

RED LETTER DAY FOR LLWYNYGOG

SOCIAL CENTRE FOR A FOREST
VILLAGE

Forestry Commission is building in Montgomeryshire. It is the forerunner of other such villages, and it rests, so to speak, on the shoulder of a foothill in the shadow of the Plynlimon Range; its neighbour is the quaintly named village of Staylittle, and Llanidloes is about nine miles away. Readers will hardly need to be told why Llwynygog is being built, but perhaps a word or two of explanation will not be out of place. The village is coming into being because it is necessary adequately to house the increasing labour force employed in the nearby Hafren Forest, and to have workmen on hand in case of fire; and to enable employees and their families, living as they do in a remote area, to enjoy a full social life.

Now the day of all days for Llwynygog came about when the new Village Hall, destined to be the very hub of community life, was opened by Alderman G.F. HAMER, Lord Lieutenant of Montgomeryshire. The Hall is a sizeable one, and will undoubtedly prove a great boon, for it has a stage and plenty of room for dancing, and includes a kitchen in which refreshments and meals for future functions will be prepared. The County Library will make the Hall its centre, and the building will be used not only by residents of Llwynygog, but by farmers and others who live in the vicinity. Trustees have been appointed, and a management Committee has been chosen by the villagers from among themselves.

MR. LLOYD OWEN, Chairman of the Commission's National Committee for Wales, presided, and an address of welcome was given by LORD ROBINSON. In his speech, Lord Robinson said the total area to be afforested at Hafren is just over 7,500 acres, leaving a balance of some 3,000 acres which include a number of farms and holdings. This year 53 people are employed at Hafren, and next year 74 will be required. "Llwynygog", said Lord Robinson, "will be the nerve centre of the forest, and the 20 houses built to date are but the beginning in an orderly scheme of development in the course of which Llwynygog will grow to 80 houses with modern amenities."

NEW FORESTRY COMMISSIONER

MR. STANLEY C. LONGHURST, J.P., of the firm of Messrs. F. Longhurst and Sons, Epsom, Surrey, who is very well known in the home timber trade, has been appointed a Forestry Commissioner. Thus the Commissioners now include, as required by the new Forestry Act, "a person who has special knowledge and experience of the timber trade".

Mr. Longhurst has already given much valuable help to the Department, having served as a member of the Home Grown Timber Advisory Committee. Under the Act this Committee has become a statutory body.

In due course a saw-mill or saw-mills would arrive, and probably a local industry for the further manufacture of sawn timber. The Commissioners were anxious to provide good houses and pleasant amenities for Welshmen. "Perhaps", said Lord Robinson, "I ought to have said for Welsh women, because it is they who make a house into a home and because it is with them equally with

the men that the development of this hill country rests. We believe, and this little village hall is a symbol of our belief, that in such surroundings Welsh people will find it possible to live contented lives, secure in their own faith and in the practice of their own ancient Welsh culture".

Alderman Hamer said that thanks to the Forestry Commission there was a revolution in Welsh rural life which could not fail to bring increased prosperity. The rehabilitation of the hill districts would in due course prove to be an untold blessing, and when that fact was realised the opposition and criticism in regard to forestry projects should largely disappear.

A vote of thanks to Alderman Hamer was proposed by Professor ALUN ROBERTS, a member of the National Committee for Wales, and among the company supporting the speakers was Mr. A.P. LONG, Director of Forestry for Wales. The Conservator for North Wales, Mr. F.C. BEST, and other senior officers, were also present.

In due course there will be more developments at Llwynygog, apart from house-building. More shops will be built (only one has been erected to date) and it is hoped that educational and recreational facilities will be extended. The children have already been provided with their own corner, where the swings and football pitch are in great demand. The names of roads-to-be have been chosen, for example Glan Clywedog, or the Shore of the Clywedog; Fford-y-Coedwyr, or Foresters' Road, and Long Road, which is particularly apt when one remembers the great interest taken in the establishment of the village by Director for Wales.

Llwynygog has been planned by Mr. ALWYN LLOYD, the well known Welsh architect.

Footnote. It was announced during the proceedings that Forester J.T. JONES, of Hafren, was promoted Head Forester the day before the ceremony.

****SOME NOTES ON BULL-FIGHTING**

OUR REFERENCE LAST MONTH to bull-fighting in Madrid has prompted a correspondent to send us several interesting facts, some based on statements in Ernest Hemingway's "Death in the Afternoon".

**A BULL "IS AFRAID OF NOTHING
ON EARTH"**

Here they are:

Some strains of bull are capable of memorising the artifice and strategy employed by the bullfighters and, if they survive a fight, are increasingly dangerous when next in the arena. Such bulls, says Hemingway, should be fought and killed before they become too knowledgeable.

A bull is afraid of nothing on earth, and in various towns in Spain, in special and barbarous exhibitions, a bull has charged an elephant repeatedly; bulls have killed both lions and tigers, charging them as blithely as they would the picadors.

From a standing start the fighting bull will outrun a horse for 25 yards, although the horse will beat the bull in 50 yards; the bull can turn more quickly than a polo pony, and at four years of age he has the strength in his neck and shoulder muscles to lift a horse and rider and throw them over his back.

In Madrid our correspondent was shown the little chapel near the arena in which the Matador prays before fighting the bull. Behind the chapel he saw the small tiled operating theatre, equipped with two stainless steel operating tables; and then the tiny hospital in which bullfighters might lie after injury. Following a fight in Valencia he went into the museum adjoining the amphitheatre and, chancing to glance out of the window, saw five bulls, killed that afternoon, skinned and hanging by their feet from hooks. A sixth was being skinned, and nearby there waited a white van in which the carcasses were to be taken to a local hospital for the benefit of patients. The sending of the meat to hospitals is, it seems, quite customary.

****MORE ABOUT DIALECT**

HERE ARE SOME MORE EXAMPLES of strange dialect. The East Anglian for snail, writes a reader, is more usually HODDYMEDOD (not, as we gave it last month, HODMFEDOD). One of the most curious words in this dialect, however, is

**EVER SAT ON A TETER-
MATAWTER?**

TETERMATAWTER, an onomatopoeic word meaning a see-saw.

Then, also in East Anglia, there is DICKY, a donkey; PAIGLE, a buttercup; and MAWTHFR, a buxom wench. Other peculiarities are the use of BOR as a term of address between males, meaning pal; the overworked WHOOLY (thoroughly), pronounced as a short HOOLY; and also FARE, wider in meaning than "seem".

FOREMAN D.R. BEAUMONT, of Micheldever, SE England, has sent along a comprehensive list of unusual words and phrases:-

Hampshire. PUNCBEON, fencing stake; BRISHFR, poor or inferior article; GETTING TOUGH, getting wet; BUZLY TOPPED, bushy-topped tree; TEALER, small peg for use with rabbit snare.

Kent. LOOKFR, shepherd on Romney Marsh; DOLLY, smallest pig in the litter; BUMBLE SOME, clumsy; HAMES, wood or metal on horse collar.

Northants. MIDDLEING, not very well; COTTER, WHITTLE and CHUNTER, to grumble.

Essex. MOB, to grumble.

East Anglia. HEDGE BETTY, hedge sparrow; RANNY, shrewmouse; RIP, short-handled slasher; DULLY OVER CROOKSES, rainy-looking sky; BOTTY, proud; CAD, smallest pig in the litter (as DOLLY, Kent); SCAFFLE, spade; TRAVES, corn stocks. The following may be peculiar to Suffolk: MIDDLEING, quite well (as opposed to its meaning in Northants.!); DUTPHEN, bridle; STOVER, red clover; DAG, morning dew; TITS, faggots; TOD TREE, often an oak from which limbs have been cut; and COBBING, cutting from such a tree after it has grown branches large enough for firewood; BATTLINGS, firewood poles.

Mr. H.W. GULLIVER, Chief Clerk, Woking, contributes the following New Forest examples: SPAGGER, sparrow; SCUGGY, squirrel.

Any more, readers?

**DAY AT THE SOUTH BANK

"THE DOME LEFT ONE
SPEECHLESS"

BY THE TIME this is read the Festival of Britain exhibition on the South Bank will have closed. Nevertheless, very many of us saw this show and some may be interested in the impressions of one reader (who prefers to

remain anonymous) in particular.

"What a day! This exhibition of amazing wonders shocked the mind of an ordinary mortal, showing as it did all the phenomenal advances in discovery and invention wrought by the wit and labour of men of the British race. But, while we advance marvellously in knowledge of nature and the sciences, and in the application of this knowledge, it would seem that we step backwards in all that touches the Arts. Modern art is no longer 'nature to advantage dressed', as witness the very peculiar sculptures which were on show, and the garish schemes of colour. Architecturally the exhibition was a hotch-potch of the inartistic. Construction conspicuously lacked the nobility of Paxboro's masterpiece of a hundred years ago, which will be remembered when the unbalanced designs of the 1951 layout are lost in the confusion of their own incongruity. It may be that a great opportunity was lost. There was none of the grace, albeit stuccoed, of Kiralfy's White City Exhibition and none of the mud, for South Bank was excellently paved. It was a matter of regret that the utility and symbolism of the elegantly proportioned Skylon altogether escaped me.

"Under cover one gained new impressions. The theme of the Land and the People was inspiring and, to one not mechanically minded, was high in the list of preferences. Agriculture and Forestry were delightfully staged, with good contour models to instruct us regarding the aim and import of the work of the Forestry Commission. The Dome of Discovery left one speechless in its bewildering scope of human achievement, and elsewhere the skill of the craftsman was depicted in all its many forms. The Royal Festival Restaurant provided an excellent lunch, but none of England's famous draught beer!

"A memorable and happy day, more exhausting than any day's work within my recollection".

**TRANSFERS

THE FOLLOWING TRANSFERS were notified to Headquarters to 30th September: District Officers F.G. GOOD from Bristol to Cambridge; L. GILLESPIE from Aberdeen to Aberfoyle, W(S); R.J.G. HORNE from Kinellar, F(S), to Fochabers, F(S); J.G. CHRYSTALL from Aberfoyle to Edinburgh. Foresters A. GRACE from Rendlesham, F(F), to Methwold, F(E); A.W. OFFICER from Clunes, N(S), to Portclair, N(S); J. ALLAN from Kemnay, E(S), to Edensmuir, E(S); I. GARRIOCH from Kilgrammie, S(S), to Glentress School; T.S. FRASER from Loch Ard, W(S), to Rowardennan, W(S); F. STEPHENSON from Kielder, NE(E), to Ampleforth, NE(F); F. MACPHERSON from North Strome, N(S), to Laiken, N(S); P.J. GARROW from Edensmuir to Rannock, F(S).

Foremen K.H.C. TRODD from Alice Holt, SF(E), to Arundel, SF(F); T.G. FRYER from Dean to Coed-y-Brenin, N(W); D.F.D. BLACK from Laiken to North Strome; F.A. REES from Margam, S(W), to Gamrhwi, S(W); D.A. ROBINSON from Newborough, N(W), to Dean.

Clerk of Works F.G. BRADFETTER from Wareham, SW(F), to Bristol.

Newcomers are:

Foremen T. J. ATTENBOROUGH, H. BENNETT and S. G. BROER, all to NW(E); Asst. Engineers J. D. BOWIE to S(S); F. R. L. CARTER to NW(E). EO. P. C. T. WILDASH to Headquarters. Clerical Officers D. O. DAVIES and E. G. LOVEROCK to H.Q.; and G. DAVIS to NW(E). EO. R. J. BELL, who has returned from the Forces, goes to the Office of Director, Scotland.

**** CONSERVANCY STAFF VISITS DEAN**

"AN ENJOYABLE AND INSTRUCTIVE
DAY"

MEMBERS OF THE STAFF of the South West Conservancy Office, Bristol, recently visited the Forest of Dean, by arrangement with the Deputy Surveyor, Mr. J. Q. WILLIAMSON. The party proceeded by coach to Christchurch, where they were met by the Deputy Surveyor, and then from a vantage point at Highmeadow witnessed with great interest a number of forest operations. Later the Wye was crossed to the Monmouthshire bank by an ingenious wooden bridge supported by two cables. "As the party proceeded in single file," writes our correspondent, "the bridge swayed and rocked, and this, coupled with the height over the water, promoted some uneasy internal feelings. Fortunately this hazard was met before lunch!"

Lunch was taken on the bank of the Wye at one of the river's most beautiful stretches, and later some fine oak and ash were inspected and the three year thinning cycle explained. At Symonds Yat, the famous beauty spot, the river was crossed by ferry, after which the party spent an instructive hour in the forest nursery.

Following "a splendid tea" at the Forester Training School at Parkend the party left for Bristol, having spent, in the words of our correspondent, "a most enjoyable and instructive day".

**** CULINARY DEPARTMENT**

OR "WHAT'S COOKING"
(CONT.)

SEVERAL READERS have written in after reading last month's paragraph about strange dishes. Mr. E. C. LANE, of the Shrewsbury Office, who spent several years with the Reparations Division, B.A.O.R., tells us he has seen the carcasses of

foxes hanging in butchers' shop windows in Germany.

COL. G. E. H. PHILBRICK, Conservancy Engineer, North Wales, also has something to say and, before reproducing his remarks, we must make it clear that we absolve all bona fide caterers and traders from the implications or allegations.

"Some three years ago," says Col. Philbrick, "a man living near Matlock told me that foxes shot in his county were sent to a certain game dealer, who disposed of the skins and sent the carcasses to brother dealers in London, who sold them to restaurants which served them up as jugged hare. As the Editor of The Slasher and our Headquarters are in London they may be interested.

"Of course, it is known that 'rabbit' in London is frequently felis domesticus, or the common cat. This applies both to the carcass which is eaten, and the fur with which females are wont to drape themselves!"

**** WEDDING**

OUR CONGRATULATIONS to Miss JOYCE SHARP, Executive Officer, and Forester W. T. WATERS, of Alice Holt, who have wed.

**** TRAGIC DEATH OF FOREST WORKER**

DROWNED IN FLOODED RIVER

WE DEEPLY REGRET having to record the tragic death of Mr. JOHN HAROLD JONES, a Forest Worker at Coed-y-Brehin, North Wales. It is understood that Mr. Jones and two companions were

seeking shelter from heavy rain and, leaving Forestry Commission property, they attempted to cross the River Mawddach by a bridge of planks supported by wire ropes. There was a sudden break in one of the supporting wires and Mr. Jones was thrown into the flooded river; despite efforts to reach him, he was swept away and drowned. His companions were fortunate enough to be able to hang on to that support which did not break.

Mr. Jones, who was only 24, commenced work with the Department in March, 1947.

THERE IS A SLASHER CORRESPONDENT IN EACH DIRECTORATE AND CONSERVANCY OFFICE.
PLEASE KEEP HIM WELL SUPPLIED WITH CONTRIBUTIONS. DON'T LET YOUR TERRITORY BE OUT
OF THE NEWS.