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## **Fair Play for worn Parts!**

Worn machine parts—steam valves, nuts and bolts, etc.—are often too good to be melted down for scrap. Very often reconditioning can make them as good as new, so don't be too hasty in sending them to the scrap-heap. Ask your foreman first.



*Extracted from Pilkington Brothers' Safety Calendar*

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# *Chance* COMMENTS



JANUARY—FEBRUARY 1955

3<sup>D</sup>

# 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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Accounts Office	J. ALLEN
Blown and Pressed	
Inspection	F. O'CONNOR
Process	R. TURTON
Making	S. STOCKIN
Warehouse	A. SUTTON
Warehouse	MRS. A. KEYS
Buying and	
Stationery	MRS. M. CANTY
Cost Office	MISS J. HEATH
Export	F. TAYLOR
Flat Glass	
Making and	
Warehouse	R. E. EVANS
Sales	R. PALMER
Seven Storey	A. FARDELL
Laboratory	MRS. W. RUSSELL
Maintenance and	
Construction	
Boiler Shop	G. ROWE
Building	A. HAND
Carpenters	P. FOSTER
Electricians	E. A. WHITEHOUSE
Garage	H. F. COSNETT
Gas Plant	J. WHEATLEY
Millwrights	W. JOHNSON
Old Hall	MRS. N. O'RIORDAN
Stores	D. R. KIRKWOOD
Mixing	N. GREEN
Optical	MRS. E. HOLLYHEAD
Pyrometry	N. WALKER
Traffic	MRS. K. FELLOWS
Transport	F. G. ANKORN
Typists' Pool	MISS M. VICKERS
Wages, Pensions	A. E. CARTWRIGHT
BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS	
Glasgow	A. C. THOMSON
London	J. C. PERKINS
Malvern	MISS D. CLARE
St. Helens	K. W. APPLETON

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FRIT AND CULLET	Inside Back Cover

### THIS MONTH'S COVER

Mechanical mixing. Soda Ash arriving by conveyor.

VOL. 7, No. 6.

JANUARY—FEBRUARY, 1955

# The Mobile Fringe

Chance Brothers are proud of the high number of employees who have long service with the firm. But there are some who "come and go" and this amusing article is reproduced by permission of the Proprietors of "Punch."

I ALWAYS enjoy reading the Ministry of Labour Gazette. I'm impressed by its omniscience about vitreous enamellers and back-rack knitters. And there are all those incredible figures.

When I read that three people in every hundred leave their jobs each month I was shaken. At that rate more than a third of us change our jobs every year and each of us must have about fifteen jobs in a life-time. I boggled at this, as I thought of my old father who was a temporary Civil Servant for forty-three years.

I spoke to our statistician and he looked at me pityingly.

"An average can be very misleading. You mustn't use it for a wrong purpose," he began, casually stirring his tea with a slide rule. "Of course some people stay in the same jobs all their lives, or change only once or twice. But there's a mobile fringe that chops and changes all the time, and that puts up the average. You ask any Personnel Manager."

"It's full employment," the Personnel Manager said, emerging from behind a pile of insurance cards. "It makes them think they can always do better somewhere else. Would you like to meet the type?"

Herbert Sproggs was a big surly fellow.

"And what do you do here, Mr. Sproggs?" I asked.

"I'm a packer."

"Have you been here long?"

"About a month."

"And what were you doing before you came here?"

"I was a packer."

"Are you going to stay?"

"No, I've got another job for Monday."

"What are you going to do?"

"I'm going to be a packer."

"And will it be a better job?"

"I don't know yet. I want a change. Monotony gets me down."

I certainly saw his point.

Mildred Mully was a pretty teenager. She tossed a platinum lock out of her eyes and told me she was a newcomer, learning to feed the glue machine in the small-parts assembly room.

"The girls are nice and the manager's nice and the work's ever so interesting," she volunteered. "I could learn it all right if I stuck to it."

"And will you?"

"No. You see, Stewart Granger's on at the Astoria next week and I always go as an usherette when he's on."

"Will you stay at the Cinema?"

"I don't know. I usually leave if they have anything highbrow like Ralph Richardson."

At that moment a sharp-featured man from the drilling shop came in to give notice. I asked him about himself and he told me he used to be a die stamper but he found it depressing. He had always wanted a job that would hold him, and now he had the chance to go as a riveter.

The Personnel Manager said they were typical. The girls were the worst. Seven had left when the under-manager had announced his engagement. Twenty-two had asked for their cards when the canteen had served shepherd's pie three times in a week. Twenty-two had come back when there was an allocation of ham, but still it was disturbing.

"Think of the production we're losing, just because they always want to be doing something else," and he disappeared behind the pile of cards.

At the Industrial Psychiatry Research Centre I found them working on the problem. Colonel Dedman took a grave view. To him it was all a symptom of cosmic disintegration, like the atom bomb and the last two General Elections. There was a sub-conscious desire to escape from the real present into a future of fantasy. There was no hope.

Dr. Michelbaum was more sanguine. He thought the urge to take on new work expressed the resurgent optimism of the new age, the confident determination to progress forward and upward. He had started a book about it, but he doubted if he would finish it, as he had just signed a contract to go to the Natural History Museum to carry out research on the psychology of limpets.

Tired of theory, I sought out my Member of Parliament. He believes in action rather than words. At least that's what he says in his speeches. He's a courteous man and he listened patiently for nearly two minutes, when he glanced at his watch and interrupted me.

"I thoroughly agree with you. The instability is undermining the nation. But I must go. A division is expected and I'm due in the House. Write to me about it and I'll put down a question—if I haven't changed my job."

# HOBBIES?

## *Mine is Bird Study*

writes

WILLIAM GREEN (M. & C.)

HAVE you experienced the great adventure of discovering your first bird's nest; the cosy warmth of the linnet's nest swaying in a gorse-bush or the beautiful turquoise of thrushes' eggs in a hawthorn hedge?

There are many treasures like these if you have the eyes to see and the mind to understand.

You will very often see your lawns being dug over by a number of starlings who are equally at home in the country or city, as we know only too well. Their nests usually contain five eggs which are a delicate blue. The starling as a songster is ludicrous. It usually perches on a chimney pot, flaps its wings and tunes up with a few shrill notes and makes queer wheezy noises, but it is a marvellous mimic and should you hear the call of another bird out of season, make sure it does not come from a starling.

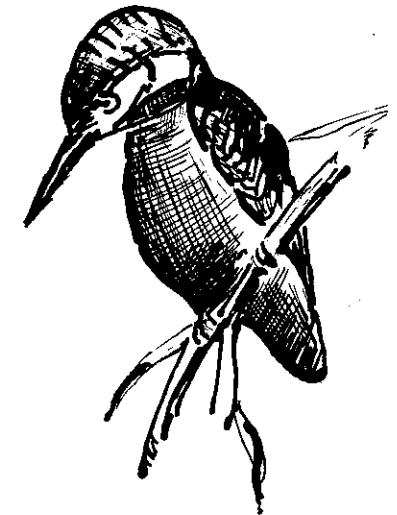
Then there is the robin which is probably the first bird we really like as children. You will find their nests in many places; hedges, ivy and rubble walls. As the robin likes human society, it will quite often nest in a garden flower pot. These birds take possession of a patch of territory and fiercely fight off any other robin who dares to trespass.

Whilst writing I hear the metallic "chink chink" of cock blackbirds—something has alarmed them. I look through the window and see a bird hovering overhead—a kestrel on the hunt. The smaller birds realise their peril and quickly seek refuge in the ivy or lower branches of trees. A dog runs out and barks sharply. The kestrel

banks steeply and vanishes quickly. Within a few moments the little birds are preening themselves and all is calm again.

There is a pair of sparrow hawks always in residence along the strip of canal which divides our Smethwick Works.

What about a ramble down a country lane into the woods and along the river bank. The lane is bounded by small banks, surmounted by thick hawthorn hedges. A growth of long grass and vegetation provides cover for small birds and animals at the base of the hedges.



KINGFISHER



CURLEW.

Keep your eyes on the hedge well ahead for a bird slipping out when alarmed. Hold the exact spot and walk straight to it quietly. You will soon find the nest of a yellow hammer well down in the hedge. It's bright yellow head and throat makes this one of our most handsome birds. These birds are rather common in the Kinver district. There are three white eggs in the nest, marked as if you had scribbled on them with a very soft pencil.

You will probably find the nests of both partridge and pheasant down this lane. On the field side of the hedge these birds do not build true nests, simply a flat structure of leaves and grass on the ground, hidden at the bottom of the hedge. All ground nesting birds have many enemies so a very full nest is laid, an average of twelve eggs being a clutch.

The birds wheeling and swooping over the common a little distance away and calling "pee-wit, pee-wit" are plovers

or papwings. These birds also nest in a shallow scrape in the ground. You will indeed be lucky if, when hunting in the furze thicket, you find the most lovely nest of all, that of the long tailed tit. It is an exquisite creation, oval shaped with a small entrance hole at the top and decorated with spiders' webs and lichen.

On the edge of the wood you will probably see the game keeper's gibbett, a collection of dead birds and small animals, carrion crows, jays, stoats, weazels, and grey squirrels strung on a line. The game keeper considers they are rogues and shoots them.

As you go into the shade of the wood, the cooing of wood pigeons breaks the silence. Another sound is heard like the noise of a small machine gun. If you walk quietly you will see a bird with crimson head and underparts clinging to the trunk of a tree, its beak drumming the wood rapidly. This is the great spotted woodpecker.

There are anglers fishing in their own particular part of the river. If you stand and watch, you will catch the gleam of a bright jewel flashing down the stream—a kingfisher all brilliant in emerald, blue and ruby. He flies to a quiet backwater, sits on a tree branch and turns first one eye and then the other to the water. There is a downward plunge, a splash and he emerges from the water with a minnow in his bill. He beats the life out of it and swallows it head first. That's his method of fishing.

I like every birdcall, except that of the common gull (when near their breeding places on cliffs they have a particularly bad habit of shrieking their harsh cry at 5.00 a.m., in the morning). But I would rather miss any of them but the beautiful wild cry of the curlew, a bird of the moors in spring and summer and in the winter it flocks to the mudflats of our river estuaries. Conway is an ideal place to see them.



SPARROWHAWK.



## WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST?

WE at Chance Brothers know as much about making glass as anybody else in the world but whilst it is doubtful if anybody could teach us how to make glass many could suggest new ideas for the use of Chance glass. The question, "Why don't Chance's make that?" must have been asked often.

Those who saw the excellent film "Sabrina Fair" will remember that Humphrey Bogart had a big idea about manufacturing plastics from sugar cane and he had lots of notions about the uses of these new plastics. Chance Brothers are looking for ideas for new types of glass and new uses for existing glasses.

Here is a campaign rather than a suggestion competition. Look about you and if you think of an idea, simply ask yourself—CAN CHANCE'S MAKE IT? CAN CHANCE'S SELL IT? If you think the answer is "Yes," write down your ideas and send them to Mr. A. Ogden, Personnel Department. Each idea will receive very full consideration and if any is adopted a substantial award will undoubtedly be made.

★ ★ ★

## Cash in on your Ideas!

# Continued Education

CHANCE Brothers' Scheme for apprentice training has for many years been considered to be one of the best of its kind and an attractive brochure has been produced as a guide to young people contemplating joining the Company for apprenticeships in Engineering, Laboratories or Commerce. In addition to the apprentice scheme, the Company takes an interest in the vocational training of all employees and to encourage young persons in particular, to attend junior and senior evening classes, it has been decided to introduce a scheme of awards.

All employees at Smethwick, Glasgow, Malvern, St. Helens and London are eligible to benefit from the award scheme, except apprentices registered

under the Chance Training Scheme who are covered by a separate scale of awards.

The plan briefly is that employees taking evening classes will receive financial awards based on the year of the course and attendances, homework and examination marks. The scale is given below.

Those wishing to apply for awards should complete a registration form, which may be obtained from the Personnel Department. A Training Committee will examine the school results each year and will decide the amount of the awards. To qualify for an award the employee must have made eighty per cent of possible attendances and obtained not less than forty per cent of the possible homework marks.

This award scheme will apply as from 1st September 1954 and any employee who commenced courses in the Autumn of 1954 should complete their registration forms as quickly as possible.

	Prep. Year	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year	5th Yr. and up
<b>Attendance and Homework</b>						
Not more than one evening per week ...	5/-	10/-	15/-	20/-	20/-	20/-
More than one evening per week	7/6	15/-	22/6	30/-	30/-	30/-
<b>Sessional Exam. Results</b> (per subject)						
Distinction—85% or over ...	7/6	10/6	15/-	21/-	25/6	30/-
1st Class—70%—84% ...	5/-	7/6	10/-	14/-	17/-	20/-
2nd Class—50%—69% ...	4/-	5/-	7/-	10/-	12/-	15/-

## From your COMMITTEE ROOM WORKS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

AT the December meeting of the Works Consultative Committee, the Chairman, Mr. C. J. S. Newman, gave a very encouraging picture for 1955. He stated that the year was certain to be a busy period in all divisions.

In the Blown and Pressed Division, emphasis was on the installation of plant for cathode ray tube fabrication and the demand for cathode ray tubes for television sets was high. In addition to this side of the business, the Division was happy to report that the demand for hand pressed glass was on the increase. Vello tubing for fluorescent lighting also had a satisfactory order book and export business in particular was on the increase. A pleasing feature was the high quality of glass being produced on the plant.

The Optical Division was loaded with maximum production and certain new ventures were under consideration for this Division.

The vast building programme had resulted in the Flat Glass Division being considerably overloaded and it had been decided to put No. 1 Rolled Plate furnace back into operation. It was hoped that glass would be produced at No. 1 furnace by April. Further, Nos. 3 and 4 Rolled Plate Warehouses would be extended, probably by the middle of the year, to enable the department to handle the increased output from Nos. 3 and 4 furnaces.

The Fiesta section had been extremely busy with the Christmas trade and a determined effort was being made to obtain additional business which would ensure this section being in full production throughout the year.

Mr. Newman said that it was certain that Chance Brothers could look forward with much confidence to 1955. It was, however, most important that in all sections there should be increased efficiency and he appealed to the Works Consultative Committee and its Divisional Sub-Committees to pay particular attention to production efficiency.

The quality of safety shoes; the handling of fuel on the North Side; hot water facilities for the canteens and the manufacture of coloured glasses were among items discussed at the December meeting.

On the subject of safety shoes there were complaints that, whilst generally these shoes were extremely good, there were occasions when some pairs did not give satisfactory service and the Secretary was asked to take up the complaints with the suppliers. The Safety Committee has always stressed the importance of workpeople wearing safety boots and shoes as so many accidents are caused by falling objects. It is of interest to mention that over four hundred pairs of shoes are sold through the Stores each year.

Jack Hill contributed some interesting comments on coloured glasses. He pointed out that antique glass is primarily for use in stained glass windows and the cost was too high for house building purposes. He suggested that sprayed rolled glasses should be made. The Chairman mentioned that the spraying of glass is under consideration and, in fact, experiments have been made but have not yet proved successful. Tinted cathedral glass made by Pilkington Brothers is apparently meeting the demand for coloured glasses for building purposes.

# Suggestions Scheme

## £364 AWARDED IN 1954

*Since our last issue, the amount of £90 5s. 0d., has been awarded under the Suggestions Scheme, bringing the total for the year 1954 to the sum of £364.*

### Tom McGarey wins the £10 Prize

Tom McGarey, a sprayer in the Blown and Pressed Division, was awarded the £10 prize for the best suggestion received during October and, in addition, he received a normal award of £15 5s. 0d., bring his total to £25 5s. 0d.

Tom designed a jig to tighten the lead templates used for spraying a blue spot on car spot-light lenses and this avoided the necessity of having to wipe away surplus paint.

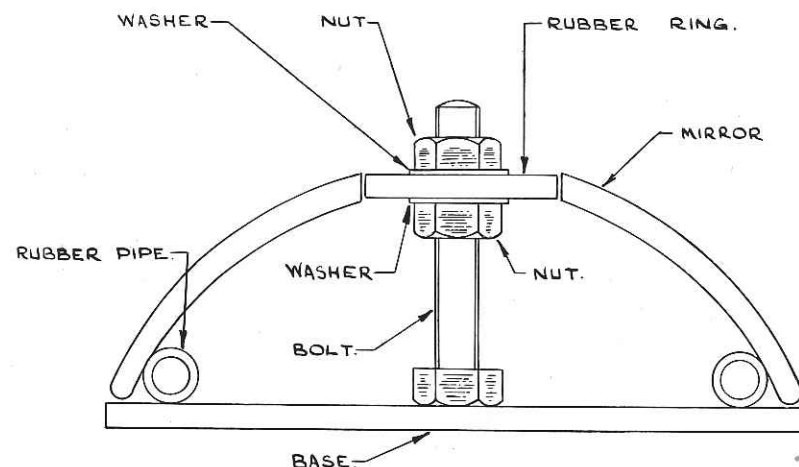
### Sam Lawrence received £6 5s. 0d.

The Seven Storey Warehouse uses compressed air for sandblasting microscope slides. In the past, the supply of air was "borrowed" from a large

compressor in the Coloured Department. Sam Lawrence of the Coloured Department pointed out that the electric motor to the compressor was really too large for the needs of the Seven Storey and he suggested that it would be more economical to install a small motored unit to reduce running costs. For keeping his eyes open and suggesting the obvious he received £6 5s. 0d.

### This sketch earns £5 15s. 0d.

Bob Lyall of the Optical Division was awarded £5 15s. 0d., for submitting this drawing showing an improved method for clamping cinema mirrors to the base of the polishing machine. It resulted in a reduction of scratches.



### Three awards to S. Kelly of St. Helens

One of the keenest and most successful supporters of the Suggestions Scheme is S. Kelly of the Optical Works, St. Helens. In one month he had three ideas adopted and received three awards of £1 2s. 6d., each. His ideas were (a) to provide observation holes in the doors of the pot-cooling arches, (b) the protection of wooden mixing tubs against furnace heat and (c) the application of graphite to the rolling plant to prevent the glass from sticking.

### Improvement on Semi-auto Presses

Leonard Cooper, a fitter in the Blown and Pressed Mould Shop, suggested a design for a striking cam and table bolt for the semi-auto presses. The adoption made it possible to interchange the bolts and cams to any semi-auto press to reverse the table rotation. £5 5s. 0d., was the award.

### £4 15s. 0d., to Arthur Fardell

Strips of sheet glass are used as guides in the cutting of micro glass and for years these strips have been of 24 oz. sheet glass. Arthur Fardell of the Seven Storey entered the October Competition by suggesting that 18 oz. sheet would serve just as well and would be cheaper. This is another example of the obvious, yet it earned £4 15s. 0d.

### A Safety Idea

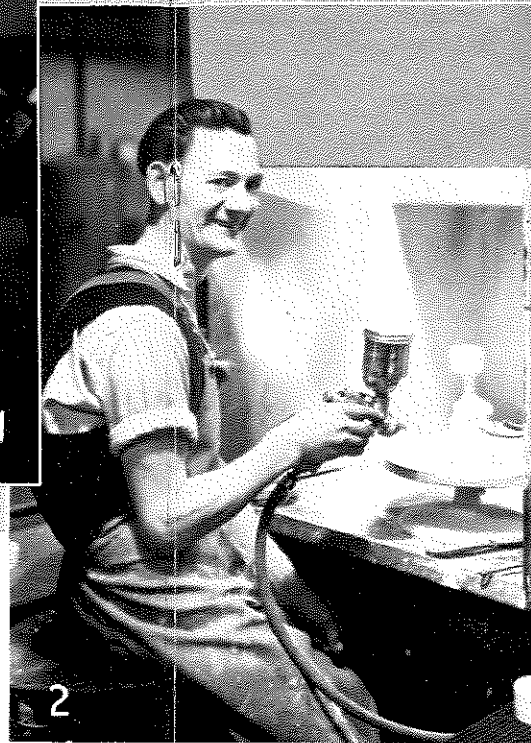
Bob Harvey, Mixing Department, recommended improved arrangements for the handle on the limestone hopper and stone vibrator to avoid the possibility of an accident. Although safety ideas do not often result in high awards, the Committee is always pleased to receive such suggestions. In this case the award was £1 0s. 0d. Bob also received £1 2s. 6d., for suggesting improvements to the limestone sieves to reduce maintenance.

### Mrs. Bloomer and Mrs. Richards in the picture again

It will be remembered that Mrs. Bloomer and Mrs. Richards of the Dark Room in the Optical Division won the competition for the best suggestion submitted last March and they then shared £35 5s. 0d. They jointly made a determined effort to win the October Competition by pointing out that certain types of optical mouldings have to be rejected for vein situated on or near the edge. They recommended that edging down would often clear the vein. It was an excellent suggestion but it was just not good enough to win the Competition as the resulting savings were not high. The award was £2 0s. 0d.

### A Summary of other awards

		£	s.	d.
H. Bagnall	Transport	1	2	6
D. Parry	Boiler Shop	3	15	0
A. G. Evans	Optical	4	15	0
F. Whitehouse	D.R.M.	1	2	6
D. Handy	Gatehouse	2	5	0
L. K. Cadby	M. & C.	1	2	6
V. Budd	Blown and Pressed	4	15	0
F. Hassell	M. & C.	10	0	
B. Launchbury	Transport (2 awards)	2	5	0
J. Ward	Optical	10	0	
R. Hinson	M. & C.	1	2	6
W. Johnson	Gatehouse	10	0	
H. Green	Fiesta	10	0	
J. E. Downes	Blown and Pressed	10	0	
S. Johnson	Blown and Pressed	10	0	
Mrs. J. Ayling	Malvern	17	6	
H. Nicklin	St. Helens	10	0	
K. Atherstone	St. Helens	10	0	
S. Helsby	St. Helens (2 awards)	1	12	6
N. Hudson	St. Helens	1	2	6
M. E. Wakefield	St. Helens	1	2	6
R. N. Picken	Laboratory	1	2	6
J. B. Paice	Laboratory	10	0	
B. L. Roberts	Blown and Pressed	10	0	
J. Arrowsmith	Blown and Pressed	10	0	
H. Meadows	St. Helens	1	17	6



## Chance SNAPSHOTS

- 1 A belated photograph of the Fiesta Department's outing to Blackpool.
- 2 Tom McGarey of the Decorating Department who was the winner of the October Suggestions Competition.
- 3 Ann Hodgson as Principal Boy in "Puss in Boots"—(see page 14).
- 4 Civic visit to our works. In front, Lady Chance and the Mayoress. At back, Mr. L. G. Hinton, Mr. E. L. Twycross (Town Clerk), Sir Hugh Chance, the Mayor (Alderman George Aldridge) and Dr. W. M. Hampton.
- 5 This photograph was taken many years ago. Bill Morton is blowing flashed green which was ordered for a sun visor for the late King George V's car.





# From all Departments

**MOSTLY PERSONAL**

## BLOWN & PRESSED

The Blown and Pressed Division's Annual Christmas party was held at the Anchor Inn, Wednesbury, on 27th November, and we were glad to have as our principal guests Mr. and Mrs. C. J. S. Newman.

The Pressed Mould Shop Mutual Aid Society held a cold supper and social evening in the Recreation Club Pavilion on 3rd December and the Society records appreciation to the Steward Jack Kenny and his wife for the excellent arrangements that were made.

We congratulate Dixon Davies and his wife on the birth of a son. We are especially glad to have Dixon back with us after his long illness. We also congratulate Paddy Mills and his wife on the birth of a daughter.

Derek Clarke was married to Miss D. Leach on 11th December and we wish them every happiness for the future.

Harry Mason of the Inspection Department is still absent through illness and we learn with regret that it will be about February before he is likely to return to work.

Ray Kenny of the Inspection Section has been transferred to the Optical Division in the position of Foreman and we congratulate him on his appointment and wish him every success.

It is with profound regret that we record the death of Charles Jones on 28th October. Charles had been employed as a Fitter in the Mould Shop since September 1949.

Another sad loss was the death of Henry Jesson on 25th November.

Harry had been employed at Chance Brothers since 1921. In his earlier days he was a Glass Maker but later years were spent in the Inspection Department.

## FLAT GLASS

The girls in the Seven Storey Warehouse are to be congratulated on the perfection of the shops' Christmas decorations.

We congratulate Mrs. Dow (nee Reynolds) on the birth of a daughter.

The Flat Glass Sales Office extends a sincere welcome to Mrs. Lane, who is better known to us as Miss Slater, on rejoining the Company after an absence of six years. Betty Saxton has left the Sales Office to join the Typing Pool and we hope she will be happy there.

Some months ago Bill Lloyd, a Teazer in the Rolled Plate Making, sustained injuries to his legs and as a consequence he has been transferred to lighter work in the Micro Department. Frank Howell is welcomed back to the Rolled Plate Making as a Stoker.

Arthur Tinsley, a Glass Maker in the Coloured Section, retired on 9th December, after fifty-two years service with the Company.

## LABORATORY

The Laboratory staff welcomes back four young men on the completion of their National Service—John Bennett, Russell Taylor, Jim Peakman and Bill Winterford. On the debit side, Chris Bullen has now started his National Service. Herbert Cooper of the Physics

Laboratory left the Company at the end of 1954 to take up an important post in another part of the country. We were all sorry to lose him and wish him every happiness in the future.

## MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

The Maintenance and Construction Division always make a special effort to ensure that their Annual Dinner and Social is a success and this year their usual high standard was maintained. The event was held at the Blue Gates Hotel, Smethwick, on 17th December, when the principal guest was Mr. C. J. S. Newman.

We were especially glad to have three old friends with us, Joe Hinton Senior, Bert Frewin and Eli Hackett. These three veterans looked remarkably fit and were obviously enjoying their retirement.

The Old Hall staff welcomes Joyce Allsop who has joined them as a typist. The Division welcomes back John Hickman on the completion of his period of National Service, and Reg. Flavell who has now completed his training in the shops and has returned to the Drawing Office.

Ray Drury left the Drawing Office and Brian Chew left the Pyrometry Department to start their National Service.

Harry Whitehouse retired from the Blacksmith's Shop at the end of December and William Bates retired from the Box Shop early in November. Harry had twenty-seven years service with the Company and Bill Bates had been here thirty-five years.

The Carpenters were sorry to say goodbye to Les Clarke who left in December to take up employment elsewhere.

## OFFICES

The Cost Office welcomes Cynthia Jandrell who has come to us as a Com-tometer Operator.

The Typing Pool were sorry to lose the services of Janet Lacon and Dorothy Edmunds who have accepted positions elsewhere.

It is with sorrow that we record the death of George Thompson on 2nd December, at the age of sixty-three. He started work at Chance Brothers in 1904 as a Cost Clerk and he retired in August 1954 due to ill health. During his time at Chance Brothers, he took a very active part in the organising of Recreation Club activities.

## OPTICAL

The Optical Division had their Annual Dinner and Social in the Recreation Club Pavilion on 10th December, when some ninety people were present. The principal guests were Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Hampton and we were especially pleased to have representatives from St. Helens works. It is certain that this was by far the best social function organised by the Division and the Social Committee are to be congratulated on their efforts. The venture proved that our own Recreation Club is ideal for social functions of this kind.

The only personal news we have to record is the return of Mrs. Smallwood, Jack Pernell and Harry Blackhall after periods of illness.

\* \* \*



Here is Mrs. Probin of the Office Cleaning staff. Mrs. Probin has been ill for many months and she has had her bed brought to her bedroom window in order that she can pass the time of day with the Stonemasons. Mrs. Probin's cottage is next to the Stonemasons' Shop.

# News FROM OUR BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS

## ● GLASGOW

The Glasgow Works had a most successful social evening on 15th December. We were especially pleased to have several people from Smethwick with us as at that time they were at the Firhill Works in connection with cold repairs to the tank.

The Annual Children's Party was held in the Canteen and over one hundred and twenty children received gifts from Santa Claus.

## ● MALVERN

The Malvern Works Annual Christmas Dinner and Social Evening was held at the Abbey Hotel on 18th December. It was the seventh party of this kind and this year the ladies undertook the organisation. Dorothy Clare presided at the dinner table and Mrs. Sealey was the M.C. for the excellently organised dance and party. The principal guests were Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Hampton, and we were delighted to have with us representatives from Smethwick and St. Helens.

It was especially nice to see Mrs. Taylor at the party following her recovery from her serious illness.

Eileen Walker was married on Boxing Day. We extend our congratulations to her and best wishes for her future. We also congratulate George Mitchell and his wife on the birth of a son.

## ● ST. HELENS

St. Helens' works and staff employees send New Year greetings to everybody at Chance Brothers.

December was a time for seasonable celebrations and the Children's Party was again a great success. This annual event is always looked forward to by all the children and credit must be given to

the many willing people who worked so hard in the organisation.

On Friday, 17th December, we held our Annual Dance at the Town Hall, St. Helens, and we were honoured by the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress. We were especially glad to have with us Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Hampton and representatives from Smethwick Works. Bouquets were presented to the Mayoress by Miss R. Burt and to Mrs. Hampton by Miss W. Farrell.

We congratulate Miss R. Forrest on her marriage to Mr. P. Lench on 4th December, and Miss H. Houghton who announced her engagement on 18th December.

The General Office made an excellent job of Christmas decorations which this year included a fully decorated Christmas tree.

We hear with profound sorrow of the death of Joseph Naylor. Joe worked in the Fitting Shop until ill health necessitated his retirement.

Tom Hodgson's daughter, Ann, has danced in pantomime for the past four years. This year she was in the chorus in the "Puss In Boots" pantomime at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, and consequent on the illness of Diana Dove, Ann took over the Principal Boy's part at three hours notice. The newspaper critics gave her an excellent write-up.

## ● LONDON

Elaine Halifax, former secretary to the Press Officer, surprised us by announcing her marriage which duly took place on 30th October. Mrs. Halpin, as she is now entitled to be called, is en route to a new home in Sydney, Australia.

Two of our girls have been selling Fiesta at Selfridges for the past four weeks and have succeeded in clearing the stock there.

We at London Office, take this opportunity of wishing all departments of the Works a very successful New Year.



HERE I am again—Claude Klewless at your service.

I didn't have time to tell you last month how I got my own back on Joe but this is how it happened.

I was given a job of shifting some small loads with a travelling hoist.

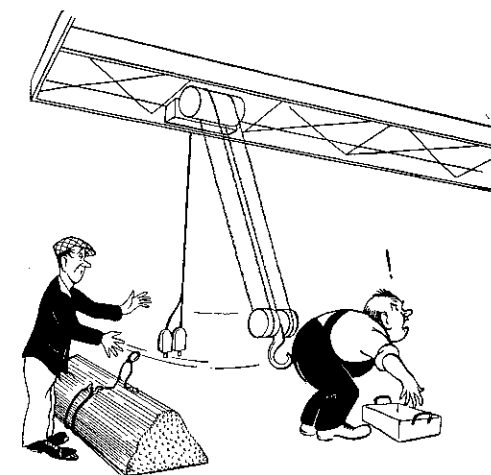
I can tell you I had a bit of a job with them because the loads were almost out of reach of the hook and it was all I could do to pull them over to hitch the hook onto the crates. Apart from this the job was a piece of cake.

I was just hooking up the last load, some bar metal, when Joe came down to collect the tray of "bits."

I called out to him to make sure that he lifted it the right way and didn't strain himself and at the same moment the hook and tackle block slipped out of my hand and caught Joe, who was right in the line of fire, a real wallop.

I pointed out to him the dangers of not looking what he was doing and how serious it might have been had the tackle caught him on the head, but he seemed to think it was my fault.

I can't see why because I wasn't at the receiving end.



(With acknowledgement to Lucas Reflections.)

There is a moral to this story—always bring the hoist perpendicular over the load and lift the safe way.

# Jottings of shorter items and employees' contributions

## Bouquets

Mr. F. J. White, the Company's Chief Buyer, has been elected President of the Purchasing Officers' Association.

Alan Poulson and his sister Dorothy have been declared the best students from Chance Brothers attending the Chance Technical College.

Alan is an apprentice in the Carpenters Shop and he receives a prize value £2 2s. 0d., for the best Trade Apprentice. Dorothy, from the Purchase Accounts Office, receives a similar award for being the best Commercial student.

The Council of Industrial Design held an Exhibition in London last month and Chance Brothers' catalogue for Reeded Glasses was selected for inclusion in the section for "100 Good Catalogues."

Albert Reynolds has been promoted to the position of Chief Inspector to the Optical Division works at Smethwick, St. Helens and Malvern.

## The Name Game

Many interesting names are in our register of employees and here is a short romance woven around some of them.

From our Works, we can visit *Acton, Aldridge, Aston, Barnsley, Bedford, Bo(u)lton, Burton, Charlton, Clifton, Henley, Holyhead, Kent, Lancaster,*

*Poole, Salisbury, Sherwood, Southall, Sutton, Westmorland and York(e).*

We have our own *Chattaway* and *Pirie*, our own *Jane Russell*, our *Cain* and *Abel* and our *Marsh* and *Baxter*.

For those who like to spend their time on the river side, we can offer them the choice of the *Conway*, the *Humber*, the *Kennett* and the *Severn*, where many a *Fisher* may spend a *Day* with a *Ledger*.

At *Holiday* time, we have a *Farmer* and he will permit any *Walker* to go into his *Field* and kick a *Ball* around. His *Gardner* will point out each *Birch*, *Beech* and the *Oakes*, and will draw attention to the different *Plant* life, such as the varieties of *Brown Berry* and *Lilley* in *Budd*, and will explain the correct way to prune a *Rose* bush.

If you talk with the *Shepherd*, you will soon understand the *Love* and *Care* he devotes to each *Lamb*. Leaving the farmyard to walk down the *Lane*, don't be surprised if a *Gosling* comes running towards you. You will see the *Heath* in the distance, backed by a *Greenhill*, and across the *Hayfield* a covey of *Partridge* may rise, for there is plenty of *Bird* life around here. *Bytheway*, just beyond the field of *Wheat* there is a nice little pub called the *Castle*, which is *Handy* for a drink, and one could do worse than stop for a *Bass*. It was here I once saw a police *Sargent*, a *Strong* sort of *Fellow*, *March* up to a *Moody*,

*Savage* looking *Mann* with a *Scarlett Beard*, and start *Telling* him he knew where he had taken the *Brace* of *Bird(s)* he had in a *Box*.

Rest awhile and enjoy a cool drink in the *Summer Breeze* and then follow the *Brook* which eventually leads to a *Pool(e)* in the *Forrest* and by the *Marsh* you will see wild *Fowles* and a *Young White Swan* who will *Wade* towards you for food. Leave this pretty scene and climb the *Hill* and enter a field where there is a *Line* of *Mole Hill(s)* which make *Brown* patches in an otherwise *Green Field*. It is here that long ago a *Wildman*, armed with a *Cleaver*, attacked and killed a *Bullock*.

## Outward Bound Schools

The Chance Education Trust has generously agreed to bear the cost of sending four young employees to Outward Bound Schools during 1955. All young people between fifteen and a half and nineteen and a half may apply and the Apprentice Committee will decide which applicants shall attend. Application forms may be obtained from the Personnel Department.

The Outward Bound courses are of twenty-eight days duration and there are sea and mountain schools for boys and a mountain school for girls.



Dorothy and Alan Poulson — winners of the Chance Brothers technical school prizes.

## Disabled Persons

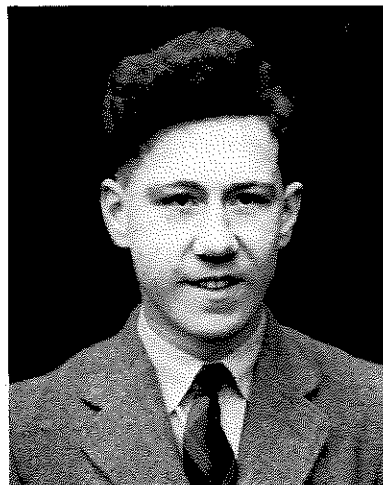
The Disabled Persons Act requires firms to employ not less than three per cent registered disabled persons. Chance Brothers have 3.3 per cent such persons on the register.

The object of the Act is to assist men and women who are handicapped by some form of disablement to get employment which is suitable for them and makes the best use of their skill. The Act covers disablements from all causes — whether through war service, through accidents, arising at birth or disease. There are some employees who have not registered but are eligible to do so. It is to the benefit of every disabled person to register and it is possible for registration to be carried out at the Works through the Personnel Department.

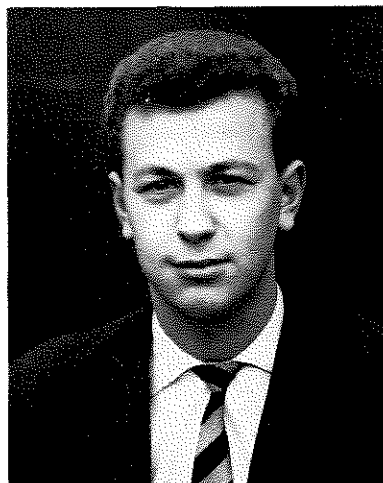
## Visit by the Mayor and Mayoress

It is traditional for each Mayor of Smethwick to visit our Works during his term of office. This year's visit was made on 5th November and the Mayor, (Alderman George Aldridge) accompanied by the Mayoress and the Town Clerk, was received by Sir Hugh and Lady Chance, Dr. W. M. Hampton and Mr. L. G. Hinton. The photograph on our centre page was taken in the Reception Hall in the new office block.

## THE YOUNGER GENERATION



David Foster



John Hayes

### DAVID FOSTER

ONE often hears of people who have come to Chance Brothers for training from places as far away as the South Coast or from Northern England or Scotland. David Foster thinks it worth mentioning that he has always lived within half a mile of Spon Lane!

There has been no indecision on David's part as to the career for which he wants to qualify. He finds that training for Cost Accountancy requires learning similar subjects to those in which he did best at school. His liking for History has easily transferred itself to such things as Economic History and Mercantile Law. At the moment he is taking the second part of the Intermediate Examination of the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants.

In common with many others at Chance Brothers David is an ardent West Bromwich Albion fan, and he is proud of having represented his House Team and the School Second Football Eleven at Holly Lodge. His sporting interests, however, are not confined to football, he also enjoys cycling and watching amateur boxing.

### JOHN HAYES

WHEN John Hayes came to Chance Brothers in August, 1951, he elected to start training as a technical apprentice in the sphere of mechanical engineering. After a little while, however, he felt that he was not making the progress he ought and asked to be transferred to accountancy work. Although the change was great, his request was granted and he embarked on a programme which was designed to help him qualify as a Cost Accountant. This has entailed his working in a number of offices and departments of the works, and he has enjoyed his varied experiences.

Spare time activities are very definitely divided in John's case according to the time of year. During the summer he either plays tennis or likes driving in the country. An echo of his original inclination towards mechanical things

is evidenced in his ability as an amateur motor mechanic. In the winter time he is an avid reader and he likes non-fiction books of the kind dealing with the last war, and travel books of the Kon-Tiki and Everest kind. One of the few fiction authors to suit his taste is Hammond Innes.

John is twenty years old and is hoping very much that the recent intermediate Cost and Works Accountants Examination he took will be successful.

### MARY HOOLE

PROFESSIONAL apprenticeships in the Physics Laboratory have, until recently been a masculine prerogative. However, in August, 1954, the eternal female crashed yet another barrier and three girls, one of whom was Mary Hoole, entered the service of Chance Brothers as apprentice Physicists.

Holly Lodge Grammar School for Girls saw the most recent phase of Mary's education where, in addition to doing well in Science subjects, she played in the first eleven at hockey and enjoyed tennis. She now plays for the Old Girls at hockey.

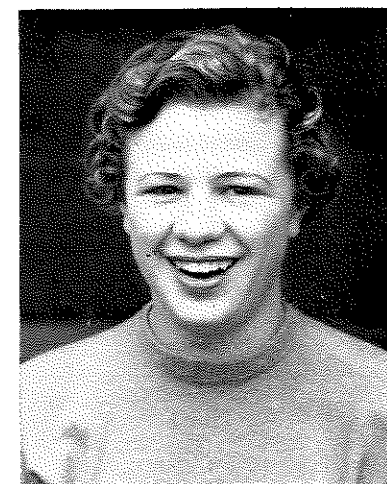
Since leaving school she has acquired a taste for music and dancing and Mary likes light, classical music equally as well as that played by modern dance bands.

In the world of fiction her favourite authors are Charles Dickens, Alexandre Dumas and C. S. Forrester.

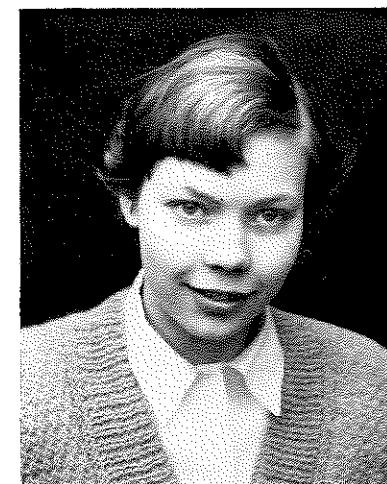
Now aged eighteen, Mary is taking a two year course for Advanced Level G.C.E. which she hopes will be the first step to an External Degree of London University.

### JUNE TALBOT

THE Recreation Club has no more staunch supporter than June Talbot who works in the Drawing Office on tracing and general duties. One of her favourite sports at school was netball; she has now joined our section and intends to show her prowess as a goal keeper, and as she is not yet sixteen she should have many playing years ahead. June also intends to join the tennis



Mary Hoole



June Talbot

section so soon as the weather becomes good enough for activities to start again.

On the less robust side June likes drawing landscapes and animal studies. She also enjoys listening to light orchestral music and consistently attends Music Section Meetings.

June is the middle one of a family of three children and takes an active interest in her father's gardening and her mother's needlework.

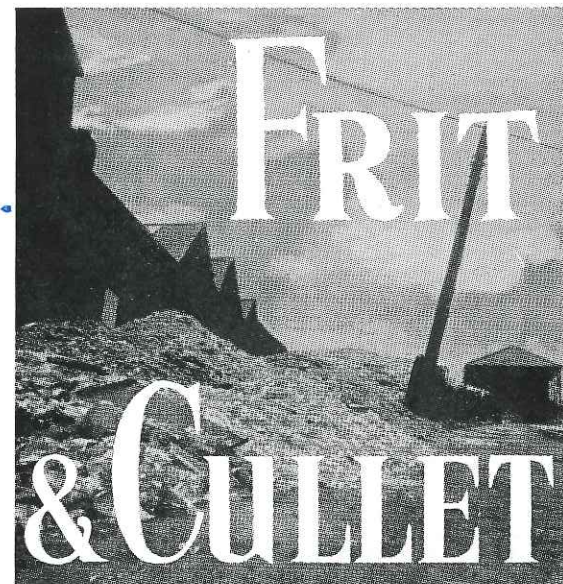
# CHANCE COMMENTS *Gallery*



**L**ONDON Office has our Gallery page this month and here is Pat Hunt who is Receptionist and Telephonist at St. James's Square.

Pat has been on the London Office staff for two years and her pleasant smile always makes visitors feel welcome.

She is an enthusiastic table tennis player but her thoughts at present are very much on her forthcoming marriage in March, when she will become Mrs. Salter.



## QUIZ

1. Who held the British Championship of his sport longest — Joe Davis or Sir Gordon Richards ?
2. Give the name and county of the captain of the "Bodyline" England Test Team which included Harold Larwood.
3. Which football team defeated Wolverhampton Wanderers in the last Cup Final before World War II.
4. Who is the reigning Light Heavyweight Boxing Champion of the World ?
5. Name the six original members of the Crazy Gang.
6. What was the name of the last British holder of the Wimbledon Men's Singles ?
7. The captain of Britain's Womens Athletic Team was married this year. What was her name and what were her event(s) ?

## HAVE YOU HEARD THESE ?

"Daddy, did grandpa spank you when you were a little boy ?"

"Yes Johnny."

"And did great-grandpa spank grandpa when he was a little boy ?"

"Yes Johnny."

"Well don't you think with my help you could overcome this inherited hooliganism ?"

Husband: "I'm going to make a resolution not to drink any more."

Wife: "You couldn't possibly drink any more."

Disgruntled Racehorse Trainer: "There are only three things which will make that horse a jumper."

Sympathiser: "What are they ?"  
Trainer: "A pair of knitting needles and a ball of wool."

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Sir Gordon Richards.
2. D. R. Jardine, Surrey.
3. Portsmouth.
4. Archie Moore, U.S.A.
5. Flanagan and Allen, Nervo and Knox, Essex.
6. Fred Perry.
7. Jean Desforges (Essex Ladies) hurdler and long jumper.