

Dear Frank,

Just a brief note to accompany the enclosed application form for the Colloquium. I haven't very much news, for all my spare time during the last few months has gone on a seminar course on functional analysis (sprung on me with no notice) and on a series of jobs as auxiliary clerk of works and head of the Complaints department on the new building. However, Bill has now taken over the seminar course and the work on the building is nearing completion, so I hope to be able to do some work of my own again ~~with the same~~ ~~in the near future~~ soon.

We sent the typescript of the book off to Olive & Boyd's two months ago. Robin Lornie was away for a week when it arrived, & some other editor acknowledged it and said R.L. would deal with it on his return, & we have heard nothing further. It is difficult to work properly with one's fingers crossed!

Only other news I can think of concerns the team, for we have had a spate of marriages and engagements. Shirley began it - she went to Austria for the summer as a on coach tour ~~conductor~~, then took a busman's holiday with her mother on a coach tour, and came back engaged to the conductor on that - an Austrian who has lived in London for the last few years (at least, while he was ^{not} ~~conducting~~ ^{conducting}). She was married to him in December, had a honeymoon in Austria, and is ^{now} settled in London.

Keslie was next - she is engaged to Ian Penny (with whom she has been going out for a number of years, and they are to be married on March 3rd. He is a surveyor with Shropshire County Council, and they will live in Shrewsbury. Ian is quite a good dancer - he has learnt with the Shrewsbury Scottish Society - and Keslie will no doubt continue to have some dancing - I hope she starts to teach, for she is the best teacher of any in the team.

The next is 'Majone', who became engaged at New Year to George Gillan - he has a garage near Rossett on the Chester-Wrexham Rd, and she met him while she was staying with an old school friend. They plan to be married at the beginning of September, and she will go to Rossett to live.

With all these defections, I felt like packing the team up, but John Clark was very persuasive, and so I recruited three new girls - all quite good dancers already - and we are going on for at least another year.

We were sorry not to see you at Xmas, but thought you were wise to avoid the bad travelling. You won't recognize Jane when next you see her - she is a real little girl now, running around at high speed (her judgement of corners is bad as her ~~own~~ fear), ~~and~~ into every corner, and onto anything climbable. Joan has her toes so tightly clenched that she can't move them even when asleep! The best cure for this is a nightcap of Drambuie, but it is rather expensive one.

Yours

Tom.