

# The Customs Journal

No. 644

June 29th, 1929

Fortnightly

## CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
The Opened Door ... ..	113	The Examination ... ..	118
Current Comments ... ..	114	Knotty Points ... ..	118
Knotty Points ... ..	115	Sports and Social ... ..	120

*Letters to the Editor, and articles and correspondence intended for publication, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Customs Journal," 91 Trussilian 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 OPENED DOOR.

WE have no doubt that one of the announcements in the recent G.O. containing the changes in Stations, etc., caused many of our older colleagues in the Department to wonder whether their eyes were deceiving them. After satisfying themselves on that point, they doubtless indulged in retrospection, and finally reached that frequently explanatory conclusion that much water has flowed under London Bridge during many years.

The promotion of two A.P.O.s to the Officer grade is a departure of such significance that justifies the astonishment it will have created in the quarter we refer to above, but it is the fact that it should be so remarkable that greatly astonishes ourselves.

Fluidity in promotion is supposed to be an accepted fact in the Service to-day. We certainly have seen quite a few of those immovable barriers cast away, and have rejoiced thereby. It is natural, therefore, that we should wonder at the continuance of this barrier that common-sense, apart from a desire to recognise ability, and thereby encourage initiative, should have forced ere this.

We have not always been in agreement with our clerical friends in the Department, but upon the contention that there should not be direct appointments from outside the Service to grades with higher remuneration than other grades in

the Department whilst there are individuals in those grades suitable for promotion, we are in complete sympathy. The methods adopted in the Service in this connection would have disastrous results in any large commercial undertaking, and we have no hesitation in asserting that this policy has an effect that undoubtedly stifles initiative in the Service.

Still, it is good to note the progress made, and even though the door has been merely unlocked and opened but an inch or two, it is consoling to know that never again will it be bolted and barred. There is consolation also in the fact that there are many more in our own grades who have the ability and the experience to justify such promotion. The age limit laid down by the Board ruled out many who would have been worthy aspirants, and we venture to say that not more than a hair's breadth separated the chosen from the remaining applicants.

To the two fortunate promotees we tender our hearty congratulations. They will worthily uphold our prestige in their new sphere. To the Association, and particularly to those who have consistently waged the campaign that has produced this happy result, we also offer felicitations, in the sure knowledge that they will continue to promote the interests of the members in this, as in other directions.

## CURRENT COMMENTS.

THOSE who have been following Association activity with any degree of interest, will not be surprised to hear that at Headquarters considerable difficulty is being experienced in getting forward with preparations for the Annual Conference in order that it shall be held at the proper time. The usual date is somewhere in the last week of July, and, in spite of extreme pressure of work, it is hoped that there will be no need for departure this year from the practice of the past.

Arrangements are now being made for an Executive Committee meeting to take place in the first week of July. At this meeting, which under more favourable conditions would have been held in June, the Agenda for the Conference, and the Annual Report are dealt with, and immediately afterwards these documents are circulated to the Districts, and to the Councillors, so that every opportunity is given for members to express their views on Association topics and have their opinions conveyed to Conference. This year the interval between the Conference and the preceding Executive meeting will be rather short, and an appeal is made to District Secretaries to use every effort to ensure that this will not have the effect of preventing adequate consideration by their members in regard to Conference matters. With proper co-operation there should be no adverse effect.

If each District Secretary will make arrangements to hold a meeting early in the third week of July, he is assured that all Conference documents will be in his possession by that time. Councillors throughout the kingdom will, no doubt, get into touch with their appropriate secretaries, with a view to collaboration in this matter.

Through a printer's error, the date of the Waterguard Sectional Committee meeting, reported in the last issue of the Journal, was given as the 22nd May, instead of the 23rd. It was the Staff Side meeting that was held on the 22nd.

An intelligent examination of the report published will shew that there has been ample cause for work pressure at Headquarters. It is understood, of course, that these reports are necessarily brief. In this instance, the actual Minutes are unusually lengthy, but in view of their special interest it has been decided to send out a larger number than usual for the information of the membership.

It will be noted that in two instances the Staff Side made successful representations in connection with "Work and Wait" cases, and that a third is still under discussion. The Official Side attitude regarding these cases has created a very good impression, and helps to

remove the popular opinion that the objectionable "work and wait" rule is purposely made to operate as harshly as possible. There certainly has been reason for this opinion in the past, but there is now some hope for the future. It should be clearly understood, however, that the cases mentioned were dealt with entirely on their merits and cannot be used as a precedent.

\* \* \* \*

Since the Waterguard Sectional meeting a new phase of the "work and wait" rule has arisen, and this will be the subject of further representations to the Board. In this case attendance was given from 4 p.m. Sunday to noon on Monday, under "work and wait" conditions. The twelve hours' attendance on the Monday was therefore credited as only four hours. During the following days of the week, one of which was a public holiday, the officers concerned gave an attendance, on ordinary station work, of thirty-six hours. Naturally, they expected to be credited with four hours overtime, but to their dismay they find themselves caught in the toils of another iniquitous regulation, i.e. that overtime is payable only on an excess of a credited forty hours weekly attendance. Thanks to the "work and wait" rule, the officers concerned were credited with only forty hours for the week, and so it was that the overtime earned in the remaining four working days of the week came to be cancelled.

This is piling on the agony with a vengeance. The obvious injustice of the ruling ought to secure its early adjustment.

\* \* \* \*

With the certainty of a discussion on the general question of overtime when Conference meets, Councillors would be well advised to study General Order 32/1919, with particular reference to the "work and wait" regulation.

\* \* \* \*

Another subject which every Councillor ought to examine very carefully is that of seizure awards. It can be said quite safely that there will be a lively discussion in this connection. There is a large body of opinion in favour of abolishing seizure awards, so far as Preventive Officers are concerned, and placing them on the same footing as the Officer Grade for this purpose. Any Conference delegate who turns up without having given this some consideration will not be in an enviable position.

On the Agenda of the London Branch meeting shortly to be held there is a resolution which proposes the exclusion of Preventive Officers from sharing in the rewards for seizures made by their Assistants. It is to be hoped that in all Districts where discussion has not yet taken place an item bearing on this subject will appear on the agenda of meetings in the near future.

The dates for interviewing candidates for promotion to Chief Preventive Officer are fixed for the 8th, 10th, and 12th July. This gives a reasonable period for those who have been unfortunate in the written test to recover themselves and to go all-out after that second chance.

At the interview, the prizes go to the men who not only have a sound knowledge of their own work, but who can also indicate the possession of a keen interest in modern tendencies and development within the Department. An analytical study of the Waterguard salary claim statement would be a wise precaution for any candidate to take.

Once again the questions set at the written examination have met with general approval as being fair and practical. In view of this, it seems strange that so many candidates have found difficulty in completing their paper in the given time. Apparently, the cause is that some little time is lost in settling down to the atmosphere of the examination room, and, before the candidate is properly warmed up to the job, that brief hour and a half has fled away. There is much to be said for a more ample written test.

\* \* \* \*

The announcement that Messrs. McGlennon and Ball have been selected for promotion to the Officer Grade is something upon which they, and the Waterguard as a whole, deserve congratulations. No doubt, those who were not so successful will take their disappointment in a sporting spirit. The thing to be kept in the foreground is that by securing recognition of the Waterguard as a field for selection of recruits to the Officer Grade, we have made a great step forward. It would be absurd to suppose that the two Assistant Preventive Officers selected are the only Waterguard officials who come up to the necessary standard. Had it been a practical proposition to remove the age bar, the results would have been somewhat astonishing to those whose morbid habit it is to consistently under-rate anything Waterguard. Nevertheless, this comparatively small success can be regarded as a record achievement on the part of the Association—and the P.S.A. is still very, very, much alive.

Mr. Ball's success will mean a loss to the Association of a very energetic personality. As a committee man on the Executive and the Waterguard Sectional, he was always active and enthusiastic. At Council meetings he could always be relied upon to take a vigorous part in every debate. He will be missed at the forthcoming Conference.

\* \* \* \*

The attention of members is directed to the announcement that the Civil Service Nursing Aid Association has now started to enrol members. This Association caters for officials on

salary scales £200 and upwards. The contributions payable by persons on scales between £200 and £400, including bonus, is 6s. 6d. a quarter for the first four quarters, and 5s. 3d. each quarter thereafter. Benefits up to £50 may be had in respect of surgical operations. The wives of members may become contributors, but the benefits are somewhat lower.

Further information may be had from the P.S.A. Headquarters office, or from the Secretary, Mr. W. H. James, 5/6, Clements Inn, London, W.C.2.

## KNOTTY POINTS.

By A. P. A.

Although I take no offence at the rather high-handed manner in which "Reasonable" dismisses my contribution to the above subject, I would like to point out that he invited discussion on the points when he first raised them. "Reasonable" is altogether wrong in stating that the procedure as detailed by me is irrelevant to Waterguard work, or that it is wide of the point under discussion.

The point, if I remember right, is "fraudulent abstraction of tobacco under bond during removal for shipment as stores, the tobacco being discovered on the person of the carter."

Now it states the Warehousing Code that duty is to be charged on stores under bond *fraudulently* abstracted during transit, and it draws no distinction as between goods liable to Customs or to Excise duty; then in Vol. III. Part I. par. 26 it shows quite clearly how chargeable deficiencies are to be dealt with. As this is a fraudulent abstraction, and therefore a chargeable deficiency, it follows that the Waterguard procedure as stated in my letter is the proper one.

Coming to the tobacco which is subsequently discovered on the person of the carter on shore, there can be no reasonable explanation put forward for not detaining it.

The owner of the tobacco has his remedy by either (1) claiming the goods in writing within one calendar month under sec. 207 of the C.C. Act, of 1876, in which case the Commissioners may take proceedings for forfeiture and condemnation, or (2) he may appeal to the Commissioners for restoration under section 209.

The parts in my letter which "Reasonable" finds confusing are, presumably, those dealing with the procedure at the Custom House and at the Warehouse.

Far from trying to confuse anyone, my reason for shewing how the matter is dealt with at those places was to give the reader an understanding of the complete transaction. Surely it is better to understand a subject fully than to have but a partial knowledge of it.

## Customs and Excise Departmental Council.

The 106th Meeting of the Council was held in the Custom House, London, on 29th May, 1929, the Chair being taken by A. J. Dyke, Esq., C.B., C.B.E.

**PAY.**  
The Staff Side raised the question of the suspension of payment of increments, under the recent agreement, to members of the "P" Class until increment reports were received. The Official Side stated that they had no reason to suppose that these increments were exempt from the usual Civil Service rule on the subject, but undertook to make inquiries.

With regard to two cases in which the starting pay of Departmental Clerical Officers was in question, and on which committee disagreement had previously been reported, it was now agreed to regard both individuals concerned as having served as Temporary Clerks in Grade II, instead of in Grade III. It was further agreed that other individual cases should be separately considered in the appropriate Committee.

### ALLOWANCES.

It was agreed that 1st July, 1928, should be the operative date of the agreement previously reported on Departmental Clerical Officers' attendances on Sundays or outside the authorised hours of public business.

It was also agreed that 1st November, 1926, should be the operative date (subject to the availability of records) of the agreement previously reported on the time credit for overtime in respect of racecourse attendances. Disagreement was registered on the Staff Side proposal for similar retrospective effect to be given in regard to subsistence allowances in the same connection.

### PROMOTION.

On the basis of a special Committee's report, agreed alterations were made in the constitution of the panels of the Promotion Board, principally to permit the delegation of functions in respect of "mass selections."

With regard to the adjourned Staff Side proposal to appoint a Special Committee on the promotion of Clerical and allied classes, the Official Side pointed out that the crux of the case was the question of filling vacancies on a percentage system, a principle incapable of useful discussion. The Staff Side reiterated their case for the acceptance of a co-ordinated scheme for all the classes concerned, and the question was again adjourned.

### REDUNDANCY.

In reply to questions, it was stated that warning of possible transfer had been issued to 25 "P" Class Clerks, that the rate of actual transfer would depend on the capacity of the Joint Substitution Board to absorb them, and that the method of selecting transferees had been on a geographical basis. It was impossible to state at the moment what further transfers were contemplated.

With regard to the occasional redundancy which might arise with Clerical Officers in Headquarters Offices, the Official Side indicated their acceptance of the principles that each Office should be regarded as a unit, and that within it redundancy should apply without distinction to the most junior members, unless volunteers are available. This was subject to particular cases sometimes requiring exceptional treatment. It was also pointed out that the question did not affect promotion prospects, owing to the establishment of a common seniority list for promotion purposes, and that individuals could always apply for return to their former Office. The subject was adjourned for informal discussion.

### OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

The Official Side now intimated their preparedness to arrange for a representative of the Office of Works to attend a Council discussion on questions of heating, lighting, cleaning, and furniture and equipment at offices provided by the Office of Works. The Staff Side accepted the suggestion, it being understood that they reserved the right to raise the remaining points covered by their letter of 12th March, 1929.

### LEAVE.

Two Local Committee disagreements on the exclusion of a period in July from the summer period available for the leave of Departmental Clerical Officers in Collectors' Offices led to a general discussion on the subject. The Staff Side maintained that the general agreement made no reference to the exclusion of such periods, and that the seasonal pressure could be met in other ways. The Official Side referred to the over-riding provision that the grant of leave was conditional to the exigencies of the Service, and refused to accept the alternatives of employing extra staff or authorising overtime to meet the pressure. The subject was adjourned.

### UNATTACHED OFFICERS.

It was agreed that Unattached Officers of four or more years' service should notify their Collectors as soon as they establish a "home" within the meaning of the Disturbance Allowance agreement, and also should promptly notify any change of its location.

### RESCHEDING.

The Staff Side suggested that they might have been usefully consulted with regard to the recent re-allocation of Districts. The Official Side noted their views, and said that the re-grouping was on a tentative basis and open to adjustment.

### OTHER MATTERS.

In addition to the above business, a number of decisions advised by Local and Grade 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 26th June, 1929.

## Civil Service Confederation. ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING.

The Eighteenth (Annual) Council Meeting of the Civil Service Confederation was held on Friday, 7th June, 1929, in the Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, Westminster. Mr. George Chase presided over an attendance of 68 representatives of 35 constituent organisations, in addition to the officers and other members of the Executive Committee.

The Annual Report of the Executive Committee, the Honorary Treasurer's Financial Statement for the year ended 31st March, 1929, and the Report on Parliamentary and Publicity work, were presented and adopted.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman expressed gratification, on behalf of the Council, at the election of Mr. W. J. Brown, one of the members of the Executive Committee of the Confederation, as Member of Parliament for West Wolverhampton, saying he was very glad that, after a long fight, Mr. Brown had been successful, and he hoped that the presence of Mr. Brown in the House of Commons would be of benefit, not merely to the party which he represented, but to the Civil Service, which he also represented.

In moving the adoption of the Annual Report, the Honorary General Secretary referred to the highly successful Demonstration on Cost of Living, organised by the Confederation, held at the Albert Hall, to the victory achieved with regard to the claim taken by the Confederation to the Treasury on the salary of "P" Class Clerks, and to the gratifying fact that the membership of the Confederation showed an increase of over 2,000 since the last Annual Council meeting.

On the subject of the Constitution of the Arbitration Court, attention was called by Mr. W. J. Brown, M.P., to the question of the Chairmanship of the Court, the present position being that the Chairman was appointed by the Government side. Mr. Brown took the view that the Chairman should be appointed by agreement of both sides, in view of the fact that, in the event of deadlock between the members of the Court appointed on the nomination of the Staff and Official Sides respectively, the power of making an award resided with the Chairman. It was agreed that the Executive Committee of the Confederation should give consideration to this matter.

With regard to the proposals put forward by the Confederation for the increase of the retiring gratuity to Unestablished Classes, it was reported that this matter had been discussed on the Joint Superannuation Committee, when the Official Side had said that the Staff Side proposals could not be entertained on the grounds that they would involve legislation, and a substantial increase in cost. An assurance

was given by the Chairman that this matter would not be allowed to drop, but would be further pursued on the Joint Superannuation Committee.

It was also reported that the subject of Motor Car Insurance and Injuries on Duty had been raised, at the instance of the Confederation, on the Joint General Purposes Committee of the National Whitley Council, and a memorandum on the subject had recently been received from the Official Side, which would be considered by the General Purposes Committee of the National Staff Side at its next meeting.

Considerable discussion took place on a report of the Subsistence Committee of the National Whitley Council on Night Rates. A resolution having been moved that the Council authorise the Confederation representatives on the National Staff Side to move for the adoption of the report, successive amendments were moved by the Civil Service Clerical Association intended to secure (1) that the Confederation representatives on the National Staff Side should seek to secure the reference back of the report, (2) that the question of whether the Confederation representatives on the National Staff Side should vote for or against the adoption of the report be referred to the Executive Committee, and (3) that the Clerical Grades should be left out of the report. On votes by card being taken, these three proposed amendments were defeated and the motion that the Confederation representatives on the National Staff Side should move for the adoption of the Report was agreed.

The representatives of the Immigration Officers' Association present at the Council meeting expressed appreciation of the assistance rendered by the Confederation officers to the Association in connection with a Reorganisation scheme which had been the subject of discussion on the Home Office Departmental Whitley Council, concerning which a settlement, which the Association regarded as satisfactory, had now been reached.

The following were re-elected as Honorary Officers of the Confederation:—President, Mr. G. Chase; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Ross Wyld and Mr. J. W. Chapple; Honorary Treasurer, Mr. C. A. W. Sanders; Honorary General Secretary, Mr. P. H. M. Hoey.

For the six seats on the Executive Committee filled by election at the Annual Council meeting, the following were elected:—Mr. R. McC. Beamish, Mr. A. L. N. D. Houghton, Mr. R. D. Crook, Mr. W. E. Llewellyn, Mr. C. W. Gibson, L.C.C., Mr. H. J. Brewer.

For the eleven seats held by the Confederation on the Staff Side of the National Whitley Council for the Civil Service, the following were elected:—Mr. A. L. N. D. Houghton, Mr. C. A. W. Sanders, Mr. G. R. Speed, Mr. R. D. Crook, Mr. G. Chase, Mr. W. E. Llewellyn, Mr. R. McC. Beamish, Mr. W. J. Brown, M.P., Mr. P. H. M. Hoey, Mr. C. W. Gibson, L.C.C.

### THE EXAMINATION.

As was anticipated, an examination for A.P.O.s has been announced for January, and it would hardly appear to be necessary to warn aspirants that they must systematically study the regulations if they hope to be successful.

Competition at these examinations during recent years has been very keen, and there is every reason to believe that this time it will be keener than ever. There is no information as yet regarding the number to be called, but every man who is within 130 from the last called man for the 1928 examination should be in full preparation for the ordeal. Every time one hears the cry of unpreparedness owing to unexpected inclusion. There should be no such folly. The thing is too vital to risk in this manner.

It is also asking for trouble to leave organised tuition to the last couple of months. It is certainly unfair to the tutor, and more than unfair to oneself. Remember that two years earlier promotion, with all that it implies, separates the first and the last successful candidate. Promotion only two months earlier places more than a ten pound note in your pocket. It is hard to "get down to it" during these sunny days, but you will appreciate the small sacrifice when its result is before you.

Remember that at the last examination V.E.S. pupils took the first nineteen places, and that only two out of the first thirty were not V.E.S.-trained. In this most important matter of your career take no chances, and enrol for tuition under the V.E.S.—NOW.

S. C. STEEL,  
Secretary.

### KNOTTY POINTS.

By "DOVORIAN."

The method of applying the terms of G.O. 32 1925 par. 9 a, b and c, I submit is very important, not only to those preparing for the next examination, but for the very necessary object of obtaining a uniformity of practice.

I gave an example in my previous letter, and shewed why the article would be passed free. The action was based entirely upon the wording of the G.O. Now "Reasonable" contends that duty ought to have been charged and in his final comment upon my contribution states that local orders or port practice are not always good for students. I agree. The method I quoted, however, is not based on any local order nor is it the result of port practice. Had it been so, I would not have made use of it in a letter to the Editor. I suggest that "Reasonable," in assessing duty on the example I instanced, was going beyond the limits of our instructions. That article, I submit, was not apparently new, that it was acquired for substantial use abroad, and that it came within the terms of the paragraph headed "Duty free concessions."

I wish "Reasonable" would shew why he would charge duty, basing his reply upon the G.O. and not his personal opinion.

A couple of points, that may or may not be worth considering.

(a) When shipping stores on a foreign-owned yacht belonging to a recognised yacht club, should they be placed under seal?

Paragraph 1034 of the Importation Code stated quite clearly that they were not to be used whilst cruising in British waters, but when the Revised Instructions were issued, this paragraph was cancelled, and there is now no guidance.

(b) When calculating T.V.D. on a seizure of goods of obviously Empire origin, what rate should be used?

#### FILL IN THIS FORM NOW.

The Secretary (V.E.C.),  
Preventive Staff Association,  
13, Beer Lane, London, E.C.3.

Please enrol me for Preliminary Course  
Intermediate Course (delete Courses not required) in Waterguard.  
Advanced Course

Departmental Regulations. Postal Order payable to P.S.A., London, value.....(insert amount), enclosed.

Name .....

Address .....

Tutors:—Messrs. Angus, Finley, Gardine, Lake, Sheehan, and Thomson.  
Please indicate Tutor desired, and choice of Tutors will be given as far as possible.  
Fees: 10/0, 15/0, and 20/0 per term respectively.

## Customs and Excise Orphans', Widows' and War Memorial Fund.

The Annual Meeting of members was held in the Custom House, London, on the 12th inst., when Sir F. L. C. Floud, K.C.B., presided over a good attendance of members representative of all grades of the Department.

In presenting on behalf of the Executive Committee the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, the Secretary said he would like to draw the attention of members to the increase in membership during the past year. It would be seen from the table on page 11 of the Report that there was a net increase of 247, but actually over 300 new members had joined, and they had lost just over 50, due to superannuation and deaths.

The income for the year was £2,842 or £65 more than in 1927-28. It was gratifying, however, to find that subscriptions had increased by £100 and dividends by £25, but donations were lower by £50, and the refund of Income Tax was less than in the previous year. In that year they received repayment of tax deducted at source in the three previous years.

The expenditure amounted to £2,085, an increase of £400 on the preceding year. Of this, £360 was due to the increased grants now payable under the rules, and to the cases elected to benefits in the year under review under rule 23, to assist in the maintenance and education of children. The surplus of income over expenditure was £727, and this had been invested in New Zealand Stock. Invested funds now amounted to the respectable total of over £13,000.

The progress of the Fund since 1912 was shown in the second table on page 11, and the Committee considered it had made good progress and was doing useful work. He would remind the members that up to the end of the financial year 31st March, 1928, the scale of grants under rule 23 was for a widow with one child under 16 years of age £15, and if there were more than one child in the family an additional £5 for each child, subject to a maximum of £30 to any one family. At the meeting in June, 1928, the scale was altered to £20 for one child, and £10 for each additional child, and the maximum was raised to £50. These increases had relieved appreciably the burdens of the dependants of deceased members.

One of the questions often put to members of the Committee was, "in view of the provisions of the Widows and Orphans Pensions Act, was the work done by the Fund necessary?" The experience of the Committee was that it was as necessary to-day as at any time since the Fund was started in 1866. Even with the help afforded by the new Pensions Act, the margin between the family income before and after the death of a member was very wide. This could not be better illustrated than by mentioning a case that would come before the Committee at

their next meeting. The total capital of the family was £750 (insurance £350, from the Department £400). In addition they will receive 18/- per week under the Pensions Act. The difference between £8 per week and £1 is obvious. There are two children, ages 9 and 5 respectively, and the grant of £30 per year which the rules allow in a case of this kind will be a welcome addition and probably assure the children a better education and start in life than would otherwise be the case. There was a phrase in the report to which he would like to draw their attention, 'Self interest and charity alike demand continued and extended support of our Fund.'

The Report and Accounts were adopted.

The following were elected to office for the ensuing year:—Sir F. L. C. Floud, K.C.B., President; R. Barnard, Esq., J. G. Fitzsimons, Esq., A. S. Lupton, Esq., T. Morton, Esq., Vice-Presidents. To be members of the Executive Committee: Mr. A. G. May, Surveyor; Messrs. A. J. Bullar, R. Johnson, W. H. Parkes, G. Quin, B. L. Widdowson, Officers; Mr. M. P. O. Flynn, Preventive Officer; Messrs. W. H. Powell and M. J. Sullivan, Assistant Preventive Officers; Mr. A. E. Howell, Secretary's Office; Mr. R. Barnard, Statistical Office; Mr. Abrahams, London Central.

Messrs. Putnam and Quimby were re-elected auditors.

The meeting considered a recommendation from the Executive Committee that the system of collecting boxes initiated by Mr. C. A. W. Sanders continue to be carried on, and after some discussion the proposal was adopted. It was decided to place on record an expression of thanks to Mr. Sanders for starting and carrying on this work for 2 number of years.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Auditors, the Treasurer and the Secretary. On the motion of Mr. Morton, seconded by Mr. Barnard, a vote of thanks was passed to Sir Francis Floud for presiding over this meeting.

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### REPRESENTATION.

Sir,—In Mr. Sutherland's letter in the Journal of 18th May, he states that no voluntary communication from the Area Councillors has been received by him, and that any information he required had to be obtained from Headquarters. In reply I have to state that any correspondence I have had with Aberdeen has been addressed to the District Secretary.

It is surely the duty of District Officers to communicate the views of members in their Districts to the Area Councillors, and not direct to Headquarters. Had this been done by Mr. Sutherland, the same courteous attention would have been accorded him as he received from the General Secretary.

Yours, etc.,

J. JOHNSTONE,  
A.P.O. Councillor (Scotland Area).

## SPORT AND SOCIAL.

### Customs Waterguard Chess Club.

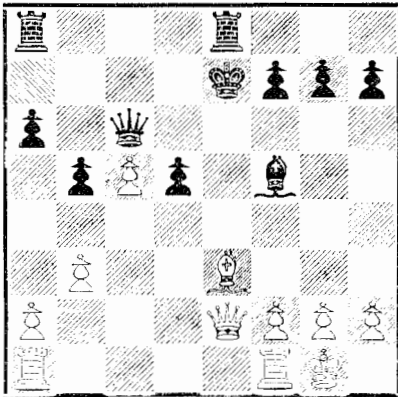
#### CUP CONTEST—FINAL.

Mr. F. G. Boodle, Dover.

Mr. A. Hardie, Ayr.

Position after Black's 18th move.

1. QR—Q, K—B1. Q—KR5, Q—K3.



#### HOW CHESS IS PLAYED BY CORRESPONDENCE.

One of the peculiar beauties of Chess is that if two beginners are equally matched they feel quite the same interest in the game as if they were thoroughly learned in its mysteries.

#### THE STUDY OF CHESS.

Next to constant practice, nothing helps improvement so much as looking over better players, and studying the different works that have been written on the game; but what is the use of studying games and positions that may never occur? True; but when you teach a boy arithmetic you give him particular sums and problems to resolve, and these problems will never occur to him in real life; but in learning to work them, the young student becomes perfected in the common rules of figures necessary to their solution; and thus it is, with these exercises, chess players acquire, also, an improved style of play from books, and situations arise every day which they may win from having met with something similar in the course of their solitary studies. (Walker.)

#### ABBREVIATIONS.

The following abbreviations are used in sending correspondence moves and writing down the moves in a game:—"ch" or ♝ means "check"; "dis. ch." for "discovered check"; "dou.ch." for "double check"; "x" for "takes"; "-" for

"to"; "i.p." for "in passing"; "bec." for "becomes" (thus P=Kt means Pawn becomes a Knight); "?" after a move means "doubtful or bad move"; "!" after a move means "good move"; "sq." means "square"; "1" means "first square"; "O.O." means "Castles King's side"; "O.O.O." means "Castles Queen's side." (To be continued).

#### THE ELECTION.

Every Chess player will hear with regret Sir Richard Barnett decided not to contest his seat in Parliament. The House of Commons will thus lose one of the keenest players and greatest supporters of Chess it has ever possessed. The late Mr. Bonar Law might have rivalled Sir Richard in Chess activity had he had the time to spare. (Brit. Chess Mag.)

**International Team Solving Contest.**—Great Britain 14, Germany 8.

#### CRICKET.

June 13.—Cardiff Waterguard, 25; Agonians, 53 for 7 wickets (dec.).

June 15.—Cardiff Waterguard, 103 for 7 wickets (dec.); Spillers 2nd XI, 47 for 2 wickets (game drawn).

June 20.—Cardiff Waterguard, 41; C. and E. Landing Staff, 121 for 2 wickets (dec.).

June 22.—Curran's C.C., 96; Cardiff Waterguard, 19.

#### The Civil Service Sports Meeting.

Mr. P. Payne, who travelled from Holyhead to run at this meeting, was unfortunate. After getting a good lead for 60 yards in the hundred his knee gave out, and he had to retire for the rest of the day. Mr. Payne stood a good chance of winning the 100 yards. He was unbeaten at scratch in Anglesey and also, I believe, in Carnarvonshire during 1928. His time at the Colwyn Bay meeting this year was 10.69 secs. The C.S. championship was won this and last year in 10.50 secs. If Mr. Payne can maintain (or better) his speed, he should win honours for the Waterguard next year.

#### PROSECUTION.

##### SOUTHAMPTON.

Following the discovery by Mr. W. Pickett (A.P.O.), in the baggage of a first-class passenger on the s/s Berengaria, of 14 silk articles of wear, 2 lb. cigars, 500 cigarettes and a quart of perfumed spirits, the case was heard at the Bargate Police Court on June 20. The prosecution was conducted by the Crown solicitor. Mr. J. P. Hausey (W.S.) was present, as also were Mr. P. Keefe (C.P.O.), Mr. T. Sherlock (P.O.), and Mr. W. Pickett (A.P.O.).

The offender was fined £100.