

# PUNCH & DIE





THE WORKS MAGAZINE  
*of*  
AERO ZIPP FASTENERS LTD.,  
issued from their factory at  
TREForest TRADING ESTATE,  
PONTYPRIDD,  
South Wales.

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# PUNCH & DIE

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APRIL, 1950

No. 21

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## FOREWORD

THIS issue of *Punch & Die* is the first to be edited by Miss Mitchell, and we hope that in future we shall see our magazine produced regularly every three months. A change of editor brings new ideas and it is perhaps timely that *Punch & Die* should be freshened up and its issue become a more important event in our factory. We wish Miss Mitchell every success in dealing with the task.

There are now so many of us that *Punch & Die* is needed more than ever before for keeping everyone informed of the news of the factory, because in the old days of 250 people news got about quickly enough without the aid of the written word.

Although we number nearly 700, you have not seen the end of development at Aero Zipp. We are very proud that after detailed consideration by several Government departments it has now been agreed that certain additions to our premises will be built during the coming year. In these days of strict building control such permits are granted sparingly, and when they are it is only to businesses which have made a good contribution to the production programme of the country.

In this issue much space is devoted to the activities of the Social Club. It may be, however, that our outlook on social activities will have to alter to suit changing conditions. The Christmas Dance perhaps left room for criticism in various ways. Apart from anything else it was apparent that with 600 people present something of the old party feeling gets lost. Perhaps we shall have to consider again the form which our activities shall take. The small activities of the Club are in some ways the most



successful. Dramatics, cricket, table tennis, etc., are each supported by a band of enthusiasts and all those interested make their individual contribution to the success. One may call these active affairs as distinct from the passive affairs such as dances and outings where large numbers come along to be entertained after a small number have done all the work. The encouragement of a variety of activities, each attracting a group of enthusiasts, is one of the most worthy policies which the Club could follow.

The last year was a successful one for Aero Zipp. Our technical development progressed rapidly, the quality of our goods continued to improve, a constant demand for our goods was maintained and everyone who gave his best to his job had reason to feel secure. These things are after all the things which matter.

This *Punch & Die* is just one of the means of maintaining good understanding amongst us. We hope you will enjoy reading it and look forward to and perhaps even contribute to the next issue.

G.S.H.

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For two of our leading articles we welcome two new contributors Mr. Bleddyn Williams, the renowned Welsh Rugby Captain, writes on "Rugby Football" and Mr. G. G. Hoare, of Messrs. J. F. Ratcliff Ltd., writes on "Brass." Many thanks go to them and to Mr. J. Backer, Dr. A. Feiner, Mr. W. Gough, Mr. W. John, Mr. G. Phillips, Mr. Geo. Conway (Jnr.), Miss P. Lewis and Miss W. Price for their co-operation and support.

ED.

## **Obituary**

MR. TREVOR CHURCHILL (SENIOR).

On the 23rd November, 1949, the death occurred of Mr. Trevor Churchill (Senior). His passing at the age of 53, and after being ill for three months made us aware that we had suffered a great loss. During the twenty-two months he had worked with us we all learned to like his cheery manner; he was very popular amongst the Fully Automatic Night Shift men, as he was the first inspector to start in 1948 on this job. His conscientious and reliable attention to his work at all times made him one of our key men and his passing left a gap in our factory family, yet this gap could only be small and our sorrow could not be compared with that felt by his wife, his son Trevor (of the Machine Room) and his two daughters, to whom we could only send our deepest sympathy.



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# THE MATERIALS WE USE

## BRASS

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By Mr. G. G. HOARE

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THIS alloy of copper and zinc which we use in such vast quantities—how many of us handling it daily know really very much about it? Of the first three we approached, the second hazarded at a mixture of copper and tin (this is actually bronze), and the other two didn't know—not didn't want to know, it was just a case of they hadn't liked to ask someone.

Let us consider Brass, which falls into two quite complex groups, as simply as possible and confine ourselves to the cold-working group with which we are primarily concerned, known as Alpha Brass and containing usually not less than 63 per cent of Copper.

Of the Copper portion, the ore generally comes from Canadian or Rhodesian mines, the best Empire sources, which account for about 30 per cent of the world's production; or when dollars are available, from the Lake Superior district of North America. After mining it passes through a complicated series of smelting and refining processes involving four to six major operations.

In the end, a metal with most marvellous characteristics—apart from gold the only coloured metal—possessing excellent electrical and thermal conductivity, malleability and resistance to corrosion, etc.

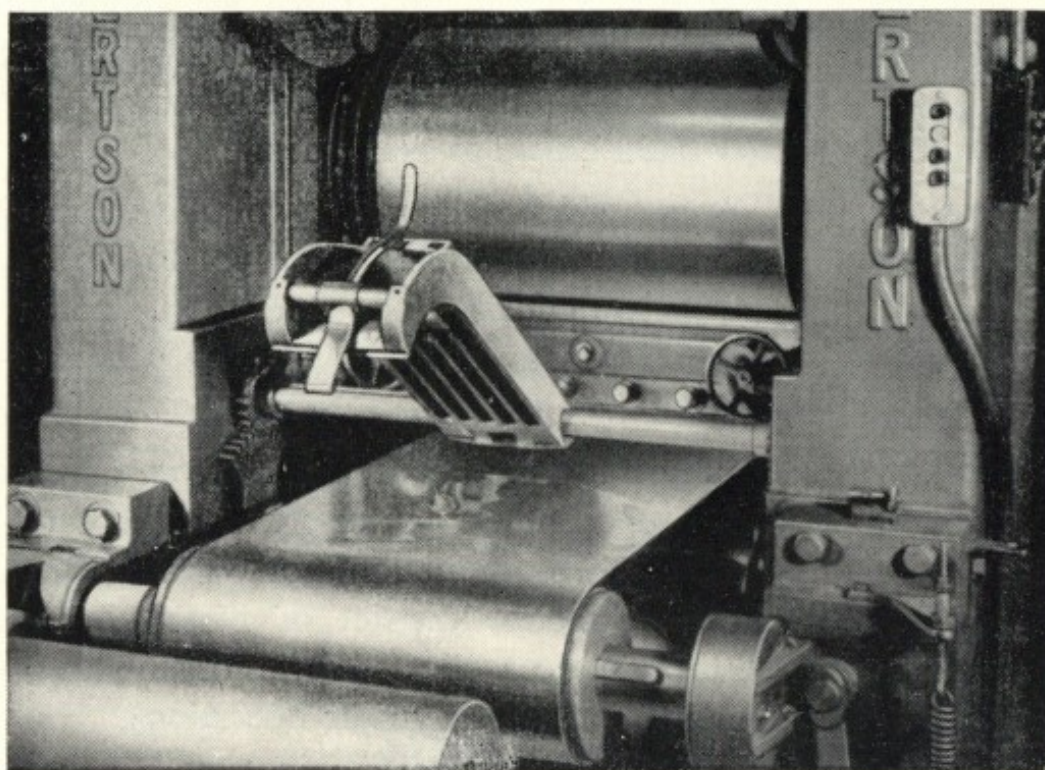
Zinc, its partner in the alloy (Brass) is white and obtained from blende ( $ZnS$ ), or calamine ( $ZnCO_3$ ), and during its production, sulphuric acid is now obtained as a most important by-product. It reaches this country from many sources, Australia, Norway predominating, and even Japan. Our suppliers virtually dissolve the zinc in the molten copper at well over  $1,000^{\circ}$  centigrade in their low-frequency electric furnaces, giving a liquid solution of a uniform nature, which exists even when the brass solidifies, if the the copper content is no less than about 63 per cent.



After casting into the form of a thick slab (ingot) about six feet long and two inches thick, which is "milled" on both faces, the "Strip" passes to the Rolling Mills.

This is then rolled down with carefully regulated and much inter-stage annealing to the finally required thickness and temper (or degree of hardness).

As the brass strip passes between the rolls of the mill, its shape and cross-sectional area is reduced by compressive action and its hardness increases in proportion to the percentage of this reduction. Hence the reason for these repeated annealings,



A 4-high Mill rolling brass twenty-four inches wide at .012 inches thickness. (The two 9-inch diameter working rolls in this mill are backed up top and bottom by two 20-inch diameter rolls.)

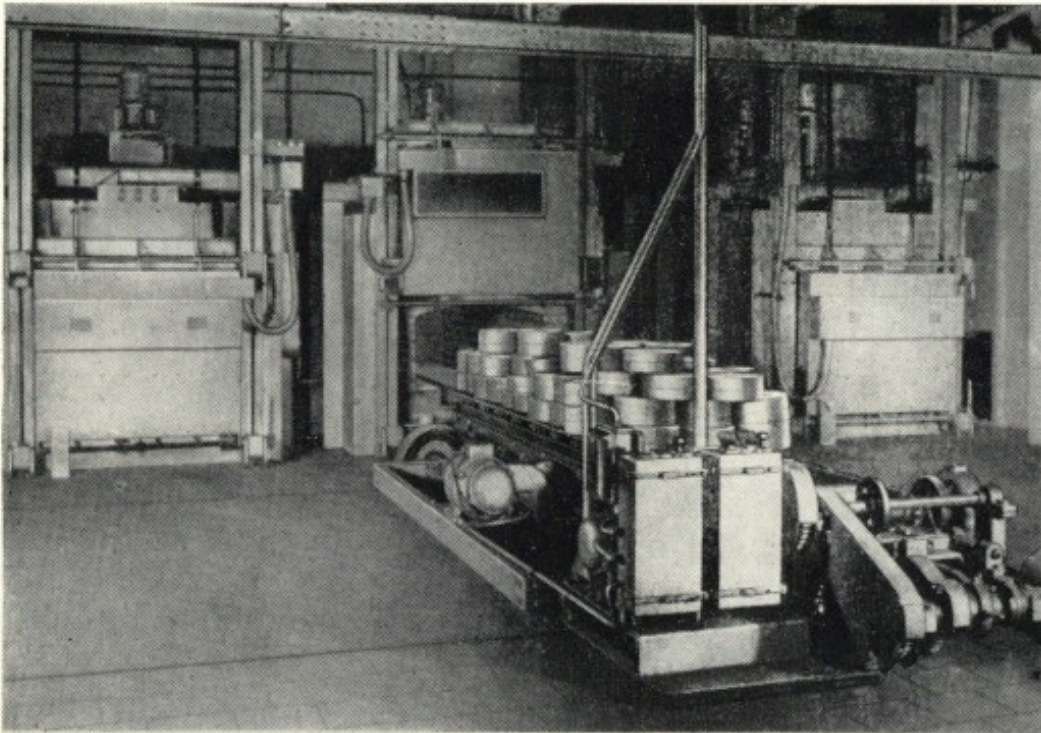
the main function of which (there are others), is to render the metal soft and ductile, the degree of which can be varied by controlling the temperature of the anneal in relation to the percentage of reduction.

This brass which arrives here often only ten thousandths of an inch in thickness, supplied to an exacting specification (much closer than the normal British Standard!), of width, thickness, etc., started its life as an "ingot" two inches. It has probably



been rolled on anything up to six different mills besides all the auxiliary equipment and often has four runs (passes) on the same mill, often reaching speed measured in hundreds of feet per minute controlled by "flying micrometers" and the latest electronic control gear.

Brass can be drawn at two to three times the speed of ferrous metals and with less tool wear. When working in this alloy the waste material has considerable scrap value, and it is important in considering the engineering uses of metals to balance against the first cost of brass, the lower labour cost, lower annealing and tool charges, fewer rejects and the value of the scrap.



A Gibbons - van Marle Automatic Charging Machine loading coils of brass into a 200 k.w. Electric Furnace for inter-stage annealing. (Five hours at 600° Centigrade).

It will thus be realized that headaches are by no means all at our end, particularly as the brass we are considering is normally all sheared into the required strips from much wider material and yet we demand the limits normally looked for in drawn or extruded brass.

This call of ours for accuracy and consistent quality is one of the many initial steps taken to ensure maximum perfection in our finished product.



# TEN-YEAR AERO ZIPPERS

The tenth anniversary Christmas Dance marked the occasion of the presentation to Miss Betty Toghill, Mr. Winston Gough, Mr. Reg. Randall, Mr. Thomas Sheppard and Mr. Harold Ford of inscribed wristlet watches.

It was during the dance that messengers were sent to find them as they were required on the stage from which Mr. K. B. Koppel had been speaking, and as they came forward, each one was congratulated by the Managing Director and the presentation was made, to mark the occasion of their ten years' service.

Now let us read of their fame during their ten years' work in the factory.

**Miss Betty Toghill** came to Aero Zipp on the 16th November 1939, and has seen Dispatch grow from being herself the only one, seated at a small desk in a corner of Finishing Room, to being as she is now senior of nine dispatch clerks.



She is a staunch member of the Dramatic Society and a keen worker at all Social and Welfare functions. In her spare time she likes doing embroidery and reading.

**Mr. Winston Gough** first started work in the tool room of Aero Zipp on the 23rd October, 1939. For a short period during the war served with the Royal Air Force and shortly after returning to the factory was appointed foreman of Machine Room. Has seen the factory grow from a total of less than one hundred employees engaged in making only "baby" fasteners to its present state.



In his spare time is particularly interested in woodwork, cabinet making, drinking beer and smoking cigars.



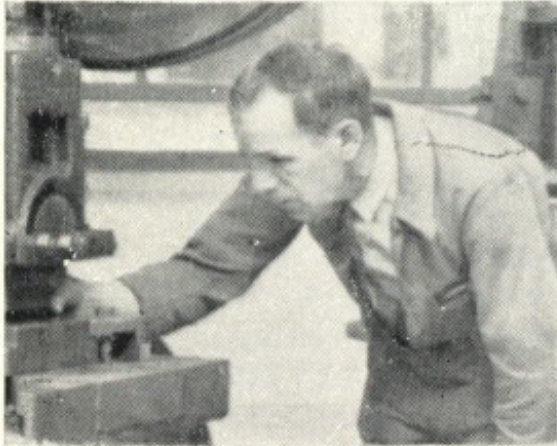
**Mr. Reg. Randall.** During the week he started with Aero Zipp in November 1939, two other electricians had been taken on and it was remarked that his possible stay in the factory might not be very long. Electrical work and tool making were his first concerns but when the war came he took charge of the Plating Shop and developed the anodising for war contracts and in addition dealt with finishing off of parachute trays for flare bombs, having fitted up a plant for spot welding and spraying of these trays.



He had also to inspect all aircraft parts as he was the only A.I.D. Inspector in this department. In 1946, he took charge of development in the tape sewing department, when the factory first began to make their own tape.

His main hobbies are model engineering and model car racing. He was the originator of the letter-headed notepaper used by the Social and Welfare Club. Is a staunch member of the Social and Welfare Club and can always be found working behind the scenes.

**Mr. Thomas Sheppard** started at Aero Zipp in October, 1939, as a tool room fitter, then transferred to Slider Department making tools, jigs and fixtures. During the war he worked on the night shift making detonators and bomb parts. Is now in the Finishing Room as a maintenance fitter.



He was one of the originators of the Factories Dance Band known as the "Aeronomes" and is a keen player of the drums.

**Mr. Howard Ford** started with Aero Zipp in October, 1939, but for a period of six years due to the war he was serving with the Royal Navy and served in the Far Eastern waters. Upon returning, he



joined the Teeth Department and later transferred to the Machine Room Inspection.

He takes a very active part in the cricket and table tennis teams of A.Z.F.



# TO MYRA

*I have squandered erudition,  
Wasted pints of midnight oil,  
With no sign of recognition  
To reward me for my toil.  
Do not treat me in this fashion  
Myra, stand not thus aloof,  
Of the greatness of my passion  
Let these verses offer proof.*



*From a host of working neighbours  
You alone I've claimed as mine,  
Sole recipient of my labours,  
Breathing love in every line.  
All unknown amidst a thousand  
Must I sacrifice my art,  
Swear in secret all my vows and  
Sing unto a silent heart?*

*There is none who loves you better,  
Though you leave me thus alone,  
And no word, nor smile, nor letter,  
Comes to tell me I am known.  
How I wish that I could hire a  
Poet from Elysium  
To interpret to you Myra,  
What I feel—for I am dumb.*



*Loving, lonely, undetected,  
Let my verses plead my case.  
This is not what I expected  
When I first beheld your face.  
Then I saw a radiant splendour  
Hover o'er the homely zips,  
And I hoped that time would send a  
Means of access to your lips.*



*Must those lips remain untasted,  
And the love and passion there,  
Be inevitably wasted  
For the want of one to share?  
Let us take our lunch together,  
Share the sandwich, cake and tea,  
And if given genial weather,  
Take a walk, my sweet, with me.*

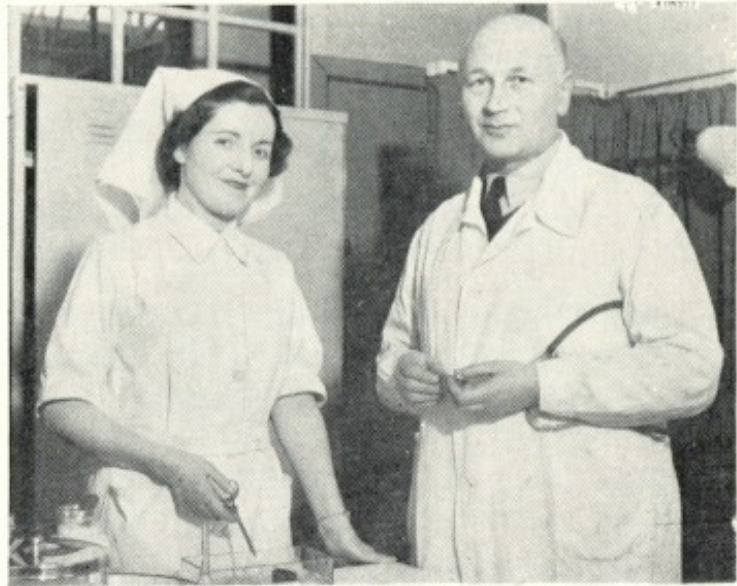
*Fitter.*



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# GENERAL HYGIENE and YOU



*By* Dr. ALFRED FEINER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.D. VIENNA.

**W**HEN you are in a reflective mood sometimes you might think of friends who have passed away before having reached adult life and you might ask yourself: "Why did they die before me?" Fortunate circumstances might have prevented you from the same fate, for you are just as much exposed to any infection as they had been, perhaps to the same infection, but a good mother might have told you always to use plenty of soap and water and to be careful about sharing things which might carry infection.

Just imagine a healthy baby born into a world which is teeming with hostile little animals—which we now might start to call Bacteria. They all want to live, and what is more to live on the body of the little baby. Of course, as in every tale there are good fairies in this hostile world, for all Bacteria are not adverse to the baby's health and one might go as far as to say that without certain Bacteria life might be impossible, yet there are some of these little animals out to do a great deal of harm.

Fortunately quite a lot is known about the bad behaviour of bacteria and we are able to advise you on how to meet the dangers, and it is here where hygiene comes in. It teaches you how to avoid attracting these tiny beasts and what to do to prevent their spread and growth. These conditions are particularly important at a place where a few hundred people are together in a comparatively limited space for most of the day.

Hygiene, of course, must start in the home, and as you know, bacteria live on the skin and mucous membranes (nose, mouth, etc.) of human beings. The first rule must therefore be strictest cleanliness to try to get rid of as many bacteria as possible by means of soap, water and toothpaste. By keeping our skin clean we also deprive the bacteria of a suitable breeding place, for the





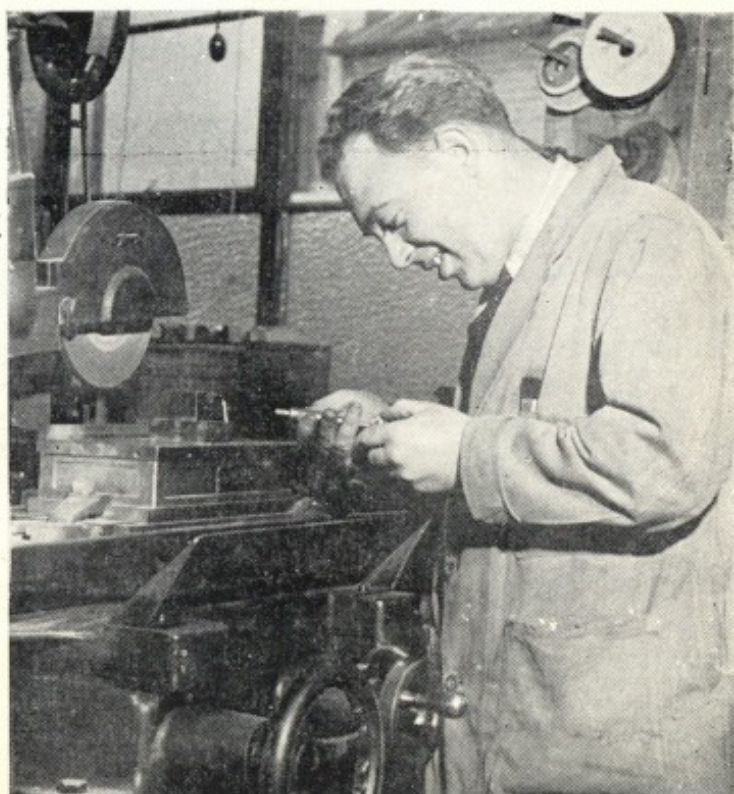
# GEORGE takes a walk ..

*Hearing the rattle of "Money Bags" he stops to investigate and finds our wage office with Maelgwyn Morgan, Vivian Thomas and Pamela Williams very intent on their Friday morning job.*



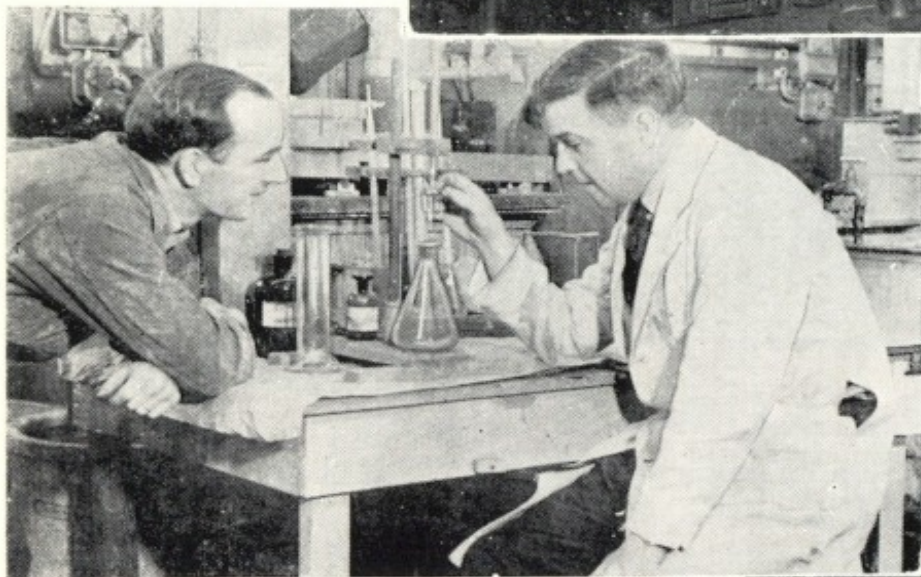
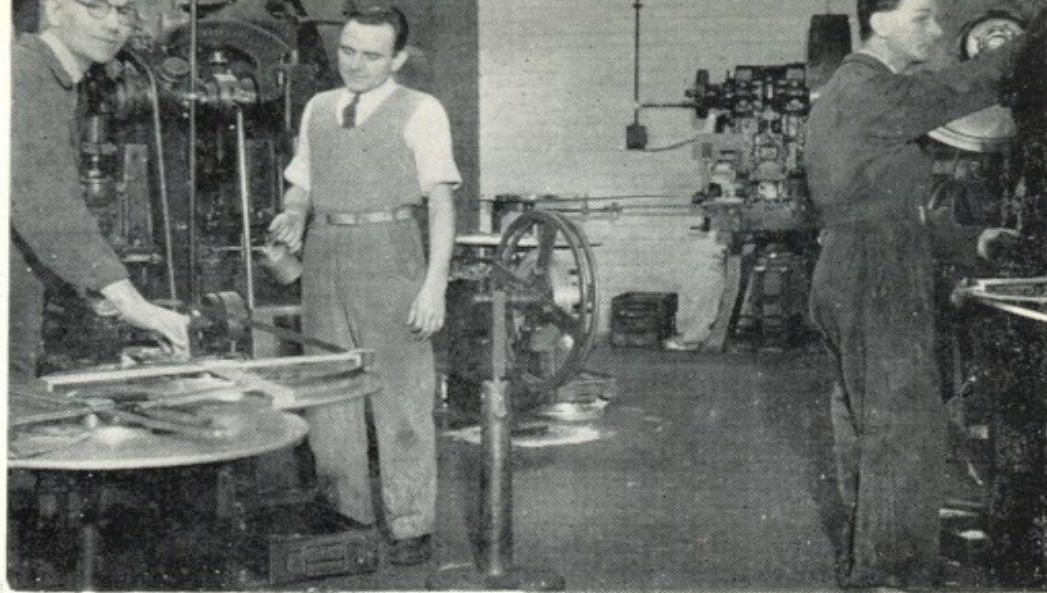
*He then dashes along just in time to catch "The girl with the golden voice" Betty Lewis, about to make an announcement.*

*His attention was next drawn to the Grinding Department where he found Tom Harrison wearing a very satisfied grin.*





*He was very lucky when visiting O.Z.P. for he found Jonathan Crews receiving expert tuition from Bill Williams, our five-year press attendant, whilst veteran Ted King is busy with the production of half hoops.*



*On then to the Plating Shop just in time to catch Dan Davies and Ted Howard testing free cyanide in the process of copper plating.*

*Passing by the Progress Stores he caught Wynne Price enjoying a huge "Progress" joke.*



*The night watchmen then came in for his attention—Dan Williams was about to "light up" whilst Tom Davies was on the alert.*













are as fast as three-quarters, and in defence they form a second row which attackers have to break down before they can beat the opposition to score. They have a great influence on the modern game as was seen at Twickenham this season. The Welsh back row of Evans, Gwilliam and Cale completely subdued the English halves and prevented England from attacking behind the scrum.

The only answer to these modern back-row forwards is a long pass-out from the base of the scrum or the line-out, supported by backs who can run and pass accurately at top speed.

In International matches, defences generally get the better of attacking backs and opportunities to score are few.

The Australians who visited these shores in 1947-48 had a magnificent defence, and they rarely had their line crossed. This style of play appears to be the main theory of South Africa's success in the recent matches against New Zealand.

Talking of rugby tours, much importance is attached to the forthcoming visit of the British team to New Zealand and Australia this summer. Within the Empire and France, the game is a big part in maintaining the good relationships of the peoples.

In Wales we take the game seriously, far too seriously perhaps, but our fame as exponents of the game is known all over the world. The success of the country is due to the sportsmanship of the boys in the schools, the players and officials in the smaller clubs, as well as the players who gain fame on the international grounds of the four home countries.

I feel there is a great opportunity for Youth Rugby in Wales. If all the first-class clubs could manage to run Youth XV's, they would ensure a ready flow of first-class players into their sides. The senior members of the clubs might well help the youngsters and put them on the right road to success.

The main attributes of any successful player are a complete knowledge of the Laws of the game, perfect physical fitness, an idea of the style of play of his fellows and his opponents, and a love for the true spirit of the game.

Play to win, but play fair !



# AZF DRAMATIC SOCIETY



## *“Week-end at Stormes”*

**A**T 6.30 p.m. on the night of October 19th, after two months' rehearsals the curtain rose again on another and we can say, happily, very good show given us by our Dramatic Society.

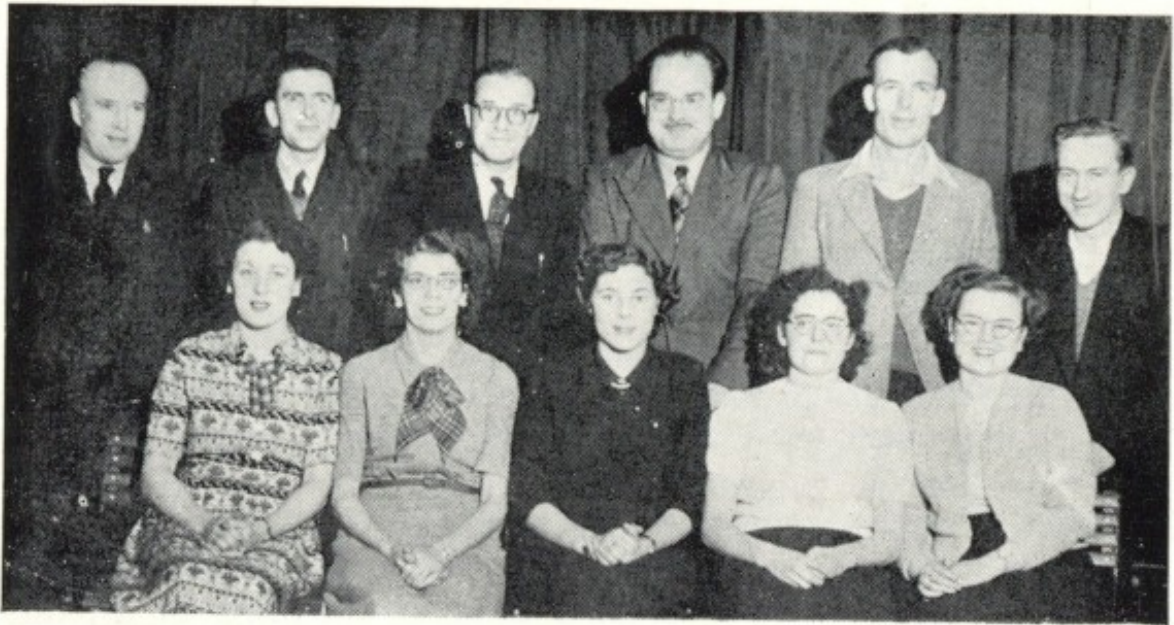
“Week-end at Stormes,” a play in three acts by Henry Smalley, ran for three nights to a most appreciative audience of over three hundred. It gave the entire cast, which had been so excellently chosen, chance to romp around and bring to us, the audience, a true feeling of family life, with its many misunderstandings. The kittenish pranks and catty remarks from its female members, ironical rejoinder from the irritated males, dithering but determined mannerisms of the older members, certainly worked the audience up to a great state of curiosity and got us laughing in the right places.

Each actor and actress gave individually of his or her best, but our warmest appreciation goes to Mr. Harold Salmon, who put over a remarkably good show, never once allowing his personal feelings to betray him, for on the night previous to the show his father had died.

The spontaneous acting on the part of the entire cast reflects much credit upon the producer, Mr. Bill Roberts. During the whole period of rehearsals he had been untiring in his patience, energy, and never sparing with his encouragement. Often he thought the entire cast to be a most stubborn lot, but he did not despair. We give him our sincerest thanks and a very big hand for his perfect producing. This was the fifth show he has helped us to put on and we look forward to having his great help and guidance for many more shows.

There were so many amusing incidents throughout the entire rehearsal time and during the play. Much head scratching and hard thinking had to be done to provide the cast with costumes. The male crowd certainly proved a problem, but happily at the eleventh hour all went well. The cucumbers, which you will remember George the Gardener (Mr. E. Wheeler) found so difficult to grow, also caused us much concern. It was certainly only a stroke of luck that produced two correctly deformed ones (according to script) and the two straight ones, yes, so straight, were produced in our own factory by the hands of our one and only “Chippy,” Mr. George Conway, whose inspiration saved the situation again. After the show these were offered for





sandwiches to Mr. Robinson, the Canteen Manager, but with an expert's eye he soon detected their woodiness and declined the offer. The usual first night dilemmas were added to; firstly, because there was such a small party "out front." By now you all know that an A.Z.F. "First night" is not a dress rehearsal but the real thing—do remember this next time, because it gives the cast so much more confidence to have a full house first night. Secondly, it was the first cold night of the year and this had not been anticipated, and as Mr. H. Cook and Co. (Maintenance Department) had not been encouraged to do anything about the heating, many of the audience had very chilly fingers and toes. However this did not prevent them from enjoying the ices which were served during the interval. On the following nights the heating was laid on and the packed houses were more pleased with the ices.

We give our sincerest thanks to our Management for their full co-operation and help in getting the show on, to the Social Services, Cardiff, for the loan of curtains and spot lights, to Messrs. Broderick, Queen Street, Cardiff, for the loan of furniture, the whole of the Social and Welfare Committee who did so many things to add to the smooth running of the show, to Mr. and Mrs. Robinson for preparing refreshments, not forgetting Miss Queenie Chidgey, Miss Doreen Jones, Miss Connie Davies, Miss Joan Wyatt and Mrs. Matti Dyke, who dashed around with ices and served tea, sandwiches and cakes in a very professional way, also Maintenance Department for their great assistance throughout the entire performance.

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As this magazine goes to press, the Dramatic Society are hard at rehearsals of "To-day is mine," a play in three acts by Tudor Watkins, of the School House, Abertridwr, Caerphilly. So we can soon look forward to some announcements as to the date of presentation.



# Joint Production Committee

By WILLIAM JOHN (*Secretary to J.P.C.*)

Joint Consultation in industry has been widely advocated during the war and post-war years. Theoretically it promotes better relations, creates a team spirit and gives the workers more interest and responsibility.

What has been achieved by Joint Consultation in actual practice? What, and this is more important to us, has been our experience at Aero Zipp? Bluntly, the truth is that we have not been notably successful in our venture. Nevertheless, we need not feel unduly pessimistic or discouraged, because a similar position exists in a large number of factories, in the majority, in fact.

I have found great difficulty, when writing these notes for successive editions of *Punch & Die*, to give anything but a very meagre outline of our activities. To catalogue various items and suggestions which have been dealt with in Committee would throw little light on our activities and would in the bargain be of little interest. The minutes of each meeting are reported on all notice boards, but I am afraid that they are read by only a very small minority.

What I would like to do in this report is to try to encourage you to take a more active interest in the Joint Production Committee. The Committee cannot possibly give of its best if you do not try to support it. It can become a mere sham or a useful method of co-operation between management and workers, depending to a very great extent on your attitude towards it.

You need little prompting from me as to what your attitude has been up to now. Difficulty in obtaining nominations for representatives, lack of interest amounting to sheer indifference, are two of the main characteristics.

It is obvious to even casual observers that that is the position at Aero Zipp. What is not so apparent is the cause for it. Are you of the opinion that it is not worth while to have a Joint Production Committee? If so, why? What do you think is wrong with the Committee? Can you suggest any remedies? Why are you so reluctant to let your name be put forward for election as your department's representative?

Let us find the answer to these questions and we will have taken a step towards solving our problem. I ask you in all sincerity to consider those questions, ask yourself what is your own attitude. Can you honestly say that you are giving the Committee the support it needs and deserves? I repeat, consider these questions, and write out your answers and opinions and place them in the suggestion box. The Committee will then consider them and I hope that from this we will be able to instil a new life into our Joint Production Committee and make it the success that a few of us have patiently waited to achieve.



# Aero Nippies



Brian, six year old budding engineer, already a Meccano expert, and Twenty-month old blue-eyed blonde Susan, his sister, who are the children of Len Morgan of Tool Room.



Diane and Susan, daughters of Syd Witherington of Tool Room, attend the Severn Road School, Cardiff.



Pride and joy of the family, three year old Diane, daughter of Richard Parker, Tool Inspector.

Marilyn has a birthday on the 27th September, she is the daughter of Hans Rupprich, Grinding Department.



Eight-months old Barry, "First of the few," says father, Roy Hartnell of Die Casting.







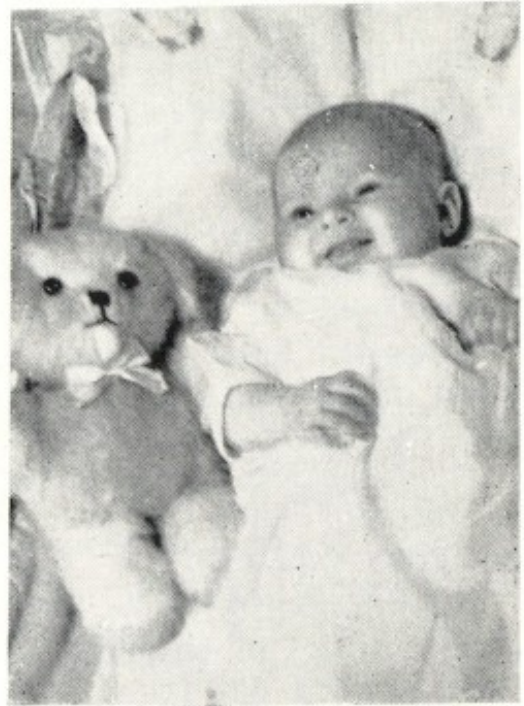
*Valerie, daughter of Jerry Collins, Machine Room, was born on 25th September, 1949.*



*Patricia, daughter of William James of Grinding Department, is five years' old.*



*Brian (Jimpy Junior), the youngest son of Bryn Davies, Tool Room Inspector.*



*"Blue Eyes" Margaret Jane, born 16th October, 1949, is the daughter of Fred Perry, O.Z.P. Department.*



*Gwyn, son of Ted Harrison, Grinding Department, who is going to be a driver not a grinder.*



# ON VISITING THE NUMBER NINE COLLIERY, TYLORSTOWN

On Sunday, January 1st, 1950, a party consisting of Mr. J. Backer, Mr. Webber, Mr. R. Morris, Mr. E. Whetter, Mr. Reg. Probert and Mr. W. Gough were enabled through the good offices of Mr. Dai. Daniels to visit the No. Nine Colliery, Tylorstown.



After a general explanation of the working and progress of the coal face, the party retraced their steps, inspected the underground stables, the main haulage engines and then returned to the surface.

An old friend of Mr. Daniels met and conducted the party. After being issued with electric lamps and safety helmets they descended the five hundred and sixty yards shaft, taking about half a minute.

From the bottom, roads lead away in all directions. Taking the road to the east district the party were led along, matters of interest being pointed out and fully explained.

Roof supports, traffic control and numbers of employees, all came into the discussion, and as the active workings were reached the conveyors and power controls were explained.

As the working face was approached, roads became appreciably narrower and lower, more congested and much rougher to negotiate, until the "gate" or end was reached. Here, the more intrepid of the party clambered into the coal face itself and in a height of only three feet six inches, not much higher than the average kitchen table, the methods of digging out coal were explained.

Here on returning their lamps and after washing, the group visited the spotlessly clean winding house to inspect the electrical and haulage machinery used to lower and raise the pit cages.

On leaving, the next place of interest was the near-by Generating Station. Erected in 1907, and with most of the original equipment of British, Swiss and German origin still in operation, the station supplies electric power to near-by collieries and neighbourhoods and also compressed air for operating the underground machinery. Here again the greatest courtesy was shown to the whole party.

Finally, the hospitality of the local working-men's club was extended, where the party met and chatted with several of the men employed in the colliery and spent a short but interesting time amongst the miners there.

All agreed that the morning had been extremely well spent and left with a much fuller understanding of the difficulties and dangers encountered in winning the nation's very life blood from the bowels of the earth.





## GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIAL & WELFARE CLUB

A General Meeting of the Social and Welfare Club was held in the Canteen at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, 9th February.

The Chairman reported that during the term of office of the Committee there had been too many changes amongst the Committee members which had necessitated much re-arrangement of Committee procedure. There had been a great lack of support at all dances and social functions from the club members, which was very discouraging. The balance sheet was more healthy than last year although from time to time during the year money had to be taken from the funds to pay bills incurred for most of the dances and social functions. This would not have been necessary if the support had been greater. He was pleased to state that during the year twenty-eight hardship cases had been helped.

The Accountant's report and balance sheet was read, this showed a balance of £259 5s. 2d., as at 31st December, 1949. It was unanimously agreed that the balance sheet be accepted.

In his summing up of the Accountant's report, Mr. Hart stated that as the Committee handled £1,000 per year (three-fifths of which was derived from the firm), on behalf of 600 members, it was essential that the whole affair should bear scrutiny at all times. He thanked the retiring Committee for the hard work they had done during the year, and Mr. Jones, the Accountant, for carrying out the audit. It was obvious, he said, from the balance sheet that all dances during the past year had not been a financial success and it would perhaps be wisest to foster the smaller activities of the club.

Mr. John reported that many club members were not aware of the Hardship Committee and asked for details of its workings. The Chairman reported that it consisted of the Nurse, Welfare Officer and one other Committee member who considered in confidence and strictest detail all cases reported or brought to their notice.

Mr. John asked whether the Sickness Benefit Grants could be re-considered; after discussion it was unanimously agreed that the income would not allow such regular demands to be made upon it.



It was unanimously agreed after full discussion that it would be better for each Department to elect their own representative on the Committee. The form the election should take was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that it be done by ballot. The date of the election was fixed for the week of the 23rd February.

Mr. Bill Fowler proposed a vote of thanks, Mr. W. John seconded it.

In replying, Mr. Hart said he would certainly inform the Directors and Management of the way in which their help had been appreciated. He was confident that the more worthy and successful the activities of the club became the greater would be the support of the Directors and Management.

The meeting closed at 7.5 p.m.

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### GRAMOPHONE RECITALS

These have been a great success and have now become a very popular feature in our factory life during the lunch hour breaks on Wednesday and Friday. It is a pity more people cannot find it convenient to stay for the evening recitals, but the small group of regular listeners thoroughly enjoy the occasional evenings.

We have to thank Mr. Jones the Leader of the Boys' Club, Pontypridd, for so kindly lending us records with which we were first able to start our recitals. Now the Glamorgan Further Education Department have kindly agreed to our belonging to their record-lending library. We are very fortunate in that we are the first factory to be serviced by this library, and by the many enthusiastic listeners who attend the recitals regularly it is obvious that the privilege is appreciated, and Mr. Meredith Jones, Organizer of Further Education has been told of this.

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### TABLE TENNIS SECTION

Once again the season ends, and stills the quick tapping of the ball over the net and the soft padding of the players' feet as they fly around the table in their frantic efforts to return the elusive little globe.

We look forward to Autumn with the start of yet another, and I hope, more successful season (at least for us). We would like to see some new faces around the table too, so roll up and join our Merry Band.

We would like to thank the Social and Welfare Club and Mr. Robinson the Canteen Manager for their help during the past year.

'RACKET'



## FREE LENDING LIBRARY

Since its opening on the 21st October last, many employees have made use of it and now we have one hundred regular readers; but there are still too many who forget to return their books and have to pay a fine of a penny for every week or part of a week they are kept over the fortnight.

Two books are available to any employee free of charge. The Library is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 12.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m.

The seven hundred books with which the library was first started were kindly given to us by the Chief Librarian of Pontypridd. I explained to him how many keen readers we had in the factory and how often it was not possible to get books from the public libraries in our home towns after returning from work. As he had previously withdrawn the books we now have from circulation he said he was prepared to let us have them providing good use would be made of them. This I assured him would be done and they were collected immediately and during the following two weeks they were fumigated, sorted and numbered ready for the opening day.

From time to time new books will be added, bought with the money collected in fines. If you wish to read a certain book, which you know other people will also enjoy, just let me know. If you have any good cloth bound books at home that are no longer required, do not hesitate to bring them along to the library here.

It has already been possible to purchase monthly magazines which may be read in the Conference room during the dinner break; if you would rather have other publications than these which are provided, please let me know.

M.E.F.M.

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## SPRING FASHION PARADE

Amongst the really exquisite evening skirts there was one in colour 130, in a slender form made in satin with overlapping petals of colours 141, 113, and 136.

Linen coats were elaborated with rich embroidery in colours 134, 122 and 150. Linen skirts of 120 shade had appliquéd in miniature leaves of 125 braid.

A favourite shade theme is a fabric which shades through varying depths of 135, to 143 or 144.



# CHILDREN'S PARTY

THE hall was decorated with bunting of all colours and colourful paper balls, bells and fans were hanging from the chains of bunting. There was a Christmas tree, so tall that it nearly reached the ceiling, and it was decorated with fairy lights, crackers, cotton-wool snowflakes and tinsel. This greeted the one hundred and twenty six children between the ages of two years and twelve years who came to join in the fun at the party held in the Shelley Hall, Crossbrook Street, Pontypridd, on the 17th December, 1949.



When each child had chosen a fancy hat and selected the right seat for a good feast, the M.C., Mr. Thomas, welcomed them all and told them to "eat up" and leave nothing, and whilst they were carrying out these wishes the photographer dashed around and took them all busy with finger and spoon.

In the lesser hall, Mothers and Fathers were looking after hats and coats and being served with tea, and although they enjoyed their tea they were actually aching for the time when they could join in the fun upstairs with the kiddies. This was soon possible, for when the kiddies had finished eating, Fathers helped to move the tables to make room for the next entertainment.

Whilst the furniture was being moved, some of the kiddies admired the Christmas tree, others pulled crackers and some told Mr. Thomas of what they were expecting Father Christmas to bring for them on Christmas morning.



When all was ready for the fun, Mr. Thomas asked them if they had seen clowns, and as all of them had, he had no trouble in drawing their attention to the two clowns who were falling over their own shadows in the gangway between the chairs upon which the children were sitting.



The clowns romped about for some time and fell in and out of a large wooden box. Some of the children were asked by the clowns to blow up balloons, which went off "bang" just too quickly. After cheers from the children the clowns disappeared and Mr. Thomas told the children that they were going to see the adventures of "Pop-eye the Sailor Man" as a film show was the next attraction. Adventures of Billy Bunny and the story of a baby chimpanzee were all included in the show, and everyone enjoyed the show so much and were very sorry when the hour was over, but greater things were to come, and whilst the screen was being taken down, Mr. Thomas and the children sang songs.



When it was known that Father Christmas was in the building the excitement was great and amidst loud cheers the curtain lifted and there on the stage was Father Christmas surrounded with large boxes full of presents, one for each kiddy. Father Christmas told them how he had come a

a very long way through ice and snow and had caught a very bad cold, unfortunately, and could not therefore shout too loudly, but each child listened carefully for their name to be called and it was such fun receiving the present and undoing it.

Six o'clock soon came round, so after giving a rousing cheer for the fun they had all had, each kiddy left for their homes clutching an apple, two oranges and a bun.

Special thanks go to all the kind helpers who made the occasion such a happy one; this includes Miss B. Toghill, Miss W. Price, Miss N. Roberts, Miss P. Lewis, Miss B. Pearce, Miss L. Jones, Miss E. Davies, Miss C. Davies, Miss N. Toghill, Mrs. M. Dyke, Mrs. N. Thorne, Mr. H. Cook, Mr. B. Evans, Mr. H. Salmon, Mr. W. Gough, Mr. M. Jones and Mr. E. Wheeler, also to all members of the Social and Welfare Committee and Mr. Thomas, the M.C., who helped to make the party go with a swing, Mr. G. Phillips, who in his role of Father Christmas was the most popular man in the room, Mr. McCarthy, the Warden of the Educational Centre from whom the hall was hired, and to Mr. Jones, the Youth Club leader for lending so many incidental items which helped during the afternoon, and to the two clowns, Mr. J. Bishop and Mr. L. G. Gregson, who caused much fun for everyone, themselves included.



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## *Annual Dance, 1949*

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Very early last year the Social and Welfare Committee were very much aware that by Christmas our factory would have grown so large that it was going to be very difficult to get a hall large enough to accommodate everyone. They made many applications for suitable halls in and around the

Then began lots of very hard work for the Committee—transport had to be arranged, routes for the buses and picking up points had to be planned, bus marshalls had to be appointed to each bus to direct the drivers—and all this had to be done in the minutest detail. Orders for paper hats, invitation cards



district but it seemed these had been booked up for months in advance and things looked pretty grim for the Annual Dance date. Then the Committee heard of the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, so it was agreed to book the hall for the night of the 22nd December, 1949.

and prize draw tickets had to be placed and dealt with appropriately. These were only a few of the many details that had to be thought of; however, at last everything was set for the night.

All the buses ran into Porthcawl fairly close together, and a very brightly lit Grand





Pavilion greeted everyone and prepared them for a really festive evening. The lighting and decoration inside the hall, too, was most attractive. The snow scene which decorated the stage was most fascinating, with large snowflakes chasing each other down.

It did not take long to get to know the inside of the hall and everyone soon found their way around quite easily. The band was in very good form, so by 8.30 p.m. the dance began. The M.C.s, Mr. Sid Levene and Mr. C. Hunt, and members of the Committee distributed paper hats of all shapes to the dancers, in fact so great was the demand for paper hats that one of the Committee members began to think that he had entered for a rugger scrum, as he found himself rolling about on the floor trying to control the box of hats, which everyone wanted at once.

In the lesser hall, Mr. Winston Gough and his eight helpers were busily working with bottles and glasses, serving beer, cider and wine to all who wanted refreshment. It was very

hard work all the evening for these "Gallant Nine" for they grew more and more popular as the evening grew older and the conditions under which they were working were not ideal, but they made light of the difficulties and consequently added to the pleasures of the evening.

Everyone had heard that the Managing Director Mr. K. B. Koppel was going to speak during the evening and as it was the occasion of the tenth anniversary this was looked forward to with much pleasure, but it was a huge surprise that Mr. Koppel sprang on five of the employees who had been with the Company for ten years. Details of the Presentation to these five "old timers" appear earlier.

Mr. Koppel spoke of how his father in 1938 had founded the factory and of its small beginnings and its many difficulties in comparison with its now great achievements and successes.

After the short speech the dancing continued with great gusto, snowballs were flung around, each containing a







novelty. There were spot prizes too, and booby prizes which brought much laughter from amongst the dancers.

The prize drawing was the next big event and caused great excitement. Mr. Harry Bonus kindly drew the first ticket from the drum and announced that Mr. Reg. Arundell was the lucky winner of the turkey.

So the evening progressed with more dancing, drinking and eating, and much laughter until at 1.0 a.m., when everyone clasped hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne"; it was then all over for another year.



Warmest thanks go to our Directors and Management who made this evening possible for us and to Mr. S. Levene and Mr. C. Hunt who acted as M.C.s, Mr. W. Gough, Mr. Geo. Courtney, Miss Queenie Chidgey, Mr. Dai Daniels, Mr. Jack Watkins, Mr. Dai Jenkins, Mr. Nick Kehoe, Mr. Richard Parker and Mr. Henry Bassman for acting as barmen, also to each member of the Social and Welfare Committee for the work they did prior to and during the evening.



The mistakes of 1949 will be remembered and it is hoped before we are many more weeks old in the year 1950, that a much more suitable hall will be booked, for although everyone had had a very good time, there was a general feeling that the hall had not been really quite suitable for an A.Z.F. dance, as all refreshments had to be kept in the lesser hall; the dancers had been too split up. The narrow stone staircase leading to the lesser hall was another grim obstacle, but fortunately there were no accidents upon it.



# SHOP TALK



Overheard by PAMELA LEWIS.

## MARRIAGES

Our most sincere wishes for the future happiness of those Aero Zippers who have married recently.

**Miss Joyce Vickery** (General Office) to **Mr. Jack Yeates** (Drawing Office) on 27th December, 1949, at St. Mary's Church, Glyntaff. Honeymoon—Bournemouth.

**Miss Violet Price** (Machine Room) to Mr. Fred Jones, on 24th December, 1949, at St. John's Church, Miskin.



Mr. and Mrs. J. YEATES.

**Miss Joan Lewis** (Finishing Room) to Mr. Len Jones on 17th December, 1949, at St. David's Church, Hopkinstown.

**Miss Glenys Lewis** (Sliders) to Mr. Graham Talbot on 26th December, 1949, at Eglwysilan, Abertridwr.

**Miss Betty Green** (Sliders) to Mr. Len Bridge on 26th December, 1949, at St. Thomas's Church, Clydach Vale.

**Miss Jean Lewis** (Finishing) to Mr. David Hanks, on 3rd December, 1949, at All Saints Church, Trealaw. Honeymoon—Weston.

**Miss Wenog Gwilym** (Finishing) to Mr. Arthur Hulbert, on 28th January, 1950, at Penuel Chapel, Ynyshir.



**Miss Doreen Jones** (Machine Room) to Mr. Jimmy Llewellyn on 29th December 1949, at Ebenezer Chapel, Pontypridd. Honeymoon—London.

**Miss Phyllis Newton** (Finishing) to Mr. Roy Thomas, on 29th December, 1949, at St. David's Church, Miskin. Honeymoon—London.

**Miss Ivy Down** (Development) to Mr. Tom Kibble on 26th December, 1949.

### ENGAGEMENTS

Best wishes to :—

**Miss Beryl Pugh** (Personnel Office) to **Mr. Gordon Price** (Machine Room).



Mr. and Mrs. ROY THOMAS.



Mr. and Mrs. J. LLEWELLYN.

**Nurse Nancy Evans** to **Mr. Bill Morris**

**Miss Olwen Simons** (Finishing) to **Mr. Howard Ford** (Inspection).

**Miss Mair Oliver** (Development) to Mr. John Phillips.

**Miss Marian Gould** (Development) to Mr. Jim Payne.

**Miss Audrey Williams** (A17) to Mr. Teddy Ottery.

**Miss Moira Blackmore** (A17) to Mr. Peter Burke.

**Mr. Howard Roberts** (Tool Room) to Miss Eirwen Nash.



