

newton news

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Let's clean up this 'ere town

Councillors urged to curb dog nuisance

This is the mess dogs are making



It's bad enough during daylight hours when you can see more or less what you're treading on, but when it's dark—you're bound to catch it sometime and go slithering over the pavement because some dog didn't know better.

But, pause a moment, is it because of a dirty dog—or is it because of a dirty dog owner? You've seen them—hang on a few moments whilst my dirty dog makes a mess in the middle of your pavement. The R.S.P.C.A. needs a companion—a Royal Society for the Prevention of Filthy Pavements.

Can a dog be trained to use the gutters? A good dog owner assures us that it can. This, we suggest is the answer.

We asked the police if it was an offence to permit dogs to foul the public footpaths and we were told that this is a matter for the local council and bye-laws.

With regard to Newton Aycliffe, a curious state of affairs exists concerning the control of dogs. It would appear that there are bye-laws issued by the Durham County Council which make it an offence to permit dogs to foul

certain public footpaths in Newton Aycliffe. And please take notice that the operative word here is 'certain'. In other words, a dog may make a mess on some footpaths but not on others.

In addition to this, the Rural District Council has a bye-law which makes it an offence to have a dog without a lead in certain streets, (but not in others).

We will not try to confuse you or the dogs by naming the various streets and footpaths. Suffice to say that a dog owner will be on the safe side if he or she keeps the dog on a lead and does not permit it to foul the footpaths anywhere at all in the town.

Lots of local authorities have the bye-laws for road, but let us give a thought to our open greens. The children can then play on them without getting filthy!

The "news" urges our local

councillors to get this situation sorted out. Make it an offence to foul pavements and greens in Newton Aycliffe.

The news appeals to dog owners in Newton Aycliffe to train their dogs to use gutters and help to make our town a cleaner and healthier place.

NEW HEAD FOR MARLOWE COMPREHENSIVE

Mr. Joseph Prest has been appointed head of the Marlowe Hall Comprehensive School.

At the moment he is Headmaster of Spennymoor West Secondary School, a post he has held since 1966.

An accomplished musician L.R.A.M., A.L.C.M. he is also a B.A. with Second Class Honours in French and a Diploma in Education.

PANCAKE RACE CALLED OFF

Due to insufficient entries we are sorry to have to cancel the Pancake Race planned for Shrove Tuesday.

IS THE RATE INCREASE 2d OR 4d?

In our last issue we forecasted a rate increase of 2d. This was confirmed at a recent Council Meeting.

But, since then, we have been informed by Coun. Cessford that the rate is more likely to go up by 4d.

He bases his estimate on figures which show last years precept was £33,611 and this year the council requires £44,150 which means £10,549 more. A 1d rate brings in £3,432 so it is evident more than 2d is required unless savings can be made elsewhere.



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GETTING TO KNOW YOU



MRS. MARY ALLISON

The "news" talks to the lady who manages the Laundrette. A cheerful soul, who makes a welcome to all who enter the shop. Her employer, Mr. Hutchinson, says: "Each day I thank God for Mary."

- Q. You seem to be very happy in Newton Aycliffe. How did you find your way here?**
- A. Well, as a matter of fact—I got a ride in the furniture van when we moved here from London. I was married in London in 1945. My husband came from Shildon. We lived with my mother for six years, trying all the time to get a place of our own but—no luck. We heard about Newton Aycliffe, came to see what it was like and moved up in 1952. It was really great, having a house of our own.
- Q. Have you nursed any secret ambition such as—to climb Mount Everest or marry a 90 year old millionaire?**
- A. No—I've no desire to go anywhere colder than Newton Aycliffe and my husband will probably live until he's 90 so with a bit of luck, we might be millionaires yet. I managed a florists shop in London and I've an ambition to have my own shop.
- Q. If the man from Littlewoods called to tell you that you had won £100,000, what would you do with it?**
- A. First, I would treat my relations and friends. And then vanish on a world cruise. If there was any money left—I'd buy a nice bungalow.
- Q. What drastic changes would you make, if you had your own way, in Newton Aycliffe?**
- A. Well, nothing really drastic. I'd like to see more Nurseries, a Cinema and a Swimming Pool. And a bus route through the town to Newcastle.
- Q. What are your favourite television programmes?**
- A. I find little time for television. I'm more interested in my job at the Laundrette, knitting, dress making, dancing and bingo. I do like Castle Haven, Opportunity Knocks, World in Action and Coronation Street. Or a good film.
- Q. When you vote at the General Election, will your vote be decided by yourself or your husband?**
- A. Oh, I don't always agree with my husband on politics. So, my vote goes where I want it.
- Q. Who is your favourite personality?**
- A. Prince Phillip. He is nice looking. He speaks his mind. He has a wonderful personality. The ideal family man.

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● PRIZEWINNERS CHILDRENS COMPETITIONS

...Essay Competition Carole Hutchinson, Arrowsmith Square Colour the Bee. Deborah Smith, 35, Sheraton Road, Andrew Cooper, 45, Great-head Crescent, Valerie Clews, 8, Bowes Road.
Prizes will be delivered.

● EVER TRIED A SAFARI DINNER

A novel evening arranged by Newton Aycliffe and District Ladies Circle recently was a "Safari Dinner."

For those who have not heard of this before it means having each course of dinner at a different house. It needs about twelve couples arranging which house provides which of the five courses.

Everyone travels on to the next house after each course changing the passengers in the cars.

Ladies Circle started off at Sadberge for Sherry then from there to Redworth for soup. The fish course was served at Heighington and then the main course at Defoe Crescent with the final course of sweet, cheese and biscuits and coffee at Isherwood Close.

Each couple pays an amount which covers the cost of the meal and perhaps gives a profit which goes to funds. Each host is reimbursed for the cost of food provided.

It is wise for each person to have their own plate, knife, fork and spoon which are washed at each house before moving on.

It is an excellent way of getting to know each other and an enjoyable and different way of having an evening meal.

● WANTED KEEN WHIST PLAYERS

The Whist Club held at the Clarence Hall every Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. is looking for new members.

This is Newton Aycliffe's longest running club and it is finding it hard to keep going due to a dwindling membership.

It only costs 2/6 per evening and this includes raffle and prizes.

Mr. Hoadley one of the organisers, invites interested parties to go along to the Clarence Hall on Finchale Rd or contact him at 3 Hunter Rd.

● DOG TRAINING CLUB STILL ACTIVE

A rumour to the affect that the Newtown Dog Training Obedience Club is no longer in existence is false.

The committee wish to make it clear that the club is very much alive with classes held each Monday in the Beveridge Hall.

Juniors meet from 6 p.m.—7.30 for which a charge of 6d is made and spectators 3d.

Adults follow at 7.45 for 2/- which includes refreshments.

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Is your child roadworthy?

The Automobile Association reports that, according to experts, 'a child cannot be expected to be a safe pedestrian until he or she is ten to twelve years old.'

Children at school are reminded constantly of the rules for crossing a road. Even so, a tragic number of children, many of them below school age, are killed or maimed every day.

What can you do to help prevent this?
Dr. Susan Isaacs told the National Safety Congress "There are certain children whom no amount of teaching will keep safe because their deep impulses are stronger than their powers of intelligent control... Education can reduce the danger, but it cannot remove it altogether."

The A.A. gives a ten point guide for parents:

1. Try to discover how much your children know about road safety. Watch them, without their knowledge to check that they are observing the rules.
2. Make sure that they go out accompanied by a person who knows the rules.
3. Teach the children by your own good example.
4. Teach them in the simplest terms.
5. Show your children that they can be a problem to drivers. If you have them in a car—show them how limited is the driver's view and how difficult to spot a small figure especially one moving from behind another vehicle.
6. Teach them to walk **always—never to run** in traffic.
7. If you, or one of your family are meeting them, or see them unexpectedly in the street, never call across from the opposite side. The chances are that, pleased to see you, they will rush over—heedless of traffic. You must cross over to them.
8. Work out a safe route for your children to use to and from school. Introduce them to it yourself and **insist** that they use it.
9. Have your children's sight and hearing tested at regular intervals (even though they may seem perfect). Make sure that anoraks, hoods and scarves do not restrict the field of vision or muffle sounds.
10. **Never** allow a child on to the roads alone if he or she is upset. Strong emotions of any kind have the effect of swamping safety training.
Make sure that your child sets off from home every day, in a calm and happy state of mind—and in good time. The fear of being late can prove a killer.

Panto was a sell out

● R.D.C. TO PAY T.V. CHARGE AT SIMPASTURE COURT

Senior Citizens residing at the R.D.C.'s Simpasture Court dwellings were in a bit of doubt concerning the Rediffusion aerial charge for their televisions.

They all thought the charge was included in the rent, but demands came in from Rediffusion and this was worrying a few. However the R.D.C. have agreed to pay the charge which amounts to 1/9d per week for each flat and bungalow.

Photographs in the News by Bill Roberts

Prints available from the News Office Greenwell Road.

Once again our pantomime is successfully over. We have one more performance however out of the town—at Aycliffe Hospital where we shall give our usual show for the patients and staff.

We were pleased to play to capacity audiences—so much so that, regretfully we had to turn away people who came without tickets—this was due to lack of space—a circumstance beyond our control.

We should like to thank the Jacques School of Dancing for their contribution to the pantomime—their dance routines were much appreciated by the audiences, at each performance.

Now we must turn our thoughts to the future and to our Spring Play, which will be cast and in rehearsal shortly. We would like to think that some of the adults who attended Cinderella will be persuaded to come to our next play in April. We feel sure that they would enjoy another night of live theatre as a change from watching "the box". So do bear this in mind when the play comes round, and buy tickets.

In the meantime we can still use any and all help, of any shape or form—come along and meet us any Thursday night at "The Hut" (Behind Clarence Hall) at 8 p.m. Who knows you may become an addicted Newton Player like the rest of us.

Y. McL.

Do you get a fair deal at your garage?

Before you make a decision on this—it is only fair to consider, as well as your own high costs in keeping a car running, the extraordinary expenses at present being carried by every well equipped repairs business.

First of all, no one will deny that the motorist is carrying far too much of the burden of taxation. The garage owner is in the same boat—maybe his burden is even heavier than that of the private motorist.

However, other people's troubles—we find easy to bear. It is our own troubles which keep nagging away and we are ready to blame everyone from the Prime Minister to the garage apprentice.

Garages have had fantastically profitable times right from

the end of the war until three years ago. If they were wise when the squeeze started, they are able to weather the storm. If they were foolish with the big profits they made, then they've gone bust or will do.

The garage owner today is trying to recover his overheads from the private motorist—plus make a little profit. Many of them are not succeeding.

And lots of motorists can not—it's as simple as that—can not pay the repair bills asked of him.

Therefore, if he is to keep his car on the road—he must search out the garage which will help him to cut his costs. Also, he must do some of the work himself. I talked to a car owner a few days ago about

repair bills. He said that he had just paid £9 to a garage for a few minor adjustments and replacements. Now, this man couldn't really afford this £9 and I reckoned that he could have saved £7 of this cost by taking his coat off and doing some of these little jobs himself. He protested "I'm not very handy with car." This is nonsense. That same man can decorate a house throughout—perfectly—in his spare time. Granted, many jobs on a car cannot and should not be tackled by an unskilled man. But, many of them can be done with a little commonsense and a few simple tools. Many men have to work two or three days to make £7 nett. Think about it.



Some of the Jacques School of Dancing Pupils who performed in Cinderella come down to meet the audience.

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interest to all ● Street Map ● Industrial Estate Guide Etc.

Pretty Newtonian



Mrs. Christine Johnson

26 years of age lives at 48 Defoe Crescent. Came to Newton Aycliffe from Scotland and has two children. Hobbies: reading and painting.

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GOVERNORS APPOINTED FOR C. of E. SCHOOL

The board for the new Church of England School at Horndale has been chosen, including the representation from the town.

The Vicar Rev. H. Hall becomes chairman. Mr. S. Harrison, Churchwarden was elected by the Church Council. Mrs. Cessford was elected to the board as the Parish Council representative.

The first task for the Board of Management is to appoint the Headmaster for which post is a large number of applications.

TOWNS LABOUR PARTY APPOINT CANDIDATE

The Newton Aycliffe Branch have appointed Coun. A. Cessford to represent them in the County Council elections.

Newton Aycliffe Operatic Society

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 14th February
10 o'clock
St. Clares New Hall

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Phone 3860 between 6 &
10 p.m.

GRENADIERS RAFFLE A POODLE

Two 14 year old members
of the Grenadiers Jazz Band,
Denise Percival and Gillian
Hall organised a draw to raise
funds.

The prize was a Toy Poodle
and was won by Mrs. Campbell
of 32 Welbury Grove with the
winning number 356.

COFFEE MORNING TO BE HELD

A Coffee Morning will be
held at 11, Cumby Road on
Wednesday 4th March in aid of
Darlington and District Mar-
riage Guidance Council. This
is the first money raising effort
given in Newton Aycliffe for
this worthy service, which al-
though a voluntary one. Still
has expenses to pay.

It is hoped as many Towns-
people as possible will be
able to attend. There will be
a Cake Stall and a Lucky Dip.

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Prelude to War

continuing FIFTY YEARS OF MUSIC AND ADVENTURE
by MRS. F. M. FORD of Newton Aycliffe

My husband had gone away for two and a half years in the battleship H.M.S. Revenge. Two and a half years is like an eternity when you are ticking the days off on a calendar. We had known of course that the parting would come. Sailors had to do their turn in foreign waters—the Empire in those days made fierce demands on our fighting forces and a commission of two and a half years meant just that. No fancy flying back for a few days. A very firm and very sad parting —“I’ll be seeing you—in two and a half years time.”

We had decided that I should go back home to County Durham. But I made a resolution that, the next time, if it were at all possible, all the King’s ships and all the King’s men would not keep me in England. So, back to Durham County. And it’s a good place to get back to when you need friends and sympathy. Thank goodness for “time—the healer” and music which kept me so busy. I had not time to brood, I fear that life might have been dull but for music which was at that time sweeping the North especially with societies putting on Gilbert and Sullivan, Handel’s Messiah, colliery band and singing festivals. I think

that every miners hall and church hall in the County were putting on shows of some kind. Every day was busy.

And so, I ticked off the days and there were over nine hundred of them before the battleship came home again with the paying off pennants flying and hundreds and hundreds of sailors loaded with perfumes and silks, carved boxes and brass gongs.

It was like starting life all over again. And best of all—you knew that you would be together for two or three years before the next foreign commission would loom up. Maybe your domestic life would be broken up now and again.

After all, ship’s didn’t stay in one port.

My husband was going steadily up the promotion ladder and was moved around from shore to sea and back. I never really unpacked. Every day when he came home, I watched his face for signs that he was on the move again. And fear made me a bit superstitious. I found that if we did anything in our digs which might indicate a presumption that we were there to stay, he would get a “draft” to some other ship on the move. For instance, a radio didn’t receive too well without an outdoor aerial. (Radios and broadcasting were not, in those days, of the high standard they are today.) And when we rigged an outdoor aerial, sure as night follows day, he would get a move on.

We struck lucky. He was appointed to a staff job in the Royal Navy Gunnery base. And we did not rig the aerial. And he stayed in that post for three years. How about that! Just a co-incidence? Maybe so. But we managed without an aerial.

The newspapers were full of excitement about Hitler and Mussolini beating the war drums. I wasn’t anxious—excepting that I knew that the shore staff job could not last much longer. Where would the next move be? We hoped from day to day that it would be no further than the Mediterranean where the Fleet base was Malta. Wives could go to Malta.

And so it turned out. In June 1937 the movement order came—Mediterranean Fleet and Malta. And I began to pack.

My mother thought I was crazy. In those days, people did not just go running off to foreign places. Perhaps wealthy people did. But not ordinary people. And what would I do, she wanted to know, if the ship was absent a long time from Malta? Were the natives safe to be with. “Why don’t you get a nice little house and settle down.”

But this was not for me. I was determined—Malta or Timbuctoo—I was going.

I had to stay at home for a time because the ship was out of port a good deal on fleet exercises and it was not until near Xmas that I sent my husband a cable “Prepare—coming Malta”—and the adventure had started. First stop—London. Asked the hotel Reception to give an early morning call to catch the train from Victoria—but I laid awake all night.

Next day—I was tearing through Paris in a mad French Taxi.

Next issue: “Into the war in Africa.”

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DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT

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Application forms, which must be returned by 20th February, 1970 and further particulars from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Durham.

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Woman-most beautiful 1 hour after Sauna

A woman is at her most beautiful one hour after a sauna—so says a Finnish book on sauna culture. And the Finns should know, because sauna is a centuries old art developed by that nation.

Sauna is basically a heat bath and Finns have been enjoying its relaxing powers for over 2,000 years. And since our Scandinavian friends are renowned for their health and vigour, it can't be bad.

Their word loyly describes sauna as dry heat and that's exactly what it is. Unlike the steamy humidity of a Turkish bath, sauna issues only dry heat, which, in this country, can vary between 150-200 degrees fahrenheit to give a complete relaxation to the entire body—and mind.

And what better than absolute relaxation for the girl who has spent all day busy working.

For the average English working woman the sauna is shrouded in mystery. But a visit to an authentic Finnish

sauna bath like Darlington's Betty Allan's will quickly dispel any fears of the unknown.

The atmosphere of a sauna is as peaceful and relaxing as the treatment itself. And what's more, the pounds of flesh fade away almost as fast as the day-to-day tensions.

Sauna begins with a warm shower taken in a stand-up

This inner sanctum is a small room with a wooden covered floor and three or four racks of wooden benches, upon which clients may sit or lie according to the mood. The large sauna stove takes up one corner and a wall temperature gauge will show at a glance how hot you are under the collar—or in this case towel. Ten minutes of this

Women's Column

cubicle—and there's no excuse for not treating yourself to a darn brisk scrubbing with so many loofah sponges and brushes to choose from.

From the shower room you progress to the first 'hot' room and newcomers are advised to play it 'cool' during the early visits.

dry heat is enough to start with, and they will be about the most invigorating ten minutes you have ever experienced. Another warm shower comes next and then a cold shower. The tingling sensation caused by going from hot to cold is sheer pleasure.

Although it isn't essential to have a massage after the actual sauna it is well worth while. It is just enough to completely rid your limbs of the aches and pains caused by a hard week's work. And it can be of special benefit if you happen to suffer from minor joint and muscular ailments.

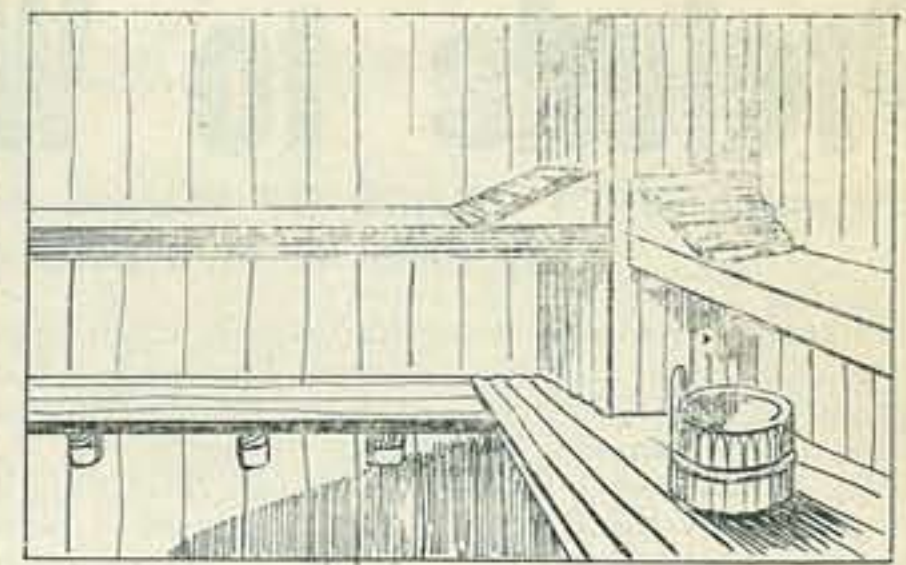
The expense of sauna with massage in a private bath is about 30s for a single visit, but special season tickets are available with a price concession.

I would encourage every reader to invest in a visit to a sauna bath, for the explanation of its relaxing benefits can only be by experience.

Sauna, to those who practice faithfully, becomes a way of life, and as the use of sauna spreads in this country I can visualise the whole family baking in their private bath adjoining the house. After all, what more relaxing way to watch television or tackle the chores than when sitting in a pleasant heat being gently swished with a bunch of birch twigs!



Men too enjoy the facilities of Betty Allan's Sauna



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	£	s	d
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Course of six treatments inc. M/Belt	4	15	0
Sauna Bath and Body Massage ...	1	10	0
Course of six treatments inc. M/Belt	8	15	0
Body Massage ...		17	6
Sauna and Vibrax 3D Massage ...	1	0	6
Neck and Shoulder Massage ...		7	6
Hand and Arm Massage ...		7	6
Massage Belt ...		7	6
Infra Red Treatment ...		7	6
Sun Tan ...		5	0
Course of six ...	1	5	0
Manicure ...		7	6
Facial ...		7	6
High Frequency and Scalp Massage ...		10	0
Eyebrow Shaping ...		3	0

LADIES

Monday	10 am-4.00 pm
Tuesday	10 am-8.30 pm
Wednesday	10 am-4.00 pm
Thursday	10 am-4.00 pm
Friday	10 am-4.00 pm

GENTLEMEN

Monday	4.0 pm-8.0 pm
Wednesday	4.0 pm-8.0 pm
Friday	4.0 pm-8.0 pm

TELEPHONE: DARLINGTON 69605

Career in nursing

Do you feel you want to be of real use to other people?

Do you dislike the idea of spending the years ahead at work which has no real meaning?

Do you want to be person whose value to society can never be in doubt? If your answer to these questions is 'Yes' then you will want to think seriously about a career in nursing—open to men and women—is surely the most rewarding job in the world. As a State Registered Nurse you will work as a full member of the medical-nursing team caring for patients, and you can acquire expert knowledge in a speciality of your own choice.

You will gain deep understanding of human behaviour in relation to illness and a wide range of skills in the art of nursing, enabling you to cope confidently with emergencies both great and small.

And above all you will play a vital part in the absorbing and deeply human work of saving and preserving life.

It takes three years to qualify as an S.R.N. and you train in a hospital approved by the General Nursing Council. Training covers those aspects of nursing, both theoretical and practical, which are needed to equip you in these days of rapid medical advance. You will study anatomy and physiology and the nature and cause of diseases. The range also covers pharmacology (the action of drugs) psychology, the principles of radiotherapy, study of the human individual, personal and community health and the social aspects of disease. On qualifying as S.R.N. you can choose to become an expert in neuro-surgery, thoracic surgery, ophthalmics or orthopaedics—to mention only a few—or you can specialise in

operating theatre work or in midwifery.

Your studies will be supervised by ward sisters and tutors and you will have lectures by medical consultants and senior hospital staff.

The entire hospital service is now to be regrouped on area and divisional lines which will open to you opportunities for advancement never before envisaged in nursing careers. If you would like to discuss nursing with someone who has wide experience, make an appointment with the Matron of your local hospital.

● DID

YOU KNOW ?

Pawnbroking was a profession which existed in ancient times and in China dates back 2,000 years. The Emperor Augustus Caesar, 31 B.C. instituted a fund for lending to needy persons on pledge. In mediaeval times the only pawnbrokers or moneylenders were the Jews, succeeded later by the Lombards, who settled in London and after whom Lombard Street is named. The three brass balls of the pawnbroker are said to be derived from the arms of the Medici family adopted in memory of Aervado de Medico, who slew a giant and kept his mace with three brass balls at the top as a trophy. "Uncles" as the slang name for the pawnbroker may have derived from the Latin "uncus", meaning a hook, because pawnbrokers used hooks to lift the pawned articles, before spouts or chutes were used, so "gone to the uncus" or "gone to Uncles", was equivalent to being "up the spout."

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SAB decide to stay and expand

SAB Brake Regulator Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of SAB Broomsregulator, Malmo, Sweden, have announced plans to build a new factory and office block on the Aycliffe Industrial Estate,

The Company started operations in England in 1964, when Mr. Edward Heath M.P. opened their present factory.

The new development, which will be ready in June of 1971, will allow continued expansion of rail products and the Automatic Slack Adjuster for the road transport industry. It will provide 19,000 sq. ft. of factory space and 7,000 sq. ft. office area. The site allows for an additional fourfold expansion of this area and the staff will almost double by 1974.

Making the announcement to invited guests the Managing Director said:

"I am very pleased to announce that we will be building a new factory at Howden Way on this, the Aycliffe Industrial Estate. Not the least consideration was the goodwill and relations we have enjoyed since 1964, with our employees, suppliers and other service organisations, and we are confident that these good relations will continue in the future.

"The factory and offices have a very pleasing, and, in some respects, an unusual design. The area occupied by the factory and offices will be approximately 26,000 square feet and will provide excellent working conditions. We anticipate that the personnel employed by the company will almost double before the end of 1974. The total site will allow us to expand to at least another four times the size of this current project. The architects for this, as in our previous building programmes, are Messrs. Cordingley and McIntyre. I would, at this point like to thank them as well as the English Industrial

Estates Corporation and the Board of Trade for all the help which they have given us in the past, and, I am confident, they will give us in the future.

On exporting, the Managing Director said:

"In addition to our traditional range of railway braking products, we have very successfully introduced an automatic adjuster for disc brakes, which are now being fitted to railway rolling stock, and later this year some further rail products will be added to our range. These products are, or will be, manufactured here at Aycliffe. At this juncture, I would like to emphasize a very topical point that, at this plant well over 60 per cent of our total manufactures have been exported—an achievement of which we are very proud! These products together with others in various stages of development, plus the British Rail Advanced Passenger Train project, make the future very exciting indeed.

"In closing I would like to thank all our employees for the efforts they have made for the Company, and trust that these efforts will continue in the future."

After the disturbing news of Crowborough's closure the town will welcome this news of expansion by SAB.

The 'news' wishes them every success.

Mr. Nils Dahlkvist, Managing Director of SAB announcing plans of the expansion programme to the staff.

● £20 WILL BUY THE LOT

With proper arrangements with the Corporation Housing Department here is an opportunity to move into a ready made home.

The present lady tenant of a flat in Elmfield, Newton Aycliffe is returning at the end of February to her home town, Montreal in Canada, after a stay of only a few months in this country. Although her present flat is very nice, Newton Aycliffe is quiet after living for so long in a city of 2 million people (nearly half French) and which has been going for 250 years.

However, there is the offer—dining table, chairs, sideboard, latest curtain rail fittings, bed and many more bits and pieces—£20 the lot. For details apply: Box No. 30, News Office Greenwell Road, Newton Aycliffe.

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● CORPORATION CONGRATULATED BUT.....

Dear Editor,

While I would like to congratulate the corporation on planting trees around our lawns, we would however, like to bring the attention of the corporation to the broken glass strewn around these lawns and pleasant pathways. This is so dangerous to children and animals.

Another matter I would like to mention is the lack of playgrounds for the children here. Surely with all these lovely open spaces it would not be beyond the imagination of the

Planners of the corporation to use a few of these spaces and put up a few swings and adventure appliances, put a fence around them and let the children play in safety.

We also would like pavements along the length of Williamfield Road as it is very muddy and dangerous when you have to walk along there. One cannot walk on the soaking wet grass verge and, therefore, one must dodge buses and cars in order to avoid being killed or injured by the traffic.

E. Crane (Mrs.)
83 Langdale Place.



● HOUSES MORE MODERN, BUT NOT BETTER

Reading your Newton News started me thinking of times, but not many changes.

I've lived part of my life in Bradford, Newcastle and part in Crook moving to Aycliffe recently and as Councillor Conlon says (quote) "no further forward than 20 years ago."

In my way of seeing things even saying 45 years ago, in and around Newcastle was more modern than now!

I went to Grange Street Secondary School, where we were taught to swim and taken to the museum for history. On one school was used as a play centre open from 7 in the

evening until 8.30 and during that time we had a wide choice of activities painting, games, music plays and most things of interest to children up to school leaving age.

Some of the houses here are modern, but some are not much better than my grandmothers' days.

If Councillor Conlon sees the rot setting in he should be encouraged in his attempt to modify, and should certainly be backed in his attempt to have a say (like Peterlee) in the running of the town.

Mrs. Turner,
24 Alington Road.

● REMOVE DANGEROUS ZEBRA CROSSING

Dear Sir,

May I, through your "Newton News" put a suggestion to the Aycliffe Development Corporation or Durham County Council, to remove the Zebra crossing from Central Avenue.

Before this crossing was put here, there were no accidents. There has been two since it was put there and many near misses.

A lady was knocked down

and badly hurt, and last night my son was in an accident luckily he is alright but his cycle is almost a write off.

I wonder how long it will be, before the alterations that were supposed to take place are brought to work. Maybe after two or three people are killed I feel this is the only way to bring this subject to light. Through our paper.

E. Bradley. (Mr.)
2 Eldon Close.

● THANKS TO METHODIST CHURCH CHOIR

Dear Sir,

As a member of the local 'Neville Male Voice Choir', may I through your paper congratulate the Methodist Church choir in bringing to the town the 'Apollo Male Choir' from Teesside, on Saturday, January 31st to a full church they gave a concert of the highest quality which included some exhilarating singing.

May I put in a 'plug' here, if any chap is interested in good singing the N.M.V.C. meets on Tuesday 7.30 in Marlowe Hall Music Room.

We have a good set of fellows who enjoy the fellowship as well as the singing.

Thanks again to the Methodist Choir for your service to the town.

J. Allen,
62 Oakfield.

Reader asks for support to improve town bus service

Mr. Ray Allison of 5 Sanderson Close, asks the 'news' to support him in his campaign to improve the town's bus service.

He writes:

I would be obliged if you would print this letter which I have received response to a petition which I have recently sent to United Automobile Services.

The signatures to this petition complain at the inadequacy of services to Darlington at peak traffic periods on Saturdays.

Many of the persons who signed this petition also supported my earlier complaint that stops on the Durham and Newcastle services are sited much too far from many parts of this steadily expanding town.

Letter from United Automobile Services.

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your letter of the 24th January and would assure you that the complaints you have raised and the particular incidents referred to in your earlier letter of the 16th December are being most carefully investigated.

If a satisfactory solution is to be found, I feel sure you will appreciate that the necessary investigations into a complex pattern of services cannot be quickly completed. I can only say at this time that every effort will be made to produce a pattern of service which will prove adequate for the area.

Yours faithfully,

C. Dickenson
Traffic Manager.

Our basic proposals are as follows:

1. Buses to start empty from Newton Aycliffe at peak traffic periods on Saturdays.
2. Durham and Newcastle service to be routed through Newton Aycliffe town centre, or at the very least, workable connections to be scheduled to stops on the Great North Road.

If United Services have not the facilities to operate these reasonable service improvements, then I propose that we petition the Traffic Commission to allocate an additional Omnibus Company to augment the services clearly necessary for a town the size of Newton Aycliffe.

If you support our proposals I would urge you to collect groups of signatures with addresses and forward them to me.

If you agree with both proposals, please append the numbers (1) and (2) to your name.

Only by your positive action will we obtain the improvement in bus services which Newton Aycliffe so urgently needs.

Yours etc.
Ray Allison.

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