



High heels can be dangerous!

Walking in the works in high-heeled shoes is the cause of many sprained and broken ankles.
Always wear sensible shoes for working.
Always report and receive treatment for foot troubles in the early stages.

Extracted from Pilkington Brothers' Safety Calendar

SMWHC 2015.268
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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



SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 1954

3⁰⁰

Chance

COMMENTS

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

EDITOR A. OGDEN

CORRESPONDENTS

<i>Accounts Office</i>	J. ALLEN
<i>Blown and Pressed</i>	
Inspection	F. O'CONNOR
Process	R. TURTON
Making	S. STOCKIN
Warehouse	A. SUTTON
	MRS. A. KEYS
<i>Buying Stationery</i>	MRS. CANTY
<i>Export</i>	F. TAYLOR
<i>Flat Glass</i>	
Making and Warehouse	R. E. EVANS
Sales	R. PALMER
Seven Storey	A. FARDELL
<i>Laboratory</i>	MRS. RUSSELL
<i>Maintenance and Construction</i>	
Boiler Shop	G. ROWE
Building	S. BEARDSMORE
Electricians	E. A. WHITEHOUSE
Millwrights	W. JOHNSON
Old Hall	MRS. O'RIORDAN
Stores	D. KIRKWOOD
<i>Mixing</i>	N. GREEN
<i>Optical</i>	MRS. E. HOLLYHEAD
<i>Pyrometry</i>	N. WALKER
<i>Traffic</i>	MRS. K. FELLOWS
<i>Transport</i>	F. G. ANKORN
<i>Typists' Pool</i>	MISS M. VICKERS
<i>Wages, Pensions</i>	A. E. CARTWRIGHT

BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS

Glasgow	A. C. THOMSON
London	J. C. PERKINS
Malvern	MISS D. CLARE
St. Helens	K. W. APPLETON

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THIS MONTH'S COVER

The Reception Desk in the entrance to the New Office block which is described on page 4.

VOL. 7, No. 4.

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER, 1954.

Annual Meeting of DEPOSITORS

THE 65th Annual Meeting of Depositors was held on Wednesday the 21st July, 1954. * * *

Mr. D. V. Phelps, the Chairman of the Company, presided and said that when he spoke at the meeting a year ago he found himself in a very embarrassing position because at that time details of far reaching plans for the future of C.B. were in the process of being made. These were designed to incorporate C.B. more closely into the P.B. Group activities, but the plans were not by any means complete at the time of the meeting, and no reference could therefore be made to them.

When the plans were eventually disclosed, it was only to Senior Managers, and this was really the first opportunity he had had of saying anything to other members of the Staff of what was then in the minds of the Directors and of possible future developments.

* * *

He explained that various happenings since the War had increased the financial stake which P.B. had in C.B. and it was desirable so to arrange manufacturing activities within the Group that all facilities were being used to the best advantage. This meant that there must be very much closer planning of manufacture and sales where P.B. and C.B. were on common ground than there had been in the past, although there had been a lot of gradual integration going on for some time.

Another major factor had to be faced. The Engineering Division, though traditional with Chances and with a great deal of goodwill in the name of Chance tied up with it, was not in any way complementary to the Group business which was mainly concerned with flat and constructional glass. It seemed, therefore, that in the interests both of the Group and the Engineering Division the right thing to do was to get it tied up more directly with the Engineering industry.

The outcome of that decision, as was now known, was the sale of the Engineering Division to Stones of Deptford, and while that was history now, Mr. Phelps said he hoped that he could fairly say that few, if any people, had suffered by the change, and he also hoped that the future of the Engineering Division would be a bright one.

* * *

Mr. Phelps spoke of the changes in the Board which had taken place consequent on the sale of the Engineering Division, and expressed his appreciation to Mr. Raymond and Mr. Barman, who had now left C.B. and to Dr. Hampton and Mr. Newman who were now in charge.

During the year much integration of the manufacture and sale of flat and pressed glasses had gone on, and whilst this process had involved

some changes of personnel, mostly this had meant that a few people had left the Company of their own accord and that others who had moved up to St. Helens had had no regrets in doing so. In fact, there was evidence that coming into the Group had provided Chance Brothers employees with bigger and better opportunities in a bigger world. Changes were still going on, but they were in the nature of a gradual development on the lines which had been going on for some time without any further shocks.

Considerable measures of internal reorganisation were indeed going on within the Group, which would no doubt have some bearing in due time on C.B. as they would have on all other members of the Group. Whatever the effect on theoretical structures within the Group, he was confident that there would be no great or sudden effects on individuals, and he expressed his appreciation to all at C.B. for the commonsense and co-operative way in which the changes had been received.

Mr. Phelps then talked about the Deposit Scheme, and made the long awaited announcement about the rate of interest which he said this year would be 6%. He remarked that the number of members had been dropping in the last few years and he hoped that there was now a greater feeling of security for the future and that the members would begin to increase again. * * *

Members had listened very attentively to Mr. Phelps who (if we may make so bold as to say so) had warmed to his subject, and he sat down to an applause which we hope re-assured him that we are glad to see him at Spon Lane and that he has our earnest support in what is being done to settle C.B. comfortably in the Group. * * *

Dr. W. M. Hampton then gave an account of the past year in relation to those departments which report direct to him. The Optical Division, he said, could show an increase in trade over 1952/53 and was still expanding. Fluctuations in the demand of individual items made budgeting extremely difficult. Requirements for periscopes had fallen off only to revive again; in optical glass the home demand had advanced but export sales had fallen, and there were signs of increasing German competition. The Company had established a very good reputation for the manufacture of interchangeable syringes and modifications had been made to the design to incorporate a metal nozzle. * * *

In the Blown & Pressed Division many changes had taken place, notably with the ceasing of automatic domestic ware and Hysil. Dr. Hampton had a word of praise for the work done by those who remained in the Division and remarked on the ease with which the changeover to concentration on cathodes, tubing and hand pressing had been achieved. C.B. tubing was noted for its very high quality and markets now seemed to be expanding, whilst there was a considerable expansion in the group of cathode manufacture in which C.B. would play its part.

The Laboratory had continued its co-operation with manufacturing departments and had made remarkable developments in some of the Company's newer projects, such as thin glass.

Mixing—the handmaid of the glass making had shown remarkable freedom from mistakes. Buying, a function liable to be taken for granted, had provided very good service and avoided any hold-ups in production. The Accounts Department, on which a heavy load had been thrown by the various changes which had taken place, also got a pat on the back for their very commonsense approach. * * *

And then came Mr. C. J. S. Newman, who said that this year he wanted principally to talk of the Flat Glass Division and Export Department, but before doing so he referred again to the importance which the Company attached to training schemes which had continued and which would be intensified.

In the Rolled Plate Department, Mr. Newman said that the past year had been one of real achievement at Spon Lane. Records of output have been broken time and time again, a fact which had brought about many headaches for the Warehouse and Transport Department, but he hoped that before long some extensions and alterations to the warehouse and loading arrangements would be made.

At Glasgow production had satisfied no-one, trouble having been experienced with stones due to defective refractories. However, the plant was now working better and it was hoped that the yields would approximate to those at Spon Lane.

The Coloured Department had shown some improvement but greater sales were being sought. Antique glasses were in demand in America and the Company continued to be the only manufacturer of micro glass in the Commonwealth with the U.S.A. a large buyer. Fiesta was becoming more and more known and it was hoped that there would be a considerable increase in demand between now and Christmas.

A new activity was the sale of Micro cullet to the U.S.A. for decorative purposes, and an order had been received for many tons of this "Jack Frost."

The Export Department was very fully occupied at the present time, being responsible for the sale overseas of twelve or more completely different types of glass. In spite of keen competition, sales prospects were good and with the knowledge that production efficiencies would be improved, all could look forward with confidence to the year which was ahead. * * *

At the conclusion of the formal business, Mr. Phelps said that he was sure all present would wish to congratulate Dr. Hampton on the award of the O.B.E., which had been bestowed on him in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Mr. Gould in a very charming speech proposed a vote of thanks to the Directors—thanks for the interest which had been declared and for the review of the Company's work and the statement on policy. Mr. Lloyd Nixon seconded this vote of thanks and even went so far as to hope that next year 6% would be exceeded and looked forward to years of happy association of the names of Pilkington and Chance.

OUR NEW OFFICE BLOCK

HERE are some photographs of the entrance hall to our new office block situated in the Old Gate thoroughfare.

In designing the building the Architects aimed to show original and varied uses of Chance products. All the constructional work was carried out by our Maintenance and Construction Department.

The highlight of the new entrance is the screen of Spotlyte pattern glass, and the engraved Armourplate glass door, the latter by Pilkington Brothers Limited.

The entrance hall provides many interesting features. Part of it is used as a reception and waiting area, and is divided from the rest by a change in the flooring from rough hewn slate to

carpet. The ceiling echoes this partition with a recessed lighting panel above the carpet.

For the walls of the entrance hall use has been made of a new development for figured rolled glasses of backing them with colour. Not only is a clean and bright appearance presented, but there is maximum ease of maintenance, with no need for re-decoration.

As figured rolled glass is made by a continuous process, long lengths are available, and the architects found it possible to use panels of glass ten feet long, having it rolled $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch thick instead of the usual $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch or $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch. The join where the ceilings are higher than ten feet has been hidden by a dis-

play shelf. The panels of glass are butted together without framing or beading. Two different patterns are used—Major Reeded backed in biscuit colour for the staircase wall, and Spotlyte backed in grey-blue where shorter lengths and narrower pieces could be used.

A particular feature of the entrance hall is the staircase leading to the boardroom and the offices of the Directors. The balustrade is a zig-zag metal core which supports the top rail, and is enclosed by panels of glass on each side. Spotlyte has been used facing into the well and $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch Rough Cast glass adjacent to the stairs, where more strength is needed. The glass has been bent to sweep round the corners. This balustrade demonstrates the effectiveness of using two different patterns of glass together.

Screen walls between the individual offices are double-glazed above the height of 3 feet 6 inches, each with a different patterned glass, so that in effect

there is a Spotlyte office, a Reeded office, and so on. But no screen is like another, since the effect of each comes from one pattern of glass superimposed on another.

The lighting throughout the block makes use of various Chance Brothers' products. Fluorescent tubes are made by Chance Brothers by a continuous process on the Vello plant, which is unique in the United Kingdom. The fluorescent light fitting which is used throughout the offices was designed by the architects, using Chance Luminating glass in two pieces. Filament spots in the ceiling of the entrance hall have bent figured rolled glasses of various patterns, or of Fiesta decorated glass.

Below left:—The entrance to the New Office Block.

Below right:—Reception desk and staircase.

On the opposite page:—Entrance hall and waiting area.



SPORTS AND SOCIAL

CHANCE'S RECREATION CLUB ANNUAL MEETING

THE twenty-seventh Annual General Meeting of the Recreation Club was held in the Pavilion on 27th July. The President, Mr. J. W. Chance was in the Chair and was supported by Dr. W. M. Hampton and Mr. C. J. S. Newman.

In his annual report the Secretary stated that during the past year, more members used the Club than in any previous year in the Club's history. There are now fifteen active Sections and in competitive games the Club had had outstanding success. The two cricket teams, the two football teams, the Billiards team, the Ladies Dart team and the Bowling team all WON their League Championships.

The playing fields had been much improved and the cricket square and bowling green compare favourably with the best clubs in the district. It was intended to develop socials and dances in the Pavilion and a new dance floor was being installed.

In presenting the accounts for the year ended 30th April, 1954, the Treasurer was pleased to report that there was a surplus of £7 16s. 0d. This had been made possible by a generous grant of £600 from Chance Brothers.

The meeting re-elected J. R. Cheetham as Chairman and A. J. Platt as Treasurer and the following are Chance Brothers' Employees' representatives on the General Committee:—

June Whitehouse, (Seven Storey); D. Forsyth, (Optical); W. Bick, (B. & P. Moulds); E. J. Gardner, (Cathodes Process); R. Turley, (Electricians); E. R. Flook, (Transport); B. Bryan, (Offices).

A. OGDEN,
Hon. General Secretary.

A NEW DANCE FLOOR

A new floor has been laid in the Recreation Club Pavilion and the Committee wisely decided to choose a timber that has proved ideal for dancing. The job cost £340 and to help raise this sum an Autumn Dance will be held at West Bromwich Baths on Thursday, 21st October. (See announcement at foot of this page).

THE WINTER PROGRAMME OPENS

Despite the appalling weather during the Summer period, the Cricket, Net-ball, Archery, Tennis and Bowls sections enjoyed their turn to use the Recreation Grounds, and now the Chance Recreation Club has got into the stride of its Winter programme. The Football teams have entered leagues, the Dramatic section is putting the finishing touches to a play which will be presented in the early future, the Billiard Tables are in good condition, the Choral section is preparing for its next concert, the ladies

will again enter a Darts team and the Badminton section is determined to overcome a problem of where to play.

CHANCE'S RECREATION CLUB DANCE

To be held at
WEST BROMWICH GALA BATHS
on
THURSDAY, 21st OCTOBER
From 8.00 p.m. to midnight

Music by Brian Pearsall's
Broadcasting Orchestra

Licensed Bar. Late Transport

Tickets 4/-

From Group Representatives

Another Competition

£10 PLUS £? TAX FREE

ENCOURAGED by the success of the competition held in the Spring, the Suggestions Scheme Committee has decided to organise a similar competition and

A PRIZE OF £10

will be awarded for the best suggestion received between the date of the issue of this magazine and midnight on Sunday, 31st October. The prize is of course in addition to the normal award that is paid for any adopted idea. The last competition resulted in 38 entries.



Those who may participate

All employees, both staff and workpeople may participate except that Foremen and Designers cannot put forward suggestions concerning their own field of responsibility.

How to enter

All suggestions must be submitted in writing. Special forms are available at each Gatehouse but a suggestor can put his ideas on any piece of paper and drop this into a 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 the Personnel Manager. Each suggestion must be signed by the suggester.

Have you any ideas?

Suggestions can be made on any matters for the general benefit of the Company or its employees for example, new office systems, safety, improvements to manufacturing processes, reduction of waste, designs for new products, etc., etc.



Cash in on your ideas!

From your COMMITTEE ROOM

WORKS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

THE PENSION FUNDS ARE EXPLAINED

Mr. L. G. Hinton, Company Secretary attended the last meeting of the Works Consultative Committee, to explain how the recent increases in pensions to former work people had been granted.

Mr. Hinton stated that there were two pension funds namely, the Chance Supplementary Pension Fund and the Chance (Contributory) Pension Fund. Referring first to the Supplementary Fund, Mr. Hinton explained that while the Company had, for many years, granted ex-gratia pensions to their workpeople, it was not until 1939 that a fund was established out of which, subject to certain conditions, workpeople became entitled to retirement pensions. This fund was inaugurated by the Company, at a cost of £35,000, for the benefit of certain classes of people who were in the service of the Company on the 1st January, 1939. The people concerned were:—(a) *Those who were 63 and over who were too old to join the then newly formed Contributory Pension Fund*—provision was made for them to get 10/- a week by way of pension from the Supplementary Fund provided that they had at least 25 years service on reaching age 65.

(b) *Those who had not reached 63, who joined the Contributory Pension Fund and whose pensions from that Fund were less than 10/- a week*—provision was made for them to receive from the Supplementary Fund a supplement sufficient to

increase their contributory pensions to 10/- a week provided that they would have at least 25 years service on reaching age 65.

Provision was also made for augmenting out of the Supplementary Fund the pensions of those with less than 25 years service, subject to a minimum of at least 20 years service.

Mr. Hinton then mentioned that the Supplementary Pension Fund was valued periodically by a firm of consulting actuaries and that on the last occasion when this had been done, a surplus had been disclosed. This, he explained, could, under the Trust Deed and Rules, either have been set aside as a reserve fund or used to increase the pensions of the people who were provided for under the Supplementary Deed. The Directors of Chance Brothers had however decided, after consulting the actuaries, that the surplus should be used for increasing pensions and now rates calculated with reference to service had been agreed, with effect from the 1st April 1954 under which the maximum amount payable was 20/- a week.

In regard to the Chance (Contributory) Pension Fund, Mr. Hinton stressed that this was quite distinct from the Supplementary Fund about which he had spoken earlier, the distinction being that one was a contributory scheme which was open for all employees of the age of 21 or over to join provided that they had had 12 months service

with the Company and had not then reached 65, whereas the other was a closed non-contributory scheme.

Since November 1946, membership of the Contributory Pension Fund had not been a condition of employment as it had earlier and Mr. Hinton emphasised that it was important that employees should, in their own interest, join the

fund at the earliest opportunity. With reference to men of 21 and over who were called up for National Service, Mr. Hinton mentioned that while they were away from the Works, their pension rights were maintained as the Company had undertaken to pay the joint contribution of 2s. 4d. a week to the Pension Fund.

TURN TO PAGE 13.

SUGGESTIONS SCHEME AWARDS

ERNEST EDWARDS CASHES IN

The best suggestion award for the last two months went to Ernest Edwards, Optical Division, who received £10 5s. 0d., for a good idea for a more speedy and economical method of polishing filter glasses to a fine tolerance on the large polishing machines.

FOUR AWARDS TO ST. HELENS

Four of the St. Helens' (Optical) workpeople have had suggestions adopted. G. Greenall received £1 17s. 6d., for modifications to the crotchets on the stirring arms; T. Mellor devised an improved system for marking melt numbers and was awarded £1 2s. 6d.; an award of £1 2s. 6d., was also made to H. Vose for fitting a stud to the Remoulding Furnace to facilitate the ejection of long cylindrical mouldings; and T. Haverty put forward suggestions to improve the working conditions in the Furnace Hall and received 15s. 0d.

A LADY EMPLOYEE WINS £1 2s. 6d.

Mrs. K. Sorrill of the Blown and Pressed Cathode Section was awarded £1 2s. 6d., for drawing attention to the need to strengthen the handles of the cartons used for Pressed Polished Plates.

OTHER GOOD IDEAS

Other adopted suggestions were received as follows:—

- W. Holloway, Garage, one for £1 2s. 6d., and another for 10s. 0d.
- R. Goodall, Mixing, £1 2s. 6d.
- W. James, Blown and Pressed, 15s. 0d.
- R. Clark, Blown and Pressed, 10s. 0d.
- H. Stockin, Blown and Pressed, 10s. 0d.



*Have you seen
the announcement on page 7?*



Chance

SNAPSHOTS

Happy snaps taken at the Annual Outing for Chance Brothers' Pensioners

1. Mr. Walter Chance chats to 88 years old Arthur Hancox.
2. Mr. D. V. Phelps welcomes the old people.



3. A really troublesome party!
4. Sir Hugh Chance congratulates Ernest Courtney on attaining fifty years service.
5. Lady Chance shakes hands with Bill Rhodes.
6. Left to right :-Mr. Harold Martin, Mr. Arthur Pilkington, Mr. Walter Chance (in the background), Dr. W. M. Hampton, Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Hinton, and Mrs. Hampton.





From all Departments

MOSTLY PERSONAL

BLOWN & PRESSED

During the past month or so, the staff in the Blown and Pressed Division have had a craze for organising recreational activities. If and when the weather allowed, the "older generation" spent their lunch hour break on the Recreation Club's bowling green and in the early evenings darts and snooker competitions were played in the Billiard Room. A home made trophy for Bowling was won by Bill Sargent and Dennis Clarke won the Snooker Knock-out Competition.

We were glad to see that one of our ladies was successful in submitting an idea to the Suggestions Scheme Committee and we congratulate Mrs. K. Sorrill.

It is good to have Dai Stephens back again after his illness and we are pleased to hear that Tom Dixon is making satisfactory recovery from the injury he sustained at work.

FLAT GLASS

It is with profound sorrow that we record the death of William Henry White on the 29th July, at the age of sixty-two. Bill had been employed in the Coloured Department for twenty-five years.

Margaret Bladon, who was at one time a member of the Blown and Pressed Sales Staff, has joined the Rolled Plate Despatch Centre.

The Division congratulates Ernest Courtney on completing fifty years service with the firm.

LABORATORY

Chris Bullen is to be sincerely congratulated on his outstanding success in obtaining a First Class Honours Degree.

The Laboratory welcomes Jim Peakman and Bernard Cumberlidge on their return from National Service and congratulates Bob Suhr on attaining his majority on 16th August.

MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

The Drawing Office welcomes two new-comers, namely William Payne, a draughtsman, and June Talbot who came to us from school for training as a tracer.

Ken Dorrell, who is at present on National Service, visited us recently and Mary Gould is looking fit after her fortnight's training with the Women's Auxiliary Air Force.

Gordon Rowe of the Boiler Shop has married Irene Shipton (late of the Personnel Department), and John Morris of Pyrometry has married Jean Luscombe. We wish these lucky young people every happiness.

Sid Willis of the Millwrights has become a daddy to another daughter.

MEDICAL CENTRE

Arrangements have now been made to re-open the Medical Centre during the night shift hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive. Nurse Morris has joined the staff and will be on duty each week night.

OFFICES

New comers who are welcomed to the staff are Doreen Wheeler and Janet Cole (Cost Office) and Marjorie White (Buying Office).

We are sorry that Mrs. Kennedy had to leave her position in the Telephone Room due to ill health and Beryl Hipkiss

(now Mrs. Priest) of the Cost Office, left us in August consequent on her recent marriage.

Congratulations are extended to Gwen Hollyhead of the Purchase Accounts on her marriage to Jim Green of the Blown and Pressed Sales Office on 11th September, at St Andrews Church, West Bromwich.

The Annual Sports and Social evening with the National Provincial Bank was marred by rain and only five cricket overs were bowled. A few ends were played on the bowling green but no tennis matches were possible. It was a disappointing end to a fixture which had been eagerly anticipated.

The Export Department's "Summer" Evening trip to Worcester was rather dampened by the inclement weather. However, after a good meal and presentation to Mr. W. E. Skilbeck, we had the pleasure of listening to those maestros, Stan Green and Douglas Sandin, rendering duets and solos on what were described as pianos. In fact, one piano was taken to pieces before its bird like notes could be heard. We were very pleased to welcome old colleagues in Bill Field, Vic Skan, Ken Hunt and Norah Smart.

Mrs. Lycett of the Printing Office is at present in St. Chads Hospital and all her friends at Chance Brothers wish her a speedy recovery.

For no reason at all we present this photograph of the new Gate Staff. Ben Bishop, Harry Sedgley and George Whitehouse.



WORKS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Continued from page 9

In his review of the present production position, the Chairman, Mr. C. J. S. Newman, reported that the Flat Glass Division was extremely busy with orders for various types of Rolled Plate glasses and despite the fact that output records were being made, we were behind with orders for both Home and Export markets.

The Optical Division was experiencing a considerable demand for every type of glass including an interesting order for special glass for America.

In the Blown and Pressed Division there were some changes to be made in the Cathode Ray Tube Section. Mr. Newman said that there was an increasing tendency for the television trade to order tubes made in soda lime and such tubes were being made by Pilkington Brothers at St. Helens. Accordingly, the soda lime tubes made at St. Helens would tend to replace the hard glass tubes made here, but arrangements were being made for the Smethwick Works to process and despatch the Pilkington Brothers' tubes and it was certain that in the coming months the overall output would increase. The Blown and Pressed Division was increasing the output of articles made in soda lime glass such as car headlight lenses. The Vello Tubing plant is working satisfactorily and giving good yields and taking everything as a whole the barometer was set fair for each of the manufacturing divisions.

News

FROM OUR BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS

● GLASGOW

The Winter activities of the Recreation Club commence shortly, the first being Table Tennis early in September and Walter Elliott of the Buying Department will be pleased to welcome any new players. Whist Drives which proved so popular last season will also be starting about the same time.

We have had one or two visits recently from Jimmy Reid who is convalescing after his illness and hope to see him completely recovered and back with us shortly.

Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Tony McCusker on the birth of their son and our best wishes to Tony for a speedy recovery after his operation.

We are glad to welcome A. H. Harris who has come to us from Spon Lane.

● LONDON

D. Potts, the W. E. Chance Representative, left the Company last month. We were all sorry to see him go, but pleased that he has left to take up a new job which promises excellent prospects. His colleagues in London Office presented him with a bound address book.

J. C. Elphce has folded up his tent and has pitched it at St. Helens, where he will be spending a little time prior to joining Pilkington Brothers at the London Depot. We wish him well now that he is with the Parent Company.

We have had several visitors from Australia recently and it is pleasing to record that one of them wrote to us on his return to "down under" and said that he had been looked after better by Chance Brothers than by any other firm he had visited during his extensive tour covering the U.S.A., Great Britain and the Continent.

● MALVERN

We extend a warm welcome to Walter Cairns who has recently joined

the Malvern staff to do battle with some of the technical problems.

The holidays are now over and although there is a marked absence of the "tanned beautifuls" we all seemed to find plenty to talk about. For instance, one of the staff, whilst holidaying in Cornwall, was "fortunate enough" to arrive quickly at the scene of an authentic Cornish shipwreck.

Caravans seem to have been popular this year, but at least one of our members had other ideas of what constituted a perfect holiday and returned "minus molars."

The production of Interchangeable Syringes still continues at Malvern and during a recent period of three months, nearly thirty thousand syringes left the factory.

● ST. HELENS

On arriving back after the annual holiday there were quite a few changes to be found in the factory. The old Rolling plant had been pulled down and the modified version was nearing completion. The layout of the packing section had been altered, the Furnace Hall roof which has been giving quite a lot of worry of late was in the process of repair. All of these changes and modifications are to try and increase our production to keep up with present day demand. This remains unusually high, a point for which we are all very grateful.

We welcome back into our midst Brian Austin who for the last twelve months has been attending the London School of Economics.

Congratulations to Renee Burt, Despatch Office, on successfully obtaining her 3rd year examination in Typing and Secretarial U.L.C.I., and her intermediate examination in Typing for Royal Society of Arts. Also to Brenda McGinn, Progress Office, who passed 2nd year Shorthand Typing.

continued on page 17



The Adventures of CLAUDE

No. 3

AM I livid? Hands cut to pieces in the execution of me duty and the foreman telling me off solid. It happened like this

One day my gaffer told me to go and sweep up a pile of rubbish where a rubbish bin had been overturned, so armed with a large broom and a nice new pair of protective gloves, I set about it.

I hadn't been working many minutes before I found that the gloves were a nuisance. They made my hands hot and although they were the right size, didn't seem to fit, so I did the natural thing—I took 'em off and put them in my pocket.

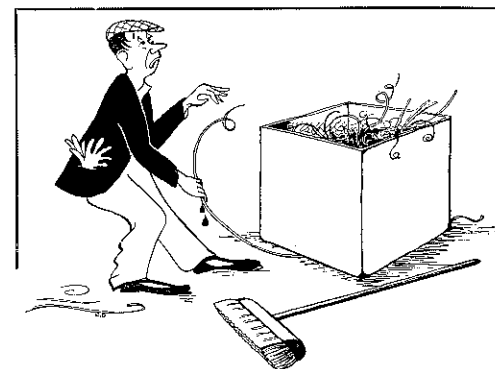
I fetched an empty bin and proceeded to lift all the rubbish into it.

One long curly strip of swarf seemed to be caught under the empty rubbish bin. I got hold of it and gave it a sharp tug. Before I knew what had happened, this razor edged strip of metal had cut my hand to the bone and blood was pouring all over the place.

I dashed straight off to the Medical Centre where a very efficient Nurse bound up my injured hand to something like the size of a football.

When I got back to the job I found the foreman standing there looking for me and I told him what had happened. When I gave him the details he went for me bald-headed because I hadn't worn my safety gloves and told me it was my own fault.

That was just about the end—there was I, my fingers cut to the bone, and all the sympathy I got was to be told not to be so careless next time.



There is a moral to this story—always make sure that you use the protective clothing available.

Jottings of shorter items and employees' contributions

THE PENSIONERS' DAY

IT is difficult to believe that there was a really perfect Summer day during July, but it can be recorded that Wednesday the 21st was in fact such an occasion. It was the day for the Annual Outing for the Company's pensioners and long service employees and the 179 people who attended had a most delightful party—they always do!

Tea was again at the Rose and Crown Tea Gardens at Rednal, where the veterans were received by Mr. D. V. Phelps, Sir Hugh and Lady Chance, Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Hampton, Mr. A. C. Pilkington, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. S. Newman and several senior Managers.

Sir Hugh Chance reported that there are now 161 works and staff pensioners—the highest number on record. The average age is 72 years. In addition there are 25 men still employed in the Works who have had more than fifty years service.

During the past year the following were added to the list of fifty years' service employees and long service medals were presented by Mr. Phelps.

Mr. Walter Chance, Retired Director; Ernest Courtney, Seven Storey; William

Lloyd, Rolled Plate; Frank Whitehouse, Millwrights; Arthur Fenton, Blown and Pressed; Frank Stanley, Blown and Pressed.

After tea, the party went on to Stratford-on-Avon for the evening.

* * *

MAN ALIVE!

MAN comes into the world without his consent and leaves it against his will.

On earth he is misjudged and misunderstood. In infancy he is an angel. In boyhood he is a devil. In manhood a fool. If he has a wife and family he is a chump. If he is a bachelor he is inhuman. If he enters a public-house he is a drunkard. If he stops out he is a miser.

If he is a poor man he has no brains. If he is a rich man he has had all the luck in the world. If he has brains he is considered smart but dishonest. If he goes to church he is a hypocrite. If he stays away he is a sinful man. If he gives to charity it is for advertisement. If he does not he is mean.

眼鏡及着色眼鏡

護眼鏡

顯微鏡用之蓋玻璃片及標本片

CHANCE BROTHERS LIMITED, GLASGOW, SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM.

CHANCE GLASS IN CHINA

AN exhibition of our Optical and Special Glasses was arranged for the benefit of the Chinese Purchasing Delegation who visited this country recently and here is a reproduction of a display card used on the stand:—

The English version is:—

Optical and Coloured

Optical Glasses.

Eye Protecting Glasses.

Microscope Cover Slips and Slides.

* * *

theory of maps and delved into the mysteries of knots.

We were getting visibly fitter every day and before very long were performing quite difficult feats of endurance such as three days virtual exposure in the hills and early morning dips in the lake. It might be added that fell walking and rock climbing are amongst the most tiring of known sports and for rock climbing especially we were toned up to quite a high key of fitness.

I won't say that we all finished the course as Spartans, but the general reaction to it was almost literally like one to a breath of ice cool fresh air. In our case it equipped us with a constitution which would enable us to combat more adequately the atmosphere of Smethwick."

continued from page 14

Jack McGinn who is temporarily employed in the Glass Stores was successful in his first year examination for a B.A. Degree in Languages at Liverpool University—our congratulations to him.

Lily Adamson is congratulated on having given birth to a grand baby boy.

For some time now Civil Defence training has been going on here at St. Helens. Tom Mellor has for a while been urging that this section of our activities deserves recognition in *Chance Comments*. However, a few days ago in training Tom burnt his shirt off, and has not been the same man since.

When he comes into the world everybody wants to kiss him, before he goes out everybody wants to kick him. If he dies young there was a great future before him. If he lived to a ripe old age everybody hopes he has made a will.

From *Thornciffe News*.

* * *

OUTWARD BOUND

IN July, four of our apprentices spent a period of four weeks at the Outward Bound Schools by grant aid from the Chance Education Trust. Ron Winspear of the Laboratory and Ron Moore of the Blown and Pressed went to the Mountain School at Eskdale, and John Paice of the Laboratory and Don Bromwell of the Carpenters attended the Sea School at Aberdovey.

One of the apprentices who went to the Sea School last Autumn wrote an article for *Chance Comments* in which he stressed that it was not a holiday, but a course for enterprise, adventure, action and sometimes danger and that the whole point of sailing, mountaineering and athletics is to develop one's true self.

The following is an extract from Ron Winspear's report on his impressions of the Mountain School:—

"For those of you contemplating a quiet month in the country, I can recommend one health resort tucked gently away in the heart of the Lake District, namely the Outward Bound Mountain School. It provides a course designed to enliven the spirit, elevate the mind and cripple the body.

Yes, quite frankly, it's a tough course, but I think there will only be the cynical few who say that they didn't really enjoy every moment of it. The actual course included athletics, fell walking and rock climbing—we also studied the



This is the Optical Division's Stand at the Philadelphia Exhibition, September, 1954.

THE YOUNGER GENERATION

GILL WARD

HAVING been here just two months, Gill is the Personnel Department's newest recruit.

She will be eighteen years old in October, and arrived here via Oldbury Grammar School where she took a six-subject G.C.E., and Birmingham College of Commerce at which she underwent a one year Secretarial Training Course. She had not realised, and incidentally, neither had we, that secretaries needed to know about such things as Economic History, German, French, Commerce, Accounts, and Maths, in addition to Shorthand-Typing. However, she was successful in all these subjects, and we are sure that they have helped to broaden her view substantially.

Gill has been a very active member of the Warley Woods Methodist Youth Club since she was fourteen, and currently sits as a member of the Management Committee, as well as supporting various Sub-Committees concerned with Debates and Discussion, Drama, Socials, Music, Rambling and Tennis. She is also a keen swimmer and hockey player.

JUNE WHITEHOUSE

IN November June will have completed five years as a Despatch Clerk

Gill Ward



and Copy-Typist in the Seven Storey.

She moved from Walsall to West Bromwich at the age of thirteen and attended Spon Lane School until leaving at fifteen. Her most vivid memory of school days concerns winning the Councillor Medley £1 prize for collecting a hundred and fifty different species of wild flowers.

Her first job was at the Repco Engineering Company for six months, after which she came to Chance Brothers and has stayed ever since.

June has a number of interests, being Recreation Club Representative for the Seven Storey and Fiesta Department, and she is a keen Tennis player.

Music is another of her interests. She plays the piano and has been organist at the Bible Pattern Church, West Bromwich, for the past three years, her favourite composer being George Gerswin. She also likes embroidery and reading light fiction. Her main passion at the moment, however, is learning to drive a motor car; her Dad would not let her practice on his, so she has to go to a Driving School and hopes eventually to be good enough for him to relent.

June Whitehouse



RONALD WINSPEAR

RONALD Winspear was born a Yorkshireman, but, at the age of two, forsook his native country to live at Weymouth.

His schooling commenced when he was but five years old and it was soon apparent he was not the infant prodigy they expected him to be. However, at the age of thirteen, luck, his closest friend, decreed that he should win a scholarship and enter a Public School. At Bryanston he spent five blissful years of such a life. At the age of eighteen he made the first major decision of his life; he decided not to be an engine driver and entered Chance Brothers. The ethos of training from which he has just emerged probably accounts for his diversity of taste in the Arts. He confides that he isn't really a scientist at heart and is serving his time with Chance Brothers to obtain valuable industrial experience. He is infinitely more interested in people than in machines and at the moment is sandwiched between the two.

He is passionately fond of music, his taste ranging from Chamber Music to unadulterated Jazz with a gap in the middle.

He maintains that he is essentially a sporting man and only half attached, but a lot of his spare time is spent studying the works of the more obscure Philosophers.

Ronald Winspear



REG FLAVELL

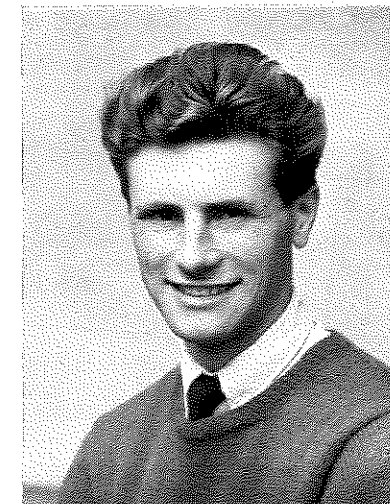
IT must be unusual for a Grammar School boy who has taken a G.C.E. in History, Geography, Art and English Language, to turn his mind towards an Engineering career. This, however, is what Reg has done and he took the Ordinary National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering Examination in June this year; he hopes eventually to enter the Drawing Office and at the moment is working in the Pyrometry Department.

Reg's outside interests are many. He played for his school at Soccer and represented them in Boxing and Athletics, being a one hundred yards and two hundred and twenty yards sprinter, and cross country runner. Currently he plays as an amateur Outside Right for Dudley Town Reserves in the West Midland Alliance. He enjoys his football very much and trains on two nights a week.

He is very keen on listening to Music, and has a large collection of gramophone records, favouring George Shearing in the Jazz field, Debussy in more serious Music and he thinks that the Best Operatic Tenor in the world is Jussi Bjorling. He also retains an interest in Art and likes sketching.

Reg enjoys ballroom dancing very much and goes once a week to Dudley Town Hall; he says that this is all the time he can spare for dancing and frankly it beats us how he can manage this much.

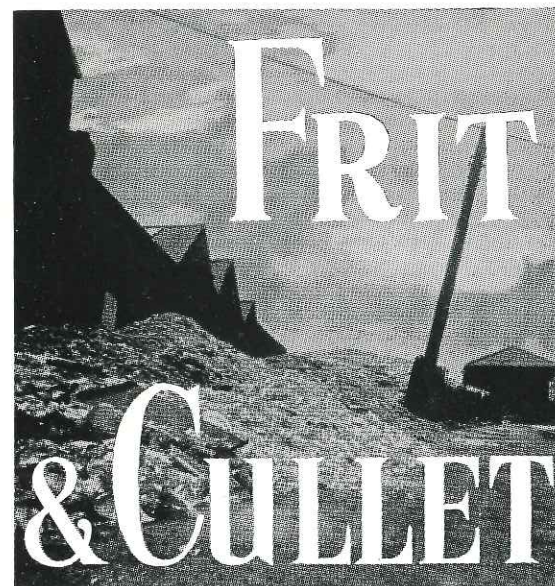
Reg Flavell



CHANCE COMMENTS *Gallery*



HERE we have Marjorie Hill of the St. Helens Optical Works. Marjorie started in 1947 as a Junior Clerk in the General Office. She is now doing a useful job on Production Control and her duties bring her in close contact with most people in the Works.



Jones: "You mean to say you lent *him* some money."

Smith: "Yes."

Jones: "You'll never see him again."

Smith: "That's why I lent him the money."

* * *

"Did you participate in many engagements whilst you were abroad?" asked the interested lady.

"Only five" replied the soldier with becoming modesty.

Irish Bus Company Notice: "Danger, do not hold on after you have let go."

* * *

O'Shea: "O'i've lost me dog."
Friend: "Why don't you advertise?"
O'Shea: "He can't read."

* * *

Overheard in the Melting Department:
"I think I've got Arthritis."
"You're lucky—I ain't got a mate."

* * *

Definition of the "Waits" :—Two Scotsmen near a bar.

* * *

"Brown is a very good book-keeper."
"Yes, he's kept every one I've lent him!"

* * *

A man arrested for murder bribed a simple member of the jury with £100 to insist on a verdict of manslaughter.

The jury, after a long time, at last came in with the desired verdict.

The prisoner afterwards said to the juror. "I'm much obliged to you. Did you have much difficulty?"
"Yes" said the juror "the other eleven wanted to acquit you!"

"And you came through them all unhurt?"

"Not exactly" said the soldier "I married the fifth."

* * *

London has forty five theatres and music halls, five hundred and twenty cinemas, fifty dance halls, thirteen museums and five lunatic asylums. In addition there are, of course, the Houses of Parliament!

* * *

The lecturer at a meeting of the local Horticultural Society had referred a few times to the value of old cow manure.

At question time an elderly lady asked: "Can the lecturer please inform us how old the cow should be?"

* * *

The garden-help had just finished sowing a lawn and was giving instructions to the man of the house as to what should be done until his next visit. The householder asked "Should I put up a scarecrow?"

Innocently the garden-help replied "I think it will be alright if your wife pops out now and again."