

March 28 1965

to

October 3 1965



Al Barker 2nd year diary on Page 49
from March 28 1965 to October 5 1965

► LOOK FOR THE NAME

DENBIGH

Commercial Books

Ref. No.	Size	Leaves
D. 618/60	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	60
D. 18/64	6 $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 4"	64
D. 18/90	6 $\frac{3}{8}$ " x 4"	90
D. 38/90*	7"	90
D. 38/140	7" x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	140
D. 68/90*	8" x 5"	90
D. 68/140*	8" x 5"	140
D. 34/90	9" x 7"	90
D. 34/120*	9" x 7"	120
D. 64/120*	10" x 8"	120
D. 124/120*	12 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	120
D. 124/160*	12 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	160
D. 1/50*	12 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 8"	50
D. 1/100*	12 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 8"	100
D. 1/140*	12 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 8"	140

Ruled Faint, Faint and Single Cash.
*Faint & Double Cash.

Indexed All Sizes.
Faint Ruling only.

When re-ordering
this book ask for number:—

D34/120 FAINT

If this book is indexed,
please state INDEXED with
the above reference.

From March 28 1965 to October 1965

First year as Mayor. Book 2.

1965 Sunday March 28. Today I've spent a good deal of time in the garden and have just come in at five o'clock so I've nothing in the way of Mayor's business to report as yet. Alby Martin looked in this morning on the way to do his mother-in-law's garden (surprising the amount of work Alby gets through on other people's behalf.) He told me the L.L.P. have now chosen their candidates chosen and I am glad about that. I have been in the centre of election campaigns for so long that it seems quite strange not to know what is going on in the inner circles of the L.L.P. and I often find myself wondering if everything is going alright. It probably goes better without me! Dorothy is preparing herself for her talk to the ladies of the Inner Wheel and she has gone to Brighton to see if Joan has anything on the beginnings of some of these organisations, particularly of women's organisations. (Later.) I went and met Dorothy off the bus from Brighton and she has the book she needs. It is a kind of register of all organisations and, although I haven't seen it yet, it will no doubt prove very useful.

Monday. March 29. I went to the Mayors Parlour and Joan B. and I dealt with the day's post and other items. Money is still coming in for the Churchill Trust Fund and also, a surprising number of donations to the League of Hospital Friends who are organising a collection this year entirely for our local Victoria hospital. I shall be interested to find how much this amounts to in the end. There is a Dr Palmer who is endeavouring to start a League of ex-patients of this hospital and his idea was given press publicity this week. He says the chief idea is to have a body of people who will carry enough weight in protest against the suggested closing of the hospital. I hope this is the idea because I don't think matters will be helped by having two bodies collecting. There was not much to do for the rest of the day and in the evening Dorothy and I walked up as far as the "Windmill" to investigate a complaint about trees overhanging gardens from the school grounds.

We looked in the "Punter Pub." (formerly the Pofferman) on the way back and had a drink and reached home at approximately 9-45. This morning we had a look at the North Street industrial site and I was pleased at the progress that is being made. When this is finished and when viewed in conjunction

with our new footbridge and the immediate surroundings, one can ~~also~~ realise what a vast improvement to this part of the town is taking place

Tuesday March 30. We had to hurry through the office work this morning because the Assizes^{*} taking all the Courts at the County Hall, the two magistrates courts were moved to our Town Hall. I saw Joe Parrotter, a Newhaven J.P. and Mr Tucker, the present Chairman of the Newhaven R.D.C. I thanked Tucker for the party last Friday, and asked Parrotter why he had not attended his chairman's reception. By the re-action of them both it seems there is some difference of opinion on the Newhaven Council about the advisability of holding the reception. More money came in for the Churchill and Hospital League funds. Outside the sub. thermometer stands at £570. This is 70 above the target we fixed for the Churchill. I got a haircut and had a fitting for a new suit and in the evening attended the Library committee which went off very comfortably. John Perkins and I went to the Mayors Parlour for a chat afterwards

He considers our team of Councillors ~~are~~ is a very good team although the choosing methods leave something to be desired. However he is very pleased with the team on the Council. There was a Radio play I listened to when I got home which I thought was very good. It was "The Education of an Englishman" by John Mortimer.

Wednesday March 21: To the Mayor's Parlour and we dealt with the post which still has to do in the main with the Chs. Fund and the League of Hospital Friends. There was a W.E.A. Branch committee in the evening to which we both attended and the preparations were made for the A.G.M. I hope this branch does keep going. From being very strong in recent years it seems to be declining rather, and if Miss Hilda Glander does go away again I'm afraid things will be pretty slack. Of course this falling away with a change of personnel happens to all organizations at different times but I should be very sorry were the WEA Branch here to decline.

Thursday April 1. I did the Mayor's work in Joan's office today because the Magistrates borrowed all the spare rooms on account of the Assizes turning them out of the County Hall. The Churchill Fund and the Hospital Fund are both being well subscribed. In the afternoon I attended another of the W.E.A. Thursday classes which are held at 31 Prince Edwards Road. This is the penultimate class of the course that is being run by a team of tutors and today's tutor is winding up for them. He was quite good on America where he went as an "interchange" student. A curious thing about him was the strange twist he gave to the recruiting of Kitchener's army at the beginning of the 1914-18 war. He discussed had digressed to this subject by way of the sudden changes that do take place in American public opinion and the coming into the first war by America. I had ventured the suggestion that in England, in 1914 we were all hysterically eager to get to grips with the enemy" and full of a stupid and rank nationalistic patriotism: whereas, in 1939 there was none of this and we were stunned when we entered the second war. I think this thought of the attitude of mind in 1914 is true. It is what I observed and most writers deplore it (Mafeking etc). However, this afternoon tutor though that attitude of mind did not exist in 1914 and

as proof of his view he quoted the Hatchers "Your Country Needs You" posters. He took the view that a country that needed those posters to remind them could not have been so wildly patriotic. I noticed that the rest of the class, all much younger than me, could not believe in the Imperialist indoctrination that did take place in Edwardian times, and I take this as a hopeful sign that education over 30 or so years can make people have an entirely different outlook internationally, and anyway, as I said above by 1939 there was already a different attitude to war and "Nationalistic" patriotism. In the evening Dorothy and I were invited by the Church Unity movement to attend a meeting at the Methodist Church where T. Unions relationships with the church was to be discussed. It was opened by Mr Wheatley who was very pious (and self-righteous) and who made many inaccurate statements with an anti-T.U. bias. However the T.U. speaker dealt with the situation very ably indeed. I was very pleased with this speaker Mr Parkes of the A.E.U. This body of ^{such} people and are not going to get far with the unity of the churches if their efforts have the same sort of guides as

those who were trying to make unity with the T.O. movement. I think I won't try them any more.

Friday April 2. Parlour work had to be done very quickly as Ray-H. was waiting with Bert Briggs to give us a lift to Rye where we were to attend a meeting of the Sussex Mayors Assn. She and Bert were travelling to a S.C. Hospital Board meeting. We had a look round Rye before the reception and after lunch the mayors had their meeting while the Mayoresse's had a guided tour of the town. There is nothing to report of this Mayors meeting as the body of the movement has no power and really, I suppose, meet to have a day out. I went to the T of Lewes committee meeting in the evening. I found they were locked out of the Bank House and I invited them to hold their meeting in the parlour and this was done. There is a rather late amendment they have to the towns traffic plan. I am taking it home to read although I know this amendment is much too late

Saturday April 3. A Rugby match to attend in the afternoon at the invitation of the Lewes Rugby Club. The game was rather one-sided, Lewes defeating Roslyn Park by I don't know how many points to 3. There is a feeling of B.O.P. among the older members here but that is nothing to be ashamed of. In the evening to St Mary's Social Centre where the Drama Section of the Centre put over Emlyn Williams Play "Night Must Fall" very well indeed. I had to say a few words afterwards but I have so many occasions to praise them (and with reason) that I really have difficulty in finding different words with which to express my admiration for this club. We have to visit this club again on May 1. !!

Sunday April 4. I took the Friends of Lewes traffic plan and read it through and, as I realised it was impossible I went round to see John Perkins. He agrees with me but we both think that, in spite of the impossibility of the plan, it is nice to know that somebody is willing to take the trouble to have made an effort to find some method of solving the traffic problem in Lewes.

April 5. Monday. Today is the 39th anniversary of our wedding. I was amazed (and pleased) to find there were heaps of daffodils in the parlor. This was quite by chance as nobody knew about our wedding day or daffodils.

There was the usual work to do in the parlor and later in the day the Highways Committee while Dorothy went to a "Sherry & Savouries evening in aid of some charity or other. We then left our respective appointments and met in the parlor and made our way to the assembly room where the "Sussex Express" darts finals were to take place. This was a very jolly evening among all the darts teams from all pubs and clubs all over the County. Met Mr & Mrs Parsons, the proprietors of the paper, and other personalities of the paper and we .

afterwards invited them up to the Parlour. This has been quite a busy day and very enjoyable.

Tuesday April 6 The usual work in the Parlour and in the afternoon I had to go to the Pavilion at Brighton to attend a meeting of the disabled persons committee. An interesting talk by Commander Style on the subject of "Remployment". There was also a short film on the subject but I think some of the arguments used in this were not too sound. It (the argument) ran something like this. "You say a disabled person is unfit for some work so are you. You are unfit to be a jockey. A pro American footballer, a steeplechase there seemed to be unnecessary examples chosen here. The point can be made without such flights of fancy, it has actually been proved that disabled people can be re-habilitated and also that they have not so much time lost through sickness. While I was at this meeting Dorothy

was at a meeting of the Inner Wheel where she had been invited to speak. At 6.30 I went to the Parks Committee and Dorothy went to Henry's class at the Grange. My parks meeting lasted a very long time (I consider much time was wasted in muddled argument.). However, we did get through in the end and I went and ~~then~~ met Dorothy at the finish of the Collins meeting. Quite a busy day. During the afternoon, at the disablement meeting I met several people besides the Commander. I also chatted for some time at tea with the young Mrs Parish. Hereward was also there. It is surprising how many organisations he serves. I walked to Pool Valley afterwards and was lucky enough to catch a bus immediately I got there.

Wednesday April 7: Parlour first. The Churchill Fund is £760 !! This is £260 above the target figure. There is some money about. Asked Joan Bourne to send congrats to Cllr Edwards, Mayor of Worthing, because, on the S. & News we heard he was engaged to be married. Only last Friday, at Rye, he was saying being a widower, how lonely he was going to be when

his son got married. I hope he will be alright now. Certainly he shouldn't be lonely as his intended wife is a widow with 3 children. Good luck to them both. I slipped up to 68 P. Ed. and left the tickets I had promised for the fashion show tonight and Dorothy and I arrived at the show shortly before eight. We enjoyed the show and the hosts the Brighton Girls Club were very hospitable. Hale was there so my journey up to P. Ed. was not in vain. Dorothy enjoyed it (the show) very much. I was interested up to a point but I expect all men find this a bit boring. I have news today that the Lewes A.F.C. wish me to propose the toast to the club at their annual dinner on May 21. This is much better than asking me on the day before as they did last year but I shall have to be careful not to repeat last years toast. I must get to bed as I feel very tired. It must be the fashion show was too heady for me. Certainly there was an extraordinary number of extraordinary hats

Thursday April 8. After the Mayors work I had to attend the matrimonial etc. court. We had expected almost a days work but a lot of adjourning took place so I was out in about an hour. Accordingly I went back to the Mayors Parlour and considered further the suggested line to take when the Boundaries commission meet later this year. I'll return to this subject later in this journal. Having still time I took all the books Dorothy had on loan from the Library to help her with her 'Inner Wheel' speech. At 6.35 I had to go to the Boys Grammar School where the Priory Cricket Club had a film show with Oakman speaking and 2 films. The conveners of this meeting are, roughly, in the same group as the rugby club. The evening was quite a success, a great many people were there and there were many schoolboys. During the evening I noticed some school teachers, of whom there are several in this group, were discussing, with approval, what they consider the drift away from association football to rugby. It seems that the idea is to inculcate the love of rugby into the kids instead of us. I don't think that will ever come about in a general way. The cricket films and the commentary by Oakman were quite good

Friday April 9. Today I cleared up what threatened to become a confusion of appointments on the 2nd of this month. By various arrangements Dorothy and I will now attend the cup final at home and will get back to Lewes in time for me to attend the Old Comrades Dinner. The chief event today was the Mayor's Reception at Eastbourne. R.H. kindly transported us there and back in time for the police ball at Lewes. The function at Eastbourne was very nice affair. I met Sir Charles Taylor the local M.P. There were the Mayors of Rye and Bexhill present besides myself and we met in the main hall, a good many of Eastbourne's Labour and Cooperative councillors. There was a very good supper and at 9-35 R.H. drove us back to Lewes where Inspector Horsey met us and took us into supper!! We stopped till the end of this police ball and Mrs. Kilburn drove us home at 2 a.m. on Saturday. Today has been very enjoyable and both at Eastbourne and in Lewes, people have been at pains to look after us and have been very kind.

Saturday April 10. Nothing happened today to record except that we went to a matinee at the Little Theatre and took Mrs. Garrett with us.

Sunday April 11. A quiet day. Did some gardening.

Monday April 12. The Churchill Fund is now £475. Rather good I think. The things I undertake which I feel are not exactly my line of country, and yet I have to do them, that are over and successful before I realise they are started. As Bunting said when very young "Just a flick and we're here" Joan B. and I did the office work. In the evening I had a Health Committee to attend. I can't recall anything of ~~any~~ sufficient importance today to demand recording.

Tuesday April 13. Today Raymonde-Hawkins held her reception, but first there was a phone message from Colin Bourne to let us know Joan would be late because of an indisposition. However, I did most of the post with the aid of Bincore and when Joan arrived she brought the rest over and she and I finished it. There were plenty of flowers

and Dorothy arranged them very nicely. All the guests arrived and one has to marvell at the strong contingent that R.H. gathers round her.

However, the chief guest was Percy Edwards, the Radio "bird man". He is a very interesting character. Not particularly tall but well built and quite obviously very fit indeed. He looks quite ten years younger than his 54 years. He told me his age.

We had lunch at the "White Hart" and Dorothy and I had the good fortune to take him and his wife and show them the town. We were thus able to get better acquainted and to notice how the birds answered to his calls. In the morning at the magons parlour there was one of the "Rays-teds" of Bernards dogs. This is a beautiful creature and almost makes you feel as if you'd like to keep one.

But on reflection one thinks of the enormous amount of prepared food that would be necessary. When we had seen the bird man off Dorothy and I went home about tea time. After tea I had a finance committee to attend and Dorothy the WEA Collins class. The finance committee, which is the last before the new council meets, went along very happily and finished in 2 hours. It does seem as though we are

improving on the length of the committee meetings. There was a rather amusing episode. A duplicator was to be sold and Ald. Buckwell had applied for this to be sold to him for some organization. It transpired that all the committee except four were members of the Labour Party and the duplicator was being purchased for the Labour Party. Consequently all the members of the L.P. had to declare interest. Two of the 4 Conservatives proposed the item should be sold to the L.P. at a cheap price but the other two seemed to not like the idea and it is plain they think that their opponents must never receive anything that is in their favour.

However Ald Baker and Cllr. Yarrow carried the motion with great glee and it was recommended that the L.P. purchase the duplicator at quite a reasonable figure. David Williams and I walked down to the Grange and thus just managed to get our mark for the last class of Dr. Collins course. At this class Dorothy managed to make Peter understand that we are there to learn other things and we really do not want every class turned into a monologue on Peters views of the Bomb. David supported Dorothy so perhaps next session we can proceed with correct WEA work.

instead of listening, most of the time, to a series of rather ill informed assertions.

Wednesday April 14. Joan Bourne arrived about this morning and we did the work and then I had to attend a meeting of the Joint Committee of the CC and SLRC. which deals with litter and the way to deal with the ever increasing amount that is being left about. This is rather a dull committee and I think it fortunate that it only meets about once a year. In the afternoon I did odd jobs including the finishing of my mayor making speech and getting Joan to type it.

April 15

Thursday. Today the T.C. came over and warned me that the episode of the duplicator at ~~the~~ Tuesday evening Finance meeting could be rather developed into a difficult episode at the Town Council meeting on Wednesday. He thinks I might be well advised to get Ald. Buckwell to withdraw his offer to buy the duplicator. Things are slowing up for the Easter Holidays so there was not a great deal to do. The Churchill effort in Levers has now reached just over £800. I phoned Ald. Buckwell and suggested he withdraws his offer to purchase the duplicator and he seems agreeable. David Williams also thinks this is a good idea.

Friday April 16 (Good Friday) Spent most of the day in the garden and Dorothy and I are slowly getting things into shape. Nothing to report from the municipal front. Bunt & John are at Joans and Bunt took us by car down there for the evening and we came back by bus.

Saturday April 17 Easter Saturday. Very quiet as far as we are concerned although there are a great many visitors in the town and plenty of noise and traffic. Dorothy and I went to the Dripping Pan and saw the semi-final of the R.V.R. cup. Leaves beat Pepe by 3-2. We afterwards had a quiet evening.

Sunday April 18 Easter Day. After waking very early and finally getting up and washing and shaving, I had another lay down and finally rose at 8-30. Did not trouble with the fetching of Sunday papers and got on with various tidying up jobs including the front bank. I have spent the remainder of the day gardening and I am surprised at the amount of time there seems to spare now I have not bought the papers. I have been thinking for some time how superfluous in my case these papers are. One has read the news during the week and the book reviews etc are read in the daily "Times" or the "Statesman". These papers on Sunday are, therefore, just an excuse for

laying about on Sunday morning. I certainly seemed to have plenty of time today by not wasting it on papers.

Monday April 19. An Easter Monday that bids fair to be spoilt by a high, gal-like wind and a flurry of rain every so often. This weather kept on all day so there was no anxiety to go out. Spent time working on material for "remarks".

Tuesday April 20. A quiet day after the holiday. The Churchill Barometer was taken in after registering £805. This campaign finishes now but there is still more coming in. After this week it will have to be sent to the Headquarters and we must wind our end up.

over

Wednesday April 21. Joan and I did the usual work this morning. There was nothing else on particularly until the afternoon when Dorothy and I had to go to the Grange where an exhibition of Victorian age stuff was being held. This show is in aid of the displaced persons of whom there are many thousands still in distress. This effort today is run by the organization "Lifeline". Today a cascade of cans came, bringing the founder of the movement, a Mrs Francoise Rigby. A very able woman, still under 50 I should imagine, Mrs Rigby very enthusiastic over this self appointed job. She was a victim of the Nazi's regime herself and before being captured she fought in the Resistance movement. I was impressed by her cheerfulness, her energy and her willingness to help a situation giving quite ungrudgingly of her considerable mental and physical resources. The exhibition of Victoriana I thought rather dull and the exhibits plus the ladies in them dressed mainly in 19 century costumes, tended to increase a feeling of ~~sadism~~ I have for the period and its pigginess. I know there was much progressive thought in all directions, especially scientifically and rationalism but alas, none of it proved enough to give a counter-weight to the generally held opinion of the bogies

of that period. Since I was born at the end of that period and since any epoch doesn't just end, but overlaps into the next, I think I may have some memories of the (aesthetically) frightening look of the times. There was quite an amount of junk of the type Dorothy has been throwing away ever since I've known her, and one or two quite good pieces of furniture. The whole thing, of course, was really quite interesting. In the evening was the Council meeting. This is the last business meeting before I take over as mayor. This will also be the last time the Rev. Williams will act as Mayor's Chaplain as he is leaving Lewes to take a fresh living at Rye Church. Dorothy and I made him a gift of some ~~two~~ coffee spoons. I also announced the result of the Churchill fund and I also spoke of the Lewes Football Club and the need for some councillors to show a welcome. The meeting went very smoothly and there was a general air of cheerfulness. I had all in the parlour for a drink afterwards. When we arrived home Dorothy switched on the radio and there was a play depicting local government. We listened to it all as though we never heard any of it because it was interesting and dealt with efforts to stop the spread of Typhus through infected food stuff. The former com. rec'd that the ship he rode to L.P. was withdrawn on the T.C.'s advice.

Thursday April 22. This morning I've had a blow. It has come to our notice that I have to speak at the Annual Dinner of the Royal Sussex Old Comrades Assn, on this coming Saturday? I thought I had ~~to~~ ^{to} keep people from swingeing things on me like that. However, I have written it out and Joan is going to type and I must do as best I can in such a short time. In the afternoon we had to go to the police first aid tests. This is a very poor examination of its kind and was frightfully ^{bad}. As is usual with police functions, we received every courtesy. Mr Leader, the deputy chief constable took care of us. I had expected that he would have been made chief when Mr Breffit retired but a man has been chosen from away. Leader told me, upon my enquiring about this, that the last Home Sec, Henry Brooke brought in the measure which prohibits a man from the same district being promoted. I can't understand the reason for this. but Leader although he did not like Brooke ~~as~~ a Home secretary, did not have any complaint about the measure; or what is more likely, if he had, he took care, being a fine type of man, not to show it.

The Home teams won most of the prizes, which Dorothy presented.

Friday April 23 After the Mayors work there was nothing of importance

Saturday April 24. This afternoon we went to the 5x Senior cup final between Lewes and Littlehampton. Mr Yarrow drove us down & to the Goldstone Ground where the match was played. Lewes played perfect football and by half time were 5-0 in the lead. In the second half Littlehampton made a great rally and made it 5-3. Lewes got one more and so a very

good match finished with Lewes being the winners by 6-3. We went into the dressing room afterwards and spoke to the team and had Champagne from the caps. Mr Yarrow drove us back to Lewes where Reg Y. and the T.C. and I had to attend the annual dinner of the Royal Six Old Comrades Assn. Afterwards I made the speech I was so worried about the short notice of, and everything was quite successful. We were called for at the Town Hall by Mr Hillman the President of the Football Club and driven round to the Elephant where Dorothy had already arrived. There was a very happy party celebrating the victory of the afternoon and they gave Dorothy and me musical honours and three cheers, I don't know why. We put the chain away about 10 and went home. A very exciting and varied day.

Sunday April 25. A quiet day at home. We had a go at the front bank in the morning and it looks vastly improved

Monday April 26. Nothing particular came in the parlour and there were no outside appointments

Tuesday April 27 Today the St John's Church restoration held the coffee morning in the Council Chamber. I was relieved, since this event was my suggestion as a means of raising money, to find it was very well patronized and the total money raised was £35. which is not at all bad. Mr Ballard had a talk with me during the morning regarding the Mayor's Chaplain post. I mentioned the matter of prayers before Council meetings and I have told him I will take the various members of the Council's opinion about ~~the~~ continuing this practice. This coffee morning made £35 for the re-decorating of St John's Church. I went to the Town Clerk's office just before 12 noon to receive nomination papers. We make history again this year; there were only Labour nominations in Gaith ward but we still have a contest in the Bridge ward. It is remarkable that this situation has been brought about, and I think everybody will agree that it is good work over the years by all

concerned. Good work on the Council, good work by the L.L.P. and enthusiasm. I think a great deal of satisfaction with the way the Lab Councillors carry out the town's work. This is a small town and people are as likely as not to say "I'm not going to oppose old So & So, he's doing the job alright." Having finished the nominations I carried out a luncheon engagement with the S.E. Electricity Board. The chairman and some members of the South Eastern committee had local big wigs (I'm a temporary big wig) at the White Hart for lunch. This was bance to me as I didn't have to speak and it was a good meal.

On returning home I was ready when R.H. came to take us to the Homeopathy Hospital at Tunbridge Wells. Miss Blaninda Cox, who we know fairly well and who is Mayor of Tunbridge Wells, is the Matron at this hospital. It is a good spirited "comfortable" little hospital and we enjoyed our tour of it. I was interested in R.H.'s and B.C.'s reaction to each other. B.C. gave us tea before the tour and a story afterwards. R.H. drove us back and we had a quiet evening on arriving home.

Wednesday April 28. Finished the office work and in the evening went to the RVR. cup game Lewes v Shoreham fairly late coming back but really this was providential as we were to follow this up with a visit to the All-in Wrestling which the Rotary are running in aid of various local charities. This was not just a travesty of wrestling, it was even a travesty of all-in wrestling! During all the time I used to watch boxing etc. and the few all-in shows I have seen, I have never seen such crowing and strutting and sheer swindling in the name of fighting I understand though, that it is classed as just entertainment now. With all the fouling and pretending to hurt each other, it was amusing to me to observe the two main bouts stopped for what a footballer or a boxer would call very minor injuries. By the way, we only saw two bouts so I cannot judge the bouts that had taken place before our arrival.

Thursday April 29. I Bourne and I are proceeding with the plan to give a reception to the football club in recognition of its successful season. I hope this will go down well with the Council. The T.C. is in favour and when one thinks of other towns in similar circumstances and what they do to mark an occasion, I think it ~~is~~ is quite justified.

There was no mayors work of any note and in the evening Dorothy and I decided to go to the L.L.P. meeting. There was an attempted, very unsatisfactory discussion on, of all things for us to attend, Viet-Nam!!

Friday April 30. Nothing of note during the day but we had to attend the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells reception at their Town Hall. P.H. drove us up there and at the door we met the usual "Brood of Mayors with one or two extra because Tunbridge Wells includes a part of Kent and so we met the mayors of Gillingham, Chatham etc

Dorothy and I are well used to these affairs now and we spent a + very pleasant evening and had several dances. We left there at 11-30 in a car ordered from Becks and were home in 45 minutes.

Saturday May 1. Had a slight relaxation in my throat when I woke. I felt something happening while talking last night at Tunbridge Wells. I took the chain back to the Town Hall and did the usual Saturday morning things. Saw the cup final on the TV next door in the afternoon & at 7-15 St Mary's Social Centre sent for us to attend their variety show. My voice had entirely gone by that time and Dorothy had to make the mayors remarks. Another very pleasant evening and we afterwards joined the others in a little winding up party and this was a very jolly affair. I made haste to bed on arrival home and

May 2 Sunday the voice has returned a bit. To lose voice in the position I am in as Mayor I find is frighteningly embarrassing because with my shortness and my

bent spine I have no chance, among ordinary sized people, of giving them a chance to see my face which would help them while I have no voice. I have decided to do without the Sunday papers today and I can accordingly get on with various other things including the Football Speaker and the Mayor-making one

Monday May 3. After the mornings office work there was not a great deal to do on the Mayor's work. In the afternoon there was a tea in the Council Chamber to ~~start~~^{start} off the collection which it is proposed to carry through by the League of Hospital Friends. All the proceeds from this collection will go to the Victoria Hospital at Levee which is the local hospital. Already this appeal has made a good start. Although I don't do anything this appeal goes out in my name so I know that already there has been a good response. At this tea party there were quite a number of women who will do the collecting. Dorothy welcomed them in my place, because of my lost voice and R.H., as Chairman of the Victoria Hospital 'fleure' Com.

gave them a short talk of the 'pep' variety. In the evening we went down to the Grange where I had to attend the A.G.M. of another group of Hospital Friends, those of Hellingly Hospital. These friends are of a different nature although I have an idea that some are in the League of Hospital Friends as well. The Hellingly Hospital is a mental hospital and, as I said last November when opening their fair, a mental hospital does call for additional services and qualities from its 'friends'. Dorothy and I were made very welcome and did not have to speak, or anything. I don't know if it really boosts up an organization to have the Mayor present. I suppose it does since a great many organizations do invite the mayor to be present at their A.G.M. Tonight there were four speakers when the ordinary business was done. A psychologist, the Matron, the Social worker and one other who was there in I forget which category. However, this meeting was very interesting. It is surprising the amount of work that goes on in a small town.

Tuesday May 4. There was only the Bowls match today - Ladies Bowling Club versus the Mayors Team. We have gone to some trouble finding a team and arranging tea etc. But the rain came very heavily and it had to be abandoned

Wednesday May 5. After Parlour, swearing in of staff for the municipal elections at 4 pm. In the morning we paid a visit to a pre school play group which was very interesting. A small group of women run this. There is a nurse in attendance. This group is rather handicapped because they are in a building which is in the fork caused by two busy main roads and have to keep the doors locked because of the kids possibility of the kids straying out among the traffic. The pavements are rather narrow too: and also there is no garden or chance to go outside at all. Inside the small hall there are various toys and small playground equipment. I was very impressed

with the capable way this was managed and the capable handling of the children. Wish there had been one or two of these pre-school groups about when our kids were little. And this probationary period of group experience must make life easier, both for the children and the teacher, when school starts at the age of 5. In the evening we had to attend the Annual Inspection and Display of the Boys Brigade. This is the company run in Lewes by the Eastgate Baptist Chapel. They gave squad drill, some vaulting and trampoline exercises and some sketches. I gave a short talk and Dorothy presented the year's awards. Really this B.B. do much the same sort of award tests as the scouts and hundred bodies. The people who run it are generally too pious for me but this year the holy Joe stuff wasn't quite so apparent, and I enjoyed watching the boys do their gymnastics.

Thursday May 6. I had to witness the dispatch

of the postal Ballot papers and Dorothy had to do a Bring & Buy thing in Rotton now. In the evening we went to the films, the first time for ages in Lewes, and saw "Lawrence of Arabia". This was a very good film indeed and not only that, the Manager let Mayors and Mayresses in free!'

Friday May 4th The usual things a Mayor does. In the evening we went, at the S. John's Restoration Committee's invitation, to the boys grammar school where an actor named Stuart Anderson gave a solo demonstration of scenes from several different shows. I don't think this compared with hundred shows but there were quite a lot of people there and the restoration fund must have received support. I am no judge, really, having only seen Ruth Draper doing this sort of show. I felt myself becoming bored and to regard his show as a kind of glorified recitation. Perhaps he meant it so. However, all seemed to enjoy it except me and I am sure he brought some money into the fund.

Saturday May 8. A quiet day. In the evening we went to Mrs Blakers party which was held in aid of the Cancer Relief fund. There were quite a number of people there who were ~~were those who do~~ attend things of this sort. Some of the old Blaker ladies were there who one remembers hearing of years ago. Attitudes change with the times but they paid the Mayor the same respect as they would years ago when only people of their class were ever made Mayor. They also seem to acknowledge that this Mayor and Mayresses have made themselves very popular by doing the job in a more public way than it has ever been done before.

Sunday May 9. An important item tonight. An evensong at the Cliffe Church with the last sermon to be preached by Williams. There was a party afterwards in the church room and gifts were made to him. I was not impressed with his last sermon, but then, I expect he had already done several last sermons since he has to look after three churches. I wish him success although, as far as one can observe, there is not much future for most of the lesser clergy in places like this.

Monday May 10. Nothing much to report. We are getting acceptances from people for the Mayor making reception and the Football reception. I'm afraid I may have overdone the latter as my council chamber is rather small. However, we shall see. The Mayor-making has too many coming but that is to be expected. Perhaps they will thin out by the day.

Tuesday May 11. Another quiet day with nothing of any great importance.

Wednesday May 12. We went and visited Burnley at Fleetwood. Found her very comfortable after we had had what I think was the most enjoyable train ride I have had. We arrived back at about 7-30. The train ride was on

the line which may be closed under the Beeching plan. If this happens I shall be very sorry. To travel in one of the open coaches enables one to see in front through most beautiful scenery and stop at a number of quiet stations. I am all in favour of this quiet life. Some people don't like trains which stop frequently and they accordingly travel by road. They fail to see their own ~~size of carriage~~ ^{comfortable} since whether by bus or car, on the road they are always stopping.

Thursday May 13. The municipal elections today. Here history is made, because for the first time Labour has received no opposition in Castle Ward: and we have held the two seats where there was a contest. A very quiet election. One candidate who was at the bottom of the poll was one of the fascal clan, or gang of dealers. It is a good job the Labour People keep these types off.

Friday May 14. Nothing particular today

There was a Labour group meeting in the evening which I attended. David W. John P and I accordingly got too late for the Friends of Ravers committee meeting.

15

Saturday May 15 The only Mayor's function was to attend the handicrafts exhibition of the guides. They wanted me to speak on the work but I thought this was Dorothy's province and she spoke for some minutes very ably.

16

Sunday May 16: We attended the Ladies Cricket Match East v West Sussex and this proved to be quite enjoyable although the warm weather had disappeared and there was a bitter wind blowing. We met several interesting people there who are

interested in cricket from a women's club point of view. These women show the same enthusiasm for cricket as most men club cricketers show. Their dress for the game is not, in my opinion, the best for showing gracefulness but, nevertheless, the fielding was far more interesting to watch than I have found in previous visits of mine to men's cricket matches. In spite of the wind we stopped all the afternoon and for an hour or so after tea.

Monday May 17 Not much on during the day but that most important committee, the selection committee at 6.30 I was made chairman and Armitage had made a good sample of possible "teams" and this was a great help. I hope they will all be satisfied

Tuesday May 18 Joan B. and I have been working on the two events we have had coming off: i.e. the football club reception by me and the Mayor making one on the 28 inst. We had the football one tonight and quite a crowd

had a thoroughly good party in the Council Chamber. Everything went with a swing and the football club representatives were very pleased with the recognition shown by Mayor's other clubs achievements. A man who has a hand in the training of the Lewes team made himself known to me. His name is Bridger and he was in the Brighton A. B. C. with us and me way back in 1922 etc. I had a good chat with him about the club members of that period. When welcoming the football club I refused to say too much because I have to propose a toast to them on Friday.

Dorothy wore her black frock and the red & black silk scarf. Dinah Stock is here and staying with us until tomorrow morning.

Wednesday May 19. A Mrs Plank came to the Mayors parlour to see me. She and her husband look after the museum but she wants to leave Barbican house and wanted a house in Lewes. Of course, I can't do anything about it except send her round to the housing department. I'll see the new housing bloke and find what advice he has given her. In the evening there

was the WEA Lewes Branch A.G.M. There was a very full attendance at the Grange and Dinah suddenly appeared with Dorothy and we persuaded her to say a few words because of old times (1930) when she started the Lewes Branch. This date of starting to know Dinah and the people we got to know through her makes a full-close in the first part of my adult life. We the (A.G.M.) arranged the programmes of courses for the next session and I followed Dorothy and Dinah down to J and J Whittle.

Thursday May 20. Still doing plenty of work although the year is nearly up. Visited the Old Peoples Club at St Mary's Church Hall and met many old Lewes people there in the afternoon. I rather like these visits to these old clubs. In the evening we went with the Chamber of Commerce to the nurseries owned by the Brighton Council and use for all the many parks committee things they do have including the town road gardens. Mrs Vassall drove us and we had supper at the White Hart with the C of C. Sat beside Mr Willis the president and have invited him to Major making. This has been a very pleasant

afternoon and evening

Friday May 22nd A Mr Field, Secretary of the C of E. called to see me this morning. It was not to do with his church, but with the induction of the new incumulant of St Annes Church. Mr Field rather hoped I would welcome him in full regalia. He was quite disappointed when the most I would do was the chair. This makes two, the Congregationalist and the C of E. ministers I have agreed to welcome to the town and I do it purely on the grounds that they are coming as leaders of groups in our pluralist community.

At four I had to attend the Pells School Managers Meeting and, at 7-30, the Football Club Annual Dinner. This was a great occasion with the achievements of the club shown by eight trophies. I got my proposal of the toast to the club off straight and afterwards spent a very pleasant evening

Saturday May 23rd A usual Saturday with no special mayoral duties

and Sunday May 23 A quiet Sunday. I spent most of the day bricklaying my curving wall but did not finish it. Have to wait until next Sunday.

Monday May 24 In the morning the work in the parlor & in the evening the Mayor of Rye held his reception and Banquet. Dorothy had her new evening gown which looked really something. We met various people, of varying shades of being interesting. The Mayor of Tenterden was present with Hartneys and Levers of course. There was a great deal of interest shown in that part of the speeches that had to do with farming and quite a lot of the conversation was on this subject, mainly anti-government stuff of course. This district is, after all, not far away from the area where the farmers are so poor that they demonstrate the depths of their poverty by giving away free chicken and coach behind the steering wheels of Jaguars. We met a woman who was at school with Joan.

On Tuesday May 25 I had a fairly easy day and really it is the last day of my year

because tomorrow evening, I shall be made mayor afresh. This has been an exciting year and instructive as regards practical knowledge of how life really is. I have enjoyed it and Dorothy has enjoyed it although, like me, she has daughters had some anxious moments at times during the year. For the first time in our lives we have had to take our place as the chief people in the leading events ~~and~~^{of} the social ~~functions~~^{events} of this and other towns in the county. We have had the opportunity to visit and find out the ins and outs of all sorts of organizations. We have carried out all that has been requested of us and have not turned down any application for our presence. I don't remember any previous Mayor or Magaree that has been so effectively busy, so I hope that tomorrow night we shall start off the fresh year with the people placing this years work to our credit. Talking of credit. I have a credit balance of £68 or so to start off this new year: and I thought we were being reckless with free tickets to functions and the football reception. The local Paper 'The Express' has been very fair and indeed, most kind and helpful.

Wednesday May 26 The last job an exhibition meeting after the parlour work. During the latter Mr Reynolds came over from Baxters and presented the Town with a print of Churchill by Birley Ponted by Rayles which is now part of Baxters. The Town Clerk and my secretary were present and we had a toast to Baxters and the Town. Bill Reynolds has been very kind and helpful all through this year. He is a very valuable man to have in your community. The Lewes exhibition Committee meeting did not take long and I was able to have a chat with Chris Hollis the secretary of the Committee. I always enjoy chatting with him: I suppose we rather date in gymnastic matters. Len and Nellie arrived just in time for lunch and I showed them the Mayor's parlour etc. Denah Stock arrived in time for tea and I made my way up to the Town Hall with hopes that everything would go alright, which it did. Bill Green proposed and Beatrice Temple seconded that I be Mayor. I got the response off alright and we had a very good party in the Assembly room. The staff carried out this entertaining part of the occasion and I think everybody enjoyed themselves. As was the case a year ago there was a strong atmosphere of friendly feeling at the meeting and it could be sensed that everyone wished us

well Today makes a complete year of service as mayor.
I hope every body is satisfied with it.

2nd Year Diary Thursday May 27 1965

I got to the Mayor's Parlour in good time this morning of the first day of the new Mayoral year, not because it is the first day but the Assize Service takes place in S. Anne's Church at 10-15. Joan B. and I speedily got through what there was to do and I hurried up to the church. It was quite a good muster of Councillors as numbers go at this service ~~but~~ ^{and} there was a larger congregation than usual owing to today being Ascension day. There were many children from schools present. Judge Atkinson arrived and the service was carried out. Later on we attended the High Sheriff's luncheon at the 'White Hart' and met a fresh set of people. The new High Sheriff comes from a different part of the County so there were many fresh faces at lunch. Brigadier Hardy-Roberts is the new H.S. At lunch I met James who was the Tory candidate who was beaten by Hobden at the last General Election. Mrs Hardy Roberts, and a brother of the H.S. There were several more and on the whole, I think they are more jolly than the others we met at the previous lunches. There seemed to be a 'keen on horses' atmosphere in the room. We went over the court afterwards and were rather more lucky than usual because we saw two or three cases dealt with. Usually we

are present through a small part of some bigger case, but today we were able to see all of two cases and the swearing in of the jury etc. Also Mrs Lawrence, the wife of the Deputy Sheriff, pointed out to us what she described as "our own seals". We had never had these before and nobody had pointed them out before. Today we had plenty of room and were quite comfortable. We stopped in the court until 4. In the evening we went to the Little Theatre and saw "By the Skin of our Teeth" (Thornton Wilder) This sort of theme to a play seems very old hat to me now. Once you have learned Toynbee's theory of history there's no need to labour the point.

Friday May 28. We had to hurry with the Parlour work and look into the Council Chamber where there was a coffee morning in aid of the "Feed the Minds" campaign. I am not particularly keen on this. (See this journal.) There were plenty of clergy present as befits such an appeal and I think the morning was successful. The Bishop of Lewes was present in his red cassock but I don't know

if he bought anything at the "Bring & Buy" stall. There is an especially good write up on our year of office in the "Sx Express" by Lewes Rousier, who, as he writes, "has added his own tribute to the Mayor and Mayoress".

Saturday May 29. The usual Saturday except that in the evening we were invited to a party held by the Country dance people. This was held at Castlegate House which is the headquarters of the County M. O. H. This was a folly party and there were a number of country dances. All of those present, about 24, all were women except myself and Dr Langford, the M. O. H. There was also a film shown of the various country dance meetings attended by these nymphs who came from different parts of the County. The film showed them attending country dances as far north as Scotland. They were very nice and we both enjoyed the evening. The hosts had also prepared a jolly good cold supper.

Sunday May 30 Nothing worth reporting. The Mayoress service was held this morning. In the absence of clergy which I have mentioned

before in this journal the service was taken by Mr. Ballard who has been holding the fort although he is not yet qualified, or so I understand. There was about a 60% attendance of the Council but I thought the congregation was not too big. After the Sunday schools had left at half time there weren't a very great number left. However, this service is now dealt with and I expect a clergyman will turn up before long. Although I don't trouble about the established (or accepted) religions in England, each of them in some mean to me, at least while I am Mayor, another community group. All groups that have a purpose and accept the "operative ideals" to me are good.

Monday, May 31. This has been a quiet day and there is not a great deal to record. In the parlour Joan S and I have dealt with such things that cropped up and cleared up some odd things such as the parlour entertaining, or hospitality account. In the evening Dorothy and I took a long walk round the town and had a drink in the "Swan" at Southover

Tuesday June 1. Brief event, apart from the usual work in the morning was the Ladies v. Mayors team at bowls. This was a very happy afternoon. The Ladies won by 10 points. Mrs. Mason at the Grange had prepared a very good tea which I was very glad about, being the host. Since being mayor I have had some extraordinary jobs, or one could call them experiences, because they are things I should never have dreamt of doing. This Versus Ladies at Bowls is one of them. Alby Martin turned up and played for my team which, I thought, was very nice of him.

Wednesday June 2. Besides doing the Mayor's work I went to the Building plans sub-committee. It was quite interesting to attend this meeting again. I had belonged to it and it was my special baby, for a number of years. Tonight Alby was chairman and the sub-committee dealt with quite a number of applications.

Thursday June 3. After the parlour there was a court in our council chamber. Cornwell and I were the magistrates. Two youths breaking and entering. The damage they did, both in forcing entrance and getting from room to room because the internal doors were locked, was frightful and, on top of all this they had urinated on the bed and on the carpet. The things they pinched have all been recovered but they have to be dealt with pretty severely. We put them over to the quarter sessions. We allowed them bail, themselves £10 each and their parents £50 each and legal aid. Quite obviously the thing the Sessions should do is to make it not allow them to keep their car. And I'll go further. There would not be so much of this type of crime were it not for the easy hire purchase of cars. There was not enough paid off their H.P. to enable them to sell the car so the public have got to pay some legal man to defend these two "filthy" thieves when they have already pleaded guilty to their crimes and in the meantime they can still drive about in the car. There was another case of breaking and entering best of a different type. We sent him to the Q.S. also. I didn't arrive

home for dinner until 1-45 having been in the court since 10-15 and in the building since 9-15

Friday June 4: Did the work in the parlour and there was not much more until the evening, when we went to Ringmer Church to see the floral arrangements which were really wonderful. The vicar met us at the door of the church where we arrived after Ray-H. had driven us from Lewes. While there we met Lorna Pratt's parents and we afterwards had coffee in their flat at Delves House where Mr. Pratt works. These are very hospital people and Lorna had apparently boosted me up a great deal when she worked with me on "Diogenes". We caught a bus back at 8-10.

Saturday June 5. There were two things today. Delves House again where an open-air fete was being held in aid of the interior decoration of Ringmer Church, and the St Mary's football club dinner in the evening. We had a car to Delves and were greeted by the vicar and our arrival was announced over the

loud speaker. We had tea with the vicar and his wife and we met several people, notably a Mrs Nevill and her two sons. We patronised the stalls well and spent quite an amount of money, and we saw Mrs Bishop who lived down our way but is now retired to the old peoples home at Delves. We were going to go back to Lewes by bus but as we stood by the stop sign some people who were going back picked us up and drove us home. They were a man and his wife from the technical college. Very nice people. We cleaned up and Bill Hall fetched us to St Mary's Social Centre for the football dinner. This was very enjoyable as was the dance afterwards. Dr O'Hara of the Sx County football Assn was there with Mr. Farncombe also of the County Assn. I got my response to Sx's toast to Lewes and the corporation off alright and we reached home soon after eleven. Quite a busy and enjoyable day.

Sunday June 6 Whit Sunday a quiet day at home with Sam Kelly coming in the evening and we have arranged for her to come down tomorrow and we will show her the Mayor's Parlour etc

This afternoon I finished brick laying the little wall which I started repairing two or three Sundays ago

Monday June 7 Whit Monday. Pam & I came down at 10-30 and we went to the town hall where Pam was very pleased with everything. We came out and went to the Grange and back through the Priory grounds. Pam is very much better and her lay up caused by her breakdown has made her feel much rested. In the afternoon I actually did have a read in the garden deck-chair but I finished off another section of the front fence which I have under construction. Dorothy did some letter writing and paper sending. The newspapers are to go to the families and friends because the news of the Mayor making is contained therein. The Sx. Express has given us a champion write up so I hope I am actually doing alright as a "first citizen". Certainly I seem to be always invited to various functions and we always attend every one, at home or away.

Tuesday June 8. There was plenty to do in the parlour but we buckled to and just finished as the magistrates trooped in. The court was held in our Council Chamber and that means my parlour is the Magistrates retiring room. There was the Parks Committee this evening and afterwards I had a chat with Bill Green, last year's chairman of the Parks / Harold Shepherd was made the new Chairman at the meeting. Bill and I had a drink and a talk about the pending bye-election in the Bridge ward. This bye-election is cause by Len Willey being made an alderman. Mrs Fitch is going to contest the ward on behalf of the Local Labour Party. The Tories have a candidate already who has said publicly that his chief aim is to defeat the socialist. This is a rather negative programme for a candidate for the post of a local government councillor. When I arrived home a young man was there who turned out to be Eddie Collict. He wants a coffee morning in the Chamber on behalf of the "War on Want" organization. Really as I have written in last year's notes these different organizations are simply competing with each other at the worst, and at the best are making the collections of money and goods much more costly. However, I said he

would tell his branch committee to go ahead. While Dorothy was showing him out the phone rang and I found it was news about the birth of Bunty's baby, the first grandchild, so I handed over to Dorothy and she learned from John that the baby had arrived and Bunty and the baby were both alright so jolly good - &c.

Wednesday June 9. After the Mayors work in the morning the chief event of today has been the Highways Works and Town-planning committee. David Williams was made Chairman and Abby Martin the vice chairman. I know this meeting is always a long one but that is because it often hangs out unduly. Today the meeting lasted for three hours forty-five minutes and it was straight-forward. Being a councillor in Lewes is getting to be a very busy job. ~~The two Tory councillors~~ When I got home I found Dorothy had had a phone messages from John, the new father and we can go and see the new baby and Bunty at S. Mary's, Paddington.

Thursday June 10. Got the parlour work finished as speedily as possible and Dorothy and I caught the twelve-forty via Brighton to London and made our way to St Mary's at Paddington. We met John at Paddington and he guided us to Buntz. We saw Buntz and she did not look too ~~well~~ bad. We were not long in there of course because only 30 minutes is allowed and we had to share this with John because only 2 visitors are allowed up to the bed at a time. We also saw the baby and she is a very pretty baby. and looks very well. In the evening I attended the Housing Committee. Frank Hayward was made chairman and Bill Green vice-chairman. This was a very nice meeting, slightly social. Mr. Brown, the Borough Treasurer paid compliments to the committee. Judging by the items he had heard at the Treasurer's Conference, he thought we did very well indeed, and some things that the Big Boys of Treasurers were now proposing leaves had been carrying out for 100 years. Of course we act under his advice in matters of money and, although we are in charge of policy, we are very much guided by his skilled advice and he really does make every effort once we have decided on a thing, to make it go or work. A busy and, I think a fruitful day. I find that with the business of today and on looking at my appointments book I have missed the Trustees at four this afternoon. However, I am ex-officio because of being mayor

so I don't suppose I was missed as regards the work. Only my face will be missed.

Friday June 11. Got to the parlour early and we (John B) and I got things going. Mr Morris, the Town Clerk came to the parlour with the watch we are to present to Mr Davies, the Parks superintendent on his retirement. Mr Morris admires my physical fitness. It is very nice to know people observe that you can ~~at~~ and do, look after yourself. When John B interjected that to keep that degree of fitness one had to get up early and swing Indian clubs etc on cold lawns he was surprised. In the afternoon I attended the Fire Brigade Committee. I find some difficulty in working up an interest in this committee. It doesn't seem to be my type of "work-of-committee". I was noticing what a fire-looking man the Chairman Mr Greatrex is. and thinking what shocking bad luck he should have lost his sight at the Salerno beach head in World War 2. and wondering who counted the hands at the voting on this committee and who tells him things which some body must daring a meeting such as this. I do not observe anyone of the officials pass him a message or communicate with him in any way on the occasions in the proceedings.

of a committee when it is obvious a blind man must have the help of somebody who has sight. I suppose they (the officials) manage to communicate the state of the voting and other items without it being too obvious. I went back to the parlour and presently a small number of Councillors and Officers of our Town Council had gathered round and I made the presentation to Mr Davies. We had a quiet evening at home to finish up this busy day.

Saturday June 12. No parlour but the Leprosy Bring & Buy etc. There were quite a number turned up so I think the "leprosy" organization will gain a few pieces of eight. Mrs Fisher & Mrs Salisburg and I spoke and I opened the proceedings and the sale. Dorothy and I spent some time there because time does fly when a mayor is talking to various people at their functions and I really do have to pay attention to a great many generally middle-aged ladies at these affairs. I think by increasing the number of these coffee mornings, and attending each one and speaking to people, I have helped the various causes along. Met Mrs Anderson and her daughter and

they have asked us out to their house at Hamsey. This will be rather nice because I rather liked Mr Anderson. In the afternoon we went to the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells cricket week and saw part of the Sussex v Kent match. We went up by car and were welcomed at the Mayor's marquee and watched the cricket. Kent were batting when we arrived but they were not doing too well and had only 112 for 5 wickets. We met a good many people during the afternoon; fresh faces including the new Mayor of Tunbridge Wells and his mayresse, Mr & Mrs Simmers. The Mayor and Mayoresse of Dover, Mr & Mrs Bushell and several more. The Mayor of Hastings was present and here Mr Wilship was doing another term. We walked back to the Pantiles and caught a bus to Lewes and were home in good time. The top of a Southdown bus, old type, gives one a wonderful view over the ledges and is a really nice ride. However, the comfortable rides we have had in the roomy, comfortable cars Beck's provide, made us realize how much discomfort there is to be found on a bus after we have been spoilt for a year. A busy and enjoyable day.

Sunday June 13. We had what has come to be our usual quiet Sunday in the garden. I did not do much actual gardening, beyond sticking the beans, but Dorothy did and after tea we went to call on Mary & Ernie. Ernie still appears to be making or keeping reasonably well although he told me he has bad pains. He is keeping up the walking as an exercise and still he takes things very steadily. I think this "graduated" or "increasing resistance" method, together with medical advice should keep him going. He is also, on the assumption that in dire straits one should try everything, taking the "Black Box" treatment although he doesn't believe in it. This was the first time I have had this "Black Box" business described to me by any body who is actually taking the treatment and it seems very poor. However if somebody is in "dire straits" (and they are not particularly bright about their physical make up) they might get helped psychologically. The trouble to me is that if we take Ernie as an example and he is improved or even made better by his medical treatment and exercises I'll bet the Black box will get all the credit. People are like that. A doctor will prescribe something quite sound from a scientific point of view and a great many people will treat

the suggestion as though it were the most ^{absurd} unsupported by science, with doctor stuff and say "I know that will be no good" but they will give a trial to a potato carried in the pocket a copper bracelet or a cabbage leaf worn next to the skin, without inquiring at all about the basis for the belief that these foolish things can help them. So, if Ernie receives benefit from his graduated method, and I know he is, the Black Box will receive the credit from people who hear of his two treatments (not from Ernie). He doesn't believe in it and I should think has far too much scientific outlook to be misled on the matter.

Monday June 14. After our parlour work was done Joan B and I shifted our necessary material to the Mayresses room. The Divorce Court people are borrowing the Council Chamber and parlour for 3 weeks. Now the time has come for them to move in I wish I hadn't agreed. I suppose one has to be helpful though. The Borough Treasurer Mr. Brown and I went to Brighton to the Trustees half yearly meeting and lunch which was preceded by the opening of a new branch in Norfolk Square.

The hospitality was quite lavish and a bus was provided to take everybody to the Ship Hotel where lunch was to be served from Norfolk square. There was another reception at the Hotel and then a very good lunch. Mr Brown and I left after lunch as he had to interview someone in the Town Hall at Lewes. Mr Brown is very good company on this occasions and his long service in Local Govt enables him to know a great many people in the financial world. In the afternoon he told me of his wishes regarding his retirement and the appropriate committee will, no doubt, agree with his wishes. In the evening I attended the Health committee which lasted about 1½ hours. Geo. Burfield was made chairman and Gordon Hoiles vice chairman. Some progress was made on the provision of bridges to replace the temporary ones which were erected after the floods.

Tuesday June 15. First day of work in the Mayover's parlour (very green!) Joan B. and I did the port etc and the Town Clerk came over to say Mr Murphy would take us (T C and I) to the Southdown Bus Jubilee Celebration which we are all three ^{are} down to attend at Brighton by lunch time today. The Divorce Court people are now installed in my domain and I hope the three weeks soon passes. Morris, Murphy and I went to Brighton where, at the "Metropole" we were received and entertained with 350 or so "notables" from the territory covered by the Southdown Bus Co. There was a very good lunch and various wines etc. There were some speeches and I thought the new Brighton Mayor will be an asset as regards speeches if judged by the speech he made today. I found the Southdown managing director very nice but as a speaker, not too good. I am informed that he was pretty good but has dropped off for some reason. I had the Town Clerk of Portsmouth on one side, Right) and a Mr. Willis one of the directors of Southdown on my left. There were only a very few women present. It was quite an event and as I was leaving the top table I was called from one of the spring tables. It was Mrs Morton-Palmer (see this journal Nov 13) I thought it was really nice of her to

tell me that the "people love me and the Mayors." Rather brings on a humble feeling but paradoxically, also a feeling of pride. Munday drove us back by way of Woodingdean which gave Mr. Morris a further experience of the country road leaves. I went to the Finance Committee and everything went as I wanted it to p. Bushell chairman. Willy vice chairman. We formed two committees to deal with specific subjects and I am on both. One, rather important, is to do with our Council and the findings of the boundary commission. Mr Brown, the Treasurer, left the committee room while we discussed suggestions regarding his retirement and retention. I was glad it was resolved in the way he would want it (see this journal yesterday) He will terminate his services and we will re-engage him on a temporary basis.

Wednesday June 16. There was a surprising small amount of past etc in the Mayors Parlour and we soon had it finished. The Town Clerk came over to report on his conversations with the people in charge of this divorce court that is occupying my chambers. He has come to ^{come to} some ^{come to} some agreements with them about their use of it. We discovered that our parlour and Council Chamber is tied up during the time of year when many people will possibly be wanting to have a look at our baubles and things. Dorothy had had a telephone talk with Banty and we decided to go to St Mary's again and see her. Went by the same train as last week and arrived at S.M. at 2.30. Banty met us in the corridor looking, I thought very well. She is feeding the baby whose name is to be Helen, and is very happy. Helen is making great strides forward and looks a beautiful baby. Dorothy nursed her for almost the whole half hour we were there, so Dorothy was very happy. She and Banty talked on various topics to do with the babies and this gave me a chance to reflect on how much improved was the conditions and states of new mothers. Banty and the one other occupant of her ward were able to have their babies with them until a

quiet calm atmosphere, and at night the babies are taken away and looked after by nurses, allowing the mothers completely quiet undisturbed nights. This, which is only one example of the work which is being done to make the having of babies a much better proposition, is only possible, of course, while there is plenty of staff and as far as I can see, St. Mary's either have plenty or the staff are doing a terrific amount of work very well. It becomes obvious that without the coloured nurses things would be much more difficult, if not impossible through lack of staff. I am very pleased about the baby, and shall be glad when she is a year or two older.

Thursday June 17. I am doing quite well and getting up, swinging the clubs and exercise breathing besides doing most of the events of the previous day in this journal. When we alighted from the train last evening, Dorothy had some touch of rheumatism in the right hip and this morning it has not improved much

besides which there are various insect bites which she apparently acquired in the garden on Sunday. So she is rather uncomfortable. I went to the Mayor's Parlour. There was not a great deal to do and I later went to the post office and collected the pension and also visited Baxters and had a chat with various of my old colleagues, although I notice that in the bookbinding dept they are nearly all new people. I suppose most young men, having learned their trade, like to travel round a bit but it is extraordinary the quick turnover of labour in this dept. I stopped at home this afternoon and at four Dorothy went to visit Joan at Patcham. I did not accompany her because of the meeting on "piped" television I had to attend. This was a joint meeting of the Highways and the Housing Committee to decide whether to recommend to the Council that we will have this kind of television in Lawes. Having agreed in principle in favour of P. Tele, which kind of it, and which firm, because each of the supplying firms have a different kind, and it was finally resolved to recommend Radio Diffusion. This was a good meeting, well discussed, and with exceptionally good contributions from Councillors Day and Perkins. I went home at about a quarter past eight and

Dorothy arrived later on. Quite a busy day but not so terribly busy as do M.P.s have had. 17 hours at one sitting. The Tories are carrying out their threats of harassing the government and this finance bill is giving them the opportunity. I omitted to mention a few lines back that after the "Pipet.V. meeting the Labour Councillors were proceeding to the Grange to get on with the election work of Mrs Fitch. I do hope she manages to keep this Bridge ward seat for us. We are getting things done now.

Friday June 18. I did not spend very long in the Parlour this morning because I had to get to the Magistrates Court by 10.15 to adjudicate on some objections to Road Charges in Seaford. Before I went to the Court Mr Morris came in regarding a. Blois b. Freeman c. Mr Pape. I have promised to deal with all these matters.

At the Court Captain Shoring and I worked with great concentration from 10.15 until 1.45 listening to the arguments for both sides. For the charges the Seaford Council had their Clerk Surveyor and I

was surprised to see Frank Grenslade (my niece Barbara's husband) and the objectors were various people from Seaford, or rather, the districts of Seaford which were affected. One objector was legally represented. Two fought their own case and rest did nothing except by letter. This case once again demonstrated to me the attitude some people have of seizing every opportunity to try to be impressive. These ~~people~~ ^{said} objections to the payment of road charges but I am quite sure they will enjoy the benefits that will come from this road.

Of course, on the bench, one has to try and find out the objectors real reasons. One produced photographs to demonstrate the amount to which the road in question would lose its rural character. He said these photographs were for me to scrutinise. I am, of course, just the right person to appeal to on such aesthetic grounds for various reasons, but his photos were taken, too obviously, at extremes i.e. the road in full summer and the trees with a man of glorious foliage; and the counterpoint photo a picture of a newly made up road with no trees yet. Lampposts brand new and new box like bungalows lining each side of the road. All these points should have been brought forward at planning stage. We were dealing with road charges. I reached home at about two o'clock.

but was called back by phone to the Town Hall to sign the order calling next Wednesday's council meeting. After doing various things during the afternoon Dorothy and I had a drink at the Labour Club quite late in the evening. Talked to Abby M. and Bernard W. and the rest of the people there. Very nice people.

Saturday June 19: I went to the parlour and there was nothing, today being Saturday. I picked up the directions for tonight's 4/5 Sussex Cocktail Party. This will be the second of these gatherings we have attended. I have, this afternoon, while waiting to go to Warninglid, where the cocktail party is to be held, finished cutting the rest of the wood for the front bank fence. I have now only to shape the rail tops and nail on (just one section of 5') and it can go up. I shall be very relieved then because this fence job has been hanging about for some time. The bank looks very well indeed now as one comes up the slight hill to home. Alf Hall drove us to Warninglid, a very pleasant drive and we were warmly welcomed by Colonel Walker, the host Doctor Newton. This

welcome of the 4/5 Sussex was very warm, and judging by the officers who came up and mentioned the Old Comrades speech of mine that must have gone down very well. We met the new Mayor and Mayness of Bexhill and the Mayor of Eastbourne, a lady. There were numerous quite interesting people and I found myself discussing things from soldiering, (old style) to the feeding of kiddies. In fact, this meeting was a very great improvement on last year's effort and I was quite sorry to leave and we had taken an extra half hour. The Royal Sussex "Cup" was also much better made than on the last occasion. We did not go to the Theatre Club's party afterwards as we were quite late home. Dorothy wore her new mayor making frock and her blue (thin) coat with a new hat with yellow flowers and looked very posh.

Sunday June 20: Finished the last section of the fence and did a small bit of mowing. In the afternoon we went to Baxters Sports Ground where a cricket match was played between Lewes Football Club and Brighton and Hove F.C. This ~~was~~ was a very pleasant afternoon. The weather was beautiful and the

Paddock ground does have grand views. The cricket was
bit lively, Brighton passed the leavers total of
93 when the match had lasted 2 3-45 hours (approx.)
and there was about the whole ground a gaiety
caused by the number of babies and young
children. I think this was an effort that
could be tried again. It was quite a community
affair. We arrived home at about 7-50. Our
companions for a good part of the afternoon
was Jack Rogers and the Fullers (Basil and Mrs)
and Tony. Also near us was Glen Bolton and
his girl. So, with so many of the people we know
around us we were quite happy. However I
find I do not see the ball very well now, if
at all

day. This evening I attended a meeting of the Oxfam
committee which was quite a good meeting and
productive of many good ideas. The man Hilditch
who came to me first off on oxfam has now
left the job of organizer and another has taken his
place. A Mr Wood. and he is much more able
With suggestions of his the committee soon got into
swing and I hope these efforts will meet with a
good measure of success because, as recorded in
this journal, I did hold the inaugural meeting and
get the thing started or rather get these good
and valuable people to start it. Since the
meeting did not start until eight tonight it was
some minutes gone ten before I finally arrived home.
Dorothy and I finished the bottle of Spanish wine and
this I find is very refreshing when you come home
from a long committee meeting.

Monday June 21. Round to the "Magness Parlays" (I'll
be glad when I get mine back. This is the end
of one week without it and I have already
had enough of it) Joan B. and I dealt with
the work that needed dealing with. There was
not a great deal so, really, I have had a quiet

Tuesday June 22 I had hardly anything to do at first
as Mayor, but having arrived at the Magistrates
court at 10-15, there was plenty to do. I was

with Mr. Grantham, Mrs Wood and a new Magistrate, Mr Warren of Barcombe. One case was adjourned through the sickness of the accused and then we had a case of a man of over 40, an employee of the post office for 26 years, married with a daughter 16 and a son 12, who pleaded guilty to stealing her Majesty's money from the Post Office. Altogether he had stolen about £10.00 and I've been at the courts for eighteen months now but I've never seen a more wretched prisoner. He was obviously feeling his present position much more than most of them appear to do. All the money had been recovered and when we retired, we gave the matter a good deal of thought and discussion and we came to the conclusion that this type of person would have learnt a stern lesson from his experience already so we did not make a prison sentence of it. I think we dealt as leniently with him as could be expected when we fined him £15-00 on each of the two charges. The ex reason he gave for his lapse was shortage of money to care for his car properly, but really I should say he is a weakling who makes no show in the world and had some idea of becoming better off by the means he tried. It was

quite obvious to me that he was not the type ^{to try} to try this sort of thing. Whether he likes it or not he is a failure as a clever shady crook as well. Now he has lost everything including his pension; and it was plain to me that his very appearance in such a place as this court has made him lose the last of his self-respect. I felt very sorry for him. There was another accused. The charge against him was breaking and entering and stealing goods to the value of £10 - 0 - 0. This man, 19 years old and of a respectable family is plainly (to me) sub-normal. We have remanded him in custody while he is examined by Dr. etc. Mr Pett, the probation officer reported on him and it will obviously mean that whatever happens to the ~~old~~ boy now a very great deal will rest in the hands of the probation officers. This is my first turn after the month off, but my month off means I still do a lot as I pointed out on the eighteenth with the Seaford Road charges. I left the court in time to check in the nomination papers at noon. We are having so many elections that, & since I have been mayor, I have grown quite used to the amount of & signing I have to do with regard to elections. While on elections, I have just been over ^{the} footbridge. What a wonderful thing we did by having that built. I wonder

if the people of Bridge Ward who live at Walling
realise. the great effort that was needed to
make this an accomplished fact. If they do I am
sure they won't find much time for the accountants
Johnny who is fighting this bye-election on
the cry that he wants to beat the Labour
people. Rather a negative result policy to fight
a town's election on. I don't see him getting far.
I was further reminded of the change in outlook
that is taking place all the time when I was
going to look at the bridge. I met Lady Boughey
who was "so pleased to see me" and "what dear
friends we and ~~Dell~~^{John} were" etc etc. One
would hardly believe she was talking of her
servant domestic servant when she spoke
of my sister and she certainly would not have
used such terms in the old days. However, for
those people to forget how they regarded the
"lower orders" in those (what we call the bad
old days and they call the good old days,) is
just as well. Let them enjoy their memories of
when they were affluent so long as they forget
their old idea that they were the chosen
ones and far superior animals to us. Dorothy
has been gardening all the afternoon and today

seems more cheerful so perhaps her "life-work" is beginning to
be more easy. Joan came over at tea time for an hour
or so. She seems as well as ever. In the evening Dorothy
and I had a walk along the bottom and had a look at
the efforts being made to overcome the handicap caused in
the Cliffe by the collapsing house: and on returning home
we took a bottle of wine in next door to watch the television
of the Commonwealth visitors ~~and~~ and statesmen marking
the 700 anniversary of Simon de Montfort's Parliament. Before this
came on I had a short watch at some boxing and this
was of quite a good standard. How I ever used to do this
and be completely wrapped up in it I don't know. Ellen and
Fanny, the two elderly single sisters who are over next-door
neighbours always like us to look in whenever possible.
They say it makes their evening. I don't know about that
but it is very handy for us when we want to see a
special programme

Wednesday June 23. Today is the day on which the full Council
meets. In these circumstances I expected the N.C.
to come over and he did but not so much
on tonight's meeting as to do with general

things such as Blois, a changed form of agenda, and so on. We were in conference for some time on these and kindred matters, and, as regards Blois, Joan is enquiring about the Football Club's proposed visit there. I had a quiet afternoon and went to the Council Meeting. Quite a good meeting except for Councillor Greene who always wants to be in the public eye. He wanted to go on talking on matters that were not competent to this meeting and, consequently, I had to exercise a chairman's powers by restraining him. One day perhaps people will realise that the work of the full Council is to ratify the recommendation of the standing committees and, by these means, set in motion the machinery that deals with the work that needs doing in the town. The Council is not there for (a) people to speak because they are fond of the sound of their own voices; or (b) to keep flogging some pet thing of their own. There was another situation that I stopped developing when a committee's recommendation that the County Council be written to regarding the state of South Walling School, was amended to include the Ministry of Education. When the mover had spoken, the second speaker accused him of being political so I had to make sure no one else carried on in this vein. Besides stopping the second speaker, I stopped

almost immediately anyway but unfortunately the next speaker to get to extending the discussion on to irrelevant matters had to be stopped: and it was Councillor Greene. I am afraid he left the meeting with the idea that I was gagging him, but the truth is that, in a situation where it is quite obvious to a Councillor that the next one who speaks in a certain vein is going to be stopped by the chairman, then that Councillor is a chump to inflict himself on to the meeting. However, as I have said Greene always wants to talk and so he has been quenched twice at this meeting through his own fault. The meeting did not last very long so, although there was an establishment committee afterwards, we were home in good time, after being hospitable to those people who were still in the Mayor's Parlour when we came out from the Octab. meeting.

Thursday June 26: Went to the parlour at 9:25. When Joan B. arrived with the post we did what was necessary and then Mr. Fott came over with the documents from last night's meeting to be signed. Dorothy had spoken to Alderman Baker last evening after the Council meeting regarding the trouble she has or is having from the results of insect bites, so I went over his chemist's shop where he had a cream ready for her and I brought this home. Actually Dorothy had gone out shopping so I needn't have hurried, ~~and~~ I went out to get a haircut and on my entry into the saloon was soon in a discussion on municipal matters and I told the customers waiting there of the loss of our new bridge gate. I also gave them a bit of a talk on this kind of thing in the hope that my words will draw their attention to, and reinforce, the words which were spoken in the Council Chamber last night on this matter of vandalism by Harold Shepherd and Ally Martin, who are the Chairmen of the Parks and Highways committees respectively. I saw various people during the afternoon and I find Dorothy and I are still in most peoples good books. Some days it seems that one meets quite a number of people who want to speak so. In the evening we were invited

to Mrs Joan Bourne (the Mayor's secretary) to supper and we spent a very pleasant evening. Though we always have reckoned to walk this amount of distance we did decide because of Dorothy's stiffness to travel to Joan B's by bus. However, as we were waiting at the bus stop Mr. Clarkellam drove up and offered to carry us to our destination. This was kind of him and we were whisked up to the Downs Estate in a very few minutes. Our hosts for the evening Colin and Joan Bourne are both in Local Government, Colin at the Chailey R.D.C. Surveyor's office and Joan, of course in Lewes Town Clerk's office and Mayor's Secretary. They are both very tall, slender people in their late thirties and very pleasant company and they entertained us royally. For all Joan's height and her rather responsible and very public position, she does remind me rather of some of the younger girls I have had to deal with at work. I suppose this attitude of respect to the office of mayor, for example is part of the training of Local Government or Civil Service traditions. Anyway it does remind me of the attitudes of mind of some of the girls and women I had to do official kind of work with at Baxters. Dorothy and I like her apart from the official part part of our acquaintance ship. We walked home round about midnight and Dorothy managed reasonably comfortably, but she is

not walking properly yet. This business has now been troubling her for some time so steps will have to be taken before long to deal with it by way of a doctor's advice. This day, then, can be counted as a very neighbourly day. The Alderman Clements helpfulness in the gossip on municipal affairs in the barbers. The number of people who have wished us well. The ride to the Down estate although it was out of Mr. Kellam's way. and the happy evening ^{of work}. Count your blessings

Friday June 25. Had a look at the local early, being concerned with what they had made out of the Council Meeting. Not so bad. There is an accurate account of my brush with Green and this is headed "Mayor and Councillor Clash". The matter of the school and the items which Alby presented in the Highways report, together with the odds and ends of Council news are given prominence. I went to the Parloer and Joan B. and I did the necessary work. There were quite a number of documents from the Council meeting

for me to sign. The Town Clerk came over for consultation on various matters, and after this was done I went home. This afternoon Pam Boyden was on the phone to Dorothy, and I gather from the conversation the Labour Party discussed Viet Nam ^{at night} (for a change). Whatever the right or wrongs, or whatever one's views on matters such as this, you can bet your boots these situations always lead to an attack on the Labour Government. I understand Pam was rather worried about the attacks by members of the Labour Party. I don't worry about it. I just get irritated at the wild assertions made by members who speak as though they know have the monopoly of all wisdom and knowledge whereas, in several cases many of them had never heard of the country place until it comes into the news because of the dispute. I went to Baxters late in the afternoon and paid my football money and had a chat with one or two. Tony Fuller was doing the collecting of the union fees because the F.O.C. John Green (who succeeded me) is on holiday. I noted the orderly ness of this chapel and reflected that this Chapel of a printing union is something useful which I did model. Dorothy had been gardening all the afternoon. David Williams came down and collected his sell which had been cleaned and we talked for a while. Arising from a talk on the radio about the

feelings of teachers, I did some reading of books I had not looked at for many years. The speaker on the radio quoted the parts on education that are in H.G. Wells "Mr Polly" and some of Gimborts meditation on education from Aldous Huxley's "Antic Hay". I very much enjoyed this little read. These items that have been read years before are in one and are part of the super ego. Nevertheless, it is very pleasant to read them again and to chuckle over the humour of it, to appreciate the writing itself, and to see to the surface of the mind those things that have sunk almost into disease. I must find time to do this sort of thing more often.

Saturday June 26: The usual Saturday morning. We went shopping in the morning and in the early afternoon I went over to Landport. A young man there named Collect is working for a group of the "War on Want" movement and wants to hold a coffee morning in the Council Chamber. I have agreed to let them have the Chamber although

I would much rather these people joined in with the Oxfam movement and so stopped dividing the resources of rescue. However these people as I have mentioned before in this journal are Utilitarian, Benthamite, Pleasure + pain or whatever you like to call the force that motivates them. They do it, even under the most difficult conditions because they derive pleasure of some type from it. And various charities do benefit. I am simply expressing my wish that this particular branch of do-gooding (i.e. the feeding of the underprivileged countries until things are properly done by some international body) could be carried out by one organisation and so made much more economical.

I had agreed to let him have the Council Chamber, etc, but found afterwards that there were repairs taking place in there at that time, and my walk to Landport was to make him aware of the situation and postpone it for a month. I enjoyed the walk but I think anyone who takes one of these jobs that young Collect has should bear the point. Every day is not so nice as this one and a mayor has not always the time to run about to put things right. At 5-15 Mr. Morris the Town Clerk arrived to take us to Littleworth where we, all three were due to attend the High Sheriff's party. Mr. Morris is a good

driver and we had a pleasant run there. I learnt from him on the way that the Little Heath Club are to make application for financial help of some nature with their development. We were welcomed at Littleworth by the High Sheriff, Brigadier Hardy Roberts. The house ~~is~~^{was} a fine one and the estate beautiful. The river Rother runs right through the grounds and there's a real old water mill. As at Penymer Park last year, there was a big marquee and all the lawn, from the house down to the river, was of the best grass. We met various new people, Mayors, Mayresses, J.P.s and there was plenty to eat and drink. The prison governor and his wife were there and reminded me that I had promised to go to the concert at the prison on July 15. He told us that when we got there we were to ask to be shown straight to his office. It is rather nice to be a special guest. We left at about 8 o'clock and the T.C. had us back within an hour or so. Mr. Morris stopped for a coffee and we talked for a while on various matters. He is inclined to the view that the Mayor should not have his name on the appeals for several charities. Perhaps to have a united effort and divide the proceeds would be better. I don't know if it would or

not but this has made me think that I did right last year in refusing several times to be involved and I begin to think the few I do and sign appeals for are too many. There is a danger of a mayor becoming the cadger for practically every effort from a small, deserving local one to the huge national underserving one. However, I shall have to sort my ideas ~~on~~ on this sort of thing. This has been a very nice evening. Dorothy wore the second mayor-making dress and the little yellow flowery hat as last week.

Sunday June 27. Dorothy had to attend a Raystons' do and therefore needed some small change. Accordingly I went out fairly early for a couple of quid's worth and so managed to do what I had not been doing on a Sunday for some time. Buy Sunday paper. This reading of papers on Sunday mornings is very much a waste of time (See April 18) ~~but~~ ^{and} however other papers takes a good deal of time and so today I waited quite a lot. News that is but a summary,

in most cases, of the week's news. Book reviews that one has already read in the Times or the periodicals. Adverts that are designed to foster the spirit of "keeping up with the Joneses" and other efforts that are peculiar to an affluent society. Meanwhile, from the editorial chairs we are given pious platitudes telling us in effect that it is unwise to spend money on these inflationary goods; but these woodpulp platitudes are not really meant. It is the advertising of these sort of goods that keeps the papers going because, quite certainly, the longer this situation obtains, the less likely is the general public to want papers, quality or otherwise, for serious reading. However me getting the papers on this occasion gave me the opportunity to waste quite an amount of time. Dorothy arrived back about six. Raymonde Hawkins had attracted about six thousand people to "Raystede." I have mentioned the phenomenon of Raystede elsewhere in this journal so I will not mention it again. Just there were six thousand people attended. Dorothy says it is stupendous right. We did a little quiet reading after dinner. I forgot to mention earlier that we were to have dinner when Dorothy arrives home. I had to turn the ^{water} heat off at 2-15 and leave it. I forgot and didn't turn it down until 3-45. However it wasn't too bad so I expect Dorothy had

anticipated I would make a balls-up of it and had taken suitable avoiding action. We had dinner when she arrived home and had a quiet evening at home.

Monday June 28: Before going to the parlour I had a walk over the new footbridge and down back and up the river to the stile. It was a beautiful morning and I enjoyed this little walk very much. John B. is on holiday this week so Irene came to do the secretary work but there was very little of it. I went home and then ordered a windlass affair for Dorothy's garden hose. I have just learned that the word for the hose thing is red, not windlass. Mr Parrish was in his shop while I was there and told me that this type of red which I have chosen is made by Remploy. So me buying it is very satisfactory (see April 6). I had a quiet sort of time for the rest of the day but in the evening we walk right round Soulhaven way to the Grange where the Coop party were meeting. There were a dozen or so present and Ald Frank Hayward gave a talk on Housing in Levens.

This was very interesting and makes one realise that Leven, as a council over the years since the first war have, mostly by chance in the beginning, but more recently, by endeavour, have done fairly well with the housing. I think the drive by Aneurin Bevan immediately after the second war set a pace which became a pattern for councils. Frank, I notice, is lately becoming more "cultural" minded and was speaking last night over a drink in the "Brewers" about grants for the Theatre Club. He was quite the reverse originally so perhaps some of us do have effect with our talk. The Landlord of the "Brewers" seemed very glad to see us. He was quite welcoming in fact. At this meeting of the Coop. Party on "Housing". Dorothy made a very good contribution to the discussion with her remarks on the necessity of providing a hall, or meeting place with each estate.

Tuesday June 29: Went to the Parlour and presently Irene came and brought the post. There was not much and this was fortunate because I had to attend the Magistrates Court. There was the usual assortment of cases with a preponderance of motoring offences. There was one of allowing a dog to "deposit excreta on the footpath" which received the maximum fine of £2.-0s. The case which took up most of the day, however, was one of driving a vehicle on the road in a manner dangerous to the public. This defendant decided to be tried at a more senior court and by jury but repositions had to be taken and consequently I did not leave the court until 5 to 4. That is to say, I went was there from 10-15 until 1-15 and from 2-15 until 3-55. Most of this time was on this dangerous driving charge. I hurried over to the Town Hall because at 4 oc. I had to take the declarations of secrecy for the people who are to work on the bye-election. When this was done I went home but was out again by 6-15 to attend the Civil Defence committee meeting. As one can imagine, the business of this meeting was soon despatched and Ally Martin and I went over the Labour Club for a drink. On the way there we spoke to Beatrice Temple who was now on her way

6 bell ringing at Southover church. On our pulling her leg upon the nuisance of noise this bell ringing imposed on the occupants of the nearby houses she said it was necessary to tell the Philpots when the bells were going to be rung and they went out or removed themselves elsewhere!!! I can imagine Philpot as the noise descended on him. However if one wants to live in nice ol' ye olde places like Southover then to have ye olde chimes struck in should fill ones cup of happiness to the brim. Ally, me, Bern Walker and Lionel Wornell had a drink and a chat. These are three chaps I like very much, all of them kind and considerate and, what is more, appreciative of ones efforts.

Wednesday June 30: Hardly anything in the office. There was a caller quite early. A Mrs Moore of Queen's Road who wanted to be able to let some German girl students, she was in charge of at the end of July, have a look at the Town Hall etc. I have made arrangements about that. I took the baubles home and then went and ordered the car to take us both to the Brighton Mayoral garden party this afternoon. I then made arrangements for the Mayors and me to visit the Peels school of which I am a manager at 446. This ^{proved} was very interesting although we only saw the work in the playground. There were various organized games and exercises these infants did, some games were organized and some free. There was also some Maypole dancing with old Mrs Banks in charge. A wonderful old lady. We had to leave at 2-20 as the car called for us and soon had us in Brighton at the Royal Pavilion. We met many Mayors there including the Lord Mayor of Oxford. She came over to me to praise up Leavers and it transpired she is connected with Leavers through the old Cappard & Licheman Fisk and Game family business. How small the world is once you are a Mayor. She kindly invited us to Oxford to one of their functions during August. I am gradually meeting all the new Mayors of Sussex towns and

actually they seem, to me, to be rather more folly than those of last year. The tea and reception, or I should say the reception and tea was very well managed. The tea itself was very good. We made our departure at shortly after 5 o'clock and the car soon whistled us back to Lewes where we were dropped at the town hall and put the baubles away. This day has been very interesting and instructive. One can observe the change that has taken place in schools by what I have seen today at the Fells. This is the school I attended when I first came to Lewes at the age of nine, in the year 1908. The playground was a mud-kid in those days. It was not tarmaced although the Board School I had left at Brighton was. All we children were very poorly dressed and fed and showed it in our turnout and manner, ^{and} our lack of manners. To see all these children today was like looking at a William Morris utopia, of the time when I was a boy, that had come true. One other thing ~~today~~ gave me food for thought. When I was today with Dorothy as my Mayress in the Pavilion, sitting beside the Mayor and Mayresses of Brighton, in a seat of honour among all these important guests in these beautiful gardens, was where, as a ragged kid I used to look through the railings there used to be round everywhere in those picures ^{but} and 50

benighted times. They generally put canvas screens round so ragged boys could be prevented from seeing them in their glory. They only wanted their conspicuous consumption observed by adults of their own social and economic class for obvious reasons. Today the railings have disappeared from all public gardens and parks. The people and children look into the garden party and there are no ragged or starved kids. The people who used, by way of what was known as "Conspicuous Consumption" try to show how rich they were and therefore how beloved of God they were have entirely disappeared, and things have been so altered in the sotial structures that some body like me can take his place among local big wigs without having, as in the old days, to grab as much ~~of~~ profits and rewards of wrongdoing as possible. In fact I can nowdays take on these positions without ^{such as} being rich first. In the evening we went up to the Freynes and we had a chat and came home at about 10-30. At todays garden party we met a Mrs Laver, who is the Lord Mayor of Oxford and is connected with Lewes.

Thursday Feb 1st. At the Parlour this morning there were our particulars and tickets for the Machelham Priory show on Sunday evening but there was not much else and I was able to go back home and get ready to journey to Hurst Green. There is really very little to do this week as regards receiving and sending post. I expect Joan Bourne is accustomed to the times in summer that are slack and that is the reason she chooses her weeks off on weeks such as this. I expect Irene (Joan's understudy) is rather disappointed at not having much to do but it can't be helped. We travelled by train up to Hurst Green. I have mentioned before in this diary how delightful I find this journey and I have compared it with a similar journey by road. This morning gives me no reason to change my mind. We found Buntz very well and the baby Helen is very well. At 3 weeks old she lies in her pram apparently quite happy and we only heard her call out two or three times during the day for feeding. The house is very nicely appointed so Buntz should manage with her baby very nicely when she (Helen) begins to crawl about. Buntz's thesis for her M.D. has now gone in so we must hope that it gets her the degree. She showed us a copy and it is rather awe-inspiring, and shows how much really

hard work and reasoning has to be carried through before one can become an M.D. Well done Buntz, whether this earns the M.D. or not. Dorothy had a nice day but felt the pain in her hip when we were reaching home. She is very pleased with Helen and pushed the pram to the station when Buntz came to see us off. At Lewes Station we met Joan Liddle and so we got a lift home in her car. We are going to call on them next Monday evening. I forgot should mention here that when we were at Buntz's the discussion reached the trial of the Easter teenage youngsters at Brighton. I noticed Buntz was concerned lest some of them had had less than justice. This is interesting because one would expect, from most ~~photographs~~ ^{photographers} and a concern over the offence and ^{and} what made the kids do it to come first. Buntz's seems to be a concern that justice is properly administered. I think this is healthy but perhaps Buntz did not want to weigh too heavily, having professional knowledge of the possible causes of these outbreaks. Later in the evening we walked over the footbridge and down Malling Street and home through the Cliffe. There was some evidence of activity of the Damon ~~Set~~ Socialist hills. We also saw him walking along clutching a pipe by the bowl. Judging by the photographs this pose is the one he has chosen for his "public image".

Friday July 2nd Nothing to report from a Mayoral point of view. I did the usual Friday activities including a little work at the back (swing etc). Finished reading the Scherzer's plan and handed it on to Frank Hayward. This meant a walk up to Valence Road which no doubt was good for me.

I attended the Executive Committee meeting of the Friends of Lewes Society later in the evening.

Lenski reported on the public enquiry about the relief road. The friends have done a useful piece of work here. This meeting was held in the Bank house and on leaving, I looked into the Labour Club. There were a great many people there and I talked to several including Ally Martin and Bernard Waller. I learned from them the progress of the bye-election and some of the antics of the Daman Socialist-Slayer while he was canvassing. There was a man in the club I don't know his name, who was enquiring about the possibility of starting up the Town Band again. I will have this put on the next Finance & General Purposes Committee agenda. Before I went to bed I read the "Centre piece" of the "Statesman". This is quite a good ~~newspaper~~ each week and is on the credit side of the new Statesman. The matter of the article though was rather depressing

Malcolm Muggeridge and Kingsley Martin each writing an article on "What's happened to the Left" make rather depressing reading, and by different ways come to the same conclusion. Too affluent, or should I write too much affluence?

Saturday ^{July} November 3rd Nothing in the office this being the day when the Municipal offices are shut in Lewes and there was no body to visit the Mayor's Parlour. Dorothy went to a coffee morning and a bring and buy sale at the Grange, which was run by the Young Helpers League, a body which organises children to assist in aiding the Barnado Homes. It runs various functions during the year and we went to one of them in the Town Hall about Christmas time. This afternoon Dorothy stopped at home and did housework while I went to the Society of Friends Bazaar at their Meeting House and I afterwards attended the Constituency Labour Party meeting at the Labour Club. This party is not too good. The Burgess Hill delegates are all apparently out to down the Labour Party and this accounts

in my opinion, for the fact that at the Lewes Local Party meetings there seems to be a dead set against the Labour government and that means against every thing, the Labour party or government do. We shall have to scotch this up by choosing some fresh delegates. Certainly the Constituency Party is going to suffer if this continues. This afternoon there was not one item of business or correspondence that was even remotely connected with the Labour Party that did not receive adverse assertions, criticisms which were suddenly thought up etc. I will return to this subject later.

Sunday July 4. This evening Dorothy and I are to attend, as Mayor and Mayress, the concert at Michelham Priory. I have mentioned this first because it sets the pattern for the day this being Sunday and no Mayor's Parlour to start. ~~the~~ the activities for the day. I saw George Burfield and David Williams; and Mary Harman came round in the afternoon while Dorothy was still gardening and we had some tea and Dorothy and I got ready to go to Michelham Priory. I phoned round to the directors in Grange Road and from this decided to wear dinner jacket but in the event I was the only one (apparently) who did. Mr Buxton came round for Becks and drove us to the place. During this little journey I learned that he joined the army as a boy in 1917. Completed 21 years by 1938, came back and served in the Second war (1939) Back to civi life in 1947 but back in the army and serving in Hong Kong at the time of the Korean War. What a busy army life. The concert was quite good although Margaret Rutherford did not turn up through illness, and Stuart Anderson had to take her place which he did with his solo show on the new testament. Ecclesiastically this was much like we saw him do at the Grammar School (T.S. April 8)
A quiet and comfortable ride back via Ringmer

Monday July 5. Secretary Joan B. was back this morning, looking "back from holidayish" and we did what was to be done as regards what little post there was. I went out to find Dorothy who was shopping but could not until she had almost reached home. To recognise anybody in a crowd is getting increasingly difficult for me so I had better make another visit to the Eye Hospital before long. We (Dorothy and I) went over the bridge and had a look round the Walling (or Church Lane) estate. There are not many election bills up, but of what there are, they are mostly for Mrs Fitch our candidate. I find the general feeling is that she will win provided the people in the Bridge Ward are not tired of elections. Both as an old D.P. enthusiast, and as Mayor of this town I hope she does. As Mayor I can't see the town benefitting from the election of the D.S.S. conservative.

In the evening Joan Liddle came and fetched us round to her home and we had supper and afterwards she took us, Dorothy me and Mrs Liddle for a ride. We went to Gelscombe, Southcote, Iford and round Beddington way back & lanes. A very pleasant drive round particularly for me because of the journeys by bike or on foot I used to do for the insurance book

I think Joan Liddle and her mother are a good example of how a mother and a single daughter can get along together. What I really mean is they each show the correct attitude to each other as adult people and do not interfere with each other's way of living. This is helped, of course, by them both being financially independent; but even without that I can see the principle in their relationship, respect for each other ~~as~~ as people

Tuesday July 6. This has been a full day. Parolees 9-15 to 10-15. Magistrates Court 10-15 till 4.55 with an hour for dinner. Some interesting cases, in the main motoring ones, but proving interesting by themselves. I must confess I much prefer defended cases although, when you are having a long day in the court, and you must concentrate on what you are doing in fairness to everybody, then it is quite a relief to have a number of

eases which are pleading guilty, especially those who don't appear and send a letter. Mr. Parish was the Chairman and Mrs Wood and I made up the Bench. During the lunch break I told Dorothy I should not get away until late so she took over the Golden Wedding at the old peoples club in Station Street. I slipped down there at five, after the court had finished and entered the Foresters Hall as they were just finishing^{rec} and was able to stop for some time and take part in some of the fun before I left at 6-20 and went to the Library Committee Meeting. This, I consider, was a very fruitful meeting for various reasons. In the beginning we made John Perkins Chairman and, as could be anticipated, he is very able indeed as a Council Committee Chairman. Such a post requires rather more than ~~an~~ order what is expected of an ordinary chairman. Besides managing the meetings there are enumerable little items to see about, John, ~~last~~ at this meeting, proved himself very able to guide the meeting and gave promise of a very ~~good~~^{good} management of the Library's affairs. The Town Clerk had also got various things moving, both with regard to the extension and to the 1964 Libraries Act.

Wednesday July 8: After the parlour was finished we had nothing else to see about here because the rest of the time would be concerned with getting to Buckingham Palace and attending the garden party to be held there. At the parlour I got several things under way. I know this description "things" of what business I do in the parlour as regards the Town Magistrate's work, is rather inadequate but it would be exceedingly boring to detail it: and, after all, this journal is only for me to read. We set off in time to catch the 1-57 train and had a car to the station. Who should we meet on the station but Dr Langford, the County M.O.H. and Mrs Langford who were also going to the garden party and then Mr Bush of "Bush, Moore & Welling" the estate agents. He was dress in morning suit and all ready for the part. I noticed Dorothy looked as good as the two women who appeared to be going there with him. Mr Bush was, of course in the "uniform" for a function of the sort to which we were going, morning suit. Dr. Langford and I were in lounge suits. Mrs Langford was troubled with "hat-likely-to blow-off" trouble and she and the Dr. left us at Victoria to purchase a hat pin and at Buckingham Palace we failed to find them again. As at the

very moment we stepped into the marquee where tea was being served the rain came down in torrents for a few moments so we were very fortunate to be in the dry. Dorothy very ably got our tea as is for want and there we were, in a packed space, no room much to move and each of us with a cup of tea in one hand and a plate of provender in the other. Here one of those nice things in life suddenly occurred. Two very nice people from Aberystwyth, an alderman here and his wife to whom we were talking, held our plates that is acted as a table to us and did this all the time while we ate our tea. We were thus able to replenish our strength, after our journey, in comfort (they had had their tea) and when the rain had finished we were able to go out on to the lawn and take note of all the people who were standing or milling around. Sometimes it rained but with our umbrellas we were kept dry and, having seen the Queen we were able to make our way to the Royal tent and watch the Queen and the nobs enter. Met a chairman of a Shropshire V.D.C. there with his wife and daughter and has a chat. On leaving this spot and thinking of leaving we met Mr Parrish who was up there alone and he offered us a lift

back to Leaves. This enabled us to go through the palace because his car would be called up to the front entrance, and while waiting for this to happen, we met Jim and Pam Boyden who were also waiting and they were rather anxious about time because Jim had to be at the house by 6. However, eventually their car was called and, in due course, so was Mr Parrish's and we had quite an interesting time getting out of London during the peak traffic hour. Mr Parrish kindly invited us to be his guests at dinner on the way home and, accordingly, we stopped at East Grinstead and had a very good meal. Mr Parrish is, obviously, since the death of his wife, a very lonely man in some respects because he did seem to buck up during the journey home and he even seemed to be much younger. It was a very nice thought on his part to invite us and made today much more interesting for us. We reached home at about 10 o'clock.

Thursday July 8. Today is polling day in the Bridge ward bye election. Joan B did not attend the Mayor's parlour, being engaged at the booths as polling clerk, and Irene came over in her place. I sent various letters signed various "Sealing" documents and later on Mr. Morris, the Town Clerk looked in. He like me, is anxious that the Council take the initiative in one or two matters to do with the solving of the traffic problems in the town and with town planking as applied to leaves, generally. We have a good man in Mr. Morris because he has had a measure of success as regards town planning cases in jobs where he has worked previously. I like his approach to problems. We are hoping to let it be plainly seen that the Council is tackling the problems implicit in the present set up by the end of the Highways committee which meets next Monday evening. I looked in the Labour Club and saw Lionel Wernett, who is taking care of the committee room for us in the bye election, but I was not able to get on to the subject of B.H. because other people came in. However, this doesn't seem so bad from our end as one might have thought, and a fast finding committee is going there and matters will be smoothed out. Later. Mrs Fitch failed to win the

Bridge ward bye-election by 40 or so votes. Bad luck.

Friday July 9. Had a short time at the Parlour because of a call I had to attend the extra Magistrates Court. Joan B. and I decided that some letters had better be signed this afternoon. There were three Justices at the Court. Mrs Fletcher-Moulton, Major Scobell and me. There were two cases but they each took considerable time. There was a case of dangerous driving at Cobb place in the Beddingham Road who finally, it was decided should pay a fine of £25. Costs £0.10.0 and be disqualified from driving for three months. There was contained in the plea for leniency in the defence speech, a suggestion that clemency should be given because driving a car was

a large part of the livelihood of this young man and his job was such a good one and carried such heavy responsibilities. This motoring offence however, was too blatant and the penalty was as I have stated earlier. The other case of breaking in and entering and stealing was a plea of guilty so should not have taken much time but the witnesses and the prosecution, of course had to go all through the requirements of the legal procedure and so I had quite a long day and was not finished at the County Hall until quite late in the afternoon. This accused was committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions. I had a quiet time for the rest of the day and Dorothy and I had a short walk up the town and then looked in at the Labour Club for a drink before we went home.

Saturday July 10. The usual for a Saturday morning and, in the afternoon Dorothy had to present the prizes at St Mary's Social Centre Childrens sports. Bill Hall, who is now the chairman of the centre came and fetched us to the field which was very gay with Bunting and flags etc. The sports were in full swing and everything looked very jolly. At the end Dorothy presented the prizes and made a nice little speech appropriate to the occasion and then Bill took us to his home for tea. We met his father-in-law, a retired policeman who is quite a character and who likes to have a talk on politics and is very radical. Bill drove us home and he and Aileen had a look at the garden and we had a bottle of wine before they left. This has been a very nice day for us although the weather has not been ideal for sports or occasions of the like nature. However, the people of St Mary's coped very well with every thing, even the breakdown of their amplifier.

Sunday July 11. Nothing done today. It has rained every minute so we have had rather a quiet time and we have had a read

Monday July 12 Still raining this morning. Something the whole country wants as I understand there is getting to be a serious shortage of water. Quite evidently, until we have made bigger strides towards finding fresh methods to add to our present efforts of obtaining water, we cannot all have all the benefits of the present civilization, i.e. baths etc. Joan B and I dealt with the Mayor's work and I was very glad to learnt from Percy Edwards, the Birdman (This J. April 13) will be glad to propose the toast to the Joan on November 9. I have enquired if Mr Abercrombie the secretary of the Arts Council will reply on behalf of the town so when we get his reply we shall have made some progress. There was not a great deal to do until 6-30, when I attended the Highways and T.P. Committee meeting. This, as usual, lasted for a long time, after ten in fact on this occasion but some progress was made in the direction indicated to me by the T.C. last week. I had indicated to him that I thought the reactions of the committee would be to some items on the agenda which were designed to put the initiative into the committees hands regarding several matters. The committee agreed to these suggestions but much to my surprise L.W. and F.H. seemed to have altered their minds about

our need for action about service roads in Cliffe High Street and they were both now against. The committee carried the proposal that we recommend the Council to take these actions in the matters of Town Planning.

Tuesday July 13. To the Parlour early as I had to attend the Magistrates Court today. Joan B. came over and we dealt with the post. One item of this that was very welcome was Percy Edwards letter agreeing to speak at my proposed banquet. Mrs Rigles, of the "Save the Children's Fund" arrived early and was getting the lecture room ready for her coffee morning. Dorothy attended this but there were not many turned up, I am told, so that is bad luck. I don't mean bad luck so much for the S.C.Fund because this coffee morning is of course quite a minor affair in their fundraising, but I hate to see anybody work hard and be disappointed.

I went to the Magistrates Court and Mr Parrish, Mrs Bradwich-Hale and I dealt with various cases. One of them, a youth of eighteen could easily have raised my bushes if I were not aware that when you have a job to do with administering justice, then anger is a very bad counsellor. This man, when he was fined for driving an unauthorised car, uninsured and committing three or four serious offences, stalked out banging his coal by high heels and whistling shrilly in his resolve to appear nonchalant. Mr Hobley, the police superintendent brought him back and made him apologise to the bench and he then walked out like an ordinary youth. There were various other cases and I had to go back after lunch until 3-10. In the evening there was the Parks Committee and I am pleased there is more work to be done on the Pells, among other things. This meeting did not drag out like some and I was home in quite good time. I was glad of this because we have a very busy Mayoral day tomorrow.

Wednesday July 14. I got to the Mayors parlour in good time and there various jobs were done. Dorothy went to Hove to see Miss Parker who is an old Lewesian who celebrates her 101 birthday to-day. We visited her when she topped her century. (This J. last July 14) I did not go because I had to think of a few words to say to the East Six Assn. for the disabled. I also mowed the lawn and trimmed things up a bit. When Dorothy came in we had a bread and cheese lunch and made our way to Baxters Sports Ground where we were due at the Lewes High School sports. The hour we spent there was very enjoyable. The sun shone and we met a good many people who were quite interesting. I was rather struck with the able way these sports were conducted and the energy the kids put into their efforts. I was sorry we had to leave so soon. This had to be however and Dorothy was presented with a beautiful bouquet and Mrs Hoffman escorted us to our car which had arrived. I had not seen Mrs Hoffman who is the principal of the school, for some time. We used to serve on the committee of the Oxford Extension Lectures together. At 3 then we went by car to the Grange and met the people of the East Six Assn. for car of ~~and~~ the disabled. This was the annual general meeting and much like the one we attended a year

ago. There are a very good body of people and I have spoken of the good work they do in this Journal 23 July 1964. We had tea with them and walked home at about 5-30. This evening I have been over to see John Perkins. He will do one of the banquet speeches so that has made things easier. He and his wife Dorothy are very nice people and are coming to the prison concert tomorrow. I had a nice talk about things in general with them and this sort of thing I always like because I feel sometimes I am left out of the doings of the L.P. Group. I have been round and confirmed our trains for going to Preston on Friday. We listened to the radio programme for awhile. Some was good but the play on the Light Programme was rather poor. It always seems to me that there is unduly high proportion of BBC Plays that are novices plays and leave the suspicion that it's the writers first attempt but he knew someone on the staff and so got his play.

Thursday July 15: In the morning there was the work in the parlour. In the evening a Housing committee meeting. I had to be excused from the latter because Dorothy and I had the prisoners concert to attend. We took John and Dorothy Perkins with us and we all enjoyed the concert. This had been very well rehearsed and with two outside helpers or coaches, ~~this was~~ this concert was very well done and, in spite of the Governor's (Mr. Watsons) forebodings, it was, ~~to~~ in my opinion, a great success. Keith Slade of the Theatre club had coached their jazz band and he played a clarinet in it and his coaching and his presence helped to make it a success. His touch was also apparent in a one act play by Eugene O'Neil, which this prisoners concert party produced for our enjoyment. There was another helper, whose name I cannot recall, who played the piano on occasions. There were two guest artistes a man and his wife who sang some good old songs from operas. Actually, all connected with this concert I mean all the items in the concert were rather nostalgic ~~someday even to some~~ childishly naughty stories by the composer which made me think of the Bells school where I think I heard some of them about 50 years ago. The guest artistes who sang the bits

of opera were a very tragic couple. He had been biffed about in the war and had lost both hands and his sight. It was a demonstration by both of them. By him of what enormous physical handicaps the human body can overcome when back by a strong will. By her of the devotion of women to their men when they are helpless as I have mentioned before in the case of Heron (this journal) except that in the case of the ~~artistles~~ at the prison, the woman has also to sing.

Friday July 16. I went early to the parlour and dealt with various little items and then Dorothy and I made our way to Preston. Our journey went according to plan and was interesting, to me in particular, because I had not been to Lancashire since I was in Liverpool in ~~not~~ 1919. We found Preston a fine place, with, as far as we could see in our

short visit, plenty of new development going on. I can see the advantage, when towns are being re-developed of having just a nineteenth century industrial town to deal with. In Levens we have no streets and streets of last century, drab "working-class" houses to clear and the places which are cleared are the reason for much discussion because of the possibility of their being "worth preserving". This approach has a good deal to commend it, but it is open to being a false viewpoint, used in a kind of snobbish way, much as a great many in Levens seem to me to be worshipping at the temple of antique goods without knowing or really caring much about the real value of the goods which are consequently filling the antique shops (and the junk shops) in Levens. Preston, then, appears to me to be keeping abreast of the times and from being one of the nineteenth century towns where goods were made and sent all over the world and put England on the map, is now developing into a good example of 20th century town planning and modern industrial town.

Saturday July 17 Bent's son was duly married today in a nice marriage service but in a rather peculiar brand of church building for a £ of £

denomination. This church was built in 1915 and seems most unlike a church to me. Possibly this is because the only churches I know are those round my own town and are built in the medieval tradition and of course many of them were built before the reformation.

After the wedding, Bert, Dorothy and I had a car ride to Lancaster to see ~~the~~^{his} daughter who is 3 years old now and is in the Mayaneth home for children. This is a grand place a good looking building with as far as I could see a good staff of young women to care for the children there. I saw and spoke to a great many children. They all looked very well indeed and all were eager to come and make friends. His visit was quite an experience for me. Many seemed in fine trim, and judging by her general behaviour on Bert's arrival and departure, he has managed to inculcate into her the necessity for his brief visits. She seemed very happy. We went back to Preston and the three of us talked until late into the night.

Sunday: July 18. We returned from Preston today and we had a very comfortable journey home. We arose and got ourselves ready while Bert ~~helped~~ got the breakfast. Bert is a very keen housekeeper and looks after the house and those who come therein like a good housewife. My shining black shoes give ^{bear} testimony to the fact that I have been staying with someone who is not only an ex-guardsman but a domesticated one. We got to Preston station early and this gave us the chance to have a coffee and Dorothy and Bert to have a final brother and sister chat. Had a good journey down and met a family in our carriage who were on their way to Australia. Man and wife and two small boys. Good luck to them. We reached home in very reasonable time. Jim Whittle was waiting at the station with his car and kindly gave us a ride home. A short stay away but it has been worth it. I've just been considering about six hours to get from Preston to Lewes. In "Humphrey Clinker" one can read of Smollett's characters taking more than six days on a similarly distanced journey: and of course, our journey today was slow as travel by some methods are judged now.

July 19 Monday: To the Mayor's parlour first. This will be the last day of my exile from my own Parlour. The Divorce Court Associate moves out today. Joan B joyfully brought the letter from Abercrombie agreeing to speak at our Banquet. Three settled. The town Clerk came over and we had a conference about various things including one of a foreign body (tin-tach) being found in bought pastry. In the afternoon we had to go and give the towns congrats to a Mr. Simmons who is now 100 years old. This was very interesting because we were able to see what one often reads about. Five generations. The old bairn looked well for his age. Rather tired because he had had a party the day before when all the family had gathered. Our photos were taken, for the Express, talking to the old man. I went to the Health Committee in the evening and had intended going on to the Oxfam committee which is held in The Old Bank House but it was too late. I went home instead. I had a chat with David and Miss Temple outside our committee rooms in Fisher Street. David brought up the subject of the visit of the Secular Society next Sunday, which led miss Temple to say that nobody should have anything to do with them because they weren't Christians. She later watered

that down, on being questioned about other big religions, to nobody who didn't believe in God should be recognised. I was rather surprised at this intolerant view but it takes all sorts to make a world

July 20 Tuesday: Las. First day back in my own Parlour but had to rush things through because Dorothy and I had to go to Tunbridge Wells for the meeting of the Sussex Mayors Association. When I was leaving the Town Hall there were literally loads of stuff being taken into the Magistrates court. This stuff was quite evidently exhibits in some case. It looked most interesting and I reflected that there are no exciting cases on my days at the court. We had a very pleasant train journey and were received and had our lunch. The Mayors then had their A.G.M. while the Ladies were shown over the holiday trade buildings. The man's name was Avery and he gave us a short talk after lunch. There is nothing to enthuse about in this annual meetings except that it is an excuse for them to have a day out. The Yarrowas kindly brought us back and, after a cup of tea with them I went and

helped to select the Council Chamber carpet from the samples in the committee room and then on to the finance committee meeting. This was a rather strenuous meeting and one of the things I am very disappointed about is the committee's recommendation to the council to drop the old peoples dwelling warden scheme and do something else. Apparently the Quantity Surveyors of the firm we engaged have made a mistake at a huge sum and our plans had been based on the lower figure. This is one of the things I shall have to wait the turn of events.

Wednesday July 21. Had a fairly easy day after the Parlour. The T.C. was over to talk ^{about} various things among them being the Civic Trust "face lift" scheme for the High Street. So this afternoon I returned to the Parlour and had another look through the report of the architect who the Chamber of Commerce had asked to examine and give advice on certain aspects

of this project. This has been a very quiet day for Mayoral duties outside but plenty to do otherwise. I am busy working up two speeches, one for the secularist society who are to visit the town next Sunday and want me to respond to their toast to the town of Lewes, and the other is for the Soroptimists garden party on the following Saturday. Having a quiet time with regard to outside duties, then, helps me to prepare for ~~those~~ the sort of jobs I have just described.

Thursday July 22. Got to the Parlour in good time and got through some work. The T.C. came and we had a brief conference on various matters. The Lewes Exhibition Fund Committee met at 11-15 in the Parlour so by the time that was done the morning was gone. There were none of the applications for aid from the Exhibition Fund which make me angry. All the applications were pretty straight forward. Nevertheless the morning was past when I had finished (this should now be read in conjunction with yesterday afternoon because I am writing this a day late). Yesterday afternoon I cut the grass. Today I read the report which I have put down

as being read yesterday) Thus, armed with the refresher look at the report and greatly strengthened by the company of the T. C., I attended the joint meeting of the Civic Trust scheme committee. There were present Mr Grantham for the Archi Soc, Dann, Day, Wills for the Chamber of Commerce. Jay from the County Council and William Breese the T.C. and myself for the Boro Council. ^{Fam & Fol} I don't know how far this scheme will be a success but there are some natty pieces to get through. When we came out the T.C. offered me a ride home so it was not long before I was at home.

Friday July 23. The Sussex Express has a good photo of Dorothy and me with our local centenarian. It also has the report of Dorothy's visit to Miss Pinner, who is now 101. There is a piece inside regarding the visit of the Secularist Society to Lewes and it gives the impression that I am showing them this society special welcome. This is not the case. I try really hard to keep completely impartial to every organisation, and indeed I must

in this job of Mayor. There are so many bodies and associations I have to meet. On Sunday, (tomorrow) I lunch with the Secularist Society and respond to their toast to Lewes and on Monday evening I attend the induction of the new rector of St James. Joan B and I did the parlour work and then the Town Clerk came over and we drew up an agenda for the meeting of Aldermen I have called for this evening. I had to keep moving after this. First I had to sign a warrant regarding a man who is apprehended for indecent behaviour. Then I had to get a hair cut. Its an odd thing but all my life I have had to wait in barbers shops at weekends (perhaps all Saturday afternoon) to get a haircut, and one would think that, upon retirement I could pop into the barbers shop any time and be attended to quickly. I can pop in any time all right, but the shop always seems to be just as full as it was on Saturday afternoons before I retired so I can't get attended to quickly. However the hair being cut I went back to the Town Hall and saw Christine laying out the Guy Fawkes exhibits for Sunday. Went back to the Town Hall later and with the Alderman Baker and Backwell, found a place to hang

the Churchill picture. While doing this I noticed two girls looking round and, on enquiry found they were German students or teachers from Munich. They were passing through Levens on Bicycles and had just looked in to our town hall. They were very lucky to have looked in at that particular time while we were there and I was able to show them everything and we finally left them with Mr Gough the hall keeper so, they will get a lot of information about the place from him. In the evening the Aldermen met at my request and we discussed the matter of Freemen of the Borough. Blair and Twining generally. Frank Heyward rather annoyed us. This whole subject of freeman had arisen from his suggestion regarding Mr Woolmore and we came to the conclusion it would be best to choose men from outside the council and he then suggested Sir Tuffen Beamish, the local M.P., Frank seems to have the idea that he is on the council to help the Conservative party by the number of times he brings up these silly schemes. When we were finished the T.C. Frank, John and I had a drink and a short chat and Mr Morris kindly drove us home

Saturday July 24:

I went to the Potlour and made sure ; everything was alright for the meeting visit of the Secularist Society tomorrow and I got the badges because Dorothy and I had to attend the opening of the new art centre at 12. Dorothy had bought a pink hat the day before and wore it for the first time to this Art Centre opening. She was very pleased with it anyway & as we started off Monica Young looked out and said "What a gorgeous hat!" We just got round the corner into Talbot Terrace when Mrs Peake came along and said "What a gorgeous hat"; and Dorothy was now doubly pleased with her purchase. We were met at the door by Mr Braithwaite and were soon inside being introduced to various people. This whole function was a very pleasant one and the centre was declared open by Sir Edward Boyle, who was a Minister of Education in the last government. He spoke very ably as one would expect. We met several interesting people among them Mr. Probyn and his family. Mr Edward Jones, the chairman of the Education committee who during his words of welcome made a good crack from a Latin quotation which he translated as. "If this is impressionist art you can keep it." The press photographer asked me to be photographed while talking to Sir Edward Boyle

and I believe he took it just when Sir Edward was leaning over towards me and my mouth was wide open while talking. Goodness knows what the picture will look like. One thing, with anyone as important as Sir Edward it won't be published if it is really bad. We hastened home and had a quick snack and went to the party at the home for elderly blind ladies. I don't know why I always feel more sad about elderly women, especially if they are handicapped than I do about elderly men in places similar to this. We made a visit like this last year and met roughly the same people among the guests and most of the patients of course. Dorothy Gaston (Snipps) was there as she usually is at this sort of affair for various societies and old peoples clubs. She is a useful person to have in your community. We came home soon after five and we stopped in and did a bit of housework and then took things easy for the rest of the evening. There was a play on the Radio but it was rather poor like most of them ^{new} on Saturday evenings. I can't really judge though because I was asleep for a good deal of the time it was on. One advantage of this radio and television stuff, particularly plays, one can go to sleep without ^① disturbing your

host who has taken you to a theatre or ^② stand a chance of losing your last bus or train home. In broadcast plays you are usually your own host and you are safe by your own fires anyway

Sunday July 25. Today is the day when the Secularist Society visited Leves. I saw David who was making all the arrangements for them, in the morning and, after a little flurry and chaffing about, this was to do with inviting the Press, all was arranged. Dorothy wore the sleeveless light flowered dress and the new yellow hat (not the one I mentioned yesterday) and David drove us up to Bull House. The room behind the "Brewers", which the Bull use for a restaurant was packed and the people were very friendly. There was a good lunch and four short speeches.

1. By the chairman of the Thomas Paine Society giving a toast to Leves.
2. Myself in response to the toast
- 3 and 4 by David and Gordon respectively. Everyone

then went to the Town Hall where the visitors were very appreciative of the Town Book and the other items which had been arranged for their benefit. My parlour was rather crowded and I was very glad that Chester had been able to be on duty. Dorothy invited David and Betty for a sandwich in the evening and went home to make preparations. The secularist society had presented Dorothy with a beautiful bouquet and by the time the Williams came down she had completed arranging them. We had a very pleasant evening and a jawn. This has been one of those functions on which regardless of their size or importance I seem to spend considerable time and thought; I think it has to do with ones personal inclinations towards the promoting body. Of course, as Mayor one must have everything as successful as possible. This has been quite an instructive day because besides the Secularists there were members of other organisations and one Indian who was over here on a study of Thomas Paine's political theories.

I have promised him that I will see if it is possible to obtain photo-state copies of our Thomas Pain signatures

Monday July 26 Quite a busy morning. Dr Wilkins, a lady we met at the prisoners concert called to see me in the parlour with the aim of perhaps, obtaining monetary help for the Hostel which the prisoners Aid Society propose to buy acquire in company with the Probation Officers. I had a good deal of dodging about today and have completed what must now be the final draft of my speech for the opening of the Secularists club garden party on next Saturday. This evening we went to the "Institution and Induction of the new rector of St Anne's church. Secularists one day and C of E the next!!!) This church ceremony was quite interesting to me and it demonstrated the tight hold the law kept on the church, quite necessary I think. Instructive to hear the things the poor new rector mustn't do besides what he has to do. The Bishop of Chichester officiated. I haven't seen him for some years. Since he carried on with the previous Bishop's efforts to bring industry into the orbit of the church by means of taking the church into the orbit of discussions between Employers and organised Labour. His Bishop Wilson does not strike me as being up to the standard of confidence-inspiring as was his predecessor Bishop Bell. In fact, both Dorothy and I noticed a

certain something (nonchalant?) and he spoke almost as though to children. Is another Bishop seeking fresh answers to the church's mysteries of life? This may have been just my impression. I think the church will have to settle on an answer before long. With the doubt ~~as~~ it is showing there is a gap formed and "the hungry sheep look up and are not fed." except that in the present affluent age and society they are "swollen with wind" of a very real nature ^{narr. of} in the material things they can buy. We went up to St Annes Church Hall and met a good many people. There were all sorts of people of various denominations which is consequent upon the efforts of the "Unity of Churches" movement. Kenneth Day very kindly gave us a ride home.

Tuesday July 24. Went to the parlour early because the Magistrates are borrowing it and the Council Chamber today and I had to turn out of it quickly. In the post were some new invitations, and by new I mean from fresh organizations. These seem to point to the fact that we are still doing well in the eyes of the townspeople. The fact that this is so has now been made very obvious. I don't know people who come up to me and they say "you won't know me Mr. Mayor, but I really must let you know how much we appreciate the way you and the Mayorette carry out the job of being the town's leading citizen." This sort of thing happens very frequently, twice again today, and we have been doing the job for about eighteen months now. It gives me a paradoxical feeling of ~~feel~~ being proud and humble at the same time. I spent some time in trying to perfect the "opening remarks" for the Soroptimists Garden Party on Saturday. With whatever terror I view these duties beforehand, I seem to make them go alright in the event. I expect the people enjoy the fact that my speeches are very short. That's what I like about them myself. Our Joan came over this evening. She and Bert are well and Bert may be able to attend the Banquet on the 9th November. The news today of the countries economic state and the Government measures to deal with this state of affairs is very grave. It is quite obvious that some Labour People in the constituency and local parties are going to

have a veritable feast of moaning against the Labour Government I have mentioned before in this journal of the number of people there are in our own party who have the idea that because they have paid a subscription that makes them, as if by a wave of a magic wand very learned and very wise. To hear them assert instead of argue really makes one's thoughts turn to the question of the merits of democracy. When I have offered them courses in various subjects via the WEA they always manage to find some excuse for not attending. This of course, they are quite entitled to do, but they must realise that they, without taking in the ideas and the experiences of the people who have given time and study of the problems of the world) are quite incompetent to pass judgement on any problem ^{and nor on} certainly problems that are dealt with on a very high level of trained brains.

Wednesday July 28. It was soon raining this morning and there were very grave doubts about whether the bowls match against the Brighton Council Sports Club. This has been played for yearly between the two town councils. The rain did clear up and the match was played. Lewes won by a very wide margin (big for a bowls match that is). In the evening the monthly meeting of the Town Council was held this evening; it was an average kind of meeting at and it goes down in my memory as the worst exhibition of hypocrisy on the part of Frank H. that I have ever heard in ~~in~~ the Council Meeting. This was to do with the Theatre's Club's application for aid. Frank who has always been against all things that are generally to be described as "Cultural" and who, not long ago, fought the Heater's application to be there at all, is tonight taking up the case of their application and accusing all the rest of the Council of being "phylacteries" (but he didn't know the word and used another). A good job he was outraged but I think this exhibition tonight was about the limit.

Thursday July 29. Went to the Parlour not much to do. Mrs Turquand came in to see me about the information I had sent regarding the Cancer Research and the Cancer Relief organizations. As I had anticipated the latter which has a very able group in Lewes, don't think much can be achieved by abe's having a research group in Lewes as well.

I took a walk round the Priory ruins this afternoon but can't see much has been done and there was nobody there to point out to me any progress that has been made. This is quite a pleasant walk and on the way home I met Gordon Hoile who told me his wife had seen me at the priory from their rear window. Such a fate as this suggests, i.e. always being under surveillance awaits the man who is well known. I mean from the back of Priory street to the priory ruins is a considerable distance. I came home and then returned "Stephen Hero" to the library. I got this out the other day but I reflected this was the book that was rejected by many publishers and finally cast aside and re-written as "The Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man." I have this book and, since it was the work of a more mature James Joyce, there is not much point in wading through its original cast off copy of "Stephen Hero".

Gordon Hoile also told me that at the L.L.P. meeting tonight there would be a discussion on "Clause 4". He said with great relish how it would be opened by the young socialists. Since all this, as far as I can see will be a quite uninformed bundle of assertions because this group is certainly now turned in on itself and there is no hope of any breakthrough from outside, I decided to keep away and while Dorothy made a cake to take as a contribution to the coffee morning we are to attend at the Grange tomorrow I read some Aldous Huxley. We don't often get a chance to have an evening off. The sort of meeting the L.L.P. keep having on these lines are frightfully boring and the attitude of many of those attending which always seems to be Anti Labour Party makes one wonder why these people are in the party at all. I am quite sure the man who comes on the same hook-up to the constituency party just belongs to get a platform for his own voice.

Friday July 30: Joan B. and I quickly got through the Mayors Parlour work and Dorothy and I made our way by car to the grange where the "Wide View" club, a branch of the Red Cross were holding a coffee morning, which we had been invited and had agreed to attend. This club is the Red Cross club for people who have had mental illness. Unfortunately it rained so hard (this was the reason for us going by car to the Grange) that there were not a great many people present at this coffee morning and sale of work. Mrs Peck was there and had a ride back in our car because the rain was still pouring down. This rain kept on for most of the day and in the evening was still bad enough to keep us from going out but anyway, Dorothy has been in the kitchen for two evenings now: she makes cakes etc to take to these "sale of works" and Bring and buy bazaars and, of course, there is the Soroptimists one at Raystede tomorrow. Late tonight I heard the news that Warley M.P. has said the P.M. (Mr. Wilson) should resign because election pledges have been broken: and if the P.M. doesn't resign Warley will not vote in next Monday's debate!!! How conceited can you get: and if it is not conceit it betrays such a supreme ignorance of modern

economics that Warley should not be a member of Parliament. He spends a great deal of time abroad and apparently this is to the detriment of looking after things at home. If there isn't the wherewithal to procure the little socialist extras now we shall have to wait a bit longer for them.

Saturday July 31: An ordinary Saturday morning and this afternoon we picked up Joan B. and Hilda Chandler and were driven to "Raystede". This garden party to put the Lanes Soroptimist club on its feet went off very well and I believe the organizers made a little profit. They treated us as Mayor and Mayoress very well. Dorothy wore this year's mayormaking frock and the Gorgeous Hat (see this journal a week back) Raystede is quite an interesting animal welfare home. extremely well run as could be expected from the efforts of R.H. J. Brune and her mother, who had gone out by bus and Hilda Chandler were given a ride home and Dorothy and I were driven home in a car by a Doctor (lady) from Kingston. A very nice afternoon as these things go. I am getting to be a good judge of coffee mornings, Bring & Buy Sales Bazaars, Wine & cheese evenings and all sorts of things. A few minutes

ago, while looking through the file of my "little" speeches. I was struck by the number and variety of these sort of things I have attended. David Williams said last Sunday regarding the Secularist Society that this was the first time he had heard me at one of the "litter" functions. Only the people of the Club or Organisation directly concerned really know of our work on these smaller affairs. I have been assured by many people that there has been no other Major carry the job through so fully. I have mentioned J.B.'s mother earlier in today's notes. She is a rather striking looking woman big, and has a rather more strongly featured face than Joan. I seem to remember her living somewhere near the "Elephant" years ago. She dimly remembers the brothers Barber who used to box. At about 60 she seems to have plenty of go and gets about a good deal, I know she went to the Brighton races in the evening one day for example. The Soroptimists are, as I anticipated an able body of women. The National vice President, Miss Stovell, and the Divisional President, Mrs Newman were with us on the platform and each said a few words, as, of course did Mrs Bradley, the local Chairman. I think the affair made some money for the Local (new) Branches charity fund and I believe every body concerned is quite content.

Sunday: August 1: Today I bought two Sunday papers, the "Observer" and the "Citizen". I have not bought Sunday papers for a long time and I see by these two that the present style Sunday paper, whether the "Observer" (quality and pseudo Liberal) or the "Reynolds" ("Popular") and Coop Labour that the two styles, "Quality" and "Popular", have not changed. All the Sunday papers are in one or the other of these categories and each of them leave something to be desired. Even the "News of the World" which used to be a genuine newspaper, albeit not mostly police court news, is now turned out like the others, which seems to take the view that you don't want news, you want the life story of some con-man or of somebody (female) who has what the newspapers have taught the public to call "Habital Statistics." I have had quite a good dive into the "History of Europe" today and have been doing the Hellenistic period. I don't know whether reading this is reassuring or not. Certainly history does make you realize that "things come and go". Things have always been changing so what happens now is no new experience as change. What is uncomfortable is that during all changes, unpleasant things happen to people. If you are one of those people, then to think of change as I have just regarded it is no comfort. There is no doubt that at the present time, rapid changes are being made. Hayel came and stopped the night

Monday August 2. Joan B. and I quickly dealt with the parlour work today, and got the place ready to receive our guests which were a troop of Brownies from Cheshington. Chester Crouch showed them round and Dorothy and Joan B looked after them. They were very nice kids aged about 9 I understand. Of all the towns treasurers they seemed to be mostly attracted by the Mayoral chain of office. We fed them some George Squash and Biscuits and sent them off very happy. It started to rain while they were with us and kept on raining heavily for the rest of the day. I felt great sympathy for the women, two of them and an older girl who were in charge of these youngsters. They have got to keep them occupied and as well as possible. I think I saw the troop later in the day, going along in the pouring rain. These women are good, and although it is the usual thing to regard them as "wanting something to do", they do a good job as they are. Of course, one could pursue the discussion and argue that it wouldn't matter if the movement died out, but I think it gives quite a lot of experience to children of that age, fills a gap for these women who "want something to do" and anyway it

is actually here. Hayel (see yesterday's notes) has grown up in the guide movement and has become one of those women who are invaluable to the movement. Quite evidently her mobile mobility, her experience of travel, her control over these children when she has charge of them does the youngster a very great deal of good. Since it has continued to rain, and since I did not mention Hayel, ^{yesterday} except very briefly I will go back to yesterday. Hayel arrived with her traveller car, loaded as usual. She was on her way to France, car and all, to join a guide camp there. After that she and a friend are planning a holiday on their own for a week or two. With her was one of the guides whose job is to do with Pig breeding, and so with my ~~no~~ memories of the N.P.B.A. stuff from Baxters we were able to progress fairly well in conversation and I learnt quite an amount of things to do with pigs in this sphere. They left early this morning and they were sailing to France via Newhaven.

Tuesday August 3. I went round to the Parloer and Jan B. arrived and we did any work that needed doing. I had forgotten that Graham Beach had stopped me, in the pouring rain, yesterday regarding a house he owns and wants his sons family to move into but can't do anything because an old lady is the tenant. She has a court order to move out, the judge evidently taking the view that a five bed roomed house to one old lady, while there is greater need by the landlords son's family, is unnecessary. The time had now expired and what was to be done? Mr. Beach did not want to turn her out. He posed this question to me and I sent him up to the Housing Manager. I went there myself but the H.M. says he cannot do anything save put the old lady on the allocation list which was done. Really this situation only needs a bit of patience. The son to wait for a little while longer till a suitable accomodation comes on our list. Any way that is all I can do at present. It may seem a very little but then it is. When one is in the job itself one has to take a more "professional" view insofar as one has to realize you can't make accomodation by waving a wand, building houses takes time, and patience,

in a case similar to this one is the only policy. It was very pleasant to have a nice sunny day. I set to work on something for Elphicke Show luncheon next Saturday. There is always something "comes off" on this job and to do this properly one's mind has always got to be thinking on the lines of "what to say next". Dorothy suggested we go to Seaford in the afternoon and this we did by bus. The buses however are now single deckers with the conductor in front and nowhere for him to be anyway. Consequently nobody can see ahead and the long bodies overshooting rear and front wheels greatly overshot by the body are a menace. We saw Mrs Widman in her shop, which she manages for Parish the Lewes Builders merchant and erstwhile ~~Cook~~ Alderman. It was quite nice to see her again as we had not met properly since the Seaford Br. Coop Party closed down. I gathered we had a good report on our Mayorship from Mr Forrest to Mrs Widman. We had a quiet evening at home.

Wednesday 4 August 4. Dorothy has just said that nobody has said, as far as we know, that the first great war started 5 years ago. Last year there was plenty of comment because of the 50 anniversary. There was not much work in the Parlour and we decided to go and see Osh in the afternoon. This we did: busing to Newhaven and walking to Tarring Nevile. We had almost reached there when we were overtaken by a car and the occupant a woman offered us a lift for the rest of the way. Her daughter had met us at the High Sheriff's cocktail party and her description was evidently so good that the mother recognised us while overtaking us in a car! We spent the rest of the afternoon there and came home on a bus at about 8-30. Osh and Dorothy are both well and the farm is progressing well as far as its chief object, the production of milk is concerned I make the reservation implicit in that sentence because there is quite an amount of work works doing round about the place in the nature of swopping and clearing up outside and general re-decorating etc inside the cottage. We feel that Dorothy is getting

fed up with this state of affairs and I think she is right. Osh should at least do a bit of swopping of nettles and grass around the place. However, everyone to their own way of getting along. Perhaps Osh has got as much as he can manage now, because we are all getting on.

Thursday August 5. Dorothy suggested going up to see Buntz and the baby today. We are trying to go out more apart from Mayoral things this week or two while things are slack as regards the office work because it is holiday time. Dorothy would phone Buntz and let me know. At the office Murphy came over regarding a rise for one of his staff who has been offered more elsewhere. I have agreed, subject to the chairman's agreeing. This man has several engineering jobs in hand at the present time in the way of road construction and if he leaves it will mean, possibly a two months delay in some of this work. Armitage came over regarding the polling stations on the Wallands Est Dorothy phoned and Buntz was going to motor over.

to us. Dorothy and I walked to meet her and we got to offham (2 miles). Both Barty and the baby Helen are doing well. The baby is making enormous strides. While I drew pension, paid my Becht's bill etc after lunch Barty and Dorothy took the baby over the new bridge and through the cliff way home. I understand they met several people who wanted to see the baby. Barty motored back soon after 5 and Dorothy and I had a quiet evening.

Friday August 6 Joan B and I dealt with the work. The Town Clerk came in to put me in the picture regarding the action he had taken on receiving a parcel from Mr. (Father) Rawlings and also to apprise me of the position regarding the South Landport development.

Rawlings has done what I consider a very unexpected thing for him. He lives in St Andrews Lane and cars are parked as a rule for almost the entire length of the lane. He apparently has picked up some paper which was lying about tied it up into a parcel and sent it to the Y.C.

Now, firstly all complaints regarding cleanliness should, of course, go to the department concerned. Secondly, no mind but a childish one would think of sending this parcel anyway, to anybody. Thirdly, to send it to the Town Clerk is the idea ~~of~~ that one would imagine was conceived in a backward mind whatever age it was. Rawlings has fallen down a long way in my estimation. I must see Armitage on Monday to get the full particulars and so be able to gauge the gravity of this before I decide on what action, if any I should take. At eleven the German students ~~came~~ They were four very nice young people (girls) and the number of our visitors was made up to 10 & by their counterparts, the English students. Dorothy and Mrs Bourne and Mr. Grouch looked after them and we gave them squash and biscuits. In the afternoon we went down to Joan's (our Joan) at Patcham and we came back about six. In the evening a journey to the newspaper office was necessary as, in the edition of the last week's paper, there was no picture of us taken with Sir Edward Boyle on the occasion of the opening of the Arts Centre (T.T. July 24). It will be remembered this was the day of the 'gorgeous' bad and we wanted to see how it looked. Sure enough, it

picture was in the S & E window. At the corner of Fisher Street we met Alby Martin and went into the Labour Club with him and we spent some time there. This club is in, or appears to be in a thriving condition and I am very pleased about this. Met a number of people there and was able to think again of the nice pair of blokes Alby and Bernard Walker make. I believe I have mentioned this before and mustn't mention it again. When we arrived home I had a short read of Fisher's "History of Europe" and the A. Huxley's "Time must have a Sleep". I am trying to keep up what reading I can in all this turmoil of being Mayor.

Saturday August 4. I went to the Mayors parlour and did what was necessary and Dorothy and I went shopping. The chief event for us today was Elphicke Annual show of garden produce (see T.S. August 18 1964). This show was better than last years. More exhibitors and many more entries. We had a good

lunch at the "White Hart" and, unlike last year, they called on me to speak and I was able to say a bit which Dorothy says was very good. Dorothy wore the this years mayor making frock and what I call the yellow flowery hat. As last year, I met many people in the gardening world and we didn't leave the show until gone 4. I went down to the Dripping Pan in the evening. Lewes were playing Seaford in a friendly soccer match, both sides using this as an opportunity to practice and adjust their team. Seaford is entering the County League for the first time and Lewes are leaving the County League and joining the Athenian League. This was a very good game for a practice match, quite enjoyable from end to end. Seaford appeared in the best light in the first half and Lewes in the second. Both teams appeared to have been adjusted during half-time and Lewes finally won by 3-1. When I got home Dorothy was doing the washing, and she got it done, spun and hung before the evening was out!! Tomorrow we are to attend the Anniversary Train on the Bluebell line!! A mayors work is never done

Sunday. August 8. I went and fetched the Badges because today we were to go to the 5th anniversary of the opening of the Bluebell line. This is a part of the railway that was closed down some years ago, long before Beeching's rationalization plan. Some people, who are keen on this sort of thing, managed to gather together enough enthusiasts (and money) to keep the railway running and each summer it is open to give people a ride for a fare (which is really extortionate but who cares when it is holiday time and, after all, it's just like buying a souvenir!) The trouble is, when talking about the Bluebell line, if the person to whom I am talking is at all anti-B.R. he or she will invariably say "Well, the Bluebell Railway can't make it pay, which is more than B.R. Railway could do" This of course is the type of popular saying which people always use against things that are done by the Govt., the local council or any other body that does public work and makes civilization as we know it possible. In reality the Bluebell line enthusiasts put a great deal of free time and money into their hobby: raise public subscriptions etc. much in the same way as any voluntary body or charity does. We travelled up by our car

and were met by a man dressed as a railway porter of 50 years ago. It was a Mr Mason and he escorted us through the crowd, who were waiting at the ticket office, and gave us over to a Dr Thorpe (he was dressed in civvys) and we met Capt May (dressed as a last century bloated business man). There were various ladies who were dressed in various dresses of different periods of all the nineteenth century. We met Howard Johnson-Smith the M.P. for East Grinstead among other people. There were crowds of people all the time at both the stations and I've never seen so many cameras, ordinary cameras, television equipment, etc in my life. There were hundreds of cars so people must have come from all over the place. Really I don't know why they should. There are quite ordinary little "pony" engines of the type that could be seen doing shunting in any goods yard a few years back. Some old adverts are fixed to the walls of the stations so I can't imagine the swarms of people came to see that. The only "person" there besides the Mayor of Lewes and his Mayoress was the M.P. for East Grinstead, so I've come to the conclusion that it is just boosted up by the mass media and the swarms of people

who come by car are indicative of the affluent society, each of them also signs of the inflation the government is trying to avoid. We had tea with the nobs (both of them) and came home soon after five. Had a read in the evening

Monday August 9: At the Parlour Joan B and I dealt with what there was to deal with and then started on the lists of guests for the banquet on November 9. Our Joan had told me by phone that Bert would be pleased to respond on behalf of the guests so we have all our speakers lined up now except that Bert has warned us to have a reserve present in case he has to do something else at the last minute. This happens sometimes in his job so I am considering asking Mr. Boyce of the Phoenix Ironworks if he could be reserve. I went back to the Parlour where I had to meet Willey, Buckwell and Miss Dumbrell and form a sub-committee to deal with the disposal

of the old carpet that, for about 35 years has covered the floor of the Council Chamber. Willey did not attend so there were three of us to decide this weighty matter and, in addition to we three there was the deputy town clerk, the clerk from the Surveyors dept. and, of course, the Hall keeper. Now Ald Buckwell suggested we gave it, or sold it to the golf club, and Mrs Miss Dumbrell was all in favour of covering the floors of our two back stage dressing rooms with it and using a bit to cover the boards in the passage which connects these dressing with the main hall. Miss Dumbrell, believing I should would favour John's suggestion, and having to get home by 12.30 anyway stated out, saying that we, and the hall keeper were against her suggestion so it was of no use her staying. After she had gone we soon decided what to do with it and it included the passage behind the hall so Anne needn't have worried about it. In the afternoon I met John Buckwell again in the Mayori parlour and we had a chat about the questions I have mentioned before in this journal regarding the Levers H.H.P. When we left the building at 4.15, the carpet was already down in the passage. Dorothy and I went for a walk, it

being a slack evening, for us, along Efflam Rd to the crossroads and thence over by the Downs and Nevill Estates and the Wallands Est home. I did a bit more reading before going to bed. I considered, while in the bath that just as when I was young and doing dirty work at the foundry, only the clean-job men had baths in their homes because they were the only ones who could afford it, so now when I am reasonably clean, I can bathe everyday. All new houses have baths now and most old houses are being fitted with them. Social Progress. This will lead to shortage of water!!

Tuesday: August 10: It was raining hard so instead of getting up at the usual time and going into the garden and swinging clubs I had a kind of "lay-down" stroke against myself. Instead of 6-15 then I arose at 8. and although I had deliberately laid in bed and decided to do this I felt quite annoyed about doing it. Mustn't happen again. There was not a great deal at the Parlour. This month of August, and the early part of September is pretty slack. The rain cleared up later in the day and the weather became quite warm. We only had a short walk this evening really going to the sorting office. This evening I did some reading; a chapter or so of Aldous Huxley aloud and afterwards to

myself, some of Frys' "Mrs Grundy". The section I am on at the moment is the one on the English Sunday and the campaigns against Sunday pleasure by the late "Misery" Martin and his successor Harold Legerton. One has to read a book of the nature of "Mrs Grundy" to realise the ^{attempt} ~~men~~ roads on to personal liberty and happiness that are constantly being made. I know something of the type of mind that makes up the Lord's Day people because Mortimer Hall, an insurance agent and keen Baptist, managed to be on our Town Council for 6 years or so and I know, through listening to his attempts to stop Sunday games, cinemas, concerts and so on, what a danger these people are. It is less possible than ever now, but if they did succeed in bringing back the "Victorian Sunday", then they would start on other things which they would dub "sin". This man Hall, ~~was~~ when he found he made no progress on the Sunday business, was all ready and quite eager, to start a campaign of any other description. He did enquire of me whether the Little Theatre Club's plays were sinful. He had never been inside any theatre. He wanted to stop fiction in the public library, not on the quite excusable score that it is a charge on the rates, but because he had the idea it was sinful. During the "Lady Chatterley Lover" debate we did persuade him to read it. I think he did

read it but I don't know. He suddenly dropped all his attempts to save us and, after a while, left. I trust, after his beginning to read other books he didn't go rapidly down hill. I think he has realised what a clump he has been. Dorothy caught the loose sole of her sandal under the mat and fell full length. She has since been on the bank and has been endeavouring to tunnel under the fence (Belson escape fashion), so I am hoping the results of the fall are not too bad. They will be apparent, of course, one can't fall about at our age and not feel stiff after it.

Wednesday August 11. I arose at the proper time this morning. I don't know what possible interest that information can be to anyone, even if they were to read this journal, which they won't; and it's ~~too~~ no new information to me because I already know about it. One can plainly see ^{that} I am tired of starting off the day with "Went to the Parlour". Anyway, the weather was misty which shows we are getting on in the year. At the parlour Joan Sec. said "It would be nice to go over the hill." I sent off all the warning letters to the chief guests at the banquet on November 9

Today is another day with not a great deal to do. We have put so much go into being Mayor of Lewes that when a slack week comes along it seems like a holiday. This afternoon I mowed the lawn and the sun was extremely hot. I also took the books back to the library and meant to look into Baxter's to see what had been decided about Horsfield's "History of Lewes". After tea I went to the Dripping Pan and saw Lewes play a team sent over by Brighton and Hove Albion. I always enjoy these beginning of season practice matches. Each side had some good new players who were trying to get a place in their respective teams, and so a good game was the result as it generally is in such circumstances. Both sides had very good goal-keepers, both of whom were on the small side, as goal-keepers go, but both of them made up for this by having remarkably good anticipation and, of course, the extra agility that generally goes with the smaller types. At home I read a little of Fisher's "History of Europe", bringing me up to Julius Caesar and Pompey, so the whole day has not been wasted on idle living. Dorothy's fall of yesterday has left her rather stiff as was to be expected and she has various aches but the results of yesterday's trip-up are not too bad as yet.

Thursday August 12. Up at quarter to six and soon, after "gunfins" did the exercises. This has got quite a fascination for me now, like the early morning cup of tea. I notice I have called this cup of tea "gunfins" two lines above. That is an unaccountable slip back to army days of before 1921!! I went to the parlour and Joan B. and I did the office work. Not much of it at this time of the year. Dorothy went to Patcham to mind grandchild Helen while Joan and Buntz went to the beach for a swim. I had a tidy up and did a few odd jobs. In the evening I went to the Cliffe British Legion and presented the prizes for their summer bridge tournament. It was very pleasant to be among these people and in this building where I hadn't been for twenty years, since the Home Guard days of the second war in fact. Also, they were very glad to have me there. George Whitfield drove me home in his car at about 10-15. This evening, before I went to the British Legion we had a visitor at home, Ted Dixon who we have not seen for 3 years since he left our W.E.A. economics class to go to the London School of Economics. At 21 Ted has grown into a very likeable young man. He is working, during his vacation, for the River Board on the work that it has been decided must be done since the

floods of 1960 brought so many complaints from people who seem to imagine that the floods, caused by heavy rain in very many parts of the country, was all the fault of this Local Authority. This work has been, for Ted Dixon, a useful part of his training and education, and he is very pleased about it. He hopes, when he finishes with the L.S.E. with his degree, he will get a job at Transport House, which will suit him for awhile. Good luck to him. It is very nice for me when we see young people like Ted, who are partly, at any rate, the product of our W.E.A. be ~~so~~ so nice and unassuming, so capable of study and keen on the L.P. and be with us in fact. By the way, he gave me a car ride to the British Legion so I had a ride both ways.

Friday August 13. There was a surprise as Joan B and I finished the parlour work (of which there wasn't much) a rap at the door and, as the door opened, at my invitation there was revealed a Brownie troop, looking very smart indeed. It appears that my secretary and I had not been apprised of this visit by some

mischance. However we buckled to and Chester Blouch showed them the Town Plate. I observed that, like all others of the feminine gender, when they inspect the plate they are far more interested in the things that adorn the person etc. Mrs. Major Chain of Office than the other treasures among the Loans plate. I did a little shopping but nothing worth recording happened until 6-45 when Ash and Dorothy arrived on the train from Newhaven. We took them up to the Parlor and after showing them all the things we went home to a good meal which Dorothy (mine) had prepared. Ash keeps as well as most men his age although he has rheumatism and he told me it. tonight he has once been treated for high blood pressure. I always used to argue that the right element (that atmosphere that surrounds you as you grow up) will do a great deal to keep you well. This has happened in my case; without the atmosphere of adolescent "keep fit" to fall back to when I was 36. 37 etc, I should without doubt been finished. No teenage person is a hypochondriac who is always thinking something is wrong. That attitude to life comes to grown people. If the adult person throws himself back into the dogs when he always felt well and was proud of it. Then he has

done quite a lot towards being well. I noticed Ash tonight was getting quite interested and interesting as the conversation got on to physical fitness from the well being point of view. They went on the 9-3 from Lewes to Newhaven and I think they had both enjoyed the evening.

Saturday. August 14: I arose early as is usual with me, and, after tea, I did some club swinging and some exercises on the floor. I use disc dumbbells for these exercises. I have had quite a weight on them with discs occasionally but since I am getting old, I just have each dumbbell weighing $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1/2 pounds. This appears to keep me well. There are other factors contributing to my physical fitness but I am sure this morning routine contributes a great deal by creating the "right element" alone. Dorothy and I did some shopping after I had been to the Parlor and this afternoon we went down to the Pan and saw Lewes play Tunbridge Wells Rangers and beat them 2-1. This was a practice match for each side, with team

changes at half-time. The first half was quite interesting, with Tunbridge showing some good team work in addition to good individual play. The second half turned out to be very ragged: and the play of the Rangers fell away considerably. It was, however, a very warm day and there was a certain closeness which could be felt by the spectators so the players can be excused for playing with a certain amount of lassitude. We decided not to stay up in the committee room, where there is a fine end-on view of the game, and at half time we came down and found it cooler and we spent the rest of the game in the stand in the company of Tom Hearing, Frank Larkein and Horace. So, although, as I have said earlier, the football fell away in the second half, we had very pleasant company and I enjoyed very much their reminiscences as they are all older than me. In fact, I laughed so much at one time that the team really rolled down my cheeks. After we had come home and had tea we did not go out again. Dorothy did some gardening and I did some writing and reading. I did in fact go out but just up to the 'Truffles' and purchased a large bottle of Bwan Ali.

Sunday August 15: Today, when I had exercised etc., I took Dorothy a cup of tea and invited her to come out for a walk, the morning being very fine and we being so easily able to reach country places. We started off at about 8 and meant to go up the river but, having reached the river, we decided to carry on over the new bridge to the Blatch Lane estate and then down Walling St. and so home through the cliffs. We carried out this programme and it was a very pleasant walk. We arrived home at nine o'clock and had our breakfast and spent the rest of the time in the garden, where Dorothy did some gardening and I did some reading. In the evening there was a band concert in the Grange and we attended this and found it very pleasant. The band was the Glynde and Beddingham silver band but there were others playing who were not of those two places. Four were from Lewes because the Lewes Town Band doesn't exist at the moment because they have no place in which to practice since the old H.M. Naval Prison has been demolished. As Mayor of Lewes I am taking steps to rectify this state of affairs. Lewes has always had a town band and lack of somewhere to practice seems a very lame excuse. I should think nobody would complain about the noise of a brass band. Nobody seems to complain of

the appalling noise caused by the "Beat" music which is revered up and really is extremely offensive. We'll see what we can do to ensure that our band gets going again. There was some slight rain during the concert but nothing to worry about. We arrived home and, after supper, had a bath and retired at about 10-30. This is quite early for us.

Monday August 16. I woke very early and at length I arose about 6-15 and did the usual "personal" preparations for the day and then took Dorothy her tea. I thought about having another walk but we decided not to, and so I arrived at the parlour at 9 o'clock. Joan B. had a good deal more work for me than there has been of late. There are three or four acceptances for the banquet and that reminded me that I hadn't as yet fixed up a reserve speaker in the event of Bert Bram being unable to attend so I fixed up an appointment and saw Mr. Boyle of the Phoenix Foundation this afternoon. So now

the speakers, plus one reserve ~~are~~ are fixed up. There was also an invitation from the Odd Fellows to attend their annual dinner. This is for both the Mayor and the Mayoress and is one we had not heard anything about last year. It's a new invitation in fact. (Cheers). I left the Parlour after consuming a drink Joan B. drew for me before she had left, and made my way down to the Priory where Sir Tufton Beamish, the local M.P.; a sculptor whose name I don't know how to spell and I can't think of it now anyway: ~~and~~ Mr. Murphy, our Borough Engineer and a man from the Ministry which looks after ancient monuments were to decide on where a memorial piece of sculpture to the Battle of Lewes should be placed. This is to be a gift to the town by Sir Tufton. They welcomed me and we discussed the matter in the light of ¹ where it would look best in relation to the ruins of the Priory ² where it would be best for people to get a view of it ^{at} a whole and ³ where people could best read the inscriptions and see the relief pictures on it and ³ where it would not be in the way of future works to do with the restoration work of the priory. Having decided on ~~this~~ a position finally we adjourned for a drink at the White Hart. Murphy, Beamish and I discussed the question of sewage disposal arising from Beamish,

letter to Brighton Town Council regarding their method of disposal. It appears, as far as I could gather that the experience Dorothy and I had at Newquay of seeing literally scores of french letters (condoms) left high and dry on the sand by the ebbing tide is being repeated on our Sussex beaches, or something similar is happening.

Sir Tufton feels very keenly about sewage being discharged into the sea and I expect the "polo" he has had makes him even more keen on improving things. I quite agree with him regarding this. He has invited Dorothy and me to London to see the sculptures being worked on and have lunch with him and Lady Beauchamp. There are always new experiences happening for us ~~via~~ ⁱⁿ our public work. I spent some time this evening thinking of some effective words with which to greet some French Students who are arriving at the Town Hall tomorrow afternoon and we listened to "Man and Superman" on the radio. This play of Shaws always compels me to pay attention and I enjoyed it last evening. The whole of the middle act was left out so the ^{in hell they are} worldly discourse. This is generally omitted from radio or plays in the theatre when there isn't time allowed for a full performance of the play

and I am always sorry about this. The discourse in the "lower regions" is well balanced, in my opinion and Tanner doesn't have all his own way and Ann isn't there to beat every body at the argument without need to ~~have~~ resort to logic.

Tuesday August 17: To the Parlour at 9-15. This work done, to the Magistrate's court at 10-15. I was put into the court where there were two interesting cases. The first was a piece of bad luck that befell an elderly driver who had been waiting to turn right on a fast road. He waited for several minutes with his indicator flashing and finally, when he thought the way was clear for him, went across to his right. The way was not clear. A motor cyclist was coming down the road at 60 miles an hour. He collided with the car and received fatal injuries. We were instructed by the prosecution that we must take no notice of this unfortunate sequel. I quite agreed that we should not, because, quite obviously the force of the impact being hard enough to kill was not the

motorist's fault. He had almost crossed the road and could only be going slowly by the nature of this maneuver. He had been driving for 50 years or so until 1961 when he was fined £3 for driving without due care and attention. This was his first offence. Today was the second offence of this nature. It did seem as though his age, 75, was catching up on him. He was fined £20 and not to drive until he has passed a driving test. I think this was the best we could do and I hope the old boy will decide to retire from driving since, to me, it seems as though he is on the toboggan and the traffic is increasing. The other case was a man of 57 who was charged with indecent assaults against girls under 16: to wit 10 & 12. The girls used to speak and help him with his car etc quite often. The charge was that he invited them into his house and, while they were leaning over the table "put his hand on their private parts and twiddled his fingers about". While realising that he must keep urges that lead to this kind of behaviour under control, we nevertheless, when we withdrew discussions causes of ^{the} frustration he obviously suffered from and finally placed him on probation for 3 years. Personally, I was very impressed with his

son who came from Manchester to support his father. This young man was a good type and his picture of his father's life at home, all done without ~~to~~ blaming anyone, was a fine example of toleration and kindness. I could not think that the father of this man, who had come all this distance to help his son, could be bad. He assured us moving from the district and I hope he gets on alright and that he learns, from this experience, to not be manoeuvred into such of a position again. Apart from the age of the children, this was of course one of the very lightest of sexual offences. In the afternoon Dorothy and I were in the Parlour to welcome the French Students. A nice lot of boys & girls, rather younger than the boys who came last year. I had a good talk with their teacher in charge and the English teacher with them. The Frenchman had read "Green Mans" and we had a talk on the Third Republic. The Englishman had followed our progress in Leaves and had met Joan and Bent. It is rather remarkable how our progress has been under observation from so many different angles and by so many different types of people and for so many different reasons. Joan B and Shertie looked after our student guests / their Lordess, while

they are in Lewes is Mrs Vines, who is the wife of the deputy County C. architect and who we have met on two or three previous occasions to do with our job of leading citizen. Dorothy did a bit of gardening, a bit of cooking and various things when we got home. We did not go out any more and I did some reading of the 'History of Europe' and some of the book of the American Air Force Book by Heller which is entitled 'Catch 22'. This is written in a readable fashion altho in the modern type of American composition. I can't give any opinion on it until I have got further into it.

Wednesday August 18: Another misty early morning. Although this almost ^{always} speaks a fine day, it also gives a warning that the autumn is coming. I reduced the club swinging this morning, not because of this mist: my bare body seems to ignore the slight discomfort caused by chill mists. I cut the club programme down to try and stop a stiffness that comes at the back of my ear (at the top of the mastoid on the left). It only appears after exercise so I must find out which exercise causes it. However, this

journal is to do with my duties as the Mayor and not with any idiosyncrasies of mine. I went to the Mayor's parlour and there was no post at all! Joan B had brought some small items that needed attention but otherwise there was nothing. However, I asked Joan if she would enquire into the 'Grahame Beach' housing case and I soon got a message from the housing dept. that Mrs Alderson had had, posted to her on the previous evening an offer of one of our old people's dwellings. Accordingly I went down Friars Walk but the Beachers were out. The lady next door told me Grahame had gone to the court so there was nothing to be done but hope before the court came to any decision they would know of the Council's offer. This lady next door ~~to~~ I found was the widow of Percy Holmwood, who has died recently quite suddenly. He worked as a porter at the Lewes Press and was a member of our union, but I knew him in 1922. In those days there were hundreds of thousands of us young men who were demobilized and unemployed. Lewes had its share and among many of us at roughly the same age Percy was the only one to have a job driving the delivery & van round the country for Walker's stores. Motorizing was still rather new for this sort of work and it was somewhat of a novelty to ride round the country. Anyway we each used to have a day with Percy in turn: and this no doubt helped us in

combating the rat caused by enforced illness. Dorothy went to our room to look after Helen while the girls, plus Bunt's next door neighbour and children had a swim. That left me at home and I spent quite a lousy afternoon. I have one job started yesterday though. I've ordered the fence stakes for the back fence. Went to the Pan this evening and saw West Ham defeat Lewes 5-2. This is the last of the friendly practice matches and Saturday, the season, league games start. West Ham were able and lively, as one would expect; and they gave a superb exhibition. I find the two extreme wing men of Lewes play too close in the field for my liking. In my opinion it is far more easy to advance in, if necessary to pick up a pass than to try and run backward. Also the outside left never got on his way unless one of his team had the ball. Consequently any pass to him had to square instead of abliquely forward and the attack was consequently slowed down. Dorothy was home when I got back and we retired fairly early.

Thursday, August 19: I'll try the present system a bit longer but I am almost sure that some circles of the clubs were to blame for the mastoid stiffness and it hasn't reappeared today. It was a quiet day. Two or three more acceptances for the banquet, including Sir Tufton. When Joan B. and I were done I went home and did the lawn and the grass now looks very neat. I drew pension and did other little pieces of shopping while Dorothy got ready for our visitors, Dod & Leslie. We met them and we went to the Mayor's Parlour, which Leslie had not seen before, and then came home to a good meal which Dorothy had prepared. We had a good old jaw until quite late and I learnt quite a lot about Leslie's work on the Ambulance exchange. He has to allot the ambulances (perhaps I should say "deploy" instead of allot and I feel that men like the drivers and teams of first aiders, and men like Leslie are doing a good job. I got a picture of the decisions he has to make (and this from resulting from decision made by the men who may be are working on a road accident under very adverse conditions but who are called on to make decisions that actually are "a matter of life or death") This is the situation which is almost universal in that it applies to almost

every job. Generally there is somebody appointed to be at the top and these people are generally drawn from the "top drawer" because it used to be thought of them that they are capable. Really, all the way down the scale there are men who are far more capable until at the very base of the hierarchy or pyramid, we find men who are the least thought of, paid the least, and to whose opinions those at the top pay the least regard and these men carry out the job, which, of course, means making the basic decisions which are necessary to save lives. I wonder what this idea is worth. The men at the top are paid most and treated with most respect because they have the brains. What about paying the lower ones, that is the ones who actually do the job much more? That would mean that the men at present at the top, who by definition, have the brains would want to do the fieldwork and, if this came to pass, there would be far greater efficiency right on the actual job. This idea will never be adopted because for centuries those who do the disagreeable work which is always the most important, have been the lowest paid and those who have the highest income are looked up to because of their income. (It's looking up to them for their brains is a rationalization of the money-worship idea.)

and the conclusion that could be reached from this is that the men "at the top", if working at the bottom, would not do the job so well, therefore the genuine fieldman would get ~~the~~ ^{more} the highest paid. Therefore he would receive the adulation given to money and, by this roundabout approach he would receive the respect that was really due to him for good work. Quite surely Bernard Shaw would say "The only way to get this sorted out is by complete equality of income"

Friday: August 20: I went round to the parlour at the usual time. There was an invitation to dinner by the Priory bracket club. This is men only so Dorothy won't be able to come. I also learned what was taking place in regard to the Beach Ashdown eviction order case (see this J. August 3). By luck we have an old peoples dwelling become vacant and Mrs Ashdown can go into that. This old lady is rather awkward. She has been living in a house with five bedrooms, and refusing to let inspection take place etc. She is going to take our old peoples bungalow but she wants various conditions carried out. I have told Joan B. that all these foolish things can be dealt with when they arise and if they arise. I am hoping, and

The Housing Department is hoping that Mrs Ashdown will take advantage of this piece of luck and be very thankful. By reason of the Judges order we feel it our duty to house her even though that means she goes to the top of the queue because an eviction order has a time limit. The piece of luck is that ^{we had one} somebody of our old people's dwellings become vacant just at that time. People who "jump the queue" however will still be thankful. I did various little shopping jobs and passed a not too profitable a day really. In the evening I had a drink at the Labour Club and afterwards went next door and saw the Russian Gymnastic Team. Watching this did me a lot of good Chester Brough starts his holiday after today so Peter Buckwell will be in charge at the Town Hall.

Saturday August 21: A heavy southwesterly gale was blowing this morning and there was torrential rains every so often. This augered ^{that} things at the football this afternoon would not be too good. I went to the Mayor's Parlour at nine and, as I was unlocking the Town Hall side door a young man told me he was ^{now} Jehovah's Witness and could they inspect the hall ready for the conference they were holding in a week or two. There were several more turned up just then and as the hallkeeper was on holiday and the deputy had not yet turned up, I gave them Russell's phone number. I met them later in the day and everything had been managed alright and they were grateful for the very small service I had rendered. I did not do much during the morning with the exception of little bits of shopping while Dorothy mended the shiners matting. We went to the Pan in the afternoon and saw Lewes win their first match in the Athenian League competition by 3 goals to one. I have mentioned what I consider to be the weakness of the extreme wings and it was apparent again this afternoon. The outside left however, was doing much better in the second half and after all, the match was won so the team will no doubt settle in. It stopped raining during the second half and the sky was quite bright for awhile. Dorothy and I saw the

came from the Committee Room window of course. The lap of luxury for me to watch football from such an ideal position. In the evening we stopped at home except for a few minutes when I went and had a peep in at the Town Hall where one of the "dances" was going on that are fashionable these days among the young. An appalling noise from various instruments playing only two or three notes but each instrument with its own amplifier. That is a good description of the usual type of accompaniment at these dances but I did not go near enough last night to inspect the band. There is only one redeeming feature about these dances. Though they make the whole surrounding street uncomfortable with the noise and so on they do bring money into the coffers of the clubs that are running them. I have no objection to the dances. I am saddened by the noise and the effect it seems to have on the youth of both sexes. They all stand about in a dumb sort of a way and every one of them appears to be suffering from adenoids. The big mistake is the amplifying of the music. This is totally unnecessary. I started properly on Gwyn Bevan's book "Battle Royal" this evening. As far as I have got he has paid attention to the social history side of his period. Really

the book already appears to me as one of ^{the} type that people seem to write nowadays. You think of a subject decide to write about this subject. The guts of it is already in existence in the shape of numerous "source" books and all that is necessary is plenty of research. The more the subject has been flogged the more books you have to work on. If you are busy, and can't find enough time to do the research there are plenty of able young scholars who are glad to earn some extra by doing it for you. I will give my opinion of the book when I have made deeper inroads into the reading of it.

Sunday August 22 : We had a day at home, Dorothy joining up the sections of her Chinese matting and me doing a little pottering about the shed in the morning, and in the afternoon I got on with Fisher's History of Europe and am now at the period of the sixth-seventh centuries. As when many years ago, I read the "History of the World" (H.G.Wells) I find history grows more fascinating, I was going to say, on every page. Having done the history of specific subjects I am more easily able to get a picture of ^{some} a period I suppose. I was considering yesterday, how swiftly social history is

moving in England at this period. Today was nothing like the Sunday that was spent only a few years ago. In the evening we went to K. Gibbons cottage at Southcote for a meal which was very good and later on Miss Helen Liddell came in and we had a good jaw, starting from specific items of town planning ^{and} via the powers of local Councils in the matter, to a more general discussion on the subject. Both Dorothy K and Helen are coming to the banquet. The latter took us home in her car so that was a great help. We reached home at about 10-30 and soon retired.

Monday August 23; It had been resolved, on Dorothy's proposition, that yesterday we turned out the dining room. As can be observed from yesterdays notes, we didn't carry that out but today, when I had returned from the parlour, we got on with it. That is to say, Dorothy got on with it and I lent a hand on occasions. At the parlour there was a little post and Joan B. and I did a few odd

jobs and I returned at about 11-15 and helped with this turning out of the dining room. The visit of the schoolboys from Blois is now under way and their day to visit me at the Parlour is now arranged. Work is going on, with the preparations for the banquet etc, but generally speaking there is not a great deal for the Mayor to do during these holiday season weeks. I have, however, got about four or five organizations ~~to~~ to speak to during the coming weeks so there is no time for me to sit about slackly. Troubled with my apparently ^{present} failure to remember faces and names I had a look at the book on such things and stirred myself up a bit to make an effort to improve things. No doubt if I really try I can improve things in the same way that other difficulties have been overcome surmounted or avoided. I must keep up the training. After all I used to worry because I couldn't remember speeches ^{but} by really trying, I earn quite a lot of compliments on my ability to speak with so rarely looking at notes. In the meantime since my sight is bad I must spend more time looking at faces to help to remember the faces connected with a name.

Tuesday August 24. I reached the parlour in good time but Joan B did not arrive because she T.C. came over first to give me some quite alarming news concerning a possible resignation in the staff. By the time we had finished and Joan B had arrived it was time to go to the Magistrates court. This took from 10-15 until 1.30 with an hour for dinner (perhaps I should call this lunch now I am Mayor). There were two interesting cases of driving without due care and attention and they were curiously similar. Both were pleas of not guilty and both had good advocates and that is what makes a case interesting to me. The one in the morning was a case in which the driver had chidded into a fire brigade water tank which was standing partly on the verge where two firemen ^{had} just completed washing the road at that spot from the results of a previous accident. Up to that position on the road there had been a single white line. Just here the double white line started. The accused said his car had refused to respond to his efforts just earlier and his defence was that there was oil on the road which caused him to skid. The evidence was very much in favour of the prosecution and we came to the conclusion that the driver had

suddenly observed the double white line, braked and the suddenness of this skid braking had caused the car to skid and so hit the stationary fire engine. The other case, which I have described as similar could have had a much more serious result. A lorry driver bringing his vehicle towards Lewes on the Newhaven road. A cyclist going in the same direction and in front of him. A car coming ^{traveling} in the opposite direction. When almost level the lorry's tail swung round across the path of the car causing the car to hit it at 35 m.p.h. The lorry driver pleaded ~~not~~ not guilty of negligent driving and among other things he pleaded some technical fault to do with shock absorbers. All the evidence however pointed to the fact that the lorry driver was going to overtake the cyclist thought he had room between the oncoming car and the cyclist, finally decided he hadn't got room and had to brake too hard and caused the lorry's tail to swing round. Fortunately, although the two occupants of the car had injuries, causing them each to be made unconscious for a short period, they were ~~to~~ not seriously injured and the lorry driver was found to be guilty of negligent driving. I was really tired when today came to an end and I went home and had some tea and later in the evening a hot bath instead of waiting till bed time to have it.

Wednesday August 25. I went round to the Mayor's Parlour but there wasn't much to do. Joan B came over and presently the Town Clerk came over to report on the Chief Clerk position; see yesterday's notes. He informed me that Arnalage hadn't got the job for which he was short listed but it would be as well if I with the Finance Chairman, Alderman Buckwell came to some decision in view of the circumstances or something similar arising again so I am going to see about a meeting tomorrow at 4 p.m. Dorothy was busy doing out the front bedroom and I got on with the various speeches I have to make to different bodies of people in the near future. On this subject there is no doubt that being mayor of Lewes has made me do plenty of research and plenty of concentrated thinking, so I can take it that the job has done me good, but there is also no doubt that sometimes I feel it would be nice to not have to worry about what's coming off and to be free to read just what I please with an easy mind. However, when such an idea floats through my mind I quickly dismiss it. It is a very pleasant honour to have the job and it is very nice to know that so many people are still enthusiastic about the way the job is being

carried out and I hope I can keep the momentum up during all of this second year. Late at night Hazel Meredith arrived from France with a friend named Joan. The latter is on her way to the north tomorrow.

Thursday August 26: I arose early as usual but when we have people staying here it is more important because I have exercises to do and it is impossible to do them with people about. Quite apart from the curiosity and resultant questioning that would arise there is the question of concentration. Twice that word has cropped up to be written down. Yesterday it was to do with thinking and today with physical well being. Hazel & her mother arrived this evening. Hazel having been to Southampton to fetch her. I did not have a great deal to do during the day but at four I had a meeting in the parlour with Ald. Buckwell as chairman of the Finance Committee, The Town Clerk and

the Borough Treasurer and myself as Mayor to discuss the situation that we have learned could arise (see yesterdays notes). We gave this matter considerable thought and discussion but finally came to the conclusion that it would be as well if we called the Establishment sub Committee together to give their collective opinion on the potential situation. In the evening we attended the Golf Club social evening. This proved to be extremely enjoyable. There was a good gathering and several Councillors. The new one, the Damon socialist slayer (see this Journal July 2 1905) was present and I must say, he strikes me less and less as a slayer of Socialists. He seems incapable of speaking in answer to quite ordinary conversation. However, he may have been feeling poorly to night. David drove us up there and home again and before going to the golf club, he drove us to the station to pick ^{meet} up Betty off the train. Betty's job at Somerset House must mean a good deal of arranging to be done and a lot of work to fit things in but she seems to be keeping very well.

Friday August 27. Last night when we arrived home from the golf club social evening Hazel and Mrs Meredith had arrived and had something to eat. This morning was the usual Saturday morning, with shopping etc being done. I saw the T.C. in his office as John B is away for the day and we soon had what work there was done. I fetched Mr Brown over ^{to the parlour} to meet Mrs Meredith and Hazel and then Dorothy and they (not Mr Brown of course) went shopping. I stopped at the Parlour and made some progress with something to say to the people who will attend the Rotarians sale in a short while. I have a number of functions in the offing at which I know I have to speak and a number where some sort of a few words are expected of me that I am having to make up my mind on the backbone of a speech well beforehand. In the afternoon Hazel took us for a nice ride ~~round the country~~ up to Bunty's so she and Mrs Meredith could see Helen (the baby). Helen is getting along famously and Bunty is very well. We waited before we went home till John came in and he is also well. Bunty seems very cosy there but is hearing some rumours which suggest that the road, at present a cul-de-sac, is going to be

driven right on through the wooded hill and become a through road. Even should these rumours turn out to be true the resultant work would not interfere with the house as far as I can see, but, of course no through road is best when there are children. However we must hope that the rumours are false. At the parlour this morning I gathered that Damon had been taken bad at the Social last evening.

Saturday August 28. This proved to be an ordinary Saturday morning, shopping etc. and in the afternoon Hazel took us for a ride round Eastbourne past Beachy Head and along the coast through Seaford and Newhaven to Brighton and then, via Coleson Lane, to Ditchling Beacon and so down to Westmerton and home. A very pleasant ride. In the evening we all went to the Odeon and saw "The Fall of the Roman Empire". Quite nice things about it but has the weaknesses of all those spectacular films. I think the film world has fallen a victim to the "artistic" insofar as most of these films seem to me to be a collection of shots which are taken to please someone

on the job by letting him do as he likes with the camera and ignore the plot not to mention the audience. His artistic pretensions must be served.

Sunday August 29: Hazel and Mrs Meredith went off quite early this morning. Dorothy and I had a quiet time about the place. We had a short walk in the evening. My reading today has been mostly "Catch 22" but I did a bit of Fisher's "History of Europe". Really, though, it can be seen that my general activities have been very light.

Monday August 30: Today is the Bank holiday that has been transferred from the first Monday in August to the last. This is an experiment that has been forced upon us because of the toll of road deaths and casualties. I suppose the hope was that, the Bank holiday being later in the year, there would be less cars about. I don't know by what reasoning this could be assumed but, no doubt, the people who look after this sort of thing know by statistics or something, that there are not so many cars on the road at the end of August as there are in the beginning.

However, we shall learn by the results of today's experiment. I think there did seem to be less cars about. I arose early and did my usual aids to keep looking physically normal, and after breakfast Dorothy and I went for a walk up towards Blackcap. It was a very nice day and just right for a walk of this description. We passed the race course and noted the changes that are taking place as it ceases to ~~be~~ a race course and becomes a private training stables. Though we shall not see anymore racing there I think the use it is now being put to will be quite nice for the town. We didn't go up to Blackcap but from the five furlongs, we carried on round the bend and on until we descended into Brighton road via Hounslow Bottom. Quite pleasant. I must try and get more walks in like this. In the afternoon I went down the Dripping pan to see Lewes play an Athenian League cup match. Note another advantage of this Bank holiday transfer is that it puts August Monday into the football season. The match was a goalless draw even after extra time. Lewes has not settled into this new league

yet but there was an improvement with the old goal keeper playing again. There is still a weakness on the extreme wings and a lack of positiveness in the centreforward position. However, it was quite a pleasant afternoon and I met Tommy Gearing and Frank Larkin and had a jaw. I read Tinkler's History of Europe in the evening.

Tuesday August 31. When I arrived at the Parlour at 9-15 I remembered it was magistrates court day and I had not brought my list of cases. Then I remembered Mr Gallagher's phone message of last Saturday, the gist being that, because of there being a number of cases on remand etc., which means the same magistrates would have to be in attendance, so there was no need for me to attend. Joan B. arrived and we did what little work there was to do. I bought some prime paint and started the painting of the fence when I got home. Dorothy kept busy on household work and getting ready for Frank who will arrive tomorrow Wednesday. We have both been out shopping however and we met the usual number of people who stopped and showed their appreciation of our work as Cadding Aliens.

Wednesday: September 1. 1965. After my usual work-out in the early morning and having had my breakfast I went round to the Parlour but then went back to the Council Offices because the T.C. wanted to see me and with people on holiday from his dept he is managing the department on three people. Mr Morris wanted to see me regarding a meeting between me the chairman of the Housing Com., Mr Murphy and the T.C. tomorrow in the parlour, at 9-15. There has been nothing worth noting during the rest of today, but this evening Frank arrived home looking very well. He has brought me, as a present, a Moorish knife!

as this would run out and to renew it would cost more as this road will be needed whatever the result of the discussion now in progress regarding the buildings we decided to accept the contract and recommend the Housing committee to do so. The old peoples dwelling scheme is not quite squashed so I hope we must all hope that our modified proposals are allowed to go forward. I think the architect, Scudert, is most helpful but, of course, I have had not direct dealings with him on the matter. This practically concluded my work for this morning. Joan B and I did what little else there was. This evening Dorothy, Frank and I went to see the film "Fall of the Roman Empire". There was the usual halloweens that there is in all these films that depend on spectacle.

Thursday September 2: Talking to Frank after breakfast I forgot the meeting to be held this morning at 9-15 and which I have mentioned above I arrived there late and there was some confusion apparently but everything worked out alright and we dealt with the business to do with the South Landport development. The chief thing was to accept or reject the Road tender

Friday September 3. After the work was done in the Parlour we three went to Harst Green, so that Frank could see the baby, Helen. Buntz is very well and the baby making good progress, and now takes a good deal of notice of everybody. Buntz seems very happy and, to be sure, the house is in a

very nice spot and she has the makings of a good garden. The neighbours are, apparently, very nice people and Betty and John have given a party which the neighbours all came to and enjoyed themselves. I think this party was a good idea. When I am there I must try and do something, perhaps in the nature of cutting the grass else I sit there without doing a thing except be waited on. I notice the same thing when I go to Joan's at Patcham. In the old style towns of houses in streets one could have a walk round the town for an hour or two but on these estates it is rather different. Joan B. is on holiday during the coming week so that means, as I have pointed out before, there's a slack week coming when the secretary takes a part of her holiday.

Saturday September 4. I went round to the parlour but nobody appeared for an interview. I went in by the Fisher Street door and found the corridor outside the assembly room, the assembly room itself, and a good part of the Corn Exchange were full of people who were standing about apparently all in deep thought. I said "Good morning" but nobody answered and I pondered on this while I made my way down the corridor. I remembered as I unlocked the door at the other end that there must be the members of the Jehovah's Witnesses Conference. (see T.T. August 21 1965) I suppose I had arrived just as an opening prayer was being said in the big hall and the people I had passed through were those who, for various reasons, had been unable to get into the big hall. The deputy hall keeper told me that however much a nuisance these people were canvassing round doors, they were a very good well behaved and tidy crowd to hire the hall &c. There were always plenty of young people and many children but they were always extremely well mannered, for which he, as hall keeper was very glad. (I can see the proposition for a good discussion here.) We three were due to go to

patcham to see Bert and Joan at about 5. I was able to see the first half of the football match at the Pan. between Lewes reserves and a reserve team from the Athenian League which the Lewes club belongs to now. It was a good, robust match but there was no score at half-time. We arrived at Patcham and Joan had prepared a very good meal and we saw Bert and I was able to confirm about the banquet speakers. We spent a very pleasant evening but just as we were going somebody from Bert's Ministry rang up so we had to go without saying goodbye to him. Bert is very busy and now has to go to Teheran to the conference on world illiteracy which is being held by UNESCO.

Sunday September 5. I went out early and got some Sunday papers. I thought we'd better have some now that Frank is at home; but they are, to me, a terrible time waster. I got on with painting the fence for most of the morning and didn't go out any more so really this can be called a quiet day.

Monday September 6. I arose early and did my stuff and then went to the parlour. Presently Irene came over with a smallish mail although this was more than of late. I dealt with this and, after going home to apprise Dorothy of what was toward, I went and made an appointment for the 23 inst with the dentist and then went to Keene Street to the Farer Brown house. (We met these pleasant people at the Art Centre opening. (T.T. July 24)) I wanted to see the house as there is some discussion in the town about a double garage they are aiming to build ~~in~~ in conjunction with Stephen Moore. There seems to me to be a fairly simple solution to the problem but such things will always arise when people join an organization like, say, the Local Labour Party or the Friends of Peace, and think one subscription, by some miracle, transforms them into a first class economist or an architectural expert. There is no reason at all that I can see why this garage should not be built there. I went to see the Borough Surveyor afterwards and examined the plan which he and Mr. Farer Brown have agreed on. When I arrived home for dinner I found the magistrates Bert had phoned asking if I could attend court at 2-30 today.

I went there and found the other magistrate was Mr Ivor Grantham, the chairman of the Bench. The case was a man under arrest because of arrears on a maintenance order in respect of his wife and three children. The arrears now stand at £205. This man seems to have treated the court in the past with the utmost contempt, never turning up until he was arrested. He endeavoured to deceive us as to his average earnings. He tried to give us the impression that he was living by himself but he had a housekeeper who was living with him. He said he would be glad if we made an attachment order but when we made it to scale with his getting rid of the his-purchase burden of his car, he said he must have the car because he was going to get a job as salesman instead of the one he has now. That meant that he would go our attachment order and he would get off scot-free and the ratepayers provide for his children. We stuck to our conditions so I hope that the £2-10-0 h.p. he was paying every week for the car, plus the saved cost of running the car will go to looking after his children and paying off some of the arrears. However

this extra attendance at the Court makes up for the one I had to miss last week

Tuesday September 7. I went to the Mayor's Parlour and there came over and we dealt with the post. I went from there to the Court. I was reserve Magistrate today and there was the 'Oxfam' coffee morning being held in the Old Bank House next door to the Town Hall buildings. I thought I should probably be let off the Bench as I am a reserved but I didn't and was engaged in dealing with two cases of 'Driving without due care and attention'. There were many similar peculiarities about these two cases. We eventually found one guilty and one case we dismissed. I had to go back after lunch and we did not finish until 3-15. So Dorothy and Frank had to attend the coffee morning without me. In the afternoon I met Jack Buckwell. We could both only stop for a moment because I was going back to the court and he was going on an outing with the Mothers Union of all things. At least, he told me the Mothers Union though

he may have been making a mistake. Any way we were both in a hurry and could only exchange a few words but I gathered he is rather worried about any damage that might be done to the new carpet in the Council Chamber. I shall have to think this over. This evening we had the meeting to start off the W.E.A. new sessions. There were about 30 present. This is not good enough really but we shall have to see what happens at the actual classes. Mr Braithwaite was the principal speaker and he was very interesting. The tutors for the coming session were also there with the exception of two so I hope that a good winters session is indicated. There were some newcomers to the branch which who we were very glad to see.

Wednesday September 8. Did the Office work which included two agreements. It was pouring hard and I had promised to go to the cremation of Mr Buckman who was an employee of the Borough for a number of years. Mr Brown, the Treasurer took me to the crematorium which is at Brighton. One could

see the value of a car in such conditions as obtained this morning. The rain simply poured down all the time but we were able to keep quite dry. After I got home I had a discussion on the matter of the journey to Oxford next Tuesday to the Lord Mayors lunch. Frank would like to wander round Oxford for a few hours so we have decided to go by car and I have been down to Beck's and made arrangements for the 14th inst and also for transport to the Horder Centre at Crowthorpe tomorrow

Thursday September 9. Nothing on much this morning and this afternoon we went to the Horder Centre at Crowthorpe (see this journal last November). There has been a great deal of building taking place since I came here last but we didn't get a chance to see the more curative side because there two ladies are preparing for the annual Summer Fair which is to raise funds for the centre and it was

quite a job to make them talk of the work proper. Frank thinks these ladies have a wonderful & ideal and I think everyone would agree with this. When we arrived home I had to get ready to go to a meeting of of the Establishment sub committee. This had been called because of the Armitage news (See this Journal Wed Sep. 1) This meeting lasted some time but we did come to the conclusion I wanted us to arrive at. I went to the parlour afterwards because one or two wanted to see the new carpet in the Councilor's Chamber. Afterwards John Bushnell, Harold Shepherd and I went over to the White Hart and had a drink.

Friday September 10. Didn't rise so early this morning but got to the Parlour by 9-30. Irene came over but had nothing for me to do. I dormice sent her back to the office and went on making a speech which I shall have to use to the M.V.R. Presently Hilda Bandler looked in regarding the W.E.A. meeting on Tuesday evening. She wanted to know about gratuities for the Deputy J. H. Keppen. Presently, as Hilda went Mr. Crouch announce a Mr White who wanted me to witness a signature which I did. He is the unopposed candidate for a bye-election at the Plumpton ward of the Chailey R.D.C. She seemed to be very self important which I put down to being nervous and anxious to get all her legal stuff to do with the election finished. Soon after she left me the Town Clerk came in and we discussed the staff question and findings of last night's Establishment Committee meeting. Somehow I think that Morris and Armitage will be with us for some time. I did a bit more painting of the "Bank" fence and I hope to have this up when the autumn comes and the foliage dies down a bit. In the meantime, every time I make a start on painting this fence the rain comes and I have to abandon it. Dorothy is due for her check up at the Brighton

Hospital on the 16, which is within a few days now and she is very busy making the place snug for the time she will be away. She spoke to Burly on the phone yesterday and Burly says this is quite a simple affair and Dorothy will be out in a couple of days or so. This evening I only did some light reading. The adjective "light" makes me think of the Light programme on the B.B.C. Radio. I listened to the programme, "Any Questions?" and I was struck by the way the members of this team did their work. They carefully avoid thinking too deeply, although they are supposed to give considered answers. One of them passed most of the questions by and the others shived by as best they could, never considering whether they should give their fees worth. Their facetiousness was most marked, and when I think of their answers whenever an question does involve what is called the "Working man" or the Trades Unions, my blood boils to think of these comfortably off people, scrapping away at doing the least they can for a fee, being so eager to down the "industrial" character of people like me.

Saturday September 11. A quiet day as regards work to be done by the Mayor. I went to the Dripping pan and saw Lewes beat Gresham by 4-2. A welcome first win in their first season as a member of the Athenaeum League

Sunday September 12. Joan came over and brought Norah, who is a Mrs Settner, an American who has travelled a good deal and is, at present settled in England and is working for the International Co-operative Alliance. A very able woman. We went over the Coombe and back home via the new bridge. I forgot to write that yesterday was the W.E.A. Ballett course at Bexhill and Frank attended. Bill and Aileen Hall came back with him and Dorothy had prepared a nice meal and this made a nice end to Saturday. Today Frank arrived back from Bexhill in time to spend an hour all or so with us before Norah and Joan left. This has been a very nice week-end.

Monday September 13. Joan B arrived after her week of holiday. It always seems better when the secretary is back. Tonight I attended the Highway committee which I left at 10 pm, having been there since 6-30. I don't know how much longer it went on after I had left. We have had to recommend some restrictions in our capital expenditure in accordance with the Government's request. One of the items, only carried by one vote, is the lighting. I am very sorry about this and I hope it is not for long.

We had a look at the City Treasures and, at teatime, helped to welcome some Czechoslovakian students who were visiting England and came to Oxford today. We had a good ride back and reached home about 8. All three of us had enjoyed the experience. This was the sort of occasion which is rare, even when one is the Mayor of fewer. I was too late, of course, to attend the Parks committee.

Tuesday September 14. I didn't go to the Parlour as today we had to attend the Luncheon given by the Lord Mayor of Oxford. (see T.J. Brighton Garden Party June 30). Frank came with us and we had a grand ride there through bright sunshine. We were well received and met many interesting people who included Olive Gibbs, her husband and two sons, Mr Lower, the husband of the Lord Mayor and an important person in the W.E.A. The City Clerk, the Treasurer, the Architect and the Education

Wednesday September 15. After the office work was done, and in the afternoon welcomed the French School boys to the Council Chamber. I used some of last year's words of welcome but they were applicable because the boys, with the exception of a few, were all new. Frank was again very useful as he was at this function last year (and at Oxford yesterday) There was a good gathering of adults i.e. masters, T.C. Press etc

When we reached home there was a 'phone call from the Brighton General Hospital saying Dorothy must go in at 9-30 tomorrow and have no more to eat after 12-00 tonight. Frank had got us tickets to the Ballet at Boxhill and stood us a grand dinner before we went in at 8. So this was the last Dorothy has had to eat today. We enjoyed the Ballet. I did so in particular because I have not seen any for a number of years. We got home pretty late and Dorothy is getting ready for tomorrow. I understand the operation is to take place then. If this is so, she will be out by Sunday.

St John's induction at 8. Fortunately Joan B. had sent apologies for me to the OP Welfare Committee also, so I went to the Housing and left early to attend the St. John's induction. This enabled me to slip home and phone the hospital and to learn that Dorothy will not be dealt with until tomorrow. I expect she is bitterly disappointed, having fasted and having been given to understand that it would be today. At the Inauguration service, to my surprise, there were quite a number of Councillors. The service went off as well as one might expect. The suffragan Bishop carried out the work and I thought, evinced rather more interest in the proceedings than did the Diocesan Bishop at the previous induction service I attended. There was a short reception in the Scout building and I met the new incumbent. Rather young, quite jolly and refined looking. He is coming to see me in the parlour and I will know more about him then. When I arrived home Frank had prepared a good hot meal which was very nice of him.

Thursday September 16. We arose early and, ~~with~~ by Beck's car (driven by Alf Hall) we got to the Brighton General Hospital by 9-30 as requested. We went straight in and Dorothy was soon installed. I was driven back to Lewes and did the parlour work. I sent apologies to the Hospital committee which was held at 3 o.c. I thought the day was getting too crowded, with Housing at 6, old peoples Welfare at 7-30 and

Friday September 17. I did all the work in the parlour and did various other things. In the afternoon I phoned the hospital and so learned that Dorothy had been attended to and somebody could visit her this evening. I was to attend the cricket club dinner (Priory club) so Frank did the visiting. He went out and purchased a little round basket and some fruit. Then, with leaves etc from the garden he made a very artistic arrangement with the fruit and the leaves in the basket and the whole effect was fine. At lunch time we visited the Chinese restaurant and lunched off curried pork! The T.C. came with his car to fetch me to the cricket club dinner at the Grange and we spent a very pleasant evening with these good people and met Ken Suttle the England and Sussex cricketer.

Saturday September 18. Another induction service today. This time for the Congregationalist new Minister, a Mr. Goldsmith. This was a new experience as all my previous services have of this nature have been for the established church. I found the Congregationalist affair rather longer but with generally speaking, the same comradely spirit prevailing. Today at this Chapel was a good example of the effect of the struggle for the unity of the churches because there were all sorts of denominations (clergy) there from Roman to Baptist. This unity was applauded by many of the speakers at the meal afterwards. But to me it seems that having seen the warning at length by looking at their dwindling congregations and influence, they are closing their ranks because it makes them feel more comfortable that way.

That way nobody will see them disappear one by one. I liked the amount of work that had been put into the organizing of this afternoon's service and meeting. I think it was all very well done. I was taken there and back by Mr. Jones of the County Education office so I did everything in comfort. I have put the afternoons happenings first because they are to do with being Mayor. The first thing this morning was that I had to go and

fetch Dorothy from the Hospital at Brighton
Thank goodness there is nothing to worry
about immediately but the main job will have
to be attended to next summer. She is
quite well but decided not it was better
not to attend the induction this afternoon as
it was rather soon after the operation. At the
induction many people enquired after her and I was able
to answer their enquiries by telling them she was now out
of hospital

Sunday September 19. Dorothy, Frank and I had a walk
today over the Willey bridge and had a look
at Malling church and then carried on down to
Malling old farm. Quite a pleasant mornings work.
One of the benefits of Willeys Bridge is plainly
shown by this walk, because round the cliff and
malling street both ways on this walk would have
ruined it

Monday September 20: A pretty quiet day. The Mayor's
work in the morning and a Health committee in the
evening. The Health committee took a rather longer time
than usual although not so long as might have been
the case if people had decided to have a go
on either view about the fluoridation of the
water supply. Gordon Hoile brought it up as
was to be expected, because Gordon always is to be
expected to take the sort of line that is suggested,
would be an anti-authority line. There is a very good
deal to be said for keeping watch on any

authoritarianism. The price of liberty is eternal vigilance, but surely one must judge each decision on its merits; and not object to every act by any governing body on principle. In this case, Gordon's and judging what I know of him, he has been at one time somewhat of a Trotskyist. I invited Bill Greer (alderman) up to the parlour for a drink. Bill is having a hard time because of the health of René. She has developed a kind of arthritic complaint that seems to make its attack all over the body and she is losing a good deal of movement. Perhaps after this age in her life she will improve in health and that will assist in her struggle against the arthritis.

Frank Hayward hadn't turned up. Any way, it was gone five before I had finished with the court. We had two pleas of guilty and one of Not Guilty to a stealing from employers and receiving charge and a defended motoring charge. I had to come home and immediately get ready for the Finance Comm. This seems a very short record of such a full day's work but the cases were not of an unusual nature and there were not any characters in the court that call for observation. At the Finance committee we resolved by a small majority to recommend the Council to go ahead with the much discussed old peoples flats. There is a certain amount of nervousness about this project but I hope the Council adopt this recommendation. I did not finish with this committee in time to see how the Dr. Collins (WEA) course on economics started off but I hope it did get going alright.

Tuesday September 21. A day that didn't follow a planned programme. Having finished the Parlour, which Joan & and I are carrying out the pre banquet work I stopped to do various odd pieces of shopping. Mr Halligan Mr. St Crouch intercepted me in the street and I was co-opted on to the Magistrates bench although it was my month off. It appears

Wednesday September 22 Did the office work alright. The Y.C. came over for some discussion on two smaller matters. While he was there

Doughton

Mr Goldsmith, the new St John's rector arrived so we were able to welcome him to his job of Mayor's chaplain. I had some discussion with him which, in the main, turned on new attenders at his church. (I think he understands my attitude to this.) He is in favour of keeping abreast of the times in this matter. He means, by this, that he doesn't see much objection to "heat" etc. being introduced into services. This sort of attitude, of course is just a popular view that is popular among some of the younger ministers of all denominations. I am now having no compunction in telling each one of them who speaks like this to me that the church's job is to lead the people, not follow popular movements just so they can say their churches by which they mean themselves are "with it". If they persist in this then most certainly "the Hungry Sheep" will look up and not be fed but will be "Swallowed with Wind" that is really made up of the false values built up by Commercialism. I did various jobs and much to my disgust missed a meeting I was to have attended with David and Ally about a footpath. I have learnt since that they came to an agreement about this without the need for

me as arbiter. In the evening Jan B and Colin came down and we had quite a pleasant evening.

Thursday September 23. We worked on the general parlor work and later I went to see McWatters the dentist because I have decided I need a new set of dentures. I should look much more handsome so fitted up. In the afternoon Dorothy and I visited the old Grammar school. This visit arose from my correspondence with the Head about certain erotic writings and drawings that had begun to adorn the walls of the changing booths at the baths (municipal swimming) (See earlier J.J. regarding scribbling on walls). Dorothy and I arrived at the school on time at 2 and were met by one of the prefects (looking very smart) who took us in to the master's study where we met the staff

We afterwards made a tour of the school and we found it seemed quite jolly. We had a further talk with the staff at tea time which was provided before we went home. I found the staff of this school very hard working, rather naive. I spoke to the boys and found them very respectful, very much schooled into good manners (at least for our visit) & because I don't expect boys to be so well mannered under all circumstances.

chat on Paine, Burn, Godwin, Marx and all sorts of other famous people. I enjoyed his company. We both attended the old Coop Party Members get together at Brighton and Frank came with us. Quite a nice little party, consisting of tea, speeches by Sir John Bailey and Mr Parks and yours truly and afterwards a social evening. All very nostalgic of 25 or so years ago.

Friday September 24. The T.C. came over to me quite soon after Joan B. There were one or two things to get settled and as we finished it, the new Congregational minister took in (see T.J. Sat Sep 18) He asked after Dorothy first and then a harvest festival scheme he has in mind. This is a very able man and as I can have a lot of respect for although his beliefs are probably far from mine. We had a good, long

Saturday September 25. A busy day. To the Parlour for a short time. The start of the Safety (Road) cycling competition. Down to the Methodist Hall where there was an exhibition (Philatelic) a short time at the pub where Lewes were playing Croydon and then back to St John's Church Room where Dorothy had to present the prizes for the Coop Horticultural show. All quite small things but nevertheless worth attending. It is their right to be recognised by the civic side of the town and it always seems as though all these smaller organizations are very enthusiastic

about our visits to their functions. The amount of work that has been put into the Road Safety Cycling competition, the stamp exhibition and the Horticultural Show is hard to imagine but it is pretty stupendous, quite apart from the effort each individual puts into his entry or whatever it is. I have continually in this journal stressed my admiration for voluntary bodies and the work they do. In a community such as ours the three or four places I went to emphasised the truth of this.

Monday 27 September: Frank went early this morning and I expect he is on the boat at Canne to proceed to America. He seems to have enjoyed his month's stay here and he has appeared to be quite happy to come with us on our little outings and parties. I have enjoyed having him here. There has been nothing of great importance to do with being mayor that has happened today. There was the Health committee in the evening and the fluoridation of water was brought up again by instigation from the last Council meeting. Only two voted against this being carried out so the

Sunday 26 September. We all three kept at home (Frank getting ready to leave us tomorrow) busy doing various jobs. In the late afternoon we suddenly conceived the idea of going to see the X film on at the Edon. We carried out this idea saw two films and enjoyed ourselves because although these films had a good deal of the impossible in them that makes some good talking points. In short, all three of us got some fun out of this experience.

Tuesday September 28. Another quiet day. The parlour work had to finish early because of the Magistrates having my chambers. There are a few acceptances for the Banquet coming in. In the evening we went to Henry Collins class in the W.E.A. economics course. There was an improvement on the attendance of last week so we may be able to keep this class going. I am making progress with the painting of the bank fence and I hope to finish that part of the job this week.

Wednesday September 29: After the work in the parlour I had to go to the dentist because I am having a new set made. The T.C. came over to go through the Council meeting agenda with me and this took us some time and I had to run to keep my appointment with the dentist at 12-20. MacWalters and I chatted about politics, via the Fabian society and travel in Ireland. He says he isn't a Labour party man, perhaps he could be called a Liberal but the Liberals are of no consequence at all now, I shall get the new teeth in about 2 weeks. In the evening there was the Council Meeting. Mr. Loughton, the new Rector of St Johns arrived to carry out his first appointment as Mayors Chaplain. He did this as I had required him. He gave quite a short prayer of the kind I had requested and he followed it with the Lord's Prayer. Mr Goldsmith, the new Congregationalist minister was I noticed in the public gallery. The business ^{was} made a reasonably straightforward meeting. There were two reference back propositions, each of which was defeated. One of these was, I consider, of great importance and I was glad to see it defeated. It desired us to abandon the Old peoples dwelling scheme on the grounds that it is too dear. I think it is necessary we carry on with this. There was the now old chestnut

of the fluoridation of water. The Council adopted the recommendation of the health committee that no objection be raised to this. One small item, concerning the Park superintendant was taken in private at the end of the meeting and this meant that the public had left before the meeting ended so I was unable to invite Mr Goldsmith, the Congregationalist Minister to come into the parlour after the meeting. However, Dorothy and I arrived home in reasonable time.

Thursday September 30. This morning I had to miss the parlour to attend the Brighton Waterworks Inspection. In the morning Dorothy had the Cancer Relief Coffee morning and in the afternoon the St Annes W.I. She was quite happy after these jobs and she had had to speak at the afternoon one. I spent until 3 with the Waterworks business and was even more impressed than I was last year. I understand that Brighton is now recognised as having the best water undertaking in the world. There was a really good lunch and afterwards Dr Cotton and I were transported to the

Pavilion at Brighton where we boarded his car and he swiftly, and skilfully, drove us to Lewes Town Hall where we were both due at a selection meeting to choose a new Assistant Health Officer. George Burfield and John Buckwell made up the committee. We interviewed two candidates and selected one of them so we must hope he justifies our decision. We had, Dorothy and I, a quiet evening.

Friday October 1 1965. Joan B. and I got through the parlour work. There was a good deal of it with the sealing of the Council Resolutions and the signing of documents etc. There are not many acceptances for the banquet yet but Joan is not worried and after all, when I look back on this occasion last year, I can see I was very worried then but enough eventually did turn up to make things successful. This afternoon we had to attend the speech day at the Boys County Grammar sch. This function went as we would expect. There was a Sir John Bourne who was representing for the chairman and I thought his opening remarks were

very poor. The more I see of these types the more I realise their inability, which is all caused by the old fashioned public school methods of dealing with things. There was one thing about him I was grateful for. He was evidently saturated with these ideas that he took the line you would expect "If you are chairman old boy, be brief, give a couple of jokes and sit down." He said nothing in a few 'plum in mouth' sentences that could be heard, told two jokes that the audience of masters boys, parents and visitors dutifully chuckled at - and sat down.

The Head master gave his report. Rather a dogged out one. He spoke of Rugby successes and scholarly successes in that order. Mr Macintyre from J C J. spoke after his wife had presented the prizes. He spoke mainly of the necessity to train people for industry as one would expect and which, of course, is very necessary. Mr. Pettit (Seaford) drove us back and I went to the office and then the Parlour and picked up the testimonial I had prepared for David Eggleston who is desirous of obtaining a post at the School of Arts and Crafts at Brighton. David is a young man who is at present working as a book binder at my old place of

employment, Baxters. Since I was father of Chapel at Baxters during all the time of Davids apprenticeship and his early manhood I could give a good report on him and I hope he is successful. We had a quiet evening after 8.

it does seem that it is really a female equivalent of the Rotary. There is no reason as far as I can see, why they should not be just like the Rotary. I am just making the point that the dinner, in arrangements etc, is just like a Rotary affair. Dorothy and I were very well looked after. There were some able speakers including the proposer of the toast to us a Miss Lloyd. I responded to the toast to town by using some of my big one on this subject

Saturday October 2: After an ordinary domestic Saturday there was the Soroptimists first annual dinner for Dorothy and me to attend. This was a new experience which was quite interesting. We met various National and Area Officers and there was a good meal. I have been forced to leave this diary so I am writing the entries late, starting today and continuing through this week. This mustn't happen again because I forget the pieces and, even if I don't forget them I forget where to fit them in. At the Soroptimists one of the "sisters" proposed the toast and the Major very ably and I replied as suitably as I am able. I learnt quite a lot of this body of women, but

Sunday October 3. We went to the Harvest thanksgiving service at Malling. I had promised Harry Bartel, who is a member of this church Council & who used to be the Constituency Secretary L.P. that we would attend this service in our chains. It was quite a pleasant little service with many children bringing gifts etc. I was not struck with the sermon and the reading of the prayers and lessons was done by a young, earnest man who read things with the accent or reading expressions of a school boy. I was not

en surprised to learn afterwards that he was one of
in the firm of Drs that work from Castle Gate. Nichols
ay etc. I think they all serve in the same mission
g for their first job when they are qualified. Mrs
s Nichols was done with two of the children and she
drove us home via Malling St. Cliffe etc so we
were able to put the chains back. On thinking
back on this service I must admit the service
as such, including all the kids, was rather nice
as an (or a) demonstration of people being thankful
for the gifts of nature. Many agnostics, of this off.
Sa branch of Christianity, would applaud the same
t rite if it was carried out by more primitive
x forms of civilization. So let it stand as part of life
u here until it dies away of its own getting on
a through failing to adapt itself to change. With the
s Harvest Thanksgiving rite I think it will always
u adapt itself