



# Club and Branch News



## WITH THE SECRETARY

### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Again I have the pleasure of wishing a Merry Christmas to all members of the Guild and H.R.C. and to Meccano Clubs and H.R.C. Branches. It has become traditional for the first of the Winter Sessions to be "wound up" with a Christmas party, with plenty to eat, crackers to pull and lots of fun and games. Many Meccano Clubs and Branches extend their Christmas Party invitation to the parents of members, having discovered that pleasure is all the greater for being shared, and that members are always happier when they invite others to join in their fun.

I shall be thinking of members enjoying themselves in this way during the festive season.

### FORTHCOMING BRANCH EXHIBITION

The Mile End (Portsmouth) H.R.C. Branch will hold a Clockwork Railway Exhibition on Wednesday, 15th December, in the Buckland Congregational Church Hall, Kingston Road (corner of Queens Road), Buckland, Portsmouth. The Exhibition will be open from 4.30 p.m. until 9.30 p.m. Admission: Adults, 1/-; Children, 6d. An extensive and very attractive clockwork railway layout will be operated.

### CLUB NOTES

**EXETER M.C.**—Membership continues to increase and there is much enthusiasm at Model-building meetings. Models recently completed have included a goods yard crane, Meccano advertisement sign, tug boat, and a working weighing machine. The Club has acquired a Hornby Railway, and members have been bringing their own equipment to add to it on Train Nights. Club roll: 25. *Secretary:* C. Willis, 23 Hanover Road, Heavitree, Exeter.

**BELGRAVE UNION (LEICESTER) M.C.**—The two-day Exhibition in the Belgrave Union Church rooms was a great success, the fine display of working Meccano models and the extensive model railway layout being outstanding attractions. The Exhibition was highly praised by the many visitors, and by the local newspaper which published both a report and photograph of the event. Club roll: 19. *Secretary:* Mr. C. S. Smith, 18 Doncaster Road, Melton Turn, Leicester.

**STRENSALL (YORK) M.C.**—The highlight of the Club's annual outing this year was a visit to Messrs. Cochranes Steel Works, Middlesbrough, where members were greatly interested in the many processes carried out. During the same day the Middlesbrough Docks Superintendent took the party over the Docks installation. The seniors have been grouped into two Sections named Mechanics and Fitters respectively, and points scored at monthly points contests and fortnightly competitions go towards a House Shield. Club roll: 13. *Secretary:* J. Nurse, 73 Northfields, Strensall, nr. York.

**CONSETT Y.M.C.A. M.C.**—The Consett Y.M.C.A., with which this Club is associated, had a tent of their own at the Consett District Exhibition and Show. An outstanding feature of the display in this tent was a fine range of Meccano models that included one of a 600 b.h.p. mine hauler and a model of a mine conveyor. Both these models were in operation, and proved great attractions. Club roll: 28. *Secretary:* J. Norman Barron, 4 Garden Place, Leadgate, Consett, Co. Durham.

### BRANCH NEWS

**KENTISH TOWN**—New members will be welcomed. The Branch railway has been redesigned and the locomotives overhauled. Model aircraft construction is again becoming popular. Everyone is on the lookout for a new Club room, to enable the Branch to extend. *Secretary:* J. A. Kirby, 9 Busby Place, Kentish Town, London N.W.5.

**HALE END (LONDON)**—At one meeting members were tested on Hornby-Dublo operating, tests being made on accurate stopping, shunting, and smooth coupling of rolling stock. Members who passed the test were then asked to rail certain vehicles in a given time. There is a demand for locomotive "spotting" trips, and a member has been appointed to organise small outings of this kind. *Secretary:* A. L. Coe, 463 Hale End Road, Highams Park, London E.4.

**AVIARY MODEL RAILWAY CLUB (LEEDS)**—An outing to Knaresborough on the new Diesel car unit, in which the parents of some of the members also took part, was greatly enjoyed. The construction of cutout models for the Branch Hornby-Dublo layout is making good progress. Plans are in hand to raise funds for the purchase of additional railway equipment. *Secretary:* L. Blakey, 21 Arley Street, Armley, Leeds 12.

Officials and members of the Bury Grammar School M.C. This very successful Club was affiliated with the Meccano Guild in January 1950, and carries out an attractive programme of Meccano Model-building and Hornby Train operations.

