

The Customs Journal

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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

Patience with Pertinacity.

BY the time this issue of the Journal is published the membership will have heard the result of the meeting of the Waterguard Sectional Committee held on the 24th of April.

An extensive knowledge of the anxiety with which the Salary Claim is viewed by the whole of the Preventive Staff enables us to estimate the disappointment caused by this further adjournment of a matter that so vitally affects every member. It is only natural that the individual member, who is aware of the justice of the claim made for increased remuneration, should be irritated by what seems an inordinate delay in dealing with the proposal in Whitley. It must not be forgotten, however, that a claim of this description calls for great consideration on the part of the authorities. Some knowledge of the consideration given it by the Staff Side before it was tabled provides us with a good idea of the time necessary for its consideration in other quarters. This is the reason that we are not so annoyed at this further delay as others are. The Official Side have promised a definite reply within a few weeks, and for so much progress we are grateful.

At the same time, we cannot but agree with those who have on many occasions criticised the manner in which claims of this description are dealt with by the "powers that be." The Treasury will have much to do with our claim,

and there must necessarily be considerable discussion between the heads of the Department and Treasury officials. In our opinion it is a fundamental defect in the Whitley discussion of proposals involving finance that such important discussions should take place, and such important decisions be reached, without the representatives of the Staff Side having the opportunity of making representations direct to the Treasury officials responsible.

It is true that the Industrial Court machinery is available for arbitration in the event of agreement in Whitley not being registered, but it is also true that even with this facility the Staff Side seldom can get to grips with those who have much to do with the whole matter.

At any rate, this is hardly the appropriate moment for us to concern ourselves with machinery, and we only digress in order that our impatient colleagues will appreciate the difficulties with which their representatives have to contend.

Far more important and encouraging is the unanimous support that is being given to their efforts. The Preventive Staff have waited many years for just treatment in matters of remuneration. They have put in a claim that will bear investigation wherever it may considered, and they have the will, the organisation, and the resources to see it through.

CURRENT COMMENTS.

At the Waterguard Sectional Committee meeting on the 24th April, held for the special purpose of discussing the Salary Claim, the Official Side again asked for adjournment, and this was agreed.

It had been the intention of the Staff Side to disagree upon any request for further adjournment, owing to the extraordinary length of time the Claim has been under consideration. But the explanation and assurances given by the Official Side were sufficiently impressive to cause the Staff Side to abandon their original intention.

The membership can rest assured that the decision to wait a little longer is a wise one. The end of the delay is now well in sight. It must be realised, however, that even when a definite pronouncement becomes possible on the part of the Board, it is not unlikely that this will be the signal for a vigorous fight. So far we have not come to grips. The lengthy negotiations have for the most part been confined to investigation of the claims put up by the Staff Side. Real business will commence when the Official Side make a definite communication at the next Waterguard Sectional Committee meeting.

* * * *

Judging from the trend of events, the 1930 Conference of the P.S.A. will take place just in time to discuss the Salary Claim at the critical moment of its development. This is rather fortunate because it will enable prompt decisions to be given by the governing body of the Association as to the course of action to be pursued. There will be no need for the unsatisfactory method of communication by correspondence between the Executive and the Council on this important subject. It is practically certain that all information will be in possession of the District Secretaries in time to arrange for its full consideration at the usual District meetings held for the discussion of the Conference agenda. If things turn out in accordance with the expectations of the Staff Side, the forthcoming Annual Conference will be the most fateful in the history of the P.S.A.

* * * *

There are fifty-two candidates called for examination for promotion to Chief Preventive Officer (Lower Section). The officers concerned have now been notified, and thus, as was anticipated in the

last issue of the Journal, ample notice has been given.

The candidates have not been slow to take advantage of the warning. Applications for the V.E.S. course of tuition, specially designed to meet the new features of the examination, are rolling in. The question papers aim at developing the thinking powers, and do not call for any close study of books or regulations. Apart from the utility of the new course, it ought to prove most interesting to anyone who takes it up.

The October examination will be watched with particular interest both as regards the type of questions to be set, and the results of the new method. One of the most valuable improvements in the new conditions is the provision of a second chance to every candidate who does not succeed first time. Many officers in the past have failed on one chance only. No doubt these officers would give a great deal to have the advantages of those called for the examination on this occasion.

There has been some doubt amongst members of the Staff as to where the examination will take place. Those who have been making enquiries on this point are now informed that it will be held in London.

One or two minor points regarding the oral part of the examination remain to be settled, and are under discussion by the Waterguard Sectional Committee. As soon as possible full information will be communicated to the membership.

* * * *

There has been some controversy as to whether the Executive decision to reprint the little green book of duty tables is justified. It is argued by some that the book is valued because of the tables alone, and that as these have not changed with the new Budget, members in possession of the old book will not trouble to buy the new edition even though it contained additional material for reference.

In the circumstances, it would be very helpful if District Secretaries would endeavour to ascertain what kind of support would be given to the new edition amongst members in their districts. Information in this matter is required at Association Headquarters as early as possible. There is no need to furnish detailed figures. A rough estimate of numbers required is quite sufficient.

Following the decision of the Departmental Council to appoint a special Committee to deal with the question of promotion to the Officer Grade, the Joint Committee of Customs and Excise Associations has appointed the Staff Side members. The representation will comprise one member from each of the following grades:—Controlling Grade, Surveyor Grade, Officer Grade, Preventive Staff, Clerical Grade.

* * * *

On the 25th April, six Chief Preventive Officers of the Lower Section were called to London for interview by the Promotion Board in connection with promotion to the Upper Section.

* * * *

There has been a sudden slump in the correspondence columns of the "Customs Journal." Probably this is due to the enervating effects of the Spring atmosphere. It is so much more easy to talk about things than to write about them. But it is much more useful if members state their views in the Journal rather than to discuss them in desultory fashion amongst immediate colleagues. Too often do we find people bursting into print on some subject long since signed and settled. This is sheer waste of valuable energy. The time to ventilate views is when your subject is topical. There is plenty of topical interest just now in Preventive Staff affairs.

* * * *

This is the season when the daily press goes a bit mad regarding smuggling. Already there has been a splash of the usual stuff in the "Daily Express." Cornwall has been well advertised as a holiday place for those who thirst for romance and adventure.

The great mistake of the modern journalist is in not realising that with the present-day facilities for publishing glib untruths, the subject of smuggling provides a wonderful scope for really interesting articles. One can always feel benevolent towards writers of really entertaining fiction; but stupid fiction is unforgivable.

The "Sunday Observer," departing from its usually sane outlook upon things in general, has published an article asserting that the Customs examination of baggage is mainly responsible for deterring American travellers from visiting England.

The writer of that article did not bother to think very much or he would have discovered that American visitors are as a general rule very much in praise of English Customs methods. They appreciate the prompt, courteous, and businesslike attention which is accorded to all visitors to our shores. It is regrettable that a paper of such standing as the "Sunday Observer" should indulge in this kind of thing.

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

The quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee was held in the Custom House, London, on Monday, 7th inst., when T. Morton, Esq., Vice-President, presided over a representative attendance of members.

The Secretary submitted a financial statement showing that the income for the year amounted to £2,900, and the expenditure to £2,490. Of this amount, £2,311 had been disbursed in grants under the various rules. The surplus for the year was £410 and this amount, together with £100 from the balance brought forward at the beginning of the year, was used to buy £500 of Conversion Loan Stock.

The Committee were gratified to find that the Fund continued to attract new members, as was evidenced by a presentation of a list of 72 applications for membership. All were duly elected.

Under Rule 23 there were two applications for assistance to maintain and educate children; one with two children and one with one. In both cases the children were elected to benefits at a present cost of £30 and £20 respectively.

Consideration was also given to applications from twelve widows in necessitous circumstances for renewals of grants. The Visiting Committee reported that six of them were over 70 years of age and recommended that all be granted £20 each. Six new cases were submitted, and in accordance with the recommendations each was granted £15.

The Committee had brought to their notice a case in which a member had been drowned, and it was stated that until a certificate of death could be produced his widow could not obtain any balance of salary or any insurance money. It was decided to make an immediate grant of £20.

The half-yearly reports by the Visiting Committee as to the care of the children being assisted under Rule 23 were presented and found to be satisfactory.

Approval was given to the draft of the Annual Report, and the Secretary was directed to have 4,500 copies printed for circulation among the members.

Room 9, Custom House. R. JOHNSON.

PROSECUTION.

CARDIFF.

On Monday, 14th April, Mr. H. Howell, C.P.O., conducted a case against three Spanish seaman of the s.s. Celta from Valencia, via Liverpool. The men were charged with knowingly carrying spirits with intent to defraud H.M. Customs. Each man was fined S.V.D. £3 5s. 7d. in respect of two bottles of brandy; whilst a further charge of concealing against one man was punished by a fine of £1 12s. 9d. (S.V.D.).

The officers concerned were Messrs. B. N. Hutley, P.O., and C. H. Saunderson, A.P.O.

Preventive Staff Association

Head Office :

Thames Chambers,
13 Beer Lane,
London, E.C.4.

Telephone : ROYAL 4279

President : W. G. Thomson

General Secretary : J. Merron

Organising Secretary : J. T. Sutton

Assistant Secretary : W. H. Powell

GLASGOW.

The annual meeting was held at Mavisbank, Glasgow, on Tuesday, April 21st, a good attendance being recorded. Mr. R. M. Murray presided.

Reference was made at the outset to the unfortunate death of Mr. A. W. P. Densley, and an expression of sympathy was recorded.

The following is the result of the election of office bearers for the ensuing year :—

Chairman, Mr. James Denby, A.P.O.; Vice-Chairman, Mr. R. M. Murray, P.O.; District Secretary, Mr. H. Gibson, P.O.; District Organiser, Mr. R. E. Wood, A.P.O.; Local Secretary, Mr. W. Gray, A.P.O.; Local Organiser, Mr. W. G. Manson, P.O. Auditors, Mr. W. McIlwain, P.O. and Mr. McGruther, A.P.O.; L.W.C. Representatives, Mr. A. P. Angus, P.O., Mr. T. Kennedy, A.P.O., and Mr. H. S. Niven, A.P.O.

Various items of local interest occupied the remainder of the time, and suitable action was taken.

It will be necessary to call a further District Meeting for Tuesday, May 13, to discuss proposals for the Annual Conference.

Votes of thanks were accorded Mr. W. G. Manson, District Secretary for four years, and Mr. J. Denby, District Organiser for 6½ years.

This was one of the best meetings held in Glasgow for some time, and now that enthusiasm is being awakened it is hoped that all members (outport especially) will "tune in," and make the Glasgow District a real live branch.

Mr. Manson and Mr. Gaille have been appointed Collectors (for subscriptions) in Glasgow, and they will be pleased to receive any sum, large or small, at any time.

Presentation at Ardrossan.

Mr. N. E. McKINNA.

A pleasant evening was spent at the Commercial Hotel, Ardrossan, on Friday, April 19th, by members of the local staff. Advantage was taken of the occasion by presenting Mr. N. E. McKinna (A.P.O.), with an expanding suit-case to mark his success in the recent examination for promotion to the P.O. Grade. Many enthusiastic expressions of good will were voiced by those present, to which Mr. McKinna suitably replied.

CHANGES IN THE STAFF.

To APRIL 28th, 1930.

APPOINTMENTS.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

Howard, J.
Hulbert, E. J.
Johns, S. G.
Newcombe, F. G.
Roberts, H. G.
Russell, D. C.

ENGINEER MECHANIC :

Butler, J.

TRANSFERS.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

Harrison, C. W., Stronsay, Aberdeen to Hull.
Leedham, E. T., West Hartlepool, Sunderland to Hull.
MacDonald, J., Aberdeen to Glasgow.

PROMOTIONS.

PREVENTIVE OFFICER TO CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, Lower Section (Unattached) :—

Dove, G. C., Dover to Office of I.G.W.

OFFICERS LEAVING THE SERVICE.

RETIREMENTS—CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, Upper Section :—

Fooks, G. E., London.

PREVENTIVE OFFICER :—

Legg, I., Liverpool.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICER :—

Belson, G. H., Dover.

DEATH—CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, Lower Section :

Hart, G. B., Portsmouth.

VACANCIES.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, Upper Section :—

London, 30.5.30.

*ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICER, Stronsay, Aberdeen

* An allowance of £20 per annum for performing Long Room work, etc., is assigned.

OBITUARY.

Mr. G. B. HART.

It is with very deep regret that we have to announce the death, at the age of 58 years, of Mr. G. B. Hart, Chief Preventive Officer at Portsmouth. Mr. Hart was on duty till late in the afternoon of April 14th, and upon reaching home complained of feeling unwell. He died before medical aid could be obtained.

A representative gathering of officers attended the funeral, and a wreath was sent from the Customs and Excise staffs of Portsmouth, Southampton and Cowes.

Mr. Hart had seen duty at London, Lowestoft and Middlesbrough prior to taking up his appointment as Chief Preventive Officer at Portsmouth. He leaves a widow and son (who is in the Service at Seaham), to mourn his loss.

The New Entrant's Guide.

by "NOD."

I will now continue the narrative from where I left off, but before doing so I must thank all those who have sent me telegrams of congratulation on the usefulness of my article, and to all those novices (they must be!), who sent their pound notes for further instruction. In fact, it has overcome me to such an extent that it has taken me some time to get over it—the enthusiasm, I mean, not the result of the pound notes!

However, I left the embryo starting out on his first rummage. Now what is this rummage? The word itself is derived from the old Anglo-Saxon runic script, RUMM, meaning a kind of spirit, and AGE, meaning old; therefore a free rendering gives us Old Rum, though how this came to be applied to our searching crews is doubtful, and the theory is purely speculative.

You will now be approaching the ship you are about to rummage, and in case you should not know what a ship is, I will hasten to inform you that it is one of those things sailors go down to the sea in, and also a thing that passes in the night. Anyway, you will all proceed on board, and you must follow the others who will take you along to the first-class dining saloon, where you must disrobe and clad yourself in overalls. All your superfluous gear you should deposit on the table, at the head where the Master sits for preference, only be careful not to spoil your uniform with the condiments.

Now comes the actual rummage. Your object is to find something; what, I don't suppose you have the haziest idea; but still, to take something at random, look for some methylisopropylketonecyanhydrin. This may be found on any ship, if it is there, and you only know where to look for it. The orthodox manner of procedure for the novice is to follow the most genial A.P.O. all over the ship and look in all the places where he has looked, but this is not recommended. I would advise you to proceed straightway to the coal bunkers. (N.B.—You will not find these on sailing ships.) Once safely ensconced there, select a convenient knob of coal, sit down and rest for about half-an-hour. Now, this is the place (as the fishmonger said), where you are likely to find something, so pick a likely spot and shovel away about ten tons of coal. Should you not find anything, you will no doubt give it up in disgust, and I don't blame you; so proceed forthwith to the Master's cabin, which has more congenial surroundings. Should you by any chance be dirty, ask the Master to instruct his steward to supply you with a clean towel and hot water.

The *modus operandi* here is slightly different, for you must first put certain questions. To wit, "Have

you anything liable to duty such as infected dogs or their component parts, any gramophone, apart from your wife, any more than five spare cigars, any cases of psittacosis, whether or not made and finally prepared for use." You know something on these lines will get you a long way (about as far as the bottom of the gangway, I should imagine.) Should the Master have his wife with him, she, in all probability, will ask you to look for any seditious literature. Now the method of rummage here requires a great deal of study; in fact, it has taken some officers as much as forty years, and even then have not become proficient. A systematic way is to have a clear space in the centre of the cabin, and after you have thoroughly satisfied yourself with each article, deposit them in a pile so that at the termination of your rummage the occupant knows exactly where everything is. Should you find any cigars or spirits stowed away don't take any notice, as in nine cases out of ten they will have been left there by the previous Master. When you are fed up with this, report yourself to your P.O., and tell him that you are going ashore to lunch. As I have several lesson papers to attend, I must conclude, but in my next article I will give a few hints on office manners and menus.

ANSWERS TO STUDENTS.

DOUBTFUL (Merthyr Dock).—No, there is no duty on bird seed as it is not a musical instrument, but each seed should be marked with the country of origin.

HEALTH (Wigan).—The quarantine station at your port is at the end of the pier.

STUDIOUS (Glasgow).—The Rangers in 1907.

JAZZ (Aberdeen).—See Encyclopaedia Britannica, Vol. 10, page 3,351, in conjunction with Customs Code, Vol. IV, para. I (Colorado Beetles sec.), which has reference to the Public Nuisances Act, 1066.

ISOMNIA (London).—An unfailing remedy is to read this rubbish.

NEW ENTRANTS! WASTE NO TIME! PREPARE NOW FOR YOUR EXAMINATION IN 1950!

ENROL AT ONCE IN OUR INTUITION CLASSES. SITUATIONS FOUND WHEN PROFICIENT!

Answers to Examination Questions.

(Published by arrangement with the V.E.C.)

First Paper.

QUESTION 5.

(a) On the arrival of a vessel from the River Plate, one of the seamen, who is severing his connection with her at once, presents his effects for clearance and produces 8 oz Cavendish Tobacco, stating in reply to your questions that he has no other dutiable goods. On examining his bag you find 8 oz Havana Cigars, which he admits he intended to smuggle. What action would you take?

(b) What are the instructions in regard to the examination of the baggage of Naval Officers:—

- (1) When accompanied by the owner;
- (2) When sent ashore locked in charge of servants?

(c) Explain the term "Deck Cargo" under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, and state briefly what is the object of measuring such cargo. What are the rules for measuring spaces occupied by "deck cargo" other than oil fuel?

ANSWERS.

5. (a) In the circumstances quoted, the concealed goods would be seized and the whole of the offender's effects would be examined thoroughly. Assuming nothing further of a dutiable or prohibitive nature was discovered, the cigars would be shown to the Master or other responsible officer. The offender would be given the option of immediate magisterial proceedings or of depositing with me a sum equal to treble the duty-paid value of the goods seized.

I would allow delivery of the tobacco produced on payment of the duty and fine; failing this, the goods may be abandoned.

(b) All baggage containing private effects of Naval Officers is *liable* to examination.

(1) Baggage, locked or unlocked, accompanied by the owner is to be examined.

(2) Locked bags belonging to Naval Officers and being conveyed ashore by a servant or a person other than the owner may, in the absence of suspicion, be passed unexamined provided the Officer makes himself personally responsible for the contents by sending with the baggage a signed pass on Navy Form S 569 C.

The use of this pass by Warrant Officers is to be reported to the Board.

(c) Under Section 85 of the M.S. Act, the term "Deck Cargo" refers to cargo and certain stores on ships, whether British or Foreign, arriving from places outside the Home Trade limits, carried in any uncovered or covered places not included in the cubical contents of the ship's registered tonnage. Briefly, the reason for the measurement of "Deck Cargo" is to ensure that in assessing any dues payable on the ship's tonnage due regard

may be taken of spaces so occupied. Dues are payable on the registered tonnage plus the tonnage of the space occupied by deck cargo.

To arrive at the tonnage of the space occupied by deck cargo, other than cattle and other animals and oil fuel, measure along the deck the floor or deck space covered by the cargo the mean length in feet, measure the mean breadth and the mean height reached by the cargo in feet and tenths. Multiply together the mean length, breadth and height so taken and divide the product by 100. Spaces occupied by deck fittings included in such measurement are to be deducted.

The tonnage of spaces occupied by cattle and other animals is calculated on the following scale—

Horses	...	...	80	cubic feet per animal.
Cattle	...	...	70	" " " "
Mules	...	...	65	" " " "
Ponies	...	...	55	" " " "
Sheep and Pigs	...	...	10	" " " "

In the event of objection being made to the application of this scale, the actual space occupied is to be measured.

Civil Service Confederation.

Special Meeting of Executive Committee.

A Special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Civil Service Confederation was held on Friday, 11th April, 1930, at Livingstone Hall, Broadway, Westminster, when Mr. George Chase (President) presided over an attendance of twenty-four.

The purpose of the meeting was to consider the draft of evidence on cost-of-living bonus proposed to be submitted by the National Staff Side to the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, and decisions were taken on certain proposals for the amendment of the draft.

It was reported that it was understood to be the intention of the Royal Commission to take

- (a) Bonus;
- (b) Super-cut;
- (c) National Minimum Wage; and
- (d) General Standards of Pay and Remuneration

together, as one section of the National Staff Side case, and consideration was accordingly given to the question of the best method of presentation of evidence on this section as a whole.

It was finally decided to propose at the National Staff Side meeting on the 14th April, 1930, that there should be three Staff Side witnesses on this section, representing

- (a) Manipulative Grades;
- (b) Middle Grades of the Service; and
- (c) Higher Grades.

(At the National Staff Side meeting on the 14th April, 1930, the Confederation proposal was adopted, Mr. J. W. Bowen, M.P., Mr. W. J. Brown, M.P., and Mr. A. J. T. Day being appointed as the three Staff Side witnesses.)

Customs and Excise Departmental Council.

The 115th meeting of the Council was held in the Custom House, London, on 26th March, 1930, the chair being taken by Sir F. L. C. Floud, K.C.B., Chairman of the Board of Customs and Excise.

PROMOTION.

A further discussion on the proposals and counter-proposals in regard to (a) Reporting Officers, and (b) Panel of Promotion Board, for the Departmental Clerical Class, resulted in agreement on (b) and a contraction of the area of difference respecting (a), the latter being accordingly re-adjourned for further consideration.

It was agreed to appoint a Special Committee to consider and report on the question of promotion to the Officer Grade.

The Staff Side again developed their case for the appointment of all "P" Class Clerks now serving in the Department to the Clerical or Departmental Clerical Grade. The Official Side stated that no less than 60 had been promoted since 1928 and it was hoped to increase this number as opportunity arose, but the question was not entirely one for this Department. The matter was re-adjourned to the next meeting.

ALLOWANCES

In response to Staff Side representations, the Official Side undertook to continue their efforts to expedite the business of the Subsistence Allowances Committee.

VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENTS

It was agreed that Officer vacancies due to impending retirements should be advertised at least two months before the retirement and, together with any consequential vacancies, be filled as soon as possible.

It was also agreed that Unattached Officers should be notified two or three months before they are due for appointment to Stations.

REWARDS.

It was agreed that the subject of the abolition of certain rewards in the Outdoor Service should be referred to the appropriate Sectional Committee for consideration and report.

CONSULTATION OF STAFF SIDE.

Discussion took place in regard to misunderstandings which had arisen in connection with the consultation of the Staff Side on the machine issue of fixed-rate non-liquor licences and the verifications of claims for silk drawback. In respect of the former, the consideration of a Committee agreement was postponed, it being understood that administrative action might have to be taken before the next Council meeting. In respect of the verifications of claims the Official Side undertook to consider Staff Side representations in the same way as if the relative instructions had not already been issued.

OTHER MATTERS.

A number of decisions advised by Sectional, Grade, Local and Office 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 2nd May, 1930.

A. W. P. DENSLEY—APPEAL.

The following amounts are hereby acknowledged:

PORT.	LIST NO.	£ s. d.
Bangor	86	1 0 0
Colwyn Bay	87	0 5 0
Stranraer	208	0 10 0
Dumfries	209	0 3 0
Irvine	213	0 5 0
Fleetwood	20	0 6 0
Shoreham	65	0 8 0
Littlehampton	67	0 3 6

Total ... £3 0 6

J. T. SUTTON.

BY THE WAY.

There is a large amount of increased activity and interest in chess circles just now. In addition to the ordinary routine of chess games in progress, teams have now seriously got to work on the problem of deciding the destination of the new challenge trophy recently given by the Inspector-General. Some very keen games are anticipated, the numbers of chess players in this club have considerably increased since its inception, and it is noteworthy that many of the new members are drawn from those who are young in the Service. The club is having the beneficial effect of bringing into contact members of the Preventive Service stationed in all parts of the kingdom.

* * * *

Another sphere that is claiming new adherents is the cricket section of the London Sports Club. This club now embraces the whole of London and promises to have an important effect on sport in the Preventive Service. The first match of the season is being played to-day against Farnbridge C.C. on the latter's ground at Lower Sydenham, and it is expected that there will be a good attendance of supporters to witness the opening of the season. Cardiff is another district where healthy sport has come into its own, and it should not be an extravagance to prophesy that the time is not far distant when we shall see matches arranged between various ports. Already visits are exchanged between teams of London and Gravesend, both in cricket and football, and although these two places are included in the one port (the distance between them is twenty miles), these annual visits show where the tendency is. I think, personally, that it is all to the good, and not the least valuable sign is the active interest that is being shown by the Inspector-General, the Superintendents and the Chief Preventive Officers. They certainly are, in these days, playing their part.

P.A.R.

