

# The Customs Journal

No. 626

October 20th, 1928

Fortnightly

## CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
Editorial ... ..	205	Changes in the Staff ... ..	208
Current Comments ... ..	206	Correspondence ... ..	209
Customs Fund ... ..	207	Civil Service Confederation ... ..	210
Preventive Staff Association ... ..	208	Sports and Social ... ..	212

*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.*

WE have no intention of allowing this page to become traditionally used for the purpose of lauding Association officials, nor should it be necessary to emphasise to the membership outstanding facts regarding Association achievement. At the moment, however, while so much apathy exists among the members, and particularly is this noticeable in some of the big ports, it is of the utmost importance that a few facts should be laid before those who allow themselves to think that nothing is done, and that without the Association we should still be where we are to-day.

We touched last week upon the big question of recruitment. Any Councillor can amplify those remarks and explain exactly what the new order of things means to the Preventive Staff; and any District Officer who is up to his job, can do the same. Now, as suggested, mention of successful Association work is not emphasised in this column for the purpose of drawing the attention of readers to what has been done by our leaders; that sort of thing can be overdone. And it is also true that we can be too silent upon the subject of the results of effort, and we are inclined to think that it is because of silence, or rather reticence, that so many of the wise and thoughtful of our members persist in saying that the Association does nothing. It has, therefore, been with considerable surprise and joy that we have observed the Beer Lane mail (inwards) during this last week or so. And the cause of this abnormally high tide, this veritable flood, this deluge? Just mackintoshes. The Association member of the

north, south, east and west has registered his enthusiastic appreciation with a spontaneity that makes us seriously anticipate that apathy has at last begun to wane, so far as the P.S.A. is concerned. And what does this shoal of letters mean? Beyond the fact that they indicate general approval of the garments, they also show that there is a general realisation of what is owing to those who, through months and years, have continually kept the question before those who administer the Department, the Board and the Treasury. We firmly believe that the difficulties of carrying a matter such as this through Whitley are becoming more understood than heretofore, although Districts have much to learn before a thorough realisation of these difficulties can be obtained. A District that cannot manage its own local Whitley affairs has yet a long way to travel. It has taken many years to convince the Treasury that a man, whose duty takes him out in all weathers at all times of the day and night, requires something other than a cloth coat to preserve to him a dry skin and reduced liability to ailments due to exposure. Had this been left to an unorganised department we should never have approached even a discussion with the official side on the subject. And the effect on the leaders? A tonic. A wonderful tonic. There is nothing in the world that braces like unlooked-for appreciation. The writers have done the right thing—the nice thing—and the leaders can rest content that the author of each letter is not unmindful of other Association successes, and of the labour that leads up to them.

## CURRENT COMMENTS

THAT, "If order prevails after all in the human race, it is proof that reason and virtue are strongest" is a wise pronouncement uttered by a well-known sage of days gone by. The truth of it is so obvious that we are apt to overlook it, and to fully realise it only when some great thinker presents it to the world in the form of a well-chosen phrase.

There are a good many other obvious things which people often fail to fully appreciate, and, one in particular is the fact that in spite of meanness, malice, and mischief-makers, the principle of organisation for mutual benefit still prevails amongst wage-earners, thus giving proof that such organisations do actually benefit those who take shelter within their ranks. Are not "reason and virtue" strongest in all human affairs?

\* \* \* \*

It is impossible to think of the Civil Service without its various staff Associations. And the reason that this is unthinkable is because the average man can be relied upon to have enough common sense to know that only by these Associations can he voice his views regarding the conditions of his employment in the Service; and he also knows that if he does not do this through his Association, he cannot expect anyone else in the world to do it for him.

In other words, the same Civil Servant knows that it is *his* business and no one else's to look after his own welfare, and that the best way to look after his own welfare is to band together with others who have common interests. This, of course, is precisely what happens.

Ever since Civil Servants had the freedom to organise they have taken advantage of the opportunity, and they will continue to do so as long as the Service exists. He would be a bold man who would attempt to deny this statement, which so adequately bears out the truth that Associations, properly conducted, do actually achieve results which justify their existence.

\* \* \* \*

Since it is so clear that Associations will always be, it is obvious that adherence to the principle of mutual advancement must, in fact, be the chief moving force, and it naturally follows that, since each Association works, and produces benefits, for all those who have common interests, these latter have a definite moral obligation to share the burden of this work, if only because they cannot escape participation in the benefits. Those who refuse to shoulder this responsibility must inevitably be in the minority—otherwise all Associations would die, and that cannot be.

Few minorities are ever in the right, but those few are always characterised by strong, clean-cut ideas, fervency, courage, and, above all, the pioneer spirit.

To assert that the usual type of Civil Servant, who stands aloof from his Association, is possessed of these characteristics, would quite justly call forth a burst of sardonic laughter from any normal individual. It is too well known that the average "non-member" has very hazy ideas about things in general,

or else he is so mean-spirited that he cannot resist the temptation to save his coppers, knowing full well that his colleagues will pay to fight his battles, and that he cannot be excluded from any beneficial results.

It is from this type of individual we hear that pitiful bleat: "What has the Association ever done for ME?" How that "ME" betrays their pettifoggling little souls!

\* \* \* \*

An instance of how stupidly, or purposely, blind these secessionists can be is before us at the moment. This year the lukewarm members of the P.S.A. have been more than usually active in seeking an excuse to stop paying their subscriptions. They thoughtlessly assert that the Association is doing nothing. And yet, it is during this year that the Waterguard enters upon a new era. Open competitive recruitment, the direct result of P.S.A. activity, has come into operation, and the benefits that this concession will carry in its wake are innumerable. Our status has been raised, and doors that were locked to us are opened, never to be closed again. The man who cannot admit this to be an immense benefit to every member of the staff is simply foolish, or has ulterior motives for resisting truth.

The nomination system had always been regarded as a formidable barrier against Association efforts to advance Waterguard interests. It was left to the P.S.A. to demolish that barrier, and this has been done very effectively. Any member who is honestly in search of the truth may put to himself the question: "Has my Association functioned properly in dealing with this all-important question?" and if he decides that the answer is in the affirmative, he will not be risking much if he assumes that the Association is just as effective on all other matters because it is the same machinery operating all the time, whether it be applied to spectacular issues or those everyday small affairs which in themselves justify the Association's existence.

\* \* \* \*

When the electric torches were issued to the Staff recently, satisfaction was generally expressed, and congratulatory messages reached Beer Lane from many quarters. As it is somewhat unusual for members to acknowledge concessions gained, the Headquarters Staff were quite pleased about it.

During the past week or two there has been a repetition of this new and pleasant experience. In this instance it is the new mackintosh which is the subject of eulogistic comment, and the letters received leave no room to doubt that the garments now being issued are the most satisfactory that could have been supplied. They are admirably suited for the work.

Most of us thought that these mackintoshes would have made their appearance earlier, but the delay has been in the interests of the staff, and was due to the great care that has been taken to grade the garments in such a manner as to ensure a good fit for everyone. To the uninitiated this might seem a simple business—but it certainly is not.

With the issue of the mackintoshes the work of the Sub-Committee on Uniform is practically concluded. It was not without reason that the P.S.A. Conference passed a resolution expressing appreciation of the good work done by both the Official and Staff Sides of this Committee, at the time when the major portion of the work was completed, and it is very gratifying that this final phase of their operations should produce results which fully justify the resolution.

\* \* \* \*

Lately there has been a revival of complaints against the application of the "Work and Wait" rule, G.O. 32/1919. In most of the cases, however, the conditions under which the rule has been applied have been in accordance with the Agreement, and, much as we dislike it, no protest can reasonably be made. One or two borderline cases will be discussed by the Executive very shortly.

In one instance, at Harwich, the rule has been applied in circumstances which, in the view of the Association, do not justify its application, and a letter in this connection has been addressed to the Board.

\* \* \* \*

There seems to be some misapprehension regarding the amount of annual leave that may be allowed to A.P.O.s on probation. Several letters asking advice on this point have reached Beer Lane.

For the information of those who are in doubt, it is pointed out that the only leave regulations are those which apply to the grade as a whole. Probationers are allowed the scale of leave applicable to officers in their first five years of service. It is not to be expected, of course, that probationers could be granted leave before a reasonable time had elapsed after entry.

\* \* \* \*

Liverpool is evidently not going to have everything its own way regarding aviation. Manchester is about to enter the field. The Lord Mayor will shortly convene a meeting for the purpose of discussing the question of creating a Manchester Airport, and to decide whether this shall be the responsibility of the Corporation or of the business interests of the city.

Shoreham boasts a very popular aerodrome for private owners, who, apparently, may come and go as they please, no landing fees being charged. This aerodrome is equipped with all the facilities needed by an aviator, including a club house and a licensed bar. It is described as an ideal landing ground. Probably the temptation to use this ground when returning from a foreign trip has already been experienced by airmen.

\* \* \* \*

Members will no doubt be interested to know that conversations are now taking place between the C.P.O.s' Association and the P.S.A., with a view to effecting a closer co-ordination in Association work. The interests of both Associations are so interwoven that it is really impossible for one to move without the other on the large issues. The step now being taken is long overdue, and it is hoped that much good will result from it.

## THE CUSTOMS FUND.

A Special meeting of subscribers to the Customs Annuity and Benevolent Fund (Incorporated) was held in the Custom House, London, on Thursday, 11th inst., for the purpose of electing a Director to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. J. L. Mackie, C.B.E.

The President of the Fund, Mr. Elrick, C.B.E., said that Mr. John Smale Sutton was the only nominated candidate, and he would therefore ask someone to propose his election.

Mr. Higginson said that before nominating Mr. Sutton, which he would later have great pleasure in doing, he would like to voice the general regret of subscribers at the resignation of Mr. Mackie, and to express their gratitude for the valuable services he had rendered to the Fund over so long a period. He had great confidence in submitting the name of Mr. Sutton, who, he felt sure, would secure unanimous election, an indication of the support of all sections of the Service. Mr. Sutton had reached the high office he occupies in the Department with the goodwill of all his colleagues, a fact which constituted a good omen for the general confidence he would enjoy as a Director of the Customs Fund.

Mr. Maurice O'Flynn said that he had much pleasure in seconding, and he was sure that Mr. Sutton's election would be welcomed by all branches of the Service.

The President said that Mr. Sutton had been duly nominated in accordance with the Rules, and there being no other candidate he had much pleasure in declaring him elected to the position of Director. He added that he had known Mr. Sutton a long time, and that the Directors would extend to him a general welcome, and he was sure he would make a valuable addition to their Board. He was sure that they were all in agreement with what had been said about Mr. Mackie, and the Secretary would take note and communicate it to him.

Mr. Sutton said that he would like to thank his proposer and seconder, and the President, for the kind words spoken about him, and that he wished also to express his appreciation of the support he had received, not only from those present, but from those who had written from various parts of the country. He felt that it was an honour and a privilege to be elected to the position of a Director of the Customs Fund, a position that had been filled in the past by so many distinguished members of the Service. He recognised that the position carried with it great responsibilities, and he desired to assure the subscribers that he would make it his duty to further their interests in every way that lay in his power.

### Our Short Story

#### People we have never met

Conscientious Officer (to C.P.O.) "No Sir; I am not a member of the Association, and I therefore could not dream of accepting a mackintosh".

## Preventive Staff Association

*Head Office :*

Thames Chambers,

18, Beer Lane,

London, E.C.8.

Telephone ROYAL 4279

President: *W. G. Thomson*

General Secretary: *J. Merron*

Organising Secretary: *J. T. Sutton*

Assistant Secretary: *W. H. Powell*

**DOVER.**—Meeting held on Friday, September 21st, with Mr. Whettingstall in the Chair.

A very detailed account of the proceedings of the Conference was given by Messrs. Whettingstall and Ball. Many questions were asked and satisfactorily answered, and it was agreed that the instructions given to the Councillors had been strictly adhered to. The meeting was assured by Mr. Whettingstall—who attended the Conference for the first time—that we could feel content that the Officials at Beer Lane were thoroughly capable and were guarding our interests with keenness and efficiency.

A resolution complimenting the "Customs Journal" Committee upon the improvement of the Journal, and another moving appreciation of the work of the Vocational Education Committee, which had achieved such remarkable success, were passed unanimously.

A reference to the hands of the clock disclosed the fact that the meeting would have to adjourn for a future occasion to complete the Agenda, and the meeting was continued on October 5th, when Mr. Wood occupied the Chair.

The Executive Committee was supported in its action regarding co-ordination with analogous grades in the Department.

The subject of Seizure Rewards was debated from several angles.

The question of the employment of Coast Preventive Men on examination of passengers' baggage aroused considerable interest, and the meeting registered the opinion that no Coast Preventive Man should be employed during the examination of passengers arriving from foreign, and that Headquarters should take all possible steps with this end in view.

Messrs. Ball and Tucker were elected A.P.O. Whitley Representatives, the election of P.O.s being held over.

### NEWPORT (MON.)

Annual Meeting, Friday, October 12th. Held at the Queen's Head Hotel, Newport (Mon.).

In the absence of the official Chairman, the meeting was presided over by Mr. Morgan. The following officers were elected:—

Chairman—Mr. J. Lyons (P.O.).

Local Secretary—Mr. E. T. Sandford (A.P.O.).

Local Organiser—Mr. P. Gowan (P.O.).

Local Whitley Committee—Messrs. G. E. N. Griffiths (P.O.) and E. T. Sandford (A.P.O.).

Local Joint Whitley Committee—Messrs. C. W. J. M. Morgan (P.O.) and H. Ellis (A.P.O.).

A proposed reduction of one boarding crew at the Old Dock was discussed, and it was decided, in view of the importance of the trade on this station, to endeavour to maintain the staff.

The District Councillor, Mr. G. E. N. Griffiths, gave a report of the Conference and several points arising therefrom were discussed. Members received with pleasure the Council's scheme for future examinations for Preventive Officership. Regret was expressed that there was still no sign of the wage claim being presented.

## CHANGES IN THE STAFF

TO OCTOBER 13th, 1928.

### APPOINTMENTS.

ENGINEER-MECHANIC:—

Hawkins, J.

### TRANSFERS.

WATERGUARD SUPERINTENDENT, 2ND CLASS:—

Hurley, M. Unattached, Office of I.G.W. to Glasgow.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, UPPER SECTION:—

Moroney, P. Southampton to Liverpool.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, LOWER SECTION:—

Murchie, J. Unattached, Office of I.G.W. to Fishguard, Swansea.

PREVENTIVE OFFICER:—

Walter, V. H. Fishguard, Swansea to Gravesend, London, instead of to Erith, London, as notified in the Appendix to General Order No. 65/1928.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICER:—

Pickett, W. H. Southampton to Torquay, Plymouth.

MATE-IN-CHARGE:—

Mudge, E. J. Plymouth to Southampton.

### PROMOTIONS.

WATERGUARD SUPERINTENDENT, 2ND CLASS TO 1ST CLASS:—

Brauns, J. Glasgow to Liverpool.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, UPPER SECTION TO ASSISTANT INSPECTOR (unattached):—

McLaron, J. Liverpool to Office of I.G.W.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, LOWER SECTION TO UPPER SECTION:—

Keefe, P. Fishguard, Swansea to Southampton.

PREVENTIVE OFFICER TO CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, LOWER SECTION (unattached):—

Jones, I. Southampton to Office of I.G.W.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS TO PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

Aynsley, J. R. London to Erith, London.

Jones, R. L. Liverpool to Fishguard, Swansea.

Murray, G. F. R. Glasgow to Grangemouth, Edinburgh.

### OFFICERS LEAVING THE SERVICE.

RETIREMENTS—PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

Bamford, C. Padstow, Plymouth.

Webber, E. E. Gravesend, London.

SENIOR ENGINEER:—

Henry, R. J. North Shields, Newcastle.

OBITUARY OF SUPERANNUATED OFFICERS.

Pym, J. Preventive Officer.

### VACANCY.

PREVENTIVE OFFICER:—

Greenock. 28.11.1928.

## 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.*

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### SICK BENEFIT.

Sir,—With reference to "Jaydee's" letter in the issue of September 22nd, I would like to add my support to his suggestion that a sickness benefit should be payable to members of the P.S.A.

Apart from any other consideration it almost necessarily follows that a period of sickness involving heavy expenses is a double hardship to most members of the Waterguard Department by reason of the loss of what might be called regular overtime.

I suggest that a fixed proportion of subscriptions be allotted to "sick fund," and venture the opinion that, by reason of the additional attraction afforded by the sick benefit, an increase in revenue from increased membership, at least equal to the allotment, may be looked for. The sick benefit would provide that "something tangible," which we all, like the man from Missouri, like to see and feel.

The matter is worth very careful examination notwithstanding the many and varied counter-attractions.—Yours, etc., "L.N.C."

### Cost-of-Living Bonus.

The question of the Cost-of-Living Bonus operating in the Civil Service was discussed at a meeting of the National Whitley Council on Friday, 12th October.

It was decided to appoint a Joint Committee to enquire into the present operation of the Cost-of-Living Agreement of May, 1920, and to make what recommendations seem desirable.

### Royal Humane Society Award.

At the monthly Council Meeting, held at the Guildhall, Swansea, on September 19th, the Mayor, T. Howells, Esq., presented Mr. R. E. Jones, P.O., with a parchment certificate of the Royal Humane Society, and a Council certificate of bravery, for rescuing a man from drowning in the River Tawe at the North Dock entrance on June 2nd, 1928.

Mr. F. E. Gordon (W.S.), Mr. F. Blewitt (C.P.O.), Messrs. Conibear and McEnaney (P.O.s) and Mr. Roy (A.P.O.), were present to witness the ceremony.

We hear from Mr. Burge that he has collected a number of short stories, which he has supplied for publication in this Journal from time to time, and has published them in book form. The work is now in the hands of the printer, and copies can be supplied almost immediately. The price is sixpence per copy, plus postage. Applications should be forwarded to Mr. B. J. Burge, 51, Ysgol Street, Port Tennant, Swansea. Any number of copies can be supplied.

## Destructive Insects and Pests Order, 1922.

### OMNIBUS CIRCULAR No. 25, PART VII.

The instructions of this Circular supersede the instructions of paragraphs 1-11, Customs Code, Volume 4, part 3, so far as concerns England and Wales. Similar instructions concerning Scotland are included in O.C. No. 31, part ii., the words "Board of Agriculture for Scotland" being substituted for "Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries."

The necessary amendments to the Code do not appear to have been issued.

Instructions herein referred to are issued under the headings:—

- "Destructive Insects and Pests Order, 1922" (England and Wales), and
- "Destructive Insects and Pests (Scotland) Order, 1922."

Action under these Orders is rarely necessary, and therefore more likely to be overlooked than those matters which are incidental to every day. None the less, the Orders are of prime importance as small consignments may be introduced by means of parcels lists.

Officers will doubtless find the following extracts from this Order of value. The Circulars quoted are to be found in the bound volume of General Orders for 1922, pages 466/7 and 478.

No special action by this Department is necessary as regards the landing of Insects and Pests.

The Order prohibits the landing of the following plants, etc., except under certain conditions:—

- (a) All living plants with a persistent woody stem above the ground, and parts of the same, except seeds, when for use in propagation, such as fruit trees, stocks and stools, forest trees and ornamental shrubs, and grafts, layers and cuttings thereof.
- (b) All potatoes and all tubers, bulbs, rhizomes, corms, and hop stocks for planting.
- (c) Seeds of onions and of leeks for sowing.
- (d) Gooseberries.
- (e) All unrooted cuttings and rooted plants of chrysanthemums. See D.I. & P. (Amendment) Order, 1927, G.O. 98/1927, part x.

The phrase "living plants with a persistent woody stem above the ground" may be regarded as including all plants bearing a stem which does not die back to the surface of the ground during the winter months, such as fruit trees, rhododendrons, etc. Generally speaking, these plants reach this country during the winter months, and in practice, the prohibition will apply to all plants bearing a stem.

The term "plant" is held to include fruit, seeds, tubers, bulbs, layers, cuttings, or other parts of a plant, as well as trees and shrubs.

So far as this Department is concerned, the main condition of import is that a certificate in the prescribed form, issued not more than 14 days prior to shipment by a duly authorised Official of the country whence consigned, must be produced with the free entry for the goods. This certificate is to be attached to the entry and included with the ship's file.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, or an Inspector of the Ministry, may issue a licence authorising the landing of any plants, and in this event, notice thereof will be given to the Staff at the port concerned. Plants consigned to the Ministry of Agriculture for scientific purposes are not required to be accompanied by a certificate.

If, in cases other than those mentioned, no certificate is produced, the entry is to be so noted, and a notification of the facts is to be telephoned or telegraphed to the Ministry of A. & F., together with consignee's name and address, but the goods are not to be detained. In some ports, where there is a representative of the Ministry of Agriculture stationed, the information should be telephoned to him also.

Supplementary to the foregoing is the Colorado Beetle Order of 1922, England and Wales (G.O. 4/23, xi.), and later extended to Northern Ireland by the Colorado Beetle (Northern Ireland) Order of 1923 (G.O. 21/23, i.).

These Orders prohibit the landing of living plants or vegetables shipped from a Port in European France, unless (a) accompanied by a declaration in the approved form, which must be produced with the entry, and purporting to be made by the grower or exporter, or (b) the landing be authorised by an Inspector of the Ministry, in which case the port will be notified.

The expression "living plants and vegetables" means trees and shrubs, tubers, bulbs, and flower roots, raw vegetables, including potato haulms and leaves, and tomatoes.

The declaration is to be attached to the entry, but if not produced, the Ministry is to be notified, as above, and, in the event of the Ministry refusing to allow the importation, the goods may be destroyed or returned to France, in which case the Officer concerned must give a certificate of shipment.

Prior to the extension of the Order to Northern Ireland, the Ministry issued, for the landing of cauliflowers grown, the French Departments of Vilaine, Finistère, and Manche.

A later Order, the Colorado Beetle Order of 1923 (G.O. 60/23, vii.) made a couple of changes as regards England and Wales. The result is that the C.B. Order of 1922, extended a few weeks later to Northern Ireland (C.B. (N.I.) Order of 1923), now applies to Northern Ireland only. The changes are as follow:-

Instead of a grower's declaration, there must be produced a certificate by an Officer of the proper authority if the plants are of French growing, but if grown in another country and shipped at a port in France, they must be accompanied by a certificate *vised by a Local Authority in the country of origin*, except in cases where the articles come within the scope of the Destructive Insects and Pests Order of 1922. In these cases the certificate required by the latter Order may be accepted as evidence of non-French origin.

For the purpose of the C.B. Order of 1923, the term "living plants" includes all trees and shrubs, and the tubers, bulbs, rhizomes, corms, roots, layers, and cuttings, or any other part of any plant, tree, or shrub, but not cut flowers or vegetables for consumption.

Thus, apart from potatoes and tomatoes, vegetables, unless with roots attached, are outside the scope of the Order.

Under various C.B. Orders, 1924/5 (G.O.s 1, 2 and 4, 1925), the landing of potatoes grown in U.S.A., at ports in England and Wales, Northern Ireland, and Scotland, respectively, is prohibited. A similar prohibition at ports in England and Wales, and Northern Ireland, is imposed on potatoes grown in the Dominion of Canada (G.O.s 10/11, 1925).

The importation into England and Wales, and Scotland, of potatoes grown in Canary Islands and Malta is prohibited, unless accompanied by a certificate issued by the proper authority (G.O.s 41, 52, 53 of 1925).

Any importation of potatoes contrary to these regulations is to be detained and full particulars furnished to the appropriate Department in England, Northern Ireland, or Scotland, and to the Board.

Elm trees are prohibited at ports in England, Wales and Scotland if from any place beyond Great Britain, Ireland, Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man (G.O. 1/1927).

It is to be observed that these various prohibitions and restrictions are supplementary to the instructions laid down in the Order which forms the title to this article.

An Order prohibiting the importation of raw cherries is usually in existence during the summer months.

"WENSO."

## Civil Service Confederation.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Civil Service Confederation was held on Monday, 8th October, 1928, at Church House, Westminster. Mr. G. Chase (President) presided over an attendance of twenty-six.

The Chairman extended a welcome to Mr. G. M. Wilkinson, of the Returned Letter Section Assistants' and Returners' Association, who had been appointed by the Post Office Group to fill the vacancy in the Group representation upon the Executive Committee.

On the subject of the All-Service Programme, it was reported.

(i) That the Committee appointed at the Caxton Hall meeting on the 10th September, 1928, to consider and submit to the organisations represented at the meeting a report as to the number and composition of the proposed Joint Committee to organise London activities in connection with the All-Service Programme, had submitted a report in the following terms:-

"That an *ad hoc* Committee be appointed on the lines of the Civil Rights Defence Committee, to be composed of representatives of each of the under-mentioned organisations."

"Executive Officers' Association, 1; Civil Service Clerical Association, 2; Admiralty Draughtsmen's Association, 1; Association of Civil Service Sorting Assistants, 1; Customs and

Excise Federation, 1; Customs and Excise Preventive Staff Association, 1; Association of Officers of Taxes, 1; Ministry of Labour Staff Association, 1; Government Minor Grades Association, 1; County Court Officers' Association, 1; Workers' Union, Whitehall Branches, 1; Civil Service Confederation, 2; Union of Post Office Workers, 3; Post Office Engineering Federation, 2; Federation of Post Office Supervising Officers, 2; Institution of Professional Civil Servants, 1; Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries, 1."

(ii) That a meeting of the Committee would be held on 9th October, 1928, at Kingsway Hall.

The Executive Committee decided to accept one seat on the proposed Joint Committee, and appointed the General Secretary as the representative of the Confederation.

With reference to the Committee to consider and report upon "P" Class Clerk issues, it was reported that representatives to the Committee had been appointed by the Civil Service Clerical Association, the Association of Officers of Taxes, the Ministry of Labour Staff Association, the Valuation Office Clerical Association, and the County Court Officers' Association, and that the first meeting of the Committee had been held. The action of the Committee in issuing an invitation to the Association of Ex-Service Civil Servants to co-operate with the Confederation on matters concerning the "P" Class was endorsed by the Executive.

It was reported that a Conference had been held between the Confederation officers and representatives of certain constituent organisations of the Confederation with Higher Grade members, at which problems concerning Higher Grades were considered. A further meeting is to be held, and proposals submitted at a later date to the Executive Committee.

The Confederation officers also had a consultation with representatives of the Civil Service Clerical Association, the Association of Officers of Taxes, and the Ministry of Labour Staff Association, with a view to arriving at a solution of certain difficulties which have arisen in regard to the organisation of temporary staffs. Some progress has been made in this direction, and definite proposals will be made to the Executive Committee at a later date.

With reference to the proposals on the subjects of Motor Car Insurance and Injuries on Duty forwarded by the Confederation to the National Staff Side, it was stated that these had been referred to the General Purposes Committee of the National Staff Side to report, with authority to make reference to any other Committee concerned, such as the Superannuation Committee.

A discussion took place on the subject of Cost of Living, and it was reported that the National Staff Side had rejected a motion that the Staff Side should undertake an enquiry into Cost of Living. The Executive Committee decided that no further action be taken with regard to a Cost-of-Living enquiry, pending the result of negotiations with the Official Side on the Treasury offer regarding temporary stabilisation of the Cost-of-Living Bonus. The Treasury offer and the counter-proposals of the National Staff Side will be under consideration at a special meeting of the full National Whitley Council on Friday, 12th October.

Some progress has been made in the matters raised with the India Office at the request of the Foreman's Association of India, *i.e.*, increases in pay, free passages, and overseas pay, and the latest information received has been communicated to the Association.

With regard to the subjects of Substitution Pay and Increases on Promotion, which it had been decided to withdraw from the agenda of the National Whitley Council, the Executive Committee adopted proposals made by the General Purposes Committee to the effect that constituent organisations concerned in these matters be invited to express their views as to the lines upon which further action should proceed. It was also decided that steps be taken to secure a discussion on the National Whitley Council on the general principle that every promotion should carry with it an increase in emoluments.

On the subject of Annual Reports in connection with Promotion, the Executive Committee decided to forward to the National Staff Side, with a view to discussion on the National Whitley Council, a resolution asking that steps should be taken—

"to press for an arrangement to be made whereby, whilst still preserving the confidential nature of the Annual Reports, Heads of Departments shall notify the respective staff representatives of the actual number of officers in each grade who are reported as 'suitable for early and special promotion,' *i.e.*, marked 'A,' as soon as these reports are forwarded to the Establishments Division each year, the figures for all grades to be available to each grade."

In response to a request received from the National Staff Side for information as to the practice of Government Departments in connection with deductions from pay on establishment (arising from a proposal on this subject forwarded to the Staff Side by the Confederation), a letter of enquiry seeking such information has been issued to appropriate constituent organisations of the Confederation, and replies are now coming to hand.

The Executive Officers' Association, having submitted correspondence and a memorandum on the subject of Taxation of Foreign Allowances, the Executive Committee adopted the principle that Foreign and Colonial Allowances should be computed at an amount sufficient to provide for the Income Tax payable.

It being reported that the next meeting of the National Staff Side would be the Annual Meeting, when the election of officers would take place, it was agreed to nominate Mr. W. E. Llewellyn and Mr. G. Chase for re-election to the posts of National Staff Side Chairman and Secretary respectively.

The Half-yearly Council meeting of the Confederation will be held on Saturday afternoon, 17th November, at Central Hall, Westminster.

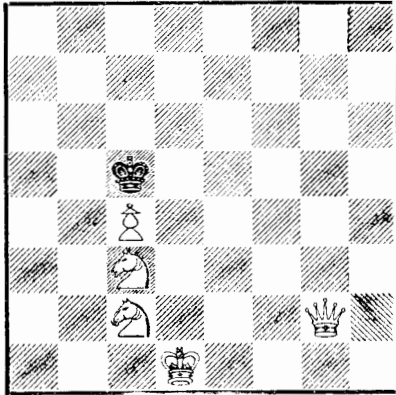
## CORRECTION.

In announcing Mr. Bowen's change of address at Cardiff in the last issue, we described him as the District Secretary. Mr. Bowen is the local correspondent for the "Customs Journal."

**SPORT AND SOCIAL.**

**Customs Waterguard Chess Club**

**PROBLEM No. 25.**



By Mrs. BAIRD.

White to mate in three moves.

**Solution to No. 24.**

- |           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1. Q—KR3. | 1. K—K6.    |
| 2. Kt×Q5+ | 2. K—B7.    |
| 3. B—Q4   |             |
| if        | 1. R—R8.    |
| 2. Q—B5   | if          |
| if        | 1. P—B7.    |
| 2. Q×P    | (9 points.) |

**EARLY CHESS—continued.**

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 13. P—KR3.   | 13. P—KR3.    |
| 14. P—K Kt4. | 14. P×P.      |
| 15. P×P.     | 15. P—K Kt4.  |
| 16. P×P.     | 16. P×P.      |
| 17. P—Q4.    | 17. P—Q4 (a). |
| 18. Q—B2.    | 18. Q—B2.     |
| 19. P×QP!    | 19. KP×P (b). |
| 20. P×P.     | 20. P×P.      |
| 21. B—QR3.   | 21. P—O5 (c). |
| 22. P×P (d). | 22. P×P.      |
| 23. Kt—K2.   | 23. R—Kt4.    |
| 24. B—B1.    | 24. P—Q6.     |
| 25. Q×P.     | 25. R×KtP.    |

(a) 17—, —, —, P×P; 18 P×P followed by B—K3.  
 (b) 19—, —, —, BP×P; 20 KP×P, P×P; 21 B—O3, B—O3=, (c) 21—, —, —, P—B5; 22 P×P, R×R; 23 Kt×R, P×P; 24 Kt(B3)—Q2, to follow with B—B1, Q—K4 (via Q1, K2, B3), abandoning K KtP in order to establish his game, and finally emerging a P ahead, since he can win with O BP and K KtP. (d) 22—, —, —, Kt—QR4, P—B5 (P×P; 23 B×P, and 24 B×P); 23 P×QP, B—K3; 24 Kt—B3, B or Kt×KtP. White will win with KtP with B and Kt, remaining a P ahead. **THE END GAME.**

(To be continued.)

**NEW RULE.**—A new rule has been unanimously agreed to by the Committee, as follows: x

**Unfinished Games: Adjudication.**—ALL unfinished games be forwarded to the Club Referee, Mr. F. G. Boodle, 31, Pilgrim's Way, Dover, at the end of the time limit for adjudication. Should any dispute arise after this adjudication, the game shall be forwarded to the Official Kent County Referee, whose decision must be accepted as final, the two players sharing any expense incurred by the second adjudication (if any).

The Kent Referee agrees to do this, and states that if he is unable to adjudicate any position he will submit it, through the Kent Chess Association, to M. Znosky Borovsky, one of the world's master players.  
 W. W. BISHOP, Hon. Sec.

**London North Side Sports Club.**

**FOOTBALL.**

Mr. F. C. Warne (Waterguard Superintendent) set the ball rolling in the match at Ilford on September 19th when Gravesend were the visitors. A very keen and enjoyable game ensued, and the home team were two goals up at the interval, though the better understanding and stamina of the visitors gave them the verdict when time was called.

Result :—Gravesend 3, London 2.

**SOCIAL.**

After the match an excellent tea, followed by a concert, over which Mr. Warne presided, was held at the Burnell Arms, East Ham. Messrs. Egan and Clarke (retired C.P.O.s) sent their good wishes for a pleasant evening and expressed their regret at being unable to be present. Musical items of a highly creditable order were given by members of the Club, and a very pleasant evening, which will be remembered by all, terminated with hearty handshakes and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

**DANCE.**

The new Harmonic Hall, East Ham, was the venue of the Club's dance on October 5th. George West and his band rendered lively music, which kept the large assembly on their toes. The duties of M.C. were ably carried out by Mr. Almond, and Capt. Garrick and his staff complimented the Club on giving them a very fine evening's enjoyment.

It is a matter for regret that more members of the London staff do not join in these happy functions. The next dance will be held on November 2nd, and a hearty invitation is given to all colleagues and friends.

**CLUB FIXTURES.**

Football.—Oct. 25th v. Victoria Dock Police (away).  
 Nov. 1st v. L.G.O.C. (Forest Gate) (home).

**Not the Waterguard.**

I hear a learned professor estimates that man spends a third of his life in sleep. Those in the Civil Service get the rest of their time to themselves.

B.J.B.