



# HOP LEAF NEWS



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## 824 SQUADRON "ADOPTED"

Members of the staff will no doubt be interested to hear that the firm has "adopted" 824 Squadron, Royal Navy, and that the Squadron's aircraft will shortly be carrying the Hop Leaf emblem.

The Squadron which is stationed at R.N.A.S. Cudrose, Cornwall, was commissioned on November 3rd this year and is equipped with six Westland Whirlwind Helicopters. Its complement is about fifteen officers and seventy-five men, which includes an American Officer, Lieut. R. Miller, who is attached for two years.

Lieutenant-Commander Frank Steel, the Squadron Commander, says that it is rather early days to look too far ahead, but that present plans include training at Cudrose and Portland prior to embarking in an aircraft carrier early in the New Year. Part of next year will probably be spent in the Mediterranean.

It is hoped that the "adoption" will lead to an exchange of visits between the Squadron and our firm and, no doubt, some friendly competition on the sports field.

It is reported that several of the Squadron are already well qualified members of the "Doghouse Club", and that sales of 'S.B.' and 'Tavern' in Cornwall have lately shown an upward trend!

## TAMAR OUTING TO PORTSMOUTH

The rivalry of Naval Ports was resumed on Saturday, the 17th October, 1959, when, after an interval of fourteen years, relegated Portsmouth met Plymouth Argyle in a Second Division match at Fratton Park.

Interest in the "Pompey-Pilgrims" clash inspired Mr. C. Lawley, the Transport Foreman at Devonport to organise two coaches of supporters from the Brewery, together with a few followers from the *Sydenham Arms* and the *Tandem Inn* to make the long journey to Portsmouth for the week-end.

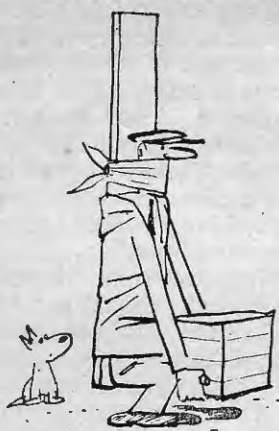
Through the good offices of Mr. and Mrs. G. Callaghan, who very kindly arranged accommodation for the party at the *Salisbury Hotel*, Portsmouth, the week-end was a great success, despite Argyle's failure, and variable weather.

After the match the party met Mr. Callaghan, our ships' representative at Portsmouth, and his wife, and expressed their thanks in an atmosphere of warm conviviality, the pleasure of the week-end being completed by a reunion with former Plymouth colleagues, Messrs. Wyatt, Shiel and Howard, who made the journey by road from Reading.



A picture of the Service which formed part of the Commissioning Ceremony of 824 Squadron.

## DO YOU FALL ASLEEP IN FRONT OF THE T.V. SET?



STRAIGHT BACK, CHIN IN

Correct handling eases effort

Do you suffer from exhaustion, backaches, strains or tired muscles? Do you think that you have rheumatism, fibrositis or a slipped disc? In fact do you find life altogether a bit of a strain? Our illustrations show two points which could improve your health and perhaps stop a nasty accident. They apply both at work and at home, in the Brewery, or in the garden.

Back muscles are not meant to do heavy work, and a straight back prevents strains and damage. Always lift with the legs, standing with feet apart, with your front foot pointing in the direction you intend to go. Feet together can cause a rupture.

It is unsafe and takes twice the effort to hold a load with the finger tips. You will feel the difference if you use the palms of your hands and keep your arms close to the body.

More accidents occur in industry during the handling of goods than in any other single activity. A high proportion of these are back injuries caused through incorrect lifting or handling. Don't just think it couldn't happen to you. Correct handling at all times will make sure it doesn't, and you may even have enough energy left to watch the television programmes right through.



GRIP WITH THE PALMS

Correct handling eases effort



All ranks of 824 Squadron (including their mascot) pose for a Commissioning Day photograph.



# A CHRISTMAS PAGE

## SPIRITS OF CHRISTMAS

by GEOFFREY HUMPHREYS

Although we look upon Christmas as a season of goodwill it also has many ghostly associations. In fact, some of our present day festive customs are said to originate from the fears our pagan ancestors felt concerning the evil spirits said to be active at this time of the year.

The happy custom of kissing beneath the mistletoe dates back to when this parasite plant was believed to have the power of warding off evil. It became customary to hang a sprig of mistletoe over outside doors to keep out the evil spirits of the woods. The kiss was a token of welcome to a spirit-free house.

Even the Christmas cracker is linked by some with fear of ghosts. The bang made by the saltpetre strip is said to have the same effect on unwelcome spirits as special instruments of noise used by pagans to scare ghosts away.

It is also cynically believed in certain quarters that the reunion of families at Christmas-time is a legacy from our spirit-fearing ancestors. At this time of year they thought there were spirits all around waiting to strike them, and their only comfort was to gather together, hoping that they would scare off the ghosts by strength of numbers.

Whatever the deep originating cause, ghosts have become as much a part of the Christmas scene as holly and mistletoe. Charles Dickens, who was so fond of the traditional Christmas, also introduced Marley's ghost to the world in "Christmas Carol". This story with its spirits of Christmas—past, present and future, remains a favourite even today, and has contributed a great deal to the ghostliness of the festive season.

There are stories of Christmas ghosts all over the country. The place with the highest wraith population is Windsor Castle. Here there are reputed to be no less than twenty-three Christmas visitors who are out of this world. It is also interesting inasmuch as it is the only royal residence haunted by former monarchs. These take the form of Elizabeth I, Charles I and George III.

Over the past 200 years the ghost of Charles I has been seen during Christmas-time in different parts of the castle by numerous people, ranging from the ruling monarch to the lowliest servant.

The ghost of Elizabeth I is dressed in a black robe, with a black veil over her head. This is the reason why she has become known as the "Black Lady of Windsor". So many people had seen her appear and disappear through a solid wall in one of the tower chambers that an inspection of the spot was made some years ago. It was found from old plans that in the Queen's time there used to be an arch in this position.

Another royal residence haunted by Christmas ghosts is Hampton Court. Here the ghosts have something in common, for they are

Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour and Catherine Howard, all wives of Henry VIII. Many people have seen all three, and Jane Seymour is said to be the least terrifying, for her ghost is perfectly calm and composed. Anne Boleyn, on the other hand, has been observed moving about the royal apartments either slowly on tiptoe, or else at great speed, and screaming. Catherine Howard has always seemed to be in state of great agitation as she goes shrieking along the "Haunted Gallery" and the passages by the chapel.

A more friendly ghost is the lady in black bombazine who has regularly appeared in a Berkshire rectory during the Christmas preparations. The rector's family once called her "It" but became so used to her presence that she became more affectionately known as "Mrs. It." She was so completely a part of the Christmas scene that invitations were left about for her to attend parties. She evidently accepted, for many guests at the rectory have seen her dressed in a shawl and hat.

The ghost of Sir Geoffrey Mandeville, who committed suicide by drowning in King Stephen's time, is a regular visitor to Barnet. Ever since his death he is supposed to have appeared hooded and cloaked at 11.30 every sixth Christmas night. His former house has been demolished, so his favourite walk now takes him through a local recreation ground. The last time Sir Geoffrey's ghost was sighted, so many people flocked from London to see him that it led to a serious congestion of Barnet's Christmas traffic.

Other outdoor ghosts are the two women who haunt Ayton Crossroads a few miles from Scarborough. In the coaching days they were often seen by those travelling north for Christmas. One is headless and wears a blood-red cloak. She emerges out of the winter fog and keeps pace with a horseman, no matter how fast he gallops. The other rides on a milk-white horse, shrieking out blood curdling yells as she gallops alongside travellers before disappearing into the night.

A ghost of a chicken has regularly appeared in Pond Square, Highgate, on Christmas Eve. The person responsible for this rather strange sight was scientist Sir Francis Bacon. Over 300 years ago he decided to experiment as to whether frozen food would keep, so, when passing through the snow-laden square on Christmas Eve, he bought a chicken and stuffed it with snow. Unfortunately, he caught a chill and died soon afterwards. Ever since, the chicken has been seen flapping its wings and hopping about as if to keep warm.

Coupled with the mystery of ghostly appearances at Christmas-time are the equally baffling disappearances of earthly creatures. In 1919, a Canadian millionaire pushed his way through the Christ-

mas shopping crowds after discussing a business deal with his lawyer. Several people saw him and exchanged the compliments of the season, but then he completely disappeared and has not been seen or heard of ever since.

His immense personal fortune was untouched for a long time. A world-wide police hunt was carried out, but the disappearance remained inexplicable and the courts finally declared him legally dead.

Equally baffling was the disappearance of Oliver Lerch from a Christmas party at South Bend, Indiana, in 1880. Evidently he left the house at the request of his wife to fetch a pail of water. Shortly afterwards the party guests heard frantic cries for help. They rushed outside and heard the terrorised cries of Lerch growing fainter as he seemingly disappeared into the sky.

The explanation? Nobody knows. South Bend is far from the eyrie of an eagle, nor is an eagle capable of carrying a full-grown man. Yet Oliver Lerch, according to all those who heard his cries, was carried away into the air. Certainly no identifiable remains of him have ever been found on earth. On that fateful Christmas he disappeared into thin air as elusively as any ghost.

## Laws and Legends of Xmas Day

Christmas Day is a time when we gladly follow the traditions and legends of past centuries, but we are not so careful about complying with the many ancient laws that still remain on the Statute Book. There are, in fact, more laws broken on 25th December than on any other single day of the year.

Holly takes a long time to mature, so the authorities took certain precautions to safeguard it. When out walking on Christmas Day, it is a punishable offence to cut holly from a bush. There is another law making it a crime to fix berries on to unberried holly bushes and sell them as natural branches.

According to some legends, incidentally, holly should never be hung before the mistletoe, otherwise evil spirits are likely to come down the chimney. In the West Country it was once traditional for some ladies to sleep with a sprig of holly on Christmas Eve. This was supposed to keep evil spirits out of their beds!

There is an old legend which states that every mince-pie eaten on Christmas Day is an assurance of one month's good luck in the following year. But a law in the Statute Book forbids the baking, selling or eating of mince-pies on Christmas Day.

Another law prohibits the eating of more than three courses at your festive table. It is also a contravention of the law to make or eat plum pudding on 25th December. On the other hand, an old legend states that a fortune-telling plum pudding eaten on Christmas Day should contain a button for the old bachelor, a silver thimble for the old maid, a ring for marriage, a nut

with its kernel for wealth, and a silver coin for constant luck.

If all the old laws were enforced on Christmas Day sportsmen would be in a sorry plight. Fishing is permissible, but only if a regulation rod-and-line is used. A definite law forbids the playing of football and billiards in public: neither is it legal to work up a thirst with a game of tennis on a hard court.

Skating on thin ice, apart from being dangerous, is also illegal. The only legitimate use of a gun, including a sporting gun, is in self-defence or defence of the realm. Yet an old superstition has it that anybody born on 25th December can never be hanged—so if you celebrate your birthday and Christmas Day by shooting your mother-in-law, presumably you will only be fined for firing the gun!

Christmas Day entertainers are breaking another law, which states that all forms of acting are forbidden. This means that even players of the popular party game of charades could be arrested. If you get your local constable to brush up his ancient law, this could be a way of getting rid of guests who have overstayed their welcome.

Such action could rebound, however, for he might also discover that it is an offence not to go to church on Christmas Day, and that all churchgoers must walk to the service. The police still have the right to confiscate and sell any vehicle used for carrying people to Christmas services.

It is interesting to note that habitual law-breakers usually take a rest before Christmas. They look upon it as an omen of ill-fortune for the coming year if they are in gaol on Christmas Day. Most of us would consider it a bad omen at any time—but, in any case, watch your step this Christmas!

## TRY THESE FOR YOUR PARTY

### GLOG (15 persons).

Into a large casserole put 2 oz. Angostura bitters,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of granulated sugar, 1 pint claret, 1 pint sherry,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint brandy. Place over fire until piping hot. Put one large raisin and one unsalted almond in a glass and fill it  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. (Remember to put a spoon in the glass before pouring in the hot liquid to prevent the glass from cracking).

### CHRISTMAS CHEER (8 persons: Cost about 1/- a glass).

Take a bottle of inexpensive red wine, add one sherry glass of liqueur and one of tawny port. Add four sticks of cinnamon and sugar and sherry to taste. Heat, but do not boil. Serve piping hot.

### DR. JOHNSON'S CHOICE (10-12 people: Cost about 1/- a glass).

Pour a bottle of inexpensive red wine into a saucepan and put with it sliced orange, twelve lumps of sugar and six cloves. Bring these nearly to the boil. Add a pint of boiling water. Add a wine glass of Curacao and another of brandy. Pour into glasses and grate nutmeg on top.

### HOT RUM PUNCH (16 persons).

Grate the rind of 3 lemons into a bowl and add  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of granulated sugar. Macerate the sugar and lemon gratings and then add the juice of 3 lemons and 1 teaspoonful of ground ginger. Mix well and put into another large bowl which has been previously heated. Add 1 pint rum, 1 pint brandy,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint sherry, 1 quart boiling water. Again mix well and further sweeten if necessary. Stand on side of stove near heat for 20 minutes. Pour out and dust with nutmeg.





Mr. W. T. Sanders pictured leaving the Board Room after his presentation.

### PRESENTATION TO Mr. W. T. SANDERS

On November 16th, Mr. W. T. Sanders was presented with a gold watch by General Sir Miles Dempsey in recognition of his 50 years of service with the Company.

Mr. Sanders joined our firm in 1909, and having enlisted in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry (Territorial Army) in 1911, was mobilised on the outbreak of war in 1914. He volunteered for service in West Africa, and was duly seconded to the 2nd Battalion Nigeria Regiment, with whom he saw plenty of active service. He was promoted to Colour Sergeant on his arrival in Nigeria, and later was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry in action. Before being demobilised, Mr. Sanders passed the colloquial Interpreters' examination in Hausa, the local native language.

By 1927 he was Chief Clerk at Oxford, an appointment which he held until 1946, when he was appointed Manager of the Branch on the retirement of Mr. H. J. Timms.

On the 1st of October, 1954, Mr. Sanders was granted an early retirement pension due to the ill-health of himself and Mrs. Sanders, but, in view of his wide knowledge of the Oxford Colleges, was re-employed as a part-time representative so that he could look after that most important portion of the Oxford trade.

He is a keen ornithologist and fisherman, and has a fine collection of birds' eggs. He has also played golf for many years.

### MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Recent appointments include those of Mr. C. J. M. Downes as Technical Manager, Mr. E. Barrett as Bottling Manager, and Mr. R. Skidmore as Cold Storage Manager.

Congratulations go to Messrs. R. L.



Mr. and Mrs. Jack Alexander



Mr. and Mrs. Brian Butler leave the church.

Henson and M. W. Pittock, of the Wine Department, who passed the Advanced Course for the Wine Trade Club Education Examination recently.

Also to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cotter on the birth of a son, Martin Russell, on the 15th November, 1959.

Ray is a popular member of the Tamar General Office staff, whilst June was formerly employed in the Machine Accounts section.

### WEDDINGS

Prior to his marriage on the 5th September, 1959, to Miss Anne Dennis, Mr. Harold Mitchell was presented with a hanging mirror, the gift of all his colleagues at Plymouth and Tamar. The presentation was made by Mr. C. R. Holman.

Miss D. E. Bland, of the Sales Accounts Department, was married to Mr. R. H. Patrick at St. Michael's Church, Tilehurst, on Saturday, September 26th, 1959.

Miss Bland chose a steam electric iron and ironing board as a wedding present from her friends in the Department.

On Saturday, October 10th, 1959, at St. George's Church, Reading, Miss S. O'Keefe, of the Delivery Office, was married to Mr. Peter Wilson. The reception was held in the Social Club. Before the wedding Miss O'Keefe was presented with a dinner service by Mr. A. L. Walker on behalf of her colleagues in the Delivery Office.

Jack Alexander, of the Building Department, was married on Saturday, September 19th, 1959, to Miss Margaret King at St. John's Church, Reading.

The wedding took place on September 26th at St. Bartholomew's Church of Brian Butler, of the Transport Department, to Miss Dorothy Patricia Catt.

Miss Joyce Hackling, invoice typist at our Newport Branch, married Mr. C. H. Johnston at Victoria Avenue Methodist Church, Newport, on October 3rd.

Before the wedding Miss Hackling received a canteen of cutlery from her colleagues.



Mr. F. J. Goad receives his watch from Mr. W. P. Cripps.

### RETIREMENT OF

#### Mr. F. J. GOAD

At Cirencester on Tuesday, November 3rd, Mr. F. J. Goad was presented with a gold watch by Mr. W. P. Cripps, a gift from his many friends in the Company to mark his retirement after thirty-two years' service. In doing so, Mr. Cripps paid moving tribute to the unfailing courtesy, diligence and loyalty of Mr. Goad while with the Cirencester Brewery Company, subsequently with H. & G. Simonds Ltd., and finally with Arthur Cooper's. There had been many changes during this time, and Mr. Cripps thought it fitting to call Mr. Goad a jack-of-all-trades, but he hastened to add that he was master of many. Certainly Mr. Cripps had no intention of saying goodbye to Mr. Goad because he felt we should all see much of him in the future. He had promised to help Arthur Cooper in its many activities in Cirencester, and would, for example, continue to dress the windows—at which he excels, having in fact won prizes for this art.

Mr. Goad who obviously was delighted with his gift spoke about the happy team spirit at the Cirencester Branch which had made his time there so deeply satisfying.

Mr. Constable, Manager of Arthur Coopers in Cirencester, had arranged a really delightful and happy gathering, at which sherry and light refreshments were greatly enjoyed by everybody.

### NOTE THESE DATES

Monday, January 4th : Pensioners' Dinner in the Social Club.  
Saturday, January 16th : Children's Party in the Drill Hall.  
Friday, February 12th : Annual Staff Dance at the Olympia Ballroom.  
Friday, February 26th : Inter-Departmental Darts Tournament at the Social Club.



A happy picture of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Johnston after their wedding.

### STAFF CHANGES

#### READING

##### New Employees

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

P. K. T. Chapman—Architect's Dept.  
Mrs. G. E. Beesley—Managed House Accounts.  
G. L. Wallas—Delivery.  
Miss P. D. A. Jennings—Delivery.  
Miss D. Jewell—Advertising.  
Miss H. M. Allen—Laboratory.  
Mrs. B. V. Williams—Managed House Accounts.  
Mrs. E. M. Benham—Managed House Accounts.  
Miss P. L. Lawton—Sales Accounts.  
Mrs. I. D. Wait—Sales Accounts.  
Mrs. K. A. Murphy—Sales Accounts.

##### Appointments

B. Sayers—Wine and Spirit Dept., appointed as a Checking Supervisor.  
Miss M. Mather—Managed House Accounts Section, appointed as Personal Assistant to the Chief Architect.  
Mrs. M. George—Hotels Department, appointed as Departmental Senior Secretary.  
H. E. Loader—Accounts Department, appointed as a Stocktaker/Auditor.

##### Retirement

A. Tigwell—Wine and Spirit Department Foreman, retired on November 28th, 1959.

### BRANCHES

##### New Employees

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

Mrs. J. Hawkesworth—Devonport.  
Miss V. Lewis—Staines.  
Mrs. N. A. Bater—Bridgend.

B. T. Lewis—Newport.  
F. J. Herdy—Devonport.  
D. W. Williams—Newport.  
Mrs. P. S. Lethbridge—Devonport.  
Miss J. A. Currie—Catterick.  
Miss P. Smith—Staines.  
B. W. Everest—Oxford.

### 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 2nd October, 1959)**  
J. Jones (Building) after 44 years' service.

A. Turner (Wine Stores) after 3 years' service.  
**Devonport (On 9th November, 1959)**  
C. H. Scott (Cold Room) after 50 years' service.



# SPORTS REVIEW

## FOOTBALL

It is obvious that this is not going to be one of our best seasons. At the time of writing the First XI have only gained three points from six league games, and the reserves only one point from the same number of matches. It seems silly to blame the forwards when 24 goals have been scored against us in the last four matches, but the fact remains that only one player is left from last year's regular forward line, and we have been forced to play many people out of position.

We are also short of officials. Bert Knott (Central Stores), who has looked after the second team for several years has not been able to give the time this year, and no one has been found to take his place. Vic Oliver (Building) has had an appendix operation and has not been able to act as first team trainer. Jock Chalmer (Building) has fallen out since the beginning of the season, so the problem is acute, and anyone who would like to be of assistance would be most welcome.

The season did not start too badly. The first game with Reading Exiles resulting in a 1-1 draw. Against Theale we scored a 5-3 victory, Bill Maslen (Electricians) scoring four, but met with an unexpected 3-0 defeat against Albion Athletic. The following week, in the Berks & Bucks Intermediate Cup, the team gained such a splendid victory over Wokingham Town Reserves that the future seemed very bright. Since then however we have lost 3-1 to Chelsey in the Reading Senior Cup, 7-1 to Woodley, 5-1 to West Reading, 7-1 to Rabson Rovers in the league, and again to Rabsons 5-3 in the second round of the Berks & Bucks Cup.

The reserves have been upset by a great number of rearranged matches, resulting in their only playing in alternate weeks. Most of their games have been greatly enjoyed, but the only point gained was through a 2-2 draw with Caversham. For the rest, it has been a sorry tale of defeat.

Although the outlook is black at the moment, we think that all connected with the Club will make a big effort, and that we shall not be troubled by relegation when the season ends.

### Double Hat Trick at Newport

At Coronation Park, Newport, on Sunday, November 8th, 1959, in ideal weather, Newport played Bridgend Branch for the third time, and were lucky enough to secure their first win.

Bridgend fielded quite a strong side, but were unfortunate in having their inside-right, Tommy Jones, on the injured list.

Play commenced with Bridgend moving straight into the attack and, although Newport scored first, Bridgend netted three quick goals which featured inside-left D. Morgan, centre-forward G. Davies and inside-right P. Ball, whose clever play often caught the opposing defence on the wrong foot.

Half time score 3-1 to Bridgend.

Early in the second half Newport's Captain, Len Stokes, roused his team by giving a dazzling display of football and completed a double hat-trick by scoring all the Newport goals to bring about a decisive 6-3 win for the home side.

Newport's centre-half, Bryn Jones, right winger Mullins, and goalkeeper Jack Jones played extremely well, while Len Davies gave his captain every support, and was often found giving the defence a hand.

For Bridgend, Peter Hall, Malcolm Fry, left-half Geoff Davies and Clive Harvey, at centre-half, were outstanding.

After some light refreshment, the members of both teams, together with their supporters, visited the Dockers' Social Club, Kingsway, Newport. Here further "refreshment" was imbibed, and an amusing programme of entertainment, which included a sports quiz, was enjoyed by all, and provided a fitting climax to a very pleasant day out.

## HOCKEY

Results to date have not been quite as encouraging as last season, but at the moment of going to press we have won 5, drawn 1, and lost 4.

After making a very good start to the season by beating A.W.R.E. and Camberley, two very strong sides, we were unfortunate in losing to Newbury 2-1, with Simonds only fielding ten men. This was followed by wins against the Hornets 6-0 and Reading 9-1, their first defeats of the season. The last four matches however have only shown one win; Maidenhead and Morris Motors made the most of their opportunities and Simonds, although enjoying the majority of the play, lost both of these matches due to extremely poor finishing.

The return match with Newbury was played in very dense fog. The visibility was so poor that the match was played with the aid of four umpires. Newbury, with their close passing, adapted themselves quickly to the conditions, and dictated the course of play in such a manner that the final result was never in doubt.

Having lost the services of our keeper towards the end of last season we are glad to report that this position has been capably filled by Mervyn Jordan, of the Engineers, who in his first season has shown remarkable promise and is proving a great asset to our side.

The team this year has been drawn from the following members:—

M. Jordan (Engineers), V. Foxton (Customs and Excise), E. Noon, J. McKinnon, E. Spary (Brewing Room), D. Simons (Building Dept.), C. Sankey (Bottling Stores), K. Chetham, G. Whiteband, T. Cheeseman (Capt.), J. Till (Engineers), J. Beckett, F. McCarthy (Cooperage).

### Results:

Sept. 19 Simonds 1, A.W.R.E. 0.  
Sept. 26 Simonds 2, Camberley 1.  
Oct. 4 Simonds 1, Newbury 2.  
Oct. 10 Simonds 3, A.E.R.E. 3.  
Oct. 17 Simonds 6, Hornets 0.  
Oct. 24 Reading 1, Simonds 9.  
Oct. 31 Maidenhead 4, Simonds 1.  
Nov. 7 Newbury 3, Simonds 1.  
Nov. 14 Morris Motors 4, Simonds 2.  
Nov. 15 Simonds 4, NIRD 1.

## TENNIS

At the Tennis Club A.G.M. held on Tuesday, October 27th, there were a number of new officers elected. Jack Riden (Estates) retired from the position of Chairman, and his place was taken by Ray Wheeler (Managed House Accounts), who has been Secretary of the section for several years. The new Secretary is John Ray (Surveyors), and he has our best wishes. Mrs. Eileen Brynes (Production) remains an Assistant Secretary, but Ron Brind (Managed House Accounts) takes over Match Secretary, and Brian Sayers (Wine and Spirits) the Treasurership. Howard Kelsey was re-elected Club Captain.

## TABLE TENNIS

The Table Tennis season is now in full swing, and both teams have played a number of league matches. The first team have lost some games, which they can ill afford to do in this highly competitive

division, but the reserve side are having a better season than of late, and we hope that this trend will continue.

### Results:

1st Team:		
Henley Y.M.C.A. "A"	Lost	6-3
Y.M.C.A. "B"	Won	7-2
Rabsons	Lost	5-4
2nd Team:		
R.A.F., Shinfield "B"	Won	5-4
Reading Deaf	Lost	6-3
S. Reading C.C.	Won	7-2
Tidmarsh "B"	Won	6-3
Tudor "C"	Lost	7-2
Pulsometer	Lost	5-4
Reading Y.M.C.A. Jun.	Won	5-4

## NETBALL

The season started on September 12th, 1959, but so far the team has not played many matches owing to other teams dropping out of the league.

On the 24th of October at Huntley and Palmers Ground, Kensington Road, the Reading Town Netball Trials took place. Simonds were lucky enough to have three girls picked as reserves as follows: Miss P. Brooks, Miss E. Eggers, Miss A. Levey.

If there are any new girls wishing to join the Netball Club they are asked to contact the Secretary, Miss A. Levey, Free Trade (Branches) Department, who will be very pleased to welcome them.

## NEWPORT REPRESENTATIVE RETIRES

Mr. T. H. Antill, Newport's well-known and popular representative, retired on the 30th September, after 55 years' service.

When he had completed 50 years' service he was presented with a gold watch by the Board, and on October 5th this year General Sir Miles Dempsey presented him with a cheque, to enable him to purchase two armchairs, as a parting gift from the Directors on his retirement.

Most of Mr. Antill's business life was spent on the road, and his success in this field was reflected in the tributes paid to him on the occasion of a presentation at Newport. At this function he received a portable radio and an electric blanket from his colleagues, the presentation being made by Mr. W. G. Sweet, and a travelling clock, presented by Mr. F. E. R. Phipps on behalf of the Brewing Staff.

Mr. A. N. Phillips, General Sir Charles Allfrey and Mr. B. H. Quelch spoke of the wonderful service Mr. Antill had given and of the example he would leave behind him, and expressed the thanks of our firm for his work.

Mr. Antill, responding, said that he had enjoyed a very happy life as a representative and attributed his success to hard work. When he had started, most of his travelling was done on foot, often carrying large sums of money. Now it was easier to get about, but application to the job was still necessary if success was to be achieved.

## HALLOWEEN WITH THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The skeleton on the poster pinned to the Social Club door said: "I'm going to the Halloween Dance. How about you?"

Skeletons, black cats, bats, witches, broomsticks and pumpkin heads formed the decorations for the Dramatic Society's Halloween Dance in the Social Club on October 31st.

Simonds Dramatic Society, being an entirely new venture, has had its teething troubles, but these have now been overcome, and the members are at present rehearsing a play which it is hoped will be presented initially to the Pensioners at their Annual Dinner.

To help defray the rather heavy cost of production it was decided to organise a Dance on September 12th. This was so successful that the more ambitious Halloween Dance quickly followed.

The Dramatic Society is still open to any new members, both acting and non-acting, and any interested persons should contact the Secretary, Miss Aitken (Free Trade, Reading).

## ANGLING CLUB

An invitation match was fished versus the C.W.S. Angling Club on Sunday, November 8th, resulting in a win by 1 lb. 2½ ozs. for Simonds Angling Club. We hope to make an annual date with this Club as, like ourselves, they are quite new to match fishing, having only been formed this season.

The membership of the Fishing Club is still about 30 strong, but attendance at club matches could be much improved.

Match Weights up to 15th November, 1959:

M. Gibbs	7lb. 5½oz.	D. Fry	11lb. 12½oz.
C. Grover	5lb. 6½oz.	S. Clayton	11lb. 11½oz.
A. Allwood	2lb. 1½oz.	L. Harraway	11lb. 10½oz.
F. Smith	2lb. 0½oz.	W. Green	11lb. 0½oz.

## OBITUARY

We deeply regret to record the deaths of:—

S. HANNAM, on October 9th, 1959, aged 53. He was a much respected member of our Transport Section at Bristol, and collapsed whilst making a delivery at Clevedon. His death came as a great shock to his friends within the Company and to the customers upon whom he had called over a period of fourteen years.

R. G. ROBERTS, on September 30th, 1959, aged 59. He had 19 years' service with the Company at Plymouth.

J. HOPKINS, on September 17th, 1959, aged 69. He had served in the Building Department at Reading for 39 years before retiring in 1954.

H. E. DOUGLAS, on November 6th, 1959, aged 76. He joined our London Branch in July, 1911, and retired in 1949.