The Bookhams
Bulletin
Organ of the Bookhams Social Service Bureau
No. 42 MARCH 1944 One Penny
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No. 42

MARCH 1944

One Penny

Editorial

Since the beginning of the war, this Editorial has been in most cases intended to serve as a guide to some important piece of legislation which affects the community, and it may be safely said that through the "Bookhams Bulletin" a very large number of residents have been able to obtain their particular requirements, or advice upon new government regulations.

It has however been impossible to give a full list of Acts, Bills and Statutory Rules and Orders which are so frequently issued, and again, a S. R. & O. affecting one section of the public would not be applicable to another, thus it will readily be seen that such references that we have made mainly concern the welfare of the public generally.

The Education Bill now before Parliament is creating considerable interest at the moment, and the recent issue of the White Paper upon Health Services should do much towards improvements in our present social service systems.

It is hoped that the effect of the Disabled Persons Employment Bill will remove the insecure position of the disabled person, and the claim of the disabled ex-service man and woman has at last been recognised by the government, and it now remains to be seen that this is carried into effect not only by the government but also by the employer.

There still remains a great deal to be achieved in the matter of social security, and there still remains the inequalities of allowances for children, as the following examples show :

Under Widows, Orphans & Old Age Pensions Act, the child of a widow receives 5s. a week.

A widow receiving a pension under Personal Injuries Scheme receives 8/6 for first child.

The allowance for first child of Service man, 9/6.

A child billetted under government evacuation scheme, 11/6.

A child boarded out under a Court order, 17/6.

There are several other examples which could be given. Unless representation by interested organisations is made to Members of Parliament, these anomolies will continue.

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THE BOOKHAMS BULLETIN

Citizens Advice Bureau

Leatherhead & District

As far as is known the Citizens Advice Bureau is the only service that is able to give reliable and up-to-date information upon a very great variety of subjects, and although through the medium of this journal a very small amount of information can be circulated, the C. A. B. at .Surrey House, Church Street, Leatherhead, can always furnish information that may be required.

Since the middle of February the following information is published:

Landlord & Tenant War Damage Acts, 1939-41. A revised leaflet, L.T.9, has been issued by the War Damage Commission. Attention is particularly drawn to the position in the Courts of a tenant who serves a conditional notice of retention of his lease; and to the effect of his lease regarding notice of disclaimer upon war damage payments, and the obligation on a tenant who retains his lease to make the damage good.

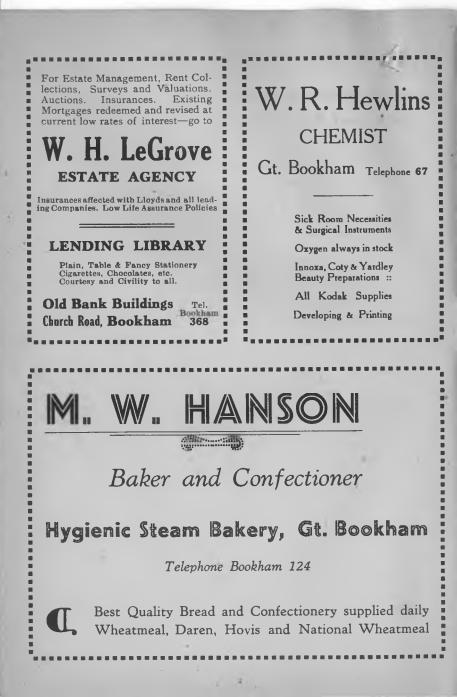
War Damage: Limits of cost of repairs. The limits of cost of repairs of war damaged properties for which a certificate of essentiality may be granted by local authorities has now been raised to \pounds 500 instead of \pounds 250 for houses, & \pounds 400 instead of \pounds 200 for flats. Assistance to Seamen and their dependants through the war.— Many of such cases come to the Bureau from time to time, and these can be dealt with by the appropriate seamens organisations

The review of Supplementary Pensions cases, in accordance with the new regulations which came into force on January 17th, will not be completed before the end of March. In cases which result in an increase, they will apply from the date of re-assessment.

Private individuals requiring rubber hot water bottles must obtain a medical certificate stating age and nature of disease. This certificate must be sent to the Ministry of Health, and if approved, the Ministry will advise the local retailer who can supply the bottle from stock.

The Board of Trade announce that arrangements have been made for the supply to hairdressers of a limited quantity of hair-cutting cloths of a war time type, made from government surplus material at a price not exceeding 3/3 each exclusive of purchase tax. These are unrationed and no coupons to be surrendered.

The Citizens Advice Bureau, Surrey House, Church Street Leatherhead Telephone Leatherhead 3291



For the Wives of Service Men.

The relief of anxiety & distress among wives of service men is the first consideration of the Soldiers, Sailors & Airmen's Families Association, and there may be many wives who are not aware of the extent of the advice and assistance that can be given through it.

War Service and Emergency Grants. For some time a supplementation to the service allowance has been givent in the form of a war service grant to meet certain needs of the wife and family. These grants are based upon the amount of rent, life insurance, hire purchase and certain other commitments. Form W.S.G.21 must be obtained for making application for a grant.

Emergency grants are intended to meet the payment of expenses incurred during illness of wife or children, but do not cover maternity expenses. Application should be made to Ministry of Pensions on Form W.S.G. 106 (S).

Provision has now been made to accommodate children of school age in hostels whilst the mother is is hospital. The maximum period is five weeks.

A clothing depot was established last November for wives and children. As the clothing is new, the surrender of the appropriate number of coupons is necessary. Financial assistance is provided to meet certain needs, but it will be appreciated that the amount of assistance given is limited to the extent of the Association's funds that are available.

Travelling concessions. Only allowance orders books overprinted with the letter W are available for reduced fares for travel, and those holding books not overprinted in this way, and where it is necessary to travel, assistance can be given.

Life Certificates may be signed in the presence of a responsible official of this Association.

The question arises from time to time regarding the welfare of a service man overseas, and in many cases the lack of news or the long delay in postal communications. The Association is in constant contact with overseas branches and can be of great help in these matters.

When in doubt about any other matters affecting service men, their wives and families, go to the Divisional Secretary of the

Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Families Association, Surrey House, Church Street, Leatherhead.

who will give you all possible help.

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LITTLE CHATS

(With apologies to A.P.H.)

No. 2—Handing on the Torch

You didn't buy a stamp, Joan. Aren't you a member?

A member, Miss Brown?

The school savings group. We all belong you know.

Oh! It's too much trouble . . .

Just listen to those planes going out; and think about the dreadful sufferings of torpedoed sailors. They don't say 'its too much trouble," they carry on; so do the soldiers.

What are the pictures of the Soldier's Salute for ?

"Salute the Soldier" you mean. If you ever read about our men edging forward in Cassino ruins you'd understand.

I don't see how savings stamps can help them.

Of course there's help in the taxes we pay the government, but fifteen million pounds a day is what the war costs now. We must also lend money for it.

Oh dear! I only get a shilling a week.

Well, always save some of it regularly. Pennies mount up.

Boys and girls' pennies are enough to pay for 5 or 6 tanks a week and it could be more. It's a duty to the men inside them. They give their lives. We salute them.

Yes, I do feel I would like to do something to end the war. I thought the V sign was supposed to bring victory.

You're keeping Victory in your pocket, my dear. Lend what you can, and you'll feel you are helping—fighting on the home front, in fact.

"Home front" gives me an idea : I'm all for getting the family keen, I'll try a little painless extraction on them.

Good! and don't forget that saving also means not wasting anything. Salvage is another word for it.

Isn't salvage only rubbish?

No such thing as rubbish now. Rubble perhaps yes. This street might be rubble now if Hitler had his way. Well, here's my corner, I go this way, and here's a new stamp book for you to start with. I think you'll find it a new way for you. Goodbye, Joan.

* * * * * * *

Mum, can I have a sixpence? Nearly time to start, dear. Have you finished your breakfast?

A sixpence mummy please.

You had your pocket money last week, dear.

Went in saving stamps yesterday Well then, what now?

More savings. Our form must be on top anyhow, and upper third are trying to beat us.

What nonsense! You must think of yourself as well sometimes.

It isn't nonsense, really, you see I, we I mean, are not thinking of the lower fourth; its the whole

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Say you saw it in THE BOOKHAMS BULLETIN

Little Chats—cont.

country.

How you go on. Just silly I call it.

But mums. England . . Britain isn't silly, unless we lost the war.

You're right there, child; but of course we're winning it, so why all this extra fuss?

Now listen, mummy. This is why. We had it read to us at school. It's General Smuts, and we learnt this bit by heart. "Time is short . . every moment counts . . the longer this agony lasts the worse it becomes . . It must be ended soon if Europe is to be saved. Let us hasten the end with every means in our power."

Yes, time . . that's just it . . I can't save any.

Well, mum darling, you can save money instead. Jimmy and I will keep it up at our school groups. You ought to be in this road group. Daddy can go on at the office, but he could put in his overtime here with us.

So you've planned it all, Miss? Kind of planning, I suppose. Anyway, it'll soon be our job I keep thinking. "After the war what?" I believe Mr. Churchill is thinking like me.

Mr. Churchill! well, of course! Yes, he said the other day "upon our present action depends the future security of our country."

Or the future of the world even, and in our hands.

Anyhow, mummy, I've nearly got nine certificates. Do you think I'll get the other 491 before the end of the war?

Well, I should say not! But I do say that if the war can be shortened by our money, all those boys now slowed up in Italy ought to be helped on at once.

So they will, mum, and by us just saving. It's only saving after all; we don't give even anything.

Yes, dear, and I'll start saving in the road when that nice woman comes along on Tuesday afternoon. I think I might help her job a bit too.

Oh, mummy! How splendid!

Now get along do, or you'll be late at school. No, wait a bit, there's another half crown for the lower fourth.

No! To Salute the Soldier.-G.

The Church Clock

The overheating of his delicate interior owing to an electrical fault recently, caused our friend to fail in his duty. Unable even to hide his face in confusion, he now appeals to you to guard him against any such accident in which the spire he occupies might well be involved.

Boxes to receive contributions for this purpose from his many Bookham friends, are placed in Mr. Madge's shop in Church Rd., and in Mr. Absalom's, Dorking Road.

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Our Brains Trust

Thanks to the public-spirited efforts of our neighbours, we have now established in our midst a local Brains Trust.

One evening each week (Friday) is devoted to about half a dozen people dealing with three questions submitted to them previously, and some of the items they deal with seem to be of the hedgehog variety inasmuch that they bristle with so many points for discussion. If time permits, members of the audience are allowed to put their views forward, when further view points are often discovered.

There is one cause for disappointment, and that is the small percentage of young people who attend, and it is hoped that this situation may soon be altered. The older people, some of whom hold fairly-well advanced views, do not wish to teach, but are desirous of ascertaining the lines of thought upon which youth is working.

From the following list of questions that have already been dealt with, it is easily seen that most of them refer to post-war life :—

- 1 What is the order of precedence of the four freedoms in the Atlantic Charter.
- 2 Should the universities be open to all youth of ability.
- 3 Should youth be conscripted after the war.
- 4 Is persecution good for religion.

- 5 Can class distinction be abolished
- 6 Is the place of women the home.
- 7 Should divorce be made easier or more difficult.
- 8 Should the present system of local government be replaced by regional government.
- 9 Should Rome be bombed.

The fifth question reminds the writer of things that happened in the City of London 50 years ago. when clerks had to ask permission to leave the office at 2 p.m. on Saturday to play football. These fellows too were chary of smoking in the street after lunch, because they knew if they were discovered by the principals committing this crime they would be called on the carpet for it. At a certain office too. the clerks when attending to callers were careful not to raise their voices. One of them in later life became a real "yes" man, so much so that his employer enjoyed getting him to give a wrong answer to questions.

Speakers at the Brains Trust are from various sections of the community, such as Church of England, Congregational, Baptist ministers, M.P., doctors, schoolmaster, local councillors, members of the Communist Party, Civil Defence, Youth Advisory Council and Citizens Advice Bureau.

This is a new venture, so far well supported, and it is hoped that Bookham people will continue to show their appreciation by keeping up a good attendance.—R.A.

Since the above was written, these meetings have been suspended pro tem.



ay you saw it in THE BOOKHAMS BULLETIN

Salute the Soldier!

This thoughtless question was recently heard: "When are you savings people going to give us a bit of a rest from these Campaigns and Weeks?" The answer is, of course, "Not till our boys out there get *their* bit of rest, before which *all* must become Savings people." So click your heels, salute and cut away the hand smartly, but use it immediately to find in your pocket as much as you can possibly lend.

London's Salute will be made this month. Our chance will come the first week in May. The Leatherhead District aims at equipping and clothing one battalion of East Surreys and a Parachute battalion; total cost £175,000. Bookham has the ambition of supplying a H.Q. Co. or a platoon (about £17,500), and by a series of combined operations will do it, no doubt.

The war no longer drags. We are advancing. Savings must not lag behind. Failure to find the money for the coming great effort amounts to a betrayal of the fighting front by the home front. Work for it now—don't wait for it.

Read the posters now and get Savings-minded. This campaign must exceed our "Wings for Victory" success. Since then we have raised the standard of savings. Saving time like Summer time has come to stay. War has required Double Summer Time. Double Saving Time would result in a quicker finish. By denying ourselves a little more we can fitly Salute the Soldier. He saved Britain from enemy occupation in 1940; he retreated unbroken to Dunkirk, reached England by a miracle, and is now going back to Victory. We will Salute him!

Relief from War Strain

In these days of war weariness and strain, it is more than ever necessary to find some sort of relaxation where one can escape from the worries of rationing, the shortage of various supplies, the question of how to make and mend so that your coupons last out, and the hundred and one other irritating little things that ruffle life.

There is a small section of our community that, judging by their usual appearance of cheerfulness, really do get away from these worries. They are the members of the Bookham Bowling Club, and as the season starts on April 29th, a very cordial invitation is given to anyone (ladies or gentlemen) to come along and join the club. If you have never played, any of the members will be pleased to give vou instruction and help. The Hon. Sec. is Mr. R. Andrews, and the green in on the Dorking Road Recreation Ground.



George and Bob, the Country Gardeners

Hello, George, suppose you find plenty to do now with seed sowing coming round again.

Yes, Bob, my onions & parsnips are in, and now for a few cabbage Primo are my favourite for spring. For Brussels I prefer Evesham Special or Fillbasket. I'm just making a first sowing of lettuce, Market favourite and Ideal for the cabbage, and Lobjoit's selffolding for the cos. I like to put in a few radish to go with lettuce, but I leave this for a week or so after putting in the lettuce.

What about potatoes this year, George? People are saying they don't pay to grow. Not me, tho' I like my own garden potatoes better than those you get in shops that are farm grown. I think its only lazy people who say they're not worth growing. I know you stand a chance of having a poor crop, but that is what gardening amounts to, just taking a chance. So here's my choice: Arran Pilot for first earlies. Majestic or Arran Banner, main crop; then there is Gladstone, very much like King Edward but a much better cropper, and quite as good to cook and eat, and lastly Dunbar Standard which does well on most soils.

Now about tomatoes, Bob. I've ordered some of these new bush sort there's been so much talk about by the experts. My nursery Read the Advertisements

man said he was growing some himself this year and thinks there is a future for them. He's always got something new and interesting, including some of the new Russian tomatoes which grow about 8ins. high and then flowers; you think they have stopped growing, but in a little while 5 to 6 new shoots come from the flower, each capable of producing up to 2lbs. of fruit, or in all up to 12lbs. from each plant, in addition to this they will stand frost too. I've ordered a liquid manure for feeding tomatoes and onions, called Liquinure, at 2/6 a bottle, which makes 60 gallons, and you can water at the same time with this. Analysis shows it contains' phosphoric acid, nitrogen, and potash, amongst other things, and I think it to be one of the best balanced tomato feeds on the market today, as so many of the others contain no potash, while this contains $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Well, I must get a row of early peas in, Kelvedon Wonder are my favourites, and there's so much else to do, so I must be getting along. Cheerio, George. Solong. —BOB.

"Observer" asks—

Is it not nearly time that a local bye-law was made against the defilement of our pavements by dogs? Many other boroughs have such bye-laws, and really its about time we had them too!

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