

AUTHORITY BEHIND US SALES BID

Staff go on loan to new firm

HOLIDAY SCRAPPED TO SOLVE MINING PROBLEM

A TEAM of 19 senior Harwell scientists worked throughout the Whitsun weekend to solve an "urgent and difficult" mining problem for Lonrho Limited, of Cheapside, London.

The company chairman, Mr. A. H. Ball, described their response to his SOS as "admirable . . . helpful . . . cheering".

"I find it hard to believe that any firm in any other country in the free world could have obtained such a response from a Government department over a public holiday," he said.

"Immediately before Whitsun the company was faced with an urgent and difficult problem. We had an extremely interesting mining proposition.

Rush

"We had to give our decision within a matter of days because of the possibility of pre-emption by one or more foreign competitors.

"Our mining engineers had samples of the mineral in question. We did not, however, have the capacity to analyse it within our own group resources and until this could be done no decision could be taken.

"So we approached Harwell. The response was immediate. Some 19 senior scientists were put to work on our samples throughout the Whitsun weekend.

"On Tuesday we had in our hands exactly the answer we wanted in the form of a most admirably written and lucid report.

Large sums

"Very large sums of money were involved which could either favourably or unfavourably affect the British balance of payments."

The team who gave up their holiday were headed by Dr. A. A. Smales, head of the Analytical Sciences Division at Harwell, and Dr. R. K. Webster, who heads the Analytical Chemistry Group. "We had no trouble in finding men willing to abandon their own plans and spend the whole holiday in the laboratories," said an Authority spokesman.

Maureen is queen



MAUREEN NORRIS, who works in Aldermaston's Establishments Branch, is carnival queen of nearby Basingstoke. She was one of 12 finalists for the title in a contest organised by the local newspaper, the *Hants. and Berks. Gazette*. Originally there were 55 entrants.

One of Maureen's attendants is Pauline Young (right), who also works in the Aldermaston Establishments Branch.

With Maureen's title goes a prize worth £200.

Photos: *Hants. and Berks. Gazette*

MEDAL FOR 'IMPECCABLE TIMEKEEPER'

MR. WALTER RUSHBY, 72-year-old retired Harwell instrument maker who was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year Honours, received it last month from the Hon. David Smith, Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire.

From 1940 he worked for five years at the Royal Ordnance Factory at Theale, near Aldermaston, and was one of the pioneers of the early days at Harwell.

The citation to his award said one of his big jobs recently had been making assemblies of movable aerials, multiple mirror systems and other apparatus used to study cosmic air showers.

"Throughout his service Mr. Rushby, who retired in November, has been an impeccable timekeeper and his behaviour has been exemplary," said the citation.

THE AUTHORITY'S design and development experience is behind new fuel for nuclear power stations which is now being offered to American companies. And the Authority may later have a share in an American company making fuel if the demand is big enough.

Gulf General Atomic, of San Diego, California—a subsidiary of the giant American Gulf Oil Corporation—will be the Authority's partner.

A formal announcement in London says an arrangement has been made with Gulf General Atomic "for collaboration in promoting sales of light water reactor fuel in the United States.

"The arrangement provides for the Authority's development and design experience to be made available to Gulf General Atomic.

"In the longer term, as warranted by the market, it is planned that the Authority shall have a modest shareholding in a joint company to be established with Gulf General Atomic in the United States for manufacture of light water reactor fuel."

Extension

In America, Gulf said the "excellent developmental facilities" of the Authority would be used to provide "fully tested and proven light water reactor fuel and to enable continued improvement in core design and performance."

The company says the new business is an extension of its existing work. It has already sold two power-producing reactors and about 30 smaller ones for research.

Big share

By 1980 American companies are likely to be buying £165 million worth of fuel each year for light water reactors. "The new enterprise will be looking for as big a share as possible of this market," said a spokesman.

Collaboration with Gulf General Atomic could bring more American visitors to places like Winfrith, where work on fuel for the steam-generating heavy water reactor is being done, and exchange visits to America by Authority employees.

But the new agreement is not likely to affect the Authority's fuel processing plants at Springfields or Windscale.

Long sight

WHEN Mr. H. Wild, engineering advisor for process ventilation, retired after 22 years at Risley, he was given farewell gift of a pair of binoculars.

New number

WINFRITH'S telephone number changed on May 29 from Dorchester 1700 to Dorchester 3111.

RELIEF AIRFIELD?

THURSO Trades Council is asking the Authority for its reaction to a suggestion that the runway on the old airfield on which Dounreay was built should be used as an alternative to Wick Airport in bad weather.

JAPANESE GROUP JOIN SALES DRIVE

A JAPANESE consortium of 23 companies last month signed an agreement with The Nuclear Power Group of Britain to co-operate in the production and sale of advanced gas-cooled reactors.

Under the agreement, TNPG will design the reactor for manufacture in Japan with the co-operation of the Japanese companies and TNPG will also send a sales staff to Japan to begin selling in conjunction with the Fuji Electric Company.

Competitor

Main competitor with the new consortium is likely to be the Mitsubishi Nuclear Power Group working with the Japan Nuclear Fuel Corporation.

Both sell American light water reactors in Japan, but TNPG engineers say they believe that the British advanced gas-cooled reactor has advantages over them, partly because it is so compact.

First aid on the fells

INJURED by a falling rock during a fell-walk last month, Jim Swift of the Fell-walking section of Springfields Social and Recreation association, was back at work next day after on-the-spot treatment from Barbara Hand, who is a sister in the works medical department and a fellow walker.

THE Nuclear Power Group Limited, the new nuclear design and construction company in which the Authority holds a fifth of the shares, has been formally registered as a company.

It goes into business with Dr. H. Kronberger, the Authority's Member for Reactor Development, and Mr. C. Allday, Commercial Director in Production Group at Risley, as two of its directors.

The company is also taking over 38 of the Authority's employees who have accepted the company's offer of a transfer to its staff.

Key men

Another 103 who have not so far agreed to be transferred are being loaned to the company by the Authority "for the time being".

"Although the actual number of employees who have accepted the transfer terms is a small proportion of the total staff, it includes a high proportion of the key people," an Authority spokesman explained.

"The aim will be to reduce the numbers on loan steadily and to bring the period of loan to an end as soon as possible. How long this will take is difficult to say at present.

"We hope some of those on loan may want to change their minds when they have had a little experience of working with the company.

Name change

"As long as an appropriate vacancy still exists, any of them who put in writing their willingness to accept an appointment while on loan to the company will be accepted."

The old company known as The Nuclear Power Group, which has been building power stations at Hinkley Point, Somerset, and Hunters-ton, Ayrshire, has changed its name to The Nuclear Power Group (HH) Limited and is likely to be wound up when its present work is finished.

Its staff are transferring to the new company, which has its headquarters, like the old one at Knutsford, Cheshire.

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'Searching questions . . . significant risk . . . technical credibility'

Harwell's time of change

HARWELL has always been confident that it could switch from nuclear research to solving industrial problems, its director, Dr. W. Marshall, told an audience at Oxford University when he gave the Maurice Lubbock memorial lecture last month.

The lecture is one of a series founded to keep alive the memory of Maurice Lubbock who, when he died in 1958, had been a director of many companies. His main interests

were in Oxford and engineering.

Giving what he called "an interim report on how a large Government-funded laboratory diversified into direct industrial involvement," Dr. Marshall said that most of Harwell's work was still closely connected with the nuclear power programme.

But now that it was generally conceded that nuclear power was proven and established, the need for a con-

NEWS special

tinued "big push" of research into nuclear power had diminished.

"Considerable effort" was still needed for the third generation of nuclear power reactors, but the size of the total effort involved in research could be reduced.

"When this first became clear," said Dr. Marshall, "we began to consider what the future role of Harwell should be.

"We knew we could undertake scientific research on a wide range of problems; we knew that we could use the resources of Harwell to develop ideas rapidly, and we saw that this was essential to meet international competition.

Discredited

"Furthermore, and perhaps this was the most important factor of all, we knew the laboratory as a whole could rapidly change its orientation and objectives.

"But, on the other hand, the simple idea that national growth and innovation were linked closely with research and development was largely discredited. We knew that research and development were largely worthless unless done as an integral part of an operation linking them closely to design, production and marketing.

"The question we faced two years ago was therefore quite clear: could Harwell work so closely with industry that the research was strongly market-oriented and that there was a close link between all the parts of an innovative chain?

Act of faith

"At that time it was not obvious that the question deserved a positive answer and the decision to go ahead with the industrial programme was very much an act of faith by the Authority and the Ministry of Technology."

At Harwell, said Dr. Marshall, searching questions were asked.

"What research, broadly speaking, would we do?"

"Is it really needed in the national interest?"

"Is Harwell the most appropriate laboratory to undertake it?"

"Are we sure it does not overlap or conflict with the objectives of other Government laboratories or of the research associations?"

"On all these points both the Authority and the Ministry had to be completely satisfied before any proposal was put to the Minister himself. This examination was done very thoroughly and

the average time needed was about 12 months."

Desalination work was the largest single non-nuclear enterprise in the Authority. It was carried on jointly by Research and Reactor Groups and it illustrated three general points which applied to most of the work, said Dr. Marshall.

First, the size and aims of the project were substantially influenced by a study made by the Programmes Analysis Unit who examined what benefit the country might get from research and development work on desalination techniques.

Partner

Secondly, for each specific idea which might involve commercial risk and a considerable research and development programme Harwell usually tried to find a single industrial partner and collaborate on an exclusive basis.

The third general point, said Dr. Marshall, was that while the country may get fairly rapid benefits from such things as increased export sales, it is more likely that the benefit will come some years after the research. In either case royalty payments are not likely to cover the cost of the Authority's research in less than 10 or 15 years.

Risk

"Therefore, most industrial projects involve a significant risk, because, in effect, the Authority recovers expenditure by royalties or levies only on success.

"It follows that, for all projects of this type, we must make our own assessment of the market because otherwise we cannot sensibly orient the research nor check that the ratio between cost and benefit is high enough to justify the risk involved."

Harwell has recently been working on a new production process for bricks which are used to line steel furnaces.

Hard to believe

"The problem we met in this case," said Dr. Marshall, "was primarily one of technical credibility. It was hard for our industrial colleagues to believe that the technique developed for the fabrication of small pellets of expensive nuclear fuel could be used for making large refractory bricks cheaply.

"In advance of the event it was hard for us to believe it also.

"We agreed, therefore, to work on their behalf for six months, without any commitment from them, in order to produce some technical progress.

"The six months' work was successful and the joint research began. It involved two firms in this case."

BILL



RETIRES AFTER TWO JOBS

IN A working life of 50 years, Bill Crompton, who has retired from the Authority at Harwell, had only two jobs. For 30 years he worked as a laboratory steward in the Physics Department of Bristol University and then in November, 1948, he joined the General Physics Division at Harwell.

The head of the division was Dr. H. W. B. Skinner, whom Bill had known at Bristol.

Bill started work in the Mass Spectrometry Section and stayed there for the next 20 years.

Referee

When he was younger, Bill was a rugby player until a knee injury put him out of regular play. But he took up refereeing and became a member of the Gloucestershire Referees Association.

At Harwell he transferred to the Oxfordshire Referees Association and was well known as a referee at Harwell's own rugby matches.

Bradwell is a world-beater

THE nuclear power station at Bradwell, Essex, has generated more electricity than any other in the world.

Figures compiled by *Nuclear Engineering International* and quoted by the Central Electricity Generating Board newspaper *Power News* show Bradwell at the top of a list of more than 200 power stations after generating 14,800 million units of electricity.

Daresbury head moves south

PROFESSOR A. W. Merrison, 45-year-old head of the Science Research Council's Daresbury Laboratory, near Risley, is leaving to become vice-chancellor of Bristol University.

Professor Merrison, recently elected a fellow of the Royal Society, was a senior scientific officer at Harwell before he left in 1951 to join Liverpool University.

Later he joined the staff of the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Geneva before returning to the chair of experimental physics at Liverpool.

50-minute mystery on the

PADDINGTON 0915
Didcot 1010

The case of the silver pencil

AN APPEAL to Harwell's weekly AERE News identified a mystery traveller in the 9.15 am train from Paddington on April 24.

And it took less time than the journey from Paddington to Harwell.

The appeal came from a scientist working in the Royal Radar Establishment at Malvern, Worcestershire. "I am in possession of a rather good silver propelling pencil left by a passenger in the train," he wrote.

"The man, about 45, got out at Didcot. He had been busy sorting lantern slides on the journey, and I happened to notice he had a paper concerned with electrical insulating materials.

Thesis

"Another passenger noticed a document entitled, he thought, Brookman's Thesis. The man had also made some remark which led us to think he had once been at Queen Mary College.

"I have no other information about him, but I thought it was a fair bet that he was going to give a lecture at Harwell."

Within minutes, it was possible to identify the visitor as Professor H. House, of the Electrical Engineering and Electronic Department of London's City University.

He has now had his pencil back.

CROSSWORD CORNER

ALL AT SEA

THE ANSWERS to the starred clues are all 10. The clues contain the jumbled letters of the answer consecutively and a helpful hint. Other clues are normal.

ACROSS

*1 Rig a sail, can you, opposite Girvan? (5, 5)

6 Part of the picture, or perhaps the picture. (4)

10 They are in the main, in the main. (7)

11 Seen on guides and shamrock. (7)

12 Listen, it's part of the editor's job. (4)

*13 The Scots pine is the tree I like. (5)

14 Mine only produces gas for a sign. (4)

17 Open fabric idles with shanks. (5)

*19 Scouts are now billeted there. (8)

22 Canadian nuclear power station not east from North Pole. (8)

*23 Monks gladly accept visitors. (5)

26 Halt return of receptacles. (4)

27 Peer, daughter drowned, present at full inquest. (5)

*28 Dame's rocks are very dangerous. (4)

32 Settle down to produce a 34. (7)

33 Less dim. (7)

34 Air from most unexpected direction. (4)

35 Can-Can dyes give you dominating influence. (10)

DOWN

1 Get off land. (6)

2 51-50 to the French town. (5)

3 Sally at the fair. (4)

*4 At Montrose is this one. (6)

5 Hypothetically, love, you're in the railway briefly. (2, 6)

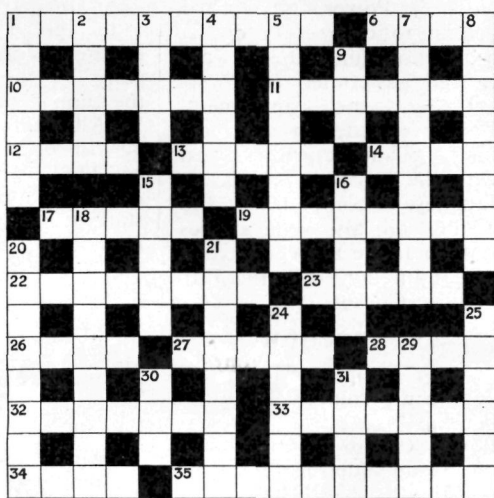
7 Claimed — to sit in the chair? (9)

*8 Tak' it easy, cool now, mon. (8)

9 Enclose female swan. (3)

*15 Tides are usually high twice daily, but not here. (5)

16 Disorganised waste causes drudgery. (5)



Name
Address

*18 If you are a clam fan, forget Castletown area. (4, 2, 3)

20 X, stop the camera. It takes two men to work it. (5-3)

*21 Files of unsolved atomic problems. (8)

24 Mistake on stage or billiards table. (6)

25 Bob on Irish county will cause a rock. (6)

*29 There's only a narrow exit from the Clyde. (5)

*30 Here with you, Old Man. (3)

31 Join demolished dwelling without fish. (4)

MAY SOLUTION



Book token for Mr. A. M. Freke, of Harwell. Entries this month to Crossword, Room 124, London Office, by June 26. First correct entry opened wins.

SIX-WAY PLAN TO SPEED DEFENCE WORK

SIX recommendations to improve the efficiency of Britain's defence research programme has been put forward by the Parliamentary Select Committee on Science and Technology after an enquiry which began in November 1967.

The committee, with Mr. Arthur Palmer as chairman, recommends:

- 1 Greater participation by industry in defence research and development;
- 2 More competition between various projects in the defence research programme;
- 3 An extension of the work which is done by the Defence Operational Analysis Establishment in Surrey;
- 4 Less direct control of expenditure by the Treasury;
- 5 Joint direction of defence research laboratories by the Government and industry;
- 6 More freedom for qualified staff to move between defence laboratories and industry. The Institution of Professional Civil Servants had claimed that staff were often reluctant to move because of such things as pension problems.

Unanimous

Mr. Palmer told reporters that the committee's recommendations were unanimous. There was no major division of opinion within the committee "and certainly no split between political parties," he said.

"A report of this size—it has almost 700 pages—will take some digesting by the Government departments concerned," said Mr. Palmer. "Then we shall expect to receive their views from the Ministries of Defence and Technology."

Official spokesmen were reluctant last month to comment on the possible effects of the committee's recommendations until the Government had said whether it was likely to adopt them.

DOUG DIGS OLD COIN

A BRONZE 20-shilling coin weight, used on scales at the time of Charles I, has been dug up on his allotment in Dorchester by Mr. Douglas Warren, who retired as a driver at Winfrith earlier this year.

His find was identified by the Dorset County Museum

Leader lectures

MR. J. K. DENMEAD, leader of the Analogue Computing Section of the Computer Group at Winfrith, has been appointed lecturer in computing in the Systems Engineering Department of Lancaster University.

'BRIGHT CHANCE' OF £800 MILLION DEAL

Austrians like the British AGR

BRITAIN'S chances of winning a contract to build Austria's first nuclear power station are "bright" according to reporters in Vienna, quoting unnamed Austrian experts.

And Britain might also get the contract to build four or five other nuclear power plants in Austria over the next 20 years.

Tenders are being invited for the first power station which will have a capacity between 350 and 650 megawatts. The order is likely to be placed towards the end of this year.

Gangster A-bombs denial

THE MAN who looks after safety for the United States Atomic Energy Commission knows of no nuclear bomb ingredient which could have escaped from the security net of the American or British atomic energy authorities. General Delmar Crowson, who is Director of the USAEC's Office of Safeguards, said the main risk of losing any important quantity of uranium or plutonium was when it was in transit.

He was satisfied that the controls for reporting to national and international authorities were working. Earlier Dr. Theodore Taylor, an American scientist who worked on the original atomic bomb, said he lay awake at night worrying about how easy it would be for "political groups and even gangsters" to make an atomic bomb in a basement for about £120,000 from 13 lb. of plutonium or uranium.

The site has already been chosen. It is near Vienna and on the Danube. River water will be used for cooling.

A senior official of the Austrian Nuclear Power Planning Company told one reporter that the sole criterion in choosing the contractor will be "economic efficiency".

Next year

The first station is likely to be worth between £32 million and £48 million to the contractor. Building is expected to start next year and the plant should be working by 1975.

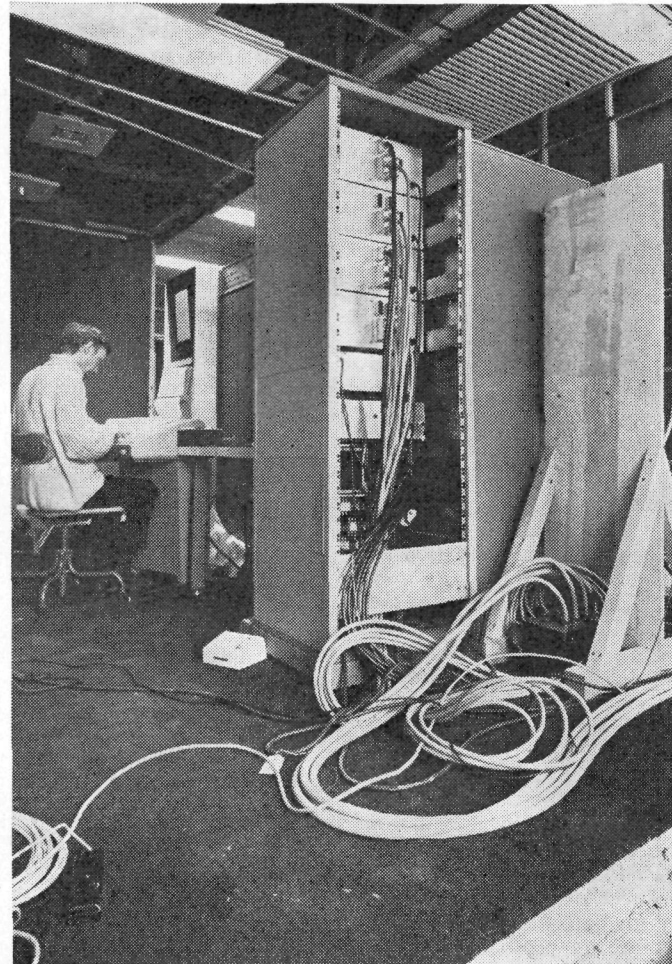
The Austrian experts are quoted as saying that it is "very likely indeed" that contracts for later power stations—possibly worth £800 million—will go to the firm which builds the first one.

Problems

This, say the experts, will avoid problems over things like spare parts and help to simplify the training of the highly qualified people needed to maintain and run the nuclear power stations.

The Austrians who will finally choose the contractor are said to favour Britain's advanced gas-cooled reactor, but price is likely to be the deciding factor.

CULHAM COPEs WITH COMPUTER CHAOS



BATTLING against chaos produced during the installation of their new ICL 40/70 computer, staff at Culham are managing to keep all their computer services normal while their building is pulled down around them.

Having to find an extra 4,000 square feet of floor space in a building which was already thought to be overcrowded, Mr. Leo Verra, computer operations manager, said: "It's an uphill struggle, but thanks to the full co-operation of the Site Services

staff we are coping at the moment.

"Things should look a little more tidy when the building work is complete towards the end of the month."

The new machine and the existing one will run together during the change-over.

IN THE PICTURE: Geoff Lescott works at one of the teletype consoles of the linked PDP8-KDF9 installation.

More de-salting plants

DE-SALTED water which is fit to drink is being produced at the rate of 133 million gallons a day—an increase of about a third over the figure two years ago, said United Nations Secretary-General U Thant.

Another 17 million gallons are available each day for use as fresh—but not drinking—water.

About 25 desalination plants were completed in 1967 and 1968—20 in developing countries—and another 14 are under construction.

Unity vote

THE Society of Technical Civil Servants has approved by a large majority an amalgamation with the larger Institution of Professional Civil Servants. Both organisations have members in the Authority.

Show stand had computer link

A TELEPRINTER link between Southampton and a computer at Aldermaston was used to demonstrate file-building, file manipulation and problem solving to visitors to the CADEX '69 exhibition.

Held at Southampton University, it dealt with computer-aided design.

The link was part of the Authority's display showing work on the APACE Centre at Aldermaston, which is sponsored by the Ministry of Technology.

It started in 1966 to help industry by fostering the use of computers in engineering.

Specialists

Specialist staff have been working on the project for three years, keeping close contact with industry, development centres and educational institutions to ensure that modern ideas can be put into practice in industry quickly.

APACE's main service is consultative and it runs many training courses.



AT SOUTHAMPTON Dr. Jeremy Bray, Joint Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Technology (left), is talking to Mr. F. L. West, APACE manager (right), and Mr. P. E. Love, senior engineer in charge of the electronic computer-aided design section of APACE (centre).

150 are expected at cyclotron conference

TWO conferences on cyclotrons are being organised by Harwell. Both will be held at St. Catherine's College, Oxford, in September.

The first, about the design and operation of cyclotrons, is from September 17 to 19 and is sponsored by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics.

It will be followed on September 20 by a visit to Harwell and the nearby Rutherford Laboratory of the Science Research Council.

Europe tour

In addition, an eight-day tour of European cyclotrons will start from Oxford on September 23, finishing in Paris.

Enquiries already received suggest that about 150 delegates will attend and up to 50 papers are being accepted for presentation. All of them are original work not previously published, but they will be published after the conference by Iliffe Books Limited.

The second conference is on the use of cyclotrons in chemistry, metallurgy and biology. It starts on September 22 and ends the following day, but there is a visit to Harwell for delegates who want to make it on September 24.

Medicine

Before the conference, on September 20, there will be a short symposium on the applications of cyclotrons to problems in medicine. This is being held at Hammsmith Hospital, in West London.

Up to 30 papers, all containing original unpublished work, are being accepted for the second conference. The published proceedings will also contain a record of discussions.

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CAN-BUT-WON'T DECISION AHEAD

DR. KENNETH PARKER, a principal scientific officer with the Authority, went back to his old school—Haslingden Grammar School in Lancashire—to distribute the speech day prizes last month.

And he told the pupils: "One thing is certain—in order to avoid disaster, man will have to decide not to do some of the things it is technically possible to do."

In a "shrinking and mobile" world, was there a choice before mankind in the rush of technological knowledge, he asked. In the past man had been up against nature. Now he was up against himself.

Individuality

To retain his individuality he would have to cultivate his mind. Education would become a life-long process, not simply packing the mind with facts but learning how to think, Dr. Parker forecast.

There were big problems to be solved, he said. One of them was the rapidly expanding world population. A solution would have to be found "if we don't want it solved by war, famine or pestilence".

Transport man

MR. JOHN GREENAWAY, who worked in Harwell's Transport Section for over 20 years, died on May 11. He had recently been working in the Electronics and Applied Physics Division there.

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HARWELL PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

The AERE Camera Club will hold its 11th Annual Exhibition of Photography at Harwell during the week commencing July 14. The judge will be Mr. H. H. Crawley, ARPS, of Oxford.

Entries of prints and colour transparencies will be accepted from any amateur photographer. The closing date for entries will be June 20.

Panels of prints and colour transparencies have been requested from local clubs.

All entries must be accompanied by an entry form and copies of these together with the exhibition rules may be obtained from K. J. Hill, Building 424, AERE, Harwell. Telephone Abingdon 4141, Extension 2547.

CARBON FIBRE: 'GET ON WITH IT' CALL

AN APPEAL to the Government to "stop wasting time" and launch production of carbon fibres on a large scale was made at the annual conference of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants last month by Institution chairman Mr. R. J. Middleton.

Research and development work at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, Hants, and at Harwell, had produced "a major technological breakthrough," he said.

"But so far no firm in this country has shown any willingness to produce these fibres on a scale commensurate with the world demand in the foreseeable future.

"As a result of this short-sightedness we shall lose our lead in this development, and in the future may well have to purchase from abroad with a consequential adverse effect on our balance of payments, particularly in the hard currency area.

"The Government should no longer procrastinate on this vital matter. It should accept the recommendations of the Select Committee on Science and Technology in respect of carbon fibres and immediately fund, on a large scale, the production of this essential material.

Advantage

"All this production work can be undertaken at Harwell and full advantage can be taken of the marketing techniques the Authority have acquired in connection with the sale of isotopes.

"In other words, we have a ready made facility. Why, in heaven's name, not use it?"

Institution general secretary Mr William McCall described the newly developed carbon fibres as "yet another brilliant product of the public research and development establishments, which, despite the intervention of the Select Committee, the Government seems determined to squander to the advantage of our international competitors."

Mr. McCall called on Mr. Edward Heath, leader of the

Conservative Party, to clarify the party's policy on Government research and development establishments.

A suggestion that "it should be possible to save at least £100 million a year by cutting down Government research and allowing private enterprise to do that work" betrayed "nothing other than wilful ignorance, and possibly prejudice, about Government research and development," Mr. McCall said.

Fuel company

"But the immediate question regarding the establishments does not arise from Conservative Party policy," he went on.

"It arises especially for the industrial research establishments in connection with the future of the Atomic Energy Authority especially when a nuclear fuel company is set up.

"This needs legislation and that is obviously not possible before the next Parliamentary session, but I believe that it will be the Government's intention to go ahead then and that it will at the same time reach decisions about the future of the Atomic Energy Authority's research and development establishments and those which are now in the Ministry of Technology.

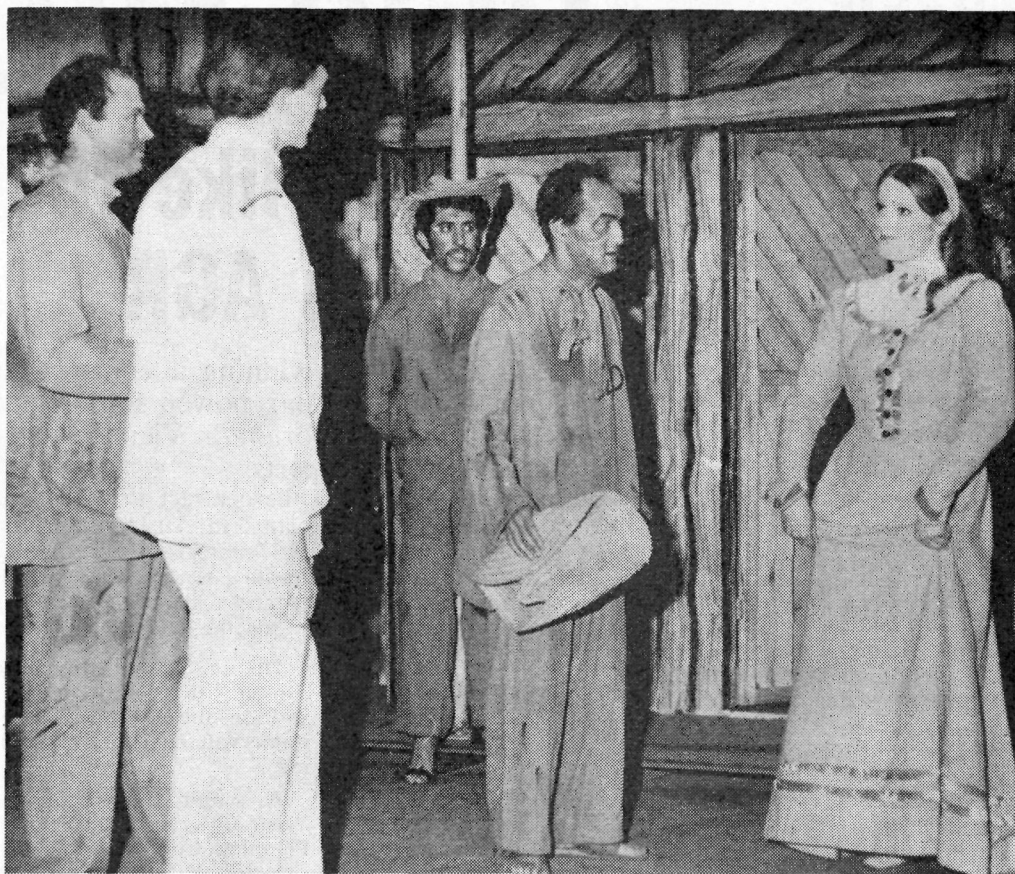
Vigour

"If a separate industrial research and development authority is set up, steps must be taken to ensure that it is a vigorous and active body and not just a back-door method of running down the establishments. The financial arrangements will therefore be crucial and must be spelled out clearly and unmistakably in any act.

"We must do our best to ensure that when a decision is taken it will provide stability for a substantial period ahead. There has been far too much criticism, doubt, speculation and indecision in this whole area of the conduct of public research and development. It must now be brought to an end."

Died in Paris

THIRTY-SEVEN-YEAR-OLD Mr. Roland Perret, head of the Scientific Division of the European Nuclear Energy Agency, died in Paris on May 14 after a short illness.



JANIS RALSTON, playing the daughter of an impoverished colonial family in French Guiana in 1910, greets a young lieutenant, played by Michael Brooke (in the white uniform) while three convicts look on.

The scene is from the Boundary Players production of *My Three Angels*, by Sam and Bella Speck, at Aldermaston last month.

The convicts, who save the poor-but-honest store-keeping family from their French overlords whilst they are supposed to be repairing the roof of the store, were played by William White (left), Clive Green (background) and Kenneth Summers.

Others taking part included Jean and Paul McKeown, Joan Cadnam, Walter Long and Keith Percival.

Midlands bosses rush to see Harwell

SO MANY business executives from the Midlands want to see the Industrial Research Section at Harwell that the Ministry of Technology's West Midlands Regional Office in Birmingham has had to organise a second visit.

The office asked firms if they were interested in visiting Harwell and 60 said they were—double the number expected.

A similar visit in 1967 attracted employees of 19 firms.

The second visit this year was on May 22 when senior technologists, chief chemists, technical directors and development managers from many firms—including some of the biggest concerns in the country—travelled to Harwell.

Testing

There, they were shown the Analytical Research and Development Unit and the Physico-Chemical Measurement Laboratories. They also saw non-destructive testing, fabrication techniques in metal and ceramics, and experiments with heat transfer and fluid flow.

Harwell's chief scientists met them for discussion.

Now, says the Ministry of Technology, increased interest is forcing its Birmingham office to extend its programme of visits to research establishments generally.

PHOTO PRINTER RETIRES



MR. LAWRENCE THOMASON, who has worked as a chief photo printer in Risley's Drawing Registry since 1953, has retired.

Mr. J. H. McDonald, chief engineer for supply, handed him a clock, a pipe and tobacco as farewell gifts.

In the picture Mr. McDonald is congratulating Lawrence as Mr. M. Ryley, of Risley's Standard's Section, looks on.

New job for top doctor

DR. KENNETH DUNCAN, the Authority's chief medical officer, has been appointed chief medical officer of the British Steel Corporation. He starts his new job this month.

Dr. Duncan, a Scot, was formerly an area medical officer for British Rail.

He joined the Authority in 1958.

He is a member of the Medical Committee of the Industrial Welfare Society and an associate of the Institution of Industrial Medical Officers.

At his home at Steeple Aston, Oxfordshire, he is a church warden and vice-president of the local cricket club as well as being a keen gardener.

NEW CENTRE WILL HELP INDUSTRY

A GROUP TECHNOLOGY centre has been set up at Blacknest, near Reading, Berks, by the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermaston. It has the support of the Ministry of Technology.

Group technology is a new technique for grouping factory-made parts of similar shape and with similar production needs which can be produced in sequence in batches with very little change in machine-tool settings between each batch.

This grouping, says the Ministry of Technology, should lead to a reduction in the variety of components, encourage standardisation of designs and increase the size of batches that go through machines so that economies can be made by something near mass production.

"Because of its unique position in the field, the AWRE project will readily be able to keep abreast of the related developments and to evaluate the relative merits of systems under actual working conditions," says the Ministry of Technology.

Training

The centre is being staffed by design and production engineers from Aldermaston and has a library, lecture rooms and the use of a conference hall which can seat 200.

It will offer training in group technology techniques and other associated work.

"Training will be sufficiently flexible to match the needs of industrial managers and will consist of general and specialised lectures and tutorial courses arranged to meet specific requirements," says the Ministry.

"An essential feature of the centre's activities will be the emphasis on the practical application of group technology, and consultancy services will be available to help industry to deal with particular problems."

Industries who are already using group technology will be asked to co-operate with the staff of the centre.

Record and award for Trawsfynydd

THE nuclear power station at Trawsfynydd, North Wales, generated more than 3,100 million units of electricity last year — enough to keep more than eight million one-bar electric fires burning continuously throughout the year.

This is an increase of one-fifth over the previous year, the power station's local liaison committee was told.

And now the power station has won the "good housekeeping" shield presented each year by the board's north-western region.

It goes to the best-kept power station, which has to be efficient and safe as well as clean and tidy.

Top-floor club is pulling them in

MEMBERSHIP of the London Office Recreation Association rose from 176 to 234 as a result of a recruiting drive last year, last month's annual meeting was told.

The biggest jump in membership came in the autumn, roughly at the time the association opened its top-floor bar in London Office.

In its first few months of trading the bar made a profit of £61. The association got almost another £100 from selling hot drinks, milk and cigarettes.

But it bought furnishings and equipment for the recreation room which cost £82 and made grants totalling almost £100 to various London Office recreational activities.

Christmas change

Regular social evenings for members, their families and friends are being discussed, but the association's Christmas party—famed for its food—is unlikely to be the same again.

"The committee do not consider that such a large function can be repeated," secretary R. F. Thomas, reported.

"They therefore propose to alter the format for the next party and replace the present main meal with a wine and cheese presentation."

Mr. Thomas told members at the annual meeting that he hoped something more than wine and cheese would be served.

TALK ABOUT DAMAGE

DR. PHILLIP HAWTIN, of Harwell's Chemical Engineering Division, was one of the three speakers who discussed ways of controlling damage in a series of programmes on method in management on BBC Radio 3.

Dr. Hawtin broadcast on May 22 with Mr. Ron Barry, of the British Steel Corporation, and Mr. Bert Prior, of Imperial Chemical Industries.

In memory of the founder



LADY COCKCROFT, widow of Sir John, the man who turned "a muddy and depressing" airfield into a top nuclear research centre, unveils a memorial plaque to her husband and the centre's present director, Dr. Walter Marshall, looks on as ...

HARWELL REMEMBERS THE GREAT DIRECTOR

NUCLEAR ENERGY pioneer Sir John Cockcroft was remembered at a simple ceremony last month outside the Cockcroft Hall at Harwell. As his widow, Lady Cockcroft, unveiled a memorial plaque, Dr. Walter Marshall, Harwell's Director, looked on.

Apprentices earn Duke's gold award



TWO Aldermaston apprentices, Andrew Peter Bon-sall and John Llewellyn Leeks, have received gold awards in the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme.

Eighteen-year-old Andrew is a student apprentice from Chesterfield who lives in the Authority's Boundary Hall hostel at Tadley.

He already held bronze and silver awards in the scheme before he left Chesterfield Grammar School where he started work for the gold.

To earn it he has studied first aid, completed a 50-

Twenty-three years earlier Sir John had set up the establishment which Dr. Marshall now directs.

For 12 years Sir John was director there.

Harwell's high quality and reputation were due primarily

to the way Sir John had built "a muddy and depressing airfield" into a great national centre known all over the world, said Dr. Marshall.

Sir John had founded the radioisotope industry and, with his early colleagues, started off the nuclear power industry in a sound way.

Above all, he was remembered not for his scientific achievements, which were truly amazing, but for the atmosphere he had given Harwell of accessibility for talks and working together.

"We shall never, never have a director as great as Sir John," said Dr. Marshall.

To Cambridge

Sir John Cockcroft left Harwell in 1958, when he became Master of Churchill College, Cambridge, but he was a Part-time Member of the Authority until two months before he died on September 18, 1967.

After the unveiling ceremony at Harwell a commemorative lecture on physics in Cockcroft's time filled the Cockcroft Hall. The lecture was given by Sir Rudolf Peierls, Professor of Physics at Oxford, and another nuclear pioneer.

LETTERS CONFIRM AUSTRIAN LINK

LETTERS exchanged between Dr. John Hill, Authority Chairman, and Dr. Richard Polaczek, the head of the department in the Federal Chancellor's office in Austria which is responsible for co-ordinating nuclear energy questions, has put on a more formal basis co-operation which has been going on between Britain and Austria for some time.

The letters "strengthen the existing and long established co-operation between Austria and Britain in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy," says a statement issued in London and Vienna.

Exchanges

Reports have been exchanged, joint meetings have taken place, visits have been made between the two countries and staff have been seconded from one to the other.

Contact between the authorities dealing with nuclear energy in the two countries has also been promoted by Austria's participation in the Dragon project at Winfrith and by visits of Austrian experts to British nuclear power plants, says the statement.

ANGELA WEDS STUDENT

MISS ANGELA PLUMMER, a secretary in Harwell's Reactor Division, has married Mr. Michael Mason, an engineering apprentice who is studying for a degree at Bath University.

He is the son of Mr. F. Mason, Reactor Division engineer.

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ALPHA POLICIES ISSUED

Office boy who studied accounts

MR. WILF BENNETT, former works secretary at Windscale who has retired from Risley, is due to become chairman of the nearby Culcheth Civic Society in September.

Wilf, who began work as an office boy in his local council offices in 1918 while he studied for accountancy qualifications, became works secretary at Windscale in 1954 and moved to Risley three years later.

In the Finance Directorate of the old Industrial Group he became directorate accountant and before his retirement was assistant chief materials officer in Reactor Group headquarters.

Surprise

When Reactor Group supply officers met at Windscale, Wilf received a surprise presentation from Mr. S. V. Willson, Reactor Group's chief materials officer. He handed him a cut-glass decanter with matching wine glasses as a gift from colleagues.

And Risley colleagues gave him a bookcase, presented by Reactor Group's financial director, Mr. D. R. Newman.



WILF BENNETT

PEOPLE and PLACES

RESEARCH PIONEER WHO TALKED TO CHILDREN

PROFESSOR William Curtis, who died last month, aged 79, was one of Britain's atomic research pioneers and an authority on spectroscopy.

A former president of the Institute of Physics, he had spent nearly 30 years at Newcastle University.

When he retired he helped to start the Tyneside Association of Libraries for Industry and Commerce, a technical information service, and gave several memorable lecture series to Newcastle schoolchildren.

David gets camera cup

WINNER of the president's cup, competed for by members of Harwell's camera club during the winter, is David Welch, who was less than half a point ahead of Ken Hill with Peter Millward third, a fifth of a point behind him.

Harwell probe Irish meteorite remains

TWO pieces of a meteorite which streaked across Britain and crashed in Northern Ireland have been examined at Harwell.

One piece of the meteorite weighed 16 lbs and was more than a foot across. It was found in a crater in a field at Kilreay, Co. Londonderry.

A much smaller portion crashed through the asbestos roof of a police storehouse at Sprucefield, near Lisburn.

The larger section was examined by scientists at Queens University, Belfast, before it was sent to Harwell. Another piece went to the Smithsonian Institute in the United States.

Two pieces

A Harwell spokesman said: "We originally received one small sample and later a larger piece weighing nearly 11 lbs.

"We are measuring radioactivity of the sample which seems quite normal for a meteorite. It arises from radioactive potassium and certain nuclides which have been made active by bombardment of cosmic rays.

"We have also found sodium, manganese and aluminium—all quite normal."

The secretary retires . . .

MR. JOHN NEASBY, who has been secretary of the Recreational Society at Aldermaston, has retired.

He is well known as a local bowler and gained a Berkshire county badge in 1966. He has been secretary and chairman of the Aldermaston Bowling Club, too.

AT LAST . . . JOE TAKES A WIFE

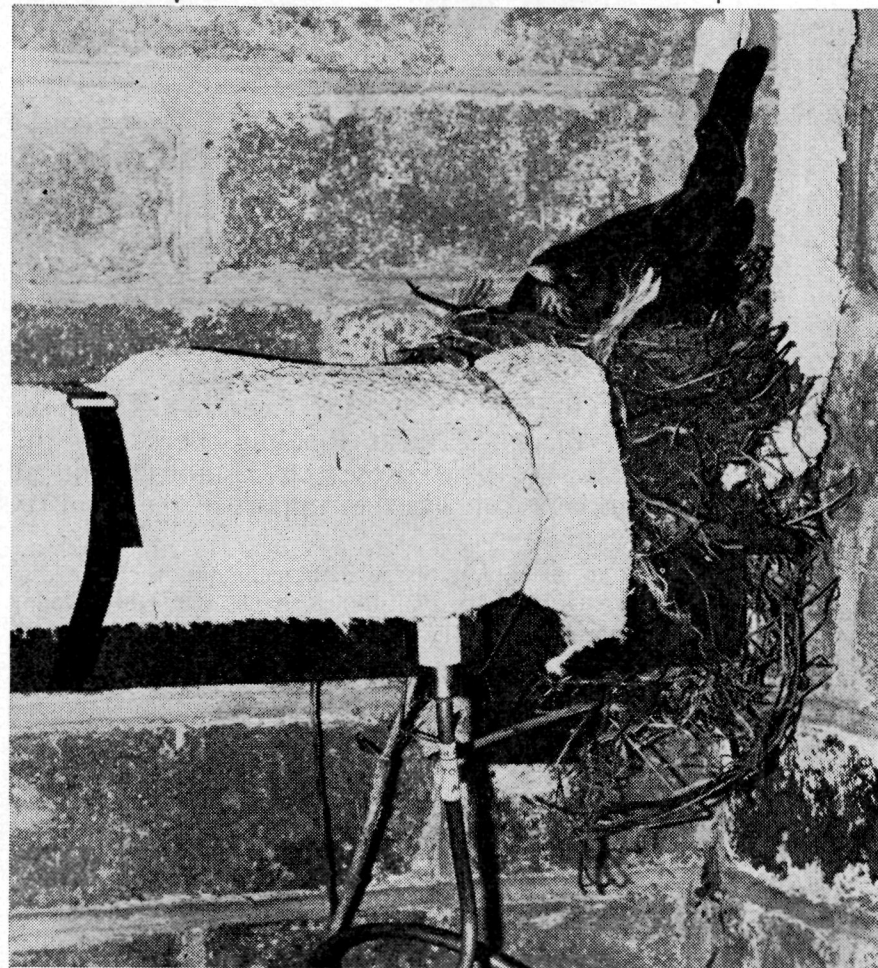


JOE PENDLETON, the longest serving bachelor in Risley's Instrument Design Office, has married. Before the ceremony he received an electric drill—a gift from colleagues—from Mr. W. A. Kealy, chief instrument engineer. Joe is known as a keen cyclist and proficient photographer.

Clerk weds

HARWELL clerical officer Rosalind Breakpear has married local gas board fitter Richard Steptoe.

THRUSHES THRIVE ON STEAM



What luck . . . no big bang in 367 years

IT IS just as well that a three-barrelled naval cannon has never been fired in the 367 years it has existed.

If it had, it would have blown up part of the ship that it was on.

Gamma radiography at the Solus-Schall Matlock Laboratory of the Rank Organisation has shown that there were many defects in the bronze from which the cannon was made.

It was discovered in a house in Southern Ireland and examination of the cannon began when experts wondered whether all its three barrels fired at the same time or one after the other.

Radiography also showed that it was designed for all three to fire at once. The market value of the historic cannon promptly fell.

MAYORS' PARLEY

MR. AND MRS. LESLIE STEGGLES, Mayor and Mayoress of Abingdon, Berks., were hosts to eight other mayors at a civic ball in Abingdon's Guildhall.

Their guests came from Reading, Wallingford, Windsor, Wokingham, Newbury, Maidenhead, Oxford and the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Mr. Steggles is the divisional administration officer in Harwell's Scientific Administration. The Mayor of Newbury was then Mr. L. L. Hall, who is assistant chief contracts officer at Harwell. He has since been succeeded by Mr. John W. Jones, who works on engineering inspection at Aldermaston.

MRS. SMITH IS THE SOUTHBEND MAYOR



ALDERMAN Mrs. Vera Smith, whose husband Cyril has worked for the Authority for nearly 13 years, is this year's Mayor of Southend-on-Sea, Essex. Cyril, who works at Foulness, will be his wife's official consort during her 12 months of office.

SERGEANT Duncan Speirs, of the Authority Constabulary at Dounreay, already known as an angler and author of a local guide for anglers, has started a new part-time business.

Trading as Holborn Marine, he takes visitors out into the Bay of Thurso in his own small boat—for the fishing.

Duncan—pictured on the right—has just landed a halibut weighing 5½ stone, the largest he has caught since Easter.

But it is not a record. This is held by the Provost of Stromness, with a halibut weighing 12 stone.

"I'm convinced there are bigger fish out in the bay," said Duncan. "It's just a question of getting the blighters out."

But when top sea anglers Mr. and Mrs. Ted Simons travelled from Wales to fish for halibut they caught—nothing.

Local experts suggested that gales a week earlier had driven the fish to deeper water.

SPACE BET PAYS OFF

DR. L. R. SHEPHERD, head of the Dragon project at Winfrith, is £5 better off as a result of a bet he accepted 10 years ago.

On April 30, 1959, Arthur C. Clarke, the space travel authority who is co-author of the film *2001: A Space Odyssey*, made a bet with Dr. Shepherd and Mr. A. V. Cleaver, Head of the Rocket Division of Rolls-Royce, that within ten years from that day a man would land on the moon and return safely.

Although Mr. Clarke has paid up, he says, he is claiming a moral victory and hoping that America's Apollo XI space craft succeeds in landing an astronaut on the moon in July.

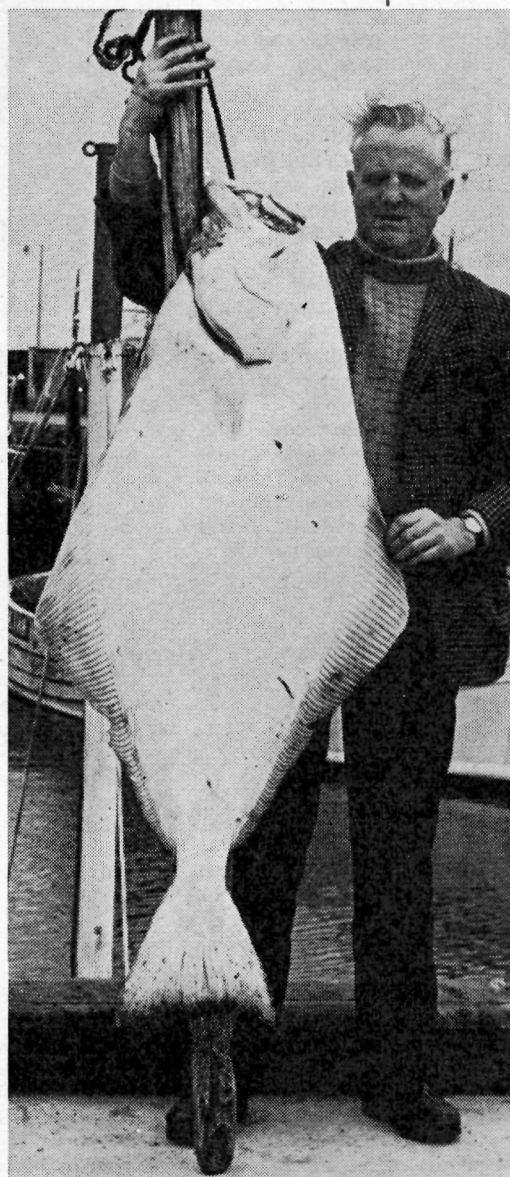
Ex-chairmen

If it does, and if he gets back safely, Mr. Clarke lost his bet by only three months.

All three men are former chairmen of the British Inter-Planetary Society, and Dr. Shepherd has also been president of the International Astronautical Federation.

Before he took over the Dragon project at Winfrith last year Dr. Shepherd worked on the development of high temperature reactors at Harwell.

SERGEANT TAKES TO THE BOAT



Amersham physicist retires



MR. HAROLD SHEARD, deputy director of the Radiochemical Centre at Amersham, retired at the end of last month.

Mr. Sheard, who joined the Authority as a group leader in the Reactor Physics Division at Harwell in 1952, became the Authority's senior representative in Canada three years later and, on his return to Britain, was technical manager at Windscale.

In 1959 he was appointed chief physicist at the Radiochemical Centre and in 1962, as well as acting as chief physicist, he was appointed deputy director to co-ordinate the work of the Isotope Production Unit at Harwell and the Physics Department at Amersham.

NEW ZEALANDERS ARE BACKING BRITAIN

BRITAIN is far too prone to self-criticism, says *New Zealand News*, published in Britain mainly for New Zealand visitors.

"There is so much that is good in the country and so much achievement that it is a great tragedy that Britain's image abroad is so very poor.

"In such things as aircraft engineers and nuclear energy for peaceful purposes this country is supreme," says the newspaper.

Not finished

"We deplore the smart alecs of television and newspaper fame who seem to delight in exaggerating the problems facing Britain.

"We hope our readers in New Zealand will believe us when we say that Britain is not finished. . . . We will endeavour in every possible way to fight against this disease of hopelessness and this fashion of sneering that has developed, whereby everybody knocks everything and forgets so much that is good and makes this country well worth living in."

The man who takes over

MR. PAUL T. FLETCHER, who has been named as the new managing director of Atomic Power Constructors Ltd., builders of the second nuclear power station at Dungeness, Kent, is a former chief mechanical and electrical engineer in the Ministry of Works who became deputy managing director of the Authority's Industrial Group in May 1958.

Just over a year later he was deputy managing director in the newly-formed Development and Engineering Group at Risley.

When Reactor Group was formed in April 1961 he was appointed special adviser to the Member for Reactors, but within four months he was released to join the board of the new United Power Company.

Mr. Fletcher was to become its director for construction, supply and planning. He had already been made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire in the New Year honours in 1959.

Food store

During the early days of the 1939-45 war Mr. Fletcher helped to house the National Gallery and the British Museum in wartime storage. Then he became responsible for the organisation of the Government's £2 million cold storage scheme which was to safeguard the nation's food supplies.

Mr. Fletcher is already a director of the new British Nuclear Design and Construction. As managing director of APC he takes over from Dr. Gordon Brown, who remains a director and executive of the company.

Veteran dies

MR. CYRIL WEAVING, of the Active Handling and Metallurgy Group at Harwell, has died. He had been at Harwell since it was a wartime RAF station.

A RIGHT SEND OFF FOR THE BRIDE

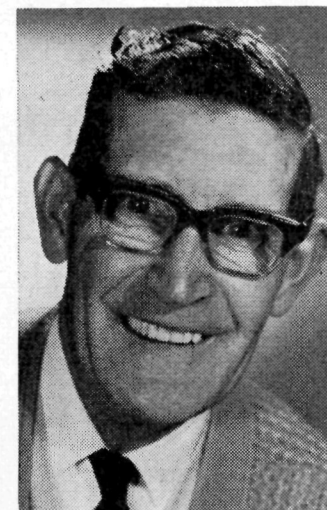


THEY CALLED IT a real Lancashire send off. Miss Lynn Pennington was getting married to Mr. Alan Gartside.

Lynn is a tracer in the Editorial Section in the Reactor Fuel Element Laboratories at Springfields. And before Technical Editor Mr. C. T. John presented her with various household items from her colleagues, Lynn paraded in a specially prepared sandwich board. Among the slogans her colleagues read were "Don't blame your bride. . . ." "Women need protection. . . ." "The lady is a sport."

At 60 George may slow down

FOULNESS technical officer Mr. George W. R. Snow, 60 last month, is thinking of giving up some of his spare time activities.



GEORGE SNOW

Visitor gets a prize back home

MR. F. H. ATTIX, of the United States Naval Research Laboratory, who is at present working with the Health Physics and Medical Division at Harwell, has been awarded one of the annual prizes of the Scientific Research Society of America for his work on radiation dosimetry.

He went to Washington on May 27 to receive the award and deliver the award lecture.

Stamp club plan

A STAMP collector's club may be formed at Harwell. Keen collectors are being asked to contact Rodney Ashton, of Accounts, or Phil Marsden, of the Programmes Analysis Unit.

They have suggested "an association to see collections of stamps made by other collectors, and for the exchange or sale of surplus material and a forum for discussion."

President John

JOHN PORTER, an experimental officer in the Metallurgy Division at Dounreay, has been elected president of Thurso Branch of An Comunn Gaidhealach, the Gaelic Society.

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London speaker

MR. K. D. B. JOHNSON, of Harwell, was one of the speakers at a seminar held in London by Associated Business Programmes.

Two meetings on June 2 and 3 discussed holography and carbon fibre engineering.

Number two on the way in Japan

JAPAN'S second commercial nuclear power station, nearing completion in Tsuruga, in western Japan, should start work in December, the Japan Atomic Power Company announced.

The station, which will generate 375 megawatts of electricity, is using an American boiling water reactor.

If it is completed on schedule, just four years after building started, it will be a world speed record in building a reactor, the company claimed.

...Germany

BUILDING the second nuclear power station in East Germany has started near Griefswald Bodden, a shallow bay on the Baltic. To be known as Nord, the station is expected to be able to generate 800 megawatts of electricity by 1974 and this will gradually be increased to 2,000 megawatts.

For the first time, the East Germans claim, the Rostock district will then be able to supply more electricity than it needs.

The first step in East Germany's long-term energy programme was the Rheinsberg nuclear power station, north of Berlin, which began operating in 1966. It generates 70 megawatts of electricity, enough to supply a town of about 600,000 people.

East Germany expects increasing industrial development to push up the demand for electricity at least five times by the year 2000.

and India

BOTH reactors at India's 380-megawatt nuclear power station at Tarapur, north of Bombay, are expected to start full commercial operation next month, said the Indian Atomic Energy Department in New Delhi.

Electricity from the station has already been fed into the local grid experimentally.

X-rays probe the rubbish—for diamonds

X-RAYS are being used to separate diamonds from the rubbish which comes out of diamond mines in South Africa.

Other methods left some rubbish in the pile of diamonds and some diamonds in the pile of rubbish.

Now, automatic equipment using an X-ray beam is "99.9 per cent satisfactory". More similar equipment is being installed.

PACIFIC POWER SHORTAGE

CUTS in public spending imposed by the American Government may lead to a shortage of electricity on the northern Pacific coast. The North West Joint Power Planning Council says it needs the Bonneville Power Administration to join in a development programme to provide new power stations.

But the United States Budget Bureau have ruled that the administration must wait.

COBALT MAY MAKE AIRPORT LANDINGS SAFER

COBALT-60 may help aircraft to land safely if a device developed in Norway is installed on the world's airports.

Norwegian scientists have developed a new landing system which passes information to the pilot which is accurate to within a few inches.

Mr. Finn Leid, Director of the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment at Kjeller, east of Oslo, said the system, known as Hermes, consisted of a series of radiation sources placed in the approach lanes of an airport.

An approaching aircraft was caught in the corridor pattern of radiation.

A small computer aboard the aircraft, acting on impulses from a gamma-ray detector, then provided all the information for a safe landing, including distances, height, speed and position.

At about three miles from the airport, information about the aircraft's course and distance was accurate to five yards.

When the plane reached the edge of the runway, the information about distances was accurate to two yards and altitude measurements were as close as four inches.

Cobalt-60, as used in the system, is harmless to humans.

BIG BLAST DELAYED 4 MONTHS

PROJECT Rulison, the big American underground nuclear explosion planned to release inaccessible natural gas under the Colorado desert, has been postponed to September.

It is the second explosion of its kind. The first, Gasbuggy, produced gas but contaminated it with radioactivity.

Rulison should have exploded on May 22, but could not be prepared in time.

NEW LAB TAKES FERMI'S NAME

AMERICA'S national accelerator laboratory, now being built near Chicago, will be known as the Enrico Fermi laboratory, United States Atomic Energy Commission chairman Dr. Glenn

OVERSEAS SPOTLIGHT

Euratom plans are ready

THE long-awaited long-term programme for Euratom has been completed and approved by the Commission of the European Communities. It is still to be confirmed by the European Ministers' Council.

According to the programme, Euratom research will concentrate on fast breeder, high temperature and heavy water reactors, but there are three innovations.

First, the work of Euratom will be adapted to advances in industry and technology. Reporters quote unnamed experts as saying that this means that advanced projects will be handed over to industry and new technological projects will be brought in.

Secondly, the Community's four nuclear research centres will no longer be used for purely scientific research as an end in itself "but as an instrument of Europe's overall economic and industrial development of the future."

Thirdly, the research centres would branch out into other, non-nuclear work, such as information techniques, air- and water-pollution and oceanography.

Light water reactors, a primary research project for ten years, are being dropped from the programme.

Reporters say there is no sign whether a cut of 415 in Euratom's 2,700 research staff will be made, although it was formally decided last December by the Council of Ministers.

India wants French reactor

FRANCE is to help India build a fast reactor and train Indian engineers and technicians.

The French Atomic Energy Commission said last month that a team of Indian and French specialists would be set up at the French nuclear centre at Cadarache to study the project.

The group will include 30 Indian and 20 French engineers and technicians headed by an Indian scientist. Its work is expected to last about a year.

French officials said India is planning to build a fast reactor similar to France's Rhapsodie, which went critical in January, 1967, and reached full power within a few weeks.

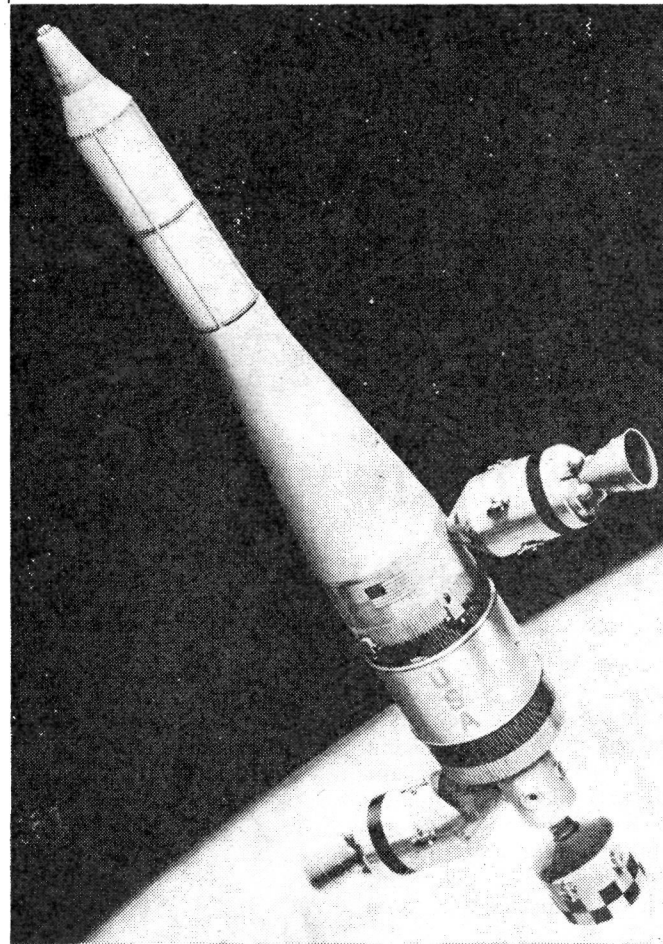
Karlsruhe reactor ready now

THE sodium-cooled fast reactor at the nuclear research centre in Karlsruhe, Germany, should be completed about now.

Interatom, who are building it for Gesellschaft für Kernforschung, announced the middle of the year as the completion date.

Building started in 1966. The reactor is designed to have an output of 58 megawatts of heat and about 19 megawatts of electricity.

REACTOR IN SPACE PLAN



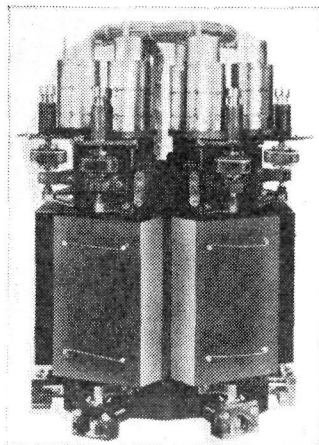
A COMPACT nuclear reactor like the S8DR (below), now undergoing tests near Canoga Park, California, could provide the electrical power for an orbiting man-

ned space station like the one drawn above.

Built by North American Rockwell's Atomic International Division for the United States Atomic Energy Commission, the reactor would be at the top of this space station. Astronauts would work and live in the bottom third of the craft, roughly between the docking points for the two Apollo-type transport space craft.

Attached to the bottom of the space station is an unmanned research satellite.

The S8DR is about the size of a 50-gallon barrel. It is described as a zirconium hydride reactor. One is now undergoing a year-long test in an underground vacuum chamber.



DENTIST'S MELTING MOMENT

LASER beams may become standard equipment for dentists by 1971, said Dr. Fred M. Johnson, of Electrical Optical Systems, a Californian firm.

Treatment with laser beams—the experts call it laser-glazing—melts the tooth's enamel so that it sets again evenly over gaps that are beginning to appear. The whole thing takes 20,000 millionths of a second.

The cost?—No more than dental X-ray equipment.

T. Seaborg announced.

The physicist Fermi first achieved a sustained nuclear chain reaction in a small Chicago Laboratory.

Formal dedication and naming of the new laboratory will not take place until major building work has been completed and the laboratory is in operation—probably in the autumn of 1972.

The laboratory is to be the home of the world's largest proton accelerator whose power could later be almost doubled.

Czech reactor delay ending

CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S nuclear power station, which was started in 1957, will start work later this year, according to reporters in Prague.

The station, at Jaslovská Bugonica, should generate 150 megawatts of electricity. It was started with Russian help.

After 10 years, less than half the plant for the power station had been delivered and about a fifth of the assembly work had been done, according to the Czech economic weekly *Hospodarske Noviny*.

Now a second power station, more than three times the size of the first, is on the drawing board.

Czech leaders say that eight nuclear power stations should be operating by 1980.

Americans question cash cuts

THE United States Atomic Energy Commission has revised its £1,000 million budget for 1970.

It has been asked to make cuts of around £32 million. The Joint Committee on Atomic Energy is questioning the need for the cuts.

The committee chairman urged all its members to look at the commission's requests "in terms of the nation's need and not in terms of an artificial monetary crisis".

AUSTRALIAN DECISION 'SOON'

THE AUSTRALIAN Federal Minister for National Development, Mr. David Fairbairn, believes that Australia will be using nuclear power "very soon".

He said in Hobart, Tasmania, last month that a decision would be made "in the not too distant future", reports Radio Australia.

If the decision was in favour of nuclear power, it could be working within ten years.

Mr Fairbairn said the Australian Atomic Energy Commission already believed nuclear power would be used by the late 1970s.

Lab fire

POLICE have been investigating the cause of a fire at the French nuclear centre at Saclay, near Paris.

The damage, which includes the destruction of a laboratory, is estimated at several hundred pounds.

CAITHNESS BRAVE STORM OF REVENGE

THE CAITHNESS youth clubs soccer team—six of the players are Dounreay apprentices—are champions of the North of Scotland. In the final of the North of Scotland youth clubs soccer tournament they beat Scottish youth champions Aberdeen YC 4-2 at Inverness.

Playing under floodlights for the first time, Caithness gave a superlative performance to outgun and humiliate their more experienced opponents with a rollicking brand of cup-tie football, writes a reporter.

At half-time Caithness were leading 2-0. Then Aberdeen stormed into the attack and pulled one goal back. In 20 minutes they had equalised.

But Caithness were out for revenge. Three minutes later they scored again and Aberdeen replied with desperate attacks. But the Caithness defence held.

The final goal came just three minutes before the end.

MARGARET CLIMBS OUT IN FRONT

MRS. MARGARET TAYLOR, who is treasurer of Harwell's archery club, was first lady in the Clive Archers open shoot at Bristol last month.

At lunch, after six dozen shots at 80 yards, she was second—69 points behind a competitor from Bath.

After four dozen shots at 60 yards, Margaret had moved up to within three points of the leader and she finished the next two dozen at 50 yards to win, 13 points in the lead.

Margaret was also first lady in the Berkshire county archery trials held earlier.

They only lost one point

HARWELL Table Tennis Club's D team dropped only one point all the season in their games in the third division of the Didcot and District League.

They won the division more decisively than any other team in the league.

Cup and medals were presented last month to Ron Liguorish, Roger Gammon and Phil and Betty Cook.

Three-year stint

THE committee elected at the annual meeting of Harwell's angling club will be in office for three years. Its members are J. Sheldon (chairman), D. Horton (secretary), C. Morse (treasurer), W. Cochrane, R. Colin, E. Mould, J. Wallace and S. Weal.

SOUTH HOLD TITLE

WHEN the Caithness youth team met Edinburgh, the South of Scotland champions, on May 21 in their bid for the Scottish championship, they were defeated 6-2.

Greengarth are getting better



A MUCH IMPROVED Greengarth rugby team won eight out of ten of the games they played last season. Two seasons ago they won less than a third of their games.

But they failed to beat Netherhall, the eventual winners, in the semi-final of the Cumberland Rugby Union shield.

In the picture Greengarth players, from the left in dark shirts, are T. Wigmore, C. Tranter, F. McKee and F. McDonald.

Boys fade after 110 tiring minutes

IT TOOK TWO periods of extra time to decide the final of the Springfields inter-departmental soccer competition for the Rogan Cup.

The apprentices A team were holding the eventual winners, Plant Maintenance, to a 1-1 draw after 90 minutes, but they went under in the first half of the second period of extra time when inside forward Frank McSavage thumped in two goals to give Maintenance a 3-1 win.

It was the second successive year that Maintenance have beaten the apprentices in the final.

Alan Cornwall got the other goal for Maintenance and Bob Ollerton scored for the apprentices, who had bad luck in the second half of ordinary time. They had a goal disallowed and also hit the crossbar.

Despite their bad luck they did not fully exploit the advantage of the wind at their back and did not pace themselves as well as their more experienced rivals.

The longer the game went on the more Maintenance appeared likely winners.

CULHAM NETS?

A GOLF section of Culham's recreation association is being discussed. It is likely to provide practice facilities—including nets—at Culham.

Two men behind the idea are Jim McDonald, and Norman Kench.

PLANT MAINTENANCE goalkeeper John Cuff looks back—not in anger, but with relief—to see an Apprentices' shot rebound off the crossbar.

Evening games

Winfrith Cricket Club members are playing in the Dorchester Evening League.

Chemistry team best at Reay

CHEMISTRY Group engineers are the winners this year of Dounreay's MacIntosh trophy for golfers.

Semi-finals and finals were played at Reay on May 11.

In the semi-finals Engineering Services beat the Prototype Fast Reactor team, four up, and the Chemistry Group engineers beat the Admiralty Reactor Test Establishment, 12 up.

The final gave the Chemistry Group engineers a seven-up victory.

R. Maxwell and R. W. Vivers beat A. Imlach and A. Connell, six up; and G. S. McKenzie and G. M. Cowe beat H. Sanderson and W. Gallagher, one up.

RON GETS OUT OF A PICKLE

RON PICKLES, winner of last year's three-cornered golf tournament between Capenhurst, Windscale and Springfields has captured the North West Civil Service Liverpool spring trophy.

Ron, an executive officer in the Material Supply Section of the Reactor Fuel Element Laboratories at Springfields, made a bad start and was lying 25th in the morning, but excellent golfing in the afternoon hoisted him into the lead.

He usually plays on Stanley Park, Blackpool, and has a handicap of 12.

In addition to the cup and a replica, he took home, as a contest prize, a transistorised clock.

REFEREE'S REWARD



AFTER 120 minutes of football—and four goals—referee George Harrison has time to relax and discuss the Springfields Rogan Cup final. For his two-hour stint he received from Mrs. Rogan, wife of Dr. H. Rogan, the Springfields General Manager, a set of cups and saucers. Brothers Alec and Joe Robinson were linesmen for the game.

Cricket starts with a draw

HARWELL cricketers drew their first match of the season, against Wantage.

Harwell batted first and scored steadily to reach 94 for three. But, when E. Saunders was out after an innings which contained many shots worthy of the middle of the

season, they lost a few quick wickets before forceful shots at the end took their total to 136.

Saunders was top scorer with 42.

Wantage suffered early setbacks and were only 32 for

4, but a fine partnership of 71 by A. Haines and C. Harrison saw them apparently coasting for victory.

Harwell bowlers G. Dawson and G. Rhodes made them slump from 125 for five to 125 for eight, but they held out for a draw.



'BYE, DARLING

HARWELL Lawn Tennis Club member Alan Hewlett, described by the club as "Darling of the ladies, envy of the men, resident comedian of the courts . . . and a barrister", has left Harwell for his home town of Portsmouth.

Wrestlers may miss vital contest

CASH FEAR FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

FALCONER WATERS, 18-year-old Dounreay apprentice, hopes to be in the British wrestling team which will compete in the European championships on July 13. But it all depends on whether his club—the hard-up Thurso wrestling club—can raise the money to send him.



ONE of the Caithness events in which wrestler Falconer Waters took part last year was the senior free-style contest at the Naver House sports day arranged by Dounreay apprentices. He is pictured here on top, winning his bout with Willy Adamson.

Out of the cup, but well in on final

ALTHOUGH both Windscale soccer teams were knocked out in the third round of the Cumberland county cup competition, the cup final was played at Windscale's Falcon Field. Workington Reds forced a 1-1 draw with Annan after extra time.

Mr. G. R. Howells, Works General Manager at Windscale and Calder, who was to have presented the trophies, had been asked to do it now at the beginning of next season—after the replay. It, too, will be at Falcon Field.

Mr. J. F. Inglis, Windscale AFC secretary, organised the final. He was responsible for advertising, programme sales and refreshments for over 1,000 spectators who thrilled to an exciting game.

Annan, given a penalty in the last minute of extra time, failed to net the ball.

WINFRITH BOYS SCORED THEM ALL

WHEN a Winfrith Apprentices soccer team met the Admiralty Underwater Weapons Establishment from nearby Portland the Admiralty won 2-1.

But all three goals were scored by Winfrith players.

Evenly matched teams played lively football before a cup, given by the Admiralty's workshop manager, was handed to the Admiralty captain.

This is the first time the teams have met. Now they hope it will be an annual fixture.

MAN OF THE YEAR



CAPTAIN of the Springfields soccer eleven . . . captain of the Plant Maintenance team which won the works' Rogan cup . . . and now Clubman of the Year at the works . . . Don Addison received the clubman's statuette of a footballer from Mrs. H. Rogan, wife of the Works General Manager, last month.

Money to send the club's three representatives to London last month for the British championships in which Falconer took the middleweight title, was raised by Thurso British Legion branch and Round Table and a whip-round among Dounreay fitters.

Jim Marshall, coach to the three-man team who all won awards, told reporters: "This is our greatest day, yet it presents our greatest problem."

"To give these boys the chance they deserve of international recognition it means our biggest money-raising operation yet."

No chance

"The British Amateur Wrestling Association asked if all three of our lads could compete in the world championships in the United States, but they only subsidise half the cost of the wrestler's international appearance and we knew we hadn't a chance of getting enough to send these boys there."

"But these three boys could be European champions inside a couple of years — if they get the chance."

Falconer started wrestling when he was 15 during his pre-apprenticeship training course at Thurso Technical College. With lecturer Jim Marshall, he was one of the founder members of the college wrestling club.

Glasgow show

His first championship win was in the Scottish junior championships in Glasgow in 1967. After that he was picked to represent Scotland at the British championships and he came second.

In the same year he did exhibition wrestling at the Daily Record Scene '67 in Glasgow's Kelvin Hall.

He represented Scotland against Poland at Dunoon in the same year but lost his bout on points.

Last year he made a second bid for the British championship but had to retire because of a shoulder injury.

Falconer wrestles regularly in Caithness and this year he tied for the Thurso British Legion wrestling trophy with his clubmate Magnus Hughson.

FAVOURITES SLIP—AND CUP BEARS WRONG NAME

THE B team of Harwell's table tennis club were such strong favourites to win the handicap shield in the Didcot and District league that their name was engraved on the shield.

But in the last game they lost narrowly to the local MG A team.

So it was the runner-up trophy which was presented last month to Alan Pilbeam, Clive Randall and Alf Davies.

With Ray Butt as a fourth member, the same team were fourth in the league's division one.

HANDICAPPER PLOTS THE EXCITEMENT



SHREWD handicapping by Gil Paton produced a close and exciting inter-departmental table tennis tournament at Springfield.

Technical Section, playing off scratch, just scraped through two preliminary rounds, then had a narrow victory in the final over Building and Works, who were starting with 60 points.

Tech managed 351 points to their rivals 348.

The average difference between the competing teams in the whole tournament was no more than a point a game and the organisers are hoping the tight handicapping will encourage more entries next time.

Trophies were presented to the winners and losing finalists by Alan Matthews, Assistant Chief Mechanical Engineer.

IN THE PICTURE: Mr. Matthews (left) and Frank Smith hold the cup as Stan Wainwright (behind) and Gil Paton admire it.

Whatever happened to the goals?

THERE WAS a shortage of goals in hockey matches played by Harwell's first team last season.

Harwell scored fewer goals than in any season since 1954 — but they also conceded fewer.

Of the 26 games they played, they won 12 and drew seven, scoring 44 goals to the 30 netted against them.

The second XI have done slightly better than in the previous season when they put up what was then their best performance.

They won 11 of the 20 matches played and drew two, scoring 46 goals with 34 against them.

THE ARCHERS ROUGH IT

HARWELL'S archers won the Windsor Forest bowmen's invitation short metric shoot last month, beating the London Aquarius team by 1,949 points to 1,924.

The contest was held in weather which was so rough that four targets were blown over.

Maxwell first

A NEW cup presented to Dounreay's golfing society by the Viewforth Sports and Social Club was won for the first time by R. Maxwell after a contest at Golspie.

WINDSCALE GOLFERS IN THREE-WAY WIN



WINDSCALE golfers are this year's winners of the annual triangular match between Capenhurst, Springfield and Windscale, held at Fulwood, Preston, last month.

Windscale, captained by R. E. Waters (left) scored 257 Stableford points to Springfield's 240.

Capenhurst trailed with 220.

The individual best scorers were B. Eaves, of Springfield, with 39; P. Cocker (right), also of Springfield, with 37; R. Lucas (centre), of Windscale, and B. Downing, of Capenhurst, both with 35.

Rovers join United's league

WINDSCALE Rovers and Windscale United will both play in the same soccer league next season. Rovers, last season's runners-up in the Derwent Valley League, are joining United in the West Cumberland League.

United, who fell away disappointingly in their league games, finished fourth.

Following a mammoth coaching session for over 120 10-to-15-year-olds at the club's Falcon Field, a course is being arranged for 14- and 15-year-olds during the summer.

Joint coaching

The newly formed West Cumberland Coaching Association helped to organise the three-session course for sons of Sellafield Sports Association members. Coaches from Workington and other amateur football clubs were joined by Ray Minshall, the Football Association's regional coach in the North-East.

Mr. Minshall was enthusiastic about the facilities at Falcon Field, judged by many to be the best in Cumberland. He told the boys that football skills were useless with determination and dedication.

CUP MISSED BY ONE

JOE PAXTON, with a net score of 65, beat Midge Hall to win the Harwell Recreational Association golf cup at Henley-on-Thames last month.

On a course soaked by heavy rain, Midge Hall took the runner-up prize by one stroke.

EVERY-YEAR-A-WINNER RECORD IS HELD

WINFRITH'S rifle and pistol club have maintained their record of winning awards every year since their formation in 1961. This year they are champions of Division 54 of the National Small Bore Rifle League.

NO MALE CHALLENGE IN THE FINAL



RISLEY GOLFERS CRASH

HARWELL golfers were much too strong for their Risley opponents in their annual match at Little Aston.

Harwell's Alec Coulson and Reg Faircloth set the pattern with a good win, and the morning's result showed Harwell with 52 points and Risley with just one-half.

The afternoon foursomes were equally disastrous for Risley, who lost 9-3. D. L. Linning and M. Lane were their only winners, and J. Waters and J. Curtis halved their games.

Final result: Harwell 14½, Risley 3½.

MRS. PAT MORGAN is the London Office champion darts player. In the all-female final she beat Maureen McColl, of Establishments Branch.

Only one man—messenger Ernie Todd—reached the semi-final, in which Pat Morgan beat her library colleague Mrs. C. Bovingdon.

INSTRUCTORS QUALIFY

FIFTEEN - YEAR - OLD Sharon Bowles is one of eight Harwell Archery Club members who have qualified as archery instructors. The others are Margaret Taylor, Credwin Coles, John Long, Ken Archer, Martin Miller, Steve Howe and Russell Lemmon.

Ten teams aim for the beer

TEN teams have entered Culham's 6-a-side evening cricket league which this year replaces the traditional 18-over evening league matches.

The team with the highest

score — irrespective of the number of wickets which fall—gets two points and the team at the top of the league at the end of the season will get a prize of two crates of beer.

"Although the division is a long way from the senior ones, this is still no mean achievement," said a spokesman.

During the season the Winfrith team lost only one match.

Team members were B. Catchpole (captain), P. Rowbury, who is also the club chairman, N. L. Andrews, the club coach, A. Allsopp and I. Reynolds.

For Mr. Andrews the medal he received is his first national trophy in 32 years of shooting.

Catchpole, Andrews, I. Reynolds, N. Bray and B. Hollick formed the club's B team in the Dorset County League and finished as champions of Division 3.

They also won a cup and individual silver spoons in inter-club competitions.

League choice

The spoon winners were I. Reynolds, Allsopp, D. Barnes, R. E. Reynolds Rowbury and W. Barry.

Club champion for 1969 is C. V. Vallance, of Winfrith's Operations and Engineering Division, who got the highest average score in all winter leagues. He was also selected to shoot in the Dorset county team.

Rowbury, who organises the pistol section of the club, led a team of three to victory in Division 2 of the Dorset county league's timed and rapid competition.

His team-mates were J. Jenkins and C. Page.

Rowbury also captained a team of four who were runners-up in the slow-fire competition of Division One in the county league, and R. Hollick won a bronze medal in the same contest.

On June 11 the Winfrith club were due to be hosts to the Dorset county team who were competing for the BSA Cup and the Western Counties bowl. Vallance was picked for the county side with Rowbury and Allsopp as reserves.

Team that won the league



A TEAM from Building 341 are winners of Harwell's darts league and from Mr. D. Mettrick, of the Production and Works Division, they received trophies in the mess

room of the main workshops. The winners are (from the left): back row, J. Mitchell, A. Falconer, T. Haine, J. Wallace, J. Taylor, T. Tyler, D. Olson; front row, F. Savage, F. Terry (captain) and J. Peacock.

Germans get AGR offer

EXPERIENCE gained by British Nuclear Design and Construction in building the first advanced gas-cooled reactor near a town — at Hartlepool, County Durham — will be available to Germans who have been debating the wisdom of building nuclear power stations on urban sites.

An agreement already signed between Atomic Power Constructors Ltd. and the German company of Brown Boveri and Company, of Mannheim, is being extended to include BNDC.

The new arrangement includes a co-operation agreement with the Authority and, say BNDC, "will ensure access by Brown Boveri to the know-how of BNDC's Hartlepool design.

World first

"Hartlepool is the first nuclear power station on an urban site in the world, and marks the acceptance, on such a site, of the advanced gas-cooled reactor as a completely safe type of nuclear reactor.

"The wisdom of siting nuclear stations in urban locations has been extensively debated in Germany and the availability of this design enables Brown Boveri to offer it with confidence to interested German customers, particularly for use on urban sites," says BNDC.

SUPREME SACRIFICE?

THE BOYS of a Yorkshire grammar school were watching the Authority film *Eye for Isotopes*. "Sir, if the bell goes before it's finished can we see it in break?" asked one fourth-former who, according to his master, normally tries to avoid all forms of work.

CLERKS' TREASURER RETIRES



Mrs. Marjorie Brown, who worked in the London Office Reproduction Section since October 1955, retired last month. And she is only the second person to leave the section in about 10 years, colleagues were told at a farewell get-together.

Mrs. Brown, who has been branch treasurer for the Civil Service Clerical Association, received a cheque from the association as well as a dressing table set and flowers from colleagues. Her husband was among the guests who watched the presentation.

Derek is the first chairman

EIGHTEEN months after the first meeting of the Dorset Area Development Committee of the South of England branch of the Institute of Purchasing and Supply, the institute has a Dorset Group.

Its first chairman is Mr. Derek Chopping, of the Contracts and Stores Branch at Winfrith.

He told members at a dinner in Weymouth that the group's first job is the extension of institute membership, activities and influence in the Dorset area.

"We shall aim at doubling our membership in the next two years," he said.

The D-day flyers are remembered

THE MEN who took off from RAF Harwell on the eve of D-day 1944, were remembered at a service held near the Authority's Chilton estate on June 5.

There a plaque has stood as a reminder of the men who flew into Europe 25 years ago. On it wreaths were laid by senior Army and RAF officers whilst the RAF Regiment mounted a guard-of-honour and the band of the Parachute Regiment played.

Authority employees from Harwell and their families joined in the service.

Bob retires to Canada



MR. R. J. (BOB) TURNER, chief draughtsman in the Engineering Services Division at Winfrith, who retired last month, is planning with his wife to join his daughter and family in Vancouver, Canada.

Mr. Turner was one of the original pioneers of atomic energy research at Harwell in 1946. He moved to Winfrith in 1958 and became chief draughtsman just over a year later.

From Mr. J. L. Dickson,

deputy head of Engineering Services at Winfrith, he received a canteen of silver cutlery—a gift from Winfrith and Harwell colleagues.

His specially drawn farewell card showed Bob taking over a seven-star New York hotel with his chauffeur driven monogrammed car.

IN THE PICTURE the card is being held by Doug Oliver as Mr. Dickson (centre) and Mr. Turner admire it.

Club finds wealth of talent



Dragon, 10, seeks to impress

A GUEST DAY, planned for June 25, is to be the highlight of the tenth birthday celebrations at Winfrith's Dragon project.

Dragon was ten years old on April 1, but the week beginning on June 23 has been chosen for a series of anniversary events.

The guest day is "designed to promote the high temperature reactor system before an influential audience of international guests".

"There will be suitable addresses, literature and exhibits," said a Dragon spokesman.

Reporters and photographers are being invited to the Dragon site on June 24 — the day the Dragon board of management meets.

And on June 26 local schools and colleges will be guests of project staff.

The week ends with a dance and social at Bourne-mouth's Wessex Hotel on June 27.

DOUNREAY Folk Club '69, formed to uncover "the wealth of talent to be found in and around Thurso", claims to have succeeded.

Its first meeting on May 22 in the Barn at the Authority's Viewfirth Sports and Social Club showed no shortage of singers or audience participation, says a spokesman.

Among the instrumentalists were the Norlanders—George and Ian Livingstone, a metallurgist and a clerical officer at Dounreay—who are already well

known for their recordings.

There too were physicist Tony Bentley, Alan McBride, of Dounreay Criticality Group, on the guitar and Roy Stewart who played the fiddle.

Singers included Willie Johnstone, an engineer, John Rankin, metallurgist, Ron Fowler, a Viewfirth barman, Wanda Fulton, from Thurso, and Ivan O'Neill, an Irish electrician.

Ivan was elected chairman of the club committee with Ron Fowler as vice-chairman. John Rankin is treasurer and secretary. Other committee members are Janet Stout, of Dounreay's Personnel Records Office, Alan McBride and Neils Gronneberg and Jim Dalton, of the Chemistry Group.

IN THE PICTURE:

Alan McBride, Janet Stout, Jim Dalton, Ron Fowler, Ivan O'Neill, John Rankin and Neils Gronneberg.

One-way Maureen

MISS MAUREEN SCANLON, who has worked for 3½ years as a clerical assistant in Risley's Central Technical Services, flew to Canada on May 23.

And she is not planning to come back.

Maureen, who is 20, has joined her boy friend who emigrated to Toronto earlier this year.

Before she went, Maureen received a gift of cash from her colleagues, handed to her by Mr. C. E. Iliffe, head of Central Technical Services.

SHGWR team 'won't join new company'

THE Authority's steam-generating heavy water reactor team at Risley are adamant that they will not join the staff of British Nuclear Design and Construction, the new company, according to Mr. John Lyons, deputy general secretary of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, which has about 7,000 Authority employees as members.

They are sending a letter to Authority Chairman Dr. John Hill explaining why.

The two main reasons, according to Mr. Lyons, are that the terms they are likely to be offered are unsatisfactory and that they see a possible clash of interests between BNDC, who are trying to sell the SGHWR, and one of its member companies, English Electric, who are

licensed to sell American reactors.

Negotiations broke down between IPCS and BNDC over the transfer of another Authority team last year.

No change

"We have no hesitation in telling our members that we were unable to negotiate satisfactory arrangements and for that reason we could not advise them to go," said Mr. Lyons. He thought the situation had not changed.

A BNDC spokesman said no offer had yet been made to the Authority's SGHWR team. "However, we certainly intend to exploit the SGHWR system and to set up a design office. We hope that those in the AEA will be attracted to it when it is set up," he said.

Culham tour

THE FULL COUNCIL of the Science Research Council visited Culham on May 21. The previous day they had toured the Atlas Computer Laboratory and the Rutherford Laboratory at nearby Chilton.

On the famous captain's anniversary A COOK PLANS DISCOVERIES

NEXT YEAR—the 200th anniversary of the discovery of Australia by Captain Cook—Weymouth may have a week of shows called Cook's Discoveries.

And the man who plans to run them is Bobby Cook, who works in the Plutonium Laboratories at Winfrith.

The people taking part are likely to be those who have starred in his previous productions.

For, in five years, Bobby Cook may have raised over £5,000 for local charities. There is doubt about the total: he won't discuss it.

But at least twice a year he tries to put on a show for the Weymouth and Portland Society for Mentally Handicapped Children. It was through them that he started running Weymouth shows after a lifetime on the stage.

Bobby, son of a Weymouth fisherman, once stood on the stage of Basingstoke's Grand Theatre and sang *Ave Maria* while nudes posed around him.

Mask and helmet

He has understudied Arthur Askey and played in music halls from Weymouth to West Hartlepool.

In London, he has appeared on the same bill as Max Miller, Flotsam and Jetsam and the late Randolph Sutton.

He spent the first Christmas of the 1939-45 war in France, earning "£4 10s, a gas mask and a tin helmet" entertaining the Forces. In West Hartlepool he met the then unknown Max Bygraves.

Bobby has filmed with

Anna Neagle, James Mason, John Mills and the singing pair Anne Ziegler and Webster Booth.

In the Anne Ziegler and Webster Booth film *The Laughing Lady* the producer wanted a close-up shot of

Webster Booth's legs while he walked down a flight of stairs.

"He had legs like a sparrow's, so I was asked to walk down the stairs. The legs the audience saw were mine," said Bobby.

Harwell drama club has an age problem

THIS YEAR may be the 21st birthday of Harwell's dramatic society. The problem is to prove it.

Spring cleaning has failed to reveal any written records before 1954, but "the odd programme found behind a cobwebbed wardrobe and questions asked of long-established members" suggest that there was a drama group at Harwell within a couple of years of the Atomic Energy Establishment being set up, says the society's chairman, Mr. Alan R. Ball.

"The society has had its ups and downs," he said. "At one time plays were put on for three nights only and audiences of 30 or 40 were regarded as reasonable, although the number of seats in the hall of Harwell's social club is 100.

Photographer dies

PRINCIPAL photographer at Harwell since August, 1961, Mr. J. C. J. Stewart, died on May 15. He had specialised in photography on Harwell's scientific projects.

"But we have for some time now been presenting plays for four nights and regard an audience of 60 as disappointingly small.

Something new

"About four years ago we decided that, although our numbers were small, we had enough talent to do something other than the interminable light comedies and farces produced by so many amateur dramatic societies.

"In line with this policy we have presented such items as *Two Stars for Comfort*, *Photo Finish* and *All in the Family*, interspersed with such delightful pieces of nonsense as *My Three Angels* and *Barefoot in the Park*.

"They all played to full or near-full houses."

He rolled off miles of paper

MR. WILFRED JOYCE, a Harwell photoprinter since May 1953, has used enough paper to stretch from Harwell to Dounreay and back again during the years he has been doing the work.

He has been turning out an average of more than 2,000 sheets of copied or duplicated material each day.

Before he joined Harwell, where he worked in the Chemistry Division, Mr. Joyce was employed by the Fleet Air Arm at Culham.

Now he plans to stick to gardening.

Friends gave him a wristwatch and a cheque as farewell gifts. They were handed to him last month by Dr. W. Wild, head of the Chemistry Division.

The lady cost £1,700



CLIFF MASON, of Aldermaston, appeared as Professor Henry Higgins when Newbury Operatic Society produced *My Fair Lady* last month. And Harwell's Roger Sinclair was his friend Colonel Pickering.

Nine Authority employees took part in the production. Also from Aldermaston, Tom Weatherill appeared as Freddy Eynsford-Hill, Harwell's Alan Eggleton was the cockney philosopher Alfred Doolittle and Jack Kirkham, from Aldermaston, was the Selsey man.

Harwell's Wynne Haigh was choreographer; Wendy Maskell, from Harwell, was property mistress and Bill Garland and Douglas Clark, both from Aldermaston, also worked backstage.

The show, which run for a week, cost £1,700 to put on.

IN THE PICTURE—back row: Cliff Mason, Roger Sinclair, Bill Garland and Douglas Clark; front row: Jack Kirkham, Wynne Haigh, Alan Eggleton, Wendy Maskell and Tom Weatherill.

March-Airs sing in the money

A SONG-AND-DANCE group started 15 months ago by Winfrith's Phil Andrews has already raised £400 for charity at 15 concerts.

His Weymouth March-Airs Minstrels provide all their own costumes and play for nothing.

The group has grown out of a charity show arranged by Phil to help an old people's home. They proved so popular that they decided to stay together.

Their first show was in March. That is how they got their name.

Now there are 20 singers—ten men and ten women—two girl dancers and four instrumentalists who form the band.

Phil works in the engineering physics laboratory of Winfrith's Operations and Engineering Division.

John Collett, who works with him, is the group's producer and their secretary is Frances Riggs, of Winfrith's Engineering Services Division.

ALL KNOW HIS FLOWERS



WITH the flowering cherry trees which he planted in blossom all around him Mr. Archie Lyall (above) left Aldermaston for the last time.

After 14 years as head of the Grounds Section he has retired.

In those years he has been responsible for the layout and maintenance of the grounds on the Aldermaston site and its housing estates. He has cultivated all kinds of trees, shrubs and flowers, run a large nursery to produce the plants he needed, and maintained the site's sports grounds.

He is well known to visitors and Aldermaston employees for the flower beds by the main entrance to the site. Keen gardeners have been ardent readers of the labels he carefully prepared for the plants in the beds.

Before he moved to Aldermaston Mr. Lyall spent 27 years with the Royal Parks Department of the Ministry of Works. His successor is Mr. V. Shepherd.

JOE STANDS IN FOR MAYOR

MR. H. J. B. PAXTON, an engineer in the Astro-physics Research Unit at Culham, has been nominated deputy mayor of nearby Abingdon.

Mrs. Paxton, who also works at Culham, is the new deputy mayoress.

Mr. Paxton, known to colleagues as Joe, was re-elected to Abingdon Borough Council earlier this month.

Wife in cast

Harry Dowell, of the Operations and Engineering Division, and Mrs. S. Rogers, of the Dragon project, are also helping the group.

Mrs. Lyn Andrews, who used to work in the Personnel Branch, is Phil's wife. She, too, is in the cast.

"They are a friendly group and work together extremely well," Frances told a reporter.

Their latest venture is a show in the Weymouth Pavilion in the autumn to raise money for the Cheshire Homes, launched by Group Captain Cheshire, VC.

Foulness hosts 'informal cordiality'

FOR THE FIRST time Foulness has been host to Panel N-2—a sub-division of the International Technical Co-operation Programme in which America, Canada, Australia and Britain collaborate in defence discussions.

Panel N-2 is interested in the possible effects of blast, shock and heat after a nuclear explosion.

Mr. N. S. Thumpston, Head of Foulness, is the British national leader on the panel and was host to 18 delegates from overseas and 17 from Britain.

They talked in "the atmosphere of informal cordiality which has become characteristic of the panel," said a spokesman, "and a wide exchange of information, ideas and advice resulted."

Pastel honour for newcomer

RISLEY artist Mr. John Blockley had been elected a member of the Pastel Society. Already well known for his water colours, he only recently started pastel drawings.

'TREMENDOUS' CHANCE FOR EXPORTS

MR. HECTOR McNEIL, chairman of British Nuclear Design and Construction, is optimistic about "tremendous" prospects of exporting nuclear power stations from Britain, he told the Parliamentary Select Committee on Science and Technology last month.

Reorganisation of the nuclear industry was going more slowly than his company would have liked, he said. When the company was Nuclear Design and Construction, the original plan had been to take over the British fast reactor project, including Authority staff, and transfer the company headquarters from Whetstone, near Leicester, to Risley.

The merged General Electric Company and English Electric, a major shareholder in BNDC and its predecessors, had taken the view that the transfer of a large number of staff would be difficult.

It was then arranged that The Nuclear Power Group should take over the Authority's fast reactor work.

He told the committee that the Authority did not want to give either of the nuclear companies a licence to build a steam-generating heavy water reactor until both were firmly established. He was sure, however, that there would be no difficulty in obtaining a licence.

His company had tried to sell a steam-generating heavy water reactor in the Argentine and the company believed that New Zealand was another good market for one.

BNDC considered that there were tremendous prospects ahead for the industry, particularly in exports. There were real export possibilities for advanced gas-cooled reactors in Germany and the company had received two enquiries from German companies.

Spain enquiries

BNDC was also following up enquiries for a 500- to 600-megawatt AGR power station from Spain. Sweden was considered a likely market for a high temperature—Dragon-type—reactor.

The old Nuclear Design and Construction and its successors had spent £8½ million on development and tendering in four years and had not received one contract until the decision to build Hartlepool power station in County Durham was announced at the end of last year. The whole of the £8½ million was written off.

Delay is 'intolerable, deplorable'

DELAY in the reorganisation of Britain's nuclear industry was deplorable, Mr. J. Lyons, deputy general secretary of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, told the Parliamentary Select Committee on Science and Technology last month.

"This might have been tolerable if we had the slightest confidence that the eventual result will be worthwhile," he said. "In fact, the staff have no confidence in the reorganisation the Minister has decided upon."

A memorandum to the committee from the institution described the situation as critical, because the Authority estimated that there was a potential export market for 25 nuclear power stations, representing £500 million worth of orders, excluding sales and reprocessing fuel, by the end of 1972.

CHRIS WALKS FOR CASH

CHRIS POLLARD, of Culham, took part in a 24-mile sponsored walk over the Berkshire Downs from Wantage to Reading last month.

He collected £9 5s. for children's charities. Most of the money came from his Culham colleagues who sponsored him for a few pence for each mile walked.

Welder dies

MR. BILL SISLEY, of the Welding Department in Harwell's Production and Works Division, died last month.

TOGETHER THEY GET THEIR AWARDS



TOGETHER young Derek Salkeld (left) and his friend Jim Scott (wearing glasses) joined the Wolf Cubs in the Weymouth North Scout Group.

Together, five years ago, they graduated to the Scouts.

Together they went to the international Scout chalet at Kandersteg in Switzerland.

Together they decided to work for a Queen's Scout award.

Together, they trekked

over Dartmoor, undertook a number of public services and passed a first aid course.

And together they received their awards from Assistant District Commissioner Mr. H. L. Stevens at a ceremony in Weymouth.

Their fathers work together, too. Mr. Dick Salkeld is a member of the steam-generating heavy water reactor team at Winfrith and Mr. Bill Scott works on the Dragon project there.

Emergency man goes east again

MR. A. H. SANHAM is going back from Winfrith to the Far East where he has already spent many years. He is leaving the Low Power Reactor Operations Group to take a job as a mechanical engineer in the waterworks office of the Hongkong Government's Public Works Department.

He is due to leave by air in the middle of July.

In 1939 he became visiting engineer for a group of rubber estates in Malaya and he was appointed works superintendent with United Engineers Limited, of Malaya, in 1940.

Prisoner

From 1942 to 1945 he was a prisoner-of-war in Singapore.

After the war he worked in the local shipyards and later became water-works

superintendent at Johore for Singapore City Council.

He held the rank of honorary inspector in the Malayan Police and was made a Member of the British Empire Order (MBE) in 1959 for his efforts in maintaining the water supply to Singapore during the terrorist emergency there.

Mr. Sanham joined Winfrith in 1960 and has been responsible for shift operations and the maintenance of site services as well as being site emergency controller.

PHYSICIST WILL ACT AS — A PHYSICIST

ONLY ONE of the physicist members of Harwell's dramatic society has been cast to play a leading role in Friedrich Durrenmatt's *The Physicists* which the society is producing from June 18 to 21.

He is Win Spinks, who appears as Einstein.

Richard Bullock, who plays Isaac Newton, is a chemist, although his work is connected with physics, and Angus Bowman, who plays Mobius, said: "I wouldn't know a nuclear physicist if you gave me one on a plate."

The play has the largest cast of any the society has produced. There are 17 speaking parts. It is being

produced by Roger Childs.

One of the most difficult parts is the narrator. Liz Garnish has been chosen to explain the situations and set the scene. By herself on the stage for five minutes, she has to hold the attention of an audience that has not yet settled down.

'Interesting'

"We felt it would be interesting to see what audience reaction we would get from a place like Harwell when putting on a play with a title like *The Physicists*, said

Alan R. Ball, the society's chairman.

"As well as the plot itself and the inferences to be drawn from the actions of the supposedly mad physicists, there is, for example, one beautiful line: 'We have hordes of highly-paid scientists working for years and years in gigantic state-aided laboratories and you solve it at your desk in a mad-house'."

"We think there should be some reaction to that."

Our intention to do this play has also aroused considerable interest among other dramatic societies in the area. They are, I think, curious to find out how such a play will be accepted."

'High state of flux' as reactor shuts down

THE Dounreay materials testing reactor was switched off for the last time on May 12 by Dounreay's Director, Mr. Peter Mummery.

The plan to close the reactor was announced in May 1968 as part of the reorganisation of the Authority's materials testing facilities.

This "rationalisation" was expected to save the Authority about £750,000 a year.

The other reactor to close, Harwell's BEPO, was shut down by Harwell Director Dr. Walter Marshall in December.

At Dounreay, says an Authority statement, staff who have been working on the reactor have been transferred to other work on the site — mainly to the team which is being set up to commission and operate the new prototype fast reactor there.

There is no plan to dismantle either BEPO or the Dounreay reactor. Dismantling would be feasible, said an Authority spokesman, if the space were needed.

But there is no intention that either reactor will be used again, he said.

Proud

Before he pressed the button which shut down the reactor for the last time, Mr. Mummery said sadness should be mingled with pride in the reactor's achievements. The success of its work and technological progress meant that the reactor had completed its task.

The decision to build it had been taken in 1955; it had started work in May 1958 and its power was increased from 10 to 25 megawatts during 1966.

At its peak, the project had employed between 150 and 200 staff and about 700 major experiments had been carried out.

The reactor had produced more than half a million megawatt-hours of heat and over 20 kilogrammes of uranium-235 had been converted to neutrons and energy during its lifetime.

The final event in which the reactor team took part was a supper, social and dance at the Authority's Viewfirth Club on May 30.

Warning

Invitations warned guests: "Start-up is scheduled for 8 pm and the run has a varied programme. Refuelling will be on a continuous basis without shutdown and, as the fuel will be mainly liquid, high reactivity is expected."

"Musical activations in the form of the Debonaires are also expected to contribute to a high burn-up and those attending should no doubt reach a peak of flux around midnight".

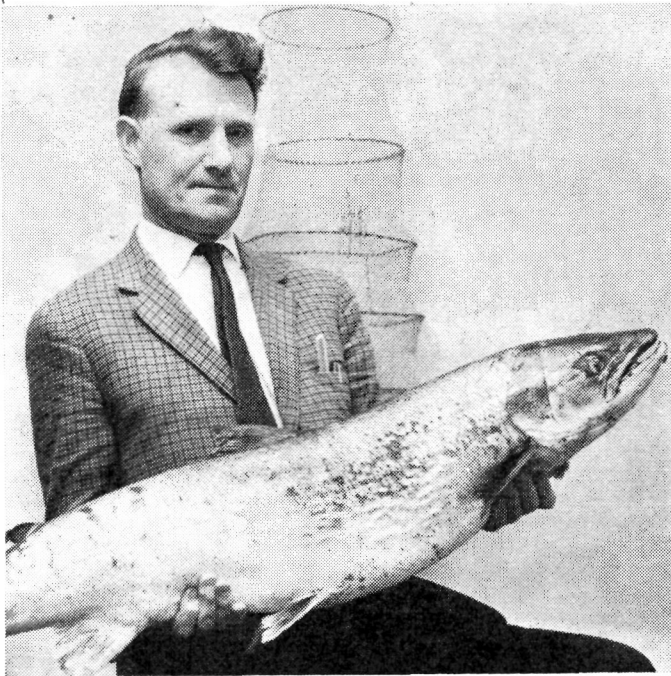
Tokyo talks

THE FIRST of a series of annual meetings between the Authority and the Science and Technology Agency of Japan was held in Tokyo on June 9 and 10.

The meetings are to discuss "nuclear matters of common interest".

The British team in Japan this month were Authority Chairman Dr. John Hill; Dr. H. Kronberger, Member for Reactor Development, and Mr. D. E. H. Peirson, Authority Secretary.

HE GAVE AWAY £15



THE BIGGEST fish caught in the River Ribble this season could have earned £15 for Mr. Jim Urmston, of the Fuel Element Plant Design Office at Risley.

It was a 22-pound salmon, 40 inches long with a 20-inch girth.

But Jim did not sell it. He cut it up and gave fresh salmon steaks to his office colleagues.

He caught the fish where the River Calder joins the Ribble and where salmon have recently been thought to be rare.

X-DAY . . . HOW THEY FARED Labour lose a leader

NINE Authority employees at Harwell were successful in last month's local government elections. Five men from Aldermaston were elected to their local council and five more from Culham to local councils near their laboratory. One Winfrith man topped the poll at his first attempt.

But the leader of the Labour group on Abingdon Borough Council—Mr. K. Varney, chief contracts and stores officer at Harwell—lost his seat at Abingdon.

The Aldermaston men, elected to Newbury Borough Council, are the new mayor, Mr. J. W. Jones, who is a Liberal; retiring councillor Wing Commander P. W. G. Burgess; Mr. L. J. Orchard, who won a seat at his first attempt; Mr. W. T. Shelton, once a despatch rider and now an engineer, and Mr. R. M. James.

Mr. A. M. Freke, of Harwell, standing as a Labour candidate, was defeated for a second time. He lost his seat on the council last May.

Also from Harwell, Mr. Len Hall, last year's mayor of Newbury, becomes deputy mayor.

At the top

Mr. D. K. Butcher, of Culham, standing as an independent, was top of the poll for Wallingford Rural Council. But Culham colleague Mr. J. W. King, a Labour candidate, was defeated by Harwell's Mr. E. Williams, a retiring Conservative councillor.

Five other Harwell candidates were successful—Mr. D. G. Holmes, Mr. F. Holdbrook, Mr. L. Longshaw, Dr. E. S. Lane and Mr. L. Murphy.

Culham's Mr. P. R. Hedley, a Conservative, was re-elected to Wallingford Borough Council.

At Abingdon Mr. Varney had predicted a hard fight to retain his seat. He was beaten by his Conservative rival, Culham's Mr. H. J. B. Paxton.

Retiring Labour councillor Mr. E. Staniland, of Harwell's Process Technology Division, was re-elected, but Harwell Joint Industrial Council member Mr. W. H. Campbell was defeated.

One each

Two Culham men were elected to Wantage Rural Council. They are Mr. P. D. Wilcock, Conservative, and Mr. M. Shaw, Labour.

And two Harwell men re-join Wantage Urban Council. They are reactor operator Mr. P. Goodenough and mechanical engineer Mr. J. Humphries.

Mr. Ralph Holmes, of Production Group Headquarters at Risley, was defeated by retiring councillor D. A. Chapman, of the Gas-cooled Reactor Design Office at Risley, in the contest in Culcheth ward of Golborne urban district.

And in the council's Newchurch ward, Mr. D. A. Nunn, of the steam generating heavy water reactor team at Risley, beat Mr. David Robinson, who used to work in Risley's library.

Mr. E. F. Hyde, a senior experimental officer at Foul-

ness, was elected to Southend-on-Sea Urban Council at his first attempt. His was one of seven seats captured by Conservatives from the Labour Party in Southend.

Mr. Peter King, who has been at Foulness since 1953 and is now also a senior experimental officer, was re-elected at Southend with a majority of over 1,100 over his Liberal opponent.

And in Thurso, Mr. William Swanson, of Dounreay's Stores Group, was re-elected to the burgh council.

First time

Unsuccessful candidates from Dounreay in the same election were Messrs. Jimmy Fry, Bill Deans, and Andrew Henderson.

Winfrith experimental officer Mr. C. R. Patterson stood for the first time as a candidate in Wareham Borough Council elections and topped the poll—a clear 100 votes ahead of Winfrith colleague Mr. Brian Hallett.

Mr. Patterson, who works at Winfrith's Fast Reactor Physics Division, has lived in Wareham for ten years.

Illustrator

Mr. Hallett, a retiring councillor, is a leading illustrator in the Engineering Services Division. Another Winfrith man was third in the poll—retiring councillor Eric Barron, who has been chairman of the council's Roads and Services Committee.

In the North ward of Weymouth borough Mrs. J. F. Fry, wife of Winfrith's director Mr. D. W. Fry, had a majority of 844 votes over her opponent.

And in the Wyke Regis ward Labour candidate Ray Beauchamp, of Winfrith's Dragon Project, was beaten by only eight votes by an independent.

BRITAIN WON'T HELP-OR HINDER

ALTHOUGH Britain has not said that she wants to take part in the CERN plan to build a 300,000 million electron volt accelerator, she is the first member of CERN, the European organisation for nuclear research, to agree to altering the convention which set it up so that the

FOULNESS VICTORS



MR. EDWARD HYDE (above), of Foulness, who joins Southend-on-Sea Urban Council at his first attempt, is vice-chairman of the Atomic Energy (Weapons) Branch of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants. He was at one time chairman of the Staff Side of the local Whitley Council.

BELOW: Mr. Peter King, also of Foulness, rejoins the council with a majority of 1,100.



Building beauty

THE Horticultural Society and the Building Group at Harwell held a joint meeting on June 9 to discuss landscape gardening.

Drivers win team award

A TEAM of drivers from Winfrith won the team award at the local Lorry Driver of the Year competition. They were Mr. J. Chalmers, Mr. P. Tandy and Mr. E. Williams.

And in the class for vehicles over one ton the first three places were filled by Authority drivers. Mr. B. Pugh was first, Mr. E. Kellaway second, and Mr. G. Parker third.

In the contest for vehicles between 16 and 19 feet long Mr. J. Percy, of Winfrith, took second place, and a second place also went to Mr. Williams in the class for long articulated vehicles.

Drivers had to complete a 19-mile road test, manoeuvre their vehicles round a Weymouth car park and answer police questions on the Highway Code.

Russians 'can teach Britain'

BRITAIN can learn a lot from Russian technological developments, Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Minister of Technology, said in Moscow last month in an address to the Soviet State Committee for Science and Technology.

"I believe that if we discuss our problems together frankly this discussion will, in its turn, contribute to a greater depth of understanding between our two countries," he said.

LATEST

Printed by Twentieth Century Press (1912) Ltd., 8-13 New Inn Street, London, EC2, and published by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (Public Relations Branch), 11 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Telephone 01-930 6262.