

HOP LEAF NEWS



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

VOL. XXXII

WINTER 1958

NUMBER 4

INCREASED COLD ROOM CAPACITY

AT READING

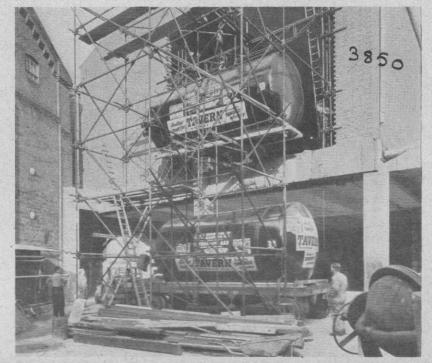
Many members of the staff at Reading will have wondered what was happening when they saw the enormous Tavern tanks arriving at the Brewery. Altogether, 36 new glasslined storage tanks are being installed in an extension to the existing cold room at Reading to cope with the increased demand for Tavern.

Each tank will hold 145 barrels (or 5,220 gallons) of beer, which will mean an increase of about 25 per cent. in the total storage capacity of the Brewery, when the new cold room is ready for use.

The tanks are being manufactured by Enamelled Metal Products Ltd. in their factory at Leven, in Scotland. They are delivered two at a time by lorry and trailer, the trip taking two days' driving time.

The construction of the building to house the tanks has presented quite a problem, as their combined weight, when full, will be nearly 1,000 tons. As a result, piles have had to be driven over 40 feet into the ground to withstand the strain.

One side of the building has been left open to allow the $3\frac{1}{2}$ -ton tanks to be lifted 18 feet up from the lorries to the floor level of the new cold room and then eased gently into position.



Special scaffolding had to be designed and erected before the tanks could be lifted into place.

Mr. McNay, who has come from Scotland to install the tanks, hopes to have them all in position by Christmas—or Hogmanay at least!

Happy Landings in Reading

Two forced landings were recently made on Brewery property. The first was when a Glider from the Lasham Gliding Centre at Alton landed on the Sports Ground, Berkeley Avenue. Although the Glider smashed into a small tree, no damage was done, and the pilot, Mr. Mackenzie was unhurt. The Glider was later towed back to, Alton.

The second unexpected arrival from the air was a swan, which made a forced landing on top of some cases in the empties yard, and was unable to fly away again. It was lifted down by a fork-lifter, and the Bottling Foreman locked it away in a shed to await the arrival of the Swanmaster, who took it away in a carpenter's bag.



Another of the 145-barrel tanks arrives in Fobney Street for installation in the new Cold Room extension.

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Presentations by the Chairman

In June our Chairman, General had great pleasure in presenting a Sir Miles Dempsey, personally gold watch to Mr. E. P. Blackford made two presentations to members of the Firm. Both have performed outstanding services to the Com-

On 16th June, prior to the commencement of the Board Meeting, the Chairman presented Mr. T. W. Bradford with a bureau in recognition of his services as Secretary of the Social Club from 1920 to 1957.

All our readers, we know, will agree that this was a most well deserved tribute.

And on 30th June the Chairman, again prior to a Board Meeting, on completing fifty years of loyal

Mr. Blackford began work in the Bottling Stores at Reading in 1908. He served for the whole period of the First World War, mainly in the Middle East, and on demobilisation in 1919 assumed duties in the Beer Cellars. From 1923 until 1933 he was employed at the Brighton Branch Stores. He returned to Reading in the latter year and worked first in the Beer Cellars. and later in the Cold Room until 1949. Since then he has been Night Watchman.

Mr. E. Lillyman, late foreman of the Wine and Spirits Department, Devonport, who retired on 31st October, was presented with a silver tea set by our Chairman, General Sir Miles Dempsey, on 19th November.

Making the presentation, together with a list of colleagues who had subscribed, Sir Miles wished Mr. Lillyman a happy, healthy and contented retirement.

On behalf of the Wine and Spirit Department, Mrs. Young-blood presented Mr. Lillyman with a bouquet of flowers for his wife.

At the conclusion of the presentation, three long service employees, Messrs W. Spriddle (39 years), R. Tamlyn and C. Wotton (both 36 years), were presented to the Chairman by Mr. David Simonds.



"Who said anything about races? I'm busy!"

A delightful child study taken by our photographer at the Sports Day.

READING

It is our first and very pleasant duty to welcome the appointment of Mr. E. D. C. Campbell as Welfare Officer of the Company.

He has already made himself known to everybody at Reading and to most of

We wish him great success and happiness in this important work.

Mr. Campbell has an office in the Personnel Department and his telephone

He will be available to give guidance on personal problems and welfare matters to any who wish to consult him.

Visits to employees who are away sick and assistance with funeral arrangements on the death of an employee will also be among his many responsibilities.

Social and recreational activities at Reading will come under his direction, and he will be responsible for running the Sports Ground at Reading.

Particularly welcomed by the Editorial staff is the fact that Mr. Campbell is assuming the job of collating material for publication in this news sheet.

Two brothers in the Engineers' Dept. recently received awards for long service to the Country. Bill Allwood received the Imperial Service Medal for 41 years'

Government service, and brother Mick received a bar to his Police Medal, having attained 28 years' service as a Special Constable.

DEVONPORT

A late member of our Company was specially honoured when the Devonport Services R.F.C. opened the season in September. A new £7,000 stand was officially opened by Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Onslow, Commander-in-Chief, Plymouth Command.

He told spectators that the stand had been built with the aid of Nuffield Trust funds, and that it was dedicated to the memory of Master-at-Arms W. G. E. Luddington and other members of the Devonport Services R.F.C. who fell in the Second World War.

A plaque with this inscription has been erected in the new stand.

"Bill" Luddington was naval representative for H. & G. Simonds from 1937 until the outbreak of war, when he was recalled to the

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

With the approach of Christmas and the New Year, Dances, Dinners and Parties fall thick and fast. Here are some dates to remember:

The New Year Social and Dance in the Club on January 3rd, and the Pensioners' Dinner, also in the Club on January 5th.

The Annual Children's Party which will be held in the Drill Hall on the 17th of January.

Then there is the Reading versus Plymouth match on January 31st. For this a party will be coming up to Reading from Devonport and Plymouth, and they will be enter-tained afterwards in the Club, where a Social and Dance will be held. Likely to be a memorable evening one suspects!

Finally, the event of the year, of course, is the Annual Ball, which

will be held in the Town Hall on Friday, February 13th. Dancing will take place from 8 p.m. until 1 a.m.

Dance at Staines

The Staines Branch Staff Dance will be held on Friday, March 20th, at the Pack Horse Hotel.

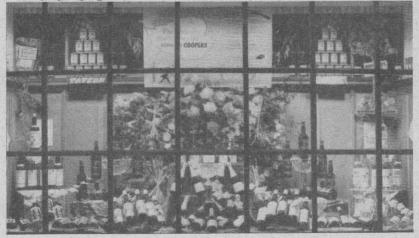
Party at Bristol

The Bristol Branch Annual Dinner and Dance is due to take place on February 10th.

Dinner and Dance at Plymouth

A Committee has been formed at the Plymouth Branch to explore the possibility of holding a Dinner and Dance at an hotel in Plymouth shortly after Easter. More detailed news of this party will be found in our next number.

ARTHUR COOPER INDOW DISPLAY COMPETITION



First prize of 10 gns. in this Competition went to Cirencester Branch of Arthur Cooper for the window dressed by Mr. F. J. Goad. Second prize (5 gns.) was won by Basingstoke Branch, and special Consolation prizes of 1 gn. each were awarded to Branches at Fishponds Road, Bristol; Finchley Road, London, N.W.2; Market Place, Reading; Camel's Head, Devonport, and Stokes Croft, Bristol.

"Make a note of the date

ANNUAL DANCE

will be held at the

TOWN HALL READING

FRIDAY, 13th FEBRUARY, 1959

DANCING FROM 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

GEORGE WATKINS DANCE ORCHESTRA

WEDDINGS



Mr. and Mrs. Byrnes after the Ceremony.

On Saturday, 4th October, Miss Eileen M. Hobbs, of the Brewing Department, was married to Mr. John A. Byrnes, of Tilehurst. The wedding took place at St. James' Roman Catholic Church, Reading, and the bride was attended by her two sisters, Miss Joan Hobbs (Wine Stores) and Miss Elizabeth Hobbs, who also worked in the Wine Stores a few years ago.

At a presentation made by Mr. E. M. Downes a few days before the wedding, Miss Hobbs received from her colleagues a coffee set, a coal hod, and some weighing scales.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Downes were among the wedding guests.

On 11th October, at Greyfriars Church, Reading, Miss K. Newton, of the Hollerith Department, was married to Mr. F. Goodson.

Her friends at the office wished her every happiness and gave her cutlery, a tray, a set of kitchen tools, and a pair of very gay towels.

*

Miss Patrick, of the Hollerith Department, Reading, was married to Mr. T. Beasley at All Saints' Church, Bournemouth, on 6th September.

She was presented with a canteen of cutlery and a pair of pillow cases by her colleagues in the Department.

The wedding took place at Christ Church, Reading, on October 14th of Mr. F. R. J. Cobb, of our Devonport Brewery, and Miss Beryl Lawes.

To mark this happy occasion, Mr. E. J. Hollebone, deputising for Mr. E. M. Downes, presented a case of fish knives and forks, a set of saucepans and a cheque to Mr. Cobb, on behalf of his colleagues at the Reading Brewery.

Other presentations included an electric clock and a toaster from his many friends in the Executive's Dining Room, and a walnut cheese platter and knife from members of the Hockey Club.

Miss Marjorie Major, of the Hollerith Department, Reading, became Mrs. Read at St. James' Church, Ruscombe, on 23rd August.

Her colleagues subscribed to an electric iron and an ironing board which they presented with their wishes for great happiness.

On September 20th, Ken Gibbons, of the Transport Repair Department, Reading, was married at Pangbourne Church to Mrs. Audrey Whitehorn.

Ken was presented with a gateleg table and biscuit barrel by his colleagues.

Miss June Behenna and Mr. Raymond Cotter were married on August Bank Holiday at St. Boniface Church, St. Budeaux.

Their romance began six years ago when they were employees of the former Octagon Brewery Ltd.

June is now in the Machine Accounts office at Tamar and Ray works in the Transport Office.

The best man was Tony Nichols, of Tamar General Office.

Before the marriage Mr. C. R. Holman, our Area Manager, presented the happy pair with an electric mixer, the gift of Management and Staff at the Tamar and Octagon offices. He wished them, on behalf of all present, every happiness.

The service was attended by many friends and colleagues.



A happy wedding photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Cotter.

STAFF CHANGES

Since we last met many newcomers have been welcomed to our ranks. Most of them have now had time to settle down and look at us. We sincerely hope they are very happy in their work and that they find us as pleasant as we find them. They are :-

H. E. Loader-Accounts Department.

Mrs. K. Fryer-Delivery Department.

Miss P. G. Calladine-Hollerith Department. Miss J. M. Howe-Estates Department.

Mrs. B. Hayward-Managed House Accounts.

Mrs. P. Jacomb-Surveyor's Department.

Miss D. Parry-Branch Department.

D. R. Herrington-Surveyor's Department. Mrs. P. Parry-Hollerith Department.

D. McDonald-Accounts.

F. R. Harris-Accounts.

Miss P. A. Watts-Laboratory.

Mrs. J. Gilbert-Correspondence Office.

R. J. Bennett-Laboratory.

Miss P. Darvell-Hollerith Departmnt.

C. Hudson-Cask Department.

Mrs. M. A. Collins-Hollerith Department.

Miss M. A. Bennett-Branch Department.

D. J. Barry-Delivery Department.

A. C. Davis-Architect's Department.

Miss H. E. Smith-Hollerith Department.

Miss S. Hill-Delivery Department.

A. L. Tollervey—Delivery Department.

Miss P. Fidler—Accountants' Department.

Miss M. S. Johns-Laboratory.

A. J. Ostridge—Accounts Department.

G. L. Parker—Accounts Department.

J. K. Pickin-Accounts Department.

Mrs. M. I. Saw-Surveyor's Department.

Another appointment which we have pleasure in publishing is that of Mr. J. F. Fielder as Third Brewer at Reading. He assumed his new position on 22nd September.

Transfers:

T. Burton-From Branch Department to Advertising Department.

K. Hartley-From Accounts Department to Accountants' Department.

F. R. Harris-From Accounts Department to Delivery Department.

A. L. Wood-Junior Staff Trainee to Architect's Department.

Reinstatement after Military Service:

(We are glad to see you back !) R. L. Manning-Surveyor's Department.

BRANCHES

The following have joined as new employees, and we hope we shall be hearing more of them in these columns from time to time:-

Miss J. S. Doddridge-Devonport.

Miss J. Hughes-Bristol.

M. Mays-Newport.

G. Bagshaw-Oxford.

R. B. Sherman-Staines.

R. Stacey-Bristol. P. W. K. Taylor-Newport.

R. Hume-Ludgershall.

C. N. Newman-Oxford.

J. A. Pease—Devonport.

Mrs. Heather (Hotels)

Miss C. Shave—Devonport. M. J. Ray-Bristol.

Transfer:

V. C. Barton-Ludgershall to Arthur Cooper.

RESULT OF SPORTS DAY BALLOON RACE

This year's Balloon Race was won by J. Curtis, who received the Five Pounds Prize. Here is a list of the balloons that travelled farthest; unfortunately lack of space prevents us publishing where all the balloons landed.

J. Curtis (Cooperage) Wellingore, Lincs. J. Bartlett (Barnstaple Road) Colwick, Notts. D. Cregan (Power House) -Nottingham.

B. Gibbson (Beer Cellars) -Nottingham.

Wollaston, Northants. Mrs. Jacomb (Surveyor's) -Parsons (Boston Avenue) -Market Harborough, Leics.

K. Parr (St. George's Road) Rynall, Lines. L. A. Drake (Cardigan Road) Uppingham.

R. Hodges (Cooperage) -Ketton, Lincs. H. Sexton (Surveyor's) Rothwell, Northants. H. Hopkins (Gosbrook Road) Scaldwell, Northants.

G. Boyles (Maltings) Harrold, Beds. G. Vaughan (Maltings) Kettering, Northants. Mrs. P. Sambell (College Road) -Potterspury, Northants. Mrs. Hoad (Hotels) Sutton Bassett, Leics.

Finedon, Northants.

Mrs. Williamson (Advertising) Barkbythorpe, Leics, June Phillips (Newport) -Spalding, Lincs.



Sports Day

Sports Day this year was held on Sunday, 24th August. Although rain kept many people away, a crowd of about 300 enjoyed the races. Even when rain drove everyone inside there was still plenty to do, for most of the side stalls were under cover. Two demonstrations also took place during the afternoon in the pavilion. The first was a remarkable display by the Reading Judo Club, and the second was by children of the J. Arthur School of Old-Time Dancing. The Balloon Race was again very popular, and this year the balloons headed north. The winning tag was returned from Wellingore in Lincolnshire. Dancing in the evening to Norman Hackett and his Band completed the day.

The Social Club Committee are already making plans for next year's Sports Day, which is to be held on Saturday, 15th August. Besides the side stalls and demonstrations a Horticultural Show will be included in the activities.

Tennis

Rain interrupted the Finals Day of the Tennis Club Tournaments, therefore it was not possible to present the trophies at the Social and Dance that followed. When Mr. J. D. Richardson presented the trophies at a later date, two of the cups were received by Barry Glascock (Accounts), who won both the Employees' and the Open Tournaments.

Cricket

Mr. Richardson made another double presentation at the very enjoyable Cricket Club Dinner and Dance which was held the Grosvenor House Hotel in September. This time it was to David Batson (Maltings) who won both the Batting and the Bowling Cups. This was the first time that this feat has been achieved in the same season, although the late Eric Scot won both cups twice. Neither of our Double Champions will be able to defend their title next year, as they are both now in the Army fulfilling their National Service commitments.



It seems so easy when they do it in the Scalds.



Even though Mummy said I was to wear my hat and coat, I'll show this lot who's going to win.



There's always something to do at the Sports-even if it's only waiting for the rain to stop.

Football

The Football Club are now back in the Premier Division of Reading, and so far have made a reasonable start to the season. At the time of writing only two league matches out of seven have been lost, but we have still the top sides to meet. Although we lost heavily in the second round of the Berks and Bucks Intermediate Cup, we are

still in the Reading Town Senior Cup. The reserve side have not done as well as we had hoped so far, but with injuries and calls on players by the first team it has not been possible to field the same side each week. In the Reading Town Junior Cup we were knocked out in the second round by Tilehurst Reserves.

Netball

The Netball Club formed in March has now entered the Reading Netball League, and out of four matches played, three have been won. The Club also plays many friendly matches, and any young lady who is keen to play should contact Miss A. Levey in the Branch Office. The enthusiasm shown by the girls can be seen in the fact that after work one evening in the late summer, the whole team cycled nine miles to play a friendly match.

Hockey

Simonds Hockey Team have made a good start to the season with a total of eight wins from twelve games. The teams beaten include Camberley, Thornycrofts of Basingstoke, and our old opponents, Hornets. The match against Henley was drawn, whilst two games against Newbury resulted in one win for each side.

Our two other defeats were by Maidenhead and A.W.R.E., Aldermaston.

Perhaps the game most deserving of comment was that against the Boys' School from Huntercombe, who, though beaten 9—0, played the match in the finest spirit, the boys setting an example of extremely good sportsmanship.

Among many fixtures yet to be played are several new ones, including Andover, Winchester, Morris Motors of Oxford and last, but not least, Messrs. Guinness of Park Royal.

Table Tennis

The table tennis is in full swing, and the Club has three teams competing in the Reading Table Tennis League. If there is any one who would like to assist the Club Mr. B. Sayers (Wine Stores) or Mr. R. Wheeler (Managed House Accounts) would be pleased to hear from them.

Fishing

About six matches have already been fished by the Angling Club, and more are still to come, including the annual Christmas Fare match which will take place the first week in December. We hope to give details of some of the catches made in the next edition.

STOP PRESS

On the 15th November, Mrs. Brenda Trinder, of the Bottling Department, was married to Mr. Henry Williams, also of the Bottling Department. Their colleagues gave them a present of linen.