

30th June, 1943

Mr. T.J.P. Dart was engaged as an electrical fitter to-day.

1st July, 1943

The Club held their Annual Sports in the grounds to-day. All the usual events were staged, and various members of the staff have been seen practising for weeks - sprinting, high jumping, putting the weight, etc. etc. No doubt we shall have the usual crop of sprained ankles, and strained muscles, but everybody seems to be enjoying themselves to-day anyhow. Miss Jenkins of Petroleum Section is 21 to-day, so we have good reason to celebrate.



3rd July, 1943

Mrs. Dick, T.P.C.III in Pay Office resigned to-day. We shall miss her genial personality - it is rumoured that a happy event is expected in the not-too-distant future.

6th July, 1943

Mrs. H.R. Heard was engaged for labouring-cum-clerical duties in the Stores.

Heard



7th July, 1943

Miss M. Grimesdell, one of the most popular girls in Aircraft Equipment Division is 21 to-day. Congratulations from all her friends.



M. M. Grimesdell
Signature

12th July, 1943

Major H. Myers, assistant Director of Materials H.Q. has been transferred away, and is succeeded to-day by Capt. L.T.G. Mansell. Mr. P.C. Murphy comes into the Department as examiner in the Micro Section, and Miss M.G. Turner - a diminutive figure - comes as a laboratory assistant in the same section. Mr. R.J. Ward is transferred here as "I.O.G" (Gauges).

3.7.43

14th July, 1943

Mrs. N.M. Hale was engaged as T.F.C.III in Accounts to-day, and Mrs. R.M. Weston, wife of one of our industrials, comes as labourer in Gauge Stores.

15th July, 1943

Mr. L. Bevan, who joined Materials H.Q. at the end of June was transferred to-day to North Western Area.

17th July, 1943

Mr. C.G. Shepperd of Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred away to-day to Rugby. We had an interesting little ceremony in the Conference Room to-day when a presentation was made to Mr. H.W. White, Fitter-turner. He is resigning after a long period of service with A.I.D. - his official record says it is 19 years 115 days - and during all this time he has never once lost any time through lateness. A proud record, may he enjoy his well-earned retirement.

19th July, 1943

Mr. P.L. Stride, A.I.1, came to us to-day as replacement for Mr. Shepperd. As a result of some demand by the industrial staff, a "Works Committee" has been formed here, and the first meeting of this Committee was held to-day. It will enable members of the Trade Unions to discuss administrative and other matters with the official side.

21st July, 1943

Mrs. H. Hannam, the stout, genial mother of one of our tracers, commenced part-time duties as a T.C.III in Provisions Dept., and another T.C.III, Mrs. F.L. Baker-resigned.

23rd July, 1943

Miss M.W. Bradshaw, another of our 1938 "originals" was transferred away to-day for duty at London Area. This will probably mean some promotion for her.

24th July, 1943

Two of our recent additions to Aircraft Equipment Division left to-day - Mrs. G.M. Chalmers on transfer, and Miss J.M.L. Naish who has resigned.

26th July, 1943

Miss J.V. Norton, assistant examiner in Metrology Division, was transferred here after training.

31st July, 1943

Miss J.D. Crook (a second Joan Crook!) assistant examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred here after training.

W.F. Shilling
3rd August, 1943

The staff of Materials H.Q. was enriched to-day by the appointment of two new Assistant Directors - Dr. W.G. Shilling and Dr. E. Gregory. Both hold high scientific degrees, and Dr. Gregory is the author of a number of standard technical works, some of which have been translated into several languages - including Russian. Mr. P. Brain, chief examiner, Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred here, as was also Miss I. Greenwood, assistant examiner in Non Metallic Materials.

4th August, 1943

These are eventful days for Materials H.Q. for following on the appointment of new Directors yesterday, the staff to-day moved into the new offices in the "huts" across the lawn which are now ready for occupation.

5th August, 1943

Mr. H.J. Brooker - father of W.F. Brooker - was engaged as a packer in the Stores to-day.

The fourth Annual Garden Party was held in the grounds this evening. The usual side-shows and stalls, together with some rather novel competitions, provided an enjoyable time.

7th August, 1943

Miss F. Kay, examiner in Metrology Division, was transferred away for outside duty to-day.

11th August, 1943

Miss G.M. James, a Welsh girl who comes to us from her University studies at Aberystwith, commenced duty as an examiner in the Chemical Laboratory. Our present size demands some additional messengers, so we engaged four young local girls from school to-day. They are Miss E.D. Hall, (daughter of our part-time electrical fitter); Miss E.W. Thomas, (daughter of one of our warders); Miss A.J. Osgood, and Miss P. West. ("Eddie", "Else", "June" and "Pat") If they show sufficient intelligence they may have a chance of re-grading as junior clerks in due course.

E. Thomas

14th August, 1943

Mrs. M.A. Smith, cleaner, resigned. A good worker, but usually discontented. She resigned on grounds of ill-health, though we suspect she is really taking up another employment.

16th August, 1943

Mr. P.A. Clyne, who has been back with us on temporary attachment for a few weeks, was finally transferred to R.A.F. Records, Ruislip, to-day. Miss S.M.V. Green was engaged as another examiner in Non Metallic Materials Division, and Mr. J.J.K. Rhodes, examiner in 'Physics' laboratory left us on transfer.

J.J.K. Rhodes

20th August, 1943

Mr. G.S. Sims was engaged as an electrical fitter to-day.

23rd August, 1943

Mr. D.O. Evans who was formerly an Instructor in the Training School was transferred back to us to-day. Mr. S.J. Geal was engaged as a laboratory assistant in Metrology Division. He is a sufferer from epilepsy we hear, so we must watch him closely.



24th August, 1943

Mr. S.A. Whybrow was engaged as another electrical fitter to-day.

26th August, 1943

One of our Test House 'Doubles' took place to-day, when Mr. T.E. Jones and Miss L.E. Hawkins were married. Two popular members of the staff, they are the recipients of best wishes from us all.



30th August, 1943

A fifth young girl was engaged as a messenger to-day. She is Miss E.E. McMahon, who lives in Park Lane, Harefield. Miss G.M. Heard, examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division who came to Harefield from Kidbrooke, was transferred away for outside duty to-day.

1st September, 1943

Miss E.M. O'Neil - "Eileen" was re-graded as temporary typist from messenger. She has been having training and shows some promise.

3rd September, 1943

By the desire of H.M. The King, the Broadcast Service on the anniversary of the outbreak of War was heard by all staff who wished to listen. A speaker was installed on the lawn and quite a large number gathered round to participate in what was a memorable service.

6th September, 1943

Mr. A.C. Yorke, A.I.I., of Metallic Materials was transferred to London Area to-day. He will be missed here, chiefly on account of his duties as Civil Defence Officer, Fire Guard Chief, First-aid attendant, and Captain of the Home Guard. Truly a man of many parts!

7th September, 1943

Another outstanding day in our history when Test House was honoured by a visit from the "Boss" - the Rt. Hon. Sir Stafford Cripps, K.C., M.P., Minister of Aircraft Production. Accompanied by a number of high officials he visited all sections of the Test House except the clerical, and was apparently favourably impressed by all he saw.

9th September, 1943

Mr. N. Lindley, Inspector, Metallic Section, joined the staff of Materials H.Q. to-day.

11th September, 1943

Mrs. A. Douglas - wife of Mr. J. Douglas, labourer - was engaged as a cleaner to-day.

13th September, 1943

Miss M. Holt, examiner, was transferred here to-day for duty in the "Conditioning Room", otherwise Textile laboratory.



M. Holt

20th September, 1943

Two new examiners for Materials Division to-day - Mrs. C.F. Money in Non Metallic, and Mr. J.B. Pollock in Metallic. Mr. Pollock seems to have a very supercilious air - perhaps we can tame him. Miss Betty Stainton - daughter of our former chief examiner - was engaged as a laboratory assistant in Aircraft Equipment Division, and Mrs. E. Barrett was engaged as a cleaner. Mr. L.J.H. Wray, examiner in Metallic Section, was transferred away. Although most of our eligible staff have been doing fire-guard duties voluntarily, from to-night it becomes compulsory, so woe betide any would-be dodgers.

E. Barrett

27th September, 1943

Mrs. E. McMahon - mother of our messenger - was engaged as a cleaner, and Mrs. N.P. Tyrer, examiner, was transferred away at her own request.

28th September, 1943

Mr. W.E. Weston, labourer, who had been with us for a long time died to-day after a brief illness. Much sympathy is felt for Mrs. Weston who has been staying at home to nurse him.

29th September, 1943

Miss Dorothy Whyte, a rather attractive local girl, was engaged as a Trainee Typist to-day. Mrs. I. Milton, cleaner, resigned.



30th September, 1943

Miss M.R. Bennette, examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division, resigned to-day. Although the envy of many girls here for her personality, looks, figure, and social position, she lacked one great asset - good health, and is really rather delicate.



4th October, 1943

Mr. A.E. Russell, examiner, was transferred here for duty in Mechanical Test laboratory, and Miss J.L. Messer, one of the assistant examiners in Aircraft Equipment Division, resigned. Another resignation to-day also was Mrs. E.R. Page, Registry messenger.

6th October, 1943

Two new laboratory assistants were recruited to Aircraft Equipment Division to-day. Both have just left Bishopshalt School and seem to be quite bright girls. One is Margaret Thomson, a fair girl and the other Margaret Stoddart, daughter of a man well-known in local musical circles.

8th October, 1943

Mrs. Dennison, cleaner, resigned to-day. So now we have practically completed five years at Harefield, with our staff numbering 314, excluding Headquarters.

11th October, 1943

* Miss M. Helliwell, a robust North country girl with a strong Lancashire accent, joined the Non Metallic Materials staff to-day as an examiner.

13th October, 1943

Mrs. L.E. Collett, cleaner, commenced duty - or is it "re-commenced" - her name seems to be familiar?

14th October, 1943

New regulations have been issued by the Government regarding Fire-Guard Duties. This means that the numerical strength of our teams will have to be increased, and nearly all staff will be roped in to take turns of duty. A meeting was held in the Conference Room this afternoon when the Superintendent explained the new scheme to us all.

16th October, 1943

Mrs. Giles - who came into Metrology Division as Miss Bradshaw, but has since married - resigned to-day. There are rumours of another happy event pending.

18th October, 1943

Dr. D.W. Browne, Assistant Inspector in Non Metallic Materials, returns to the environs of Test House to-day on attachment to Materials H.Q. Rumour says that his attachment to H.Q. is not his only attachment here, and that at least one fair member of the staff will be glad to see him back. Another recruit to H.Q. staff to-day was the appointment of a new Inspector of Cordage - Mr. Thos. Carlisle, (one of our staff thought it was actually a more famous namesake reincarnated!) Another cleaner, Mrs. Fane also commenced duty to-day, and a pleasant addition to the Typing Pool was the coming of Miss J. McMickan, Shorthand-typist, on transfer.

* see Corrigenda, Note 5.

20th October, 1943

A new laboratory assistant joined the Aircraft Equipment Division to-day, in the person of Miss E.V. Brown, whose home is in Canterbury.



25th October, 1943

Two new cleaners were engaged to-day for glass-washing duties in the laboratories - Mrs. N. Alderton, and Mrs. D.A. Pipe. A new typist also commenced duty to-day - Miss M.S. Laker, who comes from Rickmansworth. If Gentlemen really prefer blondes, she stands a good chance of preferment.



26th October, 1943

Glass-washers come, and glass-washers go, so Mrs. L.A. Smith resigns to-day.

27th October, 1943

Two more additions to our industrial staff to-day, as Mr. W.A. Bates, gauge-maker, and Mr. J.H. Stevens, stoker, commence duties in their respective spheres.

28th October, 1943

Mrs. C.R. Beal, T.F.C.III. of Pay Office staff leaves us to-day. We understand she wishes to join her husband, who has been posted North.

29th October, 1943

Rumours are circulating that ere long we shall be housing further sections of H.Q. branches at Harefield, and a "Directors Mess" will be necessary. In preparation for this, the Accounts branch was moved to-day from the old house to temporary quarters in the Conference Room. Here they will stay until a more permanent home is found for them.

2nd November, 1943

A cruel blow was dealt us to-day when we were all shocked by news of the tragic death of Miss B.M. Wright - "Betty" - one of the brightest members of our Typing Pool. To-day was her birthday, but instead of her coming in with her cheery smile, came news that she had been killed by an Underground train at Baker Street. Poor old Betty, it will take us a long time to recover from this, and she leaves a gap which will not easily be filled.

B. M. Wright
Signature

8th November, 1943

J. Joyce
A number of changes in Materials H.Q. staff to-day, when Mr. J.H. Joyce was transferred away, while Mr. A. Fenwick and Mr. Senior arrived. Mr. K.G.A. McCracken, a tall good-looking young fellow was engaged as a laboratory assistant in Metrology Division. Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, labourer and cleaner, resigned to return to London. We lose two quite good workers in them.

9th November, 1943

Mr. Senior
Mr. E.G. Porter, examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division, was transferred away to-day. He has been in Test House for some long time, and will be missed by several friends - by one in particular it is said.

11th November, 1943

Mr. E.C. Fry was engaged as an instrument fitter to-day.

15th November, 1943

Mr. L. Pilborough, senior Instructor of the School, left Harefield to-day on transfer to one of the London Districts. His rather "school-boy" appearance, and his genial manner made him a general favourite, and we shall miss him.

16th November, 1943

Congratulations to Miss M.L. Spurgin, who is 21 to-day.



22nd November, 1943

For some weeks, we have had the builders in the Canteen, and since the end of October we have been eating in the office (mess designate) vacated by the accounts branch and in the office adjoining. The kitchen staff have been labouring under extraordinary difficulties, having to carry all dishes across a cold (and often muddy) yard to the tables - all honour to them for a very gallant effort. To-day, however, our troubles in this particular direction are over (we hope) for the new Canteen is opened to "traffic". More than double the size of the old, it is rather a barn-like place, but perhaps with suitable decoration can be made quite comfortable. At least we have room to move about. Two new labourers were engaged for Stores work, Mr. H.G. Craft - a very strong-looking chap, and Mr. L. Iveson, who seems just as frail. Mr. P. Brain was transferred away on outside duty.

24th November, 1943

Miss G.I. Kinvig, assistant examiner in Metrology Division, resigned to-day for reasons of ill-health. She has been ailing for some time, and is at last compelled to give up her duties. Her sister remains with us.

G.I. Kinvig
Signature

1st December, 1943

Two technical staff additions to-day, when Mr. C.J. Ratcliffe comes to Materials H.Q., and Mr. H. Royce to Non-Destructive tests (X-Ray).

C.J. Ratcliffe

2nd December, 1943

Two tragedies in four weeks is more than we should expect, but we lost another member of the staff by death to-day. Mr. H.J. Staples, T.C.III of Accounts Section met his death this morning whilst cycling to the office. His clerical abilities were not great, but he was a very gifted musician. Holding the degrees of L.R.A.M. and A.T.C.L., he was well-known as a composer of Church Music, and his death is a great loss to a very wide circle. Mr. S.J. Geal who came to Metrology Div. as a laboratory assistant has deteriorated sadly in health, by reason of his attacks of epilepsy, and we really dare not retain him any longer. He was discharged to-day.

H.J. Staples
Signature.

6th December, 1943

Mr. S.F. Hendra, the last surviving representative of "I.C.S.2.a" was transferred away to-day. His convulsive laugh, and breezy (or should it be wheezy?) manner was noteworthy, but he had the gift of hiding himself in the maze of Laboratories and Offices so successfully that he was generally known as "the invisible man". He could never be found when he was wanted. Another Fitter-turner, Mr. T.P. Condon, was engaged to-day.

T. Condon



7th December, 1943

The 'powers that be' have decided we must have a whole-time Civil Defence Officer, so Mr. W.F. Gibson arrived to take up these duties to-day. He will be in charge of all fire-guard and civil defence arrangements. We ought to feel safe now. Mrs. D.A. Pipe, one of the cleaners engaged recently, resigned, and Miss A.M. Sidey, assistant examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred away.

W.F. Gibson

8th December, 1943

Miss J.D. Crook, another assistant examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred away.

11th December, 1943

Miss J.P. Parker and Miss J.M. Brewer, two more of the same "batch" of "A/Es of the A/E" went to-day on transfer.

14th December, 1943

Mr. A.J. Walpole, T.C.III, was discharged to-day. He had his good points, but his general air of supercilious superiority was at times insufferable, and his work was not all that could be desired. He was one of the best-looking fellows in the Test House and was a Lieut. in the local Home Guard, but we really can't keep him any longer.

15th December, 1943

Miss E.M. Linford, who comes from Hillingdon, was engaged as a laboratory assistant in Aircraft Equipment Division to-day.



18th December, 1943

We held our first Christmas Party in the new Canteen to-night. I suppose we must make allowances for War-time conditions, but it seems difficult to create a 'party' atmosphere in this room, of course the floor does not compare with the Conference Room for dancing.



*

20th December, 1943 X

To-day Miss E.L. Holmes of Paint laboratory is 21. All her friends join in their congratulations to her.

E. L. Holmes
Signature

22nd December, 1943

Miss J.V. Norton, examiner in Metrology Division, was transferred to Birmingham at her own request.

28th December, 1943

Our last staff movement this year (we expect) is Miss I. Greenwood who also transferred to Birmingham - to join our detached Unit - G.C.S.U. which moved from Goffs Oak to St. Augustines Road, Birmingham in September. The War situation seems to be moving towards its climax; next year will either make us or break us - it will make us, of course.



3rd January, 1944

Our first staff changes of 1944 are the coming of Mr. A.C. Reeves, H.C.O., on transfer from Leatherhead, and the loss of Mr. L.W. Oldham and Mr. W.E. Lumley, both of Non Metallic Materials Division, who are transferred away on outside duty.

7th January, 1944

Mr. H.F. Oberholzer joined the staff of Petroleum Section as examiner. He has lost one leg and uses a crutch, but seems to be able to do amazing things despite this handicap.



* see Corrigenda, Note 6.

14th January, 1944

Mrs. V.F. Smith - or Mrs. Stanley Smith I think she prefers to be called - joined the clerical staff of Materials Headquarters. She hails from Denham.

17th January, 1944

Mrs. P.H. Morfitt was engaged as an additional telephone operator. She is the sister of Christine Wymer, laboratory assistant in Micro Section. Mr. W.H. Rogers, senior examiner, was transferred here from the Midlands, for duty in the Radiological Division.



18th January, 1944

Mrs. N.G. Lyon was engaged as T.F.C.III for duty with Materials H.Q. She does not appear to be quite the type suitable for clerical duties, but perhaps she will turn out all right.

20th January, 1944

We had to discharge Mr. T.J. Dart, electrical-fitter. His time-keeping and general standard of behaviour were not all that could be desired.

24th January, 1944

Miss E.M. King was engaged as a laboratory assistant. She is only young, but appears very mature for her age.

26th January, 1944

This year promises a crop of 21st birthdays, and the first is Miss D.W. Harding who is 21 to-day. We wish her all the best.



28th January, 1944

Our second '21st' this year is Miss B. Child, who attains her majority to-day. Congratulations to her.



B. Child
Signature

31st January, 1944

The work of raising by one storey the three wings of the Test House has been in progress for some time. One Wing has now been completed and Materials H.Q. have moved into this from the Huts across the lawn. This leaves the Huts free for clerical offices, so Accounts branch have gone there to-day from the Conference Room and Provision Office from the old House. Miss Doreen Richardson - a vivacious blonde girl - was engaged as a laboratory assistant in Metrology Division.

5th February, 1944

The Conference Room being free again, we can resume our Social Functions there. To-night it was the turn of Aircraft Equipment Division to stage a show, and right well they came up to scratch. The setting was Mid-West American, complete with Redskins, Ranches and to crown all, an exhibition of the famous "Can-Can" Dance, by six girls of the Division. A really fine effort and worthy to rank with the best we have seen so far. Earlier in the day the A.G.M. of the Club was held, when it was decided to form a Benevolent Society.

7th February, 1944

Now that Materials H.Q. have more room to themselves further sections - I.N.M.4 and 5 - were transferred here to-day from town. Mr. Warner, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Griffin are the personnel concerned. Miss P. Davis - who it seems combines efficiency with bulk - was transferred here for examiner duty in Aircraft Equipment Division, and Mrs. D.K. Mann was engaged for part-time duties as T.F.C.III in Provisions Office. We also had a change in our Warder staff to-day when Mr. W.J. Brailsford was transferred to Kuislip, and Mr. F.C. Marlow engaged in his place.



8th February, 1944

Mrs. G. Marson, T.F.C.III in Pay Office resigned to-day. We are sorry to lose her, but domestic responsibilities call her away.

10th February, 1944

Mr. P. Rowbotham, who seems to go and come with some regularity, was transferred back here to-day for duty in Non Destructive Test Section.

14th February, 1944

Another former "inmate" of Harefield returned to-day when Mr. N. Mundy was transferred back to Materials H.Q. Mr. L.G. Tottle was engaged as a senior examiner in Metallic Materials, and Miss L.M. McGrath - a very fine well-built girl - was engaged as laboratory assistant in the Aircraft Equipment Division.



15th February, 1944

With the Conference Room available, we are able to take advantage of the M.O.I.'s news-reel films, and the first of these was shown at lunch-time to-day. Very interesting these, and we hope to have more of them. Our good wishes to Miss Helliwell of Non Metallic Materials who is 21 to-day.

21st February, 1944

Mr. H.K. Lloyd was engaged as examiner in Micro Section to-day, and Miss T. Oldroyd, assistant examiner, was transferred to Mechanical Test laboratory.

22nd February, 1944

Miss Mary Rees, one of our popular laboratory assistants from Chemical Laboratory, resigned to-day. She lives at Kingsbury and finds the journey too long, so has obtained a post nearer home.

28th February, 1944

Mr. F. Hendry, examiner, was transferred here for duty in the Metrology Division.



29th February, 1944

The resignation of Mr. H.R. Fleck, A.I.I. from Materials H.Q. took effect to-day. He had been away sick for some time, and the termination of his appointment was pleasing both to him and us. We also had to discharge Miss P.M. Greenhill with effect from to-day. Poor girl, she had a mental attack some months ago, and has been under care in a home, but there seems little prospect of her being fit enough to resume duty.

1st March, 1944

Mr. T.O. Earp, examiner, was transferred here for duty in the Paint laboratory.



3rd March, 1944

Miss J.T. Greenwood, laboratory assistant in Non Metallic Materials was discharged. Her fondness for the opposite sex has made her known as "the girl with the one-track mind". Her health has not been too good of late.

4th March, 1944

Miss M.E. Bush, laboratory assistant in Metrology Division, resigned to-day, and Mrs. M. Boorman of Mechanical Test Section was transferred away. Mrs. Boorman was a lively character and we shall miss her.

6th March, 1944

Miss E.A. Chapman, examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division reported for duty to-day on transfer. She has been at Harefield before, having studied on the first Divisional Training Course. Miss M.D.H. Wright was engaged as an examiner in Metallic Materials. She is a Scots girl, and an M.A. of Scottish Universities. Mr. M. Weeden, a rather "nervy" type of man was engaged as a T.C.III in Accounts.

M.D.H. Wright

8th March, 1944

Mrs. J.M. Bridal, wife of Mr. A.F. Bridal, our ex-Kidbrocke clerk, commenced duties to-day as T.F.C.III in Materials H.Q.

J.M. Bridal

9th March, 1944

Mrs. N.M. Goatman, a widowed lady, who lives just across the road from our gates, was engaged as T.C.III for duty in the Pay Office.





10th March, 1944

Miss M. Noblet, one of our popular examiners in X-Ray Division is 21 to-day, and we send her our good wishes.

M. Noblet
Signature

11th March, 1944

Our Social Events go from strength to strength, and to-night it was the turn of Clerical and Administration Division to provide the Entertainment. The evening was billed as "A Ball of the 1890's", and the Conference Room has been transformed into a Victorian Drawing Room. Most of the company were in old-fashioned dress, and the whole evening was admirably arranged, and carried through with alacrity.

22nd March, 1944

Mrs. D.E. Thomas, commenced duties as cleaner - or re-commenced is more correct, for we did employ her once before for a short time.

Miss J.A. McMickan of the Typing Pool resigned to-day. We are sorry to lose her, but we understand she is to become a receptionist to a Doctor in Harley Street.

25th March, 1944

There was a large gathering of the staff in the Conference Room at mid-day to-day, when Mr. Broughton, our Civil Assistant and Accountant, gave a talk on "Pay as you Earn" (P.A.Y.E.), the new system of Income Tax payments which comes into operation at the beginning of next month.



BETTIE
1919-1943

27th March, 1944

The second of the three wings now having been completed, the H.Q. of the Aircraft Equipment Division from Leatherhead arrived to take up their abode with us. In 'technical' phraseology - "the following have arrived":-

Mr. John Adam	- Assistant Director
Mr. P.L. Westear	- Assistant Chief Insp.
Mr. H.G. Silver	- Assistant Chief Insp.
Mr. B.D. Charlish	- Inspector
Mr. C.E. Dodge	- Assistant Chief Insp.
Mr. R. Lennox, B.E.M.	- Inspector
Mr. O.K. Arnold	- Chief Examiner
Mr. S. Cook	- Assistant Inspector
Mr. F. Leet	- Clerical Officer
Mr. S. Loader	- Chief Examiner
Mr. L.J. Mason	- Inspector
Mr. A.W.L. Piercey	- Inspector
Mr. H.R. Reid	- Assistant Inspector
Mr. R.W.N. Robinson	- Assistant Inspector
Mr. A.R. Service	- Assistant Inspector
Mr. A.R. Stumbles	- A.E.A.C.
Mr. J.C. White	- Assistant Inspector

together with Miss Gray, Miss Hewitt (Peggy) and Miss Wood. Another twenty added to our staff at one swoop makes this an eventful day in our history.

Examined

28th March, 1944

Mrs. N.G. Lyon, T.F.C.III in Materials H.Q. was discharged to-day. As we thought, she was hardly a good clerical type, and the dissatisfaction between her and her job is apparently mutual.

30th March, 1944

Mrs. D. Steiner, T.F.C.III, commenced duty to-day. She will work in Registry on the despatching of mail.

1st April, 1944

Mr. R.L. Burfutt, who came with the clerical staff from Kidbrooke in 1940 was transferred to-day to the Audit Branch of M.A.P. at his own request. Mr. Thos. Carlisle, bearer of a famous name, from Materials H.Q. resigned to-day.



3rd April, 1944

Mr. J.L. Sibley - son of our Mr. W.A. Sibley who has been with us as a Stoker for some time - was engaged as a labourer. He has been invalided from the Navy. Mr. G.J. Stanton, who is also partly a cripple, was engaged as a Messenger in Registry, and Miss E.M. Moore, telephone operator, was transferred here from Leatherhead. She is a very bright girl, and should prove a good asset.

4th April, 1944

Mrs. Eldridge, who came to us as Miss Harman, resigned to-day. We hear more rumours of another happy event pending.

5th April, 1944

Two more additions to our industrial staff to-day, when Mr. A. Barter, who lives almost opposite the main gates, was engaged as a packer for the Stores, and Mrs. V. Wakeman was engaged as our first woman car-driver. Mrs. Wakeman comes from Uxbridge, and we understand she is the mother of twins, but she can still drive!

8th April, 1944

The Chemical Laboratory staff have a celebration to-day to congratulate Miss G.M. James who is 21.

11th April, 1944

Mr. Kelvin Smith, examiner, was transferred here for duty in "Radar" (Radio-location) Section of Aircraft Equipment Division.

12th April, 1944

Mr. P. Brain, chief examiner of Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred away, for duty at Eastern Area, Cambridge.

15th April, 1944

Mr. M. Weeden who started as a Temporary Clerk last month, resigned to-day. He didn't find the job sufficiently lucrative we believe. Another excellent Social and Entertainment was staged in the Conference Room to-night. This was arranged by the Industrial Division, and the theme was "United Nations" a very topical title. The final tableau was artistic and well done.

17th April, 1944

Mr. W. Gaskell was transferred here for duty in Metrology Division. Miss M.E. Alcock, was engaged as a temporary clerk. She has had previous experience in the Civil Service, but is now recovering from the effects of a car accident. Mrs. H.C.P. Picton was engaged as a Copy Typist. She has also had some experience in Air Ministry.



M.E. Alcock

18th April, 1944

Miss D.H. Kemp, typist, who came with Test House from Kidbrooke, was transferred to No. 4 Maintenance Unit, Ruislip, to-day at her own request.

19th April, 1944

Miss F.M. Farrow, examiner, of Aircraft Equipment Division was transferred to North Western Area to-day. Her home is up there and as she had been in indifferent health for some time, the transfer will probably do her good.

21st April, 1944

Miss A. Nicholas of Non Metallic Materials is 21. We send our congratulations and good wishes for the future.

M. A. Nicholas
Signature

22nd April, 1944

Miss M. Thomson, laboratory assistant in Aircraft Equipment Division resigned to-day, when her family moved away from the District. She is a very bright girl, and we are more than sorry to lose her.

23rd April, 1944

This time it is the turn of the Metrology Division to have a 21st birthday; the young lady is Miss Jean Harris, to whom we extend our good wishes.



24th April, 1944

What a contrast in shades - Miss Thomson, the blonde, left Aircraft Equipment Division on Saturday, and Miss Cooper, the brunette, comes to it to-day. Another addition to Aircraft Equipment Division is Mr. O.H. Critchley who comes as senior examiner. Mrs. E.V. Baker, wife of Mr. C.H. Baker, our semi-skilled labourer, was engaged as an additional telephone operator.



E. V. Baker

29th April, 1944

"If Four walls told" there is one room in Harefield House which would have an interesting tale to tell. Kitchen, Servants Hall, Gauge Workshop, Stationery Store, Registry, Gauge Record Office, and now (? finally) the new and enlarged telephone exchange, which was opened there to-day. There are five boards.

1st May, 1944

Another great landmark in our story to-day, when A.I.D. Harefield became the H.Q. of the whole Directorate. The last of the three wings is now completed, and the Organization Division, together with Col. Cutram, Director General, comes to occupy it to-day. The staff which comes comprises, in addition to D.G.

Mr. Thos. Rowntree	-	D.A.I.(O)
Group Capt. Rollason	-	D.D.I.(O)
Mr. A.J. Thornton	-	C.I.(O)
Mr. P.R. Bellaers	-	S.O.C.S.
Miss I.D. Hadfield	-	C.O.
Miss O. Gorst	-	T.F.C.III
Mrs. W. Softly	-	T.F.C.III
Mr. W.J. Kingsley	-	H.C.O.
Mr. A.E. Evans	-	T.C.III
Mr. G.F. Meikle	-	H.C.O.
Miss D.A. Jones	-	Shorthand-typist
Miss M. Farnival	-	Shorthand-typist
Miss E.C. Hibbard	-	I.O.(W)
Mrs. R. Dodds	-	Senior Examiner
Mr. R.W. Slater	-	Inspector



Mr. C.W. Gilder, A.S.A.C. also came with them, but on transfer to Test House strength.

With the staff comes the "AIDEX", a series of stands with discs for every member of the A.I.D. staff in the country. There is not room to house the whole Division in the new wing, so some must share accommodation with our Library and Drawing Office. To serve the new staff, our Registry staff is increased, and Mr. A. Clarke, T.C.II comes to augment them. A daily van Service between Harefield, Leatherhead and Millbank commences to-day to expedite the transmission of mail.

Another transfer here to-day is Miss V.S. Wade A.S.C.III who comes from Sheffield. She comes with a reputation for great activity in C.S.C.A. circles.



6th May, 1944

Vera S. Wade

*

Mr. F.J. Brewin was transferred away from Aircraft Equipment H.Q. to North Western Area, and Mr. H.W. Baker comes to replace him.

8th May, 1944

Mr. A. Sykes, chief examiner, was transferred here for duty in Aircraft Equipment Division.



11th May, 1944

Mrs. M.M. Brown was engaged for T.C.III duties in Provisions office to-day. She has had some painful experiences in a recent Air Raid, but is now recovering.

15th May, 1944

Mr. M.H. Griffin was transferred away from Materials H.Q. to-day, and one of our old members, Mr. H.W. Harverson, chief examiner, of Aircraft Equipment Division also left us on transfer.

* see Corrigenda, Note 7.

19th May, 1944

A new building has been erected adjacent to the main Stores, and the Gauge Store was moved there from the ground floor of Test House to-day.

22nd May, 1944

Mrs. B.L.B. Metra, was engaged for clerical duties with Organisation Division. She is the daughter of Mr. Clarke of the Registry, and has been married recently to a Free French subject.

Another addition to Radar Section of Aircraft Equipment Division to-day, when Mr. J.D. Platt, senior examiner, comes on transfer.



J.D. Platt

23rd May, 1944

Mr. A.E. Brown our genial, burly clerk resigned to-day. His jovial personality will be missed by all our clerical staff.

25th May, 1944

Miss J.L. Jennings, one of the few senior woman examiners of the Department, was transferred to Aircraft Equipment H.Q. to-day.

28th May, 1944

The best wishes of the Establishment go to Miss D.M. Clark who is 21 to-day.

Signature
of Officer

Dorothy M. Clark

31st May, 1944

Mr. F.J. Dawes, electrical fitter, was released to-day at his own request. Mr. L.W. Townley, examiner of the Metrology Division, also resigned to-day. He seemed to have little sympathy with the Department, and was certainly not noted for his over-industriousness. All other events of to-day, however, were overshadowed by news of the death of our Director-General, Lt. Col. Outram, C.B.E. For long had he wished to make Harefield his H.Q., but now by the strange irony of Fate he had but spent a couple of hours in his new Office here. He went home sick early in May, and passed away to-day.



It will be hard to imagine A.I.D. without the name of Col. Outram, and though there will doubtless be many criticisms of his administration, his name will go down in history as one of the outstanding figures in the story of Aeronautical Inspection.

1st June, 1944

Organization Division H.Q. was further strengthened to-day by the arrival of Mr. K.J. Woodgate, who comes as A.C.I.(O).

3rd June, 1944

A Test House 'Double wedding' took place to-day in the marriage of Mr. L.R. Backler and Miss Mollie Spurgin, both of Aircraft Equipment Division. We hope they will both be very happy.

5th June, 1944

Another lady M/T Driver was engaged to-day, bringing our total of Drivers to four. She is Miss R.M. Levingston, whose home is in Cheshire. She has lately been in the Forces. Another transfer to Drg. Division of H.Q. to-day was Miss H. Foale, tracer.

6th June, 1944

To-day will go down in history as "D-Day", as this morning our armies commenced their assault on the Fortress of Europe, landing on the coast of Normandy in the early morning. The news has thrilled us all, and we await eagerly every bulletin.

7th June, 1944

Mrs. L. Tuck, wife of one of our local Village Policemen, was engaged for part-time clerical duties in Aircraft Equipment H.Q. Mr. H. Hunnings was engaged as part-time labourer for work in Gauge Stores. He is the father of Mrs. Older (formerly Miss Hunnings) T.F.C.III in Accounts.



H. Hunnings

10th June, 1944

A "Combined Efforts" Social and Dance was held in the Conference Room, embodying the best features of previous shows. Lacking, rather, the spontaneity and gaiety of former evenings, it nevertheless attracted a large crowd of visitors to throng the Conference Room.

12th June, 1944

Mr. H.W. Young, labourer, son-in-law of Mr. C.W. Dockwray, was released to-day at his own request.

13th June, 1944

Miss M. Netley, examiner of Metrology Division, was transferred back here again to-day. Miss M. Cotter, typist, resigned to-day. She has ideas of going in the Forces, we believe. Congratulations and best wishes to Miss H.R. Carr, who attains her 21st birthday to-day.



Hazel R. Carr
Signature

14th June, 1944

Two typing Pools are now in being here, one specially attached to H.Q. Divisions under the superintendency of Miss Jean Davies. Some of the girls have transferred there from Test House Pool, and there was one newcomer to each Pool to-day. Miss C.M. Farrow was engaged for Test House Pool, and another girl who rejoices in the somewhat original name of Pixie Pratt joined the H.Q. Pool.



C. Farrow.



17th June, 1944

A Test House "Double Wedding" took place to-day, when Mr. R.E. Frost and Miss G. Meiklejohn, both of Aircraft Equipment Division, were married. Our good wishes go to both of them.



19th June, 1944

Well, a successor to the late Col. Outram has been appointed. The new D.G. is Mr. G. Manning, and he takes up his residence with Organization H.Q. to-day. There were two more additions to Test House Typing Pool, Miss D.M. Jolley, who comes as a trainee typist, and Miss I.L. Tuckman, Shorthand-typist. Miss Tuckman is a Jewish girl who desires to observe all the Hebrew Religious Festivals, so we shall never know when she will be here! An addition to the Metrology Division was Mr. R.G. Urie, examiner, and a resignation from Non Metallic Materials was Miss B.C. Matheson. We understand she is getting married shortly.

21st June, 1944

Mr. W.C.J. Howard, A.S.C.III, was transferred here to replace Mr. L.L. Best, who goes on transfer to Poole, shortly.

23rd June, 1944

Mr. H.J. Hall, Electrician, was discharged to-day. His work was not particularly satisfactory, and he did not get on too well with his fellow workers.

26th June, 1944

Three new industrials engaged to-day - Mr. C.H. Flint as a gauge-maker, with Mr. R.H. Lacey and Mr. A.D. Perry as Fitter-turners.



6th July, 1944

The first of our two Annual Events was held to-day, when the Club arranged their Sports in the Grounds. The weather made a good start, but unfortunately deteriorated and the evening was finished in the Conference Room. There was some good running and high jumping nevertheless. Miss B.M. Webb of Aircraft Equipment Division celebrates her 21st birthday to-day.



7th July, 1944

B M Webb.
Signature

Mr. F.H. Courtenay was engaged as a labourer to-day.

10th July, 1944

We had a change of electrical fitters to-day, when Mr. G.S. Sims resigned and Mr. A.F. Knife was engaged.



11th July, 1944

Mr. E. Dore was engaged as a Gauge-fitter to-day. Good wishes to Miss Nailard who is 21 to-day.



15th July, 1944

Mr. C.L. Walker, examiner in Physics laboratory, resigned to-day. He had been rather dissatisfied with his job of late, and as his home is in Liverpool he is hoping to find congenial employment in that locality.

19th July, 1944

Shortly after our landing in Normandy, the enemy commenced to use flying-bombs against this country. The majority of them have fallen in the London Area, but a few come out over this way. Soon after 9 o'clock this morning the noise of one was heard approaching and it fell with a loud explosion close by a farm-house in Breakspear Road about half a mile from Test House. No structural damage was caused to our buildings, but the experience of hearing the wretched thing coming, followed by the sickening moment as the engine cuts out, and then the "bang", is nerve-racking enough. Our only casualty was a lady cleaner, who fainted from shock.

21st July, 1944

The control of our local transport - consisting now of five vehicles - was taken over to-day by the C.A.&A. This responsibility hitherto has been vested in the Station Engineer.

24th July, 1944

A newcomer to Organization H.Q. to-day was Mr. H.C.F. Mitchell, H.C.O., who comes to replace Mr. Kingsley. Miss P.M. Stewart, a highly amusing character comes to H.Q. Typing Pool, while Miss S.O. Wood, another member of that Pool, returns to Leatherhead. Mr. P. Davey ("Percy") who came originally as Leading Storeman, has been re-graded as T.M.C.III and returns to Harefield to-day from G.C.S.U. Birmingham.



31st July, 1944

Well, we do see some changes, and Organization H.Q. who moved here from Leatherhead on 1st May, at the behest of the late D.G. now return to Leatherhead at the behest of his successor. The whole Division and its personnel packed up and went to-day, leaving only Mr. R.W. Slater, who finds himself back at Test House in a new role - Assistant Test House Superintendent! Mrs. Bowden, who has been here once before was re-employed as a cleaner, and Mrs. Riley of Textile laboratory resigned to-day.

4th August, 1944

Miss J.M. Baker, examiner in Radiological Division, resigned to-day. She was one of the few women in the Department holding an M.Sc. degree, but her health had been very poor for a long time and her attendance very irregular.

8th August, 1944

Mr. L.L. Best, A.S.C.III, was transferred to Royal Ordnance Factory, Poole, to-day. He will be missed both in the Department and in the "local". Two new cleaners were engaged - Mrs. A.M. Hodge and Miss E.A. Winwright - and we had to discharge one of our young girl messengers - Miss E.D. Hall. She was not very efficient, but very cheeky, so we can well spare her.

9th August, 1944

Mr. P.K. Hatcher, T.C.III, resigned to-day, on the removal of his family from the district. He was popular with his colleagues and will be missed.

W.H. Atkinson



10th August 1944

Our Annual Garden Party to-day, and the weather was kind. The event was graced by the presence of our new D.G. - Mr. G. Manning. There were the usual attractions - treasure hunt, stalls, side shows etc. and nobody seemed to complain.

11th August, 1944

The Draughtsmans Dept. of Armament Division H.Q. was transferred here to-day. The personnel to come are:-

Mr. W. Westhead	-	Leading Draughtsman
Miss J. Anderson	-	Tracer
Mr. H. Bond	-	Draughtsman
Miss I.W. Blanche	-	Draughtswoman II
Miss M. Coward	-	Leading Tracer
Mr. J.R. Duggle	-	Junior Draughtsman
Miss J.I. Dunk	-	Learner Tracer
Miss M. Fowle	-	Tracer
Miss I.M. Gilbert	-	Tracer
Miss J.F. Genower	-	Draughtswoman II
Mr. G.A. LeGras	-	Draughtsman
Mr. G.C.W. Roke	-	Draughtsman
Miss D.M.A. Saunders	-	Draughtswoman III



They are to occupy the suite of offices in the S.W. Wing vacated by Organization Division.

12th August, 1944

Mr. R.W. Slater, Assistant Test House Superintendent, was transferred to-day to London Area H.Q. He appeared to be something of a misfit in his job here.

14th August, 1944

Miss Jean Chesson, a local girl from School here, was engaged as a messenger, and Miss B.M. Bailey, another 15 year old, who comes from Uxbridge, was engaged as a telephone operator. Neither girl seems exactly of the shy type.



15th August, 1944

Another of our Test House romances culminated to-day, when Miss Oldroyd and Mr. Murphy were married. Good wishes to them both.

16th August, 1944

Mrs. D.W. Blair, our vivacious blonde, who commenced life here as Miss D. Richardson, resigned to-day. A rather charming girl came to us to-day in the person of Miss Joan Carpenter, who commences duty as laboratory assistant in the Textile laboratory. Mr. P.T. Skeggs, who we have seen here before, returned to the fold of Materials H.Q. to-day.



P.T. Skeggs

17th August, 1944

The post of Assistant Test House Superintendent must be filled so Mr. C.W. Tordiffe was transferred here to-day vice Mr. Slater. We understand he has had many years experience in A.I.D. work.



21st August, 1944

A new typist was engaged for Test House Pool to-day. She is Miss Sheila Gee, and comes from Rickmansworth. Mr. F.W. Masham, examiner, was transferred to Radar Section of Aircraft Equipment Division to-day. He lives locally, so will not have to travel.

23rd August, 1944

Mr. C.W. Gilder, A.S.A.C., who has been anxious to get away ever since he came here, was transferred back to Leatherhead to-day at his own request.

28th August, 1944

Two new laboratory assistants were engaged for Metrology Division to-day - Mrs. E. Markwell, who comes from Newcastle, or somewhere in the North, and Mr. C.W. Heybourn, a young lad who lives locally. Mr. O.C. Hedley, chief examiner, was transferred to Aircraft Equipment Division H.Q. and Mr. C.J. Venton, senior examiner, was transferred to Radar Section of Test House. Miss M.D.H. Wright, examiner, is 21 to-day. Much happiness to her. We now have some cycle sheds provided, complete with racks and numbers, and disciplinary action is threatened to any staff who leave their bicycles about in the grounds. We doubt if the accommodation provided is sufficient for the number of cycles in use, all the same.



29th August, 1944

Another addition to Aircraft Equipment H.Q. to-day, was the advent of Mr. K.F. Treen, A.I.I., who comes on transfer.



30th August, 1944

Mrs. I. Joyce, was engaged as a cleaner to-day, and Miss J.R. Salmon as a trainee typist in Test House Pool.

31st August, 1944

The Non Metallic Materials Division lost two of its staff to-day when Miss J.M. Sheehan, our Irish blonde, and Mrs. C.F. Money, both examiners, resigned.

1st September, 1944

Mrs. Frost, who came to us as Miss Meiklejohn, resigned to-day. Again we hear rumours of a happy event pending. A newcomer to Materials H.Q. to-day was Mr. J.R. Hind, who has been appointed with the grade of A.I.I.

2nd September, 1944

Another Test House romance culminated to-day in the marriage of Mr. J.C. Rockley, and Miss M. Noblet, both of Radiological Division. A presentation has been made to them by the staff, and may they have long life and happiness.

4th September, 1944

We gained one member of the staff, and lost one to-day. Mr. W.G.A. Thomas, examiner, was transferred here for duties in Aircraft Equipment Division, and Mr. J.B. Pollock of Micro Section resigned. We are not very sorry to lose Pollock - he was inclined to be both lazy and snobbish. Two new-comers to Aircraft Equipment H.Q. to-day are really two old friends come back. Mr. F.J. Properjohns, who was with Test House at Kidbrooke, and Mr. T.C. Skipper. Both will find many old acquaintances here. The danger of enemy sabotage is now diminishing, so the Provost Marshal has decided that T.H.S. may issue local passes to clerical and industrial staff. These have been designed by Mr. Barlow, and the first issue was made to-day.

6th September, 1944

Miss J.P. Harrison was engaged as a laboratory assistant in Radiological Division. She is a tall girl for her age, and is the daughter of Mrs. V. Harrison, clerk in Materials H.Q.

7th September, 1944

Mr. J.W. Hawes, senior examiner, was transferred here to-day for duty in Aircraft Equipment Division.



15th September, 1944

We lost two popular members of our staff to-day; both being called up for military service. Mr. R.J. Page "Dick", laboratory assistant in Materials, and Mr. E. Luck "Eric", one of our Carpenters. Dick has been a willing helper to the Canteen staff, and Eric a keen supporter of the Sports Club, and we are sorry to lose them.

15th September, 1944

Miss P. Ralph of Typing Pool, who has been with us since 1940, is 21 to-day. Many happy returns and good wishes.

P. C. Ralph
Signature

18th September, 1944

Miss Joyce Cockhill was appointed as a laboratory assistant in Micro Section to-day. Mr. J.C. Rockley, A.I.I., of Radiological Division was transferred to Millbank for duty with "C.R.I." Mr. R.G. Urie, who was transferred to Metrology Division in June as a successor to Mr. Townley, left Harefield to-day on transfer to Rotax, Willesden.

20th September, 1944

Miss G. Richards, was engaged as a messenger to-day. She seems quite up to the average in intelligence for her age, and we hope she will prove an asset to the staff.



25th September, 1944

Mrs. E.M. Driscoll, a very attractive young lady was engaged for clerical duties with Materials H.Q. to-day. She will replace Mrs. Doling who is resigning shortly, on domestic grounds.

E.M. Driscoll

30th September, 1944

Mrs. Doling leaves to-day, and Mrs. S.W. Macchler, who came to us as Miss Hubble but has since married, also resigned to-day, leaving a vacancy in Aircraft Equipment Division.

2nd October, 1944

Mr. B.E.P. Ritson, senior examiner, was transferred to Aircraft Equipment H.Q. to-day, and a new laboratory assistant, Miss T.J. Searchfield, was engaged for duties in Non Metallic Materials (Paint laboratory).

6th October, 1944

Two of the batch of young girls we engaged in August of last year, resigned to-day - Miss A.J. Osgood and Miss P. West.

9th October, 1944

The draughtsman staff of I.Arm.Gauges was reinforced to-day by the arrival of Mr. J.R. Press, Draughtsman.

10th October, 1944

Mr. C.R. Trippett, Inspector, of Materials H.Q. left Harefield to-day on the commencement of a trip to Australia. He goes on official duty, and we all wish him "bon voyage".

11th October, 1944

Miss P. Hewitt, H.Q. Typist, left us on transfer to-day. We shall miss her exuberant personality, especially on our Annual Sports Day, when she was definitely one of our 'bright young things'.

13th October, 1944

Mr. L.V. Byrne, who has been here before, returns to Test House to-day as Senior Examiner in Radar Section of Aircraft Equipment Division. He will be welcomed back by many friends.



L.V. Byrne

14th October, 1944

To-day sees the completion of the 35th and last course of the Divisional Training School at Harefield. Born in January 1942, it has been going strong for nearly three years and altogether some 900 students have passed through the school. We shall feel quite lost without a bevy of fresh feminine faces to wonder at each month.

16th October, 1944

Mr. A.R. Dewar, chief examiner, reported for duty with Materials H.Q. to-day.

19th October, 1944

Mr. E.W. Bailey, our Charge-Hand M.T. Driver died at his home to-day after an illness of some weeks. Actually he had been in failing health for some time, and our sincere sympathy goes out to his widow and family.

21st October, 1944

An interesting little ceremony in the Conference Room to-day, when a presentation was made to Miss V.G. Cox and Mr. W.R. Hinton, two popular members of our staff who have decided to run in "double harness". Our good wishes will go with them. Co-incident with this is Mr. Hinton's promotion to chief examiner.



Vera G. Cox
Signature

23rd October, 1944

Miss E.A. Chapman, examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division, was transferred away for duties with Kolster Brands in Kent. We hear she is getting married shortly. Mr. E.J. Hiles, senior examiner, came to Aircraft Equipment Division to-day and Mr. A.C. Eatwell, A.I.1, comes to join the staff of Materials H.Q.

28th October, 1944

Mr. Hinton and Miss Cox were married to-day, and we also hear of another Test House "Double Wedding" which took place last week, when Miss Webb and Mr. Greenstreet were married. Well they've kept it very quiet, but we wish them all the best.

30th October, 1944

Mr. L. Southern, who has been acting as Instructor at the Training School since its inception, was transferred away for duty in Leicestershire. His dry sardonic humour, which nevertheless masked a very keen intelligence, will be missed by many friends here.

1st November, 1944

Our Jewish Typist, who came to us as Miss Tuckman but is now Mrs. Landau, resigned to-day. Her health has been rather unsatisfactory of late. Miss E.P. Sheppard, examiner, returned to Test House to-day. She will find many old friends here to welcome her.

6th November, 1944

Mr. H.A.W. How was engaged as an electrical fitter. Sounds almost like a local edition of Lord "Haw-Haw". Mrs. L.M. Winwright was engaged as a cleaner to-day.

8th November, 1944

Our good wishes to-day to Miss Kathleen Wingfield of Metrology Division who is 21 to-day.

*Miss Phillip*9th November, 1944

Miss M.W. Phillip, senior examiner, who has been Instructor and General Chaperone of the Training School, left us to-day on transfer to Glasgow. Congratulations to Miss Marion Taylor, our very popular examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division, who celebrates her 81st birthday to-day.

M. Taylor
Signature

11th November, 1944

Mr. P.S. Byrne, labourer, in the Stores, resigned to-day. Deafness and rather poor health made him rather unsuitable for the job.

*W. Burch*13th November, 1944

Three new examiners were transferred to Metrology Division to-day. They were Mr. W.E. Burch, Mr. F. Burford, and Mr. G.P. Scholes. Mrs. R.G. Basson, who has been working as a Typist at Watford, was transferred to Test House to-day as laboratory assistant in the Petroleum laboratory. Another engagement to-day was of Mr. S.G. Warren, who has lost an arm in the fighting in Burma. He has just been demobilised and we hear he is to receive the Military Medal from the King. He comes to us as a messenger in Registry.

15th November, 1944

Mr. P.H. Hannan was engaged as a laboratory assistant to-day. He speaks well, but is only young and not in very good health. He may be suitable for this work, but we are doubtful. Mrs. P.H. Morfit, telephonist, resigned on domestic grounds.

20th November, 1944

Mrs. D.M. Anderson was engaged as a cleaner (glass washing) to-day.

22nd November, 1944

Mrs. C.R. Bailey, T.C.III of Pay Office resigned to-day. She has been an asset to our staff and we are sorry to lose her.

23rd November, 1944

Mr. R.F. Colson was engaged as a labourer to-day.



24th November, 1944

Mr. K.G. McGucken, our good-looking young laboratory assistant, left us to-day on receiving his call-up from the Navy. Our young lady messengers may pine away, we fear. Mr. F.M. Courtenay, labourer, was released to-day at his own request.

27th November, 1944

Mrs. G. Everett was engaged for work in the Stores. She is designated as a 'labourer' but her work will be probably mainly clerical.

30th November, 1944


Mr. E.R.J. Pugaley, senior examiner in Aircraft Equipment Division, resigned to-day. He had been out of tune with the Department for some time and was anxious to get away. Some of the staff will be sorry to see him go.

2nd December, 1944


Ridley
Miss Ridley of our Metallic Materials Division is 21 to-day. Many happy returns to her.



4th December, 1944

 Two new labourers were engaged to-day. One of them, Mr. W.A. Stevens seems a strong willing chap, but cannot read or write. The other is Mr. T.J. Ward who is more educated but appears to be somewhat erratic.

6th December, 1944

 Two more labourers to-day, Mr. J.W. Howe and Mr. R. Luscombe, and a former colleague returned to-day when Mr. Peter Hatcher, who has moved back into this district, rejoined our clerical staff.

9th December, 1944

Miss E.M. King, laboratory assistant in Petrol laboratory, resigned to-day.

12th December, 1944

Mr. F. McManning was engaged as a Labourer. He seems a queer chap, but perhaps he will be useful.

16th December, 1944

Mrs. E.C. Houben of Metrology Division resigned to-day. She came to us as Miss Minnery, a girl from Scotland, went into digs here, and married her landlady's son. A happy event is impending we believe.

18th December, 1944

Mr. J.G.P. Atkinson, A.S.C.III, came to us to-day on transfer. He will take up duties in our Stores Accounts Section.



23rd December, 1944

Miss L.M. McGrath, our fine tall laboratory assistant of the Aircraft Equipment Division resigned to-day. We understand she has obtained a post in the Bank of England.

27th December, 1944

Mrs. V.E. Matthews, T.C.III, was engaged for duties with Materials H.Q. to-day.

28th December, 1944

Miss M. Orr, a very Irish girl, joined the staff of H.Q. Typing Pool to-day, on transfer from another branch of the Ministry.

30th December, 1944

The Social Club held a "New Years Eve" Dance in the Conference Room to-night. Quite a good show, with some lively games, though being a day early it lacked the spirit of a real New Years Eve affair.

31st December, 1944

As we lose this year, we lose two of our staff - Miss U. Lassetter, who goes on the grounds of ill-health, and Mr. T.J. Ward the labourer who was engaged early in the month. He was too fond of the bottle, even for the Test House to tolerate!

1st January, 1945

New Years Day, and we enter on what must surely be the last year of war, and perhaps the most momentous in mankind's history. There are two new faces to-day - Miss M.I. Warren, A.S.C.III, who comes for duty in Pay Office and Mr. A.E. Webster, who is engaged as a labourer. Mr. Webster's wife - ("Florrie") - is one of the hard-working members of our Canteen staff.

A. Webster

4th January, 1945

Mrs. F. Oxley, a local woman, was engaged as a cleaner.

5th January, 1945

Mr. E. Nieass, storeman, resigned to-day. He lost his wife some time ago and has rather gone to pieces since then. His health is not good and he is too unreliable to continue.

8th January, 1945

Mr. F. Kenny was engaged as a Carpenter. He will replace Mr. Luck and bring our carpenter strength up to three again.

