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AUGUST 1960



The BUSH TELEGRAPH

News Bulletin
of the
B. I. C. C. Athletic & Social Club,
Wood Lane, W.12.

BRITISH INSULATED CALLENDER'S CABLES LIMITED

ATHLETIC AND SOCIAL CLUB (WOOD LANE)

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Dr. R.M. Black

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Mr. A.S.M. Wilson

T H E B U S H T E L E G R A P H

August 1960

Vol. 6, No. 7

Editorial

It is generally assumed that we in this country are weatherproof and this year this assumption has certainly been put to the test. It has been a summer neither for going on holiday, nor for staying at work, although in places unexpected opportunities for paddling and even for sub-aquatic diversions have occurred. The highlight of the past month has been the opening of the very pleasant and much appreciated new Cafeteria in the McFadzean Laboratory. Fortunately it remains a "dry" canteen, in spite of the cement mixing activities on the floor above!

DAY DREAMING?

by

Pim

Have you ever been hypnotised? Most people asked this question would in all sincerity answer no. Yet stop to think. Could you if called upon to do so account for every minute of today? Consider your journey to the office this morning. How long did you spend at the 'bus queue, on the station platform, in the train? Were you fully conscious every minute of the time?

Some of you will have enjoyed a snooze in the train, of course, and may have been unconscious for the best part of the journey. I am not concerned with deliberate surrender to sleep. Those of you who did not sleep will imagine that every moment of your journey was spent in complete awareness of yourself and your ever-changing environment. If this is true you are exceptional.

Most people, it appears, suffer periods of complete oblivion during their normal day. The process known as "day dreaming" may well be included in this category. Whether the state arrived at can be described as hypnotic is not clear, but it is certain that none of the normal senses is consciously exercised during such a period.

The spell can easily be broken, but if nothing occurs to disturb the tranquil state consciousness of the individual concerned can remain suspended and inactive for many minutes at a time. Oddly enough, a person so affected can continue to practice a routine process with unfailing accuracy. People will admit to having driven a car through miles of busy streets and afterwards remember nothing from their last conscious reaction, to their sudden awareness of themselves, minutes later.

Have you never found yourself several streets away from the place where you were last aware of your surroundings and been unable to remember the slightest thing about the intervening time?

Have you never found yourself gazing without comprehension at your television screen where a shapely row of legs fills your view, and wondered what happened to Sir Brian Horrocks? - the reverse never seems to happen. How often when reading have you found yourself unable to relate the words before your eyes to the content of the book already digested, and found upon turning back a page or two that you have mentally missed those pages? There is little doubt that you read them, but the process was automatic and re-reading them produced no conscious memory.

Analysis suggests that something akin to self-hypnosis is responsible for the lost minutes of our daily lives. The state of oblivion is reached after a thought process which gradually diminishes. Much the same thing happens as a prelude to normal sleep and there may well be very little difference between the two experiences.

It would seem that little harm arises from the periods of virtual trance and only occasionally does annoyance result. My own interest in the subject has grown out of all proportion in just the last few days. Since the day after the Board meeting, in fact.

The Chief asked me to go to see him about proposals discussed at the meeting. Instead of getting down to the matter immediately, he began telling me about a new speaker he had bought for his Hi-Fi equipment. I remember him saying something about "extra high flux", then suddenly he stood up.

"Well, there it is, Pim" he said. "We've got three months at the outside. I'm putting it entirely in your hands. If you think it will cost more than five thousand, come and talk it over before you order."

Order what? What would you do? I think I have done the only possible thing. If he reads this he might understand. He might, of course, read it without understanding. He might suffer from the same malady.

INTERMISSION

(The Marsh - West Hythe, 16/7/60)

Across the Marsh as far as eye can see
This fair morn exhales peace, tranquility.
The silver-flashing river flowing on
Caresses with its soft embrace each swan.

Two seagulls and a heron wing on high,
A moor-hen calls, the swallows swiftly fly.
The earth is mantled in green's varying hue
Contrasting with a sky of cloud-flecked blue.

A gentle breeze sways every reed and tree;
The sheep and kine assure fertility
To their own land, and graze in calm content.
Around them bees pursue the clover scent.

Upon the rolling hilltop rising high
Dark firs stand sentinel against the sky;
While crowning all, grey Church and Castle show
A powerful stronghold of days long ago.

Alone, the only human soul in sight,
I offer thanks for this sweet, brief respite
From City life, and store - as miser's hoard -
The generous bounty of our Heavenly Lord.

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE OF THE CENTRAL LINE

by

G.A. Ward

The Central London Railway (now the Central Line of the L.T.E.) became known as the "Twopenny Tube" owing to the universal fare of twopence adopted on its opening in the summer of 1900.

At the time of the opening London was sweltering at 90°F., and the cool temperature of 55°F. in the tunnels added to the novelty in attracting custom.

The tube was referred to in musicals of the period; "San Toye" had a verse about a Chinaman who travelled by

"low down train
in the tupn'y drain"

and "Patience" by Gilbert and Sullivan "the very delectable, highly respectable, threepenny bus young man" became "the very delectable, highly respectable, twopenny tube young man".

The first tube, the "City of London & Southwark Subway" (later the City & South London Railway) was built in 1884 and onwards. The next tube authorised was the Central London Railway on the 5th August, 1891, and the Act specified twin tubes 11'6" bore from Shepherds Bush to Cornhill to be worked by electricity.

An act of 1892 authorised an extension to the Bank, which also authorised a further extension to Liverpool Street, but this was allowed to lapse. At the Bank in conjunction with the City authorities subways for pedestrians were constructed.

Despite difficulties in attracting capital, construction started in 1896 at the site of Chancery Lane Station and by September work was in progress at Shepherds Bush, Westbourne (now Lancaster Gate), British Museum and at the Royal Exchange. The subways at the last-named were opened on the 9th January, 1900.

The railway was opened on the 30th July, 1900 with 11 intermediate stations - Lansdown Road (now Holland Park), Notting Hill Gate, Queens Road, Westbourne (very quickly Lancaster Gate), Marble Arch, Bond Street, Oxford Circus, Tottenham Court Road, British Museum (originally intended to be called Bloomsbury), Chancery Lane and Post Office.

At the outset the trains consisted of "camel-back" electric locomotives and seven gate-ended trailer cars.

In connection with the White City Exhibition the Central London Railway constructed a loop line at Shepherds Bush, with a station at Wood Lane (the ruin next door) opened on the 14th May, 1908. At the same time the construction of the Liverpool Street extension was started and it was opened in 1912.

In 1911 the Railway obtained powers to connect to the Ealing and Shepherds Bush Railway (owned by the Great Western Railway) which runs from the junction with the West London Railway (near to Cohen's scrap yard) to Ealing Broadway Station. Construction was delayed by the war, but the line was opened to goods traffic on the 16th April, 1917. The Central London Railway extension was opened on the 3rd August, 1920 with a service from Liverpool Street to Ealing Broadway. Intermediate stations at North Acton and West Acton were opened on the 5th November, 1923.

When the railway was built the third rail was in the centre, the running rails being used for the return current. In 1940 it was converted to the four-rail system, with +ve outside and -ve inside rails. Current was supplied from a power house at Wood Lane (not the power station on this site!) until 1928 when current was taken from Lots Road.

After 1935 plans were made for new tunnels between Liverpool Street and Leyton, and between Leytonstone and Newbury Park, together with electrification of L.N.E.R. lines to Epping and Ongar and of the Fairlop loop for tube trains.

The second world war delayed these works, but the partly-built tunnels were used as a deep factory by

Plesseys at Wanstead, and as an air raid shelter at Bethnal Green.

The extension to Stratford was opened on the 4th December, 1946, to Leytonstone on the 5th May, 1947, to Newbury Park and Woodford on the 14th December, 1947, to Hainault on the 31st May, 1948, to Hainault via Roding Valley and Loughton on the 21st November, 1948, to Epping on the 25th September, 1949 and to Ongar on the 18th November, 1957.

An extension alongside the Great Western Railway line to Birmingham was also built from North Acton to Ruislip. This was opened to Greenford on the 30th June, 1947 and to West Ruislip on the 21st November, 1948. A proposed extension to Denham has been abandoned.

One interesting fact is that, as a result of the depot and loop being built at Wood Lane, the trains take the right hand track through White City Station and have to cross over to the north west to return to the left hand track, as is usual on all railways in Great Britain (with the exception of the Festiniog Railway).

INNOCENCE REGAINED

O come auspicious Muse
Thy beckoning arms unfold,
And take me to thy breast
where treasures lie untold.

Encompassed by thy breath
My childhood dreams renew,
To things banal and small
restore a golden hue.

Paint me a world that is
And that yet cannot be,
Spend me some tears of joy
as a reality.

The goodness of mankind
Then I again perceive
Filtered and purified
Credulously believed.

ANON.

COURT CIRCULAR

by

M. Dua

The racquet of an average tennis player is moving at well over sixty miles an hour at the moment he hits the ball, and Bill Tilden, the fastest server ever, hit the ball at one hundred and fifty miles an hour. The average player propels the ball at nearly eighty miles an hour, causing a distortion on impact of more than an inch, yet the balls which stand up to such treatment are taken very much for granted. They do, however, represent an extremely high degree of technical skill, and must conform to very rigid standards.

To have the approval of the all-powerful Lawn Tennis Association, those aim is to standardise conditions by ensuring that each ball is as like the others as possible, the ball must be between two-and-a-half inches and two-and-three-eighths inches in diameter, and weigh between two and two-and-one-sixteenth ounces. When dropped from a height of one hundred inches on to a concrete base it must not rebound more than fifty-eight inches nor less than fifty-three inches, and when subjected to a pressure of eighteen pounds must not "give", or flatten, more than .29 inches, or less than .265 inches. To ensure this standard the balls must be tested on a special machine, and at a temperature of sixty-eight degrees Fahrenheit and at an atmospheric pressure of 29.95 inches.

In addition to these official tests, manufacturers conduct their own tests, using their own devices. At one factory can be seen what looks like a giant paddle-wheel; it is, in fact, a mechanical "server". Tennis balls are fed on to the paddle wheels which strike them nine times a minute, with all the force of a hard-hitting player. The balls are hit on to a concrete slab, from which they rebound on to more concrete. The factory takes balls from its production line at random, and if any faults are revealed the whole batch is scrapped. So powerful is the machine that it can reduce the best ball to the core in about twenty-five minutes.

The only problem still to be solved, and it is a small one, is how to prevent loss of compression. Despite

the device of storing the balls in air-tight cans, some loss of compression is inevitable, as rubber is porous. This means that tennis balls can be kept for only four months before losing some compression, which results in too low a bounce.

This insistence on rigid standards means that no firm can make an outstanding ball. The efforts of the Lawn Tennis Association have resulted in keeping each manufacturer's product reasonably like that of his competitors, and the merit of tennis balls which reach the standard of the Lawn Tennis Association and of the manufacturers is that they all react in exactly the same way to the same conditions.

B.I.C.C. ATHLETIC AND SOCIAL CLUB (WOOD LANE)

SYNOPSIS OF THE 105TH MEETING OF THE
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 25TH JULY, 1960

Present:- Mr. E. Kelk (Chairman)
Mr. L. West (Treasurer)
Miss B.A. Weir
Mr. A.J. Moore
Mr. T.E. Gray
Mr. G.R. Taylor
Mr. B.J. Thompson (Secretary)

Dinner Dance

Mr. Taylor informed the Council that a provisional booking of a band for the dinner dance on the 2nd December had been made. The cost would be 14 guineas.

Company Subsidy

The Chairman informed Mr. Gray, who had not been present at the 104th meeting, of the proposed Company subsidy for a social function. The subsidy was for a two-year period, 1960 and 1961, and could be taken in one or two parts. The subsidy was approximately 13/- per annum per employee, or 26/- for the two-year period. The Chairman said that the Executive Council had decided on behalf of the staff to take the subsidy in one lump sum next year, mainly because of the difficulty of arranging a function before the end of 1960. The Chairman suggested that Mr. Gray should canvass opinion among the hourly-paid personnel to determine how and when they would like to use their share of the subsidy. While, of course, they were welcome to join the staff next year in a function such as a dinner, they could use the money for a party or outing, or separate dinner.

Club Rules

The Secretary stressed the need for a revised set of rules for the Club. In view of the forthcoming

application for a bar licence it was necessary, he said, to have a set of rules which were unambiguous, in particular those rules concerning the operation of licensed premises.

The Chairman said the rules as such should not be altered, but that any amendments should be in the form of an addendum.

The Secretary agreed to look into the legal aspect of the purchase of intoxicants by honorary, temporary and associate members.

The Council agreed that each member of the Council should examine the rules once more, particularly those concerning the election of officers and/or the Executive Council, so that any ambiguities could be removed.

----- oOo -----

THE SECRETARY'S ELEGY

The hooter tolls the knell of parting day

The members all slope off to get their tea

The Chairman homeward plods his weary way

And leaves the ruddy Minutes all to me.

SECTION REPORTS

Photographic Section

We must admit that we were rather stumped for subject matter this month until the Editor said "How about an article on dealing with holiday snapshots?"

Our initial enthusiasm was somewhat dampened when we discovered that he had taken his camera away on holiday, but had not taken a single picture! So far this Summer has not provided much opportunity or incentive for picture taking, but somebody must have pressed the button a few times.

What indeed does one do with holiday snapshots? - no rude suggestions, please! It does, of course, depend very much on whether one works in black and white, or colour. Colour workers have not a great deal of choice in the matter of picture selection, since normally their film is processed and returned with each frame mounted in a holder. All that remains to be done is to heave out the bad frames and to file the remainder in the slide box. A slide box is really a must because transparencies, even if mounted between cover glasses, get terribly scratched if left loose in a box.

For those who have just started colour, and the chances are that they will never do anything else now, slide storage is an immediate problem. There are many makes of slide storage boxes and cabinets. Prices vary considerably, but the most expensive are unfortunately not always the most convenient to use. The type of storage selected will depend on the individual and his enthusiasm, but the problem should be considered carefully. If, for example, the cabinet has to be in full view, then obviously it should look neat and decorative and be compact. Another point to remember is that you will probably have to add to your storage facilities as time goes on. Therefore cabinets which stack easily and compactly are worthy of consideration in the initial stages. There is nothing worse than a heterogeneous collection of different sizes of boxes and cabinets which will not stack neatly.

As regards classifying and filing the slides, this is a matter of personal taste, but please keep it simple. A filing system when properly organised is a wonderful thing

to have; otherwise it is just a nuisance.

Now for the black and white merchants. There are many ways of dealing with both negatives and prints, or enlargements, and again much depends on the type of photographs you take and on the camera you use.

Photography is quite an expensive hobby, especially for beginners, and it is not generally appreciated how much money is wasted in printing or getting printed useless negatives. This does not apply to those who take perhaps a single roll of film a year, but if you take more than that you should count the cost.

As a first economy have the films developed only. You will then be able to weed out all but the best negatives for printing or enlarging. Judging negatives takes a little practice, especially with 35 m.m., but it can save a lot of money or, if you do your own printing, both time and money. Weeding out at the negative stage has another advantage. You don't end up with a lot of useless prints which have to go straight into the waste basket. Often the amount saved, especially on a roll of 35 m.m. film, will cover the cost of a couple of enlargements of the best negatives! A word of warning here. Don't carry negatives in an old envelope so that the surfaces rub together and get scratched. It happens so easily; there is nothing you can do about it once it has happened, and it always happens to the best negatives which you wish to enlarge!

What about the prints? Albums with detachable leaves are one of the best solutions to the problem of keeping record prints. They can be purchased at moderate cost and Boots do a nice range. If you like to make little notes beside the prints, then choose a light coloured leaf for the album. White ink on black pages is not recommended. You have to use a special pen, the ink bottle is always dry when you want to use it and the dried ink rubs off on to the opposite page or prints.

If you do your own printing, it is sometimes sufficient to leave an extra wide border at the bottom of the print so that you can add a few words later.

And what of the negatives? You may possibly have some pictures which you might think of entering in the Wood Lane contest. To do this you will need enlargements, so once again, take care of those negatives by keeping each one separated from its fellows. A simple way to do this is to take a piece of paper, fold it concertina-wise, and place one negative in each fold. The folded packets thus formed will stack quite easily in stout envelopes, and before you know where you are you will have started a filing system! As for those negatives which you are certain you will never need again, throw them out. They have no place in your filing system and can serve no useful purpose lying about in boxes, drawers and odd envelopes.

The Portrait Group is still operating, but at the moment there is no space in which to exhibit the results. We hope to exhibit again when the new canteen facilities are completed.

We have decided to postpone the closing date for competitors' entries until 1st November. This will give those who have taken late holidays and those who are involved in the general resettlement plan time to get their entries ready. We have also decided to waive the ruling on the mounting of prints, as this seems to be one of the biggest difficulties would-be competitors encounter. Prints, therefore, may be mounted or unmounted, but the minimum size is still half-plate.

There are now two months left before the closing date of the competition, and the entry classes are given below:-

Black and White Print Sections

Class 1	Portrait/Figure (Advanced)
Class 2	Portrait/Figure (Beginners)
Class 3	Pictorial (Open)
Class 4	Child Studies (Open)
Class 5	Animal Studies (Open)

Special Class 6

"Life in the United Kingdom as we know it today"

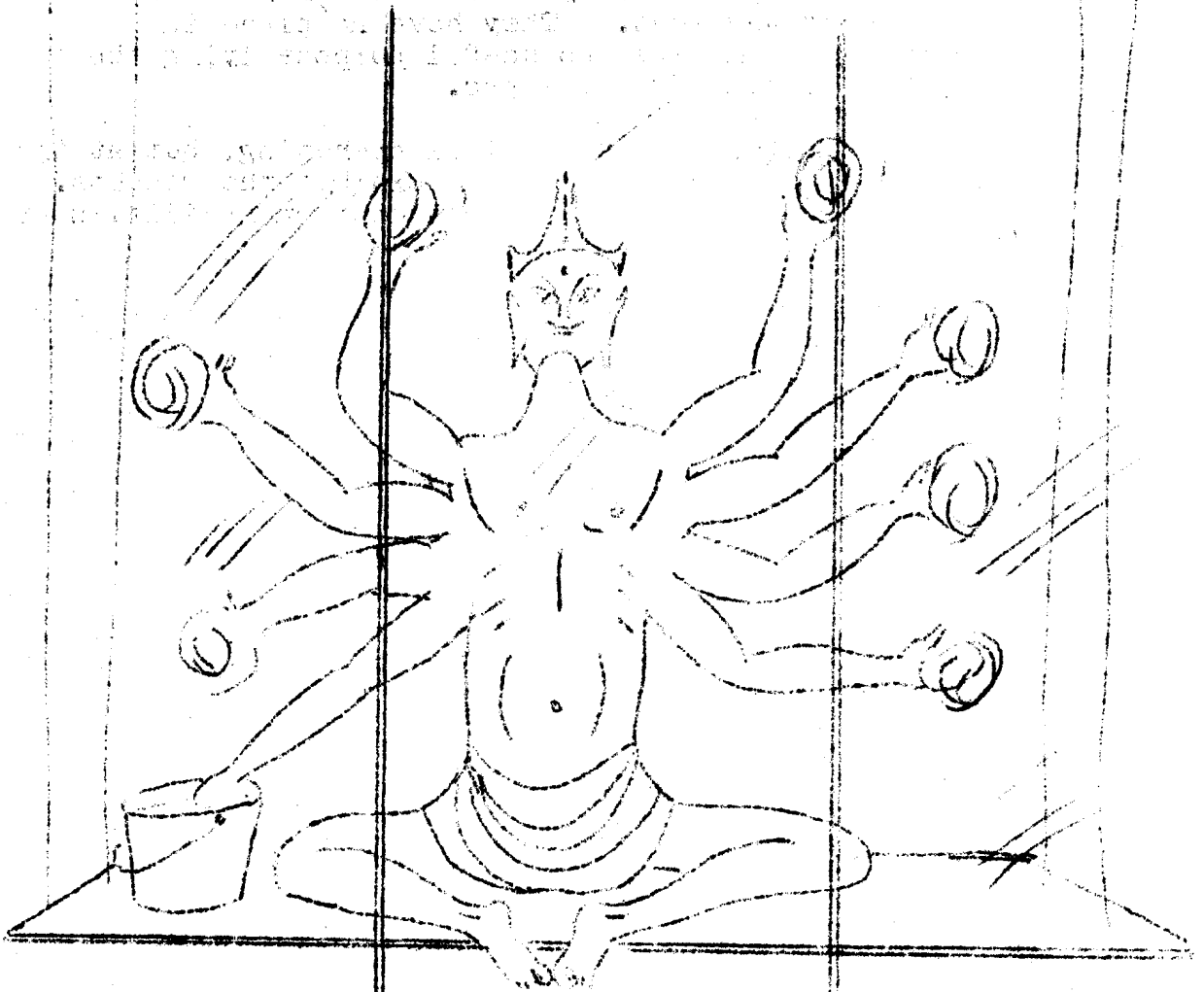
Transparency Section

Class 7
Class 8
Class 9
Class 10

Portrait/Figure
Child Studies
Animal Studies
Pictorial

Open

GBW
IMH



Staff are advised that an arrangement has been made with -

A. Wigman, Ltd.,
91, Old Oak Common Lane,
London, W.3.

(Opposite Du Cane Road, other end)

(Tel: Shepherds Bush 5314)

for a 10% discount on purchases made from this company. A selection of items covered by this agreement is given below.

Deck chairs	Aluminium chairs
China	Glass ware
Hardware	Galvanised ware
Mats	Matting
Roofing felt	Paraffin heaters

also all gardening sundries, e.g.,

Spades	Forks
Hoses and fittings	Shears
Lawnmowers	Rakes
Incinerators	Syringes
Composts	Seeds
Watering cans	Canes
Wire netting	Barrows
Insecticides	Fertilisers
Flower pots	Rollers
Bulbs	Secateurs

and all items contained in the brochure issued by Carters Tested Seeds Ltd.

Deliveries, where justified, can be arranged.

SOCIAL NEWS

Staff Arrivals

We welcome the following new members of the Wood Lane staff and extend to them an invitation to join the Athletic and Social Club, if they have not already done so.

Miss J. Hawkins	Physical and Analytical Chemistry
Mr. D.L. Smorthit	High Voltage
Mr. D.C. Snell	Physics
Mr. K.A.J. Putnam	Physics
Mr. G. Goodwin	Physics
Mr. I. Robson	Physics
Mrs. M.M. Dolan	Administration
Mr. E.L. Abbersteen	Drawing Office

Departures

Our best wishes for the future go with:-

Mr. D.J. Nash	Instrumentation and Control
Mr. T.M. Kessel	Metallurgy
Mrs. D.G. Finch	Administration
Mrs. F. Woodgate	Administration
Mrs. C. Kilmartin	Administration
Mrs. H. Bucknell	Administration
Mr. L.W. Walklett	Drawing Office

B.B.C. TELEVISION CENTRE VISIT

A visit has been arranged for Wednesday, 5th October, at 2.30 p.m. The size of the party will be limited to 10 persons.

Applications will be accepted on Thursday, 1st September and the first ten applications received will constitute the party (see page 19, Bush Telegraph, May 1960)

If you are interested, please return the following form to A.J. Moore (Control Engineering) on the 1st September, 1960.

Tear off

B.B.C. TELEVISION CENTRE VISIT

5TH OCTOBER, 1960

AT 2.30 P.M.

I should like to be included in this party -

Name

Department

YOUR ADVICE IS REQUESTED

Old hands will remember that once we had an active visits section here at Wood Lane laboratories. Places visited and enjoyed ranged from coal mines to car factories.

The question now posed is - is there now sufficient interest to re-commence such activities? If you are interested, please fill in the following questionnaire and drop it into your "out" tray.

----- TEAR OFF -----

Please return to AJM

Q. During which months would you prefer a visit to be organised?

A. January, February, June, July, October, September, or

Q. How far would you be prepared to travel?

A. miles

Q. Are you a member of the Social Club?

A. Yes No

Q. Tick off any 2 of the following places you would like to visit:-

A. Factories (e.g. Fords)
Laboratories (e.g. N.P.L.)
Horticultural Gardens
Mines
Stately Homes (e.g. Beaulieu)
Royal Mint

Q. Can you suggest any further places you would like to visit?

A.
.....

P.T.O.

Q. If you are not a member of the Social Club,
do you wish to join?

A. Yes No

Q. How many half-days of your six half-day leaves
would you be prepared to set aside for these
visits?

A. One Two

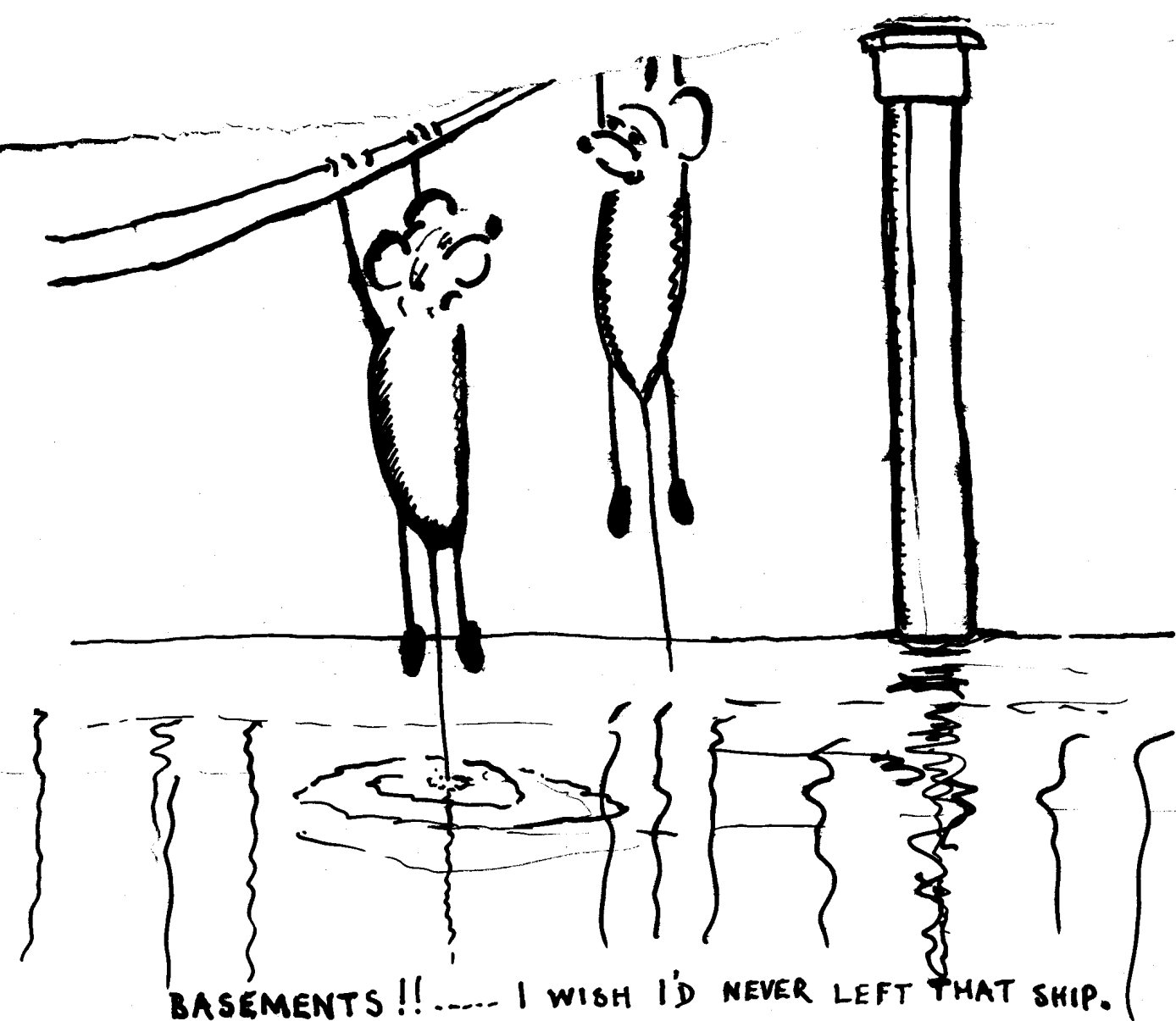
Q. If you are not a member of the Social Club
and you do not wish to join, will you please
give your reasons?

A.
.....
.....

Name

Department

(Unsigned questionnaires will be regarded as
adviceless)





WOOD LANE -----IV
CONTROL ENGINEERING.

BRITISH INSULATED CALLENDER'S CABLES LIMITED

Power Cables Division,
Belvedere, Kent.

0 - 4 - 0 Type Saddle Tank Locomotive

Steel Firebox Steel Tubes

Gauge of Railway	3'-6"
Wheeling Arrangement	0 - 4 - 0
Dia. of Cylinders	7"
Stroke of Piston	12"
Dia. of Driving Wheels	1'-9½"
Dia. of Leading Wheels	1'-9½"
Rigid Wheelbase	3'6"
Total "	3'6"
Maximum Height	8'-6.5/8"
Maximum Width	5'-9"
Length excluding Buffers	12'-10¼"
Heating Surface of Tubes	115 sq.ft.
Heating Surface of Firebox	13 sq.ft.
Total Heating Surface	128 sq.ft.
Grate Area	4.2 sq.ft.
Working Pressure	160 lbs per sq.in.
Bunker Capacity	7 cu.ft.
Tank Capacity	150 Galls.
Weight Empty	7.25 tons
Weight in working order	8.5 tons
Tractive effort at 85% B.P.	3,720 lbs
Ratio Adhesion/Tractive Effort	4.66 to 1.