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THE RECREATION CLUB  
WISHES YOU  
**A MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
AND  
**A HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
AND HOPES...

THAT YOU WILL BE WITH YOUR  
FRIENDS AT THE  
**GALA BALL**

at  
TUBE INVESTMENTS BALLROOM  
on  
FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY

From 8 p.m. To 1 a.m.

To dance to Brian Pearsall

Private coaches will get you home.  
Buy your tickets early from your Group  
Representative or the Personnel Depart-  
ment. The price is 5/-.

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

# Chance

## COMMENTS



CHRISTMAS NUMBER 1958

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# Chance

## COMMENTS

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

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EDITOR A. OGDEN

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##### Blown and Pressed

Inspection F. O'CONNOR  
Pressed Making W. GLOVER  
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Cathodes A. SUTTON  
Vello O. McKENNA  
Warehouses G. GRIGG

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Rolled Plate and Coloured R. E. EVANS  
Rolled Plate  
Warehouse MISS W. WALKER  
Seven Storey A. FARDELL

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Old Hall MISS V. HICKLING

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Glasgow H. MACLEOD  
London J. C. PERKINS  
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#### THIS MONTH'S COVER

This seasonable picture shows the choristers of Durham Cathedral holding a Christmas carol service in the crypt. On the extreme right, by the Christmas tree, can be seen part of the tomb of St. Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, who led a band of missionaries to England at the end of the sixth century. Last month, nobody identified the cover which was a photograph of the Bridge of Dee.

## Christmas Message

Since this issue of *Chance Comments* will be on sale just before Christmas, I am taking the opportunity it offers of wishing you the compliments of the season.

The past year has shown many changes in demand which have, in turn, meant changes in activity for many of us. It is a matter for congratulation that with the goodwill of all concerned the problems involved have been so satisfactorily solved.

As the year closes, the prospects for 1959 look brighter than seemed likely earlier, and I hope that our problems will be those related to increase of demand rather than the reverse.

The tradition of happy and friendly relations in this firm has never been more obvious than now, and we all hope and believe this will continue. We meet on common ground in looking forward to the continued prosperity of "C.B.", and the Directors thank all of you for your loyal support, and wish you —

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*W. W. Sampson*

VOL. 11, No. 5

CHRISTMAS NUMBER 1958



## SNAPSHOTS

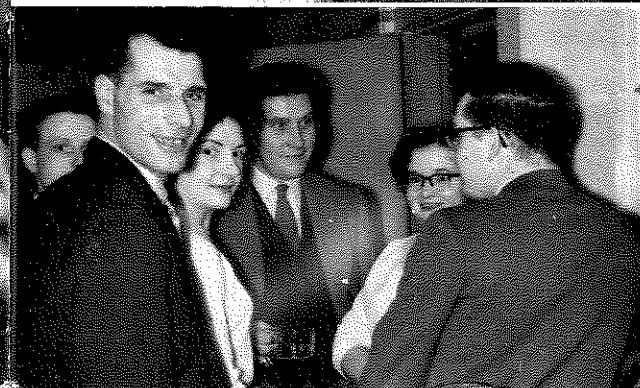
- Mr. Jack Chance and Mr. Walter Chance at a recent Patent Glazing Conference. Mr. Walter is now recovered from a serious illness he had earlier in the year.



- Tables at the Cricket Club Dinner held in the Pavilion . . .



- . . . and the Canteen staff who served them well, plus Horace Bagnall who had no right to be there!



- Three Snapshots taken at No. 10 Group's dance held in the Pavilion to raise funds for a children's Christmas party.

FOR THE CHILDREN

# Pennytop's Christmas Tree

by Violet M. Williams

**PIP**, the elf, bustled round the kitchen making all the usual exciting Christmas preparations. Pennytop, his friend, bustled too, but he did not seem to get anything done. At last Pip spoke to him in a very exasperated voice.

"For the twentieth time, Pennytop, will you go and buy the Christmas tree?" he demanded. "There will not be any good trees left if you do not hurry."

Pennytop sank into a chair and looked offended.

"I have been working terribly hard, Pip", he protested. "I will just have a little rest and then I will be off."

It was evening when at last Pennytop dragged himself out of his chair and trudged off through the snow to the gaily lighted village. The Brownie who kept the shop which sold Christmas trees was just putting up his shutters.

## A near thing

"Hi, don't close up yet," called Pennytop, hastily. "I have come to buy a Christmas tree."

"Hmmm! Left it a bit late, haven't you?" snorted the shopkeeper. "I have only one left and it is not a very good one."

"Oh dear, Pip will be cross," groaned Pennytop. "But he will be more cross if I go home without one at all, so I shall have to take it."

The tree did not look too bad in the cottage lamplight, and the two elves dressed it up right away. There were coloured candles and silver bells, gleaming golden balls and sparkling tinsel. There was a tiny fluffy teddy bear, as well as so many other toy animals, that it was quite a job to fit them all on the branches.

The next morning the two elves pattered downstairs and the first thing they saw was their tree. It looked dreadful! The little needles were turning brown and falling all over the place and the branches were drooping.

"It did not look like that last night," wailed Pennytop.

"I thought that it was a poor thing but it is worse than ever today," groaned Pip. "We can't get another one now. We shall just have to do without a tree."

Take off all the things, Pennytop, while I go shopping. Let this be a lesson to you to start your Christmas jobs in good time next year," he added, sternly.

## Magic liquid

Pip went off sadly, leaving Pennytop staring glumly at the drooping tree. The elves loved a Christmas tree and it was all Pennytop's fault that they would not have one this year. Suddenly, Pennytop remembered some magic garden fertiliser that their friend, the Wise Woman, had given them.

"Why, the flowers popped up all over the place and they were the biggest we ever had," Pennytop told himself, gleefully. "Why shouldn't I try some of the fertiliser on our Christmas tree?"

He hurried to the tool shed and found the big green bottle. He took it indoors and then uncorked it and poured the liquid around the roots of the tree.

"Now I will go and find my Christmas wrapping paper while the spell gets working," he said, very pleased with himself.

Pennytop had scarcely left the room before he heard a bumping noise. Bells were ringing and he could hear animal voices. He ran back again but he had to squeeze his way in. Huge branches of fir tree were across the doorway and others were knocking pictures off the walls and sending chairs flying.

## Toys come to life

To add to the confusion, everything decorating the tree had grown to the same enormous size. The silver bells were so big that they clanged like church bells. The toy animals had come to life with everything else and they mooed, roared and growled as they jostled one another.

Pennytop clapped his hands over his ears.

"Do be quiet, all of you," he yelled.

A gruff voice interrupted him.

"You get us back to our proper size, young elf," it said, crossly.

It was the teddy bear. He had grown taller than Pennytop and he carried two Christmas tree candles which were as big as he was.

"Nobody wants a life-size teddy bear," the toy went on. "Change us back at once."

He prodded Pennytop hard with one of the candles and went on prodding.

"Stop!" cried the elf. "Do stop!"

"No, I will not," said a familiar voice.

"Not until you waken up and go for that Christmas tree."

## Pennytop wakes up!

Pennytop opened his eyes. Pip was prodding him with a wooden spoon.

"Oh, thank goodness it was all a dream," Pennytop gasped, with relief. "Before I go anywhere I must go and throw away the magic fertiliser. I..."

"Before you do anything you are going for that tree," Pip insisted. "If you do not I shall not make a single mince pie!"

But when Pennytop reached the shop—really, this time—the shutters were up and a notice on the door read CHRISTMAS TREES SOLD OUT.

Pennytop went miserably home. It would not seem like Christmas without a tree. He did not know how to tell Pip and he wandered into the tool shed trying to think what to say. Then he saw the magic bottle as he dreamed about.

"I will get rid of that stuff, anyway," he muttered.

He took the bottle outside and let all the green liquid pour out into the snow, then he stumped off to break the news of the tree to Pip.

A popping, snapping sound made the elf jump and he looked back over his shoulder. There, sprouting up like magic—as indeed it was!—appeared a tall, sturdy Christmas tree! There must have been the tiniest fir tree seedling hidden under the snow and the magic liquid had made it grow!

The elves had their Christmas tree after all and everyone said that it was the loveliest that they had ever seen!



# Customs Older than Christmas

**If you reckon up all the familiar customs that are still part of Christmas you may be surprised to find how many of them are older than this annual festival itself.**

It was probably because Christmas was so interwoven with heathen practice that the Puritans of Cromwell's day abolished its observance and actually punished those who celebrated it with traditional merrymaking. But when the Lord Protector died and King Charles resumed the Throne, all the old pagan observances were soon brought back again, and Christmas Day became a more ritous feast than it had been before.

Much of the festivity of this season is a legacy from Roman times. For long before ancient Rome was converted to the Christian faith, the citizens used to celebrate the occasion of midwinter with the Saturnalia, or Festival of Saturn. This was the liveliest of the year's revels when young people assumed guises and acted in colourful plays and pageants.

In many of these Roman plays young actors dressed themselves to represent birds or animals, while the girls impersonated the men and vice versa. All these essential elements of pagan make-believe are still to be found in our favourite Christmas pantomimes today. The beautiful young actress plays the role of Principal Boy, the leading male comedian acts the Dame, and who is Dick Whittington's immortal cat but an actor with great talent for startling acrobatics? Only the methods of presentation and the musical accompaniments have changed to suit the times.



Even at Christmas parties at home we follow the practices of heathen Rome when we put on paper caps and false noses, or disguise ourselves in other ways for the ever popular game of charades.

Some Christmas customs are far older still. The Christmas tree, for example, is said to be derived from a rite of the ancient Egyptians who used to decorate their houses at this time of the year with date palms as a sign of life triumphing over death. Curiously, the Christmas tree was not known in England until about a century ago when the Prince Consort introduced it from Germany.

Evergreen decorations for the home at Christmas-time go back far into antiquity. The ancient Druids, who were priests and magicians, worshipped the mistletoe as a sacred plant. In legendary times the mistletoe was dedicated to the goddess of love, and those who kissed beneath it received her blessing. Holly, which was for centuries called "Holy," was used by the Romans for decorating their homes at the Festival of Saturn.

While there seems no possible reason for linking the mistletoe with Christmas, holly certainly has Christian traditions. This plant was, in fact, called "Holy" because its thorns and blood-red berries were symbolic of the sufferings of Christ on the Cross.

Holly is joined with the ivy in a familiar old Christmas carol, but the latter was never accepted for church decoration because it has been associated since ancient times with the worship of Bacchus, the god of wine. Fir branches, though similarly associated with heathen worship, were acceptable to the early

Christians because the tree is mentioned in the Book of Isaiah thus: "The Glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary."

The old English custom of bringing in the Yule Log on Christmas Eve originated in Scandinavia. In fact, several of our traditional celebrations have come down to us from the Norsemen of old who, of course, were among the early invaders of these islands. Perhaps the most interesting of all such customs is that known as Wassailing.

Wassailing is still kept alive among the farmers of Devon and Somerset at the Christmas season, when masters and men go around the orchards toasting the oldest apple trees in turn with buckets of home-brewed cider. As each tree is toasted the party join

hands in a circle round it and sing the centuries-old Wassailers' Song. All this is done to ensure a bumper crop of apples in the following season.

The word "Wassail" originally meant a festive occasion, a toast or greeting, and the wassail-bowl played a great part in Christmas celebrations of bygone days. In the old monasteries the wassail-bowl was handed round the table and the abbot drank the health of his monks and they drank his. A similar ceremony was performed every Christmas Eve in the Courts of the Tudor Kings, and until recent times the circulation of the wassail-bowl was a custom in villages of the North and the West Country. The wassail-bowl contained a mixture of old ale, nutmeg, sugar and roasted apples. And, very comforting it is, too.

## FACTS ABOUT XMAS

Mumming is a survival of the Roman custom of masquerading at the annual feasts of Saturnalia, the pagan forerunner of Christmas Day. It was banned by Henry VIII in England but survived in Scotland for many years. It is still practised in some parts of England at Christmas time.

Twelfth Night is the last day of the Festival of Christmas—the Feast of Epiphany. January 6th was at one time the favourite date for Christmas Day and it was not until the time of Pope Julius, 400 years after Christ, that 25th December was officially declared to be Christmas Day. By tradition all Christmas decorations should be left up until Twelfth Night.

The first Christmas card was etched and printed by 16-year-old William Egley in 1842, at the suggestion of Sir Henry Cole, first director of the Victoria and Albert Museum. The card, which depicted Sir Roger de Coverley, is preserved in the museum.

The thornbush of Glastonbury, which sometimes blooms at Christmas, is supposed to have been planted there by Saint Joseph of Arimathea when he visited the place to found the Abbey. The thornbush is an Aleppo haw bush which usually blooms twice a year—in June and December.

The origin of Christmas boxes goes back into the distant past. On Christmas Day and the following morning parsons used to open church poor-boxes and shared the proceeds among the poor of the district. Hence the origination of the term, "Boxing Day." In later years errand boys and apprentices employed by tradesmen were allowed to call upon their employer's customers to elicit donations to their Christmas box—on Boxing Day. Nowadays postmen do it, after their Christmas rush.





# *Chance* **PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

1. The best photograph in the Competition was by D. D. Cooper, Buying Department with this picture which he titles "Evening Stroll."



2. In the "General" section the judges selected this picture by G. Radley, Optical Department.

4. This "Woodland Scene" by Tony Ansell ex Carpenters won the "Landscape" section.



3. The "Personal" section winner was G. Radley, Optical Department.

5. Tony Ansell also won the "Architectural" section with his "Celtic Cross."





# From all Departments

**MOSTLY PERSONAL**

## Blown and Pressed

The Blown and Pressed social committee are at present "up to their eyes" in the arrangements for the annual dance to be held on December 12th, the children's party on 3rd January and the annual dinner on 10th January. Each of these events will be in the Recreation Club Pavilion.

The Division congratulates John King, John Knight, Horace Botfield and Arthur Astle, Frederick Bolton, and Walter Whitley on their completion of twenty-five years service.

Arthur (Cocker) Fenton retired on 31st October after fifty-five years service. He is a very keen bowler and was captain of the Blown and Pressed team which won the Hugh Chance Inter-departmental Bowls Cup, for three successive years. To mark this achievement, Sir Hugh presented him with a replica of the trophy. We hope that Arthur will enjoy his retirement and that he will come and see us often.

We congratulate ourselves on having won a total of £60 in the Safety Competition for 1957/58.

## Flat Glass

The Flat Glass Division held a successful dance in the Pavilion in October to raise funds for the division's children's Christmas parties fund. The parties will be held in the Recreation Club Pavilion on Saturday, 6th December and Saturday, 13th December.

Edna Fardell has left the Seven Storey as she is an expectant mother and we wish her well. The Rolled Plate Despatch Office extend a welcome to Dudley Walpole.

Joe Bowin has returned to the Warehouse after a year's absence through illness.

Congratulations are extended to Arnold Fieldhouse and his wife on the birth of twins.

Robert Evans, Production Superintendent is in hospital with a serious illness. All our thoughts are for him. William Chataway is also in hospital recovering from a road accident.

It is with profound sorrow that we record the death of Raymond Baynham on 12th November after an operation. Raymond was only forty years of age. He joined Chance Brothers in October, 1932 and following a long period in the Traffic Office, he was appointed an assistant foreman in the Rolled Plate Warehouse. Raymond left a wife and two young children and we express to them our very deep sympathy.

## Glasgow

Our congratulations to Ronald McKnight and his wife on the birth of a son.

John Ramsay married Miss E. Laycock on the 20th September and we wish them every happiness.

The Recreation Club held its Annual General Meeting on the 30th October, when the following were elected to office:—*President:* Mr. G. H. Gordon, *Vice President:* Mr. J. Crawford, *Secretary and Treasurer:* Mr. H. Woods.

The Social Club held their first dance of the Winter early in November when a large gathering of employees and friends spent a very enjoyable evening.

Mr. John Aitchison passed away on 21st November. From 1941 until his retirement in 1954, Mr. Aitchison was in charge of the Glasgow works but he first became associated with Chance Brothers fifty-four years ago, when, at the age of sixteen he joined his father who was the Company's agent. He came to Spon

Lane in 1907 in the Home Sales Office, and was transferred to Glasgow in 1911.

Our deep sympathy is expressed to Mrs. Aitchison.

## London

It is always difficult to conjure up news of interest where there is only a small staff and few changes take place. However it might interest readers to know that the London Office staff of Chance Brothers also assists Pilkington's London Export Office and the Pilkington Architectural Department, who share the same premises. Our receptionist-telephonist acts for all departments and the telex system is shared by all concerned. We also look after the interests of Chance-Pilkington Optical Works who have to maintain constant contact with important customers in the London area.

## Maintenance and Construction

Friday, December 5th was a red letter day for the Maintenance and Construction Department when the annual dinner was held at the Blue Gates Hotel. Photographs will be in the next issue.

Arrangements have now been completed for the annual children's Christmas party to be held in the Canteen on Saturday, 13th December.

The Carpenters welcome Alan Poulson on his return from National Service and congratulate Brian Manison on his recent marriage.

The Millwrights congratulate Robert Smart on his promotion to the position of assistant foreman.

Ken Hill of the Boiler Shop is in hospital recovering from an operation and we hope that he will be fighting fit and back at work soon. The shop is glad to have Harry Ellis back after his illness.

Three grand people have retired namely, William Smallwood after fifty-two years service, William Berry after thirty-eight years service and Arthur Bradley after fifty-one years. We wish them much happiness in their future.

On 6th November, our old friend Thomas Lovesy passed away at the age of seventy-three. Tom retired as Engineer's Clerk in August, 1953 after thirty-three years service. We express sympathy to his widow and son.

## Offices

Woburn Abbey was the venue for the Buying Office annual outing this year and they and their friends set off in brilliant sunshine which lasted during the whole of our stay. Lunch was served in the Abbey Restaurant, after which we all spent a most interesting and enjoyable time exploring the Abbey and its grounds which are very beautiful. The day was brought to a close with an excellent meal at the Forest Hotel, Knowle and everyone returned home happily singing all the way, thanks to the able help of our "guest conductor" and his soloist.

Since the last publication, the Export Sales and General Office combined in a snooker tournament—the highlight being the "Joe Davis" pink that Jack Francis potted to win the final.

Words cannot express the magnitude of the task of getting a certain defeated finalist into the back and through the back of B.V.'s Minicar, but an hour's struggle saw the mission successfully accomplished—altogether a good night.

Reg Claydon has left after eleven and a half years service with the Firm and we wish him every success for the future.

Newcomers who are welcomed are Valerie Partridge, Typing, and Norman Rhodes, Traffic.

Brenda Hart, Wages, was married on November 22nd to Karel Krowiak, Fiesta, and we express our best wishes for their future happiness.

Alfred Moore, Ledger Office, retired on 14th November, after nearly fifty-two years service. He was presented with an armchair by his very many friends from all over the works.

Alfred left his mark at Chance Brothers, particularly in regard to the Recreation Club and cricket and he was for many years the secretary of the Works Saving Group which is one of the most successful works groups in Smethwick. We are determined to get an "I remember" story out of Alfred for some future issue of the magazine and in the meantime, he has everybody's best wishes.

## Optical

Much activity is going on in the Optical Department and everyone has reason to look forward to a brighter year in 1959—more about this in a later issue.

● continued on next page

# Jottings *of shorter items and employees' contributions*

## BOUQUETS

Harold Fisher of the Buying Department is congratulated on passing the final examination for the Purchasing Officers' Association.

The National Blood Transfusion Service visited the works on 24th October, when eighty-seven employees donated blood to the blood bank.

Lorry driver, Stanley Ainge rendered first aid at the scene of an accident on the Great North Road. All Chance Brothers lorries carry first aid boxes.

Lesley Titley of the Typing Department has been awarded the first prize, Introductory Shorthand Typing, awarded by the Stourbridge College of Further Education.

The Blown and Pressed Cathodes and Pressed Process sections decided to use the £50 0s. 0d., which they won in the Safety Competition for sending Christmas hampers to retired men from the division.

Chance Brothers had a display at the Brussels World Exhibition 1958. The Brussels authorities have awarded a gold medal to the Birmingham Engineering Centre Collective Exhibit of which our stand formed part, falling under the stand classification "Glassmaking."

## FROM ALL DEPARTMENTS (continued from previous page)

The department is glad to have Mrs. Rogers and Derrick Davis back at work.

### Pot and Clay

Charles Evitts retired on 2nd October after twenty-six years service.

Charley has suffered from a physical disability for many years but he remain-

## PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 1958

Dr. R. E. Bastick and Mr. S. Mallett were the judges of the competition and the following is their report:—

On the whole the quality of the entries was rather disappointing. Although there appeared to be an improvement in technical quality compared with the previous year, many of the prints were lacking in composition. The judges would like to suggest once again that more thought is given to composing the picture before it is taken and that judicious trimming of the final print can help in obtaining a more presentable result. The judges have selected the following prints for awards.

### Best Photograph of Competition

D. D. Cooper, Buying Department—  
"Evening Stroll."

### Landscape

A. Ansell, Carpenters' Shop—"Woodland Scene."

### Architectural

A. Ansell, Carpenters' Shop—"Celtic Cross."

### Personal

G. Radley, Optical Department.

### General

G. Radley, Optical Department.

The judges commend W. A. West of the Seven Storey for his "Village Scene."

ed cheerful always and he was much respected in the works. We earnestly hope that he will have improved health in the future.

Joseph Partridge who retired from the Mixing Department in 1953 died on 24th November at the age of sixty-nine. He first joined the firm in 1910. We express sympathy to Mrs. Partridge.

"Evening Stroll" was considered to be by far the best picture submitted. The photographer has used his imagination and has captured an atmosphere that gives this picture its appeal.

"Woodland Scene" is quite a pleasing picture but the judges feel that full advantage was not taken of the possibilities for better composition.

In the Architectural Section, the entries were very disappointing. "Celtic Cross" is a good record picture of a feature of architectural and historic interest although the head of the cross is lost in the trees in the background. Another view point would probably have yielded a better result.

The entries in the Personal Section were surprisingly small in number. Mr. Radley's picture is quite good technically as a snapshot portrait but it suffers from too much background. A "neutral" background free from fussiness is much better for photographs of this kind.

The General Section, as expected, had the largest entry. Mr. Radley's picture is pleasing. The reflections in the water add considerably to the interest of the scene and the tonal gradations have been kept within acceptable limits.

## AN APPEAL

Pensioners and people who are away through sickness or injury are visited by a representative of the Company and small gifts of cigarettes or fruit are taken to them.

It has become clear, however, that their main problem is boredom and many of them would appreciate gifts of books and other aids to pass away the time more pleasantly.

If readers of *Chance Comments* have finished with any books or other things that may be useful in this connection, would they please let Mrs. J. Taylor, Personnel Department, have them.

## CIVIC VISIT TO WORKS

A tradition of many years standing was observed on 6th November when

the Mayor of Smethwick, Councillor W. J. Darby and the Mayoress, Mrs. W. J. Darby paid the annual civic visit to the works.

They were accompanied by Mr. E. L. Twycross, the Town Clerk and Mrs. E. L. Twycross, and were received by Sir Hugh and Lady Chance, and Dr. W. M. Hampton.

Prior to a tour of the departments, the party saw the coloured film "Glass."

## THE SCENE IS SET

*On with the dance; let joy be unconfined;  
No sleep till morn, when Youth and  
Pleasure meet  
To chase the glowing hours with flying  
feet.*

BYRON

In the last fifteen years the Annual Gala Ball, organised by the Recreation Club has been an outstanding social event, and this year we go again to the splendid ballroom of Tube Investments, Oldbury.

Brian Pearsall and his orchestra have always been popular with Chance Brothers folk and they will play for us to dance to on Friday, 23rd January from 8 p.m. until 1 p.m. when private coaches will help to get us home.

The tickets remain at 5s. 0d. each as this is not a money making effort.

The various departments have an annual social function but this is the only occasion when everybody from Spon Lane and Malvern can get together—do please endeavour to attend and bring your husbands, or wives or sweethearts, you will enjoy yourselves.

Last year we elected a Chance Brothers Glass Queen, namely, Ann Buckler (Malvern) and Ann will go to the Winter Gardens Ballroom, Blackpool on Thursday, 19th March to take part in the final of the Pilkington Group Glass Queen Competition. She will be allowed one expenses-paid chaperone but volunteers are not being called for!

● Left to right: Lady Chance, Sir Hugh Chance, the Mayor, the Mayoress, Dr. W. M. Hampton.





## FACING THE CHALLENGE

PRESSED PROCESS AND CATHODES WIN £50 0s. 0d.

The second safety competition ended on 30th September and the result was as follows:—

Departmental Group	Year Ended 30/9/57 Frequency Rate	Year Ended 30/9/58 Frequency Rate	Percentage Improvement or Deterioration
Pressed Process and Cathodes PRIZE £50	1.13	0.67	41% improvement
Vello, Pressed Making Teasers, Inspection PRIZE £10	0.75	0.53	29% improvement
Electricians, Mill- wrights, Boiler Shop, Machine and Mould Shop PRIZE £10	1.26	1.09	14% improvement
Coloured, Seven Storey, Fiesta PRIZE £10	0.98	0.95	3% improvement
Building, Carpen- ters, Boilers, Stores, Vehicle Repairs	1.18	1.19	1% deterioration
Optical and Malvern	0.66	0.78	18% deterioration
Pot and Clay, Mixing, Masons, Security, Cleaners Traffic Transport	0.49	1.04	112% deterioration
Rolled Plate	2.07	4.30	108 % deterioration

### INTO A THIRD YEAR

The Board has agreed that a further competition should be held for the twelve months period ending 30th September, 1959.

A prize of £50 0s. 0d. will be awarded to the section which achieves the greatest percentage reduction in its own frequency rate compared with the previous year, and £10 will be presented to any other group which reduces its frequency rate at all. Even if a group's frequency rate increases, £10 will be awarded if it works out below 0.5.

A Merry Christmas to All . . .

and to all . . .

## Good Ideas!

Over two hundred suggestions are received each year and some half of these result in a cash award. Make 1959 a year in which you will cash in on your ideas.

Since the last issue of *Chance Comments* £113 10s. 0d. has been awarded through the Suggestion Scheme as follows:—

		£	s.	d.
J. A. Welch	Rolled Plate .. .. .	15	0	0
F. Bolton	Blown and Pressed (Additional to £25 already awarded)	15	0	0
T. H. Collier	Traffic .. .. .	6	0	0
H. Shermer	Seven Storey .. .. .	6	0	0
J. Hanson	Plumbers (4 ideas) .. .. .	8	5	0
F. T. Chawner	Cleaners (4 ideas) .. .. .	7	0	0
A. Stockin	Transport Repair Shop (3 ideas) ..	4	10	0
H. J. Gardner	Maintenance and Construction (3 ideas)	3	15	0
W. Davies	Rolled Plate (2 ideas) .. .. .	3	0	0
J. Hill	Maintenance and Construction ..	2	10	0
I. Blakey	Glasgow (2 ideas) .. .. .	2	5	0
J. O'Mara	Rolled Plate (2 ideas) .. .. .	2	0	0
S. Birch	Maintenance and Construction (2 ideas)	2	5	0
W. James	Rolled Plate .. .. .	2	10	0
D. G. Botfield	Maintenance and Construction (2 ideas)	2	5	0
F. A. Bodley	Rolled Plate (2 ideas) .. .. .	2	5	0
R. Stokes	Optical .. .. .	1	15	0
J. B. Smith	Maintenance and Construction ..	1	15	0
H. Vallender	Maintenance and Construction ..	1	15	0
C. Sloss	Glasgow .. .. .	1	15	0
R. L. Turnock	Micro .. .. .	1	15	0
J. Brown	Glasgow .. .. .	1	15	0
D. Parrott	Maintenance and Construction ..	1	15	0
H. Dalton	Rolled Plate .. .. .	1	15	0
R. Hinson	Maintenance and Construction ..	1	15	0
V. J. Beresford	Maintenance and Construction ..	1	15	0
E. Bishop	Micro .. .. .	1	15	0
J. Higgs	Maintenance and Construction ..	1	15	0

£1 0s. 0d. each for safety ideas was awarded to: A. Kingston, Maintenance and Construction; T. Hedley, Pyrometry; J. Richards, Rolled Plate; J. Carr, Traffic; B. Bagnall, Transport and H. Helsby, Pyrometry.

There were four minor awards of 10s. 0d. each.



● When Arthur Fenton retired from Blown and Pressed, Sir Hugh Chance presented him with a trophy in recognition of "Cocker's" achievement in being captain of the Blown and Pressed team which won the inter-departmental bowls competition for three successive years.

## Retirements and Long Service Awards

● Right: Dr. W. M. Hampton wishes Alfred Moore, Ledger Office, a happy retirement.



● Below: William Smallwood, Maintenance and Construction, William Berry, Maintenance and Construction and Arthur Bradley, Flat Glass have retired.



● Right: John King and John Knight of Blown and Pressed receive an award on their completion of twenty-five years service.



## Christmas Pie

Mother (come to escort her young hopeful home after the party) to neighbour: "Yes, my Cuthbert is a well mannered boy." At that moment their hostess offered Cuthbert an orange.

Mother: "Now what do you say, Cuthbert?"

Cuthbert: "Peel it!"

\* \* \*

The difference between a man and a woman is that a man will pay two shillings for a one shilling item he wants, whilst a woman will pay one shilling for a two shilling item she doesn't want.

\* \* \*

Heard at the Staff Ball:

"I'm wearing one of those strapless gowns—I think!"

\* \* \*

Being too cautious or too reckless or too anything is just too bad.

\* \* \*



"But suppose there's no mistletoe at the hotel?"

\* \* \*

Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognise a mistake whenever you make it again.

\* \* \*

Mint sauce is improved by the addition of a little sugar, we are told. As a finishing touch, garnish the sauce with a roast leg of lamb.

\* \* \*

Men who kiss and tell are not half as bad as those who kiss and exaggerate.

\* \* \*

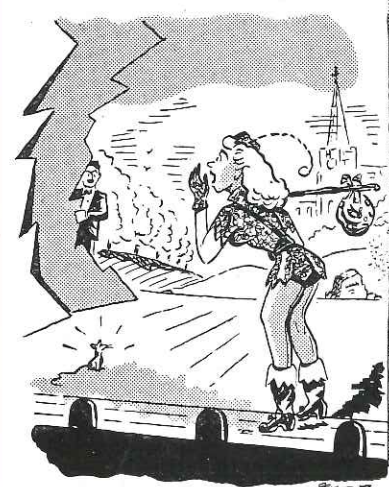
What really flatters a man is that you consider him worth flattering.

\* \* \*

Of course there are two sides to every question, if we are not interested in either of them.

\* \* \*

There is no cosmetic for beauty like happiness.



"Psst. Send for the cat."

