

John Parker EAST HENDRED

Newsagent - Bookseller Stationer - Tobacconist

Supplier on site morning, evening, and Sunday since 1931

> Agent for local Press Advertising Local Press Representative

SHEETS

TOWELS

BLANKETS

PILLOW CASES

TEA CLOTHS

TABLECLOTHS

Etc., Etc.

, this list goes on and on, and coupled with our FABRIC DEPARTMENT gives a good range of good quality merchandise WHY NOT CALL TODAY?

E. H. BEESLEY

OUTFITTERS TAILORS HOUSEHOLD LINENS WOOLS LADIES' WEAR FABRICKS

> HIGH STREET ABINGDON

TELEPHONE 33



At Abingdon, Oxford and Faringdon



Accredited specialist Startright Fitters—a comprehensive range for 'tots to teens'.



American styled made in Scotland a wonderfully successful range for I to 4 year olds. We are SOLE AGENTS in this area.

At Oxford and Faringdon



Clarks' Foot Gauges.

6 BATH STREET, ABINGDON

Bailey'S BA

E. Bailey & Son. (Footwear) Ltd. and at London St., Faringdon

HARLEQUIN

Ne. 17

LEISURE MAGAZINE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY
ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT, HARWELL



Crown Copyright Reserved

Sir Edwin Plowden, Chairman of the U.K.A.E.A., and Sir John Cockcroft, Director of A.E.R.E., welcome Her Royal Highness, The Princess Margaret on her private visit to the Establishment.

Matthey high purity metals To extend its service to metallurgical industry and research this company has established a special production unit for the preparation of a wide range of metals' to an exceptionally high degree of purity and in a variety of physical forms. For example, copper is now available, oxygen free, and containing less than 0.0015 per cent total impurities. Sheet, rod and wire are available, produced entirely by cold working from vacuum-cast ingots. COPPER vacuum-cast billets can also be supplied. Other metals produced to similar high standards of purity include iron, nickel, cobalt, chromium, indium, gallium, germanium and silicon. Specialised Products of Johnson **«**

Proof Readers' Competition

Since its conception this has proved the most popular of all our competitions. Five errors have been inserted in the advertisements of this issue with the co-operation of the business houses concerned and for an all-correct entry one guinea will be awarded for listing them; 10/6 for runner-up and book tokens for anyone listing an error not detected by any other reader.

Entries should be addressed to "Harlequin Proof Readers' Competition, C/o Central Registry, A.E.R.E." to arrive not later than 31st July.

BRITING SCHOOL of DANCING

ABINGDON

2/6

Absolute Beginners
MONDAY and FRIDAY
7.15 - 9.45 p.m.

Beginners and Intermediates

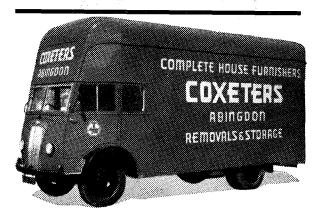
EVERY WEDNESDAY 2/6

Practise Dances (Members Only)
THURSDAY 8 - 10 p.m.
SATURDAY 7.30 - 10.30 p.m.

PRIVATE LESSONS DAILY

PHONE

ABINGDON 195



COXETERS LTD.

Complete House Furnishers

Furniture Removed and Warehoused China, Glass, etc.

Bedding Re-covered and Re-made

Cabinet Repairs

Upholsterers

Undertakers

TRY ABINGDON FIRST

21-27 OCK STREET, ABINGDON

Telephone Abingdon 47
We are pleased to arrange Hire Purchase facilities

Motor Cycles and
Autocycles are Our Business

B.S.A. Main Agents

New Hudson and Norman Autocycles Norman and Sun Lightweights

Large Stocks of

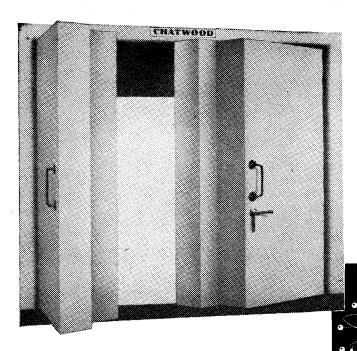
B.S.A. SPARES ACCESSORIES
AUTOCYCLE SPARES

Faulkner and Son

(Established 1910)

Cardigan Street, Oxford

Phone 57279



Shielding Doors designed, manufactured and recently installed by CHATWOOD for the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Establishment at the ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT, HARWELL.

Measurement over frame
8' high x 10' wide.
Approximate weight 12 tons.
Thickness of door 2'.



Chatwood have specialised in the development of protective structures and techniques for nearly one hundred years, and are qualified to help you with problems involving the hazards associated with nuclear reactions and radioactive elements.

Transporters for Active Materials
Isotope Containers
Stirrers
Glove Boxes
Valves
Remote Control Equipment
Super-Dense Concrete Structures
Shielded Rooms, Doors and Safes

R.P. DIVISION

CHATWOOD MILNER

The Chatwood Safe and Engineering Company Ltd. The Milners Safe Company Ltd.

Central Sales Office: 58 HOLBORN VIADUCT • LONDON • E.C.1

entral Sales Office : 56 HOLDONN VIADUCT CONDON

Telephone: CENtral 0041

Factories: Lendon Liverpool and Shrewsbury



Second from the right: Academician Topchiev; second from the left: Dr. Schonland, Deputy Director, A.E.R.E. (See article on page 26.)

Chandler's

of

WANTAGE

Transport Services

- & Luxury Coaches for all occasions
- ♣ Hire Car Service
- ❖ Furniture Removals to all parts

Grove Street Garage, Wantage

Phones 123 and 127

READ & PARTNERS LTD

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS and CONTRACTORS

At A.E.R.E. Harwell continuously since 1946

28-32, HATFIELDS, STAMFORD STREET, LONDON S.E.I.

Telephone Waterloo 5858-9

Site Office

A.E.R.E. HARWELL, BERKS.

Telephone Rowstock 238 (Ext. 11)



MOLEKULARGEWICHTSBESTIMMUNGSMETHODE

BLACKWELL'S

❄

Broad Street

OXFORD

On 'filling up' financially

You would not begin a journey across Britain by loading your car with enough petrol for the whole trip. The same applies to your cash requirements. The experienced traveller knows that Lloyds Bank Travellers' Cheques enable him to 'fill-up' financially as he goes. They can be cashed at any of the 1,700 offices of Lloyds Bank and, if need be, at the branches of almost all other British banks, and accepted by many hotels and stores.

Lloyds Bank Travellers' Cheques can be obtained in units of £2, £5, £10 and £20, from any branch of the Bank. They are one of the most convenient ways of carrying travel money anywhere in the world.

* Ask at any branch of Lloyds Bank for details of these facilities.

LLOYDS BANK TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES

LOCAL OFFICE: BUILDING 155, A.E.R.E., HARWELL Hours of Business: Monday to Friday 11.15 a.m. to 2.45 p.m.

HARWELL INVESTITURE

Sir Edwin Plowden looks on . . . what is it that the Director pins on Mr. Malenkov's lapel?



A personnel monitoring film to detect any radio-activity that might be absorbed during his visit.



AGENTS FOR BURBERRYS

General Drapers Outritters - Dressmakers

Furnishers

CARPETS - RUGS - LINOLEUMS SPRING INTERIOR MATTRESSES and DIVANS

CURTAINS and LOOSE COVERS made from CRETONNES - CHINTZES PRINTED LINENS

> Market Place WANTAGE

> > Telephone 50

Give

Electric

The Gift that ENDURES

APPLIANCES THAT ADD COMFORT AND EASE TO LIFE

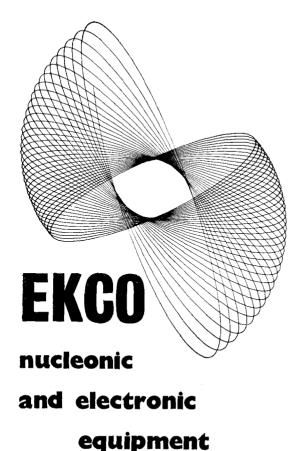
CALL AND INSPECT

'TRIANG' TRAINS and SCALE MODEL KITS also make ideal presents

The address:

A. NIVEN

32 BATH ST.
ABINGDON ON THAMES



EKGO ELECTRONICS have specialised in the development and production of advanced equipment for nuclear science. Our extensive experience in this field applies new knowledge and new techniques to the practical needs of research, medicine and industry.

SCINTILLATION COUNTERS
SCALING UNITS
COUNTING RATEMETERS
RADIATION MONITORS
VIBRATING REED ELECTROMETERS
GEIGER MULLER TUBES
LEAD SHIELDING
LINEAR AMPLIFIERS
POWER UNITS
COMPLETE COUNTING INSTALLATIONS
THICKNESS GAUGES



EKCO ELECT, ONICS LTD. Ekco Works, Southend-on-Sea, Essen

A. E. R. E.

RECREATIONAL ASSOCIATION

INSURANCE SCHEME

Members are reminded that they may enjoy specially reduced premium rates and valuable bonus concessions for their particular insurance requirements, and are invited to seek quotations without obligation on the prepaid enquiry form obtainable from:

MISS CROKER BUILDING 77, EXT. 2233

Full information and free advice are also obtainable from

MR. C. H. T. LEESON

of the Midland Assurance who attends the

SOCIAL CLUB

EVERY TUESDAY 12 NOON-2 P.M.

You will secure better protection at reduced cost by taking advantage of this Special Scheme operated through the Branch Office of the

MIDLAND EMPLOYERS MUTUAL ASSURANCE LTD

70 LONDON ROAD, READING

'Phone Reading 50010

"With great pleasure we shall tell the Soviet people of our impressions, and we are confident that there will arise among them corresponding feelings towards the people of the United Kingdom.

"Acquainting ourselves with atomic installations, the thought involuntarily came to our minds that ultimately the time will come when this mighty energy which very greatly moves aside frontiers of man's power over nature, will be placed at the service of peace."

- MARSHAL BULGANIN



Crown Copyright Reserved

LEFT TO RIGHT Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, Q.C., Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kruschev, Leader of the Russian Communist Party, Sir John Cockeroft, Director of A.E.R.E., Dr. Schonland, Deputy Director, Marshal N. A. Bulganin, Soviet Prime Minister, and Sir Edwin Plowden, Chairman of the U.K.A.E.A.

TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK

- ♦ Up to £50 repaid on demand if required
- Interest Allowed—General Department - 2½%
 Special Investment Department 3%
- * Special facilities for Thrift and Share-out Clubs

Branches throughut the Area—including

Carfax, OXFORD

Broadway Corner, DIDCOT

1 Stert Street, ABINGDON

A Representative of the Bank attends at A.E.R.E. (Social Club) each Friday between 12,30 and 2 p.m. when Savings Bank facilities are provided

YOUR EDDYSTONE ACENT



LWESTWOOD · 46 GEORGE STREET OXFORD

RADIO COMPONENTS AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

TELEPHONE: OXFORD 47783

THIS COLOPHON will be found on the title-page of all our scientific and technical publications and there are few branches of science and technology not covered by one or more books on our list. We shall be pleased to send you detailed information about them and about the books published by John Wiley & Sons Inc. and Reinhold Publishing Corporation, both of New York, for whom we are sole agents in this country. We would add that we are also always interested to see manuscripts of books for possible publication.

CHAPMAN & HALL '37 ESSEX STREET 'LONDON W.C.2.



Editor: D. A. Tyler

Sales: A. J. Trew Accounts: L. P. Thompson
Dr. R. B. Jacobi T. D. Condon M. D. Crew Dr. B. A Loveridge

EDITORIAL

In this issue, in which we record the welcome visit of H.R.H. The Princess Margaret, we recall in our article of tribute to R.A.F. Station, Harwell, the visit of King George VI to this site.

The horizon has changed much since then: today the runways are divided by wire fences; weird new buildings have sprung up, and yet the old hangars remain, their sides barnacled with offices, workshops, stores and laboratories.

On the other side of the Oxford-Newbury road the view has long remained untouched since the days of Arnhem, but now this too is changed: not by the addition of some vast new structure of bizarre design, but by the subtraction from the horizon of that familiar solitary landmark, the R.A.F. gymnasium. In our years it has served as Cinema, as the meeting place for such widely differing activities as Keep-Fit classes and election meetings, and more particularly as the Theatre of the Dramatic Society. As demolition proceeded, first the skeleton of the roof straddled flimsily across the sky, then the walls were reduced to rubble. Now, but for a rectangular grass-less patch, no trace remains.

Yet it is not just the site but we too who change: since the cutting of our ties with the Civil Service, there remains often one form to be filled in where several existed before and "one copy only will be required". Today it might be said that the energy released by our scientists from the reactors seems almost paltry compared with the human energy set free by the enlightened administrator.

External relations too have changed and are recorded in this issue. Significant has been the visit of the Russian leaders and the lecture in the week that followed by the Soviet Atomic Chief. At this lecture were divulged by him details of atomic methods which would have been classified top secret here and in the United States.

The angry satire on Soviet Communism, "Animal Farm", presented by the A.E.R.E. Film Society is reviewed in this issue. Its showing on the night of the same day, and in the same hall, as the above lecture was purely co-incidental, but illustrates the many-sided life of Harwell.

After hearing a great deal elsewhere about "The Russian visit", it is refreshing to read in this issue of the visit of Harwell delegates to Moscow under Dr. Schonland.

In these days when East-West relations are prominent in the news it is particularly inspiring to be reminded of ties that remain with the Commonwealth. Recorded in this issue are the personal generosity and goodwill of our Australian friends and colleagues, some of whom return now after periods of nine years in the U.K.

This magazine plans to feature in a later issue news from "our correspondents of the Southern Hemisphere" and would remind others who have left us that "Harlequin" will always be pleased to hear from them wherever they may be—

"Tomorrow to fresh woods and pastures new".

Guaranteed accuracy on our

SOCIETE GENEVOISE

ONE OF THE MANY SERVICES AVAILABLE TO YOU AT .

Min. of Supply A.I.D. Authority Ref. No. 5076/51

Air Registration Board Authority Ref. No. A1/3455/52

WALLISDOWN ROAD BOURNEMOUTH

Telephone: WINTON 5810-5811

It Happened Here

A. B. JONES



MAY 1938. The visit by air of H.M. King George VI to the "bomber" base, R.A.F. Station, Harwell.

or rather more than ten years now "Harwell" has been associated in the public mind-both in this country and overseas—with the United Kingdom's programme of nuclear research. The Atomic Energy Research Establishment has had its share of publicity which has ranged from the fascination of the project itself to the leisure time pursuits of the folk who have chosen to work behind the, now, familiar security fence; there have also been references—mainly favourable—to the impact of the Establishment and its activities upon the rural scene of North Berkshire. In the comparatively short period of its existence the Establishment has been playing its part in the making of history: it is proper, however, to chronicle the fact that only a few years earlier history was being made on the self same site—albeit by a somewhat different company.

The first occasion was the visit paid to the R.A.F. Station Harwell by H.M. King George VI in May, 1938, when it had been in use as a "bomber" base for only just over twelve months. It is noticeable that the trees which now effectively screen the facades of the hangars from the airfield were not there in those early days. His Majesty paid a second visit to the Station during the war—in July

4941—when it was in use as an Operational Training Unit.

In 1944 the Royal Air Force Station at Harwell came into its own as one of the most important airfields of No. 38 Group, Royal Air Force; the duties of that Group were cooperation with the Airborne Forces and the dropping of personnel, supplies and arms to Resistance Groups in the occupied countries of Europe.

It was about an hour before midnight on Monday 5th June, 1944: the war, which for four and three-quarter years had been waged against Hitler's Germany, was about to break into its final round; the scene was the Royal Air Force Station at Harwell from which airfield the first aircraft, carrying parachute troops who were the spearhead of the invasion for the liberation of Europe, took off at 2303 hours precisely. The operation was one of the most closely guarded secrets of the war. The first aircraft to leave on this historic mission was piloted by Squadron Leader C. Merrick and carried Air Vice Marshal Hollinghurst-now Sir Leslie Hollinghurst-who at that time was Air Officer Commanding No. 38 Group, Royal Air Force. At thirty-second intervals it was followed by five other pathfinder aircraft carrying the 22nd Independent

Parachute Company. The remainder of the 6th Airborne Division under the command of Major-General Gale—now General Sir Richard Gale, Commander in Chief of the British Army of the Rhime—took off an hour or so later from the Harwell and other No. 38 Group airfields in a vast air armada of 264 aircraft and 98 Horsa and Hamilcar gliders. It is recorded that "Richard the First" was chalked on the side of the glider which carried the General from Harwell.

But let Squadron Leader Dennis Wheatley who was then working with the Joint Planning Staff of the War Cabinet and who witnessed the activities at the Royal Air Force Station Harwell during the Corty-eight hours which preceded the start of the operation, describe the happenings:

66

"And then at last D-day was almost upon us. For the second time only since the end of 1941 I was allowed to go to an airfield—in this case the one from which the key operation for the first act in the liberation of Europe will be directed.

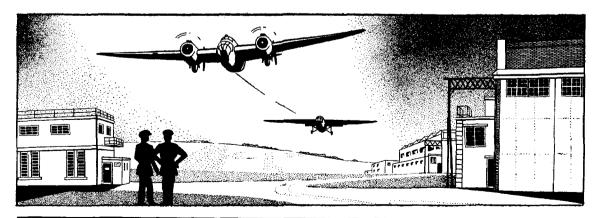
On the sunny morning of June 3rd I left London in an Air Ministry car. We sped along the Great West Road now, owing to the impossibility of obtaining petrol except for war purposes, almost empty of traffic, to Maidenhead. In peacetime the river there would have been gay with picnic parties in punts and launches; now it was still and deserted. More miles of England's green and pleasant land; the country lanes, the little cottages, inviolate for centuries from the brutal hand of an invader and inviolate still thanks to God and

the Royal Air Force. Then on to the downlands and, over to the horizon, to the widely spaced buildings of the R.A.F. Station which I am to visit.

It is a peace time aerodrome with well designed buildings and comfortable quarters, but they are crowded now as it is also the Headquarters of the 6th British Airborne Division. I see an adjutant and am taken to the mess. I do not feel in any way a stranger and within half an hour I have made a dozen new friends.

That evening I attend the preliminary briefing. It is a colour film showing a part of France. It is just as though we were all seated in a huge aircraft flying over the country of the film. Again and again we run in over the German held beaches to the fields in which the paratroops are to be dropped and the gliders come down. As we make our series of chairborne flights to the different objectives the commentator points out the principal landmarks of the area by which the pilots can identify their targets.

Back in the mess I meet scores more officers: there are about equal numbers in khaki and air force blue: they are now talking and laughing together. They all look incredibly fit and their morale is terrific. Half a dozen of us talked on till midnight: when soon afterwards we went to bed we were a bit worried about the weather but we knew that there could not possibly be a postponement unless it becomes exceptionally bad. That Saturday night ships were already moving to their concentration points and the security of the whole operation might be jeopardised if it was put off even for a single day. But in the morning the weather



was worse. At 1130 hours the Station Commander sent for me and told me that the operation would not take place that night. I was utterly appalled. Even an hour earlier, in spite of the poor weather, I would have bet anyone 100 to 1 in pounds that there would be no postponement. Fortunately, however, very few people even knew that a postponement had occurred, far less the possible use the enemy might make of it if his reconnaissance aircraft were active and alert. In consequence, that night the crowded mess was again the scene of gaiety and mirth: at about nine o'clock an impromptu sing song started and for over three hours we made the rafters ring with all the old choruses.

The morning of Monday, June 5th passed quietly. Very few people as yet knew that this was now definitely D-1. But at lunch time the whispered word ran round among the operational officers "Final briefing at 3 o'clock." There were three briefings, each taking an hour, for three separate but co-ordinated operations, and I listened to them all with wrapped intent. Major General Crawford, Director of Air Operations, War Office, had arrived from London to join us, and soon after, Air Vice Marshal Hollinghurst came in. Both had played a great part in the preparations of the forthcoming operation and the Air Vice Marshal was responsible for it, since under his command lay all the airfields in the area on which the aircraft and gliders, that were to take the 6th Airborne Division to France, were assembled.

The Station Commander, Group Captain Surplice, opened the proceedings in each case by reading orders of the day from the Supreme Commander, General Eisenhower, and the Commander-in-Chief, Air Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh Mallory. Then, having explained the general layout of the sea-borne assault, he asked General Gale to describe the part his Division was to play. The General told us that his task was to protect the left flank of the Allied Armies. To do this three separate landings would be made to the east of the river Orne. It was imperative that a large German battery which enfiladed the assault beaches should be silenced. One of the first groups to land would storm a small chateau and seize a car in its garage. Two paratroopers, both Austrians, would get in the car and drive hell for leather towards the steel gates of the battery



JULY 1941. The King comes again to R.A.F. Station, Harwell—this time by road—to inspect the No. 15 Operational Training Unit.

shouting in German "Open the Gates! open the Gates! the invasion has started!" The Germans would have heard the aeroplanes overhead so it was hoped that they would open up, then the paratroopers could hurl bombs through which would render it impossible to close the gates again. It was a suicide job. This fortress battery had a twenty foot wide and fifteen foot deep concrete ditch all round it filled with barbed wire and to make certain of the job the General meant to crash three gliders across the ditch.

The other two parties were to seize two adjacent bridges crossing the river Orne and the Caen Canal about five miles from the coast and to blow up other bridges further inland. The General then meant to establish his battle H.Q. between the two seized bridges, to infest with his men all the territory to the east in order to delay a German attack against the British flank and, when the attack came, as come it must, to fight with his back to the double water line. He thought that the 21st German Panzer Division would be at him pretty soon so he would need every anti tank gun that he could get in. 'We shall need those guns pretty badly' he said, and then, as though it had just occurred to him, he added, 'as a matter of fact we shall want them tomorrow' at which a great roar of laughter went up from the packed benches of the briefing room.

The Station Commander then briefed his pilots, giving detailed instructions to each flight as to their course in and out with the navigational aids arranged to get them safely home. Group Captain Surplice was followed by the Signals Officer, the Meteorological Officer and the Secret Devices Officer. The "Met" man predicted clear skies under 2,000 feet and broken cloud above which would let moonlight through so that the pilots should be able to pick out their dropping zones without difficulty.

The briefing over we returned to the mess. After dinner a few of us gathered round a rather special bottle of wine which had been produced for the occasion and together we drank to the success of this great venture".

And now for a graphic description of the scene on the airfield shortly before "take off" as related by the late Chester Wilmot in his book "The Struggle for Europe":

"On the evening of June 5th, 1944, as the last glow of twilight was fading from the western sky six R.A.F. Albemarles were drawn up on the runway of Harwell airfield. Gathered around them, drinking tea and smoking cigarettes, were 60 men of the 22nd Independent Parachute Company, pathfinders who were to guide the 6th British Airborne Division to its landfall behind the Atlantic Wall near Caen. Their faces and equipment were smeared with brown, black and green paint, and over their uniforms they wore camouflaged jumping smocks. Every man was a walking arsenal. They had crammed so much ammunition into their pockets and pouches, so many weapons

THIS STONE MARKS
THE END OF THE RUNWAY
FROM WHICH AIRCRAFT OF Nº 58 GROUP
ROYAL AIR FORCE. TOOK OFF ON THE
NIGHT OF 5TH JUNE 1944 WITH TROOPS
OF THE 6²¹¹ AIRBORNE DIVISION WHO
WERE THE FIRST BRITISH SOLDIERS
TO LAND IN NORMANDY IN THE MAIN
ASSAULT FOR THE LIBERATION OF EUROPE

The commemorative plaque, mounted on a granite plinth, which stands at the east end of the historic runway.

into their webbing, that they had found it difficult to hitch on their parachute harnesses. Grenades were festooned about them; they had fighting knives in their gaiters and clips of cartridges in the linings of their steel helmets. No man was carrying less than eighty-five pounds, some more than a hundred, and in addition each had strapped to his leg a sixty-pound kitbag containing lights and radarbeacons with which to mark the dropping-and landing-zones for the rest of the division.

These men were the torchbearers of liberation. Like all paratroops they were volunteers, and they had been specially picked and trained for this responsible task, but otherwise there was little to distinguish them from the rest of Montgomery's force. Beside the leading aircraft were the ten men who were due to land first, at the point of the invasion spearhead, a Berkshire hod-carrier and a toolmaker from Kent, a bricklayer from Edinburgh, a Worcestershire kennelman and a lorry driver from Dumfries, two 'Regulars', a deserter from the 'army' of the Irish Free State and a refugee from Austria, led by a young lieutenant who, when war began, had been in the chorus of a West End musical comedy. Three of them had been at Dunkirk, one had fought in Africa, but the rest were going into battle for the first time.

These pathfinders were the vanguard of the force that had the most vital rôle in the Neptune plan—that of seizing and holding the left flank of the bridgehead—the open flank, against which the main weight of German counter-attack was likely to fall as the panzer divisions moved in from their garrison areas south-east and east of Caen. If 6th Airborne were to fail, the whole bridgehead might be rolled up from this wing before the seaborne divisions could become firmly established."

"

On Saturday, 14th May, 1955 a long wishedfor sequel materialised in a special event on the former Harwell airfield: it was the occasion of the unveiling, by General Sir Richard Gale, of a plaque mounted on a granite plinth and standing at the east end of that same runway from which the aircraft had taken off on their invasion operation nearly eleven years earlier. The ceremony was arranged by the Old Comrades Associations of the Glider Pilot Regi-



MAY 1955. A long wished-for sequel to the events recorded here - the unveiling of a commemorative plaque on the Harwell runway beside the Oxford—Newbury road. This was performed by General Sir Richard Gale, who commanded the Sixth Airborne Division in Normandy and who this year again led the pilgrimage to Renville Cemetery on this the 11th anniversary of D-Day

ment, the Parachute Regiment and of No. 38 Group, Royal Air Force.

It was a blustery day and the rain which had threatened for most of the morning conveniently held off. The occasion was memorable in many ways apart from the opportunities afforded to renew war time aquaintanceships. Service and civilian celebrities played their appropriate parts in the handing over and acceptance of custody of the commemorative stone; the paratroopers displayed an obvious pride in being chosen to flank the rostrum and the bearing of a second Guard of Honour provided by the Royal Air Force Station, Abingdon was fully in keeping with tradition. Music was played by the Band of the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, and cadets of No. 211 Newbury Squadron A.T.C. dispensed programmes.

After Sir Richard Gale had inspected the Guards of Honour, Sir Leslie Hollinghurst explained how the idea of a commemorative plaque came about and expressed his pleasure at the outcome. He also recollected with what sorrow he himself had learnt of the Government's decision to deprive the Royal Air Force of the Harwell airfield and put it at the disposal of "boffins".

The Union Jack and the Royal Air Force Ensign shrouded the plinth behind which stood Sir Richard Gale: he pulled a cord to reveal the plaque and proceeded to tell his listeners how thrilled he was to be back on the historic airfield after such a long absence. He recounted a story of the golden syrup, a tin of which had been formally handed to him by the Station Commander, Harwell—Group Captain Surplice—just as he emplaned in his glider for Normandy in the early hours of June 6th, 1944.

Sir John Cockcroft accepted with pleasure custody of the plaque and pledged the Atomic Energy Research Establishment to maintain it and its immediate surroundings in a style worthy of the event which it commemorates. In thanking Sir Richard for performing the unveiling he recaptured for his listeners the picture given in war memoirs of Sir Richard Gale striding across the Harwell airfield in the dim moonlight muttering to himself the lines:

And Gentlemen in England now abed Shall think themselves accursed they were not here.

* * *

The extracts are reproduced by kind permission of the Air Ministry, Mr. Dennis Wheatley, and Messrs. Wm. Collins, Sons & Co., Ltd.

REACTORS:

Academic and PRACTICAL

by Admiral H. G. RICKOVER

Reproduced from the Journal of Reactor Science & Technology by arrangement with the British Embassy, Washington, and the United States Atomic Energy Commission.

Important decisions relative to the future development of atomic power must frequently be made by people who do not necessarily have intimate knowledge of the technical aspects of reactors. These people are, nonetheless, interested in what a reactor plant will do, how much it will cost, how long it will take to build, and how long and how well it will operate. When they attempt to learn these things, they become aware of confusion existing in the reactor business. There appears to be unresolved conflict on almost every issue that arises.

I believe that this confusion stems from a failure to distinguish between the academic and the practical. These apparent conflicts can usually be explained only when the various aspects of the issue are resolved into their academic and practical components. To aid in this resolution, it is possible to define in a general way those characteristics which distinguish the one from the other.

An academic reactor or reactor plant almost always has the following basic characteristics:

- 1. It is simple.
- 2. It is small.
- 3. It is cheap.
- 4. It is light.
- 5. It can be built very quickly.

- 6. It is very flexible in purpose ("omnibus reactor").
- 7. Very little development is required. It will use mostly "off-the-shelf" components.
- 8. The reactor is in the study phase. It is not being built

On the other hand, a practical reactor plant can be distinguished by the following characteristics:

- 1. It is being built now.
- 2. It is behind schedule.
- 3. It is requiring an immense amount of development on apparently trivial items. Corrosion, in particular, is a problem.
- 4. It is very expensive.
- 5. It takes a long time to build because of the engineering development problems.
- 6. It is large.
- 7. It is heavy.
- 8. It is complicated.

A common example can be given to indicate the application of the above generalities:

A fairly conventional academic power reactor might use natural or slightly enriched uranium rods in which the burn-up is a minimum of



The academic-reactor designer is a dilettante. He has not had to assume any real responsibility in connection with his projects.

10,000 megawatt-days per ton. The fission products are confined to the fuel element by a simple cladding technique. The elements operate in high-pressure water at 600° F.

In the practical reactor, difficulties are encountered. No element of the above type has been tested beyond a few thousand megawatt-days per ton. Eight years of work on high uranium fuels have failed to produce cladding techniques which give really satisfactory performance in water at even 200° F. At 600° F. uranium reacts violently when exposed to water. The Chalk River experience shows the difficulty of maintaining a plant in which some fission products have escaped.

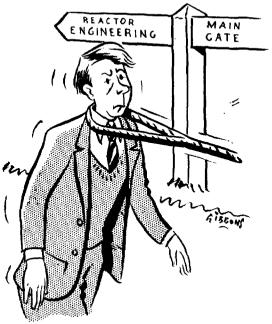
The tools of the academic-reactor designer are a piece of paper and a pencil with an eraser. If a mistake is made, it can always be erased and changed. If the practical-reactor designer errs, he wears the mistake around his neck; it cannot be erased. Everyone can see it.

The academic-reactor designer is a dilettante. He has not had to assume any real responsibility in connection with his projects. He is free to luxuriate in elegant ideas, the practical shortcomings of which can be relegated to the category of "mere technical details". The practical-reactor designer must live with these same technical details. Al-

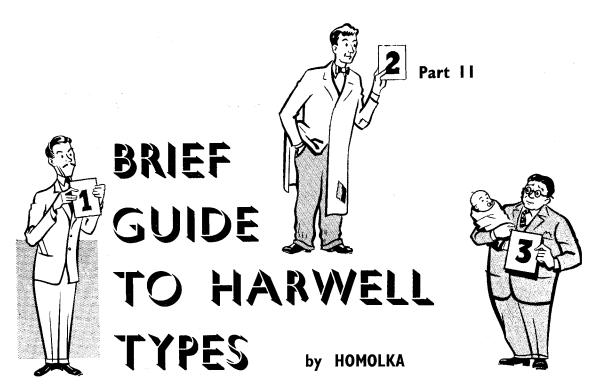
though recalcitrant and awkward, they must be solved and cannot be put off until tomorrow. Their solutions require manpower, time, and money.

Unfortunately for those who must make farreaching decisions without the benefit of an intimate knowledge of reactor technology, and unfortunately for the interested public, it is much easier to get the academic side of an issue than the practical side. For a large part those involved with the academic reactors have more inclination and time to present their ideas in reports and orally to those who will listen. Since they are innocently unaware of the real but hidden difficulties of their plans, they speak with great facility and confidence. Those involved with practical reactors, humbled by their experiences, speak less and worry more.

Yet it is incumbent on those in high places to make wise decisions and it is reasonable and important that the public be correctly informed. It is consequently incumbent on all of us to state the facts as forthrightly as possible. Although it is probably impossible to have reactor ideas labeled as practical or academic by the authors, it is worth while for both the authors and the audience to bear in mind this distinction and to be guided thereby.



If the practical-reactor designer errs, he wears it round his nack . . .



By the way in which he dresses the inmate of the Establishment can be put into one of six main types: (1) Engineers, (2) Chemists, (3) Physicists, (4) Office or Administration, (5) Very Rare and (6) Others

Having pinned your type down by his dress the next thing is to verify your analysis by observing his habits or activity. Enquiry is not to be recommended. Asking questions inside the Establishment can be a hazardous business, especially to the uninitiated. Conversation with type (1) will only get you involved in pipes and gauges and foot pounds per square ton. Type (2) will speak for hours on anhydrous water or the isolation of double bonds. Type (3) will hand you over to the police. Type (4) will ask you to repeat your questions in triplicate. Type (5) will ignore you completely while Type (6) will sell you a secondhand car or a ticket for a dance. So we suggest you silently observe.

In this respect Engineers can be ruled out immediately. True, they all have little offices, but these are seldom, if ever, used. Most of their time is spent rushing around all the other little offices or attending meetings in Birmingham, Glasgow or Newcastle. Extreme activity is therefore the characteristic habit of this

type, which makes identification a simple matter as quick movement is rather unusual in the establishment.

The habits of the Chemist are unmistakable, but, unless a large part of your childhood was spent playing around the gas works or in sewers, it is inadvisable to approach closely. From a safe distance he can be seen pouring stuff into things, turning taps and shaking tubes. Periodically he is obliterated in a cloud of gas from which he emerges, half dead but happy. Chemists are, necessarily, lonely people, and a few kind words—even from a distance—are often appreciated.

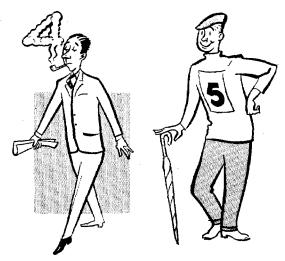
Physicists spend most of their time thinking. The characteristic movement is a limited one. It consists essentially in stretching over and turning some knob or other. They then sit back, very tired, and write it all up in their notebooks. On a fine day they have been known to get up from their notes and perform an operation known as "looking for leaks". As this resembles an activity carried out by certain

groups of type (6) it is scarcely characteristic. Agitated immobility is probably the best criterion here.

Type (4) are gregarious in their habits. There is about them a certain air of furtiveness and they tend to collect in groups of three or more. From a distance, their conversation —usually in subdued voices—would appear to concern isomeric transitions or top secret classifications, but, on closer approach, words like "compost heap" or "runner beans" can be distinctly heard. Indoors, the main activity is pencil chewing, carrying bits of paper from desk to desk and frantic searching in drawers or filing cabinets. The females' habits are similar, only the conversation is in whispers and the searching is even more frantic. The popular idea that the Office or Administration types spend much time in tea drinking is a complete fallacy. Actually, we should say that the reaction to the various tea breaks is probably the characteristic feature of this type. The stoical indifference to the arrival of the beverage is a complete repudiation of public opinion. It is sipped hurriedly with an air of resentment against the interference with work which it entails. This aura of unpleasant duty regarding tea drinking is undoubtedly the thing to look for in type (4).

Living as they do in a world apart, the appearance and habits of the Very Rare type are somewhat ethereal. The general impression is that they are not quite with us. Their actions may be a bit unpredictable, but-and this must be stressed—they are completely harmless. Perhaps the best test for type (5) reaction is to tread on the toes of the particular chap. This merely brings out expressions like "Pimesons" or "Differential coefficient". Most other types would punch your nose. Contrary to popular belief, Very Rare types have excellent memories but they remember the right things about the wrong people and vice-versa. It is quite possible that one of them will approach you with money, thinking he owes it to you. If so-take it without demur. Refusal might be detrimental to his self esteem.

The habits and activities of type (6) might well be a study in themselves. For simplicity we shall divide them into three subdivisions, (a) the "Pseudo-types" whose activities are best understood with the help of Freud or Jung, (b) the "Normal types" whose activities are rather obvious and uninteresting as they



are working most of the time, and (c) the "Pseudo-normals". Subdivisions (a) and (b) will be considered in a later issue and we shall finish with a brief word on the "Pseudonormal" group.

The characteristic habits of this group may be listed as follows:

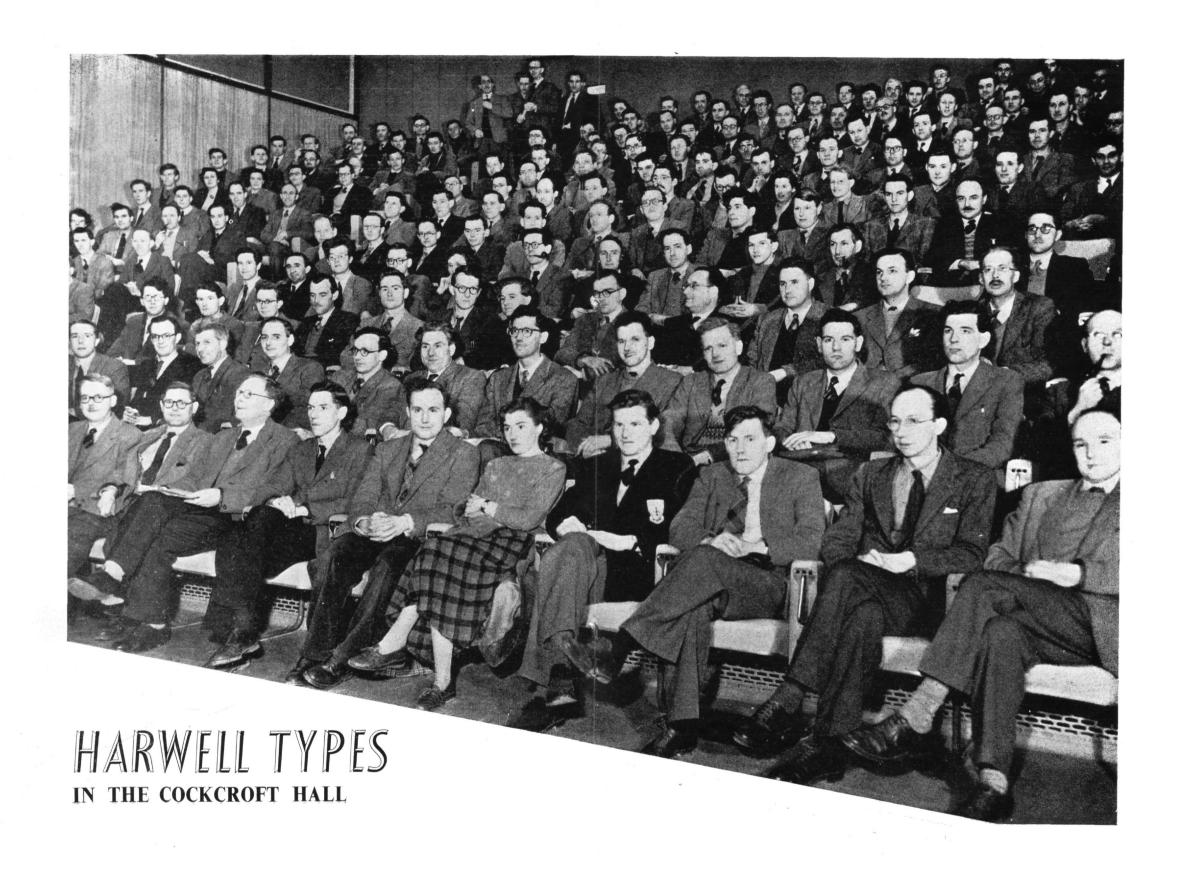
Arriving for work. This is always a spectacular business. It entails much noise, bonhomie, buying of newspapers, telephoning, etc. and lasts until about the first tea break.

Tea-taking. An elaborate ritual this, requiring a knowledge of politics, sport, local history and human nature. (This should be compared with the austerity of type (4) tea taking.) It can be observed at least twice a day.

Car-tinkering. This usually starts with one mau—the owner of the car—but in a short time there is invariably a fair cross-section of all the other types clustered around the car. Incidentally, this affords an excellent opportunity for identifying all the various types en masse.

Departure from work. Starting about afternoon tea time this activity is similar to Arriving for Work only in the reverse order and considerably faster.

It is hoped that this preamble will give some idea about what must be looked for in the initial identification of Harwell types. In the next issue we shall approach the subject in greater detail, embracing such topics as the eating habits of the different types, how to detect an unmarried Divisional Administration Officer, and what Typists talk about, etc.



THE MAILÈD LOBSTER

by J. B. SYKES

It would need the pen of a Jennings (the journalist, not the schoolboy) to do justice to the Post Office—that strange complex which embraces so many things, from stamp-machines to telegraph poles, with which one gets brought into contact from time to time.

There is, however, a certain feature of the Post Office which may have impressed itself on my readers, namely the masterly inactivity which sometimes characterises the behaviour of those godlike personages who sit on the other side of the counter. The theory I wish to put forward is that these ladies and gentlemen are occupied with a far more weighty task than the mere serving of the public; they are endeavouring to memorise the provisions of the Post Office Guide.

This hardy annual is red in colour, as we might expect, and blossoms in July, as we might not expect. Its five hundred and twenty pages are crammed with details regarding what can or cannot be posted when, where, whither and how, as well as the little matter of what it will cost. Some of its revelations seem to evidence a kindly disposition on the part of the legislators; for instance, the Inland Revenue Office (what have they got to do with it?) will emboss postage stamps on suitable envelopes provided by the user, while addresses and petitions forwarded to H.M. the Queen are exempt from postage. The majority of the Guide, however, bears a somewhat forbidding appearance. A lengthy list of Embarrassing Packets includes A packet having its address parallel to the breadth instead of to the length of the envelope Red packets or envelopes . . . A packet enclosed in a wholly transparent envelope A packet of such small dimensions as to be likely to impede the officers of the Post Office in dealing with it. (One begins to see why the chaps behind the counter look at everything so thoughtfully.) Some time ago, I crossed swords with the Post Office regarding the legality of sending a crossword solution at the Printed Paper Rate. My contention was disallowed, on the grounds that Coupons, forms, cards and so

on, bearing written answers to acrostics and guessing competitions, and rommunications indicating, whether by means of words, letters, marks or numbers, moves in a game of chess (on a printed form or otherwise), are inadmissible. Still more astonishing is the remark that Correspondence exchanged between students at school, even when it is current and personal, is admitted at the commercial papers rate, provided that it is sent through the intermediary of the principals of the schools concerned. What was that, Bunter? No, I regret to say that this concession applies only to overseas mail.

The aspiring clerk who has got this much by rote has, however, barely reached the first bend. There still remain to be mastered some one hundred and seventy pages concerning the rates and conditions for individual countries overseas. These include numerous prohibitions and restrictions, some of which seem almost to border on the eccentric. To Aden, Burma, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Tibet, you may not on any account send quinine coloured pink. Any other colour, yes, but not pink. A vast area, including Australia, Hong Kong, Oceania, and the United States and nearly all its dependencies, will not admit wedding cake unless it is securely packed in tin boxes. What frightful catastrophe, felt right across the Pacific, must have occurred to bring about this ordinance? Did some emigré from the Solomon Islands send each of his numerous old pals a piece of wedding cake wrapped in brown paper and tied with string, and did the whole lot come to pieces at San Francisco, covering the floor of the Customs House with a brown, glutinous mess? Holland and Norway refuse gooseberry bushes; can it be chance that the stork flourishes in these countries? Iraq rejects hair-dye containing diamine, and rubber balloons, Guatemala gardenias and beer, Nicaragua petrol lighters, Basutoland eau-de-Cologne: pity the poor counter-hand! Even John Hookham Frere's query

"Ah, who has seen the mailed lobster rise, Clap her broad wings, and soaring claim the skies?"

must remain unanswered; for living animals can be accepted for express delivery only if a suitable receptacle or lead is supplied, and the sender takes precautions to safeguard the messenger from injury.

* * *

APPLICATION FORM FOR BEVERAGES (Non-Alcoholic) FOR AUTHORISED DRINKERS† ONLY

Notes: (1) This form can only be used for applications for tea: applications for coffee, cocoa etc. should be made on FORM CUPA 2 and NOT on this form. (2) Three copies of this form must be sent to the chief teamaker's office at least Three DAYS before the tea is required. (3) Omissions and errors in the completion of this form may lead to its return with consequent delay in delivery time. Name in BLOCK LETTERS Rank Cup No. Branch Cup capacity Room No. & Bldg. No. of cups per day..... Private Address STATEMENT OF APPLICATION BY APPLICANT Please make arrangements to supply......cup(s) of tea, each containing......lump(s) of (milk § ¶ sugar § (with § on the following day......at the following times... without (saucer(s) saccharin I Certify that (1) All particulars stated above are correct. (2) The tea is intended for my personal consumption in the hours covered by the Regulations of the department and is not intended for consumption by unauthorised persons (3) Any unused tea will be returned to the tea pool: arrangements for removing the used cup(s) have already been made using Form Scum 3. Usual Signature of Applicant..... Date..... I Certify that (1) The delivery of tea requested on this form is fully authorised. (2) The tea is essential for the satisfactory discharge of official business and its consumption will not result in substantial loss of working time. (3) The amounts and particulars stated are correct. Signature of Certifying Officer...... Rank Date..... Branch..... AUTHORISED FOR DELIVERY DELIVERY MADE User's Comments Collection time..... Stocks checked Cup No. correct Date Sugar not Delivery Time..... excessive Date of brew Date..... Volume of tea before delivery Initial Temperature...... Volume of tea after delivery Final Temperature..... Signature Signature Branch..... Date..... Branch..... Date.....

FORM CHA 41

[†]Application to become an authorised drinker must be made on Form Hog 12 and not on this form, §Strike out whichever does not apply.

Application for milk may be made separately if desired, using FORM Cow 82.

SOME IMPRESSIONS ON A VISIT TO MOSCOW

* * * * * * * * * * *

"Guests of the Soviet Government are brought to Russia on brief and feverish visits. They are entertained with oriental ostentation. They are overworked, overfed and over stimulated and all but the most critical of them go home staggered by Soviet hospitality and astonished by what has been shown them. It is not surprising, therefore, that so much writing about Russia falls into one or other of two categories: monotonous panegyrics from visitors who have been led round Moscow like



Church of St. Basil, Red Square, Moscow.

sacred bulls in an Oriental city, and petulant denunciations from Pressmen who have been confined to the Metropol hotel".

So, somewhat ungratefully, says Eric Ashby in his book "A Scientist in Russia". The visit which enables me to write my impressions was certainly brief-of four days duration only; feverish—decidedly, the more so since I had, only nine days before, returned from a longer but equally concentrated visit to the U.S.A.; overworked? yes, but this is normal at Harwell; overfed-definitely; overstimulatedconsidering alcohol as a stimulant—possibly! However, in giving my impressions I shall try not to be monotonous or petulant but as factual as possible. And I must begin by expressing my thanks for much kindness and generous hospitality on the part of our Russian hosts.

TRANSPORT

After travelling from London to Stockholm and thence to Helsinki in the luxury of a B.E.A. Viscount and a Scandinavian Air Services D.C.6, the Soviet Aeroflot's Ilyushin IL-12 twin engined plane was somewhat spartan. Absent was the usual welcome of the air hostess, the cheery greeting over the intercom from the aircraft's captain, and the illuminated instructions on "no smoking" and "fasten seat belts". The plane was roughly similar to the D.C.3 used on some aircoach services in the U.S.A., and was rather draughty with a heating system which suffered

from long delays in the operation of its thermostatting system. In spite of these minor discomforts we arrived punctually in every case.



Forty-ton cannon of the 17th Century in the grounds of the Kremlin.

In Moscow there are trams, and although I did not have an opportunity to use them they seemed similar to many still in use in this country but not as good as those in Stockholm which were surprisingly silent. Most of our travel was by car, in either a ZIS or a ZIM, very roomy and speedy and fitted with overdrive in the later model, but draughty and rather cold, and smelling somewhat of hot oil on a long journey. The driving in Moscow seemed to be every bit as belligerent as that in Paris with little consideration for other motorists, and none for pedestrians. In fact a pedestrian's life seemed even more hazardous than usual because of the very wide streets, four traffic lanes in each direction in some cases, and the very inadequate street lighting. For the jay walker who attempts to cross the road at other than an approved place there is also the prospect of coming into contact with the baton of the long-coated policeman who marches up and down in his neutral zone between the two streams of traffic.

The underground system, the Metro, is of course a real show piece, with marble walled stations, efficient and quiet escalators and remarkable cleanliness. I only made a short journey on the Metro and cannot say anything about the range and frequency of the service, but it smells better than the Paris Metro!

THE HOTEL SOVETSKAYA

This is a modern building only two or three years old, and the spacious suite which I shared with a colleague was very comfortable,

with entrance hall, bathroom and sitting-room with a curtained alcove containing two double beds and wardrobe. There was a telephone and a large table model radio, on which, incidentally, I was able to listen to the B.B.C. news in English on one of the short wave bands. The bathroom was modern and fitted with accessories we had been warned might not be available. The most obvious difference from Western hotels was the silence; even the lobby was hushed. In the large restaurant, however, it could be noisy and dances were held there to a band playing surprisingly American-type music.

THE 'SIGHTS' OF MOSCOW

Travelling to and from Moscow, for example from the airport, the most impressive sight on the skyline was the University, particularly at night when the outline was shown by coloured lights on the various towers. Generally speaking, however, buildings in the city have a certain Georgian or in some cases even American-Colonial style monotony. Square (much more of a rectangle incidentally) is quite distinctive: at one end is the red brick Natural History Museum; at the opposite end the Church of St. Basil, its brilliantly coloured towers glistening, fresh from its repainting for the October Revolution celebrations when we saw it: in the centre the dark red marble mass of the Lenin-Stalin mausoleum; and of course the whole of one side dominated by the Kremlin buildings inside their protective brick wall. We were fortunate in being able to visit



The Kremlin

the Kremlin on the Sunday we were in Moscow—the Scientific Institutes being closed on that day—and saw the impressive collection of Russian heirlooms in the museum of the Kremlin, one of the Churches and something



In the grounds of the Kremlin: the cracked bell of Ivan Veliki's bell tower.

of the other buildings, including Ivan Veliki's beil-tower and alongside it a great cracked bell which was so heavy that when it was hoisted it fell down again and was never hung—a monument to the failings of some engineer. Long queues of Muscovites, in their Sunday best (or its equivalent), continually filed into the Kremlin and its show pieces as well as through the Lenin-Stalin tomb just outside. The



Entrance to Lenin - Stalin tomb.

latter was most impressive, both from the outside and inside, where the well preserved bodies of Lenin and Stalin lie regally, appropriately illuminated. One of the best vantage positions for an overall view of the Kremlin buildings is undoubtedly the balcony of the British Embassy, just across the Moskva river, and we had the good fortune to get such a view when we visited the Ambassador. The balcony happened to have a good deal of sand on it and the diplomatic aplomb of Sir William Hayter and his charming wife must have been a little strained when they saw eight pairs of heavily sanded footprints (atomic, but we hope not radioactive) treading across their beautiful recently-vacuumed carpet as we came in from the balcony!

THE BALLET

In the four evenings we had in Moscow some of us saw one opera (Carmen) and three ballets; Swan Lake, Giselle, in which the young Struchkova danced beautifully, and The Bronze Horseman, a modern Russian ballet with excellent music and remarkable stagecraft. Lady Marie Noele Kelly, wife of a former Ambassador, has written "The technical miracle of inflating canvas to simulate huge waves, the boats, the rising crescendo of the storm, the fountains whose jets of real water reach from thirty to forty feet, the live horses of the chevalier-gardes...that is another side of Soviet ballet which...most impresses workers' delegations' (my italics). All I can say is that our delegation was most impressed! The Bolshoi Theatre has a quite beautiful auditorium with its red and gold tiers of boxes and I was fortunate in being able to take some Kodachromes, after a little initial bother with startled attendants indicating that cameras were not admitted.

THE FAIR SEX

There was only limited opportunity for forming impressions on this topic. At the ballet, however, some wives accompanied the scientists who acted as our hosts, and during the intervals we would "promenade" along the corridors and halls—quite a well-organised leg stretching custom apparently. It appears that the Russian women aim quite clearly at equality and independence by working and studying. Most of the wives we met were glad of the opportunity to practice their English on us. Russian women seem to accept manual work—the snow which fell during our last night in Moscow was being shovelled into the side of the roads by gangs of women the next morning. We had little time for shopping -about an hour in fact-but it was amusing to see the shop assistant or cashier making calculations on her abacus—a kind of bead frame clearly in widespread use in Moscow.

THE TECHNICAL VISITS

These naturally took up most of the available time. The whole party visited the Praesidium of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, the Lebedev Institute for Physical Problems, and the Atomic Power Station of the Acad-



Farewell Banquet given by the Academy of Science, Moscow, to the U.K.A.E.A. Delegates to Russia, November 1955. Chairman: Academician: Topchiev; on his right and beneath bust of Stalin: Dr. Schonland, Deputy Director, A.E.R.E.

emy. On one of the days we split into units or pairs so that more places could be seen. It was in this way possible to pay visits to the Krizhanovsky Institute of Energetics, the Baumann Moscow Higher Technical School of Mechanical Engineering, and four other Institutes, of Metals, Nuclear Physics, High Energy Physics, and Analytical and Geochemistry.

The Atomic Power Station is in a village about seventy-five miles from Moscow; judging from the barriers and fences I imagine that this village has grown up in the style of Oak Ridge, and that the power station is by no means the only project there. Most of our party had seen the Soviet film of the Power Station at Geneva, but we were shown it again before being taken to the Station itself. This is not the place to give technical descriptions but I was impressed by the Chief Engineer who in addition to being completely knowledgeable on his plant, was obviously regarded with respect and even affection by his staff.

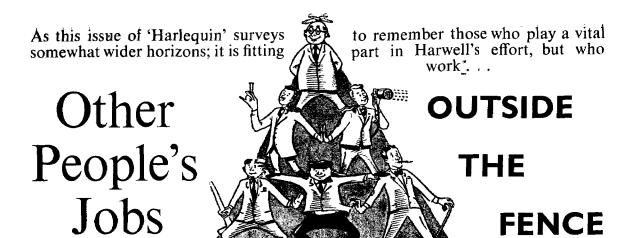
At all the Institutes of the Academy, it was very pleasant to meet some of the people whose

names one has come across in the literature, and to renew acquaintance with some of those met for the first time at Geneva last year and some who visited Harwell shortly afterwards. At the Vernadsky Institute for Analytical Chemistry and Geochemistry, where I spent one day accompanied only by one of the two interpreters supplied for our party by the Academy, I was able to meet again the Director of the Institute, Prof. Vinogradov and to be introduced to Prof. Alimarin of Moscow University, and see some of their work. Vernadsky, who died only in 1945 at the age of eighty-two was the first to attempt to establish an independent science of geochemistry, and he is clearly revered in the institute named after him. His old study is preserved there as a small museum.

There was no doubt that all the members of our party were impressed by the scale of training of scientists and engineers in Moscow. The scientists we met seemed to be very anxious to establish or increase scientific contact with the West.

A.A.S.

. . .



No. 3—by D. A. TYLER, in collaboration with A. E. ANDREWS

Apart from Harwell's co-operation with sister Research Establishments, there are external organisations, other than contractors, who for convenience have come inside to join us. Typical is the help received from officers of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission -mentioned elsewhere.

One could never hope, however, to have on tap in one place all the highly specialised knowledge and varied techniques that we needed. To meet this need extra-murally, i.e. outside the wall, Extra Mural Research was one of the Divisions set up.

Through E.M.R. external development and research is co-ordinated and many are the problems—from metallurgy to electronicsthat have been solved with this outside help. Many of the scientific and technological advances attributed to Harwell should in fact have credit shared with such bodies as universities, industries and other Establishments with whom profitable liaison has been achieved. Power stations such as Calder Hall and Dounreay are the direct outcome of liaison in which many have co-operated.

But too great a modesty on our part is not demanded. Liaison is always mutually advantageous and no information or technique makes a one-way trip. The Reactor School, Isotopes School and the more recently formed Electronics School, all play a part in dispensing information to those from outside. Moreover, in the race to harness the A- and H-bombs for industry no help that is free from

security risks can be overlooked.

There is a job of external relations that, like the publishing of this magazine, might be regarded at first sight as being a leisure activity in function. This is the organising of visits to Harwell for selected persons from outside from organisations working with us and from academic centres. These visits, apart from their technical advantages, fulfil a valuable purpose. It is desirable to dispel the illusion that we at Harwell are solely engaged upon work aimed at blowing some unfortunates to Kingdom Come—desirable also to avoid the opposite idea of our offering some panacea or medicine for the "ills of the world". On the other hand we need to have known the facts about our exports of radio isotopes, the applications in such varied fields as medicine and agriculture, not forgetting the new methods of generating electricity.

The man in the road outside may not grudge us our high fence. Yet as he pays for it and what is beyond, it is necessary for him to know something of what goes on on the other side. So, although we have our fence, we shall never work in monastic isolation from the world outside.

Such organisations as E.M.R., Contracts and Outside Manufacturing Groups are developing increasingly profitable outside collaboration. Tomorrow greater achievements will be shared by those who work side by side -and on either side of the fence.

FENCE



Australians Dr. D. J. O' Connor and Dr. J. N. Gregory hold up one of the original oil paintings presented on April 13th to commemorate the association of Australian staff with the U.K.A.E.A. Beside the Director is C. N. Watson-Munro, Chief Scientist of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission.

Australian Presentation

The two original oil paintings and collection of prints by Australian artists were purchased by private subscription. In thanking the Australian staff Sir John writes:

"During the past nine years we have benefited greatly from the work you have done here, and the achievements of your engineers and scientists who have worked in our laboratories are part of the foundation of our whole project. We look forward to the continued exchange of ideas and information with you all when you occupy your new laboratories in Australia.

Your paintings will always provide a permanent memorial of our collaboration as well as providing for us vivid pictorial images of Australia''.

The two originals in the Cockcroft Hall portray two different aspects of the Australian countryside and form a contrasting pair. They are by two of Australia's most celebrated artists and, although the notes prepared about them may assist those unfamiliar with Australian Art, the originals should be seen for themselves. (See pages 33 and 35.)

For Travel by

STEAMSHIP RAIL

AIR

to all parts of the world

consult

Bell's Travel Service

1 & 2 St. Michael's Mansions
SHIP STREET, OXFORD

Goods Collected, Packed and Shipped to all parts of the World North Berkshire
Further Education Service

PLAN YOUR WINTER LEISURE NOW

Evening Classes in
ABINGDON, BOTLEY
& FARINGDON
commence on 24 September

Free Prospectus can be obtained in August from

The Abingdon Institute of Further Education

Mayott's Road Abingdon

Telephone: Abingdon 1062

Your suggestions for classes are welcomed

MORLAND & CO. LTD.

UNITED BREWERIES, ABINGDON

Telephone 770



BREWERS SINCE 1711

BEST BEERS ON DRAUGHT AND IN BOTTLE

Australian Presentation No. 1

'SUMMER HAZE'

William Alexander DARGIE

F.R.S.A. (Lond.), F.R.A.S (N.S.W.)

—is a painter in oils and has been the winner of the Archibald Prize, an annual prize for portraiture, on seven occasions. Tone is the basis of his realism today. He is a convinced 'realist' and paints exactly what he sees with a fluid technique which enables him to 'cover the ground' swiftly and accurately.



Dargie was appointed Master of the Gallery Schools, Melbourne, in July 1946 and has been an artist member of the Commonwealth Art Advisory Board since 1953.

Better known as a portrait painter, he has recently executed a painting of Her Majesty the Queen which was commissioned by the late James P. Beveridge, O.B.E., and presented to the Australian Government on behalf of the nation in 1955.

The painting entitled 'Summer Haze', with sheep and rider, depicts typical pastoral country not far distant from the coastline.

Bad driving habits are like weeds in a garden. They root easily and, once rooted, are difficult to get rid of. Competent instruction in the early stages ensures that only good habits are formed, and provides a solid foundation on which a safe motoring career can be built.

You can obtain such instruction and pass your Driving Test in the miminum time by placing yourself in the hands of

West Anglia School of Motoring

Oxford's ONLY R.A.C. Motor School

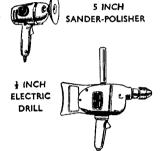
OXFORD: 29 St. Aldate's (Tel. 48812)

ABINGDON: 4 Market Place (Tel. 583)



INCH ELECTRIC DRILL





Craftsmen

Require Quality Tools

WE STOCK THEM

ENGINEERS

CARPENTERS

PLUMBERS

BUILDERS

HANDY MEN

G. R. COOPER

(OXFORD) LTD.

TOOL DEPARTMENT

ST. EBBE'S CORNER

PHONE: 47601

OXFORD

Time and Money

These factors are in short supply. We save both for our clients, as many readers of 'Harlequin' will testify.



Whether insuring your house or your car - or your life whilst flying to New York or Geneva - we can grant immediate cover.



AND - writing or calling - you will receive courteous attention at 'The Knowl', the insurance Mecca of North Berkshire.

POPE & CO. (INSURANCE) LIMITED

INCORPORATED INSURANCE BROKERS

UNDERWRITERS AND LOSS ASSESSORS

THE KNOWL

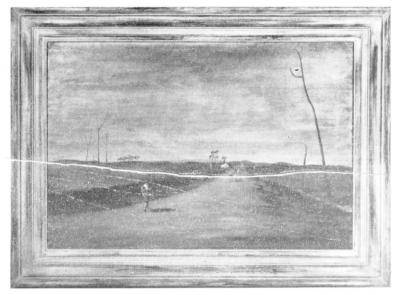
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

Australian Presentation No. 2

'SCHOOL CHILDREN'

George Russell DRYSDALE M.S.A.

—was born in England in 1912 and went to Australia as a boy. Having worked as a jackaroo, or boundary rider, in the Riverina district of New South Wales, and in sugar mills in Queensland, he is well equipped to portray the essence of Australian country life.



Drysdale is recognised today as one of Australia's foremost artists and is one of those who think exclusively in terms of the Australian scene. His paintings of the outback country and rugged bush settlements combine rich colour with harmonious forms. His landscapes, of which "School Children" is typical, show "illimitable yellow horizons under a burning sky, lonely verandahed buildings and rare skinny trees". Drysdale simplifies material facts, strips bare the elements of his pictures to make certain of conveying his stark message.

In 1950 he held a successful one man show at the Leicester Galleries, when the Tate Gallery made a purchase. His work has been bought for a number of national galleries and for private collections in the Commonwealth.

The landscape depicted in "School Children" is typical of good sheep country in the "Outback".

Twenty-five prints were also presented. These were selected from the works of a large number of leading Australian artists and will be distributed among the Harwell Division and other U.K. Establishments.

CRAPPERS

offer the following services

379 Cowley Road, Oxford.

Telephone: 77196 - 77442

Specialists in Repairs to COMMERCIAL VEHICLES TYRES and BATTERIES at lowest possible cost

- **REMOVALS**
- **ROAD TRANSPORT**
- **EXECUTE S EXECUTE S EXECUTE S**
- **MOTOR INSURANCE**
- **CARAVANS**

Large Selection. Repairs. Accessories. Body Work.



PRECISION

MANUFACTURERS & DESIGNERS OF

PRESS TOOLS

JIGS & FIXTURES

SPECIAL PURPOSE MACHINES

PROTOTYPE DEVELOPMENT ETC.

GAUGES

FABRICATION

STRUCTURES

PRESSWORK

MACHINING

WELDING and BRAZING

METAL FINISHERS in

ZINC

TIN

SILVER

NICKEL CADMIUM COPPER

A.I.D. APPROVED

ADDY PRODUCTS LTD.

Millbrook Trading Estate

Southampton

Tel: 73156/7

Grams: 'Addy' Southampton

ENGINEERING

METAL FINISHING

ALWAYS SPECIFY ADDY STANDARD JIG PARTS



Proof Readers' Competition.

That this competition is very popular is repeatedly proved by the number of entries received. First prize of one guinea was awarded to S. J. Boot of Health Physics and the runner up by a margin of only one point was M. Meaburn, Chemistry Division who received the second prize of half a guinea.

One competitor observed an error which had escaped other readers. A. C. Davis of Stores alone spotted the error in the Chapman-Hall announcement. This he neatly transcribed into

verse:

"In spring we had the 'Rein' to 'hold'

Or so wrote Chapman-Hall

Yet Christmas turns the 'Rein' to 'Gold'

Now which is right, withal?"

In the Christmas rush this escaped even our professional proof reader—for him a brickbat and for Mr. Davis a book token.

Errors more widely spotted are listed below:

Errors more wide	ely spotted are listed below:	
Front Cover	Bailey's	inverted inverted commas!
Page 2	All Power	+ EV for + VE
,, 3	Faulkner & Son	Son for Sun
,, 3	Coxeters	Cabiner for Cabinet
,, 5	Grays Inn Tent Shop	Astronomer for Astrologer
,, 37	Hare & Hounds	Licenced for Licensed
Back Cover	Camp Hopson	occsaional for occasional
By arrangement	with the advertisers in this issue anota	her ten errors have been carefully

By arrangement with the advertisers in this issue another ten errors have been carefully concealed. Send your list to "Harlequin Competitions, A.E.R.E. Harwell, Berks.", to arrive not later than July 31st. Once again a first prize of one guinea will be awarded with second prize of 10/6 and a book token for an unique correct entry.

ABINGDON, WANTAGE and DIDCOT, BERKS.

ADKIN, BELCHER & BOWEN

Auctioneers and Estate Agents, Surveyors and Valuers

Surveys made. Estates managed. Valuation of real and Personal Property for all purposes

AUCTION OFFICES:

10 HIGH STREET ABINGDON (Tel. 1078/9)
MARKET PLACE WANTAGE (Tel. 48)

14 BATH STREET, ABINGDON (Tel. 12) 11 STATION RD., DIDCOT, BERKS (Tel. 3197)



Household Removals and Storage

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{LOCAL, LONG DISTANCE AND OVERSEAS} \\ \text{REMOVALS} \end{array}$

EXTENSIVE, SPECIALLY BUILT WARE-HOUSES for the STORAGE of FURNITURE

ESTIMATES FREE

ARCHER, COWLEY & CO., LTD. 36-39 PARK END STREET, OXFORD

Telephone Oxford 2397 and 3756 Telegrams ''Removers, Oxford'' Since it is

Spring

let your fancy lightly turn to thoughts of

CAMP

and let the

'Grays Inn' Tent Shop

17 THE TURL

OXFORD

(PHONE: 47110)

equip you

Whatever your choice
We always tion of No.

814 - 816 OXFORD ROAD - READING - BERKS

We always have a good Selection of New and Used Cars

TERMS

INSURANCE EXCHANGE

Stockists for

AUSTIN - FORD MORRIS CARS AND COMMERCIALS

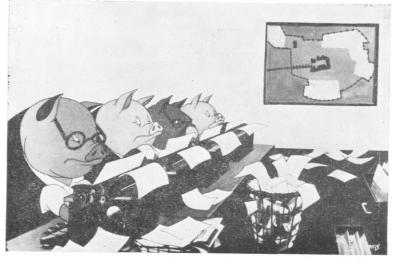
Any other make or type of new or used vehicle supplied

Phone: Reading 3532

ECONOMIC MOTOR CO., LTD.

For Economical Motoring

'Animal Farm'



'Still' by courtesy of Halas and Batchelor Cartoon Films Ltd.

The A.E.R.E. Film Society closed its first season with the showing of this full length cartoon adaptation of George Orwell's political fable, produced and directed by John Halas and Joy Batchelor. There can be little doubt that this was a popular choice, for "Animal Farm" is an enjoyable film of considerable merit. It is, however, a disappointing film and must be classed as an honourable failure.

The makers, and Louis de Rochement their American backer, are to be commended for producing the first full length animated film with a serious theme. They form a team which might be expected to handle this angry satire of Soviet Communism effectively. Halas and Batchelor have been responsible for a series of brilliant short cartoons which are full of invention; de Rochement, formerly producer of the "March of Time" series, was the producer of a number of socially conscious Hollywood films such as "Boomerang". That the film does not fulfill expectations is thus particularly disappointing.

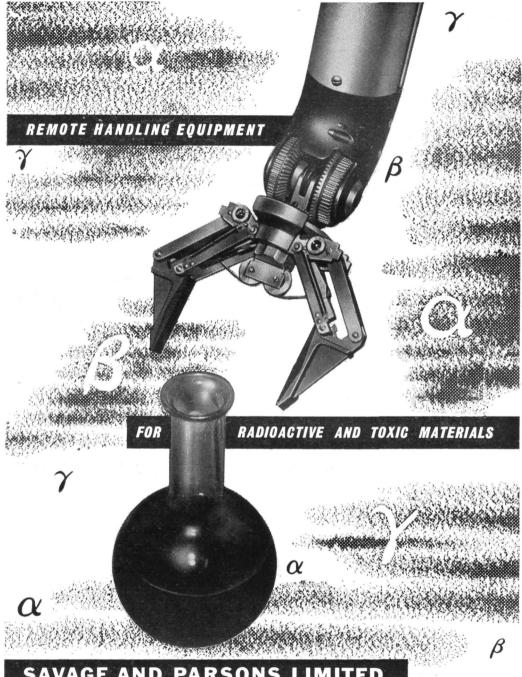
The details of Orwell's story are closely followed until the final sequences of the film are reached, but here the whole message of the book is weakened by the "happy" ending. Instead of leaving the animals completely and hopelessly dominated by their pig masters, the film closes with their carrying out a counter revolt. Since the initial revolt had been inspired by the same noble motives, this conventional ending suggesting a revolutionary spiral is basically meaningless.

The drawing too is, in general unsatisfactory. It was clearly intended that the animals should appear as realistic as possible, the

better to arouse interest and sympathy; but for ease of animation it has been necessary to simplify their form as much as possible. This simplified realism makes the animals indistinguishable from Disney figures, with the consequence that one has to struggle throughout against a feeling that they are meant to be humourous. If it is technically too difficult to carry the realism farther than has been done, then the use of stylized figures. would probably have been more effective. The humans in the film are, in this respect more acceptable than the animals. The introduction of simple slap-stick humour is another unfortunate Disney influence. The little duckling that cannot climb the stairs is too reminiscent. of the tortoise that had the same difficulty in "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs".

On the credit side, the characterization of Boxer, Major and Napoleon is good, the horror of the secret-police dogs is well conveyed, and the performance of Maurice Denham who provides the voices of all the animals is a tour de force.

As John Halas said during his talk to the Film Society the week after, there are signs of a growing interest in the cartoon film, particularly as a medium of serious expression. The quality of the short films made by the Halas and Batchelor group is extremely high. With the experience gained in making "Animal Farm" there is no reason why this group should not lead the world in this fascinating development of the cartoon film. At the least they have given other animators a glimpse of what might be done.



SAVAGE AND PARSONS LIMITED

Cartoon Fission

(1) The painting Competition was won by Anne Willson, who receives a book token (10/6).

The entry of Ian Smith of 37 Ridgefield Road, Oxford, was highly commended.

(2) For the same drawing older people were invited to supply a caption.

Some entries, including the inevitable pun on fission, lacked the erudite originality of J. B. Sykes' caption: "The trouble about fishin' in heavy water is that the capture probability is so small!"



An entry by L. J. Staniland appealed to our pride in accepting a joke against ourselves—"Seems to be plenty of queer fish here!"

Neither of these, however, accounted for the high water level on the site which would appear to call for explanation. The half guinea was therefore awarded to P. Mulford, who was also the artist, for his winning caption: "Bright periods and showers they promised us!"



RALEIGH and TRIUMPH Cycles

SALES - SPARES - SERVICE
Easy Terms

H. & N. BRAGG
(ABINGDON) LTD. PHONE 34



For prospective house-purchasers, 1956 is likely to be a bad year for impetuous leaping. Loans may be more élusive than ever, so there's greater risk of disappointment. Expert guidance before you start house-hunting is essential—the guidance given free and without obligation by Frizzells. 'How large a loan can I expect?' 'How large would be my monthly repayments, my legal and other costs?' From Frizzells you'll find the answer to these questions, and special terms for you. These are, as many happily housed families can tell you, the finest on the market.

DEFERRED HOUSE-PURCHASE

If you can wait, say, 12 months for your house, why not take advantage of UNIQUE DEFERRED TERMS? They guarantee not only the amount of the loan, but also the interest-rate.

THE WHOLE APPROACH TO HOUSE-PURCHASE IS SET OUT IN OUR FOLDER, 'How not to put the cart before the horse', AVAILABLE TO YOU FREE ON APPLICATION.

Other Frizzell services include Endowment, Short-term Saving and Educational policies.

Rates are the lowest available—unrivalled anywhere.

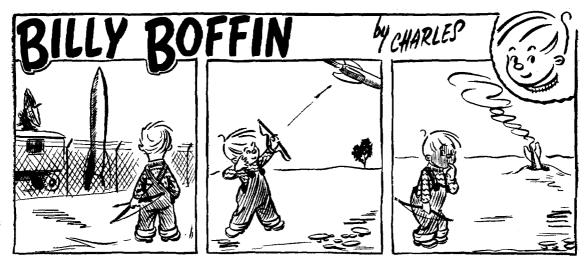
Special MOTOR AND GENERAL INSURANCE rates can be obtained from our associate company, Norman Frizzell and Partners Ltd.

You can arrange an interview any Thursday at Harwell through the Reception Office.

NORMAN FRIZZELL (Life & Pensions) LTD.

24 GREAT TOWER STREET, LONDON, E.C.3. Telephone: Mincing Lane 1000 (20 lines)

Name,
Address
Tel. No
Ages of ChildrenPresers Total Income
Approx. Purchase Price
Expected Date of Purchase,
Deposit Available



COMPETITIONS "I had an idea", writes Don Knight, "for a cartoon featuring *five* children, but I am not sure my draughtsmanship is good enough and I haven't given any thought to plot. The children? The Harley Quins of course!"

A guinea is offered for the best cartoon on this theme and another guinea for the best cartoon depicting Life at Harwell. In both cases a brief description, sufficient for an artist to illustrate, may suffice to win. Closing date: July 31st.

RESULTS HELD OVER FROM LAST ISSUE

CHILDREN'S COMPETITION. Of the thirty-one deliberate mistakes in Mr. Ashworth's picture Mark Bretscher claimed to have found forty. Twenty-five of these were allowed and Mark was awarded the prize.

Acrostics. In this Dr. J. B. Sykes and A. L. Vann ran level until the latter failed to trace the painter of "The Soldier's Dream". Dr. Sykes was thus the winner of the half-guinea book token.

Crossword. Half a guinea was awarded to David Newby.

Soul of Wit. The winning entry, given below, was submitted by V. F. Horgan of MRC who received a half-guinea book token.

- (1) The future of Harwell—Active beer sold here.
- (2) Our sitting M.P.—Try catching Neave hatching.
- (3) Harlequin's Editor—Be Frank— Harlequin stank.
- (4) A.E.R.E. Social Club—Poor lights boozy nights.
- (5) The Lecture Theatre—Indecently bare, très functionnaire.
- (6) Women who wear jeans—Stern view—Moo! Moo!

The versatile Imperial 'Good Companion' is a portable typewriter that looks good, works well, and is reasonably priced at £29. 10. 0. Two models available, each tax-free and complete with carrying case. Hire purchase terms available. Ask for a demonstration.



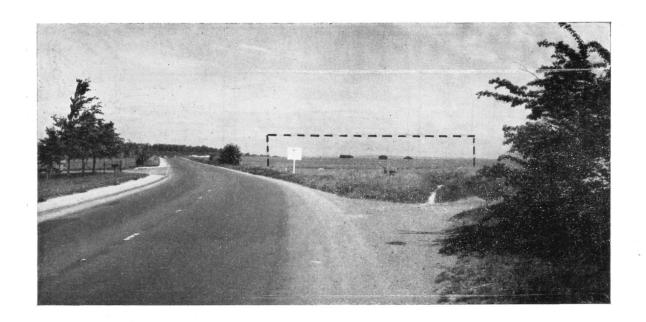
Imperial Good Companion

HUNTS (OXFORD) LTD.

45 ST. GILES' & 18 BROAD STREET

OXFORD

Telephone 47683



It is not now as it hath been of yore;

Turn wheresoe'er I may,

By night or day,

The things which I have seen I now can see no more.

-Wordsworth

It is now no more. As you head towards Oxford today the skyline is unbroken and perhaps we shall forget in time the drips of rain that fell down our necks or splashed onto the stage and its furnishings; the stoves that gave out so much smoke and so few calories per hundredweight of fuel; the gales that chilled our legs every time the door was

opened and all too often when it was shut, and the heavy rumble of a bus or lorry trundling by just when an important line was being delivered.

We look forward to happier times and let the Gymnasium-Theatre pass to its limbo unmourned save for these few words.



'Harlequin' c/o Central Registry, A.E.R.E., Berks.

This is the address for all correspondence and brickbats.

July 31st.

This is the closing date for all competition entries and contributions of all kinds needed for the next issue—

The End-of-year 'Harlequin'.

FOR DEPENDABILITY AND ACCURACY

TELEPHONE FISHPONDS 55097



A.I.D. APPROVED

WESTERN DETAIL MANUFACTURERS LTD

REFRIGERATING

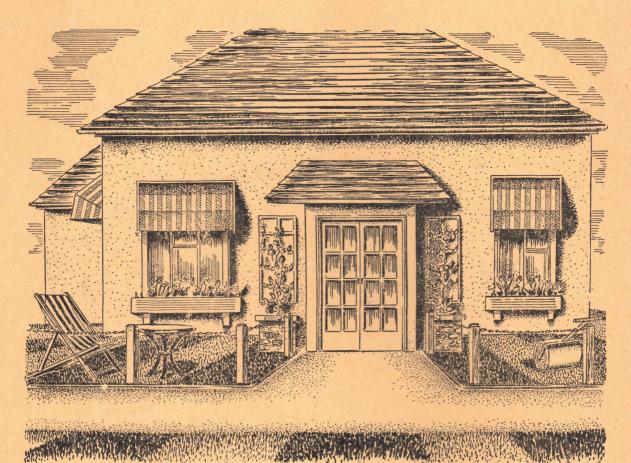
ENGINEERS

WESTERN WORKS

STAPLE HILL

BRISTOL

MANUFACTURERS OF HIGH QUALITY EQUIPMENT



Camp Hopson invite you to their Show Bungalow now open in the Furnishing Showroom

A fully furnished home, presenting the best of contemporary furniture in an ideal setting. We think that you will find inspiration in the bungalow if you are contemplating setting up home for the first time or if you wish to modernise your existing home.

The favourable deferred terms offered place the best furniture within the reach of all.

CAMP HOPSON of Newbury

Phone 590