

FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

"Many a man who thinks to found a home discovers that he has merely opened a tavern for his friends."

N. Douglas.

READY FOR MARGATE

All thoughts are now beginning to turn to this year's "National", full details of which we give on Page 119, and no doubt most intending competitors are already beginning to select the wines that they hope to show. Undoubtedly, since the Conference is being held at Margate, entries will be heavy this year, for that is always the experience when the National is held in the London area, where the Circles are thick on the ground. It should be an interesting National in more ways than one for there are some important topics for discussion at the A.G.M., including a proposed change of name from "The National Association of Amateur Wine-makers" to "The Association of Wine and Beermakers (National)", to make our brewing brethren legitimate. Another topic which will certainly produce mixed views (it always does!) is the proposed restructuring of the Association to enable Individual, Circle and Federation members all to play their part, with subscriptions so devised as to encourage people to join the ranks of organised winemakers and brewers; the Executive has come up with what sounds a very reasonable if slightly complicated set of proposals and we shall have to see what sort of reception they get. Meanwhile, we at the *A.W.*, and our team of writers and contributors, are looking forward to meeting you all for a natter and dram at our stand—see you at Margate!

SEE YOU AT MARGATE

The venue this year for the N.A.A.W. Conference and Show will be the Winter Gardens Conference Centre at Margate, from Friday, 3rd May through to Sunday, 5th May.

The Main Hall and the adjoining Queens Hall will be thronged with wine makers and home brewers enjoying their annual get-together. It is a great weekend for meeting old friends and making new ones, for swapping "know-how", and friendly competition and perhaps even for a personal triumph on the show bench.

Application for tickets should be made to the Programme Secretary: Mrs. S. Hill, 18 Laxton Road, Hunts Cross, Liverpool 25.

Mr. Briggs is the Entries Secretary this year, address: 4 Suffolk Avenue, Carlton Grange, Batley, WF17 7AN.

On the Saturday afternoon, the Rt. Hon. Ernest Marples, M.P. is scheduled to give a lecture, and the Civic Reception and Dance will be held in the Concert Hall at 8.30 that evening. The A.G.M. starts at 11.45 on Sunday in the Concert Hall.

The Sub-Committee have reported that they regretfully realise that there was only two months between circulation of schedules and entry date, but they did try hard under difficulties too numerous to mention. However, if the wines are there, there was time enough!

Space is at a premium this year and the size of trade stands is limited, but we will be there and look forward to meeting you all.
