

the new Iford in the Southampton road, has been the wooden bridge to the picturesque bridge safer for pedestrians is redundant, but they do not believe in wasting things in Hampshire. The suggestion that it should be a railway bridge in the neighbourhood which is for all the traffic. Presently, when it can be used later on to set up a new bridge.

Taking the chair at a lecture before the Royal Empire Society in London, this week, Admiral Sir Richard Phillimore, who lives in retirement in Southern Hampshire, claimed that the battle of the Falkland Islands, in which he commanded the Inflexible, was the only decisive naval fight of the war. It had a world-wide effect on trade.

### H.R.H. an Honorary Member

The interest which the Prince of Wales has shown in the scheme for aiding the unemployed which the Hampshire Hunt has set up, is explained by the fact, not generally known, that his Royal Highness is an honorary member of the Hunt. Up to date, the scheme has been backed by members of the Hunt and their friends to an amount exceeding £400.

### Mr. W. J. Taylor and Hampshire Bridges

There is an echo of the last Southampton Corporation Bill and the freeing of the Bursledon Toll Bridge in this week's "Surveyor," to which Mr. W. J. Taylor, the recently retired county surveyor of Hampshire, has contributed an interesting article dealing with bridge construction in the county. He points out that the old Bursledon Toll Bridge is to be replaced by a three-arch reinforced concrete structure, the total estimated cost amounting to £145,000. The new bridge, which will ultimately have a carriage-way of 30 feet, will be open to heavy traffic in 1934.

### Sunday Cinemas Point

There has been an exciting controversy at Portsmouth over the Sunday cinema question, and among those who have been in the forefront is the Rev. Bruce Cornford, sometime of Southampton, and Vicar of St. Matthew's, Southsea, for many years. He is due to the side of Sunday evening opening, and has been subject to a good deal of abuse in consequence. One critic, thinking along muddled lines, has suggested that Mr. Cornford should have been a rag and bone dealer. He wrote it anonymously, as might be expected. Mr. Cornford probably doesn't mind. He has always taken to controversy readily, and always hits nails on the head—rather sturdily.

### Country Rectories

The country rectory of manorial dimensions is often a burden to the modern country clergyman. A young curate whose abilities were recognised by his diocese once told me that he had to refuse his first offer of a living because the house which went with it contained a dozen or so bedrooms, and he was an unmarried man! In this connection Fawley Rectory naturally comes to one's mind as a Hampshire example. Additions to this fine house were made by Lord Walsingham about 90 years ago. The drawing room is a particularly spacious room. In the article on Fawley, which appeared in the "Advertiser" last week, by the way, a mistake crept in. We said that there were 37 bedrooms. The Rector (the Rev. F. N. Harvey) points out amusingly that this "curious" statement needs "watering down" to save it from, in the Alice phrase, becoming "curiouser and curiouser." Actually, the total number of rooms in the rectory is 23.

Mr. Ralph Morley, formerly Labour M.P. for Southampton, who was President of the National Federation of Class Teachers in 1928, has been elected Honorary Treasurer of that body by a national vote.

### Service Men and Yachting

With the object of encouraging amateur sailing and racing at home and abroad by R.A.F. officers, the Calshot Yacht Club has been formed at the R.A.F. Base, Calshot. Following the setting up of headquarters of the Household Brigade officers at Hamble, this will give a notable impetus to yachting in local waters.

We heard the big bell at the Civic Centre at Southampton during the week-end—either by accident or design. It has a full, round and mellow note. It was only sounded once, but it was an impressive performance.

### Gordon's Life Tattoo

General Gordon's fight against despotism and slavery in the Egyptian desert will be the theme of the Aldershot Tattoo in June. Thousands of spectators will glimpse his unflinching courage at Khartoum, together with scenes from the battle of Omdurman, in which 2,000 troops will take part.

The Hon. George Colville, the well-known Solent yachtsman, has just completed the building—in his London home—of a 50ft. hollow, mast Canadian spruce for his seven-cutter Moby Dick. It is a wonderful piece of craftsmanship.

### A Fareham Engagement

The engagement is announced between Dr. George Lewis Stroud, B.M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., second son Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Stroud, Chess Bois, Bucks, and Joan, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mathe Fareham, Hants.

### A Sway Bride

The Rev. P. M. Scott officiated the wedding, at St. Cyprian's, Reger Park, of Captain Raymond A. Scott Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, youngest son of the Canon and Mrs. S. G. Scott, of Hav Rectory, and Miss Lettice Wright daughter of the late Albert T. Wright and of Mrs. Wright, of Sway.

### Borstal Governor Married

Mr. Cyril Alfred Joyce, who is Governor of the Borstal Institution Camp Hill in the Island, was married at Pinner at the week-end to Miss Janet Froggatt, of Pinner. Mr. Alexander Paterson and Colonel D. Turner, prominent in the prison service, were among the guests, as was Professor Cook, of Southampton.

### The Half-Closed Door

On Saturday an observant visitor to St. Cross Hospital might have noticed that half the inner gateway was closed, the other half open. To consider this has no special significance but residents knew that it meant the passing of one of the brethren. Normally the doors stand wide open and this ancient custom of closing the door is akin to lowering a flag half-mast. Another old observance still kept up, is the decking of Master's rod with crepe for a funeral, the rod being borne in procession.

### Pupils of Sir James Lemon

Mr. W. J. Taylor, who has just retired from the post of county surveyor—his last job, so to speak, was the Iford Bridge—was at one time in the office of Sir James Lemon, sometime Borough Engineer, Southampton, and afterwards Mayor being at that time in private practice. Mr. F. P. Dolamo Borough Engineer at Bournemouth and associated with Mr. Taylor in the bridge building job, was also in the same office at the same time, 40 years ago.

### Veteran Artists

Mr. Fred J. Aardge, a well-known marine artist, who has just died, spent Cowes Week in the Island, being supremely interested in yachting, even August for over fifty years. He was 83 years at the time of his death. And talking of veteran artists is a reminder that a Hampshire lady, Miss A. L. Swynerton, who lives close to the beach at Hayling Island, is still working though aged 87. She is at the moment engaged on two pictures which will be submitted this year to the Hanging Committee of the Academy. She is an Associate of the Academy and was the first woman so chosen the time of her appointment, about 4 years ago, since 1768. Mrs. Swynerton prefers the Hampshire shore because it is warm and pleasant, as because the light in London lacks quality.

## SOUTHAMPTON'S LEADERS IN THE PAST



JONAS NICHOLS.

Jonas Nichols was a pioneer who was always well ahead of his time.

He built the first housing estate in Southampton, in a district which used to bear his name, but when the electoral division ceased to be so called, Nichols Town was less generally used as a place name, and, like Fitzhugh, has small meaning for most Southampton people now.

The district was east of St. Mary's road, and the land was St. Mary's Glebe. Jonas Nichols built about five hundred houses altogether, there and elsewhere, and, in spite of the limitations of his time, had his business so well organised that he was able to put up dwelling houses at the rate of two a week. They

were good houses, of their type, for Jonas Nichols was no jerry builder.

His pioneering consisted in bringing machinery into use in the preparation of building material, and he also had ideas in regard to road-making which were ahead of current opinion. He thought metallic bricks would be cheaper than stone, and he laid the whole of Brinton's road, which was one of the first of the many roads he laid out, at his own cost, just to show those who doubted him.

Jonas Nichols was a Town Councillor in the days when men had to fight hard for the chance—on purely political lines. He led the field, so to speak, in the election, and was made Junior Bailiff at once, then an unheeded circumstance.

### Mark of Civic Friendship

Town Councils in neighbouring towns are traditionally supposed to look upon each other with a certain contempt. Not always of course. The Councils of Southampton and Portsmouth play cricket together regularly and have done for nearly a generation with good results. And there is perfect amity between the local authorities of Bournemouth and Christchurch. Wherefore when the new Iford Bridge was opened at the week-end by the chairman of the County Council, Lord Malmesbury, Bournemouth town councillors walked in state from their side, and their friends from Christchurch from the other. They met in the middle and shook hands in token of goodwill.

### Hunting Close to the Town

The New Forest Beagles had an "out" meet lately at North Baddesley, and there will be another such on the 25th at North Stoneham. The change from woodland hunting, which is the natural home of the pack, is welcome to the followers, and these meets away from home are very popular. But it will not be possible for much longer to get so near to the town. Both the areas mentioned are becoming increasingly urban, though in both there are curious little enclaves which have been untouched by the opening up which follows in the wake of the speculative builder. As there has been a slowing down in this matter, possibly they will not be absorbed in the "red rash" so quickly as seemed likely a year or two ago.

# HAMPSHIRE'S M.P.s AT WORK—



Hamp Ad. 18.2.1933

Jonas Nichols

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