

Hop Leaf

NEWS

STAFF SUPPLEMENT TO THE "HOP LEAF GAZETTE" PUBLISHED BY H. & G. SIMONDS, LTD.

STAINES BREWERY FIRE

Staff Aid Firemen at Night Blaze

Brewery employees who were at their homes and elsewhere in the vicinity of the brewery were early on the scene, and rendered invaluable help to the "army" of firemen who were mobilised to fight a threatening blaze at Staines Brewery on the night of January 11.

By their "local" knowledge of the premises they were able to provide vital information promptly to the Fire Service officers directing operations, and a senior fire brigade officer said afterwards: "Such timely help materially assisted us in restricting the extent of the outbreak".

Our staff also actively assisted in both the fire-fighting and the salvage work, preventing additional damage from the effects of smoke, heat and water.

Charge-hand Checker W. Benham was in a nearby hotel when a woman came in and called out, "The brewery's on fire".

Racing back to the brewery, Mr. Benham tried to check the flames with an extinguisher, and then called the fire brigade and the police by telephone.

Amongst those who were quickly on the scene were Herbert Dexter, carpenter, and one-time fireman in the Staines fire brigade; Mr. H. L. Aust, Resident Head Bottler, from his cottage at the brewery; Mr. E. Gosney, Branch Manager, called

by telephone from his home at Farnborough; and Mr. G. Dyer, Area Surveyor, summoned likewise from Sunningdale.

Later came Mr. E. D. Simonds, Mr. W. J. Watkins, Chief Engineer, Mr. E. J. Hollebhone, Mr. W. Heley and Mr. A. E. Wake from Reading, who had been promptly notified at their homes of the incident.

Damage included a large area of roof of the Bottling Store, one of the bottling units, the painters' workshop, where paint and tools were destroyed, the plumbers' workshop, and spread to a staff cloakroom.

The fire was threatening the Guinness stock room where thousands of dozens of Guinness were conditioning, when it was checked.

A much appreciated gesture was made by Mr. John Chadwick, our Manager at the "Pack Horse" Hotel in Staines, who offered his personal help and accommodation at the hotel if it were needed.

Despite the damage, supplies from the Staines Branch, which covers South-West Middlesex and a large area of Hampshire and Surrey, were not affected due to assistance provided from Reading.

Mr. H. Dexter and Mr. W. Benham discussing the previous night's blaze with Mr. E. Gosney, as they stand amongst the ruins.



Dedication of Memorial Tablet to the Late Mr. F. A. Simonds

The Service of Dedication of the Memorial Tablet commemorating our late Chairman, Mr. F. A. Simonds, will be held in St. Giles' Church, Reading, on Monday, April 18, at 2.30 p.m., when, it is hoped, as many past and present members of the Firm as possible will be present.

The Lord Bishop of Reading has graciously consented to conduct the Service of Dedication, and will be assisted by the Vicar of St. Giles, The Rev. Philip D. B. Miller.

The Memorial Tablet has been erected on the North Wall of St. Giles' Church—the Parish in which the Brewery is situated—immediately above the existing Memorial Tablet dedicated in January, 1921, to Mr. Eric's

father, Mr. Louis de Luze Simonds.

The Memorial Tablet has been designed by Mr. Romilly Craze, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.S.A., and the wording will read as follows:—

IN MEMORY OF
FREDERICK ADOLPHUS (ERIC) SIMONDS
CHAIRMAN

H. & G. SIMONDS LIMITED.
BORN JANUARY 2ND, 1881.
DIED AUGUST 17TH, 1953.

This Tablet is Erected by the Directors,
Staff and Employees of
H. & G. Simonds Ltd.,
in Affectionate Remembrance of a
Beloved Chairman and Great
Gentleman and in Gratitude for
his Life of Service to his Company.

Life's Like This

Only two days before the big fire at Staines Brewery on January 11, one of the three bottling units, No. 2, was taken out of service for an overhaul and the work was commenced.

In the fire involving the Bottling Store, No. 3 bottling unit was damaged and put out of action.

Only the No. 1 unit was left in service, but supplies were adequately maintained with assistance from Reading.

Hop Leaf NEWS

Editorial Office, "Hop Leaf News",
The Brewery, Reading.

Several useful contributions, which we are pleased to make use of, have been received from members of the staff and are published in this the second issue of the "Hop Leaf News", but more are wanted.

Personal items—especially from the Branches—are requested, and if the person concerned is too shy to tell us about himself, we hope that his or her colleagues will not be so reticent.

An innovation we have introduced in this issue is a Classified Advertisement feature for members of the staff only.

If there is any item you would like to have included in the Sales, Exchange and Wants column, write out the advertisement and send it to the Editor at once. Box Numbers can be arranged if required. Contributions and advertisements must bear the name and department or branch of the sender—not necessarily for publication.

Contributions and advertisements should be sent to: The Editor, "Hop Leaf News", The Brewery, Reading, or your Branch's "Hop Leaf News" Correspondent.

NEWPORT BRANCH
NATIONAL
SERVICEMAN ON
GEORGE CROSS ISLAND

MALTA, G.C.

On National Service in the Royal Marine Commandos, Colin Stubbs, from the office at Newport Branch, is serving now on this Island.

During his service here he has taken the opportunity of visiting the new Brewery of Simonds-Farsons-Cisk Ltd., and was taken on a tour of the offices.

Enthusiastic references regarding this part of the establishment were reserved for the charming lady members of the office staff.

Colin was greatly impressed, he said, by the Brewery, especially "its active efficiency and absolute cleanliness in every department".

The immense rainwater tank and ancillary equipment, which are features of the Brewery, were of particular interest to him.

Souvenirs of his visit, which he sent in a letter to his colleagues at Newport, included a selection of bottled beer labels, a couple of pamphlets and several photographs.



Marine Colin Stubbs.

Happy Hospitality
on Circus Visit

GUESTS INVITED FROM LOCAL CHILDREN'S HOMES

It was a happy thought to invite some little guests to accompany the children of our staff on the trip to Bertram Mills' Circus at London's Olympia on January 22.

Responding to the invitation, 32 excited smiling girls and boys from two children's homes at Reading and Caversham came to join our party of 90 youngsters, children of members of the firm, and together they travelled in

had been hard at work preparing a grand tea to which full justice was done.

"Could they eat!" commented one of the helpers afterwards.

After tea an entertainment, including an hour of magic by Pat Le Ron, concluded a memorable day which will linger long in the minds of the young guests.

The outing and party was

organised by Simonds Branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and was paid for by funds collected from the members of all departments of the office and works staff.

A striking picture of veteran clown, Percy Huxter, amongst the children of our party from Reading, organised by Simonds Branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union, to Bertram Mills' Circus at the Olympia in London on January 22.



Circus Visit Letters of thanks

four big glittering motor coaches to Olympia.

Alighting from the coaches, the adults in charge of the children were directed by the coach drivers to take a short cut and gained a stern rebuke from railway officials who did not approve of their route, but in due course they found their seats and the excitement of the circus was unfolded before them.

From the entry into the ring of the first party of clowns until the brilliant and animated finale, the children remained spell-bound.

One of the highlights of the show was a personal visit to the party of one of the clowns in his greasepaint and gay costume. For a few moments after his arrival amongst them some of the younger children were a little scared, but he soon dispelled their fears.

Returning to Reading the children found that the Canteen Manageress and her willing staff

Three "Thank you" letters, one of them an obviously laboriously written effort by one of the children, have been received by Mr. G. J. Chandler, chairman of Simonds Branch of the T. & G.W.U., following the outing and have added much to the pleasure of those who were responsible.

From St. Andrew's Church of England Children's Home, Wilton Road, Reading, from which the party numbered 22 girls and boys, this was the letter from the children:

"Dear Mr. Chandler,
I am writing for The children of St Andrews about bertram mills circus. The beast of the circus was the washing maching. were the clowns through water over each outhur. and The tight-rope walkers on each outhurs sholders, then the king of the pick pockets. We all enoyed the lovly tea we had. The conguror we liked the trick of the rope was good. We all say thank you.
Love from
All the children"
XXXXXXXXX

Mr. H. W. A. Howlett, Master of the Home, wrote:

"Dear Mr. Chandler,
Will you please convey my thanks to all concerned for the very enjoyable

treat given to the children on Saturday, they had a lovely day which was thoroughly appreciated by them all.

My special thanks to you for all your work in arranging the pleasant day, I am most grateful to you.

Yours etc".

Miss P. M. Claisse, Reading Corporation's Children's Officer, wrote for the party of 10 boys from the Corporation's Grove Hill Home at Caversham:

"Dear Mr. Chandler,
I am grateful for the kindness and generosity of your Social Committee in arranging for a party of children, who are in the care of this Authority, to attend Bertram Mills' Circus on the 22nd January last.

The boys, who had a most enjoyable treat, have asked me to personally convey to you and your Committee their most grateful thanks for a wonderful day.

I had the pleasure of seeing them off myself in the morning and they were really thrilled at the luxurious coach. Our deputy, Mr. Jehu, who received them back said that the day appeared to have been an unqualified success and formed the main topic of conversation that week-end.

Yours, etc".

The Social Season

PARTIES, DINNERS, DANCES AND SOCIAL EVENTS

The grown-ups and the children were all well catered for at Reading and at the Branches. Here is a selection of photographs from some of these functions :

The Old Age Pensioners' Party held at the Brewery, Reading, on December 20.



Smiling faces predominate, but many other expressions are registered on the faces of these youngsters at Reading Staff's Children's Party held on January 29 at the Sports Pavilion, Berkeley Avenue, Reading.

(Picture by courtesy of 'Berkshire Chronicle'.)



A photograph taken at Bridgend Branch Staff Party which was held at the York Hotel, Bridgend, on December 6.



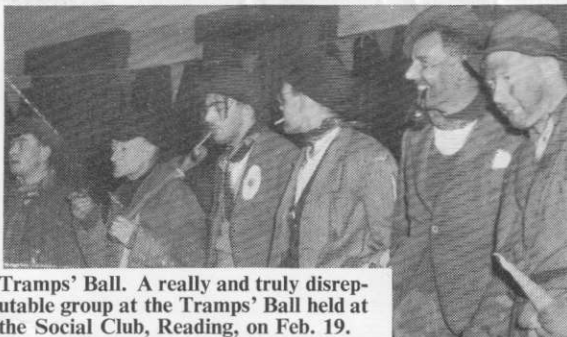
Torquay Sub-Branch staff and members of their families on the occasion of their Christmas theatre visit to Exeter.



Newport Staff Dinner and Dance. An informal shot of a convivial group.



Bristol Branch Ball. Who cares what the Branch Manager was saying !



Tramps' Ball. A really and truly disreputable group at the Tramps' Ball held at the Social Club, Reading, on Feb. 19.



Guests at the Devonport Branch Ball (and below) dancing in full swing.



SHOT AT READING STAFF BALL.

Three happy snaps show :—
(Above) : Mr. W. Bradford (Social Club Secretary) and Mrs. Bradford.
(Bottom right) : A moment that was not "planned" by the Drawing Office staff who appear in this picture.
(Top right) : The Brewery boys enjoy themselves.



MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

New Arrivals

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

READING:

Mr. M. Lake, Branch Dept.
Miss D. Bland, Hollerith Dept.
Mr. L. Ingledew, Cask Dept.
Mr. G. J. Murdoch, Cask Dept.
Miss E. P. Cronin, Correspondence Office.
Mr. J. L. Yendle, Cask Dept.
Mrs. J. Shine, Hotels Dept.
Miss D. Dolton, Hollerith Dept.
Mrs. B. E. Adby, Hollerith Dept.
Miss P. A. Munday, Hollerith Dept.
Mr. M. A. Trowbridge, Cask Dept.
Miss J. Bardrick, Hotels Dept.
Miss R. Dixon, Stocktaking Dept.
Mrs. M. Luckett, Correspondence Office.

BRANCHES:

Devonport : Mr. D. J. Husband.
Mr. T. E. Farley.
Swindon : Mrs. M. Jefferies.
London : Mr. J. A. N. White.
Bristol : Miss M. Cuthbertson.
Miss B. Bull.
Miss G. Mabbett.
Miss P. Fackrell.
Newport : Mr. G. M. Jones.
Portsmouth : Miss C. A. Bourne.

Arthur Cooper,
Market Place, Mr. I. M. Kidd.
Reading. Mr. D. M. Palmer.

People on the Move

The following staff changes have taken place :

READING:

Mr. L. Bird, Delivery Dept. to Estates Dept.
Mr. G. Stevens, Cask Dept. to Delivery Dept.
Miss M. Booth, Correspondence Office to Estates Dept.
Mr. D. Hardwick, Correspondence Office to Delivery Dept.
Mr. K. Stevens, Correspondence Office to Accounts Dept.
Mrs. P. Atkins, Correspondence Office to Estates Dept.
Mr. D. Pottinger, Accounts Dept. to Secretarial Office.
Mr. M. Tilbury, Cask Office to Correspondence Office.
Mr. F. C. Brown, Appointed to Wine Stores from the Octagon Brewery, Devonport.
Mr. J. Lush, Appointed as a Public House Inspector from London Branch.

NEWPORT:

Mr. G. S. Spencer, Appointed Representative.

DEVONPORT:

The following have been appointed from the Octagon Brewery :

Mr. D. S. Middlemas, Stocktaker.
Mr. V. S. Vicary, Surveyor's Staff.
Mr. W. J. Shaper, Transport Delivery Staff.
Mr. F. Crook, Public House Inspector.

SWINDON:

Mr. J. Vickery, Appointed as a Representative.

National Service

The following employees have left for National Service :

Mr. J. M. Hieatt, Branch Dept., Reading, who has signed on for five years with the Photographic Section of the R.A.F.
Mr. A. Dines, Architect's Dept.

We welcome the return after National Service of the following :

Mr. D. C. Povey, Engineer's Dept., Reading.

Weddings

Congratulations and best wishes to:

Miss E. Wykes, of the Estates Dept., who left on March 5 to be married.

* * *

Miss Marion Reed, of the Hollerith Dept., who was married at St. George's Church, Reading, on February 19, to Mr. Peter Richards.

Miss Reed was presented with a dinner service, bathroom cabinet and other small articles by her colleagues.



Mr. and Mrs. P. Richards.



Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Hart.

Mr. D. J. Hart, of the Hotels and Catering Dept., who was married on December 31 at Bristol to Miss Patricia Mary Barclay. The reception was held at the "Lamb and Flag" Hotel, Bristol, and the honeymoon was spent at Bettws-y-Coed, North Wales.

Mr. and Mrs. Hart met while serving in the same Signal Regiment of the Territorial Army.

* * *

Mr. Peter Green, a driver at Torquay Sub-Branch, whose marriage to Miss J. Watling took place on January 1, at Bootle, Lancs.

A canteen of cutlery was presented to Mr. Green on behalf of the staff.

* * *

Mr. R. A. Blackwell, Manager of Arthur Cooper's Headington Branch, Oxford, who was married on Nov. 21 to Miss J. McDougall.

Births

A daughter, Linda Susan, was born on February 11 to Mr. H. C. Hay (Portsmouth Office Staff) and Mrs. Hay.

* * *

The birth of a daughter, Shirley Patricia, to Mr. and Mrs. C. Wiggan (Transport Section, Catterick Branch) on January 17 is announced.

* * *

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. S. T. E. Thayer (Manager of the Octagon Brewery) on the birth of twins—a boy and a girl—on January 18.

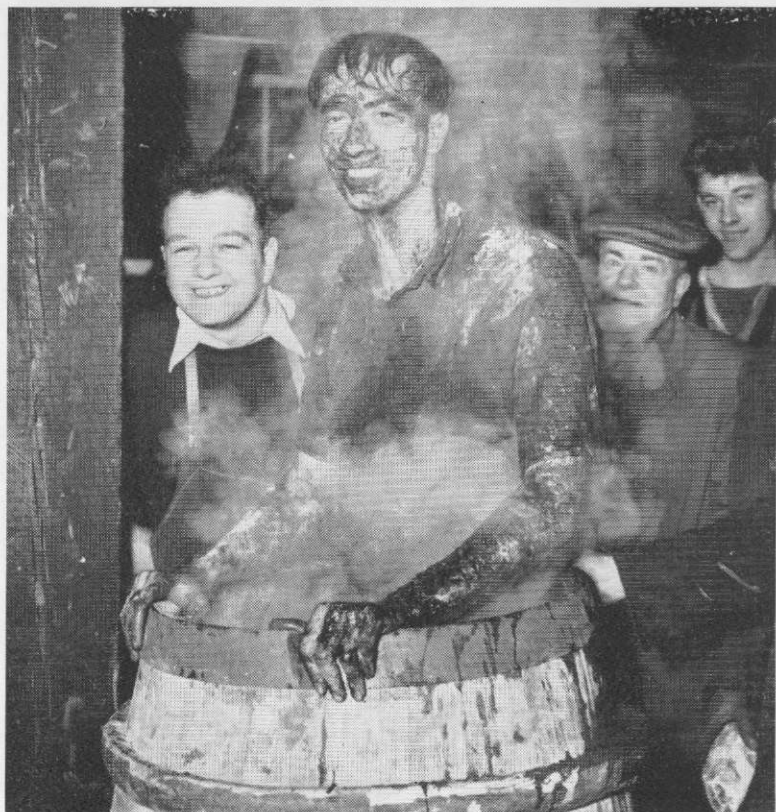
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The birth of a daughter on December 22 to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Randall, of the Arthur Cooper Head Office at Reading, is announced.

* * *

Mrs. E. M. Crisp, late of Arthur Cooper, Market Place, Reading, is to be congratulated on the birth of a son in December last.

"STILL HE SMILED"



That was the headline to a local newspaper report of the ancient ceremony for David Venner on the completion of his apprenticeship in the Cooperage at Reading.

In the picture David is seen emerging from his "ordeal". He had been rolled back and forth in the barrel in which soot, sawdust, flour, beer and dirty water had been placed before they

commenced trundling him around the yard.

Six years' hard work at his chosen craft had preceded the end of his apprenticeship marked by this 600-year-old ceremony.

Afterwards the Chairman, General Sir Miles Dempsey, presented David with his signed indentures.

READING :

**ANNUAL
STAFF BALL**

In a splendidly decorated hall at the Olympia, Reading, more than 700 employees and friends of the Firm had a thoroughly enjoyable time at the Reading Annual Staff Ball on January 21.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Reading, Councillor and Mrs. A. E. Smith were among the guests. Gen. Sir Miles and Lady Dempsey were also present.

Arrangements for the evening were in the capable hands of Mr. W. ("Wally") Bradford, Secretary of the Social Club.

Music for dancing was provided by Don Turk and his Orchestra, and a Cabaret show was given by Pat Le Ron and his party.

Retirement

Best wishes for a long and happy retirement to Mr. R. O. Sansum, of the Wheelwrights' Dept., who retired on January 28, after completing 15 years' service.

BRIDGEND BRANCH :

Mr. G. M. Howells, who joined the staff as an office junior in December, 1947, and has subsequently served as a Ledger Clerk and Transport Clerk, is our new Representative covering the area west of Port Talbot.



Mr. G. M. Howells.

Mr. Howells' wife, daughter of Mr. Gilbert Rowsell, our tenant at the "Welcome to Town", Bridgend, is Invoice Typist at this Branch.

SWINDON BRANCH :

Colleagues made a presentation of a pewter tankard to Mr. B. E. Smith, Free Trade Representative at Swindon Branch, upon his departure to take up a new appointment in the canning business.

Mr. E. D. Penlerick, Area Manager, made the presentation at an informal ceremony on January 18.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. William Curtis celebrated their Golden Wedding on March 25. The couple were married by the late Rev. Constandine at St. Mary's Church, Reading.

Mr. Curtis, who joined the Firm when he was 13 years old, and who retired in 1939, was a former Vice-Chairman of the Social Club.

Mr. Curtis will be 79 next August.

* * *

ON THE BOARD(S)

Harry Haspey, whose father also works in the Cooperage, is the second employee to leave us for the Stage in the last 18 months.

Miss Pamela Barney, of the Correspondence Office, who has been playing at the Everyman Theatre, was the first to go.

Young Haspey has played cricket for our "B" team, and many may recall that at our 1954 Ball he appeared in the Cabaret as a solo vocalist.



From the Cooperage Mr. H. J. Haspey has gone as a vocalist with the all male Show, "This is the Army", which is on tour.

DEVONPORT BRANCH :

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Plymouth, Alderman and Mrs. E. W. Perry, graced the Annual Children's Party organised by the Branch Social Club at Exmouth Hall on January 8.

Well over 200 children, whose ages ranged from two to thirteen years, attended the party which included entertainment by a concert party, a dancing troupe, a film show and community singing.

Before their departure each child received a present from an illuminated Christmas tree. The children received their gifts from a very convincing Father Christmas—Mr. Fred Bryan.

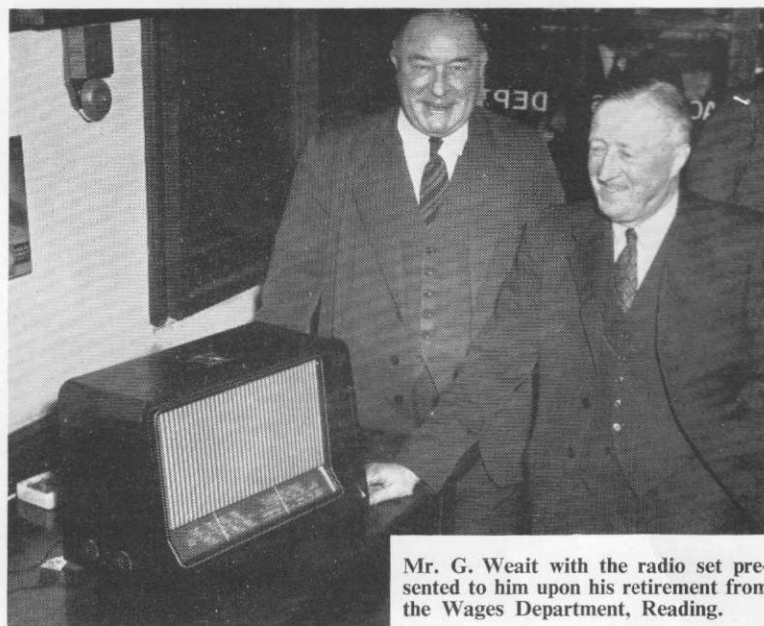
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More than 550 guests attended the Tamar Brewery, Devonport's Third Annual Staff Ball, held at the Exmouth Hall, Devonport, on March 4.

Our correspondent draws attention to the fact that on the same night there were only 400 guests at the Lord Mayor's Ball in Plymouth, which, we feel, was outshone by our own function.

Staffs of Penzance and Torquay Sub-Branches and also those of the recently acquired Octagon Brewery were well represented.

Visiting guests from Reading included Mr. and Mrs. R. St. J. Quarry, Mr. E. D. Simonds and Mr. David Simonds.



Mr. G. Weait with the radio set presented to him upon his retirement from the Wages Department, Reading.



Four Reading Copper Stage veterans with a total of 162 years.

Sam Grover (37 years); Harry Howard (44 years); Harry Kirk (36 years) and "Masher" Nash (45 years).

STAINES BRANCH :

An active helper in the fire-fighting operations on the night of the fire at Staines Brewery was a member of the staff for whom such a task is no novelty.

He is Mr. Herbert Dexter, 61 years' old carpenter, at the Brewery, who is one of a family of Staines fire-fighters.

Mr. Dexter joined the Staines Volunteer Fire Brigade as a call-boy in 1911, when it was his duty to call out the volunteer firemen from their homes when a fire call was received.

Subsequently he attended many fires as a fireman until 1915, and again from 1938 until 1943, when he was invalided out of the fire service in which his father and his grandfather had both served as officers, his grandfather as Chief, and his father as First Officer, for well over half a century between them.

From his home nearby the Brewery, Mr. Dexter was early on the scene after the fire broke out there, and gave valuable help for which he was thanked and commended next day by the Brewery Manager, Mr. E. Gosney, and by senior Fire Service officers.

NEWPORT BRANCH :

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. V. Keighley travelled from Reading to attend the Third Annual Staff Dinner and Dance of our Newport Branch at the "Westgate" Hotel, Newport, on January 27.

A large number of the staff and their friends attended the function, and a correspondent reports that an excellent meal was served. The Toast Master and M.C. was Mr. M. T. Phillips.

The Chairman, Mr. S. C. Saunders, after the "loyal toast", proposed the Firm, coupling with it the guests of the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Keighley, and, in reply, Mr. Keighley thanked the staff for their loyalty and wished them a happy and prosperous 1955.

**TORQUAY
SUB-BRANCH :**

Members of the Sub-Branch staff and their families chose Archie Andrew's Christmas Party at the Savoy Theatre, Exeter, as the venue for their Christmas party outing.

Supper followed the show, and the party travelled to Exeter by coach.



SPORTS

[READING

Table Tennis

December 10, 1954.

SIMONDS "A" 5 v. HENLEY "A" 4.

This Division I match attracted quite a gathering in the Social Club, as neither side had been defeated. Simonds won a very closely contested game, and tension during the evening was very high. The victory was all the more meritorious as the Henley "A" Team represented Berkshire in their last County match.

Led by their non-playing Captain, R. Wheeler, our team was: D. Barley (2), R. Forrest (2) and A. Dines (1).

Our win has made us favourites for the League Championship.

* * *

The "B" team are holding their own, also in Division I, but still have a number of games to play, while the "C" team, having completed their fixture list, finished with 8 wins from 14 matches. The ladies' team, operating for the first time, did not have a success during the first half of the season, but improved later to finish with two wins and several near misses.

* * *

Reading and Berkshire Championships

The Reading and Berkshire Championships provided some very keen competition and one of the best performances was that of Bob Forrest and his partner, Margaret Foot. They reached the final of the Reading Mixed Doubles and actually won the Berkshire Mixed Doubles—a very fine performance. This is Margaret's first year in table tennis, and, under the eye of her future husband, Bob Forrest, has had remarkable success in the ladies' team.

★ REFEREEING HONOURS

Eric Scott (Wine Stores) was honoured when he was chosen to referee the Reading Challenge Senior Cup Semi-Final between Wycombe Wanderers Reserves and Oxford City Reserves. His linesmen, who have also been appointed to the Berks and Bucks Junior Cup Semi-Finals, were Richard Sawdon-Smith (Accounts Dept.) and

Another success was Derek Barley's win with his partner, Bob Neale, in the Reading Men's Doubles. Derek also reached the final of the Berkshire "Singles", while Bob Forrest with his partner reached the final of the Reading Men's Doubles.

Further Results

'A' TEAM

Oct. 25	Simonds 5, Simonds 'B' 4
Nov. 11	Y.M.C.A. 3, Simonds 6
" 22	Simonds 9, Rabson's 0
Dec. 3	Pressed Steel 1, Simonds 8
" 6	Simonds 5, Henley 'A' 4
" 13	Henley 'B' 2, Simonds 7
Jan. 10	Simonds 9, Wokingham 0
" 20	Simonds 'B' 0, Simonds 9
" 24	Simonds 8, Woodlands 1
" 31	Simonds 6, Y.M.C.A. 'A' 3
Feb. 9	University 3, Simonds 6
" 15	Rabson's 1, Simonds 8
" 21	Simonds 9, Pressed Steel 0
Mar. 7	Simonds 6, Henley 'B' 3
" 8	Henley 'A' 4, Simonds 2
R. Forrest 43, D. Barley 41, R. Wheeler 18, R. Wells 17, A. Dines 6.	

'B' TEAM

Oct. 25	Simonds 'A' 5, Simonds 4
Nov. 19	Pressed Steel 4, Simonds 5
" 26	Henley 'A' 8, Simonds 1
Dec. 2	Simonds 4, Henley 'B' 5
" 9	Simonds 8, Wokingham 1
" 16	Y.M.C.A. 'A' 3, Simonds 6
Jan. 20	Simonds 0, Simonds 'A' 9
Feb. 1	Rabson's 3, Simonds 6
" 8	Simonds 6, Pressed Steel 3
Mar. 1	Wokingham 6, Simonds 3
A. Foster 25, J. Rose 21, B. Cooper 10, B. Taylor 2, A. Dines 2, K. Organ 1.	

'C' TEAM

Nov. 23	Earley 5, Simonds 4
" 29	Simonds 6, C.W.S. 3
Dec. 6	Aerodrome 1, Simonds 8
Jan. 14	Tidmarsh 3, Simonds 6
" 17	Simonds 3, N.I.R.D. 6
" 28	Sutton 5, Simonds 4
Feb. 1	Pulsometer 8, Simonds 1
" 7	Simonds 8, Aerodrome 1
" 14	Simonds 7, Earley 2
" 25	C.W.S. 6, Simonds 3
K. Organ 34, F. Organ 15, A. Dyer 14, J. Rose 8.	

LADIES' TEAM

Nov. 11	Pressed Steel 6, Simonds 3
" 25	Simonds 4, H. & P's 5
Dec. 2	Gas Co. 7, Simonds 2
Jan. 13	Simonds 5, Woodlands 4
" 18	McIlroy's 7, Simonds 2
" 27	Simonds 5, Reading Deaf 4
Feb. 17	H. & P's 8, Simonds 1
" 24	Simonds 1, Gas Co. 8
Mar. 3	Simonds 4, M.P.N.I. 5
Miss M. Foot 28, Miss S. Creale 9, Miss Le Warne 1, A. N. Other 2	

Football Club

The bright news from the Football Section, writes R. W. Sawdon-Smith, is that our Minor Team has won the Second Division of the Reading and District Minor League. It is top of the league with 19 points, and one game in hand.

We are quite aware of the old saying, "Many a slip 'twixt cup and lip", but as our boys have already beaten by 11—0 the one remaining team they have to play, we are confident as to the outcome. Newbury Northcroft inflicted our Minors' only league defeat this season, so a close return game was expected. All expectations were fulfilled, for after being 2—0 down, our boys rallied to finish winners by 5 goals to 4.

Presentation to Len Martin

After this game the team presented a pewter tankard to their coach and trainer, Len Martin, on the occasion of his birthday. The other achievement to which he has steered them this season is the semi-final of the Reading Minor Cup, to be played at Reading Aerodrome Ground against Cholsey Minors. This stage of the competition was not reached uneventfully. Apart from knocking out First Division side Hagbourne, three games with Peppard were needed before that tie could be decided. Roy Russell has scored 28 League and 10 Cup goals. Congratulations to Bill Heybourne, who was once again chosen for the Reading Minor League Representative Team.

The Senior Team

Our Senior team are not so well placed, lying fifth from the bottom of the 2nd Division, Reading and District League. However, when it is remembered that we started the season with a new team, and that in our first eight league games we suffered seven defeats, our present figures show a healthy trend.

Played 18 : Won 6, Drawn 2, Lost 10. Points 14.

This means that in the last ten games we have won 5, drawn 2, lost 3. This, coupled with the knowledge that we drew with Burghfield and Battle Reserves, who were then second and third

in the table, makes next season's outlook promising. The team has been strengthened by the recall of former schoolboy International, Joe Jeffcoat, and the return after injury of Bill Maslen. We have also taken the opportunity of including in the team Bill Heybourne, of the Minors. Although we have outplayed higher placed teams, our need for a free scoring centre forward is not yet filled. Once we can solve this problem we feel that a goal rush can be expected.

Hockey

Although the season is not yet over, there being nine more matches to play, it is already clear that this has been a most satisfactory year for the Hockey Club, the position in games being :

Won 10, Lost 9, Drawn 4.

Playing at home on January 1, we were unable to avenge the defeat we suffered at the hands of Huntley & Palmers at the beginning of the season, but playing with only 10 men, we were satisfied to draw 2—2.

Perhaps the most gratifying result was our 2—1 defeat of Newbury on January 22. Having already lost once and drawn once with this strong side, we set off from the start to do our best to put matters right, and it was only in the last five minutes that victory was ours, a corner shot by Wallace being deflected into the net by three defenders !

A Weak Link

The 3—0 defeat at Camberley was unfortunate for the Brewery, as, leaving Reading on and in an assortment of vehicles, we arrived at the ground to find that the motor-cycle carrying

Representative Football at the Sports Ground

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On February 19, at the Sports Ground, we had the pleasure of staging a Representative Match for the first time in some years. The occasion was the Berks and Bucks Inter-Minor League Cup Tie, between the Reading Minor League and Chalfont Minor League. After being 2—1 down at half-time the Reading team scored 8 times without reply in the second half. One of the successes of the match, and scorer of two goals, was Colin Rose, younger brother of John Rose, Vice-Captain and inside right of Simonds Senior Side. Bill Heybourne, skipper of Simonds Minors, was once again chosen as left back for the Reading team.

Before the end of the season we hope to stage for the Berks and Bucks Benevolent Fund a match between the Reading and District League and the Reading Wednesday League.

Philpott, goalkeeper, and Wiltshire, winger, had not "made the grade". Starting the game with only 9 men it was not until half-time that the two grimy players arrived, a chain had broken soon after their leaving Reading.

Although it would seem that our defeat of Maidenhead by 4 goals to nil on March 5 was a good win, it is to be reported that Maidenhead were playing with only 10 men, and, as far as the Brewery is concerned is the fact that we ourselves, being one man short at the start of the match, were lucky to find a volunteer to fill the gap in the person of Shepherd (Hollerith Dept.), who had come along to

watch the soccer match. He turned out for us, and playing on the right wing in his first ever game of hockey, scored a goal. Good for you, John!

RESULTS

Nov.	20	Reading Extra 3rd	Home	Won 3-2
	27	Newbury	Away	Lost 3-1
Dec.	4	Y.M.C.A.	Home	Lost 2-1
	11	Wallingford	Home	Won 2-0
	18	Reading Extra 3rd	Away	Won 2-1
Jan.	1	Huntley & Palmers	Home	Drew 2-2
	8	Newbury	Home	Drew 3-3
	15	Old Ranelagh "A"	Away	Cancelled, Ground Unfit.
	22	Newbury	Home	Won 2-1
	29	N.I.R.D.	Home	Won 3-2
Feb.	5	St. Mark's	Home	Lost 6-0
	12	Camberley	Away	Lost 3-0
	19	Henley	Home	Lost 3-2
	26	Wallingford	Away	Cancelled, Ground unfit.
Mar.	5	Maidenhead 4th	Home	Won 4-0

Leading Scorers:—

Beckett	...	16	Prior	...	4
Wallace	...	6	Knight	...	2
Dyke	...	6			

Cricket Club's Annual Meeting . . .

New Secretary Appointed

Mr. K. G. S. Organ was elected Secretary, following the resignation announced of the temporary Secretary, Mr. R. Sawdon Smith, at the Club's Annual General Meeting held at the Social Club on March 14.

Mr. G. Harding was appointed Fixture Secretary and Committee Members are: E. Crutchley, C. R. Josey, K. White, K. Gibbons and F. Benham.

Officials for the coming season are:
First XI Captain: A. J. Hawkins.
Vice-Captain: K. G. S. Organ.
Second XI Captain: E. Barrett.
Vice-Captain: J. Jeffcoat.

First XI Scorer: Mr. T. Kent.

Second XI Scorer: Mr. W. Hurst.

Umpires: Mr. K. White and Mr. F. Chapman.

Items discussed during the meeting included fixture lists, proposed entry into the local Mid-Week Cup Competition and dates for the first trial matches of the season.

A request for improved facilities for the Scorer was raised by Mr. A. J. Hawkins, and a proposal for a new score board is to be submitted to the Central Sports Committee for consideration.

. . . and Annual Dinner

Following the success of the Club's Annual Dinner held last September, it was decided at the Annual General

Meeting to arrange a similar function this year.

Angling Club

Since the formation of this new Club, bad weather, coupled with a delay in obtaining weighing scales, forced the cancellation of an inaugural match arranged to take place before the close season.

"The coming season is keenly awaited", writes D. A. Fry, the

Club Secretary.

"Our membership is still steady, but new members will be welcome. We are still on the look out for our own private fishing ground, and we hope that it will not be long before we are successful in finding one", he said.

TENNIS CLUB

Since the last edition of the "HOP LEAF NEWS" we have been notified that a men's team has been accepted into Division III of the Berks L.T.A. League: we hoped to be accepted into Division II, which we consider near our strength, but the four matches we have to play in Division III will be good experience for the team, and it will help them to obtain match temperament and match "tightness" for Division II (we hope) next year.

The fixture list is nearly full, one or two dates remaining. This year, for the first time, a second team is playing, and it is hoped they will have a successful season. Len Knight (Power House) is going to run the American tournaments, and he hopes to run at least one a month.

Come and Join Us!

For those members who want to learn tennis and those who wish to have rough edges knocked off their style, an evening is being set aside, and it is hoped to get the first team players to come along and coach the members. (Watch the notice boards for announcements). We are very short of ladies, so,

ladies, come along and learn to play tennis!

The courts have been re-wired and their surfaces look in good condition.

If any member has to buy new equipment this year, first see Les Twiney (Cashiers) who will explain the Club's arrangement with a local sports shop.

DARTS

The Reading Social Club men's teams, who play in Division III of the "Hop Leaf" League, have played 23 matches. They won 9, lost 8, and have drawn 6.

The ladies' team, playing in Division "B" of the same league, played 19 matches, winning 6, losing 8 and drawing 5.

As this is their first season they have every right to be pleased with themselves.

More players for both teams would be welcome and would be sure of some very enjoyable evenings during the coming season.

Indoor Sports Items

The Bristol Branch "Hop Leaf" Skittles League teams are faring moderately well, but enthusiasm exceeds success. We have enjoyed several social evenings by invitations to various Tied and Free Houses.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR . . .

STAINES BRANCH MANAGER GIVES THANKS

Dear Sir,

May I ask for the indulgence of space in the HOP LEAF NEWS to place on record my thanks to the members of the staff here, the Middlesex Fire Service and the local Police for their good work on the night of the fire at the Brewery.

I feel that it was due to the valuable assistance which some of our employees were able to give to the firemen that the fire was so quickly got under control and the damage restricted.

Yours faithfully,
E. GOSNEY.

* * *

Sympathy from "Pompey"

Dear Sir,

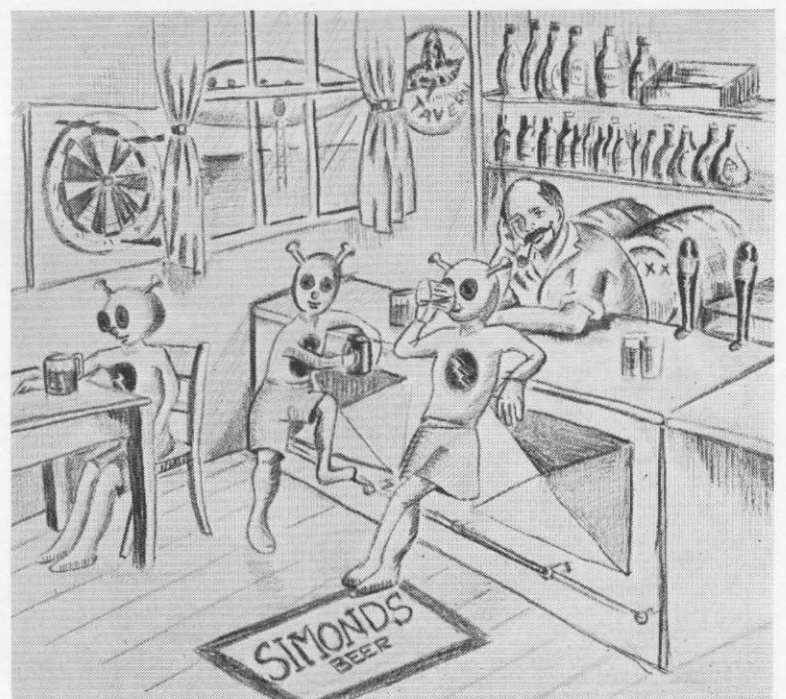
One can sympathise with our dear Editor's lot (although I fail to see why). Fifty pages of it to fill every quarter, and to crown his agony, now a Staff Publication added. He must surely get the "lot" in return for his gallant

efforts to please somebody—if anybody at all.

He endeavours to try and illuminate (horror) within our Breweries, Associated Companies, Public Houses, Hotels, Off-Licences and the far flung Branches, and at the same time advertise our ever-growing range of wares and effects, etc., and so produce a House Journal that holds interest and involves such a variety and assortment of interests and motives behind! (more horror) all involving much hard work and tact, carried by him on our behalf.

Why should we worry over his task, or even sympathise with him over material difficulty, beats me. Furthermore, who cares—he's not paid for the job—we just read it and in vain look and see if it holds some small mention or some flattering photograph of us. I don't really know why I even bother to write this "BEER'S BEST".

PHILLUP MACGLASS,
Portsmouth Branch.



Cartooning is the hobby of Mr. G. Stevens, of the Barley Room, Reading, who submitted this contribution.

They have met in Germany

Two former members of the Wheelwrights' Department now on National Service are together again in Germany serving in the 1st Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment at Goslar.

They are Privates J. Clinch and T. Maslin.



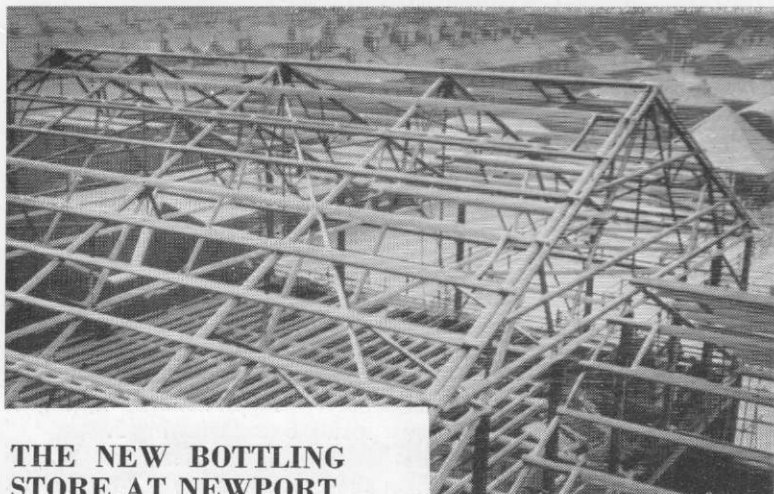
SIXTEEN NEW SAVERS TOWARDS TWO MILLION

Reading Savings Group's Fine Achievement

As part of the National Campaign for 2,000,000 new savers Lord Mackintosh, Chairman of the National Savings Movement, has appealed to the Honorary Secretaries of all Savings Groups to obtain at least three new savers this year.

The Simonds Reading National

Savings Group has already enrolled 16 new members, reports Mr. T. W. Kent, the Group's Hon. Secretary, who says, "Our group has more than complied with this request, but we are still going all out for more new savers".



THE NEW BOTTLING STORE AT NEWPORT

Snow softens the scene when these two photographs were taken by Mr. S. N. Bennett, Second Brewer, at Newport.



Our Advertising Agents—Charles F. Higham Ltd. practice what they preach! The picture shows the back fitting? at the Bar in the Tudor Room of the Park Lane Hotel where C.F.H. held their Staff Dinner.

Reading's Tramps' Ball

*

The Tramps' Ball which was held at the Social Club, Reading, on February 19 last was a great success, and was well supported by all sports sections.

The room was decorated in true tramp style. Tables were covered with newspaper cloths and lighting by candles in beer bottles. Empty cases and casks were used for seating and ingeniously controlled braziers provided the heating.

A supper consisting of sausages, potatoes in their jackets, cheese, rolls and butter, was cooked by Mrs. Hannis, and music was provided by Ron Humphries and his "Tramp" Band.

Mr. Jewel, of the Maltings, won the prize for being the Best Dressed Tramp, and two ladies, Mrs. M. Pilling and Miss J. Marcham, both of the Accountant's Office, tied for the best Gypsy Costume.

The evening was organised by a Committee consisting of Messrs. R. Gray (Hockey), L. Twiney (Tennis), K. Organ (Table Tennis) and R. Sawdon-Smith (Cricket and Football).

The Invalids

We are pleased to hear that Mr. T. H. Antill, Free Trade Representative, at Newport, is now well on the road to recovery after undergoing an operation and we trust that he will soon be completely fit again.

It gives us further pleasure to pass on the numerous messages of good wishes received by us during his sojourn in hospital from his many friends in the trade.

* * *

It is with regret that we hear of the illness of Mr. J. Hamilton, Tied House Supervisor at Newport, who is, at the time of writing, in St. Woolos Hospital, Newport.

We wish him a complete return to health, and to him also we pass messages of good wishes from his many friends amongst our licensees.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

This new feature is introduced for the benefit of the staff.

If you have a suitable advertisement for insertion in the next issue, for example, holiday accommodation, write out the advertisement and send it at once to:—

The Editor, "Hop Leaf News",
The Brewery, Reading.

Box numbers can be arranged if required. All advertisements must bear the name and department or branch of the sender.

FOR SALE

ONE cyclemaster, very recently overhauled, £15 15s. 0d. Can be seen at Reading. Write Box 101, "Hop Leaf News", The Brewery, Reading.

A REMINGTON 60 Electric Dry Shaver, £5 5s. 0d. Can be seen at Reading. Write Box 102, "Hop Leaf News", The Brewery, Reading.

WANTED

CONTRIBUTIONS of every description for the next issue of the "Hop Leaf News". Send them to: The Editor, "Hop Leaf News", The Brewery, Reading.



"Who is this intruder?" thinks Pedro as he spots his reflection in the immaculate coach work of his master's (Transport Manager, Mr. F. E. Dryden) car.

LATE NEWS

NEW BAR FOR READING SPORTS CLUB

A celebration opening of the new bar in the Pavilion at the Sports Ground, Berkeley Avenue, Reading, takes place on Saturday, April 30th.

All are invited.