

# The Customs Journal

No. 660

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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.*

## RELATIVITY.

THE reference in Current Comments of our last issue to the evidence given by Sir John Anderson, the Permanent Secretary to the Home Office, before the Royal Commission was doubtless interesting to the members of the Preventive Staff. Whilst we are concerned with the confused idea of a "Customs Officer" that Sir John gave to the Commission it is the comparison of the respective salaries of the Preventive and Immigration Staffs that concerns us mostly at the moment.

Upon this particular question, other evidence that has been given by the witnesses at the Commission makes very interesting reading. The principal Treasury witness, Sir Russell Scott, when specifically questioned by the Chairman as to Government policy in regard to the fixing of remuneration, stated among other things that "It has been held to be essential that the remuneration . . . shall be adequate to ensure the recruitment to the Civil Service of a fully qualified staff and the maintenance of an efficient and healthy Public Service. It has followed from this principle that the rates of remuneration . . . must be such as to compare well with the rates of remuneration . . . normally available outside the Public Service in competing occupations." In explanation of the part that the Industrial Court takes in matters of Civil Service remuneration, Sir Russell referred the Commission to that portion of the Court's judgment upon the Post Office case of 1927, wherein it is stated that "in their consideration of the claims and counter-claims put forward, they had taken the

view that the broad principle which should be followed in determining the rates of wages of Post Office servants is that of the maintenance of a fair relativity . . . as between the various classes within the Postal Service with due regard to the adequacy of the payment for the work done and the responsibilities undertaken." In short, comparisons are not odious when it is a matter of Civil Service remuneration that is under review. Let us, therefore, consider one comparison that every member of the Preventive Service is making at the moment.

Prior to the war, Immigration work was one of the many duties that in order to avoid overlapping was performed by Waterguard officers of the Customs and Excise. When it was considered necessary to organise a separate staff for this work under the Home Office, the foundation of the staff was Customs Preventive experience, and if we may revert to Sir John Anderson's evidence upon this point, we would be glad to know the Customs Officers referred to in Minute 2412 of his evidence, who were not previously Preventive Officers or Preventive Men of the C. and E. Department. Upon this portion of his evidence, we would respectfully ask him to "think" again. We maintain that the only Customs Officers so transferred were Preventive Officers and Preventive Men. We believe that these officers are still on the Immigration Staff, and we are pleased to note that three of them are now Chief Immigration Officers, whilst another is an Inspector.

## CURRENT COMMENTS.

WHEN an ordinarily intelligent person suffers from a chronic and hopelessly unreasoning attitude of mind on some particular subject, he is, in these days, said to have a "complex." There are very few people who are without a complex of some description, but in most cases it is not a very serious complaint, though it must, of course, reduce in some degree, personal efficiency. When the complex happens to be of a harmful nature to the individual concerned, and becomes an overwhelming obsession to the detriment of his health, it is a case for treatment by modern medical science. Specialists in mental disorders have of recent years been very successful in curing this kind of thing. The method adopted is to find the hidden original cause of the trouble, and to do this the patient's reactions to certain chosen suggestions are carefully studied. One simple device is to place before the sufferer a selected list of words, and he is required to write opposite to each word the corresponding idea that immediately springs to his mind. The completed list is then analysed to discover inconsistencies; and the medical man thus gets down to the right line of inquiry, and eventually cures the patient by helping him to trace the history of his complaint.

It would not be a bad thing if everybody could be treated for complexes, on similar lines. There would be a gain in efficiency all round, and the world would be a much happier place.

Take our own Customs and Excise Department, for instance; it would be most interesting to see the various reactions to the word "Whitley." A psychologist would have a rather busy time ferretting out the origin of the corresponding ideas, but it would be well worth the trouble. He would have an amusing experience and would add greatly to his store of human knowledge.

The non-member's corresponding idea to the word "Association" would probably be a tremblingly written "Subs." His case would be a simple one to diagnose; but a cure would be too much to expect, even of modern science.

One could select numerous words having the possibility of interesting reactions in connection with our every-day work, but the word "Waterguard" would undoubtedly top the list. There are so many people who *think* they know what the term stands for. Obsession in this case too often paralyses the capacity for clear and reasoned thinking. The probable reactions, judging from what one hears, would be "boating," "bazouking," "overtime," and, of course "rummage." How often do we hear the man who proudly boasts that he "understands the Waterguard" because he served six weeks there in '98. Then we have the indoor man to whom "Waterguard" conjures up visions of men digging coal in the bowels of a ship. He knows that rummage is a Waterguard duty and

is obsessed with this idea. Again, we have actually within our own camp people who are so bowed down with the "plugs of hard" complex that they forget their true function of safeguarding the revenue.

There is, however, plenty of evidence for the clear-minded individual that the work of the Preventive Staff is of exceptionally high standard, both in value and in responsibility; that the duties are numerous and intricate, and could not be learned in six weeks, and hardly in six years; that coal digging is *not* by any means the main characteristic of rummage work; that rummage work has become in these days almost incidental to the very effective preventive service rendered by the Staff.

The Preventive Officer to-day carries a responsibility, and possesses a fund of Departmental knowledge, which make him, at his present rate of pay, the best bargain the Crown ever had.

Fortunately, we are approaching an era when the "Waterguard" obsession will have lost its power, but there are still some people, even within our own ranks, who would benefit by a course of treatment for complexes.

\* \* \* \*

"Kew" in his letter to the previous issue of the Journal asserts that in these columns he was treated to "veiled satire." He can rest assured that if the writer of these comments judges satire to be the right treatment, it would never be "veiled." As a matter of fact, there was nothing satirical about the remarks made on the occasion referred to by "Kew." Readers can verify this by looking up the paragraph in question. The remarks were clear and straightforward, and they still stand.

The new point raised by "Kew," promotion to C.P.O., is however, rather tempting. One might be forgiven for indulging in something more pungent than a plain argument on patent facts.

The new method of promotion to the C.P.O. Grade has been thoroughly thrashed out in every District of the Association throughout the kingdom. It was *unanimously* agreed that the old system was positively bad; and the new system was accepted by an overwhelming majority. Every stage of the proceedings, with full details, was made known to the whole membership. The particular point raised by "Kew" regarding the advantage given to the man who can put his ideas on paper has been discussed *ad nauseum*, and the membership has decided.

It can be taken for granted that, henceforth, the Waterguard has no place for supervising officers, no matter how practical, who cannot effectively describe their own work in writing. On the other hand, "Kew" is assured that the man who thinks

he is smart on paper will eventually be very wise and very sad if he imagines that smartness will get him over the difficulty of lack of practical knowledge.

The Board are as much concerned as the Staff that we get supervisory officers who can effectually combine both qualifications, and "Kew" would be well advised to accept the position already accepted by the majority of his colleagues, and get down to it. At the next examination for C.P.O.ships the really practical man will score.

\* \* \* \*

Members are informed that Official proposals for the new method of recruitment to the Immigration Service have now been placed before the Home Office Whitley Council Staff Side. The intention is to recruit from the Home Office Clerical Staff on a salary scale of £60 to £250. There is no mention of age limitations.

The P.S.A. communicated with the Home Office asking that a deputation be received from the Association for the purpose of putting forward the Preventive Staff claim that officers from this department are specially suitable for Immigration duties. The request was refused by the Home Office, and the Association has now placed the matter before the National Whitley Council Staff Side. Further developments will be reported in due course.

In the evidence given before the Royal Commission, it was stated that there was difficulty in finding suitable recruits. The Waterguard has already provided recruits who have more than proved their worth as Immigration Officers, and therefore it is curious that this source should be deliberately overlooked and that Clerical Officers, who must necessarily be out of their element on outdoor duties, are specially chosen.

\* \* \* \*

It is interesting to note that that Dover-Calais Air Service for passengers, which has now been in operation for nearly a year, is for Customs purposes, entirely controlled by the Waterguard. The Preventive Officer receives the report on arrival and carries out all the business up to and including outward clearance. This is because these planes are afloat all the time when in port, and their stay is frequently too short to allow of compliance with the usual Customs formalities. It is in these circumstances that the value of the Waterguard Officers' versatility comes to light. His sound knowledge of the whole range of Customs Regulations and Procedure makes it possible for the Customs Department gradually to adjust itself to the rapidly changing conditions of transport and travel.

The Preventive Officer is always ready and equipped to step into the breach, and it is certain that with the trend of events to-day, he will soon be finding plenty of scope to show his paces.

These cross-channel planes are amphibians and it is, therefore, not unlikely that eventually the

extension of the Service to shore landing places will result in some specialist in Breweries or Old Age Pensions finding himself struggling with strange problems.

\* \* \* \*

Very shortly the Organising Secretary will be sending out the usual notices in connection with elections to the Council. It is to be hoped that members will regard this election as more important than usual, and will take a serious view of their responsibilities as electors. The Council this year is likely to have a heavy task in dealing with the Salary Claim development, and it is essential to success that every member does his best to secure the election of the men who understand the job, and who will throw their best energies into the fight. There is only one main issue. Stunt specialists only work against our best interests at a time like this.

\* \* \* \*

It is now definitely decided that the hopes that were entertained for a February meeting of the Waterguard Sectional Committee cannot be realised, and therefore we must remain patient a little longer before the discussions on the Salary Claim can be renewed. There is some consolation in the fact that when they are renewed we will have before us definite proposals from the Board, and that the time taken to consider these proposals indicates that there will be nothing sketchy about them. It is quite impossible to forecast anything, but one cannot help thinking that the delay is a good rather than a bad omen. It is a fact that proposals are being framed at the moment.

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## CHANGES IN THE STAFF.

To January 27th, 1930.

### APPOINTMENTS.

#### ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

Hals, E. T.  
Hall, T.  
Smith, W. E.

### TRANSFERS.

#### ASSISTANT PREVENTIVE OFFICERS:—

Francis, H. J. S., Harwich, Ipswich to Lowestoft, Norwich.  
Groat, B. A., Leith to Methil, Dundee.  
Grosart, W. E., Fleetwood, Preston to Liverpool.  
Watson, E. W., Methil, Dundee to Middlesbrough, Sunderland.  
Winter, R. W., Liverpool to Fleetwood, Preston.

#### OFFICER LEAVING THE SERVICE

RETIREMENT—PREVENTIVE OFFICER:—  
Walker, J. N., Maryport, Preston.

## “There’s Many a Slip.”

By C. SIMISON.

The dock looked grim and dismal;  
 The ships loomed gaunt and grey;  
 The rain came down in torrents,  
 As though 'twould rain for aye.  
 But still, despite the weather,  
 The rummage crew was out;  
 For though the night was cold and wet,  
 Crown work they could not flout.  
 They strode along the quayside,  
 Four men in suits of blue;  
 Their faces bright and cheerful,  
 Their speech was cheerful too.  
 They talked of their adventures  
 In ports where they had been;  
 Of “P’lice Court ‘jobs’” they shared in,  
 And different things they’d seen.  
 They reached their destination  
 (Near by the old pier head);  
 And lying in the river saw  
 A ship with funnel red.  
 So here, then, was their quarry,  
 This huge grey-painted hull;  
 H.B. from Darkest Africa,  
 Of living cargo full.  
 She soon was on the knuckle,  
 But ere they fixed her fight,  
 The rummage crew decided they  
 Would hide themselves from sight.  
 Their action proved a good one;  
 They’d hid in time to see  
 A Jacob’s ladder lowered down  
 Until it reached the quay.  
 A tall dark man came down it,  
 A great-coat on his arm;  
 He looked around him carefully,  
 And then walked off quite calm.  
 Now as you know, the day was wet,  
 And on such days ‘tis found  
 The av’rage man puts on his coat;  
 It saves—well—carrying round.  
 And so as this dark gentleman  
 Walked smartly from the scene,  
 Four blue-clad men slipped after him;  
 Four men with senses keen.  
 “Excuse me, sir,” said one of them,  
 “I’d just like you to say  
 What’s your position on your ship  
 That’s just arrived to-day.”  
 “I am the Bo’s’n, Officers,  
 But as my wife is ill,  
 I’m rushing off to catch a train,  
 And I’ve no time to kill.”  
 “But then,” replied the Officer,  
 “Please tell me, friend of mine,  
 Have you upon your person any  
 Cigarettes or wine?  
 “Tobacco, spirits or liqueurs,  
 Cigars or silk or lace?”  
 “No, sir—I have none, but, oh please,  
 For my train let me race.”

“We won’t keep you one moment, sir,  
 But if you’ve no objection,  
 We’d like to search your person ere  
 You seek your destination.”  
 “I don’t object, if that’s your wish,  
 I know you have authority;  
 Just go ahead, but please be quick,  
 Of patience I’ve no quantity.”  
 They rubbed him up, they rubbed him  
 down,  
 They rubbed him round and round;  
 They searched him right from hat to  
 shoes,  
 But not a thing they found.  
 They searched the coat upon his arm,  
 But that was quite all right;  
 And so they gave up in disgust,  
 And told him to go he might.  
 He moved away, but paused awhile  
 Along the flooded pier;  
 “It’s very wet,” he shouted back,  
 “The weather’s awful here.  
 “And I’ve no coat, as this one here  
 Is much too small, you see;  
 I lost mine overboard last week,  
 And this was given to me.  
 “It first belonged to the second cook,  
 But he was much too fat;  
 And now it’s mine, and it will soon  
 Be cut up for a mat.”  
 “Well, what a sell,” the P.O. said  
 (Or words to that effect!!).  
 “Let’s get on board, for there we have  
 Some luggage to inspect.”

## Southampton Smoking Concert.

At a “smoker” at the Alexandra Hotel, Southampton, on January 23rd, farewells were said to Mr. P. Keefe (C.P.O.), Mr. G. Robinson (P.O.), and Mr. W. Woods (Eng.). The opportunity was also taken to congratulate Mr. S. W. Dutton (P.O.), on his recent marriage and to wish him happiness.

When Mr. J. P. Hausey, M.B.E. (W.S.), made presentations to the guests on behalf of the staff, the very real enthusiasm displayed was sufficient proof of the sincerity of the speeches of Messrs. Purdye, White, Rodda, Knight, Emery, Pryer, Jones and Vine.

Mr. Keefe, who has recently been appointed Assistant Inspector, appropriately expressed his keen appreciation of this warm tribute, as did Mr. Dutton and Mr. Woods. Mr. Robinson had already taken up his appointment in Portsmouth and was unable to attend. The gathering sent their best wishes.

A programme consisting of selections by the band, vocal items by Messrs. Williams, Stanford, Bacon, Emery and Cottell, and banjo solos and duets by Messrs. Knight and Bradbury, was thoroughly enjoyed.

## 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.*

### UNIFORM.

Sir,—It has been mooted from time to time that the A.P.O.s should have some mark of distinction on their otherwise drab uniforms. This is a question that should be seriously considered by the Executive.

Let me ask the following questions:—

1. Are the A.P.O.s satisfied with their present uniforms?

2. Can the A.P.O. when in uniform be mistaken for an apprentice of the Merchant Service, a railway porter, a bus or car driver, or an assistant steward?

3. Does the A.P.O., generally speaking, command much respect from ships' officers and crews and from dock officials?

These are questions to which the answers are obvious, and something must be done to increase the dignity and respect which should be shown to the officers concerned.

My suggestion is that the A.P.O.s wear one gold band, as at present worn by the P.O. grade; the P.O.'s two gold bands, and the C.P.O.'s three gold bands.

I trust this question will be taken up and discussed at District meeting.—Yours, etc.,

"NAVY."

### SMUGGLING.

Sir,—I read in your last issue still another account of uncustomed goods having been found under the supervision of a Preventive Officer. It is strange how smugglers still continue to resort to this method of concealment.

The account did not state (it never does) how the Preventive Officer was dealt with. Was he charged with being jointly concerned? And if not, why not?

A friend of mine, who thinks he knows quite a lot concerning the Preventive Service, wants me to believe that what the reporter intends to convey is that the Preventive Officer superintended the search of the ship. But as I pointed out, and I think, sir, you will agree with me, such cannot be true, because no other place of concealment is mentioned. As everyone knows, it is the method of concealment that forms the most interesting part of such reports, and is never omitted from any properly written account.

Perhaps some of your readers will be good enough to enlighten me on the subject.—Yours, etc.,

"BUZZ."

### THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Editor,

Sir,—I have just read the evidence given by Sir Francis Floud before the Royal Commission, and I must say that I am left with the impression that the Waterguard did not receive its fair proportion of treatment. Waterguard duties were made to appear simple in the few fleeting glimpses which the members of the Commission were able to obtain of them. These duties were so barely touched upon, that the members of the Commission were given nothing to question, but were presented with a picture of "the simple duties of an unimportant branch."

This last phrase sums up the impression conjured by the four things which stand out in one's memory after reading the statement, i.e., "Crews," "Simple Examination of Goods," "Bricks," and "Simple Subjects in Entrance Examination."

It is difficult to understand why the statement prepared by the Board was made so short. The very meagreness of it has done the Clerical Grade and the Waterguard more harm than good. The Clerical Grades have had their values extolled by other departmental chiefs, but when the Board get one of those rare opportunities of helping the Waterguard, they present something flat and insipid—something belittling. To have occasionally supplemented "skilled" for the word "simple" would not have altered the truth touching the Waterguard, but it certainly would have conveyed a more deserved impression to the Commission.

Perhaps, after all, the scanty treatment of the Waterguard was due to a desire to preserve Sir Francis from awkward questions upon a branch of the department with which he has, in fairness, never had time thoroughly to acquaint himself, and there is evidence that haziness on this branch does exist in certain high quarters—or was it due to a momentary slip back into the old habit of relegating the Waterguard to the background? The evidence given to the Commission and the recent praise to the Waterguard given at a dinner do not compare.

Whatever the reasons are, it is now clear that the Staff must take a hand in effacing any wrong impression the Royal Commission may have received, and it is to be hoped that the Association, as I feel sure it will, will start moving in that direction.

Yours, etc.,

ALPHA.

### CUSTOMS PREVENTIVE SERVICE.

Sir,—Referring to the letter of "One of the Pioneers," I welcome the opportunity of endorsing his remarks relative to a more comprehensive designation.

One need not look far for the correct title. The Chairman of the Board, at the recent C. and P. dinner, referred to our department as the finest "Preventive Service, etc., etc."

I had occasion recently to ring up a ship's agent relative to a document I required, and in giving him the address to which to send it, added "Customs Waterguard." "But are you not a department of

the Custom House?" he enquired. I informed him we were such a department, he apologised and forwarded the necessary document, which, by the way it was addressed, explained to me why he was puzzled, "J. ———, Capt., Water Guards."

It is obvious that as our officers are known as Preventive Officers, we should be known as the "Customs Preventive Department," or "Preventive Service."

Yours, etc.,  
"SEA."

The following is reprinted from "The Morning Post," of January 28th, 1930:—

**Tests for Customs Officials.  
VARIED KNOWLEDGE.**

(By Our Special Correspondent).

The publication by the Civil Service of the question papers of a recent examination for aspiring Assistant Preventive Officers indicates that they are expected to have an intimate knowledge of numerous subjects which would appear to have little bearing upon their future career.

One of the questions in the English paper called for an account of an imaginary fête which included an egg and spoon race, tight-rope walking by Professor Pirelli, and a Punch and Judy show.

General knowledge deemed indispensable to the candidate included a description of the duties of an umpire or referee, the translation of a talking film, and notes on Messrs. C. B. Cochran, George Robey, Bernard Shaw, Winston Churchill, and J. H. Thomas.

The aspirant was also asked to give his views on compulsory school attendance up to the age of fifteen, and then came the bombshell: "What are 'safeguarding' duties on imports? What is to be said either for them or against them?"

One hour was the time allowed for the completion of the paper, the answer to this last question has occupied several thoughtful men rather longer than that.

**Nursery Rhymes.**

Adjusted by "Gen."

No. 3.

Humpty Dumpty at Dover did land,  
His bags well lined with contraband.  
'Twas not the King's horses,  
But 'twas the King's men  
That made Humpty pay and sigh  
"Never again."

**Tobacco Concealed in Boiler.**

At the prosecution in Hull, on January 16th, of an Austrian fireman belonging to the steamer Rijnstroom, from Amsterdam, the defendant said that he bought some tobacco from another sailor in Amsterdam, and that he intended taking it back to that port.

Mr. W. Outram (A.P.O.) stated in evidence that he found the tobacco (3½ lb.) inside the donkey boiler, among old firebars.

Prisoner was ordered to pay treble value and duty, amounting to £6 3s. 9d., or to undergo 36 days' imprisonment in default.

**Presentations at Cardiff.**

A "bumper" attendance is recorded at a quadruple presentation at the Old Arcade Hotel, Cardiff, on January 27th, when officers of four different ranks were the guests of the evening. Some anxiety was experienced by the promoters when there appeared to be considerable danger of overcrowding. However, all went well, and it did not become necessary to turn away late comers.

The occasion marked the retirement from the Service of Mr. G. Marr (Waterguard Superintendent), Mr. L. Lewis (P.O.), and Mr. W. Holly (Wr.), and the departure of Mr. S. Bray (A.P.O.) on transfer to Port Talbot.

The Chair was occupied by Mr. W. P. Shearman (Assistant Inspector), who was ably supported by Mr. B. Churchill-Lemon (Collector), who made the presentations, and Mr. J. Juniper (Assistant Collector). There were also present four C.P.O.s, Messrs. H. Howell (Cardiff), A. Barrett (Newport), E. J. Rich (Bristol), and F. Cornish (Barry), Mr. B. Rees-Jones, Chief Immigration Officer of Cardiff, and a number of officers from the Cardiff Long Room. The visiting C.P.O.s were well supported by members of their own staffs, and Mr. Rees-Jones was accompanied by Messrs. G. H. Olsen and F. Wilson.

The concert programme was of choice variety, and each artiste appeared to be at his best. Judging by the ovation given them, their performance was fully enjoyed by all. Mr. E. Harding gave piano solos and accompanied. Songs were rendered by Messrs. G. Warne, A. W. P. Densley, G. T. Bugler, W. F. Wilson, and S. J. Baker. Messrs. W. F. Wilson and A. F. Macbeth were appreciated as violinists, while Messrs. G. E. N. Griffiths and B. Rees-Jones were excellent entertainers.

The presentations were made between various items in the programme, accompanied by a number of happy speeches. Mr. Holly received an oak dining-room clock, and Mr. Bray a leather suitcase. Mr. Bray has done very well in the cricket club, and will be missed by the team during the coming summer. Mr. Lewis, in replying after his presentation of a mahogany smoker's cabinet, emphasised the fact that this was only an official good-bye. He was remaining in Cardiff, and hoped this would not be their last meeting.

All the grades represented joined in wishing Mr. Marr good health, happiness and long life in his retirement. Mr. Marr assured them all that each tick of the beautiful oak Grandmother clock would remind him of the good will and wishes extended to him by the subscribers.

Thanks and appreciation are due to Mr. G. O. Warne and Mr. H. Howell, who, assisted by the local Secretaries, arranged such a successful evening.

Following a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the evening was brought to a close with Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

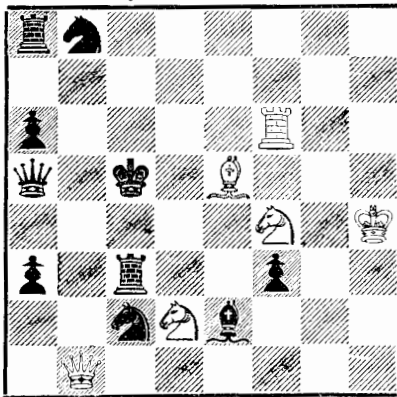
## SPORT AND SOCIAL.

### Customs Waterguard Chess Club.

I'll seek a four leav'd Shamrock in all the Fairy  
dells,  
And if I find the charm'd leaves, oh, how I'll  
weave my spells;  
To worth I would give Honour, I'd dry the  
mourner's tears,  
And to the pallid lip recall the smile of happier  
years.

#### PROBLEM No. 47.

By J. D. Williams.



White mate in two.

The above problem was awarded the first prize in the Four Leaved Shamrock Tournament.

#### Solution to Problem No. 46.

1. ———
1. B—Kt4 ch.
2. Q—Q3
2. Q×Q

(Correction.—In Problem No. 46 the King at the bottom of the diagram should have been White).

#### CIVIL SERVICE v. SURREY.

This match takes place next Saturday, February 15th. Those wishing to witness the match should see last issue. The match is being played at the Ministry of Health.

#### B.C.F. LAWS OF CHESS.

9. No man must be moved to a square occupied by a man of its own colour, and no man (except a knight) may be moved over a square occupied by a man of its own colour.

#### Capturing.

10. If a man be moved to a square occupied by a man of the opposite colour, the last man is said to have been captured, and must be removed from the board by the Player.

#### Taking in Passing.

11. Should the Player legally move a pawn two squares, it may be captured, ON THE NEXT MOVE ONLY, by any adverse pawn which would have been able to capture it if it had been moved only one square. If it be so captured, the capture shall be deemed to have been made on the square passed over. Only a pawn may capture a pawn in this way, and such a move is termed "taking in passing."

(To be continued.)

### Gallant Action at Harwich.

The Royal Humane Society's Vellum was presented to Mr. Frederick Day (Customs Watcher) at Parkestone Quay on January 20th by the Mayor of Harwich (Mr. T. H. Bernard).

Mr. C. F. Lines (Collector, Ipswich) presided, and others included the Deputy Mayor (Alderman E. Saunders), Mrs. Hill (ex-Mayoress), Miss Lines, Mr. C. H. Slade (C.P.O.), Mr. C. D. Young (Surveyor), and Capt. Davies (Marine Superintendent).

Mr. Day, whilst on duty at Harwich in September last, heard cries for help, and, after running fifty yards, plunged into the sea, and, with the assistance of Sergt. Carroll, of the Marines, rescued a Harwich nine-year-old boy named Meckiff. It was a particularly plucky rescue.

Mr. Lines described it as a distinguished act of gallantry.

Mr. C. H. Slade said Mr. Day fully deserved the honour done him, because the Humane Society required a vast amount of information. The case must abundantly warrant it before it was awarded. Mrs. Hill, the ex-Mayoress of Harwich, had very kindly interested herself in the matter, and she had since been instrumental in having fixed on the Harwich front a life-buoy with rope attached.

The Mayor said it would give them pleasure to know that Sergt. Carroll had also been awarded the vellum.

Mr. Day said the best reward he had was when he went next morning and saw the boy and received the mother's appreciation of the assistance he had been able to render. There might have been another side to the question—he might have been "straffed" for leaving his post of duty. (Laughter).

### To the Glasgow Members.

Mr. J. Matheson Johnson, C.A. Secretary and Treasurer of the Glasgow Western Infirmary, gratefully acknowledges the receipt of subscriptions (£2 5s. 0d.) from the members of the C. & E. Preventive Staff Association, Glasgow District, and begs to thank the subscribers in the name of the Managers.

Any subscriber who desires admission or treatment can have full particulars from the District Organiser, Mr. J. Denby, Ardrossan.