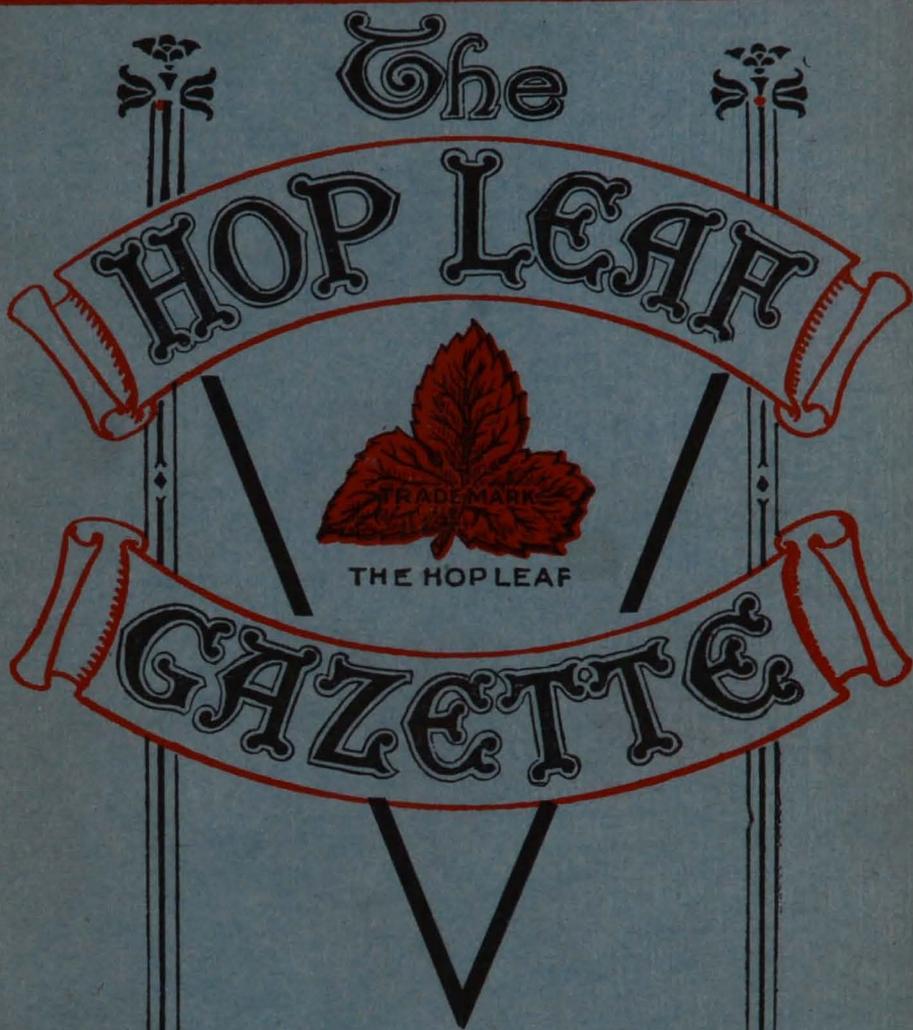


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VOL. XXIV.

DECEMBER, 1949.

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Quarterly by

H. & G. SIMONDS, LTD., READING.

A RECORD OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AT THE BREWERY

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All communications should be addressed to—
The Editor, HOP LEAF GAZETTE, The Brewery, Reading.

Reading Borough Council



34126002912908

Greetings

TO OUR MANY READERS
WHEREVER THEY MAY BE



The Directors of H. & G. SIMONDS, Ltd.,
take this opportunity of expressing their
Cordial Wishes for your Future
Health, Happiness and
Prosperity.



THE BREWERY, READING.

Xmas, 1949

The Hop Leaf Gazette.

The Journal of H. & G. SIMONDS, Ltd.

Edited by CHARLES H. PERRIN.

Vol. XXIV.

DECEMBER, 1949.

No. 1.



MR. A. NORMAN PHILLIPS.

MR. A. NORMAN PHILLIPS.

We are pleased to reproduce in our frontispiece a portrait of Mr. A. N. Phillips, Chairman and Joint Managing Director of Messrs. Phillips & Sons, Ltd., Newport, who has kindly provided us with details of his early history, prior to the acquisition of his old established family business by this Company.

Great interest has been aroused by the extension of our business in South Wales and, from the brief biography of Mr. Phillips which we append, it is not difficult of conception that with his vast experience of trading in South Wales and a concensual combination of existing selling organisations, when perfected, a great and highly successful future lies ahead, which will be intensified when the present depression passes.

Born in 1898, Mr. Phillips is the youngest son of the late Edward Phillips, M.F.H., and grandson of the late Thomas Phillips who founded Phillips & Sons, Ltd., in 1878, and who previously, with his brother, owned what is now the Northampton original Brewery Co.

Educated at Stancliffe Hall and Repton, he joined the Army direct from school in 1917, was eventually commissioned in the R.F.A., and went to France in 1918, remaining upon active service until demobilisation, when Mr. Phillips returned for further education to Pembroke College, Cambridge.

Mr. Phillips' business career commenced at the Highgate and Walsall Brewery, where he served as a brewing pupil, and he eventually joined the brewing staff of Phillips & Sons in 1923. He was elected a Director of the Company in 1924, on the death of his father, Edward Phillips (who was then Chairman), and in 1937 was elected Joint Managing Director with Mr. Maurice Stratton. In 1947 he was elected Chairman.

During the Second World War, Mr. Phillips served in the Civil Defence, and later in the Home Guard, where he commanded an Anti-Aircraft Rocket Battery.

Mr. Phillips was appointed High Sheriff of Monmouthshire, 1943-44.

Take a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine oft infirmities.—The Bible.

CHAT *from*



THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

(By C. H. P.)

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

In all sincerity I wish readers of the "Hop Leaf Gazette" a very Happy Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year. And especially do we most respectfully extend to our worthy Directors all good wishes. We are living in very difficult times and we should, with all our hearts and minds strive to carry the Christmas spirit of goodwill into our work and play throughout the coming year. Pull together, boys—and girls; keep the Hop Leaf Flag flying, remembering you have duties as well as rights. At the Brewery we have a most considerate Board of Directors. They never weary of studying the welfare of their employees. Let us see to it that we respond with willing and loyal service. It is team work that counts, so play up, and play the game!

THANK YOU!

As the year draws towards its close I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all who have contributed to the success of the HOP LEAF GAZETTE. And, in this connection, I must not omit mention of our printers, Bradley & Son, Ltd., of The Crown Press, Caxton Street. I have received numerous very complimentary letters concerning the attractive manner in which the GAZETTE is produced. But this is only typical of the high standard which characterises all the work of this well-known firm. I make frequent calls at The Crown Press in the course of my duties and I always find the staff most courteous and competent in dealing with all matters concerning the publication of this popular little periodical.

At Bradley's they know their job—and do it!

ROYAL GAME?

Mr. H. Bullock, the hon. secretary of Bristol and District Draughts Association, wants to see his favourite game elevated to royal status. Hearing that the King and Queen prefer draughts to cards, he's trying, with the backing of his executive, to get the secretaries of the English and Scottish Draughts Associations to approach Their Majesties for permission to call it "The Royal Game of Draughts."

Another move is being made to popularise draughts in the West Country. Mr. Bullock is discussing with the various associations in Devon, Wilts, Cornwall and other counties the proposed birth of a West of England Draughts Association, so as to make it possible to organise a West of England Individual Championship.

MAKES HISTORY.

A precedent has been created in Bristol by a lady playing in a Bristol and District Draughts Association league match. She is Mrs. Wyatt, hostess of the Bell Hotel, East Street, Bedminster, who has broken through tradition and had herself enrolled as the first woman in the association. So far as league games are concerned, draughts had previously been an all-male pastime.

Having played in a league game against the Richmond Hotel, Barton Hill, team, Mrs. Wyatt is going a step further by coaching a team of ladies who intend to enter the league competition.

N.A.A.F.I. NEWS.

The Board of Management of N.A.A.F.I. announce that Mr. R. G. Feilden, C.B., C.B.E., has been appointed General Manager of N.A.A.F.I., which post has been held in abeyance since 1942. Mr. Feilden, who is 45 years of age, recently retired from the Army as a Major-General. Prior to his retirement he held the post of Vice-Quartermaster General to the Forces.

OLD READING.

According to that excellent little publication, "The Parish of St. Giles-in-Reading," by Leslie Harman, Assistant Priest, St. Giles-in-Reading, for those caught at their misdemeanours it was a serious matter. One parishioner was caught stealing a loaf of bread and he was flogged at the cart's tail from the prison in Friar Street to his house in Silver Street. He never went out again. The 18th century had been a period of much legal enthusiasm and statute after statute was added until there were 200 offences punishable by death. For example, stealing

from a shop to the value of 5/-, or stealing anything from another person, even only a handkerchief, were offences for which a death sentence could be given. Attempted murder, on the other hand, was but lightly punished. But there was the other side; few were caught and fewer still finally committed. The Oxford Arms in Silver Street was a famous last place of refreshment on earth. It was the custom for those condemned to death to drink with their hangman at this inn when on their way to Gallows' Tree Common, Lower Earley. The Oxford Arms still keeps open, but the last recorded Hangman's Drink was paid for in 1793.

Interesting Streets' and Courts' Names.

It must have been noticed that there is a tradition in the parish to group streets and courts in an interesting way. To give but one or two examples: In Silver Street there were Martin, Sparrow, Hawk, Crane, Eagle, Linnet, Starling and Swan Courts. Local flora were represented by Rose, Pink and Lily Courts. East Street provided both Minnow and Roach Courts. Southampton Street offered something more distinguished in its Baron, Manor, Earl, King and Mitre Courts. These Courts were a feature of the development of the parish, though all too often, they quickly became blots on its fair name. Bath Court, in London Street, saw the enterprise of Dr. Hooper, who opened there hot, cold and shower baths on December 11th, 1818.

A PLUCKY ACTION.

A traveller's job is, normally, one of infinite variety, but a task fell to the lot of Mr. Norman Lipscombe recently, such as he had not undertaken before and, no doubt, does not particularly wish to perform too often. There was a runaway horse, attached to a milk-cart, dashing along the road when Mr. Lipscombe pluckily gave chase, stopped the frightened animal and restored it to its owner. It was a very praiseworthy action—well done, Norman!

WORLD'S RICHEST MAN.

People in the Fleet and Hartley Wintney area have been rubbing shoulders, almost, with the richest man in the world. Forty-two-year-old John Thoburn Williamson, bachelor, and owner of a diamond mine in Tanganyika for which he has refused £20 millions, has been spending a quiet Hampshire holiday at the Lamb Hotel, Hartley Wintney.

Only Man in Secret.

Only man in the secret was Mr. A. J. Levack, proprietor of the hotel, and formerly secretary of Farnborough Chamber of Commerce. He told *The Aldershot News* when Mr. Williamson flew from Blackbushe Airport in his private plane for the Continent: "He landed at London Airport six weeks ago and was supposed to have left the country within two hours, but he came here." Mr. Williamson, a Canadian, left Canada amid a welter of pen, radio and television publicity. In Hampshire, his wishes for privacy were respected. Even the locals in the public bar never guessed they were playing darts with the world's wealthiest man.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.

The Reading and District Branch of the United Commercial Travellers' Association, of which Mr. E. Duncan Simonds is President, held their Annual Dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Caversham, recently, and Mr. W. T. Mackay, in proposing the toast of "The President," mentioned that the Simonds family had been associated with the Reading Branch since 1937.

Mr. E. Duncan Simonds, in reply, said that he had the interests of the Association fully at heart. He then made presentations to Mr. E. Benson of a Rolex "Oyster" watch, a medal for Past Secretary, another for Life Vice-President, and also a cheque.

MR. W. H. KILLFORD.

COMPLETION OF FIFTY YEARS' SERVICE.

Before the commencement of the Board Meeting on the 7th November, 1949, Mr. F. A. Simonds, on behalf of the Directors, had the pleasant duty of presenting to Mr. W. H. Killford a silver tankard, suitably inscribed, and a cheque, in recognition of fifty years' loyal service with the Company, which he completed on the 5th November, 1949.

On making the presentation, the Chairman recalled that Mr. Killford had commenced his service with the Company in the Cask Office at the age of 15, and had progressively worked his way through the General Office to his present position in the Estates Department.

During the 1914-18 War he served with the Royal Berkshire Regiment, and it was appropriate that General Sir Miles C. Dempsey, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Colonel of the Royal Berkshire Regiment, should be present on this memorable occasion.

NATURE NOTE.

(BY C.H.P.).

IN WOOD AND FIELD.

FASCINATION OF A PHEASANT SHOOT.

A very strong, cold wind was blowing; there was brilliant sunshine at times, and some wintry showers on the day of the pheasant shoot. It was a bright and breezy mixture indeed, and in keeping with the variegated foliage that beautified the country all around. At times we turned up our coat collars and on more than one occasion my hat went with the wind, being accompanied by a shower of leaves. Not only the fresh air but the whole atmosphere was most invigorating and sent the blood tingling through your veins. The conditions were by no means conducive to very accurate shooting, but the guns were in fine form, and the day ended with a very satisfactory "bag," considering the difficulties to be contended with.

THE TRUE SPORTING SPIRIT.

For instance, a bird rose, and when well up in the air, turned round and went with the wind at a terrific speed. No sooner had the sportsman raised his gun than out popped the blazing sun full in his face. I do not know what happened to his first shot, but I do know that the sun was too blinding for him to empty his second barrel. But it was all part of the game and the adverse conditions were accepted in true sporting spirit. If a bird were missed, not once did I hear the weather blamed. It was indeed a pleasure and a privilege to be among such good company.

A TRULY SYLVAN SCENE.

I noticed a couple of hawks, sparrow hawks, I think, in the distance, and, my word! they were careful not to come within range of the guns. The fields abounded with finches, chaffinches being very much in evidence. A few magpies and jays were also to be seen. I found the cosy little nest of a dormouse, but the

tenant was not at home, or I might have taken him away with me and kept him as a pet. Many years ago—more than I care to remember—I had a pair and we had great fun together, for dormice are very fascinating little creatures. Near at hand was a patch of golden gorse, while in a sheltered spot a few blooms of the rhododendron were to be found as well as primroses in bud. And this was November the twelfth! Gaily-coloured berries made a fine display and, with the other many autumnal tints, the scene was indeed a delight to gaze upon. Aye! we have much to be thankful for in this foolish, fond old world of ours. I certainly thank my Maker for such a day as this!

A STRIKING PERSONALITY.

The pine trees always attract my attention. There was one particularly fine fellow, strong and straight as a die, towering head and shoulders above most of his fellow-men—a striking personality. And how that tree reminded me of the owner of the shoot!

A REAL TONIC.

The going was not at all bad for the beaters, the keen, strong wind quickly modifying the effects of the rain. This was particularly noticeable regarding the kale. Our Chief, with other guns, waded their way through with the beaters and varied sport was enjoyed, for pheasants and partridges were soon on the wing, while a few hares and rabbits raced away in their efforts to seek safer quarters. By no means all succeeded. Meanwhile, as we proceeded on our way, the invigorating air provided a tonic more effective than that which any doctor could prescribe, and when "cease fire" for luncheon was sounded, all did indeed have an edge on their appetites. Never does any food seem to have a better flavour than that provided during a shoot. And a glass of wholesome ale added to the refreshing effects of the meal. The kindly Chief thoughtfully looked in to see that all were supplied and satisfied.

PICTURE OF HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Hostilities were soon resumed and the afternoon proved as enjoyable as the morning. I must not omit to mention that among the beaters were the head keeper's little daughter and her companion. They knew their job and worked with a thoroughness that did them great credit. And, my word! didn't they enjoy their luncheon, particularly the ginger beer. They were the picture of health and happiness and enjoyed themselves immensely. They were very suitably and sensibly clad as a protection against wind, rain, or the bushes.

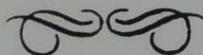
A FINE WORKER.

No one works harder at a shoot than the retriever, and these faithful creatures play a very effective part on such a day. A bird is bowled over and falls in the thick undergrowth, or one is wounded and is known as a "runner." The keeper has only to say "go, find," and off goes the retriever to return shortly, in almost every instance, tenderly carrying the dead or wounded bird in his mouth. A good retriever increases the "bag" considerably, and I raise my hat to these fine four-footed friends.

In the fields and woods it is most interesting to study the details of nature's preparatory measures for winter sleep, also her preparations for the spring, for

RUSSET AND RUDE.

"He marks the bounds which winter may not pass,
And blunts his pointed fury; in its case,
Russet and rude, folds up the tender germ
Uninjured, with inimitable art;
And, 'ere one flowering season fades and dies,
Designs the blooming wonders of the next."



BREWERY JOTTINGS.

On Friday, September 2nd, a pleasing event took place on the eve of the marriage of Mr. A. J. Hawkins, a member of the General Office Staff, to Miss Dorothy Rixon, of Fulham. Mr. F. C. Hawkes (Manager, Home Dept.), presented Mr. Hawkins with



Wedding of Mr. A. J. Hawkins and Miss Dorothy Rixon, of Fulham, at St. Clement's Church, Fulham.

a Marconigram Record Player and a set of records, and in a few well chosen words, having referred to Mr. Hawkins' prowess in the field of sport, on behalf of himself and members of the staff, wished him and his wife-to-be every happiness in the years to come. Mr. Hawkins, in reply, thanked Mr. Hawkes and the staff for their kind wishes and gifts to himself and the future Mrs. Hawkins.

On Wednesday, September 21st, the wife of Mr. S. R. Gray (Estates Dept.) presented him with a son.

Mr. J. Hunt (Catering Dept.) has also been presented by his wife with a son. We are pleased to hear that both mother and son are doing well. Mrs. Hunt (formerly Miss Ayers) was employed at one time in the Secretarial Dept., and prior to that in the Correspondence Office.

It is with regret that we record the death of Mrs. Sarah Crocker on the 19th September, in her 87th year.

Mrs. Crocker was the widow of the late William Crocker, who commenced work at the Brewery on July 19th, 1883, and for many years prior to his retirement on January 20th, 1927, was foreman of the Fermenting Dept., being succeeded by his son, Mr. N. J. Crocker, to whom, and his family, we tender sincere sympathy in their loss.

We also regret to record the following deaths, and to all relatives we offer our sincere sympathy :—

Mrs. Moore, wife of our tenant, Mr. H. J. Moore, The Windmill, Windlesham.

Mrs. Gosden, wife of sitting tenant, The Anchor, Cove.

Mrs. Doe, wife of sitting tenant, the Victoria Arms, Easthampstead Road, Wokingham.

Mr. A. J. Gibbs, tenant of The Antelope, High Wycombe, since February 14th, 1931. (Wheeler's Wycombe Breweries, Ltd.)

Mr. J. Arnold, tenant of the Crown Hotel, Hartley Wintney, since July 9th, 1929. (John May & Co.)

Mr. S. E. Fiford, tenant of The Five Bells, Swallowfield, since September 20th, 1947.

Mr. A. Wilkinson, tenant of The Jolly Farmer, Sandhurst, since October 29th, 1935. (From 1926, up to the time of taking over the tenancy of this house, Mr. Wilkinson was employed as a chauffeur at the Brewery, Reading.)

Mrs. R. Yeo, wife of our tenant, The Angel, Swallowfield.

Mr. J. Willis, The Red Lion, Basildon, tenant since February 23rd, 1925.

During the past few months the following changes in tenancies have taken place, and to all the new tenants we wish every success :—

H. & G. Simonds, Ltd.

The Swiss Cottage, Reading—Mr. A. W. Evans.

The Sun, Bishopsgate—Mrs. M. F. Howes (Widow).

The Sawyers' Arms, Lambourn—Mr. R. C. Sampson.

The Sailors' Home, Reading—Mr. J. A. Bond.

The Foresters' Arms, Chalvey—Mr. D. Frostick.

The Red Rose, Reading—Miss A. O'Brien.

The Duke's Head, Sunninghill—Mr. D. L. Pither.

The Red Cow, Caversham—Mr. A. J. Gregory.

The Jolly Farmer, Sandhurst—Mr. A. J. Brand.

Off Licence, Waltham St. Lawrence—Mr. G. W. Neville.

The Plough, Newbury—Mr. A. V. Bayliss.

The Farmer's Man, Benson—Mrs. E. M. Lewendon (Widow).

The Five Bells, Swallowfield—Mrs. B. N. Fiford (Widow).

The Rose and Crown, Newbury—Mr. A. J. E. Wild.

John May & Co., Ltd.

The Old House at Home, Basingstoke—Mr. W. E. Cassine.

Wheeler's Wycombe Breweries, Ltd.

The Rifle Butts, High Wycombe—Mr. Bert Johnson.

The Antelope, High Wycombe—Mrs. C. V. L. Gibbs.

The Dog Inn, Penn—Mr. S. T. Spray.

The following changes and new appointments in the staff have taken place during the last few months :—

Mr. B. L. Garfield appointed as Assistant Architect to Mr. Southall on June 13th.

Mr. E. L. Morgan transferred to the Surveyor's Dept. at Reading as an Architect's Assistant, from the Tamar Brewery, Devonport, on October 26th.

Mr. L. W. Buckingham left Farnborough Branch on September 5th for a short course of training at Reading, and was appointed Asst. Manager at Bridgend on November 14th.

Mr. S. G. Treacher appointed Managing Clerk at Farnborough Branch upon the appointment of L. W. Buckingham to Bridgend Branch.

Mr. L. W. Voaden left Reading on September 5th, after a short course of training, to take up a position as Traveller at Bridgend.

The following retirements have taken place :—

Mr. A. Heybourne, Building Dept., on September 3rd, after completing 30 years' service.

Mr. G. Smith, Bottled Beer Loading Stage, on September 3rd, after completing 34 years' service.

Mr. F. Howlett, Farnborough Branch, on September 26th, after completing 48 years' service.



Cpl. T. W. Kent, of "A" Division, Reading Town Division, and General Offices, who, as reported in our last issue, won this year's Individual Competition, open to members of the Division.

CRICKET.

By the time these notes appear in print everyone will be pleased to see Mr. N. Tott back at the Brewery after his long absence due to infantile paralysis. Unfortunately, his foot is not yet back to normal, but we all sincerely hope that he soon recovers the complete use of it.

Cricket was exceptionally well represented at the gathering of sports enthusiasts which was held in the new Pavilion at the Sports Ground on September 24th, as reported on another page.

Congratulations are extended to the Engineers and Wine Stores team, on whose behalf Mr. Tott received the Inter-Departmental Cup from Mr. R. St. J. Quarry, and to Mr. A. J. Hawkins upon winning the "Louis Simonds" Cup for Batting. It was unfortunate that Mr. Hawkins was called out of town on private business that afternoon, and so was unable to receive his Cup then.

The full averages for last season are given below :—

"A" Team.

BATTING.

(Qualification, 8 innings.)

	Innings.	Times not out.	Total Runs.	Highest Score.	Average.
A. J. Hawkins ...	12	2	158	30	15.80
E. G. Crutchley ...	11	1	137	65	13.70
W. G. Neville ...	12	1	126	26	11.45
K. Cottam ...	10	1	101	49	11.22
W. J. Greenaway ...	10	—	86	26	8.60
L. G. Field ...	8	—	68	26	8.50
R. J. Lambourne ...	8	—	60	18	7.50
T. Patrick ...	14	1	92	28	7.07
E. J. Scott ...	8	1	37	8*	5.28

The following also batted :—

E. Jones ...	5	1	36	17*	9.00
N. Tott ...	7	1	51	16	8.50
F. J. Benham ...	7	2	41	23	8.20
E. C. Greenaway ...	4	—	29	16	7.25
R. Henson ...	4	2	13	13	6.50
H. G. Sexton ...	6	—	34	15	5.66
C. R. Josey ...	4	—	15	9	3.75
K. Organ ...	4	1	10	6	3.33
R. Smtih ...	2	1	3	3*	3.00

One innings each : E. Barrett (17), R. J. Lovejoy (17), H. K. White (17), H. Hawkins (16), J. Buswell (9), —, Cleaver (7*), F. Wells (3), F. Jones (2*), N. Bedding (1*), A. J. Hughes (0*), K. Day and F. Scott (nil).

J. Dines played in one match, but did not bat.

* Signifies not out.

BOWLING.

(Qualification, 30 Overs.)

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
E. J. Scott ...	95.5	22	244	28	8.71
E. G. Crutchley ...	99	27	238	17	14.00
K. Cottam ...	70.4	18	213	12	17.75
R. J. Lambourne ...	98.5	31	270	13	20.76
K. Organ ...	45	4	172	5	34.40

Also bowled :—

N. Tott ...	17	2	64	5	12.80
L. G. Field ...	24.2	1	94	7	13.42
W. G. Neville ...	29	3	151	3	50.33
H. G. Sexton ...	17	4	55	1	55.00
R. Smith ...	1	—	11	—	—
J. Buswell ...	2	—	13	—	—
E. Jones ...	3	—	13	—	—
T. Patrick ...	3	—	16	—	—
N. Bedding ...	2	—	20	—	—
F. Wells ...	6	—	30	—	—
E. C. Greenaway ...	9	—	44	—	—

Catches : W. G. Neville, 8; W. J. Greenaway, 6; L. G. Field, 5; T. Patrick, 4; F. J. Benham, E. Jones, R. J. Lambourne and N. Tott, 3; A. J. Hawkins, C. R. Josey and E. Scott, 2; E. C. Greenaway, R. J. Lovejoy, K. Organ and R. Smith, 1 each.

"B" Team.

BATTING.

(Qualification, 7 innings.)

	Innings.	Times not out.	Total Runs.	Highest Score.	Average.
P. E. Hammond ...	8	—	71	23	8.87
J. Buswell ...	14	2	89	17	7.41
D. Bearman ...	10	1	66	29	7.33
F. Jones ...	10	—	65	22	6.50
R. J. Lovejoy ...	8	—	45	12	5.62
H. K. White ...	8	—	44	14	5.50
R. Smith ...	7	—	21	5	3.00
F. Wells ...	8	3	10	4	2.00
N. Bedding ...	8	2	9	5	1.50

The following also batted :—

K. Gibbons ...	5	1	66	44	16.50
E. Jones ...	6	—	74	23	12.33
E. Barrett ...	4	—	40	20	10.00
K. Cottam ...	4	—	27	12	6.75
W. Bell ...	5	1	25	18	6.25
R. Davies ...	5	1	23	9	5.75
R. Henson ...	6	—	32	10	5.33
K. Organ ...	3	1	10	6*	5.00
H. Hawkins ...	3	—	11	6	3.66
D. Hampton ...	3	—	9	5	3.00
R. Kury ...	3	1	6	4*	3.00
W. J. Greenaway ...	3	—	6	4	2.00
L. J. Martin ...	5	1	5	4	1.25
H. G. Sexton ...	2	—	1	1	.50
S. B. Farmer ...	2	—	—	—	—

One innings each : A. J. Hawkins (34), C. R. Josey (12), R. J. Lambourne (11), L. Dennis (6), E. G. Greenaway (4), B. Digweed (2), —. Collins (0*), C. Green, A. J. Hughes, W. Philpott and J. Sheppard (nil).

* Signifies not out.

BOWLING.

(Qualification, 28 Overs.)

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
K. Cottam ...	36	4	84	13	6.46
K. Organ ...	42.2	7	94	12	7.83
F. Wells ...	60.5	15	188	19	9.89
J. Buswell ...	38.4	3	167	12	13.91
R. Smith ...	45.5	4	173	11	15.72
W. Bell ...	49	12	152	6	25.33

Also bowled :—

E. C. Greenaway ...	5	5	—	1	—
K. Gibbons ...	1	1	—	1	—
—. Collins ...	4	—	6	1	6.00
C. Green ...	5	—	18	2	9.00
P. E. Hammond ...	8.1	1	37	4	9.25
H. K. White ...	17.5	1	92	9	10.22
R. J. Lovejoy ...	20	2	92	7	13.14
S. B. Farmer ...	7	—	27	2	13.50
D. Bearman ...	4.4	—	17	1	17.00
N. Bedding ...	17	1	62	3	21.33
R. Davies ...	5	—	30	1	30.00
D. Hampton ...	8	2	32	1	32.00
R. J. Lambourne ...	8	—	42	1	42.00
R. Kury ...	3	1	5	—	—
F. Jones ...	2	—	11	—	—
W. Philpott ...	4	—	15	—	—
H. G. Sexton ...	9	—	30	—	—

Catches : R. Kury, 4; P. E. Hammond, R. J. Lovejoy, H. G. Sexton, R. Smith and H. K. White, 3; K. Cottam, R. Davies, S. B. Farmer, E. Jones, L. J. Martin and F. Wells, 2; N. Bedding, K. Gibbons, H. Hawkins, R. Henson, A. J. Hughes, F. Jones and W. Philpott, 1 each.

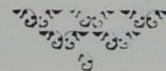
Stumpings : R. Henson and L. J. Martin, 1 each.

W.J.G.

WINDSOR & ETON SOCIETY
FLORAL COMPETITION.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Society, Mr. L. Willis, Manager of The Grapes Hotel, Windsor, was awarded the first prize and was complimented by Sir Owen Morshead, who presented the prizes, on the fine display.

(The Grapes Hotel, Windsor, is one of the properties conducted by our Hotels and Catering Department.)



" PLUTO "

The mobile Beer Tank (aptly named "Pluto" by our Chairman and Managing Director) has been in great demand by Refreshment Contractors during the past non-stop summer, and has proved eminently popular at all events at which it has been in use.

To those readers who have not yet seen "Pluto" in operation, we would mention that the portable glass-lined tank, which holds the equivalent of twelve barrels, dispenses beer in similar condition to Bottled Beer, with the additional advantage that the beer is chilled and is therefore very acceptable, particularly on a hot summer's day.

The fame of "Pluto" is spreading far and wide, which should be of great benefit to our tenants in all areas. A list of the most important events to which the tank has been sent during the past season is appended:—

Ascot Races	June, July and September Meetings.
Brighton Races	May, June, August and September Meetings.
Epsom Races	June Meeting.
Goodwood Races	July Meeting.
Newbury Races	April, August and October Meetings.
R.A.C. Grand Prix Motor Races, Silverstone	April and May.
Royal Counties Show, Reading	June.
Henley Regatta	June/July.
C.I.D. (M.P.) Sports, Hendon	June.
Lyons' Staff Sports, Sudbury	June.
7th Worcester Regt. Reunion, Worcester	July.
Ministry of Works Sports, Raynes Park	July.
Navy Day, R.N.A. Station, Culham	July.
Ashford Flower Show	July.
Reading Conservative Fete	July.
Old Comrades' Reunion, Royal Berkshire Regiment	July.
New Zealand v. Glamorgan Cricket Fixture	July.
Chessington Zoo	August.
U.N.O. Fete, Arundel Park	August.
London Electricity Board Sports, Raynes Park	August.
R.A.C. Motor Races, Silverstone	August.
Enfield Horse and Agricultural Show	September.
R.A.F. Aeronautical Society, Farnborough	September.
Battle of Britain Day, Heyford	September.
Navy Day, R.N.A. Station, Yeovilton	October.
Motor-Cycle Racing, Silverstone	October.

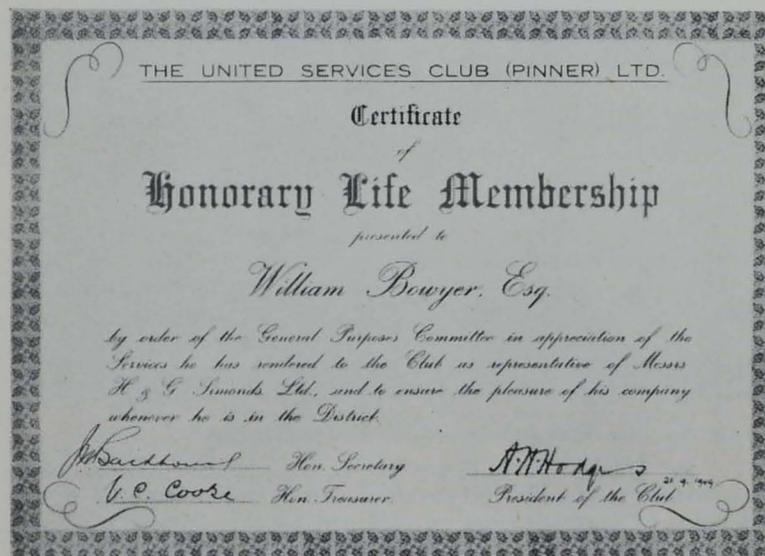
We are indebted to our Branch Managers and our Sales Department at Reading for compiling lists of all important

outdoor events for which liquor contracts were secured and very satisfactorily executed during the past season. Our intention to include the list of events in this issue was unfortunately rendered impossible owing to the extraordinary number and variety of venues which were served. The lists, however, are available for reference by any of our Sales Departments at Branches who may wish to see the extent of this section of our trade throughout the South of England.

A POPULAR PERSONALITY.

The popularity of Mr. W. Bowyer, our Home Trade Manager, is unbounded, and he is always a very welcome guest wherever he goes. From time to time one sees evidence of this, and he has recently been made an Honorary Life Member of the United Services Club (Pinner), Ltd.

The wording of the Certificate of Membership, given below, speaks for itself:—



BOB DUGUID RETIRING.

OVER FORTY YEARS A LICENSEE.

After 41 years' experience of the licensed trade, Mr. C. B. ("Bob") Duguid is retiring as landlord of The Oatsheaf, Broad Street, Reading, says the *Reading Standard*. He will then have completed twelve years in charge of this popular hostelry. Before going to The Oatsheaf he was for twelve years at The Three Tuns, Wokingham Road, Reading, and before that at The Hopleaf, Southampton Street, Reading, and The King's Arms, Thatcham.

There can be no more popular sportsman in Reading and district than Bob Duguid, and there are few things in the sporting world in which he is not interested. Football, athletics, boxing, horse and dog racing, hunting and riding have all claimed his interest.

His greatest love of all, however, has been his horses, stabled at the Wilderness Stables, Earley. He has some fine mounts, and has hunted with them at South Berks meetings for many years. He is also an authority on thoroughbreds, and has owned a number of winners.

A prominent Freemason, he is a Past Master of the Prince Arthur of Connaught Lodge, and a member of the Morland and Berkshire Masters Lodges.

Bob runs a model farm at Earley, where he resides. Here he has a pedigree herd of forty Guernsey cattle. He manages the farm himself.

Mr. Duguid left The Oatsheaf on November 17th. He then intends to have an extended holiday in Africa, where his son, Mr. C. Aubrey Duguid, is air control officer on headquarters staff at Nairobi, Kenya.

Mr. Duguid is being succeeded at The Oatsheaf by Mr. Charles Middleton, who is formerly of The Crown, at Basildon. This house he transferred to his son two years ago, and he himself took over licensed premises at Sidmouth.

IN BYGONE DAYS.

In April, 1928, the Editor of the HOP LEAF GAZETTE, in one of his thumbnail sketches, wrote of Mr. Duguid:—

"Mr. Duguid was a farrier at H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., before the advent of motors and when the firm had a hundred horses working. These were out on the road by 7 a.m., and often did a journey of forty miles, returning home about 11 p.m. Mr. Duguid well remembers such country draymen as Sawyer, Ballard, Slade, Jacob, Adams and 'Dead Eye.'



Mr. Duguid in his Masonic Robes.

"The subject of our article first became a landlord when he took the King's Head, Thatcham, nineteen years ago. He subsequently became mine host at the Hop Leaf, Southampton Street, Reading, and later took over the Three Tuns, Earley, succeeding Mr. A. W. A. Webb. He was in the old Three Tuns for two years

and has occupied the present fine premises for nine months. The old house was historical and stood on the Common where highway robberies were often committed. Parts of the house were three hundred years old. The new palatial premises are built on the old garden. The architect was Mr. Sainsbury, who has been very highly complimented on the excellence of his work. The quaint fireplaces are particularly worthy of note. There is a very nice lawn with seats to accommodate 250 people and ample sheltering should rain fall. In front of the premises is a most convenient 'draw-in,' large enough to accommodate ten chars-a-banc at a time.

"For the first time in memory, the South Berks Hounds recently met at the Three Tuns. This proved an immensely popular event—it was in fact a record meet from the point of view of numbers and the froth was blown from many a tankard of invigorating ale. Mr. Duguid was Farrier-Sergt.-Major to Mr. Guy Hargreaves, the Master of the Hunt, when in the Berkshire Yeomanry.

"Though his business is naturally his first consideration, Mr. Duguid takes a very active interest in other spheres of life. He is an energetic member of the Reading Philanthropic



Off to the Hunt.

Institution, the Reading Athletic Club, and the Berkshire Athletic Association, and is a Vice-President of the Workmen's Rowing Club. He is also Vice-President of the Earley and District Football Club and Chairman of H. & G. Simonds Retailers Association. He previously held this office in 1913.

"Particularly keen on the 'noble art,' he promoted, with the late Sid Evans, many boxing contests and is a strong believer in encouraging youngsters to take part in this strenuous form of recreation. He has been a shareholder and supporter of the Reading Football Club since its inception.

"Mr. Duguid is also a keen golfer and an excellent shot.

"And he did his bit in the Great War. Joining up on August 6, 1914, in the Berkshire Yeomanry, he was transferred to the R.F.A. and served in France for two years, attaining the rank of Warrant Officer.

On one occasion when his Battery went forward he returned for some ammunition to his former gun position and who should he see but Venner, another Brewery employee, in the same position as his gun had occupied. Venner mentioned that he had just received the Military Medal and Mr. Duguid congratulated him on the fact. Champion, well known to all at the Brewery, was also out there at the same time.

"Nor must I forget Mrs. Duguid. She has played a splendid part in bringing about the success which her worthy husband has undoubtedly gained."

LIGHTER SIDE.

"Did you see any sharks when you crossed to America?" asked his host.

"Oh, rather!" replied Travvell, "I played cards with a couple."

* * * *

At the Zoo a small boy noticed that a bear had lost some of its hair. "Oh, look, the bears moth-eaten!" he cried.

"Silly," said his sister, "moths don't eat bears."

* * * *

A druggist received a note scribbled in haste. It read: "My baby has eaten up its father's parish plaster. Send an anecdote quick by the enclosed girl. Also send bottle of O Dick Alone as I am feeling a bit historical."

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Reason lies between bridle and spur.

Silence is better than unmeaning words.

The conversation of a friend is a powerful alleviator of the fatigue of walking.

The strong mind is nowise the mind acquainted with its strength.

We ought not to seek too high joys; we may be bright without transfiguration.

Work is our business; its success is God's.

Envy is ignorance.

Good nature and good sense are usually companions.

He only is exempt from failures who makes no effort.

He knows the water best who has waded through it.

Wouldst thou prolong thy life?
Live not too fast;
Seek not to-morrow's cares
Before to-day's are past.

If you don't stand for something, you will fall for anything.

It is time to fear when tyrants seem to kiss.

Luck is the idol of the idle.

Of all thieves, fools are the worst; they rob you of time and temper.

He who will live for others shall have great troubles, but they shall seem to him small. He who lives for himself shall have small troubles, but they shall seem to him great.

The less we speak of our intentions the more chance there is of our realising them.

The man who does nothing does somebody.

A Sermon on Bones.

A Negro preacher once preached on "Bones." There were, he said, some people in the church like WISHBONES, wishing, but never doing anything. Then there are the FUNNYBONES, who are so very touchy and easily hurt; the JAWBONES, who are the gossips; the DRYBONES, who are so prim and proper, but dead as a door nail; the TAILBONES, who are always behind in their work and in their subscriptions. Then there are the BACKBONES, who are the spiritual support of the whole church—And may their tribe increase!

It isn't the time you put in, but what you put into the time.

It is better to go straight than to move in the best circles.

GOD'S THOUGHTS.

The glint of a star on a dancing sea;
The light of the moon on a lake;
The murmur of trees when a gentle breeze
Is kissing them wide awake;
The glow of the sun as it slowly sets;
The flush of a rosy dawn;
The scent that exhales from new-mown dales;
The velvety sheen of a lawn;
The chirp of a bird as it greets the day;
The song that stifles a sigh;
The welcome home at the end of a roam;
The smile that lightens the eye;
The touch of a hand when the heart is sad;
The love that inspires a deed;
The passion made strong by some tale of wrong;
The giving that meets the need;
The courage that dares when all seems lost;
The faith that banishes cares;
The charity deep that is never asleep;
The hope that never despairs;
The look that reveals all the pity within;
The word that bridges a rift—
Are thoughts that start from God's great heart,
And He smiles as He sends them adrift.
"Ye shall come, O ye thoughts, to the sons of men
As they busy themselves with the earth;
Ye shall guide their feet into ways that meet,
In the heart that gave you birth."

A GREAT THOUGHT.

WISE WORDS TO BOYS!

General Sir Miles Dempsey, K.C.B., Colonel of the Royal Berkshire Regiment, emphasised the importance of character in the equipment of boys leaving school to go out into a difficult world, when he addressed the boys of Reading School at their Annual Speech Day. He told them they were going into a world full of problems and complexities and they would need certain equipment, the most important of which was character. They would not find character included in a short syllabus, and none of the prizes were awarded for character, and yet it was the most necessary equipment in life. Strength of will to overcome difficulties, courage to do what was right, ability to stand up to reverses, and readiness to accept responsibility and make decisions were the essentials, which could only be learned by getting together at such a school as Reading, and learning to develop character. It was men like that the country needed above all others.

Sir Miles concluded: "A number of you will be going out into the world this Christmas, and you take my good wishes.

To those who are staying—work hard, play hard, and when you go, good luck!"

MARRIAGE OF MR. J. BRADFORD AND MISS M. McLEOD.



The Wedding Party.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREAT.

The Children's Christmas Treat will be held on Saturday, January 7th, 1950, in the Sports Pavilion. Club Members' children of the ages 5 to 12 years inclusive, are invited.

Members of the Club must hand in a paper giving their Department, children's names and ages to the Club Steward not later than December 17th, 1949.

The Treat will commence at 3 o'clock and finish at 7 p.m. Special buses are being arranged to take the children to the Ground, and will leave the Social Club at 2.30 p.m. There will also be transport to return them to the Social Club at 7 p.m.

The Committee will hold themselves responsible from the time the children leave the Club until their return.

Parents are not expected to attend the Children's Treat, but are cordially invited to a Christmas Party which will be held for adults at 7 p.m. the same evening.

SPORTSMEN—AND WOMEN—MEET.

AN ENJOYABLE GATHERING.

A social evening for all sections of Sports was held on Saturday, September 24th. About 150 members and their friends attended.

Mr. R. St. J. Quarry was present and presented the Challenge Cups competed for in the Cricket and Tennis Sections. The recipients were:—

Cricket.

Best average: Mr. A. J. Hawkins.

Inter-Departmental League: Mr. N. Tott (Engineers and Wine Stores Captain).

Tennis (Singles).

Ladies': Mrs. J. Josey.

Gents': Mr. L. Twiney.

During the evening competitions were held, also dancing until 10.30 p.m.

This was a "get together" occasion and a good opportunity for the several sections of sport to meet in a social atmosphere.

The entertainment was voted a huge success, and all look forward to a similar gathering another year.

THE FOUR HORSESHOES, BASINGSTOKE ROAD.



Mr. F. W. Reville, of Havenford, High Wall, Barnstaple, Devon, has kindly sent us the above photographs of the Four Horseshoes in years gone by.

He writes : " I descend, on my mother's side, from a Reading family of Cottrell, by name, and both my parents are acquainted with the original Palmers, Simonds, and others who made such progress in the early days. My father painted for George Palmer and Major Caversham Simonds.

LIGHTER SIDE.

At a Jewish wedding everyone was happy except the bride's father. Asked why he was so gloomy, he said : " Vell, it don't seem right dat I have to *give* Rachel away."

* * * *

FIRST CYNIC : " Did you ever notice that the matrimonial process is like making a call? You go to adore, you ring the bell, and you give your name to the maid."

SECOND CYNIC : " Yes, and then you're taken in."

* * * *

The doctor answered the telephone. " Yes," he said.

" Doctor," came the reply, " something has happened to my wife. Her mouth is set—lockjaw, I think—and she cannot speak a word. If you are round this way any time next week I hope you'll drop in and see if you can do anything for her."

* * * *

A young Air Force officer, leaving his job in Europe, was working with a sextant to discover his position. As they flew high over the Pyramids he suddenly turned to the pilot, and shouted : " Take off your hat ! "

" Why? " the bewildered pilot shouted back.

" Because according to my calculations, we are now in St. Paul's Cathedral.

* * * *

" Are your father and mother in? " a caller asked of the small boy who opened the door.

" They was in," said the child, " but now they is out."

" They *was* in! They *is* out! Where's your grammar? "

" She's went upstairs to lay down," replied the boy.

* * * *

A merchant advertised for a boy, and in due course a number of lads applied for the job.

" Do you like work? " he asked one of them.

" No, sir," was the prompt answer.

" Then you can have the job," said the merchant. " You are the first boy I've seen who has told the truth."

MERCHANT: "Look here, you have been owing me this bill for a year. I'll meet you halfway. I'm ready to forget half what you owe me."

DEBTOR: "Fine! I'll meet you. I'll forget the other half."

* * * *

Two old-timers were discussing a mutual friend.

One said, musingly: "Poor old Bill seems to be living in the past."

The other answered bitterly: "Why not? It's a lot cheaper."

* * * *

A new family moved into the neighbourhood, and Mrs. Fenwick was very much interested in them.

"They seem to be such a devoted couple," she reported to her husband. "He kisses her every time he goes out, and waves to her from the sidewalks. Why don't you do that?"

"Good lord, Gracie," replied her husband in astonishment, "I don't even know the woman yet."

* * * *

"Are you the girl who took my order?" asked the impatient diner.

"Yes, sir," replied the waitress.

"Well, I declare," he beamed. "You don't look a day older."

* * * *

As the couple on their honeymoon stood on a cliff overlooking the ocean, she grew very romantic.

"Darling," she murmured, "when did you first know that you loved me?"

"Well," replied the groom tenderly, "when I first began to get mad when people said you were brainless and unattractive."

* * * *

The sergeant strode up to the new recruit. Fixing him with a baleful glare, he demanded, "What was your job in civil life?"

"Bank clerk," replied Private Smith.

"Ah, I suppose," sneered the sergeant, "you dusted desks, washed out ink-wells and made nice cups of tea for the manager?"

"Oh, no!" . . . we kept an old sergeant for those jobs."

* * * *

A couple whose new home was completed very recently had hardly moved in before the neighbours came over to inspect it. Naturally, the conversation was on the subject of the house.

"It's very nice," commented one visitor, "but, really, I don't see why you call this type of house a bungalow."

"Well," explained the owner, "we just don't know what else to call it. The job was a bungle, and we still owe for it!"

* * * *

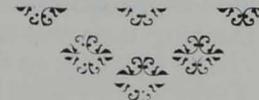
One night a young veteran recently home from overseas, was saying good-night to his fiancée and was leaning on the garden gate.

"I'm going to ask you a great favour," the girl said hesitatingly. "It's already granted," he answered.

"A very great favour," she repeated, as if doubtful of the propriety of saying what it was. "You're sure that you won't think it presumptuous or forward of me?"

"Never!" he assured her. "Only tell me what I can do for you."

"Well," she replied, "would you mind not leaning on the gate? Father painted it this afternoon and he will be awfully provoked if he has to paint it over again."



BRANCHES.

BASINGSTOKE.

DEATH OF MISS H. GREENWAY.

Members of the staff of John May & Co. Ltd. were grievously shocked to learn of the death of Miss H. Greenway, of the Accounts Department, which occurred on August 21st last, whilst returning from an holiday in North Wales.

Although Miss Greenway had only been with us for the past year, she was a well respected local personality, and had impressed herself as a capable and efficient colleague.

Sincere regret is felt at the tragic circumstances of her passing, and we extend our sympathy to her father.

The funeral took place at Basingstoke Cemetery on August 25th. The Office Staff were represented by Messrs. S. Crew, A. H. Dykes, C. Doswell, Misses B. Winterbottom and F. Willmott. The Bottling Department by Messrs. J. Lovejoy and W. Boshier.

Amongst the many floral tributes was one from the Firm and members of the Staff.

BLANDFORD.

The Staff at Blandford Branch send their Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year to the Directors and all at the Brewery, and other Branches, and to all our customers and friends in the trade in this area.

On the 16th September all members of the Blandford Branch gathered together to say goodbye to Mr. G. E. Ashdown, who has been Chief Clerk at this Branch since April, 1946, on his leaving to undergo training in London before taking up an appointment at the Brighton Branch.

After wishing Mr. Ashdown good luck and every success and happiness in the future, Mr. R. J. Bartlett presented him with a barometer, subscribed for by all the Staff, which, he said, he hoped would remind him of happy days spent at Blandford.

Mr. Ashdown, in thanking them for their very acceptable gift, said that he would always look back on his time at Blandford with pleasure, and he thanked everybody for the co-operation given him.

Mr. H. T. Nuttall, from Ludgershall Branch, who succeeds Mr. Ashdown, was then welcomed to Blandford, and we all hope

that he will be happy here. He came at a time when there is always plenty of work to do in connection with the end of the financial year, but soon settled down to his new surroundings.

Whilst waiting to find suitable accommodation he is living on a nearby farm in a caravan, so we hope the winter will not be too severe.



We have much pleasure in publishing the above photograph of the Langton Arms, Tarrant Monkton, darts team, taken with Mr. and Mrs. E. Hull our genial tenants. The photograph shows the "Westcott" Cup which is competed for annually in a knock-out competition held at Blandford British Legion Club, and this year the Langton Arms team were successful from a total entry of 70 teams. Also shown is the "King" Cup, presented by Brigadier P. King as an individual championship run in connection with the local league, and was won by F. Mantell of the Langton Arms team.

Congratulations, "Langton Arms"!

BRIDGEND.

With the approach of Christmas, the Staff of Bridgend Branch wish to extend Greetings to the Directors, their colleagues throughout the Combine, our tenants, and all customers, both old and new, whom we have been privileged to supply throughout the year. May 1950 bring to all health and prosperity, and a lessening of the austere conditions under which we at present live.

On Thursday, November 3rd, the Swansea and District Licensed Victuallers' Association held their 84th Annual Banquet at the Mackworth Hotel, Swansea, under the Chairmanship of Mr. E. D. Simonds.

Considerable time and thought had been given to its preparation by a sub-committee of the Association, and the expressions of pleasure at the excellence of the meal provided were a fitting tribute to their efforts.

Mr. Simonds submitted the toast of "The Swansea and District Licensed Victuallers' Association," and reminded members of the unity which exists between the two sections of our trade, and also of the necessity for making their membership 100% strong.

Included among a number of guests who supported the Chairman were Lt.-General Sir Charles Allfrey, Mr. D. Amos and Mr. G. E. Munday.

Mr. H. J. Gerrish, our Cardiff representative, retired from duty on the 31st October after 50 years' loyal service with the Company and Messrs. W. J. Rogers, Ltd., Bristol. The many expressions of esteem from his customers in the large area he so capably supervised are a fitting tribute to the conscientious manner in which he served both their interests and those of the Firm.

An informal gathering was held on the eve of his retirement, during which Mr. S. C. Saunders handed to Mr. Gerrish a cigarette case, lighter, and writing case as an expression of esteem from his colleagues to commemorate the occasion. Mr. S. H. Spurling was also associated with the presentation, and it was regretted that he was unable to be present at the gathering.

It is the wish of us all that Mr. Gerrish will have many years of happy retirement, coupled with good health to fully enjoy them.

Mr. L. W. Buckingham, late of Farnborough Branch, has now joined our Staff as Assistant Manager, and we extend to him our congratulations on his promotion, and trust that his stay in South Wales will be a long and happy one.

BRIGHTON.

We send Seasonal Greetings to the Directors, the Staff at Reading, and all Branches; also to our friends in the trade, and wish them all a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

We take this opportunity to welcome Mr. G. E. Ashdown, late of Blandford Branch, to our Staff here at Brighton. Mr. Ashdown has been appointed Traveller for the West Sussex Area, and we wish him every success.

We are happy to say that the famous Brighton Tigers are playing extremely well in the Ice Hockey Autumn Cup, and we wish them continued success.

Our enterprising young tenant at the Royal Oak, St. James' Street, Mr. Jeff Davis, although unable to offer hotel accommodation himself would like it made known that he will be only too pleased to arrange accommodation to suit all pockets for any visitors wishing to avail themselves of the undoubted attractions of "Brighter Brighton."

Mrs. H. M. L. Laker, our well loved tenant at the Ferry Arms, Shoreham, for the last twenty-six years, wishes to convey to all her many friends her very best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

BRISTOL.

Once again the Joyous Season has come round, and we at Bristol send Greetings to our Board of Directors, and to all colleagues at Reading and other Branches, at home and abroad. May they have all happiness this Christmas-tide, and health and prosperity during the coming year!

Gen. Sir Charles Allfrey has now been with us for just over a year, and he has well and truly established himself in the hearts of all those with whom he comes in contact. He has made many friends in Bristol and district, and we sincerely hope his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

We were all saddened to hear that our Manager, Mr. J. H. Law, had been taken ill whilst on holiday in Devonshire in September last, which unfortunately necessitated his entering a hospital in Paignton to undergo a minor operation. At the time of writing, he is still in a Nursing Home in Clifton, Bristol, but by the time these notes are published we all hope he will have left the Nursing Home and be well on the way towards a complete recovery, and that before many weeks are past he will be back with us again.

Congratulations to Mr. E. Wooster on completing his 50 years' service at Jacob Street Brewery! He commenced at the Brewery in May, 1899, as a blacksmith's striker, and has for very many years past been our blacksmith here. He travelled to Reading on Monday, October 31st last, at the Directors' request, and was presented with a very nice clock suitably inscribed, together with a cheque, and was congratulated on his loyal services over such a period of time. Mr. Wooster is a man who has thoroughly enjoyed his work, and we trust he will be able to remain with us for quite a long while yet.

Since going to Press last time, Miss Gladys Cooper, of the Transport Office, has become Mrs. Hunt, but is remaining with us for the present. An informal presentation of a canteen of cutlery was made to her by her colleagues which she suitably acknowledged. Shortly afterwards Mr. Mervyn Bennett, of the Cask Dept. took unto himself a wife, and an informal presentation of cutlery was also made to him by his colleagues, which he suitably acknowledged. We wish them both long life, good health, and all future happiness and prosperity in the years ahead, and may they travel comfortably in double harness!

We were very sorry to hear of the sudden passing of our Yardman, James Buller, who had served the Jacob Street Brewery for over forty years in our Transport Dept., Canvassing, and latterly as our Yardman. We extend to his wife and family our deepest sympathy with them in their bereavement.

It was with great regret that we heard of the passing of Mrs. Mabel Smart, of The Black Horse, Cheltenham Road, Bristol, where she had resided for the past ten years with her son, Mr. Sidney Smart, the licensee. She will be long remembered by all her friends and the many frequenters of The Black Horse for her cheery disposition and ready smile for one and all. We tender our sincere condolences to all her family—it may be some little consolation to them to know their grief is shared by so many others.

“HOP LEAF” DARTS—SUMMER LEAGUE.

Well done, Queen's Head! An excellent “double” has been scored—Winter League Winners, and now the Summer League Cup has been placed in a position of honour. The team, headed by the popular captain, Mr. Stan. Butt, has reason to be proud of itself, and the members are to be congratulated as it is their first two seasons, and they are now undisputed champions.

It was indeed a pleasant evening spent during September at the Queen's Head, when, with a full “house” and Mrs. E. A. Jones' ever-ready smile—and ample refreshments—the Summer

League Cup was presented to the captain, and individual prizes of fruit bowls were presented to members of the team by Mr. M. F. Ridler. In true team spirit, Mrs. E. A. Jones was presented with a barometer in appreciation of all her efforts during the two seasons. The Secretary of the Club also received a silver cigarette case, and after suitable replies, the Cup was filled, and emptied, and the jolly company is now looking forward to 1949-50 darts activities.

The following changes of tenancy have taken place at our houses in this area, and we wish all new tenants the best of success in their new ventures:—

The Atlas Inn, Twerton, Bath—Mr. A. E. Harvey.
The Railway Hotel, Yatton—Mr. Douglas Wright.
The Punch Bowl, Old Market Street, Bristol—Mr. H. N. Thatcher.
The Botany Tavern, Ashley Vale, Bristol—Mr. R. H. Stanley.

The 93rd Annual Banquet and Ball of the City and County of Bristol Retail Licensed Trade Association was held at the Victoria Rooms, Bristol, on Thursday evening, November 17th. Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Allfrey presided over a very good gathering of over 300, and was supported by the presence of E. Duncan Simonds, Esq., and R. St. John Quarry, Esq., both of Reading, and Norman Phillips, Esq., of Newport.

Gen. Allfrey, after proposing “Success to the Bristol Association,” then went on to deliver a very splendid speech which was acclaimed by many to be one of the best presidential addresses heard for a very long time.

Mr. R. K. Holbrook, President of the Association, responded, and made a very forceful appeal to all members of the retail trade to unite in the fight against the many obstacles which had to be overcome, which effort could only be successful if a strong membership of the Association was maintained.

After other speeches had been made, Gen. Allfrey thanked everyone present for coming to the Banquet, and for their interest in the Association's activities. At this stage many were quite anxiously waiting for the floor to be cleared for dancing which went on until well after midnight.

A very successful function enjoyed by all!

THE TAMAR BREWERY, DEVONPORT.

We deeply regret having to record the sudden death of Mrs. V. M. L. Jinks, on October 11th, wife of our Chief Clerk, at the age of 49, and we extend to Mr. Jinks and his family our sincere sympathy in their sad bereavement. The funeral service was held at St. John's, Sutton-on-Plym, and was attended by a large gathering, and among those present were Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. G. Rowland, and Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Wright.

The Rev. E. Sanderson, assisted by his son, the Rev. Peter Sanderson, officiated, and feelingly expressed the loss the church had sustained by the passing of one who had followed St. John's Church from childhood, and although living away from the district, had always helped and supported it.

The interment took place at Plymouth Old Cemetery, and the Rev. F. Barnett officiated.

There were many beautiful floral tributes, including those from the Directors, Managers and Staff of the Tamar Brewery.

On Friday, October 21st, Mr. E. L. Morgan left us to take up an appointment in the Architectural Department at Reading. To mark the occasion, and as a token of appreciation, he was presented with a fountain pen and pencil by Mr. F. W. Freeman on behalf of members of the Staff of the Tamar Brewery.

Mr. Morgan suitably acknowledged the gift, and said that it would serve to remind him of the friends he had made during his stay in the West Country, and hoped that he would have an opportunity of renewing their acquaintance in the future.

We extend to Mr. G. E. Dyer a hearty welcome on his appointment as successor to Mr. E. L. Morgan, and wish him every success in his new sphere.

We congratulate Mr. A. G. Gould, our Cornwall representative, on his recent marriage. The ceremony took place at the little village church of St. Michael's, Smarden, Kent, on October 15th. The bride, Miss Molly Wickens, was given away by her father, and was charmingly attired in white figured cloque with embroidered veil and orange blossom, and carried a bouquet of pink carnations and heather. She was attended by four bridesmaids, all of whom were her younger sisters.

The Rev. Sidney R. Griggs officiated, and the wedding was blessed with beautiful sunshine which should serve as a good omen for their future happiness.

The bride and bridegroom were the recipients of a number of useful and valuable presents, including a handsome striking clock, suitably inscribed, and presented to the bridegroom by Mr. F. W. Freeman, on behalf of his colleagues at the Tamar Brewery.

We extend our best wishes to Miss Amy Rowley, of the Bottling Department, on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. Kenneth Warne. The wedding took place at the Registry Office, Plymouth, on Saturday, October 8th. The bride was presented with household linen by Mr. J. E. G. Rowland on behalf of the Staff of the Tamar Brewery.

SIMONDS SOCIAL CLUB.

Winter activities now being in full swing, the Club are strongly represented in local leagues.

This year we are running one football, two darts, and one snooker team.

Keen interest is being shown in Simonds S.C.A.F.C., who are very proud of their unbeaten record to date, in this their second season of competing in the Plymouth Combination Football League, Division 3A.

Comparison of performances in the same league, with those of last season are as follows:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals.			Position in League.
					For	Agst.	Pts.	
1948-49 ...	8	4	2	2	20	16	10	5th
1949-50 ...	8	8	—	—	33	10	16	2nd

The players are to be congratulated on their wholeheartedness and good, clean football, which has been endorsed by more than one referee.

Praise is also due to the small band of regular supporters whose vocal encouragement has helped to maintain their team's unbeaten record.

Keep it up, supporters, and the lads will bring the League Trophy home!

SNOOKER.

The Club's Snooker Team competing in the Plymouth Social Clubs' League, Division 2, can also boast an unbeaten record. To date, they have played and won their first five league matches, and they share the top position in the table with Pennycross Sports Club.

Congratulations are due to the winners of the Snooker Knock-Out Competition recently completed, the winner being G. Everson, and the runner-up, R. Gammage.



The above photograph taken at the Morice Town Children's Carnival, on July 30th, shows Miss R. A. Luscombe in her unique fancy dress costume, which caused much attraction.

Our second dance, held at Devonport Guildhall, on Thursday, October 13th, was equally well attended as our first effort at Plymouth Guildhall in March last. Once again our thanks are due to all members who worked so untiringly to make the evening so pleasant.

Our Children's Party is to be held in the afternoon of January 14th, at Devonport Guildhall. With the experience of former years to help us, we feel sure that the standard we have attained in the past will be fully maintained.

This event will be followed, in the evening, by a dance in the same hall, and it is hoped that as many parents as possible will be able to attend.

The Combined Services Air Display and Tattoo, organised for the first time at Roborough Airport, provided many thrills for some 25,000 people on October 1st. Fine weather prevailed throughout the afternoon, and the Display was opened by the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Sir R. L. Burnett. The organisers are to be congratulated on a fine sum of £1,300 which was raised for charity.

It is pleasing to record that our products were in great demand.

QUEEN'S HOTEL, BRIXHAM.

With fruit and vegetables of every description decorating the bar, the Queen's Hotel, Brixham, looked more like Covent Garden than a public house when, in October, the Vicar of Higher and Lower Brixham, the Rev. C. de Cerjat and the Rev. W. A. Earp, jointly conducted a harvest festival service there.

Strange as the setting was, the whole scene looked most impressive.

Propped against a beer barrel, dominating the numerous gifts, stood a large loaf of bread in the shape of a wheatsheaf. It was baked in Calstock, Cornwall, and was brought to Brixham only that morning.

Jars of dahlias, chrysanthemums and other autumn flowers lined the shelves, and below them, almost everything in the vegetable line from an onion to an outsize marrow.

Great public interest was taken in the service, for which the Rev. C. de Cerjat claimed a public house was as fitting a setting as a church.

The proceeds, which were devoted to the British Legion, amounted to £7. Great credit is due to those who laboured unceasingly to make such a success of this venture, the first of its kind ever to be held in such unique surroundings in this old town.

ROYAL STANDARD INN, TRURO.



The Vicar of St. George's, Truro, the Rev. G. E. Hewson, had some straight things to say about broken marriages, lax morals, and "this divorce-ridden country" when he addressed patrons of the Royal Standard Inn, Kenwyn Street, Truro. The occasion was the Annual Harvest Festival Service which customers of the hotel praiseworthy organised for the Cornwall Branch of the National Institute for the Blind. Mr. Hewson, wearing surplice and cassock, was accompanied by the Rev. F. A. O'Flynn, for many years Rector of St. Erme, and now in retirement. The smoke-room of the hotel, where the service was held, was crowded, and was attractively decorated with all manner of harvest produce. This was subsequently "auctioned" by Messrs. F. Mitchell, E. Cock and W. Penhaligon, and altogether about £15 was raised for the National Institute for the Blind. This sum, said Mr. G. W. Martland, the licensee, was an improvement on last year.

CORNWALL LICENSED VICTUALLERS' ASSOCIATION.

The second Annual Banquet of the Cornwall Central Licensed Victuallers' Association was again held at the Carlyon Bay Hotel, St. Austell, on October 11th. The occasion proved to be most successful, and was presided over by Mr. G. D. Luck, Managing Director of the St. Austell Brewery. The Officers and Committee of the Association are to be congratulated on a most successful evening, particularly Mr. G. A. Ryman, Chairman, and

Mr. S. Wilson, Secretary. Over 120 guests attended the Banquet, and Mr. F. W. Freeman, Mr. J. E. G. Rowland and Mr. R. E. Wright represented the Tamar Brewery.

A ceremony of considerable interest was performed by Mrs. E. Freeman, wife of Mr. H. R. Freeman, Chairman of Messrs. Coates & Co. (Plymouth) Ltd., when she laid the foundation stone for the new offices which are being built to replace the premises destroyed in the blitz on Plymouth.

On the site of the former Dominican Friary, adjoining the Distillery, a three-storey building will be erected. During the ceremony Mrs. Freeman was presented with a mahogany mallet and silver trowel. About 150 guests were present, including representatives of the licensed trade and invitations were extended to Mr. F. W. Freeman and Mr. J. E. G. Rowland, who later attended a reception in the ancient refectory, reputed to be Plymouth's oldest building.

THE "AMETHYST."

Excitement was at its highest on Tuesday, November 1st, when at 9.15 a.m., H.M.S. *Amethyst*, proudly flying the White Ensign, steamed up the Tamar, accompanied by a large number of boats of all sizes.

As she neared Devonport Dockyard she was greeted by a large volume of cheering and blasts from ships' sirens and whistles. Every vantage point was occupied, including the Brewery roof, which was taken advantage of by the Brewery staff.

Aircraft dipped low to almost mast height, and the crews of every ship the *Amethyst* passed, including the U.S. Navy Ship *Hamell* cheered heartily.

A day of great celebration followed and a Civic Luncheon was given to the Officers and Men at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel.

The West Country was indeed honoured by the visit of Her Royal Highness, Princess Elizabeth, during October, and she was given a great welcome in many towns and villages in Devon and Cornwall.

On Saturday, October 22nd, she crossed the River Tamar by Saltash Ferry and, passing through four miles of cheering crowds of Devonport and Plymouth, she arrived at the City Centre, where she broke the Standard Flag to inaugurate Plymouth's National Savings Campaign, and later Her Royal Highness unveiled the stone commemorating the restoration of St. Andrew's Church, after which she attended the Art Gallery for a Civic Reception.

FARNBOROUGH.

The members of Farnborough Branch send to the Directors and all their colleagues at Reading and Branches, and to our military customers in the area their Best Wishes for a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Mr. F. W. Howlett retired on pension during September, owing to ill-health, after 48 years of loyal service with the Company. Mr. Howlett, known to all as "Cherry," joined the Firm in February, 1901, at Farnborough, commencing at the Farnborough Street premises where he became Bottling Foreman. On the closing of the Branch in March, 1931, he joined the Transport Department at Reading, where he remained until the re-opening of Farnborough Branch at the outbreak of hostilities in 1939. We trust that he will make a full recovery and enjoy many more years in his retirement.

GIBRALTAR.

We regret that the wrong designations were given to the two Gibraltar football teams whose photographs appeared in the last issue of this journal. The error occurred in the course of printing when the names of the teams were reversed. We tender our apologies to the gentlemen concerned.

LONDON.

All at London Branch extend the Season's Greetings to the Directors, the Staff at Reading, Branches, Associated and Subsidiary Companies.

September 30th marked the retirement of Mr. J. F. C. Bowyer, Traveller at London Branch for more than 26 years, and the occasion was honoured by the presence of our Director, F. H. V. Keighley, Esq., O.B.E. The date was in October, and a small party of Mr. Bowyer's past and present colleagues, including Mr. A. E. Wake, Manager, Branch Department, Reading, gathered at London Stores to bid him farewell.

Mr. Keighley kindly agreed to make the presentation of a case of pipes from Mr. Bowyer's colleagues "on the road" and a fountain pen and pencil from the Offices. In the course of an informal speech, he said that the Directors could not let the occasion pass without thanking Mr. Bowyer for his zealous and loyal service to the Firm.

Mr. Bowyer's life had been a full one. As a "sapper" he had served in many parts of the world, including China during the Boxer Revolt, to France for the First World War, where he was subsequently wounded at the Aisne and eventually transferred to Leeds as an Instructor, assisting with recruiting. A great sportsman in his day—Rugby football his forte—Mr. Bowyer had used his genial breezy personality to acquire him many friends, and had achieved a great success with his many Club customers in his area.

Mr. Keighley then asked Mr. Bowyer's acceptance of the gifts from his colleagues, together with his personal best wishes that Mr. Bowyer would have good health to enjoy a long and happy retirement.

In reply, Mr. Bowyer said, firstly, he would like Mr. Keighley to convey to the Board his appreciation of the generosity of the Firm, both during his service and on his retirement. He felt that he would miss the life and his many friends very much, but he had enjoyed his many years with the Firm, and expressed his appreciation of the help willingly extended to him by both the Manager, Mr. S. M. Penlerick, and Mr. H. Ward, Chief Clerk, and concluded by hoping that his many Club and business associates would extend the same courtesy to his successor, Mr. Marsland, as they had to him.

It was very pleasing to welcome again Mr. A. Luscombe and Mr. F. Gardiner, who retired some short while ago. Letters of good wishes and apologies for unavoidable absence were received from Major F. J. Johnson and Mr. R. Woodward.

Mr. J. F. C. Bowyer, who has decided to spend his retirement in West Kirby, Cheshire, carries with him the best wishes of both London Staff and his many customers.

LUDGERSHALL.

Three trips have been enjoyed by members of the Branch during the summer. The first was to Clifton Zoo, with stops at Cheddar (lunch at the Bath Arms Hotel) and Wookey Hole. Another excursion which was very popular was that which took employees, wives and children to Weymouth for a day by the sea. The third was to London with a stop for sightseeing and lunch at Windsor. The main centre of attraction was again the Zoo, which some of the staff seemed very loath to leave. Home was reached by a very tired but happy coachload just before midnight.

Births have given great pleasure to two of the staff and their wives. In each case a daughter—to Mr. S. Goswell, of T. Dowling and Son, and Mr. G. Higgins, of Ludgershall.

Congratulations!

Several changes have recently taken place amongst members of our staff. We have been sorry to lose Mr. H. Nuttall (Junior), but offer him our very best congratulations on his appointment as Chief Clerk of Blandford Branch. We learn that he and his wife are now enjoying life in a caravan on a farm just outside Blandford—hope the winter takes pity on them!

Mr. John Fleming has left us temporarily to serve His Majesty, but from what we have seen of him since, the army is treating him kindly, except in the matter of haircuts.

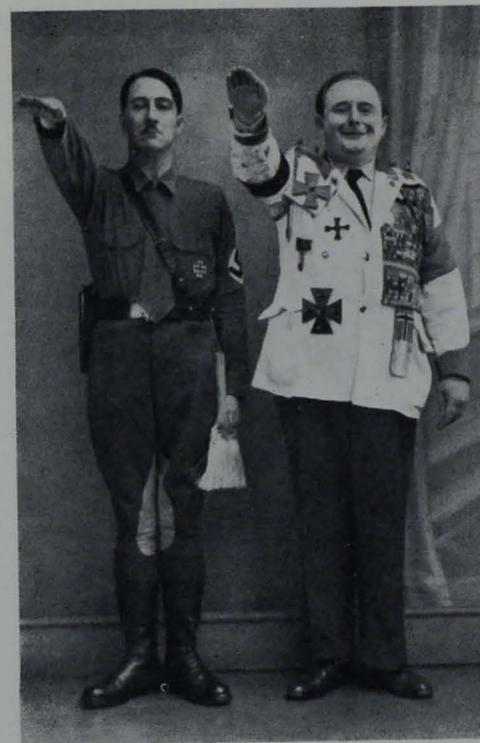
We welcome to our staff Mr. L. West, a recently appointed Junior.

During the last few months we have been kept very busy dodging builders, painters and Reading engineers. The Bottling Stores have been completely transformed, and the new machinery and altered premises have been welcomed by our bottling girls, who now sing all the more. On the production side, the added bottling facilities have proved very useful during the summer camps and shows.

May we extend Seasonal Greetings to our Directors and Staff at all Branches, tenants and customers, and wish them all the very best during the coming year.

ARE THEY STILL ALIVE?

A Fancy Dress Dance was held at the Guildhall during Salisbury's "Battle of Britain" Week celebrations. First and second prizes were awarded—justly, perhaps, because they started the battle—to H. Goering and A. Hitler, thinly disguised as Mr. D. C. Davidson (a well-known customer) and Mr. C. Johnson, the Manager of our Hotels Department house, the Haunch of Venison. An unknown correspondent gives an unconfirmed report that Castle Street headquarters are re-checking their management's past records, if, in case it might just be possible that . . . ?



NEWPORT.

On this, the first Christmas of our becoming members of the great Combine of Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., we take this opportunity of wishing the Directors and all our comrades throughout the Combine a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Hoping in due course that we shall make the acquaintance of many of our colleagues whom we have not met at the moment.

PHILLIPS AND SONS, LIMITED.

Congratulations are extended to Mr. E. Witton on his marriage to Miss Doris Carter on the 29th August, at St. Woolos Church, Newport.

It is pleasing to recall that the first spark of this happy romance was probably kindled in the "Long Room," for the bride was, for a period during the war, herself a member of our staff, and, more recently, on the staff of our local newspaper.

On behalf of the staff, Mr. W. E. Hall wished them a happy future, and presented a canteen of cutlery.

Mr. Witton, a popular colleague, suitably responded. The reception was held at the King's Head Hotel, after which the happy couple left for Paignton.



Marriage of Mr. E. Witton and Miss D. Carter.

On the 30th September the staff gathered together to pay tribute in the form of a silver card case to a greatly respected colleague, Mr. Percy C. Roberts, Traveller, to commemorate the occasion of his retirement after 55 years' service.

Mr. S. C. Saunders, General Manager, presided, and in a short but well-chosen speech, expressed his pleasure as a new-comer to the Firm, for the opportunity to take part in such a unique ceremony, and stated that during the short time he had known Mr. Roberts he had found him a great help and a mine of information. He expressed his best wishes for the future, and called upon Mr. W. E. Hall, Secretary, to make the presentation.

Mr. Hall who has enjoyed a long association with Mr. Roberts, said that he was sure that it was with mixed feelings that they had gathered together to say farewell to their old friend and comrade, who had such a remarkable record of faithful service to the Firm, and who had been such a fountain of good advice and guidance to all with whom he had come in contact, and on behalf of everyone in the room he wished Mr. Roberts the long and happy retirement which he had so richly earned; also that Mrs. Roberts and he would be blessed with good health for many years to come. "Before we take our leave of you," said Mr. Hall, "please accept this card case from us all, with the hope that you will enjoy many happy evenings with your family and friends."

Mr. Roberts, in response, expressed his thanks for the good wishes and for the gift which he greatly appreciated. In reminiscent mood, he spoke of his joining the Firm in its early days and seeing it grow from a small beginning to the well-known and highly respected concern of the present, and now the recent joining up with Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, which he had viewed with a twinge of regret at the passing of the old order, but which he felt sure was all for the best, and that the future of those left to carry on the good work was assured.

Amongst numerous licensed properties taken over with the acquisition of Phillips & Sons, Ltd., Newport is the Queen's Hotel, of which external views are shown in the photographs overleaf. This hotel is now being run under our Hotels and Catering Department, and is proving an outstanding success.



The Hotel undergoing exterior decoration.



The front entrance of the Hotel after completion of repairs.

INTERNATIONAL LAWN TENNIS AT NEWPORT.

Your readers may be interested to learn that Mr. S. Norman Bennett, our under brewer, played for Wales against England in the international lawn tennis match, which opened at Newport on the 11th July.

Mr. Bennett was originally selected as a Welsh reserve for the match and was included in the side following the last minute withdrawal of Mr. G. L. Tuckett. Mr. Bennett has fulfilled the necessary residential qualifications, which entitle an Englishman to play for Wales, since he moved from London to Newport shortly after the end of the war.

It is interesting to record that, in addition to Mr. Bennett, Newport had two other representatives in the Wales side, viz., Mr. G. R. Glendenning and Mr. J. C. Gill.

OXFORD.

At a General Meeting held at the New Inn, St. Aldates, on Monday, August 29th, it was decided by a unanimous vote to revive the activities of the H. & G. Simonds, Ltd. (Oxford Branch) Social and Athletic Club.

The Club was originally formed on the 17th July, 1934, and continued to flourish until the outbreak of war. Since the cessation of hostilities, and with the return from the Forces of the male staff, it was considered by many at Oxford Branch that the time was ripe for a renewal of the Club's pre-war activities, and it is gratifying to note that there was an almost 100 per cent. attendance at the first post-war general meeting.

Officers of the Club were elected as follows :—

Chairman : W. T. Sanders, Esq.

Hon. Secretary : Mr. B. H. Quelch.

Hon. Treasurer : Mr. A. Siggery.

Committee : Messrs. H. Allen, C. Francis, P. Oliver,
H. Beesley, S. Fowler.

Our Director, F. H. V. Keighley, Esq., O.B.E., has kindly consented to become President of the Club, and the following Heads of Departments at the Brewery have accepted as Vice-Presidents :—

J. D. Richardson, Esq.,

A. E. Wake, Esq.

W. Heley, Esq.

F. E. Dryden, Esq.

R. E. Southall, Esq.

Capt. A. S. Drewe, M.C., J.P.

A. G. Richardson, Esq.

We are looking forward to some pleasant Games Evenings with our friends in the Oxford Area during the coming winter, and to a renewal of our athletic activities in the New Year.

SPORTS AND FETE.

Brilliant sunshine greeted Didcot's biggest outdoor event of the year, the Ordnance Depot's Sports and Fete, which was again a great success.

The main attractions, in addition to the Sports themselves, were the Beauty Competition, Ankle Competition, a Physical Training Display by No. 32 Assault Regiment, R.E., and a Children's Fancy Dress Competition.

Music was provided by the Royal Army Ordnance Corps Band and the Didcot Silver Prize Band.

Thirty-one darts teams entered for the Cup which was won last year by The Hop Leaf, from Reading. The Hop Leaf team were knocked out in the semi-final by the Fleur-de-Lys "A" team from East Hagbourne, but the Fleur-de-Lys were themselves beaten in the final by The Beehive "A" team, Abingdon. (The Fleur-de-Lys, East Hagbourne, is, of course, owned by our good friends, Mr. and Mrs. Figgures.)

Simonds' Sparkling Ale in the stainless steel containers was "on tap" in the Sergeants' Mess marquee throughout the day, and perhaps the following extract from the instructions issued by the senior member of the Sergeants' Mess best tells the conclusion of a successful day:—

"3. End of Sports.

"At approx. 6.30 p.m. truck to report to Sgt. Young at the Sergeants' Mess Tent for loading the empties and return all the junk to the Sergeants' Mess. (This will include all those W.O.s and Sergeants who have 'passed out' under the table!)"

CRICKET, BOWLS AND TENNIS.

The Annual Supper and Prize Presentation of the Cowley St. John, Oxford, Cricket, Bowls and Tennis Club, well-known in Oxford sporting circles for over sixty years, was a great success. Mr. F. J. Fowler, the President, was in the Chair, and there were many local celebrities present, including Mr. A. R. Allen, this year's National Bowls Champion, who resides in Oxford, and is a leading light in local as well as national bowls.

During the evening a presentation was made to Mr. J. A. Clinkard to mark his 50 years' membership of the Club. Mr. Clinkard, who, of course, is our traveller, and a well-known cricketer of county quality in his day, was the recipient of a silver tankard and a propelling pencil. Incidentally, Mr. Clinkard was this year's winner of the Club's Bowls Handicap Cup, and so, if he has outlived a propensity for cricket, he can still excel at the other game.

THE CROWN INN HORTICULTURAL SHOW.

From a discussion amongst the customers of the Crown Inn, Lake Street, Oxford, as to the respective merits of the produce of their several gardens, allotments, etc., it was decided to hold an impromptu show in the saloon bar on the evening of Saturday, August 27th.

The show became a fact on the date fixed and was, in a modest fashion, a great success. Two prizes offered, one for runner beans and one for onions were both won by Mr. R. Simmons, and the produce was afterwards sold. The sum of five pounds was realised from the sale, which will be spent on a party for customers' children at Christmas.

It is hoped to make the show an annual event.

CHRISTMAS, 1949.

All at Oxford Stores send Greetings and Best Wishes for Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to the Directors, and all our colleagues of H. & G. S., Ltd., and Associated Companies at headquarters, and all Branches at home and abroad.

SWINDON.

The Staff at Swindon Branch, through the medium of the HOP LEAF GAZETTE, would like to wish the Directors and their colleagues at Reading, and the various Branches, a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

MESSRS. POOL & SON, PENZANCE.

The accompanying photograph, taken on the 5th September, is the sequel to the destruction of Messrs. Pool & Son's Wine and Spirit Stores by an enemy bomb on the 26th September, 1942, and, in the course of rebuilding, shows the recovery of a cask of

ale from a culvert where it was buried in the debris. The contents of the cask were duly sampled and, considering that the ale had been brewed seven years, were found to be in remarkably good condition.



PORTSMOUTH.

From all the staff at the Portsmouth and Hampshire Branch we respectfully wish our Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. A. Simonds, and our Board of Directors a most Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

To our colleagues at Reading and throughout the many Branches of Messrs. H. & G. Simonds, Ltd., at home and overseas, and in Associated Companies, we proffer our Greetings and Best Wishes for their joy during the coming year of 1950.

KING'S HEAD HOTEL, HURSLEY, HANTS.

This fine hotel controlled by the People's Refreshment Houses Association, Ltd., is situated on the main London to Bournemouth Road between Winchester and Romsey in the centre of the old world village of Hursley.

This pretty village is steeped in history, and tales of many famous people from the locality have been handed down from generation to generation.

Richard Cromwell, brother of Oliver Cromwell, Protector of England, resided here in the year 1663, and a set of bowling woods which belonged to him are preserved in the smoking room at the King's Head Hotel. These woods were presented to the Hursley Bowling Club by Sir George Cooper, Bart., a landowner of the district. The woods are still, in fact, played with, but on only one day a year, which occasion is known as "Cromwell's Day." Needless to say, offers to purchase these woods have been received from the world over, but we venture to state they will never be sold. Some of the woods are marked "O. C." and are believed to have been the property of Oliver Cromwell.

We can heartily recommend visitors to the district to pay a visit to the King's Head Hotel, Hursley, where they will be greeted by the genial host, Mr. G. L. Collins, and where they may regale themselves with "Hop Leaf" products.

A story is told, and this story is true—well, almost—of the Steward of a famous Club in Portsmouth. This Club is situated close to a theatre where animal acts were performing during one week.

Late, very late, one Saturday night after his work was completed, the Steward proceeded to the back door of the Club for a breath of fresh air after his toil. Opening the door, in the dim light cast by a street lamp, he saw (*sic.*) an enormous lion glaring balefully at him. Being a man of action, he acted—quickly—and closed the door.

He waited a moment to recover from the surprise, and not wishing to alarm his wife, debated his course of action. Bravely he opened the door to ascertain the position of the "King of Beasts" before telephoning the police to bring rifles, and saw a pretty chorus girl leading her chow dog away. Light and dark plays strange tricks, especially when taken from glass.

Has anyone a stuffed head of a chow for sale?

In the month of November, Portsmouth received a visit from the United States Ship *Columbus*, a heavy cruiser of the U.S. Navy. It was an historic occasion, for His Majesty The King, at the invitation of Admiral Conolly, U.S.N., took lunch aboard, and attended a cinematograph show in the afternoon. It was the first occasion that the Royal Standard had ever been broken at the masthead of an American ship-of-war in British waters.

FOOTBALL.

Once again the football season is in full swing; in fact, by the time these notes go to press, half of the 1949-50 Season programme will be completed.

At this stage one can make a brief survey of the progress the Clubs are making by referring to the league tables, which give a slight indication as to the teams which are likely to gain promotion or be relegated.

By this means, we at Portsmouth feel justified in suggesting that our team, now fifth from the top of Division I, have a good chance of repeating their last season's performance to retain their status of League Champions, or, maybe, they will direct their efforts to the "Cup" Competition this time.

Glancing at Division II, we find our friends at Plymouth occupying a very unenviable position at the foot of the table. May we be permitted to suggest that if they wish to remove themselves from this position of obscurity, that they instruct their supporters to refrain from throwing missiles, or, at least, direct them at that which is intended, and not at their own players!

We congratulate the Reading Club for having such a successful season to date, and wish them luck in their bid for promotion.

WOKING.

The Staff of Woking Branch extend to the Directors, Heads of Departments and Staff at Reading, Branches and Associated Companies, their Best Wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

NORMANDY AND WANBOROUGH SOCIAL AND WORKING MEN'S CLUB.

On Wednesday, the 2nd of November, the above Club held their Annual Dinner and a very enjoyable and successful evening was the opinion of all.

After dinner several speeches were made, notably by the Chairman, Mr. Chuter, and the Secretary, Mr. F. Hibberd. The latter speaker was kind enough to mention his sincere thanks to the Company for their many services and also to Mr. B. H. Quelch, the Woking Area Manager and Mr. L. T. C. Brown, the Area Representative, for their attendance. Called upon to reply for the visitors, Mr. Quelch expressed his thanks to all present for their continued support, and wished the Club every success for the future.

The catering arrangements were once again in the very capable hands of Mrs. Hibberd and the many ladies who assisted her. The bar arrangements were as usual efficiently carried out by Messrs. F. & A. Hibberd.

May we, through the medium of the HOP LEAF GAZETTE, express our thanks to the Chairman, the Committee and members for a very enjoyable evening.

RETIREMENT OF MR. S. M. WAREHAM.

On September 30th, a pleasant ceremony took place at these offices when Mr. S. M. Wareham, our senior traveller, was presented with a silver salver suitably engraved and a wallet by Mr. R. F. Gooch to mark the occasion of his retirement after eighteen years on the road. These tokens of esteem having been subscribed to by the members of the staff at Woking Stores.

Mr. Gooch thanked Mr. Wareham for the help and support he had given him during the short time he had been at Woking Branch. In reply, Mr. Wareham thanked Mr. Gooch for the kind remarks he had made about him, and that he looked back on many very pleasant memories.

A farewell luncheon was given later by Mr. F. H. V. Keighley, O.B.E., in honour of Mr. Wareham. Mr. A. E. Wake, and Mr. L. T. C. Brown, who has succeeded Mr. Wareham, were also present.

"HOP LEAF" DARTS TOURNAMENT.

An inaugural meeting was held in August to discuss the formation of a darts tournament. The following officers were elected:—

Chairman : Mr. B. H. Quelch.
Secretary : Mr. K. M. Johnson.
Treasurer : Mr. J. Marshall.

It was then decided the Competition should be a "knock-out" tournament.

Subsequently, 53 teams were entered from the Tied Houses, including three ladies' teams (well done, ladies!) and the draw for the first round was held on September 28th, 1949.

The keen play witnessed in the ensuing games was followed by the spectators with much enthusiasm. Further matches are eagerly awaited, and many a pleasant evening is promised if games are continued with the same fervour as shown in the initial round.

The following teams are left in after the first round :—

Carpenters' Arms, Chertsey, " B "	White Hart, New Haw, " A "
Brickmakers', Windlesham, " B "	Royal Oak, Addlestone, " A "
Woburn Arms, Addlestone, " B "	Carpenters' Arms, Chertsey, " A "
Crown, Knaphill, " C "	Queen's Head, Knaphill, " C "
Royal Oak, Knaphill (Ladies) " A "	Queen's Arms, Addlestone, " A "
Brickmakers, Windlesham, " A "	Crown, Knaphill, " A "
Queen's Arms, Addlestone, " B "	Black Horse, New Haw, " A "
Hen and Chickens, Bisley, " B "	Royal Oak, Knaphill, " B "
Four Horseshoes, Chobham, " A "	Four Horseshoes, Chobham, " B "
Woburn Arms, Addlestone, " A "	Black Horse, New Haw, " D "
White Hart, Bagshot, " B "	Sun, Windlesham, " A "
Plough, Ottershaw, " B "	Woburn Arms, Addlestone, " C "
Four Horseshoes, Chobham, " C "	Queen's Head, Knaphill, " E "
Brickmakers', Windlesham, " C "	Queen's Head, Knaphill, " F "
Sun, Windlesham, " B "	Crown, Knaphill, " D "
Royal Oak, Knaphill, " A "	White Hart, New Haw, " C "

FOOTBALL CLUB ANNUAL DINNER.

Our friends at the Holmbury St. Mary Football Club have had an exceedingly successful season, ample proof of which was shown at the Annual Dinner on Thursday, November 10th, when the Tillingbourne and District League Cup and the Tug-of-War Cup were on show. The President of the Club, Commander Ellis, was in the Chair, supported by the Captain of the team and the Secretary of the Club, Mr. A. Strudwick. The Vice-President of the Club, The Right Honourable Lord Greene, was also present, and Mr. B. H. Quelch and Mr. L. T. C. Brown, of Woking Branch, represented the Company.

After dinner several excellent speeches were made, which were concluded by a few well chosen and witty comments by Lord Greene. The health of the team was then drunk by the passing round of the two Challenge Cups suitably filled.

The evening concluded with songs by Mr. Budd and a conjuring display by Mr. Kilroy, and the verdict of all was that Mr. J. Griffiths, who was responsible for the organisation, had done an excellent job.

ROYAL MILITARY POLICE MEMORIAL.

In reproducing the photograph of the Memorial Arch in our September issue, acknowledgment was made to the *Woking Mail and News*, whose report of the unveiling ceremony was also reprinted. We are informed that the photograph was taken by Mr. H. R. Tunn, of Aldershot, at the special request of the

Royal Military Police, Inkerman Barracks, Woking, to whom we are indebted for the favour of reproduction, and to whom we express our regrets for the misunderstanding.

SACCONE & SPEED, LTD., GIBRALTAR.

H.M.S. " AMETHYST "

During the stay of the above ship at Gibraltar, the Officers paid an informal visit to Messrs. Williams & Humbert's " Bodega " at Jerez, the party including Lieut.-Commander J. S. Kerans, D.S.O., Lieutenant Berger, Lieutenant (E) Wilkinson, Mr. Frank Gillard (B.B.C. Commentator) and Mr. R. Wingrave Tench.

A most interesting time was spent at the " Bodega," and to commemorate the visit, each of the Ship's Officers signed their names on a large sherry butt, marked H.M.S. *Amethyst*, which had been placed next to one signed by the Prince of Wales. As souvenirs, the Officers were presented with miniature sherry casks, inscribed with their initials and, in addition, the party took back a bottle of Dry Sack Sherry for each member of the crew.

Luncheon was arranged at the " Cisnes " and, being conducted with minimum formality, proved a very jolly event, which was greatly enjoyed. On the return journey, supper was arranged at La Linea prior to the return to the ship.

Our photographs show the party at Messrs. Williams and Humbert's " Bodega."



Lieut.-Commander J. S. Kerans, D.S.O., autographing the Sherry Butt.



Bradley & Son, Ltd., The Crown Press, Carston Street, Reading.

Left to right—
Mr. Guy Williams, Lieut.-Commander J. S. Kerans, D.S.O., Mr. R. Wingrave Tench, Lieut. (E) Wilkinson, Mr. Frank Gillard, Mr. Alan Whicker (Exchange Telegraph News Agency) and Lieut. Berger, the First Lieutenant of H.M.S. "Amethyst."

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