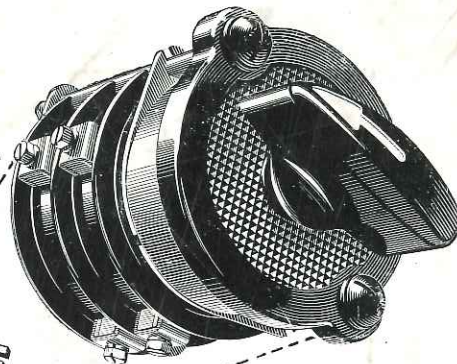
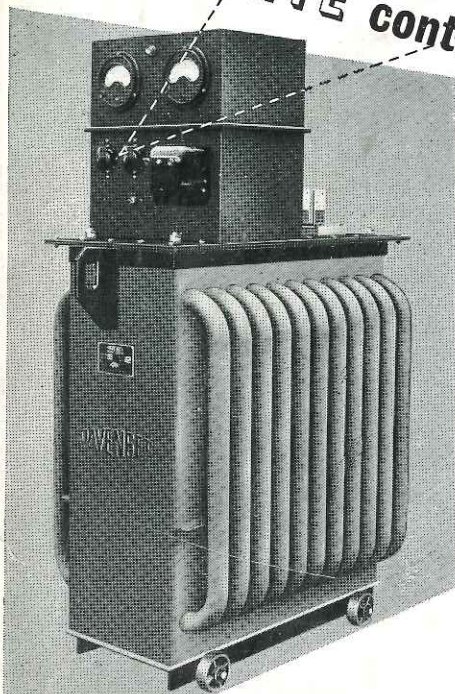


2015.274  
This is the property of  
Smethwick Heritage  
Centre Trust  
Tele 0121 429 1223



AUSTINLITE controls the current



Austinlite Rotary Switches are used to control the Auto-Transformer regulating the A.C. supply to these Electro Plating Rectifiers, manufactured by Partridge, Wilson & Co. Ltd.

Full details of the Austinlite 50 amp. Rotary Switch and of the new 30 amp. switch will be supplied on request.

*Chance*  
PRODUCT

AUSTINLITE LIMITED (A Subsidiary of Chance Brothers Limited),  
Dept. A6, Lighthouse Wks., Smethwick 40, Birmingham. Tel.: West Bromwich 1051

"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

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1950



THE MAGAZINE OF  
CHANCE BROTHERS LIMITED, SMETHWICK

3<sup>D</sup>



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

## Editorial . .

THIS month we publish extracts from the Directors' reports to the employee depositors. These reports define the Company's hopes and prospects for the future.

A Suggestion Scheme is of enormous value to a firm. It can help to arouse enthusiasm within it and encourage work-people to take an active part in its progress and well-being. E. B. Anderson's personality page this month introduces members of the Suggestion Scheme Committee.

The craving for Social relationship is extremely deep in human nature and the Recreation Club has the responsibility of meeting our needs for physical and social activities. The Club has its problems however and the Committee makes an important statement on page 6.

In recent years many schemes have been introduced to encourage young people to travel abroad and, with the help of the Chance Education Trust, a party of our apprentices spent their 1950 summer holiday in the South of France. Ken Bladen and D. A. Chappell contribute a brief report of the trip.

The Products on Parade feature is written by J. B. W. Brownsdon, Sales Manager to Blown and Pressed Division.

We go to the Pressed Making Department for this month's cover. The photograph is of a Mast Head Dioptic being removed from the mould prior to fire polishing.

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. STOCKIN
Process	F. TATTON
Sales	F. HARRIS
Warehouse	MRS. A. KEYS
Buying & Stationery	F. J. WHITE
Costs	MISS D. SANDERS
Engineering	
Drawing Office	S. DORAN
Electrical	J. THOMPSON
Machine and	
Fitting	F. STYLES
Grinding Room	MISS MUGLESTONE
Commercial Staff	F. W. G. BEAUMONT
Stores	J. P. DEELEY
Sumo Office	S. G. BROWN
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	A. FARDELL
Seven Storey	MRS. RUSSELL
Laboratory	
Maintenance and	
Construction	
Boiler Shop	D. HILL
Building	S. BEARDSMORE
Electricians	E. A. WHITEHOUSE
Garage	V. COCKSEY
Millwrights	W. JOHNSON
Old Hall	E. BRENS
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
	P. ROBINSON
St. Helens	MRS. I. DAVIES

NEXT ISSUE : NOVEMBER 25th

# Annual REPORT

EACH year the Directors address the 420 employees who have invested their savings in the Company under the Deposit Scheme. At each Depositors' Meeting, public statements are made on what the Company has done in the year past and what its prospects are for the future.

In the absence of the Chairman, Sir Hugh Chance, who was abroad on business, the Managing Director Mr. John Raymond, presided at the meeting held on the 13th July. Mr. Raymond opened his address by stressing that the year ended 31st March 1950 had not been an easy one. Although the Company had achieved a substantially higher business turnover, the profit of the Company as a whole was small compared with previous years. Three out of four Divisions had made very satisfactory profits in spite of steadily increasing costs, but this one Division had lost money.

Dealing with the financial state of the Company Mr. Raymond said that the figures for the past year were not satisfactory. There was a profit but only a small one and in consequence the Board had decided to pay no dividend to the Ordinary Shareholders as it was felt that it would be wise to retain the profit that was made in the business. Employees whose future livelihood is

related to the strength of the Company, would, he felt sure, agree with this policy. Fortunately, however, the Depositors' Scheme stipulates that the Depositors shall receive a minimum of 3% free of tax. Mr. Raymond, after detailing certain policies of the Board, summarised by saying that from the Capital angle the Company has to a degree strengthened its position during the past year in that heavy reserves had been put against deterioration and the risk of equipment becoming obsolete. In all Divisions the Company had maintained its properties and its equipment largely out of revenue.

Mr. Raymond stressed that the future profits of the Company depended upon the effort and intelligence of every single person employed. To the personnel of the Division that did not do well he said quite directly—"it is up to you". That Division has the equipment, the markets, traditions and the knowledge, and it is purely a question of making use of all these assets effectively. With reasonable efficiency, reasonable care in manufacture, and reasonable skill in selling, it can be as profitable, and may be more profitable, than any other Division.

The Flat Glass Division was to be congratulated on their efforts with their drawn processes which would now



seem to be on the edge of success. The personnel in this division had shown great patience and endurance in pursuing this development over the last three years.

The Maintenance and Construction Department is the biggest service Department. The Chief Engineer and his staff look forward to the time when the Department can behave more like a Maintenance Department and less like a Constructional Department, but all the Directors could offer the personnel in this Division was still a further period of more work, more rush, and more complications in the way of mechanisation.

A tribute was made to the successful and hard work undertaken during the past year by the Buying Department, the Internal and External Transport Services, the Mixing and Clay Department, the Export Department, London Office, Administration and Personnel.

Mr. H. L. Barman, reported that as far as the Engineering Division was concerned the past year had been one of somewhat mixed progress. The selling effort put forward by the Sales Representatives had been excellent and the order book is now fuller than it had ever been before. During the past year, not only had the selling effort been intensified but prices had not been raised although raw material costs had been creeping up the whole year. The result of this, of course, had been a lower profit, and it had been hoped that increased production would have helped to keep the profit up. Unfortunately, the production did not come up to expectations but it is believed that improved methods being

introduced will make the results much better in the coming year.

During the year a subsidiary company had been set up in America to sell submersible pumps. Mr. Barman emphasised that the American market demands prompt delivery and first-class service.

"One hundred years ago Chance Brothers engaged a Monsieur Tabouret to manufacture lighthouse glass and 1951 will be the hundredth year of our existence as Lighthouse Manufacturers. We are duly celebrating this in many ways, one of which is that we shall be erecting an optic on the Old Shot Tower in the Festival of Britain in London. This light will be a 3rd Order Revolving Optic, giving a greater intensity of light than the 1st Order which was built by Chance Brothers and displayed at the Great Exhibition of 1851." Mr. Barman expressed the hope that 1951 will be a bumper year for the Engineering Division, and that not only shall the hundredth anniversary be celebrated with a flashing optic, but also with a record turnover.

Mr. Barman is also responsible to the Board for the costing side of the Company, and he followed his review of the Engineering Division by stressing certain aspects of costing. It is on the basis of costed figures that a business is able to fix the selling prices and also to provide the necessary control to enable management to keep their finger on the efficiency of the departments and sections.

Costing has in recent years become very much more of a science than it used to be. The demand for figures from all departments is increased each year. After describing the growth of

"paper work" and recording and emphasising that forms are absolutely necessary and the life blood of any industry, Mr. Barman appealed to everybody concerned to make every possible effort to fill in the records effectively and accurately.

Dr. Hampton dealt in the first instance with the work of the Optical and Special Glass Division. During the year this Division had increased its sales 28% above the previous year and 50% above the year before that. This was largely due to the continuance of the demand for spectacle mouldings made at Glasgow and St. Helens as well as Spon Lane. There had been a gratifying improvement in the general efficiency of the Division throughout the year.

During the year under review the general allocation of manufacture between the three works was unchanged, i.e., in general, Optical Glass was made at St. Helens, spectacle mouldings and Optical Glass made in platinum pots at Smethwick, and precision tubing and hypodermic syringes at Malvern.

Glasgow also had continued to produce spectacle mouldings for the Division. As regards optical glass, production of large slabs in weights up to 1,000 lbs., cast into one plate had been expanded. Large plates of optical glass were wanted for specialised purposes such as viewing windows in atomic energy equipment. During the past year two 25½ in. discs had been supplied to America and the Division had been congratulated on the quality achieved.

Optical glass is continuing to be made in platinum and it is interesting to note that some of the types of glass made in that equipment are not made anywhere else in the world and substantial orders have been received from abroad. The output of spectacle mouldings had now been brought up to something like a quarter of million blanks each week and this is double the figure that was being produced at the beginning of the year.

The works at Malvern continued to expand and develop. New types of equipment have been designed, introduced and brought into production, not only on the manufacture of syringes but also on the manufacture of Veridia tubing itself.

The interchangeable syringe is now well-established and substantial sales have been made. Progress has been made in the quality of cinema mirrors and a new process for making Ballotini and glass beads has been invented.

The Optical Division has in hand the largest order book for many years, and all seems set for another very successful year.

Turning to the field of glass works research and development, Doctor Hampton reported that the main theme running through the year was higher quality and larger output. Much of the time of the Technical Staff had been spent on problems of tank design and tank operation with these objectives in mind. There is, however, a large and difficult field of development ahead.



# MEET YOUR

## SUGGESTION SCHEME COMMITTEE

THE Suggestion Scheme was first introduced in January 1906 with the object of encouraging employees to make suggestions on matters for the general benefit of the Company or its employees. During recent years some 200 suggestions have been received annually. The scheme is administered by a Committee consisting of representatives of the management and the workpeople. We introduce our readers to the five workpeople's representatives on the Committee.

### WILLIAM BERRY

YES, you are quite right, we have met Bill Berry before. In the March-April issue of the magazine he was introduced to us as a representative of the Pension Fund.

He has many activities, however, and the Suggestion Scheme is just another of them. Bill has been on this Committee for about fourteen years, and has submitted successfully quite a few ideas himself.

### THOMAS PALMER

SEVENTEEN years ago occurred the Hatry Bank crash, which seriously affected many firms. As a result Tom Palmer found himself temporarily out of a job, and he was asked to come along and help us with an order we had in hand. He was told he would probably be required for about three months, but after all these years he finds himself still here and as busy as ever.

He started in the Machine Shop, moving into the Tool Room when this was created. His work is entirely on inspection and he is proud of the standard of craftsmanship that passes through his hands.

Since joining the firm he has done a lot of committee work, including four years on the Works Consultative Committee. This is his second term of service on the Suggestion Scheme Committee.

Tom is married and has two daughters. He enjoys reading and loves good music.

### FRANK TURNER

FRANK TURNER has been employed at Chance Brothers for five years in the Optical Division.

His first job was in the Platinum Melting Section. This does not mean that he melted



# REPRESENTATIVES

platinum, but that he used platinum pots for glass melting. He is now in charge of the Coloured Filter Section.

This is Frank's second term on the Suggestion Scheme Committee. He is also a member of the Safety Committee and previously has had two years on the Works Consultative Committee, one year on the Canteen Committee, and three years on the Production Sub-Committee of the Optical Department.

He is happily married and has a son, eighteen years of age, who is serving his apprenticeship as Printer and Compositor.

Frank is an accomplished pianist and has willingly given his services at Departmental Concerts.

### WILLIAM THOMAS BANNER

AT the age of thirteen years, Bill Banner started work in the Extra White Department as a Sorter. Eighteen months later he was transferred to the Sheet Department and was engaged on what was known as square cutting. He recalls those days on this job, "By jove we had to work and there was no nonsense," he says. This was a piecework job, where money could be earned but only when there was a will to work. He was later transferred to the Rolled Plate Department as a cutter.

In the early days he was cutting Opal for Wall Tiling, much of which was used in the building of the Imperial Picture Palace at West Bromwich.

Bill has been with the firm for forty-seven years and has cut every type of flat glass except Optical. During this time he has seen many changes in the manufacture of both Sheet and Rolled Plate Glass.

Bill is married and his wife has also been employed by the firm for many years.

He is very fond of music, preferring Handel and Chopin.

### JOHN HILL

IT is nearly thirty years since John Hill joined the firm. He started in the New Gate, and was later transferred to the Old Gate as cycle messenger. From there he was placed in the Drawing Office under the Apprenticeship Scheme, and finally into the Boiler Shop.

In the Boiler Shop he started off by being a first-rate tea boy, graduating to Striker, and progressing steadily until he was made Chargehand. "Plenty of work, and hard work, on my job," says Jack, "but one gets a real kick out of getting through a lot of work." Possibly he is thinking of Conrad, who said, "A man is a worker, if he is not that, he is nothing".

At one time a keen footballer, he won a number of medals playing for Chance's Football team, and his son, now sixteen years of age, is finding these in all sorts of nooks and crannies and polishing them up with pride.

His spare time is taken by up gardening, and voluntary committee work. He is keenly interested in Youth Welfare work.



- (1) William Berry. (4) William Banner.  
(2) Thomas Palmer. (5) John Hill.  
(3) Frank Turner.





### THE FUTURE OF THE CLUB

THE Recreation Club was formed some 22 years ago, and it is inevitable that from time to time there should be a review of the Club's activities and consideration of future policy.

It is often said that there is a state of apathy towards the Club and that few members participate in the activities. The Committee recently made a thorough investigation into the various aspects of the Club and found that there are 640 members who take part in the organised activities. In addition, there are many members who use the facilities either in their lunch hour spent in the Billiard Room or in the Pavilion, or in attending dances and outdoor activities organised by the Club. It is no exaggeration to report that at some time or other at least 1,000 members use the Club's facilities.

The various activities are, Angling, Archery, Badminton, Billiards and Snooker, Bowling, Cricket, Dances, Football, Gardening, Golf, Netball, Table Tennis, Tennis and Variety. The Club is run by the members for the members, and the Committee is appointed from various departments by secret ballot.

It has often been thought that many members live too far away from the Club to enjoy its facilities, but there are some 2,300 members out of a total of

2,800 who live in the districts of Smethwick, Oldbury and West Bromwich.

The fourteen-acre Playing Field and Pavilion are situated on the Oldbury Road on the Oldbury side of the Lighthouse Works, and the Billiard Room is situated over the Canteens in Spon Lane. The opinion has been expressed that in many respects it is unfortunate that the Club is thus divided as it is thought that more success would be achieved if all the Club's activities could be housed in one building. The Committee has recommended that the Billiard Tables be moved from over the Canteen to the Pavilion.

It is probable that the Company could advantageously use the present Billiard Room for Company purposes, and should this materialize the Board would consider adding an extension to the Pavilion for Billiard purposes. The Committee earnestly hopes that such a move will take place as the Club Rooms would then compare more than favourably with the facilities provided by other clubs in the district. Such generous help from the Company would considerably enhance the Club's programme.

Finance is causing the Committee much concern, and it is certain that in the immediate future the Club must either increase the weekly subscriptions or substantially reduce its expenditure,

as there is an annual loss of some £250 due mainly to the fact that whilst member's subscriptions have not been increased in the last 22 years, the cost of wages, materials and ground equipment and maintenance has increased very considerably.

During the present year the Committee had to resurface the hard tennis courts; next spring the cricket square will have to be re-turfed; the outfield and the bowling green are in urgent need of treatment; the pavilion badly needs painting both inside and outside; the bar needs extending and better beer storage provided—it is capital expenditures such as these that result in the Club not being able to pay its way. If and when the activities are grouped into one building, there will be a saving in staff wages and it is more than probable that the revenue from catering will increase. It is however doubtful if even these financial returns will balance expenditure, and in the near future some increase in subscriptions will be inevitable.

There is a positive spirit of enthusiasm amongst many members and this past summer the grounds and Pavilion have been used to the utmost. Many members have offered their voluntary service in maintaining the grounds and Club rooms and "coats off" is now the healthy spirit which prevails.

### ANNUAL MEETING

THE 23rd Annual General Meeting of the Recreation Club will be held in the Pavilion on Wednesday, 11th October, 1950, at 6 p.m. The President Mr. J. W. Chance will take the chair. At this meeting the Club's officers for the ensuing year will be elected together with representatives from each of the twelve departmental groups. The following are due to retire at the Annual General Meeting and due notice will be given of details for nomination and elections. *Chairman*—A. Ogden, *Treasurer*—Vacant, *Secretary*—A. Farley, *Arbitrator*—E. C. Buttress, *Auditors*—C. T. Lewis and E. Corney.

### GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Rollad Plate—  
Vacant  
Coloured, Seven Storey—  
B. Sperring (Seven Storey)  
Optical—  
E. Edwards (Optical)

Pressed Silvering—  
J. Yates (Pressed Warehouse)  
Globe—  
H. Llewellyn (Globe)  
L.H. Fitting and Machine Shop—  
F. Walker (L.H. Fitting Shop)  
L.H. Electrical—  
H. Mills (L.H. Electrical)  
Millwrights, Electricians, etc.—  
T. Grice (Millwrights)  
Carpenters—  
Vacant  
Garage Transport, etc.—  
W. Holloway (Garage)  
Glassworks Offices—  
E. C. Buttress  
Lighthouse Offices—  
R. Ward (L.H. Buying)

### ARCHERY

AN archery section has recently been launched and Mr. J. W. Chance and his mother have kindly made the Club a gift of some equipment. By arrangement with Messrs. Accles and Pollock's Sports Club members are being coached and will gladly pass on their knowledge to anyone who may be interested.

### CRICKET

BY the time this note appears the cricket season will be ended. At the time of preparing the report the First Eleven were hot on the heels of Coombes Wood, who are the present champions of Division II of the Business Houses' League. The Second Eleven are halfway in the reserve division of the same league. In addition to these league matches the Second Eleven have reached the semi-final of the West Midlands Knockout Competition.

### TABLE TENNIS

TWO Table Tennis teams have again been entered in the Smethwick and District League. The section meets on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the Pavilion and anybody interested would be welcome on one of these nights. The Secretary is Jim Cashmore, Number 8 Office.

### MORECAMBE ILLUMINATIONS

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for a week-end visit to the Blackpool and Morecambe Illuminations, and the coaches will leave the works on the afternoon of Friday, 6th October, and



return on the afternoon of Sunday, 8th October. The charge, inclusive of coach fare, Hotel accommodation and all meals is 58/-. Any members who are interested should obtain further particulars from the Secretary, A. Farley.

### CHRISTMAS CLUB

IN previous years the Club has successfully organised a savings group for Christmas wines and spirits. Payments can now be made to either the Pavilion Steward or the Bar Room Steward, both of whom have a price list available. In general, wines and spirits are sold at prices lower than those normally charged.

### SPOTLIGHT ON FOOTBALL SECTION

BEFORE the Recreation Club was formed, a Football Club was in existence, the earliest records show a meeting being held on the 30th June, 1926, when George Stamps was elected Chairman and Bill Forsyth Secretary. At this meeting (when it was decided to enter 2 teams in the Birmingham Works League) several rules were agreed upon including the fixing of subscriptions at 2/- per annum and 6d. per week per player and 3d. per week for non-players.

Other interesting dates from this record include the donation to the Club on the 15th September, 1926, of a Cup by Mr. W. H. S. Chance (now Sir Hugh) for a knockout competition amongst departmental teams and the date of the first visit from the Glasgow Works Football Team on April 30th, 1927.

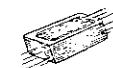
The year 1938/39 stands out as one of the most successful in the Club's history, when besides winning the coveted Oldbury Charity Cup the team won the Albion Shield, the Palethorpe Bowl, The General Hospital Cup, and were defeated in the final of the Mayor of Smethwick's Charity Cup.

So much for the past—what of the future? An attempt is again being made this season to field two teams and an earnest appeal is made to all persons to support the effort. The Club has a well-appointed ground and changing facilities, second to none. It is up to you, the players, to take advantage of these amenities.

This season's Interdepartmental Competition for the "Hugh Chance" Cup is by now in its closing stages. The success of this competition is wholly due to the spirit of the smaller departments, who year after year put their strength against the bigger Departments.

# Bouquets & Brickbats

*At a recent meeting of the Works Consultative Committee complaints were made about the misuse of the lavatories in Number 8 block.*



*The Management and all sane workpeople are naturally concerned about the misuse of lavatories generally, and, workpeople should, in their own interests, do everything possible to ensure that the culprits are not allowed to continue wanton destruction and theft.*

Looking through one or two copies of CHANCE COMMENTS I was struck with the fine personality photographs of staff mem-



bers which make a notable feature. They are full of character and express something of the real people they portray.

But CHANCE COMMENTS has another feature, "Bouquets and Brickbats". Some of the bouquets are charmingly expressed. The bricks are hard and are "thrown" with vigour. "Only an Office Girl", writes "Advertising in a works magazine is worse than bad taste. Employees do not pay threepence to read Chance Brothers' advertisements . . . keep editor's comment brief: editors edit, they do not compose . . . The series on travel takes up space with something anyone can read in books . . . 'Jottings' page gives one the impression that nothing else could be found to fill up the space . . . Finally, the whole magazine is too sentimental."

I congratulate the editor who can print such a forthright criticism and the magazine whose reputation can stand it. I like CHANCE COMMENTS and I find

myself wondering what particular frustration was troubling "Only an Office Girl" the day she heaved that brick.

*The Editor, World's Press News.*



A recent consignment of Laboratory glass which was sent to Bombay was, through circumstances beyond our control returned to the Works. A check was

taken on the state of the packing and it was found that in a consignment of nearly 900 articles only three were found to be damaged. Considering these cases had travelled thousands of miles a bouquet is offered to Annie Cammies and Margaret Bird on the proficiency of their packing.

*A brickbat to a British Trade Official in America who on examining a Sumo Pump which was stripped down for his inspection asked our Sumo Pump Representative in America . . . and do all these wheels go in different directions on the axle?"*



To our lorry and tractor drivers who make a practice of regularly sweeping the platforms of their vehicles so as to avoid straw blowing about the Works roads. In recent months determined and quite successful efforts have been made to keep our roadways clean and it is heart-breaking to Jack Long and Joe Bridge who often see the results of their labours ruined by the carelessness of vehicle drivers.

*Fourth Annual*

## GALA BALL

AT

### WEST BROMWICH BATHS HALL

ON

*Friday, 29th December, 1950*

DANCING 8 p.m. to 1 p.m.

FURTHER DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED

# From your COMMITTEE ROOM

## WORKS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

SINCE the last issue of CHANCE COMMENTS the Works Consultative Committee has held two meetings. On the 28th June it was reported that the Management had accepted the Committee's recommendation that overhead cover should be provided for motor cycles stored in the new cycle park at the rear of the Hostel.

During the course of the meeting, Mr. T. O. Orr, Sales Manager of Sumo Pumps gave a talk on his recent visit to the United States on Sumo Pump business. Mr. Orr referred to his previous visit to the States about 2 years ago when he had formed the opinion that it would be preferable to set up our own Company in the United States to handle Sumo Pumps rather than to appoint Agents. In January of this year, Mr. Barman, Director and General Manager of the Engineering Division, visited the States for the purpose of forming a new Company, Sumo Pumps Inc. As a first step an office was established in Stamford, Connecticut.

After explaining certain geographical aspects, Mr. Orr said that the United States had a large manufacturing industry which produced the more orthodox shaft driven types in numerous quantities. There were three American manufacturers of submersible Pumps, but so far they had not been very successful and their sales represented only a very small proportion of the total business in deep well pumps. The Americans were, however, becoming increasingly conscious of the value of a dependable submersible pump and they had shown great interest in our Sumo Pumps.

In selling to America, one of the most important factors to bear in mind was the vast distances to be covered. It would be quite impossible for us to sell our pumps direct and we therefore negotiated with a number of reputable distributors. All in all, we had made a very good start in the American market but our main difficulty at the moment was to produce enough pumps to satisfy their demands.

At both the June and July meetings reports were received from the various sub-Committees. The Canteen Advisory Committee reported that they had discussed with the catering contractors the quality of main meals which were said to have deteriorated in recent months. Particular emphasis was laid on the importance of complaints being made immediately and through the proper channels. Complaints regarding the quality of food should be made in the first instance to the waitress or counter assistant and if the Canteen user was unable to obtain satisfaction from this source, the complaint should be referred to the Canteen Manageress. If the matter was not then dealt with satisfactorily it should be taken up with a member of the Canteen Committee or the Personnel Department.

The Flat Glass Production Sub-Committee reported that at their meeting held on the 25th July the order and production position was reviewed. It was noted that repairs to Number 21 Tank would shortly be completed and it was hoped to resume production around the 21st August. Other matters discussed included the Flashed Drawn process, ventilation of the Flashed Drawn Cutting Room, Bending and training in glass making.

The Maintenance and Construction sub-Committee at their meeting on the 21st July had paid particular attention to works tidiness, the disposal of sawdust, co-operation between sections, and complaints in regard to the quality of tea.

The Engineering Division Production sub-Committee dealt with a large number of domestic matters including conditions of lavatories, the provision of wash basins in the Welding Shop, the Canteen tea service, and the cleaning of drains in the Sumo Shop.

In a general review of the position in the various Divisions and Departments, the Chairman, Mr. John Raymond stated that the Flashed Drawn Process continued to present problems but with the help of a technician from the continent it is hoped that complete success would soon be achieved. The demand for Rolled Plate Glass had fallen slightly, but we were still able to sell the whole of our output.

In the Blown and Pressed Division, Number 8 Tank had been started up again. The Management was determined to make a success of this project but the full support of all the employees concerned was needed.

The Optical and Special Glass Division continued to be extremely busy and was achieving very satisfactory results. It had been found necessary, due to the heavy demand, to re-commence production of Optical glass at Spon Lane in addition to St. Helens.

The Engineering Division found itself in an almost embarrassing position due to the very large number of orders outstanding for the products of each of its three main products.

## SUGGESTION SCHEME

THE Suggestion Scheme Committee met on the 19th July and the 16th August when the following suggestions were adopted.

A. Downing of the Millwrights received £15 os. od. for his ideas for an attachment for machining radius on optical moulds and plungers.

A. Jones of the Globe Making suggested a re-arrangement of the glass making team for the production of large gas globes and £10 was awarded.

£7 10s. od. was presented to H. Poulson of the Coloured Department who suggested that some of the rolls in the Flashed Drawn Tower be reduced at each end by a certain

method instead of the usual taper reduction. The adoption of this idea prevents broken edges falling down into the machine pit.

W. G. Chambers, Decorating Department, recommended a scheme for decorating Britannia Ware and £5 was awarded.

£2 was awarded to D. Nunn of the Rolled Plate Department who recommended an alternative to the oil unions with the object of preventing the building up of carbon deposit which stops the rolls and causes damage to the gears on the driving shaft.

J. Rollason of the Micro Department received an interim award of £1 for his idea in connection with plant improvements.

£1 was awarded to E. Poulson who suggested that a fine mesh gauze be fitted over the fan on the Lighthouse Tool Room roof to prevent dirt entering the Jig Borer Room.

S. Harvey of the Gas Plant suggested an emergency coal feed to the producer's coal distributor and was awarded 15/-.

E. Juggins who was at one time employed in the Flat Glass Sales Office was awarded 10/- for suggesting a perspex template for certain Flat Glass orders.

10/- was awarded to E. W. Holloway for his ideas in connection with the re-arrangement of the drains from the lavatory in the Men's Canteen.

10/- was also awarded to C. Kirkham of the D.R.M. Shop for ideas in connection with the manufacture of Micro Glass.

Minor, yet nevertheless valuable suggestions, resulted in 5/- being awarded to H. Shermer, Seven Storey, T. Poole, Lighthouse Electrical, F. Hassall, Carpenters' Shop, F. Walton, New Gatehouse.

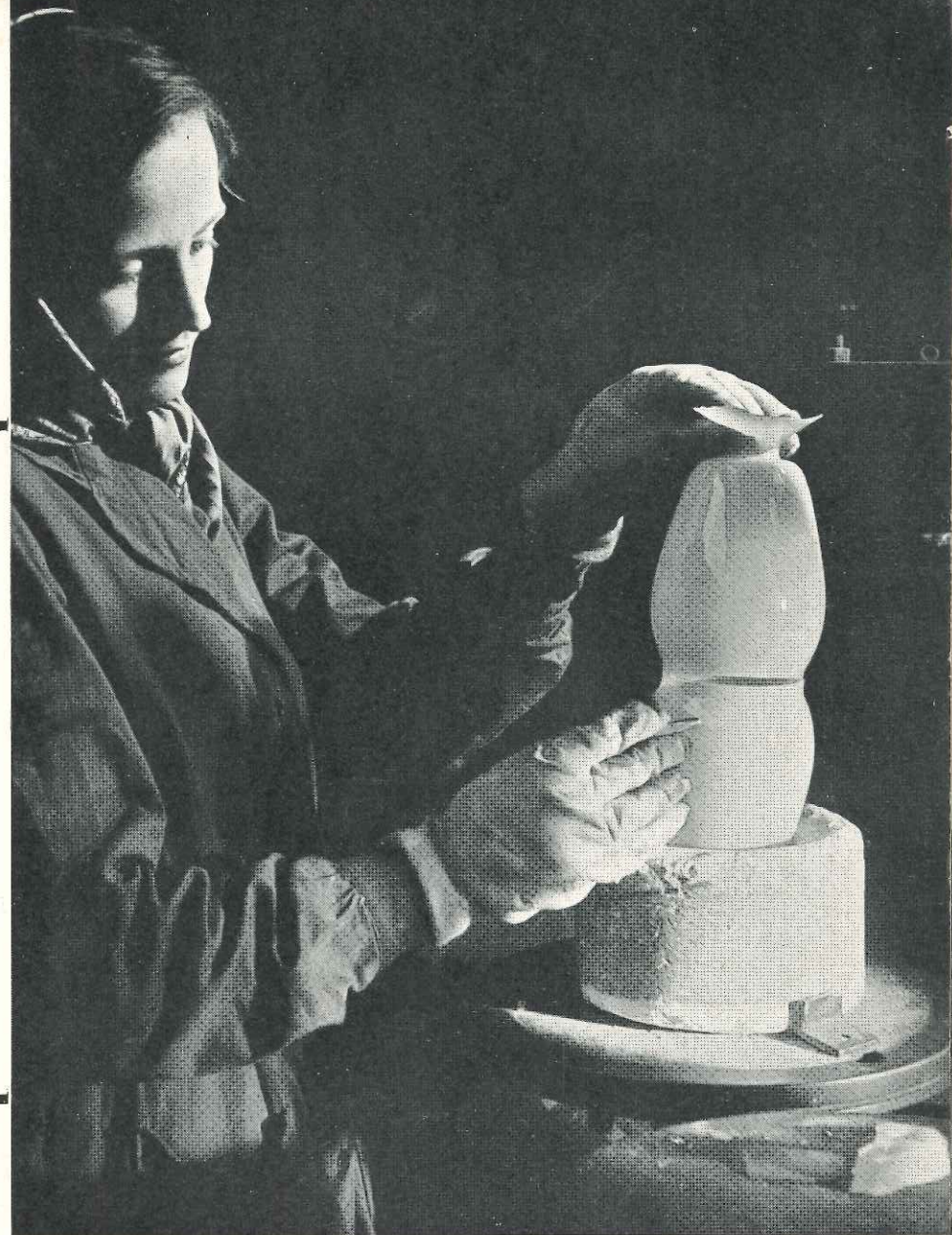
Suggestions received from the St. Helens Works resulted in the following awards:

W. E. Forber	10/-
A Black	10/-
J. Kenny	10/-
T. Hodgson	5/-



# Chance

## PORTRAITS—



- Left: Joe Moran shaping a gathering prior to blowing an opal unit.
- Above: Maisie Harley splitting a lighting shade in the Globe Process Section.





## From all Departments

**MOSTLY PERSONAL**

### BLOWN AND PRESSED

**ALTHOUGH** the Blown and Pressed is our largest Division there is little personal news to report this month. Dennis Eade has joined the Sales Staff in the Domestic Section.

The Globe Warehouse girls wish Annie Cammies a speedy return to health after her recent operation.

### ENGINEERING

**THE** Sumo Sales Office welcome the return of Arthur Dyer to the staff and congratulate him on the birth of a son. Young Raymond Willetts said goodbye to the Sumo Office when he was called to the forces on August 4th.

The Grinding Room were sorry to lose Jack Webb who was forced to retire last month due to his wife's continued ill health. The department wishes God speed to Ken Hill who sailed to New Zealand in August.

Herbert Forth sustained a nasty accident in the middle of last month. Herbert, who is aged 76, slipped down the staircase leading from the offices to the Machine Shop and seriously bruised his ribs. We hope that by the time this magazine is issued he will be sufficiently recovered to resume his job.

The Sumo Shop deeply regret the serious accident to Leah Hatter and hope that she will soon recover.

Sumo is very proud of the fact that they this year won the inter-departmental Cricket Cup. The final was between the Sumo Shop and the Machine Shop, and the final score was Sumo 77, Machine Shop 74. It was a good game despite the fact that Bill Kinchin, Sumo wicket-keeper had to retire with a cut eye which necessitated hospital attention.

The Division welcomes the following young people who have joined with a view to Apprenticeship:

George Jones and Colin Boswell, Drawing Office; Bill Akehurst, Cliff Stevenson and John Griffiths, Electrical; John Lacey, Machine Shop; Ken Gray, Time Study; Robert Wilkes, Experimental.

### FIRE BRIGADE

**THE** Fire Brigade held their annual outing in July and again chose Weston-super-Mare. The weather was ideal and all the members of the Brigade had a most enjoyable time. In the evening, the coaches stopped at Gloucester where an impromptu concert was held. It is nobody's business what time the coach got back to Spon Lane!

### FLAT GLASS

**ROLLED** Plate production from the Spon Lane furnaces was severely affected during July and August owing to repairs and supplies to our customers both at home and abroad were greatly restricted. No further repairs should become necessary for many months and it is hoped that the demand will be sufficient to keep the plant fully operating. Although all the difficulties have not yet been overcome in the operation of the Drawn Flashed plant, recent weeks have seen certain definite improvements effected. It has been decided to increase the output of micro glass at Spon Lane.

The Flat Glass Sales Office welcome S. Merriman and Roy Jones who have recently joined the staff.

The Rolled Plate Making wishes Ben Jones a speedy recovery from his illness which has kept him away from work for several weeks.

### LABORATORY

**THE** Laboratory Staff were sorry to say goodbye to Betty Davies who left at the end of July. Betty had decided to take up a career with the W.R.N.S.

A welcome is extended to A. Harris who has joined the Optical Research Section, Harold Jessop and Colin Bullen who have gone to the Physics Laboratory and Allen Giles and Ron Baker in the Chemistry Laboratory.

The Laboratory is pleased to report that William Lilley who has been absent for many months due to illness, is now progressing favourably.

### MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

The Old Hall extends a welcome to June Richards who has joined us as a Tracer in the Drawing Office. The Division also welcomes as Apprentices Fred Bourne, Vehicle Repair Depot, Bill Tupper, Pyrometry, Harry Coxill, Drawing Office and Philip Evans, Works Engineer's Office.

The Division is now planning its future programme of social activities and efforts are to be made to organise an outing in 1951 to the Festival of Britain Exhibition at London. This will either be a day trip or week-end trip according to the desire of the personnel in the Division. It is also intended to organise a second annual dinner sometime in December.

"Chick" Holloway is organising a series of dances in the Pavilion and the first was held on the 16th September. Any profits from these dances are to be used to provide a childrens' Christmas party.

### OFFICES

**THE** Export Department offer congratulations to Mrs. Jessica Bunn nee Groome, to whom a son was born at the end of June. Mr. M. Van Beik left the Export Department on the 18th August and best wishes are extended to him for his future. The Department was also sorry to lose the services of Angela Shilcock. The engagement was announced on the 3rd August between Kathleen Hurley of the Typing Pool and Peter Gibbons of Pyrometry. A welcome is extended to the following new members of the Staff:—

Ingeborg McGee, Purchasing; Eileen Law, Stationery; Barry

Cleaver, Derek Baker and Joe Adams, Costs; Tony Legg, Accounts; Robert Fisk, Export; Albert Bryant and John Carter, Costs.

### OPTICAL

**THE** order book for spectacle products is in a healthy position and the remoulders have now mastered the technique of the new presses. The new plant for the manufacture of optical glass in platinum pots is now in production. The demand for optical glass made in Clay Pots at St. Helens has been steadily increasing and it has now been decided to start up one furnace at Spon Lane to help meet the demand.

The Department was sorry to lose the services of Dorothy Pearson. A welcome is extended to Joyce Ward.

### STONEMASONS

**HARRY** ARMSTRONG, the Foreman of the Stonemasons' Shop has been ill for many months and recovery is still obstinate. During his absence George Farnsworth is carrying on. George's home is at Stafford, and he travels each day by motor cycle: it is seldom that he is late.

### TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC

**THE** Transport Department congratulates Bert Bagnall and his wife on the birth of a son.

The Traffic Office extends a welcome to Douglas McDonald who has joined the Staff as assistant to the Traffic Manager.

*George Farnsworth facing a sill*





# News

## FROM OUR BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS

### ● LONDON

**FRIENDS** of Eileen Driscoll (now Mrs. Hunt) may like to know that she came to see us recently and that she is thoroughly enjoying her married life.

Our plans for taking part in the Festival of Britain are maturing. Apart from our Lighthouse Optic for the Shot Tower there will be other of our Optics and Beacons in various buildings on the South Bank site, Optical, Micro and a new Figured Rolled Glass in the Science Exhibition and elsewhere. As befits a firm who took such a prominent part in the Great Exhibition of 1851, our products will be well represented in next year's Festival.

There are no items of personal news this time—many of us have been, or are shortly going, on holiday.

### ● GLASGOW

**BY** the time the September issue is published glass-making should have been resumed, following a cold repair to the Rolled Plate tank. The resumption of glass making will be welcomed, to meet the insistent demands from our customers, both at home and abroad.

Work is to continue on the re-erection of the old Bat furnace building at all speed, to accommodate the new Danner tubing plant, so that there will be considerable developments by early 1951.

Micro processing continues to expand and the Spectacle Moulding Department is fully occupied.

The Recreation Club will hold their annual meeting about the third week of August, when office-bearers, etc., will be appointed. Further details will appear in the next issue.

### ● ST. HELENS

**SINCE** the last issue of CHANCE COMMENTS the majority of us have now taken our annual holidays, and although we could have been blessed with better weather, we feel refreshed to get down again to the "grindstone" to keep the Optical Glass production flag flying high. Although we have nothing spectacular to comment about on any of our outstanding achievements, in this issue, as we have in previous ones, our efforts to keep the flow of glass moving will be none the less stringent in order to keep outstanding orders on a reasonable level and give satisfaction to our customers.



Mrs. Betty Arstall.

On Wednesday, 12th July, Mr. and Mrs. W. Arstall sailed in the m.v. *Cheshire* to Australia, and we reluctantly said goodbye to Mrs. Arstall, known to all as Betty, who for the past two years worked as a Comptometer operator in our wages department. Betty before her

marriage was employed by Umbroc Ltd. and Pilkington Bros. Limited. Before leaving, Betty, who was brimful of excitement, was presented with a Travelling Clock and powder compact. A letter already received says that they are having a wonderful journey. A copy of CHANCE COMMENTS will be shortly on its way to Australia so we would like through this medium to convey once again our very best wishes for their happiness and success.

We omitted in the last edition to offer our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. H. Westby who recently celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary, Mrs. Westby, affectionately known as Carrie is our office cleaner.

### ● MALVERN

**THE** Malvern Branch Works (Special Glass Division) congratulates Ken Fletcher on attaining his twenty-first birthday and on his engagement to Jean MacCassidy.

The personnel extends best wishes to Mrs. Sealey and hope that she will soon recover from her recent operation.

The Works had the first week in August for the annual holiday and the places visited included the South of France, Ireland, South Coast, East Coast and Yorkshire.

We welcome the first reported news from the Engineering Division Branch Works at Malvern.

More machines have been installed and the Assembly Section is beginning to take shape, Flamemaster Torches and Rotary Switches being the main products. Sumo stators are being wound and new operators are being initiated into the mysteries of stator winding by Miss L. Bird from Spon Lane.

The Section congratulates Margaret Loader of the Winding Section on attaining her majority on 27th August.

Process Section at the Malvern Factory





# Jottings *of shorter items and employees' contributions*

## PENSIONERS

**PENSIONERS** and employees with 50 years' service or over and their wives, had their annual outing on the 11th July. The tea was at the Rose and Crown Tea Gardens, Rednal, where the old people were welcomed by Mr. Walter Chance, Mr. and Mrs. John Raymond, Mr. H. L. Barman, Dr. W. M. Hampton, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. S. Newman, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Chance, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Cleaver,



Above: Mr. Walter Chance at the Pensioners' Outing.

Right: The Italian poplar being stripped in our timber yard.

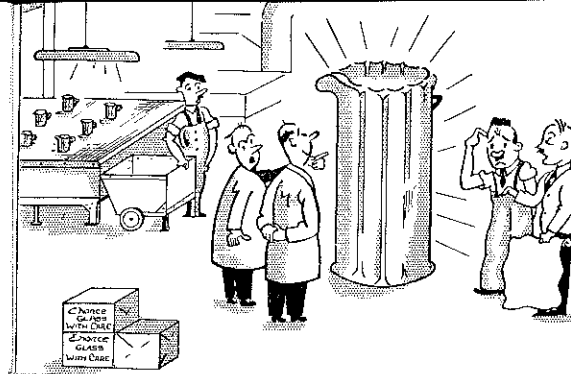
Mr. and Mrs. H. Fulton and Mr. R. Wrathall.

In welcoming the 170 guests Mr. Walter Chance said that there are now 125 Pensioners on the Company's records and the average age is 74 years. The Company is proud of its record of long service employees and there are 25 men working at Spon Lane who have had 50 years' or more unbroken service with the Company.

After tea the party proceeded to Evesham, where some went on the river and some found amusement and pleasure at a local.

## TIMBER

**THE** Company recently purchased a black Italian Poplar tree on site near Leominster. The usable part of the tree was 15 tons in weight, 30 feet long, and 12 feet 6 inches in circumference. The tree was cut into three lengths with a mechanical cross cut saw and then cut into boards or planks for use in case making.



"You must appreciate, Joe, that two little strokes above a figure on the drawing means inches, not feet!"

★

## LINE SHOOTS

**THE** Engineering Division keep an unofficial log in which is recorded "lines" said by members of the staff. Many of the records are unprintable, but the following are a few amusing extracts.

"And the whole thing works under water."

"Well, if the stuff is in the stores it can go the same day—surely! !"

"You know I'm convinced that this night driving is just a matter of luck."

"... and Field Marshall Smutts said to me 'How's your arm, Gilbert?'"

"I'll have to consult my staff.—Hey, Sandy!"

"Anyone trying to work finds it most disconcerting."

"I don't need any catalogues. I know all about Sumo Pumps without them."

"In about 2 or 3 days I'll bring Mr. ——— down to my level."

"I've given up the notion of trying to re-organise this place."

"I don't think a woman can talk."

"I'm not paid for what I do—it's what I know."

"I couldn't finish typing the order as my typewriter was red hot."

## OUTWARD BOUND MOUNTAIN SCHOOL

**FRANK HORTON** of the Sumo Shop and Alan Fenton of the Millwrights have been selected to attend for a period of one month the Outward Bound Mountain School, which is situated half-way up Eskdale (Cumberland) perhaps one of the most beautiful of all the Dales.

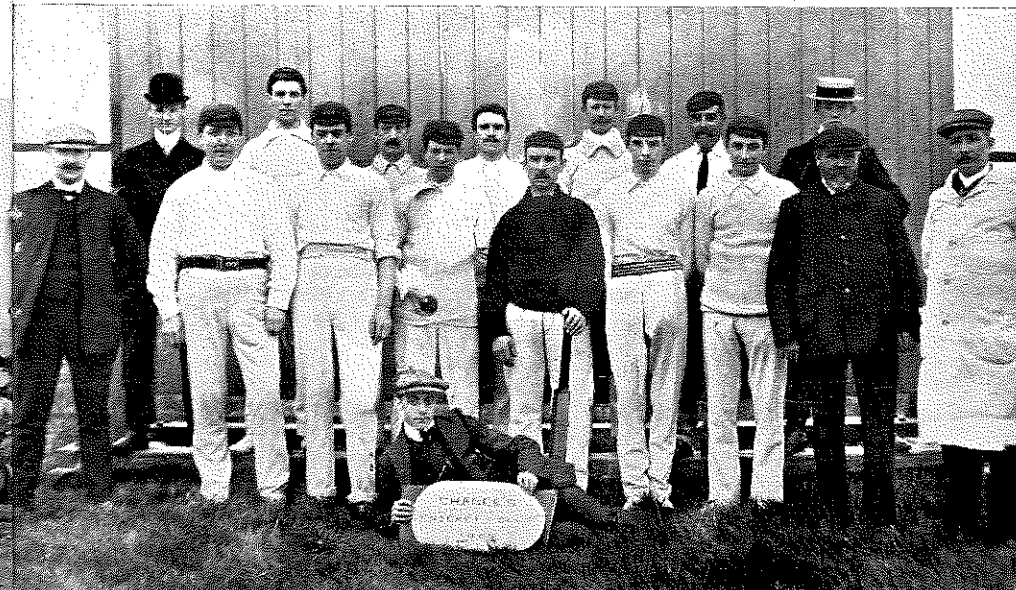
During the four weeks' course, the training is designed to develop character, quality of self reliance and leadership, with a sense of responsibility, to respond to discipline spirit of team work, to break down class barriers, and to gain self knowledge through experience.

Boys are also encouraged to interest themselves in local history, geography, archeology and music.

## 42 YEARS AGO

A very interesting old photograph has come to light showing the Works Cricket Club in 1908. The members of the team are:—

F. G. Udall, W. Scott, J. Stokes, J. Wilson, W. Powell, J. Cashmore, H. Phelps, V. Beestlestone, G. H. Tonks, F. Maltby, S. Tandy, T. Newby, H. Anstey, W. H. Mayhew, J. Horton, T. Tandy.







## FROM SPON LANE TO THE RIVIERA

ON Friday, 28th July, a party of 17 of our apprentices left Smethwick for a fourteen days holiday in the South of France.

After an uneventful journey, we arrived in Paris at 5.40 a.m. on the Saturday morning, being met by Monsieur Brunet of the Touring Club de France, under whose auspices the holiday had been arranged.

Three hours of the morning were taken up by a coach tour of Paris. Among the many places visited were the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, Arc de Triomphe, Champs Elysees, Grand Opera, Madeleine Church, Sacre Coeur, Place de la Bastille and the Palace of Le Louvre. Many other sites and buildings, too many to record in this limited space were also visited.

On the Sunday we visited the Palace of Versailles, which was planned by Louis XIV and is known all over the world.

The same evening we left Paris with many happy memories, and commenced our long overnight journey to the French Riviera. Our first sight of the Mediterranean was in the early hours of Monday, 31st July, when we approached Marseilles. We arrived in Toulon fourteen hours after our departure from Paris. The remainder of our journey to Le Lavandou, where is found the most beautiful beach on the Riviera, was made by coach.

For the next twelve days we were under canvas at the "Village des Toiles" (tented village) which accommodated some five hundred campers.

The temperature in the sun often rose above 120 degrees Fahrenheit, and between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. it was necessary to rest from the fierce Mediterranean sun. The Camp itself was infested with crickets, some three inches or more in length. Their perpetual chorus never ceased throughout the day or night.

Two football matches were arranged against French boys in the Camp and both of these resulted in a win for our boys.

Of the language difficulty, one lad was asked how he managed to converse with the French girls in the Camp. "Do they speak English", he was asked. "No" was the answer, "but we're learnin' 'em." We are still wondering who the lad was who exclaimed at the lunch table, "Pass the ——— bread." We shall always remember "Monsieur Le Badge" not forgetting "The White House".

Perhaps our greatest memory will be the coach trip on August Monday to Cannes, Nice and Monte Carlo. Returning by road from Monte Carlo, we travelled along the highest road which had been cut into the face of the mountain, leaving a sheer drop on the one side of some 2,500 feet to the sea below.

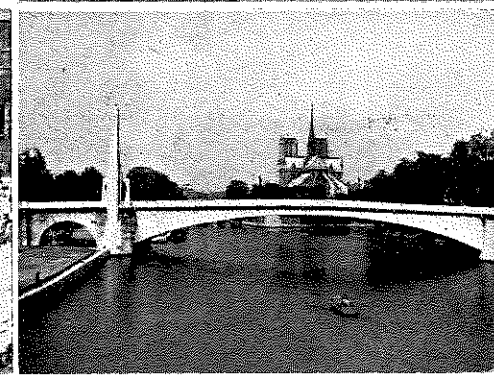
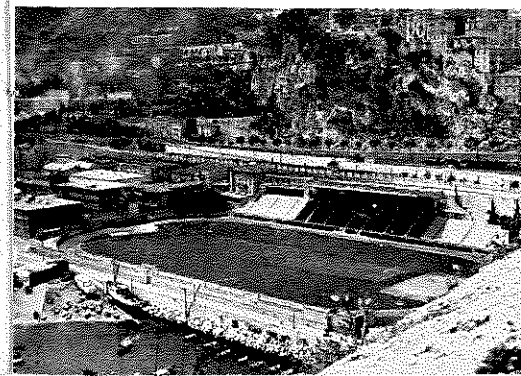
Many sharp and horseshoe bends are inevitable on these roads. The driver appeared to be taken up by the cheerful spirit of the party, and not knowing the words of our songs, much to the delight of the boys, began clapping his hands and beating time with his foot on the accelerator, pausing now and then to take hold of the wheel to negotiate an approaching bend.

★

Top right: The beach and harbour at Le Lavandou.  
Below left: The sports stadium at Monte Carlo, taken from the Prince Regent's Palace.  
Below right: Paris—view of Notre Dame Cathedral across the Seine

Perhaps the greatest excitement came when a large forest fire started in the wooded hills at Cavaliere, three miles from Le Lavandou. The fire was accidentally started by two German campers who were later arrested. It was a wonderful yet frightening spectacle, lasting for three and a half days and fanned by a Mistral (gale wind) spread for fourteen miles. By night the hills and sky glowed red, enhancing the beauty of the already glorious Mediterranean. We visited the Mayor of Le Lavandou and offered our services in helping to evacuate persons in danger or to combat the spread of the fire. Two parties were formed and although we had an opportunity of seeing the fire at close quarters and, indeed, driving through it, the organisation was somewhat chaotic and we were not able to be of much assistance.

All too quickly the time came to return. We left Le Lavandou on the Friday afternoon and arrived in Paris on Saturday morning. Here the leaders of the party were entertained by the Touring Club de France at their Flying Club near Versailles. We left Paris on the Saturday evening and arrived back, tired but happy, on Sunday afternoon.





# Chance Products on Parade



## DOMESTIC TABLE GLASS

IT is now about ten years since we embarked on our first efforts to produce automatically made domestic glass.

From the early days of the war there was a severe shortage of tumblers and in order to meet the demand a second-hand machine was purchased and installed on No. 22 furnace. At first this was used to make two types of tumbler, one pressed very similar to our present day plain pattern 2Doo3, and the other by pressing and blowing, which involved a good deal of processing.

We had not been turning out these two tumblers for very long before we started to look round for other articles to make, and the first step was to convert some hand making cream jar moulds to produce small barrel shaped whiskey tots. The machine was then tried out on the production of 6½ in. "Spiderweb" bowls and as this experiment was a success the 4½ in. "Spiderweb" dish was introduced to make up a small fruit set. When this had been done the limit of the machine's capacity had been reached, but as these early trials had proved so successful it was decided to go ahead with the much larger project which we now know as "No. 8".

As soon as this decision had been taken there was great activity in designing further items in the "Spiderweb" range and getting moulds in time for the start of No. 8 tank. Following on "Spiderweb" we commenced to develop the "Lotus" pattern, but in general this design was found rather too severe to attract a large public demand mainly due to the fact that they were tired of austerity and wanted a pattern which simulated cut glass. Our first effort to meet this call was the introduction of "Waverley", but the real child of our efforts is "Britannia", which pattern is still being steadily added to.

As it is quite impossible to produce coloured glass from No. 8 other methods of imparting colour to products had to be thought of and it is pleasing to know that by extending our spraying capacity and burning in the colours a large measure of success has been achieved. New moulds take a long time to obtain after the final shape and pattern has been decided upon, but by applying various decorations to our standard products we are able to dress them up in new clothing and thereby meet the incessant cry of the market for new products.

"Spiderweb" domestic pressed glassware. Our photo shows celery dish, pickle jar, covered butter dish and 6 inch saucer/plate.



## Autumn Trends

by VERONICA PAPWORTH

FEMININE is the word for some of this season's designs—feminine in their adaptability, versatility, and usefulness. Top coats are reversible; belted coats can be worn loose, releasing hidden groups of pleating; scarf collars can be tied five different ways; overskirts transform "tube" dresses and there is even a full-length coat that can be worn back to front.

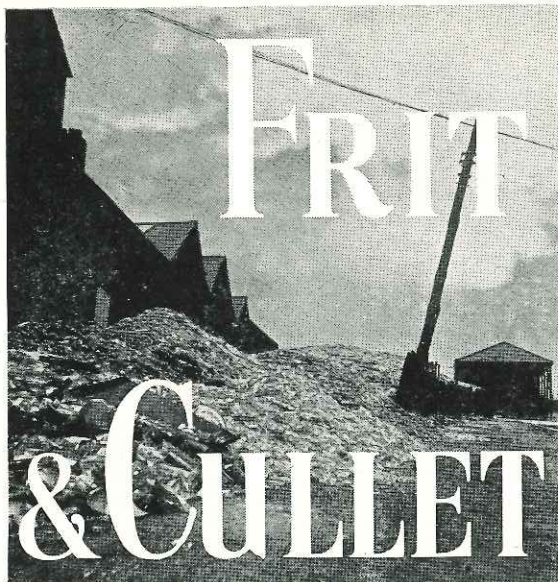
Mid-calf is the generally accepted skirt-length this season, but there is no definite length, the right one is the one that suits you—a little longer if you are short, a little shorter if you are tall.



The taffeta utility dress (above) has an amusing little half-jacket buttoning down one side. Off it comes—revealing (we hope) one smooth white shoulder. The big white daisies are included.

Here is something worth saving for: In the reversible utility fur coat (left) smoky brown embros lamb is faced with matching velour or tartan. The coat may be worn loose or belted—check side out or fur side out. The belt can be tied as a cravat—the collar worn high or flat. There is also a matching skirt.





#### DO YOU KNOW?

1. Where is the King's health drunk seated?
2. Which is the greater, two feet square, or two square feet?
3. In Norman architecture is the arch: Round; Oval; Pointed?
4. How is the year of assay marked on silver?
5. For what does  $H_2SO_4$  stand?  
Water      Nitric Acid  
Sulphuric Acid      Hydrochloric Acid
6. Which of the following is not a prime number? 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15.
7. When summer time ends should clocks be put back or put forward?
8. Is it legally wrong to offer a sum in silver of £5?

#### DAFFY-NITIONS

UNDER CONSIDERATION—Never heard of it.

UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION—We're looking in the files for it.

RESEARCH—Dragging data out of an inaccessible place, tabulating them, and then filing them in equally inaccessible places.

RESEARCH WORK—Hunting for the guy who moved the file.

NOTE AND INITIAL—Let's spread the responsibility for this.

STATISTICIAN—A statistician is a man who draws a mathematically precise line from an unwarranted assumption to a foregone conclusion.

#### SO WHAT?

The apricot was brought from Italy to England by Henry VIII's gardener in 1524 . . . To grow turnips successfully the soil must be well stocked with lime carbonate . . . Celery was originally a wild plant of the British marshes near the sea when it had poisonous qualities which have been eliminated by the plant breeder and cultivator . . . Lord's Cricket Ground covers an area of about seven acres . . . Sapphires and rubies are composed of aluminium combined with

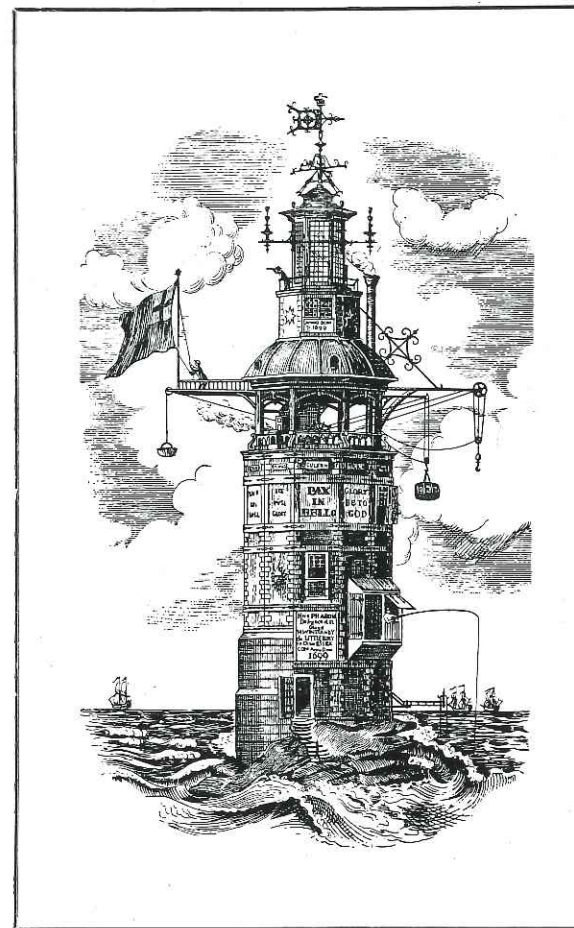
oxygen . . . . . Air is a mixture of gases; oxygen about 21 parts, nitrogen about 79 parts . . . Animal life could not exist if oxygen were not present in the air, but if the air consisted of oxygen only we could not live in it . . . Places, not people, are evacuated . . . President Franklin Roosevelt kept and filed all his Christmas cards . . . When he flew to Casablanca he took with him an expert swimmer to keep him afloat if they crashed . . .

The thaw does not cause the burst but reveals it . . . Moths don't eat clothes; that is done while the moths are being born . . . Steam is invisible . . . Camphor does not keep away moths . . .

#### ANSWERS

1. On board naval vessels, due to the low decks in former times.
2. Two feet square.
3. Round.
4. By a different letter for each year.
5. Sulphuric acid.
6. 9 and 15.
7. Put back.
8. Yes.

# From the Past



## A Gentleman's Lighthouse

IN 1699 this wave-swept tower was a thing to wonder at—and so it is today. Its source of light was a cluster of flickering tallow candles. Its living quarters were primitive. Part wood, part stone, much ornamental iron, it was built by an Essex gentleman of strong mechanical bent, who lost his life when it was swept from the rocks in a great November gale.

His lighthouse may look strange to us and his candle flames burn dim, but dim or not they were the first to shine from the dangerous Eddystone rocks.



# Chance at the

## IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION

OVER 125 years of progress and achievement are gathered together in a nutshell (so to speak) by Chance Brothers at the Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition. The famous Crystal Palace was one of the most spectacular of these achievements. We made all the glass, nearly a million square feet of it, for the great Exhibition Building of 1851. This was a proud achievement because, not only was the glass produced at a very few months' notice, but its manufacture in no way interfered with normal production at the Glassworks. It was also made by a new process at that time.

Our Stand at this year's IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION is to be found in a model replica of the Crystal Palace. This model will form the central piece in the main body of the Grand Hall at Olympia.

The principal feature of the stand is glass for the home in the form of table glass in six family designs, both clear and coloured. Many of the patterns are already well known to the housewife. There are "Spiderweb", "Waverley", and "Britannia", all made by automatic machines to the designs of some of Britain's best industrial designers. New additions to the ranges in each pattern will be exhibited.

"Fiesta" is the very newest style of Chance Table glass. "Fiesta" has never been shown in this country before. It is made by a special process which enables the application to a clear or coloured base of intricate patterns and decoration.

Another important exhibit on this stand will be a modern rotating electric lighthouse optic and pedestal.

Chance Brothers exhibited the first British Lighthouse apparatus at the 1851 Exhibition, and this year, in 1951, celebrate their Centenary as Lighthouse Engineers. (They started making glass in 1824.)

There is also a token display of Chance glass for Science, comprising "Hysil" (Regd.) Laboratory glass and tubing and specialities such as the all glass interchangeable hypodermic syringe.

**Cathode Ray tubes for television and radar.** We made the very first of these for the Baird Experimental Station at the Crystal Palace.

**Optical and colour filter glass.**

**Glasses for eye protection for industrial uses.** Sir William Crookes turned to our firm to make the first experimental melts of the now famous Crookes glass.

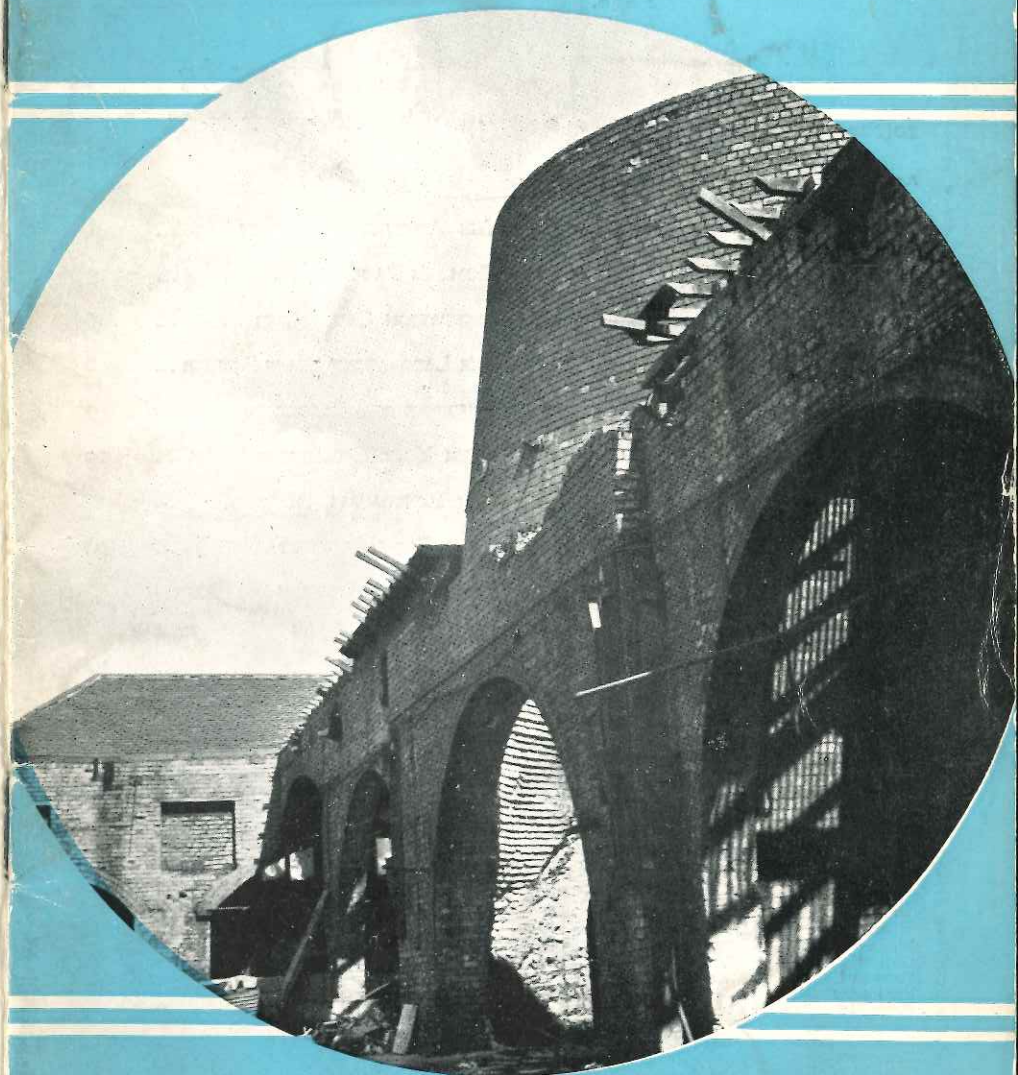
**Microscope cover slips and slides.** For more than a 100 YEARS now we have been the sole British makers of this extraordinarily thin scientific glass (200 pieces to the inch).

The Stand includes a display of glass used in lighting and signalling installations, tubing for fluorescent lamps, opal glass units, pressed lenses for ships' navigation lights and railway signals and car headlamp lenses.

Finally, specimens of modern building glass will include an entirely new decoration pattern designed especially for the Festival of Britain.

# Chance

## COMMENTS



MARCH—APRIL 1951

3<sup>D</sup>