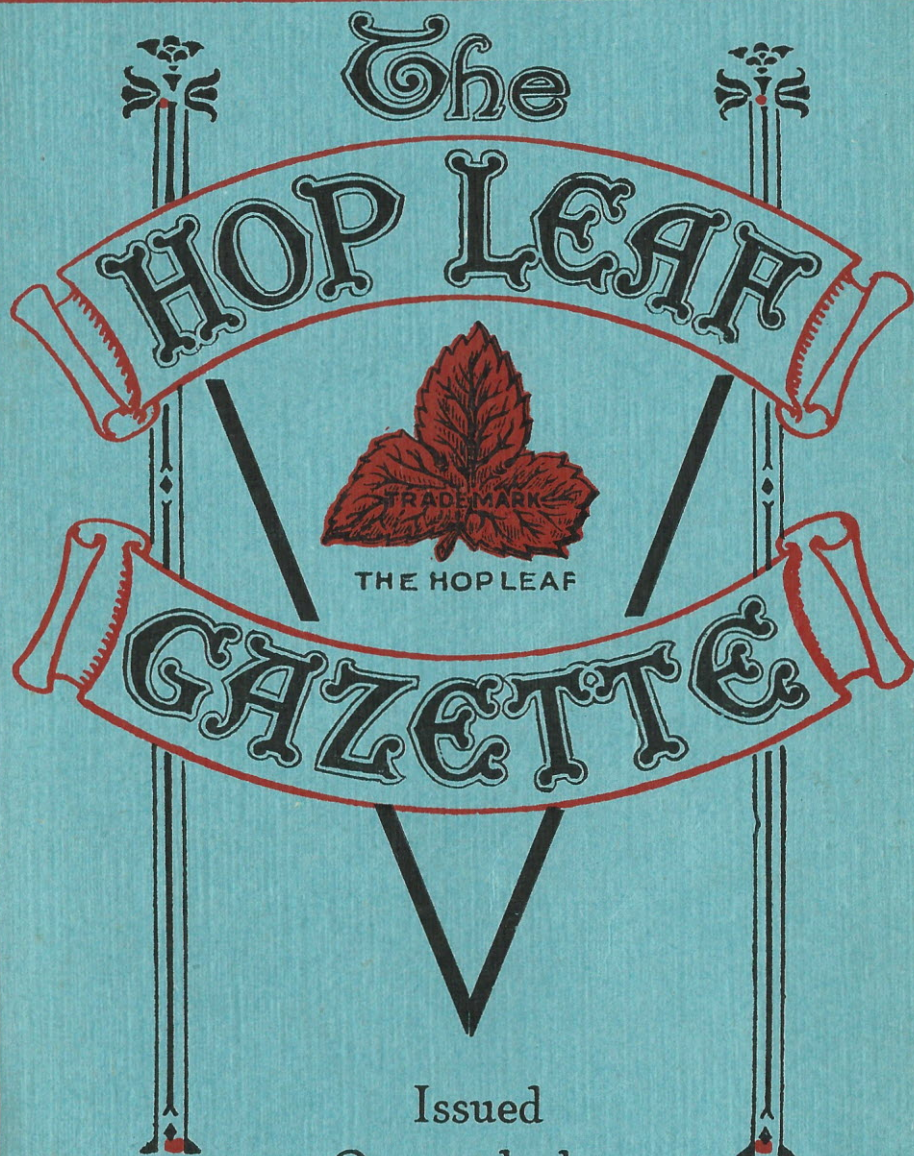


VOL. XXIII.

MARCH, 1949.

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Issued
Quarterly by

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

A RECORD OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE BREWERY

The Hop Leaf Gazette.

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

Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.

Vol. XXIII.

MARCH, 1949.

No. 2

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



MR. E. D. PENLERICK.

MR. E. D. PENLERICK.

A brief account of Mr. E. D. Penlerick's early training for a business career prior to his appointment as Manager of our Brighton Branch, may be of interest to his friends in the commercial life of the area in which he is now working, as also to his colleagues at other Depots of the Company.

Born in South Africa in 1912, and coming to this country at an early age, Mr. Penlerick was educated at Ashburton and Montpelier, subsequently gaining valuable experience in business methods and salesmanship with various British and American Companies. He entered this Company's service in 1937 as representative for the Worthing area, and was attached to Brighton Branch, where he met with considerable success.

Mr. Penlerick was selected as one of the candidates to undergo a two years' course of intensive training at Reading in all sections of the industry, including brewing, bottling, cellar management and office routine. Upon completion of the course, he was appointed to the Managership of Brighton Branch, which had become vacant in September, 1948, and has thoroughly justified his selection for the post.

During the World War II, Mr. Penlerick joined the Royal Sussex Regiment, and served with this Regiment until his Battalion was mechanised and transferred to the Royal Armoured Corps. In 1942, he was posted to the Far East where, during nearly four years' stay, he did much valuable work in armoured vehicles and combined operations. His ability was recognised by steady promotion and he attained the rank of Captain.

A keen sportsman, Mr. Penlerick now finds only sufficient time for his favourite recreational sports—tennis and squash—to keep fit.

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.)

A GREAT OCCASION.

Mr. F. A. Simonds attained the age of 68 on Sunday, January 2nd, and to mark the occasion a distinguished company attended the Ship Hotel, Reading, the following day to do him honour.

It was a very happy idea on the part of a few of Mr. Simonds' personal friends to arrange the luncheon over which Sir Leslie Wilson presided. Church and State were well represented, and wonderful tributes were paid to Mr. Simonds' great personality. The Bishop of Reading spoke very highly of Mr. Simonds' many fine qualities of heart and mind, and his wise words found an echo in the hearts of all present.

68, not out. Well played, Sir!

"TIME, GENTLEMEN!"

Instead of calling "Time, gentlemen, please!" a Kent licensee plays "Now is the Hour" on his cornet.

A FINE SPORT.

At the 82nd Annual Dinner of the Reading Rowing Club, of which Mr. Norman Lipscombe is Captain, it was very truly said that rowing develops all that is best in young people. Replying to a toast proposed by Capt. R. H. Langham, Vice-Chairman, Mr. H. W. Rushmere (Jnr.), a member of the Reading Rowing Club since 1930, who represented Britain at the 1948 Olympic Games at Henley, said in rowing every man was of equal merit. "There are no stars," he said, amid laughter, "and no £20,000 gentlemen to be transferred. Rowing is 50 per cent. hard work, 40 per cent. uniformity, and perhaps 10 per cent. style. At Reading you probably have the finest stretch on the Thames for rowing."

Major G. S. M. Ashby has been appointed Vice-Chairman of the Company in succession to the late Commander H. D. Simonds, R.N. (retired).

SIMONDS' STAFF BALL.

The Large Town Hall was crowded on the occasion of Simonds' Staff Ball, and everyone voted the occasion an unqualified success. I was told by one who should know that it was the "best ever." The arrangements were all that could be desired and every detail was so admirably planned that the enjoyment of all was assured. It was indeed a great and most enjoyable occasion, and Mr. Walter Bradford, who has been aptly described as the Napoleon of organisers, received many compliments on the success that attended his efforts.

LORD SIMON AT READING.

There have been some very great gatherings in Reading recently. There was that historic meeting or, rather, meetings, when that fine statesman, Mr. Anthony Eden, paid us a visit. More recently Lord Simon delivered a stirring message to a meeting organised by the Reading Conservative and Unionist Association. The former Liberal Lord Chancellor said he had fought the Conservatives himself, but at a time like the present it was more important to defeat the Socialists. He could not imagine anything more opposed to the Liberal doctrine than Socialism.

PRESENTATION TO MR. E. S. PHIPPS.

The very high esteem in which Mr. Phipps is held by all at the Brewery was demonstrated in a marked degree when he received a presentation from his colleagues on the occasion of his retirement after 50 years of loyal service to the Firm. The gathering was most representative, and fine tributes were paid to this grand sportsman and gentleman.

Mr. Phipps had a rousing reception as he came forward to receive the gifts. He recalled the time when he captained the Brewery Cricket Team. During the whole of one season, he observed, he could only find time to play in one match owing to pressure of work. And he strongly advised the coming generation to always put work first and play afterwards.

They were wise words, especially in these days when in so many instances the tendency seems to lead in the opposite direction. Mr. Phipps "played the game" if ever man did—and not only on the field of sport!

YOU COULD BE—

A soldier, a sailor,
A policeman, a convict, maybe?
A miner, a porter, a Post Office sorter,
Just Number 5783.

But now, when you visit your *Local*,
When from workaday duties you're free;
It's real nice to feel that you're known
there as *Bill*, not
Just Number 5783.

The above lines are from Mr. C. W. B. Cassini, of the Red Lion Inn, Waterend.

MR. J. D. RICHARDSON.

We congratulate Mr. J. D. Richardson on his appointment as Secretary to the Company in succession to Mr. E. S. Phipps, who retired at the end of December.

Mr. Richardson joined our staff in the Accountants' Department on the 1st May, 1946, after demobilisation. He served on H.M.S. *Royal Sovereign* in the early part of the last war, and was subsequently Assistant Secretary, and Secretary to various Sea Lords.

He was appointed Assistant Secretary to the Company in July, 1947.

THE ENGLISH INN.

A homely fire, shoveha'penny, crib,
Blest atmosphere of fellowship.
Yes, England will hang on to Gib;
For here is made her strength to whip
The enemies that may be near
This island home we love so dear.

Yes, in "The Brown Jug" courage lies,
And woe betide the fool who tries
To lower the flag of Wolfe and Drake!
O long shall his sad children quake!

For when the guns do speak and smoke
We cast aside the gentle cloak
And cry: "To War! we fight to win!
To save the good old English inn!

J. KENYON.

Luncheon in Honour of Mr. F. A. Simonds.

An Influential Gathering.

A luncheon in honour of Mr. F. A. Simonds took place at The Ship Hotel, Reading, on Monday, the 3rd January, which was the day after Mr. Simonds' 68th birthday. The luncheon was arranged by a group of personal friends and included, in addition to the Directors of H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., His Rt. Worshipful The Mayor of Reading, His Rt. Rev. The Lord Bishop of Reading, and others representative of the civic and commercial life of the Borough.

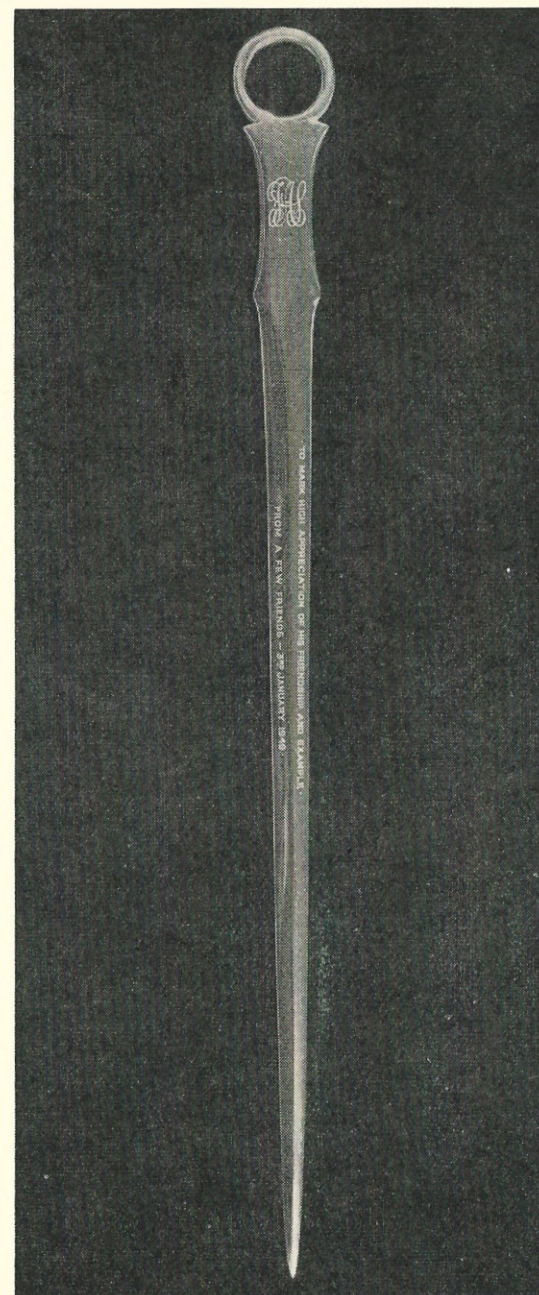
The Rt. Hon. Colonel Sir Leslie Wilson, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., D.S.O., presided.

The toast, "Mr. F. A. Simonds," was proposed by the Bishop of Reading, in admirable terms, and supported by Major-General R. J. Collins, who recalled that he and Mr. Simonds had served together in the Boer War.

The Chairman, Sir Leslie Wilson, made a presentation of the Birthday Cake, a wonderful example of the skill of Huntley and Palmers, Ltd., the top decoration consisting of garlands of hop leaves surrounding a bouquet of carnations; on the front of the cake, in sugar, a miniature bottle of S.B. and a full glass. Sir Leslie Wilson, in making the presentation, recalled, in the course of his remarks, some of the incidents from political battles in which he had been assisted by Mr. Simonds.

Mr. Simonds thereupon replied, thanking the speakers for their very pleasant tributes and the assembly for the generous proof of friendship. He recalled hard-fought past political battles in which he had the satisfaction of knowing that the successes scored to date largely favoured his side in numbers. He stressed the fact that although the fights had been strenuous they had always been fought cleanly and without lasting bitterness.

Mr. Simonds was also presented with a silver paper knife in the form of an antique skewer.



The Paper Knife presented to Mr. F. A. Simonds.

Mr. W. E. C. McIlroy moved the toast, "Mrs. Simonds and the Family."

Mr. E. D. Simonds, in a brilliant short speech, responded for the family; he widened the interpretation of the word so as to include several of his relatives present as well as his own baby, as yet too young to enjoy luncheon parties. In expressing his, and his brother's determination to maintain the fair name of Simonds, he said, humorously, that the gift of a sharp-pointed paper knife was a dangerous instrument to give to such an active man as his father as it might be used to urge him to even greater effort.

The proceedings terminated with the toast to the Chairman, proposed by the Rt. Worshipful the Mayor, to which Sir Leslie made a brief reply.

"A brilliant and notable occasion," was a remark heard in the corridor, so readers of this journal may feel that their regard for their Chairman is shared by a wide and representative circle.

Those attending the luncheon were: Mr. F. A. Simonds, The Rt. Reverend The Lord Bishop of Reading, The Rt. Worshipful the Mayor, The Town Clerk, Major H. R. Gales, O.B.E., Alderman A. Lovell, Alderman Mrs. A. Jenkins, J.P., Mr. W. F. Leaver, J.P., Mr. F. W. Neale, Major G. S. M. Ashby, Mr. R. B. St. J. Quarry, Mr. F. H. V. Keighley, O.B.E., Mr. E. D. Simonds, Major Maurice Simonds, Mr. T. Vincent, Colonel The Rt. Hon. Sir Leslie Wilson, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., D.S.O., Major-General R. J. Collins, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Sir Felix Pole, Mr. W. E. C. McIlroy, C.B.E., J.P., Mr. W. P. Cripps, Mr. K. F. Simonds and Commander the Hon. Humphrey Legge, Chief Constable of Berkshire.



THE ANNUAL STAFF DANCE.

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL FUNCTION.

The Annual Staff Dance was held on Friday, January 21st, 1949, in the Large Town Hall, Reading. About 800 people attended, and amongst those present were the Mayor and Mayoress of Reading, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Simonds, Major G. S. M. and Mrs. Ashby, Mr. and Mrs. R. St. J. Quarry, Mr. F. H. V. Keighley, Mr. and Mrs. E. Duncan Simonds, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Cripps and General Sir Miles and Lady Dempsey. Mrs. Keighley was prevented from attending owing to ill-health.

Also present were Mr. and Mrs. H. Ashby, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Blatch (J. May & Co., Ltd.), Mr. A. W. C. Bowyer, Mr. and Mrs. R. Bartlett (Blandford), Mr. and Mrs. W. Connolly (J. May & Co., Ltd), Mr. and Mrs. C. Churchward (Bristol), Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. E. Downes, Capt. A. S. and Mrs. Drewe, — Ellis, Jnr. (Saccone & Speed, Ltd.), Mr. and Mrs. F. Freeman (Devonport), Mr. E. Gosney (Staines), Mr. and Mrs. Gooch (Woking), Mr. and Mrs. Hobson (East African Breweries), Mr. and Mrs. C. Holman (Southsea), Mr. and Mrs. St. John Howe, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Pitts (Swindon), Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Penlerick (Brighton), Mr. and Mrs. B. Quelch (Oxford), Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Robertson (Bristol), Mr. K. F. Simonds (Saccone & Speed, Ltd.), Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Spurling, Mr. and Mrs. R. Southall, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wadhams, Mr. and Mrs. Wright (Devonport), Mr. and Mrs. A. Wake, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Young (J. May & Co., Ltd).

The Hall was tastefully decorated with festoons and flowers and was a flood of coloured lights.

The music was provided by the Blue Star Players from Oxford. The Cabaret was given by Miss Joan Brooker's School of Dancing, their performance was very highly appreciated; at the conclusion of the Cabaret each member of the cast was presented with a posy of flowers by Mr. F. A. Simonds.

The arrangements for the licensed bars and buffets were carried out by the Hotels and Catering Department under the personal supervision of Mr. H. C. Davis.

Our Associated Company (Messrs. Saccone & Speed, Ltd.) were well represented, so also were the following Branches: Basingstoke, Blandford, Brighton, Bristol, Cirencester, Devonport, Staines, Swindon, Southsea and Woking.

Dancing continued until 2 a.m., the time of closure arriving all too soon. The Committee's regret was the refusal of tickets to hundreds of applicants owing to limited space. If Reading had a hall double the size it could be easily filled by people wishing to attend this very popular dance.

Employees were very grateful to the Board of Directors for the subsidy given (5/- for each ticket) which enabled them to attend and bring one other at the reduced rate; 572 took advantage of this generosity.

Mr. F. A. Simonds, addressing the assembly, thanked Miss Joan Brooker and her Cabaret party for their excellent display, also Mr. Walter Bradford for the admirable arrangements made, and to all those who volunteered to act as stewards, etc.



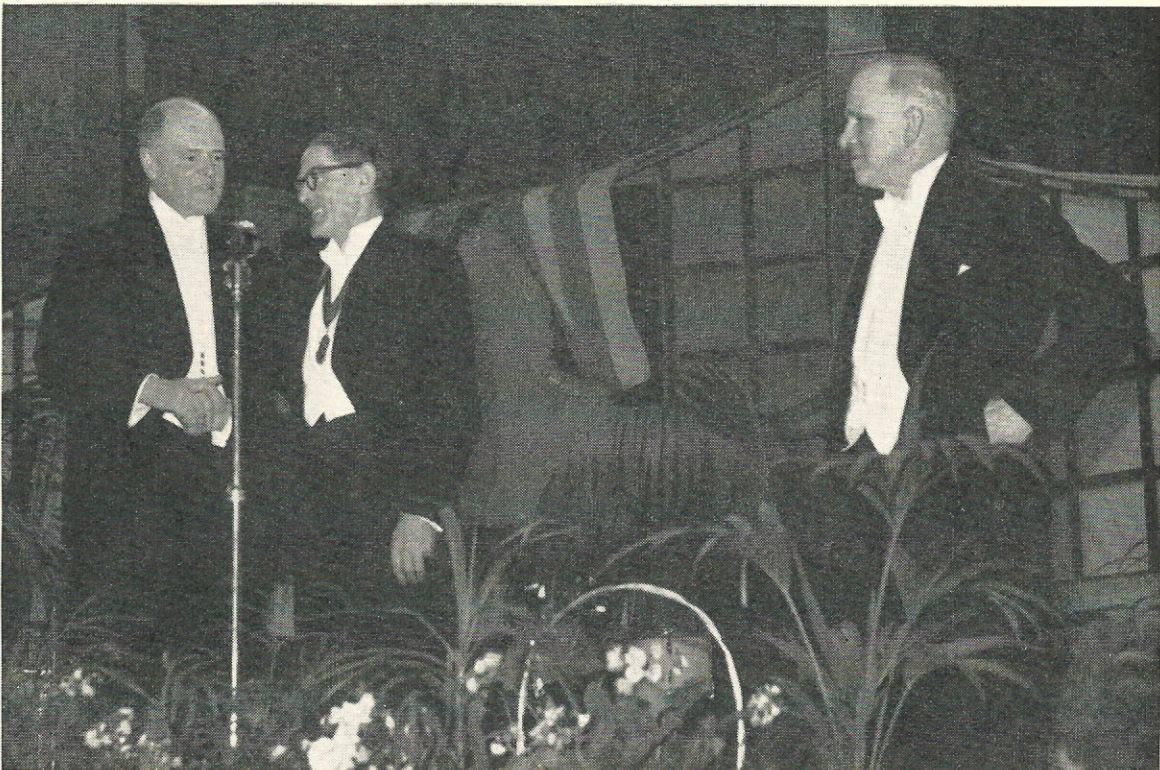
Left to right—
Mr. K. F. Simonds, Mrs. F. A. Simonds, O.B.E., Mr. F. A. Simonds and Lady Dempsey.



The Directors and the Mayor.



A Group of the Chief Guests.



Mr. F. A. Simonds greeting the Mayor of Reading (Alderman H. V. Kersley) and Mr. Walter Bradford, who organised the Ball.



A section of the Dancers, including General Dempsey, with Mrs. E. D. Simonds.



A Party from Messrs. Saccone & Speed, Ltd., London.



Mr. F. H. V. Keighley with Visitors from our Devonport Branch.

NATURE NOTE.

(BY C.H.P.).

SPRING IN THE AIR.

KESTRELS COURTING.

During the mild weather towards the end of January I had the great pleasure of watching two kestrels courting. Their behaviour amused me immensely. But birds are not the only beings that act strangely when in love. The male, a very fine fellow, flew over the fields with his fiancée, hovered for a few seconds, and then dropped straight down to earth, like a stone. Thinking he had thus stooped to seize some poor little mouse or bird I fixed him with my field glasses. I soon learned he had stooped, not to kill, but to conquer, or at least endeavour to make the lady, watching from above, think what a wonderful fellow he was! He ran about the meadow with outstretched, quivering wings, leapt repeatedly into the air, and at length winged his way aloft again and rejoined his future bride who, all this time, had been hovering above watching her man with evident admiration. Then they both flew to a tree and Mr. Hawk expressed his joyous feeling by uttering a peculiar note which seemed to me a cross between a whistle and a scream. But no doubt Miss Kestrel thought it the most wonderful of songs! They continued to play together among the tree-tops and then they both suddenly flew away and were soon lost to view.

HAPPY MEMORIES!

Though thus early in the year there were many other signs of spring.

The dace were rising freely, and my mind wandered to the trout streams where I have spent so many happy hours. I wondered if the trout, too, were on the move. If so, how I would have liked to have been there to tempt them with my fly!

MY MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT.

And that reminds me of what I think was about my most embarrassing moment in life. It is almost with fear and trembling that I recount it. I was fishing away down West on a well-known trout and salmon river when the memorable incident happened. It was many years ago. Funds would not run to a licence for salmon, so I had to content myself with trying for trout. I am a very keen observer of all that is in or out of a river, and peering at the end of a boulder under the water I noticed the tail of a big salmon! I crept stealthily away from the spot, yielded to temptation, and attached a salmon cast to my line with a likely-looking fly. Before very long I succeeded in hooking the fish. A terrific struggle ensued, and it must have been fully a quarter of an hour before I landed my fish, a real beauty, weighing just over 12 lbs.

Even in my early youth I was an experienced fisherman, and though I was greatly excited when playing the salmon I was in no way embarrassed. The embarrassing moment to which I have alluded was yet to come. I looked around, saw no one about and was wicked enough to try for another salmon, being fully conscious all the time that I had only a trout licence. The fish I had already caught I placed in some nettles a little distance from the water.

THE KEEPER COMES!

My whole body and mind were engaged in a concentrated effort to land another fish when, suddenly, a keeper put in an appearance! Embarrassment seems hardly a fitting word for my feelings. But, like a flash, I decided what to do. I just pretended I was a hopeless novice at the game. I whipped my fly about in the most amateurish manner, got my line caught up in a tree and, as luck would have it, I nearly hooked the keeper! He took it in good part. I tendered my abject apologies and gave him a good tip—very much more than I could really afford.

A NOVICE INDEED !

Then he asked to see my licence. You know, sir, he said, rather seriously, your licence is only for trout, and on no account must you fish for salmon. I said : " Oh, I *am* sorry, don't you use the same tackle for both ? " " I can see you don't know much about it," he said, smilingly. Then I showed him my flies, asked him which were for salmon and which for trout, and he explained, tied on a trout trace for me, and advised me to try and get some lessons on how to cast a fly. I said I would. And just as he was about to continue his journey my salmon gave a kick in the nettles ! The keeper's dog pricked up his ears and looked in that direction. I exclaimed that there were quite a lot of rabbits about, and when the keeper said " heel ! " to his dog, it set my mind at rest. With a few friendly tips as to how to hold my rod, etc., the keeper proceeded on his way, to my intense relief.

HOW THEY LAUGHED !

Away up the meadows this keeper met another gentleman of the same calling, and he demonstrated to him how the novice he had just left was flogging the stream ; he waved his walking stick about fantastically, and they both laughed and laughed and laughed wholeheartedly.

Little did they think that the object of their derision was watching and was perhaps, after all, not quite such a fool as he looked—at any rate, so far as the art of fly-fishing is concerned.

I thought I would run no further risks that day, so I wrapped my salmon—a prize indeed !—in bracken and hurried off with him to the farmhouse where I was staying and then returned to the river to continue my—trout fishing !



EAST AFRICAN BREWERIES, LTD., NAIROBI.

Our correspondent in Nairobi sends us the accompanying photograph of R.S.M. Juma Mohamed Saleh, M.B.E., head African employee at the Ruaraka Brewery.

The photograph portrays the fine attributes of this member of the staff, who joined up with the King's African Rifles for the 1914-1918 War, and also served through the 1939-1945 War. He is an excellent type and a grand disciplinarian. The award of the M.B.E. and the position which he held in the Army are eloquent of the characteristics of this R.S.M., who is held in such high esteem at the Ruaraka Brewery. His ability to speak perfect English is invaluable in the position which he holds, and undoubtedly contributed to his advancement in his military service.



TEMPLE END CRICKET CLUB.

The members of this Club were successful, for the second year in succession, in winning the Championship of the Chesham Cricket League. The fine league record is : Played 15, won 12, lost 3.

Well done, Temple End !

Mr. R. H. Alderman, tenant of the White Lion, Cryers Hill, where are the Club's headquarters and ground, supplies tea, etc., to the members.



Back row : F. Roe, C. Edwards (*Hon. Sec. and Treas.*), C. Burrows, D. Fowler, R. Parker, C. Badrick, W. King.

Front row : H. Stratford, A. Jemmett (*Capt.*), Mr. E. Burnett (*President*), K. Burnham, W. Whichelow.

MR. E. M. DOWNES, HEAD BREWER.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors on Monday, February 28th, it was decided that Mr. E. M. Downes be appointed a Director of the Company to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Commander H. D. Simonds R.N. (retired), the appointment to take effect from March 1st.

BREWERY JOTTINGS.

Mr. H. Hawkins, of the Cask Office, is the latest member of the staff to be married. The occasion was marked by the presentation in the Waiting Room to Mr. Hawkins of a canteen of cutlery. The presentation was made by Mr. P. Luker, deputising for Mr. F. C. Hawkes.

CHANGE OF TENANTS.

(H. AND G. SIMONDS, LTD.).

<i>House.</i>	<i>Old Tenant.</i>	<i>New Tenant.</i>
Armstrong Gun, Englefield Green.	L. E. Wrixen (Mrs.)	Albert Arthur Dimond (29th December, 1948.)
Foresters' Arms, Chalvey.	G. W. Todd	James Morris (29th December, 1948.)
Rising Sun, Stanwell.	E. Heward	Harold Edmund Hyman (4th January, 1949.)
Three Horse Shoes, Kintbury.	L. H. J. Nash	Henry Walter Westbrook (5th January, 1949.)
Jolly Guardsman, Windsor.	B. G. Hilton	Daniel Jackson Lambert (6th January, 1949.)
Bell Inn, Boxford.	F. Merritt	Alfred Robert Sullivan (6th January, 1949.)
Fox and Hounds, Donnington.	H. O. Yeates	William James Weller (6th January, 1949.)
Crown and Horns, East Ilsley.	M. J. Spencer	Leslie Henry Joseph Nash (6th January, 1949.)
Off Licence, 21, Inverness Road, Hounslow.	H. S. W. Gooch	Jane Solomon Gooch (Mrs.) (Widow) (6th January, 1949.)
Crown Inn, Upton, near Andover.	G. H. Blundy	Alan Walter Thorne (4th February, 1949.)
Hare and Hounds, Lambourn, Woodlands.	L. Haydon	Reginald Wm. Trimmer (4th February, 1949.)
Horse and Groom, Mortimer.	K. M. Lock (Mrs.)	Geo. Alexdr. Lewis Hinde (5th February, 1949.)
Happy Man, Englefield Green.	H. E. Dullely	Sidney George Whiston (16th February, 1949.)
Wheelwrights' Arms, Aldershot.	W. E. Quickendon	Joseph Eccles (1st March, 1949.)
The Globe, Aldershot.	C. H. Booty	Henry William Sherwood (1st March, 1949.)
Shoulder of Mutton, Play Hatch.	E. Wootton (Mrs.) (deceased)	Phyllis Wootton (Miss) (daughter) (3rd March, 1949.)
Sun Inn, Eton	H. R. Stockwell	Alfred Stephen Hodgson (6th April, 1949.)
Castle Inn, Hurst.	L. M. James	Leonard Thomas Rush (5th April, 1949.)

(WHEELERS' WYCOMBE BREWERIES, LTD.).

House.	Old Tenant.	New Tenant.
Saracens Head, High Wycombe.	P. Thomas	Cecil Frank Luttman (5th February, 1949.)

(J. MAY AND CO., LTD.).

House.	Old Tenant.	New Tenant.
Lamb Hotel, Hartley Wintney.	M. I. Pearce (Mrs.)	Alexander James Levack (1st March, 1949.)

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

Mr. Percy Thomas, of The Saracen's Head, Green Street, High Wycombe, who died on 2nd January, 1949, and had been tenant of this house since March, 1934. He followed his father, Mr. E. S. Thomas, who had been tenant since December, 1903.

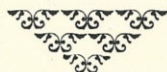
Mrs. Elizabeth Wootton, of the Shoulder of Mutton, Play Hatch, who died on 2nd February, 1949, and had been tenant of this house since 6th February, 1932. Her husband had been tenant from April, 1925.

Mr. Ernest Wilson, of the Bricklayers' Arms, Clewer Green, who died on the 18th February, 1949, and had been tenant of this house since 23rd October, 1933.

Mr. William Butler, Foresters' Arms, Water End, Radnage, who died on 25th February, 1949, and had been tenant of this house since 24th June, 1925.

Mr. Albert Simmons, of The Bell, Twyford, who died on the 14th March, 1949, and had been tenant of this house since 12th December, 1939.

Mrs. Harding, of the King's Head, Thatcham (widow of the late N. W. Harding) was re-married January 22nd, 1949. Her name is now Mrs. Beryl Brooks, in whose name the licence remains.



READING CLUBS' DARTS LEAGUE (SECTION III).

H. AND G. SIMONDS' TEAM FINISH ON TOP.

This is the first year H. & G. Simonds' Darts Team have entered the Reading Clubs' Darts League, and as will be seen our team finished on top, a good margin of points ahead of the runners-up, Huntley & Palmers.

Our men are very proud of their achievements. It will be seen that it is impossible for Huntley & Palmers, who have two games in hand, to catch us up.

This splendid record is largely due to the efforts of Mr. A. Franklin (Cooperage), who has acted as Hon. Secretary to the Darts Club.

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Pts.
H. & G. Simonds, Ltd. ...	18	14	4	0	32
Huntley & Palmers, Ltd. ...	16	11	3	2	25
Gas Works ...	18	6	7	5	19
Comrades ...	16	6	4	6	16
P.O.W. ...	16	4	7	5	15
Civil Defence ...	14	4	5	5	13
R.N.O.C. ...	16	5	2	9	12
Everetts' ...	17	4	4	9	12
Balfour Club ...	15	4	4	7	12
Goring W.M.C. ...	16	1	4	11	6

1948. HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORE.

December	9th ...	A. Franklin	...	...	111
"	16th ...	G. Cannings and F. Cross	...	...	140
1949.					
January	13th ...	G. Sayers	...	...	125
"	20th ...	A. Pusey	...	...	140
"	27th ...	A. Franklin and G. Sayers	...	...	140
February	3rd ...	G. Cannings	...	...	125
"	10th ...	A. Froude	...	...	137
"	17th ...	J. Streams (Capt.)	...	...	140
"	24th ...	A. Christie	...	...	140

DARTS PLAYERS' RECORDS.

	Won	Lost
J. Streams (Capt.) ...	16	2
F. Cross (Vice-Capt.) ...	14	4
A. Pusey ...	13	3
A. Froude ...	11	7
G. Cannings ...	10	6
G. Sayers ...	10	7
G. Neighbour ...	8	4
A. Franklin (Hon. Sec.) ...	7	4
A. Christie ...	6	4
L. Povey ...	3	2
H. Dines ...	0	1
W. Philpott ...	0	1
H. Holmes ...	0	1
TOTAL ...	98	46

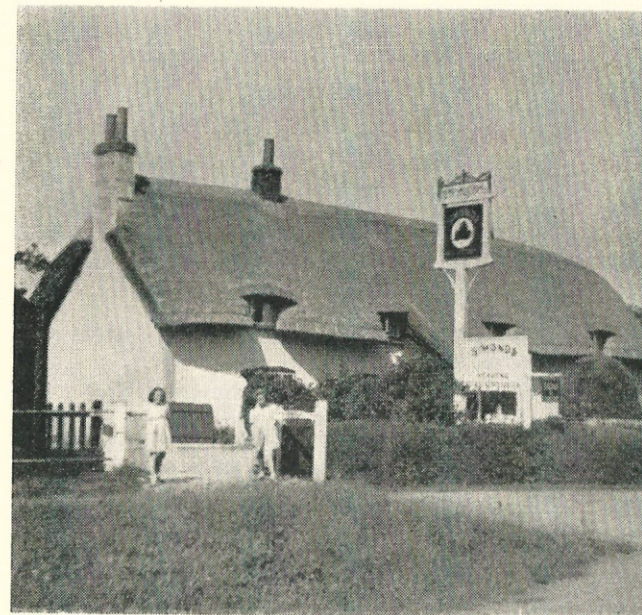
WHERE DID CROMWELL SLEEP?

Regarding the paragraph in our December issue headed, "Where did Cromwell sleep?" Mr. E. Willmott, of Saccone and Speed, Ltd., has sketched the above cottage and church which he thinks must be the district under discussion. We wonder if Cromwell did sleep in the cottage depicted.



Boxford, Berkshire.

THE "HOME, SWEET HOME" INN.



The above is a photograph of the "Home, Sweet Home" inn, at Roke, Benson, Oxon. It is one of H. & G. Simonds' oldest houses in the Reading area, and the popular landlord, Mr. Norman J. Hinton, has two Old Age Pensioner customers, the brothers Jack and Joe Herridge, who have lived all their lives at Roke, with the exception of the 1914-18 period, and they can remember the last eleven landlords.

The children shewn in the picture are the landlord's twin daughters, Sylvia and Cynthia.



WHAT IS E.R.P.?

To most of us, E.R.P. is a vague three-letter symbol that stands for a flow of American dollars to this country, a flow which is being turned into American raw materials, machines and food as fast as we can spend them. Then there are all sorts of other odd initials, such as O.E.E.C. and E.C.A. What do they all mean? Why not rub them all out and call the whole thing Marshall Aid, which was the original name given to the scheme after Mr. George Marshall, the United States Secretary of State, who thought of the idea?

The answer to that question can only be found by showing how E.R.P. has developed.

At the end of the war in 1945, the economic system of Europe was rather like a motor engine that won't start—a sadly worn and badly tuned engine at that. Yet though it was crying out for a thorough overhaul, neither the time nor the resources were available. Somehow the engine had to be started and kept running until repairs could be made. That meant fuel for the tank, and, above all, a spark, something to kick it over and make the engine tick.

The reasons for all this are not far to seek. Europe came out of the war badly battered and badly off. Its industries were bomb damaged, manpower was in the wrong industries for peacetime, or, what was worse, in no industries at all in some cases. Pre-war channels of trade had been broken up by the war. Some countries, such as Britain, had sacrificed most of their investments overseas to pay for war equipment and essential supplies before the United States came into the war. There was no single European state of any size which was unscathed.

Consequently, there was no single state in Europe which could carry the burden of giving first aid, in the shape of raw materials, food and industrial equipment, until other countries could revive themselves.

The only part of the world which had the resources to come to Europe's aid was the American Continent. But if Europe was to get help from America it would have to pay for such help in dollars. By 1947 it was clear to all that there was not a single country in Europe that could pay for those essential supplies which only America could give. By essential goods are meant such things as cotton, petrol, metals, timber and chemicals for industry, fertilisers and farming machinery for agriculture, food and tobacco for Europe's workers.

Unless enough of these supplies could be got quickly from America (and they could not be found quickly anywhere else), Europe's economic system would run down. If it should run down there would be poverty, unemployment and universal distress.

In June, 1947, Mr. Marshall suggested a scheme for helping Europe in a speech which he made in America. Let the countries of Europe, he said, get together and work out a co-ordinated scheme of self-help and tell us what it needs to make it a success: make a survey of all the raw materials, food and equipment which you must have the next few years in order to fuel and mend the engine, and the United States will examine it sympathetically and will see what we can do to help.

This was a generous and imaginative move. Notice, too, that Europe was asked to work out the scheme by itself. The different countries were told that if they would get together and work out a plan which showed clearly how a supply of goods from America would speed recovery, they would get practical help.

Under British leadership, Europe accepted the offer. But right at the start Russia and the Eastern countries backed out. So what had been conceived as an idea for the whole of Europe became one for Western Europe alone, and that includes Italy, Greece and Turkey.

These nations, the 16 Nations, as they became known, formed a committee called the Committee for European Economic Co-operation—C.E.E.C. This committee met in Paris, where they made a first attempt at a programme for joint recovery. This they published in a document known as the Paris Plan. They estimated that to make this plan work they would need more than £20,000 million (or about \$5,000 million) worth of American goods, over and above what they could pay for, during the next four years. By 1952, it was hoped that Europe would be back on her feet. It was this plan which became the basis of the European Recovery Programme—E.R.P.

After final adjustment in Paris, the plan was sent to Washington, where it was again studied with great care by both Government and Congress. Finally, after further changes had been made, the United States Congress passed a Bill approving the European Recovery Programme in principle. Later Congress voted the money needed for the first year of E.R.P. This voting is to be an annual affair. The American Congress, quite reasonably, wants to have a check every year on how Europe is using the American taxpayer's money.

Now someone, somewhere, must keep an eye on how each year's sum is spent. So two organisations have had to be set up—one in Europe to see that the various countries keep in step and have some sort of combined plan of action—and the other in America to act as the American agent for E.R.P.

At the European end, C.E.E.C. has been made a more permanent organisation and is now called the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (O.E.E.C.). O.E.E.C. is there to keep the Americans informed how the dollars are spent; and, what is very important, it has been working in recent months on a plan for European recovery asked for by the United States. America has said: Now you have got the dollars to buy our goods, put together a plan of recovery for the whole of Western Europe, not just 16 different plans added together. Let us have an overall plan that will help to make Europe one economic unit rather than a group of politically independent states with a share in a gift of dollar goods.

On the American side, the Economic Co-operation Administration (E.C.A.) has been created to act as the American agent. This organisation, with Mr. Hoffman in charge, is more than a watchdog for the American Congress. It has been able to give valuable advice to Europe on how to spend E.R.P. dollars.

E.R.P. then is a programme approved by the U.S. Congress for sending dollar aid to Western Europe with which it can buy American goods. But it means more than that. It means two organisations, one in Paris and one in Washington, to help carry out the plan and it is also beginning to mean a plan for the economic recovery of Europe as a whole. This "unsordid act," as it has been called (as was Lease-Lend before it) has become the vital gesture in the rebuilding of Europe.

THE LIGHTER SIDE.

IRATE GOLFER: "You must take your children away from here, madam, this is no place for them."

MOTHER: "Now, don't you worry, they can't 'ear nothin' new, their father was a sergeant-major, 'e was!"

* * * *

After a Confirmation, Miss Hopkinson said to her kitchen-maid: "And did you like the addresses?" To which she answered, "Oh, yes, miss, they were beautiful, only so many of their petticoats showed below!"

CRICKET.

Despite poor weather generally, the Club carried out their planned programme last season as far as they were able, and all games were enjoyed to the full. Unfortunately the "A" team had four games cancelled owing to bad weather and other causes, and two games were started, but had to be abandoned. The "B" team did not suffer quite so badly, two games being cancelled and one abandoned—all because of rain.

Twenty-six players took part in the "A" team's fourteen games, four of which were won, four drawn, and six lost. The final game of the season was played on Sunday, August 22nd, as no other date was available for the return fixture with the Army Catering Corps at Aldershot. A most pleasant day was spent out there for which we are indebted to our military friends. Thanks to a splendid innings of 52 not out by Mr. W. G. Neville, we gained a comfortable victory to avenge the defeat suffered at Berkeley Avenue a few weeks earlier.

Matches were arranged up to August 7th for the "B" team, after which date the "A" team were pleased to call upon a number of their players, all of whom well accounted for themselves. Eleven games were played and resulted in four wins, one draw, and six lost, all of which gave pleasure to the twenty-five members who played in them.

The aggregates of these matches are as follows:—

"A" Team	...	1,450	runs	for	122	wickets.	Average	11.88
against	...	1,604	"	"	110	"	"	14.58
"B" Team	...	809	"	"	104	"	"	7.77
against	...	1,231	"	"	97	"	"	12.69

Mr. R. J. Lambourne proved a most capable captain of the "A" team, as did Mr. H. K. White, who was in charge of the "B" team. Their respective vice-captains, Messrs. W. G. Neville and W. Bell, gave them every support, and were good deputies when needed.

Mr. E. J. Scott again heads the "A" team's batting list with the splendid average of 54 runs, and therefore has the honour of holding the "Louis Simonds" Cup for the second year in succession. Besides being runner-up for batting, Mr. W. G. Neville tops the bowling with the excellent average of 8.25. The "B" team's best batting average is held by Mr. H. G. Sexton with 10.16, and Mr. J. Hunt took the bowling honours with an average of 9.10. All of these players are to be congratulated upon their performances.

The complete averages are as under :—

"A" Team (Qualification, 8 innings).

BATTING.

* Signifies not out.

	Innings.	Times not out.	Total.	Highest Score.	Average.
E. J. Scott ...	8	6	108	37*	54.00
W. G. Neville ...	13	6	246	52*	22.36
R. J. Lambourne ...	12	2	158	43	15.80
G. H. Beddow ...	12	1	144	34	13.09
E. C. Greenaway ...	12	4	96	27*	12.00
L. G. Field ...	13	1	141	36	11.75
T. Patrick ...	9	1	81	50*	10.12
A. J. Hawkins ...	11	1	76	22*	7.60
E. Jones ...	10	—	62	25	6.20
W. J. Greenaway ...	8	1	20	6	2.85

The following also batted :—

H. G. Sexton ...	2	1	15	15*	15.00
H. K. White ...	3	—	44	38	14.66
C. R. Josey ...	5	—	37	21	7.40
P. Chard ...	6	—	41	19	6.83
E. G. Crutchley ...	2	—	8	5	4.00
K. Organ ...	3	—	12	9	4.00
N. Tott ...	5	—	16	10	3.20
M. Davis ...	2	—	4	3	2.00
R. Henson ...	2	—	1	1	.50

One innings each : F. J. Benham (13), J. Buswell (4), K. Cottam (2), J. Hunt and R. J. Lovejoy (nil).

W. Bell and A. J. Hughes each played in one match, but did not bat.

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
W. G. Neville ...	63.3	12	198	24	8.25
R. J. Lambourne ...	103.4	28	314	29	10.82
E. C. Greenaway ...	70	12	249	17	14.64
N. Tott ...	53	11	157	8	19.62

Also bowled :—

W. Bell ...	11	5	22	4	5.50
J. Hunt ...	10	1	26	2	13.00
H. G. Sexton ...	2.1	—	15	1	15.00
K. Organ ...	57	12	149	9	16.55
K. Cottam ...	4	—	21	1	21.00
L. G. Field ...	24	3	111	4	27.75
E. J. Scott ...	26.1	3	93	3	21.00
P. Chard ...	21	2	100	3	33.33
H. K. White ...	1	—	4	—	—
C. R. Josey ...	1	—	5	—	—
M. Davis ...	6	—	21	—	—
E. G. Crutchley ...	10	1	34	—	—

Catches : W. G. Neville 10 ; G. H. Beddow and E. C. Greenaway 6 ; W. J. Greenaway and R. J. Lambourne 4 ; L. G. Field, E. Jones, E. J. Scott and N. Tott 3 ; P. Chard 2 ; M. Davis, A. J. Hawkins, R. Henson, C. R. Josey, K. Organ, H. G. Sexton, H. K. White and substitute, 1 each.

Stumpings : G. H. Beddow and W. G. Neville, 1 each.

"B" Team (Qualification, 6 innings).

BATTING.

* Signifies not out.

	Innings.	Times not out.	Total.	Highest Score.	Average.
H. G. Sexton ...	7	1	61	30*	10.16
H. K. White ...	8	1	55	15	7.85
R. J. Lovejoy ...	9	—	56	16	6.22
J. Buswell ...	11	4	40	15*	5.71
F. J. Benham ...	8	—	43	16	5.37
W. Bell ...	9	—	45	11	5.00
R. Henson ...	6	—	30	18	5.00
K. Cottam ...	10	—	36	20	3.60
J. Hunt ...	9	—	31	15	3.44

The following also batted :—

C. R. Josey ...	2	1	40	37*	40.00
P. Chard ...	2	1	31	21	31.00
E. Jones ...	3	1	62	47	31.00
T. Patrick ...	3	—	57	35	19.00
W. J. Greenaway ...	5	—	80	27	16.00
W. Philpott ...	3	—	28	15	9.33
B. Farmer ...	2	—	18	18	9.00
K. Organ ...	2	—	8	8	4.00
J. Ballard ...	3	1	6	4	3.00
C. Green ...	3	1	4	4*	2.00
D. Paul ...	5	2	6	6	2.00
L. Wilson ...	2	1	2	2	2.00
D. Hampton ...	4	1	—	—	—

One innings each : L. G. Field and A. Haggett (1), D. Ison (nil).

BOWLING.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
J. Hunt ...	68.3	16	173	19	9.10
W. Bell ...	102.5	16	299	23	13.00
J. Buswell ...	37.5	4	161	10	16.10
K. Cottam ...	43	8	134	8	16.75

Also bowled :—

C. Green ...	6	1	13	5	2.60
K. Organ ...	16	3	38	7	5.42
R. J. Lovejoy ...	13.2	2	51	5	10.20
E. Jones ...	4	1	12	1	12.00
L. G. Field ...	11	5	25	2	12.50
H. K. White ...	9.5	—	50	4	12.50
D. Paul ...	9	1	27	2	13.50
D. Hampton ...	16	4	63	3	21.00
W. Philpott ...	12	1	49	2	24.50
H. G. Sexton ...	4	—	4	—	—
B. Farmer ...	3	1	5	—	—
E. Venner ...	3	—	18	—	—
P. Chard ...	8	—	28	—	—

Catches : R. Henson, J. Hunt and H. K. White 5 ; J. Buswell and K. Cottam 4 ; W. Bell, F. J. Benham and T. Patrick 3 ; C. Green, R. J. Lovejoy and D. Paul 2 ; P. Chard, A. Haggett, D. Hampton, K. Organ, W. Philpott and H. G. Sexton, 1 each.

The Inter-Departmental League proved a great success, and the six matches played during the longer evenings were greatly enjoyed by no less than fifty-seven players. Results and league positions duly appeared in the September quarter issue of this GAZETTE, and the Rest of Brewery team were successful in winning all of their matches. Mr. E. J. Scott earns further congratulations for his leadership of this team which becomes the holder of the Directors' Cup.

Once again we say "Thank you" to Miss Prosser and the other ladies who so kindly give up their time to prepare and serve the teas. Also to our groundsman and tackleman, Mr. Povey, not forgetting, of course, those very important gentleman, our Umpires (Messrs. G. Kelly and E. J. Brown), and scorers (Messrs. F. J. Dyer and K. Newman).

ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1949.

At the Annual General Meeting held in the Social Club on Friday, 4th March, it was confirmed that "A" and "B" teams be run again this year, and for whom the following fixtures have already been arranged:—

"A" Team:—

April	30th	...	St. Sebastian's	...	...	Home
May	7th	...	Aldermaston	...	...	Away
"	14th	...	Courage's	...	...	Home
"	21st	...	Thatcham	...	...	Away
"	28th	...	Royal Household, Windsor	...	...	Home
June	4th	...	St. Sebastian's	...	...	Away
"	11th	...	Turquandia	...	...	Home
"	18th	...	Royal Air Force, Benson	...	...	Away
"	25th	...	Aldermaston	...	...	Home
July	2nd	...	Army Catering Corps, Aldershot	...	...	Away
"	9th	...	Berkshire Gentlemen	...	...	Home
"	16th	...	Royal Household	...	...	Away
"	23rd	...	Army Catering Corps	...	...	Home
"	30th	...		...	...
August	6th	...	Courage's	...	...	Away
"	13th	...	Kingham's Sports	...	...	Home
"	20th	...	Thatcham	...	...	Home

"B" Team:—

April	30th	...	St. Sebastian's "B"	...	...	Away
May	7th	...	Aldermaston "B"	...	...	Home
"	14th	...	Moreton	...	...	Away
"	21st	...	Thatcham "B"	...	...	Home
"	28th	...	Royal Air Force, Shinfield	...	...	Away
June	4th	...	Mortimer "B"	...	...	Home
"	11th	...	Sutton's "B"	...	...	Away
"	18th	...	British Railways, Theale	...	...	Home
"	25th	...	Aldermaston "B"	...	...	Away

"B" Team (continued):—

July	2nd	...	Moreton	...	...	Home
"	9th	...	Mortimer "B"	...	...	Away
"	16th	...	Sutton's "B"	...	...	Home
"	23rd	...	Thatcham "B"	...	...	Away
"	30th	...	Royal Air Force, Shinfield	...	...	Home
August	6th	...	St. Sebastian's "B"	...	...	Home
"	13th	...	British Railways, Theale	...	...	Away

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Several of last season's officers expressed their inability to stand for re-election, notably Mr. R. J. Lambourne, who was obliged to decline the captaincy of the "A" Team. However, Mr. E. G. Crutchley was persuaded to again assume that position, and Mr. W. G. Neville will be his deputy. The Secretary regretted that he would have to give up the post which he had held for the past three years, but promised to help his successor, Mr. N. Tott, in every possible way. As the Committee was considered to be too large previously, it was decided to reduce it by two members. Several ballots had to be taken, and the following officers were duly elected:—

Captain: Mr. E. G. Crutchley ("A" Team); Mr. J. Buswell ("B" Team).

Vice-Captain: Mr. W. G. Neville ("A" Team); Mr. W. J. Greenaway ("B" Team).

Umpire: Mr. G. Kelly ("A" Team); Mr. E. J. Brown ("B" Team).

Scorer: Mr. F. J. Dyer ("A" Team); ——— ("B" Team).

Committee: Messrs. E. C. Greenaway, J. W. Jelley, C. R. Josey, G. Kelly, R. J. Lambourne and H. K. White.

Selection Committee: Captains and Vice-Captains of "A" and "B" Teams, and Mr. C. R. Josey.

Sports Committee Representatives: Messrs. E. G. Crutchley, J. W. Jelley and N. Tott.

Secretary: Mr. N. Tott.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL LEAGUE.

As this Competition was such a success last season, five members of the Committee had been appointed to review the make-up of the teams that took part to ascertain whether an

extra side could be formed this summer. Their report was heartily approved by the meeting and, therefore, the various Departments will, in future, be amalgamated as follows :—

- (1) General, Insurance, Estates, Correspondence and Cask Offices.
- (2) Branch, Accounts, Accountants, Wages and Advertising Offices, and Messrs. A. S. Cooper.
- (3) Building, Surveyors, Brewery, Scalds, Cooperage and Rest of Brewery.
- (4) Delivery, Transport, Loading Stages, Bottling and Hotels Departments.
- (5) Engineers, Wheelwrights and Wine and Spirit Departments.

It was further decided that games will be played on a "home and away" basis and, as this will necessitate twenty matches in all, games will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the longer evenings. The draw for fixtures will be published on the notice boards in due course.

PRESENTATION OF CUPS.

During the evening the Chairman, Mr. J. W. Jelley, presented Mr. E. J. Scott with the "Louis Simonds" Cup for Batting, and congratulated him upon his excellent average last season. Mr. Scott also received the Inter-Departmental Cup as Captain of the Rest of Brewery team which so clearly headed the league. In reply, Mr. Scott thanked everyone present, and said how pleased he was to again hold the former Cup, and the Directors' Cup, on behalf of the Rest of Brewery team. All present then drank the health of Mr. Scott and his successful team.

PRACTICE.

Net practice will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays as from April 12th, and all those hoping to play are asked to come up to the nets so that the Selection Committee can get an idea of potential teams.

W.J.G.

A GREAT THOUGHT.

THE LAST MAN IN.

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

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

We also know, however, that the last man in does not always prove the worst man in. There are numbers of matches where "the tail wags," and such matches have afforded us some of our most exhilarating experiences.

We have very high authority for bearing in mind the fact that "there are last who shall be first."

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

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

There was such a man who died about a hundred years ago in the town of Portsmouth. He was a poor cobbler, who worked early and late to gain a scanty livelihood. His lot was set in hard times, and he did not know the meaning of luxury. In a squalid part of the town one might have seen John Pounds sitting in his dark little shop mending boots and shoes until late in the evening.

But his own hard life did not make him indifferent to the needs of others. Through his window he used to watch the boys and girls playing in the street. Nobody seemed to care for them and he saw

them growing up rough, vicious and ignorant. He felt compelled to do something for them, and so he enticed a few of them into his shop, told them stories and taught them to read from the newspaper. He devoted his scanty leisure moments to this humble task. The news of what he was doing quickly spread, until soon he had more children than he could accommodate. They all wanted to hear his stories, and to be taught to read. So he opened a little school and went on quietly with his good work.

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

He was only a humble member of the team under the Captain of All, but his score was mounting up.

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

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

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

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



PRESENTATION TO MR. E. S. PHIPPS.

A VERY HAPPY GATHERING.

On his completion of fifty years' service at the Brewery, Mr. E. S. Phipps, the Secretary to the Company, was presented with a canteen of cutlery and a clock. The large and very representative company present at the ceremony proved the great respect and esteem Mr. Phipps enjoyed among those with whom he laboured for so long.

FIFTY YEARS' SERVICE.

Mr. A. G. Richardson, Chief Accountant, said he looked upon it as a great privilege and honour to preside over that happy gathering. As they all knew, Mr. Phipps retired at the end of December after achieving the ambition of his life—that of completing over fifty years' service with the Company. That achievement had already been recognised by the Board of Directors with a suitable presentation. That night Mr. Phipps' colleagues were there to pay their tribute to him. They could not let him just slide away, without any fuss, into the oblivion of retirement. He himself had contributed to many presentations in the past and it was only right and proper that now it was *his* turn to receive one. He (Mr. Richardson) had only been with that great Simonds' organisation for seventeen years. When he came in 1931, the great expansion of the Company had just begun, and Mr. Phipps' burden in those days was no light one. Indeed, the appointment of a qualified accountant, in residence, was found to be very necessary. When he (Mr. Richardson) came he received every possible help and kindness at the hands of Mr. Phipps, and he would like to avail himself of that opportunity of expressing to Mr. Phipps his best thanks for the wonderful co-operation he received in those early days. It had always been a great pleasure to work at the side of Mr. Phipps, and they would certainly miss his genial presence in their midst. On behalf of them all he wished Mr. Phipps a very happy retirement, with the greatest blessing of all—good health for many years to come (*loud applause*). It was pleasing to see so many old faces present that evening, in particular, Mr. Knapp. Mr. Biggs had sent a letter of apology and associated himself with all the good wishes that would be expressed. Captain A. S. Drewe and Mr. H. C. Shepherd also wrote regretting their inability to be present.

Mr. Richardson then called upon Mr. C. Bennett to make the presentation.

ALWAYS PLAYED THE GAME!

Mr. Bennett expressed the great pleasure it gave him to make that presentation to Mr. Phipps as a mark of their friendship.

and a token of their goodwill and good wishes for the future (*applause*). He had known Mr. Phipps for many years and they had been the best of friends. He was sure Mr. Phipps had been one of the best of friends to all at the Brewery (*applause*). When Mr. Richardson came he (Mr. Bennett) told him he would always have a very straight deal so far as Mr. Phipps was concerned. (*Applause.*) When you think of Mr. Phipps you think of cricket. He played a lot and was still keen on the rules of the game which he always brought into his work as well as his play. Mr. Phipps undoubtedly "played the game" as it should be played. (*Applause.*) After all, when we came to the end of our lives it does not matter so much whether we won or lost, but how we played the game! (*Applause.*)

Mr. Bennett then made the presentation, telling Mr. Phipps that they would always be pleased to see him. He hoped that he and Mrs. Phipps would enjoy good health and long life. The gifts were tokens of goodwill and good luck from them all. (*Loud applause.*)

WORK FIRST, PLEASURE AFTERWARDS.

As he came forward to acknowledge the gift Mr. Phipps was loudly cheered. He said he was deeply moved by all the kind things that had been said and he thanked them sincerely for their kind wishes for his future welfare. He hoped that with good health and strength he would be able to enjoy a few years with his wife. He thanked them with all his heart for those wonderful presents. They would bring back many happy memories in future years. His fifty years among them had been very happy years. The young gentlemen coming along would appear to be going to have a far better time than the old ones ever had. Mr. Bennett had referred to cricket. He (Mr. Phipps) remembered the time when he was captain of the Brewery Cricket Club, but he could only find time to play one game throughout a season. And he would only say to the coming generation, put work first and pleasure afterwards. He again thanked them with all his heart. He also thanked them for their co-operation, from the highest to the lowest, throughout his stay at the Brewery. No one could get on without that co-operation. Mr. Phipps concluded, speaking with deep feeling: "I thank you most heartily once more and wish the dear old firm, and all the staff, great success and progress. (*Loud applause.*)"

Many availed themselves of the privilege of shaking hands with Mr. Phipps and congratulating him on his long and honourable record.

Thus ended an extremely happy gathering.



The Dining Room at The Ship Hotel, Reading, recently redecorated and re-equipped.

NOTES ON A VISIT TO BORDEAUX, OCTOBER, 1948.

There were four of us altogether, all wine merchants, and by the time we had completed the twenty-four hours of travelling from London to Bordeaux we were firm friends—and well aware of each other's card-playing ability!

We arrived at our hotel at 7.30 a.m. on Saturday, October 2nd, all somewhat haggard and weary after the all-night journey from Paris (particularly myself, as this was my second successive all-night train journey, having travelled up from Plymouth to London the previous night). However, a very substantial breakfast cheered us up considerably, and when, on presenting ourselves at the local "Syndicat" of wine merchants, were each given a cheque for 25,000 francs (about £30 at the prevailing rate of exchange), we became positively jovial!

This sum amply covered our hotel expenses, also our "aperitifs"—leaving us our own £35 allowance to spend on entertainment and purchases. Actually, there was very little to do in the evenings: from 5 to 7 p.m. the streets were full and the pavement cafes all very crowded, but from 7 p.m. onwards the streets and bars were practically deserted. This was explained as being due to shortage of money, but it appeared to me to be more a question of habit, since people could apparently afford to drink, etc., in the early evening.

The hotel was quite cheap and satisfactory, apart from the fact that our sleep was greatly troubled by the buzzing (and biting!) of mosquitoes, the rattling and clanging of trams in the street outside, and the attacks of some very small (but very active!) inhabitants of the beds.

Our arrival was reported in the local press, and was also given out in the local news announcements from the Bordeaux radio station. A very charming young female reporter came to interview us (on behalf of *Le Soir*) during the second week, but unfortunately we were unable to find the result in print!

For the first fortnight the weather was like the height of a good summer—clear blue skies and scorching hot sunshine; so much so, in fact, that most men discarded their jackets and kept cool in shirt-sleeves. During the third week, however, it deteriorated considerably, bringing frequent showers of heavy rain, chilly evenings, and quite cold nights.

Petrol was very scarce, the average business man's ration equalling roughly two-and-a-quarter gallons per month. Needless to say coupons were obtainable, but somewhat expensive (1s. 6d. a litre). Many lorries had large vertical boilers fixed to their sides or backs for producing coal-gas as fuel; a number of private cars were similarly disfigured.

With regard to food, we found that meat was very plentiful, though expensive enough to be rationed by price to the average family. Quite often we found our lunch or dinner comprised several meat courses following each other, e.g. sliced York ham, beefsteak (or veal cutlets) and chips, roast chicken and haricot beans, etc. Our favourite choice for dessert was bananas, which were always available. It goes without saying, of course, that wine was very much in evidence at mealtimes—I should think we drank at least one bottle each with both lunch and dinner, becoming so used to it that it was very definitely missed upon my return to a rationed existence. Milk was non-existent and butter was very scarce, but since (officially) these commodities were all distributed between the aged and the young, we didn't mind—until, of course, we discovered they were both easily obtained on the "free" market. Chocolate and sweets were incredibly expensive; I well remember enquiring the price of a box of chocolates, which at the very most could only have weighed $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb., and being absolutely horrified at being told it was the equivalent of 30/- Apparently there is a monthly ration of approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. of block chocolate which is much cheaper, but we didn't qualify for that. Bread is also rationed, and we were given bread coupons on landing in France, but no one ever asked for them, bread being served with every meal just the same. Meals were quite expensive—my cheapest lunch cost 9/-, the dearest was £1.

We were each attached to a firm of wine merchants; in my case it was Messrs. J. Calvet et Cie, and spent a lot of time watching and participating in the various activities of their extensive cellars, i.e. racking, fining, bottling, labelling, packing, etc. Also we made many trips to the various red and white wine-producing areas, including the Medoc, St. Emilion and Pomerol, Sauternes, Graves, St. Croix du Mont, etc.

The majority of the best wines are made by "Chateaux"—i.e. large houses, surrounded by their own vineyards, which make their own wine, usually selling it to the wine merchants (when a year old) through the medium of a wine broker.

These chateaux are lovely places, some very large and resembling stately country mansions, others smaller but more picturesque, but all of them very attractive with their quaintly differing styles of architecture, and almost invariably set in a cluster of trees.

We visited all of the more famous chateaux, and many of the lesser known ones, tasting the previous year's wine at each. It is absolutely amazing how the wines of even adjoining vineyards differ—the variation being due to the type and care of the vines, choosing the right time for gathering the grapes, and the

individual methods of making and caring for the wine. I must say I was very surprised at the smallness of the vines—I had expected them to be about from five to six feet high, whereas actually they are only from two to three feet high. Also the grapes themselves were much smaller than I had expected, not being much larger than fair-sized garden peas.

I spent two days at the Chateau La Garde (in the Graves district) picking grapes and helping generally with the vintage.

The actual wine-making procedure is very simple. The vineyard proprietor periodically tests his grapes for sugar content and acid content, and, when they possess the desired balance of the two, they are gathered. This is known as "Vintage time" and usually takes from two to four weeks, depending on the size of the vineyards and the amount of labour available. Whole families turn out to help with the picking, there being two rates of pay—one for men and a lower one for women and children. The best grapes are at the bottom of the vines, this being because the stony soil absorbs and reflects the heat of the sun up on to the lower portions of the vines. The stalks supporting the bunches of grapes are very tough and it is necessary to employ a pair of snippers resembling wire cutters to sever them. Each picker usually works a whole row of vines, filling his own basket which he empties, when full, into a large pannier carried on the back of a man who patrols up and down the rows of vines. This man empties his pannier into two large tubs fixed on a cart, drawn by a horse. When full, these tubs are conveyed to the wine cellars at the chateau where they are emptied into a shallow tank, whence the grapes are forked into a machine which crushes them and separates the stalks. The crushed grapes and juice are pumped into a vat, and since the yeast is already naturally present on the outside of the skins, it mingles with the juice and, by feeding on the sugars contained in the juice, immediately commences fermentation.

This, of course, applies to the red wines, since as most of the colour is obtained from the skins, they are left in the vat during fermentation.

In the case of white wines (made from yellow grapes), the juice is separated from the skins immediately after pressing, in order to avoid discoloration. (*N.B.*—The metallic salts contained in the skins are only soluble in alcohol—therefore, as long as the skins are separated before the process of fermentation produces alcohol, there will be no discoloration at all.) The fermentation takes 2 to 3 weeks, after which the wine is racked into hogsheads and allowed to mature for a year. It is not normally bottled until 3 years after, and even then should stay in bottle for another 5 to 10 years before achieving its best condition (even longer, of course, in the case of clarets).

Apart from tasting the wine at each chateau visited, I also attended several wine-tasting sessions at various wine merchants' establishments. These were most interesting experiences, as their aim was usually to compare palate characteristics, etc., of wines from different districts. I must confess that even towards the end of the three weeks I could still only vaguely differentiate between them!

I spent one day at Cognac, which is about 50 miles to the north of Bordeaux. I motored up with Major Surtees (of Owen J. Carter & Co.), and thoroughly enjoyed the lovely countryside through which we passed.

First we visited Hennessys, being shewn over, and then tasting their whole range of brandies, from the youngest to the oldest. Afterwards we went to Martells, where we were also shewn over the entire establishment, afterwards meeting Mr. Michel Martell, who was most hospitable, producing champagne and insisting upon arranging a most sumptuous dinner for us.

It was very interesting to notice that wherever brandy is stored in casks, the degree of evaporation is such that it actually blackens not only the ceilings and walls inside the building, but also the *outside* of the roofs. We were taken up on to the roofs of both Martells and Hennessys, and it was quite easy to see which premises were used as brandy warehouses by the definite blackness of the roofs. Even a fairly recently built grey concrete building was similarly blackened!

Another interesting day was spent at Bourg, where we saw the entire champagnisation process carried out exactly as done in the Champagne district. This establishment had its own saw-mills and box-making department, also plant for making the champagne-type corks from the raw sheets of cork.

We visited several "aperitif" and liqueur-making factories—each of which was most interesting, but perhaps our most satisfying expedition was when we accepted an invitation from the captain of an English ship lying in the Bordeaux docks to go on board for drinks. Unfortunately he had (with commendably good taste and discrimination!) exhausted his stocks of Hop Leaf beer, so we had to accept another well-known brand of canned beer, but even this was greatly appreciated and found to be more intoxicating than the wine!

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and the Board of Directors for granting me permission and the necessary facilities to make this trip. It was tremendously interesting and I feel it has been most educational. At the very least, I shall no longer be conscious of an inferiority complex when addressing a wine waiter!

C. V. CHURCHWARD.

LIGHTER SIDE.

At some local hunt races a rider, returning on foot after falling off, was greeted by : " Why did you not get inside the 'orse if you could not ride on top ? " " So I would have if he had a mouth as big as yours."

* * * *

A boy in a mission school was asked, in an examination : " What is an abstract noun ? "

He replied : " An abstract noun is the name of something that does not exist, such as truth or honesty."

* * * *

DOCTOR : " What your husband wants is a complete rest, and so I have prescribed a sleeping draught."

WIFE : " And when shall I give it him ? "

DOCTOR : " Oh, don't give it to *him* ; take it yourself."

* * * *

VISITOR (*on top of cliff*) to native : " Do strangers often fall over ? "

NATIVE : " No, only once."

* * * *

MASTER : " What are the three great races of mankind ? "

Boy : " The Hundred, the Quarter, and the Mile."

* * * *

What is a Communist ? One who has yearnings
For equal division of unequal earnings ;
Idler or bungler, or both, he is willing
To fork out his penny and pocket your shilling.

* * * *

At a Band of Hope meeting : " Now, children, we'll sing
' Little Drops of Water,' and for heaven's sake, put a little
spirit into it this time ! "

* * * *

A clergyman was invited to preach a temperance sermon, and began : " There are but two drinks mentioned in the Psalms — ' wine that maketh glad the heart of man,' and ' water where-with the wild asses quench their thirst.' "

* * * *

Strange as it may seem, there are times when, even on the Bench, His Majesty's Judges do not inspire the awe we would expect.

On one occasion when Sir Henry Hawkins, most sporting of all Judges, was trying a case, the prisoner was observed to speak to the warder beside him in the dock. On this the Counsel for the Crown immediately asked that the warder should disclose what the prisoner had said. To this the warder demurred, but receiving the Judge's order to repeat the conversation, he announced that the prisoner had pointed to his Lordship, and asked : " Who is that moth-eaten old heathen ? I've often seen him hanging round the racecourses."

* * * *

The following advertisement appeared in a shop window. It might have been worded better :—

" Lost, an umbrella by an old lady with whalebone ribs."

* * * *

" FOR SALE : Bakery business, good oven ; present owner has been in it over 20 years." (*Seen in a Harrow small " ads." frame.*)



WORDS OF WISDOM.

He that gives to the poor lends to the Lord.

Take the showers as they fall . . .
Enough if at the end of all
A little garden blossom.

The most certain sign of wisdom is a continual cheerfulness.

The mind's the standard of the man.

Think and thank God.

You can speak well, if your tongue deliver the message of your heart.

Beauty is never a delusion.

All are not saints that go to church.

Full vessels give the least sound.

Friendship is love with understanding.

In the meanest hut there is romance if you know the hearts there.

Many acres will not make a wiseacre.

Of all thieves, fools are the worst ; they rob you of time and temper.

The stream can never rise above the spring-head.

The stone that lieth not in your way need not offend you.

The State must follow, and not lead, the character and progress of the citizen.

Think of ease, but work on.

Friendship is a plant which one must water often.

BRANCHES.

THE ROYAL CASTLE HOTEL, DARTMOUTH.

A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOUR.



Yuletide is the season of the year, more than any other, when strange things may appear to the naked eye. Tales have been told, for example, of pink elephants and of snakes more numerous than the sands on the seashore !

That was the thought which flashed through the minds of the occupants of the lounge of the Royal Castle Hotel, Dartmouth, on Christmas Eve, when there came a strange noisy fumbling at the door handle.

Many generations have supped and drank deep in this ancient hostelry, and it was not entirely surprising that when finally the door did open someone should break the momentary silence by asking, ' Do you see what I see ? '

On the threshold stood a figure clad from head to foot in shining armour, with a drawn sword in his steel-gauntleted right hand.

With slow and cautious step the grim figure moved across the room to the hatch communicating with the office, and called loudly for a pint of mild and bitter.

Drake himself could not have done it better—and the liquor was duly produced. Up went the steel visor and down went the beer, while the knight poised himself gingerly on the arm of a chair and toyed with his awkward gloves.

His thirst quenched, the link with Drake and his merry men dropped his visor, steadied himself carefully on his feet, and walked slowly and heavily to the door.

Actually the wearer of the coat of mail was the younger son of Capt. and Mrs. Eagle-Bott, mine hosts of the Royal Castle. He filled the role well.

STAINES.



MARRIAGE OF MISS W. McEVOY.

The marriage took place at the Methodist Church, Staines, on Saturday, December 18th, between Miss Winifred McEvoy and Mr. George Newman. Given away by her brother, the bride

was attired in a gown of pearl pink satin, with matching head-dress and pink veil, and was attended by three bridesmaids, one of whom was her sister, Miss Gladys McEvoy.

The happy couple were recipients of numerous gifts, including an eight-day clock from her colleagues at Staines Branch. Miss McEvoy has been with us for sixteen years.

The greatest interest is being maintained in the competition among the members of the Staines "Hop Leaf" Darts League, and at the time of going to press the following were the section leaders :—

Section 1 : Crown, Harlington.

Section 2 : Criterion "A," Clewer.

Section 3 : Three Horse Shoes, Feltham.

In the Hounslow and District "Hop Leaf" Darts League competition is exceptionally keen. The present leaders are :—

Royal Horse Guardsman, Brentford 34 pts.

Elm Tree, Heston 33 "

North Star, Hounslow 31 "

The employees of Staines Branch who attended the Annual Ball at Reading on January 21st spent a most enjoyable evening, and appreciate very much the special facilities made for their comfort. One and all are looking forward to the next occasion when they can again meet their friends at Reading and from other Branches.

CIRENCESTER.

We are sorry to record the death, on the 24th December last, of Mr. G. Vowles, our popular tenant of the Bear Inn, Perrotts, Brook, after a period of illness. A former London Police Officer, he was during his 10 years' tenure at the "Bear," very highly esteemed along a wide circle of friends.

The rather sudden death of Mr. E. T. Griffin, on the 31st January last, for 36 years our respected licensee of the King's Head, Withington, has severed another link with the past. Our very sincere sympathy is extended to his widow, three sons, and two daughters.

Our good wishes go out to Mr. C. Probert, of 5, Bromyard Road, Worcester, our recently appointed resident representative for the Worcester area. May success attend his enthusiastic efforts to spread the "Hop Leaf" banner in the Midlands.

On the 1st February last, the staff and employees of this Branch spent a most enjoyable evening at the New Theatre, Oxford, where they saw the pantomime "Dick Whittington." The journey was made by coach, a stop being made on the way home for refreshment. Altogether, a most successful venture, and, we hope, the forerunner of others in the coming season.

CATTERICK CAMP.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE N.A.A.F.I. CLUB.

"It was a great day on Wednesday, 19th January, for troops stationed in Catterick Camp when the new £130,000 N.A.A.F.I. Club for O.R.s of all services was opened by the Princess Royal.

"The Club, to quote District Commander Major-General R. T. O. Cary, was the 'fulfilment of a dream' for thousands of troops in the area.

"Immediately after the official opening ceremony, soldiers, sailors, airmen, W.R.N.S. and A.T.S. girls went on an exciting tour of the Club, which is to make Army life seem more like home.

"They found luxuriously appointed lounges, a restaurant which can deal with well over a thousand diners, a games room containing two full-sized billiards tables, table tennis tables, and all equipment to while away the hours in what the troops call 'isolated Catterick.'

"A popular haunt on Wednesday night when over a thousand troops were entertained was the old-world tavern, a tastefully appointed 'snug' reminiscent of many of the lads' 'own locals.'

"Terraced approaches, lawns, and cultivated areas provide an outlook which many a civilian hotel proprietor would envy. A far cry from the days of the battered piano that stood in the corner of many a wartime Nissen hut, is the fine baby grand piano which stands in a corner of a lounge."

(From the "North-Eastern Weekly News").



TAMAR BREWERY, DEVONPORT.

While parts of the Southern Counties were recently shrouded in the worst fog for years, the West Country was enjoying spring-like weather with glorious sunshine. This fortunately coincided with the visit of our Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. A. Simonds, and Mrs. Simonds.

It was a great pleasure for us to have them in our midst and see Mr. Simonds looking so well after his recent illness. A warm welcome was extended to him by many of our business friends in this area, who appreciated the opportunity of discussing with him the many problems that confront our industry to-day.

We offer our congratulations to Major G. S. M. Ashby on his appointment as Vice-Chairman of the Company, and wish him good health to enjoy a long and successful term of office.

We also wish to extend to our late Secretary, Mr. E. S. Phipps, every good wish for many years of health and happiness on his retirement, which he so richly deserves after having completed more than 50 years of long and faithful service with the Company.

We congratulate his successor, Mr. J. D. Richardson, on his appointment, and express the hope that he may enjoy many successful years as Secretary of the Company.

TAMAR SOCIAL CLUB.

Over 90 children attended the Club's Christmas Party, which was held at the Exmouth Hall on Saturday, 1st January. An excellent programme of suitable entertainment was provided, which included Miss Valerie Jane, soubrette, Mr. Harry Wagg, conjurer and ventriloquist, and the ever-popular Punch and Judy show. The efforts of our old friend, Jimmy Green, in the guise of a clown, also added much to the children's enjoyment.

Most popular, of course, was Father Christmas, who gave every child a present from the large decorated Christmas tree.

During tea we were greatly honoured by a visit from the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Plymouth (Alderman and Mrs. H. J. Perry), who spent some little time with us enjoying the fun and chatting with the children. The pleasant task of presenting the Lady Mayoress with a bouquet of spring flowers was accomplished perfectly by Miss Hilary Fripp.

Thanks are indeed due to Mr. Johns and his Committee for their efforts in making the party such a great success.



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On Saturday, 22nd January, members of the staffs of Messrs. Ind, Coope and Allsopp, and Messrs. C. W. Blundell, Ltd., were entertained at the Club. Snooker and darts were played, and the evening was concluded with a smoking concert. A most enjoyable time was had by all, and it is hoped that this visit will be the first of many.

Simonds' Social Club Association Football Club, known to their supporters as "The Heavies," having completed the first half of their season's fixtures, stand fifth in the Plymouth and District Combination League (Division 3A). Their record is as follows :—

PLYMOUTH COMBINATION LEAGUE 3A.

Complete up to and including 5th February, 1949.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Coppersmiths ...	16	13	1	2	82	15	27
Efford United ...	15	11	4	0	62	18	26
Virginia House ...	16	9	5	2	48	20	23
Old Suttonians ...	13	8	4	1	56	23	20
Simonds' Social Club ...	14	8	4	2	34	24	20
Plymouth St. Thomas ...	13	7	3	3	45	28	17
Trelawny ...	13	6	2	5	41	26	14
Yealmpton ...	15	7	0	8	55	48	14
Steel United ...	16	6	1	9	50	64	13
Welburn Athletic ...	14	4	0	10	19	60	8
Mutley Methodists ...	16	3	0	13	28	79	6
Holmes Estates ...	13	2	1	10	34	64	5
Reeves & Fox Elliott ...	14	1	2	11	22	68	4
St. G. & St. Paul's ...	12	1	1	10	9	49	3

Leading goal scorers are :—

V. Mann, Transport (<i>centre-forward</i>) ...	12
S. Voisey, Garage (<i>outside left</i>) ...	7
R. Bate, Bottling Stores (<i>inside right</i>) ...	5

The team's achievements during their first season are greatly appreciated by all and the enthusiasm of the Football Club fully merits the league honours next season.

"HOP LEAF" DARTS LEAGUE.

As the darts season is now in its stride, all matches are being played in a very cordial and "Hop Leaf" spirit and, as the league table will convey, there is keen competition amongst several of the Clubs for first place in the league.

	P.	W.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Weston Mill ...	23	21	2	140	67	42
Standard ("A") ...	22	19	3	126	72	38
Abbey ("A") ...	22	17	5	117	81	34
Sydenham ...	22	15	7	116	82	30
Steambridge ...	23	13	10	118	89	26
Stoke Vaults ...	23	13	10	113	94	26
Stopford Arms ...	22	13	9	107	91	26
Camel's Head ...	23	11	12	104	103	22
Abbey ("B") ...	23	11	12	100	107	22
Prince Alfred ...	21	10	11	92	95	20
Tamar ...	22	9	13	96	102	18
Swan ...	23	8	15	85	122	16
Chester Cup ...	23	7	16	85	122	14
Simonds ("A") ...	22	7	15	80	118	14
Simonds ("B") ...	23	7	16	82	125	14
Grapes ...	22	6	16	84	114	12
Standard ("B") ...	21	3	18	70	119	6

A very pleasing ceremony took place on the 3rd December, 1948, when the employees of the Tamar Brewery met together to make a presentation to Mr. G. Harris, a very old member of the staff who had to retire, owing to ill-health. Mr. Harris joined the Company when their Plymouth Offices were at 6, The Octagon, in the days when our only mode of delivery was by horse and van. In 1939, when the late war broke out, he was appointed night watchman at the Tamar Brewery, and did yeoman service during the period when the enemy bombers attacked the town. In making the presentation of an armchair, Mr. R. E. Wright stated that during the whole time he had known Mr. Harris he had always found him to be a very conscientious member of the staff, also his colleagues had always appreciated working with him. The very best wishes of all were expressed to Mr. Harris for a speedy recovery and a happy retirement.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Mr. F. S. Hamley and Miss V. M. Bloomfield on the occasion of their marriage, which took place at St. Matthews' Church, Stonehouse, on the 12th February. Mr. Hamley is an employee of the brewery staff, and was presented with a clock from members of the staff.

We also offer our hearty congratulations to Mr. W. Floyd and Miss B. Swabey on the occasion of their marriage at the Registry Office on the 26th February, 1949. They are both employed in our Bottling Department, and the staff gave them a clock, a dinner service and cutlery.

WOKING.

On February 12th a very successful Dance was held at the Redhill Flying Club, Redhill Aerodrome, to mark the opening of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve Club. These two Clubs have their headquarters adjoining and for the evening they joined forces. Some 250 members and friends were present which made the dance hall rather crowded; those that could not find room to dance and those that wanted to from choice were to be found in the bars of each Club. The evening was celebrated in true Royal Air Force style and a really enjoyable time was had by all. These two Clubs are supplied by our agent, Mr. W. J. Gunner, of Redhill.

"HOP LEAF" DARTS LEAGUE.

It is with regret we report that the "Three Mariners," Bagshot, and the "Old Manor House," Walton, have had to withdraw their teams from the above league. It is hoped that they will enter next season when maybe circumstances will be easier.

The remaining teams are continuing the struggle, and many keen games have been played. The half-way positions are:—

	P.	F.	A.	Pts.
Sun Inn, Windlesham	9	44	19	44
Royal Oak, Addlestone	9	39	24	39
Black Horse, New Haw	9	38	25	38
Red Lion, Lightwater ("A")	9	37	26	37
White Hart, Chobham	9	32	31	32
Four Horseshoes, Chobham	9	29	34	29
Fox Inn, Bisley	9	27	36	27
White Hart, Bagshot	9	25	38	25
Brickmakers, Windlesham	9	24	39	24
Red Lion, Lightwater ("B")	9	20	43	20

The following changes of tenancy have taken place, and we offer the new tenants our best wishes for their future success:—

"Old Manor House," Walton—Mr. S. Turner to Mr. L. Wallace.

"Red Lion," Lightwater—Mr. C. Rixon to Mr. J. Smail.

Mr. Wallace was steward at Walton British Legion Club prior to becoming our tenant at the "Old Manor House," and the officials of the Club wished him every success in his new venture. Mr. G. Windham, an old steward, has returned to the Club, and we take this opportunity of extending to Club officials, members and steward our hope that the cordial relations existing will continue.

CHICHESTER.

It is with pleasure that we publish a photograph of Mr. T. G. Purchase, of Messrs. Arthur Purchase & Sons, Wine Merchants, of Chichester.

Mr. Purchase is the present senior of this fine old business which has a record of which any firm might well be proud. Established in 1780, it has for five generations passed from father to son without a break in the tradition.



Mr. T. G. Purchase.

Chichester, a city of very old memories, has been faithfully served with wines by a Purchase since Rodney won the victory over the Spanish Fleet off Cape St. Vincent, and nine years before the French Revolution!

In these hurried and troubled days and of multiple shops it is indeed very pleasant to step into the House of a wine merchant which retains its individuality and an atmosphere of the days when men knew their wine and practised a courtesy which is, sadly enough, becoming legendary.

FARNBOROUGH.



Members of the Sergeants' Mess, No. 1 Technical Training Centre, R.E.M.E., Frith Barracks, Blackdown, at their Annual Dinner held in January last.



Photographs by kind permission of Mr. Edgar Best, Photographer, Blackdown.
Lay-out of the Tables at the above Dinner.

LUDGERSHALL.

"FISHERTON ARMS," SALISBURY.

At the recent Annual General Licensing Meeting a full licence was granted to the above.

Previously it has only been possible to get beers at this House, but in due course it will be possible for our customers to get wines and spirits.

"BELL INN," WEYHILL.

Another very successful staff party was held at the above. Major and Mrs. Tynan proved admirable hosts, and we are all very much indebted to them for an extremely enjoyable evening.

ANDOVER AND DISTRICT BAR BILLIARDS CHAMPIONS.

The "Eagle Inn," Abbots Ann (Mr. E. V. Annetts) beat the Andover Conservative Club (A) by five games to nil in the final of the Andover and District Bar Billiards League Championship.

The "Eagle" was represented by Messrs. E. V. Annetts (Capt.), T. Wheatley, J. Wheatley, I. Cummins, D. Fenwick.

The individual house championship was won by Mr. F. New, of the "George Inn," St. Marybourne. (Mr. Andrews.)

Mr. Watts, Chairman of the League, presented the league cups and tankards to the winners.

PORTSMOUTH.

FOOTBALL.

In the December issue of the GAZETTE we made reference to the fine performance of the Portsmouth Football Team, which at that time was occupying the second position in the First Division league table. Since then many more matches have been played, and the team, through maintaining their brilliant form, is now sitting pretty at the head of the table with forty points, which is three points clear of their nearest rivals. Through the medium of the HOP LEAF GAZETTE we say "Well done, Pompey!" The championship is yours if you continue to show your present form and team spirit until May 7th.

In the fifth round of the F.A. Cup Competition Portsmouth had the good fortune to be drawn against Newport County, whom they defeated by three goals to two. In the two previous rounds they defeated Stockport County by seven goals to nil and Sheffield Wednesday by two goals to one.

If we are favoured with a continuance of our luck in the Draw, which is always a great factor in this competition, the supporters at this Branch see no reason why their team should not appear at Wembley this year—their “Jubilee Year”—and bring the much coveted trophy back to Fratton Park once again. We were all sorry to see Reading and Plymouth make an early exit from the competition. Better luck next season!

MIDSUMMER NIGHT DREAM CAME TRUE.

HILL PARK'S CLUB.

On a midsummer evening in 1946, a handful of men assembled on the lawn of a house in the Hill Park district of Fareham.

The principal item on the agenda at this informal meeting of local residents might have dismayed less ambitious men.

It was to discuss plans for a working men's club which they considered desirable in a rapidly developing community.

The meeting was called by a former dairyman, Mr. Jim Miller, of Oak Cottage, Hill Park, who had a straightforward proposition to put to the men.

“Decide first whether you want a club,” he told them, “and I will provide the site on land adjoining my cottage.”

His offer was swiftly accepted, and a committee was formed on the spot to draw up preliminary plans.

What happened after the meeting on the lawn is best told in the words of the Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. J. Lloyd), at the official opening of the Club.

“Before our first meeting broke up we asked for a few pounds for the building fund. Within a short time we had £240,” he said.

“Building did not get under way for about twelve months. We could use only uncontrolled materials and voluntary labour. We found no shortage of labour, but I can assure you that work

with the pick and shovel was not too easy for some of our older members. We sometimes worked night and day. We shifted 200 loads of hard core, we ‘cadged’ a little here and there, and the work went on with hardly any grumbles.

“We had many difficulties but we overcame them. We could not at one time put a floor down because we were not allowed the timber.

“We could not have a roof owing to the shortage of steel . . . and so on.

“Someone told us about some old tram-tracks buried in the ground at Denmead. . . . We dug them up with picks and shovels, and to-day they are keeping our roof up.”

Mr. Lloyd surprised his listeners when he went on to relate how the Ministry gave them permission to go ahead with the ceiling only seven days after they made application.

The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. Dyke—the Club's first President—by unlocking the front door with a key handed him by Mr. S. K. Fleming (Chairman).

LIKE THE TREKKERS.

The Chairman of Fareham Urban Council (Mr. J. Alexander), who was present with Alderman V. T. Keen, compared the efforts of the members with the deeds of pioneers in the “covered wagon era.”

“No one knows more than myself,” he told them, “the difficulties with which one has to contend in the erection of a building of this kind.

“The story behind this project is really miraculous when one considers the routine one has to go through to start building these days.”

Alderman Keen said that one of the chief reasons why more clubs of that sort should be built was that men could get together and discuss topics of the day.

“You are able to hear the views of others; narrow-mindedness is cut out and the outcome is good for the community as a whole,” he said.

EXTENSIONS PLANNED.

The Club includes a large bar, reading-room, and is tastefully decorated, well furnished, and fully equipped.

Later the members hope to extend the premises to include billiards and entertainment rooms. Since the building was completed the committee has decided to extend membership to women.

Among those present last evening was 77-year-old Jim Hale, one of the oldest of the 40 members who formed the original "voluntary squad."

Well done, Hill Park Memorial Working Men's Club, of which the Secretary, Mr. H. J. Lloyd, is our Southampton, Eastleigh and Gosport representative.

(By permission of the "Portsmouth Evening News").

ANGLING EVENTS "PUTS CITY ON THE MAP."

When Southsea Sea Angling Club met at the Rock Garden Pavilion for their Annual Dinner and Dance the 260 guests included the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. F. Miles) and representatives from angling clubs at Southampton and Ryde, and of Southsea Rowing Club.

The Civic toast was proposed by Mr. J. A. Restall (Chairman), who spoke of the happy relationship between the Club and the Piers, Beach and Publicity Committee.

The Lord Mayor, replying, dealt with the problem of cutting the estimates to prevent a big increase in the rates.

Proposing the toast to the Club, Mr. V. Blanchard (Commodore of Locks Sailing Club) told members that their annual festival was putting Portsmouth on the fishing map.

It was yearly becoming a more successful and better attended sporting event, and he hoped that this year it would be blessed by really good fishing weather.

The next festival, said the President (Lieut.-Colonel G. M. O'Rorke) was to be held in October, and it was also intended to run a Children's Week.

Captain C. E. Petch welcomed the guests, and the Chief Constable (Mr. A. C. West) replied. Baskets of fruit were presented to the Lady Mayoress and Mrs. O'Rorke by Mrs. Restall.

(By permission of the "Portsmouth Evening News").

HOLIDAY PREPARATIONS.

Portsmouth and Southsea are busy preparing for the coming holiday season. Two of the leading places of entertainment, such as the Savoy Restaurant and Ballroom, and the South Parade Pier, have many attractions for visitors planned for the summer which, we believe, will attract more holiday-makers than ever before.

The City Council will continue to provide many amenities, such as Bowling, Tennis, Boating facilities, etc. Southsea can also offer the attractions of Skating, Angling, Sea Bathing, in fact, almost everything that makes a holiday really enjoyable.

BRIGHTON.

We are pleased to welcome to our staff Mr. W. R. Minchinton, who has done service with the firm at Salisbury and Ludgershall, also Mr. C. Goddard, who commences service with the firm. We wish them both every success.

We are glad to be able to report steady progress towards recovery of our Mr. W. H. Summarsell, who will shortly be leaving hospital. Our late Chief Clerk, Mr. W. H. Cotton, helped us during the illness of Mr. W. H. Summarsell, and we wish to thank him for his services.

Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club suffered early defeat in the English Cup, but have played well, with a good "away" record, and are at present runners-up for the league championship. This season the Club have had record gates which is encouraging should they be able to enter the Second Division.

Visitors to Brighton will be pleased to know that our "Special M.S. Brand" Stout is now on sale at all Messrs. Edlins, Ltd., houses in Brighton, Hove and Worthing.

Our tenant at the "Royal Oak," Mr. Jeff Davis, continued to dispense refreshment to an ever-widening circle with great cheerfulness and a ready wit.

LONDON.

An enjoyable presentation ceremony at the end of December marked the retirement, after nearly 50 years' service, of Mr. A. J. Andrews, second clerk and cashier at this Branch.

Mr. S. M. Penlerick presided, and after paying tribute to the conscientious service rendered by Mr. Andrews, called on Major F. J. Johnson, former Manager, to make the presentation, which took the form of a cheque subscribed to by all the staff.

Major Johnson referred to the long and pleasant business association he had enjoyed with Mr. Andrews, and asked his acceptance of the cheque as some mark of the esteem in which he had always been held by the staff. Mr. H. Ward, Chief Clerk, also thanked Mr. Andrews for his co-operation over many years of business life, and wished him good health and many years of pleasant leisure.

Mr. Andrews in a suitable reply said he left with mixed feelings. He felt that he would miss many things associated with the job that he had held for so many years, but also that both he and Mrs. Andrews were looking forward to many happy years of retirement.

Mr. A. J. Andrews, whose career has been fully reported in a past number of the HOP LEAF GAZETTE, commenced with the Firm towards the end of the last century under the late Mr. J. Wilcox, at Margate Jetty. From there he graduated to what was then the London Office, York Road, Lambeth, spent a few months in general supervision of supply arrangements to the Wembley Exhibition of 1925, and was then transferred to 516, Wandsworth Road, where he continued until his retirement.

Through these columns Mr. Andrews would like to take the opportunity of saying farewell to his many friends at Reading and Branches in recollection of many pleasant associations.

ARSENAL FOOTBALL CLUB.



More "S.B." required for the Bars.

OXFORD.

OXFORD PRESS BALL.

"Revived after a lapse of ten years, Oxford's Press Ball, at the Carfax Assembly Rooms was a great success. Over 250 were present.

"Organised by the Oxfordshire branch of the National Union of Journalists, it was in aid of the Union's Widow and Orphan Fund and the Newspaper Press Fund, and the arrangements were made by the Ball Committee, of which Mr. Stanley Fifield was secretary and Mr. Reg Smith treasurer.

"Those present included Mr. G. Ronald Hardacre (Editor, *Oxford Mail*) and Mrs. Hardacre, Mr. F. Blackler (General Manager, Oxford Times, Ltd.), Mr. R. P. T. Gibson (Director, Oxford Times, Ltd., and Editorial Director, Westminster Press) and Mrs. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Dorrill, Mr. and Coun. Mrs. Andrews, and Mr. Ronald Neibour ('Neb,' the famous cartoonist).

"A feature was the floral decoration of the hall and staircase by the Parks and Cemeteries Department of the Corporation, which was carried out under the supervision of the Parks Superintendent, Mr. A. P. Walby.

CARNIVAL GAIETY.

"Mr. Alan Course was M.C., and the music for both old and new dancing was played by Stan Rogers and his Blue Star Orchestra. Hundreds of balloons and paper hats added to the carnival gaiety.

"For the first time members of the editorial staff at Newspaper House produced a 'rag' newspaper called 'Midnight Chimes,' which had amusing articles, cartoons and photographs. Sales were on behalf of the funds."

(From the "*Oxford Mail*.)

Our local Branch was favoured with the order for liquors.



Photograph reproduced by courtesy of the Westmoreland Studios, Oxford.
Mr. E. G. Hartley, the popular manager of the Carfax Assembly Rooms, with members of his Bar Staff.

MESSRS. PHILLIPS & SONS, NEWPORT.

H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., Brewers of Reading, have made an offer for the acquisition of the whole of the Share Capital of Phillips & Sons, Ltd., of Newport, Mon.

The holders of the 6% Preference Shares and the 7% Preferred Ordinary Shares of Phillips & Sons, Ltd., are given the opportunity of exchanging their Shares for 5% Cumulative Preference Shares of H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., and the Ordinary Shareholders to exchange their Shares for Ordinary Shares of H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., on a basis which will, in each case, give the same Dividend yield as their existing holdings on the assumption that the total distributions on the Ordinary Share Capital of each Company would remain unchanged from the distributions made in respect of the last two financial years.

The issued Share Capital of Phillips & Sons, Ltd., amounts to £250,000, made up of:—

£75,000 in 6% Preference Shares,
£50,000 in 7% Preferred Ordinary Shares,
£125,000 in Ordinary Shares.

It is intended to continue brewing and bottling operations at Newport. Mr. Andrew Norman Phillips will remain as Chairman of the Company.



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