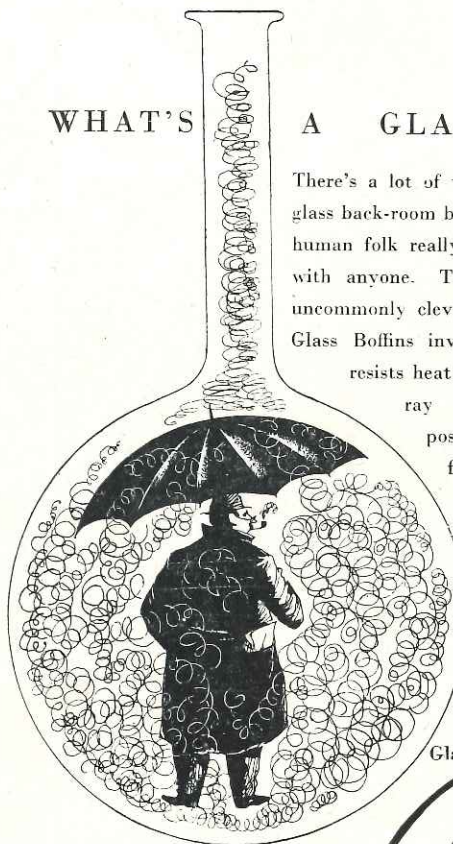


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Centre Trust**
Tele 0121 429 1223

WHAT'S

A GLASS BOFFIN ?



There's a lot of them at Chance Brothers . . . glass back-room boys . . . glass scientists. Quite human folk really--would take a glass of bitter with anyone. The only difference is, they're uncommonly clever with glass. What have the Glass Boffins invented? Well . . . Glass that resists heat (called 'Hysil'). The cathode-ray tube that makes television possible. Glass thinner than paper for microscope work. Flawless glass for camera lenses. Glass to protect the eyes from glare and infra red. Glass for beautiful church windows, for factory roof lights, for houses everywhere. Glass bowls, jugs, dishes, that everyone can buy. Glass for everything. Glass for you.

Chance
* * * * GLASS

FOR SCIENCE, INDUSTRY AND THE HOME

CHANCE BROTHERS LIMITED Glassmakers since 1824

Head Office : Smethwick 40, Birmingham. London Office : 28 St. James's Square, S.W.1

Branch Works : Glasgow, St. Helens and Malvern.

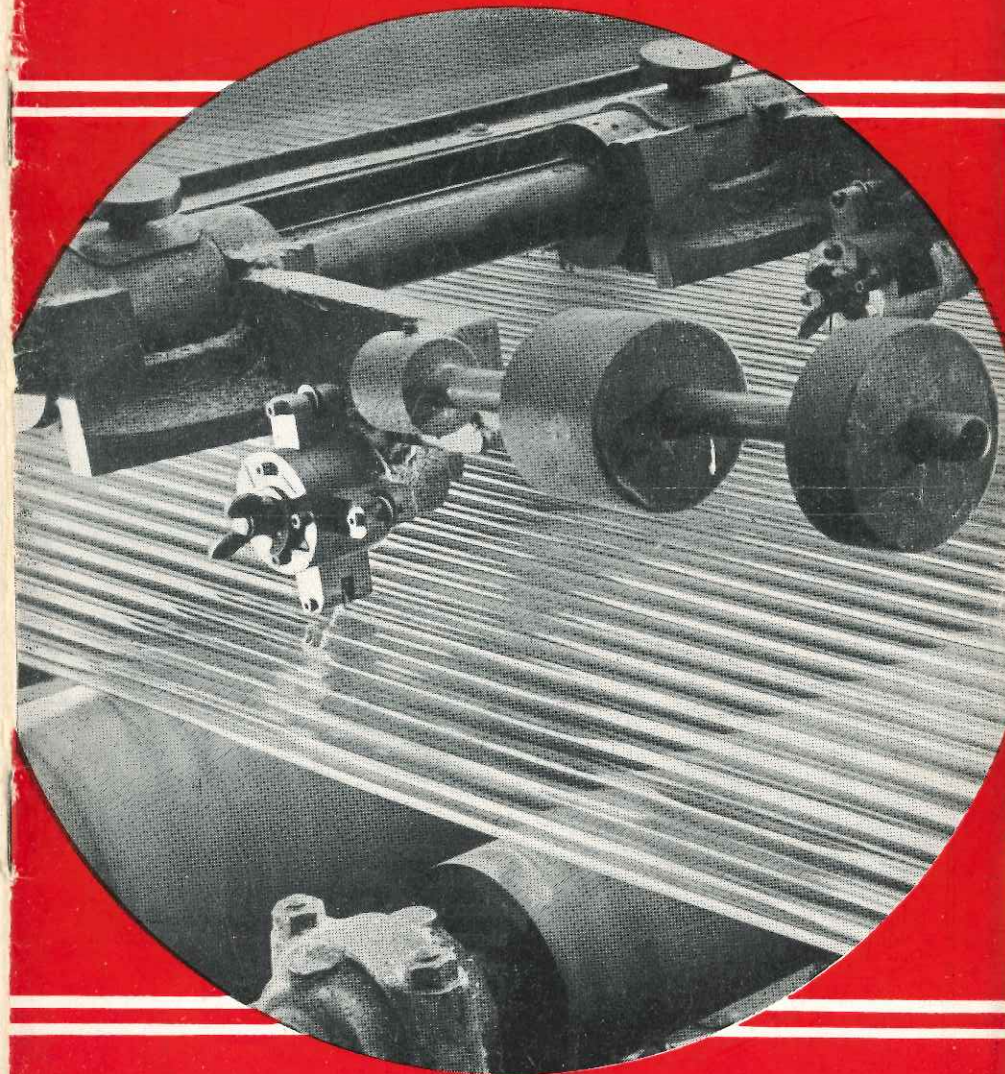
This is one of the series of advertisements at present appearing in the National Press and Class Magazines

Produced and published by Teamwork Magazines (Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd.) 25 Catherine Street, London, W.C.2, on behalf of, and in collaboration with, Chance Brothers, Limited, Smethwick.

Chance

COMMENTS

MAY-JUNE, 1950



THE MAGAZINE OF
CHANCE BROTHERS LIMITED, SMETHWICK

3^D

THE Magazine of Chance Brothers Limited, Smethwick published in alternate months for the interest, entertainment and information of all employees of the firm.

EDITOR A. OGDEN

CORRESPONDENTS
Accounts Office J. ALLEN

Blown and Pressed

Decorating	A. CHAMBERS
Inspection	F. O'CONNOR
	R. TURTON
Making	B. PATRICK
Methods	S. C. PITT
Process	S. STOCKIN
	F. TATTON
Sales	F. HARRIS
Warehouse	MRS. A. KEYS
Buying & Stationary	F. J. WHITE
Costs	MISS D. SANDERS

Engineering

Drawing Office	S. DORAN
Electrical	D. PRICHARD
Machine and	
Fitting	F. STYLES
Commercial Staff	F. W. G. BEAUMONT
Stores	J. P. DEELEY
Sumo Office	R. P. WARD
Sumo Works	W. KINCHIN
Time Study	A. HEATH
Toolroom and	
Mould Shop	W. D. COX
Welding and	
Blacksmiths	D. EDWARDS
Works Staff	A. SLEIGH
Export	H. V. SKAN

Flat Glass

Making and	R. E. EVANS
Warehouse	S. RAY
Sales	A. FARDELL
Seven Storey	MRS. RUSSELL
Laboratory	

Maintenance and Construction

Boiler Shop	H. HANSON
Building	S. BEARDSMORE
Electricians	E. A. WHITEHOUSE
Garage	V. COCKSEY
Millwrights	W. JOHNSON
Old Hall	E. BREENS
Stores	D. KIRKWOOD
Mixing	N. GREEN
Optical	MISS E. COTTON
Personnel	MISS M. BEE
Pyrometry	N. WALKER
Recreation Club	A. FARLEY
Silvering	T. PAGE
Stonemasons	H. ARMSTRONG
Transport	F. G. ANKORN
Typists' Pool	MISS S. SPENCER
Wages	B. FIELDHOUSE

BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS

Glasgow	J. A. AITCHISON
London	J. W. CHANCE
Malvern	MISS D. CLARE
St. Helens	MRS. I. DAVIES

Editorial . .

WHILST CHANCE COMMENTS is written solely for distribution to the Company's employees, it is interesting to learn that copies somehow or other appear in such far-away places as Singapore, Sydney, and Auckland. The Company sends complimentary copies to each of our young men serving in the Forces and many of these are also posted overseas.

The principal feature in this month's issue is by Edwin Cooper who is spending two years in the Engineering Division under the auspices of the Government of Liberia. Edwin is training in Lighthouse Engineering and at the end of his training-time he will return to Liberia.

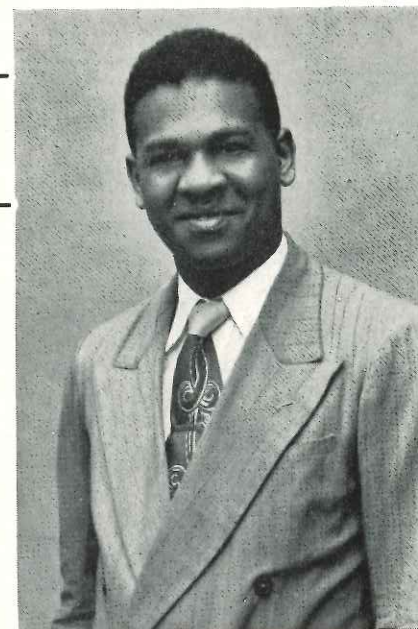
The Works Consultative Committee is virtually "The House of Lords" of all the various Works Committees and E. B. Anderson has this month featured five of the Workpeople's Representatives.

Victor Blake, Assistant Sales Manager in the Engineering Division, contributes the descriptive article on two of the Engineering Division products.

This month's cover photograph was taken in the Rolled Plate Warehouse and shows the cutting of the selvedge off broad reeded glass.

FROM LIBERIA TO ENGLAND

By EDWIN COOPER



FOR the past six years the Liberian Government has been sending her youths to foreign countries for the purpose of specialising in various fields of life. Because of my profound interest in engineering I was designated to take training in lighthouse engineering, for the purpose of maintaining the lighthouses around the Liberian coast.

Before I left Liberia I received all sorts of information about the conditions in England. Some gave me the impression that a lot of damage could be seen everywhere as a result of the last war. Others concluded that because of the enormous shortage of food, people were dying from starvation, and

that the costs of living were exceptionally high.

With such an impression I left Robertsfield Airport by Air France on the 19th August, 1949. The plane stopped at Freetown, Conakry, Dakar, Casablanca and Paris. I saw much of Paris during a week I spent there. A friend I knew in Liberia took me around. The beauties of France actually fascinated me despite the fact that I could not speak the language. The hospitality was simply terrific. It was really an enjoyable week. On 26th August I left Paris by Air France for London. The air voyage was absolutely marvellous and a vista of amazing beauty meets the eyes as one passes over the geometrically-shaped coastline, the fresh fields and the deep blue Atlantic Ocean of parts of Africa and Europe. It was wonderful to see places that were only geography book places once.

When I landed in London I was expecting the Liberian Consulate to meet me, but unfortunately I was disappointed. Not being acquainted with anyone I decided to take a taxi and go to the Consulate's Office. Upon my arrival at the office, I observed a

NEXT ISSUE : JULY 25th

notice on the door stating that the office was closed until Monday the 29th. I immediately got back into the taxi and asked the driver to assist me in getting hotel accommodation.

The three days I spent in London was an interesting experience. I visited the House of Commons, Westminster Abbey, London Bridge and the Tower of London. I went back to the Liberian Consulate's Office on the following Monday and found him preparing a statement for Scotland Yard. He thought I had got lost in London! Later Mr. Sutton-Jones took me over to Chance Brothers' London Office.

The following day we caught a train to Birmingham. En route, we passed through some of the most beautiful countryside I have ever seen in my life. I really did enjoy looking at the neatly-hedged fresh fields. Finally, we arrived in Birmingham and I was taken to Smethwick. Mr. Sutton-Jones then

introduced me to Mr. F. W. G. Beaumont, and after a short interview Mr. Beaumont took me to the Drawing Office and the works, and I was introduced to the Staff. I was really enthused over the splendid work and the magnificent arrangement in the workshops. At the end of that day I had met over 65 new faces.

Accordingly I commenced my training in the Drawing Office immediately after all the necessary arrangements had been made for my final settling down. The Drawing Office Staff welcomed me in their midst and equipped me with all the facilities a draughtsman needed. The two months I spent in the Drawing Office I gained a lot from those very generous friends who, to the best of their ability, gave me all the information I wanted. As a matter of fact I had become so acquainted with the Staff that I actually felt sad when I had to be transferred to the Fitting Shop.

The first two days I spent in the Fitting Shop were really dull and grim. I started with filing racks. To be frank, at first I did not like it, but as the weeks rolled by I developed a liking for the job—especially when I became acquainted with the folk in the shop. The work became a real pleasure, because when I got into any difficulties I could always get out immediately by asking anyone to clarify my mind. I am now in the Machine Shop.

After six months in the Works I became curious to know how I was getting along. It was then that I became a bit worried. I knew full well that I was getting along with my friends, and in my opinion doing the best I possibly could to grasp all the information I could get. Consequently this burden was relieved when Mr. Sutton-Jones told me that from information he had received he was satisfied with my progress.

Since my arrival here my impression of England has changed, especially with regard to the food. Many persons told me before leaving that I would have to tighten up my belt when I get to England. Even when I was leaving Paris the Liberian Minister made the same remarks. Instead I have had to loosen my belt because of the extra weight I have put on since my short stay here. Though food is still on the ration I can always get sufficient to meet my needs. I can say pointedly that the food is better than I expected it to be. Being used to rice as a staple meal I found it a bit difficult to get used to potatoes. Now that I have acquired the liking I am alright.

Besides meeting the folks at the works, many of them have wel-

comed me into their family circles. As a matter-of-fact for five consecutive Sundays after my arrival I was invited to a different home for tea.

When Christmas was drawing nigh I commenced wondering what I would do being away from home. Well, when Christmas came I had more invitations than I could respond to. I finally decided to respond to the first—Mr. and Mrs. S. Doran. We were seventeen and together we had a glorious time.

It would appear as though many of the people have not heard anything about Liberia. Well, for those who may be interested, Liberia is in West Africa, situated between Freetown and the French Ivory Coast. It consists of five counties and three provinces. For one hundred and three years it has been a free and independent country with a democratic form of government. It is the only country in West Africa to be ruled entirely by coloured people. The basic language is English with various tribal dialects. With few exceptions the culture is similar to that of this country.

In conclusion, I must be frank in saying that at my lodgings, works, school, church and social entertainments, I have received friendly greetings. If the tide of friendship continues I will be able to return home with everlasting memories.

To you, my friends, words are inadequate to express the sentiments of my deep appreciation for valuable efforts you have and are still making to give me a sound training. I can assure you that your energetic efforts will be a life-long memory.

A general view of Monrovia.



MEET YOUR

WORKS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, Part I

THE Works Consultative Committee was set up in February 1942 and has as its objects:—

- (a) To give workpeople a wider interest in and a greater responsibility for the conditions under which their work is performed.
- (b) To provide a recognised and direct channel of communication between the workpeople and the management.
- (c) To promote that spirit of co-operation essential to the efficiency of the works.

The Committee consists of ten representatives of the management and ten elected workpeople. Here are five of the workpeople's representatives. The remaining five will be featured in the next issue.

ELSIE BRITTAIN

MRS. BRITTAIN has been employed in the Globe Section of the Blown and Pressed for nearly ten years as a lehr hand, and she likes to think that she worked through the war years without losing a single day.

Lately, however, her health has not been good and much against her will has been forced to take things easier. A widow, she has had two daughters. Some of us will recall how that her younger girl, Dorothy aged fifteen years was accidentally killed in a cycle accident two weeks after she had started work in the 7 Storey. Peggy, who is married, works in the Sumo Department.

"Chance Brothers is a good firm to work for", says Mrs. Brittain, "and I know that a conscientious worker is looked after." She only longs to get a little stronger when she may be able to bustle about as before.

JOSEPH COTTRELL

JOE has been engaged in the Machine Shop since 1936 as a turner, and has been Shop Steward since 1941.

He was a member of the Works' Consultative Committee 1942 to 1944, and again in 1949 and 1950. He has always been keenly interested in Industrial Relations and Welfare, and has taken studies at the Birmingham Technical College in such subjects as Joint Consultation, Factory Organisation and Industrial Relations.

Concerning engineering at Chance Brothers, Joe believes that there is such a large variety of



REPRESENTATIVES

skilled work available that if the grade can be attained on these works, a man need have no fear of going anywhere.

Married and has one daughter, he is fond of music and art, plays the violin, and at one time did a lot of oil painting and drawing.

WILFRED HOLLOWAY

IT is almost thirty-two years since Chick started work at Chance Brothers, as a messenger boy in the Old Gatehouse and spent fifteen months cleaning bicycles, name plates, weighbridges, taking letters, and being generally useful.

He then went over to the Garage under Mr. Neal whom, he says, saw to it that there was no playing about.

Before reaching the age of seventeen he passed his driving test and years later began to drive a lorry, delivering goods all over the country as far north as John O'Groats and south as Plymouth.

He particularly enjoyed trips to the Glasgow Works where he met some grand people. He also recalls not so pleasant experiences with ice, fog and snow. Now he is back on Garage Service.

Wilfred is married and has two boys.

THOMAS NEWEY

TOM started work with the firm in 1931 in the Lighthouse Electrical Department and was then engaged on Traffic Signals, Floodlights and Beacons. He was also employed on the construction of the first General Post Office switchboard to be made at these works.

In 1938 he was promoted to Chargehand. Until this year he represented the Department on the Recreation Committee for five years. This year he represents the Cricket Section on that Committee. He now looks forward to serving to profit on the Works' Consultative Committee.

Tom was one of the many who served throughout the war years as a member of the Works' Home Guard. He is married and has two children, Daisy, 17 years and Tommy 5½ years. His particular pastimes are Gardening and Cricket.

FRANK WALTON

FRANK joined the firm in 1938 under the late Major Warner. He was engaged as Window Cleaner. This meant keeping clean the many thousands of panes of glass, both inside and out, all over the works. In his "spare time" however, he had to help out where required and he soon got used to the phrase, "Nip down to the plain and throw that bit of stuff on a truck". The truck generally was a ten-tonner, and the bit of stuff usually filled it.

During the war years he was night shift Telephone Exchange Operator and had the job of sounding the Works' sirens. Called to the Forces in 1941 and discharged in 1943, he soon afterwards was appointed Gatekeeper in the New Gatehouse.

This is Frank's second term of office on the Works' Consultative Committee. Happily married with a nice family of three girls and one boy.





SPOTLIGHT ON THE CRICKET SECTION

DURING the close season a tremendous amount of spade work is accomplished by the Cricket Committee in organising and preparing the forthcoming season's programme. Finance is a big headache and with the object of swelling the section's funds, smoking concerts and dances are held periodically.

Close touch is maintained with the Midland Works and Business Houses' League in arranging and classifying the season's fixtures embracing all three teams in their respective divisions. An attractive list of Sunday friendly matches is drawn up and compiled, culminating in impromptu evening concerts to which all are cordially invited and budding amateur artistes have the opportunity to display their talents to an appreciative audience.

Activity accelerates as the opening

of the season approaches, equipment is overhauled, repaired, or replaced, coaching and practising organised for two or three evenings a week and prospective players circularised. By the time this issue becomes available the 1950 season will have commenced. The committee feel that the foundation for a successful season has been laid and it is now up to the stalwarts of all three teams to carry on the good work by getting off to a flying start in their quest for championship honours.

The first XI in particular, have taken the field resplendent in cricket caps of royal blue and white, and it is the intention to award cap badges of suitable design for meritorious performances. For those with no aspirations to become regular playing members, there is the popular inter-departmental cup competitions with presentation medals for the finalists. This attracts entries from the different departments in the works and offices and results in much friendly rivalry.

ANGLING

THE first Bye Contest of the year was fished under ideal conditions at Hampton Loade on March 12th. Twenty-three members entered the competition and seventeen caught fish. The winner was L. Richards of the Blown and Pressed Division.

The second Bye Contest will be fished at Severn Stokes on July 9th, and the Annual Contest on September 10th at Bewdley.

TENNIS

THE Tennis Section is now making good use of the newly redressed courts, and there is a hearty welcome awaiting new members. An extensive programme of matches has been arranged, but so far mainly for men players. For those not interested in Tennis there will be an opportunity to meet the Section at the Dance in the Pavilion on June 3rd.

VARIETY

ON April 19th, 21st and 28th, a very successful "Non-Stop Variety"

show was presented by the Section. The show was very well received by a capacity audience on each occasion. We fully anticipate that we shall be asked for repeat performances. It is the intention to give another show in late June or early July. We shall start rehearsing for the pantomime "Aladdin" in early October.

TABLE TENNIS

BOTH Table Tennis Teams have had a remarkably successful season, winning the first and third divisions of the League, with the following performances:—

1st Team—Div. I.

Played 18: Won 15: Lost 1: Drawn 2:
For 128, Against 52: Points 32.

2nd Team—Div. III.

Played 18: Won 17: Lost 0: Drawn 1:
For 150, Against 24: Points 35.

In the Champions versus "Rest of League" Matches the First Team drew five all and the Second Team won 10-0.

Variety Section



Individual honours also came our way. Keith Williams was the winner of Smethwick's Individual Closed Championship and Geoff Glover won the Third Division Individual Championship.

FOOTBALL

THE Team had a good season, but just "missed the boat". In the "Hewitson" Cup they were defeated 2-1 by Accles and Pollocks and in Division Two of the Works League they were runners-up to B.T.H.

In one sphere, however, they were not "also ran"—namely their Annual Dinner in the Staff Canteen on April 21st.

MUSIC

THE Annual Dance was held on Friday, April 18th, at the Blue Gates Hotel, and was attended by some 170 dancers.

The Section is finishing the Winter Season in a welter of activity, due to co-operating with the Variety Section in their new edition of "Non-Stop Variety".

After this, there remains only the summer visit to Cheddar and Weston-Super-Mare to wind up the 1949-1950 season.

BADMINTON

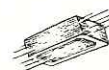
THE Badminton season ended on April 13th. A number of friendly matches was played and honours were about equal.

The Section had a profit of £2 at the end of the season due to the payment by each member of 3d. per game. Members also paid 1s. 6d. subscription fee and a levy of 3s. 6d. each.

Football Section's Dinner Party



Bouquets & Brickbats



Criticism sometimes is a necessary evil.

Advertising in a works' magazine is worse than bad taste. Employees do not pay threepence to read

Chance Brothers advertisements. Keep Editors comments brief: Editors edit, they do not compose. The series of articles on travel takes up space with something anyone can read in books.

The personalities pages have the failing of making everybody grand chaps—a great many people don't share this view. The contents of the Jottings page gives one the impression that nothing else could be found to fill up space.

Finally the whole magazine is much too sentimental . . .

"ONLY AN OFFICE GIRL"



CHANCE COMMENTS is quite one of the best Magazines included in the exhibition. It has the ideal balance between Company affairs and social activities

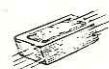
and the photographs are particularly well produced . . .

A DELEGATE AT AN INDUSTRIAL WELFARE CONFERENCE



Your new filter-flasks are the best which I have seen of anybody's make . . .

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF AN IMPORTANT LABORATORY FURNISHING COMPANY



A big brickbat to the seven men who, during 1949, sustained minor injuries which turned septic. A visit to the Works Medical Centre at the time of the injury would almost certainly have avoided complications.



To Messrs. Hadley and Cooper who so successfully cared for the Pressed Warehouse cat during her recent confinement.



Myself when young did eagerly frequent

Doctor and Saint and heard great Argument

And Wise Men taught that thirteen times each Year

The Moon of Heaven rose o'er the Firmament.

Ah Moon of my Delight that knew no wane,

Where is thy Spectral Light? I seek in vain;

The Lover sighs, the Ass no longer brays,

For of the thirteen, only twelve remain.

Where is this Man who circumvents the Law

Of Gravity? O unwise Editor

Who would the Almanack recalculate

Bow down in shame—the absent Moon restore! . . .

A CHALLENGE TO THE ANSWER TO QUIZ 2(ii) IN THE LAST ISSUE



Omar Khayyam is a welcome contributor to CHANCE COMMENTS but even this eleventh century astronomer must receive a brickbat, as in some years

there are twelve full moons and in others there are thirteen. The average is 12.4.

From your COMMITTEE ROOM

THE annual elections for work-people's representatives for the Works Consultative Committee took place in April. In

seven groups the candidates were unopposed. In three groups considerable enthusiasm was shown, and in the Optical Division 83% of possible votes were cast, in the Maintenance and Construction 75%, and in the Engineering Division 90%. The following are the Representatives for the year.

Group	Representative	Deputy Representative
1. Coloured and Seven Storey	A. Piper, Seven Storey	
2. Rolled Plate	A. Cooke, R.P. Warehouse	
3. Optical	J. Biggs, Remoulder	J. Hadley, Remoulder
4. No. 8 and 9 Blown and Pressed	H. Billingham, No. 9	
5. Nos. 11, 15, 22, etc., Blown and Pressed	Mrs. E. Brittain, Globe Process	
6. Millwrights, Boiler Shop, Electricians, etc.	E. Whitehouse, Electricians	C. Kirkham, Millwrights
7. Building, Carpenters, Crateyard, Garage	W. Holloway, Garage	
8. Fitting Shop, Machine Shop, Toolroom, Welding Smiths, Sumo	J. Cottrell, Machine Shop	
9. Electrical, Grinding	T. Newey, Electrical	J. Taylor, Grinding
10. Mixing, Pot and Clay, Transport, Traffic, Gatehouses	F. Walton, Gatehouse	

The Management Representatives are appointed by the Board and this year they are as follows:

Mr. John Raymond (Chairman), Mr. E. Andrew, Miss J. Bailey, Mr. W. E. Barrett, Mr. W. O. Hinds, Mr. H. S. Martin, Mr. C. J. S. Newman, Mr. S. W. Shaw, Mr. N. A. W. Stacey, Mr. W. Standley.

The first meeting of the newly-constituted Committee was held on April 27th.

The Committee devoted most of its time to the setting up of the following sub-committees: Canteen Advisory, Blown and Pressed Production, Flat Glass Production, Optical Production, Engineering Production, Maintenance and Construction, Fuel Economy, Safety, Suggestion Scheme and Personal Service Advisory.

SUGGESTION SCHEME

DURING 1949, two hundred and forty-six suggestions were submitted to the Suggestion Scheme. The Committee made 120 awards totalling £419 os. od. The Committee had a difficult task in deciding which was the best suggestion of the year and it was eventually decided that the £25 prize should be divided between Steve Morrall and Sam Russell of the Pressed Making and Joe Horton of the Millwrights. This prize money was, of course, in addition to the amount awarded for the particular suggestions.

Some excellent suggestions were placed before the Committee at the March and April meetings, and the one that received the highest award was submitted by Bob Evans of the Rolled Plate Department. It concerned a differential gear unit for attachment to the existing rolled plate machines so as to ensure even thickness of glass. Bob received £25.

There were two awards of £10 each. W. Holyhead, Electricians, made a suggestion for a two-speed contactor to take the place of Crabtree contactor on Number 9 burning off machine. S. Perkins of the Pressed Process suggested an improved method for bevelling Petri Dishes.

£1 10s. od. was awarded to each of the following: E. J. Gardener of the Pressed Mould Shop for alterations to the Jockey Rollers at the Tubing Machine; W. Holloway, Transport Repair Department, for the fitting of a protective bar on Fordson tractors;

W. Finney of St. Helens Fitting Shop for a suggestion to simplify the location of spectacle moulds on non-rotary presses; and A. Nelson, St. Helens Fitting Shop, for suggesting that a container with certain attachments be provided for re-moulders for holding graphite.

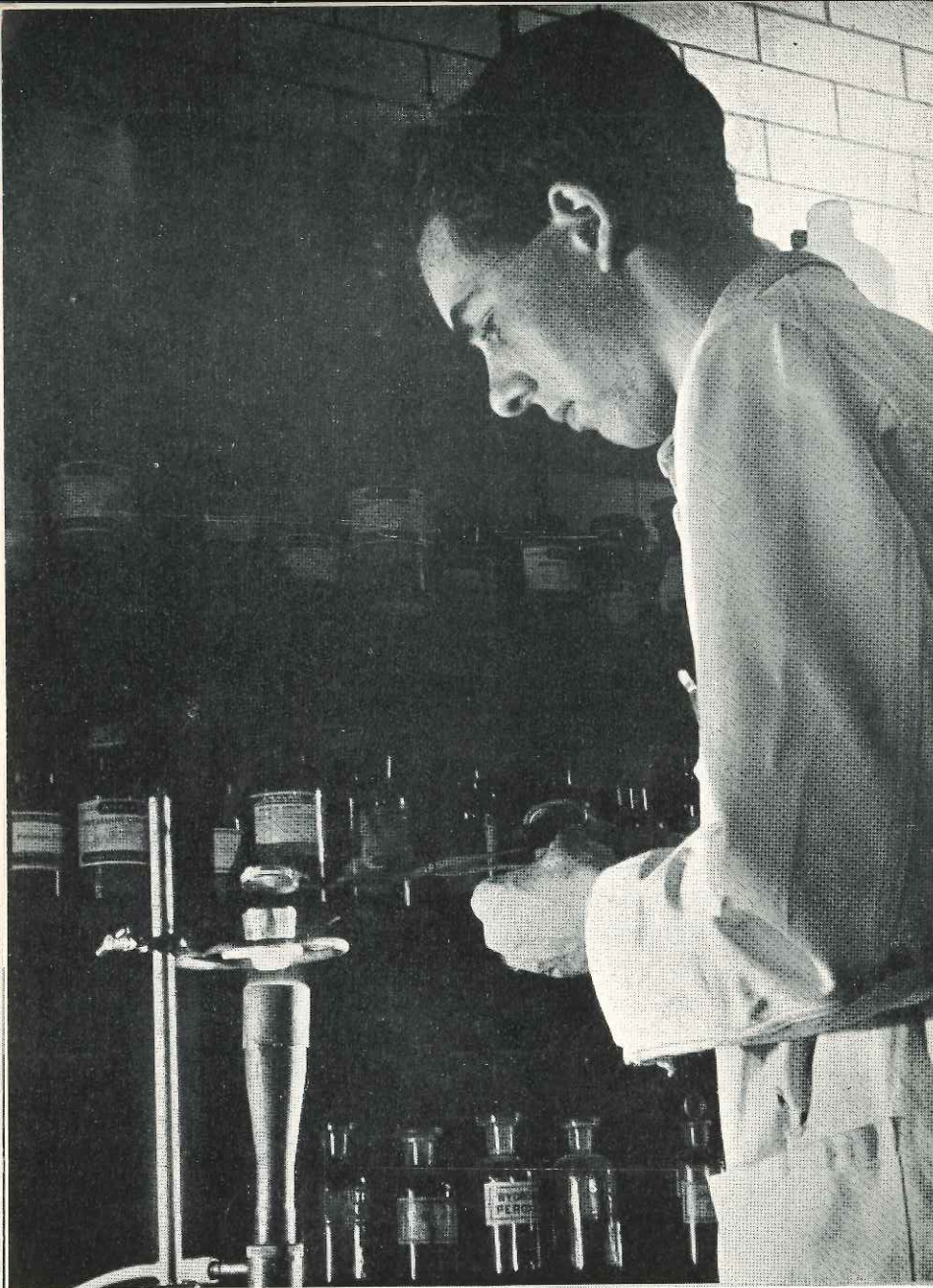
W. Waterhouse, Optical Department, made a suggestion concerning Optical Moulds for blanks to enable them to be turned out quicker. The suggestion was suitable for all toric mouldings and £1 was awarded. £1 was also awarded to W. Crawford of the Millwrights for a suggestion that ridge cocks be fitted on the Clean Producer gas main.

10/- each was awarded to the following: J. L. Horton, St. Helens, J. Wedgewood, St. Helens, J. Riley, St. Helens, T. Whitehouse, Optical, D. Parry, Boiler Shop, A. Parry, Blown and Pressed, F. Lane, Blown and Pressed. Each of these men forwarded a simple idea, all of which were of value to the Company. There were three awards of 5/- each for safety suggestions submitted by A. Ward, Rolled Plate, W. Holloway, Transport Repair Depot, and E. J. Gardener, Pressed Mould Shop.

Two appeals were successful. John Hill, Boiler Shop was awarded an additional 30/- for a suggestion he made in 1946 concerning the Tubing Machine and Chick Holloway of the Garage had his award for a suggestion relating to work benches made up to 15/-.

Chance

PORTRAITS—



- Above: Ivan Molyneux of the Chemical Laboratory inspecting a fusion in a platinum crucible.
- Right: Bill Jesson and Joe Henn removing dioptric from mould prior to fire polishing in the Pressed Making.





From all Departments

MOSTLY PERSONAL

BLOWN AND PRESSED

THE Methods and Development Section welcomes back Sid Pitt after two months' absence due to illness.

Mrs. Joyce Hind has left Number 8 Office as she is expecting a happy event. Her place has been taken by Mrs. Brenda Wood. Number 8 Office also welcomes Mrs. Ann Fowles.

There is always a spate of weddings around Easter-time and this year wedding bells rang for Jack King of Number 15 Tank who was married to Doreen Blackwell, Len Burrell of Number 15 Tank who was married to Marjorie Hampton, and Charles McCarthy of Number 15 Tank who was married to Barbara Brown. Cliff Whitehouse, Globe Process, married Irene M. Taylor, and Miss Desire Watton, Number 8 Office, married J. Southall.

The Decorating Department welcomes Norman Cartlidge, who has been appointed Assistant Foreman. George Wood, a gatherer in Number 15 Tank, became the proud father, on April 11th, of twins, a boy and a girl. Best wishes are extended to Dennis Binfield, Lamp Work Section, who was called-up in April.

The Blown and Pressed Sales Office welcomes Miss Irene Williamson.

The Pressed Section of the Blown and Pressed Division had a successful dinner and smoking concert in the Canteen on March 31st when close on 200 employees attended.

ENGINEERING

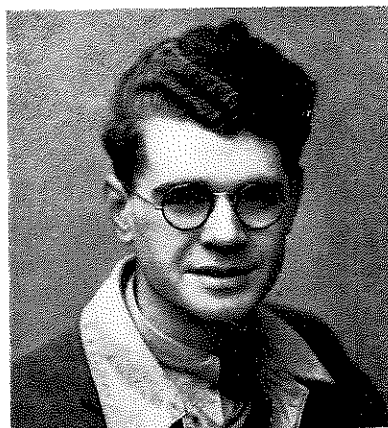
THE Engineering Division is still busy, all sections tending to get behind in deliveries because of the load of orders. Optics are being built for

many countries overseas, while engine sets are, owing to the number required, being built in the large Machine Shop.

The Sumo Shop is fully occupied, and in spite of some overtime working, is not catching up on orders. This is putting a strain on the Sales Department in explaining to customers why the orders are late.

The Sumo Shop congratulates Mr. and Mrs. W. Price on the birth of a daughter. The Shop is pleased to see Fred Wakelin back on his old job after his long illness. Bob Hinchliffe of the Electrical Shop has been called to the Forces. A welcome is extended to two young recruits, Brian Whitehouse, Electrical Shop, and Terence Cox, Machine Shop. John Fletcher, who joined the Drawing Office as a Technical Apprentice in August, 1948, and who is at present undergoing training in the Welding Shop has been awarded a three-year Scholarship by the Chance Education Trust. John was educated at the King Edward Grammar School, Camp Hill, and will enter the Aston Technical College in September, 1950.

John Fletcher who has been awarded a Scholarship.



for one year. The last two years will be spent at the Birmingham Central Technical College where he will study for a Higher National Diploma in Mechanical Engineering.

The Electrical Shop had a very successful Dance and Social on March 10th in the Pavilion.

Workmates of W. Moore are pleased to see him back at work after a long illness.

A welcome is given to new faces appearing in the Winding Room and "The Girls" will give them every help in their new jobs.

FLAT GLASS

A LONG successful machine run is reported from Number 3 Tank, Rolled Plate. The run ended prematurely due to urgent repairs to the lehr. The run was of 1,774 hours and this was only two hours short of Number 4 Tank's record machine run of 1,776 hours.

The personnel of the Seven Storey congratulate Mary Key on her marriage to Geoffrey Price, Elsie Bodley to James McLuckie and Audrey Jones to Ken Saul.

The Rolled Plate Department was glad to welcome back Tom Boden after his absence due to a works accident. Staff and Personnel of the Rolled Plate Department extend sympathy to Andy Nicol and his wife on the death of Mrs. Nicol's mother.

The Flat Glass Sales Office have lost Dennis Webb for a time as he has been called up to the Royal Air Force.

Doreen Savage has joined the Flat Glass Sales Office and Ted Mills has returned after serving two years in the Royal Air Force. Prior to his call-up Ted was in the Physics Lab.

MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

THE tidying-up round the Old Hall continues and, with the erection of a smart flag pole and the laying of turf, the front of the Building reclaims some of its old dignity.

A welcome is extended to Eric Vose who comes to us as Assistant to the Works Engineer; to Alfred Cox who has joined the Drawing Office Staff; and to John Hill. Bill Stokes has had his release from the Royal Air Force and has returned to the Boiler Shop. The Drawing Office was sorry that Eric Onions left in April. The Department

regrets the death of Alf Yendole, Jack Gibbs and pensioner Bill Turton.

Congratulations are offered to Arthur Bowen on the occasion of his marriage to Dorothy Hardcroft, and the Drawing Office offers congratulations to Jim Burton on the arrival of a son.

OFFICE

A WELCOME is extended to Katherine DeBono who has been appointed Supervisor of the General Office Typing Pool. For many years Miss DeBono was at the British Embassy in Cairo.

Mrs. Boughton, Sun Strand Accounting Machine Operator in the Accounts Department, left the Company in March. A welcome is extended to Mrs. Lilian Boulton who has joined this section.

A. Karobo who was a member of the Export Staff has emigrated to Canada. It is with regret that we announce the death of Bert Barnfield. Bert had been with the Company for over 16 years and given service in the Gatehouses, A.R.P. Control, Personnel Department and finally Supervisor of the Works Shop.

OPTICAL

THE production of spectacle products continue to increase and as yet there is no evidence that the peak demand has been reached.

The automatic spectacle remoulding machine has been installed and trial runs are being carried out.

A larger plant for the production of Optical glass made in platinum pots is now being installed and it is hoped to have this in operation in the near future to cope with the present heavy demands.

A plant for the production of Ballotini by a new method and at a much increased rate is in the course of construction. Most of this product is intended for white lines on the highways and will serve the same purpose as the cat's-eyes at present in use.

PYROMETRY

THE Section wish good luck to H. Miller who was called to the Royal Air Force on the completion of his apprenticeship.

TRANSPORT

THE Works Transport Section congratulates Len Harris on the birth of his second son on March 22nd.

News FROM OUR BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS

● LONDON

AT an informal little ceremony, Miss A. A. Ledger was presented with a pair of 1820 Sheffield Plate candlesticks to mark the occasion of her departure after sixteen years' service with the Company. The presentation was made by Mr. J. W. Chance on behalf of her friends at Spon Lane and London Office, whose subscriptions made the gift possible.

In Miss Ledger's place we welcome the arrival of Miss Jean Lindsay who

now handles all Flat Glass routine matters.

Another recent departure from our staff was Miss M. S. Roberts, who left at Easter to get married. We wish her a very happy future.

Our new window display is devoted to Optical Glass. To demonstrate the purity and clarity of our glass we show a polished telescope disc 16 inches diameter weighing 1 cwt.

● GLASGOW

ON Easter Monday, 10th April, 100 members of Chances' and Fibreglass Ltd., took part in an Outing to Dunbar. The party went by "bus", and although weather conditions were not favourable, the members made the most of their opportunities.

The Badminton section will close down at the end of April, and this activity will be replaced by Tennis at Keppock Park, during the summer months.

In our last issue, reference was made to the Lanarkshire Musical Festival in the Hamilton Town Hall. The Choir are to be congratulated in securing the honour of "first" in their class, and are proud to hold a certificate to this effect. Their final concert for this session was held in the Y.M.C.A. on the 5th April, before an audience of approximately three hundred.

Congratulations and best wishes to Miss Eleanor Robertson of the Sales Office, on her marriage on 31st March, to Mr. E. Young.

and large mouldings to practically any desired shape. We also exhibited a block of Flint glass used in Atomic Energy Research Establishments.

● ST. HELENS

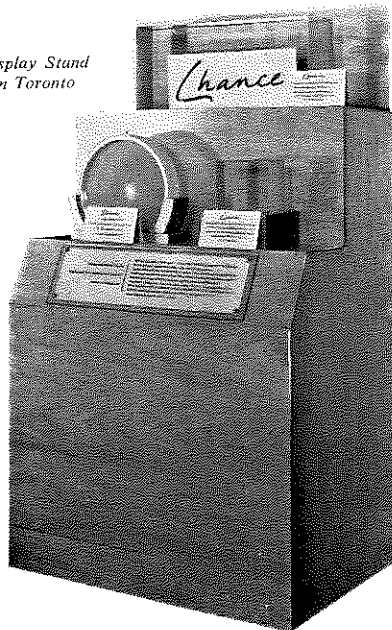
ALTHOUGH we are extremely busy we have had to distract our attention a little into preparing samples for various exhibitions. The one we did give that little extra to was the contribution to the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers Stand in Toronto, Canada this month, a photograph of which we are showing on opposite page. Although the exhibits were not spectacular to the "layman", it will show the dollar area that Chance Brothers can make large blocks of glass of Optical quality

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. Garrett on the birth of a daughter (Barbara Jean) on 18th March, and to Mr. and Mrs. T. Allsop, also a daughter (Rosemary Winifred) on 21st March.

We are very pleased to have Mr. Pickering back at work again after an absence of four weeks, and hope he will continue to be fit and well.

It is with deep regret that we report the sudden death of Jack Swift. We extend our sympathy to his wife and family.

Display Stand
In Toronto



Albert Edwards loading fine annealing kiln at St. Helens



Jottings *of shorter items and employees' contributions*

MR. J. R. WHARTON

MANY of the older employees will learn with deep regret of the death of Mr. J. R. Wharton. Joining the firm in 1906 Mr. Wharton was manager of the Optical Department and assistant to the managing director in charge of the Lighthouse Works. He was appointed a director in 1914 and was secretary of the Company from 1920 to 1928.

MAJOR W. L. FOSTER

IT is always sad to bid farewell to one's friends and the Directors Staff and Workpeople wish every happiness to Major Foster on his retirement as a Director of the Company from 31st March, 1950.

Major W. L. Foster, C.B.E., D.S.O., joined the firm in 1908. He had intended making the Army his career but

an unpleasant bug picked up on overseas service put an end to such ideas and industry gained what the Army had lost. Soon after coming to Spon Lane, Major Foster's proved business abilities were rewarded by his being appointed Managing Director in December 1909, and he continued in this position until the end of 1940 when he went into semi-retirement. The Major was, and is, greatly respected by all who knew and worked under him. It was largely through his enthusiasm that the Company formed the Superannuation and Pension Funds and the Company's Pensioners have always had his especial interest.

A SERVICE TO CAR OWNERS

IT may not be generally known that a reduced annual subscription is payable by members of the R.A.C. or A.A. who are members of a Works'



The Malt House
Athletic Team

Group. The normal subscription is £2 2s. od. and the individual Group subscription £1 11s. 6d.

An R.A.C. Group is already in existence here and may be joined by any employee. An A.A. Group does not exist; a minimum of twelve members would be necessary to form one. Reduced subscriptions are not available for motor-cycles.

Anyone interested should apply to the Traffic Manager for full details.

THE SEVEN STOREY BELL

Dear Editor,

In your last issue you stated that the Bell Tower on the Seven Storey houses a bell that was first rung in 1847.

Last year I had the job of overhauling the bell and fitting a new chain and wire rope for operating, and noticed that the cast on the bell was CHAS CARR 1901. I spoke to Mr. C. Bird of the Seven Storey (since retired) and he told me that the old bell was cracked and had to be replaced.

L. K. CADBY, Millwrights Shop.

AUXILIARY FORCES

THE Board has agreed to grant two weeks' leave of absence from work for the purpose of attending Camp or Training, in addition to the normal annual holiday, to any employee who is a volunteer member of one of the Auxiliary Forces.

Employees requiring further information on this matter should consult with their Departmental Manager.

FLASH BACK

ON 19th May ten years ago the King and Queen paid a visit to the Spon Lane Works and Frank Guest has loaned the Editor this photograph of Her Majesty the Queen watching the casting of a Lighthouse prism in the Pressed Making section. The photograph shows from left to right, Ken Hadley, the Queen, Mr. Walter Chance, Frank Guest, Dr. Hampton, Tom Fenton and Arthur Middleton.



MALT HOUSE

MALT House Youth Centre in Spon Lane is now in a more flourishing state than it has ever been since it was opened in 1946.

Recently a small room has been painted and furnished for use as a lounge and library. An appeal is made to employees to donate to the Club any books which will be suitable for the library; there is also an urgent need for a regular supply of periodicals and journals.

On Saturday, 22nd April, Malt House Y.C., at their third attempt, were successful in providing the winning team in Smethwick Harriers' Youth Race. This race has been held annually for the past four years, and consists of three complete laps of the outermost paths of Victoria Park, Smethwick; a total distance of just under three miles.

PROVIDENT SOCIETY

DURING the year ended 31st December, 1949, the Provident Society distributed £730 for sick benefit and £60 for death benefit. The income from members' contributions was £1,376. This Society would now appear to be in a more stable financial position. The assets total £4,006 whereas five years ago they were down to £1,600. All workpeople are members of the Society and the benefits include weekly payments for sickness of 8s. per week for the first four weeks, 7s. per week for the second four weeks, and 6s. per week for the third four weeks. Funds are paid to members from the Girls' Canteen between 4.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. each Monday.

AMERICAN ADVERTISEMENT

THE Industrial Welfare Society has drawn the attention of Personnel Managers to the following advertisement which appeared in an American newspaper by a firm advertising for a typist:

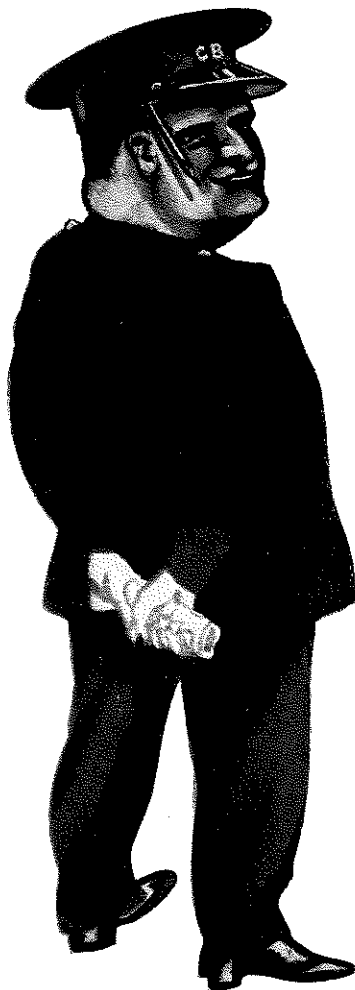
"Read it! Honestly we're only advertising for a clerk-typist.

"From the length of this advertisement you'd think we were trying to find new Cabinet members for Truman. We'll let the President worry about that, but the people who work in our office are just as important to us as his Cabinet is to him. The girl we're looking for shouldn't be too hard to find. We just want somebody reasonably efficient and cheerful. It spoils our dinner to share eight hours a day with a sourpuss. We just want a girl who can type neatly, file something and find it again without the help of F.B.I. (Federal Bureau of Investigation). As far as we can find out the salary we pay is somewhat better than the average for the city. The future? We wouldn't know about that. The kind of girls we hire are so nice, various males keep on taking them away from us. So line up girls; for the job that is, no husbands left. We're all old married men. Call Mr. Lewis, GA. 7877."

It is understood that there were so many applicants for the job that the telephone switchboard had to temporarily close. It is at least food for thought especially for those who get no answer to "Wanted v. urgently, sh'th'd typ't neat, reliable, good timekeeper. Write Box DULL.


RAILWAY TICKETS

IT will be helpful for employees to know that anyone wishing to travel on the Midland Region of the British Railways can obtain tickets in advance from Spon Lane Station even though the journey may commence from Birmingham.



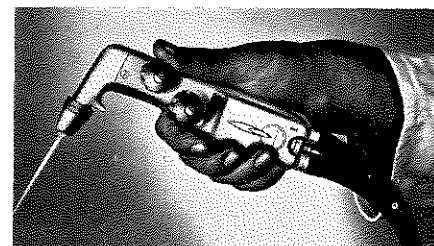
Gatekeeper Ben Bishop drawn by Wal Johnson

Chance Products on Parade



FLAME MASTER HAND TORCH

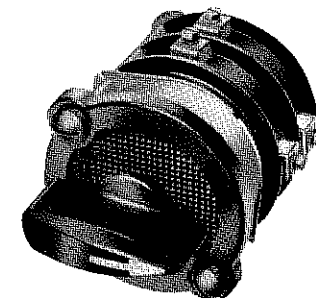
THE new Flamemaster Hand Torch which the Engineering Division has been selling for some 18 months, was developed indirectly from the range of Bornkessel burners which have been manufactured by the Company since 1933. The new Flamemaster torch incorporates a number of quite unique features, and is certainly the neatest, lightest and most versatile gas burner which has yet been produced. Five interchangeable flame units enable the torch to burn either town gas, hydrogen, butane or natural gas with compressed air or oxygen, and a very wide range of flame sizes is available. A further unique feature is the incorporation of a built-in economiser with trigger control which cuts off the gas supply when the operator's grip is relaxed and saves 30 per cent. or more gas—and oxygen if this is employed.



AUSTINLITE ROTARY SWITCH

THE Austinlite Rotary Switch now known as the Austinlite "50" was developed in 1944, primarily for use on Austinlite electrical control gear. Since that time the switch has been sold as an electrical component and has become extremely popular with electric control manufacturers, machine tool makers, and has been approved and is specified by such authorities as the Admiralty, B.B.C., G.P.O., etc.

A smaller brother is now going into production, the Austinlite "30" switch, based on similar principles, and it is expected that this new switch will have an even wider sale in the electrical industry. This new switch made its debut at the B.I.F. Castle Bromwich, and is capable of carrying up to 30 amps. 500 volts A.C.



GLASS MAKING TERMS

MANY characteristic and curious words are used in glassmaking. Some of the terms can be traced back to the sixteenth century and have French or Italian origin.



GLORY HOLE	A cylindrical hole heated for the purpose of keeping a gathering warm during manufacture.
MONKEY FURNACE	A small pot furnace.
MONKEY POTS	Small pots used for making special glasses.
BROWN'S NOSE	A tool made of solid cast iron used for levering pots.
CHEVALLY	A term applied to a rack for holding glass cylinders and other articles when warm. Sometimes called a horse.
NEDDYING HOLE	A hole in the side of the furnace for running off surplus metal from broken pots.
PERCILLAS	A shaping tool used in hand glassmaking.
EYE	Centre of grate, hottest part of furnace
SIEGE	Bed of furnace on which the pots (Crucibles) rest.
TEASE-HOLE	Stoke-hole.
TEASER	Stoker.
SKITTLE	Small pot, in shape like a skittle, for melting colours or enamel.
CHAIR	Glass-blower's seat.
LEHR	Annealing tunnel.
LEHR-PANS	Iron pans on wheels for carrying goods through lehr.
THE FOUND	Time during which the furnace is driven to its greatest heat in order to melt the glass.
CAULKER	Oven in which sand is burnt.
LINNET HOLES	Small flues.
FRIT OR BATCH	Mixture of raw materials ready for melting.
MOILS OR MOYLS	Small knobs and fragments of glass.
PUNTEE (PONTE)	Iron rod used to hold a glass, by means of a glass seal, while it is being worked.
GADGET	A spring-clip attached to a puntee to hold foot of wine glass whilst the bowl is being finished in order to prevent puntee-mark.
THE TOOL	A tool, resembling shears for shaping the blown glass.
MARVER	A slab of iron on which the molten glass is rolled after being gathered.
CASHER-BOX	A small triangular iron trough, lined with wood to hold a finished glass before its removal to the lehr.
PUNTEE MARK	The mark on the base of a glass where it was fixed to the puntee.
ENGRAVING	Design cut on the surface of a finished glass by pressing it against the edge of a very small revolving copper wheel.
DIAMOND-POINT	Design scratched by hand on the surface of a glass with the point of a diamond.
ETCHING	A mechanical process of applying stencilled patterns to the surface of glasses by the action of Hydro-fluoric acid.
JOURNEY, JOURNEE	The time taken by the combined operations of melting and working; a fixed number of journeys per week.
BULLS' EYE OR BULLION	The mark of attachment of Bullion-point to puntee.
CHEVALET	Rest or support for cylinder of sheet-glass after detachment from blowing-iron.
AMBITTY GLASS	Glass containing minute opaque specks due to devitrification.



Crowning Glory

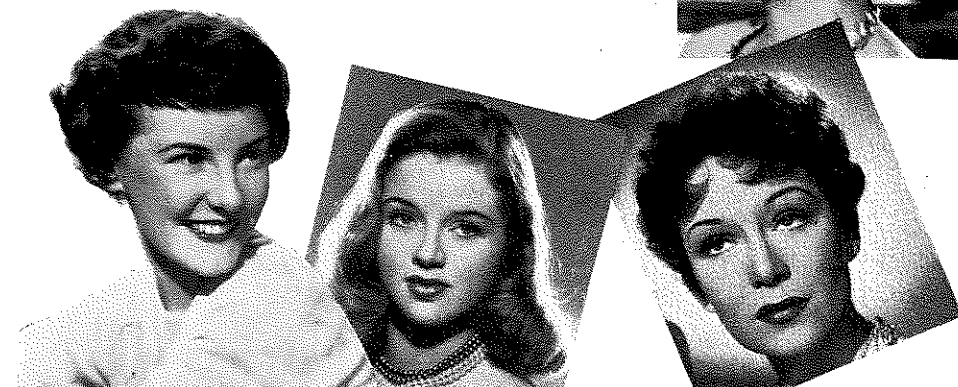
EIGHTEEN months ago we published a page of film stars showing a variety of hair styles. In response to many requests we now bring this up-to-date.

Above left: Joan Greenwood's hair is swept smoothly back into a neat coil at the nape of the neck, a short strand being brought forward to form a curl. This simple style is suitable only for small and classic features. Next to her Margaret Lockwood plumps for a mass of soft curls all over the head, with fronds brought forward over the forehead.

On right: Susan Shaw has the fashionable very short cut swept back and with clusters of small curls at the neck.

Below: On left: Petula Clark believes that an unsophisticated short style is best for the younger girl. In contrast, Diana Dors on her right keeps her long hair shining in a smooth page-boy which certainly becomes her rounded features. Then we have Jean Kent shingled at the back and brushed forward from the ears to curl softly over the forehead. Finally, Ann Todd, distinctive as ever with her hair loosely curled at the ends and drawn back to tie with a velvet ribbon.

Photographs by courtesy of the
J. ARTHUR RANK ORGANISATION.



FRIT & CULLET

DO YOU KNOW?

1. Between 1847 and 1950 there have been 25 English parliamentary elections. How many times have the following governments been formed: (a) Conservative, (b) Liberal, (c) Labour, (d) Coalition, (e) National?

2. The moss on a stone grew quickly, doubling its size daily. In twenty days it covered the stone completely. When was it covering half the stone?

3. What settles the date of Easter?

4. What are the ordinary names for the following:

(a) Carbonate of calcium, (b) Oxide of Calcium, (c) Oxide of iron, (d) Oxide of hydrogen, (e) Chloride of sodium?

5. (a) What, if it occurs, needs priority attention in any accident?

(b) With a dislocation, should you immediately try to put the bone back in place?

(c) When a bone has been fractured the first attention should be to ensure ———?

AN EXPERIMENT

A—GLASS TRAYS AND JARS

B—HE BOOKED

Try this experiment. Hold a piece of glass rod over lines A and B and you will find that the words in line A appear to be upside down but the words in line B are facing in the right direction.

DAFFY-NITIONS

HEALTH—What people are always drinking before they collapse.

CRITICS—People who go places and boo things.

ARCHAEOLOGY—The science that proves you can't keep a good man down.

BABY SITTER—One who accepts hush money.

SUCCESS—Starting at the bottom and waking up.

INDIGESTION—The failure to adjust a square meal to a round stomach.

GOLD DIGGER—A human gimme pig.

WOMAN'S TEARS—The most efficient water power in the world.

ALIMONY—The high cost of leaving.

SARONG—A dish towel that made good.

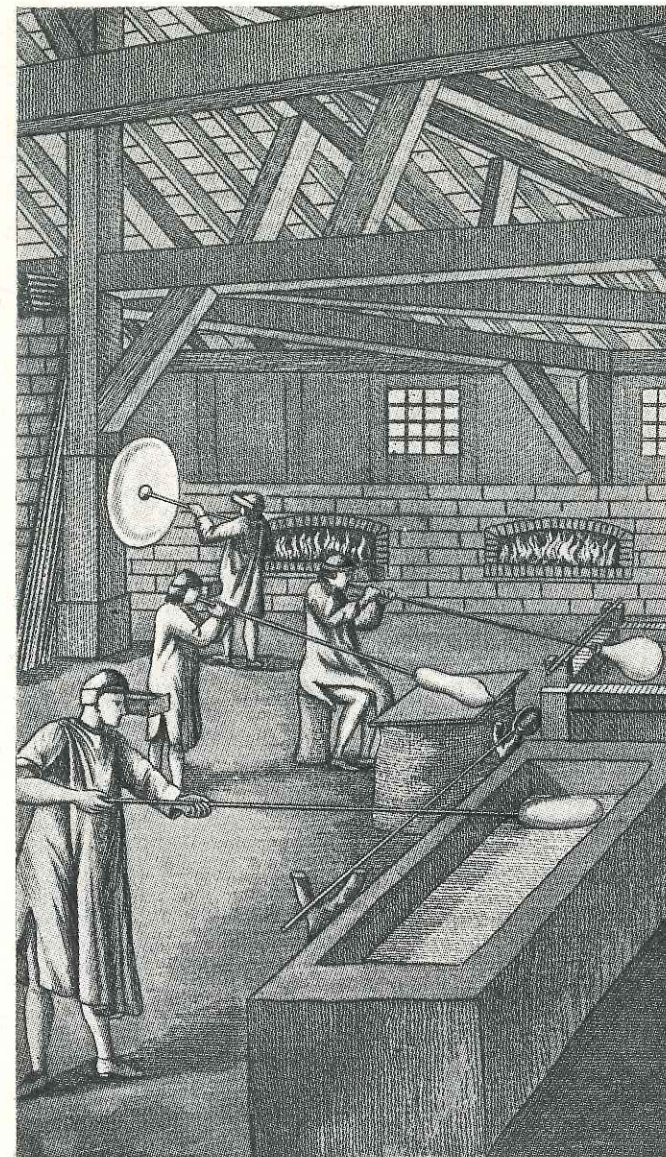
SO WHAT?

At ultra-sonic speeds (i.e., over 760 m.p.h.) the blood becomes heavier than molten lead, and a pull six times that of gravity causes haemorrhage . . . the dragonfly has 30,000 eyes, but the common housefly has only five. No insect is able to wink or focus its eyes . . . birds have a third, transparent eyelid, used in flight to protect the eyes from dust . . . moles are not blind; their eyes are weak through lack of use . . . a whale's eyes, which are about the size of a horse's, are independent, each having a separate field of vision . . . in 1782 the greater part of Europe was enveloped in fog which lasted without break for two years. The fog was attributed to a volcanic eruption, which destroyed seventeen villages . . . 600 years ago the burning of coal was banned in London for health reasons. A man was executed for disobeying this law . . . an average of 60,000 earthquakes occur annually. . . Devil's Island, one-time notorious prison colony in French Guiana, is being converted into a tourists' "paradise".

ANSWERS

1. (a) 6. (b) 11. (c) 3. (d) 3. (e) 2.
2. Nineteenth day.
3. It comes on the full moon which falls on or next after March 21st.
4. (a) Chalk. (b) Lime. (c) Rust.
5. (a) Bleeding.
- (b) No—wait for the Doctor.
- (c) Immobilization.

From the Past



This engraving shows the manufacture of Crown Glass, the original form of window glass, in about 1750.