



HOP LEAF NEWS



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Sports REVIEW

Promotion

By winning Division I, Section B, of the Reading and District League, the first team secured promotion to the Premier Division of the League. Unfortunately, a number of games were lost towards the end of the season, but our brilliant earlier record enabled us to win the league by 2 points.

John Rose lost the honour of being leading goal-scorer for the first time since he joined the Club. However, he was not very far behind Ken Shepherd, who had a very good first season.

The merit in winning promotion is seen in the fact that there were no fewer than three Cup finalists in the same Division—Berks Police, who lost to Grimsby Police, after extra time, in the National Police Championship; Newbury Northcroft, who beat Hungerford in the Reading Senior Cup Final; and East Reading, who won the Berks and Bucks Junior Cup.

Our unlucky period lasted until the play-off of Sections A and B of the First Division, when we met Rabson Rovers, who were captained by Jack Shepherd of the Hollerith Department.

The "B" Team's league position showed a slight improvement on

last year. Towards the end of the season we were fielding a very young side, and once they had blended together a number of good results were obtained. We hope that this policy will pay dividends in the years to come.

Resignation of Mr. T. W. Bradford

Mr. "Wally" Bradford resigned from the Honorary General Secretaryship of Simonds Sports and Social Club at this year's A.G.M., after 36 years in office. He had been the Club's first and only Secretary, and it is impossible to estimate what the Club owes to him. The pre-war fêtes at Coley Park will never be forgotten by anyone who attended—Reading has never seen the like since, and is never likely to. Even the local newspaper changed its name for one day only to 'SIMONDS' GAZETTE'!

He has been responsible for the organisation of nearly all the firm's Balls and Sports Days, besides the day-to-day running of the Social Club in Bridge Street and the Sports Ground in Berkeley Avenue.

It is very pleasing to know that although he no longer holds office, his wisdom and experience is still at the call of the Club.

A New Secretary

Following the resignation of Mr. Bradford, a special General Meeting was held in the Social Club on 10th March, when Mr. Richard Sawdon Smith was elected to fill the office of Hon. Gen. Secretary.

Mr. Smith has been with the Company ten years and is employed in the Personnel Department. At the time of being elected he was already a member of the Social Club Committee, Secretary of the Football Club, and a member of the Cricket Club Selection Committee. He has previously held office as Cricket Club Secretary



Messrs. Bill Parrish and Stan Fullick have reason to look pleased for they have won the Delegates' Cup for the second year running. We look forward to the hat-trick.

and Assistant Secretary of the Table Tennis Club. His other active interests include refereeing, traditional jazz, and the B.P. Guild of Old Scouts.

A New Treasurer

At a Committee meeting held on 11th April, Mr. Geoffrey Shiel was elected to fill the position of Treasurer left vacant by the resignation, due to ill-health, of Mr. Reg. Broad—to whom we send our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Mr. Shiel joined the Octagon Brewery, Plymouth, in November, 1945, and was transferred to Reading in January, 1956. He is now employed in the Accountants' Department. He is already a member of the Cricket Club and Football Club Committees.

A New Sports Section

On 31st March an inaugural meeting of Simonds' Ladies' Netball Club was held. Miss Ann Levey (Branch Department) was elected Secretary of the new section. Two teams were formed and a number of games have since been played. Considerable enthusiasm has been shown, but any girls not yet playing are invited to do so, and older members to act as Umpires are urgently needed.

Football Club Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner of the Football Club was held in the Social Club on 21st May. Mr. J. D. Richardson, the Club Chairman, presented plaques to the first team for winning the First Division, Section B, of the Reading and District League. Mr. Sawdon Smith said that every full season

since he had been Football Secretary the Club had won plaques, and he hoped that this happy state of affairs would continue.

Hockey Club Dinner and Dance

The Hockey Club ran its first Dinner and Dance at the Grosvenor House on 2nd May. It was a great success. The Dance was also a farewell party to Mr. Rex Cobb, Captain of the Hockey Team, who was leaving the following day to take up his appointment at Devonport Branch.

CRICKET RESULTS

SIMONDS "A"

May	10 v. Shiplake Memorial (H)	Drawn
	Hall.	
	17 v. Courages' ...	(A) Cancelled
	18 v. Eversley ...	(A) Lost
	24 v. Newbury 2nd XI ... (H)	Won
	(Highest score: D. Batson (51) v. Shiplake).	

SIMONDS "B"

May	10 v. St. Sebastian's ...	(A) Lost
	17 v. Southern Electricity (H)	Drawn
	Board.	
	24 v. Kingham's ...	(A) Lost

Darts Success

On 2nd May, at the Reading Clubs' Darts Finals, Bill Parrish and Stan Fullick, representing the Social Club, won the Delegates' Cup for the second year in succession. A great performance!

CONTINUED ON
BACK PAGE

READING NETBALL TEAMS





Happy faces at the Newport Branch Staff Party held on 28th March. About 300 people attended.

THINK IT OVER!

**You can afford
to make your
own personal
arrangements for
medical treatment**

THERE can be no more direct or convincing manner of explaining briefly the advantages of membership of B.U.P.A. (British United Provident Association, to give it its full title) than to quote an example of what can happen in case of illness, where arrangements for private accommodation and treatment can be made much more speedily than if the patient has to take his place in the queue for an ordinary hospital bed.

Take the case of Mr. X, a 34-year-old accountant who had belonged to B.U.P.A., with his wife and two children, for four years, being registered under Scale 4, the annual subscription for which is £10 per year.

One afternoon his daughter came home from school complaining of pain in her throat and ear. The family doctor was called in and he at once arranged for her to enter a local nursing home where a major operation was performed that evening.

Shortly afterwards his wife, who had been worrying about her daughter, had a nervous breakdown and she, too, entered the nursing home.

Then the bills began to arrive for the daughter: four weeks in the nursing home at 16 guineas a week=£67 4s.; surgeon's and anaesthetist's fees, £59 17s.; consultations and x-rays, £10 10s. A total of £137 11s.

The mother spent nine weeks in the nursing home, for which the bill was £151 4s. The in-patient medical specialist's fees were £42, and there was a £6 6s. account for

consultations. So Mr. X was faced with a further bill for £199 10s.; a grand total of £337 10s.

Under B.U.P.A. Scale 4 he received, however, a total of £116 11s. for his daughter and £177 9s. for his wife; the whole benefit being £294. Out of his own pocket, therefore, he had to find only £43 1s. Had he been registered under Scale 5 the benefit payment would have covered almost the entire cost of this disastrous visitation of sickness and ill-health.

B.U.P.A. is a nation-wide, non-profit Association formed to shield its subscribers against heavy expenses arising from surgical operations and other specialist treatment as a result of either illness or accident.

People can, of course, join as individuals, but the benefits of the Group Scheme are that standard rates of subscription are reduced by 20 per cent., although the full benefits still apply and group members are entitled to benefit immediately on acceptance and are not subject to the usual three-month waiting period.

The scheme has innumerable psychological benefits such as freedom to choose the surgeon, greater freedom of visiting hours and the avoidance of harmful delays and anxieties which pressure on the National Health Service often involves.

Mr. K. Morell, of our Secretarial Department at Reading, is the Group Secretary. He will be pleased to forward to you literature issued by the Association and to help you with any personal problems.

WE WERE THERE

READING Civil Defence Day was held on Sunday, 1st June, at Brock Barracks.

Our Company was the only industrial concern to take part, and we were represented by a lorry and trailer pump. The former carried the Civil Defence wireless intercom. master set.

NEWS FROM NEWPORT

OUR Annual Branch Staff Party was held on 28th March. Owing to the growing popularity of this event and the limited accommodation available many late applicants for tickets were disappointed this year. But the 300 who thronged the *King's Head Hotel*, Newport, thoroughly enjoyed the programme and the excellent buffet provided.

An entertaining feature of the evening was a Rock 'n' Roll contest which was enjoyed as much by the spectators as by the couples who entered.

We were happy to welcome as our guests the Chairman of the Company, Sir Miles Dempsey, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Wake, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Quelch and Mr. F. R. Scott.

HIS old friends of the Newport Branch will wish to join us in offering our congratulations to Mr. Albert Powell, a pensioner of the Company, who celebrated his Golden Wedding on 19th January.

Mr. Powell is now 73 years old and spent most of his service as a driver with Phillips & Sons Ltd., our predecessors in the Newport Area. He drove for 32 years without an accident, was awarded several safety-first medals, and came top of a group of men who took part in a safe driving competition.

Mr. and Mrs. Powell, who have lived at 59 Stow Hill, Newport, for 45 years, have two sons and a daughter and four grandchildren.

CONGRATULATIONS to Fred Manship (Bottling Stores, Tank Room), whose wife has recently presented him with a daughter.

THE Alley Skittles Team wound up this season with a coach trip to the Wye Valley on Saturday, 24th May. The weather was rather lowering, but our spirits were high! After visiting the lovely Symonds Yat, a halt was made at Monmouth for dinner at the *King's Head Hotel*.

The party then proceeded to the *Rose and Crown Inn* at Tintern, one of our houses, where good ale was enjoyed whilst listening to entertainment provided by customers accompanied by the talented host, Mr. Frank Curthoys.

OUR very best wishes for the future to Mr. A. Craig and Mr. E. Vacara. Mr. Craig left the Company on 28th December last to take up a position with a local firm, and Mr. Vacara retired on 4th January. We are very sorry that this notification failed "to make print" in our last issue.

WE also bade farewell to two long-serving members of our staff and we wish them both a long and happy retirement. They are: Mr. F. A. Strode, who completed 39 years' service and was presented with a wristlet watch by the Head Brewer, Mr. F. E. R. Phipps, and Mr. J. Rutherford, who served for 30 years, and was the recipient of an inscribed cigarette-case fitted with lighter.

Mr. F. ROESER HONoured by Yeomen Warders

Hep and Hop

ARHYTHM Group which is attracting a lot of attention south of the Thames is "The Hepsters" led by Dick Hallett of the Tamar General Office.

Their modern style was very well received at an All-Star Talent Show held at the Palace Theatre, Plymouth, in April. We are not quite sure where Hep and Hop meet, but we have no doubt at all that a combination of both spells a good time for all concerned in this case!

SAME INITIALS!

BEST Wishes to Miss P. A. Cronk, shorthand-typist at Portsmouth Branch, who became Mrs. Crowther on 5th April. She received a wedding gift of a canteen of cutlery from her colleagues.

WE learn from our London Branch that Mr. F. Roeser, who recently retired from the Travelling Staff, has been made an honorary member of the Yeoman Warders, H.M. Tower of London, as a mark of their esteem and so that he can continue his visits. We share with Mr. Roeser his pride in this unusual honour.

Mr. Roeser joined the firm in October, 1920, and learned the business the hard way, by having experience in most Departments at the London Stores. He finally transferred to the Travelling Staff early in 1946. He is a son-in-law of our former London Branch Traveller, the late Mr. W. T. Miller.

We understand that his colleagues are arranging a presentation luncheon to Mr. and Mrs. Roeser and we join with them in offering our best wishes to a fine representative who has always had the best interests of his employers at heart.

TRUSSO! . . . AND THOMAS WAS A COOPER AT LAST

*We are indebted
to the Editor of
The Morning
Advertiser for
this entertaining
account of a
very old custom*



Tommy Mort takes a revive after his ordeal of passing out as a fully-fledged cooper.

MR. HERBERT MORT, five years tenant of the *Homfray Arms*, a Simond's house at Newport (Mon), travelled up to the Brewery at Reading the other day. He went to see his son Thomas receive his indentures as a cooper after undergoing the age-old initiation ceremony.

For Thomas it was his 21st birthday, and the end of nearly six years' apprenticeship which began at Newport at another brewery taken over by Simonds. Now, any day, he expects his call-up papers for National Service, but his job will be waiting for him when he gets back.

"Trusso!" The cry of foreman, Mr. Kelly, rang round the cooper's shop. The clanging of the iron bands strung from the beams took up the echo, and with lusty cries the men rolled in the hogshead barrel—made by Thomas.

LAURELS . . .

To KEN SHEPHERD (Engineers') on being selected to play for the Reading and District Football League.

To IVOR BORTON (B.B. L./Stage) and RAY MORTIMER (Electricians') for helping the 4/6th Royal Berks T.A. to reach the Final of the National T.A. Football Cup for the second season running.

To BERT RANDALL (Managed House Accounts) for assisting Maidenhead United in winning the Corinthian Football League.

The young cooper climbed inside. Three of his mates hammered the encircling bands into place with a brisk tattoo and then the "fun" began.

First treacle was poured on to his head; soot and flour followed, and the barrel was topped-up with wood shavings. Over on to its side with a thump went the barrel, and then Thomas was rolled around the workshops—more flour, etc., being added on route.

The barrel was up-ended when it got back and Thomas dragged himself upright with a dazed look on his face. Quickly the black on his face split as he grinned back at his laughing workmates.

Thomas had made the grade; he was a real cooper now, and his friends cheered as he stepped forward with his licensee-father to receive his indentures from Mr. E. J. Hollebone, the assistant head brewer. Mr. H. Dines, the head cooper, was there, too. Together they drank a toast.

Back in the inner workshop the coopers were waiting for Thomas. As he stepped through the door, after a quick bath, they all started singing: "He's 21 today."

Shop foreman Mr. G. Kelly led the toast to his success as a cooper and his birthday, and ended: "I hope that the discipline we have tried to instil in you will stand you in good stead."

Replying, Thomas said: "I would like to thank Pat for all he has done for me. I have made some

good friends," and quickly he added: "Thanks for putting on a good show."

Pat is the nickname of Mr. Ron Patterson, the master cooper from whom Thomas has learned the trade. After passing out Mr. Patterson joined the Guards for 12 years and became a company sergeant-major. When he came back he went to Newport for Simonds, and when the cooperage closed came back a little over two years ago.

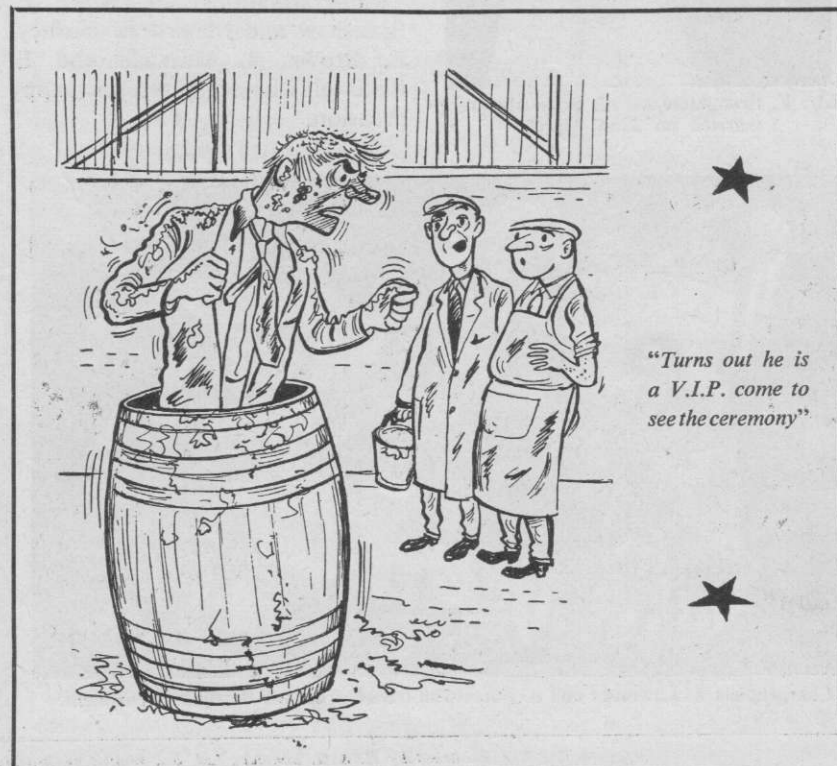
Thomas came with him and since then has been living with

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson. "I've been like a second father to him," said Mr. Patterson.

Two pensioner coopers were having a chuckle as they watched the fun. Both knew all about it, they had been treated the same many years ago.

There was Mr. W. Sparks, who retired 10 years ago after 54 years' coopering at the Brewery, and Mr. E. Carpenter, who had completed 52 years when he retired four years ago.

It seemed once a cooper always a cooper.



Sports CONTINUED

ON Wednesday, 30th April, the men's hockey team concluded a most successful season, the final result being : Played 35 ; Lost 11 ; Drawn 10 ; Won 14.

Only three games were cancelled (twice owing to the weather, and once owing to the inability of the opposition to raise a team).

Our record is all the more meritorious in view of the stronger matches which our Fixtures Secretary, Ted Dyke, had arranged for us. He must be congratulated on the amount of hard work he put into this side of the sport for us, as must also Ted Spary for his difficult task in looking after the finances.

As far as playing members are concerned, we have probably been more fortunate this season than in any in the past, having regularly fielded a full side from a playing strength of some 15 members. We have also been very fortunate with Umpires, Messrs. Puddephat, Prior and Dyke having between them managed to provide us with an Umpire for every match.

On Easter Sunday we again entertained our friends the Vandals from Cardiff, and beat them by 4 goals to 2. But perhaps our best performance of the season was the holding of a very strong Douai

Abbey side to a goalless draw on Sunday, 3rd March.

At very short notice it was decided to take advantage of a cancellation and hold a Dinner and Dance at the Grosvenor, Caversham, on May 2nd. In the capable hands of Rex Cobb and Ted Spary, it turned out to be a most enjoyable evening, there being 43 present to dinner, and a total of 70 for the dancing which followed. There have been many requests to make this an annual event.

Unfortunately, this will be the last season, for a while, for our Captain, Rex Cobb, who is taking up an appointment at Devonport. We wish him the very best of luck, and hope to see him on the field again when he finds time to come to Reading to visit us.

Thanks are due to Len Povey, the groundsman, for looking after the pitch for us, and also to Mrs. Turner, who came along in all weathers to open the bar—Bless her !

It is hoped to start training for next season early in August, and we are now looking for more players, experienced or otherwise, to enable us to fulfil the larger programme of both Saturday and Sunday matches which is being arranged. Incidentally, you cricketers, Hockey is a fine means of "keeping your eye in" (no wise-cracks, please !) for next season. Interested persons are asked to contact E. Spary (Ex. 36) or S. R. Gray, as soon as possible.

NEWS from STAINES



Mr. R. Broughton and his bride who were married on 22nd March.

THE Staines Branch Staff Dance, held on 21st March, was a great success, and was attended by some 180 people, including visitors from Reading and our London Branch.

Particularly welcome were Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Downes and other members of the Reading Brewing Staff.

Congratulations to Mrs. E. Bradshaw and Messrs. E. Gosney, E. Brown, J. Marshall and E. Bakewell who organised this happy occasion.



Chargehands A. Lawrence and B. Bates with friends from the Bottling Department.

STAFF CHANGES

We try to keep up with events, but there comes a time when our long-suffering Printer cries : "Hold, enough!" There are sure to be appointments, promotions and newcomers, therefore, for which you will look in vain on this page. But to all, listed or unlisted, we offer our best wishes for success and happiness at their new desks.

READING :

Appointments.

- E. W. Lindsell—Appointed as Stocktaker/Auditor for the Bristol/South Wales Area. Mr. Lindsell was formerly Assistant Manager at the *Queen's Hotel*, Newport, for about five years.
- M. Chalcraft—Appointed as Assistant Brewer. He joined us on 17th March as Junior Brewer, having completed two years' pupilage at Greene, King & Sons Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds.
- P. E. Hammond—Appointed to succeed Mr. J. H. Wadhams as Assistant Secretary. Mr. Hammond has had considerable experience in the Accountants' Department, and has for some time been Secretary to the Staff Salaries and Appointments Committee.
- B. Salmon—Appointed Assistant to Chief Engineer.
- R. J. Bartlett—succeeded Mr. W. P. Connolly as Registrar on 1st January. As we go to press we hear that Mr. Bartlett has been released from hospital. Our best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery.
- Miss T. M. Clarke—Appointed as Director's Secretary. For seven years before joining us Miss Clarke was Secretary to the famous racehorse owner, the Hon. Dorothy Paget (a most eventful life, she tells us). She has been a Secretary in a large industrial firm, war-time ambulance driver in Birmingham, motor-cycle racer, and expert horsewoman. For good measure, Miss Clarke also holds a pilot's "A" Licence !

Transfers.

- L. Trendall—Cask Dept. to Wine and Spirit Dept.
- J. Wooldridge—Managed House Accounts Section to Wages Dept.
- S. Davey—Wages Dept. to Managed House Accounts Section.
- Mrs. M. Digweed—Telephonist to Hollerith Dept.
- P. Wardle—Cask Dept. to Surveyor's Dept.
- P. Russell—Accounts Dept. to Secretarial Dept.
- D. Thomas—Surveyor's Dept. to Accounts Dept.
- K. T. Morrell—Secretarial Dept. Clerk i/c B.U.P.A. (vice R. J. Bartlett).
- T. W. Kent—Accounts Dept. to Secretarial Dept.

A Junior Staff Training Scheme has been devised to provide opportunity for those selected to extend their experience in various Departments and to qualify for positions of more responsibility. The following were selected for the initial trial of the scheme at Head Office, and we wish them every success :—

- R. Parry—ex Newport.
- A. L. Wood—ex Branch Department, Reading.
- D. Howard—ex Plymouth.

New Employees :

- Mrs. M. J. Hitchman—Hollerith Dept.
- Mrs. A. Palmer—Telephonist.
- M. J. Giddings—Laboratory.
- Mrs. D. A. Brown—Accounts Dept.
- D. J. Roberts—Accounts Dept.
- Miss M. G. Patrick—Hollerith Dept.
- C. E. H. Sankey—Bottling Dept.
- Miss D. G. Berry—Home Trade Dept.
- D. H. Brown—Laboratory.

Reinstatement after Military Service. (Welcome back !)

- T. C. Hawkins—Branch Dept.

BRANCHES :

DEVONPORT :

- F. R. J. Cobb (ex Reading)—Appointed as 2nd Brewer.

SOUTHAMPTON SUB-DEPOT :

- A. E. Andrews—Appointed as Assistant Manager. He has been in charge of our Southampton Depot since its establishment in December, 1955, and his many friends in the area will welcome news of his promotion. The continued expansion of our business in this area is a tribute to his ability.

BOURNEMOUTH DEPOT :

- J. W. Chandler—Appointed Manager (see the Summer issue of the *HOP LEAF GAZETTE*).

New Employees :

- J. G. Davey—Devonport.
- R. B. Filliter—Bristol.
- P. C. Bayes—Brighton.
- Miss B. J. Gagen—London.
- D. J. Welch—Devonport.
- Miss R. P. Coles—Devonport.
- J. F. Williams—Newport.
- D. A. Davies—Bridgend.
- G. M. Leggatt—Devonport.
- Miss M. Miles—Swindon.
- Miss M. Avent—Devonport.

STOP PRESS

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mrs. Mockford, the popular forewoman in the Bottling Department at Reading, following a road accident at Reading.