



HOP LEAF NEWS



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LADIES NIGHT AT THE SOCIAL CLUB

The Social Club branched out into a new venture, when it held its first Ladies Night on Friday, May 8th.

The programme consisted of a short film, followed by a display of the Hoovermatic combined washing machine and spin dryer. After refreshments, (the men made the tea), there was a Fashion Display of summer dresses by Messrs. Connors of Reading. The models were from the Grosvenor Fashion Agency and their hair was styled by the Maifayre Salon.

The evening, which was organized for the Social Club Committee by the Hon. Secretary was much enjoyed by the 130 lady members, members wives and girl friends who attended, and it is hoped that another similar evening can be arranged in the future.



The Grand Finale at the Fashion Display.

STAFF DANCE AT STAINES

The annual Staff Dance at Staines was held on Friday March 20th at the Pack Horse Hotel and proved to be a first class party. Mr. R. B. St. J. Quarry headed quite a big contingent from Reading, although the attendance as a whole was somewhat cut down by the influenza epidemic.

ALTERATIONS AT THE SPORTS GROUND

Considerable alterations are being made to the two pavilions at the Sports Ground in Berkeley Avenue. For many years past, there has been a need for increased changing accommodation, and so the Social Club Secretary duly sat down some time ago and designed some plans which, after approval by the Board, are now being put into effect.

A new kitchen is being built in the long pavilion, which will then house the tea room as well as the games room and the bar. This will leave space in the older pavilion for separate men's changing rooms for visiting and our own teams; hockey and football being catered for in the winter, and cricket and tennis in the summer. An additional ladies' changing room will also be provided; and referees and umpires will have somewhere to change on their own, which they have lacked in the past.

As a result of some redesigning, it will now be possible to lock each changing room individually without cutting off access to the showers and another useful asset will be a new store room for the equipment.

HOLIDAY TIME

Holiday time is with us again, and we wonder how many carefree husbands will be stopped in their tracks as they approach their destination by the tentative enquiry, 'I suppose I did turn off the oven before we left?'

Anyhow we thought a few tips for the holidaymaker might come in handy, so here they are.

First of all your house; is the electricity, gas and water turned off, and are all the windows and doors secure? Have you told the police that your house will be empty? Finally try not to lock all your keys inside so that you have to break in when you return!

What about the grocer, the

milkman and other tradesmen who call, and the daily newspapers? Have you made arrangements for your pets to be cared for?

It may save you something too if you insure your luggage before you leave, through Mr. Abraham in the Insurance Department.

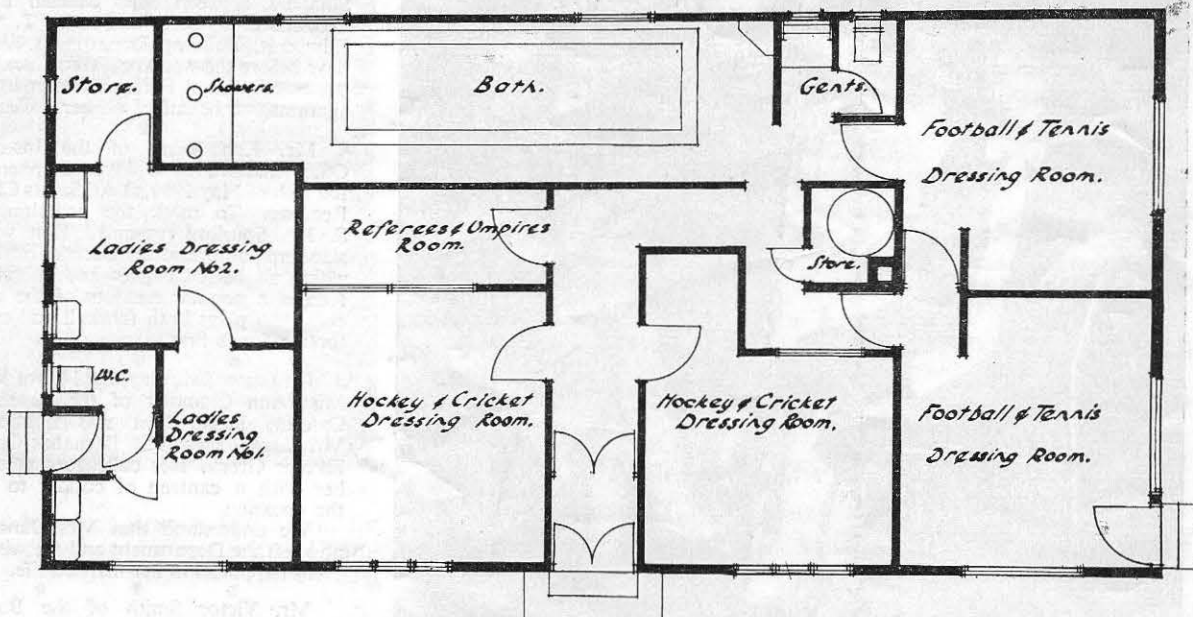
Once you are on your way, try to leave the country for others as you found it, by not leaving litter about or starting fires. Also try to remember the farmer, for whom a gate left open may spell disaster.

We wish you a happy and safe holiday, and if you come back with a story or photograph that you think might be worth publishing we will be pleased to hear from you.

DONT FORGET!

Sports Day, Fete and Horticultural Show

Saturday
15th August, 1959 at
The Sports Ground
Berkeley Avenue
Starting 2.30 p.m.



Plan showing the new layout of the Sports Pavilion

WEST COUNTRY DINNER AND DANCE

For the first time, the Annual Party for the staffs of the Plymouth, Penzance and Torquay Branches took the form of a dinner followed by the customary dance. The party was held at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel on Friday, April 24th, and some 250 persons sat down to an excellent meal, which included a choice of white wine, Tavern or Velvet Stout, and small presentation packets of cigarettes.

The attractively designed menu card caused a good deal of favourable comment, in particular the portrayal on the back of the recently reconstructed Tamar Brewery and Bottling Stores. This was the work of Mr. Hounsell of our Plymouth Surveyors Department.

Among the visitors from Reading, were our chairman General Sir Miles Dempsey, Mr. E. D. Simonds, Mr. A. E. Wake and Mr. E. D. C. Campbell. An opportunity was also taken to welcome Mr. A. J. Hawkins who had recently been appointed East Cornwall representative from Reading.

After dinner, Mr. J. E. G. Rowland proposed the toast to H. M. the Queen, and the Royal Family. He was followed by Mr. C. R. Holman, who proposed the toast to the firm. General Sir Miles Dempsey then made a short speech, which he concluded by presenting a Royal Worcester fruit bowl to Mrs. R. Maynard in recognition of her first class work as honorary secretary of the Staff Ball Committee.

Sir Miles also read out a telegram from Mr. R. E. Wright, assistant manager, wishing everyone a happy evening. Mr. Wright was unfortunately prevented from attending due to the illness of his wife.

When dancing began, a further 120 tenants, managers and their friends joined the party, which lasted until 1.00 a.m. Music was provided by Les Watts and his Band, and the M.C. during the evening was Mr. Montagu Hunter, who is tenant of the Clarence Hotel, in Plymouth.

Long before the end, it was apparent that the party was a resounding success and full credit for this must be given to the organising committee and to the management and staff of the Duke of Cornwall.

FESTIVITIES AT NEWPORT

This year's party at Newport held on April 3rd, at the Kings Head Hotel, took the form of a dinner and dance, and was attended by some two hundred of our staff and their friends, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

An excellent dinner, served with commendable efficiency, was followed by brief speeches from Mr. S. C. Saunders, General Sir Charles Allfrey and Mr. W. P. Cripps.

Music for dancing afterwards was provided by the well known Newport Dance Band directed by Gerry Stephens.



Some cheerful partygoers at Newport.



A group taken at the West Country Dance.

Photo Jacks Looe.

WEDDINGS

Miss Joan Minall of the Hollerith Department married Mr. H. W. J. Smith on the 28th of March 1959 at St. Lukes Church Reading. Miss Minall chose a pink Lloyd Loom bedroom chair as a gift from her friends in the department.

On April 4th 1959, Miss Doreen Giles who has been with the Hollerith Department since May 1955, was married to Mr. B. Hatton at Christchurch, Reading. Miss Giles received an iron and ironing board as a present from the staff of the department.

Miss Yvonne Kears was married on April 4th 1959 to Mr John Stone at All Saints, Reading. Miss Kears, who has been with the Hollerith Department for nearly six years, was presented with a tea service by her colleagues.

On March 21st 1959, Miss Joyce Corbin of the Hollerith Department married Mr. Raymond Roberts, of the Brewery Engineers Stores, at St. Peters Church, Earley. Miss Corbin received a dinner service and table spoons from her friends in the department, and Mr. Roberts was given a radio by his colleagues.

On May 2nd 1959 Mr. Reg Norkett, of the Architects Department, married Miss M. Rumble at St. Peters Church Caversham. Reg's colleagues gave him a light oak book case with their best wishes for future happiness.

Miss D. A. Sumner of the Wages Department was married on Saturday, June 6th to Mr. Brian Bennett at Christchurch, Reading. Her colleagues presented her with an electric kitchen clock and a table lamp. The bridesmaids were Miss D. A. Bennett of the Free Trade (Branches) Dept., and Mrs. D. H. Hatton of the Sales Accounts Dept.

The marriage took place on Saturday March 28th 1959, at St. Mary's Church Shinfield, between Miss Marian Lucas, Production Office, and Mr. T. A. J. Edmonds, Building Department. A few days before the wedding, Miss Lucas was presented with a Fyreside heater by Mr. Watkins, on behalf of all her colleagues.

Mr. Ken Ward of the Insurance Office married Miss Joyce Stephens on the 16th of May 1959, at All Saints Church Reading. To mark the occasion, Mr. S. H. Spurling presented Ken with a standard lamp and an electric kettle for which all his colleagues had subscribed. Ken is a popular member of the sports club, and plays both football and cricket for the firm's first team.

On Easter Saturday, the 14th of March Miss Ann Chandler of the Hotels and Catering Department was married to Mr. David Janes at St. Barnabas Church, Emmer Green. Her colleagues presented her with a canteen of cutlery to mark the occasion.

We understand that Mrs. Janes has now left the Department and we wish her every happiness in her married life.

Mr. Victor Smith of the Building Department married Miss Sylvia Collins on March 28th 1959 at Christchurch, Reading.



Mr. and Mrs. Stone after the ceremony.



Mr. and Mrs. H. W. J. Smith and attendants.



Mr- and Mrs. Roberts share a wedding toast.



Mr. and Mrs. Edmonds leave the church.

A PRESENTATION BY THE CHAIRMAN

Before the Board Meeting on April the 20th 1959, the Chairman, General Sir Miles Dempsey, presented Mr. Alfred Tigwell, Wine Stores Foreman, with a gold watch in recognition of 50 years of loyal service with the company.

Mr. Tigwell, who started as a label boy, has served under five managers. He enlisted in 1914, and as a Corporal in the Machine Gun Corps was awarded the D. C. M. for gallantry in action on the Somme. On returning from active service he soon made his mark, and, after being in charge of the Bonded Warehouse work, became Cellar Foreman in 1937. During the last war, Mr. Tigwell was a member of the Brewery Fire Watching Service, and was one of the few left to help carry on during this difficult time. Since then, he has taken an active part in the tremendous expansion and modernisation of the department.

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Congratulations to Mr. E. H. L. Kemp, one of Newport's Brewers, who retained his seat on the Newport Borough Council at the recent elections. Also to Mr. A. W. Moss of Arthur Cooper who won a seat on the Reading Borough Council.

Congratulations also go to:

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Harrison, on the birth of a second daughter, Patricia, on March the 8th. He is Chief Chemist at Reading.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wells on the birth of their first child, a son Michael Paul, on May 10th. Fred is in the Managed House Accounts Department.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Wrixon of our Ludgershall Branch on the birth of a fourth daughter on April 17th.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Oliver of our Newport Branch on the birth of a son on June 2nd.

On the occasion of his retirement after 36 years with the Company, Mr. C. Wootton, of the Transport Staff, Plymouth Branch, was presented with a fireside chair by Mr. C. R. Holman, Plymouth Area Manager.

On the 31st of March 1958, Mr. Frank Roeser retired after serving the Company for thirty nine years as a representative. His colleagues at our London Branch chose the first anniversary of this date to entertain him to a 'stag' party. The programme started with a call at Camberwell to pick up Mr. Roeser, and to present Mrs. Roeser with a bouquet of flowers. An excellent lunch was then taken at the Ardington Rooms, after which the travellers took over, and Mr. Roeser was right royally entertained to a West End show and late supper.

Older readers will probably remember Mr. Roeser's father-in-law the late Mr. 'Bill' Miller, who was also a representative with the firm.

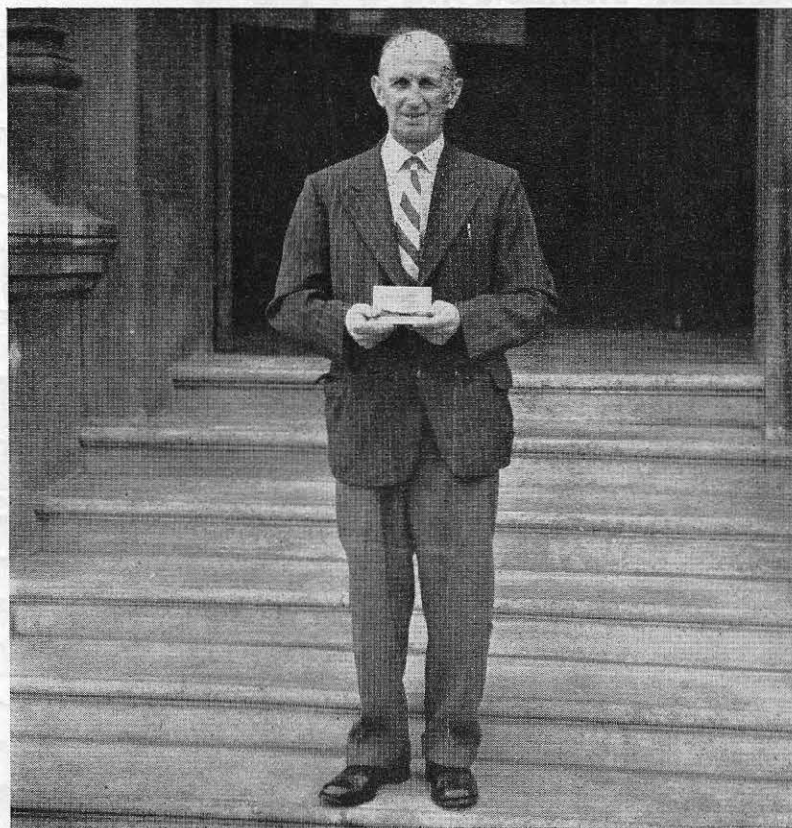
Michael Ellis, apprentice carpenter in the Building Department, was selected to represent Reading Technical College at the Annual Southern Counties Craft Competition held at Bournemouth on Saturday 13th June.

IN THE SWIM



Miss Diane Davies, 18 year old clerk at Newport Branch first swam for Wales in October, 1958 and has been training hard for the British Championships which are being held at Derby Baths, Blackpool on the 31st August to the 5th September.

We wish you luck Diane!



Mr. Alfred Tigwell pictured with his gold watch

FISHING CLUB

At the Fishing Club A. G. M. on Friday 29th May, the following officers were elected.

Chairman - Mr. C. Grover

Secretary - Mr. D. Fry

Match Secretary - Mr. A. Aliwood

STAFF CHANGES

READING

New Employees

We welcome the following newcomers to our ranks, and wish them happiness in their work with us:-

Miss M. Davies—Sales Accounts
C. J. Tubb—Accounts Dept.
G. Williams—Cask Office
Mrs. A. S. Rowntree—Stocktaking
Miss V. Davies—Sales Accounts
Miss C. J. Pounds—Sales Accounts
Mrs. D. M. Amos—Sales Accounts
Miss J. M. Binley—Sales Accounts
Mrs. M. Robbins—Sales Accounts
Miss J. L. Taylor—Sales Accounts
Mrs. H. Fennell—Sales Accounts
Mrs. T. A. Kemp—Architects Dept.
Mrs. I. A. Colville—Sales Accounts
Mrs. H. Waterman—Delivery Office
Miss C. Pettit—Sales Accounts
Miss C. A. Rickards—Personnel
Mr. J. H. Ray—Surveyors Dept.
J. Tungate—Delivery Department

Welcome back after service with the forces:-

B. A. Knott—Accounts Dept.,
G. F. Stevens—Delivery Office
C. E. Gwilliam—Accounts Dept.,

Transfers:

Miss J. Cunningham—Sales Accounts to Accounts Dept.
A. E. Tollervy—Delivery Department to Surveyors Dept.
R. Parry—Staff Trainee, to Architects Dept.
A. J. Hawkins—Estates Dept. to Devonport (Representative)
H. K. White—Free Trade (Reading) to Estates Dept.
D. Howard—Staff Trainee to Free Trade (Reading)
A. L. Wood—Architects Dept. to Estates Dept.
D. Wardle—Surveyors Dept. to Building Dept.

BRANCHES

New Employees

We also welcome the following newcomers to Branches, and wish them every happiness:-

Miss W. J. Clements—Devonport
Miss G. C. Jayne—Devonport
D. A. Butler—Devonport
Miss P. Smith—Staines
Mrs. O. L. Spire—Staines
H. K. Hearn—Bristol

G. A. D. Evans—Bristol
Mrs. M. Hanbury—Portsmouth
D. L. Davies—Bridgend
Miss E. Godding—Bridgend
Miss D. Pike—Ludgershall

Appointments:

R. P. Owens—Devonport appointed as Representative
A. C. Willcocks—Penzance, appointed as a Representative.

MANUAL STAFF RETIREMENTS

The following members of the manual staff have retired, and we wish them good health and happiness in their retirement.

Reading (On 26th June 1959)

E. P. Blackford (Night Watchman) after 51 years' service.

Newport (On 30th April 1959)

S. J. Mogford (Cask Washing Yard) after 10 years' service

Staines (On 12th June 1959)

J. Cooper (Beer Cellar) after 37 years' service.

SPORTS REVIEW

MAYOR OF SWINDON AT SPORTS GROUND

We were honoured by the visit to the Sports Ground, Berkeley Avenue, of the Mayor of Swindon on the occasion of the annual football match between Reading and Swindon Youths. This is the first time we have presented this game, as in other years the match has been played on the ground of one of the Professional Clubs of the two towns.

We were also pleased to present once again the play off for Division IV of the Reading and District League.

FOOTBALL

Bridgend-Newport

On Good Friday in ideal weather a coach filled with the Newport team and their supporters left Newport to avenge the defeat inflicted by Bridgend on St. David's Day.

In a keenly contested game where speed and hard tackling were very much in evidence, both sides gave an excellent account of themselves.

During the first half Newport took the lead through J. Mullins who headed home a goal from a corner kick taken by L. Stokes -Newport Captain.

Bridgend pressed hard in the second half and in the closing stages, D. Morgan, Bridgend's inside right, headed a goal to equalise and bring the game to a fitting climax.

After an excellent high tea provided by the ladies of the Bridgend staff, both teams and supporters adjourned to the 'Fox and Hounds Inn' St. Brides near Bridgend, where a thoroughly enjoyable evening's entertainment was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Elvidge.

Before the Newport contingent departed, Mr. C. Billing thanked Mr. 'Tommy' Jones and the members of Bridgend staff for giving the Newport Branch an excellent and much appreciated day out.

Reading Report

The football season is well behind us now, and we can look back at last year with reasonable satisfaction, but not with complacency. The first team finished fourth from bottom in their first season back in the Premier Division of the Reading and District League. However, if they had won two more matches they would have finished in the top five, so that they were not far behind the leaders.

The strength of the reserve side was depleted for many of their last games, and their mid-season promise was not fulfilled, their league position showing no improvement on the previous season.

We now look forward to the new season, when we hope that one or two of our former players will return to give us a helping hand.

TENNIS

The League teams have had a successful start and the tournament is well under way, with Finals Day on Sunday, 26th July. Results will be published in our next issue, and

the presentation of the Trophies will take place at the Social and Dance due to be held after the American Tournament on Sunday, 30th August.

CRICKET

We were sorry to lose John Hawkins at the beginning of the season, on his appointment as Representative at Devonport. His place as Captain was taken by Richard Sawdon Smith with Tommy Bowker as Vice Captain. Bill Greenaway is Captain of the 'B' Team and Vincent Warner is Vice Captain.

The Annual Dinner and Dance will be held on Friday September 25th at the Grosvenor House Hotel. Here are this season's results up to time of going to press:-

'A' Team

Saturday May 9th 1959
Simonds 'A' 74 (BEDDING 40, SHEPHERD 13.)
Shiplake 109 for 9 dec.

(BEDDING 4 for 20)
Won by Shiplake by 35 runs.

Saturday May 16th 1959
Simonds 'A' 99 (MERRYWEATHER 70)
Courages 100 for 9 (SMITH 4 for 23)
MERRYWEATHER 3 for 25)

Won by Courages by 1 wicket
Sunday May 17th 1959
Burberrys 124 (MERRYWEATHER 6 for 46)
Simonds 'A' 58 (MERRYWEATHER 29)

Won by Burberrys by 66 runs
Saturday May 23rd 1959
Simonds 'A' 135 (SMITH 30)
Newbury 2nd XI 53 (BEDDING 4 for 16)

Won by Simonds 'A' by 82 runs
Saturday May 30th 1959
White Waltham 140 for 4 dec. (BATSON 2 for 21)
Simonds 'A' 129 for 8 (MERRYWEATHER 39, SHEPHERD 34)

Match drawn

Saturday June 6th 1959
Simonds 'A' 27
Reading Aerodrome 28 for 1
Simonds 'A' lost by 9 wickets

Sunday June 7th 1959
Old Paludians 111 (MERRYWEATHER 4 for 18, WARD 3 for 29)
Simonds 'A' 89 for 4 (WHITE 40 not out, LOADER 20)

Match drawn

'B' Team'

Saturday May 9th
St. Sebastian's 79 for 2
Simonds 'B' 78

Lost by 8 wickets

Saturday May 16th
Simonds 'B' 46
Didcot 133 for 7 dec. (V. Warner 5 for 60)
Lost by 87 runs

Saturday May 23rd
Southern Electricity Board 92 (V. Warner 5 for 42, P. Harper 4 for 28)
Simonds 'B' 143 (V. Warner 28, W. J. Greenaway 21, E. Barrett 21, T. Hawkins 27)

Won by 51 runs

Saturday May 30th
Simonds 'B' 75 for 4 (D. Wardle 34 not out, G. Shiel 20 not out)
Borocourt 74 (V. Warner 6 for 45, P. Harper 4 for 28)

Won by 6 wickets

Saturday June 6th
Simonds 'B' 55 for 5 (V. Warner 33 not out)
St. Sebastian's 141 for 2 dec.

Drawn - rain stopped play

NETBALL

The league programme is now complete and the team finished fourth in the table, which is quite satisfactory for the first season. During the summer the club will be playing friendly matches and in Rallies. In the Henley Rally on the 30th May the team did extremely well; had they won one more match they would have reached the final. We congratulate Marion Aitkens on being elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Reading Youth Netball League.



Some carefree members of the Reading Transport Staff relax outside a cafe in Boulogne

TRANSPORT OUTINGS

READING

This year the transport department decided to break new ground by going to Boulogne, so at the early hour of 6.32 a.m. on June 6th, the party was to be seen boarding a train at Reading Station. The journey to Folkestone was uneventful, apart from a hold-up at Ashford due to a faulty engine. However, the party embarked on the S.S. 'Isle of Thanet' on time, and before long found themselves across the channel and on French soil.

The party split into small groups, some going on tours to the British War Cemeteries, others

exploring the town with its interesting little cafes and restaurants, all in the end making their way to the open market where many purchases were made.

Despite language difficulties and one or two adventures-as when one member was irresistibly tempted to take a souvenir in the shape of a fresh mackerel, and was pursued by irate fishermen-the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Everyone re-embarked at about 5.00 p.m. and the trip was rounded off by a perfect channel crossing, followed by a sing-song in the train.

NEWPORT

On Saturday, 30th May 1959, the Transport Staff of Newport Branch, with Mr. George McManus in charge of arrangements, spent a very pleasant day in London. All tastes were catered for with visits to various places of historical and romantic interest, and some members of the staff were lucky enough to receive tickets for the Harry Secombe and other T.V. shows.

In the evening the majority of the staff invaded, by arrangement,

the Central Social Club at Holborn, and experienced a most enjoyable evening of entertainment with an ample supply of palatable refreshments.

The day went all too quickly and quite a few members were back in Newport before they realized it. In view of the success of the 'day out' Mr. G. McManus has already been approached to make next year's outing an equal success, and it has been suggested that it be a trip to Blackpool.

DELEGATES CUP-THIRD SUCCESS

On the 16th of April we were pleased to hold the annual social gathering of Delegates of the Reading and District Clubs Darts League at the Social Club. During the evening, Bill Parrish and Stan Fullick, both of the Transport Department, reached the final of the Delegates Cup. On the 21st of May, at the League Finals, they won the cup for the third year in succession.

OBITUARY

We deeply regret to record the deaths of:-

F. WARNER, on March 6th 1959 at the age of 74. He had served the Company for 35 years and was in the Building Department before he retired.

W. SMITH, on March 20th, 1959 at the age of 64. He had been a member of the Bottling Staff at Staines for 12 years, and before that had been employed by Messrs. Ashby's since the age of 13, apart from service with the R. A. S. C. during the first World War.

G. SMITH, on April 22nd 1959. He was Foreman Maltster at Newbury, and had over 30 years service with the Company before he retired.

H. MAY, on April 26th 1959, at the age of 77. He had been with the Company for 45 years in the Scalds Department before retirement.

G. SMITH, on May 5th, 1959 aged 77. He had 34 years service with the Company, most of which had been spent at Portsmouth, only the last 8 before his retirement being spent in the Delivery Department in Reading.

E. H. HOLE, on May 14th 1959, aged 66. He was in the Scalds Department before retiring, and served the Company for 27 years.