

LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

Cowper-Coles Aircraft Co., Ltd.

In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on January 25th, Mr. Justice Neville heard an action to restrain the defendant, Mr. Sherard Osborn Cowper-Coles, from purporting to act as a director of the plaintiff company or from interfering with the management of the company's business, and from entering upon the company's premises, and from giving orders to, or interfering with, workmen or servants of the company.

From the affidavits and counsel's statement it appeared that the company was incorporated in June, 1917, as a private company under the Companies Acts, 1908 and 1913, with a capital of £6,000, afterwards increased to £16,000, and the amount of capital issued as paid up was £4,252. The company was established chiefly to manufacture and sell aircraft. It was a controlled establishment under the Munitions of War Act, 1915, and was exclusively engaged in executing several contracts for the Government. There were five directors, of whom the defendant was the chairman. The defendant had become largely indebted to the company for moneys advanced, and on January 15th last the company issued a writ against him in the King's Bench Division for £3,000. There was also a judgment debt against him from a bank for £1,300.

In these circumstances the board of the company came to the conclusion that the defendant was commercially insolvent, and accordingly, on January 14th last, they informed him, by letter through the secretary, that, under Article 21 (a) of the company's articles of association he had vacated his office of director and that he must no longer interfere in the company's affairs. The defendant did not acknowledge the letter and he continued to hold himself out as a director of the company and refused to permit any servant or workman to come to the company's works except those who were engaged by him. He gave orders that the workpeople were to take instructions from no one but himself, and picketed the works with four men, with instructions not to allow the inspectors or the general manager to go on the company's premises.

Mr. Harold Solomon Simmons, for the defendant, asked that the motion might stand over for a week to enable the defendant to answer the plaintiff's affidavits.

Mr. Jenkins: I decline to agree to an adjournment of the motion, as the matter is urgent, and I move *ex parte* for an interim injunction.

Mr. Justice Neville: You are entitled to that on the plaintiff's affidavits, and if the defendant does not obey the injunction I shall not hesitate to commit him to prison.

SIDE-WINDS.

THE extraordinary way in which Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Fowler, K.B.E., won his way to the hearts of the workers at the Royal Aircraft Factory was demonstrated in a most emphatic manner a few evening ago when he was presented with a silver tea and coffee service and kettle, in token of all he had been to the workers, of all his understanding of them, and of the human interest he had taken in every phase of their life. There was a large gathering of the workers in the new canteen, which is one of the many improvements effected in the factory during the 15 or 16 months Sir Henry Fowler has been Superintendent, the Chair being taken by Mr. P. A. French, who is Chairman of the organised Trade Committee, through whom the presentation was made. Mr. French said he was quite unable to enumerate all the different acts Sir Henry Fowler had done which made for greater comfort in their work, but he instanced three which were appreciated by the workers: Firstly, increased accommodation; secondly, the way he had met them on questions concerning work in the factory; and thirdly, the way in which the coal shortage was met last winter.

The formal presentation was made by the Rev. Basil Phillips, and Sir Henry Fowler, who was given a rousing reception, said his greatest regret, his whole regret, in parting was that he would not be able to keep in such close touch with them any friends that he had found at Farnborough. Like everyone else he had been a worker, and he hoped to continue a worker to the end. He had said many times that apart from any question of whether it is right or wrong, no man worked, and I believe no girl worked as well as they would do, without they were working as comfortably as they could be, not only during the working hours, but in the hours that come afterwards. After all was said and done, he thought what he had been able to do was very little indeed compared with what he should have liked to have been able to do. He

thanked them from his heart not only for the very handsome present, but for what he valued so much more, their friendship and kindness to him during the time he had been at Farnborough.

During the evening an excellent concert was given.

A VERY useful booklet comes to hand from Messrs. H. Rollet and Co., of 34, and 36, Rosebery Avenue, London, E.C., which sets forth in a small compass, gauges, weights, &c., which are mostly in use by aeroplane and aero-engine manufacturers at the present time. It gives dimensions of Imperial and Birmingham gauges, B.A. sizes, Whitworth nuts, weights of copper and brass sheets, copper and brass rods, copper and brass wire, brass tubes and fraction and decimal equivalents. A copy of the booklet will be sent to anyone sending a trade card to Messrs. Rollet and Co.

A LITTLE development in connection with Wakefields', who are famous for "Castrol." The full style of the firm is now C. C. Wakefield and Co., Ltd.

LIEUT. LOUIS NOEL was honoured with an invitation to the annual luncheon given by the Lord Mayor to the members of the Court of Common Council on January 23rd. This function took place in the historic dining hall at the Mansion House, and Lieut. Noel accompanied Sir Charles Wakefield, Bart., and Mr. Douglas W. Thorburn.

THERE has been such a run on the Palmer Calendar this year that they have now entirely run out of stock, and paper restrictions at the moment are so drastic that Palmer Tyre, Ltd., are unable to issue a reprint.

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PUBLICATION RECEIVED.

Aeronautics. By Algernon E. Berriman, O.B.E. London: The National Home-Reading Union, 12, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C. Price 3d.

Aeronautical Patents Published.

Applied for in 1917.

The numbers in brackets are those under which the specifications are printed and abridged, &c.

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