



Contact



Rural England
(see centre pages)



December 1978



WEDDINGS

Congratulations to—

MARCHESI—WYNN

Mr. Luciano Marchesi of Wrexham and Miss Claire Wynn, a clerk in the general administration section at Dee Valley District



Mr. & Mrs. Marchesi

office, who were married on 28th October at Wrexham Parish Church.

Claire, a former beauty advisor, held a number of jobs in Spain before joining MANWEB nearly four years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Marchesi are now planning a holiday in Australia next year.

PHILLIPS—SALADINE

Mr. James Phillips, a trainee linesman in our Liverpool District and Miss Gillian Saladine, daughter of Mr. Tom Saladine, Liverpool District sales supervisor, who were married recently at St. Paul's Church, Litherland.

Among the guests was Gillian's Godmother, Mrs. Jessie Jones who, until her retirement, was senior saleswoman at our Waterloo shop.

Also present was Gillian's older sister Christine whose husband Michael Stringman is a vehicle tester in our North

Mersey District. Christine recently gave birth to a daughter, Jennifer.

Our best wishes go to all members of the Phillips, Saladine and Stringman families.

JONES—MORGAN

Mr. Roy L. Jones, our Bangor shop supervisor and Miss Jean Morgan, a saleswoman in a local shop, on the occasion of their marriage at Bryn Teg Chapel, Bethesda on 28th October.

Roy told us that they chose that particular day because—*"Summer time adjustment gave us an extra hour on Sunday!"*



Mr. & Mrs. Jones

Friends in MANWEB subscribed to present the happy couple with wedding gifts.

Ray, who was appointed as shop supervisor last May, joined the Board in 1971 at District Office in Caernarfon.

On other pages . . .

From our Chairman	243
Liverpool District Employees' Meeting	244
Pensions Increase	245
Talking Notes	246
New Group Manager	249
Consultative Council Appointments	249
Prize Crossword	250
'Contact' Photographic Competition	252
Five-a-Side Tournament	254
Gwynedd District Sports Report	255
Personalities	256
We Get Letters	258
Fishing, Fun and Games	259
Retirements	260
Personal Accident Insurance	263
The Kingfisher by Stan Jones	264

Seasonal Greetings

from the

'Contact' Editorial Staff

Keith Baldwin John F. Perry Sam Doughty
and all our Correspondents

Contact

THE STAFF MAGAZINE
OF THE
MERSEYSIDE AND
NORTH WALES
ELECTRICITY BOARD

Vol. 30 No. 12

December 1978

A Message from our Chairman

MY first year as Chairman of MANWEB is coming to an end. A year ago, none of the present Senior Management team were in their current posts; by a series of coincidences that happen once in a lifetime, MANWEB has a new Chairman, Deputy Chairman and five new Chief Officers, with many other consequential changes. You might well wonder whether this heralds an era of unprecedented change for you. If so, you may be relieved to know that I consider this unlikely, although many small changes will continue to be necessary. I am confident that the new team are all determined to ensure that MANWEB continues to deserve the high reputation it enjoys amongst our customers for dedicated service to the community and ever-increasing efficiency, which those now retired as well as those still with us have done so much to foster. You will know that we are in the process of developing ideas from all quarters for a Customer Care programme designed to achieve just that and I hope all of you will find that you have an important contribution to make and will make it with enthusiasm.

I am equally confident that the new team will be doing its best to see that MANWEB's unique reputation as a good employer and a happy organisation is maintained and enhanced as we move into a period with added emphasis on industrial democracy.

Christmas is a time for thinking of others and if we can all aim to have the best interests of our customers and our fellow employees at heart in all that we do at work throughout 1979, we need have no fear of the problems and challenges that will continue to present themselves.

I hope that you and your families have an enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Ben Hoatings

**LIVERPOOL DISTRICT
EMPLOYEES' MEETING**



Mr. Charles Donovan

**Staff Members
provide lively
entertainment**



Mr. Tom Saladine

THE fact that MANWEB people like to hear popular colleagues talking about their daily work was underlined at Liverpool District's annual staff conference when two comedians and a 'straight man' received a warm reception from the 220-odd people who turned up.

Venue for the occasion once more was Dovedale Towers, and a splendid dinner maintained a well-established reputation. After Group Manager Sid Fairclough set the ball rolling with words of welcome—especially for the customary strong contingent of pensioners—a report of the year's work by the LAC was presented by Secretary Norman Mitchell.

Tom Saladine then introduced the first of his trio of home-trained 'guest speakers' in the person of meter collector **Jim Danby**. Wisely realising that his listeners hadn't come to hear about the technicalities of meters, Jim—a natural humorist—regaled them with a series of tales illustrating that the metermen do indeed see life as it really happens.

Switching to a serious note he declared, "*As meter readers and collectors we are in the front line—what we do reflects on the Board. I'm proud to think that in general our department does a grand job!*"

Next at the speaker's rostrum was **Tom Roddick**, supervisor of Prescott shop, who soon proved that he could maintain the lively pace set by Jim.

After the funny stories Tom summed up the main quality required of the shop staff as the ability to "*get on with people.*"

"A good salesman can and does make lasting friendships—our job is to see to it that the right goods



Liverpool delegates above and left, during their meeting



A section of the audience.



Mr. Tom Roddick



Mr. Jim Danby

get to the customer at the appointed time in good condition," he declared.

Final speaker of the evening was District Engineer **Charlie Donovan**, who apologised for his lack of funny stories—"I'm sitting at a desk so I haven't got any!" He then proceeded to produce some on the basis of the unhappy life of the stand-by engineer, earning a round of applause as enthusiastic as those accorded to those who went before him.

A vote of thanks by Ted Kelly was followed by Open Forum questions, which gave District Commercial Engineer Bob Hodson the chance to pass on cheering news about the rise in storage radiator sales, with substantial orders by housing associations and local authorities, and more in the pipeline. Bob said that so far this year Liverpool District had sold three times as many radiators as in the same period last year.

Pensions Increases

Electricity Supply Industry Staff Schemes

The Electricity Council has agreed that pensions to which the Industry's Pensions (Increase) Scheme applies should be increased with effect from 1st December 1978, as follows:—

a pension which began on or before 1st July 1977—an increase of 7.4% on the basic pensions as increased;

a pension which began after 1st July 1977 but before 2nd January 1978—an increase of 9.6% of the basic pension; and

a pension which began after 1st January 1978 but before 2nd July 1978—an increase of 5.5% of the basic pension.

Broadly these increases will apply to pensioners aged 55 years of age and over and to all widows' and children's allowances. They are in line with the levels of increase being granted to retired Government servants under the Pensions Increase

(Annual Review) Order 1978.

The Industry's Pensions (Increase) Scheme provides that the granting of pensions increases to meet rises in the cost of living, shall be subject to periodical review by Council. It is essential that the costs involved should be kept under close scrutiny for, with minor exceptions, they are borne by the Industry's Superannuation Schemes—mainly the Staff and Industrial Staff Schemes—and fully protecting pensions against the cumulative effects of inflation could make serious inroads on their available resources if continued indefinitely. In the long run, prospects for maintaining the purchasing power of pensions are to a large extent dependent upon national success in combating inflation.

In agreeing the further pensions increases from the 1st December 1978, the Electricity Council therefore took into account the slowing down of the rate of inflation compared with earlier years but they again wish to reiterate that although every effort will be made to protect pensions against the effects of inflation, it must not be assumed that full protection can be automatically maintained. The position will continue to be kept under review and should it become necessary to consider changes, there will be full prior discussion with the Management Committee of the Industry's Schemes and with trade unions.

Talking Notes

NEW PRESIDENT

OUR popular supervisor at the Shotton shop is a man who has been most active in local affairs. For the past 20 years **Dave Jones** has been the MANWEB representative on the Deeside Chamber of Trade and recently, was installed as their President.

Dave joined the electricity supply industry over 41 years ago and worked in the first electricity showroom in Connah's Quay. He has served our customers in that area ever since and has made many, many friends.

For 16 years he was a member of the former Connah's Quay Urban District Council and in 1966 was elected as the Council's Chairman.

We wish him a successful year in his new office.

At his special request, the guest speaker at the President's Dinner Dance last month was his great friends—and boss—**Ron Williams** (*Dee Valley District Commercial Engineer*).

Pictured at the President's Dinner Dance are Mr. and Mrs. Dave Jones, left, and Mr. and Mrs. Ron Williams.



Author

In this month's issue of the industry magazine "Distribution Development," one of the main articles features the pumped-storage scheme at Dinorwic.

The author of this interesting story is **David P. Booth** (*2nd engineer—Supply Management*) at Head Office. David is the son of **Percy Booth** who, for many years prior to his early retirement about six years ago, was the senior clerk at Northwich and later, Crewe.

Special Guests

At a recent reception given for electricity supply industry staff who, during this year,



Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Owen in London recently.

were awarded the British Empire Medal, **Mr. W. J. (Jimmy) Owen** and his wife, Phyllis, were among the guests of the Electricity Council in London.

Jimmy received his BEM award in the last New Years Honours List. He is a general foreman employed in our North Mersey District.

He joined the industry in 1946 after war service with the Royal Artillery.

A Grave Error

One of our keen Secretarial types on a visit to the Electricity Council's offices in Millbank, London, got into the lift with a chap he thought he recognised.

"Aren't you Tom Tiddworth who was with the NJC negotiating committee?" he queried.

"No," smiled the man.

"I'm sure I know your face from somewhere," puzzled our man.

"Perhaps on TV?" ventured the familiar-faced stranger.

Slowly light came to our man from MANWEB. "You are Sir Francis Tombs, Chairman of the Electricity Council."

"Right", said Sir Francis.

Centre Feature

The Northgate Arena Leisure Centre in Chester is featured in the latest issue of 'International Lighting Review', a specialist quality publication which is published four times a year in four languages.

The attraction of the superb lighting effects in the Centre's two swimming pools is detailed and emphasis is placed on the efficient use of a heat recovery system for energy conservation.

The article concentrates on the field of lighting application in which as much attention is paid to the aesthetics of a lighting installation as to its functionalism.

It also reports that trends to-date indicate that Chester's Arena may be the first Local Authority-owned leisure complex with income balancing its running costs.

Warming Up

Sales of electric storage heaters in our North Mersey District were up by 600 per cent this year.

A record number of 805 units have been sold to customers who want to stay comfortably warm this Winter.

Funny Form

A Works Committee member attending a meeting at Rhyl recently submitted his travel sheet for bonus calculation as follows:

"Travelling to Rhyl to attend W.C."

Result—eight hours diverted time and 87.5 per cent performance!



Fred Huxley, extreme right, with his pupils and chargehand Terry Shone

Teach In

Joining his young sons at Tilstone Fearnall County Primary school recently was Fred Huxley, a linesman working from our New Crane Street depot in Chester.

Fred, one of the newly appointed safety representatives, went along on his day-off to talk to the youngsters about his job with the Board. He took along samples of different types of cable and showed them his climbing irons.

He also took the oppor-

tunity to run the new film "Play Safe" which was very well received by the class.

Top Shop Staff

To mark the occasion of the sale of their millionth tumbler dryer, TI Creda Ltd., held a free-to-enter competition for all staff at over 28,000 retail and wholesale outlets throughout the British Isles.

The competition was based on product knowledge and of the 31 prizes awarded, MANWEB staff collected four.

Our knowledgeable ladies

One of our top shop winners, Dorothy Smith from Chester, receives her cheque from George Myers (Creda area sales manager), watched by Glyn Jones (Creda representative), centre left, and Norman Large (Supervisor, Chester shop).





Clwyd golf tournament, officials and prizewinners. From left to right: Dave Tompkinson, Dennis Atkinson (organiser), Rod Taylor (Chairman S and S Club), Winston Hughes and Steve Davies.

were **Margaret Knapton** (St. Helens), **Dorothy Monks** (New Ferry), **Dorothy Smith** (Ches-ter) and **Margaret Smith** (Allerton).

Each received a handy cheque for their efforts.

Four out of 31 winners from a possible 28,000 entrants is pretty good. This of course only goes to prove the point we have been making for years that our shop staff have all the answers enabling our customers to get a good deal from the Board!

Clwyd Golf

The District Golf Tournament for members of the Clwyd Sports and Social Club was held a short time ago at a local golf course.

Some excellent returns were made and winner **Winston Hughes** (General Services) handed in a card with a five under par net 65. Runner-up was **Dave Tompkinson** (Commercial) who also broke par with a net 66.

The prize for the best gross score went to apprentice **Steve Davies** (Commercial).

A WELCOME AT WARRINGTON

Former members of our Mid-Mersey District staff, Arthur and Ethel Parr recently returned to our offices at Warrington as guests of honour in their new roles as Mayor and Mayoress of Halton District Council. It was a very happy occasion and our picture, below, shows Councillor and Mrs. Parr with our local management team, from left to right: Messrs. Glyn Norbury (District Commercial Engineer), Dennis Hodgetts (District Administrative Officer) and Albert Cooper (District Engineer).



From the Minutes.

"It was reported that whistles had now been issued to the staff and that they were very happy with them."

FOR SALE

Ladies 'Gannex' mac. Green size 16 hardly worn. Cost £57 will sell for £30. 'Phone 051-722 8225.

Immersion heater, 30" Santon dual stat., with control switch £8 (unused and in original packing).

Berry 'Magicoal' log effect three-bar fire £8.

Pair $\frac{3}{4}$ " chromium-plated bath taps, mitre tops £6.

Wilson 'Waveline' 4' x 2' single panel central heating radiator £3.

Mahogany chest of drawers, good condition £10.

Wood window frame approx. four feet square, part glazed, two fixed, two opening lights, £10.

Sectional white melamine-coated wardrobe single door approx. 23" deep x 25" wide (o.s. measurements). Partly assembled (instructions included) £5 o.n.o. 'Phone 051-625 6889.

Raleigh Stowaway cycle. New condition. Many extras. £60 o.n.o. 'Phone: 051. 470. 7771 (after 6.00 p.m.)

Zenta brand new electric bass guitar and amplifier. Bargain. Please 'phone Penrhyndeud-reaeth 564.

TO LET

New 6-berth luxury caravan with own toilet and shower. Sited among cork oak trees on gently sloping picturesque park a few minutes from St. Tropez, Cote d'Azur. Facilities include large swimming pool, bar, restaurant and mini-market. From £45 per week inclusive of fuel. Reduced cost channel crossing fly/drive and holiday insurance available. 'Phone Culcheth 3820.

Group Manager Appointed

Mr. Glyn H. Dodd (*Assistant Chief Accountant—Finance and Stores*) has been appointed as Group Manager for the Board's Dee Valley, Clwyd, Gwynedd and Aberystwyth Districts. He succeeds Mr. Jim Barraclough who takes over as Group Manager for our North Mersey, Liverpool and North Wirral Districts on the retirement of Mr. Sid Fairclough.

The new appointments commence on 1st January 1979.

Mr. Dodd was born at Rhosllanerchrugog, near Wrexham and, at a very early age, went to the United States of America receiving his education in Pennsylvania.

He returned to this country in his teens and joined the North Wales Power Company. From 1941-46 he served with the 50th (*Northumbrian*) Division in North Africa, Sicily and Europe.

Since re-joining the electricity supply industry he has held a number of accountancy and administrative appointments in various locations within MANWEB and, for a short time, with the Midlands Electricity Board.



Mr. G. H. Dodd

Mr. Dodd is a Fellow of The Association of Certified Accountants and an Associate Member of The British Institute of Management. He is married and is fond of listening to choral and popular classical music. He is an active member of the MANWEB (Head Office) Golfing Society.

Obituary

We deeply regret to record the deaths of the following former colleagues:

Mr. J. W. Campbell, aged 83, a former chargehand labourer at our Runcorn depot prior to his retirement.

Mr. R. J. Harris, aged 79, a control room operator in our North Wirral District until his retirement in 1960. Mr. Harris joined the former Birkenhead Corporation in 1917.

Mr. J. Pilkington, aged 79, who worked as a street lighting attendant and later as a driver at our

St. Helens depot prior to his retirement. He was a keen member of the Gas and Electricity Sports Club and at one time was a pensioners' visitor.

Mr. Alfred Rimmer, aged 74, a foreman meter reader/collector in the former Southport District prior to his retirement in 1966 after 39 years' service. Despite bouts of ill health during his latter years, he continued with his voluntary work with the Manual Workers Benevolent Society looking after the welfare of other retired colleagues.

Consultative Council Appointments

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, Mr. Roy Hattersley, has recently re-appointed Mr. John Moore as the Chairman of the Merseyside and North Wales Electricity Consultative Council to serve until 30th September 1979.

Mr. Moore was a senior lecturer in Physics at Liverpool University; a consultant to the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell, also a consultant to the Council of Europe for Nuclear Research and a member of the Liverpool and Manchester Universities' Joint Reactor Project. He retired as Division Head from the Science Research Council Laboratory, Daresbury, Cheshire.

Other appointments as members of the Merseyside and North Wales Consultative Council confirmed by Mr. Hattersley, are as follows:

Miss Jacqueline Clark, an assistant solicitor for Cheshire County Council.

Mrs. Mair Jones of Aberystwyth an ex-schoolteacher and one of the former editors of the *Welsh Medieval Texts*.

Councillor Thomas J. Lyons, is employed by Liverpool District Housing Department and is a member of the Knowsley District Council and of the Halewood Town Council.

Councillor Joseph Mulcrow, a post office worker and member of St. Helens Metropolitan Borough Council.

Each of these members will serve until 31st March 1981.

PRIZE CROSSWORD

Once again we present a bumper puzzle for you to complete over the holiday period. Its 150 clues have been set by our crossword king, Mr. F. G. Lott who, incidentally, is using the same 'square' we have used every year since 1975. Quite an achievement in itself!

In our search for the Mastermind of MANWEB, we are allowing plenty of time for you to solve the puzzle. The closing date for receipt of entries is 15th January 1979.

Post your solution to The Editor, 'Contact,' MANWEB Head Office, Sealand Road, Chester CH1 4LR. Plain paper entries will be accepted—but, however you submit your attempt, only one entry per person please. The competition is open to all MANWEB employees, pensioners and their families. Please mark your envelope "Crossword."

We will award three prizes of £5 each to the senders of the first three all-correct solutions opened on 16th January 1979.

Clues Across

- 1 At the fair did they perhaps gobble cold ham until called on? (3,5,3,9,3,3)
- 15 Reminder from me to the people inside (7)
- 16 Easy to eat (5,2,4)
- 17 In whose orisons were Hamlet's sins to be remembered (5)
- 18 Don Quixote's horse starts to be good for a bow (5)
- 19 She produces a manuscript *per se* (7)
- 20 Noted supporter (5)
- 21 It lay in the house that Jack built (3)
- 22 A little time in Scotland (3)
- 23 Featherless joints (9)

- 24 Like Siva's bad dream (5)
- 25 Such chatter is idle talk (7)
- 26 This ending is displeasing (3)
- 27 Cricket's annus mirabilis? (4, 2,5)
- 30 Like those bleeding leeches, perhaps (7)
- 32 It divides the dividend (7)
- 35 Start work back to back to set one against the other (9)
- 37 Vindication (7)
- 38 How frequently one enlists? (9)
- 40 Compels change of scenes I state (12)
- 42 Fanciful member of a dope ring (4)
- 44 Changeable minds able to chew on (9)
- 45 "The lonely . . . of the Seven Dials" (Iolanthe) (3)
- 46 Not for rubbing the thinned up the wrong way! (9)
- 48 Kind of writer (4)
- 49 Diligently follow up a visit to the job centre? (5,7)
- 52 Chopin, by the sound of it (9)
- 54 Trove is to be found in this Italian city (7)
- 55 Choir pact arranged for the annual outing (5,4)
- 57 What people say about you after you've gone (7)
- 59 The Tweedles forgot it (7)
- 60 "As idle as a . . . upon a painted ocean" (Coleridge) (7,4)
- 62 This wig is not worn (3)
- 64 How the weasel goes after pies in the cornfield (7)

- 65 Produces copper for a Greek island (5)
- 66 Could lead to a girl needing 61 (9)
- 67 This poses provisional assumptions (3)
- 68 It's the old-fashioned 'a', of course (3)
- 69 Girl in an Italian setting (5)
- 70 He sighed his soul towards the Grecian tents (M of V) (7)
- 72 From where one who telephoned resided! (5)
- 74 One chopped log's nothing in a home that hasn't central heating (5)
- 75 Dude is quite involved with uncasiness (11)
- 76 Effervescent Bert; he's excited (7)
- 77 Jaques's hazardous search on the battlefield (7,3,6,10)

Clues Down

- 1 Wan heroes flee in a stormy wind for a naughty week-end with a mermaid? (3,6,4,4,2,3, 4)
- 2 Coleridge's miracle of rare devise (5)
- 3 Onion man it's strange to find on list (11)
- 4 Mother's not malingering; just hanging on! (9)
- 5 Barrack room players? (7)
- 6 Sugar tree (5)
- 7 How to make this clue much less difficult (12)
- 8 Rossetti's damozel was less in bed! (7)
- 9 Fine ranches to set free (11)
- 10 Hamlet's clown-serious anti-podean (11)
- 11 Wandered off to be a trader (9)
- 12 One who gives in the Tower of London a torture chamber (7)
- 13 Unlikely gamble you hear is painful (7)
- 14 "Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard are sweeter . . ." (Keats) (9,2,4,5,4,2)
- 24 Corrigendum starts with the last word (9)
- 28 Lavender jelly (5)
- 29 Where's the beer? Ask Alec (7)

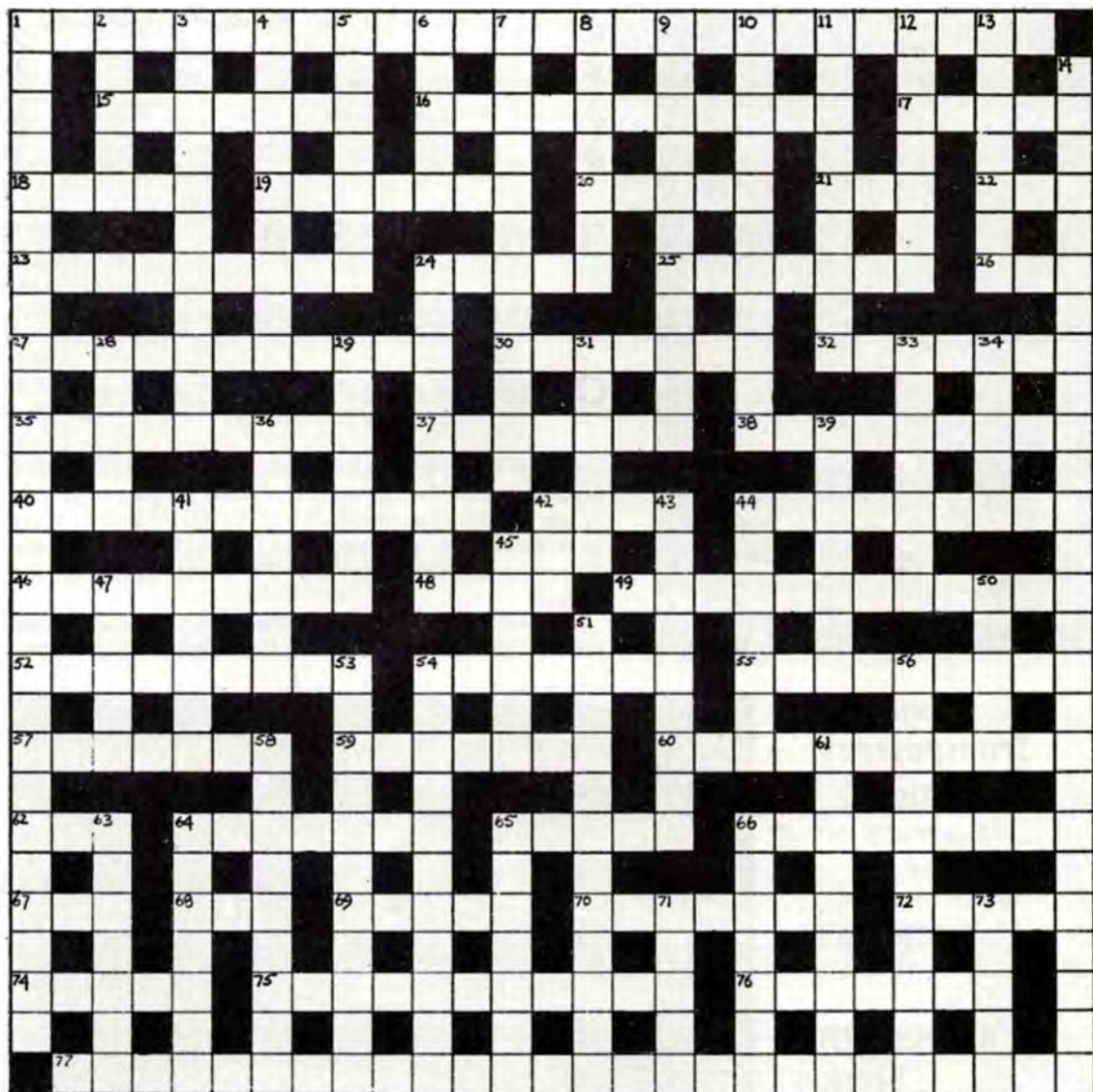
THE VALLEY

a poem by

BILL BOYLIN

(Admin. Assistant,
Revenue, Head Office)

And the bluebells,
in profusion,
edged the stream
slow-moving
throu' the valley,
awesome in its beauty.
And with ears pressed
to the life-bearing earth,
children heard the bells
ring softly, throu'
the maturing of the blues.




- 31 Cost of skin treatment pre-decimalisation? (6)
 33 Like a fox (7)
 34 ... and a calf! (5)
 36 It's a good job Rita invited me here (7)
 39 Land O! Go around it by boat (7)
 41 A habit of wearing it over the shoulder (7)
 42 In the sky? Not a hope! (3)
 43 Off the cuff (9)
 44 OT end (7)
 45 Come after a soft fruit (6)

- 47 Xerophytes do in the Channel Isles (5)
 50 "Now lies the . . . all Danae to the stars" (Tennyson) (5)
 51 Deeside dweller's plum-puller's fish (7-5)
 53 North sea oil? (6,5)
 54 With shattering gunfire rats appear different (11)
 56 Pay bird? Ho-Ho, not likely with this complaint (11)
 58 But not where you would expect to find dancing daffodils (3,6)

- 61 What bride needs is in treasure house, not here (9)
 63 Concerns beans or battleship (7)
 64 Shows a soldier's worth? (7)
 65 Where a French cat arrives at the end of 61 (7)
 66 Mantle of sleep is ruffled (7)
 71 Honour points are well covered (5)
 73 No solo playing here (5)

*Dictionary:
 Chambers Twentieth Century.*



OUR COVER PICTURE 
"Rural England" by Mr. Cliff. Shepherd, Personnel
Department, Head Office, winner of the First Prize in the
Colour Transparency Section.

'Contact' 1978

Photographic Competition

The uninspiring summer we experienced this year was a possible reason for the greatly reduced number of entries in our annual photographic competition. After two years of record entries we returned to the 1975 level with only 32 people submitting just over 200 entries in the various sections.

Our thanks once again go to the patient and painstaking judges, Mr. John Lightfoot (*Lightfoot and Newman*,

Colour Transparency Section

2nd PRIZE

"Fuchsia"

by Mrs. Doris Hall,
Rhyl shop.



Colour Print Section



1st PRIZE

"Reflections"

2nd PRIZE

"Northern Sky"

both prints by
Mr. Douglas J. Houlbrook,
Technical staff trainee
based at Head Office.



Humour Section

BEST PICTURE

"Recovering Nicely!"

by Mr. James Stead, Revenue Section, Head Office.

Photographers, Chester) and Mr. William Griffiths (*Chief Photographer, Head Office*).

Many of our competitors failed to give titles to their pictures and as the judges remarked, "*Often a good title—especially in the humour section—could clinch the prize.*"

In the Black and White section, surprisingly few entries were received and as none of these were particularly outstanding it was agreed that no prize would be awarded.



Human Section

BEST PICTURE

"Linesman"

by Mr. Chris. Jones,
Oswestry District.

Animal Section

BEST PICTURE

"Survival" by Mr. Chris. Kilfoyle,
M.S.U., Head Office.



(Commended)

"Lucas" by Mr. Peter C. Johnston,
Liverpool District.





The 1978 Five-a-Side Football Champions, "The Black Shadows" being presented with their well-earned trophies by our Chairman Ben Hastings. The team are, from left to right: Brian Sheppard, Brian Carmen (captain), Mark Buchanan, John Kennedy and Richard Bromley.

HEAD OFFICE FIVE-A-SIDE COMPETITION



Above: The Chairman congratulates the runners-up, "It's Magic" watched by organiser Gren Roberts. The team, from left to right: Joe Norris, Keith Prowse, Mike Edwards (captain), Dave Tomlinson and Emyr Jones.

... And not forgetting the ladies... below, we see the winners, "Miss Cics" receiving their trophies from MANWEB's veteran footballer, Harry Shone. The team, from left to right: Liz Jones, Viv Ellins, Cheryl Hunt (captain), Chris Leath and Kim Bradley. Right, bright smiles from the losing finalists, "Five Pair of Legs" who are, from left to right: Lisette Walker, Angela Ashton, Jayne Pearson and Jenny Tomann (captain). Two members of the team who missed the picture are Judy Bailey and Pam Holland.

The Deeside Leisure Centre was the venue for the eighth annual MANWEB (Chester) Sports and Social Club Five-a-Side football tournament. Sixteen teams were whittled down by a league and knock-out contest to leave the finalists, "The Black Shadows" beating "It's Magic" by three goals to two.

The Ladies had a separate competition with their four teams. The eventual winners, "Miss Cics" beat "Five Pair of Legs" by two goals to nil.

The three officials taking charge of the 70 matches are all qualified league referees. The organiser of this very successful tournament was Gren Roberts (*S and S Club Secretary*).

MANWEB Chairman Ben Hastings presented the finalists with their trophies.



SPORTS REPORT

Opening Fixtures for Gwynedd Soccer Squad

AFTER weeks of intensive training under the experienced guidance of former Southern and Welsh league players, team manager **Richard Owen** (*debt control*) and team trainer **Silwyn Parry** (*amendments*) our newly-formed Gwynedd District football team set off, with a loyal band of supporters, for their first encounter of any kind against a team from RAF Valley.

The match was played at a fast pace in brilliant sunshine. Much to the surprise of the team's supporters, but fully expected by both manager and trainer in the Clough/Taylor tradition, MANWEB took an early lead.

Some good work in mid-field and up front followed but a sudden RAF attack crumbled the Gwynedd defence and the lads in blue equalised.

The half-time score at 3-1 told the story of the determined defensive work which kept the RAF score down.

The second half opened with some promising attacks by the Gwynedd team and it was only brilliant goalkeeping by the RAF man that kept our forwards from adding to the score.

It was now that many of the clever moves practiced in training sessions began to show their worth and a set-piece from a free kick resulted in a great goal from team captain **Hugh Hughes**.

Down 3-2 with only ten minutes to go, the MANWEB team threw everything into attack and it came as no surprise when the scores were levelled.

During the game **Clifford Parry** came on as a substitute for **Richard Jones** who had toe-nail trouble!

It was a good game for the new team who all appreciated the wonders worked by the man with the magic sponge—and bottle of smelling salts—first-aider **Norman White** (*Commercial*).

Later, everyone enjoyed a great

social evening as guests of RAF Valley.

Team: Harry Wyn Owen (*meter reader*), Hugh Hughes, *captain*, (*consumer records*), Mike Williams (*p.p. meter reading*), Ian Williams (*bonus*), Gary Davies (*electrician*) John M. Owen (*linesman's mate*), Emlyn Roberts (*general services*), Pete Griffiths (*amendments*), Kevin Pritchard (*debt control*), Richard M. Jones (*p.p. meter reading*), Hywel Hughes (*chef*) and Clifford Parry (*work control*).

Re-shaped Team

The manager and trainer took the opportunity to bring in three more players and slightly reshape the team for their next match against North Wales Police.

Gwynedd Golfers

FOLLOWING the MANWEB (Head Office) Golfing Society's meeting at the Rhuddlan course in June, a few merry hours were spent debating out-of-bounds, the broken Iron and two reasonable rounds by the Gwynedd team captain and his partner.

Then came the proposal to organise a competition for golfers in the Gwynedd District.

The time was opportune as there was an upsurge of interest in the game with new members joining various local clubs.

Emyr Rowlands (*2nd engineer-Service*) aided by **Graham Davies** (*admin. asst. Material Control*), an elder statesman of the game, had the enthusiasm to get things moving and quickly organised an inaugural tournament at the new nine-hole course in the beautiful setting at Betws-y-Coed.

Into the side came **Alan Owen** (*electrician*), **Rod** (*The Rock*) **Evans** and his colleague **Wil Bach Jones** (*meter readers*).

The Gwynedd team kicked off full of confidence and took the lead with a goal in the 14th minute. However, shortly after this, a misunderstanding in our defence led to an opportunist goal for the police to bring the scores level.

It was not long before the Gwynedd supporters were cheering again as MANWEB went ahead with the forwards in total command. But, slack marking in defence let in the police for another equaliser.

The second half opened with MANWEB pressure, but they had to wait until the 56th minute before the ball finally eluded the police goalkeeper who had an outstanding game.

Towards the end of the match the police team came into their own and scored two goals to run out winners by four goals to three.

The qualified referee for this game was **Eric Roberts** (*meter reading foreman*) who performed his very tough task with authority and fairness.

The Gwynedd District Sports and Social Club were right behind the idea and donated a trophy. Further prizes were given by **Frank Ellis** (*Supply Engineer*), **Dennis Hughes** (*District Administrative Officer*) and **Malcolm Ross** (*District Sales Supervisor*).

Keen interest was soon apparent with members of the staff applying for the odd half-day's leave and some even sacrificing their relief day for some much-needed practice. Throughout the offices and depots people could

—Continued on Page 257

Gwynedd Personalities

On a recent visit to Gwynedd District Offices and Depot at St. Helens Road, Caernarfon, our newsman called in to talk to the garage staff and found a very talented trio.

HIGH FLYER

A chance flight with a friend gave Cyril Owen, a mechanical fitter, the urge to 'take off'. Now, after 18 months and 52 hours' flying instruction, he has qualified as a pilot of light aircraft.

Cyril, a member of the Mona Flying Club of Anglesey, joined with a group of friends and keen flyers, to buy two aircraft, a Cessna '150' and a Cherokee '140' and have formed The Snowdon Aviation Company.

At every opportunity—when finances allow—Cyril, usually with one of his partners to share expenses, is off up into the blue-blue yonder, watching the world pass by below. "I reckon flying in the Cessna costs about £12 an hour," he informed us, "Just enough time to get to Liverpool and back!"

We asked if his wife Myrna shared his interest in flying and Cyril replied, "In no way! She simply can't stand heights. However, our daughter Helen Mai

Cyril Owen in the cockpit.



who is 14, has been for a flight and she loves it!"

It was just 16 years ago that Cyril left the Crosville Motor Company in Bangor to become a Man from MANWEB at Caernarfon. During the last war he served with the Armed Forces—no, not in the RAF but with REME. "Nothing as exciting as flying ever happened to me in those days," he quipped.

MECHANICAL MAN

After working at a local garage for many years, Will D. Roberts joined the Board at Caernarfon seven years ago as a mechanical fitter. We discovered that his work is also his hobby for he has always had an active interest in building up things mechanical.

One of his early challenges was a Rudge Whitworth 1932 model motor-bike, which, after many hours of painstaking work, he restored to 'almost' new. Then he moved on to cars when he rebuilt an Austin 10—circa 1934 followed by a Morris 8, 1936 vintage. Will told us that he often manages to get spare parts through "Exchange and Mart" and by diligently searching through scrap yards and other, sometimes most unlikely, outlets.

When he finishes a project to his complete satisfaction, he holds on to it for a while—a bit of pride in his craft we suspect—and then he sells before getting on with his next job.

Now he is off cars and on to boats having recently worked on a 20-foot shrimper, "Nobby" which originated in the Morecambe Bay area around 1906. When he bought the boat it was in a very dilapidated state but Will's eyes lit upon what looked



Will Roberts at work.

like a load of scrap iron in the bowels of the boat. Experience told him that this had the makings of an engine.

He set to work putting the pieces together and gradually assembled and had in working order a Pembroke two-stroke engine which had first been used over fifty years ago.

Will has had the benefit of help from his son Bryn, aged 20, and now they both enjoy a trip in the new "Nobby".

This too will probably be up for sale as soon as Will comes across the remains of a World War One bi-plane!

MUSIC MAKER

The youngest of our talented trio is Glyn Philip Moss, aged 27, a mechanical fitter who joined us a few months ago from a local garage.

When not servicing vehicles for MANWEB, Glyn can be seen and heard playing the superb Hammond 'Concord' organ at the 'Albert Inn' public house in Caernarfon town.

The establishment is run by Glyn's father, Benny Moss, who is also a good 'keyboard' man having run one or two dance bands in his early days. The Moss family left their home town of Warrington to settle in Caernarfon



Glyn Moss under the bonnet.

when Glyn was about two years of age.

It was Dad who taught Glyn to play the piano and now they take turns at entertaining the customers. Quite an event in their lives occurred during the Investiture celebrations for Prince Charles when their 'Concord' organ was moved into Caernarfon Castle for Glyn and his father to play for a special function.

A few weeks ago, Glyn and his wife Gwenda celebrated their own special event—their fourth year of marriage.



Eric Phillips with his trophy.

... and, not to be outshone by the men, we have

SWIMMER SUPREME

A severe cold prevented Dilys Davies, a sales representative in our Gwynedd District from taking a major role in an air-sea rescue demonstration by RAF Valley and Beamaris lifeboat crews.

Dilys, a competent swimmer, was to be 'dumped' in the sea, a short distance from the Caernarfon shore allowing spectators a good view of the air-sea rescue operation. Unfortunately, with only a couple of days to go, she developed a very bad cold and, although keen to go through with the task, her doctor wisely insisted that she stayed ashore.

Dilys' rescue demonstration was to be part of an extensive programme which featured the revival of the swimming race across the Straits from Caernarfon to Anglesey, last held in 1958. The swim directly across is about one-and-a-half miles, but allowing for the currents, competitors have to cover about two miles.

The big swim was organised by the Caernarfon Swimming Gala Committee in order to raise funds to help in the formation of a strong Caernarfon Swimming Club. When established they will teach



The delightful Dilys holds the Cloc Mawr Cup.

children to swim and life-save, coach them for competitions and run classes for water-polo and water ballet, etc. The Gala Committee are also campaigning for an indoor swimming pool.

The Committee's first venture earlier this year, was a very successful swimming gala when Dilys, a Committee member, won The Cloc Mawr Challenge Cup in the ladies free-style race.

Starting work with the Board as a sales assistant in Caernarfon shop in 1961, Dilys took on her present job nearly six years ago.

Gwynedd Golfers (cont'd. from page 255)

be seen practicing drives and putting with imaginary clubs.

Competition day dawned dull and windy with heavy rain at the start making conditions most trying. However, the golfers were keen and hardy with the eventual winners emerging from the first match out.

This most enjoyable meeting for the newly-formed Gwynedd District Golfing Society will, no doubt, be the first of a very important annual event in the golfing calendar.

This year's winners were:

- 1st—Eric Phillips (*electrician*)
The Trydan Cup
- 2nd—'O. J.' Hughes (*chargehand electrician*)
- 3rd—Len Roberts (*section eng.*)
- Mystery partners—Bill Parry (*Wayleaves*) and Jim Barraclough (*Group Manager*).
- Hole-in-two—Robin Jones (*store-keeper-Pwllheli*)
- Wooden Spoon—Colin Blundell (*3rd eng. Production*).

We get letters . . .

by the bagful from customers in our Districts at

Liverpool . . .

From a Prescott customer—

"I would like to thank you and your workmen for the prompt and efficient attention we received following a road accident in which the electric wires were broken. Your representative was on the scene within 15 minutes of my phone call, and the whole job was finished in the shortest possible time and with the least inconvenience to us."

The bouquet goes to engineer Mr. G. P. Rive, and linesmen Messrs. R. W. Wilson and A. Rawlinson.

. . . Oswestry . . .

From a Newtown engineering firm:

"I must write to thank your team for repairing the break in our electricity supplies last week. It is heartening to know that you have such a good team that are prepared to work into the night in arduous conditions to maintain supply. In these days when many of the nationalised industries are being kicked we have in Newtown at least a team motivated under good management that gets on with the job."

. . . Mid-Cheshire . . .

From a Knutsford customer:

"I have in the past complained about nationalised services and unions, etc., but may I take this opportunity to praise the efficient way you dealt with an overhead line down, cutting off supply, last night."

I would like you to thank the men concerned for their quick

arrival with which they finished the job."

The thanks were duly passed on by District Engineer Graham Zeiher to linesman T. Dean and mate B. Davis.

. . . North Wirral . . .

From a West Kirby gent:

"After my electricity supply failed my phone call at 4.20 a.m. was dealt with in a most friendly manner and obviously with great efficiency in a time of considerable stress for the service."

"A party of your men worked almost continuously without break or shelter digging up the road and my garden from 1 p.m. to nearly 7 p.m., installing a new main cable in appalling conditions of wind, rain hail and at such low temperatures that I found it hard to stand outside for more than 15 minutes. They were all kindly, helpful, efficient and quite uncomplaining, despite the fact that some of them had been working since the very early hours of the morning."

Note to the lads concerned—

A halo isn't really suitable headgear for digging trenches—the rain comes through the hole!

. . . Gwynedd . . .

This time from a Harlech gent:

"Recently your staff dismantled and removed a pole-mounted transformer from my garden—an event which most people living in the area have been looking forward to for years, since its removal has greatly improved the appearance and neatness of the estate."

"I had expected that its removal would result in a considerable amount of mess and disturbance to the garden. In fact, however, there was virtually none—your men had obviously taken great pains to avoid any damage to the garden and to restore the stone

wall. As I did not see them at the time I would be grateful if you would pass on my appreciation of the care which they took to the team concerned."

Men from MANWEB involved in this operation were Messrs. G. P. Griffiths, R. I. Jones, H. E. Parry and T. E. Owen (cable gang); B. Jones, H. Williams, E. E. Rees and H. Williams (jointing teams); and J. M. Humphries, J. E. Jefferey, J. G. Thomas, I. M. Hughes and R. O. Williams (overhead gang).

. . . Dee Valley . . .

. . . and from a Chester customer:

"I write to express my satisfaction with the manner in which my house was re-wired by two members of your staff—the work was executed exactly as required, and with the minimum disruption."

. . . Clwyd . . .

A pleasing letter from Rhyl:

"My wife and I would like to say how pleased we are at the way two of your men, Peter Aspin and Bill Astbury, carried out the re-wiring work at our home. After hearing so many hair-raising stories concerning mess and damage caused during re-wiring it came as a pleasant surprise to see the clean and efficient way these two men carried out the work, and at all times they were pleasant and helpful."

and Aberystwyth . . .

In a letter to Chief Accountant Geoff Barnes:

"I could not let another day pass without putting pen to paper in appreciation of a member of your staff, Mrs. R. Williams. I am most concerned for you to know how helpful and obliging this lady has been on my behalf."

The 'helpful and obliging lady' works in the Revenue section at Head Office.



The fishermen from MANWEB, from the left, Alan Royle (Dee Valley), Chris Simm, Pete Baron, Dave Lewis, Stan Hughes, Dave Garret and John Tyreman, Capt. (all from Head Office), Norman Rawsthorne (Mid-Mersey), Stan Wright (Dee Valley), Roy Briscoe (Mid-Mersey), Gordon Hibbert and Peter Stewart (Dee Valley), Peter Edwards (Head Office) and John Hassall and Denis Williams (Dee Valley).

Stan Wright in action.



Gone Fishin'

Fifteen MANWEB Coarse fishermen competed in the Electricity Supply Industry National Championships on the River Trent. They finished fourth.

With the water level in the river rather low the MANWEB team had some difficulty in deciding how to fish the water. It was the local team with their local knowledge that once again won the title.

Dave Lewis was the best of the MANWEB team and the only prize winner.

Electricity Council Deputy Chairman Austin Bunch, left, hands Dave Lewis his prize.



Chester Brain, Skill and Chance

The overall winners of the "Brain Skill and Chance" contest at Chester called themselves 'Tin of Bits' were from the Computer Section.

The organising trio, Gren Roberts, Eifion Jenkins and Hugh Farrow, had 29 games with roughly a third containing each element of the contest. There were 29 teams, six to a team, spending five minutes on each game.

Mr. Jim Fisher, Chief Engineer and club Vice-President, makes the presentation to 'Tin of Bits,' left to right: Dave Griffin, Emyr Jones, Bob Draper, Dave Croston, Cheryl Hunt and Brian Sheppard. Below: The booby prizewinners aptly named the 'Happy Hopefuls,' with Mike Hughes, Paul Kearney, Jim Fisher, Ann Piercy, Julie Williams, Sue Phillips and Steve Buswell.



RETIREMENTS

Mr. A. P. WHYTE

Although he retired from his appointment as the Board's Chief Accountant some time ago, Mr. A. P. Whyte's farewell presentation ceremony was held over until recently.

However, it is most appropriate that we report his retirement in this Christmas issue of 'Contact'. For many years, 'A.P.' wrote the very humorous captions to the Dickensian drawings which used to grace our pages at the festive season. A former contributor to 'Punch'—in the good old days—Mr. Whyte also wrote the scripts for the 'in house' pantomimes held regularly at Head Office in the Love Lane period. No doubt had he chosen to be a writer he would have been as successful as he was in commerce.

It was in 1935 that Mr. Whyte began his career working as an assistant accountant with a private company. At the outbreak of war four years later, he was Works Accountant for Short Brothers and spent some time at their Stirling Bomber Factory.

He joined MANWEB on nationalisation in 1948 as Internal Auditor at Head Office. In 1963 he was in charge of the new Management Services Unit and four years later took on the dual role as Deputy



Former Chief Accountant, Mr. Edward Lollar welcomes his successor Mr. Alex Whyte, left, to the ranks of the retired, watched by Mr. Ben Hastings (Board Chairman).

Chief Accountant and Management Services Officer. In 1969 he was appointed as Chief Accountant.

We join with his many friends in MANWEB and in throughout the industry in wishing Mr. Whyte and his wife Dilys, many years of happy retirement.

Mr. S. FAIRCLOUGH

During a lifetime of service in the electricity supply industry Mr. Sidney Fairclough made a host of friends on his way through the ranks to become a Group Manager.

At a special ceremony held to mark his recent

Deputy Chairman Richard Gales makes the farewell presentation on behalf of colleagues to retiring Group Manager Sid Fairclough, pictured on the left.



retirement, many of those friends gathered to hear Mr. Richard Gales (*Deputy Chairman*) express their good wishes to Mr. Fairclough and to his wife, whose health, it was hoped, would show a steady improvement so that they could both enjoy a long, happy and well-earned retirement.

Mr. Gales went on to speak of Mr. Fairclough's long and distinguished career—most of it spent on Merseyside—since he began his working life as an apprentice electrician with the former Liverpool Corporation Electric Supply Department way back in 1930. "These 48 years' are a record not many people will be able to match," he said.

The only interruption to this service was when he 'helped out' for a few years during the war. He became a captain in the Royal Engineers.

On his return to the industry, Mr. Fairclough had spells at St. Helens and Southport before gravitating back to Liverpool in 1954. He held various appointments in our former No. 1 Sub-Area and was the Commercial Officer when MANWEB reorganised in 1969. He then became Assisant Chief Commercial Officer, Installation and Service at Head Office in Chester. Five years later he was appointed as Group Manager covering the North Mersey, Liverpool and North Wirral Districts.

Mr. Gales mentioned earlier visits to Chester made by Mr. Fairclough and of the times when he lunched at the District's canteen, which in those days was in a prefabricated hut. "No doubt this is where Sid developed his famous poker face," he commented.

In recording the thanks of our Chairman and members of the Board for Mr. Fairclough's long and meritorious service, Mr. Gales said that his approach to work was always friendly and quietly efficient.

Subscriptions from staff which provided farewell gifts of a beautiful canteen of cutlery, a silver cigarette box and a silver candelabra demonstrated the high esteem in which Mr. Fairclough was held by his colleagues.

In reply, Mr. Fairclough said that everyone talking about his 48 years in the industry was

destroying his image of being in the middle 50's. He went on in this bright and humourous vein and recalled his early days in the industry when, "If you were not a chief clerk then you were an engineer!" He then analysed, in a light-hearted way—the work done by accountants, commercial and computer staff and secretarial colleagues.

And so ended a most enjoyable ceremony to say a fond farewell to a most popular man from MANWEB.

Mr. R. WILLIAMS

Colleagues in our Mid-Mersey District recently presented Mr. Ronald Williams (*storekeeper*) with a cheque when he retired from his job with the Board after 23 years' service. With the gift went their best wishes for a happy retirement for Ron and his wife with many hours of old time dancing.

A native of Ellesmere Port, Ron served as a fitter in the RAF during the last war and spent some of his time in Canada. Since joining MANWEB in 1955 he has worked as a storekeeper at Widnes, Frodsham and Weston Point.

Mr. S. WELBURN

A meter reader/collector based at St. Helens in our Mid-Mersey District, Mr. Stanley Welburn was presented with a wrist watch from his colleagues on the occasion of his recent retirement. Mrs. Welburn was presented with a bouquet of flowers as friends wished them both many years of happy retirement.

Mr. R. JACKSON

For nearly 33 years, Mr. Ronald Jackson has worked in the Stores at our North Wirral District office in Craven Street, Birkenhead. Now Ron has closed the doors for the last time and gone into a well-earned retirement. On behalf of his many friends throughout the District, Ron was presented with binoculars as their farewell gift by Mr. Jack Bradley (*principal assistant—Administration*).



A farewell handshake from Jack Bradley, centre left, for Ron Jackson.

Mr. R. COTGROVE

An adopted Welshman, Mr. Ronald Cotgrove, a chargehand linesman at our Pwllheli depot retired a short time ago through ill health after completing 30 years' service in the industry.

Born in Essex, Ron arrived in Pwllheli in 1940 as a full-time fireman with the Auxiliary Fire Service. Later he joined the Army and volunteered for the Parachute Regiment and served in the Middle East and Europe. He was with the 1st Airborne Division at Arnhem and was severely wounded while trying to escape across the River Rhine. Unfortunately he was captured and spent the rest of the war in a P-o-W camp. On his repatriation he joined another Parachute Regiment and served for a further period in Egypt and Palestine until his demob in 1947.

He came home to settle down and marry Florrie, a Pwllheli girl and was soon speaking a very fluent Welsh. Ron and his wife are founder members of the New Minstrels Operatic Society and have taken part in many local productions.

During his time with MANWEB he made many friends while working on the massive rural development programme in and around Pwllheli.

In retirement Ron will be able to devote more of his time to his favourite pastimes of sea fishing and to music.

Mr. W. WILSON

At a retirement presentation ceremony held at our Pumpfields depot in Liverpool, storekeeper Mr. Walter Wilson received a parting gift of an automatic teamaker from his colleagues.

A very conscientious worker, Walter always made sure that the paperwork was done. In his earlier years he was a keen motorcyclist. Now, with his wife, he devotes much of his spare time to work for his church and for charities.

We, with his friends, wish him a happy retirement.

Watched by his colleagues from Pumpfields, Walter Wilson receives his retirement gift from chargehand Jimmy Rooney.



Mr. T. PRICE

Bachelor Mr. Thomas Price, a labourer in the engineering section of our Mid-Mersey District retired recently after working for the past 18 years with the Board.

Friends in the District presented him with a watch as a parting gift.

LASTING FRIENDS

Although not ready for retirement yet, **George Wells** our shop supervisor at Garston, penned this following poem which gives us all food for thought. . .

When I look back along the years
The lane of memory blends
And down the lane I catch a glimpse
of all my MANWEB friends.
I seem to hear their voices
from down along the years,
And some are young and bright with hope,
and some are touched with tears.
They stand along the road of life
and as they wave I see
the past and present all in one
like a tangled tapestry
If only I were young again
to roam the past once more
I'd set the scene not as it is
but as it was before.
For the past is like a garden
with flowers brought and gay
and some will stand the test of time
while some soon pass away.
Yes I treasure every moment
that life so dearly sends
and count myself a lucky man
for having MANWEB friends.

Personal Accident Insurance

—VOLUNTARY SCHEME TERMS IMPROVED

Benefits increased yet again but with premiums remaining unchanged for the eighth year is the good news recently announced to all employees. It is pleasing to note that the industry have been able to negotiate this improvement with Insurers in recognition of the continuing favourable claims experience under the Scheme and despite general rising costs.

Accidents cannot always be avoided but the consequent financial worries can be lessened; this Scheme offers you a means of reducing financial burdens which often follow serious accidents.

Benefits are purchased in 'units'; each unit provides varying amounts of compensation following bodily injury caused by accidents occurring at work or off duty, for example £2,000 for death, £4,000 if you are permanently disabled from all work, provided you are under 65 at time of accident, and smaller amounts for lesser injuries ranging from £1,500 for the loss of right arm to £60 for the loss of a small toe. A weekly benefit is payable if you are prevented from carrying out your normal job for more than thirteen weeks. This weekly benefit was raised to £7.50 from 1 May 1978 and becomes payable from the 14th week for up to a further 91 weeks whilst disablement continues.

An outlay of only 3 pence per week (13 pence per month) purchases one unit of compensation and additional units may be purchased at proportionate cost up to a maximum of ten. If you purchase ten units you or your representative will be eligible to receive very substantial benefits indeed in the event

of your serious injury or death for example, £20,000 for death or permanent loss of sight, £40,000 for permanent total disablement and £75 per week for temporary disablement etc., yet the outlay would be only 30 pence per week (£1.30 per month).

The Voluntary Scheme differs from the "free" Personal Accident Insurance Scheme in that under the "free" Scheme, the Board has discretion as to the payment of benefits, while under the Voluntary Scheme, payment is made to you, or your estate in the event of a fatal accident.

The Voluntary Scheme also differs from the "free" scheme in the following respects:-

- benefits are payable at the same rate whether or not an accident is connected with employment;
- the rate of benefit is proportionate to the number of units of insurance cover held and not to your annual salary at the time of the accident;
- a weekly benefit may become payable if injury of a type covered prevents you from working at your usual job;
- if desired, the insurance can be continued after normal retirement age until you are 75 years old, the premium being deducted from the pension you receive from the industry.

To make it easy to join the Scheme there is one brief form to be completed and normally no medical examination is required. If you are already a member but wish to increase the number of units you hold you can do so in the same way as new members by completing this form. To simplify administration and to prevent you from inadvertently running into arrears with payments the premiums are deducted directly from your pay.

The Scheme is open to all employees of the Industry and although over the years many employees have joined the Scheme many more employees have taken advantage of the improved terms. To ensure that everyone knows what this Scheme can offer, a National promotional campaign has been launched with posters being displayed in many depots and offices and with leaflets being distributed to all employees. Further information can, where required, be obtained from your personnel or administration office who will be able to give you an application form or tell you how to obtain one.



The Kingfisher

A painting by Mr. Stan Jones, asst.storekeeper, Legacy.