

# CONTACT

August 1977



The Davies' Duo  
from Dee Valley  
(See page 179)

# A Special Invitation to all our Retired Employees

This is an official invitation to all MANWEB retired employees to attend one of the Employees' Annual Meetings held in the Board's area.

The Secretaries of each of the Local Advisory Committees, who

## Pensioners' Outings

Pensioners from Mid-Mersey District had a splendid day out in North Wales not long ago. After being picked up by coach at St. Helens, Warrington, Runcorn and Frodsham they travelled via Bala to Trawsfynydd, enjoying a drink at the Sports and Social Club before lunching at the power station.

The afternoon was occupied with a visit to the Ffestiniog Pumped Storage site, with wonderful views from the upper reservoir, before a pleasant drive home across the Denbigh moors.

Retired colleagues from Liverpool were joined by friends from the Midlands Board for a Mersey River Cruise on board the m.v. *Royal Iris*, with lunch on board, two hours on the river, rounded off with a buffet tea at the Thingwall Road Club House.

organise the conferences, have some difficulty in reaching all the retired people to whom they would like to send an invitation, so through 'Contact' we extend their invitation to you all.

Each District and Head Office have their own meeting, *dates and venues are given below*—and you are invited to attend the one nearest your former workplace or the one nearest your present home.

If you would like to take this

opportunity to meet again with your former colleagues write to the Secretary of the particular Local Advisory Committee whose meeting you wish to attend and he will send you a programme.

Should you require any other information please telephone or write to the Editor of 'Contact.'

The invitation is also extended to all our present staff members. Check up now and find out what is planned for your annual meeting.

The dates for the Meetings are as follows:

### Local Advisory Committees

No. 1 L.A.C., North Mersey District  
Bridle Road  
Bootle, Lancs L30 4XA

No. 2 L.A.C., Liverpool District  
Lister Drive  
Liverpool L13 7HJ

No. 3 L.A.C., Mid-Mersey District  
Wilderspool Causeway  
Warrington WA4 6QD

No. 4 L.A.C., Dee Valley District  
Rhostyllen  
Wrexham, Clwyd

No. 5 L.A.C., North Wirral District  
Craven Street  
Birkenhead L41 4TB

No. 6 L.A.C., Mid-Cheshire District  
Macon Way  
Crewe, Cheshire

No. 7 L.A.C., Clwyd District  
Cefndy Road  
Rhyl, Clwyd

No. 8 L.A.C., Gwynedd District  
St. Helens Road  
Caernarfon, Gwynedd

No. 9 L.A.C., Oswestry District  
Maesbury Road  
Oswestry, Salop SY10 8HA

No. 10 L.A.C., Aberystwyth District  
Mill Street  
Aberystwyth, Dyfed

No. 11 L.A.C., Head Office  
Sealand Road  
Chester CH1 4LR

### Details of Meetings

30th September 1977  
District Office  
Bridle Road, Bootle

20th October 1977  
Dovedale Towers  
Penny Lane, Allerton

4th November 1977  
Wilderspool Leisure Centre  
Warrington

11th November 1977  
Memorial Hall  
Wrexham

Date and time to be  
fixed for the  
New Year

18th November 1977  
Alvaston Hall  
Nantwich, Cheshire

14th October 1977  
Derbyshire Miners Home  
Rhyl

28th October 1977  
British Hotel  
Bangor

28th October 1977  
Victoria Rooms  
Pedigree Hotel, Oswestry

Date and time to be  
arranged later with  
the C.E.G.B.

27th October 1977  
Head Office  
Restaurant



# CONTACT

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## *Editorial*

### BACK ON COURSE

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**D**ESPITE the massive "paper losses" caused by price restraint in recent years, workers in electricity supply have always known that their industry was a viable proposition, perfectly capable of paying its way provided that prices were allowed to match costs. It would be amazing if the situation were otherwise, in view of the indispensable role of our product in every aspect of life today.

The broader public, however, does not necessarily see the situation with the same clarity. All MANWEB employees will be pleased to see that a return to the laws of the market place has balanced the Board's books and restored our prestige in the eyes of the more short-sighted of our customers.

Our surplus of £1.5 million is a large sum when viewed in isolation, but represents the proverbial "buttons" when considered against our turnover of £279 million. In fact our surplus was the second lowest recorded by the twelve Area Electricity Boards in England and Wales.

MANWEB employees, however, have other reasons for pride in the Board's performance, apart from the overall financial result. Examination of statistics published by the Electricity Council reveals that we compare well in all fields of efficiency, as measured by costs.

For example, on the basis of "pence per unit sold," our Distribution Costs and our Administration and General Costs were the second lowest among the twelve Boards. Our costs in relation to Meter Reading, Billing, and Collection of Accounts, and to Consumer Services, were also well below the national average.

Most noteworthy of all, however, was the fact that our average price per unit of electricity sold overall, at 1.87p, was the lowest of all—a point which many might regard as the acid test of efficiency, and a solid reply to people who complain about the size of their bills.

#### Editorial Staff

*Phone H.O.*

Keith Baldwin 2164  
John F. Perry 2167  
Sam Doughty 2166

Please let the Editorial staff know of any large-scale or unusual engineering schemes or commercial projects going on in your department. We are interested in people too! Contact us about your interesting personalities with a story to tell.

## Back in the Black!

THE FUTURE price of electricity is "very much in the hands of the coal industry, and to a lesser extent of the oil industry" said our Chairman, Mr. Denis Dodds, presenting our Annual Report and Accounts to newspaper, radio and TV journalists at a Press Conference in Liverpool on July 27th.

The Chairman stressed that increases in the cost of coal and oil burned at power stations added another £18.34 million to MANWEB's costs during the year which ended on March 31st. Fuel now accounted for half the cost of every unit of electricity sold.

For the first time in seven years our accounts were in surplus—to the tune of £1.5 million—compared with losses totalling £40 million during the previous six years.

The Chairman said that this return to profitability was due to the Government's decision to allow the

price of electricity to match the costs of production and distribution.

"It is vital that prices reflect actual costs—and that goes for all fuels," said the Chairman. "The right price has enabled us to balance our books, and the right price enables our customers to make their own decisions over choice of fuel."

On the subject of Off-Peak electricity Mr. Dodds said that wrong impressions in the public mind had led to the loss of a good deal of new business during the past year or two. This business was now beginning to return as people realised that Off-Peak electricity was really here to stay, and still represented excellent value for money.

He added that the "Code of Practice," adopted by the gas and electricity industry, had formalised in a more public way something which we had been doing for a long time—making arrangements for people to pay outstanding accounts by instalments. In the last resort, however, like the grocer to the baker, we had to reserve the right to discontinue supplies to those who made no effort to clear their debts.

## THE REPORT SUMMARISED

### Electricity Sales

Sales increased to 14,278 million units, compared with 13,561 million during the previous year,

due mainly to an increase of 10% in sales to industry. Despite a colder Winter, however, domestic sales fell by 1.5% and the average home used only 3,950 units of electricity—the lowest figure since 1971. The Report attributes this continuing decline in domestic demand to "increasing pressure on customers' spending power."

Sales to commercial and other

users showed a modest increase of 3.6%.

### Appliance Sales

There was an increase of 4% in the volume of domestic appliances sold during the year. Sales of storage radiators showed a welcome improvement, but some cooker sales were lost due to the low rate of completion of new houses during the year.

## The National Picture

The electricity supply industry returned to surplus with a bang during 1976/77—a total profit of almost £207 million, made up of nearly £130 million by the CEBG and more than £76 million by the twelve Area Distribution Boards.

Commenting on the results the Electricity Council's Chairman, Mr. Francis Tombs said that the industry's profit should be looked at against the background of electricity sales totalling over £4,000 million. It should also be remembered that during 1974/75 the industry made a loss of £265 millions—"for which we were, of course, duly castigated."

Commented Mr. Tombs: "Nationalised industries face a particular problem, in that their losses attract criticisms of inefficiency, whereas

profits attract accusations of exploitation."

Presenting the Annual Report of the CEBG, the Board's Chairman, Mr. Glyn England, warned that power stations could be faced with a coal price rise of about 30% if there was a big wage increase for miners without any improvement in productivity.

Such a price rise would mean that the CEBG's coal requirement would drop by about 10 million tonnes in a full year because oil would again become a very economic fuel for large scale use in power stations.

Mr. England emphasised that nuclear power stations already produced one-eighth of our electricity. He added: "It is common ground that supplies of oil and gas will begin to dwindle before the end of this century, and that nuclear power is the only sufficiently developed source of energy to fill the gap."

## Payment of Bills

In addition to the normal prepayment and "Thrift Meter" facilities, MANWEB customers can now buy 50p Savings Stamps from Board shops, make regular advance payments at MANWEB shops or at banks using personal Payment Books, or make planned monthly payments by Bank or GIRO order.

## The "Code of Practice"

To minimise the hardship resulting from the disconnection of fuel supplies for non-payment the Gas and Electricity industries have introduced a "Code of Practice" on the payment of domestic bills.

The Code has been applied by MANWEB since December 1976 and copies have been made available at Board shops and offices.

*The Report comments: "MANWEB's approach is that it will afford all practicable help to those who display a desire to help themselves. Time must elapse and experience be gained before the effects of the Code, financial and otherwise, may be sensibly evaluated."*

## Electricity Discount Scheme

MANWEB has applied the provisions of the Government scheme which made it possible for direct consumers of the Board who receive Supplementary Benefit or Family Income Supplement to obtain a discount amounting to 25% of the value of electricity used during one quarter of the past Winter.

The Report points out that the application of the Code of Practice and the operation of the Discount Scheme have both placed additional burdens on MANWEB's administrative staff.

## Internal Efficiency

The drive to reduce costs and combat inflation has continued

# WHAT THE PAPERS SAID...

## Manweb profit after six years in red

## Brighter power board report

THE TREND of recent years was reversed in the past year in MANWEB.

Manweb made a profit for the first time in seven years. Profit increased, according to the board, by 21.54 million to £1.5 million.

## More power used

Commercial and industrial premises in North West are highlighted in the annual report and accounts of Merseyside and North Wales Electricity Board which include a 11m surplus for the year ended 31.12.1976. Total expenditure in Merseyside and North Wales was £1,000,000, compared with £1,000,000 in 1975.

## MANWEB IS SET ON ROAD TO RECOVERY

FOR the first time in seven years, MANWEB have reported a profit on a 12-month period of trading. Chairman Mr. Denis Dodds said the surplus was the first indication of the haul back to profitability.

## Manweb in black by £1.5 million

## Manweb's run of losses comes to an end

MANWEB have made a profit for the first time in seven years.

## MANWEB'S PROFIT IS £1.5M

MANWEB has made a profit for the first time in seven years. The profit was £1.5 million, compared with a deficit of £1.5 million in 1975. The report also states that the board has a surplus of £1.5 million, compared with a deficit of £1.5 million in 1975. The report also states that the board has a surplus of £1.5 million, compared with a deficit of £1.5 million in 1975.

throughout the year. The total number of staff was reduced by 226 to 5,853.

### The Theft of Electricity

MANWEB's inspection teams have so far examined 30,000 installations as part of the drive to stamp out the theft of electricity by people who tamper with their meters. During the year 700 cases of interference were reported to the Police for prosecution, new procedures have been instituted to make detection easier and steps are being taken to improve the security of meter equipment to make interference more difficult.

## SOME FACTS AND FIGURES

- \* The total number of consumers rose to 1,186,904 compared with 1,174,506 the previous year.
- \* 301 kilometres of new electricity mains and 332 additional transforming points were added to the MANWEB network.
- \* MANWEB now has only 505 employees per 100,000 consumers, compared with 1,016 in 1948—a measure of the continuous drive to improve internal efficiency.
- \* MANWEB Savings Stamps worth £1,240,000 were sold during the year.

# IN THE SWIM AT CHESTER'S LEISURE CENTRE

**N**ORTHGATE Leisure Centre in Chester boasts of being the finest in Europe, and none of the thousands of visitors would doubt it.

The £3-million Centre, which opened this year after a three-year building programme, is far more than just a building for sporting activities. There is an emphasis on leisure, and concerts by star performers, major exhibitions, dances, pantomimes, and circus have and will be frequently staged.

Pride of place among the many facilities goes to a magnificent heated leisure pool. The planners looked at designs of conventional rectangular pools, with shallow and deep ends and general clinical appearance, tore them up and threw them away.

Instead, their pool is a free-form shape with varying gradual depths from 0.5 feet and a leg of deeper water up to ten feet. The varying depths are divided by islands—a glass fibre whale which spouts water, and fountains—which act as safety reefs.

It has a Mediterranean theme. The 'beach' is dotted with palm trees and there are also splash puddle, water slide, lounging area, special lighting effects to create sunshine or flashing lights for disco nights, and special sound effects both under and above the water.

In the fortnight after it opened, membership raced to 2,000. There are many facilities for members to enjoy — training-teaching pool, two-court sports hall, trajectory room and weight training room, two practice halls (one equipped especially for combat sports) and four squash courts. Ancillary facilities such as restaurant, spectator viewing galleries, sauna and creche are also provided.

During the short period since its opening, the Centre, built on a disused railway station site, has

enjoyed tremendous popularity.

*"It's one of the most commercial leisure centres in the country and is designed to pay its way,"* said Manager Mr. Alan Stuart Campbell. This it certainly does. One Sunday the police were called to the building when 25,000 visitors caused a parking problem. Such is its popularity.

MANWEB and the Electricity Council have been involved with the Centre since its inception; their work resulting in a heat pump system being installed.

The leisure pool is heated to 82°F and the resultant heat loss from the surface of the water is made to work by cooling the removed air with a cooling coil connected to a heat pump and recycling it through the rest of the building.

It is good energy sense to use a recycling system as heated swimming pools can be particularly wasteful of energy.

The initial pool heating source

is gas, basically because it takes a fortnight to bring the bath up to temperature after emptying, and although the bath is emptied only once every four years, a high electrical load would have to be permanently provided.

However, once the bath, which remains heated for 24 hours a day, is brought up to temperature the electrical system takes over to heat the rest of the building. In fact the heat pump system halves the energy requirement of the complex.

The electrical load at the Centre, which is owned by Chester City Council, is 600 kW, made up primarily of lighting and refrigeration. Derek Braham, from the Electricity Council's energy sales branch, and John Edwards, MANWEB's air conditioning engineer, acted in an advisory capacity to the Council's consultants, Building Design Partnership of Preston.

Trevor Edwards, energy sales engineer at the Board's Dee Valley District, also worked closely on the project to meet the catering requirements, resulting in £10,500 of equipment being installed to cater for a range of food from bar snacks to sophisticated meals. The catering load is 90kW.

Chester Children enjoying the benefits of their new-style swimming pool in the Leisure Centre, an ideal place where the youngsters can learn to swim.



# Talking Notes

## SUCCESSFUL SONGSTERS

A NOTABLE and meritorious double victory in the world of choral singing was achieved recently by the Froncysyllte Male Voice Choir—two of its members being men from MANWEB, **Glyn Davies** and **Mervyn Davies** of our Dee Valley District staff. The choir followed up their great win at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod—*just up the road from the village of Froncysyllte*—by walking off with the top prize at the Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales at Wrexham earlier this month.

Their win at Llangollen put an end to the long reign of the State-sponsored Bulgarian choirs who have been regular winners in the male voice choir section. 'Fron' competed against 18 top international choirs to attain a most rewarding win by becoming the very first Welsh choir to take the trophy in this competition.

Carried on the wave of success, they then went on to the National at Wrexham. This time they beat eight excellent choirs to win the competition for the fourth time.

Glyn Davies, a substation attendant with the Board, sings as a second tenor with the choir. He has been with them for five years having previously sung with the Chirk Men's Fellowship Choir. He was born in Weston Rhyn, just over the border in Shropshire, and sang with the local Choral Society.

OUR COVER PICTURE shows male voice choristers, Mervyn Davies, left, and Glyn Davies, both singing for joy at their choir's recent successes.

He now lives at Chirk.

Glyn is the 'Fron,' Choir comedian when, at socials, he takes part in a double act with one of his colleagues. He is married and has a son and daughter. He joined the Board at Corwen just 22 years ago.

Mervyn Davies, a clerical assistant in Engineering, sings in the second bass section of the choir.

He was once a member of the chapel choir at Froncysyllte—his home village—and joined the Male Voice Choir some 25 years ago. He was its secretary for a number of years.

Mervyn has been with the Board for around 27 years and for a time was an administrative assistant with our Finance section at Head Office before returning to Rhosyllen a couple of years ago. He is married with three daughters and one grand-daughter.

Glyn and Mervyn, together with the rest of the choir, have a busy time ahead of them, with rehearsals twice a week and an average of one major concert a month. In October they travel to London to sing at a special Tesco presentation on a Friday night, following this up with another engagement at Harlow

New Town on the Saturday.

They have performed in London on a number of occasions and are regular visitors to Wrexham's twin area, Markischer Kreis, in Germany.

We join with them all in looking forward to continued success next year in the International at Llangollen and in the Welsh National at Cardiff.

Incidentally, the current secretary for the Choir is an ex-MANWEB man, **Mervyn Evans**, formerly of Costs section at Rhosyllen and now living at 70 Trefynant Park, Acrefair, Wrexham.

### New Recruit

A most charming addition to North Wirral District Commercial staff is 21-year-old **Geraldine Leake** who has recently taken over as energy sales demonstrator.

She joined us after successfully completing a three-year



An attractive smile from Geraldine.

course at the Salford College of Technology, coming out with an Educational Diploma in Home Economics.

Part of her training included a few weeks at Warrington in our Mid-Mersey District. She told us that she remembers Frank Kelly most of all—but then, what girl wouldn't!

Living at Frodsham, Geraldine likes modern music, walking in the country, swimming and the occasional game of tennis, dress-making and naturally—experimenting in the kitchen.

### North Mersey Five-a-Side

Eight teams from North Mersey District competed in the third annual Five-a-Side football knockout, held recently at the Vernon Sangster Sports Hall, Anfield. All the games were keenly contested, but the "Linesmen" and "Clerks" made

it to the final, clear winners in their groups.

Both teams missed several chances in a hard-fought final. Linesmen's 'keeper **Billy Jones** made the save of the evening when he stopped a penalty, and eventually his team ran out worthy winners by three goals to one.

### LP Record

The Rhos-based group "The Maletones," led and conducted by **Mr. Emyr James**, senior draughtsman at our Dee Valley District Offices, recently cut their first long-playing record entitled "The Nearness of You."

This double sided LP made by Sain Records of Caernarfon, features choral singing in the modern idiom with a neat rhythm backing. Of the 14 tracks Emyr's favourite is "On the Street Where You Live."

The winning quintette from North Mersey District with their well-earned trophy. *from left to right, standing: Les Brownbill, Andy James and Jimmy Chreighton. kneeling: R. James and Billy Jones.*



The record is now on sale in the shops, reasonably priced at £2.49. Buy one—you can always get it autographed by Emyr!

### Mid-Cheshire Bowls

More than 100 adults and children turned out, despite a cold and blustery wind, to take part or to watch when Mid-Cheshire District's Sports and Social Club organised a most successful mixed knock-out bowls competition recently.

Venue was a local pub near the District office at Macon Way, Crewe, and eleven teams, each of four people playing in pairs, joined in the competition.

The finals saw the "Metermen" — represented by **Dave Walley, Brian Taylor, Gerald Purcell and Jim Jack**, narrowly defeat the "Brass Ollies," in the persons of **Paddy and Margaret Ollier and Ken and Sheila Brassington**.

"Fun prizes" in the form of "The World's Best Bowler" pottery statuettes were presented to the winners, with consolation prizes for the runners-up. The evening's entertainment was rounded off with a supper, raffles won by **Brenda Smith and Philip Jones**, and music and dancing to the John Bostock Disco.

Speaking for the organising committee **Malcolm Cooper** said that a big factor contributing to the excellent turnout was the fact that parents had been able to bring their children for a family night out.

"We are hoping for a tiny profit, as we have no separate facilities of our own and we've recently started our own building fund," added Malcolm.

### Yet Another Move

A man who, since joining the Board in 1948 after service with the English Electric Company,



## ELECTRICITY SUPPLY(Staff) SUPERANNUATION SCHEME

### Election of Members' Committee-men

The three-year term of office of the ten Members' Committee-men shortly expires, and an election is to be held for the appointment of their successors. Retiring committee-men are eligible for re-election.

Members of the Scheme, other than "Special Members" are entitled to stand for election, and nominate candidates.

Nominations form, which must be signed by ten Members and bear the consent of the candidate, can be obtained from Mr. D. I. Buchanan, Secretarial Dept (Personnel), MANWEB HEAD Office, Sealand Road, Chester, CH1 4LR.

The completed nomination forms must be returned for certification not later than Friday, 9th September, 1977.

has moved around Liverpool from one MANWEB base to another, is on his travels yet again—this time from Lister Drive to Bridle Road.

Our personality concerned is **Albert Eyres**, formerly Liverpool District System Engineer, who has now taken over the appointment as North Mersey District Engineer.

A very popular staff man, Bert has been a keen sportsman throughout his life and still enjoys a game of cricket and golf.

We join with his many friends in Liverpool in wishing him every success in his new job.

### Third Seat

Congratulations to **Mr. Francis Jones**, engineering foreman at Gwynedd District, on his recent success in a County Council election. Mr. Jones adds the County seat to seats he already occupies at Community Council and Borough Council level.

### London Trip Planned

Gwynedd District's Sports and Social Club are planning a London weekend, leaving Bangor by rail on the evening of Friday, October 28th, and returning on the Sunday evening. Places are limited—details from Club secretary **Pauline Jones** (internal 'phone 212).

### Silver Wedding

An enjoyable evening at the Thingwall Road Clubhouse marked the celebration of 25 years of happy marriage for **Glenora** and **Ken Johnson** who now thank all their friends for turning up and for the many gifts they received.

Glen (ora), has worked as a typist at our Lister Drive offices for a number of years.

### Didn't They Do Well?

In a sales competition based on colour TV rentals and organised by Focus TV for their staffs in MANWEB shops, the attractive duo working from our Birkenhead shop have walk-

ed off with a number of prizes.

**Pauline Vickers** and **Angela Smith** achieved and passed the target set for them and gained the highest percentage above that target to win a Silver Jubilee silver tray, a Silver Jubilee silver tankard plus a couples of bottles of champagne.

### Singing Future

After making his mark in the singing world with a string of successes at Eisteddfodau and other musical festivals **Robert Wyn Roberts**, a clerk in our Gwynedd District office at Caernarfon, has been accepted as a student at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester.

His four-year course, aided by a Gwynedd County Council grant, is likely to be the pathway to a full-time career as a singer, a future which should be rosy if Robert's past record of performance in competition is anything to go by.

Focus on the successful Focus sales team from our Birkenhead shop, Angela Smith left, and Pauline Vickers.





A few of his many friends in our Gwynedd District say their farewells to Robert Wyn Roberts as he leaves them to start a new career. Our picture shows, from left to right, Dewi James, Richard Wyn Parry, Mena Rowlands, Sandra Whiting, Robert and Ian Davies.

His music teacher, Mr. Brian Hughes, is a lecturer on opera at the College. Robert should have gone to Manchester University way back in 1972 to read Latin, but domestic circumstances made this impossible. Now he has finally made it as a music student, and his friends at Gwynedd, who will follow his future with interest, wish him every possible success.

#### Memory Honoured

A year ago we were saddened to report the death in a swimming mishap of 18-year-old

**Kevin Lalone**, a clerk in the consumer amendments section of our Clwyd District office.

Kevin, a keen all-round sportsman, was a very popular member of the staff, and his colleagues decided to pay tribute to his memory by donating a shield to his former school, the Edward Jones High School, Rhyl.

The shield will be presented annually to the pupil adjudged to have made the greatest contribution to school life during the year, and the first

The 'Kevin Lalone' shield being presented to John Firth by Mr. Lawrence Lalone. Also in the picture are Mrs. Lalone and Clwyd District's Eddie Edwards, right, (P.A., Consumer Accounting).

Photo: Rhyl Journal



winner was 18-year-old John Firth, captain of the school soccer team which carried off the Ivor Tuck Welsh Schools Trophy this year.

John, who hopes to go to University in September, was presented with the shield by Kevin's father, Mr. Lawrence Lalone, at a ceremony held at the school.

#### Degree Successes

Congratulations to three members of the MANWEB staff on recent study successes.

Two technical staff trainees, Messrs. **Trevor Coates** and **Geoffrey Ryan**, were awarded upper 2nd class B.Sc. honours degrees in electrical engineer-



'Capped and Gowned'—**Geoffrey Ryan, left, and Trevor Coates.**

ing at Salford University. Before embarking on their courses Mr. Ryan was based at our Lister Drive office in Liverpool, while Mr. Coates was at Mid-Mersey District.

The third success goes to **Mr. Michael Jacks**, who gained his B.Sc. degree at Manchester University, under the industry's University Scholarship Scheme. Mr. Jacks is based at Gwynedd District.

#### Golf Competition

Sixteen teams competed in the recent MANWEB Golfing Society's Inter-District annual challenge competition played on the Rhuddlan Golf Club course.

The Dee Valley District team comprising of **Norman Clarke**

**Ken Edwards, Trevor Edwards** and **Ieuan Evans** returned the best three cards with an aggregate of 214 strokes to win the trophy.

Each member of the team received a Slazenger hold-all.

**Mal Cooper** from Mid-Cheshire District put in the best score of the day and was awarded some golf balls.

"*Captain's Day*" for the Club is on 2nd September at Oswestry Golf Club.

Following up on their success, the Dee Valley District golfers took part in another competition, this time organised by their own Sports and Social Club for the new 'Dee Valley Trophy.'

The matches took place at the lovely Llangollen course earlier this month when, once again, the **Edwards** duo headed the list of prizewinners, **Trevor (Energy Sales)** taking first place and **Ken (Systems)** as runner-up. In third place was **Warren Davies (Legacy garage)**.

Prizes were also awarded to **Bob Norfolk (Mains)** for the best first nine holes, and to **Ieuan Evans (Systems)** for the best last nine holes.

**Jim Jones (Work Control)** also collected a prize.

#### "Lock up—Light up"

The Electricity Council's latest film "*Lock up—Light up*," made with the full co-operation of the Home Office and the Metropolitan Police, is a positive contribution to crime prevention and stresses the need for security lighting at industrial and commercial premises and domestic dwellings.

The story concerns two young villains and their attempts to make an easy picking. They steal a car from outside a house where a man and his wife watch the TV without a thought for their own unlocked car in the darkened driveway.

The thieves' first target is a

poorly-lit transport depot, but they are deterred by the arrival of a policeman in a Panda car. Nervous, but still determined, their next target is a warehouse with good security lighting both inside and out, and a direct alarm to the police station.

Meanwhile, a patrol car attending a supermarket break-in is asked to check up on the stolen car, only to hear shortly afterwards that the warehouse has been entered. The police move in quickly with cars and dogs, and in the glare of security lighting the thieves are at a distinct disadvantage.

The film shows that security lighting not only prevents burglaries, but also protects against person-to-person crimes, vandalism and car thefts. Police

Sgt. Michael Madle, Metropolitan Police, comments on the need for security lighting and the way it helps to prevent crime.

All the police characters in the film are police officers doing their normal work; actors play the other parts. The film is intended for a wide audience of decision-makers in industry, commerce and local authorities, and for householders. It will be shown to invited audiences by police Crime Prevention Officers, Electricity Boards, insurance companies, security organisations, etc.

The film runs for 19 minutes and is available on free loan in 16 mm film and VCR cassettes from the Electricity Council Film Library, 30 Millbank, London SW1P 4RD.

#### SHOWER POWER

Attracting a lot of attention from consumers visiting our Birkenhead shop during the past few weeks is a MANWEB shower unit, in full working order, placed strategically close to the accounts counter. The idea, from energy sales engineer, Doug Willacy, was readily accepted by Marketing man Keith Leonard, the Shop supervisor.

It is little wonder that North Wirral District tops the league for shower sales and installations!





**40 YEARS—Commercial and Secretarial**

# Long Service Staff at Head Office

At ceremonies held at Head Office recently, MANWEB Chairman Mr. Denis Dodds and Deputy Chairman Mr. Ben Hastings, presented the following members of our staff with their Long Service Certificates.

*From left to right, Messrs. R. Stewart, T. H. Dutton, S. Fairclough, E. V. Owen, B. R. Hastings (Deputy Chairman), G. Parry, P. B. Henderson and A. Kidd.*

**40 Years:** Messrs. G. H. Dodd (*Asst. Chief Accountant-Finance*), T. H. Dutton (*former prin. asst. Welfare*), S. Fairclough (*Group Manager*), A. J. Favager (*admin. asst.-Capital Costs*), T. E. Griffiths (*former Senior Computer Programmer*), P. B. Henderson (*Secretary*), R. Huyton (*Asst Chief Accountant-F & M. Accounts*), A. Kidd (*Asst. Sec.-Personnel*), A. D. Malcolm (*admin. asst.-Budgets-Statistics*), J. Metcalfe (*2nd engineer-Technical*), E. V. Owen (*Asst. Sec.-Policy Admin.*), G. Parry (*senior jointing instructor, Hoylake*), R. K. C. Sheldon (*clerk-Stores Accounts*), R. Stewart (*Asst. Chief Comm. Officer-Energy Sales*), E.

Taylor (*former prin. asst.-Ed. & Training*), V. H. Thomas (*1st engineer-Systems Management*) and F. Wilding (*admin. asst.-Stores Accounts*).

**30 Years:** Messrs. A. G. Almond and G. Bellis (*2nd engineers—System Management*), F. J. Clinch (*clerk—Revenue*), D. E. Evans and H. G. Gleave (*2nd engineers—Technical*), G. J. Grady (*prin. engineer—Installation and Service*), J. H. Hampton (*driver—Queensferry Stores*), G. Haughan (*Asst. Chief Engineer—Plant and Construction*), A. Houghton (*1st engineer—Construction*), R. Norbury (*admin. asst.—Revenue*), D. G. Price (*senior engineer—Plant*

**40 YEARS—Accountancy and Engineering**

*From left to right, back row: Messrs. F. Wilding, A. P. Whyte (Chief Accountant), A. J. Favager, R. K. C. Sheldon, J. Metcalfe, V. H. Thomas and A. D. Malcolm. Front row: Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Dodd, Mr. Denis Dodds (Chairman) and Mrs. and Mr. R. Huyton.*



and Construction) and P. D. Smallman (former senior engineer—System Management).

**20 Years:** Mrs. M. Okaj (admin. asst.—Cash), Messrs. G. S. Andrews (prin. asst.—Estates), W. K. Appleton (maintenance engineer), D. I. R. Brown (2nd engineer—Civil), J. Davies (1st engineer—

Transport), N. S. Doughty (admin. asst.—Press and Public Relations), H. G. Ethell (2nd engineer—Drawing Office), R. A. Evans (work study officer), L. Hartley (admin. asst.—Stores Accts.), R. R. Jones (senior records draughtsman), H. W. King (2nd engineer—Civil), W. Northall (former 2nd

engineer—Drawing Office), J. Parry (senior asst. photographer), H. J. Richards (prin. asst.—Cost Accounts), R. N. Sleeman (3rd engineer—Drawing Office), D. T. Stevenson (1st engineer—System Management) and W. H. H. Williams (electrical fitter—Queensferry workshops).



**30 YEARS—**

From left to right, back row: Messrs. D. E. Evans, H. G. Gleave, N. Norbury, F. J. Clinch, G. J. Grady and G. Bellis. Front row: Messrs. D. G. Price, G. Haughan, D. G. Dodds (Chairman), A. Houghton and A. G. Almond.

**20 YEARS—**

From left to right: Messrs. D. T. Stevenson, N. S. Doughty, W. Northall, H. W. King, D. I. R. Brown, G. S. Andrews and R. R. Jones. Front row: Messrs. J. Davies, H. J. Richards D. G. Dodds (Chairman), R. A. Evans and Mrs. M. Okaj.



Please do not forget this year's

**'CONTACT' PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

Colour and/or Black and White  
Many prizes to be won

Copy of the Rules from  
The Editor, 'Contact', MANWEB  
Head Office

# Late Fishing Holiday

## CEGB Bargain

The Central Electricity Generating Board is promoting a two-day trout fishing package at its Ffestiniog Fishery in Blaenau Ffestiniog.

For as little as £10.70 the holiday offers two nights bed and

breakfast accommodation and two days' fishing on Tan y Grisiau Reservoir until October.

The CEBG is working in collaboration with the Vale of Ffestiniog Tourism Association on the venture and all accommodation offered has been approved either by the VFTA or by the Wales Tourist Board.

There is a choice of three types of accommodation—private house (£10.70), guest house (£11.70) or hotel (£14.70)—with full English breakfast served after 8 a.m. (Continental breakfast prior to that). The price is inclusive of two day permits to fish Tan y Grisiau and the necessary WNWDA rod licence.

Ffestiniog Fishery is consistently in the top ten lakes in the UK as assessed by the angling press. The lake is being stocked weekly throughout the season with rainbow trout averaging 1 lb. in weight from the CEBG's own fish farm at Trawsfynydd.

An added attraction at Ffestiniog is that bailiff and Welsh International fly fisherman, Glyn Jones, can be booked to give free lessons on weekdays by those wishing to perfect the art of fly fishing and fly tying (by prior arrangement only).

Application forms for the holiday can be obtained from Public Relations Section, Dept A15, CEBG, Europa House, Bird Hall Lane, Stockport, Cheshire SK3 0XA. Phone 061-428 0711.

## WE GET LETTERS

Some like this . . .

From a humorous customer to North Mersey District office:

*"I note that my latest bill indicates that my Account is now credited with £28.92 . . . would you be kind enough to send me just £10, so that I can have a wild spending session? You may retain the £18.92, to which will be added £5 per month, according to the Standing Order.*

*"Looking forward to receiving the cheque very soon, and trusting you had a merry Jubilee holiday . . ."*

And a laugh for North Wirral's meter reading section, when a customer replied in the following terms to a letter asking for access to read the meter (the writer was a lady):

*"I'm in bed for sure, next Friday."*

Our own staff write to us too. This one came from Ernie Rogers, an energy sales engineer with our Gwynedd District, who writes . . .

*"I was most interested to read details of film etc. used by Mike Hall to take the photograph of the elephant in July 'Contact' but do I detect an attempt by the Irish to challenge the Japanese domination of the world's camera market?"*

Ed: Are you taking the Nikki, Ernie? Thanks anyway for spotting our deliberate mistake-or was it a typographical error . . . the camera used was a Nikkormat!

## CROSSWORD PRIZEWINNERS

In our recent competition for crossword addicts, the three lucky winners were:

Olga James, St. John's Shop, Liverpool District.

G. W. Hogarth, M. S. U. Head Office.

E. V. Jones, Energy Sales, Oswestry District.

Their prizes of £2 each are now on the way to them.

It was rather a tricky puzzle but we had over 70 entries with a good proportion from our army of pensioners.

We eventually did discover the name of the person who compiled the crossword and we take this belated opportunity to thank Mr. S. J. Manning, from our Head Office Financial Department.

## FOOTBALL PLAYERS REQUIRED

for ELECTRIC SUPPLY F. C. Home games played on the Thingwall Road ground at Wavertree, Liverpool 15 in the Liverpool County Combination and the Liverpool Shipping Leagues.

Training on Tuesday nights at 7.0 pm.

If you are interested, please get in touch with Phil Milton at Lister Drive (97-749)

## OBITUARY

*It is with deep regret that we record the deaths of . . .*

Mr. Samuel Duckers, aged 70, who was an assistant instructor at our Hoylelake Training Centre prior to his retirement in 1972.

Mr. Ronald Love, aged 64,

who only a few weeks ago retired from his job as 2nd engineer, Commercial Supply in our Liverpool District. Ron had given over 47 years' service to the electricity supply industry.

*We offer our condolences to their families.*



## Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Frenhinol Cymru

### The Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales

Up the pole once again we see chargehand linesman Garfield Johnson who has a big smile for our cameraman.

A hearty heave-ho from Stan Robinson (*linesman's mate*), left, and Joe Ellis (*linesman*).

**F**OR AT least one week at the beginning of August this year, Wrexham became the most important town in the Principality when it hosted The Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales on a 14-acre site at Borras.

The wartime airfield used by a fighter squadron in the defence of Liverpool, provided accommodation for the new Pavilion and some 206 stand units dotted around the ground. In addition, there was 50 acres set aside for the hundreds of cars and coaches bringing in the thousands of visitors each day, another 17 acres for caravans and a further 14 acres for campers in tents.

The new Pavilion—*praised by many but referred to as a shed by some*—cost £250,000 and seated nearly 5,000 people. The Welsh Arts Council donated £80,000 and the Welsh Office £50,000 towards the cost. Local efforts by the Wrexham and District Committee raised a further £50,000.

The men from MANWEB played their part in assuring the success of the Eisteddfod. Engineers laid 700 metres of 11-kV and 400 metres of medium voltage underground cable, and erected 330 metres of three-wire 11-kV and nearly 1,000 metres of medium voltage overhead line, utilising 40 newly-erected poles. They also installed a 500-kVA open compound transformer and a 200-kVA pole-mounted transformer.





**UP IN THE AIR...** on the tower wagon after fixing the floodlighting are Dougie Burke (*street lighting electrician*), left, and Ken Williams (*public lighting attendant*).

**AND ON THE GROUND...** with the last joint finished John Parry (*jointer*), left, and Cyril Griffiths (*jointer's mate*) relax for a while.



Mains supply was afforded to the Pavilion and to the BBC (TV and sound), HTV and a couple of special stands as well as to 26 supply points around the site to cater for the electrical needs of other stands.

As our engineers moved out in came the instal-

lation and lighting teams.

They helped to make life much easier for the thousands of visitors to the festival by floodlighting the main car parks, the caravan and tent areas around the perimeter of the showground. They also installed 300-watt tungsten-halogen spotlights at

Transporting the equipment was driver Eric Corfield.



The job goes well for Arwel Lloyd (*lighting engineer*), left, and Len Phillips (*Commercial Supply engineer*).



Connecting-up is street lighting electrician Paul Misfud.







**Ieuan Evans (1st engineer-system), Simulating the "switch-on" of the 500-kVA open-compound transformer supply power to many points on the Eisteddfod site.**

strategic points on many of the busy road junctions leading to and from the Eisteddfod site to assist the local police in their traffic control.

Mr. Berwyn Davies, Vice-Chairman of the Pavilion and Field Committee of the Wrexham and District National Eisteddfod Committee commented, "We are all extremely grateful for the helpful co-operation from the men from MANWEB. They have done a great job."

Next year the 'National' goes South once again—this time to Cardiff. No doubt our colleagues with the South Wales Electricity Board will continue with the good work!

## The 'National' in Wrexham

Since going 'National' in 1860, the Eisteddfod of Wales has been held in the Wrexham area on the following occasions:

**1876**—The first time in Wrexham when it was held on Orchards Fields—today's Central Station car park! Also known as the "Black Chair Eisteddfod" because the Bard died before the crowning ceremony.

**1888**—With a Pavilion-plus extras—costing around £700! Statesman, Mr. W.E. Gladstone, Leader of the Liberal Party, spoke at this gathering—for an hour!

**1908**—Not really at Wrexham, but close by at Llangollen.

**1912**—Another Welsh statesman, Mr. Lloyd George came to this Eisteddfod and had a brush with a group of suffragettes (*Women's libbers of their day*).

**1933**—Lloyd George again, but this time no trouble from the ladies—but with a critical period of unemployment.

**1945**—Held at Rhos—"The Eisteddfod of Peace" with the announcement of VJ Day.

**1961**—The Eisteddfod returned to the Rhos area. Known as Eisteddfod Dyffryn Maelor.

Attractive Christine Hughes, trainee demonstrator in Dee Valley District, enjoys a moment's relaxation from her busy week on the Board's stand in the industrial marquee.





**"E.V."** supervises as Mr. Vermeulen pops another batch of home-made Cornish pasties into his new oven.

## Expert from Amsterdam

**W**HEN young Johannes Vermeulen left his father's bakery in Amsterdam to join the Dutch army on the outbreak of the second world war he naturally thought that when the war was over he would go back to the job of feeding the people of Amsterdam.

The German conquest of Europe saw Johannes taken prisoner, later freed and joining the Dutch Underground movement. Later in the war, after fighting alongside British and American troops, he found himself in a military camp near Wem, in Shropshire.

There Fate, in the shape of a pretty Shropshire lass, took a hand in things, and after various journeys feeding his comrades Johannes returned to marry and settle down in Shropshire.

Since then he has been feeding the British, and now runs a thriving snack bar, shop and bakery in the little town of Ellesmere, mid-way between Oswestry and Whitchurch. All his ovens, mixers and other machinery needed by a master baker are run, naturally enough, by electricity.

Johannes—known as "John" to all his friends and customers—takes great pride in the fact that every-

thing in his wide range of food products is made on the premises, and that nothing is "bought in" for resale. Fresh crusty loaves, a mouth-watering range of fancy cakes of all kinds, meat pies and cornish pasties and cooked meats of many kinds are all cooked to perfection in his up-to-date double-deck Chandley oven before being offered for sale to the customers who beat a path to the door of his shop in Cross Street, Ellesmere.

### **Happy Chance**

Among his regular customers is Miss E. V. Jones, MANWEB's energy sales demonstrator at Oswestry, who often calls in on her daily trip to Oswestry from her home at Wrexham.

It was just such a call, and a spot of good advice from E.V., which took John to a commercial catering exhibition in London last year—and resulted in the installation of a brand-new Chandley oven in the bakery. Other electrical equipment installed includes mixers, freezers and refrigerators, bread moulders, a cream mixer, a bread slicer, pastry roller, cake and pie moulders, pasty machine, dough retarders, general purpose cake and pastry oven.

The fresh goodies are popular with all age-groups, and no-one is more partial to those scrumptious cakes than the local youngsters.



Next on the list will be an overhead hopper for storing and dispensing flour, and the total electrical load at the premises is around 85 kilowatts.

J. and T. Vermeulen & Sons is very much a family business. Son Peter runs the snack bar across the road from the bakery, while Tony is his father's second-in-command on the production side, working with the team of youngsters who turn out all those loaves and cakes and pasties.

John Vermeulen is a life-long enthusiast over the virtues of electricity as a bakery fuel.

"It is ideal because it is so versatile and so clean," he says. "Cleanliness is, of course, absolutely essen-

tial in food preparation processes, and the flexibility of electricity for my ovens is so useful in view of the wide range of food products we make, needing different periods of cooking time."

Another subject on which he feels strongly is the modern younger generation.

"Far too many people are ready to make sweeping criticisms of young people," he says. "Not enough are ready to speak up and praise them, and in general I believe that they are a fine lot. All the young bakery workers I have had come to me straight from school, and I cannot speak too highly of their work and behaviour."

The back-room boys!  
left to right,  
Tony  
Johnson,  
Graham  
Hinton,  
John Wells  
and Tony  
Vermeulen.



## WALLWORKS' WANDERINGS

# KASHMIR

It was with a feeling of excitement that we turned north and realised that Kashmir, the land about which we had read so much was at the end of the road. But first a matter of 700 kms of mostly narrow, winding Himalayan roads and three passes—two over 6,000 feet. Rather oddly, the highest section of the route over the final (Banihal) pass, 8,000 feet was the best and easiest section. This section includes the Jawahar tunnel which eliminates a further 1,000 feet climb.

Once through the tunnel given good visibility, there is a magnificent view of the Kashmir Valley and the mountains on either side. It is about 85 miles long and 20 to 25 miles wide with Srinagar, the capital, about 60 miles along the valley. Srinagar is famous for its lakes, houseboats, gardens and a 1,000 foot high hill, crowned with a temple almost in the centre of the town.

Our first contact with official Kashmir tended to confirm the warnings we had been given by several Indians, to tread warily with the Kashmiris. Arriving at dusk, we made for the first place on our route which was the government Circuit House. Not only were we given permission to stay, but shown into the pleasantest part of the garden—lovely.

About 7.00 p.m., pitch dark, two characters came to the door and told us that we had not got a reservation and we must go—at once. Naturally I refused to do anything of the sort. At 7.30 a.m. the following morning, the same two characters arrived with the same message and added that they were due some backsheesh. At that, Margaret marched into the Circuit House, found someone in the office, and told him what she thought about the goings on. He entirely agreed and tore a strip off the two offenders who didn't seem unduly perturbed and assured us that we should not have to pay a single rupee for our night's parking.

It was the following Monday before we got away for Culmarg, a 9,000 foot high valley about 50 km from Srinagar. All went well until Tangmarg, about 7 km short of Culmarg, where an army patrol stopped us and asked for our permit, which was the first we had heard about it.

The officer in charge said that we would have to go back to the Tourist Office in Srinagar to get one. I told him I had no intention of going back. Furthermore, we were getting sick and tired of all the obstructions placed in our way in Kashmir. At which outburst he seemed a bit non-plussed and invited

*In their round the world trip Bill and Margaret Wallwork have now left behind them Pakistan and have entered India. Bill Wallwork continues his narrative.*

me to go and see higher authority. I explained the situation all over again and the higher authority having assured himself that there were only two of us said there was no problem, and we departed for Culmarg past a row of respectful salutes and with the usual murmur from the assembled throng.

What a delightful surprise it is, on rounding the last bend, to see the green Culmarg Valley ahead. It is about 3 miles long and a half mile wide with the village scattered over the valley and a knot of hotels and shops at the centre, but oddly, no food shop that we could find. We parked adjacent to the Golf Club House, the golf course is reputed to be the highest in the world.

Days were warm and ideal for walking but nights were cold, usually with ground frost and it was this together with the falls of snow on two successive days on adjacent peaks decided us, reluctantly, to shorten our visit. The caravan's central heating came into its own for the first time.

Nanga Parbat (26,000 feet) is within view of the Culmarg, but to see it, the natives told us, we must be up on the ridge by 8.00 a.m. before the clouds descended. One morning we made it and what a reward. The view across the Kashmir valley to the 100 miles distant snow covered range of which Nanga Parbat is king, is superb. In the brilliant light of early morning the peaks stood out magnificently, and it was difficult to turn away and think of such a mundane thing as breakfast.

Back in Srinagar, the van had its 12,000 miles service. The Dal Lake is one of the tourist sights of the town, because of the floating islands, its house boats, its shikaris (fancy row boats) all of which are picturesque if one does not look too closely.

On to Pahalgam, another high valley not quite so high or so cold as the Culmarg. We were directed to a beautiful spot, outside the village and down by the river, which we had entirely to ourselves. Vandewal (*the name given to the Wallworks' caravan*) was parked with the large rear window facing east, and each morning around 8 o'clock, as we were drinking the ritual two cups of tea the sun peeped over the mountains, warmed us and the caravan and brought to life the lovely Pahalgam valley all around us.

Dozens of Indian holidaymakers, staying in the village, came to regard us as something of a holiday attraction. Their daily stroll brought them as far as the river bank and many of them demanded (they don't ask) to see inside the caravan. Some we invited in and among them were a number of in-

teresting folk to talk to, but the simply curious had to be content with a look from outside.

As the Pahalgam valley descends towards Verinag and the main Kashmir valley, it widens, becomes more agricultural in character and is extremely pleasant to drive down. Our first view of monkeys at large was in this area. A number of hamlets are dotted along the way and it was interesting to observe how all life, both human and animal, revolves around the road. For the humans it is the living room, workshop, meeting place, market playground and frequently dormitory. For the animals it is quite simply their domain. Ten m.p.h. is about the maximum in a village and even at that speed, driving is a complicated passage through throngs of adults, dozens of children, cows and calves, sheep and lambs, goats and kids, ponies and foals, ducks and ducklings, geese and goslings, and above all hens and chickens. Not a single one, animal or human takes the sligh-

test notice of traffic. The fecundity of all forms of life in an Indian village is there to be seen.

At Verinag is a spring said to be the source of the river Jehlum which flows through Srinagar. The spring is at the bottom of a 54 foot deep pool, intensely blue in colour and because of the depth of the pool no movement is perceptible on the surface apart from that caused by the innumerable carp and trout. The water flows into a canal which is the centrepiece of an immensely attractive garden. Even at the end of October at 5,000 feet altitude, the garden was a riot of colour. From the end of the garden the water flows into the bed of the infant Jehlum.

Our feelings as we left Kashmir were mixed, first of all the pleasure at having had the opportunity to see this beautiful country tinged with a little regret that we could not have arrived a month earlier to see still more. Also pleasure at having met some charming people whom we hoped to meet again. But we could not entirely forget the obstructive

officials, the chicanery of most of the trades people we dealt with and the hustling from the touts. The permanent memories, however, are pleasant ones.

The return journey through the tunnel and over the two major passes was not any easier for having done it previously. After reading the guide book and the leaflets it seemed that the Kangra and Kulu valleys, in the foothills of the Himalayas were well worth a visit. By now the pattern of the road was becoming familiar—a gradual rise along the lower part of the valley, in this case to the village of Kangra, 3,000 feet above sea level. From the Rest House, perched above the village, we had a fine view of the surrounding countryside and of the lovely sunsets through a cleft in the hills. Drinking the evening noggin whilst watching such a sunset is a most agreeable combination of occupations.

\* \* \*

... and so we bid farewell to the wandering Wallworks, as they sip their evening noggin and watch the sun set slowly over the Himalayas. Our next report will be of their travels through India and into Nepal.

**Boats, houses and a Mosque at Srinagar on the River Jehlum, Kashmir**

(Popperfoto)



## RETIREMENTS

### Mr. G. HUGHES

Beginning his working life in 1929 with the former Conway Corporation Electricity Department, Mr. Goronwy Hughes did a variety of jobs. This was mainly because the department had only ten people on its staff and that included the Borough Electrical Engineer!

In 1934, Goronwy was one of the team who worked on the initial stages of floodlighting Conwy Castle.

Six years later he joined the Royal Welch Fusiliers—again doing all sorts of jobs. The one he liked best however was in the Stores.

On his return to civilian life in 1946 he worked as a meter reader, two years later becoming a 'vested asset' under nationalisation. During his long term of service with our industry, he became affectionately known as *Goronwy from Conwy*—or *Gron from Con*.

For the past 21 years he has been treasurer for the local branch of the EETPU. He is also Chairman of the Pengarth Tenants Association and a member of the Llandudno Junction Labour Club, the Crosville Club and the British Legion. He is a member of the local Committee of the MANWEB Manual Workers Benevolent Society.

His keen interest in gardening prompted his many friends in the District to subscribe to a farewell gift of an electric lawnmower, handed over on their behalf by Mr. George Cooksley (*District Administrative Officer*).

### Mr. D. WEBSTER

Substation patrolman, covering the Deeside, Wrexham and Corwen areas of our Dee Valley District, Mr. Douglas Webster, retired recently.

He began his working life in an insurance agency in Chester. Later he spent nine years at Connah's Quay power station before moving to Ellesmere Port where he worked in the control centre. Following the nationalisation of our industry in 1948, he went to Crane Bank as a substation attendant.

At a ceremony held at the Chester depot, Mr. Stan. Roberts, the recently appointed District Engineer, presented Mr. and Mrs. Webster with a garden seat subscribed for by friends and colleagues. Mrs. Webster also received a bouquet of flowers.

Douglas told us that he enjoys gardening—*now he will be able to sit and admire his work*—moting and he likes the occasional pint!

*(We went along and took a picture but unfortunately the film was damaged. We do apologise to Mr. and Mrs. Webster and their friends at New Crane Street).*

### Mr. J. G. EVANS

Ill health brought about the premature retirement of Mr. John G. Evans, an electrical fitter employed at the Northwich depot in our Mid-Cheshire District.

John had served the industry for the past 26 years and during part of this time he was a shop steward for the EE & PTU and a member of the Local Advisory Committee and Works Committee.

His many friends and colleagues subscribed to a farewell gift which was presented by Mr. Graham Zeiher (*District Engineer*) at a special ceremony.

**A happy group at Llandudno Junction depot say their farewells to Mr. Goronwy Hughes, seen here holding on to his new lawnmower. His wife, Margaret, was also present for the ceremony when she was presented with a bouquet of flowers.**





Friends at our Mold depot gather round their colleague Mr. Joe Lonsdale, *centre right*, as he receives a parting handshake from Mr. Morris.

#### Mr. J. LONSDALE

The two-weeks trial at Legacy garage in 1934 for a young Joe Lonsdale must have proved successful for he has been with us ever since!

From Legacy he moved to Flint and then on to Mold garage where he retired from his job as a mechanical fitter. During the war years he served with the Home Guard in the Hawarden and Halkyn areas.

Joe, who has been ill for quite a long time, was back at the depot recently to receive a farewell gift from his workmates. The presentation was made to him by Mr. Islwyn Morris (*Production Engineer*).

#### Mr. L. JONES

A former Welsh international footballer, having been 'capped' for his Country, retired recently from his second career, that of joiner with our Clwyd District at Rhyl.

He is Mr. Leonard Jones, who achieved much success playing football for Rhyl, Huddersfield Town and Stockport County (*when they were in the 2nd Division*). Len joined the Board in the early 1950's and worked with the Construction Department for a while.

One of his main pastimes is 'making' and restoring

antique furniture. *Now that he has more time to spare this could be the start of a third career!* Also high on his list of priorities is fishing.

Colleagues at Clwyd, knowing this, subscribed to present him, through Mr. Islwyn Morris (*Production Engineer*), with a fishing reel as a parting gift.

#### Mr. S. L. HISLOP

Staff at our Clwyd District regretfully said their farewells to Commercial Supply Engineer Mr. Sidney Leslie Hislop when he retired recently due to ill health. A presentation of a silver tankard was made to him at a private gathering.

Leslie began his working life as an apprentice electrician with the former Liverpool Corporation Electric Supply Department in 1935. During the war years he was in the Royal Navy as a Chief Petty Officer serving for a short time aboard HMS *Ark Royal*.

He returned to Liverpool in 1946 as a foreman electrician, transferring on nationalisation to the former No. 1 Sub-Area. Twelve months later he went to No. 3 Sub-Area at Chester as a Commercial Assistant, later taking over the job as 1st assistant Commercial Officer at St. Helens.

In 1970 he moved to Clwyd to take up the appointment he held on retirement.

At Rhyl depot, Mr. Morris again does the honours in presenting retirement gifts from colleagues to Mr. Leonard Jones, *centre right*. (*Sorry about the picture! Ed.*)



MANWEB (Chester) Sports and Social Club—Aviation Section—enjoyed an outing to the R.A.F. Station at Finningley, Yorkshire on the occasion of H. M. The Queen's Silver Jubilee review of the Royal Air Force.



This striking photograph of a section of 36 aircraft from Training Command shows a quartette of Hawker Siddeley "Dominie" aircraft flying above four Scottish Aviation "Jetstreams".

The picture was taken by the Board's head photographer, **Bill Griffith**. He used a Pentax 35mm camera fitted with a Pentacon 135mm lens incorporating a yellow filter. The shutter speed was set at 1000th of a second at F11. The photograph is 'straight' with no developing gimmicks!

