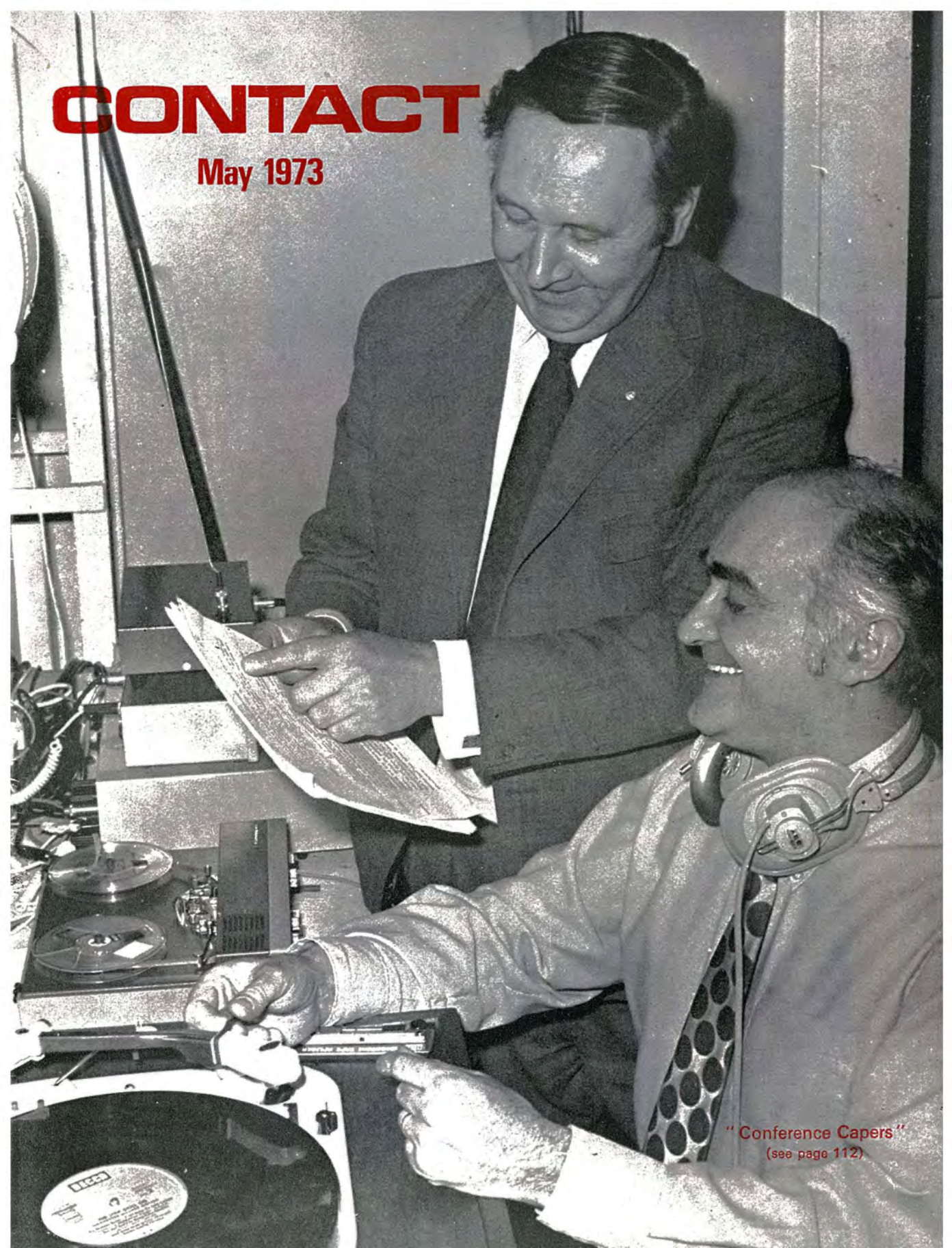


CONTACT

May 1973



"Conference Capers"
(see page 112)



Clerical and Administrative staff on their Supervisory Course. From left to right, standing: Messrs. D. C. Buchanan, J. G. Rees, R. Owen and J. Walker. Seated: Miss D. Jones, Mr. J. W. Thompson, Miss M. Hams, Mrs. B. Chapman, Mr. J. Pember-ton and Miss C. Jones.

SUPERVISORY AND MANAGEMENT COURSES AT HEAD OFFICE

ABOUT 18 months ago, a number of courses on supervisory and management subjects were introduced for the NJC staff with the Board and some 210 supervisors from all over our area have attended at various times.

Subsequently, the courses have been extended in range to include NJB staff and foremen from the Engineering and Commercial Departments.

Each course, held at Head Office, varies in length from two to five days and includes such topics as management, communications, motivation, leader-

ship, etc., and where appropriate, staff from our Management Services section and specialists from other departments contribute to the course programme.

The man who arranges and organises the courses is Mr. Dennis Kernan, right (*principal assistant, Education and Training*).



Dennis, who joined MANWEB in 1971, originally qualified as a marine engineer at the Royal Naval Engineering College at

Greenwich and later specialised as a weapons engineer before becoming a work study officer. His service career has included appointments as an Admiralty Inspecting Engineer on the Clyde, Weapons Engineer in Portsmouth and Rosyth dockyards, Chief Engineer on a frigate operating in the Persian Gulf and as the Management Development Adviser in a Naval Electrical Training School.

He is married with a family of twins—a daughter now living in America and a son who works for an electronics firm in Portsmouth.



Commercial Engineers on their Management Course. From left to right, standing: Messrs. C. Arnold, H. Jones, L. A. Carr, B. V. Painter, A. W. Ince, and W. Hatton. Seated: Messrs. N. Hayes, S. Burgess, W. E. Ambrose, C. F. Walmsley, V. Hughes and L. Carter.



CONTACT

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Editorial Staff

Keith Baldwin
John F. Perry
Sam Doughty

EDITORIAL

An Even Keel

IF A MAN spends a whole lifetime working for one organisation, then it is fair to say either that he is too much of a stick-in-the-mud to go and improve his lot elsewhere, or that he finds real satisfaction in his work and enjoys his working and social relationships with his colleagues.

In recent weeks large numbers of MANWEB men and women have put on their best-bibs-and-tuckers and assembled at various points for pleasant social gatherings and to receive from the hands of the Chairman the certificates which entitle them to the watches, refrigerators, lawn-mowers, and so on, which are customarily presented to mark periods of long service.

Whether these awards represent 25, 35, or 45 years' service matters little. To earn a 45-year-award one must obviously join the industry at an early age and have the good health and fortune to continue a full working lifetime, but the principle underlying all the awards remains the same—they have gone to people who have found our industry sufficiently rewarding, emotionally and materially, to hold their loyalty over very long periods.

Many have made substantial marks during their service, climbing the ladder of seniority and responsibility, and it is quite obvious that in the overwhelming majority of cases these people have stayed with the industry from choice.

The industry is fortunate indeed to be able to command the continuity of service of so many valuable people. Their presence ensures that, whatever strains may be generated by crises, re-organisations, and so on, there remains a reservoir of experience and judgement capable of coping with all the storms and squalls of time, and of keeping the industry's helm steady on the course of progress and public service.



Mr. W. N. Shires, Deputy Chief Commercial Officer, opens the conference.

Three sharp raps with the gavel by the Leonard Sax of MANWEB, Mr. Bill Shires, Deputy Chief Commercial Officer, and the first day of the MANWEB Sales Conference for 1973 was in session.

For the audience it was the start, but for the speakers and back-stage staff it was the beginning of the end of months of hard graft—only the previous night they had been rehearsing until midnight.

The Chief Commercial Officer was the first speaker and he welcomed the delegates and congratulated them on their magnificent effort over the past 12 months. Shop sales were up by 15%, that is an extra £1 million in sales turnover!

Despite the economic climate of industrial unrest and enforced price restraint the terrific selling effort had not halted. Mr. Cowan singled out Mr. Brian

Kaye and his staff at Kirkby shop for special mention. Their sales were up by 71% over 1972.

The energy sales teams too had done very well achieving their targets which had been raised for the coming year. Plenty of hard work had gone into the service and installation sections but rising costs and price restraint had been restrictive on profits.

Up in the balcony hanging on Mr. Cowan's every word were Advertising Officer Brian Spring and his assistant Deiniol Williams. Around them the mass of slides and films and two cine and two slide projectors. Their job was to show films and slides on cue for each of the speakers. This they did despite projector lamps failing—Mr. Cowan used over forty slides and the following speaker Mr. Norman Walsh, D.C.E., Mid-Cheshire, used a couple of films plus almost 100 slides.



Left, Messrs. Brian Spring (nearest camera) and Deiniol Williams projecting "on cue."



Right, Student engineer Mr. Geoff Young on duty in the lighting gallery.

The theme of the conference was customer relations and this was the title of Mr. Walsh's talk. The way we look and behave are the ways in which we create an impression with people. With MANWEB it extends to our offices, vehicles, appearance of shops, and our work. At this point he introduced the 'Girl from MANWEB 1973,' Mrs. Pat Reed.

Mr. Walsh stressed the point of not losing one's temper, whatever the reason, to be pleasant and friendly although this should be no substitute for good service.

Back stage following the script, John Drew from South Lancs District was ready to cue in the tape recorder, record player or switch microphones. The behind the scenes partnership of John Drew and Ron Carter of Clwyd District helped to make the conference such a success.

They were the special effects men, who thought up many of the ideas and worked out how to make them work. The words of the tune which introduced Mr. Walsh were written in a car, playing the music over and over on John's portable recorder, whilst driving to Wrexham to make the recording for the conference.

Mr. Shires directed the installation and service men plus the energy sales people into a separate session in the Lecture theatre belonging to the Chester College of Further Education, the venue of this conference.

Learning New Skills

Mr. Roy Stewart, Energy Sales Manager, took the chair in the lecture theatre and introduced Head Office lighting specialist Mr. Gerry Worthington,

who told delegates they must grasp the opportunity of learning new skills, to sell new designs in lighting, presented by the introduction of the new I.E.S. code. This had set new standards in all fields of lighting.

Over £25 million had been spent in the last 12 months on lighting fittings. Mr. Worthington told delegates. This figure was picked up by the next speaker Mr. Walter Jones, an installation engineer at Clwyd District.

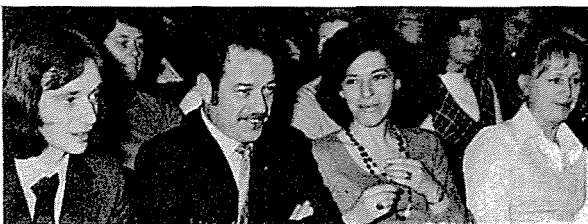
It meant that £200,000 was being spent in the MANWEB Area on fittings alone, and if each fitting carried with it £10 in installation charges that meant a great opportunity to gain quite a bit in contracting work.

In the main hall it was the turn of Marketing Manager Mr. Tom Dean to preside over the next session. He introduced the subject of rationalised stocking and display and a trio of speakers.

The supervisor from the Bootle shop Mr. Jim Brown, voiced his criticism about the lack of appliances available from stock and made constructive suggestions as to how some of the problems could be alleviated. He considered fast communication of stock positions was one answer and urged other methods be tried of recording stock levels and better co-operation be created between various sections.

Our man in Machynlleth Mr. Cliff Roberts, who runs unaided the Board's shop there, said he understood the need for rationalised stocking. It made goods cheaper, gave quicker stock turnover, made control easier, fewer spares etc., but he appealed to the 'Brains Dept.' "... ask us in the smaller shops what we would like to see on the rationalised list."

The third member of the trio was from the 'Ivory

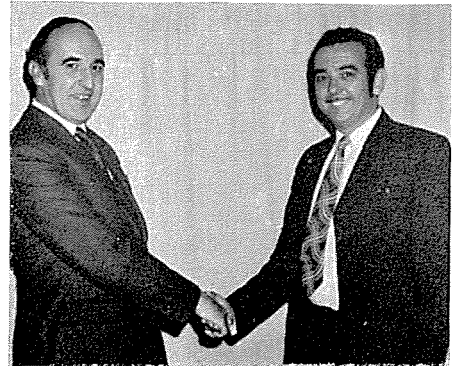


These delegates seem to be enjoying the conference.





The 'top brass'—the Chief Commercial Officer with his three section managers—l. to r.—R. Stewart (*Energy Sales*), S. Fairclough (*Installation and Service*), M. R. Cowan (*C.C.O.*), and T. Dean (*Marketing*).



Sales and service hand in hand. Messrs. T. Saladine, left, District Sales Supervisor and K. Rigby, Installation and Service Engineer.

Tower' at Chester, the Board's commercial purchasing officer Mr. Keith Sowden.

"To rationalise is to bring into conformity with reason" was Mr. Sowden's quotation from one of his favourite books the Pocket Oxford Dictionary. This is just what the marketing panel at Head Office attempt to do with the vast amount of appliances currently being manufactured.

A great deal of thought went into the formation of the rationalised list. Appliances must be BEAB approved, the sales potential and profitability explored, reliability, advertising support, delivery, as well as the local needs of shops considered.

Behind the scenes there was a hive of activity as the back stage team prepared the props. for the next talk. The lean frame of Mr. Norman Kenyon, nursing a heavily bandaged hand ('I'll go to the doctor's after the conference ends'), a sort of stage manager, producer, prompter and general dogs body, directed the scene shifters, all working on tiptoe and cursing in whispers.

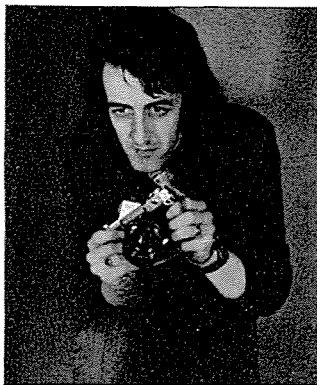
Mr. Stewart Griffiths, Mr. Dean's deputy, started on the first of his two part talk. He outlined the need for a new Board brand washing machine. Working with Mr. Griffiths, Regional Sales Supervisor, Mr. Steve Airey then introduced the new



◁ Pictured left, Mr. Norman Kenyon, holding script, checks a point with Mr. Les Smith, before the curtain goes up.

Three bonny lasses wi' MacDonald bagpipes—sorry vacuum cleaners—l. to r. Mrs. A. Rennie Smith, Mrs. J. Lavender and 'Girl from MANWEB' Mrs. P. Reed.





Three members of the Head Office Display Team who were responsible for the design and production of the display material and many of the slides used at the Sales Conference. *right*, Miss Gaynor Manning, display assistant, *centre*, Mr. Bill Swan, senior display assistant, and Hugh Hughes, *left*, display photographer.

Electra Automatic Washing Machine. From the wings Ann Rennie-Smith in evening dress slinked across the stage to Gypsy Rose Lee music and stripped the cover from the new machine.

It has a 9 lb. capacity front loading stainless steel tub, special double action door lock, multi-compartment powder dispenser. There are ten programme choices, plus an automatic pre-wash. Price £75.

The morning session complete in the main hall lunch for the delegates and backroom staff alike—not for our two friends on the balcony, too much to do sorting out slides etc. The lecture theatre was also still in use. Mr. Alan Edwards a supply engineer from Oswestry District was telling delegates of the role of the supply engineer in energy selling and urged the better use of resources to sell more load.

The installation and service personnel joined the shop staff in the main hall after their lunch. Already Mr. Griffiths had been in action and with Mr. Les Smith another of the three Regional Sales Supervisors they presented the new MacDonald vacuum cleaner, with the aid of tartan kilted Mrs. Jean Lavender, Mrs. Ann Rennie-Smith and Mrs. Pat Reed.

“The Greatest !”

The most popular ‘turn’ of the conference followed. A great double act from Liverpool District, Messrs. Ken Rigby and Tom Saladine.

District Sales Supervisor Tom Saladine elated by the latest figures for sales commented the MANWEB Sales Staff were the greatest.

“Rubbish,” Installation and Service engineer Ken Rigby commented.

“ . . . they are the greatest” Tom insisted.

“What, all of them?”

“Well, most of ‘em.”

“All the time?”

“Well most of the time.”

Turning to the audience Mr. Saladine asked his

Two more members of the display team, talented cartoonist Mr. Jeff Baker, *left*, with colleague Mr. Chris Oxtoby, examining the MANWEB Electra automatic washing machine.



audience if they were the greatest all of the time or did they have their off moments.

Then showing just how having an off day can create a bad tempered customer especially if the salesman, the delivery man, the electrician and the clerk all have off-days together. This was followed by the alternate way, given the same circumstances, but this time doing the right things, and thus creating a happy customer.

Meanwhile in the lecture theatre Head Office Industrial sales engineer Mr. Glyn Norbury was presenting his paper 'The Industrial Scene.'

A unique feature of this paper was that it had been circulated to the energy sales delegates prior to the conference. After a short presentation of the paper about effective selling to industry the delegates were invited to enter into an open discussion.

At 2.45 precisely Mr. Roy Stewart chairing the discussion brought proceedings to an abrupt end and directed the energy sales staff to join the remainder of the conference in the main hall, where he and Mr. Dean were to present their papers dealing with the local and national advertising campaigns.

Mr. Dean outlined the plans for the national and local advertising, showing newly made commercials for TV advertising dealing with appliance marketing.

Mr. Stewart followed and gave details of the plans for energy marketing and emphasised the importance of the industrial and commercial markets.

Following afternoon tea the meeting was thrown open to the floor and a panel of the 'top brass' from the 'lazy Y'—as Head Office is known to Liverpool staff—"the cowboys up there keep sending us memo's saying 'Why did you do this, why did you do that?'" explained Ken Rigby in his talk.

"Think of the customer . . ."

Summing up the conference Mr. Cowan reminded staff of the aims for 1973/4. They should sell more and spend less and at all times think of the customer, who should be given friendly, helpful, patient and good service.

The music fades away and the back stage team prepare for the same thing the next day when another third of the commercial staff will attend, and for the third and final day, when things have to be packed ready for picking up after the long Easter Weekend.

Conference capers—cover picture

"At this point we'll make one helluva flash"—and they did! bringing screams from the audience. Just one of the capers created by the dynamic partnership of John Frew, seated, and Ron Carter, the special effects and ideas men at the MANWEB Sales Conference.

AN IMPROVING AVERAGE — NORTH WIRRAL SAFE-DRIVERS ARE TOLD

The brighter side of the sombre road-accident picture was pointed out at a recent MANWEB Safe Driving Award presentation ceremony at the North Wirral District office canteen at Birkenhead.

Presenting awards to the 41 recipients (from a total of 77), who were able to be present, Mr. A. Laugharne, assistant Chief Constable of Cheshire, said that between 1961 and 1971 the total number of vehicles on British roads rocketed from nine-and-a-half million to fifteen-and-a-half million, but despite this, the number of people killed and injured in road accidents had remained the same.

"Surely this must mean something!" said Mr.

Laugharne. **"It would appear to mean that there must have been improvements in the standards of roads, the efficiency of brakes and tyres, and I am sure there has, in fact, been an improvement in the behaviour of drivers."**

He said it was pleasing to see that in the Wirral area (against the national trend), there had been a reduction in 1972 both in the number of accidents and the number of casualties. Presenting the awards, he said that some of the MANWEB drivers had good records of 15 years and more, and this was something of which they could rightly be proud.

Awards were presented as follows:



THE NORTH WIRRAL PEOPLE . . .

Bar to 15-Year Brooch: Messrs. Robert H. Chapman, George Holland, Joseph L. Taylor and Charles L. White.

15-Year Brooch: Mr. William A. Perry.

Bar to 10-Year Medal: Messrs. Thomas H. Hardy, Edward Hough, Cyril McCavish, Joseph K. Waring and Alfred Woods.

10-Year Medal: Messrs. Harold N. Jones, John E. Prescott and Charles R. Sutherland.

Bar to 5-Year Medal: Messrs. Sidney Bown, Edward Charnock, Eric Coley, William E. Davies, Robert C. Harrison, John B. Jones, Thomas H. Jones, Alfred E. Nicholas, William G. Reyner, Eric Roberts and Raymond Smith.

5-Year Medal: Messrs. John V. Butterworth, Clive R. Garner, Douglas A. Lawson, Kenneth G. Lea,

Ernest Marshall, William G. Roylance and Victor Sestan.

Diplomas: Mrs. Elizabeth J. Olivares. Messrs. Charles A. Bonsor, Robert G. Bell, David Blackburn, Herbert D. Boyce, Kenneth Bull, Gerard Clarke, Robert J. Cook, John Crosby, Norman J. Davis, Joshua Dean, John Devon, Philip J. Dohemy, Raymond J. Duncan, James Eastwood, William J. Egan, Thomas M. L. Ellwood, John D. Fitch, Norman Griffiths, Francis L. Griffin, Geoffrey Harris, Victor P. Henri, Roy Holden, Edward James, Cyril P. Jones, George L. Jones, John Kelly, Robert Lloyd, John McAdam, Leonard Murphy, Kenneth W. Murray, Frederick J. Slee, Geoffrey Smethurst, Robert A. Stevens, Dennis Virgin, Roy Vyskocil, John G. Watson, Charles P. Wearing, Stewart Wilson and Richard Withers.

. . . WHO RECEIVED THE AWARDS



**Chairman
presents
Long
Service
Awards
in Liverpool**



Messrs. Telfer and Dodds (back row, left and centre) with the 45-year group.

OUR Chairman, Mr. Denis Dodds, went along to the Bluecoat Chambers in Liverpool recently to meet members of the staff from our North Mersey, Liverpool and North Wirral Districts who had earned their long service awards. Also present was Mr. Harry Telfer (*Group Manager*) who had recently returned to work after illness.

The awards, presented by Mr. Dodds, were for periods of 25, 35 and 45 years' service in the electricity supply industry, and were as follows:

Liverpool District:

45 Years: Messrs. R. L. Cardus and E. E. Woodfine.
35 Years: Messrs. F. Cato, P. Horan, W. Kelly, J. A. Liggett, A. Molloy, N. Sothern, J. E. Tierney and G. Tucker.

25 Years: Mrs. P. F. C. Chamberlain. Messrs. J. Anderson, E. J. T. Backett R. A. Birkett, M. Connor, J. F. Coyne, W. Davies, R. Dolman, E. Grimman, H. Guy, L. Hammel, L. Hampson, J. T. Hanson, J. Lambert, J. McArdle, J. Murphy, S. Platt, J. Stanley, J. Stannard, W. E. Rushton and J. A. Williams.

35-year award recipients and some of their ladies.





Those who came along for the 25-year presentations.

North Mersey District:

45 Years: Mr. W. L. Preen.

35 Years: Messrs. W. Gibbs, L. G. H. Lloyd and W. Sutton.

25 Years: Miss K. Woods. Messrs. R. Allen, J. C. Cobb, S. F. Gordon, T. H. Hodge, E. Jones, T. E. Matthews, A. H. Quinn, J. Roberts, A. T. Smith, M. V. J. Stubbs and F. W. Thomas.

North Wirral District:

45 Years: Mr. G. L. White.

35 Years: Messrs. C. W. Cullen and J. G. Martin.

25 Years: Messrs. S. Bown, K. J. Cambridge, G. E. Colley, W. E. Davies, G. Holland, E. James, W. V. James, F. Letts, H. Lewis, E. Marshall, H. Reeves, A. Richards, F. G. Robinson, G. L. Sutton, J. G. Watson, S. Wilson and N. Woodhouse.

Power Stations will burn more Coal

An agreement to burn more coal at power stations in 1973/74 has been reached by the Central Electricity Generating Board and the National Coal Board.

This is the first stage of a three-year agreement, and is expected to increase the CEGB's use of NCB coal during the year to about 65 million tons.

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry has agreed to provide financial assistance under the Coal Industry Act 1973 for all NCB coal burned by CEGB in 1973/74 above a datum tonnage of 58 million tons.

The Act empowers the Secretary of State to make payments to the NCB for the purpose of promoting the sale of coal to Electricity Boards up to a maximum of £50 million over the next three years. This can be increased to a maximum of £100 million by a Parliamentary Order.

Mr. Arthur Hawkins, Chairman of the CEGB, commented: "This agreement underlines the fact that if the price of coal is right then the CEGB can immediately step up its coal burn without putting in a single extra megawatt of coal-fired plant. It is also

important to recognise that the agreement will not blur the cost-saving objectives of either the CEGB or the NCB in their day-to-day operating and trading arrangements."

He pointed out that in the last ten years the CEGB had invested well over £1,000 million in new coal-fired power stations and today two-thirds of its capacity was coal-fired. In the year 1972/73 the CEGB had bought NCB coal worth over £340 million at the pithead.

"We shall continue to be the coal industry's largest single customer for many, many years and welcome any arrangements that help this great industry on which so much of Britain's wealth was built," said Mr. Hawkins.

NCB Chairman Mr. Derek Ezra said this new agreement would play a major part in maintaining the size and ensuring the viability of the coal industry.

"CEGB power stations will continue to use about half our entire deep-mined output. About 50 million tons of the coal will be supplied from our coalfields in the Midlands and Yorkshire."

Awards for Long Service . . .

REFRIGERATORS and radios, watches and clocks were among the many valuable awards presented recently to members of our Head Office, South Lancashire, Mid-Cheshire and Oswestry District staffs who had completed 45, 35 and 25 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

In welcoming the recipients, many accompanied by their partners, to the presentation ceremony in the restaurant at Head Office, Mr. J. W. Trimble (*Group Manager*) said that with 56 awards being made, this was a clear indication of the good staff relations which exist in our industry.

Then Mr. Denis Dodds (*Chairman*), who was to make the presentations, said that he found great pleasure in presenting these awards because he believed that long service was a stabilising element in a rather shaken society.

He expressed his gratitude to all who had earned awards for the many years of good work they had built up. He referred to the fact that MANWEB had recently arrived at its 25th anniversary and talked of the immense progress made and of the phenomenal development of our service.

Mr. Dodds reminded his audience that electricity supply in this country started around 1880 and therefore those members of the staff who had served for 45 years had been in the industry for half its lifetime. Those who had served for 25 years had seen 75 per cent of the industry's growth.

He then made the following presentations:

. . . to Staff from—

SOUTH LANGS ▽ **25 and 35 Years**

Head Office:

45 Years: Messrs. J. Cutts, J. Marsden, J. Maxwell, J. Rutter and J. Snowden.

35 Years: Messrs. R. D. Andrews, W. R. Copeman, P. S. Dean, F. Holland, R. W. Keen, H. E. Morgan, J. J. Myers, E. A. Parks, J. F. Perry, E. Redman, D. P. Roberts, J. G. Whisker and G. E. Williams.

25 Years: Miss T. Callaghan and Messrs. J. Antrobus, J. A. Blease, F. Burton, H. Daly, T. R. George, S. M. Harding, J. Hill, K. R. Knight, B. Lieuesley, N. Maguire and G. M. Wyatt.

South Lancashire District:

35 Years: Messrs. E. Hutchinson, E. Shawcross and G. A. Williams.

25 Years: Messrs. H. D. Briggs, J. J. Caine, J. Donahue, J. B. Edwards, P. A. Edwards, W. J. Fitzpatrick, L. Holland, J. E. Moore, J. T. Neville, H. J. Roughly, E. Shaw, A. Stout, N. Stubbs, H. Thorpe, H. Traverse, E. J. Watkins, W. Weaver, G. Wells, J. W. Wells and A. C. Young.

Mid-Cheshire District:

45 Years: Mr. G. Betts.

35 Years: Mr. N. Woodall.

25 Years: Messrs. F. C. Astles, E. Beauchamp, E. Bratt, G. A. Creed, J. Gilbert, J. B. Guildford, A. V. Kettle and R. Pennistone.

OSWESTRY DISTRICT . . .

25 Years:

Messrs. C. E. Blackwell, J. S. Coslett and R. A. Newby.

Right: Messrs. Coslett and Newby.



**.. MID-
CHESHIRE**



**AND
HEAD OFFICE
45
Years**



**35
Years**

**25
Years**



Safe Drivers in our Clwyd District

Three separate ceremonies were held a short time ago when senior police officers from the Gwynedd Constabulary presented Safe Driving Awards to members of our Clwyd District staff who had qualified with clean sheets. At Rhyl and Mold, Chief Traffic Inspector K. Shierson did the honours and at Llandudno, Chief Traffic Inspector N. D. J. Roberts, accompanied by his accident prevention officer Constable Jones, presented the awards.



Chief Inspector Roberts with our Llandudno safe drivers.

Drivers based at Llandudno:

Bar to 10-Year Medal: Messrs. G. Simpson, R. Smith and E. Thomas.

Bar to 5-Year Medal: Messrs. H. Hambley, B. James, A. K. Jones, E. A. Thomas and B. Williams.

5-Year Medal: Messrs. T. A. Everley and S. Vagnarelle.

Diploma: Messrs. D. P. Dobell, D. V. Edwards, G. B. Goss, B. Jones, W. V. Owen, G. Perkins and T. Walton.

Exemption Certificate: Mr. S. V. Taylor.

10-Year Medal: Mr. J. R. Evans.

Bar to 5-Year Medal: Messrs. H. W. Berry, M. Evans, T. Fields, I. W. Griffiths, D. A. L. Jones and F. Thomas.

5-Year Medal: Mr. E. J. Williams.

Diploma: Messrs. R. T. Davies, H. Evans, I. T. Hughes, W. A. Hughes, G. M. Jones, J. C. Lloyd, J. Lonsdale, B. Parry, C. E. Parry, K. J. Parry, S. Richardson, B. Roberts, G. Schoegl, F. Thomas and J. A. Woolley.

Drivers based at Mold:

Bar to 10-Year Medal: Mr. W. Taylor.

Drivers based at Rhyl:

Bar to 15-Year Brooch: Mr. F. L. Johnson.

Mold award recipients with Chief Inspector Shierson.





Chief Inspector Shierson again, this time with the Rhyl group.

Bar to 10-Year Medal: Messrs. T. Hughes and J. C. Jones.

10-Year Medal: Messrs. J. T. Davies, W. O. Jones, E. Williams and T. R. Williams.

Bar to 5-Year Medal: Messrs. E. K. Davies, C. Kirkman, I. J. Nethcott, R. G. Roberts, W. Sutherland, C. G. S. Wheeler, H. Williams and W. E. Williams.

5-Year Medal: Messrs. E. P. Fagan, R. Harkness, L. H. Jones, R. H. Jones, T. H. Jones, C. Johnson

and W. Pendleton.

Diploma: Messrs. R. G. Ball, W. D. Brown, B. Davies, J. Dawson, E. M. Evans, K. E. Hatley, M. I. Jones, R. T. Jones, T. A. Jones, M. Kearsley, A. E. Salisbury, R. Roberts, R. Walley and P. W. Williams.

Exemption Certificates: Messrs. N. S. Davies and J. E. Garrat.

Photographic Competition 1973

Rules

1. Entry is free, but is restricted to MANWEB employees, pensioners and their families.
2. Each photograph or transparency submitted must be the original work and the copyright property of the person submitting it.
3. The Editor reserves the right to reproduce the winning pictures, but a reproduction fee will not be paid.
4. All photographs or transparencies must have been taken since **1st August, 1972**.
5. Any number of Black and White prints may be submitted, but only **FIVE** colour transparencies or prints in any one section from each competitor.
6. Competitors must enclose a note with their entries, clearly stating their name and address (*office, or if a pensioner, home*), the title of each picture (*this is important*) and the class entered.
7. The competition will be judged by an independent panel and their decision is final.
8. Entries should be sent to **The Editor, 'Contact,' MANWEB, Head Office, Sea-**

land Road, Chester CH1 4LR, and the envelope or package marked in the top left hand corner "Photographic Competition."

Closing Date—30th September, 1973.

9. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

COLOUR

Transparencies

1st Prize	£10
2nd Prize	£5
3rd Prize	£3

Prints

Best Picture	£5
------------------------	----

BLACK AND WHITE

Portrait	£5
General	£5

Best Humorous picture in colour or black and white £2

Great care will be taken of entries, all of which will be returned. When submitting your photographs and/or transparencies, 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.



CHAOS AVERTED!

TRAFFIC chaos in Warbreck Moor, a main road in the North end of Liverpool, was narrowly averted recently as a result of a double-quick job by our North Mersey District staff.

Local residents, perturbed by the number of accidents and 'near misses' in the Warbreck Moor/Melling Road area had been campaigning for a local zebra crossing to be moved to a safer position—and to add weight to their point they gave notice to the city authorities that they intended to stage a "sit down" in the main road.

Eager to avoid the chaos which would have resulted from disruption of the heavy traffic flow in Warbreck Moor, the city's district engineer contacted MANWEB's North Mersey engineer, **Mr. A. W. Hawley**, to discuss the problem of providing electricity supply to the crossing beacons at a new and more acceptable position. The Men from MANWEB treated the job as an emergency, work schedules were re-arranged, and work began on Sunday, April 1st. The new crossing was fully operational the following Thursday.

Writing to Mr. Hawley, the city's Chief Engineer, **Mr. I. T. Cucksey**, said that this was "undoubtedly a record," and had succeeded in averting the residents' proposed "sit down."

Mr. Cucksey asked Mr. Hawley to convey his thanks to all the MANWEB staff concerned.

Proud Pop

Mr. George Unsworth, who works as a higher clerical assistant in the work control section of our North Mersey District, must be feeling 'on top of the world' at the moment, as the proud father of two very clever sons.

Number one son **Ian**, a former student engineer with MANWEB, obtained his B.Sc. (Hons.) in electrical engineering at Salford University, and is now a section engineer in the projects office of the Anglo-American Company at Chingola, in the copper mining belt of Zambia.

His second son **Keith**, who is just 23, graduated B.Sc. (Hons.) in Mathematics at the Chelsea College of London University two and a half years ago. He has now gained his Ph.D. in mathematics, and was the co-author of a paper presented at an international conference of mathematicians at Dundee University last year. He spent two of his summer vacations working for us at Lister Drive, Liverpool.

Congratulations to George (who has done 40 years in the industry), his wife Eleanor, and their two bright lads!

Electricity History

The Electricity Council has commissioned **Dr. Leslie Hannah**, of St. John's College, Oxford, and the University of Essex, to write a history of the electricity supply industry.

It is believed that this is the first work of this nature to be commissioned by a nationalised industry, and particular emphasis will be on the period following the first steps to co-ordinate the industry's operations on a national basis, including the story of the development of the industry under full public ownership.

It is also likely that the project will be the most extensive "company" history so far undertaken by any business, private or public.

Engagement

Best wishes for the future go from their Gwynedd District colleagues to **Miss Heulwen Hughes** and **Mr. Alfred Jones**, both clerical assistants in the work control section at the District office, Caernarvon, who recently announced their engagement.

Heulwen lives at Llanberis, while Alfred comes from Waenafwr.

Wedding

Best wishes for the future to **Mr. D. P. Williams**, an electrician at Llandudno Junction depot, and **Miss Margaret Lynn Jones**, of Llandudno Junction, who were married recently at the church of St. Michael and All Angels, Llandudno Junction.



Mr. and Mrs. Williams.

Selected

Congratulations to **Mr. Stewart Roberts**, an apprentice electrician at Mold, who was selected to play hockey for Wales in a recent series of games staged in France.

Results were:

France—5. Wales—1.

Gibraltar—1. Wales—2.

Yugoslavia—0. Wales—2.

Wales won the "Fairplay" trophy.

The MANWEB 'A' Team, back row, left to right, Messrs. Will Jones, John Foster, (Capt.), Paul Wilkinson, Andy Stewart and Alan Snape. Front row, left to right, Miss Doris Hamer, Miss Doreen Rushton, Mrs. Kathleen Evans and Miss Maureen Evans.



BADMINTON FINALS

Two MANWEB teams were entered in the electricity industry's Badminton finals, held this year at the University of Surrey, Guildford.

The leader of the MANWEB contingent, and captain of the 'A' team, was Mr. John Foster of North Wirral District. His team were runners-up in their group, but were eliminated from the contest by the eventual winners of the final, the

Midlands Electricity Board.

However, the 'A' team did win the consolation event, a competition for all the losing teams in the contest.

On their way to the final, in fact in the semi-final, they beat the other MANWEB team, who were without one of their star players, Miss Beth Tinsley, who was injured in the first few minutes of the first match.

The MANWEB 'B' Team, back row, left to right, Messrs. Tony Thackeray, (Capt.), and Geoff Phillips, Miss Wendy Evans, Messrs. Charles Lynch, Ken Winrow and John Ford. Front row, left to right, Mrs. Joan Hughes, Mrs. Kathy Knight, Miss Beth Tinsley and Miss Sandra Allman.





Mr. Arthur Anderson, L.A.C. Secretary, left, with Judge Mr. J. Shore.

PAINTING COMPETITION



There were 37 entries in the painting competition held at Head Office recently, and the presentation of prizes was made by Mrs. Dodds, wife of the Board Chairman.

There were three classes, oils, water colour, and crayon, in this contest organised by No. 11 L.A.C. Speaking at the prizegiving ceremony, Board Secretary and LAC chairman Mr. M. M. Parker said that he hoped in future this contest could be extended to all the MANWEB Districts.

There was a need for Districts and Head Office to get together socially, and Mr. Parker suggested an annual cricket tournament, maybe an 'It's a Knock-out' competition, to stimulate the spirit of competition in order to improve the overall team spirit of MANWEB.

The judge for the paintings was the Head of Department at the School of Art, Chester College of Further Education, Mr. J. Shore. Ben Maille's painting of the 'Foregate, Chester,' was loaned by the Barclay Galleries of Chester as a centrepiece for the exhibition. This painting had the week previously been sold for 900 guineas.



THE WINNING PICTURES

Left, top: Mrs. Dodds with the winner of the Oils Section, Mr. G. Irish, right. In the centre is Mr. W. Copeman, who was awarded the 2nd prize. Left middle: Mr. M. M. Parker, right, (Chairman of No. 11 L.A.C.) with Mr. H. Foreman, winner of the Water Colour Section, and Miss I. Matthewson who received 2nd prize.

Left bottom: Mr. H. Wilson, left, (Vice Chairman of No. 11 L.A.C.) with Mr. R. George, right, winner of the Crayon Section. The 2nd prize went to Mr. D. A. Savill, centre.

Public Speaking Competition

Mrs. Lesley Taylor and Mr. David Cousins were this year's winners of the MANWEB Public Speaking Competition held recently at Head Office.

This is the second year Dave has won the competition and under the rules he had to forego his prize money, but he still goes forward to London to compete in the National Finals for the Faraday Shield.

A 3rd assistant engineer in the Head Office Commercial Department, he gave his winning talk on electric galvanising to his selected audience of the British Galvanising Association.

Second of the 11 competitors in the men's section was Mr. C.

A. Swift, 3rd assistant commercial engineer in Liverpool District. He received the first prize as the winner was ineligible, and placed 3rd but receiving 2nd prize money was another 3rd assistant engineer, this time from the energy sales section at Oswestry, Mr. J. A. Walker.

There were only four competitors in the ladies section, and second to Lesley Taylor was Miss June Berry, an energy sales demonstrator from South Lancashire District. Lesley is also a demonstrator in the Clwyd District, and her talk, directed to an audience of licensed victuallers, was entitled 'Electricity and Mine Host.'

Chairing the proceedings for both competitions was the former Assistant Chief Commercial Officer, now retired, Mr. T. R. Smith. The three adjudicators were Mr. R. E. Halliwell from the Electricity Council, Miss R. V. Mooney formerly the Typing Pool Supervisor at Head Office and Mr. S. G. Griffiths, Assistant Marketing Manager at Head Office.



Mr. Dave Cousins, winner in the Men's Section.

The judges and the judged. Back row, left to right, Chairman Mr. T. R. Smith and adjudicators Mr. S. G. Griffiths, Miss R. V. Mooney and Mr. R. E. Halliwell. Front row, the lady competitors, Alison Cowap, Lesley Taylor, June Berry and Alma Burrows.



The results of the national finals, to be held in London, will be reported next month.

RETIREMENTS

Mr. FRANK PEMBERTON

After 37 years' service to the industry Mr. Frank Pemberton, senior clerical assistant (meter reading, admin.), at South Lancs District office, retired recently.

Mr. Pemberton began his working life with the Warrington Corporation Borough Treasurer's Department in 1935, working on electricity accounts. On the nationalisation of the industry he became accounts clerk at Howley Power Station, and in 1966 took up the duties of engineering clerk in the mains department. On re-organisation in 1971 he moved to the meter reading section.

Over the years Frank has become famous among his workmates for his engaging sense of humour. He has been known to placate a savage customer by offering him a toffee, and to tell the office junior that he was once selected for England (without bothering to explain that this meant four-and-a-half years' army service in Algeria and Italy!)

He is a great lover of the countryside, and sports an ancient bike which has seen as much service as Frank himself, but which may still be seen rolling around Cheshire lanes.

Mr. G. H. Dodd, D.A.O. South Lancs, right, presents parting gifts to Mr. and Mrs. Pemberton.



Wishing him a long and happy retirement, his colleagues presented him with a handyman's toolkit and a crystal ornament, together with a bouquet for Mrs. Pemberton.

Mr. R. A. NEWBY

Mr. R. A. Newby, 3rd Assistant Engineer, Installation, Oswestry retired on April 17th, having spent a lifetime in the industry.



Mr. Newby gingerly holds his 'This is Your Life' volume, while Oswestry D.C.E. Mr. Ron Williams 'does an Eamonn Andrews.'

Mr. Newby began his career in Scarborough in 1929, joined the North Eastern Electricity Board in 1947 and ultimately joined MANWEB in 1948 as consumers' engineer. He was responsible for the change-over from D.C. to A.C. in Llanidloes.

Mr. Newby became consumers' engineer, Welshpool when the MANWEB shop and sub-District office was opened at Hall Street. On re-organisation Mr. Newby came to Oswestry, taking up an appointment in the Installation Department.

Mr. Newby's popularity with his colleagues was well established by the large attendance at his farewell party held at the Queen's Hotel, Oswestry. This was a memorable occasion, which took the form of "This is Your Life," culminating in the presentation of an amusing life-story folder, illustrated in words and cartoons. In addition Mr. Newby was presented with a lamp and a well-filled wallet.