

St. Dunstan's



Review

For the Amusement and Interest of Men Blinded in the War

St. Dunstan's Motto: "What the eye doesn't see, the heart doesn't grieve about."

Monthly, Price 6d.

BLINDED SOLDIERS AT ST. DUNSTAN'S.



1. A BLINDED SOLDIER LEARNING TELEPHONE SWITCHBOARD OPERATING. 2. MESSAGE TRAINING AT ST. DUNSTAN'S: A LECTURE IN ANATOMY.

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

EDITED BY IAN FRASER

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THE FUTURE OF OUR IDEALS.

IT is instructive to note how the far-reaching reforms that were introduced into this country when Sir Arthur first interested himself in the politics of the blind community are spreading all over the civilised world. The ball was set rolling by the raising, in the year before the war, of a very large sum of money which made of the old British and Foreign Blind Association the now flourishing National Institute for the Blind. In an incredibly short space of time it became the leading force in this country and before long its power was known to all English-speaking blind people. The embossed literature printed and published by the Institute at Great Portland Street, London, began to find its way in ever-increasing quantities to India, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, and America; and in this latter country arrangements were made to standardise the Braille system so as to make the interchange of American and English Braille books possible.

In the middle of last year the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, which is affiliated to the London Institute, was started, with Sir Arthur as its Hon. President, and Captain Edwin Baker, the well-known Canadian St. Dunstan, as its Vice-Chairman. This establishment will be, we hope, the first of a chain of Institutes spreading all over the British Empire, carrying with them the high ideals and businesslike methods of the parent organisation.

In the world of the blinded soldier St. Dunstan's stands pre-eminent, but it is not only in his world that its influence is felt, for the spirit of the place, the attitude of its men, their courageous outlook, and the remarkable way in which they overcome their difficulties, are a source of inspiration to men and women in every walk of life. A spirit like this will never die, and it is our intention to nourish it and foster it, and see that it not only lives but increases, and spreads to the farthest corners of the Kingdom of the Blind.

The After-Care Department at St. Dunstan's makes it its business to keep in touch with all St. Dunstanners, to help them in every practical way, and to keep this spirit of endeavour the leading force of every blinded soldier's life. It is like an electric power station which sends its current to a thousand lamps, making them bright and useful.

In Canada, as in Australia, the blinded soldier is cared for by a system similar to that of our After-Care Department. Captain Baker directs these operations in the Dominion, and other St. Dunstanners take a hand in what is being done in the Commonwealth, and it must be a great source of comfort to Colonial blinded men to feel that on their return home they will be cared for by those who have themselves passed through St. Dunstan's, and are therefore the better able to appreciate their needs.

PEARSON HOUSE.

We received news this month that a Blinded Soldiers' Club is being started in Toronto. Writing to inform Sir Arthur of the plans for its inauguration, Mr. L. M. Wood, President of the C.N.I.B., says:—"The object of the Club, which will be opened shortly, is to provide suitable quarters for any blinded soldiers who happen to be working in Toronto or who may have to come here for one reason or another, and to provide a place for the general use of all Canadian blinded soldiers who may care to take advantage of it. It is our intention to call this club 'Pearson House,' as a permanent recognition of the inestimable value of your work and influence in connection with British soldiers blinded in the War."

Some similar arrangements have already been made in the States of Victoria and Sydney in Australia, and plans have been considered for the formation of clubs in the United Kingdom when the time is ripe. We feel that there can be no better way of preserving the ideals of St. Dunstan's and keeping alive the spirit of comradeship which is such a feature of its life, than the formation of clubs like these, and we look forward to the time when in every corner of the globe there will be meeting-places where St. Dunstanners may foregather.

The Editor.

NOTES BY THE CHIEF

PEACE.

THOUGH the actual details of Peace will not be completed for some time to come, the signing of the Armistice and the cessation of hostilities mean the end of the terrific struggle in which you men of St. Dunstan's have played so prominent a part. I know the tremendous enthusiasm which filled the heart of every one of you when the great news came along, and I think that I have entered sufficiently intimately into your lives and feelings to be able to really appreciate the extent of your triumphant joy. You fellows have given very much to attain the wonderful results which have been reached; and I believe your feeling of triumphant enthusiasm is in true relation to the extent of the sacrifice you made—in other words, I do not believe that any body of men living to-day have more cause for jubilation at the magnificent success of our arms, or that any body of men are more sincerely stirred by this feeling of jubilation.

The terms of the Armistice show that the Germans have been crushed as they deserved to be crushed. I am sure you all agree with me that it is not the thing to hit a man when he is down; and had the Germans played the game of War straightforwardly and honourably, we

should all feel like letting them off easily and extending the right hand of good fellowship to them. But they did not play the game straight in any way whatever, and I expect you all hope, as I do, that they will be made to feel for many a long year to come that Might is not Right and that malefactors must be punished if the world is going to be a fit place for decent people to live in.

Just as when you were in the War you fought gallantly until you could fight no more, so I am sure you will as gallantly continue the fight which you have begun against the new enemy who has assailed you. Blindness must be conquered by the St. Dunstanner just as thoroughly and completely as he and his comrades conquered the Germans. It was British grit—and in the term British, I, of course, include the men from all over the Empire—which enabled the Allies to stick out the War until they triumphed. It is British grit which will enable every one of you to finish off this new fight just as completely and just as triumphantly.

To the men who have left St. Dunstan's; the men who are still here; and the men who are yet to come, I say:—

"Stick to your guns; hang on to your defences; repulse this spiritual foe when

he attacks you with gloom and misgivings; attack him with persistent courage and cheerful determination, and 'down him' as you and those who fought with you 'downed' the physical foe whom you have vanquished. Remember that we St. Dunstanners are setting a great example to the whole world of the blind. Carry our banner high, and show the people who can see that, much as many of them seem to doubt the fact, a blind man can be a normal citizen in practically every sense of the term."

THIS Note is written especially for people who are a good deal about with those who cannot see. Its object is to impress upon them the great importance of cultivating their powers of description. If a blind person is to reach the standard of normality at which we all aim, it is obvious that he must be very largely dependent upon the descriptions which he receives from those who are with him during his daily life. These descriptions may be of so meagre a nature as to leave him almost ignorant of the persons, scenes or things which they are intended to portray; or they may be so full and complete that he is able to conjure up a really accurate picture of what is described.

Of course there is a wide world of difference between these two extremes, but my own experience leads me to the belief that very few people indeed have a natural gift of describing what they see in terms which call up in the mind of the listener a really true picture. By this I mean a picture true enough to enable the person to whom it has been given to convey it to someone else.

The knack of accurate description can be cultivated by almost everyone. The great thing is to go enough into detail. For instance, when describing a person, it is not sufficient to say that the hair is brown, the shade of brown should be given as nearly as may be. If possible, it is always a good plan to say that the feature which is being described is like one belonging to someone whom the listener knows.

And so with scenery. Always try to compare a scene with one with which the blind person to whom you are speaking is familiar. Almost invariably there are to be found some points of resemblance to already well-known people or places.

SEVERAL times I have referred in these Notes to the great importance of visualizing. I have a firm belief in practising this, not only in regard to persons and places which are about one, but by making a regular habit of seeing in the mind's eye places and happenings which belong to days gone by.

During the four or five years before my sight went I played golf very keenly. It is, of course, a game which one can play well enough to enjoy oneself when one's sight has become too defective to permit one to play any other. Well, I played on a great many golf courses at home and abroad, and now I often find a real enjoyment in going over those courses hole by hole and hazard by hazard. During the last six years I have played and thoroughly enjoyed many a round of golf in my imagination, particularly on the course which I laid out myself in the place which I then owned in Surrey. I have sometimes gone back, too, to games of cricket, football or lawn tennis with much zest and interest. I am sure that all of you will get a lot of fun out of this kind of thing if you try it.

THE other day I had a letter from a fellow who has left, and who, though he cannot see at all, possesses two quite normal looking eyes. He wanted to know whether I would take up the question of initiating some badge which folk like himself could wear and which the public would recognise as indicating that the wearers of it are blind.

My correspondent complained that he is often barged into when in busy thoroughfares, and thought that a badge such as he suggested would save this.

Undoubtedly it would, but I think a far simpler plan is the one which I myself adopt, and which is to shut one's eyes when one finds oneself in busy surroundings.

AGAIN I should like to remind fellows who find their Braille touch lacking in sensitiveness to try the effect of vaselining or otherwise greasing their finger tips when they go to bed and sleeping with a glove on. This I know has, in many instances, had the effect of helping to a surprising extent in the improvement of Braille touch.



I WAS given the other day some interesting particulars in regard to fellows who have been entirely deprived of the sense of hearing as the result of wounds or the concussion of big guns.

These deafened men are, of course, not nearly so severely handicapped in regard to getting about and for industrial purposes as are men who have been blinded, though from the social point of view they are, I think, worse off.

I was surprised to gather how quickly they acquire the necessary art of lip-reading. It seems that three months is a sufficient period in which to acquire this essential.

The deafened men who reside in London are taught lip-reading at classes which are held at 28, Park Crescent, Portland Place, the headquarters of the Special Aural Board, which is presided over by Dr. Dundas Grant, the well-known ear specialist. The teacher begins by writing down a word and then using that word in a short sentence, until the pupil recognises the "lip-picture" and associates it with the written "word-picture." He soon comes to recognise whole phrases as lip-pictures, and in course of time, according to aptitude, to translate continuous conversation into the medium of "sight" as the words are shown upon the lips.

It is an interesting fact that whereas the deafened French soldiers are said to learn more quickly than their English comrades, the Germans are reported to take at least five or six months to get through the same course. The probability is that the nature of the languages and pronunciation of the different nationalities are answerable for these variations. In the pronunciation of French the lips and face come very much into play, whereas

in German there is a very extensive guttural element, and not nearly so much can be gathered of the sense of the words by sight. Our language comes between the two, but the reproach of our French friends that we "swallow our words" is not without foundation, and our habitual mumbling makes us difficult to understand by lip-reading.

The learning of lip-reading is somewhat fatiguing to the newly deafened man, as is the learning of Braille to the newly blinded man, and the authorities at Park Crescent, recognising this, have invested the headquarters there with many of the characteristics of a club. Recreation rooms are provided, where smoking, reading and billiards can be enjoyed, in the company of a band of lady helpers, and Mrs. Dundas Grant very ably superintends the provision of meals, at rather under cost price, for the convenience of those who have to come some way to the classes.

Messrs. Pathé Freres have lent their aid to this effort for the re-education of the deafened men, and have produced a film of Mr. Haycock, the Principal of the National Association for the Oral Teaching of the Deaf, who has undertaken the supervision and technical direction of the classes, illustrating the value and simplicity of lip-reading.

Although the results in the cases of all those men who have accepted this training are considered extremely good, it is feared that there are a regrettably large number of discharged deafened soldiers who have not taken advantage of the opportunities offered to them in this direction, and it is sincerely hoped that these men will take up lip-reading, for while at the moment there is an abnormal demand for labour, even of the deaf, the time will come, after peace is declared and thousands of men return to work, when the deaf man will be at a serious disadvantage if he has not neutralised his disability by learning lip-reading.

Arthur Pearson

Cessation of Hostilities

Excitement at St. Dunstan's

NOWHERE, we feel sure, was the news of the signing of the armistice greeted with more enthusiasm than at St. Dunstan's. The intelligence reached us over the telephone, and was quickly communicated to class-rooms, lecture-rooms, and workshops. Sir Arthur gave instructions that work was to cease for the day, and men began to pour out of the training rooms, shouting, cheering, and whistling. All of St. Dunstan's work is attended to promptly, and much of it is of an urgent nature, so that secretarial and after-care work continued until lunch-time, when the offices were closed for the day. Soon after 11 o'clock on Monday, when the maroons were heard to go off, the St. Dunstan's band gathered themselves together and made a tour of the West End, adding much noise and happiness to the already deafening din and overwhelming joy of the streets, while a number of British and Colonial blinded men found their way to Buckingham Palace and were admitted through the dense crowds to the courtyard, where they were able to take a conspicuous part in the acclamations which were accorded their Majesties the King and Queen, who appeared on the balcony of the Palace. At St. Dunstan's itself the pent-up enthusiasm of four years of waiting was let loose, and happiness and excitement were the order of the day. As one St. Dunstaner put it—"It makes anything worth while to think the Huns have got what they have been asking for so long." In the evening Sir Arthur gave a dinner at 21, Portland Place, at which were present a number of officers and others. The terms of the armistice were read from the evening paper, and were heartily acclaimed, and appropriate toasts were proposed and warmly received.

On Tuesday a congregation of close on a thousand people were assembled in the Outer Lounge when a short Thanksgiving Service was most ably conducted by the

Rev. E. N. Sharp, Honorary Chaplain to St. Dunstan's. General enthusiasm had abated a little by this time, but excitement was still in everybody's blood. The band again made its presence known, not, we believe, because its members are the most demonstrative of St. Dunstaners, but chiefly because they were possessed of instruments which enabled them the better—or, perhaps we should say the louder—to express their joy. A procession consisting of three motor vehicles, packed with at least five times as many people as they were built for, a bus from which the lid had been removed carrying the band, and towing behind it St. Dunstan's fire-engine loaded with men, and about one hundred men accompanied by friends and V.A.D.'s, made an extensive tour through London, returning to St. Dunstan's via Buckingham Palace, where they marched past the Royal Family playing "God Save the King." A newspaper correspondent who saw them wrote as follows:—

"As illustrative of the splendid spirit of the men of St. Dunstan's, a number of them sallied forth 'all on their own,' and, accompanied by all the V.A.D.'s and others they could press into the service, marched in triumph through the streets of London headed by their band, with two or three motor vehicles crammed to the utmost capacity.

"It did one's heart good to see them stepping gaily through the crowded streets, while the onlookers roared themselves hoarse, and the famous St. Dunstan's band blared out magnificently.

"We ourselves happened to see them going along Fleet Street, having chased them down Regent Street, across Trafalgar Square, along the Embankment, up Carmelite Street, and so into Fleet Street, en route for the Strand and Buckingham Palace, and the best tribute paid to them was given by a sympathetic policeman, who, when we enquired as to which way they

had gone, indicated the road with a jolly laugh and said, 'You aren't far behind them, they were swinging along all on their own.'

"'All on their own'—that is the keynote of St. Dunstan's. Surely there is no finer testimony to the work that is being carried on for our blinded soldiers than that little phrase."

No men have taken a keener interest in the progress of the war than the men of St. Dunstan's, and no men, we think, have greater cause for gratitude and thankfulness that the ending has been so successful than these blinded men, who have done so much and have given so much for the ideals which the associated peoples hold so dear.

The War in Brief

1914.

Aug. 4—Britain at war with Germany.
 Aug. 20—Brussels occupied.
 Aug. 23—Mons Battle.
 Aug. 26—Russians defeated at Tannenberg.
 Sept. 6—Battle of Marne; Paris saved.
 Oct. 9—Antwerp occupied.
 Oct. 11—Battle of Ypres; Channel ports saved.
 Dec. 8—Naval battle off Falklands.
 Dec. 14—Shelling of Scarborough.

1915.

Jan. 24—Naval battle off Dogger Bank.
 April 25—Allies land in Gallipoli.
 May 2—Russian front broken.
 May 7—Lusitania torpedoed.
 May 23—Italy declared war.
 Aug. 4—Fall of Warsaw.
 Sept. 25—Battle of Loos.
 Oct. 13—Murder of Nurse Cavell.
 Nov. 22—Turks routed at Ctesiphon.

1916.

Jan. 8—Evacuation of Gallipoli.
 April 29—Surrender of Kut.
 May 31—Naval battle off Jutland.
 July 1—British attack on the Somme.
 Aug. 6—Battle of the Isonzo.
 Dec. 6—Fall of Bucarest.
 Dec. 15—Hun failure at Verdun.

1917.

Feb. 1—Unrestricted U-boat blockade.
 March 11—Fall of Baghdad.
 March 12—Revolution in Russia.
 April 5—United States declared war.
 April 9—Battle of Arras.
 Oct. 24—Italian retreat from Caporetto.
 Dec. 9—Fall of Jerusalem.

1918.

Feb. 10—Russia out of the war.
 March 21—Great German offensive begun.
 April 22—Naval raid on Zeebrugge and Ostend.
 July 18—Turn of the tide.
 Sept. 30—Bulgaria surrenders; Fall of Damascus.
 Oct. 1—St. Quentin retaken.
 Oct. 17—Ostend, Lille, and Douai recaptured.
 Oct. 26—Fall of Aleppo.
 Oct. 30—Turkey surrenders.
 Nov. 3—Austria surrenders.
 Nov. 11—Capture of Mons; Germany surrenders. —*Daily Mail.*

Shark Gets Money for Brighton Annexe

A BOTTLE-NOSE shark which was caught by a mackerel boat recently and purchased by Mr. Eakehurst of Shoreham, was exhibited to the public for the benefit of the St. Dunstan's Convalescent Home for Blinded Soldiers, 104, Queen's Road, Brighton. The money taken was handed to the Commandant at the Home, who has thanked Mr. and Mrs. Eakehurst for the trouble they took in the matter.

Brighton Argus.

SYMPATHETIC LADY: "O-oh, and did you get wounded in the eye, too?"

WOUNDED TOMMY: "No, miss; I 'ad my eye on an empty seat in a 'bus, and a lady came and sat on it."

A JURY recently met to inquire into a case of suicide. After sitting through the evidence the twelve men retired, and after deliberating, returned with the following verdict:—

"The jury are all of one mind—temporarily insane!"

Sports Club Notes

RACES FOR ONE-ARMED OARSMEN.

SOME very interesting and evenly-contested races were held on Regent's Park Lake on the morning of Wednesday, the 23rd October. The competitors, in addition to having been blinded, were all one-armed men. These optimistic sportsmen shewed remarkable form, and could give a good race to any average oarsman in possession of his sight and both arms. Any rowing novice who feels disheartened at his attempts should get to know one of these men at once. The results were as follows:—

Canoe Race: 1st, J. Davidson and Sister Phillips.

Pair-Oar Race: 1st, J. Davidson and Sister Phillips; 2nd, N. Downs and Sister Ash; 3rd, S. W. Johnson and Sister Bottamley. (All of the House.)

R.A.F. RACE.

A very exciting "Fours" race took place at Putney on the afternoon of the 26th October, when St. Dunstan's House Four (C. Fankhauser, W. Trott, C. J. R. Reddish, J. H. New; cox., Sister Phillips) beat the R.A.F. (Printing Section) Four by half a length.

THE TUG-OF-WAR LEAGUE.

This competition should prove very exciting. Entries are as follows:—

"Bungalow Athletic." Coach, F. W. Douel.

"Bungalow Canadians." Coach, G. Eades.

"Bungalow Rovers." Coach, F. Makin.

"College Athletic." Coach, F. Jackson.

"College Rangers." Coach, F. Jackson.

"Cornwall Terrace." Coach, S. H. Edwards.

"House Athletic." Coach, A. Scott.

"House Rovers." Coach, W. Trott.

"House United." Coach, A. Johnson.

Each team sends nine men for a League contest, and the total weight of the team must not exceed the average of 11 stone per man.

The position in the League will be decided by the point system. A team will receive three points for a win outright (*i.e.*, two consecutive pulls), and two points for a win decided by three pulls, with one point to the losing team. Each team will pull every other team in the League twice (a total of sixteen matches for each team), and the competition should be completed in about ten weeks. A fixture-list is being prepared and will be circulated.

"BRITISH EMPIRE" SINGLE SCULLING CHAMPIONSHIP.

The Single Sculling Competition for the St. Dunstan's "British Empire" Championship has, up to the time of going to press, received the record entry of fifty-five competitors, proportioned as follows: England, 25; Australia, 7; Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, and Scotland, 4 each; Wales, 3; South Africa, 2; "Nondescripts" (other Dominions), 2. Each group will send a representative to the final heats at Putney, and the preliminary races will be rowed off on Regent's Park Lake.

This method of grouping competitors has formed a welcome relief from the usual inter-annexe groups, for the rivalry between the annexes was getting so keen that it was almost necessary to arrange wrestling bouts and boxing matches to work off the spirit.

The competition will take place during the first weeks in November, and the result published in the next REVIEW.

FUTURE EVENTS.

Physical Training will commence during November, and each annexe will form its own class under the guidance of a physical training expert. Sergt. McAuley, V.C., of the Scots Guards, has kindly offered to give us his valuable services, both for physical training and tug-of-war, as far as his military duties will permit.

The second contest for the Pearson Tug-of-War Challenge Cup (catch-weight) will take place early in December.

H. V. S.

News of St. Dunstan's Men

E. J. HANCOCK, who learnt poultry-farming at St. Dunstan's, has been staying this summer at a farm at Walton-on-the Hill. He says:—

"I make myself useful on the farm, as I milk eight or ten cows every day, as well as feed them and groom them. People round the farm say it is wonderful what a blind man can do, provided he has confidence in himself. I mend the boots; also many other every-day jobs I manage to do, simply by trying to do what may seem impossible for a man so situated."

W. H. Collins, another well-doing poultry-farmer, writes:—

"I feel I must let you know how well I have fared since my departure on the 22nd of December, 1916.

"I was trained as a poultry-farmer at St. Dunstan's, and settled down in this very ideal farm at Baldock. My only difficulty is that my farm is some distance from the station; but I am trying to overcome this little difficulty by working at a side show of mat-making, and saving a little to buy a horse and van, so that I may be able to do all my own carting to and from the station, and likewise to and from the markets of Hitchin and Royston. I am confident that I shall accomplish this aim in due course.

"Besides keeping poultry, I grow some crops to help our little country over this great crisis, and I have just bought three pigs. During my first year my poultry did very well, and I am looking forward to an even better result at the end of my second year.

"The dry season of this year has not, of course, made my garden look as well as I would like it to, but one must put up with such trials as these. I set out one acre of potatoes, and so far my early crop is yielding well and I am looking forward to my second crop to do likewise."

W. C. Smith, a basket and mat-maker,

settled at Melbourne, in Derbyshire, writing to Sir Arthur lately, said:—

"I started work in the early part of May, and have been working steadily ever since. I have made a rough estimate of my profits, and find that they average a clear pound a week. I am pleased to tell you that I have plenty of orders, and that my work appears to be giving satisfaction, as I get repeat orders. I am doing my best to uphold the standard of St. Dunstan's. I have found a ready sale for my baskets, and have several orders for mats. I little thought two years ago, when lying in St. Mark's Hospital, that I should be able to accomplish the things that appear so easy to me now, thanks to you, Sir Arthur, and the Instructors at St. Dunstan's.

"I do not allow my Remington typewriter to get rusty, and am still keeping up my Braille, being well supplied with Braille books from the Library. I find my Braille writing machine very useful in keeping my accounts without sighted help, and this makes me feel a little more independent.

"I hardly know how to thank you for the benefit I have received at your hands, and I think I am speaking the truth when I say that I feel as normal as I did before losing my sight. I have to thank St. Dunstan's alone for this and for all the happiness and cheerfulness that I enjoy."

In a recent letter to the Manager of the After-Care Department, G. Chapman, a boot-repairer and mat-maker, settled at Finedon, Northants, says:—

"I must thank you for the mat orders, which I shall be very pleased to execute. I have still a few orders to complete. I had an order for six large mats from somebody in Northampton. I send most of my goods away for sale now. I keep myself in practice with my boots by doing a few pairs each week, and I don't mean to get slack with them,

From all parts of the World

as boot-repairing is a good trade, and I am sure I shall increase my business as time goes on. I am very pleased I took the advice Sir Arthur gave me when I first came to St. Dunstan's, and learnt both mat and boot-repairing. My idea was to do boots only, but I followed his advice, and now I am independent and able to turn from one trade to another. I shall never be sorry I learnt both trades, and if I had the opportunity I would tell the fellows who are about to start out in our new world to take Sir Arthur's advice as I have done."

W. G. Parker, of Old Radford, Nottingham, was trained as a telephonist at St. Dunstan's. He writes as follows:—

"I receive my REVIEW and 'Nuggets' regularly, for which many thanks, for I appreciate them both. The REVIEW is good this month, and by the reading, St. Dunstan's Day was a great success."

"I think I forgot to tell you in my last letter about my advance in salary of 10s. per week. I think this is good for a start. It now brings my salary up to 35s. a week. When I remember I am in receipt of a yearly salary of £91 it seems incredible to me that a blind man should receive so much. I am confident that if it had not been for dear old St. Dunstan's I never should have been in receipt of this amount, and I hardly know how to express my gratitude.

"I take every possible opportunity of going to any concert in aid of St. Dunstan's and speaking if possible. I had the pleasure of speaking the other week and received a very good ovation.

"I remember full well when I lost my sight I thought life was going to be very black, but that impression very soon altered."

The following is an extract from a letter written by Mr. L. M. Wood, President of the Canadian National Institute for the

Blind, to Sir Arthur, concerning D. J. McDougall, who, after being trained as a masseur at St. Dunstan's, has taken a post at Ontario:—

"McDougall is now installed as instructor in massage at Hart House, which is a military establishment. Already the Commanding Officer has pronounced McDougall's work to be superior to that of other instructors in massage, and he is taking on sighted pupils as well as blind ones."

J. W. Abbs, a boot-repairer and mat-maker, settled at Stibbard, Norfolk, writes as follows:—

"The After-Care Department's visitor came to see me on Friday, and he was pleased with my work. I have so many boots that I really don't get much time for mats. Last week I had as many as eighteen pairs waiting to be done, so you see I suit the folks here. Very often when I take some home they give me more to bring back. It is all due to Sir Arthur that we boys are so happy and able to take our place in the world."

Writing to the After-Care Department lately, T. H. Bliss, another boot-repairer, who has started work in Plumstead, says:

"I have now been in business for twenty weeks and am going strong. You will be interested to know that I have just finished my 1,000th pair of boots. Of course, it is not all soleing and heeling. I have at the present time thirty-six pairs of boots in the shop; out of that number fifteen are repaired, leaving twenty-one to start on on Monday morning. I am working from eight in the morning to eight at night, taking a half day on Thursdays, and usually finishing up just after dinner on Saturdays. I also do a fairly good trade in polishes, rubbers, laces, etc., and string bags. I have to thank St. Dunstan's for the start they gave me in my new life."

In a recent letter, Elmer Glew, an Australian blinded soldier, who returned to Victoria at the beginning of 1917, trained as a masseur, touches on some points which should be of interest to St. Dunstanners generally and Australians in particular. He says:—

" . . . I mentioned to you in my last letter the formation of the Subcommittee of the Red Cross for Blinded Soldiers' and Sailors' After-Care. Well, that body has done and is doing good work among the boys here in Victoria, helping in many ways, such as in the supply of materials at wholesale rates.

"Mrs. Fraser, Hon. Sec., provides monthly dances for the boys and their friends, which they all appreciate to the full.

"Of late this Committee have been busy with the Repatriation Ministry, trying to get our men fixed up on their own estates and in their various occupations, and the others who were not fortunate enough to go to St. Dunstan's settled at some work or other. We have much to thank this Committee for, as they are doing their level best to get us a fair deal.

"Now, speaking of the Association which I told you we were trying to form: We communicated with lads of other States with the idea of a Commonwealth Association, but as they seemed to want to work on different lines to those which we planned in Victoria, we formed the Victorian Blinded Soldiers' Association (V.B.S.A.), which embraces men who have lost their sight in Naval Services or any other class of war work. The main reason which prompted us to start this Association was to safeguard our general interests, and, if necessary, to obtain direct appeal to Parliament, for as a body we should get a better hearing than as individuals."



We have before us a copy of a recent issue of the *Sydney Mail*, which devotes two full pages to a well told and well illustrated story of a visit of one of its representatives to an old St. Dunstanner's poultry-farm on the outskirts of Sydney, Australia. We offer C. H. Hills our heartiest congratulations on the more than ordinarily

successful way in which he has remodelled his life and has taken advantage of the opportunities which were offered him at St. Dunstan's. The following extracts from the article should prove interesting to other St. Dunstanners:—

"Private Charles H. Hills is a striking example of what is being accomplished by a sane repatriation scheme. Before the war he was a teamster; to-day he is a poultry breeder, with as intimate a knowledge of the science and practice of the business as many men who have been engaged in it for years. And he is stone blind, having lost his sight at Brown's Dip, Gallipoli. It was at St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors, London, that he gained the knowledge and experience that have fitted him to 'carry on' successfully—and what is more, contentedly and happily—in civil life. To see him in his poultry yards at Arncliffe is a revelation. All the fencing was done by himself and another blind man Andrew McCredie, only the corner pegs being placed in position to guide them. The wire work was erected and one of the pens was built entirely by himself. In the construction of the other pens—there are ten in all—he was assisted by another incapacitated soldier; but the design of the whole place is his. He knows every inch of it, and he moves about among the pens just as freely and expeditiously as if he had his sight.

"It is all a matter of system and common sense founded on experience—not pre-war experience, either. Before he enlisted, Hills, who is a native of England, had had a good deal of outback experience in New South Wales, but the rearing of poultry had never entered his wildest imaginings. The loss of his sight, however, changed the whole aspect of things for him, and when he was sent to St. Dunstan's—he was the third student to enter that Hostel—he was amazed to find what new avenues of life were open to him. He had always lived the outdoor life, so he chose poultry keeping.

"Naturally Hills lays all his thankfulness at the feet of St. Dunstan's, or, rather, of Sir Arthur Pearson, the founder and director of the Hostel.

"Hills says his object is to make the business a paying proposition, and to demonstrate to the repatriation authorities and to those interested in the care of the blind in this country that there are other avenues open to sightless men than those at present available. 'St. Dunstan's,' he says, 'is an object lesson to the world, and I feel that a duty is laid upon me to do everything in my power to make its work better known, so that every blind man and woman in Australia, be he soldier or civilian, may be able to participate to some extent in the glorious light it is shedding into the darkness of our sightless lives. Time was when people looked upon blind men as individuals who lived in a gloomy world of their own and were deserving of the greatest sympathy, a sympathy whose limits were too often the confines of a blind asylum, and in their goodness of heart they believed it was best to associate the blind with the blind because of their common affliction. They failed to realise, somehow, that blind men are still normal creatures, whose craving is for brightness and for participation in the ordinary things of life. Sight, after all, is mental. You see with your eyes, I see with my mind, but I see very effectively none the less."



W. Davies, of Prengwyn, South Wales, sends us the following two hints, about both of which we should like to have our readers' opinions. We think his experience in the matter of smoking should be of particular interest to those men who have that small amount of useless sight which enables them only to distinguish between light and darkness and who are frequently worried by the brightness of the sun or artificial light:—

"When I was about to leave St. Dunstan's to start on my own, a member of the staff who was talking to me noticed that my eyes were very weak and were easily affected by a bright light or glare. He asked me if I was a heavy cigarette smoker and I told him I was. He then advised me to leave off cigarette smoking and take to a pipe. When I had been away from St. Dunstan's about six months I found that my eyes were still hurting

me, so decided to give his advice a trial. What he said was quite true; I am glad to say that my eyes are much stronger and not nearly so sensitive to lights. Besides, I find that I can enjoy a pipe of tobacco far better than I did cigarettes."

The other hint concerns the bordering of mats:—

"I find that I can border my mats easier by placing them on an upturned box and sitting on them. By doing this the weight of my body keeps the mat firm and I am able to put more strength behind the needle, thus driving it through both mat and plait with ease."



Harry Green, a basket maker, of Hornsey, also sent us good news recently. He said:—

"Just a few lines to let you know that now that I am quite fit and well again, I am well started at my work, and that it is all going quite smoothly; and the orders are still coming in in a very satisfactory manner, especially the repeat orders. People who have had any of my baskets always speak very highly of them, and it is very seldom that one basket does not bring in one or two more orders."



H. A. Palmer, who is a mat-maker and netter, settled at West Hartlepool, writes:—

"It is now six months since I started work on mats and netting, and I am pleased to say I have been getting on very well. I have not found much difficulty in getting orders for mats, and I have not advertised at all; in fact, I find the chief difficulty is getting them done quick enough. I have made nine mats for one firm, so I think they must be quite satisfied with them. I have also made several kneelers.

"I find the Braille books a great pleasure, and always try to read a little regularly every day. It is a good thing to have plenty to do to fill up one's time, and I am thankful for the training we received at St. Dunstan's, which has made us useful citizens again."

Are Orchards Good Poultry Runs?

WE have just received the following letter from J. Chisholm, who returned to New Zealand to take up poultry-farming at the beginning of 1918. It is the opinion of our poultry experts that blind people should experience no difficulty in looking after ducks and, as a matter of fact, there are quite a number of men in this country who are successful in this branch of poultry-keeping. We invite the views of our readers on this matter:—

“Waihopa,

“North Auckland.

“Dear Mr. Editor,

“In the May issue you print a letter from Captain Owen on fruit-trees in poultry yards. Please permit a few remarks on the subject. First of all, in my sighted days I was the owner of a few hundred poultry and also of an orchard. I ran fowls in the orchard till I learnt discretion, then I only ran a certain class of poultry on certain parts of the orchard. Unfortunately for the blind boys the best fowls to run are ducks, and the best trees to run them under are peaches, plums and nectarines. Hens run in an apple orchard would fly on the young trees and break them. This, then, means that

they would have to be netted round. Even if netted the hens would scratch round the roots, and thus either kill the tree by exposing the fibrous roots or weaken it so that if it did bear fruit it would be liable to be blown over when loaded. Apples bear their fruit on old wood, therefore do not need fowl manure; in fact they are not benefited by it, but are induced to make a lot of useless wood. In regard to spraying, the most dangerous spray is used, first when the calyx is closing, and every three weeks thereafter till the fruit is harvested. This is arsenate of lead and is used to kill the codlin moth. Peaches and nectarines grow their fruit on last season's wood, therefore they require plenty of fowl or similarly constituted manure. Plums grow on both old and new wood, so they, too, can stand plenty. If the boys wish an orchard, let them get an old apple one, with trees about thirty years old and laid down in grass. They will get a few scraggy apples, but they will have a grand run for the fowls. It is a pity that ducks are not easily managed by the blind, but they are not, so it is best to let them alone or get sighted help.”

Grocers' Federation Gift to St. Dunstan's

THE Grocers' Federation of the United Kingdom have very generously subscribed a sufficient sum of money to purchase for St. Dunstan's the property of West House, Kemp Town, Brighton, which has, since it was opened in the middle of last year, been used as a Convalescent Annexe for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors.

On October 16th an “At Home” was held at West House, where, in the presence of a very large and enthusiastic gathering, Mr. Adams, President of the Federation, formally handed over the deeds of the property to Sir Arthur. In doing so, he said the special fund provided for the purpose now stood at about £6,000, and

he believed the grocery trade intended during the coming year to devote their war effort to the collecting of money for the furnishing of this magnificent hostel in such a manner as to ensure the comfort and the well-being of their brothers who had made such a great sacrifice for them.

Sir Arthur accepted the deeds with the profound gratitude of St. Dunstanners for the generous action of the Federation.

The visitors were entertained to tea and shown over the establishment, which has the personal supervision of Sir Arthur's sister, Miss Pearson.

LAURENCE F. BENN, a boy aged 15, has collected 1,300 farthings for St. Dunstan's.

Entertainments and Music at St. Dunstan's

DURING the month of October some very excellent concerts and entertainments took place at all three houses. They included talent from all branches of the musical world, and many well-known artists from the theatres and music halls gave boundless pleasure to the big audiences which are now-a-days the rule.

Thanks are due to Mr. Jack Goodson, Miss Florence Shee, the New Zealand Pierrots, Mr. Joseph Gay, the Duke of Cambridge's Own Band, and the Royal Engineers, for arranging the entertainments, and to Mr. F. Adair for his untiring energy in acting as general accompanist on so many occasions.

An interesting lecture was given at the College Annexe by the Rev. Basil Bouchier, entitled “My Experiences in France.”

Mr. Joseph Gay one evening gave a Dickens recital, which was very much enjoyed by those who listened to it.

The St. Dunstan's Band gave a concert in the Outer Lounge on Thursday, November 7th, assisted by the “Banjo Band” and Private J. Rawlinson, who sang “I'm all bound round with the Mason Dixon Line” and “Some Sunday Morning,” with real American spirit and gusto. The Rag-time Band played with great dash and rhythm, and the “Banjo Band” gave a good rendering of a couple of marches. Sir Arthur honoured the concert with his presence, and at the close made a little speech, in which he thanked all the performers very much indeed for their excellent playing. Sir Arthur then thanked the music staff for their help, Miss Graham (who, much to our regret, is just on the point of leaving for France), Miss Jones, Miss Addis, Miss Newton, and Miss Bald (who so ably conducts the Band). Sir Arthur thanked Mr. Landucci for his able

conducting of the “Banjo Band” and his long work at St. Dunstan's, and much praise is also due to Miss McAndrew for her accompanying and teaching of the banjo.

On the evening of Thursday, November 7th, we all very much enjoyed a theatrical performance given by the men and staff of the Cornwall Terrace Annexe.

Unfortunately, Gobourne, one of the chief characters in “Gentlemen, the King,” was taken ill, but Miss Tuck filled the gap, and great credit is due to her for the way in which she took this part at short notice. The second playlet, an amusing Coster Show, was excellently acted by Mrs. Shiell and Miss Tuck.

Much laughter fell to the lot of “A Pair of Lunatics.” Miss Tuck and Costigan played these parts remarkably well.

Miss Tuck has put in a great deal of time in teaching the boys their parts, and we feel sure that she must have been very well satisfied with the results. Mrs. Shiell assisted her in stage-managing and producing the show.

Thanks are due to Miss Bald for providing the excellent music between the acts, and Mr. Sawyer for his great help as property man.

Odds and Ends

AT Broadstairs the other day a very novel idea for raising money for St. Dunstan's, by laying a trail of pennies from the main steps to the sands along to the Victoria Bandstand, was so successful that by the end of the day 5,104 pennies (£21 5s. 4d.) had been laid down.

OLD LADY: “Do tell me why are mouth-organs so popular in the Army?”

WAG: “Well, yer see, mum, the War Office blokes are dead agin' us carryin' trombones and 'arps and suchlike around in our packs!”—Punch.

Withy Beds

ALL along the Kennet, all along every chalk stream in the South of England, the withy beds are thick and green. Even in war time we can make our own baskets from our own raw material. Yet, oddly enough, osier growing in England is little more than a century old. Before the great French wars we imported all our wicker from France; it was the cutting off of the French supplies that forced us to grow the raw material for ourselves. There is perhaps no other tree, certainly none in temperate climes, which rivals the willow in rapid growth. Nor is there any other so easy to plant. You cut a stake from a live plant, point it, and stick it into moist soil. This is done in winter, and by the following autumn you have a sapling ten or twelve feet in height. Even a willow fence post usually grows. I have half a dozen big willows in my own garden which were originally fence posts. The rusty staples are still bedded in their trunks.

To make a withy bed the cuttings are put in a foot apart, and a crop is obtained the third year. The slips are usually about 18 inches long, and are pressed into the ground for half their length. "Salix triandra" is the botanical name of

the variety most used for making baskets, wicker chairs, and such like.

A withy bed goes on bearing for ten or twelve years before it needs replanting, so of all forms of farming this—given the proper sort of land—is one that requires least trouble and care.

For all that, the owner of a withy bed is not without his troubles. Of these the willow beetle is the worst. These wretched little pests prey upon leaves, twigs, and even the bark itself, and sometimes ruin a whole bed. They are most difficult to get rid of.

Willow "rods," as they are technically known, are cut as soon as the first sharp frosts have stripped the foliage. They must be peeled before use, and for this purpose are first soaked in shallow trenches. This at least is the treatment adopted with the finer wands. The thicker are merely stacked under some rough cover.

There is plenty of scope still for willow farming. Many a low-lying piece of ground, too wet for tillage and unsatisfactory as pasture, will yield a good return if converted into a withy bed. B.

—Daily Mail.

New Zealander Speaks at Trafalgar Square

SPEAKING at Trafalgar Square on Overseas Day, October 14th, during Feed the Guns week, Trooper Clutha Mackenzie, who is well known to readers of the REVIEW as the blinded New Zealander who, after his re-education at St. Dunstan's, started the "Chronicles of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force," of which he is the editor and manager, told the story of a Maori who had both legs amputated, but refused to go back to New Zealand, and wanted to join the mounted troops because, he said, "when I go back to my tribe they will say 'Welcome home, Wai Toa. Are there then no more Germans left?' And I

would have to hang my head and say 'Yes, there are.' Then they would say, 'Wai Toa, Wai Toa, why are you here?'" That, continued Trooper Mackenzie, was the spirit which today was felt throughout the Empire. No matter what conference might be held and what peace terms might be published, the people knew what we were fighting for. The Government had been slow in regard to reprisals, but the people were now thoroughly alive to what was required and knew what had to be done.

Hearty cheers were given for Trooper Mackenzie at the end of his speech.

Items of Interest

Presentations

ON her birthday, the men at the House presented Miss Cunyngame with a beautiful silver teapot, cream jug, and sugar basin. Corpl. McIntosh made a charming speech, in which he described all the splendid work for the comfort of the boys which Miss Cunyngame had done ever since the opening of St. Dunstan's, nearly four years ago.

The College has lost two sisters who have been there ever since the opening in January, 1917. Miss Dyson has left to take up nursing duties at St. Thomas's Hospital, and Miss Butler, the popular Lounge sister, has gone to work in a hospital in France. Before leaving, the men of the College presented Miss Butler with a beautiful dressing-case, and Miss Dyson with a lovely travelling clock. Both these sisters will be very much missed, and in a grateful speech of thanks for all they had done, W. Pratt said how very much the men appreciated their kindness, and all joined in wishing both ladies the greatest success in their new duties.

"Turner's Weekly"

READERS of the REVIEW will remember a note in last month's issue about *Turner's Weekly*, the periodical being started by Harris Turner, a blinded soldier who returned to Saskatoon after his period of re-education at St. Dunstan's, and was subsequently elected as Soldiers' member for the Legislature of Saskatchewan. We have just received the first copy of the publication, which we hope will meet with the success it deserves. In his foreword Harris Turner says:—"It can truthfully be said that there is not in Western Canada at the present time an independent weekly paper which appeals to the general public simply on its merits as an interesting and entertaining literary enterprise. That

there is a field for such a periodical no one can doubt, and it is that field which we intend to occupy." The good wishes of all St. Dunstanners go to Harris Turner for the success of his enterprise.

Swimming at Hove

THE Committee of the Hove Public Swimming Baths have been good enough to place their bath at the disposal of blinded officers from 10.30 a.m., the time the bath closes to the public, to mid-day on Sundays. The bath is very conveniently situated, only a few minutes' walk from King's Gardens, where are the two houses which form week-end and convalescent officers' quarters. This form of exercise is very popular, and many pleasant hours have been, and will be, spent there during the winter months.

"Seeing" the Time

W. C. SMITH, from whom we publish a most interesting letter in this issue, tells us the following amusing story of an incident which occurred recently:—

"I had a rather amusing experience a few weeks ago. One day, when my wife and I went to Derby on business, she went into a shop opposite the General Post Office, leaving me standing on the pavement enjoying a smoke, when up strolled an old gentleman and said, 'Can you see the time by the clock opposite, as my sight is not quite so good as it used to be.' At the moment I was playing with my watch-chain, so I slipped my finger on to my watch and turning to him said, 'It is just two minutes past one.' He thanked me and said, 'It is not very nice when one's sight is not so good as it was, is it?' I said, 'It is not, sir, and you have my sympathy; it must seem very dreadful to you. I hope you will bear up under it.' I couldn't help smiling. . ."

The Evolution of the Typewriter

BY C. McCLUER STEVENS.

IT will doubtless surprise most people to learn that the first typewriter ever produced was manufactured, not in America, and at a comparatively recent date, but nearly two centuries ago, and in England.

On January 17th, 1714, there was granted to a gentleman named Mills, an engineer in the employ of the New River Company, a patent for an invention described as follows:—

"An artificial machine, or method, for the impressing or transcribing of letters, singly or progressively one after another, as in writing, whereby all writings whatsoever may be engrossed, on paper or parchment, so neat and exact as not to be distinguished from print."

Thus was the typewriter born. No drawings were submitted with the specifications, so that it is now impossible to tell how the machine was constructed, or what kind of work it performed. From notes found among the private papers of the inventor, however, after his death, it is assumed that it was intended to print embossed letters for the blind.

A similar machine, also for the use of blind people, was patented in France in the year 1784; but, with these two exceptions, no other effort seems to have been made to construct a writing machine until 1829, when Mr. Austin Burt, an American, patented his "Typograph." This was a very pretty and exceedingly ingenious piece of mechanism, but, viewed from a commercial point of view, it was a decided failure.

But these and other similar attempts, for the most part crude and ill-conceived, set practical men thinking. Among others, Charles Thurber, an American, went to work and constructed a machine, which is now generally admitted to have been the first practical typewriter ever put together. It was large, it was clumsy; and it was capable of being driven only at what would

now be regarded as a ridiculously low rate of speed. But it embodied most of the mechanical devices common to nearly all modern machines, and to it was applied for the first time the paper-carrying roller, together with suitable machinery for line and letter spacing. That it was far from perfect, however, is evident from specimens of its work, in which the letters are unevenly spaced. Thurber's machine, moreover, like Litledale's, and, indeed, all the early typewriters, was intended solely for the use of the blind. So far, the need of a machine to supersede the pen had not even been thought of.

After Thurber came many other inventors, notably Beech and Pratt, both of whom spent considerable sums of money and an immense amount of time and labour in improving the typewriter.

In 1867 Mr. Pratt's machine was exhibited in London before the Society of Arts, and, as was only natural, attracted a great deal of attention. Most of the leading engineering and scientific papers devoted considerable space to descriptions and illustrations of the strange-looking piece of mechanism; and suggestions were not wanting to the effect that the inventor who could produce a successful machine of the kind, intended not only for the use of those whom misfortune had deprived of sight, but for mankind in general, would secure a fortune for himself, and confer an almost inestimable boon upon humanity at large.

One man, and only one, Mr. C. Latham Sholes, of Wisconsin, U.S.A., recognised the vast possibilities that lay hidden in the tangled collection of cams and cogs and levers.

Sholes was not a wealthy man himself, and his first difficulty lay in finding a capitalist who was willing to embark with him in the enterprise. This initial stumbling block overcome, he set to work with a will, and between 1867 and 1873 he

turned out some twenty-five typewriters, all of which were theoretically perfect, and all of which went to pieces with depressing regularity after a more or less prolonged spell of practical work. But each model was a little better than the preceding one, and thus at length a fairly proficient one was produced.

The manufacture of the finished, and so far perfected, article was entrusted to the Remington Manufacturing Company, Ilion, U.S.A., the makers of the famous rifle which to this day bears their name; but for a long time the demand was small. Even after the lapse of nine years not more than 1,500 machines were being sold per annum. This was in 1882. Since then, however, the popularity of the Remington Typewriter has become such that, at the present time, Remington machines are to be seen in every office in the world.

Naturally the success of Mr. Sholes induced both inventors and capitalists to turn their attention to the production of other, and, if possible, more perfect typewriters; the result being that within the last decade there have been placed upon the markets of the world more than a hundred different types of machines. Each of these claims some distinct advantage over its rivals, but upon this point, comparisons being proverbially odious, the writer does not care to express any opinion.

There is one peculiarity that immediately strikes the enquirer in elucidating the history of the typewriter. With very few exceptions, all the best-known machines are made in America. The question is often asked: "Why not manufacture typewriters in England?" One reason is that there is a very heavy duty on all machines imported into the United States, and as America still continues to take about three out of every five typewriters made, the advantage to be derived from manufacturing them on the spot is obvious. Another reason is that anyone establishing a typewriter factory in England would be obliged to train his own workmen; whereas in America he would find trained workmen applying to him for employment.

This is one of the disadvantages of our pre-war free-trade policy. If the Government were to decide to permanently clap a 25 per cent. ad valorem duty on all foreign-made typewriters, there is not the slightest doubt that factories for manufacturing machines on English soil would quickly be established.

The pioneers of the typewriter were often faced by this question: "What is the use of spending time and energy in learning to work a machine when the pen will do the same work well enough?" Aye, but will it? There's the rub. Even a moderately quick writer with the pen will find considerable difficulty in keeping up, for many hours at a stretch, a speed of more than twenty words a minute. An ordinarily quick operator will easily treble that record, and that, too, without experiencing any undue fatigue.

Then, again, there is the great question of legibility, and in this matter the typewriter is, of course, pre-eminent.

It is not necessary to be exactly an enthusiast on the subject to be able to foresee a great future for the typewriter. In America it has long been used in the schools to teach the young the elements of their mother tongue, and its use is considered obligatory by every up-to-date business man. In England, too, the typewriter is almost universally used for business purposes, and is beginning to be popular for private correspondence.

Is the pen then doomed? By no means. The fact of the matter is that the typewriter is to the pen what the sewing-machine is to the needle. Needles are still manufactured by the hundred million, despite the fact that a sewing-machine is an indispensable adjunct to every well-regulated home. It will be the same with the pen when a "writing-machine" is as common a sight in a middle-class house as is a sewing-machine to-day.

One word in conclusion. It is often urged that the typewriter is useless for original work. The writer does not find it so. A very little practice renders its use as automatic as that of a pen.

[By kind permission of the Proprietors of the *Strand Magazine*.]

The Deeds of the Royal Stand Backs

BY BILLET FIBBS.

I AM writing to-day of our great attacks
And the splendid work of the Royal Stand Backs.

As soon as we opened our barrage of fire
These gallant men dashed through a sea of mire ;
This mud, I am told by all I meet,
Was over their heads by a couple of feet ;
But marching as if on parade with a smile,
They advanced underneath it for over a mile.
Having reached their objective according to time,
They popped up their heads from under the slime,
And, seeing three German divisions in front,
The Stand Backs halted, while planning a "stunt."
Then a brave young officer climbed up a tree
And hid in the branches singing "Ki-wi."
And the Huns looking upwards to see the thrush
Were caught unawares by the Stand Backs' rush.
So the Stand Backs made their position good
On the ridge to the right of the Lagerbeer Wood.

I must tell you now of their Company Cook,
And the number of prisoners and booty he took.
He set out with the dinners all hot for his men,
Approaching them carefully by Kookhouse Glen ;
Suddenly near him he heard a shout
And he knew that it must be a Bosch dug-out.
He entered and found it was filled with Huns,
A bottle of beer, and a bag of buns ;
Then wasting no time in useless talk
He killed the whole lot with a knife and fork.
Then putting the booty under his arm,
He started again for Stand Back Farm.
When after going a hundred yards
He met a brigade of the Prussian Guards !
He made a stand in a pool of mud
And bombed each man with a boiling spud,
Then discharged in their midst a bag of salt,
Bringing the Prussian Guard to a halt,
He marched them back at the point of the spoon ;
And had them shut up in cages soon.
Then drawing another ration of "taters,"
He set off again through a field of craters,
Arriving all right on the Stand Backs' ridge
Where he found them enjoying a game of bridge.
Below lay ten thousand German dead—
And the rest of the "Berliner Beetles" had fled.

The Royal Stand Backs thus added Fame
To their already splendid and glorious name.

Departmental Notes

The Workshops

AS soon as it was possible for any use
to be made of the new extension of
the Boot Shop, Sir Arthur made one
of his periodical tours of inspection.

He also visited the new Mat Shop,
where, in addition to sixteen mat-makers
and the sinnet mat-workers, ten willow
basket-makers and the cane basket-
makers' tables have temporary quarters.
The men were much encouraged by
the keen practical enquiries concerning
their work and the ready appreciation
of the measure of success which they
had attained. There is no need to
comment upon the pleasure which this
visit gave to the men and staff, and work
went more briskly than ever after Sir
Arthur had passed through.

During the month our staff of in-
structors in the Basket Shop has been
increased by the addition of Mr. G.
Davies and Mr. J. Bridge, and in the
Boot Shop of Mr. G. J. Soper. The
system in force at St. Dunstan's of aiding
men by instruction through their com-
rades, who act as pupil teachers, is very
well known, and one cannot speak too
highly of the great advantage this is to
the beginner. It also has great value to
the pupil teachers themselves in broaden-
ing their experience and enabling them
to overcome new difficulties. It means,
of course, that there are continual changes,
and this month we welcome to the ranks
of the pupil teachers the following men :—
W. Nash, J. Sime (in the Boot Depart-
ment), R. Caven (in the Joinery Depart-
ment), and W. V. Sargent. The following
men have also left us during the month :—
A. Pettifer (who as pupil teacher was
singularly successful in instructing others
in boot repairing), C. Purkis (who has
returned to Preston, Ontario, Canada, to
take up work as a poultry-farmer and
mat-maker), F. P. Fishwick (Boot Depart-

ment), J. E. Booth (Boots and Mats), T.
Rogers (Boot Department), and B. Bower-
ing (Basket Department).

Some excellent work for the War
Service Exhibition, which is being held at
Coventry from November 8th—17th, has
been prepared. The following articles are
being shewn:—Soap box, made by E.
T. Humphries; knife box, by W. Higgin-
son; towel roller, by P. Archibald; pair
of steps, by J. Swanston; clothes basket,
by G. T. Shaw; cane hamper, by Albert
Smith; square soiled linen basket, by F.
J. Brown; basket chair, by W. Hudman;
work basket, by J. E. Batty; dog bed, by
S. E. Varley; barrel basket, by S. E.
Varley; mat with key border, by F. W.
Douel; kneeler, by J. G. Nicol; fancy
fibre mat, by T. Stevenson; red cross
mat, by A. Hermon; sinnet mat, by A.
Hermon; pair of boots, soled and heeled,
by W. Nash; pair of boots, soled and
heeled, by W. J. Sims; pair of ladies'
shoes, soled and heeled, by J. Bakelants;
pair of boots, soled and heeled, by K.
Gateril.

W. H. O.

Netting Notes

WE should like to direct attention
towards the wooden winders now
used in the Netting Rooms. These
winders were mentioned in the March
number of the REVIEW, and have been
since then very much improved.

We are finding them a great convenience
for the making of long and heavy nets,
and where netting is done at home with
somewhat restricted floor space they
should prove especially useful.

Our enlarged premises have made it
possible for us to set up a very attractive
and pretty bower, made entirely of nets
of various kinds. Inside are hammocks
properly stretched and slung, as well as
all the other smaller articles, shown to
their best advantage.

We aim at making this miniature stall representative of all our work, and the general effect is very gay and a good advertisement of our wares.

G. H. W.

Braille Tests

WE congratulate the following officers and men on having passed their tests:—

Reading Test: W. D. John, Mr. D. K. Peacock, Mr. G. Robinson, W. W. Walters, G. Johnson, Mr. E. L. Parry, J. E. Scally, C. Thompson, and A. Vander Bosch.

Writing Tests: W. P. Nolan, A. E. Howes, A. H. Rogers, H. Ollington, T. W. Dec, B. Martin, C. A. Blackett, H. McDowell, and A. I. Gwyn.

J. Hartley has passed his Braille reading test while still in the 2nd London General Hospital. He has learnt in a remarkably short time, and we offer him our heartiest congratulations.

D. P.

Typewriting and Telephony

WE congratulate the following on having passed their typewriting test:—T. Stevenson, A. Groves, C. T. R. Brooks, L. Ashwell, F. C. Harris, G. Polley, G. Strickland, J. Blackburn, J. Whittingslow, R. Newman, G. A. Gwyn, G. Jackson, J. Martin, C. A. S. Stracey, C. A. Hancock, L. J. Farrington, S. Pike, J. Robjohn, G. Smith, W. H. Thorpe, R. Smith, S. R. Dyer, S. Bakewell, A. Rawson, C. J. R. Reddish, E. J. Summers, C. B. Baker, F. Reason, W. G. Cox, F. J. Brown, G. Scott, R. Atkinson, Mr. Parry, and R. Young.

T. Milner has started work in Liverpool as a shorthand typist, and F. W. Shelton has obtained a post as a telephonist in London. Our best wishes for their future success go with them.

E. McL.

A Return of Officers and Men pensioned for Disability from outbreak of War to August 31st, 1918.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Eyesight cases | 11,347 |
| Wounds and injuries to leg (necessitating amputation) ... | 11,536 |
| Wounds and injuries to arms (necessitating amputation) ... | 5,910 |
| Wounds and injuries to leg (not necessitating amputation) ... | 50,590 |
| Wounds and injuries to arms (not necessitating amputation) ... | 37,074 |
| Wounds and injuries to hands (not necessitating amputation) ... | 17,987 |
| Wounds and injuries to head ... | 16,270 |
| Hernia | 3,391 |
| Miscellaneous wounds and injuries | 25,049 |
| Chest complaints } | 47,078 |
| Tuberculosis } | |
| Rheumatism | 27,424 |
| Heart Disease | 41,699 |
| Epilepsy | 4,257 |
| Nervous diseases— | |
| Shell Shock } | 25,165 |
| Neurasthenia } | |
| Miscellaneous } | |
| Insanity | 3,888 |
| Deafness | 7,731 |
| Frost Bite (including cases of amputation of feet or legs) ... | 3,392 |
| Miscellaneous Disabilities ... | 81,381 |
| Not classified (awards made by War Office and Admiralty which have lapsed or not come up for renewal of Ministry of Pensions) | 708 |
| | 421,877 |

—*War Pensions Gazette.*

Out of the 11,347 eyesight cases, about 1,100 have been deprived of useful sight. All of these are being cared for by St. Dunstan's.

"MY boy's been out there twelve months without a scratch." "Good heavens! What insect-powder does he use?"—*Punch.*

Country Life Section

OWING to the great difficulty in obtaining wood, it has been decided not to provide any more rabbit outfits until the Spring. Poultry-farmers who intend taking up rabbit breeding will lose nothing by this, as the Spring is the natural breeding time, and they will not have to feed their rabbits through the winter.

In the meantime the allowance of wood we get now will be used to increase the poultry housing accommodation at our experimental farm at King's Langley.

The following gifts have been received during the last month. We offer our heartiest thanks to the donors: Mrs. Bester, 9 young rabbits; Miss Lowe, 1 black Leghorn; Mrs. Shiers, 6 Rhode Island red pullets and 1 cockerel; C. Millar Hughes, Esq., 5 white Leghorn hens; A. J. Willis, Esq., 6 white Leghorn hens and 2 white Wyandotte hens.

CONGRATULATIONS.

C. B. Coles, Beckenham, has done exceptionally well with his vegetable garden this year. The largest onion weighed 1lb. 2oz. and the largest apple 13ozs.

He also won at the local show two first prizes for heavy and light breed pullets, the birds being three Buff Rocks and three white Leghorns.

D. Melling took first and second prize at East Manchester Allotment Holders' Society show for white Leghorn cockerel and pullet, bred by himself.

J. Selby, of Basingstoke, has a fine lot of early hatched pullets, which have been laying splendidly. From thirty of these he had seventeen eggs on the day of our poultry visitor's call. These pullets were hatched in April of this year.

The following are the reports of Mr. Clem Watson, the well-known poultry

expert, on the recent poultry examinations which he conducted at St. Dunstan's:—

FIRST COURSE: Oct. 7, 8, and 9, 1918.

This class contains many students who have shown a great interest in the work, and have a good knowledge of the necessary features for running a small poultry plant. They have been thoroughly grounded in the first principles, and though quite novices at the work, have displayed a keenness satisfactory alike to the instructors and myself.

On the whole it has been one of the best classes I have taken, and most of them should come out well at the future examination. Maximum point, 50, and the fact that so many reached high-water mark, is evidence of their abilities. They were a pleasure to take and I am sure will do well later on.

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Johnstone ... 50 | Downie ... 48 |
| Ward ... 50 | Weeks ... 48 |
| Martin ... 50 | Barnes ... 47 |
| Makin ... 50 | Fowler ... 47 |
| Whittingslow ... 50 | Sudgen ... 46 |
| Hornsby ... 50 | Mallory ... 45 |
| Burnett ... 50 | Nava ... 45 |
| Archer ... 50 | Woodfield ... 38 |
| Newland ... 49 | Farrington ... 36 |
| Burgess ... 48 | |

SECOND COURSE: Oct. 7, 8, and 9, 1918.

Though not a big class, the members showed a great amount of interest, and though not perhaps brilliant, have most of the necessary work well in mind. The impression given is that the men can realise what is required rather than give any elaborate reply to questions; thus, the ground work being sound, they should be able to put into practice the knowledge gained.

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Ashwell ... 100 | Scott ... 91 |
| Clark ... 99 | Matrenin ... 90 |
| Carter ... 96 | B. Robinson ... 89 |
| O'Brien ... 93 | Farrell ... 84 |
| Brockerton ... 93 | Hyde ... 84 |
| J. Robinson ... 93 | Barker ... 78 |
| James ... 91 | |

C. S. A.

Church and Catholic Chapel Notes

Church Notes

WE are grateful to Lady Pearson for having interested in our Chapel the Rev. E. D. Harvey, J.P., of Horsham, with the result that he has presented us with some oak Communion rails. These have been designed to fit in with the choir fronts which were given us by the members of the staff last Christmas. The effect of these additions is harmonious and pleasing, and we are very appreciative of Mr. Harvey's generosity in making the gift.

On October 13th, the Hon. Chaplain, the Rev. E. N. Sharpe, gave the address, in the course of which he told us that he had been appointed to the important City living of St. Mary, Woolnoth. We are all glad to hear that his connection with St. Dunstan's will remain, and that very soon he hopes that his new work will allow of his being at St. Dunstan's more than was possible during the time he was looking after the very large parish of Holy Trinity, St. Marylebone, with little assistance.

The Chaplain wants to remind the men that prayers are still being held at 7.25 a.m.; and that all are cordially invited to the service which is held specially for non-resident members of the staff on Friday, at 2 p.m.

L. G. T.

Catholic Chapel Notes

OUR Chaplain, Fr. Howell, we regret to say, has been seriously ill, but is now well on the way to recovery. Fr. Coote, one of Cardinal Bourne's secretaries, said Mass for us on Sunday, October 27th, and Fr. Fergusson, S.J., an Army Chaplain, supplied on All Saints' Day, All Souls' Day, and the following Sunday. Our thanks are due to them for coming to our assistance.

On Sunday, October 20th, Joseph Doubler, a St. Dunstanner, sang very creditably Santley's "Ave Maria," in E flat, during Benediction. We hope we shall hear him again one Sunday morning very shortly.

The *Westminster Cathedral Chronicle* for this month contains an illustrated article on our Chapel and the work carried on in connection with it.

At the request of some of the men, Fr. Howell sent a telegram of congratulation to the Very Rev. Canon Doyle—a benefactor of the Chapel—on his appointment as a Canon of Westminster Cathedral, to which the Canon suitably replied.

H. L. C.

Marriages

The Editor will be glad if men would inform him of full particulars of births and marriages when they want notices inserted in the "St. Dunstan's Review." Information should reach the Editor before the 1st of each month for that month's issue.

On Friday, October 18th, A. C. Hollins was married, at St. Marylebone Parish Church, to Miss Morten.

On Wednesday, October 23rd, A. H. Rodgers was married, at St. Marylebone Parish Church, to Miss Postlewaite.

On Wednesday, October 23rd, G. H. Matthews was married, at St. Marylebone Parish Church, to Miss Calderbank.

On Saturday, October 26th, E. Beckham was married, at Willesden Green, to Miss Downing.

On Saturday, November 2nd, at 11 o'clock, George Moore was married, at St. Marylebone Parish Church, to Miss Rumney.

On Saturday, November 2nd, at 2.30, Albert Hermon was married, at St. Marylebone Parish Church, to Miss Barnes.

On Saturday, November 2nd, E. Nava was married, at the Church of Our Lady, St. John's Wood, to Miss E. L. Luff.

On Saturday, September 14th, J. R. Creasy was married, at St. Mark's, N. Kensington, to Miss Sarah M. Daniels.

On Wednesday, October 23rd, R. Stanners was married, at High Wycombe Parish Church, to Miss Emily Jefferson.

Births

G. PURVIS, daughter - - Sept. 25, 1918
 J. KENNY, daughter - - Aug. 24, 1918
 H. COLVILLE, daughter - Oct. 25, 1918
 T. W. GROVE, daughter - Oct. 24, 1918
 J. PEARSON, daughter - - Oct. 23, 1918
 L. HALPIN, daughter - - Oct. 15, 1918
 W. M. WILLIAMSON,
 daughter - Oct. 11, 1918

St. Dunstan's Discussion Club

A COMMITTEE has been formed, with Mr. W. J. Hart as Chairman, to organise regular discussions, lectures, and debates. Meetings will be held every Monday evening at 8.30 in the Outer Lounge, when subjects of general interest will be debated.

An interesting guest will be invited on alternate Mondays to lecture on some subject which is likely to give rise to discussion and argument. The first meeting took place on October 21st, when Mr. Delisle Burns, from the Ministry of Reconstruction, gave us a very interesting discourse on "The Return of the Soldier to Civil Life," and "After the War Problems."

On Monday, October 28th, the subject chosen was "The kind of Peace we want." Sergeant Bowen, who was to have opened it, was stricken down that day with "flu." Rhodes pluckily took his place at short notice. He emphasised the necessity of thoroughness in the Peace terms. Knight, with some vehemence, claimed that future generations must be saved from all risk of what we had suffered. Chambers' able remarks were in favour of national disarmament in the future, only sufficient force being retained for a united and international policing of the world. Macintosh advocated drastic Peace terms, something more definite and conclusive than President Wilson's "Fourteen Points." He also hoped an indemnity would be exacted large enough to restore the ravaged countries, and to cripple Germany financially for the next century. Sergt. Taylor,

in a few thoughtful words, defended President Wilson's position. Stratton rose with a wise reminder of the effect produced in France after the exaction of a large indemnity in 1871. It left that country in a far more prosperous condition than before. Russell contributed a neat little speech, also Hight and Mr. Rattray. Mr. Hart (Chairman), in summing up, said the meeting was evidently in favour of a "Bloodthirsty Peace." He regretted no suggestions had been made regarding the future government of Germany and the fate of the Hohenzollerns.

The subjects to be discussed at future meetings will be given out by the Adjutants of the different annexes, so as to enable men to think over the various points they wish to bring forward.

It is hoped that a large number of men will attend these weekly gatherings, for current opinion is always interesting, and there is no better way of learning to express one's thoughts forcefully and clearly than by speaking in public.

A "Wrinkle"

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following suggestion which is well worth while the consideration of those who are getting married and thinking of furnishing their houses:—When furnishing a house for anyone who cannot see, never choose an oval-shaped, much less a round, table; one with square corners gives a sense of direction about the room—the other shapes leave one at sea.

The Tragedy of the Desert

The following story, extracted from the remarkable book "Pools of Silence," by H. de Vere Stacpoole, presents a novel feature of blindness. It must be difficult to enter into the mind of a savage and know what his view on blindness would be, but the workings of the blind man's brain which are depicted in this tragedy of the desert are certainly curiously interesting.—ED.]

THE hunter had not long to wait. The giraffe, hungry and feeding, was straying along the edge of the clump of trees, picking down the youngest and freshest leaves, just as a gourmet picks the best bits out of a salad.

In a few minutes his body was in view, the endless neck flung up, the absurd head and little, stumpy, useless horns prying amidst the leaves, and every now and then slewing round and sweeping the country in search of danger.

Felix lay motionless as a log; then, during a moment when the giraffe's head was hidden in the leaves, he flung himself into position and took aim.

A tremendous report rang out, the giraffe fell, squealing and roaring and kicking, and Felix, flung on his back, lay stretched out, a cloud of gauzy blue smoke in the air above him.

The breech of the rifle had blown out. He had fired the right-hand barrel, but the concussion had sprung the left-hand cock as well.

It seemed to the savage that a great black hand struck him in the face and flung him backwards. He lay for a moment, half stunned; then he sat up, and behold! the sun had gone out and he was in perfect blackness.

He was blind; his eyes had gone, and he sat there in the sun, with the last vestige of the blue smoke dissolving about him in the air, not knowing in the least what had happened to him.

He knew nothing of blindness; he knew little of pain. An Englishman in his wounded state would have been shouting in agony; to Felix the pain was sharp, but it was nothing to the fact that the sun had "gone down."

He put his hand to the pain and felt his ruined face, but that did not tell him anything.

This sudden, black dark was not the darkness which came from shutting one's eyes; it was something else, and he scrambled on his feet to find out.

He could feel the darkness now, and he advanced a few steps to see if he could walk through it; then he sprang into the air to see if it was lighter above, and dived on his hands and knees to see if he could slip under it, and shouted and whooped to see if he could drive it away.

But it was a great darkness, not to be out-jumped, jumped he as high as the sun, or slipped under, were he as thin as a knife, or whooped away, though he whooped to everlasting.

He walked rapidly, then he began to run. He ran rapidly, and he seemed to possess some instinct in his feet which told him of broken ground.

Hours passed, and then he fell and lay face to the sky and arms outspread. You might have thought it dead. But it was a thing almost indestructible. It lay motionless, but it was alive with hunger.

During all its gyrations it had been followed and watched closely. It had not lain for a minute when a vulture dropped like a stone from the sky and lit on it with wings outspread.

Next moment the vulture was seized, screeching, torn limb from limb, and in the act of being devoured!

But the sentence of the desert on the blind is death, trap vultures as cunningly as you will and devour them as ferociously. The eye is everything in the battle of the strong against the weak. And so it came about that two days later a pair of leopards from the woods to the north-east fought with the figure, which fought with teeth and hands and feet, whilst the yellow-eyed kites looked on at a battle that turned with horror the heart of a Flamininus.

Marshal Foch

WE are indebted to the proprietors of the *Strand Magazine* for permission to re-print the following extracts from an article which appeared in a recent number, by M. Henri de Forge. He gives a graphic and highly instructive account of the character and habits of the Generalissimo of the United Allied Armies.

"Marshal Foch," he says, "is remarkable for his imperturbable calm, a tranquility never ruffled. He has none of Joffre's smiling *bonhomie* and easy good nature. He is reserved in speech and gesture. He is cold. Above all, he is simple—a man of few words.

"One of his orderly officers has drawn this portrait of him:—

"He is a man who has kept young. He is slight and supple and rather delicate in appearance, with a fine head."

"His wonderful eyes spiritualize the whole face, which otherwise might appear surly, with the great moustache jutting over a projecting jaw. When he talks he becomes intensely animated. Usually, however, his calm face is stamped with sadness, for he has given his son and son-in-law to France.

"The same calm gravity makes him flee from all brilliant and showy functions. On principle, he refuses to attend all those to which he is invited. In his own words, 'He hasn't the time. He has to go and work.'

"He dislikes offending or disobliging anyone, but he will not lend himself to publicity. He has no time for reviews, his job is elsewhere, and his saddle horse is hardly ever mounted, although he loves sport above all things.

"In his dress, as in all else, he tries to avoid everything that does not make for simplicity. Fancy or 'pretty-pretty' uniforms irritate him, and, preaching by example, he is nearly always to be seen in the ordinary sky-blue uniform. But for the hardly perceptible little stars, one would take him for a simple soldier.

"The few who have had the honour of coming in contact with him tell us that he hardly sleeps at all, that he has no set hours of rest.

"During the recent offensive he was awake during five days and five nights, his ear bent to the telephone, in constant communication with his generals.

"Ferdinand Foch was a student of science and a lover of military history. He set himself to master thoroughly the lives, ideas, and methods of the great Prussian generals, and he did not hesitate to write some very penetrating and concise criticisms on them. He was a passionate admirer of Napoleon, whose war technique he studied indefatigably.

"As the result of these long studies he was able not only to impart his deep knowledge to others when, as a major, in 1896, he was appointed Professor of Strategy and Tactics at the *Ecole de Guerre*, but has himself written a most important and comprehensive treatise on the art of war.

"Certain of his teachings are extraordinarily interesting reading at the present time, especially when one thinks that their author is at the head of the Allied Armies.

"All we have seen of him on the Marne, the Yser, the Somme, and elsewhere, is merely concrete proof of the correctness of his teaching.

"His relations with the English generals were singularly happy. He has always admired the British Army. He was, perhaps, before the war, the general who knew more of that Army than any other. He had been charged with an important military mission in regard to it, and he saw in it all the possibilities of a great living force.

"The German papers have nothing but grave and respectful words when they treat of Marshal Foch. To quote the *Gazette de Cologne*: 'He is a leader who knows what he wants, and will act with calm tenacity.'



A Study of President Wilson

THE following extracts are from a very interesting article appearing in the *Strand Magazine* about President Wilson, written by Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P.:—

"One may describe President Wilson, in spite of his Ulster ancestry, as in some respects the most American of Americans. His grandfather and his grandmother came from Ulster, and the grandfather was a journalist most of his life. His father was a Presbyterian clergyman. If to-day Mr. Wilson is one of the great students, one of the great thinkers, a supreme master of the written and of the spoken word, it will be seen that he comes by all these things in direct descent from his family stock and from his earliest environment. Educated in all kinds of schools and colleges, he yet owes most of his intellectual impulses and equipment to his father. From the father, too, he derives that intense sense of the humorous in life which underlies the severity of expression and the austerity of language. I have seen it stated by his intimates that his photographs never seem like him to those who know him. The high brow, the firm mouth, the strong jaw, the severity of expression create a Woodrow Wilson who is unlike the Wilson they know.

"No man has played so large and so beneficent a part in the life of the President as his physician, Admiral Grayson. When Mr. Wilson came to the White House he was not in good health. Admiral Grayson changed all that by insisting that the President should take constant exercise and as constant relaxation. The result is that almost daily, and in all kinds of weather, the President takes exercise regularly, mainly on the golf links. He is, from boyhood, as a son of the horse-raising South, an expert horseman and takes his exercise a good deal on horseback. Admiral Grayson has insisted on amusement equally with exercise, with the result that almost nightly,

or every second night, you see that the President has paid a visit to a theatre, or even to what we should call a music hall.

"It is one of his fortunate characteristics that he can throw off all his responsibilities the moment he is exercising or amusing himself. The President works very hard, but he brings system and healthfulness and at once conservation and guidance of energy into his work as into everything else. Though, as has been seen, no man can be more of a man among men, more tactful, more persistent, more tenacious, yet he prefers to get his communications through the written rather than through the spoken word. He is not one of the men who can expend his nervous energy in suffering more than a certain number of fools gladly. Hence his preference that such of the things brought to him should be brought in writing. As Mr. David Lawrence puts it, 'Mr. Wilson does business by a minimum of personal conference and a maximum of personal correspondence.' This tendency to communication by the written rather than by the spoken word is so strong that even his most intimate officials, if they are going to make a speech, get a memorandum from the President—I have seen several of them—in which he sketches out what he considers the proper theme and the most desirable method of treating it. These communications, like most, if not all, of those from the President's own hand, are printed on the typewriter which he habitually uses, and with a neatness and accuracy which a professional typist might envy. The President also uses shorthand, which he taught himself, a great deal. As this sketch has already conveyed, he looks above all to results. Instead of working like a bee in a glass hive, as Lord John Russell used to say of the members of the House of Commons, Mr. Wilson does his tremendous work behind closed doors.

"Such is the man who is doing so much to save the world for democracy."