

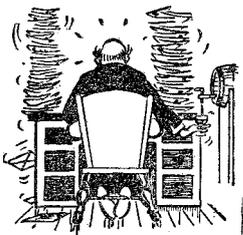
The Amateur Winemaker

Editor: C. J. J. Berry,
North Croye, Croye Drive, The
Avenue, Andover, Hants. Tel.:
Andover 3177.

Canadian Agents: Wine-Art, *p.a.*
Box 2701, Vancouver 3. B.C.

STARTING YOUNG IN KENYA

From the Editor's Chair



Winemakers overseas get the opportunity of making wine from exotic fruits that are not available to us 'at home, and one 'can but envy them. Cdr. I. M. N. Mudie (well-known, of course, to "Amateur Winemaker" readers for his most informative articles, and the President of the Andover Circle) has recently had a letter from his daughter in Kenya, Mrs. Beer, on the topic. Mrs. Beer, who is also an "Amateur Winemaker" reader, writes: "... had great fun the other day picking Kai Apples for making into wine (which is now fermenting almost too vigorously). The fruit is bright yellow, apple-shaped, the size of a large gooseberry and very juicy. Peter (her son, who is nearly two) found some on the ground which I made him throwaway as they were very squashy, so after that, any that I gave him to put in the basket, he squeezed hard and any that squirted juice (most did) he threw away! This slowed down production some - what, and so did the thorns (2 inches long - but not very dense). Peter would point up saying 'One! One!' to the fifty or so above his head, and wouldn't be satisfied until I had picked the particular one he meant. The brew smells of paw-paw laced with passion fruit. We shall have to get it into bubblers soon ... " This sounds delicious, and it would be most intriguing to hear from any of our other overseas readers about unusual wines they have made. In Cdr. Mudie's family, it will be observed, interest in winemaking currently runs through three generations!



LABELS

Several Circles have sent us, recently, specimens of their labels, and there is no doubt that some of them are outstandingly attractive. Two I particularly like are those of the Amateur Winemaking Society of Wales and those of the Welwyn Garden City Winemakers' Guild. Cardiff's, designed by Mrs. Dorothy Wilding, depicts an old scrolled parchment, with red seal, and its colours are attractively matched, buff, brown and red. Welwyn's is completely different, a bold black and white label, with large clean lettering and a really well-executed illustration with a lino-cut atmosphere about it of a winemaker at work. Kettering Wine Circle has also produced a neat but perhaps not quite so distinguished a label, with the apt motto

"Good Wine-Good Humour"; printed in black with a green fancy border, it has a good, bold frame for the name of the wine to be written in. If other Circles care to send in specimens of their labels we will produce a composite page of them-it should be interesting!



POPULAR

The idea of a winemakers' badge has been well received, and several clubs have already ordered them for all their members. Many individual readers who have no club in their immediate locality have also written for one, and there is therefore no doubt that the winemaker's emblem will soon become a familiar one all over the country; it will be very pleasant to be able to spot fellow-winemakers by means of their badge. It should also, by arousing the interest of others who see it, recruit still more to our Circles and craft.



FELL THROUGH

Unfortunately the meeting of winemakers which it had been suggested might be held at the National Honey Show on 1 October to discuss the possibility of a national organisation fell through, largely for two reasons. The first was that since it had been no one's firm responsibility to make detailed arrangements, nothing had been done about an agenda, or who was to take the chair, and so on, the second was that there were by no means enough winemakers present-only half-a-dozen or so turned up. It does look as if, all things considered, this matter would be best discussed when there is a better chance of having a really representative gathering of winemakers, say at another National Congress, if one is called for 1960 (as is a possibility, we hear, although we can go no further at the moment). This link-up of winemakers with beekeepers at Caxton Hall, however, was valuable in that it put home-made wines on show in quantity in London for the first time, and they did attract a great deal of attention. The general quality was excellent and the judges had an extraordinarily difficult task.

HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR "AMATEUR WINEMAKER"

If you like the "Amateur Winemaker", why not become a regular reader? Just send a postal order for 11/- (for 12 issues, including postage, etc. or 5/6 for six issues) to: "The Amateur Winemaker," North Croye, The Avenue, Andover, Hants, and they will be posted to you regularly. Clubs can be supplied in bulk and are given

25 per cent. discount.

Canada: Annual subscription \$1.75, including postage. (Agents, Wine-Art, P.O. Box 2701, Vancouver 3, B.C.),

WINEMAKERS COME TO TOWN



THIS year the wine and mead classes in the National Honey Show, held at Caxton Hall during the first few days of October, were greatly amplified in order to give more scope to winemaking competitors. This had two advantages, firstly it provided the Honey Show with an additional interesting corner, and secondly it afforded winemakers for the first time an opportunity of putting their products on show in the heart of London.

As our picture shows, the over-200 wines exhibited, had been most attractively staged by Mrs R E. Clarke, the moving spirit behind the idea, and caused a great deal of comment; two or three national newspapers carried articles on it, such as "The Wine-makers Come to Town" or "There's a Boom in Aunty's (sic) Hobby Winemaking".

Next to the exhibits were the trade stands, them-selves most interestingly arranged of Messrs W R Loftus Ltd. and Grey Owl Laboratories.

The wine generally was of high standard.

The silver medal for the best wine in the show went to Mr. Neil Thorn, founder and chairman of the Greenock Winemakers' Circle.

The full prize list in the wine and mead classes was:

Red, dry (22 entries): 1 Mrs. S. M. Tritton, Almondsbury 2 E. A. Roycroft, St. Albans 3 R. C. Lucas, Ferndown v.h.c. W. Harvey, Bournemouth.

Red, sweet (37 entries): 1 T. W. Haffenden, Billingshurst 2 R. Rowell, Wolverhampton 3 N. Thom, Greenock v.h.c. T. W. Haffenden, Billingshurst h.c. E. A. Roycroft, St. Albans.

White, dry (20 entries): 1 E. A. Roycroft, St. Albans 2 King's Lynn Winemakers' Guild 3 R. H. Hives, Bournemouth v.h.c. King's Lynn Winemakers' Guild h.c. R. C. Lucas.

White, sweet (29 entries): 1 N. Thorn, Greenock 2 P. J. Arrow, Acton W.3 3 S. J. Road, Orpington h.c. N. Thom.

Mead, sweet (22 entries): 1 R. Howell, Wolverhampton 2 L. G. Spackman, Greenford 3 S. M. Tritton, Almondsbury v.h.c. G. F. Dixon Eastchurch h.c. C. C. Tonsley, Westcliffe c. R. E. M. Toop, Sutton. Surrey.

Mead, dry (21 entries): 1, R. E. M. Toop, Sutton, Surrey 2 O. Page, Ware 3 M. Bond, Surbiton v.h.c. W. J. C. Hodges, Wimbledon h.c. R. H. Barnes, Chickerell c. F. Padmore, Diss

Dry Mead (members) (13 entries): 1 Miss M. H.

Harrison, Middlesbrough 2 F. Padmore, Diss 3 E.

Sweet Mead (members) (16 entries): 3 G. Eames, Portsmouth v.h.c. D. Robinson, Benningborough h.c. R. E. M. Toop, Sutton, Surrey.

Mead, Kent B.K.A. (12 entries): 1 A. H. C. Roberts, Bexley 2 C. T. Hardy, Ashford 3 W. T.J. Summers, Dartford; h.c. E. Secker, Folkestone.

Mead, sweet, Surrey B.K.A. (2 entries) : v.h.c. R. E. M. Toop, Sutton h.c. K. P. Reed, Banstead.

Mead, dry, Surrey B.K.A. (4 entries): 1 H. A. Bromige, Coulsdon 2 M. C. Bond, Surbiton 3 R. E. M. Toop, Sutton.

Mead, Sussex B.K.A. (6 entries): 3 A. N. Stratton, Rustington v.h.c. T. W. Haffenden, Billingshurst h.c. F. W. Chriss, Horsham.

Metheglin, Sussex B.K.A. (1 entry): 3 Brigadier Low, Rustington.

Mead, Essex B.K.A. (3 entries): 1 T. J. Maxwell, Leigh-on-Sea 3 O. Page, Ware

Mead, sweet, Middlesex RK.A. (6 entries): 1 L. G. Spackman, Greenford 2 Stewart, London N.W. v.h.c. W. G. Garbe, Harrow.

Mead, dry, Middlesex B.K.A. (4 entries): v.h.c. A. C. Penny, Stanmore.