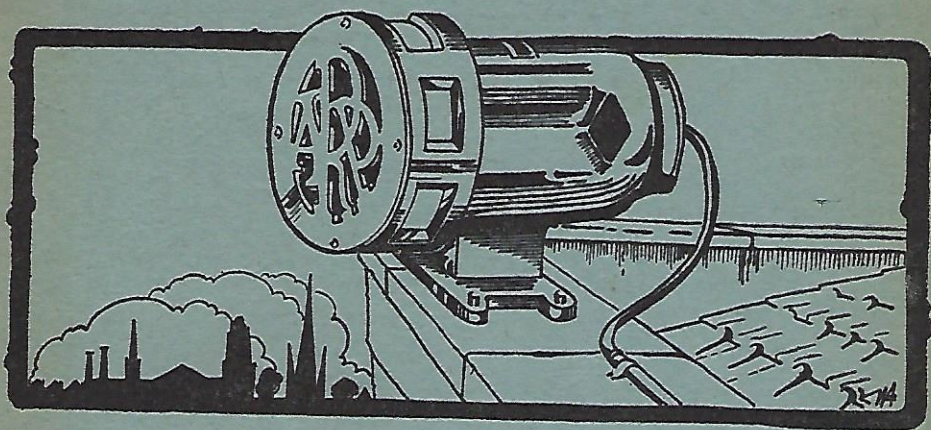




The SIREN.



*A
Magazine
for Bristol
Air Raid
Wardens*

MARCH, 1940
THREEPENCE

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B R I S T O L

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AIR RAID WARDENS' ORGANISATION



The **SIREN.**

A Magazine for Bristol Air Raid Wardens.

DIRECTORATE.

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Bristol 1.



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EDITORIAL NOTES

THERE is an old maxim which runs: "Something attempted, something done." That is what I feel with regard to the Wardens' Magazine. The "something done" is very encouraging indeed, but there is still room for improvement. Improvement in the Magazine itself, and improvement in its sale.

This month's issue has been increased to 40 pages, but the price remains the same. I am anxious to increase the circulation. There are well over 4,000 Wardens, and every one who purchases a copy should satisfy himself that the next Warden to whom he speaks has also bought a copy.

I shall not be satisfied until the 5,000 mark has been reached. It is an ambitious figure, but with the help of you all I am sure this can be done, so please do your best to increase the circulation. If you have any suggestions for the improvement of "The Siren" let me know.

As soon as the 4,000 mark has been reached I shall be able to increase the size of the book to 48 pages.

This month Inspector Weare is sending two additional copies to each Post, so will you all join in the "increase sales campaign" and look forward to the bigger Magazine.

I am very grateful once again to the numerous compliments received regarding "The Siren," and I take this opportunity of thanking all those who have sent in contributions.

The boys and girls will no doubt be pleased to see that they now have an "Uncle Fred" to look after their interests in the Magazine. He is a real live "Uncle," and will be pleased to hear from any of his "nephews" and "nieces."

W. G. Andrews.

Editor.

THE TRAINING AND WORK OF FIRST AID PARTIES

by
Chief Inspector W. G. ANDREWS.
(Continued from Page 9, January issue).

YOU will remember that in January we dealt with the general description of the work of First Aid Parties in war. This month we propose to deal with the practical training of First Aid Parties and the general principles of training in the treatment and handling of cases.

The Medical Officer of Health is primarily responsible for the Casualty Services. Volunteers are enrolled and arrangements made for their initial training in first aid, and anti-gas measures, irrespective of whether they are subsequently to be allocated to First Aid Parties, First Aid Posts, Ambulance Services, or in any other capacity. It is necessary to have the right type of person for First Aid Parties.

Training in Bristol has been carried out on an extensive scale under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health, and splendid services have been rendered by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross working in conjunction with each other.

Suitable premises have had to be acquired in which to carry out practices and stretcher exercises; and also suitable accommodation for storing training equipment; lectures and classes.

Having passed through the initial training stage the personnel for First Aid Parties are chosen and a specialised course is taken by officers and instructors who have been carefully selected for the work. Those selected must be persons with great experience, and in addition to the knowledge required for training First Aid Parties they must have organising ability.

The first step is the formation of parties each consisting of 4 men. It is well that they should be of the same height, and that they should be trained as a team. It is an advantage that one member of the team should be able to drive. In the course of training a leader will be chosen to take charge of each party.

The following are the subjects in which training should be given:—

- (a) Explanation, demonstration, and practice in dealing with casualties, with special reference to types of air raid injuries; counter-shock measures; arrest of hæmorrhage; methods of immobilising injured parts; the principles of initial disposal; methods of transportation, including carriage without stretchers, stretcher exercises, and the loading of ambulance vehicles.
- (b) Knowledge, preparation and maintenance of material and equipment; system of replacement of stretchers, blankets, tourniquets or splints passed on with casualties.

- (c) Knowledge of general A.R.P. casualty service organisation. Specific details of the local scheme; the location of the aid posts and hospitals, the depots of parties and ambulance and control centres.
- (d) Knowledge of Incendiary Bomb control, and protection against High Explosive bombs.

Having completed the above syllabus, parties will hold indoor and outdoor exercises, in daytime and at night, and then exercises should be arranged in conjunction with other A.R.P. Services, including other units of the Casualty Services.

It is essential that parties should be trained in a practical manner, and the work approached in as real a manner as possible, bearing in mind that First Aid Parties may be exposed to their greatest stress in the early stages of an attack, and there may be no opportunity for training or adjustment.

So training in a time when there are no attacks should be made as thorough and practical as possible, so that the parties can function as efficient and disciplined parts of a well organised Service.

It will be gathered then that a sound groundwork of first aid is necessary, and must be of such a nature that the parties are able to deal with casualties in the correct manner.

Each case has to be treated on its merits, and vitality must be conserved so that the patient can withstand being moved and subsequently operated upon if necessary.

The first thing which has to be considered in dealing with a casualty is: "Is there any immediate danger to life?" This would include:—

- (a) Haemorrhage and shock.
- (b) Interference with normal breathing (e.g. pressure on the chest by earth or debris as in a collapsed trench or building; or as a result of contact with a live wire; or through obstruction of the air passages).
- (c) Proximity to a source of danger to life (e.g. fire; dangerous masonry; moving machinery; exposed wires; or escaping coal gas).

These must be attended to at once. Bleeding must be controlled; interference with normal breathing removed; source of danger removed from the casualty, or the casualty removed from the source of danger.

Wounds received in an air raid may vary within wide limits, and may often be of a mixed type.

Lacerated wounds may be common. They may be severe. Crush injuries due to falling buildings may be associated with fracture, including fracture of the spine. These may be immediately fatal.

Casualties without obvious external injury may be encountered, and First Aid Parties should be able to recognise the signs of internal haemorrhage, and of concussion.

Burns may be expected, and these cases have a special danger of shock. Injuries may be due to flying fragments of glass.

Shock will be present in every case, and will frequently be extreme. First Aid Parties should appreciate the importance of keeping the patient warm in reducing the liability to secondary shock after the patient has been removed to hospital or to a first aid post.

The causes of shock include pain, chill, loss of blood, etc., and should be treated on the following general lines:—

- (i.) Relief of pain,
- (ii.) Protection from chill,
- (iii.) The arrest of haemorrhage,
- (iv.) The dressing of extensive burns,
- (v.) Immobilisation of fractures, joint wounds, and severely lacerated limbs before transport,
- (vi.) Gentle handling, lifting and removal.

There will be a number of slightly injured casualties, and these will be disposed of in one of the following ways:—

- (a) Those who are able to walk and wish to proceed home can be treated by their own doctor.
- (b) Others can be treated at either a first aid post or by a mobile unit near the site of the raid.

Gravely wounded cases and those about whom there is a doubt regarding their condition will be sent to hospital direct.

First Aid Parties are expected to label all casualties where possible, and should give particulars of the place where the casualty was picked up, but such work should not be allowed to interfere with the prompt treatment of the casualty. It is imperative to call attention to such things as the application of a tourniquet or the administration of morphia by a doctor. This can be done by means of a label or piece of paper pinned to the clothing which should be marked with a "T" for tourniquet, "M" for morphia, "H" for haemorrhage, "X" for a wound of the chest or abdomen, and "C" for gas contamination.

The leader of a First Aid Party is responsible for the party's medical stores and will regularly inspect the party's haversack; the articles to be carried in the vehicles; and each man's water-bottle and pouch.

First Aid Parties are instructed in the care of all articles, and the necessity for clean hands and nails when handling first aid material, and when attending to the wounded.

It may be necessary for First Aid Parties to work in close liaison with Rescue Parties and Fire Services, as trapped casualties may require some attention while still under wreckage.

Wardens in the course of their duties will no doubt be able to give valuable assistance to First Aid Parties, and it is hoped that the closest liaison will exist between the Wardens and the Medical Services so that the work of First Aid Parties will be made as easy as possible.

"ANTI-GAS TRAINING"

LESSON No. 2. THE BEER GASES.

by MERVYN MILLWARD.

(This article is reprinted from the "Police Review" by kind permission of the Editor).

To-day, ladies and gentlemen, I propose to deal with one of the most dangerous types of gas. Our subject is the Beer Gases.

There are three which are chiefly to be feared:—

- (a) I.P.A.—India Pale Ale. (b) O.A.B.—Old and Bitter.
- (c) X.X.X.—Bluster Gas.

These gases are all in liquid form, but, strangely enough, they are all non-persistent, particularly when in contact with male Wardens. I now propose to deal with them, briefly, under various headings.

1. **APPEARANCE.** These gases have never been seen in the pure state since 1800. In the crude state—that is the form in which they are commonly encountered—they are either a pale straw, light brown or dark brown colour. They all appear quite harmless.

2. **SMELL.** The smell of these gases is not pronounced. Nevertheless, trained personnel (Wardens, for example) have no difficulty in detecting their presence.

3. **SOLUBILITY.** All the beer gases are very soluble in water. A concentration of 1 in 50,000,000 (i.e., 1 part of beer in 50,000,000 parts of water) would cause no serious injury to a normal person. It is possible, however, that if a Warden came into contact with such a concentration the licensee would become a casualty.

4. **PENETRATION.** These gases have extraordinary powers of penetration. They will penetrate any mouth which can be opened sufficiently wide to receive them. As far as I can discover, there are only three substances which beer will not penetrate, viz., a Divisional Warden, a Churchwarden and a Police Sergeant on duty.

5. **UNIVERSAL ACTION.** Beer gases have a universal action. They effect every part of the body, both inside and out. The respirator, fortunately, is not a complete protection. When it is removed, as it invariably is when a Warden comes in contact with these gases, it exposes the mouth, throat, epiglottis, tonsils and gullet, into which, upon the slightest provocation, these gases will sink.

6. **EFFECTS.** Beer gases have no immediate irritant effect upon the body. They have what is known as a delayed action. After a person has been in a high concentration he has a similar reaction to that produced by Phosgene—a feeling of well being.

7. **SYMPTOMS.** Upon removal to the fresh air, a casualty will find serious symptoms rapidly developing. The legs will become detached from the body and the body itself will slowly sink to a crawling position. In passing, I would like to point out that

Beer Gases have an extraordinary effect upon key-holes. They cause them to move in an anti-clockwise direction and render the insertion of latchkeys a very difficult operation.

8. **DEVELOPMENT OF INJURY.** After a contaminated person has reached home his injuries will develop rapidly. As soon as he succeeds in entering his front door (or back door, if he prefers that means of ingress) stars will shoot before his eyes and a lump like a duck's egg will form on the top of his head. This, of course, will arise from contact with a well wielded poker or rolling pin.

9. **PROTECTION.** The finest form of protection against these horrible gases is, as far as male Wardens are concerned, the mother-in-law. An efficient mother-in-law will ensure that no married man is ever likely to come into contact with these gases in such concentrations as would be likely to cause him injury.

10. **MOUSTACHES.** No, Sir! Your question is quite a sensible one, but I must warn you that moustaches, though acting as filters to prevent the passage of dead mice, pieces of cork and branches from the hop vine, will not completely absorb these gases. Indeed, they create an added danger. If some of the gas is absorbed by the moustache, it may remain inactive until the owner is in church or attending Part II. training. Then, when he is abstractedly sucking the ends of his moustache, this insidious gas may cause him to become a casualty.

11. **FIRST AID.** The patient will, generally, be a stretcher case. If severely gassed, he may become violent and need strapping down. He should be put to bed, preferably with his boots on. Should he complain that the bed is rising and falling, or that blue nosed alligators or red chimpanzees are standing at the foot of the bed, reassurance is necessary.

After about ten minutes, he will sink into a coma. His face will be flushed, his breathing difficult and he may develop a red tint around the nose and the tips of the ears. On the other hand, if he is what is termed a Very Serious Case, he may turn a pallid, greenish colour. The latter is a most serious sign. It denotes that he is about to be sick. Prompt steps must be taken to provide some suitable receptacle.

Unless he dies during the next 24 hours, he will probably make a fairly rapid recovery. Care must be taken to counteract the severe depression which follows contact with these gases. An insatiable thirst is a sign of convalescence. The bedroom water jug should be frequently replenished. Beer, as you already know, is rapidly hydrolized by cold water.

Care must be taken to see that the patient does not leave the house until he is completely recovered. If he does, he is apt, in his lightheaded state, to rush straight into a gas laden atmosphere again.

Lesson No. 3, "Anti-Gas Clothing" will be given in next month's issue.

THE WORK OF THE A.R.P. CONTROL

by H. M. WEBB, Esq., B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E.

AN essential part of the Air Raids Precaution Organization is the system of Communications, which includes Bristol A.R.P. Control, six Divisional Report Centres and the Divisional Action Depots.

In the event of an Air Raid, the first branch of the A.R.P. Action Services to come into action will probably be the Wardens. As soon as they have located the position of the occurrence and noted certain particulars relating to the damage, casualties, etc., it is their duty to communicate these particulars to the Divisional Fire Service in case of fire, and to their Divisional Report Centre in any case.

It is then that the Communications organization begins to play its part.

The chief functions of the Communications organization are as follow :—

- (1) To collect all available information relating to the damage inflicted by hostile raiders.
- (2) To pass on all relevant information to higher authorities, and to inform the Services concerned of the damage, so that repairs may be effected with the minimum delay.
- (3) To despatch action parties to the scene of the occurrence to render aid.

The personnel at a Report Centre during a raid includes the Divisional Warden and a representative of the Police and Fire, who thus have early information of the incidents.

Each Centre is manned continuously by a trained staff, and on receipt of a Warden's report, which is sent by telephone, or in the event of the telephone being damaged, by messenger, the site of the occurrence is plotted on a large-scale map of the Division, and the particulars immediately brought to the notice of the Officer-in-Charge. It is his duty to ensure that certain details of obvious urgency are passed on to A.R.P. Control by a direct telephone line. He must also give immediate attention to ordering out Action Parties and to assist him in deciding what action should be taken he consults representatives of the City Engineer and the Medical Officer of Health, who form part of the Report Centre Staff. The Action Parties are in readiness at the Action Depots, and consist of Light and Heavy Rescue parties, Decontamination Squads, Ambulances, First Aid Parties and other Medical Units.

When the Officer-in-Charge at Report Centre has decided on the preliminary action to be taken, he sends an order to the Superintendent at the Action Depot, who is responsible for the despatch of the parties to the site of the occurrence, or to a selected assembly point known as a Rendezvous, and a copy of the order is telephoned to A.R.P. Control, where a complete visual record is kept of all the available Action Parties in the City and their movements.

The Controller's Headquarters are at A.R.P. Control, which, like Report Centres, is manned continuously. It consists of a Telephone Room, a room for representatives of the Services, and a Map Room, which in addition to the visual record of Action Parties, contains a large-scale map of all six Divisions of the City, and maps of the adjoining counties.

The closest contact is maintained between Control and the Police and Fire Services and the Chief Warden, and the Controller is responsible for ensuring that the resources of the various air raid precaution services coming within his scope are employed efficiently and to the best advantage, and for co-ordination with services outside his province. To facilitate co-operation during a raid, Control will also be the headquarters of various branches of the A.R.P. organization, and should a Division suffer damage to such an extent that it is unable to cope with it with its own available resources, A.R.P. Control will arrange for reinforcements to be sent from other Divisions, and in case of need from districts adjoining the City.

This supplementary assistance is known as Mutual Support, the principle being that those Divisions which have not been attacked are available to go to the assistance of those Divisions which need extra help. In the first instance, each Division has to rely upon its own resources, but should further assistance be needed, the Officer-in-Charge of the Report Centre must make a request to A.R.P. Control, where the available reserves are known, and arrangements will be made for extra Action Parties to be transferred temporarily to the strength of the Division being attacked.

The Bristol A.R.P. Controller is also Controller of a Group which includes the City of Bristol and certain areas of North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, and he can arrange for assistance to come to Bristol from these County areas provided they have Action Parties available which they themselves do not need. This Mutual Support is, of course, reciprocal, and if necessary help must be sent from Bristol to areas outside the City.

The collection of information relating to any damage effected is an extremely important part of the duties at Report Centres and A.R.P. Control.

Representatives of such Services as Water, Gas, Electricity and Telephones are on duty at Control, and there is no need to emphasize the importance of passing on to the Services concerned any reports relating to damage to their mains and cables, so that the promptest action may be taken to effect repairs.

Should a number of people be rendered homeless through intensive bombing, information is sent by Report Centres to the Air Raids Hostels Committee, so that they may be given temporary accommodation in hostels which have been allocated, and Control

has to keep the Housing Committee informed of all property damaged, so that it may be made habitable as speedily as possible.

Information must also be passed to the City Engineer's Department relating to highways and sewers, so that Repair Parties may be brought into action, and in the event of damage to bridges, the arrangements which have been made with Contractors have to be put into operation.

Damage to railways, the location of unexploded bombs and fallen hostile aircraft, all of which must be reported to the authorities concerned, are only a few of the many other important details which Wardens send in to Report Centres, and which have to be passed on to Control without delay so that the necessary action may be put into operation.

Reports of poison gas are reported by Report Centres to Divisional Gas Identification Officers, who will immediately go to the spot, and in order that no delay may occur in sending Action Parties of whatever description to deal with any damage, the maps at Report Centres and Control are marked to indicate any temporary blockages on the roads, and the Action Parties ordered to the occurrence are directed as to any deviation in route it may be necessary to make.

It will, I think, be realized that there is a very considerable amount of detailed work necessary to ensure the proper functioning of Communications. Accuracy is essential, and speed in dealing with messages and orders is equally important, as delay may involve deaths which might have been avoided, and may also result in fires spreading, water wasting from damaged mains, and suchlike.

The staffs in the Communications Branch of the A.R.P. Services have, by practising daily and nightly, made themselves efficient and adjusted themselves to changes in routine which from time to time have been inevitable. Many of the improvements which have been made are the result of suggestions made by those working at the Centres, Depots and Control, and I am confident that both the whole-time paid staff and the part-time volunteers fully realize the important role they are destined to play in the defence of our City should it be attacked from the air.

THE ROYAL VISIT

The parade of Wardens on the occasion of the Royal Visit was splendid, and did great credit to the Organisation. The Chief Constable expressed his pleasure with the contingent in a memorandum circulated to all Posts, and though the number of Wardens on parade was small (120), comparatively speaking, the Chief Constable knew that had the opportunity been afforded to all Wardens to be present the same degree of smartness and efficiency would have obtained.

It was a case of the few illustrating the keenness of the whole.

—The Editor.

THE AUXILIARY FIRE SERVICE

by

Chief Inspector J. Y. KIRKUP.

(Continued from February issue).

APLIANCES supplied by the Government under Emergency Fire Precautions Schemes are as follows:—

(1) **Heavy pump units**, which are of 700-1,000 gallons per minute capacity, and primarily intended for relaying water in bulk supplies as water mains are likely to be damaged or pressures may drop on account of hydrants which are in use.

(2) **Fire Float Units**. These are pumps which are designed for easy mounting on barges or other similar river craft thereby quickly converting them into fire fighting units for cities or towns with large riverside and dock risks.

(3) **Large Trailer Pumps**, which have a capacity up to 500 gallons per minute, and used for either fire fighting or relaying water.

(4) **Light Trailer Pumps**. These are intended primarily for patrol work in districts where the fire risk is normal. The pump is detachable from its chassis and can be man-handled over rough roads, shell craters, etc. The problem of transporting large numbers of emergency appliances was at first one of considerable difficulty. This has been counteracted to some extent by the purchase by Local Authorities of large-powered secondhand motor cars and motor lorries.

An emergency fire precaution scheme as outlined above has been applied to Bristol, which has a population of nearly half a million, and an area of approximately 25,000 acres. The whole of the city has been carefully surveyed, and divided into 30 sectors with a permanent or Auxiliary Fire Station in each sector. Fire patrols have been worked out operating from each station, assuring that at all times during an emergency the whole of the property would be under continual observation. Each station is equipped with a complement of large and light trailer pumps as patrolling units, and the number of units is governed by the fire risk in each area.

Facilities for the billeting of personnel have been made at all Stations. Attention has also been given to the possibility of trunk water mains becoming fractured, and a number of 5,000 gallon steel tanks have been placed at strategic points throughout the city. Heavy pumping units for relaying water to these tanks are also standing by at predetermined positions.

Approximately 200 fire appliances have been supplied by the Government, and have been divided into two groups:—

(a) First Line Units.

(b) Second Line Units.

First line units are those which are kept ready for immediate action by the personnel always on duty.

Second line units are those which can be manned by personnel who would respond immediately an air raid warning was given, that is, part time volunteers. The number of personnel required to man all appliances is approximately 5,000.

The Auxiliary Fire Service is one which makes considerable appeal to many men on account of the technical interest of the work, and its element of risk and adventure.

Having regard to the nature of the Service, efficient training is of the first importance, and after being medically examined, every man enrolled, whether for whole or part time duty, receives a course of 60 hours tuition in all branches of Fire Brigade work, in an endeavour to fit him to carry out efficiently any duties for which he might be selected in an emergency. Training includes fire escape and ladder drill, drill with all types of fire pumps, training with Incendiary Bombs, Communications, and general war organization. He receives also a course of training in anti-gas and decontamination methods. Every opportunity is also taken to supplement this training by employing them to assist the Regular Brigade at normal fires.

Uniform and accoutrements are supplied to each member, and a badge, for use when in civilian attire, has been issued.

There is no doubt that the Auxiliary Fire Service has become a permanency in the public life of the country, and will become an established part of our National Defence. The necessity for its permanency is unquestionable, no matter how much one may regret the necessity for its having been brought into being.

It is a fact that where Civil Defence is systematically organized, and where the inhabitants co-operate for their own safety, a high degree of immunity can be obtained.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT BINDING CASES

We are now able to give you particulars of the Binding Cases for the first volume (January to December) of "The Siren."

The cover is a rich blue with gold lettering, and the completed book will make a very attractive addition to your bookshelf.

The price for the completed book is 3/6, with an additional 4d. for postage if you wish the book sent by post.

WHAT TO DO NOW.

1. Keep each issue clean, and in a safe place. It may be very difficult to obtain back numbers at the end of the year.
2. Complete and send in one of the forms which will be found at your Post. Do it now and your name will be registered.
3. Notify the Editor of any change of address.

Upon receipt of your form a Binding Case will be reserved for you. Do not send any money until you are asked for it.

We hope you will all send in your names for registration.

—The Editor.

MYSTERY AT POST Y. 13

by
Q.E.D.

"SO you're a Warden, I see," said Martin.

"Yes," replied Brown, "I'm at R. 4. I wonder you don't become one."

"Didn't you know I was one—for a fortnight?"

"Only a fortnight? What made you give it up?"

"I resigned after rather an interesting happening."

"Do tell me."

Martin ordered another pint apiece and then proceeded.

"Soon after I had joined the Wardens I was assigned for duty from twelve until four a.m. I had reached the top of the drive which leads to the house where we used a room, and was about to pass the window of the room which we use, when I fancied that I heard a noise coming from the opposite end of the garden. It was a mild, dark night, and I could see nothing but the dim shapes of the bushes and trees. I flashed my torch and stood listening, but I could see or hear nothing. Deciding that it must have been my imagination, I was about to switch off my torch, when the rays, resting for a moment on the wall beneath the window, revealed several small patches oddly standing out on the plain white walls of the house. I examined them carefully and decided that they were drops of blood. There were none at all on the window sill, but halfway down the wall beneath it splashes of blood lay at frequent intervals. Looking carefully I saw the trail continued along the path. I followed it carefully, noting how the stains increased in size as I proceeded. They made an easy trail, and I had gone some distance when they became large blobs and smears zig-zagging their way drunkenly on to the lawn.

Stooping to examine them carefully, I saw that now there were three distinct trails ahead. I hesitated, wondering which to follow. Choosing the middle track, I followed it along a seldom used narrow path which finally brought me to the front of a small summer house.

The door was ajar, and I was able to switch the light of my torch on the bench at the back of the hut. Apparently there was nothing there.

I cautiously pushed the door wide open and stepped in, shining my torch on the floor and walls. It was quite empty. There was no blood.

Stepping out of the summer house, I retraced my steps to the junction of the three trails of blood. Choosing the left-hand track I followed that. It took me down another path by the side of the orchard, and then turned sharply and suddenly swerved back. I followed it easily and quickly, but was stopped abruptly by a wooden wall which seemed to leap out of the darkness. Almost

at once I realized that it was the wall of the summer house, and once more I cautiously opened the door and went in. But it was just as before. There was nothing to be seen.

Again I retraced my steps, determined to follow the remaining trail of blood. This I did, being led as if through a maze. This left me bewildered when I found myself once more standing in front of the summer house. As I stood there realizing that this time the door was shut, I thought I heard a sound inside. Quickly I pushed open the door, shining the torch directly in front of me. Immediately I was taken aback, for a man was lying on the bench as if unconscious. I touched him, but he did not move, although he felt warm.

As I bent to examine him more closely, my torch flickered. I decided to run for help and quickly reached the wall where I had first noticed the stains. I turned the corner leading to the porch, and there almost ran into a man.

'Oh, Doctor Patterson,' I gasped, 'You are just the man I wanted. Quick, come with me.'

We entered the summer house and found the man lying as still as death. The doctor took out his torch and bent over the man.

'It's Jefferies,' he murmured.

Jefferies was one of our Wardens.

I looked at the doctor's back and bent head, and from him to the floor. Idly I stooped and picked up a scrap of paper.

'He's dead,' murmured Patterson.

He straightened himself. 'I'm afraid we're too late.'

We walked back towards the house to telephone the police.

'It was lucky you happened to be here,' I said.

'Yes,' replied Doctor Patterson, 'I wanted a few words with Jefferies. I thought he was on duty with you to-night.'

'He was,' I replied, 'but his duty was changed at the last minute. A chap called Grey is on to-night.'

We walked into the hall and opened the door of our room. I was surprised to find the room in darkness. Quickly I switched on the light revealing an unusual sight. The room was in a state of disorder, chairs were tipped over and the table upside down. By the fire place sat Grey, bound tightly to a chair and gagged.

The doctor hurriedly unbound him and gave him a drink from his flask, and very slowly Grey revived and began to tell his story.

'I relieved the other fellows,' he explained, 'and was sitting reading, when suddenly the door burst open, the light went out and before I could do anything someone seized me from behind, pushed me into a chair, tied and gagged me. I heard the door bang, and that is all I know,' he concluded.

'Did you hear any other sound?' I asked him.

'None.'

'No shots, or sound of a struggle?'

Grey looked at me in a puzzled manner. 'No, no, I told you all that happened.'

'You saw **no-one** at all after the Wardens left?' I persisted.

He looked at me questioningly. 'I've told you, haven't I?'

I bent forward, leaning on the table, 'Do you know Jefferies is dead?'

'What?' Grey stood up abruptly.

'Yes,' I answered. 'We found him shot in the summer house.' I turned towards Doctor Patterson. 'That is so, isn't it Doctor?'

'Yes,' he replied, looking seriously at Grey.

'My God!' said Grey slowly, and with deep feeling.

He sat down slowly, thinking. Again he stood up, this time speaking quickly and angrily.

'You're lying, it's not true.'

'You can see for yourself,' I indicated through the window.

'I will do so.' He answered decisively and walked abruptly towards the door.

'I'll go with him,' I said, picking up the doctor's torch. 'You telephone while we're gone.'

Following Grey out of the house I ran to overtake him. We walked quickly and silently towards the summer house. When we reached the door, Grey pushed it open violently and went in. I followed.

'Well?' He turned towards me.

I looked at the bench. It was empty.

'A poor idea of a joke,' said Grey pushing past me.

I stared, switching the torch all round the hut. But it was bare, and too small to conceal a body. Slowly I walked outside flashing the torch. I stood by the door pondering and playing the light on the trees, bushes and the newly dug soil. A small glint of frost shone like diamonds on the ground.

Slowly I retraced my way back, and found Grey standing by the bloodstained wall. We went into the house together. I gently pushed open the door of the post. The doctor was at the phone laughing. He looked up and saw us and immediately hung up the receiver, his face instantly grave.

I looked at him and then at Grey who was walking slowly about the room.

'Well?' I said.

'It's all damn peculiar,' said Grey.

'Very,' I replied, 'because Jefferies *was* there, wasn't he, doctor?'

'What? Oh, yes,' he replied.

'He's not there now,' I said.

The doctor's face changed. I turned to Grey.

'You didn't see Jefferies this evening, I suppose?'

'What do you mean?' replied Grey angrily. 'What the hell are you getting at?'

'Only this,' I answered, opening out a piece of paper on the table. 'I found this in the summer house, just now. It is rather interesting.'

Grey stopped suddenly and bent over the paper. Suddenly he tried to snatch it up, but I was too quick for him.

'So it is your signature,' I said, 'I thought as much. So you owed Jefferies three hundred pounds?'

'What if I did?' shouted Grey, 'It's no business of yours, is it?'

'Perhaps not,' I replied. I glanced down at the writing.

'Rather unusual to put down the time of the signature wasn't it?'

He looked at me, trying vainly to speak.

'12.3 a.m., 6th October, 1939. That is to-day's date, isn't it?'

Grey looked at me murderously, but did not reply.

'You **did** see Jefferies after you relieved the Wardens and before we came in, then, didn't you?'

Grey suddenly lost control of himself. 'I can't help it, I tell you I can't help it. Yes, he did come in here. Oh, God! why did I have to come to Bristol? I was safe up North.'

He made a great effort to calm himself.

'He recognised me at once. Trust him! I had to give that I.O.U.' His tone changed and he spoke most earnestly. But I swear that he went out then, immediately. I was in a panic, couldn't think what to do. Then I made up my mind. I walked to the phone resolved to tell the police and had just lifted the receiver and asked for them when the door opened as I told you before, and the light was turned out. It all happened as I told you, I swear it. I tell you, he was alive when I last saw him. He was alive.'

The doctor gave a short laugh and I looked at him curiously.

'A pity you've no alibi,' he said. 'It looks rather unpleasant for you, particularly as those bonds I unfastened were so easily undone.'

'What do you mean? What are you insinuating?' Grey turned on the doctor angrily.

'Nothing, nothing,' answered Patterson gently. 'I only meant that it was all rather strange and unusual.'

He then looked at me curiously and gave a slow smile.

'You've been very busy accusing Grey, but now I think it's time we asked you a few questions.'

'What do you mean?' I said slowly.

The doctor leant towards me, then suddenly put his hand into my pocket and drew a revolver.

'H'm, very pretty,' he said, 'One shot gone from this. Very strange and very unusual indeed.' He nodded at me, smiling and tapping the revolver on his palm.

'I wonder what the police will say to this?'

I realized that the game was up. I glanced at my watch. There was a sound of footsteps outside. The door opened and three large men entered the room.

I turned to the doctor.

'Doctor Patterson, I arrest you in the name of the law. I am Detective Inspector Small and I charge you with the theft of Lady Cottle's pearls and diamond necklace.'

I turned to one of the newcomers. 'Have you got Jefferies?'

'Yes, sir, we caught him in the garden all right. He's outside.'

Doctor Patterson laughed. 'You're making a fool of yourself,' he said. 'You've nothing on me.'

'This torch you lent me, Doctor —,' I withdrew it from my pocket, and still holding it, put it on the table. 'This also is something strange and unusual.'

The doctor laughed in a condescending tone.

'My dear fellow . . .' he expostulated.

I unscrewed the top, put in my fingers and drew out the contents. The men watched me silently.

'These are genuine pearls,' I said. 'A strange place to keep them, doctor.'

'There are no diamonds there,' he replied.

I turned to the men.

'You'll find them in the newly dug ground by the summer house,' I said.

Martin turned to Brown with a smile. "And that," he said, "was how I caught two expert jewel thieves for whom we had been looking for two years."

"I'd no idea you were a detective," said Brown. "And was Patterson really a doctor?"

"Yes," replied Martin. "He had qualified as a doctor at one time but had been struck off the rolls. He then fell in with Jefferies and the two of them worked together. In this particular case, Patterson had done the 'job,' and had arranged to meet Jefferies at the post to give him the jewels. The latter, in turn, was in league with the gardener who was a 'fence' for stolen property. Jefferies had arranged with him to bury the jewels in the garden that night ready for the gardener to dig up the next day."

"Was Grey in league with them, then?" asked Brown.

"Oh, no," answered Martin, "But he was an old 'lag,' and was at once recognised by Jefferies when he entered the room, and the result of that little interview was the I.O.U."

"But I still don't understand," said Brown.

"What about Grey's tie-up?"

"Oh, that," said Martin, "quite simple. When Jefferies had extorted the I.O.U. he left immediately. Outside the door he met Patterson who passed over the diamonds to him. As he did so, Jefferies heard Grey ringing the police. He immediately opened

the door, turned out the light, and attacked him as Grey said. He then dashed out into the garden."

"Oh, yes, I see," said Brown. "And the doctor was coming away when you met him then?"

"Yes, that is so," said Martin.

"But why did Jefferies appear to be unconscious when you were in the hut alone with him?"

"Oh, Jefferies had been wandering round the garden trying to find the appointed place for burying the diamonds. He must have heard me on my third approach to the summer house and hurried inside and pretended to be unconscious."

"Yes, I see. What happened to him then?"

"On my return to the post for help he looked round desperately for the appointed place and had just found it when he heard our footsteps. He dropped the diamonds and went back into the hut."

"Of course. And I suppose Patterson pretended to examine him and said he was dead in order to play for time?"

"Exactly."

"But I still can't see how you knew where the diamonds were."

"You will remember that Grey and I went back to the summer house and found no body. It was then that I noticed the frost. But on consideration I remembered it was a warm night and therefore there would be no frost. The frost in reality proved to be the missing diamonds which Jefferies had been unable to find. He had wandered about the garden looking for them and had been found by my men."

"That all seems pretty clear now, except for the bloodstains."

"We discovered next day that the summer house was being painted by the grandchild of the house. He had used a bucket which leaked."

CIRCULATION FIGURES

Vol. I. No. 1. January, 1940. 3,000 copies

Vol. I. No. 2. February, 1940. 3,200 copies

WATCH THIS FIGURE GROW!

RESULT OF JANUARY'S ESSAY COMPETITION

Considerable difficulty was experienced in selecting the winning Essay as so many good ones were received.

The one chosen has been submitted by Mr. M. S. Hawker, of 3 Collingwood Road, Redland, and we congratulate him.

* * * *

THE WINNING ESSAY.

WORKING A WARDENS' POST

A WARDENS' Post is a combination of a storehouse, telephone kiosk, flying squad's H.Q., and social club, and the working of it is affected by each of its various functions.

In it should be a large scale map of the area covered, on which are marked all doctors' houses, chemists' shops, fire hydrants, public telephones, and neighbouring wardens' posts; and besides this map, a register should be kept of the occupants of every house in the area, with details of any who may be deaf, or blind, or who may be bedridden; and whether these latter can walk in emergency, or have to be carried, or possess their own wheeled chairs. Thus if any house is demolished, and the warden responsible for that particular street is not available, any warden can find out from the post when he returns to make his report, who is likely to be under the wreckage of that particular house, and whether the sole survivor of a neighbouring partly demolished house will need special help, due to any infirmity. A note of any private shelters should be kept in the same register, so that rescue parties can be directed to the garden or cellar as the case may be. Public shelters, with the number of people they can hold, should be marked on the large scale map, and if plenty of wardens are available during a daylight raid, one of them could be detailed to stay by the public shelter, and see it is not overcrowded.

A wall chart recording the attendances of each individual warden, would serve as a useful check, and might stir more distant wardens into coming more regularly.

An additional attraction might be one evening a month or a fortnight devoted to brief lectures revising the original A.R.P. and First Aid Courses. These lectures should be short and informal, and should be given by the senior wardens, or head warden. They might be followed by questions, or open discussion, but a strong and tactful chairman would be required to prevent too many reminiscences of the Great War, etc., which would side-track the point under discussion. More difficulties would be aired, and solved under these conditions than at the end of larger meetings with police instructors.

The actual procedure which each warden would follow, if he heard the warning syren, should be gone through step by step, so that each individual warden is absolutely familiar with his own particular duties. Wardens unfamiliar with the telephone should be encouraged to use it. Practices should be held monthly, and every warden should find an incident arranged for him in some part of the area he has to patrol; a note should be kept of which wardens receive such incidents, so that a different type of incident could be given to each warden at the next practice.

Another form of practice would be to keep in the post a series of numbered bottles, containing smelling samples of the various gases; wardens could then smell the different samples in turn and note down the numbers of the bottles whose smell they recognised, afterwards comparing their list with the key list. This would mean more to the average city bred warden than a mere statement that phosgene smells like musty hay, or lewisite like geraniums. Many of our wardens have probably never smelt a geranium, and are uncertain what one looks like.

It would also be useful if wardens were given the opportunity of visiting the City First Aid posts, where they could see the actual treatment given to road casualties, and accustom themselves to the sight of badly damaged patients.

The social side of a wardens' post is of sufficient importance to justify a good supply of reasonably comfortable chairs; and suitable kitchen facilities are necessary to prevent the post being always littered up with food and dirty crockery. Sufficient room to prevent the dart players being a source of danger is also desirable, and if a ping pong table or billiards table can be acquired, so much the better. A wireless set, and a small but varying library will complete the amenities of the post, and will make the wardens look on it as the best and cheapest club in Bristol.

EXTRACT FROM THE BRISTOL POLICE INSTRUCTION BOOK ISSUED IN 1836.

SHAWLS, ETC., AT NIGHT.

No man is allowed to wear any handkerchief or shawl round his face when on duty. If he prefers wearing a handkerchief instead of his stock (by night) it must be black and on no account appear above the Great Coat collar.

* * * *

No Sergeant or Constable will be allowed to carry a stick or an umbrella when on duty, or to wear any medal, ribbon, or decoration, without permission from the Watch Committee; or to keep a dog, unless in some place of confinement.

Do You Know?

That foodstuffs, for the most part, absorb gas very readily, and if badly contaminated must be destroyed.

That the modern methods of distributing foodstuffs in some standard form of packing are a great advantage as a protection against gas.

That waxed or grease-proof papers are better for packing foodstuffs than ordinary pervious papers.

That hermetically sealed vessels, as long as they remain undamaged, give complete protection against gas.

That ordinary sacks, such as those used for flour, grain, etc., give practically no protection.

That wooden boxes and thick cardboard boxes, if joints are tight, give good protection against vapour, but they will absorb liquid gas.

That open sheds offer poor protection against gas, and foodstuffs stored in them should be covered by tarpaulins.

That when an air raid warning has been received, shops should be completely closed up to keep out poison gas.

DEATHS

We regret to announce the death of two of our Wardens, and express our deepest sympathy for those who mourn.

Mrs. Nora Langman, 82 Sylvan Way, Sea Mills.
Enrolled 15th September, 1938.
Died 13th February, 1940.

Mr. P. C. Hazell, 142 Chessel Street, Bedminster, Bristol 3.
Enrolled 14th July, 1939.
Died 18th February, 1940.

Divisional Announcements

CENTRAL DIVISION.

A social evening for the Wardens of "L" Group was held on Wednesday, February 21st, 1940, at Horfield Church Hall.

In appreciation, we mention the names of contributors to a successful "do."

Mr. S. E. Mackey, for his chairmanship, songs and loan of "props." Mr. A. H. Burt, Mr. R. J. Mathews, Mrs. B. A. McGuire, Mrs. L. A. Chandler and Mrs. H. G. Andrews, the social sub-committee, the ladies of which, with the assistance of Mrs. B. V. Clarke and Miss S. G. Clark, arranged refreshments.

Mrs. Rene Haines for her pianoforte playing and for volunteering "to be an actor," together with Miss Pat Smith, Miss F. A. Bradley, and Messrs. R. Gay, A. H. Andrews, M. Hewitt, T. E. Harcombe, H. C. Bicknell and D. N. Andrews in a playlet called "Beaten at the Post," written by Warden F. S. Hazard.

Mr. H. S. Smith who looked after the "box office."

Sergeant Whalley who represented the "powers."

Mr. A. F. Faint whose co-operation enabled us to obtain the services of Clifford Hensley and his cabaret party.

All wardens and visitors who survived the prevalent winter ills and came along to enjoy the fun.

We very much regret the unavoidable absence of Mr. E. Roberts and Mr. W. C. Birt, Group Warden and Deputy Group Warden respectively.

* * * *

BEDMINSTER DIVISION.

On Monday, February 16th, 1940, the Wardens of Post A. 2 played B. 2 at Skittles, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. A. 2 won the match by 31 pins. Wardens A. Buxton and W. H. Tyler, 39 and 33, were top scorers for A. 2, whilst Wardens Spratt and Waycott 31 each, had the honours for B. 2.

B. 2 have sworn to have revenge on Monday, March 4th, on their alley; so watch your "Front," A. 2.

[I hope they have had it.—Editor.]

Monday, February 23rd, was a Red Letter Day for Group A. and Group B. The Wardens of these Groups met in deadly combat at Darts on Group A. "Battlefield." After a very desperate battle Group B. retired defeated but not disgraced, by 8 games to 7.

Sharpshooters on both sides were much in evidence. Many scores of over 100 were made by both Groups. For Group A. Warden G. Bye took honours with 129, whilst Deputy Group

Warden Lovell 108, was the best marksman for B. Group.

Thanks are due to Mrs. S. Briggs for accommodating such large company.

* * * *

KNOWLE DIVISION.

If any Warden's Post has a Darts Team that are looking for fresh fields to conquer, they will be welcomed at Post B. 2., Knowle Park Council School, Queenshill Road.

Up to February 23rd, 1940, we have played 25 Darts matches (12 home, 13 away), won 17, lost 8.

Our champion is Mrs. Russell—a volunteer lady warden, who has the imposing total of 23 wins and 2 losses to her credit. (Come on, you lady Wardens, what about a challenge?)

We will play at any Post—as long as we can have a return match at home—Tuesday and Thursday evenings are our suitable nights.

Our team is composed of 6 players.

The above invitation is extended to A.F.S. Teams as well.

* * * *

CLIFTON DIVISION.

Group L. held a successful Party at the "Salutation," Henbury, organised by Warden Penrose, of L. 2, and Telephonist Budgett, of L. 1.

Very welcome visitors and guests were Chief Inspector and Mrs. Andrews, Inspector and Mrs. Weare, Mr. and Mrs. Davies and Mr. Gibbard.

The aforementioned Penrose and Budgett were seen for days previous to the event sneaking off into dark corners, hatching plots, preparatory to making the programme.

Several pertinent questions may be asked about this party:—What did Mrs. Silk think about the "fountain-pen" presented to the Group Warden, Major Sampson-Way?

Who was the decidedly "mellow" Post Warden, and what did his wife say when he arrived home at 12.30 a.m. instead of 9.30 p.m. as promised?

Any further queries to Budgett, of L. 2.

The "Final" of a very successful Billiards Tournament was played on Thursday evening, February 29th, at Post K. 3, Scouts' Hut, Southmead Road.

The Finalists were Group Warden Captain H. C. Smith and Mr. F. Oxford.

The game was witnessed by a large company of Wardens, who much enjoyed and appreciated the skilful play of the Contestants.

After a very close game the match finished in the favour of Captain Smith.

Mr. W. Hutchence in presenting the prizes, congratulated the winners on their success.

There was a "full house" at Post F. 4 on Tuesday evening, 20th February, when Wardens assembled to say farewell to Mr. S. R. Nicholls who has been Head Warden of Group F. from the commencement of the movement.

Mr. Nicholls served in the Royal Navy in the Great War, and for some time past it has been realised that he has been feeling "the call that would not be denied." As a result he has joined the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and is now on service.

Mr. Hedges, Senior Warden of M. Sector, was deputed to offer a small token of esteem in the form of a cigarette case, on behalf of all the Wardens at the Post, and did so with a suitable speech in which he expressed the high regard for Mr. Nicholls held by all of them. Mr. Nicholls in reply said that he would always have pleasant memories of the good fellowship he had experienced during his association with the Post, and would treasure their parting gift and good wishes.

* * * *

SHIREHAMPTON DIVISION.

Enthusiasm is very great at present in A. Group, all wondering which Post will come out as holders of the "Group A. Dart Cup," given by the Group Wardens, Messrs. Berry and Winter, for the month of March. The matches played up to the present have left the Posts all square.

The winners of the Cup will be announced next month.

The Wardens of Group A. gave a Party to the children of serving Wardens, to which the children of Service men were also invited. A really enjoyable evening was spent by all, and the organisers are to be congratulated on the unqualified success of their efforts. After tea there were games in which all were able to join; community singing; and a Punch and Judy show specially arranged for the occasion. Before leaving for home, each child received a useful present, sweetmeats, oranges and apples, and two brand new half-pennies. A special word of praise is due to the ladies, who worked hard in the organising of the Party, and in connection with the excellent catering, in which, as usual, they reigned supreme.

At the close, Mrs. Berry, wife of the Senior Group Warden, received a presentation. The Deputy Chief Warden and the Divisional Wardens were present and joined in the games, etc.

An Inter-Group Darts match took place at C. 1. Post between "A" and "C" Groups, when "C" won by four games to two. "C" ladies also beat "A" ladies. Mrs. Woodall, of "C" Group proved to be an accomplished player. Light refreshments concluded an evening thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Much useful, if inconspicuous, work continues to be done in the Groups of the Division by way of informal Exercises and Practices. The interest, not to mention fortitude of the Wardens was often put to severe test during the abnormal wintry weather of the past few weeks, but there has never been any lacking of a representative number of volunteers under all circumstances and conditions. Everybody appears to realise that when this bally war settles down to serious business, if ever it does, Fritz will no doubt consider Shirehaddon Division will pay best on his visiting list. Don't worry, you other fellows—we'll manage alright.

For the past six weeks Group B. has been carrying out a weekly Practice, and other Groups may find interest in a brief account of the methods followed and the results.

Each Exercise was designed to afford practice in some particular feature, or to elucidate some specific problem, of warden-action. They have all so far been "training exercises," and "test exercises" will come later. Hence, ample warnings have been given and full preparation of proposed action has been carried out. The only points not previously disclosed have been the sites of "occurrences." Wardens have been asked to assume that a raid has taken place at a specified time, usually 8 o'clock, and 5 minutes later have started to patrol their Sectors. In any one exercise all the "incidents" have been on sectors attached to one particular Post, and have been sited by Umpires from another. The usual methods of lamp and envelope have been followed to give particulars of occurrences. As soon as a patrolling Warden found an "incident," he had of course, to get on with appropriate action. Where incidents were unreported for any reason, e.g., no Warden available for the sector, or, patrolling Warden made a casualty by an Umpire—then Group H.Q. came into operation and called for support from other Posts or otherwise dealt with the case.

When the weather was too bad for outside work, another idea was tried out. Wardens of each post met together, formed themselves into two teams which set one another exercises to be worked out by map and paper.

Each exercise has been followed by discussion and has taken from one and a half to two hours, excluding the time spent in preparation.

These methods have proved very successful. The exercises have been interesting, illuminating and have been very well attended.

At a particular loud clap of thunder, a lady walking along a London Street involuntarily and visibly started.

"It's all right, lidy," said a passing urchin, "It ain't 'tler, it's Gawd."

—Janus, in "The Spectator."

Ladies! This is your section

SPRING CLEANING.

The bright sunlight of spring days shows up shabbiness in the home and suggests renovations and alterations.

To avoid unnecessary fuss and upsetting the family, much can be done by way of preparation at odd times before the actual cleaning begins.

The actual date of spring cleaning depends on circumstances but, if it is left too late, the warm weather makes the work difficult; on the other hand, if it is begun too early, fires are not finished with and furniture cannot be taken out of doors. It is a good plan to finish first the places infrequently used, and to leave until last the actual living rooms. If the household is large, try to plan the cleaning while some members are away.

Preparations before turning out of rooms.

- (1) Decide on any necessary decorations and buy the necessary materials or engage the workmen; also engage the sweep.
- (2) Turn out and clean and sort contents of the drawers and cupboards. The woodwork should be scrubbed and dried, and the drawers and shelves re-lined with fresh paper before the articles are put back. Useless articles should be thrown away, those which can be cut up for cleaning rags put aside, and all stored summer things for house and personal use unpacked.
- (3) Faded covers and curtains can often be renovated by home dyeing. There are several good makes of dye on the market; for articles subjected to much sunlight boiling water dyes are best.
- (4) Bottles and jars and tins containing household stores will require overhauling and re-labelling.
- (5) Make polishes and cleaning powders or buy in a good stock.
- (6) Examine pictures for re-cording and re-backing. Remove books and dust separately.
- (7) Wash blankets and winter garments to be packed away with moth preventive. Mattress covers, underlays and blinds should be washed.
- (8) Mend china and wooden articles and do general repairs.
- (9) Meals during the actual spring cleaning and during this period of preparation are important. Do not upset the whole house at once. Arrangements should be made whereby there is some part of the house comfortable and available for meals and rest.

COOKERY HINTS.

DRIED FRUITS.

Dried fruits, particularly prunes and dates, seem plentiful at present. It is well to make full use of them.

Dates are recommended on account of their food value. Compared with other fruits they contain a considerable amount of protein, but their chief nutritive value lies in the sugar which they contain.

PRUNE MOULD.

$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. prunes	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz. leaf gelatine
$\frac{1}{2}$ pint water	(bare weight about 6 leaves)
Rind and juice of 1 lemon.	A few drops of carmine or
$1\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. sugar	cochineal.

Wash the prunes and soak them for 12 hours in water. Stew the prunes till tender, with the sugar. Crack the stones and remove the kernels. Measure the prune liquid and make it up to $\frac{1}{2}$ pint with water; add the lemon juice. Dissolve the gelatine in this liquid. Cut up the prunes and put them in a basin with the grated lemon rind and kernels. Strain the liquid on to them and add carmine or cochineal to improve the colour. Stir until cold, then pour into a wetted mould. When set, dip the mould into water uncomfortably hot to the hand and turn out.

N.B.—Other dried fruits may be used instead of prunes. Golden syrup may be used instead of sugar (1 good tablespoonful).

UNCOOKED DATE CAKE.

1 lb. dates	The juice of 1 lemon
$\frac{3}{4}$ lb. shelled walnuts	Rice paper.

Stone the dates, put them and the walnuts through a mincing machine; work the lemon juice thoroughly into the mixture. Form into a round cake about one inch in thickness. Place between pieces of rice paper.

If preferred, the mixture may be spread on the rice paper and cut into fingers with a sharp knife.

EGGLESS DATE CAKE.

$\frac{3}{4}$ lb. flour	2 tablespoonfuls vinegar
6 ozs. brown sugar	1 teaspoonful bi-carbonate
6 ozs. margarine	of soda
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. dates stoned and chopped	$1\frac{1}{2}$ gills milk.

Cream the margarine and sugar, fold in the flour and dates. Add the vinegar to the milk, and dissolve the soda in it, stirring until it froths. Stir the liquid into the mixture, and turn into a well-greased tin. Bake in a moderate oven for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Miss O. S. MUNDY, 28 Redland Grove, Bristol 6, is the winner of the best set of three Economy Hints, which is published below, and therefore wins the prize of 5/- offered in the February issue.

* * * *

WINNING SET OF ECONOMY HINTS

1. All small ends of soap can be saved and placed in the "Soap-saver." This is a useful little article with wire mesh below the handle, obtainable at most stores. It can be dipped in the washing-up bowl or used to make any hot washing water, using up all the scraps.

2. All odd scraps of wool of any colour can be knitted or crocheted into small squares of the same size. These squares are then joined and gradually used to make a blanket or child's bedspread of warmth and beauty, with a tasteful arrangement of colouring.

3. All vegetable peelings should be saved and can be used to enrich the garden soil. If a corner of the garden is kept for the heap to accumulate and rot, it can later be dug in. Alternatively, peelings and waste, if dried, make good "fuel" for the kitchen fire.

Letters to The Editor

The questions raised by "Puzzled" are still receiving consideration, and until the Chief Constable has given his approval nothing will be done.

—Editor.

"Kenmure,"
60 Abbey Road,
Westbury-on-Trym,
Bristol.

9/2/40.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the Incendiary Bomb Incident—Exercise No. 1 in your February issue, it seems to me that your suggested message should have given the Sector Letter and should have been more explicit as to the position of the incident by adding the words "near corner of Ash Road" after the words "John Street, No. 2."

In EXERCISE No. 2. Sector Letter should be given and the position of the Bell P.H. in Dean Street should be added—"Centre of Dean Street."

Yours faithfully,

S. G. SHEPHERD.

* * *

REPLY.

The Incendiary Bomb incident was definitely sited as No. 2 John Street, and I think the message suggested is explicit enough. Many Wardens sent in to say the Sector letter should have been given. I agree, and it shows that the suggested solutions were very well read.

With regard to the H.E. incident, you would have very little difficulty in locating what was left of the Bell P.H.

—The Editor.

EXERCISE — GAS BOMB INCIDENT

During an Air Raid at 11.15 p.m., a warden is taking shelter in a shop doorway at Drake Street when a bomb explodes with a dull sound in York Street, which is a continuation of Drake Street. The wind is blowing from the direction of York Street towards Drake Street and warden notices a smell of musty hay or rotten vegetation. On going to York Street, warden sees a small crater in the road and large fragments of bomb casing. Three men who have just left a nearby office are coughing and choking, they are breathing rapidly and their eyes are watering and smarting.

The men have left their respirators at their homes.

What should warden do?

(It is assumed that the Wardens' Post is quite near).

SUGGESTED SOLUTION.

As soon as warden notices smell, he should immediately put on his respirator and go to the scene of the explosion and endeavour to get men into nearby room but away from the gas, obtain from them history of the occurrence and instruct them to lie down and remain absolutely quiet—keep warm and loosen tight clothing—and await the arrival of skilled aid. Warden should then report as follows:—

Air Raid damage — Wardens' Post B. 2a. Outside No. 1
York Street — Gas bomb, phosgene.

3 casualties — 11.15 p.m.

Wind south. Casualties at No. 6 York Street. Message ends.

Warden should then return with rattle and sound gas alarm down wind.

(The following services will be sent:—First Aid, Police, and Gas Identification Officers).

ABOUT YOUR PIPE.

"Standing by" on Wardens' duty has probably led to extra smoking and certainly it helps, in the still watches, to have a good and faithful briar going well. A good pipe is rather like a good woman—a little extra attention is well worth while and repaid in faithful service. Load it carefully and evenly—many lose the pleasure of pipe smoking through hurried and imperfect filling, making the tobacco hard and uneven in one place, hollow in another and causing uneven burning.

The finest flavour of Tobacco can only be obtained if the pipe is clean and dry. More than one pipe should be in use, so that the favourite has a frequent rest, to restore the absorbent qualities of the briar. Pass a pipe cleaner through the stem and leave another clean one in the pipe while it is resting. If a pipe is very foul, a cleaner can be dipped in methylated spirit. This acts as a solvent, after which the pipe should be left to dry out for a few

(Continued at foot of next page).

ESSAY COMPETITION

Books to the value of 15/- will be awarded to the writer of the best essay submitted on one of the following subjects:—

1. How I should select and make a room gas-proof.
2. A summer evening in my Sector.

Conditions of Entry.

Essays must be submitted not later than the first post, 11th April, 1940, and must not exceed 1,000 words.

No correspondence can be entered into with regard to the competition. All entries must be addressed to:—

The Editor,
"The Siren,"
Police Headquarters,
Bridewell Street,
Bristol 1.

And the envelope endorsed in the top left-hand corner "Essay Competition."

The winning Essay will be published in the May issue of "The Siren."

Essays submitted by Wardens only can be considered.

(Continued from previous page).

days. Never use water, which might cause the wood to swell and split.

Some smokers lose a good pipe by burning — it is usually caused by excessive heat being concentrated on one spot in the bowl. That may be due to uneven filling or to smoking in a strong draught, such as in a fast-moving car.

Another tragedy is a split stem or broken mouthpiece. If you must ill-treat your friend by tapping out the "dottle" on your heel, hold the pipe close to the bowl. When separating the bowl and mouthpiece, hold both as close as possible to the joint and thus avoid any sideway strain.

All pipes when new look much the same, like boots and shoes, but in both cases the comfort and satisfaction comes from the article made of best quality material, with best workmanship. So "buy good" and treat well. Don't break in a new pipe by heavy smoking or by queer ideas like soaking in whisky or port. Take a smoke occasionally at first and smoke slowly. This helps to form the protective layer of carbon over the briar and is the basis of your future smoking pleasure.

D.T.D.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

(3)

1. The first non-stop transatlantic aeroplane flight was carried out by _____.
2. What is the war cry of the Mohammedans?
3. Name the 5 largest cities in the World.
4. Which is the longest ship canal in the World?
5. Who was the first great English poet?
6. Every year they hold an oyster feast at _____.
7. What is the name of the most coveted decoration in the United States of America?

ANSWERS TO TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE (2)

1. (a) George Eliot.
(b) Mary Ann Evans.
2. Alberta.
Ancient Order of Druids.
Drachm.
Cape of Good Hope.
Master in Surgery.
Canadian Pacific Railway.
English Church Union.
Indian Medical Service.
3. Admiral Robert Blake addressed a Spaniard who demanded the right to punish a British seaman who had been guilty of ungentlemanly conduct on shore. The incident occurred during the operations in the Mediterranean Sea in 1655.
4. 628 not out. Made by A. E. J. Collins in a junior match at Clifton College in 1899.
5. Queen's Park (Glasgow).
6. In Venice. So called because condemned prisoners formerly passed over it to the place of execution.

DRAMA.

Scene : Wardens' Post with Gas Detector Board nearby.

Knock at door and appearance of Lady with paper bag in hand.

"Please, is that board for the Dickie Birds? I have brought some crumbs with me!"



Thought-Readers settling an Argument.
A Suggestion for Peaceful Settlement of World Problems.

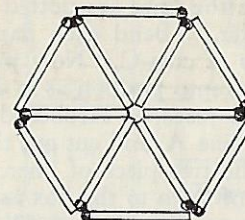


"The Ambitious Painter."

The above cartoons were drawn by Master C. V. Brown, aged 12 years, son of a Warden on the Central Division. Good work, Master Brown.—The Editor.

PUZZLE CORNER

1. The sketch shows six triangles formed by twelve matches.



Move four matches to other positions and change the figure to five diamonds.

2. A cyclometer clicks once during every revolution of a bicycle wheel whose external diameter is 28 inches. Taking the circumference of the wheel to be $3\frac{1}{7}$ times the diameter, show that the number of clicks in five seconds gives the cyclist his speed in miles per hour.
3. Three competitors tied for first place but only one prize could be given. The Judge asked each of them to take a number from a hat, and then throw two dice until he had thrown the number he had drawn; the one making the least number of throws was to be the winner. Mr. Jones drew the number 6, Mr. Brown 7, and Mr. Robinson 8. Which had the best chance of winning?
4. In a recent weekly return it was stated that 1,000 men were enrolled. Of these 381 had taken First Aid lectures, 659 had attended Part-Two lectures, whilst 92 had attended neither. How many had attended both?
5. Three Wardens and their wives, living in the same block of flats, found that at the end of a Divisional Social it was raining heavily. They were offered the use of a car that would hold a driver and one passenger only. The men could drive but not the women. Owing to jealousy no Warden could travel or be left alone with another's wife. How did they manage to get home using the one car?

For answers see page 37.

THINGS TO MAKE

(3) A WOOL CONTAINER.

The container is intended to hold one ball of wool.

The materials required are two pieces of cardboard, one $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches square and the other $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, some cretonne or other flowered material, two pieces of linen or thick calico each $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 2 inches, two press fasteners, and a tube of glue.

Mark out the $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches square cardboard and cut to the shape shown in Fig. 1. Where the lines are dotted cut halfway through with a penknife and ruler. Bend each flap marked A at right angles to B and bend up at cuts C. Now put a layer of glue on each of the flaps and press into position as in Fig. 2.

Mark out the second piece of cardboard as shown in Fig. 3. Cut halfway through the line A, and cut out the $\frac{3}{8}$ in. circle. Turn the card over and glue the two pieces of linen as in Fig. 4. When dry glue the loose pieces of linen to the box as in Fig. 5.

Cut a piece of cretonne $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and mark out and cut it as shown in Fig. 6. Coat it with glue and place it on the lid, press down and turn in the flaps as in Fig. 7. The piece marked C in Fig. 6 is stuck to the box and flaps A are pressed down before flap B. Push the point of a pair of scissors through where the centre of the hole is and make a number of cuts to the edge of the hole. Push the pieces through and stick down as at D in Fig. 7.

Cut another piece of cretonne 15 inches by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and mark out and cut as in Fig. 8. Coat it with glue, and place piece A at the back and press round the box as in Fig. 9. Press the flaps inside and under the bottom. A piece of cretonne $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches square glued on the bottom completes the covering of the box.

Sew the two press fasteners on the flap of the cover and the front of the box to complete the container as shown in Fig. 10.

R. E. LYE,
St. George, J. Group.

"Quick!" gasped a man, dashing into the Divisional Warden's office, "where can I hide—the Police are after me!"

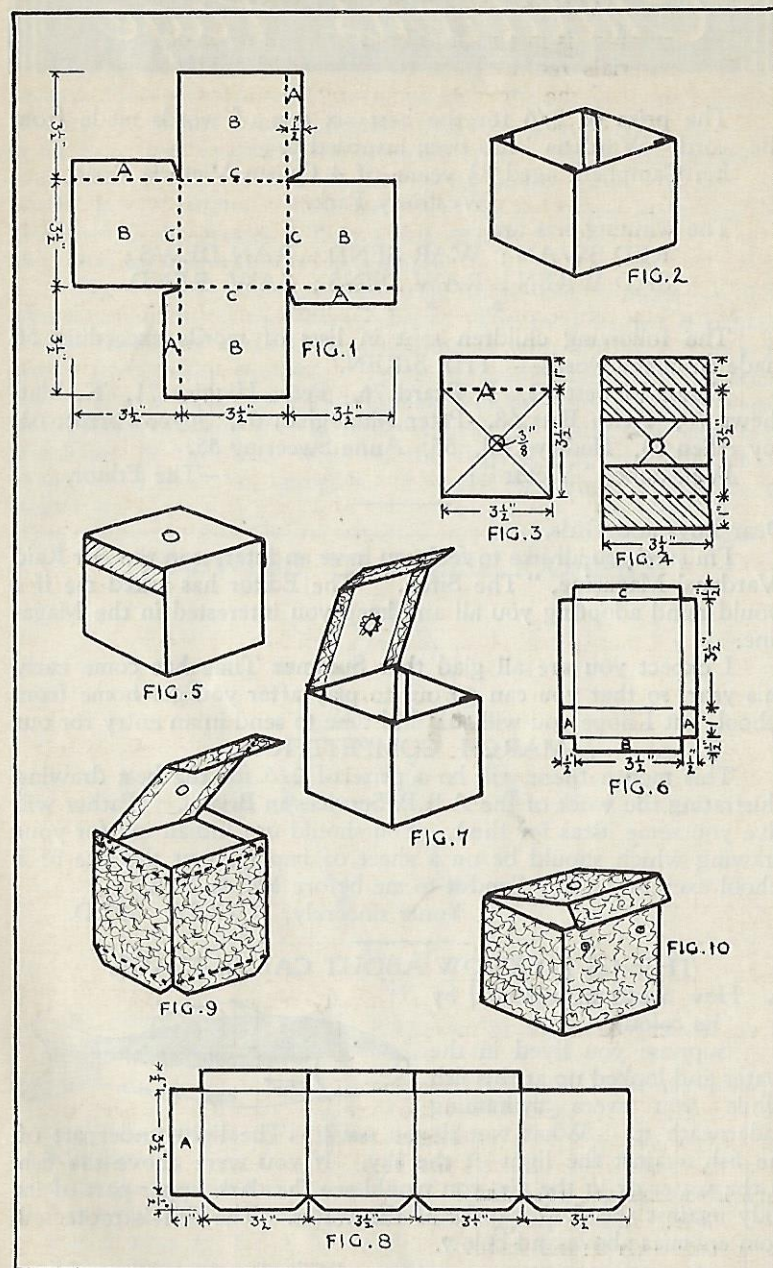
"Try the filing cabinet," sarcastically replied the D.W. "No one can ever find anything there!"

—"Empire Magazine."

"Uncle Joe," said Albert Edward Wiggam, the author, meeting an old darky who was always cheerful in spite of having had more than his share of life's troubles, "how have you managed to remain so cheerful and calm?"

"Well, I'll tell yo'," replied Uncle Joe. "Is'e jus' learned to co-operate with de inevitable."

"The Readers' Digest."



Children's Page

The prize of 2/6 for the best six sets of words made from the word "Wardens" has been awarded to:—

Ian Campbell, aged 8½ years, of 4 Queen Victoria Road, Westbury Park.

The winning sets are:—

RED SWAN ; WAR SEND ; RAN DEWS ;
SAD WREN ; RAW DENS ; SAW REND.

* * * *

The following children sent in lists of words exceeding 50 made from the words—"THE SIREN."

Victor Lippett 92, P. Beard 76, Peter Higgins 71, K. Matthews 70, Keith Batt 68, Peter Monaghan 64, Joyce Parrott 63, Joy Allen 63, Hedley Gill, 55, Anne Sweeting 55.

Well done, "Victor"!

—The Editor.

Dear Boys and Girls,

I'm sure you all like to feel you have an interest in the Air Raid Wardens' Magazine, "The Siren." The Editor has asked me if I would mind adopting you all and keep you interested in the Magazine.

I expect you are all glad that Summer Time has come early this year, so that you can go out to play after you get home from school, but I hope you will still find time to send in an entry for our **MARCH COMPETITION.**

This month there will be a prize of 2/6 for the best drawing illustrating the work of the A.R.P. Services in Bristol. (Father will give you some ideas for this). You should use Indian ink for your drawing which should be on a sheet of paper about the size of a school exercise book. Send it to me before March 28th.

Yours sincerely, **UNCLE FRED.**

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CAMOUFLAGE.

1. How a fish is protected by its colour.

Suppose you lived in the water and looked up at this fish while you were swimming underneath it. What would you see? The light underpart of the fish against the light of the sky. If you were above the fish in the water or in the air, you would see the dark upper part of its body against the dark depths of the water. The fish is protected from enemies above and below.



2. How a tiger is protected by its stripes.

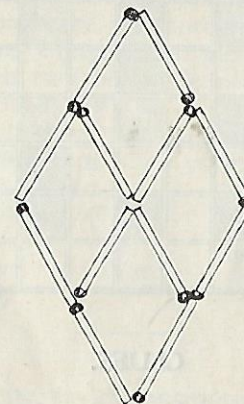
It walks through tall jungle grass and its black stripes look like the shadows of the grasses. The outline of the tiger cannot be seen. Draw a square with half-inch sides and make four vertical lines inside it. That is a striped tiger. Draw another square the same size and leave it empty. That is an animal without stripes. Cut out these animals. Draw twelve vertical lines one inch long and one-tenth of an inch apart. These are grasses in the jungle. Put the two animals on the jungle grass. Which one seems partly hidden? The tiger because its stripes look like the shadows of the grasses. This is camouflage.

3. How an army protects its soldiers.

The soldier's uniform, like the fish's skin, is made to look the same colour as the surroundings. The steel helmet is painted brown and green and the edge is trimmed with netting. This is to make the outline invisible. Tents are camouflaged in the same way. If you were to see a camouflaged motor lorry (painted brown and green) crossing the Tramway Centre, it would look very conspicuous. If the lorry were on the Downs, and you could look down on it from an aeroplane, it would be almost impossible to detect it.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLE CORNER

1.



2. The circumference of the wheel is 88 inches. n clicks in 5 seconds gives a speed of $n \times 88$ $\frac{60 \times 88}{5}$

$$\times \frac{36 \times 1760}{5} \text{ miles per hour,}$$

and this reduces to n miles per hour.

3. Mr. Brown.

6 can be obtained in 5 ways (1, 5; 2, 4; 3, 3; 4, 2; 5, 1).

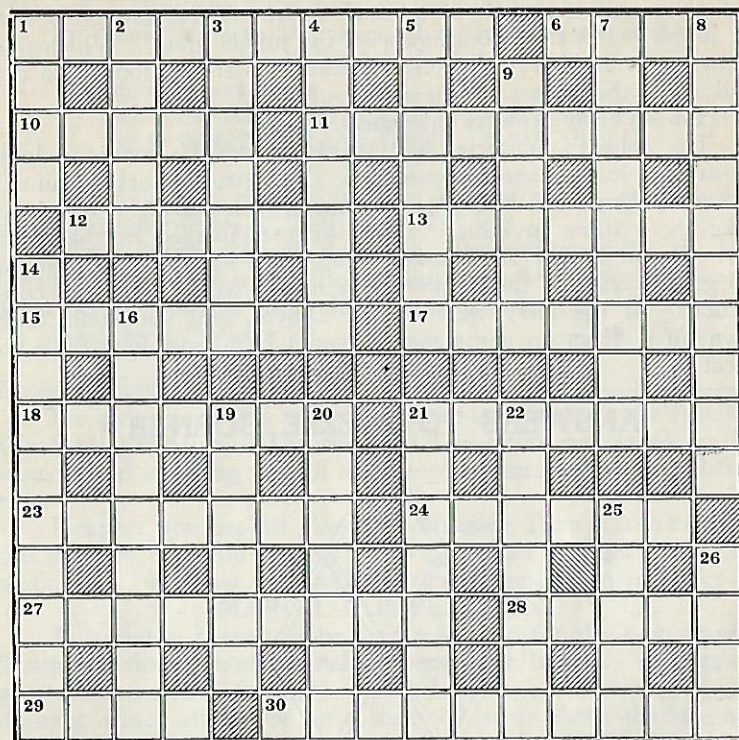
7 in 6 ways (1, 6; 2, 5; 3, 4; 4, 3; 5, 2; 6, 1).

8 in 5 ways (2, 6; 3, 5; 4, 4; 5, 3; 6, 2).

4. 132. The excess of (659 + 381) over (1,000 - 92).

OUR CROSSWORD. No. 3

by
NIL DESPERANDUM.



CLUES.

Across.

- (1) Wardens' duty to make Irishman drunk. (10)
- (6) Long story that is mixed up by the Police Constable. (4)
- (10) Restore most of the crater and perform the incident again. (5)
- (11) Do these birds give unpleasant nocturnal alarms? (9)
- (12) Aim at and hit a church top. (6)
- (13) Country where men break into song. (7)
- (15) Distance that makes the organs warm up. (7)

- (17) "So little — dangers seen, So we mistake the future's face."
- (18) The dog gives a hint. (7)
- (21) Fed up. (7)
- (23) Makes it warm again when the H.E. blows up the tares. (7)
- (24) Men entrusted with commissions find the general surrounded by the A.T.S. (6)
- (27) Marking at street at too inglorious a practice. (9)
- (28) Time and atmosphere of air-raid. (5)
- (29) Emotion when equipment is untidy. (4)
- (30) Huge request of branches after air-raid. (10)

Down.

- (1) Share in which A.R.P. looms large. (4)
- (2) Snags which do more than upset A.R.P. (5)
- (3) Torch is useful to find bird. (7)
- (4) Let nine be merciful. (7)
- (5) Mean to drag gin back. (7)
- (7) An unattractive passenger may give food for thought. (5,4)
- (8) Not only old school emblems found injured after raid. (10)
- (9) P.S. Must otherwise be remnants of trees after raid. (6)
- (14) Part of Wardens' equipment to turn tap is error. (10)
- (16) Had A.F.S. been available in Germany, this fire might have been controlled. (9)
- (19) Vessel containing leaves that may be read. (6)
- (20) True, sir, my equipment is less polished. (7)
- (21) Alloy ingredient. (7)
- (22) Town to find rest in. (7)
- (25) Ant, go to the dance. (5)
- (26) Confusion caused by Warden's failure to put age on report. (4)

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD No. 2.

Across—1 Address, 5 Eclipse, 9 Sectors, 10 Enwraps, 11 Niece, 12 Egg, 13 Stone, 14 Code, 15 Noon, 17 Token, 19 Smash, 21 Styx, 22 Spot, 26 Altos, 27 Cos, 29 Clear, 30 Lectern, 31 Eyewash, 32 Wardens, 33 Rattles.

Down—1 Arsenic, 2 Decreed, 3 Eloped, 4 Susie, 5 Emergency, 6 Lewisite, 7 Peacock, 8 Eastern, 16 Vesicants, 18 Phosgene, 19 Shallow, 20 Autocar, 23 Prevail, 24 Torches, 25 Accent, 28 Spear.



A VERY FINE RECORD

The Ford family, of Wick Crescent, holds the remarkable record of six out of seven members of the family being actively engaged in voluntary A.R.P. work.

Miss Doris Ford passed out as a Warden in June, 1939, then upon the outbreak of war, Mrs. Ford kindly offered us the use of her house as a temporary Wardens' Post.

Just at this time, "H" Group were having a "push" to obtain more Wardens, and without hesitation, Mrs. Ford herself, her other three daughters and her son all decided to enrol as Wardens.

"H. 3" Post, Knowle Division, thus has the remarkable record of six members of one family on the post personnel.

In the photo, L to R.

Miss Mabel Ford, Miss Doris Ford, William Ford, Mrs. Sarah Ford, Miss Molly Ford and Miss Ethel Ford.

Mr. Ford (S) who appears in the photograph, is engaged on other work of National Importance.

Should Goebbels try a pamphlet raid
You need not be a bit afraid,
For A.R.P. will stop his caper
With schemes that always work on paper.

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140 BEDROOM SUITES
45 LOUNGE SUITES
50 DINING ROOM
SUITES
BEDSTEADS
& BEDDING

Many Hundreds of Carpets—

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