

Merseyside and
North Wales
Electricity Board
staff newspaper

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CONTACT

Vol 35. No 10

October 1983



Liverpool super sub energised

— Go ahead for
the final phase

THE LARGEST 33 kV substation on the MANWEB network was partially energised recently when work on the first phase of a £3 million engineering scheme neared completion.

This new super substation, sited on the corner of Burlington Street and Love Lane, adjacent to where the Board's Head Office was situated prior to 1969, has been established

to replace the 33-kV switchgear made obsolete following the closing down of Clarence Dock power station.

Large scale modifications to the



At a section of the 15-panel, 33-kV switchboard, we see Steve Chantler, left, and Dave Roberts.

underground network have been carried out in the immediate vicinity.

Fed from an existing 60 MVA grid transformer located at nearby Lockfields, the new substation houses a 15 panel, 33-kV switchboard, manufactured and erected by the Reyrolle Company, and 15 control and relay panels which were

assembled and connected by MANWEB staff.

The whole engineering operation is under the direction of Roger Thornley (1st engineer, Plant & Construction) and site supervision is being undertaken by Dave Roberts (2nd engineer, Plant & Construction) and Steve

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Appliance sales boom goes on

SALES of domestic appliances from MANWEB shops continued buoyant during the months of June and July, showing increases of 16.2% and 14.6% respectively over the same months last year. For the four months April to July the increase averaged at 17.9%.

Microwave cookers, split-level hobs, fridges, fridge-freezers, water heaters and cleaners were the main categories to benefit. Storage heater sales rocketed by 85% during June, but were 25% down in July — hardly surprising in view of the weather patterns this year.

Bulk orders for more than 4,000 storage heaters, 200 cookers and 750 cleaners were placed with manufacturers during June.

Youth Training Scheme

Clerical/Sales trainees from Merseyside.
From left to right: Julie Casey, Lorraine Ledson, Jayne Kewn, Jonathan Lankin and Steven Bromilow.



AVOIDING THE DOLE QUEUE

TWENTY-EIGHT young people who left school at the end of last term have found a constructive alternative to the dole queue in the form of a twelve-months introduction to the world of work with MANWEB, under the umbrella of the Youth Training Scheme.

These young people, mostly sixteen-year-olds, will find that their YTS training period with MANWEB offers them a carefully-thought-out, broadly-based programme of practical work

experience and off-the-job education. Their training is designed to fit them to adapt to a wide variety of work situations in the future.

Two types of programme — "clerical/sales" and "craft/operative" were put together by our Education and Training section for approval by the Manpower Services Commission, which is administering the Youth Training Scheme for the Government.

As a result nine trainees, plus two from the Electricity Council Research Centre at Capenhurst, have embarked on the clerical/sales course based at Head Office, while another five have started their "off-job" training on Merseyside.

On the craft/operative side our Hoylake Training Centre is base for another 12 trainees, drawn from North Mersey, Liverpool, and North Wirral Districts.

Man responsible for planning and administering MANWEB's

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BOARD REPORT

PAPER PLANT

ENGINEERING schemes costing, in total, over £5 million were approved by the Board at their September meeting. The two biggest proposals involve major re-arrangement of the 33 kV network in central Liverpool (see lead story), and the provision of electricity supply to a new paper-making plant on Deeside.

On the site once occupied by steelworks blast furnaces, the Shotton Paper Company (a subsidiary of the United Paper Mills, Finland), is to establish a newsprint manufacturing plant. A supply of electricity has been requested which is likely to make the Company MANWEB's second largest customer.

Supply will be provided at 132 kV from Connah's Quay, and will involve the erection of 2,250 metres of double-circuit 132 kV overhead line, and the laying of 620 metres of underground cable. The estimated cost is £1.43 million.

TRAIN ELECTRIC

BRITISH Rail intend to electrify a further nine kilometres of line, between Rock Ferry and Hooton, on the suburban line operated by the Merseyside Passenger Transport Executive. This will involve establishing a new 33 kV supply point at Bromborough linked to the existing network by 160 metres of cable.

The work is scheduled for completion by March 1985 at a cost of £250,000.

NEW LINES

THE eight kilometres of 33 kV overhead line between Waenfawr and Llanberis, which crosses high, windswept country to the north of Snowdon, forms part of an inter-connector between the Caernarfon and Bangor grid substations.

The line dates back to the early 1930's, and the years of bad weather have taken their toll. Rebuilding the line to modern standards will cost £180,000 and the job is expected to be completed later this year.

PROTECTION

THIRTEEN 33/11 kV substations, situated in rural areas, are to have improved system protection equipment installed.

Brooks Laugh Lines



"I know you bought me all of these labour-saving devices but now I've got nothing to do!"



"Silly me, it wasn't plugged in!!"



"Well! It's never spoken to me like that before"



"Jones that's not quite what I meant by 'a more aggressive sales technique.'"

Long Service



40-year man Jack Davies.

WE offer congratulations to the following members of the staff who have completed, during the month of September, 40, 30 and 20 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

40 YEARS: Clwyd District—**J. T. (Jack) Davies** (craftsman, electrical inspection).

30 YEARS: Mid-Mersey District—**Brian Atherton** (1st engineer, System) and **Leonard Percival** (craftsman, overhead lines). Dee Valley District—**Brian Doyle** (System Engineer) and **Arlen Sing** (2nd engineer, System). North Wirral District—**Rex Sutherland** (craftsman, electrical inspection). Clwyd District—**Stan Snape** (Transport supervisor). Gwynedd District—**Gwilym Hughes** (craftsman, electrical fitter). Head Office—**Geoff Buckley** (2nd engineer, Plant & Construction), **Keith Hibbert** (1st engineer, Load Development), **John Iveson** (1st engineer, Plant & Construction), **John Powell** (Assistant Chief Engineer, System Management), **Dave Roberts** (2nd engineer, Plant & Construction) and **John Seymour** (2nd engineer, Hoylake).

20 YEARS: North Mersey District—**Daniel Devlin** (craftsman electrician) and **Stanley McEvitt** (craftsman, electrical fitter). Liverpool District—**Martin Davies** (1st engineer, Production), **Geoff Ravenscroft** (2nd engineer, System) and **Colin Robertson** (chargehand, general duties assistant). Mid-Mersey District—**Colin Turner** (craftsman, electrician). Dee Valley District—**Geoff Edwards** (craftsman, electrical inspection), **Geoff Jones** (craftsman, electrician). **Peter Newbrook** (craftsman, electrical fitter), **John Robinson** (2nd engineer, Load Development) and **Keith Salisbury** (craftsman, electrician). Mid-Cheshire District—**Thomas Evans** (craftsman, joiner). Clwyd District—**Ray Ball** (craftsman, electrician), **Hayden Davies** (craft attendant, jointing), **Ray Heywood** (craftsman, electrician), **Gwilym Jones** (craftsman, overhead lines) and **Rene Smith** (shop supervisor, Ruthin). Gwynedd District—**Ken Jones** (draughtsman) and **Thomas Roberts** (craftsman, electrician). Oswestry District—**Ray Appleton** (2nd engineer, Inspection), **Doug Barnes** (2nd engineer, Load Development) and **Peter Phillips** (2nd engineer, System). Aberystwyth District—**Adrian Davies** (craftsman, electrician) and **Brian Fletcher** (craftsman, electrician). Head Office—**Richard Coles** (2nd engineer, Plant & Construction), **Eric Fisher** (1st engineer, Technical), **Tony Hassall** (2nd engineer, Technical), **Robert Hazlehurst** (programmer/analyst, Computer Services), **Robert Isherwood** (2nd engineer, Management Services), **Ray Maddaford** (1st engineer, System Management), **David Watts** (2nd engineer, Technical) and **Alan Whitelock** (2nd engineer, Technical).

In last month's long service list we missed a line of type from the original copy. The result was that we omitted to name 30-year man **David R. Mellor** (Clwyd District Customer Services Manager) and had **John Ifor Hughes**, a craftsman electrician, on the Clwyd District staff when, in fact, he is with Gwynedd District. Our apologies to both colleagues.

NEW COAL DEAL

THE joint understanding between the Central Electricity Generating Board and the National Coal Board for the supply of coal to power stations has been revised and extended. The new understanding will run from 1 November 1983 to 31 October 1987 — extending the original period by about 2½ years.

Under the revised arrangements the CEGB has agreed to buy at least 95 per cent of its expected annual coal requirements from the NCB under a two-stage pricing agreement.

In the year starting from 1 November 1983, the CEGB will take a minimum of 70 million tonnes from the NCB. In future years, the Generating Board will try to sustain at this level of use, subject only to changes in electricity sales and the performance of nuclear plant.

With coal stocks at power stations at record levels, and little sign of a recovery in electricity sales, the CEGB considered it unrealistic to be committed to take a fixed tonnage from the NCB.

The NCB has agreed to keep its average coal price increase from 1 November 1983 below the rate of inflation for the preceding 12 months. There will be a price discount on coal bought in excess of 65 million tonnes.

YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME

● FROM PAGE ONE

involvement in the YTS is executive officer Dick Storer, who has designed the programmes, carried on the negotiations with the Manpower Services Commission, and recruited the young people, mainly through education authority careers offices.

Dick, who has been hard at work since February, told 'CONTACT' that it had been a challenging and very rewarding experience, though not without its pitfalls.

"The Manpower Services Commission had to be satisfied that we were offering a really useful programme of training and experience" said Dick. "They were determined to ensure that MANWEB could train these young people in a way which would really help them in the future, and our programmes had to be set out in great detail for MSC approval."

He added that although there had been around a couple of hundred inquiries for the training places, it had not been easy to find the right people. In fact, when the courses began in September there were still three vacancies for Liverpool-based clerical/sales trainees.

Explained Dick: "What we were looking for, above all else was real enthusiasm from our prospective trainees. Although most of them are educated to a 'good-CSE' level, with a few O-levels sprinkled about, we were looking for personality and potential rather than academic attainment".

"In fact some of the youngsters to whom we offered places turned out to be very resourceful indeed, with several 'irons in the fire'. As a result we were left with a few vacant places when those we selected decided to accept other offers, but we are expecting to fill these gaps".

The Training Programmes

The clerical/sales trainees will have 14 weeks of "off-the-job" training, consisting of one day a week on business studies at local technical colleges; a week's induction course; training in clerical and basic sales work; instruction in 'life skills' including letter-writing, telephone use, and interview techniques, together with first-aid tuition.

Their formal training will include experience in administrative, financial and commercial work, plus up to 12

weeks working in MANWEB shops. Stan Gordon, of North Mersey District, and Ron Jones, of North Wirral, are providing valuable back-up as local mentors for these trainees.

The craft/operative programme will include "off-the-job" instruction at Hoylake in basic workshop practices, lifting and moving techniques, safety training, some very basic electrical tuition, together with an introduction to overhead line and underground mains work, communication skills, and first-aid.

In their local Districts they will receive practical experience with linesmen and jointers, plus work in garages, stores and drawing offices. Alex Smitton, man in charge at Hoylake, will be keeping a close eye on the craft/operative trainees throughout the whole of their training, in co-operation with production engineers in the Merseyside Districts.

MANWEB's participation in the YTS programme has been undertaken with the support of the trade unions and the blessing of the MANWEB Joint Co-ordinating Council.



Clerical/Sales Trainees:

From left to right, back row:

Christopher Jones, Lesley Foster, Beverley Croft, Denise Cowan, Gillian Eyton and Michael McCormack.

Front row:

Gayle Chesters, Kerry Jones, Joanne Cruise, Suzanne Collings and Jane Hancock.



Craft/Operative Trainees at Hoylake:

From left to right: Christopher Goldston, Andrew Bromilow, Mark Rimmer, Michael Shields, Peter Heeney and Keith Evans.

From left to right: Andrew Skarratts, David Robinson, Paul Drury, David Newman and Kenneth Coughlan.



CHANNEL LINK

— undersea power swap

THE first phase of a £600 million programme to provide an electricity link between Britain and France is nearing completion — some six months ahead of schedule.

The ahead-of-target performance is a major triumph for a British "first", the huge submarine trenching machine which has been digging a trench across the Channel for the power cables which will link the two countries.

Some time soon, the 176-tonne machine — the size of a three-storey house — will crawl up the beach near Folkestone as it slices through the last section of rock on the seabed to end 90 kilometres of trenching.

The self-propelled, tracking machine, known as Rock Trenching Machine (RTM III) has excavated more than 200,000 tonnes of chalk, rock and clay to cut two trenches three-fifths of a metre wide and 1.5 metres deep between Folkestone and Sangatte, near Calais, as part of the planned 2000 megawatt link between the two countries.

The Central Electricity Generating Board and Electricité

de France are co-operating in the venture, which will start carrying power in 1985.

The link will offer the two utilities the advantage of trading electricity for use on each nation's grid at times when one system is producing power at the margin more economically than the other. The higher-cost producer will buy power from the lower-cost producer. Peak demand periods are different in the two countries, and this enables the partner with the lower demand level to support the other partner with its spare plant.

Four cross-Channel trenches — two cut by the British and two cut by the French — will each carry a pair of cables which will transmit electricity in direct current for conversion to alternating current by convertor stations at each end of the link. Electricité de France will begin

cutting their two trenches next year.

The deep, narrow trenches were specified for the project as a means of protecting the cables from damage by ships' anchors and fishing trawlers.

But the technology for cutting such trenches had to be developed. The bright yellow trenching machine was developed jointly by the CEBG and Land and Marine Engineering and detail work was undertaken by Land and Marine under contract.

The cost of the trenching contract, including the machine, which was built at the Middlesborough yard of Rigging International, is £15 million.

The link has also led to a major contract for Pirelli General Ltd., which is manufacturing the four British cables.

The company has built a £12.5 million submarine power cable factory at Southampton to produce the cables. The factory is the only submarine power cable plant in Britain able to make continuous production lengths of up to 50 kilometres. It will take about 33 weeks to produce each cable length.



Chargehand Ken Palframan checks in the new corrugated transformer with colleague Bob Wynn, right, watched by the author, Geoff Wood. The transformers to the left are the same capacity as the small corrugated one in the foreground, but are physically much larger.

TRIALS OF NEW TRANSFORMER

by Geoff Wood (2nd Engineer, Plant & Construction)

MANWEB is about to embark on a trial installation programme of a new type of transformer which has the advantages of being cheaper to buy and of needing virtually no maintenance.

The traditional transformer — which converts the 11,000-volt distribution voltage into the usable 415/240-volt form for domestic and light commercial use — has a tank made from heavy 5 mm-gauge mild steel, housing the core and windings. To this is added 1.5 mm-gauge steel tubes or radiators, which aid the cooling of the insulating oil in the transformer. This tank requires many welding operations, making it virtually a 'hand-built' job which is expensive both in labour and materials.

The high costs don't end there. Once installed, this design of transformer needs regular maintenance, including taking oil samples which are electrically tested for insulation strength and chemically tested for acids and other substances which could cause deterioration of the all-important core and windings, which do the work. Occasionally a complete oil change may be necessary.

Now a British manufacturer, Woden Transformers Ltd., has invested in machinery which produces corrugated sections for transformer tanks and radiators. Until recently this design has only been used on the Continent, where manufacturers have had the specialised equipment needed to form the light gauge steel from which the tanks are constructed.

The potential advantages of the corrugated design have been recognised, and MANWEB has collaborated with a manufacturer in the development of 500 kVA transformers for field trials. The tanks are made mainly of 1.25 mm-gauge steel, formed into corrugations.

In the corrugated transformer the core and windings hang from a thick steel top plate, rather than sitting on the bottom of the tank. The new-style tank is made almost entirely by automatic machinery, and heavy steel skids are fitted to the base to enable the transformer to be manoeuvred into position. The core and windings are unchanged, but considerably less oil is required.

Conventional transformers have a large air space above the oil level, to which is fitted a vent pipe. This allows the oil level to rise and fall with the expansion and contraction caused by the heating and cooling of the core and windings as the electrical load varies. The fact that the oil is in contact with air can cause deterioration, necessitating regular maintenance checks.

The corrugated tank is completely filled with oil. All air is excluded and there is no vent pipe. As there is no contact with air the oil should not deteriorate, and expansion and contraction is catered for as the thin steel corrugations also expand and contract in a bellows fashion. In practice these changes are so small as to be almost unnoticeable.

A special requirement of the MANWEB transformer is the steel chamber mounted on the transformer lid. This serves to enable a standard 11,000-volt cable box to be fitted to the transformer, and also to house the current transformers needed in some parts of our area for the type of high-voltage circuit protection used. The low-voltage connections to the transformer will require only minor modifications to the system presently used by MANWEB for indoor substations, and a design of low-voltage connection for use in outdoor substations is presently being produced.

Engineers from the Head Office H.V. Plant section hope to arrange trial installations in the near future.

Liverpool super sub energised

★ FROM PAGE ONE

Chantler (2nd engineer, Transmission) who is commissioning the grid circuits. Frank Tarpey (1st engineer, Plant & Construction) is in charge of the commissioning of the new substation.

Drawing Office engineers Neil Dunn, Ted Mulroy and Ken Wynn from Sealand Road, prepared the plans for the substation and drawings for the revised underground network system. Frank Parkinson of the Board's Civil section, supervised the erection of the building and general layout of the site.

This first phase of the scheme has cost over £1,000,000.

At the Board Meeting last month, approval was given for a further £1,789,000 to be spent

on the second and final stage of the development.

This work will include the considerable re-arrangement of the 33,000 volt network in the central Liverpool area to integrate and afford better utilisation of the available grid transformer capacity.

As part of the whole operation, 2.5 kilometres of 33-kV cable has already been laid. Excavation and the laying of a further 11.5 kilometres of high-voltage cable is now being undertaken.

Engineers will recover and scrap a 40-year-old grid transformer on site at Vulcan Street. Eighteen 33 kV reactors will also be recovered, seven of these will be put to further use on the network. The value of recovered items amounts to nearly £100,000.



At work in the new super substation we see, standing, Alf Davies (craftsman, electrical fitting) with Bob Walker (substation attendant).

Transmission men at Lockfields. From left to right: Arthur Malam (driver), Ian Harris (craftsman, electrical fitting) and Jim Connolly (engineering assistant).

Down the hole we picture, from left to right: Ted Davis and Bob Thompson (craft attendants), Jack Spencer and Paddy Jordan (craftsmen, jointing).



SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

— Disturbing increase in accidents to staff

MISHANDLING, or stepping on, objects, together with employees falling, accounted for 111 reportable accidents from a total of 173 involving MANWEB staff last year. These three categories amassed an embarrassing 64 per cent of all accidents in our Board.

The figures were revealed in the annual Health and Safety Report issued by Board Safety Officer, Bernard Scott and his section. The Report summarises the pattern of accidents suffered by MANWEB staff during the year 1982/83 and reviews safety measures taken to help reduce the risk of accidents to employees, to other workers and to members of the public.

In sharp contrast to the Board's decreasing accident rate over the previous three years, the Report highlights the latest disturbing increase in accidents.

Accidents don't happen

Some people say — "Accidents will happen". This statement is dangerously irresponsible. Accidents **do not** happen — they are caused. So-called 'accidents' can be prevented by applying rules of conduct, common sense and by taking more personal care.

If you are slipshod, or become too familiarly contemptuous of the job you are doing — then you may possibly injure yourself. Worse still, you could cause serious harm to your workmate.

If you see a dangerous situation — **clear it or draw attention to it.** You could save a life — and it could be yours.

"During 1982/83 there was an increase of more than 19 per cent in our reportable accidents," writes Mr. Scott. "This is all the more disappointing when compared with the electricity supply industry as a whole which achieved a decrease in reportable accidents of nearly eleven per cent."

A most striking statistic which emerged showed that the number of accidents involving "Handling Objects" had risen from 25 per cent to a startling 33 per cent of the total. "This, no doubt, was the paramount cause of our poor accident record."

There was a 50 per cent increase in the number of accidents attributed to electricity, but these formed only 5.2 per cent of the total. "Nevertheless," states Mr. Scott, "an upward trend in this sort of accident is serious and unacceptable."

The number of industrial staff man hours lost through accidents (20,271) showed a welcome decrease of some 34.3 per cent on last year's figure. "However, any complacency arising from this fact must be tempered by the realisation that a very much higher proportion of 'lost time' accidents were reportable in 1982/83 compared with 1981/82."

Many new safe working procedures and codes of practice were introduced during the year. Staff in the Safety section at Head Office and local Health and Safety Committees have continued to examine the circumstances of each accident with the aim of preventing any recurrences.

To help combat the high rate of "Handling" accidents, the Board now have 14 fully trained instructors on call.

A variety of instructional sessions have been held throughout the Board's area and many staff attending courses at the Hoylake Training Centre have benefited from talks given by safety specialists.

Assistance has also been afforded to the Board's industrial and commercial customers with seminars and lectures dealing with the safe operation of high-voltage electrical apparatus on their own premises.

Revised health and safety legislation and guidance from the Health and Safety Executive has brought about some changes in the Board's safety procedures.

Priority has been given for new control limits in respect of airborne asbestos dust concentrations and further training with protective equipment when using chain saws. There has also been some modifications in the Board's first-aid training requirements.

The MANWEB Health and Safety Report concludes by stating that the disturbing increase in the number of reportable accidents during 1982/83 indicates that fresh initiatives must be taken by managers in an effort to contain hazards and engender a greater safety awareness among staff.

As much of the responsibility must fall on management, emphasis is placed on the part which should be played by supervisors. At this level, "super vision" is required to spot, and immediately correct, wrong, careless and dangerous work practices.



★
Tony Forshaw with supervisor Barbara Owen, seated, at the letter printer, while Edna Jones and Joan Andrews, right, check work coming off the continuous printer.
★

Word Processor on working trial at Head Office

A WORD processor is operational at Head Office, in use alongside the conventional typing services. Typists have undergone training to operate the new machine and are now gaining experience.

A two year trial period has been agreed to allow the theory to be turned into practice, with supervisors, operators and the various departments discovering just how the word processor can help them.

The heart of the IBM 8100 Word Processor is the controller, a small but powerful computer, which stores information centrally, and has a permanent memory store. Ten work stations route their instructions through the controller to one of three printers, which produce typed copy.

Each work station consists of a keyboard and a visual display unit which provides the operator with access to the computer memory in the controller. Standard paragraphs can be recalled, altered, moved around, new text inserted, or corrections made without the need for re-typing and gallons of 'Snowpake'.

Already the word processor has proved a tremendous help with long reports — such as the Board's Annual Report and Accounts — where several alterations are always needed, requiring tedious re-typing.

Ann Ellis, the Typing Services supervisor, who has been responsible for the training of the staff, finds this the machine's greatest advantage. She says, "One of our most taxing jobs on the old typewriter system was legal work. It must be typed correctly, a document can not have an altered mistake, and if one was made — say a line left out, which is easy to do on a long document — the whole thing had to be retyped. Now it is simple if an operator makes an error she can put it right without the need for re-typing."

A rota system exists so that the typist or word processing operatives take turns to work on typewriters and on the new machine. About two-thirds of the staff are operating the word

processor and a third using typewriters at any one time.

The majority seem to prefer the new machine to typewriters and gave as their reasons:

"There are a lot of different functions this machine will do and it makes the work more varied and interesting."

"As we get used to using the machine we find things we thought we could do better on the typewriter are easier on the VDU's."

"For reports and legal work it is marvellous."

Any reservations? Several commented they were uncertain what the long-term effects of working with a screen would be but so far there were no ill-

effects. Other comments were:

"Ideally you need a typewriter and a VDU. The typewriter to dash off a short letter, address a label or envelope."

"When you have completed a document there is a delay until the controller accepts the text for printing."

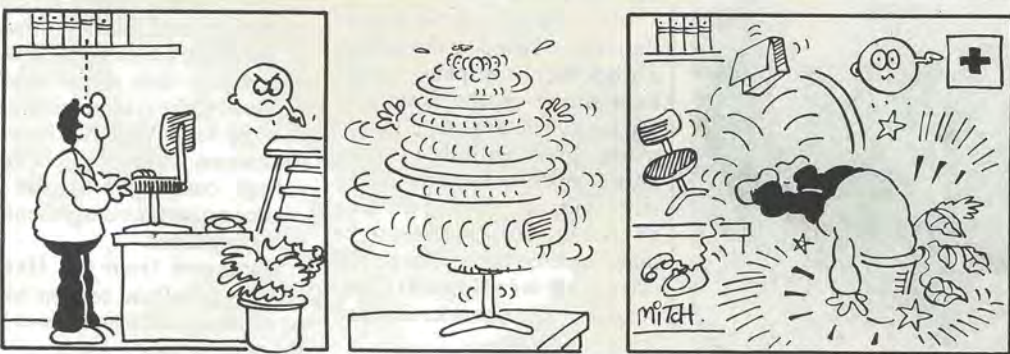
"Not everyone is making the best use of the processor. Once they do it will make our jobs more interesting and the departments will benefit."

The man responsible for typing services at Chester, administrative assistant Tony Forshaw, agreed with this last point. "At the moment we try out most of the work that comes into the section on the word processor to see what is practical. As we gain in experience we will discuss with various departments how they can benefit. Then when we know exactly what they want we can advise on modifications to stationery and determine how we can all get the best use of the new system."

Pat Stokes, left, and Karen Bilham at workstations watched by Typing Pool Supervisor Ann Ellis.



ON THE BALL THE SAFETY KNOW-ALL



SEVEN'S HEAVEN

— a tariff that brings home heating prices down to earth

FOR HALF a decade the operation of a two-part electricity tariff and the recent stabilising of prices compared with other fuels, has made electric home heating far more attractive. Competitive pricing means many MANWEB customers can boast of smaller heating bills than their neighbours in similar properties, with comparable heating systems operating on other fuels, including our major competitor — the Gas Industry.

'ECONOMY 7' the name given to the tariff, offers the customer the use of electricity for seven hours, at a time specified by MANWEB overnight, at less than half the normal cost of electricity to the domestic customer. With 'ECONOMY 7' daytime units costing 5.7 pence and those on the seven night hours at a shade under two pence, this tariff is a true reflection of what it actually costs to produce electricity in power stations at various times of the day.

The most economic generation of electricity is by nuclear power and by some of the large modern fossil fuel stations. This group meet the base load — the constant day and night demand for electric power. To cope with the daily surges in this demand at peak periods, older and less efficient stations have to be brought onto line, in many cases for an hour or so each day.

As some of the more efficient stations still have considerable capacity available at night, it would lead to the reduction in the average cost of electricity if more of the equipment

which uses energy at daytime peak periods could transfer that consumption to night-time.

To persuade customers to use the 'ECONOMY 7' tariff, appliances have been developed to take advantage of the lower priced units. Storage heaters have been around for thirty years or so, but were initially confined to the commercial and industrial market. When they appeared on the domestic scene some five years later, they were rather large chunky models which needed eight or nine hours overnight charge plus a boost in the middle of the day.

Spin-offs from space technology have led to the development of more efficient insulation and heat storage materials which are considerably less bulky. Together with new developments in controlling the heat output, this has allowed manufacturers to produce models which only require a 7-hour charge. The new breed of heater is much smaller and one manufacturer has produced a model which measures less than five inches deep, although MANWEB marketing

and technical experts have decided to promote a range which is two inches deeper.

With slimmer, more attractive heaters and highly competitive running costs, electricity is again a force to be reckoned with in the heating market. It is not surprising that storage heater sales should take off, with figures for the last financial year ending in April 1983 once more topping the five figure mark.

Electricity can now beat it's competitors on running costs, especially in the large numbers of smaller properties. Those modern town houses, like the two bedroomed terraces which are such a feature of urban and rural living in the MANWEB area, are proving very receptive to storage heater sales.

As with all homes it is essential that the heat paid for is not wasted and insulation should form part of any heating scheme. Sixty percent of heat goes out through walls and roof.

Cavity wall insulation helps stem the 35% which goes out through bricks and mortar, with loft insulation helping save the rest. Customers with both these forms of insulation, who have storage heaters and live in some of the smaller properties, find they can warm their homes for about 20% less than neighbours who use gas.

The financial saving 'ECONOMY 7' brings to home heating can be extended to other appliances provided all, or as much as possible of their consumption, is in the 7-hour low cost period. The number one contender is the immersion heater, which heats about 3 gallons of hot water for one unit. If this heating can be done overnight and retained until hot water is needed a family of four could make considerable savings on the 200 gallons they use in a week. Package deals devised by MANWEB with special time controls and heat retaining lagging jackets over 3 inches thick make this a practical proposition.

Appliances such as refrigerators and freezers, which use electricity constantly day and night, may gain marginally from the cheaper seven hours. But it is larger load items like cookers, automatic washing machines and tumbler dryers which have possibilities for further economies on the electricity bill. An auto-timer can switch a cooker on and off during the night, baking a batch of cakes, pies, bread, a roast — how about the Christmas turkey, or even a breakfast, all timed to switch off just before it is time to get up.

A weekly wash for a family of four uses about 9 units of electricity with an automatic washing machine, so if this and the load from a tumble dryer can be used overnight by using time switches or manually switching on before going to bed, considerable savings can be made.

'ECONOMY 7' enables MANWEB customers to help themselves save money, it also helps the Electricity Industry to transfer the production of energy from less efficient power stations, which in turn conserves the nation's valuable fuel resources.

Get to know all about Electric home heating and win ...

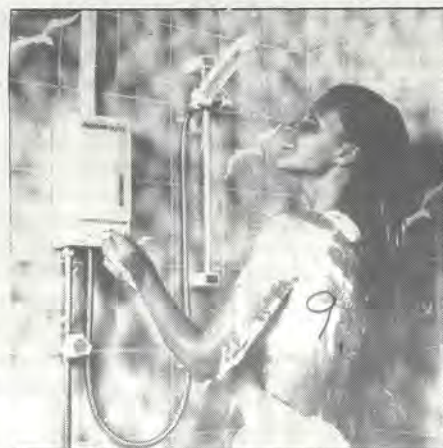
MANWEB Employees Contest

You don't have to be an expert to win this electric heating competition. All you have to do is read through the ten questions and then read the article 'SEVEN'S HEAVEN' and there you will find clues to all the answers. Then you think up a slogan to promote 'ECONOMY SEVEN'.

This is part one of the contest. In the November 'CONTACT' there will be the second and final part of the competition. To win you must complete both parts and send them both together, in one envelope.

TWO WINNERS. There are roughly the same number of NJIC staff as there are NJB and NJC combined, so we are offering one prize — and that is a choice of either A or B — exclusively for industrial employees (NJIC) and one for engineering, shop and office staff (NJB/NJC). Management are excluded from this competition.

... either of these great prizes



PRIZE A
A UNIDARE SLIMLINE STORAGE HEATER Plus an ECONOMY 7 water heating programmer, with full installation

PRIZE B
A REDRING SUPER 7 SHOWER Plus full installation

ONE PRIZE FOR BEST NJIC ENTRY — ONE PRIZE FOR BEST NJC/NJB ENTRY

RULES

1. Entry implies acceptance of the rules.
2. Entry is restricted to present MANWEB staff, which excludes management.
3. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
4. There will be two winners, one selected from the entries from industrial staff (NJIC) and one from engineering and clerical staff (NJB or NJC).
5. The winners will be the contestants from each category who gives the most correct answers to the ten questions in this issue of CONTACT, together with those printed in the November issue. In the event of a tie the winner will be the contestant who submits, in the

6. The Prize — the winner of each category will have the choice of either of the two prizes. No cash alternative is offered for the whole or any part of either prize. PRIZE A is a choice of any size of UNIDARE wall mounting storage heater from their WM range, plus an ECONOMY 7 water heating programmer, both fully installed. PRIZE B is a REDRING SUPER 7 shower unit and full installation.
7. The prize may be accepted by the prizewinner for him or herself, for their mother, father, son or daughter, or a pensioner of their choice, but the installation must be at an address within the MANWEB area of supply.

8. Illegible or late entries will be disqualified.
9. Only one entry per person will be accepted.
10. Entries for both parts of the competition should be sent together and should be addressed to: 'CONTACT' HEATING CONTEST, MANWEB HEAD OFFICE, Room 5S1, Sealand Road, CHESTER CH1 4LR.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES IS 30th NOVEMBER 1983

JUDGES

The Judges for the competition will be Mr. Peter Hopkins, Chief Commercial Officer, Mr. Keith Baldwin, Press and Information Officer, plus a representative of Brunning Advertising.

Answer the following ten questions by ticking the box you think is the correct answer. Read the questions first, then read through the article on Seven's Heaven in this issue, and you will find clues to all the answers.

PART I Questions

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. If the estimated annual cost of heating a 2 bed-roomed mid-terraced house is £605 by gas, with ECONOMY 7 it would be: | £453 <input type="checkbox"/> | £504 <input type="checkbox"/> | £398 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The current night rate unit price on ECONOMY 7 tariff is: | 2p <input type="checkbox"/> | 1.9p <input type="checkbox"/> | 1.5p <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. What year did ECONOMY 7 replace the White meter tariff? | 1972 <input type="checkbox"/> | 1978 <input type="checkbox"/> | 1980 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. How many storage heaters did MANWEB sell in 1982/3? | 5,721 <input type="checkbox"/> | 8,506 <input type="checkbox"/> | 10,061 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. MANWEB recommend a minimum thickness for an adequate lagging jacket on a hot water storage tank. This is: | 80 mm <input type="checkbox"/> | 60 mm <input type="checkbox"/> | 100 mm <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. What year were storage heaters introduced onto the domestic heating market? | 1953 <input type="checkbox"/> | 1958 <input type="checkbox"/> | 1965 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. To the nearest inch what is the slimmest slimline heater sold by MANWEB? | 9 ins <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 ins <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 ins <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. What is the heat lost through an uninsulated loft? | 25% <input type="checkbox"/> | 15% <input type="checkbox"/> | 40% <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. What would be the saving for a family of four on their weekly wash if they used their automatic washing machine overnight on the low ECONOMY 7 rate, instead of the daytime units on the same tariff? | 12p <input type="checkbox"/> | 25p <input type="checkbox"/> | 34p <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. If a family of four were able to heat all the hot water they needed overnight in a well-lagged tank by an immersion heater using night rate 'ECONOMY 7' units, they would save each week: | 55p <input type="checkbox"/> | £1.51p <input type="checkbox"/> | £2.53p <input type="checkbox"/> |

Send with Part II from NOVEMBER 'CONTACT'

(Block letters please)

MY SLOGAN TO PROMOTE 'ECONOMY 7' IS

(not more than 12 words)

NAME

ADDRESS (Home)

WORKPLACE

POSITION NJIC NJB/NJC

(Tick appropriate box)

Manweb HEATELECTRIC



(Picture by Ray Rowlands)

Wedding Belle

BEST wishes for a happy future go to Elizabeth Ann Piercy, a clerk in Stores Accounts section at Head Office, and to the man who changed her name, Terence Paul Allen when they married recently at the Rivertown Chapel in Shotton.

Terence works for British Aerospace.

The happy couple held their reception at the Golden Groves in Rossett and honeymooned in North Wales.

Mum's the word

TWO young ladies from the Estates and Wayleave Section at Sealand Road, whose desks are barely five yards apart, are both about to enter another state — that of motherhood.

Beth Leonard and Linda Lewis are each expecting their first child in November and December respectively. Beth is married to District Sales Supervisor — Clwyd and Gwynedd, Keith Leonard and will be remembered in Liverpool as Beth Owen their former demonstrator. She has worked for the Board for seven years.

Linda who joined MANWEB in 1975 is married to Dave, who works for a large construction company. Her father is Denis Perrin, a 1st engineer in the Technical Drawing Office at Chester, and Dave and Linda's baby will make Denis a granddad for the first time.

We add our congratulations to both couples to those of their friends and colleagues and hope that everything will go well for them and the new arrivals.

Happily seconded to sunny Qatar

FOR some years now the British electricity supply industry, under arrangements made by British Electricity International, has been providing technical expertise for the rapidly-growing electricity networks in the oil-rich lands of the Middle East, and several engineers from MANWEB have completed tours of duty in the desert states.

Two of our engineer colleagues — Keith Herniman, of Dee Valley District, and Ted Bostock, of Liverpool, are at present sweltering in Qatar on the Arabian Gulf, and have written to us telling something of their life-style out there. The pair worked together in Liverpool from 1971 to 1975, little expecting to renew their acquaintances so far from home.

Keith and Ted write:

"We are working for the State Electricity Department with two other assignees — Les Guest, of the MEB, and Ian McClure, from Northern Ireland. Normal hours are 6 a.m. to 1 p.m., with Friday off. The reason for the early start is the heat. From April to September the day-time temperature is in the range 100-120°F, and at night about 80°F. Fortunately we live in air-conditioned villas provided by BEI. Most offices, shops, and cars are also air-conditioned."

"The private estate on which we live has three swimming pools and sports facilities. Being on bachelor status has improved our domestic skills, and cooking, washing and ironing are now second nature."



In the sun, Keith Herniman, left, and Ted Bostock.

"Qatar is a peninsula of 5,000 square miles in the Arabian Gulf. There is a population of 250,000, about 20% of whom are Qatar and the rest Asians, Europeans and Americans. Doha is the main city, with oil and industrial areas on the coast."

"There are some 4,000 HV/LV substations. Maximum demand is in the summer, and peaked at 714 megawatts in early June."

"The Holy Month of Ramadan started on June 11th. During this month Moslems refrain from food, drink, smoking — and sex — between dawn and dusk, and hours of work are reduced to four a day."

"We haven't had any previous experience of working overseas, but we are enjoying our stint till November 1984. Living in a country with a different culture, way of life and work, and mixing with people of other nationalities is an exciting challenge."

Sending their greetings to all their friends in MANWEB, the exiled pair round off with a piece of doggerel —

*"We've seen the sand and camels:
We've even smelled the latter!
Though the UK ever is our home
We're happy here in Qatar!"*

Employees Meetings

Liverpool

THE Centre Hotel in Lord Nelson Street, Liverpool, is the venue for the Liverpool District Joint Co-ordinating Council Annual Conference on Thursday, 20th October.

The guest speaker for the evening is Laurie Twiss, a Senior Industrial Relations Officer with ACAS in Liverpool.

Pensioners from the District who may wish to go along should contact Norman Mitchell in the General Services section immediately.

North Mersey

EXECUTIVE Officer in the Planning and Review section of Management Services at Head Office, Joe Norris, will be the guest speaker at the North Mersey District Joint Co-ordinating Council Annual Conference being held at the Mons Hotel, Bootle, on Thursday, 27th October.

Any North Mersey District pensioners wishing to attend should get in touch with Stan Gordon in the Administration section at Bridle Road.

TENNIS AT CHESTER

DESPITE a shortage of ladies, more than 30 players took part in the recently held Head Office tennis tournament, organised by Carol Booth and John Gorman.

In the mens doubles Gren Roberts and Ken Sinclair beat John Gorman and Rob Fallowfield in a match which was well attended by spectators enjoying the evening sunshine, and the good standard of tennis played by both pairs.

The mixed doubles final was a different affair however, since it was played during a heavy downpour, which both couples decided to play through. After a closely-fought match the eventual winners were Mike

Gibbs and Maureen Donaldson who beat John Gorman and Carol Booth.

The 1984 Tournament will include ladies and mens singles, as well as the doubles events.

Players of all standards are invited to take part, and there is a special need for more ladies to enable a ladies doubles event to take place. If there is sufficient support, professional coaching will be organised early in the season. All enquiries to Carol Booth (Ext. 2318), or John Gorman (Ext. 2791).

Winners and runners-up, left to right, Rob Fallowfield, Carol Booth, John Gorman, Ken Sinclair, Mike Gibbs, Maureen Donaldson and Gren Roberts.



Bowls Champs

Pictured are the winners of the Chester Sports and Social Club annual bowls tournament. Administrative assistant Jane Ferguson partnered by Principal assistant Ellyn Griffiths won the mixed competition and they pose with Wilf Jones the winner of the singles title, who beat Ellyn in the final. The contest was organised by section secretary Don Andrews.



BEATEN BUT UNBOWED

ABERYSTWYTH Sports and Social Club's newly-formed cricket team were beaten, but not disgraced, in their first match against an experienced Pen-parcau eleven. The opposition notched a score of 108, but the

new boys from MANWEB reached a creditable 78.

A club badminton squad was also in action against a local team on the same evening, after which everyone involved retired to a local pub to wash the dust from their throats and to discuss future tactics.

Organisers of the event were Cliff Thomas and Tony Keevan.

Pensioners ... Southport visit Dinorwig

DINORWIC power station, near Llanberis, was the goal of a party of MANWEB pensioners from the Wrexham and Rhos-tyllen area recently. After a tour of the station they went on to Caernarfon, moving on to spend the evening in Llandudno.

FOR their 'final fling' of the summer, the Mid-Mersey pensioners enjoyed a day out at Southport. The trip was so popular that two coaches had to be laid on!

A browse around the shops was followed by high tea at the Floral Hall and a visit to the theatre for Ken Dodd and his 'Diddy Men'.

THE SPORTING CHANCES

by Mitch

NEVER MIND, CHARLIE — REMEMBER, IT'S NOT THE WINNING THAT'S IMPORTANT. IT'S THE TAKING PART.



HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED THAT WHENEVER ANYONE SAYS THAT.



... IT'S USUALLY AFTER THEY'VE JUST WON!





HOLE IN NONE!!

A GROSS score of two on the sixth hole of the Oswestry Golf Course gave 1st engineer George Evans a net score of nil and six points in the MANWEB Golf Society's Captain's Day Stableford competition.

Sitting in the clubhouse with champagne on ice to celebrate his first ever win in a golfing contest, Display Leader Bill Swann had his hopes dashed when George returned his card with a remarkable score of 45, two ahead of Bill who eventually came second.

George also parred the 16th and eagled the last two, he commented, "My heart jumped into my mouth on the 17th. I put my tee shot onto the green and I thought I had a hole in one. The green's higher than the tee and it was only when I reached it that I saw my ball a yard short. It was a great relief, there were about sixty MANWEB golfers in the clubhouse and it would have cost a fortune to buy that lot a round!"

Captain Martin Lloyd, an engineer from Liverpool District, presented the prizes. Third in the competition was Dee Valley's Ken Edwards. There were also three group prizes. The 0-12 handicap prize went to Andy Critchley who was round the course in one under par. Group 2 prize for the 13-21 handicappers was won by MANWEB Chairman Ben Hastings, and the over 22 group prize was presented to Mold's Peter Lawler.

A good day out was had by all and the weather played its part with the sun shining through. The tournament was organised by Kevin Gee and Frank Parkinson.

OBITUARY

WE deeply regret to record the deaths of the following former colleagues and extend our sympathy to their families:

Mr. Ken Barfoot, aged 56, a meter collector at Lister Drive.

Mr. Roy Hughes, foreman in the meter test department at Lister Drive. He was 58.

Mr. Thomas Humphrey Jones, a meter operative at Oswestry District prior to his retirement two years ago.

Mr. Stan Morgan, a clerk at the garage at Lister Drive prior to his retirement in 1981.

Mr. G. (Henry) Tudor, a former member of the Area 4 Construction team prior to his retirement as a driver.

Mr. John Weston, aged 77, a clerk in the Personnel Section at Head Office until his retirement in 1977.

Retirement Group Outings Day out over the Pennines

LAST month, a party of pensioners from the Chester and Head Office Retired Staff Association, spent a very enjoyable day in Yorkshire. After their first stop at Harrogate, they travelled on to Ripley for an excellent guided tour of the Castle. On their way home, they called in for 'fish and chips' at the famous Harry Ramsden restaurant.

A trip to Warwick Castle, calling at Leamington for lunch,

is planned for Wednesday, 19th October. For the November outing, it is anticipated that Worcester, with its fine Cathedral, will be the venue.

Another date for the diary is Thursday, 8th December when Christmas Dinner for members will be held in the Head Office restaurant.

Social meetings, with entertainment, are held on the last Wednesday of every month, starting at 2.30 p.m. at MAN-

WEB's Head Office in Sealand Road, Chester. All retired staff from Electricity Boards, living in and around the Chester area, will be made very welcome.

For further information about any of these events, please get in touch with — *Secretary*, Del Hall, 127 Hartington Street, Handbridge, Chester (Tel: 676933) — or — *Treasurer*, Carmel Austin, 2 Sefton Road, Hoole, Chester (Tel: 47762).

Mitch in the Office



Norman Rawsthorne receives his prize from Sir Austin Bunch, former Chairman of the Electricity Council.

The ones that got away

A RATHER disappointing performance by the MANWEB Coarse Fishing Team left them in seventh place in the Electricity Supply Industry National Championship out of eleven teams competing.

The competition this year was on home water for many of the MANWEB men — the Liverpool to Leeds Canal at Maghull. It was organised by Norweb and the North Western Region.

Only two of the MANWEB team distinguished themselves by getting into the prize money. Mid-Mersey's Norman Rawsthorne and Roy Briscoe finished fifth and eleventh overall, respectively. Norman won his section and Roy was second in his. The winning team were from the East Midlands.

Sir Austin Bunch the recently retired Chairman of the Electricity Council was on hand to enjoy a day's fishing and to present the prizes. Sir Austin has attended every one of the championships except for the first one.

CONTACT FREE ADS

FOR SALE

AERO ENGINE — O.S. 20, only ten hours flying. £20 o.n.o. Tel: Gwynedd 165 (Arthur Bunton).

CARAVAN — Cheltenham 'Fawn' 2-berth lightweight. Requires minor DIY attention. £100 o.n.o. Tel: Oswestry 662396.

DRIVING LAMPS — 2 Cibie Oscars. Long-range, 6" diameter. Excellent condition. Still in boxes with instructions. £30 the pair. Tel: Internal Head Office 2182 (Karen Bilham).

CAMERA — Kodak Disc 6000. Brand new condition. Plus two colour films and protective case. £30. Tel: Crewe 216806 or Internal Mid-Cheshire 124 (P. Evans).

DESK AND CHAIR — Modern. Three sub-dividing drawers and locking cupboard. £35. Tel: 0922 4550 or Internal Head Office 2542 (I. Smith).

FISHING RODS — Ugly Stik boat rod — new, 12 ft HG beachcaster Sealey, and a Mitchell 602 AP multiplier reel — new. Offers? Tel: 051-342 4360.

ORGAN — Yamaha model A55. Little used, excellent condition. £450 o.n.o. Also set of Petron Mark II **GOLF CLUBS**. 9 irons. Used 5 months only. £90. (no offers). Tel: Wrexham 354225 or Internal Dee Valley 109 (F. T. Edwards).

MOTOR CYCLE — Honda Gold Wing GL 1100cc. 1980. Low mileage. Top box and side panniers, in Honda colours. Good condition. Taxed 6 months, MOT 12 Months. £1,550 o.n.o. Tel: Deganwy 84275.

SINK UNIT — double drainer sink unit £15 o.n.o. Tel: 051-489 3608.

SERVICES

WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY — From as little as £60. Max Cooksey. Tel: Hawarden 531976 (evenings).

PHOTOGRAPHY — colour and video, for weddings and other occasions. Home demo if required. Tel: Chester 376469.

WANTED

AMERICAN COMICS — 1900-present. 'Marvel', 'D.C.' etc. Good prices paid. Tel: Chester 377775 or Internal Head Office 2653 (D. A. Shepherd).

GOOD MOTOR CARAVAN — 2 berth (others considered). Tel: Oswestry 662396.

HOLIDAYS

LAKE DISTRICT — Holiday cottage in Eskdale, Cumbria, near Wasdale, Dunnerdale and the sea. Accommodates 7 people plus a baby cot — 3 bedrooms, living, sitting, kitchen and bathroom. Tel: Chester 42300.

LANZAROTE, Canary Islands. Two-bedroomed bungalow to let. 2 bathrooms, kitchen, lounge, terrace, heated pool, tennis, bars/restaurants. Tel: 034 17 497.

N.B. Two digits in the telephone number have been transposed in previous adverts for the LANZAROTE holiday.

PORTHMADOG — Bed and breakfast. Contact: Cecil Jones, Porthmadog 2519 or Gwynedd District Office, Internal 172.

TENERIFE — Playa de las Americas. Luxury apartment to let. Superb location. 2 beds. terrace, pool. Tel: Chester 674871 or Internal H.O. 2386 (Mrs. Littler).

HOUSES FOR SALE

CHESTER — Sydney Road — Completely modernised three-bed mid-terraced. Avocado green bathroom suite. Light oak fitted kitchen. Pine feature chimney breast. Most carpets and curtains included. Walking distance of city centre and H.O. £17,500 o.n.o. Tel: Hawarden 532089 or H.O. Internal 2699 (Ann Ingram).

CHESTER — Off Sealand Road — Three-beds, lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, shower. Double glazing, central heating, re-wired. Tel: Chester 375660.

CONNAH'S QUAY area — Furnished dormer-type semi. 3 beds, hall, lounge, well-fitted kitchen/dinette. Detached garage. Well-maintained gardens. Emigrating £18,000. Tel: Chester 383248.

WAUNFAWR, CAERNARFON — Fully modernised semi-detached cottage, with original exposed beams. Large lounge with stone and brick fireplace, dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom. Large garden. £27,000 o.n.o. Tel: 0286-85683 or Internal 86-100 (Jean Letman).

PLEASE PRINT YOUR FREE AD. ON THIS COUPON OR ON PLAIN PAPER

(BLOCK CAPS PLEASE)

Name:

Work place (or retired)

Send to: 'CONTACT' FREE ADS, MANWEB, SEALAND ROAD, CHESTER CH1 4LR.

MANWEB (Chester) Sports and Social Club

Come and see the Annual

FRUIT CRUSHING

Bulmers Cider are starting their fruit crushing at their Hereford brewery on the 16th November 1983. The Chester Sports Club are organising a coach trip to see this event and to sample the juice from the fruit in the form of the different ciders the Company produce. A number of seats are still vacant at a cost of £3.00 for club members and children and £4.50 for non-members. Cost includes coach fare and entrance. Opportunity to purchase cider from the Company Shop included the liqueur ciders normally only available for export.

To book ring John Shallcross on 2504 (Head Office)

RETIREMENTS

Farewells to friends and colleagues

Mr. E. BRATT

LOOKING forward to changing his heavy goods vehicle at work for his private car and caravan is Enoch Bratt, now that he has retired from his job at Mid-Cheshire District's Northwich depot.

Enoch, who kept his colleagues on their toes each morning when he arrived in the yard, chose a watch as his farewell gift from them. This was presented to him by Graham Zeiher (*Engineering Manager*) who thanked Enoch for his loyal service to the industry stretching over more than 36 years. "We are all sorry to see you go," he said.

Born and bred in the Northwich area, Enoch began his working life in 1933 with a local sand merchant. At the outbreak of war he spent a short time delivering food around the country before joining the RASC and served in the Middle East as a tank driver.

On his return to civilian life in 1947, he got a job as a driver for the former Mid-Cheshire Power Company, transferring to MANWEB later.

During his time at Northwich, he served his colleagues as their shop steward. We join with them in wishing Enoch and his wife Kathleen many happy years ahead touring in their caravan.

Mrs. M. F. CATLING

"FRIEND to one and all throug. out the District," commented Albert Cooper (*Engineering Manager*) when he

presented retirement gifts to Margaret Fowler Catling at a ceremony held at Warrington recently.

"Her enthusiasm both at work and on the social scene will be hard to match and she will be one member of our staff who will certainly be missed," he went on.

A born organiser, as a committee member of the District's Sports and Social Club, Margaret's bubbling personality helped to get members to support many social functions.

She joined MANWEB in 1956 as a sales assistant in the Warrington and former Stockton Heath shops. In 1974, she decided to a change of occupation and moved into District Office to work as a clerk in the Engineering section.

Margaret is a past President of the Warrington Caledonian Association and she enjoys swimming and knitting.

The proof of her popularity in Mid-Mersey District could clearly be seen by the table sagging with numerous farewell gifts from her friends and colleagues.

Mr K. G. CORFIELD

LEAVING North Wirral District after 34 years' service with MANWEB, Ken Corfield has retired from his position as administrative assistant in the Debt Control Section.

He joined the Board in 1949 as a cashier and has also worked in the meter reading section.

During the war he served all

over the world in the army and for some of that time worked alongside the Gurkhas, for whom he developed a great respect and affection, and still maintains contacts.

One of his major interests in life is travelling. He enjoys visiting foreign countries and has arranged many trips for the District's Sports and Social Club.



Ken Corfield, right, receives his parting gift from Customer Services Manager, Des Lock.

Ken is a widower with three married daughters and five grandsons, so his family will take up some of his time in retirement. So too will making use of his gift from colleagues in the District, a metal detector, searching for buried treasure.

Mr. J. B. DAVIES

WAYLEAVE officer Jim Davies from Head Office has retired, due to ill-health, after 34 years' service with MANWEB.

Jim came to the Board in 1949 having worked for a couple of private companies following his service in the Royal Navy during World War II.

Initially he was a clerk in the Accounts Department at the former Sub-Area 3, moving to Estates and Wayleaves in 1965 in the combined Area 2 and 3 office in Chester. He came to Head Office as a wayleave officer with re-organisation in 1970.

Jim and his wife Brenda have three teenage children, a boy and two girls. he likes a game of golf, is a keen do-it-yourself



Above: Keith Edmondson, right, is presented with a farewell gift by Denis Farquhar (*Assistant Chief Engineer, Technical*).

Below: Paddy McKeaveney, left, has a farewell handshake from Len Roberts.



man and enjoys messing about with cars. We join with his many friends in hoping that retirement will bring an improvement in his health.

Mr. K. L. EDMONDSON

THE Principal Engineer for Metering and Measurement in the Technical Section at Head Office, Keith Edmondson, has taken early retirement after 34 years' service in the electricity industry.

He served in the Royal Engineers for three years prior to joining the newly nationalised British Electricity Authority as a graduate trainee. In 1951 he became a protection engineer and six years later he came to MANWEB as a 2nd assistant engineer—Protection—the position vacated by our present Deputy Chairman, Richard Gales.

In 1960 he was made senior assistant engineer in the Technical section, moving to Planning five years later where he eventually became a Principal Engineer in 1973. He moved to Technical again in 1979.

A keen yachtsman, Keith has recently taken up flying and has a pilot's licence. We understand he now proposes to try gliding. At home, he is a very practical do-it-yourself man, both with house and car. He is also interested in radio and micro-electronics.

We join with his friends and colleagues in wishing Keith and his wife Heather, who has not enjoyed the best of health recently, a long and happy retirement.

Mr. K. HUNTER

A LIFETIME of service in the electricity supply industry came to an end recently when Kenneth Hunter retired from his job as Depot Clerk at Northwich.

Ken joined the former Mid-Cheshire Electricity Supply



Above: Jim Davies, right, surrounded by colleagues, says his farewell to Nick Williams (*Assistant Secretary, Legal, Estates and Wayleaves*).

Below: Friends wish a happy retirement for Stan Potter, left.



Company in 1936 and worked as a clerk and then in the meter reading section. Three years later, he was called up to serve with the RAF Signals Branch.

He returned to the supply industry in 1946 and spent a couple of years as a meter reader/collector before leaving to join the Ministry of Pensions as a clerical officer.

Another two years passed before Ken rejoined the industry with MANWEB as a clerk in the Meter Test section at Northwich. On reorganisation in 1971, he took over the job from which he has now retired.

Much of his free time is taken up with research into the history of Northwich town. He is also a sidesman at St. Helen's Parish Church, Witton.

At an evening presentation, Ken received a suitcase and a pipe from one set of colleagues. Friends and workmates at Northwich and Crewe subscribed to present him with a portable typewriter. Ken's wife Doris accompanied him at both ceremonies.

Mike Metcalf (*Administration Manager*), produced an 'Ode to Ken' which concluded with wishes for good health and happiness in retirement.

Mrs. G. M. JOHNSTON

ILL-HEALTH has forced Glenora Johnston to take early retirement from the position as typist at Lister Drive. She has worked in the Board for 19 years.

She enjoys travelling and hopes to visit the U.S.A. when her health improves. Glen, as she is known, was presented with a carriage clock and other gifts by colleagues, and we join with them in wishing her improving health in retirement.

Mr. F. McKEAVENEY

AFTER 29 years with MANWEB, Fred McKeaveney—universally known as 'Paddy'

—has retired from his job as a linesman with Gwynedd District.

Paddy, who hails originally from Northern Ireland, served with the Royal Air Force, mainly in the Middle East, from 1936 and throughout the war. He joined MANWEB as a labourer in 1958, progressing to linesman's mate and linesman.

After all these years he is firmly established on the island of Anglesey, where one of his sons runs a painting and decorating business. Paddy's main interests are reading and horses, and in retirement he hopes to find more time to take his grand-children fishing.

On behalf of his many friends he was presented with silver candlesticks and a watch by Len Roberts (*1st engineer—Production*).

Mr. S. POTTER

A FORMER training instructor in the armed forces, Stan Potter has retired after 29 years' service with MANWEB. He joined the Board in the building section in 1954 but has worked in the stores at Lister Drive for many years.

In his youth he was a keen footballer, but now is more concerned with the social side of life. He serves on the committee of the Royal Navy Club in Liverpool. Retirement will mean that Stan will have more time to spend with his wife Tess, who has not been in the best of health recently.

CORRECTION

IN last month's retirements, we described Doreen Salter as "The first, and only, female principal assistant in any of the Board's Districts". We should have said, "the first, and only, female principal assistant in North Wirral District".



Above: Enoch Bratt, left, being presented with his retirement gift by Graham Zeiher.

Below: Ken Hunter, centre, and his wife Doris, seen here with Mike Metcalf.



Above: Glen Johnston, left, with her husband Ken and Daughter Glenora.

Below: Margaret Catling, right, says goodbye to Albert Cooper, left. Completing the picture is husband Bill and Victoria and Steven Orrill.



MANWEB JOINT CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL

This bulletin (No. 7) summarises some of the main points discussed at the seventh meeting of the MANWEB Joint Co-ordinating Council.

Appliance Marketing—Joint Working Party—Progress Report

At its meeting on 22 July 1983 the Working Party examined the Interim Report of the NJCC on Appliance Marketing and the Monopolies and Mergers Report on the London Electricity Board to try and identify possible implications for MANWEB. Discussion ranged over such subjects as the Board's involvement in "Brown Goods", safety and efficiency of appliances and alternatives to shops. The Working Party is also to seek details of a Board by Board analysis of such aspects as indirect costs, buying policies and the shape of the market for electrical appliances in different Boards. These, together with a paper by Mr. D. Holman, Deputy Chief Commercial Officer on the conclusions of the MMC's report on the LEB, to be considered further at the next meeting of the Working Party on 7 September 1983. Further reports will appear in the Bulletin as details are received at the MANWEB JCC.

Second MANWEB JCC Conference—23 November 1983

The Second MANWEB JCC Conference will be held on 23 November 1983 at MANWEB Head Office and LJCCs have been asked to nominate delegates to attend and suggest possible topics for discussion. Once again the Conference will be organised on a participative basis with delegates taking part in group dis-

cussions and reporting back on a number of significant topics of current interest and importance to MANWEB staff.

Changes in MANWEB's Organisation—Consultation Procedures

Further discussion took place on the appropriate levels and methods for consultation on organisational change, with members clarifying the previous understandings which had been reached on this subject.

In relation to the introduction of District Managers and the possible extension of the concept to the larger Districts in the Board, MANWEB's Deputy Chairman sought the comments of Trade Unions' Members on this subject. Trade Unions' Members have requested management to provide certain information to assist them in responding to this request.

Trade Union Duties and Activities—Time Off and Facilities

The Trade Unions Members were concerned at a number of reports they had received on local management procedures relating to the above. These are to be the subject of tripartite discussions between MANWEB's Personnel Manager and representatives of the Trade Unions concerned.

Youth Training Scheme—MANWEB

Trade Unions' Members sought and gained an assurance from Board's Members on involvement in YTS Schemes within North Wales operated by external agencies. Before entering into any agreements in this regard the Board will ensure that the full and recognised consultation procedures have been completed.

MANWEB's Annual Operating Plan 1983/84

A full and detailed discussion took place on the draft Plan submitted to the April JCC meeting. Trade Unions' Members made a number of constructive observations on the following:—

- (a) Customer Service Objectives
- (b) Performance Indicators—Debt Outstanding
- (c) Staffing levels—flexibility
- (d) Overtime Working in Shops
- (e) Theft of Electricity—remedial measures
- (f) Manpower Policy—role of LJCCs

Equal Opportunities Policies—Review of Effectiveness

The NJCC(GB) have recently carried out a review of the effectiveness of the Industry's equal opportunities policy which concluded that, al-

Continued overleaf—

though progress had been made, a policy cannot be truly effective without the wholehearted support of the Industry's management, staff and trade unions. To this end the NJCC(GB) has circulated a paper to JCCs which poses detailed questions on Boards' implementation of an equal opportunities policy, the employment of women and the employment of ethnic minorities. The questions form a framework for a detailed review of MANWEB's policy which will be undertaken by the JCC Education and Training Committee with a subsequent report to the full Council in due course.

NJCC(GB) Conference— 10 November 1983

This year's NJCC(GB) Conference, to be held at the Barbican Centre, London takes as its theme "The Electricity Supply Industry, Costs, Markets and Developing Technology".

The Council are asked to select seven delegates to attend of which five will be LJCC representatives selected by the JCC Joint Secretaries from nominations by LJCCs.

Report of HESAC Meeting— 2 June 1983

(i) Criminal Injuries to Board Employees

As only two replies had been received from LJCCs on this subject consideration of the matter was deferred to the next

meeting. Trade Unions' Members also gave notice that they would wish to discuss the recent robberies at the Board's Allerton and Kirkby shops as part of these discussions.

(ii) Employment of Registered Disabled people in Area Boards

A Survey by the National HESAC on this subject was considered, together with a request for information on the Board's progress in implementing the six policy guidelines on the "Fit for Work Scheme" and the NJAC Recommendation on the employment of Disabled People. A small Working Party was established to give a detailed reply to the National HESAC on this matter.

A searching discussion also took place on the Board's policy in relation to promoting the employment of the disabled and the retention of staff who became disabled during employment versus early retirement on ill-health grounds. The Board will provide details of the number of staff retired on ill-health grounds to the next meeting of HESAC.

MANWEB JCC Education and Training Committee Meeting— 2 June 1983

Much of the above meeting was spent giving detailed consideration to the Youth Training Scheme and its implementation in MANWEB.

In addition, however, Board's Members also agreed to provide details of the training objectives for the training courses currently being carried out on the IEE Fifteenth Edition, the content and duration of the courses still being a cause for concern by Trade Unions' Members.

Investigation into the Provision of Supplies of Electricity

Since September last year a Board Project Team has been investigating the provision of supplies of electricity within MANWEB. Notification was received that the Report and recommendations of the Project Team would shortly be available and these recommendations were both radical and significant.

The MANWEB JCC is to receive copies of the Report for discussion at its October meeting when Project Team Members will make a presentation on their findings. Board's Members have emphasised that the Council is to be asked to consider the Report at the earliest stage, prior to the Board making any decision on the implementation of the findings. Details of the Council's discussions will be reported in the October Bulletin, after the MANWEB JCC meeting on 24 October 1983.

K. Dufty }
K. Mann } Joint Secretaries