

AUGUST 26, 1960.

INTOLERABLE INFRINGEMENTS

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—I am extremely sorry to discover that what I had imagined would prove a subject of considerable and widespread concern has provoked no more response, in your columns at any rate, than a discussion of the possibility of the Basingstoke Canal being a breeding ground for the common mosquito.

The point I was really concerned to make was that there cannot be found any valid reason why enterprises which to-day are controlled by State bureaucracies should remain so, nor why they should not be transferred to a private concern which, when all is said and done, can only live by giving the public what it wants.

Those of us who share the opinions of Prof. Hayek and argue that freedom cannot legitimately extend to more than an 'absence of restraint,' while defending on a religious basis the right of every man to freedom and opportunity, of individual development, have long awaited the fulfilment of the promise of the Conservative Party—in 'The Right Road for Britain' (1949)—to restore this fundamental freedom in all enterprises which at that time were dominated by faceless Government departments and petty local bureaucracies. This has not come about, and I feel sure that many of us whose loyalties have always been firmly attached to the Conservative Party as the representative of the individual and the symbol of English greatness in the field of libertarian Government, experience misgivings at the failure of the Governments of the past nine years to remove these intolerable infringements on the personality of the individual.

Mr. Macmillan's reply to an American asking where the Conservative Party stood in relation to the two American parties, to the effect that it was Left of both, gives much more grounds for concern and suggests that, for genuine Conservatives such as myself who view the 'Liberal' trends of recent Conservative Governments with profound distaste and suspicion, there will soon be no party left to vote for.—Yours faithfully,

M. J. WITTS.

Kildare, South Road, Horsell.

NEW SEWAGE FARM NEEDED?

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—I seem to recollect that last summer your paper carried a correspondence about the state of Woking's drains. At the time I considered the criticisms to be somewhat harsh, but the recent wet weather has made me realise that these were quite justified.

The root of the trouble seems to be in the planning itself. The practice of linking the drains from new housing estates to the already inadequate system in the town is bound to reduce the efficiency of the system as a whole.

As I see it the solution to the problem is to relieve the present overworked system by constructing a new sewage farm before it is too late.—Yours faithfully,

HENRY SKINNER.

The Bungalow, Robin Hood Road,
Knaphill.

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AUGUST 5 1960.

Another Summer Like Last Year's And...

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—In his letter last week, Mr. Roger N. Hart says, 'I am sure that what R. L. Gale says about Anopheles and the tse tse fly is incorrect,' and 'I have no doubt that Anopheles and the tse tse fly would be unable to breed in this country,' and then he points out that he has no proof of this. I have spent many years in the Malumbo region of the Congo, and consequently have been in close contact with both malaria and sleeping sickness. Mr. Hart is correct if he believes that the carriers, Anopheles and the tse tse fly, cannot breed in this country in the weather conditions of this year, despite the otherwise perfect breeding conditions found in our drainage system. But the fact is that another summer like last year's would certainly increase the risk of malaria, sleeping sickness and other tropical diseases in this country.

I would like to register my support for 'Disgusted' and R. L. Gale, who, in recent issues, have protested against the unsatisfactory state of our drainage system.—ours faithfully,

SYBIL RICHARDSON.

Metoff, Woodham Lane, West Byfleet.