

The Customs Journal

No. 652

October 19th, 1929

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.

"Play Up, Pay Up, And Play The Game."

It is common with every member of the Association, and, for that matter, with every officer in the Waterguard, we are anxiously awaiting the renewal of Whitley discussion upon the item appearing on the Sectional Committee agenda as Waterguard Reconstruction. We hasten to make it clear, however, that we are not to be numbered among the unthinking few who apparently expect an early settlement.

Our own Association Executive, and, doubtless, that of the other organisations identified with the P.S.A. in the claim for increased remuneration, is prepared for lengthy negotiation and a hard struggle before the claim has been pursued to a satisfactory conclusion. This is wise policy, and it is with regard to this necessary preparation that we consider the time is opportune to address a few words to some of our colleagues who are not in the habit of going very deeply into the pros and cons of Association policy.

It is our belief that there is not a solitary individual in the Waterguard Department who does

not thoroughly appreciate the importance of the action taken by the Staff Side in tabling this claim. It is certain also that each and every one of us is agreed that in a matter of such tremendous importance to every man in the grades, the very best that the organisation can do is strenuously prosecuting our claim is essential if progress is to be made.

Let each one of us keep that necessity well before him. The maximum effort and assistance is required from every single member. To some will fall the responsible task of active participation in the fight. Theirs will be an unenviable job necessitating hard work, and further encroachment upon an already severely curtailed leisure. To the great majority it will mean no more than loyal support and the prompt payment of subscriptions. If the latter is all that we do in the struggle let us do it willingly in order that our campaign shall not be hampered through lack of funds. To use a sporting analogy, we are all "in the team," and it is teamwork that will win. Don't let it be said that any of us have "let the side down."

CURRENT COMMENTS.

CONTRARY to expectations, it is unfortunately not possible to announce in this issue the date of the next meeting of the Waterguard Sectional Committee, though it is hoped that arrangements will have been made by the time the Journal appears.

The Official Side has not yet completed examination of the salary claim, and until this has been done, further discussion would hardly be useful. That it is taking some time for full investigation is a good omen, and is certainly no ground for pessimism. Nevertheless, there is some excuse for the evident anxiety displayed by members throughout the kingdom. Delay was the cause of the 1923 disaster, and this fact is still very much alive in the minds of all Waterguard officers—including the P.S.A. Executive. There is no likelihood of a repetition on this occasion. The Association leaders are keeping close up to the task in hand. Nothing is being left to chance, and those irresponsible people who suggest that matters are being allowed to drift are very badly at fault. The inevitable waiting period is not one of *idle* waiting. It is being used profitably, and when negotiations are resumed our position will have been strengthened.

* * * *

Now that the terms of reference of the Royal Commission have been announced, it is obvious that a very considerable time must elapse before even an interim report can be made. The scope of the Commission's operations is so wide that the gathering of evidence will alone occupy several months. As is well known, the report of a Royal Commission is merely the starting point of Government action, if any, and it is not likely that in the present instance Government consideration of the report will be a brief business.

From this we can assume that the Commission will have little delaying effect upon salary claims such as our own, because it would be unreasonable to defer such issues for so lengthy a period. It might, however, be an advantage to both the Official and the Staff Sides to have some knowledge as to what lines the Commission's inquiry will proceed upon. Within a few weeks that knowledge will be available.

* * * *

It will be very interesting to see how the Commission will tackle the problem of structure and organisation of the Customs and Excise. A more versatile department it would be difficult to find, and the task of investigation will be rather complicated. Recruitment will undoubtedly come in for close attention, and from this we can expect some remarkable results. For instance, women have hitherto been excluded from entering the Officer grade, in spite of repeated efforts to break down the barrier. It is very probable that, with the strength of women's organisation to-day, they will succeed in impressing the Commission with their fitness for Officer Grade work. If the Commission makes the necessary recommendation, it is

practically certain that the Government would act upon it. Probably the chief obstacle to the employment of women as Officers would be that quayside work in the Customs is essentially men's work. It is very doubtful if women have yet "advanced" sufficiently to be able to work efficiently in the distracting atmosphere of dockland. But, this obstacle can be removed, and possibly will be removed. There can be no question of employing women in the Waterguard—that is, if the Commission report within a reasonable time—and the Waterguard would have no difficulty about taking over quayside work. This solution is so obvious that it is hardly likely to be overlooked.

* * * *

The original attitude of many Service Associations, when the Royal Commission was first proposed, was one of passive opposition. Time has worked a change, however, and now there appears to be a tendency in some quarters to regard the Commission as an opportunity to ventilate grievances through the medium of "giving evidence."

The Waterguard has never had need to fear a Royal Commission. On the contrary, its advent has occasioned some hope—we have nothing to lose.

* * * *

It might not be inopportune at the present moment to refer to occasional complaints made by District Organisers regarding the attitude of some members when approached for payment of subscriptions. The "sinews of war" are needed urgently just now, and every member who really is sincere must admit this fact. In strictness, it is the duty of P.S.A. members to tender their subscriptions without being asked, but since neglect of this duty is often excusable, all conscientious collectors make it their business to ask for payment. As a rule, members are glad to be reminded and pay up willingly, but there have been instances where members have failed not only to realise their own remissness, but have also failed to appreciate the feelings of the man whose job it is to ask. It is a regrettable fact that collectors have been treated in a very objectionable manner.

Now this is not a very sportsmanlike attitude to adopt. Few people care for the role of collector, even when they have gentlemen to deal with, and it ought to be kept in mind that subscription collectors do the work voluntarily, and without any recompense other than the satisfaction of knowing they have done their bit for the cause.

It is difficult to understand the mentality of the man who can insult a colleague engaged upon this important work, and, in charity, one must put it down to thoughtlessness. In the interests of our common aims a little more thoughtfulness is very necessary.

* * * *

The approach of the winter evenings is the signal for all candidates for the P.O. examination to get down to study in real earnest. The V.E.S.

officials are having a very busy time just now, and judging from the number of applicants for the advanced course under the scheme, there is a certain determination on the part of many candidates not only to pass the examination but to obtain a good place on the list. It is very encouraging to find so many people taking advantage of the Educational Scheme. Originally, there was doubt in some quarters as to whether there was sufficient demand to justify the introduction of vocational education. To-day, there can be no doubt, and, in fact, any suggestion to withdraw the facilities now provided would raise a storm of protest, not only from examination candidates but also from numerous young officers who find the tuition both interesting and helpful.

* * * *

There seems to be a persistent idea that because of the large number of candidates called for the P.O. examination on this occasion, the intention is to adopt "slaughter" methods. This is quite inaccurate, and it should be clearly understood that every candidate who gains 66 per cent. of the total marks attainable, 225 of which must be gained at the oral examination, will be placed on the pass list.

* * * *

Further discussion of the Officer Grade salary claim took place on the appropriate Whitley Committee on the 11th October. Though the fate of the claim is not yet finally decided, it is understood that the position is definitely unfavourable to the claimants.

Presentation to Mr. H. W. Baker, C.P.O.

A pleasing ceremony took place at the Grosvenor Hotel, Hull, on Friday, October 4th, to mark the retirement of Mr. H. W. Baker from the Service. Mr. S. Butterfield, the Collector, presided at a smoking concert arranged by the Waterguard Cricket Club, and was supported by Mr. W. Adams (Assistant Collector), Mr. F. W. Gordon (Waterguard Superintendent), Mr. E. R. Norman (C.P.O.), and Mr. Cameron (C.P.O.). After speeches made by Messrs. Cameron (C.P.O.), Howard (P.O.), Codd (A.P.O.), and Collinson (Immigration Officer), Mr. Gordon presented Mr. Baker with a handsome Westminster chimes clock, with a beautiful brooch for Mrs. Baker, on behalf of the staff at Hull. Mr. Baker, in a moving speech, referred to the many happy years he had spent in Hull, and assured his successor that he had in Hull a most loyal and efficient staff.

The musical part of the programme was contributed to by Messrs. Bugler, Moss, Gamble, and Atkinson. Mr. J. Shooter ably fulfilled the duties of accompanist. Their efforts were fully appreciated by all present, and the entertainment was brought to a close by the proposing of a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

Civil Service Confederation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Civil Service Confederation was held on Monday, 7th October, 1929, at Livingstone Hall, Broadway, Westminster, when Mr. Thomas Chase presided over an attendance of twenty-eight.

It was reported that, as an outcome of correspondence and negotiations which have been proceeding since October, 1927, with the Association of Admiralty Storehouse and Laboratory Staffs on the question of the possible affiliation of the Association to the Confederation, a decision has now been reached by the Association to apply for membership of the Confederation.

On the subject of the claim for increased annual leave put forward by the Warehouse Supervisors' Association on behalf of certain members of the Association, in which assistance is being rendered by the Confederation, it was reported that this matter was in hand and information concerning the leave of various other grades which may be cited as analogous is being sought and collated.

It was reported that, following upon the acceptance by the Executive Committee at its last meeting of the recommendation that assistance be given to the Stores and Clothing Inspection Department Viewers' Association in a claim for increased remuneration for members employed in the Royal Army Clothing Department at Pimlico, a claim had been sent in by the Confederation to the War Office.

The General Purposes Committee reported that it had had under consideration correspondence from the Civil Service Clerical Association raising the question of the Women Clerical Officers' efficiency barrier, and the Committee recommended that the Executive Committee should endorse the claim of the Civil Service Clerical Association that the efficiency barrier for women clerical officers should be raised from £135 to £150. This recommendation was adopted by the Executive Committee, and the matter is being taken up on the Standing Joint Committee on Reorganisation.

Reports were given of recent National Whitley proceedings, dealing especially with the subjects of the Industrial Court Staff Side Panel, Cost of Living Bonus Review, Increases on Promotion, Medical Treatment for Injuries incurred by Civil Servants in the course of their official duties, Injuries on Duty, Deductions from salary or wages, Conditions of Service of blind persons employed as Telephone Operators, Conscientious Objectors, Promotion, Annual Reports, All Service Programme, question of continuation or otherwise of Area Committees, Insurance—proposed Deputation to Ministry of Health, Committees on Machine Operators, Typing Grades and Writing Assistants, Promotion of Minor and Manipulative Grades—Starting Pay, Superannuation, and the Royal Commission on the Civil Service.

On the subject of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, lengthy consideration was given to (1) a Memorandum prepared by the Chairman of

the National Staff Side on the terms of reference of the Commission and the matters which might be appropriately handled before the Commission by the National Staff Side; and (2) a report prepared by a Special Sub-Committee of the Executive Committee, appointed at the last meeting, dealing with subjects which might be handled by the National Staff Side, the Confederation, and constituent organisations respectively.

The Executive Committee recorded its view that a request should be made to the Government to give an undertaking that it would discuss with the staff organisations and Whitley bodies its intentions with regard to the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

The Executive Committee also endorsed a proposal made in the memorandum by the Chairman of the National Staff Side that five sub-committees of the National Staff Side should be appointed to take charge of each of the sub-divisions of the terms of reference of the Royal Commission. A Special Committee of the Executive Committee was appointed to consider and deal with those subjects which might be handled by the Confederation.

It was reported that the Civil Service Equal Pay Committee had had under consideration the question of Equal Pay in relation to the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, and had decided to consider at its next meeting, to be held on the 15th October, methods of application of the principle of Equal Pay for equal work, with a view, if possible, to working out a common policy for presentation to the Royal Commission.

A Report of the Special Committee of the Confederation on Sick Pay for Unestablished Classes was presented and adopted. The Committee reported that at a recent meeting the results of the Departmental and Association action taken on the question of sick pay since the Committee last met had been considered and the present position reviewed. It had been decided that a fresh application be made to the Treasury for sick pay for those Departmental Classes on whose behalf the Confederation had previously claimed, but in regard to which success had not been achieved, with the addition of certain other classes desired to be added by constituent organisations concerned.

Royal Commission on the Civil Service.

The appointment of the Royal Commission on the Civil Service was announced in the Press on Tuesday, 1st October, 1929. The Terms of Reference of the Commission are to enquire into and report upon:—

- (1) The structure and organisation of the Civil Service, including methods of recruitment.
- (2) Conditions of service in the Civil Service with particular reference to:—

- (a) The general standard of remuneration of civil servants and the existing differentiation between the rates and scales of remuneration payable respectively to men and women civil servants;

- (b) machinery for the discussion and settlement of questions relating to conditions of service; and

- (c) the position of ex-Service civil servants in unestablished employment.

- (3) Conditions of retirement from the Civil Service, including the retirement of women civil servants on marriage.

The members of the Commission are:—

LORD TOMLIN (Chairman).

Judge of Chancery Division 1923 to February this year, when he was appointed a Lord of Appeal. Authority on Partnership Law.

DUCHESS OF ATHOLL.

M.P. (Conservative) Kinross and West Perthshire. Parliamentary Secretary, Board of Education, 1924-29.

MR. JAMES BLACK BAILLIE, LL.D., M.A.

Vice-Chancellor Leeds University since 1924.

SIR ALBERT JAMES BENNETT.

M.P. (Conservative) Nottingham Central. Previously Liberal.

MR. WILLIAM CASH (JUN.), M.A.

Chartered Accountant. Ex-member Godstone Rural District Council. Ex-member Croydon Board of Guardians. Editor "The Challenge" 1919-20. Partner in Cash, Stone & Co., Chartered Accountants, Cannon Street. Three times Parliamentary Labour Candidate for Saffron Walden. Member of Executive Committee of Industrial Christian Fellowship.

MR. F. W. GOLDSTONE.

General Secretary National Union of Teachers. Labour M.P. for Sunderland 1910-18.

MRS. AYRTON GOULD.

Member of Executive Committee of Labour Party. Parliamentary Labour Candidate for North Lambeth 1922 and Northwich 1924 and 1929.

MRS. MARY AGNES HAMILTON.

Labour M.P. for Blackburn. Member of Balfour Committee on British Trade and Industry. Novelist and writer on economic subjects. Member of Official Side of Civil Service National Whitley Council.

SIR PERCY RICHARD JACKSON.

President of Association of Education Committees, trustee of United Kingdom Carnegie Trust, member of Council of Leeds University and Consultative Committee of Board of Education and Burnham Committee on Teachers.

MRS. E. M. LOWE, L.C.C.

Member of Executive Committee of Labour Party. Member of Education Committee of London County Council.

MR. T. E. NAYLOR.

Labour M.P., S.E. Southwark, General Secretary London Society of Compositors.

SIR CHRISTOPHER THOMAS NEEDHAM.

Liberal M.P. S.W. Manchester, 1910-18; director, Ship Canal and other companies, iron merchant, Governor of Manchester University.

MR. PERCY JOHN PYBUS.

Liberal M.P. for Harwich Division, company director, writer on social and labour subjects, member of Unemployed Grants Committee, Committee on Industry and Trade, etc.

MR. ROBERT RICHARDS.

Labour M.P. Wrexham, Lecturer on Economics, Bangor University, Under-Secretary for India 1924.

SIR HENRY SHARP.

Indian Education Service many years. Secretary Statutory Commission on London University.

MRS. WINTRINGHAM.

Liberal M.P. Louth, 1921-4. Formerly School-mistress.

The Secretaries of the Commission are Mr. E. E. Bridges and Mr. H. Parker, of the Treasury, and the offices of the Commission are at Broadway Buildings, Westminster, S.W.1.

No official intimation has yet been received by the National Staff Side from the Treasury of the appointment of the Royal Commission.

BY THE WAY.

The announcement and approach of another examination of Assistant Preventive Officers for promotion gives a wonderful air of vitality to those offices where prospective candidates are stationed. That is to say, the usual energy that can always be seen displayed in the Waterguard seems for the time being to blossom out into new channels, and so strong does it appear at times that it is necessary to curb these young aspirants for promotion honours lest, perchance, they should learn more than their superiors.

The present call-up is a very large one, and there are very few Waterguard offices that are not affected by the presence of one or more candidates. As a very large percentage of these are studying under the guidance of the Vocational Education Section, it can be readily understood that debate on the subject of regulations is as keen as mustard. Everybody seems to be drawn into it, from the probationer to the senior Preventive Officer and the C.P.O., and should the Superintendent put in an appearance, he would at least be called upon to arbitrate.

* * * *

A correspondent in the last issue has, I should imagine, come up against the cringing form of address that was once extremely prevalent in more quarters than one. Personally, I am not a lover of the abruptly ending communication. The majority of us like to see well polished furniture, and a polished epistle is much pleasanter to read than an unadorned letter, providing, of course, that the sentiment expressed and assumed rings true. But people do not usually cringe nowadays, and although I can understand the objection to many methods of address, I certainly fail to see the objection to what is probably the oddest we know. One of the most honourable states existing is that of service, and for a community of humanity, service one to the

other is as necessary as anything else. Can it be that to acknowledge this one to another involves a loss of dignity? It would seem so; and yet I much prefer to style myself "your obedient servant" in the same manner that all classes style themselves to me.

P.A.R.

Customs and Excise Departmental Council.

The 109th meeting of the Council was held in the Custom House, London, on 25th September, 1929, the chair being taken by Sir F. L. C. Floud, K.C.B., Chairman of the Board of Customs and Excise.

At the outset of the proceedings appreciative references were made to the services rendered to the Department and the Council by Mr. N. Thompson, C.B.E., I.S.O., the recently retired Inspector-General of the Waterguard, and a welcome was extended to his successor in office and membership, Mr. C. M. Woodford, M.B.E.

PAY.

On the resumed discussion of the starting pay of Departmental Clerical Officers promoted to the Officer Grade a disagreement was registered, the point at issue being the Staff Side's claim for the removal of provincial differentiation in determining initial salary on promotion.

ALLOWANCES.

An agreement registered on an individual case at the previous meeting was now made general in the form that payment of daily subsistence allowance under General Order 17/1928, para. 18, should be made under the eight-hour rule.

Disagreement was recorded on the Staff Side's claim that allowances awarded to Deputy Superintendents of Mercantile Marine should count for pension and overtime.

SENIORITY.

The Council adopted an agreed final report from its Special Committee on the question whether common seniority lists for the classes included in the Report of the Re-organisation Committee of the National Whitley Council should be introduced in this Department, and, if so, on what principles they should be compiled.

REDUNDANCY.

Further consideration was given to the rules proposed for regulating transfers of Clerical Officers redundant at Headquarters, the Staff Side now submitting the following formula:—

"That each Headquarters Office, viz., the Accountant General's Office, the Statistical Office and the Secretaries' Office Group, shall be treated as a unit when redundancy arises in the Junior Clerical Grade. Redundant Officers shall be absorbed into other offices by:—

- (a) the transfer of volunteers to advertised vacancies, or
 (b) the compulsory transfer of the most junior officers if an insufficient number of volunteers is forthcoming.

"In the event of redundancy involving more than one office, the same rules shall apply except that the most junior officers in all the units involved shall be compulsorily transferred in the absence of volunteers.

"The same rules shall apply if transfers are necessary to another Department."

After discussion, the subject was readjourned.

LEAVE.

No decision was reached at this meeting on the Staff Side's adjourned proposal that emergency leave with pay up to a maximum of six days should be granted to all officials on the death of a near relative or on marriage. The Official Side expressed the view that strict regulations in this connection were not desirable.

"P" CLASS CLERKS.

The Official Side stated that it was intended to proceed at once with the promised further promotions of "P" Class Clerks.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION and EQUIPMENT.

Consideration of this subject was readjourned at the instance of the Official Side.

OTHER MATTERS.

The Council approved schemes of work for the majority of Excise General Stations in seventeen collections, and made special arrangements to permit the prompt operation of other schemes where agreed locally.

A schedule of suggestions which had been forwarded to the Board by the Suggestions Committee, with notes of action taken, was presented to the Council.

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 in London on 23rd October, 1929.

The London Sports Clubs.

SOUTH SIDE CLUB.

The third cricket season ended on Saturday, September 27th, with an exciting win over old opponents, Farnbridge, by the narrow margin of 7 runs. It has been a most enjoyable and successful season, in spite of the fact that for a large percentage of games the club played shorthanded—a surprising fact for a London club. Notwithstanding this difficulty, the whole of the thirty-one matches were completed and we should imagine, on examining the season's work, that the club has every reason to be satisfied with its progress. Of the 31 matches, 10 were won, 20 lost, and 1 drawn.

Batting Averages.

Name.	Inns.	Runs.	Inns.	Aver.
R. G. Steers	30	386	50	13.9
W. G. Easter	28	268	32	10.18
C. Howard	21	212	52	10.2
W. H. Knott	17	129	39	9.3
W. J. Poscod	19	148	49*	8.4
T. F. Griggs	22	93	17	6.7

* Not out.

Bowling Averages.

Name	O.	M.	R.	W.	Av.
R. G. Steers	231	40	655	100	6.55
W. H. Knott	128	21	367	42	7.73
C. H. Eye	139	19	480	60	8.0
M. J. Griffiths	31	4	125	8	15.5
T. F. Griggs	79	6	340	21	16.4

Third Annual Dinner and Dance.

London officers will scarcely need reminding of the South Side Club's third annual dinner and dance, which has been arranged for Wednesday, October 30th, at the New Cross Palais de Danse. Efforts are being made to make this event an even greater success than in the preceding two years, and the Committee appears to be well on the way towards achieving this object. Mr. F. C. Warne, the President of the Club, will be in the Chair on this occasion, and it is expected that the Inspector General will be the principal guest.

Presentation at Dundee.

A representative gathering, which included Mr. J. W. Crook, Collector, Mr. H. L. Hopps, Assistant Collector, and Mr. J. Leith, Waterguard Superintendent, Aberdeen, met at Dundee on September 14th, when Mr. E. J. V. Rowe, C.P.O., was made the recipient of a silver tea service to mark the occasion of his retirement after 40 years in the Customs Service.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. J. W. Crook who, in his opening speech, commented on the good relationship which existed, and expressed regret at severing connections which extended over several years.

Eulogistic speeches were made by several members of the different departments.

The presentation was made by Mr. J. Leith who, in well-chosen words, expressed the feelings of the gathering and voiced the hope that Mr. and Mrs. Rowe and family would have many happy years in front of them. Mr. Rowe suitably replied.

Correspondence

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

TWO POINTS.

Sir,—In the last issue of the Journal there are two striking things—two points with which every man in the Waterguard is in entire agreement.

The first is "A call for justice." We all know we have never received justice. We all know that in high quarters a prejudice against the Waterguard exists. We have now arrived at a stage when we shall know whether this prejudice is merely the heritage of ignorance of the Waterguard, or whether it is deep-rooted and incompatible. The Association has laid the Waterguard bare for impartial examination, and calls for justice. The test is on.

The second point is a sensible condemnation by a "Plainman" of the abject humility with which some of the older members of the Waterguard address themselves. Some Superintendents and C.P.O.s seem to be the worst offenders, and the young and imitative often follow their example. It is a form of address which Victorian statesmen prided themselves on, but the humility of Disraeli has been replaced by the plainness of Snowden, and the modern man is apt to confuse humility with cringing. Old habits die hard, but the young Waterguard Officer of to-day is killing one which he realises is damaging him. Modern men would say, "cut it out," and "get down to brass tacks without the trimmings."

Yours, etc.,

CANDID.

DEVOLUTION.

Sir,—In your issue of a few weeks ago, you gave one or two instances illustrating the strange situation that exists in this Department as regards work that may or may not be performed by the Waterguard. Your remarks upon certain work that "the powers that be" consider as above our standard compared to other work ordinarily performed by P.O.s, made interesting reading. The conclusion that you have evidently reached that "interchangeability" or the devolution of work at present carried out by a more expensive grade, offers a ready-made solution to the Waterguard case for re-organisation is certainly accurate.

A little matter—or rather, two little matters—that have recently taken place, do much to support your conclusions. Recently, the Whitley Council agreed to a re-scheming of a certain Excise Station and included in the proposal is an arrangement whereby all importations of free goods, including package goods, are to be examined by the Waterguard Staff. There is no doubt that this is an excellent proposal, and everyone concerned can congratulate themselves upon a sensible agreement. Any satisfaction derived from this

agreement, however, is counterbalanced by news of another adjustment contemplated at a certain port, wherein this particular duty, i.e., the examination of free goods in packages, is to be taken from the Waterguard, who have carried out the duty satisfactorily for many years, and transferred to the Officer Grade.

I submit, Mr. Editor, that this paradoxical situation ought to provide ample material for the Association to substantiate a claim for interchangeability of quayside duties.

Yours, etc.,

OBSERVER.

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

CHANGES IN THE STAFF.

TO SEPTEMBER 30th, 1929.

TRANSFERS.

PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

Bessant, W. A., Newport, Mon. to London.

Wilkins, A. S., Oban, Inverness to Hull.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

Roy, R., Swansea to Heysham, Preston.

OFFICERS LEAVING THE SERVICE.

RETIREMENT :—

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, UPPER SECTION :—

Baker, H. W., Hull.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICER :—

Langstaff, J. D., London.

OBITUARY OF SUPERANNUATED OFFICERS.

PREVENTIVE MAN :—

Watkins, T. W. H.

VACANCIES.

PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

London. 22.11.1929.

*Oban, Inverness.

*(An allowance of £20 per annum for performing Long Room work si assigner.)

Port Talbot, Swansea.

+Wisbech, Norwich. 21.11.1929.

+(An allowance of £25 per annum for performing Long Room work is assigned.)

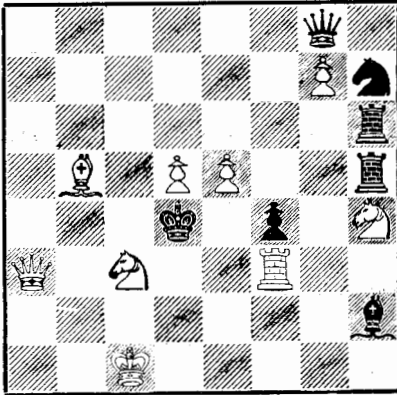
ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

(2) Port Talbot, Swansea.

SPORT AND SOCIAL.

Customs Waterguard Chess Club.

PROBLEM No. 40.



White mate in two.
by B. G. LAWS.

Key moves to No. 39:—

1. Kt—Kt5. Black 1. K × Kt dis +

HOW CHESS IS PLAYED.—Continued.

The K can never be checked by more than two men at once, nor can one K give check to the other, for if he did he would be putting himself in check by so doing, so that the two kings can never be on adjacent squares. You may never move a man if by moving that man you would place or leave your king in check. Take this position:—

8; 8; 8; 2br4; 5qk; 4PB2; 5K2; 8.

You may not take the black rook with B, for if you moved the B, the white K would be in check from the adverse Q; nor may you capture the Q with the pawn, for that would let in a check from the black B. You may not move your K to Kt3, because there he would be in check from the black Q and from black K. Here we may answer a question occasionally asked. Can a man that may not move itself (as the white B above) give check? Or are its powers, so to say, paralysed for the time? The answer is, it still retains its power of checking; the black K, if he went to his Kt5 or R4, would be in check from this B; therefore, he may not go to either. (To be continued).

Kent County Club Correspondence Tournament, 1929/30:—

Preventive Staff Team.

1. Mr. G. Boodle, Dover.
2. Mr. R. E. Dudley, London.
3. Mr. S. H. Matthews, Irvine.
4. Mr. W. W. Bishop, Holyhead.
5. Mr. E. T. Sandford, Newport.

Preventive Staff v. Special Branch C.I.D.

Results are all to hand, and the C.W.C.C. secure a win. Unfortunately, many of the C.I.D. did not contest the point. Mr. A. Hardie, Ayr, secured a win for us against Det.-Sgt. Smith, Dover, who is the Secretary of the Dover Chess Club, and a player of repute.

The Civil Service Chess Association are again playing their friendly matches with Kent, Surrey and Essex. The matches take place at the Ministry of Health, Whitehall, on December 7th with Kent, January 25th with Essex, February and March 15th with Surrey. The match of January 25th will be 50 boards a side.

CUP CONTEST.—Two out of the three players drawing byes in the first round have now been fixed with opponents:—

J. Pescod, London v. E. W. Kidman, Liverpool.
W. Tuck, Dover v. T. F. Prior, London.

Customs Waterguard Chess Club. NEW PRESIDENT.

Members of the Preventive Staff will receive with satisfaction the news that the new Inspector-General has accepted the presidency of the Chess Club. Members of the Chess Club particularly will be grateful for Mr. Woodford's interest in the sport of this Department.

NORTH SIDE CLUB.

The Committee believes that nothing succeeds like success, and a more ambitious programme than before has been outlined for the winter season. Their motto seems to be "While we live let us enjoy life." At work and at play they are happier, they realise that their departmental chiefs are with them, their membership increases. Everyone is eligible for membership, and their cry is "Join us!" A successful season is predicted.

Already there have been two dances, the first on September 6th, in the middle of a heat wave. It was a success, so further comment is unnecessary. The club still retains its benefactors and friends. Mrs. H. J. Fleet is already enthusiastically entering into the activities of the season, and she is considered to be an essential part of the club.

The second dance was on October 4th, when Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Jones and Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Warne were present with their families and friends. Both this and the South Side Club owe much of their success to the support of the London Superintendents. The handsome prizes kindly given by Messrs. G. E. Fooks and A. Briden (C.P.O.s) were presented by Mrs. Warne to the lucky winners.

Other dances arranged by the club are as follows: November 1st, December 6th, January 3rd, February 7th, March 7th, April 4th, and May 2nd. Enter these dates in your engagement books, please.

Football fixtures have been arranged for Thursdays. The yearly matches with Gravesend are fixed for October 24th at Gravesend, and April 2nd at London. London colleagues and friends are particularly invited to accompany the team to Gravesend on October 24th (next Thursday). It is bound to be a very jolly outing.