

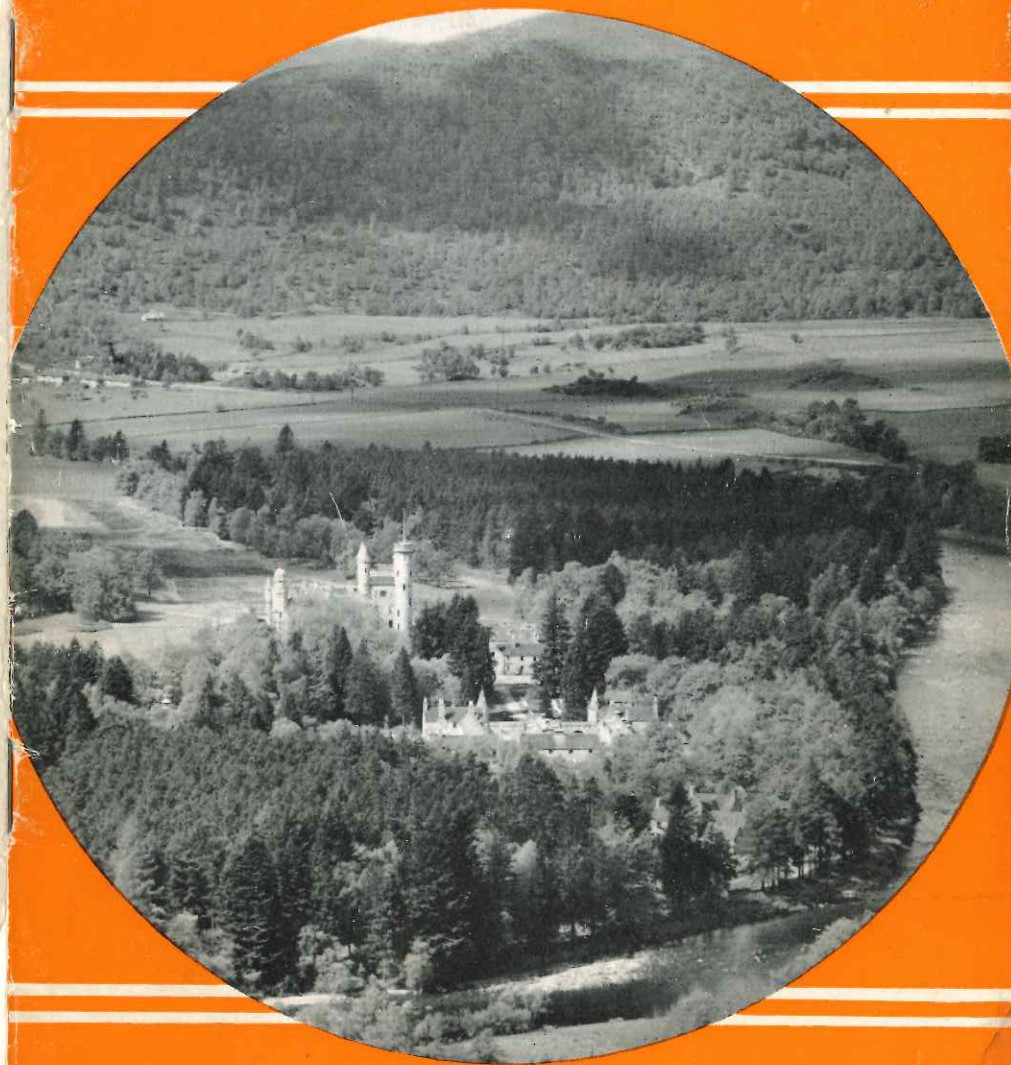
THANKS

**THE NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION
SERVICE WISHES CHANCE BROTHERS
EMPLOYEES TO ACCEPT THEIR
GRATEFUL THANKS FOR THE
GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE
BLOOD BANK....**

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

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

Chance COMMENTS



JUNE — JULY 1958

3^D

Chance

COMMENTS

The MAGAZINE of Chance Brothers Limited, published in alternate months for the interest, entertainment and information of all employees of the firm.

EDITOR A. OGDEN

CORRESPONDENTS

<i>Blown and Pressed</i>	
Inspection	F. O'CONNOR
Pressed Making	W. GLOVER
Pressed Process	S. STOCKIN
Cathodes	A. SUTTON
Vello	O. McKENNA
Warehouses	G. GRIGG
<i>Flat Glass</i>	
Fiesta	MRS. GILGESS
Rolled Plate and Coloured	R. E. EVANS
Rolled Plate Warehouse	MISS W. WALKER
Seven Storey	A. FARDELL
Laboratory	MRS. W. RUSSELL
<i>Maintenance and Construction</i>	
Boiler Shop	R. TIMMINS
Boilers and Gas Plant	J. WHEATLEY
Carpenters	E. BRITTIN
Electricians	R. TURLEY
FITTERS	L. BRADLEY
Drawing Office and Offices	J. MORRIS
Vehicle Repairs	H. COSNETT
<i>Optical</i>	MRS. J. BLOOMER
<i>Offices</i>	
Accounts	MISS J. TAYLOR
Sales	A. COWLES
Typing	MISS M. VICKERS
Traffic	MRS. K. FELLOWS
Buying and Stationery	MRS. M. FLOOK
Wages	A. E. CARTWRIGHT
Stores	D. R. KIRKWOOD
<i>BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS</i>	
Glasgow	H. MACLEOD
London	J. C. PERKINS
Malvern	MISS D. CLARE

Contents

	Page
BRUSSELS EXHIBITION ...	1
LIFE BLOOD ...	4
JOTTINGS... ..	6
CHANCE SNAPSHOTS ...	8-9
NEWS FROM ALL DEPARTMENTS ...	10
FACING THE CHALLENGE ...	12
SUGGESTIONS SCHEME ...	14
LONG SERVICE AWARDS ...	16

COVER COMPETITION

Mr. A. Taylor, General Office, submitted the correct location of the cover photograph in the last issue. The view was of the Manifold Valley, near Dovedale.

This month's cover is easier to identify and five shillings will be awarded to the sender of the first correct identification opened in the editor's office, c/o Personnel Department.

CHANCE GLASS is at the BRUSSELS EXHIBITION

by A. J. Cowles

AS a result of the considerable publicity given by way of the press, radio, and television, most of you will be aware of the Exhibition which opened in Brussels on the 17th April. For six months, Belgium will be hostess to the world. The exhibition is the first of its kind since the war and the largest ever to have been held anywhere in the world. By the rules of an International Convention there cannot be another like it in Europe for at least six years.

The broad theme of the exhibition is the progress of mankind in the arts, science, industry and every aspect of human endeavour. It takes place half-way through a century which has seen more sensational discoveries than any other in history.

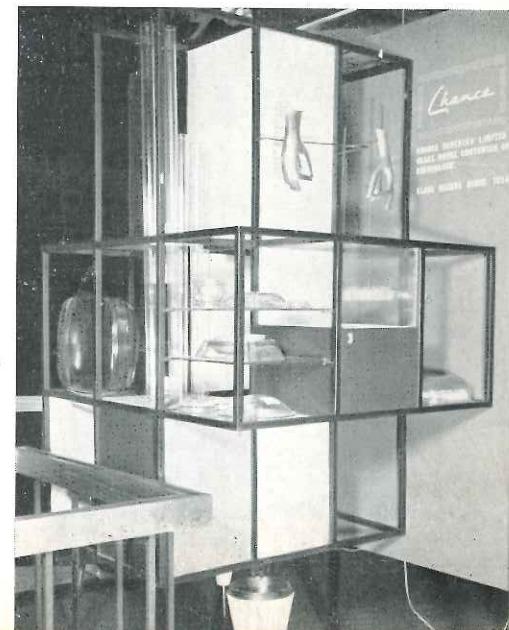
The exhibition site, on the northern outskirts of Brussels, covers approximately 500 acres—an area one third as great as the city itself. Apart from the central features, there are large scale exhibits by 46 different countries and 8 international organisations. The participating countries include Great Britain, which has one of the largest sites, Canada, the United States of America, France, West Germany and the U.S.S.R. Belgium's own exhibits, with those of the Belgian Congo, occupy over one quarter of the entire exhibition.

Each participating country will have its own national day or days, when it will be responsible for special features: the British national days will be the 10th, 11th and 12th July.

Special efforts have been made to enable the expected 30 million visitors to reach the exhibition speedily and comfortably. Many of the main roads in Brussels have been reconstructed, new roads have been built and the main road from Ostend to Brussels has been transformed into a modern motorway. Helicopters, operating from a specially constructed airstrip in the exhibition grounds take visitors to and from the main air terminal and also provide direct services to the principal cities in Belgium, France, Holland and Germany.

Great Britain has two pavilions, the Government one showing the national way of life and the other, considerably bigger has been given over to the Federation of British Industries who have sold space to any industrial firm who would take it, and has therefore created a gigantic shop-window for British Industry.

A certain section of the people consider that Great Britain has cheated by turning something meant to be cultural into a trade fair. Obviously, for any individual firm to take part would be an expensive proposition, but



VOL. II, No. 2

JUNE—JULY 1958

we were fortunate in being able to display several of our products on the group stand of the Birmingham Engineering Centre. Among the products on display are, Microscope Cover Glasses and Slides, Fluorescent Tubing, Protex Arc Screen Welding Glass, Pressed Glasses, Veridia Precision Bore Tubing and a Cathode Ray Tube. Readers may be interested to know that the Industries Pavilion with its exhibits has cost £2,500,000, and has a floor space of 60,000 square feet. Nearly 30,000 square feet of glass made by Pilkington Brothers Ltd., is used in its construction. Most of this is polished plate glass which forms the walls of the steel framed building designed as a sealed exhibition "showcase." As well as allowing a clear view of the 300 feet long by 200 feet wide main exhibition hall in which are displayed British products and technical achievements, the glass walls reveal the latest model electrical sub-stations at work. At night, the main exhibition hall is illuminated, affording a shop window view to visitors in the surrounding gardens after closing hours.

The Government pavilion consists of three crystal shaped spires, 70 feet high, and constructed in panels from the Hall of Tradition which the visitor enters first. Along a thick carpet bearing Royal emblems, he walks toward a painting of the Queen at the far end of the hall. Against a background of rich colouring and subdued lighting a display of national flags, regalia, heraldic motifs, ceremonial dress and replicas of objects of historic interest in the life of the nation has been chosen to confront the visitor as he approaches the very striking picture of the Queen.



● Left: *The Atomium.*



● Below: *The British Government Pavilion.*

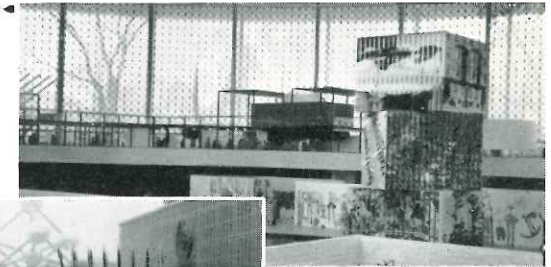
On leaving the Hall of Tradition you can see a large diorama of the coast of Scotland at Dounreay, with the spherical atomic reactor in model form. I thought this very effective as the waves and the clouds appeared to move, and together with a background recording of waves breaking on the sea shore, made the scene very lifelike.

In the Hall of Technology, a model of ZETA, the first ever shown to the public, forms the climax of a series of exhibits chosen to represent British advances in medicine, radar, aircraft, agriculture, engineering, biology and so on. Outside, pleasant courtyards demonstrate Britain's achievements in fields of invention, the arts, philosophy and literature. Separating the two pavilions is the "Britannia Inn" which is open all day and where one can sit on a terrace and enjoy a glass of English beer at its best. Of course, there are no licensing laws as we know them, and it was not uncommon to see children of various ages drinking beer out of a tankard.

Turning to the other national pavilions, pride of place must be given to the American and Russian, if only on account of their great size. They face towards the same paved courtyard adorned with flags and fountains. The interest of the Russian pavilion architecturally is that this essentially light and graceful form of construction has been used to create a building of such weight and monumentality. The American pavilion has a certain formality but of a more delicate kind. Outside, a semi-transparent drum, surrounded by slender gilded columns and inside, a wonderful sense of lightness and space. The high roof enclosing growing trees in its airy envelope, with its central

● Right: *Inside the American Pavilion.*

● Below: *The Russian Pavilion on the right.*



projectors set at regular intervals around the wall all projecting a different picture.

Space does not permit me to mention all the national pavilions, but the U.S.S.R., Hungarian and

Japanese all had a considerable amount of optical glass on show. The Japanese exhibit consisted of a pot of optical glass half of which was broken away and beautifully displayed with the aid of concealed lighting. For the photography enthusiast, a considerable number of cameras of all types were on display. Dominating the whole of the exhibition is the Atomium, a large metal structure 330 feet high. It represents an elementary crystal of alpha iron enlarged 150 milliard times. Nine steel spheres each 59 feet in diameter surfaced with aluminium are connected by twenty tubes 10 feet across and 59 to 72 feet long. These tubes contain escalators to convey visitors from one sphere to another. An elevator in the central column takes visitors to the topmost sphere at the rate of 16 feet per second. The three lower spheres rest on supports containing stairs for descent, the whole construction weighs 2,500 tons and contains 2,000 tons of steel. Transport within the exhibition is by coach trains, by an overhead electric rail service with cabins for two occupants and by two seater motor tricycles. A wide footbridge has been built to overlook the Foreign Section—it is nearly 1,500 feet long and 80 feet wide with stairways and ramps to enable the visitor to reach the pavilions quickly. Turning to the lighter side and in striking contrast to all the modern buildings of the participating countries is the Folk-

Although very entertaining, I cannot see any future for this commercially unless of course we develop eyes in the back of our heads. I might add, that the secret of it all is a number of

aperture open to the sky, covers a light hearted sequence of exhibits designed to illustrate the more domestic aspects of American life, as different in intention as it is possible to be from the Russian picture of industrial power and progress. I must admit that the American exhibits had me puzzled at first as I could not grasp just what they were trying to put over, even several Americans to whom I spoke, apologised for one or two of the exhibits. I feel sure that quite a lot of visitors to the American pavilion will come away wondering what it is all about and whether life in the U.S.A. is really like that. One very entertaining feature was contained in a separate circular building, a small edition of the main pavilion. This was called "Circarama," most of you are, no doubt, aware of *Cinemascope* and *Cinerama* in which a wide curved screen is used to show a huge picture almost the width of the cinema and giving three dimensional effect, well, this went one better and had a 360° screen. To view, one stood in the centre of the cinema and wherever one looked (floor and roof excepted) you could see a continuous scene. One of the shots was taken from a moving car and whilst you could see the scene in front of you, it was amusing to look round and observe the view from the back of the car.

Although very entertaining, I cannot see any future for this commercially unless of course we develop eyes in the back of our heads. I might add, that the secret of it all is a number of

(continued at foot of next page)

Life Blood

THE blood transfusion service visited Spon Lane on 25th April and as a result, 105 pints of blood were donated to the blood bank by Chance Brothers employees. These photographs taken in the Cinema Room show some of the donors, and readers will agree that they look quite comfortable and happy during their "operations." The unit will make another visit in about six months time and it is hoped that by then the number of volunteers will be near the 200 mark.

The value of blood transfusion is so great that in normal times, over half a million bottles of blood are required every year by the National Blood

Transfusion Service for the transfusion of patients. That represents more than 1,500 blood donations daily or one for each and every minute of the day and night throughout the year.

The following analysis shows how 5,000 donations of blood were used.

Accident cases	522
Gynaecological and obstetrical patients	984
Medical patients	1,611
Surgical patients	1,883

It takes the donor only a few weeks to replace, naturally, the blood given. The fluid part of the blood is replaced in a few hours; the various types of blood cells are made up gradually in a few weeks.

The National Service need a panel of at least 600,000 donors. To give blood and become a regular blood donor is something really worth while and an earnest appeal is made for further volunteers at Spon Lane. The Personnel Department has enrolment forms.



(BRUSSELS EXHIBITION—continued)

lore Quarter portraying life in Belgium at the turn of the century. It consists of a little town as it was in 1900. It groups 75 establishments of different types, restaurants, estaminets, brasseries, cabarets and dozens of little shops all decorated in the style of 50 years ago. Waiters and shop assistants all wear clothes of that particular period. In the town square I saw a sword swallowing and escapology act reminiscent of the Bull Ring, Birmingham, and at

frequent intervals a brass band would march through the tiny cobbled streets playing military tunes with dozens of people following behind singing away and obviously enjoying every minute of it.

In conclusion I would like to say that if any of you contemplate visiting Belgium this Summer, a visit to the exhibition is strongly recommended as I feel sure that you will find something of interest whatever your age.



Jottings of shorter items and employees' contributions

WORKS CATS

At a meeting of the Works Consultative Committee held recently, consideration was given to the care of departmental cats which are, of course, invaluable in controlling vermin.

The discussion inspired a member of the Committee to write the following:—

Cat's Comments

A Tom whose daily stint is done,
By keeping vermin on the run,
Must still maintain his reputation
And take time off for procreation.

* * *

But Works Instruction Forty-one
Does not provide for amorous fun,
And kittens useless to production
Are simply born for mass destruction.

* * *

The Cat Controller, careful soul,
Tots up catpeople on his roll,
And though a tabby he may cherish,
If she be surplus, she must perish.

* * *

Moral

Invaluable some cats may be
As aids to productivity,
But cats with nine lives e'en must die
Unless demand exceeds supply.

PENMANSHIP

Those who use the convenient ball-point pens admit that they result in some deterioration of their handwriting, and as evidence that good

penmanship still exists we invited four anti-ball-point members of the staff to submit specimens of their handwriting.

"This firm, which was started as 1824, takes pride in the that characterises its relation"

"This firm, which was started 1824, takes pride in the friend that characterises its relation"

"This firm which was started as 1824 takes pride in the friendly tradition that a ship with employees."

"This firm, which was started as 1824 takes pride in the tradition that its friendly relationship with em"

1. J. F. Allen—Pensions Office
2. K. L. O'Leary—Personnel Office
3. E. C. Daubney—Cost Office
4. J. T. Addiss—Accountants Office

It will be noted that Tom Addiss has given a probably more grammatical version of the test piece.

WORKS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The W.C.C. has now entered its seventeenth year and the election for

Workpeople's Representatives held on 18th April resulted as follows:—

1. Coloured, Seven Storey, Fiesta, Micro—J. E. Saul.
2. Rolled Plate—F. A. Bodley, Deputy: T. Davies.
3. Optical—G. Halliday.
4. C.R.T. Fabrication and Warehouse, No. 11 Furnace—H. E. Boardman.
5. Nos. 8 and 9 Making and Warehouses—W. Withers.
6. Pressed Process, Fluorescent Warehouse, Despatch—C. McCarthy.
7. Millwrights, Electricians, Machine Shop, Mould Shop, Stores—H. Pugh, Deputy: A. G. R. Talbot.
8. Building, Carpenters, Plumbers, Crate Yard, Vehicle Repairs—H. F. Cosnett.
9. Boiler Shop, Gas Plant, Boilers, Power Plant—R. W. Timmins, Deputy: J. F. Wheatley.
10. Mixing, Pot and Clay, Traffic Transport, Cleaners, Gatekeepers—H. Sedgley.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Encouraged by the success of last year's snapshots competition, another one will be held this year. The rules are simple:—

1. Photographs submitted should have been taken by employees during the year 1958.
2. Entries should be sent to the Editor by September 30th and each entry should be clearly marked on the back with the sender's name and department.
3. The entries will be classified by the judges into four groups:
 - (a) Landscape
 - (b) Architectural
 - (c) Personal
 - (d) General

Do not bother about the classification yourself.

The best photograph in each group will be awarded 5/- and the best photograph in the competition will receive a prize of £1 1s. 0d. All winning photographs will be published in *Chance Comments*.

The following notes may help you to select photographs for the competition.

In a competition of this kind, technical excellence alone is not sufficient and attention should be given to the composition of the picture. This is rather a big subject to be dealt with in the space of a short article but there are certain guiding principles. The main purpose in composing a picture is to achieve balance and harmony and give the picture a purpose; the picture should be complete in itself. Nothing should be allowed to intrude which will detract from the focus of interest and the arrangement of the individual parts should lead the eye naturally to that focus. Avoid too much foreground and if you are taking a landscape, include an object in the foreground. This relieves any lack of interest and helps to create perspective. An over-hanging branch of a tree can often be used to frame the more distant scene. Avoid blank skies and when taking groups of people be careful to choose your background. A good group can be ruined by extraneous objects sprouting from the heads of the subjects! Because of perspective, they are often not noticeable when the picture is being taken but become obvious when the picture is seen in two dimensions only. Avoid direct light from behind and try to make use of shadows.

You may think that you have to take a scene as you see it but if you spend a little time looking around, you will find that you can often choose a more suitable view-point and your final picture will be the more satisfying.

Enlargements offer more scope for composition but a snapshot can often be trimmed to advantage. Two pieces of cardboard cut in the form of a letter L and placed over the picture in the form of a frame will help you in deciding where to trim.

Remember that it costs no more to make a good picture as compared with a bad one and you will get more interest out of your hobby if you give a little more thought before pressing the button.



★ ★ Chance ★ ★

RECREATION TIME SNAPSHOTS

● *Top right: Half-past-five in the top club.*

● *Centre right: There is still room on the courts for more tennis players.*

● Bottom right: The bowling green is in excellent condition this season.



● *Top: Football or no football, we must practice for cricket.*

● *Centre: Some Laboratory and Millwright boys in hot water.*

● *Foot: our table tennis team wins a trophy.*





From all Departments

MOSTLY PERSONAL

Blown and Pressed

Hannah Hughes, Pressed Process has retired at the age of 65 after 18 years service and Joseph Beard, Making Section retired after 52 years service.

The Division congratulates Doug Curry on his recent appointment to a position in the Sales Department.

Elsie Darby who met with a road accident in December last, visited the works recently and we all hope that the time will not be too distant when she will be able to resume work.

Arthur Sutton and his wife are congratulated on the birth of a son on 3rd May.

Flat Glass

On the 7th May, a party from the Rolled Plate had another of their famous parties at Stourport and as usual, a good time was had.

Bill Allmark of the Warehouse has become father to a daughter.

A works romance has resulted in the engagement of Karl Krowiak of Fiesta to Brenda Hart of the Wages Office and we offer congratulations.

Fiesta Department welcomes back to the pay roll, Mrs. B. Hand, Mrs. A. Waldron and Miss K. Savage. Also, Uriah Myers after his recent illness.

Rolled Plate express sincere wishes for speedy recovery of the following who are away due to illness or accident, Joe Bowen, Sam Fenton, George Abbott, Albert Burling and John Bradnick.

The Seven Storey girls learn with joy that Mrs. J. Darby had a son on 14th

April and Mrs. B. Cooper a daughter on 4th April.

It is with regret that we record the deaths of James Foy of the Seven Storey on 3rd April at the age of 60, and William Bird, a Pensioner from the Warehouse, on 12th April at the age of 70.

Glasgow

A very enjoyable evening outing was held by the Glasgow Works Recreation Club on the 11th April when a large number of members and their friends attended a Dinner Dance at the Dutch House, Monkton.

Irene Gemmell and Anne Peat left us recently to take up new appointments and we wish them every success.

We regret that Mrs. Rose Gallacher, who has been with us for 12 years has decided to leave for domestic reasons.

To newcomers Elizabeth Anderson and Anne Valentine we extend a warm welcome.

It is with deep regret we record the deaths of Pat Madden on the 31st March after only a few months retirement, and John McGuire on the 14th May. To their relatives we offer our deep sympathy.

Laboratory

Mary Hoole who married Arthur James on 31st May has left us to live in Bristol. We wish Mary and her husband every happiness.

Joe Peakman's wife had a son on 25th April and also George Keyes's wife a daughter on 1st May.

London

Fiesta Glass was prominently displayed in the Regent Furniture Galleries, Regent Street, during the two weeks exhibition staged from May 12th to May 23rd.

Unfortunately the London bus strike occurred to coincide with the exhibition and many buyers were deterred from coming.

There is no doubt that the absence of the buses caused a certain amount of hardship but London Office staff were able to overcome the difficulty and be at work within a few minutes of their normal time.

Malvern

We are sorry to report that Dorothy Baker had a bad fall while cycling to work recently. She is now in hospital with a fractured jaw and cuts and bruises about the face. We all wish her a speedy recovery and hope she will be well by the time this is published. We welcome a new machine setter, Edward Preece. Tony Ranford has left and we wish him success in his new employment. We are happy to report the continuance of a high output at Malvern Works.

Maintenance and Construction

Several long service men in the M. and C. retired recently, and we wish a well earned rest to John Hawkes, Maurice Phipps, William Smith and David Davies.

On the day of his retirement the men in the Gas Plant, Boilers, Power House and heating apparatus departments made Maurice Phipps a presentation of a set of pipes and a pipe rack.

The Drawing Office congratulates Richard Dashper and his wife on the birth of a daughter. The office welcomes apprentice, John Redmond.

The Boiler Shop congratulates Vic Beresford on his engagement to Sylvia

Thorpe, and the Carpenters congratulate Mandy McGroddy on his recent marriage to Nora McElaney.

Mixing

Jane Watkins has retired after 34 years service. She is aged 71. James Richards has retired at 70 years of age, after 52 years service.

Offices

The typing department held a very enjoyable social function when a party attended the ice show "Winter Wonderland."

Joan Parkes of Typing Department has become engaged to Donald Waterhouse.

We welcome as new comers, Miss S. Luya, secretary to Mr. Hinton, Mrs. Healey, Fiesta Sales, Mrs. Underhill, telephonist, and Brenda Shakespeare, Purchase Accounts.

Optical

The Optical Division visited the Chance-Pilkinton Optical Works at St. Asaph on 17th May. It was a delightful outing with much interest. We express appreciation to our many friends at St. Asaph for their generous hospitality.

It is good to have Mrs. G. Poynton back with us after her recent illness and we hope that Mrs. Pirie who at the time of going to press is away ill, will soon be recovered fully.

Mrs. Hughes has retired at the age of 64 after 22 years service.

Traffic

It was with deep sorrow that we learned of the death of Edward Bailey on 17th May. Ted retired the previous month and he was aged 69. He first started at Spon Lane in 1906.

Mr. W. A. Standley has been re-elected vice-chairman of the Midland Division of the Institute of Transport.

The department welcomes Richard Carter as traffic costing clerk.

FACING THE CHALLENGE

EVERY day two men are killed and six hundred are injured in British factories. Nobody can calculate the cost in human pain and family deprivation.

The glass industry has its fair share of these accidents and it is the kind of fair share we do not want. Last year the Smethwick works of Chance Brothers sustained thirty-five lost time accidents. We need not have had such a number, most accidents can be avoided.

In the next few issues of *Chance Comments*, safety will be preached and the editor makes no apologies for using the magazine for such a purpose.

The moment you walk through the gates at Chance Brothers, you become part of the works' safety team—whether you are a clerk, the man who wields a broom in the yard or a director.

For dotted throughout each department in the works are "Hazard Slips" which put everyone in direct touch with management on safety matters. Spot a hazard, fill in a slip, hand it to a foreman and the existing accident prevention machinery ensures that the hazard is eliminated.

Like so many other ideas which this firm incorporates in its accident prevention methods, the safety slip system is a simple one and one which distributes the task of cutting down accidents evenly from the "top floor" to "ground level" without complicated machinery.

How does the system fit into normal accident prevention procedure? The initial action, drive, enthusiasm and consultation comes straight from the board of directors, which assumes



responsibility for appointing the chairman of the main Safety Committee, as well as Management's 50 per cent representation on that Committee.

The Workpeople on the Committee, which meets monthly, are appointed by the Works Consultative Committee. Apart from controlling the hazard slip system and discussing safety matters in general, the Committee also advise on safety suggestions put forward by the departmental consultative committees, who consider accident prevention a main item on their agenda.

Departmental interest is also aroused by the works' accident rate scoreboard which strikes the eye as you pass into the works. A prize of £50 is awarded to the departmental group showing the greatest improvement in their accident rate—a prize which can be used, within reason, as the department thinks fit. Consolation prizes of £10 will be awarded to those groups of departments who improve their safety record at all or who maintain a frequency rate of 0.5 or below.

With the works' accident rate at 1.09 last year, the department with the worst record was the Rolled Plate Warehouse at 1.9, which finds cuts as its greatest hazard. The scoreboard acts as an incentive—an incentive strengthened by the use of safety ideas.

Ideas have been put into practice like the spring-loaded sleeves which the men in the Rolled Plate Warehouse use for handling sheets of glass weighing up to one hundredweight, whose knife edges could cause serious injury. Mr. L. Gorman, Manager of the Flat Glass Division thought of this one. Steel springs are stitched into sleeves for the full length of the arm and these can be incorporated in a normal industrial dust-jacket or worn separately over

● Left: Spring-loaded sleeves in a linen jacket protect the arms of a rolled plate glass cutter.

● Right: The furnaceman has head, body and hands protected against heat.

● Below: A simple but ingenious device to protect the face against heat and eyes against glare.

ordinary clothing or a bare arm. Coupled with the use of safety boots, heavy gloves and safety spectacles, they make the task of cutting and handling large sheets of rolled glass a good deal less hazardous.

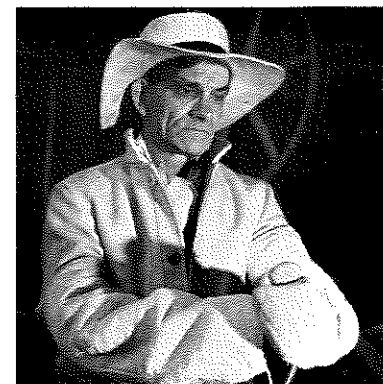
Like the men cutting and handling the glass, the furnacemen believe in "dressing for the part."

A wide-brimmed white felt hat protects him from furnace glare, large asbestos gloves protect his hands as he "teases" the raw materials into the mouth of the furnace; a felt jacket with an aluminium-foil outer skin reflects some of the heat; around his waist he wears a moleskin apron and for foot protection he wears heavy clogs or normal safety boots.

While the furnacemen in the Rolled Plate Making Department look like models for some macabre fashion show, their counterparts in the Blown and Pressed look like Teutonic knights with the "home-made" face masks. Fashioned from aluminium with a blue glass eyepiece, they are held in position in front of the worker's face as he looks into the furnace, by a simple but ingenious device. A wooden peg is inserted through the mask and is gripped by the furnaceman between his teeth. As soon as he has finished work at the furnace and turns away he merely loosens his grip on the wooden peg and the mask falls away by its own weight and is left hanging by a cord which hangs around the worker's neck. Hygiene is observed by each man having his own mask and being responsible for its cleanliness.

Some of the safety devices which Chance Brothers have introduced are rather more elaborate. Like the "cage" installed in the Cathode Welding Shop which enables a glass worker to weld the face of a tube to its envelope by remote control.

In the fluorescent tube shop, where glass tubing made in a continuous strip is cut to length and packed, the workers



wear safety spectacles, issued out like most of the safety equipment in this works, on foremen's requisition. The Management were not completely satisfied with the standard safety boot, because of recurring instep injuries. They have overcome that with a steel-ribbed device attached to leather spats, which transfers the impact of falling objects from the boot to the floor.

Chance Brothers has no safety department as such. The mechanics of safety is one of the functions of the Personnel Department. With the initial drive from the top, accident prevention is the supervisors' responsibility. This is consolidated by the discussion on safety by the safety and divisional committees, and the constant look out for hazards on the part of everyone in the works.

SUGGESTIONS SCHEME

£34 15s. 0d. for ideas

Since the last issue of *Chance Comments*, seventeen employees have had their ideas adopted and the awards made amounted to £34 15s. 0d.

The suggestion scheme figures for the year 1957 show that a total of 212 ideas were put forward and of these, 121 resulted in awards amounting to £288 0s. 0d. These returns were the best for the last three years.

R. Mednis receives £6 10s. 0d.

An idea submitted by R. Mednis of the Mould Shop was that retaining dowels be fitted in the burner slides on the electric welding lathes, with the object of keeping the burners more steady whilst in operation with the cam and thus reduce wear on the slides. This better way earned an award of £6 10s. 0d.

Three awards of £3 5s. 0d.

Three men each received £3 5s. 0d. for good ideas. F. Styles of the D.R.M. shop earned his award for a suggestion concerning a method of setting the oil burners at No. 1 Rolled Plate so as to ensure a correct firing position in relation to the refractory block. B. Jones of Rolled Plate, put forward an excellent sketch which detailed an alteration to the inside lugs on the Rolled Plate plants to reduce distortion of the glass. His idea cuts off the excess cut out from the fore-hearth.

Mr. Diklic, Rolled Plate, suggested that the outlet pipes for canal water on No. 3 Rolled Plate machines be built in

as a fixed part of the machine in order to simplify machine changes and reduce the accident hazard.

Coal spillage on Telfer

R. Acton, Millwrights, is a keen member of the Safety Committee. Last month he switched his enthusiasm from safety to economy in his recommendation that a chute should be fitted to the buffer boards on the hoppers on the Plain to prevent coal spillage. His idea was adopted as it will save some fuel which is lost due to mixing with other materials. The award for an economy idea such as this is based on the estimated financial saving and this simple, but good idea, earned the suggestor an award of £3 0s. 0d.

Good safety ideas

Accident prevention at Chance Brothers is a responsibility of every member of the organisation. The suggestion scheme pays £1 0s. 0d. for every report of an accident hazard which results in management action. In the last two months, five employees received awards for accepted recommendations concerning safety namely, P. C. Duff, Transport Repair Shop, E. J. Selley, Optical, G. Radley, Optical, T. H. Collier, Internal Transport, M. Hennessy, Rolled Plate, N. Andrews, M. and C. Office, and E. J. Gardener, Millwrights (two ideas).

An appeal succeeds

A month or two ago, W. B. Cox of the General Stores reported that being

engaged on the inspection of incoming goods he often held out of date drawings and he suggested that a system be introduced whereby all holders of drawings be advised of any modifications

The idea was at first rejected but the suggestor lodged an appeal which resulted in a discussion with the Works Engineer, who was thus convinced that there had been occasions when out of date drawings had been issued. The appeal resulted in action being taken to prevent re-occurrence and an award of £1 15s. 0d. was made.

A bouquet for Bob Tandy

From time to time, Bob Tandy who has just completed his apprenticeship as a millwright, submits ideas and he always presents his case in a lucid manner together with excellent sketches.

He has just received an award of £1 15s. 0d. for a design for an improved casting to house the bearings on the batch feeder to ensure the easy change of the shaft.

The crane scales at No. 1

R. Moody of Rolled Plate urged that the type of scale used on the lifting crane at No. 1 be changed to the clock face type, as in his opinion the existing scales are too long and do not allow sufficient clearance over the crates. His idea is to be adopted and he received £1 15s. 0d.

35/- to H. Wincott

H. Wincott of Rolled Plate recommended the use of a wire brush to clean reeded rolls. A simple idea which resulted in an award of £1 15s. 0d.

**WASTE IN TIME, THOUGHT OR
MATERIAL IS OCCURRING ALL
AROUND YOU.**

Can You Spot an Example?

USE THE SUGGESTION SCHEME

Long Service and Retirement Awards



Above: On the completion of 45 years service, Joseph Richards of Rolled Plate is presented with a wrist watch.

Below: Jane Watkins has retired from the Mixing Department after 44 years service.



Left: Dr. W. M. Hampton bids happy retirement to Maurice Phipps of M. and C. (50 years service), John Hawkes of M. and C. (54 years service) and Joe Beard of B. and P. (52 years service).



During a recent week, the main Surrey store, Bentalls of Kingston, featured Chance table glass and had this special window display. In case we get any interested enquiries, we must record that the lady is a dummy!