

24th March, 1949

Mrs. W. J. Burn resigned to-day. Better known as Joan Garner, she has been with us in the Drawing Office since 1938. She has been absent for some time on maternity leave, and has now decided not to return.

15th April, 1949

A new erection is rising on the East side of Test House, in the shape of a 10,000 gall. water tank. This will be a landmark for miles around, and 120,000 ft. of tubular scaffolding are being used in its construction.

22nd April, 1949

Mr. T. H. Dudley, having reached the age of 65, retired to-day. He was one of the oldest members of the Department, having been with the A. I. D. since 1918, and we shall all miss him. Mr. R. V. Seymour, labourer, was also released to-day, at his own request.

29th April, 1949

Mrs. D. M. Thomas, who has been with us as temporary clerk since 1943, resigned to-day for domestic reasons. She is the wife of Mr. A. E. Thomas of Metrology Section.

5th May, 1949

Our Theatrical Group is going strong, and this evening presented the play "Such Things Happen". An excellent production.

11th May, 1949

Mr. F. J. Hogg was engaged as a labourer. He is an ex-postman, but does not appear to be in very good health.

13th May, 1949

We had to discharge Mr. W. A. Sibley, labourer. He has been with us since 1942, but has been in very poor health for a long time, and is quite unable to work any longer.

23rd May, 1949

M.J.Wilmot, a local man, was engaged as a labourer to-day.

27th May, 1949

We are sorry to lose our cheery messenger, Jack Twinn, who resigns to-day on account of age and indifferent health. We shall all miss him.

31st May, 1949

Miss Phyllis Carpenter resigned to-day to take up other employment. She did not possess the charm of her sister, but was quite useful.

20th June, 1949

Mr.R.S.Nye was engaged as a messenger. He seems a quiet and conscientious type.

27th June, 1949

Mr.D.L.Cotterell, a rather frail-looking youth, joined the staff of Rad./Elec. Section as an Assistant (Scientific), and Miss Stephanie Slater (daughter of the late Mr.R.W.Slater) was transferred here as a clerical assistant.

30th June, 1949

Mr.D.W.Hitchens ("Derek"), Assistant (Scientific), was called up to-day for service with H.M.Forces.

5th July, 1949

Mr.J.F.A.Painter was appointed as Assistant (Scientific) in Physics Section.

17th July, 1949

One of our typists, Miss Kathleen Chapman, was chosen "Miss Harefield" at a village fete to-day. Congratulations, Kathleen.

22nd July, 1949

Mr. M. D. Owen, T. C. III., who came to us in March, was discharged to-day as redundant.

26th July, 1949

Miss D. M. Jolley, typist, who has been here since 1944, resigned on marriage. She was popular with her colleagues, and they have made her a nice presentation.

D. Jolley

27th July, 1949

We held our annual Garden Party to-day, and were fortunate in having ideal weather for it.

31st July, 1949

Constable C. W. Ryan retired to-day, having reached the age limit. He has been with us for nearly nine years.

3rd August, 1949

Mr. H. D. Hammond was engaged as a labourer. An elderly chap who seems to have quite a lot to say for himself.

8th August, 1949

Mr. J. R. Melotte, clerical officer, left us to-day on transfer to M. O. S. H. Q., London. He will be missed by many colleagues, and his departure will certainly leave a gap in local C. S. C. A. affairs.

10th August, 1949

Miss Betty Saunders, a local girl, was engaged as a shorthand typist. Seems a very nice girl, though quiet and rather nervous.

12th August, 1949

Mr. A. D. H. Pearce, labourer, resigned to-day to take up other employment.

15th August, 1949

Miss K.A. Harper was engaged to-day as a Drawing-Office Assistant.

24th August, 1949

There are celebrations in the Typing Pool to-day to congratulate Miss Eileen O'Neil, who is twenty-one. We wish her good luck and every happiness in the future.

E. M. O'Neil

2nd September, 1949

Mr. J. Thomson ("Jock"), labourer, resigned to-day to take up other employment. Some of the girls will miss him.

5th September, 1949

Mr. F.H. Dudmesh, Executive Officer, was transferred to O.S. (R), London to-day. His conduct last Christmas Eve caused considerable amusement.

11th September, 1949

Mr. O.C.D. Pannell, clerical officer, has resigned. There is something quite mysterious about his sudden disappearance, and there are rumours that the Police are anxious to trace him.

30th September, 1949

Mrs. V. Wakeman, our lady M/T. Driver, who has been with us for over five years, resigned to-day for domestic reasons. She has become very popular (especially with some passengers of the opposite sex).

3rd October, 1949

Miss Janet Jones, a really charming girl, was engaged as a ssistant (Scientific) for duty in the photographic labs. She is a sister of Michael in Chemistry Section.

5th October, 1949

Mr. H.A. Brown was engaged as a Fitters Mate. Known familiarly as "Bunker", we understand he is something of a local "Character".

10th October, 1949

Mr. L.R. Rogers, a local man, was engaged as Assistant (Scientific) in Metrology Section. Miss Yvonne Donne who was with us in 1945/46 has applied to come back, and we have agreed to re-employ her as a typist. Another newcomer is Mr. G.A. Green, Higher Clerical Officer, who comes to Provisioning Section.

11th October, 1949

Congratulations and good wishes to Miss Meagan Goodyear, who is twenty-one to-day.

12th October, 1949

Mr. J.F. Stoddart was engaged as an Assistant (Scientific) in Metrology Section. His father is a well-known figure in Uxbridge musical circles.

14th October, 1949

Mrs. E. Palmer, cleaner, resigned on grounds of ill-health. She has been with us for a year. The Superintendent and a number of our staff made a sad journey to-day when they attended the funeral service of our late Superintendent, Mr. R.F. Barlow. He has passed away after having been ill for some months, and we all send our sincere sympathies to Mrs. Barlow.

17th October, 1949

Mr. J.P. McLaren joined the staff of Rad/Elec. Section to-day, as a Senior Examiner. He comes from Hayes.

21st October, 1949

Mrs. G.L. Smith, cleaner, resigned to-day for domestic reasons.

24th October, 1949

Mrs. J. Berry, who was with us between 1939 and 1942, was re-engaged as a cleaner to-day. A very conscientious worker, we are glad to have her back.

28th October, 1949

Mr. W. F. Allen, instrument fitter, left us to-day, having obtained employment elsewhere. One of the most cultured of our industrials, he will be missed by many friends. We shall also miss his charming wife who we see sometimes at social functions.

29th October, 1949

We are very sorry to learn of the death of dear old Mr. Burton to-day. He had been with us as an instrument maker since 1946, and was a conscientious and friendly workman.

1st November, 1949

Miss P. M. Hunter of Rickmansworth was engaged as an Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section. A little short and snappy in her speech, and rather attractive, she does not seem to be very healthy nevertheless. Another recruit to-day was Mr. J. G. McDonnell, a real Scot, who comes to Physics Section as a Senior Examiner. A third new member was Mr. C. Taylor, who comes as Chief Examiner in Chemistry Section. A dapper little man, who we think must know everything!

7th November, 1949

Mr. J. S. Caplin was engaged as Assistant (Scientific) for Metrology Section. A very good-looking young fellow who shows great promise. Another Assistant (Scientific) to come to-day is Mr. D. J. M. Thomson, who joins the staff of Chemistry Section. The opposite end of the scale as far as looks are concerned, though not lacking in intelligence.

9th November, 1949

Mr. P. E. Marks, who was with us in 1945 before going to the Forces, was re-instated to-day on his return to civilian life.

11th November, 1949

Mr. J. Jarman, M.Sc., A.I.I. in Chemistry Section, retired to-day after 26 years service with the A.I.D. A canteen of cutlery was presented to him on behalf of his colleagues.

14th November, 1949

An Entertainment organized by the Theatrical Group was held in the Canteen this evening. The programme included a "Quiz", and the amusing play "Send Her Victorious". A very good evening. Mr. Brian Bedford was engaged as an Assistant (Scientific). A tall and likeable young fellow, he should do well in the service. Mrs. D.A. Collier was engaged as a cleaner. Seems a very reliable type of worker. Mr. S.F. Robinson comes to the Physics Section as a Senior Examiner.

21st November, 1949

Mr. J.H. Morris of Ickenham, who has been employed previously in the Post Office service, joined the staff as a clerical officer to-day. Another recruit was Mr. J.C. Perkins who comes as Assistant Examiner in Chemistry Section. A good-looking young chap but seems rather irresponsible.

29th November, 1949

Mr. R.W. Shields, our tallest Assistant (Scientific) was called up to-day for service with H.M. Forces.

5th December, 1949

Mr. J.J. Black was engaged as an instrument maker to-day.

6th-December, 1949

Another excellent Entertainment was given by the Theatrical Group this evening, when they presented the 3-act play "Love in a Mist".

16th December, 1949

The Christmas Party was held this evening. The programme and decorations were very good.

19th December, 1949

Mr. I.A. Harris of Rad./Elec. Section was transferred to-day to London No.3 District.

28th December, 1949

We lose Mr. P. Rowbotham, B.Sc., A.I.I. of Metallurgy Section, who goes on transfer to-day to C.I.A., Woolwich. He was always most conscientious and co-operative, and we shall miss him.

30th December, 1949

Mr. E. H. Cook, our genial clerk in Pay Office retired to-day. He was formerly a retired bank clerk and has been with us for over nine years. We shall miss his quiet dry humour and general efficiency at figures.

E. H. Cook.

2nd January, 1950

Mr. R. Milne, Chief Examiner of Rad./Elec. Section was transferred to London No. 3 District to-day. Some of our ladies will have less attention paid them now. We had to discharge Mrs. D. E. Thomas, cleaner. She has been with us since 1944, but has had rather a lot of sickness, and was a champion "moaner".

4th January, 1950

Mr. F. G. Wynne was transferred to Test House to-day, as Inspector I/C. of Non-destructive tests. He has been with the Department since 1935.

6th January, 1950

Mr. P. E. Marks, Assistant (Scientific), who came back to us last November after his service with the Forces, resigned to-day. He did not settle down again very well here.

16th January, 1950

Mr. J. P. McLaren, Senior Examiner, who has been with Rad./Elec. Section since last October, was transferred to-day to E.M.I., Hayes.

17th January, 1950

Mrs. V. M. Telford was engaged as a cleaner to-day.

25th January, 1950

Miss N.D.Smith was engaged as a Typist to-day. A girl with rather ugly hands, but a sweet disposition.

27th January, 1950

Mr.F.Pearce, labourer, resigned to-day. He has been with us since 1948, but his health and attendance has been very unsatisfactory.

13th February, 1950

M.P.G.Smith comes to the Rad./Elec. Section to-day as an Assistant (Scientific).

17th February, 1950

Mr.H.W.French was engaged as a "mate". Seems a steady and reliable fellow.

24th February, 1950

Mrs.M.Eaton, who has been with us since 1947, resigned for domestic reasons. She came to us as Miss Thomas, and has since married the son of Mrs. Eaton, our charge-hand cleaner.

27th February, 1950

Mr.V.C.Anderson, Senior Examiner, in Physics Section, who has been with us since 1940, was transferred to E.M.I., Hayes, to-day. This is only supposed to be on temporary duty, but it is doubtful whether he will return here.

1st March, 1950

The Film "Man of Arran" was shewn by the Film Society in the Canteen this evening.

6th March, 1950

Mr.S.A.Whybrow was re-engaged to-day as an Electrical Fitter. He was previously with us from 1943 to 1946.

MR. S. A. WHYBROW

The funeral took place on Wednesday week at Golders Green Crematorium of Mr. Stanley Allin Whybrow, of 12, Courtfield-gardens, Denham, who died on October 31.

Mr. Whybrow, who was 58, was employed as a chargehand electrician at the Ministry of Supply A.I.D. Laboratories, Harefield, and was an active member of the Electrical Trades Union—he had been President, vice-President, treasurer and a committee member of the Uxbridge branch. He was also a shop steward and vice-chairman of the Whitley works committee, and the local secretary of Manor House Hospital. He was taken ill suddenly at work and died on admittance to Hillingdon Hospital.

Mourners included: Mrs. R. M. Whybrow (wife); Mr. and Mrs. J. Bull (daughter and son-in-law); Miss M. Whybrow (sister); Mr. G. Whybrow (brother); Miss E. Whybrow (sister); Mr. and Mrs. N. Whybrow (brother and sister-in-law); Mr. R. Whybrow and Mr. G. Whybrow (brother and nephews); Mr. and Mrs. W. A. C.

Weston (stepson and wife); Mr. B. J. Weston (stepson); Mrs. J. Harrison; Mr. and Mrs. G. Arthell; Mr. C. Baker; Mr. W. P. Blair; Mr. J. Langton; Mr. E. Tuck and Mr. E. Phipps, trade union and management representatives from the A.I.D. Laboratories; Mr. C. Armthwaite; Mr. F. Padbury; Mr. R. Bond; Mr. A. Grower; Mr. S. Eveleigh.

3rd April, 1950

After nearly a month with no staff changes, Mr. G.C. McEwen, who was with us some five years ago returned to Test House to-day after his period of service in the Far East. His disposition seems to have improved considerably.

21st April, 1950

Miss M.O.A. Jupp ("Juppy"), Senior Examiner in Chemistry Section, resigned to-day after fourteen years service with the Department. She was at Kidbrooke before coming to Harefield. We shall miss her very loud voice, and rather "Jack Blunt" manner, and we wish her every success in her new sphere.

M.O.A. Jupp

25th April, 1950

The Theatrical Group had a Supper and their Annual General Meeting this evening.

26th April, 1950

Mr. D.A. Potty, Assistant (Scientific), was called up for service with H.M. Forces, to-day. He has done his best here to live up to his name in some respects, but is quite a likeable fellow.

1st May, 1950

Mr. J.S. Mennell, who has been in the service since 1938, comes to Physics Section to-day as a Senior Examiner. We like his broad-brimmed hat!

4th May, 1950

A party of distinguished Commonwealth representatives visited Test House to-day. They included delegates from Australia and South Africa, Canada, New Zealand, India and Pakistan. After they had toured Test House, they visited Harefield Parish Church. Mr. J. Hawkins of Uxbridge was engaged as a Grade III labourer to-day.

9th May, 1950

Mrs. E. R. Stephenson, Examiner in Metrology Section, finally resigned to-day, after being away sick for some time. She has been with the Department since 1938, first as Miss Ickeringill, then as Mrs. Wyatt, and latterly as Mrs. Stephenson. Formerly one of our most popular girls, her matrimonial affairs seem to have pursued a very chequered career.

15th May, 1950

Mr. R. Nicholson was engaged as a labourer to-day.

20th May, 1950

The A.G.M. of the Film Society was held this evening, and afterwards the films "Wonders of the Deep" and "Steps of the Ballet" were shown.

23rd May, 1950

The Theatrical Group gave us "Orange Blossom Time" this evening. Good performances were given by Eileen O'Neil and Daphne Page. Mr. G. Mower, labourer, resigned to-day. He has been with us since October 1948.

25th May, 1950

Mr. J. Wilmot, labourer, resigned to-day, after having been with us for just over a year. It has been decided to set up a local Quartering & Catering Committee, and a meeting was held in the Superintendent's office to-day to consider this.

30th May, 1950

Miss Janet Jones, Assistant (Scientific) in Physics Section, resigned to-day. A most attractive and efficient girl, we understand she is to enter the nursing profession.

31st May, 1950

We lost another popular member of our staff to-day by the resignation of Mrs. Marsh. Better known to us perhaps as Miss Vera Boxshall, she has been here since 1942, but is now leaving to devote her time to household duties. Her husband remains with us.

20th June, 1950

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We all rejoiced to-day in the announcement of the award of the M.V.O. in the King's Birthday Honours to Mr. T.L. White of Materials H.Q. He has been privileged to render some personal service to His Majesty during his recent illness, and has visited him at Buckingham Palace and Sandringham.

23rd June, 1950

Mr. J.J. Black, who has been here since last December as an Instrument Maker, resigned to-day to take up other employment, and another resignation is of Mrs. D.B. Dixon, one of our best cleaners, who has been with us for five years.

6th July, 1950

Mrs. R. Desmond was engaged as a cleaner to-day.

14th August, 1950

Our staff changes have been very few lately, but to-day Mr. W.H. Casling was recruited to the Department as a Senior Examiner in Metallurgy Section.

18th August, 1950

Mr. J.P. Pigney, gauge maker, resigned to-day. He has been with us for five years.

19th August, 1950

We held our Annual Garden Party to-day. The Entertainments included a Puppet Show in the Canteen.

21st August, 1950

Mr. W.J. Fuller, who comes from Chalfont St. Giles, was engaged as an Instrument Maker, and Mr. P.A. Sansom was appointed as a Technical Grade II in Chemistry Section.

25th August, 1950

Mr. R.S. Nye, messenger, resigned to-day, to take up other employment. He has been a conscientious and obliging worker, and we are all sorry to see him go.

31st August, 1950

We lose another of our stalwarts to-day by the resignation of Mr. H. Kirkby-Johnson, Senior Examiner of Physics Section. He has been with us for ten years.

15th September, 1950

Mr. A. J. Painter, labourer, who has been with us for five years, resigned to-day.

21st September, 1950

In preparation for the "taking over" of the Canteen, Mrs. A. Spooner comes to Test House to-day as Manageress. This is a new official post for us.

22nd September, 1950

Mr. S. F. Robinson, Senior Examiner in Physics Section, resigned to-day, after less than a year's service.

25th September, 1950

To-day becomes an historic one in our calendar, for we take over the Canteen, which has been run hitherto by the Sports & Social Club. We hope for the best, but fear the worst. With it we "Take over" Mrs. E. Palmer and Mrs. D. Pittard, who have been working in the Canteen for some time, also Mrs. Pittard's mother, Mrs. L. A. Smith (wife and mother of two of our stokers). Others taken over are Mrs. Sibley, Mrs. Styles, Mrs. Smart, Mrs. Whyte and Mrs. Willoughby. Mrs. A. E. Beard was engaged as a Canteen Assistant, and Mrs. M. E. Chesson (mother of Jean) as Canteen Cashier. She will probably keep us all lively. The "other half" of the Berry family came back to us to-day, when Mr. H. C. Berry was engaged as a Grade I labourer. He was with us as a Constable in 1939.

MRS. L. A. SMITH

The vicar, the Rev. Dennis Connor, officiated at the funeral in Harefield churchyard on Saturday of Mrs. Louisa A. Smith, who died at 1, Sydney-cottages, High-street, Harefield, aged 72. Mrs. Smith had lived in the village for ten years and until her recent illness was part-time worker at the A.I.D.

Mourners were: Mr. J. Smith (husband); Mr. J. Smith, Mr. F. Smith, and Mr. G. Smith (sons); Mrs. D. Pittard, Mrs. I. Fell, Mrs. M. Sprackling, Mrs. H. Pittard (daughters); Mr. A. Purchase (brother); Mrs. P. Sibley and Mrs. F. Vost (sisters); Mr. D. Smith and Mr. A. Fell (grandsons); Miss I. Fell and Mrs. J. McNaughton (grand-daughters); Mr. J. Smith and Mrs. G. Smith (daughters-in-law); Mr. F. Vost (brother-in-law); Mrs. A. Purchase (sister-in-law); Mr. A. Fell and Mr. S. Sprackling (sons-in-law); Mr. M. McNaughton and a representative of the A.I.D.

Messrs. Filkins were undertakers.

1954

29th September, 1950

Mr. P. W. G. Rossiter, our charge-hand Instrument Maker, resigned to-day. He has been with us since January 1946, and was a skilled workman.

6th October, 1950

Mrs.M.Scott was engaged as a cleaner to-day.

7th October, 1950

Mr.W.Whyte (father of Dorothy) was recruited to the ranks of our Constabulary to-day.

9th October, 1950

Mr.J.B.Godwyn, a lad of seventeen, was engaged to-day as Assistant (Scientific) in Metallurgy Section. John is the son of Mr.H.J.Godwyn who has been with us for ten years. He should do well we think. This seems to be a day for "sons and daughters", for another newcomer is Miss Doreen Josling, daughter of Mr.A.T.Josling, who also comes as an Assistant (Scientific). A charming little girl.

13th October, 1950

Mr.H.G.Stagg, one of our senior Constables, retired to-day, having already passed the age limit. Steady and reliable, he has been with us for more than ten years.

1st November, 1950

A Feature Programme was presented by the Film Society this evening, and the films shown were "Stagecoach" and "The Azure Coast of Southern France" (in colour).

3rd November, 1950

Mrs.R.I.Latham, cleaner, resigned to-day. Her time-keeping was not always entirely satisfactory.

6th November, 1950

Mr.G.L.Batchelor, who was with us before being called up, was re-instated to-day on his release from the Forces. Mr.R.H.Walklin, who has been ill for some time, finally resigned to-day. He has been with the Department since 1939, and was at Kidbrooke.

10th November, 1950

Mr. J. Hawkins, Grade III labourer, resigned to-day, to take up other employment.

13th November, 1950

An irreplaceable gap is left in our ranks to-day by the resignation of Mrs. H. Blackmore. Better known to us as Hazel Carr, she has been with us since September 1940, and has endeared herself to us all. There may never be anyone else here quite like Hazel. We understand there is a happy event pending, however, so Hazel must give her whole time to domestic duties.

24th November, 1950

Mrs. M. Wilson was engaged as a cleaner to-day.

30th November, 1950

Mr. G. A. Green, H.C.O., who came to us in 1949, left to-day on retirement. He has been in poor health ever since he came here. Another resignation is of Mr. J. C. Perkins, Assistant Examiner in Chemistry. He had very little sense of responsibility.

1st December, 1950

Mr. J. H. Horsfield comes to us to-day as an A.I.I. in Chemistry Section.

4th December, 1950

Mr. F. C. Skipper, A.I.I. of Rad/Elec. Section goes on promotion to-day to Fort Halstead, Sevenoaks. He has been with us before, and has been active in the affairs of the Sports & Social Club.

8th December, 1950

Mrs. M. E. Chesson, the liveliest member of our Canteen Staff, resigned to-day. We shall certainly miss her here.

11th December, 1950

Miss I.D.M. Matthews was engaged as a Canteen Assistant. Mr. R.R. Pitcher, clerical officer, comes to us on transfer from one of the A.G. Branches. He will take up duty in the Pay Office. Mr. A.G. Turtle was engaged as a labourer to-day.

21st December, 1950

Our Canteen Staff begins to grow, and Mrs. M.J. Pocock was engaged as a Cashier/Storekeeper to-day.

23rd December, 1950

Mr. E.E. Sanders, clerical officer in Pay Office, resigned to-day to go to other employment. We think he is rather silly to go, but presumably he knows his own mind best. He is a keen John Bull "Bullets" competitor, and has twice won the first prize in this competition.

31st December, 1950

We lose Mr. Victor Seal, Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry, who is called up to-day for service with the R.A.F. We think he has quite a good future. We are also sorry to lose our first Canteen Manageress, Mrs. A. Spooner, who resigns on health grounds. She has done a very good job, but it was really too much for her.

1st January, 1951

Mr. A. Cubitt was engaged as an Instrument Maker, and Mr. R.E. Frost, Senior Examiner in Rad/Elec. Section was transferred to Manchester. We remember his marriage to Miss Meiklejohn, a popular member of our staff, some few years ago.

2nd January, 1951

Mrs. P. Smart, Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day. She has lasted just over two months.

8th January, 1951

Mr. J. Horsfield, Engineer III, was transferred to Northern Area to-day. He has only been with us since the beginning of December.

10th January, 1951

Miss D.M.Middleton, who replaces Mrs.Spooner, came to the Canteen to-day as Manageress. Nobody envies her.

12th January, 1951

Miss Megan Goodyear, who has been with us since 1945, resigned to-day. Good-looking and vivacious, we think she should do well, and we wish her luck in her new sphere of work.

17th January, 1951

Miss K.A.Harper, Drawing Office Assistant, resigned to-day, after being with us since 1949. She may be returning to her home, which we think is in Hull.

26th January, 1951

Mrs.M.J.Pocock, Cashier/Storekeeper in Canteen, who came last month, resigned to-day. She appeared to be something of a misfit.

29th January, 1951

Miss P.A.Young ("Pat.") joined the Canteen staff to-day as Cashier/Storekeeper. Daughter of Mrs. Young of the Drawing Office, and sister of Joan, who was with us some time ago, she seems a very likeable girl.

2nd February, 1951

Constable W.Whyte resigned to-day, after having tackled the job for three months.

5th February, 1951

Mr.D.O.Evans, Senior Examiner in Rad./Elec. Section was transferred to Cossors of Highbury to-day. He had been travelling daily from Canonbury, and his new station will be much more convenient for him.

D.O.Evans

5th March, 1951

Mrs. H.M. Clack was engaged as a Canteen Assistant. She has a slight impediment in sight and hearing, but may be satisfactory. Mr. D.T. Ford comes to us as Senior Examiner in Rad./Elec. Section. A loss to Harefield is the transfer to-day of Mr. H.J. Curnow, B.Sc., of Materials H.Q., who goes on transfer (and promotion) to D.L.P.P., London.

12th March, 1951

Mr. P.G. Smith, Assistant (Scientific) of Metrology Section, left us to-day on transfer to No. 90 Group R.A.F., Ruislip.

6th April, 1951

Mr. W.R. Dell ("Ray") who has been with us as an M/T. Driver since 1944, resigned to-day. Inclined to be rather "happy go lucky", and just a bit irresponsible, he was nevertheless quite popular - especially with some of the ladies!

9th April, 1951

Mr. C. Wilkinson comes to join the staff of Materials H.Q. to-day as Chief Inspector. Already known to some of our staff, he is likely to become very popular. Mr. A.J. Painter who was employed as a labourer between 1945/50 was re-engaged in the same capacity to-day.

13th April, 1951

Mrs. J. Styles, Cook in the Canteen, resigned to-day. She came to us last September.

20th April, 1951

Mr. J. Holliday of Metallurgy Section, our high-spirited Chief Examiner, was called up for service with H.M. Forces. We understand he is to take a commission in the R.A.F.

21st April, 1951

We congratulate Miss Pat. Hunter of the Chemistry Section, who is 21 to-day.

23rd April, 1951

Mrs. M. M. Hampstead, a local woman, fairly young and attractive, was engaged as an Assistant Cook in the Canteen to-day.

26th April, 1951

Mr. S. H. Callcott was engaged as an M/T. Driver to-day. In addition to his driving capabilities, we hear he has also considerable skill as an artist.

15th May, 1951

We learnt with regret to-day of the death of Mr. V. R. Wybrow, Chief Examiner in N. D. Tests. He has been with the Department since 1936, and has made a long and gallant struggle against ill-health for some months.

23rd May, 1951

Mr. J. H. Joyce, A. I. I., of Materials H. Q., was transferred to Northern Area, to-day.

29th May, 1951

The Theatrical Group held their Annual General Meeting this evening.

4th June, 1951

We lose an old friend to-day in Mr. N. K. Wheatley, who leaves on transfer to C. I. A. He has been Inspector I/C. of Metrology for several years, and apart from a short absence with I. S. C. 2a during the War, has been at Test House since 1938. He will be missed by many friends.

8th June, 1951

Mrs. M. Hampstead, Assistant Cook, who came in April, resigned to-day. We think there may be a happy event pending.

11th June, 1951

Mr. D. H. Elliott was engaged as an Instrument Maker for duty in Apparatus Section.

15th June, 1951

Miss I. Matthews, Canteen A ssistant, who came to us last December, resigned to-day, to take other employment.

19th June, 1951

There was rejoicing in many quarters of Test House to-day as we basked in the reflected glory of Mr. H. R. Reeve, our Station Engineer, who has been awarded the British Empire Medal in the King's Birthday Honours List.

27th June, 1951

Mrs. N. Emerton was engaged as a part-time Canteen A ssistant. How long will she last, we wonder?

2nd July, 1951

Another addition to the Canteen Staff to-day was Mrs. D. Ellis, who comes as an Assistant Cook.

7th July, 1951

Mr. R. Gould, A ssistant (Scientific) in N/D. Tests, resigned to-day. We shall miss the sight of his little "home-made" car around the place.

9th July, 1951

Mr. W. E. Fairweather was engaged as a Fitter to-day. He is the husband of Mrs. L. A. Fairweather, one of the most pleasant of our cleaners.

23rd July, 1951

Mrs. F. G. Clark (widow of G. W. Clark) was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day, and Mr. D. W. Hitchens, who was with us in 1947/49 was re-instated on his return from the Forces.

27th July, 1951

Mrs. Emerton, who came to us just a month ago, resigned to-day. We thought, somehow, she wouldn't last long.

16th August, 1951

Mr.H.E.Dalton, Electrical Fitter, was discharged to-day. A good workman, but not very amenable to discipline, and rather inclined to be truculent.

20th August, 1951

Mr.G.G.C.Downham was engaged as an Assistant (Scientific). A quiet lad, who comes of partly French ancestry.

21st August, 1951

Miss N.D.Smith, who has been with us as a typist since January 1950, resigned to-day on her marriage. Someone is going to be lucky, for she really is a very nice girl.

31st August, 1951

We lose Mrs.I.Davison to-day, one of our really attractive cleaners. There is a happy event pending, and we wish her the best of luck and good fortune. A nother we are sorry to lose is Mr.W.McGill, Packer, who leaves us to take a job in the Birmingham area.

3rd September, 1951

Miss S.A.Forsyth, a tall well-built girl of twenty, comes to the Canteen to-day as Assistant Cook, and Miss Prudence Tutt was engaged as a typist. The latter is a nice blonde, but seems rather better in looks than in speech.

5th September, 1951

Miss Doreen Hammersley of the typing pool, resigned to-day on her forthcoming marriage to Mr. Norman Barber of the Gauge Workshops. She has developed into one of the nicest girls we have had in the Pool, and she and her future husband are assured of the good wishes of all the staff.

D. Hammersley

14th September, 1951

Mrs.D.Ellis, who came as Assistant Cook in July, resigned to-day for domestic reasons, as did Mrs.Graddidge, cleaner, wife of one of our Constables.

18th September, 1951

Constable A.A. Gradidge resigned to-day to take up other employment. He seemed to have a perpetual grouse here, and always imagined he was being unfairly treated. Another resignation was of Mr. P.K. Hather ("Peter") who also goes to take other employment. He has found a wife in Test House, anyway.

19th September, 1951

Miss B.A. Sturdy, Examiner in Metallurgy Section, leaves us to-day on getting married shortly. Our best wishes go with her.

20th September, 1951

Mrs. A.M. Bigrave was engaged as a cleaner. Her health does not seem too good, and we wonder whether she will be able to hold the job for long.

21st September, 1951

Mrs. B. Sibley, Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day. She has been here just about a year, and Mrs. Whyte another Canteen Assistant also resigned. She was one we "took over" last September.

24th September, 1951

Mr. T. McNamara joins the staff of Chemistry Section to-day as an Examiner. We wonder if he is a potential "leader of the band". Mrs. Emerton Canteen Assistant, who was with us for a month earlier this year was re-engaged to-day. How long will she last this time?

25th September, 1951

Mr. F. Solari, our "ex-American" Inspector of Physics Section, leaves us to-day on transfer to D.Inst.R.D., London.

30th September, 1951

Miss Z.L. Collis ("Zena") who has been with us as Assistant (Scientific) in Metallurgy for three years, resigned to-day. We shall miss her vivacious manner and rather striking appearance about here.

1st October, 1951

Mr. L.R.H. Backler, B.Sc., who has been with us since 1942 (and was at Kidbrooke in 1936) was transferred to-day to C.I.A., Woolwich. We shall miss his rather shock-headed appearance about the Test House. We had to discharge Mr. H.A.W. How, Fitter-Turner to-day. He was a good workman, but inclined to be aggressive and disobedient.

3rd October, 1951

Miss Y.A. Hall, a tall and very attractive girl, who cycles all the way from the other side of Watford, was engaged as a learner-tracer in the Drawing Office.

5th October, 1951

Mrs. A.E. Beard, Canteen Assistant, was discharged to-day, and Mr. D.H. Elliott, instrument maker, resigned. Another resignation is of Miss Maureen Gibbs, temporary clerk. For her age she seems to know a surprising amount.

8th October, 1951

Miss B.D. Stoddard was engaged as a Tracer in Drawing Office to-day, and Mrs. G.E. West was engaged as a Canteen Assistant.

9th October, 1951

Mrs. R.F. Lovelock was engaged as yet another Canteen Assistant to-day.

17th October, 1951

Mr. T.J. Jones was engaged as a Grade II Labourer to-day.

23rd October, 1951

Mr. L. Pearson, who has been with Materials H.Q. at Harefield since 1943, was transferred to D.A.P.S., London to-day. He will be missed by his colleagues of Materials Division.

26th October, 1951

Mrs R.F.Lovelock, Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day. She has lasted just over a fortnight!

29th October, 1951

Mr.F.E.W.Baker was engaged as a Packer in the Stores, and Mr.C.E.Donnall as a Fitter-Turner. Mr. I.A.Harris, who was with us in 1948/49, was transferred back here again as Chief Examiner in Rad./Elec. Section. Another engagement was of Mr.B.L.Hunt, who comes as an Instrument Maker. Mrs.B.Moody was engaged as a Canteen Assistant. As Miss Morell, she was in the Canteen service some years ago.

31st October, 1951

Miss J.P.Parker comes to the staff of Accounts Section as a trainee clerk. She is only fifteen, but has an eye for all the boys!

12th November, 1951

Mr.C.D.Thomas was engaged as a temporary clerk for duty with Materials H.Q. Of an extremely nervous temperament, with a painful impediment in his speech, he may be able to hold his job for a time. Mr.Leo Byrne, Chief Examiner in Rad./Elec. Section was transferred to A.I.D. H.Q., Chessington to-day. He will be missed by many friends - especially by Thora.

20th November, 1951

The Theatrical Group gave us an excellent evening's entertainment, when two short plays were presented.

26th November, 1951

Mr.F.H.Salmon, who has been in the A.I.D. since 1936, came to Test House to-day to be Inspector I/C. of Physics Section.

30th November, 1951

Mr.J.S.Caplin, our good-looking Assistant (Scientific) in Metrology Section, left us to-day on being called up for service with H.M.Forces.

3rd December, 1951

Miss A.R.McVean, who comes to replace Miss Middleton as Canteen Manageress, arrived to-day.

5th December, 1951

Mrs I.V.Tidbury was engaged as a Canteen Assistant, and Miss D.Middleton who has been here since last January as Canteen Manageress, was transferred to-day to Westcott. Reasonably efficient, she was generally popular with her staff.

7th December, 1951

Mrs.B.Moody, who was engaged as a Canteen Assistant last month, was discharged to-day. Her poor health and very short sight makes it impossible for us to keep her on.

12th December, 1951

Our congratulations to-day go to Miss Margaret Rose of Physics Section, who is twenty-one. We wish her a very happy future.

20th December, 1951

We held our Christmas Party this evening. Games dancing and entertainments were included in the programme. Mr.R.W.Shields, Assistant (Scientific) who was with us in 1948/49, was re-instated to-day on his return from the Forces.

21st December, 1951

Mr.A.G.Turtle, labourer, resigned to-day. He has been here just over a year.

29th December, 1951

Mr.K.S.Rawlins, Inspector, of Materials H.Q. was transferred to D.A.P.S., London to-day. He has seen some years service in U.S.A., and his efficiency generally seemed greater than his cheerfulness.

31st December, 1951

Mr.D.J.W.Gracie was appointed as Senior Examiner in Metallurgy Section. Very quiet and reserved, there seems a bit of a mystery about him. Mr.S.A. Thurgar was engaged as an electrical fitter.

1st January, 1952

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The first engagement this year is of Mr. A. D. Dudbridge, who comes as an Examiner in N/D. Tests. Tall and good-looking, he is a distinct asset to the staff. Another engagement is of Mr. N. D. Denton who comes as Senior Photographer in Physics Section. A very different type.

4th January, 1952

Miss Sheila Hadman, one of our real glamour girls resigned her post to-day as Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section. The place will seem duller without her.

6th January, 1952

Constable A. J. Bishop, who came to us in February 1951, resigned to-day.

8th January, 1952

Mr. C. A. Bowmer was engaged as a labourer to-day. Something of a "barrack-room lawyer", we don't fancy he will stick the job very long.

9th January, 1952

Mr. T. E. Jones, Chief Examiner of Metrology Section, resigned to-day. He has been with us since 1939, and will be much missed in social activities. A presentation was made to him on behalf of the staff.

15th January, 1952

Mrs. H. M. Clack, Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day. She has stuck it for nearly three months.

23rd January, 1952

Mrs. M. E. Thomas was engaged as a Canteen Assistant. Still they come!

24th January, 1952

Mrs. M. E. Thomas, Canteen Assistant, resigned. And still they go!

25th January, 1952

230

Mrs I.V.Tidbury, Canteen Assistant, resigned. She has lasted about seven weeks.

28th January, 1952

Mrs.D.M.Allen was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day.

30th January, 1952

Mrs.B.Foulton was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day.

6th February, 1952

We were all stunned to-day by the grievous news of the sudden death of H.M.The King. He had passed away in his sleep during the night. We can hardly believe it until we see the flag fluttering sadly at half mast on our flagstaff in the forecourt. This is an event unique in the history of the Test House at Harefield. "The King is dead; Long live The Queen", for King George VI. is succeeded by Princess Elizabeth, who will take the title of Queen Elizabeth II.

8th February, 1952

Mrs.B.Foulton, Canteen Assistant resigned to-day. She has been here just a week!

15th February, 1952

Miss B.D.Stoddard, Tracer in the Drawing Office, resigned to-day to take other employment. She has been with us only since October last. We all observed a two-minute silence to-day at the hour of the King's funeral, and some of our staff are away attending official functions in connection with this sad event.

18th February, 1952

Mr.G.A.Ward, a very diminutive and likeable lad, was engaged as an Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section. He looks about fourteen, but is actually in his eighteenth year.

22nd February, 1952

231

We lose one of the most popular members of our staff to-day, when Miss T.M. Abraham ("Thora") leaves on her marriage to Mr. Leo Byrne. She will be missed, not only by her section, but also by the Social Club, and most of all perhaps for her work on first-aid as an Assistant to the Welfare Officer. We wish both her and Leo Byrne every happiness.

25th February, 1952

Mr. E.F.A. Williamson joins the staff of Metrology Section as a Senior Examiner to-day.

29th February, 1952

On Leap-year's Day we lose Mrs. Clark, one of our Canteen Assistants, who resigned for domestic reasons, and also a very popular member of Chemistry Section, Miss E.H. Davis ("Edna"), who leaves us to get married. She takes with her the good wishes of all the staff.

1st March, 1952

Mr. F. Morgan, our Welsh Senior Storeman, was transferred to Sellafield, Cumberland to-day. He has been with us since 1946, and was respected by some of his colleagues and liked by a few.

3rd March, 1952

An appointment to-day is that of Mr. K.B. Johnston, who comes as an Examiner in Metallurgy Section. Another Mrs. E. Palmer comes to the Canteen as an Assistant, and Mr. E.G. Webster is also appointed as an Examiner in Metallurgy. A fourth newcomer is Mr. E.D. Yardley who comes to Chemistry Section as A.I.l. Quite a batch in one day.

7th March, 1952

Miss V. Stagg, temporary clerk II who has been with us for six years, resigned to-day. Daughter of one of our former constables, she was quiet and unobtrusive, but quite good at her work.

10th March, 1952

232

Mr. A. A. Johnston was appointed as Chief Examiner in Chemistry Section. That makes two Johnstons in one week. Mrs. McMahon, who was here as a cleaner in 1944/45, joined the Canteen staff to-day as an Assistant.

11th March, 1952

Mr. D. F. Lipyeat, a young lad from Hillingdon, was engaged as an Examiner in Metrology Section. Miss C. J. Hutton ("Coralie"), Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section leaves us to take other employment. We are sorry to lose her, and wish her every success.

12th March, 1952

Mr. H. C. Brown, Gauge-maker, who has been with us since 1945, resigned to-day to take other employment.

14th March, 1952

Miss M. D. Hecker, one of the prettiest girls we have, resigned her post as Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section to-day. We understand she is taking a domestic post in Scotland. Many of our men - perhaps one man in particular - will miss her, and we all wish her good luck. Her chief vice is an inclination to be mercenary. Another we are sorry to lose is Miss Margaret Rose, Asst. (Scien.) in Physics, who goes to employment in a medical dispensary. She was not exceptionally brilliant, but very painstaking and conscientious, and has a sweet personality.

21st March, 1952

Miss S. A. Forsyth, our young Assistant Cook in the Canteen, leaves to-day on transfer to Bicester. We wish her all success in her new post. We also give our congratulations to Miss Yvonne Donne of the typing pool, who is twenty-one to-day.

Y. Donne

22nd March, 1952.

Good wishes to Mr. Derek Hitchens of the Photographic Lab. who is twenty-one to-day.

24th March, 1952

233

Mr. W. H. Miller joined the staff to-day as an Executive Officer. About the youngest Executive Officer we have had. Another newcomer is Mr. M. G. Saunders who comes on transfer from Woolwich as an Examiner in Chemistry Section. He is the father-in-law of Mr. C. T. Robinson, our Station Engineer's "Assistant".

31st March, 1952

Miss A. G. Hitchens ("Ann"), the very attractive sister of Derek, was engaged to-day as an Assistant Photographer. Mr. D. J. W. Gracie, Senior Examiner, who was appointed last December, was discharged to-day. He had been a "square peg in a round hole" here, and was not very satisfactory. Miss P. M. Hunter, Assistant (Scientific) also resigned to-day. Her health and attendance has not been very good. Another resignation is that of Mr. J. Wallis, temporary clerk. He has been here since 1940, but his health is now quite undermined by chronic alcoholism.

1st April, 1952

Mrs E. McMahon, Canteen Assistant, who was engaged three weeks ago, resigned to-day. She couldn't "get on" with the Manageress.

7th April, 1952

Mr. L. E. Fisk, who has been with us as Cashier since 1940, retired to-day. He was well-known to all the staff, and a handsome presentation (including a wrist watch) was made to him by the Superintendent in the Canteen. He is succeeded as Cashier by Mr. C. R. Beauchamp.

14th April, 1952

Miss R. Goodyear, Assistant (Scientific) resigned to-day to take other employment. A little less irresponsibility would improve her considerably.

15th April, 1952

Mrs. A. A. Avenell, an attractive woman, was engaged as Canteen Assistant to-day. We heard with regret to-day of the death of one of our cleaners, Mrs. E. Bugbee. She was one of our old "stalwarts", and had been with us since 1938. We shall all miss her.

E. Bugbee

17th April, 1952

234

Miss M.J.Stevens ("Marion") resigned to-day, after being with us as a shorthand-typist for nearly four years. She had done her best to overcome her physical handicaps, and had certainly improved since she first came to us.

18th April, 1952

Mrs.G.A.Smith, our very loquacious cleaner, resigned to-day. She is the wife of Fred.Smith, one of our stokers. The place will certainly be quieter without her.

21st April, 1952

Mrs.D.R.Milton, was engaged as a cleaner to-day.

23rd April, 1952

Mrs.N.K.Jelfs was engaged as a cleaner. Rather a superior type of woman.

9th May, 1952

Mrs.A.A.Avenell, Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day. She has only been with us since April 15th.

20th May, 1952

Mr.C.A.Bowmer, labourer, resigned to-day. We are not really sorry to see him go - he knew too much for any of us!

26th May, 1952

Mrs.M.M.Owen, a very "Welsh" girl, was engaged as Canteen Assistant to-day.

4th June, 1952

Mr.P.Leckie was engaged as a Fitter-turner to-day.

6th June, 1952

Mr.H.Timms was engaged as a labourer. A steady and very decent type of man, he will probably be very useful in the garden.

17th June, 1952

We had a tragedy to-day in the sudden death of Mr. W. G. Lonergan, mate. He collapsed and passed away in a very short time. The effects of war wounds and prisoner-of-war treatment had undermined his constitution. Our sympathies go to his widow.

20th June, 1952

Mr. P. Leckie, fitter-turner, who was engaged on June 4th, was discharged to-day. He was really unsuitable for his job. Mr. H. J. Osborne, our genial (if rather ungainly) Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section, resigned to-day to go to other employment. Mrs. E. Palmer, Canteen Assistant, also resigned to-day.

27th June, 1952

Mr. F. E. W. Baker, packer in Stores, resigned to-day. He has been with us since last October. Mr. S. A. Thurgar, electrical fitter who came to us last December, also resigned to take other employment.

1st July, 1952

Miss E. M. Luscombe was engaged as a Canteen Assistant. A pleasant type of woman, she is the sister of Reg. Luscombe in the Stores.

11th July, 1952

Mr. D. F. Lipyeat, Examiner in Metrology Section, left us to-day on being called up for service with H. M. Forces.

12th July, 1952

Miss E. I. Feasey, shorthand-typist was transferred to-day to Amersham on promotion to C. O. / Sec. She has been at Harefield since 1940, and we shall certainly miss Eileen and wish her success in her new sphere.

22nd July, 1952

Mr. E. Tuck was engaged as an electrical fitter. He has a reputation for being very keen on Trade Union matters.

11th August, 1952

Mrs. Q.M. Hillyard was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day.

16th August, 1952

Our Annual Garden Party was held in the grounds to-day. Stalls and side-shows were among the entertainments.

21st August, 1952

Mr. R.W. Shields, our very tall Assistant (Scientific), who was re-instated in 1951 after his service with the Forces, resigned to-day to take other employment.

25th August, 1952

Mr. P.J. Bartlett was appointed to-day as an Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section, and Miss R.A. Holloway in a similar capacity. Mrs. G.C. Owen, another Welsh girl of only twenty years old, was engaged as a Canteen Assistant.

31st August, 1952

Mr. T. McNamara, Senior Examiner in Chemistry Section, resigned to-day to take up fresh employment elsewhere.

1st September, 1952

Mr. J.P. Nice, a young fellow who appears to live up to his name, was appointed as Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section to-day, and Mr. P.F. Wotton was appointed in a similar capacity in Rad./Elec. Section.

5th September, 1952

Mrs. M.M. Owen, Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day. When she was engaged in May we described her as a "Welsh girl", but this description was not quite correct, and should more properly be applied to Mrs. G.C. Owen, who came to us on August 25th.

8th September, 1952

Miss N.M.Huggett was transferred here to-day as Canteen Manageress. She must be an improvement on her predecessor, anyway. Mr.L.Leng was engaged as a labourer, but we don't think he will last here very long.

9th September, 1952

Miss A .R.McVean, Canteen Manageress, left us to-day on transfer to Aldermaston. We do not imagine many tears will be shed.

12th September, 1952

Mrs.A.Bigrave, cleaner, resigned to-day. Her health really does not permit her to carry on with this job.

25th September, 1952

Miss J.P.Parker, temporary clerk in Accounts Section, resigned to-day. She really was rather irresponsible.

29th September, 1952

Mrs.M.Ball was engaged as a cleaner to-day, and Mr.C.G.Parkinson as a stocktaker (a new post for us). He has a somewhat peculiar and "sanctimonious" gait.

7th November, 1952

After a completely free month of staff movements, our first event of November is the resignation of Miss P.A. Young ("Pat.") who leaves us to take up other employment locally. She was of a rather sweet disposition, and we are sorry to lose her, but we can't blame her for taking more lucrative employment.

10th November, 1952

Mr.L.E.Fisk, who retired last April as Cashier, has applied to come back again, and we have agreed to re-engage him as a temporary clerk for attachment to Rad./Elec. Section. Mr.H.J.Foy was engaged as a labourer to-day. Apart from being slightly deaf he looks a very reliable man.

11th November, 1952

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Mr. J. M. Jones ("Michael"), Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section, was called up to-day, and left to join the R.A.F. One at least of our young ladies will be sorry to see him go, but no doubt he will be back with us again in due course.

12th November, 1952

Miss Luscombe, one of the best of our Canteen Assistants, resigned to-day. She has been with us since July.

14th November, 1952

They have at last started work on the building of an additional garage, and in consequence the Police Hut at the North Entrance must be re-sited, so they are moving it to-day to a spot among the laurel bushes, backing on to the old House.

17th November, 1952

Miss P. M. B. Humphries was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day.

24th November, 1952

Mr. J. Holliday, Chief Examiner in Metallurgy Section, was re-instated to-day on his return from the R.A.F. The Metallurgy Section will certainly be livelier now.

25th November, 1952

Miss J. M. Southby was engaged as a Cashier/Storekeeper in the Canteen. She seems rather young and irresponsible-looking for this job.

28th November, 1952

Mr. P. Davey ("Percy"), retired to-day, after having been with us since 1936. We shall all miss him and his funny little ways, and we wish him a happy retirement as he goes back to his native town of Bedford.

1st December, 1952

239

Mr. E. J. McLauchlan, a very "Scottish Scot", joins the staff of Materials H.Q. to-day, as a Chemist III.

3rd December, 1952

Mr. J. Smethurst was transferred here to-day for duty as a Senior Examiner in Rad./Elec. Section. An engagement to-day is that of Mr. G. C. B. Thompson who comes as a labourer. He is the father of Bruce Thompson in Apparatus Section.

5th December, 1952

Mr. C. J. Venton, Senior Examiner in Rad./Elec. Section, was transferred to Accrington to-day. He has been here since 1944, and we don't think he is very pleased to go.

9th December, 1952

Mrs. P. Keen was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day. She seems rather above the average we have had lately.

12th December, 1952

We had to discharge Miss J. M. Southby, our young Cashier/Storekeeper in the Canteen. Her integrity was not entirely above suspicion.

15th December, 1952

Mr. K. L. Tolliday, Chief Examiner in Rad./Elec. Section, was transferred to E. M. I., Hayes to-day. He has been at Harefield since 1946, and in the Department since 1938.

17th December, 1952

Mr. G. A. Philps, who was with us as far back as 1941, returns to the fold to-day as Insp. I/C. of Physics Section, and Mr. F. H. Salmon the present Inspector, is transferred to A. I. D., H. Q., Chessington.

19th December, 1952

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We had our Christmas Party this evening. This year a number of the guests were in fancy dress.

23rd December, 1952

Mrs. G.C. Owen, our young Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day. She has been with us since August. We understand there is a happy event pending.

30th December, 1952

We are glad to have an old friend back to-day, as we re-engage Mr. W.R. McGill as a labourer. Mr. Windsor Evens, Senior Examiner in Metallurgy Section resigned to-day. We think we shall survive.

31st December, 1952

Mrs. J.H. Stevenson ("Jean"), Examiner in Chemistry Section resigns to-day for domestic reasons. There is a happy event pending. Better known to many of us as Jean Jennings, she has been here since 1945, and has become very popular with all her colleagues. Her work in the Theatrical Group will be especially remembered, and she takes with us the good wishes of us all. We had to discharge Mr. C.D. Thomas, Temporary Clerk in Materials H.Q. to-day. He was really unfitted for his job.

5th January, 1953

Miss E.A. O'Halloran, a most attractive Irish girl with a lovely accent, was engaged as a temporary clerk in Provisioning Section. She is a neice of "Sandy" Neilson in the Stores.

23rd January, 1953

Mrs. J.V. Humphries ("Jenny"), one of the most talkative of our cleaners, resigned to-day, after having been with us since 1947.

28th January, 1953

Mrs. H.E. Lofty was engaged as a cleaner to-day.

2nd February, 1953

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Mrs. M. D. F. Gardner was engaged to-day as a part-time temporary clerk, for duty in Accounts Section, and Miss Shirley Pett comes here on transfer to the Typing Pool. She is tall, and very good-looking and very cheeky.

20th February, 1953

Miss P. M. B. Humphries, Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day after three months' service.

23rd February, 1953

Mrs. D. A. Humphries was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day. One Humphries goes out and another comes in.

2nd March, 1953

Mr. A. E. Walmsley joins the staff of Metallurgy Section to-day, as a Chemist III.

23rd March, 1953

Miss P. M. B. Wilkinson, a fairly elderly spinster, comes here on transfer as Clerical Officer, to replace Mr. T. Eddy.

30th March, 1953

Mr. C. A. Fletcher joins the staff of Materials H.Q. to-day, as a Chemist III. He hails from Bangor, N. Wales.

31st March, 1953

Mr. T. J. Eddy ("Tom."), clerical officer, retired to-day, after more than twenty-four years service with the Department. A presentation was made to him by T. H. S. on behalf of the staff, and we shall certainly miss him here.

7th April, 1953

Mrs. D. M. Gray was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day.

10th April, 1953

Mr. L. Leng, labourer, resigned to-day. He had been with us since last September, but was not conspicuously satisfactory.

27th April, 1953

The good wishes of all our staff go to Miss A.A. Watson ("Averil"), of the Drawing Office. She is twenty-one to-day, and is one of our most popular girls.

5th May, 1953

Mr. J.F.A. Painter, Examiner in Physics Section, who has been with us since 1949, resigned to-day. We understand he is proceeding to Canada, and we wish him "bon voyage".

8th May, 1953

Miss Y.A. Hall, tracer, in Drawing Office, resigned to-day. She went rather suddenly, but we can't blame her for getting a post nearer her home. We give our very good wishes to Miss Joyce Dear of the Textile Lab. who is twenty-one to-day.

15th May, 1953

Mrs. D.A. Humphries, Canteen Assistant, resigned. She has been here since February. Another resignation to-day is of Mr. D. McMahon, T.G. III of Metallurgy Section. He goes to other employment.

18th May, 1953

Mrs. W.M. Hogg (wife of Mr. Hogg in Apparatus Section) was engaged to-day as a Canteen Assistant. She has a reputation for "enjoying very poor health"!

26th May, 1953

Mr. L.J. Graver, one of our popular Examiners in Rad./Elec. Section, left to-day to join H.M. Forces. We understand he is to try for a Commission in the R.A.F.

2nd June, 1953

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To-day is the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We have no decorations up, only the "official" flag, but we are closed for the day, and all our staff are on holiday.

3rd June, 1953

Mrs. Emerton, Canteen Assistant, who was engaged for the second time in September, 1951, resigned for the second time to-day.

5th June, 1953

Mrs. I. Milton, cleaner, resigned to-day for health reasons. We shall miss her Irish accent around the place.

8th June, 1953

Mr. A. J. Stent joins the ranks of our newly-created corps of Firebrigademen, and Mrs. M. Smith comes to the Canteen as Cashier/Storekeeper.

9th June, 1953

Mr. C. A. Belfield, Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section, was called up to-day for service with H.M. Forces.

12th June, 1953

Mr. A. H. Pooley, instrument maker, who has been here since 1940 and with the Department since 1932, retired to-day, having passed the age of 65.

13th June, 1953

Mr. H. J. Curnow, who was here until recently with Materials H.Q., has been awarded the O.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. We send him our congratulations.

15th June, 1953

Mrs. G. L. Smith was engaged as a cleaner to-day.

19th June, 1953

Mrs. D.M. Gray, Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day. She has been with us since April.

22nd June, 1953

Mr. S.W. Hollingum, Inspector, was transferred from Materials H.Q. to D.A.P.D., London to-day. Formerly on the staff of Test House, he has been here since 1941, and we shall miss his cheery presence and genial manner.

S.W. Hollingum

25th June, 1953

Mr. G.A. Ward, our popular diminutive Assistant (Scientific) was called up to-day for service with H.M. Forces.

29th June, 1953

Mr. T.A. Statham was engaged as a labourer to-day.

4th July, 1953

Congratulations to Miss E.A. O'Halloran, temporary clerk, who attains her 21st birthday to-day.

6th July, 1953

Mr. C.G. Pascall was transferred here to-day as Inspector I/C. of Non-Destructive Tests. He has been with the Department since 1936.

13th July, 1953

Miss P.G. Goodfellow was engaged as a tracer in Drawing Office to-day. She travels from Iver Heath. Mr. I.A. Shepherd comes on transfer to Materials H.Q., as a Technical Grade II.

15th July, 1953

To-day is the review of the Royal Air Force by H.M. The Queen, and many of our staff had an excellent view of the great fly-past from the roof of the Test House.

20th July, 1953

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Mrs. B.I. Broome, Clerical Officer, comes here to-day on transfer from Establishments Division. She has just recently married, and we understand her husband is also in the Ministry of Supply. Mr. R.J. Percy also comes on transfer to-day to be Instructor of the new Apprentices' School about to be opened. Mr. L.T. Bysh was engaged as a Firebrigademan to-day.

4th August, 1953

Mr. C.L. Totterdell comes to us to-day on transfer and promotion as a T.G.II in Physics Section. Mr. A.R. Stumbles, Clerical Officer, was transferred to Establishments, London, to-day. He has been transferred twice before and returned, but we do not think he will come back this time. His amusing stutter and queer mannerisms were a source of constant amusement.

7th August, 1953

Mrs. P. Keen, Cashier and Assistant in the Canteen resigned to-day. We are very sorry to lose her, but she finds the pull of domestic duties and a young family too strong.

10th August, 1953

Mr. N. Ponton comes here on promotion and transfer as a T.G.II for duty in Physics Section.

29th August, 1953

Constable G.H. Smith, who has been with us since 1941, retired to-day on reaching the age limit for constabulary work.

31st August, 1953

To-day marks yet another milestone in our history, for it sees the opening of the long-talked-of Apprentices' School. It begins with the following boys:-

J.R.P. Ashby
L.A. Harwood
J.G. Mitchell
D.J.R. Stubbs

B.E.J. Blestowe
G.M. Kennard
P.J. North
R. Thomas

K.D. Wayte

Mr. C.A. Fletcher, Chemist III of Materials H.Q. resigned to-day.

7th September, 1953

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Mrs.V.K.Cody was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day; Mr.M.G.Greaves joins the School as a craft apprentice, and Mr.D.V.Shaw as student apprentice. A recruit to Chemistry Section is Miss M.Spires, who comes as an Assistant (Scientific). She seems a friendly and attractive type of girl.

12th September, 1953

Miss A.G.Hitchens ("Ann") our Assistant Photographer in Physics Section, resigned to-day. She has been with us since March 1952, and was probably one of the half-dozen prettiest girls we have had.

23rd September, 1953

Mr.E.A.Glover was engaged as a labourer in the Stores to-day. He has been invalided out of the R.A.F.

25th September, 1953

We are very sorry to-day to hear of the death of one of our carpenters, Mr.R.J.Scott, who has been with us for ten years. Formerly a Harefield resident, but living lately in Uxbridge, he was a good workman, and we shall be the poorer without him.

28th September, 1953

Mr.J.J.Black was re-engaged to-day as an Instrument Maker. He was with us previously, and we are quite glad to have him back. Another appointment to-day is Miss Sheila J.O'Neill (with 2 lls) who comes as Assistant Photographer. Some say she is the most beautiful girl we have ever had, but she has very little to say for herself.

29th September, 1953

Mr.G.H.Smith, who retired from the Constabulary a month ago, was re-engaged as a labourer to-day. We are quite glad to have him back among us.

30th September, 1953

Mr.P.J.Bartlett, Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section, was called up for service with H.M.Forces to-day.

1st October, 1953

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Mr. F. Crowder comes to Materials H.Q. as a Chemist III to-day. He has seen some service recently in the Middle East. Mr. E. F. A. Williamson Senior Examiner in Metrology Section, leaves on transfer to Bolton, having been with us since February 1952.

2nd October, 1953

A resignation which everyone who knew her regrets, is that of Miss E. A. O'Halloran, temporary clerk in Provisioning Section. She has only been with us since January, but has been of great assistance in first-sid work, and was generally very popular. She returns to work in London.

7th October, 1953

Mr. M. C. Davidson, a rather good-looking young fellow, was appointed Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section. Mr. E. A. Glover, who was only engaged on 23rd September, died to-day after a very short illness. Our sympathy goes to his widow.

12th October, 1953

Mr. E. W. Livermore was appointed to the ranks of our Constabulary to-day. He is doing the incredible journey daily from Barnehurst in Kent. Mr. J. Smethurst, who came to us last December, was transferred to Manchester to-day.

16th October, 1953

Mr. M. C. Davidson, Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section, resigned to-day. He didn't like us, and has stayed just a week and two days!

26th October, 1953

Mr. K. J. Bower, T.G.II. was transferred here to-day for duty in Rad./Elec. Section.

9th November, 1953

Mr. R. Wiggins was engaged as a carpenter to-day.

16th November, 1953

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Miss J.E.Crow, a young clerical officer, comes to us to-day on transfer. She seems to be quite an asset to the place, and brightens it up.

17th November, 1953

Mr.E.Hughes, a junior technician in the R.A.F., was attached to Test House to-day, for duty in the Chemistry Section.

20th November, 1953

Mrs.B.Darn ("Brenda") of the Typing Pool, resigns to-day. She came to us in 1948 as Miss Mitchell, and there is now a happy event pending. We wish her the best of luck. Mr.R.Wiggins, who came as a carpenter on the 9th, also resigned to-day.

7th December, 1953

Mrs.R.A.Field was engaged as a typist to-day. She has been left a widow recently by the death of her husband who was with us as a Constable some years ago.

14th December, 1953

Mr.W.G.Green was appointed Assistant (Scientific) in Chemistry Section. He is perhaps the best-looking young fellow we have had here since the days of Walpole(q.v. in Vol.I.) A retirement to-day is that of Mr.S.Lane, Senior Examiner in Physics Section. He has been with the Department since 1936, and we shall certainly miss him. A presentation was made to him by T.H.S. on behalf of the staff. Mr.G.H.Tilley, Chief Examiner in N/D. Tests goes on transfer and promotion to C.I.A.Woolwich to-day. He will be missed by many friends here.

18th December, 1953

The Christmas Party was held this evening. The entertainment included a very good fancy hat parade.

31st December, 1953

Surprisingly enough, Mr.Pooley who retired in June has applied for re-engagement, and we have agreed to take him back on his old job.

31st December, 1953

Mr. K. J. Bower, who came to us on transfer in October, resigned to-day on taking up other employment.

4th January, 1954

Mr. W. J. Stanton was engaged as a carpenter to-day to replace the late Mr. J. Scott. Mrs. G. E. West, who was here in 1951/52 was re-engaged as a Canteen Assistant. Her alacrity in removing dishes from the tables has earned her the name of "Whippit Quick".

8th January, 1954

Mrs. Q. M. Hillyard ("Queenie May"), Canteen Assistant, resigned to-day, after having been with us since August 1952.

11th January, 1954

Mr. J. S. Caplin, Assistant (Scientific) in Metrology Section, was re-instated to-day after service with H.M. Forces. It is good to have him back.

15th January, 1954

Mrs. V. K. Cody, Canteen Assistant, who came to us last September, resigned to-day.

18th January, 1954

Mrs. S. M. Woodman, who was with us as a cleaner some long time ago, was engaged as a Canteen Assistant to-day. Mr. L. J. Graver, who left us in June last, not having obtained his commission in the R.A.F., came back to-day and was re-appointed to his old Section (Rad./Elec.).

20th January, 1954

Mr. P. F. Wotton, Assistant (Scientific) in Rad./Elec. Section, was called up for service with H.M. Forces to-day.

1st February, 1954

Mr. F. W. W. Brown, a local man, was engaged as a Fitter-turner to-day.

15th February, 1954

At least, the M.O.W. who look after our premises, spare no expense in some directions, and this week they are covering the whole of our concrete forecourt with tar macadam. We shall feel quite "posh". Mr.M.J.Mullett, who belongs to A.E.R.E., Harwell, was attached here for a spell of duty in Metrology Section.

26th February, 1954

Mrs.S.M.Woodman, Canteen Assistant, who came to us on January 18th, resigned to-day. Her language and general conduct left much to be desired. Another resignation was that of Miss P.Tutt ("Pru.") who goes to take up a post in London. She seemed unable to make up her mind finally to go until the very last moment.

1st March, 1954

Mr.A.G.Kerswell, T.G.II., was transferred here to-day for duty with N/D. Test Section.

8th March, 1954

Mr.F.A.Guyett was engaged as a stoker to-day. He comes to replace Mr.Douglas, who will transfer to other duties here.

15th March, 1954

Mr.M.C.Dunwoodie was engaged as a firebrigademan to-day. He will replace Mr.Brooker, who goes on other duties.

26th March, 1954

This is the Annual season of Weddings, and we had 2 wedding presentations to-day - the first to Mr. E.Dore of Gauge Workshops, and the second to Mr. J.S.Mennell of the Textile Laboratory. Both are getting married within the next few days, and we wish them the best of luck.

MR. M. C. DUNWOODIE
The sudden death occurred on Friday, April 27, of Mr. Mathew Coulson Dunwoodie, aged 44, of 16, Broadwater-lane, Harefield. The funeral service on Friday at St. Mary's Church, Harefield, was conducted by the Rev. D. G. Connor.
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Mourners were: Kathleen (wife), Vanda (daughter), mother, father, Tom (brother), Mary (sister), Alec (brother), Audrey (sister-in-law), Norah, Mabel, May, Daisy, Dora, Ivy (sisters-in-law), George (brother-in-law), John (brother-in-law), Mrs. Wolstenholme, and representatives from A.I.D., Harefield.