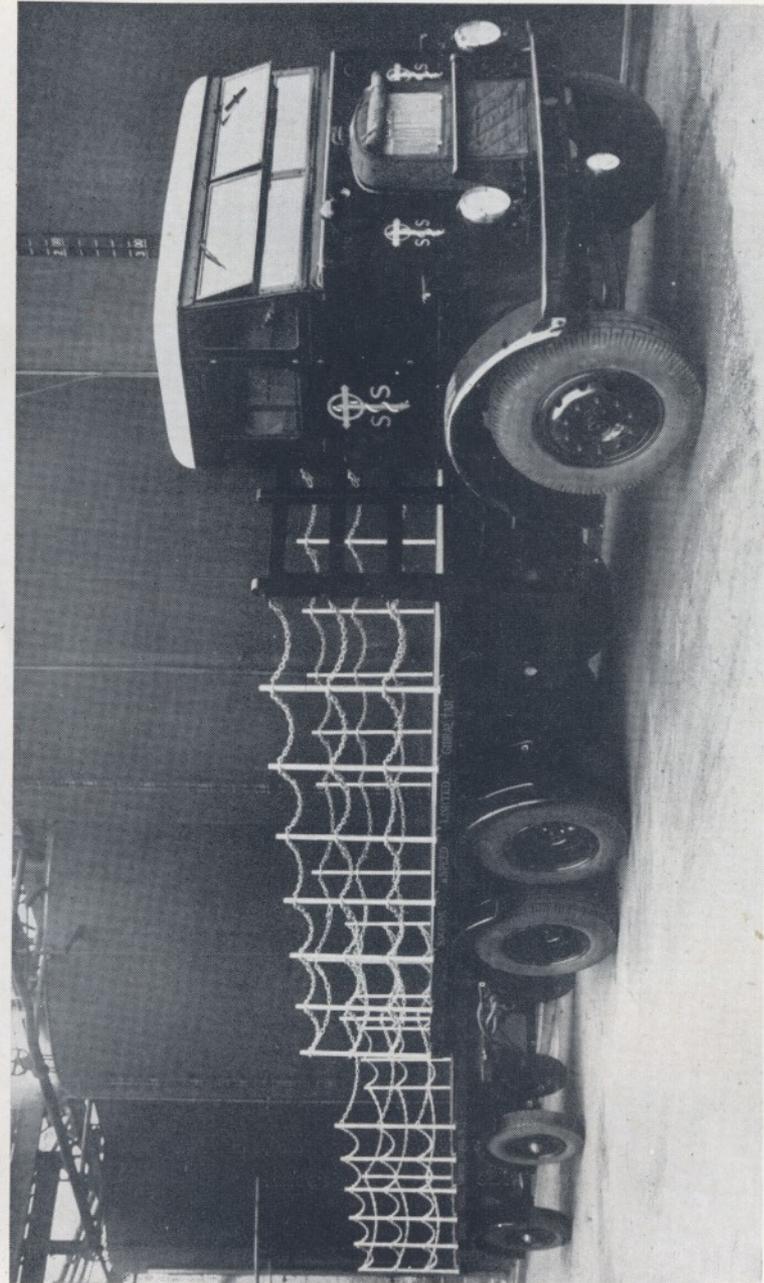
May 24th. SIMONDS "B" 56 v. READING POST OFFICE SPORTS 55.

In this match at Berkeley Avenue the "B" Team were able to record a thrilling win by one run.

The Brewery batted first and had 49 on the board for the loss of 5 wickets, but a collapse followed, and they were all out for 56, of which R. Lambourne made a real captain's innings of 32. Bamford (5 for 25) and Butler (3 for 5) bowled well for the Post Office.

With Bevan (12), Else (10) and Cole (11) all batting well, the visitor's score mounted steadily, and the ninth wicket fell at 50. The end came when K. Jeffcoat made a brilliant catch with the Post Office still one run behind. R. Lambourne (3 for 13) again did well, as did P. E. Hammond (3 for 16) and W. Bell (1 for 2).

W.J.G.



The above is a photograph of the Leyland Hippo Mark II lorry and Dyson trailer recently shipped to our Gibraltar Agents, Messrs. Saccone & Speed, Limited. The building of the body and the painting were carried out in our Wheelwrights Department and the completed vehicle presented a very handsome appearance.

THE MARRIAGE OF MR. E. DUNCAN SIMONDS WITH
MISS C. MONICA STEVENS.



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3 & 4, Royal Opera Arcade, Pall Mall.*

The Bride and Bridegroom.



Reproduced by kind permission of The Queen's Press, 3 & 4, Royal Opera Arcade, Pall Mall.

The Bridesmaids.

THE SWAN INN, WROUGHTON



Winners of the "Simonds" Darts Shield, Swindon,

RETIREMENT OF MAJOR F. J. JOHNSON.

On the 1st April, 1947, Major F. J. Johnson was entertained by Mr. F. A. Simonds, Chairman and Managing Director, and Mr. F. H. V. Keighley, O.B.E., Director, at a farewell luncheon at the Mayfair Hotel to mark the occasion of his retirement from the position of Manager of our London Branch. Also present as guests at the luncheon were Mr. A. R. Bradford, Mr. S. M. Penlerick and Mr. A. Luscombe. The Chairman paid a high tribute to Major Johnson on his fine performance over so many years, and expressed the gratitude of the Board of Directors for his outstanding services. In responding, Major Johnson expressed his great appreciation of the Chairman's words and the many kindnesses shewn to him by the Directors.

A record of Major Johnson's business history first appeared in this journal in 1929, and a résumé of his subsequent achievements is given in other pages of this issue.

Major Johnson has always been held in the highest esteem by the Board of Directors, not only on account of his fine business qualities and the wonderful success which followed all his efforts, but for his unflinching courtliness and deportment at all the various and important functions which are inseparable from the life of the Company's chief representative in the Metropolis.

The retirement from active participation in the Company's business will enable Major Johnson to follow the social side of his life with the freedom which has not always been possible in the past, and we sincerely trust that he will find great enjoyment in the leisure which lies ahead.

MR. A. W. L. LUSCOMBE RETIRES FROM MANAGERSHIP OF BRIGHTON BRANCH.

On the 30th April, 1947, Mr. A. W. L. Luscombe retired from the position of Manager of Brighton Branch, which he has so successfully filled since January, 1938.

A special luncheon was given in his honour at the Metropole Hotel, Brighton, by our Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. A. Simonds, supported by Mr. F. H. V. Keighley, O.B.E., Director. Others invited to be present were Mr. A. R. Bradford, Major F. J. Johnson, and Mr. F. W. Freeman, who succeeds Mr. Luscombe. Mr. F. A. Simonds thanked Mr. Luscombe on behalf of the Board

for his long and devoted services, and wished him many years of good health to enjoy his retirement, to which Mr. Luscombe suitably replied.

Mr. Luscombe's service with the Firm is another outstanding example of loyalty and hard work earning recognition and due reward. His career has been varied and is recorded in an earlier edition of this GAZETTE. It constitutes a record of which he is justifiably proud, and in laying aside his work at a comparatively early age, it is hoped that he will regain robust health, which he has not enjoyed during recent years. It is understood that he will continue to reside at Brighton, and visitors to that favourite resort from Reading and Branches will therefore have opportunities of renewing the acquaintance of an old and popular colleague.

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY SPORTS MEETING.

A Sports Meeting for Employees will be held on the Sports Ground on August Bank Holiday. Races, Punch and Judy Show, Dancing on the Lawn, etc.

Below is a programme of events :—

MEN

½ Mile Walking Race
440 Yards Handicap
220 Yards Handicap
100 Yards Scratch
Veterans' Race

LADIES

80 Yards Race
Bun Race
Egg and Spoon
Thread Needle
Ankle Competition

BOYS

80 Yards (Under 10)
100 Yards (Over 10, Under 15)

GIRLS

80 Yards (Under 10)
80 Yards (Over 10, Under 15)

MIXED

Bun Race (Under 15)
Three-Legged Race
Slow Bicycle
Tennis Tournament (Doubles)
Putting Competition

H.M.S. "VANGUARD."

Shortly after the return of the above ship from its historic voyage to South Africa with Their Majesties and the Princesses on board, our Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. A. Simonds, received the following letter, which speaks for itself :—

H.M.S. *Vanguard*

at Portsmouth.

28th May, 1947.

Dear Mr. Simonds,

I am in the process of relinquishing the job of Wardroom Wine Caterer, H.M.S. *Vanguard*, as I shall shortly be leaving the Ship. Before doing so, I felt that I must write to you on behalf of all the Officers to express my thanks and appreciation for all that your firm has done for this Ship.

2. The special bottlings of Light Pale Ale and Stout, the provision of ship-named labels, and the promptness and courtesy with which all our requests have been met, have been most gratifying. It is true to say that the labels were one of the biggest attractions in the Wardroom Bar. The contents of the bottles speak for themselves.

3. You will be interested to hear that approximately one thousand labels—many still attached to the bottles—were given away to various people all over the Union of South Africa in response to their many requests. This, surely, should be a fine advertisement for your firm.

Yours sincerely,

P. R. C. HIGHAM,

Lieutenant, Royal Navy.

F. A. Simonds, Esq.,

The Managing Director,

H. & G. Simonds Ltd.,

The Brewery,

READING.

This fine appreciation of the Firm's service gives very great pleasure to all concerned in the preparation of the order, and adds further testimony to the excellence of the Company's products, even in these days of restrictions and the attendant difficulties in turning out beers of high quality suitably "dressed" for such an important occasion.

FORTHCOMING FLOWER SHOW.

A Flower Show for members of the Club will be held on Saturday, August 23rd, 1947, in the Social Club.

Details are given below. All entries must be received by Monday, August 18th.

Honorary exhibits will be much appreciated.

VEGETABLES.

- Collection of Vegetables—
6 distinct kinds
- 6 Potatoes—Kidney
- 6 Potatoes—Round
- 1 Potato—Heaviest
- 6 Onions—6 Best
- 6 Carrots—Intermediate or Long
- 6 Carrots—Short
- 12 Runner Beans
- 12 Pods of Peas
- 3 Cabbage
- 1 Cabbage—Heaviest
- 6 Beet—Globe
- 3 Lettuce—Cabbage
- 3 Lettuce—Cos
- 2 Marrows—White or Green for
table, maximum 12ins.
- 1 Marrow—Heaviest
- 6 Turnips
- 12 Shallots—grown from bulb
- 3 Parsnips
- 3 Cauliflower

FRUIT.

- 12 Plums
- 6 Apples—Culinary
- 6 Apples—Dessert
- 12 Gooseberries—Dessert
- Currants—Red or Black—
approx. 1 lb.

CUT FLOWERS.

- 6 Asters
- 6 Dahlias
- 1 Bunch Cut Mixed Flowers
- Sweet Peas—Mixed, 12 spikes

PLANT IN POT.

- 1 Specimen Plant in Bloom

SUNFLOWER.

- 1 Sunflower—Heaviest

EGGS.

- 6 Eggs

LADIES' SECTION.

- 1 Fruit Cake (approx. 2 lbs.)
- 1 Dish of Boiled Potatoes
- 1 Specimen—Child's Garment
- Crochet Work
- Hand Knitted Jumper or Pullover
- Pot of Jam or Marmalade
- Specimen Soft Toy

SCHOOL CHILDREN'S SECTION.

- Bunch of Wild Flowers, gathered
by the Competitor, who
must be a child of a
Member of the Club
- 1 Specimen of Needlework
(under 14)



BRANCHES.

WOKING.

After a somewhat shaky start, spring and now high summer has given back to Surrey's leafy lanes and wooded hills the glory of the English countryside at its best.

Those rather remote places to where our hard-working transport ploughed and slid during the hard, snow-bound winter are now places to be visited, and beckon those who live in the more urban parts.

To those who can get away from bricks and mortar, even for only a few hours, Surrey—perhaps the most beautiful of the Home Counties—provides the perfect relaxation, whilst the ubiquitous "Hop Leaf" is found in profusion.

The recent weeks have seen the winding-up of the winter games season, which has proved most successful in spite of the bad weather conditions and the difficulties experienced by visiting teams in fulfilling engagements. The enthusiasm of the club members who turned out to play the various matches enabled many a merry evening to be spent, and gave some sparkle to an otherwise dreary winter.

On May 8th, the Woking and District Clubs Games League held their presentation ceremony at the Woking Working Men's Club. This league was only started in the autumn of last year, and it says much for the ability and hard work of the Committee, with Mr. W. E. Marett (Knaphill Working Men's Club and Institute) as Secretary, that the league has had immediate success. This was followed by a Prize Giving held at the Old Woking and District Recreation Club on Friday, May 16th, organised by the Club and Institute Union, Woking and District Games Panel, comprising six clubs. The Club was packed to witness the presentation of several handsome trophies. On both these occasions the prize giving was followed by very successful concert parties. There is no doubt that these two leagues have contributed a lot to the success of club life in this part of the country, and we wish them both success during the next season when, no doubt, many more clubs will compete for the very handsome trophies that await the winners of the several competitions.

For those Clubs who have the fortune to possess a Green, one of the popular features of the summer months is Bowls, and the merry click of wood against wood is a pleasant enough sound upon a summer's evening. Many good fixture lists have been arranged by Clubs in Surrey, and visitors from London and

elsewhere will find excellent rinks when they journey down to fulfil engagements which have been traditional between certain Clubs for a number of years.

It is of interest to note that one of our travellers, Mr. S. M. Wareham, has been selected to play for Surrey County during this season, and we are sure that his many friends will wish him every success.

STAINES.

THE LATE LORRY DRIVER A. WRIGHT.

The tragic death of Lorry Driver A. Wright came as a great shock to all at this Branch. He met with a fatal accident whilst cycling home from work, and succumbed to his injuries the same evening in Ashford County Hospital. He leaves a widow and six young children. Wright was a conscientious worker, well liked by all his colleagues, and held in much esteem by all our customers to whom he delivered, especially our catering friends at the various sporting events at which our beers are supplied. It was typical of Wright that the last job he did was to thoroughly clean and service his lorry prior to handing it over the next morning to another driver, before proceeding to Reading to take over a new lorry.

DARTS CLUB.

The Staines Branch Darts Club is still making successful progress, and since our last report seven more matches have been played, of which five were won and two lost. Owing to the floods which covered such a wide area of our district no games were played during March.

The following are the results :—

Home.	"Three Tuns," Staines	... ..	Won 2—1	Highest Score, J. Watkins, 133
Away.	Simonds' Social Club, Reading	... ..	Won 2—1	Highest Score, W. Peters, 124
Away.	"Prince of Wales," Englefield Green	... ..	Won 2—1	Highest Score, W. Payne, 124
Home.	"Swan," Staines Moor	... ..	Lost 2—1	Highest Score, R. Beasley, 120
Away.	"Prince of Wales," Englefield Green	... ..	Lost 2—1	Highest Score, J. Appleyard, 94
Away.	"Swan," Staines Moor	... ..	Won 3—0	Highest Score, F. Tilbury, 123
Away.	"Prince of Wales," Englefield Green	... ..	Won 2—1	Highest Score, L. Cowdry, 98

Our second team also journeyed to Reading and played the Brewery second team, whom they defeated 2—1; in this game the highest average was made by the only lady playing, Miss G. McEvoy. The trip to Reading was thoroughly enjoyed by our party, and thanks are due to Mr. W. Bradford and his committee for the hearty welcome extended to us. We would also like to express our appreciation of the excellent tea with which Mrs. Hannis provided us.

"PRINCE ALBERT," WHITTON.

Sponsored by the enterprise of the tenant, Mr. W. J. Emmett, coupled with the enthusiasm of a very energetic committee, a very successful Saloon Bar Social Club is run at this house. The season's programme ended with a most enjoyable dinner, dance and cabaret which, owing to lack of room at the "Prince Albert," was held at the "King's Head," Twickenham. This social event, at the invitation of the Chairman and committee, was attended by Mr. E. Gosney. The holding of a Social Club in the Saloon Bar of a licensed house is quite unique, and it is an example which could well be copied, to the mutual benefit of customers, in many houses.

FARNBOROUGH.

The staff and employees at Farnborough Branch tender hearty congratulations to Mr. E. Duncan Simonds upon his marriage to Miss Clarinda Monica Stevens.

We hope that Mr. and Mrs. Simonds will be blessed with many years of happiness.

THE TAMAR BREWERY, DEVONPORT.

On Wednesday, the 9th April, 1947, members of our Social Club spent a very happy evening at the St. Budeaux Working Men's Club. The results of the various games played were as follows :—

	St. Budeaux W.M. Club.	H. & G. Simonds' Social Club.
Darts	4	10
Snooker	3	2
Billiards	4	1

It was most pleasant to meet old friends at the Club again, and the warmth of their welcome was most gratifying to us all. Mr. "Jimmy" Hyland, the popular secretary, was on top of his

form and, as usual, the perfect host. He even allowed Mr. S. H. Spurling to beat him at darts. Our thanks are due to the Chairman, Executive, and members of the Club for affording us the opportunity of having such a good time at their well appointed Institute. Here's to the return match!

A long awaited pleasure was fulfilled on Friday evening, the 9th May, when members (and their wives) of our Social Club were entertained by the Executive and Staff of the Plymouth Branch of the N.A.A.F.I. at their exceptionally nice Club at Prospect Row, Plymouth.

The evening commenced with a series of games which were followed by dancing.

The results of the Darts, Snooker and Table Tennis matches were as follows:—

	N.A.A.F.I. Imperial Club.	H. & G. Simonds' Social Club.
Darts	6	4
Snooker	5	—
Table Tennis	1	5

We are indebted to Mr. F. Raddon (Naval Area Manager, N.A.A.F.I.) and his staff for affording us the opportunity of spending a very pleasant evening in such congenial surroundings, coupled with a welcome which was indeed magnanimous. We are hopeful of being able to play the return matches on our "own ground" in the not too distant future.

Dawlish and District Darts League concluded the 1946-47 Season with a Social Evening at the Victoria Hall on Tuesday, the 29th April. The large gathering were first entertained with a darts match between the league leaders, The Devon Arms, Kenton, v. The Rest. The Devon Arms team won a close match by 5 games to 4.

The presentation of trophies followed, and our Mr. R. E. Wright, at the invitation of the President, had pleasure in handing the "Simonds Cup" to the Captain (Mr. R. Berry) of The Devon Arms team, who spoke of the enjoyable evenings they had had throughout the season. Mr. G. H. McMurtrie, President of the League, presented the other trophies which were: Runners-up Cup, White Hart Inn (Captain, H. Vooght); "Whiteway" Bowl, Prince of Wales Inn (Captain, E. White); Runners-up Cup in "Whiteway" Bowl Competition, Devon Arms (Captain, R. Berry).

Mr. McMurtrie, in making the presentations, said that thanks were due to the league officials for good reorganisation after the war to make such a successful season (*applause*). Mr. L. J. Watkins, Chairman, thanked the President, Secretary (Mr. F. Shelston), Treasurer (Mr. S. J. Cowling) and Committee for their co-operation during the season.

The evening concluded with an entertainment given by the Kenton Male Voice Quarter and Mr. Mitchell.

The Licensing Victuallers' Defence League of England and Wales held their 75th Annual Conference at Torquay from April 29th to May 2nd. Delegates, many accompanied by their wives, from all Associations in England and Wales attended the Conference which we understand was an unqualified success. We feel that no better venue could have been selected for such an important annual event for Licensed Victuallers. Our Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. A. Simonds, presided at the Conference Banquet held at the Town Hall, Torquay, on the night of April 30th, and it was most pleasing to have him in our midst once again. He was received by the large number present at the Banquet, over 600, with acclamation. It gave us all a feeling of pride to know that our Chairman and Managing Director is held in such high esteem by all sections of the trade. We were very pleased to also have Mr. L. A. Simonds with us on this occasion.

Plymouth and District Licensed Victuallers Society revived their Annual Banquet and Dance at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel on Tuesday, May 6th. This was the first since pre-war days, and the principals of the Association are to be congratulated on the success attained.

Guests included the Deputy Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. W. J. Priest), the Lord Mayor being unable to be present through sickness, Sir Clifford Tozer, the Chief Constable of Plymouth (Mr. F. J. Skittery), and other prominent ranks in public affairs. We feel this effort on the part of the Licensed Victuallers to bring some glimpse of the silver lining to the clouds of tribulation and frustration is to be commended, particularly in view of the scars of battle which this city so honourably bears.

PLYMOUTH AND DISTRICT SERVICES BILLIARDS AND
SNOOKER LEAGUE.

The presentation of trophies and the annual smoking concert of the League took place at the Chief Petty Officers' Mess, Royal Naval Barracks, Devonport, on Friday, May 9th, 1947.

Before a gathering of nearly 300, the President, Colonel G. C. Wycisk, O.B.E., T.D., made the presentations, and spoke of the progress made since the formation of the League in 1928. In those days there were only two competitions, viz., the Billiards League, for which Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., presented a Silver Rose Bowl, and the Knock-out Handicap for the Thurston Challenge Cup. To-day there are fifteen silver cups, a plaque, and two large "Wooden Spoons" on shields, and all except the spoons are won by competition.

The special feature about this event was that this was the first occasion that the presentation of the trophies had taken place at the Royal Naval Barracks, yet the Chief and Petty Officers have been members of the League since its formation.

Winners of the trophies were: Billiards League, Plymouth City Police; Runners-up, Chief Petty Officers, R.N. Barracks. Highest Aggregate Score (Team), Plymouth City Police; Highest Aggregate (Individual), P.C. Crowle, Plymouth City Police. Highest Break, O/A. Higman, C.P.O.'s Mess. Billiards Championship (Individual), Col./Sgt. Meatyard, Royal Marines; Knock-out Handicap (Team), Plymouth City Police. Novelty Billiards (this is a competition where the player uses the hand opposite to that usually used), P.O. Simpson, R.N. Barracks. Wooden Spoons, Ex-5th Devon Regt. (T.A.).

For the Snooker Section: The League, Plymouth City Police; Runners-up, Chief Petty Officers, R.N. Barracks; Highest Aggregate Score (Individual), P.C. Lowe, Plymouth City Police; Highest Break, Det. Con. Perry, Plymouth City Police; Individual Snooker Championship, P.C. Anderson, R.M. Police; Knock-out Handicap, Royal Marine Police; Wooden Spoons, Ex-5th Devon Regt. (T.A.). The Sportsmen's Cup (decided by ballot), Chief Petty Officers, R.N. Barracks.

Amongst those present were Commodore S. M. Raw, D.S.O., R.N.; Commander P. W. Gretton, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.; Lieut.-Colonel W. F. Edds, R.M., and the Chief Constable of Plymouth (Mr. F. J. Skittery).

A musical programme was given by Mr. Harry Grose and his variety artistes, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

Congratulations to Mr. R. Luff, of our Accounts Department, on the birth of a daughter, Terrisa Margaret. We are happy to report both Mrs. Luff and her daughter are making good progress.

"HOP LEAF" DARTS LEAGUE.

The 1946-47 season came to a successful close at Devonport Guildhall on the night of Monday, June 9th, when a gathering of 500 members and supporters of the league witnessed the final of the Knock-out Competition and the semi-finals and final of the Individual Competition. The results of the matches played were as follows:—

Knock-out Cup.

Winners ... "Stopford Arms," Devonport.
Runners-up ... "Camel's Head Inn," Devonport.

Individual.

Champion ... Mr. C. West ("Stopford Arms").
Runner-up ... Mr. G. Winters ("Abbey Hotel").

League.

Champions ... The "Weston Mill Hotel," St. Budeaux.
Runners-up ... The "Abbey Hotel," Plymouth.

Final placings in the league are as under:—

FINAL TABLE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.
Weston Mill ...	28	18	2	8	143	81	44
Abbey Hotel ...	28	15	3	10	128	96	40
Camel's Head ...	28	16	7	5	128	96	37
Stopford Arms ...	28	13	6	9	127	97	35
Grapes Tavern ...	28	11	10	7	117	107	29
Morice Twn. ...	28	9	8	11	116	108	29
Tamar Hotel ...	28	9	8	11	116	108	29
Swan Hotel ...	28	9	9	10	113	111	28
Steambridge ...	28	9	10	9	108	116	27
Longroom I. ...	28	9	11	8	106	118	26
Chester Cup ...	28	8	12	8	107	117	24
Stoke Vaults ...	28	7	11	10	100	124	24
King's Arms ...	28	6	12	10	99	125	22
Vine Hotel ...	28	5	15	8	97	127	18
Standard I. ...	28	9	19	—	90	134	18

The Vice-Chairman of the League, Mr. A. W. Sorrell, introduced the President (Mr. S. H. Spurling) to the company assembled, who, before presenting the trophies to the various winners, expressed thanks to the Committee, players and supporters for their loyal support of the league during the season which had been an unqualified success in spite of a late start. He added it would be

invidious to congratulate any person in particular for the success achieved because everyone, irrespective of the part assigned to them, had pulled his or her weight to the full.

Before wending our way homeward, all acclaimed the evening a great success; this was due in no small measure to the keenness of the Cup Final, the "Stopford Arms" beating the "Camel's Head" by the narrow margin of 5 games to 4, the final game being the deciding one.

BRISTOL.

May we record with sincerest pleasure the loyal and united good wishes of all at Jacob Street, and other Bristol "Hop Leaf" friends, to Mr. and Mrs. E. Duncan Simonds. We pray that every blessing which life can give may rest upon them both as they "travel the road" together.

"HOP LEAF" DARTS LEAGUES.

We are indebted to Mr. E. Gristock (Hon. Sec.) for the following report:—

The 1946-47 winter programme ended in a blaze of glory for the "Black Horse" (Hambrook) boys. With five matches to play, they had to win them all to reach the top of the North Section. But win them they did, and also the deciding match with the South Section winners, "The Gaiety," for the Championship Shield, which game took place at the "Bathurst" before a big crowd. The final score of 7-2 in Hambrook's favour was rather unflattering to "Gaiety," who played rather below their usual form. Full credit, however, must be awarded to the Champions, who made no mistakes, and are always a most difficult side to beat.

The trophies and individual prizes were presented to the teams by Mr. J. H. Law, who congratulated the players on such a demonstration of their skill and on the excellent sportsmanship of both sides.

The knock-out cup final was between the "Gaiety" and the "Swan," Hanham, at the "Windsor Castle."

Again the "Gaiety" disappointed their supporters, being defeated by 6 games to 3, after a keen struggle. They are a very sporting side indeed, and a great credit to their house. May a fuller award come to them in the season ahead. They certainly deserve it.

The "Swan" team must be congratulated on their "giant-killing" progress to the final. K.O. competitions are notoriously unsafe to bet on, as many modest sides often seem to be able to find that "little bit extra" for such special occasions—to the utter confusion of the elite—in many sports.

A great deal of the credit for their victory was due to the wholehearted keenness of Mr. R. Rowland, our tenant, and Mrs. Rowland, whose efforts during the past two years have made the "Swan" so worthily representative of "Hop Leaf" interests in Bristol.

The reproduction shewn on page 171 is by very kind permission of the photographer, Mr. F. Thomas, of Martins Road, Hanham.

Well done, Hanham!

FINAL LEAGUE TABLES.

NORTH SECTION.

	P.	W.	L.	P.
Black Horse, Hambrook	23	18	5	36
Black Horse, Redfield	23	17	6	34
Botany Tavern "A," Ashley Vale ...	22	15	7	30
Horse and Jockey, Nag's Head Hill	22	14	8	28
Paxton Arms, Easton	22	14	8	28
Swan Inn, Hanham	22	14	8	28
Lord Chancellor, Easton	22	11	11	22
Richmond Hotel, Barton Hill	22	10	12	20
Three Tuns, Easton	22	8	14	16
Botany Tavern "B," Ashley Vale ...	22	6	16	12
Punch Bowl, Old Market Street ...	22	3	19	6
Bridge Inn, Ashley Road	22	3	19	6

SOUTH SECTION.

Gaiety Hotel, Xmas Steps	20	15	5	30
Windsor Castle, Bedminster	20	13	7	26
Bath Arms, Bath Street	20	12	8	24
Colston Arms, St. Michael's	20	12	8	24
Golden Bowl, Jacob Street	20	12	8	24
Pillot Hotel, Hotwells	20	9	11	18
Bathurst Hotel, Bathurst Basin ...	20	8	12	16
Bell Hotel, St. George	20	8	12	16
Black Horse, Hambrook	20	8	12	16
Mayors Arms, Clarence Road	20	7	13	14

A new competition for "Hop Leaf" dart enthusiasts has recently been successfully launched—a Summer League—for which twenty houses have entered teams. If "practice doth make man perfect," we can take it for granted that by the time September arrives, and the final games are played, quite a number of hitherto unknown dart specialists, with ambitions, will have reached their best form in good time for the big winter line-up for 1947-48, and may quite well upset many early calculations and reputations—which is all to the good of the game.

Competitions of this kind, to be entirely successful, must always keep alive that essential spirit of mutual good comradeship, win or lose principles, which are of paramount importance to the nation as a whole, whether in work or play, and neither can be worthily or completely successful without it. We know that "Hop Leaf" games enthusiasts will on all occasions most carefully maintain that spirit in every sense of the word in their games one with another, not to their own honour alone, but also for those who follow after.

MR. A. G. STRADLING.

The retirement of Mr. Arthur G. Stradling on April 30th last, after 47 years on the road in the interests of this Brewery, ended a valuable association with our tied and free wholesale trade customers which, we know, will be very sincerely regretted in many quarters, particularly for the loss of that ever-helpful consideration and mature advice which was always at their service.

We are happy to record our own indebtedness to Mr. Stradling for his most loyal and conscientious help, particularly since 1935, and to wish him good health and every good fortune in the, we hope, many years of quiet enjoyment which lie ahead, and which he has so well and truly earned.

Mr. M. F. Ridler has been appointed to succeed Mr. Stradling, after a period of training under his guidance, and we trust our dear friends will, as time passes, extend to him that complete trust and confidence which his predecessor enjoyed for nearly half a century in our mutual interests.

BRISTOL "HOP LEAF" SKITTLES.

The "Beaufort Arms," Crofts End, not only won the League Championship, but also the Knock-out Cup—a sure sign of their quality! League runners-up were the "Black Horse," Redfield, who in any sporting event can be relied upon to make the pace a fairly fast one. This year they just missed both darts and skittles top honours.

The "Beaufort" team spirit contributed in no small measure to their outstanding successes. Our tenant, Mr. F. G. Haynes, has undoubtedly got a fine sporting side together, and a representative gathering at the "Black Horse" on April 23rd paid them the fullest tributes when our Bristol Manager (Mr. J. H. Law) presented the Championship Shield, Knock-out Cup, miniatures and medals to them.

Bristol Skittlers are grand, generous folk, and it is a real pleasure to be in their company.

The prolonged spell of Arctic conditions necessitated the postponement of the Cheltenham National Hunt Festival until early April, when exceptional summer-like weather prevailed over the three days, and record crowds made 1947 a real vintage year at Prestwick Park.

The caterers, our good friends Messrs. Letherby & Christopher, Ltd., dealt with all demands in their own particularly competent way, despite the almost overwhelming supply difficulties of to-day, which surround us all, to make the occasion worthy of such a national holiday for those real "sportsmen" of both sexes who crowded every enclosure. It was indeed Cheltenham at its best, where no discordant note is heard, and everyone, even the unlucky punters, so full-heartedly enjoy themselves. "Hop Leaf" emblems were as plentiful as the leaves of autumn, and our staff had a very busy time in endeavouring to keep pace with the demands made upon our limited resources.

We look forward to the day when the "no limit rule" will apply to beer supplies also. That day should be well worth waiting and planning for!

Our old "Hop Leaf" friends do not waver either in their loyalty to our products or their preference for our service!

BRIGHTON.

On Friday, May 9th, a pleasing ceremony took place in the Billiards Room of the "Royal Oak," when Mr. Luscombe was presented with a barometer by Mr. W. H. Cotton on behalf of the staff and employees of Brighton Branch.

In making the presentation, Mr. Cotton referred to the many happy years they had worked under him, and thanked him for the consideration he had always shewn, especially during the long and difficult period of war.

Mr. Luscombe expressed his appreciation for the most useful gift which had been presented, and thanked everyone for their loyal support during the time he had been Manager, and expressed a wish that the same loyalty and devotion should be extended to Mr. F. W. Freeman, his successor.

OXFORD.

OXFORDSHIRE LICENSED VICTUALLERS CENTRAL PROTECTION
SOCIETY,

BANQUET AND BALL,

CARFAX ASSEMBLY ROOMS, OXFORD,

MONDAY, MAY 19TH, 1947.

This popular function was presided over by Harold W. Lake, Esq., M.C., Chairman and Managing Director, Messrs. Morland & Co., Ltd., United Breweries, Abingdon. The President was supported by a very efficient Committee in the persons of Messrs. E. R. A. Mott (Chairman), A. E. Hogg (Vice-Chairman), F. Ayers (Treasurer), J. H. Hollyer, J. Gibbons, J. Allaway, N. E. Whybrow and the genial and indefatigable Secretary of the Society, Mr. J. B. A. Wiley.

There were nearly two hundred people present, including L. A. Simonds, Esq. (Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.), J. H. Morrell, Esq. (Messrs. Morrell's Brewery, Ltd), D. C. Maxwell, Esq. (Hall's Oxford Brewery, Ltd.), Their Worships the Mayors of Oxford and Abingdon, the Chief Constable of Oxford City, the Chief Constable of Oxfordshire, H. Robinson, Esq. (President of the Licensed Victuallers' Defence League of England and Wales) and many other people well known to the trade.

PORTSMOUTH.

HOME AGAIN!

Portsmouth gave a tumultuous welcome home to Their Majesties the King and Queen, and their daughters, the Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret, on their return from their epoch-making South African tour. Exactly 100 days had elapsed from the date of their departure to their arrival at H.M. Dockyard, and everything went well throughout their 30,000 mile trip—even to Simonds' special brew of bottled beer which we were honoured to supply! It was a sight never to be forgotten to witness H.M.S. *Vanguard* disgorge her stores on the Southern Railway jetty where she was berthed, and special precautions were taken to protect the £15,000,000 of bar-gold which she brought home.

The Royal procession through the thronged and gaily decorated thoroughfares from the Dockyard to the Railway Station was an outward and visible sign of the love and affection entertained by

the country for Their Majesties, who were obviously greatly impressed by their welcome and the spontaneous outburst of loyalty.

L.V.'S NEW PRESIDENT.

Mr. E. C. Parnell is the new President of the Portsmouth, Gosport and District Licensed Victuallers' Society. He was unanimously elected at the annual meeting, and he succeeds Mr. Martin P. Danagher, whose year of office was most successful, both from a trade and a social point of view. Mr. Parnell, who is Mine Host at the Portsbridge Hotel, Cosham, is an old and popular member of the Society, and he will have as his first lieutenant Mr. George Lamb (Granada Hotel, Southsea), the first member of the managerial section to be elected a Vice-President—a signal honour which is greatly appreciated by his fellow managers. Mr. Harry Luther succeeds Mr. H. E. Privett as Treasurer, and Mr. W. F. Bailey was once again elected Secretary, and congratulated on his excellent work.

Preceding the election of officers, the members stood in silent memory of one of the senior members, Mr. Charles Privett, Ship Inn, Cosham, a brother of the late Councillor Frank Privett, first Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, and the late Alderman E. J. Privett, and uncle of the present Councillor John Privett.

JUSTICES' IMPORTANT PRONOUNCEMENT.

"A landlord must conduct his business in his own way provided he keeps within the law."

This was the gist of an important pronouncement made by the Gosport Licensing Justices after listening to a complaint by a Fareham inhabitant that a licensee had refused to serve him with cigarettes because he would not buy a drink, thereby imposing a condition of sale. The magistrates took into consideration the present-day difficulties of supplies, but apart from this they emphasised that a licensee must at all times be captain of his own ship and enjoy the same privileges as a man in any other business.

Another pronouncement that will be welcomed by the trade generally was that licensing benches did not expect owners of licensed premises to spend more money than was absolutely necessary on repairs until the Area Planning Committee's recommendations were known.

A SOBER CITY!

Portsmouth is indeed a sober city! Mr. L. R. Maidment and his brother Justices on the Licensing Committee have publicly said that they are "astounded by the extraordinary decrease in the cases of drunkenness in the City." Last year there were only 78 cases dealt with compared with 325 in 1940, and it was noted by the Chief Constable that the figures had been steadily dropping since 1943.

"Whether this happy state of affairs is due to the abstemious behaviour of the customer, the strength (or should it be weakness?) of the beer, or the shortage of constables, I do not know," Mr. Maidment commented, "but if the present rate of decrease continues, in three years there will be no drunkenness at all—a consummation rather unlikely."

PAULSGROVE HOUSES.

Mr. Maidment, announcing that it had been agreed to grant twelve new licences in the Paulsgrove area of the City—a new district in course of development—paid tribute to the assistance brewers had been to them, and mentioned that the machinery set up to establish co-operation between the brewers and the Licensing Committee had been copied in various parts of the country and was working with marked success. This is a feather in the cap of Mr. B. J. Tay, Clerk to the Justices, who was responsible for the scheme.

CIRENCESTER.

The following change of tenancy has taken place:—

The Hill Oak Inn, Ampney St. Mary, from Mr. A. O. Nicholls to Mr. E. J. Humphries.

Mr. H. E. Habgood retired from the position of Collector and Representative on March 31st last, after 36 years' faithful service.

He was well known by our tenants and many customers as, apart from being with the Company for so many years, he is a Gloucestershire man, having been born at Northleach, and resided at Stratton, Cirencester.

We are glad to say that he is continuing to live at Stratton, and we wish him a long and happy retirement—and, given some

good weather in the years to come, he will be afforded ample opportunity to indulge in his favourite hobby of gardening.

BLANDFORD.

On the 9th May the staff at Blandford, joined by Mr. W. J. Marsh, gathered to wish Mr. W. Rice health and happiness on his retirement on pension, after a total of 49 years' service.

Starting with Messrs. J. L. Marsh & Sons in the Maltings, and helping in the Brewery, and sometimes as drayman when the malting season was over, Bill knew all there was to know in a small brewery.

When the business of Messrs. Marsh & Sons was taken over by this Company eight years ago, brewing was then stopped, and since that time he has attended to the duties of cellarman, fining the beer, etc.

In passing on the staff's best wishes, Mr. R. J. Bartlett handed Mr. Rice a cheque subscribed to by all the present staff and the Messrs. W. J. and L. F. Marsh, as a token of their esteem and respect.

In reply, Mr. Rice thanked everyone for their kindness, and said that he had spent a very happy time at the brewery, and that he would use the cheque to buy a suitable reminder of those days.

Congratulations to the "Crown Inn" (Ibberton) darts team on their success in winning the Sturminster Newton and District Darts League.

This was the only Simonds house represented in this league, and we were very pleased to see them finish on top.

The challenge cup and miniatures were presented to the winning team at the White Hart Hotel, Sturminster Newton, by Mr. R. J. Bartlett, who also presented miniatures to the "New Inn," Stalbridge Weston, who were the runners-up.

During the evening a "pick of the league" team played the league winners, the game resulting in a draw. A plated pint cup, given by Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., was won by Mr. A. Humber, "Crown Inn," Ibberton, for the highest score of the evening.

Mr. Gibbs, Chairman of the League, thanked Mr. Bartlett for coming to present the cups, and Mr. Bartlett congratulated the officials and teams on arranging such an enjoyable evening, and wished their efforts every success in the future.

Major Johnson signalled his retirement from the management of London Stores by giving a very enjoyable Dinner to all the staff. The function was held at Ardington Rooms, Clapham Junction, on Friday, 28th March, 1947, and it was Major Johnson's wish that it should be entirely a family affair.

Major Johnson was accompanied by Mrs. Johnson, and the reception was held at 6.15 p.m.

After the loyal Toast to H.M. The King and the Royal Family, Major Johnson proposed the Toast of the Firm, stating that it had been his honour and pleasure to serve them for 47 years, 45 of which in a managerial position. He called upon all to loyally support the Firm in the future as they had done in the past. Mr. H. Ward then proposed a Toast in honour of the Host and Hostess, Major and Mrs. F. J. Johnson, which was supported by one of the members of each department, viz., Mr. A. Andrews, Mr. E. Golds, Mr. G. Dean, Mr. R. Cleal and Mr. G. Turner.

Mr. S. M. Penlerick, on behalf of the staff, then made a presentation to Major Johnson of a silver teapot, suitably engraved. Major Johnson responded, expressing his thanks for the presentation, and Mrs. Johnson also spoke very charmingly and graciously, thanking all for the loyalty shewn to her husband during the many years he had been with the Firm.

The company during the evening were entertained by two excellent and well-known artistes—Mr. Jock Walker, Scotch comedian, and Mr. Rogers, conjurer and illusionist.

An opportunity was accepted to present Mr. R. Woodward, who retired from London Branch on the 31st December, with a cheque contributed by the staff as a token of goodwill, wishing him every happiness in his retirement.

The evening was finished by the singing of "For he's a Jolly Good Fellow" and Auld Lang Syne.

Our notes on sports will be history by the time they appear in print, but we cannot let the occasions pass.

Kempton Races were resumed on Easter Monday, the first since 1939. The stands still bear the scars of war.

The Inter-Services Rugby Tournament at Twickenham on April 12th, at which the Duke of Gloucester was present, was a great game. The Army were leading by 16 points at half-time, but the Navy made a great recovery and the result was—Army 19, Navy 11.

The following week at the same venue, England and France met for the first time since 1931, Mr. Attlee being present. A good

game was won by England by 6 points to 3 points, England thus sharing the Championship with Wales.

On the same date, April 19th, the Amateur Soccer Final was played at Highbury between Wimbledon and Leytonstone. We had rather hoped that our near neighbours, Wimbledon, would win. However, the Cup stays in London, thanks to Leytonstone, whom we should like to congratulate, and add, like Gunga Din, "we hope you liked your drink."

On April 26th a great battle was fought at Wembley between Charlton and Burnley for the F.A. Cup in the presence of the Duke of Gloucester, and a happy crowd of 99,000. The Cup was won by Charlton—1 goal to nil—after playing extra time, so another Cup stays in London. Bravo, Charlton!

Congratulations to Mr. S. M. Penlerick on his appointment by the Directors as London Manager to succeed Major F. J. Johnson, who for the past ten years has acted as Assistant Manager.

Mr. S. M. Penlerick is a South African by birth, being born at Boksburg in 1903. He came to England at a very early age to be educated, and commenced his studies at Southey Hall Preparatory School, Worthing, and from there to Haileybury College.

Mr. Penlerick commenced with the Firm at Brighton Branch in March, 1933, as an Outside Representative. He had had previous experience as a traveller in the cider trade, being South of England Representative for Messrs. Henley's Cider Co., Ltd.

Unfortunately we lost his service during the war, as like most "Britishers" he thought that it was his duty to serve in H.M. Forces. He joined the Royal Air Force, Volunteer Reserve, in 1941, as Pilot Officer and had a distinguished and honourable career. He was promoted Squadron Leader in 1945. From 1942-43 he had an appointment as Staff Officer, Headquarter Fighter Command. In 1943 he was appointed personal assistant to Air Marshal Sir Philip Wigglesworth, K.B.E., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.C., who is at present Air Commander-in-Chief, British Air Force of Occupation in Germany. Squadron Leader S. M. Penlerick was Mentioned in Despatches in 1945, and saw service in Great Britain, France and Germany. He returned to business in January, 1946, with great enthusiasm for work which has had good results and the reward of being appointed London Manager and a worthy successor to Major Johnson.

Mr. S. M. Penlerick's natural ability enables him to make many lasting friends, and we feel sure that his sound knowledge of business methods will enable him to carry on the Firm's business

with great success. He may rest assured of the loyalty of the staff and the goodwill of the many friends which he has already made in the trade. All wish him good health to carry on with his task.

All at London Branch tender congratulations and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Simonds on their marriage.

SWINDON.

THE "AXE AND COMPASS," KEMPSFORD.

It is a very rare occurrence for a team to win both league and knock-out competitions two years in succession, yet this distinction has been won by the Kempford "Axe and Compass" Darts Team.

They have again finished first in the District Darts League, with 31 points, the "Red Lion," Lechlade, being the runners-up with 25. They also defeated the "George," Fairford, in the final of the Hospital Cup. They concluded their season by defeating at home the team drawn from the rest of the League by 6 matches to 3.

A very successful evening was held in the Palmer Hall, Fairford, when the trophies were presented by Admiral Evans.

WROUGHTON AND DISTRICT DARTS LEAGUE.

(Photograph on page 146).

We have much pleasure in recording that the "Simonds" Darts Shield, recently presented to the above League, has been won for the first time by one of our own houses, the "Swan Inn," Wroughton.

The winning side were challenged to a match by a team made up from the rest of the League, which they won easily.

Mr. F. L. Maskell, Swindon Branch Manager, presented the Shield, and congratulated the "Swan" team on being the first side to have their name recorded on the Shield.



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The Six Triers:—Left to right: M. Painter, H. Unitt, F. Haines (Captain), J. Williams, A. G. Stratford (Landlord), A. Ricketts.
Seated: R. Unitt, C. Bennett.

The Swan Inn, Hanham, 1946-47 winners of the "Hop Leaf" Darts Knock-out Cup.



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Back Row—Messrs. V. Trevellyan, W. Jenkins, H. Smith, G. Rowland, J. Sheppard, G. Brain and G. Watts.
Front Row—Mrs. G. Rowland, Messrs. V. Alder (Sec.), F. Beese (Capt.), R. Rowland and R. Price.



Thames in flood near the "Anglers Hotel," Egham.
 Photograph by kind permission of "The Evening Standard."

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

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