



CONTACT

July
1968



PRIZEWINNERS
See page 145

STORM DAMAGE

Worst in MANWEB'S History

The storms which swept across Merseyside, Cheshire and North Wales on the first two days of this month, caused a great deal of damage and resulted in supply interruptions in many parts of MANWEB's area. A preliminary review of the damage shows that the number and severity of the incidents make this the biggest and worst storm ever experienced by the Board.

Owing to the widespread and recurrent nature of the incidents, many members of our staff were involved—engineers, electricians, linesmen and labouring

gangs. They were stretched to the limit as they worked continuously for approximately two days in their endeavours to repair the damage and to keep the customers on supply.

Although the storm was widespread throughout the Board's area, certain spots appear to have been affected at different times. Beginning on Monday afternoon (1st July), the Oswestry, Wrexham, Crewe, Chester and Northwich areas were involved. During the night, localities in Aberystwyth, Caernarvon, Bala and Corwen were affected. On the Tuesday, again Oswestry, Wrexham, Chester and Northwich were in trouble together with the Clwyd and Anglesey areas. In the afternoon, the effect of the storm was felt in the Liverpool and St. Helens localities.

Appreciation from Anglesey ...

Dear Sir,

I would like, through you, to express my appreciation of the very quick way in which your Engineers dealt with the power failure in the Amlwch Port area last night under such appalling weather conditions.

It is one thing to have a mild swear in the dry dark of one's own home and go to hunt for candles, and quite another to have to turn out in wind and rain to effect the repair at that time of night. This aspect is, I fear, too often taken for granted and I and my family say "Thank You".

Yours sincerely, (Signed),

... and a bouquet from the N.F.U.

At a recent meeting of the Denbighshire executive committee of the National Farmers Union held at Ruthin, the speed and efficiency with which Electricity Board reconnected supplies following failures due to storm damage was the subject of many congratulations and thanks from the members. The tribute to MANWEB staffs was led by Mr. W. Morgan Jones of Abergele, who said that supplies in the rural areas were reconnected very quickly under most difficult conditions during the recent storms.

Superannuation — Scheme —

The attention of members (but not "special" members) and pensioners is drawn to the election of the ten members' committee-men (who must be members of the Scheme) to serve for three years from December, 1968, on the Management Committee of the Staff Scheme, which is due to commence during the month of August. Pensioners should note that they, as well as contributing members, are entitled to stand, or nominate candidates, for election.

Nomination forms may be obtained, during August, from The Secretary, MANWEB, Head Office, Love Lane, Liverpool 3.

The total membership of the Superannuation Scheme is now in the region of 80,000, who are represented by the ten elected members' committee. During the past three years MANWEB members have been fortunate in having Mr. R. G. Patterson of Head Office, as their representative.

Mr. Patterson, who will be seeking re-election this year, is in charge of the administration of the Board's pension scheme and it will be a decided advantage for members to exercise their vote in his favour when the ballot papers are issued.



THE STAFF MAGAZINE OF THE MERSEYSIDE
AND NORTH WALES ELECTRICITY BOARD

CONTACT

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JULY 1968

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Editorial Staff

Keith Baldwin
John F. Perry
Sam Doughty

EDITORIAL

Cutting the Toll

TRAFFIC density on the roads of Britain is probably higher than anywhere else in the world. While it is true to say that the standard of road engineering and surfacing—particularly on minor roads—is also unequalled, the problems associated with rapidly changing urban areas, combined with the ever-increasing stream of motor vehicles, pose problems of the highest order for British drivers.

It is not surprising, therefore, that our road casualties are distressingly high. Indeed, the introduction of the kind of driving commonly encountered in French and Italian cities would rapidly turn our own cities into good imitations of armoured battlefields.

There are two main ways of cutting down on this potential carnage. One is the introduction of strict legislation, designed to ensure the maximum roadworthiness of our vehicles and drivers. MOT tests, tyre legislation, firmly enforced speed limits, seat belts, and, of course, the breathalyser, are all recent measures which have made their contribution.

The second weapon is the encouragement and enforcement of the highest standards of driving competence. If these are necessary in private car drivers, they are even more vital in those responsible for heavy commercial vehicles, and it is for this reason that the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents encourages commercial and industrial undertakings to operate the Society's Safe Driving Award scheme.

This number of *Contact* contains reports and pictures of the presentation of these awards to members of the MANWEB staff. The recipients are to be heartily congratulated. Anyone who can drive regularly, today, and maintain a clean record for ten or fifteen years displays skill and vigilance worthy of the highest praise.

Road Safety Officer presents Awards

ONE-HUNDRED-AND-SIXTY drivers working in the Board's Area 1 were successful in completing an accident-free year on the roads. During this period, the fleet of 226 vehicles of all shapes and sizes, covered a distance of over two-and-a-quarter million miles.

These statistics were given by Mr. H. Telfer (Manager, Area 1) at the Safe Driving Award presentation ceremony which took place recently at the Pumpfields Depot in Liverpool. Mr. Telfer said that all the men who had qualified for their awards had done so in the face of great difficulties, especially with the traffic of a city such as Liverpool. He also commended the mechanics at the various garages who were responsible for the maintenance of the vehicles.

He then introduced Mr. B. E. Kinley, the Road Safety Officer for the City of Liverpool, who had come along to talk to the drivers before presenting them with their awards. Mr. Telfer first congratulated Mr. Kinley on his own recent award of the M.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

The guest speaker began by offering his sincere congratulations to all the men who had qualified for their awards, saying that he often wondered how the drivers of the articulated and heavy



Caught by our cameraman after the presentation ceremony. From left to right: Messrs. G. Forsyth, C. W. Whitfield, G. Prout and C. N. Preston.

vehicles managed to get through without accident.

He said that he could not recall anyone having a better record than that set up by the drivers of MANWEB's Area 1, and that no words could commend their performance too highly.

After making a brief mention of the new tyre laws and the breathalyser tests, saying that these were brought about in the interests of road safety, he went on to talk of the difficulties of survival with 400,000 people being killed or injured in road accidents every year.

Mr. Kinley concluded by reminding the drivers of the satisfaction gained in the knowledge that at the end of the day they had gone safely through a most busy time in a very busy city and were blameless as far as accidents were concerned. He thanked them all for a job well done and then proceeded to present the awards in a most novel and entertaining manner.

Mr. Telfer, seated centre left, with some of the drivers who qualified for their Safe Driving Awards recently. Next to Mr. Telfer is Mr. Kinley, centre right, who presented the awards. Seated on the extreme right is Mr. J. Hill, Transport Officer for the Area.



Area 1 Awards

Bar to 15-Year Brooch—Messrs. R. Armstrong, R. E. Lucas, T. W. Rimmer and N. Robertson.

15-Year Brooch—Messrs. R. H. Porter and C. W. Whitfield.

Oak-Leaf Bar to 10-Year Medal—Messrs. E. Bush, G. Forsyth, T. Garvey, G. Harrison, H. Mawdsley, W. A. Owen, E. Payne and C. N. Preston.

10-Year Medal—Messrs. R. Allen, J. Metcalfe, J. A. O'Donnell, W. S. Owen, G. Prout and Dennis Robson.

Bar to 5-Year Medal—Messrs. A. W. Briscoe, G. E. Burch, W. H. Butterfield, R. S. Carter, R. L. Cardus, F. Cato, R. H. Clephan, K. Cooper, D. Crangle, J. H. Davidson, J. Fitzpatrick, W. Foster, W. A. France, E. V. Harrison, P. J. Henshall, P. Horan, D. Hughes, J. I. Johnson, L. J. Kenny, G. J. Livingstone, R. H. Love, J. McAvoyn, H. G. McCormick, F. McHugh, J. Marsden, T. E. Matthews, R. N. Moore, S. Mumford, P. J. F. Quinn, R. Reid, W. Riding, K. V. Rigby, P. Rivers, C. E. Royden, J. Scogings, K. Stewart, J. Tattersall, W. J. L. Taunton, J. E. Tierney, C. F. Walmsley, D. Ward, P. Wild, F. Woan and W. Yates.

5-Year Medal—Messrs. A. E. Greenhalgh, G. H. Harrison, D. J. Morgan, J. Neill, F. Tarpey and H. E. D. Walker.

Diploma—Messrs. R. A. Aindow, R. Atkinson, K. Barfoot, J. G. Bather, A. Bent, A. Bissell, L. Blackburn, R. Brocklehurst, E. Bryant, S. Cain, D. J. Case, S. Caswell, J. R. Clarke, H. Cooper, A. Cormack, V. Danks, E. Dolan, J. Downes, D. M. Drury, H. G. Duffy, Allan H. Evans, Arthur H. Evans, J. Fearn, C. E. Green, W. A. Grieves, W. Harcombe, R. W. Harley, G. C. Heaton, A. Henderson, F. Holland, G. C. Hope, G. J. Hughes, M. L. Hughes, E. Johnson, H. Johnson, J. Johnson, G. H. Jones, T. Jones, F. L. Kay, E. Kelly, C. B. Latham, T. Lawrenson, J. Leatherbarrow, I. D. Ledson, S. Leigh, J. A. Liggett, K. Littler, L. G. Lloyd, C. C. McCormack, J. McGlynn, S. Madin, J. E. Marland, A. Molloy, J. McC. Moore, A. R. Moseley, V. Morley, C. E. S. Murdoch, E. Neary, A. O'Donovan, J. O'Meara, J. O'Neill, W. S. Owen, D. Parker, D. Parry, H. B. Parsons, W. A. Perkins, P. A. Pick, J. T. Quilliam, A. Rainford, J. W. Range, B. J. Rice, E. G. Robinson, F. P. Robinson, W. H. Royden, F. Sheehan, B. Stephens, H. Sumner, D. T. Taylor, G. Thompson, A. Tuck, J. Tully, E. J. Tupman, D. Underhill, P. G. Walker, J. Walsh, S. N. Wappett, E. G. Whittaker, J. Willoughby and W. Wilson.

'Contact' Correspondents

Mr. R. Slack (Hoylake Training Centre)
Mr. P. Collinson (Newgate St.)

AREA 1

Mr. H. Davies (Whitechapel)
Mr. A. Cassie (Hatton Garden)
Mr. N. B. Kenyon (Hatton Garden)
Mrs. M. Cowle (Derby House)
Mr. D. Patrick (Marsh Lane)
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. E. J. Edwards (Crewe)
Mr. W. B. Walker (Nantwich)
Miss G. Baxendale (Sandbach)
Mr. J. W. Forrester (Wrexham)
Mr. E. Jones (Wrexham)
Mr. D. Jones (Shotton)
Mr. K. Heppinstall (Oswestry)
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. E. Roberts (Caernarvon)
Mrs. E. F. Davies (Bangor)
Mr. E. Jones (Bethesda)
Miss D. Edwards (Bl. Ffestiniog)
Mr. J. B. Williams (Pwllheli)
Mr. L. C. Jones (Llangefni)
Mr. D. G. Thomas (Aberystwyth)
Mr. D. Hughes (Barmouth)
Mr. E. A. Wharton (Dolgellau)



"I told you to put barriers round the hole!"

A lighter look at some safety angles, in the hope of bringing home the messages

SAFETY- CONSCIOUS *Cartoons*

by
F. ILLINGWORTH
(jointer, Southport District)



▲ "That's what comes of watching you when he should be working."



◀ "I've told you before about swinging your pick carelessly, Horace!"



Members of the North Wirral District staff who received their Safe Driving Awards recently from Chief Superintendent Hawkes, *centre*. Also in the picture is Mr. Williams and senior members of the District staff.

Awards at North Wirral

Chief Superintendent J. W. Hawkes of the Birkenhead Division of the Cheshire Constabulary, praised the high standards of our North Wirral District drivers when he presented them with their Safe Driving Awards a few weeks ago. He was accompanied on his visit to the Cleveland Street depot by Mr. E. G. Williams, the Deputy Chairman of the Cheshire Police Authority.

The Awards were as follows:

Bar to 15-Year Brooch—Mr. I. Jones.

15-Year Brooch—Messrs. F. J. Bird and F. G. Jefferies.

Bar to 10-Year Medal—Messrs. W. J. Bywater, R. H. Chapman, E. J. Devon, H. Flowers, A. H. Hardman, G. Holland, W. A. Perry, W. H. Smith, J. L. Taylor and C. L. White.

Bar to 5-Year Medal—Messrs. S. C. Broadhurst, J. V. Carrol, R. W. Clague, J. E. Conroy, A. E.

Davis, D. W. Edwards, L. Ellis, J. J. Foreman, T. H. Hardy, C. Hough, E. Hough, H. N. Jones, A. Langley, C. McCavish, S. Meadows, D. R. Neil, J. E. Prescott, W. G. Reyner, T. Rowlands, C. Shorthill, C. R. Sutherland, M. Upton, J. K. Waring and R. H. Webster.

5-Year Medal—Messrs. E. Coley, T. H. Jones, A. J. Kennedy and A. E. Nicholas.

Diploma—Messrs. B. Benson, J. Bowen, S. Bown, C. Bratt, R. E. Bridson, K. Bull, J. V. Butterworth, E. Charnock, W. O. Cox, W. E. Davies, T. M. L. Ellwood, G. A. Ezard, R. J. Furlong, C. R. Garner, M. R. Grisenthwaite, J. F. Guy, H. A. Hall, R. C. Harrison, G. W. Hogarth, J. F. Holme, E. James, G. E. Jameson, J. B. Jones, D. A. Lawson, M. C. McDonnell, E. Marshall, L. Murphy, E. Roberts, W. G. Roylance, R. S. Sands, V. Sestan, J. Skillen, R. Smith, J. R. Tomlinson, G. Wood and J. H. Woodhouse.

COURSE IN ITALIAN

A 'Daily Express' Correspondence Course in Italian. Send details to Box J1, "Contact", MANWEB, Head Office, Love Lane, Liverpool 3.

WANT A CAMERA?

Kodak Instamatic No. 100—new—complete with carrying case. Bargain at £4/10/-. Reply to Box J2, "Contact" MANWEB, Head Office, Love Lane, Liverpool 3.

WANTED

and

FOR SALE

ON THE MOVE

Accommodation required, in the Penyffordd locality, for man, wife and 12-year-old daughter. Furnished or unfurnished (or would share house) from end of August for a period of about two months. If you have a place, or know of someone who can fix up this colleague, please drop a line to Box J3, "Contact", MANWEB, Head Office, Love Lane, Liverpool 3.

PRIZE DAY AT HOYLAKE

"Duties and Responsibilities" by a District Manager

THE NINE-MONTH training period for 69 apprentice electricians came to an end recently with the Annual Prizegiving ceremony which was held, as usual, in the main lecture hall at the Hoylake Training School.

Opening the proceedings, Mr. J. L. W. Ladner (Education and Training Officer) first welcomed the guests of honour, Mr. J. A. Winchester (District Manager, Crewe) and Mrs. Winchester, and other guests, Mr. S. Fairclough (Commercial Officer, Area 2/3), Mr. E. T. Peters (District Manager, Wrexham) and a number of parents and landladies, the latter including Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Earnden and Mrs. Grey, all founder members of the 'Landladies Guild'. An apology for his unavoidable absence was received from Mr. M. M. Parker (Secretary and Solicitor).



Mr. J. A. Winchester.

Mr. Ladner said that the Board's staff at the Training Centre were trying to do two things for all the young men who spent their first working months in their charge; first, they had to teach them the basic skills in their crafts, and second, they had to assist in the transition from the top form at school into the great wide world where he starts again as a 'dogsbody'. "This adjustment", he continued, "often causes problems, but we try to prepare for them".

Complimentary Reports

He went on to say that there was much more emphasis on the training of young people today, with a rigid set of rules and rights of inspection by law. He informed the gathering that MANWEB was the first Electricity Board to receive this type of inspection, and after taking a long cool look at the Board's training programmes at Hoylake, Head Office and in the



Mrs. Winchester congratulates Derek Robinson of Liverpool, the apprentice chosen to go on a Course at the West Highland School of Adventure at Applecross in Ross-shire.

Areas and Districts, the inspectors had been tremendously complimentary in their reports.

Then Mr. Ladner called on the guest speaker, Mr. Winchester, who began by talking about the individuals duties and responsibilities. He said that having duties did not mean loss of freedom, but that everyone should feel it their duty to be honest with their employer and to give good work for good wages. As far as responsibility was concerned, the operative word here was trust, and that we should do all that was expected of us.

He went on to explain to his audience the set up of a District organisation, making the point that each District existed as a service to the public and in doing this, should also make a profit. How each District went about this varied greatly depending largely on personalities. He said that if we wasted time and did not do our jobs properly, we would soon eat up all the profits, and as MANWEB has no pocket, then it would be the customer who would have to pay.

Mr. Winchester then went on to talk a little about the public relations aspect and of the individuals contribution to the Board's image, suggesting how an apprentice should fit into the organisation.

"After today", he continued, "you will no longer have Mr. Slack and his instructors on your necks, and it will therefore be easy to begin to let yourselves go. But, you have a responsibility of setting and keeping your own high standards."

He warned the apprentices that when they went into their respective Districts they would meet some good and some bad teachers. "What you make of your training and career is up to you," he said. "Initiative, general appearance and timekeeping are just some of the things which are taken into account when your grades are assessed. Only you will know how to discipline yourself in your job, and only you will know whether you have carried out your duties and responsibilities satisfactorily."

Make a List

He concluded by asking the apprentices to make a list of all the things which, when they became craftsmen, they would expect of an apprentice. He said that the chap with the longest list would make the best craftsman. He congratulated all the apprentices on their reaching this first milestone in their careers and urged them to carry on with the quest for knowledge, reminding them that their opportunities were unlimited.

After this excellent and inspiring talk, Mrs. Winchester was asked to present the prizes to the successful apprentices.

Bringing the proceedings to a close, Mr. Peter Brookshaw, an apprentice electrician of Crewe, on behalf of all the young men on the course,

INSTRUCTION STAFF AT HOYLAKE TRAINING CENTRE

Mr. R. Slack, Principal Assistant,
Education and Training.

Mechanical Section:

Mr. W. K. Appleton (senior assistant instructor)

Mr. R. D. Jones (assistant instructor)

Mr. W. S. Evans (assistant instructor)

Electrical Section:

Mr. J. H. Seymour (senior assistant instructor)

Mr. J. A. Bailey (assistant instructor)

Mr. P. Smith (assistant instructor)

And in the Stores we have **Mr. C. Roberts** (chargehand storekeeper) and **Mr. E. Parks** (storekeeper)

proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Winchester for his stimulating talk, and to Mrs. Winchester for gracing the proceedings by presenting the prizes. He said that all the apprentices felt that they had been given the right lead at Hoylake and that the rest was now up to themselves. He then thanked the staff at the Training Centre for all their hard work.

OUR COVER PICTURE shows

THE PRIZEWINNERS

WORKING AT HOYLAKE

Top left: **Geoffrey A. Thomson**, who won the First Prize for the Best All-Round Performance on this year's course. He enjoys designing and drawing houses, furniture and cars. He is a member of the Festiniog Narrow Gauge Railway and the Vauxhall Craftsman's Guild. Geoffrey hails from our Warrington District where his father, David, also works for the Board as a senior sales assistant.

Top right: **Alun P. Roberts**, who lives and now works in our Anglesey District, was pipped into second place for the All-Round Performance prize. Alun's hobbies are fishing and tape recording.

Middle left: **Roger Sixsmith**, of St. Helens, won the First Prize in the Electrical Subjects section. Roger was the Head Boy at Rivington Secondary Boys' School and is keen on rugby, swimming, fishing and riding.

Middle right: **Keith Buckley**, another Head Boy, this time at the Bryn Offa County Secondary School at Wrexham, was awarded

the Second Prize for his term's work in the Electrical Subjects. He holds the Bronze Medal in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and is a member of the Victoria Youth Club. His father, Reginald, recently joined the Board as an assistant consumer's engineer in the Wrexham District.

Bottom left: **Alan Reid**, received the First Prize in the Mechanical Subjects section. A most active young man, his pastimes include cycling, hiking, canoeing and swimming. Alan will be working in the North Wirral District. He is a member of the Port Sunlight Wheelers Cycling Club and the Youth Hostellers Association.

Bottom right: **Arwel Roberts**, is now carrying on with his apprenticeship in the Caernarvon District, where he once went to the town's grammar school. Alun was awarded the Second Prize in Mechanical Subjects. He is a keen fisherman and enjoys motoring, having passed his driving test within a few days of his seventeenth birthday.



The "Shrimper", an all-electric public house in Southport. Above the bars is the landlord's all-electric flat.

Drop in at the local — at Southport . . .



Above: Some of the locals enjoying their "pinta" in the saloon bar.

Below: A touch of the nauticals in the saloon bar, with the three Constors keeping the temperature just right.



Storage Radiators and Electricaire Systems . . .

SITUATED on the foreshore overlooking the marshes, "The Shrimper" Southport's first all-electric public house opened its doors to the customers earlier this year. A warm welcome awaits the locals and the visitors on holiday in the tastefully appointed and decorated lounge and saloon bar, the comfortable temperature conditions being maintained by the utilisation of three 6-kilowatt fan-assisted storage radiators in the lounge bar and two more in the public bar. These are supplemented by six 3-kilowatt MANWEB Brand storage radiators which are strategically placed in the hallways and corridors.

In the landlord's living quarters, again the heating is by electricity, this time by a 12-kilowatt Mutitherm unit feeding warm air to five rooms and the landing. The flat also boasts an all-electric kitchen which is the pride and joy of Mrs. Jean Clayton, the landlord's wife.

Lighting throughout the bars is in keeping with the maritime theme with imitation oil lamps and ships lanterns. Tucked neatly away in a cupboard just off the main bar is a MANWEB designed main control panel complete with miniature circuit breaker protection.

All the electrical installation has been carried out by our Southport District staff in close co-operation with Mr. Fergus Frost, the chief architect for the brewery, Walker-Cain (Warrington) Limited, who own "The Shrimper".

Mr. Wilfred Clayton, the landlord, and his wife, are delighted with their new all-electric home and business. Talking of the heating installation Mrs. Clayton said, "It's terrific . . . so clean. You just switch on and leave it. Our customers too are now fully converted to electric heating."

... Keep the customers warm

The "Castle Hotel", reputedly one of the coldest establishments in Aberystwyth, has recently taken on a new lease of life. This has been achieved by a breath of controlled warm air being sent out from a 12-kilowatt HVE unit and fed through a number of floor-up registers round the perimeters of the bars.

Mr. D. J. Rowlands the landlord, told us that before he had Electricaire installed he felt that he often only opened the door of his hotel in order to comply with the laws. Now he opens the doors to many customers.

There has been provision made in the system for extensions to other parts of the hotel, and plans are already in hand to open a discotheque in part of the basement to cater for the many students in the town.

A letter from the landlord

Dear Sir,

It is now some eight weeks since your staff installed the Electricaire system to heat the lounge and saloon bar.

Since this system was installed the comfort conditions in these rooms has improved to such a degree that I feel that I must write and compliment you on the system you recommended.

A very pleasant warm environment has now been established without any obtrusive pipes or radiators. The running costs are far lower than I even estimated, and the system is so automatic and clean that I do not have to allocate time cleaning boilers, etc., or adjusting controls.

It would be remiss of me if I did not congratulate your staff who were so courteous and efficient during the negotiating of the work and its execution.

Kindly pass on my thanks to your staff who assisted in any way to install the heating system.

I would add that since the use of this heating system the increase in trade has been most noticeable. I intend to forward a copy of this letter to the Brewery as recommendation.

Yours sincerely,
D. J. ROWLAND.



The "Castle Hotel" in Aberystwyth—once the coldest place in town, but not any more!

... and Aberystwyth

Landlord Mr. D. J. Rowland, *right*, chats with brewery representative Mr. H. Thomas in the electrically heated bar.



Questions in the House

Gas and Electricity Meter Readers

Mr. Lane asked the Minister of Power how many meter readers are employed by the gas and electricity boards, respectively, in England, Scotland, and in Wales.

Mr. Freeson: The numbers of meter readers, including reader/collectors for prepayment meters, at 31st March, 1968 (19th April for Electricity Boards in England and Wales) was as follows:

	<i>Gas</i>	<i>Electricity</i>
England ...	3,811	} 4,799
Wales ...	181	
Scotland ...	335	
	4,327	5,301

Nationalised Industries (Prices)

Mr. Taylor asked the Secretary of State for Employment and Productivity by what percentage the prices of nationalised industries have increased since October, 1964; and what is the comparable percentage rise in the prices of household goods.

Mr. Hattersley: The percentage rise between 13th October 1964 and 21st May 1968, in the average level of retail prices of goods and services provided by the nationalised industries and included in the Index of Retail Prices was 18.9 per cent. The comparable rise for the durable household goods group of the Index was 10.1 per cent.

Mr. Taylor: Do not those staggering figures show that the nationalised industries, as at present organised, are driving a horse and cart through the

prices policy? In those circumstances, will not the Minister make it a point to ensure that he appoints the best possible management to nationalised industries by paying people the right salaries, in line with those paid by many successful private firms such as Hambros Bank?

Mr. Hattersley: The payment of the top management of nationalised industries is a matter which must be raised with the appropriate Ministers. The hon. Member claims that a horse and cart are being driven through the incomes policy, but I am sure that he will recall that the Prime Minister has given an assurance that all major increases in public sector prices will be referred to the National Board for Prices and Incomes.

Public Inquiries

Mr. Irvine asked the Minister of Power in how many cases during the last five years he has accepted the recommendations of his inspector at public inquiries into proposals by the area and generating electricity boards; and in how many cases and on what grounds such recommendations have been rejected.

Mr. Freeson: In the last five years inspectors' recommendations have been accepted in 51 cases, and rejected, wholly or partly, in four. In three cases the Minister considered that a proposed overhead line should be put wholly or partly underground, and in one case that the further exploration of varying routes would not produce better results.

Electrical Leads (International Commission Colour Code)

Mr. Archer asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he will introduce legislation to implement the recommendations of the International Commission on Rules for the Approval of

Electrical Equipment relating to agreed colour coding of electrical leads.

Mr. Ennals: My right hon. Friend is consulting the various interests about the need for regulations requiring the cores of three-core flexible cords supplied with domestic electrical appliances to comply with the colour code recommended by the International Commission. These colours are brown for the live core, light blue for the neutral and a combination of green and yellow for the earth core. My right hon. Friend will announce his decision as soon as possible.

WHO'S WHO

Mr. Roy Mason, aged 44, formerly Postmaster General, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Ray Gunter as Minister of Power. Mr. Mason has been the Labour Member for Barnsley since March 1953, and before this he was a branch official for the National Union of Mineworkers.

Mr. R. Freeson (Lab.)
Willesden East
Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Power

Mr. D. Ennals (Lab.)
Dover
Joint Parly. Under Sec.
of State, Home Office

Mr. R. Hattersley (Lab.)
Sparkbrook, Birmingham
The Under Sec. of State
for Employment and
Productivity.

Mr. P. K. Archer (Lab.)
Rowley Regis & Tipton

Mr. B. G. Irvine (C.)
Rye

Mr. D. Lane (C.)
Cambridge

Mr. E. M. Taylor (C.)
Cathcart, Glasgow.

COURSE 227 at WALLASEY



Above: Mr. E. Richardson, back to camera, talks to Mr. B. Wilde (Wallasey), Mr. R. Christian (Bootle), Miss C. Boughey (Crewe), and Mrs. R. Dean (Kirkby St. Chads).

Right: from left to right: Miss A. Forshaw (Southport), Mr. M. Cooper (instructor), Mrs. E. Wilson (Heswall) and Mrs. B. Jones (Mold).



Sports and Social . . .

Golf

The final of the 1968 Gravett Cup (Pairs) Competition was played recently on the Wrexham golf course and resulted in a win for Messrs. W. Thompson and E. Jones, beating Messrs. N. Jones and K. S. Leach by one hole. Mr. Gravett presented the cup and souvenir tankards to the winners.

On the same day, the Area 2/3 Golfing Society, also organised a stroke play medal competition on the same course. This was won by Mr. D. Ellams who returned a net 73. Mr. A. Jones was runner-up with a net 76.

Ten-Pin Bowling

Teams from Hatton Garden, Head Office and Lister Drive

are through to the semi-finals of the Ten-Pin Bowling Knock-Out Competition, with Chester and Northwich still to play.

Results to date are as follows: Head Office — Top scorers: Maureen Twist, Linda Ray, Steve Murphy and Eddie Maxwell—498, beat Derby House—Top scorers: Pam Booth, Barbara Hunt, Gina Johnson and Joan Stephens (363). Lister Drive —Top scorers: Colin Richards, Steven Price, J. Collins and P. Riley (501) beat North Wirral—Top scorers: John Tittley, Dave Calvert, Jimmy Davies and Alan Smith (492).

Hatton Garden were awarded a bye as a result of Warrington withdrawing. Marsh Lane also withdrew from the competition.

The draw for the semi-finals is—Lister Drive v. Hatton Garden and Chester or Northwich v. Head Office.

Club News

The Annual General Meeting of the Rhostyllen and Wrexham District Sports and Social Club took place a few weeks ago at Area 4 Offices. The new committee is made up of the following members:

President—Mr. K. Helliwell (Manager, Area 4). Chairman—Mr. J. J. Myers (senior assistant Revenue). Vice-Chairmen—Mr. J. G. D. Greenhalgh (Welfare Officer, Area 4). Hon. Secretary—Mr. J. A. Humphreys (Drawing Office assistant). Hon. Treasurer—Mr. R. C. Roberts (clerical assistant, Wayleaves).



THE "GRAND"

From left to right, standing:

Messrs.
M. Baker (electrician)
D. Fazakerley (electrician)
R. Walker (joiner's mate)
T. Dent (labourer)
P. Lloyd (labourer)
M. Stevenson (chargehand electrician)
A. Ormerod (chargehand installation inspector)

Seated: Messrs.
K. Winrow (installation inspector)
R. Pattison (electrician)
A. Jesson (joiner)
E. Lloyd (electrician)

Also played:
Mr. E. Tomlinson (electrician)

LORDS v GRAND ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH

The annual cricket match played between the two teams from Southport, the **Lords** (*office staff*) and the **Grand** (*manual staff*) took place recently on the Russell Road ground. A novel feature of this match was that both teams fielded and batted twelve men!

Batting first, the Grand team amassed a total of 74 runs, thanks to good knocks from captain Arnie Ormerod (29), Paul Lloyd (16) and Babs Walker (15). In attack, Jeff Colvin put up a fine

performance with a bowling spell resulting in six wickets for 17 runs.

The Lords opened brightly with Bob Jowett (10), Jimmy Bell (12) and Eddie Capp (15) putting on some quick runs, but the later batsmen failed and all the side were soon back in the pavilion with only 39 runs on the board. During the innings, there were four run-outs and Tommy Dent took five wickets for seven runs.

So, the "Cinders Cup" is again held by the Grand team—for the tenth successive year!



THE "LORDS"

From left to right, standing:

Messrs.
M. Brown (salesman)
R. I. Jowett (District Commercial Engineer)
E. C. Capp (assistant, Secretarial)
A. Pleasant (clerk)
S. Rimmer (clerk)
R. S. Harper (assistant consumers' engineer)
T. Smith (section engineer)

Seated: Messrs.
J. Colvin (clerk)
A. Rigby (clerk)
J. Bell (records draughtsman)
K. Rigby (contracting engineer)

Also played:
Mr. J. Heaton (District Engineer)



Messrs. R. Arlow, *left*, and I. Wright, *right*, of Southport, who beat Messrs. P. Falcon and L. T. Broughton of Head Office.



Another win for Southport by Mr. K. Winrow, *left*, and Mr. M. Brown, *third from left*, over Messrs. T. H. Dutton and R. Huyton of Head Office.

HEAD OFFICE v SOUTHPORT Annual Challenge Match Drawn



Above: Messrs. J. Birch and L. Rigby, *left*, of Southport who lost to Messrs. F. J. Brown and J. S. Ekbery of Head Office.

Below: Messrs. M. R. Cowan, *second from left*, and T. R. Smith, *right*, of Head Office who beat Messrs. E. Capp, *left*, and R. Jones of Southport.



Above: Messrs. G. G. Barnes, *left*, and R. D. Evans, *right*, of Head Office, who lost to the Southport pair, Messrs. R. Pattison and M. Baker.

Below: Messrs. W. Wallwork, *left* and E. G. Jones, *right*, for Head Office, who beat Messrs. F. Adamson and F. S. Boddington of Southport.



Miss E. M. DRUMMOND

Miss E. M. Drummond, senior demonstrator, Liverpool Central District, retired 1968. A simple statement of fact to describe a moving experience, for tears were close to many an eye when "Auntie May" said her farewells recently. On behalf of her many friends throughout Area 1, Mr. H. S. Dunning (District Commercial Engineer), presented her with a mirror and a cut-glass vase. The ladies of the Whitechapel Shop then showered her with numerous gifts varying from a set of cutlery to some mysterious and exotically-wrapped parcels.

This was a party, a farewell party among people who worked together and liked each other.

Miss E. M. Drummond, front left, poses for a farewell picture with some of her friends at the Whitechapel Shop. Mr. H. Davies (Supervisor) appears to be admiring Miss Drummond's pretty headgear, while at the back, demonstrator Mrs. Wendy Baker, although she could not be there in person, still managed to "get in the picture".



RETIREMENTS

There was a cake to be cut and pleasant words to be said. Miss Drummond rose to the occasion with characteristic dignity, reminding her friends of the many changes which had occurred since she joined the Liverpool Corporation Electric Supply Department on 7th October, 1926.

After a period as a sales assistant, she became a demonstrator in 1934, and was appointed as senior demonstrator in 1947. She said she had seen showrooms become vigorous shops and was confident that their future would be as active and interesting as her own.

A lover of the music of Mozart, a member of the Philharmonic Music Club, widely read, an enthusiastic gardener, an active social worker and recently, an expert on tiling bathroom floors, when Miss Drummond spoke of "going all out" and "finding new social horizons", there was the thought that life is not a series of ill-corrected phases, but a long, vital stream, ever moving, ever exciting.

So, to "Auntie May", we all wish you a long healthy, active and exciting retirement.

Mr. O. G. OLIVER

A very sentimental yet happy farewell ceremony was held a few weeks ago at our Whitechapel Shop when nearly a hundred friends and colleagues gathered to present parting gifts of a Wedgwood dinner service and an ornamental tray to their Supervisor, Mr. Osborne G. Oliver, who was completing 40 years' in the industry. After many glowing tributes had been spoken, Mr. Oliver replied with the best 'curtain speech' he has ever given, concluding with an apt quotation from Carlyle—"It is not thy Works (which are all Mortall, infinitely little, and the Greatest no Greater than the Least), but only the Spirit thou workest in that can have Worth and Continuance."

On leaving school, Mr. Oliver served an apprenticeship as an electrician with a Liverpool firm, later taking over one of their shops. When the slump came in the 1920's, he 'shut up shop' and went to work for the Liverpool Corporation.



Our roving cameraman called in at Mr. O. G. Oliver's home at Eastham to get this first "after-retirement" picture on him mowing the lawn with his 35-year's service award!

Anticipating the war, he joined the Auxiliary Air Force in 1938 and was called up in the following August. He served in the Balloon Barrage squadrons in and around Liverpool before moving first to Scotland, then Ireland and later to Egypt and Italy, ending up in Verona.

On his return to the Corporation in 1945, he went to the Whitechapel Shop for a period before transferring, on nationalisation, to the Prescott

Shop, which needed developing! Here, he recalls, he spent many happy days.

In 1953 he returned to Whitechapel where he was put in charge, and for the past 15 years he has taken the many changes and the vast increase in business in his stride.

The complete salesman and administrator, Mr. Oliver also has a great interest in the world of the arts. He is an accomplished trumpet player, having been taught by one of the best teachers in the country. His eldest son, James also plays the trumpet and will be playing a concerto composed by his brother, Stephen at one of the afternoon sessions at this year's Edinburgh Festival. Their sister, Ruth, plays and teaches the violin at a school in Oxford. Not to be left out, Mrs. Oliver plays the flute, and at one time taught music, but now teaches religious subjects at a local school in a part-time capacity.

On the dramatic side, Mr. Oliver and his family have been very active with the Revello Comedy Company (*if you look closely you will see that Revillo is Oliver spelt backwards—plus an extra 'l'*). This group was started by Mr. Oliver's father in 1902 and has held a top place in the Liverpool area for the past 65 years prior to its winding up last year.

But the name of Oliver will still be known in the City for some time to come as Stephen, who recently won a musical scholarship to Oxford, will be conducting a programme of his own works at a concert in the Bluecoat Chambers later this year.

We join with their many friends throughout the Board in wishing Mr. Oliver and Mrs. Oliver, many happy years of active retirement with their very talented family.

Mr. L. ELLIS

The many friends of Mr. Len. Ellis, a chargehand meter reader in our North Wirral District, gathered to say their farewells to him on the occasion of his recent retirement. On their behalf, Mr. G. Bowers (District Commercial Engineer) presented Len with an electric drill as a token of their respect and friendship. We join with them in wishing both Mr. and Mrs. Ellis a long and happy retirement. Our picture shows Mr. Ellis, sixth from left with Mr. Bowers, third from left, and Mr. J. E. Evans (District Senior Clerk), ninth from left with members of the District Meter Readers section.



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ON TV

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All items available on Manweb's low interest H.P. and Credit Sale terms.

Simplicity is electricity itself-

Manweb

A section of the latest MANWEB store-type advertisement which is appearing in the local press under the heading "Make yours a modern kitchen Manweb style!"

Cooker Sales Reach Record Level

More electric cookers were sold by Electricity Board shops in the 12 months ended March 1968 than in any previous financial year. Total sales were 514,000 and were 22% higher than in the corresponding financial year of 1967.

High cooker sales were a characteristic of the Boards trading throughout the year, partly as a result of the momentum of a major national sales campaign launched in May 1967 and carried on by Boards through continuous local promotion.

Electricity Council statistics issued recently show that Electricity Board shops had big trading gains in all major home appliances throughout the financial year. Compared with the 12 months ended March 1967, washing machine sales were up 42%; refrigerators up 26%; clothes dryers up

34%; and storage radiators, which had an exceptional boom in 1967, were still 14% up.

Electricity Boards had a substantial share of the upturn in sales in the pre-Budget period. Quarterly figures show that in the first three months of this year sales of electric cookers were 31% up; washing machines 96% up; refrigerators 85% up; clothes dryers 64% up; and storage radiators 66% up.

An Electricity Council spokesman said: "The unique double guarantees, reliability and after sales service provided by Electricity Boards are factors becoming increasingly important to customers. The Boards contracting and appliance selling activities contribute significantly to the industry's revenue and profitability.

"Active selling and vigorous promotion will continue in 1968."

Electro-Agricultural Centre

The Electro-Agricultural Centre supported this year's Royal Show theme, "Making More of Your Manpower", with a display of farm mechanisation equipment covering every aspect of agricultural work where electric power can be used to supplement manpower. An important feature of the Centre was its exclusive display of new equipment and electrical techniques which were not being commercially exploited elsewhere at the Royal Show.

Opened last year by The Electricity Council, the Electro-Agricultural Centres' main buildings include a permanent display hall illustrating fundamental electro-agricultural techniques, a conference hall and lounge, and a library. A dutch barn on the site has part of a first floor built into it to facilitate demonstrations of mechanised materials handling in farm buildings.

Now that foot and mouth restrictions have been lifted, courses and conferences for up to 50

people at a time are being arranged throughout the year in co-operation with a number of organisations. The first university training course, for undergraduate and polygraduate students of agricultural engineering at the University of Newcastle, was held at the Centre in June.

A number of other attractions were specially provided for the period of the Royal Show. An all-electric showhouse was fitted with all the latest domestic electrical appliances of particular interest to country dwellers. There was a separate display of domestic appliances which included Britain's first cooker with a self-cleaning oven. Home deep freezing was featured and demonstrations of deep freezing techniques were given in a small lecture theatre.

An automatically controlled greenhouse, divided into cool and warm growing sections, was of particular interest to amateur gardening enthusiasts. Both halves were fully equipped with labour saving environmental control systems and various growing techniques were demonstrated.

....Miscellany....

SMASH AND GRAB

A few weeks ago, there was an attempted smash and grab at our Bootle Shop. Mr. J. Wignall, 1st assistant District Commercial Engineer, was quick off the mark however and helped in apprehending the offender:

SILVER ANNIVERSARY

The North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board will be 25 years' old on August 5th, and so has the distinction of being Britain's oldest publicly-owned electricity authority.

STORK VISITS

We offer our congratulations to Mr. Malcolm H. Cooper, a senior assistant at the Wallasey Sales Training Centre, and Mrs. Cooper on the birth of a son, David.

And to Mr. Ieuan Evans, a section engineer at Wrexham, and Mrs. Evans, on the birth of a daughter, Bethan.

1968 Photographic Competition

RULES

1. Entries may be concerned with any subject.
2. Each photograph submitted must be the original work and the copyright property of the person submitting it.
3. All photographs must have been taken since June 1st, 1967.
4. Any number of Black and White prints may be submitted, but only FIVE colour transparencies in any one section from each competitor.
5. Competitors must enclose a note with entries, stating clearly their name and address (either office or home) and the title of each picture.
6. The competition will be judged by an independent panel.
7. Closing date for the receipt of entries which must be addressed to: *The Editor, Contact, MANWEB, Love Lane, Liverpool 3*, will be 30th September, 1968.

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

- **BLACK AND WHITE PICTURES**
Best Picture—FIVE POUNDS
- **COLOUR TRANSPARENCIES**
1st—FIVE POUNDS
2nd—THREE POUNDS
3rd—TWO POUNDS
- **BEST PICTURE DESCRIBING**
"A Christmas Carol Scene"
Colour: TWO POUNDS
Black and White: TWO POUNDS

Great care will be taken of entries, all of which will be returned. When submitting your photographs it is advisable to protect them during transmission by post by packing them with a piece of stout cardboard, slightly larger than the photographs themselves.

**So come on—get
snapping—there's
money in it for you!**



ACCIDENT FIGURES

In the year ended March, 1968, the MANWEB Industrial staffs worked a total of 11,227,040 hours during which time the number of reportable accidents amounted to some 333. The following table shows exactly where the dangers lie:

Handling Objects	26.4%
Persons Falling	23.2%
Stepping on Objects	12.6%
Hand Tools	10.2%
Objects Falling	8.1%
Miscellaneous	6.9%
Transport	5.1%
Hot Substances	3.6%
Electricity	2.7%
Machinery	0.9%
Poisonous Substances	0.3%

The number of accidents involving more than three days absence from normal employment during the twelve months ended March, 1968, with comparative figures for the year ended March, 1967, in brackets, are as follows:

Handling Objects 88 (94); *Persons Falling* 77 (85); *Stepping on Objects* 42 (45); *Hand Tools* 34 (45); *Objects Falling* 27 (39); *Miscellaneous* 23 (18); *Transport* 17 (20); *Hot Substances* 12 (21); *Electricity* 9 (6); *Machinery* 3 (12); *Poisonous Substances* 1 (2). **Total 333 (387).**

STAY ALIVE— STOP ACCIDENTS

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