



# BARNET

## LONDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

# CIVIC NEWS

**AUG./SEPT.**  
**1967**

### NEW CHILDREN'S RECEPTION CENTRE

The photograph at the foot of page three shows a model of the Dollis Valley housing estate. In the south-west corner of the estate are a primary school and, next to the school, a group of buildings intended as a children's Reception Centre.

Children come into care at all hours of the day or night and it is important to have a Centre equipped to receive them, with staff who will give them a welcome whatever the circumstances. Lacking a Reception Centre at present, the Children's Committee has to make all sorts of makeshift arrangements. One family of eight brothers and sisters was recently, for example, split up over four different children's Homes. This occasions extra worry for the children and their parents and it is also disturbing to the "family" of children in a small children's Home where the children stay for a relatively lengthy period. Children have also, on occasion, had to sleep in the living rooms of children's Homes or even to spend a night in the private houses of office staff.

A proper Reception Centre will ensure that each child's needs are properly assessed when he first comes into care so that the best decisions for his future can be made in discussion with his parents, and with the child himself if he is old enough.

### A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL



The new Woodridge School in Southover, N.20 (general details of which appeared in the April/May issue of "Barnet Civic News") was opened at Whitsun with a staff of two. The number will be increased to six in September, when between 150-200 pupils are expected to be on the roll.

The school building, gardens and playing fields occupy a total area of 3.7 acres, and the layout provides for grass playing space immediately adjoining the school buildings.

Catering for five to 11-year-olds, the school has seven classrooms, a spacious assembly hall with adjacent changing and shower facilities, a separate dining area and self-contained school meals kitchen.

### FRIERN BARNET SUMMER SHOW

The Friern Barnet Summer Show will be held again this year on August 17th, 18th, and 19th, but with a change of venue. The picturesque Friary Park, the home of former Shows, had decided limitations for space, and this restricted development of the Show. This year's Show will be held in Bethune Park Recreation Ground, Beaconsfield Road, Friern Barnet, and as a result, a greatly improved and well-packed programme of events and displays will be staged.

The usual Arts and Crafts Displays

and Competitions, Baby Show and Dog Show will take place, also Road Safety demonstrations with Clown Roma and his dog Goldie presented by the Barnet Central Area Road Safety Committee. Trampoline, by the Hendon Youth Centre, and a Grand Concert by the Friern Barnet Operatic Society, as well as a Tug o' War and Soap Box Derby contests.

In addition, and for the first time to be seen in this area, we have the daring, sensational international Trapeze act . . . The Flying Rosinas. Also, the

Marching Drum Majorettes, who have recently appeared in B.B.C. and I.T.V. Television Shows; Festival Gardens, Battersea, and who led the parade of British and Russian teams at the first Speedway International between the two countries. The Police Motor Cycle Display Team and their precision riding, and a Grand Cycle Speedway match between local rivals Barnet Lions v Finchley Hawks.

Dancing and Barbecue will end the Show, which should prove to have "something for everyone".



# THE FIRST RAILWAY TO EDGWARE

A local exhibition, "THE FIRST RAILWAY TO EDGWARE", is being held at Church Farm House Museum, Church End, Hendon, N.W.4, under the auspices of the Barnet London Borough Council from 29th July, until 11th September, 1967.

The exhibition is arranged by Mr. A. M. Lawrence, to commemorate the centenary of the opening of the railway on 22nd August, 1867.

The first railway to Edgware, the branch from Finsbury Park through Highgate, Finchley and Mill Hill, was inspired by local Finchley residents and was authorised by Parliament on 3rd June, 1862. Branches from the original line were authorised to Alexandra Park in 1864 and to High Barnet in 1866. The cost of this additional legislation, unexpected constructional difficulties at Highgate tunnels, and crossing the valley of the Dollis Brook led to a financial crisis and the takeover of the local company by the Great Northern Railway on 15th July, 1867.

The Finsbury Park-Edgware section was opened on 22nd August, 1867, and was originally single line beyond Highgate. It was doubled in stages ready for the opening of the Finchley-High Barnet branch on 1st April, 1872. The Highgate-Alexandra Palace branch opened on 24th May, 1873 but was closed shortly after when the Palace was burned down. This branch was closed and reopened no less than eight times between 1873 and 1898, due to the varying fortunes of the Alexandra

Palace and the uncertain policy of the Great Northern towards suburban traffic.

"Foreign" trains appeared on the High Barnet and Alexandra Palace branches from 18th January, 1875 when the North London Railway commenced a service from Broad Street. Between 1880 and 1907 the London Chatham and Dover Railway also ran a service through to Alexandra Palace. The North London trains, later run by the London Midland and Scottish Railway lasted until 1941, the final service being between Broad Street and East Finchley.

After the opening of the High Barnet branch the Finchley-Edgware section, which remained single line, declined in importance and few through trains were run to London. As an economy measure a railcar was tried in 1906 on the shuttle service from Finchley, and as a part of this experiment The Hale Halt was opened on 11th June, 1906. Unfortunately the railcar could not cope with peak traffic and passengers complained that it vibrated and rode roughly. After the First World War another experiment was made with a steam railcar called "Rising Sun" but this unit suffered from the same faults as the 1906 machine.

The hours of opening of the Museum are:

Mondays and Wednesdays to

Saturdays	10.00 a.m.—12.30 p.m.
	2.00 p.m.— 6.00 p.m.
Tuesdays	10.00 a.m.— 1.00 p.m.
Sundays	2.30 p.m.— 6.00 p.m.

## ALDERMEN OF THE COUNCIL



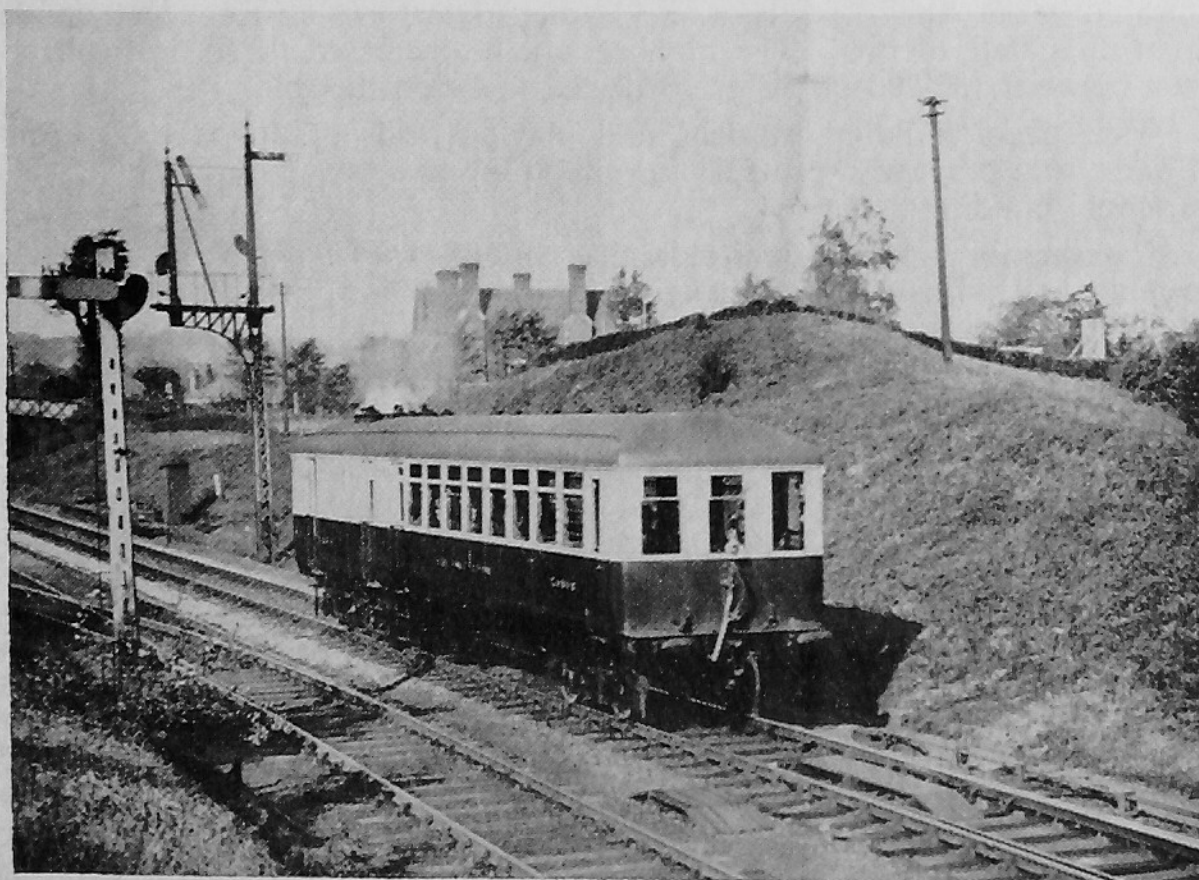
**Alderman A. D. Cohen, J.P., M.A.**

Alderman Cohen was elected as a Councillor to the former Finchley Borough Council as a Liberal member in May, 1957, serving the Bishop Ward. He was for two years Chairman of its Finance Committee and Leader of the Council for the last two years of its existence as a local authority, and was subsequently elected as a Councillor for the Finchley East Ward of the Barnet London Borough Council in 1964. Alderman Cohen still holds several offices in the Liberal Party. Of the Committees on which he serves, his main interests are in the fields of Finance, Housing and Children.

Alderman Cohen, who was born 37 years ago in Deans Way, Finchley, and has lived in the Borough all his life, has been a Justice of the Peace since 1966 and serves on the bench at Highgate Court.

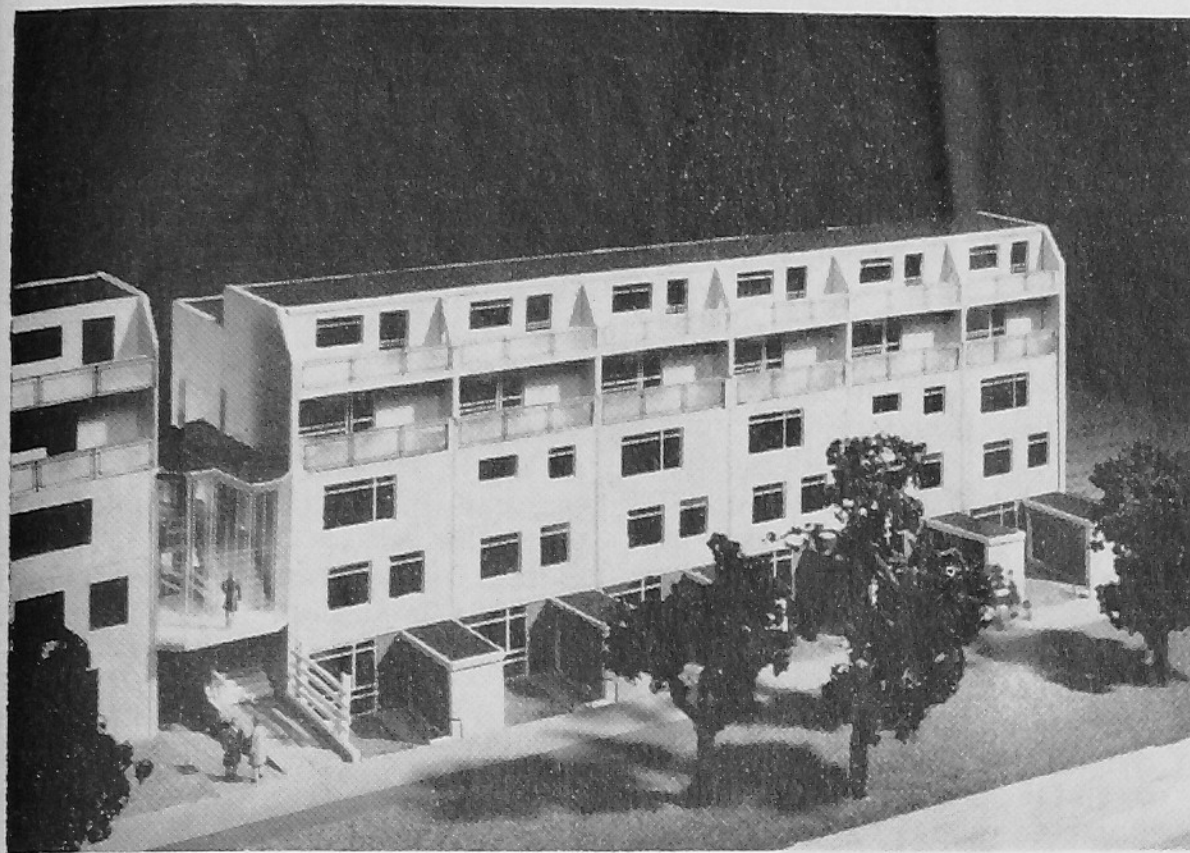
He was an exhibitor of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and went on to take an honours degree there. By profession a Company Director in the field of Veneer and Plastic Manufacture, he frequently travels abroad in the furtherance of exports, and is former Chairman of the Association of British Veneer Manufacturers and Vice-President of the European Association of Veneer and Plywood Manufacturers.

Married with three sons, Alderman Cohen finds that his main form of exercise today is squash, although other interests include skiing and tennis. He represented the Signals Corps in the latter sport while serving in the Army. Shortly after the war he was commissioned in the Army.



*The first L.N.E.R. steam rail coach in the London district, the "Rising Sun" running between Finchley and Edgware. (Photograph by courtesy of British Rail—Eastern Region)*





*A typical five-storey block of Flats and Maisonettes.*

### **DOLLIS VALLEY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, MAYS LANE, BARNET**

Work on the site of this project is well advanced and the general lines of the estate layout are already apparent. The site is that occupied by the former Barnet Urban District Council's Sewage Disposal Works and Refuse Transfer Station which became redundant with the installation of the Middlesex main drainage scheme and the transfer of responsibility for refuse disposal to the Greater London Council. The site, covering approximately 56 acres, is being developed for housing, primary school and children's home and there are proposals for the reconstruction of the Council's Mays Lane Highways Depot. Other pieces of land in the area are occupied by allotments and public open space adjoining the Dollis Brook. This area of land adjoining the Dollis Brook will be landscaped, planted and provided with public walks and will include the area occupied by the old Refuse Transfer Station.

Work has already been carried out on this area utilising a large quantity of excavated material from the housing site.

The layout of the site was designed under the direction of the Borough Architect (B. Bancroft, A.R.I.B.A., Dip.T.P., A.M.T.P.I.) and the housing units by collaboration with Camus (Great Britain) Ltd., the sponsors of the industrialised system employed. The General Contractor for the development is Fram, Higgs and Hill (Camus) Ltd., an organisation set up to promote and build this system in

the South East. The London Housing Group, West Area, of which this Council is a member, has adopted several of the types being used at Dollis Valley and some of these will be used by other authorities in the Group.

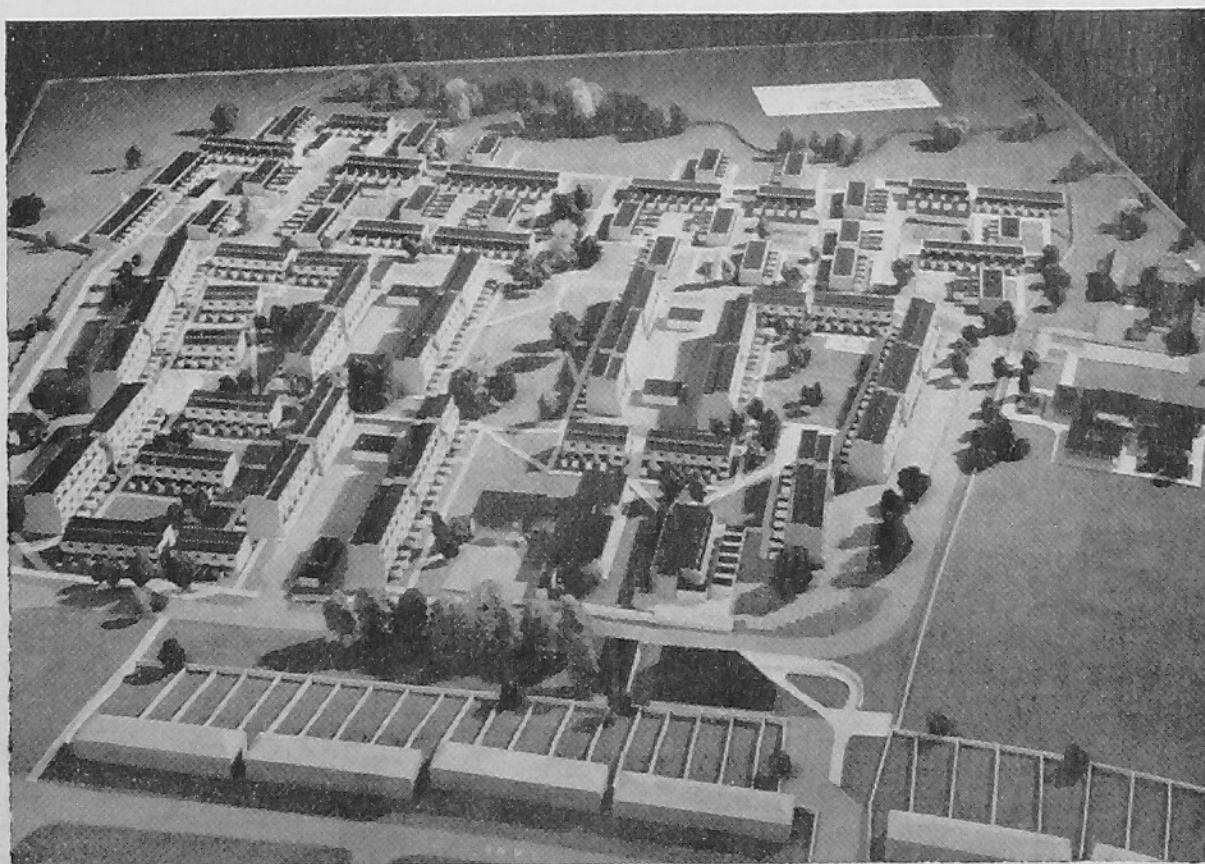
There are a total of 613 housing units providing accommodation for 2,600 people. These consist of 192 three bedroom, two storey houses, 138 three bedroom maisonettes in five-storey blocks, 200 two bedroom maisonettes in three- and five-storey blocks, 77 one bedroom flats in three- and five-storey blocks and six one bedroom flats over shops.

The better natural features of the site, such as the Dollis Brook, the slope down to the Brook and the rising ground towards Totteridge, largely dictated the layout and result in the two-storey houses on the lower part adjoining the Brook with the higher blocks on the higher ground. This arrangement allows as many units as possible an open view to the South and the open space adjoining the Brook to extend up through the site providing a route for pedestrians as well as an attractive setting for the dwellings.

One of the more interesting features of the development is that out of the total number of dwellings, 423 will have their own front door at ground level. The layout has also been designed to give a high degree of segregation of the vehicle from the pedestrian, all dwellings being accessible from footpaths laid out in areas of landscaped open space. Unlike most housing estates, the footpaths do not adjoin the roads.

32 aged persons' flatlets with a warden's flat are planned as part of the development and are grouped with a block of six lock-up shops. There is provision on the site for 670 cars with approximately 60% in garages. This is to comply with present day planning requirements which look forward to the future of the motor car and require car parking for every family with an additional 10% for casual visitors. To achieve this a large number of garages have been arranged under the five-storey buildings and the "motor court" access to these is a feature of the layout.

*Continued on page six column three*



*Model showing a general view of the layout from Mays Lane, Barnet.*



## ALDERMEN OF THE COUNCIL



Alderman Cedric H. F. Reynolds, J.P.

Alderman Reynolds has served with the London Borough since its formation in 1964. He is a former member of the Barnet Urban District Council, where he represented the East Arkley Ward for 13 years. He was for nine years the Chairman of the Highways

and Town Planning Committee, and was Chairman of the Council for the Municipal Year 1959/60.

A married man, with two sons and two daughters, Alderman Reynolds has lived within the Borough all his life. He was educated at Merchant Taylor's School. For the past 35 years he has been a resident of Totteridge, where he is President of the Totteridge Sports Club. His interests include drama, chess, reading biography, watching rugby football (he is Vice-President of Barnet Rugby Football Club) and tennis.

Alderman Reynolds has pursued his interests in Highways and Town Planning during his term of office with the London Borough. He is a member of the following committees: Town Planning, Highways, Establishment and its Appointments Sub-Committee, Development and Research, and Northern Area Road Safety Committee.

Apart from his work for the London Borough Council, Alderman Reynolds, who has been a Magistrate since 1950, is Deputy Chairman of the Barnet Bench. He also sits as Chairman of the Domestic Court, is a member of the Juvenile Court Panel and a Licens-

ing Justice. He has been an active member of the Labour Party at Divisional and Local levels for over 40 years.

For the past ten years he has been Chairman of the Local Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Social Security, of which Committee he has been a member since 1950. He is a member of the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, and for 12 years was a member of Barnet Group Hospital Management Committee, and Chairman of each of its Hospital Committees in turn. He is at present Chairman of the Hendon Group Hospital Management Committee.

Alderman Reynolds is Governor of the following schools:—East Barnet Grammar School, John Hampden Secondary Modern School, Hendon College of Technology and the New College of Speech and Drama. He is Manager of St. Andrew's School, Totteridge.

In his spare time, Alderman Reynolds tries "to turn an honest penny" as Senior Partner in a firm of London solicitors, Director of a Building Society and Director of a number of companies.

## FREE TRAINING IN FIRST AID AND HOME NURSING

Since the beginning of the year a series of Free Courses for the public in training in First Aid and Home Nursing has been arranged by the Borough Council. Each Course consists of six lectures, usually on Monday evenings, of one and a half hours duration.

The aim is to give simple training with a minimum of theory, and practical demonstrations of methods and techniques are given by qualified instructors. Basic training manuals are loaned to students for the duration of the Course and those who attend a complete Course of six lectures are given an attendance voucher and a copy of the Ministry of Health Booklet "Emergency Home Care".

The date and venue of each course is advertised by posters throughout the Borough and towards the end of August these will appear giving details of two courses, with particulars of enrolment, one to be held from 18th September to 23rd October and the other from 6th November to 11th December.

For further information, write to the Town Clerk, London Borough of Barnet, Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, N.W.4., or telephone Hendon 8282, Ext. 33.

## RESTORATION OF 200 YEAR OLD SWEET CHESTNUT



Only a series of photographs could have shown the many defects in this tree, which stands within the grounds of Hill House, Elstree, before it was reduced from 65 feet to about 45 feet in 1966, under the guidance of the Local Planning Authority.



## STAFFING THE SCHOOLS

Education tends to be one of the things we take for granted. When children go to school after the summer holiday parents assume there will be a place for them in a class and a teacher to teach them. In fact one of the major tasks facing the Education Department between March and July is the recruitment of teachers to fill the gaps in the ranks of the teaching staff for the beginning of the school year in September. This in any circumstances would be a sizeable undertaking, but it presents greater difficulty in the context of a national shortage of teachers.

Most people will have heard of the post war "bulge" in the birthrate due to which the population of the schools in England and Wales increased from about 5 million in 1945 to 6½ million in 1955. The "bulge" had then brought primary rolls to a peak and it was expected that after the peak had passed through the secondary schools the number of children in school would first decline and then remain steady through the 1960s. This did not happen. A second rise in the birthrate followed and other factors contributed to rising numbers, e.g. immigration and the growing tendency at the secondary stage for children to stay on at school beyond the statutory leaving age. By January 1965 the school population was over 7 million; it will be more than 8 million in 1971 and the present indications are that it will increase progressively thereafter.

Between 1945 and 1955 the teaching force increased from 180,000 to 240,000 and also, a new phenomenon in education, there were part-time teachers equivalent to a further 3,000 full-time staff. This increase was principally achieved by the postwar emergency training scheme. The aim since then has been not only to increase the number of teachers to cope with the rising numbers to be taught but also to achieve a reduction in the size of classes.

During the last decade there has been a vast expansion of the teacher training colleges now known as Colleges of Education (which provide more than half the recruitment to the schools); in 1938 there were approximately 12,000 students in the colleges with an annual output of 5,000 teachers; in 1965 there were 70,000 students with an output of 16,000 teachers. In January 1965 the number of teachers in schools maintained by the Authorities was more than 280,000 and part-time teachers equivalent to a further 15,000 full-time teachers were employed.

Unfortunately this is not entirely a success story. Teachers are trained but they do not all stay in the schools; a large proportion of them (in the primary schools an overwhelming majority) are women and with the tendency to earlier marriage very many leave the schools after only two or three years service resulting in a high "wastage" of trained personnel. Nor is the situation entirely satisfactory in respect of the other major field of recruitment for teachers, the universities. They too have expanded rapidly in the past decade but the proportion of graduates entering the teaching profession is declining. This is especially

evident in certain subjects such as mathematics and the sciences where the competition of industry and commerce is keenest and the securing of suitable specialist teachers in these fields is invariably difficult and on occasions impossible.

A further problem is represented by the need to distribute teachers fairly over the country as a whole. Some areas are less attractive to live and work in and if a totally free market were in operation less fortunate areas

would find difficulty in recruiting all the teachers they need. The result would be excessively large classes, more unqualified teachers and the area would become still less attractive in a cumulative process. To meet this problem the Department of Education and Science, in consultation with the local education authorities, operates a quota system. Under this arrangement Barnet, in common with other authorities, is given a quota of teachers which it may not exceed. The only exceptions are married women returning to teaching after a break and part-time teachers of all kinds are outside the quota. Naturally to increase their teaching force, Authorities try to recruit these off quota teachers.

The task is therefore threefold: to attract a sufficient number of young people into the colleges of education and of young graduates into teaching, to expand still further the capacity of the colleges, and to encourage those who have left the profession, particularly young women who have married or who have left on starting a family, to return. On this depends whether we can match the numbers of children entering the schools and at the same time effect a further reduction in class sizes. In four years' time there will be a further increase in the school population with the raising of the leaving age to 16.

*Continued on page eight column two*



*A delightful rural view taken from Deacons Hill House, Barnet Lane, looking south-east.*



## ALDERMEN OF THE COUNCIL



Alderman Arthur Paul, J.P.

Alderman Paul has lived in the Borough for more than 32 years. Representing the Burnt Oak Ward, he was elected a Councillor of the Borough of Hendon in May, 1949. He was appointed an Alderman in 1958 and became Mayor of Hendon in the same year. In 1959/60, Alderman Paul was chosen to be Deputy Mayor.

Whilst a member of the Council of the Borough of Hendon, he served on all committees of that Council and was a member of the Joint Committee of the five authorities set up to form the new London Borough of Barnet.

In May 1964, Alderman Paul was elected a Councillor of the London Borough of Barnet, again representing the Burnt Oak Ward. In July, 1966 he was appointed an Alderman. He is Deputy Leader of the Labour Group on the Council, and serves on the Education, General Purposes, Libraries & Arts, Children's and Appeals Committees.

He is a Governor of Copthall Girls' County Grammar School, Woodcroft Secondary Modern and Woodcroft Junior and Infants' Schools, Barnfield Junior and Infant Schools, St. James' R.C. and Annunciation R.C. School.

Alderman Paul was appointed a Justice of the Peace for the Gore Division of Middlesex in 1952. He has also been a member of the King's Cross and District Local Appeals Tribunal of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance (now Ministry of Social Security) since 1948, and serves too on the Hendon & Harrow Local Employment Committee.

A member of the Labour Party for 46 years and a Trade Unionist for 48

## CENTRES OF ADULT EDUCATION

East Barnet — Finchley — Friern Barnet — Hendon

SESSION 1967-68

## ENROLMENT DATES:

September: 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th.

Classes are offered in a wide variety of subjects including:

ART, COOKERY, CRAFTS, HAIRDRESSING, HANDYMAN'S SUBJECTS, LANGUAGES, MUSIC, ELOCUTION & STAGECRAFT, COMMERCE, PHYSICAL RECREATION AND GCE SUBJECTS.

Classes commence on 25th September.

Full particulars from the Chief Education Officer, Town Hall, Friern Barnet, N.11. (Ref. F1)

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

You are invited to attend meetings of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet held at the Town Hall, Hendon, N.W.4, at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesdays as shown below:

3rd October, 1967.

24th October, 1967.

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

## CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENTS IN PARKS

JULY - SEPTEMBER 1967

Admission Free

Full details obtainable from all offices of the  
Barnet London Borough Council

Continued from page three col. three

In addition to the Dollis Brook Open Space, areas have been set aside for children's playgrounds and for added safety a subway is provided on the main pedestrian route from the site to the shopping centre in High Barnet and main public transport facilities.

The Camus system of industrialized building, which originated in France and is now being used all over Europe, relies on constructing dwellings with the least number of Components. These Components are mainly pre-cast concrete and will be manufactured in a factory at Brimsdown in Enfield. All Components will be brought to the site in a finished state and assembled to form the completed buildings. Such items as windows will be pre-painted and pre-glazed and all electrical services will be cast in during manufacture. Very little scaffolding such as required on traditional housing will be seen on the site and there will be a lack of the usual jumble of materials and equipment, etc. Components will be brought on the site only when they are needed and ready to be hoisted by crane into their final positions. A considerable amount of detailed planning has to be carried out to achieve this end.

The ultimate advantage in utilising a building system of this type, other than saving in manpower and factory built components of greater accuracy and better finish, is the speed in the erection and completion. Assuming that the time spent on foundations, roads and other preliminary work is comparable to traditional construction, once construction of the buildings starts the whole of the dwellings will be finished at a rate of about 11 per week.

The whole project is due to be completed at the end of March, 1970 but the dwellings will be completed and handed over for occupation at regular intervals during the contract period.

years, Alderman Paul is Vice-Chairman of the Burnt Oak Ward and a member of the General Management Committee of the Hendon North Constituency Party. He is President of the Watling Community Association, and a Vice-President of the Borough of Barnet Overseas Students Friendship Association.

Married with one son, Alderman Paul is a chorister and a member of the Parochial Church Council at the City Church of St. Giles, Cripplegate. During the War he served with the R.A.F.



## SMOKE CONTROL

The shaded areas of the Borough are areas where Smoke Control Orders have been made. All these Orders are either in force or will be by 1st October of this year. When a Smoke Control Order is in force it is an offence, subject to certain exceptions, to emit smoke from a chimney of a building.

The area at Edgware shown cross-hatched is the subject of a new Order which is awaiting confirmation by the Minister of Housing & Local Government. As soon as this is received, an announcement will be made in the local press and residents advised.

The lined areas at Friern Barnet and Cricklewood are being surveyed preparatory to the making of Orders and residents living here will be similarly informed in due course.

Anyone who would like any information regarding smoke control should contact the Health & Welfare Department at Gateway House, 322 Regents Park Road, Finchley, N.3. Telephone: 01-349 9121.



## PLAY LEADERSHIP

A programme of

## GAMES, SPORTS TOURNAMENTS

AND OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

will be held in

### OAK HILL PARK

Church Hill Road, East Barnet, Hertfordshire

under the supervision of Play Leaders

from

MONDAY, 31st JULY, 1967

to

FRIDAY, 25th AUGUST, 1967

Programme obtainable at

TOWN HALL, STATION ROAD, NEW BARNET, HERTFORDSHIRE

## CLOSURE OF BRANCH LIBRARY

The Burnt Oak Branch Library was closed as from 6 p.m. on Saturday, 22nd July, for the erection of a new library on the same site.

A restricted service for Burnt Oak residents will be given from a Mobile Library, which will be sited in Fortescue Road, Burnt Oak, and this will operate from 27th July on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11.30 a.m.-5.30 p.m.

Books may be borrowed from, or returned to the Mobile Library, or to any of the Borough Libraries. The nearest branches are:

EDGWARE (Hale Lane, Edgware)  
MILL HILL (Hartley Avenue,  
N.W.7)

Any inconvenience which may be caused during this emergency service, is regretted, but it is hoped that this will be compensated by the improved facilities at the new library.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

You are invited to attend the next meeting of the Education Committee to be held at the Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, N.W.4 on Wednesday 27th September, 1967 at 7 p.m.



## DOGS—FRIEND OR MENACE?

The British are a nation of animal lovers, more particularly they are fond of dogs. A man's best friend. But man's loyal companion can bring displeasure even to his fellow dog lovers. Through careless training and lack of control from their owners, dogs become a menace on our pavements and footpaths.

The Town Clerk has received many complaints from members of the public regarding the fouling of footways and grass verges by dogs. These public places become unhygienic and extremely unpleasant for everyone. And it should be remembered that a dog owner in control of a dog which is seen fouling the footway, is liable to a fine of five pounds.

The co-operation of dog owners is requested in ensuring that their dogs are kept under proper control and are not allowed to foul the public footways, or on the grass in front of blocks of flats.

## ATHLETICS MEETING

The Greater London Youth Officers' Council held their annual Athletics Meeting at Copthall Stadium on Saturday, 22nd July, 1967. His Worship the Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet presented the three trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places to Barnet, Brent and Hillingdon.

The Meeting, which attracted over 600 competitors from Greater London areas, was a great success and many outstanding performances by the athletes were recorded. The events that took place included the most popular, i.e. High Jump, Long Jump, Discus, Shot, Sprints and Distance Races.

This is the third year that the London Borough of Barnet Youth Service has won the trophy at this Meeting.

## HOURS OF SERVICE

In the June/July, 1967 issue of "Barnet Civic News", certain times of opening in respect of Totteridge Library were given which are now found to be incorrect; the correct times of opening are:—

Tuesdays & Fridays—

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesdays & Saturdays—

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

All libraries, with the exception of Totteridge, are open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday to Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

## LIBRARY LECTURES

Admission free

Details of a further series of interesting library lectures, all of which commence at 8.15 p.m. are given below:

CENTRAL LIBRARY, The Burroughs, Hendon, N.W.4.—Thursdays.

2.11.67	*BERNARD NEWMAN	To Russia and Back.
9.11.67	HAROLD ABRAHAMS	The Modern Olympic Games 1896-1964.
16.11.67	DAVID BALFOUR	Fifteen Months in a Volcanic Paradise.
23.11.67	ANTONY BROWN	Summer in Spain.
30.11.67	ELIZABETH HEMELRYK	Up the Nile to Abu Simbel.
1. 2.68	ROGER AKESTER	Highlights of the Middle East.
8. 2.68	K. WESTCOTT-JONES	Railway Journeys of the World.
15. 2.68	GARRY HOGG	Mediterranean Medley.
22. 2.68	GEORGE CANSDALE	Fishing round the World.
29. 2.68	J. ANDERSEN-ROSENDAL	Spotlight on Red China.

NORTH FINCHLEY, Ravensdale Avenue, N.12.—Wednesdays

4.10.67	JAMES HALL	Egypt and the Lebanon.
1.11.67	C. M. DIXON	Across the Black Sea.
15.11.67	TONY SMYTH	Travellers in Bolivia and Peru.
7. 2.68	GEORGE B. MAIR	The Caribbean Scene.
21. 2.68	PETER BEIGHTON	Easter Island.
6. 3.68	CHRISTOPHER GOTCH	Architecture Old and New.

EAST FINCHLEY, High Road, N.2.—Wednesdays

11.10.67	ELIZABETH PARRY	Kurdish Kaleidoscope.
8.11.67	DAVID WOLFE-MURRAY	London Birds.
22.11.67	L. B. COOK	Underground Exploration at Home and Abroad.
14. 2.68	CHARLES LINES	To Russia with a Camera.
28. 2.68	GEORGE SPENCELEY	Turkish Delights.

\*It is interesting to note that the first lecture in this series is by Mr. Bernard Newman, the well-known lecturer and author of "Spy", "The World of Espionage", "South African Journey", etc.

*Continued from page five column three*

The school population of the Borough is nearly 40,000, some 22,000 children are in primary schools and 18,000 in secondary schools. 1,800 teachers are employed and each year between 400 and 450 of these have to be replaced. While staff leave throughout the year, the majority of the vacancies occur at the beginning of the school year in September.

Many posts and especially the more senior and specialist appointments in secondary schools are advertised individually and members of the Chief Education Officer's staff with heads of schools interview applicants throughout the Spring and Summer terms. A large proportion of the vacancies however are filled by newly trained teachers coming from the colleges to their first appointments. To minimise disturbance in the final year of training at a time of teacher shortage, a date is agreed between the colleges and the local education authorities each year, usually shortly after the Easter holiday, before which no offer of appointment may be made to a student leaving college. As a consequence the interviewing of new teachers is concentrated into the fortnight spanning the Easter Bank Holiday when a team of senior officers and specialist advisers will see between 300 and 400 applicants for posts of whom some 120 will be appointed.

The work generated by this operation can be imagined; the drafting and

insertion of advertisements, summoning of candidates for interview, obtaining reports on candidates from colleges and past employers, the checking and payment of travel expenses, medical examinations in some cases, and in the case of the teachers recruited from the colleges the placing of each individual in the appropriate vacancy.

When recruitment was easier the operation was usually concluded by the end of May or early in June. Nowadays it is more protracted and some gaps in the establishment are not repaired until the end of the Summer term or even during the Summer holidays. But the annual miracle is usually accomplished and the children will find their teacher waiting for them when the school re-opens in September.

A final word to any lady reader who may be a trained teacher. If your family is grown up and your home can spare you, you can do no more worthwhile service than return to the ranks of the teaching profession; even if the children are still at school it may still be possible for you to lend a hand in the schools for some part of the week. Why not write or telephone the Education Department at the Town Hall, Friern Barnet, N.11. (ENT 1101). If you are not a trained teacher a number of colleges now have special courses for mature students—the Education Department can let you have a booklet giving advice about how to train as a teacher.