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COMPTOMETER

Medley



RE·UNION



*This Edition is a sincere tribute
to all Comptometer Operators*

COMPTOMETER

MEDLEY - - - -

No. 2 NEW SERIES.

This Magazine is published from time to time and a copy of each edition is sent to every Comptometer Operator on Felt & Tarrant's Mailing List.

AND MAY WE REMIND YOU—

The name "Comptometer" belongs to Felt & Tarrant and cannot be used to describe any other make of Adding & Calculating Machine. For many years, in fact, the Firm has used this slogan—

**"IF IT'S NOT MADE BY FELT & TARRANT
IT'S NOT A COMPTOMETER".**

February, 1947.

COMPTOMETER MEDLEY

A Magazine for All Comptometer Operators

Editorial

We are very modest folk who produce this magazine, and, when we scraped together enough paper a few months ago to send out a miniature edition as the forerunner of a post-war series, we certainly did not expect such a large fan-mail as that which descended upon us. It seems to be a case of rejoicing over that which was lost and is found again, for that is the theme of most of your letters, and we thank all our friends and well-wishers for their encouraging remarks.

There has also been an overwhelming entry of submissions for inclusion in this number, and we have tried to acknowledge these direct in all cases where names and addresses were given. While we can only publish a small percentage of these entries, we hope we have selected those which will give pleasure to the greatest number of readers and we are holding several contributions over for possible inclusion in further editions.

This number is largely devoted to Operators' Reunions as it is thought that those who have attended or heard of these happy gatherings may like to have a souvenir that links them up with an extremely large family. A fuller account is given in subsequent pages, but we would like on this page to send a special message to those who have been unable to attend for various reasons, particularly those who live too far from centres where it has been possible to arrange parties. Felt & Tarrant have asked us to say that their great pleasure in welcoming over 10,000 guests has been mingled with regret that there are still some thousands who have been unable to join in. To all those we sincerely express the hope that we will be able to include most of them in future arrangements, and at the same time welcome again many of those who have already given us the pleasure of their company.

TEN THOUSAND GUESTS —

There is a saying that big oaks from little acorns grow. When Felt & Tarrant (the Comptometer Organisation) thought they would like to show some tangible recognition of the services of all operators, they decided to do so by a series of Reunions. They little expected, however, that there would be such an overwhelming, but gratifying, response.

The first Reunion was at Manchester just before Christmas 1945, and over 1,200 guests arrived in one evening. This gathering was reported in our last issue, but, as it was such a memorable overture to all that followed, it is only fair to show a further photograph (see below). As a result of experience, the gatherings in other large centres were spread over two or three evenings, and over 10,000 guests have already been entertained in various parts of the country. Several further functions are still being planned, and reference is made to these on other pages.

The Reunions have followed the same general lines everywhere. Local Committees have sent invitations to all operators on their mailing list in the neighbourhood inviting them, as guests, to an evening of music and entertainment. Breaks have been devoted to refreshments which, considering all the difficulties of catering in present conditions, have been of a high standard. A few well-known executives have attended



This shows a corner at Manchester, the first post-war Reunion, and gives us the opportunity to tell Manchester that there will be seats for all next time now that we know how many to expect.

— MANY HAPPY EVENINGS

as guests of honour, one of whom has usually consented to say a few words about his long knowledge of Comptometers, with the accent on local colour. All these items, and other novelties, have ensured pleasant evenings that have passed all too quickly, and the Committees are warmly complimented for their hard work and excellent results.

A special word or two about the chief host and compere, Bill Cargill will perhaps be of interest to the thousands of guests who saw and heard him. Incidentally, you can see him again in the picture below in a characteristic attitude. He has been associated with Felt & Tarrant for many years, served in World War No. 1 with the New Zealanders and the Camel Corps, and in World War No. 2 as Commandant of Prisoners' and Refugees' Camps in the Sudan, Egypt and Palestine. No wonder he is so adept at dragooning a Reunion into laughter and song. He speaks Arabic fluently, though Heaven knows why. In spite of the 10,000 charming guests, he still remains a bachelor. Again, Heaven knows why. All we know is that his cheery presence and resounding voice quickly broke the ice at all the parties and produced that spirit of warm friendliness which was so greatly appreciated by all concerned.

Some proof of this will be found on the following pages.



Thousands of guests have witnessed scenes like this—the presenting of gift vouchers by that genial host, Bill Cargill, for birthdays, wedding anniversaries, long service and other distinctions.



Photos on this page by Yeldham Unwin, Coventry.

BIRMINGHAM. These are some groups at the "Spring Meeting" held on two successive evenings in early June. The rendezvous was The Botanical Gardens. Added attractions during the interval were the delightful grounds, which can be seen through the windows above. Guests wandered around inspecting the flora and fauna and enjoying English weather on its best behaviour. The peace and beauty of the surroundings made a notable contrast to the "blitz" of previous years, which Birmingham had seen far too often.

Several girls stopped behind at the end to say "Goodnight" to the sleepy parrots . . . What the parrots said was interesting but unprintable.



Top Photo by Yeldham Unwin, Coventry.

Lower Photo by courtesy of The Evening Despatch.

BIRMINGHAM

The Reunion at the Town Hall on 15th November was an "overflow" gathering of some 500 operators who could not be squeezed in at the Botanical Gardens last June. Harry Engleman and his B.B.C. Players made music and Jensen Leng made the mystery. We cannot do better than quote part of a letter from three Dunlop Operators. *"We were very impressed by the wonderful organisation, and by the happy, friendly spirit which prevailed during the whole of the proceedings."*

Part of the assembly is shown on the balcony above.

It is a great pleasure to reprint from the "Evening Despatch" the photo below of eight operators with over 240 years' service between them. We can only say that we have never heard of a worthier record or seen a happier picture.





Photos on this page by Yeldham Unwin, Coventry.

COVENTRY.—This gallant City gave a new word to our language, but if the operators who attended the party at Butts Pavilion Restaurant are any the worse for "Coventration" they certainly do not show it. The pictures on this page give plenty of evidence of the undaunted spirit that surmounted those nights of fierce destruction and which placed Coventry in the forefront of improvisation and rehousing.

The top picture is a busy corner of the refreshment section, and the photo below is an excellent example of a "one-firm" group. The girls are all operators from the Sir W. G. Armstrong-Whitworth Aircraft Co. Ltd., accompanied by a guest of honour from the same firm.



Photo by courtesy of the South Wales Argus.

NEWPORT, MON.—A most successful party was held at the King's Head and we can say from on-the-spot observation that this part of South Wales is well stocked with good food and good-looking girls. The above photo is sufficient proof of the latter.

SWANSEA.—The venue here was the Mackworth Hotel, and the lower picture gives more examples of South Wales beauty, together with guests of honour, enjoying the entertainment. Incidentally, as might be expected from a race of Bards, the community singing at these functions was of a very high order.

CARDIFF.—This gathering was fully reported in our last issue, but unfortunately no photographs are available.





Photos on this page by courtesy of The Yorkshire Post and The Yorkshire Evening News.

LEEDS.—Over 500 guests gathered in "The Old Town Hall" and made the rafters ring. It was a great pleasure to welcome enterprising operators and guests of honour who made the journey from as far away as York and other distant places.

It was the Leeds Committee who first thought of the Souvenir Programme idea, and this proved so popular that it became a feature of all the parties that followed. We saw many programmes so full of autographs that it would have been impossible to squeeze in one more.

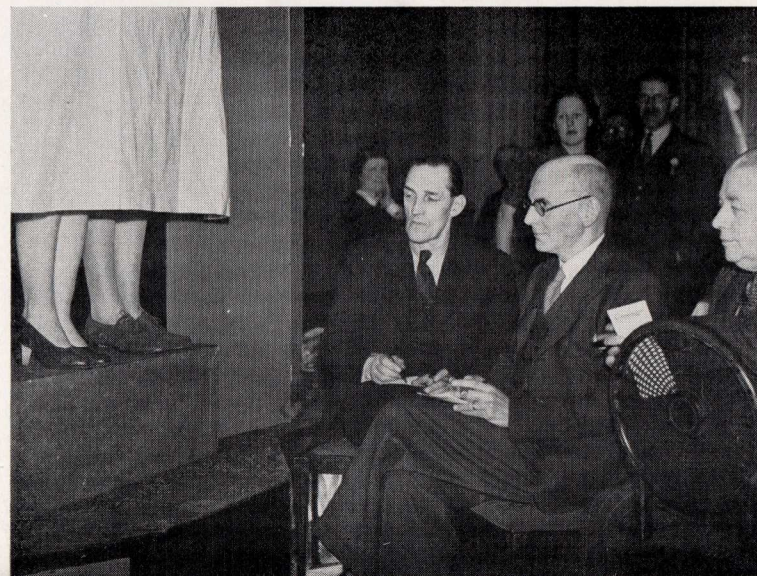
Leeds has perhaps been more fortunate than most places in that it contains a great diversity of trades and had very few "incidents" during the war. Nevertheless, in a great contribution towards Victory, many operators had to work very long hours. Like all good Yorkshire folk, they just took off their coats and got on with it, just as the two girls below tackled their fruit and ices.



Photos on this page by courtesy of The Yorkshire Observer.

BRADFORD.—The New Victoria Ballroom held a further 500 Yorkshire operators and it was again noticeable that many of them had contrived to make the journey from surrounding towns. Yorkshire, like its ancient rival, Lancashire, is at its best where hospitality and friendliness are concerned, although these virtues may not be readily shown to the uninitiated who fail to strike the right note. There was certainly no lack of merriment here when "Dickie, the Fun Smith" and Alf Browne, the magician, took the stage, or when Bob Webster, the personality vocalist, led the community singing.

The guests of honour seemed to find ankle-judging a serious business, but you can judge the other extremities for yourself by glancing at the photo above.





Photos on this page by courtesy of The Sheffield Telegraph and Star.

SHEFFIELD.—Before leaving Yorkshire we must report that the operators of Sheffield and district had a "Reet good do" in the Cutlers' Hall, which name is itself an indication of the important steel industry of these parts. It was remarkable to find how many coaching parties had come long distances to join this reunion, and perhaps it was only fitting that one large party came all the way from Scunthorpe, where there are large ironworks, as if to show the important link between iron and steel.

The top picture was taken during the entertainment and you can almost hear the conjuror saying "Please take a card." In the photo below it appears that most of the food has gone but they are just at that point where they enjoy a "Second cup," an institution which even the severe air raids on Sheffield failed to disturb unduly.



Photos on this page by Adams.

NOTTINGHAM.—This place has always had a reputation for pretty girls. You may like to compare the pictures on this page with those from other districts, but our own feeling is that Nottingham girls are up against very strong competition.

The party here was at the Elite Cinema Ballroom and provided an excellent programme of entertainers, one of whom was amusing the audience when the top picture was taken.

Judging by the empty plates in the lower photo, the refreshments were fully appreciated and there were no problems about disposing of a surplus. It was, in fact, a strong feature of all the parties that there seemed to be a unanimous resolve to leave nothing on the plates or in the tea and coffee pots. This gave much satisfaction to the organisers.





Photos on this page by courtesy of Northern Press Photo Agency.

GLASGOW.—This was quite a big gathering of the Clans, and the Committee was fortunate in having the use of St. Andrews' Halls, thereby being delighted to welcome nearly 900 guests in one evening. It is only possible to show a part of the audience in the above picture, plus a few more happy Scots seen below during the break for refreshments. Is that actually a large jug of milk we can see? The catering here was certainly of outstanding merit.

Among the entertainers was Bryce McArthur, baritone, and we need hardly say that Scottish songs were predominant. Another member of the McArthur clan brought his quintet of musicians, and the laughter was kindled by Archer Mitchell, the fiddling funster.



Photos on this page by courtesy of The Scotsman.

EDINBURGH.—The Freemasons' Hall in Edinburgh is one of the best-appointed halls in the Provinces and gave added charm and enjoyment to the assembly of nearly 500 operators from this district. Those who think the Scots are a dour race will have to revise their ideas after weighing up the pictures on these two pages.

The above photograph, taken during a happy moment of the entertainment, shows the guests of honour in front, including Dr. J. G. Davidson, M.A., the Deputy City Chamberlain. The other picture just shows that this refreshment business will keep creeping in willy-nilly.

Proceedings closed with a full-throated rendering of "The King" and "Auld Lang Syne."





Photos on this page by Associated Photo Services.

LIVERPOOL.—With so many other ports wholly or partly unusable, Liverpool was one of the most important centres of our wartime shipping activities. It therefore received the attention of enemy bombers and sustained deplorable damage. In contrast to this, it is a great pleasure to comment on such activities as filled Reeces' restaurant on two evenings in May with Comptometer operators of Liverpool area.

If the song "Mersey Dotes" has anything to do with this district, it might be inferred from the photographs that Mersey dotes on food. On the other hand, this might be quite an unfair inference, for we have to admit that these plates are still quite well garnished with sandwiches and cakes, which is a change from the empty dishes so prominent on previous pages. Perhaps Liverpool photographers call earlier.

As with most of the other Reunions, the stewards and committee wore rosettes in Comptometer colours—blue and yellow, and the souvenir programmes invited guests to ask the stewards for any information they required.

This was a very jolly party, with excellent baritone songs by George Mansell and plenty of laughs from Fred Catt, the popular entertainer. The audience did its own share when it came to community singing.



Photos on this page by Yeldham Unwin, Coventry.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—This is another Town, as in the case of Swansea and Newport, where there is no Comptometer Office or School, but where there is a large number of Comptometer operators who would have found it very difficult to travel to Reunions in larger centres. The organisers were anxious that as many girls as possible should be included in these parties, hence the happy gathering of nearly 400 guests at The Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, last October.

We unearthed a most remarkable coincidence here. Guest of honour, Col. W. J. Beddows, whom you see in front of the photo below, celebrates his birthday on 20th October. Two of his children, a boy and a girl, are twins whose birthday also falls on 20th October. Then, some years later, another daughter was born, believe it or not, on 20th October. It must almost seem like two Christmas Days each year in this family.



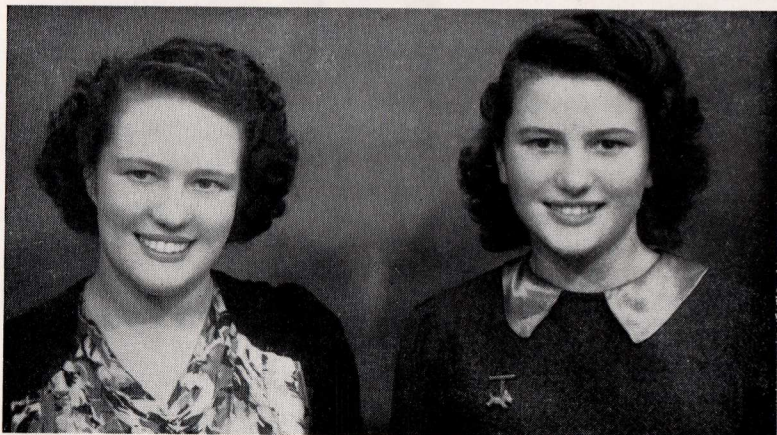
FRIENDLY RELATIONS

If any evidence is needed of the satisfaction to be obtained from Comptometer Operating, it can surely be found in the many cases where several members of one family have all chosen the same vocation.

The photographs below exemplify the happy spirit of these "keep-it-in-the-family" operators. These are all "pairs" but we have heard



Mrs. Hargreaves (nee Mayes) and sister Betty. Both employed by Messrs Ellis (Leeds) Ltd. Also operating for this Firm are sisters Joyce and Patricia Dixon and Jean and Margaret Smaje. A perfect hat-trick.



The Webster Sisters (Dora and June). They live at Batley, Yorks. Dora works in Dewsbury and June in Bradford, and we can only add that they would bring sunshine into any office.

whispers of as many as five or six relatives who are all Comptometer operators.

We hope to publish similar photographs in subsequent issues and invite you to send us pictorial evidence for publication. Prizes will be awarded to all operators whose photographs are printed.



Mrs. Dorothy Brown (nee Petty) and sister Muriel. Operators at Messrs. John Mackintosh & Sons Ltd., Halifax, otherwise known as Toffee-Town. May its products soon be unrationed and more plentiful.



Here, for a change, are Mother and Daughter. Mrs. Crickett has been a Comptometer Operator since 1915, and her daughter has followed the same calling since 1942. Both work in London,



Photos on this page by Philipson.

NEWCASTLE

The Old Assembly Rooms were thronged on 28th November and again on 2nd December with a very charming gathering of operators. There must be something in the crisp air of the North-East, for several competent observers from "way down South" had quite a lot to say about the good looks and clear complexions that distinguished these parties. It is a pity that we cannot do full justice in these pictures, which really ought to be in full-size Technicolour. However, you will get the idea all right.

In spite of a long programme of excellent entertainment, there was plenty of time (and inclination) for the well-chosen and well-laid-out refreshments, all of which contributed to the happy and genial atmosphere which prevailed throughout both evenings. We have first-hand information that the strawberry ices were enormously popular.



Photos on this page by Mather's.

MIDDLESBROUGH

This important industrial town is in the "far corner" of Yorkshire, but, owing to its position in relation to other large centres, it is looked after by Felt & Tarrant's Newcastle area, and a further large gathering of Comptometer Operators attended the very successful evening in Middlesbrough Town Hall. Part of the large audience is pictured above during the entertainment, which included Cliff Smith and his Orchestra, Jack Wick, tenor, that master of illusion, Will Fleet, and the well-known Graham Tennant, who is billed as "Radio's Voice of the Stars."

There is always a keen hunt for autographs where Radio Stars are concerned and Graham Tennant was in great demand for this purpose during the refreshment interval. The photo below shows him well surrounded by a cheery group of operators with pens and souvenir programmes well to the fore.





Photos on this page by K. & S. Commercial Photos Ltd.

LEICESTER

These pictures are from Leicester, the town famous for footwear and hosiery. The gathering was held in the Town Hall and was an unqualified success, everyone being in the holiday mood. Entertainment included a string quintet, baritone songs and a magician. The buffet was excellent. The lower photograph gives another glimpse of that mighty host, Bill Cargill, who will no doubt have a ready answer to certain ribald remarks about two loudspeakers on the same platform. Anyway, he was not speaking when this picture was taken, but appears to be dealing with a queue of autograph hunters.

It was a great pleasure to welcome many guests who had made quite long journeys, and we noted particularly that some two dozen operators of Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., had come all the way from Corby and were specially photographed with a guest of honour from the same firm.



WHAT THE GUESTS THINK

The Reunion Committees would like to thank the hundreds of guests who kindly wrote appreciative letters. We believe that the following typical extracts from these letters will not be out of place in this Souvenir Edition of your own magazine.

Just a line to express my hearty appreciation of the lovely evening enjoyed last Friday at the reunion held at the Botanical Gardens. It was indeed a great success and a credit to all responsible for the organising and entertainment given. Again thanking all responsible for these and other amenities afforded to Comptometer Operators at all times.

C. A. Whitfield (Birmingham)

Just a word of congratulation on the splendid reunion party that we had last night. You must have worked very hard because the organisation of the whole evening was so perfect. Everyone I spoke to was very thrilled by everything so a big thank you from myself for your share of the evening.

Gladys Cramp (Leicester)

May I thank you for the lovely evening you gave us last Wednesday, and congratulate you on such a successful reunion. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and I know all the girls from the office did and are still talking about it.

E. Wilding (Birkenhead)

Your reunions appear to me particularly happy, as the occasions when we can all meet are, I am afraid, too rare.

R. R. Panter (Coventry)

I wish to express my thanks to Felt & Tarrant Ltd. for a very happy evening, and to Mr. Cargill, the Committee and yourself, for your untiring effort on our behalf, which was greatly appreciated by everyone.

Mary Munro (Glasgow)

The Comptometer Operators of Pilkington Brothers, Wages Department, feel they would like to thank everyone who helped to make the Reunion such a success. We had a most enjoyable time, and appreciated all the efforts that were made to give us such a happy evening together.

M. Warswick (St. Helens)

I don't think any of the girls expected to have such an enjoyable evening and I am sure the function helped considerably to promote a friendly atmosphere between all Comptometer Operators.

E. J. Sherriff (Port Sunlight)

As an outsider who so quickly felt at home by your kindness, I would like to thank you once again for a very delightful evening. I enjoyed every minute and unfortunately the time went by with too much speed. You are to be congratulated on your clever organisation.

Tom J. Bond (Liverpool)

On behalf of the Comptometer Operators of the Whitehead Iron & Steel Co., I should like to say how much we enjoyed ourselves at the Reunion Party and to thank you and all those who made the party possible.

(Newport)

On behalf of the Comptometer Operators of William Hollis & Co., I would like to thank you very much indeed for the extremely nice Reunion you gave us. The girls have asked me to let you know how much they all enjoyed it.

G. M. Gale (Nottingham)

Through your kindness and generosity the Check Office girls and I spent a most enjoyable evening on Thursday and wish to express our grateful thanks to all who made it possible.

H. A. Thornhill (Dewsbury)

WHERE HONOUR IS DUE

One of the features of the Reunions was the presentation of gift vouchers to girls whose birthday or wedding anniversary fell on the day, week or month of the party. They were also given to the youngest operator present and to operators with the longest service.

It was this last group that caused the greatest astonishment. When Bill Cargill first asked for candidates with over 20 years' operating to their credit he was quite shaken by the prompt response from certain stalwarts who claimed over THIRTY years. He played for safety at the next party and started off with "over 50 years," but there were no takers, and he climbed down to the "thirties" again.

It was, nevertheless, a revelation to discover so many ladies, and very charming ladies too, who have been operating Comptometers ever since these machines began to appear in this Country in any quantity. That was the time, just before the first World War, when there were only one or two Comptometer Schools compared with the present twenty, and when every girl who went out as a Comptometer operator was nothing less than a pioneer. They were the first of the many thousands who have since followed.

This aspect of long and honourable service was so prominently brought out during the Reunions that it was decided that this edition, which pays tribute to all operators, could not possibly be complete without a section devoted to "the girls of the old Brigade."

We are happy and proud to print some typical photographs on the following pages. Age is sometimes a delicate subject where the fair sex is concerned, but there can be no qualms whatever when we appraise these senior operators. Every one of them is characterised by an alert and dauntless spirit that is akin to eternal youth. We only wish we could show photographs of the many hundreds of similar veterans, but we do offer sincere tribute to the whole gallant host.

They may truly be proud of their record. The difficulties and discomforts of this recent war must have reminded many of them that they were already using Comptometers in World War No. 1. Then, as now, they endured longer hours and shorter rations and helped to win a war, and they all look quite capable of meeting any further emergency with the same gallant spirit.

But it would be unseemly to say too much about them. They themselves are so modest. When asked about their adventures or experiences they say, in effect, "Well, we just worked away—there's nothing special." It sounds very simple the way they say it, and we can only sum up their splendid record with similar simplicity and say, with our hats removed, "They had a job to do and they did it."

WHERE HONOUR IS DUE



Miss Dorothy Smith, a London operator with 32 years service. A portrait that is splendidly typical of the senior operators to whom honour is due.

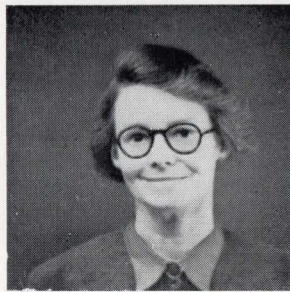
WHERE HONOUR IS DUE



Miss McCaffrey of Edinburgh. 32 years with E. Chalmers & Co. Ltd.



Mrs. Ridsdale, Head Operator of C.W.S. Hollerith Dept. 35 years service.

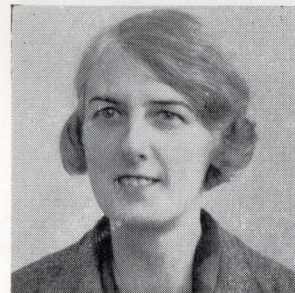


Miss M. Walker, 30 years with Brotherton & Co. of Leeds.

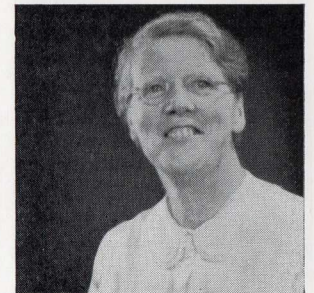
WHERE HONOUR IS DUE



Miss Dorothy K. Cullen, London, with 36 years service, must be well in the running for the record.



Miss A. Burgin. 31 years with Manchester Ship Canal Co. Now Head operator, Accounts Section.



Miss D. M. Willett, a London Operator with 23 years' operating service already and still scoring.

WHERE HONOUR IS DUE



Mrs. Bearup (nee Wright), 32 years operating in London, of which the last 18 years have been on the Stock Exchange.



Miss E. Roberts, Manchester, now supervisor at Banister, Wa ton & Co (Constructional Engineers) after 28 years service.



Mrs. H. W. Knapton (nee Avison), operator for a well-known firm of Chartered Accountants in Leeds. Total of 27 years service.



Miss Winifred Berry has operated Comptometers for 20 years in Bradford, including service for the Wool Control.

WHERE HONOUR IS DUE



Mrs. F. W. James (nee Rooney). Administrative Staff and in charge of various machines.

Total Service - 173 years.

Yes, that is the proud combined record of the ladies shown on this page, and they are all employed by Rowntrees of York.

Mrs. James, shown on the left, is in charge of a large number of Comptometers there, and her methods of training and supervision have resulted in a very high standard of operating and a fine loyal band of operators.



Miss L. Wilson.



Miss G. Jackson.



Miss G. Genn.



Miss B. Heslop.



Miss E. M. Holmes.



Miss E. Morley.

WHERE HONOUR IS DUE



Miss A. Jones, Manchester, has been employed by Manchester Collieries for 27 years.



Miss H. B. Roy, Edinburgh, is Head Operator at Smith & Wells Ltd. Total service 21 years.



Mrs. Edgar (nee Tetley) is a comparative junior, after 17 years at Halifax Borough Treasurer's. Her home is at Low Moor.



Miss W. H. Ballantyne, also of Halifax, has a score of 20 years and is now with John Crossley & Sons. famous for carpets.

LOOKING AHEAD

Among the guests at the Reunions were hundreds of girls who were still pupils in the Comptometer Schools. Some of them have since completed their Course and have been sent out to jobs where they will no doubt maintain the high reputation of Comptometer Operators past and present.

One of the greatest problems is to meet the ever-growing demand for operators. Since the war ended, many girls have married and become fully absorbed in household duties. Others, already married but whose husbands were in the Forces, were in harness as operators to assist the war effort, but now, with their men back again, are finding their home a full-time job. In consequence, there are many vacancies to be filled and most of the Comptometer Schools need pupils.

We therefore invite all readers to tell their young friends about the advantages of Comptometer Operating as a vocation, and, if possible, to pass this magazine along to them. Alternatively, please give the names and addresses of any likely students to the nearest Comptometer Office (address on back cover) and a prospectus and a copy of this magazine will be sent promptly in all cases. The need is great, and your co-operation will perform a valuable service to industry as well as to your friends. The following extracts from letters are typical of hundreds received from parents and pupils, all expressing their satisfaction with the school course and the happy contacts that follow:—

I have not been asked to write to you, or have I any proof that you even desire me to do so, but, when some 10 months ago, I wrote to you enquiring your terms, etc., on behalf of my daughter, you so kindly replied to me (a complete stranger) with a brief letter of thanks and a brochure, and we both interviewed your School and the teacher a day or so afterwards. That has proved to be one of the most wonderful half-hours I have ever spent, and to you, Sir, I am more than grateful for all you have done for her; not forgetting your teachers (both old and new) along with the remainder of your staff, who have been more than I ever desired, for such a very reasonable fee. In closing, please accept my sincerest thanks, on behalf of my daughter and myself.

C. Easterbrook (Sheffield)

I wish to thank you for the splendid magazine which I received last week. I had another surprise a few weeks ago when I received the invitation from the Birmingham office. When I had completed my training at school I thought Messrs. Felt & Tarrant Ltd. had finished with me but how nice it is to know that we are gone but not forgotten.

Olive Vincent (Birmingham)

I should just like to inform you that I am delighted at the progress my daughter Margaret has made in the School. I am deeply appreciative of the training she has received. Margaret has been very happy during the months she has been at the School and I wish to thank you for your co-operation in preparing her in her business career.

Thos. E. Purvis (Newcastle)

My husband wishes to join me in thanking you for your kindness and the interest you have shown in Jean's career. We also appreciate the arrangements you have made for Jean at The Sunderland Forge & Engineering Co., Ltd. She has enjoyed her two days at the Office and seems to like the work. The Sunderland Forge is an excellent firm to work for.

F. M. J. Duncan
(Sunderland)

News for London Operators

The huge Metropolitan area has already given quite a lot of headaches to the Reunion Committee. When, at long last, they found a hall large enough to cope with anything up to 3,000 operators, it was impossible to persuade any caterer to provide refreshments on such a scale during the present stringencies and the whole affair had to be postponed.

Nothing daunted, the Committee set about the problem in a different way, and decided to hold a super entertainment with top-line stage and radio stars that would more than compensate for the absence of eats and drinks. All the operators in the London area who are on the mailing list should have received invitations during January and announcements have also appeared in all the London evening papers to catch the eye of any operators who may have been missed.

The show will be at the Kingsway Hall, near Holborn Tube Station, on St. Valentine's Day, 14th February, 1947, from 6.30 to 9.30 p.m. Any operators who have not yet responded to the invitation should do so right away, for it is something that should not be missed.

News for the Provinces.

The Reunion which is to take place in Hull on 6th March, 1947, completes the present series, and the whole country has participated as far as practicable, although it is realised with regret that many operators have not been able to attend. Partly for this reason, and partly because so many operators have expressed their keenness for further "get-togethers", the Committees are, with the willing consent of Felt & Tarrant, Ltd., planning a further series. It appears, however, from preliminary enquiries, that the feeding problem everywhere has become more acute, and it may be that the next series will be more on the lines of the London show mentioned above. Negotiations are already in hand for head-line stage and radio stars and particulars will be sent in due course to all operators on the mailing lists.

Calendars for 1947.

The Comptometer celluloid calendar, which is so durable that it lasts the whole year even in pockets and handbags, has become a very popular institution. The 1947 edition was sent out to all Comptometer users and operators last month and further calendars may be obtained free from your nearest Comptometer office if you require them.

Diplomas.

May we again remind those operators who received only a temporary certificate during the war years that they may now exchange these for the official diploma if they have not already done so. The temporary form should be sent with your application to your local Comptometer Office.

WHAT CAN WE HAVE FOR A CHANGE?

For the following two novel recipes we are grateful to Mrs. Sikora (nee Hinchcliffe), of Sheffield, whose husband brought them from Poland.

Golabki or Cabbage Pigeons.

Take 1 large cabbage, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. mince, 1 cupful semolina, 1 small onion, 2 oz. bacon (if possible), 1 oz. lard, salt and pepper and water. Wash cabbage. Put largest leaves in hot water. Bring to boil and leave in pan for 10 minutes. Strain. Let semolina simmer for 5 minutes in a little water. Fry chopped onion in lard. Mix mince (chopped bacon), semolina, onion and seasoning. Place a tablespoonful on each cabbage leaf. Roll up. Place close together in Pyrex dish or pan and cook with 1 teacup water. Serve with white sauce. Can be re-heated next day if desired.

Baked Pierogi.

Take 1 lb. flour, 1 teacupful milk, $\frac{1}{2}$ teacupful water, 1 egg (dried), 1 oz. margarine, 1 tablespoon sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful salt, 2 oz. yeast. Use for filling: cabbage, potato, apple or any fruit.

Mix yeast with sugar and place in bowl with flour. Add egg, salt, milk, water and melted margarine (not hot). Make a firm soft dough. Cover with cloth and leave this to rise. Roll to $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick and cut into rounds. Place filling in centre and fold over dough. Press edges together. Place on baking tin and leave $\frac{1}{2}$ hour or more to rise. Brush with milk and bake in moderate oven for about 25 minutes.

Eat and Die!!!!

This comes from Miss Norma Kedroff of Cork, and you cannot say you haven't been warned.

Ingredients: $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. plain biscuits, 3 ozs. sugar, 1 tablespoonful of coffee or cocoa, 3 tablespoonfuls of milk, 3 ozs. margarine, 1 egg.

Method: Melt margarine and milk in a saucepan. Add the sugar and coffee (or cocoa). Remove the saucepan from the fire to let the mixture cool. Beat the egg and add to mixture. Cut the biscuits into small pieces and stir into the saucepan. Put the saucepan over a small flame for about five minutes, beating the mixture all the time, until the biscuits are soft and well mixed in with the other ingredients. Put into a greased tin and allow to set for 12 hours.

Marshmallow Fluff.

From Miss Marjorie Greenwood of Rochdale comes one that makes the mouth water. If you can't first catch your strawberry, let's hope some other fruit will be available.

Take 3 teaspoonfuls powdered gelatine, 3 dessertspoonfuls of sugar, one drop of vanilla essence, 1 gill boiling water.

Mix together in basin and leave to cool to blood-heat. Then whisk in 6 tablespoonfuls dried milk gradually, and few drops of colouring. Pour into glasses and leave to set—top with a strawberry and serve.

PRIZES FOR OPERATORS

Because of the widespread interest in Reunions throughout the country, many sketches and literary contributions have had to be held over until the next edition, when it is hoped that several of them will be published. In the meantime, we would be glad to have your further efforts for consideration.

For this number awards have been made as follows:—

£1 ls. each to the twenty-two operators who have kindly supplied their photographs for the Senior Operators' section on pages 23 to 28. May they long go on from strength to strength.

£1 ls. each to the eight "relations" on pages 16 and 17.

Half a guinea to the operators for each recipe, etc., printed on pages 31 and 32.

SAVE YOUR COUPONS

Here are some hints from Mrs. P. Davies of Pontypridd about toning up your shoes.

Brown Shoes. If discoloured, can be made like new by painting with tincture of iodine. Leave for a day or so, then polish.

Patent Shoes. Apply a little olive oil; this will prevent them cracking.

Skin Shoes. If discoloured, give an application of peroxide of hydrogen. Apply sparingly with a sponge.

Suede Shoes. Remove all stains with petrol, then brush gently with wire brush.

Silver Shoes. Tarnish can be removed by applying a paste made of whiting and water. Leave to dry, then brush powder off.

Satin Shoes. If dirty, dip a rag in petrol and rub all over shoes, changing rag as it becomes soiled. Put out of doors to dry.

SAVE YOUR COMPLEXION AND YOUR HAIR

We are indebted to Miss M. N. O. Beirne of Cardiff for the following two aids to beauty. She states that many of her friends have found them very satisfactory.

Potato Pack and Astringent

Recipe: One raw potato, hot water.

Peel raw potato. Wash it and cut in slices. Remove all make-up and wash face well with hot water, then steam face over some boiling water. Dry. Apply slices of raw potato; rub each one into the skin until the juice has dried. Then apply next slice, etc., until whole of potato has been used. Then leave until face becomes completely dry and stiff (approximately 10 minutes), then wash with cold water.

Hair Tonic and Restorer

Recipe: One raw onion.

Brush hair well then rub raw onion vigorously into the scalp. In a very short time this treatment will make the hair thick and remove dandruff. This is a sure cure for baldness. The odour evaporates overnight and leaves hair very silky.

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We hope you have enjoyed this booklet. Would you be good enough to pass it to a friend when you have finished with it. Perhaps any parents who may be reading this have friends who are wondering what to do with their sons and daughters. In any case, by passing it on, you may help to introduce someone else to the profitable career of Comptometer operating. Alternatively, we will gladly post copies to your friends if you will send us their Names and Addresses, and your co-operation will be warmly appreciated.

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