

PUNCH & DIE



Debra

Issued by
AERO ZIPP FASTENERS LTD.,
from their factory at
TREForest TRADING ESTATE,
PONTYPRIDD,
South Wales.

Telephone : Taffs Well 300-301 (2 lines).

Registered Offices : 3-9, SOUTHAMPTON ROW,
LONDON, W.C.1.

Telephones : HOLborn 5042-4 (3 lines).

Telegrams : Aerozipper, Westcent, London.

Editor : D. D. STONE.

Printed by
Western Mail & Echo Ltd., Cardiff.





The Season's Greetings

As we see the shopping throngs buying gifts for the husband or wife, for dad and mother, for the children, for sweetheart and friends—as we sense the Christmas spirit of generosity, gaiety and gladness—as we catch a glimpse of rotund and rollicking Santa, and as we actually gather in the family festival around the tree, we are sure that the season's greetings are “Merry Christmas.” Yes! at least that is part of it. Perhaps just the exterior. Christmas merriment is the effervescent, bubbling gaiety which lies on the surface. It is wholesome and good.

In seeking to find the very heart of Christmas, we wend our way to church. And in the expectant twinkle of candlelight we voice the season's greetings in glad carols. We are transported in thought to that glorious night in the Judean hills when angels greeted shepherds with the good tidings. We peer again with wondering gaze into the manger cradling the King of Kings and Lord of lords. We are thankful to a loving Heavenly Father for sending His Son. With one accord we sing the season's greetings: “Joy to the world, the Lord is come!” But is that all? The sacred story tells the purpose of His coming—the occasion for joy: “For unto you is born a Saviour.” And, we reflect, the note of joy should be heard in the season's greetings. MERRY CHRISTMAS is not enough. Merriment alone may be empty and shallow. WE WISH YOU A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS. For unto you is born a Saviour.

PUNCH & DIE

DECEMBER, 1947.

THIRD YEAR No. 17

EDITORIAL.

Nadolig Llawn i Pawb a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda

The festive season is with us once again, ringing in its yearly message of hope and good cheer. 1947, fast falling into posterity, has seen us pulling in our belts a little, our clothes getting a little shabbier, but nevertheless increasing production in response to the urgency of the times.

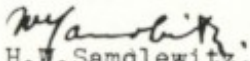
What of 1948? The new year brings with it the message of a man-sized job to be done. No magic wand waved over these Isles of ours will suddenly produce a happier state of affairs. It has been said that the difference between poverty and prosperity is a ten per cent. increase in the country's production. Can it be done? The reply can only be given by ourselves, for it is our individual efforts and acceptance of our responsibilities as citizens which will supply the Yes or No.

The past year has seen Aero Zipp steadily improving its production, its efficiency, and its social activities. We can be proud of the small part we have played in the country's struggle up the ladder to better days.

Punch & Die has also gone from strength to strength. Inasmuch as this will be the last editorial and issue with which I shall be associated, readers will forgive me if I drop the editorial plural for but a moment. I have watched our magazine grow from the seven-page leaflet of July, 1945, to its present forty to fifty pages. I am proud to have been associated with that growth, and with the no-mean name the magazine has carved out for itself in South Wales.

There have been many heartaches and worries along the road to secure its present firm foundation, but it has been a pleasure to write for it, to worry *you* for your article, to edit it, to nurse it from 'babyhood' to maturity.

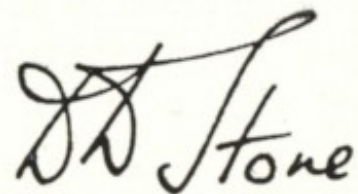
Looking back through my files, I discovered recently this reminder of the launching of *Punch & Die* by Mr. H. W. Samolewitz who is now in the U.S.A. :

My best wishes for a great success .
Let it have a good "punch" and don't let it "die" !

H. W. Samolewitz.
Works Manager.

To all Aero Zippers I say—don't let this fine publication "die." Support it with articles, with poems, with news items. In your hands lies its future.

May I take this opportunity of wishing my many friends at Aero Zipp and all our readers *Au Revoir*.

May the New Year ring in for you all, Health, Happiness, and all that is Good in this World.



P.S.—The following letter is published on the insistence of the Works Manager :

DEAR MR. STONE,

I appreciate the opportunity which you as editor of *Punch & Die* give me to use these pages to thank you for the excellent work which you did for our Company in the last few years.

You helped with your personality to create an atmosphere in our works which helps us to aim at targets which can only be reached if the spirit of co-operation and friendship exists.

I wish you all the very best in your future surroundings, and hope that your employers will appreciate you as much as we did.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Yours sincerely,

E. ENGEL,

Works Manager.

Christmas Greetings

FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR.

The outstanding feature of the last year has been the most gratifying increase in output. This is the more remarkable in view of last winter's weather and transport difficulties. On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself I wish, therefore, to put on record our appreciation of and thanks for the loyalty, devotion to duty and splendid achievements of all "Aero Zippers." You will also be pleased to know that your efforts have made no small contribution to the "Battle of Exports": of the total amount of zipp fasteners exported from this country during the first ten months of this year, Aero Zipp Fasteners Ltd., have supplied no less than 34 per cent. ; this means that of all zipp sent abroad during this period more than a third came from our factory.

I trust that you will make the most of your well earned rest and the festivities, and start the new year refreshed and in good spirits. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

K. B. KOPPEL.

FROM SIR THOMAS G. JONES, K.B.E.

Another yuletide season has come around. Here's wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

We have a lot for which to be thankful ; relying upon first the miners of Great Britain who have so patriotically responded to the National Appeal to produce more coal (they will give us a further surprise in production). Secondly we rely upon ourselves and other workers in the many industries of the country to see us through this very natural post war crisis period.

You know what you have done in your own small sphere. Our Managing Director, Mr. K. B. Koppel in his message tells you of our excellent contribution to the exports.

Thirdly we rely upon Britain's fair and equitable food rationing distribution—the best in the world. Whatever there is available, and it is obvious there is a world shortage, we shall get a fair share, however small it may be.

As long as human nature is what it is, controls always create evasion or anti-control systems ; but all in all, most people visiting Britain from other countries are unanimous in saying that our well tried system is equitable and fair. I was in Europe recently. Across the channel, even say in Belgium, where there is plenty of everything in the shops, a close study indicates that one of the reasons why there is plenty is that people in that country, although enjoying a boom in prosperity, have not got the money to buy at the excessive prices ruling for the bountiful commodities displayed.

Our people in these Islands know what we are up against, and past experience shows that you only have to say with truthfulness and sincerity what is really required, and our people will heroically respond. Take the week-end volunteers at present working to unload the wagons so that they will be ready to be refilled and used again as quickly as possible to make up for the shortage of rolling stock. One can go on giving instances of the patriotic response of the people. Everybody is trying to do their best from top to bottom; and we shall win through.

This Christmas is much better than some people expected three months ago, and with combined effort and goodwill we are looking forward to 1948 as a further milestone in maintaining our British standard of life. Thank God for everything.

The Works Manager writes . . .

I returned recently from my second trip to the United States. This time I had far more questions to answer about conditions in this country—what it is like to live here—what I think about our Government—and so on. Last Spring they seemed only vaguely interested about us, and our problems, but now I think they are more worried about whether Mr. Attlee or Mr. Churchill is our Prime Minister than I think the majority of Britishers are.

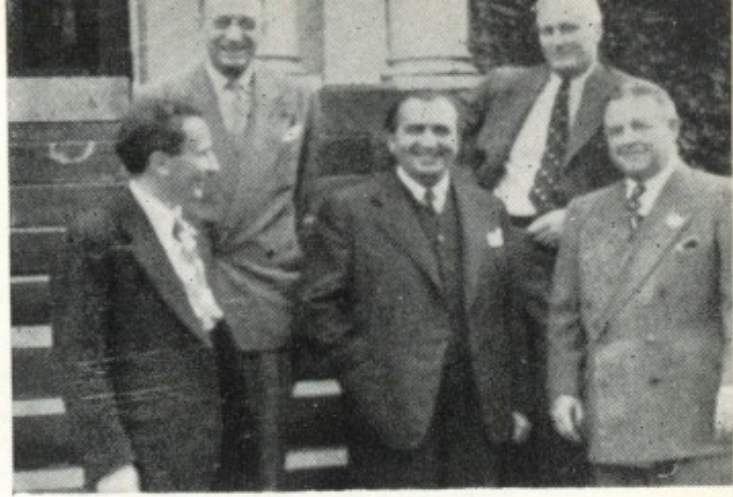
The fact is that they have come to realise during the intervening months that it will be next to impossible for them to maintain peace, or even to maintain their high standard of living in a world which is riddled with starvation, poverty and the kind of propaganda which thrives on such conditions, so that they are slowly becoming aware now that our grim fight for a secure future—a fight which must be fought through a period of lowered standard of living, and many difficulties and hardships, is in the end their own fight too. Once more we stand as the advanced post—this time in a battle against want, and on the outcome of that fight may well depend the security and peace not only of ourselves, but of the American people also.

I visited various zipp fastener factories and studied closely the progress of American methods of production. I was very much impressed by the high degree of efficiency of a number of American plants, and also by the hospitality which was given to me. The biggest concern which I visited was Talon Fasteners which employs over 5,000 people, and produces over one million fasteners per day. Quite some target for us isn't it? I came back with the knowledge and determination that we will go on improving our methods of production and the standard of the factory. I hope that a visitor from the States will one day tell us that he learned something from us. But we already have something of which we are proud. That is the team spirit, the idea of full co-operation. I congratulate everyone on the splendid success of the last year, made possible by your magnificent efforts. I hope that your work has helped to make the foundation for a more secure and prosperous future.

I wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

E. ENGEL,

Works Manager.



*Mr. L. B. Koppel and Mr. E. Engel photographed
with executives of Talon Fasteners, U.S.A.*



PEOPLE STILL MATTER MOST

On looking back over the events of the past year, I realised that we had made quite considerable progress, and I realised, too, that the progress was not entirely technical.

Day after day, those around me talk of machines, modifications, design, development, and so on: but that doesn't get us far if the designer has no interest and the worker no will to work the machines which the engineer devises. This thought led me to think of a few of many instances where the human element and that inherent sense of personal responsibility contributed so much to the progress which we made.

The most striking example was last March. The world was under a blanket of snow. The temperature inside the work rooms was 52° F. Draughts and icy blasts appeared from everywhere while our heating system hardly improved matters at all. We tried to keep out the draughts, we did the best we could with the heating, and the girls, clad in overcoats, carried on working although it was still mighty chilly, and their fingers were blue with cold. One night when snow had stopped all the transport a party of girls walked home to Caerphilly. They got home at about 8 o'clock and they got into the factory again next day. Other people from other places did similar things. It is an ugly word, but it is what is called "guts." Anyhow this winter will be more mild we hope, and in any case we are more ready for it because we have a new and up-to-date steam-heating system.

As the extensions to the factory were completed a great deal of re-arranging had to take place. People had to be turned around, moved about, and moved again to achieve our new lay-out. Also, as we expanded, a number of transfers had to take place. People had to change their jobs, change to different departments, and often they had to change their methods of working. Now although

many folks are socialist in politics, almost everyone is conservative in everything else. We get worried when we are moved to work with new people, when we have to change our way of working and have to learn to do something in a different way.

Our Aero Zippers were very patient about all the changes and very uncomplaining. The Finishing Room and Slider Girls had to work to a new system and from the start they did all they could to make the system work. As an outstanding example of patience I think of a couple of guys in maintenance who are absolute experts in dismantling shelving, moving it and then assembling it again in the position first thought of.

With the approach of winter we were faced with the almost certain necessity of having to work staggered hours. This would have been quite unpleasant especially as many of our workers live in rather remote places. We tried to find a solution to this. We had to reduce our day-time electric load. Eventually we produced a plan. It depended on the technical alterations and on the Plating Department working permanently at night. With these few men working at night we thought we could keep everyone else on normal hours. The Platers saw the reason and readily agreed. The rest you know. We continue to work normal hours.

One could think up many more examples to show how we are ever dependant on the interest, energy, and will of the human being. During the course of a year we have many little troubles to sort out. Dissatisfactions have to be cured and occasional disputes have to be settled. But it isn't all dissatisfactions and disputes.

The people of our factory are a friendly crowd with many virtues, and I am glad of this chance to wish them all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

G. S. HART.

Personnel Manager.

ÆSOP'S FABLES.

THE LIONESS.

FABLE 75.

There was a great stir made among all the Beasts, which could boast of the largest family. So they came to the Lioness. "And how many," said they, "do you have at a birth?" "One," said she grimly; "but that one is a Lion."

QUALITY COMES BEFORE QUANTITY.

“Thank you Yanks for an interesting time”

BY P.B.

My pal has been to America. He came back full of it. Said he, “You are rusty, narrow, and utility minded, full of cannots and frustrated from top to toe. Look at the Yanks, the move they got on since outbreak of peace.” I tried to book a passage. Not so easy, but by mustering all my experiences in keeping afloat in spite of regulations, restrictions, allocations, hitches, stoppages, and sillinessessessess, I booked my passage same day.

. . . A good friend of mine emigrated to the States some 12 years ago. He visited England a year ago. He spoke without boasting of his modern flat, his new car and his own business. He was happy and contented, and still was when I visited him in New York. Admitted, he eats more and better food, his flat is well heated, and he can run his business without filling in application forms for licences. He gets new tyres galore, and all the petrol his car can drink; but his flat consists of a living room, kitchenette, and bath only. He and his wife sleep in the living room, on couches. Their windows look on to other windows. He works—she works. They both get up at 7 a.m. She has to clock in at 8.30. He must be in the office to open the mail. He does not go in his new car because there is nowhere to park it. They both work harder than we do. They go to bed at nine because they are tired out. On a Sunday they go for a ride in the car and have a picnic together with another 10,000. They are happy and enjoy the freedom of the U.S.A.

My Brother-in-Law is a skilled joiner in the pattern shop of one of your large motor car makers in Detroit. He leaves home with his second hand car at 6.45 and works until 3. He likes, and usually does overtime on Saturdays. Furthermore, he works on his own account from 4 to 7 each day, also Saturday afternoons. He is the Father of two children. His wife has no help. They have a small but modern house, and a little garden. They had to pay a terrific price for his house, and his wage is not sufficient for living expenses and to pay off the house. Hence the like for overtime, and the need to work on his own account. He has a solid meal when he comes home at night, switches on the wireless and falls asleep. At nine, he switches off the wireless and goes to bed.

Mr. R. employs over 2,000. He has just made his firm a Public Company and is now very wealthy. He has a beautiful office and a fantastic house; mind you, he started from nothing, and he worked very hard. It left him with a weak heart. He is 52 years old. He still is in the works at 8—has no time to go to go out for lunch, and misses the first two acts in the Theatre. For the first time in his life, he went with his family for a holiday. They stayed 4 weeks—he stayed 3 days. He took me to a big site where his new super factory was being built. He kicked a huge granite block with his foot—spit a huge lump on to it, and said “This is a grand country. 80 years ago, you English invented the W.C. and you are still sitting on it”—I heard from a friend of mine that his factory now works three days per week, and that building on the new site has been temporarily stopped.

During the War we could not buy new machinery or factory furniture. We paid almost 100 per cent. of our profit out in Taxes. You were luckier!—you could get new machines and equipment.

I visited over two dozen factories in my trade. Each one, metal furnished, tubular lit and intercommed, etc. For that, I only envy you, but I admire you for the efficient use of machinery. Your special machine arrives to-day and a few days or even a few hours later, it is producing. Apart from the fact that in our country this machine would travel on the railways many days longer than it should, you can bet your last penny, that some sort of part is missing or a screw is loose and requires the attendance of the suppliers' skilled mechanic or fitter to remedy or set. We then most tactfully approach one of our workers and ask him "to have a go." The worker then usually asks for his cards. Sometimes he says "O.K." After a week of "getting the idea" of this new machine and a second week of "getting into it" he usually decides the third week that he "doesn't like" after all. If he still has not asked for his cards, he goes back to his old job and another tries all over again.

You turn out per hour, 55 per cent. more than we do on exactly the same machine. WHY ???

Because your management does its stuff by throwing good light on to the machine, by fixing it the right way into the right place, by making certain that the operator sits most comfortably, by providing suitable means for feeding and taking off materials, by knowing how to operate the machine themselves, and thus being able to show the operator exactly "how" by having learned to teach, and lastly by realising themselves that they will be on the carpet if they fail.

Because your workers do their stuff by working intensively, by starting work when the bell goes and not stopping work until the bell goes, by having the interest of the employer at heart, realising full well that their firm must remain competitive and lastly by being paid by some sort of incentive system.

Because you have a vicious circle, you folks must work hard, in order to earn enough money in order to buy enough food in order to be able to work hard. You folks must earn a lot in order to be able to keep on buying the many things you are putting on the market, in order that those who are making them, can keep on earning. You folks never know for how long things are to remain good, and whilst they are good, you want to make the best of it and work harder. You folks are all so busy that you have no time because you have so much to do, so that you folks are all kept so busy.

Your workers must work hard for fear of being sacked. Our workers don't work hard for knowing that they can't be sacked. England would solve a large percentage of its post war troubles if it would only work the golden middle between the two extremes.

Your merchants, agents, and travellers are most efficient. Press button service everywhere for quotations and samples. But very few smiles, gentlemen. The only smiles I saw, crept along your faces when you remarked "England is having a tough time now. . ."

None of my friends or relatives had time to come to the boat to say goodbye. It would have cost them almost a whole afternoon. One supplier sent his secretary to apologise for him. She did it very well.

As we set off it was getting dark. All these skyscrapers with their thousands of lighted windows, the speed of boats in the harbour, the Zep in the sky with advertisements . . all unforgettable impressions. It was a comfortable feeling as the boat pulled us quietly out of this excited nerve centre, away from the country where individuals are one of many, back to the country where an individual is one of a few.

Thank you Yanks for an interesting time ! ! ! !

WALES COMES TO LONDON

By JOHN PARES, B.A., A.M.I.P.E.

Secretary of the Industrial Association of Wales and Monmouthshire.

The first Industrial Wales Exhibition at the Empire Hall, Olympia, ran from 28th August to 13th September, and was visited by nearly 50,000 people. Not a big total perhaps, but a good start in establishing this Exhibition in the minds of the London public.

When originally planned, nearly three years before, the idea of the Exhibition was, first and foremost, to fill order books, and then secondly to publicise Wales, its industry and amenities. But during these three years, developments that few could have foreseen took place, and the picture changed. The filling of order books took second place, and first came the prestige and publicity value of the Exhibition in a world where the existing sellers' market was already fast disappearing. Many Exhibitors, therefore, came to the Exhibition for the prestige value it gave to their Companies and to support Wales, having no expectation or desire to take orders at the Exhibition. A further group of Exhibitors were in a position to a limited degree to accept orders from the home market, but preferably from overseas buyers. These were not disappointed. The attendance of genuine overseas buyers was excellent, and good orders were placed. Finally, there was a small group of companies who were making direct sales from their stands to the general public. This group were admittedly affected by the small public attendance, but it was a minority group.

As an Exhibition, "Industrial Wales" was in the first flight and received nothing but praise. From this point of view no criticisms were heard except, perhaps, very minor ones as, for instance, that the layout of the stands on the galleries was such that the stands backed on to the gallery rail, leaving a view all round the gallery of an expanse of plaster board. Such matters as these could be adjusted on a future occasion. There is no question but that the general design of stand was attractive and that individual arrangement showed off the goods to best advantage. Aero Zipp was quite one of the best and most colourful on the first floor, and attracted a lot of attention.

It is a pity there were not more works parties. Aero Zipp set a good example in this direction, and I am sure that the members of the party enjoyed their day.



Hammersmith Road frontage of Empire Hall, Olympia.

The Exhibition was visited by many well-known and distinguished people, and it was often my pleasant duty to escort them round the Exhibition. The opening luncheon, under the Chairmanship of the Association's President, Sir Gerald Bruce, was attended by 140 Exhibitors and guests, the limiting factor being the small size of the only available dining hall in the Empire Hall.

[The earlier speeches were broadcast, and it is a pity that the broadcast could not have included what was perhaps the best of all, that of Mr. Jim Griffiths, M.P. for Llanely and Minister of National Insurance. It is interesting to note that the speech was extempore as it was not certain that Mr. Griffiths would be able to come, and he was only asked to speak a few minutes before the luncheon began.]

The days the Exhibition was open were divided up into County Days, each day being allotted to one of the Counties of Wales, and on each day there was a speaker who spoke from the Welsh Welcome Club on some topic with Welsh interest. The principal guests were always escorted round the Exhibition. One of the most interesting, and interested, was Mr. Dai Grenfell, M.P. for Gower,

and one time Minister for Mines. Mr. Grenfell informed me that he had been at school only up to the age of 11, after which he had worked underground until he went into Parliament twenty-five years ago. Yet, not only did he make speeches in English and Welsh, but while I was taking him round I heard him speak on various stands in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Roumanian, and Russian.

One day we had Augustus John, a Pembrokeshire man, and he was accompanied by Barney Seale, sculptor—the statue of the miner in the entrance hall was the latter's work. Most of the M.P.'s representing Welsh constituencies came at one time or another, including several Ministers, Jim Griffiths, Aneurin Bevan, and Professor Marquand. Sir Stafford and Lady Cripps also toured the Exhibition, and I remember Lady Cripps, whom I escorted, being particularly interested in the Aero Zipp stand.

Another visitor was Mr. Zaroubin, the Soviet Ambassador, who was accompanied by his interpreter, Mr. Pavlov. Before taking up diplomatic duties, Mr. Zaroubin was a textile engineer, and was particularly interested in the second floor.

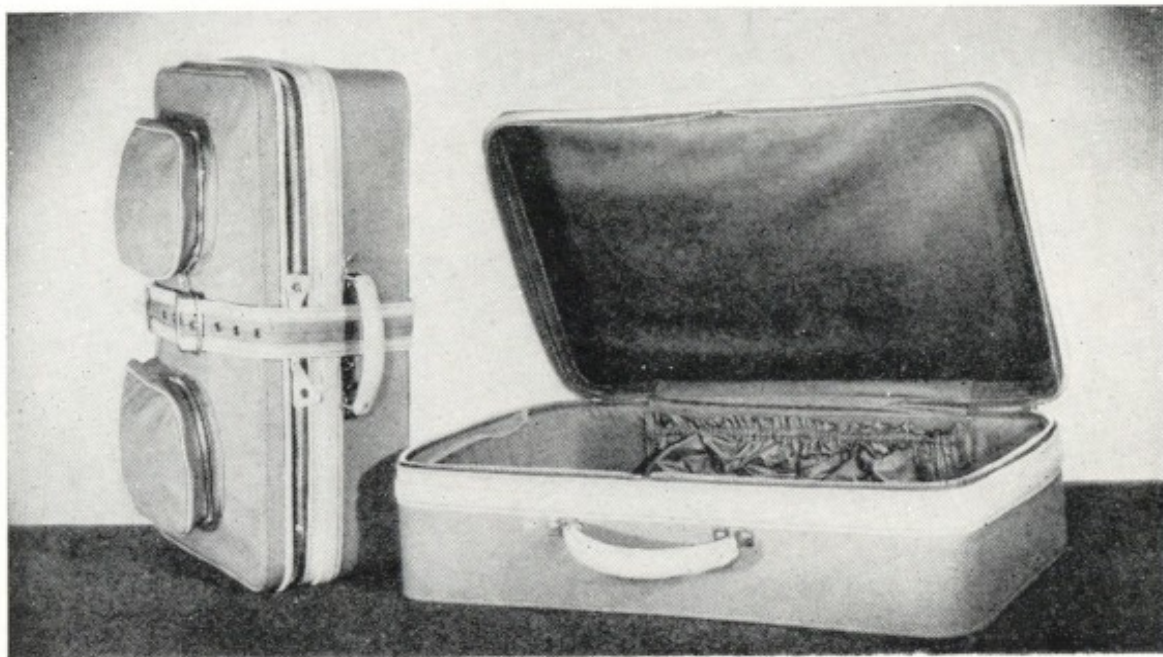
There is no doubt that the Exhibition was a very good first attempt, and we should look forward to others even more successful and under better economic conditions.

View of the Aero Zipp Stand in the textile section of the Exhibition.





His Excellency the U.S. Ambassador in London visits the Exhibition and is seen here admiring "The Ideal Miner."



*For Export Only !
One of the articles (incorporating Aero Zipp fasteners) which aroused great interest and favourable comment.*

AERO ZIPPERS GO TO TOWN



By DAVID ROWLANDS.

(On Saturday, September 6th, a party of Aero Zippers visited the Industrial Wales Exhibition at Empire Hall, Olympia, London. In the following article Mr. David Rowlands, the Social and Welfare Committee Member who organised the party, gives his impression of the visit.)

As we walked into Empire Hall we were first impressed by a huge statue, "The Ideal Miner." This statue by Barney Seale, the eminent sculptor, literally towered over the Exhibition, personifying Coal, the dominating factor. It brought us, who work on the Estate, back to the reality that coal is *still* Wales' greatest industry. Most of our party seemed to have these thoughts in mind, as some time was spent, and keen interest shown, in the wonderfully detailed working model of a coalmine. Another of our old basic industries then attracted the ladies—the display of Welsh woollen goods, amongst the warmest and most famous wools in the world.

Our tour led us past Stand after Stand, each brilliantly lighted, and cleverly displaying its products in almost bewildering diversity and attractiveness. These were the Stands of the "New" or "Light" Industries—non-crush nylon velvet, tinsel striped nylon for evening wear, sheer nylon stockings (which display sent the fair members of our party into ecstasies of delight—and green with desire), Welsh sheepskin leather products, wrist-watches, electric lamps and clocks, shoes, gloves, silver and chrome-plated table-ware, plastic goods, gowns, washing machines—the list could go on *ad infinitum*.

It was good to realise that these products, so many of which had been manufactured in the Development Areas, not only gave work by their manufacture to thousands of men and women in areas where unemployment was rife a few years ago, but were products which we had at one time to *import* from Japan, Germany,

Czechoslovakia, and other countries. Not only had they replaced these foreign made goods, but were now actually being *exported*.

I don't know yet whether the headlong rush towards the House of Koray Stand by certain members of our Toolroom was because of the free sample glasses of sparkling Harrogate Health Salts, or because these glasses were handed out to them by young attractive ladies of physical perfection, clad in very abbreviated shorts and sun-tops. The rest of us gazed with longing eyes and watering mouths at the displays of delicious marshmallows, chocolate-covered dainties and toffees, but alas, unlike the Health Salts, there were no free samples.

Finally we came to the Aero Zipp Stand, and our own contribution to "Wales Can Make It," tucked away in the Textile Section on the Second Floor. Although I have worked at Aero Zipp for almost six years, I must say that it wasn't until that memont I realised the many thousands of uses to which our zippers are put—the Aero Zipp Fastener as applied to the hood of a collapsible aluminium pram was my first surprise.

As our party left Empire Hall, it was generally agreed that, although the lack of public support and attendances were painfully apparent, Wales had put on a "good show." I felt proud that this fine Exhibition, through the infinite variety and quality of the products displayed, was declaring to the world the fact that Wales was fast becoming the most prominent industrial centre in Great Britain.



Aero-Zippers at the Exhibition



Our Sales Representative finds a new market.

ANNUS MIRABILIS



*Christmas again, and still we all survive,
Though short of food and clothing, fuel and zippys,
But yet it's something to be still alive,
In spite of Strachey and Sir Stafford Cripps.*

*The year was not, however, wholly bad ;
You've had the warmest summer ever seen ;
You've had the shorter working week : you've had
My droll effusions in this magazine.*



*And we must reckon on the credit side,
That noble gathering of lusty knights,
Who lent their gracious presence to provide
Our opening with ceremonious rites.*

*Strange how all titled men in chosen phrase
So loyally to one another stick,
Wax dithyrambic in each other's praise—
And sometimes lay it on a trifle thick.*



*The speeches made me dry, and I discerned
That many of my friends looked rather queer ;
But oh ! our hearts were light when we adjourned
To guzzle down the sandwiches and beer.*



*Then came the second high-light of the year—
Anne Crawford (have you seen her photograph ?
George Conway took some too, but his appear
Filled with moustaches of her escort staff)*

*She is compounded of all charm and grace,
And breathes an atmosphere of joy serene ;
Perfection dwells within her mind and face—
In heart a woman, and in poise a queen.*

*Her beauty gave me access to the art
Of writing fluently. If I possessed
Her photograph, it would the skill impart
To praise her daily and to praise her best.*

*And then our A.D.S.—I've seen each play.
They act as only born performers could.
And I have heard a contract's on the way
To take Bill Roberts into Hollywood.*

*Well, now my plate is clean. All that above
Was written by request of Mr. Stone.
I've carried out his wish, and now I'll shove
On paper, some reflections of my own.*

*I'm sorry Mr. Johnson has resigned ;
I'll miss his company at Upper Boat,
Where we for years together daily dined,
Spicing with happy chat the table d'hôte.*

*He loved to tell me all about his flowers,
The hues of which, he always used to say,
Resembled ties worn by a friend of ours,
Who lately bought them in the U.S.A.*

*Bernard departs, and serenades the ear
Of London with his fiddle's joyous tone.
And every night his sleepless neighbours hear
The lyric tootle of his saxophone.*

*And through the sadness of this winter night,
His clarinet wails to the frosty heaven.
Hark ! he is rendering with all his might
A requiem to 1947.*

Anon.



DE AERO ZIPPY HALF-HOUR

Ping, Ping, Bong.

De hour is one-tirty tree a.m., and this is Station Zippy; bringing straight to youse kids, for the next five and seven-teen twenty-fifths of a minute the AERO ZIPPY HALF-HOUR. HOORAY!

*Zoom-Zoom, Rah-Rah, Aero Zippys.
Tree Bags Full!!!*

Now dat all youse kids has packed youse mommas and poppas off to bye-byes, me, Herman Hicklepunk, your story-gabber, is going to relate to youse all, by courtesy of de Aero Zippy's Manufacturing Corporation, anodder of our weekly Christmas fairy tales. Remember, dis is all by the courtesy of AERO-ZIPPYS, the Zipp dat's never been known . . . sorry . . . to fail!

*When you zippit—
Aero Zippit! Rah,
Rah, Rah!!!*

This time, the spiel dat youse gonna get is all about a torch singer, working at a clip joint known as the Hot Spot. She, but natch, went by der monniker of Cinders Ella. (Cinders, Torch Singer, Hot Spot, Joke, Ha-ha. Alright, kids, I tink it's repulsive, too.)

Now, Cinders was ambitious, although she had given up hope of ever being a lady, and although she had a fairly classy chassis, was very, very peeved,

A CHRISTMAS BEDTIME BROADCAST

*for the Kiddies; as
related by Count
Sergie, the famous
exponent of the
American type of
commercialised
broadcasting*

because she never had any really nice clothes to wear. Mind you, kids, all the customers at the Hot Spot was used to seeing her widdout most of dese dat she possessed, but still, only owning tree mink coats, twenty pairs of nylons, and four two-way stretches, she naturally tinks to herself that tings isn't strictly Kosher. You see, de two odder



dames at the Hot Spot each had five two-way stretches, and brudder, did dey need 'em. Dey was de Ugly Sisters, see !!!

Comes one evening, and Cinders is singing in a low, croaking voice de hit tune of de moment, "When I Sees Your Mouth-piece, I'll Be Sueing You," in walks Buggsy Mahhoonny, de Prince of Bootleggers, and mebbe twenty, tirty of his boys. It was definitely a case of love at first look (Cinders still hadn't got de clothes dat she wanted yet), so de Prince decides that he would be pleased to accept Cinders, even though Shmool Shmiff, the owner of the joint, hadn't offered her, and what was more, didn't intend to. It wasn't until Shmool had the joint completely wrecked, two arms broken, six teeth missing, and Buggsy's heel ground in his dial, he realized dat perchance Buggsy was not just having one of his little jokes, and so, kids, to avoid injury, he offered Cinders to become the Princess of de Bootleggers.

It don't rip, if it's an Aero Zipp!!! (Sorry, kids, my sponsors.)

Princess Cinders is now very, very happy, as she realises that Prince Buggsy has much plenty shekels, and will buy for her all that she sets her little gold-digging ticker on. Apart from which she now knows that Buggsy will do for her the little favour of rubbing out the Two Ugly Sisters, and thus enable her to acquire (grab, to youse kids) all the nylons, minks, two-way stretches, and what have

you, dat these dames will not be needing any more.

Aero Zippers runs much Quickers. Rah, Rah, Rah!!! (Dat, kids, is one dat I made up myself.)

We is now coming, if not to the end, then to the close of dis story, brats, but, like most of the true-life stories, it ends very happy. For Cinders, though, nobody else.

See, you little heathens, Shmool Shmiff has collected a lot of muscle men himself, so as to be in the fashion, and tinkering tings over, wid the help of de dictionary, he decides that perchance Buggsy was just a little hasty in busting up de Hot Spot. De rest he didn't care about. So he collects his boys and visits Buggsy on his own ground. To end the story, kids, both gangs rub each odder out, and all that is left is Cinders, wid all the mozoomer, glad rags, and what have you? Apart from this, der is also Buggsy's insurance, too. Still she is very, very happy, because she sees that the Two Ugly Sisters all had Aero Zipp on all their glad rags, so now Princess Cinders has nothing but de best.

So, kids, that is the end of dis week's story, and from dis you get the present day version, which is strictly on the up and up. If anyone tries to kid you dat Cinders lost a slipper, or sometin', don't you believe dem, as when de late Buggsy snatched her from the Hot Spot, at twelve o'clock dat night, if she'd been wearing slippers de customers would have demanded their dough back, and de late

Shmool would have been very nasty, but definitely.

Well, kids, dis concludes my little story, but before I close, when I count three, all togedder, "Aero Zippys, is de Zippys, Rah, Rah, Rah." Wid de last Rah, you all gotta smash an electric bulb, or vase, or your necks, or sometin'.

Are you ready?

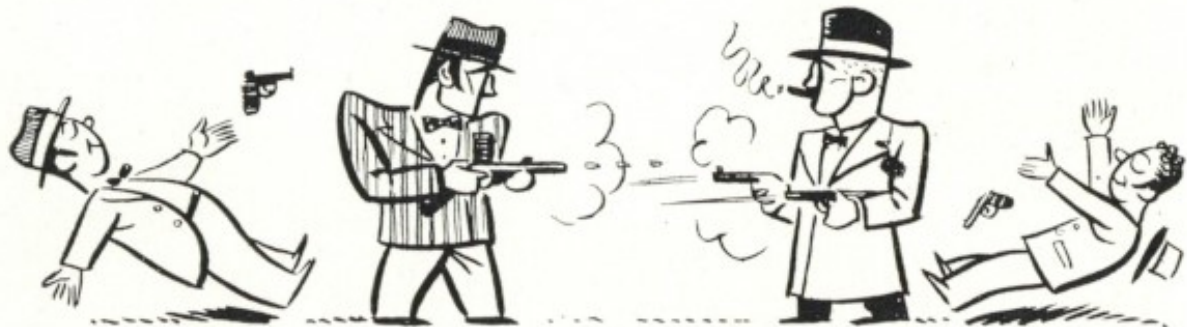
One . . . Two . . . Tree.

Aero Zippys is de Zippys.

Rah! Rah! (now loud and smash) Rah!!!!

What! You've woken up your mommas and poppas? I hope dey tans de hides offer youse bloodthirsty little brats.

As we close de Station for de night, always remember, folks, even in your nightmares tonight, dat Aero Zippys spelt backwards is SYPPIZ OREA, which means . . . ah! but dat's anudder story . . .



Granfer's Whiskers

When Granfer caught his whiskers in the zipper of his shirt,
Oh, by gosh it hurt—that zipper done him dirt.

He gave a shout—"Please get it out, the gosh darned blinkin' thing.
It's pullin' all me whiskers from me poor old perishin' chin!"

The more he pulled the more he tugged, the worse it seemed to get,
Till the poor old man in such a jam,
got in a proper sweat.

When finally they got him free, it
was so sad to tell,

The poor old toff had to shave them
off, the zip had left but three.

DAI CASTER.

Moral—Take it Easy if the
Slider Jams.





A Pot Pourri of Life and Laughter at the Aero Zipp

By **DON STONE**

Be pleasant until ten o'clock in the morning and the rest of the day will take care of itself.

—Elbert Hubbard.

HELLO EVERYONE!

“Hey, Lapis!” exclaimed Nosy Parker the other day, “it’s about time we got cracking on another *Our Column* for the Christmas mag.” “How are things in the shops, Nosy?” said I, knocking his feet off my desk, and putting the Scotch back into the drawer.

“There they are, boss,” chuckled Mr. Parker, “all ready for you,” pointing to his latest reports—so here we go.

MR. PARKER OVERHEARS.

At the Employment Office :

Tom : “I hear you’ve got a new job, Bill.”

Bill : “Yes, Tom, at a place called Aero Zipp.”

Tom : “Good firm. From what I hear you should be fired with enthusiasm.”

Bill : “I was.”

At the Enquiry Office :

Miss Randall : “Ah Mr. — —, I was looking for you. A man called here a few minutes ago and said he wanted to punch you on the nose.”

Mr. — — : “What did you say?”

Miss Randall : “I said I was sorry you weren’t in.”

In the Main Office :

“Yes, Joyce, my New Year’s resolution is going to be not to file everything under Miscellaneous.

In Mr. Hart's Office (1947) :

"So you want an increase in salary, Mr. Rowlands? Can you give me two good reasons?"

Mr. Rowlands, sadly: "Yes, Mr. Hart; the twins."

In Mr. Hart's Office (1987) :

"How long have you been with us, Clutterbuck?"

"50 years, Sir."

"O.K., from now on consider yourself as being on the permanent staff."

At the Board of Directors' Meeting :

Chairman: "I have heard it said that half our directors do all the work and the other half do nothing. This remark, gentlemen is strongly resented. I assure you that the absolute reverse is the case."

In the Maintenance Department :

Mr. Cook: "When you take this parcel to Labin's, Tommy, you pass the South Canteen?"

Tommy Hester: "S'right."

Mr. Cook: "Well, *pass* it!"

REPEAT PERFORMANCE.

I wonder if Aero Zippers remember an article appearing in the June, 1946 issue of the mag., under the title "Report from Local Paper, Distinguished Scientists at Treforest Factory?" The antics of Professor Straight Jackitte, Jnr.-Professor Pincus and other odd characters, seemed to please many of you, for I've had several requests for a repeat performance. Here it is—with an entire change of cast and scenery.

REPORT FROM LOCAL PAPER.

"MACHINE TO SOLVE EXPORT LAG INVENTED BY ESTATE FACTORY TECHNICIANS."

Once again the *Upper Boat Times* is privileged to present to our readers a brilliant scoop by our ace reporter, Mr. N. Parker, whose report follows
"The Development Department of the factory, in which room the demonstration was due to take place, was freshly painted and garlanded for the auspicious occasion, and hummed with the excited whispers of the eminent authorities present. The departmental motto 'Quieta Non Movere' (Ed's. Note, Literal Translation 'Let Sleeping Dogs Lie,' or more lit. trans. 'Why Bring Your Troubles to Us? We've enough of our own' flashed brightly in red neon-lighting above the door.

It was observed that the squad of technical experts in attendance—Professors Sandy (Spooks) Powell, Maxie (What's a Drawing?) Salamon, Reg (Good Morning Begins with Gillette) Randall, Bila (Pinklevasser) Meitner and Arthur Oliver Talford Mason-Evans, were dressed to the height of sartorial elegance as they nonchalantly went about their business.

Mrs. Parker, the eminent fashion reporter, who was also present, writes that their attire consisted of canary-yellow roll-neck pullovers, emblazoned with a large 'D.D.' on back and front. White breeches and highly polished

rubber Wellingtons with steel toecaps and spurs, completed their lower dress. Grey toppers, worn at a rakish angle, and held in position by elastic passing under the chin, added a touch of elegance. The hat bands were of pink S.M. tape into which was stuck a horseshoe, to replace the usual sprig of heather. Blast and fire equipment at hand was to the specification laid down by Jnr.-Professor Pincus, viz. : Cricket pads, self-adhering American Football-type crash helmets, chainmail over-jackets, asbestos steel-lined gloves, and Bikini Brand anti-flash face cream.

The excitement and tenseness of the occasion manifested itself in the strange behaviour of the professors themselves, usually noted for their icy-calm, 'Devil-May-Care' attitude. Professor Powell was observed to be muttering mysterious exhortations, and shaking hands with someone who had apparently left the room; Professor Salamon was observed to light a *whole* cigarette; Professor Evans, one arm outflung and the other resting on his brow, held the crowd entranced with a brilliant rendering of 'To Be or Not To Be'; Professor Randall, checking up on his Geiger Counters, pensively fingered a clean-shaven chin; Professor Meitner, after busily signing autographs, stood at rigid attention behind the 'mike,' in readiness for the N.B.G. World-Wide Broadcast, shortly to follow (Under the kind auspices of the Basic English Society).

Among the eminent reporters present were representatives of the Daily Express, Mirror, Herald, Times, Observer, London Gazette, Picture Post, Illustrated, Lilliput, Paris By Night, Health and Efficiency, and the Upper Boat Six-Monthly. Movie Cameramen of the Gaumont British and Movietone News, March of Time and the Art Studios, Cardiff, made final adjustments to their photographic equipment.

At this stage of the proceedings there was a disturbance in the five guinea ticket holders' enclosure. A small man was forcibly ejected as he shouted 'What about my teeth? What about my teeth?' and could not be calmed even when rushed to Mr. I. Pullem-Quick, the Upper Boat Dental Surgeon. (A communique released by the Upper Boat Penitentiary later, stated that the unfortunate person concerned was a certain K. Nossek, who had been trying to draw attention to a matter solely technical.

Order having been regained, the wonder machine was reverentially dragged into the room, but a further delay of three hours occurred whilst Mr. Engel decided its exact resting place, and Mr. Neustadle, ace photographer of the Art Studios, Cardiff finalised his point of vantage.

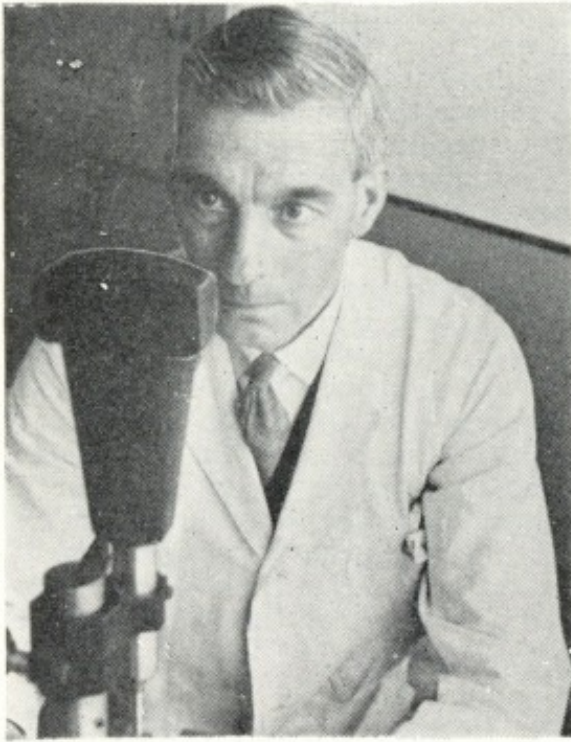
Among the flashing of photographers' lights, Senior-Professor Salamon proudly pressed a gold-plated button marked 'Press and Duck.' The resulting 'Whirr, clickety-clack, clickety-clack Whirr' caused all present to don hastily their protective apparatus and smear flash resisting cream into their faces. A few moments later tremendous cheers rang through the room as the wonder machine was seen to be actually in production.

With hysterical exclamations of 'Good Lord, it works!' and with expressions of horrified surprise, the Professors were led off to the First Aid Room in a state of collapse, accompanied by Nurse Feibusch and Mr. Alf Edwards.

A communique issued by the factory authorities late to-day states that after a satisfactory first run, the wonder machine has been taken to pieces for further improvements, and will again be ready for trials in 1984."

AEROUNDABOUT.

Au Revoir . . . and best wishes to Jack Johnson who resigned in October. Eight years at Aero Zipp, Mr. Johnson started as a tool-maker, becoming shift foreman of the old Gauge



MR. J. JOHNSON.

Department during the war. With post-war re-organisation Mr. Johnson joined the Development Department engaged in general improvements of our fasteners. All at Aero Zipp wish him the very best of Good Luck.

Haunted . . . in the best Christmas spirit . . . Garfield Roberts' desk. It is known that a certain young lady of the staff, after using it for a few days, collapsed into a series of hysterics. Late reports claim that Garfield is grimly holding out.

Denied . . . strongly, by Mr. Raymond Baskerville, that the recent howling heard

by the night watchman is in any way attributable to the presence of his goodself.

Announced . . . sorrowfully, by Miss Pam Lewis and Mr. Maelgwyn Morgan of the Personnel Office—that after a six months futile battle to decipher signatories of the Staff Time Recording Clock, they have now applied for entrance to next year's course on Ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphics and Mediæval Chinese at Cardiff University College.

FINALE

“Finally, good people, the Editor awaits with trepidation and no little anxiety the publication of ‘Our Column.’ On your reception depends its next appearance”

So ran the last paragraph of *Our Column*, No. 1 in July, 1945. The warmth of your reception encouraged me to make *Our Column* a regular feature of *Punch & Die*. With this, the seventeenth *Our Column* in the seventeenth issue of the magazine, I must say *adieu*.

On behalf of Lapis, Uncle Lapis, Professor Straighte Jackitte Mr. and Mrs. Nosy Parker, and myself, I wish to say in all sincerity, “Thank You, kind people, for your constant encouragement and appreciation of our humble efforts to please.”

I make no apologies for the following quotation at length from *This Week Magazine*. I feel that I could say cheerio in no better way.

“ Modern man takes life too seriously, and because he is too serious, his world is full of troubles. The importance of humour should never be forgotten. For sense of humour changes the quality and character of our entire cultural life.

“ It seems to me that the worst thing about Dictators is their lack of humour. Dictators always look so solemn or pompous or angry. Presidents of democracies smile and people like it. But the Dictator gets so puffed up with his own importance that he loses all sense of humour and with it all sense of proportion. That is how we get fanatics. Then the trouble begins.

“ There is a purifying power in laughter—both for individuals and for nations. If they have a sense of humour, they have the key to good sense, to simple thinking, to a peaceable temper, and to a cultured outlook on the world.”

Au revoir.

P.S.—Late Query for the A.D.S. : Mr. Parker wants to know of whom is it said that he does the stage more ham than good ?

P.P.S.—Late Consolation for latecomers : Early risers are conceited in the morning and tired in the afternoon . . . but I really must end now.





ANNE CRAWFORD VISITS AERO ZIPP

On Monday, September 15th, Aero Zippers had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Anne Crawford, star of the J. Arthur Rank presentation "Master of Bankdam."

Miss Crawford, accompanied by Mr. R. E. Foster, House Manager of the Capitol Cinema, Mr. L. S. Denton, General Manager, and by members of the J. Arthur Rank Organisation, was received at Aero Zipp by Mr. E. Engel, Mr. G. S. Hart, and Mr. D. D. Stone, and after a tour of the works the party had tea in the Canteen.

A recording of the visit was made by the B.B.C. and later broadcast on the Home and Overseas programmes. Amongst those to whom Miss Crawford chatted, and who later found themselves "on the air," were

Mr. Len Morgan (of the Punch and Die Section), Miss Doreen Keepings (of the Finishing Department Stores), and Miss Evelyn Randall (of the Enquiries Office).

(A note of interest for the fair sex of Aero Zipp: the hat Miss Crawford was wearing was specially designed for her visit by Messrs. Seccombes of Cardiff, and presented to her in their workrooms.)

In the evening Miss Crawford made a personal appearance at the Capitol Cinema, and at a reception later was presented to Cardiff civic dignitaries and to leading representatives of Cardiff's trade and commercial organisations.

The following letter has been received from Miss Crawford:

Dear Sirs,


I would like to say how very much I enjoyed my visit to your interesting factory.

It was a real pleasure to see how everyone obviously enjoyed their work—and your canteen provided most delicious refreshment.

Please give all the boys and girls my very best wishes—I wish I had had time to talk to all of them.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Crawford



Lipp!
That's fine that
was!
Brief but happy
memory!

Anne Crawford
ford

CRI DE COEUR



*I love the ladies, but I find
That being of the bashful kind,
I'm always rather disinclined
 To seek a one and only ;
And so, unless my ways should mend,
It seems that I am doomed to spend
My life without a lady friend—
 Dejected, damned and lonely.*

*I change my job each week or two,
To see if thus I can renew
My courage. But the girls I view
 Through haze of inhibition.
I've worked in paper, silks, and sweets,
In plastics, inks, and metal seats—
Alas ! I find but new defeats
 In every new position.*

*At knock-off time each murky eve,
I wait to watch the ladies leave,
Hoping that once I shall receive
 A look that spells " Come hither."'
But no ! they always pass me by,
No green light flashing in the eye,
And so I cannot wonder why
 My hopes begin to wither.*

*And in my lonesome room at night,
I brood upon my sorry plight,
Wishing in vain I were not quite
 So prone to trepidation.
No doubt you all will comprehend
The deprivations which attend
The absence of a female friend—
 I spare you full citation.*

*Surely there works on the Estate,
A maid unloved and desolate,
With whom I could associate
 In ties of tender wedlock ;
But she must pop the question, and
Make overtures to win my hand,
Else our romance is doomed to stand
 For ever at a deadlock.*

PASQUIN.



*The cast of "Ten Little Niggers" the latest successful production
by our Amateur Dramatic Society.*



Aero Nippies



Christine Anne, 18 months old daughter of Mr. Maurice Stephens (Machine Dept.) and Mrs. Stephens.



Anne (on the left) and Wendy (on the right), 3 year old twin daughters of Mr. David Rowlands (Slider Casting Dept.).



Jane, 18 months old daughter of Mr. R. Probert (Fig and Tool Dept.) and Mrs. Probert.



Sharon Frances, 7 months old daughter of Mr. W. J. Clarke (Foreman of the Machine Dept.) and Mrs. Clarke.



Leslie (age 5) and Jackie (age 6½), sons of Mrs. Gwyneira Evans (Finishing Dept.).

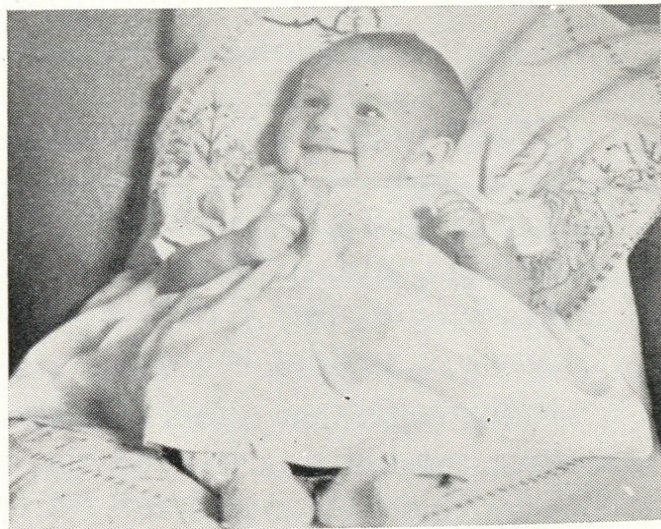
Keith, 2 year old son of Mr. Olwyn Adams (Teeth Dept.) and Mrs. Adams.



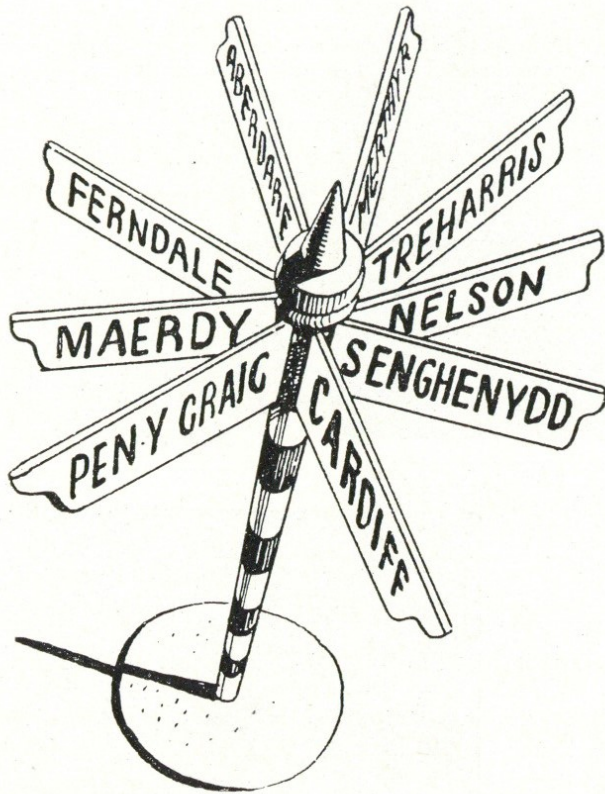
David, 2½ year old son of Mr. Ron Howell (Teeth Inspection Dept.) and Mrs. Howell.



Davis (age 6) and Gillian (age 4), children of Mr. E. Whetter (Fig and Tool Dept.) and Mrs. Whetter.



Graham John, 6 months old baby son of Mr. Donald Davies (Tool Stores) and Mrs. Davies.



WHAT! NO 'BUSES

The Management has always made a point of trying to help the employees by taking up with bus companies, M.P.'s, and Government departments the numerous and justified complaints about transport difficulties. It must confess that it does not have much success, in fact it often meets a "stone wall." The following is an extract of a statement which has been sent to everyone who might be able to exert influence to help the situation. As our magazine is read by many outside the firm, we reprint it again in order to advertise further your understandable bus-grouses.

WORKERS' TRANSPORT . . .

Statement by Aero Zipp Fasteners Ltd.

The Transport Arrangements serving the Treforest Estate have been a constant cause of complaint for the past few years. The dissatisfaction of the workers is now becoming more than mere grumbling and is, we feel, likely to have repercussions on the industries of the Trading Estate. Far from improving, the situation is getting worse.

This statement refers to all services to the Estate, and aims to draw attention to the need for co-ordination and re-planning of the transport arrangements. In corroboration of the complaints of the workers, the Rhondda Transport Company now states that due to overcrowding of the 'buses it will issue no more travel permits, and it is understood that that company has now informed

the Estate Manager that it is unable to clear all the worker passengers in time to carry them to work.

An immediate reaction to this knowledge was that this firm considered it necessary to inform the Ministry of Labour that they should not submit for employment workers resident in the Rhondda Valley.

It must be appreciated that the Treforest Estate has a very special claim for good transport. The thousands of workers are drawn from a large area of widely dispersed towns and villages. Most workers spend a long time in travelling both before and after work. That is unavoidable, but the inconvenience is made much greater by long periods of waiting often in bad weather. Most 'buses are crowded and the daily worries of delays, discomfort, and insufficiency of 'buses is a considerable strain on vast numbers of estate workers.

From the point of view of the employer it must also be realised that efficient transport for his workers is the least he can expect to help offset the considerable losses which he suffers due to snowfalls, icebound roads, floods and transport strikes which at intervals bring the factories almost to a stop.

The recent curtailing of private motoring, and the stopping of petrol for travelling between home and factory has made another contribution to the overcrowding of the 'buses. Most of these cars carried four persons and many of them were owned by employees other than managers and executives.

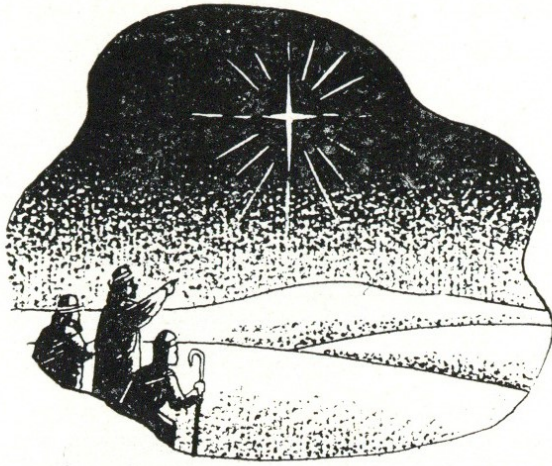
For the past two years, the answer to transport complaints has always been the same ; that is, the insufficiency of 'buses. This complaint is accepted no longer as it is now generally believed that the root of the trouble lies in the safeguarding of the interests of the companies which run the services. The companies confess that they have insufficient vehicles to meet the demands, yet they oppose the application of any private coach owner who wishes to pick up fares. For example, a private 'bus owner applied for permission to run his 'bus to and fro between Ynysybwl and this factory. His application was opposed by the Service Company and refused by the Transport Commissioners on the grounds that the service company was well able to deal with the traffic. Yet that same company continually pleads insufficiency of 'buses as the reason for the imperfections of its service.

In the Rhondda Valley there is a transport bottle-neck at Porth which eventually reacts on the Pontypridd U.D.C. Service as people, unable, to get "through" 'buses, are reaching the estate by a series of three or four separate 'bus journeys. Travellers between the estate and Cardiff are dependent largely on the service 'buses to carry them home. Yet on Wednesdays and Thursdays, shoppers fill the 'buses and leave the workers on the estate to wait. The detailed complaints vary from time to time. When an extra 'bus is put on to overcome a need on a particular route it is soon found that another route has lost a 'bus.

The answer to the state of affairs is difficult to find, but it does seem that there is an urgent need for all the estate transport services to be subject to one authority with the power to replan. There are hundreds of privately-owned motor coaches which could supplement the work of the service companies who already have more business than they can satisfactorily contend with. It is not difficult to hire a 'bus for a private party. One can only assume that the complex business of licences and the agreements with the Service companies are working to the disadvantage of the workers and of the industries which employ them.

This statement is addressed to various interested authorities and individuals for the purpose of advertising a serious grievance which can have a most adverse effect on the whole venture which we call the Treforest Trading Estate.





CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

The streamlined hysteria of this age in which we live has by no means left unscathed the Christian Church and its most Holy days, reaching with its questionable influence even to the birthday of the Prince of Peace. CHRISTmas has been streamlined by a speed-crazed world into "Xmas."

In mathematics, X is regarded as the "unknown" quantity, and popularly, "marks the spot" which something has once occupied. We may well ask: Does X signify that some other object, known or unknown, has taken the place of the Christ whose birth we celebrate at this joyous season?

What does "Xmas" mean to the great masses in our land? To THE BUSINESS MAN it means the busiest and most profitable season of the year, when the public is urged, "Do your Xmas shopping early." To THE GREAT MULTITUDES it means a time, a season of gaiety and merrymaking and carousing, to be brought to an uncertain end only when the old year has passed into the new. To UNCOUNTED MILLIONS it means a time of lavish spending in the hope of getting; of the vain displaying of affection in the bestowal of gifts of small or intrinsic value; of careless repetition and thoughtless singing of "Peace on earth, good will to men," without an understanding of the deep significance of that angel song. But to A GREAT REDEEMED HOST it is CHRISTmas indeed, for they are reminded thereby that the great God became a Man in the Person of His Son, that He might redeem a lost humanity. To them it is a day of rejoicing, for the Babe of Bethlehem, Whose name is Jesus, has, as the Lamb of God, become their Saviour from sin. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." (I Tim. I. 15).

Would that every soul in this war-worn world at this Christmas season might humbly bow in repentance and submission, and make the courts of heaven ring with a united earnest plea:

"O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray,
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born in us today."

Is it "Xmas" for you, or "CHRISTmas"?

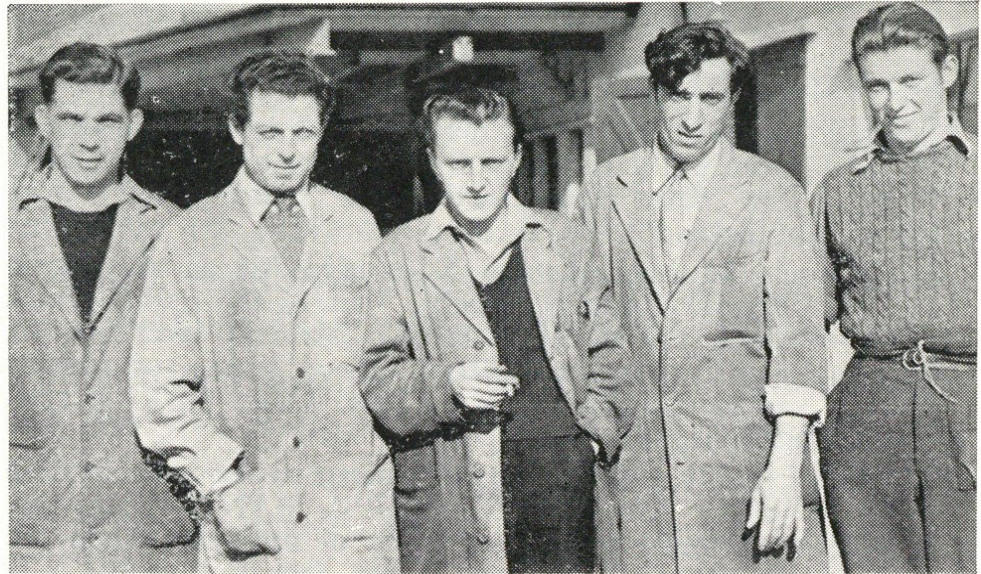
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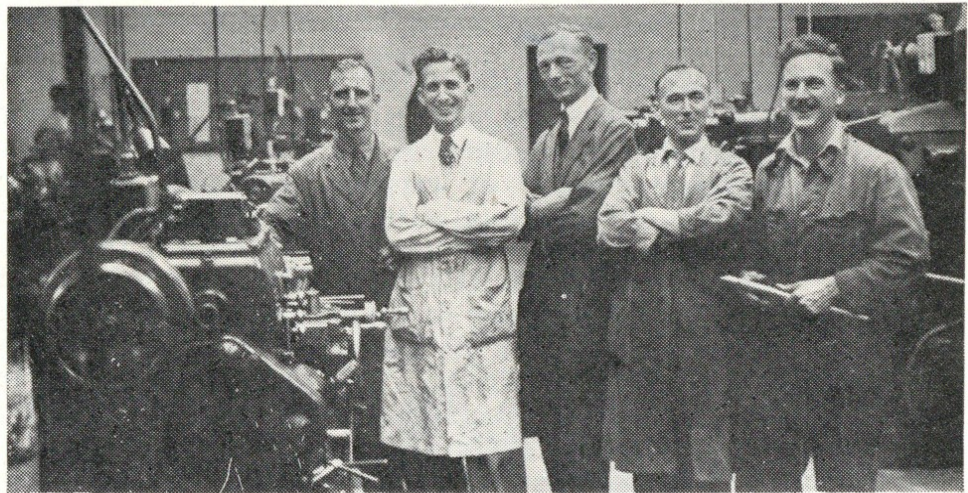
GEORGE takes a walk . . .

"You know that Bernard's left for London Office, don't you, George?" said the Editor to me the other day. "Yes," I replied, a little suspiciously. "You've got a camera, haven't you, George?" the Editor followed up gently. "Yes," I said again, with a sinking feeling in my stomach. Two seconds later I found myself possessing the proud title of *Punch & Die* Emergency Staff Photographer (unpaid), and for better or for worse, here's my first delivery of photographs

Of special interest to the Machine Department young ladies will be this snap of some of the Teeth Inspection Dept. 'strong arm squad'—Messrs. Pat McCarthy, Charlie Wilkie, Cyril Cook, Howard Ford, and Ray Payne (Not forgetting Ron Howell, Alf Edwards and Frank Rosser, whose photographs will appear in the next issue).



"If it's laughter you're after, George, we're the boys" said Jig and Toolites, Ernie Whettr, David Rowlands, Fred Henson, Reg Probert, and Sid Witherington.



(Editor's Note.—If any Aero Zipper desires a copy of a photograph appearing in the above series, they can get same by contacting George Conway, Jr.)

. and Dilys Rees, Dorothy Pritchard, Freda Lott, and Betty Toghill of the Despatch Dept. all seem pleased with the news.

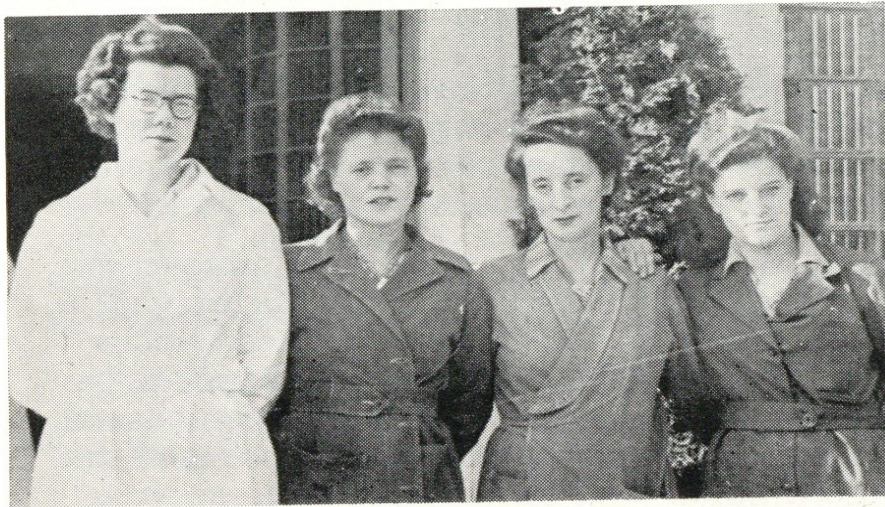




To continue with a smile, here is a happy group from the Machine Dept., Nancy Thorne (Chargehand, Full-Automatic), Queenie Chidgey (Chargehand, Type "D"), Mrs. Curtis (Inspection Dept.), and Doreen Jones (Chargehand, Type "Baby").



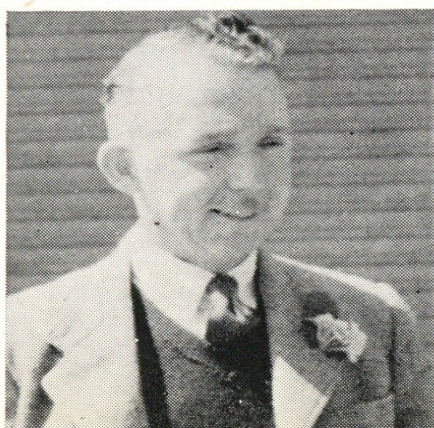
Here is the first photograph of the two Aero Zipp "back room boys" of all our social activities, Messrs. Reg Randall, Head Electrician, and George Conway, Snr., Head Carpenter.



"About time, too," exclaimed Winnie Price, Tillie Ford, Sally Barlow and Margaret Payne, four 'veterans' of the Slider Dept.



"Three Men in a Store"—as illustrated by Messrs. Donald Davies (Tool), Bill Hughes and Les Pearce (Metal).



(Left).

Mr. Cyril Church, genial foreman of the Fig and Tool and Teeth Depts., had just become the proud father of a son when this snap was taken



JOINT PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

The new Production Committee held its first meeting on July 7th and I had the honour of being elected chairman for the current year. It is only fitting that we should offer at this point our heartiest congratulations to the retiring committee, and especially to its chairman, Mr. Roy Morris, for a very creditable term of office. To make such a success of a new venture in our factory life was indeed a great achievement.

The Joint Production Committee will have already celebrated its first anniversary when this Christmas number of the "Punch & Die" is published, and with this in mind I think the present time is an opportune one to review the Committee's achievements.

As its name implies, the primary object of the Committee is to increase our efficiency as a working unit. The efficiency of a factory is closely linked with two points, "working conditions" and "methods of production." The Production Committee has aimed at increased efficiency through improved methods of production, and better working conditions. Let us see how far we have succeeded in our task.

First, let us consider "working conditions." Canteen facilities, toilet arrangements, working hours, travelling difficulties, and holidays are but a few of the items which have been discussed by the Committee. Difficulties were thrashed out with the Management and the result has been seen in the improvements of the welfare of the workers.

Turning to "improved methods of production" we come to the most vital service performed by the Committee. The Committee acts as a medium whereby suggestions put forward by Aero Zippers are discussed and submitted to the Management for their consideration.

The importance of these suggestions is reflected in the Management's policy (this itself being a suggestion from the Committee), of giving monetary rewards for ideas which are adopted and put into practice. The Management has further agreed to pay the nominal sum of £1 for any sensible suggestion, whether it is adopted or not.

That the average worker is at last realising the importance of these suggestions is shown by the number received during the three months the new Committee has been in office.

Here as a point of interest is a list of these suggestions, together with the monetary payment.

Mr. E. Thomas (Toolroom) rewarded £5 for suggestions on improving the Fully Automatic Machines.

Mr. Bryn Jones and Mr. L. Morgan (Teeth Department, Punch & Die Section) received £5 each for suggestions dealing with modifications to Press Tools for Teeth Production.

Further suggestions, at present being considered by the Management will be discussed at the next Production Committee meeting. These suggestions were put forward by Mr. Baskerville (Toolroom) re milling cutters, Mr. Wheeler and Mr. John (O.Z.P.) re O.Z.P. punches and dies, and Mrs. V. Hillman (Finishing Room) re colour charts for use by inspectors, and at the time of writing further suggestions are in hand for discussion. Various other useful ideas have been discussed by the Committee, these being put forward by the members themselves and being of a more general nature. The discussions range from Grinding and Hardening delays, and means of overcoming them, to the quality of sliders and inspection of brass coils used in teeth production.

An interesting point arose due to the retirement of Mr. J. Johnson, the Efficiency Supervisor. The Committee approved Mr. Engel's suggestion that rather than appoint a new Efficiency Supervisor each member of the Committee should act in that capacity in the particular department which he or she represented.

This report would hardly be complete unless we mentioned the co-operation that the Committee has received from the Management. I am sure that with the whole hearted support of our fellow workers, the Production Committee will not only keep up the good work that has been started, but will become more and more a vital connection between the workers of Aero Zipp and the Management.

On behalf of my Committee and myself, I wish our fellow workers, and the Management a very Happy Christmas and successful New Year.

WILLIAM JOHN,
Chairman.

ENGAGEMENTS.

Our very best wishes to :—

Miss Jean Tennant (Main Office) and **Mr. Wyndham Dole** on their recent engagement.

Miss Nancy Lewis (Machine Room) on her engagement to **Mr. Lewis Llewellyn**.

MARRIAGES.



Mr. and Mrs. Lott leaving the church.

Sincerest wishes for your future happiness to :—

Miss Glenys White (Slider Department) whom we understand is to be married on 29th December.

Miss Dilys Jones (Slider Department) whose marriage to **Len Bryant** took place on 10th November.

Miss Laura Morris (Slider Department) who was married on 15th December.

Miss Betty Real (Finishing Room Stores) who was married to **Ivor Ball** on 15th November.

Miss Betty Kelly of the Wage Office (Secretary of our Social and Welfare Committee) on her marriage to **Mr. Kenneth Blatchford** on 6th December.

Miss Gwyneth Groves (Machine Room) and **Gordon Saunders** whose wedding took place on 18th October.

Miss Beryl Osmond (Slider Department) and **Gordon Clarke** whose wedding took place on 18th October.

Miss Freda Evans of the Despatch Department and **Mr. Ron Lott** who were married on 23rd August.

BIRTHS.

Heartiest congratulations to :—

Mr. Church (Foreman of the Jig and Tool Dept.)—proud father of a son—Paul Anthony.

Mr. Morley Jones (Electrician)—the gift of a son—Gwyn.



SOCIAL AND WELFARE CLUB.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

On January 1st the present Social and Welfare Committee will have completed its term of office, and thus this report is the last of the series presented by myself as Chairman. Looking back at our activities during 1947, I think I can safely say that we have had a fairly good year. In my opinion the most successful ventures during 1947 were :—

- (1) The Christmas Draw, the results of which placed our Club in a good financial position.
- (2) The Canteen Dance-Cabarets, which proved that successful dances *can* be organised in the Canteen.
- (3) The outstanding success of the Amateur Dramatic Society Sub-Committee, and the three successful plays presented by the Society.
- (4) The Annual Works Outing at Barry Island.
- (5) A successful season (finishing as runners-up of the League) by the Table Tennis section.

The Treasurer's Report shows that after a full year's activities, with corresponding high expenses, nevertheless the Club's funds are at a very high level—the highest in the Social Club's history, and I should here like to pay tribute to our Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. E. Davey, for the grand job of work he has done in this direction.

In this last report I should like to thank, on behalf of my Committee, all those people who helped us make the year 1947 a successful one. There are many I should like to mention by name, but space does not permit. However, there are several departments to whom the present Committee is duly grateful, especially the Maintenance Department, which has done all our "dirty work" with an ever ready smile. We place on record, also, our thanks to all Aero Zippers and to the Management for their constant support and encouragement.

We wish the new 1948 Committee the very best of luck, and hope that its year of office will be a really outstanding one.

In conclusion, may I, on behalf of the Aero Zipp Fasteners' Social and Welfare Committee for 1947 and myself, extend to you all the Season's Greetings and best wishes for a very happy New Year.

GLYN THOMAS, *Chairman.*

4/11/47.

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Twelve months have passed since our Committee was elected, and I think it will be agreed that the year has been a successful one. Our total funds when we were elected to office were £11 4s. 3d. A money-raising campaign was started, and by means of a membership drive, which gave us almost one hundred per cent. Club membership, and the 1946 Christmas Draw, we managed to place ourselves in a satisfactory financial position. The steady weekly subscriptions, and a most generous gift from the Board of Directors, has put the A.Z.F. Social and Welfare Club in a financial position second to none on the Estate.

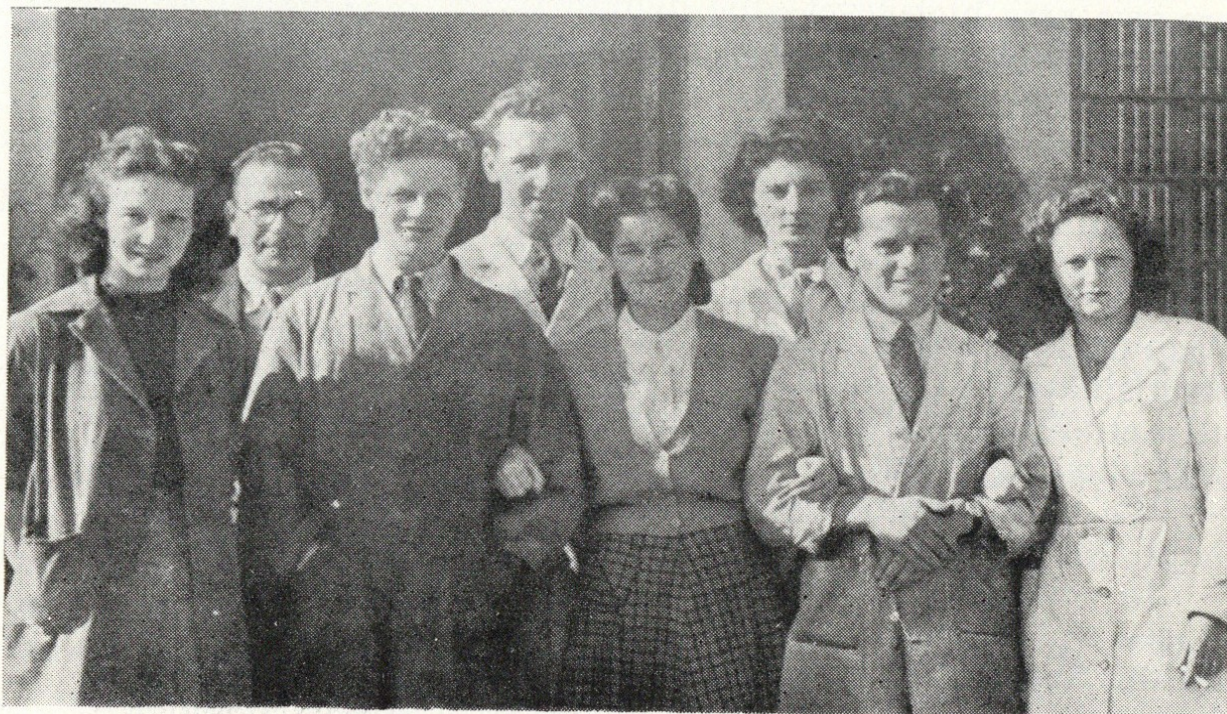
The commencement of the hardship grants for sickness, etc., the marriage and birth gifts, the policy of keeping the entrance fees to Dance Cabarets, and plays, as low as possible, and the partial financing of the Annual Works Outing have all cost a considerable amount of money, but as the following report shows, we are still in a very comfortable position :

STATEMENT of ACCOUNTS :—Total Income, £530 11s. 4½d. ; Total Expenditure, £223 16s. 9d. ; Balance of monies in hand £306 14s. 7½d.

This Christmas we are again organising the Christmas Draw, to raise funds for the Kiddies' Party and the Christmas Dance, and I hope that by the time you read this report that both functions will have been successful.

I wish to thank the members of the Wage Office for their help in collecting subscriptions, and also the members of the Committee who have acted as auditors. In thanking also all Aero Zippers for their co-operation during 1947, may I take this opportunity of wishing everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year.

R. E. DAVEY, *Hon. Treasurer.*



MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL AND WELFARE COMMITTEE FOR 1947.
(Left to Right) : Eileen Rivers, Don Stone, Glyn Thomas, Ron Davey, Betty Kelly, Beryl Jones, Len Morgan and Doreen Jones. (Members not included in photograph) : Nurse Feibusch, Reg. Randall and Ron Bunney.

AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

At the time of writing this report, the Society is now preparing for the presentation of "Ten Little Niggers"—Agatha Christie's famous thriller. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, November 17th-19th, the play will be presented in the A.Z.F. Canteen as part of the Treforest Trading Estate "Silver Lining" Gala Week, under the auspices of the Estate National Savings Committee. The respective chairman for the three nights being Mr. Jack Jones (the eminent Welsh Author and Playwright), Canon Hugh Williams, and Mr. K. B. Ling, Chairman of the Estate National Savings Committee.

The Committee has accepted an invitation to present "Ten Little Niggers" at the Workmen's Hall, Ynysybwl, in aid of the British Legion Benevolent Funds, and on this evening, Sir Thomas G. Jones, K.B.E., president of the Aero Zipp Fasteners Social and Welfare Club, has kindly agreed to take the chair. An invitation from Taffs Well to present the play at Glanyllin Hall, in aid of Church funds has also been accepted.

It can thus be seen that the Society has indeed a busy period ahead of it. The many invitations received from clubs, social and welfare organisations, etc., is a pointer to the remarkable progress the Society has made since it was re-formed. Looking back, it seems a

far cry from the small gathering of seven people who sat around a table in the canteen a year ago. Enthusiasm there was in plenty, but it seemed a forlorn alternative to the "Minuses"—money, props, stage furniture (and a stage), the cast, make-up, etc., etc.

The difficulties seemed insurmountable, but overcome they were. The Amateur Dramatic Society takes this opportunity of saying, in all sincerity, "Thank You" to the casts of "Hawk Island," "Housemaster," and "Ten Little Niggers," who cheerfully gave up their leisure hours to rehearsal, rehearsal, and yet more rehearsal, to those members of the Society, whose turn had not yet



MR. BILL ROBERTS, Producer and Stage Manager of the Amateur Dramatic Society.

come to assist in an acting capacity, but, far from being downhearted, piled in and assisted by prompting, acting as stand-ins, shifting props and with a thousand and one small but important jobs-of-work ; to the young ladies who helped serving refreshments and selling programmes ; to the management for their support and encouragement ; to Mr. Conway and Mr. Randall, who have been rocks of strength in the supply and maintenance of stage equipment ; and a special word of thanks to our Honorary Producer and Stage Manager, whose patience and skill has undoubtedly been the chief factor in the Society's successful season.

“ Ten Little Niggers ” will be presented about the time this issue of “ Punch and Die ” goes finally to press. It is thus hoped that photographs and a short rush account of the presentation may still be printed in this issue.

The Aero Zipp Amateur Dramatic Society sends Christmas Greetings to all at Aero Zipp and to our many friends outside the factory.

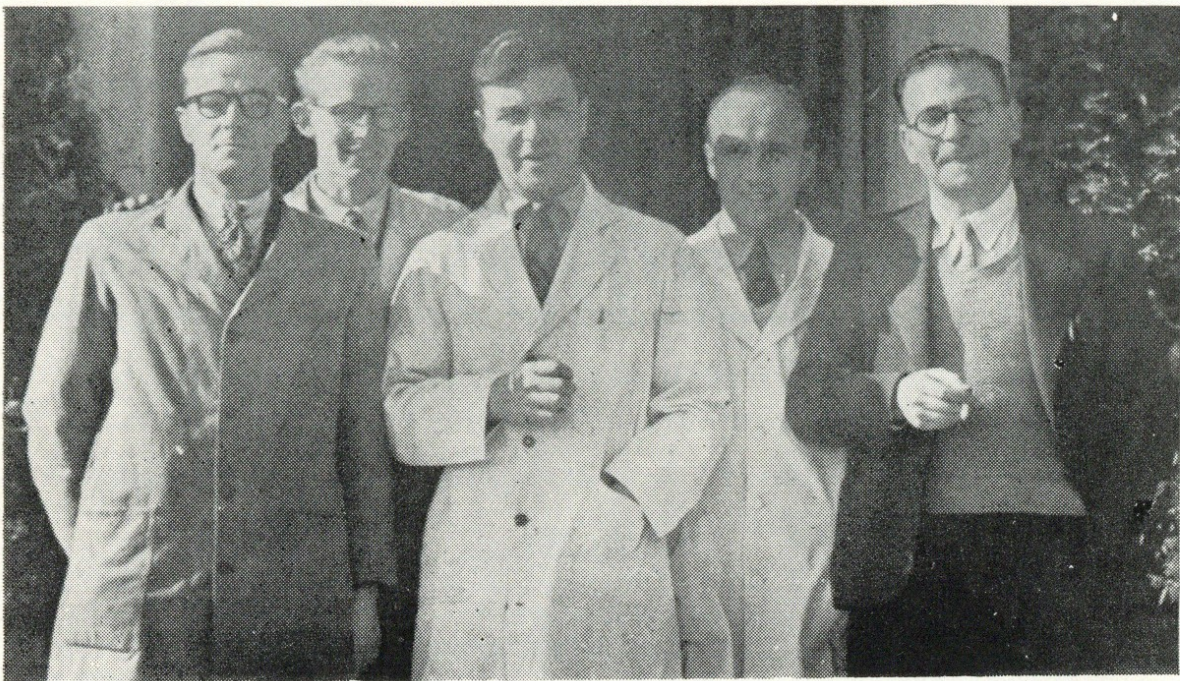
D. D. STONE,
Hon. Secretary.

Cast of “ Ten Little Niggers.”

Prologue	--	--	--	--	EVELYN RANDALL
Rogers	--	--	--	--	PAUL WILLER
Narracot	--	--	--	--	GEORGE CONWAY, Jnr.
Mrs. Rogers	--	--	--	--	BETTY TOGHILL
Vera Claythorne	--	--	--	--	MARGARET MONKS
Philip Lombard	--	--	--	--	DAN DAVIES
Anthony Marsden	--	--	--	--	BRIAN HOPKINS
William Blore	--	--	--	--	MERVYN JOHN RULE
General Mackenzie	--	--	--	--	HAROLD SALMON
Emily Brent	--	--	--	--	KATHLEEN UNSWORTH
Sir Lawrence Wargrave	--	--	--	--	ARTHUR TALFORD-EVANS
Dr. Armstrong	--	--	--	--	FRANK HARDING
Hon. Producer and Stage Manager	--	--	--	--	MR. W. Roberts
Hon. Assistant	--	--	--	--	Mr. A. Talford-Evans
Hon. Secretary	--	--	--	--	Mr. D. D. Stone
Prompters	--	--	--	--	Mr. C. Conway and Miss D. Wood
Make-up by	--	--	--	--	Mr. L. Pearce
Effects and Lighting	--	--	--	--	Mr. R. Randall
Stage Equipment	--	--	--	--	Mr. G. Conway, Snr.

Aero Zipp Fasteners Amateur Dramatic Society Committee :

Messrs. W. Roberts, C. Conway, D. Davies, L. Pearce, and D. D. Stone.



*The A.Z.F. Amateur Dramatic Society Committee
(left to right) Messrs. A. Talford-Evans, C. Conway, D. Davies, L. Pearce,
and D. D. Stone.*

TABLE TENNIS.

The Annual General Meeting of the Treforest Trading Estate Table Tennis League was held on September 1st, 1947, at Messrs. Helliwells' Canteen. The following officials were elected for this season :—

- Hon. President* - - - J. N. LAWES, Esq. (Manager of Messrs. Creeds).
Hon. Chairman - - - I. GRIFFITHS, Esq. (Aero Zipp).
Hon. Treasurer - - - G. JAMES, Esq. (Creeds).
Hon. Sec. and Fixture Sec. - H. ROLLASON, Esq. (Helliwells).

The Aero Zipp team has been weakened this year through the absence of Messrs. Ron Davey, V. Weber, and I. Beims, but we have continued our policy of introducing continually new players from the factory. The members of our section this season are Messrs. M. Stephen, L. Morgan, O. Adams, H. Ford, C. Wilkie, E. Wheeler, W. John, J. Schlachter, G. Thomas, W. Goody, and I. Griffiths.

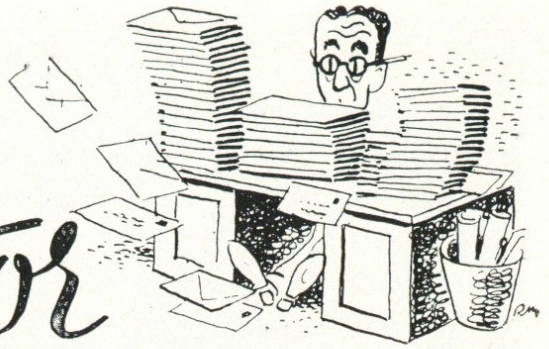
We have done fairly well to date, having won two matches and drawn two, and it is hoped that the Aero Zipp team will once again attain a high position in the League Table, as we did last year.

Here are the results of matches played up to 29th October, 1947 :

v. Creeds (Away)	Won	..	8—2
v. Simmonds Aerocessaries (Away)	Won	..	10—0
v. M.A.P. (Home)	Draw	..	5—5
v. Elliotts (Home)	Draw	..	5—5

I. J. GRIFFITHS,
Table Tennis Secretary.

Letters to the Editor



"Merry Christmas!"

BDR. ARUNDELL, 14136499,
299/105 H.A.A. REGT., R.A.,
STIFFKEY,
NR. WELLS-ON-SEA, NORFOLK.

DEAR EDITOR,

I received a copy of the "Punch and Die" and it was grand. I thoroughly enjoyed it, and when I had finished reading it, I passed it around the barrack room. All the lads were interested.

The firing season has ended so everything is quiet—no guns making a terrible row all day and work has been cut down considerably, for which I'm extremely glad! We've been working all hours of the day and night for the last few months, so it is time we had a rest. I will be glad to get back to Aero Zipp again, as the army is all work for a couple of months and hardly any for the next couple—You can't help getting fed up.

The factory has been greatly improved. I had quite a surprise when I saw it; more room, much better and bigger than the old one. I saw a lot of the lads who had been in the forces who have come back to the old firm once again. I see you are going to supply your own power if necessary, well that will ensure production

always, irrespective of fuel cuts.

I will be writing again before Xmas, so until then, Cheerio and all the best to all Aero Zippers,

Yours sincerely,

REG ARUNDELL.

J. ARTHUR RANK ORGANISATION LTD.,
PUBLICITY DIVISION,
IMPERIAL HOUSE, AIR STREET,
LONDON, W. 1.

17th September, 1947.

DEAR MR. STONE,

Thank you very much indeed for making Miss Crawford's visit to The Aero Zipp so pleasant.

I am enclosing a still, which I hope is suitably inscribed, for your house magazine.

Miss Crawford was very impressed by the most efficient and courteous manner in which she was looked after during her visit to the Trading Estate.

Yours sincerely,

J. McMICHAEL,
Personal Publicity Department.

2272540 A/c. HARVEY, T. J.,
c/o AIRMEN'S MESS,
S.H.Q. KAI-TAK, R.A.F.,
KOWLOON, HONG-KONG.

7th July, 1947.

DEAR EDITOR,

Just a few lines from one of the boys stationed at Hong-Kong, hoping that this letter will find all at Aero Zipp in the Best of Health.

I must first thank you for the last issue of "Punch and Die". I was very happy to receive it and I do hope you will keep on forwarding these on to me as it is nice to have news from home.



TOM HARVEY (right) and friend.

I hope all in the Anodising Department are still working as hard as ever as they were when I was there. If any girl in the Factory would like to drop me a few lines I would be so pleased as mail is very scarce out here and we all look forward so much to a letter.

I will close for now, so All the Best to all at Aero Zipp, from one of the Boys in the R.A.F.

Yours sincerely,
T. J. HARVEY.

2337501 A/c 2 GOUGH, W. G.,
HUT 73A, ROYAL AIR FORCE,
PERSHORE, WORCS.

Tuesday, 2nd September, 1947.

THE EDITOR,
"PUNCH AND DIE."

DEAR SIR,

Many thanks for the latest edition of "Punch and Die" which I received some little time ago.

This is, I think, quite the brightest and best yet, and the pictures of familiar faces and scenes brings quite a breath of home. Do go on printing more of them. The report of the opening ceremony of the extension was very full and lucid, and this must indeed have been a proud occasion for all concerned.

The accounts of the various activities, social and otherwise, helps one to keep in touch. I particularly liked the article about Messrs. H. J. Elliot Ltd., and look forward to seeing similar accounts of other firms in future issues. Such articles help one to know one's neighbours and are informative and educative at the same time.

You ask in your accompanying letter for anything interesting from service people. Well . . . I am stationed with Transport Command, miles out in the country, in fact, about half an hour's walk from the nearest railway station.

The camp was open to the public during the "Battle of Britain" Memorial celebration week, when kites (aircraft to you) of all kinds were on view, from Tiger Moths up to the latest jet jobs, and including such famous types as the Hurricane, "Spit", Halifax, York, etc. All sections of the camp including the control-tower, workshops, safety equipment section barracks, mess hangars and what have you, were visited by crowds of people who came in spite of our isolation.

Worcester, about ten miles north on the river Severn, which is the nearest large town, has a very fine Cathedral, parts of which date back to the ninth century, and contains the tomb of King John. There are also some very fine half-timbered houses and a beautiful Guildhall.

"Worcester Ware" china, famous throughout the world, is made here' and somewhat more up-to-date, the Heenan Froude Engineering Co., makers of very fine strip and wire working machines are located here too.

I enclose a copy of our camp magazine, hoping it may be of interest to you. Kindest regards to all and my very best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
W. H. GOUGH.

P.S.—Re the Aero Zipp "Little Man" Competition, how about the "Aero Zipper Nipper"?

WORKS CHOIR

Will those who are interested in the formation of a Works Choir give their names to Mr. Henson of the Teeth Department.

LATE NEWS



A scene from "Ten Little Niggers."

We are pleased to announce that the Aero Zipp Fasteners Amateur Dramatic Society has scored its greatest success to date with the recent presentations of "Ten Little Niggers"—adapted from Agatha Christie's famous thriller.

Three packed houses, including parties from many factories on the Estate, greeted the première performances in the A.Z.F. Canteen on November 17th–19th, 1947—in support of the Treforest Trading Estate "Silver Lining" Week.

The Society were honoured to receive Mr. Jack Jones (the eminent Welsh author and playwright), Major John Fraser (of the Estate Company) and Mr. K. B. Ling (Chairman of the Treforest Trading Estate National Savings Committee) as respective Chairmen on the three evenings.

Recent performances at Taffs Well and at Ynysybwl have added to the ever increasing popularity of the Society, as illustrated by the many invitations received to present "Ten Little Niggers" and future productions in many neighbouring towns.

A photograph of a scene from "Ten Little Niggers" appeared in the *Cardiff Times* of November 22nd, and the *Pontypridd Observer and Free Press* devoted a page to a full report and photograph. *The Observer* stated "For many of the members of the Society this was only their first or second appearance on the stage, and full marks must be given to them, and to their producer, Mr. Bill Roberts, for their excellent performance under difficult conditions, the chief of which was the diminutive stage."

Sir Thomas G. Jones, K.B.E., was Chairman at Ynysybwl, where the play was presented in aid of British Legion Welfare funds, and Mr. E. Engel, who had missed the première performances due to his U.S.A. visit, was also present.

We take this opportunity of congratulating the Society upon their splendid achievement.

LATE NEWS FLASHES

The Treforest Trading Estate "Silver Lining" Week was held from November 15th to November 22nd—and once more the Estate showed what it could do by smashing the £10,000 target to the extent of over £4,000. Aero Zipp finished fifth in the competition for the Bruce Cup—presented six-monthly to the factory with the best savings performance.

The Annual Christmas Dance will be held at Bindles, Cold Knap, Barry—the Social and Welfare Committee have great expectations that this year's event will even "outdo" last year's Gala event at the Marina, Penarth. A report and photographs will appear in the next issue of *Punch & Die*.

The Editor wishes to thank Mr. George Conway, Jr., for his help and co-operation as regards the supply of photographs for this issue, and those Aero Zippers who loaned photographs for the first of the series of "Aero Nippies."

