

BOOK THIS DATE

THE RECREATION CLUB ANNUAL

GALA BALL

will be held at

on

FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY, 1959

from 8.0 p.m. to 1.0 a.m.

Music will be by Brian Pearsall

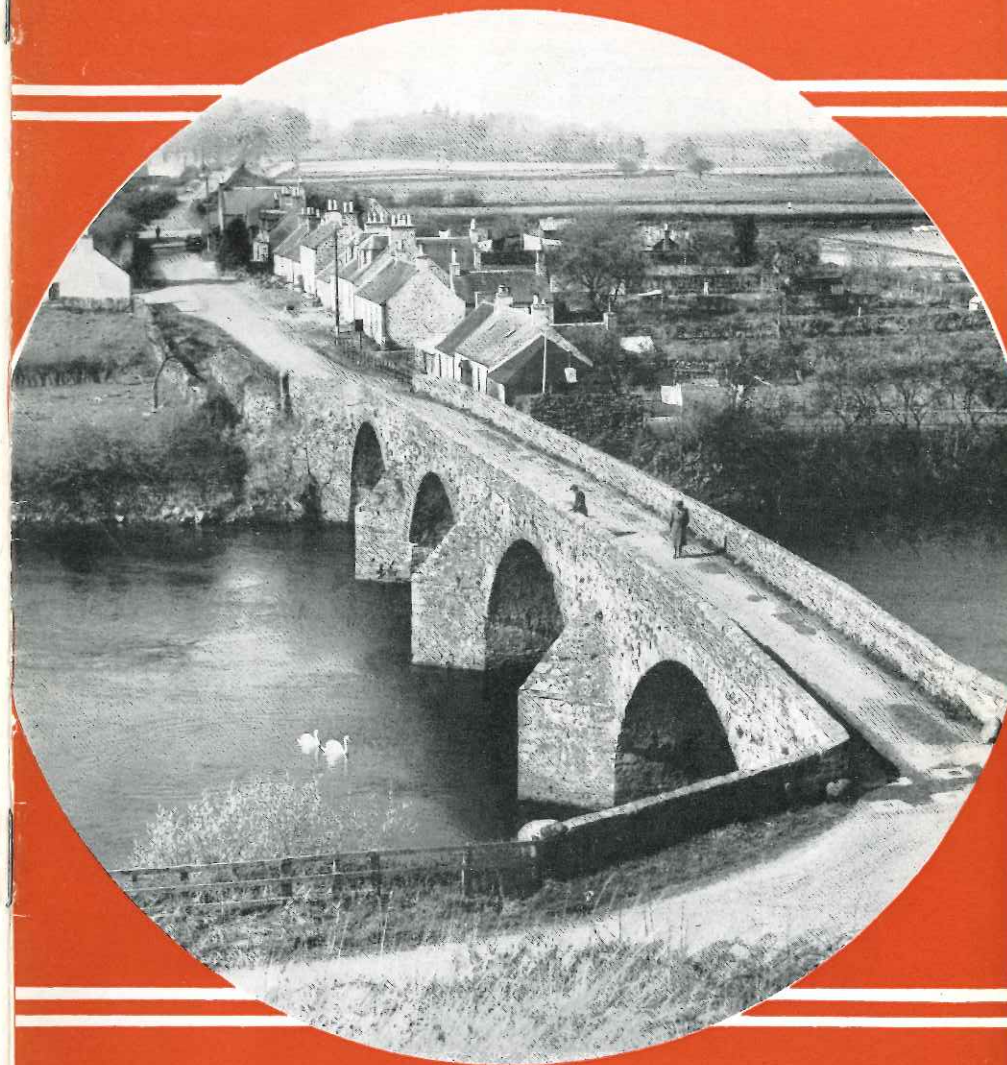
and the price will be 5s. 0d.

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Chance

COMMENTS



OCTOBER — NOVEMBER 1958

3^D

Chance

COMMENTS

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

Contents

EDITOR A. OGDEN

CORRESPONDENTS

Blown and Pressed

Inspection F. O'CONNOR
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Vello O. MCKENNA
Warehouses G. GRIGG

Flat Glass

Fiesta MRS. GILGESS
Rolled Plate and Coloured R. E. EVANS
Rolled Plate Warehouse MISS W. WALKER
Seven Storey A. FARDELL
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Buying and Stationery MRS. M. FLOOK
Wages A. E. CARTWRIGHT
Stores D. R. KIRKWOOD
Old Hall MISS V. HICKLING

BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS

Glasgow H. MACLEOD
London J. C. PERKINS
Malvern MISS D. CLARE

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COVER COMPETITION

Although several readers doubt it, the location of the cover photograph in the last issue was the coast near Mawgan Porth and Mrs. O'Riordan claimed the five shillings prize.

Another five shillings will be awarded to the sender of the first correct identification of this month's view. Send your entry to the editor, c/o Personnel Department.

DEVELOPMENT REQUIRES TEAM WORK

by W. C. Hynd

AN "INTERNATIONAL" FIELD

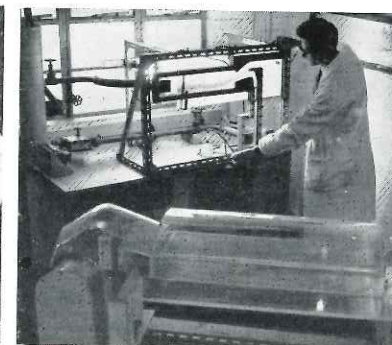
Any follower of athletics will know that only an athlete capable of running a sub-four minute mile stands any chance of success nowadays in an international mile race. Ten or fifteen years ago a time of four minutes ten seconds would have been good enough to gain a win twice in three times, but now such a time would not be good enough to reach the finals. The developments in miling have been amazing, standards have risen sharply and the modern athlete has had to recognise this and completely rethink his training methods.

It may come as a surprise to some readers that very much the same thing has been happening in the production field since the war. Let the figures speak for themselves. In the period 1946-1957 productivity per man has increased by about 20% in Great Britain, and 35% in the U.S.A. These figures apply to industry as a whole. The increase in productivity of the British glass industry has been above the general average and Chances in particular have a record to be proud of here. In the manufacture of rolled plate glass our productivity has increased 100% since 1945 and besides this, whereas we required over two fifths of a ton of coal to melt a ton of glass in 1945, we now require only a little over half this amount today.

What do these striking progress figures mean? Briefly, any individual company which does not improve its productivity as fast as, or faster than, the average figure is steadily losing ground to its competitors at home or abroad. It is very much like a swimmer swimming in a river, unless he swims faster than the current he will make no progress and will in fact be washed downstream. And, as in miling, competition today is at an international level and will become even more so when the European Common Market comes into being. We at Chances cannot afford to let any company anywhere develop faster than us.

Where do these improvements in productivity come from? There are

- Left: Messrs. Reeves and Morrison work out a new design for No. 50 F.
- Right: A perspex model used to study the flame pattern of a new design of Furnace.



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many reasons, but the main one is the development of better technical processes and machines, and better ways of using the tools which exist. Just as the international miler has had to revise his ideas on training to meet tougher standards, so we have had to revise our ideas on the best ways to make sure that our development rate keeps us out in front.

Team Work is the Secret

This brings us to the main point of this article. Successful development requires team work, with everyone in the factory helping to push development forward whenever it lies in his power. Development is not a job to be left to the back room boys, essential though they are. Look for the moment at the different ways in which a development can be brought about.

One main way is through a suggestions scheme where ideas put forward by anyone in the company, from top to bottom, are given a thorough and fair examination by the management, and if they look promising, adopted and a fair reward paid to the person who suggested it. Sometimes some of us are apt to rather deride our suggestions scheme; this is wrong, we should do everything we can to make it work. If some factory somewhere else in the world is getting more results from their suggestions scheme than we are, then they are that much better equipped to win the race for markets.

Perhaps even more important than a formal suggestions scheme are the day to day improvements brought about by those running a process - worker, or management. These improvements are apt to go unheralded and perhaps even unnoticed, but they can be very important. One example known to the writer, and there are probably many at other places on the works, is the 250% increase in output and the 80% reduction in the proportion of rejects achieved in the Cathode Sealing section between 1955 and 1958, as the result of first rate team work and a co-operative effort to progress forward.

But not all development can be carried out as a day to day business.

The bigger development cannot be tackled without special equipment, special staff and a special allocation of money. Glass making is a difficult job and before any new process is developed years of work may be required. At Chances we have successfully developed two new processes since the war, the machine production of microscope cover glass and the manufacture of interchangeable hypodermic syringes. Chances were the first in the world to make an interchangeable hypodermic syringe, and so far as we know, no-one else in Europe is yet able to supply micro glass other than hand made glass subject to all the irregularities of the hand produced article. These are not big processes, but even so, several years work and a fairly big expense bill were required before anything saleable was produced from either. In the case of a major glass making process development, the budget must be thought of in terms of hundreds of thousands of pounds and the development time reckoned in years.

Not only is the cost of modern development high but modern processes, like modern aeroplanes, are getting increasingly complicated and technical. Anyone who has seen the fully automatic furnace recently commissioned as No. CG.50 at our Glasgow Works will realise how complex development is becoming. By the way, with this furnace we feel that we at Chances are way out ahead of anyone else in Europe. No one man can work out a development of this size. It was arrived at by the combined efforts of different experts, the glass technologist, the instrument engineer, the furnace designer and the mechanical engineer, together with quite a lot of work from the people who actually use the plant.

Specialist Development Sections

Because of the need to keep our place in the development race and because of the increasing technical complication of modern processes, it was decided last year to set up two new departments at Chances, the Technical Development department and the Process Develop-

ment department, and to strengthen the development of the existing Instrument section. Readers may be interested to hear of a similar, but much more extensive, project going forward at the Group headquarters at St. Helens, where an entirely new development division is being set up.

What special functions do these technical departments have? First, they provide a group of people with the necessary technical knowledge, and perhaps more important, the time available to study and work out improvements to processes. Production people usually have too many day to day problems in front of them to be able to stand back and study the technical side of their processes. The technical departments have other advantages. Often they can look at a problem with a fresh eye or from a different viewpoint than the people living with the process day after day. By the very nature of their work the personnel of the technical departments gain a wide experience, and can often apply a solution worked out for one section of the works to a problem cropping up somewhere else. Having got a line of approach to some problem then the technical department people can go away and work out some sort of proposal. Not infrequently the most fruitful gains occur when this proposal is examined—and often shot

down—by the production people who will have to adopt it. Very often they can produce some revision or alternative proposal that is very much more acceptable.

What problems do the technical departments meet? Readers may be surprised that even in this field human relations must be put as number one. However, since we have been operating, we have been very fortunate in having had the best of co-operation, and only rarely do we meet the square peg who specialises in providing the difficulties to everyone else's solutions!

As we move forward to even higher productivity and more advanced products, the technical departments are going to play an increasingly important part. But however useful the work of the specialist development departments, there is no real gain until the new ideas and processes are taken up and got into operation by the production people in the works. To achieve success real team work is required. Everyone in the works must be ready to join together in seeking improvements, knocking ideas into working shape, and then fostering them through the initial stages until they become working processes. We must come to realise that only by recognising and welcoming change and improvement as the normal course are we going to keep ahead at home and abroad.

● Messrs. Urwin, Kelly and Bailey of Glasgow Works on the final stages of compacting the bottom of No. 50 F.



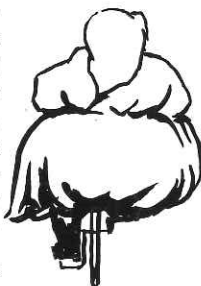


WHAT GOES ON AT MALVERN

by Vera Hickling

AS we well know, the most surprising things happen in industry. We are now quite used to departments leaving Spon Lane to set up in some secluded spot in the country. But when in the dead of winter some twelve years ago an obscure section from the Optical suddenly departed complete with two operators to take up residence in Malvern Link, it was quite a thing.

The local inhabitants were as far as one could make out, mostly oldish folk with a liberal smattering of retired clergymen and industry was frowned upon.



● On her bicycle

Malvern Link has altered a great deal since then. The gentlemen of the cloth have vanished to "another place" and our little community has flourished so exceedingly that the red bus which now stops conveniently outside the door proudly bears the label "Chances."

One might imagine that life flows quietly along under the dreaming Worcester Beacon, but Oh no. Quite the reverse! These country folk are a lively lot, always off on a trip somewhere or other and everybody knows everybody else, and tongues wag nineteen to the dozen.

The factory seeths with individual personalities, heightened by a strong international influx.

Take the Dutchman for instance, who goes off alone to Rotterdam for a holiday all bright and shining in a new grey suit bought by his wife, and a pair of ginger suede shoes (least said about those the better). What does he do? He sells the suit and arrives home without it. What Englishman would have the courage to do such a thing?

It is very noticeable that one shift is far more noisy than the other. The reason is very easy to see and hear.

● In festive mood



The shrinking room is usually very quiet except for the occasional rasp of a cutting wheel or the whirr of machines, but who knows what goes on up there.

No doubt you have heard of the gruesome head shrinkers of the Andes. If you ever travel that way and are tempted to purchase a tiny human head, examine it well, for just under the hair line it may be stamped "Made in Malvern." I believe these heads fetch a good price and Malvern is doing very well we are told.

Amongst the shrinkers is a sultry Italian girl and a crack shot—catch 'em, shoot 'em and shrink 'em, that's their motto.

If you look over the screen at the end of the shrinkers' room you will see a lady sitting there apparently threading nothing into a little tube. Ask her what she is doing and she will look up, take a deep breath, smile and say "04" and then continue to thread nothing into the tube.

I tell you they are an amazing lot, we've even got a cave man—up he comes from under the grassy mound with a bundle of glass balanced on his shoulder just like a great club.



● A sultry Italian girl

As yet we have no coloured folk at the factory unless you count a certain person in the gauge room who went to Italy for her holidays and came back darker than many a Jamaican.

If you want to know how to buy meat or cook vegetables, ask the girl from Haarlem. She maintains that the



● The crack shot

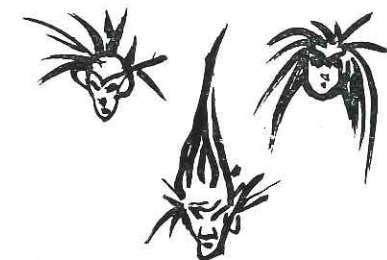
English haven't a clue and what's more she says they get the stair carpet up once a fortnight in Holland.

As one passes Inspection, one is never surprised to hear a little bit of French and in the Grinding room where they talk glibly in tens of thousands one is sure to be greeted with "Hello friend, how's the enemy?"

If you want flat chips for lunch instead of square ones, you can have them. Should you require a hypodermic or a beauty queen, they are here for the asking.

Charm and shop stewards do not usually go together, but then, this is Malvern, where the sun shines and the air is like wine and the country folk keep their individuality and joyous outlook on life undimmed by the smoke and grime of the Black Country.

Oh yes! If you live up the Witch, and the last bus goes before 10 p.m., not to worry, the taxi will take you home.





● Left to right: Robert Davenport, Electricians; Irene Dunn, Typing; Derek Biggs, Mould Shop; Brenda Shakespeare, Purchase Accounts; Trevor Harvey Millwrights; Valerie Carr, Hollerith; David Saul, D.R.M.; David Detheridge, Blacksmiths; Cherralyn Wall, Home Sales; John Porton, Carpenters; Patricia Hughes, Sales; Peter Bayliss, Physics Laboratory; Thomas Hill, Millwrights; Jillian Payne, Physics Laboratory; Michael Thompson, Plumbers; Patricia Kendrick, Costs.

From School to Industry

Eleven boys and seven girls who left school during the past year have joined Chance Brothers works and offices at Smethwick. It is our sincere hope that they will be happy with us. The Company's training scheme for young people provides systematic training for boys and girls who show evidence of interest, intelligence and tenacity.

The ingredients necessary for any satisfying job are: that the work itself is worth doing; that it makes proper use of the abilities one possesses; that it is done for a good firm and in congenial company; that it provides opportunities for advancement; that its due reward is not stinted.

Above is a photograph of the newcomers and we wish them every success. Terence Brittain, Bricklayers and Robert Hedley, Transport Repairs, were not available for the photograph.

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Since our last issue five employees have received cash awards on their completion of twenty-five years continuous service.



● Left: Herbert Randle, Traffic Office received his award from Mr. C. J. S. Newman.



● Right: Dr. W. M. Hampton makes the presentation to Bert Taylor, Blown and Pressed.



● Above: William Withers, Blown and Pressed.



● Below: William Ray, Blown and Pressed.

Miss P. Gray, secretary to the Managing Director was the other recipient.



Chance

SNAPSHOTS



- Left and top right: Five tables at No. 10 Group Annual Dinner.
- Above: The Blown and Pressed Division won the interdepartmental bowls competition for third year running.
- Below, left: It is traditional for Mrs. Lane, the cleaner of the Malvern Works, to receive flowers on her birthday from members of the staff.
- Below, right: Table-tennis is played in the Pavilion on Wednesday and Thursdays.





From all Departments

MOSTLY PERSONAL

Flat Glass

Fiesta department congratulates Noreen English on her engagement to Ernest Burgess.

Joseph Cope of the Rolled Plate Warehouse and Harold Skidmore of Fiesta have retired after prolonged absence due to ill health.

The Rolled Plate Warehouse congratulates Gladys Walker and her husband on their silver wedding anniversary, and Paul Forrest and Norma Webb, who was employed in Fiesta, on the occasion of their wedding recently.

A welcome is extended to Dudley Walpole who has joined the Warehouse Office.

The committee of the Children's party fund held a function in the Recreation Club pavilion on 2nd September and despite frightful weather, there was a good turn up.

Glasgow

We are all hopeful that CG.50 Furnace is now settling down after a period of teething troubles, and we look forward to achieving satisfactory results in the near future.

The Recreation Club has already commenced its winter activities, and the Table Tennis Section, having again entered a team in the League, expects to improve on last year's showing.

We were sorry to lose Catherine Scott and Muriel Rothwell of the Wage Office, who have gone to take up work elsewhere, the former in London.

A warm welcome is extended to Helen Tucker and Anne Watson.

Laboratory

The Laboratory staff congratulates Roy Emmett on his recent engagement and Mary Eccles and Pat Wardle on



● The wedding of Paul Forrest and Norma Webb.

attaining their majority. Bob Beavon has left us for a time due to National Service. We were very pleased to have M. Tinello, a student from Italy in the Chemistry Laboratory, for several weeks and hope that he enjoyed our company and benefited from his practical experience.

London

Our staff have been involved in the recent London rail crashes and delays but fortunately, only to a limited extent, and we were much relieved when they arrived at the office in one piece.

Traffic in London does not improve and quite often it takes an hour and a half to get to the office from the place of residence.

Our staff are busy preparing for the Fiesta pre-Christmas exhibition which will be held in this office in September. We sent out about 7,000 invitations and we are hopeful of a worthy response.

Maintenance and Construction

The Carpenters congratulate Jack Farrington and his wife on the birth of a son. Alan Poulson has now returned

to the Carpenters on the completion of National Service.

Jack Brown of the Machine Shop has been in hospital recently and we are glad to have him back after a successful operation. Ken Hill, Boiler Shop is, at the time of going to press, in hospital for suspected appendix. Our pensioner friend, Joe Hinton is also in hospital for treatment for a rupture. We wish them well.

It does not seem very long since June Talbot came to us as a school leaver to the Drawing Office staff and we learn with joy that she has become engaged to John Parsons who was at one time a member of the Drawing Office staff.

Bob Turley, an apprentice electrician, now on National Service was married to Janet Miller of the Seven Storey, on 20th September.

Several old friends have retired recently. They are, Alfred Holmes, Arthur Bradley, Benjamin Wilkes, William Berry, Arthur Gibbs, William Smallwood, Walter Spencer, John Dean and Harry Bennington. It is everyone's wish that they have happy and long retirement and it would be good to have them visit the works from time to time.

The Maintenance and Construction department express appreciation to Ernest Bullen and Joe Studer for their efforts to produce a spot of green and display of plants in various corners of the works. The photograph on page 13 gives an indication of their efforts.

Arthur Pitchford has left the Millwrights department, Tony Ansell the Carpenters, and Richard Dashper, the Drawing Office—we wish them success in their new jobs.

Malvern

We are pleased to report that owing to the increased demand for the products of the Malvern works, it has been necessary to take on more girls and we extend a warm welcome to them. We hope they will find the work congenial and be happy with us.

Anita Hunt, who left us recently to join the staff of the G.P.O. has been replaced by Anne Buckler who has been transferred from the process room to Mrs. King's office. Anne was in the news in *Chance Comments* several months ago when she was chosen Glass Queen.

The "race girls" at Malvern are looking forward to a trip to Newbury on the 4th October arranged by Mrs. Kite.

Offices

The Sales Office offer their congratulations to Doug Curry on his marriage to Margaret Hawkins on 16th August and to Paget Freckleton on her marriage to Peter Abbey on 23rd August.

A bouquet goes to Harold Fisher of the Buying Office on being selected as the Birmingham student representative to the Purchasing Officers' Association National Conference.

Mrs. A. Botting has left the staff of the Wages Office and that department offers best wishes to Mrs. R. Simcox who has been away ill for several weeks.

John Hayes has returned to the Cost Office on the completion of his National Service.

Old Hall

Frank Guest has been away for several weeks and the Old Hall staff wish him speedy recovery—they miss his smiling face.

Kenneth Hill and Edward Thomas have left Work Study and Kenneth Price has left the Development section—we wish them well in their new jobs.

A certain gentleman on loan to Pyrometry department has quite the Churchillian touch—he's building his own house!

Personnel

Congratulations are extended to Brenda Smith on her marriage to Mike Williams on 16th August.

News comes from Australia that Sadie McMahon who was at one time Sister of our Medical Centre, has married.

(continued at foot of page 14)

● Brenda Smith (Personnel) on her last day in the Office before she became Mrs. Williams.



Jottings of shorter items and employees' contributions

PERILS OF PICCADILLY

Those readers who have already seen the colour film "Glass" will no doubt recall a scene in which the wraith of the ancient Roman glassmaker, played by Maurice Durante, is shown dodging "chariots" whilst making his way across Piccadilly Circus.

For the actual filming of this sequence a car was laid on, which would, according to the script, almost run him down as he neared the camera, and with the aid of the Metropolitan Police a usable "take" was made first time.

Another was organised however, in order to tighten up the "running down" sequence. Just as the "Roman" started to cross the Circus for the second time, the traffic lights changed to green, and a taxi, whose driver knew nothing of the filming, came charging across. The "Roman" heroically kept on walking, holding his arm up in traditional fashion. The taxi-driver however, took absolutely no notice and charged up to the very last moment, when he slammed on his brakes and skidded to a stop just as the "Roman" with a tremendous leap to avoid the taxi, landed right in the path of the film car which was accelerating on cue. Another frantic leap saved him from instant death, throwing him right up into the camera and revealing in the

background the taxi-driver staring, his mouth opening and shutting. Fortunately, his cockney vocabulary was swallowed up by the distance. Result—a perfect "take."

The colour film "Glass" shows various manufacturing processes in the Pilkington Group and includes excellent scenes taken at Chance Brothers, Smethwick Works.

SUN SPEC' SPECULATORS

More than a million pairs of sun glasses were bought in Britain even in that splash-happy summer, at prices from five shillings to five guineas. Their frames ranged from flimsy circles of celluloid to exotic hand-made creations worthy of a Riviera film festival. And there was almost as much variation in the lenses.

The majority of these, regardless of price, were ordinary tinted glass, affording no protection from ultra-violet radiation and, in a good number of cases, may be actually harmful to the eyes.

As was disclosed by the Association for Consumer Research in a recent investigation into sunglasses, the frequent assurance of shopkeepers "these are all right, they are Crookes lenses" is almost invariably untrue.

This widely used term "Crookes lens" and similar selling derivatives such as "Genuine Crookes Glass" "Guaranteed Crookes Lens" and "First Quality Crookes" the Association pointed out, was frequently misleading.

It is in fact often quite meaningless unless backed up by the gold label "Chance Crookes Glass, Guaranteed Ultra Violet Absorption" the sign of optically worked lenses which do filter out the harmful rays from the sun and which are made from genuine Chance Crookes glass.

BIBLICAL ORIGIN

According to the "Cumberland Group Bulletin" of the United Steel Company, the father of all safety officers is mentioned in the Old Testament. That wise leader of men, Moses, after bringing the children of Israel out of Egypt, gradually built up rules of conduct to govern their behaviour. The rules were collected together by the Jewish historian, Josephus, about 93 A.D.

One rule says that if a man has an ox which he knows to be dangerous and does not shut it up and it kills a man, the owner shall be put to death. Modern industrial equivalent says that employers who don't fence dangerous machinery will be prosecuted.

In the words of Josephus: "Let those that dig a well or pit be careful to lay planks over them, and so keep them shut, not in order to hinder any person from drawing water, but that there be no danger of falling into them," (guard those floor openings). And another: "Let there be a battlement round the top of your houses, that may prevent any person from rolling down and perishing," (handrails prevent falls).

According to Josephus, Moses delivered these laws about 1,600 years earlier. It is nearly 1,900 years since the time of Josephus, so they are 3,500 years old.

There's nothing new under the sun, they say, and time and experiences have not lessened the importance of safety precautions, nor the need for constant reiteration of warnings.

OUT OF THE PAST

The Editor has come across a copy of *The Ironmonger* dated June 30th, 1862, in which the following report was made: *The Japanese Ambassadors in Birmingham*—Their Excellencies the Japanese Ambassadors paid a visit to Birmingham on the 29th ult., on an invitation from the mayor.

The object of their Excellencies' visit was to witness and inquire into the various processes by which Birmingham manufactures are brought to perfection and it seemed to be their primary desire to see the metals in the several stages of their preparation for use.

We have thought that our readers would like to accompany them; and therefore invite them to accompany the distinguished foreigners in one of the four carriages which formed the cortege. We proceed first to:—

MESSRS. CHANCE GLASS WORKS

Notwithstanding the intense heat, and the bustle and the noise, their Excellencies pried into every corner with the most exemplary disregard of personal convenience. So anxious had their Excellencies been to see glass made, and so delighted were they after they had seen it, that they could scarcely express the pleasure and astonishment that their visit had afforded them. They said they had seen nothing in England which had surprised them more, and they could only describe the process by which the globe was developed into the large sheet of crown glass as "magical."

CHANCE COMMENTS GOES OVER-SEAS

A copy of this magazine is posted to each employee who is on National Service. The following letter is from Ron Ball, (Transport Repair Shop apprentice), who is with R.E.M.E. in Cyprus.

"I am writing this letter to thank you very much for the magazine *Chance*

Below: Joe Studer and Ernest Bullen create a garden in Spon Lane.

Foot: Part of a large order for micro cover slips and slides for China. This was the first order from China for very many years.



The Coloured Film
"GLASS"
will be shown in the
CINEMA ROOM
(over the Canteen)

on
THURSDAY, 6th NOVEMBER
At 12.20 p.m. 1.45 p.m. 7.30 p.m.

Friends and relatives of employees may attend the evening show at which the film "Looking Through Glass" will also be projected.



DO YOU REMEMBER?

The photograph left appeared in our last issue and readers were invited to name the men and place and approximate date.

Fred Moore of the Ledger Office

Comments which I have been receiving regularly out here in Cyprus.

Since I left Chance Brothers, many things have happened whilst I have been in the Forces.

I would never have thought twelve months ago that I should be 2,600 miles away in Cyprus by the same time this year.

Last year I attended the "Driver of the Year" area contest at Castle Bromwich and I thought then that we had bad luck in the contest, therefore, when I saw in *Chance Comments* that this year we had taken some of the offerings, I was very pleased and I would be very glad if you would pass on my congratulations to Drivers, S. Beddall and E. A. Taylor, on their achievement.

I hope all my friends in the T.R.S. and Transport are keeping in good health and indeed that everyone in the firm is keeping well.

The weather out here is very hot. A bit too hot for my liking. I am still in the same trade and very often I have been glad of things taught to me during my training at Chance Brothers."

Dick Ingram of the Gatehouse, J. Lord, a pensioner, and Bob Perkins, now a director of Wootons (Croydon) Limited and at one time a member of our sales staff, found this picture brought back memories and they each suggest that it dates back to 1910. Each of the old gentlemen was a fifty years service medalist and their names from left to right are:—

Sam Lunn (Gatekeeper), Dick Batten (Bender), Ben Perkins (Crown Sheet Piler), "Cloggy" Harvey (Turner), Tom Timmins (Optical Teazer) and "Gillyflower" Woodward (Traffic).

PERSONAL HOLIDAY FUND

The accounts of the Personal Holiday Fund show that last year, £12,836 was deducted from wages as holiday savings. This fund was founded in 1938 and the total saved is £130,734. If any of our employees are not members they may request the wages or salary's office to deduct a regular amount from their pay packet and repayment will be made in time for the 1959 annual holiday.

NEWS FROM ALL DEPARTMENTS—continued from page 11.

Optical

Horace Allibone has been absent from work through illness for several weeks and we sincerely hope that he will recover soon.

We are glad to have Mrs. G. Poynton back after her illness. It was with regret that we learned of the death of Mrs. Smallwood who worked in the department up to a year ago.

Transport and Traffic

The No. 10 Group held their annual dinner at the Blue Gates Hotel on Friday, 19th September. Mr. W. A. Standley presided and the guests includ-

ed Mr. S. W. Shaw and Mr. A. Ogden. The occasion was a very happy one.

In our last issue we reported on our success in the Birmingham area "Lorry Driver of the Year" competition and Drivers Beddall and Taylor took part in the National competition held on 21st September. S. Beddall came fourth in his class after a very tight competition and gained "The Commercial Motor" Diploma of Merit. E. A. Taylor had bad luck in one of his tests which put him out of the running for a leading place. Our two men did extraordinarily well and they earn the congratulations of everybody at Chance Brothers.

SUGGESTIONS SCHEME

£41 15 0 awarded for ideas

During the months of August and September, the Suggestions Scheme Committee made awards to the total of £41 15s. 0d. for adopted suggestions. None of these was included in the competition which ends on the 31st October.

F. Bolton hits the Jack Pot

Fred Bolton of the Blown and Pressed Division has received an award of £25.

He recommended that Tufnall pins should be substituted for brass pins on the retractable frame of the Cathode Welding Machine, as he had noted, during the welding operations, that a number of cathode envelopes were faulting due to the hardness of the brass pins.

An award of £11

C. Seddon and P. Welch of the D.R.M. Shop shared an award of £11. They submitted a sketch which detailed alterations to the burner cleaning apparatus to enable five burners to be cleaned at the same time by a force of paraffin oil. The adoption of this idea resulted in a cleaner and better job and improved working conditions in that the operator does not now have to put his hands into the paraffin. This was an excellent suggestion as the importance of clean burners to the efficient running of the furnace cannot be placed too highly.

J. Horton received £1 15s. 0d.

J. Horton of Maintenance and Construction recommended that the greasers be issued with grease guns fitted with hinged lids so that grit would not enter the grease. This simple but helpful idea resulted in an award of £1 15s. 0d.

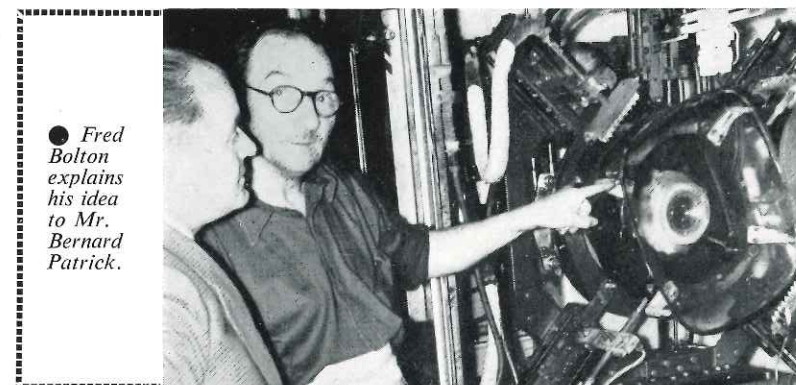
Two safety ideas

E. R. Owen of the Electricians department has had two safety suggestions adopted and each resulted in an award of £1. One idea was to fit guards over the couplings on the oil pumps situated on the Mound. The other was an obvious reminder that metal ladders should not be used in the Rolled Plate Warehouse in view of the risk of their coming into contact with crane conductors.

Reminder and merit awards

D. Parry and E. Carter of the Boiler Shop each received 10s. 0d. for suggestions which could not be adopted but where there was evidence of time, thought and trouble in preparing the idea.

J. Horton received two "reminder" awards of 10/- each.



● Fred Bolton explains his idea to Mr. Bernard Patrick.

RECREATION CLUB

Out of Summer into Winter

The winter programme of the Recreation Club is now underway.

Monday evenings is Darts and Dominoes
Tuesday, Badminton
Wednesday and Thursday, Table-Tennis
Friday, Badminton or special functions
Saturday, Football and Dancing
Sunday, Concerts

Welcome to our New Steward

The Club welcomes George Guest who was appointed recently as Steward and hope that he and his wife will be happy in their new position.

Cricket

The cricket section have had a very poor season this year and may be relegated to Division 2.

At times it was a struggle to get two teams together, which should not be considering the number of cricketers at Spon Lane. It is hoped that when the extension to the pavilion is finished we will have an overflowing membership for the section.

The final of the Foster Cup competition was played at the Recreation Ground on 2nd September between the Offices Eleven and Blown and Pressed Eleven. An excellent game ended in a win for the Offices by 32 runs.

Score Card

OFFICES XI

H. Helsby *b* Bustin, 0; J. Francis *b* Bustin 7; L. G. Hinton *lbw*, *b* Bustin, 4; G. Staples *not out*, 23; J. F. Allen *et* Bytheway *b* Taylor, 27; S. Butler *not out*, 9; Extras 11. Total 81.

B. Fowles, D. Hewitt, J. Foster, D. Clarke and T. Summers did not bat.

Bowling: J. Bustin 3 for 13, E. Taylor 1 for 10.

BLOWN AND PRESSED XI

B. Whitehouse *b* Butler, 1; E. Taylor *et* Clarke *b* Allen, 5; B. Healey *run out*, 7; J. Bodley *b* Butler, 1; J. Bustin *b* Allen, 2; E. Jones *b* Allen, 1; A. Bytheway *not out*, 12; F. Saul *b* Butler, 10; H. Greenway *b* Butler, 6; A. McPherson *b* Butler, 1; A. Sutton *b* Butler, 2. Extras 1. Total 49.

Bowling: Butler 6 for 24, Allen 3 for 24.

This is only the second occasion on which the Offices have won the competition, the previous occasion being in 1937 when the trophy was first put up for competition.

The trophy will be presented to the winners at the Annual Dinner of the Cricket Section, to be held on 24th October in the Pavilion.

Bowling

Eight teams took part in the inter-departmental Bowls Competition which is a record for a number of years.

The four teams to reach the semi-final stage were, General Office who met the

Seven Storey and Blown and Pressed who played the Optical. The finalists were the Blown and Pressed and they proved to be once again the bowls team of the year and defeated the Seven Storey by a large margin.

The Blown and Pressed must be congratulated on winning the trophy for the third year in succession.

The team's captain during the three years was Cocker Fenton and Sir Hugh Chance marked the occasion by presenting Cocker with a replica of the trophy.

Angling

The Recreation Club has an angling section of which the members are justly proud, and although we are a small club so far as membership is concerned, we fish three contests regularly as well as fishing in the West Midlands and the Annual B.A.A.

The Club is affiliated to the B.A.A. and is run as economically as is possible for the members, no fees are deducted for anything unless we have to pay for private waters when we fish in water other than B.A.A. controlled.

There are many anglers here who are not members and who do not support this club, some saying they prefer to fish when and where they like. That is fair enough, BUT, there are about forty weeks of the year when fishing is possible. We fish three contests each year, and that will leave thirty-seven weekends to go individual fishing.

The members of this club are, without exception, good sportsmen, and to those anglers employed here who also consider themselves to be good sportsmen, there is a welcome waiting for you if you will come along and join.

The contribution is 1s. 6d. per week, and this entitles you to the B.A.A. membership card, a free seat on the coach to each of the three contests and three chances to be among the prize winners.

For further particulars, get in touch with H. L. Newey, General Offices.

The first Bye Contest was fished at Hampton Loade on Sunday, July 13th and was won by H. L. Newey with L. Richards second.

On September 7th we fished the Annual Contest at Bidford on Avon, and this was won by E. Yardley, with L. Richards again second.



● H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH ON CHANCE BROTHERS' STAND AT THE BRUSSELS EXHIBITION.