

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.

A PLAIN ISSUE.

IT is good news to hear that the Association has decided to raise in Whitley the question of the employment of members of the Officer Grade upon purely preventive work at air-ports. Many of us have often wondered at the delay in tackling the unquestionably ambiguous situation that exists at one air-port at least. The P.S.A., however, has never adopted the unreasonable attitude, and when a few years ago this matter was the subject of representations to the Board, the contention put forward that there was not the necessary traffic to justify a separate staff was accepted, with the reservation that the matter would be again brought up by the Association when in its opinion the traffic was such as would justify full attendance by Preventive Officers.

During the few years that have passed, the practice of travelling by airplanes has grown tremendously, and what was considered adventurous only a decade ago has, thanks to the great progress made in the development of air travel, become commonplace.

Doubtless the situation as far as the protection of the revenue is concerned has been duly considered by the responsible authorities. It certainly is a problem for which they would find no precedent in the history of revenue protec-

tion and collection, and one which will surely tax the resources of our Department to the limit. The development of air transport is a record of swift progress unparalleled in history, and the industry is still in its infancy. It may be that a few years from now the inevitable expansion of this method of transport will have revolutionised the C. & E. Department, and one feature of this revolution will surely be a reconsideration of the line of demarcation between the duties of the Landing and Preventive staffs.

For the present, however, we must look at the problem in the light of present-day conditions as regards these two branches of the Customs. The work of baggage examination and the receipt of duty from passengers is our work, and is only performed by the other grade when its volume is so small that it would be impracticable to employ a Preventive Officer. The general preventive work on the Customs side has hitherto been considered work of a specialist nature and has been carried out by a special staff. With regard to the air-ports, are we to lose, through methods of petty tinkering beloved of the apostles of expediency, that high prestige for thoroughness and efficiency for which the Customs and Excise of this country is noted throughout the world?

CURRENT COMMENTS.

IT is now nearly twelve months since the Association launched the Salary Claim, and although useful progress has been made, it cannot be said that the negotiations are advancing as rapidly as might reasonably be expected. The members have loyally accepted the assurances from their leaders that everything was being done to expedite matters, and that the delay was due to unavoidable causes. The admirable patience that has been shown is no doubt due to the general feeling of confidence regarding the soundness of our case, and to the belief that the result will be worth waiting for. There are now definite signs, however, that this patient attitude is beginning to break. Anxiety is growing, and this is plainly evident from the tone of the enquiries that are reaching Association Headquarters from District Secretaries writing on behalf of their constituents. It therefore becomes necessary once again to reassure members that the Salary Claim is not by any means shelved. As a matter of fact, it is receiving urgent attention by the Official Side.

Memories of previous disappointments are bound to revive in the minds of the Staff at a time like this. Too often have we had success snatched from us at the last moment, and the anxiety arising from the present delay is quite understandable. We are, however, better equipped and better organised than we were ever before, and the Association has no intention of allowing matters to drift into an unfavourable position.

The whole of the circumstances in connection with the Claim will be thoroughly examined by the Executive Committee at the meeting on the 18th and 19th March.

* * * *

The P.S.A. representatives on the Customs and Excise Joint Committee have raised the question of the employment of members of the Officer Grade on baggage duties at aerodromes. The development of airplane passenger traffic seems likely to cause complications as time goes on, owing to the difficulty of drawing a clear line of demarcation between the work of the Officer Grade and that of the Preventive Service. Under present conditions the work of dealing throughout with passenger planes is allocated to whichever grade happens to be conveniently situated to the scene of action. At Portsmouth and Dover the Preventive Staff deal with airplanes, whereas at Croydon and Lympe, and now at Heston, the work is done by the Officer Grade.

* * * *

Another matter which has caused a great deal of discussion on the Joint Committee is

the question of promotion to the Officer Grade. The Preventive Staff, Departmental Clerical Grade, and the Women Pension Officers, are claiming facilities for such promotion, and an attempt is being made to lay down suitable conditions. The Officer Grade representatives were in strong opposition to the scheme before the Committee. Their arguments, however, did not prevail, and the claimants carried their point. It has now been decided to take the necessary action on the Departmental Council. Full information of the progress in this matter will be reported to P.S.A. members in due course.

* * * *

It has been announced that the latest date for submitting evidence to the Royal Commission is June 30th. Judging from the volume of evidence already submitted, and the amount likely to be given between now and June, it looks as though the Commission will be occupied for a very considerable time after that date before being able to produce a report.

The Customs and Excise Federation, it is understood, will be giving evidence regarding the unsuitability of Officer Grade work as an employment for which women could be recruited. The P.S.A. is interested in this question to some extent, since it has been suggested in certain quarters that women could be employed on baggage examination. Only sheer ignorance of Customs work could give rise to such a suggestion.

* * * *

In an attempt to simplify Staff Side work in connection with question of Office Accommodation, the Joint Committee of C. & E. Association has devised a system by which each Local Whitley Secretary will keep a register containing full particulars of all accommodation falling within the province of this Committee. These registers have now been distributed, and it is hoped that the Preventive Staff representatives on Whitley Committees will use every endeavour to help their secretaries in gathering the necessary information.

The move that has now been taken will very likely bring to light many cases of bad accommodation which has hitherto been overlooked or neglected through the apathy of the individuals occupying the accommodation.

* * * *

Arising out of the recommendations by the sub-committee on General Orders and Instructions, a committee is now very busy bringing up to date all the ancient General Orders. During the process many old orders are being scrapped and others are being modernised. It

will certainly be a great boon to the Staff to know that there is to be a limit to the distance they will have to go back when studying up regulations on some particular point. In future no G.O. will be more than five years old.

* * * *

A sample uniform cap embodying all the suggestions put forward by the Staff Side has now been submitted to members at certain representative ports. The views expressed by these members will be considered by the Executive Committee, and it is expected that a satisfactory conclusion will be reached at a very early date. It is, of course, impossible to circulate this cap to every port, but there is every reason to believe that the cap will be received as a great improvement on the old type.

* * * *

There have been some complaints regarding the alleged bad wearing qualities of the mackintoshes. In most of the cases it is stated that the dye fades very quickly. At the appropriate time this question will be taken-up, but a fair trial must be given to the mackintoshes before any definite move is made by the Association. In the meantime, any complaints should be sent along, together with full particulars as to the amount of wear to which the garment has been subjected. District Secretaries are asked to interest themselves in this matter so that no complaints are made without proper justification.

LONDON PRESENTATIONS.

Mr. ROMANS and Mr. GOSLING.

The guests of honour at a smoking concert at the St. Katherine Dock Hotel, London on March 4th, were Mr. S. E. Romans (C.P.O.), and Mr. W. H. Gosling (P.O.), who recently retired from the Service. The original intention had been that of a triple presentation, and in opening the proceedings, Mr. E. W. Jones, who presided, referred to the vacant place created by the lamented death of Mr. Harry Miller, and the company stood for a moment in silence.

An excellent musical programme was provided from the ranks of the London Staff, and opportunity was taken during the evening of presenting Mr. Romans with a mahogany writing bureau, and Mr. and Mrs. Gosling with a mahogany-cased barometer and a case of silver-backed brushes. The speeches, which contained many humorous and serious reminiscences, were eloquent of the esteem in which our guests were held and regret at the end of long terms of service in which so many close friendships had been made.

Both the London Superintendents were present, as also were five C.P.O.s and two retired C.P.O.s.

Preventive Staff Association

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President : W. G. Thomson

General Secretary : J. Merron

Organising Secretary : J. T. Sutton

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NEWPORT (Mon.).

A well attended meeting, presided over by Mr. Lyons, was held at Lovell's Cafe, on Wednesday, February 26th.

Mr. Gowan resigned from his position as Local Organiser, and his place was filled by Mr. Lyons.

A proposal was carried to place before Whitley a revised scheme for the staffing of the Old Dock Station. A further proposal was passed to the District that the further issues of overalls should consist of two complete suits.

A very much appreciated talk on the pending salary claim and re-organisation was given by Mr. Griffiths (Councillor), and an interesting discussion followed. Several matters of local interest were dealt with.

SWANSEA.

Mr. McEnaney presided over a meeting held on Monday, March 10th.

Reports were received from the Local Whitley Council representatives on the re-scheming of Port Talbot and Briton Ferry. The Board's proposals have been agreed to by the Staff Side.

The subject of A.P.O.s' leave was discussed, and it was proposed that the present scheme of two periods in the leave year be altered to one period. An amendment was carried leaving the question in abeyance until the next meeting.

LONDON.

A fairly well attended meeting was held at the St. Katherine Dock Hotel on Wednesday, March 5th. Mr. T. O. Hughes took the Chair.

The chief item before the meeting was the local one of the equalisation of emoluments. There was a very lengthy discussion, and it was agreed that a scheme be prepared that would have the effect of equalising the Sunday and Public Holiday attendance in London.

The report of the Waterguard Sectional Committee was read, after which a strong motion of protest was moved against the continued delay in dealing with the Salary Claim.

Correspondence

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

TO THE MEMBERS, A.P.O. GRADE, SOUTH WALES AREA.

Cardiff.

Gentlemen,—Having been nominated as a candidate for the post of A.P.O. Grade Councillor, South Wales Area, and having accepted, I respectfully solicit your support when voting.

I have always taken a keen interest in the affairs of the Association, and have been a member of the Whitley Council for a considerable period, endeavouring to carry out the work allotted to me in an efficient manner.

I am watching with keen interest the salary claim which is under consideration. The present salary and conditions are by no means what they should be, and if I am successful you can rest assured that your interests will be carefully watched, and the betterment of our grade generally will be my earnest endeavour.

Yours, etc.,
F. WARREN.

AIR MACHINES.

Sir,—It must be very gratifying to many to read the report of the Association meeting at Dover, in which it was stated that extensive use was made, during 1929, of the Waterguard Staff at that port in dealing with seaplanes from the Continent. This work, which is proper to the Waterguard, is long overdue. In another port the Waterguard has been satisfactorily dealing with the personnel of the Fleet air arm. It has been a novel experience to be called upon to deal with the crews of over thirty or so machines of various descriptions landing at one time.

Yours, etc.,
"J.E.T."

N.Q.A.

Sir,—I quite agree with W.M.S. that the N.Q.A. column should be revived and should remain a permanent feature of the "Customs Journal," for it not only provides a means of interesting younger members in the application of the regulations, but also keeps those who have passed through the ordeal refreshed in several branches of the work not often met with in their everyday duties, particularly in the smaller ports.

I found the old N.Q.A. very useful, and collected several series, together with the answers. After answering the questions from my own knowledge I would compare them with those published. This usefully filled in the time between despatch and receipt of the tutor's papers.

I am sure that the revival of this column would in no way minimise the valuable tuition given by the V.E.C., and it would prove a boon to those who wish their knotty points solved.

Yours, etc.,
"CELER ET AUDAX."

PROMOTION.

Sir,—One outstanding fault in the Preventive Service is the system of promotion to the P.O. grade. During the first eight or ten years of his career an A.P.O. has no chance of promotion. He is not encouraged to take much interest in his position and its intricacies because he has no need to study. Instead, he invariably gets into a rut, and when the time for swotting arrives after such a lapse of time, he takes to it badly and it is quite likely that the best man fails to gain promotion.

If after three or four years' service he were eligible to compete by examination for the rank of P.O., he would need to give these early years of his in the Service to a study of the regulations and practice of the job, thereby keeping himself fresh as well as being of greater service to the Crown. This method would take some time to get accustomed to, but a waiting list of successful candidates could be formed, and drawn from as required.

A young fellow would be able to reach the highest appointment before he was old and grey; the best would get to the top; and, incidentally, an A.P.O. would develop from a rummager into a P.O.'s assistant.

Yours, etc.,
"PEAK."

UNIFORM.

Sir,—Referring to the letter of "J.E.T.," which appeared in the "Customs Journal," whilst admitting the priority of the Salary Claim, does he really suggest that the uniform question should be dropped entirely?

It is a common occurrence in my port for passengers to bombard the officer on duty at the baggage exit with questions regarding the trains, etc., and during the busy season I assure "J.E.T." that an abundance of that tact and discretion to which he refers is often needed.

I venture to suggest that in this very efficient Waterguard Department education in any of the subjects mentioned by your correspondent is unnecessary. Don't ask us to look back twenty years, but rather let us look ahead.

By all means wait until our salary claim is settled and then let us try again.

Yours, etc.,
"W.F.M."

WASTED AMMUNITION.

Sir,—I read with increasing surprise, the letters which have been published in the "Journal" recently advancing arguments against the new method of examination for promotion to the C.P.O. Grade.

It is over two years ago since the members of the P.S.A., being of the opinion that the then existing examination was not producing the best men, requested the Council to formulate a scheme which would give the P.O. a better opportunity of showing his merit. A scheme devised by the E.C. was forwarded to the districts, where it was discussed, and the Councillors were given instructions to take steps to endeavour to get the scheme into operation. These steps were taken and the scheme became an accepted fact.

Now, after all this time, some of your correspondents wake up to deliver a flood of adverse criticism which may, possibly, have had some of the desired effect had it been delivered some time earlier. These writers would seem to be making ammunition and firing it into the empty air after the battle is over.

I would like to sympathise with the Officials of our Association, who, having given of their best in time and brains in first formulating a scheme and then satisfying the members' desires in obtaining the acceptance of it, must read your columns with mixed feelings, when, expecting perhaps a modicum of praise, realise that they would appear to have earned more condemnation than approbation.

Yours, etc.,

"RIGOLETTO."

Imperial Service Medal.

An interesting ceremony took place at Manchester on Monday, March 3rd, when Mr. J. Bowden, late Assistant Preventive Officer at Manchester, was presented with the Imperial Service Medal.

The presentation was made by Mr. G. B. Murray (Collector), assisted by Mr. J. Holcroft (Asst. Collector), and Mr. T. Hargreaves (C.P.O.), and the whole of the Waterguard Staff. A letter was read from the Waterguard Superintendent, Liverpool, regretting that the date clashed with a similar ceremony at Liverpool, and wishing Mr. Bowden long life to enjoy the honour conferred upon him.

NURSERY RHYMES.

Adjusted by "GEN."

See-Saw, "Waterguard" Daw,

Enlist in the P.S.A. ranks, sir,

It's not going to cost you a penny a day;

Don't wobble, you'll later give thanks, sir.

Answers to Examination Questions.

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

First Paper, Question 2—

2. Describe fully what action you would take as a Preventive Officer in dealing with the following cases:—

(a) During the rummage of a vessel from foreign one of your A.P.O.s informs you that the Chief Engineer, in whose berth he has found concealed 2 lbs. of Indian Cheroots, has offered him £1 not to report the offence.

(b) The Master of a vessel on arrival from Trieste informs you that he has on board the body of one of the crew who has died on the previous day.

(c) During the examination of baggage ashore you find that a passenger has landed, and has with her, a dog which she has not declared and for which she has no landing licence.

(d) While you are engaged in the examination of baggage, a gentleman presents four pieces which he states are the property of his wife, who is waiting outside the exit being too unwell to attend to the formalities. He has not travelled with her from abroad but merely come to meet her on her arrival.

2(a) The goods would be seized and shown to the Master or Senior Officer.

I would ascertain whether the goods have been reported, i.e., on Lists 142/3 or as Ships' Surplus Stores—if not, Notice (Form 480/2) would be served on the Master and Form 481/3 forwarded to the Collector.

In either case I would formally arrest and charge the offender at the nearest Police Station with the smuggling offence.

I would get into communication immediately (by telephone or telegraph), with the Board seeking instructions on the Bribery offence.

If no instructions arrive by the time the case is heard, I would ask for a remand of as long a period as possible, of not less than 4 days, on the grounds that a more serious charge may be preferred.

Report fully to the Board.

2(b). The prescribed "Health" questions would be put to the Master, with special reference to the cause of the death of the member of the crew, and if replies satisfactory, the Pratique would be issued.

The Master would be asked if the vessel carries a surgeon, if so, he would be reminded of his obligation to furnish the Medical Officer of the Port with the Surgeon's certificate of the death. If no surgeon is carried, I would immediately notify the Port Medical Officer of the facts.

2(c). I would take the passenger's name and address and description of the dog, and hand her the Form 812 T/A.

In the meantime my Assistant Preventive Officer, acting on my instructions, would notify the policeman on duty at the entrance.

On completion of the examination, the passenger would be allowed to proceed with the dog. Any further action in respect of the dog would be taken by the police.

Forms 424 and 425 would be completed and forwarded to the police and Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries respectively.

2(d) Notice 2B. would be handed to the husband with a request that a declaration be made thereon by the owner of the baggage.

I would send my Assistant Preventive Officer, or, if possible, go myself, to test the *bona fides* of the case by an unobtrusive observation on the passenger.

On the return of the husband, I would examine the baggage to the declaration on Form 2.B. or, if it is stated that even this slight formality cannot be complied with, to the verbal message from the passenger.

All pieces of baggage would be examined.

If I am satisfied that the case is *bona fide*, I would in these special circumstances, pass "duty free" such quantities that would have been permissible had the passenger been able to clear the baggage herself.

Customs and Excise Departmental Council.

The 114th meeting of the Council was held in the Custom House, London, on 26th February, 1930, the Chair being taken by Sir F. L. C. Floud, K.C.B., Chairman of the Board of Customs and Excise.

PROMOTION.

After further discussion, the proposals and counter proposals in regard to (a) Reporting Officers, and (b) Panel of Promotion Board, for the Departmental Clerical Class were re-adjourned.

ALLOWANCES.

The Official Side agreed to give retrospective effect to the decision recorded at the previous meeting regarding the payment of expenses of officers summoned for interview in connection with vacancies abroad.

STAFFING.

Agreements were registered on the staffing of the collectors' offices at Brighton, London West, Plymouth (part), and Preston, and the Long Room, Blyth.

ADDRESS BOOK.

It was agreed that the Department should provide an official list of addresses, with telephone numbers where available, of all Customs and Excise Offices.

OTHER MATTERS.

A number of decisions advised by 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 26th March, 1930.

Presentation to Mr. Plesents, (C.P.O.).

The St. George's Cafe, Red Cross Street, was the venue of a presentation smoking concert held on March 6th at Liverpool to mark the retirement of a very popular figure in the person of Mr. C. Plesents (C.P.O.).

A splendid attendance gave proof of the esteem in which he was held, and under the able Chairmanship of Mr. Large (Collector), supported by Mr. R. Sharp (Supt.) and Mr. H. Melross and Mr. J. Kieran (C.P.O.s), the proceedings went with a merry swing from the outset.

A pleasing feature was a double presentation; for following Mr. Sharp, who on behalf of the Liverpool staff presented a gold watch to Mr. Plesents, together with a gold bracelet for his wife, came Mr. R. Sinnet (P.O.) with a further token of regard from the outports in the shape of a "Rolls" razor set.

Many letters and telegrams of good wishes, from as far afield as London, were read, and eloquent testimony was paid by many speakers to the sterling qualities, both as colleague and friend, of the recipient.

The concert side of the programme had been well arranged and proved most successful, Mr. Plesents himself contributing an old favourite, whilst Messrs. W. Grosart, H. Hickson, S. Horne, R. Kelly, Hall, and Holt (pianist) all gave of their best and merit our sincere thanks for the evening's entertainment.

In responding to the vote of thanks, the Chairman remarked on the fact that it was the first opportunity he had had of meeting the Liverpool staff outside the official sphere, and warmly assured the company that he would welcome similar meetings in the future.

The organisers are to be congratulated on their success in providing such a worthy finale for one of the staunchest supporters of social work we have had in Liverpool.

FOOTBALL.

LONDON v. GRAVESEND.

A football match between London and Gravesend will be played on the ground of the former club at Hford on Wednesday, April 2nd. Kick-off will be at 3.30 p.m.

Tea will be provided for players and friends at the "Burnell Arms," East Ham, and will be followed by a smoking concert.

Ladies and friends are specially invited.

Customs and Excise Preventive Service Sports Club.

President:

C. M. WOODFORD, Esq., M.B.E.

Vice-Presidents:

H. J. FLEET, Esq. A. BRIDEN, Esq.

S. E. ROMANS, Esq. W. EVANS, Esq.

F. A. METCALFE, Esq.

Chairman:

F. WARNE, Esq.

Vice-Chairman:

C. E. EGAN, Esq.

Hon. Secretary: F. FISK, Esq.

Hon. Treasurer: W. FERGUSON, Esq.

INAUGURAL MEETING.

"It is, positively, a movement for the general good the new Club can be assured of my personal interest and wholehearted support." Thus Mr. C. M. Woodford, Inspector-General of Waterguard, in his opening speech from the Chair, addressed a packed meeting in London on March 13th.

The business of the meeting was to discuss the formation of a new Sports Club, which would absorb the liabilities and assets of the existing Clubs operating in London—the North and South Side Sports Clubs—and in this way create a central organisation for the control of sports and social events.

A Motion in these terms was carried unanimously.

Draft Rules and Constitution were considered, amended and finally adopted, and to give some idea of the scope of the new Club Rules 2, 3, and 12 are quoted:—

Rule 2.—The objects of the Club shall be the encouragement and organisation of Sports, Games, and Social events within the Preventive Service.

" 3.—The membership shall consist of Honorary and Active members:—

Members of the Preventive and Launch Services, and retired officers of these Services shall be eligible for membership of all or any of the Sections controlled by the Club. Honorary membership shall be open to friends of members at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

" 12.—Subscriptions per annum shall be as follows:—

For participating in ALL Sections	15/-
" Cricket Section only	10/-
" Football Section only	10/-
" Honorary Membership	2/6

The Athletic and Swimming Sections are available to all Members.

During the proceedings forms of application for membership were circulated among those present. Later in the evening the Chairman was pleased to announce that all members present had enrolled in the new Club, and of this number more than 75 per cent. had enrolled for full membership. Remarking on this happy situation, Mr. Woodford said: "This augurs well for the Preventive Service Sports. Such an enthusiastic start can indicate but one thing—the continued success of the Club is assured."

PROSECUTIONS.

Among the reports of prosecutions to hand this week, is one from Hartlepool, and concerns the second mate of the Danish steamer "Dania," who was charged in connection with a concealment of 12 bottles of brandy (1.44 proof gall.), 23 bottles of rum (2.75 proof galls.), and 300 cigars in six boxes, the duty on which was £24 12s. 8d.

The goods declared by the offender on the arrival of the vessel from Norresundby were a few cigarettes and a bottle of rum for use in port. The ship was subsequently searched by Mr. Donovan's rummage crew (Messrs. Coates, Staniland and Ainsworth), and on the starboard side of No. 3 hold, between the stringers under the bottom boards, they discovered three sacks containing the goods mentioned.

The second mate admitted that they were his property and said that he had purchased them in Norresundby and intended taking them home. Mr. Dowland, who conducted the case for the Department, pointed out that had this been the case the offender could have declared them in the usual way, and they could have been sealed up on board with the rest of the ship's surplus dutiable stores. Being the second officer of the vessel he was bound to be aware of the regulations. A plea of guilty was entered and the magistrates imposed a penalty of £24 12s. 8d.

In another case, which hails from Newport (Mon.), the master and chief engineer of the steamer "Jean de Bethencourt," from Bordeaux, were jointly charged with knowingly harbouring and concealing 2.63 proof gallons (3.34 liquid), of brandy, 4 lb. Cav. and 1 lb. O.S. tobacco, ¾ lb. of cigarettes and 5/16 lb. cigars. These were found by Mr. E. C. Jewell (A.P.O.), under the engine-room plates, and hidden between the ribs of the vessel near the boilers. The shallowness of the space contributed to the difficulties of the discovery, and the goods were only found after an arduous crawl over a wet and greasy surface.

The offenders pleaded guilty, and fines of £33 6s. 10d. (D.V.D.), on the master and £16 13s. 5d. (S.V.D.), on the engineer were imposed.

It was at Newport also that Mr. Keiran (A.P.O.), discovered a revolver and five rounds of ammunition in a bottom drawer in the donkeyman's room on the steamer "William Griffiths." The donkeyman was charged with the concealment, and was fined £1 and costs.

SPORT AND SOCIAL.

Customs Preventive Staff Chess Club

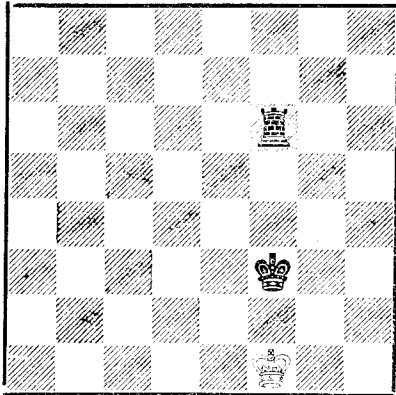
All real values, whether mental or material, are created by thought. All things were thought at first. What are machines but thought arms? What are railways but thought legs? What is a telephone but a thought ear, and a telescope but a thought eye? Chess makes you think, too.

* * * *

PROBLEM NO. 50.

Black mate in three.

(Black).



(White)

Solution to No. 49.

- 1. R—B8
- 1. Any.
- 2. Mates accordingly.

* * * *

DR. A. ALEKHINE v. E. D. BOGOLJUBOFF.

Members will forgive me for breaking off in the middle of "Chess Laws" to give the following game in the challenge for the World's Championship. This is the first game in the match. Dr. Alekhine, the holder, is white.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1. P—Q4 | 1. P—Q4 |
| 2. P—QB4 | 2. P—QB3 |
| 3. Kt—KB3 | 3. Kt—KB3 |
| 4. Kt—B3 | 4. P×P |
| 5. P—QR4 | 5. P—K3 |
| 6. P—K4 | 6. B—Kt5 |
| 7. P—K5 | 7. Kt—Q4 |
| 8. B—Q2 | 8. B×Kt |
| 9. P×B | 9. P—QKt4 |
| 10. Kt—Kt5 | 10. P—B3 |
| 11. P×BP | 11. Kt×KBP |
| 12. B—K2 | 12. P—QR3 |

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 13. E—B3 | 13. P—R3 |
| 14. E—R5+ | 14. Kt×E |
| 15. Q×Kt+ | 15. K—Q2 |
| 16. Kt—B7 | 16. Q—K1 |
| 17. O—Kt6 | 17. R—Kt1 |
| 18. B—B4 | 18. B—Kt2 |
| 19. B—Kt3 | 19. K—K2 |
| 20. B—Q6+ | 20. K—Q2 |
| 21. O.O. | 21. P—B4 |
| 22. P×BP | 22. B—Q4 |
| 23. P×P | 23. P×P |
| 24. R×R | 24. B×R |
| 25. R—R1 | 25. Kt—B3 |
| 26. Kt—K5+ | Resigns. |

If 26, —, Kt×Kt; 27. R—R7+, K—B1; 28. R×Beh, K—Q2; 29. R×Q, Kt×Q; 30. R×R and wins.

C. and E. Sports Club.

The annual Smoking Concert of the above club will be held on the 31st of March at the Cannon Street Hotel (Pillar Hall), commencing at 7 p.m.

This is the 21st smoking concert of the club, and it is hoped to make the programme worthy of the occasion.

A hearty invitation is extended to all members of the Staff, and the price of the tickets (including tax), is 2/4.

Cardiff Sport.

The Waterguard Staff has played a few preliminary football matches in preparation for their entry into the Cardiff Docks Cup Competition. The final team has not yet been selected, but many in practice teams have shown great promise. Against Cardiff Cosmos we lost 3—0, and against Heath Presbyterians we lost 3—1, but the team selected for the cup matches will undoubtedly prove a stout resistance for any opposing team. We have drawn a bye in the first round, and in the second round we are due to play Smith and Beynons C.C.

(We have since heard that the final selection for the cup team has been made, and hope to be able to publish in the next issue the result of the game.—Ed.).

"Ping-pong" and Table Tennis have also attracted a respectable number of devotees in Cardiff, and at the new Civil Service Sports Club, Castle Arcade, Cardiff, a table tennis championship—Waterguard Staff—was played off. Very attractive play was the feature of the tournament, and we wonder if any other large port can boast of such a large number of really good players.

The results of the championship were as follows:

Singles: Mr. A. R. Simkins, winner; Mr. C. H. Saunderson, runner-up.
 Doubles: Messrs. Simkins and Hill, winners; Messrs. Ramsay and Lindley, runners-up.