

The Customs Journal

No. 670

June 28th, 1930

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

UNITED AND UNANIMOUS

IN the history of the Waterguard Department there can seldom have been such an interesting document circulated to the staff as the recent one containing the Board's conditional proposal for re-organisation. Interesting, both as regards the discussion and indignation it has caused, and the reaction of the staff thereto.

There is another phase of the business, however, that interests ourselves and, as we feel we may not be alone in watching this sidelight, it will be as well if we draw the veil. We refer to the manner in which the Preventive Staff have taken the (again conditional) suggested scheme for setting up "a more effective instrument for the protection of the Revenue." If we may be forgiven for digressing, however, it will be to express our curiosity at the remarkable fact that the bringing into existence of a more effective instrument for Revenue protection should be dependent upon the problematical result of a Staff organisation having recourse to arbitration upon remuneration. To our simple mind it appears queer administration, but possibly we have far too serious a view of Revenue protection. Promotion prospects have ever been the bait of the fishermen desirous of landing the Waterguard fish high and dry, and it is not to be wondered at. The prospect of becoming one of the elect with decent hours of duty, plus immunity from night duty and the more arduous side of Preventive work, is certainly attractive. And so the "fly" was cast. Larger and more colourful than ever, but what was the result?

The Staff Side were unanimous that they would not accept the condition laid down by the

Official Side, and—to confuse our analogies—Mr. Spider did not have any guests.

The P.S.A. policy on an issue of this kind had, very wisely, been pre-determined, and was definite. So much for the organisation side of the matter. As regards the rank and file, the reaction has been tremendous and significant. Large meetings have been held in every District, and resolutions unanimous in every instance have been passed supporting the action of the Staff Side, and indignantly repudiating the suggestion contained in the proposal to increase the supervisory grades. The largest organisation on the Staff Side has been inundated with personal protests at the proposal, emanating in many instances from individuals who would have a much earlier opportunity of personal advancement in the event of the proposal coming into effect.

In short, had there been an intention to consolidate the rank and file to an extent that has never previously been realised the result could, as far as the P.S.A. is concerned at any rate, not have been better.

This is merely a sidelight upon the situation, but it is none the less an important one. A consolidated organisation in the position in which our own is at the moment is something to be pleased about. For ourselves we believe that we know a little more about the 1930 Preventive Staff than to have doubted their attitude in this crisis, but we are wondering whether others are merely making that discovery.

CURRENT COMMENTS.

AT the time of writing these Comments the June Departmental Council meeting has not yet taken place, and it is therefore not possible to add anything to the information already distributed to the membership on the Salary Claim question. Correspondence from the Districts still keeps pouring in, and it is a remarkable fact that there has been no suggestion from any source that the Official Side proposals could in any way be acceptable. This is remarkable because only in rare cases is such complete unanimity to be found. In the present instance one might have thought that the attractions offered to a not inconsiderable number of the Staff would have caused a certain amount of dissension. That this has not happened can be attributed to the firmly-fixed opinion that the work of the P.O. and A.P.O. Grades is very badly underpaid. There is no doubt that the attempt by the authorities to remedy one alleged defect whilst at the same time totally ignoring what the rank and file regard as a glaring and longstanding defect has been such a shock to the Staff that even those who might otherwise have favoured changes in the direction proposed by the authorities, have found themselves siding with those who would not have those changes at any cost. Thus we get the unanimous decision to fight on.

* * * *

It would be something worth while if an open admission could be obtained that, in viewing the salary scales of the P.O. and the A.P.O. Grades, overtime pay is taken into consideration. There is very good reason for believing that emoluments are in fact looked upon as being part of salary. In a previous salary claim the Official Side in their written statement to the Arbitration Board, laid strong emphasis on the emoluments earned by the Preventive Staff. Yet, it has been denied that overtime pay influences the salary scales in any way.

If it were possible to get this overtime bogey out into the open, the Association would be able to deal with it as it should be dealt with. There are two sides to every question, and the Staff views regarding the value of overtime have not yet been heard. It can be said quite definitely that to credit a staff with the benefits of an 8-hour day or a 48-hour week, and then to bulk overtime earnings with salary in order to support the contention that the remuneration is adequate, is absolutely unjust. Reasoning of this kind reduces the 48-hour week to a farce.

The Staff would be far better off with a decent salary that could be relied upon as a regular income, with no overtime pay for Sundays, and with one day off in seven. It is certain that such an arrangement could not be opposed on any reasonable grounds, but it is equally certain that the cost to the Treasury would rule the whole thing out of even consideration. The present system is distinctly bad, but it is cheaper than the ideal system. The powers-that-be are, however, not satisfied with the economy effected by the present method, which is expensive to the health of the Staff, but are inclined to utilise the results of that system to keep wages at a low level. In other words, they have it both ways.

* * * *

It will not, of course, ever be possible to eliminate overtime from Preventive Staff work, but eventually the principle of one day off in seven will prevail and will break down the bad old tradition of the department in this respect. When that happens overtime and its consequent evils will be considerably reduced. The work of the Service would be better because local administration would find the disposal of staff a less difficult problem. At the moment equalisation of overtime seems to rule the situation. This is quite a logical outcome of the fallacy which confounds overtime pay with salary.

* * * *

An agreement on the London Port Local Whitley Committee regarding the re-scheming of staff at Croydon has raised the question again of whether the time has arrived for the employment of Preventive Staff at Croydon. The matter of baggage examination at airports is always being closely watched by the Association, and our representatives on the Joint Committee of Customs and Excise Associations are enquiring into the possibility of baggage work at Croydon being performed by the appropriate officials. Under the re-scheming, provision is made for the continuance of this work by members of the Officer Grade. It is not certain at the time of writing whether there are yet sufficient grounds for the Association to press their point of view. But there is a definite increase in the volume of work. There are about one hundred foreign-going planes arriving and departing from Croydon each day.

It would appear from the tendencies in the development of air passenger traffic that the work of dealing with 'planes throughout will eventually devolve upon the Preventive Service. The trend of events in aviation will undoubtedly cause a speeding up of the changes that have been gradually taking place in the character of the Service during the past years. There is every reason to anticipate that before long there will be many new airports for foreign traffic, and that in many cases a **continuous night and day attendance** by the Customs officials will be necessary. Night work as a regular feature will not appeal to the average member of the Officer Grade, and thus it is probable that the Preventive Service will be presented with that part of the job. The conditions under which the work at aerodromes is performed are such that the presence of two different Customs departments dealing with practically the same traffic would be more acutely apparent to the public than is the case in the shipping sphere of activity. The result of this would be inevitable. Some very old-fashioned notions would wither under the fire of criticism.

Regarding the assertion that night attendance will be a prominent feature of Customs work with airplanes, it might be mentioned that there is a general opinion amongst aviation experts that in the future passenger-carrying 'planes will perform most of their journeys by night. There are several reasons for this. One is that when flying at high altitudes a passenger has nothing more to interest him in his surroundings during daylight than he would have at nighttime.

At the moment the several Air Service Companies are considering the problem of crowded air routes to and from the Continent. It appears that very soon some reorganisation of these routes will become imperative. Suggestions have been made for alternative routes along which aerodromes would be established at intervals of 15 or 20 miles. At these aerodromes prompt Customs attention would be required. This would, of course, mean continuous attendance by Customs officials, throughout the 24 hours.

* * * *

Preparations for a meeting of the Executive Committee on the 9th July are in progress. At this meeting the date of the Annual Conference will be fixed. The Committee will deal with the Annual Report and all other matters due for Conference discussion. It is probable that the Conference will take place during the first week of August. This is rather later than usual. It will be understood, however, that recent events in connection with the salary claim have made it impossible to make plans with any degree of certainty until the last moment.

Preventive Staff Association

Head Office :

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13 Beer Lane,
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Telephone : ROYAL 4279
President : W. G. Thomson
General Secretary : J. Merron
Organising Secretary : J. T. Sutton
Assistant Secretary : W. H. Powell

LIVERPOOL.

A large gathering of the Liverpool members had the opportunity at a recent meeting of hearing from their representatives on the Executive interesting details in connection with the Salary Claim. Those present listened with considerable attention to a history of the preparation of the claim, and to the detail which had been worked out showing that the work of the Preventive Staff hinges upon the work of the Preventive Officer, the ultimate claim covering the whole of the Waterguard grades. It was shown that the Official Side had had the claim under consideration for an appreciable amount of time, and that in the end had made an offer of increased supervision. The offer contained nothing for the Preventive Officer and nothing for the Assistant Preventive Officer. The Conference last year had given authority to go to arbitration, if necessary.

The meeting was reminded that at the time of the 1923 agreement the Board had intimated that the final settlement of the Assistant Preventive Officers' salaries would be made when the terms of recruitment were settled. Nothing had been done. In the opinion of the speaker, the offer of more supervising posts was designed to curtail the present powers of the Preventive Officer. Yet the suggested supervisor could never achieve that end.

Another speaker referred to Waterguard aspirations for the past thirty-nine years. In every case, in 1891, in 1908, again in 1920, and later in 1923, there had been created more Chief Preventive Officers and other supervising officers. Now again there is a similar offer. It was described as "a more effective instrument," and, curiously enough, would be imposed "only in certain circumstances." The offer of a few jobs for a few people if the Staff claim were withdrawn. It was considered that the success of the staff scheme would result in comparable claims from other grades of the Civil Service, and it was apparent that the Treasury preferred to spend more on supervising than on the lower grades.

Regarding the possible reduction in the numbers of the P.O. and A.P.O. grades, it was pointed out that during the last seven years every port and creek had been carefully examined and the staff reduced where possible.

It would seem, therefore, that the proposed C.P.O.-ships would be no better than the present position of the Preventive Officer. He felt assured from the Board's proposals that our claim was a good one.

At the conclusion, a resolution approving the action of the Executive Committee at the recent meeting of the Waterguard Sectional Committee, and agreeing that the case should be taken to arbitration, was accorded a unanimous vote. The meeting pledged its wholehearted support.

DOVER.

At a meeting of the Dover District at the United Services Club, Folkestone, recently, the Board's offer in reply to the salary claim was fully discussed, and a resolution supporting the Executive Committee in its action was unanimously agreed to. The meeting was of opinion that the contemplated increase in the number of supervisory posts was a definite admission of the executive responsibility and value of the Preventive Officer. Further, if the additional appointments were meant to connote transference of this responsibility to the unified grade of Chief Preventive Officer, the meeting instructed its Councillor to press for the abolition of the barrier between A.P.O. and P.O., and the substitution thereof of a service scale of pay and unarrested progress from initial salary of A.P.O. to the maximum of P.O., analogous to that obtaining in the Landing department.

The circulation of a suggestion calculated to appeal to the ambitions of a limited section of the membership of the P.S.A. was deprecated, and the step regarded as irregular and hostile.

GLASGOW.

A special meeting was held at Mavisbank on June 2nd, at which a large number of members, including members from the smaller ports, attended. Mr. James Denby occupied the Chair.

A lively discussion on the Salary Claim took place, and the proposals of the Official Side met with severe criticism. The members were of opinion that there was already too much supervision, and were at a loss to understand why there should be any desire to increase the number of supervisory posts. In a resolution the meeting unanimously decided that the claim of the Association for increased salary should be maintained.

The question of A.P.O.s at small ports was discussed, and a resolution was passed that A.P.O.s who have been transferred to a small port against their wishes, and who have spent at least five years at that particular port, be given the option of a transfer to a larger port at the Crown's expense, provided that they have not exhausted their chances of promotion.

Several matters of local interest were discussed.

CARDIFF.

A District meeting was held at the Old Arcade Hotel, Cardiff, on Friday, June 6th. Mr. G. O. Warne, P.O. (Penarth), presided.

The latest news on the Salary Claim was read and discussed at length. A resolution that the District regarded the Board's proposals as being quite irrelevant to the claim, and that the Executive should continue to pursue the claim with unabated vigour, was unanimously passed.

Several other matters of interest came before the meeting.

The question of accommodation at the East Dock, Cardiff, was again raised. The Chairman gave details of proposed alterations, and these were agreed upon.

ELECTION OF ADDITIONAL COUNCILLORS.

P.O. Grade.

With reference to notice of the above election given in the issue of the Journal No. 668 of May 31st, members are informed that the only nominations received were in favour of—

Mr. P. Spear, P.O., Manchester District,
and

Mr. A. Richardson, P.O., Dover District.

These two members have accordingly been declared elected.

J. T. SUTTON,

Organising Secretary.

URGENT.

A.P.O. Grade.

Nominations under the same rule of the Constitution (Rule 4, sub-para. 2(c)) for the two A.P.O. additional Councillors are now requested. It should be noted that only members of the A.P.O. grade stationed in Districts that have not direct representation as a result of previous elections are eligible for nomination. These Districts are as follows:—

Swansea, Bristol, Plymouth, Harwich,
Grimsby, Hartlepool, Aberdeen, and
Belfast.

Nominations should be signed by two members of the Association, and should be accompanied by a statement from the nominee of his willingness to stand for election. Any member of the Association, irrespective of the District in which he is stationed, is eligible to nominate. Nominations should be made in manuscript, and should be forwarded to the undersigned at **13, Beer Lane, London, E.C.3**, in sufficient time to be received on or before the **7th July**. This short notice is essential in order that in the event of a ballot being necessary, the forms may be circulated with the next issue of the Journal.

No other intimation, or nomination forms, in connection with this election will be sent out.

Successful candidates at these elections will be required to attend the Council meeting anticipated to be held early in August.

J. T. SUTTON,

Organising Secretary.

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.

REORGANISATION.

Sir,—I would like, through your columns, to express my appreciation at the prompt and decisive manner in which the Executive have dealt with the proposal made in reply to our salary claim. As a member of the Association who might "benefit" by such an increase in the number of C.P.O.s as was suggested, and who has had a fairly extensive experience in our branch of the C. & E., I would like to emphatically protest at the intention to increase the numbers of that grade, and I do not believe that the proposal receives the support of any officer, high or low, identified with the Waterguard.

The Editorial reference to this question in issue No. 668 of the Journal stating that less supervision can be justified is quite correct, but it is not difficult to deduce the motive behind the Board's proposal. Every organisation has had at some time or other to face what can be fittingly described as a selective concession. The teacher who gives a penny to the good boy of the class, and the old monitor system are early examples that one meets. There is also a further motive in this pernicious proposal than that. One can easily imagine the damage caused to the status of the grades by the useful or useless; necessary or unnecessary—; matters not—"policing" of the Waterguard. That, Mr. Editor, is the reason, and although one joins in the justifiable indignation, there are occasions when simple statements are more effective.

I have some years' experience as a P.O. in a large and busy port. The next time that I receive advice or assistance from any member of the supervisory grades will be the first time, and apart from those few who set out to make the "old man" do his "bit," this can be said of all my colleagues. For disciplinary and other purposes I suppose supervisors are necessary, but if their number is to be gauged on that account alone, reduction and not increase would result. If their existence is thought by any to automatically reduce my responsibility, then they have much to learn about the elementary facts of my job.

Whichever way one examines the suggested scheme, and attempts to visualise the organisation, one is forced to the conclusion that if the attempt is to reduce status, then it is a costly and ill-advised scheme. That it will be expensive is certain, and the expense will not only be in cash. The junior grades of the Waterguard are doing good work, and doing it well. They can do better work still, and whatever

may be the personal inclinations of responsible officials, they are purblind if they cannot see that the trend of circumstances in the C. & E. will force devolution of certain duties to those grades. It would be better to prepare them for that devolution, and within the cost of their own proposal much could be done on those lines. One can read within the last few lines of the proposal some "nibbling" at this solution, and we believe that the dependence upon the result of arbitration will, in the event of the grades securing increased remuneration, eventually end in a complete *volte face* on the part of the authorities. To increase the scope of the lower grades will at once be the policy.

It is perhaps as well for larger reasons than those that are primarily the objects of our Association, that it has the will and the means to seek arbitration, and as an ordinary member I pledge my maximum support.

Yours, etc.,

"P.O."

MUSINGS.

Sir,—In the face of recent happenings regarding the claim for an increase in salary for Waterguard grades, it may not be out of place to review the situation as it now appears, and compare it with the years of bygone times. In doing so let us drift back to the year 1897, because on account of the cessation of the Boarding duty at Gravesend a certain percentage of the staff became redundant, and not until the year 1900 were there any further appointments to the Waterguard.

Owing to the conditions prevailing at that period, officers banded themselves together and fought hard and long for redress and reform, together with an increase of pay, and so persistent was their claim that a Departmental enquiry was held.

Since that time we have progressed a long way, but owing to the altered conditions of service and the lengthy and intricate tariff, and the modern means of transport, etc., the duties of the Waterguard officer have increased enormously; but no monetary relief has come with it. In the face of this our claims and representations have been turned down.

Now, this may well give rise to a certain amount of disappointment and bitterness, but I think we can still keep a stiff upper lip and let our claims be presented to the Arbitration Court; and if I may suggest, that they can be based upon or under one of the following headings:—(1) Relativity, (2) Parity, or (3) Comparison; in either of the three mentioned a splendid and truthful case can be presented and amply supported by indisputable evidence. The very nature of our calling and the variety of our duties would be a surprise to many, and further, when it is considered that the Preventive Officer is practically alone for the greater

part of the twenty-four hours, and from Saturday noon until Monday is entirely so, it must surely dawn upon those who would hear our case that there is more than a modicum of truth in the claim and a still greater amount of justice.

Yours, etc.,
"POINT NINE SEVEN."

STAND FIRM.

Sir,—Where does the Waterguard stand in the order of things as labelled with the title "H.M. Customs and Excise"?

The Waterguard can be likened to a partly-discovered Continent occupied by black people, whose resources, whether human or natural, are duly exploited for the benefit of the white races. Our unknown Department, with natural shyness, has been struggling for years as the backbone of the revenue protection system of a great nation. Clever men and clever ideas have originated from our ranks. Intricate regulations have been administered with the same zest as the simple duties that we are only accredited to be able to perform. Our plumes have been borrowed oft and oft again by others who have been duly acclaimed superior and more highly educated, and naturally entitled to a high scale of remuneration. How long must this atmosphere be allowed to continually permeate our official careers as members of the Waterguard?

The time has come for the Department as a solid unit to stand firm behind the Association's present salary claim. The Association officials must be open in all their transactions, so that the rust of discontent is not allowed to eat away the morale of the members, and the members must allow no rumours to deter them in the great assistance that they can render the leaders at the present time in the knowledge that the staff is united.

The time is now opportune for the Hon. Board to officially recognise us as officers of Customs, increase our salary, improve our conditions generally, and discreetly erase the title of "policeman" under which certain classes of our official colleagues are always pleased to inform the public "that those members of the staff who wear uniform are not proper Customs Officers."

Stand firm, and here's to the ultimate success of the efforts of our leaders.

Yours, etc.,
"SANDY."

CHANGES IN THE STAFF TO JUNE 23rd, 1930.

TRANSFERS.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICERS, LOWER SECTION :—
Finley, W. H., Unattached, Office of I.G.W. to Holyhead, Chester.
Jeffery, W., Unattached, Office of I.G.W. to Fishguard, Swansea.
Jones, I., Fishguard, Swansea to Southampton.

PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

Barrett, J. A., Belfast to Southampton.
Collier, H., Middlesbrough, Sunderland to Goole, Hull.
Fleming, G., Newcastle to Middlesbrough, Sunderland.
Hurr, E. A., Goole, Hull to Immingham, Grimsby.
Lumsden, F., Silloth, Preston to Seaham, Sunderland.
Noble, J. S., Seaham, Sunderland to Belfast.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

Bailey, W. J., Grimsby to Immingham, Grimsby.
Burnett, W. R., Manchester to Eastham, Manchester.
D'Arcy, H., Leith to London.
Deane, P. J., Southampton to Weymouth, Southampton.
Ledson, F., Eastham, Manchester to Liverpool.
Lindsay, J., Leith to Cardiff.
Pinson, C. H., Weymouth to Poole, Southampton.
Ramsay, N. A., Cardiff to Gravesend, London.
Skinner, F. W., Glasgow to Southampton.
Stewart, J., Tayport, Dundee to Dundee.
Sweet, A. H., Cardiff to Southampton.

PROMOTIONS.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, LOWER SECTION, TO UPPER SECTION :—

Goddard, W. F. E., Holyhead, Chester to London.

PREVENTIVE OFFICER TO CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, LOWER SECTION (UNATTACHED) :—

Clifford, J. H., Great Yarmouth, Norwich to Office of I.G.W.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS TO PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

Coulson, W. C., Dundee to Connah's Quay, Chester.
Dedman, C., Southampton to Newcastle.
Gallagher, J. J., Liverpool to Silloth, Preston.
Mudd, S., Immingham, Grimsby to Hull.
Powell, W. H., London.

OFFICERS LEAVING THE SERVICE.

RETIREMENTS :—

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, UPPER SECTION :—
Briden, A., London.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICER, LOWER SECTION :—
Gillan, P., Inverness.

PREVENTIVE OFFICER :—
Hodgkinson, J., Immingham, Grimsby.

ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

Parker, F. D. R., London.
Rowe, J. H., Poole, Southampton.
Wyman, A. J., Folkestone, Dover.

ENGINEER MECHANIC :—

Robertson, J. G., Lerwick, Aberdeen.

DEATH—PREVENTIVE OFFICER :—

Meldrum, J. S., Blyth, Newcastle.

OTHER CAUSES :—

Silk, R. R., Assistant Preventive Officer, Gravesend, London (to Clerical Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries).

VACANCIES.

CHIEF PREVENTIVE OFFICERS :—

Upper Section, Bristol, 12.8.1930.
Lower Section, Gravesend, London, 5.8.1930.
Lower Section, West Hartlepool, Sunderland, 11.8.1930.

PREVENTIVE OFFICER,

Inningham, Grimsby, 1.8.1930.

OBITUARY OF SUPERANNUATED OFFICERS.

Baker, H. W., Chief Preventive Officer, Upper Section.
Barrow, J. R., Preventive Officer.
Coulson, W., Preventive Officer.
Graham, D., Preventive Officer.
Grimes, C. A., Preventive Officer, Lower Section.
Strange, A., Preventive Man.

Chatham	96	...	...	0	10	0
Thameshaven	92	...	...	0	10	0
Maryport	304	...	...	0	2	6
Blackwall & Woolwich	283/6	...	...	1	19	6
Mrs. B. T. White	305	...	...	0	5	0
Portmadoc	88	...	...	0	2	0
Hull & Goole	136/43	...	...	8	9	6
Hull	303	...	...	0	2	6
Torquay	106	...	...	0	5	0
Charlestown	110	...	...	0	2	6
Scilly Isles	109	...	...	0	3	6
Warrington	83	...	...	0	2	0
Burntisland	178	...	...	0	11	0
Falmouth	102	...	...	0	14	6
Truro	111	...	...	0	2	6
G. Marr, Esq.	306	...	...	0	7	6

Liverpool:—

Garston	1	...	...	0	12	0
Toxteth	2	...	...	1	6	6
Queen's	3	...	...	1	4	6
Stage	4	...	...	3	0	0
Stage	5	...	...	0	10	0
Princes	6	...	...	0	11	0
Nelson	7	...	...	0	8	0
Huskisson	8	...	...	1	15	0
Canada	9	...	...	1	6	0
Langton	10	...	...	1	2	0
Alexandra	11	...	...	1	17	6
Gladstone	12	...	...	1	0	0
Birthead	13	...	...	0	14	0
Woodside	14	...	...	0	13	6
Eastham	15	...	...	0	17	6
Preston	16	...	...	0	15	6
Preston	19	...	...	0	13	0
Ellesmere Port	21	...	...	0	4	0

Total to date 23/6/30 ... £169 14 6

Outstanding lists in connection with the appeal should in all cases be returned to the undersigned. All amounts received that have not been subscribed on the official lists have been acknowledged on lists numbered 301 and upwards.
J. T. SUTTON.

DENSLEY APPEAL.

		£	s.	d.	
Previously acknowledged	...	99	9	0	
Port, etc.	List No.				
Heysham	18	...	0	3	0
Portsmouth	66	...	0	16	0
Tyne	165	...	0	16	0
Tyne	166	...	0	7	0
Tyne	167	...	0	6	0
Cowes	64	...	0	6	0
Southampton	61/2 & 69	...	5	4	6
Penarth	26	...	0	10	0
I.O. Staff, Cardiff	27	...	0	10	6
Collection and Long Room					
Staff, Cardiff	28	...	2	13	6
A.P.O.s, Cardiff	29	...	2	12	6
W.S., C.P.O., & P.O.s,					
Cardiff	30	...	4	16	6
Watchers, Cardiff	31	...	0	8	0
Surveyor & Officers, 2nd & 5th Station, Cardiff	32	...	2	0	0
Excise Surveyor, Officers, and W.P.O.s, Cardiff	33	...	2	0	0
Balance of Cardiff and Penarth Subscription	37	...	1	12	0
Bristol	58	...	1	8	0
Newport (additional)	254	...	0	12	6
Plymouth	101	...	2	10	0
Penzance	103	...	0	7	6
Fowey	103	...	0	7	6
Dartmouth	103	...	0	8	6
Exmouth	105	...	0	10	0
Salcombe	107	...	0	2	0
Par.	107	...	0	2	0
Teignmouth	108	...	0	2	0
Gravesend & Tilbury	91 & 93/4	...	5	3	0
Sheerness	95	...	0	11	0

Prosecution at Stockton-on-Tees.

Alleged to be a notorious smuggler, the cook of the Belgian vessel "Adolph Urban" was ordered to pay, in addition to costs, £35/9/6 (or three months in default) at Stockton recently, a sum representing T.V.D. on twelve bottles of rum and twelve bottles of brandy.

Mr. J. Thomas, the District C.P.O., explained to the Bench the mode of concealment of the spirits, and said that considerable difficulty was experienced before the ownership of the goods could be established. In asking that the maximum penalty should be imposed in view of three previous convictions, Mr. Thomas stated that the single duty amounted to £9/19/-.

The goods were found concealed in the bilges underneath the after hold by Mr. R. Nelson (A.P.O.), who was attached to the rummage crew in charge of Mr. A. Forbes (P.O.), of the Middlesbrough staff.

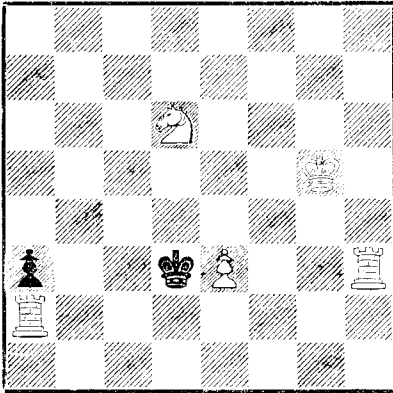
SPORT AND SOCIAL.

Customs Preventive Staff Chess Club

FIRST PRIZE PROBLEM, NO. 56.

By H. D'O. Bernard.

Black.



White.

White to mate in three.

* * * *

Solution to No. 55.

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1. Q--Q8+ | 1. Q--Kt1 |
| 2. P--Kt7+ | 2. KxP |
| 3. Q--B6. | |

* * * *

INTER-PORT CONTEST.

Mr. Dudley beat Mr. Bishop.

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CHESS LAWS (Continued).

Illegal Moves.

24. Should the player make an illegal move, and the opponent call attention to it before making a move in reply, such illegal move must be retracted, and

(a) If no capture has been made, the player must, if possible, make a legal move with the man illegally moved; but if no such move can be made, no penalty may be exacted.

(b) If the illegal move be a sealed move (see Law 33), the opponent shall have the option of compelling the player to move the King instead. If neither of these penalties is possible, the opponent must nominate the piece to be moved.

(c) If a capture has been made, the player must either make the capture by means of a legal move, or make a legal move with the man by which the illegal capture has been made, at the option of the opponent. If no such legal moves be possible, no penalty may be exacted.

(d) If the illegal capture be a sealed move (see Law 33), the opponent shall have the option of compelling the player to move his King instead. If none of these penalties are possible, the opponent must nominate the piece to be moved.

25. If during the progress of a game it be found that an illegal move has been made in the game and not retracted under Law 24, the position which existed at the time of such illegal move was made must be restored, and the game proceeded with from that point. If this position cannot be ascertained, the game must be annulled.

Penalties:—

26. When the opponent is entitled to exact a penalty, he must do so before touching a man.

27. When a move is made in discharge of a penalty, this move must not be castling.

28. If a move which the opponent requires to be made by way of penalty be illegal, the requirement must be disregarded and the opponent forfeits his right to exact a penalty for the original offence.

29. Before a penalty is discharged, the position which existed prior to the commission of the offence must be restored.

Presentation to Mr. J. H. Clifford.

Mr. J. H. Clifford, who has received promotion to the rank of C.P.O., is leaving Yarmouth, where for ten years he has served as Preventive Officer. To mark his impending departure, members of the Department met at the Custom House at Yarmouth one day last week to present him with a tangible expression of their regard. Four members of the Lowestoft staff were included among those present. The presentation took the form of a combined barometer and thermometer mounted in oak.

Mr. J. Digidan (C.P.O.) presided, and spoke with enthusiasm of Mr. Clifford's qualities. He felt assured that he had thoroughly earned and deserved his promotion. Other colleagues also added their warm tributes, after which the presentation was made by Mr. G. E. Morgan, the Collector at Yarmouth.

Mr. Clifford, in accepting the gift, said that he would treasure it as reminding him of the warmheartedness of his friends at Yarmouth and Lowestoft.