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Next Day Service

Frustration on roads estimates says Council

Battle of Britain week—but no suit!

FOR two years Maidenhead branch of the Royal Air Forces Association tried to give a man's suit during Battle of Britain Week as a prize in a lucky programme competition.

But the suit, given by branch chairman Mr. L. J. Blackstone, was never claimed. "We think the winning programme was probably bought by some visitor to the town who threw it away without bothering," Mr. Blackstone told the ADVERTISER this week.

So this year there will be no suit. Instead the prizes will be, a set of fish cutlery, an entree dish and a cut glass salad bowl.

NOT A FIDDLE!
"We are determined that the prizes shall be won this year," commented Mr. Blackstone. "People beginning to think it was a fiddle, but in fact we gave the value of the suit to the Benevolent Fund."

Battle of Britain Week celebrations, 15th anniversary of the great air victory of 1940, start in Maidenhead next Tuesday with a darts competition at the Maiden's Head. On Thursday there will be a dance at RAF Station White Waltham.

MAYOR THERE
Highspot of the week will be next Friday—a ball at the Riviera Hotel to be attended by the MAYOR AND MAYORESS (CCLR. and MRS. S. A. C. KEELAN), and, filming engagements permitting, actor Richard Todd.

September 17 is Wings Day. Last year £231 was collected. The same day there will be a whist drive at the Ivy Leaf Club and a dance at the Masonic Hall.

The following day the customary memorial service will be held at St. Mary's Church, afterwards wreaths will be laid at the War Memorial in St. Ives Rd.

Costs keep rising but allowances remain the same

Case for Queen St. nearly 'hopeless'

THE Borough Council is to be recommended by the Highways Committee to protest to the Ministry of Transport, through the County Council, about the inadequacy of the Government grant for repairs to classified roads. Other borough and urban authorities will be asked to back the protest.

The committee's recommendation, the ADVERTISER understands, is prompted by the frustration the Borough Council has suffered over Queen St., the camber of which gets steeper and more dangerous every year.

The Highways Committee this week considered the road estimates for 1956-57.

In the classified roads section the reconstruction of Queen St. is again placed at the head of the list.

But officials say the possibility of the job being approved is as hopeless as it was last year, and the year before that, and the year before that...

Trunk roads

Estimates for trunk roads amount to £12,000, which includes £7,000 for re-surfacing Henley Rd. The rest will be spent on Bath Road, including part of Castle Hill from Marlborough to Queen Anne House.

Trunk road estimates are dealt with directly by the Ministry of Transport.

Cost keeps rising

The stumbling block is the cost. In 1953 the estimate was £10,000. Last year it went up to £13,000. This time the estimate is £16,000.

The reason officials are so unhelpful of having the scheme approved is based on the Government's method of granting to each authority about the same amount of money that was granted the previous year.

Last year the total grant for classified roads was £18,635.

Where the money goes

But of that, nearly £11,000 was for general maintenance, scavenging and surface dressing. The figure for those items next year will be about £15,000, which leaves assuming the total grant is the same as last year only a few thousand pounds for repair work.

The £16,000 Queen St. scheme is not likely to get much more than a horse laugh at Shire Hall.

NO JURISDICTION

The Health Committee has no jurisdiction over chemists, but the suggestion will be sent on to the Berks Health Executive Council with the committee's support.

Some members of the committee said they had experienced the difficulty mentioned by the Trades Council.

LATE OPENING BY CHEMISTS

A SUGGESTION made by the Trades Council that late-duty chemists should remain open until 7.30 instead of 7 p.m. received the support of the Borough Health Committee at a meeting on Monday.

The Trades Council wrote saying that patients who did not see their doctors until the end of the surgery period often found the chemist's shop closed. In some cases urgent prescriptions could not be obtained until the following day.

MUST BE INCREASED

The Highways Committee's view is that unless the Government increases the grant Queen St. will never be done. A concerted effort from the local authorities in Berkshire is the last hope.

The only other possibility would be to re-construct Queen St. in small sections, but this is considered impracticable.

Other work included in the committee's proposals for classified roads is the completion of the re-surfacing of Pinkneys Rd. (£4,500), a new foot-bridge over the river at Spencers Bridge, Cookham Rd. (£2,000), and a footpath in Cox Green Rd. (£1,500).

Girl unconscious after fall

Twelve-year-old Carolina Nash of Dyers, Cookham Dean, was found unconscious near her home on Sunday morning. She had fallen from her bicycle. She was taken to Maidenhead Hospital and detained with a head injury.

Chef injured

Mr. Andrew Adetti, chef at Skindles Hotel, fell from his bicycle at Bray on Monday evening and struck his head on a wall. He was knocked unconscious, and was detained in Maidenhead Hospital.

Collapsed

Mr. Reynold Fraser (38) of Lison St., Marylebone, W1, was found in a collapsed condition in Bridge Rd. on Tuesday. He was taken to hospital and detained.

Last services at Queen St. church next month

No decision yet on disposal of building

THE proposal to unite Queen St. and High St. Methodist societies at the larger High St. church, first announced in the ADVERTISER, in July, has now been formally accepted.

At the quarterly meeting of the Windsor, Maidenhead and Slough Circuit at the Queen St. Church the proposal was approved by a substantial majority. The trustees of Queen St. Church have made no decision yet on the disposal or future use of the church.

In addition to the fact that the unification accords with the wishes of the Methodist Conference, reasons for the move are that the two churches are close together, the Queen St. church is inadequate for the youth work now done by Methodists, and the unification will ease the manpower situation in the circuit. At present there are 18 churches and four ministers.

The amalgamation is subject to the approval of the Synod of the London South West District of the Methodist Church, due to meet next week.

Closing services will be held at Queen St. on October 2. In the

Police search for mother

The mother of the dead male baby found wrapped and floating in a pond near Winter Hill Rd., Pinkneys Green, on August 27, has not yet been traced.

Police are continuing inquiries over a wide area. An inquiry will be held when the police have sufficient information.

Cash and jewellery stolen

Money, an engagement ring and a pair of ear-rings, total value £16 3s. 6d., were stolen from 6 Keble Rd. between 12.40 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Wednesday last week.

The house was broken into through an insecure kitchen window. The missing property belongs to Hannah Reynolds.

Windows broken

Three windows have been maliciously broken at the office of the Superintendent Registrar (Mr. A. N. Gibson) at St. Ives. One was broken on Thursday night last week, and on Tuesday morning Mr. Gibson found two more had been smashed.

Bride's train was 125 years old



Miss Diana Craig was a bridesmaid last October to Miss Evens's sister, Nora, who was killed in a car crash in Maidenhead four months after her marriage to Mr. John Owen Blackley.

During the service, taken by the Rev. Esdaile L. Barnes, the anthem, I WAITED FOR THE LORD was sung by two choirs, one from St. Paul's Choir, London; the other from St. George's choir, Windsor.

Bells pealed once more as the bride and bridegroom left the church for a reception at Ilex House, Ray Drive.

Later, the couple left for a honeymoon at St. Tropez in the South of France.

She is a lacrosse international

THE recorded bells of St. Margaret's Westminster rang out last Saturday as Miss Geraldine Elizabeth Anne Evens entered the crowded church of St. Mary's for her wedding to Mr. Robert Henry Stephen Palmer. Red and white awning decorated the outside of the church—and inside, the aisle was carpeted in crimson and the altar bedecked with flowers.

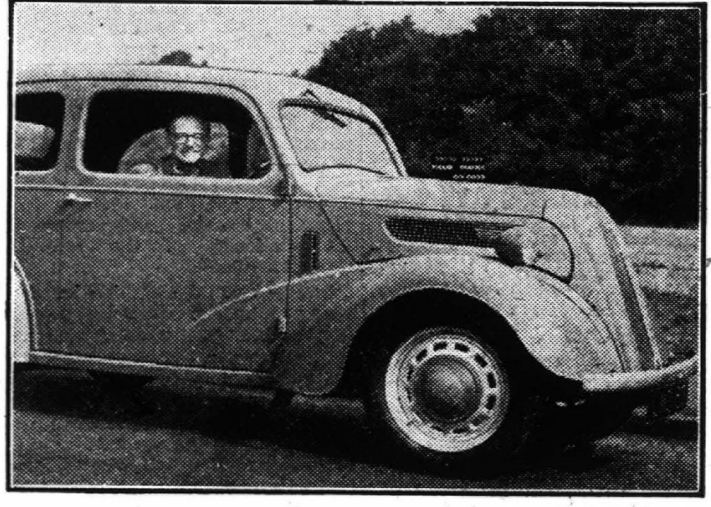
The bride, the daughter of Mrs. and the late Mr. George Evens of Ilex House, Ray Drive, wore a Stuart-style cream brocade dress embroidered with pearls, and carried a bouquet of yellow roses. Her long train, over 125 years old, was lent by Brussels applique lace. It was lent by Mrs. Reg. Maffett of Pinkney's Green, widow of Colonel Maffett—and the bride and Mrs. Maffett are the only two co-mothers to have worn it. On all other occasions it has been used by brides at court weddings.

YELLOW TROUSERS

Miss Evens was attended by two bridesmaids and two pages. Bouffant velvet-patterned yellow organza dresses were worn by bridesmaids Miss Diana Craig of Egypt and Miss Pamela Reynolds of South Wales, who each carried bouquets of cream roses. The two pages, Michael and Roger Higgins, were dressed in Kate Greenaway style yellow velvet trousers and cream silk shirts, Peter C. H. Whitehead was best man.

After their honeymoon, the couple will live at 13a, Pembroke Gardens, Kensington, London, W8.

HIS PARISHIONERS BOUGHT THIS CAR



Church goes at Stubbings have collected over £250 to buy their Vicar (the Rev. B. A. Soltan) a new car. In the Spring his pre-war Standard car broke down and he was told by his garage that the car was not worth repairing. Since then he has been doing much of his parish work on foot and by bicycle. For his frequent trips to Maidenhead on parish business, and to clerical conferences he has had to borrow cars from his churchwardens and parishioners. Now he is running in the new car which was delivered to him recently, and, on Wednesday, he left with his wife and young son for a summer holiday.

If Mr. Soltan takes up a new living within five years the car must be handed back by him at an agreed valuation. See story page 7.

Another week of X-rays

Up to Wednesday evening nearly 1,400 people had visited the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital mobile X-ray unit at the Community Centre, St. Ives Hotel, for chest X-rays. Everyone over the age of 15 is offered a free X-ray as part of the fight against tuberculosis.

The unit will be visiting Maidenhead again next week (see announcement on page 9).

When the unit was plugged in to the local electricity supply at St. Ives it was found to be inadequate, and a connection had to be made with the direct mains.

Junction collision

Cars driven by Mr. Harold Elcoat of the Robin Hood, Pinkneys Green, and Mr. R. H. G. Bonnett of Slough were slightly damaged in a collision at the junction of Bridge Rd. and Forlease Rd. on Monday evening.

Picked for Olympics ski trials

YOUNGEST son of Mr. Christopher Mackintosh of Peebles Court, Holyport, 20 year-old Mr. Charles Mackintosh has been selected as a candidate for the 1956 Olympic ski-team which will go to Cortina, Italy, next January.

He will leave England at the end of November with 19 others for Val d'Isere, French expert, Firmin Mattis will coach the team.

Mr. Mackintosh, like the rest of the family, learnt to ski soon after he could walk.

IN RHINE ARMY

Educated at Gordonstoun, the Duke of Edinburgh's old school, he is now a subaltern in the Scots Guards serving with B.L. 197 as a member of the British bobsleigh team which won the World Championship last year.

His sisters Vora (who was married recently) and Sheena are Olympic skiers, also, and his brother, Douglas, is a British champion.

But the children have not gained all the honours.

FAMOUS FATHER

Their father was in the Oxford University Ski-team, the British Ski-team and in 1924 he took part in the Olympic games. In 1927 he was a member of the British bobsleigh team which won the World Championship.

Mr. Mackintosh (senior) does not confine his interest to skiing only. He was Public Schools Doubles Champion in 1921 and 1922, a Scottish International Rugby player. He was also an Oxford Rugby and Athletics blue.

FOUR YOUNG MEN IN BRAWL CASE ARE FINED

One guilty of assault on police officer

FOUR young men were sentenced at the magistrates' court on Monday for their part in a brawl in Queen St. on July 22, when a police officer was said to have been assaulted and thrown to the ground.

At their trial, three weeks ago, P.C. W. A. G. Lewis stated that Brian Richard Alan Willett (19) of the Broadway, punched him four times in the kidneys. The Chairman of the Bench (Ald. E. B. Norris) ruled, however, that there was not sufficient evidence to support the charge of assault against him and dismissed it.

Willett had admitted using threatening behaviour, and on Monday the Chairman (again Ald. Norris) said to him: "We shall have to fine you £10 for the threatening behaviour."

You are lucky

Mr. Richard Good, a magistrate, interjected: "We have had a report from the Prison Commissioners which said you were suitable for Borstal training. You would have gone to Borstal for three years and been put on probation for two years if we had so decided. Altogether your liberty would have been restricted for five years. Remember that and realise how lucky you are."

To Brian William Lambert (17) of Whurley Way, who jabbed his knee "two or three times with con-

Coal stocks are low

LOCAL coal stocks are lower this year than they have been for many years. And there is little prospect of increased supplies reaching the town within the next few months.

Mr. T. Abercrombie, a local coal merchant, and president of the Berkshire Coal Merchants' Association, said on Wednesday:

"We do not know the reason for the coal shortage. During the first 32 weeks of the year the coal output from the mines dropped by 3½ million tons. This drop, together with the rail strike earlier this year, when deliveries from the mines came to a virtual standstill for three weeks, is, we presume, the cause of our present depleted local stocks."

SPECIAL GRADES

People have been ordering their coal throughout the summer. Orders for the more common grades of coal can generally be met within one or two weeks. But some orders, placed in May, for special grades of coal and boiler fuel have still not been delivered.

"The outlook for winter supplies of coal," added Mr. Abercrombie, "is very uncertain."

Police search for missing boy

THIRTEEN-year-old Kenneth Malcolm Henderson, the younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Miles Henderson of The Dell, Littlewick, was reported missing on Wednesday evening. He failed to return from a blackberrying expedition.

Yesterday morning the police discovered that the boy had withdrawn £7 from his Post Office Savings Bank account the previous day.

The search was immediately called off, and inquiries are now being made over a wide area.

The boy left home on his bicycle at about 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday, to go blackberrying in the Ashley Hill area, which lies between the Bath Road, Burchetts Green Rd. and Hurley. It is lightly wooded area with a considerable undergrowth.

Search party

Kenneth was expected home for tea at about 5.30 p.m. When he had not arrived at 7 p.m. his father informed Littlewick police station, and a search party was immediately organised.

The boy's father, his older brother Philip and several civilians assisted the police in searching the area.

Police dog

A police dog was brought from Ascot, by his handler, P.C. Wilkins, and the night search continued until 1.30 a.m. yesterday (Thursday). The search was resumed at 6 a.m. when about ten police officers again took part.

Grammar school boy

Kenneth, who is a pupil at Newbury Grammar School, is 5ft 11in in height, and has fair hair. When he left home he was wearing khaki shorts and a grey shirt. He has a sports type bicycle.

Police search for suspected polio victim

At the end of last week a five-year-old girl was admitted to the Isolation Hospital with suspected polio. Her condition is improving. This is the first case to be notified this summer.

First bid for championship

The son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Walker of 1 Lee Lane, Pinkneys Green, John Walker, of the County Police Headquarters, Sulhamstead, Reading—finished unplaced in his first bid for the British Chess Championship at the British Chess Federation Congress at Aberystwyth last Friday.

In 1946, John Walker—then 17—was elected Match Secretary and Captain of the Maidenhead Chess Club. In 1950 he became the youngest winner of the Berkshire Chess Championship.

Driver uninjured

A car driven by Mr. M. P. I. Richards of Flat 5, 10 The Colonnade, collided with a roadwork obstruction at the bottom of Punt Hill on Monday morning, and came to rest against a hedge. Mr. Richards was not hurt.

To solve that Marlow bus problem

THE Thames Valley Traction Company is proposing to alter the route of the Maidenhead to Marlow service.

At present the bus goes by Castle Hill and Pinkneys Green. The proposed new route is along Marlow Rd. and Gringer Hill.

The reason is that there have been many complaints that passengers waiting at stops from the top of Castle Hill onwards find the bus with passengers on its way through the town, and that many of them only wish to go a short distance.

SOME ARE EMPTY

Because of this, some buses arrive in Marlow with empty seats, while the long-distance passengers are still waiting in Maidenhead.

The Borough Highways Committee has considered the proposal and recommends the Council not to object to it. It is understood the police have no objection either. The application will now be submitted to the Licensing Authority.

Youths cause trouble at the station

A GOOD deal of trouble had been caused on Maidenhead railway station on Saturday nights by youths returning from visits to Reading, said Mr. John Dean (prosecuting for the British Transport Commission) at the magistrates' court on Monday. They had, apparently, been warned away from Reading station and had transferred their attention to Maidenhead.

Shortly before midnight on July 16 some of these youths displaced a platform barrier on Maidenhead station, he stated. Shunter B. W. Blizard followed them into a lavatory on the platform and spoke to them about the barriers.

He then left the lavatory, and, while moving the barrier back to its proper place, heard the smashing of glass. In the lavatory he found that a pane of glass had been shattered.

When Kenneth Bewley (18) of Essex Avenue, Slough, was questioned about the offence by P.C. Howe at Burnham, he admitted smashing the glass.

The constable noted that his hand was bandaged and Bewley explained that he had cut it in breaking the pane.

Bewley said he was carrying £7 a week.

He was fined £5 and ordered to pay £5 in compensation to the British Transport Commission for damaging their property, and 14s. 6d. costs. He was given 14 days to pay.

Where the bright lights will be

PLANS for the 1956-57 street lighting programme in the Borough were formulated by the Highways Committee this week. Fluorescent lighting, similar to that in York Rd., will be provided in Marlborough Rd., Craufurd Rise, Gringer Hill and Furze Platt Rd.

Tungsten lighting, similar to that in All Saints Avenue, will be installed in St. Luke's Rd., Boyne Valley Rd., and part of King's Grove.

The programme is subject to approval by the Council and the Ministry of Transport.

New Vicar

The Rev. S. E. Hickox, who is to be instituted as Vicar of Wooburn early in October (story page 3).

WILL NEW TOWN HALL PLAN BE DELAYED?

Effect of dearer loans on local projects

A FURTHER rise in interest rates on loans to local authorities, announced on Tuesday, will affect not only housing but other capital works upon which local councils may embark.

It is the fourth rise this year and the third time in two months that the Treasury has raised the interest rates on loans to local authorities from the Local Loans Fund.

At present, the rate of building council houses in the Borough is about the lowest that it has been since the war, but if the Government refuses to increase subsidies it may be necessary to increase the rents of new houses.

Building is slow

So far as the Borough is concerned, this will be a matter for the Council to decide. As the rate of building is so slow, it may be that no appreciable rise will take place. If they choose to do so, the Council could absorb these charges.

There are, however, other aspects to the new situation.

As the rise in interest rates will affect all capital schemes for which money may be borrowed from the Local Loans Fund, it may be necessary for the Finance Committee to review some of their budget plans.

New Town Hall

In particular, the new municipal buildings project may come in for re-examination, and with it the question of providing an alternative central car park.

The effect of recent rises in interest rates amounts in some cases to an increase of from 20 to 30 per cent in the actual cost of a project compared with a few years ago.

This restriction of credit is part of the Government's "squeeze" and as such is an administrative adjustment following the Chancellor's warning in July.

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