

CONTACT



May 1970

STAR OPENS
SUPERSTORE
(see page 112)

The Electricity Bill

Since this summary was written, the future of the Bill has been made uncertain by the announcement of the date of the General Election.

AS READERS may have noticed a new Bill to re-organise the Electricity Supply Industry has recently been presented to Parliament. The following are among the changes it proposes.

Its main purpose is to change the structure of the Industry in such a way that certain matters of policy may be the subject of central direction.

To this end the Electricity Council, primarily an advisory body, will be replaced by a new body known as the Electricity Authority. The new body will exercise not only the functions of the Electricity Council but will also have additional responsibilities.

It is interesting to compare the composition of the two bodies.

Electricity Council		Proposed Electricity Authority	
Chairman	1	Chairman	1
Deputy Chairmen	2	Deputy Chairmen	2
Full Time Members	3	The Chairman and 1 Member of the Central Electricity Generating Board	2
The Chairman and 2 Members from the Central Electricity Generating Board	3	Two Area Board Chairmen to be appointed by the Minister	2
Area Board Chairmen	12	and	2
		Up to five other suitably qualified members appointed by the Minister	5
	21		12

The composition of the Central Electricity Generating Board is changed by the addition of two Area Board Chairmen, and the membership of each Area

Board will be enlarged by the addition of one Member or Officer of the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The Electricity Authority will be responsible for keeping under review the organisation of the Industry and the performance of each Board. It will advise the Minister of any organisational changes deemed necessary and recommend to Boards measures it considers necessary to improve their performance.

The Authority are required to settle a general programme of capital expenditure for the whole Industry for approval by the Minister, and Boards may not carry out any measures of re-organisation or works of development involving substantial capital expenditure except in accordance with this programme.

A new interesting provision empowers the Authority to give directions to Boards on the factors to be taken into account, and the weight to be given to them respectively, in framing tariffs or fixing prices in tariffs and also in determining cases in which Special Agreements may be entered into and their terms.

The Minister may, by Statutory Instrument, empower the Electricity Authority to direct a Board on any matter other than tariffs and charges, and Special Agreements.

The most controversial point in the new Bill appears to be the proposal to extend the manufacturing powers of the Central Electricity Generating Board. This last proposal is the only part of the Bill applicable to the Scottish Boards, the other provisions which were mentioned earlier in this brief note being applicable only to Boards in England and Wales.



Mr. and Mrs. Beanland

WEDDING

BEANLAND—DENT

We offer our sincere best wishes for a happy future to Mr. Alan McClean Beanland, a salesman at our Huyton shop in Liverpool and Miss Vivian Jean Dent, a demonstrator at the same shop, who were married a few weeks ago at Moor Lane Methodist Church, Crosby.

ENGAGEMENTS

Best wishes for the future to Miss Phyllis Hind, a clerk in the Records Section at our Southport Office, who recently announced

her engagement to Mr. Roger Lloyd of Southport.

Our "Girl from MANWEB 1969", Miss Ann Semple, has announced her engagement to Mr. Alan Jones, a free lance journalist from Liverpool.

Ann met Alan at one of the functions she was attending in her role as "The Girl from MANWEB".

BIRTH

Our congratulations go to Mrs. Maureen Twist, a former typist at Head Office and Area 1 Office, on the birth of a daughter, Laura.



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Editorial Staff
Keith Baldwin
John F. Perry
Sam Doughty

Fantasy and Fact

“THE MAJOR part of the electorate, if surveys carried out for ‘Aims of Industry’ are to be trusted, consider that nationalised industries are less efficient than those which are in private ownership. Such opinions have an obvious political importance, but are a poor guide to the true state of affairs.”

Before going any further, we hasten to point out that this is the opening paragraph of an article published in the Spring number of the bankers’ journal “*Moorgate and Wall Street*.” Bankers, as most people find out sooner or later, have a habit of appraising facts and figures in an objective and dispassionate way.

The article in question, entitled “*Are Nationalised Industries Becoming More Efficient?*”, examines the productivity—defined by the writer as “*the relationship between the quantity of output produced by any industry or undertaking and the amount of resources which are used in the process*”—of the major nationalised industries and of various major privately-owned industries.

The results of these comparisons are worth studying, and for every employee of the electricity supply industry they are worth remembering!

Electricity’s Outstanding Performance

During the second decade of public ownership—from 1958 to 1968—productivity in the public enterprise sector of the economy rose by 5.3% a year, compared with 3.7% for manufacturing. The figure for electricity supply was 7.9%—second only, in the whole of the British economy, to the nationalised airlines.

In one major manufacturing industry only—chemicals—did the output per man-hour increase at a faster rate than the average figure for the public sector, and the chemical industry’s figure was well below that of electricity and the airlines.

Comments the writer of the article :

“It is obviously a severe test to compare the whole of the public enterprise sector with the leading private industries, but even when judged by the best which the private sector has to offer the nationalised industries appear to have performed well.”

Another interesting comparison is that while for the first ten
(continued overleaf)

Head Office Staff Conference

When Mr. D. G. Gwyn, Deputy Chairman of the Board, rose to speak at the last of the 1969-70 series of staff conferences, organised at Head Office by No. 37 Local Advisory Committee, he found that the time was not an ideal occasion for a speaker to try to capture and hold the attention of an audience.

No—not the Cup Final. It so happened that the time set down for Mr. Gwyn's remarks co-incided exactly with the fateful minutes associated with re-entry and splashdown which brought the eventful Apollo 13 mission to a happy close, and to make matters more difficult a TV set was burbling in the background.

Mr. Gwyn directed his listeners' attention to four main tasks facing the electricity supply industry. He defined these as carrying out the processes determined by Acts of Parliament, running the industry in a profitable and economic way, providing an efficient working environment, and promoting the maximum degree of customer satisfaction.

Every business, he said, had to pay its way, and the electricity supply industry had never been in the position of having to ask for public support. We were

able to meet the Government's requirement to provide a substantial part of the capital needed for expansion from our own revenue, thus limiting our borrowings and reducing interest charges.

An efficient working environment, he added, was important in encouraging staff to give of their best to the Board. As far as customer satisfaction was concerned, the number of complaints which emerged was minute when viewed in relation to the number of our customers, and this indicated a very high degree of satisfaction generally.

Mr. Gwyn closed his remarks by drawing attention to the dangers and consequences of inflation, pointing out that MANWEB's finances were under increasing pressure from the consequences of pay increases and the rising prices of things we bought.

"What the future is going to be I do not know" he said. "I hesitate to contemplate it. Unless the pressures contributing to inflation are somehow controlled, the general level of costs and prices is going to rise enormously."

Moving a vote of thanks, Mr. D. F. Farquhar (vice-Chairman of the LAC) said that the environment in the new Head Office was "very nice in physical terms," but added a plea for the staff to "see more of the boss."

After an interval—with just time to see the astronauts splashing down in the Pacific—a varied "Question Time" was chaired by Mr. M. M. Parker (Chairman of the LAC).

MR. WILLIAM L. YATES, B.E.M.

Mr. William Lawrence Yates, *right*, is pictured here with the Rt. Hon. The Lord Delacourt-Smith, Minister of State, Ministry of Technology, and Lady Delacourt-Smith, at Lancaster House following the presentation to Mr. Yates of the British Empire Medal awarded to him in the New Year Honours List.

Mr. Yates was a foreman in our Liverpool North District prior to his retirement last August. He had then served in the electricity supply industry for over 46 years.



EDITORIAL (continued from page 107)

years of nationalisation the annual average productivity increase was higher for manufacturing industries (1.9%) than for public enterprises (1.5%), this situation was reversed so dramatically in the following decade that the average figures for the whole 20 years of operation stood at 3.4% for nationalised industries and 2.8%

for the private sector.

The article concludes: "Certainly the productivity calculations and comparisons which have been made in this article lend no support to the belief that the nationalised industries have during the last decade been lagging behind the private sector, which is normally supposed to be the repository of economic virtue."

OPEN DAYS for



... families of our Head Office Staff



Over 160 people took advantage of the two very successful 'Open Days' held at Head Office recently. Our pictures show some of our colleagues with their families, enjoying a 'cuppa' after showing them where they go and what they do between nine and five each day!

ENTENTE CORDIALE

Almost every week our Commercial Department colleagues are called upon to escort a party—sometimes an individual—round our new Head Office block in Sealand Road. During the conducted tour, they explain the workings of the special heat from light and air conditioning system and the open office plan. We have had visitors from all over this country and a few weeks ago we were hosts to some of our friends from Electricite de France who were joined by some eminent French architects. Our picture shows the party during their visit.





New Superstore in Liverpool

**MANWEB'S
MOVE FROM
WHITECHAPEL
TO ST. JOHN'S
SHOPPING
PRECINCT**

Ian St. John, in the act of 'cutting the tape' to officially open the new shop. Our 'Girl from MANWEB,' Miss Peggy Francis waits to thank him and in the front right of the picture is Mr. Bert. Davies, the shop supervisor.

Accounts to the right, appliances to the left, also counter space given for the many enquiries from our customers.



IAN ST. JOHN, one of Liverpool's star footballers, recently attracted hundreds of people when he officially opened our new 'Superstore' in St. John's (no relation) Shopping Precinct in the centre of Liverpool.

This move by MANWEB meant the closing down of our Whitechapel premises which over many years had earned the reputation of being one of Britain's busiest electrical shops. Every year, some 200,000 customers went through its doors, about 40,000 of them paying their electricity accounts. Last year, nearly 80,000 electrical appliances, from shavers to full kitchen units, were sold.

Now the Board's customers in Liverpool—about 340,000—will be able to visit the new shop to pay their accounts and at the same time look over the vast range of all that is best and most up-to-date in electrical appliances, tastefully displayed and demonstrated over the 5,000 square feet of selling area extending over three floors.

A loading bay on the basement floor leads to a lift which is used to carry the heavy appliances and display materials to the other two floors. The ground floor—at street level—usually presents a busy scene with customers milling among the appliances

attractively displayed and well laid-out on island and wall sites.

An escalator, strategically placed to lead from near the main door, takes the customer smoothly and quickly to the top floor where more electrical aids for the home are on view.

Each of the three floors is visible from the imposing front entrance to the shop.

Lighting Feature

The new superstore has a very high level of illumination from standard light fittings supplemented by 89 special spotlights which can be sited almost anywhere in the shop where there is a stretch of 'Litespan' track. The 'plug-in-anywhere' spotlights are of a parabolic design giving a direct bright light on the display or appliance but having no glare effect from the side.

Selling Note

In the opening week, while to some extent still in first gear, the staff took sales to the value of £12,000 which was an increase of £2,000 on last year's figure for the same week!

The staff, led by **Mr. Bert. Davies** the shop supervisor, have taken the move quite smoothly

The imposing front entrance to our new 'Superstore' in St. John's Shopping Precinct.

(Continued over leaf)



even though they have experienced a few teething troubles.

Before leaving Whitechapel, Mr. Davies said, "This has always been a tremendously busy shop, but working and display conditions have been rather

OUR COVER PICTURE

shows Ian St. John and Miss Peggy Francis, 'The Girl from MANWEB,' on a trip up the escalator after the official opening of the new 'Superstore.'

cramped. We are all looking forward to a more interesting and informative presentation of the advantages of electricity in our new home in St. John's Precinct."

Ian seems to be enjoying the close shave he is getting from Peggy.



This picture shows the customer's eye view once inside the front door. All three floors can be seen at a glance from here, and the escalator, on the right, invites her on a smooth and easy ride to the upper floor.



SALES SUCCESS for FOOD FREEZERS

MORE THAN 100,000 food freezers were sold in Great Britain last year compared with sales of 25,000 in 1965. These figures were given out recently by the Food Freezer Committee which represents the leading manufacturers and distributors. The Committee expects sales in 1970 to be at least 150,000 freezers and that by 1974, annual sales will be in the region of 300,000 cabinets.

The simplicity of food freezing as a means of storing fresh food safely and conveniently are the main factors in the astounding growth of this market. There is also a much wider variety of cabinets now available.

To bring the message of home food freezing to as many people as possible, Electricity Boards throughout the country have launched a promotional campaign using the national daily and Sunday papers and leading home magazines. The campaign will run until July, so with the prompting of a long hot summer, we should be well on the way to the record 150,000 freezer sales.

Book at half price

During the period of the home food freezer promotional campaign, all advertisements will carry a "special offer" coupon for the reader to apply for Gwen Conacher's book "Food Freezing at Home" at a cost of only 2/-.

Gwen, the Home Economist of The Electricity Council, tells which foods to freeze, how to prepare and wrap foods for the freezer and how long frozen foods may be kept.

Copies of this new edition, which has been revised and enlarged, are available (without the coupon) from Electricity Boards, price 4/- (20p) or from The Electricity Council, Trafalgar Buildings, 1 Charing Cross, London, SW1, price 4/6 (22.5p) including postage.

'Frozen Summer'

Most foods can be frozen—fruit, vegetables, poultry, meat and even bread and cakes. Prepared foods may also be stored in a food freezer.

In a new 12-minute, 16 mm sound/colour film produced by the Electricity Council, it tells, in simple terms, how to use a food freezer, how to prepare foods and how to thaw and use them successfully.

The film explains how by freezing fresh produce in its prime, summer foods can be brought to the dining table all the year round. This is a way of saving money too, for with a home food freezer you have the opportunity to buy commercially frozen foods in bulk at greatly reduced prices.

Prints of the film are obtainable on free loan from The Electricity Council, Film Library, Trafalgar Buildings, 1 Charing Cross, London, SW1.

Don't forget the 'fridge'—MANWEB brand of course!

The 1970 range of refrigerators will almost sell themselves and the great new models will help to smash our sales records.

'Snowflake' is the smallest of the range—3.3 cu. ft. nett. capacity with 2-star frozen food compartment. 6 sq. ft. of shelf area.

Sells at only 32 guineas.

'Glacier' is the next at 4.4 cu. ft. A 2-star freezing section stores up to 11 lbs. of food. Interior light and 10 sq. ft. shelf area.

Another bargain at 35 guineas.

'Iceberg' is the big fridge and big value. Just over 6 cu. ft. nett. capacity. Push button defrost. Large 2-star frozen food compartment stores over 18 lbs. Ample shelf space—10½ sq. ft., and large salad bin. Interior light fitted.

Amazing MANWEB price at only 43 guineas.

WHY BUY A FREEZER FROM MANWEB?

Yes, why should you buy a freezer from MANWEB when by looking round you will find bigger cabinets at cheaper prices elsewhere?

But, don't be taken in by these low-prices offered by some 'back-street' traders. The freezers they are selling are often of inferior quality, construction and finish. Some have hardboard cabinets and poor insulation making them very expensive to run.

When you decide to buy a home freezer, which should be anytime now, go to MANWEB and you will get value for your money. Freezers with strong steel cabinets, high quality foam insulation and fully-welded stove enamelled liners.

Also, don't forget the Board's DOUBLE GUARANTEE.

This is why you should buy a freezer from MANWEB... now!



Mr. J. A. Winchester (former District Manager) with Mrs. Winchester and Mr. N. Walsh enjoying their evening.

Crewe District Buffet Dance

The very talented quartette who entertained their colleagues at the Buffet Dance. From left to right, Mrs. Toni Boyer, Miss Kay Boyer, Mrs. Margaret Morse and Miss Irene Isherwood.



A picture taken during a novelty dance. He/she, didn't seem to know which way he/she was going!



Our colleagues in the Crewe District held their annual Dinner Dance a few weeks ago (*which we missed*) and then followed up with a Buffet Dance, held in a local hotel recently, (*which we attended!*).

Both 'do's' were very well organised and attended, as our pictures on this, and the following pages show. The high spot of both evenings was the entertainment provided by 'The Kilowots,' a team of talented young ladies trained and led by Mrs. Toni Boyer, the District telephone operator, as they regaled the audience with parodies on well-known songs.

At the Buffet Dance, the act was hit by illness with two of the girls unable to take part. At the last minute, Toni's eight-year-old daughter, Kay, stood in and did a marvellous job.

The theme was Miss Dis-United Nations, with a 'dolly' Miss France, a 'shapely' Miss Red

(continued on page 116)





Above: He seems to be a lucky man with three ladies to be entertained.

Below: It looks like Chief Sitting Bull and his party.

Crewe District Buffet Dance (continued from page 114)

Indian, a 'gum-chewing' Miss U.S.A. and the 'horse 'n hounds' Miss England.

Here are some of the parodies which went down so well, with piano accompaniment by Mr. N. Walsh (*District Commercial Engineer*).

For Miss France, and to the tune, 'Orpheus in the Underworld.'

In Paree

As you can see,
We cook with electricity,
Curry in a duo-can,
Puds you heat up in a pan can
Satisfy the hungry man,
With frogs legs in strawberry flan,
Cordon Bleu is just the thing,
Better with Electric.

Miss Red Indian sang to the 'Totem Dance' song from *Rose Marie*.

We are all a mod lot of Indians,
We look a job lot of Indians,
Blackfeet and Sioux,
We're 'with it' too.

We have got a 'fridge in our wigwam,
A Hotpoint 'fridge in our wigwam
All our tepees,
Have got deep freeze.

(Last verse)

And um totem carries um H.T.,
Each wigwam fitted with TV,
Indian no fool,
No solid fuel.

Miss U.S.A. of course, had to use the parody to 'John Brown's Body.'

It had to be a Yankee who was first to see the light,
To show us how to do it, 'cos the Yanks are always right,
It would be an American who'd brighten up the night,
When he lit the streets of old New York.

What a lot we owe to E-dison,
What a lot we owe to E-dison,
What a lot we owe to E-dison,
He's the Daddy of us all.

The stars and stripes for ever is a favourite marching tune,
We'll get a prepaid meter in the White House very soon
We'll be the first to put a meter reader on the moon,
And space heating really truly heating space.

Soon on Mars we're going to show up,
If Apollo doesn't blow up,
If it does we'll really throw up
Cos we've got to get space heating, heating space.

* * *

And finally, Miss England, with the tune 'An English Country Garden.'

How many poles and pylons grow,
In an English Country Garden,
We'll tell you now of some that we know,
And of those we miss, you'll pardon.
Cables flitting through the trees
Some of them are thirty-threes,
There stands an H pole, in the flower bed,
Wires underground,
That do not make a sound,
But they'll kill your roses—
Stone dead.

How many types of mast-switches grow,
In an English Country Garden,
Big ones, small ones, all of them on show,
In an English Country Garden.
Transformers standing all aloof,
Service brackets on the roof,
Goldfish 'alive,' down in the lily pond,
Then there is the stay,
That's always in the way,
In an English Country Garden.



It was at the Dinner Dance that 'The Kilowots' at full strength, first introduced their parodies to their colleagues.

To the tune 'Dance of the Hours' they sang . . .

In engineering
All is chaos,
Records piled up
To the ceiling.
System diagram
Like a hedgehog
What a simply splendid super public service.

In commercial
Dust is thickening
In that carpet
Isn't it sickening?
All those ashtrays,
Full of dog ends,
What a healthy happy hopeful public service.

'Where Have All The Flowers Gone' was the familiar tune to which these lines were sung.

Where has all the bonus gone?
Long time coming,
Where has all the bonus gone?
Long time no see.
Productivity they said,
Would give jam upon our bread
When will we ever learn?
When will we ever, learn?

Where has all our pay claims gone?
Long time coming,
Where has all our pay claims gone?
Long time no see.
Though the Union does it's best,
We'll have to whistle for the rest,
When will we ever learn?
When will we ever, learn?

Then we had, to the tune, 'Two Little Boys'

Two little men,
In trouble again,
Each had his van in dock,
Their work piled high
But back came the cry
"Sorry, you'll have to walk"

Back in the yard,
Mechanics worked hard,
Stripped down those vans of red,
Down in the pits,
The engine in bits,
But this was all they said. . .

"They'll have to go back to Legacy"
There's no more that we can do,
It's no use to shout,
Replacements are out,
It's back to the bike for you'.

Those two little men were trying
To explain that it was no use,
Because they had just remembered
The vans were both out of juice!

A short parody presenting a local touch, was put to the tune "Road to Mandalay" and went as follows :

(Verse)
North of the railway station,
There's a joy that never ends,
And we clock on there each morning,
Just to be among our friends.
When we go home at tea-time,
We seem to hear it say,
Come you back you lazy object,
Come you back to Macon Way.

(Chorus)
Come you back to Macon Way,
Where the electricians play,
You can hear the merry singing,
From the Stores across the way.
When you work at Macon Way,
It's a shame to take the pay,
We will gladly work for nothing
If they'll only let us stay!

And to the lively tune "Thank You Very Much" we heard. . . .

Thank You Very Much for the canteen dinners,
T.Y.V.M.T.Y.V.M.V.M.

All those carbohydrates you're stuffing in us,
T.Y.V.V.V.M.

Thank You Very Much for communications,
T.Y.V.M.T.Y.V.M.V.M.

Oops! Another fire-alarm-action stations,
T.Y.V.V.V.M.

Thank You Very Much for our lovely foremen
T.Y.V.M.T.Y.V.M.V.M.

Smiling with delight at the work before them
T.Y.V.V.V.M.

Thank You Very Much for our kind inspectors,
T.Y.V.M.T.Y.V.M.V.M.

With happiness and joy they all inject us,
T.Y.V.V.V.M.

And finally as a tribute to Mr. J. A. Winchester, as the former District Manager, these words were put to the tune of 'Auld Lang Syne . . .'

Should District Managers be forgot,
And never brought to mind,
We'll splice the mainbrace,
often yet,
For the sake of Auld Lang Syne.

'THE KILOWOTS'

The full team, who sang all the parodies at the Dinner Dance were :

Mrs. Toni Boyer
(telephonist)
Miss Ronwen Allcock
(typist)
Mrs. Chris. Clutton (clerk)
Miss Irene Isherwood
(shorthand typist)
Mrs. Margaret Morse
(Drawing Office assistant)

At the Buffet Dance, Ronwen and Chris. were not available, and Kay Boyer took over as Miss France, with her Mum, Toni, as Miss England, Irene as Miss U.S.A. and Margaret, the Indian Squaw



THE 1970 Sales Conference started with a bang—literally—Mr. (or should it be Marshall?) **Matt Cowan**, the Chief Commercial Officer, blasted a hole in the centre of one of the two huge display targets with a shot from a pistol.

The aim of the commercial department in 1970/71 was to shatter the £100-million target for turnover and go for a £200-million figure at the end of this new decade, said Mr. Cowan.

Summing up MANWEB's record since 1948, he said we had achieved the targets set us by successive Governments: our real measure of success had been registered by the price of electricity.

The official price index had increased by 120% since 1948 but the national cost per unit of electricity had risen by 67% and MANWEB's by only 58%. Coal was up 200%, and gas by 90%.

Looking forward to an even greater demand for electricity as the more unusual appliance became common place, and new uses were developed—the electric car, purifying sea water and buildings incorporating the Total Intergrated Environment, as at

our Sealand Road Offices—Mr. Cowan saw no limit as to what could be achieved.

The new organisation in the Commercial Department, with direct access to the shop floor and control from Head Office, would help MANWEB achieve success. Mr. Cowan thanked the staff for their efforts in 1969, and toasted their success for the future.

Mr. D. Webb-Jones

*Senior Assistant
Commercial Engineer
(Commercial)*

After coffee, delegates heard **Mr. W. N. Shires** (Deputy C.C.O.) who acted as M.C. of the conference, introduce **Mr. Denis Webb-Jones** who explained the plans for developing the domestic and commercial energy sales.

The aim of the *Energy Sales Section* was to increase the annual average domestic consumption to 10,000 units by 1980—this was a feasible target as many people today used more than this figure. This would be achieved with the aid of the shops, and by publicising the economics of one fuel

for all purposes.

Turning to the commercial sector, Mr. Webb-Jones said that there was great scope for load-building by improvement of existing lighting, heating, air-conditioning and water heating.

Mr. E. Redman

*Senior Assistant
Commercial Engineer
(Industrial)*

The *Industrial Energy Sales* team was led by the next speaker, **Mr. Ernie Redman**. Under Mr. Roy Stewart, the Energy Sales Manager, it was Mr. Redman's job, with his team, to develop the industrial load.

With the use of slides, Mr. Redman illustrated the task his team had to tackle. The industrialist would benefit from using electrical processes, and it was up to the industrial sales engineer to ensure the industrialist was aware of advantages electricity had to offer. Mr. Redman showed examples of how electricity could help, and added that there was a vast potential for electricity sales in this field.

Mr. G. Grady

*Senior Assistant
Commercial Engineer
(Installation and Production)*

The *Installation and Service Section* under Mr. Sid Fairclough's management, was not just a tool to aid appliance sales, but was a selling department in its own right, said **Mr. George Grady**, a member of this section.

The section's policy was to provide an efficient, profitable service, and increased turnover. Mr. Grady reviewed some of the successes **MANWEB** had achieved in the installation and service field, and used these to illustrate means by which an improvement in turnover and profits could be attained.

The new organisation currently being established in the ten Districts under the District installation engineers, would assist in the control, planning and programming of work of industrial staff. A small specialised team at Head Office would act as a consultancy for the Districts and for large outside authorities.

Mr. W. H. L. Walton

*Regional
Sales Controller*

Mr. Howard Walton, one of the three Regional Sales Supervisors, began by analysing the appliance sales section of **MANWEB**.

With the reorganisation this section had become a powerful multiple retail group in place of 71 individual shops, which could attain a £10-million sales turnover and a 10% profit margin in 1970/71.

Rationalisation of stocks and bulk purchasing would keep costs down, while individual shop targets based upon potential sales, re-siting and renovating shops, would aid sales, and publicity and hard selling would ensure

success. Mr. Walton promised a continuing tough and vigorous sales policy.

Mr. D. Noad

*District Commercial
Engineer
(North Mersey)*

Mr. Denis Noad, the District Commercial Engineer of the new North Mersey District, explained that he saw a changed and more effective role for the District Commercial Engineer in the new organisation. It was the D.C.E.'s job to ensure that all sections of the commercial department functioned correctly, adhering to commercial policies and procedures, and to feed back information about his District to Head Office.

The District Commercial Engineer needed to be a good all rounder, public relations officer, salesman and engineer, with the aid of the specialist available to back him up.

Mr. B. L. Spring

*Advertising and Publicity
Officer*

Mr. J. Cain

Mr. P. Redett

*(Hobson Bates and
Partners)*

After an excellent lunch the conference re-assembled to hear Mr. Shires introduce Mr. Brian Spring, the Board's Advertising Officer who gave a brief account of **MANWEB** plans for the year, which would be closely tied in with those of the Electricity Council.

The Electricity Council's plans were explained by members of their agents, Hobson Bates & Partners Limited. Mr. John Cain, on the first two days, and his colleague, Mr. Pat Redett, on the third day, recapitulated on the 1969/70 campaigns, showing

slides and films of various advertisements which had helped sell electricity and appliances over the past twelve months.

There were several new films and slides illustrating the 1970/71 campaigns which are now breaking both on TV and in the press. Both speakers were pleased with the way the Board had supported the campaigns, particularly that for 'White Meter' tariff.

The "Girls from MANWEB"

(Ann and Peggy)

Miss Ann Semple proved that the role she played as the 'Girl from **MANWEB** 1969' required more than a pretty face. The title meant more than the normal 'Miss This or That,' it meant she was an ambassador for the Board. At the various functions she attended during her year of office, which she found enjoyable but hard work, she attempted to tell the 'electricity story' to everyone she came into contact with, and she hoped that she had contributed something to energy sales.

Ann then presented to the conference her successor, **Miss Peggy Francis**, the 'Girl from **MANWEB** 1970.'

Mr. S. J. Reynard

*Stock Control
Supervisor*

The *Purchasing Stock Control Section* of Head Office was represented on the platform by one of its senior assistants, **Mr. Steve Reynard**, who told delegates of the necessity of centralising purchasing and stock control, and how this and a direct delivery service from the Queensferry and Lister Drive warehouses would bring economies.

The difficulties which showed had a multitude of reasons but

were not great when viewed in relation to the vast number of appliances handled. Over-stocking meant tying up capital, while understocking could lose sales. A happy medium could be achieved and maintained.

Mr. Reynard described how the warehouse operated, in detail, and assured delegates of his section's continued support in their efforts in reaching that £100-million target.

Mr. W. Wallwork

Commercial Officer
(Area 1)

Mr. Bill Wallwork, Area 1 Commercial Officer, spoke to the conference on water heating. He urged delegates to persuade customers to make more use of their immersion heaters—660,000 were installed in the MANWEB Area and this could boost energy sales considerably.

Demonstrating to delegates

how they could do this, Mr. Wallwork illustrated with a display board how various time controls and the 'White Meter' tariff could help. He compared electricity with its competitors and proved to delegates the value of electric water heating.

Written questions were answered by a panel chaired by the Chief Commercial Officer, who summed up the conference and urged everybody to go to it and break that £100-million target.

This was an extremely well organised conference, an enormous amount of hard work had gone into the preparation of the talks—each speaker had slides illustrating the points he was making. The talks were kept reasonably short, and the content was very interesting to anybody concerned with their jobs. If the enthusiasm, which was evident 'back stage' was in any way caught by the audience, then

our commercial colleagues are in for a bumper year.

Mr. G. E. (Ernie) Lowe, who stage-managed this conference so well deserves a special mention for his attention to detail, which made it probably the best sale conference yet to be held. Details like cushions on seats, breaks at the end of talks for stretching legs, made all the difference. This was Mr. Lowe's last conference, for he retired two days later.

FOUND

After the Conference, a ladies navy blue nylon glove with brass buckle was found. If it is yours, or you know of anyone who has lost one, please contact Miss Beth Tinsley at Head Office (Internal 'phone 2640).

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

IN THE MANWEB area finals of the Public Speaking Competition for 1970, held in the new Head Office block at Chester, recently, Mrs. Lillian J. Hughes, a saleswoman at our new superstore in Liverpool, was adjudged to be the winner of the Women's Section, and Mr. John Mercer, a salesman in our North Mersey District, took first place in the Men's Section.

They will both represent the Board in the National Finals to be held later this month in London.

A quintette of ladies, four from the Liverpool District and one from Crewe in the Mid-Cheshire District, competed for the prizes in their section. Miss Gwenda W. Jones, a trainee sales demonstrator from the St. John's shop took the second place and Miss Susan M. Moss, a trainee sales demonstrator from Crewe, was third.

Completing the section were Miss A. I. Fleming, a trainee sales demonstrator from the Liverpool District and Miss C. Haslam, a sales demonstrator from the North Mersey District.

In the Men's Section, nine competitors took part, speaking on a variety of subjects to specially selected audiences. Runner-up to Mr. Mercer was

Mr. Charles Utley, a marketing assistant at Head Office and in third place was Mr. Stewart T. Smith, an assistant consumers' engineer based at Caernarvon in the Gwynedd District.

Those who missed the prizes this year, but who we hope to see back in the competition again next year, were Messrs. D. W. Barnes and W. F. Garman, both assistant consumers' engineers from Runcorn in the South Lancashire District, Mr. N. D. Large, a salesman from Crewe in the Mid-Cheshire District, Mr. R. A. S. Luke, a trainee salesman from our Liverpool District, Mr. P. I. Pentin, a salesman from the North Wirral District and Mr. D. J. Taylor, a salesman from our Liverpool District.

The judges, who made a most difficult job seem comparatively easy, were Miss Rhonda V. Mooney, former typing supervisor at Head Office, Mr. R. E. Halliwell of the Electricity Council, Mr. S. G. Griffiths and Mr. T. R. Smith, who was Chairman of the Judging Panel.

STOP PRESS

1st PRIZE FOR MANWEB.

Mrs. Lillian Hughes was successful in winning the top prize in her section at the National Finals. Our sincere congratulations Lillian.



Consultative Council Members visit MANWEB Head Office

Top: In the typing pool, Miss Kathleen Sumner shows the visitors the Assman dictating equipment. From left to right: Mr. J. Gershman, Mr. H. Evans (Council Chairman), Councillor R. Stretch, Mrs. E. Jenks, Mrs. Town, Mr. J. Town, Mr. D. S. Webb Jones (MANWEB), and Mr. C. S. McKenzie (Council Deputy Chairman).



Left: Examining the model of the new building, from left to right: Councillor R. Stretch, Mr. D. G. Dodds (MANWEB Chairman), Mr. H. Evans, Miss D. V. Black (Council Secretary), member hidden, Mr. C. S. McKenzie, Councillor S. S. Bayman and Mr. J. Gershman.

FROM WALLASEY TO CHESTER

Six of our part-time saleswomen who made up Course 243 at the Wallasey Sales Training Centre, as part of their training, came along to Chester to look-over the new office block and get an insight into the workings of Commercial Department at this level.

Staff on these Courses also have the opportunity of visiting the Hoylake Training Centre and our Queensferry Stores.

Our picture, which was taken on the sun-drenched roof of Head Office, shows, from left to right: Mrs. Carol Stubbs (Northwich), Mrs. Delia Yegliss (Norris Green), Mrs. Monica Hill (Old Swan), Mrs. Ursula Ferguson (Chester), Mrs. Edna Slaven (Birkenhead Market Shop) and Mrs. Doreen Goulbourn (Chester). Kneeling in front is Mr. Eric Richardson (Senior Instructor, Sales Training).



TRULY RURAL

Success Formula for Farmers

ELECTRIC FARMING, published by The Electricity Council, offers a success formula and deals with each of its factors in considerable detail. Factors for increasing productivity are covered through stock selection, formulation feeding, controlled conditions and electrical techniques.

Gone are the days when a ration of corn supplemented by a handful of fish or meat meal could be carelessly tossed to pigs and poultry. Nowadays precise proportion of ingredients are carefully calculated to meet the needs of the stock, and analysis of home produced fodder is an essential part of the exercise.

It can be expected that all farmers will soon be working to tolerances in feeding stuff mixes which will be as critical as those commonly accepted today in the environmental control of intensive livestock houses. Here electronic controls already provide optimum conditions of temperature, humidity, ventilation and lighting for maximum productivity from healthy stock.

Twenty years ago when the forerunner of this book 'Electricity on the Farm' was published two thirds of the country's farms were not connected to a public electricity supply and much of the book's content offered little more than a glimpse of possibilities in a distant future.

Now, 'Electric Farming' is able to offer practical advice on farming techniques, many of them already tried and proven. Their application has been made possible by tremendous strides in rural electrification, involving the expenditure of over £165 million. Virtually every farm in Great Britain now has a public electricity supply.

As well as showing the way in which farming is moving, the book gives a wealth of practical information on fundamental electro-agricultural techniques which

are of interest to all concerned with farming.

'Electric Farming' is available from Electricity Boards, or from the Electro-Agricultural Centre, National Agricultural Centre, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2LS. Individual copies are free.

GROWING THE HUMBLE SPUD!

A booklet published by the Electricity Council, 'Electricity and Potato Husbandry' brings together various techniques in potato production, both new and old. It shows how modern electrical methods play a major role in helping the grower to increase both his yields and the quality of the crop for marketing.

The author is himself a potato grower and is fully aware of the annual increases in the costs of production. He maintains that the only way to meet these costs and maintain a reasonably constant annual yield in the variable British climate is to provide artificial conditions to enable the potato to have a better growing and storing environment. In many cases, this involves expenditure which economists can show will give a good return on capital under good management.

The new techniques are capable of helping the grower to increase his yields by up to 50%.

'Electricity and Potato Husbandry' is available from Electricity Boards or from the Electro-Agricultural Centre, National Agricultural Centre, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2LS. Individual copies are free.

'CONTACT' 1970 PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

- Entry is free, but restricted to **MANWEB** employees, pensioners and their families.
- Photographs must have been taken since **May 1st, 1969**.
- Any number of **Black and White** prints may be submitted in the **Portrait and General Sections**. Only **FIVE** colour shots (transparencies and/or prints) in the **Colour Section**.
- Don't forget to enclose a note with your name and address and **TITLE** of each picture.
- Prizes as follows :
Colour :
1st Prize—£10
2nd Prize—£5
3rd Prize—£3
Black and White :
Portrait—£5
General—£5
Special Prize :
For picture taken from furthest point from Chester—£2
- Send your entries, well protected, to :
*The Editor, 'Contact,'
MANWEB, Sealand Road,
Chester CH1 4LR.*
to arrive not later than **30th September, 1970**.

Conway Valley Conference

"Every Farm Offered Supply"

—Area Manager

Every farm in MANWEB's Area has now been offered a supply of electricity, and those not connected or due to be connected are those who have refused our terms, said Mr. K. Helliwell (Area 4 Manager), at Conway Valley District's recent staff conference, organised by No. 15 Local Advisory Committee.

Mr. Helliwell was outlining the work carried out by the Board in Area 4, and went on to say "We can be proud of the work that has been carried out in North Wales."

Guest speaker for the evening was the Deputy Chairman of the Board (Mr. D. G. Gwyn), who drew

the attention of his audience to the consequences of inflation on the economy of the country in general and of the electricity supply industry in particular.

Increases in the price of coal to generating stations, he pointed out, would more than wipe out the Generating Board's surplus for last year, and he reminded his listeners that "when wages go up by the stairs, prices go up in the lift."

In the midst of rising prices, said the Deputy Chairman, the contribution of electricity to price inflation was the lowest of any commodity in great public demand. This should be a source of satisfaction to us all, added Mr. Gwyn.

After Mr. Gwyn had touched on the themes of MANWEB re-organisation, and the introduction of work study and incentive bonus payments, a representative panel dealt with questions on a wide range of subjects.

In addition to the business side, an enjoyable dinner and social hour rounded off a most satisfactory evening.

We get Letters of Thanks

Our staff who work 'behind the scenes' are very rarely noticed by the people they serve, but a family at St. Helens, through the medium of the local newspaper, showed that the backroom boys are not always overlooked when they wrote . . .

"We wish to thank the electrical engineers who worked on Wednesday last until the early hours of the morning to put the power back into our district, Clinkham Wood, especially as we are all-electric.

"People who work behind the scenes never receive medals, but believe me, you are all appreciated."

(Signed)

. . . 100% satisfied

Not many of our customers admit to being 100 per cent satisfied, so when we do get one

who takes the trouble to put it in writing, we feel that it is worth reprinting.

It is from a customer in Widnes who writes . . .

Dear Mr. Ratcliffe,

I am writing to tell you how pleased I am with the excellent performance of my storage radiators which you kindly helped me to obtain. Both my wife and I are 100% satisfied, and cannot say enough in praise of this system of heating.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous help and consideration during our negotiations and also for your return visit to my house to enquire of our opinions regarding the electric central heating.

Thanking you once again,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

Mr. Ratcliffe is a salesman based at Warrington.

. . . from America

Mr. Graham L. Green, a member of our Southport District Drawing Office, was featured in a 'Contact' article a few months ago for his talents as a model car maker and racing champion.

Some time ago his work came to the notice of Mr. Raymond E. Hoy, editor of an American magazine, *Model Car Science*, and Graham was made the winner of their 'Model of the Month' contest.

Congratulations Graham, and keep up the good work.

. . . and to

The Computer !

Recently a letter arrived at Head Office addressed as follows:

The Computer,
MANWEB Electricity,
P.O. Box No. 7,
Chester CHI 4LR.

There was no comment from the computer, after all it's only human!

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE

Amendment of Electricity Deposit Charges

Mr. Keith Speed (Meriden) : I beg to move,

That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the powers of electricity supplying authorities to demand deposits from consumers and to amend the rate of interest on those deposits.

Bill to amend the powers of electricity supplying authorities to demand deposits from consumers and to amend the rate of interest on those deposits, presented accordingly, and read the First time; to be read a Second time upon Friday, 8th May, and to be printed. (Bill 119.)

Electricity Act, 1957

Mr. Patrick McNair-Wilson asked the Minister of Technology if he will propose an amendment to Section 29 of the Electricity Act, 1957, to facilitate its enforcement.

Mr. Alan Williams : Interested bodies are being consulted about proposals to make overcharging a criminal offence and to give powers to prosecute to local authorities who already have similar powers under the Rent Acts to protect tenants.

Gas and Electricity (Installation Charges)

Mr. Chichester-Clark asked the Minister of Technology (1) whether in the event of continuing disagreement between interested parties on charges made to developers for installing gas and

electricity in new housing developments, he will seek power to impose a solution on all concerned;

(2) whether he will give an assurance that he will announce his decision on charges to developers for installation of gas and electricity in new housing developments before the beginning of the summer recess.

Mr. Alan Williams : Taking further powers is one possibility.

A decision on this difficult problem will be announced as soon as possible.

Electricity, Gas & Coal Boards (R & D Expenditure)

Mr. Eadie asked the Minister of Technology what amount was spent in research and development in 1969 by the Central Electricity Generating Board, the Gas Board and the National Coal Board, respectively; and what sum is earmarked for spending in 1970.

Mr. Benn : The available information is that estimated expenditure in 1969-70 by the Electricity Council and Electricity Boards in England and Wales, the Gas Council and Area Boards, and the National Coal Board is £12½ million, £5¼ million and £4¼ million, respectively. I have not yet received the industries proposals for 1970-71.

Centrally-Heated Houses, Wales (Rates)

Mr. Roy Hughes asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government if, in order to accelerate the improvement of houses in Wales, he will introduce legislation to exempt central heating systems from liability to local rates.

Mr. Denis Howell : I would refer my hon. Friend to the reply given to the Question by my hon. Friend the Member for Bebington (Mr. Brooks) on 16th

December. The liability for increased rates is small compared with the cost of the heating installation which gives rise to it, and I do not think people are thereby deterred from improving their houses in this way.—(Vol. 793, c. 268.)

Rating Assessments (Central heating installations)

Mr. Tom Boardman asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer why the form sent to occupiers of dwelling-houses requires them to make a return under the General Rate Act 1967 of night-storage heaters used on the premises, in view of the fact that such heaters are not taken into account in arriving at the rating assessment; and if he will have the form amended to make this fact clear.

Mr. Diamond : Because this is the simplest way of ascertaining whether the central heating is or is not a type which affects the value for rating.

Mr. Rose asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he will take steps to extend tax rebates on mortgages interest repayments to additional rates assessment caused solely by owner occupiers installing central heating.

Mr. Taverne : No.

Rateable Valuations (Central Heating Installations)

Mr. John Page asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he will now take steps to provide that central heating systems should be treated by valuation officers in assessing the rateable value of properties in the same way as fireplaces.

Mr. Diamond : The same principle, namely the effect of the installation on rental value, already applies in both cases.

Mr. Page : Since different types of flooring and electrical lighting

are not taken into consideration, why should different types of heating be taken into consideration? Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that a lot of people are very angry about this?

Mr. Diamond: What is taken into consideration, and what always has been taken into consideration, is everything that affects the rental value of the house. That has always been the case and it continues to be the case.

Mr. Brooks: Would my right hon. Friend bear in mind that there is, in the North-West at least, a great shortage of smokeless fuel with a real danger that smokeless zones will not be implemented? Is it not quite wrong that at a time like this we should be fining a house-holder who installs central heating?

Mr. Diamond: There is no question of fining a house-holder. My hon. Friend will recognise that if he is in the market for a house and is offered two identical houses, one with central heating and the other without, he will be prepared to pay more for the one with central heating.

Energy Requirements

Mr. Eadie asked the Minister of Technology if he will arrange a meeting of the heads of all energy industries with a view to discussing future energy requirements in Great Britain.

Mr. Alan Williams: Future energy requirements are kept under constant review, in consultation with the industries, and meetings are arranged when appropriate.

Power Station (Firing)

Mr. Ogden asked the Minister of Technology what proportion of the Central Electricity Generating Board's electricity generating plant was coal-fired, oil-fired, gas-fired, dual-purpose, and nuclear-powered on 1st January, 1970.

Mr. Alan Williams: The C.E.G.B.'s maximum output capacity on 1st January, 1970 was 46,035 MW, comprising:

35,957 MW (78.1%)	coal-fired.
4,766 MW (10.4%)	oil-fired.
3,138 MW (6.8%)	nuclear.
61 MW (0.1%)	dual-purpose (coal/gas.)
2,133 MW (4.6%)	other (pumped storage, hydro, etc.)
Nil	gas-fired.

Electricity Output

Sir J. Eden asked the Minister of Technology what percentage of the output capacity of the public electricity supply industry will be coal-, gas-, or oil-fired or nuclear-powered in 1972 and 1975, respectively.

Mr. Alan Williams: The following are the figures for 1975 based on the C.E.G.B.'s 1969 Capital Development Programme (adjusted to take account of conversions subsequently approved):

C.E.G.B. PLANNED MAXIMUM OUTPUT CAPACITY, 1ST JANUARY, 1975 (a)

	MW	Per cent.
Coal-fired	45,200	68 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dual-fired (gas/coal)	400	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oil-fired (b)	10,300	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nuclear	7,600	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Other (c)	2,500	4

(a) Corresponding actual figures for 1st January, 1970 were given in a reply to my hon. Friend the Member for Liverpool, West Derby, on 16th April: the 1972 distribution of capacity as between fuels will mainly depend on progress with commissioning new plant.

(b) Including dual-fired (oil/coal)—2,000 MW.

(c) Includes gas-turbines, pumped storage, hydro, etc.

Power Lines

Mr. Crouch asked the Minister of Technology if he will give a general direction to the Central Electricity Generating Board to lay power lines underground in those areas of the country where winter weather conditions render overhead lines unsuitable.

Mr. Alan Williams: The optimum balance has to be struck between security of supplies and costs and this is primarily a matter for the C.E.G.B. at national level and the area boards at regional and local level.

Who's Who

Rt. Hon. A. W. Benn (Lab.)
Bristol S.E.

Minister of Technology
Rt. Hon. J. Diamond (Lab.)
Gloucester

Chief Sec. to the Treasury
Mr. D. Howell (Lab.)
Small Heath

Minister of State
Ministry of Housing and Local Government
Mr. D. Taverner (Lab.)
Lincoln

Financial Sec. Treasury
Mr. A. Williams (Lab.)
Swansea West

Joint Parl. Secretary
Ministry of Technology
Mr. T. Boardman (Con.)
Leicester S.W.

Mr. E. Brooks (Lab.)
Bebington

Mr. R. Chichester-Clark
Londonderry (U.U.)

Mr. D. Crouch (Con.)
Canterbury

Mr. A. Eadie (Lab.)
Midlothian

Sir J. Eden (Con.)
Bournemouth West

Mr. R. Hughes (Lab.)
Newport

Mr. P. McNair-Wilson (Con.)
New Forest

Mr. E. Ogden (Lab.)
Liverpool, West Derby

Mr. J. Page (Con.)
Harrow West

Mr. P. B. Rose (Lab.)
Blackley

Mr. H. K. Speed (Con.)
Meriden



Above : The victors from Head Office : From left to right, back row : Michael Knox, Phil. Roberts, George Harrison, John Case, Dave. Brayshaw, Neil Turner, Paul Murray and Bob. McMahon. Front row : Ronnie. Lee, Ron. Reid, Malcolm Cooper and Don. Roxburgh.

Below : Even as losers, Pumpfields can still raise a smile. From left to right, back row : Harry Robertson, Dave. Wilson, Harry Woods, Les. Rimmer, John Salisbury, Jay. Tyrer and Brian Pierrepont. Front row : Frankie Woan, Tommy King, Tommy Mullin, Steve. Vickery and Gerry. Storey.



Hard fought Final for McMinn Cup

The hard fought final match in the 'J. McMinn Cup' competition for 1969/70 was played one evening a few weeks ago on the Thingwall Road ground. The clash was between teams from Head Office and Pumpfields, Liverpool.

To reach the final, Head Office had defeated the Mersey Tunnel XI by four goals to one and the Lister Drive team, by three goals to one. Pumpfields were the victors over Marsh Lane (5—0) and Hatton Garden (5—4).

Only a handful of spectators saw a great final match with Pumpfields opening with determination but found a solid defensive wall against them. Gradually, Head Office took command of the mid-field and it was obvious that they would finally break through. This they did through fine goals from George Harrison and Don Roxburgh.

The 'Cup' and medals were presented to the winners by Mr. Eric Taylor, Chairman of the Liverpool Electric Power and Lighting Sports and Welfare Club.

A near thing as goalkeeper Rimmer foils Lee's break through.



ELECTRIC SUPPLY

League and Cup Winners

The tremendous feat of bringing off the 'League' and 'Cup' double was achieved this year by the Electric Supply football team, and to mark the occasion, a celebration dinner was held recently at the Thingwall Road Clubhouse.

Among the guests of honour was Mr. S. Lloyd, Chairman of the Liverpool Shipping League who proposed a toast to the team. He said that the present team reminded him so much of the great teams of the past, and that their play in the cup final was equal to any previous game.

Mr. Alec. Cassie, as League Secretary, being a MANWEB man himself, said how pleased he was that the two major trophies of the Shipping League had been won by Electric Supply.

The 'Lewis Cup' for the league championship has graced the Electric Supply sideboard before, having won it in 1938/39 season and holding it during the war years only to win it again in the 1946/47 and 1948/49 seasons.

The 'Melly Challenge Cup' was instituted in 1920 and the Electric Supply team were the joint holders in 1938, and won it outright in 1951 and 1964.

Another presentation made at the dinner was the 'R. Pringle Award,' which this year was won by Mr. Brian Pierrepont, a player in the second team. Making the presentation was Mr. M. Pringle from Bolton.

Everyone enjoyed a wonderful evening, but there is no doubt that the happiest man there was Mr. Bob. McMinn, the very proud Chairman of the Club.



Mr. M. Pringle, left, presents the award to Brian Pierrepont, as Mr. Bob. McMinn looks on

At another get together held later, the team and committee members presented Bob with a stainless steel tray suitably inscribed.

HOW THEY DID IT

We had to wait for the very last league match of the season before the championship was settled with Electric Supply playing close rivals, Mersey Docks and Harbour Board in a rainswept match, and running out easy winners by four goals to nil.

The Melly Cup final was played against Dickinson's, another strong team who finished second in the league table. This exciting match ended in a win for Electric Supply by three goals to one.

We have purposely not mentioned any individual by name because the hard won success of Electric Supply this season has been through their wonderful team spirit and all-out fighting qualities. 'Contact' congratulates you all!

The victorious Electric Supply team proudly display the cups won in this year's competitions. From left to right we have, Don. Hatfield, Dave. Wilson, Peter Arnold, George Vose, Neil Turner, Peter Turner, George Harrison, Malcolm Cooper, Jay Tyrer, Eric Foulger (captain), Pat. Byrne and John Salisbury. Goalkeeper George Tuthill was unfortunately not available when this picture was taken.



FOOTBALL AQUATICS AT RHOSLLANERCRUGOG

Report by Ken Jones (*Revenue*) and Ray Williams (*Stores*)

A few weeks ago, when the prevailing local weather was more conducive to water polo rather than football, a team from Area 2/3 at Chester visited Rhosllanercrugog (Rhos) where they played a match against a team from our Area 4 Office.

The twenty-two brave stalwarts donned their rubber suits and flippers—*sorry*—their football strips and boots, and waded out onto the field of play. That they managed to survive ninety minutes without anyone drowning or suffocating in the mud, must in itself rank as the sporting achievements of the age.

Torrential rain dominated the match and at the half-way mark, the lads from Area 2/3 led by two goals to nil, the scorers being Bob. Aspinall and Geoff. Williams.

The game was resumed after what must be the shortest interval on record, during which both teams listened to lightening tactical instructions and a couple of the

more mature members of the Area 4 squad had a good rub down with 'Fiery Jack!'

With the wind behind them—and *someone said the ref. as well*—Area 4 began to get their heads above water and with goals from Malcolm Evans, Ken. Jones, Ray. Williams and Ray. Morgan, the game ended in a win for the home side by four goals to two.

Back in the dressing rooms a quick roll call was made to make sure that all the players had arrived—*nobody bothered about the ref.—he could still be out there!*

After a most welcome hot shower the teams went off to a local pub to enjoy an excellent buffett laid on by the Area 4

Sports and Social Club.

By the way, there is absolutely no truth in the rumour that during the second half of the game, someone stood on the touch-line with a boat hook and shouted, "*Come in number eleven, your time is up.*"

It is unfortunate that we are unable to show any photographs of this exciting game—although always capable of achieving the impossible—given a little time—our friends at Area 4 could not, in this instance and at such short notice, come up with a skin-diving cameraman!

The Teams :

Area 4: Messrs. B. Griffiths, T. Peat, G. Wilcox, D. Jones, K. Jones, B. Fowles, G. Owens, R. Morgan, M. Evans, K. Jones and R. Williams.

Area 2/3: Messrs. D. Croston, M. Edwards, T. Bainbridge, D. Wilson, D. Jones, R. Aspinall, J. Templeton, A. Penderon, B. Hobdley, G. Williams and J. Feeley.

Referee: Mr. Philip Edwards.

Electricity Council Sponsor Air Conditioning Advisory Bureau

In certain parts of America, the benefits of air conditioning in commercial and industrial premises have been enjoyed for some considerable time. The awareness of these benefits is now becoming increasingly strong in this country and to help stimulate this interest, the Electricity Council have sponsored a national Air Conditioning Advisory Bureau which was opened a short time ago at 2 Charing Cross (Northumberland Avenue), London, SW1.

Here the staff will co-operate with Electricity Boards and through them with the air conditioning equipment manufacturers and installation contractors. Potential users will be able to obtain information and advice on the type of installation which will best suit their requirements.

The Bureau will be equipped to deal with all enquiries whether they be by post, by telephone or by a personal visit.

The need for air conditioning today, particularly in offices, shops, restaurants and other commercial premises has led to a rapidly accelerated increase in the sales of air conditioning equipment and it is estimated that the annual turnover of the industry has now topped the £70 million mark.

Without air conditioning, temperature and humidity levels in commercial and industrial premises can cause considerable distress. In shops, for example, staff often have to work and customers select their purchases in conditions which can reach over 100°F and 80 per cent relative humidity.

Air conditioning is the only answer.

COMING OF AGE

Congratulations to Miss Carol Kay, a secretary/shorthand typist at Head Office who reached her 21st birthday on May 2nd. We hear that she is to be married to Mr. John Cuthell on May 30th. John, who once worked in the Establishments Section at Head Office, and at Area 2/3 Office, Sandiway House, is now a computer operator with the Nuclear Power Group.

ANOTHER NATIONAL WIN FOR MANWEB

The Electricity Council held their first ever National Badminton Championships at the Sealand R.A.F. Station, near Chester, a few weeks ago.

Sixteen teams entered from as far afield as Portsmouth to the South of Scotland, MANWEB, managed to get together two teams.

Throughout the two days of the very successfully organised championships there was an excellent spirit among the players —competitive yet very friendly.

The MANWEB II team won one match and lost one in the preliminary rounds and were eliminated.

Our number one team, however, went right through to the final without dropping a game.

They eventually won the championship, against some top-line opposition by beating the South of Scotland team by three games to two.

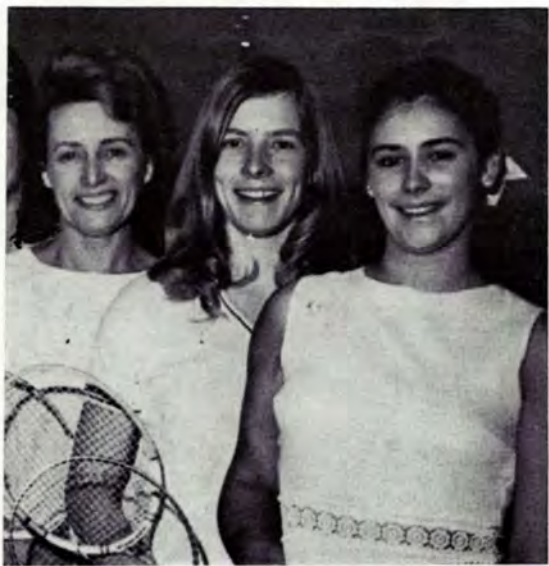


The winning team, from left to right, back row: Mr. Paul Wilkinson, Mr. J. E. Foster (non-playing captain), Mr. J. Andy. Stewart and Mr. John Ford. Front row: Miss Doris Hamer, Miss Beth. Tinsley and Miss D. Rushton.

A lovely trio, from the MANWEB II team, from left to right: Mrs. Kath. Knight, Miss Joan Watling and Miss Pat Wearing.

The non-playing Captain of the MANWEB II team was Mr. Tony Thackray.

The other half of the MANWEB II team, from left to right: Mr. Reg. Morris, Mr. Charles Lynch and Mr. Arthur Tonks.



RETIREMENTS

... from North Wirral...

Mr. A. CALDWELL

No more knocking on doors, no more bending and stretching to read meters—no more of this for Mr. Arthur Caldwell, who recently retired from his job as meter reader in the North Wirral District after completing 33 years' service in the industry.

Arthur, a most popular member of the staff, was a very keen gardener before ill health forced him to take it easy. He is now looking forward to spending more time on his other hobbies—motoring and—*weather permitting*—camping.

Wishing him and long a healthy retirement, Mr. D. G. Tomsett (*District Administration Officer*), on behalf of the staff, presented Arthur with an electric clock.

Mr. J. V. CARROL

An assistant section engineer, who started working the supply industry in 1926, with the Birkenhead Corporation Electricity Department, retired a few weeks ago. He is Mr. James Vincent Carrol, a popular member of our North Wirral engineering staff.

In his early days, he supervised the laying of 33 kV cables from Birkenhead to Wallasey power station. He also played a



Above: Mr. Tomsett, left, presents Mr. Caldwell with a parting gift.

Below: Mr. Carroll, left, says his goodbyes to Mr. R. Morley (*District Engineer*).



big part in the Wirral electrification scheme.

After a short spell in charge of the Drawing Office at Craven Street, he returned to his old love... in charge of cable laying gangs in the District.

We join with his many friends in wishing him a happy retirement

Mr. A. KAYE

After 47 years' service in the electricity supply industry, Mr. Arnold Kaye, 1st assistant District Engineer, retired recently.

Affectionately known as 'Danny' Kaye, because of his cheerful nature, this very popular member of the staff heard many glowing tributes paid to his service and personality before receiving a farewell gift from his friends.

Starting work at Warrington in 1923, 'Danny' moved to Wallasey a short time later. Since then he has held a number of leading engineering posts in Wallasey and Birkenhead.

Mr. Kaye, centre, with just a few of his many friends and colleagues, on the occasion of his recent retirement from the Board.





Surrounded by friends is Mr. Hampson, third from right, front row.

... from Chester

Mr. L. C. HAMPSON

Towards the end of April, many members of the Chester District staff gathered together to say their farewells to Mr. Laurie C. Hampson, who was retiring from his job as senior store-keeper.

On behalf of the staff, Mr. T. P. Shell (*District Administrative Officer*) presented Laurie with a portable radio and some recording tapes.

This was in a way, the second retirement for Laurie, for in 1952 he retired from the Police Force after completing 26 years' service. Twelve months later he joined MANWEB, taking over in the Stores in 1955.

Laurie will be well and truly missed for the tremendous amount of time he put into First-Aid work. He was a member of the famous Northwich team from 1955/1961, winning the District Final Competition six times and was placed in the first three at National level on four occasions.

They won the National trophy in 1961.

Laurie has been a member of the District Ambulance Committee for eight years and on the National Committee for four years. He was responsible for training another famous team, the Area 2/3 Ladies who won the National Competition in 1963, 66, 68 and 70.

We join with his host of friends and colleagues in wishing him a long and happy retirement and lots of good fishing.

Mr. G. JONES

One of those quiet and efficient workers recently retired from service with the Board after completing 35 years with the industry. He is Mr. George Jones who was the caretaker/handyman based with Area 2/3 at Sealand Road, Chester.

George, has a good record of 'firsts,' being the first in at Newgate House, Newgate Street in 1948, first in at Area 2/3 Office block in Sealand Road, and could be said to be a 'first-

footer' in the new Head Office block.

Before he left for his life of leisure (!), George was presented with a transistor radio and a reading lamp from his friends and colleagues, and a book on gardening from the Local Advisory Committee.

... and from Northwich

Mr. H. W. JONES

A chargehand ganger in our Northwich District, Mr. Harry W. Jones, was given a fine 'send-off' by his friends, prior to his recent retirement.

Harry started with MANWEB just 21 years ago as a labourer and became chargehand seven years later.

As a farewell gift, Harry was presented with a cheque which he will no doubt use to 'help-out' on the smallholding he owns and will continue to work.

We wish him good health and good luck.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the deaths of some of our colleagues.

Alan Pratt, a craft apprentice electrician, who was undergoing training at our Hoylake School, died on April 11th, aged 16 years, after an illness which had lasted

Obituary

since November 1969.

Mr. Jack Simmons Moulton, a meter reader/collector with our Crewe District, who died during an operation recently. Jack, who was 62, leaves a widow and

daughters to whom we extend our sympathy.

Mr. Horace Taylor, a retired installation inspector from our Crewe District, who died a few weeks ago aged 69. Our sympathies go to his widow and daughter.

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