

COMPTOMETER

Medley



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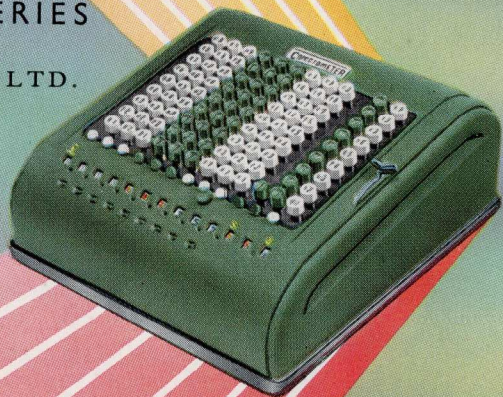
MEDLEY

1955

No. 11 NEW SERIES

Edited and Published by
FELT & TARRANT, LTD.
Aldwych House, W.C.2

A copy of each edition is sent free to every operator on Felt & Tarrant's mailing list. The intention is to interest and encourage Comptometer Operators for the benefit of themselves and employers.



MAY WE REMIND YOU the name "Comptometer" belongs to Felt & Tarrant and cannot rightly be used for any other make of Adding & Calculating Machine. For many years, in fact Felt & Tarrant's slogan has been

"If it's not made by Felt & Tarrant it's not a Comptometer."

10th Season of Reunion

REUNION DATES



FELT & TARRANT have pleasure to invite all Comptometer Operators to their tenth season of post-war reunions. If you have not had your invitation ten days before the date, you should apply to your nearest School.

1955

Cardiff	7th October
Birmingham	3rd October
Bradford	4th October
Leeds	5th October
Liverpool	6th October
Manchester	7th October
Edinburgh	19th October
Glasgow	20th October
Bristol	21st October
Leicester	4th November

1956

Swansea	17th February
Nottingham	21st February
Sheffield	2nd February
London	26th & 27th March
Hull	6th March
Belfast	20th March
Dublin	22nd March
Coventry	Not yet fixed
Middlesbrough	2nd May
Newcastle	3rd & 4th May

Felt & Tarrant and you-

ALL Felt & Tarrant Schools in Great Britain are scheduled employment agencies within the Notification of Vacancies Order, 1952. Schools will be glad to see Comptometer Operators at any time, also to help them if they need permanent or temporary work or if they need advice. So make sure you are on the mailing list and receive reunion invitations, magazines and calendars (all free). Notify any change in your name or address. Claim your half-guinea bonus if you introduce a girl who is enrolled as a pupil. Your nearest School can show you blazer badges which you can buy at cost price if you wish, also Comptometer shield brooches at 1/6d. each.

GETTING AROUND . . .



WITH my daughter, formerly Miss Elizabeth C. Gray and now Mrs. G. R. Martin, I have enjoyed reading your Magazine for the past few years.

In October, 1953, Elizabeth flew out to Tanganyika, via Nice, Khartoum, Entebbe, Niarobi and Mombassa, to visit her uncle and aunt in Arusha. After holidaying for a month, she decided she would prefer to work. She found a job with the local Water Development Authority, plotting the flow of water from the rivers. Although the Immigration Authorities do not allow people on holiday to work, the firm took up her case and she was with them six months. They even supplied her with a Comptometer so that she could also do their Costing Work.

Arusha lies at the foot of the Kilimanjaro Mountain, and Elizabeth had a number of interesting trips up there to see the wild game and the snow-covered peaks. She joined the Local Arts Club where she enjoyed tennis, swimming, badminton, Scottish Country Dancing and ballroom dancing. She also became a member of the Local Dramatic Club and had a part in two plays, "Quiet Wedding" and "Duet for Two Hands." During the rainy season, rehearsals had often to be cancelled because they could not compete against the noise of the rain. The last night of a show there is like a first night here. Everyone goes in full evening dress and the players are presented with bouquets, chocolates, nylons, etc. In "Quiet Wedding" Elizabeth even had a bunch of bananas presented to her because she had to eat one during the play.

On Christmas Eve, native boys and girls went round carol singing in their native tongue to our tunes. Someone asked them to sing "God Save our Queen" and all of them stood to attention and sang it with fervour in English.

Once on a visit to an Italian farm Elizabeth was given three silver "bullets" and learned afterwards that the Italian farmers were celebrating their Silver Wed-

Mrs. Agnes Duncan of Glasgow has sent the following account of her daughter's exciting adventures.



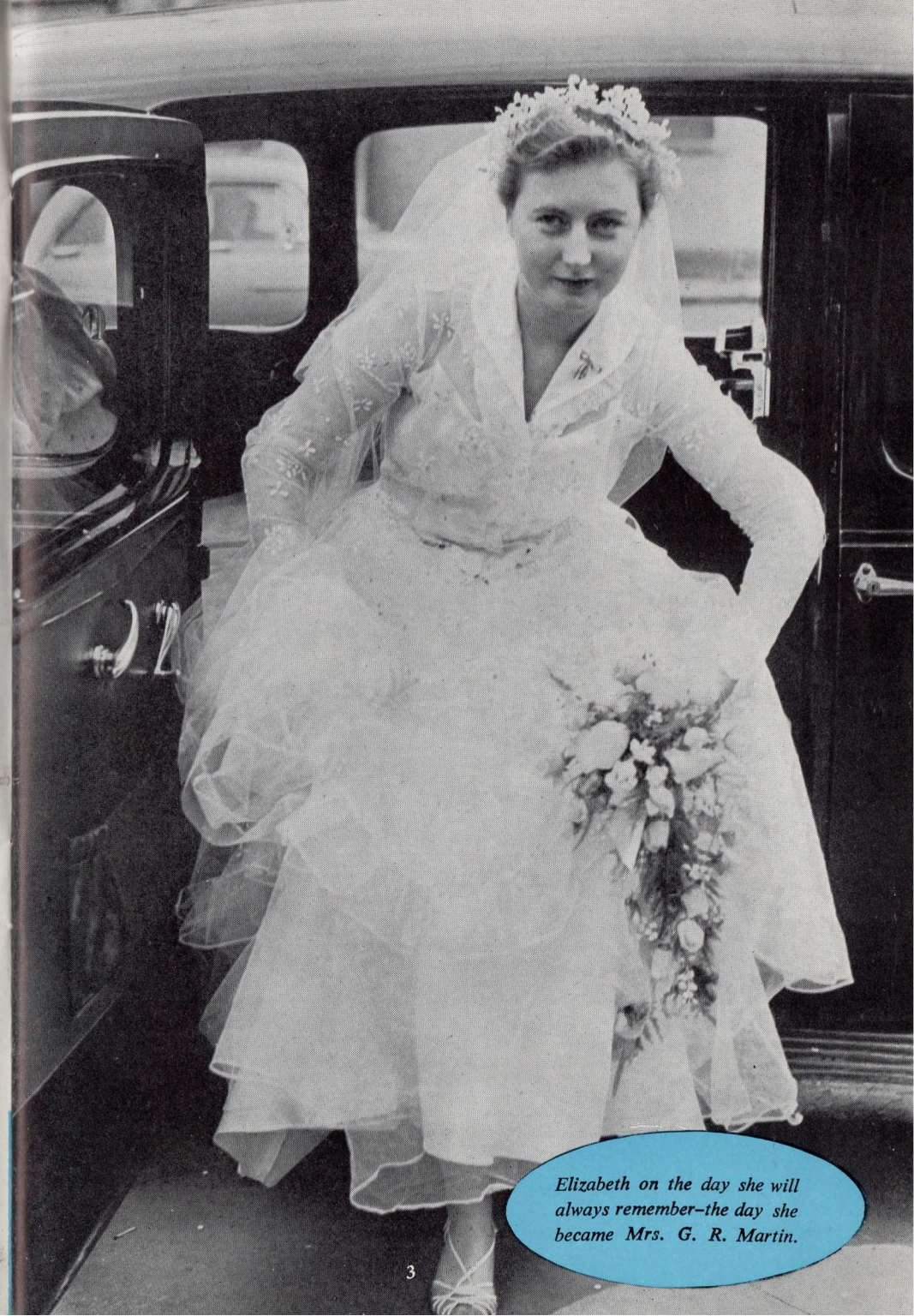
The picture shows Elizabeth's houseboys in Arusha. The one with a shirt from neck to toe waited at table: the other was kitchen boy.

ding Anniversary. The "bullets" were sugared almonds coated with silver. Every guest had to eat three for past, present and future.

She visited Niarobi on a number of occasions and stayed in Mau Mau country where every European must carry a gun. At a dance one evening she said it was funny to see everyone in evening dress toting guns at their waists.

While in Arusha Elizabeth became engaged to Mr. Martin, a Civil Engineer from Niarobi. On the night of their engagement the Manager of the hotel presented them with a lovely little everlasting tree with the wish that their happiness would be as everlasting as the tree. When they left Arusha to come home they received a number of lovely gifts including a beautiful silver service from her office colleagues.

On the way home they sailed from Mombasa via the Cape, visiting many interesting places . . . Dar-es-Salaam (mean-



Elizabeth on the day she will always remember—the day she became Mrs. G. R. Martin.

ing Haven of Peace) where they danced at a cliff-top hotel in the open under fairy lights . . . Zanzibar with its narrow smelly streets and lovely palm-fringed beaches with the water as blue as the sky. At Durban they saw the famous Rickshaw Parade. In Capetown they took photographs of Table Mountain.

They arrived home at the beginning of July and were married on 12th August in the Livingstone Memorial Church, Blantyre. They spent their honeymoon touring France and Switzerland by car. Although they intend to settle in Africa eventually, the young couple first set up house in Scunthorpe, and Elizabeth will probably be calling on you for a refresher course and maybe a job for a short time.

The Rickshaw Parade at Durban is a great event. Here is last year's winner. The elaborate decorations are quite fantastic.



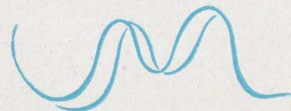
Starting Early...



MAY we introduce you to Miss Sheila Burrows who lives near Stockport. Although she only became a Comptometer Operator last year, she has set a splendid example to all other operators by sending an entry to our magazine. We can only say "Other operators please follow."

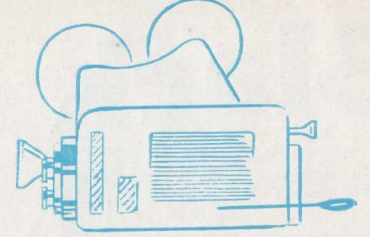
Sheila made a still earlier start in competitions. In 1953 she reached the finals of the *Daily Dispatch* Miss Coronation Year contest. Last year the same newspaper ran a "Belle of the North" contest in which Sheila was a semi-finalist.

Sheila was trained in Manchester Comptometer School. Hope to hear more from you soon, Sheila !



Film Star

meets GLASGOW OPERATORS



THERE was much excitement at the Tobacco Factory of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society when they had a visit from Patricia Medina. This excitement was shared fully by Comptometer Operators Jean R. Cassells and Shena Lindsay as you can see from the picture below. The smile of the bright young

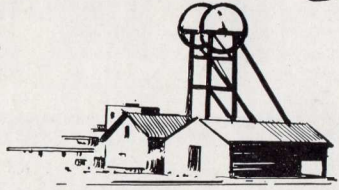
actress is as infectious as a ray of sunshine. The daily scene gains joy and warmth.

We must thank these two operators for sending such a happy photograph. It was taken during a visit to the S.C.W.S. Shieldhall factories when Patricia Medina was in Glasgow for the premiere of her film "The Black Knight."

Photo by T. M. Glen, Alexandria



Black & White



COMPTOMETER Operators get up (and down) to all sorts of things. Here are two who went down a coal-mine. "We thought it would be unusual for the *Medley*" they said. It is certainly the first time an escapade of this nature has reached our pages, although every edition brings novelties of one kind or another.

These valiant operators, Audrey Wright and Cynthia Suffolk, have been for some years with the Warwickshire Area H.Q. of the National Coal Board. They were scared at first when a friend asked them to "go below" but found it quite exciting when they got going, especially the bits at the coal face where they had to crawl. They came back to the surface exhilarated but exhausted. They also brought some coal up with them but we understand it was attached to their clothes and faces. See photo for proof.



White



LESS rare, but none the less acceptable, are the wedding pictures we publish from time to time. They are of special interest when, as in this one, the bride and her two bridesmaids are all Comptometer Operators. The happy leading lady here is Mrs. Margaret Butler (formerly Fallows). On the left is Brenda Whittingham; on the right Gertrude Hahn (known to her friends as Trudy). All were trained at Manchester School and for a time they all worked together at United Africa Co. Brenda left to join the National Coal Board, while Margaret found a new job in Stockport where her husband works.



Health & Beauty

Another activity which has scarcely had more than a brief mention in these pages is "The Women's League of Health and Beauty," so let Miss Connie Evans of South Wales tell us about it in her own humorous and light-hearted way.



Miss Connie Evans.

Dear Editor,

I wonder are there any Comptometer Operators who are also members of "The Women's League of Health and Beauty." September, 1953, saw the start of my League Evenings.

I am, unfortunately, a very raw recruit with arms and legs usually in the wrong places but to see the advanced classes doing their stuff is a wonderful sight—white satin blouses; black satin pants gleaming; all their movements in unison.

The object of the League is not to slim its members, but to keep bodies supple and breathing correct. Its name is its best description.

All ages, sizes and shapes visit its centres. There are children's classes also.

Like *Comptometer Medley* serves operators, keeping us all in touch, so "Health and Beauty" is the magazine which gives The League its news. Christmas Socials and Summer Picnics are arranged which also give us the opportunity to meet socially.

There was a wonderful display held at Murrayfield Ice-Rink, Edinburgh, with a thousand girls taking part. What a splendid sight it was! Then the groups split up, each centre doing its set piece.

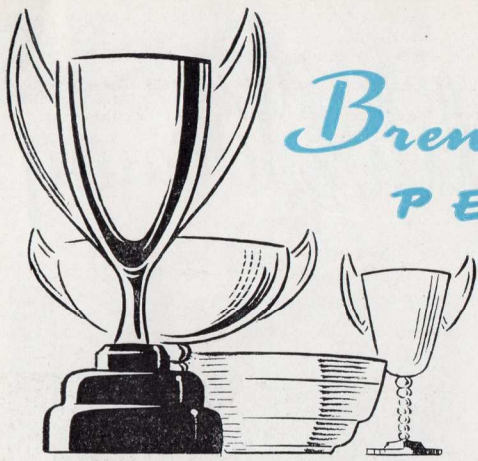
If there are any operators who are interested, and sometimes at a loss for company, they should have a "look-see" at a

League centre. I've made quite a few new friends, all grand people.

While in Edinburgh I was very unexpectedly interviewed by a local paper for my views on famous Princes Street. Having just arrived an hour previously, and only walked half of it, my wits were rather scattered when it came to stating my opinion. Not much imagination, I'm afraid.

Trained at Cardiff in 1939, I have worked for the past six years at National Oil Refineries, Llandarcy, near Neath. I send best wishes to all operators, especially the wedded ones who, like myself, keep house, dash here and there, do shopping, dusting, cooking—all the jobs that have to be done and still tap the keys!!!

Yours sincerely,
CONNIE EVANS.



Brenda aims at PERFECTION

WHETHER on her Comptometer or on the rifle range, Brenda Williams' aim is absolute accuracy. Shooting for St. Nicholas Rifle Club at Bisley, Brenda scored thirty-nine bulls with forty shots at a range of twenty-five yards. This occasion was the meeting of the National Small Bore Rifle Association, and Brenda's remarkable performance secured 399 points, only one short of maximum. For this she won the Jaegar Challenge Bowl. In the full prize list she filled four of the first five places, which brought what she calls a "sizeable cheque."

Noticing an account of the above in a newspaper we invited this young lady, who lives at Bromley, Kent, to send us some more news and a photograph of herself. In spite of a list of prizes as long as your arm, Brenda is still only seventeen. Her Father began to train her when she was thirteen and she was soon helping the junior team of St. Nicholas Rifle Club, Chislehurst, to win such awards as the *Daily Sketch* Challenge Cup (two years running), the Colonel Mitchell Challenge Cup and the Phyllis Richardson Challenge Bowl.

Individually, Brenda's first success was to reach the final of the British Short Range Championships for all comers with a score of 299 out of 300, and then to reach that same outstanding score in the Junior English Championships. In 1954 Brenda won the Bisley Junior Championships with a maximum score of 200, thereby securing the Rhodes Challenge Cup.

In the Women's Bisley Championship last year, Brenda tied for second place by dropping only one point in 300. Also at Bisley, she returned a score of 596 out of a possible 600 in the Women's Open Meeting. Going on from strength to strength, this great marksman (or markswoman) won both the Junior and Ladies Championships at Dover's annual meeting, the Junior being for the second year running.



Miss Brenda Williams.

In higher team events last year, Brenda helped her club to win the Kent County Championship and recorded the best individual average of 99.8 (maximum 100) for the season.

One of her proudest achievements so far was to help her club's Ladies "A" Team to win the British Women's Rifle League Championship concurrently with the 1st Division of the League and, in doing so, to record the third best average for the whole country of 99.4.

Last season Brenda belonged to the Kent Ladies' Team. She graduated to their full Team in long range events with sufficient successes to gain inclusion in both teams for the short range Inter-County events during the 1954/55 season. We therefore expect to hear of many more successes in future. Meantime, we have no intention of quarrelling with this crack shot while she has a rifle in her hands.



We know that many operators in the Glasgow area will be glad to read the following letter from Mrs. McLean-Smith (née Reid).

Family Matters in Scotland

Dear Editor,

Perhaps some Scottish operators would like to see the old face once again.

I was principal teacher in the Glasgow Comptometer School. Miss Murray was my assistant and is, as you know, now Principal. My name is Mrs. Neil McLean-Smith, although I have heard that many of the students who trained under me thought of several others. My home is at the above address where I have lived for the past eight years with my husband and two daughters. I do manage down for the reunions as long as the girls don't decide to have chicken-pox or measles, etc. On several occasions this has kept me from attending. Their names no doubt indicate I married into a Highland family.

The operators who trained along with my two sisters may like to know where they are now. The elder, Miss Jane Reid, who

Below—Shona and Morven.



Mrs. McLean-Smith.



for many years was employed by Ross's Dairies Ltd., is now Mrs. R. Duff and living in Portpatrick, Wigtonshire. The other, Miss Elizabeth Reid, who was with a firm of Chartered Accountants, has given up operating meantime and is at home in Glasgow.

I know a good number of operators would like to convey to my Aunt, Miss Margaret Miller, who was Supervisor of Comptometer operators in Glasgow Corporation for many years, a very happy retirement.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for our delightful magazine and the happy reunions.

Yours sincerely,
M. McLEAN-SMITH.



VENETIAN Rhapsody

MISS M. WILLACY, who is on Felt & Tarrant's Manchester staff, likes to pack her suitcase and seek the southern sun when holiday times comes round. In an earlier *Medley* she described her adventures in Spain. Last year she visited the French and Italian Riviera and has sent a glowing account of blue seas and magic nights.

After Cannes, Nice and Monte Carlo the road turned inland to Milan and then on to fabulous Venice. What adjectives are left to describe those streets of glistening waters and the world-famous gondolas? Miss Willacy writes of pink and white marble palaces, ivory and rose-coloured pillars, green-gold domes, golden mosaics and the Palace of the Doge like an enormous wedding-cake shimmering in sunshine.

Travelling by river-bus along the Grand Canal, Miss Willacy was lucky enough to see a wedding party. There came in the first gondola the bride in white with the groom sitting on a gilded seat. There were masses of white gladioli everywhere, and the two gondoliers were gaily dressed



White Marble and Shining Waters.

with broad blue sashes round their waists. On their heads were the traditional straw hats with blue ribbons hanging down behind. Surrounding the bridal boat were five or six other gondolas similarly decorated with flowers. These carried the guests and, need we say, a photographer.



To stand on this famous Rialto Bridge at night is unforgettable. Gondolas lit by lanterns glide below. The sound of music and Italian love songs floats over the water whose rippled surface reflects the delicate stone traceries of illuminated palaces.

The Queen honours Amateur Society

MRS. BARBARA WINDSOR is a Comptometer Operator in a Stockbroker's office in the City of London. She is also an important member of the Stock Exchange Dramatic and Operatic Society, having been principal dancer in two of their shows. She has also danced in four other of their post-war productions.

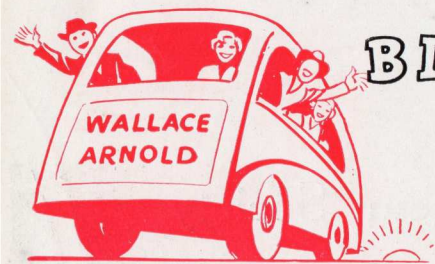
The Stock Exchange Society is not only famed for the high quality of its shows. It has also raised over £30,000 for charity since 1930. It achieves this by devoting two nights of each production to charitable causes. No wonder, then, that at least twelve of its shows since the war have attracted members of the Royal family, including the late Queen Mary, the Duchess of Kent, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and the Princess Royal. Last December, however, when they staged *Penny for a Song* at the Scala theatre, the Queen herself attended. This was the first time they had been honoured by a reigning monarch.

Mrs. Windsor (formerly Miss Flutter) was trained in London School in 1945. She is now 24 and shares with her accountant husband a three-room flat in Wimbledon. In spite of her successes on the amateur stage, she has no ambitions to become professional like several others who first went on the stage for the Stock Exchange Society. One of the most celebrated was Anna Neagle, who played in their *Geisha* show in 1925. Others include Patricia Roc, Franklin Engelmann, Guy Middleton and Rosalie Crutchley.

The vice-president of the Society, Mr. John Cohen, was a founder member and played, as long ago as 1906, in the first play they did, His Excellency the Governor. Still going strong, he played last year in *Marie Antoinette*.

This picture of Mrs. Barbara Windsor is reproduced by kind permission of The Evening Standard. It first appeared in their series "Girls on the Amateur Stage."





BLACKPOOL —

HERE WE COME!

Mrs. A. Houlbrook of Bradford, with apologies to the Students' Song Book, describes how four Operators of the Provident Clothing and Supply Co. joined a merry outing to Blackpool.

Riding out to Blackpool
In Wallace Arnolds' bus,
After weeks of wondering
"Hope it's fine for us."
Quite the latest fashions,
Earrings, pearls as well,
Sat the Compt. Operators,
Tall and slim and swell!!

Empty seats behind them,
No-one at their side,
Then into their viewline
Mr. X did glide;
"Have you got the cards, girls,
We're going to play pontoon?
'Twill while away the journey;
The limit is the moon."

Blushingly they faltered
"We're not sure how to play."
See the gallant men-folk
Rush to show the way;
Banker quite ecstatic
Sees the game right through;
Thinks of all his winnings;
Thinks what he will do.

At last we get to Blackpool,
Wash, brush up and tea;
A very happy crowd there;
Laughter, gaiety.
The food is really scrumptious
And proved that thought and care
Had made this meal so perfect;
We had a lion's share.

Tea over we went strolling
Around the great South Shore;
Then someone spoke of photos—
Golly! What a bore!
But quickly we remembered
The *Medley*; so we've sent
The picture that was taken
Of the girls of the PROVIDENT.

Out into the night-time
Went Wallace Arnolds' bus,
To see the magic seafront—
Illuminations plus—
The miles of lights were lovely
As all the world has said;
Then came the cosy journey
To Bradford, Home and Bed.

Left to Right—Mrs. B. Lee, Mrs. I. Booth, Mrs. M. Robinson, Mrs. A. Houlbrook.



...and now come to FRANCE



President Rene Coty of France, centre foreground, inspects the Comptometer display at the International Office Machine Exhibition in Paris.

Mlle Beranger, school principal, shows how the machine works. Beside her on the stand is Yves Duplat, manager of Felt & Tarrant's Paris Office.

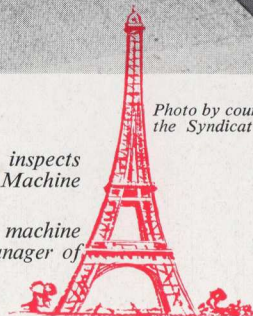


Photo by courtesy of Claude Despoisse and the Syndicat de la Propriété Artistique.



WE often read of "success" stories and have, in fact, had a few in the *Medley* of girls who have given up operating to become actresses (Susan Shaw, for instance) or directors or air hostesses. Here is a story that seems to be in reverse but ends just as happily.

The above photo shows Miss Sheila Moore of Birmingham. She took the course last year and, just prior to taking her first job, was spotted on the local ice-rink by that great ballet dancer and skating star, Belita. She was invited to join the show, which was to open in Dudley, and thus became the youngest member of the cast at the age of fifteen.



After a few months, however, Comptometer operating called more strongly than the bright lights and changing fortunes of the world of entertainment. Back came Sheila to earn her living as an operator, but no doubt she will still find absorption in skating as her chief hobby.



Really a whiz!

HERE is Mrs. Mitchell, formerly Miss Eunice Reid of Renfrew, Scotland. She went to Canada in September, 1953, with her husband who is in the Canadian Navy.

Eunice got a job as operator with Weston Biscuit organisation in Ottawa. We saw her picture in their Works magazine together with this compliment to our schools in Great Britain: "We are all intrigued by watching Eunice in action on the Comptometer as she uses both hands. She was taught this method in Scotland for the sterling system and is really a whiz!"



Photo by courtesy of the Evening Dispatch, Edinburgh

PRINCE of SINGERS and QUEEN of LIGHT



WHILE Evelyn Elizabeth Grant was still a pupil in Edinburgh Comptometer School she won a local competition for blondes arranged by the Mazda Light Company. The prize was £10 and the Queen of Light crown which, in the above picture, is being deftly placed in position by that well-known singer, Frankie Vaughan. The contest was held at the Palais, Edinburgh.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN . . .

IMAGINE Chicago in the early 1880's. Dorr E. Felt, who loved everything mechanical, was watching a planer fitted with a ratchet-feed. This was worked by a rod that caused a toothed wheel to turn one notch at a time. There was nothing new about this to other mechanics, but Felt was blessed with the gift of imagination. Something flashed in his mind about applying the same principle to a counting machine. From that moment the idea obsessed him and he got to work with his limited means to do something about it.

First he went to the grocer on the corner and got that old macaroni box that has since become a legend. From the butcher he got some wooden skewers. These, with a box of elastic bands and some staples, were the materials of his first adding and calculating machine. His tools were a hammer, screwdriver and pocket-knife. He set to work during the Thanksgiving holiday and, let it be known, the machine worked.

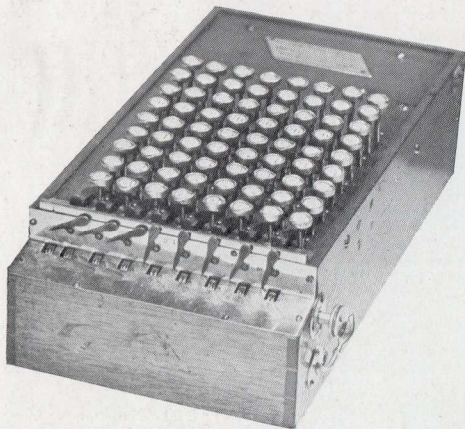
And now we can imagine him saying, as he did, that in a short time every office would be adding and calculating by machine. There were, however, many setbacks before the first Comptometers were sold. Much capital was needed for a start, and Felt had to convince his backers that the venture was sound. But nothing could stop him once his mind was made up. He had dreamed his dreams and he must make them come true. There was no limit to his determination and ingenuity.

If, then, the macaroni-box became a footstool for a while beneath his bench, it was not long before young Felt was at it again with financial help. This time all the working parts were metal—nine hundred of them—and the difficulties would have made most people give up. But not Felt. He got them assembled at last—and they worked.

His elation had a further set-back when he found that nobody wanted to buy his machine. People were suspicious about losing their importance, and perhaps even

This photograph shows the late Dorr E. Felt at work on an early Comptometer. Not only did he invent the key-driven adding and calculating machine, but he spent much of his life perfecting it. Even so, unlike most inventors, he was also a shrewd business executive, a diplomat, a scientist, a traveler, a geologist and a linguist. He devised his machines with astounding precision but he was also a ruler of men.





This early Comptometer was known as the Wooden Box Model. Several hundred were made and sold before the all-metal models appeared.

their jobs. This was a universal fear both in office and factory with the advance of the machine age.

Felt took exactly two years, eleven months and six days to sell his first Comptometer. And now, of course, hundreds of thousands are in use throughout the world.

Mr. Felt was farsighted in many ways. Realising the exceptional speed of his invention in skilled hands, he determined that users must enjoy the maximum advantage. That is why, from the beginning, Felt & Tarrant made themselves responsible for the highly-specialised training that produces first-grade operators. There are Felt & Tarrant training schools all over the world. The course is cleverly devised to cover all kinds of adding and calculating. Graduates are eagerly sought by commerce and are well-paid. A girl trained by Felt & Tarrant has a status of which she can be proud.

As the years went by, Felt invented more and more additions to his beloved Comptometer, all of which were skilfully devised to give easier operation and to minimise human fallibility. The latest electric Comptometer, of course, still retains the most important of these features. That is why, as most operators know, the Comptometer gives the quickest output of first-time accuracy.

It is not quite so well known that adding and listing machines were also pioneered by Mr. Felt. Many other inventors had failed to produce a successful working model, and this was a challenge to Felt's intellect. He perfected the first commercial listing machine, called it the Comptograph, and some are still in use today even though Felt turned back to his first love, the more versatile and all-purpose machine for every kind of adding and calculating.

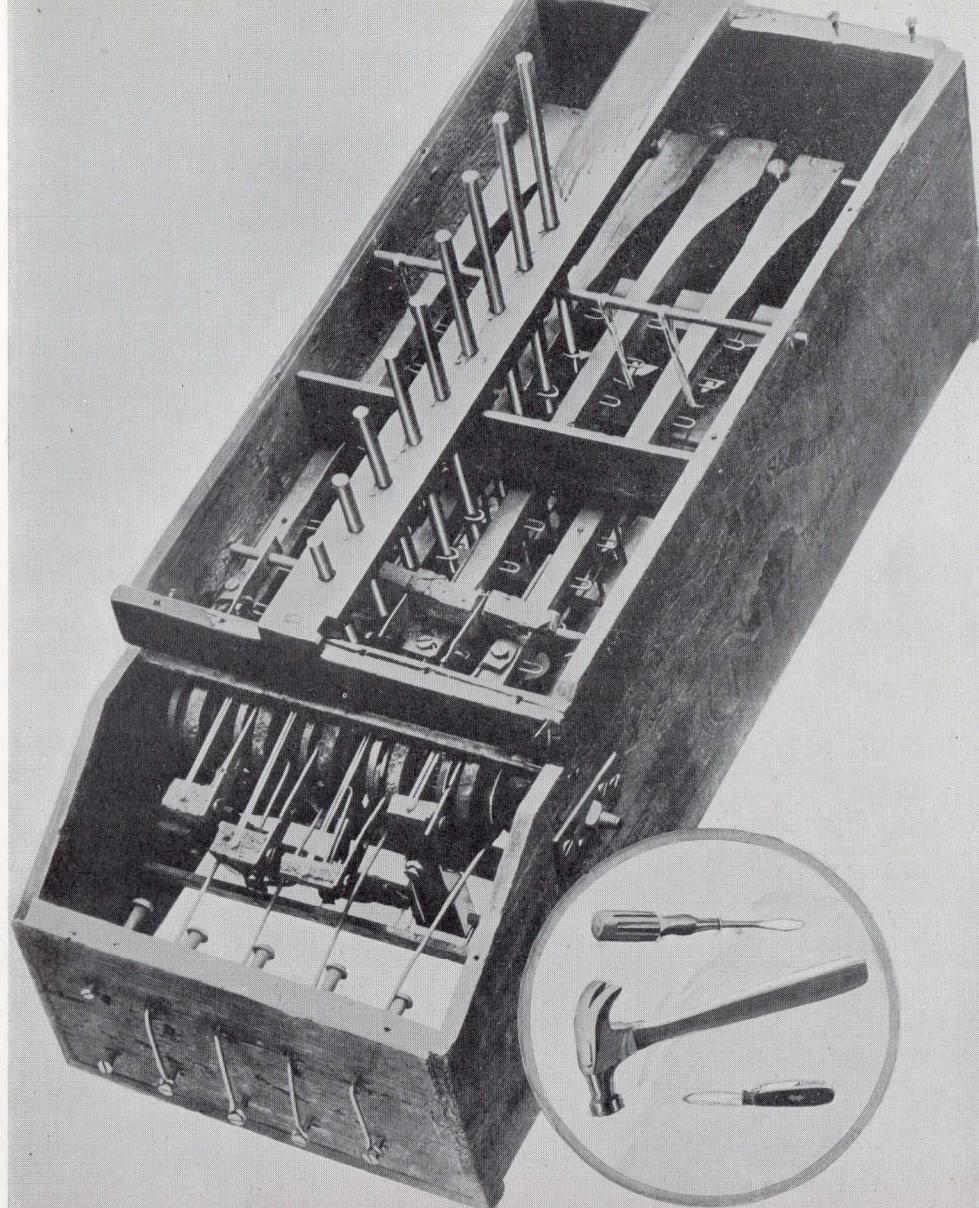
It is seldom that an inventor has sufficient business sense and width of vision to finance and control the marketing of his inventions. Felt was a brilliant exception. In spite of all the difficulties, in spite of all the lean years, he solidly laid the foundations of a world-wide organisation that earned respect and admiration. Many a time he scarcely knew where to turn for the money he needed, but he knew he would lose control if he went to those shrewd men who will always finance the young inventor on the threshold of success. So he skimped, and saved, and improvised, and so found his reward.

There is little doubt that his hobbies and wide interests also contributed to his well-balanced sense of judgement. He was enthusiastic about so many things. For example, at the age of fifty he decided to learn French and in a very short time he could read and speak it fluently.

Throughout his long life he continued to regard every difficulty as a challenge. His biggest joy was to overcome obstacles that were apparently insurmountable. His greatest spur was to be told something could not be done. He usually did it all the quicker.

He was once told by his experts that a certain gauge and quality of wire could not be made. He needed this wire to improve his Comptometer. He began a world-wide search and for once it seemed that the experts were right. No machine existed that could make this wire. Nothing daunted, Felt set to and made the machine himself in his own plant in Chicago and it produced exactly the wire he wanted.

And so it was through all those early years. The terrific struggle for perfection and at the same time to keep control of the business he had founded. That was the man. He has now gone the way all men must go, great or small. But his machine still goes on from strength to strength and Mr. Felt would ask for no better monument.



This is the famous "Macaroni-Box" contraption from which all Comptometers sprang. It is now kept in a sealed glass case in Felt & Tarrant's vaults in Chicago. Note the tools that made it, also the wooden meat skewers and elastic bands. Then compare it with the latest electric Comptometer (photograph inside front cover) which is now made in Felt & Tarrant's British factory and also in America.



And here
is
the British
Factory

WE are proud to show these first photographs of Felt & Tarrant's factory in London. Comptometers are made here for the British market and for several countries overseas. The building is brand new and as modern as the machine it produces in ever-increasing numbers. Working conditions are ideal.

The picture above shows the well-lighted top floor where final assembly and testing take place. The large stores are behind the partitions partly seen on the left. Administration Offices are also on this floor.

The photograph below shows the ground floor where various machining processes are carried out as well as preliminary assembly. There are some two thousand separate parts in every Comptometer, and the planning needed to keep production flowing smoothly can well be imagined.

Photos by Douglas C. Morris & Co.



WRAC and no rueing



ABOVE—After a few hours' hard work on maintenance, there is a welcome break. The girls still look remarkably cheerful. It must be the fresh air.

Dear Editor,

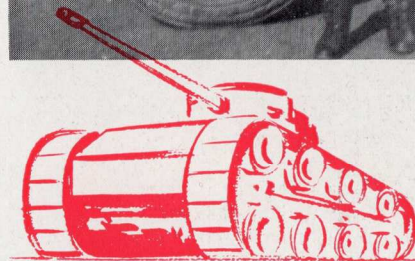
I felt I must write as I would love to be in the Comptometer *Medley*. I hope you like the snaps I am enclosing. They were taken whilst I was away at Camp for the fortnight training we do with the WRAC. (T.A.). I have been in for five years and go to Camp once a year, and to training evenings once a week where we have Map Reading, Maintenance and Driving Army Vehicles. I wouldn't miss being in it for the world.

I work on a Comptometer at The Lancashire Hygienic Dairies and have been there ten years. I trained at your School in Deansgate.

Hoping to receive the *Medley* very soon.

Best wishes,

SHEILA COLLINS,
Old Trafford,
Manchester.



LEFT—At Bovington Camp, Dorset, the girls have just been given a drive in a tank. This is said to be excellent for the liver.

Table Tennis Champion



DOROTHY ELLIS with those famous Rowe twins, Diane and Rosalind, won the J.M. Rose Bowl for three years in succession. She was also a finalist last year at the Albert Hall in the *Daily Mirror* Table Tennis Tournament.

The J.M. Rose Bowl is perhaps the most coveted trophy in this fast hard-

Photo by kind permission of The Daily Mirror



hitting game, being the All England Ladies' Team Championship. We need hardly say, therefore, that Dorothy's repeated successes were little short of a miracle.

Dorothy lives at Hayes in Middlesex and became a Comptometer Operator for Fairey Aviation after training in the London School.

Miss Dorothy Ellis shows you those eyes which so effectively mark the flight of the small white ball.

Twins Twins

Mrs. Joyce Martin of Smethwick will always remember the afternoon of Coronation Day because her twins Jane and Nicholas were born. Her operator friend, Mrs. Irene Sadler, was Godmother and sent us the snap below taken on the twins' first birthday.



Why am I always the Bridesmaid?

BUT we don't mind betting that pretty Maureen Hewlett, who is only 18, will never have to sing this plaintive song. The young men of Bristol will be too observant. Meantime, we welcome the chance of seeing this photo taken on the day she was bridesmaid to her sister.

Maureen was trained in Bristol school and then became Comptometer Operator at Spillers Ltd., Avonmouth. She lives at Sea Mills, Bristol.

Photo by Hedley Price Ltd., Bristol



JUST CAN'T STOP HER!

Heck! This girl's hectic! In our last two editions we have told you about Mrs. Constance Grant of Tyneside. Whirlwind Comptometer Course, Courtship and Marriage, three children in two and half years, ladies' choirs, tortoises, kittens, goldfish, helping Hubby with his accounts and a few other interests. All we can say is "Now Read On."

Dear Editor,

Can you remember printing in the 1953 *Medley* that Connie Grant sang contralto with the Newcastle Ladies' Choir? Well, I still do, and you may be interested to know that we now broadcast regularly with Bobby Thompson in "Bob's Your Uncle," formerly "What Cheer, Geordie," and that recently we were televised in the "Meet The Geordies" programme. All very exciting and, with three children, only possible because Daddy is a very patient sitter-in on these occasions.

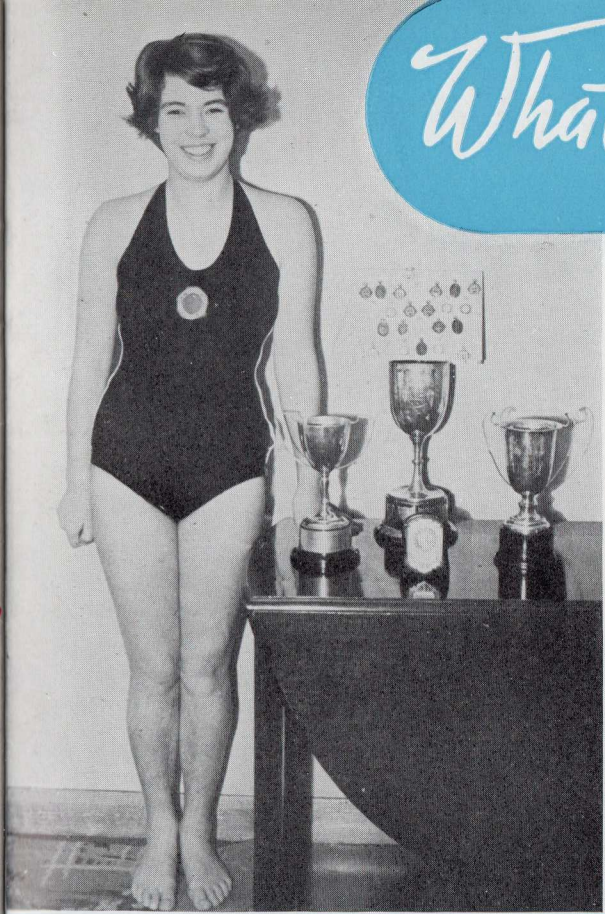
Now I have something even more exciting to tell you. The Newcastle branch of Brown's Furniture Store ran a "Happy Families" Competition in which competitors were asked to state in four sentences why their marriage was happy and successful. This seemed very simple indeed, so I entered (I'm an incurable Competition fan). Last Tuesday a greetings telegram came to say that I was among the first six. On November 5th, my partner and I went to be interviewed by Eamonn Andrews and were chosen for first prize—£100 to be spent on furniture, and us with an empty sitting-room! So if any of my old colleagues would like to come and sit on my new chairs they're very welcome. Isn't life exciting?

Yours sincerely,
CONSTANCE GRANT (Mrs.)
(née King).

Mrs. Grant (left) made her debut on television and had the pleasure of hearing Eamonn Andrews read her winning entry, prize £100.



What a Girl!



TRAINED last year in Birmingham School when she was 15, Patricia Haynes writes "I have since had some increases in salary and am now a P.A.Y.E." As an afterthought she discloses about forty swimming championship medals and cups, the one on the left for 100 yards backstroke, centre for 1 mile and right for Schools Champion All-rounder. Patricia represented Warwickshire County A.S.A. for three years and will no doubt be adding to her score even more trophies than her Comptometer can carry.



"jump for joy"



OPERATORS who visited Jack Hylton's "Jump for Joy" at Bridlington last year may remember this dancer. Although trained in Leeds Comptometer School in 1952, Miss Jean Parker Daniels hitched her wagon to a dancing star which led her to pantomime in Ayr (Gaiety Theatre) and to other shows in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. "Most of all" writes Jean, "I like Scotland and hope to be back there again for Pantomime."



"Say not the struggle naught availeth."

Hockey in LANCASHIRE

THERE have been Comptometer Operators' Hockey Teams at Manchester for many years. During that time, hundreds of girls have come and gone and enjoyed their games to the full, win or lose. Sometimes, however, there is the added zest of special distinction and that is why we so readily

understand the pride of the above team. They had a tremendous struggle, but they won the coveted shield.

Manchester School would like some more players. Will anyone interested please get in touch with 196, Deansgate for further information.

Amateur Actress

MISS IRENE PAYNE is so keen on amateur theatrical work that she belongs to two Societies. One is the Blackfriars' Society and the other is the local dramatic society in Sidcup, Kent, where Irene lives.

All members of the Blackfriars' Society are employees of Unilever Ltd., whose headquarters are at Blackfriars Bridge where Irene works away on her Comptometer during the day. At night she must be kept busy learning her lines and rehearsing as the Society stage two plays

each season, a revue and several one-act shows.

Irene, who is twenty-four, was in the production of "Our Town" last year. Not only did this go on in their own theatre, but they had the unusual experience of playing it at Wormwood Scrubbs Prison.

Since the Blackfriars' Society was formed in 1926 they have staged twenty-eight plays and six musicals. They also helped to launch the Unilever Drama Festival, which is now an annual event.

This photo of Miss Irene Payne is reproduced by kind permission of The Evening Standard. It first appeared in their series "Girls on the Amateur Stage."



"Good Show"

BY A MANCHESTER-TRAINED OPERATOR IN CANADA

IT'S a long way from Manchester, England, to Calgary, Canada, but we have news of an interesting link between the two towns.

About sixteen years ago, a youngster aged 14 called Agnes Lilian Raftery took the Comptometer course in Manchester School. Last October, during an Exhibition of office equipment in Calgary, Alberta, an operator named Mrs. Ditchfield won an adding contest and the first prize of twenty-five dollars. As you may have guessed, the

surname has changed but the Christian names are still Agnes Lilian.

Mr. Ralph Ranson, Felt & Tarrant's manager at Calgary, told us that the contest drew thirty-five operators. Mrs. Ditchfield added at the rate of 18,375 key-strokes an hour, which is fifty per cent higher than what is considered standard in Canada. Furthermore, there was not a single machine mistake. Mrs. Ditchfield is an operator with Union Packing (Swifts).

Below you can see Mrs. Ditchfield receiving the winning cheque from Mr. Ranson, Felt & Tarrant's District Manager in Calgary.



MEMORIES OF ROBIN HOOD

IN the romantic past, in the days when Robin Hood was a source of great trouble to the Sheriff of Nottingham, the idea of arranging an Archery Tournament was devised in the hope that Robin would be lured from the shelter of Sherwood Forest and thus enable him to be captured.

This tournament *did* take place and Robin won the prize, "The Sheriff's Golden Arrow," but history tells us that he again avoided being taken prisoner.

When Nottingham celebrated its quincentenary in 1949, the City was honoured by a visit from H.M. the Queen, then H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth, and the ancient tournament was revived.

This time a number of prizes were added, including a silver arrow.

Each succeeding year this meeting has increased its popularity and attracts archers from all parts of the United Kingdom. Its trophies are among the most coveted.

Last year, in an ideal lakeside setting in Wollaton Park, where the old hall makes a picturesque background, Nottingham operator Mrs. Audrey Jean Call won the "Maid Marion Cup" presented to her by the Sheriff's Lady. She thus became "County Lady Champion."

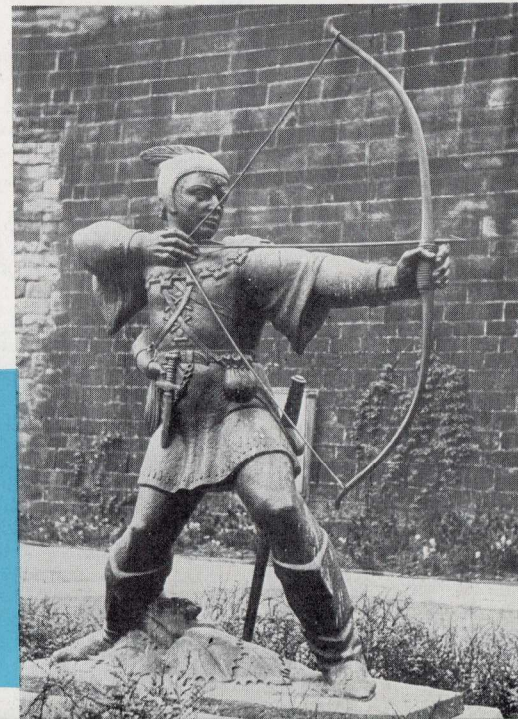
Mrs. Call, formerly Miss Scott, was trained in the Nottingham School in 1944. Since finishing her course she has been employed by the Stanton Ironworks Company Ltd.

Other Trophies include three silver cups and an archer's plaque, all won during Coronation year.



Mrs. Audrey Jean Call.

This bronze statue stands guard outside Nottingham Castle. It was given to the City to commemorate the visit of Princess Elizabeth, now the Queen.



Holland Holiday



"We were lucky to get this snap of Queen Juliana when she came to open a hospital near Flushing."

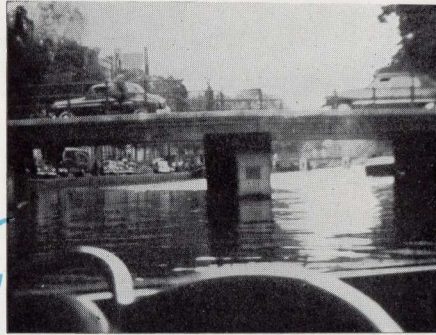
BARBARA WALKER of Billesdon, near Leicester, tells us how she and her friend, Margot Lowther, stayed at the home of another Comptometer Operator, Beryl Hamelinck, in Holland. Beryl, before her marriage to a Dutch river pilot, lived at Middlesbrough. In a previous *Medley* we gave Beryl's address in Holland with a message that she would be glad to hear from other Operators. Beryl found the *Medley* more powerful than she expected, and was so overwhelmed with kind letters that it was impossible to reply to them all.

Barbara and Margot were fascinated by the glass boats on Amsterdam waterways, the fast electric trains, the novelty of Dutch menus with emphasis on fruit, the cycles with two or three people on each, the staggering of the half-day holidays by shopkeepers in different trades so that some shops are always open, and, above all, the very high standards of cleanliness, especially with food.

They also went into Belgium, staying a night at historical Bruges and visiting Antwerp, a marvellous shopping centre.



A canal at Amsterdam.



WON A SHIELD

THERE are some Comptometer Operators near Liverpool who are very proud of this photograph. It shows the floral display with which they won the Shield at the annual horticultural show of British Insulated Callender's Cables Ltd. They were competing on behalf of the main office of their Company. Mrs. J. Leigh, who sent this photo, also sent us a copy in full colour, and very lovely it looked.

all trained at LEEDS

MARJORIE & JOYCE FLETCHER worked together for five years. Then Marjorie married and travelled with her husband, whose job took them to Spain, Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, Italy, and Austria. They enjoyed every minute of it. The photo of the two sisters working together was taken at the Crigglestone offices of the National Coal Board. When Marjorie left, her place was taken by Margaret McLuckie.

Another of their fellow-operators, Mary Penn, also got married, and what more natural than to have Joyce and Margaret as bridesmaids. You will see from the picture on the right that the sun shone on as pretty a wedding trio as we have seen for a long time. What makes it more interesting, the photographer was Joyce's fiance, Mr. Russell Haigh.

All four operators were trained at Leeds Comptometer School.

Marjorie (with pearls) and her sister Joyce.



The bride is Miss Mary Penn. Margaret is on the right and Joyce on the left.



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Twenty first!

THE sun shines also at Port Sunlight where Miss P. A. Fitzgerald (centre) had this picture taken on her twenty-first birthday. All are Comptometer Operators in the Export Office of Lever Bros. Miss Fitzgerald worked out on her Comptometer that their combined years of service amount to fifty-two.

FELT & TARRANT have recently opened training schools for operators at 4 Albion Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent and at Refuge Assurance Buildings, Ainsworth Street, Blackburn. We will be glad if operators will call and make themselves known and also send their friends along for details of the course. The bonus of 10/6d. applies as in all other areas.

Operators' Prizes

Congratulations to all our contributors for some excellent entries. More than ever before have reached the higher awards. Now please get busy with entries for the next edition and send them either to your nearest school or direct to The Editor, Comptometer Medley, Felt & Tarrant, Ltd., Aldwych House, London, W.C.2. Prizes up to £4 4s. 0d. are waiting for you.

PRIZE LIST

Mrs. A. Duncan, Glasgow "Getting Around"	£4 4 0	Miss S. Lindsay, Glasgow "Film Star Meets Operators"	£2 2 0
Mrs. M. Butler, Manchester "Black & White"	£3 3 0	Miss S. Moore, Birmingham "Selected by Belita"	£2 2 0
Mrs. A. J. Call, Nottingham "Memories of Robin Hood"	£3 3 0	Miss I. Payne, London "Amateur Actress"	£2 2 0
Mrs. M. J. Ellis, London "Table Tennis Champion"	£3 3 0	Mrs. B. Windsor, London "Queen Honours Amateur Society"	£2 2 0
Miss C. Evans, Cardiff "Health & Beauty"	£3 3 0	Miss A. Wright, Birmingham "Black & White"	£2 2 0
Miss J. Fletcher, Leeds "All Trained at Leeds"	£3 3 0	Miss M. Lowther, Leicester "Holland Holiday"	£1 11 6
Mrs. C. Grant, Newcastle "Just Can't Stop Her"	£3 3 0	Miss B. Walker, Leicester "Holland Holiday"	£1 11 6
Miss E. E. Green, Edinburgh "Queen of Light"	£3 3 0	Miss P. A. Fitzgerald, Liverpool "Twenty-First"	£1 1 0
Mrs. A. Houlbrook, Bradford "Blackpool—Here We Come"	£3 3 0	Mrs. Reid, Glasgow "Really a Whiz"	£1 1 0
Mrs. M. McLean-Smith, Glasgow "Family Matters in Scotland"	£3 3 0	Mrs. I. Sadler, Birmingham "Twins"	£1 1 0
Miss M. Willacy, Manchester "Venetian Rhapsody"	£3 3 0		
Miss B. Williams, London "Brenda Aims at Perfection"	£3 3 0		
Miss S. Burrows, Manchester "Starting Early"	£2 2 0		
Miss J. R. Cassels, Glasgow "Film Star Meets Operators"	£2 2 0		
Miss S. Collins, Manchester "WRAC—And No Rueing"	£2 2 0		
Miss J. P. Daniels, Leeds "Jump for Joy"	£2 2 0		
Miss P. Haynes, Birmingham "What a Girl"	£2 2 0		
Mrs. G. Hewlett, Bristol "Why Am I Always the Bridesmaid?"	£2 2 0		
Mrs. J. Leigh, Liverpool "Won a Shield"	£2 2 0		

PLEASE HELP US

The demand for Comptometer Operators is always growing. We will be glad to send details of the Course to any of your friends and to send you a bonus of half-a-guinea for every accepted pupil introduced by you. Please do it now!

10/6

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NEPTUNE'S DAUGHTER

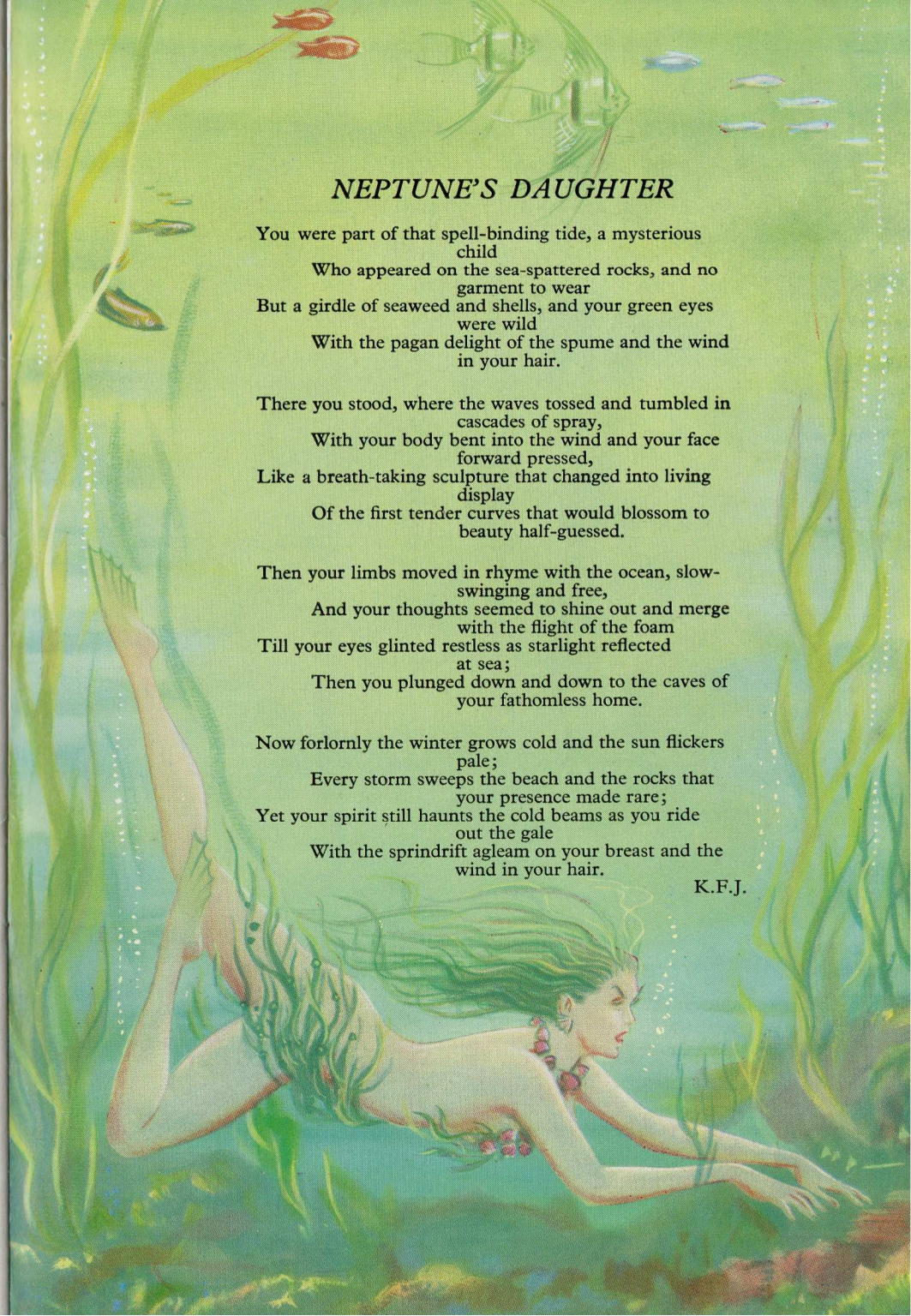
You were part of that spell-binding tide, a mysterious child
Who appeared on the sea-spattered rocks, and no garment to wear
But a girdle of seaweed and shells, and your green eyes were wild
With the pagan delight of the spume and the wind in your hair.

There you stood, where the waves tossed and tumbled in cascades of spray,
With your body bent into the wind and your face forward pressed,
Like a breath-taking sculpture that changed into living display
Of the first tender curves that would blossom to beauty half-guessed.

Then your limbs moved in rhyme with the ocean, slow-swinging and free,
And your thoughts seemed to shine out and merge with the flight of the foam
Till your eyes glinted restless as starlight reflected at sea;
Then you plunged down and down to the caves of your fathomless home.

Now forlornly the winter grows cold and the sun flickers pale;
Every storm sweeps the beach and the rocks that your presence made rare;
Yet your spirit still haunts the cold beams as you ride out the gale
With the sprindrift agleam on your breast and the wind in your hair.

K.F.J.



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