

CONTACT

July 1975



Caravan Kidney Machine at Work
(See Page 182)

Need for Financial Discipline

—SIR PETER MENZIES

MANY OF the country's problems today sprang particularly from a lack of financial discipline, said Sir Peter Menzies, Chairman of the Electricity Council, when he introduced a paper on "Finance and the Public" at the annual conference in Torquay of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

Various Governments in recent years, he pointed out, had attempted to use a number of aids to contain inflation, such as policies on incomes or on prices, but the only truly effective discipline was the monetary or financial one. The public had not been taught that it was just as important for a business undertaking, a local authority and a country as a whole to balance its cash budget as it was for any household to budget for the weekly shopping bills on the one hand and the less frequent cash outlays such as holidays, cars and furniture, and so on, on the other.

"Our problem is aggravated," he continued, "by the fact that so very large a part of the gross national product is now taken up by Central Government directly, by local authorities and by the growing sector of nationalised industries and activities. But in my view any Government should look very hard at any extension of nationalisation until it has evolved a firm and continuing framework in which financial discipline can be fully exercised by the managements responsible."

Sir Peter made it clear that in a whole range of day to day tasks, cost consciousness was as evident in nationalised industry as elsewhere, but he added: "My concern is to achieve a climate in relations with Government conducive to financial realism in big things as well as small. The public is vitally concerned in the containment of operating costs and all expenditure on capital programmes. But the public is not very well aware of this fact and one of our problems is to bring it home to the public.

"We have to bring home to our own staffs the need in nationalised industry for the successful containment of costs of all kinds. In this context, cost of employment is a major factor, and the country must somehow get the message across that a general

excessive wage inflation without increased productivity is, above all, self-defeating. No-one wins.

"Any excess costs incurred have to be borne by the consumer either in the prices paid for the goods and services supplied or by the taxpayer in subsidies. The taxpayer is, of course, the same person under a different name." All were aware, continued Sir Peter, that the principal defect in the national budget at the present time was the excessive reliance by the Treasury on borrowing to meet the national cash deficit, and unfortunately an unduly large part of that borrowing had to be found overseas. But although that was well known, as a nation we were paying inadequate attention to the discipline which it required of all of us.

There were, he felt, a number of reasons for this. There had been growing intervention by Government in the industrial and commercial field, aimed not at improving the cost effectiveness of business undertakings but rather from a desire to implement social and political policies.

Inflation led to too ready an acceptance by the ordinary individual of increased prices and higher wages and salaries, so that efficiency and financial disciplines were lost sight of.

What then, asked Sir Peter, could those concerned with financial matters do about such serious matters?

"The most important need is for clear thinking on our part. Having achieved that we then have to put across simple and clear messages to the public. We must endeavour to educate the public to understand these difficult matters and to react properly to their impact.

"Simple language must be used on these financial matters and we should wherever possible use words which have the same meaning for the public not trained professionally in accounting matters. We have to avoid confusion, suspicion and misunderstandings.

"Other matters requiring all possible endeavour on our part are to achieve a return to the correct pricing of all products and services supplied, whether by private industry or by nationalised industries. The user will then get the proper cost message and will act correctly and the producer will achieve a cash flow adequate not merely for the survival of the business but also for a measure of its growth. Further, pricing policies must result in the sound use of scarce and expensive resources such as fuel, all the more so because in the main these resources are imported at heavy cost in foreign exchange.

In the public sector we have an important part to play in expediting an early return to a healthy national economy; failure to do that will have the most serious consequences for all," he stressed.



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Vol. 27 No. 7

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Editorial

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The Monetary Mirage

THERE can be little doubt that by now the threat posed by inflation to the national wellbeing and the stability of society is recognised by the overwhelming majority of the British people.

Until relatively recently inflation on a substantial scale was something that happened to someone else, to other countries, far removed by time or distance from the Britain in which we lived.

The last year or so has brought the harsh realities of the situation home to everyone, and the delusion of involvement in a lunatic paper chase for more and more "money" of less and less real value has become clear to millions.

Whether inflation is merely the product of a money-based economy is a point which would no doubt keep economic theorists busy for many hours of debate. Perhaps in the days of barter a chicken was always worth a bag of potatoes—depending on the amount of rain and the weight of the potato crop?

In our complex society, however, the coin—or rather the paper—of the Realm is the accepted yardstick by which the values of goods and services are measured, and the regulator used by all Governments in their efforts to control our economic system for the common good. It would seem that a lasting place in the history books awaits the Government which can produce a remedy for our chronic inflationary ailment.

In smaller ways the prudent deployment of financial resources is essential at all times, both in private life and public affairs. The recent speech of the Chairman of the Electricity Council (printed opposite in this number of *Contact*) merits close examination by every employee of the industry.

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



The character and charm of the "Shroppie Fly" in its picturesque surroundings at Lock Gates, Audlem.

Idyllic setting for Pub / Restaurant

BOATING and barges, his passion since a boy when helping his father run a boating business in Brewwood, Staffs, were too much a way of life to let Tim Haywood settle permanently at the helm of a nightclub business in Cleethorpes.

As soon as he had raised a little capital he took his wife and two children west across England and followed the canals in search of a new home. With his knowledge of the hostelry trade and his yearning for canal life, his journey was aimed at finding a suitable canal-side building which could be converted into a pub/restaurant home.

The search ended at an old derelict warehouse in Audlem, Cheshire, just a few feet away from the canal waters and standing ashamedly amid acres of unspoiled countryside . . . "but as soon as we saw it we knew it was ideal for our purpose," said 29-year-old Mr. Hayward.

He explained: "If the building could be successfully converted, the picturesque surroundings would attract local people to eat and drink whereas, if the original character of the 150-year-old building could

be restored, the passing canal trade would also be attracted."

Then he applied for planning permission for the conversion of the warehouse to a pub and restaurant and it was at this stage that MANWEB came on the scene. Through the vigilance of Godfrey Hughes, our Mid-Cheshire District Sales Supervisor, in reading through the local press he came across the public notice regarding the conversion job. He quickly followed this up with a letter to Mr. Hayward offering MANWEB's help in the design and installation of heating, ventilation, lighting and catering equipment.

The offer was accepted and the job was finally started. The toiling conversion work took many months to complete during which time Mr. Hayward worked closely with the Board's staff to ensure that the modern electrical equipment installed did not impair the visual character of the remodelled building which still houses the original cast window frames and old quarry tiles.

"I was enormously impressed with the liaison between the various departments and services offered by MANWEB and the terrific amount of research put in before they came up with the complete scheme which took a great weight from my shoulders at a time when I most needed help, allowing me to concentrate on other problems."

Mid-Cheshire District design engineer Robin Sharvin, when preparing the heating and ventilation scheme, originally considered storage heating but decided against it as the pub demands a pre-warm-up system. He opted for fan-assisted convectors in the downstairs bars with thermostatic controls capable of a maximum temperature of 21.1°C (70°F). This allows the pub to be warmed-up prior to opening time and, as the rooms fill up with customers and the heat level increases, the convector fans are automatically turned off.

The "Shroppie Fly," named after a well-known boat which formed part of the Shropshire Union Canal Company's fly-boat fleet which used to carry merchandise through Audlem, is exposed on the canal side so Robin chose warm air thermoscreens housed over the doors, throwing warm air down to prevent draughts when the doors are opened.

Upstairs in the cabin-like restaurant Robin suggested a system of fresh air being drawn in by an input wall fan on through ducting in the roof space and over a 15 kilowatt three-stage electric heater and the warm air blown gently down into the dining area through two ceiling diffusers. The room temperature is accurately controlled by room and duct thermostats. In the adjoining kitchen, high level extractor fans have been fitted to aid air circulation throughout the upper floor.

Contrasting with the old-fashioned charm of the "Shroppie Fly" is a modern all-electric kitchen. Mid-Cheshire District's energy sales demonstrator Margaret Corlett first got together with Tim's French wife Edwige to advise on back-bar catering equipment and services on the pub's ground floor and with chef Brian Hood in the kitchens upstairs where tasteful a-la-carte meals are prepared and cooked on £4,000-worth of electrical equipment to be served in the delightfully decorated, clean and cosy surroundings of the restaurant.

In the compact kitchen, a double cooking range provides oven space, boiling top and griddle unit, ideal for conventional cooking or the a-la-carte

An early start for chef Brian Hood as he works in his all-electric compact kitchen.



At the unique barge-bar, from left to right, Robin Sharvin, mine host Tim Hayward, Margaret Corlett and the vigilant Godfrey Hughes.

menu. Two fryers are capable of coping with the demand for chips with fried chicken and scampi. A large salamander cooks all the orders for 'grills,' and a coffee machine, plus steam injection unit provides excellent beverages. Refrigerators and freezers hold stocks of frozen and fresh foods and hotcupboards ensure that plates and serving dishes are kept hot. To complete the five-star service, an ice-maker provides a constant supply of ice cubes that today's discerning customers expect with their drinks.

An additional bonus for MANWEB was the installation contract for the whole job, carried out by our staff led by Vic Hughes (2nd assistant engineer) who quickly became 'Hughes the Fuse' as he catered for the customer's every wish.

Shortly after the "Shroppie Fly" opened for business, Mr. and Mrs. Hayward, proving the sincerity of their thanks to MANWEB, were hosts for the evening to Godfrey, Robin and Margaret as a full pub gathered round the main bar, which our picture shows is an actual narrow boat, known as a 'Joey' boat which, built about 150 years ago, was originally used for carrying coal between Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

Mr. Hayward raised the boat, which was sunk in a Coseley boatyard and, with three other men, hauled the 20-metre barge to Audlem—a five-day trip through 21 locks. At Audlem, two 20-ton cranes hoisted the barge from the water and a further ten days were spent manoeuvring the vessel into the pub with the most genuine barge bar in the country.

Already building up to a sizeable trade in good food and drink, Mr. Hayward hopes that the "Shroppie Fly" will eventually become a canal pub/restaurant/museum, for his plans do not stop here.



Best all-round apprentice on this year's course at Hoylake, Stephen Matson from North Wirral, is seen here, right, with his father and mother Kenneth and Rose Matson, left, and guest speaker Roy Stewart and Mrs. Stewart, centre front, and Mr. Ladner, centre rear,

Energy Man Advises Apprentices

A MAN WHO started his own very successful career as an apprentice electrician, Mr. Roy Stewart, the Board's Energy Sales Manager, addressed a group of young men from MANWEB at our Hoylake Training Centre on the occasion of the annual prize distribution ceremony held recently to mark the completion of their first nine months of apprentice training.

Coming from a sick bed to address the gathering, Mr. Stewart said how grateful he was to be there as he felt that these occasions were very important to the long term development of the Board and to the people who make up the Board.

Commenting on their introduction to apprentice training, he told the young men that they had finished their first few months learning the basics of a good trade under the expert guidance of Mr. Ron Slack who, although at times appeared to be a hard taskmaster, was a man who had done more than almost any other single person in MANWEB to help develop their characters and responsible attitudes in their short period under his command.

"You are now leaving Hoylake and returning to your Districts to continue your 'on job' training for about another three years," he said, "and if you have any sense of ambition you will also continue your academic training during the same period and perhaps beyond."

He informed them that craft training and technical knowledge were extremely important rungs on the ladder of success and promotion, pointing out that

some of our most progressive and efficient commercial engineers started their training at Hoylake before going on to college to gain a good technical qualification.

"*This is not easy,*" he emphasised, "*but it is surely well worth the effort in the end.*" He assured them that they had joined the best industry and that a very bright future—despite our problems now—lay ahead of them all.

Mr. Stewart then spoke briefly of each young man's responsibilities to his parents, who wanted them to succeed; to the Training School staff who had started them off on the right lines and would always take an interest in their careers; to themselves in having the feeling of pride in a job well done and finally, their responsibilities to the Board and more particularly to the District in which they would be working.

"In this latter case, you are MANWEB, for our customers will often judge the Board as a whole on your individual efficiency, your manner, your attitude and your appearance, for all these things make up your character," he said.

"In time, our customers will come to rely on your judgements of what is good and what is not good," he continued. "So, I suggest that whatever duties you perform in your District, always endeavour to sell the Board's products and other services we provide, not the least important being our contracting and appliance repair services."

Mr. Stewart referred to the great competition

between the various fuel industries in the many areas of utilisation whether in the home or in commercial or industrial areas. "I believe that competition is a good thing from the customer's point of view," he stated, "since it tends to ensure that he gets the best commodity and service at competitive prices."

He went on to appeal to all members of the staff to give their enthusiastic support in helping to promote the sales of electricity. "We like to think of ourselves as a family of MANWEB," he said, "and like all good families, each member should help and support the others."

Then Mr. Stewart admitted that he was more than a little envious of the young men before him who were just starting on a new phase of their lives in an exciting and rewarding occupation.



Steven Lawrence of North Mersey District, the best on the course in 'Electrical Subjects,' says his thanks and farewell to Ron Slack. Ready to take over is Steven's new boss, Les Appleton (*Installation Engineer*).

"You can be sure that everyday tasks will be different and I know that you will never regret joining the electricity industry which provides so much to the prosperity of this country and adds so much to our standard of life," he said.

In wishing all the apprentices well in their chosen careers he said that at the present time we seemed to be living in a greedy and avaricious society where the pursuit of money was all important regardless of its effect on others. "The reward for one's labour and effort is extremely important," he went on, "however, I would hope that the pleasure you derive from learning your trade, and later on, as a good craftsman applying your skills, will be of equal importance to the reward for your services. It may be an outdated principle to some people but I still believe that you can only get from life as much as you are willing to put into it."

Bringing his remarks to a close, Mr. Stewart said, "If I had the opportunity to turn the clock back, I say without hesitation that I wouldn't change a moment of my life in the industry and I would want the same



Top apprentice in 'Mechanical Subjects,' Andrew Smith from North Wirral is congratulated by his chief, Frank Kay (*Installation Engineer*). In the background is Mum and Dad, Doris and Norman Smith.

career that has given me so much personal pleasure."

A very attentive audience showed their appreciation of Mr. Stewart's words of advice and encouragement in the customary manner, and, as the applause died down, Mr. J. L. W. Ladner (*Education and Training Officer*) added his thanks to the guest speaker before turning to Mrs. Stewart to ask her to present the prizes to the successful apprentices.

Earlier, Mr. Ladner had opened this 19th ceremony by welcoming the special guests, the parents of the prizewinners, some of the Hoylake landladies and representatives from the Districts. He noted that this year, three out of the four award winners were from one District—North Wirral.

Finally, a vote of thanks from the apprentices was voiced by apprentice electrician Alan White from Clwyd District who said that it had been very help-

(continued on page 178)

Winner of the special prize—a month with the West Highland School of Adventure, apprentice Keith Dyer from North Wirral District says goodbye to senior instructors J. Bailey, left, and J. Seymour.



UK Methods Explained in USA

THE METHODS of marketing electricity in the United Kingdom to match winter and summer demand were described at a recent energy conference in the United States by Mr. G. J. Hughes, Deputy Marketing Adviser, Electricity Council.

Mr. Hughes was a guest speaker at the Federal Energy Administration Conference held at the Americana Shoreham Hotel, Washington.

He said that because of differing climatic conditions, the system load pattern in Great Britain differed from the USA. Summer demand in the UK was two-thirds that of the winter and there was a natural tendency towards "valley" conditions in winter afternoons and nights. By planned marketing and wide ranging promotions, including the development of special products tailored to customer needs and tariffs designed to offer cheaper electricity in off-peak periods, the afternoon winter valley had been filled and substantial load sold on winter nights. Although this business had mainly been obtained in the domestic sector other sectors had also contributed.

Recent marketing campaigns were used by Mr. Hughes to point out how the system load pattern objectives had been achieved.

Mr. Hughes was able to show his audience of senior electrical engineers from all parts of the United States how, in today's conditions, marketing off-peak energy had been tailored to the current *Wise Use of Electricity* theme, with emphasis placed on the benefits of electricity as a resource saver, particularly when allied to good thermal insulation.

Four smart girls, from left to right: Hilda Jones (Llandudno Junction), Patricia Loughead (St. Johns), Gavina Jones (West Kirby) and Freda Southern (Bootle).

Course 271 at our Wallasey Sales School

The rest of the Course, from left to right: Barbara Hanrahan (Widnes), Christine Davies (Machynlleth), Jeffrey A. Scott (Warrington), Harry A. Huxley (Old Swan), Stephen Dixon (Machynlleth) and Enid Thomas (Oswestry).



MP Meets the Press at Head Office

"By 1980 we shall probably be the only developed country in the world which will be self-sufficient in energy" said Mr. Alec Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, when speaking to press representatives at MANWEB's Head Office recently.

Mr. Eadie had come to our area to visit the Electricity Council's Research Laboratories at Capenhurst, to see various aspects of research in the fields of energy conservation and the wise use of electricity. He also looked over our own Head Office, to see for himself the operation of the "heat reclaim" system pioneered at Chester. It has now been established that the total energy consumption, including heating and air-conditioning, has been reduced by over 50% compared with conventional non-heat recovery buildings.

Mr. Eadie said that all the members of the Head Office staff to whom he had spoken had expressed their delight in their working environment. Good working conditions, he added, must have their effect on the quality of the work produced.

He said he had been "excited and fascinated" by what he had seen at Capenhurst.

Referring to the world energy situation, Mr. Eadie said that the five-fold increase in the price of oil meant that energy was going to be very expensive. This was a world problem. America would soon be importing more than half her oil needs, with a staggering effect on her economy.

Mr. Eadie was accompanied on his visit to Capenhurst by our own Chairman, Mr. Denis Dodds.



Homes with Warmth and Comfort for the Liverpool Elderly



Champion of electric cooking sprightly 73-year-old Mrs. Mary Roche talks to our Man from MANWEB, Mr. Malcolm Cooper.

A SEQUEL to the story published in 'Contact' just over twelve months ago featuring the Merseyside Improved Homes modernisation scheme, has been provided for us by reporter Mike James of 'Circuit News' who recently visited and chatted with some of the happy residents in their new homes.

First was Mrs. Annie Strickland in her two-roomed flatlet. This charming senior citizen always has a warm welcome—and a cup of char—for anyone dropping in for a chat, now that MANWEB electricians have warmed the place up for her.

Two modern storage heaters and a new electric fire take pride of place in the neatly-furnished lounge. "Such a difference from the old gas fire I used to have," she smiles. "It used to be so cold . . ."

Warmth is essential to all of us but more so to Mrs. Strickland. She recently spent nine months in hospital and to come home to the hypothermic conditions that many of the elderly are forced to endure would have sent her back to the ward before she'd had time to mutter 'fr-fr-freezing.'

"I'm still a little unsteady on my feet but I'm gradually regaining my strength," she smiles again. "I go out for little walks but now I can always return to my lovely warm home . . . and just look at my kitchen!"

She gestures towards a small room where an

individual electric oven, fridge, water heater and heater are all recent installations in a kitchen which previously boasted one gas oven.

Mrs. Strickland is just one of the many elderly tenants living in rented accommodation in Liverpool. But she is one of the more fortunate because she is in grouped housing for the elderly and her landlord is Merseyside Improved Homes, a voluntary non-profit making association concerned about the health and comfort of its tenants.

Since its foundation in 1928, MIH has always aimed to give its elderly tenants a new lease of life. About half its work involves improvement and conversion of large buildings into modern homes for those in need. The other half is devoted to the building of new homes on a group basis.

Modern homes mean electric homes which is where the involvement began between Mr. Harry Hume, Director of Group Housing for MIH and our own Messrs. Malcolm Cooper and Bill Roberts, Liverpool District commercial development engineers.

Following a number of successful installations carried out by MANWEB for the MIH in recent years, Malcolm and Bill were called in to handle the 'electrics' on a major conversion scheme involving 132 flats in twelve houses.

"A major factor in our 'going electric' was that electricity is a lot safer than gas," said Mr. Hume. "Gas fires and water heaters are a risk and the gas equipment needed renewing, it was getting old."

"The most important thing we have to bear in mind," he went on, "is whether the tenants have been given every consideration by MANWEB. We thought MANWEB would provide the best service and this is why we gave MANWEB the contract, but the tenants must be the final critics. Don't forget the conversion work has been a major disruption for them."

Mike then went on to talk to more happy tenants like Mrs. Jessie Donaldson, a former concert pianist. "I had gas before because I had no choice," she said. "Now I have two storage heaters in my lounge and I am a lot warmer."

Mrs. Annie Norman, 78-year-old, also chose electric heaters as the 'best' of all her new electrical appliances. "I didn't like gas. It used to scare me to death with its funny noises," she confided. "It was awfully cold but electricity is a lot warmer and a lot easier to manage."

Then came 73-year-old Mrs. Mary Roche who joked, "I'm not really complaining, but if anything I would say that electricity is too warm which is a blessing when I remember how terribly cold I've been recently."

For many years a hospital cook, Mrs. Roche was adamant that electric cooking is the only form of cooking—and she's tried all kinds. "The Baby Belling cooker is so easy to regulate," she enthused. "I think it's much quicker than other methods—and cheaper. If you're baking, you can turn the oven off before you've finished and by the time the heat has died away, your cake has been nicely finished."

Since the original conversion work was completed twelve months ago, many more tenants have changed over to electricity.

The elderly seldom welcome change which is usually viewed as suspect and unsettling—sometimes rightly so. But the final verdict on this Liverpool project is reflected by the fact that MANWEB's electrical conversion work has been greeted with a response as warm as the heating in many of the flatlets.

Hoylake Prizewinners—cont'd from page 175.

ful for them to hear what would be expected of them directly from someone who obviously had not forgotten what it was like to be an apprentice. "We are grateful too," he went on, "to Mrs. Stewart for adding her charm to the proceedings when making the presentations."

He said that at Hoylake they all had made an excellent start and thanks were due to all members

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

—The Key Questions

SUPPLIES of petroleum will almost certainly level off by the end of the Century, and quickly start to decline afterwards, forecast Mr. N. G. Carmichael, Under-Secretary of the Department of the Environment, speaking at a recent lunch of the Electric Vehicle Association of Great Britain.

As petroleum supplies dwindled, he added, it would become too valuable to burn as a fuel for engines.

Mr. Carmichael continued: "Ultimately, electricity must be harnessed to provide power for all transport systems, for it is the only manageable form of energy of which there is a potentially inexhaustible supply. The problem before us is how to package this electric power so that it can be used to propel road vehicle with the range and performance of today's petrol and diesel powered vehicles.

"Let me put three questions to you to illustrate our thinking:—

"*Firstly*—given assured supplies of comparatively cheap electricity, what method of packaging will be best in thirty years time? Sodium/sulphur or metal/air batteries—or synthetic fuels such as hydrogen? And, if you opt for the latter, would not fuel cells driving electric motors give better energy conversion efficiency than any form of combustion engine?

"*Secondly*—can we develop the control systems needed for efficient, trouble-free operation of large electric power systems giving motorway speeds and long range? I am thinking primarily of the heavy goods vehicle, though I suspect that cars, delivery vans and even electric motorcycles may pose some intriguing problems!

"*Thirdly*—what research and development resources are needed if we are to meet this challenge? The Government is deeply committed to the development of the necessary policies and programmes, but is very much dependent on the practical guidance that only those in industry can provide. You too must become committed to the development of the vehicle of the 21st Century, if we are to succeed."

of the staff who, in their various ways, had contributed to their training. "We could hardly have been set higher standards," he commented, "though the real value of some of the things, which at the time seemed irksome, may not be appreciated until later on in life."

Alan closed by saying that their stay at Hoylake was bound to have left its mark on them all—in one way or another!

Crossword Prizewinners . . .

Last month's prize crossword puzzle attracted a bumper number of entries—the largest proportion coming from Head Office. However, we had to pick eleven entries out of the box before we found the first winner. All the others chose the wrong alternative solution to one or other of the clues, while others carelessly missed out a letter, and one didn't have their own name or address on the entry.

Eventually we did manage to pull out three winners who will each be £2 better off. They are:

Mr. J. W. Jump, Technical, Head Office.

Miss V. Henderson (retired), formerly Revenue Section, Derby House.

Mr. G. Green, Management Accounts, Head Office.

. . . and Solution

Across: 1 Short circuits. 7 Mercy. 11 Meter. 14 Plea. 15 Port. 16 Sew. 18 Accent. 19 Except. 20 Ode. 21 Richer. 23 Pectin. 25 Yes. 27 Snap. 29 Fond. 32 Islet. 34 Verse. 35 Traditionally.

Down: 1 Sump. 2 Ogre. 3 Try. 4 Cam. 5 Into. 6 Sort. 8 Elections. 9 Cape. 10 The. 12 Epic. 13 Eruptions. 16 Story. 17 Weeps. 22 Hope. 24 Cafe. 26 Eon. 27 Silt. 28 Alma. 30 Oral. 31 Deny. 33 TWI. 34 Van.

Obituary

Mr. H. BOURNE

Another long service man who will be remembered by many of the 'old boys' from the former Liverpool North District, passed away some little time ago. He was Mr. Harold Bourne, who after almost 50 years' service, retired in 1962 as 1st assistant District Commercial Engineer.

A former Liverpool Corporation apprentice electrician,

NEW APPOINTMENTS

MARKETING MANAGER

Mr. Warwick Saunders, formerly Distribution Manager with C.U.J. Clark Retail Ltd., has taken up his appointment as the Board's Appliance Marketing Manager in succession to Mr. Tom Dean.

Mr. Saunders has held executive posts with the Peter Lord chain of shops and with Coats-Paton retail group.

He hails from St. Helens and is a graduate of Manchester University where he was captain of the University Rugby team. He also played for the Lancashire County team.

Mr. Saunders is 48, married and has two children, Gillian (21) a schoolteacher and Peter (18) waiting to go to medical school for training as a doctor.

For relaxation, Mr. Saunders turns to golf, a game he plays with a 16 handicap.



Mr. W. Saunders

MID-MERSEY D.C.E.

Mr. J. Glyn Norbury is the new District Commercial Engineer for our Mid-Mersey District in succession to Mr. Roger Monk who retired recently.

Mr. Norbury started his career as an apprentice electrician with Hawarden U.D.C. in 1944. He served in the Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm for three years before joining MANWEB as an electrician.

Since then he has held a variety of posts in selling, estimating, planning and contracting work, becoming a Senior Industrial Sales Engineer at Head Office prior to his new appointment.

Mr. Norbury is 48, married with three children, Gareth (14), Cerie (12) and Frances (5). He is a keen golfer—16 handicap—and is interested in cars having at one time competed in rallies and appeared at Brands Hatch driving a Cooper Climax.



Mr. Glyn Norbury

Harold served with the Royal Engineers during the first world war, and the 89th Battalion of the Home Guard in the last war.

Mr. N. D. B. HYDE

Long-serving employees in the Liverpool area will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Norman D. B. Hyde, 2nd assistant engineer (*installation inspection*) at Hatton Garden and Lister Drive

prior to his retirement in 1959.

Mr. Hyde, who served the industry for 40 years, was a first World War veteran who saw service at Gallipoli.

Mr. G. H. MASSEY

We deeply regret to record the death of Mr. George Henry Massey, of Mid-Cheshire District, an employee of the industry for 25 years. He was 56.



It's a Knockout Barn Dance!

ONCE AGAIN, the MANWEB Chester Sports and Social Club's annual "It's a Knockout" night was a huge success, and the Barn Dance which followed the 'field' activities helped to keep the merriment going until midnight.

Sixteen teams, sporting names like 'Bassett's Allsorts,' 'Crane Street Blues,' 'Oriental Idiots' and 'Tek Types' provided 128 enthusiastic people to take part in the games. One team, 'The Scousers' from North Mersey District joined the Chester S. & S. Club especially to take part in the competition.

The winning team were from the Management Services Unit, masquerading under the clever team title 'M.S.U.'—obviously some thought had gone into this! Runner-up, 'The Micky Meece's' came from the Chester shop.

Inevitably someone had to be at the bottom holding the others up, and the wooden spoons went to

'Ada Crump's Lot' from our Legal section.

S. & S. Club Chairman, Mr. Harry Foreman, made presentations to the team mascots—the best representing 'Costa Clowns' and to the teams.

Then on to the restaurant where Vic Smeltzer provided authentic music for the Barn Dance which soon had everyone—the very young and the not so young—honouring their partners, promenading and swinging the girls off their feet. Half-way through these 'all join in, get-together, hoe down dances' came a welcome break, for the dancers and the bar staff, when a 'bangers and beans' supper was enjoyed by one and all.

As the crowds made their tired—but happy—way homewards, their unanimous verdict was "A great, great night"—thanks to the dedication and planning for the whole event by colleagues Messrs. Hughie Farrow and Gren Roberts.



Left: getting into the swing of things in the square dance, and below, getting out of the pool after his ducking, 'Knock-out' organiser Hughie Farrow.





M.S.U.—'Knockout' Champions 1975



Talking Notes

UNIQUE HOLIDAY HOME

OUR MEN from MANWEB in the Clwyd District had an interesting job recently when they took electricity supply from municipally-owned Conwy Morfa caravan camp network to a specially-designed caravan, donated by the people of Denbigh, fitted out with a kidney machine unit provided by the Royal Alexandra Hospital at Rhyl.

Renal sufferers who have to use a kidney machine have great difficulty in organising a holiday because they have to be near a hospital with a machine, or if they have their own, then transporting it which is an almost impossible task.

However, as from this month, the 20 or so patients in North Wales who have been trained at the Royal Alexandra to use the special unit are now able to take a holiday at Morfa.

The first to try out the idea was **Mr. Vaughan Edwards** who, until he had to retire on health grounds at the end of June, was an electrician with the Board at Llandudno Junction.

Vaughan started his working life in 1947 when he was an apprentice electrician with the former Penmaenmawr U.D.C., transferring to MANWEB at Llandudno Junction the following year. For a time he was a special constable in the area.

Two years ago he became ill and showed signs of kidney failure. Twelve months ago he became worse and his normal

life was severely restricted as he found difficulty in moving around. He took drugs to help purify his blood.

Then, a few weeks ago, he went to Rhyl to try out a kidney machine. Almost immediately he felt much better, and now he goes for treatment on the machine for five-hour sessions three times a week.

"The facilities at Morfa opens up a new field of life for many sufferers," said Vaughan. "Many who couldn't leave home for long enough to take a holiday can now do so. It's marvellous!"

Chick from Chicago

An American in MANWEB, whose colleagues in Head Office Revenue section helped her to celebrate Independence Day is 20-year-old **Mrs. Patti Jones** who hails from Chicago.

Patti's desk was decorated with miniature 'Stars and Stripes' flags, and she herself was persuaded to dress up for the occasion.

She arrived in this country last October to marry Mr. Mervyn Jones from Flint, a fitter with Hawker Siddeley Aviation.



Patti celebrates July 4th with her friends at the office.

By the time the next American celebration day comes along—*Thanksgiving*—in November, Patti may be well and truly Cymrucised!

Happy Memories

For the past 17 years we have been sending 'Contact' to a former colleague, **Mr. Reg Minshall** who left us to take up an appointment as District Senior Clerk with the Yorkshire Electricity Board at Goole.

Reg is now moving on after 37 years in the electricity

OUR COVER PICTURE shows Vaughan relaxing while connected to the kidney machine in the specially-designed caravan at Morfa camp.

supply industry to take up a post with the Yorkshire Water Authority.

In his letter informing us of his move, he writes "...the May issue of 'Contact' brought back happy memories of pre and post vesting days when I saw the photo of Percy Booth, Tom Cash, Frank Green and George Wood, ex-Mid-Cheshire Electricity Supply Co. Ltd., ex colleagues of mine.

"Whilst I regret leaving the Industry, the promotion was too good to miss and my wife Beryl—also an ex Mid-Cheshire and MANWEB employee, and I send our best wishes."

When we get your new address in Leeds Reg we will continue keeping you in touch through "Contact." Ed.

Porthmadog Winner

A keen knowledge of gardening and freezing technique has won Mr. Gordon Coombes of Glanrafon, Talsarnau, Merioneth, a £100 home freezer token in a National competition organised jointly by the Horticultural Trades Association and the Electricity Council.

The prize for the MANWEB

area was presented to Mr. Coombes by Councillor R. J. Williams, a member of the Area Electricity Consultative Council at a ceremony held recently in our Porthmadog shop. Also present were Councillor R. Emyr Williams, proprietor of the Porthmadog Garden Centre, who was acting as local agent for the joint sponsors, and Messrs. **Malcolm Ross** (Gwynedd District's Sales Supervisor), **Arthur E. Jones** (Marketing representative) and the charming shop supervisor at Porthmadog, **Myra Rowlands**.

In the Glasshouse

Ventilation in Greenhouses, the third in the "Grow-electric" series of handbooks published by the Electricity Council, provides a useful and practical guide on all aspects of ventilation of glasshouses and plastics film structures.

The importance of providing adequate ventilation of greenhouses has been recognised by designers and builders for many years. Indeed, as far back as 1664 "large and ample windows" were being recommen-

ded for greenhouses and orangeries which were being built in the gardens of the nobility and the wealthy.

By the beginning of the 19th century engineers were designing new methods to improve greenhouse ventilation systems; these included various devices to adjust the position of the sashes automatically, according to the temperature, and even fan ventilation was tried. As early as 1806 systems were being installed which provided automatic control of heating and ventilation and at least one of these incorporated a warning system consisting of an alarm bell in the gardener's bothy! Although many of these systems were ingenious it was not until the early 1960's that automatic ventilation with hinged ventilators or fans was installed on a significant scale in glasshouses in Britain. By this time reliable automatic control equipment and electric motors were available at acceptable prices.

After a hesitant start the glasshouse industry has been quick to recognise the benefits to be obtained from automatic

At the Porthmadog prize presentation ceremony, from left to right: Arthur Jones, Myra Rowlands, Councillor Emyr Williams, Councillor R. J. Williams, Mr. Gordon Coombes, Mrs. Coombes and Malcolm Ross.



ventilation. A survey carried out in 1963 showed that only one per cent of the glasshouse area in England and Wales was equipped with automatic ventilation. By 1969 this had increased to 10 per cent while by 1973, the latest date for which information is available, slightly more than 24 per cent of the glasshouse area was equipped with automatic ventilation employing hinged ventilators and a further 3.3 per cent had fan ventilation.

Since 1973 many new glasshouses have been fitted with automatic ventilation, and older greenhouses modernised with extractor fans. Nevertheless, there are many growers who have limited knowledge and experience of the systems and equipment available and to them "Ventilation in Greenhouses" will be invaluable. Students, lecturers, research workers and advisers will also find this a useful guide and book of reference.

"Ventilation in Greenhouses" is available from the Farm-electric Centre, National Agricultural Centre, Kenilworth, Warwickshire. Single copies are free.

The Name's the Same

A most unusual coincidence happened when Mr. Ken Sinclair, one of our Estates and Wayleaves staff at Head Office asked the telephone operator to call a Mr. Alan Jones of Dyfed District Council.

A few moments later he was connected. "Mr. Alan Jones?" he queried.

"Yes," was the reply.

Then Ken proceeded to discuss some business when the chap at the other end of the line cut in to say, "I think you must have the wrong person for I haven't a clue what you are talking about."

"That is Alan Jones?" said

Ken.

"Yes, it is" was the reply.

"Alan Jones of Dyfed District Council?"

"No, Alan Jones of General Motors in London!"

Well—it could have been Alan Jones the singer!

Squatter at Head Office

A sheltered ledge over our Head Office printing department loading bay doors provided an ideal nesting place for a blackbird about to bring up a family. As its four chicks were born it refused to budge even



Our blackbird at home.

when the huge doors were opened and closed or when heavy vehicles came with a clatter of noise to deliver their loads of paper.

Keeping a close guard on the blackbird's home was guillotine operator **Fred Nicholas** and our picture, above, was supplied by display leader **Gordon Lewer**.

Wedding

Our congratulations go to a happy couple from our Mid-Cheshire District who were joined together in holy matrimony recently. They are **Miss Carol Parkes**, an energy sales representative and **Mr. Tony Williams**, an electrician.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams were married in Crewe and spent their honeymoon in Majorca. On their return they were presented with a wedding gift

from their many friends by Mr. **Godfrey Hughes** (energy sales engineer).

The Cost Beater Meter

For the past few weeks, included with every domestic electricity account sent out in our area is a leaflet emphasising that 'off-peak' electricity rates are here to stay. It also explains the great savings offered by 'off-peak' and White Meter tariffs.

This is all part of the Board's "Cost Beater Meter" campaign aimed at lifting consumer confidence in our domestic 'off-peak' tariffs.

Gone Back to Ireland

After two years working as a demonstrator in our North Wirral District, **Miss Florence Sweeney** has now decided to return to Ireland where her fiancé is waiting to marry her.

She recently carried the MANWEB flag in the National Public Speaking Competition after winning our Board's area finals.

We will all miss Florence but wish her every happiness back in the Emerald Isle.

Corrective Equipment in Walton Gaol

An item in the Commercial Department's 'Load Line' reports on the recent installation by our North Mersey District's Industrial Sales engineers of 'corrective equipment' in H.M. Prison at Walton, Liverpool.

To qualify this, they go on to explain that the 'corrective equipment' is a 150 kVAR Capacitor to improve the power factor—a contract worth £2,400 by the way!

It was suggested that a bent industrial sales engineer must be on the Board's staff at North Mersey for us to get the contract. In fact there is some truth in that statement but it should

read... "A Bent, Industrial Sales Engineer..."

Sorry Arthur... only joking!

Of no fixed abode

Off on a five-year round-the-world trip is **Mr. Bill Wallwork** and his wife **Margaret**. Bill, the former Area 1 Commercial Officer and latterly Special Projects Officer at Head Office prior to his retirement just over three years ago, has been very very active since then doing a post-retirement job in France.

As this came to an end, Bill and Margaret started planning their adventure of a lifetime. They set off in mid-July when they journeyed to Bonn in Germany to call on some friends before going on to Austria, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Ceylon, Malaya, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, and Australia. Then, dependent upon shipping arrangements for their vehicle, they hope to take a trip across to New Zealand and a few of the Pacific Islands.

The next stop will be at Peru in South America then on up the coast to Mexico and into the United States of America and finally to Canada.

We will be sending copies of "Contact" to them on their travels and from time to time, we hope to hear from Bill and Margaret so that we may report on their adventures.

They will be travelling in style in a Cotswold Concord caravan unit mounted on a Mercedes Benz chassis.

This 20-foot long, centrally-heated home on wheels is the last word in compactness and comfort with two 6ft. 3in.-long divan beds, dining facilities, cooker, refrigerator, water pump and purifier, shower unit, toilet, fluorescent lighting and even a burglar alarm system.

Whether travelling or stat-

ionary, the built-in stereo cassette player provides pleasant background music. They even have mosquito nets ready for fitting to the windows!

On the vehicle dashboard is an arrangement of warning lights which let the driver now that everything is safely secured and all doors are closed before he moves off.

A unique double-battery system provides for switching over to the spare battery when the vehicle is stationary for any length of time, and when the vehicle takes to the road again, on a fully-charged battery, the spare is being recharged ready for use again at the next stop.

The trip has been well thought out and Bill told us that



Bill and Margaret off round the world.

he has been delighted with the help and interest shown by all the people he has dealt with regarding health checks, passports, visas, entry permits and the million-and-one other things he had to clear for passing from one country to another—with his caravan unit.

Before setting-off, they had moments of regret at leaving behind their many friends here and in France, but we have no doubt that in about five years time, Bill and Margaret will be back again, fitter than ever, if only for a fleeting visit before they are off again to who knows where!

For Sale

Bolex SI Standard 8 movie camera. F 1.8 zoom lens 9-30 mm automatic exposure 12-48 f.p.s. variable shutter. Back wind. Pistol Grip. Reflex viewfinder. Carrying case. £50. Test film available. 'Phone: 051-924 7081.

Rover 2000 SC 1968 "F" blue. Carefully owner-maintained. 30 plus m.p.g. average. Good radials and spare. Recent new clutch; brake pads all round; exhaust front pipe. Taxed and m.o.t. to end of Feb. 1976. Includes workshop manual and some spares. Available from 31st July or by arrangement. £450 o.n.o. 'Phone: Weaverham 3107 (evenings or weekend).

Lotus Elan + 2S "H" Registered in white/purple cabin. Chrome wheels. Usual refinements and long m.o.t. Beautiful condition. £1,250. 'Phone: Chester 47160 or Knutsford 52651—after 6 p.m. or weekends.

Puch Maxi S moped. 30-35 m.p.h. 185 m.p.g. 'N' reg. As new, only 3,000 miles. Helmet and spares. £90 o.n.o. 'Phone: 051-336 5749.

EMPLOYEES ANNUAL MEETINGS

* **Liverpool District**
Thursday,
20th November 1975
at Dovedale Towers,
Penny Lane.

* **Clwyd District**
It has been found
necessary to amend the
date to Thursday,
23rd October 1975.
The venue is the same...
Four Oaks Restaurant,
Eirias Park,
Colwyn Bay.

LONG SERVICE STAFF AT HEAD OFFICE

Over the past couple of months, we have published the names—and some pictures—of many hundreds of MANWEB Long Service recipients. The changes in periods of eligibility for awards together with some catching up of a backlog resulted in these extra large numbers of staff who qualified for their awards and certificates.

Now, we come to the end of the trail with these reports on the presentations to Head Office staff. As with the ceremonies in each of our Districts, all the presentations at Sealand Road—and Hoylake—were informal affairs with Departmental Senior Officers presenting the Certificates to their own staff, many of whom were joined by their families.



Chief Accountant Mr. A. P. Whyte receives his own Long Service Certificate from an Accounts new recruit—with two weeks service, Miss Lynne Williams.

Accounts Department

40 Years: Messrs. I. H. Abel (*administrative assistant*), T. H. Millichope (*clerical assistant*), and C. F. Milnes (*executive officer*).

35 Years: Miss M. D. Kenwright (*clerical assistant*), Mrs. M. Whitlow (*supervisor—machine room*), Messrs. G. Brown (*clerical assistant*), F. Hughson (*administrative assistant*), W. R. Jones, E. Lawrence and D. H. Murphy (*principal assistants*), W. M. Wood (*executive officer*) and J. R. Wood (*administrative assistant*).

30 Years: Miss G. M. Berry (*private secretary*), Mrs. D. M. Holt (*clerical assistant*), Miss G. B. Jones (*machine operator*), Messrs. K. A. Edwards (*executive officer*), C. Ellershaw, E. Llewellyn and K. Woodward (*administrative assistants*).

25 Years: Mrs. O. Gore (*machine operator*), Mrs. J. I. Heptonstall (*clerical assistant*), Mrs. P. M. Kay (*administrative assistant*), Mrs. H. C. Pemberton (*clerical assistant*), Miss P. G. Stubbs (*private secretary*), Miss G. Thomas (*clerk*), Mrs. S. M. Timmins (*clerical assistant*), Miss M. Tomlinson (*clerk*), Miss M. Williams (*clerical assistant*), Messrs. P. G. Coupe, G. Davies and J. S. Ellis (*administrative assistants*), H. W. Hegarty (*Assistant Chief Accountant*), H. Hughes (*principal assistant*), H. R. Hughes (*clerical assistant*), J. A. Lott (*principal assistant*), R. G. Patterson (*executive officer*), J. E. Pemberton, D. L. Pritchard and H. E. O. Stubbs (*clerical assistants*), M. Thomas (*Assistant Chief Accountant*), R. F. Threadgold (*principal assistant*) and A. P. Whyte (*Chief Accountant*).

20 Years: Mrs. C. Austin (*machine operator*), Mrs. P. Barrow (*assistant comptometer supervisor*), Mrs.

W. M. Chidlow (*clerk*), Mrs. S. Cooper (*administrative assistant*), Mrs. M. E. Cowle (*clerk*), Mrs. M. Evans (*clerk*), Miss E. Jackson (*administrative assistant*), Miss E. M. Lewis (*clerical assistant*), Mrs. B. Lloyd (*machine operator*), Miss M. E. Noble (*administrative assistant*), Miss B. Pealing (*comptometer operator*), Messrs. J. Baird (*principal assistant*), G. G. Barnes (*Assistant Chief Accountant*), W. E. Boylin (*administrative assistant*), J. A. Burt (*clerical assistant*), T. Challinor and J. E. Eaton (*administrative assistants*), D. Jones (*clerical assistant*), G. W. Jones (*principal assistant*), L. W. Jones (*administrative assistant*), D. Lang and J. Law (*principal assistants*), K. S. Leach (*Deputy Chief Accountant*), A. Mason and V. G. Meyer (*clerical assistants*), M. H. Mole (*administrative assistant*), P. C. Mulvey (*clerical assistant*), D. Parkinson, I. Pearson, C. L. Sherriff, G. A. Thomas and L. Walter (*administrative assistants*), E. G. Walley (*principal assistant*), F. Williams (*clerical assistant*) and W. E. Young (*administrative assistant*).

Management Services Unit

30 Years: Mr. J. S. Burgoyne (*work study officer*).

25 Years: Messrs. D. B. Griffiths, A. Hardman and A. Worth (*assistant work study officers*).

20 Years: Messrs. J. H. Job (*2nd engineer*), H. V. Jones (*District work study officer*), D. J. Lock (*Productivity Services Officer*), D. Percival (*senior c.w.m. analyst*), B. C. Roberts and K. Strefford (*work study officers*).

Commercial Department

40 Years: Messrs. H. T. Edwards (*principal assistant*), E. Johnson (*2nd engineer*), L. Smith and W. H. L. Walton (*regional sales controllers*) and D. S. Webb-Jones (*principal engineer*).



Four by 40 years. From left to right: Messrs. Webb-Jones, Edwards, Walton and Johnson.

35 Years: Messrs. S. J. Reynard (*administrative assistant*) and W. N. Shires (*Deputy Chief Commercial Officer*).

30 Years: Mrs. J. P. Morland (*clerk*), Messrs. J. Ashley (*administrative assistant*), J. S. Burgess (*1st engineer*), S. G. Griffiths (*principal engineer*), J. G. Norbury (*senior engineer*), T. H. Owen (*2nd engineer*) and J. R. Whittle (*installation inspector*).



25 Years: Mrs. E. Burke (*private secretary*), Mrs. P. Jefferson (*clerical assistant*), Miss E. M. Tinsley (*private secretary*) and Mr. M. R. Cowan (*Chief Commercial Officer*).

Chief Commercial Officer Matt Cowan, himself a recipient of a 25-year award, is seen here with three ladies from his staff, from left to right: Mrs. Jefferson, Miss Tinsley and Mrs. Burke.

Some of Commercial's 20-year long servers, from left to right, seated, Mrs. Dittrich, Messrs. Lornie and Stevenson. Standing: Messrs. Capper, Quinn, Kenyon, Carmen and Hibbert.



20 Years: Mrs. J. M. Dittrich (*2nd engineer*), Messrs. S. Airey (*regional sales controller*), W. Ball (*assembler*), J. S. Capper and A. Carmen (*administrative assistants*), K. Hibbert (*1st engineer*), N. B. Kenyon (*administrative assistant*), J. T. Lornie (*senior engineer*), H. R. Pierce (*1st engineer*), P. J. Quinn (*2nd engineer*) and J. H. Stephenson (*principal assistant*).

Among the 30 and 35-year award winners were, from left to right, seated: Messrs. Owen, Shires and Whittle. Standing: Messrs. Ashley, Burgess and Reynard.





Mr. M. M. Parker (*Secretary and Solicitor*) accompanied by Mr. P. B. Henderson (*Deputy Secretary*) went along to the Board's Training Centre at Hoylake to present Long Service Certificates to members of the staff there. Our picture shows, from left to right: Messrs. Henderson, Grisenthwaite, Bailey and Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Seymour.

LONG SERVICE STAFF AT HEAD OFFICE

Secretarial Department

40 Years: Messrs. D. Ellams (*administrative assistant*), A. G. James and W. G. Lever (*executive officers*).

30 Years: Miss K. Sumner (*assistant typing pool supervisor*), Miss M. Williams (*clerical assistant*), Messrs. F. H. Jones and W. J. Parry (*wayleave officers*) and C. Shepherd (*executive officer*).

25 Years: Miss D. V. Black (*Secretary, Consultative Council*), Miss J. Hannah (*private secretary*), Miss N. F. Healey (*machine operator*), Messrs. J. R. Green (*chauffeur*), M. M. Parker (*Secretary and Solicitor*) and R. D. Thomas (*Assistant Secretary*).



20 Years: Miss M. L. Barlow (*typist*), Miss D. Jones (*clerical assistant*), Mrs. M. Lowndes (*clerk*), Miss H. Monchar (*private secretary*), Mrs. P. M. Williams (*clerical assistant*), Messrs. J. A. Bailey (*training instructor*), J. E. Bowyer (*principal assistant*), R. F. Collier (*administrative assistant*), J. B. Davies and A. A. Forshaw (*administrative assistants*), R. T. Gibson (*wayleave officer*), J. D. Greenhalgh (*executive officer*), M. R. Grisenthwaite (*training instructor*), I. A. Ince (*wayleave officer*), R. D. Jones (*training instructor*), J. L. W. Ladner (*Education and Training Officer*), O. Lloyd (*administrative assistant*), E. Lunt (*principal assistant*), P. S. Meadows (*clerical assistant*), W. J. Nealey (*administrative assistant*), R. W. Newcombe (*principal assistant*), J. G. Roberts (*administrative assistant*), J. H. Seymour (*training instructor*), K. Sinclair and D. Swire (*principal assistants*), J. P. Warburton (*wayleave officer*) and F. Ward (*Assistant Secretary*).

Left: A representative group photographed after receiving their Long Service Certificates from Mr. Parker, who is seated with, from left to right, Miss Healey, Miss Hannah and Miss Williams. Standing behind are, from left to right, Messrs. Lever, Ellams and Green.

Below: More long service staff pictured with Mr. Parker. From left to right, seated, Mr. Meadows, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Lowndes, Miss Barlow, Miss Monchar and Mr. Sinclair. Standing, Messrs. Bowyer, Lloyd, Roberts, Lunt, Parker, Shepherd, Nealey, Swire, Forshaw, Ward and Collier.





A trio of long serving engineers, from left to right: Messrs. J. W. Jump (41 years), G. Edwards (47 years) and J. Chowen (40 years).



Mr. Arthur Perry (*Assistant Chief Engineer*), seated centre, with some members of his staff who received their Certificates, Mr. F. Owen, seated left, and Mr. G. B. Williams, seated right. Standing, from left to right, Messrs. G. Haigh, T. G. Oliver, G. S. Jones and W. B. Davies.

Engineering Department

45 Years: Messrs. W. B. Davies and G. Edwards (*1st engineers*), J. M. Jones and J. Marsden (*2nd engineers*).

40 Years: Messrs. S. Towill (*senior engineer*), J. F. Chamberlain and J. G. Minshall (*1st engineers*), J. T. Bolton, J. H. Chowen, C. Gibson, J. W. Jump, A. Mussell, T. Rowlands (*2nd engineers*) and F. Owen (*admin. assistant*).

35 Years: Messrs. C. E. Donovan (*District Engineer*), G. B. Williams (*principal engineer*) and F. L. Astbury (*2nd engineer*).

30 Years: Messrs. E. Smith (*principal engineer*), J. Young (*senior engineer*), N. Fell, W. H. Gittins, C. Jones, V. A. Palmer, F. Tarpy and H. Wilson (*1st engineers*), M. Gardner, G. Haigh and H. J. Sudworth (*2nd engineers*), B. Barton and K. H. Wynne (*3rd engineers*).

25 Years: Miss J. Barren (*meter records clerk*), Messrs. M. A. Garrett (*Assistant Chief Engineer*), J. Potter (*Plant Supplies engineer*), T. Colson (*principal engineer*), J. M. Hatton (*senior engineer*), G. S. Jones and J. E. Hampton (*2nd engineers*), H. Bennett and R. J. Jones (*admin. assistants*), N. W. Burnett (*clerical assistant*), E. L. Williams

(*foreman*) and T. G. Oliver (*motor mechanic*).

20 Years: Mrs. J. Gwyther (*tracer*), Miss M. J. Jones (*private secretary*), Messrs. J. Fisher (*Deputy Chief Engineer*), Messrs. F. E. Brooker, K. L. Edmondson, W. G. D. Hood, E. Roddan and A. F. Vidler (*principal engineers*), W. H. Mayhew, J. E. Powell and W. J. S. Rogers (*senior engineers*), J. Critchley, W. J. Cubbon, F. B. Doyle, G. G. Evans, H. S. Farrow, S. D. Ferguson, A. Huddleston, M. L. Hughes, A. J. Iveson, G. G. Jackson, C. J. Lamb, J. McNerney, D. G. Price, C. Ridley, T. D. Smith, B. G. Udall, H. S. Wood and J. D. T. Wright (*1st engineers*), M. J. Bowens, G. R. Buckley, R. V. Edwards, H. Evans, T. Fox, W. E. Jones, R. J. McDonald, I. P. Pughe, D. Roberts, A. Sing, A. A. Smith and R. H. Thomas (*2nd engineers*), C. Chapman, K. L. Jones, N. Jones, G. Lloyd, S. C. Murphy and E. Thewlis (*3rd engineers*), D. W. Hughes (*chief draughtsman*), W. A. Griffiths (*chief photographer*), K. Wright (*section leader*), H. Kelly (*assistant section leader*), J. Thomson (*admin. assistant*), C. Griffiths (*records draughtsman*), E. Dodd, H. W. Edwards, J. O. Jones and W. G. Jones (*clerical assistants*) and N. Ormson (*installation inspector*).

More engineering staff pictured after receiving their Long Service Certificates. From left to right, seated: Messrs J. D. T. Wright, J. Critchley, E. Thewlis, G. Lloyd and A. J. Iveson. Standing: Messrs. H. W. Edwards, H. Evans, R. V. Edwards, D. Roberts, K. L. Jones, H. Mayhew and J. O. Jones.



RETIREMENTS

Mrs. Q. BAMBER

Taking an early retirement after completing nearly 30 years' service in the industry, Mrs. Queenie Bamber, a clerk in the Consumer Accounts section in our Mid-Mersey District, will by now be enjoying the bracing air in Blackpool—her new home.

Queenie was first employed by the Warrington Corporation Electricity Department before moving to MANWEB and Sandiway in 1948 where she worked with the then Sub-Area Engineer, Mr. B. Dixon. Eight years later, she moved on to Warrington to work on the District records.

We send our best wishes to Queenie and her husband for a long and happy retirement.

Mr. J. M. RUTTER

After 48 years' service Mr. John Rutter retired as a principal assistant in the Head Office Finance Section. He joined the industry in 1927 with the Mersey Power Company.

He served with the British Army during the war and saw service in Africa, but disappeared for a number of years. He turned up after the cessation of hostilities having been posted to the Seychelles. Apparently it was not diplomatic to reveal that British troops were stationed on the islands, hence his disappearing act.

Back in civilian life he eventually became a MANWEB man on nationalisation in 1948. He worked as chief cashier at Eversley, the former Area 2 offices, when, as Mr. Whyte, the Chief

Mr. K. S. Leach (*Deputy Chief Accountant*) makes the presentation on behalf of colleagues to Mr. Rutter. In the background is Mr. H. W. Hegarty (*Assistant Chief Accountant—Finance*).



Accountant, recalled at a gathering to mark John's retirement, John Rutter had a hand in sale of tomatoes, produced in the greenhouses within Eversley's grounds.

In his younger days he was a very good tennis player, up to the County standard, and later he became interested in badminton.

Mr. H. T. EDWARDS

A principal assistant in the Chief Commercial Officer's Department at Head Office, Mr. H. T. (*Bert*) Edwards, retired after 43 years' service in the electricity industry.

He joined the Liverpool Corporation as a clerk and came to MANWEB on nationalisation as a registry officer.



No dull affair at the retirement presentation to Mr. Edwards, *left*, as he receives a farewell presentation and handshake from Mr. Stewart.

In 1956 he was appointed to the Head Office Commercial Department as a senior assistant moving up to principal assistant in 1960.

In his earlier years he was a very keen and good footballer, playing in the premier Liverpool Amateur League. In recent years his sporting ability has been ably displayed on the backgammon board in lunch-time sessions with his commercial colleagues.

Mr. Roy Stewart (*Energy Sales Manager*), making the formal presentation, recalled several incidents from his own association with Bert. At one time the Head Office marketing team were outposted in Liverpool's Victoria Street, in the heart of the imported fruit market. Not only could Mr. Stewart and his colleagues obtain information on the latest appliances but also the current price of peaches, honeydew melons, navel oranges, etc.

His colleagues contributed to gifts which included a china tea service, a clock, a backgammon set and a multiple horse race bet with Ladbrookes!



A happy 'send-off' for Jim Dowker, *centre left*, as he is presented with one of his farewell gifts from his colleagues by George Bowers (*District Commercial Engineer*).

Mr. J. DOWKER

Friends and colleagues gathered together recently at our North Wirral District Office to say their farewells to Mr. James Dowker who was retiring from his job as a commercial engineer after 40 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

James started his working life in 1935 as an apprentice electrician with 'Metro-Vicks' in Manchester. He moved on to work as an electrician with the former Hoylake U.D.C. Electricity Department and latterly with MANWEB in the North Wirral District. During this period, he specialised as a street lighting engineer.

Recently he gave up his part-time post as manager/coach of the Hoylake and Moreton Amateur Football Club. During his term of office, the team have won almost every trophy available to them.

He still keeps himself fit and he is helped by his daughter who is a physical education instructor. She keeps him touching—and on—his toes!

We join with his many good friends in the Board in wishing James and his wife, many years of happy retirement.

Mr. P. DEAN

Mr. Phil Dean, an administrative assistant in the Finance section at Head Office retired recently. He started in the industry as a clerk with the Hawarden R.D.C. in 1937.

He came to work in Chester in 1948 when the electricity industry was nationalised, when he was in the Area 3 cash office until 1969 when the Head Office moved to Chester, and he was appointed to the post from which he retires.

One of his main interests is gardening and Phil is a keen rose grower. Also he was the Clerk to the local council for many years, and he is still actively concerned with community matters.

The family name will carry on in MANWEB as his son, also a Phil Dean, is a member of the computer section staff.

Mr. G. J. LIVINGSTONE

Known at his many ports of call as 'Eric'—for reasons we have been unable to find out—courier driver Mr. Gerard John Livingstone retired from his job in our Liverpool District recently.

After working as a chauffeur for a funeral director, Eric joined the CEGB in Liverpool in 1952, but when they transferred their operations to Manchester, he



Mr. and Mrs. Livingstone, *right*, receive parting gifts and good wishes for a happy retirement from Mr. Tom Hamilton (*District Administrative Officer*).

became a driver with MANWEB working with the 'Mains' from our Pumpfields depot in 1959.

Friends and colleagues subscribed to buy Eric a gold watch as a parting gift.

We wish them both many years of happy and healthy retirement when Eric can devote more time to his interest in old churches.

Mr. C. S. B. TAYLOR

Another long service man recently retired from our Liverpool District is Mr. Charles Seymour Bamford Taylor, an e.h.t. jointer.

He joined the electricity supply industry as a cable



Friends and colleagues at Lister Drive look on as Mr. Taylor, *centre*, receives one of their parting gifts from Mr. Heaton.

hand in February 1933 and a few months later became a jointer's mate. Before joining the army in 1940 he spent a few weeks as a coal heaver at Lister Drive Power Station.

During his time in the army he served in a searchlight regiment ending up in Germany prior to demobilisation in 1946.

He returned to his job with Liverpool Corporation and in 1963 he became an e.h.v. jointer working in the former Liverpool North and Central Districts of MANWEB before moving to Lister Drive.

Charles is a keen social worker and since 1948 has

put in some valuable service with the Florence Institute at Dingle. He is interested in youth work and football. Every week for the past 10½ years he has made a 40-minute journey to Fazakerly hospital to visit his cousin who is confined to his bed.

At his retirement presentation he was presented with a parting gift by Mr. J. Heaton (*Production Engineer*) on behalf of his Liverpool colleagues. At the ceremony Charlie produced a letter written in 1930 by his stepfather who had worked with the Liverpool Corporation Electric Supply Department since 1897!



Mr. Brian G. Baxter

Mr. B. G. BAXTER

Well known throughout our Clwyd District by staff and customers alike, Mr. Brian Gledhill Baxter has recently retired from his position as the District's energy sales engineer after more than 42 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

Mr. David Mellor (*District Commercial Engineer*) paid tribute to Brian's long and loyal service which began when he took up an apprenticeship in 1932. He became an electrician, then foreman and later, assistant consumers' engineer in the former Clwyd District. He was soon promoted again to 1st assistant D.C.E. at Llandudno in the old Conwy Valley District and then he became D.C.E.

In conclusion, Mr. Mellor thanked Brian for his unstinted help and support since the formation of the combined Clwyd District in 1971.

Then Mr. Roy Stewart (*Energy Sales Manager*) spoke of Brian's hard work, his enthusiasm and his integrity.

Following the presentation of farewell gifts in the form of a calculator and a sanding attachment for a drill kit, a buffet tea was laid-on which included a special cake from the District demonstrators—both 'Girls from MANWEB'—past and present.

We at 'Contact' send our thanks to Brian for all the co-operation and help we received from him, and our best wishes for a long, happy and healthy retirement.