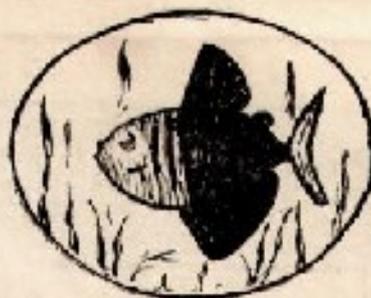


MONTHLY



JOURNAL

VOL. 2 No. 1

AUG. 1949

TROPICAL and  
COLDWATER FISH

**SOUTHEND, LEIGH & DISTRICT  
AQUARIST SOCIETY**

(AFFILIATED TO THE FEDERATION OF BRITISH AQUATIC SOCIETIES)

POND LIFE  
and VIVARIA

All Enquiries:—  
Hon. Secretary: R. F. E. JONES, FLAMBORO' HOUSE, BELGRAVE ROAD, EASTWOOD.  
Phone: EASTWOOD 55394.



## INTRODUCTION

Southend, Leigh and District Aquarist Society was formed as far back as 1935, prior to World War II it was known as Southend Aquarist Society. We have only been able to trace the Society back that far; it is possible it existed before that date but we have so far been unable to find any documentary evidence.

At the outbreak of World War II the Society had to be disbanded as the Southend area became a militarised area as it lies on the Thames estuary and offered a direct route to London for any invading enemy. With the whole area under military control it became impracticable to hold our meetings as movement was severely restricted especially after dark. In addition many of our members were conscripted into the armed forces. Imagine trying to explain to a sentry that the box that you were carrying so carefully under your coat was just a jar of tropical fishes!

After the hostilities four members of the old committee met and reformed the Society and decided to call it Southend, Leigh and District Aquarist Society. The first Monthly Journal was published in 1948 under the editorship of Edgar C. Day. In 1948 Edgar was also the club secretary. The Journal was then published for a number of years, It was resurrected in the early 1960 `s by J. H. Preston, who is better known as Howard today. Howard, incidently was one of the first English aquarists to travel to Mexico to collect livebearing fishes in 1960 `s. He first flew to New York and thence by bus all the way to Mexico City where he and Chris Lyons hired a car to explore for fish.

The Journal was then published in 1948 in either a monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly form until the 1980 `s.

This issue, Volume 2 of 1949-50 , is part of an attempt to save copies of the Journal for posterity in both printed and digital form on CD. The issue has been copied in OCR form but because of the nature of duplication and the type of paper it was written on the result has had to be partially re-written but no alteration has been made to the format nor the content so that some pages are not filled completely, but the original page number have been retained throughout. No attempt has been made to update the nomenclature so many fish names may be strange to a modern audience. We have also resisted the temptation to change any information that doesn't agree with present day thinking.

It is hoped that in the future more issues will be made available but not all issues are still in existence although we do understand that Volume one has been scanned by the British Library.

Although today the Society no longer publishes a Journal the Society is one of only two clubs remaining in Essex if one includes Ilford club in what is now Greater London. The Society is still able to hold an annual show every May with entrants from as far as Port Talbot in Wales & Corby in Northamptonshire. SLADAS members visit other clubs shows to return with prizes in many instances.

Any one with any information on the club, particularly from when it was known as Southend Aquarist Society before World War II we would be pleased to hear from you

<mailto:peter.capon@yahoo.co.uk>

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(This index was laboriously compiled by Mr, Mash, to whom many thanks) j

**SOUTHEND, LEIGH & DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY,**

**MONTHLY JOURNAL**

Vol. 2 No. 1.

August, 1949

General Meetings at 8.0. p,m on the first Wednesday of each month at:-

The Girl Guides Hall,  
Westborough Road, Westcliff-on-Sea  
(Corner of Electric Avenue)

**EDITORIAL**

This, my first effort at publication of a journal, must commence with regrets at the resignation of Mr. E. C. Day from the positions of General Secretary and Editor of the Journal of our society, For some time Mr. Day has been working at very high pressure, with the inevitable result - a partial breakdown in health.

The Journal was originated by "Edgar", and in wishing him a return to health, we must all give our sincere thanks for the pioneer work he put in so willingly and well. I hope that in the near future we shall be welcoming him again to our meetings.

This number, the first of Volume 2, is essentially a Show number. By the time you receive this our second Annual Show will be past history, and from it we shall have learned much - as aquarists, one of the first lessons we must appreciate is that we all have much to learn, even the oldest, active members of the Society. That the Show was a success is an established fact and as President I must congratulate those grand stalwarts who worked day AND NIGHT to stage the show and keep the wheels turning once the doors were open.

Jolly good show, everybody, may it be the first of many such!

THE EDITOR

Have YOU submitted an article, some experiences or a few words on any fishy matter, for future publication? If not - DO IT NOW!

### **FUTURE EVENTS**

The very well-known authority on aquatics - Dr Van Dorp Van Vliet, a Dutchman, is to be in this country during the month of October and has agreed to visit Societies, when possible, to entertain them with his experiences and the results of his experiences. Frances Perry, who contacted this scientist on her recent visit to Holland, is arranging the lecture tour, and we have applied for a date. If we can get Dr. Van Dorp Van Vliet to Southend we should certainly have a very large attendance, to glean some authoritative information at first hand,

#### **OCTOBER 5th**

Our visiting lecturer will be Mr J. Lester, Curator of the Reptile House at the London Zoo, He is, naturally, an expert herpetologist, and his lecture (illustrated by lantern slides) should be an excellent follow-up on that given by Mr, Leutcher on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **NOVEMBER 2nd,**

WE are fortunate on this date to have booked Mrs. Meadows. A charming personality, keen as mustard on the hobby and one of the most successful tropical fish breeders (amateur of course) in the country. I'm certain our members will thoroughly enjoy the homely atmosphere Mrs Meadows creates in imparting her knowledge and experience to others. Mrs Meadows is a Cold-Water hobbyist - I should imagine some good tempered arguments - Coldwater V Tropicals, develop in the Meadow's household.

#### **OCTOBER 19<sup>th</sup>-**

This is billed in the program as Whist Drive, but at the moment we are awaiting news of Dr. Van Dorp Van Vliet as to if and when he can visit us.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** December 7<sup>th</sup>

**ANNUAL DINNER** (details later) December 10<sup>th</sup>.

(Reserve these dates please)

I haven't received YOUR contribution to the next issue of the Journal yet!

Contributions should be addressed to the Editor,  
C.J. Saunders Esq., 300, Southbourne Grove, Westcliff.

September 7th

Mr, Leutcher of the Natural History Museum (he is secretary of the British Herpetological Society) who visited us on this date, being contacted by Mr Lionel Day on the Society's behalf, gave one of the most interesting lectures have had to date.

He spoke learnedly but in a manner which was easily understood by those of us who knew practically nothing about amphibia and reptiles. He had many living exhibits - Toads, Slow worms, Grass snakes and an Adder, which, with the exception of the latter, were passed round and handled with great glee by the juniors, but viewed with trepidation by the fairer sex.

"Sarah", a pet toad loaned by Mrs Day, actually took food (one worm bring nearly as large as herself) on a table in the midst of the members, while a specimen of the Laughing Frog condescended to give a few throaty chuckles for the entertainment of the onlookers.

Lantern Slides rounded off an enjoyable evening, the lantern being loaned and operated by Mr. E.Prockter - to whom we tender our thanks.

Mr, Leutcher made one very good point when he remarked that in this country at the present time there are only thirteen species of amphibians and reptiles, hence the difficulty experienced by the aquarist (which fishes shall I keep?) does not apply to herpetologists, who may keep all the species native to this country, and really study their habits.

A very entertaining and instructive evening.

-----oooOOOooo-----

**DO YOU KNOW THAT: -**

Nearly 2,000 people attended our Annual Show?

The Committee are holding the first special Committee meeting to discuss next year's Show this month?

Several London Clubs asked to hire or borrow the masks etc. used by us?

One Club is borrowing the Crocodile pen?

People from Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Czecho-Slovakia were amongst the visitors?

#### 4.

- both prizes of furnished aquaria went to local people?
- one visitor commenced by buying and paying for a 7/6d. aquarium and ended up by going away with a £15 outfit?
- the directors of the Kursaal after seeing the Exhibition are having some aquaria at the Kursaal?
- the only adverse outside criticism was that the top row of tanks was 6 inches too high?
- the first judge arrived at 9.20 a.m., the last at 12.20 pm?
- the first entrants to the Show were waiting for the doors to open?
- several bulb-holders, top-lights-nets, two thermometers and a new wash leather "disappeared"?  
(Anyone got too many?)
- only two of the fifty tanks loaned by Messrs. Hamleys of Upminster leaked after being transported by road to Clarence Hall?
- the Paradise fishes were considered too far below standard for an award to be made?
- there are still a few books of admission tickets outstanding?
- everyone who worked at the show, grumbled continuously at the Show - thoroughly enjoyed themselves?

#### NOMENCLATURE

It has long been the desire of many members to be acquainted with the "dictionary" names of the fishes they keep, so here goes - let's try a few of the easier ones.

THE GUPPY OR MILLIONS FISH ) *Lebistes reticulatus*  
pronounced as spelled (second 'e' in Lebistes is sounded). Originally native to Venezuela, now an "international" fish.

THE PLATY - *Platypoecilus mmaculatus* (Platy-pee-sillus Mac-u-lay-tus)  
habitat -Southern Mexico

THE SWORDTAIL -*Xiphophorus helleri* (Zififorus heller-ee-eye) Iiabitat -  
Eastern Mexico

THE MOLLIE -*Moliensia*

(Mollie-en-eesia)

*sphenops* - *sfenops*,*Latipinna* and *Velifera* as spelled,

habitat - North and South of the Panama Canal,

(Mexico, Venezuela)

THE MOSQUITO FISH - *Heterandra formosa*

pronounced as spelled, habitat - Carolina -Florida, (the smallest known live-bearer)

All the above e the commoner live-bearers, easy to keep and easy to breed and rear, although most parents are cannibalistic towards their young.

-----ooooOOOOoooo-----

***BARBUS NIGROFASCIATUS***

The Nigger Barb

This is one of the commoner barbs but - in colour - is also one of the most attractive. The male in breeding condition is almost indescribable - the black rear of body with heavy black vertical stripes set off by a fiery "purpley" red nose and undercarriage, with the light scintillating on the edges of the scales, making a picture never forgotten.

Collectors of this pearl amongst aquarium fishes (it abounds in Ceylon) give it the honour of being one of the most difficult fishes to net. While many fishes dash frantically hither and thither to escape the net, the nigger barb will frequently hide in any available cover, or failing this, will lie "dogo" on the bottom where it is difficult to net without injuring the fish,

Although habitually found in streams these fishes appear to prefer the shady banks under overhanging foliage, where the current is very sluggish. It has also been observed that the fishes are in better colour when there has been a good rainfall. The most disappointing aspect of this beauty is the fact that a specimen fish in beautiful colour, m, if moved or disturbed in any way, lose its vivid coloration and. appear as a washout duplicate of its former self, It is a cannibal where small fish are concerned and is usually deadly from the humble snails point of view - wliilst being a very active fish it may upset the slower and more stately inhabitants of an aquarium,

A "chancy" breeder, some people breed it with ease and in fair numbers, others have no success at all. Unfortunately, I am at present in the latter category, but I have made up my mind that when I have the space I'll make a determined effort on this delightful fish.

C.J.S.

### GLAZING COMPOUNDS.

Many newcomers to the hobby are glazing their tanks using ordinary putty as a mastic. This is not a good medium to use as eventually it invariably sets very hard - there is no "give" in it, and emptying and then refilling the aquarium may have disastrous results.

A good home-made mastic is made from good linseed oil putty mixed with half its weight of red lead, using gold-size for mixing. Paint the inside of the frame and the edges of the glass with gold-size before glazing. Have the glazing compound fairly soft but not "runny"

Fill the aquarium to the brim immediately after glazing and allow it to stand for a few days -trimming up and cleaning the outside of the glass while the aquarium is full. Empty, add compost and refill and no trouble should be experienced.

IS YOUR article for the next issue of the Journal in the post yet?

—.-.—.—.-oOo————••—

These first two issues of Volume 2 of the Journal have been one-man efforts. While this can continue indefinitely, it is not desirable, either from my own point of view or for the good of our publication. Variety is the spice of life, and matter from different authors would probably provide a welcome change,

See what you can do

THANKS

•.-..... ~ o0 o—— -<<-

7.

**FOR SALE**

Liberty Mollies, Pearl Danios, Shubunkins and a few Fantails for sale, Also Vallis (twisted) and Heteranthera

APPLY 300, Southboume Grove, Westcliff-on-Sea.

36" x 15" x 15" Tank glazed with ¼ plate with double ¼ plate bottom, complete with stand and top light cover,,,,,,. £,5,10.0d

24" x 10" x 18" Tank glazed with ¼ plate •o..... £1.15.0d

Apply 12, Burleigh Mansions, Station Road,  
Westcliff-On-Sea

Fully furnished Aquarium 24" x 12" x 12" complete with stand, Top light, plants, tropical fish inclusive of electrical accessories ..... £10.10,0d Phone Southend 67741

**GET TOGETHER**

The following members will be pleased to welcome fellow members for a fishy talk: -

C.J. Brooks, 1 Southchuroh Boulevard,  
(NOT Wednesdays or Thursdays)

W, Hoare, 225 Ambleside Drive,  
(Saturday afternoons only,)

H. A. Giles, 72, Sandringham Road,  
(NOT Wednesdays or Thursdays)

C,J. Saunders, 300, Southboume Grove,  
(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday evenings, Saturday afternoons,  
Sunday mornings)

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### ANNUAL GENERAL . MEETING

This will be held on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. The whole of the Committee and officers v/ill retire (according to rule) all have offered themselves for re-election. A copy of the agenda etc., will be sent to all members a month before the meeting. As this is the most important evening of the year it is to be hoped that all members will make a special effort to attend - keep the date open.

This year voting- for Committee etc., will be by paper ballot. All nominations should be sent to the Secretary in writing, together with the names of Proposer and seconder, not later than November 16th.

Proposers should ascertain that the nominee is willing to stand before sending in the name,

### AUCTION SALE

Over 100 members attended the Auction sale on September 21st, where a very wide range of fishes, plants and apparatus was offered for sale. Owing to the large number of lots, (271 - a record for the Club), the Auctioneer, Mr. E. Jones, had to work at full pressure, even then the sale didn't end until 10.30 p.m. Prices on the whole were low, particularly in the case of Swordtails, of which there appeared to be a glut, but the good specimens held their price as was to be expected.

### ANNUAL DINNER

This will be held on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 7.0 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. at Garon's Centre House,

The dinner (informal dress please) will be followed by a variety of Artists and the evening should be, if possible, even more successful than last year, when 97 attended, The venue is central, and should be easy of access for everyone;

-- book early, tickets from the Treasurer or the Secretary at .....10/6 each.

**SOUTHEND, LEIGH & DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY  
MONTHLY JOURNAL**

Vol. 2 No 2. .

September, 1949

General Meetings at 7.45 pm on the first Wednesday of each month at:-

The Girl Guides Hall, Westborough Road,  
Westcliff-on-Sea

(Corner of Electric Avenue)

**EDITORIAL**

The financial aspect of the Annual Show has now been thoroughly investigated and it is certain that a profit will be made. This is very gratifying, particularly as the expense sheet grew to astronomical proportions, being almost a nightmare to the Committee - but all well that ends well and we can now "gird up our loins" for the future.

It is a very healthy sign for any Club or Society when the Committee can ask for and receive, from the members, healthy criticism and can "take it", I think we can say that our Committee took all criticisms in the spirit in which they were rendered, and endeavored, in many instances to justify their action.. It was also good, at the meeting held on August 17th to see how keen some of our members are - a happy augury for the future.

There has been one unfortunate aftermath - a very undesirable one at that. Certain irresponsible people are endeavoring to cause trouble, . belittling the Society and certain dealers. In the interests of the hobby, the Society and the dealers, this is a bad thing and must be stopped. The Committee are moving in the matter but the difficulty is in pinning the guilt where it really lies - there is so much hearsay and rumor. If anyone can help in determining the source of this unhappy undercurrent, the Committee will take appropriate action.

**THE EDITOR**

**THE 2nd ANNUAL SHOW.**

Well, "the Show is over "but the Melody lingers on"! Something attempted, something very well done!

Mr. Ron Jones and his merry men took possession of the hall on Wednesday afternoon and in a very short time the premises resembled nothing so much as a "battlefield! Timber, boarding, hose-pipes, tarpaulins, rock, stones, bags of leaf mold, wire netting, zinc sheeting, nails screws, tools, cans, water, and of course the workers, littered the floor in great confusion, while wires and cables were added to trip up the unwary,' Then tanks and yet more tanks arrived - large and small.

Out of this apparent chaos, order was quickly initiated and at 4.0 am. Thursday morning the largest bay was erected and painted. At work again at 10.0 a.m. the men had all the side stands erected by Thursday evening and the "artist" commenced the very effective scenic effects, while Committee men, aided by a few (the previous, noble few) members commenced the terrific task of placing tanks, washing sand and filling - with, of course, the inevitable re-glazing of those tanks which didn't appreciate being moved. By Friday morning (again 4.0 am) the main structure of the Show was an accomplished fact - only the window dressing remained to be done and the inhabitants of the tanks to be placed, and we were ready for the "off".

On the opening day, Saturday, the Judges, Messrs Betts, Creed. and Looker were busy the whole morning ending their task at 2.15 pm. (after a break of an hour for lunch). They expressed their appreciation of the way they were entertained when they visited Southend, and also stated that the show was one of the finest they had seen. Mr Lionel Day spent the whole morning photographing various sections of the Show, and in view of the subdued light, it is a tribute to his skill that the results were first class.

Mr. Anthony Nicholls, stage and film star, opened the Show at 3.30 pm to a packed house, the Mayor and Mayoress of Southend presenting the prizes at 7.30 P.m. before another large crowd. All these distinguished visitors were amazed at the scope of the Show, the effective set-up, and the variety and beauty of the numerous exhibits,

During the four days we were open there was a steady stream of visitors, and literally scores of them expressed their pleasure and satisfaction when leaving - a most gratifying tribute.

Lastly, we come to the thanks! It is difficult to know where to begin and. when to stop. In the normal course of events I do not believe it advisable to mention names, but this event has brought out the best in so many members that they deserve special mention,

To the Committee, particularly our General and Show Secretary -. Mr. R. Jones and his men, to the Ladies;- Mrs, Cooke, Gibbs, Jagged, Giles, Carter, Johnson, Clark, Brooks Snr, Brooks Jnr., Jones, Bingham, Sullivan, Latreille, Woolmer and Miss Ingran, to Messrs. Carter, Cooke, Mash, Kirby, Moulton, Johnson, Edwards, Latreille, Hall, Jagged, Sherman, Pryor and Hough, and to juniors Benny Lee and Ian Pitt; sincere and grateful thanks; without you there would have been no Show - your reward is the success of your sterling efforts.

To the dealers - thanks for your support, and. particularly to Hamley's of Upminster for the loan of fifty 24" x 12" x 12" tanks P. E. Child of Caledonian Road for the loan of the crocodile, snakes, lizards etc, - Metropole Aquatics, London Road, for free feeds of daphnia for the exhibits. Thanks to the Tottenham Club for bringing two Furnished Cold Water tanks.

To Mr. Lionel Day our thanks - for the loan of many snakes, toads, frogs and specimens of water life, together with many first class photographs of aquatic life; - and also for your skill and patience in photographing the Show.

To the above I wish, as President of the Society, to record my personal thanks and appreciation to all those who, in any way, however small, contributed to the success of this, our second venture of the kind. If, inadvertently anyone has been omitted from the long list above, remember that you are also included in spirit! I've tried to remember everyone, but it's certainly difficult,

### RESULTS

**Abbott Cup** (presented by E. J. Allcoat Esq.,) for highest aggregate number of points

C .J. Saunders Esq 34 points  
M.C.Mash 33 points  
C. Brooks 17 points

**C. Brooks Shield** (presented by C. Brooks esq)  
Best Furnished Aquaria

E. Clark

**Saunders Cup** (presented by C.J.Saunders esq)  
Best Junior entry

Perry Junior

**Jones Cup** (presented by R.F.E. Jones esq)  
Best coldwater in show

M.C.Mash

**Flamboro Cup** (presented by R.P.E. Jones esq)  
Best Tropical in show

W.J.Hoare

**Dolphin Award** (presented by makers of Dolphin Equipment)  
Best Ladies entry

Mrs Gibbs

## Open Show results continued

Class 1	Pearl & Blue Gouramis	1st	Mr Saunders
		2nd	Mr Giles
		3rd	Mr Mash
Class 2	Dwarf Gourami	1st	Mr Sullivan
		2nd	Mr Saunders
		3rd	Mr Saunders
		H.C.	Mr Bonner
Class 3	Fighters	1st	Mr Mash
		2nd	Perry Jnr
		3rd	Mr Staines
		H.C	Mrs Cooke
Class 4	Paradise		No Awards
Class 5	Angels	1st	Mr J. Biggs
		2nd	Mr Mash
		3rd	Mrs Sullivan
		H.C.	Mr Bonner
Class 6	A.O.V Cichlids	1st	Mr Mash
		2nd	Mr Escott
		3rd	Mr Mash
		H.C.	Mr Escott
Class 7	Beacons	1st	Mr Biggs
		2nd	Mr Coker
		3rd	Mr Saunders
		H.C.	Mr Dale
Class 8	Flames & Black Widows	1st	Mr Giles
		2nd	Mr C. Brooks
		3rd	Mr Mash
		H.C.	Mr Giles
Class 9	A.O.V Characins	1st	Mr Saunders
		2nd	Mr J. Biggs
		3rd	Mr Hoare
		H.C.	Mr Smith
Class 10	Rosy Barbs	1st	Mr Giles
		2nd	Mr Escott
		3rd	Mr Willis
		H.C.	Mr Hoare
Class 11	A.O.V Barbs	1st	Mr C. Brooks
		2nd	Mr Dale
		3rd	Mr Brooks
		H.C.	Mr Brooks
Class 12	Zebras	1st	Mr Saunders
		2nd	Pitt Jnr
		3rd	Mr Saunders
		H.C.	Mr Clark

## Results continued

Class 13	A.O.V Danios		1st	Mr Saunders
		2nd	Mr Escott	
		3rd	Mr Clark	
		H.C.	Mr Giles	
Class 14	A.O.V Egglayers		1st	Mr C. Brooks
		2nd	Mr Trist	
		3rd	Mr Saunders	
Class 15	Golden Guppies		1st	Mrs Jagged
		2nd	Mr Pryor	
		3rd	Lee Jnr	
Class 16	Guppies	1st	Mrs Jagged	
		2nd	Mr Hough	
		3rd	Mr Saunders	
		H.C.	Mr Hoare	
Class 17	Swordtails	1st	Mr Mash	
		2nd	Mt Pryor	
		3rd	Mr Giles	
		H.C.	Fantley Jnr	
Class 18	Red Platy	1st	Mr Smith	
		2nd	Mr Saunders	
		3rd	Mr Trist	
		H.C.	Mrs Jagged	
Class 19	A.O.V Platy	1st	Mr C. Brooks	
		2nd	Mr Saunders	
		3rd	Mr Saunders	
Class 20	Mollie sphenops	1st	Mr R. Edwards	
		2nd	Mrs Gibbs	
		3rd	Mr Carter	
		H.C.	Mrs Woolmer	
Class 21	A.O.V Mollie	1st	Mr Bonner	
		2nd	Mr Saunders	
		3rd	Mr Staines	
Class 22	A.O.V Livebearers	1st	Mrs Sullivan	
		2nd	Mr Escott	
Class 23	Schubunkins	1st	Mr Saunders	
		2nd	Mr Saunders	
		3rd	Mr Mitchell	
Class 24	Goldfish	1st	Mr Mash	
		2nd	Mr Perry	
		3rd	Mr Mash	
Class 25	Fancy Goldfish	1st	Mr J. Cowan	
		2nd	Mr Saunders	
		3rd	Mr Mitchell	
Class 26	A.O.V. Coldwater fish	1st	Mr Saunders	
		2nd	Mr Mash	
		3rd	Mt Pryor	
		H.C.	Mt Jagged	
Class 27	Furnished Aquaria	1st	Mr Clark	
		2nd	Mr Sullivan	
		3rd	Mr Mash	
		H.C.	Mr Glover	
Class 28	Rooted Plants	1st	Mr C.G. Brooks	
		2nd	Lee Jnr	
		3rd	Mr C.G. Brooks	
		H.C.	Mr C.G. Brooks	

### HOME AQUARIUM COMPETITION

This very successful competition, over a period of six months ended just before the Annual Show.

Initially there were **27** entrants, but about 7 of these "fell by the wayside "

The judges:- Messrs. Brooks, Jones and Saunders visited the homes of the competitors three times over the stated period, each judge awarding points, and the final count being an average value.

On the whole the aquariums were good, but most of them suffered from under planting, whilst the setup in many cases was neither particularly artistic nor utilitarian. Choice of fishes was generally satisfactory, although some members "mixed" then rather badly-neons prancing around Blue Gouranies, and Hemigrammus caudovittatus hobnobbing with very small companions. The maintenance of the tanks was the most pleasing feature, the inhabitants appeared healthy, and as a result of this, happy, and very few signs were seen of decayed food, dead snails or rotting vegetation, while unsightly algae growths were almost entirely absent.

The competition certainly seemed worth repeating - preferably during the winter months, owing to the heavy pressure of other affairs during the summer.

Final results were:-

**Giles Cup** (presented by H.A. Giles Esq)

for the best Home Furnished Aquaria      Mr E. Clark      75½ points

**Seagulls Cup** (Anonymous)

for second best Home Furnished Aquaria      Mr F. Child      74 points

**Jesmond Cup** (Anonymous)

for the third best Home Furnished Aquaria      Mrs Jagged      73 points

4th	Mrs Clark
5th.	Mr. C, Brooks
6th,	Mr Dale
7th.	Mr, M.Masli
8th	Gooderhan Jnr.
9th,	Mr Prime
10th.	Mr, Hough

Mr. Clark has a specialty in the Furnished Aquaria Class, having won at the first Annual Show, a victory which was repeated in the 2nd, Show. The Judges made the remark that his tank looked "lived-in" He is to be congratulated on his consistency,

Mr» Child, second, and Mrs. Jagged third, were very close to the winner, as the points will show. Both these entries were really beautiful at the third visit of the judges, eclipsing that of the winner, but they were both off to a slow start, which eventually cost them the honour of first place,

Congratulations to all the competitors - we shall expect even greater things next time!

-----  
**Forthcoming Events**

Keep these dates before you :-

September 7th

Visiting Lecturer  
 (A. Leutcher Esq., Natural History Museum)

September 21st

deciding what fishes, plants and apparatus you have for disposal

Auction Sale - it is not too early to start sorting out and

September 25th

Excursion to Clacton, calling at the well known Whitwell Fish Hatcheries

**THE JOURNAL**

This number required little or nothing in the way of articles, the Show requiring so much space but may I remind ALL of you that any "fishy" experiences will be welcomed for the next and succeeding Journals. Just write out the essential details and the Editor will trim and pad if necessary.

THANK YOU !

~~~~~0000~~~~~

## 8 Membership

I wish to make it clear that at the moment, these remarks are entirely my own personal opinions. Although I hope in the near future to have the Committee and the members of the same way of thinking.

In the early days of the Society, "New members" was a constant cry, and everyone did his utmost to enlist newcomers. We are now experiencing the result of this in the number of members we have we have, who are; from an aquarist point of view, dead wood probably because they were over persuaded to join in the first place.

From now on I wish to press for the acceptance of only those who appear to be prospective active club members. When the annual o is considered, this point is pressed right home. The 300 (approx.) entries were made by 46 members. The number of members giving actual assistance at the show was approximately 30 (many of these were amongst the 46 competitors. Over 40 members never even visited the Show-and they weren't all away on holiday! Just not interested

Let us build up a Club - smaller in numbers necessarily - of really keen aquarists, much more worthwhile , (again only my own opinion so far) than a large Club with 50% of the members never appearing at, or partaking in, any of the Society's activities?

C .J . SAUNDERS

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

All members are invited to advertise their requirements and any stock for disposal. !/- . per insertion

YOUNG PERM BLACKS for disposal,  
Apply 74» North Road, Southend,

LEERI & DWARF GOURAMIES, SPECKLED & PERMA BLACK MOLLIES,  
PLATIES (including variatus) SHUBUNKIN fry for Sale.  
Apply 300 Southbourne Grove, Westcliff-on-Sea.

DWARFGOURAMIES for sale, from 4/- each  
Apply 225, Ambleside Drive, Southend

1 PAIR ADULT JEWEL FISH for sale or exchange,  
Apply 16, Edinburgh Avenue, Leigh (Phone 78192)

9.

**ADVERTISEMENTS (continued.)**

ANGELS & BLACK WIDOWS for sale at 6/6d. each  
Apply 1, Southchurch Boulevard, Southchurch.

HALF GROWN TETS FROM BUENOS AIRES for sale at 2/6d. each,  
Apply 72, Sandringham Road, Southend.

**JOTTINGS FROM THE SHOW**

Commiseration with those who lost prospective show fishes prior to the opening, and also to those who had casualties during the Show. Total casualties were nine - a very low number considering there were over 550 fishes on view.

A bouquet to those whose entries were there on time. A brickbat to those members who, after entering their fishes, didn't bring them for exhibition, neither did they advance any reason for this omission

A word of praise for Mr. H. Pettifer, who, in spite of innumerable difficulties, set up the very attractive water garden in the centre of the Hall,

How many people saw the crocodile move? Mr. J. Hall did !! When de-crating the reptile, it whipped round like lightning, smashing its crate with a blow of its tail - a narrow escape for little Jack!

Can we, next year, show more fishes bred by the exhibitor. A great advance to our Club if we can.

Congratulations to Billy Hoare on an outstanding male Dwarf Gourami, and to Mr. Mash on a very fine specimen Goldfish - best tropical and best cold water entries.

Tuesday, the closing day, was the busiest. Were people beginning to tell their friends ? Will it be possible to have a seven day Show next year? What does it involve? (A thought for the future).

-----oOo-----

### AROUND THE CLUBS

When lecturing to other Societies there are several points I've noticed that should be of interest:-

1. Subscriptions are usually higher than ours, averaging 10/6d single, 15/- husband and wife
2. few clubs have the very convenient accommodation we so fortunately possess. One small society (about 24 strong) meets in the house of one of its members, several meet in schools where there is no opportunity of providing refreshment, while of those I have visited only one has equivalent facilities to us, and they are well housed at a Y.M.C.A, Branch,
- 3.. All societies appear to have a nucleus of really keen active members, together with many who "just keep fish".
4. The finest red swords seen post war, were in a Table Show I judged at Welwyn Garden City
5. There is an excellent spirit prevailing in all the societies, all are homely and have that comfortable atmosphere, a happy augury for the future of the hobby,

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Our thanks are due to Mr. R, Whitwell, the noted angel breeder of West Bergholt, who, with great generosity, sent us a large can containing a valuable assortment of fishes to sell at the Show, proceeds to go to the Club funds.

Very sincere thanks, Mr Whitwell, for your very friendly gesture.

SOUTHEND, LEIGH & DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY  
MONTHLY JOURNAL

Volume 2 No 3

October, 1949.

The Society meet at 7.45 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday in each month at:-

The Girl Guides' Hall,  
Westthorough Road.,  
Westcliff -on- Sea  
(Corner of Electric Avenue).

EDITORIAL

Apologies are due to the members for the late appearance of our previous issue. The typing of stencils and the duplicating are being done by friends, and we are at their mercy with regard to time. This is unsatisfactory but at the moment is our only means of continuing the journal - we are indeed fortunate in having such friends who will give of their skill and time on our behalf.

The enquiry to the members at our October meeting as to their preference for various events was extremely interesting and also gratifying. It was obvious that many of the members are really alive and have thoughts of their own. The really excellent speech of a junior (English) which received spontaneous applause, showed that we have some promising material for the future.

It appears that, as in the majority of aquarist societies, the members are keen on a 99% bias towards aquatic matters, whist-drives, for example, having practically no support, while the instructional type of evening has almost universal support - an encouraging feature this.

With these points in mind, next year's programme has been planned and the Committee-men hope it will lead to another entertaining and instructive year.

THE EDITOR.

## **FUTURE EVENTS**

### **NOVEMBER 2nd.**

Mrs. Meadows - the well-known Tropical Fish breeder- is to visit us on this date. She is an expert, very popular with London Clubs, and has a long and varied experience of fish-keeping. We should all learn from her visit.

### **DECEMBER 7th.**

.ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING This will be held in the usual Hall, commencing at 7.45 pm.. This is the only entire evening of the year devoted to Business Matters, and hence should be attended by all member. Everyone should receive an agenda, the names of those proposed as officials and Committee men , and, as has been explained verbally, the voting will take place at the Annual General Meeting, by paper ballot.

### **DECEMBER 10th.**

The Annual Dinner this year **is** to be held at Garons Centre House (The Oak Room) 7.00 pm for 7.30 p.m. Tickets are obtainable from Mr. Brooks Jnr, (Hon. Treasurer) 10/6d, each. Admission will be by ticket only.

The dinner will be followed by entertainment provided by professional artists, and the evening is scheduled to conclude at 10.30 approximately.

Last year 97 members and friends had a really grand time we hope this year will be better still, so get your tickets early.

### **WHITE SPOT**

This scourge of the aquarist is exceedingly prevalent at the present time over a large area, and Southend has had a particularly widespread outbreak,. Will all fish keepers remember that it is very easily spread - fishes infected should be treated in the tank in which the disease first appeared - this ensures elimination of the pest from the tank simultaneously with the curing of the fishes. Great care should be taken in the use of nets, scrapers etc. and no single spot of water from the contaminated tank should be allowed to e other aquaria.

At the. first sign of trouble, if the unfortunate owner cannot treat the disease himself contact should be made with an experienced aquarist -who will indicate the necessary steps to to effect a cure. Contrary to the belief of many coldwater fishes can be attacked the cure is very similar to that used for tropicals , and is 100% successful.

### **BITS AND PIECES**

Thanks to some members who have submitted articles for the Journal ,- let us hope many other members will follow suit and give us the benefit of their experiences. Copy and yet more copy is required.

We are glad Mrs Sullivan is now out of hospital, and we hope we will see her at meetings in the future.

Many juniors, not too well blessed with pocket money, have been enquiring after small tanks. Any adult members with small ones for disposal might insert an advertisement in the Journal!

We know of at least three members who managed to breed Nigger Barbs. Two have only small broods, but young fish are there - well done, keep at it.

## RANDOM JOTTINGS BY A PAIR OF BEGINNERS

MR, & MRS. COOK

Someone has suggested that I - me, mark you!. - write a few lines for the journal, I was tickled pink at the idea!. Fancy me, the veriest beginner, putting some of my thoughts into print. There is a low aspect to this, by the way, but let's skip it.

On second thoughts though, there really seems something in the idea. Why not, for instance, a recounting from time to time of our experiences and mistakes? Then I say our, I mean the wife and I jointly, we're both interested in this. We could give a few sly rubs occasionally, and with luck, might; start a few arguments!! Anyhow, the wife has agreed, and that's half the trouble over. Let's be honest, what she says goes!! The writing itself can't be more difficult than getting her permission., so here we go, a couple of beginners among the giants, or are they?

The trouble started when our lad was given a small molded tank, 14 x 10 x 10, I think - what a day! Somebody suggested we heated the tank - you know how they will attempt to run things for you. Anyway, a thermostat and heater were obtained, and off we went to a chappie at the other end of the town, who was reputed to have some of them there goldfish and things!! We bought a Blue Gourami a pair of Rosy Barbs, a Red Swordtail and a Mollie (for proper names refer to "Innes Exotic Fishes") or think of a few for yourself, I do very often.

Do you know, we; had a real thrill from watching our little `uns, and did we spend some time on this! What really impressed us were the odd aspects, such as the way the Rosy's kept together in their amblings, and what good pals they seemed to be - notice the first of the many subtle attractions of this fish business!! This was fine, but then our worries. Started - was that temperature 73 or 73 degrees, or was it actually 72, and could we trust the heating arrangement throughout the night? Strangely enough, we found we could.

What a couple of greenhorns we were, and what tosh these adverts for "stats" give us - as we have since heard from the experts, and incidentally, have proved for ourselves, which is of course the best way of doing things. A temperature variation between 70 and 73 degrees, either up or down, providing it is gradual (and this latter is important) does no harm whatever. In fact, most fish are hardier if they get slight temperature variations from time to time, but mind, it must be a gradual change spread if possible over a few hours, not a ten. Minute affair!. On this subject, let us give you an illustration on how? we tripped up.

One cold day we fetched home some young Leeri, and found the temperature about 68 degrees. We floated the jar for about ten minutes, and then tipped them in. Our tank was a bit on the high side - about 70, so that our poor little devils had a fairly sudden rise of nearly ten degrees, with disastrous results. If we had floated them in more gradually they would probably have been alive today - however, we live and learn.

More next time if the editor doesn't swipe us

—ooOoo—

Stop Press!!!

Dearest Mother, I'm very sorry to hear that we have purchased the wood cabinet & Kenon Day heater, and I was obliged to try my hand at printing the Journal. I am new to the job, but I hope so that you will forgive any glaring errors in this issue. I have two able assistants in my shop and I'll be thankful, and we hope to have the whole thing arranged by the next edition - to hand, by the way, we hope to bring out in better time. So do please send your copy in as soon as possible.

Your devoted friend,

W. R. R. R.

## **SOUTHEND, LEIGH & DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY**

### **MONTHLY JOURNAL**

Volume 2 No 4

November 1949

#### **EDITORIAL**

This will, I hope, reach all members before Christmas, therefore may I wish everyone, on behalf of the Committee and myself, a very Happy Christmas, and a New Year in which your endeavors in the aquatic world are rewarded as you deserve.

This year has been a good one for the hobby, it is a practical fact that more people are keeping fishes now than at any previous time. I specifically stated "keeping fishes" rather than calling the newcomers "Aquarists". What we, as club members, must do is to endeavor to ensure that all these people with, at present, a superficial interest shall become real students of fishes and permanent members of the aquatic world. This may be done (or assisted) in many ways, but to me one of the more obvious and sure methods of increasing the enthusiasm of the tyro is by arranging visits between friends who keep fishes and discussing 'fishy' matters.

The other point that is worth mentioning in this respect is that many newcomers to the hobby are unfortunate in their initial adventure, are easily discouraged, and fall by the wayside. Often a little advice or help in the early stages will so encourage the unfortunate, when he thrives others are interested in him, will finally result in a much keener entrant to the hobby than as likely originally.

A New Year's resolution is called for here--- so get busy!

Good Fishkeeping to you all,

THE EDITOR.

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### **MRS MEADOWS VISIT**

We were very fortunate indeed in having Mrs Meadows as our visiting lecturer last month. Unfortunately for us she was unable to stay for very long owing to the distance she had to travel, our very sincere thanks are tendered to her for making such an arduous journey on our behalf.

During the course of her very homely talk she related her experiences in breeding a large variety of fishes – particularly the Danios, Tetras and Barbs. In all cases she believes in separating the sexes for conditioning – feeding live foods liberally for this purpose -- then introducing the loving (?) pair in the late afternoon, hoping for spawn the following day. She also advocated shallow water which had only been standing about 24 hours, i.e, comparatively fresh water.

Mrs Meadows remarked on the usefulness of an "understanding" husband, meaning, in this case, one who didn't mind meals delayed while the fishes were being attended to. The very useful tip for moving young fry was to cover the bottom half of a small net with oiled silk so that while being moved the youngsters were swimming in water the whole time -- sounds a very useful scheme, as the fry catchers on the market are not too successful.

### **REMOVAL.**

We regret to announce that commencing in the new year we shall be meeting in different surroundings. The old Hall has served us well and it is unfortunate that the Trustees will not renew our contract. At the moment committee members are frantically visiting hall after hall, but the pitfalls are many and various. The prices asked are staggering while many have no kitchen facilities, others no heating, still others cannot let us have the nights we want or the hours we require.

We hope to have this matter settled before this Journal issued, in which case details will be given; if we are still searching members will be circulated as soon as possible after we have found a suitable meeting place. Any suggestions would be welcomed.

-

### LEERI GOURAMI

This tropical gem, often known as the Pearl or Mosaic Gourami has not, at the moment, the popularity it thoroughly deserves.

It has all that a fancier could desire – beauty, grace, a ready feeder on dry or live foods, an ideal community fish, the only one of this large family of Gouramis that is definitely non-pugilistic and will not worry other members of the aquarium, and is comparatively long-lived.

The probable reason for it not being more common is that the young fishes displayed for sale do not take kindly to moves at such a young age. If purchase as a 2 inch fishes they will quickly settle down in their new quarters and be perfectly happy.

Their breeding habits are very similar to those of the 3 spot and the Dwarf, with the important difference that the male will not damage the female or the young after spawning and hatching. The whole family will live happily together. A few brief hints on procedure may be welcomed-- in any case here they are.

Feed the parents liberally with a goodly proportion of live food in their diet – it is not necessary to separate the sexes. As the male (easily known by his pointed Dorsal fin) comes into condition he will develop a brilliant red breast and will spend his time building nests of the bubble type, nudging his better half around the tank when he can find the time. When the lady is ready she will meet her spouse under the nest and the first embrace will take place. Further embraces will take place until up to 300. or more eggs will be in the nest. The female will then retire while the male adopts his role of guardian angel to the eggs, replacing bubble casualties and generally acting the part of 'wet nurse'. Actually the eggs float even without the bubbles, hence all the care bestowed seems  
superfluous

At a temperature of 80 F. the fry usually appear in about 48 hours and will remain stuck to the plants, the aquarium side or the water surface for about 24 hours. They will then become free swimming and must be fed, and this is where the trouble begins. Gouramis are heavy feeders and large quantities of Infusoria must be available if the fry are to do well. It is advisable to spawn the parent fishes in a well-established tank with the bottom well covered with mulm - infusoria seems to do better in those conditions and there will also be a goodly number present when the fry hatch-- enough for a fish feed. Keep the Infusoria supply going for 7 to 10 days, introducing Mikro worm in small quantities after 7 days.

4.

Given adequate feeding in the first fortnight, and sufficient growing room after, the young will thrive. A danger age is from 5 to 4 weeks when the labyrinth organs are developing, at this time see that there is no oil-film on the water surface and avoid draughts directly on the water. At 4 weeks sifted daphnia may be fed and all dangers should then be over. I do not advise moving Leeri until they are at least an inch in length - preferably longer.

If you have not spawned this very attractive and gentle fish, try it, you won't be disappointed,

C. J. Saunders,

**FRATERNITY,**

May I remind old members, and inform our newer recruits that the following members are pleased to see Club members for a "fishy" talks"

C.J. Brooks, 1, Southchurch Boulevard, (by appoint.)

H.A. Giles, 72, Sandringham Road. (" " )

W. Hoare, 225, Ambleside Drive. Saturday after.

C.J. Saunders, 500 Southbourne Grove, Sunday Morns.

To this list we are pleased to add:-

Mr & Mrs Sullivan 12, Burleigh Mansions, Station Rd.

Monday and Thursdays----- after 6.50 p.m.

Friday evenings ----- Juniors only by appointment.

Any other members wishing to join the above, let me know at the earliest convenient date.

Copy is urgently required for the Journal and will be welcome.

**HAVE YOU SUBMITTED ANYTHING YET ?**

## 5.

### CHRISTMAS PRESENTS,

The wife, husband 'or 'friend 'of' an aquarist should never experience difficulty in present buying at this season of the year., Heaters, Thermostats or Aquariums, plants and fishes will all be very acceptable; while looking around last week two very useful gadgets were noticed, (a) a reliable mercury thermometer enclosed in a metal case with pocket clip-- very useful for shows etc., and for use when moving fishes. It is nice to be able to carry a thermometer in ones pocket without the ever present fear of a catastrophe,

(b) An attractively finished - French polished-carrying case for tropical fishes. The case has a stout leather handle and studded bottom. Inside are two glass containers with screw tops with a diminutive rubber hot water bottle nestling in between. The case is lined with green baize.

Either (a) or (b) would be a decided asset to any aquarist; the thermometer is priced at 7/6 , the carrying case at £2-0-0d,

### ASSETS

In view of the flourishing nature of the Clubs treasury it was decided at the November meeting of the members, to purchase a modern duplicator. One of our newer members-Mr Raynor very kindly offered to contact Roneo Duplicators Ltd., and as a result of his efforts a duplicator has now been obtained.

Now we have this model we should soon overcome the difficulties we have been experiencing in the production of the Monthly(?) Journal, and *we* hope that in the New Year This will appear regularly at the proper intervals of time.

All communications, Copy, etc., should be addressed to The Editor, 300 Southbourne. Grove,  
Westcliff-on-Sea.

**POST IT NOW!!**

6.

### **SPOTTY FISHY STORY.**

Once upon a time there was a little Mountain Minnow called, for some unknown reason “Whitey” he lived and played - happily with all his community tank. One day, however, "Whitey" came out in spots – and all his playmates then called him "White Spotty” eventually the poor fish died.

Now to all those members who say - I have never had it, and don't even know what it looks like, BEWARE and learn the cure for these strange ills now, don't wait until you do know what it looks like.

Poor "Whitey" never knew what it was;  
Then he got it;  
Now he' s had it ;

Don't let yours go the same way,

Confidentially yours

Jack Brooks.

### **THE FANTAILS SCORN**

Black and orange, goggle-eyed,  
Gas mask-faced, but well supplied  
With finnage, the new goldfish was,  
The Fantails scorned him, all because  
His goggle-eyes had made him blind.  
And made it difficult to find  
The best of foods, chopped worm, when t`was about,  
The new fish was a Moor, although with doubt  
I classify him so,  
His orange front would cancel him for show.  
The fantails envied him his smart black suit,  
Which gave another reason for dispute

7.

Rotund and slow, double-tailed.  
The Fantails wore, but none had failed  
To visit London once  
One-had been there twice as well  
And what a story she could tell  
Of every kind of dunce  
She'd seen at shows, who would not learn that she  
Was the best fish there, no other fish could plea  
to be her better, none  
Could deny't from cup and medals she had won;  
She scorned the Moor, who could not win a flea  
The aquarist from scorn to set him free  
Moved him to another tank awhile;  
He thought a moment then he showed a smile.

Slender and swift, single tailed  
The shubunkin was, he had not failed  
to hear a thing or two  
Of how the Fantails scorned the Moor  
He'd seen it coming long before,  
He lived next tank and knew  
Until they'd learned their lesson the Fantails would  
Not mix, he thought if he were there he could  
Show them sparks,  
The aquarist, who was quite fond of larks,  
Moved the shubunkin to the Fantails home,  
Where the Fantails ignored him to the bone.

But, when feeding time came round  
And the water with chopped worm did abound,  
The shubunkin chased the Fantails right away  
The Fantails tails were cumbersome though gay  
But the "Shu's" was streamlined. When he had eaten  
All he wanted, the Fantails beaten,  
Returned to grovel for morsels on the sand.  
A week went by and every day he banned  
Them from their food.  
The aquarist thought this no longer good.  
The Fantails thinned, the shubunkin fattened full.  
The moor replaced the "Shu", the Fantails dull  
And subdued, relieved (and so my story ends)  
The Moor was double-tailed and slow, made friends.

John W. Cowan.

8.

**S.L.A.D,A.S. EXCHANGE & MART**

**Adverts:**

**1/- per issue**

1 Pair Mollienisia Velifera 10/- or would exchange for Adult Male Red Fighter.  
Sullivan, 12, ..Burleigh Mansions,Station Road, Westcliff on Sea.

**STOP PRESS;**

Here we are again Folks, still trying to get the journal up to date, and gaining a little on the Calendar each time.

Heaps of copy still required, so send it along to Mr Saunders (The Editor) as soon as possible. It may interest you to know that we can now reproduce simple illustrations with your articles---So come on you artists,

Best Wishes

H.A. Giles.

**SOUTHEND LEIGH & DISTRICT AQUARISTS SOCIETY.**

**MONTHLY JOURNAL**

Vol. 2. No. 5

December 1949.

The Society meets at 7.45. p.m. on the first and third

Mondays in each month at;-

-  
The Girl Guides Hall Westborough Road,  
Westcliff-on-Sea, (Corner of Electric Avenue.)

**EDITORIAL.**

If this issue is published as speedily as the last one we should be up to date-- at last! First fruits of possessing our own duplicator, plus a tribute to Mr. Giles who is producing the journal. We hope during the New Year to publish regularly at monthly intervals, please remember that copy is still required. Several members have rallied round and produced suitable material How about you? Come along, lets have a new "party piece".

This issue sees the end of a memorable year in the club's history a membership of 193, an annual show second to none, and what is far more important, a much larger nucleus of keen active members than was to be expected. 1950 should see our society going great guns, ever advancing in our efforts to become good aquarists, let us hope that in this endeavour we can also contrive to be good friends with the hearty spirit of co-operation necessary for success.

May I wish you all a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year, when .. to quote an old saw . "Your Troubles May Be Little Ones - Thousands of them" !

THE EDITOR.

: (C. J. Saunders.)

2.

### **THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

This was held on Wednesday December 7th in the Girl Guides Hall, commencing at 7.50 p.m. A record number of members attended (72) and an uneventful meeting ended at 9.40 p.m.

The President (retiring) in his address, commented on the growth of the Society, numerically, and also on the very flourishing state of our finances, a goodly cash sum being in hand, in addition to approximately £150 worth of stock assets. An interesting point mentioned was the relative attendances at various meetings. Auction Sales topped the list, closely followed by Table Shows. Visiting Lecturers received the smallest support, which may, of course, be due to a number of circumstances outside the control of the Society.

The President commented on the retirement of -Mr R. Jones from active participation in Club affairs, owing to pressure of private business, and recalled the good work done by him during his period of office, particularly on the show side. His concluding remarks were in the nature of thanks to the retiring committee and Officials, to the active and last but by no means least, the ladies who so willingly provide the liquid refreshment which is such a boon to everyone.

The Treasurer then presented the accounts for the year, including a separate balance sheet of the Annual Show, and the accounts were adopted.

The Retiring Committee then withdrew, Mr. C. J Saunders was, in the absence of any other nominee, re-elected President, After thanking the members he took the chair, and the election of other officers was proceeded with. Mr H.A. Giles was elected Secretary (unopposed,) Mr C.J. ;Brooks Vice-President, Mr C.G. Brooks, (junior) Treasurer and Mr Barnes-Oakes, Hon. Adviser (unopposed).

The ballot for the remaining committee men (three) resulted in the election of Messrs. E. Clark, C. Mash and W. Hoare. The original vote for the third position was a tie between Messrs. Cook, Carter and Hoare. A further vote was taken and Mr. Hoare was the successful candidate.

Mesdames Jagged and Kirby, and Messrs E.G. Day and Drew, were the scrutinizers.

It was decided to leave open the position of Show Secretary, this most difficult post requiring careful consideration, particularly on the part of the "Lucky" man who undertakes it, as to whether sufficient time can be given to make it a success.

Very little arose under any other business, with the exception of the help given by members in suggesting suitable halls which the committee might attempt to hire for a future meeting place.

## 5.

### **NEW FACES.**

It is with pleasure that Messrs. Barnes-Oakes and Mash are welcomed to the Committee's ranks, Mr Mash is not only an Aquarist, but also a very keen Herpetologist (he likes snakes!!) He showed his worth to the club on the occasion of the annual show and his election was well merited.

Mr Barnes-Oakes, a comparatively new member, is well known as an authority in the field of aquatics. He is a great asset to any society and his initial gesture in offering to look after the Junior Section, was heartily applauded,  
Good Luck to both of you and let us hope you enjoy your spell of office.

### **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.**

May we remind all members that subscriptions for 1950 were due on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting, (Rule 4.) and that past members, whose subscriptions are not paid within one month of that date, will be deemed to have left the society (Rule 9c) The Committee intend to adhere to rule, therefore if you wish to continue membership, send in your subscription now to the Treasurer, Mr C. G. Brooks at 74, North Road.

This will be that last issue of the Journal for those whose 1950 subscriptions are overdue.

### **COMING EVENTS**

Our first meeting on Monday 2nd. January at the Girl Guides Hall, will meet Mr Barnes-Oakes as a lecturer,

He is an expert, and possesses that little extra something, which enables him to breed fishes we would all like to breed, but have not for various reasons, some unknown. Perhaps he will be able to enlighten us. We know he will give us the benefit of his knowledge and experience, the rest is up to us,

Our Second Meeting in January (16th) is a social evening,

#### 4.

#### **BITS AND PIECES.**

By R. J. Sullivan.

To calculate the capacity of your aquarium, multiply the Length by the Width, by the Depth (in inches) and divide the result by 277 to find the number of Gallons it will hold.

For those not so mathematically minded, the following Table of Capacities of common sizes of aquaria may be of some assistance, all measurements are in inches.

|                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 6" by 6" by 12" | = 1½ Galls  |
| 9" x 9" x. 18"  | = 5 ¼ Galls |
| 10" x 10" x 20" | = 7¼ Galls  |
| 12" x 12" " 24" | = 12 Galls  |
| 15" x 15" x 30" | = 24 Galls  |
| 18" x 18" x 36" | = 42 Galls  |

As a gallon of water weighs 10 lbs. A strong support is necessary for your aquarium if it is of any size.

Ludwigia is frequently seen in aquaria, but few people know that it is also a very effective greenhouse plant. The plants should be set in a shallow bowl without drainage filled with good leaf mold. This should be filled with enough water to make liquid mud. The Ludwigia will fall over, draping the sides of the bowl, as it grows. It can be pruned, and the cut off pieces replanted until the bowl is full.

#### **NOTICE**

Will Members please note that your new Hon. Bee. is Mr H. A. Giles of :-

72, Sandringham Road, Thorpe Bay, Southend.

To whom any communications should be addressed,

#### **ANOTHER NOTICE.**

Mr Hoare our Hon. Librarian wishes to remind members to return their books promptly, please to enable others to borrow them.

Thank You

### THE ANNUAL DINNER

A word about the annual dinner for those unfortunates who were unable to come, it was of course, held at the Oak Hall, Garons Centre House, Southend on Saturday the 10th December. There were 68 members and guests present and an excellent meal of turkey and etcetera's was enjoyed by all.

The President Mr C .J . Saunders, proposed a toast, The King, and Mr Brooks (Senior) our new Vice-President, proposed The Club, He remarked on our happy and successful year, and hoped for an even better one in 1950.

After dinner, a really fine entertainment was given by Mr Percy Liles and Gladys Bule, (entertainers) Mr Roy George (Comedian and eccentric Violinist) and Mr Frank Hughes (Conjurer) Mr Liles acted as Master of Ceremonies and his partner Miss Bule brought the house down with some lovely singing. The whole gathering roared with laughter at Mr Georges impersonation of a lady taking a bath. While the Junior members (whom we were glad to see present) in the front row had some real fun assisting (and being spoofed by) Mr Hughes the conjurer.

Though mostly aquarists and fishkeepers, water was not the only beverage taken, and a very merry evening drew to its reluctant close at 11 p.m.

H. A. Giles (Sec)

### **HELPFUL HINT**

From Mr Cook.

Are you troubled with water leaking by condensation into your thermostat. ? If so, cut a small piece of rubber from an old inner cycle tube and wrap one end around the glass tube about  $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the entrance, with the other tapered off to make a tight wrap round the electric lead about 5" - 6" away. Seal the overlapping edges with rubber solution and you should have no further trouble

Adjustment to thermostat with either the inside or outside fitting can easily be made by sliding the rubber jacket off the glass entrance.

## 6.

### THE "TREK" TO COLDWATER.

By C.J. Saunders.

The number of fish-keepers at the present time must be well over the pre-war numbers, probably one of the most noteworthy trends has been the increase in those interested in fancy goldfishes.

The demand for quality fishes is enormous, at the moment it is impossible to satisfy. This is gratifying tribute to the good work put in by clubs and by the aquarist journals, Pre-war too many coldwater enthusiasts were satisfied with third rate fishes, particularly in Shubunkins. Now the budding fan is more discriminating, and is enquiring as to the standard to be sought, and is doing his level best to improve his stock and his knowledge. The fact that good Bristol type Shubunkin adults are priced from 50/- upwards is a sure indication that the demand is greater than the supply.

The latest move of the National Goldfish Society is in the adoption of four basic varieties, which will have new names more applicable to the actual physical attributes of the fishes.

The basic varieties are to be :-

1. The Singletail (present Shubunkin.)
2. The Twintail (present Veiltail.)
3. The Globe Eye (present Moor.)
4. The Bramblehead (present Lionhead.)

Each of these varieties will be in three classes according to pigmentation viz:-

- |          |                        |
|----------|------------------------|
| Metallic | (present Scaled.)      |
| Nacreous | (present Calico.)      |
| Matt     | (present Transparent.) |

These new names have a definite bearing on the actual appearance of the fish, the old scale-less nomenclature being of course entirely erroneous.

When the standards have been made public property all Cold Water Breeders will have a definite goal, and it is hoped that the selling of "Throw-outs" from veil spawnings as shubunkins will end, it must, if we are ever to make progress.

**RANDOM JOTTINGS BY A PAIR OF BEGINNERS,**

by Mr and. Mrs Cook.

Would you believe it, gentle reader, the powers that be have accepted our previous effort, and friend Giles has just called with an expectant look in his eye, muttering to himself....."I must have more copy from somewhere I'm desperate" So now the wife is strutting around calling herself "Aquarist and Journalist". sheer swank I call it.

Some little time ago on one of the club outings, to Brighton as it happens, we heard our Chairman folding forth on the subject of Nigger Barbs (*Nigrofasciatus*.. Editor.) Thank you Chief, and anyhow he was saying, "Now there's a fish for you, if you want to get on with some real breeding, not too easy, and in fact, something you can really get your teeth into so to speak"

This started us thinking, and on arrival at the Preston Aquarium, (I think that is what they call themselves). We arranged after a while, to get the proprietor in a corner, despite the fact that Bill Hoare had also been working on him for quite a time, and whispered, "Have you got a first class pair of adult niggers, only just fully grown and ready for the business of life?" (We are always, to say the least, tactful in front of strangers.) He said he had, and when no one else was looking, produced the wonderful fish.

They really looked a treat, very active and with well outstanding fins, and a fine colour to both of them, the fish I mean.

This was fine until we heard the price, which was terrific but by this time the bug had well and truly bitten, and so we had 'em. After all, if the heads and big chiefs could do it, so could we.

From that moment, those two little fish were precious to us, and are still, for that matters and I think we felt every road jolt in the coach coming home, but, as usual all four of us arrived in first class condition.

Now the question arose, how were we going about the job? People all round us were very ready with advice, but opinions varied in all sorts of ways, from putting our two little beauties together at the crack of dawn, to giving them both a good stiff whiskey at the preliminary introductions. In the end we decided to start a little book, putting in all the tips and suggestions, and are we glad we did as it enabled us to get a cross-section of opinion, which is always valuable, and this is what it all boiled down to,

## 8.

### RANDOM JOTTINGS (Contd)

#### Conditioning of Fish Prior -to Breeding.

Keep fish at temperature of say 72' F. and feed on live food, varied as much as possible, e.g.. Earthworms, Daphnia, White worm etc., for at least 14 days or longer, is possible. Watch for ideal conditions of fish for breeding, which is indicated as follows :-

Male. Very active with head and gills a "brilliant scarlet and the rest of the body a deep chocolate or practically black colour.

Female. Active, with no colour change, but well plumped and swimming with head slightly downwards, thereby indicating fullness of roe, (I think that is the term)

If both fish have reached that condition, then prepare the breeding tank as follows :-

Tank. Preferably 24" X 12" X 12" giving plenty of space.

Water. Old if possible, filled to a depth of 6 " only.

Plants. Myriophyllum for preference, or as a second. choice any fine leaved plant. Plant as thickly as possible over the shingle with the exception of a strip say 5" wide in centre of tank running from back to front.

Fix glass panel, through the centre of this open strip and add a further 2" of freshwater. Then put in, sorry, float in the fish, one each side of the panel. Do this preferably in the evening, thereby giving both fish a chance to settle in before becoming acquainted. Raise temperature to 78' F. and next morning remove the divider, and if you have the time, watch the fish. Vigorous chasing in and out of the plants should result, and if you are lucky, the fish should spawn within the next 12 hours of daylight. :

This should be indicated by the perceptible slimming of the female, and at this stage both fish should be withdrawn.

If you cannot spend the time in watching the fish, withdraw them in any case after 24 hours and repeat the whole process about ten days or so later, if there is no sign of hatching in the meantime. This does not sound perhaps like advice from beginners, but we know it works. We have had two separate spawnings, and the little 'uns are doing fine, but more of that later.

By the way our breeding pair turned out to be two males we tried to spawn these for weeks, strangely enough without success, but all went well when a member, bless him, let us have a real female.

**THE ORDER ODONATA.**

By C. Mash.

An aquarist must, of necessity, be involved in other branches of natural history, and to some, a passing acquaintance. or the keen study, of one or more of those "branches gives added interest. This brief article deals with the order ODONATA, embracing the Sub-orders Anisoptera (Dragonfly) and Zygoptera (Damsel-fly).

To those who have advanced only to the stage of considering the dragonfly "Nymph" as being the deadly enemy of our fish-fry, an insight into the wonders of this beautiful insect may be interesting. We have all at some time, probably when searching for Daphnia or Bloodworms noticed the shimmering wings of the dragonfly as it darts or hovers over the pond or stream, and have made a mental note that our "bag" must be carefully scrutinised for nymphs before feeding to out prized fish but have we ever paused to think of the number of varieties of these insects which inhabit the British Isles?

The dragonfly contains upwards of 27 different species and the damsel-fly about 17.. They are very similar in appearance to the inexperienced eye, but many of the former grow to a much larger size, a fully-grown adult often reaching 2½ " in body length and 3" or more in wing-span. The colours range from brilliant blues, to various greens, browns, purples, reds and yellows and with the suns rays scintillating on their gauze-like wings they are a sight worth seeing, even to the aquarist who is well versed in colour-schemes. They can fly at incredible speeds, one estimate being upwards of 60 m.p.h. and, unlike the damsel-fly (a much weaker flier). The Dragon fly often migrates long distances. A peculiarity is that one often notices them flying backwards much as the male Swordtail swims when mating.

It has been said that the length of the abdomen is due to an external pairing apparatus beneath the second and third segments, and this, together with the well-know "mask" of the nymph, is an unique feature to the insect world, and indeed, to the whole animal kingdom.

After the pairing of the adults, the very small pale yellow eggs are deposited on stems or leaves of water-plants, floating pieces of wood, in the mud or even on the bank-side above water. Many Damsel-flies cling beneath the surface of the water to place their eggs on the plant-stems. The nymph, when first hatched, is encased in a cellophane-like skin.

**THE ORDER ODOMA.TA (Contd)**

Many of the small ones are devoured "by their larger brethren. The nymph state lasts from one to two years, according to species, and it is this greenish or brownish larva that is indeed the enemy of fish-fry, for it is furnished with movable hooks on the curious horny mask which shoot forward to seize its prey by means of a powerful muscular motion: the victim is then drawn back to the mouth to be devoured.

When fully grown the nymph leaves the water, and after drying will split its skin to emerge as a winged insect. For a few days it is immature and the colours are not very brilliant at first. The actual length of life of the dragon-fly has not been accurately ascertained, but none have yet been found to survive the winter in the British Isles in the winged state. From the human point of view dragon-flies are quite harmless. The title of "Horse-stinger" is a misnomer as they are completely deficient of stinging, biting or any other method of attack so far as man or animal is concerned, On the other hand, they do a world of good by consuming numerous mosquitoes, gnats, wasps, flies, etc.

Dragon-flies appear to be very ancient in lineage, as fossil species have been found in upper carboniferous rocks, but they have apparently gradually diminished in size as fossils with a wing expanse of 27" have been known.

**An Acknowledgement**

Thanks are due to Mr Rayner of "Windybridge" Rebels Lane, Southchurch, who sold us the Roneo Duplicator. He spent a whole Sunday evening, teaching your publisher to use the machine more efficiently.

H.A. Giles.

**IMPORTANT**

Will members please remember to let the secretary know of any change of address.  
Thank you

11.

S.,L.,A. D. A..S. EXCHANGE AND MART

Adverts 1/- per entry.

Well grown leeri and Dwarf Gourami's, Perma Black, Sphenops and Velifera Mollies.  
Young Shubunkins, Plants.

500, Southbourne Grove, West cliff

I have still few ""Buenos Aires" Tetras for sale at 2/~ each.

Giles 72, Sandringham Rd.

Thorpe Bay,

~~Stop Press!!!~~

VERY

IMPORTANT

NOTICE!

Members will, I am sure, be very glad to know that our contemplated change of Hall, will not now take place.

Owing to the good office of our Mrs. Kirby, we have been able to book our Hall again, but for MONDAY evenings only. Please make a note on your cards, that meetings will in future be on the First and Third Mondays of each month.

If any Member is a little disappointed at not reading his (or her) literary gems in this edition, I hope he (or she) will forgive me, but like the squirrel I try to sack a little "copy" for our next. — to have a  
and good luck. H. Appleton  
Nov. 8. 18.

SOUTHEND LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARISTS' SOCIETY ,

MONTHLY JOURNAL.

Vol. 2. No 6

January. 1950.

The Society meets at 7.45 p.m. on the first and third Monday in each Month at:-  
The Girl Guides Hall, Corner of Electric Avenue, and West borough Road,

**EDITORIAL**

Here we are again, the first issue of the New Year, and I hope you will receive this copy at the correct time; in fact I'm sure you will!!

The new arrangement, using our own Duplicator, (a sound investment this) is working very well, and you can look forward to receiving the Journal at regular intervals.

What New Year's Resolutions have we aquarists to report? A few that would be very useful and good for the Hobby in general might be as follows :-

1. Never keep more fishes than we have room for, and the time to look after properly.
2. Destroy all runts as soon as it is possible to identify them.
3. Give the promising youngsters plenty of room, plenty of the right sort of food, plus a kindly eye.

(Remember the runts will never make goodly fishes, but they will deprive the better youngsters of some of the space, and some of the food they urgently require.)

4. Feed sparingly but well, and don't forget that fishes like tit-bits as well as you or I ("a little Daphnia, (" Rosy???... After you Pearl;")
5. Be kind to your fellow aquarists.

Good fish-keeping to you all,

THE EDITOR.

## 2.

### TALK BY MR. BARNES-OAK ON BREEDING TROPICALS

#### **First Meeting of the New Year.**

The first meeting of the New Year was, an unqualified success, with 58 members present.

The President opened the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy New Year, then introduced our Hon. Advisor, Mr Barnes-Oak, who started off by saying that he had no intention of giving a lecture, but a friendly talk, and would anyone care to name a fish for him to talk about.

Tiger Barb, was the first to be asked about, and Mr. Barnes-oak, started off by saying that the greatest Biological urges in fishes was the need to reproduce themselves and if they were not breeding, it is up to us to find the reason why.

First take a Tank, not less than 24 X 12 X 12 if possible, clean and sterilise this, and fill with tapwater. This should be allowed to mature for three days at least. Introduce a pair of fish, but separated by a clear glass partition, so that they can see each other. Now feed with lots of live food, preferably white worms.

As soon as female is in condition, (there must be no mistake about this;) remove partition at night, and at temperature of 78' F. they should spawn in the morning.

Any sort of plants will do, but they should be in nice thick clumps in order to trap as many eggs as possible.

When the young hatch out, some two days later, they will need to be fed on Infusoria. This, Mr Barnes-Oak says is most easily made from water in which a potato has been cut up. He also uses the well known Apple Snails quite a lot.

As the babies grow they will need larger food, and our Lecturer definitely favours Micro-worm for this second stage. This is to be followed by the usual foods, such as chopped White worm, Tubifex, Daphnia, etc.

In answer to some of the many questions, Mr Barnes-Oak said he does not believe that White worm causes Dropsy in fish. The depth of water should be about 9 inches. The lid should be kept on as Barbs are great jumpers. The only way known to him of sexing the Tigers is by the fullness of body in the female. He went on to talk of Cat-fish, Rosaceous, Flagfish, Widows, Beacons, Cherry-Barbs, Pristella and White Clouds and only the relentless clock put an end to what was voted a really interesting evening.

The general remarks at the close were that we must have more of the same; We are very grateful to Mr. Barnes-Oak and hope to hear more of him.

H.A. Giles.

**COPY !**

We are glad to announce that articles are beginning to trickle in-- thanks to all who have submitted copy, and in anticipation to all those who will do so when they have found a pen that will write.

How about you Juniors? The Prethident (can't get out of thith thilly habit:) will give a pair of fishes to the Junior who sends in the best copy during 1950.

Come along, let's see what you can do.

**ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION.**

Some notes by Mr K. Escott.

The intending aquarist who inquires about the cost of heating an aquarium, usually has to be content with a vague answer that it is only about "a bob a week". So I thought that it would be interesting to obtain some definite information on the subject, and so I purchased a second-hand electric meter. My two standard 24" tanks have quarter inch spaces between the frames and the glass tops, and are mounted on a two-tier stand, which is situated in an unheated glass conservatory. Each tank is fitted with a 100 Watt. heater, controlled by its own thermostat,

The Meter was connected in the supply to these two heaters at the beginning of last June, The total current consumed by the two tanks together during the period of 50 weeks since then, is 272 Units. The average consumption rate per week for both tanks together, during each month was as follows:-

|              |         |               |          |
|--------------|---------|---------------|----------|
| June .....   | 8 units | October.....  | 12 units |
| July.....    | 5 units | November..... | 18 units |
| August ..... | 6 units | December..... | 19 units |
| September    | 7 units |               |          |

The figures will depend mostly on two main factors Firstly, the water temperature as controlled by the thermostats, and secondly, the mean ambient temperature in the conservatory.

My two thermostats are set to keep the water at about 78° F. in the summer months, but are adjusted to give about 72° F. during October, and are kept at that until May.

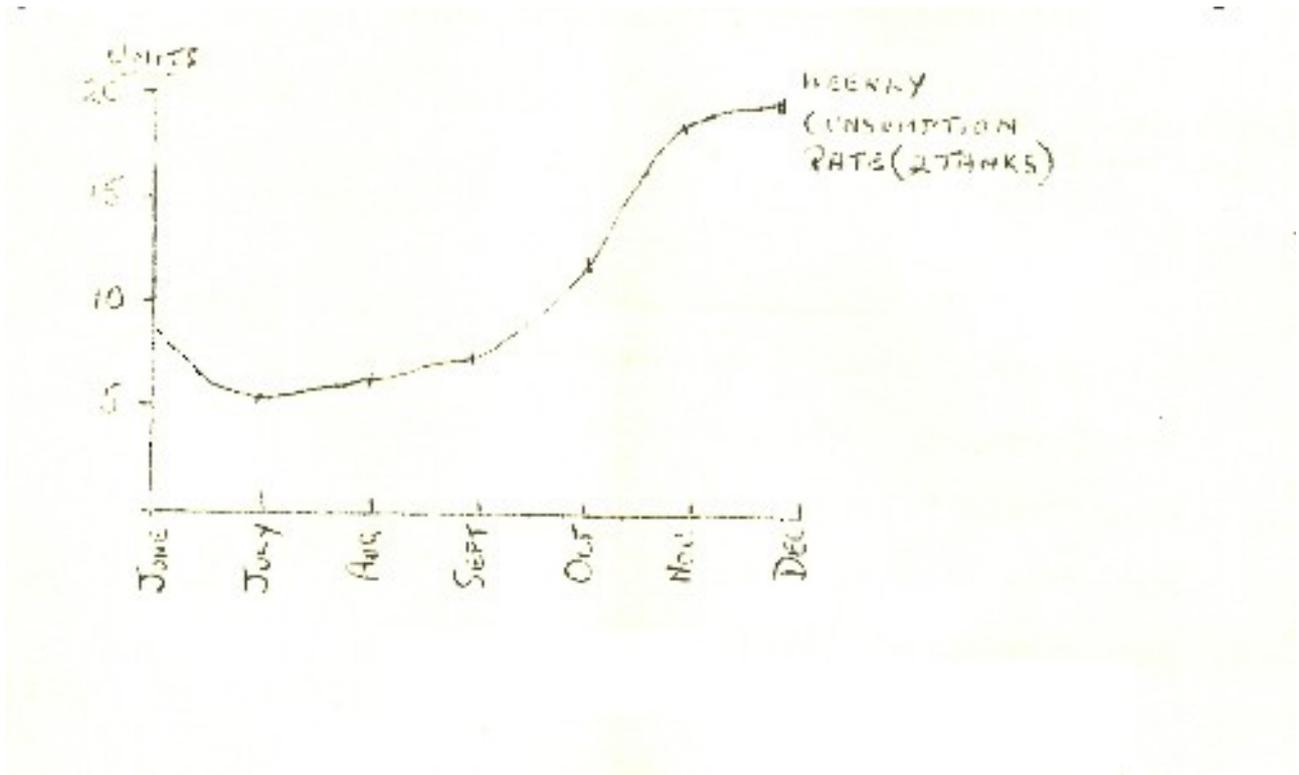
The temperature in the conservatory is very much less than it is indoors, except on some occasions in Mid-Summer. Usually it is about 10° F. less during the day and as much as 20° less at night. This means that in the Winter the heating costs will be twice what they would be in the living-room.

the average conservatory . On the other hand, no artificial light is needed to stimulate plant growth at any season, the slight amount of current used occasionally for illumination, is negligible.

The actual cost of the current consumed can be calculated when the cost per unit is known (as shown on your last Electricity bill.)

It is unlikely that anyone else will have conditions which exactly parallel mine, but these figures may help some people to make a closer estimate in their own case.

The graph below is a very useful way to check up the above.



#### A HELPFUL HINT

by Mr & Mrs Cook.

Plenty of people know of this, but do you? Chlorinated water from the Mains is bad for your fish. Therefore before drawing a supply from the tap for topping up purposes etc., take a few sips first from a glass filled from the tap, and provide a good insurance against using chlorinated water for your little 'uns.

#### COMING EVENT.

MONDAY JANUARY 16th Brings us to another Social. we had a real good time at the last one, so come along, all of you and make this an oven better one. There will be Fun and Games for all ages, oven for those who like to sit in small groups, and just talk---FISH!

DON'T FORGET THE DATE::;

MONDAY JANUARY 16th,

6.

**CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER.**

A tank was completely (?) cleared of fishes (Leeri and Dwarfs three-quarters grown) and plants, a few odd bunches of blanket weed remaining. The heaters were removed and the tank left for a fortnight in an outside fish house. Then on the Sunday morning the lazy aquarist decided to empty out the water, Lo and behold, there lived a Dwarf Gourami---- the temperature of the water was taken 48°F which had probably been fairly constant for the fortnight. The fish, caught and floated in another tank. bringing the temperature slowly to 74° F is still alive to tell the tale.

Who said Dwarfs were Tropical Fishes ?

(Publishers notes - We do not recommend this treatment as a habit-- ::) H.A.G.

**VERSE AND WORSE.**

There with a young lady named Rothy,

Who lived in a tank, warm and cothy.

Th-e Thaid Thoppy Date,

You know I'll be late

Inthithting on thith nothy-nothy.

C.J.S.(with apologieth--Thorry!)

(Publisher's Notes- The fact that our President has had the misfortune to lose some of his molars, probably has some bearing on the above -)

H.A.G.

**HELPFUL HINT.**

Should your Female Fighter, after spawning is complete, have battle-scarred fins, place her in a slightly salted aquarium for a few days. This not only prevents fungus, but helps the fins to knit together again.

R .J. Sullivan,

## DON'T MARRY AN AQUARIST!!

by M.C.Mash

The advice herein offered concerns, in the main, the fair sex, but the male of the species may pick up a few hints.

Of course those poor creature's already mated to an Aquarist may be commiserated with, (they are to be pitied:) but this illuminating picture of what they may have to contend with, should deter those beautiful females who are, about to plunge into the matrimonial pool. My advice is ---don't!

It all began with the budding Aquarist bringing home a solitary Goldfish that he had won at the "Local" in a darts tournament. Knowing, nothing of oxygenation, chemical analysis, or fishy environment, he proudly placed the glass bowl on the piano and invited some of his cronies to admire it.

. He next purchased a packet of Ants eggs and made a nice layer of about 1 and a half inches thick on the surface of the water. In a few days he wonders why the water is turning to a nice pea-soupy content, and hits on the bright idea of changing the water at least once a day. The ill-treated fish is by now minus half it's scales, it's dorsal is beautifully streamlined, and it takes on a look of pathetic submission,

One day the B.A. (budding aquarist) meets a pal who Knows what's what about fish, and he (the B.A.) is persuaded to invest in a very much second-hand aquarium. (By this time the unfortunate goldfish has got wings, and is given a "Posh" funeral in the compost heap! He spends his money on a couple of runts deciding to make. A fresh start. '

To the dismay of Mrs. B.A. who is preparing the greens in the kitchen sink. she is pushed on one side to make room for the 10 x 8 x 8 Tank: a bag of sand is emptied onto the draining-board, and soon gets nicely mixed with the Spinach!

Then the brimful tank is carried into the Drawing-Room, leaving a miniature river in it's wake, in which the B.A. slips on his return, and acquires a sprained ankle.

And so the serial continues. In spite of a disabled foot, the enthusiastic B.A. (who's blood is, by now, heated to fever-pitch with the fishkeeping mania.) Spreads out his plants on the Drawing-room carpet, slops water in the easy-chairs, and throws spare and decomposed pieces -of -Elodea and. Water-fern in the grate.

By this time Mrs, B.A. is getting slightly "cheesed off", so with gentle persuasion, she gets B.A. to remove his "Blankety-blank!!" aquarium into the spare room upstairs.

Of course the stair carpet, suffers in the process, and eventually a nice damp patch appears in the Dining-room ceiling beneath the spare room. In due course flakes of whitewash flutter down into the soup at dinner, and into :the jam at tea time.

; Continued overleaf.

**S.L.A.D.A.S. Exchange & Mart**

Advertisements of fish etc., may be inserted here for the cost of One Shilling per issue. Don't be afraid to make use of this service. It is useful and. also helps towards the expense of the: Journal.

1. Several Water Lettuce, plants for sale From 4d each.

Apply :- R. Edwards,  
108, Silverdale Avenue,  
Westcliff-on-Sea.

**IMPORTANT.**

We still need copy for the Journal you know. Have you tried your hand at it yet? and while on the subject of Copy we must, point out that the publisher cannot hold himself responsible for the opinions of Contributors.

**FIRST-AID FOR FISHES.****"SALINE."**

by R. Sullivan

I wonder how many aquarists realize the importance of Salt in the aquarium.

Common Cooling Salt has many uses.

You will find your tank for Show purposes, keep crystal clear, also Mollies thrive on it's mineral contents, young Mollisia Velifera can only be reared successfully in a slightly salt water. This I have learned from experience (I had 36 young which grew rapidly at a temperature of 78 ° F. fed on Fry-Grain until 5 weeks old, when to my amazement I found them dying off, for no apparent reason. I immediately emptied the tank, put in fresh water (heated) 24 x 12 x 12 and to this I added 1 and half tablespoons of common salt. This laid on the bottom of the tank before dissolving the young Mollies swarmed to the salt and ate it as it was - even the "dopey" ones revived. They were lively and thrived well after this application.

I have tried this method with Perma-Blacks very successfully. In fact one P.B. which had delivered herself of 56 young was in a dreadful state. I floated her (temp. 80°F.) in a 2 lb. jam jar half full with quarter teaspoon salt for 2 to 3 hours, but after 4 days of this treatment she is now much better than ever before, her body, soft looking as velvet and she had fully recovered,

Angel-fish and Fighters do not care for Salt, but it does not appear to upset them.

A Female Fighter, or any other fish which has had her finnage torn in spawning or battle

# **SOUTHEND LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST'S SOCIETY.**

## **MONTHLY JOURNAL.**

Vo.l. 2. No. 7.

February, 1950

The Society meets at 7.45. p.m. on the first and third Monday in each Month at:-

The Girl Guides Hall,  
Corner of Electric Avenue, and Westborough Rd,

### **EDITORIAL**

The announcement that the Committee would endeavour to adhere more strictly to the Rules, has borne fruit already.

. The number of paid up Members on January 19th, was over 120, compared with, approximately, 50 at the same time last year. This is exceedingly gratifying, and proves beyond doubt that the Society is a very active and thriving body.

In view of this it is surprising that more support is not forthcoming from Members, to some of our actives.

The Social on Monday January 16th, was very poorly supported by the adult section-- a poor return for time spent and work put in, by Mr. Giles and his helpers, to make the event an enjoyable one. When "for or against" Social evenings was put to you at a meeting (65 present) you were almost unanimous, in favour having decided you want these "get - togethers " it is up to all of you to support them,

It will be interesting to note the attendance on February 6th. "Members Lecturettes", as this was another evening decided by your votes.

In short, if it's worth while belonging to a Society it's worth while supporting it-- Let's see you all .more often than we do !

C.J. Saunders.

## 2.

### MORE RANDOM JOTTINGS

By Mr. and Mrs. Cooke

It came up by chance, the other evening I had, during the day, put the newspaper over a portion of the top of the tank, which was lit from overhead, thus resulting in a large patch of shade in one part of the tank. We noticed that all the fish were at rest in this part of the Tank. And that every every now and then, one of them would swim out into the light, and that, it was only a matter of seconds before he shot back into the shade.

Several of his pals did exactly the same, and as it seemed to prove to us that they just did not like the brightly lit area, we, to test the matter, moved the newspaper to a different place in the tank-top. The fish moved at once to the new shady spot.

Then someone mentioned that bright light, either artificial or daylight, is used, together with a raising of the temperature, as an inducement to fish to spawn.

This is, I know, generally recognised, but how do these two aspects connect? Does a fish really avoid the light if possible, and if so why do Breeders introduce more light at breeding times?

Again, sometimes by accident, I have suddenly flooded a Tank with light-- contrary to the advice of Mr. Innes-- and that the fish-- especially Angels and Nigger Barbs-- will lose a lot of their colour. This seems to support the point that our "Little 'uns" don't like light - especially sudden doses of it, but what about that extra light mentioned previously, used by Breeders?

The position as I have outlined it is not at all clear, to me at least and I should be glad to have the views of other Members. A few replies on the subject, in the Journal would I think, help other beginners, as well as myself, and incidentally, provide more "copy" for friends Saunders and Giles in their fine effort with our little Magazine.

By the way, we have been feeding a good deal of earthy worms lately--using those Worm-shredders that are advertised, these latter are a fine job, and really shred very efficiently. I suggest medium-sized worms, because the larger ones seem to be much tougher, and as such, do not shred quite so well. As I said, we have used quite a fair amount in the last few weeks, but we do find that the continued use of shredded Earthworms tends to cloud the water, eventually settling a powdery deposit all over the plants, and the bottom of the Tank.

This, I imagine must be bad for the fish - I can't think that they get these conditions in their natural surroundings. The cloudiness is, I suppose, due to the natural juices from the worm, which everyone tells me, is beneficial, so I do not like to dispose of it by filtering the feed first.

**Random Jottings (contd.)**

Anyhow I suppose the real trouble is that, as worms are plentiful, I am really giving too much at one feed. I have - now cut down, drastically in this respect, and the trouble is disappearing. Like any other food, too much of it at one go is a bad thing. Ah well;-- we live and learn!!

Mr and Mrs Cooke

**OUR LIBRARY**

Owing to his inability to be with us on Monday evenings, Hr Hoare has resigned his post as Librarian, Mr Mash has kindly agreed to officiate. Books should be exchanged monthly on the first Monday in the month, and must not be retained more than the one month, in fairness to other members.

Thanks to the good offices of Mr Mash we have just added to our growing library a very nicely bound volume of the Monthly Journal for last year. This should be of interest to new members.

For the benefit of newcomers we also include in our list of books the following:-

Innes ' Exotic Fishes. 3 copies.  
 Love and Life in the Aquarium  
 1,000 and 1 quest ions  
 Innes' Cold water fishes  
 Freshwater Fish of the British Isles  
 Tropical Fish Keeping  
 British Marine Life  
 Tropical Fishes.

Etc., etc.

Our Librarian also has a few copies left of the F.B.A.S. Show standards book, at half a crown, together with the Guppy Breeders Official standards at 5d., and the Guppy Breeders Yearbook at 9d.

**A PLEA IN FAVOUR OF THE REPTILIA AND AMPHIBIA.**

by M.C. Mash,

Not so many years ago we were warned by our Parents that the Newt (or Elt as it was called) was a detestable creature, who would poison everything and anything with which it came into contact. The Toad was an animal which could breathe fire, and exude a noxious gas that was very deadly, and was the consort only of Witches and Necromancers, who dwelt in dark caverns, and that every form of serpent was fit only to be stamped into the ground.

Since then we have learned better-- or have we? I should like to try and assure prospective Herpetologists (and Herpetology-- or the study of Amphibia and Reptilia, should be of interest to every Aquarist) that most of the above is utter nonsense,

True, there are certain types of these animals who exude a protective substance, with rather an unpleasant smell which they use mainly to keep their animal enemies at a distance-- but don't we all adopt some means of defense.? Can one imagine anything more abhorrent - and yet more real than the old time fairy stories - than the flame throwers and poisonous gases of present day warfare? So please give the newts, snakes and toads a break.

The keeping of most species of the Amphibia and Reptilia as pets is a fascinating hobby, second only to the study of Tropical and Cold water fishes. Strange as it may seem, these creatures are not devoid of intelligence but you must make them feel at home and they will then respond to natural treatment.

Where one has the room. in the garden a Reptiliary is a fairly simple proposition and I should like, in a future number of this esteemed journal to give a method of constructing a successful Reptiliary from practical experience.

If you are not the lucky owner of a Reptiliary, then a good substitute is a Vivarium, or indoor reptile house. With the latter a close observation of the breeding habits of Amphibia and the metamorphosis of the Tadpole to the complete stage of the frog or toad can be observed. By placing a portion of the jelly-like spawn in a jam. jar, with a little water added, you will find that in a few days a large percentage of the eggs will incubate into the well known tadpoles of our : childhood days. They grown rapidly if fed continually on green pond water ( plus a little dried fish food) and should be placed in a small aquarium to complete their transformation,

When the legs appear and the tail disappears the small animal should be transferred to the Reptiliary or Vivarium as this is the time they will be wanting to leave the water for the sanctuary of their land haunts.

Unfortunately we are barred, for the present, most of the European and Tropical species, but our own Islands can provide quite a miscellaneous assortment of interesting and, in many instances, beautiful creatures well worthy of our attention and once the Pets Stores of the neighbourhood find there is a ready market for snakes, frogs, lizards, etc., they will almost certainly stock them in increasing numbers. The colouration of many varieties of frogs the markings of the wonderful slow worms and lizards - and the grace of movement of the grass snakes are a joy to the keen Herpetologist.

The one poisonous snake of the British Isles, the common Viper or Adder - should not be included in the beginners collection. Although very beautiful, it is apt to retaliate if disturbed - not vindictively as is generally supposed - but merely in nervous apprehension of attack. All snakes will usually much rather retire into the undergrowth than face unknown dangers, unless in search of prey. In contrast to the Adder, the Grass snake can be handled with impunity, and if he hisses or waggles his forked tongue, well-- it may be his means of expressing pleasure. Who knows?

As most of the varieties of Frogs, Toads Lizards and Newt are satisfied with an occasional gift of meal worms or earth worms as an addition to the numerous insects, which they forage for themselves, these animals are fairly easy to keep and rear in a Reptiliary, and once they establish themselves in a certain spot, such as an artificial cave or under a piece of rock it is hard to entice them away. On the other hand, it is often difficult to get a freshly-captured snake to feed, but they endure self-starvation for many days.

If you are "Blessed" with a prowling cat or two, or are visited by sea-gulls, herons or rooks, it is advisable to have a wire-netting protection over the Reptiliary, which should be built well away from any fish-ponds.

One day we shall again be able to add an imported Green Lizard or two, some spotted Salamanders, Clawed Frogs Fire-bellied toads, and many other pre-war pets, to increase our enjoyment of keeping reptiles and amphibia. Are you convinced? I wonder;

My apologies for writing, what to some may appear elementary stuff, but which will I hope, be of some interest to others of our Society, whom, I have learned are contemplating, or are already keeping-- "slimy crawling reptiles"

M.C.Mash

## THE TREK TO COLDWATER, Continued.

By C. J.Saunders

### Standards. 2. THE VEILTAIL

This variety— the most beautiful in many Fanciers' eyes — is one of the difficult ones. It will spawn readily, and the young are fairly easily reared, but unfortunately, it is rare that more than 5% of the fishes eventually become reasonably good Veils.

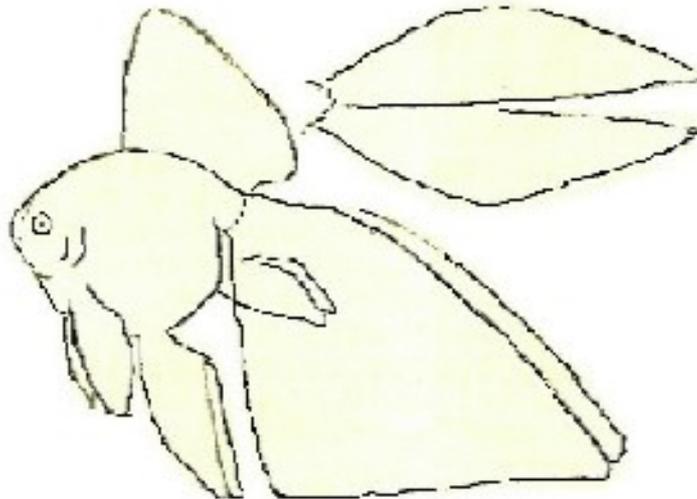
This striving after a more perfect fish is one of the reasons so many Aquarists are beginning to keep this variety, in an endeavour to succeed, where so many have failed,

The first essential is to breed for deep bodies — almost circular in profile, this is the base on which finnage and colour have to be imposed.

In finnage ~ aim at well - developed fins. high Dorsal, long, cleanly-divided tail, carried proudly, i.e. not flopping about or just hanging loosely. Lastly a double anal fin is essential.

COLOUR — Same as for Shubunkin,

C.J.S.



COPY !!

Yes, it's me again. Have YOU sent your contribution towards the next issue of our Journal? Remember it is for your pleasure and benefit, so rally round with a little something that might help, or amuse your fellow Members.

H.A.G.

Hon,Sec'

7.

## COMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 20th

**Auction Sale** -- Mr Edgar Day has kindly agreed to act as Auctioneer. It is hoped that all Members wishing to dispose of fishes, apparatus, etc., will send their Forms in to time, so that a Catalogue nmay be roneoed and issued to all Members, before the date of the Sale.

Will you all try to bring in your Lots by 7.0. p.m. It is much easier to arrange everything if there is a little extra time.

### MARCH 6th

Juniors Meet at 7.0. p.m.

All others at 7"45p«m,

**Your Questions Answered.** this is one of the popular evenings- not without it's humorous side- when questions and answers are freely given..

For the comparative beginner this is a golden opportunity to ventilate the many little problems that arise to confuse him - while the really experienced man can always learn something - if he is willing to do so-

## REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE JUNIOR

### SECTION 16/1/50

Twenty-one Juniors Members attended. Mr. Barnes-Oak spoke at some length on the possible aims and business of a Junior section after which a variety of questions kept the Hon. Advisor very busy.

It was decided that Officials and a Committee should be formed for this Section, and it was agreed that English (temporary Secretary) and Hardy (temporary Chairman) should act until the next meeting, on February 6th when it is hoped to elect the Officers and Committee for 1950.

Remember you chaps, we want Copy for the Journal from you, as well as the Seniors, We have just received the first effort by a Junior, but as it clashed with an article already in this issue, we are saving it until the next, when we hope it will be joined by many more.

H.A.G.

## 8.

### NATIONAL GOLDFISH SOCIETY.

The first General Meeting of the year was held. in London on Saturday January 14th

The Chairman (Captain Betts) opened the Meeting at 2.50 p.m. introducing the various members by name. He then outlined the business of the Meeting.

G.E.C. Cole then gave a talk on the Shubunkin - his main point being the Carriage and Shape of the Caudal fin-he illustrated the build-up of this fin by blackboard drawings.

C.J. Saunders followed, giving a brief talk on the Veiltail, emphasising the need for good body shape as a basis for all the other attributes. He concluded by expressing the hope that the Society would eventually formulate standards not only attractive to the layman, but also capable of attainment.

Discussion of the two speeches followed, and it was generally agreed that much experimental work remained to be done

After a tea interval Members Judged 4 Shubunkins -Captain Belts then gave his ideas of the points to be awarded explaining the reasons for his decisions. This was a very popular feature.

R. Affleck (Technical Advisor) then showed a large drawing of the new suggested Standard Shubunkin , pointing out that shapes and dimensions had all been taken from actual , fishes and were not what an artist thought they should be, the drawing was discussed and note made of the suggested alteration the chief objections raised were to the shape of the Tail-fin

In conclusion Mr S Freeman demonstrated his paraffin bath cure for Fungus, and allied complaints, using a live gold which certainly seemed none the worse after repeated immersion in pure paraffin.

The Meeting concluded at 7.50 p.m.

C.J. Saunders.

### HOME AQUARIA COMPETITION.

As you all know, we are hoping to make a real success of this Year's Competition, and to do so we must have a reasonable number of entries. So get cracking, and tidy up your Tanks. but first, let me have your Entry Forms-, please, so that the unfortunate Judges can work out some plan of action,

There seems to be a slight misunderstanding in the minds of some Members, due probably to my hastily typed letter,. You can enter more than one Tank if you wish, but of course, you will have to pay the 1/6 ..for each separate entry. ..

One little plea, on behalf of the aforementioned Judges. There were one or two unpleasant incidents last year, when these hard-working Gentlemen called to inspect Tanks :.' I do hope you will understand that theirs is a very thankless task, and treat; them accordingly. If it is not convenient for them to come in ( you might be in the bath!) there are two ways of telling them so!

H.A. Giles.

### SUGGESTION FROM A MEMBER.

At a recent Meeting a Member suggested that we might publish a list of the names and addresses of all Members, his - idea being' that you may have a fellow-Member living across the road, or in the next street, without knowing it,

As we wish to encourage any helpful suggestions of this sort, we start, here and now with the first of the names,

They will be in alphabetical order, and there will be as many as we have space for in each issue.

While on the subject of helpful suggestions from Members, we would like to say that we do welcome these, even critical ones, as it shows a lively interest in the affairs of what, after all, is your own Society,

### MEMBERS NAMES AND ADDRESSES.

Mr, B,F,Axford, 9, Warwick Rd., Thorpe Bay.

Mr, D,C, Adams, 23,Cambridge Rd., Southend.. ,

Mr. C.G, Brooks, (Hon. Treas.) 74 North Rd., Southend.

Mr. & Mrs.C.J. Brooks, (V. Pres.) 1,Southchurch Boulevard, Southend

Mr. R Boreham, 62,Lonsdale Rd, , Southend,

**MEMBERS NAMES AND ADDRESSES ,Contd.**

Mr.P.I. Brook, "Hazel hurst", Gt.Wheatly Rd. .Rayleigh,

Mr.A.Bonner, 5I7a, Southchurch Rd..Southend,

Mr.& Mrs. Blomfield, 90,Beach Ave.,Leigh,

Mr,R,J, Bridge, 101 Nor th Rd., Southend.

Mr, T. W. Brown, 12, Carisbrook Rd., Westcliff-

Mr, T,W,Barnes, 15, Denton Ave., Westcliff

Mr. D, S. Brown, 36,Hamboro Gdns., Leigh,

Mr.M, Barnes-Oak, "The Laurels", Hawkwell,

Mr.& Mrs. G. A, Baker, ,14, Burleigh Mansions, Westcliff.

Mr.& Mrs, E.Clark, 27, Marlborough Rd. , Southend,

Mr J.W.Cowan, 88,Salisbury Rd., Leigh.

Mr. C, F.W.Crawford, 5 Poplar Cottages, Warren Rd, , Rettenden, SX

Mr., A.A,Crump. 25, Rothwell Rd. , Eastwood,

Mr& Mrs,Coleman, 32, Exford Ave., Westcliff.

Mr, D,H,Carter, 47,Stuart Rd, , Southend» .

Mr.& Mrs, Cooke,-I09,---Boscambe Rd.,8outhend,

Mr,- R.J. Carter, "Carlingford Villa Carlingford Dr., Westcliff.

Mr," Crowe, 68, Highcliff Dr., Leigh.

Well, here are some to go on with, and we hope that some of you will get together as a result of this.

**JUNIOR NOTICE,**

Please do not forget, Juniors, that there is a special Meeting for you at 7.0. p.m. on MONDAY the 6th, !

Roll up in force, and make it a successful one,

**SOUTHEND LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY.  
MONTHLY JOURNAL.**

Vol No. 8.

March 1950.

The Society meets at 7.45 p.m. on the first and third Monday in each Month, at ; -

The Girl Guides Hall, Corner of Electric Avenue and Westborough Rd.

**EDITORIAL.**

The Year progresses, and with it, our Society. the Membership is well ahead of .that at the corresponding time last year, and judging by the last meeting (Members Lecturesses) we have more 'live' members than usual. This is all to the good, as in all Societies and Clubs there are 'ups and downs' (usually more of the latter) and inevitable changes, many Societies are experiencing minor troubles and 'growing pains' at the present time, while the 'fountain head', the Federation of British Aquatic Societies, to which we are affiliated, has also had to reorganise - for financial reasons. Fees of Member Clubs have been increased as have the charges for lecturers and Judges. Unity is strength, and it is to be hoped that all will rally to the support of our parent body which is the obvious arbitrator in cases of dispute, and the mouth-piece of all Aquarists (e.g. in the case of the recently proposed 'Pet Shops Bill' which if passed by Parliament, in it's original form, would have killed the Hobby as we know it.

Much ado is also being made in some quarters, about the Standards of Goldfish Society of Great Britain are promulgating. There is no cause for alarm, Members of this Society will eventually decide on their Standards, and use them for their own purposes - they will not be forced on any one else.

It is a strange fact that even in a Hobby there is always bickering and dissension - not always of the good natured type. May we hope that we, in our own Society shall be good Aquarists, and, what is more important.

Good Companions !

C.J. Saunders

## 2.

### A FEW WORDS ON THE MEMBERS LECTURETTES.

Monday Feb 6th

This was something in the nature of an experiment, but I must say that it was an unqualified, success.

There were 52 Members present (19 of these being Juniors) and it is almost certain that they all learned some thing from the talks. The first speaker was Mr Brook, who gave a very helpful and amusing talk on his adventures as a very raw beginner. One useful hint was to be very careful of any ornamental rock which is made of cement, as he lost fish as a result of this. He mentioned that he had spawned N. Barbs, but so far had not reared them-- he thought that the feeding was at fault. Not forgetting the Pond-lover he said that he thought there was no finer fish for the pond than Golden Orfe.

Mr, Willis then spoke for a few minutes on the possibility of breeding in a Community tank. He bought a pair of Widows, and, after trying to spawn them without success in a breeding tank, he put them back into the Community tank where they surprised him by promptly spawning. A friend of his had actually reared fry in the same conditions!

Mr Glover then showed a Toplight of his own design and manufacture. This was voted by all to be a really workmanlike job. He had used a striplight bulb, to overcome the heavy wastage of ordinary light bulbs. It was absolute shock-proof and there was a clip to stop children pulling the wires out, and to use his own words "another clip to stop the fishes pulling the wires in!"

After an interval for the "cup that cheers" Mr Cooke gave us his experiences in the breeding of N. Barb. After setting up the tank in the usual manner, he covered it with a black cloth for a time. This was removed on Sunday morning, and the spawning commenced and went on through most of the day. He removed parents, and waited for 14 days! Result--no fish. Could the meeting tell him why. Mr Willis suggested that certain Tropical males are not necessarily fertile always. The President, on being appealed to agree that some fish appear to favour certain seasons for spawning.

Mr Perry (Jr) then said a few words on the fish that won him the Cup at the last show. (A Male Fighter) He purchased the fish as a young one and grew it on for a time. With refreshing candour he went on to say that he entered it with very little hope of a prize of any sort, and was very surprised to receive the Cup. He has since lost the fish, together with some Dwarf Gouramies. The President offered to make good the loss of a dwarf Gouramy for him.

The Vice President then asked for some ladies to volunteer to serve a turn with the Teas, and then told us a short anecdote - "Angels never forget," He once had a dozen or so Angels in a Tank, together and noticed that they all kept fighting a fish. In order to save this poor lonely one it was transferred to another tank. Some months later when changing tanks round, Mr, Brooks put the Angel back with the others. The next morning it was dead.

Mr Clark was then asked to say a few words on how he wins the Furnished Aquarium Competitions. He said that it was a very difficult thing to say, but that he would welcome any callers, who would, like to see his Tanks, He advised plenty of plants to completely cover the back of the tank, gradually thinning out down each side, one nice centre-piece, such as Giant Saggitaria or Amazon Sword plant. Not too much rock, and quite a bit of top-plant, to give the impression of light and shade at the bottom of a river or pond.

The President then asked for any Questions, and these were many and varied. In fact we all enjoyed ourselves immensely

#### **THE CLUB AUCTION SALE FEB. 20th,**

This, as usual, was a great success, and, under the able hand of our Auctioneer, Mr E Day, the "Hammer" fell on some bargains, 95 members and friends attended, and a very interesting and at times amusing evening was enjoyed by most, while the Club benefited by the usual 10% "Rake-off"

Prices, on the whole were a little higher than at the last sale - Swordtails actually fetching as much as 9d. each; We are sorry to report that a well known member, Mrs. Prime, was taken ill during the Sale, and we are sure that all will join us in wishing her well again,

Members who put lots in the sale, are again reminded that their cash will be paid to them at the next meeting.

H.A. Giles,

Hon.Sec.

4.

## COMING EVENTS

**MONDAY March 6th.** "Your Questions Answered."

Usually a very popular evening-open and informal and it is hoped that all Members with queries, will ask them and it is also hoped that some one present will provide the answers, satisfactory to all

**MONDAY March 20th** "Members Own Quiz". More of this anon.

**SUMMER EXCURSIONS** Please remember that the Vice President asked us for suggestions, as to where you would like to go You tell us Then you will not be disappointed.

H.A.G.

## **JUNIOR SECTION.**

A meeting was held on February 6th, at 7 p.m. 15 members being present. The temporary Chairman, M. Hardy opened the proceedings, pointing out the necessity for electing Officers, and forming a Committee. It was eventually decided to elect a Chairman, Secretary, and two Committee Members. The Meeting then elected (by show of hands) the following -

Chairman.....M. Hardy.

Secretary,.....J, English.

Committee Members..... I. Pitt and M. Sherman.

The Committee arranged their first meeting, and will report back to the next General Meeting of the Junior Section. There was, unfortunately, little time for this at the Meeting. on Feb. 20th. owing to the Auction Sale, but some information was generally distributed by the Committee.

**JUNIORS PLEASE NOTE** that on March 6th there will be a session **or** "Twenty Questions" at 7 p.m. don't be late !

## **S.L.A.D.A.S. Exchange & Mart**

I have some nice young Shubunkins for sale, from Two shillings each,  
72 Sandringham Road, Southend-On-Sea

Don't forget this section Members, it is very useful both to you and the Journal

H.A.G.

5.

### **WE HAVE. TO ANNOUNCE,**

It is with much regret, that we have to announce that our Hon. Treasurer, Mr;C.G.Brooks, is leaving us, on March the 17th,

Together with his Wife and Son, he is sailing for the "Wide open Spaces" of Australia, and I am sure that all Members will join the Committee, in wishing "Jack" and Family every success and happiness, in their new life,

We are going to miss him, because, as many of you will know, besides being an excellent Treasurer, he has been a tower of strength in many ways — always ready to take on any job that would further the ends of the Society.

In order that Mr. Brooks can hand over his accounts in good time, the Committee (under Rule 13) have co-opted Mr, Cooke to act as Hon.Treasurer.

As most of you will know, Mr. Cooke is a very enthusiastic Club man, and we are sure that he will do everything in his power to carry on the good work, which Mr. Brooks has had to leave.

H.A.Giles.

Hon.Sec.

### **LIBRARY NOTICE.**

We are often told that a "new broom sweeps clean " Well, I'm no new broom, and I've no wish to sweep anybody clean. But, by force of circumstances, being entrusted with the job of Librarian, in succession to Mr. Hoare, I would like to impress upon fellow Members, how necessary it is that they should return Books, borrowed from the Library, within the prescribed time - earlier, if they have finished with them.

The number of Books available is rather-limited, so, to make the Library self-supporting, and to enable everybody to get a fair chance of borrowing the favourite Books they must not be retained longer than the time limit.

This time limit was discussed at the last Committee Meeting, and the Rule is now that the larger Books may be taken for TWO WEEKS for a fee of 4d. , while the smaller ones will be 2d. for TWO WEEKS. This should give more Members a chance to get hold of the more popular editions.

Vol.1, of the Society's Monthly Journal has now been added to our list (it contains a Diary of the Society's activities, since it's re-inception, in 1946.) Other books will be added from time to time, as funds permit,

Members wishing to borrow, or return Books, or to go on a rota for same, can always do so, by calling at :-

64, Brightwell Ave, Westcliff. Phone. 44531.

M,C.Mash. Hon. Lib.-

### A HINT ON SAVING ELECTRICITY.

I have a number of 24 x 12 x 12 Tanks, each with a 75 Watt heater, all connected to a master Thermostat, and all, therefore at roughly the same temperature, ( about 73 degs.F.)

Wishing to raise the temperature in one of these Tanks without disturbing the others, and not having a larger heater on hand, I remembered the old idea, of "lagging" the sides of the Tank, Simply gumming a piece of. brown paper to the iron frame of the back, and two ends, enabled me to keep this Tank at 80 degs., using the same current!

I should be interested to hear from our Friend, Mr. Escott, that he had tried this out, with his Electric Meter, and the actual saving in current -- at the present price of Electricity , others will probably be as interested as I,

H.A.Giles.

### **GENTS. BEWARE OF ELECTRIC KISSES**

One morning, while pouring water into one of my Tanks from a pail, my Husband came to say "Goodbye" to me. To our amazement we both felt a sharp tingling in our lips, and we realized that we had received a slight electric shock!!

I can assure you that this is a fact — not fiction - and the moral is, before attending to Aquarium needs, it is advisable to switch off electric current, but whatever you do, please switch on again, when finished,

I have been told, many times, to switch off, in case of any faults, but have never done so, foolishly, it seems, because there is always the odd chance, when something is faulty and one does not know it. We found the cause of. this shock was due to excess moisture, which had formed on the surface of the glass adjoining the look-nut on the Thermostat adjuster, and the clip which holds the Thermostat to the Aquarium.

E.I.Gibbs.

### **MICROBIAL DIGESTION.**

By P.Sullivan.

A discussion on Microbial Digestion was recently held at Aberdeen, by Dr. Crichton, It was said that mammals examined, had forms of Bacterial growth in the intestine - caused by too much food. Vitamins, such as are found in "Bemax", etc., helped to stop this occurrence,

Fish, such as Live-bearers, are subject to this M. Digestion, and can often be seen hitting themselves

Continued overleaf

### **MICROBIAL DIGESTION Continued**

against plants and compost in the Aquarium. Several Aquarists that I know, have been panicky about this in their Aquarium, but I can assure them that there is no cause for alarm. It is just a common or garden "Burp!" We had a female Swordtail who actually emitted bubbles after a show of "Burping."

During my rest period at a well-known London Hospital. I got chatting to one of the Chiefs in the Laboratory for Tropical Diseases (they keep Tropical fish, and some beautiful specimens they have, too). He was most emphatic about fish having indigestion, which, he said, is caused by over feeding, which, in turn forms the microbe in the stomach of the fish -- causing an irritant such as a dead cell in the intestine. It did not occur to me at the time, that fish might feel pain, or an itching sensation, but they obviously do. I once watched a Mollie have her young, and you could see what pain she must have been in, her eyes protruded, and her back humped for days.

My friend, the Pathologist, treats his "Burpy" fish with Soda Bicarbonate. He floats a 2lb. jar and puts a quarter teaspoon in for half an hour, then returns the fish to the Tank. Incidentally, I have been told that this is a good solution for curing "Flukes" on fish, though I have had no need to try it. I hope this article does not appear too medical. I had been told of cells and tissue culture, but was afraid it would sound too technical.

P.Sullivan.

### **BEGINNERS LUCK**

By E..I.Gibbs

In June 1949, I was given a pair of nice young Siamese Fighters, by some very good friends- the first I had ever had - although I had had a number of different species before the War. One evening, 29th Sept. to be exact, my Husband and I were watching the fish in the Community Tank, when we noticed the fighters getting interested in each other both good colours, and the male with his fins outspread and looking very beautiful.. Deciding I would remove them, and condition them up for a bit, I caught them, after some time, as our Tank is 36" x 15" x 15" , and put them in a 20 x 10 x 10 Tank with a glass partition between them. Next day I fed them and they were O.K, but, later, when showing my fishes to a friend, imagine my surprise, when I discovered that the Male had jumped the partition, and was in with the female! My "Conditioning" had-"had it."

On Sunday morning October 1st. there was a smallish bubble nest, and we soon saw the Male courting the Female, and the eggs being collected and deposited in the nest by the Male.

Continued overleaf,

**BEGINNERS LUCK Contd.**

My Husband, Son, and Myself spent a lot of time, watching this process. After some hours, we noticed the Male attack the Female so I removed her - not too easy a task, as I was afraid I might disturb the nest. Now, what should I do about the Male - take him out or leave him in? Opinion seems divided about this, Anyway, I decided to leave him in, and watch proceedings.

He increased the size of the nest, slightly, and kept vigil underneath it, and if any egg dropped out, he collected them and put them back. This went on all the time, and on the 3rd, of Oct. we saw the fry appearing, and for the next three days .I spent a considerable time watching "father" pick up, and replace the fry in the nest. When they seemed a little more free-swimming (4th. day) I removed the Male. I now began to feed them with Infusoria, I had prepared with Lettuce leaves, and the water I put these in, being in a big glass container, in rather a lot of light, had gone slightly green, I began by giving about half a pound, jam jar daily, gradually increasing to one "pound jar, "then adding a little pea flour and dried egg, until they were old enough to eat larger food,

We counted about thirty during the next few weeks, but again I had a great surprise, when, at six weeks old, I decided to transfer some of them to other Tanks. There were Over 60. To date I have reared over 40 of these, so feel pleased with my first batch of Fighting Fish. Shall I be as lucky another time? Well I shall just have to wait and see,

E. I.Gibbs,

**A FEW MORE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS,**

Mr, E.W.Daw, 54, High Street, Southend.

Mr. R. Deer, 134, Westcliff Park Drive, .Westcliff.

Mr. K.Dowsett,(Jr. ) 229, North Road, Southend.

Mr,E, Day, 56, Bournemouth Park Road, Southend,

Mr. R. Edwards, 108, Silverdale , Westcliff,

Mr. K. Escott, 16, Edinburgh Avenue, Leigh. .

Mr, J. F.English, (Jnr) 153, North Road, Southend,

Mr, J. B. Fautley,(Jr. ) 66, Glenhurst Rd., Southend.

Mr. R.G. Fuller, B, Bridge Close, Shoeburyness,

Mr, M Fosh, (Jr) 20, Cottesmore Gardens, Leigh.

Mr.H. Fisher, (Jr) 270, Woodgrange Drive, Southend.

Mr. & Mrs. H A,Giles, 73, Sandringham Rd, Southend

Mr. & Mrs. Glover, 55, Hartington Rd., Southend,

Mrs. Gibbs, "Huntley", Arlington Rd,Southend.

Mr, R.W.Going, 4!, Oakhurst Rd., Southend

Mr. G.Hodges, 26, Hambro Gdns., Leigh.

Mr. M.J. Hardy, 60 Broadclyst Gdns, Thorpe Bay.

Mr, A.A.Hunter 11, Chancellor Rd., Southend.

Mr. Hough, 21, Colchester Rd., Southend,

COPY!!!

Have YOU sent us anything yet? If not, start writing!!!

**"HANKY PANKY"**

(To the tune of Lili Marlene)

Underneath the striplight, in a little tank,  
Lived a "Daddy" goldfish, whom I had christened "Hank"  
And every day he'd wait for me - devotedly , and patiently,  
My one and only goldfish, my solitary "Hank".

Swimming round in circles - what a wasteful life,  
Couldn't you provide just a mistress, or a wife?  
That was the plea he put to me; so cautiously - so tenderly,  
My broken-hearted goldfish, my melancholy pal,

Then he seemed to languish - lonely and forlorn,  
So I bought a female who seemed about to spawn.  
Now quads and quintets wait for me, in ecstasy in harmony  
My communistic goldfish-my "Hank", my fry, "Marlene"

\_\_\_\_ \_ M.C.Mash.

10,

We are proud to present the first Article,  
by a Junior Member w The first of many — we  
hope!

### **GRASS SNAKES AS PETS.**

By K.Dowsett.(Jr.)

Before obtaining. your pet, you require suitable accommodation. A glass Tank 24" x 12" x 12" is best. Paint three sides either black, green, or blue. Next some clean gravel or sand is needed. Fill Tank three or four inches from bottom.

In one corner place a dish, say 9 by 9 by 3 inches deep, for water. Scoop a hole three inches deep and 6" x 9" wide place a slate or tile over the top, make a hole one inch in diameter. Place a few rooks and stones to bask on.

Plant some rock plants and creepers in sand, and cover roots with gravel. The next job is to make an escape proof top, a board covered with lino is suitable, cut a hole in the middle of the board and insert a Landholder,

Now it is ready for it's occupants. Firstly they can be purchased from Dealers, from 2/6 to 7/6 each, but if you wish, they can be caught easily, near ponds. Now your Vivarium is occupied there is the question of food. Snakes like frogs and newts, but if these are hard to get, they will take toads, but no dead food, In September or October, put your Snakes in a tin with holes in the top, put hay or cotton-wool in, and keep in a cool place until March

... Good Snaking !

K.Dowgett

### **OUR PRESIDENT.**

I am sure that Members will be interested to hear that our worthy President, has been appointed Honorary Secretary to the Goldfish Society of Great Britain, Coldwater Members among us, will feel that we are indeed honoured by such a choice, and I am sure we all him luck in the new job we are wish

(Speaking as a poor Hon,Sec,I think he will need it!)

H.A. Giles.

# **SOUTHEND LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY. MONTHLY JOURNAL**

Vol. 2. No.9

April, 1950

The society meets at 7.45 p.m. on the first and third Monday, in each Month, at:-

THE GIRL GUIDES HALL, Corner of Electric Avenue and Westborough Road.

Westcliff.

## **EDITORIAL.**

Dear Fellow Members,

Now is the time of year when we are all looking forward to the breeding season- While fishes are bred during the Winter months, the Spring and Summer, with the increasing hours of daylight, plus an abundance of live food, are the times for producing fry, which, in turn, will make specimen fishes.

May we all make a special effort, this year to grow on really good specimens? Eliminate the "runts" early; give the more promising fry more room, and more food. Spend that little extra time in obtaining the choicest foods, and in actual feeding. Give of your best to your fishes — they, in turn, will return your extra work, by their more rapid growth, and abundant good health,

NOW is the time to commence to ensure good fishes for our Annual Show — in AUGUST,,

See what you can do about it !!!

C.J.. Saunders.

President.

## 2.

### COMING EVENTS.

**APRIL 17 th.** Mr. Gloyne, of Welwyn Garden City, one of the F. B. A. S. Lecturers, is coming down to give us a talk. His subject being "The Aquarium Beautiful." This should be of interest to all of us, as every Aquarist has at least one Show Tank in his, or her, Home, and to the hopeful Home Aquarium Competitors it will be of double interest.

So don't forget the date, come along in force, and bring any friends who may be interested - we want to make it worth Mr, Gloyne"s long journey.

### **MAY 19th. JUDGING COMPETITION.**

Fishes, both Coldwater and Tropical, will be shown, **as** in a Table show. These will be "pointed" by a knowledgeable body, A brief exposition will be given to the Members, initially, on - "How to judge a fish" - then, it is hoped, all Members will "have a go!" It is possible that a prize will be given to the Member whose "pointings" most nearly approximate to the Official figures.

Here is a chance for us all to learn to tell just what is a good fish, so come along and join in the fun!

### **A WORD ABOUT GOLD FISH BOWLS,**

**Yes -**, the darned things are back again ! Before the last war there was a movement on foot, among genuine fish-lovers, to try to get these torture-chambers barred. The coming of the said war did this very effectively, but, I. regret to say, they are now on the market once again, to make the lives of some poor fishes absolutely miserable.

**AS** most Aquarists will know, the round bowl is most unsuitable for the healthy keeping of fishes. The surface area, from which the water absorbs it's oxygen, is much too small, while the continuous swimming round in a blaze of light must be a refinement of torture., such as we can never know,

We shall ask our Delegates to bring the matter up, at the next F. B. A. S. meeting, in the hope of getting something done, and in the meantime it is to be hoped that no Aquarist, worthy of the name, will think of using one of these — Antiques,

H.A.Giles.

### HOME AQUARIUM COMPETITION,

The Judges have now made their first visit to all the Entrants. The most noticeable feature has been the marked improvement on last years Tanks. As many are the same ones as last year, it points to the fact that experience has proved, a good teacher.

The majority of the points awarded on this visit were given for the general set-up, or "appeal" of the Tank, as a living picture.

Many of the Contestants are extremely close in total points, and it will be very interesting to see which Member is able to obtain that ` little extra' before the second visit of the Judges, to forge ahead, and win the Trophy,

Good Luck to you all!!

C. J, Saunders,

Rumour has it, that one evening, when out. Judging, the kindly Contestants were so hospitable, that, as the Judges left the last house, one of them said "You have two very fine Tanks, Sir? The Competitor bid them a somewhat bewildered "Goodnight", and returned to his Dining-room to look, rather dazedly, at his solitary Entry ! But then Rumour was ever a lying Jade,

H,A.Giles,

### YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED, 6/3/50.

This was quite an interesting evening, with 57 Members present. The President opened with a word of welcome to several new Members, and then remarked that, in the past on such an evening, we had usually a group of Committee Men on the stage, to answer questions, but in these enlightened days we had. more "experts" among the Members, so he suggested that questions should be. answered by anyone wishing to do so, The questions were many, and varied, while the replies were varied, and in many cases, quite humorous – the Juniors taking no small part in both.

During the interval, while tea was being served the President had the rather sad task of presenting a very nice Traveling Clock (to which we had all subscribed.) to our retiring Hon. Treasurer, Mr. "Jack" Brooks. He wished Mr. Brooks and Family every success in Australia, and thanked him for his services to the Society. The Presentation was a complete surprise to Mr, Brooks, and left him rather at a loss for words, so his reply was brief. He has since remedied this, with a very charming letter of thanks, saying how much he has enjoyed working with us all,. On the whole a quite useful evening was enjoyed by all — as most informal events usually are,

### MEMBERS QUIZ. 20/3/50.

For the purpose of this Meeting the Members were divided into two Teams - the right side versus the left with Mr Saunders in the Chair. Each side asked a Question, opposing side did their best to answer it. The President giving marks for the correctness (or otherwise) of the answer. One Member was surprised when the other side were unable to give him the correct name for The Black Widow, our own Emblem! On the whole an interesting evening, rather spoiled perhaps, by the small attendance (about 36 being present). The large amount of illness prevalent at the time was probably the cause of this.

### TABLE SHOW REPORT 3/4/50.

There were about 70 Members present at this Meeting, though the entries were somewhat disappointing. Altogether there were 38 entries, 11 of these being barbs, and the remainder Guppies. None of the coldwater fans were in evidence with their lovely "Veils" Mr Saunders, speaking with difficulty, owing to having some teeth extracted, judged the show, and he was compelled to say that the fishes, on the whole, were of very high standard. He awarded the points as follows :-

**BARBS.** 1st. . .D. J. Smith.(Jr.)  
2nd. . .Mr.S. Glover.  
3rd. ..P.J. Rolph. (Jr.)

#### **GUPPIES.**

1st... R. Featchbull. ( Jr.)  
2nd, .Mr.M.C.Mash.  
3rd,. .D.J. Smith. (Jr.)

Whilst judging was going on, the H. Sec. asked members to vote by a show of hands, for the venue of the next excursion Brighton was the most popular by a very email margin, with Clacton a close second. We should be glad, therefore, if you will let us have your reservations, as soon as possible. We shall publish more details as soon as they are to hand. After the presentation of Certificates, a very fine Rosy Barb(B.Conchonius.) donated by Mrs.Sullivan, was auctioned for the Club funds.

### **URGENT S.O.S. FROM HARASSED H. SEC.**

I am running out of COPY for the Journal, and without this it is impossible to keep it going. We have done very well, so far, but it is only by the efforts of the 'faithful few'.

Now rally round, folks, and let me have some little article that may interest your Fellow Members, after all, this thing is mutual, and only by a little effort, by a lot of us, can we make it a success. For those of you who do not know. my address, it is :- 73, Sandringham Rd., Southend-on-Sea,

Please do not worry, if your Literary style is not too good, we will do our best to lick it into shape for you.

H,A,Giles.

### THE JUNIOR SECTION.

On March the 6th, the Junior Section held a "Twenty Questions" session. There were 13 Members present, and the Team was composed of Messrs, Axford, Davis, Rolf and Perry, with M. Hardy in the Chair. The meeting was well run by the Juniors, and the Questions were quite humourous, among them being:- Mr. Saunder's Pipe. A Compass Thermometer, A Tiddler, A Kipper, Hydra, and Brighton Aquarium, The A Team were the winners by 8 to 5,

On March the 30th, Mr, Barnes-Oak gave the Juniors a general talk, and answered any Questions for them. He also promised to pay a visit to the house of the Junior Member who thinks his female Guppy has laid eggs! He will report on this later,

The Junior section now has it's own Library, and it is hoped that all Juniors will use it. The prices are as follows :-

Thin covered Magazines..... 1d.  
Waterlife & Aquarist.....2d,  
All others ..... 3d.

We are hoping to add an Innes Book. Please note that an additional charge will be made if books are kept over the stated time. If you have any books or periodicals to spare, will you please hand them to M.Sherman,

**Being only 26 strong** the Junior Section are going to have a . recruiting campaign. If any Junior or Senior who has a friend who is really keen on fish, will they bring him (or her) along.

J, English. Hon.Sec. Junr. Sectn.

### "FISH AND CHIPS?"

By P.Sullivan.

When collecting live food from natural waters, it is often easy to get more pests than the food you are after. It is a good idea to remove these undesirables by examination of the catch, Place in a white china or enamel receptacle - the white background enables one to see the pests more readily — they can then be removed by a pair of tweezers or small net. If you are successful in your "Pond hunt" and get a supply of Daphnia (which is usually the envy of all fellow Members} here is a good and tried method of keeping same. If you have no pond or garden, get a suitable container -a 24 x 12 x 12 tank is ideal, or an old sink — introduce a small seed culture and a number of snails, preferably ramshorns. Feed the snails well with lettuce leaves, and the Daphnia will live on the resultant Infusoria. This will go on successfully, for months, and will supply many useful feeds. Farmacyard manure is also a useful feed for Daphnia, with rainwater to top up with, when water gets low. If no farmyard is near there generally horses around, even in town,

P. Sullivan.

**JUNIOR COPY,**

Juniors will remember that our President, Mr, Saunders, offered a pair of fish to the Junior sending in the best article for the Journal, during the year. We have, so far, published one of these articles, and here is the second. Let us hope that you will all " have a go I!" .....

**LOOKING BACK.**

By G.Moss,(Jr)

Being only a very Junior Member, I cannot offer you any advice, but I would like to tell you how I became a keen Aquarist,

Two years ago, when I was 10, I had a sudden craze for a fish-bowl, and when I was asked what I would like for Christmas, my reply was always "A fish-bowl, please."

Christmas morning arrived, and I came downstairs with my arms full of presents for the rest of the family. The curtains were still drawn in the dining-room, and you can imagine my surprise when I switched on the light, and saw, instead of the centre-light, the greenish glow of my first Aquarium I rushed across the room, dropping all my parcels, (including Mother's butter-dish!) and gazed at the most exotic fish in the world. (12 Guppies and a Platy! )

Later I heard the story of the origin of my Tank. My Uncle had offered to make it, but the language he used when it refused to stop leaking, nearly separated him from his Wife. He cut the frame completely out of copper ,15 x 6 x 8, and glazed it with plate glass. He then fastened the whole thing to a small wooden stand, 2 inches high, which makes it very easy to pick up. The top-light was made from a large sweet tin. The Tank was originally intended for Coldwater fishes, so 6 Shubunkins, 6 roots of Vallisneria, and some sand were purchased. The fishes did not thrive, however, my Mother kept receiving S.O.S. messages "Another fish dead, get some more oxygen weed quickly, I'm pumping air in with my bicycle pump" More Vallis was purchased, but the fish continued to die, until only two were left. Then someone suggested turning it into a Tropical Tank. The necessary equipment was purchased, plus 22 Guppies and one Platy, Unfortunately they were placed in the Tank with the Shubunkins, with the result that the young Guppies mysteriously disappeared, one by one. ( Exit Shubunkins! }

After that, all went well. Late Christmas-eve my Uncle arrived, with the Tank and fishes. He did the wiring necessary for me to switch on, in the morning, and heaved a sigh of relief to know that it was finally out of his care. Since then I have acquired a much larger Tank and many other species of fish, but I still treasure my little Tank, and would not part with it, for anything,

G.Moss. (Jr)

**GUPPY BREEDERS SOCIETY.****EASTERN COUNTIES SECTION.**

I have been asked, by the above Society to inform our Members that the G, B, S, have formed this Eastern Section, for. the benefit of interested Members this side of London. They meet at the "White Horse Hotel" at the corner of Ilford Broadway, on the first Tuesday in the Month, at 8.p.m. The next meeting will be on April 4th, , and anyone interested in specialising in the breeding of Guppies will be welcome. I might add that there will be a table show on this occasion, and you will probably be very surprised at the size, and quality, of the "humble" Guppies displayed there,

H.A.Giles.

Hon. Sec.

**S.L.A.D..A.S. EXCHANGE AND MART.**

Advertisements may be inserted at a cost of 1/- per entry.

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| FOR SALE. One 24 x 12 x 12 Aquarium. | 25/-  |
| One 18x10x10                         | 20/-. |

Apply:- Mr. C. J, Brooks, (V.Pres.) 1, Southchurch Boulevard Southend-On-Sea Phone.68215.

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FEMALE *TIGER* barb" wanted for cash — or would exchange for first class Male.

Apply:-Mr. G.Cooke, (H. Treas) 109, Boscombe Rd. ,  
Southend-on-Sea,

Shubunkins- for Sale 2/- each. Also a few uncoloured Shubunkins at 6d.  
each.

Apply:-Mr. H. A.Giles,  
72, Sandringham Rd.,  
Southend-on-Sea.

**IMPORTANT !**

Have you written an article for the Journal, yet? If not, Why not? Get cracking, and help me to keep things going - after all I am only Human — just !

H. A. G,

**THE AQUARIUM,**

With apologies to Tennyson,

On either side our fireplace lie,  
 Big tanks of fishes, and of fry.  
 They clothe the wall, near reach the sky,  
 And near the tanks, a man stands by,  
 To watch the many coloured lot.  
 And up and down the fishes flow,  
 Searching where the food did go.  
 Round and round the rooks below,  
 The only home they've got.

White-striped brown, feelers aquiver,  
 Little fishes duck and shiver.  
 Through the plants they dash for cover,  
 From the Angel, hungry ever,  
 Trying hard to eat the lot,  
 Four glass walls, fixed tight with mortar,  
 Hold within a home of water,  
 Safe and sound, each man and daughter,  
 Of the fishy lot,

There they live by night and day,  
 Exotic fish with colours gay,  
 For they have heard their owner say,  
 Some wicked words, if they don't stay  
 Inside, but out on floor do drop.  
 They know not what their fate may be,  
 And so they live there, happily,  
 And very little care have they,  
 The shining, slippery lot.

Sometimes a Blacklined Tetra, mad,  
 A gouramy, looking very sad  
 Or Swordtail, red, Oh what a lad.'  
 Or school of Mollies, in black clad,  
 Weave in and out the rocks.  
 The female Guppy, Oh the shrew,  
 The males go chasing, two by two,  
 For many a loyal Knight, and true,  
 The common Guppy` s got.

9.

The Aquarist, in his Tank delights  
To see the many, magic sights,  
And often, through the weary nights  
He works with net and jars and lights,  
To save a precious "Tiny Tot"  
And when the Moon was overhead,  
Died two fine Neons, lately wed,  
"I am half sick of Fishes" said  
The poor man, scratching mop.

He took off top, he left the room,  
The cat came prowling, very soon,  
She'd seen the Fish that afternoon.  
She saw her chance, and took it, too,  
She fell in with a mighty flop!  
Out jumped the Fish and floated wide,  
The glass it cracked from side to side;  
"The curse has come upon me" cried  
The Aquarist, fit to drop.

Now for all his toil and straining,  
All his hopes and dreams were waning,  
The poor man, of his lot complaining,  
Wearily, the burst Tank draining  
Thought him of his 'cot'!  
Down he bent and found them there,  
Fish and water everywhere.  
Enough to make a Bloke despair,  
He'd lost the blooming lot.

Who did this, and what is here?  
Children, from the kitchen, near,  
Stopped their round of merry cheer  
And they crossed themselves for fear,  
Kate and Sydney, Reg and Dot.  
But Mother raged, red in the face,  
She said Home was a lovely place,  
These Tanks must go, I'll have their space,  
To house the Baby's cot.

By Mrs. Glover,

### THE CORRECT NAMES OF FISHES

Following the recent Members Quiz, when one Team was unable to give the correct name of our own Emblem, the Black Widow, I wondered, whether a few words on the subject would be out of place. I am, most definitely, not a Latin student, and only know what I have read in various books. It is, I feel, very important to learn the correct names of your fishes, as they are so often known by more than one common name. For instance, the aforementioned Black Widow is sometimes called a Black Moor, but if one gets the Latin name first one seldom forgets it,

I have a feeling that people are rather shy of mis-pronouncing the Latin - but don't let that stop you.

It seems that the golden rule is to say it as nearly as possible as it is written, and I append here a few of the commoner names as an example:-

Swordtail.....Xiphophorus hellerii. (Zifoforus heller—e-eye.)

Guppy.....Lebistes reticulatus.(Le—biss-tees Re^tik—you-lay—tus. )

Mollie. ....Mollienisia Spenops.(Moll-le-en-is-ee—a Sfeenops.)

Rosy Barb..... Barbus Conohonius-(Bar-bus Kon—ko-nee-us.)

Try out one or two for yourselves, you'll be surprised how easy it becomes, and you will feel more confident, when speaking to other Aquarists,

H,A,Giles. Hon.Sec.

Continuing with our list of names and addresses of Members, in serial form, here are a few more, from where we left off,

Miss, Ingram, 114, Lifstanway, Thorpe Bay.

Mr, & Mrs. H. Jagged, 116, Lifstanway, Thorpe Bay.

Mr, R.F.Jones, "Flamboro House. " Belgrave Rd., Eastwood.

Mr. C,Jelks, 47 Mayfield Ave., Prittlewell.

Mrs, L.A.Jeffery, Stambridge Primary School, Stambridge.Sx,

Mr, Kent, 385, London Rd., Westcliff-on-Sea.

Mr, G.King, 215, London Rd. , Westcliff,

Mr.& Mrs. Kirby, 10, Westbourne Grove,Westcliff.

Mr. R, Khatchbull,(Jr.) "Sandrea", Thorpe Esplanade, Thorpe Bay.

**SOUTHEND LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARISTS SOCIETY.**

**MONTHLY JOURNAL.**

Vol.2. No, 10.

May. 1950.

The Society meets at 7.45.p.m, on the First and Third-Monday in each Month at:-

THE GIRL GUIDES HALL, Corner of Electric Ave., and Westborough Rd., Westcliff.

**EDITORIAL,**

The Federation of British Aquatic Societies has been compelled to increase the subscription of Affiliated Clubs (of which we are one), and also increase the fee charged to Societies, for Lecturers and Judges.

This step has caused many Clubs to think seriously as to whether the outlay is justified; unfortunately too many nowadays view everything from the point of view "What do we get out of it?" This attitude is not confined to Clubs only, but to many individuals belonging to them.

A Subscription of 10/- per annum is paid, (This is the average Club Subscription.) and then high class entertainment and instruction is expected., usually, every fortnight i. e, less than 5d, per evening. Surely this is an extremely low fee! One evening at the Cinema, or similar place of entertainment, costs many times this amount.

We, in Southend appear to be singularly free from this type of Member, who takes all and gives nothing, and may we continue to be so. Fortunately such Members rarely last more than a year, but even in that time, damage may be done to the Society. It is an old, but very true, saying, that one gets out of anything, just what one is prepared to put in. May we all keep this in mind, and work together for the good of the Hobby, as a whole.

C. J. Saunter&.

President,

## COMING EVENTS,

**MAY 15th, AUCTION SALE,** Will all Members support this as well as they have done in the past? Fill in the entry Form - put in all those oddments of Aquatic equipment that you no longer use, plus any surplus plants and fishes.

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**MAY 26th. BRIGHTON EXCURSION.** Have you booked your seat yet? Every excursion we've had, someone has been unable to go, and been very disappointed, because they left booking until too late.

This is a grand day out - a visit to the Aquarium, for the Aquarists of the Family, while the others enjoy the amenities of Brighton itself. If we can also arrange a visit to Potter's Fish Hatcheries, Members will have the opportunity of seeing (and buying, if their pockets are deep enough !) a wide range of fishes, with, probably, many of breeding size.

Here's a chance to start your preparation of entries for the Annual Show,

**JUNE 5th. ANNUAL SHOW TALK.** A very important date, this so please keep it open, and roll up in crowds. We shall all have to get our coats off this year, to iron out all the difficulties attendant upon such an undertaking.

The Show will be held, this year from August Saturday the 5th, to Tuesday the 8th. at the Liberal Hall, Clarence Road. The Hall will be booked for at least two days previous to the opening date, to enable us to make the necessary preparation. Much assistance will be required on those days and also for the duration of the Show We have already had a few offers of help - will all other Members, who can give some time to further this project, let us know, the days, and times they will be available?

You will shortly receive an Entry Form - will you all make sure of making at least TWO entries! don't be too modest, and think your fishes won't stand a chance. We shall have F. B, A. S. Judges, and none of us know their ideas on the subject of our fishes.

The general public ('on whom the financial success of the Show largely depends) are more interested in the Furnished Aquaria than in the ordinary classes, and we therefore hope to have a very large entry in this class. Tanks and sand will be provided for those who wish to set up their tanks on the spot.)

Remember - this is YOUR SHOW, and can only be a success with YOUR help,

C.J.S.

### JUDGING COMPETITION 1/5/50

This — the first of its kind. e have held -was a very interesting, and successful evening. we very inter eating, and. successful evening. There were some 60 Members present, including nearly 20 Juniors, and. nearly everyone threw themselves into the spirit of the meeting, and had a go at 'Pointing' the fishes shown.

Our worthy President gave a very understandable" talk on the correct of Judging fishes, both Tropical and. Cold-water. Then while the ladies (bless `em!) served the usual cup of tea, everyone inspected the exhibits, much biting of pencils, and a lot of worried frowns, wrote the points down. The member who most nearly equalled the President's pointing was, strangely enough, a fairly newcomer to the club - Mr Dykes, who wins a pair of fishes for his efforts.

The runner up, we are pleased to see, was a junior D. Scolah. Congratulations, young `un.

At the end of the Meeting a vote was held, to find. that the Members were unanimously in favour of a repetition of this entertaining, and instructive evening,

H,A.Giles.

H.Sec.

### MR.GLOYNE and "THE AQUARIUM BEAUTIFUL," 17/4/50\_.

On April the 17 th. Mr. Gloyne, a F.B.AS. Lecturer, visited us, and gave a very interesting talk on the Aquarium Beautiful, illustrated by some very attractive water-colour paintings.

Some of the many points that he made were, first the colour of the tank itself. This should be painted in contrast to the green of the plants, much as the frame of a picture, No festoons of multi-coloured flex, please. Where wiring must show, it should be of plastic flex, to tone with the room. Regarding artificial light, Mr.Gloyne gave a helpful formula for ascertaining the correct amount of .light to use :-Length of tank (in inches.) multiplied by 38, divided by the height of tank , equals the Wattage required.

Sand should not be too fine, in order to allow mulm to penetrate to roots of plants. Rocks, if used, should, as far as possible, match the sand, and remember to keep the level of sand below the frame in front of tank. Remember in planting, that converging lines give the illusion of greater depth. A good colour for the back of your tank is black, or possibly blue. Some plants mentioned by Mr.Gloyne, for decorative purposes, were Cryptocorvne Cordata. and Willisii. while he had also used Fontinalis with marked success, Unfortunately our friend had to hurry away for his train, but I feel that the 64 Members present, enjoyed a very interesting evening

H,A,G.

## SOME MORE RANDOM JOTTINGS

By Mr. & Mrs. G. Cooke.

Well, the word has gone forth, - Mr. Giles has spoken --decisively - "More Copy, please, and make it snappy, you've slacked long enough!" It's like his cheek, really, although I suppose he's quite right, we haven't handled a fishy pen for quite a time. Anyhow you can blame him, and after all, you needn't read this if you don't want to, although I do promise for this occasion, to keep off my favourite topic - the Niggers Bless 'em!

Last Monday's meeting was a complete success, as far as I was concerned. Mr. Gloyne's subject of Pictorial Composition has interested me for years, and I have often tried, tentatively to give expression to this when laying out our tanks,

The results - were not at all bad, really, although "I sez it, as shouldn't!", but the Family always seemed to wrinkle up their noses, when the subject was mentioned. They never actually said anything, but you could sense their thoughts - "By all means make the Tank look nice, but whoever heard of Thirds, Mass ings, and Balance; my dear you can't be well, don't take your pleasures so seriously"

Imagine, therefore, my intense glee, and the sly digs I was able to give the "Missus", as she sat listening to Mr. Gloyne, who, with all the authority of the expert, was leading forth, confirming all those things I had, in my simple fashion tried to do, A good man, that, and more power to him! His subject is a little known aspect of our Hobby, but none the less an important one, if we want our tanks to look really nice.

From time to time we have tried to breed Rosy Barbs (*Barbus conchonus*) so far, without success, I am ashamed to say, as everyone says they are easy. When, therefore, Mrs. Sullivan kindly auctioned that big female "Rosy" for the benefit of the Club, the other evening, we had a smack at the bidding, and managed to get the fish. It is a huge female, in good condition, the largest I have ever seen - as fat as butter, in fact. We had a fair sized male, also in good condition, and when we introduced him to the lady he seemed very interested, and promptly turned all sorts of coppery shades. She proved very petulant however, and wasn't at all interested; so much so, in fact. that when his attentions became pressing, she merely looked at him from the corner of one eye, so to speak, gave a slight flick of her tail, which promptly f knocked him for six, from one side of the tank to the other. Poor little devil, he stayed there, sulking, for quite a time afterwards. That is the state of the poll in that direction and in the meantime she is getting fatter and fatter.

...  
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### SOME MORE RANDOM JOTTINGS, Contd,

I expect that any day now, she will burst, and we'll have thousands of "Rosies" all over our walls. It's not the usual method, I know, but we'll get them, somehow!

I promised not to mention "Niggers" this-time, and I won't, but we do seem to be doing much better with the breeding of a certain type of fish that we are interested in – since we tried a spot of thinking we tried a spot of thinking. As a result, after we had recovered therefrom we introduced some fresh ideas, as far as we are concerned, involving light, heat, and the quality of the water. One of these factors appears to have worked, for, instead of getting a brood of Two each time, we are now getting between 15 and 20 at one hatching, and they are all doing fine, thank you.

We can't give you anything definite about it at present, as nothing has been definitely proved, but we both think it serves to illustrate the importance of exploring all avenues, and getting to know your fishes thoroughly when attempting to breed them. This, to our minds is one of the most interesting aspects of the Hobby. We saw friend Taylor, of Thorpe Bay, a little while ago, and he gave us both some useful tips on the keeping of "Tiger Barbs" ( Barbus Tetrazona and B.Partipentazona) for the benefit of the uninitiated, these are very fine fishes to go in for — not too highly priced, and yet not cheap, and, in our opinion, well worth securing, and studying -a course which should give pleasure, and plenty of interest. You know, there is a lot to be said for keeping a small stock of, say, half a dozen of one type of fish, such as these, as distinct from the more usual Community Tank. It only means - one more tank and heater, as the original thermostat will serve for both tanks, or even more, if desired.

Cheerio, friends.

Mr. and Mrs.Cooke,

### SHOW TRANSPORT.

The Committee would like to know if there is any Member who has, or knows someone who has, a lorry or van of any sort, that we can hire, or borrow, for transporting tanks to and from the Annual Show, in August, and also the smaller one in Chalkwell Park, on July the 1st,

This is about our greatest headache, as tanks are not among the easiest of things to cart around, under one's arm. So any offers will be very welcome.

H.A.Giles,

**THE AQUARISTS GLOSSARY,**

by M.C..Mash

|                         |                                                                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AERATION.....</b>    | (Called. "Areation" by the aristocracy.) Blowing bubbles.                           |
| <b>AQUARIUM</b>         | ..A. rectangular fish-bowl,                                                         |
| <b>AUCTION.....</b>     | Where one can invariably pick up "plants. "                                         |
| <b>BLANKETWEED...</b>   | Called by lots of other funny names.                                                |
| <b>DAPHNIA.....,</b>    | Caught at the same time as double pneumonia,                                        |
| <b>FIELD DAY. . .</b>   | ..Usually followed by a day in bed,                                                 |
| <b>FISH HOUSE.. .</b>   | ..Called "Wash house" in the olden days.                                            |
| <b>GLAZING.....,</b>    | A most interesting job- for those interested m that sort of job,                    |
| <b>GRAVID</b>           | About to increase the fish population, ('We hope,)                                  |
| <b>LINE-BREEDING.</b>   | Passing the "Buck",                                                                 |
| <b>MICROSCOPE..</b>     | ..Handy for sorting flotsam from jetsam.                                            |
| <b>MOSQUITO LARVAE.</b> | The contortionist of the insect world,                                              |
| <b>MULM.....,</b>       | ..Recognized as dirt by non-aquarists,                                              |
| <b>POND.....</b>        | ..A piece of water surrounded by land, and containing various kinds of fish "cans", |
| <b>RUNTS.....</b>       | ..Often met with bat reluctantly consorted with,                                    |
| <b>SHUBUNKINS.,.</b>    | ..A fish that cannot make up it`s mind what colour it wants to be.                  |
| <b>SIPHON.....</b>      | A different kind of "sucker."                                                       |
| <b>SNAIL.,,»....</b>    | The beginners greatest success - at breeding thereof                                |
| <b>SPAWN,..... .</b>    | Usually laid in a "roe. "                                                           |
| <b>TABLE-SHOW.</b>      | ..In which everyone wants to enter fish,but is afraid to,                           |
| <b>THERMOMETER...</b>   | Shows how cold your water ought not to be,                                          |
| <b>THERMOSTAT....</b>   | A- murderous weapon.                                                                |
| <b>TOPLIGHT.,,..</b>    | ..Useful for breaking glass covers.                                                 |
| <b>TUBIFEX, ,,,. .</b>  | ..A writhing mass of pusillanimous putridness,                                      |
| <b>TWEEZERS.....</b>    | The "Highbrow's" grappling irons. .... M.C.Mash.                                    |

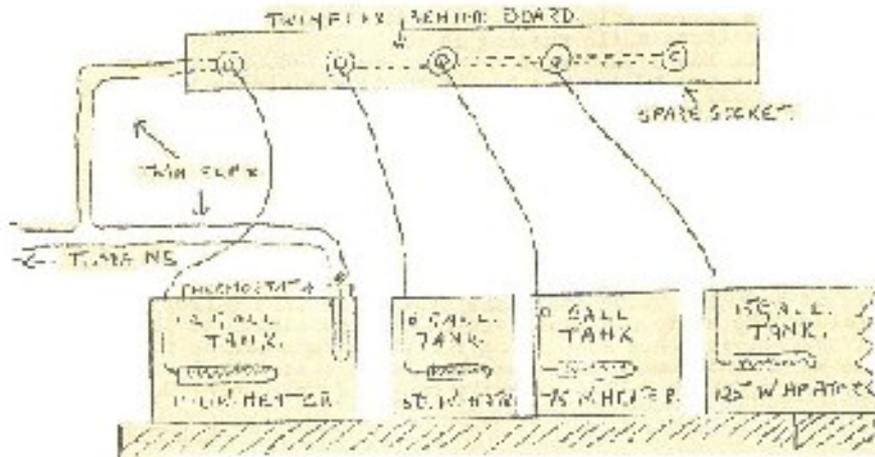
### HINT FOR USING SEVERAL TANKS ON ONE THERMOSTAT.

R.Sullivan.

Many Aquarists use one thermostat to control the temperature in two, or more tanks — most thermostats will take up to 500 Watts, i.e. five 100 Watt heaters, or six of 75 Watts, etc. The following wiring board, may be of some use to readers,

The thermostat is inserted into one tank and the lead, which is normally joined, to the heater, is led to a board, on which one mounts the required number of ordinary sockets (bought from Woolworths Stores, 9d each.) These are joined one to the other, with short lengths of wire (ordinary twin flex) and so on, to the end of the board - the heater from each tank is then plugged in to a socket, the result being, that when the Mains lead from the thermostat is connected to the power supply, in the normal way, all the sockets become "live" or not, according to whether the thermostat is switched on or off, which, of course, is governed by the Temperature in the main tank

Thus :-



### JUNIOR NOTICE,

Will Juniors please note that on JUNE 5;th, Mr. Cooke is giving a talk on breeding, and on JUNE 19th. there will be another session of "Twenty Questions."

We are glad to note that there now some young Ladies in the Junior Section. Welcome to them, and we hope that they will keep the boys in order.

H.A,Giles,

### **ON THE SUBJECT OF COPY.**

You will probably notice that the Journal is a little later in reaching you, this Month, This is no fault of mine as I had not a line of Copy up to last Thursday, the 27th. of April, Now I don't mind doing the work, but it is impossible for me to write the whole thing myself, and in addition to that I am sure that nobody wants to read articles by the same person, all the time,

So please get your grey matter to work, and scribble out something, serious, helpful, or funny, and let me have it as early in the Month as possible. This gives me time to set the pages out, ready for Duplicating,

That's all. Now, get cracking,

H.A.Giles.

### **A MYSTERY CLEARED UP**

A Member told me an interesting yarn, recently, and I think it worth while passing it on.

He had a tank with a considerable amount of mulm round the roots of the plants, which he was always intending to siphon off. To his surprise, he noticed, one day, that this mulm seemed to have nearly all disappeared. He asked his Daughter if she had siphoned the tank out, but she had not done so. Then, while sitting looking at his fishes, one evening, (as aquarists do !) he noticed a number of snails, shaped, as he put it, like cream horns.

I recognised these to be the Malayan Snail, which, of course lives in the sand, and the story bears out what a recent Lecturer mentioned, that is the fact that these Snails are of definite value for plant growth, as they burrow through the sand, and allow the mulm to penetrate to the roots of the Plants, thus accounting for the disappearance of the mulm. The Member believes that he imported the Snails in some sand, which he had recently bought from a local Dealer,

H, A, Giles,

### **THE BRIGHTON, EXCURSION,**

Owing to the large demand for seats on this Coach, we have had to hire another. Of this second Coach there are some 9 seats still vacant, so if you knew anyone who has not booked tell them to hurry, as the seats will go to the first to ask for them !

**S. L. A.D. A. S, EXCHANGE & MART.**

For the benefit of Newcomers to the Club, I would, point out that this is a very handy way of advertising any article either Wanted, For Sale, or Exchange, The cost is very small being 1/— per entry.

FOR SALE. Aquarium. 24 x 12 x 12..... 25/—

Heater.. ,25 Watts,..... 5/-

Heater...75 Watts. ....5/-

Apply:- 50, Brunswick Rd., Southend-on-Sea,

FOR SALE. 18- x 10 x 10. TANK and STAND, complete with

Heater, thermostat. Plants, 3 Permas, Halfbanded Barb, 3 Zebras,  
platies, etc Perfect condition

£6. or offer. May be seen after 4. p.m. At:-

12 Finchley Road, Westcliff--On-Sea

**NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS.**

To comply with a request by a Member, that we publish names and addresses of Members, so that they may get in touch with each other, here is a continuation of our previous list in alphabetical order,

Mr.C J. Kensey, 78, Tudor Gardens, Shoeburyness,  
Mr. & Mrs. Leftwioh, IS, Martyne Grove, Westcliff.

Mr, & Mrs. Latrielle, 98, Dawlish Drive, Leigh-on-Sea,

Mr. Last, 29, Hill Road, Prittlewell.

Mr.J.E.Lane, 7 Warwick Road, Thorpe Bay,

Mr. Mitohell, 142, Lonsdale Road, Southend-on-Sea,

Mr. P.Moulton, 64, Sandringham Road, Southend,

Mr, & Mrs. Marsh, 30, Hamstel Road, Southend.

Messrs. D, H.& M. C.Mash, 64, Brightwell Ave., Westcliff,

Mr. G.Moss,(Jr) 101, North Crescent, Southend.

Mr. K Munn, 78, Southchuroh Avenue, Southend,  
Mr.& Mrs, H. Marsh, 1, Shoebury Rd., Bournes Green,

Mr, B.C.Mason, "Llanberis", Prince Ave, Southend.  
Mr. D.Norwood, (Jr) 35, Belle Vue Rd. , Southend.

Mr. & Mrs. Outing, 117, Leigh Rd. , Leigh-on-Sea.

Mr. J. Outing, (Jr) 117, Leigh Rd., Leigh.

Mr. J.Perry, 19, Prince Ave. , Corringham, Essex.

Mr. & Mrs. H.A.Prime, 20, Tintern Ave., Westcliff.  
Mr, G.Pryor, 96 Woodfield Park Drive, Leigh.

Mr» J.Pitt, ('Jr) 12, Finohley Rd, Westcliff,  
Mr. E.R. Palmer, 101, Westcliff Park Drive, Westoliff.

Mr, S, Perry, 6, Christchurch Rd, Southend,  
Mr, E Rylett, "'Springfield'", Daws Heath Road, Hadleigh.

Mr. & Mrs, Rayner, 157, Hamstel Rd., Southend,  
Mr. P, J, Rolph, (Jr) 6, Albany Ave., Southend,  
Mrs.D.Ridgewell, Lansdowne Cafe, 97, Leigh Rd., Leigh,  
Mr. D.S.Row, ('Jr.) 7, Leigham Court Dr., Leigh,

### **THE BRIGHTON COACH!!**

Have now only six seats left, so hurry, they're going - going.....

**SOUTHEND LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY.  
MONTHLY JOURNAL.**

Vol. 2. No. 11.

June 1950

The Society meets at 7.45 p.m. on the first and third Monday in each Month, at

The Girl Guides Hall, Corner of Electric; Avenue and Westborough Road.

**EDITORIAL.**

It was gratifying to see such a large attendance at the Auction Sale on May 15th, but it raises a large, and important question in the minds of your Committee. Why is the normal attendance averaging 60, when well over 110 attend the Auctions?

The 'Extras' are made up of two classes (a) Visitors, and (b) Members we rarely see, (a) These we are pleased to welcome they are obviously interested in the Hobby, and, we hope, will eventually become Aquarists and join the Society, (b) What is the reason for these Members attending Auction Sales, and practically no other function? Is the fare provided on other evenings of no interest to them or are they so accomplished that they can learn nothing more? Does the Social aspect, the 'get together', make no appeal to them?

If the answers to both these questions are in the negative, then why continue Membership? A Society is formed by the Members, and is run for their instruction, and entertainment which they should help to provide!

I am convinced that many of our old friends no longer frequent our meetings because they have got out of the habit. May we hope to see them more often, in the future.

C.J. Saunders.

President.

### JUNIOR FIELD DAY, 7/5/50.

Sunday, May the 7th. dawned dull and rather depressing, but in spite of this Mr. and Mrs. Cooks. Mr. and Mrs. Giles, and seven Juniors met, as arranged, at the "Anne Bolyne", near Rochford and set off for a ramble, in leisurely manner towards Stambridge Mills, Passing Jackaman's Ponds, and thence through Stambridge and across the fields to the first stop, to explore the possibilities of a very promising pond,

It was here that the party was rewarded for their courage for the sun came out with a real Summer smile, and we were soon basking in its warmth. The pond in question yielded very little Daphnia, but some very lovely Coldwater plants grew in profusion and these were collected by several Members. It was here that Michael-Hardy caused a diversion, by putting his feet both well and truly in the H<sup>2</sup>O. However his socks dried fairly well, on the barbed wire!

After exhausting the possibilities of this pond, a move was made to another - which, believe it or not — was almost solid with Daphnia! We regret not being able to give the exact Longitude and Latitude of this- - but Members wishing to know these things, should join in the Field Parties.

Next, we stopped for a very nice picnic lunch – when large quantities of sandwiches were put away, washed down by copious draughts- of "Tizer" and other colourful drinks!

The Hon. Secretary's dog, "Scrap" fell into several very muddy ditches, and enjoyed himself, immensely. On the return walk all cans were filled to overflowing with Daphnia, and gradually the party made a lazy way back to civilization, arriving home, tired, but happy, at about 5. p.m.

**H. A. G.**

### AUCTION SALE MONDAY 15/5/50. .

This, our second Sale of the year, was, as usual, very well attended, there being about 120 Members and Friends present. There were some 150 lots for sale, and the Auctioneer, (our good friend, Mr. E.Day.) soon had the bids rolling in.

There were some nice bargains picked up, in the way of tanks and equipment, but the fish, on the whole, were not of very good standard. Several lots, as usual, were for Juniors only, and it was amusing to hear them bidding fiercely against each other. The Club, as it always does, will reap a small harvest from the 10% deduction from Sales, and this will help the mounting expenses.

**WILL MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT CASH DUE TO THEM WILL BE PAID OUT AT THE NEXT MEETING.**

### THE BRIGHTON EXCURSION, 21/5/50,

Once again the "S.L..A.D. A, S. Luck" favoured our intrepid band of Aquarists, on the occasion of the first excursion of. the year. Two Coaches set out from Southchuroh, to pick up — en route 58 Member's and friends,

Unfortunately, when we arrived at Leigh, it was found that we had been given a smaller coach than was ordered, so a. short wait ensued, while another was sent for. The weather was wet to start with, but as we got into the beautiful Kent country, the Sun came out to greet us, and at Brighton it was really hot,

A stop was made at Tonbridge, for Coffee, at a very pretty riverside Cafe. Then on to Brighton, where we arrived at about 1.0 .o'clock. Here the crowd went their various ways, until 6p.m. Some of us paid a visit to the Aquarium, but, I regret to say, we were sadly disappointed at the poor display of Tropical Fishes. The Tanks were sadly in need of attention, and the few Fishes on show were very poor specimens,

A good laugh was enjoyed, however, at the antics of some "Chimps." - one of whom was heard to say, "These Aquarists look almost like Monkeys.!"

We had hoped to pay a visit to Mr, Potter 's Fish Farm , on the way home, but, unfortunately, my letter to Mr Potter did not, apparently, warrant the courtesy of a reply.

A stop was made on the way home at the same Cafe, for. the benefit of the Tea-drinkers, while those who favoured a somewhat stronger beverage, found some thing to suit them, round the corner! An excellent trip was made across the Ferry, at Tilbury, The "Sea" being like a mill pond! The last passengers were. put down by 10, 30. p.m. - in good time to miss the storm, which then burst. If all our other Excursions are as happy and successful as this, I shall be very glad.

H.A.G.

### INNOCENCE ABROAD.

By Mrs.P.Sullivan.

A lady friend visited me, the other day, bringing her small Son, aged 4½ years. He showed great interest in our Tanks, That day the "Midwife" had visited Mrs. Platty, and she and her brood were swimming freely in front of the Tank. Tony watched wide-eyed at the sight, and suddenly turned to his Mother, and said "Where do they come from?" Mother said they were Mrs. Platty's Babies. "Yes, I know" piped Tony, "But where did she get them?" My friend looked at me, and Tony turned to me, "Auntie, where did she get them?" I mustered up the fairy stories of my youth, and decided it should be a 'man to man` conversation. "Well Tony"

Contd, overleaf,...

**INNOCENCE ABROAD.**

Continued. from over leaf,

I said, "You see this fish is a Guppy - new Mr. Guppy loves Mrs. Guppy like Mrs. Platty loves Mr. Platty- when you grow up you will love a lady, and. then she will have Babies, too." A look of dismay crossed Tony's face, as he peered into the Tank, and at his Mother. Suddenly he said "Oh, Auntie! I don't want a lot of. Baby Guppies I. want a real Baby, when I grow up!!"

Embarrassing, but childlike - Innocence shows us up sometimes,

P.Sullivan.

**FANCY GOLDFISHES.**

By C.J.Saunders.

Sorry to intrude again with my pet subject, but there still appears to be a lot of misunderstanding with regard to the various varieties of Fancy Goldfishes.

ALL these varieties originated from the Carp (*Carrassius auratus*) The pioneer work was done by the Chinese and Japanese, who first noticed fishes that were different, i.e. a red carp - , which was developed, and finally became the Common Goldfish,

Further peculiarities, such as the many - lined fishes (The Shubunkin or Singletail.), the divided tail Veiltail or Twintail) the fishes with protruding eyes (Telescopic-eyed or Globe—eyed) and these with a hood over the head, which looks just like a berry (Lionhead or Bramble head), were noticed in turn, and by selective breeding ever several decades, the strains were, to a certain extent, established. Unfortunately it has been found impossible up to the present time to breed these fishes entirely true to type, particularly in the more highly developed varieties, although it must be realized that the Oriental concentrated on one factor at a time; e.g. - protruding eyes — no other part of the fish was considered, body shape, finnage, colour, all were neglected, they did not matter so long as the fishes eyes stuck out like hat-pegs 1

We do rather differently, in that our Standards say that this type of eye should go with a certain type of body, finnage, and colour. This, of course, confuses the issue and makes things far more difficult, and hence more interesting. Can we remember then, that the Shubunkin is a slim-bodied, single-tailed, multi coloured fish? (Note: The Moor or Globe-eye is a Black fish; it is unnecessary and undesirable to speak of a Black Moor as all true Moors are black, not brown or silver.

C.J. Saunders.

**ALPHABET OF FIRST AID FOR FISHES,**By Mr. & Mrs. Sullivan

- (A) All sick fishes need common salt treatment.
- (B) Before using this method, be sure it is diluted -2½ oz. to Gall, The best way is to use real seawater if possible, again properly diluted,
- (C) Congestion of fins is mostly attacked by chilled water. The fins will be seen to have streaks of blood, and commence to fray. Saltwater treatment or Permanganate of Potash ½ a Grain to a gallon of water. After treatment fish should be placed in 'Green Water' for a few days.  
(Editors note: In conjunction with this treatment, it is a good idea to gradually raise the temperature of the water about 12 degs, for a day or two, then lower it, again gradually.
- (D) Dirty water is often responsible for sick fishes -. water is fouled by uneaten food, etc.
- (E) Epsom salts - a few grains dropped in the Aquarium weekly, does a lot to prevent ailments such as "Dropsy". Female Rosy Barbs and Dwarf Gouramies are subject to this distressing complaint. The cause is not known, but is .thought to arise from liver disorder. A few drops of "Digitalis", (Tinc. Belladonna.) in the water will sometimes effect a cure.
- (F) Flukes is not easy to detect without the aid of a Microscope being a small parasite, it buries itself in the gills. 5 drops of Formaldehyde to one quart of water, allow fishes to remain until showing signs of exhaustion - return to thoroughly disinfected tank and repeat operation, next day. Three treatments are usually sufficient .
- (G) Give light feeding only, after all First aid treatments.
- (H) Have everything ready when starting "cures".
- (I) Ichthyophthirius -(white spot.) is a dangerous disease, which is so aptly named "Salt and pepper fungus". Temperature should be raised to 85 or 88 degs. Plants need not be removed, Mercurochrome - two teaspoons to the gallon. This treatment usually shows improvement in two days, and a cure within a week,
- (J) Jumping fish. Always keep tanks covered. Many a fish has been lost through not doing this,

Contd... . over leaf. ....

6.

- (K) Keep nets sterilized regularly
- (L) Larva of the Diving Beetle or Water Tiger is an enemy to all Fishes, and live foods should be thoroughly washed, and inspected before introducing to tank.
- (M) Many fishes suffer from Consumption\* No cure is known for this it is better to put fish out of misery.
- (N) Never put fish from one tank to another without testing temperature of water first - sudden chill causes more ailments than is realized.
- (O) Other people's fish may be suffering from disease - always Quarantine for at least 31 days before introducing to your tanks.
- (P) Parasites are often cured by heat and salt, etc. but prevention is better than cure. Keep tanks free from uneaten food, etc,
- (Q) Question your President and Committee if in doubt of buying or anything to do with your Fishes in general, they are always at your service.
- (R) Raw spots are often seen on fishes, which have been in battle. This can be treated by swabbing - an orange stick with cotton wool wound round tip. One part Iodine to nine parts Glycerine will clear in 5 or 6 days.
- (S) Some fishes are bruised in shipment. Neon Tetras often go white. Nothing can be done. Salt sometimes helps, if treated at once.
- (T) Treatment of all fishes should be carried out in a warm room, with everything to hand.
- (U) Upside down. Fishes swimming thus have swim-bladder trouble, usually through chilling. Raise temperature - this should be enough. Fishes are subject to this, rather more than others.
- (V) Venter is the Latin term for "Belly". "Vermes" are parasites. Vesical - (Blister) Vibrio, meaning "I quiver", fishes are seen to do this when dying. "Virilism" - when a fish changes sex. "Virus" is a term applied to bacteria.

Contd.. overleaf..

7.

- (W) When in doubt, net them out. So many fishes are 'proper poorly' with only minor troubles - like indigestion, or frustration - with males, especially swordtails but to be on the safe isolate for at least 84 hrs
- (X) Xeroform is a substance compounded of bromide, carbolic acid, and bismuth. It is sometimes used to try and combat "Whitespot", it has the same effect as Mercurochrome "Kill or cure" method.
- (Y) Yatren is an organic compound of iodine - can be used as an antiseptic for eye inflammation - protruding eyes of. the Telescopic Goldfish often get this inflammation in transit. Tropicals - in fights. One salt spoon of Yatren to two tablespoons Glycerine or Medicinal paraffin brushed gently with small camel hair brush.
- (Z) Zymotic disease" known as epidemic - Oxide of Zinc -  
-Stearate of Zinc- suspended in water is an antiseptic 4 grains to two pints of water - for suspect "Whitespot"

Mr. & Mrs. R.Sullivan.

#### COMING EVENTS.

**ANNUAL SHOW TALK JUNE 5th** This is usually an interesting and informal evening. The snags and pitfalls of last years Show are thrashed out, while ideas and suggestions for this year! s effort are collected. Come along in strength, and please don't be shy. Let us have your ideas and offers of help of any sort. It is only team work that can make a success of a thing like this. Your Committee were sitting until nearly Midnight on Wednesday, trying to sort things out, so we hope you will support them by rolling up with loads of suggestions,

June 19<sup>th</sup> TABLE SHOW. As you will see by your Programmes Swords, Danios (Any kind) and Shubunkins, fill in your entry forms which will be sent to you, return them in good time. This should be good practice for the big event in August.

**HOME AQUARIUM C OMPETITION** The Judges will shortly be dropping in on you for the second, and last, visit. See to it that you have not let things slip, tidy up, while there is time!

**ON NOMENCLATURE AND CLASSIFICATION.**

By M.C. Mash.

Many of us Aquarists are badly tripped at times by the amazingly difficult pronunciation of names given to various species of fish, and we wonder, in our innocence, who are the people responsible for this state of things. Well, it is a long story.

The classification of genera and species was originated by the Swedish Scientist Carl Linnaeus, whom, no doubt, you have all at some time seen quoted in standard botanical works. He lived between the years 1707 & 1788, and on his system (Systema Naturae, 1735) is based the classification of all plant and animal life into genera and species, as we know it today. The reason for designations being assigned in Latin, is, of course, so that they may be universally understood, much the same as musical compositions are written to be understood by all the civilized nations. Invariably, also the real base of a scientific name has its derivation in the shape, colour, locality, discoverer, or any other feature of the type of genera or species so named. So there is method in the madness, after all!

Certain genera may contain dozens of species, which are further divided into subspecies, varieties, forms, etc., but they must all have something in common to justify their inclusion. Above the genera are many other sections, beginning with classes and subclasses, and followed by orders, suborders, divisions, subdivisions, families, and subfamilies, and then downward to the genus and species and so on.

The grouping of certain types has, at times, been the cause of innumerable quarrels among systematists, but although changes are made from day to day, owing to one form or species giving rise to another, we must acknowledge that they do their best for us, and we should be grateful. For what it is worth, I append herewith a list of the most commonly used nomenclature in classification of the animal kingdom, with, where possible, common appendages attached. The approximate number of species quoted are from standard works, and no claim is made that this prodigious list is in any way complete.

**CLASSES AND SUBCLASSES.**

Mammalia, -Mammals) 2700 species.

Aves. (Birds) 20,000 species.

Pisces. (Fishes) . 12,000 species.

Reptilia. (Snakes, Crocodiles, 'etc.) 5,000 species.

Batrachia or Amphibia. (Frogs, Toads etc.) 1,800 species.

Vermes- and Rotifers. (Worms) about 10,000 species.

Echinodermata. (Star-fish, Seurohins, etc.) 10 000 species.

Braohiopoda. (Marine mollusca or shelled animals) subdivided into:-

Lamellibranchiata. (Mussels, Cookies, Oysters, etc.)

cont,... overleaf...

## ON NOMENCLATURE AND CLASSIFICATION,

Contd. from overleaf

- Bryozoa( minute underwater animals) or Polyzoa (Sea Mosses. forming a crust on stones, shells etc.)'
- Coelenterata, (Many celled animals, radially symmetrical, as Freshwater sponges, Jellyfish, Sea Anemones, etc.)?,000 Sp.
- Gasteropoda (Whelks, Snails, Limpets, etc.)
- Porifera. (Marine sponges. )
- Protozoa. (Lowest class of animals, such as Amoeba, or unit celled masses of living matter. ) 10,000. Sp.
- Arthropoda (or Crustacea) a division of animals comprising two groups — Brachiata( Water breathers) Crabs, Lobsters, Crayfish, Shrimps-, etc. , and Tracheata (-Air breathers)' Lobsters Barnacles. Daphnia, etc,
- Arachnida (Spiders, Scorpions, Mites, etc. 5,000. Species.
- Myriopoda(.Millipedes, Centipedes, etc.)
- Insecta ( Insects.) Hundreds of thousands of Species, of which the following are the most important Orders, and sub-orders;-
- Orthoptera(Beetles.) Coleoptera ( Beetled with 2 pairs of wings.) 250,000. Species. Hemiptera (Aphides, Cicadas, Bugs', Water scorpions, etc.) Heteroptera (Sub-order of Hemiptera)' Rhynchota (Hexapod insects,)'
- Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths,)'
- Homoptera ( Insects having two pairs of uniform wings,)
- Hymenoptera (Wasps, Bees, .Ants, etc)
- Aphaniptera ( Fleas, etc.)
- Diptera ( Flies.) ,
- Odonata(Dragonflies.)

The class we Aquarists are concerned with is Pisces, and the freshwater varieties in particular. Coming down in the scale of Classification, we arrive, for instance, at the genus Barbus (referring to the barbels) and species conchoniuis (a native name. ) or Everetti(named after Everett, the discoverer.) Similarly, Pterophyllum(Wing leaf-like..) Scalare (ladder-like.) for the Angel fish, and so on.

The naming and placing of plants and animals rests ultimately with select Committees on nomenclature, or responsible individuals, such as Museum Curators etc., throughout the World, who have the right to re-designate or classify any variety, or species etc., they think fit. So in future, before we comment about the "drip" who has named a lovely little fish Partipentazona or Sphenops, let us think twice of the difficulties besetting these "systematists and classifiers, and offer up a prayer, that out of what might have been chaos, has come order,

M.C.Mash.

10.

**COPY.!!**

Well. here we are, with another issue of our Journal out to date, thanks to the usual small band of Contributors, This leaves me entirely without copy for our next. So start up your "grey matter" and scribble out something of interest for the delight of your fellow Members. By the way, when I say "Scribble" please don't me too literally, as some of the articles want quite a lot of deciphering!! Here's waiting for it!!

Cheerio,

H. A. Giles.Hon.Sec.

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Mr.C.J,Saunders, (president) 300. Southbourne Grove, Westcliff.

Mr,& Mrs-, R. Sullivan, 12, Burleigh Mansions, Station Rd. .Westcliff.

Mr,A.G.Smith, 20, Belle Vue Place, Southend,

Mr.M,Sherman (Jr) 14, Galton Rd. , Westcliff.

Mr.D, T. Scolah, (Jr) 53, Hartington Rd., Southend.

Mr.& Mrs. Smith, 348, Fairfax Drive, Westcliff,

Mr,B.Smerdon. (Jr.)' Gloster Lodge,Stambridge,Rochford, Essex,

Mr B.D. Smith and D.Smith (Jr) 5,Cockehurst Ave., Southend.

Miss. H. Scott, (Jr.) 9?, Dawlish Drive, Leigh,

Mr.& Mr &, A. Steed, 747, London Rd., Westcliff.

To be continued in our next,

**SOUTHEND, LEIGH AND DISTRICT AQUARIST SOCIETY,**

**MONTHLY JOURNAL,**

Vol.2. No 12.

July 1950.

The Society meets at 7.45.Pm the first and. third. Monday in each Month, at:-

The Girl Guides Hall, Corner of Electric Avenue and Westborough Road,

**EDITORIAL.**

That horrible atrocity the Goldfish Bowl is with us again, and, unfortunately, promises to be reasonable in price, and easily obtainable. May we all, as aquarists and humanitarians do our utmost to discourage the use of these receptacles, to house fishes? There is little doubt that many people keep fishes in these bowls without considering the feelings of the occupants, and, what is more, often succeed in keeping them alive for a considerable time; if, however, an appeal is made to these proud owners, they are usually amenable to reason, and will either provide better conditions for their pets, or dispense with them altogether. It seems a pity that some dealers still offer these Bowls for sale, but there is little we can do about it,

I cannot allow this opportunity to pass of commenting on the excellent attendance at the meeting on June 5th. Annual Show Talk - and the very helpful suggestions offered by many Members. What was more to the point, Mr. Brock, who has undertaken the onerous duty of Co-ordinating Officer', was overwhelmed with offers of practical assistance, this augers well for a successful Show. All of you must remember that it is YOUR Show, and. on YOU its success depends.

C. J.Saunders,

President,

**SHOW NEWS.**

His Grace, the Duke of Bedford, of whose acquaintance I have the privilege, has kindly promised to open our Annual Show on Saturday, August the 5th, We, as a Society, should feel honoured by this gesture, which will add greatly to the dignity, and prestige of the Society,

It is up to us to present a Show which not only benefit the funds, but will interest the Public in our Hobby. In this Town we have the increased opportunities presented by the number of people from many parts of the country, who will be holiday-making here at the time of the Show, We must attract them and leave no doubt in their minds of the absorbing interests to be found in the study of aquatic life.

To ensure this, the Stewards on duty when the Exhibition is open must be `on their toes` but they must not, in any circumstances, endeavour to lead the tyro up - the garden path. Keeping fishes is up to a point an easy pastime, but there ARE difficulties, accidents DO happen, and time and patience are necessary if our aquatic pursuits are to succeed.

Therefore we must be careful of what we say, and how we say it, to possible newcomers to the Hobby.

C. J. Saunders

Please let me have your Show. entries as soon as possible the closing date is JULY 10th. We need plenty of entries, particularly in the Furnished Aquaria Class (Tanks and sand will be provided for those requiring same.) In addition to the major Trophies, engraved medallions will be presented to the winner of each Class, and award cards for 2nd. , 3rd. , and 4th

**Major Trophies to be presented :-**

|                      |                                            |                     |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| The Abbott Cup.      | Highest Aggregate points.....              | ...                 |
| The Brooks Shield... | Furnished Aquaria...                       |                     |
|                      | The Saunders Cup.....                      | Best Junior entry.. |
| The Jones Cup....    | Best Coldwater fish                        |                     |
| The Flamboro Cup     | Best Tropical fish                         |                     |
| The Giles Cup.....   | 1st Home Furnished Competition             |                     |
| Anon. Cup.....       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Home Furnished Competition |                     |
| Anon, Cup.....       | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Home furnished....         |                     |

C.J.S,

### 3.

#### SHOW NOTICES.

SEASON TICKETS for Members are to be issued at the price of one shilling (1/-) These will admit the Member (only) at any time during the four days the Show is open.

Please remember that we want a bumper attendance at the Meeting on MONDAY JULY 17th., when we hope to arrange a Rota of Lady helpers to deal with the important matter of REFRESHMENTS during the Show.

The Committee wish to appeal for donations of PLANTS for the decoration of the small tanks - after the Judging. Suitable types would be, Elodea, Ambulia, Cambomba, Indian Fern, etc. No lot would be too small, or for that matter too large!) Please bring them with your entries. The plants will be sold after the Show, for the benefit of Junior Funds.

#### **NOTICED AT THE N.A.S.SHOW.**

Did anyone notice the Aquarium in Class 5 at the National Aquarium Exhibition, labeled "Black Moor!!!"

I was rather surprised to find that the N. A. S. had overlooked the point, this was more noticeable after our President's recent article on the subject

Am feeling very happy at the moment, having, at last, persuaded my Fantails to spawn this morning.

John . W Cowan

#### **LAUGH A WHILE**

I was talking to a man the other day who said his name was "Guppy I said to him "Do you know a Guppy is a Tropical fish?" He laughed, and replied, "Why, we are a very fishy family, my Mother's name was Dorothy Herring, she was born in Angel Place, My Daughter is now Mollie Black, and she was a "Flame" in many a heart. We are all very fond of the sea!"

P.Sullivan.

**F.B.A.S. SHOW STANDARD FOR THE WAGTAIL PLATY.***( Platypoecilus MACULATUS.)*

Evolved, by the F. B. A. S. Show Standards Committee, and adopted by the General Assembly held on the 1/7/50.

(Though I read this ARTICLE to the last Meeting, I feel that for the benefit of those who were not present, I should reproduce it here.

Hon.Sec.

This variety of *Platypoecilus maculatus* follows the standard for the already recognised types, It is noticed, however, that average Wagtail Platys more closely approximate to the depth of the body required,

**COLOUR.** Two colour varieties are so far recognised, i.e. YELLOW and RED. The body colour in each case is a self colour, except for Black around the lip and nose extending upwards towards the front edge of the Dorsal. All fins to be intense Matt Black, the Black to terminate where the fin joins the body. Any other colour in Dorsal or other fins to be considered a fault.

**LENGTH,** Minimum body length (excluding Caudal fin.) one inch.

**MALE.** Body and Head. The inter orbital space to be convex and the pupil of the eye to be level with the corner of the mouth, the depth of the body to be at least half the length.

**DORSAL FIN,** Fan shaped, its height being greater than the length of the base, the latter being less than the depth of the body. Upper margin convex, the front rays longer than the hind rays.

**CAUDAL FIN,** Greatest width when spread equal to the depth of the body. Approximately circular in shape.

**PECTORAL FINS.** Rounded and coloured,

**PELVIC FINS.** First ray short and modified.

**FEMALE.** Similar to the Male, but body appreciably larger, deeper and fuller before the anal fin. First ray of the Pelvic fin not modified. Anal fin fan shaped, with no gonopodial characters.

**Points for Judging,**

|                 | MALE. | FEMALE. |
|-----------------|-------|---------|
| Body.....       | 30.   | 30.     |
| Dorsal fin. . . | 10.   | 10,     |
| Caudal fin...   | 10.   | 10.     |
| Pelvic fins. .  | 10,   | 10.     |
| Colour.....     | .20.  | 20,     |
| Condition....   | 5.    | 5,      |
| Department..,   | 10,   | 10,     |
| Matching.       | . 10, | .....   |

## 5.

### HINTS ON WHITE WORM (ENCHYTRAE) CULTURE,

By P. Sullivan, \_

Here is a simple and clean method of feeding Enchytrae ('White worm) cultures. A teaspoonful of dried cream milk that's all — no mess, no bother - the uneaten portion goes into a hard lump, which can be picked out and replaced with a fresh quantity.

Mr, Frank Blair, who looks after the Auckland Zoo( Australia) houses his White worm cultures in cupboards beneath the built-in Aquaria.. There are several batteries of cultures in shallow- wooden boxes, about six inches deep, three quarters filled with a mixture of garden soil and sand in equal parts, and some well rotted leaf mould. Each box is large enough to take six earthenware dishes, conveniently spaced, which are inverted over the cultures, a glass cover then being placed on top. Water is poured regularly over the dishes, which being porous, ensure that the soil below is kept damp. Mr. Blair is thus assured of a constant supply of this very valuable food. As Winter comes along to us, all too soon, this simple method should appeal to all Aquarists.

P. Sullivan.

### TORTOISES- AND TERRAPINS AS PETS-.

By K. B. Dowsett (Jr)

**TORTOISES.** These make good pets, taking well to our Summer Climate. Housing a Tortoise is simple, if your garden is escape-proof, but if not, an enclosure 8` x 6` x 2` can be made from four stout posts and some wire netting- 28'x 2'. Planted with vegetables and flowers, and a vessel for water,

Tortoises WILL NOT rid the garden of pests, as they are purely vegetarians, feeding on lettuce, cabbage, tomatoes, strawberries, blackberries and nearly all green-stuff.

In Winter store Tortoise in a box of leaf mould, and don't disturb,

**TERRAPINS**^ The Terrapin lives mainly in water but comes onto land during the day, Housing, (a) If you have a garden pond it will suit your Terrapin well, but make sure he can get out of the water, also make sure you have a wall one foot high round the pond, to prevent escape, **DO NOT KEEP WITH FISHES.**

(b) Lacking a pond, a kitchen sink, sunk in the ground will do as well. Put a glass frame over the top to prevent escape, and to keep warm. Have an island of gravel, and the water 5" deep.

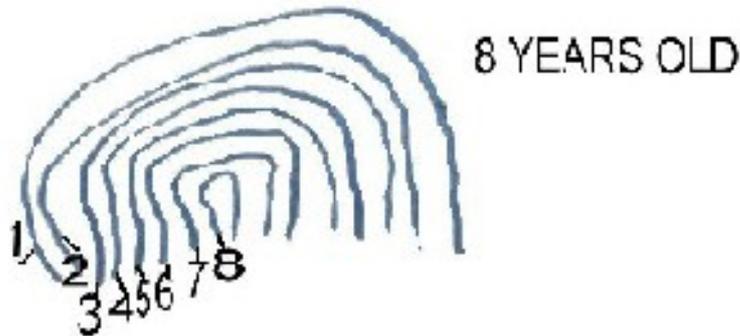
Contd. overleaf.....

**TORTOISES AND TERRAPINS AS PETS,**

'C o n t d overleaf.

In Winter, if possible, do not let your Terrapins hibernate. . Keep indoors in a heated Aquarium. IMPORTANT. Terrapins want direct sunshine.

**FEEDING** Terrapins are carnivorous, eating worms, raw meat, Tubifex, FISH, tadpoles, etc. The age of Terrapins and Tortoises can - be told by the number of rings round each of their scales. thus:--

**THE LEIGH HORTICULTURAL SHOW CHALKWELL PARK. 1/7/50.**

.. Once again the Club furnished a Stand at the Show in Chalkwell Park, and, as on previous occasions, it proved a very popular feature.

We put up about a dozen tanks, mostly 24 x 12 x 12, and filled them with Platys, Niggers, Tigers, and a whole host of interesting `little uns` provided by various Members, and many thanks to all of them, and to those who helped at the Stand.

As usual, we had a huge crowd of viewers -. The interest shown by young and old alike, was positively amazing, and our Stalwarts were kept busy answering all their little points.

It is always a bit of a business, setting everything up. We had a couple of outside fitting Thermostats - Constats -linked up with a 100 W. heater in each tank, and although this was faultless, the weather was warm enough to make heating superfluous. We tried the Club's 25 W. lamps, but in an already light Marquee they made little impression, so we scouted around for some 75's and 100's these of course were fine, and made a lovely show, although the larger lamp's made it necessary to watch the temperatures. Several

**L.H.S.SHOW.**

Contd. From overleaf,

our Lady Mayoress had a job to tear herself away from the fish. She knew quite a lot about them too! The Mayor himself, not to be outdone, reminded us that he was giving our prizes away at the Annual Show, Such is fame!

There is no doubt that little efforts of this kind are much appreciated by the Public, and serve to bring the activities of the Society to the fore. It is also very enjoyable for all those helping, so come along., if you can, when there is another one I am sure you will like it,

G.W.Cooke.

Hon. Treas.

**THE CLACTON EXCURSION. 25/6/50.**

We did not have quite so many on this outing, as we did for Brighton (Where were all the folks who voted for it?) but I think those who went had a good time. The weather was not too good as we set out, but the Sun soon appeared, and remained out, so we had the traditional "S.L. A.D.A. S. weather" after all!

Coffee and some deliciously fresh rolls in Maldon, followed by punnets of strawberries when we reached Tiptree, put everyone in good fettle. Then, after a few anxious moments at Colchester, we found Mr. Whitwell's Hatcheries, where we received a grand welcome. He showed us round a really wonderful collection of fishes - all kinds, and hundreds of 'em` For those who are interested, there were heaps of Willow roots in the actual breeding tanks, very few plants, and no sand, as far as we could see . Mr. Whitwell is a jolly individual, and one of our Members asked him to sell a couple of young Angels so that he(the Member) could set up in opposition to him, "Fine," said Mr. Whitwell, "I will let you have the youngsters, and will give you an order for a couple of thousand of them for next week into the bargain!" Exit Member!

On, afterwards, to an Inn on the Clacton Road, where most of us partook of a sandwich lunch in an old-world garden, while one or two of the "Opulent" could be seen enjoying a slap-up chicken lunch inside! We had about three and a half hours in Clacton itself, and most people managed to get some Sun tan. It really was lovely there, and the run home in the sunny evening was a fitting finish to a lovely day.

G.W.Cooke.

Hon. Treas,

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**A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY.,**

This is the last Journal of Volume 2., and I must apologise for the somewhat belated appearance of same. You see, I had the temerity to take a couple of weeks holiday, just when I should have been pounding the Typewriter keys!! As you will see this is a smaller edition than usual, but this has nothing to do with my holiday, it is simply a matter of COPY. We have getting on for 200 Members, but I am beginning to believe that most of you have forgotten that one must have COPY to keep a Magazine going. Most of the contributions come from the same old few, and they cannot go on for ever, so, "Wake up ,at the back there!!!" and let me have some of your experiences — serious, funny, helpful, in fact anything except the absolutely ridiculous,

H, A. Giles,  
Hon,Sec

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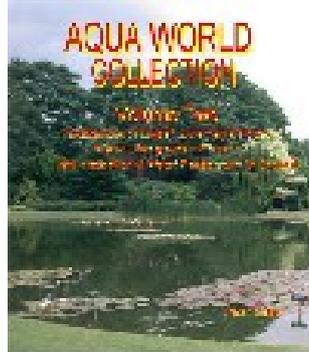
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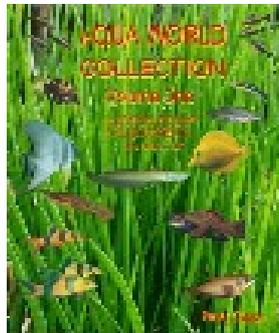
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## Aqua World Collection Volume One



A collection of articles on a wide range of individual fish species for the aquarium (both tropical and marine)

These fishes are covered in greater depth than the usual book. Fishes covered are *Aplocheilus lineatus*, *Osteoglossum*, *Platax*, *Lucania*, *Xiphophorus milleri*, *Sphaerichthys* - the Chocolate gourami, *Chromobotia* - the Clown Loach, *Heterandria maculata*, Flower Horn, *Anableps* - the Four eyed fish, Marine Hawkfish, *Monodactylus* -Malayan angel, *Pantodon*, *Macropodus*, *Polycentrus*, *Copella*, *Corynopoma*, *Xenotoca*. Cave fish not only covers the Mexican blind tetra but numerous other species. Refugiums and ozone are covered for the marine enthusiasts, and there is also cover of the commercial uses of sea weed in food and industry. There is also an article on Buoyancy giving details of how various sea creatures manage to stop themselves from sinking.

Available from [www.lulu.com/content/330927](http://www.lulu.com/content/330927)

## LINKS

[Southend, Leigh & District Aquarist Society](#)



[Federation of British Aquarist Societies](#)



[FOCUS for archives of other clubs](#)



[Fishbase. Org A treasure trove of information](#)



[Aqua World Volume One](#)



[Aqua World Volume Two](#)



[Peter Capon's Aqua World site](#)

