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FROM THE CHIEF

THERE were many distinguished members of the National Brass Band Club at the Belle Vue meeting to deal with the scheme for the National Memorial Fund. It was felt that the most important thing was to fix a target for the minimum amount to be aimed at, for it was, of course, clearly understood that any plan to be adopted must depend largely on the amount of money available. There was one thing, however, that all present were determined on, and that was that any scheme should be worthy of the great sacrifice our brave lads had made for us and at the same time be of valuable service to the future of our brass band cause. So it was unanimously agreed, with enthusiasm, that our target should be a minimum of £25,000. Larger sums were suggested but it was decided that with such an amount something really worth while could be accomplished.

It is, of course, evident that such a sum could not be raised if the scheme for which this money is to be used were not one that would appeal to those willing to give. So next week I shall have more to say on the steps to be taken to ensure that anything done will meet with the approval of the great majority of those interested in our bands in every part of the United Kingdom. J. HENRY ILES.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Read, mark, learn and inwardly digest.
—Book of Common Prayer.

(Continued from column 2)

especially disappointing to Mr. Molinari, whose hard work deserved better luck.

Mr. Franke, Mr. Griffin and Mr. Molinari were on the job from early morn to dewy eve (if you could call a thunderstorm "dewy") and the success of the occasion was undoubtedly due to their efficiency, tact and good humour.

Sincere thanks are due to the Belle Vue management for their kindness in placing the club room at our disposal and for their bountiful hospitality. Also to our beloved and worthy Patron, Mr. J. Henry Iles, through whose influence these good things were made possible. May he be spared to us for many years to come.

It was a very successful day, the pleasant memories of which will remain with us long after we have forgiven Manchester for indulging in its playful habit of drenching its visitors. PETER CLARKE, Chairman.

NATIONAL BRASS BAND CLUB

DESPITE the rain there was a very enthusiastic if not large meeting in the Pagoda Hall at Belle Vue on Saturday, when the future of the Bandsmen's National Memorial was discussed. There was great acclamation when our Patron, Mr. J. Henry Iles, O.B.E., presented a cheque for £500 towards the fund. The original idea for a National Headquarters was well supported, but several other schemes were also discussed. It was finally decided to invite associations throughout the country to submit their views. A target figure of £25,000 was agreed. At the conclusion of the meeting the Rev. J. Russell, of Warrington, gave a donation of £2 2s. to the fund.

Mr. W. Dolling, our Hon. Treasurer, will be pleased to welcome friends at Cardiff to-day.

N.B.B.C. AT BELLE VUE

THE club room at Belle Vue, Manchester, last Saturday was a bright, animated and cheerful rendezvous for hundreds of brass band enthusiasts. A feature of note was the exceptionally large number of ladies present. I am convinced that this is a reliable sign that the comfort and rest provided by the club-room take the strain out of banding so effectively as to give assurance to the fair sex that a day's contesting is well within their capacities. A comfortable seat, friendly conversation, interesting introductions over a cup of tea in a congenial atmosphere is, so I was told, "just the thing" for the tired woman.

Woman's counterpart, mere man, was there in his hundreds, and the best of good humours, enjoying to the full the amenities of the club. Amateur and professional conductors by the score relaxed and fraternised with players, secretaries, business men and large numbers who were there just to demonstrate their interest in the movement and the welfare of brass bands.

The Club's area representatives were there in strong force, and it must be recorded that these gentlemen are a valuable asset to the Club and the movement. Splendid types of band people with executive or administrative experience, they carry their distinctions with quiet dignity, and will assuredly uphold the credit of the Club and the movement wherever they operate. Already their influence both on membership and policy is noticeable. Every Club member should get into touch with his area representative at once. The pleasure of personal contact will, in itself, be worth far more than the cost of the small effort involved.

I am sorry the Club's brochure was not available for distribution. The printer says he sent the parcel by train; but it had not arrived when our Hon. Secretary left for Manchester. It was

(Continued in column 1)

The "NEW"
BELLE VUE
SHOWGROUND of the WORLD!
OPEN DAILY from
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Admission 3/6 and 2/6 Resv.
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Nightly 7. Sats. 3 & 6-30

RUGBY: SAT. MAY 24
BELLE VUE RANGERS
v. OLDHAM

AMUSEMENT PARK
ZOO AND GARDENS



BROADCASTING NOTES

By "LISTENER"

HORWICH BAND was heard on Monday, May 5, giving a bright and pleasing performance of some light music. Each broadcast by this band shows definite development.

On May 9, three bands were to be heard. For "Morning Music," City of Coventry were responsible, and some distinctive touches added interest to an enjoyable performance. Camborne Town is another band which shows signs of constant improvement, and the programme provided was a *little* more acceptable to the serious listener than most heard last week. In the evening Coventry City S.A. band were given 15 minutes on the Midland wavelength. It was interesting to compare the tonal effect of this much larger band with that of its contemporaries. Obviously, much more could be done with colour-contrast if bands were not always limited to 25 players.

No "Saturday Bandstand" was to be heard last week.

In "The Week in the West," a West Regional feature, recordings were broadcast which had been made at the "Daily Herald" Area Contest at Exeter. Mr. Eric Ball was heard making some pertinent remarks about the playing, and advising the improvement of the brass band repertoire in general. Mr. Williamson, of the "Daily Herald," was heard announcing some of the awards; and a little of the playing of two of the winning bands showed us that at least *their* standard was quite a good one (Kingswood Evangel, Bristol, and N.F.S. 17th Area, Bristol). An interesting and well-presented broadcast.

NEXT WEEK'S BROADCAST

Home.—Monday, May 19, 3.30 p.m., Carlton Main Frickley Colliery (A. E. Badrick). **Friday**, May 23, 7.15 a.m., Scottish C.W.S. (Charles Telfer). **Saturday**, May 24, 2 p.m., Blackhall Colliery (Harold Laycock). **Light.**—**Tuesday**, May 20, 1.30 p.m., Fairey Aviation Works (Harry Mortimer). No "Saturday Bandstand." **Regional (North).**—**Sunday**, May 18, 6.30 p.m., Bickershaw Colliery (William Haydock). **Monday (Midland).**—May 19, 6.30 p.m., Rushden Temperance (W. Scholes), with the St. Cecilia Singers. **Friday**, May 23, 6.30 p.m., Hinckley S.A. (J. W. Young).

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

Home.—Mon., May 26, 3.30 p.m., Enfield Central. Thurs., May 29, 12 noon, Foden's Motor Works. Fri., May 30, 7.15 a.m., Morris Motors. Sat., May 31, Parkhead Forge. **Light.**—**Tues.**, May 27, 1.30 p.m., Rosehill S.A. **Sat.**, May 31, 7.45 p.m., "Saturday Bandstand," Cory Bros and Gwaun-cae-Gurwen. **Regional.**—Sun., May 25, 6.30 p.m., Black Dyke Mills.

BELLE VUE FESTIVAL, May 10th, 1947 RESULTS.

Class A.—1st. Chapel-en-le-Frith (F. Moss); 2nd. Burnage and District (E. Clayton); 3rd. Manvers and Barnburgh (A. Barnett); 4th. B. I. Silver (Prescott); 5th. Greenwood; 6th. Pemberton Old (J. N. Fairhurst). Adjudicators: Mr. Frank Wright and Mr. A. W. Parker (Camborne).

Class B.—1st. Royston New Monckton Colliery (W. Foster); 2nd. Grantham Town (J. Boddice); 3rd. Butterfields Tank Works (J. W. Sykes); 4th. Middlewich Centenary (J. Thorpe); 5th. Scotter Silver (R. Smith). Adjudicators: Mr. Alfred Ashpole and Mr. George Turner.

Class C.—1st. Askam Town (S. C. Cain); 2nd. Thornsett (J. Fletcher); 3rd. Workington Town (W. Petre); 4th. Rawmarsh (H. Ackrovd); 5th. Lee Mount Subscription (Lt. J. Fletcher). Adjudicators: Mr. W. Haydn Bebb and Mr. C. A. Cooper.

Class D.—Section 1: 1st. Besses Boys (J. Wright); 2nd. I.C.I. Ltd. (Winsford). (R. Yarwood); 3rd. Brindle Subscription (R. Rigby); 4th. Oswestry Borough (C. I. Yorath); 5th. Crewe West End (R. Fletcher). Adjudicator: Mr. H. Moss. Section 2: 1st. Skelmanthorpe (J. W. Morley); 2nd. Birdwell (A. H. Smith); 3rd. Scunthorpe B.L. (W. Richards); 4th. Dinnington Main (G. Sykes); 5th. Kipnax Old (A. Denton). Adjudicator: Mr. Harry Heyes.

ON PLAYING NUMBER ONE

By ERIC BALL

IT is not so long ago that I attended my first contest as a conductor. Years of concert work of all kinds, broadcasts, recordings, examination-room vigils, and the rest, had none of them given me the experience of that type of tensiety which seems peculiar to band contests; and, to be truthful, I was feeling peculiar myself, for I was in a new world, and more or less on trial!

And we drew Number One! Immediately I became conscious of being surrounded by an atmosphere of defeatism: the bandsmen felt it was hard luck, to say the least; but their attitude was gay and confident compared with that of the friends and fellow-competitors who consoled with us (the latter, no doubt, with a reserve of thankfulness in their hearts that they had been more fortunate).

Well, we went on to the stand, ready to play; but the adjudicators were having their tea—they had already judged a lower section—and we sat and "stewed" for about 25 minutes. The audience grew larger: they gloomed at us; they carried on whispered conversations; there were sudden hushes, as if they were waiting for a cortège. We tried to look nonchalant, made our faces hideous with sickly grins, and relapsed into stony silence as the pessimism of the audience on our behalf battered at our defences.

Then the whistle, and we played. Third prize was our reward, and we were only beaten by two bands with very famous names. The adjudicators inferred in their remarks that we might have been higher if our allegros had been slower! Speed—why, we could not get off that stand fast enough!

But to be serious, there is no doubt that the chief drawback in drawing number one is the psychological effect, not only upon the players, but upon everyone else concerned—*except the adjudicator*. I say this advisedly, because I believe that if he is an experienced musician, who understands his task, he has achieved the necessary *impersonality* without which one cannot give a clear judgment, and is influenced by nothing but the performances he hears.

What is necessary is that consistent efforts be made to drive out this complex about playing number one; while it would be very much appreciated by the bands concerned if those managing contests would see to it that the kind of mismanagement which causes such an incident as happened at my first contest—that awful 25-minute wait—could be eradicated.

And what can the "unfortunate" band do? Play, and play well. It is the *music* that matters.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

By ALFRED ASHPOLE, F.T.C.L.

As you play the tenor trombone from the bass clef it is quite an easy procedure for you to learn to play from tenor clef. When playing from bass clef you play the notes actually as written and the same applies to the tenor clef, except, of course, that different lines of the great staff are used. Middle C is on the fourth line from the bottom of the staff; learn the notes on the lines first, and then the notes between the lines, remembering that all the notes above the fourth line belong to the treble clef and those below it to the bass clef.

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BELLE VUE MAY CONTEST—CLASS A

Impressions by FRANK WRIGHT, Adjudicator

TO adjudicate at Belle Vue, traditional home of brass bands, is always a pleasurable experience and, paradoxical as it may seem, it is always a new experience, no matter how many times one has adjudicated there before, nor how often.

Since the Class "A" test-piece, Henry Geehl's "Normandy," was inscribed to myself, I can, I feel, fairly claim to have in this work a particular interest. "Normandy," typical of Geehl, provides conductors with an admirable opportunity to display their powers of interpretation.

The opening movement, "Peace and War," begins in a pastoral-like atmosphere, the music quickening and taking on a new vitality at the wind. Soon the mood of gaiety is suddenly and rudely interrupted by the stark realism of the call (alarm!) to war. The drama and turbulence of the music here shows the composer in one of his most inspired moods. Gradually the music quieters, a passage by the basses leading to "The Lament."

Simple and direct in style, this movement, marked *Adagio funebre*, is surely one of the most moving ever written for bands, the music here taking on something of an ethereal character.

In the finale, the introduction of which embraces a suggestion of the "V" Symphony, the general atmosphere is one of restrained jubilation. The work concludes with a short, striking passage in polyphonic style at full power.

No one who was present on Saturday last could justly claim that the playing rose above a moderate level. There was much inaccuracy of intonation, and the various moods of the piece were seldom fully realised. I was especially disappointed in the quality of the cornet playing. "The Lament," to mention but one section of the piece, provided a golden opportunity for a player with a soul to show what he could do—an opportunity that was for the most part missed.

It was good to adjudicate with Mr. A. W. Parker, a very able musician and helpful colleague. It was good, too, to meet once again Mr. J. H. Iles and that indefatigable worker, Mr. Frank Parker.

CHAOTIC

This week's word is:—

LANTRIGE.

Last week's Chaotic was OCDER, which rearranged becomes CREDO.

40 Years Ago

From *The British Bandsman*.

Grieg, whose death is reported, was a descendant of Alexander Greig and his wife Anna Milne, of Fraserburgh, who, as followers of "Bonnie" Prince Charlie, fled from Scotland after Culloden, the transposition of the two vowels in the name being changed to secure the correct pronunciation in Norse.

NOW READY

NEW TEST-PIECE FOR FOURTH SECTION BANDS

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By ERIC BALL

Commissioned for the "Daily Herald" Brass Band Festival Contest.

Full Band 7/6. Extra parts 5d. Full Score 5/-

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★ NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS ★

Don't forget entries for the two sections of Belle Vue's National Marching Festival close on May 29. It is held on Sunday afternoon, June 22, and the massing and marching of the bands is a thrill not to be missed.

"Copeland," in the "Whitehaven News," writes an interesting and eulogistic article on brass bands, and most of us would agree with his opinions. Like us, he hates the snobbery of those people who cannot say a good word for brass bands. He attended a concert at Whitehaven given by the Barrow Shipyard under Herbert Sutcliffe, and expresses in the highest terms his appreciation of their performance. One thing he says: "I would as soon listen to a brass band as a symphony concert," and yet says, "I do really enjoy and appreciate good classical music, regardless of whether it be played by a symphony orchestra or a brass band," and to conclude: "I maintain that in the brass bands youngsters learn more than to blow an instrument. They learn tone control, rhythm, balance, point, and counterpoint, harmony and all the other essentials that go to the making of a musician." And he asks all to give support and encouragement to brass bands. Our best thanks to you, "Copeland."

The brilliant young cornettist member of Fodens, Bram Gay, continues his successes at solo contests. The career of this clever and nice lad will be watched with great interest. He is lucky to be under the skilled guidance of Fred Mortimer.

R. H. Penrose, adviser to Band Department of the Devon County Education Authority, had 12 young pupils taking part in the "Daily Herald" Exeter Solo Contests and has a further 25 getting into shape for the bands wanting them. This is the kind of good work that will be of lasting good to our cause. Thanks, Penrose.

Kenneth Cook writes: "Band-lovers who, like myself, agitate for the inclusion of more original works for brass bands in concert programmes would do well to watch out for a visit from the 'Rosehill' S.A. band to their locality. When this first-rate combination visited Ealing Town Hall recently, their conductor, Brigadier A. H. Jakeway, included in his programme no fewer than seven works especially conceived in the brass idiom. These included Eric Ball's tone poem 'Exodus' (which the composer has said is a companion piece to 'Akhnaton'), a new suite, 'The Crusade of Youth,' by Phil Catelinet, and the hugely conceived 'Saviour's Name,' by the American Erik Leidzen. The technical complexities of these compositions were surmounted with a sureness that made the listener unaware of their presence. Some distinguished solo playing was heard in a euphonium solo by Dennis Smith, and a trombone duet by D. and P. Hinkley."

We regret to announce that Mr. Alex. Burns, head of the firm of Alex. Burns, Ltd., of Shaftesbury Avenue, died suddenly on Saturday last. Our sympathy goes to his family.

The euphonium prize won by Mr. Anderson (2nd) at the Midland "Daily Herald" Solo Contest qualifies him to compete in the Finals. He is a fine player and should do well.

The Massed Bands Concert at Chippenham was a success, with the Town Silver (H. Havenhand) and Swindon Association (Mr. Mason) taking part. "Death and Glory" and "Conqueror" marches were played with a fine swing.

Boscombe Citadel S.A. band will be visiting Holland from June 20th to the 27th inclusive. They will be the first S.A. band to tour outside Great Britain since the war. B.M. H. A. Mountain is in charge. They have recently visited Southampton and Swanage and given successful Festivals to large audiences. Frank Hill and a party who visited them speak highly of the band.

Londoners may like to know in good time that Brighthouse and Rastrick band will be giving concerts at Acton Town Hall on Friday, July 18, and at Staines Town Hall on Saturday, July 19. The programmes will consist in the main of advanced brass band music, including well-known test-pieces and modern arrangements. Mr. Eric Ball will conduct.

B.M. Alex Hutton, aged 80, who retired 12 years ago, on account of the illness of Jas. Macpherson comes back to harness for his old band, Elgin City Silver. Certainly a G.O.M. for Scotland!

Councillor P. Griffiths, of St. Helens, is against any payment to bands for their services. He thought they ought to play for love of music. Of course, he works for love?

North Middlesex band (Secretary J. March) thanks all those who applied for the position of conductor, which is now filled by the appointment of W. G. Taylor, A.R.C.M. There are vacancies for solo horn and cornet players. Rehearsals Thursday evenings, 8 p.m., at the Albany School, Enfield Wash, Enfield.

Headington Silver since their re-formation are getting into form. In the past they have been in the prizes and mean to again.

Grimsby Citadel (B.M. Cliff Ornsby) have been presented with four new instruments at a cost of £210, being the first received since the war. Six other instruments have been reconditioned.

Medway Imperial have paid another visit to Maidstone Prison—twice in four weeks. The strains of the band releases the strain on the prison management, who finds that music can soothe the savage breast.

St. John's band, Weston-super-Mare (Cecil Cotton) have been presented with a mace, to be carried before the band—an unusual honour and procedure for a brass band.

Bandsmen visiting the Isle of Man can look up the Douglas Brass band, who no doubt will give them an Island welcome.

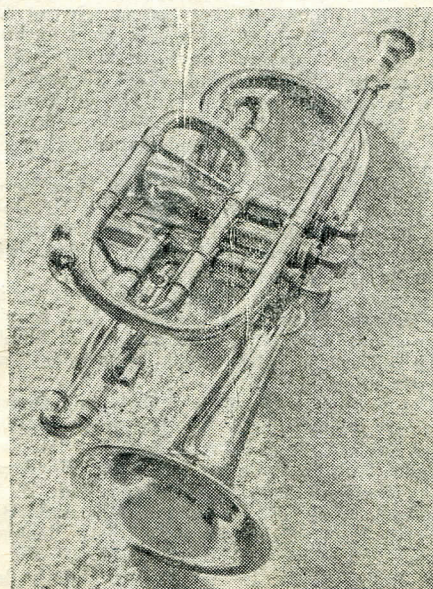
Sparkhill's S.A. band's (B.M. Alfred Grainger) visit to Droitwich was much appreciated by the citizens of Salt, who gathered in good numbers to listen to them.

Bernard Bygrave (17) and Joan Hinde (13) have during the last three years won over 100 awards. They are both pupils of Harold Barker, of Eckington. Joan televised from Alexandra Palace last Tuesday afternoon.

Having played in a band since a boy, and just demobbed, E. D. Wright, 28, Crawshay Road, S.W.9, wants to form a band in South London.

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(from "Madame Sherry")

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Correspondents write—****Yorkshire**

By BROADACRE

HUDDERSFIELD Brass Band Association held their annual Slow Melody Contest on March 24, and the awards were: 1st and Special, D. Wilby (Floentin), age 12 years; 2nd, B. Wood (Denby Dale), 14 years; 3rd, J. B. Castle (Marsden M.I.), 12 years; 4th, B. Whittlas (Skelmanthorpe), 13 years; 5th, P. Brooke (Gomersall Mills), 12 years; 6th, N. Golden (Hepworth Silver), 12 years. Mr. H. Day was the adjudicator.

Squire Hallas has been appointed conductor of Gawthorpe Victoria band.

Bradford City band are having good rehearsals, and recently gave a concert in Leeds Town Hall to a packed audience. They have been measured for new uniforms, which are to be delivered in June or July.

Mr. Harry Marsden, late chairman of Hepworth Silver band, has passed away suddenly. He has been connected with the band for over 50 years, and in his younger days was secretary. Mr. Marsden was an ardent worker for Holmfirth Contest and many other musical institutions in his area, and he will be missed by all who knew him.

Hade Edge band gave a concert in the Drill Hall, Holmfirth, last Sunday in aid of the Lord Mayor's Flood Relief Fund. The playing was of a high standard and much appreciated by a packed house.

Honley band also gave a concert last Sunday in the Palladium, Honley, in support of the Flood Relief Fund, which was a great success.

Many old players have recently joined Meltham Subscription band. Last Sunday they gave an open-air concert. Mr. Harold Swallow gives the band one lesson each week, and under their local B.M., M. Hildred Garside, they are in good hands.

Halifax bands are in a poor way. Lee Mount are trying to form a firm band, with Mr. John Fletcher at the helm. I think the best in the district at present is Hebden Bridge, with Friendly and Sowerby good runners-up.

Hammond's Sauce Works band are playing at Gargrave Show on August 16. Last Sunday they headed the Civic Procession to Shipley Parish Church, when their deportment was greatly admired.

The awards at the Slow Melody and Quartet Contest recently held by Hanworth Colliery band are as follows: Junior Section: 1st, Joan Hindle; 2nd, G. Roberts; 3rd, Betty Woodcock. Open Section: 1st, W. Skelton; 2nd, S. H. Lambert; 3rd, B. Bramley; 4th and Bass Special, H. Griffiths. Quartet: 1st, Markham Main; 2nd, Kirby Old; 3rd, Rothwell No. 2; 4th, Rothwell No. 1. W. Skelton did the hat-trick by winning the Open Contest for the

third year in succession. Mr. H. Laycock adjudicated.

The awards at the Slow Melody Contest recently held by Greater Elland band are as follows: Junior Section, E. D. Castle; 2nd, J. Hyde; 3rd, K. G. Stephens; 4th, D. Gibson. Senior Section: 1st, W. Skelton; 2nd, H. Lambert; 3rd, D. Gibson; 4th, D. Stephens. The local prize was won by G. Pegler. T. Casson adjudicated.

**Lancashire**

By RED ROSE

FOR the first time, I think, in band contest history, the whole of the British Isles were represented in the entries for a band contest. This circumstance, perhaps unnoticed by many present, was a feature of the programme at the May Belle Vue Band Festival. In all, 16 different Shires contributed their quota of bands to the total of 120-odd that competed. In view of several contests being held at the same time, one could not hear all the performances one would have liked, but Frank Parker is to be congratulated on the splendid arrangements. Quite the most popular success was that of the "Besses Boys," who again demonstrated their outstanding merit. Their splendid tone and tune are quite a feature of this remarkable boys' band. Mr. J. H. Iles, who was an attentive listener to their performance, seemed very impressed. He is continually stressing the importance of teaching boys, and this success against more experienced grown-ups would, no doubt, be greatly appreciated by Mr. Iles. At least, he seemed well pleased when presenting young Jimmy Cowburn with the handsome trophy. Tribute should be paid to Mr. J. C. Wright (teacher and conductor) and also Fred Cowburn (organiser) for their good work.

A further success, in Class C, was that of the Lancashire band, Askam-in-Furness, winning 1st prize, which amply proves the increased interest and progress in the affairs of North Lancashire bands. In that district, Barrow Shipyards, Standfast Works, Storeys, Askam, Lowca Colliery, Workington Town, have all met with recent successes.

Burnage and District, and Elgar Clayton have apparently struck up a very happy and successful combination. Their 2nd prize success in Section "A" was worthily won.

A pleasing success was that of Prescott Cable works. After some years' absence from contesting, their courage in entering Section "A" was rewarded by winning 4th place, and this after playing the unwanted No. 1. Of course, being coached by Mr. J. A. Greenwood increased their chances, and their confidence in that experienced gentleman was amply borne out.

Pemberton Old, still under the optimistic Jimmy Fairhurst, again added to their numerous Belle Vue successes. These have varied in every section or class in which they have competed. Jimmy, however, is never satisfied with less than 1st.

Another old band with a good name and much success, Thornsett, are again on the upward grade. Since Jack Fletcher, once of the well-known Dove Hole band, joined them, much interest and progress is apparent. Being awarded 2nd prize in Class "C" will give them the necessary stimulant for further ambition. What Jack Fletcher did for Dove Hole can be repeated at Thornsett.

Ron Yarwood, a product of the A.O.M.F. Scholarship and a young man of much promise, is rapidly restoring the I.C.I. band, Winsford, to higher spheres. Being placed 2nd to Besses Boys is a good start for the success of their post-war plans.

Many good performances had to go unrewarded. Where more than 120 bands all strive for 25 prizes, it is obvious that there must be about 100 disappointments. We are only in the first stages of post-war recovery, and success will come to all who strive. Those who docilely wait for it will always remain amongst the "also rans." It would be an interesting calculation to total the number of cups, trophies and their value, together with the thousands of pounds cash presented to winning bands by Mr. J. H. Iles at the conclusion of contests. Surely it would be a revelation. As that gentleman next year completes 50 years' association with the brass band movement, it would be a fitting occasion for a summary of his many activities.

The usual number of contests on Whit-Friday evening are advertised. These events are very interesting. All the best bands in the North v. with each other for supremacy, and success often gives some minor bands further inspiration and ambition. Therefore any band engaged within a few miles from the Manchester district on Whit-Friday Walking Day should do a round of March Contests. I am in receipt of several letters requesting bands so engaged to bear these events in mind.



Gloucestershire

By CAER-GLOW

ANOTHER interesting letter from Mr. C. Winstone, of Swindon G.W.R. band, says: "Mr. Kerly, our euphonium player, who won the Solo Contest at Reading recently, had a rather unusual experience. Arriving home from the contest, he was given two days off (with pay), told to report to the B.B.C., London, where he was asked all particulars as to his hobbies and playing experience, taken across to Alexandra Palace, where he was made up for a television broadcast, with Mr. Wilfred Pickles asking all the questions about playing, etc. Mr. Kerly then played the solo 'La Belle Americana,' and during the last variation the cameras were brought down to the tips of the valves, so that his fingers could be televised." I am sure we all congratulate Mr. Kerly and wish him further success. The question I have been asked is, is this the first bandsman to be televised while playing? Could any of my readers answer this question?

The annual Slow Melody and Quartet Contest organised by the G.A.B.B.A. was held recently in the Park Street Mission Hall, lent

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for the occasion by the Park Street Mission band, whose Ladies' Committee also very kindly attended to the refreshments. A good entry was received and the adjudicator, Mr. L. Abram, gave his awards as follows: Junior Solos: 1st and Challenge Cup, B. Latchem; 2nd, W. Pemberton; 3rd, R. Edwards; 4th, A. Edwards. Open Solo: 1st and Challenge Cup, M. Clayton; 2nd, D. Brown; 3rd, E. Davies; 4th, B. Kerly. Quartet (confined to Association bands): 1st and Challenge Cup, City of Gloucester Silver "A"; 2nd, G.W.R. Staff Association; 3rd, Park Street Mission "B"; 4th in order, Stroud District. Open Quartet: 1st and Challenge Cup, Fishponds Argyle "A"; 2nd, Coleshill and Maystone Ex-service; 3rd, Rushden Temperance; 4th in order, G.W.R. Staff. In the Association Section, Park Street Mission won a special prize for the highest placed 2nd Section band.



Oxford

By OXONIAN

TWO bands from whom I have not heard for some time come into the news this week. Swindon Prospect Silver are now settling down under their new B.M., Mr. D. J. Hyde, who had experience with I.O.R. Rescue Tent before the war as principal cornet for nine years. On

joining the R.A.F. he was Assistant B.M. in their band near Glamorgan. The band have already shown great progress, and with one or two sections strengthened are in better form than they have been for some time. Their late B.M., Mr. R. J. Bullock, brother of the late Mr. E. P. Bullock, who died last year, felt that owing to his age he needed to take a rest from playing. Aged 62, he has had 39 years with this band and now makes way for a younger man. With G.W.R. on top form and R.A. Association making great strides, we have three good bands in Swindon. I ought to say four, as the S.A. Citadel is one of the best in the Provinces.



London

By LONDONER

AFTER closing down during the war, Tilbury Town started to re-form towards the end of 1945. Good progress is being made, and Mr. G. Nicholls is making great strides with many young lads. They are fortunate in having Mr. E. W. Girt as President and Mr. C. Presland as Patron. Mr. E. Pryor is the energetic secretary. They are preparing for their own contest, to be held on June 7, for 2nd and 3rd Division bands and the Essex Championship. Ilford S.A. band visited Belfast for Easter week-end, where they were accorded a great welcome, including a civic reception in Belfast City Hall.

The Hounslow S.A. band, under B.M. Edmunds, gave a festival at Marylebone last Saturday. Although only about 20 strong, their quality makes up for lack of numbers. Their youngest player is Eric Hallam, aged 11 years.

A successful concert was given by the Childs Hill Silver band on April 30 at the Hodford Hall, Golders Green. In this, its first post-war venture on the concert platform, the band was assisted by a local concert party, whose contribution to the success of the concert was much appreciated. The chairman was Councillor S. C. Lewis, the band's president, and he was so pleased that he engaged both the band and the concert party to give a repeat performance to the employees of his firm at their Willesden factory.

May 3, 4 and 5 saw the celebrations of the Lewisham S.A. Corps 64th Anniversary. A musical festival was held on the Saturday, in which both the Senior and Y.P. bands took part, together with the Songsters. Sunday evening a grand March Past, headed by the Senior band, took place. The salute was taken by Commissioner Booth Davey. On Monday

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'Daily Herald'
AREA
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WELSH Area Solo Contest
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night, Wood Green band (B.M. Russell) gave a festival of music. This band are making great strides under B.M. Russell.



Western

By CORNISHMAN

The results of the "Daily Herald" Solo Contest were: Cornet: 1st, M. L. Bunt (unattached); 2nd, A. P. Meek (Drybrook and District); 3rd, C. Winstone (G.W.R. Staff); 4th, J. E. Welch (Bristol Aeroplane). Tenor Horn: 1st, A. O. Davis (Exeter and District S. Rly.); 2nd, F. J. Clark (Stroud District); 3rd, D. Thomas (Weston-super-Mare St. J.); 4th, F. J. Knight (unattached). Euphonium: 1st, L. O. Huxham (unattached); 2nd, F. H. Brewer (St. Dennis); 3rd, H. Sevier (Fishponds Argyle); 4th, A. A. Kerley (G.W.R. Staff). Trombone: 1st, O. Huxham (Exeter and District S. Rly.); 2nd, C. J. Brown (Weston-super-Mare St. J.); 3rd, H. H. Clark (unattached); 4th, W. M. Brewer (St. Dennis). Juniors: 1st, F. R. Huxham (Exeter and District S. Rly.); 2nd, N. J. Short (Olevedon S.A.); 3rd, T. Sims (Radstock); 4th, Miss H. Joll (Falmouth) (all cornet). Juvenile: 1st prize only, B. Latham (cornet, Radstock).



Scotland

By GLENSIDE

BARRY Ostlere and Shepherds were very pleased with their win at the Clydebank Burgh Bands Quartet Contest in Glasgow. You can always depend on "Johnnie" Faulds being there or thereabouts when the prizes are distributed. It was a real red-letter day for him, as he also won the "Pick the Winners" competition, held in aid of the band funds. He placed the first five in their correct order of merit, but big-hearted John returned the cash prize to the band. S.C.W.S. were next in order of merit, with both second and third prizes. Although the weather was very much against a big attendance, I understand that financially it was a success. Everything was organised in true Clydebank fashion to make the contest comfortable for both bandsmen and spectators. I trust, gentlemen, you will have a bigger success next time.

I was more than pleased with the fine turnout of brass bands at the Scottish Miners' Gala Day Procession held in Edinburgh last week, but what struck me very forcibly was the absence from the contest of many bands taking part in the procession. The contest was organised on behalf of miners' bands only, and the gala committee was good enough to put up £60 in prize monies. Six bands were forward for the competition, consisting of two first, two second and two third section bands. The Association officials, in conjunction with the Gala Day committee, decided to make it an open contest instead of confining the premier prizes to the first section bands. To this the band delegates agreed, and it was also agreed that the best second or third section bands would get special cash prizes. This idea certainly pleased the Bowhill Colliery band, who as a third section band were awarded second place in the open contest, and therefore qualified for the special prize of £15 for the lower section bands making their total win £30. It was the intention of the Gala Day committee to have a massed pipe band, also a massed brass bands parade to the main platform where the awards would be announced, and the competing bands were requested to meet at the assembly platform at 5 p.m. I am sorry to mention that Douglas Colliery band were the only full band to attend at the appointed time, while the pipers in full force made a splendid show and fully earned the plaudits of the large assembly. It was pitiful to hear the M.C. shouting through the microphone requesting the representatives of Wellesley Colliery and Bowhill bands to come

to the platform to allow Lady Balfour to present the prizes, also adding that perhaps the bands did not need the money. Brass band prestige was very much lowered at this contest.



Northern Counties

By TYNESIDER

THE stage is now set for the Northumberland Band League Contest to-day. Seven bands are entered at present, and I understand that a March Contest may be added, so a pleasant afternoon should be assured. Mr. Kitto, of Thornley, will adjudicate, and the Contest is to be held in the Durant Hall, Newcastle. Draw at 2 o'clock; admission, 2s. I hope to see all Northern band lovers support this Contest.

The "Daily Herald" Challenge Cup (2nd Section), which was recently won by the Boldon Colliery Workmen's band for the third year in succession (1945-6-7), will be officially handed over at a presentation concert to be held in the Miners' Hall, Boldon Colliery, to-morrow, Sunday, May 18, at 7.30 p.m. The band will render an interesting programme, including the test-piece, under the able baton of their guest conductor, Mr. Harry Mileman, of Firbeck, late conductor of the Scottish C.W.S. band. The band will be assisted by first-class soloists and variety artists, and the audience, which will include considerable distinguished patronage, can be assured of an interesting and enjoyable evening. Thank you, Mr. Durnan, for your letter and kind invitation. I shall do my best to be present, and should like to wish the band all success at the finals. I hope you will keep me informed of the band's activities.

Sorry to hear of the illness of Mr. Miller, of Lemington Glass Works band. The band have had to drop out of the League Contest, but we hope he will soon recover.

Mr. George Anderson, secretary of North Seaton band, has undergone a serious operation, which has been successful, and is at present seriously ill in the hospital. We hope George will soon be restored to health and strength.

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and once more back in harness with the band he loves.

Blyth N.E.R. band, conducted by Mr. W. S. Bond, are attending the Newcastle Contest, and are hoping to do well. It is a pleasure to see this band on the contesting stand again; it brings back memories of George Ritchie and George Ramsden, who both had a first-class combination here. I hope they get back to the top again.

Take note of the contest to be held at Bedlington on Whit Monday. Association bands of Northumberland and Durham only; £40 in prizes. Mr. Harold Laycock, adjudicator. This contest is well worth supporting, and I hope a good entry will be given.



Midlands

By MIDLANDER

BUTTERFIELDS Tank Works Prize band (J. W. Sykes), who were formed two years ago are a credit to themselves and to the works management, who are keenly interested. They have entered five contests, with the following results: Dewsbury 3rd, Belle Vue 5th, Rochdale 3rd, York 1st, and they celebrated their second year by being placed 1st in the "Daily Herald" Contest at Huddersfield. They have entered for contests at Belle Vue and Rochdale. The band should have their new uniforms for Whitsuntide, when they are engaged at Rochdale on Whit-Friday. This combination possess a very keen band committee, with Conductor J. W. Sykes (late B.M. Metropolitan Works band, Birmingham), Secretary H. A. Whybrow, Chairman J. K. Williamson, who is also private secretary to W. P. Butterfields, Ltd. Their keen, enthusiastic President is R. H. Butterfield, Esq.

Mr. Harry Heyes has been engaged as conductor of Fisher and Ludlow band, Mr. George Allen having resigned owing to pressure of business. The band are rapidly booking up for the coming season.

Droitwich was stirred recently by the visit of B.M. A. Grainger, of Sparkhill Citadel S.A. band. After giving a Musical Festival at the P.O.W. Camp, a civic reception was held at the Town Hall by his Worship the Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. G. Harrison, J.P., C.C.). A successful Musical Festival was held in the Baptist Church, presided over by Mr. T. C. Mapp.

Nottingham Transport band have made headway since turning from military to brass, and are looking out for players. All are welcome.

The Sax-Tuba band are the oldest band in Nottingham, and are holding good rehearsals, which are still held in the Regent Hall, Lecture Hall, Mansfield Road, Nottingham.

The G.O.M. of the Beacon band (Boots Boys' band), Bob Mills, is about again after being very ill.

The entries for the first Annual Brass Band Contest, to be held at Hinckley on Saturday, June 14, 1947, are: Championship Section, eight bands; 2nd Section, 12 bands. There will be a grand massed bands concert after the Contest, with four famous bands taking part. Full particulars later.



North Wales

By CELT

THE first post-war contest under the rules of the new North Wales Bands Association took place at Shotton on May 3. We congratulate the Deeside Trades and Labour Council on this gesture to encourage the brass bands of North Wales, and we were glad to learn that this contest may become an annual event with developments. Everything pointed to

success. The marquee was packed with enthusiastic listeners; even the clerk of the weather gave of his best to help the venture. It was a really good contest in every way, and the playing promises well for the future. My confidence in the progress of the North Wales bands, as mentioned in these notes, has been justified by the standard of playing at this contest.

It was very encouraging to hear the good playing by the "C" Section bands; it was rather a pity there was no special prize for the highest placed band in this class. Thank you, Deeside Trades and Labour Council, and we hope you were amply repaid.

The N.W.B.B.A. officials were all in happy mood, although the last 12 months have been very hard for all connected with the launching of the Association.

Mr. James Barlow acted as compère and stage manager, and he was the right man for the job. Councillor J. R. Evans, the Association's hard-working secretary, was also kept very busy. The only trade exhibitor present was Mr. Johnson, of Stock and Chapman, Manchester, and he seemed very active.

We congratulate the prize-winners in a very close contest, as Mr. Harold Moss, the adjudicator, put it. Results: 1st, Rhyl Silver (R. Little); 2nd, Summer's Steelworks (Fred Mortimer); 3rd, Rhos Silver (E. Clayton); 4th, Connah's Quay (J. A. Greenwood); 5th, Chester Blue Coat (J. A. Greenwood). Also competed: Buckley Town, Llay Welfare, Deiniolen, Northop. Oswestry and Penmaenmawr did not attend.

I was delighted to meet many old friends, and they all seemed to be looking forward to the National Eisteddfod at Colwyn Bay in August. It was a great pleasure to have a chat with Mr. Fred Mortimer, Mr. Elgar Clayton and also the old maestro, Mr. J. A. Greenwood.



South Wales

By MAN OF HARLECH

CORY WORKMEN'S are determined to come out on top, and I feel sure the next time they appear at a contest we shall witness some keen

playing. Mr. Hargreaves, their conductor, is certainly bringing them into shape. Practices are held regularly, when there is always an audience. B.M. Hargreaves has found it necessary to rearrange his band, which has now proved beneficial to all.

Ystalyfera Town band are going great guns at rehearsals, and it is hoped that their presence will be felt. This is one of the oldest bands in Wales and they are a combination which can always be relied upon to give a good performance. Their close rival is Ystalyfera Public. It is no mean achievement to have two class bands in the same district. I wonder if any other village band can boast of this?

The Pontardulais Town Junior band are progressing by leaps and bounds. Rehearsals are being held twice weekly, and the engagement list looks well. Mr. Len Thomas, their energetic and very efficient secretary, has put in some really hard work to make this junior band a success. These lads are all youngsters, and I understand that their public is giving them all possible support. I will let you know in the near future, Mr. Thomas, when I can pay you

a visit. Here's wishing you and your lads the very best of luck.

Mr. John Hawkins, Press correspondent for the Cwmarn S.A. band, has sent me a very interesting letter. The band are under the leadership of Mr. Evans, and have a membership of 21. They also have some juniors well in hand, and these should prove very beneficial in the future. This band are heavily booked, including engagements at Willenhall (Staffs), Bournemouth and at Weymouth. All the instruments have been reconditioned. This was made possible by the strenuous efforts of the committee. I would certainly like to hear from you regularly, Mr. Hawkins.

B.M. Rogers, of the Cwm and Brynmawr bands, is certainly a busy man. These two bands have good records in the past, and it is Mr. Roger's ambition to bring them back to their previous status. Practices with both bands are held regularly, and the attendances are good. The real banding spirit prevails here. I would like to have some information from you, Mr. Secretary!

(Kent Notes next week)

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WANTED for the Band of the Royal Scots Greys, Wind Instrumentalists. Short service engagements. Band-boys between 14 and 16 years of age. Excellent opportunity for a musical career.—Applicants are invited to write to the Bandmaster, The Royal Scots Greys, Glen-corse Barracks, near Edinburgh.

BAND 2nd Batn. Queen's Royal Regiment has vacancies for Bass Trombone and Cornet players. Also for boys with musical knowledge between the ages of 14 and 16.—Apply Band President, 2nd Batn., The Queen's Royal Regt., Stoughton Barracks, Guildford.

BANDMASTER wanted, Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band. Full particulars, experience, work and wages required.—Brown, Frickley Colliery, South Elmsall, Pontefract.

MUSICIANS wanted.—A limited number of vacancies exist in the band of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry for Brass and Reed players. Employment solely musical. Also vacancies for Band Boys, knowledge of music preferable but not essential. Age 15-16 years.—Write, giving particulars, to Bandmaster, Slade Camp, Cowley, Oxford.

SOLO Horn player just demobbed, available immediately. Experience with first-class S.A. and R.A.F. bands, also on Flugel. Trade, electrician.—Box 195, c/o "B.B." 210, Strand, W.C.2.

NOTED Midland Works Broadcasting Band require additional Cornet, Horn, Bass players. Not necessarily soloists. Grand opening awaits single and ambitious bandmen.—Box 192, c/o "B.B." 210, Strand, W.C.2.

WANTED by the Harworth Colliery Band, Bandmaster. Must be keen and willing to build band.—Applications to be sent to Sec. J. C. S. Parkin, 21, Essex Road, Bircotes, Doncaster.

WANTED, First-class Contesting Solo Cornet, Euphonium and Trombone players. One two-room flat available for suitable applicant. State work required.—A. A. Quibell, 53, Gammons Lane, Watford.

MR. ALBERT E. BADRICK, the well-known Band Teacher and Adjudicator, desires change of district. Would accept post with live band.—Apply 106, Oxford Street, South Elmsall, near Pontefract, Yorks.

FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, LTD. Works Band have vacancies for first-class Horn or Cornet players. Single men preferred. Employment will be considered according to previous experience.—Write to Band Sec., Furniture Industries, Ltd., London Road, High Wycombe.

THE Band of the Coldstream Guards has vacancies for first-class Cornet players. Applicants, who must be prepared to enlist as regular soldiers, should apply to Director of Music, Coldstream Guards Band, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, S.W.3. Tel.: SLOane 4188.

FRENCH Horn in F and E-Flat, high pitch required.—Particulars and price to Fletcher, 315, Astley Street, Dukinfield, Cheshire.

SKILLED Motor Engineer required. If suitable will, after trial, be made Charge Hand. Good Cornet player preferred. Must be Salvationist.—Box 190, c/o "B.B." 210, Strand, W.C.2.

BANDSMAN desires change, 25 years' experience, Bass Trombone or Tenor Horn. Also trained and conducted Senior and Junior Choir. South Devon preferred.—Box 191, c/o "B.B." 210, Strand, W.C.2.

GUERNSEY Brass Band requires Soprano Cornet and Solo Cornet players, average ability. Single men only.—Write, stating work required, to Band Sec. H. Turvey, 9, Havilland Street, Guernsey, C.I.

WANTED, Cornet players, good Salvationists, for South-West Salvation Army band. Work found for Masons. C.O.s and B.M.s backings.—Box 193, c/o "B.B." 210, Strand, W.C.2.

FOR SALE

LARGE selection of Brass Band Instruments, including Bases and Euphoniums by Boosey and Benson, for sale. All in good condition and at a very reasonable price. Write for list or call personally and inspect.—Chester Hayes Products, Ltd., 14, Garrick Street, London, W.C.2.

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FOR Sale, Boosey Baritone, brass, in first-class condition, recently overhauled. Price £16.—Write, J. W. Christ-mas, 14, Cleveland Gardens, Barnes.

TENOR Horn, Class A, Benson Prototype; S.P. as new. Soloist instrument. Best offer over £20. Inspection arranged.—116, Manor Street, Braintree.

SALE, G-Trombone and case, S.P. High-land; good condition.—J. Gilmore, 23, Carrow Hill, Norwich.

HIGH Pitch Benson Prototype B-Flat Cornet; High Pitch Courtois B-Flat Cornet; High Pitch Courtois small bore Tenor Trombone; all reconditioned.—Enquire Eric Heath, Music Shop, 228/230, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Phone No.: 2153.

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CASES, few good ones. Attache case type—Cornet, 63s.; Bass Trombone, blocked, open end, 95s.; Tenor Trombone, 84s.—Paxman, 36, Gerrard Street, W.1.

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CONTESTS

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SLOW Melody, Air Varie and Quartet S Open Contest, Weston-super-Mare St. John Ambulance Band, to be held Saturday, July 5th, 1947. Adjudicators, Mr. H. Bebb, Mr. E. S. Brown. Entries close Saturday, 21st June, 1947.—Full particulars apply Mr. A. G. Fletcher, 25, Carlton Street, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

UPPERMILL Brass Band Contest, Quick-Step Contest (Own Choice), Friday, May 30th, at 6 p.m. 226 Prizes. Entries close May 29th. Entrance fee 5s., to J. Garlick, 3, Mount View, Uppermill.

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