



NOV./DEC.
1966

BARNET

LONDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

CIVIC NEWS

THE IDEAL INVESTMENT

The ideal investment has three main characteristics—it should provide a high return whilst giving complete security for the capital, and should be available at no expense to the investor.

An investment with your own Council, the London Borough of Barnet, has all these characteristics. The rate of interest at the present time can be as high as £7 5s. 0d.%, depending on the amount you decide to invest, and, most important, it remains the same for the whole period of the loan. Therefore, if after you make your investment the general level of interest rates falls, the rate of interest you receive is unchanged.

The capital is fully secured on the rates and revenue of the Council and there is no risk at all—at the end of the period your investment can be repaid £1 for £1 or alternatively re-invested for a further period at whatever may then be the current interest rate. In addition an investment can be made at no expense to yourself, all costs being borne by the Council.

If you would like to take this opportunity to invest your money to the very best advantage, the Borough Treasurer will be pleased to give further details. Write to the Town Hall, Hendon, N.W.4, or telephone HENdon 8282, Ext. 402.

Alternatively, if it is convenient to you why not pay a visit to the Town Hall—the Treasurer's staff will be pleased to make arrangements for your investment or to answer any further questions you may have.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next meetings of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet will be held at the Town Hall, Hendon, N.W.4 at 7 p.m. on

Tuesday, 29th November, 1966

Tuesday, 20th December, 1966

Copies of Committee Reports are available in all public libraries before the Council Meetings take place, and for members of the public attending the meeting of the Council.

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LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET

Town Hall, Hendon, London, N.W.4 Tel. HEN 8282 Ext. 402

A NEW GRAMOPHONE RECORD LIBRARY

An extension of the gramophone record library service available to residents of the London Borough of Barnet was opened at East Barnet Library in Brookhill Road on Monday, 17th October 1966.

There are at present gramophone record libraries at the Central Library, The Burroughs, Hendon, and at East Finchley Library, High Road, N.2. The new library at East Barnet is intended to make the service more convenient for those living in the East Barnet, Osidge, High Barnet and Totteridge areas.

Membership is open to residents, non-resident full-time students, employers and employees in the London Borough of Barnet who are over sixteen years of age and are registered as members of any one of the Barnet libraries. Society membership is provided for schools, societies and similar

bodies whose meetings are normally held in the Borough. Applicants under 21 years of age and all non-residents must be recommended by someone on the Borough electoral register.

Each borrower is entitled to borrow one twelve-inch L.P., three smaller discs or one complete set of records. Details of stereo equipment held must be provided by those wishing to borrow stereo records. Records are issued for 21 days but can be renewed for a further 21 days if no other borrower requires them. Any record in stock may be reserved for a fee of 3d. There is a charge of 3d. a disc for each week or part of a week a record is retained after the date due for return.

Miniature scores are available for many of the works on record.

The new library will be open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays.



*Alderman Reginald J. N. Norman
Chairman of the Estates Committee*

Alderman Norman was first elected to the former Finchley Borough Council in 1936 and, apart from a period of four years, was a Member from then until the formation of the Barnet London Borough on 1st April, 1965. At one time or another he served on every committee of the former authority, and was Chairman of many of its committees.

An Estate Surveyor by profession, he practised in North Finchley for many years and at the outbreak of war, joined the Ministry of Works, Lands Branch, in which Department he served until his retirement in 1960, having attained the rank of Superintending Estate Surveyor.

He was appointed Deputy Mayor of the former Finchley Borough Council for the year 1944/45 and was elected Mayor of that Borough for 1946/7.

One of his main interests being Rating Valuation, he served as a member, and subsequently Chairman, of the former Finchley Borough Council's Valuation Committee until the setting up of the North Middlesex Valuation Panel under the Local Government Act of 1948. He was one of the original members, becoming a Deputy Chairman a few years later, and in this capacity he presides at Valuation Courts for the hearing of assessment appeals.

For several years he acted as representative for the former Finchley Borough Council on the Council of the Association of Municipal Corporations and as leader of the Council team gave evidence before the Royal Commission on Local Government in Greater London.

HENDON CREMATORIUM AND CEMETERY

The existence of a large quantity of trees in a Cemetery is a two-edged sword as far as the controlling Authority is concerned. On the one hand leaves which have fallen must be cleared from the lawns otherwise the sward suffers, and roots from the trees increase even more so the arduous work carried out by gravediggers. On the other hand the presence of many magnificent specimens—and Hendon Crematorium and Cemetery is very fortunate in this respect—provides an excellent additional feature for the many visitors to admire. At this time of year, the leaves on the majority of the deciduous trees are changing colour to wonderful hues of red, orange and yellow, but meanwhile the green foliage holds fast on the coniferous varieties. Cupressus, Lombardy Poplars, Elm, Oak, Horse Chestnut and Silver Birch, all in full maturity, adorn and beautify the grounds thereby alleviating the cold bareness which prevails at so many newly constructed Cemeteries throughout our country.

The beauty of the grounds of the Hendon Crematorium and Cemetery is further enhanced by copious plantings of roses in various colours. Immediately inside the Main Entrance, which is situated in Holders Hill Road, N.W.7., visitors are presented with the graceful Queen Elizabeth bush roses, a pale but dignified soft pink. These are surmounted by Weeping Standards of the variety Crimson Shower which bear clusters of small scarlet blooms.

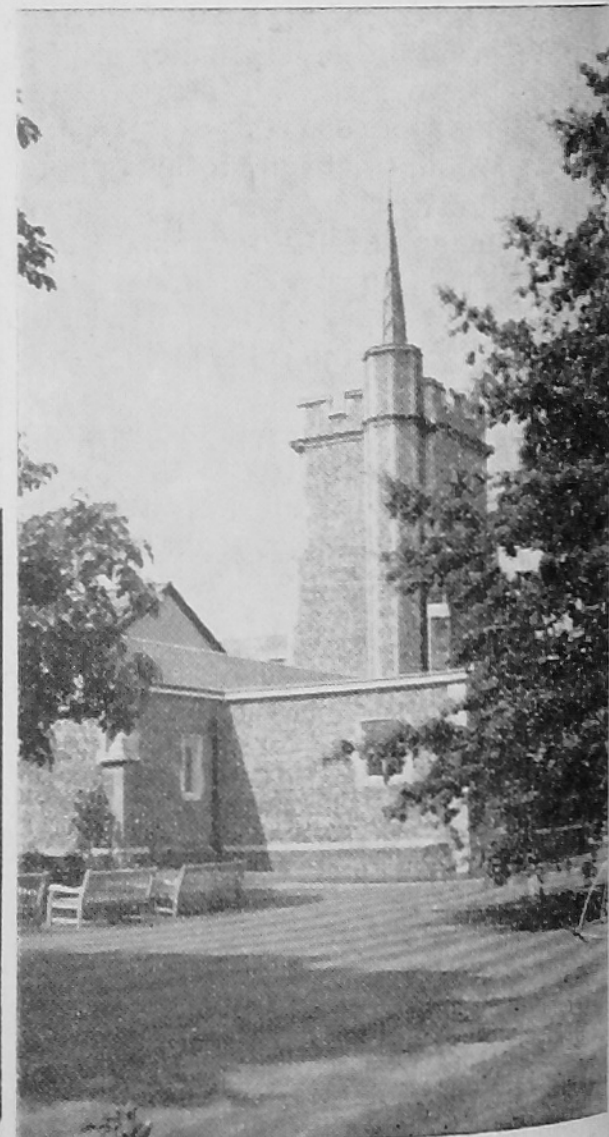
Approaching the Crematorium and Burial Chapels visitors are again faced with further plantings of Queen Elizabeth's, but here they are surmounted by the well-known Weeping Standard Paul's Scarlet which are similar in colour to Crimson Shower but produce larger, prouder individual blooms.

Elected an Alderman of the Barnet London Borough Council, he represents the Council on the London Boroughs Association and the General Purposes Committee of that body. He is Chairman of the Estates Committee and the Central Divisional Planning Sub-Committee and serves on a number of other committees, including the General Purposes, Finance and Welfare Committees of the Barnet London Borough Council.

Alderman Norman's wife is extremely well-known in the London Borough of Barnet, and he has one son who is married and resident in California.

The Garden of Remembrance is situated on the North side of the Crematorium and Burial Chapels and contains not only a variety of Standard Roses—Madame Butterfly, Virgo, Peace, Crimson Glory, Ena Harkness to name only the best known—but also many varieties of bush roses. "Masquerade" is a fine example which bears many clusters of blooms in a variety of colours on the same truss; "Frensham", an exceedingly vigorous grower bearing rich maroon blooms; "Jiminy Cricket" a modern rose with rather pale red/orange blooms. Many other varieties grace the Garden of Remembrance and bereaved relatives may elect to adopt a rose and have the cremated remains of a loved one scattered around the base of the rose of their choice. An inscribed tablet is then placed by the rose in order to facilitate identification of the final resting place of the deceased.

Throughout the Summer the west side of the Main Drive has been a mass of colour provided by Nemesis followed immediately by Antirrhinums in blocks of Pink, White, Red and Yellow, whilst on the east the ever dependable Geraniums and Calceolarias, with Alyssum, Lobelia and Tagetes edging with dot plants of bronze Cannas, Perilla Nankinensis and Grevillea robusta, provided an equally pleasing picture.



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ESTATES DEPARTMENT

The work of the Estates Department covers a very wide professional field arising principally from the fact that, since the end of the War, local authorities have been faced with an ever increasing and varied amount of valuation and management problems. This comment is particularly appropriate when one relates it to the activities of a large authority with the progressive outlook of the London Borough of Barnet. The Borough, looked at as a whole, contains within its boundaries a vast amount of property of all sorts and descriptions, a state of affairs which is, of course, inevitable when it is realised that it includes residences of all types, busy shopping centres, offices, factories and smaller industrial units, allotments and, as one proceeds further north, rural and common land much of which is still devoted to agricultural uses. A comprehensive collection such as this, situated as it is in a Borough that is easy of access to the West End and the City, means inevitably that property interests are often complicated and varied, and the demand for land is very great.

The Borough Estates Department is located at Hertford Lodge, East End Road, Finchley, N.3, which previously housed the Town Clerk's Department of the former Borough of Finchley. Very broadly, the main functions of the Department are:—

- (a) the acquisition of property;
- (b) the leasing and disposal of property (other than Council housing);
- (c) the management of various types of properties (other than housing, certain corporate buildings, parks and open spaces, and swimming pools);
- (d) valuations (other than valuations for rating) for all Council purposes—including the very large number that arise from applications to the Council for mortgage advances.

Acquisitions become necessary as a result of many of the activities of the Council and, although a large proportion of the transactions that are entered into are related to the housing programme and the demands of the housing waiting list, there are nevertheless a number of other activities of the Council that call for the purchase of land and property. The Estates Department is charged with the duty—except in the case of the West Hendon Housing Scheme, where the District Valuer of the Inland Revenue

Valuation Office has carried on with the work that he was undertaking in the days of the former Hendon Council—of conducting, on behalf of the Council, the negotiations leading up to the settlement of the purchase price. In order to carry out this function satisfactorily it is, of course, vitally necessary for the Department to be closely in touch with market values and to maintain a careful watch on all factors that are likely to affect them. The relocation of existing occupiers is also an additional problem that arises on occasions from negotiations. The types of properties to be acquired can differ considerably in character and can not only cover buildings of varying ages, but can also involve the purchase of substantial areas of land such as Hendon Aerodrome and the Denham Farm Estate at Totteridge. It is interesting to note that the last-mentioned, and 72 acres of agricultural land at "The Darlands", were purchased at auction last year in pursuance of the Council's policy to further the preservation of the Green Belt within the Borough. Frequently, sites that have been acquired have to be cleared before they can be put to the use for which they were purchased, and in these instances the Department obtains quotations for any demolition work that is necessary, and supervises the job.

Leasing and short-term lettings—other than the letting of Council dwellings which are undertaken by the Housing Department—fall to be dealt with by the Estates Department. It may not be generally appreciated that many sports clubs such as those catering for golf, cricket, association and rugby football, tennis and rifle shooting are tenants of the Council, and tenancies of a miscellaneous collection of other Council owned hereditaments which include, to name but a few, shops, factory and workshop units, agricultural land, offices, a few farms, and meeting places for organisations, also come within the scope of the activities of the Department.

Lettings bring management work which, in turn, leads to the everyday problems that arise in connection with the control of property. In addition, such other matters as the inspection of premises, the enforcement of conditions in leases, and the adjustment of rents at the end of tenancies, are also undertaken. This aspect of the work of the Department also prompts a special reference to the allotments in the Borough. At present, approximately 3,200 plots are under cultivation and allotment sites are



*I. Fooks, Esq., F.A.I.,
Borough Estates Officer.*

administered in the three following ways: (a) by a Society to whom the land is leased and who are entirely responsible for the letting of plots thereon; (b) by the Council letting the plots direct to allottees; and (c) by the allottees forming a Society (who are not the lessees of the land) and electing a Secretary who deals with all lettings.

Although the total number of allottees has diminished to some extent in recent years, it is nevertheless recognised that the cultivation of an allotment brings joy and relaxation to many people, and it is a service to the public that the Council, and the Department, find interesting and rewarding.

Needless to say, the carrying out of the functions to which reference has already been made creates the necessity for valuations (other than valuations for rating) to be made by the staff of the Department for all Council purposes. Valuations arising out of claims for compensation, the granting of easements, and applications for mortgage advances to purchase residential accommodation are also undertaken. Mortgage valuations, because of their importance to individual applicants, must be dealt with as a matter of urgency as, in some cases, a delay could mean a loss of opportunity for a prospective buyer to obtain a home.

Continued on page eight column three

HOUSING DEPARTMENT



*W. A. Plevin, Esq., A.A.I., A.I.H.M.,
Borough Housing Officer.*

The Housing Department of the London Borough of Barnet has, since its formation in April, 1965, become responsible for the management of all Council Housing Estates in the former Urban Districts of Barnet, East Barnet, Friern Barnet and the former Boroughs of Hendon and Finchley. At the present time the number of dwellings, shops, and garages managed by the Department totals some 13,000 premises.

Within the framework of a short article it is possible to outline only the principal aspects of the work of the Housing Department, which can be classified broadly into three main sections: the administration of the housing applications register; allocations and general supervision of tenancies, the assessment and collection of Council house rents; and the repair, maintenance, and general upkeep of the Housing Estates.

The majority of members of the public, who seek the Council's assistance over housing, first come into contact with the Housing Department through the Housing Applications Section. At the present time there are nearly 4,500 applications registered on the waiting list, the majority of these being from persons living in overcrowded or inadequate conditions. Each application is assessed under the provisions of the Council's Points

Scheme, which is so designed as to reflect the relative degree of housing hardship prevailing in each case. To qualify for inclusion on the waiting list, an applicant must have resided within the Greater London area for a period of not less than five years, the last 12 months of which must be in the Borough of Barnet. A waiting period of one year from the date of registration is also required before an application can be considered for a Council tenancy.

In co-operation with the Greater London Council, the Department maintains a list of those applicants who are willing to accept rehousing in one of the New or Expanded Towns, and to take employment there under the provisions of the Industrial Selection Scheme. By means of this Scheme an increasing number of young couples, particularly those with a skilled trade, are managing to solve their housing problems by moving out of the overcrowded areas of Greater London. Particulars of this scheme may be obtained from the Head Office of the Housing Department.

Despite the steady progress made in the provision of new properties, at the present time the number of applicants for accommodation in the Borough far exceeds the number of properties available for letting. The Council recognises that this often leads to a sense of frustration by many applicants who may feel that their difficulties are not fully recognised. Whilst the Council's properties range from bed-sitting rooms for unattached persons to four-bedroomed flats and houses for large families, the frequency with which vacancies arise in these different sized properties varies considerably. In certain areas of the Borough vacancies which might otherwise be allocated to applicants, or to tenants eligible for transfers, must of necessity be allocated to families living in properties scheduled for demolition so that these areas can be cleared for redevelopment. Nevertheless, it is hoped that the planned development of future Estates, including the forthcoming redevelopment of Hendon Aerodrome, will lead to a speedy solution to the housing problems of the majority of applicants.

Once an applicant has been allocated a tenancy of one of the Council's properties, his links with the Department are through the Tenancy Section or the Maintenance Section. The Tenancy Section is responsible for the administration of the Conditions of Tenancy applied to Council dwellings,

for the collection of rents, the assessment of rents under the provisions of the Council's Rent Variation Scheme, and for the arranging of transfers of tenancies and mutual exchanges of accommodation. This Section also deals with the rehousing of persons affected by the Council's redevelopment schemes for the various Housing Areas in the Borough.

Rent collection is currently being made on a 48-week year basis, no collections being made for those weeks in which a Bank Holiday occurs. The maximum net rents of Council dwellings are assessed on the basis of the Gross Value of the premises and a tenant may submit an application for rebate from the maximum net rent under the terms of the Rent Variation Scheme. Where the financial circumstances of the tenant warrant, he can be granted a rebate down to a minimum rent which at the present time is approximately 80% of the maximum rent. This scheme is in conformity with the Minister of Housing and Local Government's request that local authorities should make provision for variation of rents according to the income and circumstances of tenants.

It is the Council's desire that wherever possible Council dwellings should be used to the best possible advantage, and therefore a considerable number of transfers of tenancies are arranged by the Department to alleviate overcrowding or underoccupation of their houses and flats. A record of underoccupied or overcrowded dwellings is maintained, and whilst the present housing situation is such that it sometimes has not been possible to effect these transfers as quickly as desired, nevertheless the position regarding this aspect is steadily improving.

Where a tenant desires a change of accommodation although his present dwelling is of a size suitable to his needs, he can be assisted in many cases by means of a mutual exchange with another tenant, not necessarily of Barnet, willing to move into his dwelling. Here again a register of such requests is maintained in the Housing Department, and many tenants have had their housing problem satisfactorily resolved by this means.

The Maintenance and Repairs Section of the Housing Department deals with all matters relating to the maintenance of Council dwellings, and in addition to technical and administrative personnel, also controls the direct labour staff of the Department. This labour force includes building trade operatives of all branches; carpenters,

Continued on page eight column two



*Councillor W. G. Hart,
Chairman of the Housing Committee.*

Councillor W. G. Hart, Chairman of the Housing Committee, has been a resident of Finchley all his life and was elected to the former Finchley Borough Council in 1952 and to the new London Borough of Barnet on its formation in 1964.

As a member of the Finchley Council he served on all the Committees and was Chairman of the Finance, Establishment and Civil Defence Committees.

He was elected Mayor in 1960-61, having previously been Deputy Mayor in 1956-57 and 1959-60.

At the present time he is a Member of the Barnet Group Hospital Management Committee, a Governor of Christ Church School, one of the Trustees of the Finchley Charities and Vice-Chairman of the Boy Scouts Local Association. He has also been a member of the Committee of the Friends of Finchley Hospitals since its inception in 1956.

He has been actively concerned with the work of St. Barnabas Church, Woodside Park, being a member of the Church Council for over 30 years and in the past has held most of the Church offices.

By profession he is Assistant Secretary with the Central Electricity Generating Board, having been in the Electricity Industry all his life.

BARNET DIVISION OF THE CIVIL DEFENCE CORPS Feeding Exercise—3rd/4th September, 1966

The 300th Anniversary of the Great Fire of London and the 100th Anniversary of the formation of the London Fire Brigade was commemorated in a large exercise held in the London Docks on Sunday, 4th September, 1966, when a total fire force of about 5,000 firemen and firewomen participated in a major exercise which went under the code name of "Tercenary".

On Saturday, 3rd September, firemen from various parts of the country began to arrive previous to participating in this exercise, and one of the rendezvous was the Hendon Aerodrome, where some 1,500 assembled. The units included some from the Home Counties and from Yorkshire and Wales. Half of this number were fed by members of the Barnet Division of the Civil Defence Corps who, as part of their own "Exercise Feeder", prepared an evening meal of soup, roast beef, vegetables, apple pie with custard and tea, kept a running buffet open all night for some late arrivals and various staff on duty, and then served 736 cooked breakfasts in 30 minutes, commencing at 6.00 a.m.

Preparations for the Feeding Exercise involved all members of the staff of the Civil Defence Section of the Town Clerk's Department, and culminated in the actual laying out of the site on the Hendon Aerodrome as food preparation and kitchen areas. The Civil Defence staff were assisted in their work by staff from the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department who provided transport and building materials and arranged the refuse disposal facilities.

Foodstuffs were delivered to the site and volunteer members of the Division began to report for duty at mid-day on Saturday. A total of 67 volunteers took part and were formed into "shifts", a number of personnel staying overnight. Tented accommodation was provided for the men, whilst women volunteers were accommodated in the R.A.F. huts on the Aerodrome, which also afforded accommodation for the women members of the fire service.

The meals were cooked on field kitchens moved to the site from the emergency feeding equipment store located in the Borough at East Finchley. Although the total number of meals served on each occasion was approximately 750, many more could have been served had the need existed, and the exercise provided a most useful practical demonstration of the

ability of members of the local Division of the Civil Defence Corps to provide good meals on this equipment. A particular point which the exercise brought out was the ability of the volunteers to carry out this work although many of them, not being members of the Welfare Section, had not received specific training in the large-scale preparation of foodstuffs and the cooking of it on field kitchens. The supervision of each shift was the responsibility of trained members of the Welfare Section.

This is the first time in the lifetime of the Barnet Division of the Civil Defence Corps that this type of exercise has been carried out, and considerable comfort can be drawn from the successful outcome and the way in which liaison between the several Council Departments concerned in the initial stages of preparation was effected.

YOUR CAR TAX

Many calls are received from residents asking where they are now to tax their cars.

This service is undertaken by the Greater London Council, and all residents of the Barnet London Borough should send their application forms and cheques (made payable to the Greater London Council) to:—

The Local Taxation Officer,
84 Uxbridge Road,
West Ealing, W.13.
Telephone Ealing 7755.

Hendon Crematorium

Continued from page two

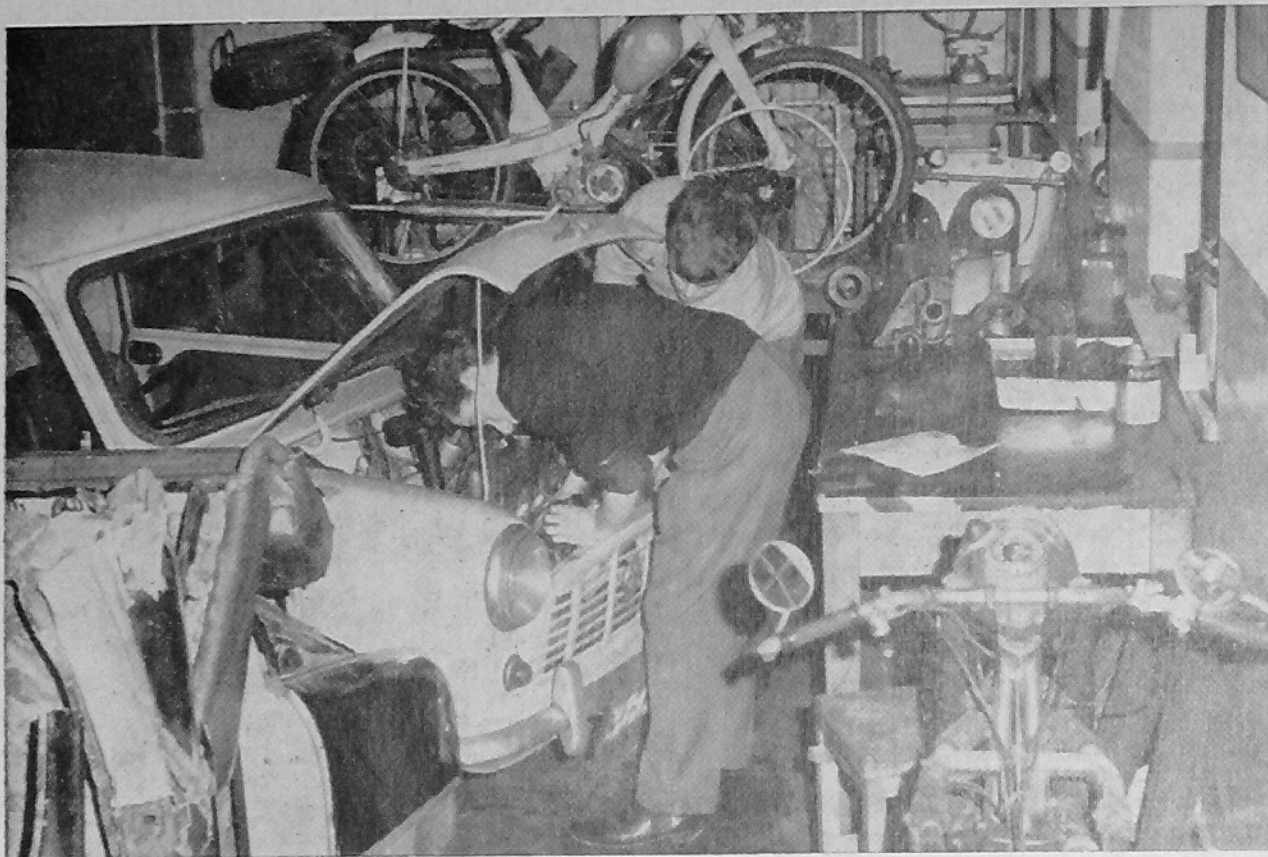
Between the Holders Hill Road and the administration block of the Hendon Crematorium and Cemetery are lawns into which have been cut this year three flower beds. The scarlet Salvia "Blaze of Fire" with a white Alyssum border and dot plants of *Dracaena draco*, have provided a splendid splash of colour for passers-by and visitors to the grounds, and certainly the complimentary remarks made to the Cemetery gardening staff responsible for carrying out these additional works have made their efforts well worth while.

The hours between which the Crematorium and Cemetery grounds are open to the public are—

Oct., Nov.,	8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Dec., Jan., Feb.:	8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.
March, April:	8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.
May, Sept.:	8.30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Correspondence and enquiries should be directed to the Superintendent, Hendon Crematorium and Cemetery, Holders Hill Road, Mill Hill, N.W.7. (Telephone FINchley 0629 & 0657).

THE YOUTH SERVICE



Mechanics at work in the Youth Workshop at New Barnet.

The Youth Service is aimed at providing an opportunity through leisure for young people to develop morally, socially, mentally and physically in a good social environment. In order to achieve this, the Service has to determine the needs of young people, to discover how far these needs are being met by existing Youth organisations, to strengthen these organisations, to create new and specialist organisations and to promote activities. It has also to bring all local organisations concerned with the welfare of young people into contact with each other and with the local authorities so as to secure co-operation and co-ordination, and has to stimulate the interest of the general public so that young people have every opportunity of becoming useful citizens.

With the Education Act, 1944, it became a statutory obligation for all Education Authorities to provide a Youth Service. On 1st April, 1965, the London Borough of Barnet Council appointed four full-time Youth Officers to the Further Education Division of the Education Department. At the same time, the Council appointed a Sub-Committee of its Education Committee to be responsible for promoting leisure time activities of young people in the Borough. The Sub-Committee comprises 13 members of the Education Committee and 10 co-opted members.

Perhaps the most familiar feature of the Service is that of the general mixed Youth Centre or Club which can be managed either by the Authority or by a voluntary body. In the Barnet area there are three such Authority

buildings, the Canada Villa Youth Centre, the Herbert Wilmot Youth Centre and the Finches Youth Club, together with Youth Wings attached to the John Hampden and Hillside Secondary Schools in addition to many voluntary Centres and Clubs. The Authority also administers specialist Centres in various parts of the Borough. For canoeing and sailing enthusiasts there is the Welsh Harp Youth Sailing Base; for the sports specialists the Algernon Road Youth Sports Centre and Youth Hall, Finchley; for the mechanically minded the New Barnet Youth Workshop. Many Schools are also used for both general

youth club purposes and specialist activity groups in a variety of sports and hobbies. A large percentage of the work in the Youth Service, however, is carried out by an army of voluntary leaders (and helpers) in mixed youth clubs, boys' clubs, scouting, guiding, pre-service units, religious youth organisations, Girls' Brigades, Old Scholars' organisations and specialist youth organisations, etc. In all, there are over 350 organisations serving the interests of young people in the Borough.

The Barnet Borough Council administers many services to both the statutory and voluntary youth organisations. The provision of financial assistance towards the cost of major building works, maintenance of premises, leaders' salaries, instructors, furniture, equipment are examples of these. Other services provided include the provision of coaching facilities and the use of some educational premises by youth organisations at reduced rates. Each year new opportunities for training are made available and the provision of training facilities is made by the Council for leaders and members depending upon their experience and interests. The object of training is to seek more knowledge and experience so that people will be better equipped for the job and thereby achieve greater satisfaction. Training courses are run in the Study of Adolescence and in Youth Club Management, Personal Improvement for Members, Producing the Club Play or Show, Film Projection and Aspects of Club Life.



Table-tennis in progress at The Finches Youth Club, Woodhouse Road, N.12.

Regular events are organised by the Council in various parts of the Borough which include many sporting tournaments and cultural events. These are provided to ensure healthy competition between club members and to enable young people to come together on these occasions. It is envisaged that there will be at least one Borough Youth Service event per month. The area Councils of Youth also arrange joint activities. The Councils of Youth give youth club members the opportunity of exchanging ideas and expressing to the Local Authority the views of its members and of the organisations they represent on any questions affecting young people. The Councils of Youth are run entirely on the initiative of its members and adults are only present by invitation, each recognised youth organisation sending two members between the ages of 15 and 21 to its monthly meetings. Some Inter-Borough events are also arranged by Sub-Committees of Youth Officers. As well as this Borough and Inter-Borough activity, an ambitious programme of Youth Service visits and exchanges abroad is undertaken. In 1966, the Council organised visits of young people to France, Germany and Czechoslovakia and undertook exchanges with Tempelhof and Siegen in Germany. An International Youth Camp was held during August to which several countries sent delegations and as with the other visits, the young people from this country and abroad had the opportunity of seeing the many facets of different countries and peoples and of returning to their own countries with a better international understanding.

The Education Department of the Council administers the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme for Boys and Girls. The idea of a nation wide scheme of Awards for achievement in a number of leisure time activities was suggested by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh. "These schemes are designed to help both the young and the grown up. It is designed as an introduction to personal achievement and a guide to those people and organisations who are concerned about the development of our future citizens." A Panel has been set up to implement the Schemes locally. The Education Department also administers a pool of camping equipment and audio visual aid equipment at nominal rates for the benefit of youth organisations and young people, loans books on the Youth Service and publishes Youth Service newsletters and handbooks which give information not only about local but national happenings on the Youth Service scene. In con-

THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

In the London Borough of Barnet careers guidance and advice on employment for young people are the responsibility of the Education Department. In the Borough the Youth Employment and Careers Advisory Services are operated from three offices, at Hatchcroft, The Burroughs, Hendon; at Dale Grove Hall, Dale Grove, North Finchley and at the Youth Employment Office, Barnet College of Further Education, Wood Street, Barnet. The purpose of the Youth Employment Service is to inform, advise and help boys and girls about their employment and about the education and training which they need in order to be successful in the careers which they choose. Officers of the Youth Employment Service visit schools in the Borough to talk to boys and girls in groups, or individually, during the third, fourth or fifth year of secondary school life. Youth Employment Officers have no powers of direction into employment, but have a responsibility not only to advise on the type of work suitable for a young person, but to make every effort to find a suitable opening in it. The Service is a national one, unrestricted by local boundaries and close contact is maintained between neighbouring Authorities and with the Central London Service, so that the best possible opportunities may be offered to young people.

Employers are not obliged to notify their vacancies for young people to the Youth Employment Service but many find that by doing so they are saved time in interviewing totally unsuitable applicants, as it is one of the Youth Employment Officer's tasks to "match" an employer's requirements for a particular post with the qualities of the boys or girls introduced. This can only be done effectively if the Youth Employment Officer knows the local firms and has a wide knowledge of industrial conditions and of commercial and industrial training schemes.

junction with the hiring of camping equipment the Moat Mount Camp Site in the Borough is placed at the disposal of Youth Service organisations and young people. Members of the 5th Hendon (Hiawatha) Scout Group act as Camp Service Crew and endeavour to arrange a rota of Rovers to be on duty when required. The advice by Youth Officers of the Department on organisation of groups, planning of programmes and other matters is always readily available.

Although many boys and girls first meet with the Youth Employment Service while they are still at school, parents, and boys and girls up to the age of 18, are very welcome to visit the Youth Employment Offices at any time (during normal office hours) for preliminary advice. A wide range of careers literature may be borrowed and advice on full-time courses in further and higher education is also available. Boys and girls sometimes feel that if they found their own first job they cannot come to the Youth Employment Service later. This is completely untrue; not only are the staff still interested but they have a responsibility to help in all employment matters until young people reach the age of 18 and pass into the care of the Ministry of Labour. Three agency services are carried out at Youth Employment Offices on behalf of Central Government Departments; first national insurance cards are issued to all boys and girls under the age of 18, and national assistance and unemployment benefits are paid to those young people who qualify for them until they reach the eighteenth birthday.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE BY YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

Within the London Borough of Barnet there is widespread activity by various youth organisations to assist the less fortunate and needy members of the community.

The assistance given by these organisations covers a wide range and is given to children, old people and disabled people. The youth organisations take a very active part in national appeals and other money raising efforts.

During the Christmas holidays the young people are very active in organising parties, carol singing and visiting hospitals to operate the trolley services and undertake more onerous tasks in the wards to enable the staff to have time off for some part of the day. Two organisations collected sufficient money for a Mother and Baby Clinic for Father Trevor Huddleston in Tanzania.

Apart from the organised groups of youth within the Borough contributing this help to the community, there are many individual young people also engaged in similar activities.

LIBRARY LECTURES

Admission Free.

Details are given below of forthcoming Library Lectures.

**CENTRAL LIBRARY
THE BURROUGHS, N.W.4.**

Thursday, 10th November

A greenhorn in green hell
(Travel up the Amazon)
by Lord Furneaux

Thursday, 17th November

Away from it all
(She went to the Arctic)
by Sally Westmacott

Thursday, 24th November

The changing purpose of the
artist
by Nicholas Usherwood

Thursday, 1st December

Four Tajiks and a tourist in
Luristan
by Nicholas Downie

**NORTH FINCHLEY LIBRARY,
RAVENSDALE AVENUE, N.12.**

Wednesday, 16th November

Four Tajiks and a tourist in
Luristan
by Nicholas Downie

**EAST FINCHLEY LIBRARY
HIGH ROAD, N.2.**

Wednesday, 9th November

A greenhorn in green hell
(the Amazon)
by Lord Furneaux

Wednesday, 23rd November

Old customs, news ways (in
Japan)
by John Gettrup

Wednesday, 7th December

Abu Simbel
by Elizabeth Hemelryk

VOLUNTARY SERVICE

The immense services for health and welfare provided by the Department of the Medical Officer of Health are greatly assisted by voluntary service.

There are many opportunities for voluntary service, and residents who wish to give their services are invited to write to the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, Hendon, N.W.4, where a list of all local organisations is maintained by the Information Section.

SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

The Council will be pleased to receive your comments regarding the "Barnet Civic News", and invite your suggestions on the layout and type of article or information appearing in this new publication, which endeavours to keep you informed as to the functions, departments and committees of the Council. Please write to the Town Clerk, Town Hall, Hendon, N.W.4.

**£25,000 TARGET FOR BOND
SALES**

The Barnet Borough Savings Committee held a Premium Savings Bond Week from 15th—22nd October, 1966.

A special local prize draw was held by the Committee for all purchasers of Premium Savings Bonds in the London Borough during the week. Members of the public buying a Bond in Barnet during the week were invited to complete an entry form for the draw for valuable prizes which were presented mainly by local industrialists.

Sales of Premium Savings Bonds in the Borough of Barnet for the 22 weeks to the end of August, 1966, totalled £296,556, an average of £13,479 a week.

At the rally of savings workers held at the Conservative Hall, Finchley, the presentation of industrial and school trophies were made, and the winners of the competition held for school children during the Anniversary Celebrations received their prizes.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Borough Savings Committee, which was held on 27th September, 1966, Mr. Emil Grant, O.B.E., Mr. W. R. Harman, F.I.M.T.A., F.C.A., and Mr. W. Russell Lawrence, M.A., LL.B., were re-elected as Chairman, Secretary and Vice-Chairman respectively. The Chairman paid tribute to the co-operation received from the Local Authority and, in particular, to the help given by members of its staff.

Housing Department*Continued from page four*

bricklayers, plumbers, electricians, painters and paper-hangers, etc. When it is realised that the pool of housing accommodation controlled by the Council comprises the widest possible range of dwellings, from the single-bed-roomed bungalows specifically designed for occupation by elderly persons, to sixteen-storey blocks of flats provided with lifts, central heating installations and modern facilities, it will be appreciated that a comprehensive labour force is needed to maintain such a variety of types of properties.

In addition to routine day-to-day repairs, a yearly programme of special and improvement works is undertaken to ensure that the Housing Estates are maintained up to modern standards.

The Council has undertaken responsibility for the internal redecoration of all Council dwellings, and this work is carried out by the Painting Section of the direct labour staff in accordance with a programme whereby each dwelling is redecorated throughout every eight years. In the first four years of the period half of the premises

**EXPERIMENTAL
STREET LIGHTING—
HENDON CENTRAL**

A short section of the Watford Way between Hendon Central and Neeld Crescent is the subject of an experiment with colour-corrected sodium street lighting. The scheme is being carried out at the cost of two leading electrical manufacturers with the full approval of the Ministry of Transport and the Barnet London Borough Council. No expenditure will be borne out of the local rates or National funds.

This is among the first experiments of this kind in this country and is designed to produce minimum colour distortion in shopping areas, amenity areas and civic centres.

Estates Department*Continued from page three*

In a large majority of cases after a decision has been taken to make an advance, further inspections are necessary to ensure that there has been compliance with any repair conditions that may have been imposed. These inspections are also dealt with as quickly as possible in order to avoid inconveniencing applicants.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the Estates Department certainly makes its contribution to the provision and smooth running of the various services to the public, for which the Council is responsible.

(e.g. the ground floor) is attended to and the remainder is completed during the next four-year period. In this connection the Council has agreed to a tenants' bonus scheme for internal decorations, which gives tenants, if they so wish, the opportunity of themselves carrying out the redecorations scheduled, and claiming a fixed allowance for the work they have undertaken. Every tenant is notified of the dates of the four-year periods scheduled for his dwelling so that he can decide at the appropriate time whether or not he wishes to participate in the bonus scheme.

The Council are probably the largest property owners in the Borough, the capital value of the dwellings they control being several millions of pounds, and it is the task of the Housing Department to manage and maintain these dwellings to the high standard required by the Council and to ensure that the housing needs of the steadily increasing number of Council tenants are adequately catered for in accordance with the policies laid down by the Council.