

MANWEB GAZETTE (continued)

District: Messrs. T. D. Evans (jointer), M. J. Goodwin, F. A. Huxley, A. F. Mann (jointers' mates). *Wrexham District:* Messrs. L. Davies, E. Evans (linesmen's mates), A. Lloyd (transport driver), D. L. Lovell (linesman's mate), R. E. Powell (transport driver), E. W. Roberts, D. Woodfine, N. E. Woollam (linesmen's mates). *Oswestry District:* Mr. A. E. Preston (substation attendant). *Caernarvon District:* Messrs. H. O. Davies, D. J. Jones (linesmen's mates), E. W. Jones, I. Parry (jointers' mates), H. Williams (jointer). *Anglesey District:* Miss M. P. Williams (saleswoman), Messrs. A. Bunton (assistant consumers' engineer), J. Jones (meter reader). *Aberystwyth District:* Messrs. D. G. Burgess (meter reader), Mr. S. Wilson (storekeeper).

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

Head Office: Mrs. E. D. Irlam (vari-type operator).

Area 1 Office: Mr. J. H. Hudson (records draughtsman). *Central District:* Mr. G. Griffin (mains foreman). *North District:* Miss I. Moore (copy typist), Mr. F. Waugh (installation inspector). *South District:* Messrs. F. Chapman (assembler), E. Hughes (labourer).

Area 2/3 St. Helens District: Messrs. T. A. Lewis (senior salesman), J. Maddison (clerk). *Chester District:* Mr. F. Hodgkiss (jointer's mate). *North Wirral District:* Messrs. J. Anwyl (1st assistant district commercial engineer), R. Holden (chargehand electrician), H. H. Jones (substation attendant), D. M. Lloyd (assistant section engineer), H. A. L. Lloyd (meter reader/collector).

Area 4 Office: Miss D. Davies (telephone operator), Miss S. Prodger (cleaner), Mr. E. Pritchard (bricklayer's mate). *Oswestry District:* Mr. S. H. P. Boylin (substation attendant). *Clwyd District:* Mr. D. J. Roberts (labourer). *Conway Valley District:* Messrs. R. Edwards (foreman), T. Pierce (labourer), T. C. Shape (meter reader/collector). *Caernarvon District:* Messrs. R. Evans (chargehand linesman), E. Hope (watchman). *Anglesey District:* Mr. W. Hughes (linesman's mate). *Aberystwyth District:* Messrs. R. Davies (labourer), A. Jones (section engineer).

Obituary

It is with deep regret that we announce the deaths of the following Board employees and pensioners:

Mrs. C. Morton (saleswoman, Liverpool South); Mr. J. Ackers (retired meter/installation inspector, St. Helens); Mr. G. Evanson (linesman, Whitchurch); Mr. W. E. Halton (retired foreman meter fixer, Southport); Mr. R. W. Jones (labourer, Rhyl); Mr. W. Lockyer (retired jointer, Warrington); Mr. H. McLelland (foreman cable layer, North Wirral); Mr. J. T. Norman (retired jointer's mate, St. Helens); Mr. J. L. Parry (bricklayer, St. Helens); Mr. R. Roberts (transport driver, Llangefni); Mr. L. H. Smith (chargehand jointer, Crewe); Mr. H. R. Woodbridge (section engineer, North Wirral) and Mr. R. Yost (installation inspector, Runcorn).

'Contact' Correspondents

Mr. R. Slack (Hoylake Training Centre)

AREA 1

Mr. A. Cassie (Hatton Garden)
Mr. N. B. Kenyon (Hatton Garden)
Mrs. M. Cowle (Derby House)
Mr. D. Patrick (Marsh Lane)
Mr. J. J. Rotherham (Lister Drive)
Mr. M. Brown (Southport)

AREA 2/3

Mr. J. Findlow (Sealand Road)
Mrs. E. Burke (Sealand Road)
Mr. H. Hughes (Sealand Road)
Mr. A. Wadcock (Sealand Road)
Miss B. Seaman (Sandiway House)
Mr. G. E. H. Wheeler (Carlton St.)
Miss M. Worthington (Bridge St.)
Mr. M. J. Caird (Warrington)
Mr. G. W. Wells (Runcorn)
Mr. H. H. Turner (Widnes)
Mr. C. P. Booth (Northwich)
Mr. L. Sewell (New Crane St.)
Mr. K. Jones (Wallasey)
Mr. F. Gordon (Birkenhead)

AREA 4

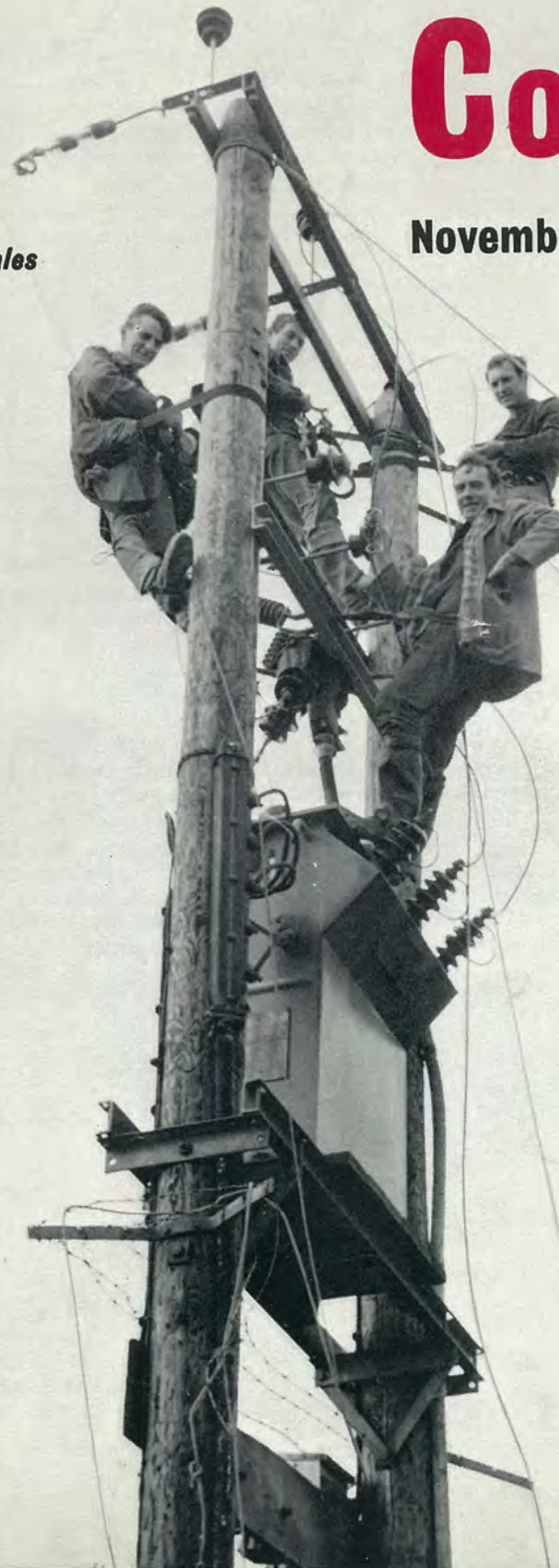
Mr. J. L. Thomas (Rhostyllen)
Mr. H. T. McBride (Crewe)
Mr. J. R. Jenkins (Nantwich)
Mr. A. T. Knott (Nantwich)
Miss G. Baxendale (Sandbach)
Mr. J. W. Forrester (Shotton)
Mr. W. Ll. Williams (Newtown)
Mr. W. D. Morris (Welshpool)
Mr. A. L. Barker (Whitchurch)
Mr. D. Young (Prestatyn)
Mr. I. W. Griffiths (Mold)
Mr. L. Hughes (Llandudno)
Mr. H. Jones (Colwyn Bay)
Mr. M. Roberts (Caernarvon)
Mrs. E. F. Davies (Bangor)
Mr. E. Jones (Wrexham)
Mr. E. Jones (Bethesda)
Miss D. Edwards (Bl. Ffestiniog)
Mr. J. B. Williams (Pwllheli)
Mr. L. C. Jones (Llangefni)
Mr. W. H. Williams (Menai Bridge)
Mr. D. G. Thomas (Aberystwyth)
Mr. D. Hughes (Barmouth)
Mr. E. A. Wharton (Dolgellau)

The Staff
Magazine
of the
Merseyside
and North Wales
Electricity
Board

Contact

November

1966





Miss Davies at her switchboard.

Miss D. DAVIES

A 'temporary telephonist' who in 23 years with the Board never outstayed her welcome has retired from Area Office at Rhostyllen.

Miss Dilys Davies joined the staff in a temporary capacity in 1943, and since then her efficiency and cheerfulness have endeared her to everyone with whom she has come into contact.

During the war years, she was actively engaged as night telephonist when the Home Guard held their weekend manoeuvres at Area 4 Headquarters. Once again, she gladly gave up her spare time to help.

At a gathering in Rhostyllen canteen to mark her retirement, Mr. K. Helliwell, Area Manager, spoke of Miss Davies' sterling qualities and praised the manner in which she carried out her duties over the years. Mr. A. Kidd, Area Secretary, joined him in paying tribute to Miss Davies' work for the Board.

Flowers and messages came in from all over the Board's areas from people with whom she had been in contact during her years with MANWEB, and Mr. Helliwell on behalf of the Rhostyllen staff, presented Miss Davies with a transistor radio and a cheque as a memento of her long association with the Board.

We join with them in wishing her good health and all good fortune in her well-earned retirement.

RETIREMENTS

Mr. G. GRIFFIN

"I am very lucky that I have good health to enjoy my retirement". These were the words of Mr. George Griffin who retired recently after 46 years 10 months continuous service with Liverpool Corporation and MANWEB's Central District.

At a presentation ceremony held at the canteen, Pumpfields, Mr. J. T. Cummings (District Engineer) presented Mr. Griffin with an electric fire and an electric blanket—"to keep you warm

during the day and during the night". The gifts were subscribed to by his many friends and colleagues, and on their behalf Mr. Cummings wished Mr. Griffin many years of happy retirement.

Mr. Griffin began work with the Liverpool Corporation Electric Supply Department in 1919, became jointer's mate, plumber jointer and subsequently mains foreman in 1945, the position he held until his retirement.



Mr. Griffin, right front, surrounded by his colleagues from Area 1 after receiving their parting gifts.



Contact

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THE STAFF MAGAZINE OF THE MERSEYSIDE AND NORTH WALES ELECTRICITY BOARD

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EDITORIAL

Working Together

"MORE in keeping with the 19th than the 20th Century" was the comment of a trade union official on the recent dismissal of an employee, allegedly for distributing trade union recruiting leaflets.

Organised labour has come a long way since Tolpuddle, and is now probably the most powerful force in the land. It is an ill-advised employer who today attempts to make things difficult for anyone carrying out trade-union activities recognised by his fellow workers as legitimate. True, there still remain odd pockets of prehistoric practice on both sides of the industrial fence, but those responsible usually find themselves out on a limb if it comes to the crunch.

To an ever-increasing extent, enlightened managements—and Governments—find that it pays to take employees into their confidence and to seek their understanding and co-operation in changes which the shifts of society and the economy dictate.

No industry is more progressive in this respect than our own, and the spate of employees' meetings now in progress give the staff the opportunity to raise any question they wish—in public with the Board's leading personalities.

More and more, questions of industrial, social and political importance are open to the searchlight of public examination.

On the effectiveness of the answers rest the alternatives of sincere co-operation, resentful acquiescence, or open revolt.

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Electricity Supply Spring and Summer Schools 1967

Corpus Christi College, Cambridge	5th to 13th April
Corpus Christi College, Cambridge	28th June to 6th July
Worcester College, Oxford	19th to 27th July
Queens' College, Cambridge	5th to 13th September
Wills Hall, Bristol	13th to 21st September
You are invited to apply for a place at one of the above Schools which are organised by the Electricity Council. The Schools consist of talks and discussions on the work of the Industry and visits are arranged to places of interest.	The cost of travelling, board and accommodation is met by the Electricity Boards. Those attending will receive their normal pay together with an allowance of seven shillings and sixpence a day during the School.
Any employee, other than one who has previously attended a Spring or Summer School, may apply. Unsuccessful applicants for previous schools should re-apply.	For an information leaflet and application form ask: <i>Your local L.A.C. Secretary.</i> Return your form to him by: December 2nd, 1966.

STAFF MEETING IN LIVERPOOL Chairman Discusses Electricity's Problems

DISCRIMINATION against the electricity supply industry was again mentioned by the Chairman of the Board (Mr. D. G. Dodds) when he addressed nearly 300 members of the staff of Head Office and Area 1 at an Employees' Meeting organised by numbers one and thirty-seven LAC's, held in Liverpool recently.

The Chairman said that the financial targets for the nationalised industries for the next few years had not yet been settled, and it was in the interest of all concerned that they should be announced as soon as possible.

Industry was moving into a more competitive world. We had competition from oil, coal, gas, and now from North Sea Gas. The electricity supply industry was quite satisfied provided that the rules were the same for all industries concerned, but our industry was at present bearing special burdens.

The first was that, at the moment, the electricity supply industry was at the risk of having to carry an unreasonable share of the coal industry's burden on its back. The second was that the supply industry's financial targets for return on capital, at 12.9%, were higher than those of the gas industry. Gas was free of any obligation to use coal, but everybody expected the electricity industry to use coal. The coal industry was facing a major social problem at the moment, but electricity's case was that the problems of the coal industry should be borne by the Nation as a whole, and not placed on the shoulders of electricity.

Electricity wished to have complete freedom of choice as far as the use of fuels was concerned.

Dealing with the implications of the North Sea Gas strikes, the Chairman said that in the short term perhaps the cheapest way to use natural gas would be to burn it in existing power stations. This could be cheaper than the use of coal at the present

time. The companies carrying out research in the North Sea Gas field could well spend about £300 million on research and development, and he did not think that the gas industry could write off this debt within 10 years.

Referring to the battle for the central heating market, the Chairman said that our best defence in the face of rising costs was increased sales. An active sales drive, with the endeavours of everybody concerned, would be necessary if we were to make a successful bid for our share of this market.

Question Time

A number of written questions were submitted, and dealt with at an Open Forum session.

The first question dealt with the proposed centralisation of Head Office and Area functions at Chester, and asked if the Board could issue a statement showing which departments of Area 1 would be involved in the move and, if possible, give an approximate date. The second question asked if an outline of the functions of the new Head Office and Districts respectively could be given.

Replying, the Chairman said that all Head Office and Area Office staffs were potentially in the field of movement to Chester, the new building had now been designed and the tenders for its construction had been received. These will be looked at by the Board, and the approved design would then be submitted to Chester Council for their approval.

It was expected that building work would begin early next year, and that the time to complete the building would be approximately two years. Work was scheduled to begin in March. The movement of sections and departments would probably be gradual, and everyone concerned would be given very ample warning.

Other questions dealing with interdepartmental exchanges of staff, voltage tags on meters, central heating, parking facilities at Marsh Lane, parking in restricted areas in town, charges for changing meters, discounts for prompt payment of accounts, and maintenance of washing machines, were answered by the members of the open forum panel.

The chair at the meeting was taken by the Manager, Area 1, (Mr. J. Taylor) who welcomed the Chairman and members of the panel.

STAFF MEETINGS HELD IN AREA
2/3—at Chester, Runcorn St. Helens and
Warrington will be reported in the
December issue of 'Contact'.

Manweb shops
have everything you want!
OWN BRAND - RIGHT PRICE - BIG CHOICE!

Pre-Season offer!
2 gns. off!

FREE! PRICE SET BY PLASTIC MANE with the Refrigerator

SPECIAL FREE 24 PIECE CUTLERY OFFER!

ELECTRIC BLANKETS

UNDERBLANKETS

FAN HEATER

MANWEB'S SLASHED PRICES 10 CENS OFF!

MANWEB for value and money!

Who should know more about things electric than you? Manweb shop!



Advertisements

by

Mr. M. R. Cowan

(Chief Commercial Officer)

SPECIAL OFFER OF
ELECTRIC CENTRAL HEATING
heat in store

FOLLOWING this article, future issues of 'Contact' will carry advertisements—current MANWEB retail advertisements. I hope you will be pleased to see them and be interested in their contents and perhaps show them to your family (although this may cost you money).

The advertisements we are using at present can be described as hard selling copy, concentrating primarily on depicting hardware and thereby attempting to persuade the public to buy particular appliances and to buy them from MANWEB Shops. The copy is generally less sophisticated than the type we have often used in the past when we more frequently referred to the advantages of electricity itself. Advertising policies must always be flexible and the method of persuasion varied from time to time according to the general selling climate.

The current climate is one known as a buyer's market where selling is difficult and the buyer is very selective. A predominate factor that has emerged from this situation is the 'give-away' or 'special offer' technique which has become very widespread and extremely competitive. The 'give-aways' include free entry for competitions with expensive prizes, free gifts, special price reductions and privileged opportunities to purchase other articles at specially reduced prices.

There is little point in debating the overall merits of this situation because it is in full flood and few retailers could afford to swim against the tide. However, I do occasionally wonder if we will one day launch a new MANWEB soap powder costing 19 guineas a packet but offering a free cooker for every three packet tops collected!

I cannot expand too far on the details of MANWEB's present advertising strategy because I would not want to hand our thoughts over to our competitors but I am sure you will notice that every advertisement contains a special 'eye-catcher'. There are many forms of this, such as a major price cut on one article, a major free gift or

the featuring of an exclusive MANWEB product at a particularly attractive price. One of the objectives is to create the impression that MANWEB is with it; that MANWEB is a lively organisation that really wants the customer's business and will go to the same lengths as many other retailers to get it. The public know they get a square deal from MANWEB and that we are experts in electricity but unless we also convince them that we are excellent retailers, they will not come to us in the large numbers that we want.

The inclusion of our advertisements in this magazine will enable you to study our style and to note the products and prices being advertised.

Advertising is a vital preliminary to the main task which is to sell, but before buying most customers like to receive assurance that they are spending their money wisely and this re-assurance is given by either the salesman or, very often, from friends and neighbours. Our salesmen are the spearhead of our sales drives but their numbers are modest compared with the numbers of other employees in our industry. The inclusion of advertisements in this magazine will enable the rest of us to know what is in our Shops and the prices we are selling at. Perhaps your friends and neighbours need softening up or need to be given that little push which will bring them along to one of our Shops—perhaps you can provide that push.

The economic squeeze is affecting all trades and although I am confident that we shall continue to expand because electricity has so many great qualities, we shall have to work much harder to get sales; we can beat our competitors, we can beat the squeeze but your example and your efforts with your friends will help enormously.

The boys and girls in our Shops will be delighted to think you may be sending customers along to see them.

FREE!

WITH EVERY JACKSON COOKER

... this superb 3-purpose Judge Penthouse Frying Pan complete with lid.

PLUS A SAVING OF **£2. 5. 6**

Exclusive Manweb offer when you buy a Jackson Electric Cooker, a fully matched Penthouse Set of 3 beautiful pans with lids. Value £5.16.3. Yours for only £3.10.9!

PLUS AN ALLOWANCE OF **£2. 0. 0** on your old Electric Cooker.

Total Saving! £6. 7. 9

TRIMLINE
The double-oven cooker for the smaller kitchen. Only 18" wide! Cooks comfortably for six. Has all Jackson features: eye-level 6-position grill, 3 fast-boiling Speedrings (One Very High Speed) Spillage-proof hob, etc. £34.13.0. Cash. Or on H.P. Terms.

HIGHLINE
Extra-large eye-level 6-position Grill, 4 Fast-boiling Speedrings, each with 6-heat control (2 Very High Speed). Big main oven, drop-down double glass door, interior light. Auto timer. Easy-clean features. Large size hot-cupboard. £52.10.0. Cash. Or on H.P. Terms.

THIS OFFER CLOSES ON 17th SEPTEMBER

SEE THE JACKSON RANGE AT MANWEB SHOPS

Manweb for value—first and always

Here is a copy of a newspaper advertisement which featured a very successful 'free offer' campaign.



Mr. R. I. Jowett ponders the answer to a question during the Open Forum session. With him at the table are Mr. J. R. Leatherbarrow, left, and, Mr. D. G. Dodds.

ANNUAL EMPLOYEES MEETING at Southport

Over a hundred members of the Southport District staff were present at this year's Employees Meeting held a few weeks ago in a town centre hotel. A number of guests who were also present at this very popular meeting included senior officers from Head Office and Area 1 Office and representatives of the C.E.G.B. and the District Joint Advisory Council. Ex-employees of the District who are now working in other offices were also in attendance as were a dozen very welcome retired employees who had come along to meet again their colleagues and to see just how the District was going on without them.

Mr. L. J. Scudamore (District Manager) as Chairman of the Meeting opened by summarising points taken from the annual report of the No. 4 Local Advisory Committee. He said that many of the items which had been adopted and had proved very efficient in all phases of the work in the District were a direct result of discussions by the L.A.C. and its associated Efficiency Panel.

Enjoying the Hot-Pot, left to right: Mr. J. R. Leatherbarrow, Miss V. Walton (retired), Miss I. Leyland and Mr. I. Ormerod.



After this opening address, Mr. J. R. Leatherbarrow (labourer, Commercial), gave a short talk on his attendance at this year's Spring School. He said that it was 'fabulous'—a week's holiday with all expenses paid and plenty of good food. All that was asked of you was that you listened to some very interesting lectures during the mornings and the evenings. Every opportunity was given for the delegates to get together and discuss their jobs and exchange ideas. Mr. Leatherbarrow advised everyone eligible for one of these courses to get in touch with their L.A.C. representative as soon as possible.

At this point, Mr. J. Taylor (Manager, Area 1) presented the Area 1 Rose Bowl to Mrs. J. W. Garner (senior saleswoman, Birkdale Shop). This award is presented annually for the Shop making most progress and for the best all-round performance, and Mrs. Garner has won this for two years in succession. Although she was unwell on the night of the Meeting, everyone was pleased to see her come along to receive the award.

Then followed a short film which stressed the theme of the Meeting which was 'Efficiency and Productivity'. The film was very good and showed how better methods could be brought in to improve job efficiency.

Before the next item on the evening's agenda, Mr. Scudamore said how delighted he was to welcome Mr. D. G. Dodds (Chairman) to the Meeting. He said that he appreciated the fact that Mr. Dodds had travelled a very long way in order to be at the Meeting. Earlier he had attended the Eda Industrial Conference at Scarborough and it was from here that he had journeyed to Southport.

Mr. Dodds thanked all the District employees for their excellent record of progress during the

past year and said that theirs was above the average rate in many spheres of their activities. He went on to quote figures showing the rise in the average price of electricity (40 per cent) compared to the rise in the cost of living (80 per cent) over a given period. He went on to say that it was essential for all employees to keep the public informed on what we have to offer, especially in the central heating field.

Then came the Open Forum session, always interesting and informative, and always very popular. The panel did so well in answering the questions posed that at the conclusion of the Meeting, in asking for a vote of thanks for the panel, Mr. W. J. Osbaldestine (section engineer) said that following the pattern of the annual cricket match, the members of the panel had successfully blocked the sticky questions and had roundly slammed the easy ones.

Then everyone retired to the bars to quench their thirst while the hotel staff prepared the tables in readiness for the Hot-Pot Supper which was thoroughly enjoyed by one and all.

The "Contact" cameraman took a trip round the tables at the Southport District Employees Meeting and the pictures on this page show some of the happy groups "tucking-in".



Focus on . . .

CLWYD DISTRICT

SITUATED in the north-eastern corner of Wales is the Board's Clwyd District, covering parts of Denbighshire and Flintshire to the extent of some 387 square miles, and incorporating the Vale of Clwyd, claimed to be the most beautiful landscape in all North Wales. In addition to the many miles of scenic loveliness, the Clwyd District also boasts a number of ancient churches, castles, fine old houses and other relics of the distant past scattered about the quiet villages among the hills and valleys.

In Rhuddlan itself, just down the main street is an old, interesting building—no, not our District Office, but an even older building known locally as Parliament House in which it is said that Edward I sat in Council. Not far away is the ruin of a medieval castle which is a constant reminder of the long struggle of the Welsh for independence. Then there are the famous Rhuddlan Marshes, where in A.D. 795 the battle known as Cyflafan Morfa Rhuddlan took place and Caradoc, King of South Wales was slain. In the 18th and 19th century, Rhuddlan was a very busy port complete with a harbour, quays, wharves and warehouses. Ships used to sail regularly from here to Ireland and to Liverpool.

But from the past to the present and the Clwyd District of 1966. With a coastline of about twenty miles, following the Irish Sea and stretching to the Dee estuary, there is a fair tourist trade to combine with the farming community and a pretty large industrial belt. The Board's customers are predominantly English speaking, partly due

to the influx of people from Lancashire and the Midlands, although Welsh is still widely used in the rural areas, so it is a decided advantage to be bi-lingual, especially if you do not always publicise this talent!

The holiday resorts in the District comprise Rhyl, popular for family holidays, week-enders and day trippers from the industrial areas of Merseyside and the Midlands, Prestatyn, known as the Rose Garden of Wales and now becoming internationally famous as a horse-trotting centre. Then of course there is Abergele, the gateway to so many of the beauty spots. Although very attractive in themselves, these holiday towns present quite a headache to MANWEB engineers, for they can never quite tell whether the peak demand will occur during the summer or the winter months and all constructional works must be carried out during low load and out-of-season periods which are few and far between.

The main industrial section of the District can be found in the Holywell, Flint and Buckley areas, and among the big consumers are Courtaulds at Flint and Chance Pilkingtons at St. Asaph, who incidentally, have at the moment, plans prepared for some considerable extensions there. Smaller but no less important industries includes the brickmaking at Buckley, papermaking at Flint, and the various quarries around Mold. There is still plenty of room for industrial development in the area and who knows, one day there may be a bridge across the River Dee linking this section of North Wales

with Merseyside, which could lead to vast developments.

On the farming front, we have the quiet yet busy market towns of Mold and Ruthin—centres of local government—and Denbigh, all forming the heart of the rural area of the District. Except for one or two isolated farms way out on the Denbigh Moors, all the farmers in the Clwyd District are enjoying the benefits of electricity in their homes and about their farms. Fifteen years ago, there were less than 800 farms connected to the supply network, today there are 3,283.

Each of the Board's 18 Districts is unique in some way or other, and each lays claim to records of some kind. Well, as far as Clwyd is concerned—housing development is their present pride and joy. The unusually large number of new estates, large ones at that—it's getting on towards the hundred mark throughout the District providing upwards of 10,000 premises—is providing plenty of work for our engineering gangs and contracting departments, and at the same time, giving our sales staff new people in new homes to work on. Much of this new housing development, especially along the coastal areas, is confined to bungalows, which greatly appeal to retired people who seem to like this particular part of North Wales—and who can argue with them!

In the Mold and Buckley areas, the new housing is catering for the overflow population from the Wirral. Over the past three years the average number of new connections in the Clwyd District has been around the 1,250 mark, which looks very healthy when compared with the average number of connections for the Board as a whole which is 17,500. Another point of interest, still on the housing topic, is that eventually, the District will be able to boast of having the tallest blocks of flats in Wales. These will be the 18 and 23-storey buildings at Flint, each having their own sub-station in the basement.

Prior to the nationalisation of the Industry in 1948, the present Clwyd District was served by four local authorities, Mold U.D.C., Prestatyn U.D.C., Rhyl U.D.C. and Ruthin U.D.C., in addition to sections of the North Wales Power Company, namely the Mains Districts at Flint and Rhuddlan.

Today the Clwyd District is one of the eight units which form the Board's Area 4. The District

is administered from Abbey House in Rhyl Road, Rhuddlan, a few miles outside Rhyl. The organisation is split into four sections, Rhyl East and West working from Vale Road, Rhyl, with an outpost at Prestatyn; Ruthin/Denbigh from Mill Street, Ruthin, with offices in Ruthin town; and the Mold/Flint section from the recently constructed combined

offices and depot at Denbigh Road, Mold. The whole District is served by five shops situated at Flint, Mold, Prestatyn, Rhyl and Ruthin.

The main supply to the District is distributed via two grid substations, one at St. Asaph, which was established in 1958, and the other at Holywell which came on to the network about four years ago. Plans are in hand to establish yet another 132 kV grid substation on the outskirts of Rhyl and it is hoped that this will be commissioned in 1968/69.

At present there are 1,680 miles of mains in operation compared with 518 miles fifteen years ago. As with all our Districts, local transforming points seem to be commissioned every day, and to give some idea of the rate of growth in Clwyd, fifteen years ago they had 264 such points of supply, and in the last count taken at the end of October this year, the figure was 2,944.

Over the years, many more people have moved into this lovely District so that we now have 52,150 consumers compared with 30,470 in 1951. In the last financial year (1965-66), these consumers used 296 million units of electricity. Fifteen years ago the consumption only amounted to 75 million units. Sales of appliances have increased from £44,500 to £183,600, and contracting works from £15,000 to £66,000 in the same period.

All this development has of course taken a great deal of money and in the last decade, Clwyd District have spent £2,650,000 on strengthening and reinforcing the network, as well as providing new supplies. And electricity is still a very cheap commodity!



Mr. L. V. Taylor
the District Manager.



Mr. G. Bowers,
District Commercial
Engineer, left, with
his colleague
Mr. I. Morris,
District Engineer.

It is inevitable that the "Contact" cameraman will have missed someone on the District staff during his tour a short time ago. Some people were still away on holiday, a few, unfortunately "off-sick", others travelling between one place and another, and of course the "bashful" ones. Still, out of a total District staff of 350, we managed to snap over 200 of them, and their pictures appear on the following pages.



Men of the Contracting Department. *Left to right:* Messrs. T. Hughes, R. Walley, E. Watson, W. Sutherland, K. Hatley, W. E. Williams, P. D. Minshull, R. K. Davies, E. E. Marshall, L. R. Camp, T. H. Jones and T. R. Williams.



At the Stores. *Left to right:* Messrs. R. Williams, H. Roberts, E. Walley, J. Warburton, T. C. Roberts, S. Benson and A. Hierene.



Mixed jobs. *Left to right:* Messrs. R. W. Jones (driver), W. Davies (labourer) and L. Jones (joiner).

Vale Road Workers



A happy foursome outside the garage, *left to right:* Messrs. S. Snape (fitter) G. Deed (garagehand), H. Evans (fitter) and W. E. Roberts (chargehand).



Mr. R. O. Twist (painter's mate).



Mr. W. E. Jones (painter).

More members of the Contracting staff. *Left to right:* Messrs. M. I. Jones, E. Garrett, R. Lewis, N. Walley, T. H. Hughes, R. Heywood, D. Tomkinson, A. Saulsbury, W. Pendleton, W. J. Astbury, J. T. Davies, E. Roberts, (*he's not really that tall!*) C. Kirkman, B. Davies, R. G. Roberts and I. J. Nethercote.



An overhead line gang from Rhyl West. *Left to right:* Messrs. C. Johnson (driver) R. O. Jaus (linesman), T. W. Evans (linesman's mate), H. Davies (linesman's mate), K. Pover (linesman), H. Evans (linesman's mate), L. Clayton (linesman) and H. Price (chargehand linesman).



Overhead line gang from Rhyl East. *Left to right:* Messrs. D. O. Roberts (linesman), E. E. Evans (linesman), J. W. Roose (linesman's mate), D. F. Chant (labourer), E. L. Williams (labourer), L. Pinder (linesman), J. L. Jones and M. J. Davies (labourers).



The Rhyl street lighting team. *Left to right:* Messrs. R. E. Roberts (street lighting attendant), W. Thomas (labourer), W. O. Jones (electrician) and C. Taylor (labourer).



The Rhyl West cable gang at work on a new housing estate in Rhuddlan. *Front to rear:* Messrs. W. A. Thomas, E. J. Davies, J. Davies, W. H. Parry, I. Harris, J. Williams and I. C. Evans.

Employees at Mold Sub-District Office



Stores stocks must be in order here, judging by the smiles from, *left to right*: Messrs. D. Atkinson (Area stock-checker), C. Williams (labourer), R. James (labourer), W. T. Williams (clerical assistant, stores), E. Stocker (storekeeper), A. Clarke and W. Buckley (Area stockcheckers).



Left to right: Messrs. E. H. Morris (driver), R. James (labourer — he certainly gets around!) R. M. Hughes (fitter's mate), N. Astbury (labourer), J. Nuttall (labourer) and J. Lansdale (fitter).



A happy group outside the Mold District Office. *Left to right, standing*: Messrs. D. C. Davies (labourer), J. C. Bowen (assistant section engineer), L. C. Edwards (records draughtsman), W. Jones (assistant section engineer) and H. Day (foreman, Commercial). *Seated*: Mrs. A. Cox, Miss A. Piercy, Miss J. B. Roberts, and Miss D. Ellis (clerks), Mrs. E. M. Beavan (cleaner), Miss B. Vernon (short-hand typist) and Miss A. E. A. Davies (typist).



Out in the country, these men of the Mold overhead line gang pose for a picture. They are, *left to right*: Messrs. T. Hughes (linesman), R. N. Jones (linesman's mate), I. T. Hughes (driver), W. Simon (linesman's mate), G. Robinson (labourer), and F. Sharp (linesman's mate).

Enjoying their midday meal in the comparative comfort of a jointer's trailer, *left to right*: Messrs. R. W. Payne (linesman's mate), W. S. Jones (labourer), H. Williams (labourer), T. Haynes (jointer), N. Stanley (labourer) and A. Jones (jointer's mate).

OUR COVER PICTURE shows members of the Mold overhead line gang working on a re-routing job. They are, *left to right*: Messrs. R. W. Payne and A. Bates (linesmen's mates) and B. Parry and T. Williams (linesmen).



Two labourers from the Mold mains gang pause in their job of backfilling a stay hole. *On the left* is Mr. M. R. Jones with his companion M. V. Jones.



Mold Commercial staff. *Left to right*: Messrs. J. W. Griffiths (chargehand), F. Thomas and E. Jones (electricians), L. R. Barker (apprentice electrician) H. W. Berry, F. Lloyd (electricians) D. J. Gilbert (apprentice electrician), R. C. Martin (electrician), D. Jones (installation inspector), R. Williams (electrician), J. A. Wooley, R. Hardy, D. Wood, E. S. Wright and K. Strafford (electricians).





Contracting staff at Mill Street, Ruthin. *Left to right:* Messrs. Delwyn Jones (apprentice electrician), R. Evans (chargehand), T. Field (installation inspector), W. R. Roberts, C. T. Kay and M. A. Hughes (electricians), M. Evans (installation inspector), B. Chinnery, Dai. Jones and G. M. Jones (electricians).



Above our Prestatyn Shop is the sub-District office where these members of the Board's staff work. *Left to right,* we have, Mr. W. Jones (consumers' engineer), Mr. C. M. Edwards (assistant consumers' engineer), Miss S. V. Peel (typist), Miss M. L. Parry (shorthand typist), Mrs. N. E. Gardner (clerk), Miss P. M. Davies (clerk), Miss P. Kirkman (vocational clerk) and Mr. D. E. Young (clerical assistant).



At Ruthin Depot . . .



Left to right: Messrs. W. S. Jones (labourer), I. Davies (street lighting attendant), D. Jones (linesman's mate) and J. D. Jones (assistant store-keeper).

Ruthin mains gang take a breather while the camera clicks. They were in the process of fixing a new stay wire to a pole they had just erected. *Left to right:* Messrs. K. Lloyd and L. Jones (linesmen), H. Evans (driver) D. E. Evans (linesman's mate), and T. H. Jones (labourer).



A few more men of the mains gang after their day's work. *Left to right:* Messrs. H. Hughes (labourer), B. Royles (joiner), C. Evans (labourer), A. Dallalio (linesman), E. Roberts (chargehand linesman) and E. Lloyd (driver).

Mr. J. T. Evans (joiner) finishing off a job while his mates, Messrs. D. O. Hughes, *left*, and W. R. Bellis, get the "brew" ready in the trailer.

. . . and at Prestatyn

A team from the Construction gang laying a new cable at Prestatyn. They are, from *left to right:* Messrs. I. Hughes, J. Davies, N. S. Davies and P. L. Davies (labourers), J. C. Jones (driver), G. Evans (labourer), T. E. Davies (chargehand), J. Palmer (watchman) and R. Roberts (driver).





THE RHYL SHOP IN BODFOR STREET.

THE PRESTATYN SHOP IN HIGH STREET.



A trio from our Rhyl Shop. *Left to right:* Miss D. Bell (sales assistant), Mr. W. S. Davies (senior sales assistant), and Mrs. M. Harrison (cleaner).

Pretty smiles from Miss A. Proctor (sales assistant), *left*, and Mrs. M. Owen (part-time sales assistant) at our Prestatyn Shop.



MANWEB SHOPS in CLWYD DISTRICT



At our Mold Shop we have, from *left to right:* Miss M. Burdis (sales assistant), Mr. A. Burdett (senior sales assistant) and Mrs. S. Wills (sales assistant).



THE FLINT SHOP AT 8 CHESTER STREET.



Welcome smiles greet you at our Flint Shop. Mrs. R. Davies (sales assistant) *left*, with Miss G. Parry (senior sales assistant).

THE MOLD SHOP AT 26 HIGH STREET



THE RUTHIN SHOP IN CLWYD STREET.

Our man in Ruthin is Mr. P. Morton (senior sales assistant).





Left: The ladies of Abbey House. Left to right: Miss M. Bannister (typist), Miss E. Hughes (clerk), Miss J. M. Roberts (clerk), Miss C. A. Price (shorthand typist) and Mrs. B. Chapman (typist).



And the men! Left to right: Messrs. R. Lewis (District Senior Clerk), R. E. Jarvis (clerical assistant), I. L. Evans (section engineer), A. Thompson (sales representative) and E. P. Williams (clerical assistant).

Staff at Abbey House and Vale Road RHYL



Below: The mini-van loaded and now all set for the next cookery demonstration. Miss D. Evans (trainee demonstrator), left, with Miss E. A. Roberts (sales demonstrator).



The office staff at Vale Road. Left to right, ladies first: Miss P. Savage (clerk), Miss M. Butler (telephone operator), Miss J. Lewis (typist), Mrs. J. Brown (typist) and Miss W. Chapman (clerk). Back row: Messrs. M. Bellis (clerk), J. I. Green (section engineer), J. R. Jones (clerk), A. Williams (clerk), J. Bellamy (assistant section engineer) and A. H. Spargo (clerical assistant).



Mr. W. N. Shires (Area 4 Commercial Officer) addresses members of the sales staff in Clwyd District at a Conference held in Prestatyn recently. Also in the picture, from left to right, Mr. R. Stewart (Second Assistant Commercial Engineer, Area 4), Mr. G. Bowers (District Commercial Engineer, Clwyd), Mr. L. V. Taylor (District Manager, Clwyd) and Mr. W. H. L. Walton (Principal Assistant, Sales Area 4).

Clwyd District Sales Conference

Members of the Clwyd District Commercial staff who gave up their evening to attend the Sales Conference.



Youth Get-together

by *Mr. I. D. Unsworth

Sonnenberg is a very small German village about 12 kilometres from the East German border. Travelling by road from Sonnenberg towards the border, one comes upon the 'Internationale Haus' suddenly, half hidden among the pine trees. It is to this centre that youth representatives come from many countries to discuss current world problems and to increase international understanding.

This summer, I was lucky enough to be invited to attend one of these conferences. The journey from Liverpool took approximately 28 hours, mostly by rail and boat, but culminating in an exhilarating bus ride through the Harz Mountains where the house is situated at a height of some 2,500 feet.

At the official reception, each national group was asked to choose a spokesman. Seven countries were taking part in this conference—West Germany, Denmark, Poland, Finland, Ghana and the United States as well as Great Britain—and a representative of each made a short speech of welcome before the conference began in earnest.

During the next 10 days, we heard nine lectures, each one followed by a discussion, all broadly based on the main theme of the conference 'Aspects of co-operation between developing countries and industrial nations', special consideration being given to the situations in Africa, Latin America and Greenland. We could not hope, of course, to put the world right by ourselves, merely by discussing the problems, but we did receive a more balanced and unbiased outlook on them, raising the hope of solutions to them being found in the future.

All was not serious work, however, and with the World Cup tournament still fresh in everybody's minds, what could be more natural than that we should organize an inter-nation football contest. All entrants spent one morning cutting and marking out the pitch (I bet Ray Wilson and Roger Hunt didn't have to do *that* at Wembley!!!) and then, I am pleased to report, England won the title by defeating West Germany 4-0.

The conference programme included a brief history of the Harz district, and later a coach tour gave us all the opportunity of exploring local places of historical interest, new industrial developments and engineering achievements, such as the new dam for the hydro-electric system, and of course the East German border itself.

Our 10-day stay came all too soon to an end and, at the farewell party, everyone expressed their enjoyment and appreciation of the conference. We departed for England, having promised faithfully to keep in touch with all the friends we made at Sonnenberg. And that is an awful lot of letters!!

**(Mr. Unsworth Technical Staff trainee, is now at Salford Royal College of Advanced Technology—in his first year of an Honours degree in Engineering.)*

FARM FILM

A new colour film produced by the Electricity Council shows how automatic and mechanical methods are helping to improve productivity on 40 different dairy farms in England and Wales.

The new film, "The Power and the Profit", covers large and small holdings and was made under working conditions on farms with herds of from 40 to 150 cows, in widely varying climatic conditions and with various husbandry systems.

In an introduction, Mr. W. R. Trehane, Chairman of the Milk Marketing Board, states three essential factors for maintaining the profitability of milk production: good grass, good cows and good management. From there the film develops an explanation of electro-agricultural techniques being used on dairy farms.

Various methods of producing and feeding good quality forage are portrayed. They cover conservation by in-barn drying and sealed towers to mechanised systems of stock feeding.

On-the-farm grain drying and processing for livestock rations—for both small and large producers—covers equipment for a basic system up to fully automated layouts.

The film then deals with housing and husbandry systems for reducing calf losses and shows how electrical equipment can save time and enable skilled labour to be used to maximum effect. Electric water heating, frost protection and dairy hygiene methods are also covered.

"The Power and the Profit" was produced for the EDA Division of the Electricity Council by the West of England Film Unit. It is in Technicolour and it runs for 25 minutes. Copies (16 m.m.) are available on free loan on application to EDA Division, The Electricity Council, Trafalgar Buildings, 1 Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.

MANWEB GAZETTE

Welcome to . . . the following employees:

Head Office: Miss A. Holmes (trainee vari-type operator), Mr. J. Mitchell (senior systems analyst, computer projects).

Area 1 Office: Mrs. E. J. Biggins (machine operator), Miss S. Edwards, Miss V. J. Jennings, Miss J. Livingston, Miss F. J. McRae, Miss A. Nicholls, Miss E. A. Nugent, Miss S. O'Reilly, Miss E. Roodcroft (clerks), Messrs. J. Balfour (meter reader/collector), R. A. Bipsham (postal messenger), J. M. Boardman, R. Cooper (trainee accountants), B. J. Cowan (meter reader/collector), J. Danby (postal messenger), J. B. Drucker, N. A. Duncan (trainee accountants), W. J. Dunn (watchman), A. Gardner (postal messenger), G. T. Houghton (3rd assistant commercial engineer), B. M. Jackson (messenger), N. Jacobs (clerk), S. J. Jones (meter reader/collector) W. E. Jones (labourer), J. Kneen, R. G. Lawton (postal messengers), R. Martin (senior assistant, Revenue), E. T. McAlinden (messenger), D. McDonald (clerk), A. Medway (watchman), S. H. Quayle, K. Rushton (meter reader/collectors), A. Sweeney (watchman), and D. Thompson (labourer). **Central District:** Messrs. A. Cox (electrician), G. B. Deakin, J. Drew, A. Eves (labourers) P. A. England (clerk), J. Fenlon, M. French, J. J. Green, W. Hennigan, A. Hurst (labourers), J. Ingram (clerk), G. James, G. Jones (labourers), E. Kennedy (electrician), D. Law (labourer), T. P. McGannon (clerk), D. Merrill, K. Rimmer, G. Rogers, J. Stretch, J. J. Taylor, W. Taylor (labourers), A. Turner (clerk), J. A., Yarker (general assistant engineer). **North District:** Miss J. V. Bowles (copy typist), Messrs. W. J. Corbett, W. A. Disley, J. Duffy (labourers), R. Emsley (clerk), A. Fitzpatrick, J. Hart, A. Howard, D. Lea, A. Roberts (labourers), G. C. Roberts (trainee salesman), J. Scoullar, J. P. Traynor (labourers). **South District:** Mrs. K. McGuinness, Mrs. C. Plumbley (part-time cleaners), Mrs. J. Robinson (canteen assistant), Messrs. G. W. Beattie (trainee salesman), R. A. Lomax (general assistant engineer), R. P. McDonough (electrician), A. Sandells (general assistant engineer), T. A. Smith (assistant consumers engineer), J. J. Young (Electrician). **Southport District:** Miss V. Roberts (clerk telephonist), Messrs. D. Danhay, R. Hodge, J. A. Newton, W. Rimmer (labourers).

Area 2/3 Office: Miss L. Clowes, Miss P. J. Ethridge, Miss C. M. George (junior clerks), Mrs. C. J. Gifford (clerk), Miss M. O. Green, Miss S. N. Griffiths, Miss E. M. Jones, Miss K. A. Jones, Miss L. Malkin, Miss C. Poynton, Miss J. A. Ratcliffe, Miss C. Roberts (junior clerks), Mrs. J. A. Vennard, Mrs. C. F. Whittaker (clerks), Messrs. D. M. Allan, P. M. Eckles, D. Handley, I. W. Hewitt, P. A. Lawrence (junior clerks), M. H. Oakes (drawing office assistant), S. J. Strong (junior clerk), T. W. Holme (labourer/caretaker). **St. Helens District:** Messrs. J. E. Crouch, J. Devlin, K. Johnson, T. McGonigle. **Warrington District:** Miss J. R. Dixon (shorthand typist), Mr. J. Gannon (trainee store-keeper). **Runcorn District:** Mrs. M. Furnival (office cleaner), Messrs. P. Cartledge, J. French, T. R. Heath, T. Kay (labourers). **Northwich District:** Mrs. H. M. Moores (part-time cleaner), Messrs. J. Cook (trainee salesman), J. W. Finn, K. J. Forster

(labourers). **Chester District:** Messrs. B. H. Coley (labourer), R. F. Dod (meter reader), A. B. Jones (trainee salesman), P. Jones (labourer), J. B. Lawson (messenger), K. Udall (junior clerk), P. J. Watson (electrician). **North Wirral District:** Mrs. E. Kendrick (cleaner), Mrs. E. Rooney (office cleaner), Miss P. M. Rowland (junior clerk), Miss A. M. Vine (clerk), Messrs. W. O. Cox (transport driver), H. J. Sharrock (assistant section engineer).

Area 4 Office: Miss S. M. Banks (junior clerk), Miss A. M. Brown, Miss S. Carr (clerks), Miss G. Clayton, Miss L. J. Coles, Miss A. L. Edwards, Miss G. C. Griffiths (junior clerks), Miss K. M. Griffiths (machine operator), Mrs. D. A. Harding, Miss A. L. Horne (clerks), Miss C. M. Jarvis, Miss E. Jones (junior clerks), Miss E. O. M. Jones, Mrs. G. E. Jones, Miss S. Luckett (clerks), Miss S. E. Oldland (junior clerk), Mrs. G. J. Owen, Mrs. H. D. Parslow (clerks), Mrs. E. M. Rowlands (telephone operator), Mrs. M. L. Shaw (clerk), Miss C. Williams, Miss J. P. Williams (junior clerks), Miss P. Williams, Miss S. M. Williams, Mrs. Y. M. R. Williams, Miss G. Young (clerks), Messrs. M. J. Blackshaw (drawing office assistant), B. G. Jones (clerk), K. T. Jones (junior clerk), D. G. Scott (clerk), P. J. Scott (drawing office assistant), C. Trow (clerk). **Crewe District:** Messrs. N. Bebbington (labourer), B. Lewis (jointer e.h.t.), G. Parker, D. G. Sadler (labourers). **Wrexham District:** Miss R. A. Williams (typist), Mr. M. Conlin (labourer). **Oswestry District:** Mr. C. J. Baker (junior clerk). **Clwyd District:** Mr. H. O. Evans (assistant section engineer). **Caernarvon District:** Messrs. F. Owen (junior clerk), L. Roberts (records draughtsman). **Anglesey District:** Miss G. I. Moore (trainee saleswoman), Mr. O. J. Williams (trainee salesman). **Aberystwyth District:** Mrs. C. J. Jukes (sales demonstrator).

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

Area 1 Office: Messrs. M. Connor (assistant, Revenue), T. W. Jones (senior assistant, Estates and Wayleaves), R. Mallon (senior assistant, Orders and Records). **Central District:** Messrs. W. Boyd, J. Hughes, P. Pearson (jointers' mates), J. Poulson (mains foreman). **North District:** Messrs. D. J. Case (assistant section engineer), R. Hardaker, T. McEvoy, B. J. Robinson, R. W. Wilson (jointers' mates). **South District:** Mr. C. S. Evans (shop supervisor).

Area 2/3 Offices: Mrs. M. P. R. Shone (assistant supervisor, punch cards). **St. Helens District:** Mr. E. Cunningham (senior salesman). **Warrington District:** Mr. L. Elson (electrician). **Runcorn District:** Mr. J. Clarke (linesman). **Northwich District:** Messrs. R. W. Cooke, A. J. McDermott (electricians). **Chester District:** Messrs. E. Ashley, D. Price (jointers). **North Wirral District:** Messrs. K. W. Hardcastle (section engineer), W. J. Horton (jointers mate), L. H. Smith (chargehand electrician), H. B. Stanley (chargehand fitter, mechanical).

Area 4 Office: Miss P. J. Hall (assistant, Revenue), Miss G. P. Pemberton (machine operator, Class 1), Messrs. G. P. Edwards (assistant, Revenue), T. R. R. George (records draughtsman), D. Jones (assistant, Salaries and Wages), H. Phillips, R. C. Roberts (assistants, Estates and Wayleaves). *Crewe*

(Continued overleaf.)