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# Hop Leaf Gazette

SPRING 1953

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QUARTERLY BY

H. & G. SIMONDS LTD.

READING



THE HOP LEAF

PRICE SIXPENCE



In the Cooperage (page 24)

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# Hop



# Leaf

G A Z E T T E

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THE JOURNAL of H. & G. SIMONDS LIMITED

SPRING, 1953

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## Editorial

*The old order changeth, yielding place to new. . . .*

This is the HOP LEAF GAZETTE in its new guise. It will continue to contain many of the old features which during its twenty-seven years of existence made it the interesting and welcome magazine that it was. We hope its new form will win it many new readers whilst still appealing to its old friends.

A House Magazine is a vital part of every great concern—the HOP LEAF GAZETTE is no exception. It will continue to record faithfully the history of the firm and the interesting events in the lives of those who are connected with it.

A House Magazine reflects the initiative and enterprise of a business quite as much as a Balance Sheet does. Its success depends upon the interest and enthusiasm of every person connected with the firm.

### *What is news for us ?*

The short answer to this is that anything is news if it is worth repeating once. The House of Simonds has many interests, and owing to geographical difficulties there are few opportunities for the exchange of views, personal experiences, reminiscences and even anecdotes between those connected with the Company.

The HOP LEAF GAZETTE exists in order to overcome these difficulties. We welcome every letter that arrives—we like critical ones, we prefer newsy ones.

### *Coronation Year*

We can all look forward to a busy, and, we trust, a prosperous Coronation Year.

In towns and villages throughout the country, the Coronation festivities will frequently centre on the local Inn.

We would very much like to devote space in our Autumn Edition to the various forms which the festivities took, and we would appreciate it if our readers would send us a description and, if possible, photographs of Coronation festivities of general interest.

★

SOME ASPECTS OF

## Kenya today

by **Brian Hobson**, Sales Manager, Messrs. East African Breweries Ltd.

British East Africa is split up into three, the Colony of Kenya, the Protectorate of Uganda and the Mandated Territory of Tanganyika. The Africans in Kenya are divided into five or six main tribes, who have little compatibility with each other. The largest and most advanced tribe are the Kikuyu, whose home is Central Province, and the recent Mau Mau troubles which have hit the world are almost entirely confined to this tribe.

The murders and mutilations of men, women and children of all races by Mau Mau thugs have shocked the world, and people of all races in the Kikuyu areas of Kenya now live at a permanent state of "the ready." Every block and area nearby has its Home Guard (of all races) on patrol during the night hours, and the

strain on daily workers is great when they are often up half the night. The regular police, with the Lancashire Fusiliers, Kikuyu Home Guard and warriors from neighbouring tribes such as the Masai, who have volunteered to help, are often on twenty-four hours' duty.

### *Combating Mau Mau*

The crushing of Mau Mau is going to be difficult. Its influence has spread unchecked and its doctrine has been widely taught in the Kikuyu Independent Schools for a number of years. It murders any witnesses to its crimes indiscriminately, and the man in the street fears to inform against it.

The Colonial administration is in a dilemma if it takes the measures to end

*A street scene in Nairobi, showing part of Delamere Avenue, which is one of Nairobi's principal thoroughfares.*



the trouble quickly ; it lays itself open to charges that its actions are undemocratic, and that it is punishing the innocent with the guilty. Furthermore, some sections of the European and even Indian community are getting restless after the brutal murder of their relatives and friends. They are getting to the state where they are liable to cut loose and take the law into their own hands.

### *The future*

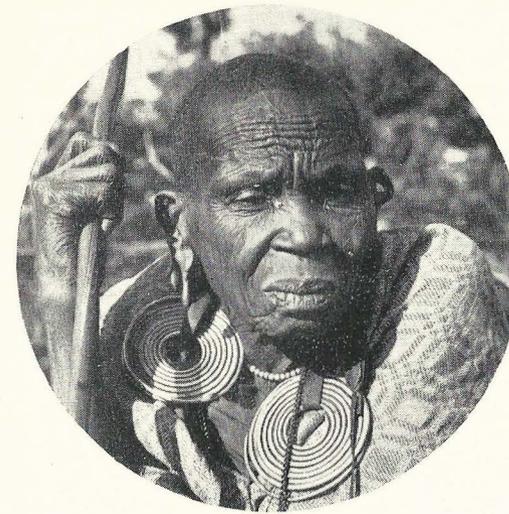
When the Mau Mau terrorism is exterminated it is most important that we ensure that it does not happen again. We must educate the African to doing a good, responsible job of work, for which he can command remuneration enabling him to

enjoy a better living standard. We must encourage him to go ahead in commerce, to run his own business. The most important thing of all is that we must encourage human relationships between all three races, and when an African has reached a certain stage of education and culture, we must encourage him to ascend to a "western" social plane and social standards.

### *No discrimination*

The trouble hitherto has been that when an African has received a good education, no hand has been reached out to encourage him to take his place in civilised society—he has been shunned and cold-shouldered. The net result has been that the very men

*Policemen being instructed in the handling of rifles at the Kenya Police Training School.*



*An old Kikuyu woman.*

who might have been taught the Western way of life and been leaders of their people have been embittered, and most of them have ultimately turned their talents to subversive political agitation.

The actual Colonial Government is not discriminatory. To say that the African does not normally get justice is nonsense, but there are petty discriminations in certain parts of East Africa in the social rather than material sphere. Stratas of society there will always be, and the only ultimate solution is an all-races government by merit as opposed to community, and a society of human relationships based on personality and not race.

### *Trade Relations*

In private enterprise the African has made the most of his opportunities which have consisted so far in marketing vegetables, maize, charcoal, etc., and conducting native bus services and running small shops, many of which are licensed to sell beer.

My Company, East African Breweries, Ltd., has given these people every encouragement to progress and by a friendly and helpful approach, and some assistance in matters such as credit, in spite of the fact that over £8 is not a debt at law in respect of the Credit to Africans Legislation, we have helped over one hundred and fifty African Beer Off Licences to do a flourishing trade. A large number of these traders have begun to look upon us as very good personal friends, and we, in turn, like them, and do all we can to help them. Furthermore, the Kikuyu particularly have conducted business with us in a most regular fashion, and only one African trader in three years has let us down badly financially.

I would like to record that, as far as straightforward dealing in this Colony is concerned, the African trader with us has as good a record as any other section of the community. Experiments in appointing African wholesale distributors in certain areas and African travellers have been a success. Many of the African



*East African students.*

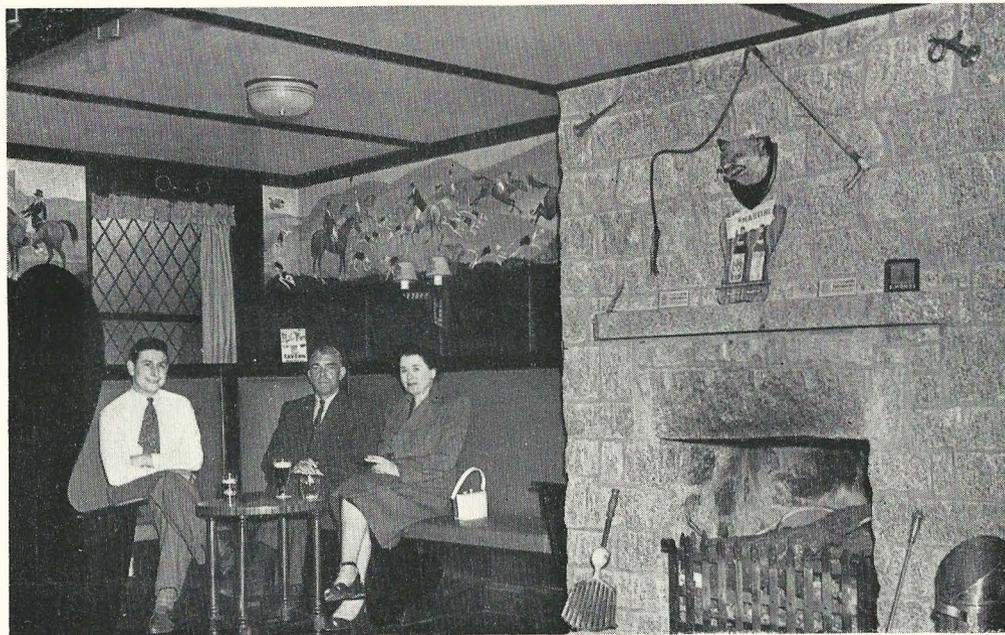


A 17-year-old agricultural demonstrator.

dealers have purchased a small shareholding in the Company. Owing to the political troubles which have had a depressing effect, their investment is not showing a great return at the moment, but one has every confidence that it will prove an excellent one in the long run.

#### **Popular Lager**

The African trade is now over 60% of the whole in Kenya, and it is quite clear that in the beer trade a multi-racial harmony and excellent relationship can be achieved. The African consumer is very partial to our standard 1040° gravity Lager called Tusker, and for him, as indeed for the rest of the community, the Elephant's Head trade mark has become a symbol of quality.



A corner of the lounge of the East Dart Hotel at Postbridge, showing the interesting hunting murals. The present landlord, Mr. A. W. Bracken, has just

had the full licence restored after a lapse of 75 years. A previous landlord gave up the licence because it clashed with his religious convictions.

## “Penal Effects of Taxation”

### THE CHAIRMAN

In spite of 1952 showing a satisfactory increase in trading profits, our Chairman, Mr. F. A. Simonds, had to report to the stockholders in his annual address that the resultant net profit attributable to the parent Company showed a decrease of £40,207.

“This, of course, is most disappointing, and is mainly due to the very heavy impact of taxation which has increased by no less than the sum of £69,622,” he explained. Also on the subject of taxation the Chairman said, “I should like to point out to stockholders that direct taxation, i.e. income tax and profits tax of £311,128 is £101,895 more than the net profit for the year, and great disappointment is felt by your Board of Directors that the larger trading profits of the Company are not reflected in an increased net profit. *This is a factor entirely beyond our control and we can only hope that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be in a position to reduce the penal effect of taxation in the next Budget and thus alleviate the crushing burdens of the present day.*”

#### **High reputation of beers maintained**

Turning to happier things, the Chairman reported that the sale of the Company's products has been well maintained, and showed a slight increase on those of the previous year. He was proud to report that TAVERN ALE was awarded the Gold Medal at the recent Brewers' Exhibition.

The Hotels and Catering Dept. had gone from strength to strength and he hoped

that during Coronation Year thousands of tourists would see the very high standards for themselves.

The Bristol Brewery had been closed down for economic reasons but bottling and the sale and distribution of wines and spirits would continue from there. The Newport Brewery could meet all requirements.

The marked improvement in the wines and spirits sales would be further advanced with the completion of the chain of the Arthur S. Cooper off-licences.

#### **Associated Companies**

PHILLIPS AND SONS LTD., NEWPORT, had increased their turnover.

SACCONE AND SPEED LTD., OF GIBRALTAR, had continued to expand during the year and had opened up an important branch in British East Africa.

SIMONDS-FARSONS-CISK LTD., MALTA, had won the championship gold medal and diploma in the competition open to all overseas breweries at the Brewers' Exhibition in London last November. The Chairman reported that Messrs. Schweppes had granted this Company the privilege of manufacturing their table waters in Malta.

EAST AFRICAN BREWERIES, LTD., KENYA: He regretted to report that owing to the disturbances in Kenya, this Company had been working under extreme difficulties and trade there had recently shown a marked decrease.

# *The Eastgate* • HER HOME BECAME HER INN

Twenty-eight years ago Miss Hilda Fisher went with her family to live in a country residence in what was then the completely rural area of East Reading.

She little thought then that she would see the house turned first into an off-licence and then into a fully-licensed house, with herself as the licensee.

The final change took place just over a year ago. Her sitting-room became a long and spacious public bar, and her dining-room a comfortable, carpeted private bar.

The house was originally built by a Reading merchant as a country residence.

Soon after Miss Fisher and her family came there, they sought and obtained the support of residents in the neighbourhood to obtain their off-licence, and part of the house was converted for this purpose. In the same way, more than a quarter of a century later, Miss Fisher again gained the support of the residents for her application for a full licence and the establishment of "The Eastgate," regarded by the majority of residents as a most desirable amenity for their suburb.

The conversion and furnishing of "The Eastgate" was mainly in the hands of Mr. Ronald Howie, who joined our organisation last summer as Furnishing and Decorative Adviser, and it was one of the first complete furnishings which he undertook. Simplicity was the keynote in the furnishing of both bars.

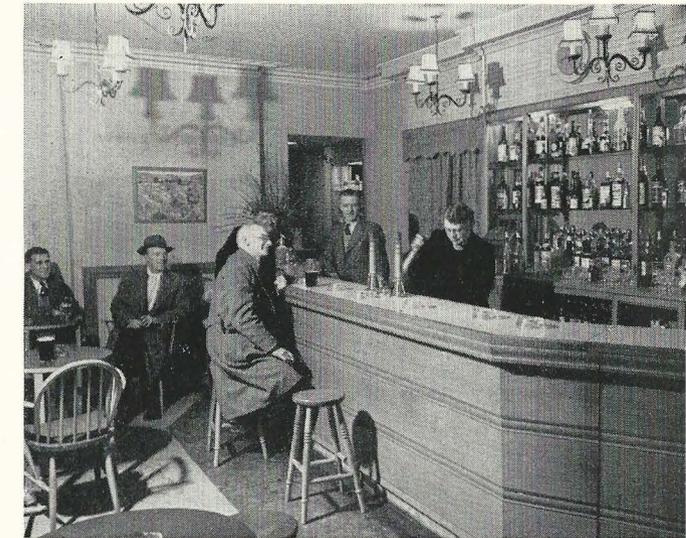
Simplicity, however, has not been allowed to detract from the impression of comfort which greets the visitor to the bars and which incidentally is an impression which is not dispelled for those who decide to linger. Effect has been secured by colour—stone finish in the Public Bar and an oatmeal weave finish in the Private Bar. Carefully selected but not expensive furniture in light oak matches the bar and showcases of the same wood.

So far in its short existence, really fine days have been few, but on these few occasions, particularly at weekends, the large garden at the rear, which remains very much as it was when the house was a private residence, has been extremely popular and Miss Fisher plans to develop this feature without in any way affecting the impression of a pleasant private garden.

Miss Fisher and her genial Manager, Mr. Cyril Wood, have been at pains to preserve the family atmosphere of "The Eastgate" which, as a result, has become a popular rendezvous.



*Miss Fisher serving a customer in the Private Bar.*



*Miss Fisher and her Manager, Mr. Cyril Wood, in the Public Bar.*

Even the coach trip when "The Eastgate's" darts team is fulfilling away fixtures, are like family outings consisting almost without exception of husbands and wives, and usually one of the largest type of coaches is required to accommodate them all.



## Gold Medal Beer

A luncheon was held at the Ship Hotel, Reading, on February 4th last, when our Chairman was presented with the awards won at the Brewers' Exhibition by Tavern Ale and Velvet Stout.

This was the second consecutive Exhibition at which we won the first prize, consisting of gold and silver medals for Tavern Ale—a unique achievement in the history of the Exhibition.

Seated at Mr. Simonds' table at the luncheon were Councillor L. J. Stroud, Mayor of Basingstoke; Mr. E. M. Downes, Head Brewer; Mr. F. J. Bearman, Chairman of the panel of judges at the Exhibition; Mr. H. C. Vickery, Manager of the Brewers' Exhibition; Mr. R. B. St. J. Quarry, and Mr. F. W. Neale.

Mr. Bearman presented the medals and accompanying certificates to Mr. Simonds and Mr. Downes. In making the presentation, he said, "The firm which wins these awards for preparing beer of such excellent gravity certainly deserves its success. I am a brewer myself and I know what it means to get this great honour. The gold medal is taken from the first of every class and there are eleven classes."

### *Best of nearly 700 samples*

"I have great pleasure in presenting these awards. I hope that perhaps next year I shall hand over to you the Cup. I congratulate you all, especially the Chief Brewer and his assistants."

Mr. Bearman also paid tribute to the manner in which Mr. Vickery had managed the Exhibition by ensuring that perfect conditions regarding temperature,

etc., were maintained throughout the whole time. "I know that Mr. Vickery left no stone unturned to have everything as it should be at Olympia," he concluded.

Mr. Vickery said: "As manager of the Brewers' Exhibition I was extremely delighted that Mr. Eric Downes brought off the double, his Company having been runners-up for two years in succession. As Simonds Brewery cannot be accused of having submitted special samples, their beer must be consistently good. If they can produce this success twice in succession they have certainly got something."

The judges are drawn from every part of the British Isles, so that every judge has a chance of tasting the beers from all over the country. The judges are split into regions so that everything is done on an absolutely fair and impartial basis. I hope that next year I shall have the pleasure of bringing the Cup and a personal replica of the Cup down to Reading."

### *Another Gold Medal*

Mr. Simonds declared, "This is a great day in the annals of our Brewery. I thank you, Mr. Bearman, most warmly, and all responsible for the judging." Mr. Simonds went on to thank Mr. Downes, his deputy, Mr. V. Richards, Mr. Hollebhone, the bottling manager, and all their staffs for their work. Speaking of the guests, he specially welcomed the Mayor of Basingstoke. Continuing, Mr. Simonds expressed regret that the Company's Vice-Chairman, General Sir Miles Dempsey, was unable to be present. He mentioned that the firm of Simonds-Farsons-Cisk

Ltd., of Malta, had won the British Empire gold medal, which was a great achievement in a competition open to all the brewers in the British Commonwealth.

Mr. Downes thanked the whole of his staff for the success achieved. "It is

only by the closest possible attention on the part of everyone concerned that one wins these medals," he said. "It shows the standards we are trying to put up, and we are trying to improve these standards yearly."



Photo by 'Berkshire Chronicle.'

*Our Chairman receives the Gold Medal from Mr. F. J. Bearman, Chairman of the panel of judges.*

## Into the Cornish Riviera

On January 1st this year the Company took over the old-established firm of Pool and Son, Ltd., of Penzance, which owns thirty licensed houses in some of the most beautiful parts of the Cornish Riviera. We have pleasure in welcoming the tenants of these houses into our organisation. This development is sure to prove of enormous value to the Company, as the houses are situated in the

most popular holiday area in Great Britain—an area which owing to its mild climate enjoys a long season, and during the season is densely populated by tourists from all parts of the world.

The taking over of these houses meant also the return to the fold, as it were, of Mr. L. C. White, who is the Manager for that area. Mr. White joined our Company

*The Sloop Inn, St. Ives.*



at Reading in 1914. Twelve years ago he went to Messrs. Pool and Son, Ltd., as their Manager for the area.

As might well be expected in this ancient and historical part of the country, many of the houses have ancient and historical backgrounds. The best known is undoubtedly the famous Sloop Inn at St. Ives, which is now a protected historical building. It has a very ancient history dating back as far as the year 1312, according to local manuscripts. In modern times the Sloop Inn has become the accepted meeting-place of the various colonies of artists who live in the St. Ives area. The walls of the fine bar room of the Inn, as

well as the walls of the other public rooms, are covered with a display of pictures, cartoons and etchings by some of the most renowned modern artists. Not many months ago its fame was further enhanced when it became the subject of a cartoon by "Giles," the original of which can be seen there. Mr. Phil Rogers, the present licensee, took over the licence eighteen years ago from his uncle, who had held it for twenty-six years.

We shall be telling the interesting background stories and legends connected with many of these ancient historical houses in forthcoming editions of the HOP LEAF GAZETTE.

## Four Presentations

### RETIREMENT OF MR. F. H. WELLER

No less than four presentations marked the retirement of Mr. F. H. Weller, Head Brewer of Messrs. Phillips and Sons, Ltd., Newport.

The first, a silver tankard, took place after a farewell luncheon at the Queen's Hotel, Newport, on Thursday, January 29th, attended by Mr. E. M. Downes, Mr. A. Norman Phillips, Lieut.-General Sir Charles W. Allfrey, and many of his colleagues.

#### *The Staff*

Later in the day the staff assembled to show their appreciation.

The proceedings were opened by the Chairman, Mr. S. C. Saunders, who tendered his warmest wishes for a happy retirement and called upon Mr. T. H. Antill to make the second presentation—a wristlet-watch and a box of golf balls.

Mr. Saunders then addressed a few words of welcome to Mr. H. H. Robertson, who succeeds Mr. Weller.

#### *The Brewery Employees*

The third presentation was an inscribed combination cigarette-case and lighter from the Brewery employees.

The presentation was made by Mr. Jack Hillman, who expressed the wishes of all that Mr. Weller would live long to enjoy the retirement in full.

#### *The Girls*

Finally, at a separate ceremony, the female employees of the Brewery Bottling Store presented Mr. Weller with a writing-set. The presentation was made by Miss L. Picton.

## T.V. and the Licensed Trade

Mr. B. H. Quelch, our Bristol Branch Manager, speaking as President of the evening at the Bath and District Ladies' Licensed Victuallers Association's Annual Ball at Bath, said :—

“ A subtle enemy of our trade to-day is the glass screen of television. It is a menace which I feel is reaching serious proportions in the West Country. The purchase price of the set itself initially

absorbs a certain amount of money which might well be spent in the local, but far more serious is the thought that more and more people are staying at home instead of visiting their usual public house.” He went on to suggest “ that there were three ways of fighting this new danger to the prosperity of the licensed trade. The first is good beer, the second is good service, and the third the right price.”



The Mayor and Mayoress of Bath ; Mrs. E. M. Demmery, Chairman of the Bath and District Ladies' Licensed Victuallers Association, in the centre; and on the right Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Quelch, at the B.D.L.L.V.A's Annual Ball at Bath.

## The House of Hibbert

We offer sincere congratulations to our very old friends, C. G. Hibbert & Co., Ltd., of Southampton, who celebrated their 185th birthday in January. They have been handling the bulk of our ships' stores trade for many years.

They are to-day supplying more pale ale and lager to the export and ships' stores

export of ale and porter to New York some thirty years later.

It is still a private family business run, to-day, by the same family by whom it was established 185 years ago.

From 1767 to 1900, the bottling stores were in London, but in 1900 the Chairman,

\* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

### HIBBERT'S PORTER NOURISHES CASTAWAYS

\* \* \* \* \*

\* One of the most interesting stories in the history of the House of Hibbert, and one with a truly romantic ending, happened in the year 1821.

\* A Southampton sailing ship, the *Blenden Hall*, foundered on an uninhabited island near Tristan da Cunha. Eighty-two out of the complement of eight-four passengers and crew managed to swim to the island. They discovered it to be completely uninhabited except for penguins, and there was no food, water or shelter.

\* The following morning found them blue with cold, wet and hungry. Some of them made a most unpleasant meal off raw penguins.

\* Suddenly, however, they espied a wooden box tossing about on the waves, and they pulled it ashore to find to their delight that it was an unbroken case of "HIBBERT'S CELEBRATED BOTTLED PORTER." Their

\* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

trade than ever before. In the last three years their export trade has more than doubled itself every year. Because of this, January saw the opening of a new bottling warehouse—the third of their post-war extensions to their bottling factory and stores.

The business was founded in 1767 by

captain insisted upon every member of the party immediately drinking the health of Mr. Hibbert and his family, who had provided such timely refreshment.

For three-and-a-half months the shipwrecked party existed on the island, depending on an occasional case of food or drink washed ashore from the wreck and the fast-dwindling stock of penguins. They were finally rescued by the Governor of Tristan da Cunha and from there they departed on their various ways.

Alexander Greig, the son of the skipper, returned to England and called on Joseph Hibbert, Senior, at No. 7, Jewry Street, London, to relate the history of the case of porter. Shortly afterwards he married one of the Misses Hibbert and, as they say in all the best stories, they lived happily ever after.

Mr. Joseph Hibbert, who started the Mr. C. G. Hibbert, recognising the growing importance of Southampton as a passenger port, acquired a warehouse there.

The present bottling factory is the only bonded beer bottling store in the south of England, outside London.

## *Bristol Brewery*

### *closing down after 107 years*

A sad little party gathered about the Mash Tun of the Jacob Street Brewery, Bristol, on Tuesday, the 30th of December last. Amongst the party was Mr. T. P. Rogers, whose grandfather founded the Brewery in 1845, Lieut-General Sir Charles Allfrey, our local Director, Mr. E. M. Downes, Mr. H. H. Robertson, and the Area Manager, Mr. B. H. Quelch. There were also present a representative body of employees, who, for the past 17 years, had transferred their loyalties from the old firm of W. J. Rogers Ltd. to our own Company.

As the party stood there, the sparge pipes revolving over the Mash Tun slowed down and finally halted. After 107 years the Brewery had closed.

Beers brewed in the Jacob Street Brewery had been justly famous throughout South Wales and the West of England for scores of years—between 1912 and 1922 they had won 12 honours in open competitions at the Brewers' Exhibition. During the First World War, Rogers'

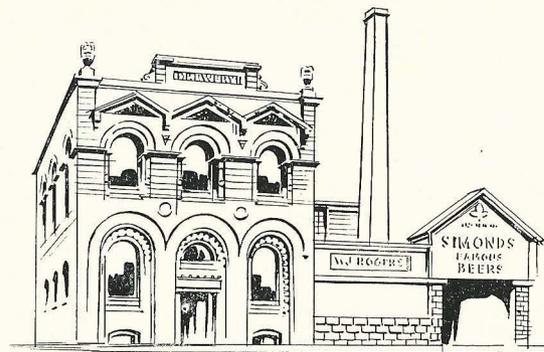
Beers had supplied troops over a wide area.

Seventeen years ago we took over the Brewery and continued to supply the same territory.

With reference to its closing down, the Chairman wrote to General Allfrey, saying that it was with considerable regret that the decision had been taken, but that the ever-mounting cost of production and distribution of beers in Bristol made this imperative.

As the Bottling Store will continue working in Bristol, it has been possible to find work for the great majority of the staff, and of those who were found to be redundant, a large percentage were in any case due for retirement.

The Company paid compensation to all those employees whose employment ceased. This compensation was based on the number of years each employee had been with the Brewery, including service before we took it over.



## *Nature Notes*

By C.H.P.



### *Resurrection of the countryside*

Spring is here with all its joy and beauty. Birds burst into song and buds into flowers; and perhaps it is the most heartening season of the year. Signs of the resurrection of the countryside meet us at every turn, in garden, field, wood and river.

### *Arrival of the migrants*

During the month of March we listened to the notes of the wryneck and the willow warbler. In April we have the swallows, martins, cuckoos, whitethroats, nightingales, etc. The swift, too, appears towards the end of the month.

### *The wonder of an egg*

The egg of a bird is indeed a thing of beauty. If you examine the yolk minutely, you will see on its surface a transparent molecule, with three points, which constitute the embryo of the future bird, precisely as the little point, in the seed, contains the germ of the future plant, while all the rest included within the shell is destined for its nourishment until it assumes perfect form. By an ingenious and beautiful provision, the yolk is so suspended in the albumen, that, however turned, the vital spark or embryo of the future bird is always kept uppermost, so as to receive the greatest heat from the bird's body.

### *April Showers*

The "showers that water the earth" alternating with the sunshine and soft airs, render the month of April a month of spring flowers. Primroses, anemones and violets are spread like a gay variegated carpet over the woods, the scentless dog

violet, with larger blossoms than the darker tinted sweet violet, blooms in profusion. Its flowers do not, like those of our old emblem of modesty, hide among the leaves, but flaunt gaily on their longer stalks before the breeze. The swallow knoweth the time of his coming and the voice of the dove is heard in the wood. The hedges are white with the blossoms of the early sloe or blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*). Its dark brown branches are thick with the snowy wreath long before the leaves appear, and, as the spring advances, the leaves take the place of flowers.

### *To a skylark*

As I write the skylarks are in joyous mood winding and unwinding their silver chain of song. What an appeal that song makes to the ear, eye! and to the heart. I never tire of listening to the song of the skylark. Legend has it that, long, long ago, one of these birds soared right away up into the sky where he heard the angels sing, and that he brought the song back down to earth.

### *Do not want change*

There is nothing more fascinating to me than a walk in Spring. As Richard Jefferies so well said: "I do not want change, I want the same old and loved things, the same wild flowers, the same trees, and soft ash-green; the turtle-doves, the blackbirds, the coloured yellow-hammer, sing, sing, singing so long as there is light to cast a shadow on the dial, for such is the measure of his song, and I want them in the same place."

READERS will be interested to see the photograph of the skittles alley which, as we stated in our last issue, was built by Mr. Walt Baker, licensee of the Royal Oak, Tetbury, and his customers.

You will remember that at the beginning of the season Mr. Baker and his "regulars" decided they wanted to enter the Tetbury new Skittles League, and as they had no skittles alley, they decided to build one themselves. They built it in an old barn adjoining the centuries-old inn. When they finished, they had a first-class skittles alley, and Mr. Baker installed a bar in the alley so that his customers can have both "beer and skittles."

They started their season with a game



Mr. Walt Baker sending one down.

against eighteen members of our Bristol Branch.

The first ball to open the alley was sent down by Mr. Quelch, D.F.C., the Bristol Manager.



### IT MUST BE HEALTHY IN THE COOPERAGE !

These four stalwarts of the Cooperage Department at Reading have each completed more than half a century working in the Cooperage.

Their combined service totals 208 years.

They are, from left to right, Charge Hand Edwin Carpenter and three retired colleagues, Mr. W. Sparks, aged 70, Mr. C. Bartholomew, aged 75, and Mr. A. Waite, aged 67.

Before retirement, Mr. Sparks had completed 50 years 5 months, Mr. Bartholomew 53 years 6 months, and Mr. Waite 52 years 6 months. Mr. Carpenter still works in the Cooperage and has completed 51 years' service.

WE extend to Mr. and Mrs. Victor Sly, the proprietors of the Bitterne Brewery, West End Road, Bitterne, Southampton, hearty congratulations on the rebuilding and reopening of the well-known Inn.

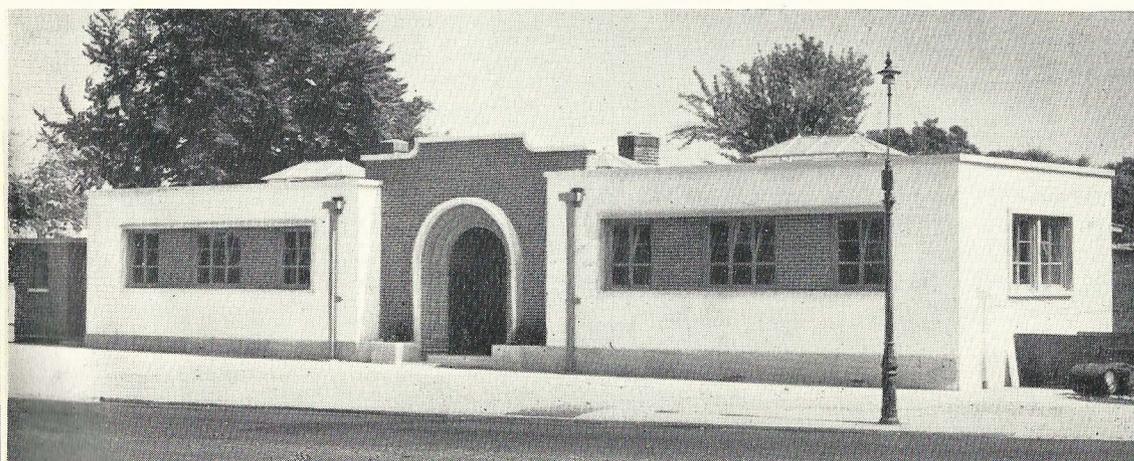
Enemy action during a severe "blitz" in 1942 practically destroyed the old building, and the father of "Vic"—popular Bill Sly—was killed.

To-day a fine fully-licensed Free House has arisen, incorporating every modern

*Bitterne Brewery.*

feature to ensure that the public obtain a maximum of comfort and service *par excellence*; some of the more important features being the new deep insulated cellars, and in the lounge a built-in chilling system, a combination ensuring that all drinks reach the customer in perfect condition. The extensive and well-maintained gardens are an indispensable feature of the modern house.

A warm welcome is assured the visitor from the popular host and hostess.



### Ancient Coin provides Inn Sign

"THE WHITE HORSE," EMMER GREEN

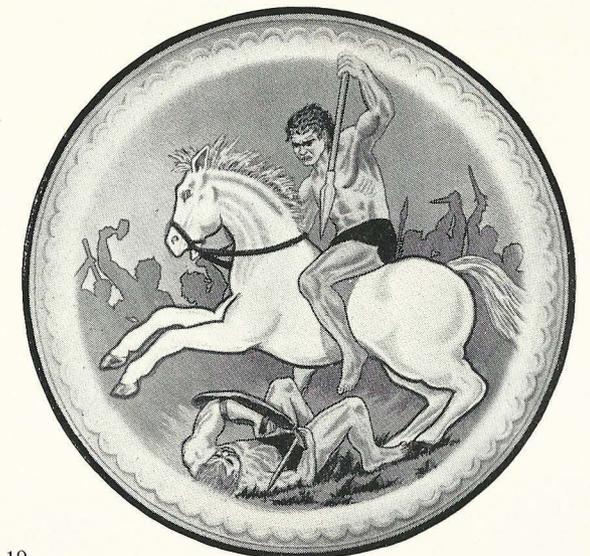
The pictorial sign outside "The White Horse" at Emmer Green, designed by Mr. B. Atkins, Architect's Department at Reading, owes its origin to a silver coin used by the Roman invaders about the first century B.C.

A customer of the house, who is a member of the Reading Museum staff, suggested the motif when he heard that it was proposed to erect a sign.

He explained that in 1936 an old Roman coin was found near St. Barnabas Church not far from the Inn. The face of the coin showed a Horseman with the word TINC on the reverse side.

TINC is most probably an abbreviation of Tincommius, who ruled from 20 B.C. to A.D. 5. He was the son of Commius, King of a Belgic Tribe, who invaded Britain and settled in Berkshire in the latter part of the first century B.C. The

letters C.F. on the coin bearing the Horseman stand for Commius Filius, Son of Commius.



## Reading Staff Ball

Nearly 700 people were present at the Annual Ball of the Reading staff which was held on Friday, 26th January, 1953, at Olympia, Reading. It was greatly regretted that the Chairman and Managing Director of the firm, Mr. F. A. Simonds, was prevented from attending owing to indisposition.

The large Dance Hall was artistically decorated, and competitions for spot prizes and other attractions were held, including a Cabaret by the Felicity Girls. Music was provided by Don Turk and his Band, and a very fine buffet service

was arranged by the Olympia Company. Mr. Frank Bowsher was the M.C.

During the evening the magnificent replica of the oil painting by Sir Oswald Birley of our Chairman and Managing Director was displayed. He is presenting it to our Social Club in commemoration of his Jubilee of service with the Company.

Mr. Bradford said that the picture would be hung in the Club opposite one of Mr. F. A. Simond's father, the late Mr. L. de L. Simonds.



*Mrs. Lily Barnes, standing, with (left to right) : Mrs. Gayman, Mrs. Blanche Graddon, Mrs. May Shaw, Mr. Len Graddon, Mr. Matthew Gayman.*

*Mr. Bill Coleman, and (left to right) Violet Barnes, Jean Heath, Jean Mann and Shirley Nice, who is leaving shortly to join the WRAF.*



*Rear : Mr. Eric Crutchley, Gwen Josey, Mr. Charlie Josey, Mr. Stan Davey, Mrs. Joan Josey, Mrs. Crutchley. In front : Mr. John Skinner and Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Iris Davey, Mr. Peter Gray, Mr. Lewis Rowe.*



### Standing

*(left to right) :  
Mr. Jack Coleman,  
Mr. A. J. Foster,  
Mr. Fred Mottram.*

### Seated

*(left to right) :  
Mrs. Coleman,  
Mrs. V. M. Wingate,  
Mr. Leon Hopkinson,  
Mrs. Riden,  
Mrs. Mottram.*



*Left to right: Mrs. Eyles, Mr. Leo Twiney, Mrs. Mary Twiney, Mr. Mac Eyles.*

*Left to right: Mr. Bert Johnson (Rifle Butts) and Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Alf Wallington (Three Tuns) and Mrs. Wallington, Mr. Fred Hall (Transport), Mrs. Olive Wingrove (King George V), Mrs. S. Cathery (Beaconsfield Arms), Mr. Danny Pickett (Transport), Doreen Nichols, formerly of the Canteen, Mr. Charlie Turner (Transport).*





# The Cooperage • Reading



**T**HE Cooperage, a busy corner of the Reading Brewery, is one place where the changes wrought by time have been few. The craftsmen who work there to-day—twelve of them, including three apprentices—under Head Cooper H. Dines, use much the same methods to produce or repair the casks as did their predecessors when the Brewery was established nearly 200 years ago.

The experts claimed that shipbuilding and cask-making were sister-crafts, and

that both were dependent on a basic principle—the ability to bend and bind together sections of timber.

In the long history of the craft of the cooper, two centuries are but a short span. By Roman times it is claimed that cooperage was a perfected craft.

Some of the earliest references include that in Herodotus, who describes boats which he saw on the river at Babylon being used for the conveyance of wooden

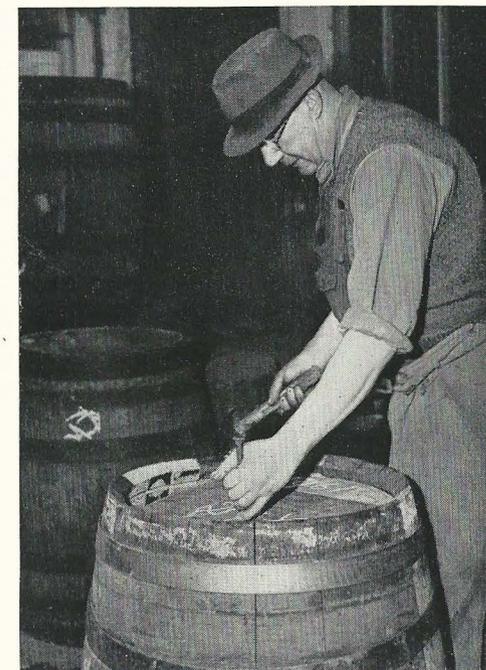
There was also at least one occasion in history when a product of this ancient craft helped to solve a problem which is still with us to-day—that of housing. Diogenes made his home in a tub rather more than three hundred years B.C.

Memel oak was for many years considered ideal timber for the making of beer barrels in this country, but with the main sources of supply situated behind the Iron Curtain, shipments of this timber have been few, and at present Persian Oak is regarded as a satisfactory substitute.

Timber for the Cooperage is carefully selected by Mr. Dines when shipments are received at the docks. After a period of seasoning at the Cooperage it is sawn to the sizes required. Then follow various processes including backing, hollowing and jointing of the staves for building up the shape of the cask.

*Branding Shed: "Burn" Canning (left) bushing a cask. Jack Knott (centre) painting the chimes of repaired barrel. Arthur Jones (right) branding and in the background Charge Hand Cooper, Edwin Carpenter.*

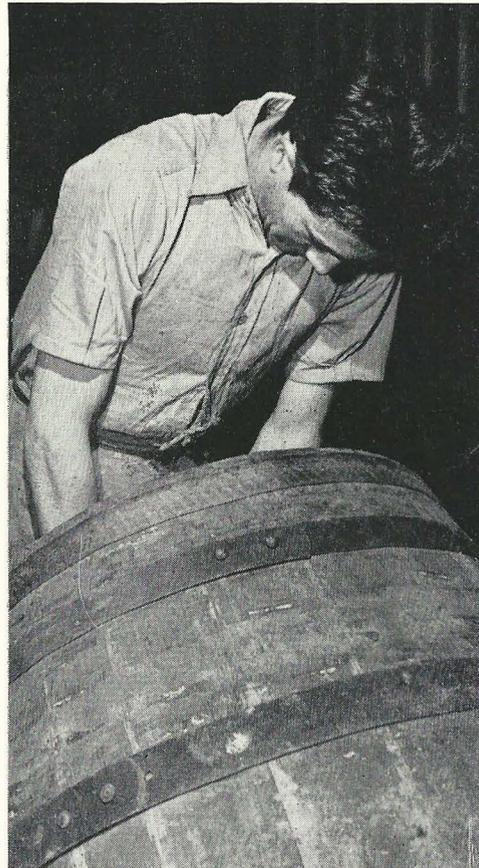
casks of wine, probably between the years 464 B.C. and 447 B.C., and in the Book of Kings, Chapter XVIII, in the Old Testament, it is recorded that Elijah said, "Fill four barrels with water and pour it upon the burnt-offerings."



*Frank Huddleston heading up (putting head in cask).*

Eventually the staves are set up, cone-shaped, with temporary hoops, and placed in a steaming oven. After the prescribed period of treatment, they are removed and up-ended on a platform. There, a windlass type of machine, which is one of the few modern developments of the craft, is used to draw the unhooped end of the barrel together ready to be hooped.

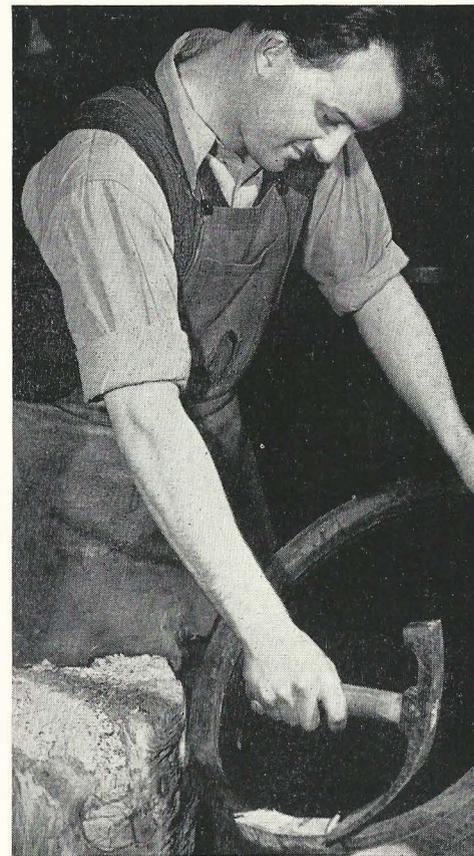
The cask is then put over a fire to "set," so that the staves will always retain their bulge formation. Then it is complete in the rough. The chimes are



Dave Venner shaving new staves inside a repaired barrel.

then sloped and a groove cut in each end of the cask into which the heads are made to fit. The cask is then ready for the final refinements and attention.

One of these refinements is the shaving of the inside of the cask, a process which as recently as a hundred years ago was not carried out. Until then the joints were drawn or just smoothed off. In those days beer was all from the wood, drunk in pewter pots and other vessels, and no one cared very much if it was bright or not. The chemist and biologist did not exist.



Les Rumbold adzing off (trimming) new staves just fitted to repair a cask.

The Silchester Collection in the Reading Corporation Museum includes several excellently preserved examples of Roman casks.

These interesting relics of the Cooper's craft include two wine barrels and sections of others which have been used to line wells in the Roman town of Silchester, now only a small village a few miles from Reading.

Roman casks made of fir or pine and wood-hooped, bear a scribe mark denoting the maker just as the cooper of to-day puts his house mark on his casks. They were made long and narrow, similar in shape to the wine cask of the present day as these figures show :

	<i>A Roman Cask.</i>	<i>A Port Pipe of to-day.</i>
Length :	5'	4'4" 11"
Head :	27"	23" / 24"
Bouge :	33"	34" / 36"
Capacity :	116/119 gals.	

Undoubtedly this shape was developed by the Romans as the most convenient for stowing in their shallow ships or galleys.

Then came the advent of Pasteur and his whole new conception of micro-organisms. Without the control exercised by the chemist, it would have been impossible to brew the successively lower gravity beers that have been made necessary by the demands of successive Chancellors of the Exchequer, besides the

sparkling bright ale which the public has now come to expect.

The effect on the cask of these changes has been that the inside surface must be absolutely shaven—leaving no possible danger-space for infection.

Having been headed up, bored, bushed, tested for measurement and tightness, branded, numbered and painted, they are ready for use.

"Father" of the Cooperage from the point of view of length of service is shop charge-hand Edwin Carpenter, who came there as a lad fifty-one years ago. Others of the healthy, happy-looking band include Frank Huddleston, who came from John May & Co., of Basingstoke, one of the breweries absorbed by Simonds just over five years ago : Ron Champion, whose



Courtesy of the  
Simonds family archives  
© SIMONDSFAMILY.ME.UK

Harry Hodges tightening up staves in a cask which has been repaired.

young brother-in-law, "Terry" Winterbourne, aged sixteen, has been one of the apprentices for nearly two years.

When I went there, "Ron" Stanton and another of the apprentices, twenty-year-old Maurice Butler, were at work on a new barrel. With the implements of their task in hand, they were performing what is sometimes referred to as "the war-dance." They circled the barrel, tapping the hoops in studied unison as they drove them into position.

A great deal of the work in the Cooperage is devoted to the repair of casks, which for obvious reasons have always to be kept in perfect condition. Evidence of the quality of the work produced here is the fact that despite the by no means careful handling which the casks receive in the course of their travels, the average length of life of a barrel is twenty to twenty-five years.



Harry Plank jointing a new stave for repaired barrel.

## Our new Vice-Chairman

**I**N the Chairman's address at the Annual General Meeting of the Company, he referred to the sad loss which the Company had sustained through the untimely death of Major G. S. M. Ashby, who had been connected with the firm since the early twenties, and was elected to the Board in 1931.

In his place the Chairman announced that the Directors had unanimously elected General Sir Miles Dempsey as Vice-Chairman. Sir Miles Dempsey, he said, had been a member of the Board for the past five years.

General Sir Miles Christopher Dempsey, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., was one of the British leaders during the recent war whose name became a household word.

He also had the distinction of being the only senior commander in any of the services to accept the surrender of both the German and Japanese armies.

His war career is well-known. What is lesser known is that his main interest, apart from soldiering, has been cricket, and he is reputed to have been good enough to play for any county side, and at one time batted No. 1 for the Army.

General Dempsey was born on December 15, 1896, and educated at Shrewsbury School and Sandhurst. He was commissioned in the Royal Berkshire Regiment in February, 1915, and had more than two years' active service on the Western Front, where he was wounded, and won the M.C.

Between wars General Dempsey passed through the Staff College; he commanded a company at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and held appointments of

Staff Captain at the War Office, Brigade Major in the Aldershot Command, and G.S.O.2 with the Union Defence Force in South Africa.

In September, 1939, he again went to France, now in command of the First Battalion of his regiment. Promoted Brigadier, he led the 13th Infantry Brigade of the 5th Division in the British counter-attack at Arras on May 21-23, and in the critical two days' battle on the Ypres-Comines Canal line.

For his services in the Dunkirk campaign, General Dempsey was awarded the D.S.O. Back in England he became Brigadier-General Staff with the Canadians under the Canadian G.O.C.-in-C., General McNaughton. From June, 1941, to December, 1942, he commanded first the 4th Division and then the 42nd Armoured Division.

Six weeks after El Alamein he arrived in Egypt as an Acting Lieut.-General to take over the 13th Corps, and prepared it for the Sicilian and Italian campaigns. He led his Corps throughout the Sicilian fighting and in the first stages of the conquest of Italy from the landing at Reggio in the extreme south to the river battles of the winter of 1943-44 on both coasts north of Naples.

In January, 1944, he became G.O.C.-in-C. British Second Army, then being constituted for the invasion of Normandy. In June he commanded the Second Army

in "the grim battle of the hinge" at Caen. He received the K.C.B. for his part in the Normandy campaign, and was created K.B.E. after the end of the European fighting.

In September, 1945, he went to the Far East as Commander-in-Chief of the 14th Army, and two months later was made Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces in South-East Asia. The following April he was promoted General, and appointed Commander-in-Chief Middle East. From 1946 to 1947 he was A.D.C. General to the King. In August, 1947, he retired from the Army at his own request.

In May, 1951, however, General Dempsey was called back to the War Office on a part-time basis to join and organise the defence of Great Britain as Commander-in-Chief of the U.K. Land Forces.

He is a Colonel of various regiments, including his own, the Royal Berkshire. He holds the Grand Cross of the Greek Order of the Saviour.



General Sir Miles Dempsey points out something of interest to the Prime Minister. Field Marshal Montgomery is on his left.



*Aperitif Bar.*

## *The Bear Hotel, Maidenhead*

REMODELLED AND RE-EQUIPPED

The Mayor of Maidenhead (Alderman W. H. Palmer) was one of the distinguished guests at a recent dinner and dance which celebrated the completion of extensive alterations and improvements at the Bear Hotel, Maidenhead.

The changes are principally the creation of an extremely attractive lounge with dance floor, aperitif bar with modern decor, and a new restaurant with easy access to the kitchen, has been added.

The lounge is exceptionally pleasant, with walls of lavender grey on a parchment undercoat, with tapestry banquettes patterned in a wine shade which is repeated in the heavy carpet. The carpet

is laid in sections with press studs so that the dance floor can be cleared in five minutes.

An important factor in the changes has been the introduction of specialists with varied backgrounds of Continental experience. They include Chef Tremontana, who trained in the cuisines of Italy, enhanced his reputation here at the Blue Boar, Cambridge, and the Great Central Hotel, Glasgow, and had the distinction of cooking for King George VI, when he was entertained by the Royal Berks Regiment. Mr. John Davis, son of Mr. H. C. Davis, manager of the Hotels and Catering Department, has taken



*Dining Room.*

charge of the elegant aperitif bar in the ballroom-lounge.

Management at The Bear is at present being undertaken by Mr. W. G. Rush, temporarily posted to Maidenhead from the Lockyer Tavern, Plymouth, which is in his charge. Mr. E. A. Nolan, who has been in command at The Bear in recent

months, is on leave, recuperating after illness.

Other improvements made possible by the remodelling of The Bear include a new residents' lounge, a telephone paging system and hot and cold wash-basins and electric fires in all guest bedrooms, the number of which has been increased to eighteen.



*Another view of the Aperitif Bar.*

# Mainly about People

Mrs. Langton has asked us to express her sincere gratitude to everybody who wrote to her, following her recent sad bereavement.

The letters of condolence she received were so numerous that she found it quite impossible to reply to them all, and would like everyone to accept this as an acknowledgment.

An appreciation of Cyril Langton appears on page 48.

\* \* \*

## Transfers from Bristol Branch

The change in status of Bristol Branch has resulted in the transfer of the following, to whom we wish every success in their new environment :—

To Messrs. Phillips & Sons Ltd., Newport :—

- MR. H. H. ROBERTSON, Brewer.
- MR. A. W. BOLD, Surveyor.
- MR. S. STEER, Engineer.
- MR. BROWN, In charge Cask Yard.
- MR. D. BUXTON, Office.

In addition, Mr. C. V. Churchward has left to return to his native Devonport, and Mr. M. Bennett to join the staff of Messrs. Arthur S. Cooper at Brighton, as Manager.

## New arrivals

We are happy to welcome the following new members of the staff who have joined us recently at Reading :—

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| MISS M. M. HERBERT | } Hollerith Dept.    |
| MISS J. STEWART    |                      |
| T. C. HAWKINS      | } Cask Department.   |
| W. R. HEYBOURNE    |                      |
| B. DARGIE          |                      |
| MISS J. KINGSTON   | } Laboratory.        |
| J. R. EDWARDS      | } Hotels Department. |
| MISS P. M. SEALEY  |                      |

The following employees have left our service :—

- |                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| MRS. P. HARDING,  | Accountants. |
| MRS. D. THOMSON,  | Hollerith.   |
| P. G. GRAY,       | Laboratory.  |
| MISS P. MARSHALL, | Hotels.      |

## People on the move

The following transfers of staff have taken place :—

- |                 |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|
| D. BEESLEY,     | Hotels to Accountant's Dept.                   |  |
| R. LAMBOURNE,   | Hollerith to Accountant's Dept.                |  |
| P. E. HAMMOND,  | Accounts to Secretarial Dept.                  |  |
| H. TURNER,      | Cask to Wine & Spirit Dept.                    |  |
| R. WHEELER,     | Secretarial to Accountant's Dept.              |  |
| R. J. LOVEJOY,  | Branch to Secretarial Dept.                    |  |
| R. A. SHEPPARD, | Clerk of Works to Swindon Branch.              |  |
| W. GERRY,       | Clerk of Works from Swindon Branch to Reading. |  |

Mr. D. Hart.

\* \* \*

## Promotions

Mr. V. S. MARTIN of the Accountant's Dept. has been appointed Chief Clerk to Arthur S. Cooper.

Mr. D. HART has been transferred from the Engineers' Dept. to Hotels Dept. as Office Manager.

Mr. C. SALTER—Foreman in Fermenting Dept. in succession to Mr. N. Crocker. Mr. Salter joined our staff nearly 30 years ago. He served in H.M. Forces from 1939-1945.

\* \* \*

## Retirements

Recent retirements at Reading included :  
 Mr. A. F. Weight of the Cooperage, after more than half a century of service (52 years, to be exact) ; Mr. T. Weedon (Brewery), 36 years' service ; Mr. P. Lakeland (Brewery Engineers), 32 years' service ; Mr. G. Searle, (Beer Cellars) and Mr. F. Browne (Cooperage), 27 years' service each ; Mr. W. G. Smith (BBL/Checker), 25 years' service ; Mr. F. S.

Freak (BBL/Stage), 10 years' service ; and Mr. T. Stillman (Wheelwrights), 4 years' service.

\* \* \*

## Weddings

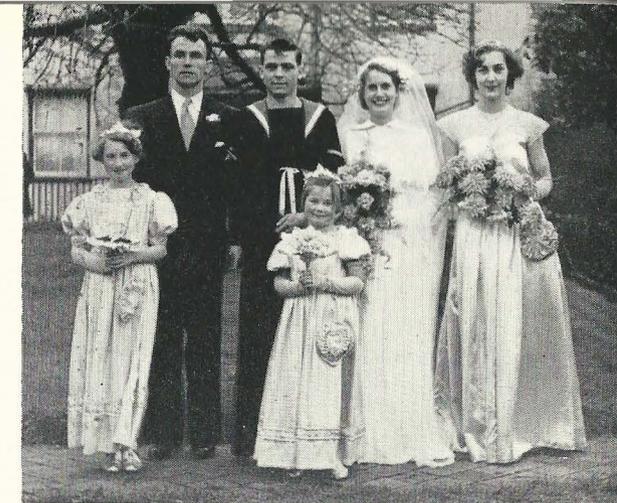
Congratulations and good wishes to :—  
 Mr. Alfred Tony Sara, a clerk in the Devonport Branch General Office, and Miss Phyllis Rosemary Robinson, of Plympton, who were married at Plympton St. Mary Church on November 22. Mr. Sara was presented with a clock from his colleagues.

Mr. W. R. A. Minchinton and Miss J. M. Malpass were married in January. They were presented with a clock from the staff of London Branch.

Mr. R. C. Carvill, a ledger clerk, and Miss Jean Clerk, a shorthand-typist, both of Bridgend Office, were married at Llanilid, Pencoed, on March 7.

Mr. W. Phillpott, Delivery Department, and Miss Linda Monk, Brewing Room, who were married at St. Mary's, Reading, on February 14. Mr. Phillpott was presented with cutlery from the Delivery Dept., and Miss Monk with a Wedgwood tea service from the Brewing Room.

Miss Barbara Lavelle, a shorthand-typist in Reading Correspondence Dept., and



Mr. George Young, of Kirkintilloch, Scotland, with his bride, formerly Miss Vivien Mayall, Correspondence Office Typist (Devonport Branch).

Mr. Norman Hockney, of Reading, who were married on February 14. Miss Lavelle received a presentation from her colleagues.

Miss Vivien Mayall, Correspondence Office Typist, Devonport Branch, and Mr. George Young, of Kirkintilloch, Scotland, at present stationed in Devonport in Her Majesty's Royal Navy, were married recently.

\* \* \*

## Training Course for Licensees

Congratulations are extended to the following, who have been awarded diplomas after taking the recent examinations of the Bristol and District Licensed Trade's Training Course for licensees :—

- Mr. R. Dix, Off-Licence, 1, Hill Street, Totterdown, Bristol.
- Mrs. SMART, Wife of the tenant of the Knowle Hotel, Bristol.
- Mr. TOWNSEND, Son of the tenant of the "Mason's Arms," Lawrence Weston.



Mr. W. R. A. Minchinton and his bride, Miss J. M. Malpass, after their wedding.

## London Branch Staff Party

London Branch held its first Staff Party, at Ardington Rooms, on Friday, January 9.

Guests of honour were Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Wake, representing Headquarters at Reading.

There was 100% attendance of indoor and outdoor staff, who, with their friends, were received by Mr. and Mrs. Penlerick.

Informality was the keynote of a most enjoyable evening, which included a Buffet Supper, Dancing and Party Games.

The catering arrangements were excellent, thanks being due to Mr. F. Luff, the Catering Manager. Mr. Luff is no stranger to Simonds' staff; many knew him when he was Catering Manager for Messrs. Bertram & Co., Ltd., on race-courses.

Mr. Penlerick, London Branch Manager, made a short speech welcoming the guests and thanking the staff for their whole-hearted support. He stated that he hoped the Party would be an annual event.

## Newport Dinner and Dance

The Newport clerical staff and their friends enjoyed a thoroughly successful dinner and dance at the Westgate Hotel, Newport, on November 20.

A number of parties travelled long distances to attend, including groups from Reading, Bristol and Bridgend.

After an excellent meal, the Chairman, Mr. W. G. Sweet, proposed the toast of "The Firm." Responses were made in

brief but entertaining speeches by Mr. A. Norman Phillips and Mr. E. Duncan Simonds, who both congratulated those who had worked hard to make the occasion a success.

Dancing subsequently was under the direction of Mr. Mel. Phillips, the M.C., to the music of the E.M.U. Dance Orchestra.



Mr. F. C. Neve, Miss M. Willetts, Mrs. Wiles, Mr. L. A. Wilson, Miss R. Symes.



Mr. A. E. Wake, Mr. S. M. Penlerick and Mrs. A. E. Wake.



Mr. R. Morley, Mrs. J. Sinclair, Mr. J. Sinclair and Mrs. R. Morley.

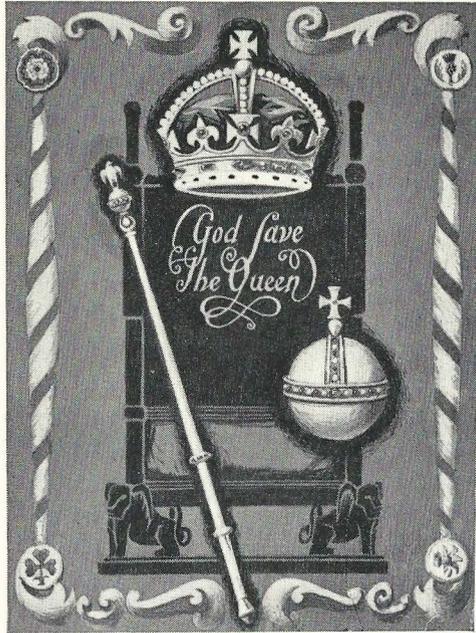


Two Happy Groups

The Directors and their wives together with members of the Committee



The Inn sign exhibited on the Coronation Inn at the Ideal Home Exhibition, Olympia which has, been acquired for our new Coronation Inn to be built at High Wycombe.



By the time this issue appears in print it is anticipated that at least half a million people will have visited the "Coronation Inn" at the Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia. Of these, very many thousands will have paid their first-ever visit to a "pub" and it will surely be only the most prejudiced and bigoted among them who



The "Coronation Inn," Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia.

## Ideal Home Exhibition—Modern Inn

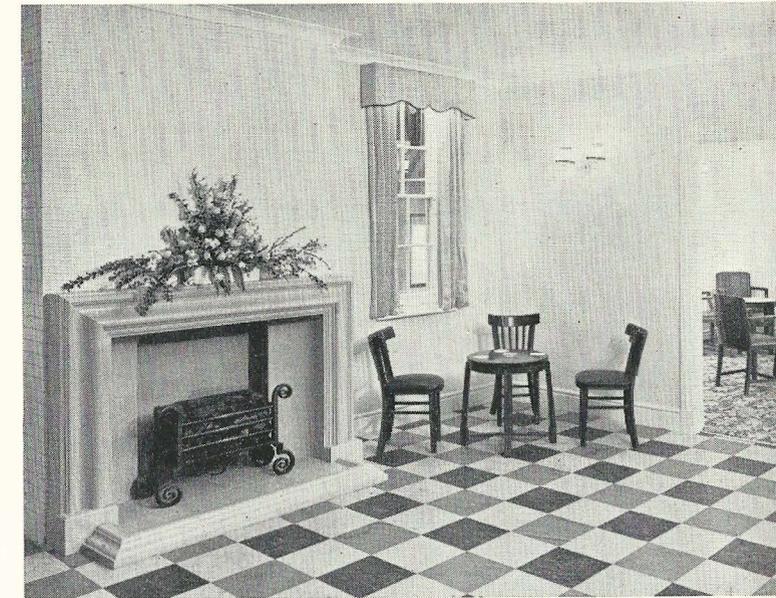
will not decide to repeat the experience as soon as possible by visiting the genuine article—their own "local."

The Coronation Inn was the exhibit of the Brewers' Society who attempted, very successfully, to demonstrate to a wide and varied public what was their conception of an ideal modern inn, erected on a modern housing estate, bearing in mind all the problems and prejudices of the day. Many will remember that at the same Exhibition last year, the Society exhibited the "Rose and Crown," a perfect example of an ancient village inn preserved for posterity under Brewer ownership. This received universal acclaim as the outstanding feature of the whole Exhibition, and it was only fitting that the Society should follow up its success by showing that Brewers are not only interested in preserving our wonderful heritage from the past, but also are willing and able to provide the amenities looked for of the public of to-day and of to-morrow.

The Coronation Inn has particular interest to "Hop Leaf" readers, as the Firm was closely connected with its planning and erection. The Architect of the Inn was Mr. J. C. Cardwell, remembered by many friends in the Company as our Architect for many years before the War. The furnishing adviser was our Mr. R. L. Howie, whose decorative scheme, in conjunction with Messrs. Gaskell & Chambers, was widely praised. A

member of the special Sub-Committee of three set up by the Brewers' Society to carry the project through was our Director, Mr. E. D. Simonds. Furthermore, the very beautiful sign painted for the Coronation Inn by Mr. Adams has been acquired by the Firm, and will shortly be erected at one of our Houses.

A beautifully illustrated booklet describing the Inn and giving examples of contemporary public houses was handed out at the Exhibition. "Hop Leaf" readers wishing to see this booklet will be supplied with one gladly on application to the Brewery at Reading or the nearest Branch.



The "Coronation Inn" Saloon Bar. A glimpse of the Lounge Bar is seen through the opening on the right.

# The King's Arms, Sandford

HISTORIC INN WITH BOAT RACE CONNECTIONS

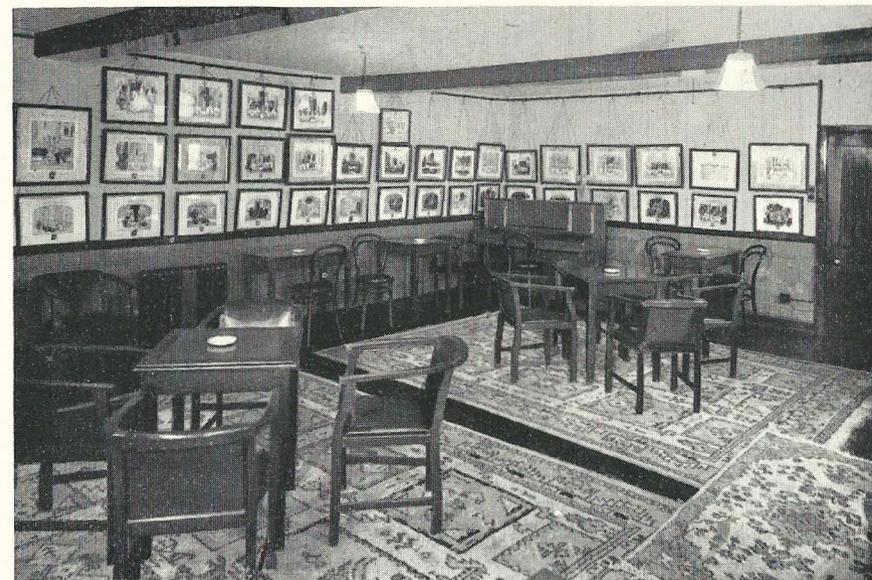
One of the most pleasant riverside inns in Great Britain is the King's Arms by Sandford lock on the Thames, three miles downstream from Oxford. This ancient house nestles under an old mill by a beautiful and peaceful stretch of river. It is a spot that the landlubber might well miss for it lies at the bottom of a little country lane a good ten minutes' walk from the main Oxford road.

The house, which was taken over by the Company in 1926 is very famous in rowing annals for its close connection with every Oxford University rowing eight since the first inter-varsity boat race of 1829. Indeed, it is generally accepted by rowing authorities that its strategic position has

had an enormous amount to do with the original popularity of rowing at Oxford and consequently with the origin of the famous annual event.

Its main claim to fame today is due to the fact that it houses the most extensive pictorial record of the Oxford boat race crews in existence. Long before photography was invented the Oxford crews used to row there regularly for suppers, and in 1869, when the first photographer set up business in the town, the landlord made sure that he secured a photograph of that year's crew.

Today there are 68 such groups decorating the walls of the lounge and they provide a most interesting sidelight



*The lounge with some of the photographs of the crews.*

on the changes of fashions in rowing attire. The early crews posed for their photographs in bowlers, later on boaters appeared, and in more recent years nobody except the cox wore any headgear at all.

The few gaps there are in this magnificent pictorial record are due to the two World Wars which interrupted the annual rowing tussle. The latest group in the collection is that of the 1946 crew. That year, in order that the crew might get to know each other well, they were instructed to spend every evening for six weeks at supper in the Inn. They became very well known to the regular customers who, after Oxford had won, entertained them to a Victory supper.

The present licensee, Mr. Jack Birt, who took over 19 years ago after retiring from his post with the publishers of the Oxford English Dictionary, is still trying to find group photographs of the Oxford crews of the past six years. All the photographs on the walls are specially posed groups

and whilst he can easily obtain action shots of the recent crews, he feels that it would spoil the look of the room if he used them. He hopes that some posed photographs were taken and is very anxious to lay his hands on them.

There is every reason to believe that there has been an inn at Sandford Lock since the Middle Ages and the connection between the inn and the young rowing gentlemen from the Oxford Colleges goes back long before the inter-varsity boat race began. On fine summer evenings, about 1800, crews used to row to the King's Arms for supper and then race back to Oxford. These "races back" eventually became organised until they have today become the famous bumping races.

It is not, of course, only University crews who use the facilities of the House. Several other local crews go ashore there for refreshments, and recently the House has become the Headquarters of the Oxford Ditch Cruising Club.



# Sports

## Devonport

### TORBAY "HOP LEAF" DARTS LEAGUE

	Games Played	For	Against	Points
Union Hotel ... ..	16	36	12	36
Country House ... ..	16	35	13	35
White Hart ... ..	16	27	21	27
London Inn ... ..	16	25	23	25
Gerston Hotel ... ..	16	24	24	24
Hole in the Wall ... ..	16	24	24	24
Park Inn ... ..	16	18	30	18
Rising Sun ... ..	15	13	32	13
Lord Nelson ... ..	15	11	34	11

### DEVONPORT SOCIAL CLUB FOOTBALL TEAM

After a somewhat lean period for the last two or three seasons, it is encouraging to report that the first eleven is well up the league tables this year.

#### Plymouth Combination Football League DIVISION I (East)

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Lee Moor ... ..	19	13	1	5	67	27	27
Portals ... ..	14	10	2	2	63	28	22
Simonds S.C. ... ..	11	10	0	1	65	19	20
Moorhaven ... ..	15	9	1	5	62	28	19
Lee Mill S.C. ... ..	16	9	1	6	52	34	19
Naval Stores ... ..	15	7	2	6	31	47	16
Sunjun United ... ..	15	7	1	7	47	41	15
Ward Athletic ... ..	11	7	1	3	40	22	13
Gunnery School ... ..	16	5	1	10	27	67	11
Wolseley Villa ... ..	17	4	2	11	32	50	10
Modbury ... ..	17	3	3	11	46	73	9
Tecalemit ... ..	13	1	2	10	19	62	4
Bandrums ... ..	11	1	1	9	12	64	3

#### Devon Junior Cup

Round 1 :	Hyde Park ... ..	0	v.	Simonds S.C. ... ..	8
" 2 :	Dockland Settlement	1	v.	Simonds S.C. ... ..	4
" 3 :	Simonds S.C. ... ..	4	v.	Virginia House ... ..	0
" 4 :	Simonds S.C. ... ..	3	v.	Chillaton ... ..	3
Replay :	Chillaton ... ..	1	v.	Simonds S.C. ... ..	4
Round 5 :	H.M.S. Raleigh ... ..	6	v.	Simonds S.C. ... ..	2

#### Plymouth Combination Cup

Round 1 :	Bye.		v.		
" 2 :	Simonds S.C. ... ..	4	v.	Plymtels ... ..	0
" 3 :	Wescon ... ..	0	v.	Simonds S.C. ... ..	1

## TRURO DARTS LEAGUE

The City Hotel darts team have won the Truro Darts League Championship this season, having lost only once in fifteen

games played. Final positions are as follows :—

	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
City Hotel ... ..	15	14	1	28
Royal "A" ... ..	15	11	4	22
Star "A" ... ..	15	10	5	20
Corporation ... ..	15	8	7	16

Royal "B" ... ..	15	6	9	12
Strand Rovers ... ..	15	5	10	10
Star "B" ... ..	15	4	11	8
R.A.F.A. ... ..	15	3	12	6

## Reading

The Hockey Season, now well under way, has brought its usual crop of cancelled matches and injuries. The cancellations have all been brought about by either the weather or the inability of our opponents to raise a team. We have at all times been ready to "take the field," and on the occasions when we have been unlucky

## HOCKEY

enough to be one man short, we have produced our best form and once even managed to win the game.

The team spirit is stronger now than ever before, and win or lose, we continue to fully enjoy the game and look forward to meeting each opposing team again next season.

### Results

Nov. 22nd, 1952	...	Army Apprentice School (Staff)	...	Away	Lost	0—3
" 29th "	...	Reading ... ..	...	Home	Won	5—3
Dec. 19th "	...	Y.M.C.A. ... ..	...	"	Lost	0—7
Jan. 3rd, 1953	...	High Wycombe	...	"	Won	4—3
" 10th "	...	Huntley & Palmers	...	"	Lost	0—2
" 24th "	...	Marlow ... ..	...	Away	Won	2—0
" 31st "	...	Ministry of Works	...	Home	Draw	1—1
Feb. 7th "	...	Wallingford ... ..	...	Away	Lost	1—7

Although the above results show an improvement on those in our last report, it must be stated in all fairness that our win over Reading Hockey Club was accomplished with the assistance of the Reading inside forward, Way, who turned out for the Brewery when we were a man short.

Our 2—0 defeat of Marlow, on the other hand, was well merited, as we were

playing away from home with only 10 men.

Our leading goalscorers at present are G. Beckett (7) and E. Jones (6).

The Club is still anxious to secure more members, and whether you are "fully experienced" or "willing to learn," we will be pleased to hear from you. Messrs. W. H. Philpott, J. Strudley, Delivery Dept., or S. R. Gray, Estates Dept., will give you any information you require.

## TABLE TENNIS CLUB

The Club is doing exceptionally well this season. The "A" team lead Division I of the Reading and District League and

remains unbeaten after 11 matches. Hopes are high that the much coveted First Division Championship Cup will be on

show in the Social Club when the season ends. The "A" team consists of: R. Wheeler (Capt.), A. Dines, F. Forrest. R. Wheeler, of the Secretarial Dept., is holder of the Reading Singles Championship Cup, and all three players have represented Berkshire.

The "B" team is also enjoying a successful season and at the halfway stage were lying third in Division IIIB. R. Brind, the youngest member of this team is playing remarkably well and has twice been selected for the Reading Youth's team in the Inter-Town Competition. This player's keenness is shown in that recently

at short notice he was required to play for the "A" team in an important league game at Henley, this being his first venture into this class of table-tennis. Missing the bus, he rushed home for his cycle, and cycled to Henley, arriving before the commencement of the match, very hot, and obviously tired. Although losing his games, he showed great promise for the future and it is hoped the experience will prove invaluable to him. R. Brind is a member of the Cask Department. The Secretary is Mr. K. G. S. Organ, of the Cashier's Department, at Reading.

Results of matches played to date Reading and District League

DIVISION I.				DIVISION IIIB.			
Wokingham ... ..	Away	Won	9-0	Sutton's ... ..	Home	Won	7-2
Y.M.C.A. "B" ... ..	"	"	9-0	Woodley ... ..	Away	"	6-3
Y.M.C.A. "A" ... ..	"	"	5-4	Wokingham ... ..	"	"	7-2
Y.M.C.A. "C" ... ..	Home	"	9-0	Co-op W. S. ... ..	Home	Lost	2-7
Huntley & Palmers ... ..	"	"	9-0	Ministry of Works ... ..	Away	Won	6-3
University ... ..	"	"	8-1	Earley ... ..	Home	"	7-2
Woodlands ... ..	"	"	9-0	Woodlands ... ..	Away	"	6-3
Wokingham ... ..	"	"	8-1	Rabson's ... ..	Home	Lost	2-7
Y.M.C.A. "B" ... ..	"	"	8-1	Pulsometer ... ..	"	Won	6-3
Henley "A" ... ..	Away	"	6-3	Sutton's ... ..	Away	"	6-3
Y.M.C.A. "C" ... ..	"	"	7-2	Co-op W. S. ... ..	"	Lost	0-9
Huntley & Palmers ... ..	Away	Won	7-2	Earley ... ..	Away	Won	6-3
Y.M.C.A. "A" ... ..	Home	Lost	3-6	Ministry of Works ... ..	Home	Lost	3-6
Henley "B" ... ..	"	Won	9-0	Woodlands ... ..	"	Won	5-4
Henley "B" ... ..	Away	"	5-4	Rabson's ... ..	Away	Lost	1-8
Woodlands ... ..	"	"	5-4				

The match played between Simonds "A" and Y.M.C.A. "A" created considerable interest, as these two teams occupy first and second positions in the 1st Division. Although Simonds lost

(their first defeat of the season), the score does not adequately sum up the balance of play; several of the games were lost by a mere point.

Swindon AND DISTRICT DARTS LEAGUE

Swindon and District Darts League, Bell and Shoulder "A" Team, who were last year's All England semi-finalists for the Lord Lonsdale Challenge Trophy, were

this year surprisingly defeated by the Albion Workmen's Club team during the fifth round of the Wiltshire Section contest.

Staines AND DISTRICT "HOP LEAF" DARTS LEAGUE

League Tables to February 12th, 1953

SECTION 1.	Played	Won	Lost	LEGS.		Pts.
				Won	Lost	
Three Horseshoes, Feltham "B" ...	10	9	1	27	3	27
Royal Horseguardsman, Brentford ...	10	8	2	21	9	21
Jolly Waggoner, Hounslow S.V. ...	12	8	4	20	16	20
North Star, Hounslow ...	10	5	5	15	15	15
Royal Tar, Brentford ...	10	3	7	15	15	15
Three Kings, Twickenham ...	10	4	6	13	17	13
Royal Albion, Hounslow ...	12	5	7	12	24	12
Jolly Farmer, Hounslow (S.B.) ...	12	3	9	12	24	12
Airman, Feltham (S.B.) ...	10	1	9	9	21	9
Jolly Farmer, Hounslow (Public Bar) withdrawn.						
SECTION 2.						
Barleycorn, Cippenham ...	12	10	2	28	8	28
Carpenter's Arms, Chertsey ...	12	9	3	23	13	23
Royal Oak, Addlestone ...	12	8	4	23	13	23
Nag's Head, Slough ...	12	6	6	20	16	20
Beehive, Egham ...	12	7	5	19	17	19
Bulldog, Ashford (P.B.) ...	12	6	6	19	17	19
Foresters Arms, Chalvey ...	12	5	7	14	22	14
Morning Star, Datchet ...	12	4	8	14	22	14
Turk's Head, Laleham ...	12	4	8	13	23	13
Catherine Wheel, Egham ...	12	1	11	7	29	7
SECTION 3.						
Rising Sun, Datchet ...	12	10	2	28	8	28
Shears, Sunbury ...	12	9	3	23	13	23
North Star, Slough ...	12	9	3	22	14	22
Royal Oak, Hampton ...	12	7	5	21	15	21
Phoenix, Staines ...	12	6	6	21	15	21
Load of Hay, Bedfont ...	12	6	6	16	20	16
Prince of Wales, Eng. Green ...	12	5	7	16	20	16
Wheatsheaf, Stanwell ...	12	4	8	15	21	15
Duke of Wellington, Bedfont ...	12	3	9	10	26	10
Prince of Wales, Feltham ...	12	1	11	8	28	8
SECTION 4.						
Rising Sun, Stanwell ...	12	11	1	26	10	26
Foresters Arms, Egham ...	12	8	4	23	13	23
Three Horseshoes, Feltham ...	12	8	4	23	13	23
Three Tuns, Staines ...	12	7	5	18	18	18
Jolly Waggoner, Hounslow (P.B.) ...	12	6	6	18	18	18
Bulldog, Ashford ...	12	4	8	17	19	17
Railway Hotel, Staines ...	12	6	6	16	20	16
Plough, Slough ...	12	5	7	16	20	16
Robin Hood, Egham ...	12	3	9	13	23	13
District Arms, Ashford ...	12	2	10	10	26	10

CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION

Across:—1. Barley, 5. Spile, 9. Eerie, 10. On, 11. R.P.A., 13. Landlord, 14. Rude, 16. Emit, 17. Tramps, 20. Lance, 21. Ale, 24. Pluto, 27. At, 28. Ominous, 31. Ant., 32. Bung, 33. Rly, 34. Ego, 35. Taproom, 37. Ecstasy, 38. An  
Down:—1. Barrels, 2. Reading, 3. Eel, 4. Yeast, 5. Sid, 6. Pellmell, 7. Lords, 8. End, 12. Puma, 15. Etching, 18. R.A., 19. Alps, 22. Bottoms, 23. Courts, 25. Tango, 26. Emu, 28. Oboe, 29. Inns, 30. Slay, 31. Aeon, 36. R.A.

## Hop Leaves

From Swindon Mr. W. G. Gerry, Clerk of Works, has left to take up a similar position at the Head Office, Reading.

Colleagues at Swindon presented Mr. Gerry with a kitchen clock.

Free Trade representative for the Swindon, area Mr. L. W. Buckingham, has also departed Reading-wards. He has accepted a transfer back to Reading to take up duties at Head Office.



Mr. V. Crawley, licensee for 26 years at the "Victoria Inn," Farnham Common, near Windsor, has with the aid of the Bucks County Archivist, partially at any rate, solved the mystery of the unsuspected presence of a memorial headstone buried under the drive at his premises.

Workmen repairing the drive unearthed the headstone inscribed "Charles Barkley, late Minister of this place."

Enquiries revealed that no minister of that name had ever been at Farnham Common, but at the County Archivist's Office at Aylesbury research revealed that at Upton-cum-Chalvey, which is more than 50 miles distant from Farnham Common, the Rev. Charles Barkley was the Vicar of the Parish from 1690 until his death in 1695.

The present Rector of Upton requested, when he was informed of the discovery, that the stone be brought back to Upton and this has now been done.

But how the headstone was brought to Farnham Common from Upton in the first place is still a mystery.



A gallon of beer was the prize won by a team of "tramps" in a darts match at the "Junction" Hotel at Andover on New Year's Eve.

The "Tramps" were members of the newly-formed darts club at the "Junction Hotel," and they had staged the event—a match against "The Rest"—as a New Year's Eve celebration and to stimulate interest in the darts club.

In addition to the realistic tramp costumes which they wore, many of these members carried "effects" which included a dead rabbit and a ferret, a string of bootlaces, bread and cheese, and the inevitable cans of tea. Many of them were unshaven.

Two more prizes consisted of an ounce of tobacco and a cheese sandwich, won by Mr. A. Redding, who was voted "the best dressed tramp," and a box of matches and a pickle sandwich, awarded to the runner-up, Mr. G. Bullen.



We welcome the return after absence on National Service of Mr. R. J. Lovejoy, reinstated in the Branch Department on December 1, and of Mr. R. W. Smith, who came back to the Cask Office on January 26.

Mr. D. G. Povey, of the Engineers' Department, departed on January 10 to fulfil the requirements of National Service.



A barometer and a walking-stick were presented to Mr. F. Stevens, of the Surveyor's Department, Staines, who retired on December 31. The presentation was made by Mr. N. H. Deane, Branch Surveyor.

Mr. Stevens was formerly a member of the Egham Fire Brigade and its captain for 18 years.



Two lighters—a table-lighter and a pocket-lighter—were presented to Mr. N. J.

Crocker, of the Fermenting Department, on the occasion of his recent retirement.

Mr. Crocker, who had completed 46 years' service with the Company, was presented with these gifts by Mr. E. M. Downes, the Brewery Director, who wished the recipient good health and every happiness on behalf of the Directors and fellow-workers.

"We thank him for all the good work he has done. We will do our best to keep that going," said Mr. Downes.



Entertainment on ice seems to be popular this year.

"Sleeping Beauty on Ice" at Wembley was the destination for a coach party organised by Mr. N. Lipscombe for the staff of the Correspondence, Estates and Surveyor's Departments, at Reading, and finished on January 14.

Another ice show, "Jack and the Beanstalk on Ice" at the Empress Hall, Earl's Court, was the venue on February 9, for a party from the Reading Wine Store and their friends. This coach trip was organised by Mr. R. L. Henson.



Nearly 60 years' connection with the "Catherine Wheel," Arlington, will end with the departure in April of Mr. H. G. Adams, licensee for the past 14 years, who is leaving in order to devote his time to the management of his 300-acre farm.

Previously, his father, Mr. George Adams, was licensee of the "Catherine Wheel" for 45 years.

Mr. T. McCardell, our former tenant of the "Pig and Whistle," Quenington, will be the new licensee.



Fireside chairs were presented to the three sisters, Miss Gertie Short, Miss Clara Short and Mrs. Mabel Ball, whose recent retirement from "The Iron Duke"

at High Wycombe has ended a family connection with the licensed trade at High Wycombe, which had extended for more than half a century.

Previously their mother, the late Mrs. Clara Short, had been licensee of "The Railway Tavern" at High Wycombe from 1898 until 1932 when she died. After her death the daughters succeeded her at "The Railway Tavern" in Crendon Street until it was closed in 1936. Then they transferred to "The Iron Duke" and most of their customers followed them.

Male assistance was scorned by the sisters, who managed "The Iron Duke" on their own and undertook all work, including cellar work, themselves.

More than two hundred customers gathered in the games room for the presentation and to bid farewell to the sisters who have been succeeded by Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Middleton, formerly of "The Crown," Lower Basildon, near Reading.



The Lord Mayor of Plymouth and the Lady Mayoress attended the Devonport Social Club's Children's Party, an annual event, at which nearly two hundred children were present at the Exmouth Hall, Devonport, on Saturday, January 3.

Another important visitor was Father Christmas, who distributed presents to every child at the party.

Entertainment prior to the tea was provided by Madame Sarah's Concert Party, and after tea a mobile cinema provided a programme which included Donald Duck and the Chimpanzees' Tea Parties.

Among those who helped to make the party the success it was were Messrs. Holman, Wright, Staveley, Penrose and Kinsman.



Prompt action by members of the staff prevented more serious damage when

fire broke out in the Bottled Beers Stores at Reading on March 5.

The fire started in the stock room and spread to a stack of cartons made up for the Coronation Ale. More than 3,000 cartons were damaged. Part of the roof of the building was also damaged.

The amateur fire fighters who were successful in checking the blaze included Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Barrett and Mr. Waterman. They had the blaze well under control when the local Fire Brigade arrived.

The fire was not without a humorous aspect.

Two of our doughty fire fighters still have red faces when their colleagues recall how these two each picked up an end of a hose and ran energetically to the scene of the fire. There they stood, hose in hand, shouting for the water to be turned on so that they could direct it on to the flames.

Several moments elapsed before they both realised that they were each holding the opposite ends of the same length of hose.

Customers at the "Town Arms," Brixham, presented Mrs. Mortimore, licensee for 25 years, with an electric kettle and a bedside lamp in the form of a miniature XXX beer barrel, upon her retirement in January.

The new tenants are old Brixham people, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Crang, and to them we extend a hearty welcome and our best wishes.

Tenant now of the Company for half a century, Mr. Attwood has been at the "New Inn," Thatcham, for 20 years.

Previously he was at "The Swan," Thatcham, for 11 years, and before that was for 19 years at the "Castle Inn," Cold Ash.

"It is noticed that bachelors transferred to London Branch do not long enjoy their status—we offer no comment," writes a correspondent reporting the marriage of Mr. W. Minchinton, a recent arrival to London Branch from Brighton Branch.

Their first child, a son (Richard Grenville), was born on January 6 last to Mr. and Mrs. H. G. R. Constable, of Arthur S. Cooper, Cirencester.

This is, incidentally, the first birth recorded in the Arthur S. Cooper group since it came into being.

A second son (Adrian Paul) has been born to Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Scott (Devonport Branch).

To both the proud couples our congratulations.

More than 200 guests spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening on January 30 at the "Pack Horse Hotel," Staines, where the Staines and London Branch held their first Annual Staff Dance.

The Organising Committee wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr. J. A. Chadwick, Manager of the "Pack Horse Hotel," for helping to make the function such a success.

Children of customers at the "Crown Inn," Lake Street, Oxford, were entertained to a tea party, followed by games and a film show at a local church hall, by Mrs. Butler, of the "Crown Inn."

Mr. P. E. Hammond, whose family has been connected with the firm for many years, has been appointed to the Secretarial Department at Reading.

Mr. Hammond joined the Company in 1934. He served in H.M. Forces from 1939 to 1946, and since his return from war service, has been mainly engaged on internal audit work.

## Obituary

*We deeply regret to record the deaths of:*

### EMPLOYEES

**Mr. F. L. Francis**, who died on December 9, at the age of 63, following a short illness. Mr. Francis was Senior Clerk at London Branch until his retirement early last year.

**Mr. H. Davis**, of the Delivery Office, Reading, who had completed 34 years' service, died at the age of 49, on December 23.

**Mr. G. Wells**, who died on January 13. Mr. Wells died after a brief illness. He joined the staff in April, 1942, in the "Sales" section of the General Office, and was subsequently transferred to the Records Office of the Bottled Beer Department.

**Mr. A. P. Tee**, of Arthur S. Cooper, who had been in the service of the Company since 1907, died on February 24.

**Mr. F. A. Joyce**, who died on December 19, at the age of 51. Mr. Joyce was Assistant Foreman, Beer Cellars, and was in our service for 25 years.

**Mr. G. W. Cook**, who died on February 5. Mr. Cook retired on pension in 1946, after 27 years' service as a painter in Building and Wheelwrights' Departments. He was well known in Reading for his public service in the town. He was a member of the Town Council for 20 years, and was made a Justice of the Peace in 1934.

**Mr. E. J. Brown**, who died on March 4. Mr. Brown was a painter in the Building Department and was with the firm for 22 years. He was keenly interested in all branches of sport, and had been umpire for "B" cricket team for many years.

**Mr. James G. Hoile**, who died on February 25. Mr. Hoile retired 29 years ago through ill-health, after 32 years'

service. He was employed in Branch Office as Clerk in Charge of Stationery and Shipping.

**Mrs. J. R. Palmer**, pensioned widow for 22 years of Mr. James R. Palmer, Drayman, died March 16, aged 88.

### TENANTS

**Mr. J. J. S. Collingbourne**. Mr. Collingbourne was tenant for many years of the "Bakers' Arms," Somerford Keynes.

**Mr. C. E. Yates**, who died on January 11, after a long illness. Mr. Yates was the tenant of the "Black Horse," Wroughton.

**Mr. R. ("Dick") Griffiths**, of the "Swan," Nibley. Mr. Griffiths' tenancy dated back many years, and he must have watched the development of nearby Yate from quiet village life to its present industrial position.

**Mr. E. G. Dudbridge**, of the "Gaiety Hotel," Christmas Steps, Bristol. Mr. Dudbridge had been in indifferent health for some time, but his passing was unexpected. Mr. Dudbridge took over the "Gaiety" just before the last war, and was there throughout the dark days of the Bristol blitzes, keeping together on those difficult days the trade he had built up in his quiet but effective way.

**Mr. E. A. Brown**, of the "Prince of Wales," Ashley Road, Bristol. He had been ailing for some time, but news of his death came as a shock to us. In earlier years he was a prominent soccer referee, and until quite recently he had been an active member of the Glos. F. A. Referees' Examining Committee.

**Mr. F. G. Haynes**, who for many years held the licence of the "Beaufort Arms," Crofts End. Ill-health compelled him to change to the Off-Licence

at 446, Stapleton Road, but his personality was responsible for such an increase in trade that he was again obliged to seek a more peaceful mode of life in retirement. This, however, was short-lived, and he passed away on January 14.

**Mr. G. T. Dicker**, tenant of the "Royal Oak," Bullbrook, who died on November 21.

**Mr. H. P. Dix**, tenant of the "Royal Tar," Brentford, who died on December 20.

**Mr. W. H. Spencer**, tenant of the "Tuns Hotel," Odiham, who died on December 20.

**Mr. T. F. Davies**, tenant of the "White Hart," New Haw, who died on January 4.

**Mr. E. W. Pearce**, tenant of the "Waggon and Horses," Twyford, who died on January 8.

**Mr. G. A. Harris**, tenant of the "Jolly Farmer," Lampton, who died on January 14.

**Mr. N. E. Cox**, tenant of the "London Tavern," Reading, who died on February 11.

**Mr. R. A. Stringer**, tenant of the "New Inn," Oxford, who died on March 10.

*Sincere sympathy is extended to the bereaved relatives.*

**DEATH OF MR. C. L. LANGTON**

***An Appreciation***

It was with deep regret that we learned of the sudden death of Mr. C. L. Langton on the 5th December last at the age of 42.

Our last edition was going to press at the time, and we were unable to give more than brief particulars.

On the day of his death he left the office, bidding his usual cheery good-night, and then, after retiring to bed at the normal time, had a heart attack and passed away as suddenly and tragically as his great friend, Percy James, had done 4½ years previously.

Mr. Langton joined the Company on leaving school in 1924, and worked his way through the Cask Office and Branch Department to the Secretarial Department. He was called to the Colours in 1940, and spent a great deal of

his Army service in North Africa and Italy. On demobilisation in 1946 he joined the Accounts Department, and two years later succeeded Percy James as Personnel Manager. He was selected for further promotion in 1950, when he was again transferred to the Secretarial Department, and on the retirement of Mr. F. C. Hawkes appointed Secretary of the Staff Salaries and Appointments Committee.

"Cyril," as Mr. Langton was affectionately known throughout the Brewery, was a most popular and hard-working member of the staff, and the Company has lost a loyal and devoted servant by his untimely death.

To his widow and daughter we extend our deepest sympathy in their grievous loss of a dear and devoted husband and father.

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*Hop Leaf Gazette*

PUBLICATION DATES

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The HOP LEAF GAZETTE will continue  
to be published quarterly :  
The Spring issue in April  
The Summer issue in July  
The Autumn issue in October  
The Winter issue in December

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