

The Brenthamite

(PUBLISHED MONTHLY)

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and H. H. BARTHOLOMEW.

VOL. II., No. 4.

JUNE, 1917

DIBDIN TROUBLES.

"Go till the ground." This we were told
Was what the Government had stated.
So young and old, with courage bold,
Round Brentham strolled, to find some mould
Which might be cultivated.
Then Dibdin's desert wastes were made
Productive by the gardener's spade.

At last when all was nearly done,
And people's backs were nigh half-broken ;
When in the sun about a ton
Had just begun their roots to run,
And good crops to betoken ;
We heard the work was all for nought,
A smoke bomb firm the place had bought.

We held a meeting by the Brent,
And now we know how promptness paid us.
But though we sent to each Council gent.
Who REPRESENTS these Wards, they lent
No help, nor sought to aid us.
Don't dream that Brentham's prayers or frowns will
Worry Ealing's Borough Council.

In Parliament 'twas pointed out
That land, not even used for grazing,
Was round about, and without doubt
Could put to rout for nearly nowt
The trouble this was raising.
Thus now from factories we're secure,
And "Freddy" has our thanks I'm sure.

THE PIERROT.

Tennis. The preparation of the courts is now well advanced,
and there is every possibility of play on Saturday,
June 9th, thanks to the energies of the new Society.
Croquet will be played on one of the courts.

WITH THE FORCES.

Mr. Cobbett (Captain of the Tennis Club) has joined the R.N.A.S., and Mr. Percy Drower, King Edward's Horse.

Arthur H. Poultney, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Poultney, of Woodfield Avenue, has arrived in England with the Canadian Engineers, after nine years in Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Poultney have now five sons in the Forces, four in the Army and one (interned in Holland) in the Navy.

Temp.-Lieut. J. A. P. Blackburn, R.N.R., was gazetted on Saturday, May 12th, as recipient of the D.S.C. Lieut. Blackburn resides, when at home, at 19, Meadvale Road. Our congratulations.

Sergt. S. Folker is now Musketry Instructor to a Corps of the Training Reserve.

Brentham has learned, with great regret, that Trooper R. Kay has died of wounds received in action in France. As a business man, a proprietor of the Brentham Store, Mr. Kay was extremely well known, and popular. Few people not actually resident on the Estate were so intimately connected with it.

Sergt. Nicholson is at present at work in a wounded prisoners' camp in France. He has already handled a famous capture.

Pte. H. M. Collinson, Conductor of the Choral Society, was in Brentham for a few hours at Whitsun. He was on his way from somewhere in England to somewhere in France. He was able to report excellent health of Mrs. Collinson and their five months' old daughter.

Lieut. F. Lacey (Rangers), formerly of 25, Neville Road, has received a severe gunshot wound in the thigh, but is progressing favourably.

Sergt. J. W. Small (P.O. Rifles) who, after nearly two years in France, is now stationed in England, is home in Brentham on brief leave. He shares with two or three others the distinction of having been mobilised on August 4th, 1914.

[May we again ask our readers to supply names and information for publication under this heading. Our list is far from complete, but we hope to have full details.]

"THE DIBDIN HOUSE AFFAIR."

The allotments at Dibdin House under the Brentham Horticultural Society's occupation for War-time food-producing purposes have been the cause of a good deal of excitement during May. We are indebted to the official statement of the B.H.S. for the facts given. Thirty-three allotments were pegged out, and cultivation proceeded as rapidly as weather would permit. Some of the plots were shared by the holders, and about 50 men in all were working upon them. Two sheds thereafter appeared, and smoke bombs were tested, but as the sheds did not encroach on the allotment ground it was not considered worth while to press for their removal.

On May 3rd, however, a notification was received from the Borough Surveyor, that the construction of a factory on the allotments was under contemplation. Prompt and vigorous action was necessary, and the Ministry of Munitions, Board of Agriculture, and the Member for Ealing were approached. Materials for the factory began to arrive, and no definite action had, apparently, been taken by any public body, so the B.H.S. called a Protest Meeting of Allotment Holders on May 12th. The meeting, which included representatives of neighbouring Allotments' Societies, was well attended, and decided to make strong representations of the need for immediate action to the Board of Agriculture and Town Council. A tentative proposal, that only 8 of the 33 allotments should be taken, was rejected.

On May 14th this offer, with compensation, was definitely refused by the Allotments Secretary (Mr. F. W. Green) at a conference on the ground, attended by the London District Engineer, the Borough Surveyor, the Estate Agents, and a Board of Agriculture representative. The factory proprietor arrived at Dibdin House just before the meeting broke up, and, after hearing a report of the stand taken up by the Society, decided to abandon the proposal and seek a site elsewhere.

CONCERT.

Miss Molly Duncan's final Concert of the season (postponed from March last) was given at S. Benedict's Hall on the hill. Few names could cause such a general exodus from Brentham as was to be seen in the procession wending its way to the top of Eaton Rise on Saturday evening, May 19th; Miss Duncan and her talented pupils acted as a Pied Piper to Brentham. But though they took us to the opening in the hill they made it possible for us to return before a very late bed-time. A few of the season's favourites were included in the programme—"The Awakening of Dresden China," "National Ballet" and "Spring Ballet," and they were not a whit less enjoyable than on previous occasions. Of the new items, the "Babies' Ballet," including a Maypole and Minuet, was after Brentham's heart, and "Dutch Doll," in which Miss Millicent Welham sang the song and danced with eight girls was very effective. Little Doady Folker came in as a Dutch doll amid screams of delight from the audience. A very ambitious and highly successful effort was that of Irene Milner and Kitty Martin as Juliet and the Nurse in a scene from "Romeo and Juliet." Miss Duncan's pupils presented to her a bouquet of roses just before the interval in appreciation of her excellent tuition. Mrs. Fielder was an ideal accompanist, and the proceeds of the Concert were generously handed by Miss Duncan to the *Brenthamite*. SKIB.

The cows that walked about the Dibdin Allotments on Wednesday last must have formed an unofficial deputation from the Board of Agriculture.

OUT AND ABOUT.

Balance-sheets and financial statements are usually uninteresting documents, but there are hon. treasurers who could illuminate them if they would, and few of the numerous treasurers' statements presented at meetings in Brentham are as prosaic as they appear; indeed, the gentleman who carries "the bag" usually finds much humour in his occupation. For instance, the £55, takings on the billiards tables, shown in the I.C.C. balance-sheet, contains three French "pennies" and a battered holey sixpence, the finding of which in the boxes must be some compensation to that good man, the Hon. Treasurer. Hosts of threepenny pieces in this amount prove that the Church-offertory-small-silver habit has been successfully broken in Brentham. The 2s. 9½d., money left on the building, is really a monument to some people's wealth and carelessness, and the Committee's magnificent blamelessness.

* * *

A tale may hang about a mere halfpenny as the Bowls Club may know, for that organisation commenced the season a whole halfpenny to the bad, representing several dead worms whose executions were carried out "on tick." On the other hand, there are treasurers who disdain the mere halfpenny; in our April issue we acknowledged the donation of 16s. 1½d. from the Billiards match played in aid of the 'Ite. This appears as 16s. 1d. in the audited balance-sheet, and P.C., in his billiard note, thinking in round figures, expressed his pleasure at the sum of 16s. being raised. So there is a small coin orphaned, unless the Bowls Club has managed to obtain it as a loan from the accommodating Hon. Treasurer of the 'Ite.

* * *

Perhaps the item that conceals the greatest subtleties of high and dry finance is the "sundries" amount. Herein lie all the odds and ends of expenditure that lend fascination to the functions of an auditor, and give a treasurer just that amount of elbow-room that is necessary. But until treasurers open their hearts as they do their pockets the secrets of their petty cash will remain unknown to ordinary mortals.

* * *

"Let Ealing make a bid for Brentham's interest in local affairs by arranging the Wards of the Borough so that Brentham becomes practically a Ward by itself" we wrote in the old *Brentham Magazine* of August, 1914. That view was quoted with apparent approval in the local papers, but since then, thanks probably to distractions, the subject has remained forgotten. It has been revived, however, by recent events, and there is a general impression that Brentham must make the demand and not await Ealing's bid.

W.E.R.

BRENTHAM CLUB AND INSTITUTE.

A Society is to be formed, under the Industrial and Provident Societies' Act, which will take over the complete management of the Institute and Grounds permanently.

All residents, and all investors in Ealing Tenants, Limited, are eligible for membership of the Society, and it is confidently hoped that everyone will avail himself or herself of the opportunity of joining the Society, and thus obtaining a voice in the management of Brentham's social activities.

The Shares will be of the nominal value of five shillings, as explained on the circular letter that everyone has, by now, received.

The rules were passed at a meeting of those who had applied for membership, and the business of printing them and applying for registration is being proceeded with.

In the meantime the Institute will be opened on Saturdays from 7.30 p.m. to 11 p.m. for the use of those who have applied for membership.

The subscription for membership of the Institute will be 2s. 6d. for gentlemen and 1s. for ladies up to December 31st. Thereafter the annual fee will probably be 7s. 6d. for gentlemen and 6s. for ladies. The low fee for the remainder of this year is to enable people to take up a share and join the Institute at as little expense as possible.

No one who is eligible to be a member of the Society will be admitted as a member of the Institute without joining the Society, but the possibility of admitting Associates, who are not eligible for membership of the Society, to participate in the activities of the Society, is under consideration.

No interference will be made this year with any arrangements, respecting membership or other matters, that have already been made by any of the various outdoor sections, but next year none but members of the Society or Associates of the Institute will be admitted to participation in these activities, except by special arrangement.

Of course the grounds will continue to be open and free to all residents on the Estate, but participation in the activities of the Clubs will be restricted to members.

Applications for Shares are coming in well, and the Acting Hon. Sec. is anxious to receive them from all who have not yet applied, as soon as possible.

It has long been said that Brentham's social matters should be entirely under the control of the residents, and the opportunity has offered itself to carry this into effect. Everyone is earnestly asked to give his or her support. Remember that it is during a bad time like this that whole-hearted support is most necessary. If it be forthcoming it will enable the project to be satisfactorily established for the general good of the community both now and in the future.

H.W.B.

ON DIT:—

That Brentham is really starting to do things for itself.

That the Institute AND Grounds is a big (and good) proposition.

That this is the spirit that will keep it the "Pioneer Garden Suburb."

That the Horticultural Society can move.

That the Borough Councillors may possibly have heard of Brentham, but that was all—until lately.

That the representatives of Mount Park Ward and Castle Bar Ward give a thought to it once, namely, when they seek election.

That this portion of Ealing never will obtain consideration until it is made a separate Ward.

That J.H. was much amused at being mistaken for an official in charge of a band of conscientious objectors.

That he prefers this to being taken for a hawker of tomato plants.

That the Secretary and Treasurer of the late I.C.C. are known to have had many things in common, but for both to use the same alarm clock, for different times on the same morning, probably constitutes a record.

That someone has evidently taken the hint given last month with regard to the Hon. Sec's. pipe.

That it is time the new ropes for the children's swings appeared.

ANON.

Our Secretary will be pleased to add your name to the list of subscribers for the second volume. Your subscription may make all the difference in February next.

B.H.S. The month of May has probably brought the name of the Brentham Horticultural Society before many who in the ordinary course of things would never have heard of it, including Government officials, M.P.'s, Town Councillors, and even Brenthamites, but that is the tale of "Dibdin," which is told elsewhere. Here, I would merely point the moral, viz., it proves again the value of an organised body. Perhaps it will also remind those who have not yet paid, that their subscriptions are due. A shilling a year is very little to the individual, but the total of those shillings lost to the Society by lapses of memory seriously reduces its resources and, therefore, its effectiveness. Any member of the Committee will be pleased to receive subscriptions. To refresh the memory, the names and addresses of the Committee men are:—Messrs. F. V. Edwards (Chairman), Ludlow Road; J. G. Phillips (Vice-Chairman), Brunner Road; G. F. Bentham (Secretary), 10, North View; F. W. Green (Allotments Secretary), 26, Meadvale Road; W. H. Morris (Trading Secretary), 8, Neville Road; T. Bowles (Treasurer), Pitsnanger Lane; H. H. Bartholomew, Woodfield Avenue; J. T. Hearn, 50, Meadvale Road; A. Preston, Ludlow Road; W. E. Reading, 27, Neville Road.

The Society is going to undertake an experiment in co-operative spraying. Some millions of tons of potatoes were lost last year through the dread potato disease. It has been found that the best way to combat it is by spraying the haulms with Bordeaux (or similar) mixture. The operation, however, is a tedious one to those without the best labour-saving appliances, and also more expensive. The Society has purchased a knapsack Sprayer, which simplifies and cheapens the process. In order to get the greatest possible use out of this machine, it has been decided not to loan out the Sprayer, but that the Society undertake to do the spraying. This entails calling upon a number of self-sacrificing individuals willing to give some of their time for this purpose. It is hoped to spray all the allotments, one block at a time, and that all allotment-holders (whether on the Estate, at Dibdin or on the Railway) will come in the scheme. The cost will work out at about twopence per rod per spraying, and that will include everything. Names are wanted of those willing to give a few hours of their time to this work from the 7th July to the 5th August. Also, will all potato growers intimate to a member of the Committee their willingness to come into the scheme.

The Society has still a fair stock of chemical manures, &c., including "lawn sand," for killing weeds.

From the beginning of June, the pavilion will be open for sales on Thursday evenings, 7.30 to 9, instead of on Saturdays.

M.

The Juniors are being looked after during the summer months. The boys have their pitch on the large Cricket Ground, by kind permission, and it does one good to see the way they look after it. They are continually rolling it, and cutting the grass, and in time the ground will be in splendid condition. A good number of fixtures have been already booked. Mr. W. Hutchings has kindly consented to become President, with several Vice-Presidents. So far the season has opened well, every match having been won. Our Hon. Secretary, Master Norman Hender, is working very hard, and has a few dates open in the latter part of the season. We are hoping to obtain the use of a portion of the pavilion at an early date. Matches :—

May 5, St. Barnabas. Won by an innings and 14 runs.

May 12, Belmont School. Won by 65 runs.

May 17, Southfields. Won by one run, 80—79.

Whit-Monday, a County School XI. Won by 66 runs, 91—25.

On alternate Saturdays the boys have the use of the Small Hall for Games, Billiards, Boxing, Reading, &c., from 7 to 9 p.m.

The girls are very anxious to commence Tennis, and although the Tennis Section, through Mr. Blomeley, have kindly offered the use of two nets and poles, we are in a difficulty about the ground being prepared, but we are glad to know that an effort is being made to overcome it. Miss Louise Mitchell is Hon. Secretary. The girls have also the use of the Small Hall on alternate Saturdays, from 7 to 9 p.m., for Dancing and Games, under the kind direction of Mrs. Hender.

J.E.R.

BOWLING FIXTURES.

SAT. MAY 26.	Acton Park (h.)	SAT. JULY 14.	Lammas (a.)
„ JUNE 9.	Ealing Conserva-	WED. „ 18.	Acton Park (a.)
	tives (a.)	SAT. „ 28.	Lammas (h.)
„ „ 16.	Acton Park (a.)	WED. AUG. 15.	Lammas (h.)
WED. „ 20.	Acton Park (h.)	SAT. „ 18.	Pitshanger (h.)
SAT. „ 23.	Pitshanger (a.)	WED. „ 29.	Pitshanger (a.)
WED. JULY 4.	Lammas (a.)	SAT. SEPT. 8.	Ealing Conserva
„ „ 11.	Pitshanger (h.)		tives (h.)

Team matches at home on remaining Saturdays.

RESULTS.

Opening match, May 5th, Captain *v.* Vice-Captain ; a win for the Vice-Captain's team by 7 points.

Acton 68 *v.* Brentham 51 ; win for Acton by 17 points.

J. H.

The competition, held on May 5th and 12th, for the *Rifle Daily Mail* Certificate, was won by Mr. C. A. R. Sanders (N.T.C.), with a score of 87 at 50 yards. The *Daily Express* Medal, the competition for which was concluded on May 26th, was won by Mr. J. F. Ratford (163). Conditions, 20 shots at 50 yards on double 2in. bull target.

Competitions for June :—

2. Pool Shoot on figure target at 25 yards.
9. & 16. Roberts Medal, 5 bull targets at 25 yards ; unlimited entries, slings optional.
23. Practice only.

WE TAKE OFF OUR HATS TO :

The originator of the B.H.S. lightning seed bed idea.
 The 26 co-operators who produced it.
 The man in charge of the said C. O.'s.
 The disinterested idealist who puts Brentham's social interest above Interest.
 The legal lights who kept burning during the passing of rules meeting.
 The two wearers of ancient panamas.
 The saints who re-seated a Church at midnight.
 The two chumps who unseated it in daylight.
 The lady whose morning cigarette leaves a fragrant whiff behind.
 The hedge clipper whose flattery is more energetic than effective.
 The sirens who, from their seat beneath a tree, charm the junior cricketers.

All Editorial Communications to be addressed to the Editor,
 27 Neville Road, Ealing, W.

All matters relating to advertisements to be sent to the Advert.
 Manager, 43 Brentham Way, Ealing, W.

All other communications to the Business Secretary, 29 Meadvale
 Road, Ealing, W.