

so glass won't bend . . .



The experimentalist in the picture should have a word with Chance Brothers, who produce micro-glass so thin that if you pick it up it bends like a sheet of paper. This is used for cover glasses in highly accurate microscope work—and Chance Brothers are the only firm in the British Empire who make it. But for unexperimentalists who don't want their glass to bend, they also make thin glass, thick glass, pressed glass, moulded glass, blown glass, rolled glass, flat glass, patterned glass, obscure glass and crystal clear glass—in a word

Chance GLASS

FOR SCIENCE, INDUSTRY AND THE HOME

CHANCE BROTHERS LIMITED, Glassmakers since 1824, produce Optical Glass, 'Hysil' (regd.) Laboratory Glassware, Pressed Glassware, Rolled and Wired Glass for Building, Lighting Glassware, Scientific and other Specialized Glass Products, Lighthouses, Marine and Aviation Lighting Equipment, etc. Head Office: Smethwick 40, Near Birmingham. London Office: 28 St. James's Square, S.W.1. Branch Works at: Glasgow, St. Helens and Malvern.

This is one of the series of advertisements for the Flat Glass Division, currently appearing in the Times Review of Industry and other publications.

Chance

COMMENTS

SEPT.
1948
Vol. I No. 4



THE MAGAZINE OF
CHANCE BROTHERS LIMITED, SMETHWICK

3D

Chance COMMENTS

VOL. I, No 4.

SEPTEMBER, 1948

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

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NEXT ISSUE: NOV. 25th

A Year's Progress

In 1889 the Company introduced the Deposit Scheme whereby selected employees were enabled to acquire a direct financial interest in the Company on favourable terms. There are now 390 employees who have invested their savings with the Company, and each year a meeting of Depositors is held when a review is made of the Company's progress, and the interest on deposits is declared.

At this year's meeting Sir Hugh Chance presided. The Managing Director, Mr. John Raymond, the Director of the Engineering Division, Mr. H. L. Barman, and the Technical Director, Dr. W. M. Hampton, each contributed to an interesting survey of the Company's achievement over the past financial year.

AT the outset Mr. Raymond paid sincere tribute to all members of the firm for their co-operation, initiative and endeavours. The considerable progress that had been achieved had largely been done with our own resources, and by our own staff; and Managers, Supervisors, Technicians, Salesmen, Skilled and Unskilled men and women had all played their part. Looking ahead we still had a great deal to do to consolidate and strengthen ourselves, and continuity of effort was vital if we were successfully to weather the difficult times which certainly faced us.

The Company was determined to progress, but at all times every endeavour would be made to develop the human relationships, and the very valuable old family-firm traditions would be maintained. During the past year, long service privileges were introduced whereby men and women who had been with the firm for a long time were offered additional holidays and payment during sickness. The Chance Training Scheme for young people had been developed, and was now undoubtedly one of the best schemes in the Midlands providing excellent training for all forms of skills and crafts, and

A Year's Progress (Contd.) . . .

commerce, with due regard to the cultural and social development of the young people.

The recently completed Medical Centre was one of the most up-to-date units in the country. The new Works Shop afforded employees opportunities to purchase the Company's products at cheap rates. During the year the Company agreed to increase its contributions to the Staff Superannuation Scheme thereby enabling the Staff to look forward to more favourable pensions on retirement. A Works Magazine had been started and proved a success. The Canteens had been re-decorated and the kitchens re-equipped. It was still the Company's policy to promote from within and the foreman grade was regarded as an essential step in the ladder of promotion. The Company only brought in people from outside when it was certain that there was nobody already employed with suitable qualifications.

The Works Consultative Committee had now developed into a sort of Upper House to which the Departmental Production Sub-Committees and the Canteen, Clothing and Fuel Committees reported. The Board regarded such Committees as a vital part of Management and they were of immeasurable value to workpeople.

Turning from personnel affairs to matters concerning production, Mr. Raymond presented a thumb-nail picture of every department. The Flat Glass Division had concentrated on the manufacture of Flashed Glass by mechanical means and this had been, and still was, one of the most dramatic technical developments in the history of the Company. Looking ahead, we must find new uses for flat glass to enable us to keep the big tanks going, if, and when the present abnormal demand started to drop.

The Blown and Pressed Glass Division had probably more opportunities and more difficulties than any other

section of the Works. The automatic manufacture of Domestic Glass was an enormous project in itself and there still remained Tubing developments, and Cathode Ray Bulbs.

The Maintenance and Construction Department had had to carry through all the developments that had taken place in recent times and when this Department finally completed the major projects it would have to face an enormous programme of tidying-up and catching up with arrears in general maintenances.

The Traffic Department successfully handled more goods than in any previous year. Despite old and inadequate equipment, the Mixing Department had kept pace with the seemingly insatiable demands of the glass-making tanks. This Department had well earned the new equipment which was now being installed.

During a year of acute shortage of certain essential materials, the Purchasing Department had ensured that the Works had been kept going at full strength, and at no time was there any hold-up for such materials as Soda Ash, Coal, Electrical Sheet, and other materials which were seemingly unobtainable.

Considerable developments had taken place in the Export Department whose responsibilities now cover the exports for all the Company's Divisions, and the setting up of agencies in various parts of the world. The Company was going all out to sell its products abroad, and already our exports were six times greater than they were in 1938. During the past fifteen months 12 representatives had made foreign visits covering 31 countries and travelled a distance equal to $6\frac{1}{2}$ times round the world.

With our London Office and branch factories at Glasgow, Malvern, and St. Helens, the Company was becoming increasingly respected in the business world, and we had a reputation for

technical ability, enterprise, sound human relations, and friendly contacts with our customers.

The big jobs facing us were to consolidate all our developments, to learn to produce still more efficiently and cheaply, and to go out and sell more progressively.

Reviewing the Work of the Engineering Division, Mr. H. L. Barman stated that during the past year the Division had been particularly active in the field of development as we could foresee a tendency in the future for orders to fall off and all our energies would be needed to reduce costs and sell the articles we made.

Turning to details, Mr. Barman reported that the Flamemaster Hand Torch had aroused considerable interest in this country and abroad. On the Austinlite side we had developed the C1 and B1 standby plants for the Post Office, and we had manufactured the Start-O-Matic Switchgear for a well-known firm of engine makers.

In spite of numerous teething troubles considerable promise had been shown in the development of a large and a small Sumo Pump. In regard to Lighthouse work, we had developed Lampchanges and had re-planned our Acetylene Flashes, and standardised the Incandescent business. The design staff was working full-time on new and up-to-date ideas for Lighthouse electrical equipment, Austinlite products, and Pumps, and especial praise was recorded for the work done by our Development Engineers and Drawing Office staff.

On the Sales side we had been increasing sales pressure. There had been a tendency during the past year to let orders flow in on their own accord, but the time had now come when we must get back to really hard selling. A representative had visited Manila,

China, Malaya, Australia, New Zealand and India, and in the course of this tour he had certainly put the name of Chance Brothers before the purchasers of Lighthouse equipment. As a result of splendid effort by the Sales Staff, never before had there been so much work going through the Lighthouse Works at one time.

Sumo Pumps had had a very successful year, but the number of orders received during the last three months had dropped considerably. This was partly due to new legislation concerning boring for water, and the consequent tendency to change over from the smaller to the bigger Pumps. Strong efforts were being made to sell Pumps in America, and we must re-double our efforts to ensure that every Pump sent out of the works was free from any fault. We were not satisfied with the Pumps we were now making—there were too many slip-ups, and the number of rejects far too high. With Austinlite as with the Lighthouse side, we had never so many plants going through the shops. We were supplying the Post Office with high quality work which they appreciated.

Summing up, the Engineering Division had had a very good year but we now had to fight for business, and this meant reducing costs by increasing efficiency.

Left to right: Mr. John Raymond, Managing Director; Sir Hugh Chance, Chairman; Mr. A. L. Barman, Director and General Manager of Engineering Division; and Dr. W. M. Hampton, Technical Director.





From all Departments

MOSTLY PERSONAL

BLOWN AND PRESSED

The Blown and Pressed Division is passing through a critical period. Automatically-made products have to face a competitive market and output cannot be sold unless costs come down. For the hand-made articles a ready market still exists, particularly abroad, but we cannot take advantage of it because we have not enough skilled glassmakers. We have sufficient furnaces and raw material and if these are not used to capacity it means that costs go up. If costs go up, prices must be increased, the customers will very soon buy elsewhere, and a ready market will vanish overnight. There is a difficult time ahead but all are determined to pull their weight and make a success of the Division.

Jack Busby, who has retired after fifty years' service.



A welcome is extended to an old friend, and a new one, in the Methods and Development Section; P. C. Goodman comes to us from the Engineering Division and we wish him every success in his new sphere. V. J. Bullock joined the Division on July 12th; he hails from London, and we wish him every happiness in his new position.

ENGINEERING

During the past few weeks Austinlite have received substantial orders for 16 automatic standby plants for South Africa for Civil Aviation Radio Stations. They have also received an order from the British Post Office for 23 plants to be supplied over the next three years. The total value of these two orders is approximately £100,000.

Kenneth Sutton-Jones returned to this country on the 28th July from his Far East and Australasian tour, looking quite fit and well, and having covered some 48,000 miles in a little over 18 weeks.

The immediate result of his tour is that we are likely to obtain an order for a complete lighthouse for Corregidor, in the Philippines, and an order for two lighthouse installations, one for British North Borneo, the other for Sarawak, and many other prospects are in view. Later on this year it is anticipated that he will be going to Nigeria, Gold Coast, Liberia, and Belgian Congo, in pursuit of further business for marine lighting equipment.

TRANSPORT

Bill Lawrence, who has had 26 years' service with the Company, has been forced to retire through poor health, and the department wishes him a well-earned rest.

Walter Jones is welcomed back after an absence of many months due to illness.

At the end of July, Jack Busby retired from the Company after 50 years' service in the Lighthouse Department. Jack joined Chance Brothers in 1898 at the age of 21, and went through all the phases of the Lighthouse shops. During the last 40 years or so he was mainly concerned with the building of Clocks and Optics. Jack has the distinction of being associated with the biggest Lighthouse Optic ever built by Chance Brothers — this was supplied in 1908 to the order of the Karachi Port Trust, and was installed at Manora Point. The apparatus was of the hyper-radial type, 1,330 mm. focus.

As far as our records tell us, in the whole of his 50 years service with the Company, Jack Busby was never once late reporting for work.

Fred Perry retired at the end of August after 48 years' service. Fred was the chargehand in the Pattern Shop and was very much of a "back-room" worker. His splendid collection of tools will now be used by one of our apprentices.

Congratulations are offered to Harry Payne of the Sumo Repair Department and Joan Lusty of the Sumo Winding Department on their marriage on 24th July, and we print a delightful photograph of the cutting of the cake ceremony.

Congratulations also to Godfrey Beresford of the Jig and Tool Drawing Office on his marriage to Joan Martin of the Salaries Office.

Congratulations are also offered to Allan Lord of the Welding Shop and his wife on the birth of a daughter, and to Norman Fieldhouse of the Drawing Office and his wife on the birth of a son. Norman's wife will be remembered as Lilian Salmon, who was at one time employed in the Electrical Shop.



The wedding of Harry Payne and Joan Lusty.

FLAT GLASS DIVISION

In the Rolled Plate Departments record outputs have been obtained in certain weeks during the last two months from some of the furnaces, but unfortunately in other weeks the output has been seriously affected owing to furnaces having to be shut down temporarily to enable repairs to be carried out.

To enable export sales to be increased still further, Figured Glasses are now being manufactured in No. 4 Tank. The demand for all types of Rolled Glass remains fairly steady but there is a slight tendency for orders to fall off in the Home market.

In the Coloured Department experiments with the mechanical manufacture of Flashed Glasses by the drawn process have continued with little or no interruption and although there are still many difficulties to be overcome progress has been made and at times saleable glass has been produced. The restriction on output of Flashed Glass is, we fear, causing our customers much inconvenience but it is hoped that in the next issue of this magazine it will be

possible to record a definite step forward in the establishment of this new and very difficult process.

This summer George A. Crathorn retired after 25 years' service with the firm. He joined us when the firm acquired the business of Jas. Stevens & Son, and in the early days did a great deal to establish the Pressed Department as he had had considerable experience in this section of the Trade. Later on, he transferred to the Sales staff of the Flat Glass Division, where he soon made a place for himself amongst the customers upon whom he called, and many have expressed their regret at his departure.

We were sorry to lose a valued and cheerful colleague, and he left with the good wishes of all for a long and well-earned retirement.

The Company congratulates Andy Nicoll and Bob Evans on their success in obtaining a Pass in the examination for the Certificate Course of the Institute of Industrial Administration which was held at the Chance Technical College.

The Seven Storey congratulates Mr. and Mrs. S. Watson on their 21st wedding anniversary. Sid and Lil are yet another couple who met while working in the Seven Storey and are still both at work.

Chargehand May Williams was married on September 4th to Arthur Roberts and Joan Price was married on 24th July to Douglas Baker.

LABORATORY

Certain members of the Laboratory staff have now moved into the new extension which will be concerned with Optical Glass research sponsored by the Admiralty.

Congratulations are offered to I. Molyneux on having obtained his B.Sc. degree.

A welcome is extended to A. Reid, R.A. Ramsbottom, D. Wattis and C. Conway who have recently joined the Laboratory staff.

PERSONNEL AND WELFARE

During the past month or two the Welfare Department has been doing a great deal of "moving in." The

Medical Staff has now migrated to the splendid new Surgery and the new Hostel for transferred workers has received its first residents.

Vera Nickless has now returned after two years' absence, which was mainly spent in the W.R.N.S., and many old friends are happy to see her back again.

The Department was sorry to lose Irene Thomas at the end of July when she left to take up a situation in Birmingham. Her knowledge of languages was very valuable in the Department's dealings with our Polish workers.

MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

The Maintenance and Construction Department have had cause to be thankful for a cool Summer as during recent times they have had a hot time on many of the jobs which they have had to tackle. For example, the chequers on No. 3 furnace had to be replaced under very hot working conditions.

A really hectic time was involved in the reconstruction of the whole of the front of No. 9 Furnace, and the maintenance people had to work day and night removing the Dog House and installing the batch feeders.

Congratulations to Bill Holloway of the Building Department on the occasion of his Golden Wedding.

David Hadley has retired from the Building Department after nearly 20 years' service with the firm. He remained at work until his 75th birthday.

It was with profound regret that the Building Department learned of the death of Bill Timmins who was undoubtedly one of the finest furnace bricklayers in the department.

OFFICES

A sincere welcome is extended to K. G. Nicklin who recently joined the Company as Accountant.

Congratulations are offered to Norman Smith of the Cost Office and his wife on the birth of a son, John Norman.

Bill Skilbeck is at present in Turkey where he is examining the market possibilities for domestic glassware, and we hope that he comes back with a very full order book.

News

FROM OUR BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS

London Office

The tempo of business in London is increasing with the end of the holiday season now in sight. We are having many visits from overseas visitors and agents. Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Baker of Baker Furniture Inc., Holland, Michigan, came to see us. Mr. Baker's firm reproduces 18th Century English and French furniture. He uses our new Crown glass in some of his cabinets. It so happened that his arrival here coincided with a new window display featuring Old English Crown Glass. Mr. Baker was delighted and said that, of course, we had arranged this display in his honour.

We have now completed preparations for the British Exhibition to be held in Copenhagen next month. London Office is being represented there by J. C. Perkins.

The marriage of J. W. Chance to Miss Wendy Chance took place at St. Nicholas Church, Radford Semele, near Leamington, on Saturday, August 28th. Miss Wendy Chance is the second daughter of Mr. Kenneth Chance, Chairman of British Industrial Plastics Limited.

Glasgow

The report from the Glasgow Works is this time confined to recreational and sporting activities.

Glasgow Works are very proud of their Recreation Club. They are determined to re-form the football team, and hope that it will be possible this season to arrange a game versus Spon Lane.

During the past summer the Glasgow Club had a very successful bowling tournament and 300 employees and their relations had an outing to Ayr which proved a great success.

The choir has had a number of rehearsals, and the conductor is looking forward to a busy season of concerts.

St. Helens

Our Cricket Team is in the news again, but in spite of the fact that we still haven't won a match we don't lack enthusiasm. In the last match F. Warburton was knocked out by a ball, a fast return from an over-enthusiastic fielder!

We said good-bye to Ron Barber (Time Study) at the end of June when he left to take up an appointment with Dunlop.

There is quite a number of marriages to report this time:—

26th June. Irene Burke (Sorter) to Dennis Pinnington.

17th July. Harold Nicklin (Inspection Department, late Blown and Pressed Division, Spon Lane) to Marjorie Fry.

24th July. Ellen Smith (Cutting) to Harold Sumner.

28th July. Freda Davies (Dark Room) to Jim Deakin. Freda worked for Umbroc Ltd. for 4 years during the war and came back again in 1946. We wish she could remain with us.

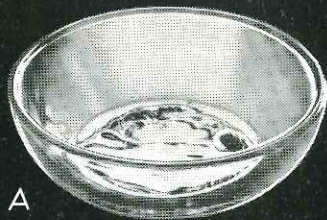
Malvern

The Malvern Works offer congratulations to Audrey Parsons who came of age on September 3rd and Hazel Ball on September 13th.

The Special Glass Branch Works had a most enjoyable outing to Barry on September 12th.

The wedding of J. W. Chance and Wendy Chance.

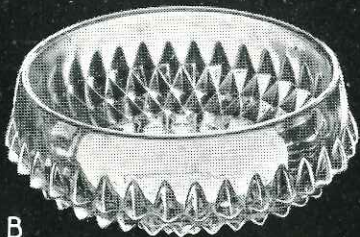




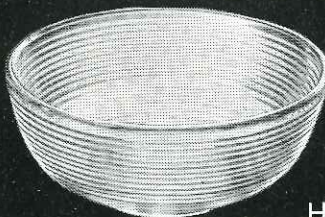
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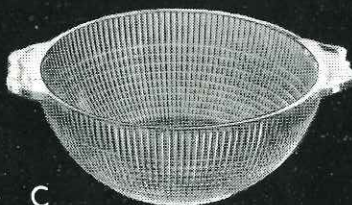
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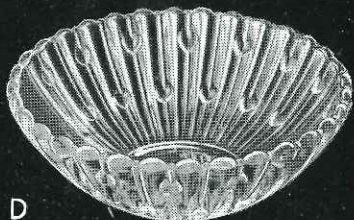
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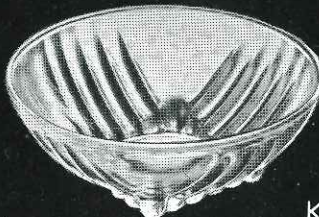
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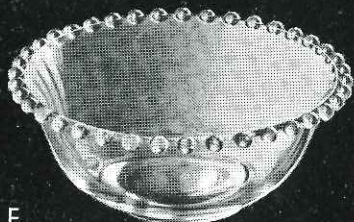
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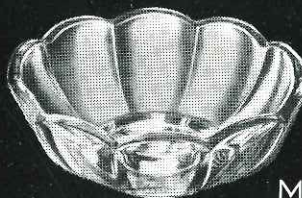
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£10 COMPETITION



BY SELECTING YOUR PREFERENCE
IN PATTERN DESIGNS FOR NEW
PRODUCTS YOU WILL HELP THE
COMPANY TO DECIDE WHAT TO
MAKE AND YOU HAVE A CHANCE
TO WIN A PRIZE.

FIRST PRIZE £5
SECOND PRIZE £3
THIRD PRIZE £2



On the opposite page are photographs of 12 different fruit dishes. Study them well and make up your mind which patterns you like best, then arrange them in order of merit, entering up the first six in ink on the entry form enclosed with this issue of "Chance Comments," using the letters printed beneath each photograph to indicate the patterns you have chosen.

So that everyone may enter, this page of "Chance Comments" is also being reprinted as a leaflet with the entry form on the back. These leaflets are obtainable from the Gatehouses.

Every entry will be examined carefully, and the winning entry will be the one which gives the six most popular patterns in the order of preference for which most votes have been cast. If there should be ties, prizes will be shared. No employee can submit more than one entry form. The closing date is October 18th.

The 12 dishes will be on display in the cabinet opposite the Optical Department between September 27th and October 9th.

The W.C.C. reports

AT the last meeting of the Works Consultative Committee the members considered the problem of recruiting juveniles for the glassmaking industry, and one suggestion which was made and is to be followed up is that a club be formed for senior school boys to learn glassmaking in the Works.

The Committee received reports from its various sub-committees, and these principally concerned such domestic affairs as ventilation, cloakroom facilities, and matters concerning production.

After detailed business the Committee enjoyed a talk given by Dr. Hampton about his recent trip to America. Dr. Hampton stated that he had been to America four times; in 1928 when their standard of living was incredibly high and when they believed that they had found the secret of perpetual wealth; in 1935 after they had suffered the catastrophic slump of 1929 when conditions were much worse than we had ever experienced; and again in 1940 at which time the contrast with conditions in Britain was even more noticeable than on previous visits — we were suffering bombing and the trials of war while America was thriving mainly as a result of our orders for munitions, etc.

At present they were still very busy and very wealthy, and their standard of living extremely high; they were however, a little self-conscious about it as they could not quite understand why they had so much and the rest of the world comparatively little.

It was, he said, extremely difficult to give a clear impression of America. Its size was enormous and the various States were often vastly different from one another. (He mentioned that the U.S.A. was roughly thirty times larger than England while the population was only three times greater than ours). He could not do more, therefore, than express his own opinions about the small area which he had covered and which he indicated on a map.

Dr. Hampton described some of the towns he visited. Pittsburgh, he said

was sometimes called the Birmingham of America, but he took exception to this as Pittsburgh was much dirtier and its slums unbelievably squalid compared with anything he had seen in Birmingham. Chicago was an amazingly large city, its length along the waterfront being 70 miles.

Dr. Hampton said that the enormous quantity of food available was a striking feature of American life and one of which they were proud. Food was, however, extremely dear by our standards and in proportion to their wage rates, but many other commodities, such as clothes, motor cars and radios, were cheaper. Tobacco of brands which were sold in England for 3s. 10d. an ounce could be purchased for 10d. an ounce in America; petrol was about half the price we paid, clothes were probably between one-third and one-half of the prices charged here, while a large new car could be purchased for about £300. Working conditions in the factories were good but he did not see a better layout than ours in any of the pressed glass manufacturing firms he visited and he saw no reason why we should not be able to compete with them.

There were many reasons why America was so much wealthier than Britain. Firstly, she had not suffered in the way that European countries did during the war years and was able to develop while we were being prevented from doing so. America did not have to import food whereas it was essential that we should do so and equally essential that we should pay for these imports by exporting our products. At the moment we were importing more than we were sending abroad, but the position in America was the reverse. A further point was that in spite of higher wages the cost of articles in U.S.A. was lower than in Great Britain because the production per man hour in America was substantially higher than in this country. It was obvious that we could only buy in the shops the goods which we as individuals made and the answer to Britain's problem must therefore be more and more production.

Dr. Hampton said that at present there was some uneasiness about the future in America because costs were increasing so much more rapidly than production. This compared with conditions in Britain and in endeavouring to solve our own problem we could gain much from studying American life and the means by which the better parts of it were achieved.

He stressed that living conditions in the States, except in the case of a small minority of the population, were not as luxurious as we tended to think—for instance 60% of their houses had no water laid on, while 80% were built of wood; also that America had many serious problems, such as that of the negro population, facing her. He felt, however, that there were many things we could learn from America, and he particularly admired the pioneering spirit of her people, their refusal ever to admit themselves beaten and their willingness to try out new things.

SPOTLIGHT On

JACK CORBETT



A wit once described a Foreman as a man who knows less about your job than you do, and gets paid more for telling you how to do it than you could possibly make out of it even if you did it right instead of the way he told you to! In actual fact, a Foreman's job in these days is not enviable. It calls for more than average physical and nervous energy, great ability to take knocks, the patience of Job, and an adaptability of technical knowledge: Jack Corbett has all of these attributes.

In 1916 Jack Corbett joined the Company as a Toolroom Apprentice. At that time we were making 2,000 18-pounder shell cases each week in a Shell Shop which is now the Pressed Process Department.

At the end of the war he was transferred to the Lighthouse Machine Shop as a Lathe Operator, and later became Toolsetter on the Capstans. In 1931 he was made Chargehand of the whole of the Machine Shop under Herbert Stevens, who is still remembered by many at the works.

When Herbert Stevens was transferred to the Glass Works Pressed Mould Department in May 1934, Jack Corbett was appointed Foreman of the Shop.

He remembers that in the period approximately 1922–1929 the Lighthouse Works employed only six Machine Tool Operators whereas now there are 80.

In January, 1948, Jack Corbett was asked to take over the foremanship of the Fitting Shop at the same time retaining his foremanship of the Machine Shop. He is now doing a job which some years ago was split up amongst three foremen.

There is no doubt that Jack is highly respected by everybody in the Lighthouse Works, and he modestly attributes his success to Tom Slim, who, when foreman of the Fitting Shop, looked after Jack during his early years with the Company. He sincerely acknowledges that he has the "best lot of chaps in the world" working with and for him, and that without their co-operation he could not have carried on.

Jack is married and has a son, Peter, aged 12. Peter hasn't decided what he wants to be in the world but he has made it quite clear to his dad that whatever he does he will not wear overalls! The hobbies of Jack Corbett and his wife include dancing, and both are to be seen at most of the Recreation Club Dances. Jack is a keen supporter of Aston Villa, and not many years ago he himself could play a decent game of football and was a member of the Works XI.

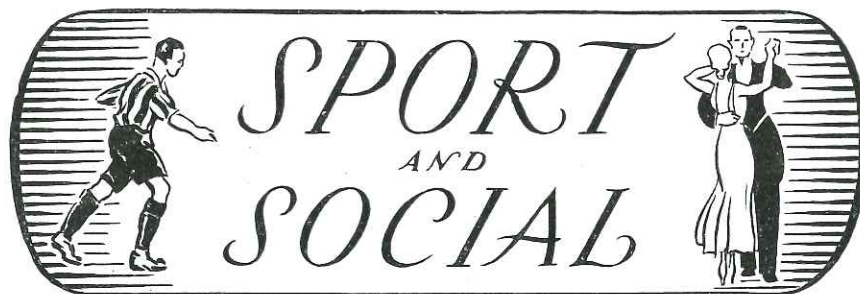
Chance

SNAPSHOTS

THIS month's picture page is devoted to our young people during their leisure hours which most of them spend under the auspices of Malt House.

- 1.—On holiday at Windmill House—*Left to Right.*
(*Standing*) Betty Pearson, Joyce Shepherd, Audrey Wilcox, Hilda Hughes, Irene Shipton, Joan Beer.
(*On swing*) Ruth Trustlove, Beatrice Lunn, Pat Long.
- 2.—Also on holiday at Windmill House—*Left to Right :*
Derek Butler, Ron Penfold, Ivor Edwards, Jim Gough, Sidney Ingram (*kneeling*).
- 3.—The Malt House First XI.—*Left to Right :*
(*Standing*) Brian Kingston, Harry Isherwood, Ivor Richards, Alf Stockin, Don Whitehouse.
(*Sitting*) John Robinson, Don Jennings, Keith Williams, Paul Edgington.
(*Squatting*) David Holland, Jack Lloyd.
- 4.—A "needle" game in a Draughts tournament between Brian Pearson and Joyce Shepherd. The interested spectators are Geoffrey Traves, Margaret Parkes, Doreen Cooke, Ivor Edwards, Ray Courtneil, George Jenkins, Jeanette Silvester, A. L. Goodhand, Joan Davies, David Holland and Mary Colclough. Brenda Homer and Ray Green are more interested in a book.





RECREATION CLUB REPORTS

SINCE our last report, Summer activities have been proceeding apace although by the time these remarks appear in print, bats, racquets and woods will have been put away, and Soccer will again be in evidence on our Recreation Grounds. Individual reviews of Cricket, Tennis, Bowls and Gardening will be made after the end of the Summer Season, and will appear in the November issue of *Chance Comments*. Interim information however, can be found under the sectional headings which follow.

As reported in the July edition, the Billiards Room and its adjoining premises have, through the generosity of the Company, been redecorated with a resultant improvement in conditions generally. Your Committee is well aware of the necessity for similar treatment to the Pavilion, estimates for the repainting of which are being obtained.

The Second Annual Outing to New Brighton took place as arranged on Saturday, July 3rd, and although the party was a small one, a most enjoyable day was spent by those who travelled. The Officers of the Club were in attendance as also were Vice-Presidents Dr. W. M. Hampton and Mr. H. L. Barman. Your President, Sir Hugh Chance, and Vice-Presidents, Mr. Walter Chance and Mr. John Raymond, were unfortunately absent through calls of business. The weather was really nice, King Sol making one of those appearances which have been altogether too rare during the present Summer.

Jack Evans baits his hook.



You have all, we hope, taken careful note of Friday, 29th October, which is the date on which the second Annual Gala Ball will be held in West Bromwich Baths. Forgive us for continually reminding you of this event, but your Committee does so wish to make it as successful as the one which was held last year. Our lady members are reminded that the Glass Queen for 1949 will be selected and crowned at the ball.

W. E. SKILBECK (*Hon. Secretary*).

Angling

As we go to press before the contest is held on the 12th September at Holte, (near Holtfleet) we are unable to report on the result. Our roving photographer at the Arley contest in July caught our Anglers in action more easily than they were able to catch fish.

Bowling

As expected, the Bowling Section were league champions and were quite successful in other events in which they competed. The season will be reviewed in the November issue.

Members of the Music Section visited the Elgar birth-place at Broadheath, Worcester, in July, when they were received by Mrs. Elgar Blake, daughter of the famous composer. H. J. Hipkins acted as guide to the party. The photograph shows Vera Hickling, H. J. Hipkins, C. Harper, Mrs. Elgar Blake, G. Parr, Muriel Crozier and J. Shilton.



Badminton

The Badminton Season will be in full swing again commencing in September, and new members are invited to come and take part in this interesting and energetic sport.

Cricket

The First Eleven continue to have an even season, winning and losing in turn, while the Second Eleven, after winning five matches on the trot, unaccountably lost at Metropolitan. They still have a chance of being runners-up however. The matches with Rolls Royce ended, as was expected, in the Derby team's favour, as also did the match with G.E.C. at Coventry, although by the narrow margin of two runs after a very exciting match. In the previous match G.E.C. had beaten us by four runs. The players and supporters who went on the trips to Derby and Coventry had a most enjoyable time, and it is hoped to repeat the fixtures next season. Our own inter-departmental competition for the Foster Cup attracted a record entry of 17 teams, of which the Globe and Light-house Offices reached the final. The deciding match was played on Wednesday, 18th August, and in one of the closest finishes ever seen the Globe were successful in semi-darkness by two runs.

Dancing

There has been little dancing in the Pavilion during the Summer months, although one or two very successful dances have been held by the Cricket Section. It is hoped to reintroduce dancing as a regular Saturday night feature during the Winter.

Football

Two teams have been entered in the Birmingham and District Works Amateur Football Association, one in Division 2 and the other in Division 9. All players are urged to attend for training on the official training nights. The Interdepartmental Competition for the Hugh Chance Cup will again be organised.

Gardening

The weather this season has not been too kind to Gardeners, although the glorious sunshine during the last week in July was very helpful.

Golf

The Golf Section continues to be very active, and its competitions are well supported by members.

Indoor

At the time of going to press, it is not known how many teams will compete in Billiards and Snooker Leagues and competitions, but it is hoped that Chance's Recreation Club will be as fully and efficiently represented as ever. The Darts Team which competed in the Summer league organised by the West Midland Association of Works Recreation Clubs had the unenviable (and unusual) distinction of finishing bottom in the table.

Music

The Music Section continues to flourish and many interesting items are on the agenda for the Winter season.

Table Tennis

In response to a request, particularly from the younger members of the Recreation Club, it is hoped to revive the Table Tennis Section, and if possible enter a team for competition in a local league. Will playing members who are interested please get in touch with T. Newey of the Lighthouse Electrical Department.

Tennis

A final report of the activities of this Section will be given in the November edition of *Chance Comments*, but in the meantime I have to report continued successes by our teams in local competitions.

Variety

This Section is still giving repeats of its production "Non Stop Variety" while preparations for the Pantomime are proceeding rapidly. As Members will know, the Pantomime will be "Babes in the Wood", and it is proposed to present performances in the Cinema Room on five consecutive nights commencing Monday, December 6th.



SPORTS PERSONALITIES

Vic. Cooksey—Angling Secretary. Drawn by Walt Johnson.

NOTICE TO MARINERS



IT is probable that in about 6 months' time a notice will be issued to all shipping which will be couched in the following terms.

NOTICE TO MARINERS

As from Jan. 1st, 1949, the land-fall light at Pulau Angsa longitude 101° 13' E latitude 3° 11' N will be exhibited until further notice.

White flashing one flash of 0.17 seconds duration every 10 seconds.

Visibility in clear weather 20 miles.

Signed

This will be the final result of an enquiry received by Chance Brothers in 1946 from the Crown Agents for the Colonies; thus we have the beginning and the finish of a typical lighthouse project. Let us now follow this job through all its stages.

Stage (1) Enquiry.

This was issued to Chances by the Crown Agents who are essentially purchasing agents and not therefore fully qualified to know precisely what is wanted. Chance's technical staff (optical and electrical) and sales get into a "huddle" and decide the best type of apparatus to put forward.

by F. W. G. Beaumont

It is decided that this will consist of a 5th order single flashing revolving optic using a 1,000 watt lamp as the illuminant, with an automatic lamp exchanger to bring a second lamp into focus if the first lamp fails in operation.

This optic will, we decide, be mounted on a ball-bearing pedestal with duplicate motor drive to rotate the optic at the desired speed, the point of the duplicate motors being to provide a second driving medium if the first one fails in operation.

Our enquiry tells us that a lantern already exists in which the optic and pedestal will be mounted, so we have no need to concern ourselves on that score.

We also know that a supply of electricity does not exist at the site, so we must consider the best means of providing that service. Now that is not quite so easy as it sounds—what are the salient points to consider—we will jot them down on paper and get a much better picture that way, so here we go:—

- (1) The site is in the Malacca Straits—that means it will be "ruddy" hot.
- (2) It will be humid, steaming. There will be periods when everything will just drip with moisture or condensation.

- (3) The lightkeepers will be native—that means operation of the equipment must be as simple as possible.
- (4) The site is such that it might take a few days to get a skilled mechanic to the site in case of a breakdown—better legislate for that.
- (5) Running cost must be reasonable.

Now let us see what we can juggle up—we will use diesel engines that will give us reliability, easy starting and low running cost. The engines will be water cooled and we will need tropical radiators and fans to see that they don't overheat. We will provide three engine generator sets, any one of which will carry a full load—that should give us an ample margin of safety even under extreme emergency conditions. That seems to cover points 1, 4, and 5 pretty well, now what about 2 and 3. Now since humidity constitutes probably the greatest danger where electrical equipment is concerned, there is only one solution—all electrical machine

A view showing the complete equipment for Pulau Angsa Lighthouse, comprising triplicate generator sets, control switchgear cubicle and electrically-driven 5th order revolving optic.

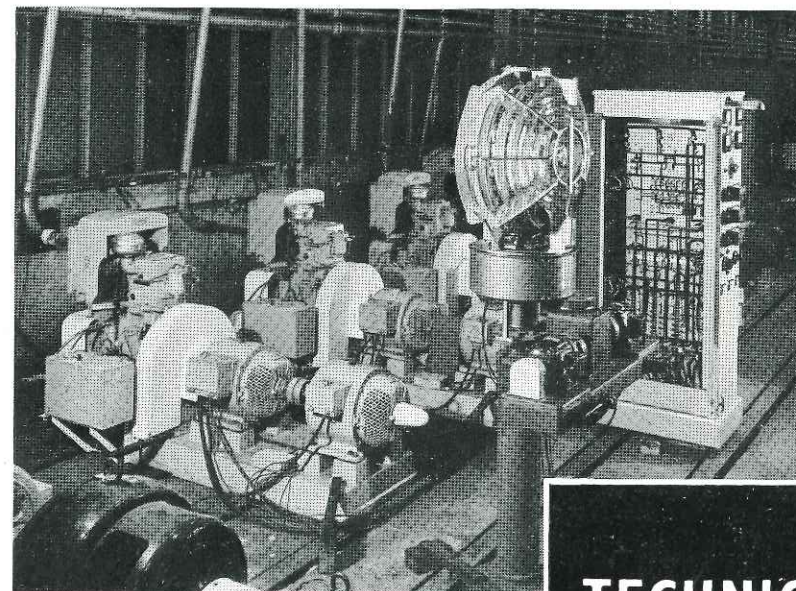
switch gear etc. must be specially tropically finished to resist damage due to damp.

This leaves us point 3. Well we decide we cannot do better than provide electric push button starting for each of the three generating sets with indicator lamps to tell the keeper just what is happening. We will fit an oil pressure relay to each engine so that even if the keeper forgets to fill up with lubricating oil the worst that can happen is that the engine will stop—ring a bell—and show on a flag indicator why the engine has stopped. If he is wearing his best suit when this happens and he doesn't want to get mucked up with oil filling up, all he needs to do is push another button and bring another generating set into operation.

The keeper may of course forget to top up the cooling radiator, so we will put a thermostat in the cooling system so that if an engine overheats due to lack of cooling water it will stop before it has a chance to seize, and the flag indicator will tell him to fill up with water.

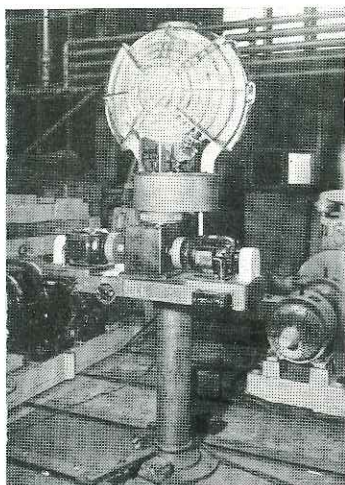
We have now reached

Stage (2) where the detailed specification can be typed, sales drawings and letter prepared, together with the esti-



**TECHNICAL
FEATURE**

Notice to Mariner's (Continued) . . .



5th order electrically-operated revolving optic complete with automatic lamp exchanger. Note: Duplicate motor drive for the optic turntable.

mate—the production people being consulted about delivery.

We know that the Crown Agents have to send our detailed offer out to the Colony so there is no point in following up for at least two months—if by that time we have no further news sales start a little “prodding” and after one or two queries are settled the order is placed.

Stage (3) *Manufacture, Packing and Despatch.*

We must first enter the order on our books and following a final check by the technical people long term delivery material will be ordered, because although we have 18 months in which to manufacture and despatch there is a lot to do to meet this.

This is a tailor-made job not just off the hook—that means lots of design work and many hours of drawing office work before work can really start in the shops.

There is the optic, pedestal and driving mechanism to design and draw, details of the control circuits to work out, switchgear cubicle and engine generator sets to draw, production

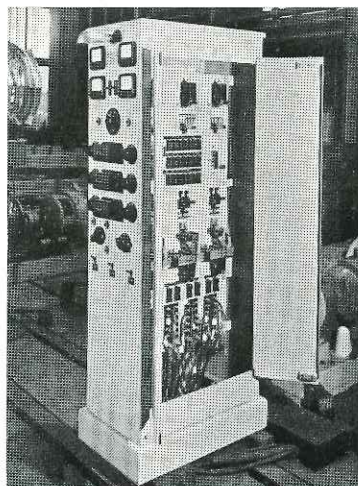
schedules to prepare and in due course we find the Grinding Room preparing the glass for the optic, the fitting shop making the optic frame, the machine shop dealing with various components, the pedestal, the bedplates for the generating sets, etc. (the welding shop making the cubicle to house the switchgear, the engine flywheel and coupling guards) the electrical shop busy on the switchgear cubicle and generating set assembly, lamp exchanger until finally the whole job is concentrated on the electrical test bed for combined operational tests.

Once these tests are satisfactory to meet our requirements the complete job is inspected by the Crown Agents Inspecting Authority.

With the acceptance tests satisfactorily completed the problem of packing is to be dealt with, again special care being necessary with the electrical switchgear—cocoon packing being used for this purpose.

Last and by no means least is the task of preparing installation, operating and maintenance instructions. Thus another Chance Marine light goes into service for upwards of half a century.

Control switchgear cubicle. Note: Simplicity of design and compact construction which enables the three generating sets to be controlled through the one switchgear cubicle.



Specially Written for “Chance Comments”—Copyright

GOOD AND BAD STARTS IN FOOTBALL

by J. T. BOLTON

The well-known Sports Writer, whose articles appear every week in the “Observer.”



THE football season lasts for eight months, which means that it is a Marathon rather than a sprint affair. The race doesn't necessarily go to the good starters. Rather does it go to the stayers. That is a fact of which a reminder is just as necessary to the players of any Birmingham works team, as it is to those connected with say, Aston Villa or Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Some of the Midland clubs in the big Leagues have done quite well in these first few weeks of the new season: well enough to raise hopes of eventual honours. Those hopes should not be allowed to soar sky-high. The higher they go, the greater the shock of the fall. Some of the Midland clubs have not done so well, but that isn't a reason for undue depression, for panic, or for talk of a drop to a lower section at the end of the season.

Quite frequently the theory is advanced: Don't make changes in a winning team. There is a reverse argument which is at least as strong: that the time to make changes in a team is when that team is winning. A side which is proving successful is much more likely to be able to 'carry' along with them to success a young player than a side which is doing badly, and in which the young player may be too anxious to do either himself or the side full justice. One thing is certain: that so far as a losing side is concerned, 'panic' changes from week to week—four of five new players in the side—is the short cut from bad to worse.

On the other hand, if a careful analysis of a football side leads those responsible for the welfare of that side to the conclusion that it isn't good enough, there isn't much point in leaving the team-strengthening to a later period. If the decision is that the side is not good enough, now, rather than later, is the time to go out for the men most likely to pull the side round. No good purpose is served by waiting for some period later in the season, and then buying new players in a hurry.

Years ago, Aston Villa provided an example of the folly of waiting too long. The club was in danger of falling into the Second Division for the first time in its history. During the concluding weeks of the season a lot of money was spent on new players. The cash didn't buy success.

In due course, Aston Villa went into the Second Division. New players take time to settle down; to become accustomed to the ways and the needs of the other players. A football team can't be built in a few weeks.

Wolverhampton Wanderers have the makings of a good young side. It is suggested, however, that the club stands in need of one or two more experienced players; fellows who will play their own game even during the stress and the strain of the concluding weeks of the season. Now is the time to get the required players who will hold the team together.

In due course will come the question, for the clubs doing well, whether to go for the double event; the Cup and the League as well.

The Cup and the League championship have not been won by the same club in the same season this century. Aston Villa was the last club to do it. Some time in the future the double may be accomplished again. But the strain is a big one.

The point is that if, in a few weeks' time, the Midland clubs haven't a good chance of winning a championship, there is still the Cup as a second string. And the story of football tells us quite plainly that a side without League ambitions has the best chance of winning the Cup.

For the Cup, however, as for the League, the team-building should not be left too late. Mid-September is a good time to take a careful look at the playing resources of a side.



ALL employees, both staff and workpeople, may participate in the Suggestion Scheme.

All suggestions should be submitted in writing. Special forms are available at each Gatehouse, but these forms need not necessarily be used; a suggester can put his ideas on any piece of paper and drop this into the Suggestion Box.

Any employee who has difficulty in expressing his ideas in writing should not hesitate to seek the assistance of his Departmental Manager or consult H. S. Martin, the Secretary of the Suggestion Scheme. Where the suggestion involves the drawing of a plan, design, or making a model, technical assistance will be given on request.

The Suggestion Scheme Committee meets regularly, and all suggestions received are placed before the Committee, together with reports from the Departmental Managers and Technical Departments concerned.

Immediately after the meeting the suggester is advised of the Committee's decision. In the event of the suggestion being deferred or rejected the suggester is informed of the reasons for such action. In the case of an adopted suggestion, arrangements are made for the suggester to receive the award from a Director.

At the last meeting of the Suggestion Scheme Committee 8 suggestions were accepted and prizes awarded. A decision in regard to 7 suggestions was deferred for further consideration.

A. RATCLIFFE of the St. Helens Branch Factory was top winner, taking £5 for his suggestion for a tool for removing the plungers on the Optical remoulding process.

Another St. Helens man, J. L. HOUGHTON, won £2 10s. for suggesting the erection of a simple roller conveyor at the end of the lehr on to which pans would be pushed by the movement of the lehr belt. This would prevent breakage of mouldings.

£4 was awarded to A. CROWLEY, a Fitter at No. 8 Tank, Blown and Pressed, for his maintenance saving ideas in connection with the sliding arrangements on the burning-off machine.

Improvements in the method of storing samples at No. 8 Inspection resulted in H. FRANKLIN of the Blown and Pressed Inspection Department receiving the award of £2.

M. E. CROWLEY of the Mixing Department successfully submitted two suggestions. He received £1 for recommending certain alterations to the roadway at No. 12 House, to facilitate the handling of internal vehicles. He also received 5s. for a safety idea in connection with the hoist at the General Mixing Department.

J. PROCTOR of the Lighthouse Drawing Office suggested improvements to the guillotine in the Drawing Office Printing Room and was paid 5s.

An award of 10s. was made to R. J. GARDNER of the Blown and Pressed Division. The suggester noted that certain nuts and bolts on the bracket of the elevator of the Tube Drawing Machine had a tendency to work loose, and he recommended an improvement in the method of securing the bracket.

Harry Standley explains to works manager J. Brooks his recent suggestion in regard to a replaceable liner for Glass Making Moulds.



VERY IMPORTANT PERSONS

... some charming studies of Employees' Children



- 1 Mariene, daughter of Frank Walton (Gates).
- 2 Roderick, son of Len Barton (Time Study).
- 3 Janet, daughter of Stan Hinde (Silvering).
- 4 Ann, daughter of Tom Hodgson (St. Helens).
- 5 Alan and Stewart, sons of Fred Harris (Pressed Sales).
- 6 Janet, daughter of Ernie Moore (Globe Sales).

Tottings

OF SHORTER ITEMS
AND EMPLOYEES'
CONTRIBUTIONS

THE OLD HALL

by Sir Hugh Chance

AS far as can be ascertained the Hall was built between 1810 and 1824. It was in 1814 that certain property between the High Level Canal and Spon Lane was purchased for the purpose of erecting a Glass Works, though an old plan (dated 1810) which hangs in the Conference Room shows that the site, originally farm land, was once viewed as a possible housing estate. The Hall—or House as it used to be called—was approached from Spon Lane by a path which joined a road which ran approximately along the line of the present Thoroughfare. On the West side, there was a carriage road which came out into the Oldbury Road by the Britannia Inn and which passed the row of Company cottages known as "Scotch Row" which were demolished in 1824.

When the Hall was built there was no Low Level Canal, and when this was constructed between the years 1836 and 1838, a bridge was erected to carry the carriage road across the canal, and this bridge has always been known as the Hartley Bridge. It was called after John Hartley who was brought from Nailsea by Robert Lucas Chance to manage the glass manufacturing in 1828. As part of his remuneration he was given the use of the Hall as a residence and he lived there until his death in 1833. Whether his sons James and John, who were then taken into partnership until they left for Sunderland in 1836, occupied the Hall is not recorded; but the next tenant was William Withers, the Sheet Glass Superintendent. He was allotted half the Hall, and the other half was reserved for the partners. On the arrival of James Timmins Chance in 1838, a library, sitting room and bedroom were furnished for his occupation and a servant provided. He used the accommodation frequently when passing nights at the Works watching the furnaces.

In October 1846 the projected Birmingham-Wolverhampton-Stour Valley Railway was planned to pass through the Works, and the first engine ran on February 5th, 1849. The coming of the railway caused some alteration to the eastern approach to the Hall, as it was necessary to make a road under the Railway to connect the North and the South side of the Works.

In 1848 the part of the Hall appropriated to the partners was let to Henry Badger, Manager of the Ornamental Department; and in 1854, Edward Forster, the Principal Manager, was given for his occupation the part of the house previously lived in by Henry Withers and later by Davis, the Works Surgeon.

Some fifty years ago two of the bedrooms were used as an office and laboratory by Arthur H. Lynn, who was engaged to make improvements in the Optical Department, and in the years prior to 1914 the ground floor of the Hall provided a kitchen and Dining Room for Managers, an office for the Principal Manager Henry Talbot, and his successor James Field, and offices for Mixing and Internal Transport. The first floor was then unoccupied and un-used, but in 1919 certain alterations were made to the Hall to enable the Works Engineering Department to be provided with a drawing office and other offices.

For a number of years past the Hall has been generally known as "The Old Hall", but as will be seen from the above brief account of its history, it is in point of fact only some 130 years old. The repairs which are now in hand, involving the replacing of the roof and alterations to the office accommodation, should enable it to continue its useful life for another century.

WAR MEMORIAL

On Remembrance Day in November a War Memorial Tablet on the Canteen Wall will be unveiled in memory of our employees who laid down their lives in the last war.

"Chance Comments" has received a communication from the Town Clerk of Birmingham in which an appeal is made for particulars of Birmingham men and women who lost their lives by enemy action of any kind in the recent war, as the City is preparing a "Book of Remembrance." It would be most unfortunate if any names were omitted and readers are invited to report to the Town Clerk any casualties known to them.

SUPERANNUATION AND PENSION FUNDS

MANY of our readers will be contributors either to the Staff Superannuation Fund or to the Workpeople's Pension Fund. For each of these Funds there are eight Trustees—four appointed by the Company and four by the members. The Company's Trustees of both Funds are:—

Sir Hugh Chance—Chairman; Dr. W. M. Hampton; C. J. S. Newman; J. A. Aitchison.

The Subscribers' Trustees of the Superannuation Fund are:—

J. Lord—Lighthouse Offices; W. N. Wheat—Optical Department; F. J. White—Buying Office; Irene Uffen—Salaries Office.

The Workmen's Trustees of the Pension Fund are:—

W. Berry—Blown and Pressed; F. J. Styles—Lighthouse Machine Shop; R. E. Ingram—Old Gatehouse; J. Russell—Glasgow Works.

L. H. Cleaver is the Secretary of both Funds and he, or any of the Trustees, or T. West in the Pensions Office are always ready to answer any queries you want to raise.

In the Superannuation Fund a scheme has been introduced whereby the Company is willing to increase its contribution up to 5% in respect of any member who pays a similar amount. This, of course, is a very generous incentive to members of the Superannuation Fund to increase their contributions from 2½%, and the opportunity to obtain higher pensions has generally been welcomed. For tax-payers the Increased Contribution scheme has an added attraction since Superannuation Fund contributions are allowed by the Inspector of Taxes when he is working out tax assessments.

Members of the Pension Fund will have received already a copy of a booklet which sets out the main advantages of the Pension Fund, and non-members will receive copies as they become eligible for joining the Fund. The legal terms of the Trust Deed are not easily understood by non-legal people and this leaflet in everyday English will serve a useful purpose in informing our Workpeople of the advantages of the Pension Fund.

Since the Funds were set up, the Company has paid in a total sum of £47,000 to the Pension Fund and £44,000 to the Superannuation Fund.

For the sake of those readers who are not yet in either of these Funds, it seems suitable to mention the conditions of membership.

SUPERANNUATION FUND—Open to all members of staff aged 18 years or over, on completion of 6 months service and on the recommendation of their Managers.

PENSION FUND—Open to workpeople aged 21 or over on completion of twelve months service.

Married or Single!

More people marry now than have done for 100 years.

Here are some interesting and entertaining figures:—

AT AGES 16 TO 19

One spinster in 52 marries.
One bachelor in 370 marries.

AT AGES 20 TO 24

One spinster in 7 marries.
One bachelor in 12 marries.

AT AGES 25 TO 34

One spinster in 9 marries.
One bachelor in 6 marries.

AT AGES 35 TO 44

One spinster in 36 marries.
One bachelor in 16 marries.

AT AGES 45 TO 54

One spinster in 114 marries.
One bachelor in 52 marries.

AT AGES 55 AND OVER

One spinster in 455 marries.
One bachelor in 175 marries.



SPORTING TERMS ILLUSTRATED
Boxing—A low blow. Drawn by Walt Johnson.

The Editor's Page

WE are a strangely un-communicative race. You have probably heard this one.

At an old inn in the country, three farm labourers sat enjoying their ale. At seven o'clock the first labourer looking out of the window said, "That be Farmer Giles' cow on the green." At eight o'clock, the second labourer crossed to the window and said, "That b'aint Farmer Giles', that be Farmer Puddicombe's." At nine o'clock, the last of the trio, who had been studying form in the evening paper, suddenly threw it down and stalked out, saying "I can't stand all this argyfyng."

Much exaggerated? Something very similar happened in the train the other day. There were six in the compartment. As we went through Dudley Port the old gentleman in the opposite corner remarked that we had had a nice day. At Wolverhampton the young girl said, "Would you mind if I opened the window a little." At Stafford the young man asked the old lady if she would like to read the summer number of *Punch*. At Crewe the old lady thanked him and gave it him back.

Six people who had been, of necessity, in each other's company for two hours showed a very English reluctance to swap experiences and learn something more of themselves, their jobs, and the human race in general. They showed an equal reluctance to talk about themselves.

We also, in "Chance Comments" notice this same reluctance. Sometimes we hear rumours of news, which send us off round the factory like blood-hounds on the scent, but often find at the end that the principal never thought we would be interested.

We are very interested in everything that goes on — veritable 'nosey parkers' in fact, and welcome any opportunity of hearing something and passing it on.

And what is more we are very fond of "argyfyng," so if you have any arguments about anything you feel sufficiently strongly about — write to us.

A. Ogden
Editor

WORKS NOTICES



It dai' half mek me laugh!

SOME BLACK COUNTRY HUMOUR
(by courtesy of the Dudley Herald)



"What's that as the swells 'as afore they starts aitin'," asked one of two colliers who, after a Cup Final at Wembley, drifted into a restaurant in the Strand for a meal. The waiter explained that the drinks were known as cocktails, and that "gin and Italian" was perhaps most favoured. "Well, bring us a couple o' pints," said the spokesman for the pair. After consuming each his large glass of the concoction the conversation between them took the following turn:

"When I gets whum I sholl buy our colliery."

"Yo wo," said the other, "because I sholl."

The argument proceeded for some time and began to get a little heated.

"It's no use yo a argifyin' cos there's nothin' to stop a byin' it."

"There is," replied his mate, "Coss I shor sell it yer."



Two workmen who worked at separate tube works were contesting the point as to which works turned out the most wonderful tubes. Said the one, "Why, the tooobs we mak at out works bin so big as the 'ole in the middle weighs two tun."

"That's nothin'," said the other, "we maks 'em so small as yo cor see the 'ole in the middle. Why, we as to work to thousandths of a inch."

"How many thousandths be there in a inch, Joe?"

"I doe rightly no, but there must be millions."

On a visit of inspection, seeing several men on a roof supposed to be engaged repairing a chimney, but showing no disposition to hurry with the job, the employer shouted up, "How many of you are up there?"

"Three on us, governor," was the reply from above.

"Well, half on you come down."



"Your fiddlin' and fussin' about 'as maed us lose the train, and there's a 'our to waet for the next one," said a man to his wife when they got to the station to pay a visit to the country on a holiday bent.

"That's your fault," said the woman, "if yer 'adn't rushed me we shouldn't 'ave 'ad to waet so long for the next train."



Walking along the "cut" side with a girl he was tired of, having fallen in love with another one, he said: "You'm a little duck, ain't yer?"

"Ah," said the girl, nestling up to him. Pushing her into the canal the faithless swain said: "Well, 'ere's a chance to 'ave a swim, then."



"'Elp, 'elp," shouted a man who was in the canal to a man on the towing-path. Instead of pulling him out the one appealed to rushed off to the works where the drowning man was employed, and said to the foreman, "Your man, Joe Smith has been drowned; can I have his job?"