

PRIVILEGE

AN event took place in the City this week such as has not taken place since 1909. Two stock-brokers, Mr. Hugh Adair Register and Mr. Arthur Wentworth Barry Jackson, applied to have their names removed from the jury list. Mr. Register claimed that he understood that before one became liable for jury service in the City one has to be responsible for the rent of offices in respect of which liability arises. He said that he and his friend were not partners in the sense of having a share of profits but had fixed salaries and were, in fact, employees.

Alderman Sir Cullum Welch announced that he could not accept the objections to jury service. He said that he thought it a very good thing that the two applicants should discharge their duties of citizenship. In our view, it is a curious thing that men should want to rank as employees for the purpose of being relieved of a proper function of citizenship.

In former times it was the pride of men to rank as employers and to take on all the responsibilities that go with the higher ranks of society. Being called upon to decide on whether the behaviour of other people is good or bad, on the jury, is a privilege granted to men who have achieved responsibility.

PROTEST

MR. LEGGE BOURKE, Chairman of the Conservative Party Defence Committee, leaves the Party on the issue of Suez. Whether one supports his view about Suez or not one must applaud his protest. For our part we believe that we put ourselves in a weak position by ever retreating to Suez but the weakness now is not in that position but in this country.

We are told of the immense expense of maintaining Suez while at the same time we are building up at immense expense an alternative position in Cyprus. Emphasis is on expense.

But if we save any money it will be used to buttress the Welfare State. And it is the Welfare State that undermines our ability to maintain our position all over the world. Why did we cut down on the Pacific Fleet? To spend money on

London Sidelights

A Duke hands Master's chair to Lord Mayor
Secret of the Deputy Gauger : Cards an art

THE Vintners' Company claim it was a unique occasion on Monday when a Royal duke—the Duke of Gloucester—handed over their Master's chair to the Lord Mayor. The Company's Wardens for the coming year will be Alderman Sir Denis Truscott, Mr. A. J. B. Rutherford, C.C., the wine merchant, and the Hon. Laurence Fiennes.

Before the Duke relinquished office, Mr. Richard Abel Smith was bound apprentice to his grandfather, the Earl of Athlone.

The Court went in procession to St. James's, Garlickhythe, preceded as usual by the two wine porters and the Company's Swan Marker. Behind the Lord Mayor, the Duke and the Earl of Athlone walked side by side.

But St. James's church is closed by order of the City's Dangerous Structure Surveyor. The Court, who had been forewarned, proceeded by car to St. Stephen, Walbrook. There, with some of the livery, they heard a sermon by the Dean of St. Paul's.

The installation dinner was held at Vintners' Hall on Wednesday. The Lord Mayor was attended by the Sheriffs and the Swordbearer. Colonel Arthur Young, the City's Police Chief who has returned from Kenya, was a guest.

The girl that modelled for Princess

EARLY on the scene at the opening of the Dutch Church last Sunday morning was Mr. Frank Beresford, the famous artist. He is painting a picture of the opening ceremony. He had begun his work two days before and his primary purpose on Sunday was to get the crowd scene with Princess Irene opening the door of the Church with her silver key.

Many passers-by came to see Mr. Beresford at work and amongst them were two young girls of about fifteen years of age. He asked one of them to go to the door and go through the motion of opening it. She thus acted as a model for the Princess. Mr. Beresford rewarded the two young ladies by giving them an autographed postcard reproduction of one of his previous paintings.

Mr. Beresford has painted previous pictures of the Dutch Church and his latest will complete an interesting and valuable series.



One of the first acts of the Duke of Edinburgh in his new office as Prime Warden of the Shipwrights' Company was to confer the honorary freedom of the Company upon Lady Seager, wife of Sir Leighton Seager, past Prime Warden of the Company.

Mr. Beresford many years ago spent a long period in Japan. He painted many pictures there and he must be one of the few Englishmen who can speak fluently the Japanese language.

On Monday morning another great artist visited the Church—the other great Frank—Mr. Frank Salisbury. He was not painting but clearly interested in the beauty of the building.

Sir Arthur Bliss receives freedom
SIR ARTHUR BLISS, Master of the Queen's Musick, was made an honorary freeman of the Musicians'

Company at a ceremony at Fishmongers' Hall on Tuesday. At the dinner afterwards the Master of the Company, Captain E. T. Broadwood, piano maker and governor of Sadler's Wells, thanked Sir Arthur Bliss for his contributions to music.

Lord and Lady Harewood, who were present would be especially grateful for operatic music such as "The Olympians," said Mr. Broadwood.

His own interests made him particularly grateful for ballet music such as "Checkmate" and the piano concerto, he said. Sir Arthur was also the first serious musician to tackle the task of music for the movies.

Fanfares were sounded during the evening by the Herald Trumpeters of the Royal Artillery Band. Two of the fanfares were composed by Sir Arthur himself. The first was sounded with the toast to the Queen, the second when Sir Arthur's own health was toasted.

The Duchess of Kent, another honorary freeman of the Company, was present. During an interval the musicians of the Linden Singers and the Dennis Brain Wind Ensemble were presented to her in the Fishmongers' magnificent court room. The Ensemble played Mozart's Divertimento No. 14 and Jacques Ibert's Pieces for Wind Ensemble.

A great drum critic

Mr. Deputy Victor Allcard, who is the senior Past Master of the Musicians, claimed that they were the only City livery company which represented an art. Mr. Chuter Ede, Home Secretary in the last Labour Government, said he had a grandfather who was a member of the Playing Card Makers' Company. He had learnt that at least the manipulation of playing cards was an art.

Mr. Ede is a neighbour of the Master, Captain Broadwood in Surrey. They are both concerned with local government there. Mr. Ede congratulated the Master on his outspoken contributions to it. Captain Broadwood has also been a leader recently in the agitation to prevent the demolition of The Grange, Fulham, by the Fulham Borough Council.

Mr. Ede spoke of the evening's music. He admitted, "I speak as one to whom it is a mystery. I am tone deaf."

"The only instrument I can understand is the drum. I am a great critic of the drum. As one who has marched

behind it, I say it always stops when we march up hill."

Watching television

VISCOUNT DAVIDSON was expected to propose the toast of the Gardeners' Company at their Installation Court dinner on Wednesday. Instead he had to attend the Committee stage of the Television Bill. Mr. Justice Willmer spoke in his place. Sir Walter Monckton, Minister of Labour, said: "Lord Davidson has not learnt the art of politics. They are not used to it in their House." Sir Walter left early to attend a division in the House of Commons.

Sir Brunel Cohen was installed as Master in succession to Mr. F. A. B. Luke. Further details of the dinner will be published next week.

He gauges wines, honey and oil

ALDERMAN Sir Denis Truscott revealed the secrets of the office of the City's Deputy Gauger last week. Sir Denis was welcoming the Deputy Gauger, Colonel C. H. Pank, to the luncheon at Ironmongers' Hall, to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Tower Bridge.

Colonel Pank himself expressed doubt as to what his duties were. The position is a sinecure and carries neither fees nor emoluments. The Lord Mayor is gauger, or weights and measures inspector, of wines, honey and oils, under ancient regulations. He used to appoint a Deputy Gauger, to whom he once paid a salary. Then in 1837 the Common Council was given the duty of appointing the Deputy Gauger.

In exchange for the right, the Lord Mayor received an annual fee of £750. This has since been merged with other income to form a round annual sum.

In 1890 the gauging of wines, honey and oil was taken over by the Customs and Excise under the Port of London Act. The appointment of Deputy Gauger has reverted to the Lord Mayor. He has reappointed Colonel Pank, a wine merchant, each 8th November since 1925.

Why does the office still exist? Because the City Remembrancer in 1890 believed there might some day again be a need for the office.

Colonel Pank saw the opening of Tower Bridge. "How many here witnessed that opening?" he asked, Alderman Sir Frederick Wells raised his hand.

Mr. Deputy Roy Blankley, Chairman of the Bridge House Estates Committee, was in the chair at his Committee's lunch. The Committee administers the City's bridges and the trust property devoted to them. Mr. Blankley said that since the bridge was opened to the public on 9th July, 1894, to the previous night the bridge had gone up 321,389 times.

Mr. Douglas Rowland Hill, last year's chairman of the Committee, prophesied that the time for action with regard to the bridge was at hand. Bridge

MISREPRESENTATION

THE New Statesman says: "The fiasco of road transport denationalisation has been just as sensational as that of the ill-fated groundnuts scheme. But since the national Press favours free enterprise, we hear a great deal more

Maxwell Fyfe suggests; and we think he is right."

★ This statement is interesting because the "Chronicle" has been the most prominent supporter of the Welfare State. And it is the Welfare State

clear. We do not consider ourselves faultless, or superior to papers employing such practices. We consider them our neighbours and colleagues—exactly that is the point.

"If there is a bully in the room