



OUR BIG GUNS FIRE A SALUTE

As you will all doubtless know the River Boards have now been in existence for periods varying from three years to eighteen months. They appear to be functioning as they should, that is - they are carrying out their duties efficiently and well both as regards Land Drainage, Fisheries and Polution. As regards to the latter, the River Boards have far greater powers for the prevention of polution than ever the fishery boards had. It is therefore with the greatest anticipation that we anglers must look forward to purer rivers.

I can assure you that from what I have seen and what I have heard, River Boards all over England and Wales are taking this matter seriously.

You can help by reporting any polution you may notice to the relevant River Board and you can therefore be of the greatest assistance in cleaning up our rivers. There is no reason that this should not be something of which we can all be proud.

Sir Cecil Newman

As one fortunate to have been, as it were, "in on the ground floor" at the formation of the Barnet & District Angling Club, it gives me the utmost pleasure to welcome the first issue of "Quill".

It will, I know, be a most valuable addition to the range of the Club's activities. And what a happy choice of title, reminding us of the strong and ancient link between the two arts -- angling ("an art worthy of the knowledge and practice of a wise man") and literature.

While the venerated "father" of our sport, the gentle Izaak Walton, was the great example of this dual use of the quill -- as a float and as a pen -- there have been many others throughout the ages who have used the written word to tell of happy days spent at the waterside. Through their writings many a non-angler has been led to take up this greatest of sports, and had found enduring happiness as a result; and those already numbered among its adherents have profited by the sage councils of these angler authors.

"Quill" in similar way, will help us, by the exchange of ideas and experiences, to improve our angling technique and will, I am sure, strengthen the fraternal spirit in our club.

I wish it a long and useful life dedicated to the betterment of our craft.

Douglas Plank