



ST DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

Monthly,
Price
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No. 53
Vol. V

For the Amusement & Interest of Men Blinded in the War.

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ST DUNSTAN'S MOTTO: "VICTORY OVER BLINDNESS"

ST DUNSTAN'S BIG FOOTBALL DAY
 Tuesday February 22nd 1921. Cup Final and Arsenal v St Dunstan's.



St Dunstan's Captains Tossing up
 with J. Rutherford
 English International Referee



Sir Arthur presents
 E.C. Williamson with a Rose
 Bowl given by the men



Preparing for a shot



Blythe of the Arsenal
 being blindfolded by a Sports Sister



Williamson lifting a hot shot over the bar

Photo by]



St Dunstan's Score against Williamson

[Daily Graphic

St. Dunstan's Review

A MONTHLY RECORD OF WORK AND SPORT

No. 53.—VOLUME V.

MARCH, 1921.

PRICE 6d.
 [FREE TO ST. DUNSTAN'S MEN.]

EDITOR'S NOTES

MARCH 26th will be the sixth anniversary of the opening of the Blinded Soldiers' and Sailors' Hostel at St. Dunstan's in Regent's Park. Our readers will remember that for some few months before this date the first half-dozen men who lost their sight in the war had been accommodated and were receiving training in a temporary establishment in Bayswater Road, but it was on March 26th, 1915, that Regent's Park became the headquarters of the organisation that now celebrates its sixth birthday. How strange it must be for Sir Arthur Pearson and the few members of his staff who recollect these early days to look back upon the milestones that have been passed; how strange it must be to note what an enormous organisation has grown out of such small beginnings, and how proud must the Chief feel that the seed which his genius created, and which he and his assistants so devotedly cared for, has brought forth such splendid fruit. We must remember, too, that the fruit of St. Dunstan's is not only the success and happiness that has been brought to the lives of nearly 2,000 men to whom at one time all seemed lost, but that no insignificant part of the harvest has been gathered indirectly by blind people all over the world, and, indeed, who shall say that it has not also fed the hungry souls of many thousands of men and women who can see? For what will posterity say of St. Dunstan's? They will refer to it as the outstanding piece of creative work undertaken by any nation on behalf of its disabled men; they will give credit for all that was done to make life happier for nearly two battalions of soldiers who thought their happiness was gone, but above all they will point to St. Dunstan's as an outstanding example of the heroism with which British soldiers met and overcame the cruel difficulties that are but the outward and visible signs of the devastation of war. They will say that Sir Arthur Pearson taught his men to face the limitations of blindness as courageously as they faced their enemy in battle, and they will acknowledge that there was created a revolution of thought as to the part that can be taken in life's affairs by a man who is physically handicapped, if he has but the mental vigour to throw off his despondency and, to use a slang phrase, set about making the best of a bad job. It is idle to wish St. Dunstan's Many Happy Returns of the Day, for none of us want additional cases to swell our numbers and necessitate the long continuance of training, but since our After-Care organisation is intimately connected with the lives of the men who have been trained, and since its mission is to render service to them throughout the rest of their lives, we can extend our wish through it to those whose interests are, or shortly will be, in its care.

MARCH 26th this year will be Easter Saturday, and since a considerable number of men at present in residence will be spending the week-end at home our celebrations of St. Dunstan's birthday will take place on Friday, the 18th March, when a Dance and Supper will be given at the Bungalow Annexe. Any men settled near enough to enable them to return home that night are cordially invited to attend.

NOTES BY THE CHIEF

THIS month I really must resume my contribution to the REVIEW, mainly to express the gratification which I feel in regard to the manner in which all our new arrangements are working.

I spent a most interesting hour in the Workshops the other day. I was quite familiar with them, for two reasons, the first of which was that I had done what I could to assist in the planning of them out; the second that I had been provided with a raised plan which made me feel that I was thoroughly acquainted with the places occupied by all Departments. There is no doubt that they are a great improvement on our old workshops. The whole place seemed to me to be most admirably adapted to its purpose, and nothing was lacking in the spirit of the workers or the excellence of the products which they were turning out.

The stores are most admirably arranged and dealt with, and the offices, which occupy the whole of the ground and top floors of the House are infinitely better than the make-shift arrangements with which the staff had to put up before. Everyone now is in close contact with everyone else, and the result is undoubtedly a considerable increase in efficiency.

My own room contains the beautiful articles of furniture given me by the officers and men of St. Dunstan's just over a year ago, and people who call on me from outside seldom fail to say how handsome they are. I am very proud of them and of the spirit which led to my becoming their possessor.

Captain and Mrs. Fraser occupy part of the first floor of the House. The upstairs accommodation is not nearly so extensive as would be imagined from an external view, for the two ground floor wings consist of immensely lofty rooms with nothing above them.

I do not know whether all St. Dunstaners appreciate the generosity of Captain and Mrs. Fraser to St. Dunstan's. Mrs. Fraser has, from its inception, done an immense amount of most valuable work, while there is no need for me to eulogise the services of Captain Fraser in regard to the important and ever-growing After-Care Organisation. Neither Captain nor Mrs. Fraser has ever received any remuneration. At the request of the St. Dunstan's Committee they have consented to continue their services in return for their board and residence at the new House.

It is with the deepest regret that I refer to the death of Mr. Anderton, who so long and faithfully served the interests of the poultry farmers of St. Dunstan's. Mr. Anderton's lungs were affected by exposure during the war, and also by the effects of gas. When he first joined us he seemed well on the way to recovery, but the better tendency did not continue, and for some months past Mr. Anderton's health has steadily deteriorated. A voyage to Madeira and a short stay there did not tend to any improvement, and he passed away very shortly after his return to England. St. Dunstan's has had no more zealous and faithful servant than Mr. Anderton, whose thoughts were always for the men who came under the scope of his Department. He was untiring in his visits to men who had already been settled, and his advice was, I know, greatly valued by them.

I am, I know, speaking for everyone who came in contact with Mr. Anderton when I say that we regret his death with all sincerity and condole most sincerely with Mrs. Anderton.



Questions and Answers

[Our readers are invited to send us any questions on any subject, to be answered under the above heading. We are also willing to give advice on any private matters, and will answer confidentially by letter should it be so desired.]

H. G.—The origin of inquests on uncertified deaths corresponds with the origin of the office of the coroner, which is one of the oldest judicial offices in England; it certainly existed in 1194, and the official's duties were regulated by a Statute of Edward I, in which "the coroner of our Lord King has to go to the place where any be slain or suddenly dead or wounded, or where houses are broken, or where treasure is said to be found. . . . and shall inquire in this manner, that is to which if it concerns a man slain, if they know when the person was slain, whether it be in any house, field, bed, tavern or company, and if any were there, it must also be inquired if the dead person were known or else a stranger, and where he lay the night before." In later times the duties of the coroner were regulated in England in Coroners Act, 1887, which consolidated most of the earlier Statutes. The origin of the office has not yet been fully investigated, but it is presumable that in a time when sudden deaths must have taken place all over the country, the King was forced to appoint a local officer to enquire into the cause of such deaths, especially with a view to ascertain what property was left.

Blind Actors

ACCORDING to a paragraph in *The Times* of January 22nd, one of America's favourite comic actors, Mr. Ben Welsh, has suddenly become blind. The public whom he amuses nightly by his songs and capers at the Schubert Theatre, Washington, were unaware of this fact until they read of it in the newspapers several days later. Mr. Welsh had refused to allow news of his blindness to be made public. Nor would he give up his part.

Accordingly on Monday, the opening night, the blind man was led to the place

in the wings from which he makes his entrance, took his cue, and cast off his tragedy, and "carried on"—sang, danced, and made merry, and he has done so every night since. Strips of carpet guide his footsteps and keep him clear of the footlights and scenery. The voices of the other actors also help him. When he has finished his numbers he finds his way to the exit, and brother artists lead him to his dressing room. For several nights the popular comedian appeared as usual, until the story of his blindness leaked out. Until then not a single member of any of his audiences was aware that he was blind.

In connection with the above it is interesting to note that there is at present also a blind actor on the English stage. Very few people who enjoy the harlequinade in the Covent Garden pantomime would suspect that one of the merrymakers is totally blind.

Yet Mr. Francis Mason, who plays the part of the shopkeeper, and indulges in sausage play as light-heartedly as Pantaloon himself, is thus handicapped.

A.C.B.M. Dinner

ON March 9th at the Café Marguerite, Oxford Street, London, a small social dinner was held by the London members of the Association of Certificated Blind Masseurs. A very enjoyable evening was spent and certain of the members present gave evidence of the possession of musical talent. Miss Crowley, Mr. Tarry, Mr. Whitfield, Mr. Cartwright and Mr. Odell contributed, and Miss Marjorie Truelove, L.R.A.M., very kindly gave her services as accompanist. It is hoped that these gatherings will be held periodically, as they afford members of the A.C.B.M. excellent opportunities not only for enjoying an occasional pleasant social evening but also allow them to discuss matters of interest to the Association. Each member is allowed to purchase a ticket for a guest. The success of this first venture, which it must be understood, was quite an informal ceremony, justifies the hopes entertained by its promoters that on the next occasion a still larger muster will be assured.

News of St. Dunstan's Men

A FINE ACHIEVEMENT IN MATS

H. ROBERTS, a mat-maker, of Heyrod Hall Cottage, Stalybridge, gives some very interesting details of a special mat he was asked to make:—

"I have been doing very well with my mat-making up to the present, but all the mills round here are only working twenty-four hours, so that has made my trade a bit slack.

"By the way, I must inform you about a great success I had with a mat. It was a torpedo-shape mat for a side-car. I had the order given to me, and I did not like to refuse it, but I can tell you that it wanted a bit of working out. It was 31 in. long by 14 in., then it tapered in to 12 in. and then to 9 in., then it came out to 15 in., went into 12 in., and had a nose at the end 6 in. long. So you can tell what a struggle I had, but I made it, and when they brought the sidecar for me to fit it in it just fitted like a glove, and my customer was very pleased with it. As a matter of fact, so was I, for I never expected it to be all right, but I made up my mind not to be beaten with the job.

"I have had orders from St. Ann's-on-Sea, from Northampton and from Scotland, and I am proud of my work.

"I think I must thank all the staff of St. Dunstan's for the way in which they taught me, not forgetting Mr. Osborne and Mr. Dixon, the mat instructor."

NEWS FROM A PICTURE-FRAMER

O. Windridge, who has a picture-framing business at 11 Bell Street, Wigston Magna, Leicester, writes as follows:—

"It seems such an age since I wrote to you concerning my picture-framing business of which I am very proud. Considering the extreme slackness from which all trades are suffering, I cannot grumble at all, as I do keep having a few orders; of course, nothing in comparison with what I had before there was so much unemployment. However, with the orders I

receive, and the trays which I make and send to St. Dunstan's, I am doing very well.

"My work is very, very interesting, as I get such a variety of pictures to frame, and beautiful oil paintings included. These and the good selections of mouldings which I receive from St. Dunstan's help to make a success of a picture, and to give satisfaction to my customers.

"Well, sir, there is one important event which I must not omit; I meant to write and tell you before. I was married on the 15th of December last to Miss Olive Toone at St. Peter's Church, Leicester. I apologise for not telling you before, as I know these happenings are usually published in the REVIEW."

SOME GOOD SIDE-LINES

P. C. Spurgeon is a boot and mat-maker, living at 50 Chapel Hill, Halstead, and gives in the following letter some details of some of the side-lines in which he is interested:—

"It now gives me great pleasure to answer your most welcome letter which I have just received. You will be very pleased to hear that I am in the very best of health, and my wife and son likewise. Now for a word about myself and everything in general. In the first place, trade at present is rather dull, but that does not affect me as far as being busy is concerned. What with my pig, poultry and rabbits, and my attending various markets, you can see that I have quite a busy life.

"I am very pleased to say that up to the present pig-keeping has proved very successful, and I think if any St. Dunstaner who has a plot of land went in for the same he would not go far wrong, providing he bought them at the right time and had a fair knowledge of feeding them. I myself am experienced not only in keeping them, but in buying and selling anything that comes my way. I am always happy when I am driving a bargain.

From all parts of the World

LIFE ON KING ISLAND

The following letter from Lieut. Moore tells of his experience in dairy-farming in King Island. One of the most isolated spots in the British Empire, King Island is situated between Tasmania and the mainland of Australia. Lieut. Moore returned there in October, 1917, after training at St. Dunstan's:—

"I feel I must send you for the REVIEW a note of some of my doings during the past three years. I have read in the REVIEW the doings of many of my comrades, and feel rather mean that I myself should have kept in the dark so long. My first move when I arrived home was as soon as possible to return to the country life which I was leading before the war, thinking that this would add more to strength and interest in life. I decided to take up dairying, as the outlook in this direction was most prosperous. I had a brother still at the war whom I was relying on to work with me, as I knew too well my task would have been hard by myself. My next move was to obtain 150 acres of good ground without any buildings on it. This land joined a fellow returned soldier, and for the first twelve months he and I worked in partnership, I using his buildings for the working of my property. The first year's milking did not yield much in the way of money, but it did in many other ways, for it showed to me that I could be as good as the next man so long as I had a good partner with two good eyes. Fortune favoured me with the return of my brother. We soon came together, and under the Soldiers' Settlement Act we purchased 320 acres of good dairying country, erected our own buildings, did the most of our fencing, and milked a dairy herd of thirty-five cows. We have much fun in this wild life of ours. We break in our own horses and the greater part of our cows, and take part in most of the sport that makes life enjoyable in this Island. Although still unable to read, I find my sight has improved a

"Plucking and trussing fowls is another of my jobs, which is not a bad thing for a blind man to learn, as it all amounts to money—not speaking of the feathers, which can be put to a good purpose. You will say that I am jack-of-all-trades, but one thing comes in with another, and that's how I look at it."

PRaise FROM THE PRINCE

The details given in the following by J. A. Morton, of 1 Westmoreland Villas, Naphil, High Wycombe, Bucks, should give much encouragement to all St. Dunstan's men set up as, or learning to be, joiners:—

"I am sending you a few brief notes upon the progress I have recently made with my joinery, etc., which I hope will be of interest to the readers of the REVIEW. To begin with, I think I have made the joinery a great success. I have turned my attention to making all kinds of articles in woodwork, whether in the joinery, cabinet or chair-making trades. A few articles I have made recently are as follows: Six full-size oak bedsteads, kitchen and scullery tables, a gramophone, a cupboard stand, oak palm stands, including one with tiled centre, and between thirty and forty stools of various designs, including box music-stools and ordinary stools, some with turned, twisted and shaped legs. I sell these completely finished, polished and upholstered, besides dozens of smaller articles, such as trays, picture frames, etc. I have been congratulated time after time upon the high standard of my work by all sorts of people, including men in the trade. Some of my work was at a recent Exhibition held at the White City, London, for ex-service men's work; it was greatly admired, I understand, by the Prince of Wales and a first-class London cabinet maker, the latter making purchases of some of my work. I think these details show very well the possibilities before a St. Dunstan's joiner."

good deal since my return home. We do not keep many hens, but get the best result from the few we have. I mend a pair of boots at long intervals, my new hobby being whip plating."

APPRECIATION OF THE AFTER-CARE

F. Aubrey, a mat-maker, of 61 Luckwell Road, Bedminster, Bristol, writes:—

"I am pleased to say that I have plenty of orders for mats, and I think the highest praise is due to the After-Care Department from me. I think it is a great asset and should not like to be without it."

GOOD BASKET-MAKING RECORD

W. V. Clampett, a basket-maker, of 141 Cranbury Road, Eastleigh, Hants, writes:—

"You will be very glad to hear that orders are pouring in, and I have just had an order from a firm for the repair of fifty baskets."

"I am quite able to do these, as I have had some experience already and have tackled work which would have seemed impossible to me when I first came to St. Dunstan's. I am giving entire satisfaction to all my customers, as is proved by the fact that they are recommending me everywhere."

A STROLL ROUND A FARM

W. Burgin, who has a poultry-farm at Huthwaite Bank, Thurgoland, near Sheffield, takes us for a stroll round his farm in the following letter:—

"A few words about the farm will no doubt interest you. We are in the midst of the breeding season and I am pleased to say that we are making good progress and have got out our early chicks and a lot more set down, all of which will be out in very good time. All these are from excellent stock birds who all have what we call twelve records for their pullet first cycle and are the best winter layers."

"We were never without eggs last year, and our customers all got their supply of new laid eggs."

"We have a very good local demand for our sitting eggs and have disposed of them practically as they have been collected. We have some good birds, and

our place is open to inspection any time, and people have been and noted the stock and the general appearance of the conditions under which we keep the birds, and being satisfied, they naturally trot over here when they want any eggs for sitting."

"If you were to have a walk round our farm with me, I think you would be surprised how tame our birds are, for they will walk up to us and will fly up to my hand and rest there on my walking stick and not be disturbed in the least. Some of them will even fly up to my shoulder, or, if my pocket is within reach, they will pop their heads in to see if I have anything worth eating. A trick most of them will do while I am sneaking their eggs out of nests is to sneak the corn out of my pockets, so that we are both daylight robbers."

"We are busy doing a bit in the garden, as we shall want plenty of greens for stock later, and, of course, a little for the inner man."

"Best wishes to you and all at St. Dunstan's."

March, 1921

O'ER seas I've blown, I herald the Spring,
I sweep thy tracks that flowers may fling

O'er Earth awakened their perfume rare;
I come to cleanse thee, for tears prepare.
The winter is past, wilt welcome me?

I taste not the frost, a change I see!
"What meanest this change to beauty rare
I see around me, O Earth so fair?"

"Ah, winter was kind, thou bitter wind,
Thy breath destroys, its power will find
The tender beauty of early bloom
Peeping to light from imprisoned gloom,
Then gently caress, O wind so strong,
Hush to a whisper, sweeten to song."

Circular re Price

ON March 10th a circular with reference to prices of articles made by St. Dunstan's men (except netting) was sent out by the After-Care Department. Will any man who has not received a copy apply to Captain Fraser?

Blind Men in Greek Myth

By F. Le G. Clark—A BLINDED OFFICER FROM ST. DUNSTAN'S

PART 2

BEFORE entangling myself further in these problems of folklore and early religion, I should like to trespass for a moment in the region of authentic history. Two Correspondents, whom I mention with gratitude, have cited to me three instances of Blind men in Greek life. I had in my quick mental survey forgotten the lot. The first two cases can only by a strain of the imagination be called "blind," but their story is an interesting one. The third case I shall record is that of as great a man, in his special line, as any in the Blind Calendar.

When, in the early part of the fifth century B.C., the Persian invasion flooded over Greece, it was held up for a moment at Thermopylæ by a little band of Spartans. The historian Herodotus tells us that in the first days of this magnificent little stand two of the Spartans, named Eurytus and Aristodemus, were seized with some disease of the eyes, probably a type of ophthalmia, and withdrew from the fighting-line into reserve. The battle, however, developed quickly; the Spartan position was turned on the flank, and it became clear that their whole force would be overwhelmed. They ordered certain allied contingents with them to retire, and decided themselves to fight to the end.

The two half-blinded men had orders, of course, to retire with the rest, and here came the dramatic point of the story. Eurytus ordered his soldier-servant to lead him back to the fighting-line and then run for it. This was done, and Eurytus died with the rest of them. Aristodemus, however, contrived to loiter about behind the line until it was too late for him to go up, even if he had wanted to. As a consequence he was the only man of the Spartan contingent to return, and his story leaked out. The logical and warlike Spartans argued that if both had returned home nothing could have been said about it. When a man is half blind with disease he cannot be expected to fight. But as

Eurytus managed to crawl back to the line there could be no excuse for Aristodemus. He was therefore branded as a coward.

The story ended a few months later at the battle of Plataea, where the combined Greek forces finally defeated the Persians. Here Aristodemus, having recovered from his disease, was killed after performing feats of unusual bravery. In the eyes of posterity he somehow managed to regain his honour; but we are told that his fine death was not taken into account by his contemporaries. He had merely, as it were, settled his account, squared things up.

The third blind man on the list was Timoleon, who lived over a great part of the fourth century B.C. He had a strange life. Living originally in Corinth, he was early entangled in various political intrigues, and one swing of the pendulum put his brother Timotheus in power. Timoleon did not approve of his brother's opinions, and when another disturbance ended in Timotheus' overthrow and execution, Timoleon stood by and did nothing to hinder it. The bitterness in his own family was so extreme that Timoleon went into retirement for several years.

The next curious thing was a message arriving at Corinth from her colony Syracuse in Sicily, begging for help in driving off the Carthaginians and in settling her political disturbances. A voice in the Assembly, quite unidentified, suddenly mentioned "Timoleon" as a fitting man to send out; and the suggestion was unanimously approved. Timoleon spent the remainder of his life in Syracuse. He gradually calmed the State by defeating and finally executing the tyrant who was oppressing her; he defeated the Carthaginians who were pushing across Sicily from Africa, and confined them to the western corner of the island; he set up in Syracuse a very adequate code of laws which persisted for over a hundred years. One of his symbolic actions was to break down the fortress, the sign of

oppression, and place on its site a Hall of Justice. In his old age he went totally blind, and to a great degree ceased to control the Administration actively. But he remained till his death a public and extremely popular figure. He was led or carried into the Assembly and gave his opinion with the rest. Indeed, it appears that any motion he proposed was agreed to unanimously, so profound a veneration had the people for his foresight and direction.

So much for historical blind in Greece. To return to our survey of the blind in myth. Consider for example, the ways in which fairy stories and myths arise. Not out of nothing; men in early times had too much to do to sit round inventing amazing tales about dragons and witches and blind prophets and bards. A story will arise because one day some enquiring person—a child maybe—will suddenly ask, "Why are you doing these things? Why do you dance round this altar, and believe that such and such a wood is sacred, or always hang up mistletoe at Christmas?" Then the others, having to invent a reason or look stupid, make up the best tale they can. The tale is repeated from mouth to mouth, accumulates from generation to generation, and so we get our modern collection of fables and fairy stories and myths. Stories of blind heroes and prophets and kings might thus have arisen in an abundance of ways—and in some cases beyond doubt from a mixture of various myths. Consider, for example, a point of this sort. We know that now-a-days the lady in the side-show who is credited with second sight will always bandage her eyes. We know, too, of many quaint little methods of foretelling the future by the cards or the dice, etc., where the performer is blindfolded. Naturally, where you design to leave your fate in the hands of the gods you take care not to influence it in any way. In the game of Blind Man's Buff, the catcher (when the game is played correctly), kisses his victim. The game is, almost certainly, the remnant of an old bit of divination, the object of which was to discover one's future bride, or husband . . . or, anyhow, one's partner for the time being.

Examples could be multiplied where the performer of the divination, or act of magic ritual, does not completely blindfold his eyes, but carefully averts them from his own movements. Why, for example, do we throw salt over our shoulders? Many reasons have been given for the origin of this custom, but it appears that at one time such an act of ritual was a common one and that it was believed that in this way one fed the household spirits, averting one's eyes of course in respect. All through ancient story, man hides his eyes in the holy places. It is almost an ostrich instinct. "If I close my eyes" argues the primitive man, "I cannot see the spirits that haunt this spot, and therefore they cannot see me." It is significant to add, in view of this universal instinct, that two or three fables in Greece insisted that the blind men received their punishment because they did not, to put it bluntly, close their eyes when by all the rules they were bound to do so. Tiresias saw a goddess bathing, watched even—and there you are. Thamyris challenged the muses to a contest of singing and playing, was badly beaten, and finally as a rebuke for his impertinence, deprived of sight. It is like the story of Peeping Tom of Coventry, flung centuries back into Ancient Greece. And, frankly I am not at all sure that the Lady Godiva story was not based on some very primitive piece of ritual. I trust later to have enquired into the story of Peeping Tom, and, if this blinded villain appears worthy of a corner to himself in the blind calendar, he shall have it.

Meanwhile one might note the extreme interest the eye, especially the human eye, has had for mortal men of every period. The belief in the Evil Eye is almost universal in the world. It was fervently believed in the Middle Ages that witches cast their spells by the mere power of the eye, and if the eye fell on any man or his possessions he concluded at once that he was lost. The eye, in fact, with all its minute changes of expression, its squints and gleams and sidelong glances, has always seemed the real significant feature of its owner. This is not blindness, of course; but consider how, by mere contrast, the fixed vision of the blind man

would appeal to his primitive tribesmen as something uncanny. I have noticed myself that when a man sits opposite me chatting away, with closed, expressionless eyes (even when he is perfectly sighted) I have felt for the moment a sense of the uncanny. Even more striking would be the fixed gaze

of the epileptic, the sleep-walker, the tranced man; and, again, the stern watchfulness of the early hypnotist. All these elements must have played a part in giving our fathers their interest in eyes—and a certain corresponding interest in blindness.



Why Do Blind People Look Up

(Continuation of Discussion started in the January issue)

To the Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

SIR,—I have read with much interest the various explanations of the well known fact that many blind people (and all blind horses) unconsciously look upwards when they are walking that have been suggested in your columns, and there can be no doubt that Mr. Lloyd Johnstone is right. When the eyes are lost or the optic nerves divided no ray of light falling upon the face or the eye sockets can cause any sensation (apart from that of warmth) or effect the least impression. Holding the head upward in rather a strained position has nothing to do with vision. The real reason is to be found partly in the effort of strained attention natural in such circumstances, partly in the instinctive attempt to make the greatest possible use of the senses that are left, that of touch excited by contact of the air as it meets the face, and that of smell. The sniffing to catch some faint odour is always accompanied by an up-lifted face. It begins with this and soon unconsciously becomes a habit.—Yours, etc.,
C. MANSELL MOULLIN.

[It will be of interest to our readers to know that the writer of the above letter, Col. C. Mansell Moullin, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.S., voluntarily attends St. Dunstan's to advise in surgical cases, and has always taken a very great interest in the men of St. Dunstan's.—ED.]

INFLUENCE OF GRAVITY

To the Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW.

SIR,—May I offer a suggestion regarding the question "Why do blind men look up?"

It seems that this habit is very noticeable in those who suffer from what is called

"detached or floating retina." When the retina, or continuation of the optic nerve which surrounds a large portion of the eyeball and receives the inverted image of the objects before it, begins to become detached, one is led to suppose that gravity would cause the top edge to droop downward like a blind.

As objects below the centre of the eye are reflected upon the upper part of the retina, and vice versa, according to their relative angles, then it is probable that the direct line of vision would be the first to be affected.

When this is so it is possible to distinguish clearly anything directly below and on a level with one's feet, for some considerable time after the eye trouble has started.

This may be because the edge of the retina has not dropped low enough to cut that particular angle of vision, which managed to pass behind the fringe of dropped retina.

The natural tendency, therefore, is to throw the head back in an endeavour to lengthen the angle of sight and bring objects which are further ahead within the limited range of vision.

Sighted people will obtain the same effect if a broad eyeshade or large peaked cap be drawn slowly down over the eyes.

Being handicapped in this way, I have had a very fair opportunity of studying this peculiarity, and I have come to the above conclusion. I am not, however, a medical man, and this theory may be wholly incorrect. Should this meet the eye of an oculist it would be interesting to know his opinion.

Yours, etc.,

J. RUSHTON ODELL."

A PERCEPTION OF TOUCH

An interesting letter from Dr. Elias, the General Secretary of the Union of the Italian Blind in Florence, has also been received on this subject by the Editor of *The Beacon*, the following passages of which we quote below:—

"Above all we notice that this habit is to be met with more often among people who were born blind than among those who have become blind, and also among those who are able to find their way about alone. Blind people when in the company of sighted persons, do not walk with their heads held high . . . It is *not* a question of an effort to hear. Therefore, sight and hearing having been eliminated, there remain the senses of taste, of smell and of touch. Taste is of no use when finding one's way about. The sense of smell, which should be of use to the blind in this instance, has in the course of time lost its power for the human race. There remains, therefore, the sense of touch. Blind people are aware of the presence of obstacles, as are sighted people. The latter do not pay sufficient attention to these except through the medium of sight, and therefore feel helpless when in the dark. The perception of obstacles in the dark becomes acuter through practice, and this is where blind persons excel. Important factors in the consideration of this subject are:—

(1) The acuteness of the general sense of touch by the subject, and especially by that part of his body which is exposed to the object.

(2) The temperature of the object.

(3) The absence of other distractions.

(4) The calm of the surrounding air.

(5) The dimensions and shape of the object.

(6) The movement of the subject towards the object or vice versa. From all this and other experiences of less value which I omit, I conclude that the perception at a distance is nothing else than a perception of touch stimulated by diverse refractions of the air between the subject and the object.

Were we to experiment upon a subject shut in an airless room, by giving him an apparatus through which he could breathe,

his eyelids, his cheeks, the external portions of his ears and neck remaining free, I am sure there would be not the slightest perception of touch at a distance, as the indispensable connection obtained through the reverberation of the air would be lacking.

So I conclude that the habit of walking with their heads held up by blind persons is to be explained by a practically subconscious effort to expose the greater part of the surface of the skin to the action of the affected air."

St. Dunstan's Competitions

OUR competition last month did not bring any very remarkable results and we do not feel sure that we have found out the exact reason why the dear old gentleman in the Zoo looked at the cages so many, many years. However, we have awarded the prize of 10s. to T. Till, 7 Victoria Avenue, Graves, Lancaster, who sent us the following:—

There was an old man in the Zoo
Who said "What the deuce shall I do?
For ages and ages
I've looked at them cages—
For the monkeys all read the REVIEW!"

The rather poor result of this competition leads us to think that we should obtain a better result if we left more to the imagination of our readers and instead of giving them four lines of a Limerick, gave them only one. Now, we want to have a tip-top result of this new competition and in order to rope in as many of you as possible, we are going to offer the very handsome prize of two guineas for the competitor who sends in the best complete Limerick, the first line of which shall be as follows:—

There once was a girl who said "Why—

In four lines, therefore, in the familiar Limerick form, you will have to tell us why this young lady said "Why—." Send your replies addressed to the Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW, Headquarters of St. Dunstan's Work, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1., so as to reach us before the 6th April.

Departmental Notes

Netting

AMONG many new uses for nets suggested by visitors to our stall at the Olympia Exhibition, we think the following are the most practical:—

- (1) Nets in which to weigh babies.
- (2) Soft silky nets for use in certain kinds of surgery.
- (3) Fine mesh nets to wrap round clothing and small articles which, when packed in hold-alls, are easily pilfered.
- (4) Coarse mesh for decorative purpose in tea-shops and tea-gardens.

Have any of our readers some new original ideas?

G. H. W.

The Braille Room

WE sincerely congratulate the following men on having passed their Reading and Writing

Tests:—

Reading: A. H. Craigie, E. D. Martin, H. N. Matthews, F. S. Owen, and T. W. Walton.

Writing: W. A. Alston and J. A. Garbutt.

We also offer our heartiest congratulations to S. Duncan who has recently passed the Braille Writing test of the National Library for the Blind. This is really a test of efficiency for Braillists wishing to transcribe books, and therefore demands exceptional accuracy and a complete understanding of the finer points of Braille.

D. P.

Shorthand and Typewriting

WE offer our heartiest congratulations to the following men on having passed their Typewriting Tests:—J. Billington, A. Chaffin, H. D. Clevitt, J. Gibbons, C. Herring, F. Harrison, A. J. Jones, G. Powell, A. Wilson and H. Welsby.

We are all very sorry to lose Miss Gold, who has been with us for the last four years, and I am sure all her old pupils will join with us in wishing her the very best of luck in her new appointment. We shall miss her very much.

Many St. Dunstaners have been enquiring for metal typewriter covers and boards. These are at last procurable. The Remington Typewriter Co. have kindly quoted the special price of 35s. for all St. Dunstaners. Will anyone wishing to buy one of these covers please apply to Miss Pain, sending remittance and the full address to which it is to be sent?

D. P.

Music

IN spite of the difficulties and distance to the music rooms this term, the lessons in the Music Department, which is under the direction of Miss Espir, are still continuing in as great a number as usual. H. Costigan is now singing with much success for the National Sunday League. The Band and Concert Party are still busy giving entertainments; they have been to the National Institute for the Blind, the Special Surgical Hospital, Ducane Road, and the Hanwell Mental Hospital this month, where they have had great success and most enthusiastic receptions.

The following artistes, amongst others, have appeared since January at the St. Dunstan's Sunday Concerts, organised by Miss Bald:—Miss Kathleen Nesbit, of the Playhouse, Miss Gladys Moger, Mr. Roger Quilter, Mr. Harry Dearth, Miss Carrie Tubb, Miss Phyllis Lett, Mr. Topliss Green, Mr. W. Squire, Mr. Arthur Jordan, Miss Flora Woodman, Miss Hilda Blake, Mr. Melsa, Mr. John Booth and Mr. Harold Craxton. Miss Rosina Buckman, Mr. Nigel Playfair, Mr. Robert Radford and Miss Evelyn Laye are coming in the immediate future. The men have greatly appreciated the very good music.

News from the Workshops

BOOT REPAIRING

IT will, we are sure, interest our readers to know that we are frequently receiving letters of thanks from the Heads of Institutions for whom we are able to undertake Boot repairing. Since the opening of the new Workshops, we have repaired 150 pairs of Boots, free of charge, for the following Institutions:—St. Vincent's Convent; St. James' Home; The Royston's; The Elizabeth Fry Home; and the Home for Motherless Boys, Hounslow; and we have also been able to send a parcel of repaired boots to the Civilian After-Care Department of the National Institute for the Blind.

F. Linley is improving all round and taking great interest in his work, and P. D. Jensen has a good idea of shape and is moving in the right direction. A pair of ladies shoes repaired by T. A. Wilson were quite good, and two pairs finished brown, and with $\frac{1}{2}$ rubbers, by G. Burnett were very pleasing work.

P. Yuile makes steady improvement, and has become very self-reliant.

The work of F. Physick and D. F. Aldridge has also reached a very high standard, both with regard to building up, shaping and finishing.

BASKET DEPARTMENT

A very satisfactory standard is maintained at the Centre Cane table. L. Hardy and F. S. Owen have done remarkably well in spite of their additional handicap, and J. B. Billington has done some useful work.

J. V. Tweedie has been working at the Efficiency Exhibition at Olympia. He and E. J. Laker continue to do useful work as Pupil Teachers. A barrel basket made by B. Fitzpatrick was specially commended by the Instructor, and A. W. Grocott has also improved on this type of basket. Two wastepaper baskets made by C. Van-Blerk were good, and the work of G. W.

H. Wright on soiled linens showed a very satisfactory advance. W. J. Wood has done extremely well with square work, and has made a splendid start on ovals. J. W. R. Shread has also shewn great interest in the revision of his course. Barrel baskets and work baskets made by J. W. Boothman recently have been very neat and of a good shape. Special mention must also be made of the ability of J. A. Dunlop, who has done a large amount of varied work in good style this Term.

S. Duncan is to be sincerely congratulated on the termination of his course. He has shown great determination in overcoming difficulties, and now moves forward with confidence. Other men who have been engaged upon work for stocking their shops are W. H. Byrd and I. Corns. The latter has done well with two hampers and a square butcher's basket, and among those made by Byrd, special commendation must be given to his clothes baskets and also a set of three square arm baskets of remarkably uniform work.

MAT DEPARTMENT

In the Mat shop, J. Hunter has been appointed a Pupil Teacher and has already proved to be a valuable man. H. Welsby has got a good idea of the work, and a mat made by T. Evans was a marked advance on his previous work. C. R. Masters has done remarkably well in a short time; a mat with five diamonds, and another with a black border reaching a good level. F. Crabtree has also made good use of a short period of instruction. A plain mat made by G. Powell was first-class throughout. On sinnet mats, F. Hemsworth, F. Hill and H. E. Robinson have all done satisfactory work. It is a pleasure also to commend all the work done by G. H. Wiltshire during February. A plain mat, another with five diamonds, and also a lettered mat, were all very carefully and well made.

JOINERY DEPARTMENT

W. Shute is an exceptionally good man who has done remarkably well this month with a large cupboard containing four panelled doors. Capt. Foxon has completed very successfully an oak chess table with inlaid ebony and white squares, framed in with an inlay of one white and two black lines. W. Tout has done remarkably well with a pair of steps, and A. W. Birchall has met with success in making a panelled base for a safe. D. Ironside has also made good progress with a typewriting table. A. G. Cole is doing very well in his early picture-framing experience, and F. Ralph has done good

work with gilt and black composition framing. C. H. Hainsworth has turned out some very neat and careful work this term.

CERTIFICATES

The following Certificates were awarded during the month of February:—J. Jones (mats), C. R. Masters (mats), F. Hemsworth (mats), H. T. Humphries (mats and baskets), W. Knox (baskets), A. Trigg (mats), W. H. Jones (baskets), S. Duncan (baskets), I. Corns (baskets), H. E. Robinson (mats), E. H. Dyer (mats), and W. Tout (joinery).

W. H. O.

The Prince of Wales' Book

By C. Ivy Sanders.—Reprinted from the "Daily Mail."

THE oft-disputed question as to whether character is revealed by photographs should be settled once and for all by "The Prince of Wales' Book," (London: Hodder and Stoughton; 7s. 6d.) the entire profits of which will go to Sir Arthur Pearson's great institution, St. Dunstan's. We all know and love the famous smiling picture. But in these three hundred photographs we get many other sidelights on the character of the best-known young man in the world. One of the qualities that make the Prince of Wales so interesting to others is the fact that he himself takes so much interest in others. These photographs demonstrate this to the utmost. Watch the rapt attention he pays to those veterans, the men who fought side by side with him in France. Note the tenderness of his clasp of the baby kangaroo presented to him.

The total lack of "side" or "swank" displayed in these photographs makes all men feel at home with him, but there is no cheap back-slapping familiarity shown to or by His Royal Highness. He is not the kind of young man of whom anyone would endeavour to take a social advantage—that is obvious in his photographs. Yet with young men of his own age he is the athlete or the jolly companion; with his seniors he is respectfully cordial. But always the Prince.

As one lays down this wonderful photographic record, there is a feeling that one has said good-bye, for the moment, to a dynamo; energy, energy, energy is written everywhere. Whether he is making a speech, inspecting, descending deep mines, motoring, (the Prince is an excellent chauffeur), riding spirited horses, golfing, walking, swimming, running, his vigour is such that it would seem as though such energy would be speedily exhausted. But the photographs prove that it obviously never is. Indeed, a young man who can dance till 4 a.m. and play squash rackets at 8 a.m. on the same morning exhibits that phenomenal activity which has such a great appeal among the younger nations, where energy and vitality are essential to the development of the mines and the conquest of the forests, the prairies, and the back-blocks.

As a close student of the work of Edward Prince of Wales I cannot do other than express the utmost admiration for the good work he has done on behalf of St. Dunstan's in authorising this book.

The simple dedication is so like him: "I hope that all who can will buy this book of photographs, and will thus help me to secure the largest possible assistance for our sailors and soldiers who were blinded in the war.—EDWARD P."

Church and Catholic Chapel Notes

Church Notes

IT has been very cheering, in spite of the difficulty of arranging a time convenient to all, to find so many at our weekly Intercessions each Friday. We have been compelled to change the hour from 11.45 to 12.25 p.m., and a short service of ten minutes duration has been found most helpful. We are sorry not to have the services of Mr. Stanley Hall at the organ. He has been most kind in helping us in every way, and I trust he will accept these expressions of our gratitude.

EASTER SERVICES

On Easter Sunday the Holy Communion will be celebrated at 7.15 a.m., 8 a.m. and after the 10.15 a.m. service. I hope that all Communicants—both men and staff—will make a definite point of Communicating at one of these services. *E. W.*

Catholic Chapel Notes

HAVING spent four weeks in the new Chapel we are quite acclimatised, for now it really looks like a Chapel, far more so in fact than was ever expected. It gives one great consolation, for it is always comfortably full, but room can always be found for one or two more. No one need be afraid that lack of accommodation will cause them to be refused admittance.

The demolition of the old Chapel has been begun, and it will soon be re-erected at Ware. Our loss is their gain, and we hope they will appreciate it. The time of the Good Friday service will be duly announced. *P. H.*

Births

W. HOWARTH, daughter - Jan. 11, 1921
 J. ANDERSON, daughter - Feb. 7, 1921
 C. G. JEFFRIES, son - Feb. 10, 1921
 E. FEARN, son - Feb. 11, 1921
 A. BENNING, son - Feb. 14, 1921
 J. CURNOW, daughter - Feb. 25, 1921

In our last issue, the notice "W. F. Baughan, daughter, January 22nd, 1921," should have been:

W. F. BAUGHAN, son - Jan. 22, 1921
 we much regret this error.

Marriages

ON Wednesday, December 15th, O. Windridge was married at St. Peter's Church, Leicester, to Miss O. Toone.

On Saturday, January 22nd, E. Blackett was married at St. Aubyn Church, Devonport, to Miss W. K. Evans.

Dreams of the Blind

[Readers of the "Review" will recollect the interesting discussion in our columns on this subject recently. The following letter which we have just received gives another experience which may throw additional light on a most fascinating topic.—ED.]

To the Editor, ST. DUNSTAN'S REVIEW

SIR,—I do not know if the correspondence regarding Dreams is closed, but this is a little experience I had one night.

Firstly, let me say that my home is in Suffolk, and since I left St. Dunstan's I am living in Australia. About August or September, 1919, I took a flying trip home and had a wander round my father's fields. Going into the mangel field I had a yarn with a man who was hoeing. He had never to my knowledge worked for my father before, and you can imagine my surprise when a letter from home a few weeks later informed me that the man of my dreams had been hoeing my father's mangels. I knew the man before I left England, and the dream is still very clearly printed on my memory.

Mr. C. McIntosh's experiences, as detailed in the November REVIEW, best describe my experiences during the past four years.—Yours etc., H. FLATT

Sports Club Notes

AFTER many postponements, owing to bad weather and unfit sports ground, we were able to resume our Saturday Sports on Feb. 19th. Quite a large number of men turned up and all thoroughly enjoyed the various events arranged. Great keenness was shown by the competitors to break the records put up last Term, and already three have been broken: H. Northgreaves threw the cricket ball 70 yards, against 66 of last Term; A. James threw the cricket ball 75 yards and beat J. L. Brooke's record of 73 yards; he also threw the football 31½ yards, beating his own and J. Gimber's record of 31 yards. Last Term's records are as follows:—

Throwing the Cricket Ball.—(S.S.) J. L. Brooks, 73 yards; (T.B.) H. Northgreaves, 66 yards.

Jumping.—(S.S.) Simpson, 24 ft. 5 in.; (T.B.) Tompkinson, 24 ft. 10 in.

Putting the Weight.—(S.S.) Ham, 25 ft.; (T.B.) H. Northgreaves, 27 ft. 9 in.

Throwing the Football.—(S.S.) Gimber and A. James (dead heat), 31 yds.; (T.B.) H. Northgreaves, 31 yds.

Climbing the Rope.—(S.S.) Jenkinson, 10 3-5 secs.; (T.B.) N. Northgreaves, 11 3-5 secs.

Saturday Goal Scoring.—(S.S.) A. James, 3 goals; (T.B.) E. L. Woods and H. Northgreaves (dead heat), 4 goals.

90 Yards Sprint.—(S.S.) Simpson, 4 times winner; (T.B.) H. Northgreaves, 4 times winner.

Of course these do not represent our best performances, but only those of last Term, but I feel sure that the boys will greatly improve upon these times and distances when they get thoroughly into "training."

OUTER CIRCLE WALK

The success of our last walk has made everybody keen upon another, and we are looking forward to having a fine day on March 19th, when the walking experts will commence their "labours" around the O.C. course. To give all a reasonable

chance of succeeding, a handicap has been framed, by which the first seven of the last walk are on an equality as regards their time. The handicaps work out as follows, and we are therefore sure of a tremendously keen competition:—

H. Northgreaves	gives	2 mins. 39 secs.
A. D. Kirstein	"	2 " 5 "
F. Hemsworth	"	1 " 37 "
J. Meighan	"	1 " 24 "
D. Ironside	"	1 " 16 "
S. Jordan	"	0 " 9 "

It has also been suggested that we should have a Relay Race of teams of four (two T.B. and two S.S.) around the same course.

If at all possible we shall try to arrange this after the Easter Holidays, so there is plenty of time for those who wish to put in some training.

VISIT OF EVERTON F.C.

We were all delighted to have a visit from the famous Everton Football Team, who were in the fourth round of the English Cup. As a large number of our men are keen Evertonians the Everton men wished to see them and also to watch us playing our football. Unfortunately their message intimating their visit was delayed and they were unable to play us a game as their time was so short. However I hope they will give us a match upon their visit to Town to play the Spurs, so they will have the honour of playing two famous teams in one day!

GOAL-KICKING COMPETITION

Tuesday, the 22nd February, was a great day. Fog threatened in the morning, but it cleared up in time for our football matches, so that when the time for the start arrived the sun was shining brilliantly. The football pitch looked in delightful condition, due to the affectionate interest taken therein by our excellent Instructors C.-Major Tovell and Sergt. Hunt.

The interest which the public showed in our matches was made clear by the huge crowd who lined the railings of our football ground, and the loud applause which greeted the scoring of a goal or a particularly great save by the goalie, almost made us imagine that we were taking part in a First League match on one of the big football grounds.

The occasion was the final of the Sir Arthur Pearson Challenge Cup between Morgan Maroons of the Bungalow and the Park Rangers of Cornwall Terrace. Naturally both teams were keen upon winning, for the Park Rangers wished the Cup to remain at Cornwall Terrace, where it has been for a few weeks past in the custody of the Cup-holders—the Jazonians—whilst the Maroons wished to bring the Cup back to the Bungalow.

The Arsenal players and Directors had very generously supplied magnificent gold medals for both teams, and the team, accompanied by Mr. Hall, a Director, and Mr. Leslie Knighton, were present to watch the game. Mr. Williamson again went into goal, while the well-known English International, Mr. J. Rutherford, kindly acted as "Ref." The game was most exciting—the importance of the occasion and the glorious "keeping" of Williamson kept the score at half-time to 1—0 in favour of the Maroons. In the second half the fun started, for the Maroons took the liberty of scoring four more goals, leaving the Rangers the heavy task of scoring six goals to win. They tried hard, and did well to get three, but the score against them was too great, and they were defeated after a very plucky fight by 5—3. W. Shute (2), A. G. Morgan (2), and H. E. Robinson (1) scored for the winners, and W. H. Henry, C. J. Fawcett and G. F. Taylor did likewise for the runners up. The teams were:—

Morgan Maroons:—A. G. Morgan (capt.), W. Shute, H. D. Clevitt, H. E. Robinson, J. S. Lever and S. J. Jordan.

Park Rangers:—A. J. Burtenshaw (capt.), D. H. Luck, J. L. W. Windle, C. J. R. Fawcett, G. F. Taylor and W. H. Henry.

The Competition has been a great success right through, and all our boys are grateful to the Arsenal for their goodness to

them. The splendid medals will be richly prized by all who were fortunate enough to obtain them. The following were the leading scorers throughout the Competition:

Semi-sighted Boys—

M. R. Keenan	...	9 goals
J. L. W. Windle	...	8 "
A. G. Morgan	...	7 "
D. H. Luck	...	5 "
H. D. Clevitt	...	5 "

Totally Blinded Boys—

A. Biggs	...	4 goals
W. H. Henry	...	3 "
S. J. Jordan	...	2 "
T. Wilson	...	2 "
A. J. Burtenshaw	...	2 "

After the Final we proceeded to our great match with the Arsenal. Eleven of "ours" played the Arsenal team, who very kindly consented to be blindfolded. Sir Arthur kicked off for St. Dunstan's, and gave Williamson a warm handful, and the boys followed on Sir Arthur's excellent start by scoring two goals in succession through S. Jordan and H. Northgreaves, and our hopes of success ran high. But, alas! only T. Wilson added to our score, and our men finished their scoring with three goals to their credit. The Arsenal then started, Mr. Hall kicking off, and when Mr. Graham, the Scottish International, and Mr. Baker, the English "trial" man failed to score I'm afraid we were delighted. Mr. Blyth made us anxious by scoring two splendid goals, and when Mr. Harold Walden equalised we perspired profusely!!! Mr. McKinnon and Mr. Hawkins, however, both added goals, and the second game ended—Arsenal 5 goals, St. Dunstan's 3 goals. Of course we were sorry, very, very sorry, but we gave the Arsenal three good cheers, inwardly resolving to give them a jolly good beating next time they came. The teams were:—

Arsenal.—Messrs. Graham, Baker, Blyth, Walden, Groves, McKinnon, Dunn, Burgess, Turner, Hawkins, Cowley and Rose.

St. Dunstan's.—S. J. Jordan, H. Northgreaves, J. H. Greaves, P. Yuile, J. Morris, T. A. Wilson, E. A. Pugh, A. Biggs, E. L. Woods, A. J. Burtenshaw and J. P. Meighan.

At the conclusion Sir Arthur most kindly made the prize presentation. On behalf of our footballers he presented a handsome silver rose bowl to Mr. Williamson, subscribed for by the teams of the Competition, and inscribed:—

"A Small Token of Appreciation to E. C. Williamson, from St. Dunstan's F.C., 22nd Feb., 1921."

Mr. Williamson, who was greatly surprised, seemed to be very much pleased by the kindly thought of the boys, and was seen carrying his "prize" everywhere during the day. Then Sir Arthur presented his cup to A. G. Morgan, captain of the Morgan Maroons, and on behalf of the Arsenal, the gold medals to both winners and runners up. Led by Sir Arthur, the boys gave the Arsenal and Williamson resounding cheers, and then on their own account showed their gratitude to Sir Arthur in the same cordial way.

The Arsenal afterwards inspected the workshops and were most interested in all that they saw and frequently expressed their delight at the very enjoyable day they had spent at St. Dunstan's. Quite a large number of pictures appeared in the press, while the cinema gave a visible idea of our football powers to the country at large.

I trust our good friend, the Rev. Father Howell, will accept our grateful thanks for all his splendid help in keeping goal throughout this Competition. We are all agreed that his position is no sinecure, and he himself eloquently testifies as to the enormous improvement in the shooting of the boys since the Competition started. We are already busy arranging the next!!

Rowing, Swimming and Physical Jerks are progressing splendidly, and I expect the advent of the fine weather will bring the rest of our rowing men out of their "retreats."

The following is reprinted from the *Evening News*, and is selected from a great many press notices of the football:—

BANG! A GOAL!

"'Right?' called the blind man; 'Right!' replied Williamson, the Arsenal goalkeeper, as he stood between the posts, fourteen yards from the voice. The blind

man took a couple of paces back. Then bang! and two seconds later the ball was in the top of the net and well out of Williamson's reach. This was how St. Dunstan's scored the first of three goals in their 'match' against the Arsenal at Regent's Park to-day. . . .

"After the match Sir Arthur tried his luck. He put in a good hard, fast drive, straight into Williamson's hands. 'I meant to put it to the left of him,' Sir Arthur said when he was told what he had done. The first two of the Arsenal men to take their shots were hopelessly off the mark. 'We've got them groggy,' shouted the blind men, but Blyth, the next player, succeeded in converting both his kicks, and other goals were scored by Walden, McKinnon and Hawkins."

E. W.



LETTER FROM MR. WILLIAMSON

The following extract is taken from a letter sent by Mr. Williamson, who so kindly kept goal for us at our Football Final. I feel sure that it will interest all footballers at St. Dunstan's:—

"Just a few lines in reply to your letter of thanks, etc.

"I, like yourself, was more than satisfied at the result of the 22nd of Feb. I can assure you that our boys thoroughly enjoyed the day amongst the St. Dunstaners, and as they have described it, *properly had their eyes opened* at the wonderful work of the Institution.

"We are all so pleased to know that your boys are delighted at our little effort to bring a little happiness into their lives, and we all hope this will only be one of the many good turns that may fall to our lot. Now I want you to thank all the boys for me for that beautiful rose bowl. I have many honours for Soccer in my household, but you can tell them from me that this last one heads the list and my wife is really proud of the St. Dunstan's Bowl, and has placed it in the most prominent place in the house.

"Wishing you the best of luck, and do not forget I am always willing to assist in anything."

E. C. WILLIAMSON."

The Late "Halgernon's Glarse Heye"

Reprinted from "The Glarse Heye News"

THE "Glarse Heye" world in general, has received a blow in the news of the sudden death of "Halgernon's Glarse Heye," from which time alone can revive us.

Our own correspondent made a special journey to the scene of the fatality, and arrived just in time to behold the vain attempts made by Miss Molly Hart and Mr. Algernon Dudd to recover the shattered remains of "Halgernon's Glarse Heye" from the depths of the great abyss, situate in the heart of the Dell.

Our brave brother gave his life in the interest of our research work. For some little time, he had been making very practical investigations into the habits and customs of the mortal race. It is to our esteemed departed brother that we owe the better understanding we now have of humanity, and be it ever remembered that he died in the very act of elucidating the mysteries of human habits in the hour of gathering night.

"Halgy's Glarse Heye" had very strong resentment towards the theory of spiritualism, and it will now remain to be seen if his activities are carried on in the spiritual realm—which some of us suppose to exist.

❖ ❖ ❖
Foggy!

THE following paragraph from the *Daily Graphic* makes us wonder whether it would not be a paying proposition for St. Dunstaners to hire themselves out as guides—trained as they are in the mists and fogs of Regent's Park:—

"Ernest Hayes, the old England and Surrey cricketer, tried to get to St. Dunstan's to referee a football match. His taxi had to abandon the contest owing to the denseness of the fog, so Ernest proceeded on foot and immediately lost his bearings.

"He found a telegraph boy, who put him on the right road. But then he managed to lose his way again. To his relief he

We express our very deep sympathy to Mr. Dudd in his bereavement, and trust he will find a faithful companion in another of our realm.

IN MEMORIUM

'Twas the hour of love's romancing;
Softly tolled the evening bell,
Nature's song—and Cupid's prancing—
Thrilled two hearts like fevered dancing,
Death swooped down; and silence fell.

Hushed the twilight calls of Nature,
Awe inspired the wooded dell,
Youth the maiden's lips would capture—
Death stepped in and shattered rapture,
Silence rang a strange death knell.

Murmuring waters leapt with anguish,
Owls shrieked loud like souls in hell
Jibing at death's power to vanquish,
As with hope, pain could not languish—
"Halgy's Glarse Heye" cried "farewell."

'Tis the folly of intruding
In the realms of lovers' bliss,
"Halgy's Glarse Heye" was obtruding,
Fatal zeal—his view improving—
Cast him down a great abyss.

Tolls the bell for day departed,
Night clouds gathering o'er the dell,
Heads are bowed and hearts are weighted;
The abyss reverberated—
"Halgy's Glarse Heye's" last "farewell."

—Algernon Dudd, 1921.

heard footsteps behind him and was surprised to see three men stepping briskly along.

"Where's St. Dunstan's?" he asked.
'Come along,' was the reply, and then he discovered they were three blind men going up to work and that they could see better in the fog than he could."

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A schoolmistress, anxious to convey some idea of the relative sizes of different countries, said to one of her pupils, "Cambodia is about as large as Siam." The girl reproduced this piece of information in a written exercise as follows: "She says Cambodia is about as large as she is."

Efficiency!

ST. DUNSTAN'S AT OLYMPIA

WE expect the World and his Wife have read about the wonderful Hundred Per Cent Efficiency Exhibition held at Olympia last month and organised by the *Daily Mail*. Naturally, St. Dunstan's had to be represented at an efficiency exhibition and the organizers very generously placed at our disposal, free of all charge, a large space in the gallery, with a frontage of sixty feet and a depth of fourteen feet. The Stall was designed and erected, under Mr. Black's direction, by the Woodwork Dept., the National Institute for the Blind and is made in sections so that all, or part can be used at future exhibitions.

Our Exhibit was divided into three parts. On the left were displayed attractive trays, and other woodwork, baskets, mats, etc., for sale. In the centre were our men making baskets and mats and on the right was the netting stall in charge of Miss Witherby. Our working parties are always the chief attraction at the St. Dunstan's Stall and the Efficiency Exhibition gave us once more gratifying proof of the appreciative interest of the public in St. Dunstan's work. "Where are the blind chaps working?" This question, asked of the lift man, brought forth a significant reply—"Go round the gallery until you see a crowd—that's them!" In fact, the crowd around St. Dunstan's Stall was so large that it was very often impossible to pass round the gallery.

Basket-making and fibre mats were ably represented by J. W. Tweedie on square baskets, M. Lane on centre cane, L. Dixon on sinnet mats, and A. Moore on fibre mats, and admiration was freely expressed for the fine, cheery spirit shown by all the men, and amazement also at the proficiency and ease with which their work was done. The Netting and Rug Stall, very bright and decorative, received an equal measure of appreciation with its green leafage and masses of sweet peas, giving a garden effect which was very

pleasing, and as Miss Witherby drew her working party in turn, day by day, from men still at St. Dunstan's, over forty "Netters" and "Ruggers" were able to show what their clever hands could do with string and wool in shaping them into useful and beautiful articles.

Our Sales Depôt, too, was well in evidence and although in comparison with our experience last year at the Ideal Home Exhibition, sales were not quite so brisk, yet considering the slump that trade in general is at present suffering, we have every reason to be satisfied with our results. Cash returns are not the only gauge of a successful exhibition. The Efficiency Exhibition has been of use to us, chiefly because it has brought our work again clearly before the public and shown that despite our recent change of locality, St. Dunstan's is still a very live concern and one that calls for continuous support, if only by reason of the number of men who are still in training or awaiting settlement. That the foundations of that training are well and truly laid has been freshly demonstrated to the public eye by the skill shown by our working parties. We feel that in an exhibition devoted to mechanical efficiency and a very high standard of business excellence, our blinded workers have shown an efficiency that is distinctly all their own and which merits our hearty congratulations.

On the occasion of the visit of Their Majesties, the King and Queen, our men received very gracious attention from the Royal Party, and great interest was taken in the wonderful work which the men of St. Dunstan's accomplish. Captain and Mrs. Fraser, on presentation to Their Majesties, were able to explain something of the nature of the work in progress. The whole Stall presented a most attractive appearance in dull white and gold and a charming lighting scheme completed the picture; several quaintly modelled lamp shades being suspended at various angles in soft shades of orange and blue.

We have demonstrated during the last few years at many exhibitions in various parts of the country, but the Efficiency Exhibition has given us the best opportunity we have yet had of representing the work of St. Dunstan's as a whole. We offer hearty congratulations to Mr. T. E. Swain for his able supervision of our Exhibition Stall and we hope all our ladies and gentlemen who so kindly and willingly gave us help in a co-ordinated effort to make a success of the show, will accept our very warm thanks.

The following brief extracts from the many references to the St. Dunstan's Stall in the Press will be of interest to our readers:—

"One of the most wonderful sights at Olympia is the hive of industry in the Gallery, where the happy workers of St. Dunstan's show by their amazing skill how their disability has been conquered."

—*The Daily Mail.*

"The King was especially interested in the St. Dunstan's Stall, where blind men were making mats and baskets. He was received by Captain Ian Fraser. The King shook hands with every worker at the stall."—*The Daily Graphic.*

"Some business people are even to-day a little vague as to what a blind man can do from an industrial point of view. But when actually confronted with a blinded soldier making strong shapely baskets, weaving mats with astonishing rapidity, netting hammocks, lawn tennis nets, etc., with a perfection of finish little short of remarkable, any employer of labour must confess that here is an asset and an asset of considerable value, in the person of someone whom he may have very possibly imagined as simply a weight on the tax-payer.

"How the blinded soldiers have, by means of the careful individual training given at St. Dunstan's, projected themselves into certain paying trades, could not be better illustrated than at the St. Dunstan's Stall at the Efficiency Exhibition at Olympia, where blinded soldiers are to be seen actually engaged in useful industrial occupations, while around them are arranged a mass of goods of all kinds, the products of their skill."

—*The Financial News.*

Cheaper Postage for the Blind

PRIOR to the meeting of the International Postal Union Conference at Madrid during the months of October and November of last year, certain officials were approached by Sir Arthur Pearson on behalf of the National Institute for the Blind concerning the reduction of postage on embossed literature for the blind. The plea for such reduction, as put forward by the National Institute for the Blind, was based on the grounds that the blind community is very small, there being in this country approximately one blind person to every 1,560 sighted persons, further, that as a class, the blind, on account of their heavy handicap, are small wage-earners; that there is an urgent necessity for the international exchange of literature in the case of the blind on account of the costliness in producing this literature and the scarcity of it when produced, and also that on account of the difficulty experienced by blind persons in exchanging their books at libraries it has long been found necessary to circulate literature through the post, and this has been a very marked advantage.

We now have much pleasure in stating that the Congress has agreed to a considerable reduction on the postage of embossed literature, the international rate having been fixed at five centimes (approximately one half-penny) per despatch per weight of 500 grammes (approximately one pound), the maximum weight not to exceed six pounds. Each Postal Administration is empowered, subject to certain limitations, to fix the equivalents in its own currency. The Postmaster-General is not yet in a position to state the exact equivalents which will be adopted in the British service, but an announcement will be made by him on the subject in due course. It should be distinctly understood that the revised rates of postage *have not yet come into operation.*



"Wot's a minimum wage, Albert?"

"Wot yer gets for goin' to yer work. If yer wants ter make a bit more yer does a bit of work for it."

St. Dunstan's Discussion Club

VISIT OF MR. J. H. THOMAS, M.P.

ON January 31st we had an interesting evening, listening to the views on the policy of the Labour Party, by Mr. Thomas, M.P. for Derby, and General Secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen. He opened his address by pointing out the perilous condition of affairs of the political world in 1914. In the first place the suffrage outbreaks had indicated that law and order were but mere terms, because of a minority of women had acted in such a way that the law could do nothing to suppress them, but that we were obliged to yield to their claim. Then we had the Curragh incident, when Generals, who were ordered to suppress Carson's volunteers if they attempted to obstruct the Home Rule Bill, absolutely refused to obey orders. Then, thirdly, the Government were faced with an ultimatum from the Triple Alliance that if, by November, 1914, they did not frame certain legislation for the betterment of industrial conditions there would be a wholesale cessation of work, an event which would certainly have tied Parliament's hands so far as its power to govern was concerned. Then in August came the great outbreak of war; all these mutinous factions sunk their local issues and joined hands to "down" their common foe. Nobody went to war because he was fond of killing, nobody went to war because more territory was wanted; everybody went to war because his country and all that he loved therein was imperilled. For more than four years that war went on, and in 1918 came the cessation of hostilities, and then we came along to peace once more. The lecturer said that whenever nations failed to learn lessons from history they were guilty of unpardonable errors. He felt that in settling the terms of peace the Allies had failed to appreciate the teachings of a precedent. In 1870 Germany had waged and won a war against the French. France had paid an indemnity of £200,000,000. Her national pride had

impelled her to raise this sum with as much alacrity as she had at her command, but the fact that, in addition, Germany had stolen some of her most valuable territory in the north could never be forgiven. He maintained that in the German acquisition of Alsace lay the germ of hatred which kindled the breasts of the French with so much determination to win through in this latter conflict. The Peace of Versailles, he pointed out, had made no provision for punishing those who had convened the war, but it imposed a terrible burden on the people who had been compelled to fight. He did not wish to let Germany go free of all the guilt that lay at her door, but he felt that the indemnity would do the Allies more harm than good. At present, he pointed out, there are half a million people out of work in this country; another four and a half million are working on short time. Now Germany cannot pay her debts in gold, so she must pay in kind. The first effect of her payment to France, which has taken place in coal, is that about 100,000 men in the British coal trade have been unemployed, because we have been sending coal to France which is now not required. The same thing applies to all other classes of goods. An article costing £100 in English money would only be worth a quarter of that sum under the present rate of exchange with Germany; therefore the debtor could send things to this country at a price which, in our currency, was much cheaper than we could produce it. Therefore, the more Germany paid in goods the less demand would there be from our own factories, and the greater would be our industrial distress. There were two ways out of the awkward and terrible position: (1) America should write off the whole of our debt to her, and we should write off the whole of the debt which the Allies owe to us; or, (2) We must revive the barter system with Russia. We had in this country a glut of everything that Russia needs. We are overstocked

with woollen goods, cotton goods and all kinds of manufactured articles and raw material. Russia has any amount of minerals and chemicals which she would willingly exchange for boots, cloth and other things. Austria had huge quantities of sugar, but no wheat; we had huge reserves of wheat, why not exchange some of it with Austria for the sugar she doesn't need or want? A mutual renunciation of debts would restore the balance of currency, but failing that we could always establish an artificial exchange in commodities, and something of the kind must be done to save the world from the pending scourge of penury. He described at some length the sufferings of some of the smaller States which he has recently visited, and the valueless condition of their coinage. He answered numerous questions in a clever if not always convincing way, and suffused his remarks with countless funny stories; in all the lecture was a most instructive and eloquent one. His knowledge of the world is remarkable, especially when one considers that he left school at the age of nine and is entirely self-educated.

Mr. Thomas's interesting lecture was very highly appreciated by a large audience.

POETRY AND EVERYDAY LIFE

On February 14th, Mr. Norman Birkett, K.C., came and spoke on "Poetry and Everyday Life." He told us how poets really look upon the ordinary things of life with a different insight to that of other people, and consequently have the power to describe them in beautiful language, and let us see them, as it were, with new eyes. The lecture was much enjoyed.

MOROCCO

On February 21st, Mr. A. Mace of the Massage Settlement Department, gave us an address on Morocco, in which he described his own experiences in that country, and contrasted its present condition with that of some twelve years before. Mr. Mace told us of the extraordinary marriage customs of Morocco, and related some interesting stories of the country and its inhabitants.

SHALL GERMANY PAY?

Monday, 28th February, was devoted to an Inter-Debate with the National Institute for the Blind, and a large audience gathered in from amongst the supporters of each side. The resolution "That the Reparation Terms offered to Germany are Just, Wise and Workable" was argued by St. Dunstan's in the affirmative, the National Institute for the Blind taking the opposite view. Mr. Toft opened for us, and pleaded the entire justice of the principle that Germany should pay, on the ground of her entire responsibility for the war.

Mr. Garbutt gave a most eloquent speech, chiefly dwelling on the culpability of Germany and the need for impressing her that war, waged as she waged it, will not, and must not pay.

The opposition was voiced by Messrs. Williams and Preece of the National Institute for the Blind, both of whom made eloquent speeches, chiefly pointing out the fact that the Peace Terms were framed on President Wilson's Fourteen Points which did not authorise any squeezing of Germany, or any endeavours to strangle her economically. Mr. Williams remarked that France, smarting under the wrongs of 1870, and the devastations of 1915, was hardly a fair judge of Reparations, and had certainly asked for far more than she ever hoped to obtain. He also remarked that, as hope of eventual payment was very remote, we should do better to accept less, and see that we got it. The discussion was continued afterwards, among those taking part being Messrs. Godwin, C. F. Phillips Matthews, Killingbeck, Chappel, and Eggleton, and at the conclusion, St. Dunstan's carried the day by a large majority of votes. H. E. G.

OUR readers are asked to note that from now onwards the telephone number of The Headquarters of St. Dunstan's Work, Inner Circle, Regent's Park is "Langham 2781." This change is due to the fact that the Post Office have recently established a new exchange called Langham to relieve Mayfair.

The Blind in Germany, and the Occupation of Blind Persons in the Industrial World

By a Swiss Correspondent to the "Blindenbote," (the Swiss Messenger of the Blind).—Abridged from the German

IT is extremely difficult to form a general opinion of the conditions which obtain in the blind community in Germany. General conditions in that country show, on the one side, confused pictures bearing indications of violent upheaval, on the other side they indicate an energetic impulse towards development. The self-same tendencies are observable in the blind world of Germany. I spent three weeks visiting various large towns in that country.

In discussing what I saw there I propose to touch principally upon the employment of the blind in the industrial world, as the study of this question exclusively occupied my attention.

The transformation and rapid development through the war of the conditions relating to the blind in Germany renders the study of this subject of paramount interest. State and Society were forced into the consideration of questions such as in times of peace they had not considered or perhaps even did not wish to consider. Already, during the first months of the war, materials for the ordinary occupations practised by the blind, such as basket weaving and brush-binding were lacking. The ranks of the civilian blind were swelled by the large number of blinded soldiers and sailors. There was a sufficiency of work, but an insufficiency of hands to perform that work. This was the moment when new opportunities of work for the blind presented themselves. The State Insurance against Accidents passed a law permitting the appointment of blind persons in factories, in cases where their inspectors and industrial societies deemed the measures taken for their protection sufficiently adequate. A later Act required a certain percentage of wounded to be employed in every large industrial concern. Businesses where civilian blind were employed were exempt from this obligation.

In Berlin the first decided attempts at employing blind people in factories were made by the Siemens-Schukert Works. They started with simple checking and packing work, and ended with the manipulation of boring machines and stamping presses. When I visited the works I found forty to fifty blinded soldiers and civilians occupied there. Their work is chiefly concerned with the examination and manufacture of articles produced in large quantities. For instance, a workman is set the task of screw-thread cutting. He places the bored nut into the cavity of a plate which corresponds with its shape. It is then pushed along a groove under the borer which, set in motion by an electric motor, sinks with a slight movement of the lever into the piece of work, cuts the thread, and is raised automatically again by a reversing motion. The plate is then withdrawn, the completed work falls into a box and the same operation is repeated. On other machines the borer is stationary; the part is raised, together with the plate, by a movement of the foot. The measures taken to avoid accidents are excellent. The motor with stays is covered and the borer is guarded. In order to avoid injury to the fingers by the stamping press, the machine has been so arranged that it can only be set in motion by the movement of two hands at two different levers.

The satisfactory results obtained in the Siemens Works induced the Prussian Government to appoint a Committee for testing the possibilities of work in the industrial world. The largest industrial concerns in Berlin were visited, the men watched at their work and notes taken of those branches of the work which might be considered fit for blind persons.

To-day we find persons with impaired eyesight employed in cigarette and chocolate factories. In firms which produce electrical parts in large quantities the

sparkling plugs are tested by means of a bell apparatus. Besides these occupations there are all kinds of checking and packing work.

In addition, new possibilities of work have been discovered by each town possessing some specially developed industry which calls for special work. In the "Polyphon" Works a blind man was to be found testing the sound boxes of the gramophone. At the Worsted Yarn Mills a blind man was employed pasting paper strips on to cylinders. In a cutlery factory blind persons were manipulating the stamping, drilling and milling machines and the cutting-out shears.

The city of Leipzig has provided a special Administrative Office for the Care of the Blind. This office controls possibilities of work for the blind. It supervises the purchasing of materials for the blind workmen, visits them in their own homes, in order to investigate their requirements, and superintends the payment of unemployment and other relief.

In Frankfurt-on-the-Main, Director Grasmann (head of the Blind Institution) gave me some details as to how the difficulties which arose during the war were surmounted. Lack of raw material for the workmen forced him to look around for work in the industrial world. Occupation was found in pasting together pieces of leather for the soles of shoes. But here, too, the raw material soon failed. Attempts were then made at work in the shape of weighing and packing cocoa, and when this material too gave out, the same kind of work was performed with blackberry and lime-blossom tea.

It is interesting to note the work of the Council for the Consideration of Professions and Employment Bureau of the County Agency of Wuerttemberg. The blinded soldiers were seldom trained in manual occupations for the blind; this training was only given in cases where work in the country, whilst living with their own families, was assured. Every effort was made to adhere to the principle of finding occupation for the wounded in their former or kindred trades. And results were obtained which cannot fail to arouse our deepest admiration. Who is not

astounded on hearing that in a remote country village a blinded carpenter is supervising his own workshop, that another blind man has been set up by the Stuttgart Theatre in his own joinery business? Blinded farmers have returned to their farms, where with the help of their wives they are successfully carrying on their work on the land. Good results are, of course, only obtainable where the work is rightly apportioned. Infirmary retards progress only too often. But there is no doubt of the efficiency of the workers. Occupation in industrial work is also largely promoted by the County Insurance of Wuerttemberg. Besides the above-mentioned occupations, I saw others being pursued in which the accentuated sense of hearing of the blind was turned to good account in the production of articles manufactured in large quantities. I found a man with impaired eyesight in a motor-works, testing the position of a bulb by means of his sense of hearing. Another was examining alarm clocks with regard to faulty sounds; the examination was taking place through a sound tube. This kind of work was previously performed through the medium of the eye.

Thus has Germany in the hour of her great need and confusion set herself new aims, and is working successfully at their fulfilment.

Q.: "When a church is on fire which part of it runs the least chance of escape?"

A.: "The organ, because the engines cannot play upon it."

HERE is an amusing little story which will make you laugh, even if you have heard it before. I haven't heard it before, by the way, and I thank Mr. Peter Dawson for bringing it to my notice.

A cross-eyed judge had three prisoners brought before him. Addressing the first one he asked: "What is your name?" The second man answered: "Bill Jones." "I didn't speak to you!" roared the judge.

Whereupon the third prisoner replied: "Lor' lumme, gov'nor, I never said a word!"

"Ask a P'liceman!"

HOW ROBERT IS TRAINED TO BECOME A WALKING ENCYCLOPEDIA—By G. T. Crook

EVERY recruit for the Metropolitan Police Force is, during his eight weeks' or more preliminary training, taught scores of interesting things which he may at any time be called upon to do from the moment he begins duty as a police-constable.

The general public have little knowledge of the deep and complex character of the work a police officer has to perform.

The groundwork of a policeman's training is given at Peel House, under the guidance of specially selected officers, and after passing through this course of instruction it is for the constable himself to learn in the hard school of practical experience how to meet all the emergencies that will crowd into his life.

A good policeman is a walking encyclopedia. One moment he may be asked by a passer-by what number motor-omnibus goes from Poplar to Kilburn, and the next be called upon to administer first aid to a woman run over in the street. His knowledge of police law would put many lawyers to shame. He knows all those offences for which he can make an arrest, and the offences in which the proper procedure is by summons.

One curious point that is impressed upon every new policeman is that when once he has made an arrest he must not under any circumstances release his prisoner, but must convey him to the nearest police-station, even though the prosecutor giving him into custody changes his mind and says he will not proceed with the case. There is only one exception to this rule. A policeman has power to arrest a street musician who causes annoyance and refuses to desist, provided the householder or his servant will attend the police-station. If, however, on the way back to the police-station the householder turns back and declines to prosecute the policeman must release his prisoner.

In the old days scores of clever thieves and burglars were caught as a result of

policemen breaking the rule that they must not eat while on duty. It was the custom for policemen on night duty to put a packet of sandwiches in their pockets and munch them out of sight and hearing of the sergeant. The place usually chosen was a dark doorway, or preferably the area of a house where the cook happened to have something left over in the shape of a large veal-and-ham pie, a crust of bread and cheese, a few onions and a glass of beer—the sort of beer that is now but a sweet memory. These policemen had their eyes open all the time, and hundreds of criminals, imagining that there was nobody about, have from time to time been arrested, loaded with stolen goods, by policemen who have darted out from their hidden eating places.

Most people, on paying their first visit to a police-court, are very favourably impressed by the fair and clear way policemen, even the youngest, give their evidence. This is due to the careful training given at Peel House. The whole process of arresting a man, taking him to the police-station, charging him and bringing him before a magistrate, is carefully rehearsed for the benefit of every recruit.

First of all a jeweller's shop is set up in one of the class-rooms. A man enters the shop, asks to see a ring, and while the shopkeeper's back is turned the thief snatches up a watch and bolts. A hue-and-cry is raised, the thief is chased through an avenue in the class-room called Victoria Street and eventually he is caught.

"I have never before been subjected to such an indignity," says the prisoner. The constable, unmoved by the prisoner's protest, conveys him to another part of the class-room—the police-station. There the charge is investigated by a cool-headed, impartial inspector, who enters the charge on the charge-sheet.

"Surely you cannot detain me on such flimsy evidence!" indignantly exclaims the prisoner.



"Ask a Policeman!" *continued.*

"Search him!" orders the inspector.

The process of searching and its importance is explained to the recruits. To the amused surprise of the whole class the stolen watch is found concealed in the right sock of the protesting prisoner.

Then he is taken before a magistrate, and it is here in court that the recruits are taught the necessity for taking notes of what a prisoner says, the proper method of giving evidence and addressing the magistrate, and the importance of being scrupulously fair. The policeman's business is to present the evidence, whether it tell for or against the prisoner. Whether a conviction follows or not is not the affair of the police. That is solely the business of the magistrate. A policeman's promotion does not depend on the number of convictions he obtains, but on the efficiency of his work.

It is, of course, necessary that a policeman in his evidence should repeat the exact words used by a prisoner. A few months ago an old constable, who had not received the advantage of the modern educational training at Peel House, gave evidence of arrest in a watch-stealing case.

"Prisoner said he stole it, your worship," said the policeman.

"What did he actually say?" asked the magistrate.

"That is what he said, your worship," the constable insisted.

"No, he did not," replied the magistrate kindly. "Did he say, 'I stole the watch'?"

"Oh, no, your worship!" said the policeman in all seriousness. "He said nothing about you, your worship."

A few months ago a constable on night duty noticed that a mark he had placed on a jeweller's shop had been disturbed, and with another constable he entered the shop and caught two thieves crouched in the corner of a dark attic. On one of the

thieves was a slip of paper containing the name and address of a man who was supposed to be a receiver of stolen property. The constable went to this address, where the business of a general dealer was being ostensibly conducted, arrested the man for receiving stolen property, took off his coat and acted as the arrested man's assistant.

In the first three hours five men came in one after another and offered stolen property for sale. They had no idea, of course, that the receiver had been arrested, and when they, too, were taken to the police-station they were considerably chagrined to learn that the assistant in the shop was a policeman, and that the man who had bought so much stolen property from them had also been charged.

One of the less known characteristics about the London policeman is his innate kindness and generosity to the really deserving poor. Occasionally it is stated in court that a constable out of his own money bought food for a starving family; but for every one such act publicly mentioned there are probably hundreds that are never known even to the colleagues of the men themselves. Policemen have little money to spare for charitable deeds, yet a genuine appeal to them is never made in vain.

The authorised establishment of the Metropolitan Police Force is, roughly, 22,000, and the area under control is 700 square miles, excluding the dockyards and other naval and military establishments in various parts of the country.

At the end of their course of instruction the recruits, on being passed out as fully-fledged constables, listen to an eloquent moral lecture delivered by one of the officers. They are enjoined to be truthful and fair, civil and good-tempered, to help the weak, specially to protect the little ones, to be the servants of good and the masters of evil, and, above all, "to thine own self be true," etc.