

Mr. D. B. Wood

J

CONTACT

October
1969

UP THE POLE!
(See page 232)



WEDDINGS

JONES—BRADDICK

Congratulations to Mr. Roger Jones, a records draughtsman at



Mr. & Mrs. Jones
Sandiway House and Miss Jean Mary Braddick, on their marriage which took place at St. Mary's Church, Shrewsbury, a short time ago.

WILLIAMS—WILLIAMS

The name remained the same for Miss Anita Williams when

she married Mr. T. W. Williams at Tudweiliog Church a few weeks ago.

Mr. Williams is an assistant section engineer based at Pwllheli.

JONES—GRIFFITHS

Best wishes for the future to Mr. W. W. Jones, an electrician at Pwllheli and Miss Megan Griffiths of Chwjllog, who were married recently.

ENGAGEMENT

Our congratulations go to Mr. F. (Rick) Jones, a clerk in the Commercial section at Lister Drive and his fiancée, Miss Antoinette Dacosta Greaves of Liverpool.

FAREWELL

Farewell gifts were handed to Mrs. Diana M. Hughes, a senior shop assistant at Pwllheli when she recently left the Board after 14 years' service.

BREAD AND MILK

A few weeks ago, a contractor excavating in the Fazakerley area of Liverpool accidentally damaged the 11,000-volt cable connecting a bakery and a milk bottling factory, thus jeopardising the bread and milk supplies for many Liverpudlians.

However, thanks to MANWEB'S interconnected high-voltage system, the damaged cable was immediately and automatically switched out and electricity supply was maintained from other feeders.

And all this without anyone knowing—that is with the exception of our substation attendant at Kirkby Grid Control, who when he received the fault alarm signal, reported the fault by VHF radio to engineers who were quickly on the scene ready to repair the damaged cable.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN SESSION

There are eighteen Local Advisory Committees throughout the Board's area, and each Committee meets every two months to discuss a wide range of topics relating to safety, welfare, education and training, efficiency and other matters of mutual interest to management and staff. The picture we show here is of the No. 15 L.A.C. (covering the Conway Valley District) under the Chairmanship of Mr. T. A. Maguire (*District Engineer*). The members are, from left to right: Messrs. A. E. Dobson, A. Kidd, K. Helliwell, F. Littler, B. G. Baxter, G. D. Cooksley and T. A. Maguire, Mrs. B. Duckinfield, Messrs. W. Hughes, R. Collinson, N. K. Slatter and R. Williams, Mrs. E. Williams and Mr. J. S. Evans.





THE STAFF MAGAZINE OF THE MERSEYSIDE
AND NORTH WALES ELECTRICITY BOARD

CONTACT

Vol. 21 No. 10

OCTOBER 1969

EDITORIAL

Taking an Interest

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Editorial staff—

Keith Baldwin
John F. Perry
Sam Doughty

WHEN the Annual Reports and Accounts for the electricity supply industry covering 1968/69 were published recently, leaders of our industry took the opportunity to note that the Reports marked the end of 21 years of achievement and expansion.

Considerable reference was made to our industry's tremendous successes over that period, in every field of commercial and engineering activity.

Tasks of this magnitude are not tackled successfully, however, purely as a result of economic accident, and one of the most important factors contributing to electricity's success story has undoubtedly been the high degree of harmony which has prevailed over the years in the field of industrial relations.

We who earn our living in electricity are fortunate to work for an industry having consultative machinery which is second to none in Britain. Through the various Advisory Committees, at all levels, matters of interest both large and small are discussed by representatives of staff and management in an atmosphere of friendly co-operation, and much potential misunderstanding is avoided as a result.

The representatives who look after our interests on the Advisory Committees can find themselves with responsibilities which can be either rewarding or thankless, depending largely on the appreciation and understanding shown by those they represent. They are deserving of both thanks and appreciation for the work they do.

During the next few months the annual series of employees' conferences will be held up and down the MANWEB Area. Attendance at these conferences, and an intelligent interest in their proceedings, represent another way of recognising the efforts of those who do so much work behind the scenes during the whole year to ensure that our advisory machinery serves the purpose for which it was designed.

STUDENT ENGINEERS on Course at Hoylake

New Instructor takes over



▲
On the high ladder is Mr. Malcolm Clowes of Chester, making m.v. connections to a pole transformer while working below, checking an m.v. fuse, is Mr. John Bridson of Liverpool North District.



Many hands engaged in the job of erecting a strut to a medium voltage pole as senior instructor Mr. J. Whittaker (in white coat) checks that all things are being done in order. Up the pole we have, Mr. Howard Jones (North Wirral) left, and Mr. Charles Lynch (Clwyd), while among those supporting the strut is Mr. Simon Adam (facing camera) an overseas trainee engineer.

OUR COVER PICTURE

shows Mr. Elwyn Roberts of Wrexham District, left, and Mr. John Ford of North Wirral, making off the binders on a medium voltage pole.



Earthing a transformer mounted on an "H" pole as Mr. Philip Shaw of Crewe (top) and Mr. Tony Broadhurst of Warrington.

After serving his time as an electrician, Mr. Jack Whittaker did his National Service with the South Staffordshire Regiment, spending about 18 months in Hong Kong. Jack joined the Board 17 years ago as a labourer working from our New Crane Street depot in Chester. He was soon promoted to linesman's mate and then to linesman. In 1961 he became a chargehand linesman and held this job until he went to Hoylake to succeed Mr. George Gidman as senior assistant instructor at the overhead lines school. Jack, who lives in Chester, has been married for the past eight years. He is a keen snooker player and enjoys (sometimes) watching his favourite football team—Everton.



Successful 21st Year reported at Press Conference

AT a Press Conference held recently in a Liverpool hotel, senior members of the Board's staff met members of the press to present the MANWEB Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

Our Chairman, Mr. Denis Dodds, made the following statement at the Conference.

"MANWEB has now come of age. This is the 21st year of our existence and it is worth contrasting the past with the present. Our consumers have increased from 660,000 to over one million, 99.5% of farms and rural premises have been given a supply of electricity, our network has increased from about 9,000 miles to over 22,000 miles, the use of electricity in homes and industry has increased fivefold and our gross capital invested in fixed assets has risen from £25m. to £142m.

"All this represents a gradual but striking revolution in standards of living and in the productive efficiency of industries upon which the living standards of the people in Merseyside and North Wales depend.

"This work has been done, but has it been done efficiently? Consumers will tend to answer this question in the light of their own experience with our local people—people who do their utmost to satisfy all reasonable requests.

"In general terms, however, this can be said. Security of supplies has never been better, the annual load factor on the system (a measure of the effective use of capital) has increased from 50% to 60%, the number of employees per consumer (a rough measure of productivity) has been reduced by 25%, and overall distribution costs for each unit sold have been reduced by 20%. This reduction in costs is calculated in cash terms and makes no allowance for the fall in value of money. In real terms, the reduction is accordingly much greater.

"These factors, coupled with the major technical innovations of the Generating Board, have undoubtedly cushioned the impact of price



MANWEB Chairman, Mr. D. G. Dodds, right, chats to Board Member and Chairman of the Consultative Council, Mr. H. Evans during the recent press conference.

increases arising from the currency inflation which afflicts us all. The Retail Price Index measures this inflation since 1948 at 120%. In the same period average electricity prices in MANWEB have risen by 57%.

"Allowing for the deterioration in money values, the average price of electricity is accordingly lower in real terms, than in 1948.

"It is gratifying that our 21st anniversary should be marked by a record trading profit of over £3m., including a profit of £534,000 from Appliance Sales and Contracting. This profit has been ploughed back into the expansion of the network and helped us to finance from our own resources, nearly 80% of our capital requirements in 1968/69. The trading surplus, at a time of exceptionally high interest rates, has saved the Industry a continuing interest charge of some £250,000 per annum ultimately for the benefit of consumers.

Sales of Energy

"These satisfactory trading results are due in the first place to an expansion of 7.6% in sales of energy. Within this figure it may be noted with satisfaction, that sales to industry took the major share with an increase of 8.9%. This reflects a welcome expansion in industrial production throughout the Area after a relatively stagnant period. They are due, in the second place, to a combination of strict appraisal of capital expenditure, a reduction of 5% in the number of employees, and to a substantial increase of nearly £180,000 net profit from the sale of appliances and electrical contracting.

"No increases in tariffs were necessary during the year.

The Electricity Supply Industry—which has never been in deficit in any year since vesting day in 1948—made a record profit of £100,600,000 in this its 21st year. The accumulated surpluses in this time amount to £718-million all of which has been ploughed back into the industry so as to reduce borrowings and help keep the price of electricity down.



The camera
distracts
Mr. Ron Clare
(*Daily
Telegraph*),
right, as he
chats with
Mr. M. M.
Parker
(*Secretary and
Solicitor*).

"The Report deals in outline with some further measures of reorganisation designed to optimise the use of our resources and to facilitate the use of modern management techniques. The integration of work, at present carried out in Head Office and three separate management areas, in the new Centre at Chester will secure significant savings in revenue costs. It has been decided, in addition, to reduce the number of operating Districts ultimately from 18 to 10.

"These changes will naturally take some time to bring about, but when complete, will result in a more streamlined, effective and responsive organisation than that which has served us for over twenty years, but which has become outmoded in terms of modern management techniques. The first stage of implementation will be the movement of Head Office to the new building at Chester, in all probability before the end of the present calendar year.

"Last year I said that the prospects for electricity consumers in the 1970s were likely to be brighter than in the 1960s, provided that the Supply industry could be relieved of its artificial support to the Coal Industry, that inflation could be contained and that reasonable financial targets are set by the Government.

"I see no reason to modify that view today, although references to the possibility of a general increase in the price of coal, in addition to that



Mr. Nigel
Hancock of the
*Liverpool
Daily Post*.

recently announced for the East Midlands coalfield (which affects MANWEB), are disturbing. The new financial targets announced by the Government yesterday, though slightly higher than those previously set, are the same for Gas and Electricity and are not excessive. The targets for individual Area Boards have, however, not yet been determined.

"The occasional setbacks inseparable from the development of new and complex technologies should not be interpreted as reversals of the tide of change. In the 1970s we shall certainly experience the benefits not only of the large high-efficiency coal-fired stations but also of the new economically competitive nuclear stations. In addition freed from special restraints we could quite rapidly reduce production costs by the extended use of natural gas or oil in place of coal.

"In the face of these considerations, any further increase in the price of coal to power stations would seem to be indefensible.

"Provided, therefore, that inflation is contained and external interests do not impede us, the cost of producing electricity should decline.

"Three or four Area Boards indeed may indicate today that they intend to make limited reductions in certain of their prices. These reductions will apply to some industrial consumers in the Boards concerned and possibly to domestic consumers where the price at present exceeds our own price.



Deep in discussion we see,
from left to right: Mr. D. G.
Gwyn (*Deputy Chairman*),
Mr. K. Baldwin (*Information
Officer*), Mr. Patrick Stenson
(*Radio Merseyside reporter*)
and Mr. A. P. Whyte (*Chief
Accountant*).

Following the main press conference in Liverpool and the local conferences and statements issued from the Districts, national and local newspapers told the MANWEB success story under headlines such as these . . .

**More People Go Electric
MANWEB BREAKS NEW RECORDS**

**Bigger Demand for Electricity
MANWEB sales still rising
It's a very happy 21st for MANWEB
Boom time at MANWEB**

**Bigger things are Electric
MANWEB Prepare for the Future
Homes Use More Electricity
MANWEB'S Busy Year
Record Year for MANWEB
MANWEB can deal 'with all demands'**

"MANWEB in common with the majority of Boards, does not propose to indicate any reduction of prices at the present time but I can assure our consumers that no adverse price changes in our published tariffs are in contemplation at present and that the average price per unit paid by them is already materially below the average for the country as a whole. In the case of industrial consumers this is significantly so even when allowance is made for particularly large supplies.

"This satisfactory relationship has been made possible by specific management action in the monitoring of capital and revenue costs and by a marketing policy designed to optimise the use of generation and distribution resources. Our healthy surplus this year was earned despite the fact that the margin between our average buying and selling prices per unit of electricity was the lowest of all Boards earning a surplus in the year.

"Future prices cannot of course be predicted with any certainty but, subject to the conditions I have described, the trend of production costs should certainly be downward during the next decade and this is likely in the medium term to affect different Boards and different consumer classes as time goes on, varying in degree with the actual costs of supply. The financial targets to be set for individual Boards in the next quinquennium will influence the extent to which this process influences retail prices.

"Finally I should like to mention one probable change in tariff structure which will have no adverse effect on existing consumers. We have been successful with our off-peak sales for electric central heating—35,000 MANWEB consumers enjoy this service. The majority of these sales have been made on tariffs containing an afternoon boost period and the point has now been reached when the load in these periods is similar to that met at the traditional peak times in the morning and early evening. To avoid the need for additional generating plant to meet an afternoon peak induced in this way, all Area Boards will shortly be considering with their Consultative Councils the need for ceasing to offer any off-peak tariffs with an afternoon boost, to new consumers after 1st April, 1970. Existing consumers will, however, be entitled, if they so wish, to continue on the present tariff.

"We shall continue, of course, to offer our White Meter Tariff and our night-time off-peak tariff. The new high capacity storage equipment and in particular the high capacity storage radiators, designed for use on these tariffs already constitute the bulk of our new sales and we anticipate that the demand for models requiring an afternoon boost will have dropped in any event, to insignificant proportions within the next few weeks."

A final shot taken at the press conference, shows, from left to right: Mr. Les Clare (*Daily Express*), Mr. Stan Pope (*Daily Express*, photographer) and Mr. M. R. Cowan (Chief Commercial Officer).



SAFE DRIVERS AT SOUTHPORT

Some members of our Southport District staff received their Safe Driving Awards recently, the presentations being made by Mr. H. Telfer (Manager, Area 1).

After offering his congratulations, Mr. Telfer said how pleased he was to see so many people gaining an award especially with the very difficult driving conditions which prevailed today.

He also had a word of praise for the men who maintained the fleet of vehicles to keep them roadworthy and safe.

The Awards were as follows:

Bar to 20-Year Medal:

Mr. P. Moore.

Bar to 15-Year Brooch:

Mr. J. H. Hampton.

Bar to 10-Year Medal:

Mr. T. H. Hodge.

Bar to 5-Year Medal: Messrs. E. H. Berry, E. Brimelow, H. Reynolds, K. Sproat and J. Wright.

ENGINEER ELECTED

Following a by-election at Acton Bridge (near Northwich) a few weeks ago, Mr. John Fareham (Engineer, Area 2/3) was elected to represent the parish on Northwich Rural District Council.

The man he defeated had been a parish councillor for 42 years.



Who will be
"The Girl from
MANWEB 1970"

?

There is still time to
enter:

Closing date is
November 22nd
Hurry! Hurry!!
Hurry!!!

OBITUARY

Mr. F. PEEL

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Frank Peel, formerly a senior assistant in Establishments at Area 4 Office. He retired in 1964.

Frank is perhaps best remembered as Secretary to the Area 4 Local Advisory Committees which he administered for many years. He distinguished himself as the author of an article on Joint Consultation in North Wales. His craftsmanship too will also be remembered by his scale model of a 33,000-volt substation compound, which, after many years at Rhostyllen, now occupies a prominent position in the Board's Apprentice Training School at Hoylake.

Mr. W. ASHALL

After collapsing at his work as a labourer with the Board in Southport District, Mr. Walter Ashall died later in Southport Infirmary.

Walter, who was 51, will be sadly missed by his friends in the District.

Mr. H. BENBOW

It is with deep regret that we record the death of one of our pensioners, Mr. Harold Benbow a former foreman meter reader in our Northwich District.

Mr. Benbow, who retired in 1957 had suffered a long illness prior to his death.

Mr. C. S. STUBBS

We regret to record the sudden death of Mr. Cyril Sutton Stubbs, who for the past 15 years has been the caretaker and gardener at Sandiway House.

Formerly in business as a market gardener Mr. Stubbs was often called upon to judge at local shows.

We offer our sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

All-Electric House On Show

Commercial staff in our Liverpool South District recently made an excellent job of fitting out an "All Electric Show House" on the Woodlands estate, Halewood.

It is now hoped that most of the prospective buyers of the 500 homes to be built on the estate will go "All Electric" after seeing the show house.



Tucked neatly away under the stairs, which lead off the lounge, is a six kilowatt "Constor" heater which provides comfortable background warmth to the whole house.

Mrs. D. Anderson will be 'on site' daily to help persuade customers to buy a Gale all-electric home. Gathered round her are, from left to right: Messrs. J. Liggett (assistant consumers' engineer), M. Clayton (assistant consumers' engineer), R. A. Schollick (District Sales Supervisor) and J. A. Cheers (1st assistant District Commercial Engineer). If she attracts buyers like she seems to be attracting our Men from MANWEB, she should do well!

On the day the show house was opened, MANWEB officials discuss the merits of going all-electric with three of the Directors of the building company Messrs. W. A. Gale Ltd. From left to right: Messrs. D. S. Webb Jones (Senior Assistant Commercial Engineer, Area 1), J. Brown, W. Wallwork (Commercial Officer, Area 1), S. Smith and J. W. Davies.



MANWEB's "all-electric" show house on the Woodlands Estate, Liverpool.



HOYLAKE

Introduction to



A dozen men gathered at the Hoylake Jointing School recently to work on 33,000-volt cable jointing for the first time. The course extended over a four week period under the expert guidance of Mr. Geoff Parry (*senior instructor*) and Mr. Sam Duckers (*assistant instructor*).

Deep concentration shows on the faces of Mr. Ted Beach (jointer's mate), *left*, and Mr. Les Purcell (jointer) both from Whitchurch, as they work on a 33 kV straight joint.



From Liverpool South District we have Mr. Arthur Fitzsimmons (jointer) *left*, and Mr. Dennis Smith (jointer's mate), busily engaged in wiping a gland on an H.S.L. cable prior to jointing.



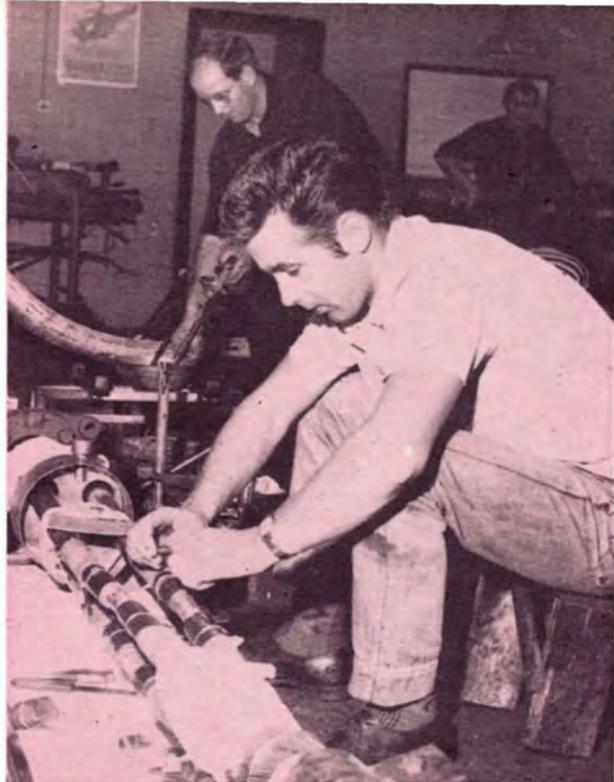
Mr. Charles Wood (jointer's mate) *left*, steadies the "H" type cable as Mr. Tommy York (jointer) slides on a sleeve. When not at the Training School, these men work as a team in the St. Helens District.

JOINTERS

to 33,000 volts

The groups shown on this page were doing test joints—taking into account jointing standards and the time factor on the job. By mid-day, when these pictures were taken, each team had reached an advanced stage with the work well up to standard.

A close-up shot shows Mr. Bill Mills (fitter jointer) papering down a core insulation on a 33 kV straight joint. Working in the background is Mr. J. W. Leadbeater (jointer's mate). Both men are based at Runcorn.



Cleaning off the ferrules on a 33 kV straight joint are Mr. Bob Lee (jointer) *left*, of Southport District assisted by Mr. John Ford, a student engineer from Head Office.



Another team, getting down to it, as they too work at cleaning off ferrules on a 33 kV joint. *On the left* is Mr. Pat Keogh (jointer) and *on the right*, Mr. Mike Cole (jointer's mate), both from North Wirral District.



REPORT ON YOUTH

Award Winner

It never rains but it pours—so the saying goes, and to prove the truth of this, in August we published a feature about David Booth, a young student engineer who had earned an Honours Award from the Warden of the West Highland School of Adventure. To receive such an award was very rare indeed—so we said!

Now we have been informed that another member of our staff David Mansfield, aged 19, an apprentice electrical fitter based at Marsh Lane has also earned an Honours Award at the same school.

His report says that he led his Watch forcefully and effectively and that he displayed shrewd and capable powers of reasoning.

He proved to be very determined to complete everything to a high level of success as he

wholeheartedly threw himself into the Course and produced answers to every challenge.

He showed that he was very adaptable and acute, being able to absorb many points of view in making his own decisions.

David was full of physical courage and most convincing moral courage, and he openly

showed tremendous satisfaction from the achievements his Watch produced.

He was confident, cheerful and hard working and enthusiastic. He pushed himself at every activity to the limit and was a good organiser and leader and absolutely trustworthy when in charge.

There was not a student on the Course who did not most generously applaud when he was announced as the Outstanding Student.



PASSED

Two members of our Accounts staff received good news recently when Mr. J. P. Williams an assistant in the Costs Section at Derby House, Liverpool, was informed that he had passed Part 4 of the Institute of Costs and Works Accountants examination and Mr. A. Halliday, clerk—Financial, had passed Part 1 of the same examination.

Miss 18 Plus

Newly-elected "Miss 18-Plus" at Northwich is civil servant Miss Laura Anderson, aged 19, who is employed at the town's Ministry of Social Security.

An eye-catching 34-25-34, blonde-haired, grey-eyed Laura, is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Anderson

—Arthur being a member of the Board's staff at Area 2/3.

Laura herself once worked as a clerk with MANWEB at Sandiway House.

Educated at Northwich Girls' Grammar School, Laura is enthusiastically and actively interested in work for the amateur stage.



TWENTY POUNDS GIFT

A cheque for £20, part of the proceeds from a show given by our Area 4 Glee Club earlier this year, was presented to the Children's Party Committee. Our picture shows Mr. Ken Edwards, Chairman of the Committee, right, receiving the cheque from Mr. Hubert Evans, Treasurer of the Glee Club.



'AT HOME' to the Domestic Science Teachers from Liverpool Schools

As part of the Board's service to education, Area 1 held their first of the season's "At Home", in the Development Centre, Paradise Street, a few weeks ago.

Over 150 people attended, mostly domestic science teachers from Liverpool schools, and they listened to talks on the "White Meter" and on vending machines. A demonstration of the S.E.B. Deep Fry equipment was also given.

In the centre of the front row is Miss D. M. Matthews (Home Economics Adviser Liverpool Corporation).

Reporter Miss Pat Lowry of the Daily Post gets her story from Mr. Steve Airey.



Deux Mesdemoiselles de MANWEB—Miss Gwenda Jones (demonstrator), left, with Miss Ann Semple (senior demonstrator).



Some of the 150 domestic science schoolteachers from the Liverpool area who attended the "At Home" staged by Area 1 at Paradise Street.

FIRST COMPETITION WINNER



In the first *Electricity in the Kitchen* competition, which featured deep freeze appliances, Mrs. Lila Bowes of Liverpool, was the outright winner, and she is seen here, on the left, receiving her prize, a home freezer unit, from Miss Ann Semple, our "Girl from MANWEB". In this, the first of three competitions run by the *Liverpool Daily Post* in which MANWEB are co-operating, a total of 37,000 entries were received—a record for a *Daily Post* competition over the last few years.

Coming for a 'warm' dip?

Methods of heating swimming pools electrically are discussed in detail in a new Electricity Council brochure, "Below the Surface", which was published to coincide with the annual conference of the Institute of Baths Management held recently in Torquay.

The brochure explains how low-cost off-peak tariffs, some with particular consideration for summertime consumption, are now available to complement electricity's undoubtedly low capital installation and maintenance costs.

Small pools of up to 60,000 gallons are heated with flow heaters, similar in principle to domestic water immersion heaters, but installed in a compact flow chamber, through which the pool water is constantly circulated. Electrode boilers, which also make full use of cheap tariffs, are used to

heat the larger pools through intermediary heat exchangers. The publication stresses the ease of management and economies in staffing made possible by automatic controls.

Not least is the amenity value of all-electric pools. Because they require neither fuel stores nor tall industrial chimneys they can be sited even in residential areas and still be aesthetically acceptable.

"Below the Surface" is available from Electricity Boards or direct from the Electricity Council, Marketing Department, 1 Charing Cross, London, S.W.1. Single copies are free.

NEW— MANWEB BRAND VACUUM CLEANER

*Powerful

*Strongly constructed yet light enough for easy handling and well balanced.

Special FIBRE dustbag

Lets through air yet holds back dust.

Beater Bar and Brush

Combined action gets down to the dirt and grit.

Foot Switch

No bending or stooping

Adjustable Handle

For all cleaning jobs—high or low.

AVAILABLE NOW
only 26 guineas retail
(Tools extra)



GOOD CLUBMEN

Golfers from our Southport District have been hitting the news columns recently with team wins in the Merseyside Golf Tournament and individual successes in the Electrical Industries National Golf Championships.

Twenty-six local business houses competed for the Merseyside Golf Trophy in matches played at the Leasowe golf course. The Men from MANWEB won the day with a score of 134 points, eleven ahead of their nearest rivals. Equal first for the best individual score was our own **Mike Baker** with 37 points, with **Ray Pattison** close behind with 34 points.

The Hillside golf course was the venue for this year's Electrical Industries National Golf Championships with 60 competitors taking part. All had qualified in area competitions earlier in the year and the eventual winner, by four strokes, was—**Ray Pattison**.

Following a celebration dinner in the evening, the huge Sir Montague Hughman trophy (*standing over 30 inches high*) was presented to Ray by Sir Stanley Brown, Chairman of the C.E.G.B.

On the same day, **Mike Baker** won a silver candelabra in the Stableford Competition held for visitors.

Both Ray and Mike work as electricians in the Board's Southport District.

The victorious team in this year's Merseyside Golf Tournament. From left to right: Messrs. Mike Baker, Ray Pattison, John Masters, Ken Winrow (*captain*), Cliff Fletcher, Les Rigby and Bill Robinson.



The huge trophy, won by Ray Pattison, *right*, dominates the picture taken when our photographer visited his home recently. The silver candelabra, which seems dwarf size in comparison, was won by Mike Baker, *left*. Adding charm to the photograph is Mrs. Barbara Pattison.

THE BERNIE GREEN TROPHY

The final golf meeting of the Area 2/3 Golf Society was held at the Helsby golf club on September 26th.

It was a Stableford competition held in memory of the late Mr. Bernie Green who was an enthusiastic member of the Society prior to his tragic death some time ago. The Competition, which will now be an annual event, attracted 20 competitors who all had an enjoyable day on the course.

The eventual winner was **Mr. Norman Jones** (35 points) with **Mr. J. S. Ekbery** in second place with 33 points and **Mr. K. Edwards** (32 points) in third place. The trophy was presented to Mr. Jones by **Mr. J. W. Trimble** (Manager, Area 2/3).





The 'Open Forum' panel on the last day of the Course, from left to right: Messrs. L. J. Scudamore (Management Services Officer), F. J. Brown (Chief Engineer), J. S. Ekbery (Assistant Chief Engineer—Operation) and J. Fisher (Deputy Chief Engineer).

MANWEB AT WORK

A group of our senior trainee engineers recently attended at the Wallasey Training Centre for a one-week course with a syllabus covering a wide range of subjects discussed by a number of expert speakers.

The early part of the Course dealt with the engineering side of our industry, then later speakers gave an insight into our Purchasing procedure and the Safety and Transport angles.

Engineering Management and Training proved to be interesting topics and the final day was taken up with talks related to personnel aspects.



THE SPEAKERS

Messrs. F. J. Brown (Chief Engineer), L. T. Broughton (Education & Training), K. L. Edmundson (Planning), J. S. Ekbery (Operation), P. Falcon (Personnel), D. Farquhar (Planning), J. Fisher (Assistant Chief Engineer), J. E. Foster (Operation), W. G. D. Hood (Operation), J. Maxwell (Safety), B. Nield (Technical), H. Park (Transport), E. G. M. Roddan (Plant Supplies), L. J. Scudamore (Management Services), C. Shepherd (Personnel), D. T. Stevenson (Operation) and H. Wilson (Technical).

STUDENTS

Top left: Messrs. A. S. Jones, left, and A. J. Bishop. Centre, from left to right: Messrs. A. F. Whitelock, S. T. Smith, I. D. Parkinson, L. Williams, I. D. Unsworth, K. W. Jarrett and P. Moray. Bottom, from left to right: Messrs. J. V. Turner, A. Elson, D. Wood, P. Frodsham, R. Lee and J. P. Parrish.

TOTALLY ELECTRIC

by M.R.C

A 'bright' future forecast

IN SELLING, the use and choice of words is important but often difficult. Descriptions must be brief but at the same time convey to the reader or listener a clear message.

Many years ago the term "ALL ELECTRIC" was widely used in our industry to embrace all houses that used no gas. Exhortations to go all-electric were intended to expand electric cooker sales, to encourage electric water heating and a more general use of all electrical appliances. An all electric house could well have had coal fires or even an oil-fired central heating system.

Our selling aims were more modest than they are now where we would like every house, office or factory to use electricity to the exclusion of all other fuels. Although this aim could well be described as "all electric", this term has no longer got a completely clear meaning and thus in recent months we have been hearing about "a total electric concept".

You may be wondering—why worry about words when the competition from other fuels is stronger than ever and the possibility of excluding them entirely must surely be a pipe-dream.

Totally Electric Offices

A few words about the new offices we are building at Chester should suffice to prove that the total electric concept is possible and is ready for us to promote and is certainly not a pipe-dream.

The building will be a modern one and will need to be air-conditioned. It will house approximately 1,200 people, plus considerable quantities of electrically powered office equipment, and it will be well lit. The heat put into the main building by the human occupants and by the essential electrical equipment will be sufficient to provide comfortable temperatures during the

day under all severities of weather, without the need for any separate heat source.

The concept will be truly totally electric, providing neither a need, or indeed an opportunity for any other fuel to be seriously considered for inclusion in any such building.

Is this a MANWEB Sales Gimmick?

This is not a sales gimmick but a great sales opportunity. The use of lighting throughout the day in commercial buildings is already commonplace and it is accepted that adequate standards of lighting are essential. Lighting, therefore, already provides a considerable heat source in many buildings. The inclusion of air conditioning in building specifications is common for larger structures and if the architect can be offered a combined lighting and air conditioning scheme which results in saving the entire cost of a heating system, then we can expect an even more ready acceptance of good lighting standards and air conditioning.

This should result in early success for our industry but in any case, the national trend is for an ever increasing use of electrical equipment in offices so that the electrical heat input will continue to grow until the addition of other heating sources becomes unnecessary.

What about Natural GAS?

We have an almost unfair advantage over the gas industry as our product is indispensable. There are no gas computers or lifts and no one would consider a reversion to gas lighting. Even an incredibly low price for gas would not change this picture, but as Britain must exploit natural gas which does not have to be imported, it is relevant to say once again that it can be used to national benefit in the shortest possible time by feeding it to our power stations.

Action!

A total electric concept is possible, foreseeable and almost inevitable in at least some sectors of activity. Our task is to speed up the evolution and bring it about as soon as possible. The starting point for action is to sell better lighting in both new and existing buildings.

Lighting is good load in its own right. In Britain, standards are on the low side and there is much to be gained by the users of better lighting. Lighting creates heat and if we consider an ideal sequence of selling events, we can see the possibilities of selling lighting which will lead to a need to install cooling equipment in due course. This way we can sell three loads at once, namely, lighting, cooling and heating.

Lighting truly offers us a 'Bright' future.



Mr. T. Blackburn (second from right, front row) with a few of his colleagues at New Crane Street on the eve of his retirement. The farewell presentation was made on behalf of the staff by Mr. G. H. O. Speaight the District Commercial Engineer (second from the left, front row).

Mr. T. BLACKBURN

A few weeks ago, staff at our Chester District gathered to give Mr. Thomas Blackburn a good send-off as he went into a well-earned life of retirement.

Starting his working life as an apprentice electrician with a local firm, Tom went to Chester Corporation as a tradesman in 1933. Almost

was presented with a transistor radio from his colleagues and a book—"Modernising Your Home" from the Local Advisory Committee. From this we gather that Tom has not yet really retired from work!

Mr. W. KAY

After serving the electricity supply industry for the past 36 years, Mr. William Kay retired recently. Although affectionately known as "The Silent Man", Billy will be sadly missed by his friends and colleagues in the installation department at Marsh Lane where he worked as an installation inspector.

Members of the staff, led by Mr. Albert Briscoe (*foreman installation inspector*) voiced their tributes to Mr. Kay as a workmate and friend then Mr. D. E. Noad (*District Commercial Engineer*) said that he was glad of the opportunity to pay his respects to such a good servant of the industry.

"Since 1933," said Mr. Noad, "Billy has worked on many jobs, including cooker repairs, general services, contracting and even overhead

RETIREMENTS

immediately he was put 'on loan' to a private firm who had the contract for the assisted wiring scheme in the town.

As a member of the Supplementary Reserve, Tom was one of the first to be called up in 1939 and very soon found himself in France.

On demobilisation in 1945, he returned to Chester Corporation where he worked on property maintenance. After nationalisation, he became a service electrician and was promoted to chargehand in 1960, the job from which he retired.

Before leaving New Crane Street depot, Tom

On the sunny side is Mr. D. E. Noad, the District Commercial Engineer for Liverpool North, seen here wishing a happy retirement to Mr. Billy Kay, as friends from the District installation department also 'get in the picture'.



mains. Prior to this, during the years of the depression, he managed to keep going by working at a number of jobs for many different firms. This gave him much valuable experience so making him a good man to have on the staff."

Mr. Noad went on to say that Billy always passed on hints and advice to the young apprentices who often worked with him, and as a final tribute, he said that all these young men would do well to set their standards by those set by Mr. Billy Kay.

Then, Mr. Noad handed over a cheque from the staff saying that he hoped that Billy would buy some radio or photographic equipment to remember his colleagues as they would remember him.

In reply, Billy said how pleased he was to have reached retirement—at last—but would miss all the football debates!

Mr. I. W. WILLIAMS

The many friends of Mr. Idris Wyn Williams, presented him with a gold pen and a cheque on the occasion of his recent retirement from his job as switchboard attendant at Bangor grid substation. In making the presentation on their behalf, Mr. W. H. Blunt (*section engineer*) wished Idris many years of happy and healthy retirement.

Mr. A. TAYLOR

Earlier this month, Mr. Albert Taylor, a mechanical fitter at our North Wirral District Offices, packed up his tools for the last time as he reached retirement age.

Albert served his apprenticeship as a motor mechanic at Seaview Road, Wallasey, later joining the Corporation as a driver/mechanic. In 1948, he came over to MANWEB to work in the engineering workshop at Craven Street.

Before departing, he was presented with a number of gifts from his colleagues who joined together in wishing him many years of happy and active retirement.

With his arms full of farewell gifts, Mr. Albert Taylor (*centre*) stops for a photograph with his friends and colleagues at Craven Street before setting off to a life of retirement.

A LETTER OF THANKS

As a welcome change from the normal retirement procedures for most members of our staff, we were very pleased to receive the following letter from Mr. C. H. Haynes who recently retired from his post as Principal Assistant in the Education and Training Department at Head Office:

Dear Sir,

Following my retirement, on 9th September last, from service with the Board, I shall be grateful if you will enable me, through the columns of *Contact*, to thank those of my former colleagues from whom I received help on many occasions in connection with my work.

When looking through some back numbers of our magazine recently, I was amused to read:

*"'Tis true Mr. Haynes
Goes to great paynes
To arraynge . . ."*

I mention this to acknowledge the assistance given to me by knowledgeable people during my twenty-one years of *arranging!* My own efforts were made easier by the co-operation of senior and junior staff at Head Office and at our Area and District offices. I always hoped that anything I was responsible for organizing would go smoothly and, because those whom I enlisted to do this or that played their part so capably and willingly, I think I can truthfully say that this was usually the case.

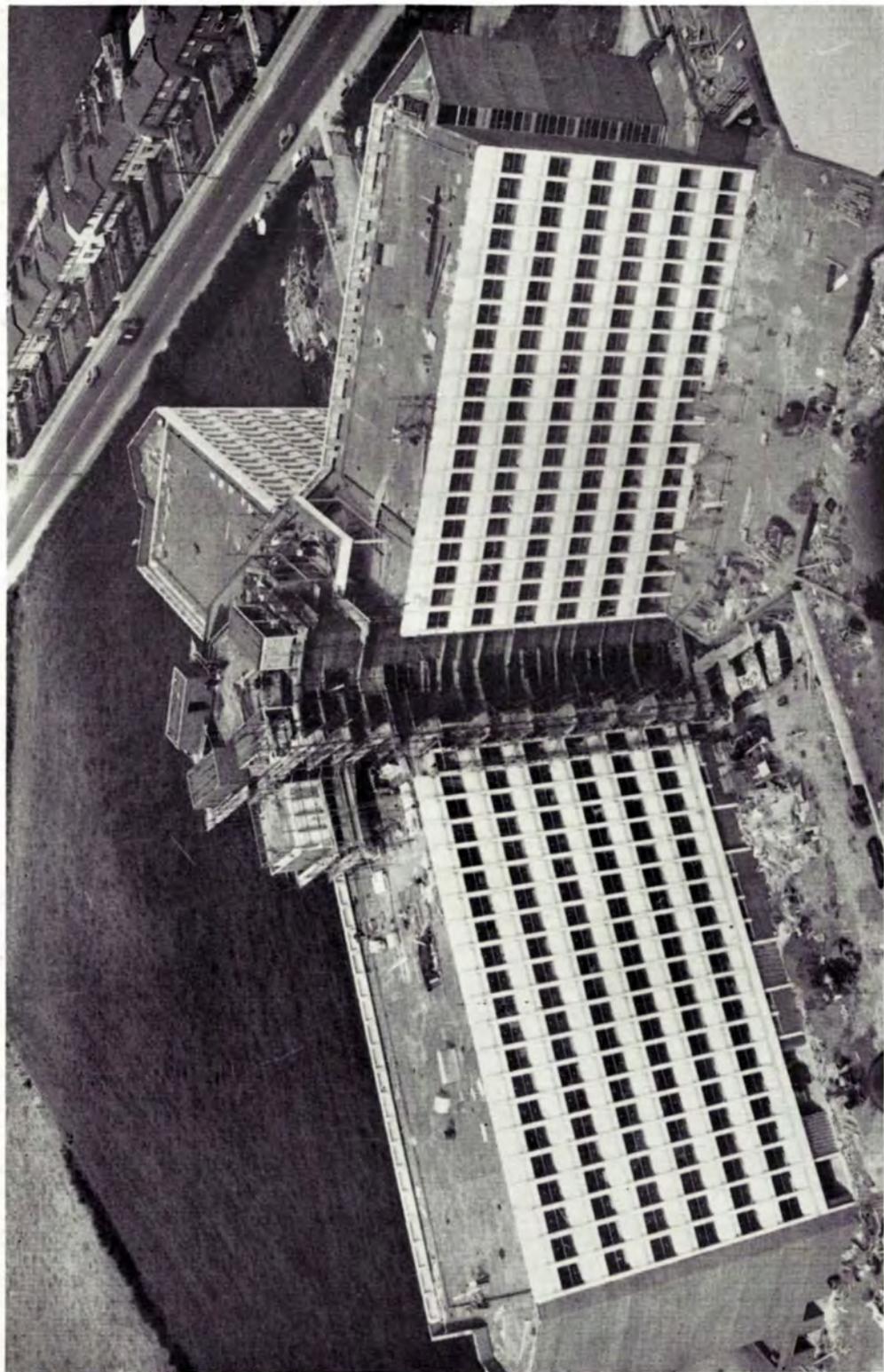
I thank them all, sincerely—those who are still in service and those who have preceded me into retirement. To the former, I offer my wishes that the reorganization of the Board will bring them happiness and prosperity. To those whom I have now joined in the "evening" of life, I pray that they may be spared to enjoy many years, resting from their labours.

May God bless you all,

Yours sincerely, C. H. Haynes.

We thank Mr. Haynes for the thoughts expressed in his letter and extend to him our best wishes for a healthy retirement.





A striking aerial view of our new Administrative Centre at Sealand Road, Chester, taken a few weeks ago by the *Chester Chronicle* photographer, Mr. Herbert Woodward.