

Be alert and stay alive!

Remember the other fellow has his worries too!
Be extremely careful when carrying a bulky load.
Watch out—yourself—for all moving lorries, locos—
and workmen—carelessness is a short cut to the
surgery.

Extracted from Pilkington Brothers' Safety Calendar

Chance

COMMENTS



JULY—AUGUST 1952

Chance

COMMENTS

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

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VOL. 5, No. 3

JULY—AUGUST 1952

Tour of Southern Africa

by H. FULTON

THE sunlight strikes through the dense lush tropical foliage in splinters of brilliance, strange colourful birds are seen for a moment as they flit from gloom to gloom, weird cries of hidden beasts startle the intruder as the denizens of the jungle are disturbed . . it is darkest Africa !

I must admit that apart from a short trip up the Zambesi and a visit to one or two rather disciplined game reserves, this side of the 'dark continent' remained a closed book so far as my recent tour of Southern Africa was concerned. I was prepared to accept the fact that 'All wild animals are dangerous' as the notices point out, even though I went so far as to feed one or two monkeys with pieces of cake. The fact is that a ten week tour of five Southern & East African territories leaves very little time or inclination for much besides business and sorely needed rest. Admittedly the business includes quite a lot of entertainment but one has to be on one's toes the whole time and a good order can sometimes be secured across a dinner table. It is always interesting and at times very enjoyable to travel abroad for the firm but it is exhausting.

The object of an Export tour is not primarily to book orders ; this is the agent's job and he must do our work for us in this respect year in and year out. The aim of the overseas traveller is to 'brief' the agent, see that he knows all about our products, see that he is active and acceptable to customers and make sure that he gets every



Simmonds Street, Johannesburg.

possible order. If he is not doing his job then another agent has to be found. While visiting a foreign market as many customers are seen as time permits, the personal touch is invaluable, it aids the agent in his future operations and will often produce an order there and then.

In 1,400 words it is quite impossible to cover adequately a 19,000 mile tour, carried out by air, sea, rail and road. In the short time I was abroad I visited Portugal, the Union of South Africa, Portuguese East Africa, Northern and Southern Rhodesia and Kenya, but as I was in the Union for nearly two months, I shall concentrate on this important market—on Johannesburg in particular—and its opportunities for the future.

The business centre of the Union is Johannesburg, a city which has grown up in the last 50 years to become a modern metropolis reminiscent, with its skyscrapers and American motor cars, of many transatlantic towns. It

is the centre of an area—the Reef—containing a million Europeans out of the Union's total of only 2½ million. It has all the hurry and bustle of the States, it is nearly 6,000 ft. up which gives a sparkle and an intoxicating quality to the sunny air. The businessman is apt to add a little Scotch Whisky to the mixture at 5.0 p.m. prompt, but he started work at 8.0 a.m. and had a sandwich lunch in his office, so perhaps he earned it. Everyone looks cheerful, there are plenty of pretty girls in summer frocks and the narrow streets with their frequent intersections are as packed as New Street. By 6.0 p.m., however, the streets are empty and business people have retired to their homes in the suburbs, to return later in the evening to visit the cinema. Apart from open air games there are few other forms of entertainment and South Africans treat the cinema like the theatre, every seat being bookable and the programme having long intervals in which the audience leave their seats for a stroll.

Naturally, immediately on arrival one notices the cheerful dark faces of the natives. South Africa's economy may be supported by gold but the gold is dug up by native labour. The 'African' as he is officially styled is only one of the races for whom some sort of 'apartheid' has grown up. In one factory I visited there were separate wash places for Europeans, Coloureds and Natives, in another Asiatics were separated. The necessity for segregation is agreed by all Europeans in Southern Africa, opinions differ only on the way in which it should be applied. Speeches condemning a 'colour bar' are made by politicians and others in England, but when a practical test is applied, as it often was during the war in the Middle East and elsewhere, it is remarkable how Englishmen particularly—at all levels—find themselves in favour of a measure of racial

segregation. Is it to be wondered therefore that South Africans deplore criticism from people whom they regard as uninformed?

The native is very like a child with a child's vices and virtues. He is often 'straight off the trees' and completely ignorant of civilization. He is excellent at repetition work, but initiative is strange to him and he has to be supervised. Obviously, in time he must be allowed to take a part in the government of the country, as most United Party members admit. The future of the African native is not, however, the main cause of differences between the political parties. The present crisis arises from a struggle for a bigger majority by the Nationalists—the party now in power by virtue of the 'loaded' votes of a minority of Africaners—mostly of Dutch or Huguenot descent. The opposition—the United Party—is backed by South Africans of British descent, but also by Africaners who support the Commonwealth.

Present prospects for imports into the Union are dependent on the Government's policy of control which has recently been tightened loyally to assist Commonwealth determination to reduce the dollar gap. South Africa feels entitled to spend some of the gold which it sells to America (to be buried in Fort Knox) and consequently she buys American cars, and other necessities among which domestic glass occurs. The amount of dollars expendable is controlled, and discouraged by a system which, for instance, prohibits the import of the more expensive motor cars and involves the forfeiture of part of the importers' overall import permit. Nevertheless American domestic glass is so cheap that the merchant prefers to buy it in preference to the soft currency article.

Fortunately Chance's other products are not up against this particular form of competition, and Flat Glass orders are nearly all placed with British firms.

South Africa is a good market and although this year's permits will be 25% or more below last year's, the new buildings going up everywhere will have to be glazed and import controls will, it is hoped, be suitably relaxed. Incidentally, Reeded glass is everywhere in evidence, and even when a potential customer would not place an order for one of our other products, I could often tell him that his office was glazed with Chance's Reeded. Competition from one other British firm is the principle obstacle to increased sales of Laboratory Glass, for which import licences are freely obtainable, and it is particularly important that no complaints on quality, delivery or other delays should arise—as they have in the past—since they obviously deter new customers from placing repeat orders. 'Hysil' is to be found in all the important Laboratories in the Union and, barring accidents, increased business can be expected. Crookes spectacle glass is in steady demand although green tints are the most popular and unfortunately Chance's have missed this market. Spectacle glass for ordinary use is normally bought in finished form as processing in the Union is expensive and it is cheaper to buy the lens already ground and polished.

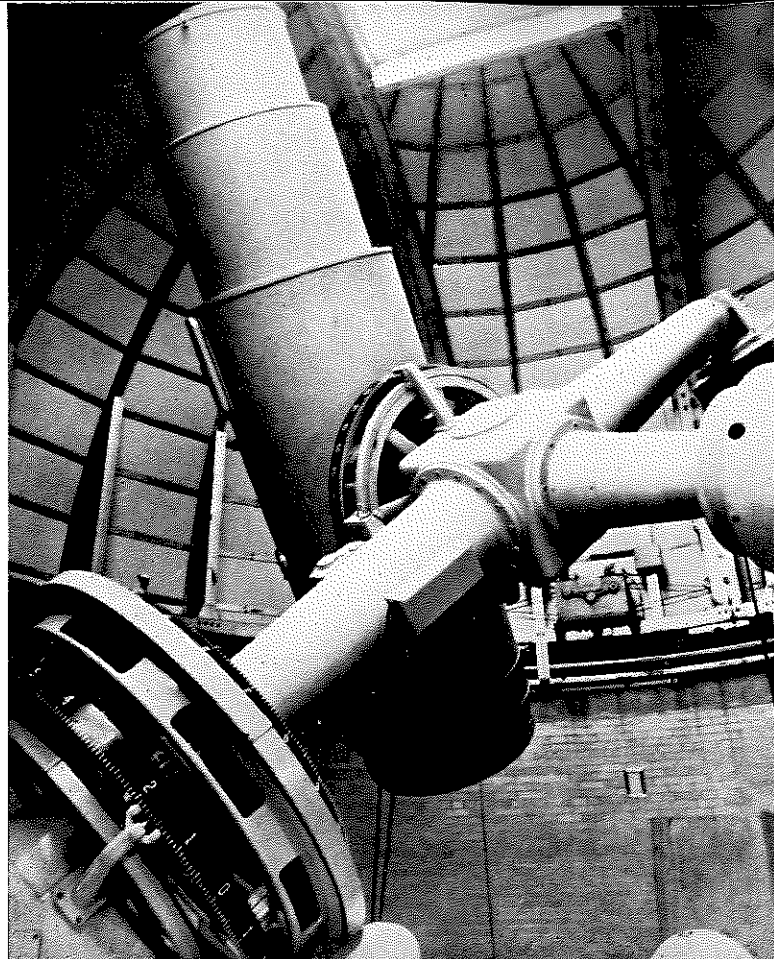
As I have said before good agents are essential and fortunately we have them in South Africa—six all told—for Flat, Domestic, Laboratory, and Spectacle glass, for lighthouse equipment and Sumo pumps. With these agents in Johannesburg and at their branches in other towns I spent a lot of time explaining, questioning and discussing plans for the future and with or without them I visited over 200 customers, mainly for glass products, as it was impossible to cover engineering customers in the available time. Most Johannesburg firms were visited on foot as the parking problem makes it difficult to go by car. Often the agent and I had a native boy following us with

samples in a suitcase, at other times we would go by bus or train. All the customers I visited were friendly and glad to see me as in the majority of cases I was the first Chance representative to call on them; they would normally do their best to place an order though this was dependent on the permit value which they happened to hold at the time.

The people I met often asked why we did not send representatives to the Union more often; the fact is that since the war several visits have been made by Chance employees but we have a lot of different products and customers are many and varied. Buyers prefer to receive a call from someone who knows about the article they are buying, and consequently the specialist in, say, spectacle glass, can hardly have a knowledgeable discussion with a domestic glass wholesaler. With a very limited Export staff we try to cover the world, and visit, at least the major markets, as often as possible and this tour of South Africa was part of a long term programme. It was the longest and most concentrated tour yet attempted and there is no doubt whatever that it achieved its object and laid a sound foundation for future business during the next few years. I have returned convinced that, because of distance and—in many countries—open competition with foreign manufacturers, export orders must receive priority attention if repeat business is to be obtained. I hope this special attention will indeed be given by those who produce the goods but are unable to visit the countries to which they are shipped.

THIS MONTH'S COVER

This old Belfry, The Apex of the Seven Storey Warehouse houses a bell that (except for the war years) has been ringing since 1847. It is referred to on the Frit and Cullet feature on page 24.



For this great telescope in the observatory of the University of Michigan, U.S.A., we made two special prismatic discs.

A BOUQUET FROM THE U.S.

TOWARDS the end of 1949 the St. Helens Branch of the Optical Division was occupied in making two discs of dense flint optical glass, 25 inches diameter, for the Perkin-Elmer Corporation. The lengthy manufacturing cycle and the painstaking tests applied to ensure the necessary high quality standard were described in "Chance Comments" for January, 1950. A photograph of the first disc was the cover-feature.

The discs were made into objective prisms by Perkin-Elmer, who congratulated us on their quality. A few weeks ago we received a glowing tribute from the Director of the Observatory of the University of Michigan, Mr. Leo Goldberg. The discs are mounted in their new giant telescope of the Schmidt type and have been in use for about a year. The Observatory Staff (reports Mr. Goldberg) are enthusiastic over the performance of the prism discs and the results they have obtained with them are unsurpassed in quality anywhere.

Many workers had a hand in producing the discs and all concerned can have the satisfaction that comes from a job well done, a very real achievement of which the firm is justly proud.

W.N.W.

BOUQUETS & BRICKBATS



Since 1943 Bill Timmins of the Seven Storey has won 130 prizes at gardening shows in West Bromwich. His most coveted prize was the Davies Shield for the best allotment which he won four times, and was runner-up five times.

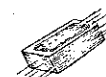
Unfortunately Bill has been absent from work for some months due to a knee injury.



A glassmaker, on terminating his employment with the Company, asked the Personnel Manager for his papers. Puzzled as to what he meant, he was asked what papers he was referring to and what they were about. The answer was, "You mind your business; those papers are private."



Ernie Bullen has again made the War Memorial in the New Gate through-fare attractive with flowers and plants. It is a pity that the Memorial has to look so drab during the winter months.



Two of our gatekeepers decided to spend a holiday together in Torquay. They made a boarding house reservation and paid a deposit, but lost the correspondence and neither can remember the name or address of the landlady.



203 employees have volunteered for the Works Civil Defence Organisation and have either completed, or are nearing the completion of, their basic training. We challenge any other firm of our size to beat this recruitment record.



To the many eligible employees who have not yet volunteered to join our Civil Defence Organisation. Enrolment forms are available at each gatehouse.



The Recreation Club's Pavilion Entertainments Committee appreciates Arthur Farley's efforts in producing an attractive and informative Calendar of Recreation Club events as a supplement to *Chance Comments*.



To the following who recently reached their majority:—Kevin O'Connor, Lighthouse Machine Shop; Edwin Thomas, Laboratory Fitting Shop; Colin Bennett, Lighthouse Drawing Office; Ronald Steventon, Millwrights; Derrick Green, Lighthouse Drawing Office; Maurice Farnell, Lighthouse Electrical.



Recreation Club News

ANGLING

The Angling Season opened on June 16th, and the first bye contest will be held on July 13th. Section members are looking forward to this event after being so long in "cold storage."

ARCHERY

The section has got steadily on its way, practising on Monday and Wednesdays, and several new members have joined but we can still welcome more new members, especially in the ladies' section. Coaching is given to those who have not shot before, and it is surprising how quickly absolute beginners soon become quite good shots. Last month the Apollo Archers visited our grounds and gave a most interesting display of competitive archery.

BOWLING

The team (competing in the Oldbury & District Works' League) has started in fine style and has a 100% record. This has enabled them to hold their place at the head of the League in addition to reaching the semi-final of the Rose Bowl Competition. The section has revived the Interdepartmental and Individual Competitions. Results should be available for the next issue.

CRICKET

Once again the First XI are making a bid for the Championship with promotion to Division I. Providing they maintain their present form they should this year achieve their ambition. Up to date they have won 6 and drawn 1 of their first 7 games, and are heading the Division.



Sir Hugh Chance at a meeting of the Archery Section.



The Second XI are following their example, having lost only one game.

The Interdepartmental Competition for the Foster Cup has again been keenly contested. The Final on the 27th June was won by the Machine Shop who defeated the Glassworks Offices by 7 wickets. Mr. C. J. S. Newman presented the Trophy to the winning team.

FOOTBALL

The Football section intend forming three teams for Season 1952/53, and invites all players to attend the practice matches during the last two weeks in August.

PAVILION

ENTERTAINMENTS

Wednesday and Saturday dances are still being successful, and excellent artistes have been booked for the Sunday evening concerts.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Owing to lack of support the Photographic Section has temporarily disbanded, but it is hoped to recommence activities in the Autumn.

SWIMMING

On Friday, September 12th, we shall hold our first swimming gala. Races will be arranged for employees and for employees' children and it is hoped that all divisions will support the interdivisional team races. Visiting attractions include a display by the Birmingham Amateur Diving Club and a water ballet by the Birmingham Mermaids, whilst the water polo match will be contested by West Bromwich and Wednesbury. Further details will be issued later.



Malthouse Youth Centre table tennis team. Winners of the Smethwick Youth Organisations Knock-Out Competition.

OUR FIRST

Swimming Gala

will be held at

West Bromwich Baths

on

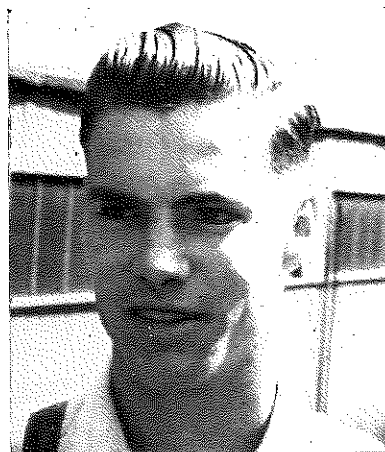
Friday, 12th September

The Programme will include :—

WATER POLO MATCH
HIGH DIVING EXHIBITION
WATER BALLET
INTER-DIVISION RELAY
RACING EVENTS
FOR EMPLOYEES AND
EMPLOYEES' CHILDREN



MEET OUR YOUNG PEOPLE



MICHAEL TREGUNNA

MICHAEL Tregunna, as his name implies, is a Cornishman, his home being near Truro. He joined the Company in August 1951 as a Student Engineering Apprentice, having completed a four year Engineering Course at the Cornwall Technical College.

Since he commenced with us he has received training in the Drawing Office and Machine Shop and at present is in the Fitting Shop. He attends the Chance Technical College on one day per week and has just completed a Fourth Year of the Higher National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering. His ambition lies in an executive post.

Michael is very keen on cricket and is a member of the Chance First XI. He is also a member of the Chance Football Team. He likes to play chess and is a lover of classical music.

His dislike in life is people who do not regard timekeeping

as an essential. When asked what he liked best in life he replied, "To listen to an address by a good speaker."



DENNIS BINFIELD

DENNIS joined the Company in January 1946, as a trainee Scientific Lamp Worker. He has served the whole of his apprenticeship under Mr. Hill.

In April 1950 he was called to H.M. Forces and served for two years in the Army Catering Corps. In January 1951, Dennis was posted to Malaya and during his period of service was ambushed on two occasions by Terrorists when a member of a Patrol Party. On both occasions the Patrol suffered fatal casualties. It would appear strange that a member of the Catering Corps should be on active patrol. This was due to the fact the unit at the time was very short of men and it was a question of "all hands on deck."



Dennis is very keen on all kinds of sport and he likes gardening and musical comedies.

His dislike in life is ignorant people. His reply to the question "What do you like best in life?" was "To be back in England once again."



DOROTHY BOURNE

DOROTHY joined the Company in January 1951 and is now employed in the Glassworks Typing Pool.

Dancing is her hobby and in May 1949 she was awarded a Bronze Medal in the Junior Ballroom branch of the International Dancing Masters Association. In December of the same year she received a Silver Medal in the same class.

In May 1951 she was awarded a Bronze Seal (Elementary) in Amateur Ballroom Dancing Tests issued by the International Association of Teachers Dancing.

When asked what she disliked in life she replied, "People who make promises but do not keep them." The qualities she admires in people are politeness and kindness.



MARION ROCK

MARION commenced employment with the Company in August 1950 in the Lighthouse Production Control Office to be trained as a Short-hand Typist.

While attending the Spon Lane Girls' School, Marion began to correspond with a girl of similar age in Oshawa, Ontario, and was invited to be the guest of the Canadian family. In August 1951, Marion sailed on the "Franconia" for an eight months visit to her friends.

Among the many places of interest she visited whilst in Canada were Niagara Falls; Buffalo New York; the Canadian Exhibition at Toronto; and Montreal. In May of this year she returned to England on the "Empress of France."

Marion is very keen on Amateur Dramatic work and was a member of the Chance Variety Section.

When asked what she disliked in life, she replied, "unfriendly people."

From your COMMITTEE ROOM

WORKS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

A MEETING of the Works Consultative Committee was held on the 28th May. Among the general matters discussed were Civil Defence, charity appeals, road tidiness and Works signs.

The Flat Glass Production Sub-Committee reported that the Coloured Section was giving consideration to the development of sales of Calorex glass in overseas markets. In addition to general production matters concerning coloured glasses, discussions took place in regard to the sprinkler system, the ventilation of the flattening kiln, the new Bending Department and the training of apprentice glassmakers. At the Rolled Plate Section meeting it was stated that the demand for rolled plate glasses continued to be similar to the output of the two furnaces in operation. The quality of glass manufactured from No. 4 Tank was reported to have shown a definite improvement as regards seed following alterations made to the furnace atmosphere. This Sub-Committee also gave consideration to stocks of wire netting, loose loads, new rolls and the installation of Univector heaters.

The Optical Production Sub-Committee had discussed such subjects as colour filter production, road tidiness and repairs to the Packing Room floor.

A large number of items were dealt with at the Maintenance & Construction Sub-Committee's meeting including alterations to the stillage bogies, cycle

racks, repairs to the floor in the Boiler Shop and the purchase of a mechanical saw.

At the Engineering Division Production Sub-Committee the production position was reviewed and it was noted that incoming orders for Sumo products were still below expectations. This Sub-Committee considered Drawing Office services and the heating and the lay-out of the Grinding Room.

The Canteen Advisory Sub-Committee reported progress that had been made in improving the lay-out and kitchen equipment. In general, satisfaction was expressed in regard to the quantity and quality of meals being served in all canteens, but there was a complaint of poor quality tea served in the Old Canteen.

The Chairman, Mr. John Raymond reviewed the general situation and particularly national conditions as they affected Chance Brothers. Mr. Raymond said that the present position in Great Britain was abnormal in that while a number of industries were still enjoying "boom" conditions, some firms in other industries were seriously short of orders and no-one seemed able to forecast with any confidence whether these conditions were purely temporary or were likely to continue. The shortage of orders in certain industries was, no doubt, due to the fact that over recent years the majority of firms—including Chance Brothers—had built up large stocks which they were now using so as to avoid further capital expenditure. It seemed reasonable to expect, therefore, that in certain directions the order position would improve as such stocks became depleted.

Following the completion of the Committee's normal business, Mr. H. Fulton, the Export Manager, was invited to the meeting to give a talk on his recent business visit to South Africa.

Suggestions Scheme

ALL employees, both staff and workpeople, may participate in the Suggestion Scheme, but it is the implied duty of Foremen, Designers and persons on experimental work to devise improvements directly concerned with their own section, and the Scheme therefore does not apply in such cases. On the other hand, senior staff can, of course, submit ideas for something that is outside their normal responsibilities.

All suggestions should be submitted in writing and special forms are available at each Gatehouse, but these forms need not necessarily be used; a suggestor can put his ideas on any piece of paper and drop this into a Suggestion Box. If any employees require help, in addition to that which foremen and supervisors will give, they should obtain leave of absence from their department and take the problem to either Mr. H. S. Martin in the Laboratory or to Mr. A. Ogden in the Personnel Department.

Since the last issue of *Chance Comments* a total of £35 17s. 6d. has been awarded under the Scheme. The highest award, one for £8, in that two month's period went to P. Hoban, of the Lighthouse Grinding Department, who successfully submitted a first class idea for an automatic device for supplying materials to the surface of glass during the polishing process. Two Optical Department employees got together and worked out an idea to alter the pressure on optical presses to avoid spectacle mouldings being crushed during the moulding process: they were E. Armfield and E. Hill, and an interim award of £5 was made. It is very probable that when this idea has proved itself a further award will be made. Another interim award of £5 went to R. Willetts at the St. Helens Works for a suggestion for a machine for edging discs; this suggestion is also likely to qualify for a further award in the future. The Committee always has pleasure in considering suggestions from our lady employees, and Miss R. Tilbury of the Malvern (Optical Division) Works received £4 for an excellent

idea concerning a process on Veridia tubing.

T. Haverty from the Mixing Department at St. Helens put forward a money saving idea for improving the method of moving sand by the use of an existing Stacatruc, and his brain wave earned him £3. Anybody who could successfully solve the problem of noise and wear on the Telfer rails deserves not only a good prize but the gratitude of the many people who have to work near the Plain. J. Horton of the Millwrights is literally on the right track and he received a provisional award of £3, which will most probably be increased when his ideas have proved themselves. Another Millwright, S. Matthews, received £2 for an idea for modifications to the oil burners on the Rolled Plate tanks to prolong their life.

The St. Helens employees have been very prolific in making suggestions recently. H. Milligan of the Furnace Hall received £2 10s. 0d. for a suggestion for inserting asbestos sheets between the steel fire screens and the wooden side of the frit boxes to avoid the boxes being burnt when placed near the furnace. Other successful ideas from St. Helens were made by S. Kelly (Furnace Hall) 10s. 0d., C. Mills (Remoulding) 5s. 0d. and J. Lea (Trimming) 5s. 0d.

Other Spon Lane employees who had remembered that "there is always a better way" were:—

M. Sandel	—Lighthouse Fitting 17s. 6d.
R. H. Duller	—L.H. Drawing Office 17s. 0d.
R. Willetts	—L. H. Electrical 7s. 6d.
R. Goodkill	—Mixing 7s. 6d.
W. Forsyth	—Gatehouse 5s. 0d.
W. R. W. Nicholls	—L.H. Electrical 5s. 0d.



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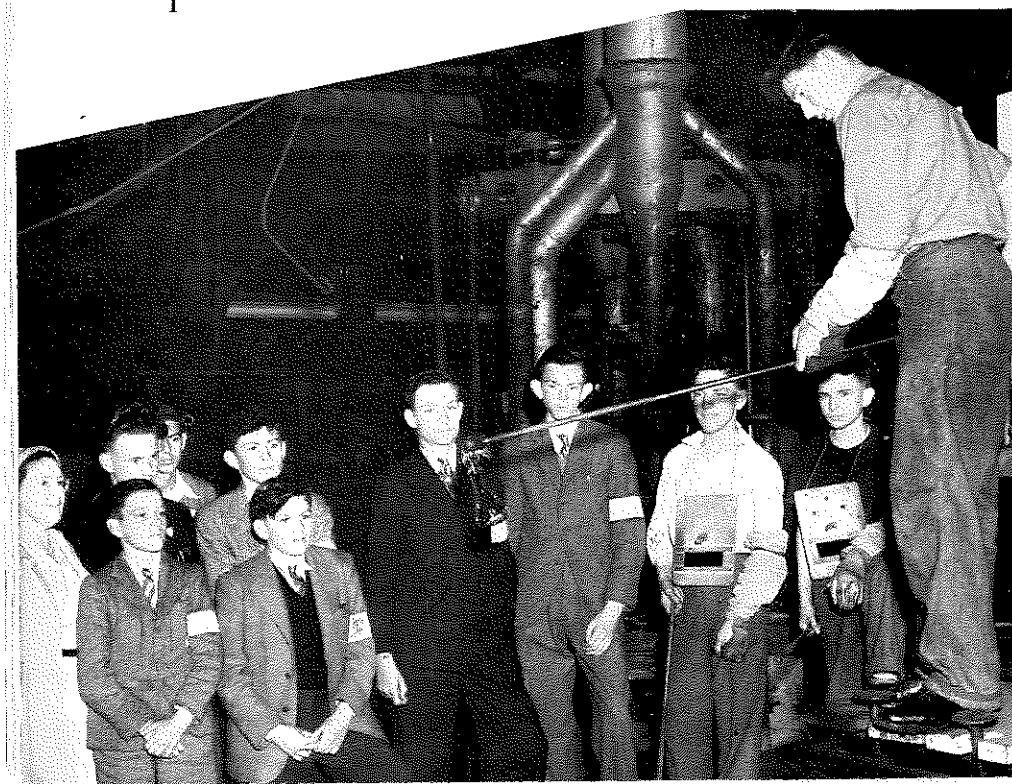


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Chance

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SNAPSHOTS



1. Mr. C. J. S. Newman with members of the Works Fire Brigade.

2. There are three boys whose homes are in Cornwall who are being trained as glass makers in the Blown and Pressed Division. During June a party of schoolboys from St. Austell, Cornwall, visited our works and here they are watching their fellow countrymen "on the job."

3. A vintage photograph of a Pensioners' Party. Sir Hugh Chance, the present Chairman of the Company, is second from the right end of the front row.

4. Twelve noon at the New Gate.



4



From all Departments

MOSTLY PERSONAL

BLOWN & PRESSED

THE Cathode Tube Section wish Sam Williams every happiness on his retirement last month at the age of 75. Sam had been with the Company for eleven years only, but he endeared himself to everybody.

On June 28th Peter Kowolik of the Process Section married Evelyn Hill, who was at one time a member of the Glove Process staff.

The Division is pleased to learn that Joe Forsyth is making a good recovery after his serious operation.

Bill Chambers resigned his position of Decorating foreman at the end of June, and we wish him success and happiness in his new venture.

M. L. Moir became the father of a daughter on June 19th.



ENGINEERING

The Typing Pool extends a sincere welcome to Gwen Croxall, who joined the staff recently.

Mrs. K. Gibbons has left the typing staff as she is expecting a happy event.

Back from convincing the South Americans that there is no pump so good as a Sumo pump is Roger Barron, who has taken up a position in the Export Section.

Doug. Sandin is welcomed back after his operation.

The Sumo Shop welcomes as a newcomer Leslie Walton, also Jim Hill who returns after a period with the Service Department.

Alf. Angell has returned after his illness.

Donald Cox has left the Machine Shop and his many friends wish him happiness in his new sphere.

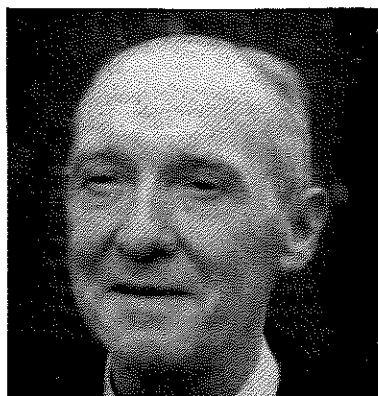
Len Kettle of the Blacksmiths and Frank Walker from the Fitting Shop have been absent through illness for some time, and everyone extends them sincere wishes for speedy and complete recovery.

The Electrical Shop congratulates Ron Seddon and June James, who announced their engagement at Whitsuntide.

Trevor Hudson was married on the 14th June and George Jenkins on the 21st June. Both are at present serving their time in the Forces.

Tom Minett is a welcome newcomer to the Electrical Drawing Office, and William Davies to the Service Department.

The Tool Room welcomes back Jimmy Cox, who has been away on



Frank Sainsbury who has retired.

National Service in the Royal Navy for the past two years.



FLAT GLASS

It is good to have Harry Jennings back out of retirement. He has returned for a short time to supervise the engraving of figured rollers at which job he is indeed a specialist.

The Rolled Plate makers are glad to learn that John Preece is recovering from his recent operation.

Ernest Key of the Fiesta Department has become engaged to Margaret Marshall.

Frank Sainsbury, Coloured packer, retired from work at the end of June at the age of 71. He had been with the Company for 42 years. We publish his photograph and wish him every happiness.

It is with deep regret that we report the death of Andrew Forsyth at the age of 86. Andrew came from Sunderland to Smethwick as a sheet glass blower in 1908 and he retired in 1932. He had at one time six sons, one daughter and twelve grandchildren employed at our Works.



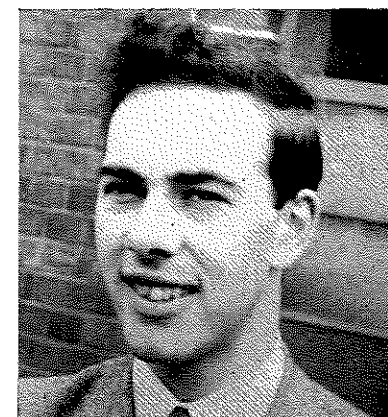
LABORATORY

There has been much domestic happiness in the Laboratory during recent weeks. Arthur Bedford has a son, Barry Lingard a daughter, and Ted Thomas not only attained his majority but also married Bessie Saunders.

William Lilley is sincerely welcomed back after his very long absence due to illness, but the staff were sorry to lose Bill Woodend, who resigned to accept a post elsewhere.

Albert Ray retired at the end of June. He had been employed by the Company for 16 years.

During the past three years Ivan Molyneux has been at Sheffield University under a scholarship award from the Chance Education Trust. He was successful in obtaining a First Class Honours degree in Glass Technology and we congratulate him on this excellent achievement.



Ivan Molyneux who has gained a First Class Honours degree at Sheffield University.

MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

The Old Hall staff welcomes Mary Gould, who has joined the staff in the Buying Department.

Geoff. Lavender was successful in obtaining a place at a month's course at the Outward Bound Sea School at Aberdovey; he will certainly find it hard going but well worthwhile.

Best wishes are offered to Bill Hodgkiss, who has retired from the Building Department after 14 years' service.



OFFICES

Dennis Webb has returned to the Flat Glass Sales Office after his service with the R.A.F.

Congratulations are extended to Bill Bennett (Export Sales) and his wife on the birth of a son.

At the end of May, a party from the Wages Office had an enjoyable coach tour with supper at Shrawley. Mr. I. Rutter, who has retired after 12 years' service, was a member of the party.

The office cleaners had their annual outing on the 14th June, when two coaches toured the Wye Valley.

News

FROM OUR BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS

● GLASGOW

The Bowling Tournament has now reached the semi-final stage and the final will be played before the July holidays.

A theatre night was held on Wednesday, 28th May. The Party had tea in the Gaumont Restaurant, and then to the Pavilion Theatre for the "Tommy Morgan" Summer Show; everyone had an enjoyable evening.

A coach run was held on the evening of the 6th June. 165 members and friends participated and enjoyed a substantial meal at the "Moorings" in Largs.

The many friends of Paddy Conaghan were sorry to learn of his death on the 15th June.

Paddy joined the firm in 1911 as a warehouse boy, and at that time his father was a glass-maker on the old Rolled Plate Tank. In 1935, when the continuous rolling process was installed at Glasgow, Conaghan was engaged as a No. 1 sorter, and continued in that capacity until 1950, when he was put in charge of the Rolled Plate Warehouse. He carried this responsibility with constant and persevering attention. In 1918 he gained the distinction of the Belgian Croix de Guerre, and in answer to all enquiries for details of what happened his reply was invariably "doing my job."

● LONDON

Once again an exhibition was arranged in London Office during the period of the B.I.F. Products from all Divisions were featured, and a special window display showing an illuminated model glass galleon complete with sailors in the rigging, spun glass 'sea', and a lighthouse in the background was the visitors first introduction to the exhibition. (The model dates from the middle of the 18th century and was kindly loaned by Pilkington Brothers Ltd.).

We were privileged to receive 31 Overseas and 143 Home visitors during the 10 days our products were on display. It is clear that this arrangement of receiving visitors on our "own ground" and being able to look after them in comfortable surroundings is proving a successful and economical innovation.

Kay Evens (Teleprinter operator) has left us and is now on her honeymoon. She was presented with a Murphy Richards electric iron and stand by members of London Office staff, who were most sorry to see her go. Rita Bush, formerly our Receptionist/Telephonist, has taken her place and we welcome Margaret Gray who takes over Rita's duties.

● MALVERN

The production of Interchangeable Syringes having been reduced over the past two months, extra

effort was made in other directions. This resulted in a record total of syringe components for other types of syringes being produced. We look forward to a return to the higher rate of production of Interchangeable Syringes when the new type metal nozzle is introduced.

Congratulations to the people responsible for the Hysil Tubing machine at Spon Lane; a large consignment of excellent 19 m/m O.D. tubing is now being made into 10 cc Syringe Barrels for export. We hope their success continues.

We were all pleased to welcome Elsie Rogers back again after five months illness. Congratulations to Rene Reynolds on the return of her husband from Korea and Hong-Kong.

● ST. HELENS

Our congratulations to Miss M. Ashcroft on her wedding to Mr. J. Wilson, on the 9th of June.

Walter Zuber has left us recently to take up an appointment in the new tubing plant at Glasgow. Our loss is their gain, look after him Scotland, he's a good Swiss-Sasenach. In the twelve months he was here at St. Helens, Walter became very popular and we were all sorry he had to leave us. In his place we now have Phil Whieldon who has returned to us once again after an absence of 12 months, which he spent down at Spon Lane. Welcome Phil, may your stay here be a happy and successful one.

We were extremely sorry to hear that Walter Green, one of our fitters, has had to go into Hospital. We wish him a very quick recovery and hope to see him back with us soon.

Mrs. A. Critchley of our S.B.A. Section, has now left us to go and live in Cornwall. We wish her every happiness in her new home and surroundings.

The London Office Exhibition.



Jottings of shorter items and employees' contributions

MY TYPIST

My typist has done on hir holiday
My typist has gohn on a spree,
Mx typish hap gone oh hyr haliduy
O gring bacq m) hypist to me.
Bling bac% oK Sring back,
Oh Bynk n4ck my tipisth to mi, tu mo,
Btung bicq, ocsling 8ack,
Oh blynK ba;k mg t3pys? to m3.
Od@mn.

M. COLDRICK

CARE OF LIGHTHOUSES

Lighthouses, as an annual White Paper never fails to remind us, have little or no realizable value. Nobody now remembers how much they cost to build. This means that the nation's General Lighthouse Fund has to ignore them as assets. If that seems hard on assets as fixed as any in the land, at least the dignity of the Eddystone is undiminished by depreciation.

Quite a sum is needed of course, for new works and replacements. Trinity Monday is the day on which the Corporation of Trinity House of Deptford Strond holds its annual court, and at this time the corporation has under review the care of the lighthouses of England, with its other concerns. Trinity House, of which the Duke of Gloucester has just been re-elected Master, and the Duke of Edinburgh newly elected as Elder Brother, has been making good arrears of work on the lighthouses. Some were bombed; those in the Channel Islands were damaged in the German occupation and others could not be repaired while materials were scarce.

The name "lighthouse" is disliked by people who prefer "light tower" or "pharos"; but it comes down from times when a lantern was exposed on the roof of a dwelling; and whatever the name it still needs a "light" and a "house." The "house," indeed, becomes

more and more important. While, as at Dungeness, more lights are being electrified, houses have to be modernized for the keepers and their families. Some are still too far from gas pipes and electric cables, but wherever possible mains water, electric light, modern cookers and water heaters are being taken to shore stations.

The keeper of a lighthouse on an isolated rock already has one month off duty in three. At many other stations a third man is joining the complement and, at all those on shore, watches and reliefs now permit each keeper one day spell of 24 hours off duty a week. So it is with the light-vessels. Sixteen were lost in the war. Eleven new vessels have come into service, somewhat longer than the old, and showing a light 40 feet above the water, on a tower of lattice design. The accommodation for crew is being brought up to the best standards for ships, with domestic electric lighting



Bengt Blomberg who has travelled from Sweden to undergo a period of training in the Lighthouse Works.

and refrigerators, and the older vessels have better cabins and bathrooms.

Many more lighted buoys now mark the coastal and river approaches than before the war, quite apart from the abnormal number of wreck buoys which is another reminder of the war.

To-day a lighthouse may give more than a warning light and siren, and a buoy more than a light and a bell. A modest but useful daily help to shipping is offered from five stations by which ships may calibrate their wireless direction-finders. Recently there have been experiments with the French lighthouse service, in the English Channel, and, by the winter after next, radio beacons will give a service much more free from interference, as new gear is installed for ranges up to 50 miles, and higher powered equipment modified and moved to longer range stations.

As for the buoys, radar reflectors are being tried, so that separate buoys and entire routes can be recognized by radar. A new development is the "Ramark" beacon, which is nothing less than a radar lighthouse. With its signal invisible across the water, yet plain to see on a device in the ship, it must stand somewhere in succession to that seventh wonder of the world—the marble tower of Pharos at Alexandria.

(From the Times)

SAVINGS

There are three Savings Schemes in operation at the Company:—

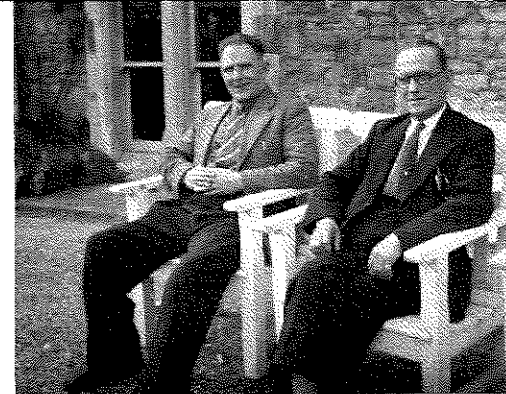
Personal Holiday Savings

Any employee can authorise the Wages or Salaries Office to deduct a regular amount from wages for holidays.

The Company thus acts as a money box and at holiday time the amount saved can be a real help. Last year over £10,000 was saved through this scheme.

National Savings

National Savings Certificates can be purchased by deductions from wages or salary.

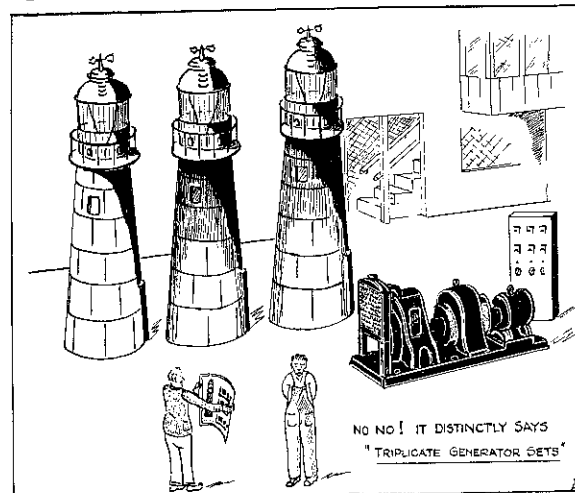


Henry Ahrens of the Lighthouse Grinding Shop and William Walters from Blown and Pressed at a convalescent home at Clevedon. We are glad to have them back after their long illnesses.

Deposit Scheme

This was begun in 1889 with the object of helping selected employees to acquire a direct financial interest in the Company on favourable terms. The rate of Interest is fixed annually by the Board, but this will not be less than 5% (taxable).

Employees wishing to join the Scheme or increase the amount of their deposit (the maximum is £200) should apply to their Manager. If the application is accepted lump sums can be deposited or arrangements made for weekly or monthly deductions to be made from wages or salary.





★ Woman's Feature

PLAY TUNIC

STRIPES go up and down and all around in this delightful play tunic. Wear it to give that little extra warmth after a swim, to keep the too strong rays from burning or just to add a fillip to your swimsuit. The free Penny Wise sewing instructions are available from the Personnel Department.

Page Twenty

IMPORTANT PEOPLE . . .

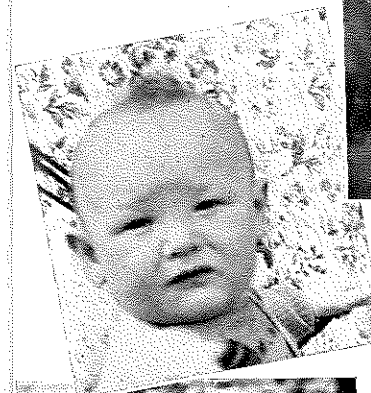
Studies of our Employees' Children



1. Paul, son of Raymond Medley, M. & C.
2. Graham, son of D. Perkins, B. & P.
3. Lawrence, son of P. Yeates, Internal Transport.
4. Robert and Susan : A. T. Naylor, Optical.
5. Paul Andrew, son of E. Andrew, Optical.
6. Joan Burford, whose mother and father are employed in the B. & P.
7. Terry, son of Florrie Cutler, B. & P.



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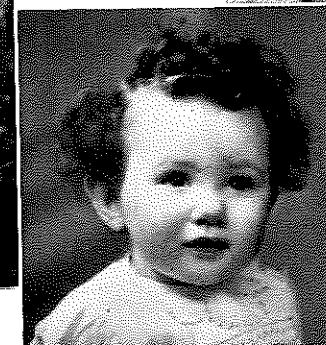
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LAST year 87 accidents occurred at our Smethwick Works which resulted in three or more day's absence from work.

Comparing our accident figures with those of other factories, we come off lightly, but, even so, it is a worrying problem.

How do accidents occur? Here is a list of the causes of the 87 accidents:—

Fall of persons	
(a) on the level	9
(b) from other levels	4
Falling objects	
(a) from heights	3
(b) from benches, hands etc.	8
Contact with stationary objects	13
Flying materials	1
Handling (a) lifting	9
(b) hot or corrosive materials	9
(c) glass	18
Hand Tools	4
Machinery in motion	10
Vehicles	1

Of the 10 machinery accidents, only one was due to inefficient guarding. Bad housekeeping, such as floor obstruction and workshop congestion, caused too many accidents by people falling or coming into contact with objects. There were 8 foot injuries, and in most of these cases the injury would have been less severe had the worker concerned taken advantage of the facilities that are available to purchase shoes or clogs from the General Stores. Many of the serious cuts could have been avoided by the use of safety equipment such as gloves and armlets. But there is no simple explanation of why industrial accidents continue to occur, or why their incidence does not rapidly diminish in spite of a long history of preventative measures of a practical nature.

The fact that there is an ultimate personal responsibility for every accident that occurs is inescapable, and until that is accepted with conviction by all persons associated with industrial production, a significant reduction in the

incidence of accidents cannot be achieved. Every person working in a factory has a certain individual responsibility for the avoidance of accidents, to himself or to others. Anything that is obviously unsafe should be reported to the shop foreman, and to make such reports easy, hazard slips (which are available in each foreman's office) should be filled in.

The Works Safety Committee, which meets at regular intervals, is composed of management and workpeople's representatives, and it is the task of this Committee to discover the causes of accidents which occur and to make suggestions to prevent recurrence. This Committee also acts as a vigilant organisation by searching for possible hazards and recommending to management the action that should be taken to remove them.

The following is the present Committee:—

Management Representatives

Mr. C. J. S. Newman—Chairman	
Mr. A. Ogden	—Secretary
Mr. H. Bye	—
Mr. G. Castle	—
Mr. J. Corbett	—
Mr. T. Flook	—
Mr. J. Galbraith	—
Mr. A. Griffin	—
Dr. A. S. Pearson	—
Mr. W. G. Redley	—
Miss Stock	—
Mr. B. Tandy	—

Workpeople's Representatives

Mr. W. Downing	—Electricians
Mr. A. Fardell	—Coloured Warehouse
Mr. F. Lane	—B. & P. No. 9
Mr. B. L. Roberts	—Pressed Warehouse
Mr. W. Short	—Mixing
Mr. J. Stanley	—L.H. Fitting & M/c. shop
Mr. F. Turner	—Optical
Mr. E. Vaughan	—No. 3 Rolled Plate W/house
Mr. G. Willetts	—L.H. Elect.

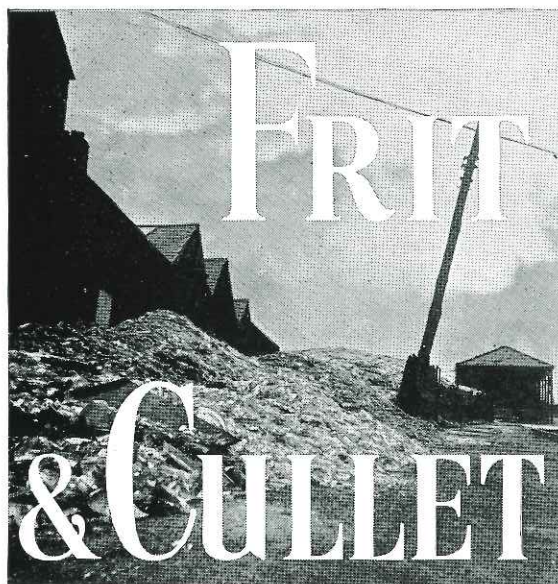
Our well-equipped Medical Centre plays an important part in dealing promptly and efficiently with serious or minor accidents. Cases of lost-time due to sepsis are, happily, rare, but when such a case does occur the staff of the Medical Centre are usually able to prove that the condition would not have developed had the person concerned received treatment at the time of the injury.

The attendance figures at the Medical Centre are of interest. During 1951 the total attendances were 31,642. Of these, 7,595 were accidents attending for the first time; 7,334 for re-dressings; 16,713 for the treatment of minor ailments. Despite this considerable volume of work, the medical and nursing staff persist in urging all persons TO GET PROMPT TREATMENT FOR ALL INJURIES, NO MATTER HOW SLIGHT.

1. The wrong way to lift a heavy weight.
2. The right way which will avoid strain.

3. A dangerous way of carrying a ladder.
4. A much safer method.





DO YOU KNOW

1. What is the area of our Works at Smethwick?
2. How many workpeople's representatives serve on the Works Consultative Committee?
3. On what building is the date 1845 to be found?
4. How thick is No. 1 Micro glass?
5. At what times is the bell in the tower of the Seven Storey building rung?
6. If you join the Chance Pension Fund at the age of 21 and pay the normal contribution of 1s. 2d. per week, how much pension will you receive at age 65?
7. In what year was the firm of Chance Brothers founded?
8. What are the main virtues of Hysil glass?



A cyclist was riding with the wheels of his bike in some tram lines right in front of a tram. The driver got a bit impatient and clamped his foot on the bell. As the cyclist completely ignored this, the driver asked him if he was unable to get out of the tram tracks.

"I con," said the cyclist, "but yo cor."

Schoolboy Howlers

Wat Tyler was slain at Woolworth.

A dolt is someone grown-up.

In some countries they put people to death by elocution.

Two crochets make one quaker.

The Sewage Canal has halved the distance between England and India.

When a ship flies the skull and crossbones, we know there is a pilot on board.

The Poll Tax was a tax on heads. If you had a head you had to pay tax.

Mr. Gladstone once said that "Her Majesty's Government is at peace with all the world, and on terms of friendship with the rest of mankind."



A Black country man decided to go by train to one of the outlying districts. It was his first train journey and on queueing at the booking office, he decided to do exactly the same as the other people before him. A woman in front of him asked for "Sally Oak, single." Following her the man said to the booking clerk, "Josh Darwin, married." Naturally he was asked where he wanted to go.

"What the h—— 'as that got to do with yo, yo dai ask 'er. !."

ANSWERS

1. 32 acres.
2. 10.
3. The Canteens. These buildings were erected as the Chance Schools.
4. 5/1,000ths of an inch.
5. Three minutes before 7.30 a.m. and three minutes before 1 p.m.
6. £1 14 0 per week.
7. 1824—hence our telephone number, West Bromwich 1824.
8. It is heat resisting and has durability.

WHO LAUGHS LAST

