

## MANWEB GAZETTE

Welcome to... the following employees:

**Head Office:** Miss B. Murphy (typist), Miss M. Redmond (shorthand typist) and Mr. R. Hill (senior assistant financial.)

**Area 1 Office:** Miss M. Allanson (clerk), Miss J. A. Beesley (machine operator), Miss C. J. Dickins, Miss K. Harvey and Miss M. Haworth (clerks), Miss S. Lunt (typist), Miss J. Nolan (clerk), Miss N. M. O'Donohue (clerk), Miss J. Overend (typist), Miss E. Scott (clerk), Miss D. Stephens (machine operator), Mrs. E. D'Arcy, Mrs. S. Hughes, Mrs. M. C. Kearney and Mrs. V. Nordhoff (clerks), Messrs. W. J. Charters (labourer), J. Collingwood, J. Connelly and T. R. Simms (watchmen), and J. D. Thomas (labourer). **Central District:** Messrs. D. Bramhill, W. J. Hughes, R. King and G. Redmond (labourers). **North District:** Mrs. E. M. Cockburn and Mrs. A. Dunn (clerks), Messrs. S. Critchley and J. Genys (labourers). **South District:** Mr. H. J. Sharrock (assistant consumers' engineer).

**Area 2/3 Office:** Miss P. C. Dempsey (clerk), Mrs. O. E. Axon (typist). **St. Helens District:** Mr. K. M. Jones (messenger). **Warrington District:** Mrs. B. Worthington (shorthand typist), Messrs. K. Newtown and M. Rafferty (labourers). **Runcorn District:** Messrs. A. Clark and J. M. McCormick (labourer). **Northwich District:** Mr. J. A. Penrose (labourer). **North Wirral District:** Messrs. R. Barr, K. R. Lightfoot (labourers) and T. S. O'Dowd (messenger). **Chester District:** Mr. C. F. Pinches (clerk).

**Area 4 Office:** Miss W. A. Bamber (machine operator). **Clwyd District:** Miss J. E. Clemenson (clerk) and Mr. G. O. Williams (meter reader). **Wrexham District:** Miss J. Quinn (trainee saleswoman), Messrs. D. E. Parry (meter reader) and E. T. Ramage (electrician).

**Congratulations to...** the following employees on their promotions:

**Head Office:** Messrs. N. S. Doughty (assistant information) and A. P. Whyte (Deputy Chief Accountant).

**Area 1 Office:** Mr. J. Goudie (assistant revenue). **Central District:** Messrs. J. Dreves (jointer's mate) and G. McHugh (assistant commercial). **North District:** Mr. P. J. Quinn (foreman contracting). **South District:** Messrs. J. Blair (jointer), E. Burnett (chargehand labourer), J. F. Coyne (fitter's mate), P. P. Fitzgerald (jointer), T. Gill (fitter's mate) and A. Kane (jointer).

**Area 2/3:** *St. Helens District:* Mr. T. Houghton (electrician). *Runcorn District:* Mr. M. J. Mannion (jointer's mate). *Northwich District:* Messrs. B. Tench, W. Tench (jointers) and D. Thompson (public lighting attendant). *North Wirral District:* Messrs. R. Curtis (substation attendant), E. Knight (ganger), B. W. Manning, J. McGuinness (electrician) and W. A. Tomlinson (public lighting attendant).

**Area 4 Office:** Messrs. P. L. Evans (assistant costs), W. F. Holmes (records draughtsman), J. J. Myers and H. Price (senior assistants revenue). **Clwyd District:** Messrs. M. J. Davies, J. L. Jones and W. R. Jones (linesmen's mates). **Wrexham District:** Messrs. R. S. Brown (assistant consumers' engineer) and B. J. Powell (jointer's mate). **Oswestry District:** Messrs. E. J. Beech (jointer's mate), T. B. Edge, B. E. Johnson and P. W. Mellor (linesmen's mates), A. G. Shaw (jointer's mate) and T. H. Williams (assistant section engineer).

**Farewell to...** the following employees who have now left the service of the Board.

**Head Office:** Miss F. Stephenson (clerk financial), Mrs. J. A. Ferguson (shorthand typist), Messrs. F. L. Easton (assistant costs), J. D. Lewis (technical staff trainee), F. J. Ryan (records draughtsman) and H. Strange (Deputy Chief Accountant).

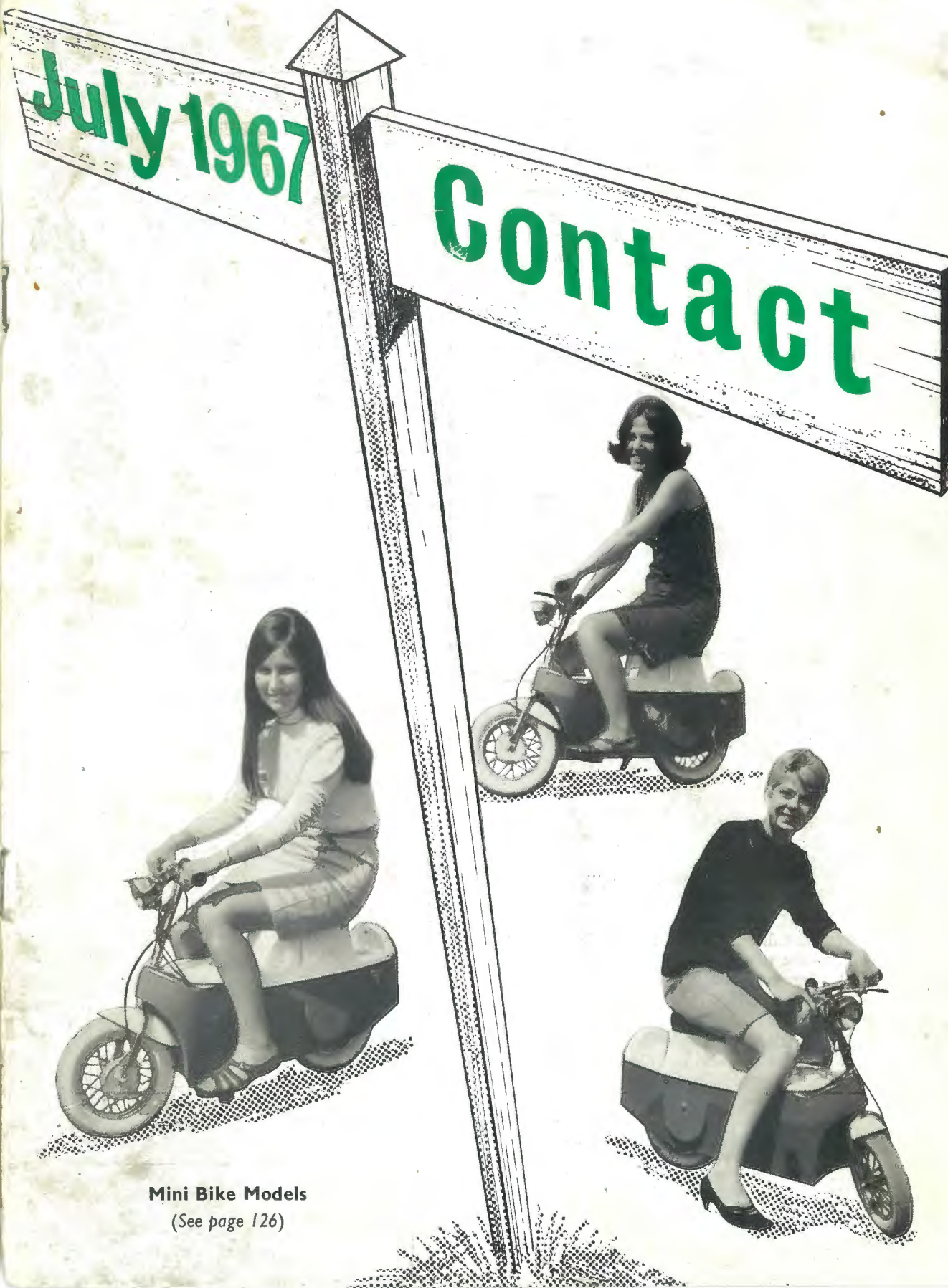
**Area 1 Office:** Miss I. Lovgreen (clerk). **Central District:** Mr. M. Pritchard (labourer). **North District:** Messrs. L. Carson (section engineer), A. R. Hine (assistant contracting engineer).

**Area 2/3:** *St. Helens District:* Messrs. A. E. Bacon (labourer), J. P. Potter (meter repairer). **Chester District:** Mr. J. Davenport (ganger).

**Area 4 Office:** Mr. J. L. Thomas (senior assistant welfare). **Conway Valley District:** Mr. C. S. Wilsdon (meter reader collector). **Caernarvon District:** Mr. M. Williams (chargehand linesman). **Aberystwyth District:** Mr. B. E. Jones (linesman's mate).

### Obituary

It is with deep regret we record the deaths of the following employees: Mr. E. J. Dean, an assistant consumers' engineer in the Liverpool South District; Mr. J. Murtagh, a labourer in the Liverpool North District; Mr. J. W. Bailey, who was a retired member of our Southport District staff; Mr. T. W. Edwards, a substation attendant at Legacy, Area 4; and Mr. J. D. Mottram, a section engineer at Crewe District.



Mini Bike Models

(See page 126)

OUR COVER PICTURE shows three of our lovely lassies mini-biking in all directions. On the left is Mrs. Marie Flor, a multilith operator, in the centre we have Miss Elizabeth Ainsworth, a dark room attendant, and heading off the page is Mrs. Pat Best, another multilith operator. All three are members of the Board's Printing Department staff at Pumpfields in Liverpool.

## THE 'WINNIE' ON SHOW



Mr. M. R. Cowan, the Board's Chief Commercial Officer, testing the "Winnie" all-electric mini-bike when its designer, Mr. Russell Winn, standing over Mr. Cowan, brought half-a-dozen of his machines along to Head Office recently.

The "Winnie" is designed for all age groups. Its operation is so simple—just a turn of the key, twist the handle and away you go. No gears to grind, no petrol to buy, no oil or water to worry about. Recharging the all-electric bike is easy—plug into a wall socket outlet every night ready for another day's carefree travel . . . and each charge costs only a few pennies.

## 'Contact' Correspondents

Mr. R. Slack (Hoylake Training Centre)

### AREA 1

Mr. A. Cassie (Hatton Garden)  
Mr. N. B. Kenyon (Hatton Garden)  
Mrs. M. Cowle (Derby House)  
Mr. D. Patrick (Marsh Lane)  
Mr. N. Turner (Lister Drive)  
Miss V. Roberts (Southport)

### AREA 2/3

Mrs. J. Findlow (Sealand Road)  
Mrs. E. Burke (Sealand Road)  
Mr. H. Hughes (Sealand Road)  
Mr. A. Wadcock (Sealand Road)  
Mrs. K. B. Knight (Sandiway House)  
Mr. G. E. H. Wheeler (Carlton St.)  
Miss M. Worthington (Bridge St.)  
Mr. M. J. Caird (Warrington)  
Mr. G. W. Wells (Runcorn)  
Mr. H. H. Turner (Widnes)  
Mr. C. P. Booth (Northwich)  
Mr. L. Sewell (New Crane St.)  
Mr. K. Jones (Wallasey)  
Mr. F. Gordon (Birkenhead)

### AREA 4

Mr. H. T. McBride (Crewe)  
Mr. J. R. Jenkins (Nantwich)  
Mr. A. T. Knott (Nantwich)  
Miss G. Baxendale (Sandbach)  
Mr. J. W. Forrester (Shotton)  
Mr. W. Ll. Williams (Newtown)  
Mr. W. D. Morris (Welshpool)  
Mr. A. L. Barker (Whitchurch)  
Mr. D. Young (Prestatyn)  
Mr. I. W. Griffiths (Mold)  
Mr. L. Hughes (Llandudno)  
Mr. H. Jones (Colwyn Bay)  
Mr. M. Roberts (Caernarvon)  
Mrs. E. F. Davies (Bangor)  
Mr. E. Jones (Wrexham)  
Mr. E. Jones (Bethesda)  
Miss D. Edwards (Bl. Ffestiniog)  
Mr. L. C. Jones (Llangefni)  
Mr. D. G. Thomas (Aberystwyth)  
Mr. D. Hughes (Barmouth)  
Mr. E. A. Wharton (Dolgellau)



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# Contact

THE STAFF MAGAZINE OF THE  
MERSEYSIDE AND NORTH WALES  
ELECTRICITY BOARD

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## EDITORIAL

### Revolving Door

THE STAGNATION and depopulation of the rural areas of Britain was one of the more striking and undesirable by-products of the industrial revolution. As the feudal system crumbled, and the manufacturing industries based on our large cities became the spearhead of social change, so the hard and unrewarding lives of the hill-farmer, shepherd and quarryman became increasingly unattractive to the more enterprising sections of each successive rising generation.

The completion of our programme of rural electrification—more than 97% of farms in the MANWEB area now have mains electricity—can be construed, in a way, as industry paying back its debt to the countryside.

In so doing, the base has been laid for the modernisation and development of North Wales. If the designation of practically the whole of North Wales succeeds in attracting new industries, and holding the more enterprising sons and daughters of the area on their native heath, its purpose will have been largely achieved. The modernisation of agriculture, and the continued encouragement of tourism, will complete the transformation.

At the same time, as our Chairman told the members of the Welsh Economic Council (see page 133) the £33 million invested by MANWEB in rural electrification has not yet produced an economic return. We shall be most gratified if the economy of North Wales develops to such an extent as to remedy this state of affairs.

A number of items, including some retirements, have had to be held over until our next issue. Ed.

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Divers at work surveying the bed of the Mawddach estuary at Barmouth, prior to laying the power cable.

## More Power for the Cambrian Coast

A £400,000 programme to improve and reinforce the electricity supply to the West Coast of Wales over a 40-mile stretch from Maentwrog to Aberystwyth is now approaching completion.

The area involved includes the coastal towns of Harlech, Barmouth, Aberdovey and Towyn together with a number of other smaller villages.

In 1948, when the electricity supply industry was nationalised, the electrical load in this coastal belt was 4,000 kilowatts. It is estimated that by next winter the load will be 32,000 kilowatts, and this is a measure of the tremendous developments which have taken place during the intervening years. Up to now the demand has been supplied by a 15,000 kilowatt circuit from Maentwrog, and a 20,000 kilowatt circuit from Rheidol, plus a total of 7,000 kilowatts of generating plant located at Machynlleth and Aberystwyth.

### For future development

To reinforce the supply to this area, and to cater for future development and extension of the coast towns, it was decided to provide a further 20,000 kilowatt circuit between Maentwrog and Aberystwyth and this involved the provision of 40 miles of 33,000 volt line and cable and included the crossing of the Dovey and Mawddach estuaries.

Work has been going on steadily for some time now, and one of the key connections was made recently when a 33,000 volt cable was laid beneath the waters of the Mawddach estuary at Barmouth.

Divers first surveyed the estuary bed to chart a suitable route for the cable. Then one Sunday at low water, two powerful tractor-operated winches hauled the heavy cable—supported at frequent intervals by inflated floats—across the surface of the water. As the end of the cable was pulled ashore, the floats were deflated and the cable quietly slipped to its resting place on the bed of the estuary.

It is expected that as the 40-mile stretch is completed another important link in the MANWEB distribution network will then have been forged.

Commenting on the work, Mr. K. Helliwell, MANWEB Area 4 Manager, said, "These new works were required to meet the ever increasing demand for electrical energy being used for industrial, commercial, farming and domestic purposes.

"The security of supply will also be further improved by the new major substations being provided at Harlech, Barmouth, Towyn and Aberdovey."

In addition to the £400,000 being spent on this 40-mile circuit, a further £160,000 is being spent on the reinforcement of electricity supplies in the Aberystwyth area.



Men and machines co-operate to erect a cable carrying pole on the marshy coastal section north of Barmouth.

A 20th century sea-serpent straddles the estuary and sprawls across the shore at Barmouth. The shore end of the cable will be laid in a trench and joined to other sections laid underground in the Town.





Left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Bellis, their son Mervyn, Mrs. J. Cowan, Mr. M. M. Parker, Philip Holland, Mrs. and Mr. Holland.

## Prize Day at Hoylake

END of term for the 71 apprentices at the Board's Training Centre at Hoylake was celebrated as usual with a prize distribution session. True to tradition, the day turned out to be bright and sunny as Mr. M. M. Parker (Secretary and Solicitor), expressed a welcome to everyone, especially the parents of the prize-winners who he said were obviously very proud of their offsprings.

"No Training Centre produces such consistent good results as we do here," he continued, "Although the school is housed in what was an old power station, it is very well equipped for the purpose of training young men in their chosen careers."

Mr. Parker then spoke of the good atmosphere at the school and he thought that in the main, this was due to the influence of the excellent landladies who looked after many of the boys. "Over the years", he said, "I have not heard of one serious complaint against the landladies. The Board is indeed very grateful to them for what they do."

Then, Mr. Parker had a word of praise for the staff at the Training Centre for their diligence with the boys in their charge. As for the apprentices themselves, he suggested that on this their last day at the Centre, they were obviously in high spirits, but he warned them that leaving Hoylake must not mean relaxation in any shape or form. He said that now was the testing time when the exercise of self-discipline was essential, commen-

ting that through lack of self-discipline many of the boys would not make a success of their careers even after the good start they had all received at Hoylake.

Concluding his remarks, Mr. Parker urged the boys to be polite at all times now that they were going out as representatives of the Board. He reminded them that the men they would be working with would be far more helpful to a courteous apprentice rather than a cheeky one.

### Guest Speaker

Mr. Parker then introduced the guest speaker, Mr. M. R. Cowan, the Board's Chief Commercial Officer, who commenced by talking a little about the MANWEB organisation, pointing out that basically it was really only a collection of people who were guided into carrying out the 1001 tasks set out every day.

"Very soon," he went on, "You will be joining the 8,000 members of the Board and will become ambassadors working in the homes of our customers or in the substations in their streets." He said that as ambassadors they would help in providing the image which the public saw and that the important factors were to be efficient, courteous, tidy and well mannered.

"The whole impact we can make, depends on what the people who work for us do and the appearance they maintain," he continued.

Mr. Cowan then went on to discuss the three main advertising slogans adopted by the Board . .



Left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Tilston, their son Thomas, Mr. J. L. W. Ladner, Mr. R. Slack, Sean Poley, Mrs. and Mr. Poley.

"Better Things Are Electric" . . . "MANWEB for Value — First and Always" . . . and "Call in the Man from MANWEB".

"This last slogan", he said, "was introduced about twelve months ago and brought in a lot of business and no doubt will bring in a lot more." He went on to say that the slogan was illustrated in our advertisements by a handsome electrician, with his tools in a neat case, and a tidy mini van at the side. He then pointed out how important it was for all our representatives to live up to this picture.

"If someone arrives at a house who is dead scruffy", he said, "with tools falling out of a big bag and dropping on to the floor, probably cracking a tile, then no matter how good a job he does, he won't have created a very good impression."

"What we are trying to indicate," he continued, "is that if people call in the man from MANWEB, a first class man will arrive at the house to do a first class job."

Mr. Cowan brought his remarks to a close by saying that the slogans he had talked about gave us all a great deal to live up to. He also suggested that as the young men went out from the Training School and back to their Districts, they should set standards for themselves, they should "walk tall" and not let themselves be influenced into other directions. He said that he sincerely hoped that all would succeed in their chosen careers.

Then followed the presentation of the prizes by Mrs. J. Cowan, the wife of the principal speaker, after which a vote of thanks on behalf of all the apprentices was voiced by William G. Thornhill of Liverpool.

In bringing the proceedings to a close, Mr. J. L. W. Ladner (Education and Training Officer) thanked everyone who had taken part in the training of the young men, and to the guests of the day who had come along to encourage the apprentices as they continued their training.

## PRIZEWINNERS 1966-67

### All-Round Performance

- 1st—Mervyn Bellis, apprentice electrician, Wrexham District.  
2nd—Philip R. Holland, apprentice electrician, Southport District.

### Electrical Subjects

- 1st —David Smallman, apprentice electrician, Chester District.  
2nd—Christopher B. Stevens, apprentice fitter, Chester District.

### Mechanical Subjects

- 1st —Thomas B. Tilston, apprentice electrician, Wrexham District.  
2nd—Sean D. Poley, apprentice electrician, Crewe District.

Mervyn Bellis was also chosen to go to the West Highland School of Adventure during the month of August.

Left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Stevens and their son Christopher, Mr. M. R. Cowan, David Smallman, Mrs. and Mr. Smallman.



Some of the famous Hoylake Landladies. From left to right: Mrs. D. D. Gray, Mrs. F. E. Earnden, Miss G. B. Rogers, Mrs. J. Millington, Mr. T. H. Dutton (senior assistant, Welfare), Mrs. M. Davies, Mrs. W. R. Stanley, Mrs. T. Wall, Mrs. K. Harding, Mrs. J. L. Craven and Mrs. A. Fullarton.



Some of the Glee Club dressed for their parts in the show.

## IN SHOW BUSINESS

Making their first venture into the professional world of "Show Biz" the Area 4 Glee Club took over the Pavilion Theatre, Rhyl for the two top Bank Holiday spots earlier this year.

Presenting a colourful review "Get Switched On" they entertained holiday audiences with their wonderful singing and hilarious sketches. Their rendering of songs from many popular musicals was received with great acclaim and would most certainly not have disgraced the boards of the famous London Palladium. Miss Heather Pearson and Mrs. Gladwen Roberts had solo spots and the "Four Amps" delighted with their fine close harmony singing. David Evans as well as playing a major role with the Four Amps and singing with the choir had the audience in stitches with his performances in the comedy sketches.

Mystifying the audience with his conjuring tricks was Arthur Evans.

Conductor, choirmaster and light comedian Emyr James got through a tremendous amount of work dashing from stage to orchestra pit to conduct the choir numbers as well as rendering

a lovely duet with Heather Pearson and singing with the "Four Amps".

Wyn Edwards did a wonderful job in his accompaniment of the choir and soloists while Tommy Dutton (Head Office) the only import from outside Area 4, as compere, kept the show moving.

Connie Jones as stage manager-cum-property mistress-cum general factotum dealt with a mammoth task on a completely foreign stage with stoic calm.

Following their tremendous success on their first professional date, the 34-strong choir made a return appearance at the same theatre a couple of weeks ago, and are now inundated with bookings even as far ahead as Christmas. They are now firmly established as a semi-professional group and have to travel further afield.

The choir have been together for nearly ten years and they sing in the style of the George Mitchell Singers. They present a very attractive picture with the ladies in their mid-Mediterranean blue dresses and the men in their maroon jackets and matching bow ties.

The Smart Set . . . or in other words, our Area 4 choir in their attractive uniforms.



## Industrial Development in North Wales

### Welsh Economic Council as guests of the Board

**WHEN THE** members of the Welsh Economic Council were guests of MANWEB for luncheon at Ruthin Castle recently, the Chairman of the Board (Mr. D. G. Dodds) told them that MANWEB had invested £33 million in North Wales Electricity.

Mr. Dodds said that North Wales, for the first time in its history, was now served by a high voltage distribution network capable of facilitating the establishment of new industries and expansion in existing factories and works. The Board's massive investment had been incurred to provide a framework for industrial, agricultural and commercial development.

The Board had completed, at a cost of £14 million, the largest programme of rural electrification in the country, and in North Wales alone the number of farms connected had been increased from about 3,000 to more than 19,000. Further extensions to remote areas were being undertaken. Approximately 50,000 other rural premises had also been connected.

A reliable power supply, said Mr. Dodds, was an indispensable base for all industrial development and this base had been well laid. Although North Wales had seen a great increase in sales of electricity in recent years, to household and industrial users alike, the investment had not yet produced an economic return. Mr. Dodds therefore welcomed the Government's decision taken last year to designate practically the whole

of North Wales as a Development Area. He believed that this would provide the necessary stimulus to new industrial and commercial development. A balanced and diversified commercial and industrial structure was necessary to stimulate the North Wales economy.

He went on to illustrate the scale of electricity development in North Wales with further statistics. Since 1948 the number of consumers in North Wales had risen from 120,000 to about 240,000 and the number of units sold had increased from 320 million to 1,900 million.



In the doorway of Ruthin Castle, Mr. Dodds, left, and Mr. M. M. Parker (Secretary and Solicitor) talk with Mrs. Eirene White, M.P., Minister of State for Welsh Affairs.

Transforming points had increased in number from 1,000 to more than 20,000 and 7,000 miles of new mains—underground cables and overhead lines—had been added to the network.

On the industrial front, sales of electricity to industry in North Wales had been encouraging, and had increased from 150 million units in 1948 to more than 960 million last year. Much of this increase had been accounted for by the additional requirements of a few large industrial concerns, notably in the Wrexham and Deeside areas.

In conclusion, Mr. Dodds said that the Board's Area and District officials were ready and most willing to co-operate with all organisations engaged in the stimulation of trade, industry and agriculture in North Wales.



## 100 NOT OUT!

MANWEB's oldest consumer in the Oswestry District, **Mrs. Veronica Charlotte MacNair**, Lower Garth, Welshpool, celebrated her 100th birthday a few weeks ago, and to mark the occasion she was presented with a bouquet of flowers by **Mr. E. Ambrose** (assistant consumer's engineer) on behalf of the Board. Recently, Welshpool Commercial Department had installed nightstore heating at Lower Garth (a present from members of the family) and in an interview Mrs. MacNair and her daughter (Miss V. J. MacNair) were full of praise for the comfort this new system had brought to the household. They also complimented Welshpool electricians and staff on the efficient manner in which the work had been carried out.

On behalf of her mother, Miss MacNair sincerely thanked the Board for their kind gesture, and said that her mother deeply treasured all the kind messages and gifts received on this special occasion. Despite her advanced years Mrs. MacNair enjoyed the presentation proceedings, and showed the utmost co-operation.



Mrs. V. C. MacNair

Born in London, she is a daughter of the late Mr. Lewis Pugh, who was for many years Liberal M.P. for Cardiganshire, and who lived at Abermad, near Aberystwyth.

Mrs. MacNair has spent almost the whole of her life in Mid-Wales, and has lived at Lower Garth for over 40 years.

Her husband, Mr. J. F. MacNair, died 60 years ago and she has two sons, six grand-children and 10 great-grandchildren. An only daughter, Miss V. J. MacNair, who lives with her.

Mrs. MacNair remains very active and alert and still goes out with her daughter by car for rides in the country around Welshpool. Failing eyesight, however, prevents her from reading.

In Guilsfield, she has been an active member and officer of the W.I., and is an honorary life vice-president. She is a member of St. Aelhaearn's Church and the Mother's Union, and for many years was enrolling member.

For over 40 years she was treasurer of Guilsfield branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and received a Bible in recognition of her services.

She is an enthusiastic supporter of the County Music Festival at Newtown, and has also taken a very keen interest, with her daughter, in Montgomeryshire Field Society.

Much of her time is spent listening to the radio as she is very fond of music.

### Star Apprentice

As we go to press, news has just come through that **Kenneth White**, our star apprentice electrician at present working in the Liverpool South District has been awarded



Mr. K. White

the silver medal as second prize in the International Apprentice Competition held a few days ago in Madrid. As one of the representatives of Great Britain . . . and MANWEB . . . Kenneth was competing against the best apprentices from many other countries throughout the world.

As he will not be 18 until the 17th of August this year, his success is a considerable achievement, since he has been in competition with young men nearly three years older than himself.

Kenneth, who lives at 106 Crosswood Crescent, Huyton, was educated at the Huyton Secondary Modern School and the Kirkby College of Further Education. He recently completed his Ordinary National Certificate at the Old Swan Technical College.

In September, 1965, he was recruited by MANWEB as a craft apprentice electrician and spent an initial nine-month period at the Board's Apprentice Training Centre at Carr Lane in Hoyle where he was awarded the first prize for the best all-round performance.

On leaving the Training Centre, Kenneth has been following 'on-job' training in the Board's Liverpool South District.

### Electricaire

Sixteen local authorities in the MANWEB area intend to instal upwards of 650 electricaire units in their future housing programmes. A commercial application of electricaire will be the new radial-ducted system being installed in a bank at Winsford. This type of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. business is particularly well suited to electricaire or electric storage fan heaters using the cheaper off-peak tariffs.

### Twelfth Man

Because of a waterlogged ground at Old Trafford, the Lancashire County Cricket Club took their attractive fixture against the Indian Touring team to the Southport and Birkdale ground. On the final two days of the match, the twelfth man was **Mr. L. T. Broughton** a senior assistant in the Board's Education and Training Department.

Laurie told us that he thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity of playing against this popular opposition, but his outstanding experience was when he shook hands with his first millionaire, the Nawab of Pataudi, the Indians' captain.

### Naval Honour

At a ceremony held at Knowsley Hall a short time ago, **Miss Patricia Stubbs**, a private secretary at Head Office, was presented with the Volunteer Reserve Decoration by Lord Derby.

Miss Stubbs, a Chief Officer in the Women's Royal Naval Reserve, Mersey Division, joined the WRNS in 1943 as a writer and served at home and abroad. She was demobilised in 1946 as Leading Wren, joined the WRNR in 1952, becoming



Miss P. Stubbs.

ing subsequently third officer, second officer and first officer. Last April she was promoted to chief officer.

### Angling

At a potato pie supper held a few weeks ago at a local hotel, members of the fishing section of the Northwich Sports and Social Club saw **Mr. Robert Senior**, electrician presented with the Lloyd Trophy for his gaining the highest number of points during last year's fishing season. He scored a total of 15 points from 12 matches and had a catch of 29 lb. 4 oz.

Second was **Mr. J. Ashbrook** with 14 points from 11 matches and a total catch weight of 28 lb. 3 oz. and third was Mr. H. Lamb with 10 points from 12 matches and a weight of 26 lb. 6 oz.

In all 174 members competed in the 15 matches which took place during the season and the total catch amounted to 266 lb. 9 oz., an average of 1 lb. 8 oz. per member. The highest total in any match was 37 lb. and the heaviest fish 8 lb. 8 oz. was caught by **Mr. J. Guiford**.

### Ugh!

After an outbreak of milk-stealing from doorsteps in Caernarvon, **Miss Janie Davies**, cleaner at the Board's shop there, filled a bottle with milk of magnesia and left it lying temptingly there. If this is typical of our Caernarvon shop staff, we shouldn't have much trouble with pilfering!

### Point of View

"Please ring . . . tomorrow morning at 9.0 a.m. Consumer has received a letter in connection with the cost of moving a pole. He would like to know whether he will have to pay for the moving of the pole, or whether the Board will pay for it.

If he has to pay for it, then the price is too high. If the Board are paying, then the amount is alright."

This telephone message was received recently at Conway Valley District Office.

### World Senator

A member of our Area 2/3 staff, now based at Runcorn, **Mr. Kenneth Appleton**, a 3rd assistant Commercial engineer, has been elected as the 6,755th Junior Chamber International Senator for outstanding services with the Warrington Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Appleton, who is at present the Deputy Chairman of the North West Regional Group, has served



Mr. Appleton holding his Senate Award.

in numerous offices on various committees since he was encouraged by MANWEB to join the organisation in 1960. The senatorship he has just received is the highest honour which members can receive and it is presented as recognition of distinguished contributions made to the Junior Chamber movement.

The organisation, whose motto is "Leadership through Training", exists to provide a forum to train young businessmen in aspects of commercial life, committee work, procedure, etc., local community development work and personal development.

### Challenge

The fish fanciers at our Runcorn District Office are very proud of their Siamese fighting fish which are now fully trained and ready to meet all-comers. Through their human agents, the fish have issued a challenge to any form of under-water life which will fit into a reasonably-sized aquarium. The suggested prize for the winners is a year's supply of ant's eggs—in their shells!

### Braille Book

Far more people than we realise have difficulty in carrying out routine household jobs because of infirmity, arthritic afflictions, or accident injuries. However, individual sufferers may like to be reminded that there are special controls for water taps, pulling curtains and for answering the telephone and the front door.

Some manufacturers can also provide kitchen cooking controls suitable for the blind. All very well, say some, but what about

recipes? How can a blind person try out new dishes?

The answer lies in a new Electricity Council cook book "Electric Cooking—It's So Easy" which has recently been transcribed into Braille and can be obtained for a shilling from the Royal National Institute for the Blind, 224 Great Portland Street, London W.1.

### Elected President

A computer systems analyst at Board Head Office, **Mr. Eric G. Jones**, has been elected President of the Merseyside Junior Chamber of Commerce for 1967/68.

An active member of the Chamber for more than seven years, as Secretary, vice-Chairman, and Chairman of its Speke Committee, he played a prominent part in the



Mr. E. G. Jones

production of reports on road safety and careers in Speke.

Mr. Jones' main interest outside the Chamber is the Territorial Army, serving as a Captain with the 5th Battalion, the King's Regiment. He is now serving in Liverpool with the newly-formed Army Volunteer Reserve Force in the King's Company of the Lancastrian Volunteers Battalion. He is married with two young sons.

### Dead Area

Some time ago, a chap dressed in a top hat and complete morning suit appeared in the entrance hall of our Area 4 Offices at Rhostyllen. He went up to the reception desk

and, in tones most reverent, said, "Could you please tell me where the service is to be held?"

Although rather taken aback, our receptionist soon realised that the visitor had mistaken our Offices for the nearby crematorium. The man in the top hat could be forgiven for his mistake when one looked at the attractive display in the entrance hall which showed a large range of electric fires coupled with the slogan—"Living Flame".

### New Substation

A new 400,000-volt CEGB substation at Legacy, near Wrexham, will considerably strengthen electricity supplies to the Border Counties and the Midlands when it begins operating this summer.

With its counterpart at Connah's Quay, Legacy will ensure that electricity supplies to the region will be more secure than ever before. Four 400,000-volt overhead power lines, two from Ironbridge and one each from Trawsfynydd and Connah's Quay, will enter the Legacy substation. There the power will be stepped down to 132,000 volts so that it can be passed on to MANWEB for distribution to homes and industry in the surrounding area.

The architects in charge of the project have taken care that the control buildings and concrete structures which comprise the substation are as inconspicuous as possible. Built at a cost of more than £3½ million, the substation is situated on a landscaped site about a mile from the A483 road to Rhostyllen.

### Continental

The Board have on their staff at Head Office a Mr. J. S. Murray who is designated as a Pole Inspector. We are now wondering if the Accountant is thinking of appointing a Czech Forger!

### White Collar Worker

Recently, **Mr. Ronald F. Henderson**, a senior assistant in the Sales and Service section in our Liverpool South District, was presented with a book which gives an interesting and detailed history of the white collar union, written by the Nalگو P.R.O. **Mr. Alec Spoor**.

The presentation was made to Mr. Henderson in recognition for his long and loyal service to Nalگو in Liverpool, and was made on behalf of the members of the Executive Committee by **Mr. R. Schollick** (sales supervisor, Southport District).



Mr. Schollick (left) presents the NALGO book to Mr. Henderson.

Originally with the City of Liverpool Branch of Nalگو, Mr. Henderson helped to organise the Electricity Branch on the nationalisation of the industry, in 1948. He was the first Branch Secretary, a post he held for 14 years, and is now the Branch Chairman. He has also served on the National Executive Committee and is at present a member of the N.J.C. and its negotiating committee.

### Sales Soar

Electricity accounted for 33% of all central heating sales in England, Scotland and Wales for the first quarter of 1967—more than any other single fuel. Sales of electric storage radiators were 50% up on the corresponding period last year and was the best selling of all the individual systems getting 27% of all sales.

### Evangelist

Formerly an electrician at Chester District, **Mr. Sydney Eric Mourant** is to be admitted to the office of Evangelist by His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, and to be commissioned as an officer in the Church Army.

### North Sea Gas—Old Hat!

"Section of footpath in Nantwich Road, Crewe, between Ernest Street and Frances Street, sealed off from public after workmen found petrol in electric cable carrier under footpath. Crewe firemen stood by in case petrol ignited."—extract from Staffordshire Sentinel.

### Mountain Mishap

Firemen, ambulancemen, and Mountain Rescue team turned out recently following a report that a van had overturned at the summit of the Great Orme. The driver, **Mr. David Coleman Jones**, records draughtsman at Llandudno, was treated for hand and arm injuries at the local hospital. We trust he is now fully recovered.



The very keen and very successful Warrington District football team.

From left to right, standing: Messrs. H. Booth, K. Robinson, B. Cartwright, R. Pilling, L. Appleton, L. Elson, K. Allen, P. Roylance and H. Warburton (trainer). kneeling: Messrs. H. Burgess, H. Abbott, J. A. Whiteman and I. Walley.

## Warrington Sports

### at football . . .

A few months ago, a football match was played between teams from our Warrington and Runcorn Districts. Our friends at Warrington lost. Even though they had no ball, kit or ground, they decided that it was about time they got organised and formed a regular team. They managed to get fixed up with a couple of games and on each occasion they asked the Warrington Rugby League Club Chairman, Mr. W. L. Challinor for the loan of their training ground to play on and their jerseys to play in. Both times, Mr. Challinor obliged, though what he would have said had he known they were playing soccer, we shudder to think!

In February this year, the MANWEB (Warrington) Football Club was formed with Mr. L. Appleton as Chairman, Mr. A. Swift as Treasurer, Mr. H. Booth as Secretary and Mr. P. Roylance as the team captain. (Mr. T. Deakin has recently taken over the job as Treasurer in place of Mr. Swift who has been transferred to St. Helens—the fee is not disclosed!)

From the very beginning, enthusiasm from many members of the District staff enabled the treasurer to collect enough subscriptions to buy a ball and a set of jerseys and still have some money left in the bank.

Since then, the team has played in fourteen matches, winning seven of them. One of these games was against Appleton Thorn Prison whose

team included four ex-professional players, one of them an international!

The latest news is that the MANWEB Warrington team have now been accepted and registered as associate members of the Liverpool County Football Association and will play in the Third Division of the Warrington Sunday Football League next season.

We wish them every success.

### . . . and cricket

With the close of the football season, the sporting staff at our Warrington District have now turned their energies to the cricket field. A few Sundays ago, they turned out to play a team from the Town's Transport Department, and after a very keen game, MANWEB managed to win.

Team captain D. Carter claimed three of the opposition's wickets and F. Holcroft did very well in scoring 18 runs and later taking three wickets for only three runs.

Entries are already coming in for this year's

**'Contact'**  
**Photographic Competition**

Don't forget . . .  
cash prizes to be won

# Be a Meliorist ?

by MR. A. H. ALLDAY, C.ENG., M.I.E.E.  
The Electricity Council Assistant Regional Safety Officer,  
North-West, Merseyside and North Wales

THERE are at present a large number of vacancies in the districts of MANWEB for people prepared to practise meliorism.

Before anyone dashes to the general office for a vacancy form, let me first add that there is no extra remuneration for this practice.

What! Do another job without extra pay? Stage 2 of the freeze may be in operation, but this reads like stage 102 or—1984!

Or does it? What the blazes is meliorism anyway? Well, my dictionary defines it as "a doctrine that the world may be improved by human effort".

The world, for the sake of the article, is MANWEB. In this small world last year, whilst carrying out their every day duties 368 employees



were injured sufficiently badly to be absent from duty for more than 3 days. How many more did not report trivial scratches, knocks and bumps? Over the years, as a result of injury, some people are scarred for life others will never walk or run again.

Why? There is no simple all embracing answer, but to return to our title, one reason is a lack of meliorists amongst us.

To be specific, more than a third of our 368 casualties were grouped in 3 accident classifications (there are 13 altogether). These were (1) persons falling, (2) stepping on or striking against objects, and (3) objects falling.

These are accidents of the non-technical variety—the simple accidents with simple remedies—remedies that can be applied by everyone, humble or high, labourer or manager, young or not so young, provided that they care—care about themselves, and less selfishly care about their colleagues and their families; meliorists in fact.

The field of accident prevention most open to would be meliorists is that embraced by the term "Good Housekeeping", and it is a failure in this sphere which is a major contribution to accidents in the 3 groups mentioned above.

Take persons falling; for each person falling from a height, 4 or 5 are injured falling over objects left lying about, or slipping on wet or greasy floors.

Striking against objects usually means against objects carelessly or dangerously positioned to trap the unwary.

Objects falling can be amongst the most lethal of accident causes: a one inch nut (metal) falling on an unprotected nut (human) from say the top of an overhead line pole can kill, yet how many of us really take care to carry objects aloft in suitable containers, or appropriately anchored; to tidy up after ourselves rather than leave it to someone else, and to make certain of wearing safety helmets when adjacent to work going on overhead?

We shall not improve our accident rate until there are far more of us who not only believe that our world can be improved by human effort, but are prepared to provide that effort.

It is not sufficient that we have Factories Acts and Safety Rules, essential as they are, for a high percentage of our accidents are outside the scope of legislation or regulations. How do you legislate for a man dropping a spanner out of his pocket, or a brick on to his foot? We must have the will to create safe working environments and to eliminate unsafe practices.

I have spent my working life in ship-building and the electricity supply industry, and have



found many similarities between the two. The old sea-going maxim that a clean ship is a happy ship is no less true for a depot or a substation. Admittedly, sea-going conditions may have been achieved by a discipline alien to industrial life; nevertheless, there were happy ships. Indiscipline does not bring joy any more than untidiness brings forth safety.

A clean, bright, orderly depot or workshop is a safer, pleasanter place in which to work than a dirty, badly illuminated, and untidy one.

*Continued on page 139*



The Chief Constable of Birkenhead, Major S. J. Harvey, centre, with our North Wirral District Senior Officers and members of the staff who recently were presented with Safe Driving Awards.

## Safe Drivers at Birkenhead

Over 70 of our colleagues were presented with their Safe Driving Awards by the Chief Constable of Birkenhead, Maj. S. J. Harvey at the Cleveland Street Depot. This is the last time Maj. Harvey will be presenting the awards as he takes up a new appointment owing to the amalgamation of the Cheshire Police Forces. To mark the occasion, Mr. G. A. White, the District Commercial Engineer, North Wirral, presented Maj. Harvey with an electric clock as a token of the Board's appreciation for his services in the past years.

The awards were made to the following:

**Bar to 15 year Brooch:** Mr. I. Jones.

**Bar to 10 year Medal:** Messrs. F. J. Bird, W. J. Bywater, R. H. Chapman, R. G. Davies, J. Dowker, A. H. Hardman, G. Holland, F. G. Jeffries, A. P. McFarlane, W. H. Smith, J. L. Taylor, S. J. Whaley, C. L. White, R. A. White.

**10 year Medal:** Messrs. E. J. Devon, W. A. Perry.

**Bar to 5 year Medal:** Messrs. S. C. Broadhurst, R. W. Clague, A. E. Davis, D. W. Edwards, L. Ellis, J. J. Foreman, T. H. Hardy, C. Hough, E. Hough, C. McCavish, F. K. Maddock, C. E. Male, D. R. Neil, J. E. Pringle, W. G. Reyner, M. Upton, J. K. Waring, R. H. Webster.

**5 year Medal:** Messrs. J. V. Carroll, H. N. Jones, A. Langley, J. E. Prescott, C. Shorthill, C. R. Sutherland.

**Diploma:** Messrs. C. A. Bonsor, B. Benson, J. Bowen, S. Bown, C. Bratt, R. E. Bridson, E. Charnock, E. Coley, W. E. Davies, G. E. Ezard, R. J. Furlong, M. R. Grisenthwaite, J. F. Guy, H. A. Hall, R. C. Harrison, G. W. Hogarth, E. James, G. E. Jameson, J. B. Jones, T. H. Jones, J. W. Jump, A. J. Kennedy, P. C. Lowry, L. Murphy, A. E. Nicholas, E. Roberts, R. S. Sands, R. Smith, D. T. Stevenson, J. R. Tomlinson, J. H. Woodhouse.

### Be a Meliorist? *continued*

The main motivation in accident prevention must be humanitarian, a desire to save people from anguish and suffering. There are however, in addition, other important benefits both social and financial, to be gained from a reduction in accidents.

Time lost in this Board last year due to accidental injury was the equivalent of a 40-hour working week for 1,500 men, or put another way, equal to a one-day strike by all of MANWEB's employees, and we can imagine

the publicity an action of that sort would get.

Yes, the rewards for accident prevention are as high as the penalties are severe, but the rewards can only be gained by effort, individual effort and team effort. The penalties are easy to gain; they are the imposition of suffering in return for indifference and carelessness.

Let 1967 be the year in which everyone in MANWEB endeavours to prove that our world can be improved by human effort: That we are Meliorists one and all.







Left to right: Messrs. C. Fletcher and F. Adamson of Southport District victors over Messrs. L. T. Broughton and E. J. Jones of Head Office.



## Annual Challenge Match

**SOUTHPORT TEAM OVERWHELMS  
HEAD OFFICE**

*Southport 6 - Head Office 1*



Left to right: Messrs. M. R. Cowan (Head Office), R. Jones and L. Rigby (Southport) and T. R. Smith (Head Office). Another win for Southport!



Above: Left to right: Messrs. P. Bregazzi and R. J. Barraclough (Head Office) who won their match against Messrs. K. Winrow and H. Halton of Southport.

Left: All smiles from left to right: Messrs. M. Brown (Southport) R. D. Evans and G. G. Barnes (Head Office) and J. Heaton (Southport).



Right: Left to right: Messrs. E. Brimelow and H. Birch (Southport) who beat Messrs. H. Haigh and C. Boston of Head Office.

Below left: Left to right: Messrs. R. Pattison and M. Baker who came out best in their match with Messrs. P. Falcon and T. Dutton (Head Office).

Below right: Left to right: Messrs. F. J. Brown (Head Office) and E. C. Capp (Southport) and R. Arlow (Southport) and J. S. Ekbery (Head Office) . . . Southport winners again.



## Golf at Prestatyn

Thirty-one golfers from Head Office, Area 2/3 and Area 4 enjoyed an excellent triangular golf match at Prestatyn Golf Club some few weeks ago.

The match was played on the "STABLE-FORD" points system and the individual winner was Derek Jones (1st assistant District Commercial Engineer) at Clwyd District with 34 points. Other leading returns were:—

**Mr. J. G. Norbury** (1st assistant District Commercial Engineer, Wrexham) 31 points;  
**Mr. H. Jones** (Internal Audit, Head Office)

30 points; **Mr. J. Robertson** (Commercial Department, Area 2/3) 30 points; **Mr. J. Young** (Engineering Department, Area 4) 30 points.

Head Office just won the team event from Area 4 the result being:—

**Head Office** averaged 24.8 points per player; **Area 4** averaged 24.5 points per player; **Area 2/3** averaged 19.1 points per player.

Because the event turned out to be so successful another match has already been fixed to be played on Friday, 6th October although the venue has yet to be fixed.

## "Lords" versus "Grand"

The annual cricket match between the two teams from our Southport District was played recently on the Red Triangle ground. Despite the overcast skies, the hardy cricketers took to the field and the match started on time.

Batting first, the "Lords" (*the side made up of the office staff*) managed to knock up one of their best scores—78 for 7 in 20 overs. Their top scorer was Jimmy Bell who carried his bat for 32 runs. He had faced quite a variety of bowling for

captain Arnie Ormerod in opposition gave most of his team an opportunity to bowl.

When the "Grand" team went in to bat, their captain set the pace in going for the runs, and after a few lives, was eventually caught off Alan Rigby's bowling. The threatened rain began to fall as Paul Lloyd and Ken Winrow started an onslaught on the bowling and runs came quickly. Before the downpour, the Lords' score was passed bringing victory once again to the men from the 'yard'.



Above: The Lords, from left to right: Messrs. E. C. Capp, R. S. Harper, R. H. Howard, R. A. Rigby, R. I. Jowett, A. Pleasant, L. J. Scudamore, W. Sutton, J. Heaton, J. A. Bell and E. Lee.

Below: The Grand, from left to right: Messrs. M. Brown (umpire), P. Lloyd, J. Robinson, A. Ormerod, R. Pattison, M. Baker, F. Adamson, D. Rimmer, A. Jesson, D. Fazakerley and K. J. Winrow.



### MANWEB Knock-Out Cricket Competition

The results of the 2nd round matches were as follows:—

Southport 87 v. Anglesey 45.

Rhostyllen 132 for 5 v. Head Office 77 for 9.

Northwich v. Clwyd (withdrew).

Hatton Garden received a bye having the highest run rate per over in the 1st round games.

The semi-final draw has taken place and the matches will be played between the following teams:—

Northwich v. Rhostyllen.

Hatton Garden v. Southport.

The final is to be played on the Western Command ground at Handbridge, Chester.



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