

Uxbridge tradesmen's courtesy is praised

AIR VICE-MARSHAL SIR CECIL A. BOUCHIER, K.B.E., proposing the toast of the Uxbridge Chamber of Trade at its annual dinner last Wednesday, praised the courtesy of Uxbridge tradesmen.

Sir Cecil said he came to live in the district 17 years ago, and it was the most sensible thing he had ever done.

He had the support of his wife when he said that they had never been happier in their lives than in Uxbridge, and nowhere had they met such charm, courtesy and helpfulness than from the business people of the town.

In a racy speech, Sir Cecil confessed that he would be happier talking about strategic warfare in Korea.

COMMITTEE WORK

Mr. G. A. Suter, responding, referred to the work of the executive committee. It had met a dozen times, and had made representations to the Chancellor of the Exchequer about Purchase Tax, to the county council about the state of Uxbridge High-street, the Uxbridge Council about the coat-of-arms, and to the police about street parking offences.

Recently attempts had been made to form an industrial section. Some firms had shown an interest.

The Chamber was playing an important part in the business life of the town through the activity of their Chairman, Mr. Clarke, and the energy of their secretary, Mr. Keith Gibbs.

Mr. B. W. Clarke, proposing "The guests," regretted that he could not welcome Mr. and Mrs. G. Hartley as Mayor and Mayoress of Uxbridge, as had been forecast at the last annual dinner.

Responding, Mr. Hartley agreed that at the last annual dinner it was suggested that it would be the last time a Chairman of the Council would attend as they expected to receive a Charter and have a mayor. Unhappily that prophecy had not been fulfilled, but he added, "Even if a mayor had been present I would not be here in that capacity."

As Mr. Dudley Button, the President, is on his way to New Zealand for a holiday, the dinner was presided over by Vice-President Mr. G. A. Suter. Mr. Suter with Mrs. Suter, and Mr. B. W. Clarke, Chairman of the Chamber, and Mrs. Clarke, received the guests, who included the Presidents of Hillingdon and Yiewsley Chambers.

The dinner, held at the Bellhouse Hotel, Beaconsfield, was followed by dancing.