

# The Customs Journal

No. 656

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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.*

The Editor wishes all his readers a Happy and Enjoyable Christmas

### Placing Orders in Order.

A FEW months ago we thought the occasion appropriate to make a few remarks upon the matter of Codes and Instructions. Our comments were, in the main, devoted to the construction that could be placed upon the value of the work performed, bearing in mind the existence of literature designed to instruct and assist the officer.

We are reminded of the subject once again by the report of a special committee appointed to consider and report as to the most efficient and economic method of issuing periodical instructions and information to the Service. The report was adopted at the last meeting of the Departmental Whitley Council, and is published on another page.

Whilst our experience proves the futility of judging the value of the work performed solely by the existence of "well defined regulations," we are not unmindful of the importance and advantages of an organised method of circularising the staff, and we observe the recommendations made by the above-mentioned Committee with relief. One cannot find better terms with which to describe the existing system (at least, in polite language), than that used by the Committee. Unwieldy, confusing, and unsatisfactory it certainly is, and any improvement that can be effected will be heartily welcomed by the rank and file, many of whom have to devote a fairly large amount of leisure time

to the confusing, irksome and frequently heart-breaking task of keeping their instructions up to date.

To know that there is to be an extensive cancellation of dead matter, and that extant matter will be re-issued in a more appropriate form, is consoling to all of us who are harbouring orders only a few lines of which are still operative. This is a nuisance that is frequently aggravated by our non-possession of certain ancient, but nevertheless important, orders issued possibly before we joined the service. One can only imagine the joy of those of us who have been too busy in other directions to be able to stay the pace of amending, cancelling and revising.

Altogether, it is a welcome report, and a credit to the Departmental Whitley Council. It is good in these days of "economy at any cost," to read that "efficiency and the economic use of the time of officials are of even greater importance than economy on paper and printing." Official and leisure time will be saved if the aim of the report is realised, and that will be good for the Service and good for us.

CHRISTMAS, 1929.  
WISHING OUR READERS ALL THE JOYS  
OF THE FESTIVE SEASON.

## CURRENT COMMENTS.

AT the Waterguard Sectional Committee meeting on the 3rd December, further discussions took place on the Salary Claim, but, as was anticipated in these columns, no final result was reached.

The P.S.A. Executive Committee, a meeting of which was held on the two following days, received a report of these discussions, and after full consideration came to the conclusion that the position was far from being unfavourable. Naturally, much attention was given to this question by the Executive, and the outcome of this was the unanimous opinion that, although the Whitley negotiations have been somewhat prolonged, the delay could not be regarded as unreasonable, in view of the surrounding circumstances.

It is not permissible to give here details of the information which the Executive had before them, but members can be assured that the Committee went fully into the subject, and were in possession of all possible data. They were fully alive to the fact that delay can be dangerous, and are not likely to make the mistake of becoming too tolerant.

\* \* \* \*

The next meeting of the Waterguard Sectional Committee is expected to take place early in the New Year. If at this meeting counter proposals from the Official Side are forthcoming, it is probable that frequent meetings of the W.S.C. and of our own Executive will then become necessary. A special meeting of the P.S.A. Council might even be needed.

\* \* \* \*

In preparation for the heavy expense of such meetings, the Organising Secretary has been making redoubled efforts during the past months to strengthen our financial position. These efforts have met with a large measure of success, and there is now much more readiness to pay subscriptions promptly. There is also evidence of a determination to make sure that in the fight before us the "sinews of war" are not lacking. It is urgent that this spirit shall be maintained. A steady and substantial revenue is essential if we are to be successful. Waterguard Officers who fail to realise this ought to have it impressed upon them by those who do. The latter have every reason to be disgusted with non-member colleagues who are mean-spirited enough to accept benefits for which they can pay but prefer to let others pay for them. It is the clean, healthy-minded individual that readily responds to a call-to-arms within his own community.

\* \* \* \*

In addition to the Salary Claim, several other matters of importance were included in the report of the Waterguard Sectional proceedings. The negotiations on promotion methods from P.O. to C.P.O. were regarded as being satisfactory, and it is expected that very shortly an

agreement will go to the Departmental Council for ratification. The question of Pocket Journals is in a like position. As regards Seizure Awards, it was reported that the Staff Side had asked for conditions similar to those governing seizures made by the Officer Grade, and that this proposal be considered in conjunction with the Salary Claim. The items raised at the Annual Conference with reference to uniform overcoats and caps were also dealt with.

Further details of these matters will appear in the next issue of the Journal. It is not possible to have the agreed report ready for this issue.

\* \* \* \*

Apart from Waterguard Sectional business, the Executive had a fair volume of work to get on with. One of the most interesting items was the discussion which arose from Council instructions to go into the question of duties of the A.P.O. Grade. It will be remembered that this matter had already been remitted to a sub-committee some time ago, but discussion was adjourned *sine die*. Now the question is to be re-opened, and will be examined from quite a new angle. The results ought to be useful in the event of any possible reconstruction discussions in connection with our claims.

Another matter which has required attention for some time was discussed and brought to a satisfactory conclusion, and that was the question of machinery for dealing with Suggestions Committee business. A small committee of experienced Preventive Officers stationed in London has now been appointed to examine all draft documents relating to Instructions which are submitted to the Suggestions Committee, and which affect the Waterguard. At the moment documents of this character form a very large portion of the work performed by this Committee, and examination of them take up a good deal of time.

The Organising Secretary reported that the new Small Port Guide was almost ready for delivery from the printers. He also announced that already a large number of orders for the book had been received. It is therefore very obvious that there is a need for such a publication, and it is also evident that the Association's reputation, acquired through the success of the "little green book," has led members to believe that in purchasing Mr. Thomson's book they will be getting value for money. They will not be disappointed.

\* \* \* \*

As regard the "Preventive Officer's Guide," the Executive decided to instruct the Central Committee of the V.E.S. to prepare for a reprint. It is intended that this booklet will be revised and will contain more matter. The next issue will be timed for the forthcoming Budget, so that the duty tables will be up to date.

It is interesting to note that of the 1,250 copies that were printed originally, no more

than one dozen remain in stock. There are very few Preventive Officers to-day who do not consult the little book whenever occasion arises for checking intricate calculations. To the baggage officer, harassed by innumerable distractions whilst trying to assess duty on varying quantities and descriptions of goods, it has become almost indispensable.

\* \* \* \*

The Chairman of the Board of Customs and Excise is to give evidence before the Royal Commission on Tuesday, 10th December. In view of the suggestion made in the National Staff Side's written evidence, that Revenue departments could usefully be merged, the evidence to be given on this occasion will be regarded as most important.

\* \* \* \*

As this is the last time these notes will be written before Christmas, opportunity is taken to wish all readers a very happy Yuletide. Although the Association cannot offer a Christmas present in the shape of a successful Salary Claim, it can at least enable its members to commence the New Year with a hopeful outlook for better conditions and pay.

### Hull Prosecution.

At the Hull City Police Court on November 26th, an assistant steward belonging to the S.S. "Otto" from Dunkirk and Ghent, was charged with concealing on board 2.07 galls. Imitation Rum, .16 gall. Geneva, .12 gall. Brandy (all proof), 1/6 gall. Champagne, and 1 lb. Tobacco (other sorts).

The magistrates imposed a penalty of single duty-paid value (£11/17/5).

At the same Court the messroom steward of the same vessel was charged with concealing 1.41 gall. Imitation Rum, .23 gall. Brandy (both proof), 2½ lbs. Cigars (o.s.), and 1 lb. Tobacco (o.s.).

In this case the penalty imposed was the single duty-paid value £12/10/9).

The officers discovering the goods were Messrs. H. W. Manning and C. V. Murphy (A.P.O.s).

Mr. Kieran (C.P.O.) prosecuted.

### IMPORTANT

In order to facilitate the publication of the next issue, contributors are requested to ensure that all matter for inclusion in that issue is in the hands of the Editor by Friday, December 20th.

## OBITUARY.

### MR. J. T. DEVINE.

Numerous friends of the late Mr. J. T. Devine (Preventive Officer, Manchester) will be grieved to hear of his sudden death on Tuesday, Nov. 26th. Mr. Devine until this time had been enjoying good health.

The funeral took place at Weaste on Friday, November 29th, and a number of his colleagues attended in uniform. Six acted as bearers. Among those present were Mr. Hargreaves (C.P.O.) and Mr. Benson (late C.P.O., Sunderland).

The Custom House and Landing Staffs united with the Waterguard Staff in sending a floral tribute.

Our very sincere sympathies are extended to Mrs. Devine and family in their sad bereavement.

### MR. W. P. MANLEY.

London has lost another well-known figure in the person of Mr. W. P. Manley (P.O.), who passed away on November 28th at the age of 58 years, following an attack of pneumonia.

A very large number of friends, relations and colleagues were present at the interment at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Leytonstone, on December 2nd. Mr. F. C. Warne (Waterguard Superintendent) attended, together with Mr. Fleet, Mr. Gardner, and Mr. White (C.P.O.s), and about twenty-four other members of the Preventive Staff. Six members of the Department bore him to the grave.

Mrs. Manley and her family have all our sympathy in their bereavement.

In view of the large number of letters that have been received by Mrs. Manley, we have been requested to publish the following letter of acknowledgment from Mr. W. P. D. Manley, the late Mr. Manley's son.

New Barking, Essex.

December 6th, 1929.

"Dear Sir,

"I have been requested by my mother and members of the family to thank the members of the Preventive and Launch Services for their beautiful floral tribute, and for the kindness and sympathy shown us in our recent sad bereavement in the death of my father. We have derived a great deal of consolation from these evidences of friendship, and from the many letters that we have received.

"May I take this opportunity of extending our very sincere thanks to all those members of the Service who attended the funeral.

Yours truly,

W. P. D. MANLEY."

### THE LATE MR.

#### EDWARD CHARLES CUNNINGHAM, C.B.

The news of the death of Mr. Edward Charles Cunningham, C.B., Accountant and Controller-General of Customs and Excise, was received with feelings of extreme sorrow by the many members of the Department who knew him personally, and with general regret throughout the Service. Mr. Cunningham was only 57 years of age. He was educated at Haileybury and Trinity College, Cambridge, and entered the Civil Service as a Higher Division Clerk thirty-three years ago after open competition. He first served in the Post Office and was transferred to the Inland Revenue Department at Somerset House three years later, and became Assistant Secretary there in 1908. One year later he was transferred to the Customs and Excise, and in 1910 became Secretary to the Department. During the years of the War he bore the brunt of the War work which fell in such volume and with such pressure on the Department that had to face the complications in connection with import and export trade and shipping. During this period he became widely known throughout all the Services, and his decision and common sense in emergency, and the readiness with which he accepted responsibility and decided upon a course of action either for himself or his subordinates, won general confidence, whilst his genial and encouraging manner, and the view that he took of mistakes arising from new circumstances and lack of experience, won for him the ardent respect of all ranks in the Service. After the war, he became Controller-General of Civil Demobilisation and Re-settlement in the Department of the Ministry of Labour, and he carried on that work until 1921, when he returned to the Customs and Excise Service as Accountant and Controller-General, the post he held at the time of his death.

Mr. Cunningham was welcomed back to the Customs and Excise Service with much enthusiasm by his old friends, the circle of which has ever since shown steady increase. His unusual personality combined strength and charm, whilst perhaps sincerity, cheerfulness and a disregard for clogging convention were the dominant features. It was often said by those around him that he had the disposition of a schoolboy with a great heart and an extreme gift of friendship. His circle of friends included members of every grade in the Service, and he had no greater delight than to add to their number. The crowded pews and aisles on the occasion of the funeral service at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East were a tribute in sincerity and volume never before paid to any member of the Department. Every grade in the Service was represented.

As soon as the news of the death was received, a desire was expressed that a funeral service before the interment should be held at the Parish Church of the Custom House. The Rev. A. G. B. West, Rector, one of Mr. Cunningham's many friends and Chaplain of the Wayfarers' Lodge, succeeded in bringing about arrangements under which the

funeral cortege travelled from Mr. Cunningham's house at Highgate to the Church of St. Dunstan-in-the-East. The church was filled to overflowing when the funeral arrived, and the chief mourners, Mrs. Cunningham, the widow, Mr. Frank Cunningham, brother, Miss Maud Cunningham, sister, Mrs. Tynes Clinton, Sir Archibald and Lady Bodkin and Miss Bodkin, and Dr. John Morrison, entered the building. When the coffin had been placed in the chancel, Sir Francis Floud, the Chairman of the Board, placed a wreath at the head, and during an impressive silence wreaths from various offices and friends and from Masonic Lodges were carried and placed in position one by one.

The service opened with the hymn, "Rock of Ages," and was followed by an address by the Rector, in which he dwelt upon the loss that had been sustained by Mr. Cunningham's many friends and the Department, and discoursed upon the hope that relieves the sadness of such occasions. The lesson for the service was read by Sir Francis Floud, Chairman of the Customs and Excise, and the 90th Psalm was sung by the choir, the service closing with the hymn, "Abide with Me." A considerable number of those present attended the interment at Highgate Old Cemetery, where members of the Freemason Lodges, of which he was a member, formed a guard of honour, and performed the simple ceremonial rite of their Order. Mr. C. Williams presided at the organ, and the choir was provided by Mr. Gibson.

Amongst those present at the service in the church were: Sir Francis L. C. Floud, K.C.B., Chairman of the Board of Customs and Excise, Mr. A. J. Dyke, C.B., C.B.E., Deputy Chairman of the Board of Customs and Excise, Mr. W. Young, C.B., Mr. C. J. T. B. Grylls, C.B., C.B.E., Secretary Commissioners, Commissioners of Customs and Excise. Other Departmental Chief Inspector; Mr. W. Christian, Mr. J. S. representatives and friends included: Mr. J. Ritchie, Sutton, Mr. C. J. Flynn, Mr. E. S. Bertenshaw, Mr. J. Cook, O.B.E., Mr. A. J. Dedman, Assistant Secretaries; Mr. C. E. Fitzroy, Solicitor; Mr. C. M. Woodford, M.B.E., Inspector-General of Waterguard; Mr. E. Marrable, Collector of London Port; Mr. J. H. Avison, O.B.E., Mr. R. Elrick, O.B.E., Mr. H. R. Poole, O.B.E., Deputy Accountants-General; Mr. C. V. Walter, Mr. J. C. Robertson, Assistant Solicitors; Mr. R. Barnard, Deputy Controller, Statistical Office; Sir Archibald Bodkin, K.C.B. (Director of Public Prosecutions), and Lady Bodkin; Mr. H. W. Lovell, C.B.E. (Admiralty Marshal), and Mrs. Lovell; Mr. W. W. Marsh, Director of Establishments, Ministry of Labour; Mr. H. W. Bromby, Deputy Chief Inspector, Ministry of Health; Mr. A. Cameron Scott, Divisional Inspector, Ministry of Health; Mrs. Lupton, Mr. G. Derrick, Mr. Pentelow, Mr. Sluman, Mr. Holland, and Mr. R. Soar.

Floral tributes were sent from the Board of Customs and Excise, Secretaries' Office, Solicitor's Office, Accountant-General's Office, Chief Inspector's Office, Collector and Staff of London Port,

Accountant and Controller-General's Office, Whitby Committee, Inspector-General's Office and Staff of London Waterguard, Office Keeper and Staff, Refreshment Club Staff, and there were Masonic wreaths from the Wayfarers' Lodge, the Wayfarers' Chapter, and the James Terry Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners.

As an old friend of Mr. E. C. Cunningham, whose death came as a great shock, I should like to add a slight personal touch. He was of a singularly bright and cheerful disposition, with a wonderful knack of putting everyone at his ease. At Trinity College, Cambridge, where I first got to know him, he was the life and soul of the party of friends who used to gather together in his own and each other's rooms. Impatient in these days of formal restraint or curb, he was yet in essence full of goodwill and kindness. Having been placed in the Second Division of the First Class of the Classical Tripos, 1894, he did not, I think, pursue his classical studies much farther. But he had uncommon linguistic capacities, and for many years after his removal to London in 1895, made a hobby of acquiring a working acquaintance with all sorts of comparatively little-known European languages. During his first years in town he used to do translating work for the Post Office. He was also very fond of travelling, and besides many visits to foreign parts, there can be very few corners of old England into which he had not penetrated, partly in connection with his official duties.

He had a high standard in his official work. During the institution of arrangements for working the Old Age Pensions Act, he frequently worked at home in the evenings and on Sundays, and was so absorbed in his work that the problems connected with it, often very interesting, tended to dominate his conversation even during leisure hours. It seems not unlikely that it was at this time that the mischief due to overstrain first set in. During the days just before and after the outbreak of the Great War, Cunningham slept either in his office or in an hotel not far off. And during and after the War he had many other heavy tasks. In his later years he suffered a good deal from bronchial trouble, and had perforce to take things more easily.

In his married life he was very happy, and at his home there was always the same warm welcome for his friends, though it might often, in his jesting manner, take the apparent form of the reverse. But with him realities were deeper than words. With his servants he was always on the most friendly terms; his chauffeur once told my housekeeper that their maids never left the service of Mr. Cunningham and his wife unless to get married. His conversation was lively and interesting, and he had a great fund of common sense and freedom from prejudice. His death at so comparatively early an age will be a great loss to all who knew him.

Mr. W. F. SEDGWICK,  
in "The Times."

## GENERAL ORDERS.

*Report of the Special Committee appointed to consider and report as to the most efficient and economic method of issuing periodical instructions and information to the Service.*

In considering the question set before us, we have regarded the terms of reference as confining our attention to instructions issued by the Board in the form of General Orders and Circulars as distinct from those issued as books and codes of standing instructions and from purely local directions issued by Collectors such as, e.g., London Port Orders.

We are of opinion that owing to the considerable expansion in the scope of the work of the Department, the somewhat frequent changes and variations caused by post-war political and economic conditions affecting the Department's activities and the consequent necessity constantly to issue and re-issue new and revised directions to the Service, the existing system which was reasonable and adequate in former years has become unwieldy, confusing and unsatisfactory.

We are alive to the necessity for economy in expenditure but we feel that efficiency and the economic use of the time of officials are of even greater importance than economy on paper and printing. We have, therefore, viewed the economical aspect in the broad sense and while the adoption of our recommendations would at the outset involve some increase in expenditure, we are satisfied that economy would result.

After discussing the various aspects of the problems, assisted by the advice and experience of Mr. J. B. Gotts, O.B.E., of H.M. Stationery Office, we are unanimously of opinion that the most efficient and economical method of issuing periodical instructions and information to the Service, would be as set forth in the following summary:—

(1) General Orders to be confined to instructions and other matters of more than temporary importance.

(2) Directions and matter of only temporary importance at present included in the weekly General Order, e.g., detentions of ships, directions relating to returns, lists of staff changes, etc., to be issued in the form of a weekly circular.

(3) The new General Order to be printed on one side of the paper and punched for insertion in loose leaf binders to the pattern (herewith) which has been submitted by the Stationery Office.

(4) A printed index to all the General Orders issued during each calendar year to be issued at the end of the year.

(5) Instructions contained in the General Orders to be incorporated in permanent instructions as early as practicable and the General Order cancelled with consequential restriction of the material current in the binder.

(6) Amendments to extant General Orders to be issued in the form of amendment slips as at present, but General Orders and Parts of General Orders which have to be materially altered during their current life, to be reprinted for substitution in the binder; Amendment slips will not be issued for weekly circulars.

(7) All General Orders to be cancelled at the

end of five years, any orders remaining in force and which have not been incorporated in the permanent books of instructions to be amended to date and re-issued under a new number.

(8) The yearly bound volume of General Orders and the present "Guard Book," C. and E. 149 to be discontinued.

(9) General Orders in all cases to be issued as personal copies and the supply of "Station copies" except to the Waterguard to be discontinued.

(10) One Binder to be supplied to each Official entitled to receive General Orders, a second binder to be issued subsequently, if necessary.

(Note.—It is not anticipated this will be necessary for at least two years.)

(11) The binders to be accounted for as non-consumable stores.

(12) No filing covers to be provided for weekly circulars.

(13) Distribution of weekly circular to be on the same lines as General Orders, except that no station copies will be issued.

(14) General Orders issued prior to 1925 to be examined with a view to cancellation of dead matter and the re-issue of extant matter either (1) as new books of instructions, or (2) by incorporation in existing books of instructions; where neither of these courses is practicable, the extant matter to be included in a separate volume.

We appreciate that compliance with recommendation No. 14 will involve a considerable amount of official time and call for the careful attention of the staff employed, but we think that it is essential in the interests of the Service as a whole.

## Preventive Staff Association

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President: *W. G. Thomson*

General Secretary: *J. Merron*

Organising Secretary: *J. T. Sutton*

Assistant Secretary: *W. H. Powell*

### DOVER.

At recent meetings at the United Services Club, Folkestone, the Councillors' report of the 1929 Conference was considered and discussed.

The meeting was concerned with the pressure on the P.S.A. Secretariat, and favoured the appointment of a sub-committee of the Councillors to explore the practicability of the appointment of a full-time Secretary at a future date. This in the event of amalgamation of the P.S.A. with analogous grades. It was hoped, if such a committee were appointed, that its findings would be circulated. Reference was made to the effect of such an appointment in Whitley proceedings, and also to the position of such Secretary in relation to candidature for membership of the House of Commons.

Mr. Herrington was accorded a vote of thanks in appreciation of the excellent report he had

given of the work done at the Conference and its aspect on the future of the Department.

On the occasion of the previous meeting, held at Dover, the opportunity was taken to congratulate Mr. D. E. A. Tucker, on his appointment to the position of Inspector-in-Charge of the Customs Department at Dar-es-Salaam, and to wish him success in his new position. Mr. Tucker, in replying, stated that while away he would continue to be a member of the Association, and would always remember his happy associations in the Department.

## CHANGES IN THE STAFF.

TO DECEMBER 9th, 1929.

### TRANSFERS.

#### PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

Annis, A. S., Kirkwall, Aberdeen to Liverpool.  
Cridland, F. A., Glasgow to London.

Sobey, C. W., Newcastle to North Shields, Newcastle.

#### ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

Bray, S., Cardiff to Port Talbot, Swansea.

Powell, C. R., Swansea to Port Talbot, Swansea

### PROMOTIONS.

#### ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS TO PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

Burke, J., West Hartlepool, Sunderland to Barry Dock, Cardiff.

Collier, H., Goole, Hull to Middlesbrough, Sunderland.

Hampshire, A., Harwich, Ipswich to Wisbech, Norwich.

Robertson, J., North Shields, Newcastle to Glasgow.

Smith, J., Middlesbrough, Sunderland to Newcastle.

### OFFICERS LEAVING THE SERVICE.

#### RETIREMENTS—PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

Miller, H., London.

Owen, J. S., Liverpool.

Patmore, W. I., Wisbech, Norwich.

### DEATHS.

#### PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

Devine, J. T., Manchester.

Manley, W. P., London.

#### OFFICER SECONDED FOR SERVICE ABROAD.

Tucker, D. E. A. (Assistant Preventive Officer, Dover). Seconded as Inspector-in-Charge, Customs Department, Tanganyika Territory.

#### OBITUARY OF SUPERANNUATED OFFICERS.

Case, S. G., Assistant Preventive Officer.

Christophers, S., Preventive Officer.

Herdman, T., Preventive Officer, Lower Section.

Martin, R., Preventive Officer-in-Charge.

### VACANCIES.

#### INSPECTOR:—

Office of I.G.W., 26.1.1930.

#### PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

\*Kirkwall, Aberdeen.

Maryport, Preston, 13.1.1930.

Gravesend, London, 23.1.1930.

†Truro, Plymouth, 2.2.1930.

#### ENGINEER:—

Southampton, 1.1.1930.

\* An allowance of £30 per annum for performing Long Room work, etc., plus £10 per annum for Registry of Shipping work, is assigned.

† An allowance of £20 per annum for performing Long Room work, etc., plus £10 per annum for Registry of Shipping work, is assigned.

## Customs and Excise Departmental Council.

The 11th meeting of the Council was held in the Custom House, London, on 20th November, 1929, the chair being taken by Sir F. L. C. Floud, K.C.B., Chairman of the Board of Customs and Excise.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman referred to the great loss which the Department had sustained by the recent death of Mr. E. C. Cunningham. His death had come as a very severe blow to his more immediate colleagues who had worked side by side with him for so many years. All who had come in contact with him respected him and liked him whether as their colleague or their superior officer, and the Chairman felt that he was voicing the feelings of the Council and indeed of the whole Department in expressing the most profound regret at his death.

The Vice-Chairman said that the Staff Side wished to associate themselves entirely with everything which the Chairman had said. The Council directed the Secretaries to convey a message of sympathy to Mrs. Cunningham.

It was agreed that the senior member of the Board present should take the chair during the ensuing year. Mr. Thomas Morton was appointed Vice-Chairman, Mr. F. N. Roberts, Official Side Secretary, and Mr. C. A. W. Sanders, Staff Side Secretary. All the standing committees were re-appointed.

### APPOINTMENTS.

It was announced that 18 more "P" Class Clerks had recently been recommended for promotion to the Clerical Class, and that this left approximately 170 members of the "P" Class in the Department.

**PAY.**  
It was agreed that temporary Women Pension Officers should be entitled to three annual increments of 3s. 6d. a week each, the new incremental date to be 9th October, 1929, in the cases of those members of the Grade who had completed at least 12 months' service in the Grade on the date of the agreement in Committee.

### ALLOWANCES.

It was agreed that when an Unattached Officer is entitled to receive Disturbance Allowance and also day subsistence allowance, payment should be made within the limits of the appropriate subsistence allowance for a 24-hours' absence.

The Staff Side proposed that, to put all Departmental applicants on an equal footing, the Board should pay the travelling and subsistence expenses of all officers summoned for interview in connection with vacancies abroad. The proposal was adjourned for Official Side consideration, after discussion in which it was pointed out that in some cases the matter might affect other applicants who were not Civil Servants.

The Staff Side also raised the point as to whether an earlier agreement on the payment of the removal expenses, under the general regulations, of "P" Class Clerks promoted on removal covered the grant of subsistence expenses at the appropriate clerical class rates. It was stated that the higher subsistence rates could not be allowed until the Officer had taken up duty in his new sphere.

### LEAVE.

The following matters were adjourned for further consideration:—

- (a) Special leave for marriage or bereavement;
- (b) Travelling expenses on return from non-minuted leave to attend court proceedings;
- (c) Summer leave periods available to staffs of Collectors' Offices.

### PROMOTION.

The Official Side undertook, at the Staff Side's suggestion, to table detailed proposals providing specifically for the Departmental Clerical Class in regard to (a) Reporting Officers, and (b) Panel of Promotion Board.

### "ACTING" DUTIES.

The Staff Side proposed that the duties of an absent Higher Clerical Officer should normally be undertaken by the most senior Clerical Officer in his section. The Official Side pointed out in discussion that it would be unwise to lay down too rigid a rule on the subject, giving instances where it would operate inconveniently. The proposal was adjourned for further consideration.

### REDUNDANCY.

The joint examination of all the points involved in the Staff Side's proposals for regulating transfers of Clerical Officers redundant at Headquarters was now concluded, and it was agreed to formulate a draft agreement for consideration at the next meeting.

### ASSISTANCE IN GENERAL STATIONS.

The Council ratified a Committee agreement covering the grant of assistance in general stations, its assessment and method of application. Details will be given shortly in the form of official instructions.

### CHECKING.

The draft of new Checking Instructions was the subject of an adjourned discussion, in which the Official Side expressed willingness to withdraw the restriction at present imposed in respect of Officers of less than one year's service.

### GENERAL ORDERS.

The Council adopted a Special Committee's Report (printed as an appendix hereto), amending the present system under which General Orders, etc., are compiled and issued. It is expected that the new methods will apply as from 1st January, 1930, and that the bound volume of 1929 General Orders will be issued in due course.

### OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

This item was re-adjourned to enable the Official Side to complete the proposals which are being communicated in writing to the Staff Side. A number of headings of this subject have already been dealt with in this manner.

### WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

It was stated that the Board were in consultation with the Ministry of Health regarding the new work, and hoped to be in a position very shortly to discuss the matter with the staffs.

A number of other decisions advised by Sectional, Grade, Office and Local Committees were considered by the Council, with results that have been communicated to the Committees concerned.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on 18th December, 1929.

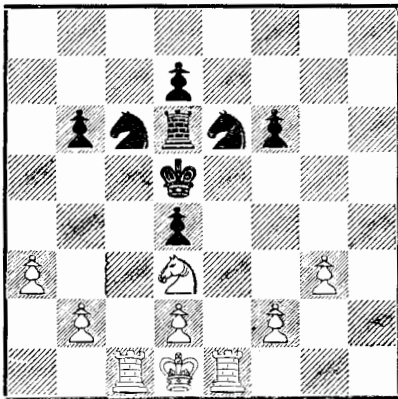
## SPORT AND SOCIAL.

### Customs Waterguard Chess Club.

#### PROBLEM No. 43(a).

By M. SCHOUMOFF.

(L'ancre levee intempestivement.)



Black to move, then White mates in three moves.

Problem No. 43a is the emblem of Hope; last Christmas we gave the emblem of Faith. I wonder if next year we will be able to complete the series. We'll try, anyway.

#### Solution to Problem No. 43.

1. Kt—R1. Kt x Kt.
2. Kt—B3.

Beginners should note that if White moves 1. B x R, it becomes a stalemate.

#### HOW CHESS IS PLAYED (continued).

You now know enough to be able to play a good game, and before advancing to further stages, the rules of the game and the various Chess terms might be given with advantage to beginners, and perhaps older players.

The British Chess Federation decided that it would be advantageous to have the several existing codes of laws examined, amended and issued in one official set. Mr. William Ward, of London, undertook the preliminary work of drafting the laws, and formed, with Mr. I. M. Brown (of Leeds) and Mr. A. J. Mackenzie (of Birmingham), a sub-committee, whose work was published in the Year Book for 1911 (B.C.F.) to enable it to be examined and criticised before final adoption. They were published with a few amendments in April 1912, and came into use at the Congress of that year. During the next decade the opinion of the Chess world seemed to favour change on one or two points, and in 1922 the laws were again considered by a sub-committee, composed of Messrs. R. C. Griffith

and W. H. Watts (of London) and Mr. V. L. Wahlisch (of Manchester). Their revision was subjected to close examination, and with very slight amendment was adopted for future use.

The principal change was the elimination of moving the King as a penalty for touching or attempting to move a man that could not be moved legally. This brought the laws into line with Continental practice, and the set has given complete satisfaction. (A set of these laws is issued free to all C.W.C.C. members.)  
(To be continued.)

**Fiction.**—Boots' Booklovers' Library have a detective story that will appeal to Chess players. It is entitled "The Bishop Murder Case" by S. S. Van Dine. Here is a problem given in the book: 2R5; 8; 8; 8; 8; 1Kt 1K4; B7; Ppp P4; 1K6; Black mates in 5.

**Results.**—Mr. S. Chadwick, Liverpool, gains a point against Mr. J. W. Lee, Swansea. Mr. J. Pescod, London, beat Mr. A. E. Mathews, Swansea.

### Newport (Mon.) Collection Dinner.

The inaugural annual dinner of the Newport Collection will be held at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Gloucester, on Saturday, 1st February, 1930. Tickets are 3s. 6d., and the return cost by bus from Newport, for which special arrangements have been made, will be 4s. 0d.

It is hoped that all grades will be well represented, in order to ensure the success of the function, which will give a much needed impetus to the social side of the Collection.

### London North Side Dance.

The savage weather of December 6th in no way prevented a very fine attendance at the North Side Club's dance on the evening of that day, a fact which speaks volumes for the popularity of these events. Mr. and Mrs. Warne were present with members of their family. Mrs. Fleet was there, and Mr. Clague, the Secretary of the Club, was welcomed back after an absence from London. Two sets of prizes, very kindly given by Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Metcalfe for "spot" dances, were presented to the winners by Mrs. Standing.

We very much doubt if everybody got home that night with a dry skin, for it was at the end of the dance that London was visited by a particularly severe storm of hail, thunder, and lightning, a remarkably rare occurrence in December. As this sort of thing is only supposed to occur about once in a lifetime, we should be able to look forward to the rest of the season with something approaching equanimity.