

## MANWEB GAZETTE

**Welcome to...** the following employees:

**Head Office:** Miss C. P. Clark (machine operator) and Mr. T. L. Smith (assistant, Internal Audit).

**Area 1 Office:** Miss P. Clancy and Mrs. M. Evans (clerks), Miss J. Gordon (typist), Mrs. I. L. Hughes and Miss J. I. Lewis (clerks), Miss M. Nixon (telephone operator), Miss M. O'Reilly and Mrs. B. Pennington (machine operators), Miss G. Search (tracer) and Miss S. Smith (clerk). Messrs. G. Calland (fitter), M. R. Curphey (Drawing Office assistant), M. Duffey (labourer), J. A. Kelly (Drawing Office assistant), S. Leigh (driver), A. C. Lowe (clerk) and T. Winrow (messenger). **Central District:** Miss A. Forshaw (trainee demonstrator). Messrs. R. Ashton and G. F. Byrne (clerks), M. T. Doyle (Service Centre assistant), J. M. Mason (labourer) and P. McGary (clerk). **North District:** Messrs. J. Connor, W. E. Jones and J. Rowlandson (labourers). **South District:** Messrs. W. H. Bowman, K. Bray, E. Jarman and J. O'Shea (labourers), and B. Toolan (chargehand storekeeper). **Southport District:** Miss J. Chisnell (temp. Service Centre assistant) and Mrs. J. Fletcher (cleaner). Messrs. T. Briody (sales representative) J. Dunne (labourer) and G. L. Green (Drawing Office assistant).

**Area 2/3 Office:** Miss L. A. Alabaster (machine operator), Mrs. J. M. Charlesworth, Miss P. A. Dando, Mrs. L. C. Duran and Mrs. G. E. Fisher (clerks), Mrs. A. Green (clerk/telephone operator) Mrs. E. E. Jones (machine operator), Miss L. I. Jones, Miss S. Tickle and Mrs. D. J. Williamson (clerks). Messrs. M. C. Balmford, G. Jones and A. A. Reynolds (clerks). **St. Helens District:** Messrs. R. R. Banks (electrician) and E. Rice (labourer). **Runcorn District:** Messrs. C. Coffey, M. Cosgrove, A. Kavanagh and B. McKeown (labourers). **Northwich District:** Messrs. A. Daniels, R. Deakin and F. J. Gilman (labourers), A. Goodger (Service Centre assistant), G. Robinson and B. Sanderson (labourers). **Chester District:** Mrs. J. M. Hill (part-time Service Centre assistant). Messrs. F. W. Hayes, P. Hopkins, K. A. McGhie, G. Pearson and D. W. Williams (labourers). **North Wirral District:** Mrs. C. A. Robinson (clerk) and Miss M. Smith (Drawing Office assistant). Messrs. R. J. Griffiths, K. Maughan and G. D. Whitehead (labourers).

**Area 4 Office:** Miss V. A. Beddard (clerk), Miss H. E. Cawsey (shorthand typist), Miss J. A. Jones (punch card operator) and Mr. R. G. Andrews (3rd assistant Commercial Engineer). **Crewe District:** Mr. D. G. Starnes (Service Centre Supervisor). **Wrexham District:** Mrs. B. Edwards (clerk, Connah's Quay). **Anglesey District:** Mr. H. Roberts (labourer).

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

**Head Office:** Messrs. B. B. Garland (engineering

draughtsman) and J. Maxwell (2nd assistant engineer, Safety).

**Area 1 Office:** Messrs. J. Gilvin (assistant, Stores), A. Nelson (senior assistant, Stores), D. Pitt (records draughtsman) and E. Mulroy (engineering draughtsman). **Central District:** Messrs. H. G. Duffey (foreman installation inspector) and N. Dugdale (assistant-Commercial clerical). **North District:** Messrs. T. J. Staples (electrician) and C. Thomas (jointer, e. h. v.). **South District:** Messrs. L. J. Benson (jointer, e.h.t.), W. H. Berry (substation attendant), J. A. Burgess (jointer e.h.t.), R. Porter (meter reader) (and B. Walkup jointer e. h. t.). **Southport District:** Messrs. P. N. Guppy and R. Lea (jointers e. h. t.) and J. W. Lennon (foreman meter reader/collector).

**Area 2/3 Office:** Miss B. Seaman (records draughtswoman). Messrs. P. G. Bennett (3rd assistant engineer, Construction) and T. A. Colson (Senior Assistant Engineer, Construction). **St. Helens District:** Messrs. J. T. Allen, R. Briscoe, K. Forber and R. Garvey (jointers), W. L. Whittle (assistant storekeeper) and T. Yorke (jointer). **Warrington District:** Mr. P. Roylance (electrician). **Runcorn District:** Messrs. R. J. Cartwright (jointer) and M. J. Lindon (electrician). **Northwich District:** Mr. A. J. Facey (chargehand linesman). **Chester District:** Messrs. D. Hughes (driver) and J. A. Walker (fitter, electrical). **North Wirral District:** Messrs. G. J. Bowan (general building foreman), T. C. F. Hardie (switch attendant) and R. R. Povall (substation attendant).

**Area 4 Office:** Mrs. F. A. Coupe (assistant, Costs). Messrs. R. Hewitt (senior assistant, Sales) and C. Thomas (structural tradesman). **Conway Valley District:** Mr. J. B. Hughes (senior Service Centre assistant, Llanrwst). **Aberystwyth District:** Messrs. K. Griffiths (District Senior Clerk) and D. G. Parry (1st assistant District Engineer).

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

**Head Office:** Mrs. M. Taylor (assistant, Salaries and Wages), and Mr. D. Hislop (records draughtsman).

**Area 1—Central District:** Mr. J. E. Summersgill (meter reader/collector). **Southport District:** Mr. A. Rimmer (foreman meter reader/collector).

**Area 2/3—Runcorn District:** Mr. G. C. Phillips (shift electrician). **Chester District:** Mr. A. Stevenson (public lighting attendant). **North Wirral District:** Messrs. T. G. C. Crosby (switchboard attendant) and A. Leary (labourer).

**Area 4 Office:** Messrs. J. O. Evans (clerk, Vauxhall) and H. Greaves (3rd assistant Commercial Engineer). **Wrexham District:** Mr. J. D. Roberts (labourer). **Oswestry District:** Mr. C. E. Jones (labourer). **Caernarvon District:** Mr. W. Davies (senior Service Centre assistant, Caernarvon).

May

1966

# Contact

The Staff Magazine  
of the  
Merseyside and North Wales  
Electricity Board

NOW SHE'S ALL ELECTRIC! (see page 73)



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Some of the delegates and guests at the Caernarvon and Anglesey Conference.

## EMPLOYEES CONFERENCE

A most enjoyable and informative meeting was held recently when nearly 70 people gathered at the Employees Conference for MANWEB staff working in the Caernarvon and Anglesey Districts. The Conference, organised by the two District Local Advisory Committees, broke from the usual routine when this year they introduced a general

debate on various questions raised by employees.

A panel, consisting of Messrs. K. Helliwell (Area 4 Manager), A. Perry (Area 4 Engineer), W. N. Shires (Area 4 Commercial Officer), K. O'Hanlan (chargehand electrician, Anglesey) and R. H. Owen (linesman, Llanberis), answered and laid open for debate the questions submitted.

## 1966 Photographic Competition

### RULES

1. Entries may be concerned with any subject.
2. Each photograph submitted must be the original work and the copyright property of the person submitting it.
3. All photographs must have been taken since June 1st, 1965.
4. Any number of Black and White prints may be submitted, but only FIVE colour transparencies in any one section from each competitor.
5. Competitors must enclose a note with entries, stating clearly their name and address (either office or home) and the title of each picture.
6. The competition will be judged by an independent panel.
7. Closing date for the receipt of entries which must be addressed to: *The Editor, Contact, MANWEB, Love Lane, Liverpool 3*, will be October 1st, 1966.

Prizes of Premium Bonds will be awarded as follows:

#### BLACK AND WHITE PICTURES

Best Picture—FIVE Premium Bonds.

#### COLOUR TRANSPARENCIES

1st—FIVE Premium Bonds.  
2nd—THREE Premium Bonds.  
3rd—TWO Premium Bonds.

#### BEST PICTURE DESCRIBING "POWER"

Colour: Two Premium Bonds.  
Black and White: Two Premium Bonds.

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



# Contact

THE STAFF MAGAZINE OF THE  
MERSEYSIDE AND NORTH WALES  
ELECTRICITY BOARD

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### EDITORIAL

## Break from Routine

SHIPPING STRIKES or not, most people have now made their plans for their annual holiday, whether a modest affair near home or a more adventurous trip to one of the popular playgrounds of the Continent or even further afield. Rising standards of living, full employment, and the streamlining of transport services through such devices as charter flights and trains have put a holiday of some kind within the grasp of a large proportion of the population. There can be no doubt that the revitalising effect of these breaks from the grindstone pay off in the long run in terms of health, working capacity and general industrial efficiency.

Most people, too, like to have some kind of pictorial record of their break. The old box and "folding" cameras which used to produce so many out-of-focus indeterminate impressions of the family prancing around at Blackpool or New Brighton have given way to virtually foolproof cameras—both still and cine—with which the most inexperienced amateur can produce excellent results in colour, both transparencies and prints, as well as the conventional black-and-white.

Don't forget to save your best pictures—and let us have them as entries for the *Contact* Photographic Competition, full details are given opposite. The best of them could grace the cover of our Christmas issue!

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# "HIDDEN VALUE" COMPETITION

## LIVERPOOL WINNER

LIFE has not been easy for Mrs. Nellie McNamee, who lives with her daughters, Nellie and Joan, in a terraced home in Langton Road, Liverpool. The big blow came in the early days of the war, when her husband lost his life at sea, leaving her with two small children to bring up single-handed.

This formidable task she achieved, though there must have been many occasions when the going was very hard. It was, therefore, perhaps particularly pleasing that the winning entry form in our "Hidden Value" competition—bringing home prizes worth more than £300—should bear the name of Mrs. McNamee, although we understand that the events leading up to the entry were something of a joint effort.

Mrs. McNamee's prizes comprise a wide range of domestic electrical appliances—an automatic washing machine, a superspeed electric cooker, a refrigerator, two storage radiators, a vacuum cleaner, an electric blanket, and a fast-boiling kettle.

All these useful gifts were presented to Mrs. McNamee at our Stanley Road, Bootle, Service Centre, recently, by our Area 1 Manager, Mr. J. Taylor. A few days later MANWEB electricians called at her home to instal the new appliances—all, that is, except the cooker, which is going into storage as a wedding present for daughter Nellie, who is to be married early next year.

After the presentation Mrs. McNamee made the draw for the names of the two lucky members of the Service Centre staff to go on a day-trip to Paris—a prize offered to the Service Centre issuing the winning entry form.

Out of the hat came the names of Service Centre assistants Betty Ward and Gillian Hind, and they enjoyed their trip across the Channel soon afterwards.

In addition to the main prize, 100 runners-up received consolation prizes of electric kettles, electric blankets, electric irons, and sets of lamps. These were presented at various Service Centres throughout the Board's area a few days after the main presentation.



Two more members of the staff who had a quick trip abroad on a one-day holiday were Mrs. D. W. Davies and Mr. W. A. Jones who both work in the Caernarvon Service Centre. They were the winners of the Hoover "Paris in the Spring" Competition.



One of the prizes, the fully automatic washing machine, being delivered by two men from MANWEB. Looking on is Mrs. McNamee and her daughter Joan.



The two lucky ladies who spent a fabulous day in Paris. On the left is Miss Gillian Hind and on the right is Miss Betty Ward, both assistants at our Bootle Service Centre. In the centre is Mrs. McNamee who drew the names out of the hat.

### OUR COVER PICTURE

shows Mrs. McNamee and her two daughters amid the £300-worth of prizes won in the MANWEB "Hidden Value" Competition. Joining them in the picture is Mr. J. Taylor (Manager, Area 1.)

One hundred runners-up in the "Hidden Value" competition received their prizes at their local Service Centres. Here we see Mr. A. Williams (senior Service Centre assistant, Southport) presenting an electric kettle to Mrs. J. Kenyon.



Two more prizewinners in the "Hidden Value" Competition, receive their prizes from Mrs. J. W. Garner at the Board's Birkdale Service Centre.







Winners of the J. McMinn Cup. From left to right, back row: Messrs. J. Morrissey, J. Salisbury, T. Young, L. H. Birch and B. Moore. Front row: Messrs. E. Ward, J. Bremnar, D. Wilson (capt.), H. Robertson, J. Wooding and T. Mullins.

## Football . . .

The sporting fraternity of the City of Liverpool can be justly proud of the achievements of their two football teams—Everton, as winners of the Football Association Challenge Cup, and Liverpool, who finished top of the Division 1 to win the League Cup.

However, two more Liverpool teams managed to gain football trophies, and they managed to do this without the rhythmic clapping and humorous parodies from their supporters! First was the MANWEB team from the Pumpfields Contracting Department who walked off with the J. McMinn Cup, and then came the Head Office team who won the Nalgo Cup.

In the McMinn Final, Pumpfields played a team from Derby House. It was a hard fought game with Pumpfields attacking right from the start. For a while, their opponents held them but gradually the lively forward line got into gear and the goals came . . . seven of them. Derby House managed to slip through and get a consolation goal.

The first match in the Nalgo Cup Final between Head Office and Lister Drive ended in a three-all draw, and in the replay, Head Office managed to scrape home by four goals to two. Incidentally, Head Office now hold the Nalgo Cups for both football and cricket.

## . . . and Rugby

In this year's Neptune Cup Competition, the MANWEB rugby team made very good progress to reach the Final. Unfortunately they came up against some very strong opposition and were beaten by a much better side. Our picture shows

the MANWEB team, before the game. *Left to right, standing:* Messrs. N. Turner, W. Ravenscroft, S. Griffiths, I. D. Basford, P. L. P. Shine, B. Little, J. T. Hampson, D. J. Williams. *Kneeling:* Messrs. J. J. Tyrer, A. Collier, R. Byrne, M. F. Humphries and M. Davies.



Mr. A. Albiston



Mr. J. A. Stieraugl



# Participating Sales Conference '66

OVER 600 delegates from the Board's Commercial staff attended this year's Sales Conference which was held on three successive days in early April at the Chester Teacher Training College. This proved to be an ideal venue, being centrally situated for all points in the MANWEB area and having ample car-parking facilities and the lecture hall and dining-hall pleasantly situated in their own grounds.

Following on suggestions made at previous Conferences, this year for the first time, outside speakers were used, each being an expert in his own particular field. The main speaker was Mr. A. L. Jackson, the Governing Director of Sales Consultants Ltd., who in order to gain first hand knowledge of the Electricity Board's organisation and methods, spent some time assisting in various Service Centres and 'on the knocker' as an outside representative in the South Western Board's area.

The other guest speaker was Mr. Ian Palmer, an executive with the Electricity Council's advertising agents, Messrs. Hobson Bates and Partners.

The Conference got off to a very lively start with a number of short, sharp and informative talks given by members of the Head Office Commercial staff. Mr. M. R. Cowan (Chief

Commercial Officer) opened the proceedings by outlining, very briefly, the aim of the Conference saying that this was the time when management and staff had the opportunity of reviewing together recent progress and of looking at the Board's plans and targets for the future. He suggested that the word 'Participating' had been included in the title of this year's Sales Conference for the simple reason that it was everyone's job and duty to participate in selling MANWEB . . . that all employees should help to create the image that MANWEB was a live organisation . . . that it was MANWEB for electricity . . . the finest fuel . . . and MANWEB for value, first and always. He said that it was



Answering questions from the Conference delegates were, from left to right: Messrs. R. M. Gravett, T. R. Smith (Assistant Chief Commercial Officers), M. R. Cowan (Chief Commercial Officer) and W. N. Shires (Area 4 Commercial Officer).





St. Helens Service Centre as it is today.

very important that we do all we can to achieve a good reputation with all our customers.

The next speaker was Mr. T. R. Smith (Assistant Chief Commercial Officer) who spent a few minutes talking about the new MANWEB trade mark and how it would be incorporated in the facias of the Board's Service Centres, on the Board's service vehicles, on overalls, letter headings and paper bags in the Service Centres . . . in fact in every conceivable place so that our customers would quickly recognise this simple yet effective sign and tie it in with a go-ahead and forceful organisation, which in turn would encourage them to put more of their business our way.

#### Better Year Ahead

He then dealt with the publicity programme in general saying that although last year's press advertisements and window displays were very good, this year it was intended to do even better. Mr. Smith commented on the disappointment we all had in November when the Government order prevented us from carrying on with our advertising and promotional campaigns. This restriction lasted until the end of February

The present Service Centre in the Market Place at Winsford.



St. Helens Service Centre as it will be tomorrow.

and being committed to take up advertisement space in various newspapers and magazines, the Board switched their programme and introduced, very successfully, the Man from MANWEB in the servicing and wiring advertisements.

Mr. Smith concluded by giving the delegates some details of the future programme, saying that it was hoped to follow the 'Hidden Value' campaign with some further television advertising. The weekly press advertisements would be supplemented by cinema advertising and large posters on about 50 sites in the area. Direct mail, linked with seasonal activities, would carry about four-and-a-half million messages into our customers' homes. He said that the whole of our publicity effort was to bring the customer into the Service Centre where our assistants could do their job of turning a casual enquiry into a firm sale.

#### Success Theme

Then followed Mr. S. G. Griffiths (Senior Assistant Commercial Engineer—Sales Development) who spent an interesting few minutes talking about the MANWEB appliances. His theme was 'Success' . . . the success of the

The future Electricity Service Centre at Winsford.



MANWEB image and of the MANWEB appliances. He used some very neat visual aids to show how trade marks of firms with good reputations are easily and spontaneously recognised. He then turned to the Board's success in selling and told the audience that they had sold 30,000 MANWEB appliances in the past year. He said that in the future it was hoped to have many more MANWEB appliances. He then unveiled two new products . . . the MANWEB tumbler washer retailing at 73 guineas and the shining De-Luxe Twin-tub washing machine selling at 68 guineas. He concluded that the MANWEB brand name was now fairly well established as a name to trust and this was a solid foundation for the trading days ahead.

#### Home Heating

Mr. R. M. Gravett (Assistant Chief Commercial Officer) then rose to say a few words about the various systems of electric central heating. He expressed his opinion that the floor warming method was far superior to any other and quoted figures for a block of flats in Bootle



The new-style side panels which are now appearing on the Board's fleet of vehicles.

where the landlord charged only ten shillings a week for the electric floor warming of each flat which housed some very satisfied tenants.

Mr. Gravett then talked on storage radiators saying that here we had whole house heating at the lowest capital cost. He said that the running costs too compared very favourably with gas especially in our North Wales section.

He then outlined the advantages and the selling points of Electricaire and Electricaire plus and brought his informative talk to an end by saying that our customers were rapidly becoming central heating conscious and he made the point that if electric central heating goes into a home then in all probability electric cooking and water heating would follow.

Mr. Cowan then introduced yet another member of his team. Mr. Campbell-Kelly (Assistant Chief Commercial Officer) who ex-

plained how statistics could be used to measure the performance of a human being and by using the findings how it was possible to see at a glance just how each individual fitted into the organisation.



This delivery vehicle tells what it is carrying in addition to publicising the MANWEB slogan—for value—first and always.

He went on to show how statistics had been used to prove exactly how much money was made immediately on a sale. He used examples from two Service Centres on how they had achieved their sales figures and where their costs lay. He then produced a very detailed summary of Service Centre profitability. "Figures like this", he said "helped management to see where the profits were going and helped them to decide which was acceptable . . . increased sales or reduced costs."

Mr. Cowan then spoke again and dealt with the problems of making changes in the Board's organisation. He said that the changes which had been made to date were all working very successfully, giving as examples the central display section and improved buying methods, and he intimated that Service Centres would be streamlined so as to allow more time for actual selling.

We are all salesmen—some sell tangible things like appliances—others of us sell 'service' and 'goodwill', however, no matter what we are selling the technique is the same. It is the technique or knack that can be acquired and developed, so making our selling task that much easier.

He informed the delegates that more and more appliances and eventually wiring and contracting



materials would be bought in bulk to obtain better discounts and in view of this our stores arrangements would be centralised at Queensferry and Lister Drive. We would be able to hold good supplies of spare parts and so help to speed up



service to the customer. He envisaged that some members of the staff might be critical and would no doubt see snags and find difficulties, and he appealed to all employees to help and co-operate in that if they did see something going wrong they should immediately inform the supervisor. Mr. Cowan spoke of the fear of the unknown and said that it was the Board's policy to keep the staff as fully informed as was humanly possible.

He went on to explain that there had been many things against us over the years . . . power failures and shortage of plant . . . H.P. deposits raised . . . price of coal affecting the price of electricity . . . the discovery of gas under the North Sea . . . resale price maintenance. He warned that the position was not likely to get better in the immediate future. He said that to combat this we would have to become more professional in the way we exploited the advantages of electricity. He advised all the delegates to go from the Conference and get into strict training for hard selling.

Then it was time for the first guest speaker Mr. J. Jackson, to take the stand. He spoke on



the various ways of exploiting sales through the Service Centres. His lecture started off by dealing

with the elementary principles of salesmanship and gradually developed into full audience participation when syndicates answered questions in connection with a number of case studies. The talk was designed to help all members of the sales staff remember what they had learned through the Eda Salesmanship Course and through refresher courses at the Board's Sales Training School. Mr. Jackson said that like all other professionals—people who get paid for doing a job—continued training was very necessary and that good coaching from time to time was essential.

After lunch, the delegates heard a very interesting and informative talk from Mr. Palmer, the other guest speaker. He explained in great detail the research study undertaken by his advertising agency before finally deciding how much money would be required and where to



spend this money in order to effectively sell electricity. One of the first things they found was that our competitors, the gas industry, had gone ahead of us in the central heating market—mainly due to their intensive advertising campaign which started a few years ago.

Mr. Palmer said that the bulk of our national advertising through Eda would be directed to the central heating market, and in particular at the people in the ordinary homes, the semi-detached or the terraced house. He said that one of the main problems was with the word 'expense', so often associated with electricity, and with central heating, so that when one talked of electric central heating this conjured up in people's minds something really expensive. This meant that we had to educate our consumers by

telling them the facts that electric central heating was cheap to buy and install and was very economical to run on 'off-peak' electricity. He said that a recent electric central heating campaign had reached 91% of the homes in this country.

He then talked of the plans to increase our cooker sales by first of all saying that in appreciat-



ing the difficulties in getting converts, the new attack was to be directed at one section of buyers . . . the young people who were buying a cooker for the first time. He said that this could be the start to an all-electric home.

Mr. Palmer then gave the delegates information on the planned 60 second colour film to be shown in many cinemas during the summer months, and the very large posters to be exhibited



on various sites throughout the country. He said that in September, the start of a new heating season, there would be a weight of heating advertising such as the electricity industry had never seen before. He showed examples of the type of advertising that would be used.

After this very bolstering and inspiring talk the audience heard from Mr. Jackson again who this time talked on the methods of selling on the

customers' own premises. He said that no matter how much advertising was done, the customer



eventually came to the sales staff to sell them the product.

Then followed an Open Forum Session which began with a short talk from Mr. W. N. Shires (Area 4 Commercial Officer) about the various activities and duties of our Service Centre staffs. He paid tribute to the employees in the seven Service Centres who had co-operated in the survey he had conducted. He said that by averaging, he was able to produce a graph which showed the actual time taken on different

**On the last day of the Conference, Mr. R. G. Jones (Service Centre Supervisor at Wrexham) collapsed during the morning session. A colleague, Miss Glenys Roberts (demonstrator) quickly took Mr. Jones to Chester hospital where he was given treatment before being allowed to go home. We were delighted to hear that Mr. Jones returned to work after a few days and is now making very good progress.**

jobs in a typical MANWEB Service Centre. This proved that only about 17% of the time was spent in actual selling and only half of this was successful selling. He concluded by saying that purpose of the survey was to look into ways of making more selling time available.

Then followed some very lively questions which brought to an end a stimulating and interesting Conference.

Like all Conferences it had its bright and its dull moments, but in the main we think that most of the staff must have been impressed by the plans laid before them and the need for really professional hard selling.





Mr. Sweeney, seated centre, with a happy group of employees from Marsh Lane, both past and present, at the farewell party for Mr. Holmes, seated third from left, and Mr. F. Kane, seated third from right.

**Mr. E. V. HOLMES  
and Mr. F. KANE**

At a farewell party held a few weeks ago in a country hotel, Mr. E. V. Holmes (Ned) and Mr. F. Kane (Fred), were presented with parting gifts from their colleagues on the occasion of their retirement from work in the Liverpool North District. Many tributes were paid and then Mr. A. E. Sweeney (District Engineer) spoke of the loyal service given by these two popular figures. Everyone joined in wishing them both many years of happy and healthy retirement.



Mr. Speaight, left centre, presents parting gifts to Mr. Phillips.

**50 YEARS COMPLETED**

Mr. R. C. Phillips, Cecil to his friends, on reaching the age of 65 years retired last month from his job as shift electrician in the Board's Runcorn District, after completing 50 years' service in the industry.

At a special farewell ceremony, Mr. Phillips, the only contracting electrician to retire from the District since Vesting Day, was presented with parting gifts from his colleagues by Mr. G. H. O. Speaight (District Commercial Engineer).

# Retirements from Marsh Lane and Hatton Garden

**A LONG TIME IN LIVERPOOL**

After nearly 50 years' service in the electricity supply industry, Mr. R. Corlett, an assistant installation inspector at Hatton Garden retired a short time ago. At a ceremony to mark the occasion, Mr. H. J. Fraser (District Commercial Engineer) presented him with a number of gifts on behalf of his many friends and colleagues.

Mr. Fraser said that since joining the Liverpool Corporation Electricity Department as an apprentice electrician way back in 1916, Mr. Corlett had served in a variety of jobs, and that in recent years the electricity supply industry had become much more complex, but throughout the whole period, Reg had always been in complete control of his own job while at the same time giving assistance and help to others.

Mr. Corlett thanked everyone for their kind words and thoughts and said that he had enjoyed every minute of his working life and had certainly

enjoyed the companionship of many friends in the industry.

A few days after the presentation at Hatton Garden, Mr. Corlett was asked to call in at Lister Drive to say farewell to his many friends at the Installation and Inspection Department.



Above: Mr. Corlett, Left, receives an inscribed scroll from Mr. A. Kinrade, as some of his former colleagues from the Meter Department look on.

Left: The scene at Hatton Garden as Mr. Fraser bids farewell to Mr. Corlett.



# ... Runcorn and Vauxhall ...

**FORMER INTERNATIONAL**

Mr. H. A. Thompson, (Harry), 3rd assistant engineer with the Vauxhall Construction department, retired recently after 42 years' service with the supply industry.

Among the 55 guests who sat down to a celebration dinner at a local hotel, were colleagues from Area 4 Office and former colleagues from the Crewe District, including the retired District Engineer, Mr. E. T. L. Jones. After the meal, Harry was presented with a MANWEB refrigerator.

tor from his many friends, the presentation being made by Mr. A. Baker, the former Senior Assistant Engineer, Construction.

Harry has the unique distinction of being a Welsh International and English International at the same sport—Quoits—an ancient game still flourishing in South Wales, Scotland and Lincolnshire. He represented Wales against England and Scotland and has also played for England against Scotland! His favourite hobby is gardening and he specialises in growing strawberries.

Mr. Harry Thompson, seated third from left, in a happy mood with some of the guests at the celebration dinner.







Mr. and Mrs. H. Robinson.

### Mr. H. ROBINSON

The 13th of the month wasn't unlucky for Mr. Harold Robinson, a senior assistant, Capital Costs, at Derby House, Liverpool, for it was on this day that he retired from service after completing nearly 41 years in the industry, starting with the Liverpool Corporation Electricity Department.

In 1941, he joined the famous 51st Highland Division and fought at El Alamein before

taking part in the invasion of Sicily and later, Normandy. Fortunately, he came through all these battles unscathed.

Mr. Robinson, whose 60th birthday fell on the day following his retirement, decided to retire earlier than planned because of health reasons. Wishing him all happiness in the future, Mr. A. M. Riley (Accountant, Area 1) presented Harold with a number of parting gifts from his colleagues.

## .. Derby House and Southport ..

### WELL KNOWN SANDGROUNDER

After nearly 40 years' service in the industry, the last 18 years as foreman meter reader/collector in the Southport District, Mr. Alfred Rimmer, a very popular figure, retired recently.

At a farewell ceremony held at the Lord Street Offices a few weeks ago, Mr. L. J. Scudamore (District Manager) said that Alf would be sadly missed both in his job and on the sports and social side of the District activities. In the latter respect, tribute was also paid to Mrs. Rimmer who had so often helped out at the children's parties.

Alf was also a very well known figure in the Town, having done a great deal of concert party

entertaining during the war period. This was when he appeared under the name *John Michael* with the "Victory Veas" concert party.

As a member of the Southport Amateur Operatic Society, Alf has played comedy leads in several productions in addition to holding a number of executive positions in the Society. On the sporting scene, he has spent many years as a referee in local football.

Before he left the service of the Board, Alf agreed to make periodical visits to other retired personnel from the Southport District and so help them keep in touch and assure them that they had not been forgotten.

The scene at Southport District Office as Mr. Rimmer, left centre, says 'Goodbye' to Mr. Scudamore.



Colleagues at St. Helens gather round to see Mr. Greer, left centre, receive a farewell handshake from Mr. Barr.

### FIRST ASSISTANT RETIRES

Mr. H. L. Greer, 1st assistant District Engineer at St. Helens, retired recently after 47 years in the electricity supply industry.

Tributes were paid to his services to the industry in general and to the St. Helens District in particular by Mr. H. C. Barr (District Engineer). Then Mr. S. A. Cox (Senior Assistant, Planning) spoke on behalf of Mr. J. Fareham and the Area 2/3 Engineering staff, followed by Mr. R. G. Finney (section engineer) who said a

few words on behalf of the District staff.

In wishing a long and happy retirement to Mr. Greer and his wife, his friends and colleagues presented him with a set of travelling cases and a travelling clock. Another pleasing gift to Mr. Greer was a large cake, beautifully decorated, which was donated by the ladies of the cleaning staff at Carlton Street.

The day ended with a dinner at an Eccleston hotel, attended by many of Mr. Greer's colleagues.

## .. St. Helens and Caernarvon ..

### THE BOSS AT THE ELECTRIC!

A native of Blaenau Ffestiniog, Mr. William Davies joined the North Wales Power Company at Caernarvon as a meter reader/collector nearly 30 years ago. Some time later he became the senior Service Centre assistant in the Town's showrooms, the post he held until his recent retirement.

Mr. Davies was well known to all his customers as "the man

with the glasses" or "the boss at the Electric shop".

He was very rarely seen without a cigarette. Invariably he had at least three going at the same time—one in the office ash tray, one possibly by the telephone and always one in his mouth or in his fingers. Yet he never seemed to run out of supplies!

On leaving the service of the Board, his many friends and colleagues presented him with a stainless steel tea service.



The Boss. Mr. W. Davies.