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On Her Majesty's Service

WASC 485

Miss Padfield

Chem - Indexing 1967 Vol 17

p 678

19338

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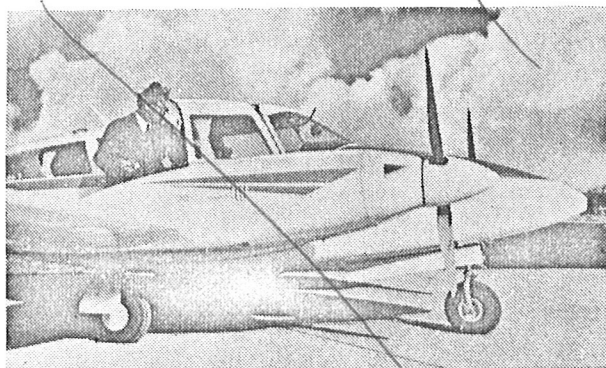
Lord Robens and the Ministry of Power

Lord Robens, chairman of the National Coal Board, speaking before the House of Commons Select Committee on Nationalised Industries last week, accused the Ministry of Power of excessive interference in NCB affairs. He said that the NCB encountered "three major difficulties" in dealing with the Ministry, "... undue delay, detailed intervention, and incomplete understanding." The Ministry also prevented his right of appeal on financial disputes to the Treasury. Lord Robens criticised too the allocation of resources for the nuclear power programme by the Treasury and the Ministry of Power. The NCB has had no information concerning estimated nuclear costs and consequently does not know what it is up against.

Energy policy, said Lord Robens, should be subject to "a continuous review, and though I am a lifelong admirer of our civil servants, I doubt whether they themselves would claim to be qualified to do this." He proposed that a Fuel Industry Investment Board be set up under the Ministry, that greater commercial freedom be given to the nationalised industries and that Civil Service power be limited.

Shaw Moisture Meters

Mr J. L. Shaw flies his own 250 m.p.h. Turbo charged Piper Twin Engine plane (shown below) above 30,000 ft during experiments on moisture measure-



ment at high altitude. Mr Shaw is checking new devices, for the Paris Air Show in May, where his firm, Shaw Moisture Meters is to exhibit humidity measurement sensors, for use in satellites, airliners and meteorology.

Historic Gunpowder Mills

At a special meeting of the Faversham Society to be held on April 26 a public appeal for the restoration of the historic Chart Gunpowder Mills at Faversham (Kent) was launched by Major A. R. Pym.



Site after preliminary clearance work 1967

Altogether £3750 is needed, and towards this £1000 and £250 have been promised respectively by the Minister of Public Building and Works and the Faversham Borough Council if the Faversham Society can raise the remaining £2500. Contributions should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Faversham Society (Chart Mills Fund), c/o National Provincial Bank Ltd, Faversham, Kent.

Meetings, Notices

The Institute of Fuel

Melchett Lecture

The Melchett Lecture, to be delivered by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, will be held on Tuesday, May 23 in the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, Kingsway, W.C.2 at 5.30 pm. Tickets may be obtained from the Institute at 18 Devonshire Street, Portland Place, W.1.

Pakex '67

The tenth International Packaging Exhibition will be held at Earls Court from May 22 to 26, from 9.30 am to 6.30 pm daily. The exhibition is organised by Industrial and Trade Fairs Ltd in association with

F. W. Bridges & Sons Ltd, and in collaboration with the Institute of Packaging. Admission tickets can be obtained from Industrial and Trade Fairs Ltd, Commonwealth House, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

The Nutrition Society

A meeting of the Nutrition Society for the presentation of original communications will be held at the Sir Edward Lewis Hall, The Middlesex Hospital Medical School, Mortimer Street, London, W.1 at 10.30 am on Friday, May 26, 1967.