

"Contact" Correspondents

No. 1 SUB-AREA

Derby House ...	Miss P. TAYLOR	... (Accounts Dept.)
Hatton Garden ...	Mr. R. W. J. KEEN	... (Secretarial Dept.)
Lister Drive ...	Mr. J. BUTTERWITH	... (District Engineer's Office)
Southport ...	Mr. L. T. BROUGHTON	(District Office)
Whitechapel ...	Miss F. D. BLIZARD	... (Service Centre)
Marsh Lane ...	Mr. D. PATRICK	... (District Office)

No. 2 SUB-AREA

Northwich ...	Mr. C. P. BOOTH	... (District Office)
Runcorn ...	Mr. G. W. WELLS	... (District Office)
Sandway House ...	Mr. C. STELFOX...	... (Secretarial Dept.)
St. Helens ...	Miss M. WORTHINGTON	(Bridge Street)
" ...	Mr. G. E. H. WHEELER	(Carlton Street)
Warrington ...	Mrs. S. ROBINSON	... (Howley)
" ...	Mr. E. RICHARDSON	... (Buttermarket Street)
Widnes ...	Mr. H. H. TURNER	... (35 Albert Road)
Eversley ...	Mr. H. HUGHES	... (Revenue Dept.)
" ...	Mr. A. WADCOCK	... (Costs Section)

No. 3 SUB-AREA

Chester ...	Mrs. J. GWYTHYR	(Newgate Street, Chester)
" ...	Mr. L. SEWELL	(New Crane Street, Chester)
" ...	Mrs. K. MCKENZIE	(Northgate Street, Chester)
" ...	Mrs. E. BURKE	(New Crane Street, Chester)
North Wirral... ..	Mr. F. GORDON	(Craven Street, Birkenhead)
" ...	Mr. T. FINDLAY	(Wallasey Road, Wallasey)
" ...	Mr. F. CASEY ...	(Seaview Rd. Depot, Wallasey)

No. 4 SUB-AREA

Aberystwyth ...	Mr. D. G. THOMAS	... (Mill Street)
Bangor ...	Mr. P. ROBERTS...	... (Garth Road)
Barmouth ...	Mr. D. HUGHES	... (High Street)
Bethesda ...	Mr. E. JONES	... (Service Centre)
Blaenau ...	Mr. L. E. JONES...	... (High Street)
Ffestiniog ...	Miss D. EDWARDS	... (High Street)
Caernarvon ...	Mr. E. GRIFFITHS	... (St. Helens Road)
Colwyn Bay ...	Mr. H. JONES	... (Station Road)
Crewe ...	Mr. H. T. MCBRIDE	... (Electricity Street)
" ...	Mr. E. SMITH	... (Grid Sub-Station)
Dolgelley ...	Mr. E. A. WHARTON	... (The Square)
Holyhead ...	Mr. L. C. JONES	... (Kings Road)
Llandudno ...	Mr. L. HUGHES	... (Mostyn Broadway)
Llangefni ...	Mr. R. M. JONES	... (Glanhwfa Road)
Menai Bridge ...	Mr. W. H. WILLIAMS	... (Dale Street)
Nantwich ...	Mr. J. R. JENKINS	... (High Street)
" ...	Mr. A. T. K. KNOTT	... (Beam Street)
Newtown ...	Mr. W. LL. WILLIAMS	... (27a Broad Street)
Oswestry ...	Mr. H. G. FINCHETT	... (6 Salop Road)
Pwllheli ...	Mr. L. S. LEWIS	... (New Street)
Rhuddlan ...	Mr. J. DROVER	... (Abbey House)
Sandbach ...	Miss G. BAXENDALE	... (Congleton Road)
Shotton ...	Mr. J. W. FORRESTER	... (Service Centre)
Towyn ...	Mr. R. ALFRED JONES	... (Bryn Llewellyn)
Welshpool ...	Mr. W. D. MORRIS	... (Old Quarry, Brook St.)
Whitchurch ...	Mr. A. L. BARKER	... (50 High Street)
Wrexham ...	Mr. J. L. THOMAS	... (Rhostyllen)



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1960

The Staff Magazine
of the
Merseyside and North Wales
Electricity Board

Contact

LISTER DRIVE LIFE SAVERS (See page 286)



WEDDINGS

LARKIN—WILLIAMS

Congratulations to Miss Eileen Williams, of the Comptometer Department, Rhostyllen, who was married to Mr. James Larkin at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, Llay, near Wrexham, on October 1st. On behalf of her colleagues she was presented with a steam iron and casserole.

CLAYS—JEFFS

Best wishes for the future to Miss Elizabeth Jeffs, of the Revenue Section, No. 2 Sub-Area Accounts, Eversley, who was married to Mr. M. Clays at St. John's Church, Sandiway, on September 24th. Mr. Clays is a Post Officer worker.

OLLERHEAD—JONES

Congratulations to Miss Rose Jones (Shorthand-Typist, Crewe) on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. P. Ollerhead on September 17th. Miss Jones has been employed at the Crewe District Office for the past nine years, and on behalf of the staff she was presented with an electric kettle, iron and a set of pans, by Mr. N. Walsh, District Commercial Engineer.

MAXTED—SHUFFLEBOTTOM

We offer our congratulations to Miss J. E. Shufflebottom (Shorthand-Typist, No. 2 Sub-Area) on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. P. D. Maxted (Clerk, No. 2 Sub-Area) at the Holy Trinity Church, Castle, Northwich, on September 24th. Although Mr. Maxted is a comparative newcomer to Sandi-

Mr. Henderson (left) congratulates Mr. and Mrs. Maxted.



PRICE—GWYLIAM

Best wishes for the future to Mr. D. G. Price (Assistant Section Engineer, Whitchurch) who was married to Miss Caroline Gwyliam at St. Mary's Church, Handbridge, Chester. After the ceremony the couple



Mr. and Mrs. Price.

left for the Channel Islands where they spent their honeymoon. On behalf of his colleagues Mr. Price was presented with a pressure cooker.

HALL—SIDLEY

Congratulations to Miss Jean E. Sidley, of No. 2 Sub-Area Revenue Section, on her marriage to Mr. John Hall at Runcorn Parish Church on October 1st. Mr. Hall is a marine engineer officer.

way House, Miss Shufflebottom has been in the Board's service for the past ten years. The happy couple, in the presence of a large gathering of their friends and colleagues, were presented with a set of pans and a high-speed kettle by Mr. P. B. Henderson, Sub-Area Secretary.



Contact

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EDITORIAL

The Stream of Life

With every year that passes, medical science makes new advances. Epidemics which once brought hundreds of thousands of people to premature graves are now no more than stories in history books—at least as far as Britain is concerned. Bacteria which were well-nigh invincible have been controlled by newly-discovered drugs. Surgery makes startling progress, probing and repairing inside the human heart, lungs and brain. People whose bodies have been broken or mutilated by accident and war have been helped to adapt themselves to new conditions and to conquer their handicaps.

The doctor has many allies in his fight against injury and disease. Drugs, X-rays, anaesthetics, appliances, and a devoted nursing service all play indispensable roles.

But in many cases all these factors, combined with the highest degrees of medical and surgical skill, would not be enough to save life if they were not backed up by freely available supplies of healthy blood which can be given to the patient to provide him with strength in his hour of greatest need.

Blood transfusion has become an essential part of modern medicine and surgery, bringing life to those who lie in the shadow of death, enabling others to face operations with less risk, and—perhaps most wonderful of all—restoring an otherwise doomed “Rhesus” baby to its mother.

The Common Contribution

A few years ago the outlook for a “hole-in-the-heart” baby amounted to a short life under a burden of disability. The invention of the “heart-lung” machine, which maintains life while the heart is stopped and operated on, has made full health and a normal life possible for many sufferers from this condition. Elsewhere in this number of *Contact* we tell how blood donated by some of our colleagues has helped make a new

future possible for an anonymous little Liverpool boy. The knowledge of the part they have played must have made them into happier men!

There is no substitute for blood, the gift that every healthy man and woman can offer to save a life. Today, the lives of others are saved in this way. Tomorrow it may be yours, or that of someone dear to you.

Blood transfusion units visit most places of employment, including many Manweb premises. Blood donation is painless, quick and safe.

Can you afford not to spare some ?

UPTON'S NEW SERVICE CENTRE

To give improved service to people living in the North Wirral district a new Service Centre was opened recently in Arrowe Park Road, Upton.

Situated in a new shopping area, this Service Centre has already proved a boon to the local residents. Previously they had to travel to our Service Centre at Birkenhead in order to see the latest range of electrical appliances, or to pay their accounts.

In charge at Upton is Mr. James Owens, who has been with the Board for nearly seven years. Prior to his appointment at Upton he was a Sales Representative based at Craven Street, Birkenhead.

Right: The staff at Upton. Mr. Owens (Senior Service Centre Assistant) and Mrs. Christine Kent (Service Centre Assistant).



Below: An exterior view.



FLOODLIGHTING FOR CHESTER SOCCER

Latest among Soccer clubs to join the growing number which have installed ground floodlighting systems so that fans can enjoy after-dark matches is Chester F.C.

The floodlighting of the playing pitch was preceded at 6.45 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12th, by a pleasing little ceremony performed by Mr. S. Argyle, the Chairman of the Club, prior to a League Challenge Cup match against the Second Division's Leyton Orient.

The installation consists of four 126 ft. steel lattice pylons, each housing thirty 2,000 watt lamps. The playing area was completely bathed in what many of the 9,250 spectators, and both visiting and home officials, considered to be the most efficient lighting that they had seen on any football ground.

The installation, known as "The Drenchlighting System", was carried out by Messrs. Miller and Stables Ltd., of Edinburgh, who have installed only one similar system for an English club—Newcastle United. Several Scottish clubs have such installations, and the Windsor Park Ground, Belfast, is also fitted with this system.

The system has a total load of 240kW—each slender pylon consisting of a tilted battery of 30 independently fused and individually focused lamps, switched in three banks of ten lamps per bank. It is interesting to note that four different types of lamps are in use, as follows:—

The ordinary pre-focused projector lamp.

The ordinary angle burning lamp.

The angle burning lamp with an interior silver reflector.

The pre-focused lamp with interior silver reflector.

The four pylons are controlled by three 200 amp T.P. & N. switch fuses, and this method enables ten, twenty, or thirty lamps to be lit simultaneously on each pylon.

Manweb provided a sub-station which feeds the Club's 500 amp. T.P. & N. Section Board, which not only supplies the floodlighting, but also terrace lighting, and supplies for the other services at the ground.

In addition, a 27.5kVa auxiliary motor generator lighting supply is available in the event of an emergency.

An incident during Chester F.C.'s first floodlit match. (Photo by courtesy of the Chester Chronicle).



TALKING NOTES



GOOD SAMARITANS

On the high road back to good health and an active life is a nine-years-old "hole in the heart" Liverpool boy—thanks to seven electricity supply employees at Lister Drive, Liverpool, who each gave a pint of blood so that a heart operation could be performed.

About three-quarters of the Board's employees at Lister Drive are regular blood donors, but it came as something of a surprise to receive a telephone call from the Regional Blood Transfusion Service on Wednesday, September 21st, asking for a group of men—all in the same blood group—to attend for tests.

Happy Outcome

The tests were carried out and two days later each of the seven gave a pint of his blood, which was taken to a Liverpool hospital where the delicate operation was carried out.

The men concerned are Messrs. **Eric Keen** (Stores), **William Williams** (Workshop Foreman), **Denis Fleming** and **Thomas Thomas** (Meter Repair Depot), **Sidney Maiden** (Maintenance Electrician), **Thomas Jones** (Clerk) and **Cyril Carmen** (a C.E.G.B. Electrician at the power station).

The story has the right kind of happy sequel. A telephone call to the Blood Transfusion Service headquarters at Whitechapel a couple of days later revealed that the little boy was making excellent progress, and that everyone was most grateful to our blood donors.

On our COVER PICTURE are (left to right) Messrs. Williams, Fleming, Carmen, Thomas, Maiden, Jones, and Keen.

B.E.M. for Commando Kelly

Yet another medal adorns the chest of **Mr. James Anthony Kelly**, now employed as a chargehand prepayment collector at No. 1 Sub-Area. This time he received the British Empire Medal (Military Division) for his services in the Royal Marine Volunteer Reserve. The decoration was presented to Colour Sergeant Kelly recently by Major-General M. C. Cartwright-Taylor, commanding Plymouth Group, Royal Marines, and it now rests among a neat row of medals, including the Croix de Guerre with Bronze Star, won during the last war.

Joining the Marines in 1941, Mr. Kelly eventually became a Marine Commando



Mr. Kelly.

and served in Sicily, Italy, France and Germany. He took part in the "D-Day" assault, and was mentioned in despatches for his part in the action occupying the island of Walcheren, which eventually opened the way into Antwerp for the Allied forces. In this battle Mr. Kelly was unfortunate enough to get in the way of a mortar shell, and was peppered with shrapnel down his back and left side.

After demobilisation in 1946 he stayed on in the Volunteer Reserve, and three years later a centre was established in Liverpool. There are now about 250 men in this unit, and they report for training every week. The main theme in Marine Commando training is physical fitness, and to achieve this they have stiff training spells including cliff climbing and forced marching in full kit. Naturally they get plenty of shooting practice and Mr. Kelly is a member of the unit's shooting team which competes in the Cheshire League and at the County of Lancaster meetings.

When he left the Forces in 1946, Mr. Kelly joined the staff at Lister Drive as a cooker assembler. He later transferred to Derby House as a meter reader and gained promotion to his present job. He is happily married and has two sons and a daughter. Whenever the opportunity occurs he likes to go to a motor-cycle scramble meeting, and is patiently waiting for the day when he can afford to take part in this sport.

We feel sure that the rest of Mr. Kelly's colleagues with Manweb will join us in congratulating him.

Opera Success

Congratulations to a number of members of the staff of No. 4 Sub-Area Office who took leading parts in a performance of *Maid of the Mountains* by the Rhos Aelwyd Opera Company, competing in the recent Festival of Light Opera at Waterford, Eire.

They were **Emyr James** (Drawing Office), **Keith Roberts** (Drawing Office), **Hubert Evans** (Survey), **David Evans** (Planning), **Ann Jones** (Revenue) and **Moiria Pritchard** (Typing).

The Company achieved a very gratifying result, taking 4th place out of an entry of 12.

Fifty Years Wed

Congratulations to **Mr. Eustace G. Wood**, who retired from the staff of the Mid-Cheshire Electricity Supply Company in 1947, and his wife, **Laura**, who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on October 12th.

Mr. and Mrs. Wood, who live at 42 Darwin Street, Northwich, were drawn

together by a mutual interest in music. Both were members of the now defunct Northwich Philharmonic Society, and Mr. Wood was a good vocalist and instrumentalist.

Mr. Wood, who is 78, left Witton Grammar School at the age of 15. At his first job he earned less than a shilling a day, and later joined the staff of the Mid-Cheshire Electricity Supply Company. In her younger days, Mrs. Wood was in business with her sister as a milliner and dress-maker in Northwich.

They have one daughter and two grandchildren.

Gold Rush

Hoping to break into the big money are twelve members of the Secretarial staff at **Sandiway House**, who, for the past twelve weeks, have been operating as a syndicate on the football pools. Their total weekly stake is 27s., and their collective efforts have not gone entirely unrewarded—a few weeks ago they won half-a-crown between them. We hope they won't all resign suddenly and leave No. 2 Sub-Area's administration in a hole if they hit the jackpot.

Migrant to America

From across the Atlantic comes news of **Miss Beryl Rogers**, who, before she left the service of the Board, was a clerk at our Oswestry District Office. Beryl is now working as a home companion with a family in Greenwich Village, New York. A recent post-card received by **Mr. J. L. Thomas**, No. 4 Sub-Area Welfare Officer, says that she is enjoying life in the United States and sends her regards to all her former colleagues.

Golf Triumph

The annual Hewetson-Nelson Golf Competition, open to members and ex-members of Wallasey Corporation staff, was played on September 22nd at Wallasey Golf Club in heavy rainfall.

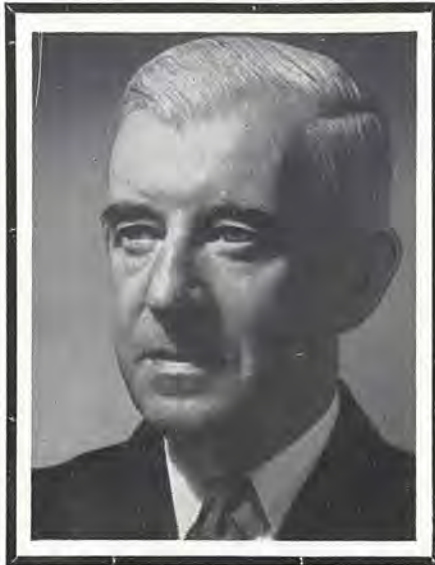
The winner was **Mr. A. R. Chisholm**, a member of the No. 3 Sub-Area Accounts staff based at Wallasey, with a score of 34 points, while the runner-up, with 32 points, was Mr. W. Marshall, Chief Constable.

The cup and prizes were presented by the Mayor of Wallsey, Alderman C. G. E. Dingle, at a supper in the evening.

Mr. Chisholm is a keen photographer and was formerly a useful cricketer.

OBITUARIES

MR. JAMES RANKIN



OUR readers will have learned with deep regret of the death of Mr. James Rankin, our Deputy Chairman until his retirement at the end of last year. Mr. Rankin, who was 68, died in a West Kirby nursing home on Sunday, October 9th. On behalf of every member of the Manweb staff we extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Rankin in her sad loss.

Mr. Rankin gave a lifetime of service to electricity supply, becoming a well known and respected figure throughout the Industry.

Most readers of *Contact* will be familiar with the details of his distinguished career, which were published at the time of his retirement.

The funeral service was held at Landican Cemetery, Woodchurch Road, Birkenhead, on Thursday, October 13th. The large congregation was in itself a tribute to his memory and amongst those present were representatives of many organisations with which Mr. Rankin had been connected, including the Electricity Council, the Generating Board and other Area Electricity Boards.

His many Manweb colleagues who were present included some who had been associated with him for many years during the time he helped to pioneer the Industry in North Wales.

TRIBUTES FROM COLLEAGUES

Many tributes to his sterling human qualities have been passed to *Contact*, and we print a number of them below.

The Chairman of the Board (Mr. D. H. Kendon) on the day following the funeral:

"Yesterday we had a simple but dignified service of remembrance for our late friend Mr. James Rankin and each one of us no doubt recalled in his own way his association with Mr. Rankin, some in a more personal way than others, but everyone I am sure will have remembered with pleasure his integrity, his understanding and his kindness. He gave these qualities to the work with his colleagues in Manweb and his influence will long remain with us."

Obituaries—continued

Mr. T. W. Jones, J.P., Member of Parliament for Merionethshire. (Before his election to Parliament, Mr. Jones was the Board's No. 4 Sub-Area Welfare Officer and was a former associate of Mr. Rankin in the North Wales Power Company):

"Blessed by a strong and pleasant personality, a meticulous mind and a profound devotion to his work, it is no wonder that he scaled the heights. . . . Anyone who had intimate contacts with Mr. Rankin would acclaim him a man of character and a true gentleman. One of the most pronounced traits in his personality was his sincere loyalty; loyalty to his friends, to the staff, and to those whom he served. I could recite many instances of his personal philanthropy in relation to his employees, and the manner in which he exercised his authority as General Manager of the North Wales Power Company to render assistance to the needy. Judged by any standards, Mr. Rankin was a kind-hearted man of great character."

Mr. M. M. Parker, Secretary of the Board, who worked with Mr. Rankin without a break since the creation of Manweb in 1948:

"It was my very good fortune to work closely with Mr. Rankin continuously for twelve years and, like all who were similarly privileged, I feel that by his death I have sustained a great personal loss."

"He was a chief of whom we were all very proud and yet for whom we felt the greatest respect and a very warm personal affection."

"Following the establishment of Manweb he had his full share of problems, yet his wise, calm and kindly counsel were readily available to ease the problems of all of us in need of it. His character combined in a wonderful way the qualities of dignity and kindness. Although by nature he loved to be generous few could be firmer when firmness was needed."

"He was unshakable in his standards; such men are rare and his memory will be a source of inspiration to those who seek to follow in his footsteps."

MR. H. C. WILLIAMS

We are sorry to report the death of Mr. Harold C. Williams (Linesman's Mate, Rhuddlan) at the age of 53. He was escorting his youngest daughter to her wedding ceremony on September 16th, when he collapsed with a heart attack, to which he succumbed on the following day. We extend our deep sympathy to his family.

MR. T. EDWARDS

We regret to announce the death, after a long illness, of Mr. Thomas Edwards (Rhuddlan Operations Department) who was 56 years of age. He had been employed with the Board as a bricklayer since 1948. We extend our sincere sympathy to his family.

CORRESPONDENTS

All contributions for the Christmas *CONTACT* to the Editor as soon as possible please!

WIRES AND CABLES

TORCHLIGHT TREASURE HUNT

The popular sport of treasure-hunting is still being carried out in No. 4 Sub-Area, despite the arrival of the dark evenings, and the social section of the Rhostyllen Sports and Social Club organised a torchlight event on September 27th.

The 60 members and friends who took part spent an enjoyable evening exploring the wilds of Wrexham and district with their torches and storm lamps, and although a number of courting couples were disturbed, a mixture of tact and fast talking managed to avert any violent incidents!

The treasure was located in the Britannia Hotel, on the well-known Horseshoe Pass where an excellent buffet supper was enjoyed.



Miss Wynn presents the prizes to the Treasure Hunt winners.

The winners—with the very good score of 91 points out of 100—were Mr. Elwyn Jones, Section Engineer, Legacy, and his wife Catherine, who is employed at Johnstown Service Centre, Dorothy Lee, a secretary at Wrexham office, and her husband Sidney. They were presented with tankards and a scroll by Miss Joyce Wynn, Chairman of the Social Section of the Sports and Social Club. Close runners-up were Jerry Parry and Derek Tait, Wayleave Officers at No. 4 Sub-Area Office, with their passengers Miss Shirley Bellis and Miss Rose Comyn.

ROAD WARMING AT CREWE

Crewe's first section of heated roadway was laid recently, when electric cables were installed beneath the surface of a ramp which gives access to the Board's main store at Electricity Street.

This building was formerly used as a generating station, and in snowy or frosty weather the ramp became a difficult and possibly dangerous obstacle, particularly for drivers of heavy lorries who visit the store.

Some time ago it was decided to re-surface the ramp, taking advantage of this work to install heating cables, and the whole job was recently completed.

A total of 25 kilowatts of road warming cable was installed on top of a hardcore base, and these were covered by two-and-a-half inches of fine tar-macadam.

At places the ramp is some twenty feet wide but the heating cables are confined to a strip eight feet six inches wide. The loading gives a heat distribution of twenty watts per square foot, but it is felt that a lower value would suffice to all except really severe conditions, and so the road is divided into six heated areas which can be operated in series or parallel, giving half or full heat.

Control will be automatic and is to some extent experimental. The main control is a new type of transistor temperature control operated by a remote sensing element set in the road surface. This will switch on the elements at half power immediately the surface temperature drops to 32.5°F. A wall-mounted thermostat will switch the elements to full power should the air temperature drop below 26°F., whilst a similar thermostat will act as an economy switch by switching off completely in the event of a sudden rise in air temperature to 34°F. These temperature settings will be subject to alteration following tests this winter.

In order to obtain accurate information regarding frequency of operation and running costs, it is intended to install maximum demand metering equipment, and daily meter readings will be taken during the first winter's operation.

Experience with this scheme, and that previously installed in Brownlow Hill, Liverpool, should enable us to speak with authority when discussing road warming with Town Councils and other interested bodies.

The accompanying photograph appeared in a local newspaper along with a descriptive article, and aroused strong local interest.

The final section of cables being laid by (left to right) Electricians W. B. Walker and K. Foster, with Apprentice M. Harthern. Supervising the work is Contracting Engineer F. J. Dawson (right).



TENNIS CHAMPIONS

The N.A.L.G.O. North Wales Tennis Championship Competition for 1960 was held at Rhyl on September 10th, and between them the players from Manweb's No. 4 Sub-Area Office and Wrexham District Office almost swept the board, winning six of the seven titles.

They now hold both the Men's and Ladies' Team Trophies together with the following trophies won by individuals:—

Men's Singles ... J. E. Robbins (Estates and Wayleaves).
Ladies' Singles ... Sheila Wright (Wrexham District Office).
Ladies' Doubles ... Pam Stephens (Mailing Department) and Margaret Williams (Establishments).
Mixed Doubles ... J. E. Robbins and Rhona Jones (Typing Department).

The Sub-Area Sports and Social Club Tennis Section held a dinner party on September 23rd. to mark the end of a very successful season. This was a new event in the Rhostyllen social calendar, and an enjoyable evening was spent at the White Horse Inn, Llanfair D.C., by a representative gathering of players, together with a few guests from neighbouring clubs.

Following an excellent meal the party enjoyed an evening's entertainment, including a humorous monologue, composed and delivered by Gren. Roberts, the Club Secretary.

A notable absentee was Miss Sheila Wright, the winner of the Ladies' Singles Championship, who was in hospital. Her friends and fellow players send their good wishes, and hope she will soon be back with them.

OVERSEAS VISITORS

A party composed largely of electrical engineers from a dozen European countries and the U.S.A. paid a visit to the Manweb area during September. They were members of an Economic Commission for Europe working party, and they came to Britain to study rural electrification practice and development.

Accompanied by officers and interpreters from the Electricity Council, the party made their first stop in the Manweb area at Major J. Midwood's farm at Bunbury, Cheshire. Here they were met by Mr. H. Greaves (Assistant Commercial Engineer—No. 4 Sub-Area), and Mr. L. Young (Assistant Consumers' Engineer—Crewe District), who showed the party the main object of the visit—an ingenious modification of a 3-bay grass drier. In this installation the heater bank is moved from bay to bay in turn, to provide the warm-air finishing blowing period. This is facilitated by mounting the heater on castors, so that it can easily be moved.

After an overnight stay in Chester, the party then went on to see how electricity plays its part at Bees Nurseries at Sealand where nearly 1,000 acres of land is under cultivation.

The tour of the working party lasted over three weeks, and follows similar visits to Austria, Italy, France and the U.S.S.R.

The members of the working party.



RETIREMENTS

Mr. A. ANDREWS

Best wishes for a long and happy retirement go to Mr. A. Andrews, Chief Draughtsman at No. 1 Sub-Area Office, Hatton Garden, Liverpool, who retired on September 29th.



Mr. Andrews.

Mr. Andrews began his career with the electricity supply industry in March, 1922, and to mark his retirement the Sub-Area Engineer, Mr. K. Helliwell, presented him with a book case, mirror, clock and fountain pen on behalf of his friends and colleagues.

Mr. R. C. BURTON

Colleagues and friends from Board Headquarters, No. 1 Sub-Area, and the Test Laboratory at Pumpfields, Liverpool, gathered at Love Lane recently for a ceremony arranged to mark the retirement of Mr. R. C. Burton (Senior Assistant Engineer—Technical Development), after an outstanding fifty years of service to the electricity supply industry.

Mr. Burton, who spent all his working life in Liverpool, began work in 1910 and throughout his long career his name was inseparably linked with the development of electricity on Merseyside.

His knowledge of electrical engineering was enormous. In the words of one of the speakers at the presentation ceremony, it was only necessary to tell Mr. Burton that a thing was impossible for it to be done quickly and efficiently!

His latter years in the industry were spent in controlling the Board's Test Laboratory, and he played a vital role in the development of all the unique applications of electricity which went through their early stages at Pumpfields.

Mr. Burton's friendly personality and warm sincerity made him a host of friends, who all wish him a long and happy retirement.



Mr. W. B. Parkinson (right), the Chief Commercial Officer, presents Mr. Burton with his farewell gifts, which included a camera and binoculars.



Sixty-five awards were presented by the Chief Constable of Birkenhead (Mr. S. J. Harvey) at the Board's Cleveland Street depot. Mr. Harvey is in the centre of this picture, with the Sub-Area Manager, (Mr. J. W. Kellett) on his right.

HELPING TO KEEP DEATH OFF THE ROADS

In these days of increasingly congested roads the accident rate—disastrously high though it is—can still be regarded as a tribute to the high standard of skill of the average British driver. Probably in no other country in the world is the man behind the wheel called on to maintain such constant vigilance in the face of every kind of road hazard. To encourage ever better driving standards the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents presents awards for Safe Driving to men who maintain consistent accident-free records, and this year some 600 Manweb employees will receive these awards. The pictures on this page were taken at recent presentation ceremonies in various parts of the Board's area.

Right: Mr. Harvey looks on while Inspector J. A. Hann demonstrates a radar speed detection device to a very interested audience.



Below: Group picture taken at Chester when Alderman R. Mattewson, Chairman of the Watch Committee, presented 52 awards.

Below: A North Wales presentation. Members of the Portmadoc Operations Gang look on while Messrs. G. W. Roberts and J. R. Beach receive awards from the Section Engineer and his assistant.





Wrexham District office staff. *Left to right (back row):* Messrs. N. S. Allen and H. Edwards (Assistants, Clerical); N. V. Edwards (Clerk); E. J. Brett (District Manager); Mrs. E. Hughes (Clerk); Messrs. Eifion Jones (District Senior Clerk), and V. H. Williams (Clerk). *Front row:* Mrs. N. Bacon (Shorthand Typist); Mrs. D. Lee (Shorthand Typist); Mrs. J. Brookes (Copy Typist); and Mrs. E. Miles (Shorthand Typist).

STAFF PICTURES FROM WREXHAM

The District engineering staff. *Left to right:* Messrs. J. G. Norbury (Consumers' Engineer); J. A. Tippett (First Assistant D.C.E.); R. A. Williams (District Commercial Engineer); E. T. Peters (District Engineer); L. Griffiths (First Assistant D.E.); P. Jennings (Records Draughtsman); and L. Phillips (Student).



Outside their Willow Road, Wrexham office, are—on the steps, *left to right:* Messrs. E. R. Griffiths, J. M. Williams, R. Sheldon, N. Fussell, H. Pierce, A. Mason, C. Murch, J. Burchinshaw, A. Price, J. Ellis, Miss C. Mort, Mrs. J. Reeves, Mr. D. Lloyd, Mr. H. Abel, Mrs. M. Davies, Miss P. Dodgson, Mr. A. Wilding, and Miss P. Rainbow. On the ground (*left to right*) are Miss S. Gronnow, Mrs. C. Jones, Miss M. Morris, Mrs. B. Bienia, Miss W. Price and Miss M. Parry.



The men who appear in the pictures on this page were hard at work in a Wrexham street when *Contact's* cameraman called. Above, left to right, on ground level, are Messrs. I. Evans (Section Engineer), G. Price (Jointer's Mate), D. Ellis (Jointer's Mate), J. R. Guest (Apprentice), J. Devaney (Jointer), T. Harrington (Jointer), and J. Evans (Jointer's Mate). Standing in the hole, left to right, are Messrs. J. Roberts (Labourer), G. Abel (Student Apprentice), F. Crump (Jointer), and R. Price (Jointer). They are members of Wrexham Mains staff.



The rain which was falling when this picture was taken was not enough to damp the spirits of this group from Wrexham and Legacy Mains staff who were busy taking electricity to a new housing area at Marford. They are, left to right (back row): Messrs. J. D. Roberts (Labourer), F. Bolton (Chargehand), H. E. Smith and T. Price (Labourers). Front row: Messrs. O. Bennet, R. B. Bellis, N. Hatton, J. L. Griffiths, R. C. Harrington, C. Griffiths, and J. Masterton (Labourers).

MAINS STAFF FROM WREXHAM AND LEGACY

Below, left to right, are Messrs. E. P. Fleet (Jointer), A. Morris (Jointer's Mate), J. Mulloch (Jointer's Mate), J. Groome (Labourer), H. Evans (Labourer), and G. Davies (Jointer).



A Wrexham Sub-District Mains staff group. Left to right: Messrs. A. Howard and R. T. Jones (Labourers), J. S. Richards (Assistant Storekeeper), O. Wynne (Painter), D. J. Burke (Street Lighting Attendant), E. B. Edwards (Street Lighting Electrician), R. Parry and W. Beech (Street Lighting Attendants), and T. E. Jones (Assistant, Stores).





Above, left to right (standing): Messrs. E. Ellis (Consumers' Engineer), T. Williams (Clerk), R. W. Henri (Sub-District Clerk), W. C. Potts (Clerk), D. G. Jones (Assistant Consumers' Engineer), W. Hughes (Electrician's Mate), and W. R. Todd (Clerk). Front row: Mrs. D. Fleet (Shorthand Typist), Mrs. M. Jones (Clerk), and Mrs. M. J. Robinson (Telephone Operator).

PICTURES

FROM...

...WREXHAM SUB-DISTRICT...

A Sub-District Commercial staff group. *Left to right:* Messrs. D. Quarmby and N. Griffiths (Apprentices), G. Davies (Joiner), G. Carlton (Electrician), F. Court (Apprentice), R. R. Ellis (Electrician), T. Prile (Apprentice), M. J. Edwards (Apprentice), K. Jackson, R. R. Roszkowski, and D. Owens (Electricians), and E. E. Crewe (Chargehand).



Staff of the Creditors' Section, based at Willow Road. *Left to right:* Messrs. D. Jones and W. T. Davies, Miss P. M. Jones, Miss J. Green, Miss J. Thomas, and Mr. J. G. Jones (Clerks); Mr. D. G. Coupe (Assistant), and Mr. J. Baird (Senior Assistant).

...SUB-AREA ACCOUNTS...



Rhos Sub-District Office and Service Centre staff. *Left to right:* Mr. A. E. Johnson (Assistant Consumers' Engineer), Miss Iola Humphreys (Manufacturers' Demonstrator), Mrs. E. Jones (Service Centre Assistant), Miss G. Jenkins (Clerk), Mr. T. E. Evans (Senior Service Centre Assistant), Mrs. C. E. Jones (Clerk), Mr. E. Charles (Sub-District Clerk), and Mr. N. Naylor (Clerk).

...AND RHOS SUB-DISTRICT

A Sub-District Commercial staff group. *Left to right:* Mr. Johnson, Messrs. N. Forret (Installations Inspector), P. Keddie, E. Jones and H. Jones (Electricians), J. D. Carsley (Apprentice), L. Jones (Electrician), P. Feiven (Apprentice), and G. B. Jones (Assistant Consumers' Engineer).





This picture shows some of the members of the No. 4 Sub-Area office and Wrexham District class of the British Electricity Ambulance Centre, who were presented with awards by Mr. R. N. Pegg (Sub-Area Manager) on September 28th. They are (left to right): Messrs. J. H. Walker, E. Hughes, W. G. Carlton, R. H. Hughes, R. E. Roszkowski, R. H. Jones, G. Davies, Mrs. M. Edwards, Mr. J. L. Thomas, Miss B. Parry, Mr. E. Corfield, Mr. Pegg, Mr. W. R. Thomas, Miss M. Pritchard, Messrs. J. W. Prile and H. Williams, Mrs. J. E. Faulkner, and Messrs. O. Rowlands, T. J. Jones, A. C. Edwards, S. H. Robinson, R. C. Edwards, and N. E. Fussell.



NORTH WALES FIRST-AIDERS

First-aiders from several points in the Sub-Area (below) who attended a technical meeting at Connah's Quay Power Station recently heard several lectures, took part in an informative discussion, and saw an up-to-date type of leg splint being demonstrated (left).



The cast of "The Freedom Kitchen".

ELECTRICITY FAIR AND FASHION SHOW

Woman's interest in fashion and things up-to-date was exploited to the full when Manweb staged "The Freedom Kitchen", a light-hearted satire in a fully equipped automatic kitchen built on the stage in the Bluecoat Society Concert Hall, Liverpool.

The programme also included demonstrations of cooking, home laundry, and dishwashing, while one of Liverpool's leading fashion houses staged a parade of fashions worth more than £6,000.

These fashion shows with a difference were attended by over 3,000 women, while a further 1,000 or so mere males visited the comprehensive exhibition of appliances staged close by and entitled "Electricity Fair", probably preferring to study mechanics rather than mink.

The lady members of the staff who took part in the playlet were Mrs. M. Cobb, Sub-Area Display Department, and Demonstrators Mrs. N. Wilcox, Miss W. Lloyd-Ellis, Miss K. Richards and Miss S. Blydon.

Some of the fashions which held the attention of the audience.



BREVITIES SAVINGS SUCCESSES

The Chairman of the Board (Mr. D. H. Kendon) has received a copy of a letter sent by Viscount Mackintosh of Halifax, Chairman of the National Savings Committee, to Sir Robertson King, Chairman of the Electricity Council.

In his letter Viscount Mackintosh congratulates the electricity supply industry on the level of national savings achieved by its staff. He says that during each of the past two half years savings in the industry have passed the £1,000,000 mark, and regards this as a "tremendous achievement".

Statistics accompanying the letter show that 27.7% of employees in the industry are members of the National Savings movement, and that they save an average of 15/3d. per week.

HELSEY AND FRODSHAM EVENTS

Electrical shows and exhibitions were arranged by the Frodsham Service Centre Staff and No. 2 Sub-Area Display Department, Sandiway House, at two local Cheshire shows recently.

At the horticultural show organised by British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd. at Helsby the stand was equipped for cookery and food mixer demonstrations with a supporting appliance display. In attendance were Mr. W. A. Blease (Senior Service Centre

In his reply, Sir Robertson King says "there will be no relaxation in our efforts to promote additional savings because we believe the financial structure of our country depends in great measure upon the industry and thrift of the nation generally."

Thanks are particularly due, added Sir Robertson, to all those who have undertaken voluntary work in connection with national savings.

BRIGHTER CROSBY

As part of a campaign by Crosby Council to install modern street lighting throughout the Borough, gas lamps in several parts of the area are now being replaced by sodium lighting.

The switch-over is taking place at the rate of about 17 lamps a day, and a Corporation Official said that this work would bring about a vast improvement in the lighting of the Borough.

Assistant, Frodsham), Mrs. L. Blease (Demonstrator), Mr. S. Gates (Sales Representative), and Miss H. Eaton (Trainee Demonstrator).

A similar stand, staffed by some of the same people, was provided at Frodsham Flower Show, held on September 3rd.

The equipment used to make these sectionalised displays was designed by Mr. Eric Hillidge, and were made at the Sub-Area Display Department.



The sectionalised displays used at Helsby and Frodsham.

EVERSLEY ENGAGEMENT

Congratulations to Miss Patricia White and Mr. Dennis Bromiley, who announced their engagement on October 14th.

Both are clerks in the No. 2 Sub-Area Accounts Department, Miss White in the Costs Section, and Mr. Bromiley in Supplies.

BIRTHS

Congratulations to Mr. Glynne Threadgold, whose wife gave birth to a daughter on October 3rd.

Mr. Threadgold is a clerk in the Supplies Section of the No. 2 Sub-Area Accounts Department.

* * *

Congratulations to Mr. Stanley Mayhew, whose wife gave birth to a son on October 16th.

Mr. Mayhew is a clerk in the Revenue Section of the No. 2 Sub-Area Accounts Department.

* * *

Congratulations to Mr. Norman Mason (Meter Reader/Collector, Oswestry) and Mrs. Mason on the birth of a son, Steven, on August 1st.

* * *

Congratulations to Mr. Bryan Pryce (Section Engineer, Oswestry) and Mrs. Pryce on the birth of a son, Robin Mark, on September 6th.

JOINS G.P.O.

Best wishes for the future to Mr. George Kettle, who, after 25 years' service with the Mid-Cheshire Electricity Supply Company and Manweb in the meter testing department, has left the Board's Service to take up duties as Postmaster at Goostrey.

Mr. Kettle had qualified by his service to receive a Long Service award, and although this would not normally be presented until next Spring, arrangements were made for him to receive this from Mr. A. Stewart (District Commercial Engineer) on behalf of the Sub-Area Manager, and at the same time he received a fountain pen as a parting gift from his colleagues.

LETTER OF THANKS

The above heading seems to be appearing regularly every month in the pages of *Contact*, and here is yet another letter from a satisfied consumer.

M.A.N.W.E.B.,
Rhostyllen,
Wrexham,
Denbighshire.

Dear Sirs.

Electricity Supply

The new sub-station building at our Works has been completed, your plant has been installed therein, and our own controls have been moved to the new position adjacent, with all connections, etc., according to plan and without a hitch. We have now run the works for a full week on the new supply without any difficulty coming to light.

I therefore write now to thank you for all the helpful co-operation which you have given in the achievement of this, at every level in your organisation. The writing of this sort of letter is one of the pleasures of business life. It was always apparent to me and to our Works Management, when looking in on the job during progress, that events were moving very happily towards an orderly accomplishment so that we never had any moments of panic in which we might wonder whether we should achieve the task in the time allowed, though we were more conscious at this stage of just how much work was involved than we had appreciated fully in the planning stages, so that I should have written to thank you in any case. It is even more pleasant to do so because I have been specially requested by our staff who were working on the job to express their appreciation of the full co-operation they received from your staff engaged on the work. Our people feel that yours could not possibly have been more helpful, so perhaps you will kindly see that such appreciation and thanks is passed on to all who were concerned.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed)

WANTED. Japanese officer's (or similar) sword. Particulars to No. 4 Sub-Area, Welfare Department, Rhostyllen.

MOVES TO LOVE LANE

Mr. R. M. Gravett, M.I.E.E., Manweb's No. 3 Sub-Area Commercial Officer based at Chester, has been appointed Assistant Chief Commercial Officer responsible for industrial development. He succeeds Mr. W. B. Parkinson, who was promoted Chief Commercial Officer recently.

Mr. Gravett, who is 58, received his training in Wolverhampton with the Electric Construction Company Limited and later with the Wolverhampton Corporation.



Mr. Gravett.

He then joined the Shropshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire Electric Power Company, moved to the staff of Ealing Corporation as Distribution Superintendent, and later became Deputy Borough Electrical Engineer and Manager at Nuneaton. Immediately before joining the Manweb staff on nationalisation, Mr. Gravett was Electrical Engineer and Manager for Hoylake U.D.C.

CONTACT DISTRIBUTORS

Are you receiving enough copies to cover new employees?
Please notify the Editor of any changes in your requirements

APPRECIATED

People usually only take the trouble to write letters to newspapers when they are smarting under some kind of grievance, and it was therefore particularly pleasing for us to read the following letter, published in the Merioneth County Times on October 8.

Dear Sir,

"Electricity at Darowen"

Please may I ask for a little space in your newspaper to address an open letter to M.A.N.W.E.B. I would like them to know how very much we appreciate their good work in bringing electricity to Darowen.

How wonderful it is for us here to be able to live at last like our relations in the towns; to be able to boil water for a cup of tea, day or night, in three minutes; to have a fire without fetching coal and sticks from outside; and to clean our house with a cleaner at the flick of a switch.

From the front of my house, I can see several poles and their cables. Do they spoil the landscape? To me, they are the bar marks of wonderful music, and I love every one of them.

Thank you, M.A.N.W.E.B., for a job well done.

Edith G. Richards."

... and thank you, for taking the trouble to say so! We are sure that the arrival of electricity will do your eyes good in more ways than one.

ANOTHER DIVIDEND

An idea put forward under the Employees' Suggestion Scheme by Mr. J. Hughes, an assembler at Lister Drive Appliance Workshop, involving the use of light tinfoil instead of sheet metal for a "blinking out" operation on the backs of converted cookers, won an award of £10/10/- when it was put forward last year.

On the recommendation of the District Joint Advisory Council's Suggestions Committee, Mr. Hughes has now been awarded a further £10 by virtue of the saving made during the first year in which his idea was put into operation. Congratulations on a paying idea!



MANWEB

'make a speech'

COMPETITION

2nd FEBRUARY, 1961

MEN

1st Prize £10

2nd Prize £5

WOMEN

1st Prize £10

2nd Prize £5

Even if you don't win...you can't lose!

Winners proceed into
the National E.D.A. Competition

One day whether you like it or not you'll be asked 'to say a few words'! It happens at weddings, at the club, if you win some prize. Here's a chance to practise on strangers, so why not have a go. And remember, the man or woman who can make a bit of a speech is the sort who gets on!

Closing Date for entries:
1st DECEMBER, 1960



You can learn all about the Area and National Competitions and pick up some valuable tips by getting a copy of the E.D.A. booklet 'Public Speaking is Great Fun' from your District Manager's Office, District Commercial Engineer, or fill in this coupon:

To: MANWEB · LOVE LANE · LIVERPOOL 3

Please send me details of the "Make-A-Speech" Competition.

NAME

ADDRESS