

The Customs Journal

No. 608

February 11th, 1928

Fortnightly

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Letters to the Editor, and articles and correspondence intended for publication, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Customs Journal," 91 Tressillian Road, Brockley, London, S.E.4.

All matter for insertion in the forthcoming issue should reach the Editor on or before the Monday preceding the day of publication.

EDITORIAL

DISTRICT Meetings are to a very large extent parochial in their discussions, and it is quite reasonable to expect that a live District will have much that is of local importance to deal with at a quarterly meeting. There is always a great deal to talk over on questions that have arisen on the local Whitley, and the line of action regarding future meetings of that body takes up a great amount of time. It must not be lost sight of, however, that while many local questions possess but little general interest, many questions often are nothing less than general questions localised, and as such are of more or less vital interest to the membership as a whole. To observe repeatedly at the end of the report of a District meeting the announcement that "local matters were discussed and action taken" gives one seriously to think that something is missing, and that more might have been said. This parochialism is not, however, confined solely to District meetings. Association interests frequently affect nobody but the Association concerned; and, of course, no one will deny that questions of this sort are of extreme importance and must be thoroughly examined and discussed. At the same time, we cannot afford to ignore matters of general Service interest. This is never lost sight of by the Officers and Council and any necessary action is promptly taken when necessity arises. For this reason we endeavour to secure representation on various bodies made up of different branches of the Civil Service, such as the National Whitley Council, the Civil Service Confederation, etc.

An increasing number of members of our own Association are taking a wider interest in Civil Service affairs as affecting the Service as a whole, and will welcome the action of the National Whitley Council (Staff Side) which, at a conference of Executives held at the Caxton Hall, London, on January 25th, discussed the probabilities of an All-Service Programme. A resolution was passed endorsing the All-Service Programme of the National Staff Side. The programme at present consists of (a) a minimum wage of £3 10s. 0d. per week, inclusive of bonus; (b) all Service to be pensionable; (c) equal pay for equal work; and (d) abolition of the bonus super-cut. The meeting undertook to afford the fullest support in bringing this programme before Public, Press and Parliament, with a view to pressing its acceptance upon the Government at an early date.

Mr. W. J. Brown, in supporting the resolution, said that many organisations had matters for which they desired to obtain support. Such action was not co-ordinated, and the net result was that the Civil Service had never exercised its full influence. They were not asking Societies to give up their right of exercising pressure on questions of immediate concern to them, but they hoped that on broad issues the programme could be limited, in order that their efforts might be concentrated on a few questions at any one time.

CURRENT COMMENTS

OFFICER Grade recruitment was again the subject of some lively discussion at the Joint Committee of C. & E. Associations, when the question of whether promotion within the Service, or open competition should be the means adopted for obtaining recruits for the 50 to 50 vacancies—additional to recent appointments—which are about to be filled.

* * * *

The P.S.A. and the C.S.C.A. both strongly expressed the view that at least a percentage of the vacancies should be reserved for promotion. The C. & E. Federation have equally strong views against this.

Resulting from the discussion, the Staff Side raised the question on the Departmental Council the following day by asking the Official Side that the claims of the Associations interested be dealt with by means of a special meeting of the Promotion Board. As a result of the ensuing discussion on the Council, the P.S.A. has now forwarded a communication to the Board setting out reasons for desiring a Promotion Board meeting for this purpose. No doubt other Associations have acted likewise.

* * * *

It is to be expected that the Federation will oppose the Promotion Board method for recruiting the Officer Grade, but it will need ingenious argument to get over the *fait accompli* of a number of clerical officers having actually entered the Officer Grade by this means, and who apparently are carrying on successfully. In the Waterguard there are plenty of officers of similar type to those of the clerical grades, but they have the advantage also of being on the young side, and for this reason the arguments regarding disturbance of age groupings can be used only in a negligible degree.

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The Second Report of the Select Committee on Estimates, dealing with Staffing arrangements in the Civil Service, advocates an early return to open competition in order to correct age distribution, and to improve the standard of admission to the various classes.

The Report is, of course, being used by opponents to promotion within the Service. The aim of the Committee is, however, to improve efficiency, and consequently their recommendations will need to be applied with common sense and a full appreciation of conditions peculiar to each branch of the Service. Strict adherence to the age recommendations might, in some cases, result in inefficiency.

* * * *

So far as the Officer Grade is concerned, a flair for Revenue Protection is becoming an increasingly necessary attribute for recruits, both for Customs and for Excise work. The field for possible fraud against the Revenue is widening with every extension of the Tariff. The most perfect departmental regulations that could be devised for obviating fraud are useless if they have to be applied by men whose instincts in this direction have not been trained. Obviously, this is a most important point for consideration when the question of efficiency is examined.

There could be no better school for such training than the Waterguard Service. The officers of this Department are constantly in personal contact with members of the public, of all shades, and of every degree. They become sound judges of character, and grow expert in testing the *bona fides* of even the elite, in the most diplomatic manner possible. Coupled with this they apply intricate regulations, under all sorts of unusual circumstances, frequently without opportunity for consultation or lengthy consideration.

All this tends to show that an experienced and intelligently observant Waterguard officer cannot fail to be adaptable. To select from such officers promoters to the Officer Grade would be the most natural course imaginable.

* * * *

It would be well worth investigating to discover the practical effect of the abolition, some years ago, of the probationary period spent on Waterguard work by Officer Grade recruits. It is true to say that those Officers who have had that experience, incomplete though it was, are prone to citing it as evidence of a broad knowledge of Customs work.

* * * *

The rapid advance of the Waterguard since those days has enhanced a hundredfold the value of the experience to be gained. The standard of personal efficiency is necessarily much higher, and certainly is worthy of better recognition than it gets.

* * * *

It has been announced that successful candidates at the limited examination for the Clerical Class will be transferred "at existing substantive emoluments, plus accrued increment," subject to certain provision (which will not affect Waterguard candidates). Some members, it appears, have interpreted "substantive emoluments" to include "overtime." This is a mistaken impression. The Association has, however, owing to the unique position of the Waterguard regarding overtime, taken steps to see if any concession can be made to Waterguard officers who might qualify for the Clerical Class.

* * * *

Unjustifiably unkind remarks have been made in some quarters regarding the non-appearance of the new mackintoshes. Some people are getting so petulant as to express disbelief that they will ever materialise. Considering the time of the year is more appropriate to overcoats, this impatience is hardly reasonable. It is less reasonable still when it is realised that the so-called delay is due to efforts that are being made to ensure that when the garments are issued each officer will be well fitted. There are difficulties in this connection which do not appear at first glance. Members can rest assured that the mackintoshes are actually in existence, and that the work in connection with arranging for issue is taking no longer than the Staff Side expected.

Electric torches are also almost ready. The finished article is very handy and serviceable and should meet with approval. The electric lamps now in use will not, of course, be withdrawn. They will not, however, be renewed when the stock is exhausted.

Methods for distribution and for maintenance of the torches are being made with a view to one or two minor complaints raised by the Staff in connection with existing arrangements regarding electric lamps.

* * * *

The Civil Service Confederation, in pursuance of its policy for spreading accurate information regarding Civil Service conditions and activities, is exploring every possible avenue for this purpose. The Confederation Executive have recently decided to get into touch with local Ratepayers' Associations and similar bodies, with a view to providing Civil Service speakers to address meetings with the object of counteracting false notions which are known to exist concerning the Civil Service. Any P.S.A. members who happen to be connected with such organisations are asked to communicate with the General Secretary if they can arrange for a speaker from the Confederation to attend one of their meetings. It frequently happens that Civil Servants present at the meetings of Ratepayers' Associations, etc., feel very indignant at some of the things said about the cost and efficiency of the Service, but are not equipped for making effective replies. The Confederation speakers are all men who can deal effectively and efficiently with any Civil Service topic and can present their subject interestingly. For those who are in a position to take advantage of it the facility afforded is too good to be overlooked.

* * * *

At the last meeting of the Confederation Executive it was decided to send a communication to Members of Parliament on the question of Civil Servants' superannuation. The principle point dealt with will be Deferred Pay. It is hoped that the action being taken will eventually lead to a settlement of all the doubt as to whether pensions are actually paid for by deduction from salary.

* * * *

The Staff Side of the National Council will shortly discuss the question of methods of dealing with disciplinary cases in the Civil Service. The proposal being that any Civil Servant should have the right, on being charged with an offence against discipline, to take the case before an impartial tribunal and to be accompanied by an officer of his Staff Association.

In the Customs and Excise we already have provision of this kind. It has worked very well. Action taken by the Departmental Council Staff Side, some time ago, to improve upon the present system was finally abandoned as undesirable.

A meeting of Executive representatives of all Civil Service Associations took place at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on January 25th, in connection with the National Staff Side's All-Service programme. After a good deal of discussion the following resolution was carried:—

"That this Conference, representing the Executive Committees of Civil Service organisations, endorses the All-Service Programme of the National Staff Side, consisting of:—

(a) Minimum wage of £3 10s. 6d. per week, inclusive of bonus.

(b) All Service to be pensionable.

(c) Equal Pay for equal work.

(d) Abolition of bonus super-cut

and undertakes to afford the fullest support in bringing this programme before Public, Press and Parliament, with a view to pressing its acceptance upon the Government at the earliest date."

* * * *

It is refreshing to get from the Stationery Office such a publication as the Handbook of Suggestions for Health Education. This is issued by the Board of Education, and makes interesting reading. The information contained therein is clearly against taking meals in the middle of the night, and it is pretty evident why Waterguard digestive organs need so much attention. It is held down that meals should be suitable affairs, but, in the stern view of some of our supervisors, that is all wrong. The P.O. and A.P.O., enjoying the night watch together, all alone, must each go into his own little "cellar" at feeding time.

The fact that Waterguard officers must take meals seems to be a real nuisance to the authorities. Keen supervision of the meal minutes is necessary. It has been rumoured that recently a certain Waterguard "chief" has offered to buy cups and saucers for his staff so that, if they MUST have tea on the evening watch, they can have it in the sanctity of the watch-house. This is the kind of supervision which makes for a contented staff, and indicates a broad view of things in general.

* * * *

Attention is drawn to the article in the previous issue by "Wayfarer." No doubt those officers who failed to take advantage of the Government's scheme for voluntary insurance will be interested to know of a Civil Service Society capable of assisting to rectify, in some measure at least, the unfortunate omission on their part. The "Northampton" has the reputation of being a reliable concern.

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Through a misprint in these Notes, last issue, the reference to the operations of the Civil Service Industrial Credit since its introduction, mentioned the year 1912; this should, of course, read 1925.

SMALL PORT WORK

By "VAGRHETH"

ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE—continued.

DURING each period of enrolment a reservist must attend for drills at certain intervals. This may be done at any time of the year, but men can only join Naval Depots at fixed days of the month, and these are the 7th for Portsmouth, 17th for Chatham, and 27th for Devonport. In despatching men for drill a Registrar is to arrange that the men from his district will join the Naval Depot to which he is affiliated on the day fixed for that place.

The training of Royal Naval Reservists, varies according to rating. In the case of Engine Room Artificers, they are to perform three months' training in every term of five years' enrolment. Probationary Engine Room Artificers must do three months' continuous training during the first year of enrolment, but other Engine Room Artificers may perform their three months' training in periods of one month during the first three years of enrolment or re-enrolment, or they may do it in one period of three months. Seamen and Stoker ratings must attend for drill every alternate year, the year being reckoned from the date of a man's enrolment. The training varies according to the year of enrolment. In the case of a Seaman, he must perform 28 days in barracks and 14 days afloat in his first year of enrolment. A Stoker serves for the same period of 32 days, and is 14 days in barracks and 28 days afloat in his first year. In the third and fifth year of enrolment the amount of training is reduced to 28 days for Seamen and Stokers. After the fifth year and upon re-enrolment, Seamen and Stokers only perform 21 days' training in each alternate year until the nineteenth year, when they become exempt from further training. The conditions of training for the Patrol Service are similar except that only 14 days' training is given after the fifth year.

When a man makes an application to be despatched for training, the Registrar is to carefully examine the man's Certificate Book, R.V.2, and see if the man is due for training. The R.V.2 shows when the man enrolled and the date of the last training performed. The Registrar is also to observe if the man is in good health, and if he has any doubts in the matter the man must be examined by the local Reservist Doctor, and the case reported to the Registrar-General before despatch for training. In the case of Engine Room Artificers an application on Form R.V. 58c is to be completed by the Registrar and forwarded to the Registrar-General, who in turn sends it to the Admiral commanding Reserves. The application is returned through the same channels with instructions as to the ship, place and date of embarkation for training. When a Seaman or Stoker applies to be despatched for training he is sent to the R.N. Depot to which the District is affiliated, so as to reach there on the day of the month fixed for that place. The man signs a declaration on Form R.V.58 (and variants)

and the Registrar completes the particulars required by the form. Care is to be taken that the period of training is carefully entered after checking from the man's R.V.2. The Form R.V.58 is then posted to the Commodore of Royal Naval Barracks, to whom the man is being despatched, and the carbon copy is posted to the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen. A card containing an advice that Form R.V.58 has been posted is then prepared and handed to the Reservist for delivery at the R.N. Depot. The man is given a Travelling Warrant, A.G. Form 800, and a Meal Order by the Registrar, and, where necessary (if meals at the public expense have not been or cannot be provided en route), the man is also to be advanced subsistence allowance at the Naval rates calculated on the estimated duration of the journey from his home to his destination. Particulars of Travelling Warrants and Meal Orders issued, subsistence allowances, advances, etc., and of the man's nearest relative, are to be entered in his Certificate Book R.V.2.

A telegram, advising despatch of men, description, and time of arrival, is then sent to the R.N. Depot, if possible twenty-four hours before men will arrive. When a man has failed to perform his training and thus caused suspension of retainer fees, he may apply for permission to perform arrears of drill and renewal of retainer on Form R.V.6. The Registrar conducts enquiries, makes his comments on the form, and forwards it to the Registrar-General. As each man completes his training, the responsible Naval Officer records the fact in the man's Certificate Book, R.V.2.

The Retainer Fees for Royal Naval Reserve service are paid by any Registrar of R.N.R. Before any payment is made a Registrar should be careful to note whether the man has complied with the conditions of civil employment; whether the man has performed his training; and whether the quarterly payment the man is applying for has not already been paid at some other port. For this purpose the man's Certificate Book, R.V.2, is to be carefully checked, and the list of "Certificates Required," which is periodically issued by the Registrar-General—is to be consulted to see if that number is wanted. Whenever a Certificate Book R.V.2, which is on the list of "Certificates Required," is presented, the Registrar is to detain it and withhold payment of Retainer Fees pending the Registrar-General's instructions. Retainers are payable quarterly and amount to £2 per quarter for Ordinary ratings, £2 10s. 0d. for Leading ratings, and £3 for Petty Officers. When payment is made the man's receipt is obtained on Schedule 32 and the date and amount entered in the man's Certificate Book, R.V.2. The money is brought to account in Schedule 32, and the Schedule is sent through the District Collector every Saturday. A Summary is also sent at the end of the month.

WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE.

VISIT OF THE V.E.C.

As mentioned in our last issue, an insight into the facilities for education afforded by the Working Men's College, St. Pancras, was given to the Committee of the Vocational Education Scheme and Association Officers on Friday, January 20th. The party, conducted by Mr. Lupton, made a tour of the building and inspected the various class-rooms and laboratories, afterwards listening to an extremely interesting account of the College's history and activities.

The visit commenced with a glance at the library, a spacious apartment which contains several thousands of volumes. It is substantially panelled in oak, part of the furniture having come from Oxford, and some owing its presence to the keen enthusiasm of the librarian. Students are able to take down any book that might be desired, and in some cases it is possible to take books home for study.

From here we passed to the art room, where many evidences of finished and partly-finished work were to be seen; then to the chemistry lab. and to the botanic room. Adjoining the latter is the lantern room.

On a lower level we were shown the Maurice Hall, used for lectures, the production of plays by the Dramatic Circle, and for social events. In this hall is a roll of honour, from which we learnt that one of the founders was Tom Hughes, the author of "Tom Brown's Schooldays." Tom Hughes was at one time a Principal. We also noticed that Mr. Lupton had been a Vice-Principal over a period of ten years.

In the Camera Room we saw a photograph of the present Prime Minister, Mr. Stanley Baldwin, taken, developed and finished during a visit he made to the College. It is a particularly fine picture, and undoubtedly one of the best, as he himself said, that has been produced. There was also a very fine photograph of the Duchess of York.

The physics room, like the whole of the various departments, is well appointed, and is quite up to date in equipment.

The common room is very large, and is used for taking various meals during the day. It contains an excellent Adams fireplace and a portrait of the founder, Frederick Dennison Maurice.

The gymnasium is also well equipped with all that a gym. would need. The College has a number of football and cricket teams, tennis club, boxing and fencing clubs. It was here that we learnt that the College has, as yet, no playing field, but that it was probable that a contract would very shortly be signed with regard to the acquisition of one worthy of the College.

There are Dramatic, History, Modern Language and Debating Societies, and Social Indoor Clubs.

It is found that these strengthen class life to a wonderful extent. At present there are something like 1,200 students.

In the course of a conversation, Mr. Lupton told us that from the first, in 1854, the College had been run on voluntary lines. Professors from the Universities and the Inns of Court, a hundred teachers, and students who had become teachers, had given voluntarily of their best. A capitation fee had been received in the past, but L.C.C. economy regulations had made this impracticable, for the College is more than parochial and draws its students from a wide area. Nearly £30,000 has been raised to endow the College, which is freehold. Old students who have done well have been very liberal, and hard work and love for the place have made it the great success that it evidently is.

The College was originally situated in Great Ormond Street, in a house once occupied by Vice-Chancellor Thurlow at a time when the Great Seal was lost. Some of the old fittings are in the present building.

Man power was greatly depleted during the war, and students dwindled to a hundred. Tradition, however, was kept alive, and after the close of the war it was not long before the old numbers were again to be seen.

The management is, to a large extent, in the hands of the members. There is a committee for business, a committee for classes, and a committee for catering, etc. Classes are arranged in groups under a director.

If we wished to use the College for V.E.C. purposes, it was suggested that a separate class could be arranged by the Principal. The difficulty of irregular hours was discussed, and Mr. Lupton thought that this was not altogether insuperable. Possibly another teacher could arrange for a different hour. The College was ready to take suggestions. It would be possible to take a course under a barrister on Summary Proceedings, Police Court Work, followed by lectures on Departmental points. The value of this suggestion cannot be too strongly emphasised to the various grades of the Preventive Staff. English Composition, English Literature and Modern Languages could be taken by officers able to regularly attend.

At the close of the discussion the party accepted the invitation of the College to partake of its hospitality. Later, opportunity was given to view the production of a play by the Dramatic Club. The management and the acting of "The Ship" was certainly of a very high order.

If space permitted, much could be written in praise of an organisation that is at once unique and highly successful. Our very grateful thanks are due to Mr. Lupton for the trouble he has taken in affording an insight into the possibilities of the Working Men's College so far as our needs are concerned. His interest has undoubtedly been aroused by the very determined effort made by the Association, through the Central Committee, at self-education departmentally.

Preventive Staff Association

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General Secretary: J. Merron

Organising Secretary: J. T. Sutton

Assistant Secretary: W. H. Powell

PREVENTIVE STAFF ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

Election of Councillors.

The members in the Areas concerned are hereby informed that the following candidates were successful in the recent elections:—

AREA.	GRADE.	COUNCILLOR.
London.	A.P.O.	Mr. F. R. FISK.
South Wales.	A.P.O.	Mr. A. W. P. DENSLEY.
Hull.	A.P.O.	Mr. J. SHOOTER.

Liverpool Area.

The election for the A.P.O. grade Councillor in this area resulted in two of the candidates receiving the same number of votes. The number of votes received was very small compared to the number of members eligible to vote. Under the circumstances the election has been declared void, and a fresh one will take place immediately. The members in the area should note that they are required to vote again, the previous votes being ignored.

South Coast Area.

The election of the P.O. grade Councillor in this area will take place immediately, and ballot papers have been circulated. The following P.O.s have been nominated for the position:—

Mr. B. J. HERRINGTON (Folkestone).
Mr. S. T. G. SPENCER (Soton).

The closing date for the receipt of votes is the 2nd of March.

J. T. SUTTON, *Organising Sec.*

For the Executive Committee,

DOVER.

A District meeting was held at Folkestone on January 13th, and continued on January 17th. There was a good attendance under the Chairmanship of Mr. Goldsmith.

A lengthy discussion on the "Customs Journal" resulted in the meeting carrying a motion in favour of a monthly publication instead of as at present, fortnightly.

A welcome was extended to Mr. Herrington and Mr. Boodle, who were recently transferred to this District.

The Official Side Scheme for the staffing of Folkestone (Waterguard) was discussed. A sub-committee was set up to examine and report at the adjourned meeting.

Mr. Herrington was elected to a vacancy on the Local Whitley Committee (Staff Side) as P.O. representative.

GLASGOW.

The quarterly District meeting was held at Mavisbank on January 26th, Mr. Mellwaime presiding over a fairly large attendance. Several members from outposts were present.

A great deal of discussion took place on the question of promotion by merit. A vote was taken on the scheme contained in the Leith proposal, and was rejected by a very narrow majority.

The District Secretary was instructed to write to the General Secretary on the Leave question.

A resolution was passed to the effect that Waterguard Officers should only work six days per week of 44 hours, and that each day should stand on its own.

The meeting was of opinion that as an increase of leave was long overdue, and that as the majority of other Departments in the Civil Service enjoy a 44-hour week, the time was now opportune to press for an early settlement of these two questions.

The proposals to reduce the issues of the "Customs Journal" was discussed, and it was agreed that the present fortnightly issues should be continued. It was suggested that an endeavour should be made to have the N.Q.A. column again inserted, and that, if necessary, the officer taking up the task should be recognised with a honorarium.

It was unanimously agreed that a letter be sent to Mr. Milne, late Executive Councillor, who represented the A.P.O.s of the Scotland Area, recording appreciation of the valuable work done by him.

Various items of local interest were discussed and suitable action taken.

CHANGES IN THE STAFF

TO JANUARY 30th, 1928.

TRANSFERS.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, Upper Section:—
Ladhams, G. E., Plymouth to Harwich, Ipswich.
CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICERS, Lower Section:—
Gilmartin, L., Unattached, Office of Inspector-General of Waterguard, to Falmouth, Plymouth.
O'Malley, R., Falmouth, Plymouth to Goole, Hull.
ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICER:—
Purdie, D. E., Aberdeen to Methil, Dundee.

PROMOTIONS.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, Lower to Upper Section:—
Sharpe, R., Goole, Hull to Plymouth.
PREVENTIVE OFFICER TO CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, Lower Section:—

Boyle, C. A., Clydebank, Glasgow, to Office of Inspector-General of Waterguard.
 ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICER TO PREVENTIVE OFFICER :—
 Robinson, C. P. D., Avonmouth, Bristol to Clydebank, Glasgow.
 Rowland, R. A., Liverpool to Glasgow.

OFFICERS LEAVING THE SERVICE.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR (unattached) :—
 Houghton, T., Office of Inspector-General of Waterguard.
 PREVENTIVE OFFICER :—
 Stewart, W., Glasgow.
 ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICER :—
 Andrew, A., Hull.

VACANCIES.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, Upper Section :—
 Glasgow. 4.3.1928.
 PREVENTIVE OFFICER :—
 Belfast. 18.2.1928.

SMUGGLING PROSECUTIONS AT HULL.

At Hull Police Court on January 21st, a fireman of the steamer "Jerraults Abbey," from Rotterdam, was charged under Section 186 of the C.C. Act of 1876 with evading the prohibition on 168½ lbs. Compressed Tobacco, and also with concealing 16½ lb. Tobacco o.s.

Mr. L. Johnson, W.S., who conducted the prosecution on behalf of the Commissioners of C. & E., emphasised the intricate nature of the concealment of the goods, and pressed for a penalty of treble the duty paid value. The offender pleaded guilty and was fined £135 12s. 9d., with an alternative of three months' imprisonment. He elected the latter.

The tobacco was discovered in six hermetically sealed tins in the after ballast tank of the vessel, the tank being full of water, by Messrs. W. Thomson, H. W. Chapman and S. Bradley, A.P.O.s, under the supervision of Mr. W. C. Hasnip, P.O.

At the same Court on January 24th, before the Stipendiary Magistrate, the steward of the German steamer "Phoenix" from Bremen was charged with concealing 2 lb. 2 oz. tobacco o.s. and 11/100 proof gallon Brandy. Mr. Macdonald, C.P.O., conducted the prosecution. The offender, who pleaded guilty, was fined the single value and duty or twenty-eight days. He went to prison. The goods were discovered under the false bottom in a wardrobe in the steward's cabin by Mr. W. Thomson, A.P.O., under the supervision of Mr. W. C. Hasnip, P.O.

CIVIL SERVICE: NATIONAL WHITLEY COUNCIL (STAFF SIDE).

NURSING HOMES.

The enquiry into the question of the possibility of the institution of Nursing Homes for Civil Servants, undertaken by a Joint Committee of the National Council some time ago, has now reached an advanced stage, and the Joint Committee, of which Sir Russell Scott, K.C.B., C.S.I., is Chairman, should be in a position to present a report to the Service at an early date.

Exhaustive investigation has been necessary in order that the scheme when launched should be sound from an actuarial point of view. The Actuary has now presented his report based on the results of a questionnaire which was sent to 25,000 Civil Servants.

The report, subject to modifications, has been accepted by the Joint investigating Sub-Committee of which Sir Malcolm Ramsay is Chairman, and will be presented to a meeting of the full Committee to be held early in February.

In view of the advanced stage of the enquiry it is anticipated that the early spring should witness a definite inauguration of the scheme for the Civil Service.

PRESENTATION TO MR. SHARPE, C.P.O.

At Goole Waterguard Office on January 10th a very pleasing and happy function took place in the presentation of a testimonial to Mr. R. Sharpe, C.P.O., on his promotion to Plymouth. The presentation took the shape of a Smoker's Cabinet and an Umbrella, with a combined wallet and purse to Mrs. Sharpe.

Mr. J. W. T. Smith, P.O., took the Chair, and made the presentation with fitting remarks on the sterling qualities of Mr. Sharpe, and felt that the port was sustaining a loss. He was pleased to say that the staff at Goole joined him in wishing him every success in his new sphere, and hoped to see the time when he would be further promoted.

Mr. Woodend, P.O., also spoke in a racy little speech, followed by Messrs. Hart, P.O., and Collier and Loeber, A.P.O.s.

Mr. O'Malley, C.P.O., was present, and addressed the staff. He expressed his delight on witnessing the good feeling of fellowship that existed at Goole. He said that the presentation proved to him the perfect harmony existing, and he hoped and would endeavour to encourage that good feeling by doing his duty, as he was sure that the staff at Goole would do theirs.

Mr. Sharpe, in replying, said that he felt very keenly the parting with his staff. He considered they were the cream of the Service and second to none, and hoped they would meet again at some future date. He would ever remember his official career at Goole as among his happiest of days.

Correspondence

The name and address of the writer (not necessarily for publication) should be given in all letters to the Editor, who accepts no responsibility for the views expressed.

POST-WAR ENTRANTS.

Sir,—With reference to the resolution from Leith purporting to be a solution of the Post-War Entrant problem, as to Seniority, I can only say that the scheme is a sound one, and should be pressed for. But I know it won't be.

The scheme is going to suit a small percentage of officers, who were unfairly treated by the Seniority scheme adopted, but it doesn't suit the book of a big percentage of officers who are not affected.

Therefore it will serve no useful purpose having a plebiscite of the A.P.O. grade, as it is a foregone conclusion that the scheme will not get a majority vote and will, of course, be scrapped.

The Executive Committee will require to think again.

Yours faithfully,
" 89."

TO THE A.P.O.s, SOUTH WALES AREA.

Gentlemen,—Having with your kind support once again secured re-election as your Council representative, I wish to sincerely thank you for the confidence placed in me, and to again assure you that my one aim is to serve the Grade of which I am a member, particularly those I represent, to the very best of my ability.

To adequately represent a district such as ours, it is necessary that I should be kept positively aware of the views of my constituents on all vital Association questions, and as our General Secretary has pointed out on more than one occasion in the Journal, every individual member who has any interest in his vocation should consider it a duty to keep me well acquainted with such views, so that at the time of Council discussion I should, when advocating a certain line of procedure, or voting on some question of policy, feel that in so doing I was representing correctly the members who elected me.

Hoping as a result of this letter to hear from all members I am **not** in **personal** contact with, and thanking you once again for your valued support,

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
A. W. P. DENSLEY, E.C.

TO THE ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS, SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

Ardrissan.

27th January, 1928.

Gentlemen,—Having been nominated as a candidate to compete at the forthcoming election for Councillor, A.P.O. Grade, Scotland Area, I offer my services for the third time to represent **your** interests.

I am experienced with Association work, having for the past five years held office in the Glasgow District, as Local Secretary in the Preventive Men's

Association, and as District Organiser of the Preventive Staff Association, which position I hold at present.

If elected, it is my intention to concentrate my best efforts to carry the wishes of my colleagues to a successful issue. Anything appertaining to the betterment of our Grade or the Service will have my wholehearted support. There is no doubt, largely through the efforts of our Association, the conditions of our Service are gradually improving. We must not be content to rest on our laurels, but we must continue to fight for further improvements.

I fully realise the importance of holding the position of Councillor, the time that must be sacrificed to carry out the work efficiently, and desire to point out to the members that to elect a man who has had no experience of Association work would be entirely wrong.

The individual concerned would soon find himself like the man who woke up in the darkness and discovered that he had no matches to light the gas!

My services are at your disposal, and I promise that if I am elected you will NOT regret having placed your X opposite the name of

Yours faithfully,
JAMES DENBY, A.P.O.

DECLINE AND FALL OF SMUGGLING.

(With acknowledgments to the "New Civilian.")

The decline and fall of English smuggling, both from the romantic and the economic standpoint, was the substance of an interesting lecture recently at the Royal Society of Arts. Arranged by the London Society, it was delivered by an ex-official of the Customs and Excise Service, Mr. H. Genocchio, formerly Deputy Chief Inspector.

It was the eighteenth century that marked the Revenue records with blood, for smuggling became a desperate pursuit. The graveyards of our coast villages were eloquent of men on both sides slain in the battles between cutter-crews and Government officials, sometimes backed by the Dragoons. Nevertheless, the vast majority of the public sided with the smugglers; no jury would convict, and witnesses were scarce, except when the smugglers had been stung or turned King's evidence. Public money was freely invested in the game, and even the clergy were not free from sharing in the felonious trade. One compensation was that in time of war gangs of smugglers, numbering 800 apiece, were recruited at half-a-crown a day, but when the war was over they relapsed. From Land's End to Lincolnshire a fleet of 300 "preventive" vessels had to be maintained. These, with from six to twenty-one guns apiece, dealt with the "free traders" so lustily that the contraband cutters, after resorting to all sorts of adroit devices, were usually sunk or run ashore and wrecked, with the loss of all aboard, rather than that the men should fall into the hands of justice and have their corpses hung in chains.

Thanks to improved means of communication, the rarity of official corruption, and a deeper sense of commercial honesty, smuggling had been transformed, said the lecturer, from a Chinese puzzle into a thing of amazing simplicity, and from an avocation of daring into a mean and despicable form of trickery. In this the nation and the Revenue had gained alike, as the following figures would show:—

In 1801, with 1,500 different "rates" of Customs duties, the revenue collected less than £7,000,000. In 1876, with only 21 rates, it increased to £20,000,000. In 1926, with less than 100 articles liable to duty, it amounted to £103,000,000; and this apart from the £134,000,000 collected by the same staffs as excise, or enough to pay the cost of the Army, Navy, Air Force, the Post Office, and the Education staff.

As for the decrease in smuggling, the present haul annually was 4,000 lb. of tobacco and 1,000 gallons of spirits, or less than the cargo of an average cutter captured in the "good old days."

ANOTHER "SMUGGLING MYSTERY."

WHAT I SAW.

By "OWL."

Those practical Waterguard Officers who are still sceptical as to the genuineness of the highly-coloured articles on the wonderful smuggling escapades of the modern amphibious smuggling buccaners may find the following experience of mine helpful, or at least not uninteresting.

In November last I recorded a rather exciting exploit which happened in Plymouth Sound, and as Dame Fortune has been pleased to decree that I should sojourn in another south coast district, I have not been unmindful of the possibility of witnessing another epoch-making feat.

As it happens, I am staying in a part of the coast which is always described as being "adjacent to the Continent"; in fact, in my opinion, it is most absurdly adjacent, as on fine days one can see the coast-line of one part of the Continent, but at present the air is too thick with rumours to see very far. However, I've not wasted my time for I have been continuously on the alert for an opportunity of laying the illicit silk and brandy merchants by the heels.

By good judgment I found myself in a particularly happy position for observing the antics of any audacious person or persons who might presume to endeavour to break through the first line of revenue defences, and I will relate my experiences of one very dark and stormy night.

I could see quite distinctly the lights on Dover and Folkestone piers, and other weird lights about the horizon, when suddenly I was startled to discern a veritable galaxy of lights well out at sea. They were moving very swiftly, and appeared to be in perfect order of "line ahead," and I imagined that the Atlantic fleet was returning from sea after manoeuvres. The sea was exceedingly rough and

the weather exceptionally stormy; in fact, the cross-channel service had been suspended for three days in consequence, and the sea was breaking over the Admiralty pier, as it is usually stated to do by the London Press on these occasions. Judge of my consternation when, on closer approach, I discovered that the fleet consisted of scores of fast motor-boats making a direct course for the beach. They ran head-on to the Leach in perfect order, apparently receiving instructions from their admiral's motor-boat, whose signal-mast was a blaze of flashing, occulting and revolving light signals.

No apparent injury was sustained by the boats, although they were all being bashed and heaved on to the beach. An attempt was immediately made to land goods from this fleet, and it was obvious that they all contained cases of brandy and bales of silk. It was not found practicable to land the goods in the ordinary way, so fearing that they should be defeated in the audacious attempt, they procured the assistance of the rocket apparatus and crew, and in spite of the weather and the mountainous seas, and the heavy bashing on the Leach, the whole of the thousands of cases and bales were landed by the rocket apparatus in the breeches buoy without anything getting wet and without even a bottle of brandy being broken. The desperadoes were so intent on their job that nobody even suggested breaking a bottle accidentally.

I then saw that lines of powerful, fast motor-cars with all kinds of flashing and revolving lights of all classes and colours were in readiness nearby, and not even an old "Gobby" was in sight. The cars were then loaded up and with lights, of course flashing, they made off for the Metropolis.

As these smugglers apparently thought that there were not sufficient lights to assist them, they set fire to a beath in order to attract the maximum amount of notice. I thought it strange that these small motor-boats could live in such weather in the Channel when the passenger boats had succumbed to the elements.

When a bang on my bedroom door, and the hotel Boot's voice: "Seven o'clock, sir. Hot water, Sir!"

CIVIL SERVICE CONFEDERATION.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Civil Service Confederation was held on Monday, 30th January, 1928, at Central Hall, Westminster. Mr. W. H. James presided over an attendance of twenty-eight.

On the question of Sick Pay it was reported that a settlement had been arrived at with the Inland Revenue Department in the case taken up by the Confederation at the request of the Inland Revenue Stamping Department Women's Association, and it had been agreed that as from the 1st January, 1928, Assistant Stampers and Women Tellers between the ages of 16½ and 18 years who had completed one year's service would be eligible for sick

leave on two-thirds pay, less National Health Insurance benefit up to the limit of four weeks in any period of twelve months. The arrangement had been accepted by the Association concerned, and the Executive Committee endorsed the action taken.

The Confederation representatives on the National Whitley Council reported that notice of motion to the National Staff Side had been given, with a view to the inclusion of an item on the National Whitley Council agenda to draw attention to the attendance of Members of Parliament who are members of the National Council, and to speeches made by them in their capacity as Members of Parliament on matters on which their opinions were derived as a result of their membership of the National Whitley Council.

A report was given of recent proceedings of the National Whitley Council dealing with the subjects of (a) Industrial Court: Rules of Procedure; (b) Sectional and Grades Committees; (c) Higher Grades: Negotiations with Joint Consultative Committee; (d) Nursing Homes; and (e) Committee on Staff Operating Calculating Machines.

A discussion took place upon the question of the Industrial Court Rules of Procedure, and it was agreed that this matter be further considered when replies had been received to the communications addressed by the National Staff Side to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the President of the Industrial Court.

It was reported that negotiations were still proceeding between the National Staff Side and the joint Consultative Committee; also that the enquiry into the question of Nursing Homes for Civil Servants had now reached an advanced stage, and that a report prepared by a sub-committee would be presented to a meeting of the full Nursing Homes Committee early in February.

A letter was received from the National Staff Side to the effect that the question of the honouring of undertakings given by responsible Departmental officials had recently again been under review, and constituent groups of the National Staff Side were asked to say whether, since the earlier discussion on this subject, any cases had arisen which would assist the Staff Side in arriving at a conclusion. *Secretaries of Constituent Organisations who possess information of the kind referred to, are requested to notify the General Secretary of the Confederation.*

With regard to the proposed reorganisation scheme for the Office of the Accountant of Court, Edinburgh, on which the Confederation has been in negotiation with the Scottish Office on behalf of its constituent organisation, the Accountant of Court's Clerical Association, it was reported that the scheme was now reaching a final stage.

Reports were received of (a) a meeting held on the 13th January attended by representatives of 20 Refreshment Clubs, at which a resolution expressing sympathy with the desire to improve wages and terms of employment of Canteen Staffs had been adopted; (b) a meeting held on the 25th January of Executive Committees of Civil Service Associations on the subject of the All-Service Programme; and (c) a meeting of the Civil Service Equal Pay Committee held on the 27th January.

A Memorandum was presented on the present practice in Departments with regard to Public and Privilege Holidays, and the Executive Committee adopted a recommendation of the General Purposes Committee to the effect that, in view of the diversity of practice revealed, the matter was one which it would be well to leave for Association action.

On the recommendation of the Publicity Committee it was agreed that a communication be addressed to Members of Parliament by the Confederation on the subject of Civil Service Superannuation, with especial reference to the deferred Pay issue. The Publicity Committee also reported that a communication had been received from the Commissary Office Staff Association conveying the thanks of the Association for assistance rendered by the Confederation in connection with the passage into law of the Sheriff Courts and Legal Officers (Scotland) Act, 1927.

A report of a Special Sub-Committee on Increases on Promotion was presented and unanimously adopted.

Resolutions were adopted, and agreed to be forwarded for appropriate action to the National Staff Side, in the following terms:—

Sick Leave Attributable to War Disablement.

"That the National Staff Side be moved to press the Treasury for the amendment of the regulations relating to sick leave so that the provision whereby sick leave which exceeds one year in the four years immediately preceding may not count for the purposes of increment or pension, shall not apply where the sick leave is directly attributable to war disablement."

Complements—Proposed for fixed numerical ratio between the number of (a) Clerical Officers, and (b) Executive Officers; and Higher Clerical Officers.

"That the Confederation Representatives on the National Council be instructed to move for the establishment of a fixed numerical ratio between the numbers of (a) Clerical Officers, (b) Executive Officers £100-£400; and Higher Clerical Officers £500-£400—such ratios to have effect, not within each Department, but throughout the Service as a whole, and to be based not only on consideration of work, but also on the consideration of the desirability of providing a reasonable outlet by way of promotion from one grade to another."

Appeals in Disciplinary Cases.

"That steps be taken through the National Council to secure a proper system of appeals in disciplinary cases, such system to embody the right of any Civil Servant charged with an offence against discipline to have his case adjudicated by an impartial tribunal, before which he may be represented or accompanied by an officer of his Staff Association."

It was also agreed that Confederation support should be given to the combined efforts of the Civil Service Clerical Association, the Association of Officers of Taxes, and the Ministry of Labour Staff Association to secure a modification of the section of the Guinness Agreement which laid down that the removal expenses of "P" Class Clerks should not be paid.

The resignation of Mr. R. W. Thompson, of the Royal Parks Employees' Union, as a member of the Confederation Committee on Sick Pay for Unestablished Classes, was accepted, and Mr. J. E. Moore, also of the Royal Parks Employees' Union, was appointed to fill the vacancy on this Committee.

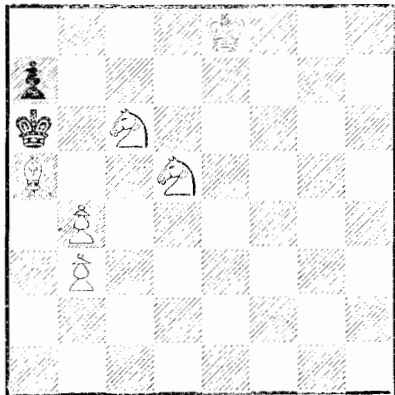
The Annual Council Meeting of the Confederation was fixed to be held on Saturday, 19th May, 1928.

SPORT AND SOCIAL.

WATERGUARD CHESS CLUB.

Problems, Games, Studies, etc.

PROBLEM No. 8.



White to mate in two.

Solution to No. 7.

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| 1. | 1. R-Q4. |
| 2. KxR. | 2. Q-Q3. |

Correction to Problem No. 7.—All the pieces shown in this problem were black. One king, however, should be white, this being the king on QB6.

End Game Study No. 1.

Position:— 3 r 4; 1 p k 5; 2 P p 3 r;
p P 2 p B p p; 4 P k t 2; P 1 K t 5; 2 P 3 P P;
5 R 1 K.

White win by a sacrifice.

White wins by giving up the exchange, so as to get command of Q5 for his Kt.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1. RxKt (a). | 1. Either PxR. |
| 2. Kt-Q5 ch. | 2. K-Kt 1. |
| 3. P-B7 ch, | |
| and 4. PxR becomes Q. | |

(a) Now if black does not take the R, he will lose by being a piece behind; while if he takes it, the game proceeds as above.

SWANSEA WATERGUARD STAFF DINNER.

A dinner, presided over by Mr. Seavell, C.P.O., Port Talbot, was held at the Adelphi Hotel, Swansea, on Thursday, February 2nd. In opening the evening, the Chairman, in a few well-chosen remarks, expressed pleasure at being present. He hoped that the dinner would be a forerunner of many more. It was by such social events as these that one could come into personal contact with brother officers.

Supporting Mr. Seavell were Mr. Brennan, O./C., Llanelly, Mr. D. H. James, Officer, Mr. Burge, P.O., and a number of Clerical Officers from the Swansea Custom House. There were also officers

present from Port Talbot, Llanelly and Briton Ferry.

After dinner and various toasts had been disposed of, a most enjoyable musical programme was carried out, contributed to by Messrs. Seavell, Powell, D. H. James, E. Jenkins (elocutionist), Heynes (comedian) and last, but not least, "Pelado" and his manager (Mr. B. J. Burge and Mr. F. V. Bowman).

The organisers of the evening were Messrs. S. Jones, Burge, McEaney, Roy and Knapton. A successful evening was brought to a close with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, at 11 p.m.

LONDON SPORTS DANCE.

The North Side Sports Club thoroughly enjoyed the dance arranged for Friday, February 3rd. The Harmonic Hall, Plashet Grove, East Ham, has been the scene of a number of social evenings during the last two seasons, and the Service dances are always enjoyed to the full. This last event was no exception to the rule and was very well attended. Mr. Fleet, C.P.O., and Mrs. Fleet continually associate themselves with the North Side Social evenings, and bear no small share in making everybody feel thoroughly at home. Mr. Egan, C.P.O., was also present on this occasion.

SOUTHAMPTON ANNUAL DINNER.

The Annual Waterguard Dinner, held at the Dolphin Hotel on January 31st, was a very successful evening. Mr. J. P. Hausey, W.S., presided over a representative gathering, and the guests included Mr. E. W. Thew (Collector) and Mr. C. H. Stevens, O.B.E. (Chief Inspector, Immigration Department).

Dinner was excellently served, and the toast of "The King" inaugurated a capital programme, the brevity and brightness of the speechmaking contributing to the harmony of the proceedings.

Some very fine selections were played by the Merry Imps Orchestra, and songs were contributed by Messrs. F. E. Emery, H. J. Parsons, H. S. Platten and T. S. A. Williams. Mr. Bert Grant rendered some capital songs at the piano, and the specially composed numbers of Mr. W. J. Jennings made a great hit. Saxophone selections were given by Mr. A. P. Cumming, and community singing was indulged in with great heartiness.

The success of the function reflected infinite credit on the organisers.

WALKER'S ENCOURAGEMENT TO YOUNG PLAYERS.

By THE SECRETARY.

One of the peculiar beauties of Chess is that if two beginners are equally matched they feel quite the same interest in the game as if they were thoroughly learned in its mysteries. Indeed, they perhaps enjoy it more than the greatest players who, having conquered every difficulty, have no longer any opponents who can contend against them; and who having, when they play, their reputation at stake, feel a greater degree of mortification at being defeated. Of the two extremes, better be over bold than over cautious.

LANDING AND SHIPPING DUTIES.

By A. P. ANGUS.

FROM the recent articles in the "Customs Journal" on the subject, and from other sources, I gather that the consensus of opinion in the Waterguard at the present time is that this department is the proper training ground for landing and shipping duties, and that a percentage of vacancies in the sister department should be earmarked for Waterguard Officers. Now this is a topic which has been raised, off and on, ever since the Waterguard became a separate department, and in the days before I entered the Service, I believe that a number of Waterguard Officers did convince the then Board that they were worthy of becoming Landing Officers. What test, if any, they had to pass I do not know. But I do know that the fact of those officers having been selected for this honour in no way benefited the Waterguard Department as a whole. The individuals certainly benefited, and, no doubt, the Landing Department gained by the acquisition.

Were the present Board to admit our claims and select a few Waterguard officers for transfer to the Officer grade, there would be no benefit other than to the lucky few, nor would the interests of the department, in which the vast majority of us are bound to finish our service, be advanced in any way. Rather would it impoverish us, for the probability is that the best talent in our ranks would be filched, and we would then be in a weaker position than ever.

Were a Committee appointed for the purpose of hearing evidence on the Waterguard claim to take over landing and shipping duties as a whole, it would be an easy matter for our leaders to convince the Committee of the justice of our claim, provided the Committee was an impartial one. Such a Committee is not likely to be appointed in the near future, and there appears to be no evidence that the "powers that be" realise the necessity of such a reconstruction being necessary—on the contrary.

It is evident that a strong prejudice exists against the Waterguard, or the wealth of talent and experience in its ranks would not have been passed over in preference to inexperienced clerical officers who have all their experience in landing and shipping duties to gain. This prejudice *MUST* be broken down, and until this is accomplished no hope of our department making any real advance may be anticipated; also, we must convince Their Honours that the Waterguard is the proper department to take over landing and shipping duties, and that, as a department, it is capable of performing these duties to the entire satisfaction of the Crown and all concerned.

This prejudice, which was saddled upon us by a previous generation, would easily be removed if every officer in the Waterguard, from the highest to the lowest, were to take action against it. To the once prejudiced minds would then be revealed the astonishing fact that an efficient and capable department

was in existence which could take over landing and shipping and so release, for the various other duties which are at present almost overwhelming them, the officers who are at present performing those duties.

What is this great dividing line which separates the Waterguard from landing duties? To the prejudiced mind it is, no doubt, considered to be so high that it cannot possibly be surmounted. To the analytical and unbiased mind, however, no real line of demarcation exists.

During my short and varied career in the Service, it has fallen to my lot to tackle practically every duty which either a Waterguard or Landing Officer is called upon to perform. I will admit that when I proceeded to an artificial silk factory to prepare a Bond for the shipment of goods, and to check the particulars contained in Form 125a, etc. (see G.O. 45/1925), my knees were a bit shaky, nor was I too comfortable when I received my first Despatch for a cask of Spirits for home consumption in the Isle of Man and had to perform, with the necessary instruments, the gauging of the cask and the testing of the spirits for the purpose of assessing the charge of duty, and finally receiving the H.C. Warrant and duty money from the merchant. The procedure in bringing duty to account by Prime Entry ex ship also proved a bit ticklish at first, as also did Registry work, Wreck, R.N.R., etc. Yet I managed to get through these jobs and many others without one official query. My purpose in relating these particulars is to show that the arguments used by our traducers has no foundation in fact. The dividing line, which is supposed to be insurmountable, has been negotiated by me, as it has been by many Waterguard officers (although it is not officially admitted), and further, it has been done without any official training.

The value of Waterguard duties to the State is being a continual insult, when considered in juxtaposition to the remuneration officers receive for performing them. This insult would be instantly removed were landing and shipping duties merged with ours, as no governing body could then have any option but to put us on the same footing as the officers previously performing them.

Let us then drop all idea of petitioning the Board for a few of the vacancies which occasionally occur in the Officer grade, the granting of which would not materially benefit us, and let us go boldly to them, when the opportune moment arrives, with a claim to take over *ALL* landing and shipping duties, which rightly belong to us.

In the meantime, officers of all grades in the Waterguard should be preparing themselves by studying the regulations for the time when our just claims will be admitted. That day may be nearer than many of us anticipate, and when it comes the transitional period will be greatly accelerated if all officers concerned are *au fait* with Landing and Shipping requirements.