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Organ of the Bookhams Social Service Bureau

No. 34

MARCH 1942

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Editorial

Three Christmases of war have not produced any material change in the matter of the usual distribution of parcels, coal and money which have been provided over a period of years by a combination of local charities & organisations, and this opportunity is taken to thank all concerned. Furthermore it is hoped that this little extra has been the means of turning what might of been despondency into a little happiness.

A suggestion has been made that some humour should be introduced into our columns. Such an idea is welcomed and contributions from our readers are invited. This does not mean that the material for the *Bulletin* is running dry—on the contrary, there is so much available that the editor finds it difficult to select that which is the most beneficial and informative for its readers. Again it must be emphasised that the issue of the *Bulletin* during the war is entirely dependent firstly upon the paper supply, and secondly upon the continued support of local traders by their advertising.

In this issue reference is made to the local Domestic Poultry Keepers' Club. The council for this organisation was appointed in 1939 by the Minister of Agriculture, having twelve regional and sub-area organisers to help and advise poultry keepers all over the country; and although so much publicity has been given to the "Dig for Victory" campaign, very little has been given to the other aspects of food production.

Whilst on the subject of agriculture, a regulation allows aliens to be enrolled in the Women's Land Army providing that consent is obtained from the Ministry of Labour with which they are registered.

Since supplies of certain commodities have been cut off from overseas sources, it is now more than ever necessary to save paper, bones, scrap metal and rubber. Get in touch with the Salvage Officer, Council Offices, Leatherhead, for any information.

All Europe is now divided into three parts—occupied, unoccupied and preoccupied.

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Citizens Advice Bureau Leatherhead & District

It is now fully recognised by the general public throughout the Leatherhead Urban area that the Citizens Advice Bureau is an asset of intrinsic value, and whilst the government requests Bureaux all over the country to undertake more and more work, there is no official recognition or remuneration.

Among other matters dealt with by the Bureau is that concerning lost clothing cards, and a full survey was given in the last issue of the *Bulletin*. Owing to changed circumstances in the war situation and the needs of certain classes of persons, Board of Trade regulations are introduced week by week.

Concerning 'margarine coupons' in exchange for certain types of clothing, these became invalid on 31st December last, and further application regarding lost clothing cards can only be replaced by the completion of a Board of Trade form having a 1/- stamp affixed, to be signed over the stamp in the presence of a Justice of the Peace.

It appears to be certain that after the end of the present clothes rationing period there is likelihood of a 15 per cent. reduction in the number of coupons, and as the Bureau is always furnished with advance information, further details will be available at the Bureau, through the Press and the *Bulletin*.

One important branch of the Bureau's work is that concerning the Old Persons Welfare, and help and advice is given regarding the application for old age pensions, supplementary allowances, medical and surgical treatment, provision of a nurse, filling in applications, and many other matters connected with pensions.

The Bureau is the intermediary between the enquirer and the appropriate bodies concerned, and with constant communication and co-operation the Bureau has attained a very high degree of successful results.

Whatever your problem, be it Dependant & Families Allowances, Clothes Rationing, Missing Relatives, Old Age, Widows and Orphans Pensions, War Pensions, Personal Injuries Allowances, Prisoners of War, and a host of other matters, bring it along to the Citizens Advice Bureau, now at **25 High Street, Leatherhead** Phone Leatherhead 3291. Hours Monday to Friday 10--4.30, Saturdays 10--12.30. If your matter is urgent and you cannot attend during the hours mentioned, an appointment can be arranged.

It is now an offence to dispatch food parcels from this country, but the sending of food to British prisoners of war will continue only through the British Red Cross Society.

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Matters of the Moment

Red Cross Postal Messages can now be sent to Sweden, and anyone wishing to avail themselves of this service can do so through the Red Cross Postal Message Bureau 25 High Street, Leatherhead. All messages in Swedish must be accompanied by an English translation.

Enquiries concerning relations and friends in the Far East can be accepted by the Citizens Advice Bureau which is in touch with the Foreign Office & Colonial Office, but it must be understood that some delay will ensue owing to present day conditions.

Although the Postmaster General announced last September that in order to speed up communications with the forces in the Middle East East Africa, Malta, H.M. ships in the Eastern Mediterranean, a new airmail postcard service had been introduced, in view of the number of enquiries this announcement is repeated. The cost of this service is 3d. and airmail postcards can be obtained from any Post Office.

Since the introduction of the National Service Bill No. 2, women are being registered for employment upon vital war work, and whilst very many will not be affected owing to children being the first consideration, this does not wholly relieve them from their

obligations. In many parts of the country provision has been made for day nurseries, and whilst no provision has been made in the Leatherhead Urban area, this can only be achieved by informing the local authority. Inform them that you wish to undertake some form of war work and ask them to provide day nursery facilities for your children.

War Service Grants

Application for a War Service Grant should be made on Form W.S.G. 21 (M.S.A.C.21), which should be completed by the service man or his dependant.

Incomplete information requested upon the form is apt to cause delay, and such information is treated with confidence. When this form is filled up it may be taken to the Citizens Advice Bureau who will forward it to the Assistance Board without delay.

A personal call will be made at the applicant's home address by an officer of the Board who will help to answer any further questions if necessary.

Officers' wives and dependants can also apply for a War Service Grant.

Since the inception of the revised War Service Grant the scheme now includes emergency grants for serious illness or death.

Forms, advice and information can be obtained from the Citizens Advice Bureau, 25 High Street, Leatherhead.

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An Open Letter

Ladies & Gentlemen,

There appears to be a false impression regarding certain members of the staff of Leatherhead & District Citizens Advice Bureau in that they are paid. Yet, if such be the case, by whom are they paid?

In order to clear up any misunderstanding in view of a rate increase of 1/16th of a penny in the £, this small amount equivalent to £100 is for the purpose of financing the Citizens Advice Bureau by way of rent, lighting, heating, telephone, office expenses including stationery, and cleaning, and whilst the service rendered by the Bureau is accredited by every enquirer to be of the greatest assistance, and further that some members of the staff contribute between 48 and 70 hours of voluntary service, no payment of any kind is made by the Local Authority or any other body.

I would add, however, that representation has been made to the Council for placing certain members of the Bureau upon a salaried basis, but without result. Whilst realising the need for economy in every direction, such financial assistance would not raise the rates more than one-eighth of a penny in the £.

Yours sincerely,

W. A. Muggeridge,
Hon. Sec.

One thing of the past!

"The banana is a remarkable fruit. It is constructed in the same architectural styles as the sausage, the difference being the skin of sausage is habitually consumed, whilst it is not advisable to eat the wrapper of the banana. The banana is held aloft when being eaten; the sausage is usually left in a reclining position. The sausage depends for creation upon the human being or the stuffing machine, while the banana is the pristine product of honourable mother nature. In the case of the sausage, both conclusions are attached to the other sausage; but the banana on the other hand is attached on one end of the stem and opposite the termination which is entirely loose. Finally, the banana is strictly of the vegetable kingdom, whilst the affiliation of the sausage is often undecided."

—*World Digest*.

Snappy Answers

"Daddy, what is your birth-stone?"

"The grindstone, my child."

'What are banns of marriage, dad?'

"They vary, sonny. Mine were no smoking, no drinking, and no working late at the office."

"Did you have any trouble with your French when in Paris?"

No, but the French people did."

"You act like a baby."

"Yes, I was born that way."

More Logic ?

Many years ago, one of the kings of Bavaria commissioned a then well-known artist to portray the faces of the prettiest women of European nations and of all classes; I believe the English representative was the daughter of a postman, and this picture is (or was about eight years ago) still to be seen in Munich. The painter did his work so well that anyone who saw it was instantly struck by the lifelike appearance of the women, who do not show any signs of having sought the aid of cosmetics.

We all feel very proud of the Englishwomen for the way they are meeting the demands of war in the various services and in civil defence services, and last but not least the one looking after her home and children whilst her husband is away fighting.

It is alleged, however, that women, long before the war started could see it coming and prepared for it in a most peculiar manner. When the call-up came, response was at first somewhat slow, but as time went on more answered it and now hundreds and thousands have joined the brigade. The badge is of a reddish hue, but not a fast colour and apparently was never intended to be. If the wearers of the badge intended that it should lessen their attractiveness they have certainly succeeded, and of course the mere man cannot

very well *tastefully* contemplate eating food prepared by one with varnished finger nails. In conversation with a friend in Town recently, he said his name for them was the "Ritac" (red in tooth and claw) brigade.

In these days when we are urged to spend only on necessities, it seems strange that so many of our women should buy hindrances to beauty. Surely the manufacturers of these articles, and their staffs, could be more usefully employed on other work. Quite recently one of our daily newspapers in exposing the black markets stated that these racketeers were selling boot polish and paint as cosmetics and commercial lacquer as nail varnish.

Whilst it is well known that many who belong to this brigade are supporting the War Savings movement, Lord Kindersley would be better pleased if they would stop using these "war paints" and with the money thus saved buy additional Certificates, Bonds, &c.
—R.A.

Any Old Iron

Scrap iron is now being collected in three counties, and it will soon be Surrey's turn. Save all the scrap iron you can, and when the time comes for it to be collected full particulars will be given.

Not only iron, but paper, rags, bones, bottles and tins are all needed and useful salvage.

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Bookham & Dist. Poultry Club

Meetings of the above Club are now held on the first Wednesday in each month, at Mrs. Hassan's Poultry Farm, Woodlands Road, at 2.45 p.m. It is hoped that a better attendance of members can now be expected, and some very interesting and instructive meetings have been arranged, those for the next three months being as follows:

March 4th—"Broody hens and baby chick rearing," with some very useful information about incubation. An egg competition will also be held, in which three eggs per member can be entered for judging; entrance fee 6d.

April 1st—"Rearing growing stock, and pickling eggs."

May 6th—"Feeding the layers."

At this time of national emergency, when all possible efforts should be made to increase our food supplies and thus save shipping space, it is in the interests of all producers to take more interest in their club for their mutual benefit, so we shall look forward to much better attendances at our meetings in future. We trust that every member will also do their best to get other interested friends to join the club.

The Hon. Sec., Mrs. Wootten, 1 New Parade, Leatherhead Rd., will be pleased to give full particulars concerning any matter connected with the club.

Rabbits!

As we all know, rabbits fill a very useful place in our food supply, and just now when it is necessary that as much food as possible should be home-produced, a section of the community have risen to the occasion, and in Bookham quite an appreciable amount of rabbit flesh is being produced by members of the Bookham and District Rabbit Club.

Fur is also a source of revenue, and it is really wonderful to learn how many and varied are the uses to which rabbit fur is put.

The above Club holds its meetings every second Saturday in the month at The Croft, Church Rd., at 3 p.m. There is plenty of room for new members, and anyone wishing to join can get all particulars from the Hon. Sec., Mrs. D. Wootten, 1 New Parade, Leatherhead Road, Gt. Bookham.

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Mr. John Oliver, Scout Hut

Bookham Youth Club

Bookham Youth Organizations Cm'ttee
Mr. C. V. Brayne, C.M.G.
Wolverley, L. Bookham Tel. 502

Bowling Club
Mr. Andrews, Five Beeches,
Dorking Road. Tel. 201

Boys' Brigade
Mr. D. Cook, Flushing Farm House

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Miss Attawell,
Delaune, Sole Farm Road.

Domestic Poultry Keepers' Club
Hon. Sec. Mrs. D. I. Wootten,
1 New Parade, Leatherhead Road.
Tel. Bookham 575

Garden Society
Mr. C. Saunders, Charlwood,
Leatherhead Road

Girls' Club
Miss Joce, The Spinney, Eastwick
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Omira, Leatherhead Road

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(Bookham Circle)
Mrs. Westondarp
Hawkwood, Guildford Rd. Tel. 38

Little Bookham Girls' Club

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Mr. C. V. Brayne, C.M.G.,
Wolverley, L. Bookham. Tel. 502

Life Boys
Mrs. Palmer, Groudly Glen,
School Lane, Fetcham

Little Bookham Women's Club
Mrs. Pontin, The Anchorage, Sole
Farm Road. Tel. 131

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N.S.P.C.C. District Correspondent
Mrs. Stanley Russell,
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N.S.P.C.A.
Mrs. Wootten, 1 New Parade,
Leatherhead Rd. Tel. 575

Nursing Association
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