

Merseyside and North Wales
Electricity Board

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GOOD 'REPORT' IN

BILL AID

A NEW informative booklet, *Paying For Electricity*, is being issued by our Board to voluntary organisations such as the Citizens' Advice Bureaux and to DHSS offices throughout our area.

It is published as a help to the people to whom MANWEB customers may turn for advice and guidance in times of financial difficulty.

The booklet outlines the Board's general policy on meter reading, sending out bills and the collection of accounts.

A section deals with the variety of methods of easy payment schemes which help to spread the cost of electricity over an extended period, rather than have a single payment at the quarter-end—usually a large one during the winter months.

In a foreword, MANWEB Chairman Bryan Weston writes: "I would like to emphasise that, while electricity used must be paid for, it is our very sincere aim to avoid the disconnection of supplies whenever possible.

"Disconnections for non-payment are being reduced with every passing year, and we are determined that this trend will continue.

"We are grateful to all those people who, by giving advice and support to their clients, are helping us to achieve this objective."

The new "Paying for Electricity" booklet being issued to officers of the Citizens' Advice Bureaux. Below left: North Mersey District Manager Jim McLellan, left, with James Crowe from the Liverpool Office of the National Association, and right: principal assistant in our Tariffs section, Councillor Tony Murphy, who is a member of the Management Committee of Chester C.A.B., chats with Jenny Monk, organiser for the local Bureau



MEDIA

MANWEB's public image was enhanced when, at the Annual Report presentation, representatives from local press, radio and television showed great interest in the Board's plans for helping the aged to keep warm during the cold winter months and in the introduction of polycarbonate covers designed to help prevent unlawful tampering with electricity meters.



Bryan Weston, right, and Peter Hopkins explain the "Heatcare" teleswitch to media representatives

No! Not a break-in—just a demonstration by our Chairman, using an electric drill on the new polycarbonate meter covers

Facing the BBC Wales TV camera is John Roberts, centre

Chairman Bryan Weston, Deputy Richard Gales and senior Directors talked freely with the reporters in answering a variety of questions. A number of items for local

radio were recorded for *Marcher Sound* and *Radio Clwyd*.

A television crew from Bangor-based *BBC Wales* arrived in the morning to film reporter Tim Evans interviewing our Chairman, and Financial Director John Roberts, against a background of some very attractive display units.

Later in the day, Mr. Weston travelled to Manchester for a BBC-televised interview with reporter Richard Duckinfield, screened on the *Look North* programme that evening.

John Roberts and Commercial Director Peter Hopkins made a quick trip to the Liverpool studios of *Radio Merseyside* to answer questions during a "live" broadcast at lunchtime.

More media coverage was achieved when Ariel Thomas, our Gwynedd District Production Engineer, gave interviews, in his impeccable Welsh tongue, on *BBC Cymru* and in the BBC Welsh-language television news programme, *Newyddion Saith*.

Quite a successful press conference—our Chairman's first since taking over.



Landmark for Medallions

ON the tenth anniversary of the "Medallion Award" scheme, it was announced that over 100,000 energy-saving, all-electric homes had been built or were committed to the Medallion standard. This is an achievement which marks 1986—*Energy Efficiency Year*.

The scheme was launched by the electricity supply industry to encourage builders to adopt high standards of thermal insulation, coupled with efficient space and water heating, gaining maximum benefit from the Economy 7 less-than-half-price tariff.

Chairman of The Electricity Council Sir Philip Jones commented: "Insulation standards are improving and, with them, the case for electric heating. In new homes at least, standards today are well secured by building regulations, which have advanced greatly over the last ten years. Home builders are now delivering a fine, high-performance product."

● See the MANWEB "New Medallion Deal for Builders" on page 4.



Some of the residents at Manley Court, with officers of the Alyn and Deeside District Council and representatives of our Dee Valley District Energy Marketing staff

“Worst eyesore becomes a delightful place to live”—M.P.



ALL-ELECTRIC housing has proved a hit with council tenants on Deeside, and this customer satisfaction has been a major factor in the Council's choice of electricity for their latest sheltered housing project

Manley Court has 24 flatlets and a three-bedroomed house for the warden, built to Civic Shield standards. At the official opening ceremony, Dee Valley District Commercial Manager Lyn Price presented Alyn and Deeside Council Deputy Chairman Trevor Davies with a Civic Shield certificate.

The industrious MP for Alyn and Deeside, Barry Jones, was at the opening ceremony and congratulated the Council and its officers on creating a beautiful spot to live out of derelict land.

He commented: "On my frequent journeys to London, this spot was the worst eyesore be-

tween Holyhead and Chester."

He praised Council Housing Officer David Smith and Building Services Officer Donald Box and their staff for providing the much-needed and comfortable homes.

The flatlets and the house have a total of 111 storage heaters. They also have electrically-heated water and a high level of insulation. There is a separate communal laundry, with two washing machines and dryers.

The complex was designed by Alyn and Deeside architect Paul Kent, with Dee Valley District's Trevor Edwards (1st engineer) assisting with the electric heating specifications. Manley Court was built by Nield Builders of Deeside.

Accepting the "Civic Shield" award is District Council Deputy Chairman Trevor Davies, right, from MANWEB man Lyn Price. On the left is local Member of Parliament Barry Jones



HOLD THE FRONT PAGE!

WHEN our Mid-Cheshire District Manager Ken Crabtree made the presentation of a "Civic Award" for a new block of flats at Nantwich, it made front-page news in the local newspaper.

The picture, right, was featured, with a write-up explaining how a development of dwellings by the Baptist Housing Association incorporated numerous energy-saving features and was "Switched on to Economy".

The homes were designed by architect Frank Olchowski, of Parry, Boardman and Morris, of Liverpool, and the heating and electrical contract was carried out by Men from MANWEB.

From left to right: Mike Potts (Energy Marketing Engineer), George Junglas (Clerk of Works), Ken Crabtree, Frank Olchowski, Peter McDonald and Ray Brown (Baptist Housing Association), John Mayes (2nd engineer) and Paul Wilkinson (System Engineer). Also connected with the job was Frank Penk (3rd engineer) who missed the picture

Picture—Nantwich Chronicle



APPOINTMENTS

REVENUE PRODUCTION MANAGER

FOLLOWING a tour of duty with the British Electricity International in Guyana, **Dennis Hughes** returned to Head Office on secondment to the Management Services section to work on Special Projects.

He has now been appointed as Revenue Protection Manager, and took up his duties at the beginning of last month. He will be responsible to the Financial Manager (Income) for co-ordinating and developing all aspects of the Board's anti-theft activities and the meter modernisation programme.

Dennis will be based at our North Wirral District office.

ASSISTANT MANAGER—NORTH MERSEY DISTRICT (Secondment)

Bob McMahon, aged 38, joined MANWEB in 1965 to work as a clerk in the Secretarial section at Head Office. Over the next few years, he held a succession of posts in the Commercial, Engineering, Personnel and Management Services sections. In 1979 he was appointed senior executive officer with responsibility for the Queensferry Stores, and is presently senior executive officer in the Marketing Services section of the Head Office Commercial Department.

ASSISTANT MANAGER—LIVERPOOL DISTRICT (Secondment)

Geoff Abel, who is 43, is the Production Engineer at North Mersey District. He started as a student engineer with MANWEB in 1959, and has a wide experience in various engineering posts at Head Office and in the Districts, and has worked in the Management Services section.

ASSISTANT MANAGER—DEE VALLEY DISTRICT (Secondment)

John Walker, aged 41, is the Principal Engineer Energy Marketing in the Head Office Commercial Department. He joined MANWEB as apprentice electrician in 1961, and then became a student engineer. He attended University sponsored by the Board and gained a first-class honours degree. He has served in a variety of posts in several Districts in the Commercial Department.

DISTRICT MANAGER—ABERYSTWYTH DISTRICT (Secondment)

Dave Price, aged 51, is a senior engineer in the Head Office System Management section. He started as an apprentice electrician in 1951 with MANWEB, and, after serving his time, became a student engineer. After two years National Service in the RAF, he held a variety of engineering posts in the Districts and at Head Office.

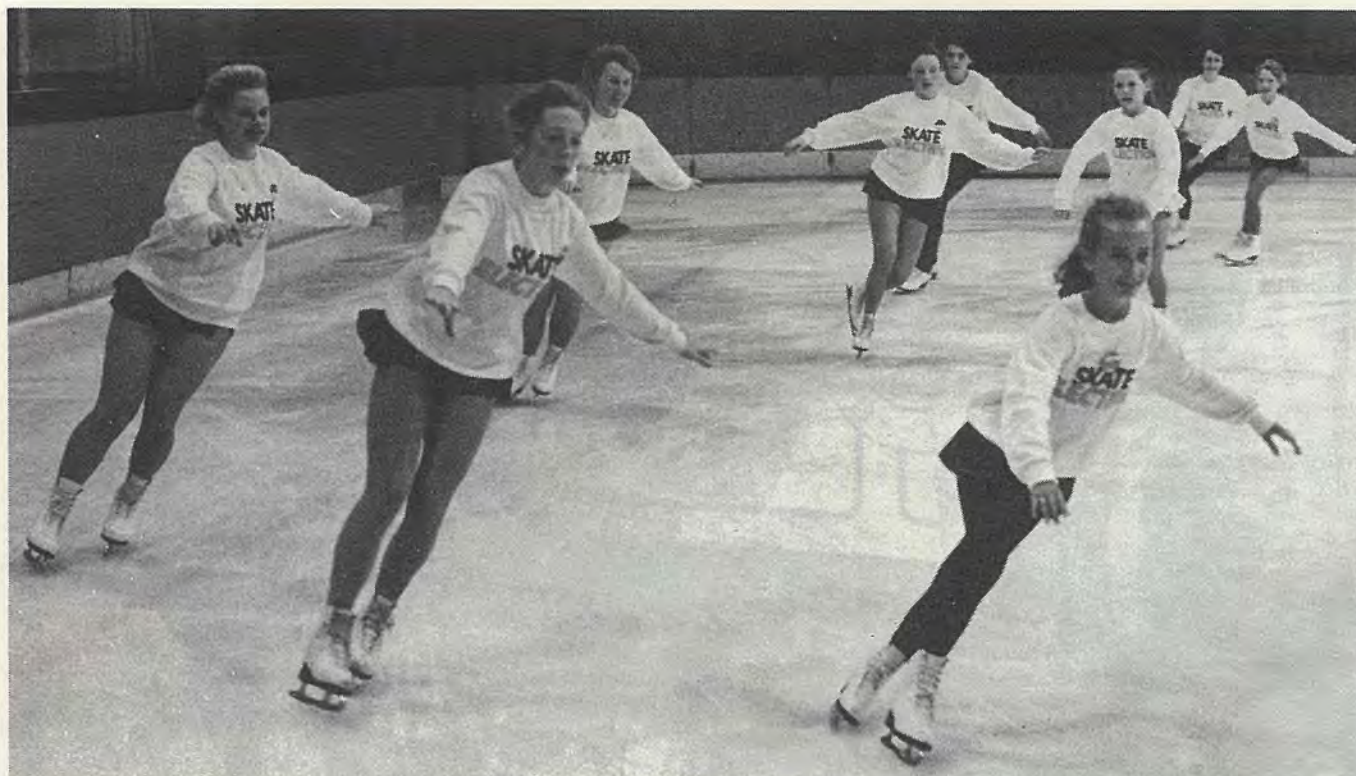
Long Service

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

40 YEARS—Liverpool District: **Roy Rutherford** (telephone operator). Mid-Mersey District: **Derek Tomlinson** (2nd engineer, System). Head Office: **Harold Gleave** (2nd engineer, Technical).

30 YEARS—Dee Valley District: **Dennis Jones** (craft attendant). Mid-Cheshire District: **John O'Hara** (DRC attendant). Transmission: **Jack Johnson** (2nd engineer).

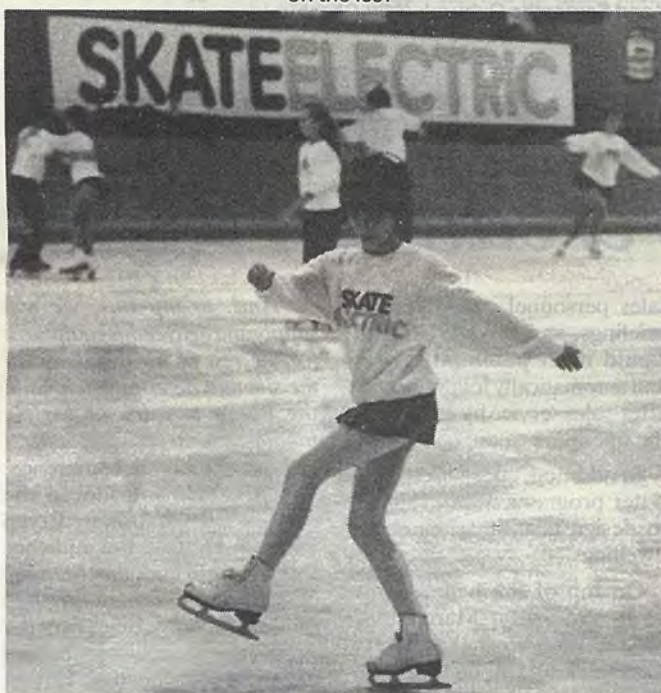
20 YEARS—North Mersey District: **Cliff Robertson** (1st engineer, Energy Marketing) and **Phil Threlfall** (administrative assistant, Personnel). Liverpool District: **Teresa Devereaux** (cleaner), **Steve Pryce** (clerical assistant) and **John Woollorton** (mechanical fitter). Mid-Mersey District: **William Walker** (craft attendant). Dee Valley District: **Rosemary Richards** (secretary). Mid-Cheshire District: **Danny Minogue** (chargehand general duties assistant).



Some young hopefuls pictured wearing their "SKATE ELECTRIC" T-shirts during a practice session

SKATE ELECTRIC/FREEZE ELECTRIC

Could it be a star of the future doing some fancy figure work on the ice?



SPONSORED SHOW AT DEESIDE RINK



THE 1986 Open Competitions of the Welsh Ice Skating Association are to be staged at the Deeside Leisure Centre from 12th to 14th September. The event will be sponsored by the electricity supply industry to underline the link between the ice in skating and in refrigeration. This will be the third occasion this year that sponsorship under the "SKATE ELECTRIC" slogan has taken place.

At the Deeside rink, up to 130 of the most talented amateur skaters in Britain are expected to compete for the 13 trophies being awarded for figure and free-skating, pairs and ice-dancing.

The Welsh Open is one of the top five skating competitions staged in Britain. The electricity supply industry's sponsorship will be provided mainly by The Electricity Council, with the support of MANWEB. This will take the form of help with the cost of hiring the rink (the only one in Wales), the provision of the trophies, publicity and administration costs.

Hello sailor!

NEWEST recruit in Gwynedd District is Elfyn Hughes, a Welsh-speaking 18-year-

New man at Gwynedd District, Elfyn Hughes



old clerk, who joined us a few weeks ago after gaining his OND in Business Studies at Coleg Merioneth in Dolgellau.

Elfyn is a member of the Criccieth lifeboat crew. A short time ago he was engaged on a call-out to the sail training ship *Malcolm Miller*, anchored in Tremadoc Bay, when a member of the ship's crew was taken ill.

As the rescue boat pulled alongside, a couple of the young trainees asked to be put ashore too. The captain asked Elfyn and his lifeboat colleague, 24-year-old Kevin Owen, who works at Trawsfynydd power station, if they would like to join the sail training voyage.

They both jumped at the opportunity, and spent the next nine days sailing to Tobermoray and Oban, before their return journey to Fleetwood.

"It was an interesting and thrilling adventure, coming right out of the blue like it did—to coin an apt phrase," commented Elfyn.

He has been a member of the lifeboat crew for nearly two years and has taken part in a number of call-out services and exercises. He is the first in his family to take to the sea, and it was friendship with some of the established crew members which encouraged him to join them.

Now beginning his career with the Board, Elfyn will have added guidance from his uncle, Dafydd Roberts, a foreman in the Engineering section at St. Helens Road.

WE'VE MOVED

THE Press and Public Relations section—and 'CONTACT' office—has moved to new ground floor accommodation in Head Office.

We are now in GE26, and our telephone numbers are as follows:—
 Keith Baldwin ... 2933
 John Perry 2934
 Sam Doughty ... 2935

Re-appointed to the Board

PETER Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, has re-appointed David Boulton of Norley, Cheshire, to serve another three years from 1st August as a non-executive member of the Merseyside and North Wales Electricity Board.

THE BOARD VISIT QUEENSFERRY



Above: Board Member Sheila Garston, left, chats with Joyce Cummings (storekeeper), with Peter Falcon (Financial Manager, Expenditure and Stores)

Below: Chairman Bryan Weston, right, has a word with Peter Stansfield (Transport), left, and Bob Wright (principal assistant, Stores)



Above: Pat Kavanagh in the Mail Order section, checks for part numbers on the VDU, watched by Board Member John Hooson

Below: Tom Owen (1st engineer), right, responsible for the Workshops and Mail Order sections, explains a procedure to Board Member and Consultative Council Chairman Duncan McAuslan





Builder Maurice Galliers, left, and his wife, Pat, with our Chairman, Bryan Weston, and his wife, Heather

Conference Chairman Bryan Ogden, left, with speakers Malcolm Cooper, centre, and Tony Leach



Hostesses at the Conferences, from left to right: Julie Armitage, Marj Bell (both from Head Office), Marjorie Scregg (North Wirral), Teresa Safina and Gail Chesters (Head Office) and Samantha Oxburgh (Mid-Cheshire)

New Medallion deal for builders

—Free heating equipment and free credit



MANWEB have launched a new deal for Medallion Award builders in the Board's area. Free heating products and water heating controls, plus free credit for six months are added to the existing incentives for the scheme.

It was announced by MANWEB Senior Energy Marketing Engineer Malcolm Cooper at a conference for builders and architects held at the Albert Dock project in Liverpool—a very apt setting for such a gathering. The huge Victorian warehouses and docks have undergone a £30-million-plus reconstruction, with a museum, shops, restaurants, art gallery, flats and offices—and even a TV studio.

CEGB OPEN DAYS

THREE CEGB power stations in the MANWEB area—Dinorwig at Llanberis, Wylfa on Anglesey and Fiddlers Ferry near Warrington—will be open to the public during September.

These are just three of the 20 stations throughout the whole of England and Wales—a quarter of the total number operated by the CEGB—which will be “at home” for the weekend. Several hundred thousand people are expected to visit the stations.

Dates for the weekend visits in our area are as follows: **Dinorwig** (pumped storage), 6th and 7th September; **Wylfa** (nuclear), 20th and 21st September; **Fiddlers Ferry** (coal, the largest in the North West), 27th and 28th September.

A special exhibition will be staged by MANWEB at each of the power stations.

Announcing the plans, Gil Blackman, CEGB Deputy Chairman and Production Managing Director, said: “For many years we have welcomed visitors to our power stations, but the forthcoming programme

of open days is unprecedented. It is ‘open house’ at the power station in a big way, and it will contribute substantially to the aims of Industry Year—to increase understanding of the role of our industry and its service to the community.

“We look forward to our ‘shareholders’, the public, turning up in force to see a vital job done for the community by skilled and dedicated staff—producing reliable, round-the-clock supplies of electricity at the lowest possible cost.

“Our product is used by some 50-million people. Without it many activities would stop and much of industry would grind to a halt. As well as playing a key part in industrial production, we help British manufacturers and suppliers in their export business. For instance, our modern power stations act as shop windows for overseas buyers of plant and equipment and are proof of the skills of the country’s workforce.”

The conference, entitled *Building for Today and Tomorrow*, was chaired by MANWEB Energy Marketing Manager Bryan Ogden. Nearly 150 architects and builders heard the first of the speakers, The Electricity Council’s Tony Leach, outlined the Medallion Award Scheme.

Mr. Leach explained that Medallion Homes were energy saving, with low operating costs. There were savings in capital and in construction time and materials. The combination of electric heating and insulation meant condensation was eliminated and the homes were virtually maintenance-free.

To help builders, The Electricity Council had embarked on a heavy advertising campaign. Medallion Homes had proven sales appeal across the range of house types. The key to success had been the *Economy 7* tariff, which had just been reduced by 9.5 per cent, making a Medallion Home an even better prospect.

Malcolm Cooper, in an entertaining and varied presentation, endorsed all that Tony Leach had said, but saved the best news of the new MANWEB offer until the end of his talk. First, he grasped the nettle of why all builders did not construct Medallion Award Homes.

The two main reasons, he claimed, were that builders were under the impression that purchasers were reluctant to buy an electrically-heated home. Secondly, that builders were not aware of the MANWEB commitment to the scheme and

the support the Board gave builders of Medallion Award Homes.

To answer these points, he showed his audience an audio-visual presentation. A recorded dialogue between two characters acting the parts of the builder and the MANWEB salesman highlighted all the possible objections. The “salesman” responded by showing the “builder” slides and letting him hear recorded comments of Medallion home-buyers and builders, all of whom endorsed the advantages of living in or constructing Medallion Homes.

“All of the quotes you have just heard were real, taken during interviews within the last two months,” Malcolm Cooper assured the conference.

There was no longer any anti-electric feeling amongst house-buyers. Local market research found none. Sales of Medallion Homes by hundreds of builders proved their marketability, and the Energy Efficiency Office proved without doubt their economic viability. Over 100,000 families living in comfort were the proof of their saleability.

A local builder, Maurice Galliers, of Maurice Graham Ltd., gave a brief but positive endorsement to the claims of Malcolm Cooper for Medallion Homes. He had been building them for the last five years.

Summing up the advantages of building Medallion Homes, Malcolm Cooper said that there would be a £4-million national advertising campaign, MANWEB providing free site-boards and promotional material. Site

sales personnel would receive briefings, and MANWEB staff would meet potential buyers and automatically follow up with after-sales service by explaining the operation of the system.

In addition, specialised computer programs were available to design heating schemes for dwellings.

On top of the help already given, until 31st March 1987 MANWEB were making a very special offer to all builders who would be starting new Medallion developments of ten dwellings or more.

He told the builders: “We will supply you with all of the heating products and water heating controls that are required for your first dwelling on the site, completely free of charge.

“And, to top this, we will supply and deliver this equipment for the rest of the dwellings on the site and defer payment until the house is sold, or for six months, whichever is the sooner.”

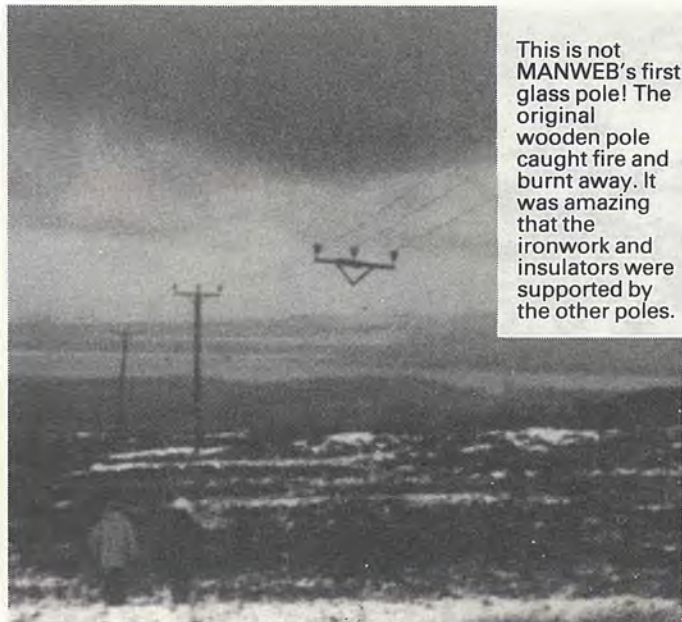
To conclude the conference, Bryan Ogden introduced the MANWEB Chairman, Bryan Weston. He told the audience that he could endorse the value of Medallion Homes. He had moved house five times over the years and, in each case, he had electric storage heating. He was particularly pleased to see that the Medallion scheme had taken off so well, as he had served on the committee that had originated it.

The smooth running of the conference was due to the back-room duo of Steve Griffin and John Shead.

First to sign

Mike Potts (Mid-Cheshire Energy Marketing Engineer), left, watches Alan Foster, a Director of Dowlon Construction sign up for the new Medallion deal





This is not MANWEB's first glass pole! The original wooden pole caught fire and burnt away. It was amazing that the ironwork and insulators were supported by the other poles.

Power failure!

THERE are many reasons why, from time to time, power supply to our customers is lost, especially in more rural areas. Over a short period of time Ian Barraclough (3rd engineer) in our Gwynedd District, has been able to take photographs of two such incidents which resulted in loss of supply.

In addition to the examples pictured here—sorry for the poor reproductions, but they were enlarged from colour prints—vandalism, birds, trees (falling and growing), snow and ice, lightning, wind-borne materials and gales account for many more breakdowns in our supply network.

Despite this, however, in our Gwynedd District last year, the total number of hours lost due to faults was less than one per cent of the total.

The driver of this vehicle walked away unhurt after crashing into a power pole, causing loss of supply to a number of customers



Graham Rix and teacher Pamela Thornton, with some pupils at Meadowside School

'Industry Year' goes to school

AS part of "Industry Year 1986", North Wirral District have adopted a school just a couple of miles from the Prenton office.

Meadowside School is an educational establishment for handicapped youngsters from the age of 13 to 19. With assistance from the MANWEB staff, Industry Year is now part of the curriculum.

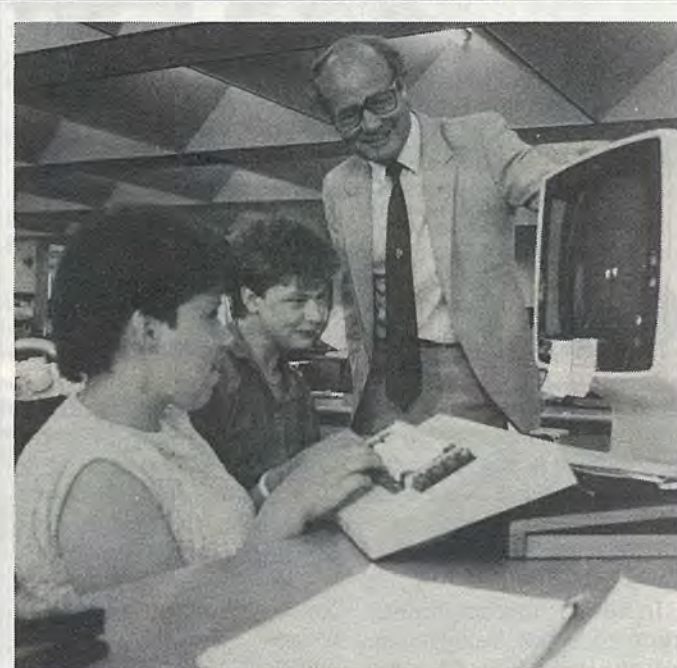
Work involving Meadowside is being co-ordinated by Commercial assistant Graham Rix who has been responsible for the showing of videos and the provision of literature. Also, energy marketing representative Marjorie Scregg has given demonstrations to the pupils and Graham has fixed up visits for them.

One party went to The Electricity Council Research Establishment at Capenhurst during

their 20-year celebrations open week. Another outing was to Fiddlers Ferry power station.

Two teachers and several pupils have spent time at the District Office gaining work experience. One teacher, Mrs. Sylvia Helliwell, who spent three days at the District Office, visited various departments. Naturally, the work was totally different from her tutorial duties.

She commented: "I didn't know what to expect, so I cannot say that there were many surprises here, but I didn't realise



Pupils Amanda Gregg and Amanda Scriven, with District Manager Des Lock

how many people were involved in providing a service to the public, and how wide-ranging that service is."

Would she swap her teaching role for a job with MANWEB? "There are some interesting jobs here, but no, I think I'd miss the children. My work can be very demanding at times, but we do see the response in the pupils and it can be very satisfying," she replied.

The entrance hall of Meadowside has a display of the work by the pupils, combined with

literature and posters from MANWEB and the electricity supply industry concerned with Industry Year.

The story of the District's association with the school is told in a display in the foyer of the District Office. The relationship between the MANWEB staff and the teachers and pupils seems a very happy one. It is an interesting and caring way to introduce electricity and industry into education, and the District staff are to be congratulated on their initiative.

Consultative Council at Gwynedd District

CHAIRMAN of the Merseyside and North Wales Electricity Consultative Council Duncan McAuslan and Secretary Jill Hart joined members of the Gwynedd/Clwyd Local Committee when they visited the Board's District office and depot in St. Helens Road, Caernarfon, a short time ago.

They heard from our senior staff of the work being carried out in taking care of all classes of customers in the domestic, commercial, agricultural and industrial areas of the Gwynedd District.

Many questions raised by Local Committee members on behalf of the customers were answered by District Officers.

District Manager Dick Owen, centre left, flanked by senior members of his staff, welcomes Terry Walsh (Deputy Chairman) and members of the Gwynedd/Clwyd District Local Committee. Between them is Clwyd District Manager Doug Willacy, who is the Board's representative on the Committee





The line is never engaged when Irene is with her favourite animals. Here she is with baby Douglas

ORANG-AID!

OUR telecommunications supervisor at Head Office, Irene Matthews, has adopted a Sumatran Orang Utan at Chester Zoo! For an outlay of a mere £25 a year, Irene has a share in the annual food bill of £500 for just one of over 3,000 animals, reptiles and birds housed in the 110 acres of gardens and landscaped grounds at the world-famous Zoo at Upton, Chester.

In return for her money Irene received a certificate and two free tickets for entry into the Zoo. These were soon used up, as she makes regular visits to see her "ward" always taking along a bag of fruit as an extra treat.

Her name also appears on an adoption plaque sited by the enclosure for the Orang Utans. To keep her in touch with the latest news Irene is on the mailing list for the Zoo's quarterly magazine.

While on a recent photo session visit to the zoo, Irene commented: "I really wanted to meet Sidney, the Orang Utan with great artistic ability who had one of his 'paintings' auctioned at Sotheby's a short time ago."

"However, although he is only 3½ years old, he is very strong and boisterous. I might have ended up dangling from a nearby tree!

"In the interests of safety and decorum, I was introduced to his baby brother, 12-month-old Douglas—rather docile and shy, that is until the bananas were produced," she said.

Secretary for the Adoption Society is Maureen Allsopp, who told us that the food bill at the Zoo amounts to around £150,000 a year. "This helps to buy 53 tonnes of meat, 9,000

litres of milk, nearly 4,500 loaves of bread, over 37,000 eggs, 30 tonnes of apples, 15 tonnes of carrots, over 200,000 bananas, 35,000 oranges, 25,000 lettuce and many more items.

"Elephants are the most expensive to keep, as they eat about £2,000-worth of food annually," she said.

If any of our readers wish to follow Irene's excellent example, all the animals at the Zoo are available for adoption. You can feed a fish or a finch for about £12.50 a year. You can adopt a Coypu or a Tortoise for £25, a Fruit Bat, Mongoose or Anaconda for £50 (two shares), or get together with a group of friends or colleagues and adopt a Reindeer or Marmoset (£100), a Monkey or an Emu (£150) . . . the list is endless. For 20 shares—£200—you can take over the food bill for your own Lion or Tiger! Write to Maureen for a full list.

Irene joined the scheme last February and chose to part-adopt an Orang Utan—"my favourite animal". This is fairly obvious with a visit to the Head Office telephone exchange, where the walls are covered with charming and interesting pictures of Orang Utans.

She went on to quip that since starting work for MANWEB she has developed an affinity for big hairy creatures!



Members of the Irish teams, from north and south of the border, who played their annual match in Chester

MANWEB help Irish celebrate

FOOTBALL teams from the Electricity Supply Board, Ireland, in Dublin, and the Northern Ireland Service, in Belfast, have played an annual fixture every year since 1966, alternating north and south of the border. This year, to celebrate their 20th anniversary, both teams decided to play their match away from home.

They contacted MANWEB Head Office Football Section and the necessary arrangements were made.

On the Saturday afternoon, as part of the build-up programme for the coming season, our MANWEB team played a match against a very strong Combined Irish XI.

The game looked good at half-time, with a goal by Mike Thomas (Drawing Office) putting MANWEB in the lead. The Irish equaliser early in the second half was followed by further MANWEB goals from John Griffiths (Personnel) and then another from Mike Thomas. As

the home team relaxed and began coasting to what they thought would be a comfortable win, two late goals from the gallant Irish team gave them a well-deserved draw.

The game was played with an excellent sporting spirit throughout. Considering the number of late revellers on the Friday night, the standard of play on the Saturday was extremely high!

On the following day, the two Irish teams went on to play their annual match, which once more finished in an honourable draw, with two goals each.

Our own Men from MANWEB enjoyed their "warm-up"

match in order to be ready for the coming season in the Chester and District League. Manager Brian Carman (Debt Recovery section) commented: "We hope to do even better this year, to top our last successful season. Our first team won the Cholmondeley Cup, were runners-up for the League Cup and finished in third place in the Premier Division. Our second team did well to maintain their position in the Second Division."

The section secretary, Nigel Crossley (Pension section), told us that the team had been in existence since 1969 and, since moving into the Chester and District League, has won the First Division title on two occasions, and picked up the Challenge Cup and the Cayzer Shield.

"We have had successful tours to other electricity undertakings in France, Belgium and West

Germany," he went on. "In addition to our recent hosting of the Irish teams, we have also entertained a team from Belgium. They are returning to us next Easter and will be bringing another team from Hamburg in Germany."

As a result of the highly successful weekend enjoyed by their football friends from Ireland, an invitation has been extended by both Belfast and Dublin organisations for our Head Office team to take the trip across the Irish Sea and play in the Emerald Isle.

Nigel offers an open invitation to any promising football player working for MANWEB in striking distance of Head Office to get in touch with him ('phone 2729) or with Brian ('phone 2685) if they fancy playing a couple of games in Ireland next year.



Life begins at . . .

by MITCH

THINGS MUST BE DESPERATE AT WORK.. THAT WAS THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL SECRETARY..

IT'S OVER 3 YEARS SINCE I RETIRED..

.. AND HE'S JUST PHONED TO ASK ME...

... IF I'LL PLAY IN GOAL FOR 'EM ON SATURDAY!



The successful MANWEB football team, from left to right, standing: Vincent Murray (Revenue), Steve Froot (Associate), Steve Addison (son of Bert Addison, Civil), Steve Ward (Computers), Nigel Crossley (Pensions), Ian Rooney (Estates), Steve Buswell (Engineering), Dave Spencer (New Crane Street). Kneeling: Brian Carman (Debt Recovery), Mike Thomas (Drawing Office), Alan Murray (Associate), John Kennedy (Estates), Mike Artell (Costs), Jimmy Morris (Associate) and John Griffith (Personnel)

Liverpool Come Dancing

Retired members of MANWEB and the CEGB in the Liverpool area now have the opportunity to take up modern sequence dancing at Friday afternoon sessions held at the Thingwall Road Clubhouse.

For an entrance fee of only 50 pence, expert tutors, along with their experienced dancing partners, will take you through the steps, between 1.30 and 3.30 p.m.

Modern sequence dancing is a healthy and most enjoyable pastime. If you haven't danced for many years—or have never stepped the light fantastic—you are never too old to start. Dancing helps you meet other nice people—so make a date for next Friday!

If you require any further information, get in touch with George Barr, the Club's secretary, on 051-487 9890.



The Hamiltons, Tom, Ian and Vivien

Joining the Clan

BEST wishes for a happy future go to Head Office colleagues Vivien Price, a systems analyst programmer, and Ian Hamilton, a 2nd engineer in our Energy Marketing section, who were married recently at Trinity with Palm Grove Church, Birkenhead. Assisting at the ceremony was Ian's grandfather, the Reverend William Hamilton.

The reception was held at Rowton Hall in Chester, and the honeymoon spent in Mid-Wales and the Lakeland area.

Father of the groom is Tom Hamilton, Administrative Services Manager at Head Office.

Later this month, Ian will be leaving us to take up an appointment with Rolls Royce and Associates, at Derby.

North Wirral win first-aid contest



Proudly displaying their latest trophy, the Opher Shield, are the winning trio of first-aiders, from left to right: Norman Carew, Alan Cameron and team leader Steve Holmes

THREE men from MANWEB did the work of four in pulling-off an extraordinary victory when our North Wirral first-aiders travelled to Barrow-in-Furness on the Cumbrian coast to compete for the Opher Shield.

When one of the team had to drop out, the three members who were left thought their chances of winning the Shield were pretty slim, especially against full teams of four. The opposition was tough, with police and fire service teams—all proficient first-aiders.

"We thought that we should have a go," commented the team's Number Two, Norman Carew. "It would give us some valuable experience."

How right he was. They won,

and did it in style. Team leader Steve Holmes, an electrical fitter, also took the prize as the Best Captain.

Norman, a tariff surveyor, had the task of assessing the help required by the team members and then arranging it. In addition, he managed to help in administering to the victims.

For his sterling efforts he was awarded a Merit Prize as the best first-aid in the competition. It was a real team effort, with Alan Cameron, an electrical fitter, working very hard in

covering for their missing fourth member.

The Opher Shield now has the name of "MANWEB North Wirral" engraved on it, joining other illustrious winners such as the Greater Manchester Police, who have held the trophy for the past three years. Another MANWEB name adorns the Shield—the legendary Chester Ladies.

Our North Wirral District colleagues are now searching for a couple of new recruits to join their winning team. They plan to bring home a few more trophies. If you are interested, please call Norman Carew on North Wirral internal telephone 248.

NALGO—Life Membership

IF you were a member of Nalگو prior to retirement from the Board and have not taken out life membership, it might be advisable to do so now.

Reg Keen, secretary of the MANWEB (Nalگو) Retired Members' Section, informs us that, if as a former Nalگو

member of the Board's staff, you have your car insured through Frizzells Special Service for Nalگو Members, you should be aware that renewal of insurance is on the understanding that you are a current, or retired, member of Nalگو.

"It means that when you retire

you should take out life membership of Nalگو for a once-and-for-all payment of £5," he went on.

Further information may be obtained from Reg Keen, 2 Oakfield Avenue, Chester CH2 1LR (Telephone: Chester 381382).

RETIREMENTS

Mr. D. M. NEAVE

A FAREWELL party held at Welshpool marked the retirement of Denis Neave, a driver in our Oswestry District.

A most respected member of the staff, Denis began his career with the Board 33 years ago as a driver based at the Welshpool depot.

Colleagues subscribed to a parting gift of a carriage clock, which was presented, on their behalf, by Denzil Ellis (*Production Engineer*).

Mr. I. JONES

LINESMAN with the Oswestry District Engineering section, Ivor Jones has now retired, after 34 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

In his early days with the Board, when Ivor was employed at the Welshpool depot, he was well-known as a goalkeeper. Unfortunately, in recent years, he has suffered from osteoarthritis and has undergone a hip-replacement operation.

Friends gathered to wish Ivor a speedy recovery to enjoy a happy retirement with his wife Jean. As a gift from his many friends, Ivor was presented with a carriage clock by Denzil Ellis (*Production Engineer*).

Mr. A. R. THACKRAY

ILL-HEALTH has forced 2nd engineer Tony Thackray, Civil Drawing Office, Chester, to retire.

After an apprenticeship with the Ashford, Kent, electricity undertaking, he joined SEEB in 1949 as a draftsman. He

moved to LEB before moving north. He came to MANWEB in 1957.

He played Southern League soccer, hockey for Kent, and was good at tennis and badminton. We wish Tony and his wife, Joyce, a happy retirement.

Mr. J. MILLINGTON

A CAREER which appeared to have started all wrong for Jack Millington when he started work as a meter reader with the Wrexham Gas Company in 1941, took an upward turn when he became a member of the MANWEB staff in our Dee Valley District some time later.

For three years, Jack served with the RAF, returning to Wrexham to a variety of jobs—warehouseman, press operator, banksman's assistant at Bersham Colliery and, finally, in 1958, to MANWEB.

He read meters and collected cash based at depots in Johnstown, Shotton and Wrexham. He was appointed a chargehand in 1976.

An arthritic knee has brought his career to a premature end. Colleagues joined Teg Williams (*Administration Manager*) in wishing Jack and his wife, Doris, many years of happy retirement together.

Tony Thackray, right, is presented with a farewell gift from colleagues by Harry Foreman



A parting gift from friends—a wrist watch—is handed to Jack Millington, right, by Teg Williams



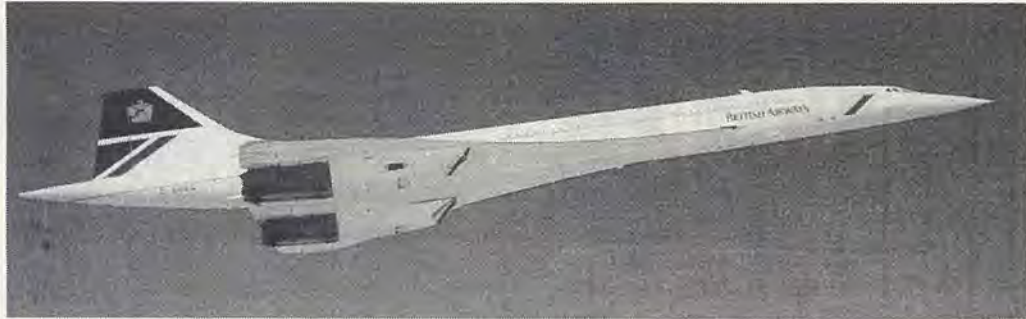
OBITUARY

IT is with deep regret that we record the death of John Roy Swarbrick, aged 55, a 2nd engineer in our North Mersey District. He had been with the Board for 23 years.

John died as a result of an incident which occurred when he was engaged on operations at the Percy Street sub-station in Bootle on 14th August.

He received severe injuries and died at the Whiston Hospital Burns Unit on 18th August.

Our condolences go to his widow, Lily, and daughters, Janet Anne and Donna Elizabeth.



The supersonic Concorde

WHEN Ted Elcock retired from his job as a craftsman in the Meter Test Station at Lister Drive a few months ago, part of his retirement plan was a "Concorde/QE2" trip to America and back. We are delighted to report that Ted achieved his ambition, and now gives his account of his journey of a lifetime.



20th Century Christopher Columbus

MY holiday started with first-class rail travel from Lime Street in Liverpool to Euston Station in London. A fast, tea-time train and overnight accommodation in the Post House Hotel at Heathrow allowed me to be awake, bright and early on the following morning, to enjoy a full English breakfast. The hotel courtesy bus whisked me and my fellow-passengers to Terminal Four in time for the 9.00 a.m. Concorde flight to New York.

The departure lounge has real style, with a very long "free" bar, serving coffee, tea, wine, spirits—you name it, they have it! Half an hour before take-off I was calmly sipping a Cointreau!

As we were gently ushered out of the lounge area, all passengers were presented with a neat model of the magnificent Concorde.

All aboard, settle down, fasten seat-belts and a very smooth take-off. Out came the champagne along with the menu. I chose the steak, followed by fresh strawberries and cream. Wine—including champagne—flowed freely and, when I asked for the cheese-board and made my selection, along came a glass of fine port.

By now, the aircraft had

reached 58,000 feet, flying at 1,310 miles an hour. I took a leisurely stroll to visit the surprisingly cramped flight-deck, with its vast array of dials, which only the flight crew could understand.

Back in my seat, the cabin staff brought along welcome, refreshing towels, and then presented all passengers with pink carnations.

It was a fantastic journey, taking just three hours and 50 minutes from London to New York. We touched down at 0750 hours (five hours behind London

time) and received a bottle of Black Label whisky on leaving the aircraft.

After a couple of nights "on the town", I prepared for my return trip on board the famous Queen Elizabeth II—a floating palace.

Embarkation was completed and we slipped away from the quayside at five o'clock in the evening. We moved slowly and majestically down the Hudson River, leaving the cleaned-up Statue of Liberty on our star-

board side. (Already I am a sailor!).

In the beginning, the main topic of conversation was "the food", and the vastly varying menus. Without doubt, the quality, selection and quantity offered for breakfast, lunch and dinner was the highlight of the cruise. Between these five-to-six course meals each day, we were served with "elevenses" and afternoon tea!

Unfortunately, the weather left much to be desired. After Cunard's Queen Elizabeth II

leaving New York in a heat-wave, we sailed into a mixture of mist, drizzle, rain and wind. Not that I noticed it—there was so much to see and do on board this huge liner.

The cabaret at night was excellent. A fine routine from the Peter Gorden Dancers opened the show, to be followed by the talents of American comedian Dale Grand, singer Beatrice Reading and British dance champions David and Belinda Hawker. Two fine bands

took turns in playing for dancing. I thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment as I quaffed my "whisky-on-the-rocks" and my Budweiser beer chaser.

Man From U.N.C.L.E., Robert Vaughn was a fellow-passenger of "Man from MANWEB". Very nice to chat to.

As my journey drew to an end, I made a quick visit to the shopping complex—which includes a Harrods—for souvenirs and presents.

A little excitement due to an engine malfunction in mid-ocean gave us an extra night on board—with dinner and breakfast of course—courtesy of Cunard.

As value-for-money, I found this round trip was quite fantastic. I thoroughly recommend it. There is a cruise on the "QE2" leaving Southampton on 25th September, arriving in New York on 1st October. The return trip on Concorde takes off on 3rd October and lands at Speke Airport, in Liverpool.

You may still have time to book!





FOR MANWEB PRESENT AND RETIRED STAFF

CARMEN HAIR STYLING HEATWAVE CT290

Keep your hairstyle the way you want it with this superb heated styling brush. The Heatwave CT290 from the House of Carmen will brush your hair into a curl, hold it and, when you want it released, a touch of a button retracts the bristles and the brush slides out.

For this ideal gift, fill in the coupon below and it will be sent to the MANWEB shop of your choice, where you can pick it up and pay for it after 1st October.



'CONTACT' STAFF PRICE £6.95

To: Jim Kehoe, MANWEB Purchasing Dept.
2W1 Head Office, Sealand Road, Chester CH1 4LR

Please reserve Carmen Heatwave hairstyling brushes at £6.95 each. I will pay and collect from the MANWEB shop at:—

NAME

WORKPLACE (FORMER IF RETIRED)

INTERNAL TEL. (HOME IF RETIRED)

OFFER CLOSSES 20th SEPTEMBER, 1986

N.B.—We need all coupons to be returned by the closing date of 20th September in order to ensure that your styling brush is in your chosen shop by 1st October and, to save on administration, we will NOT notify you—just go to the shop after 1st October.



"Don't you think you're taking your emergency service duty a little too seriously, Dennis?"

Last Laugh with Mitch



"Most people would be content to have a Busy Lizzie, Veronica..."

CONTACT FREE ADS

FOR SALE

LARGE TRUNK—With metal-bound corners. 38 ins. x 20 ins. x 20 ins. Ideal for student. Tel: 0565 3320.

STEREO—Steepletone 600 unit. VHF radio and speakers. Excellent condition and in full working order. £50. Tel: Mid-Cheshire 222 (R. Ankers).

HOLIDAYS AT HOME

NEWQUAY—Family-run lic. guest house with no restrictions. Central position. Discount for MANWEB staff. Plenty of home-cooked food. Square deal guaranteed. Tel: Newquay (0637) 872234.

TO LET

ABERSOCH—Six-berth caravan within walking distance of beaches and village. No pets. Families only. Tel: Abersoch 3254.

MISCELLANEOUS

KATERAMA—Board. home for cats. Vet approved. Halton Borough Council licence. Write: A. Berrington, Halesgate Farm, Halesgate Road, Halebank, Widnes, Cheshire.

HOUSES

MAGHULL—Detached bungalow. Close to shops and amenities. Lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom. Slim-line storage heaters and imm. heater on Economy 7 tariff. Gardens, garage space. £29,995. Tel: Liverpool District 483 or 051-526 2846.

HOPE—Modern detached, enjoying elev. position on outskirts of village. Deceptively spacious accommodation immaculately maintained. Conservatory entrance hall, lounge, large dining/living room, kitchen, utility room, cloaks/w.c., fuel store, three good bedrooms all with fitted wardrobes, luxury bathroom. Solid fuel central heating, partial dbl-glazing, garage. Well-stocked, established and easily-maintained gardens. £39,500. Tel: Caergwrie (0978) 760797.

BROMBOROUGH, Wirral—Completely renovated semi-detached house in good condition. Three bedrooms, two reception, fitted kitchen, neat bathroom, large garden with room for garage. £26,450. Tel: Head Office 2756 or 0244 535641 (evenings).

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