

Obituary

We deeply regret to report the deaths of the following colleagues:

Mr. Percy Crone Burnet who retired in 1969 after serving with the Board at Northwich for 17 years. Prior to that he worked for the I.C.I. Company in the town. We extend our sincere sympathy to his widow.

Mr. Peter W. Watson, aged 65, who was an administrative assistant in the Liverpool District meter reading section until his retirement in 1973.

Peter was one of Liverpool's outstanding personalities whose service to the electricity supply industry spanned almost 50 years. He was keenly dedicated to his job to which he brought his fine sense of humour, enthusiasm and determination, qualities which sustained him so well latterly in his spirited fight against serious illness.

We join with his many friends in extending our sympathies to his widow.

Mr. John Leonard Thomas, who died on June 10th aged 75. Affectionately known as 'J.L.' he started work in the industry with

the North Wales Power Company in 1928 when their offices were at Gresford. Five years later, the Company moved to new offices at Rhostyllen and 'J.L.' went with them as a senior accounts clerk.

On nationalisation in 1948, he transferred to the Welfare Section to become assistant to Mr. T. W. Jones who eventually became Lord Maelor.

In 1951, 'J.L.' took over the duties as Welfare Officer for the No. 4 Sub Area and did an excellent job, making a host of friends along the way until his retirement in 1967.

He was a keen 'first-aider' in addition to devoting many years of his life to voluntary work with the National Savings Movement. For a long time he was Secretary of the East Denbighshire Industrial Savings Council.

Many of our North Wales colleagues will be saddened at the passing of 'J.L.' who is survived by his wife and their son and daughter and grandchildren to whom we extend our sincere sympathies in their sad loss.

Mrs. Mary Nelson, a member

of the North Mersey District cleaning team, who joined the Board in 1969 at the old premises at Marsh Lane. There were two Marys on the staff in those days, and Mrs. Nelson, who was always willing to give help to everyone, became affectionately known as "Little Mary."

We extend the deep sympathy of her friends at Bootle to Mrs. Nelson's husband and two married daughters.

Mr. W. J. Packer a former chargehand driver from Chester, who retired from the Board in 1960 died on June 11th. He was awarded the British Empire Medal for his service to the industry.

In 1917 he was invalided out of the Army after being wounded in the Battle of the Somme, and he joined the Chester City Engineer's staff as a driver. He had a remarkable record of never being absent from work for a single day and never being late.

He was a fitness fanatic who used to walk 15 miles a day even after retirement.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

'Contact's' Exchange and Mart

Many thousands of copies of this magazine find their way into the hands of your colleagues throughout the MANWEB area—and on occasions, much further afield.

Our "Exchange and Mart" service is available to all Board employees, past and present . . . and it is free!

Whether you want to buy, sell or swap, just jot down your advertisement on a piece of paper, block letters please and keep it brief, add your own name and home address, and home telephone number if you have one, and post it to

The Editor, "Contact," MANWEB Head Office, Sealand Road, Chester CH1 4LR. We are sorry, but we cannot provide a box number service.

We will try to ensure that your advertisement will appear in the first available issue, however, we cannot accept liability for any inaccuracies or omissions, and we do not guarantee the goods or services offered. The Editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

If you want your ad. repeated, a request to this effect should be made to The Editor.



Lady Weightlifter
(see page 155)

Manual Workers' Benevolent Society

At the Society's Annual General Meeting, held at Macon Way, Crewe, the Chairman (Mr. Roy Fallows), paid tribute to the splendid work done by local sub-committees on behalf of the Society. These sub-committees, he said, were the backbone of the Society, and members put in a great deal of time outside their normal working hours—without pay—to ensure that any members, and particularly any retired members, or their widows, who were in need of assistance, were looked after by the Society.

He pointed out that during the year the Society has dispensed a total of £5,480 by way of grants and loans. Considering that a member contributed only £1.04 a year, and there were approximately 2,000 contributing members, it could be seen that a sum of £2.70 was spent for each subscribing member. This was made possible by the £1-for-£1 income given by the Board, and by the income received from wise investments.

He went on to appeal to all members of the Society to let their local sub-committees know of any cases—particularly among retired members—where they considered some assistance might be required.

Expressing appreciation of the work done by the various local retired employees committees, Mr. Fallows referred to visits arranged by Mid-Mersey,

Mid-Cheshire, Dee Valley and Liverpool Districts to the Head Office building. These trips had been thoroughly enjoyed.

In conclusion he said that since 1959 a total of £44,891 had been dispensed in various forms of help, an achievement of which the Society could be proud. He thanked the officers of the Society, and members of the General Committee, for their work during the year.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st December 1974

Income:	
Subscriptions	£4,383
Investment Income	£1,712
	Total £6,095
Expenditure:	
Grants	£1,272
Christmas Parcels	£3,527
Sundry Expenses	£ 40
Visits to sick and retired members	£ 98
	Total £4,937

Excess of income over expenditure £1,158

FACTS and FIGURES

- At 31st December, 1974 there were **2,067** industrial staff who were members of the Society
- This figure represents **66.5** per cent of the total employed industrial staff
- The number of retired members was **841**
- The number of cases dealt with during the year was **81**
- A total of **£1,272** was dispensed by way of lump sum grants during the year
- Christmas parcels to the value of **£3,527** were provided to members, retired members and widows
- Since the Society was formed in 1959, the number of cases dealt with now totals **2,169** and money paid out amounts to **£44,891**

Your contribution of 2p a week will go towards helping a colleague or former colleague in need
IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY A MEMBER WE URGE YOU TO JOIN NOW



CONTACT

Vol. 27 No. 6

June 1975

Editorial

Energy Sells

AS CHILLY economic winds blow through the fabric of our national life it is natural that efforts are made to cut back on spending, in both the business and the domestic worlds.

Sharply-rising costs of fossil fuels—and the knowledge that our reserves of those fuels are not inexhaustible—have led the Governments of the developed countries to embark on campaigns to save energy, to avoid waste, and to get the maximum return from fuel used.

It is widely accepted that the time must come when nuclear energy, distributed as electricity, will increasingly take over the tasks of our dwindling supplies of fossil fuels.

The need to maintain and consolidate an efficient and economic electricity distribution system is therefore of paramount importance, not just for the sake of the world of today, but even more so for a tomorrow which may be closer than many people realise.

This number of *Contact* reports the efforts of some of our energy sales colleagues in extending and widening present-day applications of electricity—efforts which have met with success, sometimes in competition with more traditional methods employing fossil fuels, mainly due to the perseverance and imagination brought to bear.

In these difficult times, more than ever before, our commercial colleagues engaged in this kind of work need the help and support of us all. The paths they tread are often steep and stony. But the results of their efforts help to keep the MANWEB of today on the move, and in many cases chart the pattern of things to come.

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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.

MANWEB

Ladies Win Again

MANWEB Head Office ladies beat all-comers in the final of an open first-aid contest held in Barrow-in-Furness recently. The team won the Ladies Trophy, the Barrow Ambulance League Rose Bowl, and the Opher Shield for the best overall performance.

Led by captain Mrs. Sybil Cooper, the team qualified in the Chester round of the competition, one of five throughout the North of England.

The other three members of the team were Head Office accounts staff, Miss Sybil Timmins and Miss Liz Jones, together with Miss Sheila Grimes from I.C.I. Ltd., as they were unable to recruit another MANWEB lady.

Liz was second in her particular test and was presented with a medal and Sheila gained a Merit Award for performance.



CORWEN SUCCESSES

Another 100 per cent pass rate was recorded following the recent first-aid examinations for members of our staff based at Corwen. Training was given by Nurse Dorothy Davis (*Head Office*) and Police Constable G. I. Owen of Llandrillo. With two exceptions, all were re-qualifying.

Our picture shows, from left to right, standing: P. C. Owen and Mr. E. E. Davies (*foreman*). Seated: Messrs. G. Roberts (*linesman*), H. W. Price (*linesman's mate*), W. F. Lewis (*linesman*)—first examination—E. Jones (*shop supervisor*), H. Lewis (*linesman's mate*) and L. Davies (*chargehand linesman*)—first examination.

STILL GOING STRONG

First-aid classes are still going strong throughout the Board's area. Sessions have recently started at Head Office and at Lister Drive in Liverpool. A refresher course is now on in Clwyd District for staff who are re-qualifying and it is hoped that another course will be started for members of the Clwyd District staff who are new to first-aid.

A short time ago, certificates were awarded to the following members of the Head Office

staff after their successful first examinations:

Miss A. Borrows, Miss M. Edge, Miss D. Jones, Mrs. D. M. King, Mrs. A. J. Mason and Mrs. C. Royles. Messrs. H. G. Gleave, D. Holmes, W. J. Mason, E. J. Mulroy and D. S. Roberts.

Re-examination certificates were awarded to Mrs. S. Cooper, Miss E. Jackson, Miss A. Jones, Miss E. M. Jones, Miss S. M. Timmins and Messrs. Challiner and W. Cubbon.

SECOND IN FIRST-AID COMPETITION

Just missing the top place in the National First-Aid Competition for first-year apprentices in the electricity supply industry in Great Britain was our gallant team from Hoylake. Against 15 other teams in a tough competition staged recently at Cumbernauld, near Glasgow, the MANWEB team was edged into second place, losing to the East Midlands Board apprentices.

Hard luck lads, but don't be too despondent . . . you will all be at the top one day—as tradesmen!

Recently when Mr. M. M. Parker (*Secretary and Solicitor*) visited the Training Centre to see the team, our photographer caught them for the picture below which shows, from left to right: Edwin Howells, Mr. Ron Slack (*Principal Assistant—Hoylake Training Centre*), Ian Clarke, Mr. M. M. Parker, Robert Swallow, David Jeffery, Gareth Worthington and Chris Caton.



Forty year men at Warrington, above, from left to right: Messrs. R. G. Monk, W. H. Davies, R. Rodgers, W. J. S. Leyland, R. J. Barraclough (*Group Manager*), H. R. Johnson and R. G. D. Zimmerman: and right, Mr. Barraclough presents a Certificate to Mr. J. Fitzpatrick from St. Helens.



Three Venues for Mid-Mersey Long Service Presentations

FOLLOWING the changes in the conditions governing the time periods for long service awards extra large numbers of our Mid-Mersey District staff became eligible for presentations and this necessitated, for administrative reasons, three separate functions being held at Warrington, St. Helens and Runcorn.

At each of these, Mr. D. Hodgetts (*District Administrative Officer*) introduced Mr. R. G. Monk (*District Commercial Engineer*) and Mr. W. Jones (*Production Engineer*) deputising for Mr. A. E. Cooper (*District Engineer*) who was recovering from illness. Then he called on Mr. R. J. Barraclough (*Group Manager*) to say a few words and make the presentations.

Mr. Barraclough said how pleased he was to be in the happy social atmosphere with wives of husbands and husbands of wives truly demonstrating the family spirit which was so strong in the various areas of the Mid-Mersey District. He went on to say that it was inspiring to see so many people who had given so much of their time to the industry commenting that they could all be proud of their service to MANWEB and to the local communities.

Awards were as follows:

45 Years: Mr. J. J. Balmer (*switchboard attendant*).

40 Years: Messrs. W. H. Davies, W. Evans, R. Rodgers and R. G. D. Zimmerman (*2nd assistant engineers*), H. Blythe (*foreman linesman*), R. E.

Hulse (*chargehand linesman*), J. Fitzpatrick (*joiner*), D. E. Jones (*shop supervisor*), H. R. Johnson (*supply engineer*), W. J. S. Leyland (*3rd engineer*), R. G. Monk (*D.C.E.*), A. Kinsey (*chargehand electrician*), A. M. Turner (*installation inspector*), G. Whitlow (*chargehand installation inspector*), C. Lloyd (*admin.*), P. McNorton (*admin.*), J. S. Wheat (*storekeeper*).

35 Years: Messrs. A. Parr (*meter reader/collector*) and J. Sherwen (*principal assistant*).

30 Years: Miss J. M. Ballard (*telephone operator*), Mrs. Nan Kirkham (*admin.*), Messrs. F. W. Bignall and E. A. Bold (*installation inspectors*), G. L. Bevan (*electrician*), N. Gabbott and A. R. Lovelady (*installation inspectors*), A. A. Heathwood (*meter reader/collector*), A. Horrabin (*foreman*), J. Brown (*foreman*), A. R. Cooper (*District Engineer*), H. I. Dumbell (*2nd assistant engineer*), L. Woodhead (*painter*), J. Worth (*2nd assistant engineer*), F. O. Clague (*joiner*), W. S. Grundy (*driver*), E. Hough (*foreman*).

25 Years: Mrs. D. M. Prophet (*shop assistant*), Miss J. Grice (*clerk*), Messrs. L. Bowler (*installation inspector*), J. McKague (*meter fixer*), T. D. Johnson (*admin.*), M. J. Caird (*admin.*), C. W. Butterworth (*mains foreman*), and H. Scott (*chargehand fitter*).

20 Years: Mrs. M. Martin (*clerk*), Mrs. E. Parr (*clerk*), Mrs. J. Seddon (*clerk*), Mrs. M. Ward (*admin.*), Mrs. N. M. Holder (*cleaner*), Mrs. J.



20/25 Year Awards at St. Helens ^ . . .



. . . Runcorn ^ . . . and Warrington v



Relaxing in the sunshine, 40-year-men based at Runcorn, from left to right: Messrs. A. Kinsey, H. Blythe, W. Evans and G. Whitlow.



At Runcorn Mr. Barraclough, left, congratulates 35-year-man Mr. A. Parr, with 30-year-men looking on, from left to right: Messrs. W. Grundy, E. Bold, F. Bignall, G. Bevan, E. Hough and F. Clague.

Hopley (clerk), Miss M. Rowles (clerk), Miss V. Boardman (shop assistant), Mrs. B. E. Burns (clerk), Mrs. J. B. Carson (telephone operator), and Miss A. Jolley (telephone operator), Messrs. S. Baldwin (2nd assistant engineer), R. Bramhall (contracting foreman), F. Crossley (installation engineer), J. R. Drewe (energy sales engineer), A. Houghton (installation inspector), J. Rae (electrician), J. Tart (electrician), W. Appleton (meter fixer), J. Dutton (PL attendant), G. K. Hazlehurst (electrician), C. J. Osborne and W. Sutton (PL attendants), T. Topping (driver), A. Blease (senior salesman), F. Evans (courier driver), W. Royden (shop supervisor), N. H. Cragg (clerk), J. P. Melia (assistant work study officer), G. I. Parry (admin.), J. C. Spilsbury (meter reader/collector), H. G. Threadgold (admin.), J. A. Grimes (meter reader/collector), H. Stubbs (store-keeper), J. R. Acklam (1st assist. engineer), J. W. Atherton (joiner), R. Burgoyne (joiner's mate),

G. Caulton (fitter), W. J. Clarey, B. Fitton, V. Flanagan, G. Lamb and J. Lee (2nd asst. engineers), N. Gamble (S/S attendant), A. Hind (painter), G. Newton (fitter's mate), D. A. Osborne (fitter), J. R. Osborne (2nd asst. engineer), B. J. Travis (joiner), J. T. Allen (joiner), A. Done (joiner's mate), G. G. Duffy (labourer), S. Fish (craftsman's mate), G. Gatley (linesman's mate), K. Hayes and L. Keough (joiners), J. A. Leadbetter and M. J. Mannion (joiner's mates), F. Miller and C. Norcross (linesman's mates), C. F. Oultram (driver), L. Percival (linesman), J. Stieraugl (chargehand), J. Birchall (labourer), E. H. Bott (fitter), J. E. Brown (joiner), B. Duggan (fitter's mate), T. Fillingham (foreman), A. Houghton (joiner), J. Huyton (driver), R. Johnson (S/S attendant), J. McNally (craftsman's mate), T. E. Owen (fitter), S. Roberts (labourer), H. A. Robinson, W. Woodward (switchboard attendants) and J. J. Seddon (admin.).

St. Helens 30-year-men Messrs. N. Gabbott, left, and A. R. Lovelady, centre, receive their Certificates from Mr. Barraclough.



With 35 years' service Mr. J. Sherwen, left, leads this Warrington group of 30-year award winners who are, from left to right, Mr. L. Woodhead, Miss J. M. Ballard, Mr. A. Heathwood, Mr. Barraclough (Group Manager), Mr. A. Horrabin and Mrs. Nan Kirkham.



Commercial Notes

THE determination of MANWEB's commercial staff, and the ingenuity of our industry's Research Centre at Capenhurst, have combined to solve a thorny problem for a Winsford manufacturer.

The Jiffy Packaging Company, makers of the "Jiffy" thick paper bags which are used in a multitude of ways to protect delicate products, were concerned about a moisture problem. The bags are made of a double skin of strong paper, filled with mashed newsprint as padding, and too much moisture was being retained in the bags during the operation of drying their gummed edges.

Our Mid-Cheshire District's industrial sales engineer **Mr. Reg Jenkins**, with the assistance of electroheat specialist **Mr. Terry Keenan** from Head Office, set about finding a way in which electricity could be used to improve the drying process safely, quickly and efficiently. In turn, they called in the boffins at Capenhurst who were asked to put their thinking caps on.

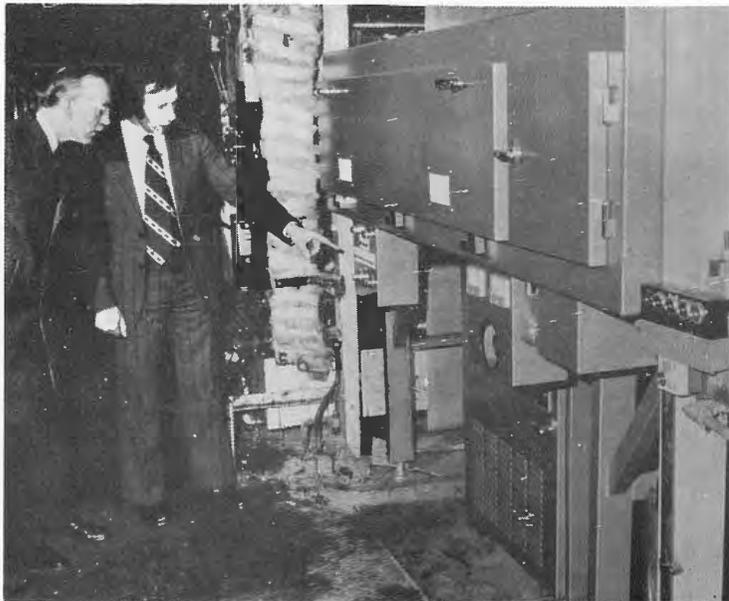
A test rig was constructed in

the laboratory to find out just how much moisture could be extracted, and a radio-frequency drying method was found to bring about a substantial improvement.

Back at the Winsford factory, radio frequency drying equipment—a 30 kW load—was incorporated into one of the two production lines. This has proved so successful that the Company, which makes 65 million bags each year, is giving the same treatment to its second production line!

Said works manager **Mr. Mike Smith**, "One of the major advantages of this system is that moisture content right across the web is even—which is a very important point to paper manufacturers. We have substantially increased productivity and reduced wastage which means less frustration for the workers."

Jiffy Works Manager **Mike Smith**, right, and our industrial sales engineer **Reg Jenkins** check the radio frequency drying equipment.



When it comes to the crunch . . .

You might think that the humble spud isn't too fussy about storage conditions—provided that frost can be kept at bay. After all, sticking them in a clamp in the ground and covering with earth and straw has been a time-honoured farming practice for generations.

But when it comes to the potatoes which turn up as "salt and vinegar," "smokey bacon" or just plain "plain"—munched by the million from little polythene bags—the storage conditions are a much more delicate matter.

Crisp-makers may reject potatoes for several reasons—one in particular being a too-high sugar content, which produces crisps with a dark colour and a burnt taste. If the storage temperature is too low or too high sugar content can build up, and the ideal storage temperature is between 7 and 10 degrees Centigrade—not easy to maintain in view of the fact that potatoes in store can produce as much heat as 60 BTU per ton per hour!

This was the problem posed for **Mr. Tony Swift** of Mid-Mersey District by Altrincham farmer **Mr. Cookson**, who arranged to sell his 400-ton potato crop to a famous crisp firm—but had to store them until delivery was required.

Tony called in **Mr. Ron Andrews**, our agricultural specialist, who designed a forced-draught ventilation system capable of maintaining the 'Murphys' at the required temperature in an existing building, and this work has led to the design and quotation for a combined potato and grain store at another Mid-Cheshire farm.

So if you find your crisps of the future 'just right,' you may well be able to thank some of your MANWEB colleagues.

Cool Customers

Speak of air-conditioning and most people think of hot summer days, with sunshine pouring in through the windows (!) and everyone crying out to be cooled off.

But our Gwynedd colleagues have pulled off two air-conditioning contracts at Bangor recently—the first at the premises of a leading wholesale grocers, who needed a controlled environment for their new computer room, and the second to enable the staff and customers of a fashion shop to keep cool while buying and selling their stunning creations!

Centralec successes at St. Helens

In common with many major housing authorities, St. Helens Council is engaged on a far-reaching programme of modernisation for older Council houses, and our colleagues at Mid-Mersey District are currently hard at work carving out a slice of the central heating market for *Centralec* small-bore heating. This follows a previous sales drive when 120 *Electricaire* installations went into the homes of St. Helens tenants as part of an earlier programme.

Difficulty was experienced in getting over the *Centralec* story to some of the officials. The Board's caravan trailer, with a *Centralec* unit installed, was sited in the conversion areas and used to back-up our 'door-knockers!'

The tenants in the latest phase of work—on the Windhurst Estate—were offered the choice of fuel by the Council. MANWEB co-operated in staging an exhibition demonstrating the various fuel applications—electricity, gas, and solid fuel. The case for electricity was explained to the tenants as they visited the exhibition, and this was followed up by door to door salesmanship



MANWEB and Greenall Whitley personalities at the exhibition at the Lord Daresbury Motel, Warrington.

by **Mr. Frank Kelly** (senior salesman) and his team of representatives. As a result, the District's contracting staff are working on the first 16 installations, with more to come.

Also involved in this sales push have been Messrs. **Ken Appleton** (energy sales engineer), **Dave Tinsley** (2nd assistant engineer) and **Alan Hill** (design engineer) breaking into what must be virtually a new field of operation—the installation of *Centralec* in Council housing schemes in a strong coal-orientated area.

Shop scoops

Contracts worth over £10,000 for electrical installations in two new Co-op supermarkets have been secured by our colleagues at Clwyd District.

The first—at Denbigh—involves an additional load of 46 kW, while at Rhos-on-Sea the Co-op are converting the old Playhouse cinema where we are involved in a 20 kW installation job.

Successful show

A two-day specialised exhibition sponsored by the Greenall Whitley Co. Ltd., was held recently at their Lord Daresbury Motel near Warrington.

The Board had a small but well-designed stand where, from

the word 'go' business was very brisk with **Mr. Frank Kelly** (senior salesman) going from one customer to another, his receipt and enquiry books at the ready.

Helping him was **Mrs. Sue Orrill** (demonstrator), newcomer **Mr. Geoff Scott** (salesman) and from Head Office **Mrs. Ann Roney-Smith** (senior demonstrator). Our "Girl from MANWEB," **Miss Lynette Kemp** charmed customers on to our stand as she helped Sue to cook tasty morsels for the visitors.

Other feature attractions for customers from all over the MANWEB and Norweb areas, were the two special offers—the Cona coffee percolator and the SEB grill.

Our Mid-Mersey men took along some customers they had been working on for some time and managed to clinch a £1,500 order for catering equipment in a Pastoral Centre in Runcorn.

Many other sales were made and enquiries taken in the two action-packed days.

NEXT ISSUE OF

'CONTACT'

Kitchen Centres prove
a great success



Some of the award recipients, with their wives, at the Aberystwyth presentation ceremony with Mr. Ken Helliwell (Group Manager), third from left, and R. A. Williams (District Commercial Engineer), 6th from left.

Awards to Aberystwyth staff for nearly 1000 years' service

Engineering Department

25 Years: Messrs. T. R. Jones (asst. production engineer) and W. R. King (fitter's mate).

20 Years: Messrs. A. J. Bates (linesman), E. I. Evans (asst. systems engineer), J. A. Griffiths (chargehand), R. M. Howells (jointer), J. McTavish (linesman), A. Morgan (asst. systems engineer), E. C. J. Parrott (chargehand), D. G. Parry (Systems Engineer), J. Parry (Production Engineer), R. H. Pugh (draughtsman), M. Rees (chargehand), J. M. Richards (linesman), W. C. Sadler (jointer) and T. H. Wyatt (linesman).

Administrative Department

35 Years: Messrs. J. O. Hughes (administrative assistant) and R. Lewis (District Administrative Officer).

25 Years: Messrs. G. A. Williams (meter reader) and F. A. Bushnell (storekeeper).

20 Years: Messrs. W. A. Gough (storekeeper), S. Jones (labourer), J. E. Thomas (storekeeper), N. L. Whyman (debt collector) and E. W. R. Davies (yardman).

Commercial Department

45 Years: Mr. B. O. Lloyd (Supply Engineer).

40 Years: Messrs. I. H. Griffiths (Energy Sales Engineer) and J. M. Jeremy (asst. supply engineer).

30 Years: Messrs. D. Hughes (asst. installation engineer) and R. J. Hughes (District Sales Supervisor).

25 Years: Messrs. H. C. Bates (electrician), D. R. Evans (electrician), R. E. Clarke (installation inspector), W. E. Owen (electrician), H. S. Pymont (installation engineer) and D. W. Meredith (electrician).

20 Years: Messrs. R. Bright (installation inspector), W. G. Davies (electrician), I. Edwards (electrician), S. J. Evans (Supply Engineer) and T. E. C. Wintle (electrician).

Another group at Aberystwyth after receiving their Certificates. Also in the picture are Messrs. D. A. Hamblin (District Engineer), left, and R. Lewis (District Administrative Officer), third from left.



WOMEN AT WORK

THE CASUAL visitor to the Board's main stores and warehouse at Queensferry may be slightly surprised to see a cheerful female at the controls of a mighty 'Bonzar' extra-large-size fork lift truck as it unloads container delivery boxes weighing anything up to 6,000 lbs. Quite a tricky job for a lady who in this case is **Miss Joyce Cummings**, MANWEB's only female storekeeper.

Our cover picture this month shows Joyce doing her weight-lifting act with one of the appliance delivery containers.

She joined us nearly five years ago when, after applying for an advertised job as a clerk, she was taken on as an assistant storekeeper in the spares department when it was found that she had previously worked for over 14 years in the stores

at the De Havilland Company. She was appointed as storekeeper in January this year.

A few months ago Joyce went on an intensive course and came back with her test certificate qualifying her as a 'Bonzar' driver which is something of a feat for a woman.

Mind you, she is a very keen car driver too, but gets great pleasure in coming to work from her home in Mancot on a Honda 50 motor bike!

Joyce likes to go camping—complete with tent—and does quite a bit of country and fell walking despite her love for machines on wheels. She also devotes some of her spare time to preparing lessons for her Sunday School class at the local Presbyterian Church.

Her latest interest is in photography and we are looking forward to seeing her entries in this year's 'Contact' Photographic Competition.

Marketing Manager's Move

After a brief spell with MANWEB our Appliance Marketing Manager **Mr. Tom Dean** has now moved on to pastures new.

He joined us in 1968 direct from the Northern Gas Board



Mr. Cowan, left, hands over a souvenir card to Mr. Dean

following a business career in sales and marketing.

Commercial colleagues wished him well in his new venture as **Mr. M. R. Cowan** (Chief Commercial Officer), on their behalf, presented parting gifts to Mr. Dean.

Another Year on the Board

The Secretary of State for Energy has reappointed **Mr. M. M. Parker** as a member of our Board for a further period of one year from January 1st, 1976.

Mr. Parker has been a member of the Board since January 1970. He combines these duties with those of his post as MANWEB's Secretary and Solicitor which he has held since 1953.

Winning Float

The MANWEB float in the Lord Mayor of Liverpool's Annual Parade gained the premier award when placed first in the Commercial Floats section of the competition.

Joyce in the 'Bonzar' cab.





The lively Liver Bird.

The entry depicted a Liver Bird nesting on the globe of the earth, illustrating the theme of the parade, 'Liverpool and the World.'

The windy day proved something of a hazard with the huge wing-span catching the breeze. A brave volunteer boarded the float and held on firmly to the legs of the model. A Scouse wit in the crowd remonstrated with our hero, saying "You cruel b....., let the poor thing go!"

Despite this criticism the Board were presented with a large splendid trophy, which we understand a senior member of the Commercial staff was attempting to mislead colleagues into believing that he had won it in a golfing contest.

Seeing Double

Staff in our North Wales section of the Board are accustomed to the idea of bilingual road signs—professional and amateur—but surely there must be a limit.

This recent example, sent to us by **Maldwyn Evans**, a



systems engineer at Aberystwyth, poses the vexing question, "Which is on top, Welsh or English?"

New Man at Clwyd

Before his retirement at the end of June, **Mr. Brian Baxter** our Clwyd District energy sales engineer will have the opportunity to meet his successor **Mr. Robert Charles Hodson** who comes to us from Norweb.

Bob, started his working life as an apprentice fitter then won a place at Salford University where he gained his B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering.

He has held various appointments during his 15 years'



Clwyd's new energy sales engineer, Mr. Bob Hodson.

service with Norweb, broken by two years when he worked in Switzerland for the Brown Boveri Company.

Aged 33, Bob and his wife Maureen have an eight-year-old daughter Jane. His hobbies are gardening and reading.

Diamond Duo

Still agile-minded at 86 years of age, **Mr. Albert Stanley Jones**, a former meter reader/collector at Rhostyllen, and his wife aged 83, celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary

on June 19th.

Albert, who retired in 1957—yes 18 years ago—wrote to us to say that he attributed his many years of happy retirement to the interest taken by the Board staff in his welfare.

"I have spent hundreds of hours," he wrote, "reading the staff magazine 'Contact' and I thank you for sending each monthly edition without missing. I have a great interest in knowing of the growth and progress of MANWEB and its employees."

We thank you for your letter Albert and in reply say to you—"Keep going—you're only 14 off your century!"

Eisteddfod Power

During the National Eisteddfod week to be held in Criccieth during August nearly twice as much electricity will be used on the Eisteddfod field than is used in the nearby villages of Abererch and Llanystumdwy.

Our Gwynedd District engineers have been planning for the increase in load and will bring supply to the field from four different directions.

EMPLOYEES ANNUAL MEETING

Clwyd District
on Friday, 17th Oct. 1975
at the
Four Oaks Restaurant
Eirias Park
Colwyn Bay
Book the date now!

Five-a-side

The meter collectors of our North Mersey District fielded a winning team in the Five-a-side football tournament organised by **Mr. Wyn Thomas** on behalf of the District's Sports and Social Club.

The matches were played at the Vernon Sangster Sports Stadium and the successful team—**Messrs. Billy Benbow,**

Dave Morris, Ted Smith, Joe and Jim Brennan were presented with a shield.

Our sympathies go to **Mr. John Hampson** (2nd engineer) who unfortunately broke a toe during the evening.

New Life

To be young, fancy-free and adventurous to boot just about sums up 22-year-old **Miss Janine Rawson**, one of Head Office's Commercial secretaries who has just left for a long holiday in Florida. If she likes it, she may apply to stay!

In Third Place

At the finals of the Electricity Council Public Speaking Competition held in London a short time ago, MANWEB's representative in the Men's Section, **Mr. John Anthony Walker** an assistant energy sales engineer in our Oswestry District, was pipped into third place.

Hard luck John. Still, there's always next year!

New From Old Colleagues

The Liverpool Retired Employees Group is continuing to maintain an active programme, with a recent visit to Ffestiniog and Trawsfynydd Power Stations, and a visit to Liverpool by retired friends from the Birmingham area planned for August 5th. A trip to the Conway Valley area is also on the cards.

Following publicity in 'Contact' the group's secretary, **Mr. Harry Robertson**, received a letter from **Mr. Bill Wall-**



WELSHPOOL'S NEW MAYOR

Following his recent installation as the Mayor of Welshpool, **Mr. W. D. (Bill) Morris** posed for this picture with his wife Betty, and daughters Susan, left, and Jacqueline.

Colleagues from our Oswestry District Office who were present as invited guests to the Civic Reception in the Town Hall included Messrs. **G. E. Davies** (District Engineer), **R. A. Williams** (District Commercial Engineer), **R. A. Owen** (System Engineer) and **D. Wade** (Energy Sales Engineer).

Bill is a record draughtsman at Maesbury Road offices.

work, who will be remembered by many MANWEB people, especially in Liverpool. Mr. Wallwork, who has been living in France, sent his good wishes to his old friends, and a donation for the Group's funds.

Any old colleagues wishing to get in touch with Mr. Robertson can do so at 136 Lisburn Lane, Liverpool L13 9DE.

Incidentally, we now hear that Mr. Wallwork is coming back to England—but not for long. He and his wife now plan to set off on their long-cherished dream of a round-the-world trip by motor caravan in July. No question of some people finding retirement boring!

We had another pleasant letter recently from a retired

colleague who sends her good wishes to all her old friends with whom she worked at Lister Drive—**Miss Mabel Power**, who lives in Southport, and who "finds it hard to believe" she will be 80 this month! So do we, in view of the firm clear script of her letter.

Clwyd Retired Group Formed

About 40 retired colleagues from all parts of our Clwyd District gathered together at the District Office at Rhyl recently and decided to form a Clwyd District Retired Staff Association.

Annual sub. will be 70p per member (£1 for husband and wife), and it is hoped to arrange outings and other social functions of interest to members.

A Committee was set up, with **Mr. A. Garman** (former section engineer at Rhyl) as Chairman. Secretary is **Mr. F. L. Evans**, of "Richmond," Earl Road, Mold (Tel. Mold 3241), who would be pleased to hear from potential members of the Association.

Reserve your tickets now for the
E. & E.I.B.A. SUPPER DANCE
to be held in the Restaurant at Head Office, Chester
on Friday, 17th October 1975
For further information please ring:
Mr. T. H. Dutton (2142) or Mr. J. G. Roberts (2146)



Oswestry and Whitchurch staff, including the three Senior District Officers, after receiving their Certificates for 40, 30 and 25 year's service from Group Manager, Mr. R. A. Barraclough, seated fourth from left.

LONG SERVICE STAFF IN OSWESTRY DISTRICT

Some of the 20-year Long Service staff based at Oswestry and Whitchurch.



Long Service Certificates marking a total of 1,750 years of service to the electricity supply industry were presented to members of our Oswestry District staff by Mr. R. J. Barraclough (*Group Manager*) at ceremonies held a short time ago at Oswestry and Newtown.

Among the recipients were District Senior Officers Messrs. Eric Davies (*District Engineer*) 40 years, W. J. Thompson (*District Administrative Officer*) and R. A. Williams (*District Commercial Engineer*)—25 years each.



Newtown and Welshpool staff receive their 30 and 25-year Certificates. From left to right: Messrs. C. C. Lewis, G. Brunt, G. A. Jones, A. G. Gray, R. G. Jehu, R. J. Barraclough (*Group Manager*) and E. M. Gittins.

Certificates were presented as follows:

Oswestry and Whitchurch staff

40 Years: Messrs. A. G. Edwards, G. E. Davies and H. J. Huxley.

30 Years: Miss R. Roberts, Messrs. J. Evans, D. C. Mantle, E. Mills and F. H. Sanderson.

25 Years: Mrs. M. Gregory, Messrs. W. H. Blackwell, E. Field, G. I. Maddocks, W. J. Thompson, E. Wainwright, S. W. Warburton and R. A. Williams.

20 Years: Miss F. G. Evans, Miss S. Jones and Messrs. W. E. Ambrose, E. Barrow, M. G. Beard, D. A. Bolas, J. E. Brierley, L. Brookfield, C. W. Butler, W. D. Day, W. Davies, Ll. Ellis, W. Ellis, R. Entwistle, H. G. Evans, W. R. Griffiths, H. W. Gwilliam, I. Jones, I. G. L. Jones, J. T. Jones, H. E. Large, N. W. Lewis, J. A. Mathews, W. D. Morris,

D. M. Neaves, R. A. Owen, W. E. Phillips, P. O. Powell, J. J. Pritchard, G. W. B. Pryce, R. T. S. Pugh, F. Reese, A. Ritchie, W. H. Roberts, C. W. Seager, A. N. Tincello, D. Wade and F. H. Wightman.

Newtown and Welshpool staff

30 Years: Messrs. A. G. Gray and G. A. Jones.

25 Years: Messrs. G. Brunt, E. M. Gittins, R. G. Jehu and C. C. Lewis.

20 Years: Messrs. G. E. Davies, W. J. H. Davies, L. H. Ellis, J. E. Evans, N. T. Evans, D. E. Gittins, R. E. Griffiths, T. G. Hawkins, H. J. Hollywell, R. T. Hughes, W. H. Jones, J. E. Joseph, H. E. Morris, D. G. Owen, T. A. Owen, J. W. S. Preece, J. S. Reese and E. G. Woosnam.

The men from Newtown and Welshpool who qualified for and received Long Service Awards on completion of 20-years' service in the industry.





Inspector Linwood, seated second left, of the Cheshire Constabulary Traffic Department with some of the Crew based Safe Drivers who received their awards from him.

SAFE DRIVERS — MID-CHESHIRE

20-Year Brooch: Mr. R. Penistone.

Bar to 15-Year Brooch: Messrs. F. C. Astles, E. J. Everall, J. Hough, R. Maddock, D. Senior, F. Stringer and F. Warburton.

15-Year Brooch: Messrs. A. H. Pulham, P. Roche and L. Waltmaier.

Bar to Ten-Year Medal: Messrs. E. Benyon, F. J. Broadhurst, W. Butler, R. M. Paton, G. D. Steele and L. Stenton.

Ten-Year Medal: Messrs. G. Breeze and J. A. Davies.

Bar to Five-Year Medal: Messrs. R. Craven, R. Edgeley, P. Edwardson, A. R. Howman, D. W. Jones, W. H. Jones, N. Latham, J. Mahon, H. Massey, K. S. Massey, J. A. McGuire, G. K. Morrey, J. B. O'Hara, T. E. Rayner, W. Salmon, K. E. Sandlands, J. E. Spruce, G. Taylor, J. A. Tomlinson and J. H. A. Wilson.

Five-Year Medal: Messrs. R. W. Cooke, J. A. Dean, A. Dickens, S. Gatley, A. Gibb and J. Summers.

Diploma: Messrs. A. Ashbrook, A. Bell, O. Brodie, G. Carter, N. Challoner, C. H. Clements, F. Cliffe, D. Clutton, S. R. Cooper, S. J. Davies, E. Dean, E. Dutton, G. A. Edge, G. Edwards, R. England, J. W. Foster, K. Foster, J. B. Guildford, G. L. Greenhough, K. R. Greenhough, B. A. Harding, A. Harrison, J. Harrison, J. Harvey, W. Holland, C. W. Hough, A. Hughes, D. Hughes, P. J. Humphreys, B. Johnson, E. C. Jones, T. H. Jones, J. R. Kerley, C. T. Kinder, H. Lamb, G. Lamb, K. Leather, G. H. Lunt, T. D. Martin, J. W. Mason, J. D. Matzen, J. B. McGirr, R. Murray, J. Mutton, E. Naughton, G. Newbrook, D. Oakes, W. Palin, G. A. Perry, G. W. Purcell, M. Pye, B. Sanderson, R. S. Scott, K. Shaw, R. H. L. E. Smith, H. Snape, B. Tench, D. Thompson, D. A. Threadgold, D. Tilley, J. J. Tomlinson, R. Waddilove, A. Wakefield, B. A. Westwood, H. Williams, T. Williams, N. Woodall, E. Worrall, J. Yarwood, C. Young, T. Aspinall, E. Bebbington, S. Brown and K. Brassington.

Principle guest at the Northwich presentation ceremony was Councillor Mrs. J. Bourne (Chairman of Vale Royal Road Safety Committee) who is seen here with some of our depot drivers.



At Caernarfon ..

Right. At St. Helens Road we pictured this group, from left to right: Messrs. O. M. Jones, G. P. Morris, O. F. Ellis, J. C. Jones, H. Jones, L. Morris and E. Rowlands.

Below. Engineers at District Office, from left to right: Messrs. J. N. R. Phillips, T. M. W. Williams, R. T. Jones, D. Jones and G. Williams.



LONG SERVICE MEN —AND WOMEN— IN OUR GWYNEDD DISTRICT

Engineering Department

40 Years: Mr. F. J. Keen (foreman).

30 Years: Mr. G. A. Davies (jointer).

25 Years: Messrs. J. R. Beech, R. J. Cotgrove, J. Evans and R. H. Hughes (linesmen), F. Jones (foreman), J. S. Jones (3rd engineer), M. O. Jones (mechanic), J. R. Owen (foreman), J. N. R. Phillips (Systems Engineer), D. H. Roberts (foreman), E. O. Williams (switchboard attendant) and J. E. Wynne (linesman).

20 Years: Messrs. T. Bee (linesman's mate), A. Eynon (linesman), A. L. Hughes (driver), G. Hughes (fitter's mate), J. M. Humphreys (linesman), A. I. Jones (linesman), B. Jones (jointer), D. Jones (2nd engineer), D. G. E. Jones (switchboard attendant), E. Jones (driver), G. Jones and G. A. Jones (linesman's mates), J. H. Jones (fitter), J. M. Jones (linesman), R. T. Jones (3rd engineer), S. Jones (jointer), W. Jones (linesman), W. A. Jones (foreman), W. T. Jones (driver), F. McKeaveney (linesman), J. M. (continued on page 163)

.. Llangefní ..

The Keen's of Llangefní, father and son, both qualified for their Long Service Awards, Pop with 40 years and the youngster with 20 years. They are seen here with some of their colleagues, from left to right: Messrs R. H. Hughes, C. Roberts, F. J. Keen, senior, F. J. Keen, junior, M. O. Jones and W. Owen.



.. and Pwllheli

From left to right: Messrs. A. L. Hughes, A. Eynon, J. R. Beech and E. E. Rees, Miss D. M. Jones, Messrs. W. A. Jones, W. W. Jones, I. Roberts and H. Roberts.





Messrs. Frank Dearden, left, and Harry Rimmer talk to staff nurse Audrey Williams on duty in the new ward

A Hospital Job for our North Mersey Installation Team

THE erstwhile arguments about the National Health Service having no part of the private patient scheme now seem to have been settled with the phasing out of pay beds in NH hospitals and the private sector opening more of their own premises.

However, the best of both worlds may now be found at Southport's General Infirmary where a new ward has been built as part of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board's upgrading plan. Instead of 30-odd beds regimented down the sides of a ward, the new block, named Rimmington Ward, has four spacious six-bed wards and six, well-appointed single bed wards separated by a central corridor with inset flower bays and a nurse's station in the middle.

At the end of the block is a day room, complete with TV, for use by mobile patients. Utility rooms, baths, showers, toilets, treatment rooms, linen room, storecupboard kitchen, staff rooms, office and visitor's waiting room complete this clean and compact ward block, well ventilated by wall and roof extractor fans.

All the wards have provision for public telephone outlets and each bed has its own light control, a four-station radio system piped through headphones, a nurse's call button alarm, giving both visual and sound signals.

As part of the nurse call system, in addition to the individual bed alarms there are 22 over door light alarms and 24 sundry warning outlets in the various non-ward rooms in the block.

Our electricians have worked on the installation of 52 fluorescent and 73 tungsten lighting points, 52 single and a dozen twin socket outlets.

Other work carried out by our contracting staff was the wiring of a new animal house connected with the pathology department and the complete re-wiring of sections of a recently modernised double-storey building at the hospital. This houses an impressive new entrance hall complete with smart enquiry and appointment office. On the upper floor, electrical work has been carried out in a number of laboratories.

On this part of the job, 95 fluorescent and 21 tungsten lighting points have been installed, 130 single and 28 twin socket outlets, the provision of a blood bank, four refrigerators and the wiring of electric fans, clocks and a fire alarm system.

The tender for all the work was won by our North Mersey District against tough and tight competition. The 30-bed ward block brought in work worth over £8,000 and for the pathology block, our quote amounted to nearly £8,500 and with 'extras' the final figure came to around the £9,000 mark. All the estimating was done at District Office by Cliff Heaton who recently moved over to 'Supply' as a 2nd assistant engineer.

Electricians Dave Fazakerly and Dennis Blundell started the jobs and with the help of one or two more in between times, Ellis Tomlinson (*electrician*) and Peter McKenzie (*apprentice*) finished it. During the period when another of our 'sparks' Cliff Fielding worked on the job, he and Peter were involved in a road accident with the former ending up in one of the hospital beds. There is no truth in the story that our electricians were so pushed for time on the job that they had Cliff making 'ends' while lying in his bed!

Of great help to Harry Rimmer (*2nd engineer—Installation*) and Ian Ledson (*foreman electrician*), who between them organised and progressed the whole job, was Frank Dearden, Clerk of Works with the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board.

The work carried out—and the prices—on these



Showing a specimen of part of a human throat from one of the laboratories in which they worked are, from left to right: Ellis Tomlinson, Peter McKenzie and Ian Ledson.

contracts must have been most satisfactory because the team have now started on a £5,000 contract on the new X-ray block at the neighbouring Southport Promenade Hospital . . . plus another £1,000 job on the conversion of three flats to be used by resident doctors . . . and a few more smaller but most acceptable contracts.

Keep up the good work North Mersey!

Gwynedd District Long Service—continued

Owen (*driver*), R. T. Owen (*labourer*), W. Owen (*driver*), A. Pritchard (*linesman*), E. E. Rees and C. Roberts (*jointers*), E. Roberts (*linesman*), I. Roberts (*linesman's mate*), J. L. Roberts (*2nd engineer*), A. Rowlands (*foreman*), J. W. Seavage (*linesman*), A. M. Thomas (*Production Engineer*), W. H. Thomas (*labourer*), C. G. Williams (*driver*), G. Williams (*3rd engineer*), H. Williams (*linesman's mate*), T. Williams and R. O. Williams (*linesmen*), and T. Wheldon Williams (*3rd engineer*).

Administrative Department

40 Years: Messrs. W. J. Hunt (*meter reader foreman*) and R. O. Jones (*clerk*).

25 Years: Mrs. M. J. Winterburn (*clerk*) and Messrs. C. O. Luckman (*debt. collector*), J. Williams and W. C. Williams (*clerks*).

20 Years: Miss E. W. Jones (*typist*), Mrs. S. Robson (*cleaner*), and Messrs. W. E. Aubrey (*storekeeper*), G. L. Davies (*administrative assistant*), H. Jones (*storekeeper*), J. M. Jones (*yardman*), O. M. Jones

(*clerk*), W. H. Looms (*yardman*), G. P. Morris (*clerical assistant*), L. Morris (*storekeeper*), G. R. Orritt (*meter reader*), G. Owen (*courier*) and D. Williams (*clerical assistant*).

Commercial Department

35 Years: Messrs. A. D. Graham (*electrician*), R. D. Jones (*shift electrician*) and G. W. Roberts (*electrician*).

25 Years: Miss D. M. Jones and Miss D. B. Williams (*saleswomen*), Messrs. C. Jones (*2nd engineer*), T. J. Jones and F. Littler (*1st engineers*), E. Owen and E. Phillips (*electricians*), W. G. Wakelin (*District Sales Supervisor now a Regional Sales Controller*), and R. Williams (*electrician*).

20 Years: Messrs. A. Bunton (*3rd engineer*), O. F. Ellis (*2nd engineer*), E. Evans Hughes (*installation inspector*), J. I. Hughes (*electrician*), A. E. Jones (*sales representative*), D. G. Jones (*installation inspector*), E. Jones (*shift electrician*), J. C. Jones, M. Jones, W. W. Jones, F. J. Keen jnr., T. I. Price and H. Roberts (*electricians*), E. Rowlands (*2nd engineer*) and W. H. Williams (*electrician*).



Award recipients with Messrs. S. Fairclough, seated 4th from right, G. Bowers, 3rd from right, D. G. Tomsett, 4th from left and R. H. Morley 5th from left.

Long Service Certificates for North Wirral Staff

Ninety-five members of the North Wirral District staff qualified for Long Service Awards in 1973 and 1974, and 70 of them, accompanied by a good number of wives and friends, gathered recently at a Bebington restaurant to receive their Certificates from Mr. Sid Fairclough (Group Manager). The District's senior officers introduced the various members of their staffs (and all three received awards themselves).

Awards were gained as follows:
45 Years: Messrs. W. F. Crossley (meter reader/

Some of the 20 and 25 year long service staff at North Wirral District.



collector), W. J. McLachlan (admin. assistant), J. L. Taylor (installation inspector), G. Wood (service electrician), K. G. Lea (foreman), and the late Mr. C. Shorthill (whose award was received by his widow).

40 Years: Messrs. J. Bradley (principal assistant), H. Middlemiss (admin. assistant), H. H. Cave (2nd engineer), and G. Bowers (District Commercial Engineer).

35 Years: Messrs. H. S. Dunning (commercial supply engineer), F. Smith (installation inspector) and F. J. Slee (foreman).

30 Years: Miss Mary McCann (clerical assistant), Mrs. M. E. Cross (admin. assistant), Messrs. K. W. Murray (electrician), A. Langley (service electrician), R. G. Bell (electrical fitter), E. Coley (foreman), J. V. Butterworth (foreman), G. E. Lancaster (2nd engineer) and R. H. Morley (District Engineer).

25 Years: Mrs. D. Salter (clerical assistant), Miss K. Davies (admin. assistant), Messrs. J. Thelwell (meter reader/collector), F. Murphy (assistant storekeeper), R. A. Smith (clerical assistant), G. Davies (meter reader), R. A. Hatton (assembler), J. E. Prescott (service electrician), T. M. L. Ellwood (installation inspector), J. Shaughnessey (installation inspector), W. H. Bell (electrician), J. F. Holme (driver), B. D. Bradley (electrician), J. E. Podmore (labourer), L. Murphy (foreman), J. H. Smith (fitter's mate), B. E. Scott (2nd engineer), H. W. Ezard (joiner) J. C. Bagnall (labourer), K. W. Hardcastle (2nd engineer), A. Robinson (fitter), A. W. A. Tressider

(labourer), G. D. Lamont (joiner), A. G. Hall (storekeeper) and R. Foster (compressor driver).

20 Years: Miss D. Rushton (saleswoman), Messrs. J. D. Blythe (meter reader/collector), J. E. Ball (labourer), L. Bibby (labourer), A. E. Pringle (labourer), W. N. Gracen (labourer), F. J. Casey (clerical assistant), A. F. Spriggs (storekeeper), K. G. Corfield (admin. assistant), H. E. Pyke (storekeeper), N. J. Johnson (clerical assistant), C. A. Bonsor (foreman reader/collector), J. Dean (meter reader/collector), R. A. Meacock (clerical assistant), D. G. Tomsett (D.A.O.), D. R. Neil (driver), W. G. Reyner (service electrician), C. Bratt (chargehand), T. J. G. Davies (assembler), A. Woods (commercial engineer), V. Sestan (P/L attendant), D. W. Cooley (chargehand), G. J. Houghton (installation engineer), K. Williams (shop supervisor), D. Willacy (energy sales engineer), D. W. Ross (assembler), V. P. Henri (installation inspector), R. H. Jones (2nd engineer), C. R. H. Sutherland (installation inspector), W. E. Wood (joiner's mate), J. A. O'Sullivan (labourer), J. W. Bennett (labourer), P. G. Doherty (joiner's mate), E. Parrington (joiner), A. Idle (painter), S. Parkins (2nd engineer), R. H. Chapman (driver), E. Allen (joiner), H. Frost (joiner's mate), H. G. Nulty (gardener), F. K. Maddock (2nd engineer), S. Hawkesworth (joiner), R. C. Harrison (foreman), J. C. Whittaker (linesman), J. Graham (electrical fitter), T. C. F. Hardie (switchboard attendant), A. R. Harris (joiner's mate), and E. Jones (production engineer).

FOR ALL MANWEB EMPLOYEES,
PENSIONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

1975 'CONTACT' PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

SECTIONS AND PRIZES

Colour Transparencies

1st Prize £10 Second Prize £5

Colour Prints

1st Prize £10 Second Prize £5

Black and White

Best Picture £5

Colour or Black and White

Best Human £5 Best Animal £5

Best Humorous £5

A copy of the Rules may be obtained on request from *The Editor, "Contact," MANWEB Head Office, Sealand Road, Chester CH1 4LR.*

Closing Date 30th September 1975

Retirement

Mr. C. McNALLY

A large crowd of Dee Valley staff and pensioners gathered at the New Crane Street Depot, Chester, to say farewell to their very popular Administrative Clerk Mr. Cyril McNally.

Cyril joined MANWEB at the same office 25 years ago after service with British Rail and its predecessor. During the war he was a 'snowdrop'—the nickname given to members of the R.A.F. Police, owing to their white caps.

In his younger days he played soccer and now enjoys as his leisure pursuits, 'do-it-yourself,' fishing and gardening.

In connection with the latter his colleagues subscribed to the magnificent retirement gift of a greenhouse. On behalf of his colleagues Mr. T. P. Shell, the District Administrative Officer, presented him with a model of the garden including the greenhouse from which Cyril hopes to keep himself and possibly his family, which consists of his wife, two married daughters and four grandchildren, supplied with fresh vegetables.

PRIZE PUZZLE

Still active in retirement is our old friend 'Patron'—**Mr. R. G. Patterson**, former Exec. Officer in Superannuation Section at Head Office, who sends us this puzzle for our readers to tackle during the lazy days of summer!

Have a go! It isn't too hard, and you could win yourself a couple of pounds if your entry is one of the first three all-correct solutions opened on July 14th.

The competition is open to all MANWEB employees, pensioners and their families, but only one entry per person please!

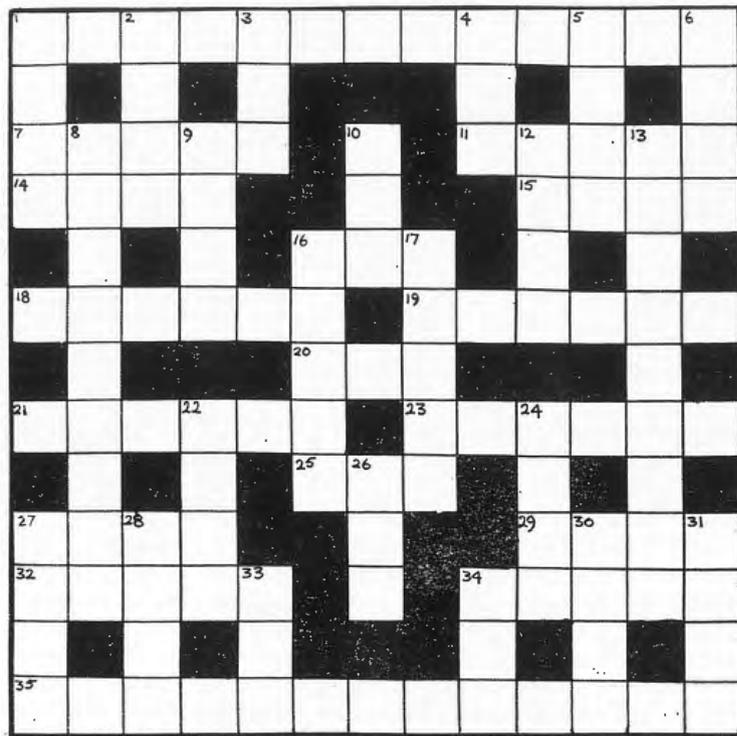
These should be sent to *The Editor, "Contact," Head Office, Sealand Road, Chester.* Mark your envelopes 'Crossword.' Plain paper entries will be accepted.

Clues Across

- 1 Are these small race tracks? (5, 8)
- 7 Something to be pleaded for (5)
- 10 Remove a thousand from them (3)
- 12 Heroic deed (4)
- 13 Breakouts (9)
- 16 Does this Tory manifesto contain one (5)
- 17 Upset the sweep and see what he does (5)
- 22 Springs eternal (4)
- 24 Refreshment place (4)
- 26 Measure of time (3)
- 27 Deposit in river (4)
- 28 Girl's name (4)
- 30 Pertaining to the mouth (4)
- 31 Refute (4)
- 33 Initially training within industry (3)
- 34 Head of the Army (3)

Clues Down

- 1 A collecting pit (4)
- 2 Gore around is frightening (4)
- 3 If you do you may succeed (3)
- 4 English river (3)
- 5 Penetration (4)
- 6 Kind or type (4)
- 8 Choices (9)
- 9 A geographical feature (4)



- 14 You'll find it in 7 across (4)
- 15 A Portugese export (4)
- 16 Stitch on a button (3)
- 18 An indication of stress (6)
- 19 Leave out (6)
- 20 Many an odd one has been written (3)
- 21 More luscious (6)
- 23 A compound obtained from ripe fruit (6)
- 25 A detestable type of man (3)
- 27 Card game (4)
- 29 Tender or loving (4)
- 32 Little island (5)
- 34 Part of a poem (5)
- 35 The way practices have been handed down (13)

HOLIDAYS

PRESTATYN—six berth caravan. Mains electricity, hot and cold water, flush toilets. Phone Wrexham 52131 (after 6.0 p.m.)

CAERNARFON—Bed & Breakfast accommodation. Mrs. T. Vaughan Jones. Isfryn, 11 Church Street, Caernarfon. ('phone Caern. 3055)

PORTHMADOG—six-berth all-electric caravan on luxury site at Black Rock Sands. Shop, club,

ballroom, children's playground showers. Near golf course. 'Phone Porthmadog 2834.

PENRHOS—between Pwllheli and Abersoch, six berth caravan. Mains water and electricity. Phone 051-648 3701.

SOUTHPORT—Bed and breakfast. Terms reasonable, accommodation comfortable. Write: Mrs. M. Guppy, 71 Clifton Road, Southport, Merseyside.

RETIREMENTS

Mrs. M. RYAN

Members of our Liverpool District staff gave a good send-off to Mrs. Madge Ryan when she retired recently from her job as Head Cook at Lister Drive.

Madge worked for the Liverpool Corporation Passenger Transport Department before she joined us nine years ago.

Parting gifts from her many friends included a travelling case, toaster, dressing gown, sheets, perfume, chocolate, whisky and stout!

Mr. J. R. MYERS

A popular member of our North Mersey District staff Mr. Geordie Myers retired a short time ago.

Many of his colleagues were present at the Southport depot when Mr. A. W. Hawley (*District Engineer*) made a farewell

presentation to Geordie on their behalf and wish him a long and happy retirement.

Mr. J. POTTER

MANWEB's Plant Supplies Engineer, Mr. Joe Potter retired from the Board after 49 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

It was in 1926 that he joined Metropolitan Vickers in Manchester as an apprentice fitter, and worked for that Company as a draughtsman and switchgear engineer until 1949. He was then appointed as planning and development engineer with the British Electricity Authority, and came to MANWEB in 1951 in a similar capacity.

He became assistant purchasing officer in 1955 and in 1963 was made Plant Supplies Engineer.

Mr. WILLIAM BALL

A trip round the coast of Britain in his motor-caravan is high on the list of priorities for Mr. William Ball, an assembler at our appliance repair workshop at Queensferry, who has recently retired.

Mr. Ball joined the industry at Bromborough Power Station in 1952, after previously working at Clatterbridge Hospital and serving with the RASC in North Africa and Italy during the war. He moved to our appliance repair workshop in 1957, and while he says he will not miss having to get up at 6.30 a.m., he will certainly miss his friends at Queensferry.

Apart from his proposed round-Britain trip, he also plans to re-visit some of his old wartime haunts in Italy.

Queensferry staff from the appliance repair workshop and the Stores gather round with colleagues from Head Office to bid farewell to Mr. Ball, centre left, as Mr. W. D. Higgs (*Installation and Service Manager*) hands over gifts on their behalf and wish Bill many happy years of retirement.



A farewell handshake from Mr. F. J. Brown (*Chief Engineer*), left, to Mr. Potter.

In his younger days he was a keen swimmer, which could prove useful in his new hobby of deep sea fishing. He is also a keen gardener.

He and his wife Mary are grandparents twice over, thanks to each of the daughters Margaret and Diana, who have produced one grandchild each.

Mr. H. THORPE

After 28 years' service to the industry, Mr. Harold Thorpe, transport supervisor at St. Helens depot, has retired. Mr. Thorpe began as a mechanical fitter with St. Helens Corporation in 1947, progressing to chargehand and foreman before becoming transport supervisor two years ago.

Well-known for his sense of humour and cheerful disposition, Harold is the longest-serving member of the Gas and Electricity Recreation Club committee, and is a bowls enthusiast and keen supporter of St. Helens Rugby League team.

On behalf of his many friends he was presented with a clock by Mr. A. R. Cooper (*District Engineer*)—with a bouquet for Mrs. Thorpe.